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AN EVOLUTIONARY TALE

Horizon's new E75 is all about improved livability.

Words - Doug Thompson

Photography - Jim Raycroft



A couple's impromptu waltz on the upper aft deck of Horizon's E75 motor yacht showed off a great use of space. Without a tender stowed up here, the area is wide open, and a set of admiring friends enjoyed the show from the air-conditioned, enclosed skylounge. After a few dips and twirls the moment ran out, and the dancers and their audience continued their tour of the E75 at the Fort Lauderdale boat show last November.

Indeed, it would have been fitting if they danced their way through the flowing layout of the yacht, flitting through the abundant spaces as if in a maritime musical. "Openness" is a central theme of the E75 designed by Horizon's in-house design team headed by Austin Lin, with large windows and few structural impediments to block the views fore, aft and outward.

"Austin is all about flow and making guests feel a part of the yacht," explains Roger Sowerbutts, director of Horizon Yachts USA. "We have a five-axis router at the yard in Kaohsiung, Taiwan; it's ninety feet long by thirty feet wide and can tool large sections in perfect symmetry with all the creative curves and lines that exemplify the Horizon personality, all while reducing waste and manufacturing times."

The E75 (with a 77-foot, six-inch LOA) follows the curvy lines of the larger E88. It is an evolution of Horizon's popular E73 model and is to some eyes a little more modern in profile. While the E73 remains an integral part of Horizon's lineup, the E75 offers a bit more space – three-and-a-half feet in the main salon and a bigger aft deck – and a few variations in layout that were not available on the smaller model.

"The E73 can accommodate three staterooms and three heads, but the third stateroom is a bunk," Sowerbutts says. "The extra room in the E75 allows us to have side-by-side twin beds in this cabin. The retooling also allowed for the foredeck seating area on the bow (including a table, lounge and large sunpad), which we could not do on the E73."

Those twin beds can be joined together to create a double. There is also an en suite VIP cabin in the bow with a queen bed, and the amidships master cabin features a king-size bed on the centerline with the en suite bathroom aft. Throughout the yacht, the eminently livable décor relies on





The enclosed bridge has a lounge area with a television and a dayhead. Below: The master is full beam and includes a large en suite, vanity, settee and walk-in closet.



The salon (above) is aft of the country kitchen that extends to a dining table under the forward windows (right). The design offers an abundance of storage, including two refrigerators and a trash compactor.



light-toned horizontal grained anigre joinery, set off with darker walnut accents. There is a nautical feel with neutral fabrics complemented by blue hues.

In Hull No. 2, the E75's enclosed skylounge version, a port-side staircase leads from the main salon to a good-space air-conditioned space, where twin Stidd helm chairs overlook a huge dash with controls for Caterpillar engines, Garmin electronics, ABT-TRAC stabilizers and Maxwell windlass. The area also includes an L-shaped lounge around a coffee table and a flat-screen TV. A dayhead is located in the port aft corner, and sliding glass doors lead to that spacious aft deck, which has a barbecue and three-stool sit-down bar. There's also access to the main aft deck below via an outside port staircase.

"This upper aft deck is plumbed for a davit and there's plenty of storage for a tender," Sowerbutts says. "The boat deck bar and grill have protection from the overhang off the skylounge, when you want to be outdoors and out of the air-conditioning," a feature he credits to dealer and client feedback.

Guests will likely spend plenty of outdoor time on the wide swim platform, which drops hydraulically three feet into the water for easy sea entry. The platform has a 1,500-pound capacity and is perfect for a tender. In the center of the transom is access to the two-person crew quarters and engine room. Crew can also enter their quarters through

a hatch in the aft deck sole when the weather is poor.

Horizon's FRP construction techniques are constantly being refined, and all hulls including the E75 are 3D resin-infused using vacuum-assisted resin transfer molding (VARTM). This means the stringers and hull can be done in one shot creating an incredibly strong hull form with excellent resin-to-mat ratios that are verified for integrity using non-destructive testing, such as lock-in thermography and ultrasound.

Horizon varies the hull coring and layup where needed to improve harmonics and reduce noise transference. As part of the extensive sea trials prior to delivery, full computer analysis testing throughout the yacht verifies that everything is operating optimally.

Powered by twin 1,600-hp Caterpillar C32A engines, the E75 runs to a top speed of 26 knots. It displaces 62.6 tons and carries 1,720 gallons of fuel, and by backing down to a slow cruise, it has a range of 800 to 900 nautical miles.

