

# Exploration Hardware



Photo courtesy of Moonen Shipyards

## Expert Design

*With stylish and breathtaking aesthetics or inconspicuous low-profile exteriors, explorer design options range widely but always require specialised guidance throughout the entire project, which is highly depended on design and pre-construction preparation. The experienced and award-winning Marimecs team takes special pride in designing yachts for adventurous explorer yacht owners.*



Marimecs is a no nonsense company, with a practical approach based on years of experience. Apart from new purpose-built explorer yachts, commercial vessels are often converted into explorer yachts. Marimecs regularly plays a unique role in both types of projects, thanks to wide-ranging experience in both practical and profitable commercial workboats and luxurious stylish superyachts, and extensive experience in refit design and engineering. This, combined with the team's true love for stylish yachts with an adventurous edge, makes for highly enjoyable projects, during which they combine varied demands and desires into an optimally satisfying explorer.

### *Experienced Yachtsmen*

Every type of superyacht requires its own approach. Explorer yachts are no exception, in particular with regard to both cruising behaviour and the use of interior spaces – for instance because of all the toys and tenders they are likely to carry, and the very specific wishes from usually highly experienced yachtsmen. Explorers are yachts which can be large, but they will often have an easily manageable size, which increases flexibility of the travel schedule, and appeals to owners who are closely involved in navigating themselves.

The concept can be executed in head-turning modern designs, but is extremely suitable for owners who prefer a low profile for their yacht too. Explorer yacht owners often have a particular interest in the world's geography and natural environment, and appreciate a robust and sporty appearance. Because of this appreciation for the outdoor environment, these clients generally have a prime focus on the incorporation of green aspects into their yacht. Whilst realising that their yachting activities will never be completely 'green', they make it a prime goal to minimise their footprint.

### *Well-Based Advice*

It is the designers' task to work out exactly what the client wishes to do with the yacht, and to accomplish those wishes by making, and advising, the right choices. Willem Stolk explains: "A new yacht design will always ask for the necessary compromises. Importantly, it is the designer's task to clarify the different options available, within the compromise that any new design is, and to advise the client about the best options with the greatest care. For this exact reason, mutual trust and confidence, and an overall good relationship with the client are indispensable for reaching an optimum result."

Willem Stolk stresses that it is crucial to spend sufficient time on the pre-design stage, to ensure ample evaluation of the options and the absolute best result for the client in terms of wishes and demands, and – not to be underestimated – budget.

### *Crucial Pre-Design*

In addition, Willem Stolk has experienced all too often, that a yacht is designed with much emphasis on the exterior in the beginning phase, whilst the interior and technical requirements are actually equally important to ensure a satisfactory end-product. The technical and electronic side of things for instance, is not directly interesting to an owner but when it does not function correctly, can be of great disturbance whilst cruising. Furthermore, focus on minimising maintenance and running costs should be equally important in yacht design, as it is in commercial ship design. Marimecs is active in both fields and handles this aspect with the same care in both industries: “This issue too, should always be a vital aspect of the pre-design phase.” Rules and regulations are crucial aspects in this phase too, as are meticulous weight calculations and a focus on achieving the desired range (especially for explorer yachts), and ample storage room and interior living space. All in all, taking sufficient time for the pre-design stage prevents the need for costly alterations or sacrifices to the initial design.

### *Green Features*

“Not everything that is referred to as ‘green’ really is, particularly not under all circumstances. Choices to be made on this matter depend on aspects such as the exact use of the yacht and the cruising areas. That is why for instance, it is a good idea to research and calculate a number of options; for example a conventional diesel, hybrid solution, and a complete diesel electric system. Based on these efforts, it is possible to provide optimal advice to the future owner”, Willem Stolk says. Propulsion however is only one aspect of an environmentally-friendly design. A second key issue is an efficient hull design. This is one of Marimec’s definite quality-skills and a science in which the company has achieved many successes over the years, often in close

cooperation with John Jansen Design. A number of these designs have been honoured with prestigious awards – in great part for their seagoing behaviour.

Examples of other influential issues, that require the same thorough research, include isolation, glass, HVAC, waste control, electrical installations, maintenance requirements and paint systems. For instance, Marimecs includes the highly innovative and durable Ecospeed coatings in green specifications. Green alternatives are endless and go all the way up to pre-determining favourable disposal and recycling options, with regard to the end of the yacht’s life.

### *Bluewater Explorer*

Marimecs completed the design for a relatively small, ideal, explorer yacht – the 35m Bluewater Explorer. A comfortable long range cruiser with diesel-electric propulsion and ice reinforcement, the yacht is of course completely optimised for remote exploration. It is a robust yacht, with a generous amount of interior space, not only in terms of accommodation but also with regard to living space. It offers comfortable and safe seagoing behaviour and features simple but thoroughly thought-through systems and equipment, which increase safety and reduce running cost. These will exclude excess and over-the-top luxury systems that are not crucial to the owner, to ensure an attractive cost price. It will be relatively simple to construct, further resulting in an economical purchase price. In addition to all this, an important factor in the design was to integrate a distinctive style and look, whilst simultaneously matching the robust feel the targeted owner usually has in mind for an explorer yacht. As Willem Stolk puts it: “A lot of yacht for a reasonable construction price.”

