



Cruising Notices - Latest Notices

CAUTION: The Cruising Notes on this website have been contributed by fellow yachtsmen and women. Information in the notes is selective and reflects conditions at the time of visiting. Reasonable endeavours have been made to ensure the accuracy of the information but it is not definitive, may be outdated and may be changed or revised without notice. The RCC Pilotage Foundation and the contributors publish these notes in the hope that they may be of some value to mariners but readers are reminded that the safety of a vessel depends on the judgement of the skipper who should assess all available information. To the extent permitted by law, the RCC Pilotage Foundation and contributors do not accept any liability for any loss and/or damage howsoever caused that may arise from reliance on information published in the Cruising Notes.

Adriatic E

Brbinj

44 4.947 N 14 59.68 E

Dominic Hurndall (Maya) - 01/11/2020

Although not the most interesting town to visit, Brbinj offers excellent shelter in all wind directions. We sat out a gale force sirocco on a mooring in relative comfort. The moorings looked in good condition, although the inner moorings were too shallow to accommodate our 2.6m draft. The outer moorings were in good depth and provided excellent shelter.

Turkish Waters and N Cyprus

Finike approaches

36 15.31 N 30 8.105 E

Will Pedder - 29/10/2020

When approaching Finike from the SW, the fish farm NE of Bunde Br (marked on Navionics as 180 degrees Finike 2.7NM) has moved. There are now two, marked by small orange buoys, at approx 36 16.2N 30 09.8E. Since an older version of Navionics marked them even further N, I guess they may be re-positioned from time to time.

Bayinder Limani

36 10.35 N 29 38.98 E

Will Pedder (Zorra) - 26/10/2020

Nuri's Beach Bungalows in the SE corner of the bay is a gem, off-season at least. Good restaurant serving a cluster of cabins set into the bushes, with bathing platforms. Accessible only by boat, though close to Kas, with regular (hourly?) ferry. Jetty for about four yachts, stern to, only a couple have lazy lines. Elec & water, no charge if eating.

The Lycian Way paths run N and S from here, The N direction ascends sheer cliffs dotted with rock tombs. We were warned it was challenging.

Spanish Mediterranean

med spain

37 34.37 N 1 13.51 W

steve pickard - 23/10/2020

P109 Ensenada de Mazarrón. The anchorage just NE of Punta de la Azohía is no longer allowed (Posidonia). We did anchor there but were told off!

P109 Cala Cerrada. Anchoring no longer allowed but there are 2 solid mooring buoys in 14m and a third which may be for fishermen. As an aside, it is a delightful spot, rather like a mini Lulworth Cove but with high cliffs around. Avoid in winds from the S.

**P79 Agudulce**

36 48.06 N 2 34.07 W

steve pickard - 23/10/2020

Excellent marina mgr but continuously overworked/buzy. Limited Chandlery. Tourist quality food. Supermarkets a bit of a hike up a steep hill. Overcrowded beach. Laundry is also at top of hill: 7E a wash. Nice and clean. WiFi (which is now as important as water and power and good showers) is awful.

p68 Motril

36 39.01 N 3 30.78 W

steve pickard - 23/10/2020

1. Club Nautico is a private marina and more of a members only facility. Visitors are the exception.

2. Marina Park Motril is a small family run marina at the north west end of the port with around 50 berths for visiting yachts.

Easy access berths of depths up to 6m. 20m lengths. Marina Park is visible at the end of the port to the right of the larger Club Nautico private marina.

It offers a range of services: Repairs, sailing school, scuba, marina facilities, workshop, lift with 30 tonnes capacity, (installation of a new 100Tonne Travel lift for boats up to 80ft has begun) storage on the hard. Leaving a boat unattended is ideal here as security is very good. It is located inside the port, a Guardia facility is located next door.

Visitors can dock stern to on pontoon with lazy lines in front of the visible red-white wind sock.

Water, ac power, very solid Wifi - (tested at 50MB/sec) available on all pontoons.

Contact: Roberto: 600 29 34 93

Web: marinamotril.com

Email: roberto@vrmocean.com

VHF: Channel 09

Ashore - Access, - East and west gates, security barrier can be passed with a nod to/from the guards. Reported no paper work requested.

P192 Valencia

39 26.20 N 0 14.24 W

steve pickard - 23/10/2020

The Club nautico is reported to be much cheaper than the Juan Carlos marina, whereas it is listed as high charging in the Pilot. The North marina is 26 Euro a night for a yacht up to 12m, same rate all year round.

Italy**Canal del rio**

39 55.20 N 18 23.60 E

William Garnett (HERO) - 25/09/2020

This Cala SW of Porto Tricase has a straightforward but narrow entrance .see pics attached. Great anchorage for lunch in all but SW and OK at night in settled weather specially if prevailing NW is blowing

**Santa Maria di leuc**

39 47.84 N 18 21.86 E

William Garnett (HERO) - 25/09/2020

The trawlers on the south side are all but gone and Yet there was much space for the free one night (no electricity or water.

There is now a good chandlery at the top of the old slip way near the Mussolini steps. Sailorman is the name. 0833758813 www.sailorman.it

Atlantic France - Quiberon Bay**Golfe du Morbihan, Arradon. Anchorage 11.**

47 36.83 N 2 49.77 W

Sean McHugh - 21/09/2020

Pontoon berths available on W side of small pier only. Do not approach on E side as you could run aground. The Capitainerie sent a rib to help us as we were not sure of the approach. Note the structure of the pontoons on the latest Navionics chart is wildly misleading. Village is a 15/20 min walk and includes pharmacy, boulangerie, charcuterie, grocery store and cafes and bars. Number 23 bus goes to Vannes from the village.

