

ASIA'S LEADING YACHTING LIFESTYLE MEDIA

# YACHT

# Style

ASIA'S  
YACHTING  
LEADERS  
2021 EDITION

**LEADER INTERVIEWS:**

MARCO VALLE, AZIMUT-BENETTI GROUP  
LESTER LAM, CAMPER & NICHOLSON'S  
VRIT YONGSAKUL, BOAT LAGOON YACHTING

**SUSTAINABILITY:** MOTOR YACHT DESIGNS

**ASIAN DEBUT:** MCY 70 SKYLounge

**YACHT REVIEWS:** BENETTI OASIS 40M,  
CUSTOM LINE NAVETTA 30, PRESTIGE X70

**OWNERS:** STEPHEN & SHARLY CHUN, ABSOLUTE 58 FLY

**LIFESTYLE:** ROLLS-ROYCE, ROLEX, ROYAL SALUTE

HONG KONG: HKD80  
CHINA: RMB90  
SINGAPORE: SGD12  
MALAYSIA: MYR32  
THAILAND: THB350  
PHILIPPINES: PHP 450  
INDONESIA: IDR 125,000  
REST OF THE WORLD: USD12



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**ISSUE 57**



MCY 70 SKYLounge



Benetti Oasis 40M



Custom Line Navetta 30



Prestige X70



MCY 70 Skylounge in Hong Kong

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The first model in the Skylounge Collection by Monte Carlo Yachts, the MCY 70 Skylounge is making its debut in Asia.

Photo © Monte Carlo Yachts



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# DRIVING ASIAN YACHTING FORWARD

**W**elcome to *Yacht Style's* first issue of 2021 as we present our new list of Asia's Yachting Leaders. Our scope is wide – from as far west as the UAE to as far east as Japan – but the list ultimately focuses on the magazine's core regions of Greater China and Southeast Asia.

The leadership theme in this issue extends to not one but three Leader interviews. We start at the top with Marco Valle, a regular visitor to Asia who after 24 years with Azimut was promoted to CEO of the Azimut-Benetti Group, recently crowned the top-ranked builder of superyachts in the Global Order Book for the 21st successive year.

You can also enjoy interviews with Hong Kong-based Lester Lam of Camper & Nicholson's and Thailand-based Vrit Yongsakul of Boat Lagoon Yachting and Burgess. Both again appear in our annual list of Asia's Yachting Leaders.

Hong Kong has been yachting's shining light in this region for a long time and this has continued in the post-Covid era, with yacht usage, charter and sales rising to surprising heights following travel restrictions since early last year.

At the start of this year, the city was home to the Asian premiere of the MCY 70 Skylounge, the model featured on this issue's front cover. The first of the new Skylounge Collection by Monte Carlo Yachts, the model's world premiere was held in Miami early last year and the first unit into Asia arrived in Hong Kong in late 2020.

The MCY 70 Skylounge is among this issue's four Reviews of models either in Asia or set to arrive in the region, with the other three only unveiled in Europe late last year.

One of those, the Custom Line Navetta 30, was sold to Hong Kong and is expected to arrive in spring. Meanwhile, Benetti's new Oasis 40M has sold at least a dozen units globally including two to Asia, while a Prestige X70 is also expected in the region.

There are encouraging signs of activity in many other markets, with Thailand finishing the year with several three-day rendezvous-style events in and around Phuket, of which you can see a couple highlighted in the Events section, again surprisingly busy.

In addition, *Yacht Style* has started the new year by introducing a new section, Sustainability. In this issue, we look at what leading motor yacht builders are doing to make their boats greener. Sustainability and environmental responsibility are important, fast-evolving issues, so there's a lot more content to come.

For all the positives around us, many involved in yachting in Asia were deeply saddened by the passing of two well-known industry personalities late last year.

Patti Seery was renowned for her passionate work in developing *Silolona*, which effectively created the luxury phinisi charter industry following its launch in Indonesia in 2004.

Deeply immersed in local cultures since her arrival in the country in the early 1980s, Patti later developed a 'smaller sister', *Si Datu Bua*, which set sail in 2012. Her remarkable vision and dedication are underlined by the number of phinisi charter yachts in and around Indonesia today.

David Neish quickly became a popular personality within the yachting industry in Asia and Europe after joining *Asia-Pacific Boating* as advertising manager in 2005, working at the publication until 2018 when he co-founded Farfalla Marine.

As a former colleague, I shared and received many messages and tributes including one that nicely captured his influence: 'David was one of the coolest and friendliest people I know. He really was one of a kind.'

