

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

Somewhere on the Water

Our Great Loop
Monday, July 28, 2025
Killarney Bay to Baie Fine – The Pool

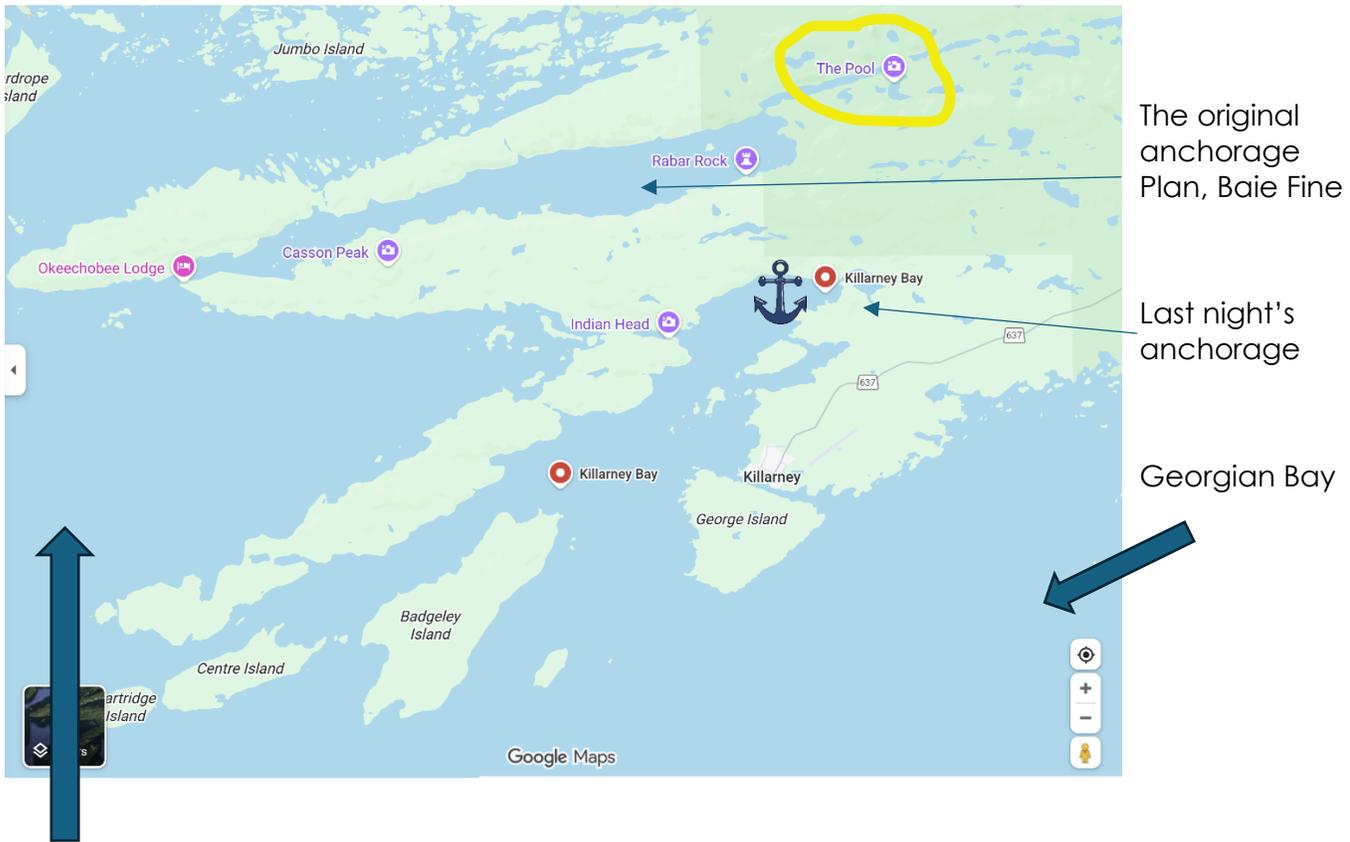
Welcome! Glad to have you here!

We are back with full coverage! Our previous update was limited due to a devastating loss of photos & videos. Thankfully, we did not lose the footage for Baie Fine and The Pool, an extraordinary place that highlights the beauty and wonder of the unspoiled nature of Ontario, Canada.

While we were at anchor here in Killarney Bay, we saw a seaplane take off, and several hours later, it returned, and we got to see it land! We marveled at how late the sun sets. At 9:30 pm, it was barely dusk, which I thought was cool, knowing that our friends and family in Massachusetts were in the dark at this time of night.