Golfe du Morbihan, Port Blanc. Anchorage 8.

47 36.15 N 2 51.63 W

Sean McHugh - 21/09/2020

Number 23 bus takes you to Vannes in 24 mins. This is a great alternative if you do not have time to make it up the channel to Vannes marina.

Golfe du Morbihan, Île aux Moines, Anchorage 6.

47 35.54 N 2 50.78 W

Sean McHugh - 21/09/2020

Bike rental available for a low cost. No deposit required and no locks provided (trust is high on the island!)

Port Haliguen

47 29.24 N 3 6.075 W

Sean McHugh - 21/09/2020

Visitors now seem to be directed to east basin following major refurbishment. There is a nice beach just outside the marina.

Atlantic France - Bénodet Bay**Port-La-Forêt**

47 54.04 N 3 58.40 W

Sean McHugh - 21/09/2020

There's a fantastic fresh fish market called 'Les Viviers de la Foret' when you turn left after crossing the causeway. Crabs, prawns, mussels, lobster and fish pate from Ile De Groix will form the base of an incredible



onboard meal!

Atlantic France - La Gironde and Bassin d'Arcachon to Hendaye

Arcachon

44 30.90 N 1 16.83 W

Paul Foddy (Micaro) - 11/09/2020

The approach channel has moved to the East and the fairway mark is approx 1.6M South of the position given on 'updated' Navionics cartography. The co-ordinates of this mark as given in the 2020 Reeds Almanac are correct. Arcachon Marina is expensive but they do offer 2 nights for the price of 1 which, if you are staying 2 nights, makes it very reasonable. Difficult to find space to anchor outside the marina. They have an unusual system for accessing the facilities: they register your phone and you dial a number to unlock the door. Didn't seem to work with UK phones but the French had no problems. Facilities need modernising.

Bordeaux

44 52.66 N 0 32.14 W

Paul Foddy (Micaro) - 11/09/2020

Bordeaux No 2 basin is closed (Sep 2020) to visiting yachts until further notice for refurbishment. Berthing is possible at Lormont YC Tel: +33 (0) 6705 14515 to speak to the secretary.

Pauillac

45 11.86 N 0 44.65 W

Paul Foddy (Micaro) - 11/09/2020

Pauillac very heavily silted. I berthed on B hammerhead and we had 1m depth of water at LW (HOT 1.5)! The bottom is very soft mud (fortunately). I checked the depth at the visitors pontoon and it was the same.

La Gironde river - Southern entrance

45 33.23 N 1 8.117 W

Paul Foddy (Micaro) - 11/09/2020

La Gironde, Passe Sud is open (subject to the usual caveats) and the buoyage is as per updated paper and digital charts. Passe Sud is not always open and care should be taken. Grande Passe de L'Ouest is a more reliable channel.

Atlantic France - Charente

Marans

46 18.84 N 1 0.157 W

Paul Foddy (Micaro) - 11/09/2020

The bridge and lock only open on demand and require 24 hours notice. The lock opens approx 1 hour before HW for downstream traffic and the bridge will open to coincide with this so be there early. Stay alert as no warning is given that the bridge is about to open. HM tel : 05 46 01 02 99 and mob 06 25 79 16 35.



Atlantic France - La Vilaine and La Loire

Le Croisic

47 17.59 N 2 30.44 W

Paul Foddy (Micaro) - 11/09/2020

I dried out against the wall on the outside at the Port de Plaisance last year. The bottom was not level and the wall was very uneven and covered in shell fish which was a challenge even with a sturdy fender board. I would not recommend this option

Redon

47 34.80 N 2 7.540 W

Paul Foddy (Micaro) - 11/09/2020

The swing bridge at Cran may be opened on demand subject to giving 24hours notice. See details on www.lavilaine.com.

Penerf

47 30.90 N 2 37.42 W

Paul Foddy (Micaro) - 11/09/2020

Penerf There is now only 1 visitors mooring near the isolated danger mark. There is a shower adjacent to the toilets next to the lifeboat station but it requires a card from the Capitinerie for access.

New Zealand

Napier, east coast of New Zealand's North Island

39 29.00S 176 53.51 E

Tom Jackson (Sunstone/Zest) - 05/09/2020

The approach to Napier is encumbered by banks; these are well marked, but constrain large vessels approaching the port. As a result the harbour-master is very strict about enforcing a no-entry zone for small craft immediately outside the port entrance; this is clearly marked on the chart. The small boat harbour entrance is further west from the port. The entrance to the latter is narrow and shallow. There is a good leading line and it is essential to stick to this. At low water springs the depth may be less than 2m in places. Hawke Bay is subject to swell in strong easterly conditions, in which case this entrance may be dangerous. Once inside the Sailing Club marina opens up. Do not attempt to entre the fishing boat harbour to port. There are two long docks just off the leading line to starboard as well as a number of smaller yachts on pile moorings. The visitors berth is a long dock at right angles to the others, immediately below the clubhouse. Water and electricity are available. Fuel is from a petrol station some distance away. The Club has the usual facilities available and is welcoming to cruisers. The town is generally considered to be one of the most attractive in New Zealand, but the centre and most shopping is some distance away.

