88 Frontrunners

Superyacht specs

A beach club on board — sand free

As more and more yacht owners invest in boats with superior amenities, the newest must-have is the on-board beach club. If you're a superyacht aficionado, you'll know that the past year has seen a rise in such features – located in the area at the stern where the garage usually is – that either folds down to make a large platform or can be extended when at anchor, with yacht owners competing to commission the most sophisticated version.

Rivalling their most exclusive onshore counterparts in luxury, space and comfort, on-board beach clubs offer spa access, bars, gymnasiums and more, creating the perfect perch over the water for sunbathing and cocktails as the water laps your feet.

A spectacular and versatile beach club is the highlight of the recently launched Galactica Super Nova Water Haven. Built by Heesen Yachts and designed by Espen Øino, the 70-metre *Galactica* can reach speeds of up to 30 knots. Just as entertaining at anchor as at sea, *Galactica*'s stern and side terrace transform into a 44-square metre bathing and watersports haven. By day, this area offers a comfortable set up with easy access to the sea, tenders and toys or to the six-metre glass-bottomed infinity pool above; by night the space can be used to entertain at the water's edge before retiring to the foredeck's outdoor cinema.

Another fine example is Italian yacht builders CRN's 55-metre *Atlante* Spa Club. A priority in the design was to break down the barriers between inside and out, so access to the yacht is provided directly on the lower deck from the beach club which is equipped with a sunbathing area, entertaining space and, when opened out, a massage bed, Turkish bath and gym.

Delivered in 2010 by Icon Yachts, the 68-metre *Icon* recently wowed charterers with her five-metre transom extension that allowed for a significant beach club area. From there, a passageway leads directly forward to the lower deck, meaning guests can access the ocean from their cabins. As well as a gym and sauna, *Icon* boasts a five-metre infinity swimming pool on the main deck. **Miriam Cain**



Above: the beach club on the newly extended 68-metre Lcon. Below: the Galactica Super Nova Water Haven, is complete with a spectacular six-metre glass-bottomed infinity pool, and ample lounging space