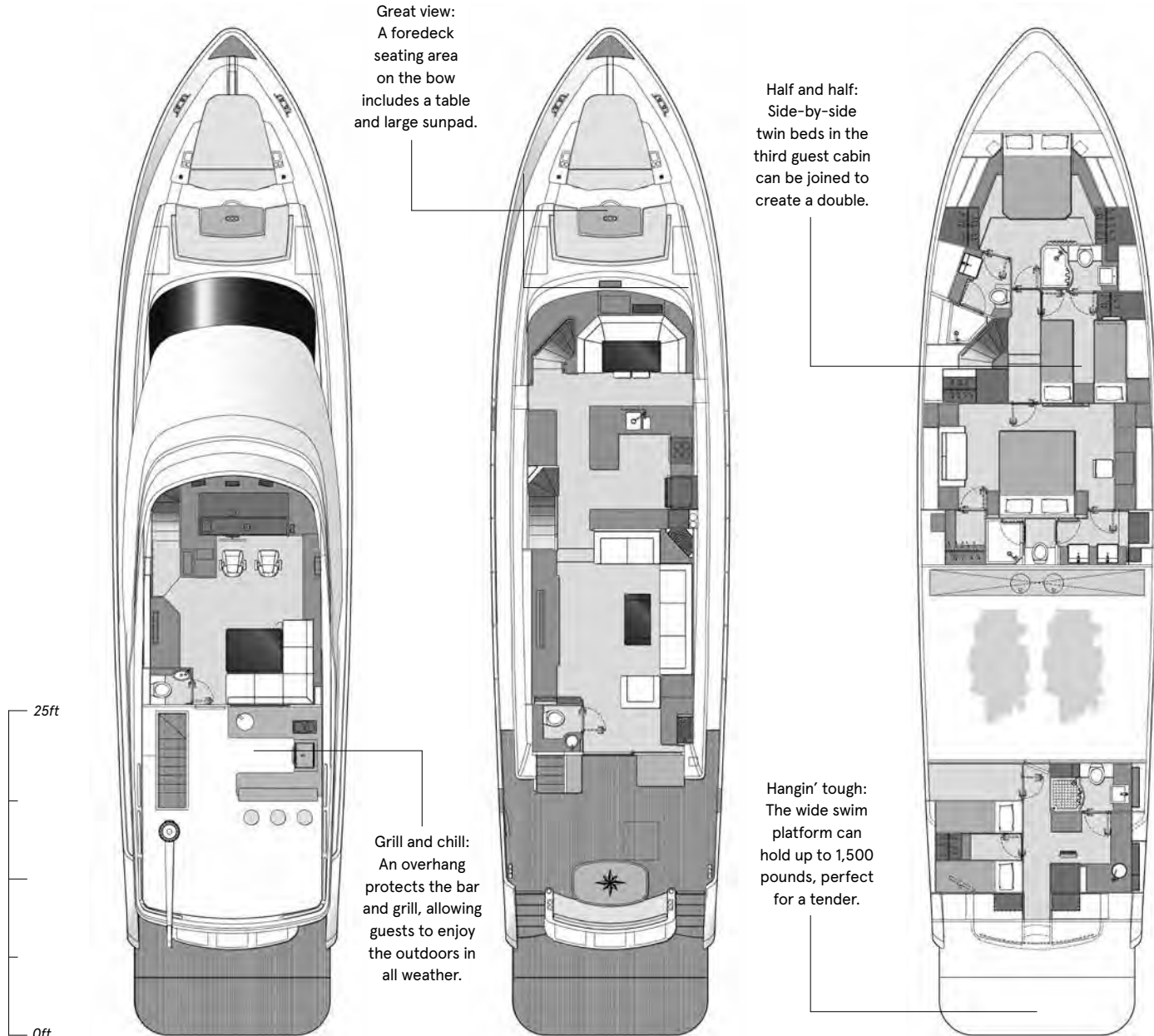
"Because it's right on the edge of being owner operated or having a captain and crew, it's hard to describe the typical buyer," Sowerbutts says. "We have buyers moving up in size, moving down and those just getting into yachting in general. Because of our flexibility, we ask that buyers give us a wish list, and we will provide a selection of drawings that try and tick as many boxes as possible to suit their ideal lifestyle." ■

Horizon E75 – Horizon Yachts

Bridge deck

Main deck

Lower deck



LOA: 77' 6" (23.6m)
LWL: 63' 7" (19.2m)
Beam: 18' 6" (5.6m)
Draft: 5' 9" (1.8m)
Displacement: 62.6 tons
Power: 2 x 1,600-hp Caterpillar C32A
Speed (max/cruise): 26/22 knots

Range: 800 nm @ 9-10 knots
Generators: 2 x 29kW Onan
Fuel capacity:
 1,720 U.S. gallons
Freshwater capacity:
 400 U.S. gallons
Owner and guests: 6

Crew: 2
Construction: FRP
Naval architecture: Horizon
Exterior styling: John Lindblohm/
 Horizon
Interior design: Austin Lin/Horizon
 design team

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