

NEWS ANNOUNCEMENT

Royal Huisman delivers powerful performer Aquarius: A new chapter in superyacht elegance

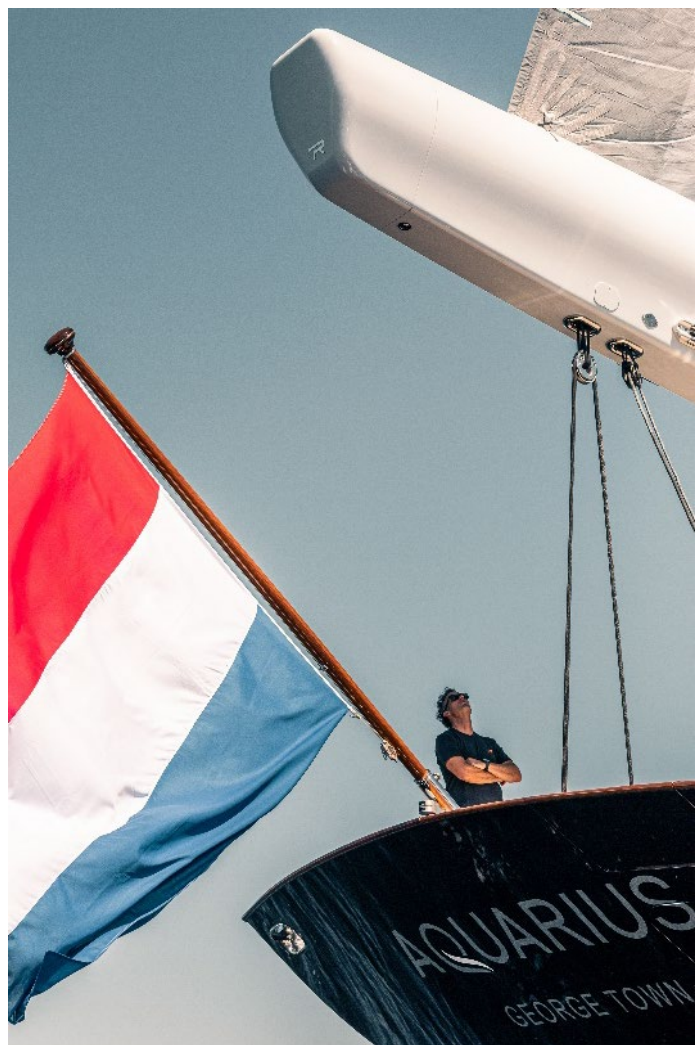
This 65-meter / 213-foot ketch showcases the shipyard's dedication to craftsmanship and commitment to - exceeding owner expectations.



There is no finer complement to a team than when yacht owners ask for a new vessel just like the last one, only bigger and more powerful performance. This is precisely the story behind the new Aquarius. Recently completed sailing trials on the North Sea proved she is the exquisite powerhouse her owner requested. In 14 - 18 knots of true wind speed and armed with just her cruising sails she was clocking 15 - 16 knots on a reach.



On first glance, it is hard to tell their previous Aquarius, now Apsara, and new Aquarius apart. The 56m / 186ft version launched in 2018 and the brand new 65m / 212ft replacement look identical from a distance – by request. The husband and wife behind the builds had put considerable effort into creating their first large custom yacht and loved it, calling it “close to perfect”. But as their family grew, and anticipating more time aboard and longer voyages, they realized more space was necessary. Rather than reinvent the wheel, the owners reassembled the original team to deliver a larger version of their family’s yacht. This time having the objective of achieving perfection.





The team (described by an independent commentator as “some of the most experienced and talented brains in the superyacht world”) comprises superyacht builder Royal Huisman, owners’ project manager Godfrey Cray, Dykstra Naval Architects, and interior designer Mark Whiteley. Her carbon rig and state-of-the-art sail-handling systems by Rondal ensure thrilling performance and effortless handling. “The yacht is incredibly well-balanced; her sailplan, keel, rudder and hull are all in sync,” notes an ecstatic Cray. “The torque-assist steering system really makes the yacht a pleasure to helm.”

