

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

Someewhere on the Water

Update Winter Cruise 2023-2024

Day 82 – Tuesday, February 20, 2024 anchorage in Cape May, NJ to Sandy Hook, NJ anchorage

6:40 am – Started generator

6:45 am – Started engines & hauled the anchor

7:00 am – Leaving Cape May and turning north into the Atlantic Ocean

It was a very bumpy ride this morning. 6 foot waves or more. Everything is rattling.

This morning was very uncomfortable to say the least. Using all of the available resources Mark made the best decision he could to leave today for Point Pleasant Beach, NJ. The original plan was to stop at Captain Bills Marina for the night and buy fuel. The waves ontop of the swells had been grossly under predicted. We have been hitting waves and swells beyond anything we could have guessed we would have encountered. To make matters worse, the weather is not going to change over the next week so Mark decided that we had to get to Sandy Hook, NJ and anchor, bypassing Captain Bills. As the afternoon progressed the waves should have deminished a little but we still got slobbered by swells.

Cruising through the day and into the early evening we are expected to get to Sandy Hook around 8:30 pm.

At one point Mark slowed us down to 6 knots thinking that an engine was overheating. As we crept through the madness that the ocean was creating Mark, thankfully was able to determine that it was a loose wire on the starboard engine. An easy fix. I could not even imagine what cruising these conditions with one engine would be like.

4:00 pm

I don't even know what to say about today. I haven't been able to type or edit videos all day. The boat is in a constant state of jerking and there is no way to hold anything still. Even when sitting at the salon table my body was jerking with every wave & swell, it was like getting pushed around in a washing machine with no control of your legs, or arms. Stumbling and flailing like a rag doll.

It has been 9 hours. This was the estimated time we would have been coming upon Point Pleasant Beach, NJ but we are frogging on and have 4 more hours. I took some ibuprofen for my back pain. I watched 2 movies to distract me and Mark has limited his engine room checks this afternoon probably to spare me from having to face the huge walls of water we encounter every few seconds. If I was to ever quit boating it would be today but I cannot quit because I cannot get off the boat. No matter what my feelings were, voicing them wasn't going to change the situation we were in so I kept my mouth shut and let my silence do the talking for me. I am thankful to my boat friends for texting me this morning when I was at my peak of nervousness. I have complete confidence in Mark and Valkyrie. It isn't about that. It is about being in a situation where I have no control over anything. None. Not today anyway.

When a captain uses all of their resources and all of them are giving the same information but the reality is far worse than it isn't solely the captain's fault that the vessel was caught up in the situation.

Mark said he read the depth finder when we were hitting some of the swells this afternoon (after he noticed things calming down in the early afternoon) and saw that the waves were 2-4 feet, however, the swells on top of the chop were also 2 – 4 feet. So the ones we tangled with this morning were bigger. As of 4:45 pm, we were in 1-2 foot chop with 1-2 foot swells.

We cruised through suppertime. My original plan was to have chicken & vegetables in the skillet but I was not chopping anything with a knife in those conditions so pizza in the oven once anchored.

9:00 pm – Anchor dropped & Engines off
14 hours of cruising

Stay
tuned



<https://youtu.be/0tzQsldHjJY>

We talked about day 2 of our trip in this video and how we had to anchor in the dark: <https://youtu.be/kXt2CGykjFY> if you are interested in watching.

Also, on day 3 of the trip (how quickly I had forgotten) we had a fairly decent wavy day on the water. It was more of a pitch and roll rather than the crap we had today so it did not seem so horrible in comparison but check it out and decide for yourself. <https://youtu.be/qbcFjepqQhk>

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