

sea & i

WINTER 2011

FOR CONNOISSEURS OF LUXURY TRAVEL

A TASTE OF THE GOOD LIFE

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of the Côte d'Azur

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experiences

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Your comprehensive
Caribbean cruising guide

X4

The best on-board
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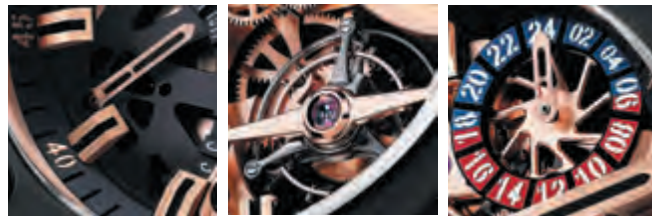
SPOTLIGHT ON

Odyssey, Illusion
& Cloud 9

KRONOMETRY 1999

INTRODUCES


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ONLY THE BEST

Sea&i always focuses on the very best in exclusive travel, but this issue celebrates ultimate experiences with true flair. As always, superyachts remain the most luxurious way to travel, so there are plenty of options to tempt you in the following pages — from the newly refitted Odyssey to cruises taking in the best beaches, restaurants and diving spots of the Caribbean, to charters aboard Benetti's new Illusion. We even bring beaches on board for your ultimate convenience as we profile four of the best 'beach clubs' to be found on the decks of a superyacht.

Elsewhere, we compare the wonders of yacht charters with two other ultimate travel experiences: trips in submarines that delve way beneath the surface of the sea, and adventures into a territory few have ventured to before — space.

Finally, the ultimate in cuisine is covered with a pit-stop at three of the finest Michelin-starred restaurants along the Côte d'Azur. With inspiration aplenty, we hope you enjoy to the full the coming season of luxury travel. ■

Above: the 43m (141') CRN Hana is available to charter in the Red Sea this winter. Hana is also for sale at €14,950,000

IWC. The future of watchmaking since 1868.



Portuguese Perpetual Calendar. Ref. 5023: One thing at IWC always remains the same: the desire to get even better. Here is one of the finest examples, with the largest automatic movement manufactured by IWC, Pellaton winding and a seven-day power reserve. The perpetual calendar shows the date and moon phase and is mechanically programmed until the year 2499. In short: a watch that has already written the future. *Mechanical IWC-manufactured movement | Pellaton automatic winding system | 7-day power reserve with display | Perpetual calendar | Perpetual moon phase display | Antireflective sapphire glass | Sapphire-glass back cover | Water-resistant 3 bar | 18 ct red gold | IWC. Engineered for men.*

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Published by Camper & Nicholson's International, sea&i is a quarterly magazine for the world's most discerning travel connoisseurs – those who have made luxury travel a way of life. It celebrates the exceptional, the extraordinary, the priceless, the indulgent, the esteemed and the ultimate that the world can offer.

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sea&i scenes

News from around
the world of
luxury yachting

SHOWS & EVENTS

20TH MONACO YACHT SHOW

CNI's presence was as strong as ever during the 20th Monaco Yacht Show, hosted between the 22 and 25 September 2010. Eight yachts from the CNI fleet were on display, including the 58m (190') Baraka from Proteksan, the 56m (184') Selene from Perini Navi, the 54.2m (177'8) Maraya from CRN, the 46.1m (151'2) Wellenreiter from Jongert, the 43.3m (142') Pure Bliss from Palmer Johnson, the 43m (141') Sofico from CRN, the 43m (141') Clear Eyes from Pax Navi, and the 36.5m (120') Beverley from Benetti. Also on display was the 60m (196) Cloud 9 with the CMN yard, and the 56m (184') Panthalassa with Perini Navi. Both yachts are available for charter

with CNI. During the show, Panthalassa was honoured with the prestigious Prix du Design award — a volute bowl handcrafted at Nymphenburg and presented to Perini Navi by HRH Prince Albert II of Monaco (below left). Many celebrity owners attended the ceremony on board Panthalassa on 23 September.

On the eve of the show's opening, CNI began a series of social events with a splendid evening at the Yacht Club de Monaco (below), in association with Banque J Safra and Rolls Royce Marine. Guests were entertained with music from The Willburns and prizes from Vertu, Six Senses, Space Adventures and Royal Mansour.



Newport Bucket

A fleet of 16 yachts gathered in Newport between the 10 and 12 September for the annual Newport Bucket — the somewhat irreverent but much-loved annual regatta for large sailing yachts. As sponsors of the event, CNI brokers and clients were there to cheer on the 30.5m (100') Virago, which was racing in the Bucket. The Swan 100S model is a fabulous high-performance yacht that joined the CNI charter fleet earlier this year. Sleeping six guests in three cabins, she is available in the Caribbean this winter. Sailing yachts Azzura, Hanuman, Meteor and White Wings won various fleet races throughout the weekend.



FORT LAUDERDALE INTERNATIONAL BOAT SHOW

From the 28 October to 1 November, superyachts rubbed shoulders with fast production boats at the 51st Fort Lauderdale International Boat Show — the world's largest yacht show. This year CNI showcased 18 superyachts from its sales and charter fleet, including the 43.3m (142') Incentive from Palmer Johnson, the 43.3m (142') Pure Bliss, also built by Palmer Johnson, the 40.23m (132') Life's Finest II from Northcoast Yachts, and the 28m (92') Rayburn Custom Yacht Kathleen. CNI hosted clients throughout the show with refreshments at the VIP café and terrace, as well as a private car service. Prior to the show, CNI put on an annual captains' appreciation dinner at the Johnny V restaurant. More than 100 captains and their partners attended the invitation-only event for cocktails, dinner and live music. The CNI evening was sponsored by Advance Mechanical, Chartis Insurance, Global Marine Travel and the Wine Warehouse.

St Barths Bucket

If you missed September's Newport Bucket, rest assured you can still join in the fun if you travel further south, as a sister event in St Barths is held annually at the end of March. The sailing regatta is one of a kind, gathering sailing superyacht owners and their yachts in St Barths' Gustavia Harbor for a week of pure fun. As the sleepy French island comes to life, the quay, which is usually filled with motoryachts, is a sea of sailing vessels. In 2011 the event is welcoming several yachts from the CNI charter fleet, including the 58m (190'5) Ethereal, the 56m (184') Panthalassa, the 54m (177') Parsifal III, the 45m (148'7) Helios, and the 35m (114'8) Sojana. CNI has once again sponsored the 2011 Bucket, which takes place from the 24 to 27 March 2011.



Panthalassa



Ethereal

CORPORATE

CNI EXPANDS MANAGEMENT AND BROKERAGE DIVISIONS IN THE US AND EUROPE

To support the continued growth of CNI, the company has recruited a number of personnel into sales and business development positions. The appointment of Matt Emerson as President of Camper & Nicholson's USA Inc is just the beginning of further expansion planned for the US. Matt is a familiar face in yachting having notched up several years in the industry. Prior to joining Camper & Nicholson's USA as head of the Charter Marketing Division, Matt successfully oversaw the development of Surfside 3 Marina at Chelsea Piers in New York, and before that he managed the daily operations of North Cove Yacht Harbor in New York. As President of Camper & Nicholson's USA Inc, Matt is responsible for the US-based operations of CNI and is developing business for North America. Jillian Montgomery, CEO of CNI, comments, "We are delighted that someone with Matt's knowledge has chosen to take on the US side of the business. His experience and understanding of the market will be invaluable to the continued growth of our company."

Expanding the US side of the business further, CNI is delighted to

announce that D J Kiernan has joined the company as Director of the USA Charter Marketing Division. Responsible for a team of four, D J will report to Matt Emerson. D J has worked in the yachting industry for a number of years, both in marketing and management positions. His latest role saw him successfully setting up and managing the Feadship Charter Division.

On the other side of the Atlantic, the Monaco sales team welcomes Jordan Waugh to its Sales Brokerage Division. After teaching sailing in both the US and Canada, racing with the Monaco Yacht Club, and crewing on a superyacht, Jordan returned to Monaco to train as a broker. After a few years working with a number of small agencies, he joined CNI and has spent the last three years working alongside senior broker Jean Marie Recamier in the Antibes office. Jordan joins a team of three sales brokers in CNI's Monaco office. Expanding the European brokerage divisions further, the charter team welcomes Molly Browne as a charter broker. Molly joined CNI in 2006 and has spent the last four years working in the charter department. Molly joins a team of 11 charter brokers in CNI's Charter Division.





Cloud 9



Hurricane Run



Riela

THE SHOWBOATS DESIGN AWARDS 2010

On 26 October, 350 guests gathered for the annual ShowBoats Design Awards ceremony held in Florida's Palm Beach. Following a two-day superyacht design symposium, guests came together for an evening of cocktails, a gala dinner and the all-important awards ceremony that honours the superyacht industry's creative talents by celebrating the work of the architects, designers, stylists, craftsmen and innovators of yacht technologies.

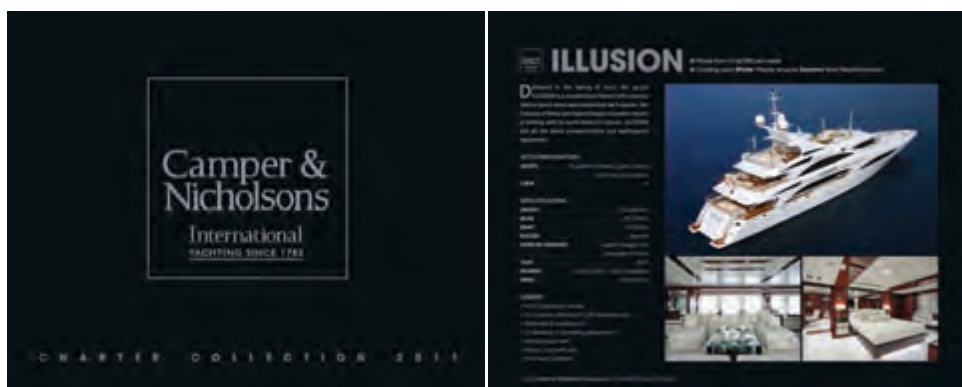
CNI congratulates all the winners at the ShowBoats Design Awards and, in particular, those from the CNI fleet that picked up five awards during the evening. The award for Interior Design: Displacement

Motor Yacht went to Terence Disdale Design for the 53.5m (175'5) Hurricane Run, which was also honoured with the Interior Layout award, again thanks to Terence Disdale Design. The Interior Design: Sailing Yacht award was won by Rémi Tessier for the 56m (183'7) Riela, and the 60m (196') Cloud 9 picked up two awards: the Exterior Design & Styling: Motor Yacht award and the Interior Recreational Area Design, both of which went to Andrew Winch Designs for Cloud 9's inspired bridge deck.

Congratulations to the winners of these five awards and many thanks to all involved with the ShowBoats Design Awards 2010.

The definitive guide to chartering

CNI's Charter Collection for 2011 represents a stunning portfolio of yachts for the coming seasons. The hardback book is CNI's most stylish edition to date, featuring more yachts than ever before, along with a guide to the world's most compelling cruising grounds, giving clients a real feel for the lifestyle and activities in each destination. For your copy, please contact your nearest CNI charter broker, see page 6.



BROKERAGE

Since the last issue of *sea&i*, the autumn boat show season saw a flurry of activity and a high number of significant sales, particularly in the 40m+ (131' +) market. Below this size range the market continues to be weakened by occasional sales of repossessed yachts in poor condition, whose low sales prices have distorted buyer's expectations. Nevertheless the huge reduction in the supply of production yachts, as shipyards cut back the number of vessels in build, will also see prices firming up over the coming year. Many brokers believe we are heading for significant price rises in new yachts as the rising cost of materials, and the consequent increase in the cost of building a yacht, filters through to retail prices.

RECENT SALES FROM CNI...





BROKERAGE NEW LISTINGS...



Available for charter
Asking price €36,500,000

54.2m (177'8) Maraya, CRN 2008

The 2008 CRN-built Maraya offers the very latest innovations in technology, along with a contemporary styled interior and deck areas.



Asking price €10,900,000

49.9m (163'8) QM of London, Benetti 1998

An outstanding example of the celebrated Benetti Golden Bay Series, combined with a pedigree Disdale interior.



Asking price €19,500,000

47.5m (156') Princess Too, Feadship 1999

This superb six-cabin yacht has a light and airy feel throughout, especially in the full-width owner's suite and the salons, thanks to the extra-large windows.



Asking price €24,500,000

44m (144'4) MY Petra, Heesen 2009

MY Petra is the sixth in Heesen's semi-displacement, all-aluminium 4400 class. Her layout is conceived for making the most of her deck spaces.



Asking price €14,950,000

43.6m (143') Idyllwild, Benetti 2005

Idyllwild is a semi-custom Benetti Vision. She has exceptional deck space and her Zuretti designed interior is inviting and vast.



Available for charter
Asking price US\$18,900,000

43m (139'9) Emerald Star, CRN 2007

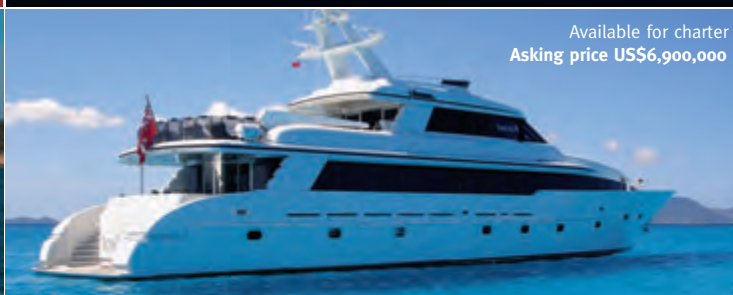
Representing exceptional standards, Emerald Star was designed by the renowned Italian Yard CRN with every possible comfort in mind.



Asking price €16,000,000

41.3m (135'5) Seven Sins, Heesen 2005/2008

A custom yacht built at Heesen to the yard's usual high standards, Seven Sins is her owner's seventh yacht.



Available for charter
Asking price US\$6,900,000

40m (132') Life's Finest II, Northcoast 1995/2008

A highly popular charter yacht, the five-stateroom Life's Finest II has a rich mahogany interior offset with soft, neutral tones to suit any taste.

Dates & destinations

JANUARY

- 7—16** London Boat Show
- 22—30** 42nd Düsseldorf Boat Show
- 26—29** Superyacht Cup Antigua
- 27—30** 27th Cartier Polo World Cup, St Moritz
- 28—1 FEB** Grenada Sailing Festival

FEBRUARY

- 17—21** Miami International Boat Show
- 24—27** Mumbai International Boat Show

MARCH

- 8—11** MIPIM, Cannes
- 17—19** Abu Dhabi Yacht Show
- 24—27** St Barths Bucket

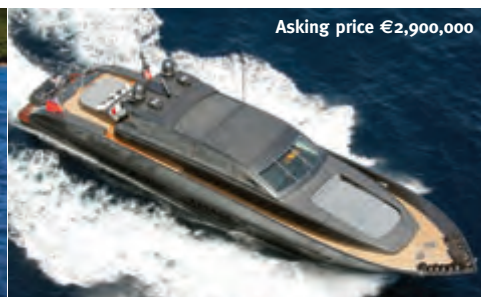
APRIL

- 7—10** Antibes Yacht Show
- 12—17** Croatia Boat Show, Split
- 14—17** China International Boat Show, Shanghai
- 24—29** Antigua Sailing Week
- 30—8 MAY** Palma International Yacht Show



Available for charter
Asking price **US\$4,650,000**

34.1m (112') Symphony II, Westport 2001
A popular charter yacht, Symphony II has a semi-displacement hull design and an impressive beam.



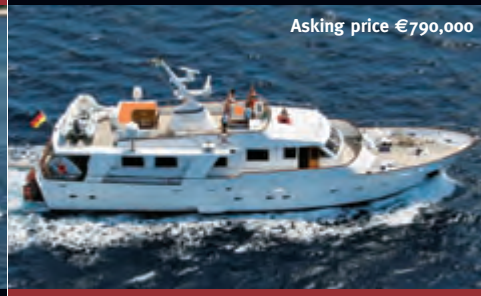
Asking price **€2,900,000**

27m (88'6) Aya, Leopard 2003
Completely refitted and customised at the Arno shipyard in 2009, AYA is in first class condition.



Asking price **US\$3,550,000**

26.2m (86') Xanadu, Horizon Yachts 2007
Xanadu is what most would consider the crowning example of her series.



Asking price **€790,000**

25.8m (84') Bar-Co, Geta Corp 1991
A true gentleman's vessel, this strong, steel-hulled displacement yacht is a classic.



Asking price **€14,900,000**

46.1m (151'2) Wellenreiter, Jongert 2003
Combining the advantages of sail and power, Wellenreiter offers excellent sailing.



Asking price **€6,295,000**

28.85m (92') Rafoly, Yacht Industries 2008
Rafoly is one of the most advanced sailing catamarans afloat.



Asking price **€2,300,000**

24.4m (80') Elettra, Perini Navi 1987
A classic Perini, Elettra offers a great sailing experience with generous accommodation.



Asking price **US\$3,500,000**

21.3m (70') Cassiopeia, Constellation Yachts 2010
Built in consultation with High Modulus.

on (charter)

sea&i rounds up the latest news from the CNI charter fleet

ODYSSEY

Fresh from a major refit, the 41.1m (134'1) Odyssey joins the CNI charter fleet. Built in 1989, this stunning leadship is traditional in style yet offers elegant, modern furnishings and all the comforts and amenities of a newly launched yacht. Odyssey sleeps 11 guests in four double cabins and one twin cabin with a Pullman berth. She boasts an array of water toys, including scuba-diving equipment, kayaks and a laser sailing dinghy. Odyssey will debut at the Antigua Yacht Charter Meeting in December before chartering in the Caribbean for the winter season.

■ Length 41.1m (134'1)

■ Guests 11

■ Cruising area Winter: Caribbean Summer: West/East Mediterranean

■ Prices from US\$135,000 per week



ANTIGUA CHARTER SHOW

The 49th Antigua Yacht Charter Meeting, from 6 to 11 December, welcomes 12 yachts, including the recently refitted 42m (137') Mirabella III and the 41.1m (134'1) Odyssey, along with a recent offering from the Perini Navi yard, the 56m (180') Panthalassa, which was delivered to her owner earlier this year. To date, other yachts on display will include the 54m (177') sailing yacht Parsifal III, the 53m (175') Hurricane Run, the 50m (165') Jo, the 40m (130') Parvati, the 40m (132') Monte Carlo, the 38m (125') Northlander, the 34m (112') Resilience, the (34m) 112' Catalanian Spirit, the 29m (96') Serenity Now, and the 25m (82') sailing yacht Inukshuk.



