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PLAYING WITH

Let's face it, you'll probably never own a superyacht – a week or two. Michelle Jana Chan on the beautiful boats that

BEST FOR: OLD-SCHOOL GLAMOUR



Christina O

The most famous of old-school yachts (see page tkt), Christina O oozes Fifties Hollywood glamour. Former owner Aristotle Onassis wined and dined EVERYONE on her decks: Frank Sinatra, Marilyn Monroe, Greta Garbo, Liz Taylor, Jackie Kennedy (who soon became Jackie O...). She's only improved with age, and along with vast staterooms has a Six Senses spa and a beautiful mosaic-tiled pool that transforms into a dancefloor for nighttime frolics. And the bar stools are said to be upholstered with sperm-whale foreskin - which is just the thing to drop into a conversational lull.

The cabins More than most: 17 doubles in total. The Onassis Suite has a library, a fireplace and a Renoir, naturellement.

The toys Two classic wooden launches, as well as Zodiacs, an inflatable swim platform and sea toys.

Ideal shipmate Sophia Loren.

Set sail for The Greek Islands.

Book it From €455,000 (£370,795) a week;

Camper & Nicholsons (camperandnicholsons.com).





Shamrock V

Built in 1930, this is the oldest J-Class yacht racing today – which gives you automatic bragging rights among yachties. The exterior fittings glint with polished copper and below deck glows with bird's-eye maple. A ship to make you look like a pro (even if you're just hanging around, staring vacantly at the hullaballoo).

The cabins Four, all super-traditional. The wood-panelled master suite has a writing desk for jotting down your seafaring memoirs.

The toys A Novurania tender, Zodiac and waterski gear. Ideal shipmate Ben Ainslie.

Set sail for Sardinia.

Book it From €65,000 (£52,975) a week;

Edmiston (edmiston.com).

THE BIG BOYS

but that doesn't mean you can't pretend for are available for hire. Now get out of my way, Roman

BEST FOR: A PROPER PARTY



Alfa Nero

One of the largest yachts on the market, with a split-level aft deck and an infinity pool, which converts at the flick of a switch into a helipad or dancefloor. Best gadget ever? Yes! And it gets better – the main salon has a retractable glass wall so you can split it into a sophisticated piano lounge on one side and party-hard nightclub on the other. Plus there's a pantry on each deck for late-night munchies. The captain was a Royal Marine, which is the kind of

boasty detail we like.

The cabins Six. The master suite spans the upper deck, and has a terrace and hot tub.

The toys Four tenders and an array of sea toys. Ideal shipmate Kim Kardashian's bottom. Set sail for Ibiza.

Book it From €840,000 (£684,250) a week; Cecil Wright (cecilwright.com), managed by Royale Oceanic (royaleoceanic.com).

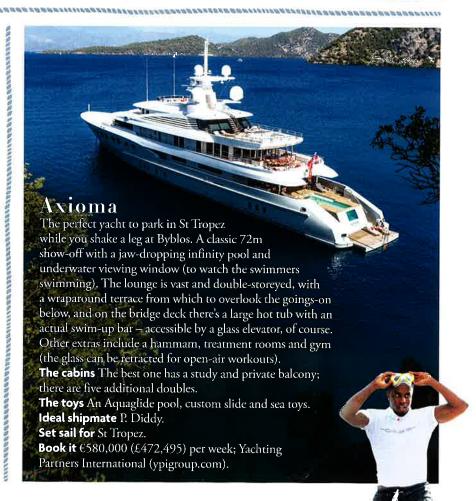
Tiara

The expansive decks on this 54m single-mast beauty are big enough to park a bus on. Or, indeed, host a chilled-out party under the stars – the aft can be converted into a Bedouin tent with a large retractable screen for alfresco movies. There are DJ decks to spin tunes, plus sexy art deco interiors crammed with mahogany and leather. But best of all is the captain – who's competed in the America's Cup. Swoon.

The cabins Five in total. The owner's suite stretches over two decks and has a marble bathroom.

The toys Jet-drive tender, Laser dinghy, kitesurf gear (and instructor on board) and





BEST FOR: A FULL-BLOWN ADVENTURE



Naia (ex Pegaso)

A former research vessel, this 74m yacht is all about round-theworld (and underwater) exploring - in very modern, very slick surroundings. It's the ultimate

live-aboard, with an army of dive instructors and all the technical gear, from compressors to a Nitrox TriMix system. Not feeling the call of the deep? Then there's a helipad, an eight-person Jacuzzi, a panoramic gym and a cinema.

The cabins Accessible by private elevator, the master suite spans the penthouse deck. There are five additional doubles, plus the former research lab has been converted into two more cabins.

The toys A sailing-yacht training centre with five instructors, an array of tenders, a water trampoline and a waterslide.

Ideal shipmate Jean-Michel Cousteau. Set sail for The Bahamas.

Book it From €580,000 (£473,530) a week; Yachting Partners International (ypigroup.com).



The Atmosphere

The clever captain of *The Atmosphere* – which is based in the seas around the southern Andes – knows the best spots for fly fishing and sea kayaking and is a brilliant heli-skier, too. Phew. We might need a dip in the hot tub after that. Which is lucky as there's a choice of three, as well as a huge spa with sauna and thalasso tub. Favourite feature: the whale-watching platform – with rugged lecturers to identify your humpback from your Southern right. **The cabins** 14 – Gaucho-style, with sheepskins and wool ponchos.

The toys Two helicopters, a Zodiac RIB, 20 kayaks, 36 fishing

skiffs, five Jet boats and all the heliskiing gear.

Ideal shipmate Bear Grylls.

Set sail for Chilean Patagonia.

Book it From \$290,000 (£172,850) a week; Cecil Wright (cecilwright.com).



