



# BYC Summer Cruise Guide

July 15-23, 2016



Day	Date	Port	Miles
Friday	July 15	Dutch Harbor	12
Saturday	July 16	Pt. Judith Pond	15
Sunday	July 17	Noank	25
Monday	July 18	Dering Harbor	24
Tuesday	July 19	Dering Harbor	0
Wednesday	July 20	Coecles Harbor	7
Thursday	July 21	Stonington	27
Friday	July 22	Jamestown	31
Saturday	July 23	Bristol	12

## General Information

### Communication

The Fleet and Day Captains will monitor VHF channel 72 for official cruise business throughout the cruise, from sunrise to sunset. You may call Fleet Captain Chris Bjerregaard aboard *Shearwater* by mobile phone at any time for any purpose at 401 744-3862. A daily check-in at 0800 on Channel 72 will be used to report conditions and answer questions.

### Flags

On all boats, the national ensign will be flown from 0800 until sunset, and the Bristol Yacht Club burgee night and day. BYC Officer's Flags will be flown whenever the Officer is aboard. Other signals may be flown at each skipper's discretion.

### Navigation Briefings

Skippers interested in discussion of the next day's course options and sailing advice should meet during or after each day's cocktail hour.

### Children

...should not be flown from flag halyards unless they deserve it. The cruise will carry 18 as crew members, ranging in age from 3 to 18. Group activities may be offered for these young sailors at selected ports.

## Ports of Call

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Friday, July 15. Dutch Harbor.

Day Captain: Barry and Denise Schrutt

For those who can get an early start, we'll meet at Dutch Harbor, with a gathering on shore at 1800 hours, BYOB and food. Dutch offers a well-managed mooring field, along with launch service and limited shoreside services. Picnic tables will be available, and *The Shack* will be open until 1800 for burgers and fries.

### DISTANCES

From Bristol Harbor, Dutch Harbor is a 14 nautical-mile sail.

### NAVIGATION

Leaving Bristol Harbor, head South to the T-Wharf at the south end of Prudence Island. Avoid the shallows east of the lighthouse on Sandy Point. Past the T-Wharf, sail west to Conanicut Point at the north end of Conanicut Island. Avoid Fisk and Halfway Rocks. Round Conanicut Point and head south in the West Passage. Pass under the center span of the Jamestown Bridge. Beware of the fish traps along the shore on your port side. Sail into Dutch Harbor toward the moored boats. Upon entering Dutch Harbor use VHF channel 69 for a mooring assignment.

### TIDES AND CURRENTS

High tide in Dutch Harbor on Friday, July 15 occurs at 1735. So the currents will be foul for the trip from Bristol to Dutch from 1030 — but only by a half a knot. Saturday morning low tide at Dutch Harbor occurs at 1106, so the current is fair for the Saturday morning voyage to Point Judith Pond.

### ANCHORAGE

You should have reserved a mooring from Dutch Harbor Boatyard, 401-423-0630. Hail *COMET* on VHF Channel 69 from 0800 until 2200 hours. Anchorage is available at the south or north ends of the harbor, or at Beaverhead. On Saturday upon departure, please call the boatyard on channel 69 to let them know you are departing. Give your boat name and mooring number. This is a common courtesy and should be used at all ports.

### FACILITIES

Dutch Harbor offers free wi-fi, access to heads, indoor and outdoor showers, laundry, and dinghy dock. *The Shack* is open for snacks from 1100 until 1800 hours. Dutch Harbor offers neither fuel nor water dockside, so top off before leaving Bristol. A grocery store is located a quarter-mile up Narragansett Avenue across from the Post Office. And you'll find a variety of decent restaurants, pubs, and bars a ten- minute walk east in Jamestown. Please remember that launch service stops at 2200.

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Saturday, July 16. Point Judith Pond

Day Captain: Kathi Lengel

Point Judith Pond can be a pleasant backwater stop with good swimming, birdwatching, and quiet anchorage. With islands to explore, and good protection from most winds and waves, it can serve as a good contrast to some of the busier harbors on the cruise. We'll anchor 1.75 miles up in the pond, where you'll dinghy up to *Top Cat* and her raft partners for your drink-of-the-day, gin and tonic, at about 1800. Bring some hors-d'oeuvres to share.

