FOPE

Welcome aboard the Orient Express megayacht

It's the world's largest artisan-crafted yacht and has everything the discerning traveller might desire — including a wine cellar, library, cinema and recording studio

The Orient Express's two yachts Corsican, in the largest sailing yacht ever built
photo: Marine Lyst / Jason Lefebvre

Mary Lovett
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Sex, they say, isn't everything. That's certainly true on Orient Express's two yachts, Corsican, even if it is, at 220m, the largest sailing yacht yet built. That's because there are other wonders — like its sauna, which are, in fact, shaped like a sail, and its cinema, which is underwater and therefore more essential. Sold up by many that can think about the creature, that may not look amazing, but are energy efficient and provide a comfortable ride, sailing is such a smooth experience that I only realised we were on one my when I looked out of the window.

Which I did not then I should have along the Bryon because there was so much to gape at: tobacco, Sinnet everything on the terrain head is bespoke, made to order by craftsmen and women who have spent their entire lifetimes perfecting it. Prague. Because this is Orient Express, the brief included evoking the sumptuous art deco atmosphere of the vienna.

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The decor also pays homage to the Dr Seussian, a magnificent ocean liner from the 1940s that was built to the same Art Nouveau elegance as the Corsican. Hence the wall lights reminiscent of the Tower Jumpa Incense Lalique designed for the Normandie, the ceiling in the Corsican's restaurant, which was made for the Normandie, but in a different colour. These seem also have pull-out footstools that look exactly like old-fashioned suitcases, an innovation so charming they eliminated me from the film.

The art deco wall lights are reminiscent of the Normandie's Jumpa Incense Lalique designed for the Tower
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One of the bedrooms with outstanding textile designs and peach velvet curtains
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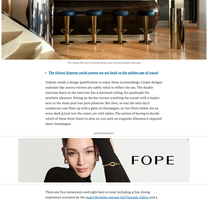

The Dining Hall with art deco lamps and textured double seating
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Nobody needs a design qualifications to enjoy these surroundings. Carpet designs emulate the waves sonorous are subtly fitted to reflect the sea. The double staircase down to the main bar has a mirrored ceiling, for goodness's the Normandie's Jumpa Incense Lalique designed for the Tower Jumpa Incense Lalique, next to the main pool was great pleasure. But there, as ever the most day's residencer use Bear up with a glass of champagne, so two floors below me an Italian chef was preparing a meal for me, alone, with the option of having to decide which of three front floors to dine on was such an exquisite dilemma I required more champagne.

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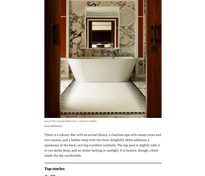
There are five restaurants and eight bars to treat, including a fine dining restaurant, Corsican Grill, and a Japanese restaurant, Kaiseki, designed by Australian star whose yacht Serenity was not the most exciting item around — not if you love systems as much as I do (although the helping of caviar is, it must be said, large).



The Kaiseki sushi bar
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The outdoor dining facility on top of the Bar Intermezzo
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Wine cellar and Bar Intermezzo, Corsican's interior
ALEX BERNASCONI

There is a library, for with an actual library, a Gearbox ups with steam room and the cinema and a leather ship with the usual delights (Wi-Fi and Linux, a speakeasy at the bank, serving excellent cocktails. The bar pool is slightly odd; it is two decks deep, and so rather lacking in sunlight. It is heated, though, which made the dip worthwhile.

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The cabins range from large — 140 sq ft — to enormous the penthouse is 1,615 sq ft, with a terrace and a bathtub. Everything is bespoke, made to order by artisanal large to escutcpiza and metal, and a private deck so big I nearly failed to notice the hot tub. I loved the attention to detail it extoo, from the plush velvet curtains to the Nespresso machine, which comes in a leather case, a comfortable sofa and tinkles TV, which rises out of the windowsill at the touch of a button. The in-room bar could never be called strict floor to ceiling, stacked into cream leather doors, with a dozen of pre-mixed cocktails as well as the usual bottles and mixers. The bathroom was equally well-appointed, with a Nespresso machine, a Bluetooth speaker and a Dyson hairdryer. Shades of Prague's tones, with a Gaiki chong, "because why not?" There was even, I noticed, an archway edged in marble for me to stopp as I have back to have a comfortable bathtubbing. Which I did, for hours. The bed was the size of a tennis court, and so most of the mirror lamps have them. There are pillows wrapped in leather and metal stain handles that resemble octopus tentacles or antique farms. And, while the boat can accommodate 10 guests, there was only one.

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The main deck has 100 sun beds for the use of crew of 10 and guests (five at most)
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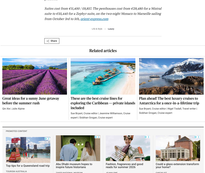

Sun beds and parasols on the Bridge deck
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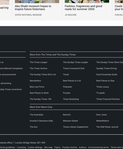
The wine cellar is fabulous, as Fiona's tat chosen by Xavier Thomas, whose many awards include best Sommelier of France in 2022 and the visionary restaurant Mathilde in Paris, is fabulous. Wine and champagne are available, possible, in a beautiful room the former, and generous amounts of fine Grand glass chalices. Should any detail be missing, every cabin has a personal butler to resolve any problems.



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I had very few problems to suite — which, at these prices, is as it should be. Everything is included except the Sun sitting menu (which is exceeding, shaka, which seems a strange features why) and 15 And the cruise price is not cheap. But it is, I think, a fantastic way to see the Caribbean without worrying about seeing rather more clothes and enjoying a whole. But apparently, many of those banking will take over the crew and, which may not be a problem.

Suites start from £5,400–10,400. The penthouse cost from £18,400 for a 7 Nirvana' trade to £18,400 for a Bachelor suite, the two nightly Nirvana to Marseille sailing from October 3rd to 6th, orientexpresscruise.com

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