

TAKE A BOW

# TENDER IS THE DESIGN

As the era-defining Riva Aquarama celebrates its 50th birthday, *Centurion* looks back to the original and previews the throwback newcomers



## RIVA Pride of place

Italian shipyard Riva celebrates a banner year in 2012 – it is the 170th anniversary of the firm, the 90th birthday of Carlo Riva, great-grandson of founder Pietro Riva, and the 50th birthday of Carlo’s most iconic creation, the **Aquarama**. Produced initially from 1962-1971, then in two variations until 1996, the wooden tender set the standard for Italian craftsmanship and defined Mediterranean glamour for decades. The hand-carved mahogany hull, the inimitably elegant lines, the sumptuous leather seats, the high-performance engine – all were part of the mystique that inveigled celebrities and royals alike and still surrounds the 769 vessels produced. While some of these appear on the auction block occasionally, the best chance to own a supremely elegant wooden tender is to look to a handful of German and Swiss newcomers, all of which were inspired by the Aquarama.

CHRISTINA BEISCHL

## THE HEIRS APPARENT

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### BOESCH

The **710 Ascona de Luxe** offers a sleek, timeless design with a modern twist. The powerful V8 is smoother than one might expect when it maxes out at 40 knots, and the 7.5m, mahogany-sided craft also offers the option of eco-friendly electric. [boesch.ch](http://boesch.ch)



### RIVERS AND TIDES

With its 7.1m, mahogany-planked **Shiver 6.7**, the German firm has created a masterful state-of-the-art tender with an unmistakably chic design. The standard, 146hp engine maxes out at 43 knots, while the electric option tops out at more than 27 knots. [riversandtides.de](http://riversandtides.de)



### KOJA

In Bremen, former America’s Cup racer Tony Kolb has teamed up with Martin Janssen to create the **Conqueror**, an elegant wooden yacht infused with 1930s style. But it also packs a wicked punch: the 5.7l V8 can reach 55 knots in the open water. [koja-marine.de](http://koja-marine.de)



### KAISERBOOTE

Hand-built in rural Bavaria, the **K-500 Speedster** lives up to its name with a powerful engine that propels the diminutive vessel at incredible speed. Just 5m long and weighing only 410kg, the Speedster is perfectly sized for zipping around harbours and finding secluded swimming holes. [kaiserboote.de](http://kaiserboote.de)

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BOATS SELECTED BY CORNELIA MARIOGLOU