

GEMS OF THE OCEAN

Some of the most exciting seagoing launches of the past year combine cutting-edge performance with oodles of oomph.

BY GIRIJA DUGGAL



The 217-foot Invictus, built by American shipyard Delta Marine, ranks among the most important superyacht deliveries of last year.

RUPERT PEACE

THE WARM CLIMES of the Mediterranean and the South Pacific beckon many a seafaring explorer each year. With a dazzling array of recently launched charter yachts offering unmatched frills and comforts, their voyage promises to be every bit as unforgettable as the alluring ports of call. Here's a look at some of the most desirable charter options for romancing the high seas this summer. >



Solandge ✨ Close on the heels of delivering the world's largest privately owned superyacht, German yacht builder Lürssen in June delivered another headturner by way of *Solandge*. At an imposing 279 feet in length and with a beam that exceeds 46 feet, it clocks in as the 62nd largest yacht in the world. Unsurprisingly, its impressive volume translates into 8 sizeable cabins capable of accommodating 12 guests, with an additional 15 cabins for 29 crew members.

without needing to call the crew. The owner's deck features a stateroom with a private Jacuzzi; his-and-her bathrooms and dressing rooms; and a private office and lounge space.

Aileen Rodriguez designed *Solandge's* sumptuous interiors in accordance with the owner's wish for every inch of the yacht to be special. She has used as many as 49 stones, 33 exotic woods, carved glass and mother of pearl inlays throughout the six-deck yacht. Two walls of backlit amethyst welcome guests into the main salon, and a 50-foot-high sculpture in the lobby with more than 1,200 points of light encapsulates the yacht's larger-than-life aesthetic.

All guest cabins are situated on the main deck, with a companionway outfitted such that if guests are struck by a late night snack craving, they can fix something themselves

CHARTERING SOLANDGE ➤ **SUMMER CRUISING AREA:** Mediterranean **WEEKLY BASE RATE:** €1.5 million
BUILDER: Lürssen **CABINS:** 8 **GUESTS:** 12 **CHARTER COMPANY:** Master Yachts, www.masteryachts.com **HIGHLIGHT:**
 Partying from dusk to dawn in the sun deck's beach club area, which features a DJ console and booth, a clear dance floor that lays on top of a Jacuzzi, a bar clad in gold and white Bisazza tiles, and two large TV screens.



Invictus ✨ Built by American shipyard Delta Marine, the 217-foot *Invictus* is ideal for large families or groups planning to host onboard parties both grand and intimate. Its six decks feature ample areas for socialising and entertaining—from a lavish formal dining area on the upper deck with a custom 22-seat table to a large sundeck equipped with a Jacuzzi, barbeque, spa pool, bar and sunbeds. An ornate black-and-red themed backlit bar in the sky lounge offers a mesmerising ambience for an evening of cocktails and conversations. Those looking for quieter leisure pursuits can catch a film in the main-deck theatre.

The dramatic interiors by Diane Johnson extend from the public areas into the nine private residences. While the main deck features six guest cabins, two additional cabins can be found belowdecks. The expansive master suite on the upper deck accommodates a sitting room, a private terrace, and his-and-hers en suites. Throughout the suite, floor-to-ceiling windows blur the divide between the indoors and outdoors.

The dramatic interiors of Invictus, including the nine private residences, have been designed by Diane Johnson.

CHARTERING INVICTUS ➤ **SUMMER CRUISING AREA:** Mediterranean **WEEKLY BASE RATE:** €511,000 (low season); €546,000 (high season) **BUILDER:** Delta Marine **CABINS:** 9
GUESTS: 12 **CHARTER COMPANY:** Burgess Yachts, www.burgessyachts.com **HIGHLIGHT:** Taking to the waters of the Mediterranean while at anchor with the yacht's impressive inventory of toys and tenders, from Sea-Doo jet skis and wakeboards to stand-up paddle boards.



TOP: RUPERT PEACE; MIDDLE & BELOW: JEFF BROWN

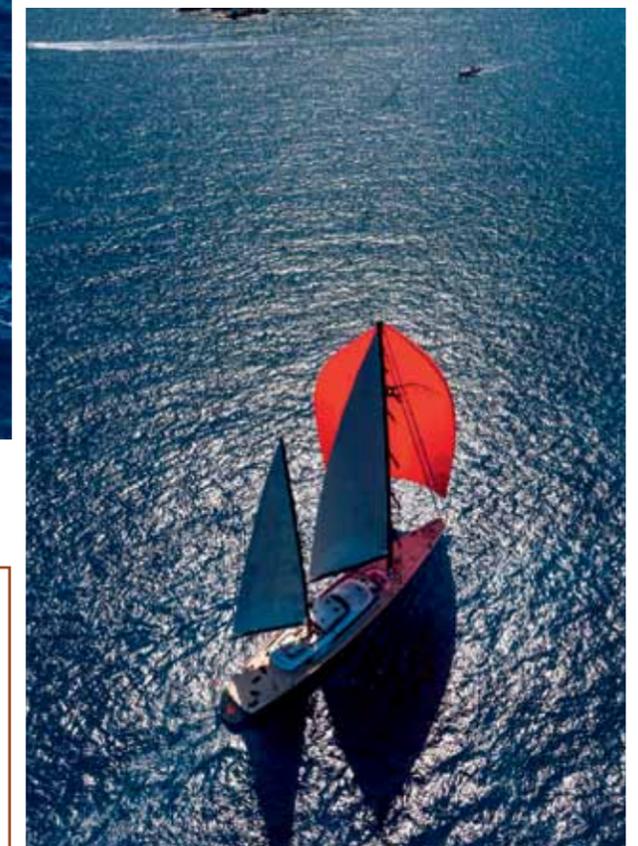


Solandge takes its place among the 100 largest privately owned yachts in the world.

