



THE PUFFIN PEDIGREE

An oceanbird goes sailing

In 1990, Olivier van Meer set a course that would lead him on a series of adventures: He began designing a sailing yacht. And while this may not be unusual for someone born on a 22-metre schooner, Van Meer was prompted not by a customer but by his own taste and imagination based on years of exploring the coasts of England, Scotland, Ireland, Scandinavia and New England. The name of the yacht? Puffin.

The adventure continues today. Puffins are as strong, speedy and lovable as the dapper ocean birds after which they are named. Today, they come in ten different sizes and a rich choice of hull materials, keel versions and finishes. Thanks to constant updates to their engineering, based

on the experiences of a worldwide client base, Puffins remain far ahead of the pack in their total concept. The price/quality ratio reflects the state of the art in detailing and custom construction. Exclusively built and sold by Puffin Yachts in Enkhuizen, the Netherlands, under the designer's





constant personal supervision, the Puffin range is set to remain the Rolls Royce of sailing cutters for a long time to come.

Cutters and ocean sailing

The brand's origin lies in the many evenings Van Meer spent drawing and designing, working with the shapes and lines of the cutter yachts of Europe and the USA. Crucial to the cutter look is the craft's primary purpose and function. Its deep cross-section makes for great load carrying under sail. With their trademark bowsprits, cutters ooze pragmatism and common sense, seaworthiness and ease of handling. Their beauty lies in their explicit functionality.

Olivier van Meer, master of grand designs

"I was born on a 90-foot traditional sailing schooner in 1964 and spent my childhood sailing the European coasts," says the owner and founder of the company which carries his name, Olivier van Meer. The firm works with the same specialists as when it was founded 28 years ago, and has since undertaken over seven hundred design, conversion and refit projects. Based in Wijdenes, the Netherlands, Olivier van Meer combines practical shipbuilding know-how with modern design skills, and approximately 120,000 nautical miles of experience in Olivier's wake alone.

"These projects focus on vessels ranging from eight to 150 metres in length, including both sailing yachts, power craft and professional commercial projects," he explains. "A signature of our company is that we can produce all of the elements necessary for the vessel construction in-house – design, naval architecture, construction, technical engineering, workshop drawings, and computer numerical control & computer measuring machine information for the hull and interior building. The advantage of this approach is that only three parties are involved in the building process – owner, architect and shipyard – which allows for fast and efficient work."

"As a company, we focus on what we are good at, which is specifically one-off motor and sailing yachts, as well as one-off special professional craft like expedition, sail training and passenger vessels," Van Meer continues. "Some of our most well-known brands are the Puffin® and Zaca® sailing yachts." By concentrating on its core expertise, Olivier van Meer continues to achieve high levels of quality and enhance its reputation with each project.

But Van Meer was convinced that this picture could be improved, and brought his own sailing experience into the distinct cutter look. This generated an eye-catching craft of elegant, flowing lines and peerless seaworthiness. Puffins offer a substantial deck saloon, broad deck spaces and quality finishing.





PUFFIN YACHTS

A yard that serves with passion.

Puffin Yachts is an internationally oriented yachtbuilding company that constantly invests in the future. This philosophy attracts the right experts and ensures the availability of modern production equipment and tools. Against this background, the company deploys its own production lines and facilities where qualified craftsmen work in a professional environment. They offer an exceptionally wide range of services for new builds, refits, repairs and restorations. The yard covers the entire process from the first draft until the launch. In addition to its unique brand, Puffin Yachts specialises in servicing all types of boat up to 85 metres in length.

Dozens of yachts pass through the yard every year, where work ranges from small repairs to large restorations or full refits, always in close cooperation with the owner. Projects cover everything from new

interiors, renovation of teak decks, superstructure or masts & rigging, engine overhauls, and the upgrading of technological and electric systems to repainting and osmosis treatments.

Puffin Yachts stands out from the crowd in terms of:

Comfort

After a long voyage at sea, everyone can use a hot shower – possible on even the smallest Puffin. Furthermore, the ease of handling and level of comfort above and below deck on a Puffin, even in a restless sea, are legendary. This aspect has drawn widespread favourable reviews and comments.

Simplicity

Puffins boast reliable, modern materials in the



hull, the cabins and technical gear. They are truly intended for people who don't want to have to rely on others.

Common sense

Puffins began as S-bilge long-keelers, where Olivier van Meer's roots are. But he also introduced a lifting centreboard, including a rudder configuration that allows owners to sail shallow waters, ports and attractive destinations further upstream. It's no wonder that Puffins are seen everywhere from Europe's inland waters and the North Sea to Nova Scotia's rugged coastline.

Independence

Puffin yachts can be used to explore remote places that may lack modern facilities. With this in mind, the centreboard casing, for instance, can be accessed from the exterior, even at sea.

Smart thinking

As people are getting taller, the roomy interiors of Puffin yachts have ample headroom virtually everywhere.

Strength

A Puffin will outlast any owner! Constructed to a

standard more common in commercial shipbuilding, Puffin yachts are backed by the expertise of a design studio that has had a hand in the building, converting and refitting of more than 600 yacht projects since 1985.

Flexibility

Puffins come in S-bilge or centreboard versions, a variety of sail plans and a wide choice of hull material, all of which are up to the owner. Puffin Yachts' advanced computer design techniques guarantee perfect construction and customisation. So, in a number of important ways, owners design their own Puffin!

Ease of handling

A Puffin handles like a much larger vessel, with smooth, gentle movements and a very small angle of inclination. At the same time, however, they compare favourably with fast touring yachts when sailing close-hauled.

Uniqueness

The standard price of a Puffin is the sail-away price! While Puffin Yachts may not be the only yachtbuilder, it is certainly unique. Its boats will never be mass produced, as this would go

against the grain of its distinctiveness, and, in a very real sense, mark the brand's death knell.

Olivier van Meer

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