

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

Somewhere on the Water

Our Great Loop

Tuesday, August 26, 2025

Muskegon, MI anchorage to Hartshorn Marina, Muskegon, MI

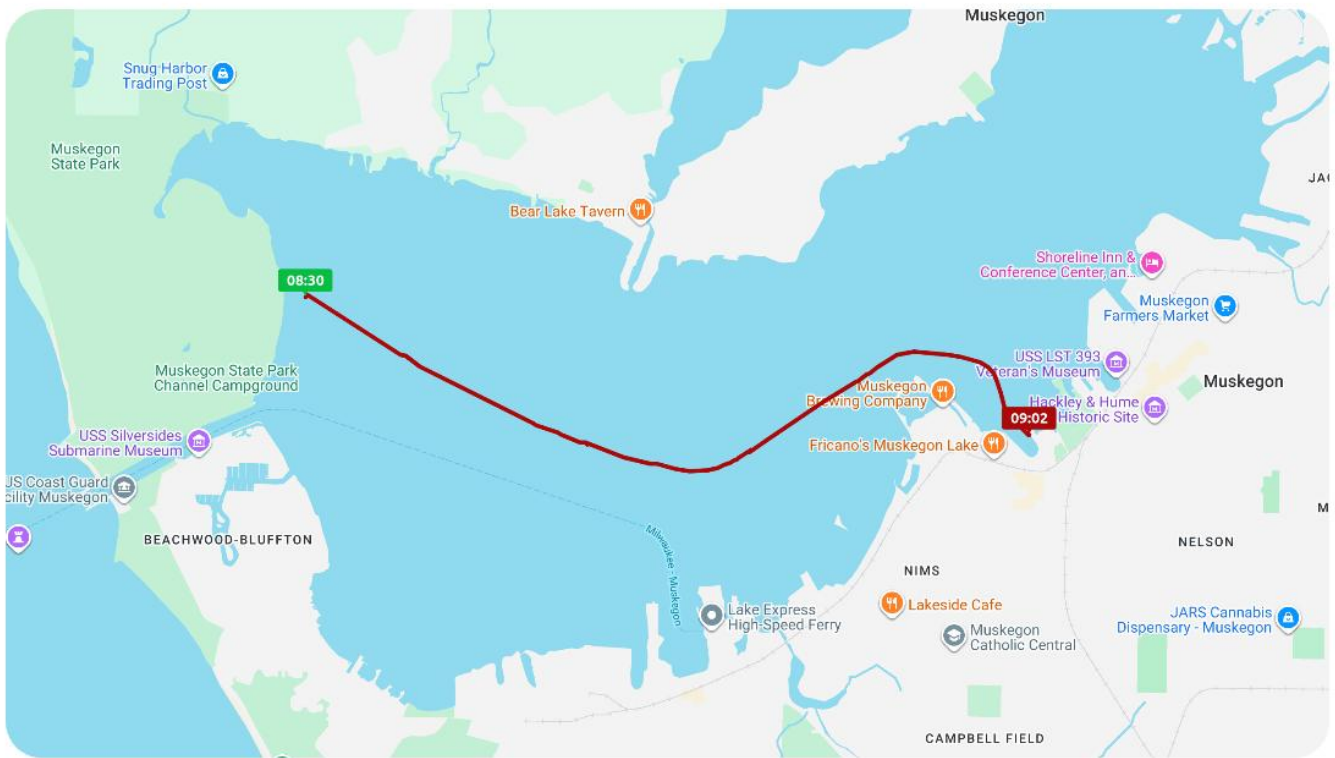
Welcome! Glad to have you here!

We took a very short cruise from our anchorage to the marina here in Muskegon. We are expecting company tomorrow, so we thought it best if we were at a marina to host. As much as we love to anchor, it is nice to get a slip at a marina from time to time. It allows us the opportunity to fill our fresh water tank, pump out the grey water tank, ditch the trash, rinse (wash) Valkyrie, get provisions (delivery or nearby grocery store), and, of course, explore and get some exercise, to name a few benefits.

Upon our arrival at Hartshorn Municipal Marina, Pat and Pam helped us with our lines. They were onboard their Deverefer in the slip next to us. They have friends who have an Ocean Yachts 48', which is our boat without the cockpit.

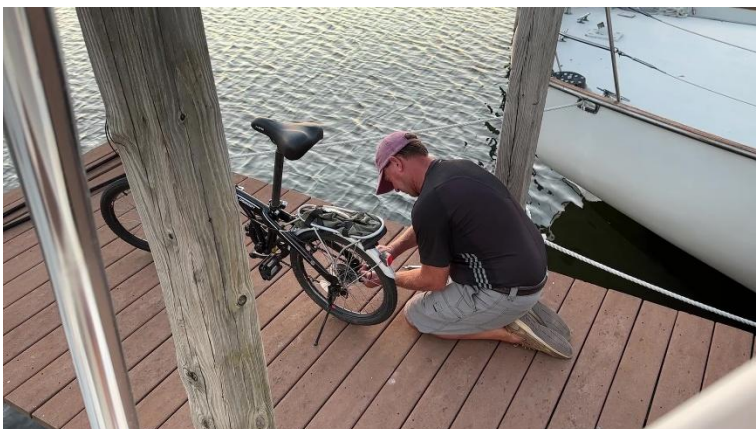
Muskegon has a cruise terminal at Heritage Landing. Today there were two cruise ships in port.

