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ULTIMATE BOAT COMPANY

THE BRAND

The Ultimate Boat Company has made astonishing strides in its first few years of business. As a workboat specialist, the primary market of this Glasgow-based firm revolves around commercial, military and offshore applications, where comfort, stability and payload are key - and central to its success in that regard has been the unique John Moxham hull. Using principles derived from previous projects with the SBS, the RNLI and the US Air Force, Moxham's pioneering design ensures that, rather than flinging water sideways, the hull's vertical "retainer rails" trap the water, creating extra lift and improved ride softness. That also enables each Ultimate Boat to run much flatter than most planing craft, providing an authentic hump-free

low-speed plane, as well as extraordinary grip at the hull and props. But while Ultimate boats have become justly famous then for their intuitive performance and sea-kindly dynamics, another key ingredient is the patented "DANU Composite" from which they are built. This lightweight, hydrophobic, fully recyclable material is reportedly three times stronger than conventional fibreglass, making each boat in the fleet greener, more durable and more fuel efficient.

THE RANGE

The Ultimate Boats fleet is an extraordinary treasure trove of Action Man toys. You can opt for R-Class Search and Rescue boats from 6.5 to 7.5m; P-Class Professional models from 6.5 to 11m; or O-Class Offshore craft from 11 to 13m. There's also a Cabin Series from 7.5 to 13m, an H-Class Hebrides Edition at 13m and an M-Class multi-mission platform at 11m. And in addition to a C-Class Coastal boat at 7.5m, there's a range of steely looking T-Class Specialist craft too, shrouded in secrecy for military, special forces and law

enforcement applications. But if all of that seems a bit confusing for the leisure boater, then rest assured, it's actually much simpler than you think. Ultimate's flexible, pursuit-driven approach means you can basically pick a platform and then spec it in whatever way suits your lifestyle. And just to eradicate any lingering doubt, the shipyard is also now introducing a proper crossover model at 7.5m that transfers all its commercial quality and know-how onto a platform that can be specifically optimised as a leisure-ready family boat...

It's a bold claim but it carries a lot of weight



Ultimate RIBs are used by the police force...



...but the cabin versions also make formidable offshore leisure cruisers



BELOW: Tough DANU construction and John Moxham hull live up to the Ultimate promise

RIGHT: Everything is designed to withstand serious offshore use



OUR PICK...

In line with Ultimate protocol, the new 7.5m crossover craft starts with a base platform built from DANU with an ultra-tough, timber-free monocoque structure and trademark puncture-proof D-profile foam collar. You then get access to an extensive range of options. You can opt for a single Suzuki DF250 or twin DF150s; you can spec a hardtop with or without a Bimini zip cover; you can go for aft lockers with seat cushions and you can add extra features like bow rails, a rigid nose, a dive-ready side gate and a whole variety of paint finishes. In reality, though, you can spec it just as easily for commercial or tactical use as for family fun, and that's why the new 7.5m is also available with leisure or commercial certification. In short, this is a boat that will happily provide an eye-opening offshore blast but still treat you to a pleasant lunch in a sheltered cove with the family, and uncompromising though the Ultimate fleet looks, that's exactly what a modern leisure RIB should be all about.

LOA: 7.50m (24ft 7in) BEAM: 2.70m (8ft 10in)
ENGINES: Single Suzuki DF250 / Twin DF150s outboards
TOP SPEED: 48 knots PRICE: £145,000 + VAT

BELOW: The new 7.5m platform has a puncture-proof foam collar and can be specced for leisure or commercial use



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