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CRUISES

Wärtsilä And Pastrovich Studio Will Develop A New Sustainable, Hybrid Boutique Cruise Vessel

by Matt Turner
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(Stefano Pastrovich)

Technology group **Wärtsilä** has inked a partnership with **Stefano Pastrovich**, architect and yacht designer, to develop a new class of boutique cruise ship to serve the charter and hotel/cruise sectors.

Built around the concept of a 197-foot-long catamaran that can accommodate up to 36 guests, the new vessel will have the luxury of a superyacht, the construction techniques and passenger experience of a cruise ship and a strong focus on the environment. The eco-friendly, fuel-efficient design will have a fully-integrated combination of hybrid propulsion and solar panels.

One perk? The new design's level of sustainability will allow it to enter harbors typically off-limits to some large motorized yachts.

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Matt Turner

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In the partners' press release, **Giammario Meloni**, senior sales manager, Wartsila Italia, said, "Efficiency and environmental performance are key pillars of Wartsila's **Smart Marine** approach, which emphasizes the need to collaborate with world-class partners. This project encompasses all these ambitions, and we look forward to co-developing with Stefano Pastrovich a totally integrated solution that combines energy efficiency, sustainability and onboard comfort."

Pastrovich added, "I'm convinced boutique cruise ships of this caliber could spark a turning point in the charter market, attracting a new customer base of millennials and cruise veterans."

Wartsila and Pastrovich have worked together in the past on several projects, including the 99-meter **X-Vintage** in 2011 and the 101-meter **X-Expedition** in 2017; the latter has an innovative design that bridges the worlds of cruising and super yachts.

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