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ISSN 0261-6432
9 770261 643452

ISSUE 68

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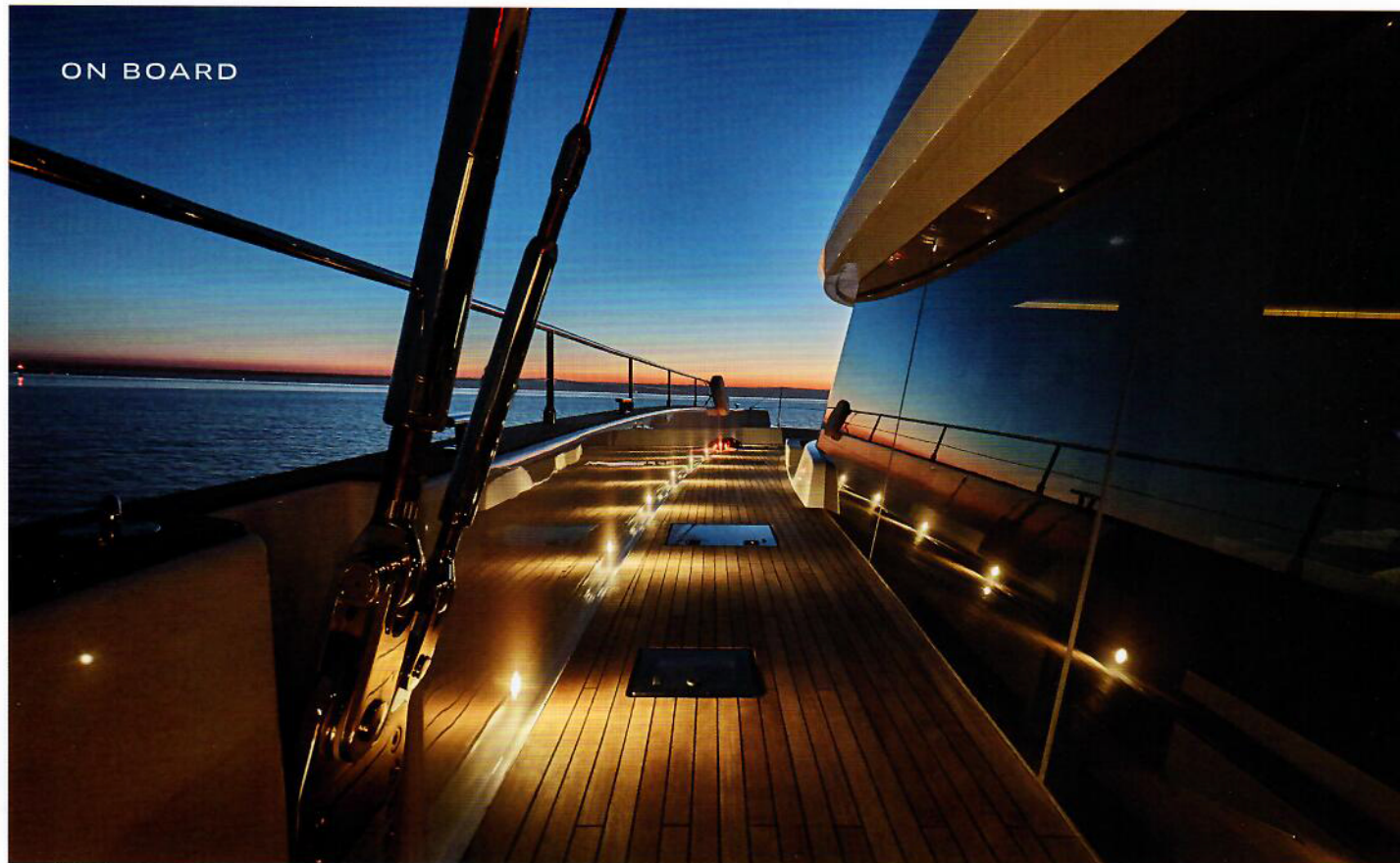
SUNREEF 80

LOST IN SPACE

For many yacht enthusiasts, owning a 70-metre superyacht is just not possible, however, with Sunreef's 80, you can enjoy the same space, but without the costs.

BY STEVE CHALMERS





“As we wait on the dock of Philharmonic Hall for the 80 to arrive, we can understand the passion that goes into building these catamarans.”



