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SUNREEF EXPLORER LINE

DISCOVER THE OCEANS



20 YEARS OF SUNREEF CATAMARAN PIONEERS

by Andrea Dini

Gdańsk: an important shipbuilding and trading port since the Middle Ages, and principal seaport of Poland, located north of the country on the Baltic coast. Also, the birthplace of Sunreef Yachts.

It was here, 20 years ago in an old manufacturing hall by the historic docks of Gdańsk shipyard, that the world's first ocean-going luxury flybridge catamaran – the Sunreef 74 CHE – was launched.

Founded by French businessman-turned-sailing enthusiast, Francis Lapp took his passion and creativity and poured it into taking the simple catamaran, and turning it into an icon of luxury, sustainability, and innovation.

Here, we take a look back at some of Sunreef's most significant moments of the past two decades



"Nothing was easy. The beginnings were humble. When I started building my first yacht, nobody believed a multihull could become a luxury craft. I've been told a thousand times that my vision would not last. Today, Sunreef Yachts is leading the way in the catamaran world, on a constant quest to make multihulls beautiful, innovative and sustainable. The story continues and we have more than one chapter to tell..."

Francis Lapp - Founder & CEO

2002 IN THE BEGINNING...

Twenty years ago, catamarans were reserved mostly for sport or simple leisure pursuits. The words 'luxury' and 'catamaran' simply didn't go together, much to the disappointment of Lapp. Owning two of the vessels and chartering them around Madagascar, Lapp noticed a potential gap in the market for mixing the benefits of a multihull, with the luxury of a motor yacht.



2003

THE FIRST SUNREEF IS LAUNCHED

The Sunreef 74 becomes the first ocean-going catamaran of superyacht quality; and the first luxury catamaran to have a flybridge.

2008

INNOVATION CONTINUES

Sunreef created a yacht for legendary sailor Laurent Bourgnon, who was looking for the perfect yacht to tour the world with his family. As a result, the 70 Sunreef Power was designed – together with Laurent - revolutionising the world of power catamarans. Extremely fuel efficient, she was able to be trans-Pacific, and travel up to 11,300 nautical miles at 10 knots.

Further innovations saw the addition of a double deck superstructure, giving additional space to set up a master cabin with panoramic ocean views.





2010

HERE COME THE SUPERYACHTS

Sunreef enters the superyacht market by launching two super-catamarans: The Sunreef 102 Ipharra, a beautiful double-deck, fully-custom expedition yacht, was built for the Swiss boarding school, Institut Le Rosey.

And the Sunreef 114 CHE, a sleek, fast and luxurious catamaran, which was - at the time of her launch - the largest sloop-rigged catamaran in the world.

2016

EXTRA SPACE

The Supreme range is launched, with the first Supreme 68, a 68-footer with 302sqm living space - more than any yacht of its size on the market.



2012 DOWN IN FLAMES

Sunreef's annus horribilis. A huge fire breaks out and the entire production site burns down, including several yachts under construction. Plans to rebuild are made before the ambers even died down.

2019 GOING GREEN

Sunreef's eco-friendly journey begins with the launch of its first luxury - electric - sailing catamarans: Sunreef 60 Eco and Sunreef 50 Eco.



2013

AN EYE TOWARDS THE FUTURE

After the horrific fire of 2012, it's remarkable that just a year later Sunreef is able to launch the Sunreef 80 Carbon Line, the world's first carbon catamaran superyacht.

This also sees Lapp receive Entrepreneur of the Year at the World Yachts Trophies in Cannes.

2020

"SHIPYARD OF THE YEAR"

Success follows success, and on top of being crowned the best shipyard in the world, the 80 Sunreef Power "Great White" is delivered to Rafael Nadal, and Nico Rosberg adds an extra touch of luxury by joining as new brand ambassador.





Francis Lapp

2021

MORE ROOM REQUIRED

Sunreef expands with a new and innovative shipyard more adapted to superyacht construction, while also maintaining the shipyard in the heart of Gdańsk.

More than 2,000 now work for the company, and Fernando Alonso joins the family of brand ambassadors - while also commissioning an electric 60 Sunreef Power.



2022

TWENTY YEARS ON, AND THE GREEN REVOLUTION IS HERE

Never ones to shy away from innovation, in its second decade of building Sunreef Yachts has created a new solar power solution: composite-integrated solar cells are seamlessly integrated into the whole bodywork, generating more clean power on board than any other yacht.

The Sunreef Yachts Eco range is just the start of this green revolution, with the Sunreef 80 Eco featuring solar panels in the hull, superstructure, bimini and mast. It also has custom-engineered, ultra-efficient batteries, and a hydro-generation system to generate power from the engine propellers while under sail.

And as if this wasn't enough, they're due to launch the new Explorer line along with brand ambassador explorer Mike Horn, build a new shipyard in the UAE, and... well, let's just wait and see what 2023 has in store!