Pacific Crossing Guide

Napier, east coast of New Zealand's North Island

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Caribbean - Greater Antilles

Parguera

17 58.22 N 67 3.969 W

Richard Kingsnorth (ZWAILER) - 26/08/2020

Pilotage: Mainly eyeball although we found Navionics charts to be quite accurate.

Anchorage: Surprisingly little choice as most of the deeper water near the town is used by high speed power boats. We anchored to the west of Isla Magueyes while we visited the town and then shifted to the north of Cayo Enrique the following day for excellent snorkelling

Ashore: Tourist town (they come for the diving) a few bars, cafés and restaurants. Excellent snorkelling

Italy

Palermo

38 7.768 N 13 22.33 E

William Garnett (Hero) - 19/08/2020

Highly recommend Salpancore pontoon. Book ahead. Friendly, super efficient and right in the heart of the town. Excellent chandlery on the main dual carriageway 15 mins north of the pontoon. Mondomare Nautica.

Castellammare Del Golfo

38 2.044 N 12 52.79 E

William Garnett (Hero) - 19/08/2020

Very substantial rebuilding of the outer sea wall, and many pontoons out of action. recommend the outer pontoon, although an excellent and popular anchorage S of the N wall. 2020 a water taxi takes you into town.

recommend walking up into town especially ice cream shop in main town square. the harbour front are competitively priced. Scooter hire straight ahead as you exit the harbour to climb the hill. Segesta is a must.

Corsica & Sardinia

Cagliari

39 12.07 N 9 7.496 E

William Garnett (Hero) - 19/08/2020

Even allowing for Covid, Marina di sant elmo was VERY run down. no working electricity, dirty pontoons, along



way from the town and yet charging full whack 120 euros for a night. the most expensive place we stopped.

Try getting into the YC marina pontoon in the porto Interno.

Italy

Tropea

38 40.84 N 15 54.21 E

William Garnett (Hero) - 19/08/2020

the extended outer marina wall has created a well protected beach anchorage just O/S the marine. we inspected the yard which offers good overwintering and a full service facility with particularly good painting and varnishing

Germany

Luebeck germany

53 52.42 N 10 40.99 E

Thomas Bohnen (Milla) - 08/08/2020

Your Baltic cruising guide is a great book, that I would like to contribute to.
I have to additions to my town Lübeck:

The historic yachts are in the Holstenhafen, rather than the Hansahafen.

The one pontoon and the scant facilities in the Hansahafen have been replaced by the newly built „Newport“. 45 berths mostly finger jetties for yachts up to 40m. And a nice restaurant.

This is a real destination and a great improvement.
Best regards,
Thomas

Caribbean

Mustique

12 52.72 N 61 11.83 W

Jonathan Lyne (AQUALUNA) - 06/08/2020

The beacon on Montezuma reef is no longer there. It has been replaced by a small red and black buoy.

Spanish Mediterranean

Orca attacks in Straits of Gibraltar

35 56.05 N 5 33.60 W

Will Pedder (Zorra) - 04/08/2020

This is relayed from the Cruising Association, with permission.

I am a professional delivery skipper.
In the past 2 weeks there have been 5 attacks by Orcas on sailing yachts up to 45 feet in the Gib and SWMed



areas.

I was skipper of one of the boats attacked. All suffered damage to rudders and steering gear. 3 had to be towed into port.

My boat was attacked for 45 mins in a position 15 nm 280 degrees from Tarifa. We were 6 miles offshore heading east under power, it being flat calm with mod visibility.

Having been up during the night I was called on deck when the helmsman felt the wheel go hard over of its own accord. Initial thought was a fishing pot. I had the engine put to neutral then we saw a pod of 4 orcas was ramming our rudder. 2 of them got red antifouling paint on their foreheads from impact with our yacht.

Tarifa suggested trying to motor away from the orcas so we re-engaged the engine. The force of their ramming underway nearly dislocated the helmsman's shoulder and spun the whole yacht through 120 degrees in a few seconds.

I therefore shut down the engine and the echosounder. After about 15 minutes the orcas left and when they were clear we continued to Gibraltar (La Linea). The damage to our steering was sufficient to require a liftout to fix and abandonment of the delivery.

The other boats involved lost all or part of their rudders.

I have been in touch with Orca Research bodies and can find no reason for or defense against these attacks.

I have video of the attacks on my boat and photos of the damage on others.

Please promulgate this and make sure that as many as possible are aware of this danger in the Straits of Gib and approaches.

Keith Pettcian

Gibraltar

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Africa N

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Atlantic Spain and Portugal

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Atlantic France - Charente

Rochefort

45 56.56 N 0 57.38 W

Nick Sexton Sexton (Tamara of Sark) - 26/07/2020

We are currently in bassin No1, Rochefort and can confirm:

1. There is now only one lifting bridge and it is between the two bassins
 2. The port facilities are under the capitainerie adjacent to the cranes. Access to the facilities is via a security fob obtainable from the capitainerie.
 3. It is believed that the port has been dredged since 2016 and that there is now sufficient water at all times.
 4. There is a launderette and boulangerie adjacent to the NW corner of Bassin Bourgainville
 5. The aerial photograph on P281 is quite out of date, it shows two lifting bridges and the river pontoon is significantly longer in the upstream direction
-



Spanish Mediterranean

Azohia, Aguilas.

37 25.74 N 1 30.37 W

Mark Prior (Grace Richard) - 16/07/2020

P103. Aguilas Anchorage. Both anchorages offer protection from the east. There is protection from swell at the east end of both.

P109. Ensenada de Mazarron. The fish farm extends to the cliff. You must go outside the farm buoys.