SUNREEF 80
SPECIFICATIONS

| | |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| Length: | 24.4 m |
| Maximum beam: | 11.5 m |
| Engines: | 2 x 280 HP |
| Fuel capacity: | 6000 l |
| Water capacity: | 1600 l |
| Mainsail: | 203 m ² |
| Genoa: | 155 m ² |
| Gennaker: | 340 m ² |
| Living space: | 340 m ² |
| Category: | A |
| Naval architecture: | Sunreef Yachts |
| Design: | Sunreef Yachts |

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We're in Gdansk, Sunreef Yachts' home city and Poland's principle seaport. Despite us now enjoying the delights of the Pomorskie Rendez-Vous (an event focused on bringing together various luxury companies), we spent the day touring Sunreef's shipyards - buildings steeped in history, in an industrial area where Lech Walesa founded Solidarity on the 17th of September, 1980. From our tour, it was obvious that Gdansk's shipbuilders and craftsmen had honed their skills over many generations and as we wait on the dock of Philharmonic Hall for the Sunreef 80 to arrive, we can understand the passion that goes into building these big catamarans.

FULL BEAM

As the 80, named *7X Split*, arrives, it quite literally stops the traffic, as the Olowianka Bridge has to be raised in order for the catamaran, with its towering mast, to pass under. As the captain docks the 80 we get our first view of her styling, with her metallic gold hulls towering ▶



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We are sailing: Sir Rod Stewart knew what he was talking about: sailing is one of the most efficient ways of travelling across the sea.

“Here, stretching out in front of us is 11.5-metres of beam.”



► above the dock. Sunreef’s trademark, triple-stacked glazing adds to the sense of height, with a strong swage line just above them tapering into the gunwales.

The 80 is 24.4 metres in length, which is impressive in itself, but it’s once you walk around to the stern that you really get a feel of the catamaran’s scale. Here, in front of us is 11.5-metres of beam and yes, that is indeed the equivalent of a 70-metre superyacht. A colossal beam is what makes catamarans so popular. There’s acres of space on board and as we head up the aft stairway, the first details we notice are the side decks, which appear to be wide enough for two people to stroll down, side by side. A towering freeboard and high handrails make her extremely safe and family friendly, especially so when you take the catamaran’s inherent stability into consideration.

A six-seater sofa can be found aft, with the hydraulic swim platform (which can also house ►





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Below deck: There are so many different spaces to enjoy (both inside and out) on the Sunreef's main deck, that the cabins are really only required at bedtime.



► the tender) adding to the usable space.

MAIN SALON

Stepping through *7X Split's* sliding doors, we enter the cavernous main salon, which spans a huge 47m². As the layouts are customisable, that's more than enough space to play with and for this 80, the Owner, a seasoned sailor from Croatia, went for a traditional lounge/dining area combo. The port table has seating for 10 and is doused in a healthy amount of sunlight courtesy of the huge glazing. To starboard the deep sofa features fully-folding backrests that allow guests to stretch out, perfect for an afternoon siesta. Soft leather seats accompany the three tables, with a custom-built island cabinet housing the retractable TV and a wine cooler. Colour wise, the Owner has gone for subtle hues, with the overall blue and white set off by teak, sintered quartz and metallic accents.

CABINS

Being 24-metres long, Sunreef has managed to fit an awful lot into the 80's hulls. Portside we have the galley and crew quarters along with two large guest cabins, which are finished with leather details and a balanced mixture of dark blue and metallic grey tones. It is however, the starboard master suite that really shows what you can do with a good length of hull. Space isn't a problem here and the Owner has a desk, sofa, dressing room and a huge bed at his disposal. Aft of the master suite is the kids' cabin and we have to say, it's great to see its proximity to the master; superyachts normally locate the kiddies' cabin on the lower deck.

FORDECK

You can access the cosy foredeck terrace either along the wide side decks, or through a door in the main salon and with its sheltered location, it's the ideal place for sundowners. Here, the comfy sofas are so big they can double as sunpads, with a table to starboard perfect for taking breakfast. The whole area is sunk into the 80's deck, giving it an intimate feel and shielding you even more from prying eyes. The foredeck continues at a ridiculous beam to the bows: the 80 is definitely not for agoraphobics.

“The foredeck continues at a ridiculous beam to the bows: the 80 is definitely not for agoraphobics.”

FLYBRIDGE

Heading back to the cockpit, we climb the port-side stairs to the flybridge. It is of course, extremely spacious and not at all obvious that you're on a sailing cat. The slimline mast is hardly noticeable, with the boom hidden by the T-top which also covers the dining table and fully equipped bar. A superyacht equalling sunpad can be found aft of diners, with the two helms forward.

CONCLUSION

Freedom is what the 80 is all about. Huge outdoor spaces mean you can enjoy the big Sunreef with everyone, or find your own corner and settle down with a book. And the sailing itself is an experience, with the wind powering you along in virtual silence. If you're a motor yacht owner and you've never been out on a sailing cat, then we'd recommend a charter – it's nothing like what you're used to. And, did we mention the space? 🍹