





The Fortress of Paradise

Lürssen's 136-metre *Flying Fox* became the world's largest charter superyacht on her launch, boasting unrivalled treats – including the world's best aft deck pool

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STORY BY APB STAFF

At 136 metres length overall, *Flying Fox* is one of the world's largest yachts, and currently the largest yacht available for charter, at a cool €3.5 million per week with Imperial Yachts, which also oversaw the build on behalf of the client.

Apart from enormous size, *Flying Fox* has classic superyacht pedigree. She was built by Germany's Lürssen shipyard, which has launched 10 of the top 20 superyachts currently afloat. Her exterior styling was by Espen Oeino, the reigning heavyweight champion of superyacht design.

Flying Fox has a bluish-grey hull that almost melds with the sea when the yacht is at anchor or underway, leaving the curving white lines of the superstructure, accented with wood trim, to provide a subtle contrast that resembles a cloudy haven above the waterline.

Passenger Yacht Code-compliant and roomy for her size (she is the 14th largest vessel in terms of volume but 16th in length overall), *Flying Fox* has 11 cabins for 25 guests. Each cabin has a private sea-view terrace, and guests can request additional accommodation for their staff. Apart from the master

Right: Among *Flying Fox*'s unrivalled treats is the world's best aft deck pool







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← **Clockwise from top left:** The main aft deck dining was the focus of the culinary experience; the main galley and food prep areas were moved to the outside aft deck; one of the private Jacuzzi pools; the open-plan atrium of the main salon in Japanese style



cabin, the guest cabins are all the same, enormous size.

Clearly built with charter guests in mind, *Flying Fox* is unlikely to disappoint guests, whether chartering or at the invitation of the owner. A 12-metre swimming pool that runs across the beam of the aft deck is unlike anything available on a superyacht today. In case that isn't enough, there's another plunge pool on the upper decks forward.

Mark Berryman took advantage of the enormous volume to create an open interior that spans two decks – a development that complements the relatively high ceilings throughout. The two-floor salon has a wood fireplace and a dining table that seats 22. After dinner, a high-end cinema room with D-box seats (which move and shake with the on-screen action) and state-of-the-art surround sound will provide the après-swim entertainment.

Berryman evoked a soothing atmosphere with his trademark use of warm natural colours and decorations. The furnishings are in bamboo, teak and oak, which creates the sense of being in a forest villa or retreat, rather than onboard one of the world's most ostentatious superyachts.

The whole design is enhanced by real trees and plants that are growing throughout the vessel, adding to the sense of being outdoors, even while inside the comfort of the yacht. Travertine and Jerusalem stone are matched against leather finery throughout the interior.

One of the most eye-catching – and relaxing – features is the two-floor spa covering 400 square metres, perhaps among the largest onboard spas ever made. On the lower deck, a lounge with Jacuzzi has direct access to the dive centre. There are a hammam, sauna and even a cryosauna, to provide a chilling escape from the world. The main chamber in the cryosauna reportedly drops to -80°C , which is said to make people more mentally alert and improve muscle



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Clockwise from top left: *Flying Fox* can accommodate two helicopters on two helidecks; the observation deck is over 30 metres above the waterline, providing excellent sea views; the 12-metre transverse swimming pool on the aft deck is large enough for first-time Scuba divers to practice in before entering the sea, with the help of onboard instructors

recovery. Above, there are massage rooms and a gym.

The main deck is fitted with 10 VIP ensuite cabins, which follow a spiral staircase or lift serving all decks to access the key interior area on bridge deck.

The master cabin is located on the upper deck forward and made to combine one's professional and personal life. The cabin is fitted with trees and a wood fireplace, with a bay window opening to the private Jacuzzi. A beauty centre is even included in the private, master space.

The private zone for the main guest or owner has all the accoutrements you'd expect if you're running

a global business empire. There is a salon with wood fireplace and a conference on the aft deck, along with a private office, bathrooms with dressing areas (his and hers). Aft, there is an outdoor cinema.

Sea views are a premium delight, and on this, *Flying Fox* delivers. There is an observation salon with circular roof windows where one can relish a moment in the forward Jacuzzi, overlooking remote and exotic seascapes. On the roof deck itself, a panoramic exterior salon offers the top-tier view from over 30 metres above the waterline.

The Passenger Yacht Code (PYC) has allowed



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yacht owners and builders to expand far beyond the 12-guest limit, and *Flying Fox* makes good use of this. A complement of 54 crew is on hand to see to the needs of over 20 guests.

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With the capacity for so many guests, there is need for plenty of on-water or underwater activity. There is a dive gear storage space with the latest equipment. The yacht also comes with space for water toys aplenty, including the new Zapata hoverboards.

There are nine tenders in all, spoiling guests for choice and ensuring that whether it's about getting a dose of speed on the water or turning up at the dock in style, everything is to perfection. Among the tenders are a 12.5-metre limo tender, a nine-metre beach landing craft and an 8.5-metre Super Nautique Coastal for high-speed action.

A visit aboard this superyacht is bound to be out of this world, but with exceptionally good views of it.





**TECHNICAL
SPECIFICATIONS:
LURSEN'S *FLYING FOX***

LOA
136M

BEAM MAX
22.5M

DRAUGHT MAX
5.1M

HULL AND SUPERSTRUCTURE
STEEL AND ALUMINIUM

GROSS TONNAGE
9,022GT

TOTAL CABINS
11

CREW
54

MAIN ENGINES
MTU 16V 1163 M84

MAX SPEED
20KTS

TO CHARTER
IMPERIAL-YACHTS.COM

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Top: The top deck helipad can accommodate the world's largest corporate helicopters, and can be used as a dance floor, complete with DJ booth