

THE WORLD OF LUXURY YACHTING

Ocean

REVIEWS

BENETTI 44M: JUNO'S 7
SANLORENZO SD132
PERSHING GTX70
PRINCESS F58

FRENCH KISS

COURTING THE BEST
OF THE CANNES AND
MONACO SHOWS

DESTINATION
UNLOCKING THE
PACIFIC'S SECRETS,
HERITAGE AND MAGIC

LEVEL-HEADED
FROM ROCK AND ROLL
TO RIDE CONTROL, THE
FUTURE OF STABILISATION

QUAYSIDE IN CANNES

CRUISE MISSILE

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Boat Show Round-Up



Monaco magic

September is a busy month on the Côte d'Azur, but there's no question who's the king of the hill when it comes to big boat shows. **Charlotte Thomas** walked the quays of Monaco to bring you the latest and greatest from the superyacht world.

It has been a couple of years since I last attended the Monaco Yacht Show, and 30 years since I went to my first MYS in 1995, but walking out of the main train station early on the opening Wednesday morning late in September delivered a dose of déjà vu. A brash of tourists, the bark of a supercar and the dread of navigating crowded quays in late-summer heat brought everything back with a delightful rush of excitement.

This year, however, it felt a bit different. At first I thought the show felt quieter than before, but more likely it's just that I was head-down and highly focused because there was so much to see and so much to admire.

The stars, of course, are the superyachts – more than 100 of them, and many making their public debuts. This is what Monaco does so well – herding the world's biggest and best yachts into the goldfish bowl of Port Hercules (and the bay beyond, where more superyachts swung to anchor) and letting a select few (yes, even us journalists) get a select insider view of some of the world's finest creations.

With so much to see and only three and a bit days to see it, it's impossible to take everything in, but this year there were some clear stand-outs, which we showcase on the following pages. For me, the highlights



Above: From shoreside stands to superyachts on the quays, the Monaco Yacht Show attracts a diverse crowd of visitors, many of whom are current owners, or who are in the market for a superyacht or a charter experience.

included Feadship's mighty 79.5-metre *Valor*, an expedition-ready, intricately detailed and unbelievably well-constructed yacht that combines lavish but tasteful interior design, owner personality and an ice belt into a stunningly styled package.

There was also a brace of yachts from Damen Yachting. *After You* and her support vessel *Emotional* epitomise the incredible adventures that superyachts offer, and interestingly, this cruise-together pair, which the owner plans to take to the extremes, including transiting the Northwest Passage, demand a curious question. If you can build and operate a 60-metre yacht and a 60-metre support vessel combined for less than a less-capable 90-metre yacht, why would you pick the latter?

At the other end of the scale, I was genuinely impressed with an 11.2-metre tender-cum-chase boat that made its global debut at the show. The Tykun X may be new, but the hull on which it is constructed is not – it's an

Top: It's not all yachts; MYS also hosts discussions as part of the Monaco Yacht Summit program. **Below:** The winners of the inaugural Blue Wake Awards for sustainable solutions line up on stage.

all-aluminium twin-stepped performance platform that parent company MED Group has been building for a decade to supply custom-configured boats to the Italian defence, military, police and coastguard sectors. The result is seriously impressive – not only is the shipyard already used to high levels of customisation, but the Tykun X is also a serious performer.

It'll do 52 knots flat out in flat water with twin Mercury Verado 400s on the back, but it really shines in a seaway. I drove it in a confused sea throwing slop on top of a 2.5-metre swell and was able to get it to a grin-inducing 42 knots without scaring passengers and without getting anyone wet.

Monaco isn't just about what's on the water, however. There's also an impressive array of gear, tech, interior and deck hardware displayed across the large quayside exhibition halls. Everything from the latest glass bridges to taps, tables, toys, gensets, AV/IT, satcomms, services and so much more mixed with displays

featuring submersibles, supercars and even a helicopter or two. Because, why not?

This year also saw the debut of Blue Wake – Monaco's new program, in partnership with Water Revolution Foundation, for spotlighting and promoting environmentally sustainable solutions in the yachting industry. With 59 companies selected as part of Blue Wake, including everything from paint manufacturers to furniture producers, marinas, wastewater-systems suppliers, genset OEMs, refit yards and yachtbuilders, it's impressive to see the yachting industry start to actively strive to be better.

I, too, was actively striving to be better, making a conscious decision not to get sucked

into Monaco's post-show scene. Maybe I'm getting old, but I found distinct pleasure in leaving the brash of tourists, the bark of supercars and the dread of navigating crowded bars and restaurants behind at the end of each day to relax in an apartment a few minutes along the coast.

Notwithstanding a tot or two of rum in the evening, it meant I woke each morning with another delightful rush of excitement at what I'd be getting on board and who I'd have fascinating conversations with about technology and design. And that, really, is what makes Monaco so special, even after three decades. It never gets old.

monacoyachtshow.com

Monaco
by
numbers

Visitors
29,956

Exhibitors
564

Superyachts in show
120

World premieres
50

Largest yacht (Benetti Mar)
107 m

Value of superyachts on display
£4.3 bn



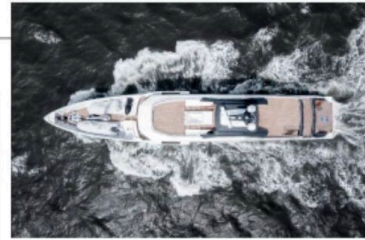
PHOTOGRAPHY: MONACO YACHT SHOW

Ocean's eleven

It's hard to pick favourites from a line-up of 120 stunning superyachts, but here are a few that stood out to Ocean's team at this year's show.

