

## SILENT 60 SOLAR ELECTRIC CATAMARAN WITH KITE WING IS NEW STEP FOR GREEN YACHTS



- The SILENT 60 carries 42 solar panels for 17 kWp of solar energy
- The first SILENT 60 is also fitted with a compact 9-sqm kite wing
- Zero emission cruising for up to 100 nautical miles per day

The new SILENT 60 solar powered catamaran carries 42 solar panels for 17 kWp of solar energy to power two electric motors of 200 kW each. Backed up by a battery capacity of 286 kWh, the yacht can cruise efficiently with zero emissions for up to 100 nautical miles a day for weeks on end.

To further improve its green credentials, for longer crossings the first SILENT 60 is also fitted with a compact 9-sqm kite wing from Wingit, a small Dresden-based company set up by kite surfing enthusiast **Stephan Schröder**. After starting out with kites for smaller sports boats, Wingit began receiving requests for similar systems with automated controls for larger yachts. The concept attracted the attention of **Michael Köhler**, founder and CEO of SILENT YACHTS, and the kite wing is now an option on all the SILENT models.

A dedicated storage locker under the foredeck houses the kite wing and all its components, including an electric winch and a short, collapsible mast. On the first unit the mast is connected by four shrouds to pad eyes on the deck that distribute the forces through the hull structure, but on subsequent deliveries (8 units with the kite wing option have been ordered to date) the mast will be mounted on a baseplate inside the locker to leave the foredeck clutter-free.

After inflating the kite, it is released overboard



to drift away on the surface of the water. Pulling on the lines launches it into the air and once it reaches the optimal flight height, it begins to trace a figure "8" in the sky and generate power to pull the yacht.

Reversing the process brings the kite down. The automated app controls move the kite to a position right above the boat where it has the least pull on the line. From here it can easily be winched down and collapsed over the foredeck ready for stowage.

"The main advantages of a kite wing over a conventional sail system is that it does not need a tall mast, flies much higher in the sky where there's more wind, and generates up to 10 times more power per square metre than a traditional sail," says Schröder. "It makes even more sense for the SILENT boats that run on renewable solar energy because the power generated by a kite easily exceeds the energy consumption of the system, so you can charge the batteries while cruising under kite power. And besides that, it's great fun!"

### Flexible Layout

The first SILENT 60 has four guest cabins on the lower deck, including a spacious master suite, but other layout solutions are available. There are numerous social areas on board, including an airy main salon, an aft cockpit, a cosy bow area and a flybridge. The yacht also has high headroom throughout (up to 2.3m in the main salon).

Thanks to a draft of under 1m the yacht can access shallow bays, a crucial consideration for cruising grounds in the Caribbean and South East Asia. Two swimming platforms in the stern

can be extended on owner's request to carry a pair of electric jet skis. The lifting hydraulic platform between the two platforms can also be enlarged to carry a 4m tender.

### Efficient Technology

The SILENT 60 is equipped with the company's aeration system, which provides cool and fresh air to all the interior guest spaces and can be individually adjusted to suit conditions. In addition, a reverse-cycle heat-pump system heats the interior for all-season comfort. The insulated hull ensures that stable on-board temperatures can be achieved without excessive energy consumption.

A watermaker powered by the solar-electric system produces enough water to supply a full complement of guests. All on board appliances operate on the 220/110-volt system. The galley has good refrigerator and freezer space and an efficient induction cooker that precludes the need for carrying propane gas.

### Oceanic Range

The SILENT 60 is designed to go everywhere as a true bluewater cruising yacht. The solar-electric system is configured to power all on the on-board systems without the need of fossil for a generator. Featuring a new, high-performance hull form with a longer waterline and reverse bow, the yacht has a cruising speed of 6-8 knots, but can reach 20 knots if needed.

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