



The new Ocean Alexander 88 *Motoryacht*

NEW DESIGN, SAME STANDARDS

At the 2010 Miami boat show, Ocean Alexander will show a substantial new take on its 88' motoryacht. A fresh new layout for the spacious main deck salon area and slightly more contemporary décor combine with good ideas to maximize enjoyment and comfort. Story **Cecile Gauert** Photos (interior) **Shaw McCutcheon**



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The redesign created a convivial L-shaped salon with a more contemporary feel

Family-owned Alexander Marine, based in Kaoshiung, Taiwan launched in late 2008 the Ocean Alexander 88, a yacht developed in collaboration with Ed Monk, Jr. His design firm in Bainbridge, Wash., has been involved with the shipyard since 1978, so the yacht naturally shares family traits with other models in Ocean Alexander's motoryacht range (62' to 102'). Ocean Alexander has built its reputation with composite yachts (hulls are carbon-fiber infused and built with unidirectional fiber reinforcements) that are practical and sturdy and often conceived to be owner-operated. Their design pays close attention to access, monitoring and systems. Other guiding principles on the 88 include maximizing space, light and offering long-range cruising abilities with or without a crew—not that the comfort of a crew is an afterthought. The crew quarters, accessible through a watertight transom door from the teak swim platform, feature a good captain's cabin with double berth, a cabin with twin bunk beds, a small galley, washer and dryer and full-size shower, all nicely finished. These attractive crew quarters were already available on hull one.

Immediately noticeable changes on the 88 already on display in Fort Lauderdale, however, are larger, vertical portholes and substantially revised main-deck and lower-deck layouts. A few adjustments were made to the décor too. The sapele (or sapelli), a reddish brown African wood with an attractive grain prized by European fine furniture makers, which Ocean Alexander used for the veneer and cabinets, features a satin instead of the high-gloss finish on hull one. The more contemporary look, far from being minimalist, still exudes plenty of warmth. Offsetting the abundant wood is plenty of natural light coming through large windows in tempered "E-glass" (forming one slimming black stripe when seen from the outside) and large portholes on the lower deck. At night, 24V LED lights and attractive recessed lighting take over. For people who prefer the more classic high-gloss finish, the builder still offers

that option (for a supplement), as well as a choice of eight different kinds of granite and eight marbles for countertops in the bathrooms and the professional galley.

Ocean Alexander has made excellent use of the yacht's 22' beam. While wide side walkways secured with stainless steel elliptical handrails lead to the foredeck, equipped with a sunbathing pad, the salon is visually spacious. The new configuration, taking full advantage of the interior space, has created a convivial lounge area. Just past the salon's electric glass and stainless steel sliding doors, on the starboard side is a wet bar and a plush L-shaped sofa, facing a coffee table. Two armchairs are located on the other side, providing a nice option for face-to-face conversation but leaving plenty of space to walk through to the dining area, which accommodates eight guests comfortably. A built-in screen door allows leaving the salon doors open in good weather (while keeping potential airborne intruders out). A 52" TV and Crestron entertainment system puts videos and music at the guests' fingertips. A partition, just behind the main section of the sofa provides a clear division to the dining area, without columns obstructing the view. From here, a corridor, with an attractive wood sole, leads to the galley, upgraded on this hull with attractive granite flooring. Full-size appliances include a double-drawer dishwasher (for small and larger jobs), a high-end Gaggenau oven and cooktop, a Sub-Zero freezer and refrigerator and a GE trash compactor. A large pantry allows taking along ample supplies for long-range cruises. With a 3,000-gallon fuel capacity, this yacht can

The well-equipped galley caters to indoor and outdoor dining spaces; a barbecue grill expands the options



THE MORE CONTEMPORARY LOOK, FAR FROM BEING MINIMALIST, STILL EXUDES PLENTY OF WARMTH



go the distance. In order to preserve privacy, particularly if a chef is onboard, yet allow additional light to flow from the windshield (complementing a nice window located above the galley's double sink), the designers opted to leave space open over the partition that sets off a pleasant breakfast nook and a small desk with great views.

