

# Herculean showing

Every year in late September, the Principality of Monaco opens its riches to the world and hosts the Monaco Yacht Show. 2019 is set to be bigger and better than ever, writes **Michael Howorth**, with plenty on offer for the VIP traveller

Port Hercule, in the centre of Monte Carlo, goes all out for the Monaco Yacht Show, decked head to toe in the famous brand colours. A swelled population lives with the frenzied rhythms of the events to which the social echelons of yachting have been invited. Private parties, cocktails, gala dinners, business meetings and press conferences are all organised around a succession of mesmerising superyacht visits.

This year is no exception. From Wednesday 25th to Saturday 28th September, the show will again welcome the international yachting

elite to the Principality, offering an immersive experience within the world of luxury seafaring.

In 2019, the organisers are experimenting by tweaking the hours of operation. By starting later in the morning and extending opening times into the early evening, they seek to offer schedules that better correspond to the visiting times preferred by private clients arriving by private aircraft. With the show open to visitors from 11am to 7.30pm, the new timings should also ease the relentless intensity of the four days of the show creating a far

more pleasant experience for those interested in chartering or purchasing a yacht.

Worth Avenue Yachts sales broker and new-build specialist, Kevin Ralph, who is based in the brokerage house's Monaco office says, "We have clients flying in to see the newly launched Bilgin 56m motoryacht, named Lilium due to debut at the Show."

## HEAD-TURNING YACHTS

Among the yachts to look out for in 2019, three stand out as worth visiting. *Vida*, from the Dutch shipbuilder Heesen, is

the latest in the successful 55m fast-displacement hull form (FDHF) series. The steel-built superyacht features a butch looking exterior by Dutch designer, Frank Laupman, while the clean profile is possible due to the absence of fashion plates. The design is characterised by floor-to-ceiling windows that allow for plenty of natural light to flood the interiors.

The Owner, an experienced American yachtsman, worked

**Below: *Vida* left Dutch waters in May for the Mediterranean and the Monaco Yacht Show**



closely with the shipyard's technical team to customise his yacht. He insisted that she should be able to

**Above: Perfection inside and out Above right: Excitement is building with new yachts set to be uncovered at the show Right: The 2018 show was no exception in the parade of endless luxury yachts**

carry out the role as mothership to his sport fishing fleet. As a result, she has the ability to re-fuel and re-charge his two sport fishing boats, allowing for several days out at sea without needing to return to base.

The Genoa-based Tankoa shipyard will display the 50m *Binta D'Or*. Her interior offers a spacious saloon, dining room, galley, and

superb master suite with office and lounge equipped with fold-down terrace to starboard and a large openable window to port. The upper deck has been designed around spacious entertainment areas for guest's relaxation, with a dining table and access to the comfortable sky lounge. The foredeck includes a solarium and open-air lounge, all designed

to offer maximum privacy. The flybridge deck provides ample spaces and comfort with sofas, sun-beds, up and down tables, bar and a generous spa pool.

Perhaps the most exciting announcement of the 2018 show was that the German shipyard Nobiskrug was secretly building Artefact an 80m superyacht. So unusual is her design, that she





**Above: The most famous of harbours is taken over for the duration of the Show and Monaco rises to the occasion**

**Below: Nobiskrug's 80-foot Artefact will be among those making a debut at the 2019 Monaco Yacht Show**

will almost certainly be the star of the 2019 show. Built for an owner who has never before owned a yacht, the strikingly beautiful and technologically advanced Hybrid superyacht has been developed for outstanding comfort with an emphasis on the environment and guest experience.

*Artefact* is the first Hybrid superyacht to have both battery and a variable speed Diesel Electric ABB Pod propulsion system. This is designed to offer higher efficiency and lower emissions, as well as, lower noise and vibration. The yacht will also utilise an advanced Dynamic Positioning System to maximise the guest experience and comfort while, at the same,

protecting sensitive sea-bed areas that could otherwise be damaged by anchoring.

#### WATCH OUT

The renewal of Ulysse Nardin as the show's official sponsors demonstrates the long-standing relationship between the luxury Swiss watch brand and the show that started 11 years ago. It offers a perfect backdrop to unveil the seafaring heritage of the

watchmaker through its expertise, innovation and DNA.

During the show the Upper Deck Lounge, the show's luxury exhibition and reception area, will become a haven for fine watch aficionados keen to discover their latest timepieces. These will include the Diver Blue Shark, a slim and sleek contemporary model designed for diving but equally at home in the city. A limited edition of just 300 pieces, it is crafted from

stainless steel with a blue PVD bezel, and a blue dial and strap embellished with touches of bright orange.

Marking the show's end at 7pm on Saturday, 125 superyachts will perform a foghorn concert that will echo around Port Hercules. As the sound fades away, work will begin on the 30th edition of the Monaco Yacht Show taking place in September 2020.

[monacoyachtshow.com](http://monacoyachtshow.com) ■

