

KEEPING IT IN THE FAMILY

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In South America, yachting is a family affair. Cuba offers cultural history, the Virgin Islands boast volcanic characteristics, and the Galapagos are a plethora of marine life, but for boat owners across the continent the fun factor centres around multi-generational life on the water. As such, for the owners of Vripack's MCP 121' – the family's second yacht from the Dutch design studio – maximising onboard space was a matter of priority.

"As the family has grown, so has the budget and their needs," says Vripack's co-creative director Bart Bouwhuis. "When you step aboard, it's immediately apparent that not one square foot is unused. There are seating areas, dining tables, bars, lounges and even a top deck viewing platform. The design focuses on creating a pocket family boat that everyone can enjoy together."

Built by Brazilian shipyard MCP Yachts, MCP 121' is Vripack's third collaboration with the full-custom, full aluminium specialist boatbuilder. It's a step up in size from the owners' previous 75-foot boat, but central to the brief was preserving their love of anchoring in small bays. To mitigate losing that, the 121-footer strikes a careful balance with social areas that maintain convenience and flexibility. This point is emphasised by Vripack's smart architecture and layout.

"For the owners, it's less about world travel and more about touring together," says Bouwhuis. "They liked our studio's approach to layout, in that the boat needs to match the family lifestyle, rather than the family having to fit around a typical yacht design."

Al fresco dining is granted on virtually every deck, planned for regular use and to accommodate large groups. A super homely environment is emphasised by the warm, rich, wood-heavy trends of Latin America; the exterior with a pronounced grain teak decking and loose furniture in matte varnish. Inside, slatted oak wall panels, stairs and finishes in a grey wash for a contemporary, Scandinavian twist. Clear sight lines out to sea and a muted colour palette allow the beautiful surroundings to do all the talking.

In key areas where symmetry typically rules, an a-symmetric layout prioritises function. In the owner's suite, a seating area is positioned starboard and a bed to port. In the main salon, a tv sideboard and formal dining sit starboard allowing for relaxed sofas and a large galley to port. Centred stairs on the lower deck aft create pockets for a beach club, fitness room and storage, while on the main deck, al fresco dining is to port and sun pads starboard.



The MCP 121' is a boat with family cruising built into its bones. A 7.1m Willams tender lives on the foredeck. A top speed of 21 knots delivers fast-paced thrills. Vripack's signature ambient lighting, with recessed illumination and soft, glowing wall lights, transitions seamlessly from morning through night. But the best seat in the house is reserved for the boutique sized top deck – a modern crow's nest with comfort and style.

"The family loved the idea of being able to retreat a little bit further together, to get a higher viewpoint when entering a bay without needing to disperse," explains Bouwhuis, "and the idea evolved from there."

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About MCP YACHTS

MCP YACHTS is a 43 years old shipyard in the city of Santos, the biggest port of South America. The shipyard run since its foundation by a family of sailors and people in love with the sea. The excellence of the projects are combined with aluminum construction , with its strength, safety and lightness, as well as the characteristics of fast, economical vessels capable of sailing to any point on the planet. The modern facilities on the waterfront with 18,000 m2 also make the shipyard a reference in the entire Southern Hemisphere.

About Vripack

Vripack is a yacht design studio, made strong through its extensive naval architecture and engineering experience.

From the moment it threw open its doors in 1961, Vripack studio's approach to design has been governed by the playful interaction between form and function. With a portfolio that represents over 7500 designs, Vripack has been able to evolve its processes to be as efficient and as effective as possible. Vripack's unique working structure, which provides a holistic approach to the design of a yacht, ensures that we produce better boats in less time. Our involvement in the entire process of designing the safest and most durable yachts ensures that clients and their guests feel at home at sea.

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