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This superyacht was once a Soviet spy ship

Lead

This superyacht once served as a Soviet spy ship during the Cold War, discreetly eavesdropping on other countries in the North Atlantic Ocean. Following an extensive (and expensive) refit, it's now being offered for sale, pitched as one of the most luxurious yachts in the world...

The fifth in a series of 12 Russian 'sister ships', *Aji Petri* (as it was then named) ferried passengers and cargo between Odessa, Sevastopol and Istanbul until the early 1970s, when she was strategically placed in the North Atlantic by the Russian government, to (unofficially) 'eavesdrop' on other countries.

A mammoth refit



Following a mammoth 1,200,000-hour refit, carried out with an unlimited budget over seven years, *La Sultana*, as she's been renamed, is now for sale, and the specification is mind-boggling...

There are seven spacious and luxurious cabins (including the 66-square-metre owner's '*Suite Armateur*'), each clad with precious woods and marble. Whether you're strolling along the mahogany corridors enjoying the sea breeze, or simply soaking up the sun on one of the decks, *La Sultana* is reminiscent of the golden days of travel and exploration, yet entirely up-to-date in terms of technology.

All mod cons



Boasting three stunning tenders, a helipad and its very own Mini Moke (easily the coolest addition to any yacht, ever), *La Sultana* would make for the perfect offshore hub, be it on the Cote d'Azur or the Black Sea where she once sailed.

Photos: *La Sultana*

Gallery

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