

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

# Somewhere on the Water

Our Great Loop

Lock 34 Fenelon Falls lower wall to Balsam Lake anchorage

Saturday, July 12, 2025

Welcome! Glad to have you here!

We decided to have a leisurely morning before walking to town and exploring the shops. Fenelon Falls, known as the *Jewel of Kawarthas*, is a vibrant village with a lot of unique shops, restaurants, a brewery, and in the height of the summer season, there is no shortage of entertainment. Restaurants have bands, there are free concerts in the park, and an abundance of opportunities to boat, kayak, jetski, etc., with Cameron Lake so close. The waterfalls are beautiful, and the lock entertains in its own right. Many come to watch boaters lock through lock 34 and often strike up conversations.



Lock 34 is built on an island, and at one time was a flight lock, but was reconstructed in 1964.

Getting into the lock was tricky. Valkyrie's cockpit hung out past the doors, and Mark was instructed to maneuver Valkyrie between the boats in front

of us so we could inch forward enough for the lock doors to close, then ease back after they were shut. Mark said the boat in front of us was less than thrilled as he stared at our anchor as it was directly over him.

It is true what they say about this lock and the crowds of people who watch boats go through. Mark had a long conversation with a group of people about Valkyrie, our YouTube channel, etc. They were very nice, inquisitive, and I hope they are watching and enjoying. Hello to you if you are out there!

Once we were locked through, we entered Cameron Lake.

Cameron Lake, Ontario is one of the Kawartha Lakes and is a lake bordering the town of Fenelon Falls and is part of the Trent–Severn Waterway. The lake is some 6.7 kilometres long by 3.5 kilometres wide and is quite deep, reaching 15 metres in places. The lake lies between locks 34 & 35 on the Trent–Severn Waterway. [Wikipedia](#)

Lock 35, Rosedale, is just a few miles away from Lock 34 and links Camerson and Balsam Lakes. It has a short 4' lift. This is a great place to overnight if you can get the room at the wall. It has a huge park, is surrounded by trees, and vegetation providing cool shade. There are often campers tenting out overnight here and picnickers enjoying the area.

### *Super Cool Fun Fact:*

Balsam Lake is situated in the Kawartha Lakes region of south-central Ontario near the town of Coboconk. It is famous for being the highest elevation ocean-navigable body of water on earth. Occupying the highest point on the Trent-Severn Waterway, water flows out of the lake at both connection points with the Waterway – at the north-west end near Kirkfield and eastern end at Rosedale. The primary inflow to the lake is via the Gull River system, which originates in Haliburton. <https://www.kawarthawaterfront.com/balsam-lake/>

What are the Kawartha Lakes?

The Kawartha Lakes are a chain of 14 lakes in south-central Ontario, Canada, northeast of Toronto. They are a popular area for outdoor recreation, featuring a network of lakes and waterways connected by the Trent-Severn Waterway, which

provides boating and fishing opportunities. The name "Kawartha" comes from a First Nations word meaning "bright waters and happy lands". Google

The **City of Kawartha Lakes** area is said to have over 250 lakes and rivers, while the historic **Kawartha Lakes** chain consists of 14 connected lakes. The larger number refers to the broader geographical region, which includes many smaller lakes and waterways beyond the main chain, according to Bobcaygeon.org

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It started to get a little windy, but it was supposed to peak by 5 pm and switch direction, which means we were protected overnight and kept us cool.

We spent our time at anchor, floating and swimming. I did a load of laundry and made Keilbaska and veggies on the grill for dinner.



We had a boater come by and say hello. His mother is from Marion, MA. He recognized our Buzzards Bay hailing port on Valkyrie's transom. So great to have encounters like these. Makes this big world seem a little smaller and friendlier.

The moon was magnificent, and there were private fireworks off a beach in front of us. It was great to be at anchor!

## *Daily Summary:*

Departed from Fenelon Falls @ 11:38 am

Arrived at Anchorage on Balsm Lake @ 1:50 pm

Days cruised: 33      Days on the loop: 46

Hours traveled: 2hrs 12 mins total for the day

Nautical Miles Traveled: 8.75 for the day (823.5 total miles)

Average Speed 3.9 knots

Weather: Sunny in the 80's

Anchorage/mooring/marina review: Fenelon Falls wall was a good place to be, close to downtown, could swim & fish here.

#of locks we went through: 2 (64 total locks)

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Sunday, July 13, 2025

At anchor in Balsam Lake

A lazy summer day was on the agenda today after a couple of minor chores. Mark changed the water filter on the water maker. I did a load of laundry and worked on our next video.

The cloudy gray morning turned into a sunshiny afternoon. One of our floats went flat yesterday. Mark was able to fix it so we could both float this afternoon. And float we did! For 2 hours. It was so relaxing and amazing. We forgot about the stress of work, trying to plot our next day's route, and yes, we are missing our friends and family, but we decided to just enjoy the moment. It was amazing

We had a scrumptious dinner, marinated steak with sweet potatoes on the grill. Yum.

Tomorrow we leave early to traverse one of, if not the tightest, most narrow channels on the Trent. It is a one-boat-width channel, and if you meet a boat, well, I don't want to think about it. Unfortunately, a lot of American boaters do not have their international radio transmit license, so calling out a secure te seemed pointless, but nonetheless, necessary, and we will plan to place a secure te call before entering. We planned to leave at first light. Wish us luck!



## Daily Summary:

Departed from Fenelon Falls @ am

Arrived at @

Days cruised: 33 Days on the loop: 47

Hours traveled: total for the day

Nautical Miles Traveled: for the day (823.50 total miles)

Average Speed knots

Weather: Sunny in the

Anchorage/mooring/marina review: Amazing! Swim, relax, peaceful

#of locks we went through: 0 (64 total locks)

 **YouTube** <https://youtu.be/6D7WfBCodlc>

That is a wrap for this update!



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

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