(alternative destinations)

As several CNI central agency yachts head to the balmy waters of the Southern Hemisphere and South America for winter charters, other yachts are planning their 2011 calendars elsewhere...

SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE

The 56m (183'8) Riela has announced plans to charter in the cruising grounds of French Polynesia next summer before heading to New Zealand for the Rugby World Cup. Available for charter, Riela was designed for fast cruising and combines all the advantages of sail and power with accommodation comparable to that found on a motoryacht of her size. Her interior design by Rémi Tessier utilises exquisite textiles and textures. She sleeps 12 guests and has a crew of nine.

- Length 56m (183'8)
- Guests 12
- Cruising area Winter: Caribbean, Central America and South Pacific; Summer: South Pacific
- Prices from US\$220,000 per week

The 42.3m (138'8) Mea Culpa is also heading to the cruising grounds of French Polynesia and will be available for charters in the new year and throughout the spring, before cruising to Fiji and Australia for the Black Marlin season at the end of the year. Boasting the latest tournament game-fishing equipment, Mea Culpa is the perfect charter yacht for the avid sportfishing enthusiast, but she is equally suitable for those looking for a relaxing charter. Her elegant interior has the latest audiovisual systems, while on deck she has ample room for relaxation and alfresco dining. She sleeps eight guests in three double cabins (two convertible to twin cabins) and one twin cabin.

- Length 42.3m (139')
- Guests 8
- Cruising area Winter and summer: South Pacific
- Prices from US\$120,000 per week

CNI also has several yachts heading to the Indian Ocean and available for charter this winter. These include the 64.5m (211'7) Silver Angel, the 60m (196'1) Cloud 9, the 59.5m (195'2) Magna Grecia and the 56m (184') Galaxy. The 69.95m (228'5) Sherakhan is also in southern territories as she is cruising the waters of Patagonia.

(an
award-winning
fleet)

The following three yachts from the CNI fleet were delighted to be named winners during the recent ShowBoats Design Awards held in Palm Beach, USA, in October



HURRICANE RUN

The 53.5m (175'5) Hurricane Run and her designer Terence Disdale took the award for best Interior Design: Displacement Motor Yacht, and best Interior Layout.

Hurricane Run's design is bold and contemporary. Her vast sundeck houses a Jacuzzi, sunbathing area and sheltered bar and dining area, while her full-width, upper-deck salon has sliding doors opening to the bridge deck aft, creating a tremendous indoor-outdoor living area. Her spacious main salon and dining area are perfectly suited to lounging and entertaining.

- Length 53.5m (175'6)
- Guests 10/12
- Cruising area Winter: Caribbean; Summer: please enquire
- Prices from US\$320,000 per week





RIELA

The 56m (183'8) RIELA took the Interior Design: Sailing Yacht award for her Rémi Tessier interior.

Riela is the seventh of the highly successful 56m Perini Navi series. She combines the advantages of sail and power, having particularly spacious accommodation for a sailing yacht yet all the grace and pleasure of being propelled by wind. Her stunning interior by Rémi Tessier is natural and contemporary in design with a wide and rich variety of precious and refined materials. Interesting woods such as macassar, ebony and wenge can be found throughout the yacht and are complimented by textured leather for a sleek, sophisticated effect.

■ Length 56m (183'7)

■ Guests 12

■ Cruising area Winter: Caribbean, Central America and South Pacific;

Summer: South Pacific

■ Prices from US\$220,000 per week



CLOUD 9

The 60m (196'1) Cloud 9 picked up two awards; the Exterior Design and Styling: Motor Yacht award and the Interior Recreational Area Design, both awarded to Andrew Winch Designs.

Conceived as the ultimate charter yacht, Cloud 9 is truly stunning. From her nautical and contemporary interior to her alluring exterior deck spaces, she offers a wealth of opportunities for even the most discerning guest. Warm woods and subtle blue and cream tones appear throughout the accommodation. Her vast sun deck includes a large Jacuzzi and plentiful lounging areas both in the sun and the shade, while her bridge deck lounge houses a large, concealed cinema screen for movie buffs.

■ Length 60m (196'1)

■ Guests 12

■ Cruising area Winter: Indian Ocean; Summer: West Mediterranean

■ Prices from €315,000 per week

For further information on chartering yachts in the CNI fleet, contact your nearest CNI Charter Broker, see page 6

spotlight on **Illusion**

Having cruised her way into the CNI fleet, Benetti's Illusion is making her home in the Mediterranean, where she is available for charters throughout 2011

The newly launched 45.6m (149'6) Illusion, delivered in summer 2010 from Benetti, benefits from a combination of the yard's exceptional heritage of yacht-building expertise, along with the considerable design talents of Stefano Natucci.

A one-off design, she is one of the quietest yachts imaginable and places a great emphasis on comfort and entertainment. As such, dining and lounging areas are perfectly planned for formal occasions and relaxation and she has a particularly impressive AV system with large-screen, high-definition Apple televisions featuring Sky, and iPod points in all cabins and communal areas.

Up to ten guests can make themselves at home in the large main deck saloon, upper deck saloon, full-width owner's suite with office area, two VIP staterooms and two twin cabins. Each room's décor is the work of the UK's Argent Design and Rome-based studio Galeazzi Design, who opted for a clean, contemporary finish in shades of cream, brown and chocolate, making for a cosy, homely yet modern interior. Tineo wood combines with white and pale furnishings, subtle lighting, luxurious leather and exclusive bespoke fabrics, while vertical windows invite natural light and offer impressive views. Outside, the sun deck has spacious lounging areas, a mosaic-lined Jacuzzi/pool, a barbecue and bar and a shaded dining area. The bridge deck is another popular setting where up to 12 guests can dine.

Illusion's sizeable swim platform serves as an extra deck and sees plenty of service as an entry to the ocean, where the yacht's wide array of water toys — including sea bobs and jet skis — come into full use.

To enhance her comfort at sea, the yacht is equipped with zero-speed stabilizers and is extremely quiet. CNI's Alex Lees Buckley was the sales broker and buyer's representative during the build, through to completion. ■

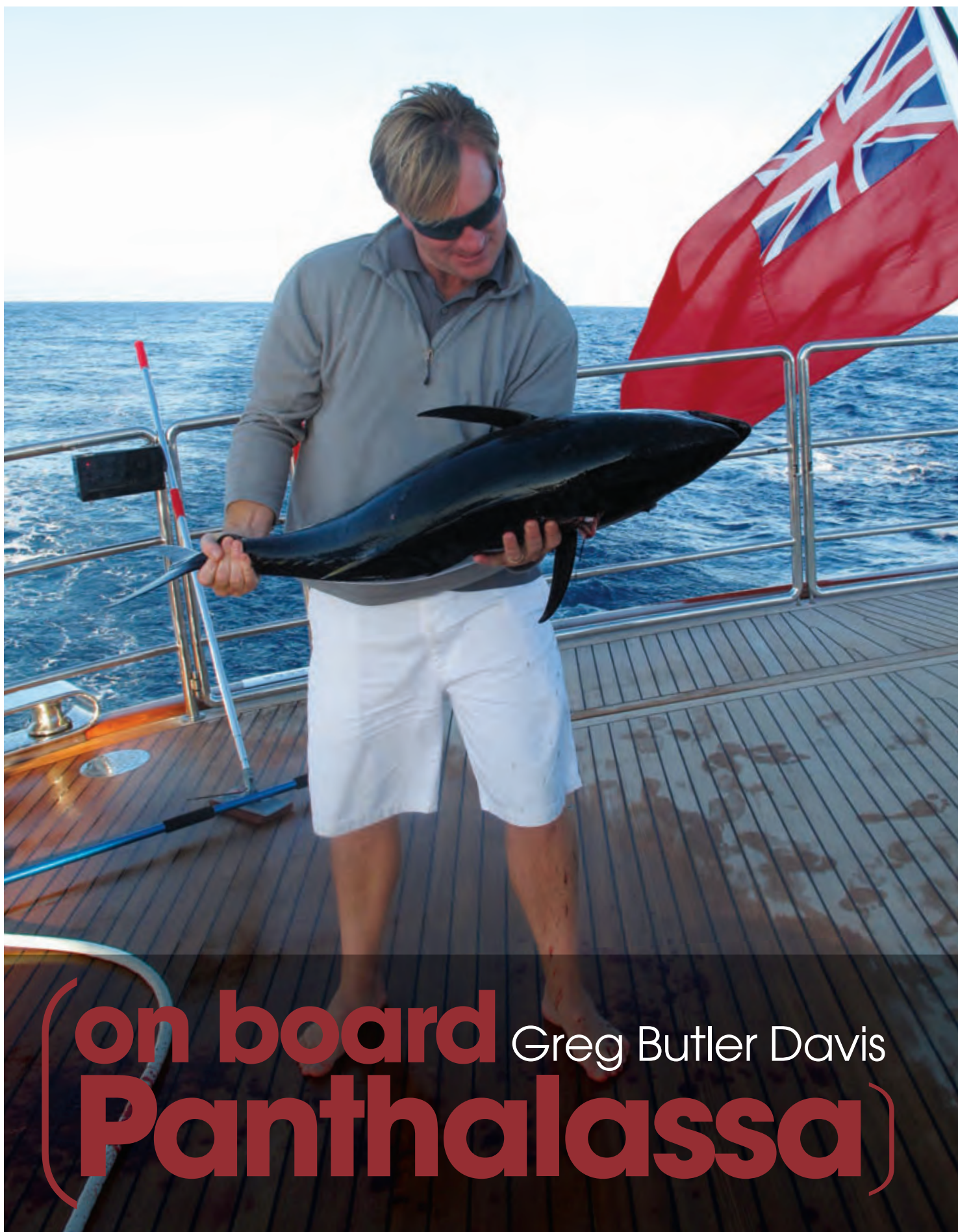
Illusion is available for charter in the Mediterranean throughout the year. For more information, contact your CNI charter broker, see page 6



SPECIFICATIONS

LENGTH	45.6m (149'6)
BEAM	8.9m (29'2)
BUILDER	Benetti
DESIGNER	Stefano Natucci
INTERIOR DESIGNERS	Carlo Galeazzi / Argent Design
YEAR	2010
GUESTS	10
CREW	9
PRICES FROM	€160,000 per week





on board Greg Butler Davis
(Panthalassa)

Having taken to the ocean on a whim as a teenager, Greg Butler Davis has since devoted more than 20 years to the seas, helming many a yacht and currently settled aboard Perini Navi's Panthalassa

BUTLER DAVIS ON... HIS BACKGROUND

I started crewing by chance when I was 18 years old. I set out with a pretty half-hearted approach but by the time I was 25 I realised sailing was the only job that really motivated me. The penny-drop moment was in Manchester in the UK, in December 1995. I was a couple of days into a new job as a recruitment consultant and the future looked bleak. When I got home one night there was a message from a Mr Rodney Aird-Marsh. I was so happy. Rodney was a crew agent from Kent who had previously placed me on a yacht. He had a potential position aboard Adela, a large schooner being rebuilt at Pendennis Shipyard in Cornwall. I chased up the opportunity the next day and spent four years on Adela, eventually becoming mate, completing a circumnavigation and many ocean crossings, and taking part in numerous major regattas. The relief at getting a fresh opportunity made me realise how important the sea was to me, and it changed the way I viewed the job. I have since worked on Gemini Dreamer, Tatasu, Salem, Aquarius W, Cyclos II and III and Nirvana.

BUTLER DAVIS ON... TRAVEL

I love the Pacific islands and there is something particularly magical about Fiji. New England is beautiful, and this summer I enjoyed exploring Croatia's Elafiti Islands, just north of Dubrovnik. I also like cruising around Ibiza, and the south of France has an enduring appeal — it is chic, cosmopolitan and convenient.

Another favourite port of call is Santa Margherita Ligure, which is a great little town along Italy's Golfo del Tigulio. However, nothing can beat Palma as it is my home. Future regions I'd like to explore include the Philippines, Costa Rica and Scandinavia.

BUTLER DAVIS ON... BEING A CAPTAIN

I am grateful that I earn a living doing what I love, but it has its tough moments. Weather and crew are the greatest challenges and I've experienced my fair share of both at their worst. My advice to any aspiring skippers is to stay on a boat for a few years, it says a lot about your character. Also, try not to put your own agenda to the fore. I see some skippers who attempt to mould the boat and the owner to a programme that suits their own needs. As soon as yacht owners feel manipulated they get disillusioned and find something else to do with their time and money.

BUTLER DAVIS ON... PANTHALASSA

Panthalassa is a superb yacht to be aboard. She is versatile, stylish, not too big, not too small, modern, innovative, traditional, simply engineered, functional, reliable and super cool. She also has SeaBobs that everybody



loves, and we just bought two Laser sailing dinghies. If I had to pick my all-time favourite yacht, it would probably be a circa 1960-70 Feadship of 25 to 30m (82 to 98'). Something I could live on comfortably with my wife and three children, with just a couple of crew to help us keep the boat in order. ■

SPECIFICATIONS

LENGTH	56m (183')
BEAM	11.5m (37'7)
DRAFT	3.95m (12'9)
BUILDER	Perini Navi
YEAR	2010
GUESTS	12
CREW	10
CRUISING AREA	Caribbean (winter)
PRICES FROM	US\$200,000 per week



Taste notes with...

Markus Gary

charter cuisine

Primed with a quarter of a century of experience in the kitchen, the head chef aboard the 60m (196'1) Cloud 9 is well equipped to serve up the very finest gourmet charters

Dining aboard Cloud 9 is a special affair. You might find yourself tucking into squid salad splashed with coriander-lime dressing, savouring slow-roasted beef tenderloin in a herb coating with ratatouille and a port wine sauce, or feasting on minted strawberries bathed in a balsamic reduction partnered with chilli-vanilla ice cream, for example.

These delicacies are the inspiration and meticulous creation of Markus Gary, who has been working on superyachts since 2005 after friends suggested he “give it a go”. Having landed the role of head chef on board the prestigious Cloud 9, it seems their advice was worthy.

But Gary has long been steering his career towards such heights. Prior to Cloud 9 he worked on the 34m (112') Lady Maria, IRSR Cannes, Bellgravia and Monte Cristo, and then spent four years working on cruise ships. This was preceded by a three-year apprenticeship and Master Chef degree in Germany, as well as training as a dietician.

GLOBAL INSPIRATION

Gary's love of travel then took him to New Zealand, where he worked for six years at a golf resort and a multi-award winning French-style restaurant in Queenstown, which goes some way to explaining his love of French and Pacific Rim/Asian-inspired cuisine.

He describes his speciality as “multi-style” that can be adapted to any region in which he travels. “If I see something in the local market, I'll grab it and throw it into one of my usual dishes to see if the guests like the new variation,” he explains.

Gary takes his guests' eating habits very seriously. He admits that “People are on board to enjoy themselves, and that usually means doing everything to excess, including eating. I need to make sure the food I serve up is delicious and healthy at the same time.”

A QUESTION OF TASTE

Like any good chef, he is also very attuned to the needs of different guests. “Weight is always an issues; ladies like fish and salad — light dishes — while men often prefer lamb and other meats, so I have to plan for every demand. Anticipating and satisfying clients' tastes two or three times a day for up to 14 days is challenging,” he admits. “Generally, during the first day or two of a charter I establish their tastes. These days are the most important.

Fortunately, I have good experience of catering for many different tastes from the years I worked on cruise ships. It helps to keep menus simple and stylish.” He adds that the need to stay one step ahead of guests is also key. “Even if they go ashore for dinner they may be disappointed and want something back on board, so you have to be ready for anything.”

One of Gary's key culinary inspirations is Harald Wohlfahrt (the German chef who has earned three Michelin stars in 19 years), although he also looks to younger chefs for innovative ideas, and admits that even after 25 years in the industry himself, he still loves conjuring up new ideas all the time and striving for perfection.

Cloud 9 sleeps 12 guests, has a crew of 15 and is available for charter. For more information contact your CNI charter broker, see page 6 ■



The 60m (196'1) Cloud 9

top yachts

THE BEST ON-BOARD BEACH CLUBS

PRINCESS MARIANA 78.6M (258')

One of the most striking features of Princess Mariana is her beach club area. It includes a dry dock for the custom-built tender which, when empty, can be filled with water to create a 12m (39') swimming pool. Relax in the pool and enjoy views over the ocean, or dry off in the sun on the large swim platform. As if the beach club wasn't enough, the entire length of the starboard hull wall lowers to just above sea level, forming a vast, teak-covered private sun terrace for the owner's suite.

Princess Mariana is available for charter in the Caribbean this winter. Prices from US\$650,000 per week for up to 12 guests.



sea&i's new feature, entitled 'x4', sees us step aboard four top yachts each issue to highlight their ultimate attraction. In the first of the series we uncover the finest on-board beach clubs



ICON 65.2M (204')

Icon boasts a vast beach club area from which a passageway leads directly forward to the lower deck, meaning guests have the considerable benefit of being able to access the ocean directly from their cabins. An adjacent gym is tucked behind smoked glass screens, offering perfect privacy for a work-out, or alternatively you can have a relaxing sauna before dipping straight in the ocean. Reflecting the feel of a traditional beach club, the décor is a simple blend of oak and teak, complete with a shaded bar and lounging area, complemented by a sunning area with deck furniture and easy access to the sea, tenders and watertoys.

Icon is available for charter in the Caribbean this winter. Prices from US\$25,000 per week for up to 12 guests.

HURRICANE RUN 53.5M (175'6)

The award-winning Hurricane Run boasts a 20m² (215sqft) bathing platform which, at the flick of a switch, unfolds from her stern. Not only does the platform serve as a bathing and watersports area, it is also an impressive entry point for guests arriving by tender. The platform does not open onto the tender garage, instead jet-skis and toys are all launched via a separate hull door on the port side. Hurricane Run was recently honoured with two awards for her design at the ShowBoats Design Awards (for further information see page 18).

Hurricane Run is available for charter in the Caribbean this winter. Prices from US\$320,000 per week for up to 10/12 guests.