## **DISTANCES**

From the Bristol Yacht Club, the entrance to Point Judith Pond is about 25 nautical miles. From Dutch Harbor, the distance is about 13 miles. The anchorage is another 1.75 miles north into the pond.

## **NAVIGATION**

Well-marked channels and deep water enable an easy sail from Bristol to the pond entrance, but on most days in July the route is upwind. The entrance to the pond is a busy channel with large fishing boats and ferries making frequent passages. After passing through a deep harbor with many boats docked on the east (Galilee) and west (Jerusalem) sides, you sail up a narrow dredged channel near the west shore. Boats with more than six feet draft may want to rent a slip at one of the marinas on the west shore at Snug Harbor rather than venture up to the anchorage. (Dick Dennis of *Mandate* reports that the channel between the entrance and the marinas has recently silted up and offers only 6 feet of water at low tide, lower than shown his charts.)

The 100-foot wide dredged channel from Red #12 to Plato Island is [charted](#) at 5.5 feet at mean low water, marked with unlighted buoys every quarter mile. The safest route to the anchorage is to follow the channel to north of Gardner Island, and head south between Beach and Gardner islands.

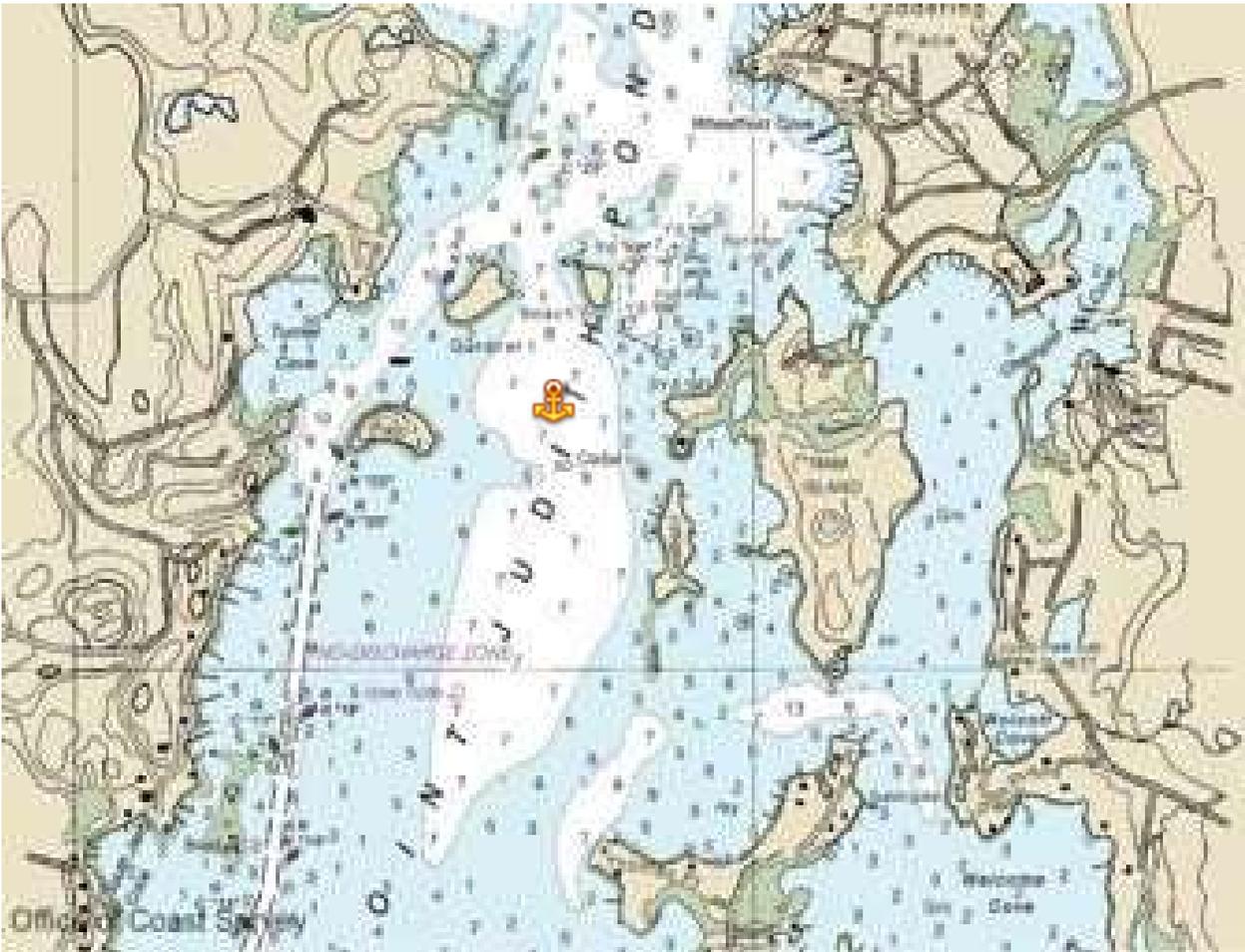