Norway

Release from lockdown

60 24.66 N 4 48.60 E

Will Pedder (Zorra) - 16/07/2020

It is now possible to sail to, in and from Norway from the UK and other nordic and European countries, without self isolating on entry to Norway - excluding Sweden, Portugal, Hungary, Croatia, Romania, Bulgaria. it is possible to return from Norway without self isolating. There are no restrictions once there on cruising in Norway, and between the nordic countries (excluding Sweden).

<https://www.regjeringen.no/en/aktuelt/new-travel-advice-for-travel-between-norway-and-other-european-countries/id2722585/>

<https://helsenorge.no/koronavirus/travel-advice?redirect=false>

Adriatic E

Croatia Sojourn Tax

42 37.88 N 18 5.532 E

Will Pedder (Zorra) - 15/07/2020

Information taken from the ACI website - discount on 2019 prices.

Sojourn tax lump sum has been reduced for boaters for 20% in 2020

According to this Regulation, boaters who paid the sojourn tax lump sum in 2019 for the period ending in 2020 are not required to pay the sojourn tax for the period that falls into 2020

If the period for which boaters paid the sojourn tax lump sum coincides with the period of COVID-19 Pandemic in the territory of the Republic of Croatia, the boaters can request either a pro-rata refund of the amount related to tourist tax they have paid for the period during which the declaration of the COVID-19 epidemic in the territory of the Republic of Croatia was in force, or they can request a proportionate extension of the time period for which the tourist tax has been paid. All requests for a refund or for the extension of the time period shall be submitted to the Croatian National Tourist Board

Example rates 2019 2020

| | | |
|-----------------------|---------|---------|
| 9-11.99m up to 3 days | 150,00 | 120,00 |
| up to 8 days | 350,00 | 280,00 |
| up to 15 days | 600,00 | 480,00 |
| up to 30 days | 1000,00 | 800,00 |
| up to 90 days | 2350,00 | 1880,00 |
| up to 1 year | 3000,00 | 2400,00 |



Atlantic France - La Gironde and Bassin d'Arcachon to Hendaye

Bordeaux

44 50.39 N 0 34.03 W

Doug MacArthur (Andromeda) - 02/07/2020

Demasted yachts and motor boats with max air draft of 5.4m may pass under the Pont Chaban Delmas when the bridge is down. There is a delightful 155m visitor's pontoon, the Ponton d'Honneur on the west bank just downstream of the Pont de Pierre. It has water & electricity, is securely gated, very inexpensive, and in the centre of town. The pontoon is run by the Mairie, not by the Port, so info is on the Metropole website, not the port's one: <https://www.bordeaux-metropole.fr/Sortir-decouvrir/Le-fleuve/Bordeaux-Metropole-votre-escale-de-plaisance>

We visited Bordeaux in our Nelson 38AC Andromeda in 2016 and had a delightful several days on this pontoon, only moving on because of a forecast 40°C! Bordeaux is well worth the long boring slog up and down the brown Gironde. It is possible for masted yachts to go through the raised bridge which is lifted for large cruise ships and maintenance. Details of bridge lifting dates may be found on <https://sedeplacer.bordeaux-metropole.fr/Toutes-les-infos-circulation/Pont-Chaban-Delmas-Fermetures>. Be aware that a masted yacht might be stuck there for several days!

Biscay S - La Gironde and Bassin d'Arcachon to Hendaye

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Atlantic Islands (The Canaries & Bermuda)

Bermuda - Covid update

32 20.17 N 64 46.02 W

Will Pedder (Zorra) - 01/07/2020

From Grahame Rendell, HFR, 30 June 2020.

Bermuda has just entered Phase IV of its Covid-19 Plan and is no longer in an official State of Emergency.

Curfew remains for 2300 to 0500, however. There have been a few unfortunate and serious incidents. Bermuda's active case numbers have dropped to just two (2) with no social contagion



Flights into Bermuda are resuming by mid-July but on a restricted basis.
Rules for inbound visitors or returning residents are onerous - see link
Arriving vessels need to have pre-clearance before setting off for Bermuda (Safe Haven exception) - see link
<https://www.gov.bm/coronavirus-travellers-visitor>
Morale is high, food plentiful, unemployment a problem but 'instant' welfare has been organized for Bermudians out of work.
Gatherings of up to 50 are now allowed - with physical distancing remaining at 2 mts.
In-house dining at restaurants is permitted - but again onerous requirements.
Whereas there are desperate efforts to open up the travel sector of local business, I would not recommend visiting Bermuda for several months. That places the window of opportunity in the middle of the Hurricane season for the North Atlantic. Again, please let me know if you know of any RCC members envisioning visiting Bermuda or a near-pass.

Atlantic Spain and Portugal

Opening of Spanish ports and marinas - Galicia on 15 June 2020

43 0 N 8 30 W

Henry Buchanan (Antón Pellejero Zorra) - 15/06/2020

Report from Antón Pellejero RCC HPR - La Coruña

All ports and marinas in Galicia will be open again for all foreign visiting yachts from MONDAY 15th of JUNE 2020. The rest of Spain is expected to enjoy the same situation either 21st June or 1st July 2020.

Biscay S

Opening of Spanish ports and marinas - Galicia on 15 June 2020

43 0 N 8 30 W

Henry Buchanan (Antón Pellejero Zorra) - 15/06/2020

Report from Antón Pellejero RCC HPR - La Coruña

All ports and marinas in Galicia will be open again for all foreign visiting yachts from MONDAY 15th of JUNE 2020. The rest of Spain is expected to enjoy the same situation either 21st June or 1st July 2020.

