

BOAT

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2025 MONACO YACHT SHOW PREVIEW INSIDE

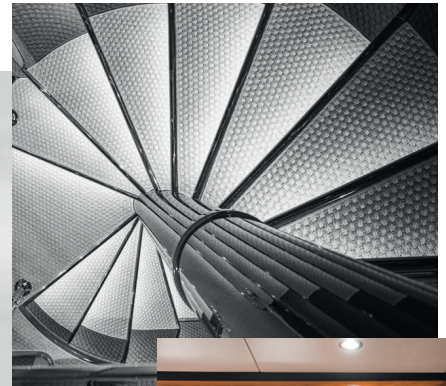


An explorer named **SLOW POKE**

Fresh from a 2024 refit, this pocket explorer is taking on the world with a new look, says *Cecile Gauert*



The owner extended the hull by eight feet and added hydraulic steps into the upgraded swim platform



After cruising from Alaska down to Mexico, an American-flagged Dutch expedition yacht has taken on the Med this summer. It belongs to a young American entrepreneur with a passion for collecting. The owner of *Slow Poke* – a Vripack-designed Doggersbank 87 Heritage formerly known as *Coy Koi* – approached its refit with the same passion he brings to restoring classic cars.

“I’m involved in a lot of design-led projects and sit on the board of a design school,” he says. “For me, the Doggersbank is an example of the best packaging design in all of yachting.”

He spotted the sales listing for the Kuipers-Doggersbank, and it offered a great opportunity to turn a Dutch-built yacht with long-range ability into his own explorer. The point of the Doggersbank (born in 1968 before the expedition craze) was to be a capable long-range cruiser with a high volume to length ratio. Although several models exist in a range from about 60 to 100 feet, they share common traits: a high bow, purposeful looks and practical layout.

Coy Koi, built by the Dutch Kuipers Woudsend shipyard in 2000, was especially attractive as it already had benefited from a mechanical overhaul in 2018. Confident it fit his requirements, the owner purchased the yacht sight unseen and embarked on a 2.5-year, \$8 million refit at the Safe Harbor Lauderdale Marine Center.

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WITH THE ADDITION OF A CFD-OPTIMIZED BULBOUS BOW, THE MODIFICATIONS DELIVERED AN EXTRA TWO KNOTS OF SPEED



SPECS

LOA 90' 3"
Beam 21' 4"
Draft 6' 3"
Gross tonnage 145GT
Engine 2 x Caterpillar 3406C
Speed (max/cruise) 12/9 knots
Range 5,000nm @ 8.5 knots
Exterior styling Vripack
Interior styling Redd Kaihoi
Builder Kuipers
Refit Safe Harbor Lauderdale Marine Center/2024

One of his goals was to enhance performance. "One thing I immediately wanted to do was increase hull speed," he says. "And from my experience with boats, I spend the most time on the swim platform, so that area was important to me in terms of renovation."

He tapped Vripack, the boat's original naval architect, to achieve his goals. An eight-foot hull extension enlarged the stern section, which was fitted with hydraulic swim steps. With the addition of a CFD-optimized bulbous bow (with built-in underwater camera), the modifications delivered an extra two knots of speed and a 10 percent reduction in fuel consumption.

A transformational redesign includes a black hull with a British racing green stripe and an awning with canvas art from Houston-based artist Paul Kremer. Art by other Houston-based talents, including Julian Schnabel, personalize the onboard spaces.

The flybridge's original split-level design combines seating, a bar, intimate dining and panoramic views and the main aft deck is perfect for morning coffee or evening cocktails, particularly attractive now with the multifunctional swim platform. It provides easier guest access, a heated outdoor shower and improved crew workflow for watersports activities.

While the yacht's original layout and technical infrastructure by Vripack remains, the owner tapped trendy New York interior design studio Redd Kaihoi to reimagine the interior with a bold, high-gloss retro look featuring vibrant blues and greens, and even black. The master cabin offers a surprising touch: its palette is color-matched to the owner's beloved 1952 Porsche 356A bumper.

"The goal was to have everything you get in a 50-meter Feadship, even down to the yacht's original three-inch handrails," the owner says. "It's important to be able to feel the ocean when aboard yet be safe in the knowledge that the boat's durable enough to be seaworthy."



Top: Redd Kaihoi brought a bold, retro flair to the interior; the master cabin matches the colors of the owner's 1952 Porsche 356A bumper