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shared to all parties in the form of updated electronic plan files. Royal Huisman also made a full-scale deck mock-up that could be tilted to simulate heel for approving handhold placement and to allow the crew to check sight lines at all angles. It enabled the owners' team to decide, for instance, that they didn't need a removable bimini and to refine the fixed bimini's supports instead.

With Nauta and Reichel/Pugh having defined target weights for the interior, during construction every element was weighed going into the boat and all debris was weighed coming off. To stay within the interior weight budget, Royal Huisman made extensive sound attenuation studies and developed sophisticated composite panels in cork, foam and honeycomb. It made cabin mock-ups demonstrating three levels of sound insulation and allowed the owners to choose the level of quiet they wanted to pursue.

Nilaya, the largest sailing yacht yet by Nauta Design, features two guest cabins, a galley, a crew mess, chart table, an engineer's station and four double crew cabins aft of the main saloon, plus a media lounge, VIP guest cabin and owners' full-beam suite forward. The owners' designer, May Vervoordt, chose interior materials and, with Nauta, conceived a bright colour scheme against white lacquered walls and bronze-coloured fabric and

leather overhead panels. Mahogany furniture, flooring and ceiling frames give classic warmth and a homely quality, especially to the deck saloon. *Nilaya*, after all, means "peaceful abode" in Sanskrit.

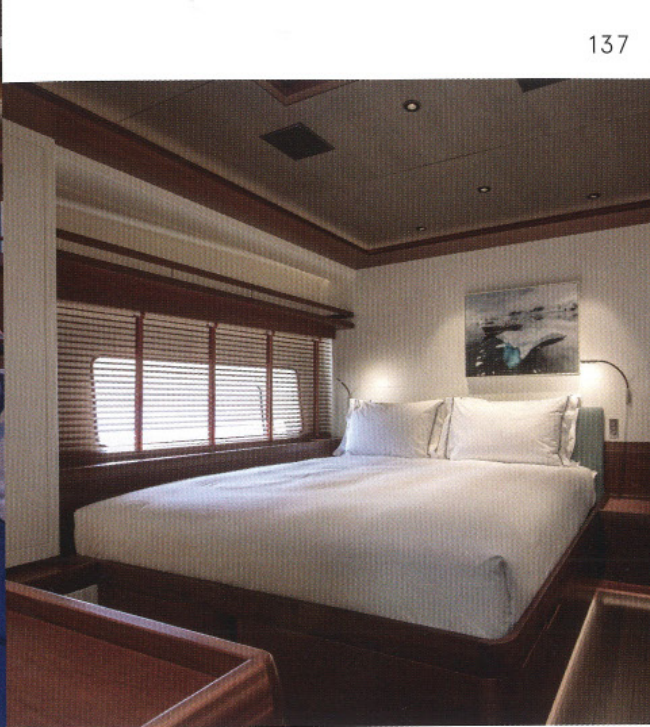
Nauta's experience with racing boats means that everything has its place – and in most cases, that is out of sight. Case in point, the deck saloon has an owners' pantry where guests can avail themselves of coffee, drinks and snacks but they wouldn't know it was there if it wasn't pointed out.

The full-width owner's suite features a walk-in wardrobe, an office and sitting area and a king-sized bed. Large hull windows bathe the room in natural light. The cabin was a design challenge as it lies beneath the tender bay, but the overhead decorative treatment balances the tender bay's central dip with higher side passages, giving an excellent perspective on the cabin's impressive width.

The VIP, which can be arranged as twin berths or a double is to port, opposite a cosy TV lounge six steps lower than the deck saloon. The identical en suite guest cabins aft of the saloon convert into doubles and are both equipped with additional Pullmans, meaning up to eight guests can accompany the owners.

Mindful of the mission to cruise as well as race, Nauta Design developed three distinct outdoor guest areas in

Mahogany joinery lends a classic and homely touch to the interiors. It is contrasted with white lacquered panels with a groove detail, for an overall fresh feeling below decks. Above: the main saloon, with its nearly 360 degrees of windows, leads down to a cosy TV lounge



One of the yacht's three desks is tucked into the corner of the TV lounge (above left). All three are placed under windows for copious natural light and views.

Above right: the guest cabins all convert from twins to doubles. Below and left: the owner's suite forward includes a full-width cabin and generous en suite