Designing and building a world cruising yacht is one thing, but the owners also announced that they wanted to repeat the 2019 and 2022 St. Barths Bucket-winning performance of the original Aquarius. Conscientious about weight, Royal Huisman conducted a design and finite analysis study on the hull structure, work that reduced the weight of the ‘Alustar’ aluminum hull and superstructure by about 10 tonnes. - This allowed the keel to be a bit heavier for improved stiffness and stability.

A nine meter increase in overall length may not seem like a huge difference, but with more hull depth, and increased beam, the new Aquarius has 50 percent more volume than her predecessor. The main and owner's cockpits and both deckhouses have scaled up proportionally. The yacht features Royal Huisman's hybrid technologies for power generation and management. The benefits include peak-shaving for optimum energy efficiency and flexible power generation.

“Her balance, combined with great visibility from the helm of the bow, stern and sails adds to the driving experience.”

— Owners' project manager
Godfrey “Goddy” Gray



“It’s a tribute to any shipyard to have clients returning,” said Royal Huisman CEO Jan Timmerman. “It says everything about their trust in us to fulfill their dreams and aspirations for a custom yacht of such timeless elegance backed by modern innovation. Clients give us different reasons for their repeat orders, but among the most regularly mentioned is ‘absolute client focus’. This includes dedication to building whatever the client has in mind with highest standards of craftsmanship, customer service, and a flexible can-do approach.”

As this latest delivery embarks on her maiden voyage, she carries the legacy of Royal Huisman. Handing over this exceptional yacht marks the beginning of an exciting new chapter for her owners and reaffirms Royal Huisman’s position as a leader in the custom sailing superyacht sector.

END OF ANNOUNCEMENT

EDITOR'S NOTES

MAIN SPECIFICATIONS

Name:	AQUARIUS
Length:	65m / 212ft
Beam:	11m / 36ft
Draft:	4.8 - 7.5m / 16 - 25ft
Air draft:	67.5m / 222ft
Owners' project manager:	Godfrey Cray
Naval architecture + exterior styling:	Dykstra Naval Architects
Interior design:	Mark Whiteley Design
Construction:	Alustar® aluminum
Rig + handling:	Rondal carbon rig + Integrated Sailing System
Builder:	Royal Huisman
Information is currently restricted to the above.	

Name:	AQUARIUS (I), now Apsara
Length:	56m / 184ft
Beam:	10m / 31ft
Draft:	4.8m / 16ft
Air draft:	58.5m / 193ft
Owners' project manager:	Godfrey Cray
Naval architecture + exterior styling:	Dykstra Naval Architects
Interior design:	Mark Whiteley Design
Rig + handling:	Rondal carbon rig + Integrated Sailing System
Builder:	Royal Huisman
Delivery:	2018



ROYAL HUISMAN

Founded in 1884, Royal Huisman is a name that needs no introduction to those who truly understand luxury yachting. From the world's most prestigious regattas to the quiet elegance of a remote anchorage, a Royal Huisman yacht is instantly recognized and universally admired.

These yachts are rare — crafted with unmatched precision, vision, and care. They are beyond compare in both performance and beauty, seamlessly blending innovative engineering with iconic design. Each project is a collaborative journey, shaped by the owner's unique aspirations and brought to life by the shipyard's exceptional team of artisans and engineers.

When you hear, "It's a Royal Huisman," it says everything.

The ultimate expression of personal freedom.

LAST, BUT NOT LEAST

As you might know Royal Huisman works closely with our clients and members of the yachting press. We do this to give all our media friends equal support and opportunity. Please introduce us to new press colleagues: we will be pleased to assist them and add their contact details to future press releases.

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For any questions, please contact Jurjen van 't Verlaat (jurjen@royalhuisman.com or +31 527 243131). Can you please send us a high-res pdf of the final article or link to the website page after publication? Feel free to also send your draft text for review or fact checking before publication.