

# HANSA

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# YACHTS

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## Free as the sea itself

With NEON, Theodoros Fotiadis presents a new 78-metre superyacht. At its heart is an open-plan layout without traditional bulkheads – offering ample space for extraordinary design

## Rising forces in yacht building

Turkey is currently ranked second globally in terms of yacht projects under construction. HANSA Yachts took a look at five emerging shipyards contributing to the country's growing position in the market



The "Bee Explorer Yacht", ART's first yacht project

© ART Shipyard

Turkey has become a key player in the global yachting industry, blending centuries-old craftsmanship with cutting-edge engineering. Across the country, more than 130 projects above 24 metres are currently under construction, with a combined total length of nearly six kilometres and a gross tonnage of 73,000.

While established shipyards like Turquoise, RMK or Bilgin enjoy international prestige, a strong wave of innovation is emerging from boutique yards and tech-driven manufacturers across the country. Here, we spotlight five dynamic Turkish yards that are relatively new to the market: ART Shipyard, The Yacht Factory, Sirena Superyachts, OGUZ Marine, and ARES Shipyard.

### Backed by a legacy

ART Shipyard, the latest venture of the Besiktas Group, brings a rich heritage and a new level of excellence to the luxury yachting sector. Nestled in Tuzla Bay, Turkey's traditional shipbuilding hub, ART Shipyard offers international

clients a premium experience with high standards in engineering, safety, and sustainability. With competitive pricing and quality on par with renowned Italian shipyards, ART Shipyard is committed to delivering the shipyard experience today's luxury clients expect. Although new to the luxury sector, ART Shipyard benefits from a strong background in commercial shipbuilding and has



The 50.5-metre "Oguz Khan" was delivered this summer

© OGUZ Marine

recently become the largest commercial refit yard in Europe and the eighth largest globally.

The "Bee Explorer Yacht", ART's first yacht project, combines robust 35-metre steel and aluminium construction with sophisticated, contemporary interiors. She will make her world debut at the Cannes Yachting Festival from 9 to 14 September.

Touted as a pocket-sized explorer, Hydro Tec – a name synonymous with explorer yacht design in this size category – conceived the "Bee Explorer Yacht" for long-range cruising and functionality. Her full displacement steel hull and aluminium superstructure are carefully crafted to stay below 300 GT, delivering a robust and comfortable platform.

Sergio Cutolo, President and Founder of Hydro Tec, comments: "The wider 7.7-metre beam provides excellent hull volume and greater fuel storage, extending the range to over 4,000 nautical miles at 10 knots. Our CFD analysis showed minimal efficiency loss with the wider beam, while the

extra fuel capacity is advantageous for long-range cruising and refuelling at more economical locations – ideal for Mediterranean routes where fuel prices can vary significantly between countries."

### Perfect for charter

OGUZ Marine in Bodrum specialises in tailor-made yachts constructed from steel, aluminium, and wood. Their portfolio includes gulets and modern motor yachts ranging from 16 to 50 metres. Manufacturing processes emphasise steel hull construction with IACS-classed materials and QA welds; wooden hulls utilise laminated epoxy and traditional carvel methods; aluminium superstructures are corrosion-resistant with concealed wiring. OGUZ combines traditional craftsmanship with flexible, fully customisable builds, including commercial and paramilitary vessels – offering exceptional durability and expedition-grade reliability.

Their latest project, delivered this summer, is the 50.5-metre "Oguz Khan". Named after the legendary figure regarded as the father of the Turkish people, this yacht combines elegance and power.

With her spacious interiors, six-cabin layout, contemporary design and premium materials, the yacht promises guests an unrivalled experience of comfort and luxury.

"Oguz Khan" boasts a stunning salon with an open-plan layout and 96 square metres of floorspace, including a stylish lounge, dining area, fully equipped bar, and a grand piano for music lovers. Outside, the expansive deck offers a Jacuzzi, aft deck dining, a generous swim platform, and plenty of sunbathing space for ultimate relaxation. Below deck, she offers five spacious guest cabins of 20 square metres each, all with en-suite bathrooms and large windows for stunning views. The owner's cabin, located in the bow, spans 50 square metres and includes a dressing room and steam bath.

"Oguz Khan's hull and superstructure are made of steel, with aluminium

masts. In calm conditions, twin 750 HP Baudouin diesels propel the yacht, while two 62 kW generators power hotel operations. The yacht's maximum speed is 14.5 knots, with a cruising speed of 11.5 knots.

### Evolution in Bursa

An increasingly recognised name on the international stage, Sirena Yachts is the superyacht arm of Sirena Marine, headquartered in Istanbul but producing in Bursa. Originally known for building Azuree and Euphoria sailing

yachts under licence, Sirena pivoted into motor yachts in 2016 with a range from 58 to 88 feet. Their yachts, co-designed with Frers Naval Architecture and Cor D. Rover, stand out for voluminous interiors, robust engineering, and transoceanic capabilities.

