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Bolide: Exclusiva Design's Bold Entry Into Megayachts

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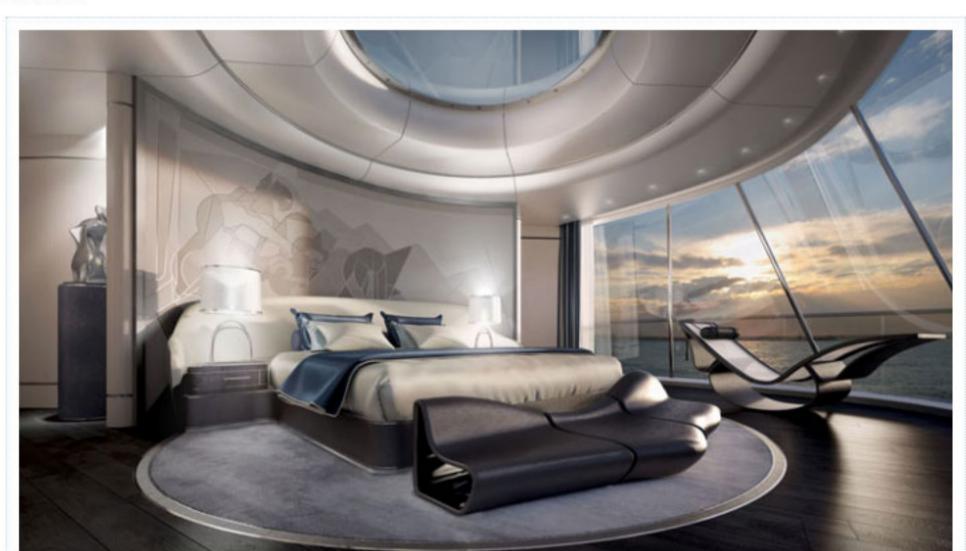
The name translates from Italian to "fireball," meaning the trail of a falling star. More commonly, however, the word references vehicles noteworthy for performance and design. That word is Bolide, and it's the project name for a megayacht created by a seasoned design studio for Tankoa Yachts.

Italy-based Exclusiva Design actually approached Tankoa, despite not having designed a yacht before. In fact, while private residences, public buildings, and other architecture are its forte, it's been studying superyachts for some time. The studio partners, Fabio Mazzeo and Tito Taddei, say they selected Tankoa for a few reasons. "Tankoa is not looking to produce huge numbers," Mazzeo explains. He and Taddei further appreciated "the approach, flexibility, and executive competence." Being beholden to clients' desires, "we had never been free, in the concept phase, to be truthful to our own idea of design." Equally important, Exclusiva Design brought in technical consultants to analyze existing hull forms. Their input led to selecting Tankoa's 236-foot (72-meter) platform.



Exclusiva Design spent the past year researching materials to make project Bolide a reality. It wanted to turn the tables on tradition, too, starting with the styling. Note the strong emphasis on glass walls, for example -5,382 square feet (500 square meters) of them. The high bow echoes the lines of a luxury sports car, the partners add. Not to be overlooked, a line running from the bow up to the two-deck owner's area resembles a lightning bolt.

While floor-to-ceiling glass characterizes many megayachts these days, Bolide incorporates far more, and more crafted as sliding doors. These include ones in the VIP stateroom on the main deck, which occupies the 39-foot (12meter) beam. The master suite (below), meanwhile, showcases so much glass, including overhead, that owners may feel no barriers lie between them and the environment. Even the toy garages have glass fronts, to show off tenders and more.



Speaking of the owners, the suite spans the flying-bridge deck and sundeck. Exclusiva Design envisioned owners enjoying a private gym and spa here, as well as a hot tub and alfresco space. Bolide allows them to secure the penthouse-like suite while still welcoming friends and family to relax on the outside areas on these decks. Related to this, the designers also give the owners private access to the penthouse.

Some surprises lie in store aboard Bolide, too. There's a "show cooking area" where the chef can dazzle guests by sliding open two panels. Then there's the main pool (one of three onboard) on the aft deck, the bottom of which rises

Altogether, Bolide incorporates five VIP suites and one owners' suite, part of 9,687 square feet (900 square meters) of interior space. They complement 6,458 square feet (600 square meters) of alfresco areas. Given Tankoa's estimate of range exceeding 6,000 nautical miles at 121/2 knots, the proposal should attract plenty of attention.

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