

# CRUISE CONTROL

Check out some of the hottest premium yachts up for grabs as well-heeled Indians discover the joys of the super-luxe yachting lifestyle

BY SUKTARA GHOSH



## WHAT SAY YOU TO A CRUISING HOLIDAY IN YOUR PRIVATE LUXURY

yacht? Or to lording over the seas in a sporty, powerful vessel with looks to match?

India is taking to the super-luxe yachting lifestyle like never before. While most of the business is flourishing around small models like excursion boats, luxury yachts are of course scoring with the crème de la crème.

“For billionaires, the yachting lifestyle is a great way to recharge their batteries. Yachting also offers a chance to connect with friends or family on board in a way that is quite unique,” says Jan-Bart Verkuyl, director, Feadship, one of the largest manufacturers of luxury yachts in the world.

The annual Mumbai International Boat Show (MIBS) has been pivotal to attracting HNI Indians to the boating lifestyle. It showcases more than 80 exhibitors and 120 brands, including the top

players from around the world — with names like Ferretti, Azimut-Benetti, Pershing and Catana prominent in the line-up.

Says Jeremy Ng, managing director, Art of Kinetik Asia: “There has been an explosion of yachting in Mumbai, Goa and Kerala, making way for a big market in India.”

India is a developing market on the verge of a major marine breakthrough, feels Riyhad Kundanmal, director-sales & marketing, Ocean Crest Marine. “Fairline India has already set foot here, our entire range is available in our Mumbai office,” he says.

Giving a boost to the yachting lifestyle is the 7,200-km Indian coastline and an average of eight months of fair weather. And of course, there’s nothing like having a good party or plain chilling on the deck! And if you’re wondering about where to dock your baby, the ideal spots are the Gateway of India and Mandwa near Mumbai, Dona Paula in Goa, Kochi and Chennai.

So which are the hottest yachts to look out for? Check it out!

### *Art of Kinetik Hedonist*

If flaunting cool cat looks with a performance to match on the high seas is your idea of luxe yachting, look no further than the Hedonist from Serbia-based Art of Kinetik.

The 63ft motoryacht can cruise at speeds up to 40 knots. Think a solid mahogany exterior with glass and metal accents, Rolls Royce water jets, contemporary yet warm interiors, and you have just begun to get the picture. It’s high on design aesthetics too, so you won’t find any visible fibreglass or screws on the yacht.

3.45-3.95

MILLION EUROS

DUE DATE

Around a Year





## *Fairline Squadron 78 Custom*

This 24m sleek beauty from Fairline's luxury yachts stable has interiors that can be customised to your needs. The magnificent master state-room spans the entire width of the yacht and includes an en-suite dressing room, a bathroom with a walk-in shower and an optional whirlpool bath. A key feature of the yacht is its large flybridge with plush seating arrangements. And if you're in the mood to make the best of a sunny day, you can always convert the electric table in the main seating area into a cushioned sunbathing zone! There's a choice of the engines as well — a twin MAN diesel producing 2,720mhp and a max speed of 33 knots or a twin Caterpillar producing 3,244mhp and 35 knots.



3

MILLION GBP approx.

**DUE DATE**

4 months-1 year

## *Blue Coast 101'*

Developed by Coste Design and Cannes-based Blue Coast Yachts, the sailing yacht catamaran Blue Coast 101' is the perfect cruising vessel. Made of sealiuim, its prime attraction are its two decks, one staggered behind the other and separated by four steps — with panoramic views from each. The front lower deck is dedicated for the owner's suite with a full sea view of over 220°. The main deck at the back has a rear cockpit and houses the plush lounge and dining area. Three VIP cabins and crew quarter accommodate up to eight guests and four crew members. It comes with a twin 420hp Cummins QSB 5.9 engine and has a max speed under power of 13 knots.

8

MILLION EUROS approx.

**DUE DATE**

18 months



## *Horizon Polaris 148'*

The 148' megayacht is the largest BV ice-class yacht from the stables of Taiwan-based Horizon Group, which won the Best Asian Yacht Builder award 2012 at the Asia Boating Awards for the seventh consecutive time.

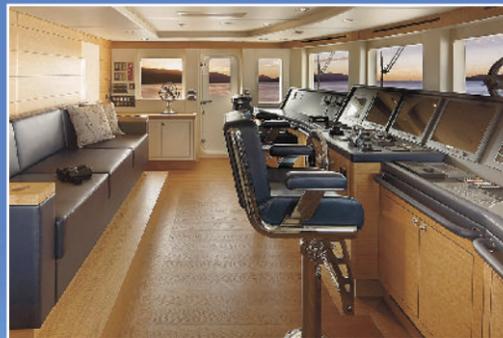
The steel-hulled yacht comes with five en-suite staterooms, a state-of-the-art pilothouse and large crew quarters. The on-deck master stateroom is equipped with a king bed and walk-in wardrobe, while guests can relax in four rooms below deck. Adding to the entertainment quotient is a sky lounge with a fully equipped bar, a Jacuzzi, gym, sun pads and more. The Horizon Polaris can cruise up to a maximum speed of 16 knots.

**Price**

ON REQUEST

**DUE DATE**

Around two years



## *Feadship Helix*

Going against their long history of building custom yachts on order, Feadship has introduced the 45m Helix to Asia in search of a buyer. And this beauty has already won the Best Displacement Motor Yacht of below 500GT award at the World Super Yacht Awards 2012. Designed to be a superyacht connoisseur's pride, Helix can accommodate up to 10 guests in five staterooms on the main deck, plus two in the convertible private office on the bridge deck. The en-suite master stateroom is lined with floor-to-ceiling windows and a massive skylight. The sea-and-high life ambience gets a further boost with the creamy fabric-lined interiors framed in mahogany. Helix rocks on the performance front too with max speed going up to 14.5 knots.

**Price**

ON REQUEST

**DUE DATE**

Around three years