

SEXY TENDERS SUPERYACHTS

YOUR GUESTS' FIRST CONTACT WITH YOUR SUPERYACHT IS THE TENDER, SO IT MUST GIVE THE RIGHT IMPRESSION, SAYS **JACK HAINES**

Whether you have spent millions on commissioning one or thousands on chartering one it is likely that your first contact with a superyacht will be the tender. As the mothership bobs majestically off the hook in a glittering cove the tender is dispatched to collect guests and so sets the tone for what they can expect of the main event. It must be luxurious, comfortable, exquisitely finished and – it almost goes without saying – a thrill to set eyes on.

The superyacht tender is also a workboat, a watersports platform and a toy for the owner and guests to enjoy. Here we run through the sexiest, coolest and most innovative of tenders.





Wallytender

The boat that changed the way we think about superyacht tenders forever. The Wallytender proved that, although tenders had to be functional, they could also be achingly desirable and cutting-edge cool.

The proof is in the numbers because Wally has sold over 90 units since its conception in 2001, somewhat astonishing when you consider that in this market being unique is king.

As well as looking sensational – and being the subject of many copycat designs – the Wallytender is also a performance machine. Its combination of a lightweight composite and carbon fibre structure and a pair of 350hp Cummins diesels makes for a top speed of 37 knots and an impressive cruising range of 400nm at 30 knots.

Mothership	<i>Fortunato</i> among others
Length	13.60m/44ft 7in
Beam	4.30m/14ft 1in
Displacement	6.5 tonnes
Engines	twin Cummins 350hp
Top speed	37 knots
Price ex VAT	from €638,000
Coollest feature	vertical bow and razor-sharp forefoot
More info	www.wally.com



Scorpion 1080 Waterjet

Scorpion's history is steeped in racing success and a particular skill in building rock-solid endurance RIBs, hence why a certain Sir Ben Ainslie has picked a Scorpion to chase his AC45 around.

So breezing around Med hotspots in perfect weather shouldn't prove too much trouble for the new 1080 Waterjet.

Waterjets are an excellent match for tenders as they make for a shallower draught and are much safer if people are in the water around the boat. Performance is also strong, with a top speed of 40 knots and fast cruising range of over 400nm.

The 1080 is more of a rapid transport tender with the deck spaces dedicated to seating as many people as possible, though this can of course be amended depending on the owner's wishes.

Mothership	<i>QM of London</i>
Length	10.40m/34ft 1in
Beam	3.10m/10ft 2in
Displacement	3.6 tonnes
Engines	single Yanmar 480hp
Top speed	40 knots
Price ex VAT	£139,540
Coollest feature	retractable steps in bow for easy beach boarding
More info	www.scorpionribs.com



Alen 55

Designed as a chase boat for the Norman Foster/Perini Navi supersailing yacht *Panthalassa*, the Alen 55 was designed in conjunction with the architecture powerhouse Foster and Partners.

The hull echoes the shape of war-era torpedo vessels and the deck design is both practical, with deep, safe walkways down each side, and well equipped for socialising and relaxing thanks to a plethora of seating space and sunpads.

If overnight stays in shallower waters are out of reach for the mothership then the choice of either one or two cabins below decks means that the owner and a small number of guests don't have to miss out.

A pair of Volvo Penta 800hp engines guarantee rapid progress and a top speed of 35 knots.

Mothership	<i>Panthalassa</i>
Length	16.80m/55ft 1in
Beam	4.80m/15ft 9in
Displacement	21 tonnes
Engines	twin Volvo Penta 800hp
Top speed	35 knots
Price ex VAT	€1.09m
Coollest feature	beautiful, two-cabin interior
More info	www.alenyacht.com



Sealegs 7.1m

If exploration is your bag then the Sealegs 7.1m is the ultimate tender for intrepid adventures. Not only is it made from tough aluminium, but the unique Amphibious Enablement System (AES) means that the boat can do up to 15mph on land thanks to its three off-road wheels and a 22hp Honda engine.

So it can take you through almost anything to get to the most secluded beaches and when you get there you can deploy the wheels and stow them yourself.

But don't be fooled into thinking that the extra engine and wheeled appendages ruin the driving experience because, with a single 150hp Evinrude outboard, the 7.1m will top 40 knots and is a true delight to handle.

Mothership	<i>Phoenix 2</i>
Length	7.13m/23ft 5in (wheels up)
Beam	2.61m/8ft 7in
Displacement	1.4 tonnes
Engines	single Evinrude 150hp
Top speed	42 knots
Price ex VAT	£112,000
Coollest feature	need we spell it out?
More info	www.sealegsrecreational.com