Having garnered several awards and industry acclaim, it was a natural progression to develop a range of superyachts at 35, 42, and 50 metres to complement the brand's success. The 42-metre project, expected to launch in 2026, marks the start of Sirena Superyachts and will be the

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© Sirena Yachts

The first Sirena 42M, a 42-metre superyacht, is scheduled for launch in 2026

company's largest and most technically advanced vessel to date, featuring hybrid propulsion, dynamic positioning, and long-range capabilities of over 5,000 nautical miles. Luca Vallebona has been selected to create the exterior and layout, while Hot Lab, part of The Viken Group, will design the interior.

"It has been a desire of the Sirena management team to work with Luca Vallebona and Hot Lab for a long time, and we are excited by the results of our collaboration," says Cagin Genc, CEO of Sirena. "The interiors are simply stunning, offering highly personalised finishes and flexible layouts that complement Sirena's forward-thinking approach without compromising engineering. Hot Lab captured the essence of Sirena's unique superyachts with inviting, innovative layouts, and we are confident our clients will share our enthusiasm."

### Focus on innovation

The Yacht Factory is one of the latest additions to Turkey's growing shipyard portfolio. As part of the Atasay Group, the shipyard benefits from strong financial backing. Cihan Kamer, Chairman of the Atasay Group, explains: "As Atasay Group, we operate across various sectors — jewellery, food and beverage, construction and real estate, and energy. While leading in these industries, we strive to design unique experiences. Innovation is the common denominator. With this in mind, I am

proud to introduce our new project, Yacht Factory, where I can combine my 30 years of passion and experience in sailing with your passions."

Situated on a 200,000 m<sup>2</sup> site, the facility features an 800-ton travel lift and advanced equipment capable of servicing superyachts and megayachts, making it one of the largest and best-equipped facilities in the maritime sector. A floating dock further enhances its capabilities for vessels of all sizes.

The first new build from The Yacht Factory is the "Noa 46". Designed by Hot Lab Yacht Design, this 46-metre yacht combines long-range cruising with highly functional exterior and interior layouts. Built with a steel hull, aluminium superstructure, and fully compliant with RINA and MCA classifications, she offers a transoceanic range of 4,000 nm at 30



© Yacht Factory

The first new build from The Yacht Factory is the "Noa 46"

knots, powered by twin MAN 1,450 HP engines meeting IMO Tier III standards. She cruises at 13 knots with a top speed of 15.7 knots. ABT TRAC fin stabilisers ensure comfort both underway and at anchor. "Noa 46" will make her world debut at the Cannes Yachting Festival and also appear at the Monaco Yacht Show.

### Solid reputation

Originally founded in 2006 by the Kalafatoğlu family – with a long tradition in shipbuilding and sailing – ARES Shipyard has built a solid reputation for its naval, utility, and support vessels, having delivered over 230 vessels to more than 15 countries. Now, it is expanding further into luxury yachting. Known as one of Europe's largest steel, aluminium, and composite boat builders, ARES Shipyard boasts a 40,000 m<sup>2</sup> enclosed, air-conditioned production area and a workforce of over 450. Equipped with four hangars and a dedicated furniture factory, it has the capacity to build vessels up to 90 metres.

As Chairman Kerim Kalafatoğlu notes: "We've already been recognised as Turkey's fastest-growing company and its largest exporter of military and commercial vessels. Now is the perfect time for us to show the superyacht industry what we're capable of."

The first yacht project is the 61.61-metre sailing ketch "Simena", recently launched and set for her world premiere at this year's Monaco Yacht Show. The project

is by Taka Yacht Design and Design Unlimited, featuring a carbon-epoxy superstructure, all-aluminium masts, and rigging designed by Chris Mitchell. A sophisticated hybrid drive system allows for silent cruising under electric power up to 6 knots. Additionally, an 882 kW diesel engine supplements her 220 kW electric motors, enabling a top speed of 15 knots and a range of 4,000 nautical miles at 11 knots.

Based on the same expertise that produced the award-winning ARES 150 BOLD Class 48-metre offshore patrol vessel, designed by BMT and built by ARES – with two vessels already in service – ARES Yachts also has the 50-metre motor yacht Spitfire under construction. This 499 GT vessel, designed in collaboration with Lateral Naval Architects and Bannenbergl & Rowell Design, represents the evolution of the proven BOLD hull form, with



© ARES Yachts

The 61.61-metre ketch "Simena" will debut at this year's Monaco Yacht Show

hybrid propulsion enabling speeds up to 23 knots. Looking ahead, ARES Yachts will undertake full custom projects above 500 GT and up to 90 metres LOA.

As Kalafatoğlu emphasises: "Whether it's a sleek, modern superyacht or a majestic ocean explorer, we aim to redefine what's possible on the big blue." ■

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