

A TRUE CLASSIC

In conversation with the owner's of Vijonara

WORDS BRYONY MCCABE
PHOTOGRAPHY CORY SILKEN

Invoking memories of a bygone era, the charm of the Truly Classic 128 has been proven by the realisation of four builds (and a fifth on its way). TIDE explores the success of the concept with Hoek Design and hears from the owners of the second hull in the series about the joy that Vijonara brings.

In its Truly Classic line, Hoek Design has uncovered a winning formula; the range of classic sailing yacht designs has become a brand of its own by offering owners the chance to build a yacht with the elegance of a classic yacht, combined with modern sailing performance and technology. No model in the range, however, has been quite as popular as the 128. With four hulls currently on the water and a fifth on order, the 128 promises clients the reassurance of a proven platform as well the freedom to build a very personal yacht.

The design first came to life when the owners of 90ft Atalante were looking to upgrade. During the development stages, however, the

Hoek Design team were careful to design a concept that would also appeal to a broad spectrum of clients. And appeal it did: after the first hull Atalante was delivered, Vijonara, Grace and Haleki were built in relatively quick succession. Even Hoek has been surprised at the design's level of success. "To be honest, we never thought we would be building five of these boats," he admits.

While this much interest might have been unexpected, the design does support clients looking for a sailing yacht in this size range. As Hoek explains, "The design is part of a family, and the concept is known. The layout is ideal for a yacht of this size: it can be designed to operate with either four or five