## **TIDES AND CURRENTS**

On July 16, high tide occurs at about 0600 and again at about 1800, with low tide at 1130. The current through the entrance will be fair from 1300 until 1900, reaching a maximum flood of 1.7 knots at 1600. The ebb current at the entrance is foul from 0700 until noon. Deep draft boats might want to pass up through in the afternoon to avoid grounding in the channel.

Leaving the anchorage on Sunday morning, a departure between 0700 and 1000 will ensure the deepest water and a fair current.

## **ANCHORAGE**

No transient moorings are available for rent in the pond. Several marinas on the west shore, about a mile from the anchorage, offer deep-water slips at \$3 per foot. According to the Harbormasters in Narragansett and South Kingstown, who share management of the Pond, many yacht clubs choose the anchorage between Gardner, Plato, Beach, and Jonathan islands for their stays. A large area of water 7' deep at low tide, with a soft bottom, is available here. 41°24.30'N, 71°30.32'W



#### **FACILITIES**

The marinas near Snug Harbor, a mile southwest of the anchorage, offer ice, water, and fuel, as well as deepwater dockage. The marinas at the north end of the Pond at Wakefield, a mile north of the anchorage, offer the same. Restaurants can be found in Wakefield, Snug Harbor, Jerusalem, and Galilee.

#### **NOAA CHART**

Chart 13219, Point Judith Harbor, can be found at <http://www.charts.noaa.gov/OnLineViewer/13219.shtml>

#### **FURTHER READING**

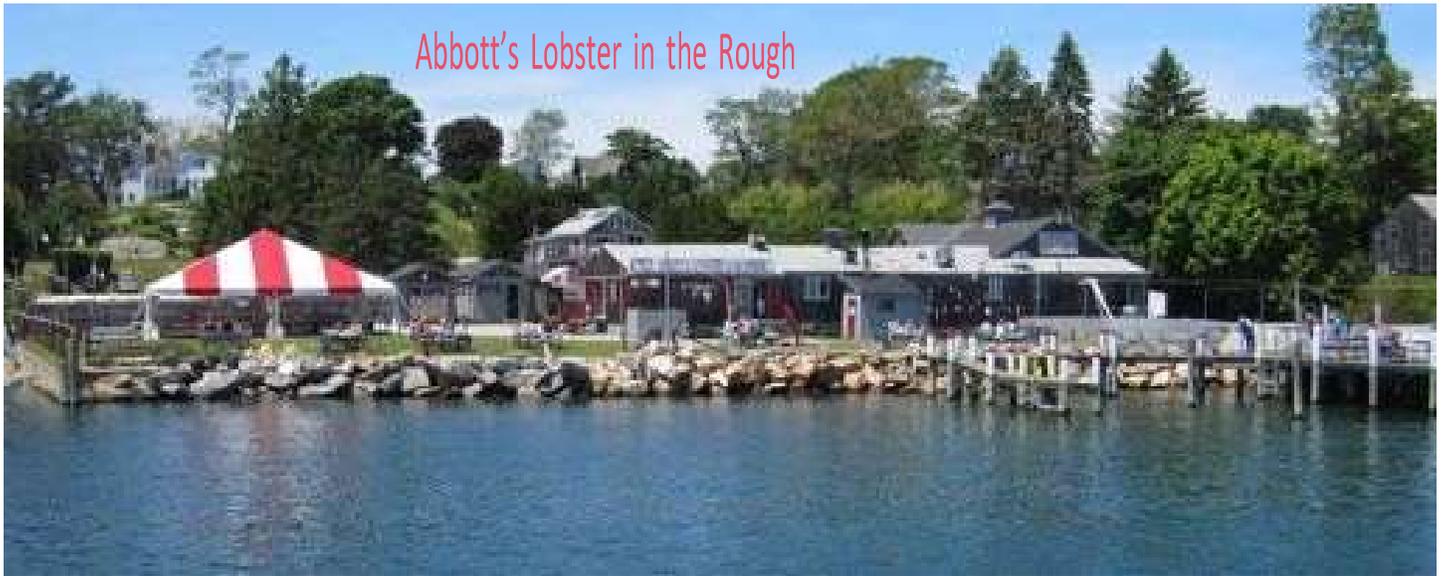
*Focus on Point Judith, Rhode Island, New England Boating,*  
<http://newenglandboating.com/destinations/focuson-point-judith-rhode-island.html>