Atlantic Spain and Portugal

Opening of ports and marinas in Spain - Galicia 15 June 2020

42 52.50 N 8 33.68 W

Will Pedder (Zorra) - 15/06/2020

All ports and marinas in Galicia will be free again for all foreign visiting yachts from Monday 15th of June 2020. The rest of Spain is expected to enjoy the same situation either 21st June or 1st July 2020.
The question now is when will British/English ports and marinas open for all boats to enter/leave?
In any case, I'm particularly happy to inform you about the situation here.

Best wishes,
Antón Pellejero RCC HPR - La Coruña



Biscay S

Opening of ports and marinas in Spain - Galicia 15 June 2020

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Best wishes,
Antón Pellejero RCC HPR - La Coruña

Adriatic E

Croatia

43 19.76 N 16 14.57 E

Will Pedder (Zorra) - 16/05/2020

Announcement on ACI Marinas website 16 May 2020:

The temporary ban on crossing the borders of the Republic of Croatia related to foreign citizens has been lifted for owners of real estate and vessels located in the Republic of Croatia and for the members of the owner's immediate family.

Foreign citizens being owners of yachts and boats located in the Republic of Croatia can cross the country borders upon presenting the documentation proving their ownership of a vessel, documentation proving that they are the users of a vessel (Charter Contract or Lease Agreement). Along with the documentation proving the ownership of the vessel, a berth contract and/or a confirmation of the nautical tourism port must be submitted confirming that the vessel is berthed at the respective port.

Upon presenting the required documents, foreign citizens shall be allowed to cross the state border and shall be registered by entering the place/address of their stay, contact phone number and period of stay – until the planned date of departure from the Republic of Croatia.

GENERAL EPIDEMIOLOGICAL MEASURES

Foreign citizens are required to adhere to general epidemiological measures during their stay in the Republic of Croatia, as follows:

During the first 14 days following the entry into the Republic of Croatia, leaving the accommodation/vessel is limited only to absolutely necessary situations, carrying out the enhanced ongoing implementation of hygienic measures.

When leaving the accommodation for necessary purposes, it is recommended to wear a mask or a covering for the nose and mouth, to keep a physical distance from others (minimum 1,5 meters) and to practice good hand hygiene.

Wash your hands as often as possible using warm water and soap and/or use a hand sanitizer rubbing it well over the surface of your palms. Avoid touching your face, mouth, nose and eyes.

Avoid using public transport. When using the means of transport, it is recommended to use it alone or to share it only with the persons from the same household/accommodation.

Crowded areas and public gatherings should be consistently avoided.

During their stay in the accommodation/on board the vessel, the persons concerned prepare meals themselves, ie use food and beverage delivery services.



Payments are made by using non-cash card payments or online services.

Body temperature should be measured every morning. If it exceeds 37,2 degrees, it should be taken again after 10 minutes and if the temperature again exceeds 37,2 degrees, the person should stay in the accommodation/on board the vessel and contact the chosen general practitioner, if any (Croatian nationals), or a competent local epidemiologist.

In case of any symptoms of acute respiratory infection (cough, sore throat, high temperature, short breath/difficulty in breathing, loss of smell and taste), it is necessary to stay in your accommodation/on board the vessel and contact the chosen general practitioner, if any (Croatian nationals), or a competent local epidemiologist.

In case of sudden onset or severe, life-threatening symptoms, the person should contact the emergency medical services.

Foreign citizens can be assisted by marina staff when contacting the epidemiological services.

During their stay at the marinas, the boat owners are required to adhere to the specific epidemiological measures related to the stay at the marinas and referring to the interaction with marina staff, visits to the front-desk of the marina, the use of toilets, the use of supplementary services of the marina and movements at the marinas in general (marinas are required to officially publish the instructions and recommendations on their websites and display them at visible locations within the marina itself).

Self-isolation or quarantine upon arrival in the Republic of Croatia is NOT mandatory for foreign nationals.

Caribbean

Bahamas, Castle Island

22 7.207 N 74 19.70 W

Martin fuller (Sandpiper) - 29/04/2020

Castle Island, Bahamas (South of Aklins Island).

1. Anchorage.
 - a. As shown on chart east of disused light house in 3-5m sand and sea grass with good holding.
 - b. Bottom shelves slowly towards the beach with no significant obstructions.
 - c. Passage in open and clear.
 2. Ashore.
 - a. Light House disused since at leased 2011 and probably 2007.
 - b. Undergrowth thick in placed with a lot of the poisonous Trees – the apple looking fruit can be fatal.
 - c. There is an old jetty around the headland (southern tip) giving the shortest route through the undergrowth to the Light House if visiting it.
 - d. Snorkelling – generally little to see except sand and grass but some conch moving about!
-

Bahamas

22 7.424 N 74 19.62 W

Martin fuller (Sandpiper) - 29/04/2020

Castle Island, Bahamas (South of Aklins Island).

220 51'.09N – 760 26'.67W

1. Anchorage.
 - a. As shown on chart east of disused light house in 3-5m sand and sea grass with good holding.
 - b. Bottom shelves slowly towards the beach with no significant obstructions.



- c. Passage in open and clear.
 - 2. Ashore.
 - a. Light House disused since at leased 2011 and probably 2007.
 - b. Undergrowth thick in placed with a lot of the poisonous Trees – the apple looking fruit can be fatal.
-

Bahamas

21 41.99 N 73 51.12 W

Martin fuller (Sandpiper) - 29/04/2020

Hogsty Reef, Bahamas.

