

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

Somewhere on the Water

Our Great Loop
1000 Island Yacht Club to Swan Bay, NY

Monday, June 30, 2025
Day 34 (21st day of cruising)

Welcome! Glad to have you here!

Spent this morning doing some chores and working. We wanted to use the opportunity of being at a dock to the fullest, regarding the electricity and water.

12:00 pm – Departed the dock and started our cruise to Swan Bay.

The Saint Lawrence River is busy today with pleasure boaters, jet skiers, four boats, ships, and more.

We arrived at 12:36 pm. Mark had trouble setting the anchor. Like Clayton, there are a lot of weeds. By 12:45 pm, he felt like the anchor had a good set, so he was able to turn the engines off.

It was a busy area, Swan Bay. There were a few boats rafted up, and they were swimming and enjoying themselves. It was almost 90 degrees, which I am sure was a contributing factor as to why it's so busy.

On shore, we can see an RV Park and a Mobile Home Park with docks. Swan Bay is the Premier waterfront campground resort. There are chalets available for rent and a marina. (too small for our boat)

Now that we have explored the 1000 Islands, visited Singer Castle, Boldt Castle, Alexandria Bay, Clayton, Cape Vincent, and spent many nights at anchor, we have decided to move on from this area and go to Canada rather than try to stall our progress just to see July 4th fireworks.

We decided we wanted to try to get to Kingston, Ontario for July 1, Canada Day, and maybe see some fireworks there.

Unfortunately, it turned out that the marina in Kingston had no space. Obviously, we are ok with anchoring and not going to a marina, but we felt as though we needed to be in Kingston to check in with Canada's border control.

Dinner tonight was Chicken foil packets on the grill. It was not a labor-intensive meal; however, it was a bit of an ordeal cooking it. Once you place all the ingredients in the foil packet, you place it on the grill top side down, cook for 10 or so minutes, turn it over, cook for 10 or so minutes, and then open the foil packet, add shredded cheese, and return it to the grill to melt the cheese. It was not smooth, and it was a little messy. Not sure if I will repeat this dinner.



After dinner, we took the dinghy to a nearby dock and went food shopping at Price Chopper. Super convenient. The dock is listed as the Price Chopper dock on Navonics. There were carts at the dock left by previous boaters, which were handy. It was a short walk through the RV park. Price Chopper is a good store and had everything we needed, and some things we didn't, like ice cream.

While we were out, we got a call back from Kingston Marina letting us know that our reservation request for July 2 was accepted, which means one more night at anchor in the USA before going to Canada.

Later on this evening, we finished Clarkson's Farm on Amazon Prime.

Daily Summary:

Departed from 1000 Island Yacht Club @ 12:00 pm

Arrived at Swan Bay @ 12:36 pm

Hours traveled: 36 mins total for the day

Nautical Miles Traveled: 2.02 for the day (569.34 total miles)

Average Speed 3.2 knots

Weather: mid 80's

Anchorage/mooring/marina review: Marina had potable Water, good electric, great location for exploration on the tender. The office staff was very kind and accommodating.

#of locks we went through: 0 (30 total locks)

Our Great Loop
Swan Bay to Clayton, NY

Tuesday, July 1, 2025
Day 35 (22nd day of cruising)

Welcome! Glad to have you here!

9:30 am Mark hauled the anchor, and we set out for Clayton.

Yes, I know, we have already been there, but we have exhausted all anchorages in the 1000 Islands, and we could not secure a reservation in Kingston until July 2. Also, I need a post office before we leave the States.

It is a foggy morning, and Valkyrie is covered in bugs, again.

10:40 am – we drop anchor in Clayton.
It is still foggy.



We are anchored next to Asylum. We met Steve and Stacy back in Sylvan Beach, NY, and saw them again in Phoenix, NY. While in Phoenix, Steve, Stacy, together with Next Chapter, Carlene, and Paul, we tried a game night learning Jockers & Marbles. It was fun, although I don't think we finished the game.

Steve stopped by for a quick chat. He was on his way into town to the post office, of all places, so he kindly took my mail for me. Thank you, Steve. He has a wealth of information regarding boating in this area. This is his home turf. He gave us some suggestions regarding our trip over to Kingston, some restaurant and touring ideas.

Mark gave himself a haircut today.

It is 1:40 pm and still hazy and cool outside.

Pre-dinner cocktails on the mezzanine this afternoon, which turned out to be the nicest part of the day. It warmed up and became quite pleasant.

We had a late dinner after talking with our daughter for 1 ½ hours - best part of my day! 😊

Thank you to a fellow looper who took this photo of Valkyrie during this amazing sunset. Gorgeous!

We ended up seeing fireworks being shot off in the distance in Canada. Happy Canada Day!

Daily Summary:

Departed from Swan Bay @ 9:30 am

Arrived at Clayton @ 10:40 am

Hours traveled: 1 hour 10 mins total for the day

Nautical Miles Traveled: 7 for the day 576.34 total miles

Average Speed 5 knots

Weather: Mostly damp, foggy

Anchorage/mooring/marina review: Good anchor hold. Busy boating area, easy access to food shopping.

#of locks we went through: 0 (30 total locks)



Our Great Loop
Clayton, NY to Kingston, Ontario

Wednesday, July 2, 2025
Day 36 (23rd day of cruising)

Welcome! Glad to have you here!

8:55 am – Engines started

9:05 am – Engines off!!!

Mark was hauling the anchor, and with it came tons of grass. We knew Clayton had a grassy bottom because we had been here before, and you can see it through the water...but this was crazy.

He shut the engines off in caution so that the intakes don't suck it up!



9:10 am – take 2

Mark decided to drag the anchor, which is covered in grass and mud, to clean it off. He had 95 percent up and had cleared most of the grass off. Dragging the anchor is not an unusual cleaning tactic for him.

Steve from M/V Asylum gave Mark a suggested route from Clayton, NY, to Kingston, Ontario, which we decided to take. It was a gorgeous cruise.

Stay tuned as Valkyrie crosses into Canada and arrives in Kingston, Ontario.

 **YouTube** <https://youtu.be/d0oTBPW7iLs>

That is a wrap for this update!



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

Please don't forget to LIKE & SUBSCRIBE to our YouTube channel!
Every subscriber helps us a lot! We appreciate it!