PANTHALASSA 56M (184')

A sailing yacht does not naturally spring to mind when you are looking for a vessel with easy access to the water, but with the drop-down 10m² (107sqft) swim platform aboard the award-winning Panthalassa, guests can hop off the yacht for a swim or to enjoy the plethora of watertoys aboard. The diving and jet-ski garage has its own side platform, allowing guests to use the platform at the yacht's stern to access the inflatable trampoline and swimming pool that can be attached to the yacht.

Panthalassa is available for charter in the Caribbean this winter. Prices from US\$200,000 per week for up to 12 guests.

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world...
sea&i brings you the latest
luxury travel news



RAFFLES TRAVELS FURTHER AFIELD

A great deal has changed for Raffles Hotels & Resorts since the original Raffles in Singapore opened in the late 1800s, but one thing that remains the same is the company's dedication to providing properties with a unique character and location.

The new Raffles Makkah Palace in Saudi Arabia reflects the distinctive approach the company has to its choice of locations as the hotel is just a three-minute walk from the Grand Mosque and the Ka'aba — the holiest site in Islam.

The all-suite hotel occupies 15 floors of the new Abraj Al Bait complex and boasts facilities such as separate men's and women's fitness centres, and a restaurant overlooking the Mosque.

Further east, Raffles is opening its first resort in the Seychelles in 2011 and is expecting its initial guests as early as February. The property, on Praslin Island — the second largest granite island in the Seychelles — is situated a scenic 30-minute drive from the airport and is close to the UNESCO World Heritage Site, Vallée de Mai.

The hotel's general manager hopes to create an "unforgettable and enchanting experience", and this is not hard to imagine with its 86 one- and two-bedroom villas, around-the-clock butler service, private plunge pools and stunning views of lush greenery and the Indian Ocean. The Raffles Spa is an extra highlight that will make a stay even more decadent. www.raffles.com



Mayfair lady

As the UK weather turns colder, London's prestigious Park Lane is hotting up with the pending opening of the Four Seasons Hotel London. Set in salubrious Mayfair, the hotel is a fitting tribute to the hotel chain that celebrates 50 years of hospitality in 2011. "In many ways, London is where the Four Seasons' philosophy was born," says John Stauss, regional vice president and general manager, who will lead a team of 435 staff at the hotel. "This hotel represents all that Four Seasons anticipates will be important to our guests in the future."

The hotel's 10th floor lounge is particularly versatile, seeing use as an oasis for early arriving travellers, as well as spa lunches and private

evening parties with views of London's skyline. The hotel's spa has sky-lit vitality pools, saunas, treatment rooms and a fitness centre, and its Amaranto restaurant has an outdoor terrace, conservatory and dining room. The 192 rooms and suites are all furnished in residential style with a modern twist, and the hotel is green in more ways than one. Countless plants throughout the property improve air quality and ambience, while optimal energy efficiency has been sought for room lighting and temperature. Stylish, sophisticated and service-led, the Four Seasons Hotel London at Park Lane is destined to be a favourite for travellers and Londoners alike. www.fourseasons.com



Old-style New York spirit

Those who want to step back in time and return to the glamour of 1930s will adore the new Chatwal hotel in the theatre district of the 'city that never sleeps'.

In celebration of early 20th century travel and New York Art Deco, The Chatwal revisits one of the finest eras for design. The guest rooms and suites have been created with custom-designed luxuries that compliment the surrounding décor and include such treats as 42-inch plasma screens.

Along with period-building furnishings, the hotel has a spa and fitness centre featuring a lap pool, plunge pool and steam room, allowing guests to escape the hustle and bustle of the New York streets. In addition to this, the alluring 80-seat restaurant, The Lambs Club, also has an appealing bar with vast windows overlooking the entrance hall, making it the perfect spot for people-watching.

www.thechatwalny.com

Hublot's flagship store in Singapore

September 2010 saw Singapore celebrate the opening of Hublot's flagship store. Asia's leading specialist watch retailer, The Hour Glass, and Hublot marked the grand opening with the presence of Hublot CEO Jean-Claude Biver and Bernie Ecclestone, CEO of the Formula One Group.

During this prestigious event the first timepiece from the limited series King Power F1TM, the official watch of Formula 1, was revealed in good time for the 2010 Formula 1 Singapore Grand Prix. The Hublot and The Hour Glass store can be found in the newest and most prestigious icon of the Marina Bay skyline: the Marina Bay Sands integrated resort. www.hublot.com



New look for Le Vistamar at Monaco's Hermitage

Design guru Pierre-Yves Rochon has been busy over the last few years working with leading hotels around the world, one of them being Hôtel Hermitage in Monaco. Le Vistamar gastronomic restaurant has been given a refreshing new look, and a fantastic terrace (open during the summer months) gives access to breathtaking views over the harbour and famous Rock. Fish is the speciality prepared by acclaimed chef Joel Garault. www.hotelhermitagemontecarlo.com



FOUR SEASONS RESORT VAIL

Four Seasons has added another destination to its ever-expanding portfolio of hotels and resorts with a new property in Vail, Colorado. True to the company's name, the hotel offers superb year-round outdoor pursuits ranging from skiing and snowboarding in winter to hiking and golfing in summer.

The in-house boot experts ensure that professionals and novices alike are fitted with correct and comfortable equipment before hitting the largest ski resort in North America, and after a long day on the piste the ski concierge will take care of your equipment slopeside, where it will be prepared for your next venture.

Comfort and relaxation are deemed highly important, as demonstrated by the cosy fireplaces in each of the 121 suites and rooms, which have been designed in a cosy alpine tradition, most offering mountain and pool views. After a hectic day on the slopes, guests will also welcome the luxurious pampering of the hotel's spa.

From the kitchen, visitors can expect local specialities such as elk and buffalo as well as light spa options in the Flame restaurant or at the heated Pool Bar terrace. With access to all the facilities within the hotel, guests may feel the mountains can wait just another day.

www.fourseasons.com/vail



A grand re-opening

The Savoy has always held a special place in the hearts of Londoners. Consequently, a great deal of apprehension has surrounded the three-year, £220m refurbishment that reached completion at the beginning of October.

New and returning guests are not disappointed as the hotel retains the traditional, elegant and comfortable atmosphere that it exuded before.

Under the leadership of renowned interior designer Pierre-Yves Rochon, the hotel is undoubtedly recognisable but new additions are set to make it even more legendary. These include

a new Champagne bar with live cabaret acts, a Savoy teashop echoing the style of the Burlington Arcade, and a fresh look to the River restaurant.

Guests can choose from either an Art Deco or an English Edwardian style room. Polished checkerboard marble floors in the lobby and cool pale green colouring to the Thames Foyer lounge maintain a quintessentially English feel. Add to this a Gordon Ramsay at The Savoy Grill and it would seem that the hotel is regaining its rightful status as one of London's leading establishments.

www.fairmont.com/savoy

Grape expectations

Argentina's renowned wine country welcomed a new growth in September: the InterContinental Mendoza hotel. This 15-storey property has 180 guest rooms and suites (although a second tower soon to be finalised will add a further 72 rooms to its tally), 11 meeting rooms, a ballroom, full-service spa, heated swimming pool, fitness centre and restaurant. Guests can enjoy the city's largest shopping centre just a step across the

street, and both the downtown area and airport are within easy reach.

Wine lovers in particular will appreciate the region as the nearby wineries of Mendoza produce the world's highest-ranked Malbec wines. However, with hiking, biking, fishing, rafting, shopping and world-class skiing also on offer, this is the perfect spot for all visitors.

www.intercontinental.com



Alila graces India and Laos

After four successful launches last year, Alila Hotels & Resorts announces two new openings within the space of six months with Alila Luang Prabang, Laos (now open) and Alila Bangalore, India (due to open in January 2011).

The Luang Prabang resort can be found in the ancient town that was designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1995 and guests can look forward to a laid-back atmosphere where a gentle stroll allows exploration of the unique town. In keeping with the site's architectural heritage, the resort blends existing colonial buildings built in the early 20th century with new structures designed to

complement and reflect traditional Laos. Twenty three suites open onto a private garden with either a pool or an outdoor pavilion, and each has its own unique charm.

In contrast, Alila Bangalore is set in a vibrant metropolis and will be a unique business resort hotel that will nevertheless reflect all the principles of the Alila chain. The elegant rooms with modern Indian accents feature an innovative design that encourages modern living with tailored work and leisure spaces. Four dining areas, the Spa Alila, a library and an infinity pool invite business travellers to take their mind off work. www.alilahotels.com





Orient-Express expands

The Orient-Express group, originally famous for its luxury train journeys from London to Venice, has expanded vastly over the last decade and now features hotels and unique journeys worldwide. The newest additions to the collection include two hotels in Sicily. Villa Sant'Andrea

benefits from a seaside location and has over 60 rooms and suites with views over a private beach in the Bay of Mazzarò. Grand Hotel Timeo, meanwhile, is situated in the historical centre of Taormina. The group is also developing further outside of Europe with a new rail voyage aboard the

Eastern & Oriental Express. These new rail voyages will pass through Thailand, Malaysia, Laos and Singapore, with all itineraries offering an extensive programme of exciting excursions, overnight off-train experiences and guest lecturers. www.orient-express.com

Leela Palace

The Leela Group, consisting of palaces, hotels and resorts, is showcasing its latest property in New Delhi, where it reflects the true essence of India. Opened in autumn 2010, this impressive Leela property is located in the exclusive Diplomatic Enclave next to the Prime Minister's residence.

Opulent interiors to suit all tastes draw from a range of inspirations, from the cutting edge of contemporary design to a more classical eastern aesthetic. Along with its sumptuous design, the hotel features Japanese, Indian and Italian restaurants, a heated rooftop swimming pool and an exclusive spa with a state-of-the-art fitness centre. www.theleela.com



RITZ PICKINGS

Fancy an exclusive four-day photography workshop with a *National Geographic* photographer? Or a personal shopping trip with a fashion expert at Neiman Marcus or Bergdorf Goodman? If you have been a loyal guest at Ritz-Carlton hotels you may well be in luck. The company has recently launched its much-



anticipated Ritz-Carlton Rewards programme that recognises its most frequent guests by offering them a broad selection of unique global travel experiences. The programme sees Ritz-Carlton partner with leading names worldwide, with many more set to join them in the future. Membership is complimentary and guests can enrol by visiting hotel front desks or register online at www.ritzcarltonrewards.com

Gaining momentum

With the world becoming ever-more accessible, genuine exploration and dynamic travel can become a challenge, but Momentum Adventure is making it possible to experience the most exhilarating of adventures.

This unique travel company visits more than 20 destinations worldwide and, staffed by seasoned expedition experts, has tailored three

incredible quest packages that are perfect for adrenaline junkies.

Expeditions take place in both tropical and sub-zero climates and embrace mountain ascents, state-of-the-art dune buggy drives across the Vizcaino and Sonoran deserts, and snowmobile trips across the Arctic. The hard-core only need apply. www.momentumadventure.com



Austin powers ahead

If you fancy an early Christmas present, treat yourself to a night at the newly launched W Austin, opening on 9 December. Luxuriating on the vibrant Second Street in Austin, Texas, the hotel has a welcoming, spirited vibe and offers guests a fitness centre, spa, outdoor pool, two restaurants, poolside dining and 251 guest rooms and suites. Sold as a flirty, fun, fresh experience, the hotel is a colourful addition to this sizzling US city.

www.starwoodhotels.com

In:spa gains a new property

An 18th century monastery set in the peaceful unspoilt countryside of southern Spain is the ideal location for the new in:spa health retreat. This new institution offers endless hiking and mountain biking opportunities with stunning scenery and warm sunshine among the scenic Spanish hills near Gaucin.

The monastery features stylish and spacious accommodation with period fittings all combined with 21st century comforts. Guests can make use of the enormous swimming pool or enjoy alfresco dining in the courtyard gardens or on the terraces, where the freshest, healthiest cuisine is served.

In keeping with the in:spa enterprise, an expert team of specialists is on hand at all times, including yoga teachers, massage therapists, personal trainers, nutritionists and chefs. www.inspa.co.uk

Live like royalty

Following the first phase of its restoration, the Falaknuma Palace, Hyderabad in India, has re-opened as a luxury palace hotel with 60 rooms. Original features of the palace have been retained, including the Nizam's suite, the 101-seater dining room and the gardens.

Along with its rich historical background, the Palace offers the finest service, and visitors can experience what it is like to be a personal guest of the Nizam. www.tajhotels.com

First EcoDive resort in the Maldives

Divers keen on preserving the coral reefs of the world will be pleased to hear that the Baros Maldives has become the first EcoDive Centre in this popular honeymoon location.

Licensed Reef Check EcoDive instructors are fully qualified to further educate visitors on ocean life in tropical coral reefs.

Combining education with action ensures volunteers a unique first-hand experience and role in conserving the world's reefs. Guests can also collect valuable coral reef data using Underwater Reef Guides from the resort that help people recognise and record what they have seen during their underwater safari. www.baros.com



Heston Blumenthal at London's Mandarin Oriental

January 2011 will see the arrival of Heston Blumenthal's first restaurant in London, overlooking Hyde Park at the Mandarin Oriental hotel. 'Dinner by Heston Blumenthal' will feature the chef's inimitable style of culinary alchemy with a menu heavily influenced by his ongoing research and discovery of historic British gastronomy.

Serving lunch, dinner and afternoon tea and headed by Ashley Palmer-Watts, who has worked with Blumenthal at his UK-based The Fat Duck for nine years, the restaurant at the Mandarin Oriental is set to be a hit.

www.mandarinoriental.com



Palazzo Hedoné

The latest addition to the portfolio of properties managed by Think Sicily is a converted boutique hotel in Italy. Palazzo Hedoné has 11 rooms furnished with antiques and modern designs. All rooms are air conditioned and have solar-powered underfloor heating and top-of-the-range en-suite bathrooms. The swimming pool with underwater sound system and counter-current swimming machine also has a retractable glass roof.

Up on the roof the fantastic panoramic views of the gardens and surrounding hills are truly breathtaking. The hotel also has its own spa in an original grotto carved into the rock, equipped with sauna, hammam and hot tub. www.thinksicily.com

51 BUCKINGHAM GATE RESIDENCES

Five newly renovated suites are now available at the luxury residences of London's St James. Following the £1.2 million investment, the residences will be the largest serviced suites in the city with the conversion of two floors into an exclusive space with its own internal staircase, which highlights one of the key benefits of the residences — privacy. Carefully selected interior decor is combined with the finest modern amenities, presenting a fresh and contemporary feel for every suite. A strong relationship with two of London's greatest stores, Hamleys and Harrods, means that 51 Buckingham Gate also offers fantastic packages, including personal shopping and privilege discount days for the family.

www.51-buckinghamgate.com



The Verta experience

The next time you're UK-bound, steer your helicopter to London's Vertical Gateway and land at the Hotel Verta where you can literally step from the heliport into your five-star suite or, even better, into the subterranean Spa Verta. Opened in September 2010, the hotel and spa already have a celebrity following, hardly surprising with the stylish Bar Vertilon and fine-dining Patrisey restaurant overlooking the heliport and River Thames. The hotel is perfectly soundproofed throughout, but the real oasis is down in the spa where thermal rooms, experience showers and a hydro-vitality pool await. Particularly recommended is the Anne Sémonin London-Paris two-hour treatment complete with scrub, massage and intriguing bubbling mud mask, propelling you to new heights of pure indulgence. www.hotel-verta.co.uk



Abu Dhabi gets gorgeous

The Yas Hotel in Abu Dhabi is following the example of the Metropole Monte Carlo, Gleneagles in the UK, and the Peninsula New York by opting for an ESPA oasis of tranquillity and relaxation at its property.

Designed around a traditional Hammam, the spa has been conceived with Arabian architecture and features eight private treatment rooms.

Divided over two floors, it is an impressive space with separate male and female areas and a dramatic, double-height marble stairway.

Treatments combine the best of ancient and modern therapies and use only the finest quality ingredients and skincare products. The spa menu includes the likes of The Ultimate Hammam — an indulgent 80-minute therapy with a massage, mask and bath.

www.theyashotel.com



A small gem in the Caribbean

The small private island of Petit St Vincent, or PSV to those in the know, has recently changed ownership, marking a fresh chapter in the island's history.

The 113-acre destination, currently home to a boutique-style resort, first opened in 1968 with 22 cliffside and beachfront villas.

It was visited by the new owners when they were sailing through the Caribbean and they instantly fell for its charms. Without losing the resort's appeal,

the owners plan to create one of the region's most attractive high-end destinations by upgrading existing accommodation, building a new relaxed beach restaurant, a spa pavilion with six treatment rooms and a children's club.

PSV will be open as usual until 30 April 2011 before closing on the 1 May until 31 October 2011 while the work is carried out.

www.psvresort.com



VICEROY

After reaching completion on the 1 October, Viceroy Anguilla Resort & Residences in the Caribbean unveils its full range of facilities, including a spa, fitness centre, infinity pool and many restaurants. The private residences give access to all the resort's facilities, as well as offering investors the benefit of owning a piece of island luxury. Acclaimed designer Kelly Wearstler's inimitable style and talent for luxury is present throughout the resort. The décor features organic elements such as driftwood lamps, wood tables and vast travertine marble floors, coupled with textiles and design techniques from all over the world.

The residences can also be offered for rental when not in use by the owners, which makes the option of ownership a tempting investment.

www.viceroyhotelsandresorts.com

PROPERTY FOCUS

If you are looking to rent a holiday property worldwide, tune your radar to the finest residences in the Caribbean and UK



AMANYARA

Amanyara, in the Caribbean resort of Turks & Caicos, is already a firm favourite with lovers of luxury, but the recent addition of an 'Artists' Villa' is likely to enhance its rental potential — particularly due to its specialised recording studio.

Created under the guidance of legendary songwriter and producer Nile Rodgers (who has worked with artists such as Madonna, Diana Ross, David Bowie and Mick Jagger), Villa33Studio is a fantastic state-of-the-art recording studio and writing room, providing artists with the ideal environment and latest technology to channel their creativity.

When the studio is not required, it functions as a private cinema, so it appeals not just to visitors from the music industry but also those from the wider entertainment world. It also features a film library, personally selected by Academy Award nominee Salma Hayek, and has a painting deck offering uninterrupted views of the Caribbean Sea.

