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## CAPT. COLIN BOYLE, M/Y **CLOUD 9**

**From music to yachting** – little did Capt. Colin Boyle know this career switch would ultimately lead him to command CRN's 74-meter M/Y **Cloud 9**, where he oversaw all things tender and an extensive water sports inventory. Flip the page for more.



PHOTOGRAPHY: CLAIRE GRIFFITHS

# captain



**NOT YOUR FATHER'S YACHT PROGRAM**  
page 47



**PREGNANT ON BOARD**  
page 51

This month: Being pregnant on board and the dynamic between captain and today's yacht owner

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NEW LAUNCH

captain



## WALKING ON **CLOUD 9**

By Claire Griffiths

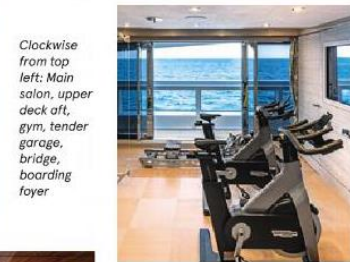
**Dundee (Scotland) born and educated at** the Royal Academy of Music in London with a degree in Classical and Electronic Music, Colin Boyle never intended to be a captain. "I worked in the music industry for ten years before my passion for sailboat racing stepped me into the superyacht world," he says. "My AV and electronic background combined with the boat 'thing' landed me on my first motor yacht in 1996 as the IT and A/V engineer. In that twenty years, I've worked on four vessels. This is the second **Cloud 9**. I joined the first project in 2008 during the build of the CNM sixty-meter **Cloud 9** and operated that as a charter yacht for the owner until he sold it in 2015."

The owner, Boyle, and the project team had already begun the **CRN** project in January 2014 and by September 2015, Boyle was following the project full time until her launch in January 2017. M/Y **Cloud 9** sailed out of the shipyard on May 5, 2017.

For Boyle, the build process is all about "capturing the owner's dreams, imagination, aspirations, and working



with designers to bring common and seagoing sense to make the yacht safe and suitable for charter and child as far as I can, where families can relax and enjoy themselves in safety," he explains. Specifically, Boyle oversaw the tender operation decisions, tender choices (31-foot Novurania tender and MasterCraft X20 competition ski boat), and an extensive watersports inventory that includes catamarans, wave runners, and jet packs. All the water toys are stylishly displayed at the beach club's entrance from which guests can select their choice of fun. Capt. Boyle also advised on A/V (the yacht has an indoor and an outdoor cinema) and IT budgets. His current chief engineer has been with him since 2008, and the then-interior manager also provided input on the build.



Clockwise from top left: Main salon, upper deck aft, gym, tender garage, bridge, boarding foyer



"After six years with the owner, we know what he likes, how he uses things, how much cutlery and crockery he needs, how it's stowed, where it's stowed, right through to the cost of the spare parts budget," Boyle says. "Even on the previous M/Y *Cloud 9*, we were always able to maintain accurate budgeting and spending, no inexplicable holes in the tax returns." Capt. Boyle's advice for yacht builds is simple: It's a seven day a week job with constant communication with the owner and the steering committee of experts to build trust and confidence between everyone.

Boyle also had input into the bridge's navigation equipment, which he describes as a calm area and nice working space. He is pleased with the boat's bow section, which on M/Y *Cloud 9* has been turned into a karaoke and nightclub set-up for parties (with more than 600 hours of music), or a dining area for up to 36 guests for more sedate evenings.

The volume of the guest areas is another plus, Boyle maintains. Last summer the beach club (created by Winch Design) and extended swim platform proved popular. With the toys to suit everyone from grandparent to grandchild, "The owner and guests often started the day breakfasting down there and barely left the area. It was a bit like a beautiful beach club being dragged around by a superyacht," he says.

Following MYS 2017, M/Y *Cloud 9* was heading back to the yard to revise the tenders and toys inventory for the next charter season, which will include a 13.5-meter slide. With few requests for changes by the owner, *Cloud 9* is heaven on earth.

#### SPECIFICATIONS

**Builder:** CRN  
**Naval architecture:** CRN Engineering  
**Exterior styling:** Zuccon International Project  
**Interior design:** Winch Design

**Construction:** Steel hull/aluminum superstructure  
**Gross Tonnage:** 2,218GT  
**Classification:** LR Class @ 100A1 – SSC Yachts Mono G6 @ LMC, UMS

**LOA:** 74M/242'9"  
**LWL:** 65.7M/215'6"  
**Beam:** 13.5M/44'3"  
**Draft (full load):** 3.5M/11'5"

**Engines:** 2 x 2,682-hp Caterpillar  
**Max Speed:** 16.5 knots  
**Cruising Speed:** 15 knots  
**Range:** 6,000 nm at 12 knots

PHOTOGRAPHY: SCAPTAIN CLAIRE GRIFFITHS; MAURIZIO PARADISI FOR CRN