You can read a little more on both Patti and David on [YachtStyle.co](http://YachtStyle.co). Let's share a toast to both and to others driving yachting forward in Asia. ☺

John Higginson,  
Managing Editor, *Yacht Style*

**Lux Inc**  
INTEGRATED MEDIA



MCY 70 *skylounge*

[www.montecarloyachts.it](http://www.montecarloyachts.it)

## SEA PLEASURE. ALL YEAR ROUND

When you find the perfect spot to be, wouldn't you like to stay there as long as possible? Monte Carlo Yachts unveils the new **MCY 70 Skylounge**, the first Italian made luxury motoryacht with enclosed flybridge. **Prepare your senses for a new well-being.**

**MCY SKYLounge** COLLECTION | 70 | 76 | 80



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MONTECARLOYACHTS

Future, Classic.

Stunning sunset photo of Asia's first MCY 70 Skylounge, designed by Carlo Nuvolari and Dan Lenard, built in Italy by Monte Carlo Yachts and brought to Hong Kong by dealer Asia Yachting. ✂

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[www.asiayachting.net](http://www.asiayachting.net)

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ASIA PREMIERE

# NEW LEVEL OF LUXURY

*Asia's first MCY 70 Skylounge has turned heads since its arrival in Hong Kong, where the model customised for the region shows why an enclosed flybridge provides year-round appeal.*

WORDS **ANDREW DEMBINA** PHOTOS **ASIA YACHTING**





The MCY 70 Skylounge on the run in Hong Kong, home of regional dealer Asia Yachting, which represents Monte Carlo Yachts in Hong Kong, Macau and five key Southeast Asian countries

Asia Yachting is kicking off 2021 in lively fashion as the regional dealer hosts the Asian ‘reveal’ of the MCY 70 Skylounge online from Hong Kong and continues private viewings of the eye-catching new model.

Like all Monte Carlo Yachts models, the Skylounge Collection is designed by Carlo Nuvolari and Dan Lenard of Venice-based Nuvolari Lenard, who created an elegant enclosed flybridge featuring the yacht’s sole helm station, a rare feature on Italian-built motor yachts of this size.

Last year, Skylounge versions were released for the MCY 70 and MCY 76, two of three models – along with the 66 – introduced in 2019 as Monte Carlo Yachts unveiled its ‘second generation’ of yachts for its second decade.

Initially targeted at the US market, the MCY 70 Skylounge debuted at the Miami Yacht Show last February before the first model in the region arrived in October in Hong Kong, where it’s expected to have a similar appeal in a climate featuring cool temperatures in winter and extreme humidity in the summer. And as usual, Asia Yachting has specified options and customisations to appeal to local tastes.

**TOP FORM**

The range name highlights the yacht’s most special feature – its fully enclosable and beautifully outfitted skylounge that occupies most of the flybridge. MCY’s Skylounge Collection was conceived to provide a new concept for international markets, a yacht that can be enjoyed all year round, with an internal stairwell connecting main and upper-deck interiors that can be sealed and easily heated or cooled.

For the new hull tailored for Asia, the ‘Extra Tropical’ air-conditioning option was one of the boxes ticked by Olivier Besson, CEO and founder of Asia Yachting, which represents the boutique, high-end Italian builder in Hong Kong and Macau, as well as Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, Singapore and the Philippines.

“This is one of the most important features that we know local owners appreciate,” he says. “Owners are keen to escape the high humidity we have in Hong Kong and in other parts of Asia. When you sit upstairs you feel as if you are inside, but because of the panoramic windows and the glass roof (a retractable skylight), you feel in touch with nature and the environment outside.



The yacht retains the flexible foredeck (left) of the MCY 70, one of three new MCY models in 2019; the aft cockpit on the main deck (right)



The aft deck of the flybridge (left) is a cosy nook, like a balcony for the interior skylounge; the skylounge houses the yacht’s sole helm station (right)

“When the yacht arrived, I was particularly impressed by the cosy feel of the intimate terrace at the back of the flybridge – great for two people or a couple to relax and have a private moment. It would be a good spot to enjoy a cigar.”

The enclosed upper deck really does benefit from its surround glazing, whether seated on the long, roomy sofa or the lounging platforms either side of the leather central helm seat. The pilot has superb, uninterrupted visibility around the boat and the control switches and screens are generously spaced – and why not, this is the sole helm aboard, freeing up more usable space below.

**MAIN COURSE**

The Skylounge line’s standard design allows indoor access between the flybridge and the main deck, although like most other aspects of all MCY lines, stairwell access can alternatively be positioned outside, from the cockpit, if desired.

