BOEING BUSINESS JET 787-8

by Brian Moore

THE LONG RANGER

A PRIVATE AIRCRAFT FOR ANY DESTINATION
Luxury, style and function: three words that are synonymous with 21st century private air travel. Synonymous, yes, but difficult to achieve when the sky is, literally, the limit. With the first ever custom-interior BBJ 787-8, the team at Kestrel Aviation Management not only embraced these limitations, but made flying for 17 hours at 43,000 feet a completely new experience.

The result is a jet that delivers any passenger on-board this VVIP aircraft to his destination refreshed and relaxed. Creating an atmosphere of calm and peace on-board the BBJ 787 was a top priority for Kestrel, and the team at Pierrejean Design Studio in Paris. With soft earth tones and an absence of sharp edges, the design teams’ organic approach strived to achieve a refreshed and revitalised arrival at destination, no matter how long the journey.
Kestrel Aviation Management’s CEO Stephen Vella outlines the vision for this unique private jet: “We wanted a design that felt luxuriously organic. Achieving a relaxed and healthy cabin ambience is very important in an aircraft that can fly over 17 hours non-stop. Kestrel aimed to produce an oasis of peace with soft earth tones, uncluttered flowing lines with the absence of sharp edges and intuitive control of natural and mood lighting. We strive for designs that feel organic, not industrial, with surfaces that invite emotional as well as physical connection. Our BBJ 787’s very low noise and vibration and lower cabin altitude minimise passenger fatigue, as does optimised air filtration and distribution.”
The team used a fusion of modern European and traditional Asian style elements, hardwoods, marble, leather, fabrics, as well as metal composites. With it, the 787 has pushed the envelope of what can be achieved with elevated luxury — on-board an already incredible aircraft. “We knew we would be pushing the frontiers of luxury, bespoke aircraft cabin design. Some designers offer cabin concepts for the BBJ 787 but many of these have been out of touch with the technical realities of this aircraft type. We are the first to convert an entire luxury cabin concept to an actual BBJ 787 — certified and ready for service,” says Vella.

The BBJ 787 provides accommodation for up to 40 people with hardwood flooring, leather-adorned bulkheads, custom artwork and extensive accent lighting. A Crema Marfil marble-adorned VVIP bathroom with oversized shower, and a master bedroom that would not be out of place in any of the world’s top hotels, complete the picture. “Kestrel has explored the world for unique materials never before seen in corporate aircraft. Our carpet offers gentle reflexology given its texture which is wonderful for the feet and circulation. We have found and customised the best leathers, fabrics, and even innovative metal composites which are incredibly lightweight. With this BBJ 787, Kestrel and its partners are launching corporate aviation into a new era of luxury, technology and style,” Vella concludes.