A 36-metre (118 foot) infinity pool, four magnificent master bedroom pavilions and a special family pavilion, designed to sleep four children and a nanny, makes the Artist's Villa an ideal location for a creative getaway. www.amanresorts.com



GILPIN HOUSE

The Relais & Chateaux Gilpin House in the English Lake District has recently bought and refurbished an incredible new lake house, which offers perfect seclusion with all the luxuries of the hotel. Six sumptuous suites, a private indoor pool and a sauna make up the quintessential English home, which is situated a mere mile from the hotel, ensuring guests have total privacy.

Likewise, they can call the chauffeur (any time of day or night) to whisk them to the hotel to taste the culinary creations of chef Russell Plowman. As it is located on the lake, guests can make use of the private jetty for drinks, or discover the traditional boat house that shelters the Victorian rowing boat. After relaxing, walking and absorbing this magical place guests can enjoy a spa treatment in any room in the Lake House. www.gilpinlodge.co.uk



Eye spy... sunglasses

Finding the perfect pair of sunglasses can be a challenge, so **sea&i** has done the hard work for you and found 24 of the most appealing shades for the coming season



1. MARC JACOBS

Violet-shade sunglasses from Marc Jacobs.
www.marcjacobs.com

2. MAX MARA

Traditional shades with a tortoise shell-effect from Max Mara. www.maxmara.com

3. YVES SAINT LAURENT

Animal-print shades from Yves Saint Laurent.
www.ysl.com

4. EMPORIO ARMANI

Emporio Armani's dare-devil red sunglasses.
www.emporioarmani.com

5. EMPORIO ARMANI

Ocean-blue sunglasses from Emporio Armani.
www.emporioarmani.com

6. GIORGIO ARMANI

Retro-style frames from Giorgio Armani.
www.armani.com

7. GIORGIO ARMANI

Rose-tinted shades from Giorgio Armani.
www.armani.com

8. CHRISTIAN DIOR

Pearl and pink shades from Christian Dior.
www.dior.com

9. CHRISTIAN DIOR

Gold-framed shades from Christian Dior.
www.dior.com

10. CHRISTIAN DIOR

Make an impact with dark shades from Christian Dior.
www.dior.com

11. MAX MARA

Max Mara retro-style tortoise-shell effect shades.
www.maxmara.com

12. VALENTINO

Pale and interesting from Valentino. www.valentino.com

13. CARRERA

Bold blue and black sunglasses from Carrera.
www.carreraworld.com/it

14. MAX & CO

Shades of purple and blue from Max & Co.
www.maxandco.com

15. GUCCI

Classic black sunglasses from Gucci.
www.gucci.com

16. BALENCIAGA

Pale lavender shades from Balenciaga.
www.balenciaga.com

17. GUCCI

Bold violet shades from Gucci. www.gucci.com

18. GUCCI

Grab attention with Gucci's bright red shades.
www.gucci.com

19. BOTTEGA VENETA

Bold burgandy shades from Bottega Veneta.
www.bottegabeneta.com

20. JIMMY CHOO

Light and simple tortoise-shell style from Jimmy Choo.
www.jimmychoo.com

21. JIMMY CHOO

Sexy snakeskin style from Jimmy Choo. www.jimmychoo.com

22. JIMMY CHOO

Tortoise and snakeskin style from Jimmy Choo.
www.jimmychoo.com

23. HUGO BOSS

Ocean-hue shades from Hugo Boss. www.hugoboss.com

24. HUGO BOSS

Onassis-style sunnies from Hugo Boss.
www.hugoboss.com

For information on all the above sunglasses, and others by these designers, visit www.safilo.com

travel essentials

Highly desirable

Make your cruise even more enjoyable by taking the finest accessories on board



- 1. WRITE STUFF** Read to your heart's content and travel light with all your books stored on the new Kindle. www.amazon.com
- 2. SPORTING LEGEND** Hand-made in Italy, this luxury holdall crafted of British Racing Green leather commemorates Aston Martin's first Le Mans win in 1959. The ultimate in quality hand luggage. www.vintage60.com
- 3. CARRY OFF STYLE** The Soho bag from Aspinal of London, shown here in tan leather, reflects classic steamer-style luggage. www.aspinaloflondon.com
- 4. SPECS APPEAL** Keep to hand these Yves Saint Laurent shades for instant designer style. www.ysl.com
- 5. ROLLED TO PERFECTION** This luxury mahogany cigar box is handcrafted in Italy, reflects the lines of the Maserati Gran Turismo, and holds 40 cigars. www.maseratistore.com
- 6. KEY PLAYER** This matching keys and cufflinks set in stainless steel and leather are inspired by Maserati's Gran Turismo grille. www.maseratistore.com
- 7. WATCH IT** Strap on the elegant Girard-Perregaux 1966 Chronograph in pink gold for time-keeping perfection. www.girard-perregaux.com

- 8. MENS LENS** Achieve simmering style with these slick Gucci sunglasses. www.gucci.com
- 9. CLEAN CUT** Tanner Krolle's Blenheim wash bag in blonde English bridle leather is perfectly tailored for travelling toiletries. www.tannerkrolle.com
- 10. THE BUSINESS** Vertu's new black sapphire Constellation Quest mobile is a stylish smartphone with a qwerty keyboard. www.vertu.com
- 11. FASHION SCENTS** Making fabulous fragrances since 1760, Creed has just launched its new Aventus for men with an exotic blend of bergamot, blackcurrant and pineapple. www.creedfragrances.co.uk



Liquid genius

fragrance



Perfume houses worldwide have once again emerged from amid a haze of gorgeous ingredients to present their latest seductive scents

- 1. PROFUMI DEL FORTE** The limited-edition Versilia Aurum is a fresh concoction of orange, strawberry, plum and florals. www.profumidelforte.it
- 2. MILLER HARRIS** Un Petit Rien is the new lighter version of Miller Harris' previous L'Air de Rien. It is a delicate scent combining neroli, oak moss and musk. www.millerharris.com
- 3. PRADA** Infusion d'Iris eau de toilette is clean, fresh and light yet perfectly sophisticated. www.prada.com
- 4. CARON** The exclusive scent of Secret Oud is a delicate combination of rose and jasmine. www.parfumscaron.com
- 5. TAUER** Eau D'Epices is a vibrant blend of cinnamon, cardamom, cloves and coriander with red mandarin and a host of other exotic treats. www.tauerperfumes.com



6. BOADICEA THE VICTORIOUS Celestial overflows with jasmine, fig, juniper, thyme, lavender, lime and pearwood. www.boadiceathevictorious.com

7. MONA DI ORIO Les Nombres d'Or Musc features neroli, angelica, heliotrope, tonka and precious musk. www.monadiorio.com

8. RUTH MASTENBROEK The eponymously named Ruth Mastenbroek Eau de Parfum is a modern scent rich with mandarin, bergamot, pineapple, pink peppercorn, rose, lily and jasmine. www.ruthmastenbroek.com

9. SO OUD The Illuminum Scarlet Oud is a complex scent redolent of thick smoke, honey, wood and green shoots. www.sooud.net

10. ACQUA DI PARMA Magnolia Nobile Special Edition reflects the finest accents of magnolia and adds to this bergamot, lemon and cedar. www.acquadiparma.it

11. NINA RICCI / PHILIPPE STARCK L'Air du Temps by Nina Ricci is presented in this striking Philippe Starck designed bottle — perfect for lovers of style and scent. www.ninaricci.com

12. SO OUD Al Jana is a unique, fresh scent combining thyme, lemon, star anise, ylang ylang, cypress, Virginia cedar, vetiver, sandalwood and tonka, among other key notes. www.sooud.net

13. JO MALONE The new English Pear & Freesia cologne is a fresh lively scent by Jo Malone. www.jomalone.co.uk

14. LALIQUE The 2011 Flacon Collection, fashioned in a limited, numbered and signed edition, contains the delightful Lalique de Lalique fragrance. www.cristallalique.fr

Suite success

inspiring rooms

From Europe to the US, Russia and Africa, reserve one of the world's most desirable hotel suites and luxuriate with cocktail lounges, a caviar welcome and lagoon-view plunge pools **By Thomas Grant**

RIAD D'HONNEUR, ROYAL MANSOUR, MARRAKECH, MOROCCO

A genuine palace built by royalty, the Royal Mansour is remarkable for any visitor, but those signing into its Riad d'Honneur live like a king. The 1,800m² (21,520sq foot) riad has a private entrance surrounded by a garden, fountains and trees. Inside, a palace of rooms await, including a study, a Moroccan lounge, snooker room, bar, dining room, library, bedrooms with en suites, and a master overlooking the private garden swimming pool. The two-level roof terrace gives sweeping views of the Medina, Atlas Mountains and Koutoubia Mosque, and has its own gymnasium, hammam, home cinema, swimming pool and lounging/dining areas. A private staff attends the riad. *For information, visit www.royalmansour.com*

TOP TIP Relax on your private riad roof terrace and dine on cuisine prepared by three-starred Michelin chef Yannick Alléno



ROYAL PENTHOUSE SUITE, PRESIDENT WILSON HOTEL, GENEVA, SWITZERLAND

This four-bedroom penthouse commands one of the heftiest price tags in the world, so expect the best — and more. The suite offers gorgeous views across Lake Geneva to Mont Blanc, and features a 1930s billiard table, a Steinway grand piano, bullet-proof windows and armoured doors, a butler, a glut of antiques and a cocktail lounge. Its statistics are suitably impressive; it is 1,579m² (17,000sqft), not including the roof terrace, and has a 26-seater dining room and six bathrooms, two with hammams and spa baths. Reached by a private elevator, it lounges across the top floor of the hotel, which is located in the centre of Geneva.

For information, visit www.hotelpwilson.com

TOP TIP Take a long, therapeutic dip in the hotel's outdoor saltwater pool overlooking scenic Lake Geneva



PALLADIO SUITE, HOTEL CIPRIANI, VENICE, ITALY

Holding its own against the many new hotels that steal the headlines daily, the Palladio Suite is still a favourite. Suspended mid-air above the Venetian lagoon, it has 180-degree views to ensure you don't miss a bit of the city's romance. Along with the master bedroom and its two marble bathrooms, both overlooking the garden and lagoon, there is a living and dining room, a large terrace with outdoor heated plunge pool, a heated Jacuzzi whirlpool shaded by fragrant jasmine, and a private dock. Beyond the suite, guests have access to one of the world's most legendary hotels and cities.

For information, visit www.hotelcipriani.com

TOP TIP Step off your private dock onto a deluxe motor launch and whisk through the scenic coves, islands and islets of Venice



THE IMPERIAL YACHT SUITE, GRAND HOTEL EUROPE, ST PETERSBURG, RUSSIA

In 1871, Tsar Alexander II launched the royal yacht Derzhava — a spectacular vessel with an opulent interior that required more than 200 employees to maintain her. Reflecting this grand launch, the Imperial Yacht Suite at the Grand Hotel Europe has nautical colours, a sumptuous marble bathroom and artwork depicting the life of this remarkable ship. The suite is just one of the hotel's ten Unique History Suites; others honouring the likes of Pavarotti, Dostoevsky and Fabergé. Each suite has a hall, living room, bedroom, bathroom and views of the Arts Square. For information, visit www.grandhoteleurope.com

TOP TIP Order the VIP Set-Up to enjoy a bottle of Tsarskaja gold vodka, pancakes and Beluga caviar on arrival

TY WARNER PENTHOUSE, FOUR SEASONS HOTEL, NEW YORK, US

Occupying the entire top floor of the Four Seasons in New York, this penthouse is one of North America's most exclusive accommodations. Its nine rooms are loaded with wonders, including cantilevered glass balconies, floor-to-ceiling windows, cathedral ceilings, 360-degree views of Manhattan, a bed threaded with gold, an indoor-outdoor Zen garden with its own waterfall overlooking the Statue of Liberty, a Bösendorfer grand piano, bathroom sinks carved of solid rock crystal, a rain shower, an infinity-edge bath tub, a library with a gilded-bronze chandelier, and a personal butler and trainer/therapist. A remarkable architectural and design innovation, it is a live-in work of art.

For information, visit www.fourseasons.com

TOP TIP Cruise the streets of New York in your privately chauffeured Rolls Royce Phantom or Mercedes Maybach





ATLANTIC OCEAN

Levera Beach

TIVOLI

SAUTEURS

Annandale Falls, Seven Sisters Falls, and Mount Carmel Waterfall are all worth a visit, while the Grand Etang Forest Reserve in the heart of the island is one of the finest natural areas in the whole Caribbean. It is filled with towering bamboo, wildflowers, razorgrass, and the Grand Etang Lake — an extinct volcanic crater.

Grenadian cuisine marries West Indian flavours with spices such as nutmeg, cinnamon and ginger, and the island offers a good variety of both fine dining and more casual local restaurants. Sat above the beach, the open-air Aquarium is the island's best-known eatery. The menu of grilled meats and seafood runs throughout the week, but it is the weekend when lobster barbecues and rum punches bring the venue to life, accompanied by live Calypso music. For local cuisine, try BB's Crabback on the Carenage in the capital of St George's.

Mount St Catherine



VICTORIA

CARIBBEAN SEA

Head to Gouyave for Fish Friday — a weekly street party in the largest of the island's fishing towns. Chefs rustle up everything from steamed red snapper to marlin pizza and the party continues until the food runs out.

Grenada is the world's second largest producer of nutmeg (after Indonesia). Nutmeg was brought to Grenada in the middle of the 19th century and has dominated every aspect of island life since. Hurricane Ivan uprooted most of the nutmeg trees but production continues at a number of farms that are open to the public.

GOUYAVE

Grenada is also well-known for its chocolate, and the process of turning the cocoa beans into the famous Grenada organic dark chocolate can be witnessed at the Belmont Estate.

CONSTANTINE

For further information on chartering in the Windward Islands, contact your nearest charter broker, see page 6

The capital of St George's is the focal point of the island. A rainbow of pastel-coloured dockside warehouses with red-tiled roofs sit aside a horseshoe-shaped harbour. Reflecting the island's dual French and British legacies, a pair of impressive hilltop forts sit atop the capital — Fort Frederick and Fort George.



GRAND GRENADA

The spice island of Grenada has had its share of dramas over the years, but today the southernmost of the Caribbean's Windward Islands is a year-round destination and the ideal base from which to discover the Grenadines island chain

By Miriam Cain

ST DAVIDS

WESTERHALL

BELMONT

Port Louis

ST GEORGE'S

Grand Anse Beach



South of the hurricane belt, Grenada has emerged as a serious player in the yachting scene. Port Louis operates 30 berths for superyachts above 30m (98') and an additional 129 berths for smaller yachts.

With duty-free boutiques, restaurants and bars, along with facilities required by yachts of all sizes, Port Louis is the ideal gateway to the Grenadine Islands with their compelling dive sites and pristine reefs.

Without doubt, the best beach on the island is Grand Anse, with more than three kilometres (two miles) of white sand lapped by the Caribbean sea and plenty of palm trees for shade. On Grenada's eastern, Atlantic side, Bathway Beach is protected from strong currents by an offshore coral ledge, while La Sagesse Beach near St Davids is calm and quiet.







Arabian light

beirut

Amid tough competition, Beirut is emerging as the jewel of the Middle East. Echoing Paris' chic style, it is an eminently glamorous, exciting and enticing destination

By Kate Rigby

A decade and a half of conflict may have left an indelible mark on Beirut, but despite its turbulent heritage this Middle Eastern city and capital of Lebanon has beaten the odds to emerge as a high-profile travel destination that is fun, beautiful, sexy and vibrant.

Strung along the shores of the Mediterranean Sea, Beirut is caught between two cultures, dipping a toe in both Arabic and European camps. With a history dating back more than 5,000 years, and a democratic, forward-thinking Government, it is the most fashionable of all the Arabian cities. Fondly cited as the Paris of the Middle East, the city has undergone a significant transformation in recent years. Its landscape was pockmarked by the civil war of 1975 to 1990, but this war-torn façade has stamped the city with something of an edgy charm, and along with the glamorously poised rooftop pools of the five-star

hotels and the designer boutiques luxuriating way below them, Beirut exudes a fashionably fun frisson. The shopping is excellent, fashion shows strut alongside classical concerts and world-class theatre, Phoenician ruins merge with vibrant new water parks, and 300 days of sunshine every year mean all this can be enjoyed in the perfect climate.

PILLOW TALK

If classy hotels are a barometer of a city's style, Beirut is scorching hot. One of the key players is the **Four Seasons Hotel Beirut**, fresh from its opening in January 2010. Ten years in the planning, the hotel has hospitality spot on with a service that reflects the vibrant and welcoming spirit of the country. All 230 rooms and suites have large terraces, there is a marble and gold mosaic spa and a team of concierges with expert knowledge of the city's 5,000 years of cultural attractions. →

Above: the famous Pigeon Rocks of Raouché
Opposite page: Le Gray's Indigo on the Roof restaurant overlooks the city



AT A GLANCE...

Language Arabic is the official language, but English and French are widely spoken.

Currency the Lebanese pound (LBP)

Culture Beirut is one of the most laid-back and westernised of Middle Eastern cities, but Lebanon is a very religious country so respectful clothing and behaviour are advised at all times.



Another recent addition, **Le Gray Hotel** (sister property to Antigua's Carlisle Bay and London's Dukes Hotel and One Aldwych) was always going to add more than a touch of luxury to the city when it opened just a year ago. Located in the smart Central Beirut District, it has views of the Mediterranean and Mount Lebanon, a rooftop restaurant, a bar and chlorine-free pool, and 87 rooms and suites with Aqua televisions in the bathrooms. **The PureGray Health Club and Spa** includes a couples treatment room and wet room, along with a gym. **Gefinor Rotana Hotel** in the heart of the city, just 15 minutes away from Beirut International Airport, is also worth considering for an overnight stay. The hotel has three restaurants that, between them, cover breakfast, lunch, dinner, morning coffee, afternoon tea, evening cocktails and poolside snacks. Speaking of poolside, the hotel has a rooftop swimming pool overlooking the Mediterranean, along with a fitness centre, sauna, steam bath and massage services. **The Metropolitan Palace Beirut** likewise makes a towering statement with its 183 rooms and suites on Sin El Fil. The penthouse on the 17th floor has a private terrace offering city and Mediterranean views, its own marble lobby, sitting rooms, a private dining room, a master bedroom with terrace, three guest bedrooms and staff quarters. The hotel also has a health

club, tennis court, beauty salon and Elixir Spa extending over three floors, complete with heat cabins and snow rooms. **Le Royal Beirut**, meanwhile, crowns a hilltop near the city attractions and overlooking the Mediterranean, with some of its suites featuring a kitchenette, a living room and terrace. Its Royal SPA is on three levels, including an indoor swimming pool, Jacuzzis, mud and Turkish baths, squash and tennis facilities and spa treatments. Younger visitors will love its **Watergate Aqua Park** — one of the largest in the Middle East. And in the heart of the famous Hamra district, **Le Commodore** is all about understated natural earthy tones and overdosing luxury, with great rooms, an outdoor pool and an impressive health club.

