

# BOATING

ASIA  
PACIFIC

## FEATURES

THE FUTURE OF ZERO-EMISSIONS YACHTING | THE SUCCESS OF THE SEYCHELLES | PAUL WATSON AND THE SEA SHEPHERD SOCIETY

## YACHTS

OCEANEXPLORER | SANLORENZO SK112 | BALTIC YACHTS' CANOVA | FERRETTI YACHTS 500 | OCEAN ALEXANDER 45 DIVERGENCE | SILVER YACHTS' BOLD | ARCADIA YACHTS SHEPPA XL

POLLUTION  
FREE AND  
SCIENCE  
FOCUSED:  
**THE FUTURE  
SHAPE OF  
YACHTING?**





# THE EXTRAORDINARY

For those ready to return to Asia's unmatched beach retreats or even try yachting for the first time, a selection of luxury resorts offer charter on their own vessels. Here are eight of the best private yacht experiences currently available in Asia-Pacific, from the Maldives to Malaysia

STORY BY ANNA CUMMINS

The vaccines are coming quickly in developed countries, and luxury tourism is expected to be among the first sectors to rebound. Travellers are increasingly interested in holidays that offer the 'bubble' afforded by the private, controlled environment of a luxury resort and a yacht.

The Tourism Authority of Thailand has announced that as of July 1, Phuket is the first destination in Thailand to reopen to vaccinated international visitors without quarantine.

The Maldives kept its borders open to tourists of all nationalities for much of 2020 and has been one of the few travel success stories of the pandemic. The Seychelles is rapidly vaccinating its small population and is also opening for tourists.

Thanks to spacious suites and villas, private pools and easy access by personal yacht or seaplane, the more luxurious destinations are more likely to offer guests true door-to-door seclusion: a precious commodity in the wake of the pandemic.

While many high-end resorts in Asia can help arrange a third-party yacht charter, a select number offer a dedicated yacht for in-house charter, which is operated to the hotel's standards. It is a great way to try yachting for the first time.

Here are some of the newest, most luxurious, and most exciting resort-based yacht experiences currently on offer across the Asia-Pacific.

### 3 SONEVA FUSHI: SONEVA IN AQUA

The 23-metre motorsailer *Soneva in Aqua* is a decadent floating villa that sails between Soneva's two resorts in the Maldives. The crew includes a captain, chef, a barefoot butler and wellness therapist, plus an astronomer and divermaster on request.

*Soneva in Aqua* has two cabins accommodating four adults and two children. The main cabin ensuite features an extraordinary glass-bottomed spa tub, which is only rivalled by the outdoor jacuzzi on the main deck.

*Soneva in Aqua* generally cruises in the remote Baa Atoll, which supports one of the largest coral groups in the Indian Ocean and is a Unesco Biosphere Reserve.

The overwater villas at five-star Soneva's resorts are the perfect start and endpoint for your yacht journey. They include outdoor bathtubs, glass floor panels, a waterslide and a retractable roof for stargazing.

In March 2021, Soneva launched a post-Covid collaboration with charter specialists Alexa Private Cruises, offering guests curated itineraries lasting 10, 14, or 21 days, spread across land and sea. Guests can split their time between *Soneva in Aqua* and *Alexa J*, a 38-metre schooner with a crew of six and just one VIP master cabin for two.

[soneva.com](http://soneva.com)