Gems of the Ocean



The striking steel-grey-and-scarlet colour scheme of Seahawk's exteriors gives way to less dramatic but equally eye-pleasing interiors.



Seahawk ✨ Perini Navi's Flagship sailing yacht in the company's new 60-metre series pushes the envelope for design and performance. Designed by the Italian builder in collaboration with famed yacht designer Ron Holland, the 192-foot *Seahawk* features several structural and technological innovations that deliver an enviable combination of speed, comfort and space.

The striking steel-grey-and-scarlet colour scheme of the exteriors gives way to more subdued but equally eye-pleasing interiors, designed by French designer Christian Liaigre. The main salon sports three distinct sections—a dining area, a living area and an office-cum-media

space—situated around a central staircase that connects the cabins belowdecks to the flying bridge. Apart from four en-suite guest cabins, *Seahawk* has a full-beam master suite which, if required, can be divided with a removable wall to create two independent rooms, each with a queen-size bed.

Guests can enjoy the outdoors in a number of exterior living spaces, including a large aft deck, fore and aft cockpits that can seat up to 14, a hydraulic 'beach' transom, and a side-boarding platform that is ideal for a dip in the sea or launching tenders. *Seahawk* is available to charter for a limited period between July and October.

CHARTERING SEAHAWK ➤
SUMMER CRUISING AREA: Mediterranean
WEEKLY BASE RATE: €225,000 (low season); €250,000 (high season) **BUILDER:** Perini Navi
CABINS: 5/6 **GUESTS:** 10-12
CHARTER COMPANY: Perini Navi, www.perininavi.it
HIGHLIGHT: Soaking up the Mediterranean sun on the spacious aft deck.



Quattroelle ✨ The first Lürssen yacht designed by Nuvolari Lenard created a splash upon its launch last year. The 282.5-foot *Quattroelle* (the name is Italian for ‘4 times the letter L’, with the ‘Ls’ denoting Love, Life, Liberty and Luxury) can accommodate 12 guests in 8 expansive and luxuriously outfitted cabins. Five of these, including 3 VIP suites, are located on the main deck itself, allowing for more privacy and extended space than lower-deck accommodations.

The owner’s area occupies an entire half of the upper deck. It is divided into two children’s cabins, a master suite with his-and-her bathrooms that are equipped with a

Jacuzzi, a walk-in wardrobe that is as large as a guest cabin, a private study, and a private forward deck that can double up as a helicopter pad.

Other highlights on-board the yacht include an upper deck lounge with a bar and a self-playing Steinway piano; a formal dining salon for up to 20 guests; a swimming pool; and on the top deck, a gym with beauty and massage rooms.

With a top speed of 17 knots and a range of 6,000 nautical miles, *Quattroelle* is intended for long voyages with few stops at ports. However, only a privileged few got the chance to experience *Quattroelle’s* luxuries; the superyacht was sold to a private buyer at the time of going to press.

QUATTROELLE SPECIFICATIONS ➤ **BUILDER:** Lürssen **CABINS:** 8 **GUESTS:** 12
HIGHLIGHT: Soaking up the vistas from the Jacuzzi on the top deck.

MAUS JORDAN



Among the many luxurious spaces on board *Quattroelle* are eight expansive cabins, an upper deck lounge with a bar and a self-playing Steinway piano, a formal dining salon that can seat up to 20 guests, and a gym with beauty and massage rooms.

Gems of the Ocean



Built for extended blue-water sailing, Mondango 3 can carry 10 guests in three double and two twin cabins.



Mondango 3 ✨ Hot from the stables of New Zealand’s Alloy Yachts comes *Mondango 3*, the 183-foot sibling to the yacht owners’ existing ketch, *Mondango*, which was built by the same shipyard six years ago. As with the 2008 build, Dubois Naval Architects have designed the exteriors while British firm Reymond Langton has designed the lavish interiors.

The yacht can carry 10 guests in three double and two twin cabins, each sporting rich wood, veneer and marble accents. The salon is divided into sitting and dining areas, with large windows that let in plentiful natural light.

The exterior space includes a cockpit that can be enclosed by sliding glass screens and curved glass doors; a spa pool on the aft deck; and a swimming platform that unfolds from the starboard. A low draft of 13 feet ensures that the ketch can enter shallower ports with ease.

Mondango 3 is built for extended blue-water sailing but when at anchor, guests are encouraged to take to the waters of the South Pacific in style—apart from two tenders, it comes packed with toys including kayaks, paddle boards, water skis, and snorkelling gear. ☒

CHARTERING MONDANGO 3 ➤ **SUMMER CRUISING AREA:** South Pacific **WEEKLY BASE RATE:** €196,000 (low season), €224,000 (high season); (rates as at the time of going to press and may be subject to change)
BUILDER: Alloy Yachts **CABINS:** 5 **GUESTS:** 10 **CHARTER COMPANY:** Burgess Yachts, www.burgessyachts.com
HIGHLIGHT: Donning snorkelling gear and discovering the underwater wonders of the South Pacific when the yacht is in shallow waters.