



**Take delivery of your new Antares 44i in Argentina and the builder will include a trip to Cape Horn as part of your shake-down cruise.**

## Cape Horn Free For All

Cape Horn, the ultimate sailing adventure, one of the last frontiers for cruisers, just got a little more accessible. Antares Yachts is now offering their buyers the opportunity to sail around Cape Horn accompanied by both an experienced captain and with access to full technical support.

The idea behind offering this sailing opportunity was inspired by the location of Antares Yachts' new building facility. While the design, marketing and sales offices remain in North America, Antares Yachts shipped the tooling for their Antares 44 to San Fernando, a suburb of Buenos Aires, and is currently spraying their third Argentinean-built hull.

Their decision to move south was largely motivated by the people they met in Buenos Aires. Moving to South America meant working with boat building professionals who were largely influenced by renowned naval architects, perhaps most notably German Frers, the prolific designer of several America's Cup-class yachts and well known for his collaborations with Finnish yacht builder Nautor's Swan.

Antares Yachts not only formed an alliance with a skilled workforce

that draws on a long lineage of boat builders lining the Rio Plata, but they took advantage of a rare opportunity offered to a yacht manufacturer—to work with people who are deeply entrenched in offshore sailing.

By aligning themselves with this sailing heritage, Antares Yachts hopes to merge this offshore sailing culture to promote their image as builders of offshore catamarans and further distancing themselves from the charter catamaran mentality and design.

No strangers to providing their customers with educational programs—the Antares University program immerses new buyers in the boat's systems while training them in boat handling and sail trim—Antares Yachts sees this synergy between the boat, the Antares 44, their philosophy, and the Argentinean builders as being beneficial to providing new owners offshore experience along with the security of knowing they have local knowledge and technical support on their side. Who better to guide the new boat buyers on this quest for the nautical Holy Grail than the seasoned sailors who have already traveled to the last confines of the world?

One such experienced sailor is the general manager of the Argentinean building facility, Guillermo "Memo" Castro. While Memo's resume relates a lifetime of building and managing experience, his sailing career is as

impressive as his boat building portfolio. With two trips to Cape Horn and several South Atlantic crossings under his belt, it is no surprise that he was on board the first Argentinean vessel to sail to Antarctica in 1987. Also onboard for that journey were Hernan Alvarez Forn and his daughter Veronica. Forn, the captain on the ship, documented this journey in his book titled *Antartikos*. A translated excerpt from the original Spanish reads:

*"It was not long before we overtook the obelisks or enormous vertical stones of Cape Deceit, when at 1 a.m. on December 4<sup>th</sup> we guessed—more than saw—barely profiled by an elegant touch of greyish blue, our old friend, Cape Horn, and the flashes of its lighthouse. By this stage we could say that Veronica, as well as Memo and myself were intimate with the renowned confine of America..."*

Also joining the crew for a portion of this journey was Forn's son Santiago. Santiago, who has been sailing all his life, is the business manager for the Antares facility in Argentina. One of the more impressive notes in his sailing career is a delivery from Buenos Aires to Cape Town aboard a 55-foot yacht that took 38 rainy days to cross using only a sextant to navigate with.

### THE SHAKE DOWN

While Cape Horn is the undisputed

ed destination for the shake-down cruise, the Valdez Peninsula, about 800 miles south of Buenos Aires, is the first leg of the trip. Tucking into Puerto Madryn, a well-protected natural port inside the Valdez Peninsula, gives plenty of opportunity for penguin spotting, sea lions, sea elephants and sailing with whales in one of the most fantastic natural reserves.

Sailing a further 50 miles out of the port and into the open ocean, the next 900 mile leg due south takes the new Antares owners directly to Le Maire strait to the southernmost city in the world, Ushuaia. The capital city of Tierra del Fuego gives access to one of the most beautiful cruising grounds in the world and is located between the Martial mountain range and the Beagle Channel and is sur-

rounded by an archipelago of breathtaking mountain ranges, glaciers and dramatic waterfalls.

Sailing south, with Isla Navarino to starboard, the Antares owners embark on the final leg of the journey and await the best weather window to round the

Horn and join a group of elite sailors to claim their place in sailing around one of the world's most exhilarating places. Depending on their final destination—the owners can opt to sail back to Buenos Aires en route

to the Caribbean or head into the Pacific to travel up the west coast. Either way, they take with them invaluable offshore experience during their maiden "shake-down" cruise. To learn more, visit [www.liveantares.com](http://www.liveantares.com). ~



From left to right: Felix Martinez, Ted Clements, Guillermo Castro, Rob Poirier - co-president, Santiago Forn, Jeff Woodman - co-president

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