

SILENT 64 THE FIRST SOLAR-POWERED SERIES YACHT TO CROSS THE ATLANTIC



Nowadays, crossing the Atlantic is no longer something special, considering the number of recreational boats that do so every year, but this ocean crossing was an absolute novelty, as the Silent 64 is the first mass-produced solar yacht in the world to cross the Atlantic Ocean powered mainly by the energy of the sun.

On February 2020, the Silent 64 set off from Cartagena in Spain headed to Barbados, stopping at the Canary Islands and Cabo Verde on the way. The 5,500-nautical-mile journey lasted 34 days, during which the Silent 64 was powered mainly by the energy of the sun. When the sun was shining, the solar panels generated enough energy to allow the Silent 64 to sail silently day and night and for the

crew of four to use the washing machine, the microwave, and other appliances on board.

However, due to a week of rain and cloudy sky, during which the Silent 64 had to face 30 to 40 knots of wind and 8 to 10 metre waves, the crew had to use the generator, but even on those days of adverse weather conditions, they only had to start the generator a few times at night, with a 1,300-litre consumption throughout the whole voyage.

The Silent 64 was equipped with two electric 40kW engines, 170kWh lithium-ion batteries, 22kW generator, and a 1,200-litre fuel tank. The safety equipment included a tracker and satellite phone, an EPIRB (a radio rescue

beacon to locate in case of emergency) and a deep-sea pharmacy. There were also 400 additional litres of diesel for the generator and a full range of spare parts.

The Silent 64 now has a successor, the cutting-edge Silent 60 that, as all the models of this innovative Austrian shipyard, is CE category A certified and can cross the Atlantic Ocean. An essential feature for all those boating enthusiasts who wish to own one of these technological marvels that allow to enjoy the marine environment without living a footprint.

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OYSTER YACHTS – THE FINEST BLUE WATER SAIL BOATS

It was such a pleasure to be back at the Palma International Boat Show 2021 and even nicer to be able to catch up properly with our friends at Oyster Yachts. It was great to hear the updates of all that is going on and to learn that the company is going from strength to strength, despite the difficulty of the global pandemic.

The order books are full of each and every model, they are recruiting like crazy in order to fulfil these orders in record time, and the feeling on the shipyard floor is one of excitement and optimism.

Brokerage of the yachts already in existence is also thriving, and as we sit down and chat a new couple are taking ownership of their yacht, and are talking excitedly with the boats previous owners as they explain the joys and adventures they had on board. There was a note of sadness as they handed over the mantle, but also of happiness as they saw that the boat was going to be in the good hands of the next generation of owners.



And talking of adventures, the Oyster World Rally is ramping up to be one of the most epic yet, with the event team excitedly creating the sailing trip of a lifetime. So popular is the event that there is already a waiting list for the 2022 race and even more impressively for the 2024 event. Talks are still happening about the possibility of a Mediterranean version, but for

the moment the team have their hands full creating the most epic journey.

The future is certainly bright for a great company made even greater by its dedicated and caring team. The Oyster family is tight knit and full of spirit.