EAT, DRINK, DANCE

EAT... **Venezia Ristorante Italiano** at the Metropolitan Palace Beirut is a mini replica of Venice, both for its architectural intricacy as well as its cuisine. **Indigo on the Roof** at Le Gray is a rooftop restaurant serving Mediterranean delicacies from an open kitchen. A fabulous wine wall and illuminated city views add to the experience. **The Al Dente Restaurant** at Hotel Albergio describes itself as "1910 Italy meets 2010 Beirut". It has bold décor, and has earned the title of best Italian restaurant in



Photography: courtesy of Four Seasons Beirut

Beirut. **Abdel Wahab**, named after the street it occupies in the Monot area, is set in an old Ottoman house and is great for traditional atmosphere, mezze and Lebanese hospitality, as is **Al Ajami**. If you have the luxury of your own apartment while in Beirut, call on the culinary services of private caterer to the stars **Hussein Hadid** for a gourmet banquet at home.

DRINK... **Candles Lounge** on the 16th floor of the Metropolitan Palace Beirut is the place to go for long, late evenings with spirits and cigars. Le Gray's **Bar ThreeSixty** is a circular cocktail bar overlooking the city, mountains and sea and serving up great live music, DJs and neon-lit style and comfort. The martinis are particularly recommended.

DANCE... For an all-round entertainment empire, head to **Casino du Liban** in northwest Beirut. It has a theatre showing plays, ballet, opera, Broadway productions and jazz concerts, along with restaurants, banqueting facilities and gaming casinos.

SEE, SHOP, SAVOUR

SEE... The city is best explored on foot, only then can you really soak up its effervescent vibe. The old downtown area has a feast of discoveries, among them the **Al-Omari**, **Amir Assaf** and **Amir Munzir** mosques. Also take in the **Parliament Building**, and the Roman columns on **Nejmeh Square**. Meanwhile, the **Beirut**

National Museum has over 1,300 archaeological artefacts ranging from prehistoric to Ottoman times. And save an hour or two to visit the Roman Baths and Phoenician ruins of the city.

SHOP... the famous market at Martyr's Place, known as **Souk el Barghout** is ideal for an outdoor coffee as you watch the world go by, while **Verdun Street**, one of the most prestigious areas in the city, has boutiques, galleries and two malls.

SAVOUR... stroll and people-watch along the stylish seafront **Corniche**, and catch the sunset at **Pigeon Rocks** off the coast of Raouché. While you're there, visit one of the many nearby restaurants and cliff-side cafés.

DO, DISCOVER

DO... **Faraya** – an hour from Beirut, these mountains double up for trekking in summer and skiing in winter, earning them the reputation of being the Switzerland of the Middle East. If you're in the city on a Sunday, head trackside to the **Beirut Hippodrome** as it lays on the very best pure-bred Arab horse racing.

DISCOVER... **Jeita Grotto**, just 18 kilometres (11 miles) from the capital, is a six-kilometre (3.5 mile) labyrinth on two levels. The cave, topped and tailed with stalactites and stalagmites, has an underground lake on which you can take a boat trip, completing your experience of this mystical and enchanting region. ■

Opposite page, clockwise from top left: the Four Seasons Beirut; the Gefinor Rotana hotel; an aerial view of the city; the rooftop pool of the Gefinor Rotana. This page, clockwise from left: the Al Dente Restaurant at Hotel Albergro; Bar ThreeSixty at Le Gray; walking is one of the best ways to soak up the city vibe

Best of the Caribbean

island guide

The Caribbean is a playground for superyachts. Brimming with islands that inspire and impress, it offers countless options for dining and relaxation. Here, we profile the finest beaches, restaurants, night spots and leisure highlights

By Miriam Cain

From the Virgin Islands to the Windwards to the Leewards to the Grenadines, there are hundreds of Caribbean islands offering dramatic scenery, fantastic watersports, world-class cuisine, fascinating history and welcoming locals. Whether cruising as a couple, as a family or with a group of friends, the Caribbean's cruising grounds have something for everyone.

Beaches

Beaches are what the Caribbean does best. Antigua alone has 365, one for every day of the year, and further north the British Virgin Islands are circled with shimmering blue water and coral reefs protecting silky soft sands. But which beach is right for you? Some suit families, others are only accessible by yacht and are therefore perfect for those in search of complete privacy, others are ideal for partygoers or watersports enthusiasts.

The British Virgin Islands are famed for their beaches, the best of which is said to be *White Bay* on *Jost Van Dyke*. An immaculate crescent of ivory sand, *White Bay* has a reef lying just offshore running nearly the full length of the beach. Blessed with calm waters, perfect for children to swim in, the reef has a convenient break providing access to the shore by tender. Equally impressive, and better suited to those looking for

activity and people-watching, is the one-and-a-half kilometre (one mile) stretch of white sand at *Cane Garden Bay* in *Tortola*.

On to the Leeward islands and *St Barths*. Needless to say it is the beach scene that attracts most visitors to St Barths. The island has 20 to choose from, but the best for chilled relaxation and sheer beauty are *Saline* (an unofficial nudist beach) and *Gouverneur*. Those looking for something a little livelier should head to the cosmopolitan *St Jean*.

A short hop away, the exclusive island of *Anguilla* has more than 30 beaches, and *Maundays Bay* is one of its best. A long curve of flawless white sand, the beach is located on the southwestern coast of Anguilla. The island has beaches that are quieter and more secluded, but *Maundays* is popular for activity, be it strolling along the water's edge, or swimming and snorkelling in the calm waters.

Further south, at the bottom of the Leeward chain, *Antigua* has so many beaches it is hard to choose just one but top of the list are *Half Moon Bay* on the east coast and *Dickenson Bay* on the northwest corner. Both are everything you would expect from the Caribbean — long stretches of sparsely populated white sandy beach. Just over the water, *Pinney's Beach* on *Nevis* is another perfect crescent of sugar-fine white sand.

The nearly deserted stretch of *Pink Beach* on the neighbouring island of *Barbuda* reaches from Spanish Point to Palmetto

Point, allowing you to walk for miles without encountering another footprint: barefoot luxury at its best.

Further south at the bottom of the Windward islands, Grenada's *Grand Anse Beach* is one of just 45 beaches on the island, but it is fabled to be the best. Few visitors come here, and at just under three kilometres (two miles) long there is enough space to give the impression that the beach is deserted.

Dining

Most Caribbean islands have a handful of wonderful restaurants. For those seeking authentic Caribbean dishes, several good local restaurants serve up native specialties such as Jamaican jerk, conch and flying fish. Beachside shacks also offer a taste of the Caribbean in a casual setting. For those wanting a more formal experience, fine-dining restaurants can be found in many of the resorts and towns.

The BVIs are not known for fine dining opportunities but there are exceptions. Fantastic fresh seafood dishes and an influence of French cuisine can be found at a number of resorts, including Virgin Gorda's *Biras Creek*, *Bitter End Yacht Club*, *Little Dix Bay*, and the private *Peter Island Resort*.

With a distinctly French flavour and outstanding reputation for gourmet dining, the Leeward island of *St Barths* is the Caribbean's alternative to the Côte d'Azur. The island has

countless restaurants serving up gastronomic feasts and is known for having the best chefs in the Caribbean. Those looking for French-inspired cuisine will find the best restaurants on the island to be *Le Sapotillier* in Gustavia, *Le Gaiac* at Hotel Le Toiny and *On The Rocks* restaurant. The latter is perched on top of the rock of the *Hotel Eden Rock* and boasts panoramic views over St Jean Bay. The hotel also has a casual lunch menu at the *Sand Bar*, located on the beach at St Jean. For local cuisine in St Barths, try *Maya's* daily changing menu of local Creole dishes, *La Route des Boucaniers* in Gustavia, or *Le Grain de Sel* in Saline. Also in Saline and close to Saline beach, the fashionable restaurant *L'Esprit Saline* serves a fusion menu that changes daily, *Le Case de L'Isle* at the Isle de France hotel prepares fresh grilled fish, fusion style, while *La Langouste* has the freshest lobster on the island.

Across the water, *Anguilla* is home to more than 70 restaurants and offers true gourmet dining at restaurants the likes of *KoalKeel*, *Pimms*, *Oliver's*, *Hibernia*, *Malliouhana* and the award-winning *Blanchard's*. The latter, located in Mead's Bay, is infamous on the island for its fusion cuisine and ever-evolving menu. For a slightly more casual affair, the *Straw Hat* offers a unique dining experience where seafood reigns supreme.

Further south, take the tender ashore to the island of *Nevis* for freshly caught lobster at the *Hermitage Beach Club* on →

Main picture: set on a 300-acre private island, Jumby Bay lies off the coast of Antigua

Opposite page, clockwise from top: the view from On The Rocks over St Jean Bay, St Barths; Antigua has a beach for every day of the year; Pusser's Bar, Tortola, USVI; Little Dix Bay, Virgin Gorda, BVI; Daphne's restaurant in Barbados; The Bath's, Virgin Gorda

Pinney's Beach, or dine by candlelight at *The Terrace*, *Montpelier Plantation Inn*, or at *The Mill*, a 300 year-old converted sugar mill.

Antigua is in pole position on the cruising map and has a number of dining experiences to choose from. *Harmony Hall* in Brown Bay is known for its fresh seafood dishes, while its sister restaurant at the *Antigua Yacht Club Marina* serves up Italian-influenced cuisine. Take the tender ashore at Carlisle Bay for alfresco dining at the resort's *Indigo on the Beach*. Alternatively, the resort serves up Japanese, Thai and Vietnamese cuisine at its *East* restaurant. The private island resort Jumby Bay is accessed only by boat and is located just three kilometres (two miles) off the coast of Antigua. Re-opened following a refurbishment, the resort has been totally revamped and has several gourmet options, including *The Estate House*.

Down in the Windward island chain, **Barbados** has a choice of outstanding restaurants, but worthy of a mention is *The Cliff*. Located on the island's West Coast, the restaurant's multi-tiered design means every table has a view of the sea. The nearby exclusive Sandy Lane resort is home to another award-winning restaurant, *L'Acajou*, where fresh seafood plays a starring role on the menu. Other restaurants worth mentioning in Barbados include *Daphne's*, serving some of the best Italian in the Caribbean; *La Mer*, where the grilled meats and fish are prepared over two grills — one with lava rock and the other with wood; and the *Lone Star* at the hip Lone Star Hotel. The restaurant has a casual beach-bar atmosphere throughout the day, and by night it becomes a romantic spot for dinner.

In the northern part of the Windward island chain, **Martinique** and **St Lucia** are dotted with resorts offering gourmet cuisine. On **Martinique** the fine-dining restaurant at the *Plein Soleil Hotel* serves contemporary cuisine and is one of the two most popular fine-dining restaurants on the island. The acclaimed restaurant, *Bélem*, in the northern part of the island at the Cap Est Lagoon Resort is another good place to go. For more of a local vibe on Martinique, join locals and the yachting crowd at *Le Zanzibar* in Le Marin for an African, Indian and Asian inspired menu and live music.

The nearby island of **St Lucia** has a mix of resort restaurants serving fine cuisine and well-established family run restaurants, worth a visit to taste spectacular St Lucian Creole cuisine, such as grilled pig tails, crab backs, callaloo, roasted breadfruit and saltfish. At *The Great Room Restaurant* at the Jalousie Plantation you will find fresh seafood dishes. *Dasheene*, located at the Ladera Resort, serves locally grown organic produce in dishes influenced by Caribbean and Creole traditions. *Piano Piano* at Cotton Bay Village is one of the better-known restaurants on the island. The menu has internationally influenced dishes, including Moroccan lamb and local fresh fish

served Creole style. Local Creole delicacies appear in many island dishes, including one of the oldest restaurants on the island — *Charthouse*. The main ingredient here is the hot and spicy sauce that can be ordered with almost every dish — be it catch-of-the-day or steak. *The Coal Pot* is another local restaurant that has been serving international cuisine since 1966. It is famous for its French dishes with a Caribbean twist.

At the bottom of the Grenadines island chain, **Grenada's** most popular restaurant *Aquarium* is worth a visit on Sunday afternoons when it serves up a barbecue accompanied by live reggae and calypso by the water's edge. For local food on Grenada, visit *BB's Craback* along the Carenage in the capital of St George.

Beach bars

The Caribbean offers a menu of beach-bar settings for laid-back margaritas and local beers on the beach. The BVIs are home to a handful of quintessential Caribbean classics including the infamous *Foxy's* on **Jost Van Dyke**. Located on a spit of land facing Great Harbour, *Foxy's* barbecues and calypso music have been attracting the yachting crowd since the 60s. Further down White Bay beach, the *Soggy Dollar Bar* is the essence of the Caribbean. The bar was aptly named when it opened as access was by water only, and it is where the Painkiller cocktail, the BVI's signature drink, was first created. There is now a road connecting Great Harbour to White Bay, but the atmosphere (and pace) remain suitably languorous.

Other popular beach bars in the BVIs include *Ivan's Stress Free Bar*, also on Jost Van Dyke; *Saba Rock's Calypso Bar* on **Virgin Gorda**; the *Cooper Island Beach Club*; and *Pusser's Bar* in **Tortola**.

On **St Barths**, St Jean is the place to see and be seen. Home to the aforementioned Eden Rock's *Sand Bar*, *Nikki Beach* and *La Plage*, it is probably the hippest strip of sand in the world. The chic beach shack *Do Brazil* on Gustavia's Shell Beach is also perfect for a sundowner and fine ceviche.

Nightlife

Nightlife in the Caribbean is generally very relaxed. Small reggae clubs and beach bars make for a fun evening where you can really join in the spirit of local life. Whether dining aboard or ashore, the evening casually slips into drinks at one of the islands bars.

Among the best on **St Barths** are *Boubou*, where there is dancing and lounging, and *Le Ti St Barth* — a popular hilltop spot that perfectly captures the spirit of the island.

If cruising around **Antigua** on a Sunday, head to the *Shirley Heights jump-up*. A Sunday afternoon session begins with a barbecue at 4pm and continues with reggae, steel-pans →



EVENTS

THE ST KITTS & NEVIS CARNIVAL

17 Dec – 3 Jan

NEW YEAR'S EVE IN ST BARTHS

31 December

ST BARTHS MUSIC FESTIVAL

11 – 19 January

ST BARTHS BUCKET

24 – 27 March (25th anniversary)

ANGUILLA JAZZ FESTIVAL

November





and lots of dancing. Arrive early for sundowners (skip the barbecue) and enjoy the sunset over English Harbour. *Abracadabra's* in English Harbour is always jumping. Serving fresh seafood early on, the night later evolves into a dance party as live jazz, reggae and often carnival costumes take over.

Down in the Windward island chain, *Basil's Bar* on [Mustique](#) has been welcoming celebrities and royalty for more than 30 years. Constructed on stilts over the beach, the bar is legendary for parties and late night jump-ups.

For local rum and reggae, [Grenada's](#) best-known nightlife can be found at the *Bananas Nightclub* or *Karma* on the Carenage in the capital of St George; and for live entertainment the *Calebasse Café* in [Martinique's](#) Le Marin is a fashionable cosy spot that features Cuban, jazz and French music.

Snorkelling

The Caribbean has fantastic reefs and wrecks for diving and scuba-diving. All ages can experience the underwater world of exotic fish and colourful coral with a snorkel and mask, and to make it even easier many of the snorkelling spots have marked underwater trails for snorkellers to explore with signs describing the typical marine life for the area.

The Virgin Islands are synonymous with some of the world's best snorkelling opportunities. Lying just off [Norman Island](#) in the BVI, *The Indians* are a dramatic reef and rocky outcrop, resembling an Indian headdress and providing superb snorkelling. *The Baths* on [Virgin Gorda](#) are perfect for children and novice snorkellers as the shallow pools are calm and clear.

Over in the USVI, *Buck Island National Monument*, lying just off [St Croix's](#) north shore, is an 850-acre national park where the reef is home to more than 250 species of fish and a variety of corals and crustaceans. *Cane Bay* on [St Croix](#) has a reef that extends out to *Cane Bay Wall*, a dramatic drop into deep waters. Almost all of the beaches around [St John](#), also in the USVI, have coral reefs around the bays where a variety of coral and tropical fish can be seen in the clear waters. *Caneel Bay*, *Hawknest Bay* and *Trunk Bay* in the USVI also have great snorkelling with waters shallow enough for children.

[Antigua](#) is surrounded by warm, clear waters with an abundance of colourful marine life. Several coral reefs, walls and shipwrecks provide a home to many varieties of fish, and with little current, these waters are ideal for children and novice snorkellers. The one-and-a-half kilometre (one mile) long *Paradise Reef* off Dickenson Bay, and *Cades Reef*, now an underwater park, are among the area's popular snorkelling spots.

Down in the [Grenadines](#) every island in the chain offers snorkelling opportunities, but the [Tobago Cays](#) are particularly special. A protected area, the coral is untouched and the calm waters allow you to float and let the water gently pull you over

the reef. Other areas of note in the Grenadines include the waters surrounding [Palm Island](#), [Petit St Vincent](#) and [Canouan](#). Lying at top and the bottom of the Grenadines island chain, [St Lucia](#) and [Grenada](#) have ample snorkelling spots. *Soufriere Marine Park* in [St Lucia](#) is perfect for snorkelling, as is the coral around *Anse Chastanet*, where the reef is long with plenty of shallow areas to explore. The area is a marine reserve and no motorised boats are allowed near the snorkelling site. For a unique experience, *Molinier Bay* in [Grenada](#) is an eerie site with an underwater gallery of sculptures anchored 4.5 metres (14.7 feet) beneath the surface.

Diving


Home to several marine national parks, shipwrecks, and tropical marine life, the Caribbean is a must-visit destination for scuba-divers. Beach dives, reef dives, wreck dives and wall dives are all on offer for experienced divers. Most of the aforementioned snorkelling spots provide ample diving opportunities, but the following are further dive sites for those looking for the ultimate diving experience.

