

## **BWSC Southern Cruise - West**

### **Detailed Plan**

**August 2018**

Ahoy, Blue Water Sailing Club members! This year we have planned an interesting and relaxing cruise for the southwestern ends of our normal cruising grounds. We have one long day, a few short days, and an early start to avoid foul tides. But it should all add up to fun times and scenic harbors. What follows is (1) first our schedule, then (2) details on each day with information on marinas/moorings/possible plans and finally (3) a visual overview of our route.

**IMPORTANT:** Please sign up early, and make any reservations you might want soon, since we will be cruising during the height of the season. Mention you are with the Club and they'll often try to put us closer together. We've already put in an order for warm weather, fair winds and balmy evenings. Here's what else to expect:

**Astronomical Date:** Sun Rise 06:06; Sun Set 20:26; New York 11 August 2018

**Cruise Communications Channel:** Channel 68

<b>Tidal Currents at the Race</b>				
<b>Date</b>	<b>Flood to West</b>	<b>Ebb to East</b>	<b>Itinerary</b>	<b>Distance</b>
<b>AUG 11 SAT</b>	<b>06:18 - 12:12</b>	<b>12:12 - 18:36</b>	<b>HOME to Point Judith</b>	
<b>AUG 12 SUN</b>	<b>07:06 - 13:06</b>	<b>13:06 - 19:30</b>	<b>Point Judith to Block Island</b>	<b>13 NM</b>
<b>AUG 13 MON</b>	<b>08:00 - 14:00</b>	<b>14:00 - 20:24</b>	<b>Block Island to Sag Harbor</b>	<b>36 NM</b>
<b>(We'll have the flood at our back to the north end of Gardiner's Island)</b>				
<b>AUG 14 TUE</b>	<b>08:48 - 14:48</b>	<b>14:48 - 21:18</b>	<b>Sag Harbor Lay Day</b>	
<b>AUG 15 WED</b>	<b>09:42 - 15:42</b>	<b>03:12 - 22:18</b>	<b>Sag Harbor to Greenport</b>	<b>10 NM</b>
<b>AUG 16 THU</b>	<b>10:36 - 16:36</b>	<b>04:30 - 10:36</b>	<b>Greenport to West Harbor Fisher's Island</b>	<b>22 NM</b>
<b>(Early Start - Will need to be through the Race by 11:30)</b>				
<b>AUG 17 FRI</b>	<b>11:30 - 17:30</b>	<b>05:06 - 11:30</b>	<b>West Harbor to Block Island</b>	<b>23 NM</b>
<b>AUG 18 SAT</b>	<b>12:30 - 18:30</b>	<b>06:06 - 12:30</b>	<b>Block Island Lay Day</b>	
<b>AUG 19 SUN</b>	<b>13:30 - 19:24</b>	<b>07:06 - 13:30</b>	<b>Block Island to HOME</b>	

The currents are always a challenge on a one-week sail when going both ways through or near the Race. As you can see, to make our cruise work, we have a quick hop to Block Island for one night in order to shorten our longest sail on the day of August 13. This will also allow for a leisurely start from Pt Judith and get us to Block in time to hopefully secure moorings. On the 13<sup>th</sup> we'll have a fair current most of the day, helping with the 36 mile leg. Returning is a bit more of challenge. The morning of the 16<sup>th</sup> we'll want to start early to get past the Race by 11:30 AM, at the latest, on our way to West Harbor. More details on each day and harbor follow.

#### **Point Judith – Saturday August 11**

The cruise starts in Pt. Judith. Since this is our first evening, and many may be arriving late, there will be no organized event this evening. However, as noted above, cruisers should typically use and monitor

channel 68 to communicate with each other throughout the cruise, although normal hailing procedures are fine as well. It's likely we may spontaneously end up meeting on some of the boats or on shore, so please check in. There is one possible marinas and two anchorages:

Marinas: Pt Judith Marina; Talk to Ann; Phone 401-789-7189. Space here is limited and she cannot guarantee anything now, but suggests calling as soon as possible after July 4 and regularly thereafter.

