

No. 1332

# Yachting®

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## STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN

Hidden steps from the master stateroom to the foredeck are just one unusual design element aboard this mini-explorer.

*By Michael Verdon*

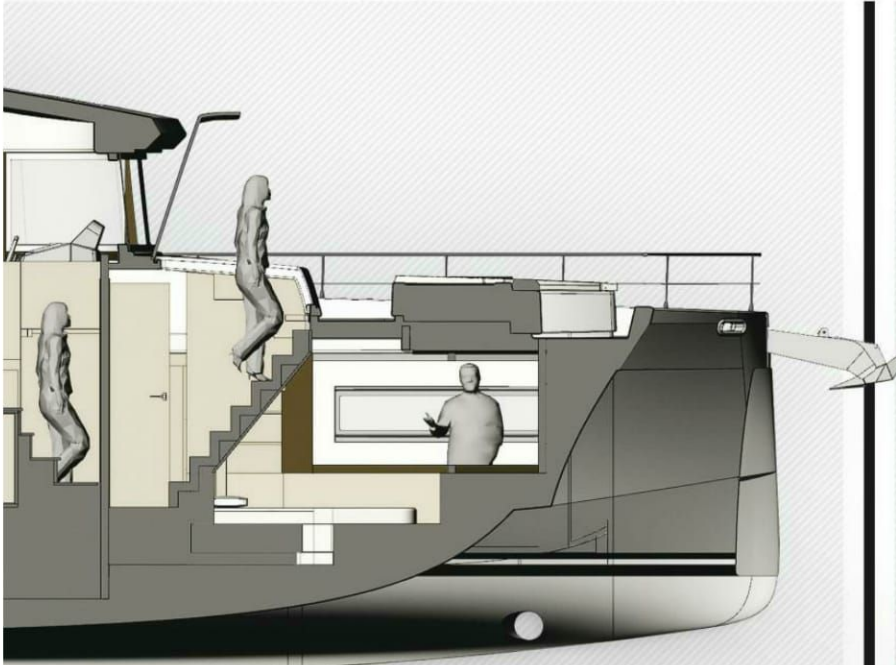
**T**HE SIRENA 56 is among a growing number of yachts designed to maximize live-aboard space. The 56 may look like a flybridge motoryacht, but she could be more accurately described as a long-distance cruiser, or even a mini explorer. The exterior, by German Frers, famous for sailing yachts, mates a boxy topside with a fast-displacement hull

that reaches 26 knots with optional twin 850 hp Cat C12.9 diesels that also deliver a range of 850 nautical miles at 10 knots. ¶ Tommaso Spadolini used “light” and “comfort” as keywords when creating the interior. The Italian designer used picture windows in the salon and lower-deck staterooms, along with 6-foot-4-inch headroom, to maximize the sense of spaciousness. ¶ The yacht’s vertical

bow gave Spadolini even more usable space forward on the main deck, in the full-beam, 215-square-foot master stateroom. It is generous for a boat this size, with a queen berth against the aft bulkhead, and two chairs and a table nestled against the vertical bow. ¶ The true design innovation in the master, however, is a set of stairs that leads from the stateroom to the foredeck, available

*A tall superstructure and vertical bow let the designers incorporate extra space and headroom across the interior.*

## I

INSIGHTS > TRENDS > *Sirena 56*

only with a two-stateroom layout. Unlike larger yachts with foredeck access from the master (typically through glass doors onto a private terrace), the 56's stairs pass through a "hidden" foredeck panel. Owners walk up seven steps to the panel, which lifts right into the foredeck lounge. ¶ From the yacht's exterior, the stairway door panel looks identical to the portside stowage locker, so the design stays balanced. The positioning also leaves the foredeck, with its lounge and sun pads, open to anyone else via side decks. ¶ Only minor design modifications were needed to ensure the setup's structural integrity. "We built

LOA  
61'3"  
CRUISE  
SPEED  
16 KNOTS

two structures behind the bed in carbon fiber and covered them with the oak paneling to provide additional support to the deck,"

Spadolini says. ¶ The two-stateroom layout on Hull No. 1 has the hidden stairs, and Sirena also offers triple-stateroom layouts: one with two aft staterooms side by side, the other with a twin stateroom between the master and aft stateroom. Owners who go with two staterooms and the stairs, though, get another benefit: the largest head of the three configurations. This yacht keeps the cool uses of space coming. ¶

*Take the next step: sirenayachts.com*



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## FINER POINTS

1. The Sirena 56 was created, as designer German Frers puts it, to cruise to "all corners of the world." With a running surface designed to perform at planing and displacement speeds, she has a reported range of 850 nautical miles at 10 knots, making her 20 percent more efficient than many other yachts her size, according to the builder.
2. The "secret stairway" from the master on the two-stateroom layout gives owners instant foredeck access.



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*The profile looks like a standard long-range cruiser, but her fast-displacement hull form allows this yacht to hit 26 knots.*