

**Follow along with us as we cruise onboard our  
56' Ocean Yacht.**

# *Somewhere on the Water*

Update Winter Cruise 2023-2024

Day 5 – December 5, 2023 - Jersey City, NJ to Point Pleasant, NJ

Departure time: 7:00 am

Arrival time: 12:16 pm

Total hours cruised: 5 hrs 16 mins

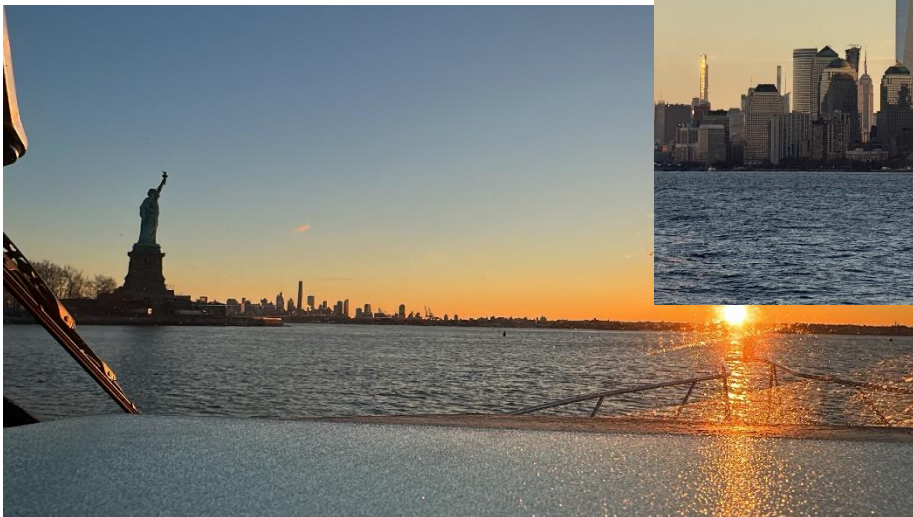
Average speed: 8.5 knots

Weather: Sunny and 38 degrees

6:30 am alarm

7:00 am engines started, electric pulled the anchor and off we go!

This morning was a beautiful morning to be in Jersey City at the edge of Manhattan with the Statue of Liberty in our view. The sunrise was gorgeous.

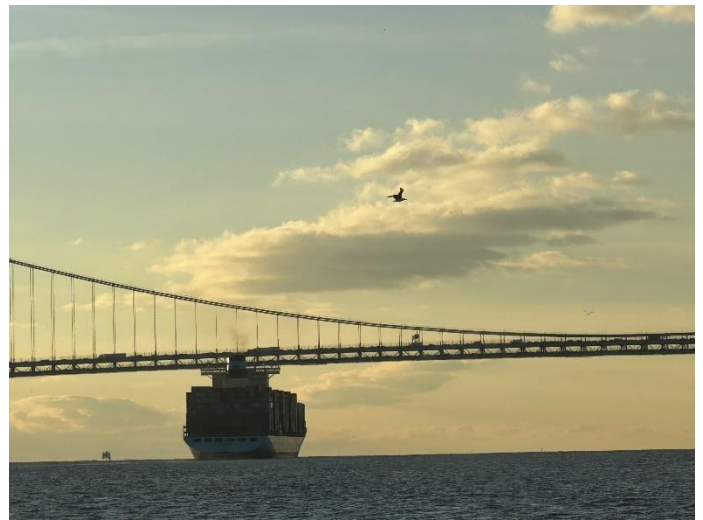


### *About last night:*

Dinner was salad and pasta. We went to bed last night expecting cold temperatures overnight down to 32 degrees. With extra blankets on hand, we hit the hay around 9 pm. We woke this morning to 60 degrees in our cabin. My opinion is that 60 degrees is great sleeping temps. No extra blankets were needed. The anchor was set, it was quiet so we felt very secure where we were so a good night's sleep was had!

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Upper New York Harbor is full of life this morning as we take off toward the Atlantic Ocean. There are several ferries, and container ships, some at anchor and some underway, plus the view itself made this morning a very exciting morning to be on the water. We followed the channel out through the Narrows into Lower New York Harbor into the Atlantic passing under the Verrazzano-Narrows Bridge which connects Staten Island and Brooklyn.



Some points of interest we saw:

- Fort Wadsworth

### *Little bit of trivia:*

Fort Wadsworth is one of the oldest military installations in the nation. The site occupies 226 acres on the northeastern shore of Staten Island, on the Narrows of New York Harbor.



