

# Against the Tide

Form and function combine to make the Antagonist a beguiling work of floating art.

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*The 37-foot Antagonist is priced from €895,000, depending on customisation. The pilot's chair (opposite top), which doubles up as a mini kitchen, took nine months to design and engineer.*

ART OF KINETIK has perfected the art of creating stunning vessels that fuse geometric form with impeccable performance. First came the Mazokist in 2007, a 30-foot yacht inspired by the classic 1920's day cruiser, followed soon after by the 63-foot Hedonist in hard-top and open versions. The young Serbian shipbuilder's latest project, the Antagonist, delivers on the same principle with expected aplomb. The 37-foot open weekend cruiser, which was officially unveiled at the Cannes Boat Show in September, is an ideal day boat and compact enough to make a sleek tender for an 80-metre-plus yacht.

"The idea was to create a small runabout with the quality and atmosphere inherent to much bigger boats, [something] never seen on a boat of these dimensions," says Art of Kinetik managing director Nikola Jancevski. "The design philosophy emphasises...a synergy of modern, unique forms and lines with traditional, highest quality materials."

In an age when most shipbuilders opt for aluminium, steel or composite hulls, Art of Kinetik prefers the romance of wood. The painstaking attention to detail begins even before construction starts—as many as 4,000 work hours

are spent to carefully prepare sapelli African mahogany and Burmese teak in order to get perfectly even surfaces ready for staining, epoxy and varnish treatment. It takes a team of 25 craftspeople eight months to create each example of the yacht.

The cockpit allows up to six guests to be seated around a multi-functional table. Teak walkways surrounding the sunbathing area astern lead to the swimming platform, whose steps are niftily engineered to open and simultaneously rotate as they descend toward water. A rest area, shower and toilette can be found in an air-conditioned day head belowdecks.

The most challenging aspect of Antagonist's production, according to Jancevski, was the pilot's chair—it took the team nine months to design and engineer. The plush and ergonomic perch doubles up as a mini kitchen, placing the pilot right at the centre of attention—and proving that there's really nothing antagonising about Art of Kinetik's latest. —GIRIJA DUGGAL

*Art of Kinetik, +38.111.3752.310, [www.artofkinetik.com](http://www.artofkinetik.com)*