



Foto: ARKUP Hydraulic jack-up systems anchor the home during a storm.

Floating homes that can withstand Category 4 hurricanes will soon become a reality

Aria Bendix · 20 Sep 2018 · 177

As [Hurricane Florence](#) makes its way across the Carolinas, millions of coastal residents have reason to be concerned about the structural integrity of their homes. Already, nearly 300,000 homes and businesses have lost power, and officials are reporting damage to property in Onslow County, North Carolina.

When Hurricane Harvey [swept Texas](#) last September, it damaged more than 204,000 homes and apartment buildings. Around the same time, Hurricane Irma [destroyed a quarter](#) of the homes in the Florida Keys, according to federal officials.

While the idea of a hurricane-proof home may sound far-fetched, a housing startup called Arkup has created a residence that can withstand rising sea levels and Category 4 hurricanes. The key lies in its hydraulic system, which lifts it 40 feet above the ocean floor.

Arkup calls the residences “livable yachts” due to their buoyant nature, which allows them to bob with the water. After debuting the designs in 2017, the company teamed up with [The Advantaged Yacht Charters & Sales](#), the oldest yacht charter company in Miami, to make the structures available for rent and purchase. In August, The Advantaged announced that it is [accepting charter reservations](#) online.

floating home.



Foto: sourceARKUP

Each 4,350-square-foot unit contains four bedrooms and four-and-a-half bathrooms.



Foto: sourceARKUP

The retail price for each home is \$5 million.



Foto: sourceARKUP

The residences provide 360-degree views of the water.

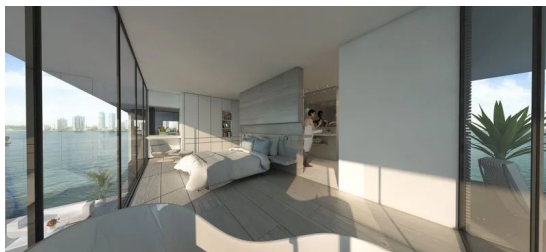


Foto: sourceARKUP

They also have zero emissions and are powered by solar panels on the roof.



Foto: sourceARKUP

Guests can disconnect from sewage lines, thanks to a system that collects, stores, and purifies rainwater.



Foto: sourceARKUP

The units are just as mobile as a typical yacht.



Foto: sourceARKUP

Even as coastal residents become more fearful of rising sea levels, Olthuis wants cities to see water as an asset, not a challenge, to new construction.



Foto: sourceARKUP