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## Sunday, July 17. Noank

Day Captain: Chris Bjerregaard

We'll spend Sunday night in Noank, mooring or docking at Noank Village Boatyard at the mouth of the Mystic River. Those familiar with Noank know what a beautiful, tranquil area it is. Between the several eating places, the quaint village with its ice-cream shop, and the passing boats, Noank represents the best of New England boating. We'll all meet at Abbott's Lobster in the Rough for supper and the drink-of-the-day at about 1800. Get in line, order and pay for your meal, and find your fellow cruisers at the picnic tables.



### **DISTANCES**

Plan on about 25 miles of sailing from Point Judith Pond to Noank.

### **NAVIGATION**

From Point Judith Pond, we sail west along the Rhode Island coast and through Watch Hill passage. The current through the Passage is fair until 1000, then foul up to 1.5 knots until 1600. From the Passage we sail carefully through Fisher's Island Sound, around the south of Ram Island and Whaleback Rock (chart yourself carefully around the marks here; keep red nuns #2 and #4 to starboard, and Mouse Island and Noank Light green to port), then motor north up the narrow channel. You'll pass on your left Noank Shipyard, then Abbott's Restaurant; you'll see moored boats on the right; then Noank Village Boatyard on your left. If you get to the railroad bridge, you've sailed too far. (Intrepid sailors may want to short-cut north of Ram Island, keeping green cans 7, 7A, and 9 to port.)

### **ANCHORAGES**

You should have already arranged your accommodation on a slip or mooring with Noank Village Boatyard. If they are full, you may be able to get a slip at Noank Shipyard nearby.

### **FACILITIES**

Noank Village Boatyard offers free launch service, a dinghy dock, 30, 50 + 100 amp service at the slips, free WiFi, clean heads and hot showers, block and cube ice, laundry on site, a gas grill area. Grocery and liquor stores are within walking distance. Abbott's restaurant is a half-mile walk south.

## Monday, July 18 and Tuesday, July 19. Shelter Island Yacht Club.

Day Captain: Alan and Marilyn Dimson-Doyle

Shelter Island Yacht Club in Dering Harbor will host our two-night stay. We'll take a meal together at the Yacht Club on Monday night, and you'll find dinner on your own on Tuesday.



### **DISTANCES**

Noank to Shelter Island Yacht Club is approximately 25 miles via Plum Gut or The Race.

### **NAVIGATION**

We'll sail out the main channel from Noank, passing Noank Light (green daymark) and Mouse Island to starboard, then past Groton Long Point, staying south of red nun #22. From there head southwest out of Fisher's Island Sound and into Long Island Sound. To get into Gardiner's Bay between the forks of Long Island, you'll have to pass through Plum Gut or The Race, both known for strong currents. See below for advice on managing this passage.

Once into Gardiner's Bay, we'll sail southwest along Long Beach, and turn north at Long Beach Bar Light. Mind the shoal south of the light. Passing through Orient Harbor, follow the buoys around to the west and sail through busy Greenport Harbor. You'll see Dering Harbor open up to the south, full of moored boats. Stay at least 200 yards off Dering Point to avoid the riprap. Head for the Shelter Island Yacht Club on the west side of the harbor, keeping clear of the red buoy marking a shoal to its south and west.

### **TIDES AND CURRENTS**

On July 18, slack tide at Plum Gut occurs at 1000 hours. That's the best time to pass through. Stay in the center of the channel between Orient Point Light and Plum Island. By 1300, the current will be running southeast at 2.5 knots. Use extreme care when entering Plum Gut. The tide rips can be worse than those in

The Race, though more short-lived. Pay close attention to wind and current. Plan for a time when they are not fighting each other, because in the Gut it can turn into a brawl.