Anchorages: We can anchor in the Harbor of Refuge, tucked into the corner. Other boats are usually visible. Also, there is a new anchorage for boats drawing 6' or less called the "special recreation area". It is up into the pond about 1-1/2 miles. It is behind Beach Island in what is called the Middle Pond. Chart 13219 off the internet would be handy to have for this.

It's always advisable to get a reasonably early start the next day if you plan to try for a mooring at Block Island, although at least we're arriving on a Sunday.

#### **Pt. Judith to Block Island – Sunday August 12**

Let's plan on a dinghy raft-up behind one of the boats sometime around 5 pm for Happy Hour. It's possible we may reserve something in advance for dinner if enough boats express interest and it's possible. If not, we'll wing it.

Moorings: Pick up any green mooring; Fee is \$45/boat/night; Rafting of two boats allowed but both pay; Call harbormaster on Ch 12 when entering the Pond

Marinas: Champlins; Phone 401-466-7777  
BI Boat Basin; Phone 401-466-2631  
Paynes; Phone 401-466-5571

Anchorage: On the port side shortly after entering the Pond. Watch out for the cable crossing!

#### **Block Island to Sag Harbor – Monday August 13**

We'll have the currents on the stern or stern quarter from 0800 to 1400! But we do have 36 miles to cover. So depart at the time of your choosing with that in mind. We'll have a Lay Day in Sag and hope to plan a shore-side activity with planning still in progress.

Moorings and Docks: Contact the harbormaster at 631-725-2368  
They can handle up to 45' in the mooring field and 40' at the docks. Moorings are \$2/ft; dockspace is \$4/ft.

Anchorage: There is an anchorage outside of the breakwater

#### **Sag Harbor Lay Day – Tuesday August 14**

#### **Sag Harbor to Greenport - Wednesday August 15**

This is just a little skip of about 10 miles but leaves time for some leisurely day-sailing on Gardiners Bay. The only options in Greenport are marinas. For those so inclined to pass that up, another good option might be to anchor in Coecles Harbor. **Just remember we need to start early the next day!**

Marinas: Mitchell Park & Marinna; Phone 631-477-2200; Floating docks \$2.50/ft for mid-week, power extra. Close to restaurants  
Townsend Manor Marina; Phone: 25' Minimum; \$3.50 per foot Monday-Thursday  
Brewer Marina; Phone 631-477-9594; \$3.50 per foot; on the **EAST** side of the harbor.

### **Greenport to West Harbor, Fisher's Island – Thursday August 16**

Our overall trip is only 22 miles, but we want to be at Fisher's Island by 11:30 AM. At 10:30 it's slack at the Race, but by 11:30 you'll have 2.5 knots on the beam crossing and 1.5 on the nose if you're just heading east out of the Race. So it's an early start...but it will be worth it.

Since we will be arriving early we should have plenty of time to explore a bit and socialize. For the evening, the plan for those interested is to reserve space for dinner at the old Pequot Inn. It no longer operates as an inn, but serves as the island's main watering hole and restaurant. It's about a ½ mile walk from the yacht club.

Moorings: There are five first-come-first-served moorings operated by Pirate Cove. Phone 631-788-7528  
Marinas: The Fisher's Island Yacht Club has transient dock space. Phone 631-788-7036. Cost seems to be about \$3.50/ft.  
Anchorage: Per the Yacht Club, there is a good anchorage north of the rocks, north of the moored boats. It is well protected in all but heavy northerlies.

### **West Harbor to Block Island – Friday August 17**

We'll have about 23 miles to cover to close our loop back to Block Island. The best plan, due to tides, is probably to avoid the Race and head northeast exiting the Sound at Watch Hill. As long as we don't leave too late, we should be riding the ebb most of the way to Block, avoiding the big currents when it turns.

Info for marinas, moorings and anchorages were given previously.

### **Block Island Lay Day – Saturday August 18**

We have a Lay Day at Block, although some with a long sail home may elect to depart on Saturday. Time for biking, boat chores, socializing, walks, or just plain chilling out.

### **Block Island to Home – Sunday August 19**

Time for farewells! Wishing everyone fair winds and following seas!