### *Made for Living*

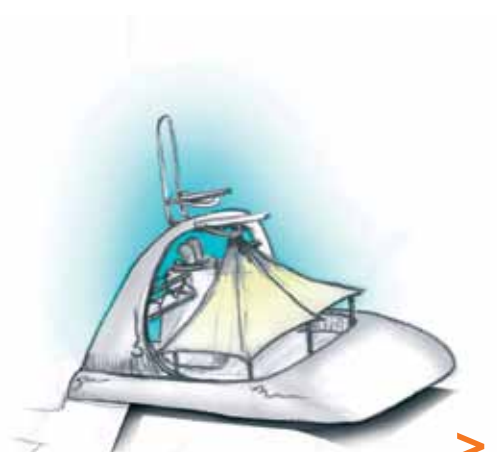
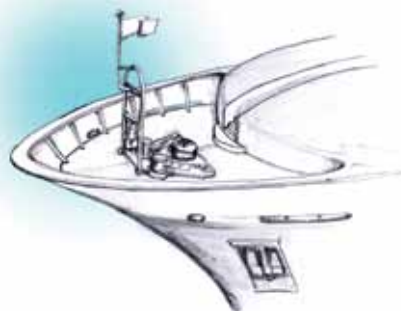
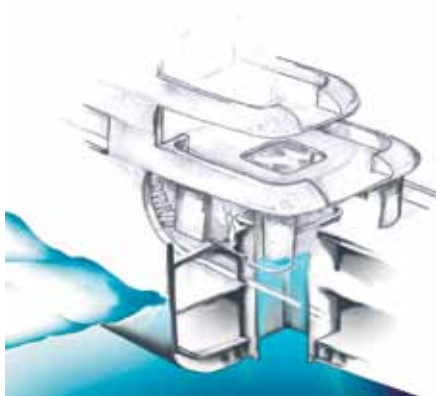
The aft main deck accommodates toys and tenders, eliminating the need for a costly tender garage and complicated launching equipment. The starboard side of the yacht accommodates a lobby, which provides entrance to the main deck’s salon. Thanks to the yacht’s wide body, the full beam salon with dining area is spacious, befitting a luxury yacht. The forward part of the main deck offers




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*“Award-winning hull designs”*

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Blue Water Explorer Yachts



a separate owner's area, which offers the same 'complete private retreat' other luxurious cruising yachts do. The fore ship of the lower deck houses an extremely spacious crew area for four, whilst the stern offers an extra crew cabin on starboard, and much extra storage (for instance for diving equipment) on port. The lower deck also houses a full-beam VIP cabin and two more guest cabins. The bridge deck offers a large bridge with comfortable lounge corner, which due to explorer characteristics, is very much a part of the yacht's living space. The salon aft of the bridge is another comfortable place to reside, with impressive views outside and easy direct access to the bridge or spacious aft deck. The sundeck is dedicated to alfresco-living and sunbathing. It includes a spa pool surrounded by generous sunpads, a bar and more comfortable lounging options. Naturally, alternative arrangements and options such as a folding balcony are available as per owner's request.

Wide Range

The Bluewater Explorer is only one example of Marimecs' range of 'exploration hardware'. Another impressive project is the 60m diving mother ship, complete with submarines and moonpool. Another project, the '100 ft Explorer', is a much more classic explorer design. In addition, Marimecs has prepared a number of 'supplier vessel'-based designs, with bridge on the bow area and a spacious deck area behind. With all the developments Marimecs experiences, including more modern exterior lines, increasing and more stringent regulation, cruising areas only for thus classified yachts, and the increasing freedom an explorer-type yacht can give owners, the future for explorer yachts looks bright.

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Facts & Figures - Bluewater Explorer

Principal Particulars

Length o.a.	35.00 m
Length w.l.	33.50 m
Beam moulded	8.46 m
Displacement full load	298 t
Displacement half load	272 t
Gross tonnage	<350 t

Tank Capacity

Fuel	45 m <sup>3</sup>
Fresh water	10 m <sup>3</sup>
Black/grey water	4 m <sup>3</sup>

Propulsion

Engines	2x Caterpillar C18, 500 kW at 2,100 rpm (alternative: full diesel-electric with pods / hybrid low speed)
Stabilisers	Zero-speed fins (alternative: Seakeeper Gyro stabilisation)

Classification

Lloyd's Register, SSC / MCA-LY2, Ice reinforced