LADY ESTEY

Bennett's custom 67-metre Lady Estey draws on a tweaked B.Now 67M root to create a B.Now flagship family yacht with Oasis Deck aft that now offers a retractable teak pool cover – when closed, the aft deck spans a staggering 200 square metres. The layout places guest cabins at main-deck level while the owner gets a huge and very private upper-deck apartment. This also means the crew areas get the run of the lower deck. The interiors by Sinot Yacht Architecture & Design draw inspiration from Gatsby style, wrapped in the sensual curves of RWD's exterior lines.



MEMORIES

One of the latest custom Amels 60 projects to launch, Memories brings a modern beach house aesthetic by Harrison Eidsgaard to Espen Øino's distinctive exterior design. The result is an inviting interior that appears clean and straightforward but which belies a complex and detailed underlying design process. Of course, it's exquisitely realised by the Amels shipyard team, and the yacht also bears Amels' signature feature – an extraordinary sundeck that appears to stretch from horizon to horizon.



BIG NAAN

The first of the 42-metre Columbus Crossover series, Big Naan is a capable, steel-hulled yacht that combines explorer functionality with a more casual yachting lifestyle. Her custom interior from the boards of Hot Lab is masculine on its face, with greys, blacks and various metal screen materials sandwiched between glass, but feminine touches abound when you look a little closer. The palette is matched with materials and accessories from Armani. Big Naan also features an enlarged aft deck pool and elements that have been adapted to cater to the owners' plans for extended family cruising with their children.



TYKUN X

Built by Italian shipyard MED Group that supplies specialised fast vessels to Italian defence and coastguard sectors, the Tykun X is the first in a new range of customisable all-aluminium, high-performance tenders and chase boats specifically aimed at the superyacht sector. The hull provides exhilarating speed, incredible seaworthiness and supreme safety while offering owners a high degree of customisation. MED Group has also developed and engineered a hydrogen fuel-cell version in partnership with TESYA Group based on the tech used in the chase boats for the last America's Cup – it won Tykun the Blue Wake Award 2025 in the Tenders/Water Toys category.



LOEWE

The second in Tankoa's sleek 55-metre T55 design, Loewe features a contemporary but warm interior aesthetic realised by Luca Dini that features eponymous Loewe AV gear. Of note is an interior deckhead finish in a stippled metallic finish that takes on the appearance of wavelets. Offering six suites for 12 guests, stand-out features include a beach club with hammam, sauna and even a Nemo window that delivers mesmerising underwater views.



AFTER YOU & EMOTIONAL

What do you get when you combine a 60-metre expedition-ready yacht from Damen's Xplorer range and a 53-metre toy-carrying support vessel from the shipyard's Yacht Support vessel line-up? A pair of striking – and strikingly capable – world-gridling yachts that offer all mod cons, acres of space and the ability to go anywhere. With a planned cruise-in-tandem circumnavigation, and the pair coming on to the charter market as a package deal, the opportunities to explore key destinations are ripe.



MAGIC

The 44.3-metre Magic from Vitters boasts sleek lines and a Reichel/Pugh hull that screams performance cruising. Her Design Unlimited interior, with styling by Pieter Laureys, brings luxurious comfort. Of note are the deckhouse superstructure with extensive glazing, a covered cockpit and a transom that opens to create an aft beach club area. Magic is currently for sale with Burgess.



GA

There was no mistaking the satin-gold monolith of The Italian Sea Group's Admiral 72 sitting in the harbour, with its striking exterior profile and extended main deck. That profile holds a staggering 2,200 gross tonnage of volume, which has been decked head to toe with an interior philosophy, style, furniture and materials direct from Giorgio Armani himself, who was closely involved in developing every inch of the project. No wonder they called it GA. The result is hard to capture in words – there's no extraneous detail, no unnecessary furniture, just the pure luxury of minimalist design and large uncluttered spaces filled with Armani Casa and custom finishes and furniture. The master suite alone measures some 180 square metres, not including outside space.



Left: Built for serious cruising, including high latitudes, Valor sings with personal touches and sublime design.

VALOR

From her stunning interior by Bannenberg & Rowell to her striking exterior with its dreadnought bow developed by Studio De Voogt, the 79.5-metre Valor was a highlight of this year's MYS. Her steel hull includes a 2-metre ice belt that gives her BV Young Ice 2 notation, and she carries a hybrid propulsion system that includes 5.34 megawatt hours of batteries for up to 48 hours in zero-emission mode. The owner wanted her exterior to be "recognisable from outer space", but every facet of this yacht is incredible, from one of the largest tender garage doors Feadship has built on an 80-metre yacht to the sculptural interior guest stair that, Simon Rowell points out, comprises a staggering 48,001 pieces.