

Sealed with a *Kiss*: New Feadship launched on Valentine's Day

[Aalsmeer] Feadship launched the 46.40-metre (152'3") motoryacht *Kiss* on Saturday 14 February in a ceremony that made the most of the Valentine's Day spirit. Having recently unveiled two of the largest superyachts in the global fleet – the 101.50-metre Feadship and 83.50-metre *Savannah* – this weekend's launch proves how Feadship can also embrace its roots size-wise within the highest standards of 21st-century custom yachtbuilding. *Kiss* also showcases Feadship's ability to optimise the efficiency of the engineering processes involved in creating a bespoke superyacht.

The story behind *Kiss* is linked in a number of ways to the 46.22-metre Feadship *Como*, which was launched in 2014. *Como* stole the show in Monaco last year, proving beyond doubt that biggest isn't always best. The validity of this statement has been proven by the unprecedented number of awards won by *Como*... And Feadship director Henk de Vries is convinced that *Kiss* will follow in her path.

"With yachts like *Como* and *Kiss*, we are effectively building a sporty type boat around our average size of over 15 years ago, but now with all the know-how and intelligence Feadship has developed," De Vries explains. "This facilitates a clever approach to high-end production, one which remains entirely custom while keeping the costs of a Feadship of this size within the bounds of reason."

Half a year after signing the contract for *Como*, architect and designer Ed Dubois came to Feadship with another client. "Ed was highly appreciative of the way that the Feadship yards work with outside designers as well as the in-house naval architects at Feadship De Voogt," De Vries continues. "Even though *Como* and *Kiss* have similar looks they are very different yachts. Most if not all yards would have taken a platform approach based on *Como*'s hull, offering the client a discount for the reduced amount of engineering. That's not how Feadship does things.

"The owner of *Kiss* required a more conventional speed of 16 knots (*Como* is 19), so she has a different power plant. And while *Como* is a sports boat with an open top deck, *Kiss* has a complete master penthouse on the upper deck. This obviously added both volume and weight to the yacht, hence requiring a revised lines plan. Make no mistake, these are two different Feadships."

Where *Kiss* did benefit from the *Como* project was Feadship's enhanced ability to standardise not the product but the process. Successfully incorporating the production methods and the majority of engineering phases used on *Como* made *Kiss* cost-effective in production while still resulting in an entirely bespoke superyacht.

Kiss is also the most complex object ever to have been metallically painted, featuring a stunning metallic black hull with a red stripe on the waterline. This was another specific request by the client and required Feadship to develop special mixing machines and electrically-charged spray guns in order that all the metallic flakes would be in perfect order.

The interior of the boat is from the boards of Redman Whiteley Dixon and features a stark, crisp look. Mark Whiteley and Toby Ecuyer started together, Toby and Douglas Hynd completed the design work. “They did a fantastic job on *Kiss*,” adds De Vries. “It is never easy to take over an interior design project once underway and, on behalf of Feadship, I would like to say how impressed we are again with RWD's work.”

The powerful and purposeful exterior Dubois profile, with its large bulwark window measuring some 6.5 metres in width, generates a sporty ambience. A sense of openness is enhanced by the giant doors adjacent to the main entrance, which slide out three metres either side. All this combines to bathe the restfully austere interior in natural light, making for a genuinely soothing experience.

The complete owner's deck – an unusual feature for a yacht under 50 metres – makes the most of both the volume and interior space. An aluminium-plated sun roof opens up to add to the light interior vibe. More al fresco-like pleasures include a sun deck with Jacuzzi and a transom swim platform with swim ladder and underwater platform.

Kiss also features superior accommodation for eight guests in four suites as well as four crew cabins, a staff room and a captain's cabin positioned near the raised pilothouse.

Technical specifications: *Kiss*

Type: Twin screw motor yacht, aluminium hull and superstructure

Length overall: 46.40m 152'3"

Beam overall: 9.00m 29'6"

Draught (loaded): 2.28m 7'6"

Fuel capacity: 51,000 litres 13,473 US Gallons

Fresh water capacity: 16,000 litres 4,227 US Gallons

Design

Naval Architect: Dubois Naval Architects

Exterior styling: Dubois Naval Architects

Interior design: Redman Whiteley Dixon

Propulsion

Main engines: 2x Caterpillar C32 / 895 kW @ 1800 rpm

Generators: 2x Caterpillar 6.6 – 2x 125 kW – 1500 rpm

Stabilizers: Quantum zero-speed stabilizers

Accommodation

Owner: The upper deck is devoted to the owner, stateroom situated here with prominent views around the whole yacht.

Guests: VIP stateroom on the main deck and four guest cabins on the lower deck. All of the guest accommodation is ensuite.

Crew: Four crew in two crew cabins; two in captain's cabin, two in engineer's cabin. Storage rooms, laundry, galley and crew mess on lower deck, twin staff

About Feadship:

Based in the Netherlands and with roots dating back to 1849, Feadship is recognised as the world leader in the field of pure custom superyachts. Each Feadship is defined by its superb craftsmanship and sets the standard in every aspect of design, engineering and construction. These bespoke motoryachts are created in partnership with owners who are prepared to invest in a wonderful building experience and reap the rewards for many years to come in terms of both pleasure and re-sale value. Feadship also operates dedicated charter and refit services exclusively for Feadships.

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