210 41'.40N – 730 50'.75W

- 1. Anchorage.
 - a. South side of Northern Cay in sand, good holding in 5m 100m offshore. Limited snorkelling but crystal-clear water – 60m visibility.
 - b. Bit rocky with light (F2) southerly winds bringing in slight swell, untenable in stronger winds.
 - c. Possibly more shelter from swell deeper inside the horseshoe reef.
 - d. No problems with access from west.
 - e. Two new wrecks – one on NW point of reef (first sight of reef from the east) and one 1nm east of southern cay near marked wreck. Both on the reef and no danger to navigation.
-

Turks and Caicos, Providenciales

21 45.64 N 72 13.46 W

Martin fuller (Sandpiper) - 29/04/2020

South Side Marina +1 (649) 946-4137 / Ch 16

1. Port of Entry.

South Side Marina is a small harbour located on the central south coast of Providenciales in the Turtle Tail area. South Side Marina is a port-of-entry.

2. Marina Amenities:

- a. Bathrooms; Diesel; Water; Gas (Petrol); Laundry Services; WiFi, Power on pontoon, Ice.
- b. This complex is found inland a short distance, with connection to the Caicos Banks by a dredged channel (last 200m only!). The chart depths approaching the marina are not accurate with many areas shallow than shown, maximum 2m at HW -1 experienced – eyeball navigation and care are needed.
- c. The network of canals in the Cooper Jack Bay and Discovery Bay areas begin here as well.
- d. This quiet, relaxed marina owned and run by Bob Pratt – very friendly and helpful.
- e. It is a favourite with cruisers, as slip and service rates tend to be a little better than at the larger Providenciales marinas. Slips of varying size, and docking for tenders is available. Slip fees start at \$50 per day for daily rates, with discounts for longer periods.

3. Ashore.

- a. While the marina is some distance from any supermarkets Bob will provided a taxi service to the large IGA Graceway supermarket on request.
 - b. Car hire can be arranged with delivery to the marina.
 - c. On site is South Side Smoke House Bar and Grill that offers an old time Providenciales atmosphere, and is likewise a perfect place to grab a refreshment and watch the sunset.
 - d. Diving. Two local dive and boat charter companies, Caicos Adventures and Aqua TCI, operate out of South Side Marina, with excursions to the incredible dive sites of Northwest Point, West Caicos, and French Cay.
-



Atlantic Spain and Portugal

Important correction - Anchoring Restrictions Rio Sado Sesimbra-Setubal West Portugal

38 31.30 N 8 53.50 W

Henry Buchanan (S/V SEA SPIRIT) - 28/04/2020

The RCCPF has received the following important information from the authorities at Setubal:

Atlantic Spain and Portugal 8th Edition 2019.

Supplement No.2: April 2020.

From Luís Bessone Basto S/V SEA SPIRIT 4 Apr 2020

Please amend the VHF channel on :

Pages 212-215 Rio Sado and approaches, Setúbal

Vessels should contact Setúbal Harbour Control (VHF 73) and not 43 as stated

Porto Xufre, Isla de Arousa , Atlantic Spain

42 34.2 N 8 51.49 W

Megan Roberts (Magnet) - 26/04/2020

Seventh edition Atlantic Spain and Portugal chapter 1:2 Cabo Finisterre to Isla Ons. Isla de Arousa. Porto Xufre. A boatyard - Varadoiro do Xufre has opened at Porto o Xufre. Facilities include a 180ton travel lift , secure yacht storage and a 38m high shed, which permits sheltered boat repair without having to drop the mast. The yard owner is a long term yachtsman who actively encourages visiting yachts and provides domestic facilities and a car for visitors to use. Local train station at Vilagarcia provides connections to Santiago and Vigo airports. Some older charts may show no water but this is incorrect.contact www.xufre.es and [info@ Xufre.es](mailto:info@Xufre.es).

Caribbean

South Side Marina, Providenciales Turks and Caicos Islands

21 45.63 N 72 13.44 W

Martin fuller (Sandpiper) - 12/04/2020

South Side Marina, Providenciales +1 (649) 946-4137 / Ch 16 www.southsidemarina-tci.com
southsidemarina@gmail.com 21deg 45'.468N 72deg 13'.424W as at 11.04.20

1. Port of Entry.

South Side Marina is a small harbour located on the central south coast of Providenciales in the Turtle Tail area. South Side Marina is a port-of-entry.

2. Marina Amenities:

- a. Bathrooms; Diesel; Water; Gas (Petrol); Laundry Services; WiFi, Power on pontoon, Ice.
- b. This complex is found inland a short distance, with connection to the Caicos Banks by a dredged channel (last 200m only!). The chart depths approaching the marina are not accurate with many areas shallow than shown – eyeball navigation and care are needed.
- c. The network of canals in the Cooper Jack Bay and Discovery Bay areas begin here as well.
- d. This quiet, relaxed marina owned and run by Bob Pratt – very friendly and helpful.
- e. It is a favourite with cruisers, as slip and service rates tend to be a little better than at the larger Providenciales marinas. Slips of varying size, and docking for tenders is available. Slip fees start at \$50 per day for daily rates, with discounts for longer periods.

3. Ashore.

- a. While the marina is some distance from any supermarkets Bob will provided a taxi service to the large IGA Graceway supermarket on request.