Slack tide at The Race occurs at 1120 on July 18. Some BYC members suggest not passing through The Race (between Fisher's Island and the northern tip of Long Island) without excellent weather and alert adult supervision, while others have sailed through safely at slack tide. We will discuss the options the night before we sail.

#### **ANCHORAGE**

The Shelter Island Yacht Club offers guest moorings (which you should have reserved already), with launch service running from 0800 to 2000. Anchoring may be possible for smaller boats at the east end of the harbor.

#### **FACILITIES**

Gas, diesel fuel, water, block ice, showers, laundromat, pumpout, supplies, and spirits can all be obtained at Piccozzi's Marina. Nearby are tennis courts and the Dory restaurant. From the yacht club walk up Chequit Avenue and take a second left. You will pass by charming houses and quaint little shops. Dering Harbor also provides easy access by ferry to Greenport.

If you like to hike or bike, you will find a trek through the quiet residential streets here presents an entertaining mix of east-end mansions, McMansions, colonials and ranches. You can rent a bike at Piccozzi's. A brisk game of tennis can be had at the Shelter Island Heights Association. There is a nine-hole golf course, at the Shelter Island Country Club. For the kids, try miniature golf and the ice cream at Whale's Tale on Ram Island Road. The 2,000 acre Mashomack Preserve off Route 114 about four miles from Dering Harbor offers more than 15 miles of hiking trails. Swimmers appreciate the warm and calm waters at Crescent Beach which runs from Jennings Point to Shelter Island Heights on the northwest side of the island. Restaurants can be found on Shelter Island or in Greenport, a short ferry ride away.

#### **NOAA CHART**

12358 (1:40,000) & 12354 (1:80,000)

## Wednesday, July 20. Coecles Harbor

Day Captain: Alan and Marilyn Dimson-Doyle

Coecles Harbor, pronounced like the word *cockles*, is a large, quiet, lake-like cove on the east side of Shelter Island. We'll take moorings or slips at Coecles Harbor Marina and Boatyard, where we'll also meet around the pool for drinks and hors-d'oeuvres at about 1800. We'll have exclusive use of the swimming pool from 1800 until 2000.

### **DISTANCES**

Coecles Harbor sits on the eastern side of Shelter Island, about seven miles from Dering Harbor if you sail clockwise; 13 if you sail the other way around the island.