- Swinburne & Hoffman Islands

*Little bit of trivia:*

Swinburne Island is a 4-acre artificial island in Lower New York Bay, east of Staten Island in New York City. It was used for quarantine of immigrants. Swinburne Island is the smaller of two nearby islands, the other being Hoffman Island to the north. [Wikipedia](#)

- Westbank Lighthouse
- Conney Island
- Fort Hancock

*Little bit of trivia:*

**Fort Hancock at Sandy Hook**—part of the Gateway National Recreation Area—provided coastal defense for New York Harbor from 1895 until 1974.

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I drove the boat for about 20 minutes this morning while still in Lower New York Harbor and brought us into the Atlantic turning us along the Jersey Shore. Once 9:00 am came I had to hand over the helm to Mark so I could start working.

10:00 am The plan today was to go to Captain Bills, Point Pleasant, NJ get fuel, and dock there for a night or two depending on the weather. Captain Bill's will not have electricity for us. As a good captain should, Mark is making backup plans just in case Point Pleasant doesn't work out. Anticipated arrival to Captain Bill's is 11:30 am so he has an hour and a half to figure out options.

Barnegat, NJ was the area where Mark was making calls to marinas for overnight, possibly two nights, and fuel. The prices there were very high and the inlet itself can be very treacherous.

*Little bit of trivia:*

Barnegat Inlet is one of the most dangerous inlets on the East Coast from a navigation standpoint. According to the Army Corps of Engineers.

Plan A it is. Captain Bill's at Point Pleasant, NJ

Two years ago we stopped here for fuel. The price was \$3.51 for diesel.

Today's Price: \$4.31 per gallon for diesel.

12:16 pm. We are at Captain Bill's. Took on fuel and then had to tie up to our slip for the night. It took a lot of fancy line work but we are in. We were fighting the wind to get into the slip, plus we had port side tie-up here. We prefer a starboard tie-up. We are expecting a 4-foot tide. We are at a fixed dock so lines need to be adjusted for that.

Once we were tied & secure; Mark checked the gear fluid. This needs to be done before he shuts the engines off.

The inside temperature is 57. There is no electricity here so the generator will be turned on for heat and cooking, same as if we were at anchor.



The water is on at this marina so we are going to fill the fresh water tank. We did just make water but it is always best to take advantage of the ability to fill up anytime possible.

This is a busy area. There are fishing vessels of all shapes and sizes everywhere coming in and out of this harbor. The fishermen are taking advantage of the abundant tuna and strippers that are in this area right now. Several do not look like they are equipped with heat. These fishermen are crazily dedicated.

Fuel: 277.494 Gallons diesel  
\$4.31/gallon  
\$-27.75 boat us discount (10%)  
\$1252.25 total fuel cost

Dock: \$1.50/foot for the night = \$84.

Every time Valkyrie takes on fuel we run the electric fuel polisher. This is a filtration system that is on a five-hour cycle. It filters the 500 gallons of fuel that is in the tank twice in those five hours. Once that is completed, Mark drains a sample to check for water and or contamination. Today there was none! Yay.

Valkyrie has two hydraulic systems. One system is for throttles and shifting. The other one is for steering. Both have a reservoir and maintain an airhead pressure. Our steering airhead pressure was getting a bit low but the fluid level was still acceptable so he topped off the airhead pressure.

2:30 pm. We have been here for two hours and have taken full advantage of this marina's (limited) services. The water tank is full, the boat is rinsed, AND since we can hardly ever clean the port side because we are usually a starboard tie, Mark used a shamy to clean as much as he could reach!

The Wifi is being put to good use:

- ✓ Updated the Navionics app
- ✓ Downloaded a bunch of new maps
- ✓ Produced and uploaded some videos
- ✓ Uploaded some files to Mark's Onedrive.

Mark's tentative plan for tomorrow: Cape May, NJ which is an 85-mile run. That would be a sunrise-to-sunset day if we go faster than our average. The plan is to anchor. We have anchored here before and it is a secure area to anchor. If we need to, we can shorten the day and stop at Atlantic City, NJ.



4:30 pm. Started the generator! It was 60 degrees in the salon; it's time! The boats continued to pass by exiting and entering the bay, and surprisingly enough we saw a paddleboarder! That's some crazy dedication.

Stay  
tuned



Link to today's video: <https://youtu.be/5w4UvbiLBtQ>

Time is unrenewable and tomorrow is never promised so do it before you can't!