







A Bucket List Dream

Simply put, there is no other Grand Prix circuit like that of Monaco. The setting, the history, the yachts, and the people it attracts set it head and shoulders above the rest. It's not without its naysayers—the race is often boring; there's not enough room to overtake; the driver on pole position inevitably wins the race—and thus Monaco's longstanding fixture on the annual Formula 1 (F1) calendar was seen to be in jeopardy. But then luxury brands juggernaut LVMH signed an unprecedented 10-year global partnership deal with F1 in October 2024 . . . with the proviso that Monaco remain very much on the race roster.

And so, once again, on the last weekend in May, the F1, media, celebrity, influencer, and socialite communities all descended upon the tiny principality for the annual celebration of sun, sea, and speed. While there are many vantage points from which to watch the action—grandstand, hotel suite, private terrace—some are more luxurious than others. and nothing says luxury quite like the multi-decked superyachts lined up directly next to the track. Who doesn't want to lounge on a gleaming white yacht for the weekend, quaffing Whispering Angel rosé from large format bottles or chilled champagne or whatever your go-to drink might be, as a Michelin Star chef conjures up one delicacy after another and the exemplary crew tend to your every need?

Celebrating an impressive eighteenth year of trackside superyacht hospitality at this year's Grand Prix was longtime media partner My Yacht® Group (MYG), the luxury events company that prides itself on “connecting the world's most interesting people” at select global gatherings, from Monaco to Pebble Beach, Cannes to





Miami, and beyond. Its guests hail from all around the globe and all backgrounds, from Olympians and world champions, to astronauts, drivers, entrepreneurs, innovators, royalty, and heads of state. The unofficial guest of honor in Monte Carlo was once again His Serene Highness Prince Albert II of Monaco, who joined the festivities along with many former bobsled pals (the prince is a five-time Olympian) for MYG's lively annual Friday evening reception.

As ever, Monaco's fine hotels were sold out far in advance, and even anchor room outside of the harbor was at a premium, the water dotted as far as the eye could see with yachts small, large, and larger.

With the rise of Netflix's *Drive to Survive* (aka *The Real Housewives of F1*), there was no shortage of seemingly new impresarios coming out of the woodwork with sleek social media pages and grand promises of the ultimate Grand Prix weekend. Sadly, most of them overpromise, underdeliver, and were woefully unprepared for the intricacies of executing a first-class event in this storied yet challenging locale.

With roads closed for racing from sunup to past sundown, the most effective way of reaching one's yacht was, of course, by water. MYG's solution: carbon fiber, high-speed X-Tenders—using F1 technology, no less—directly from guests' hotel docks to the stern of the towering 45-meter/150-foot yacht. Once aboard, one was faced with a difficult decision: choosing which deck to watch the speed machines rocket past a mere 50 feet away. Spoiler alert—there's no wrong answer. No matter which deck you chose, you're already in the best seats in the house.