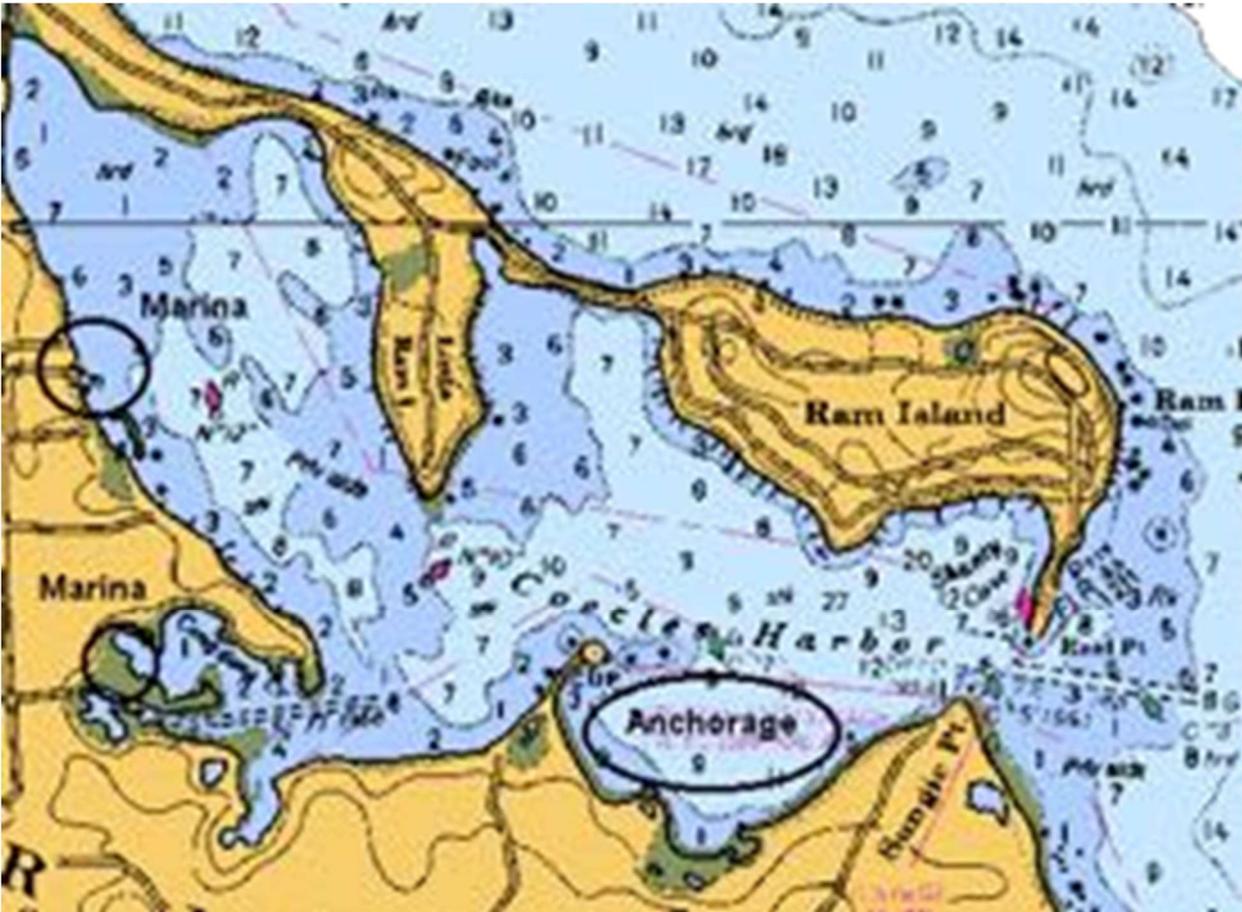
### **NAVIGATION**

We'll reverse our path as we sail out of Dering Harbor, past Greenport and Long Beach Bar Light. Keep green buoy #7 to starboard. Pass between green can 3 and red 2 south of the light. Then sail south long the eastern shore of Shelter Island, keeping well off shore to avoid the unmarked shallow patches. Sail to green buoy "1" FI G 4s at the entrance to Coecles Harbor. This entrance passage is narrow and tends to shoal. The privately maintained navigational aids are small and can be difficult to see when Gardiners Bay sets up a chop.. Once inside the harbor you will see green can #7 to the west, and the remains of a lighthouse on a point marked "CUP" (for cupola) on the chart; give the point and the surrounding rocks a wide berth. Green can #7 is well placed, marking the end of a rocky shoal off the point. The sandbar connecting to the mainland is submerged at high tide, so stay clear. Follow the marked channel northwest to the Coecles Harbor Marina and Boatyard.

### **ANCHORAGE**

You should have already reserved a mooring or slip at Coecles Harbor Marina and Boatyard. If that's not possible, you may anchor in the Special Anchorage area in the bight south of the channel as you enter the harbor between Sungic Point and the cupola, north of red nun #12. Many of us will be rafting on the moorings; Day Captain Alan Dimson-Doyle is managing this process.

Our contact at Coecles Harbor Marina & Boatyard is Nancy Triska, at 631.749.0700 Ext 10<sup>SEP</sup>[www.chmb.net](http://www.chmb.net). Nancy advises that anyone with more than a 7 foot draft would be risking a grounding at low tide, and suggests they use the Special Anchorage Area.



**FACILITIES**

The Marina offers electric car and bicycle rental, swimming pool, barbecue and picnic area, ice, showers, heads, van service, wifi, ship's store, laundromat, fuel, and pump-out.

**NOAA CHART**

12358 (1:40,000); 12354 (1:80,000)

Thursday, July 21. Stonington, Connecticut

Day Captain: Bob and Camille Hamel



In the friendly and picturesque harbor of Stonington, we'll moor with Dodson's Boatyard, and enjoy drinks and dinner at the Stonington Yacht Club at about 1800.

#### **DISTANCES**

It's about 27 miles from Coecles Harbor to Stonington, through Plum Gut or The Race.