Like so much of the interior and exterior design by Nuvolari Lenard, the spiral, reinforced glass inner stairwell is a talking-point feature that oozes both elegance and functionality – its transparency allows the perception of yet more space. But volume is not something the main saloon is short of, as there is no helm across this split-level area.

As such, Asia Yachting opted for a galley-up configuration to port of the upper level forward, facing the dining suite to starboard. This showpiece galley wants for nothing, with two sets of fridge-freezer drawers, a cooking station, storage and dishwashing units that rival many high-end domestic kitchens.

“We took the galley-up option to make it a part of the décor and lifestyle for those aboard,” Besson says. “It’s a place where owners can chat to those on board easily, and people can stand around and share food and drinks in a relaxed, comfortable way.”

Next to the dining table is a thoughtfully-placed weather-tight door to the starboard side deck that leads to the bow or cockpit – handy for underway manoeuvres, carrying food or drink from the galley, or for simple access.

A step down to the aft half of the saloon is a sitting area with a long, deep L-shaped sofa and armchairs covered with Hermès and Armani Casa fabrics, as is the case on seating throughout the boat.

An oversized TV in the ceiling panelling can be lowered or concealed at the press of a remote-control button. To port, just inside the cockpit doors, is a day head carefully concealed behind dark chocolate brown-coloured wooden louvred slats. This space can be alternatively configured as a storage room or for access below deck to crew quarters and storage for the water toys.



The spacious skylounge includes huge side windows, a retractable skylight, the sole helm station, and stairs to the saloon on the main deck



As well as starboard stairs to the skylounge, the saloon features a large galley and dining area forward, in a space partially occupied by the helm station on non-Skylounge models

**BACK AND FORTH**

While the new Skylounge Collection focus may be on the interconnected indoor areas, the breezy, completely sheltered cockpit is another comfortable gathering or solo spot at a marine-teak dining table, with its elevated view out to sea over the swim platform at the stern.

Shower facilities are concealed in cabinetry in one of the twin staircases that lead downward, while the rear platform provides access to the airy engine room, which also leads to the twin crew cabin that provides a buffer between the engines and master suite.

Up front, the large 124sqft (11.5sqm) foredeck is a signature MCY feature, an attractive, comfortable area distinguished by its central passageway. Lowered bulwarks allow great sea views from the sun pads, which are fitted with pop-up recliner back and head supports.

The semi-circular teak dining tables on each side are electrically adjustable and can be linked by an extension panel to create a

substantial dining surface for up to 10 people. Asia Yachting opted for a bimini on the bow, which can be easily put up to offer shade to those on deck.

**GET DOWN**

A dedicated stairway at the aft of the saloon leads to the master suite via a corridor that's also home to two washer-dryer machines on the lower deck. Light floods into the main bedroom area through the shipyard's iconic and newly-enlarged overlapping circular windows, and the cabin makes full use of the midships beam of 17ft 10in (5.45m).

The stateroom is comfortably and functionally self-contained, with walk-in wardrobe, large marble-clad modern bathroom, storage cabinets, dressing table-cum-desk and a sofa.

The guest cabins have separate access via another walkway from



The full-beam master suite midships (left) has private access from the aft of the saloon and the shipyard's iconic overlapping circular windows; the VIP cabin (right) is in the bow



the forward end of the saloon. Two compact twin cabins feature berths that can be joined to make a double bed. The port twin has ensuite access to a bathroom, while the starboard version uses the same but with corridor access.

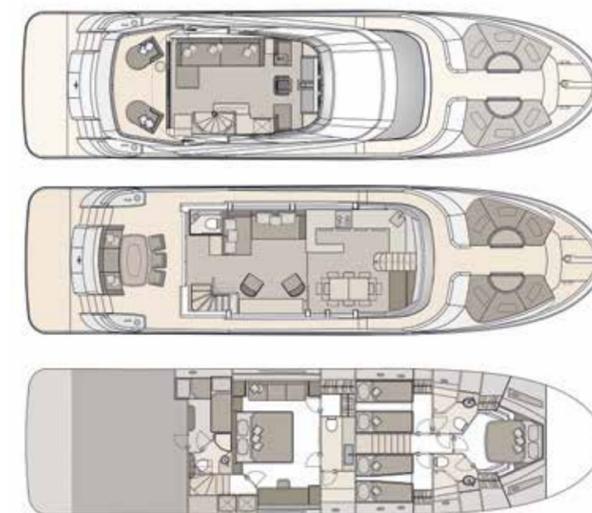
A VIP ensuite cabin at the bow has decent natural light from panel windows and plenty of hanging and storage space. Like everywhere else on board – including the engine room – headroom is notably generous.

