

Smooth Sailing

A DREAM TEAM OF DESIGNERS CREATE A SUPERYACHT WITH THE OPPORTUNITY TO OWN AN ONBOARD RESIDENCE AND SEE THE WORLD IN UNMATCHED STYLE.

BY MICHAEL MCCARTHY

From top: The 955-foot Njord, which will be completed in 2026, offers homes from \$8.5 million to \$70 million; condos range from 1,500 to 9,000 square feet.



When a twin-engine helicopter and two helicopter pads are part of a planned superyacht, it's a good bet this project is different than any other ever built. Which is why the Njord (thefinestaddress.com) is turning so many heads among well-heeled travelers worldwide. The 955-foot cruise ship, which is set to be completed by 2026, is being created by Ocean Residences Development in conjunction with 200-year-old German shipbuilder Meyer Werft. In the Bay Area, the project, which offers 117 units for sale,

is represented by luxury residential experts The ACT Team at Compass, led by Andy Ardila and David Costello (actcompass.com).

"It's the finest superyacht ever built, which is why so many people are interested in this project and already putting down deposits," says Costello. Features of the two- to six-bedroom units, ranging from \$8.5 million up to \$70 million penthouses (1,500 to 9,000 square feet, respectively), include more than 15 customized floor plans, floor-to-ceiling windows, private balconies, unobstructed views of



PHOTOS COURTESY OF NJORD



the ocean, gourmet kitchens with custom cabinetry by Studio Baker and Gaggenau appliances, and smart-home technology. All residents benefit from personalized housekeeping, laundry, florist and tailoring services.

"The amenities are off the charts," says Ardila. "The ship will have six restaurants, and one of those will showcase a visiting Michelin-starred chef. You'll also find a saltwater pool, a regular pool, yoga room and billiard room—truly anything to relax and unwind." Other standout features include a 10,000-bottle wine cellar, nightclub and jazz lounge, the Chenot Spa and Wellness Centre, indoor hydro pool and Jacuzzi and personalized sports concierge. And when homeowners need it, there's a state-of-the-art medical center.

In other words, this is

a floating city—a kind of Luxeville on the high seas and in gorgeous ports of call. After the vessel is christened, it will embark on a journey from Morocco. Future destinations could include spots like Papua New Guinea, Polynesia, South and West Africa and, really, anywhere the ship's HOA, with vetting from homeowners, would like to go.

Employing the latest shipbuilding technology, the Njord is a carbon-neutral vessel (the lowest carbon-output passenger ship ever built) and even has a scientific mission for marine research. It boasts two submarines, 10 exploration Zodiacs, a subsea remotely operated vehicle and autonomous subsea and aerial drones.

"This is the smarter and savvier way of owning your very own superyacht," says Costello. "It just financially



makes more sense than dealing with the cost to maintain this type of boat, and I think the experience is going to be much cooler. Think about your fellow residents. They'll be among the most interesting and engaging people in the world." ■

From top: Condos on the luxury yacht include well-appointed offices and studies; outdoor living is an essential part of homeownership on the Njord, as condos feature private balconies with bars for entertaining guests.