#### **NAVIGATION**

Leaving Coecles Harbor, we'll sail through Gardiners Bay, through Plum Gut or The Race, then through Fisher's Island Sound to Stonington. Time your passage to coincide with slack water at Plum Gut or the Race (see below.) Be careful of the many marked shallow spots in Fisher's Island Sound. The entrance to Stonington Harbor is flanked by two well-lighted breakwaters. Motor down the harbor past the commercial fishing pier, and call Dodson's on VHF channel 78 for your mooring assignment.

#### **TIDES AND CURRENTS**

Slack tide at Plum Gut occurs at 0630 and again at 1230. At The Race it's slack about an hour later. So if we sailed out of Coecles Harbor at 1030, we'd get to Plum Gut and sail through on the last of the flood at 1130, with half a knot of current in our favor. Riding a fair current through Fisher's Island Sound all afternoon, we'd get to Stonington in time for supper.

#### **ANCHORAGE** (41°19.8'N, 071°54.9'W)

You should have already reserved a mooring from Dodson's Boatyard. Dodson's Boatyard is a full service yard with on site restaurant, laundry, fuel, and launch service. If you prefer, the Stonington offers a free anchorage in 9-16 feet of water in the designated anchorage area marked out by white buoys with red markings. The bottom has good holding. Launch service provided by Dodson's from the anchorage costs \$2.50 per person per ride. Stonington yacht Club offers slips with advanced reservation.

#### **GATHERING PLACES**

We'll meet at about 1800 at Stonington Harbor Yacht Club (41° 19.8' N, 071° 54.5') for drinks and dinner. Their deck overlooks the harbor.

## **RESTAURANTS**

- *Dog Watch Cafe*, at Dodson's boat yard offers a reasonably priced menu of sandwiches, seafood and flatbread pizza.
- *Breakwater* (formerly Skipper's Dock), 66 Water Street, 860/535-0111- specializes in seafood, dinner entrees from \$20-25.
- *Noah's*, 115 Water Street, 860/535-3925- Known for creative menu
- *Water Street Café*, 143 Water Street, 860/535-2122 Very attractive and creative menu, Very popular with locals.

## **ATTRACTIONS**

- Stonington's Old Lighthouse Museum, 7 Water St. Stonington.
- Stonington Vineyards is a 10 minute taxi drive.

## **NAUTICAL CHART**

Fisher's Island Sound NOAA Chart 13214 <http://www.charts.noaa.gov/OnLineViewer/13214.shtml>

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Friday, July 22. Jamestown



Day Captain: Tamara Barney

The BYC Cruising Fleet will meet on Friday night at Jamestown Boat Yard and Clark's Marina. We'll enjoy the drink-of-the-day on the beach 1800. Supper is on your own.

#### **DISTANCES**

It's a 31 mile sail from Stonington to Jamestown, along the Rhode Island coast.

#### **NAVIGATION**

From Stonington Harbor breakwater, sail south, keeping red nun #2 to port, then head for the Watch Hill Passage. Slack tide in the Passage occurs at 0730; by 1000, we'll have 2 knots of current against us. So an early departure is advised. Sailing east along the coast, we'll be fighting a 1-knot current until 1400. Head northeast after you round Point Judith, and head for the entrance to the East Passage. Look for Beavertail light, and pass it to port. Once inside Newport harbor, sail past the Dumplings and take green buoy #11 on your port side, then head northwest toward Clarks or Jamestown Boatyards.

#### **ANCHORAGE**

You should have already reserved a mooring with Clark's Boatyard (401-423-3625) or Jamestown Boatyard (401-423-0600). Clark's launch runs until 2200 and will take you to the Town Dock; Jamestown's until 2100, but no ride to town.

#### **FACILITIES**

Both boatyards offer launch service, heads, and showers, as well as repair services. Jamestown village, less than a mile walk, offers restaurants and shops and a ferry to Newport. At Clark's you will find a dinghy dock; if it's full, you may park your dinghy at the beach. Jamestown Boat Yard offers a touch-and-go dinghy dock with a rack on the beach.

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## Saturday, July 23. Bristol

We'll sail back to Bristol on Saturday.



### **DISTANCES**

It's 11 miles from Jamestown to Bristol.

### **NAVIGATION**

We'll sail under the Pell Bridge, past Gould, Prudence, and Dwyer Islands, and into Bristol Harbor. The current will be fair until 1130, and foul all afternoon, with a maximum of one knot against us at 1400.

### **FACILITIES**

Bristol Yacht Club offers heads, floating docks, a friendly and competent staff, and welcoming members.