

Grand Banks Yachts unveils new model in its Aleutian Series

53 Aleutian RP in production; launches early 2010

Grand Banks Yachts introduces the 53 Aleutian RP, the newest addition to its acclaimed series of luxury raised-pilothouse motor yachts. Available through Grand Banks' exclusive Hong Kong dealer, Asia Yacht Services, the 53RP is due to launch in early 2010. It features a completely new hull and deckhouse, as well as new interior layouts and styling that mark another evolution in the fast-growing Aleutian Series.

Asia Yacht Services managing director Bart Kimman said, "We're excited about the new 53 Aleutian RP, which is perfect for the Hong Kong market. The new hull and styling will turn heads, and the innovations in configuration make living onboard as comfortable and practical for long, open-water adventures as for Sunday cruises around our beautiful coastline."

GB's director of marketing, David Hensel, said, "When you step on board it's astonishing to see all these features on a vessel of this size. There's no compromise whatsoever in the level of amenities and luxury and craftsmanship between the 53RP and her larger predecessors."

Those amenities include a full three-stateroom layout, plus a utility room that boasts more than six feet of headroom and can serve a variety of purposes for owners. With access from the expansive mid-ship master cabin, this room can function as everything from a walk-in closet and laundry room to a storage and pantry space for serious long-range cruisers. In the optional layout it can also be configured as crew's quarters, accessible from the engine room.

"The unique configuration of this boat allows for much more living and storage space than you would typically find," Hensel said. "Couples and families looking to cruise self-sufficiently over long distances will be excited by what's now available in a very manageable size of just 53 feet."

The 53 Aleutian RP is available with standard twin 593 hp diesel engines and options up to 705 hp, which will generate top speeds estimated at more than 22 knots. Alternatively, owners can cruise at displacement speeds for fuel economy equivalent to displacement-style vessels.

Other key specifications include a beam of 17 feet 9 inches, well above

average for a boat of this size, with more than enough room to create spacious accommodation and exceptional visibility.

The salon features expansive windows that bring in ample light and views to the generous seating area. In addition to the centerline helm station, the raised pilothouse also holds a well-equipped kitchen to starboard and a large dinette to port.

Down below, the master cabin is also open to natural light and views through two outsize portlights in the hull sides. Accessed via a private stairway leading down from the salon, this stateroom boasts an extra-large queen berth, exceptional storage and a large, luxurious en-suite head.

A separate stairwell descends from the pilothouse to access the large VIP cabin forward, as well a third guest cabin that can be configured as an on-board office at the owners' option.

Like other Aleutian models, the 53RP features a classic Portuguese bridge and large aft deck, as well as an expansive flybridge with a second helm station and plenty of seating around the handmade teak table.

Designed by Grand Banks' in-house team, including hull and superstructure, the 53RP underwent extensive tank testing at the renowned Marine Hydrodynamics Laboratory at the University of Michigan to validate the design and performance specifications.

"Development of the 53RP was driven by the same key principles of seaworthiness, comfort, performance and sophistication," Hensel said. "What emerged is an entirely new Aleutian, smaller in size but with the powerful presence you expect from the series. Exceptionally capable of supporting a cruising couple or family on long voyages - or of setting the perfect stage for entertaining closer to home."

The Aleutian Series has recently been the fastest-growing segment for Grand Banks Yachts, which launched the 65RP last year and recently announced the 72SC for debut in early 2010. Grand Banks also produces the downeast-style Eastbay Series and iconic trawler-style Heritage models. The company developed a special website to inform prospective buyers and enthusiasts about the new 53RP: www.grandbanks.com/preview53.

About Grand Banks

Since 1956, Grand Banks Yachts, Ltd. has built yachts of superior quality that have become industry hallmarks and earned a loyal following around the world. Renowned for their handmade craftsmanship, distinctive good looks, and tried and true all-weather capabilities, Grand Banks yachts continue to be the choice of discerning boaters today. Learn more about the company and its Heritage, Eastbay, and Aleutian series yachts at grandbanks.com.

About Asia Yacht Services

Founded by Bart Kimman in 2003, Asia Yacht Services is a one-stop shop for all yachting requirements, including pre-sales consultations, an extensive brokerage, coaching and crewing, charters, and repairs and maintenance.

AYS is a member of the region-wide group Asia Pacific Superyachts, and is conveniently located at the Gold Coast Yacht and Country Club. It has a well-equipped yard in Discovery Bay that can lift boats of up to 50 tons and 70ft for maintenance, and associated shipyards for larger boats.

Asia Yacht Services has an impressive portfolio of new and pre-owned yachts and motorboats by leading international boat brands, ranging in size from 20ft to 150ft. Dealerships include:

- Grand Banks
- Oyster Marine
- Salona
- Grady White
- LoftBarge
- Cobalt
- Seawind
- G-Force

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