

Emperors of the seas

Upward Curve looks at four of the longest megayachts on the high seas; *Ocean Victory*, *Nord*, *Eclipse* and *Azzam*

ECLIPSE

Having taken five years to build, the beautiful *Eclipse* measures 533ft or 163m. Constructed in Germany by Blohm + Voss in 2009, the yacht is currently owned by Roman Abramovich (anchored off Turkey's Bodrum in Aegean Sea at the time of writing) and is worth around US\$500 million, with space for 30 guests and 70 crew. Abramovich was focused on

having a yacht with function rather than purely aesthetics, so the vessel has two helipads and a large swimming pool.

Designed by Terry Disdale, the boat has a second swimming pool and several hot tubs for relaxing, as well as a disco hall. Three launch boats are aboard and a mini-submarine is also part of the vessel, with dive capabilities of up to 50m.

OCEAN VICTORY

This superyacht has travelled the world with its owner, Viktor Rashnikov, a Russian billionaire, as his first foray into the universe of superyacht ownership. The 459ft (140m) vessel was built in 2014 in Italy by Fincantieri for a whopping US\$300 million, with room for 36 guests and 56 crew members. Designed by Espen Øino and Alberto Pinto, the yacht was

in the top 10 largest in the world when it was first constructed, but remains on the list of largest yachts to this day.

While the exact specifications of the boat are unknown, it is rumoured to have not only seven decks but its own helipad and a floodable basement with ►

Below: *Eclipse* anchored off the Balearic Island of Ibiza, Spain





Left: Roman Abramovic's 163m *Eclipse* passes an Antibes beach on the beautiful French Riviera, Côte d'Azur
Below: The 142m *Nord* – with its military-styled exterior design – arrives into port in Vladivostok, Russia

room for a tender of up to 14m. Additionally, the yacht has six pools across the seven decks, but not much else has been revealed about the vessel. In March of 2022, the boat was spotted in the Maldives, but its transponders were shut off soon after and it hasn't been seen since.

NORD

Currently clocking in at number 10 on the list of largest yachts, *Nord* is an incredible 465ft or 142m. It was built by Lurssen in Germany in 2020 and is currently owned by Alexei Mordashov. With accommodations for 24 guests and space for 40 crew members, the yacht is estimated to be worth around US\$500 million. It is unique for its interesting bow design, which has never been seen on a yacht before, and the rest of the design is often described as militaristic, also unusual in the yacht industry. Contrary to the battle-like exterior, this vessel is kitted out

with fun design elements, such as a full sports and diving centre on the lower deck, a full swimming pool on a higher deck with a view of the surrounding ocean and an entire fleet of tenders. This yacht was designed for full ocean exploration in style and comfort.

AZZAM

Azzam maintains the number one spot on the list of largest yachts in the world, at 590ft long, or 180m. Also built by Lurssen in Germany, this superyacht was owned by Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, the former

president of United Arab Emirates, until his death in 2022, and is worth US\$600 million.

Launching in 2013 as the largest yacht, this vessel didn't intend to take the title, but was designed for elegance and luxury. The boat was crafted backwards, with the interiors done first and the exterior planned out and finished later on. This extended the length by an extra 35m to accommodate everything included in the interiors.

The interiors were designed by Christophe Leoni and while the specifics of what's included are unknown, it took a full three years to build, which, considering its size, was a record for quick builds. The main salon is 29m and the boat can travel up to 32 knots.

The yacht is available for charter but the current owner is unknown. ■