Stairs on the starboard side lead to the lower-deck accommodations. A spacious landing in granite with colorful inlay opens to the large VIP located a few steps up and forward, the full-beam amidships master stateroom with double-door entry and his and hers bathrooms (they share a shower with an impressive array of plumbing fixtures by Grohe), and another spacious guest cabin with double bed and private bathroom. The granite floors in the master and VIP bathrooms are heated, not a standard issue but certainly a very pleasant option. Hull one had a four-stateroom layout, including two double rooms, a cabin with twin berths and a full-beam master stateroom. A curvy hallway and beds positioned at an angle in two of the staterooms make this possible. Should you need the extra beds, that option remains available.

Stairs lead from the main deck to the attractive air-conditioned skylounge (the yacht also comes with an open flybridge). In this configuration, a raised settee and table is located behind the well-equipped and attractive helm station. The window behind the sofa opens to let in fresh air. Besides its functional nature, this deck is also a great spot to relax, with a wet bar and a wine cooler or refrigerator close at hand.

Steering wheels tend to be replaced these days, especially on larger yachts, with devices that may do the job just as well but lack some of the nautical charm. Not here. A beautiful sapele steering wheel is the focal point of the Ocean Alexander 88's console. Stidd helm and companion chairs upholstered in ultra leather face the complete instrument panel, which includes an optional Simrad AP28 autopilot system and easy-to-read 17" Ambient NAV Marine monitors encased in an attractively finished console. The aft deck, finished in a non-skid surface, is large enough to house a 14' tender and its crane. Stairs lead back to the cockpit, equipped with a table, wraparound sofa, barbecue grill and refrigerator, and then the swim platform. The air-conditioned engine room, accessed through the crew area, is designed with plenty of headroom, a non-skid surface and good accessibility. On this hull the engines are twin Caterpillar C32s coupled with NiBrAl Class S propellers. The Ocean Alexander 88 features an Octoplex monitoring system with touch screens, for checking tank and bilge levels and batteries, voltage, amperage and temperature. That is a lot of yacht in 90' but then again the shipyard has had ample experience with more than 2,000 boats built to date. This all bodes well for the first few models to soon emerge from the new megayacht series, designed by Evan K. Marshall, ranging in size from 115' to 145'. ●

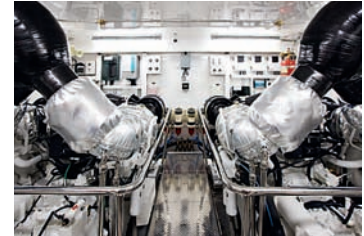
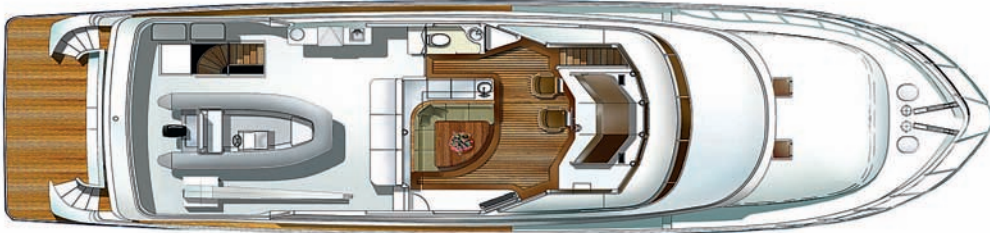
The three-stateroom layout features a full-beam master, a forward VIP and a guest cabin with large bed

Ocean Alexander 88 Motoryacht

LOA: 90'3" (27.51M)
 LENGTH WATERLINE: 76'3" (23.24M)
 BEAM: 22' (6.71M)
 DRAFT: 5'6" TO 6" (1.68M TO 1.83M)
 DISPLACEMENT (APPROX): 208,000 LBS.
 FUEL CAPACITY: 3,000 GALS (11,355L)
 WATER CAPACITY: 650 GALS (2,460L)
 ENGINES: 2 x 1,550 HP CATERPILLAR C32S
 TOP SPEED: 21 KNOTS

CRUISING SPEED: 11 KNOTS
 RANGE @ CRUISING SPEED: 1,571 NM
 STANDARD GENERATOR: 2 x NORTHERN LIGHTS 30KW

FOR MORE INFORMATION,
 VISIT OCEANALEXANDER.COM



The engine room has plenty of headroom and good accessibility



With windows that open aft, the skylounge is a versatile and pleasant space



A BEAUTIFUL SAPELE STEERING WHEEL IS THE FOCAL POINT OF THE OCEAN ALEXANDER 88'S CONSOLE