Since Asia Yachting started staging private viewings of the new model, Besson says visitors “appreciated the new interior design that we made luxurious and bright ... plus they liked the additional living space upstairs, which matches their needs for shelter and cool temperatures”.

Following the global launch of the MCY 70 Skylounge last February, the MCY 76 Skylounge made its world premiere at the Fort Lauderdale International Boat Show in October, with the yard indicating that an even bigger version will follow. ☺

[www.montecarlo-yachts.it](http://www.montecarlo-yachts.it)  
[www.asiayachting.net](http://www.asiayachting.net)

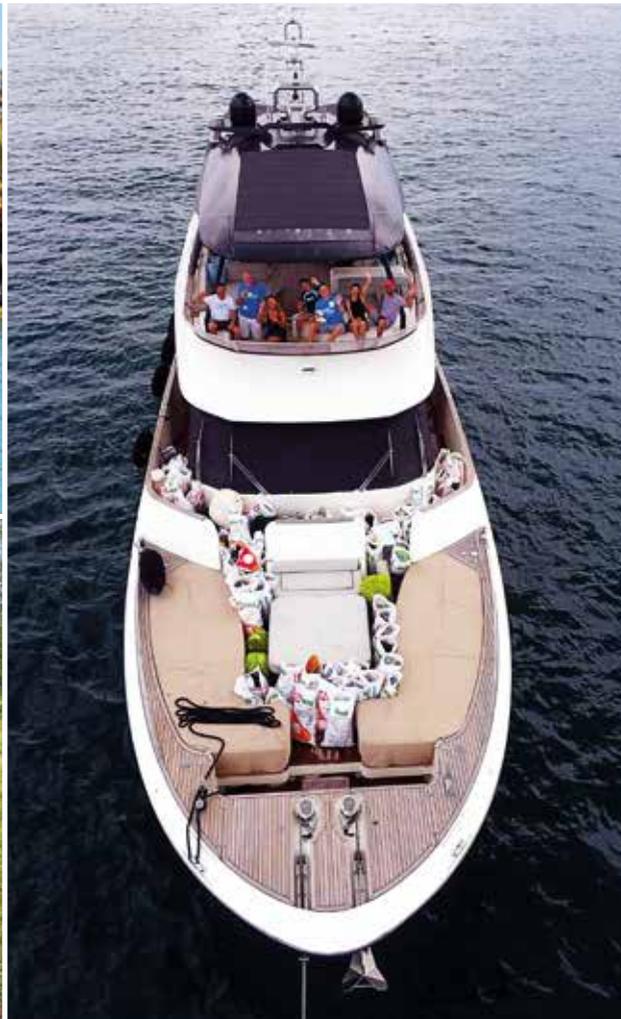
**DECKS & SPECS**



<b>Length overall</b> 21.08m (69ft 1in)	<b>Fuel capacity</b> 4,000 litres (1,056 US gallons)
<b>Beam</b> 5.45m (17ft 10in)	<b>Fresh water</b> 800 litres (211 US gallons)
<b>Draught</b> 1.85m (6ft 1in)	<b>Maximum speed</b> 26 knots
<b>Construction materials</b> VTR composite, carbon-fibre, Kevlar	<b>Cruising speed</b> 22 knots
<b>Engine options</b> 2 x MAN V8 1,300rpm / 1,400rpm	<b>Guest cabins</b> 4 for 8
<b>Generators</b> 2 x 19kW	<b>Crew cabins</b> 1 for 2
	<b>CE classification</b> A



Asia's first MCY 70 Skylounge (also top) was photographed and filmed around the south side of Hong Kong Island including in Tai Tam Bay



## BOATERS RALLY AGAINST PLASTIC

Singapore's first Boaters Against Plastic clean-up resulted in 2,070kg – over two tonnes – of rubbish being collected from the Southern Islands of Hantu, Lazarus and St John's. Over 100 volunteers took part, arriving on 21 boats and four jetskis led by the MCY 86 *Moana* owned by Nico Civelli, who initiated the campaign. Singapore Marine Guide and Seven Clean Seas, headed by Wade Pearce and Tom Peacock-Nazil respectively, co-organised and promoted the event. ✂

[www.sgmarineguide.com](http://www.sgmarineguide.com)  
[www.sevencleanseas.com](http://www.sevencleanseas.com)