A quick rain squall passed through as Mark was washing Valkyrie. I was able to get some chores done inside, and once we were all caught up on the "to-do" list, we rode our bikes into town. We covered approximately 6 miles. We followed the bike trail and then continued into downtown Muskegon, following along the Heritage Trail that brought us by several historic buildings/homes, and then we biked along the main strip where most of the shops and restaurants are. We did not stop and go into any of the shops or restaurants. Unfortunately, I did not take any photos or video of Muskegon. Downtown was pleasant and, for a Tuesday afternoon, not too busy, which made biking easy.



Muskegon is known for fishing, sailing regattas, and boating. It is the most populous city along Lake Michigan's eastern shore. At the 2020 census, the city's population was 38,318. [Wikipedia](#)

Located just steps away from Downtown Muskegon, Hartshorn is Muskegon Lake's only municipal marina.



These bikes have carried us a lot of miles. Mark purchased them used in Buzzards Bay while we were cruising onboard Valkyrie during the Winter 2023/2024. You can find our blog on that cruise [here](#):

<https://alongsidcreations.com/somewhere-on-the-water-winter-cruise-2023-2024/>



<https://www.hartshornmarina.com/wp-content/uploads/Downtown-Map-e1512583311462.jpg>

The [Muskegon Lakeshore Trail](#) is approximately **12 miles long** (ranging between 11.2 and 12 surveyed miles). If you meant the separate, longer regional rail-trail that also connects to the area, the [Musketawa Trail](#) is **25 miles long**. [[1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#)]

Muskegon Lakeshore Trail Details

- **Route:** Winds along the southern and eastern shores of Muskegon Lake over to the Lake Michigan beachfront at Pere Marquette Park.
- **Surface:** Paved multi-use path and boardwalks.
- **Endpoints:** From W. Sherman Boulevard in Muskegon up to Center Street in North Muskegon. [[1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#)]

Musketawa Trail Details

- **Route:** Runs cross-country from East Muskegon down to Marne (near Grand Rapids).
- **Surface:** Paved rail-trail. Google.



I had taco salad for dinner, and Mark had tacos for dinner.

We had a beautiful sunset as we ate dinner on the mezzanine.



Daily Summary:

Departed from Muskegon anchorage @ 8:14 am

Arrived at Hartshorn Marina @ 9:11 am

Days cruised: 63 Days on the loop: 91

Hours traveled: 57 mins

Nautical Miles Traveled: 3.03 (1,507.05 total miles)

Average Speed: 3.1 knots

Weather: mid 70's

Anchorage/mooring/marina review: great anchorage, excellent hold, lots to look at to keep you entertained

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

Wednesday, August 27, 2025
Hartshorn Marina, Muskegon, MI

All this time we spent in Muskegon centered around today. I was super excited to see my friend Gordon. He lives in Wisconsin. He travelled on the ferry from Milwaukee, WI, to visit with us. We met in college our freshman year and were friends throughout. We even attended each other's weddings. His was in Wisconsin, and mine in Vermont. Although admittedly I am not the best at corresponding with distant friends and family, we have managed to do so all these years. Do you want to know how many years that is? I am scared to admit y'all will think I am old. LOL. 38 years.

We spent the day onboard Valkyrie sharing stories and laughs, and then walked the Lakeshore Trail to Muskegon Brewing Company for lunch. After lunch, we continued along the trail to the ferry to say goodbye to Gordo. All in all, we walked 6 miles today.



Photo credit: Muskegon Brewing Company website.

Mark had the walleye, I had salmon, and Gordon had the shrimp poboy

Once Mark and I returned to Valkyrie, we had a cocktail on the mezzanine. I did not cook dinner since we had a big lunch.

Thursday, August 28, 2025

Hartshorn Marina, Muskegon, MI back to the same anchorage

Left marina this morning around 11:45 am. Even for the shortest of cruises, the captain does the normal pre-departure checklist. We call it "all the things."



Before departure, I cooked up some pasta for a salad for tonight's dinner and boiled some eggs for egg salad to snack on, and we made a Walmart Plus order for delivery tomorrow while we are in Grand Haven. We were able to add beer to our order, which I think might be the first time we were able to include alcohol in a provision delivery.

For dinner, Mark grilled chicken, and it was served with macaroni salad.



Daily Summary:

Departed from Hartshorn Marina, Muskegon, MI @ 11:42 am

Arrived at Muskegon, MI anchorage @ 12:22 pm

Days cruised: 64 Days on the loop: 93

Hours traveled: 39 mins

Nautical Miles Traveled: 2.99 (1,510.04 total miles)

Average Speed: 4.5 knots

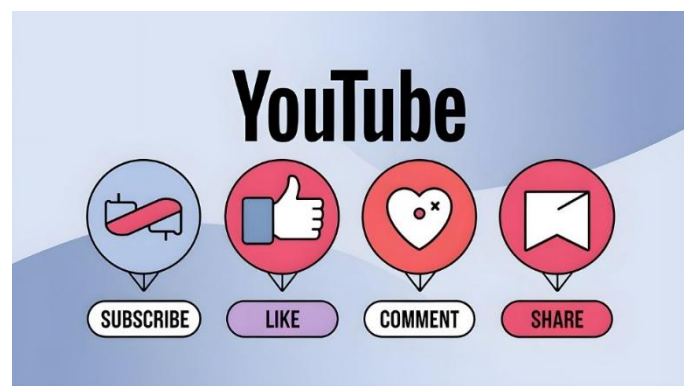
Weather: cool, breezy, cloudy

Anchorage/mooring/marina review: Good, no laundry, easy access to bike trail.

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



<https://youtu.be/YunoxMnpFK8>



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