



PRESS RELEASE



YACHT CLUB DE MONACO OFFICIALLY OPENS

The new flagship premises was inaugurated at a grand ceremony attended by HSH the Sovereign Prince Albert II and the building's architect Lord Foster



For further information and images please contact Paul Charles / Julia

On Friday 20th June 2014, HSH the Sovereign Prince Albert II officially opened the new Yacht Club de Monaco, accompanied by Monaco's Prince family and the building's architect Lord Foster. The launch of Monaco's new landmark proved to be a historic event attended by over 4,000 VIP guests from around the world and confirmed the principality's position as Europe's 'capital of yachting'.

The Sovereign Prince Albert II, President of Yacht Club de Monaco, commented during the launch, *'The flag I have just raised today flies proudly on the mast at the top of our new premises. It marks an important phase in the life of our Club, for Port Hercule and for the Principality. With this architectural masterpiece we wished to affirm Monaco's yachting identity, our ambition being to continue to orient our country's future prosperity towards the sea.'*

World leading British architect, Lord Foster, was commissioned by the Monaco Government to design the flagship due to his ability to create contemporary state-of-the-art buildings that compliment the environment. Located on Quai Louis II, next to the Société Nautique, the new clubhouse is a stunning addition to Monaco's world-famous marina. The site is 200m long and has been built to HQE (Haute Qualité Environnementale) standards. Sleek and elegant, the Yacht Club de Monaco houses a monumental spiral staircase to link the club's new spaces which include an exhibition hall, ballroom, swimming pool, terrace, library, fitness room and five spacious 'cabins' for guests on stopovers. A series of beautiful terraces have been built into the design to reflect Monaco's strong nautical heritage.

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Lord Foster shared his thoughts on the design commenting, 'When designing this building which is open to the sea, at the centre of the harbour and embracing the city, we wanted to preserve the traditional spirit so dear to the Principality.'

The Yacht Club de Monaco is proud of its long and distinguished nautical history. The contemporary design of the clubhouse is an incredible showcase to symbolize the future of the yachting industry and Monaco in the third millennium. A series of initiatives have been planned to promote Monaco's position as 'Europe's Capital of Yachting', which include establishing a Yachting Cluster, setting up a training centre to award internationally recognized professional certificates and increasing the number of regattas and nautical events.

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