Left Killarney Bay this beautiful morning. The thought was to cruise to Baie Fine, anchor about halfway down, then tomorrow take the tender the remainder of the way to *The Pool*. Here you can dock the tender and hike to Topaz Lake for a swim. All reports indicate that the water can get very shallow in Baie Fine so we weren't sure we would risk going all the way to *The Pool*.

Killarney Bay, Ontario, refers to the picturesque area around the village of Killarney on Georgian Bay, a gateway to the stunning Killarney Provincial Park known for its La Cloche Mountains, pink granite shores, sapphire lakes, incredible hiking (like The Crack), canoeing, and wilderness camping, offering a beautiful natural escape with rich history and abundant outdoor activities.
Google



Lake Huron is known for its extensive, island-dotted shoreline (the longest of the Great Lakes), its rich maritime history including numerous shipwrecks in the [Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary](#), [Manitoulin Island](#) (the world's largest freshwater island), [stunning natural beauty](#) like dunes and clear waters, historic lighthouses, dark skies perfect for stargazing, and its connection forming part of the Great Lakes system with Michigan. Google

Key Features & Attractions

- **Longest Shoreline:**
With over 3,800 miles of coastline, including rugged cliffs, sandy beaches, and forests, it offers diverse landscapes.
- **[Manitoulin Island:](#)**
Home to the world's largest freshwater island, which itself contains numerous lakes.

Fun Facts

- Technically, Lake Huron and Lake Michigan are one body of water, connected by the Straits of Mackinac.
- It was the first Great Lake discovered by Europeans, leading to significant North American exploration.
- It's the world's fifth-largest freshwater lake by surface area.

Rabar Rock, also known as [Ripple Rock](#), in Baie Fine, Ontario, is a fascinating geological feature within Killarney Provincial Park, showcasing ancient ripple marks preserved in 2-billion-year-old sandstone from the Lorrain Formation, revealing evidence of primordial waves in a shallow sea and a unique geological history where the rock beds were tilted by tectonic forces. It's a notable landmark for boaters and hikers exploring the area, famous for its distinct, wave-like patterns on its surface. Google

Key Characteristics:

- **Ancient Origins:** The rock dates back to the Proterozoic era, formed from ancient sand.
- **Fossilized Waves:** The prominent ripple marks are actual fossilized sand waves from when the area was a shallow sea.
- **Geological Interest:** It features multiple sandstone beds with ripple marks at nearly right angles, indicating changing water directions.

(shown on the map)

Baie Fine is a stunning, long, narrow freshwater fjord (one of the world's largest) located near the town of [Killarney, Ontario, Canada](#) within [Killarney Provincial Park](#), known for its dramatic white quartzite cliffs and deep, clear waters, often reached by boat through a narrow channel from Georgian Bay to its anchor point, "The Pool," offering hiking to [Lake Topaz](#) and a secluded wilderness experience.

Key Features

- **Geography:** A fjord carved by glaciers, featuring towering white quartzite mountains (part of the La Cloche Range) on either side, creating breathtaking scenery. Google
- **Location:** Accessible from Killarney, Ontario, it's part of Killarney Provincial Park.
- **"The Pool":** A popular, deep anchorage at the end of the fjord where boaters gather, often hiking to nearby Lake Topaz.



- **Activities:** Boating, canoeing, kayaking, hiking, swimming, cliff jumping, and enjoying serene, off-grid nature.
- **Access:** Reached by boat from Killarney, often involving navigating narrow channels.



Thank you, Vicki and Jerry. Loopers on their M/V Escape. We saw them yesterday in Killarney Bay. They cruised here to Baie Fine Inlet all the way into The Pool. They reached out to us and said there was plenty of room and the water was no less than 9', so we could make it. Mark never planned to come this far with Valkyrie, so thank you! This was magnificent and will be one of my loop highlights!

As we approached the anchorage, we passed by the Evinrude cottage. Well-known landmark in this area. Evinrude (engine/boat motor company) has since passed, and the cottage is presumed to have remained in the family.



M/V Roam, which we have crossed paths with multiple times, tied up to the dock on the Evinrude island, along with a pontoon boat that came in full of people at the same time. We have been curious how that worked out. The cottage and its dock are not listed as available for public use or in the popular Dockwa reservation system or Navionics. He must be "in the know."

We spent some of the afternoon floating, swimming, and Mark jumped off the flybridge for the 1st time this summer; it only took a triple dog dare from Vicki. The water temperature was close to 80 degrees.

