

# review

BY LISA KNAPP // PHOTOS BY NEIL RABINOWITZ





# NorthStar Lady III

An island-inspired private oasis takes to the sea.

There's no better way to celebrate the art of cruising than to be aboard *NorthStar Lady III*. This 100' pilothouse motoryacht, built by NorthStar Yachts of Kalama, Washington, is a fiberglass, semi-displacement hull. Her durability and functionality are a testament to her seaworthiness. Powered by twin 12V2000 Detroit MTUs, she cruises at 18 knots and tops out at 21 knots.

This yacht's layout is well executed and user friendly. The visibility from the helm is excellent and everything is at arm's reach. Wide catwalks, straight stairways and generously spaced foyers offer sailors safe movement from one deck to another. While *NorthStar Lady* sports five staterooms and two crew quarters, this boat could easily be piloted by its owners with the aid of a mate.

In fact, this yacht was designed for family use and is usually run by a married couple, sans crew. Mark Huzyak, co-owner of NorthStar Yachts, runs the boat with his wife, Tricia, who was integrally involved in the interior design of the yacht. Mark's brother and company co-owner Keith Huzyak, owns a twin vessel, *M/Y Besame*, with his wife, Sally.

Mark and Tricia live in Florida and enjoy cruising the Bahamas,



and this \$8.4 million yacht reflects Tricia's predilection for natural fibers and her love of the Florida lifestyle. The yacht's décor can best be described as British West Indies, popular for its practicality and exotic appeal. A palette of dark browns, corals and turquoise complements its variety of textures: marble; carved glass; leather; African sapele, mahogany, teak, cedar, and cherry wood; and water hyacinth. Elegant, dark wood accessories like a hand-carved mahogany shell chair and Lenox British Colonial china transform this space into one best describes as tropically chic versus kitschy. *NorthStar Lady* is elegantly equipped for formal dining yet comfortably designed with practical textures like water

hyacinth chairs to accommodate the wet bathing suits of sun worshippers who've just enjoyed the Jacuzzi on the fly bridge after a day of water skiing.

The color base of every yacht is either black or brown, and this salon's buffet of exquisite brown fossil marble with subtle nautilus shell inlays centered the entire interior design. "The fossil brown marble was actually the first thing I tagged five years ago," says Tricia Huzyak, adding that it drove the color scheme. She collaborated with Catherine Michel, interior designer for naval architect Jack Sarin, on the décor. Huzyak graduated from Adrian College with a degree in home economics and has a strong design background.

However, as a true custom builder, NorthStar Yachts is dedicated to involving and indulging each customer so their yacht makes a unique statement reflecting their lifestyle and taste.

The salon's cream-colored sofas and luxurious, chocolate leather chairs and ottomans complement the brown fossil marble, which is echoed throughout the yacht from the pilothouse to the lower foyer's consoles separating the staterooms. The décor is calming and peaceful, with treasure trunk coffee tables.

The dining room table seats six and is made of sapele, an African burl wood, accented by durable, water hyacinth chairs. Macadamia-nut fabric creates a unique window treatment for the salon's horizon windows, which are



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shaded by Hunter Douglas silhouettes. Quoizel lighting fixtures illuminate the salon. Fabrica carpet inlaid with palm fronds carries the subtle island theme from deck to deck.

Moving forward from the salon is a large galley to starboard. The sole has a stone look but is actually functional, lightweight tiles. Costa Esmeralda granite is used throughout the galley. This granite is more blue and turquoise than green, sending waves of color around the cherry wood cabinetry where Tricia plans meals in her breakfast nook. "I love planning menus to entertain and enjoy sitting at my desk creating recipes," she says.

*NorthStar Lady* is adorned with an abundance of wood, so Tricia chose custom carved glass as another medium to display the tropical theme on the stairway wall divider that descends from the salon to the staterooms. "The design is carved into the surface of the glass and is three-dimensional," says Catherine Michel. "It's quite different from etching. Hibiscus, bromeliad and birds of paradise flora with water are carved into the glass, creating a three-dimensional effect. The illuminated

glass actually changes hues from white to green to pink and is striking, especially in the dark."

The carved-glass railing in the salon descends into the staterooms, aft. The master stateroom's cherry wood joinery is contrasted with the hand-carved mahogany shell chair, which adds a Malaysian aura. Tricia sewed all the bedspreads and pillows throughout the staterooms in cream, brown and light blue. His-and-her closets are lined with cedar. The en suite heads are accented with molded glass shower doors in a floral pattern.

The lower foyer separates the master stateroom from the VIP staterooms. A torn paper tipped in turquoise with cove lighting creates a unique headliner in the foyer. This feature is also above the salon's dining room table, offering repetition with variety. The port stateroom has a queen-size bed and the starboard guest stateroom has two twin beds with custom innerspring mattresses. The turquoise colors of the sea emanate throughout the VIP staterooms.

The roomy pilothouse is equipped with Stidd helm chairs and a u-shaped turquoise

settee with two pedestal mount tables of brown fossil marble.

It accesses the "family retreat," consisting of two staterooms and a lounge forward. This area is easily convertible for additional crew quarters. The engine compartment and two crew cabins with a lounge and head are accessed off the aft deck, to avoid disturbing guests. The aft deck consists of teak decking and tables and a flip-down flat-screen television, with port and starboard deck teak stairways leading to the swim platform. The fly bridge has wing stations port and starboard. The lounge deck features a Jacuzzi, sun pads, and a wet bar and barbeque for easy entertaining, and holds an 18' Novurania tender for water skiing.

*NorthStar Lady* is a not just a statement in luxury; it's a paradisiacal escape. The classic styling of a past era infused with the modern fabrics and textures creates an inviting and comfortable cruising yacht. Regardless of itinerary, stepping aboard *NorthStar Lady* is step toward true relaxation. 🌊

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