- b. Car hire can be arranged with delivery to the marina.
- c.
- d. On site is South Side Smoke House Bar and Grill that offers an old time Providenciales atmosphere, and is likewise a perfect place to grab a refreshment and watch the sunset.
- e. Diving. Two local dive and boat charter companies, Caicos Adventures and Aqua TCI, operate out of South Side Marina, with excursions to the incredible dive sites of Northwest Point, West Caicos, and French Cay.

Cockburn Harbour, South Caicos

21 29.29 N 71 30.34 W

Martin fuller (Sandpiper) - 12/04/2020

Cockburn Harbour, South Caicos. 21deg 28'.80N – 71deg 32'.37W as at 31.03.20.

Cockburn Harbour, South Caicos.

Shown as Seaview Marina on their tourist site (Not a marina only fishing harbour – shallow)

Cockburn Harbour is a small dock in the main settlement of Cockburn Harbour on South Caicos. The complex largely serves the island's small-scale commercial fishing industry yet also supports the occasional cruiser and yacht as well.

1. Port of Entry. Cockburn Harbour is a Port of Entry (although in March 2020 boats were being directed to Grand Turk for clearance (possibly due to coronavirus).
 2. Amenities and Services
 - a. Both gasoline and diesel fuel are available. Pricing is decent and follows local rates at roughly \$5 per gallon (2020); on the quay or at adjacent petrol station.
 - b. Fresh water is also available (delivered by truck – ask at the supermarket).
 - c. Repair and service facilities are quite limited on South Caicos, and most issues will have to be handled on Providenciales.
 3. Entry and Navigation
 - a. It's quite simple to navigate into Cockburn Harbour and Seaview Marina from the Columbus Passage side of South Caicos, as water depth is good between Long Cay and Dove Cay. The depth gradually decreases further into the Caicos Banks, and fluctuates between 6-10 feet (2-3m) outside the harbour. Depths at the docks may be as little as 3 feet (1m) inside the quay with approximately 8 feet on the outside of the quay – depth on approach may be less and it is suggested that access at high water for keel boats is best.
 - b. It's likewise possible to approach South Caicos from the western Caicos Banks and Providenciales side, yet navigation across the banks may be a little difficult for vessels with much draft due to the shoals and shallows.
 - c. Call ahead on VHF Channel 16 for advice and details.
 4. Anchoring Locations
 - a. Cockburn Harbour good holding in sand/grass 3-5m.
 - b. In the lee of Long Cay with a shallow approach (<1.6m).
 5. Shopping and Supplies
 - a. There is a small grocery and general goods store, Seaview Supermarket, offers supplies, food, and cold drinks.
-

**Six Hill Island, Caicos.**

21 27.78 N 71 37.63 W

Martin fuller (Sandpiper) - 12/04/2020

Six Hill Island, Caicos. 21deg 27'.77N – 71deg 37'.57W as at 09.04.20

Uninhabited rocky cay, with steep, undercut rock edges, 3.5nm from Long Cay with only a few coral heads (as marked on chart) to avoid between the two.

1. Anchorages.

- a. As marked on chart allowing one to get quite close in with 3m.
- b. Anchorages in sand with good holding.
- c. Current flows around islands and is quite strong in the obvious gap.
- d. Well sheltered from NE to SW.

2. Ashore.

- a. Difficult to get ashore due to undercut and rocky shoreline but there are a couple of places on the south side at low water where it is possible.
 - b. Lots of cactus ashore with some bird life (lovely brown herons, ospreys and iguanas) with good but limited snorkelling.
 - c. Beware of the strong current in the gap between the 2 halves of the island; it is surprisingly strong.
 - d. Good snorkelling around the coral heads.
-

Long Cay, Caicos.

21 27.51 N 71 34.09 W

Martin fuller (Sandpiper) - 12/04/2020

Long Cay, Caicos. 21deg 27'.57N – 71deg 34'.45W as at 08.04.20

Suitably named long cay just south of Cockburn Harbour on South Caicos.

1. Anchorage.

- a. Several marked on the chart at the southern end but suggest the “Sand Hole” anchorage is too close in; but could be good for snorkelling from a dinghy tied to the buoy that appears to be placed there.
- b. Other marked anchorages are over clear sand with good holding albeit further from the shore.
- c. Be aware of a current flowing through the gap off the southern end of the island and curling around through the anchorage.
- d. Well sheltered from North through East.

2. Ashore.

- a. Several good landing beaches and plenty of wildlife including Osprey, Pelican, Frigate birds, iguana with variety plant and shrub cover.
 - b. Apparently good walking on the island with warning not to walk too close to the crumbling cliff edges and to look out for Iguana burrows as standing on them can twist an ankle and ruin a burrow!
-

Cotton Island, Turks

21 21.91 N 71 9.462 W

Martin fuller (Sandpiper) - 12/04/2020

Cotton Island, Turks. 21deg 25'.63N – 71deg 08'.13W as at 04.04.20

A deceptively long and low island just north of Salt Cay and easily accessed from the west.

1. Anchorage.

- a. 3 anchorages marked on chart, all lay off inshore reefs, over sand with good holding in 5m.
- b. Shoreline mainly sharp limestone with only a couple of small beaches making landing difficult.



- c. Anchorages bouncy in swell from westerlies and northerlies.
 - 2. Ashore.
 - a. Uninhabited and quite overgrown with not a lot of interest except for some areas where there is a profusion of the Turks Cactus - local emblem.
 - b. Difficult to penetrate interior.
 - c. Ospreys seen fishing along its coast.
-

Big Fish Cay, Caicos.