It was such an amazing, pristine, peaceful anchorage, and I absolutely cannot describe how breathtaking. We are surrounded by nature's beauty. I could never have imagined that we would be fortunate enough to bring Valkyrie to such an extraordinary place.



Although today's cruise was short, the rugged, minimally invaded natural wonder of Kilarney Bay, Baie Fine, and The Pool made an everlasting impression.

Daily Summary:

Departed from Killraney Bay anchorage @ 8:58 am

Arrived at The Pool, Baie Fine anchorage @ 12:16 pm

Days cruised: 45 Days on the loop: 62

Hours traveled: 3 hours 18 mins

Nautical Miles Traveled: 22.83 for the day (1067.91 total miles)

Average Speed 6.9 knots

Weather: Sunny, Hot, perfect summer day

Anchorage/mooring/marina review: Protected cove, good hold

#of locks we went through: (73 total locks)

Tuesday, July 29, 2025

Day 63 (no cruising)

Baie Fine – the Pool

I set an alarm for 12:15 am and went out to the cockpit to view the night sky. I am so glad I did. There was no wind, and this pool of water we are in was absolutely still. It was so still that I could see the reflection of the stars in the water like a mirror. I saw a shooting star! It was amazing. The only light pollution was from the neighboring boats' anchor lights.

We climbed up to Topaz Lake and went for a swim. It was a hike, not a walk. Some of it was rocky, but all was perfectly manageable. We went with Vicki and Jerry from M/V Escape. At first, we started on the wrong trail but quickly reversed direction and made it to our destination. It was as beautiful as everyone states. The water was clear, warm, and inviting. There were several kids cliff jumping nearby. We were swimming for about ½ an hour or so when a large group of people started trickling down into the same swim area we were. Jokingly, I said to Mark, "Did the tour bus just arrive?" Well, yes, it had. North Channel Tours offers a tour to the Baie

Fine Inlet that includes a guided hike to Topaz Lake with time to swim. We actually saw some people we know, imagine that! A couple that we met in the Bustards Islands. Their boat was anchored near Valkyrie. They were docked in Little Current and decided to take the tour, and coincidentally enough, we were there at the same time.

Topaz Lake is only accessible by hiking the La Cloche Silhouette trail or by boat. You can take a tour as our looper friends did, or a private boat like us.

Upon returning from our hike, there were 2 additional boats anchored here. Loopers we met in the Bustard Islands. We chatted with them for a few minutes before they left to hike to the lake.

M/V Next Chapter came along later this afternoon. Remember them? They were our buddy boat back through the Erie and Oswego Canals and the 1000 Islands. We had dinner with them on board Valkyrie. It was a fun night catching up on loop stories.

I got up at 2:30 am to see the night sky; there are supposed to be meteor showers. I did not see any, but I did see one slow-moving, bright orange glow shooting across the sky for several seconds before it disappeared. Maybe a meteor?

Wednesday, July 30, 2025

Day 64 (no cruising)

Baie Fine – the Pool

We were going to leave Baie Fine today, but decided to stay one more night so we could spend more time with Paul and Carllene from Next Chapter.

Mark ran the generator for several hours (to make up for not running it last night), and I worked. It was quiet; most of the boats we knew left today, and a few more (that we didn't know) came in. It was a cloudy day. Many people anchored here have been very active swimming or frolicking about, cliff jumping, paddleboarding, etc., but not today.

We had dinner on board Next Chapter. It was a fun night.

Tomorrow we cruise to Little Current.

That is a wrap for this update!

 **YouTube** <https://youtu.be/txMMv8T71wE>

I am sure you are aware that I have been creating word search puzzle books and have been selling them on Amazon. They are a lot of fun to make, and the royalties go directly to supporting our Great Loop adventure. Each one is of low cost to you and comes with great benefits.

Did you know that word search puzzle books offer a fun, low-pressure way to boost memory & focus, and provide a relaxing break from overstimulation? Well, now you do! Click the link below for a word search puzzle book that interests you!

I have created a word search puzzle book on the following topics:

Dance: <https://a.co/d/aDcuPsj>

Gymnastics <https://a.co/d/6xvJQS8>

Horses <https://a.co/d/05kOK33>

Princesses <https://a.co/d/c3KoXLv>

Pickleball <https://a.co/d/fbAAyxl>

Mindfulness <https://a.co/d/2JS1M5n>

Newest release:

The Great Loop <https://a.co/d/igtPk7y>



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

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