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NOVEMBER 2024

# Yachting World

## ALONE VOCEAN

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## NEW YACHTS



Alberto Cocchi

# Grand Soleil 52P

Matteo Polli continues to collaborate beautifully with his fellow Italian style masters at Nauta Design to create a standout Grand Soleil lineup. This 52 is positioned between the fast cruisers of the larger range and the cruiser-racers of the smaller models, giving benefits of both, he says – a comfortable fast cruiser that can be raced.

Nauta's co-founder Massimo Gino considers this the best looking deck of the range yet, and together with Polli, he gave me a tour of this first yacht at its Cannes premiere. This was particularly interesting as I heard both points of view – including how they negotiate over space and best positioning of the mast for example.

"I had to fight for every millimetre with Matteo for bed space in the forward cabin," says Gino with a smile. "It has the soul of a performance line, which means less compromise on my calls," a grateful Polli counters.

The 52P (Performance – so a sleek, not raised coachroof) has a whopping 5.15m beam in a modern attractive shape. "If you keep the waterline narrow and the beam wide then you get the best compromise," reckons Polli, referring to performance, interior volume and stability – a hull shape with lots of form stability negates the need to carry too much lead.

Either four or six winches are available with jib

tracks for overlapping or self-tacking headsails. This first example has an optional longer bowsprit and traveller, in a mix between performance and easy sailing, and it also has an in-boom furler.

The grey oak Alpi interior may be a little neutral for some, it perhaps lacks some ventilation and the forward ensuite is a tad compact. But it's designed to perform. The build includes strict attention to the designed weight (16.5 tonnes light) with foam-cored panels and full ply structural bulkheads.

The mast base is as far aft as it could be. A practical solution to this in the saloon is to have an inboard bench which slides forward to sit at the table yet still provides access past the mast base. Tanks are below the saloon sole, closest to the centre of gravity, so they don't change the trim of the boat depending on the amount of liquid carried.

This is a three-cabin, three-heads yacht as standard, the only option being a split berth in one of the aft cabins.

Price: €689,000 ex VAT. [grandsoleil.net](http://grandsoleil.net)



Alberto Cocchi

**Above: wide beam obvious from the stern view.**  
**Left: interior feels spacious with low cabinets and plenty of natural light**



Alberto Cocchi

## COMING UP

There was a flurry of big new announcements at Cannes of models to come. We will be following up on these in more detail next issue. They include:



**First 30** A planing cruiser for €100,000? The Beneteau Groupe is rightly buzzing with excitement over this slippery Sam Manuard design. Full scoop next month.



**Fountaine Pajot 41 FP**'s new entry level model is the first of a completely new range, which has already had two years in development.



**Dufour 48** A replacement for the popular 470 during the French yard's 60th anniversary.



Tui Marine

**Leopard 46** A significant replacement for the 45, of which the South African yard has launched over 400 examples.

**ORC 52.2** ORC has worked with designer Franck Darnet to modify and fine tune the super fast 50.

**Outremer 48** The eagerly awaited smaller sister to the award-winning 55 and 52 will be built in Outremer's ORC yard in Lorient.

**Lagoon 82** The biggest Lagoon ever? Stand by!