



# SPACE MATTERS

The Lila-Lou design studio recently revealed renderings for a new 33-metre motor catamaran: the Curvelle 33X9. The yacht's distinguishing features include flexibility, efficient cruising and—as revealed in this image—abundant space provided by a nine-metre beam.

Curvelle was set up in 2004 to create a team of naval architects and specialist cat designers and exhibited at the Abu Dhabi World Energy Summit in 2009 with designs for a part-solar, part-diesel powered superyacht.

"Over the last decade, there's been a real buzz in commercial markets about the benefits of catamarans over monohulls", says the Curvelle website. "For very good reasons. Catamarans are simply more efficient and far more stable. Our yachts cruise equally well at speeds between 10 and 25 knots and, because of their highly efficient hull design, use far less engine power and fuel. And with about 50% more space to play with than a comparable monohull." The yachts are designed by naval architects Incat Crowther in Sydney and built by Cheoy Lee, the ISO-certified shipyard in China.

The difference is that these yachts are designed for both private and fractional ownership. Owners can buy one or more eighth shares to enjoy all the pleasures of a superyacht at a fraction of the commitment. A management company services and crews the yacht on your behalf and you share in the running costs. The plan guarantees three weeks of summer cruising in the Med and two in the Caribbean winter season every year and the option to charter when the yacht is not in use.

Curvelle Director, Luuk V. van Zanten has been working directly with Lila-Lou partner, Alexander Isaac. "We have exceptional space in the 33X9 due to its catamaran design", Van Zanten commented. "The nine-metre beam offered our designers the freedom to develop something really special for our customers. The yacht already provides huge space advantages over an equivalent length monohull, so we have given the interior design that something special in quality, flexibility and styling."

"A contract has been signed with the Cheoy Lee yard", says Alexander Isaac, "and building is due to start in October with an anticipated construction time of 13 months. I would say the flexibility of the guest accommodation is the standout feature: six guest cabins—either double or twins or a combination thereof—can be converted into three suites with sitting rooms, or a combination of any of those arrangements." Lila-Lou has been commissioned to develop three further projects for the Curvelle brand, including a 43-metre catamaran and a 25-metre solar yacht.