In the USVI, divers can explore a number of shipwrecks around the *Buck Island Reef National Monument* including *Northwind*, the *Rosaomaria*, and the *Suffolk Maid*. Other good dive sites include the drop-offs and coral canyons at *Cane Bay* and *Davis Bay* — the latter of which, at 3,600 metres (11,800 feet), is the fifth-deepest body of water in the world.

The neighbouring BVIs have several gentle dives that rarely exceed 30 metres (98 feet). Lying just off [Salt Island](#) is the wreck of *HMS Rhone*. The Royal Mail steamer, which went down in 1867, is one of the most celebrated dive sites in the Caribbean. Other spectacular dive sites in the area include the *Chikuzen* off [Tortola](#). This 82m (270') steel-hulled ship sank off the island's east coast and is now home to an array of tropical fish, including yellowtail, barracuda, black-tip sharks and drum fish. Meanwhile, the brilliant coral wall known as *Alice in Wonderland* at nearby [Ginger Island](#) slopes to a sandy bottom at 30 metres. Aptly named, the site is often referred to as a fantasy due to its overhangs, vibrant colours, huge mushroom-shaped corals and colourful fish.

The southwestern side of mountainous [St Kitts](#) offers spectacular dive sites for all standards. The more popular and challenging include the 30-metre long canyons in the *Sandy Point Reef National Marine Park*. The waters surrounding neighbouring volcanic island of [Saba](#) are home to 38 official dive sites. Unusual lava flows, black sand, and large strands of black coral attract millions of colourful fish. Just over the water, the *Pillars of Hercules* lying off [Antigua](#) are a group of coral columns resembling an ancient Greek temple. →

Opposite page, clockwise from top: the Four Seasons Nevis Robert Trent Jones (Junior) golf course; the Spa on Mustique; the Virgin Islands have several snorkelling spots; the Leeward island of Nevis; Little Dix Bay, Virgin Gorda, BVI; The Beach Bar & Grill at the Peter Island Resort, BVI



Further south, the wreck of *Nahoon* lying just off [Martinique](#) in the Windward Islands is a three-mast lighthouse boat that is lying on the seabed at 36 metres (118 feet). The wreck is inhabited by barracuda and tropical fish. South of Martinique, the [Grenadines](#) chain offers a number of dives at protected reefs where divers can swim with stingrays and see coral.

Watersports

With the year-round trade winds, the Caribbean is the perfect playground for board sports including kite surfing, windsurfing and surfing. Reliable winds, aided by the warm water swells and sheltered bays, attract surfers from around the world to the [Virgin Islands](#) in the north and [Barbados](#) and [St Lucia](#) in the south.

With no hills to disrupt the trade winds and 13 kilometres (eight miles) of protected coral reef around sandy beaches, the BVI's [Anegada](#) is a paradise for windsurfers. The flat island of [Anguilla](#), and in particular *Barnes Bay*, is also a popular windsurfing spot.

The Caribbean islands have many mangroves and lagoons that can be explored by kayak, but the best sea kayaking is to be had around the dramatic boulders and grottoes of *The Baths*, [Virgin Gorda](#).

Spa

The unhurried pace of the Caribbean takes a while to adjust to but as you adapt to 'island time' and your body and soul begin to relax, try a treatment at some of the finest spas the islands have to offer. Many take advantage of the local flora and fauna, fresh fruit and salt water to create signature treatments.

The Spa at the Little Dix Bay Resort is set on the hillside with panoramic views over [Virgin Gorda](#). The spa has developed its own signature treatments that draw on the island's indigenous plants and the ancient therapeutic practices of the Carib Indians. Try the Virgin Gorda Goat Milk and Honey Wrap. Also in the BVIs, guests can indulge in a Cast Away Facial at the *Peter Island Resort*.

Over in the Leeward Islands, the spa at the *Malliouhana Hotel* on [Anguilla](#) is set on the oceanfront and offers a number of speciality treatments and massages. Neighbouring [St Barths](#) is also home to a number of top-notch spas, including *The Spa at Hotel St Barth Isle de France*, designed by Molton Brown, and the *Guanahani Spa* by Clarins.

The recently refurbished *Four Seasons Spa* at the Four Seasons Resort on [Nevis](#) is one of the top-rated spas in the Caribbean. The unique menu includes treatments such as guava body wraps or a rum tonic sugar cane exfoliation.

Neighbouring [Antigua](#) is home to the new *Sense Spa* at the recently reopened Jumby Bay. The spa, set close to the beach

with views over the Caribbean Sea, is open to the elements with treatment rooms leading onto private terraces. The signature treatments use ingredients taken straight from the private island's gardens. On the private island of [Mustique](#), *The Spa at Endeavour Bay* has a number of treatments using products from E'Spa. Treatments can also be arranged on board your own yacht, and several yachts now have their own spa on board.

Fishing

The Caribbean has some of the best fishing grounds in the world. The waters are teeming with big game and the islands are ideal for offshore fishing excursions. Sportfisherman come to the islands for the abundance of blue marlin, sailfish, mahi mahi, tuna and wahoo.

The cruising grounds of the Virgin Islands, in particular, attract sportfisherman from around the world to compete in local tournaments. Further south, the waters around [Barbados](#) and [Grenada](#) are perfect for sportfishing enthusiasts and deep-sea fisherman in search of billfish, while the calmer, coastal waters nearer the islands are home to wahoo and barracuda.

Although some islands have good fishing year-round, the majority have their best season from January to April. Permits are required for some islands, while others have a catch-and-release policy. Your captain can advise you prior to any cruise.

Golf

The Caribbean has always been a popular destination for golf and there are numerous championship golf courses throughout the islands, many designed by some of the world's most famous golf architects.

The Greg Norman designed links *Temenos Golf Course* on [Anguilla](#) has 14 sea-view holes amid a jigsaw of lagoons and ponds. For several consecutive years the *Four Seasons Nevis* course has been rated as the number one golf resort in the Caribbean by US magazine *Conde Nast Traveler*. The Robert Trent Jones (Junior) course provides a dramatic view of the resort and the neighbouring island of St Kitts. The first tee is 137 metres (450 feet) above sea level and the final hole is on the beach.

The *Empress Josephine Golf Course* in [Martinique](#) is another award-winning course. Designed by Robert Trent Jones (Senior), it makes full use of banks, trees, lakes and bunkers to provide 18 holes of challenging play.

Drift through the Caribbean waters, seek out the most secluded beaches, step ashore to exclusive restaurants — the options are endless and your CNI charter broker is on hand to devise the most imaginative itineraries. ■

For more information on chartering in the Caribbean, contact your nearest CNI charter broker, see page 6



Icon 62



RoMa

YACHTS

The following yachts are debuting in the Caribbean this winter. For further information on these, or any yacht in the CNI fleet, contact your nearest CNI charter broker, see page 6

ICON 62.5m (205')
from US\$475,000 per week

ROMA 62m (203' 4")
from €350,000 per week

PANTHALASSA 56m (183' 8")
from US\$200,000 per week

ODYSSEY 41.4m (134' 1")
from US\$135,000 per week

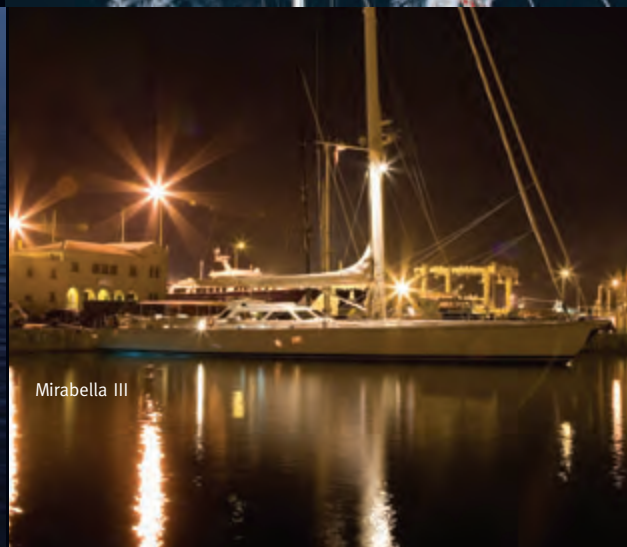
MIRABELLA III 41.4m (135' 9")
from US\$105,000 per week



Panthalassa



Odyssey



Mirabella III



Stars of the Côte d'Azur

fine dining

For more than a century, restaurants worldwide have strived to earn the ultimate recognition. The French Riviera currently sparkles brighter than many a shoreline with seven Michelin stars crowning three world-famous restaurants

By Ella Carlisle

Food is the most fundamental requirement of life, always has been, always will be, so it is perhaps not surprising that since humans first trod the earth we have come to have rather a special relationship with it — a love affair, if you will. Far from simply depending on food to sustain us, we've spent generation upon generation evolving the process of eating into an art form. Gone are the days of hunt, gather, eat; now we devote hours, days and weeks to analysing our food's appearance, procrastinating over its texture, savouring its scent, ceaselessly mixing, matching and melding it with any number of unlikely other ingredients, painstakingly devising news ways of preparing it, and devoting hours to crafting it into sculptured spectacles that, in contradiction to its very purpose of sustaining us, seem a shame to spoil with knife and fork.

Hardly surprising then, that while many of us now nurture a sharply honed palate and pride ourselves on our culinary flair,

there are those who devote their entire lives to the pursuit of excellence in food. This remarkable breed falls into two categories: those that create culinary excellence, and those that judge it.

Of the latter, the Michelin inspectors reign supreme. For more than a century they have been visiting, evaluating and recommending restaurants, and such is the expertise of these full-time professionals that their opinion is famed for making and breaking careers worldwide.

Visiting anonymously (several times, if they like the restaurant) and rating on a range of criteria, the Michelin inspectors are concerned only with honest excellence in food. They judge on the quality of produce, the mastery of flavour and cooking, the personality of the cuisine, value for money and consistency of excellence in all the above. Regardless of culinary style, any restaurant can qualify, and the highest accolade is to earn three stars; the challenge, then, is to keep them.

Above and opposite page: the celebrated Le Louis XV-Alain Ducasse restaurant
Right: fresh crudités and, far right, legumes truffe noire at the Louis XV

LE LOUIS XV-ALAIN DUCASSE

Le Louis XV punctuates its name with the ultimate: three Michelin stars. This seems somewhat symbolic of an ellipsis; prophetic, perhaps — watch this space, there's more to come... Already one of the world's finest dining experiences, it's hard to imagine what that 'more' could possibly be.

Le Louis XV is the culinary phenomenon of Alain Ducasse and it has occupied an enviable spot at the heart of the Hôtel de Paris Monte-Carlo, on Monaco's Place du Casino, since 1987. An elegant room enhanced with light and gold, it is reminiscent of Versailles' Grand Siècle, where the clocks always indicate the time of 12-noon as a reminder that here, time is of no consequence.

In masterminding one of the most famous restaurants in the world, Ducasse's intention has been to create a "subtle balance between tradition, evolution and modernity". In doing so he earned the restaurant two stars in 1988 and another in 1990. Ducasse describes his restaurant thus: "If it were a colour... it would be blue just like the Mediterranean Sea. If it were to be defined by just one taste, it would that of extra virgin olive oil — subtle and aromatic. If it were to be described in just one word, it would be 'essential'," he concludes.

Current chef de cuisine is Franck Cerutti, who, having long worked with Ducasse, adds this sentiment. "The region where I live, the tastes and colours of my childhood, tales of exile in Italy and long journeys to the Far East... all these things influence my cooking at the Louis XV. I am not looking to perform culinary exploits but to offer my guests the chance to enjoy some essential pleasures."

These include the freshest produce from the vegetable garden, the sea, the farm and the pasture. Dishes you might expect to sink a fork into include Mediterranean sea bass spiked with black olives, minestrone dressing and green and purple basil. Or perhaps you'll try the breast of squab from the Alpes-de-Haute-Provence region and grilled duck foie gras, polenta with a tasty juice and offal. After the agonising choice of which dishes to choose, you then have the Herculean task of selecting from one of 600,000 bottles from the cellar.

It is hard to imagine what could still be up the well-pressed sleeve of one of the world's finest living chefs, but Alain Ducasse has made his name on culinary innovation, so those three Michelin stars may well signify more is yet to come.

MICHELIN STARS: ***

SEATS: 50

RESERVATIONS: it is advisable to book seven to ten days in advance in summer; three to five days ahead in winter

CONTACT: www.hoteldeparismontecarlo.com



This page, below right: culinary inspiration at La Chèvre D'Or
Below: view of the Mediterranean from La Chèvre D'Or
Opposite page: the restaurant at Château Saint-Martin & Spa, and views of the estate

LA CHÈVRE D'OR

If you have a head for heights, there are few views to compare with that of standing on the cliff top of the medieval village of Eze. Casting your gaze in one direction, the coastline weaves all the way to Monaco; turn your focus 180 degrees and you scope blue sea and sandy shorelines all the way to Nice. Yet for most who come to this enchanting lofty village, this dazzling panoramic Mediterranean seascape is the secondary attraction; those with an eye for seriously impressive sights sit indoors and stare due south.

The dishes you can gaze down on atop a table at La Chèvre d'Or are, as the French might growl, *magnifique!* Forget blue skies, golden sun and white beaches, here you can feast your eyes on the electric zest of a ginger orange sorbet, the plump pink flesh of a Bresse pigeon breast, the shimmering pearly perfection of Gillardeau oysters, and the golden-tan glow of a glass of Chateau d'Yquem 1944 from the restaurant's 15,000 bottle cellar. Take the experience a step further and a masterpiece of flavours and textures crackle, smack and miraculously melt upon the tongue.

The kitchen has been in business since 1953, gaining its first Michelin star in 1972 with Elie Mazot and its second in 2000 with Jean Marc Delacourt. Since July this year, the reins have passed to Fabrice Vulin, a French chef who, among other notable achievements, earned two Michelin stars in just 14 months as head chef of Parc des Eaux-Vives in Geneva, Switzerland. Having returned to France to work with the local ingredients he so loves, rumour has it he has his eye on more Michelin stars for La Chèvre d'Or.

The new menu features treats the likes of rock red mullet prepared with caramelised aubergine, quince, porcini

mushrooms and black pudding from the Basque country; and Rossini style fillet of beef with foie gras and mature parmesan macaroni gratin. If you haven't yet paid a visit, now is the time to schedule a dinner for your 2011 Côte d'Azur charter.

MICHELIN STARS: **

SEATS: 45, or 65 for a banquet

RESERVATIONS: between July and September, book at least two weeks in advance, or ideally a month for parties of five-plus

CONTACT: www.chevredor.com





LE SAINT-MARTIN

It inspired Chagall, Braque, Miró and Matisse, and today the region in which the Château Saint-Martin & Spa estate luxuriates continues to draw connoisseurs of the finer things in life. In the very heart of the Côte d'Azur, balanced between the sea and the mountains, and just five minutes from the historical centre of Vence, Château Saint-Martin & Spa serves up a generous taste of the good life, and nowhere more so than at its very core at Le Saint-Martin restaurant.

Proud owner of two Michelin stars, the restaurant is helmed by Yannick Franques — protégé of Alain Ducasse, Christian Constant and Eric Frechon. The food is suitably adventurous, coquettishly presented, and a feast of colours and flavours. For a starter you may find yourself dipping into Franques' 'mystery of the egg' — beaten and served with brioche wrapped in crusty breadcrumbs and highlighted with black truffle. To follow, you might treat yourself to pigeon à la royale with truffled celery root and spaghetti sauce thickened with spiced dark chocolate. Or perhaps you'll savour the red mullet in a white-bread crust with cucumber, fennel and spring onions, served with traditional saffron rouille. Franques describes his style as traditional French cuisine that revisits the classics, and the ambience of the restaurant reflects this philosophy. Décor is simple and tasteful to create a comfortable, cosy atmosphere, leaving the exterior view over the Mediterranean to steal the limelight — at least, that is, until the food arrives. ■

MICHELIN STARS: **

SEATS: 35

RESERVATIONS: at least one week in advance

CONTACT: www.chateau-st-martin.com



Ultimate travel

sea and space

The earth may be well-trod terrain, but the sea and sky offer infinite possibilities for intrepid discovery. **sea&i** explores options on a spaceship, a superyacht and a submersible to bring you the most exceptional travel experiences

By Kate Rigby

HIGH EXPECTATIONS

Space travel has traditionally been the preserve of movies and schoolboy dreams; a fantastical journey into the unknown, a noble mission to explore where few humans have ever been, and the surreal experience of being able to look down through a starry sky and see the softly illuminated curve of the Earth far beneath you. For those who love adventure,

there is no comparison, and now, for the first time in history, there is no need to simply dream or flick 'play' on the DVD – space travel for the everyday adventurer has finally launched.

The company paving the way in offering private trips is Space Adventures, based in Virginia, US. Founded in 1998, the company has long worked with professional astronauts and cosmonauts in the US and Russia to deliver the safest, most exciting



adventures possible. It is currently the only company providing spaceflights for self-funded individuals and, to date, its clients, cumulatively, have travelled 36 million miles and spent over three months aboard the International Space Station — a multi-billion dollar research laboratory that was developed over the last ten years through a broad international partnership of space agencies, and which orbits 400 kilometres (250 miles) above the Earth's surface.

Tom Shelley, president of Space Adventures says, "Over the next decade Space Adventures will arrange flights to space for more people than have made the journey since the dawn of the Space Age. Our clients will fly on suborbital flights, on voyages to Earth orbit, and on historic expeditions that circumnavigate the moon. Flights will leave from spaceports both on Earth and in space, visiting private space stations, and aboard dozens of different vehicles."

With its focus firmly on the future, Space Adventures is, in the meantime, offering various levels of experience right now. Depending how high your ambition soars, and how deep your bank balance can delve, you can weigh in for a zero-gravity flight, launch off on an orbital spaceflight, or strap yourself in for the ultimate voyage of a lifetime aboard a circumlunar mission.

WORTH THE WEIGHT

The 'entry-level' experience is a zero-gravity flight called the Zero-G Experience. Starting at \$4,950 per person and scaling up to \$165,000 for a plane charter of up to 35 passengers, this is a remarkable opportunity to experience true weightlessness aboard a modified Boeing 727. As the plane completes a series of up to 15 parabolas, passengers are swept off their feet, literally, for 20 to 30 seconds of weightlessness per parabola in which they flip, soar and somersault mid air.

