



CAREFREE CRUISING

Nordhavn creates a model for a couple who wanted more space, but in a smaller package

WHEN IT COMES TO NORDHAVN YACHTS, Ken and Roberta Williams are great fans. The couple owned a 62-foot aft-pilothouse model for several years and cruised extensively, including participating in the builder's 2004 North Atlantic Rally, during which Ken wrote blogs that chronicled their

passage from Fort Lauderdale, Florida, to Gibraltar.

Eventually, the time came to build a larger boat, but the couple wanted a yacht that could still be operated without crew. Although they felt a special affinity toward Nordhavn, they approached several shipyards, primarily because they felt the Nordhavn 72 was too large for them to operate comfortably.

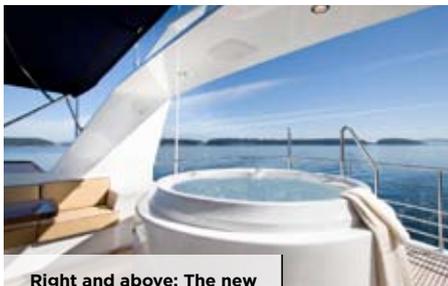
"We discovered that ninety-nine percent of the time it was just my wife and me on the boat," said Ken, "and we don't like the loss of



privacy of having crew on board. Our first thought was to take our four tiny staterooms and remodel the interior of the boat to have fewer, larger staterooms. This led us to thinking that perhaps we should go with a slightly larger boat."

After a period of negotiations with Nordhavn, the builder agreed to construct a new, 68-foot aft-pilothouse model. According to Ken's data, the couple's new boat, *Sans Souci*, has 61 percent more accommodation space, 117 percent more deck space and 128 percent more space in the engine room and lazarette, despite being nearly identical in overall length. The arrangement was adjusted to provide a large master stateroom, an ample guest stateroom and a small cabin that can be used for crew during long passages.

Sans Souci is the latest Nordhavn to have an interior by Scott Cole of Bainbridge Island, Washington-based Ardeo »



Right and above: The new model includes a substantial increase in deck space and enough watermaking capacity for a spa tub.



Above: Roberta Williams' antique Kashan rug was installed in the main salon and set the color palette for the entire interior.

Design. Cole recently designed the interiors of two of the builder's new models, and Nordhavn President Dan Streech suggested to his customers that Cole become involved in their 68.

The result is just what Roberta wanted: an interior with the look of an old wooden boat. Throughout *Sans Souci* are painted planked overheads, teak cabinetry, wainscoting and trim, and romantic sconces with elegant, silk lampshades. As is customary with Cole's work, design details add to the luxurious feel of the spaces, such as the leaded-glass cabinet doors in the salon. In the heads, carved glass backlit sinks combine with a sensuous amalgamation of marble with tile accents in the showers and on the countertops and backsplashes.

Ken noted that the project was a natural progression. "Our 68 keeps the things about our 62 that we loved, in particular the seaworthiness, and the large exterior decks. To this it adds an engine room large enough to hold twin engines, an international power system, a chilled-water air-conditioning system, and a diesel furnace for space heating, water heating and, most important, hot water for the hot tub."

The Williamses plan to complete a circumnavigation over the next 10 years. In the last several months alone, the couple has logged 7,500 miles.

Long passages, said Ken, often mean living in Third World countries for months at a time. "Wanting to see the world doesn't have to mean 'roughing it.' Roberta's goal was to create an interior that was as comfortable as possible, specifically, to make it feel as close to 'being at home' as could be done.

"My project was to design the ship's systems. I wanted to think about maintainability and redundancy. If something breaks while cruising, there may not be a local mechanic easily available. I need systems that: a) won't break, b) are backed up if they do and c) are as easy as possible to work on and find parts for." —MARK T. MASCIAROTTE

Contact **Nordhavn** at 949-496-4848.
www.nordhavn.com

SPECIFICATIONS

LOA: 68'5" (20.87 m)
LWL: 63'2" (19.26 m)
BEAM: 20'4" (6.2 m)
DRAFT: 6'2" (1.89 m)
DISPL.: 78 tn
POWER: 2x 340-hp Luggar L1276A2
CRUISE SPEED: 10 kn
RANGE: 3,000 nm @ 9 kn