

Superyachting social

Taking the yachting calendar by storm, the Rendezvous series is a must-attend event for the discerning yachter. **Jessica Short** profiles premier events taking place this year to find out more

Superyachting season kicks off with a bang this June with China's SO! Dalian Rendezvous (18-21 June) (www.chinarendezvous.com/), closely followed by Montenegro's Superyachting Rendezvous (2-5 July) (<http://superyachtrendezvous.com>). The Rendezvous are a great opportunity for yachters to mingle with peers in a relaxed and informal environment. Offering a plethora of activities, from exclusive gala dinners to exciting sporting competitions, they create the ultimate playground for the yachting elite.

Lying midway along the Liaodong Peninsula enclosed by the Yellow and Bohai Sea is the young financial city of Dalian. Home to some of China's most successful and wealthy

entrepreneurs, it is a metropolitan hub that provides the perfect setting for the SO! Dalian event. Equally, Montenegro is as an ideal destination for a Superyachting Rendezvous. Still considered an undiscovered European gem, the country boasts beautiful, clear waters, countless uninhabited islands and charming harbours for the yachter to explore.

After the successful debut of Northern China's first international yachting and lifestyle Rendezvous last year, SO! Dalian welcomes its second edition this June.



Taking place at the country's most comprehensive superyachting marina, East Port Marina, the event represents the rapid growth the luxury sector has experienced in the region, attracting leading international yachting brands and VIP guests alike. More than 50 high-profile yachting companies, such

Top: Mingle with fellow high-profile guests in Montenegro
Main: Mega yachts are commonplace at the SO! Dalian event

as Sanlorenzo, Beneteau Group, Ferretti Group, Prestige and Dufour will be present at the show, as well as industry leaders ▶



from the aviation world like, Airbus Corporate Jets, Gulfstream, Dassault Falcon, Embraer and Cessna, who will be offering their expertise and business jet demo flights to guests.

Most importantly, however, the event presents a great opportunity for fellow yachters to interact with each other in a whole host of activities.

Visitors can fill their days relaxing aboard luxury cruises, enjoying decadent gala dinners and cocktail parties come sundown. Meanwhile, those seeking a little more action, should head to the beach polo tournament, where eight polo teams will be battling it out for ultimate Beach Polo Cup title. Another highlight of the event is the annual Golf Tournament, which promises to be an intense, professional game.

Meanwhile, other notable items on the event's agenda are Dalian's first Contemporary Art fair, as well as a two-day Economic Forum, which will present investment opportunities in boating and art.

Fast-forward a couple of weeks and superyachting hotspot, Porto Montenegro welcomes owners of sailing and motor yachts of 30m upwards to the debut of The Superyacht Rendezvous Montenegro. Previously held in Monaco for the last 25 years, 2015 marks the special launch edition for the region, where the show will follow the format of the other successful Monaco events. Focusing on the social side of the industry, guests will be able to connect with fellow superyacht owners in the glamorous setting of Porto Montenegro.

The marina, set to become a major homeport for superyachts in Europe – with 310 berths specifically planned for yachts as large as 180m – ensures there is ample space for guests to moor their yachts. On the first day, attendees will be able to take full advantage of this fact, at the enlivened 'Yacht hop', where they can get acquainted with fellow superyacht owners in an extravagant, day-long party. And on the following two days, guests



will be able to enjoy a series of lunches, cultural excursions and networking events. Cruises to the nearby UNESCO world heritage site Bay of Kotor are a highlight, where visitors can discover Montenegro and its unique history. But of course, the climax of the event is the uber-glamorous 'season opening' party, concluding the Rendezvous and hosted at the exclusive Lido Mar Pool Club it is the ultimate party to start the season in style. Registration

Above: Catch a round of beach polo at the So! Dalian event
Below: Porto Montenegro is set to become the largest superyachting hub in Europe

for the Rendezvous is priced at €7,500/US\$7,499 and includes 8x VIP tickets for all social events, dockage in the marina, as well as concierge services for yacht owners and their guests. Visit <http://superyachtrendezvous.com> to register your interest. ■