If you've set your sights on a more intense experience, suborbital spaceflight will give you the opportunity to fly 100 kilometres (62 miles) high, from where you can look down onto Earth. Travelling ten times higher than the altitude reached by a commercial aircraft, you'll be a genuine space traveller. From the thrill of striding to the launch pad to getting strapped in to your seat, to feeling the engines fire up as you take off, this will be pure-adrenalin travel. Once in space, you will be able to gaze for hundreds of miles and see the outline of the Earth as you go where few have ever travelled. "With prices starting at \$102,000, this is an increasingly realistic choice," says Shelley. "This spaceflight option is currently under development but we already have over 200 reservations, including →

Clockwise from far left: Earth as seen from the moon; the Soyuz spacecraft blasting off; Star City's centrifuge; the Zero-G Experience



Clockwise from above: vast on-board Jacuzzis make cruising even more fun; the 'deck' of the owner's suite on the 78.6m (258') Princess Mariana; the spa aboard the 69.95m (228'5) Sherakhan; designer interiors are a feature of superyachts, as shown here on the 62.5m (205') Icon; the cinema aboard Princess Mariana

individuals from over 20 different countries. We have partnered with a vehicle developer whose main focus is to provide the most amazing rocket experience that is not only safe and reliable, but also affordable.”

THE ULTIMATE FRONTIER

Once bitten by the bug, the next level of space travel is orbital spaceflight. This involves spending up to 12 days in space, travelling at speeds of up to 28,163km/h, (17,500mph), viewing Earth from 320 kilometres (200 miles) high, floating weightlessly, circling the Earth every 90 minutes and counting yourself among the first 500 people ever to go to space — not a bad addition to your resume. Safety is paramount so training comes as part of the fee and takes place at the Yuri Gagarin Cosmonaut Training Center in Star City, Russia. Past Space Adventures clients have paid in the region of US\$40 million.

Finally, if you're set on making history, you can sign up to be the world's first private lunar explorer, circumnavigating the moon and counting yourself among the 21st century's most ambitious travellers. The journey begins aboard a Soyuz spacecraft. This meets another launch in low-Earth orbit and

the combination of the two crafts propels you to the moon. The price is a cool \$100 million per seat, but as travel goes, this is the ultimate in terms of breaking new frontiers. Shelley says, “We anticipate the launch of the first private circumlunar mission will take place in the next five years. This inaugural private seven-day mission will be the first return to the moon in over three decades. It will be the first opportunity for a person to take hi-definition video of the Moon as they orbit the celestial body 100 kilometres (60 miles) above its surface.”

For more information on these and other spaceflight experiences, visit www.spaceadventures.com

LEVEL BEST

Yachting may not have the same novelty factor as ascending into space, but it is light years ahead of any other form of travel when it comes to out-of-this-world luxury. Today's superyachts are a unique phenomenon, and for those new to chartering, or those who haven't chartered for some time, the experience is unlike any you can image. Yachts are advancing in leaps and bounds, and the best of the latest launches and refits top the scales for awe-inspiring facilities and beyond-sumptuous comfort.



Every fitting, furnishing and feature on each and every superyacht is meticulously designed and fitted to ensure that, as you move through the yacht, style and comfort are seamlessly linked. Fabrics and materials range from exotic marbles to Lalique crystal, silk upholstery and the finest Egyptian cotton bed linen.

It will come as no surprise that entertainment on board has also reached revolutionary levels, with hundreds of CDs and DVDs available at the touch of a button in every cabin and all communal areas, and Jetstream enabling you to stay connected to your chosen television channels regardless of where in the world you cruise.

ALL YOU NEED

Cutting-edge technology has also revolutionised both safety and comfort on board. The most rigorous systems ensure security and safety at sea, while the likes of high-tech stabilisers mean that the motion of the waves can be minimised both under way and at anchor, completely transforming the experience for nervous or sensitive travellers.

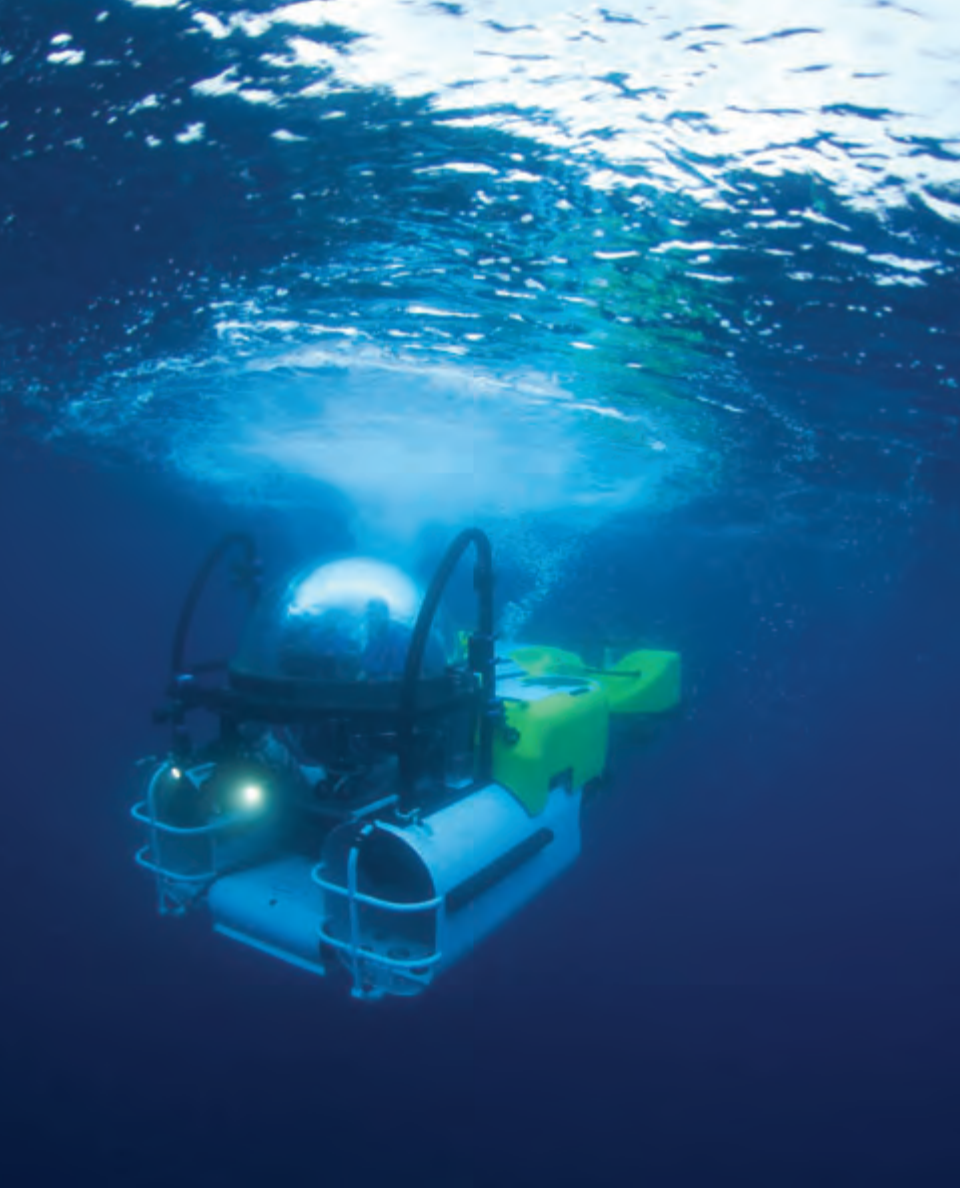
What's more, where once any self-respecting yacht was proud if it had a swim platform and a modest selection of water

sports equipment, now some of the leading yachts have dedicated on-board 'beach clubs' (see page 26), while water fun goes far beyond the classic staples of water-skis and canoes and extends to giant inflatable slides that transform the sea into an endless playground, and SeaBobs that whisk you through the water like a dolphin. Some yachts even have dance floors that can be lowered to convert into swimming pools; or helipads to deliver you direct to your vessel as rapidly and exclusively as possible, and to whisk you back ashore at your every whim.

Spas have also seen an evolution on some yachts, often with one or more rooms set aside as a gym or treatment room, and, should you choose, the services of a professional masseur, beauty therapist or personal trainer can be provided on board.

ULTIMATE SERVICE

Dedication to service is also exemplary. Think bed sheets being ironed on the bed for a flawless finish, and washing machines running up to 45 times a day to keep every towel, serviette and item of clothing and linen pristine. Many yachts now also have special crew access areas so they can go about their work almost invisibly, with the least intrusion into guest life. Add →



to the above Michelin-star worthy chefs dedicated to serving your charter party and the level of luxury and hospitality is truly astounding.

But it is not just the yachts themselves that are remarkable, it is also the opportunities they afford. New cruising destinations are opening up all the time, so as well as escaping into pure isolation if the mood takes you, you can also now explore remote and celebrated areas that remain beyond the scope of other means of travel. Cruise the pearl-filled waters of Polynesia, encounter the unique creatures of Galapagos, journey to the Arctic to view the world under a shield of ice, or cruise your yacht for a ringside view of the world's most famous sights — Sydney Opera House, the Statue of Liberty, the Hong Kong skyline or ancient mystical temples along the Turkish coastline. When it comes to ultimate travel, superyachts very much reach sky high. For the finest selection of yachts, visit www.camperandnicholsons.com

A LEAGUE OF THEIR OWN

Skimming along the water on a yacht is one thing, plunging to depths of up to 914 metres (3,000 feet) in a pristine ocean is quite another — and the reality is becoming ever more accessible.

With three-quarters of the earth's surface being underwater, this is one of the world's largely unexplored terrains and yacht owners and charterers in particular are lining up for the chance to devote hours of their cruise to journeying vertically, rather than just horizontally.

The world leader in the design and manufacture of manned submersible technology is SEAmagine Hydrospace Corporation. Its self-propelled one-atmosphere, two- to three-person electric submersibles offer dedicated attention to every detail from the cabin view to passenger comfort, pilot control, research tools, artefact recovery, High-Definition video recording, ease of operation and, most importantly, safety.

Comfortably seated within an acrylic sphere, passengers plunge beneath the waterline to see everything around them in the wild and wonderful expanse of ocean. Fish and sea life swarm around the pod, offering a surreal bird's eye view of the underwater world as you travel, and you have complete control whether you want to whisk along, or hover gently, giving you the chance to scan the intricate wonders of a shipwreck, or to grab your video camera and record the remarkable sight of a school of dolphins playing mere inches away on the other side of the sphere.



DEEP IMPACT

There are currently two SEAmagine models to choose from, the smaller lightweight two-person Ocean Pearl model and the larger three-person Triumph model. These can be customised to different depths with various equipment to cater for a range of budgets and personal goals. The sealed cabin is equipped with a full life-support system and remains virtually horizontal at all times, meaning unwelcome motion is minimised. But don't let the breathtaking 360-degree view and ease of operation fool you, these machines are built for work and uphold the highest standards of safety with full ABS class and CISR safety certification.

Occupants pilot the craft via a joystick in the cabin and can even retrieve artefacts from the ocean floor with a robotic arm controlled from inside the sphere. Alternatively, for shallow diving and family use, an external piloting option can be fitted to the Ocean Pearl model, meaning two untrained occupants can travel alone inside the dry cabin while a trained Scuba pilot operates the submersible externally.

ALL ON BOARD

Just this summer, SEAmagine launched two of its latest ABS Classed Ocean Pearls featuring a new look while maintaining

the spacious panoramic cabin, along with an extensive array of technology and a depth rating of 380 metres (1,250 feet).

Designed to be taken aboard superyachts, these submersibles combine submarine technology with the highest levels of technical and logistics support, making it a simple, safe and accessible way to travel. The submersibles float above the waterline when on the surface, permitting crew to launch them like a tender. The submersible can then be docked at the swim deck and prepared for the dive. There is a large, comfortable hatch for entry and exit, and when the cabin is closed the submersible powers itself to the dive site and deflates its ballast to begin the dive. The craft are driven underwater by a vertical thruster and, in the highly unlikely case of a propulsion or power failure, they always gently float back to surface.

More than a novel way to explore, these submersibles are fast becoming an indispensable tool for those monitoring, studying or fascinated by the underwater world. SEAmagine and CNI are currently working as a close team providing the highest calibre of professional knowledge and assistance to ensure these exploration adventures are a safe, fun and essential element of any cruise. For more information, visit www.seamagine.com ■

Clockwise from far left: the three-person Triumph heads off on an underwater adventure; passengers prepare to submerge in the Triumph model; the underwater world is just inches away; the two-person Ocean Pearl model

Teamtalk

monaco

sea&i chats to the members of CNI's Charter Marketing Division in Monaco

CNI's Charter Marketing Division (CMD) team is the crucial link between owners, captains, crew and charter brokers, ensuring that yachts are marketed to their very best potential, that owners and crew have the support they need, and that the vast network of CNI professionals worldwide have the information they need to excel in their job. Here, the members of Monaco's CMD talk about their experiences in the industry and their role at CNI.

SONIA PALFREY, CHARTER DIRECTOR CMD EUROPE

My first job in yachting was with Ardell Yacht Brokerage in Fort Lauderdale in 1978. I was assistant to the company president and was there for a year before I decided to go sailing. One of the popular ways of getting work on a boat was to cook, so I went to the UK and did a course at Le Cordon Bleu London. I worked on several boats before deciding I preferred being land-based, so I went to live in Virgin Gorda in the British Virgin Islands where I ran the office of a bareboat charter company for a year and half. I then went to work for Bartram and Brakenhoff in Newport, Rhode Island, where I learned a great deal about charter, particularly during the 1983 America's Cup. We took care of the charter needs for mark boats and spectator yachts. That was the year they lost the Cup to Australia so during their bid to win back the America's Cup I formed a catering/management company to take care of the New York Yacht Club's crew house in Fremantle, Australia. I spent three years running my own company — we didn't win the America's Cup but we had a lot of fun. I then returned to Newport, Rhode Island, and spent eight years as a manager of Nicholson Yachts clearing house, marketing 75 charter yachts.

One way or another I have worked in the yachting industry for more than 30 years — most of that time in America and the last eight years in Europe for CNI.

TOM DEBUSE

My first yachting experience was capsizing in front of the yacht club in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea aged five years old. Following my degree at Queensland University, I travelled to Europe, Asia, Japan and Australia, working in publishing and education before settling in France in 1997. I spent a period provisioning yachts and meeting captains, crew and brokers before joining CNI in 2000.

Our tight-knit team deals with an exciting range of people, all of whom are essential to the industry — particularly owners. Meeting and having regular

interaction with them can be demanding, but it is worth the final reward to know that the season has been a success.

We work with 300-plus charter brokers worldwide and they all need instant information on the yachts we manage as well as their captains, crew and chefs, cruising regulations and the feasibility of itineraries, all of which is essential for them to match the right clients to the right yachts. We excel at providing the fastest information and best service possible, this enhances our position and makes achieving our goals easier.

BRITTA AX

I started my career as a sales broker's assistant at CNI, and after a year and a half I progressed to the Charter Marketing Division as a yacht manager. Before joining CNI I studied languages and international commerce in Germany and worked in various industries in Germany and France.

I have been with CNI for more than seven years and have acquired a great deal of experience. Our role has changed greatly over recent years; we are no longer simply the booking agent for a yacht. We are constantly exposed to both the yachting industry and wider world and every phone call, email and conversation, particularly during a boat show, reflects on the company. A lot of owners and crew members identify and judge CNI on the basis of its charter yacht managers. Therefore, our work is a constant promotion for CNI. The CMD fleet is the showcase of the company, and we work with hundreds of brokers worldwide. We have to be aware of the legalities in every cruising area and country, and we are devoted to assisting owners, crew and/or brokers.

JENNY BURGESS

After studying for a marketing management degree in Manchester, UK, and having spent a year as a marketing assistant in Leeds, I knew that marketing was for me. However, I also had a passion to live in the South of France, so in 2005 I moved to Nice and worked as an English teacher.

I began working at CNI in 2007 and this enabled me to put my background experience of marketing into practice within the yachting industry. I thoroughly enjoy working with people and promoting our fleet of yachts to brokers. Our role in CMD constantly changes. Every day we negotiate on charters and deal with alterations to contracts and cruising regulations. We are in constant communication with owners and captains. Every yacht and owner is special and they all require unique care and attention.



From left to right: Britta Ax, Caroline Arselin, Sonia Palfrey and Jenny Burgess

We regularly market all our yachts as there is so much competition, making it a challenge to maintain owners' expectations. We have to set out a clear marketing plan with each owner to be sure they are happy, and then do our best to meet their requirements. It is very rewarding to work in such a successful company and I plan to develop in my role as the company continues to expand.

CAROLINE ARSELIN

After an Honours Degree in Languages and several years of postgraduate studies in Translation and Political Sciences in the UK, Spain and France, my first job was working as a translator in Paris. When my family and I moved to Monaco I was offered a position as an assistant to three sales brokers at Fraser Yachts Monaco. After a few months, I realised I really enjoyed working in the yachting industry and was particularly attracted to the role of charter manager. That became my impetus for joining CNI's CMD in 2008.

Each yacht has a dedicated charter manager, and we have to maintain a close relationship with each owner, captain and crew. This is very important as no two yachts have the same needs. We are involved in every aspect of charter marketing, from promoting a yacht's charter availability to preparing yacht shows and marketing materials and ensuring the smooth running of the charters by dealing with all the enquiries, contracts and funds. We are there to help our owners, captains and crew at all times with anything that is related to their yacht charter activity — as such, we are great all-rounders and can turn our hand to pretty much anything at short notice.

To contact the Charter Marketing Division at CNI's Monaco office, call +377 97 97 77 00 or email info@mon.cnyachts.com.

CNI also has a CMD in Fort Lauderdale, US. Call +1 954 524 4250 or email info@ftl.cnyachts.com



POETRY ^{odyssey} IN MOTION

Named after Homer's epic work, Odyssey is the impressive
Feadship refit that has recently re-launched with excellent
credentials and an adventurous cruising itinerary

By Justin Lewis



When she was launched in 1989, the 41.1m (134'1) Feadship Odyssey went under the name of White Rabbit. Twenty one years later she hopped back to the Feadship De Vries yard for a major refit and has emerged a very happy bunny indeed. Renamed Odyssey, extended in length and draft and utterly refreshed throughout her interior, she is now a striking charter yacht in the CNI fleet, accommodating 11 guests in five staterooms. *sea&i* talks to her captain, Parker Stockdale, regarding the ins and outs of her refit.

