

# ULTIMATE DESIGN

Eye-catching innovations, design trends and stunning solutions



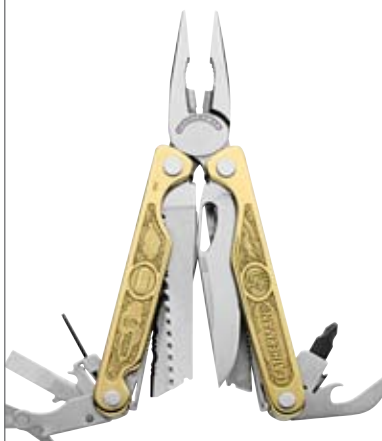
Who says superyacht decks have to be made of teak? A new way of making stone light enough and flexible enough to use outside means you could now opt for granite or even marble decks. Luxe Stone Technologies, who are supplying the stone decks for Big Fish (see pxxx), has found a way of cutting and mounting thin veneers of real stone to sheets of epoxy composites. To prove the strength and durability of this new Marflex material, the company owner Jeff Homchick arranged for his daughter to jump up and down on it in front of a camera (shown above). But the work of Lux Stone doesn't stop there – the current inventory of stone lists over 50 marbles – from afyron white to verde Guatemala, as well as granite, onyx and exotic stones. You can see the company's work on scores of yachts.

NATURAL STONE DECKS  
www.luxestonetechnology.com

ARMOURD RANGE ROVER  
www.landrover.co.uk



Security-conscious yacht owners will be relieved to hear that the new armoured Range Rover is not only as luxurious and discreet as ever but bulletproof and blastproof as well. Under-floor grenade protection and reinforced doors with fixed security glass are designed to withstand attack from both high-velocity assault rifles and a blast of up to 15kg of high explosives positioned just three metres away. Even if you do get attacked, run-flat tyres, a powerful new 375hp engine and Range Rover's celebrated all-terrain drive system will allow you to make a swift exit on or off the road. It's so effective that overseas customer will have to apply for a special export license just to be sure none end up in the hands of undesirables!



If you thought pocket knives were for burly army-types and days out in the wilds, then think again. The gold-accented Charge del Ray multitool from Leatherman is fit for only the finest of tasks. On second thoughts at \$40,000 each perhaps it'll be best to keep this tool away from hard graft and safe in its display case. The Charge del Ray is part of the company's custom-made Argentum range of tools designed by artist and renowned silversmith Adrian Pallarols. Only 25 have been made to celebrate the Leatherman's 25th anniversary and each custom-made piece uses 18-karat gold sourced from the Andes for the Pallarol-crafted handles.

LEATHERMAN CHARGE DEL RAY  
www.leatherman.com



**BLACK GT 95**  
[www.beyonddesign.co.in](http://www.beyonddesign.co.in)

Ashish Gupta of Beyond Design in Mumbai has already staked out his territory as a creator of eye-catching superyacht designs. His extraordinary wooden-hulled Maharaja concept (SYWNo6) saw to that. But his latest creation, the Black GT95, makes the Maharaja look positively straitlaced. This time the emphasis is on speed, with the GT95's slender hull (the beam is just 12 metres) capable of a claimed 40 knots. Not that this comes at the expense of on-board luxury. The main 'corporate deck' boasts a massive alfresco area amidships that is home to a bar and – on the renderings at least – a silver Lamborghini. Forward of this is one of the yacht's three large swimming pools (there is a second exercise pool aft and a third private pool on the owner's deck above). The main saloon, on the deck between the corporate and the owner's, is an impressively vast space over two levels, with steps down to the foredeck, then up again to the pool. Enclosed almost totally in glass, you should have no problem feeling a close connection to the elements. The amount of space to play with means some stunning set-piece areas, such as the breakfast island aft on the corporate deck. This leads to a corporate 'boardroom' area. The owner's deck is suitably extensive, too. The view from the forward-facing bed over the hot-tub promises to be stunning, while there are private terraces to port and starboard. Aft of this is a bar and dining area, and also the yacht's helideck. Working with Esthec's range of composite alternatives to teak decks has helped to keep the weight down.





SCUBACRAFT  
www.scubacraft.com

Why bother stowing a tender and a submarine on board when this new Scubacraft is just as happy playing both roles? On the surface it uses a conventional petrol engine linked to a jet-drive for speeds of up to 50mph and can even tow a skier. Once you decide to dive, the engine is shut off inside an airtight compartment and electric thrusters, powered by lithium batteries, take over. It is available in three and six-person versions and can submerge to depths of 30 metres.



AUDEMARS PIGUET ROYAL OAK OFFSHORE  
www.audemarspiguet.com

The quest for exotic materials is not limited to racing yachts alone – watchmaker Audemars Piguet has discovered a new way of forging carbon fibre to create this ultra-light but very tough Royal Oak Offshore chronograph. Made by compressing thousands of tiny carbon fibre threads at high temperature in a steel die, the mottled black case protects a self-winding 59-jewel movement with a 60-hour power reserve. And just like a superyacht its price of £18,600 ensures you'll treasure it forever.



VICTORIA BAIN TEXTILES  
www.victoriabain.co.uk

The highly textured and colourful embroidered fabrics from Victoria Bain are hand-crafted in India – and are increasingly being seen on yachts. H2 Yacht Design, Reymond Langton and Andrew Winch are among the yacht designers the company has worked with in a portfolio that includes *Talisman C* and *Kismet*. Shown here are examples of Victoria Bain's silk damask fabrics, which have been hand stitched by the company's team of craftsmen in Delhi to give them an encrusted, 3D feel. Everything is made to order.