Odyssey looks exceptional following her re-launch, but what was it about the original yacht that attracted her current owners and inspired them to refit her?

Odyssey has a rich lineage. Her pedigree, classic lines and diverse cruising background and capabilities were all things that appealed to her current owners. When she was originally launched in 1989 her maiden voyage was from Aalsmeer in the Netherlands to Singapore. Since then she has completed almost four circumnavigations and survived a large typhoon. Her hull and structure have been clearly proven, so when we acquired her

we wanted to make improvements that would maintain or increase her value. De Vries collaborated with Redman Whiteley Dixon to completely renovate the interior. The owners loved the beautiful teak finishes so we retained certain areas and features, such as the teak and holly bridge deck floors. The vision was to breathe life back into a classic yacht that had given her previous owners years of dedicated service. She now operates at safety and luxury standards that greatly exceed yachts of her size and style.

The refit was substantial. What was involved?

Refits are notorious for snowballing so we knew the more material we removed the more we would find to fix. Initially we wanted to extend all three levels, increase the volume of the sky lounge, and replace all the teak. This evolved into a complete renovation of the interior, full paint job, complete safety system and audio-video upgrade, and a massive refit of the vessel's 10m (32') RIB tender. We decided to split the project into two phases, the first of which was completed at Rybovich in West Palm Beach. The second, and more →



involved phase, was completed at Feadship's De Vries Makkum refit facility in the Netherlands. Redman Whiteley Dixon handled all structural interior improvements. In total the refit lasted 15 months.

How much were the owners involved? Did they have very clear ideas or were they open to suggestions, and how did all this impact on your role?

The owners were very involved. Odyssey is their first yacht and they are very proud of her. They were instrumental in design concepts and the interior work but they gave me the freedom to organise all of her systems, safety gear, technology, tenders and toys. As the owners' representative and captain on this project, it was a very hands-on experience for me. I executed every detail of work and coordinated the refit on their behalf.

What were the most challenging and rewarding aspects?

Keeping tabs on the planning was the most difficult part, and ensuring the many parties involved were organised, in line and on schedule was a challenge. But of course the ups outweighed

this. The most rewarding part was helping to develop the owners' tastes and implementing many of my own design ideas in the project. It has been incredible to take a classic ship and give her modern amenities and technology so she can continue to cruise the world's oceans.

Aside from cost, what do you see as being the benefit of refitting a yacht rather than buying new?

The chief benefit for us was that this yacht offered the style, size and layout that the owners were looking for. A refit is always quicker than a new build but it does present other challenges that, in some people's opinions, may outweigh the benefits. I'm pleased that for a smaller yacht this platform is fully proven. She has safely done her duty for the last 20 years and that's something no new build can contend with.

Ultimately, how did the refit meet/differ from the original brief, and what provoked the changes?

There came a point in April when we decided to execute much more work than originally anticipated. We were planning to



do another yard stint immediately after leaving De Vries but with the scope of work expanding and the elements of inefficiency and time loss it was wiser for us to do a total refit at Feadship. The owner's vision of this project was clear from the beginning, we only modified our plans as new challenges presented themselves.

What are your thoughts/feelings on the finished yacht? Are the owners pleased with the refit?

The owners and I are overjoyed with the finished product. The pedigree of the ship is intact, we have balanced out her lines and omitted obtrusive equipment and angles, and we have ended up with a modern classic that will easily cruise for another 20 or more years.

What unique selling points does Odyssey now offer?

We have put all the capabilities of a 50m+ (164') yacht into a 41m (134.8') package. We have a completely new interior and exterior, all new audiovisual and navigation equipment, new tenders, new generators, the finest in sound and vibration

isolation, and an enthusiastic crew to keep our guests happy. There is a particular type of clientele that enjoys yachts like Odyssey. These are typically clients that like more of a classic look but want all of the modern amenities that new builds offer. With all her new systems Odyssey will require little more than basic vessel maintenance for many years to come. She is, I believe, the finest classic De Vries Feadship afloat.

What is planned for Odyssey now?

We are currently developing a global cruising itinerary that will accommodate both the owners' and prospective charter clients' wishes. Odyssey's owners are particularly interested in exploratory cruising. The yachting scene has gravitated away from these adventurous roots and the majority of cruisers now visit the same ports and anchorages. With plans for the carnival in Rio, the Baltics, South Pacific, Galapagos, the Indian Ocean and Southeast Asia, Odyssey will offer her charter clients a truly unique and first-class experience. ■

Odyssey is available for charter in the Caribbean this winter, from \$US135,000 per week. For information, contact your CNI charter broker, see page 6

STARS OF THE SHOWS new launches



Boat shows are the perfect opportunity for shipyards to showcase the fruits of their labours and to display to the world what is available for sale, charter and construction. Of them all, the autumn events, in particular the Monaco Yacht Show and the Fort Lauderdale International Boat Show (FLIBS), are the most important on the yachting calendar.

Of the 150 or so superyachts that launched in 2010, September's Monaco show featured no less than 36 new vessels of 30m+ (100'). In addition, there were 100 superyachts at anchor in the port, and more yachts moored outside the harbour. A month later, the Fort Lauderdale show provided another opportunity to view the latest, greatest yachts. Here, we bring you the best from both shows.

Big Fish

LENGTH: 45M (148') | **BUILDER: McMULLEN & WING**
LAUNCHED: 2010 | **EXHIBITED: FLIBS**

Built by New Zealand yard McMullen & Wing for Aquos Yachts, and designed by Greg Marshall, Big Fish was the name on everyone's lips at FLIBS. Blazing a trail for teak alternatives, Big Fish features a distinctive granite deck in place of the more typical teak. Her contemporary design features floor-to-ceiling windows. Running across three levels is a floor-to-ceiling video wall that serves as a home for digital art, or as a cinematic screen. Coining the term Luxury Exploration Vessel, Big Fish is intended for the most active of charter guests. Those wishing to make the most of their time

It is almost impossible to do justice to all the creative talent on display at the recent autumn boat shows, but some of this year's exhibiting yachts particularly stood out as must-sees

By Ellie Brade



on board and exploring further afield can make use of the robust 6.4m (21') tender. Able to cruise around the globe with only one stop to refuel, this year will see Big Fish embark on a one-year polar circumnavigation.

Cakewalk

LENGTH: 85.6M (280') | BUILDER: DERECKTOR SHIPYARDS

LAUNCHED: 2010 | EXHIBITED: FLIBS

Debuting at FLIBS, Cakewalk's launch catapulted her into the position of the biggest private yacht, in volume, ever launched in America at 85.6m and with a gross tonnage of 2,998. The significance of her delivery to American yacht building made her

a focal point at the Fort Lauderdale show. Built by Derecktor Shipyards, her exterior design is by Tim Heywood with a classically traditional yet casual interior by Liz Dalton.

Cakewalk cuts a striking figure with her bright blue exterior and signature Heywood curves. Comprising six decks, including an owner's deck, there is ample guest space, indoors and out. A grand spiralling staircase links three floors and gives the illusion of floating within each lobby, while guest cabins are conveniently positioned on the main deck. There are three tenders on board including a Limited Edition AquaRiva 100 Cento by Riva SpA and a custom limousine designed by Heywood and built by Vikal. →

Opposite page:
the 45m (148') Big Fish
This page: the 85.6m
(280') Cakewalk

Exuma

LENGTH: 50M (164') | BUILDER: PERINI NAVI | LAUNCHED: 2010

EXHIBITED: MONACO YACHT SHOW

In a year of note for Perini Navi, the yard has seen its 50th yacht delivered and has also welcomed its first motoryacht to its fleet — the 50m Exuma, built under the Picchiotti brand. The Vitruvius motoryacht series is a collaboration between the Perini Navi Group, Philippe Briand and Vitruvius Ltd. Built with exploration in mind, she is able to house numerous pieces of equipment, such as tenders, jet skis and a 3.6m (12') Hov Pod hovercraft, to allow her guests to enjoy the far-off destinations she will be able to access. What is more, outdoor spaces have been maximised to allow guests to take full advantage when in sunny climates. Recognisable by her streamlined hull, her design was conceived to maximise guest privacy and incorporates a classic maritime interior.

Lady Christine

LENGTH: 68M (223') | BUILDER: FEADSHIP ROYAL VAN LENT

LAUNCHED: 2010 | EXHIBITED: MONACO YACHT SHOW

Lady Christine, built by Feadship Royal Van Lent, is a prime example of what a custom superyacht should be. Years of research by her experienced owners into her Art Deco interior

theme, by Rodney Black Design Studios, is reflected in the attention to detail throughout the yacht and is perfectly executed in every piece of work by the Feadship team. Features of note include the faux infinity pool tumbling off the back of the yacht over a green nameplate, and exquisite marquetry scenes in the stairwell on each deck level. Her owners will enjoy a private owner's deck, including a full-beam owner's stateroom, as well as features on board including a private cinema and his and hers personalised studies.

Marie

LENGTH: 55M (180') | BUILDER: VITTERS

LAUNCHED: 2010

Marie, the latest yacht from Vitters, has an optimised hull design and combines classic lines and high performance, leaving her well placed to compete in superyacht regattas. Her interior is by David Easton Design and Hoek Design, the brief for which was owner privacy, with aspects such as a private owner's deckhouse aft. A light interior combined with traditional woodwork reflects a modern interpretation of a classic sail yacht interior. The collection of antiques, and the baby grand Steinway around which the spacious main salon was designed, are seamlessly incorporated and are the perfect reflection of her

Clockwise from below:
the 50m (164') Exuma;
the 68m (223') Lady
Christine; the 55m (180')
Marie; the 50m (164')
Sky; the 60m (196')
Solemates; the 56m
(183') Panthalassa



owner's taste. Features on board include a swimming and landing platform on the port side.

Sky

LENGTH: 50M (164') | BUILDER: HEESEN YACHTS

LAUNCHED: 2010 | EXHIBITED: MONACO YACHT SHOW

Built by Heesen Yachts, with exterior design by Frank Baum of Omega Architects, Sky features a spacious, modern, masculine interior by Mojo Stumer. A large gym sits forward, and the use of curved glass in the stairwell leading up to the gym allows for a near 360-degree view across the water. A custom-made octagonal spa pool is located on the sun deck. The interior, featuring carbon fibre and stainless steel detailing, complements the pale finishes, which work well with the use of glass to present light-filled spaces.

Panthalassa

LENGTH: 56M (183') | BUILDER: PERINI NAVI

LAUNCHED: 2009 | EXHIBITED: MONACO YACHT SHOW

Delivered in 2010 by Perini Navi, Panthalassa's quality of design was recognised upon her winning the Prix du Design award at the Monaco Yacht Show. Upon first walking onto the vessel, guests are struck by a key design feature, the glass sculptured

stairwell that acts as a tunnel of light downwards through the yacht. A central open-plan main lounge features different areas, allowing guests to use the space in a multitude of ways depending on their preference. The sophisticated yet simple and clean interior by Foster and Partners includes an elegant mix of natural materials, such as teak and caramel leather. The six guest staterooms are of similar proportions — even the owner's suite. An enclosable dining or meeting space backs onto the bridge and is viewable through a glass division, continuing the theme of light-filled spaces on board.

Solemates

LENGTH: 60M (196') | BUILDER: LÜRSSEN WERFT

LAUNCHED: 2010 | EXHIBITED: MONACO YACHT SHOW

Solemates follows on from previous 60m (196') sisterships from Lürssen, including Linda Lou and Arkley. She is designed by Espen Oeino, a long-term collaborator with Lürssen, and her warm interior is by Glade Johnson Design. Maximum use of space presents guests with a variety of areas in which to dine and relax. The sleek curves of her exterior continue throughout the yacht, which is blessed with natural light. Nice touches on board include the option to convert the sun deck into a disco floor at night. ■

Photography: Tim McKernan, Jim Raycroft; Michele Lombardo; Tom Nilsch; Dan Arnett; David Churchill; Klaus Jordan



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MARAYA 54.2m/177', CRN, 2008
JEREMY COMFORT ☎ +33 (0)4 92 912 912 ✉ jc@can.cnyachts.com

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PRINCESS TOO 47.5m/156', Feadship, 1999/2010

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PRINCESS MARIANA 78.6m/257', Royal Denship, 2003
RICK MORALES ☎ +1 954 524 4250 ✉ rqm@ftl.cnyachts.com FERNANDO NICHOLSON ☎ +1 954 524 4250 ✉ fpn@ftl.cnyachts.com



ICON 62 62.5m/203'4, Icon Yachts, 2010
JEAN-MARIE RECAMIER ☎ +33 (0)4 92 912 912 ✉ jmr@can.cnyachts.com



CLEOPATRA 56.7m/186'1, Amels, 1985/2009
JEAN-MARIE RECAMIER ☎ +33 (0)4 92 912 912 ✉ jmr@can.cnyachts.com

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QM OF LONDON 49.9m/163'8, Benetti, 1998
MICHAEL PAYNE ☎ +377 97 97 77 00 ✉ mp@mon.cnyachts.com



FLYING EAGLE 48m/157'6, Bloemsmas & Van Breemen, 2005
MICHAEL PAYNE ☎ +377 97 97 77 00 ✉ mp@mon.cnyachts.com



ROCHADE 47.5m/156', Delta Marine, 2011
MICHAEL RAFFERTY ☎ +1 561 655 2121 ✉ mrafferty@pal.cnyachts.com

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HANA 43m/139'9", CRN, 2008
SIMON GOLDSWORTHY ☎ +44 (0)20 7009 1950 ✉ sg@lon.cnyachts.com



BEVERLEY 36.58m/120', Benetti Classic, 2008
ALEX LEES-BUCKLEY ☎ +377 97 97 77 00 ✉ alb@mon.cnyachts.com GASTON LEES-BUCKLEY ☎ +33 (0)4 92 912 912 ✉ glb@ant.cnyachts.com



CELEBRATION 34m/112', Ferretti, 2003
CHARLES EHRARDT ☎ +33 (0)4 92 912 912 ✉ ce@ant.cnyachts.com

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LEONESSA 25m/83', Ferretti 830, 2005
GASTON LEES-BUCKLEY ☎ +33 (0)4 92 912 912 ✉ glb@ant.cnyachts.com



PHILOSOPHY 41.5m/136', Brooke Yachts International, UK, 1991/2003*
GEORGES BOURGOIGNIE ☎ +1 954 524 4250 ✉ gcb@ftl.cnyachts.com



BONITA J 34m/112', Moonen, 1997
MATTHEW FISHER ☎ +377 97 97 77 00 ✉ mrf@mon.cnyachts.com



JACK BLU 30m/100', Benetti, 1981
MATTHEW FISHER ☎ +377 97 97 77 00 ✉ mrf@mon.cnyachts.com



ANDREA S 24.5m/80', Italversil, 1993
JONATHAN SYRETT ☎ +34 971 40 33 11 ✉ jsyrett@cnipalma.com

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Yachting since 1782



MIRABELLA V 75.2m/247', Vosper Thornycroft Shipbuilding, 2004
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SELENE 56m/184', Perini Navi, 2007
ALEX LEES-BUCKLEY ☎ +377 97 97 77 00 ✉ alb@mon.cnyachts.com



WELLENREITER 46.1m/151'2, Jongert, 2003
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Nicholsons

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Nicholsons

International
YACHTING SINCE 1782



CLEAR EYES 43.1m/141'4, Pax Navi, delivery July 2010
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PERLA DEL MAR 42.2m/138'5, Saba, 2010
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SOUTHERN CROSS 33.4m/109'6, Yarrow & Co, 1962
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LADY THURAYA 31m/101'8, Lubbe Voss, 1982/2009
MICHAEL PAYNE ☎ +377 97 97 77 00 ✉ mp@mon.cnyachts.com



RAFOLY 28.85m/92', Blubay Argo, 2008 **GEORGES BOURGOIGNIE** ☎ +1 954 524 4250
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before you go

Travel tales from *Sonu Shivdasani*,
Founder and
CEO of Six Senses Resorts & Spas

What essential travel items do you take...

In your hand luggage en route? Three things. A compass: I always like to sleep with my head to the north. A tape measure, so that I can capture the architectural details of a room I like. And a magnet. When flying, if you wear a magnet on your head ten minutes before landing and ten minutes afterwards, it greatly reduces the effects of jet-lag.

In your suitcase for when you get there? That depends where I am going.

What's the first thing you do when you arrive at a new destination?

I start talking to the taxi driver, the chauffeur and the concierge and ask them about good restaurants and places to visit. I do plan ahead when I travel but local knowledge is always of interest.

What are your favourite destinations for:

A luxury one-night/weekend stay? Florence or Marrakesh.

A week's charter? The south Mediterranean.

An extended holiday? Travelling around New Zealand.

The ultimate experience? Heli-skiing in Canada.

What inspires you to travel?

I travel a great deal for business, so quality is important. I very much like flying with Singapore Airlines, Qatar Airways, Emirates and Virgin. I enjoy visiting new destinations, meeting people and experiencing different cultures.

What's your one piece of foolproof advice when it comes to travelling?

If you are travelling through different time zones, the above-mentioned magnet is most important. Drink lots of water and set your watch to the time of your destination as soon as you board the plane.

Dream destination yet to visit / travel ambition yet to experience?

I am very fortunate to have travelled widely for business and leisure — there are not many parts of the world that I haven't yet seen.



Favourite destination?

My home is in the Maldives, on Soneva Fushi, Six Senses first resort. My wife Eva [pictured above] and I spend up to five months a year there. If we had our way we would live there all year.

On holiday, do you relax or try to jam in as much as possible?

Eva and I both lead extremely busy lives, so on holiday we unwind and recharge our batteries. Having said that, we both have a passion for exploring and trying new things.

Travel light or pack the kitchen sink?

Sometimes I visit 14 destinations in a fortnight, involving constant packing and unpacking — I always take an abundance of books and DVDs. I pack in such a way that I can settle into a hotel room in 10 minutes and leave within 15 minutes.

Take home only photos — or shop until you drop for mementoes?

We are not great shoppers, so we take home only photos and memories. ■

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Mediterranean Sea, 1940s. "Gamma" men in training.
The diver emerging from the water is wearing a Panerai compass on his wrist.



La scuola

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