21 22.03 N 71 36.15 W

Martin fuller (Sandpiper) - 12/04/2020

Big Fish Cay, Caicos. 21deg 22'.11N - 71deg 37'.09W as at 01.04.20.

5nm south of South Caicos, an uninhabited island.

- 1. Anchorage.
 - a. Good anchorage on west side (shown on charts) 3-5m over sand with good holding.
 - b. Need to stand well off to clear the reef at the norther end which pushes well out to the west but is normally obvious.
 - 2. Ashore.
 - a. Lovely beach; a turtle nesting area, and interesting rock pools and pools with some pools acting as sea salt drying areas on the east coast. A lot of flotsam on the east coast.
 - b. Good swimming with some lovely coral heads that have created their own beautiful "aquarium" with great coral and fish life.
-

Big Sand Cay, Turks and Caicos Islands

21 16.11 N 71 15.18 W

Martin fuller (Sandpiper) - 12/04/2020

Big Sand Cay, Turks and Caicos Islands 21deg 11'.90N – 71deg 15'.09W as at 23.03.20

9nm south of Salt Cay, an uninhabited island with extensive reefs to the north and outlying rocks (Three Mary's) to the south. It is a designated nature reserve and landing is prohibited; but not enforced. The anchorage is on the west side (as marked on the charts) in azure blue water. A tranquil stop in most conditions and well worth the effort.

- 1. Anchorage. As marked on the charts, off a limestone buff in 3-5m of water over clear sand with good holding. There is a large power boat washed up just to the north of the anchorage and I suspect it will not be cleared for some time.
 - 2. Ashore. Beach landing is straight forward but the beaches are steep, and the waves do run on a long way! Sadly, there is quite a lot of plastic on the beaches and beware of nasty, sharp prickles on the grass – they are vicious and stick to anything!
 - a. Not too much bird life but Ospreys do inhabit the island and turtles do lay eggs here. Officially, one should not land.
 - b. Lovely sandy beaches with opportunities to dive or snorkel all around the islands and we did see one-person surfing on a localised wave near the anchorage.
 - c. Beware of nasty small thorny bits on the grass which stick to everything – and are sharp!
-



Turks and Caicos Islands

21 20.07 N 71 12.45 W

Martin fuller (Sandpiper) - 12/04/2020

Salt Island, Turks and Caicos Islands 210 19'.94N – 710 12'.94W as at 22.03.20

1. Not a port of entry.
2. Depth approaching the slipway and dinghy harbour (protected by a concrete breakwater) is shallower than shown on the chart but does not represent a hazard given the absence of coral heads. Possible to anchor in sand (mixed holding) in 3,5m 100m off the breakwater.
3. The island only has 63 inhabitants (as at 22.03.20) and has suffered extensive damage from various hurricanes which is still not fully repaired. Donkeys outnumber humans! Consequently, there are very limited facilities on the island.
4. There is a dive centre and bar (with food) at the dinghy/ferry dock.
5. There is a small food shop near the dinghy dock with another small one on the seaward side of the road 1km south (just past the "White House" with a third in the main urban area at the southern end of the salt lakes.
6. There are 2 restaurants and a bar, both within the main urban area at the southern end of the salt lakes.
7. Water is provided by desalination therefore water cans can be refilled from any tap – the dive centre is the logical and easiest place to seek water refills.
8. Whale watchers should transit the west side of the island where, apparently, the whales congregate during their season in the area (ending in April).
9. Golf buggies can be hired but are expensive \$85/day); need to ask a local for the point of contact as several locals appear to provide them.

General Notices

Brazilian support for yachtsmen during Coronavirus emergency

14 18.37S 37 17.25 W

Silvio P. Ramos - 12/04/2020

Task Force Help SV

A group has been set up in Brazil to provide information and support for yachtsmen in Brazil and for those en route to the country or planning to make a passage there. They encourage yachtsmen to make contact via their website at <https://sites.google.com/view/br-taskforcehelpsvs>

The group is coordinated by Silvio Ramos

silvio.pramos.1948@gmail.com

WhatsUp 11 99123-7474

Fixo 11 4154-4227

Caribbean

Caribbean and Trinidad.

17 20.14 N 66 58.35 W

John Lytle (COVID 19 Restrictions Caribbean) - 08/04/2020

Covid 19 restrictions for many countries are posted on Noonsite and anyone cruising in the area should consult its pages. Many have closed entry to yachts and have placed severe lockdown restrictions on yachts already in port with heavy penalties for breaking the rules.

For Trinidad which for many insurance companies is a safe laying up area for Hurricane Season also has severe restrictions the details of which are available on membersonlymaxitaxi.com/corona-virus-information/ Members Only is a service available to all yachts run by the OCC Port Officer Jesse James email jessejamesmembersonly@yahoo.com



Japan

Japan, Sea of Japan, Mihonoseki

35 33.49 N 133 18.49 E

Jo Winter (Brother Wind) - 06/04/2020

35°33.55N, 133°18.49E

A very convenient harbour when transiting the coast, just tucked around the headland of Jizo Saki.

Attractive historic town with good restaurants ashore

Tie up on SW wall in 2.8m.

Taisha 35°24.06N, 132°39.87E

35 24.10 N 132 39.89 E

Jo Winter (Brother Wind) - 06/04/2020

Entrance a little shallow, at 3m.

Well protected harbour, where we sat out a full south westerly gale for 4 days.

Tie up on SW wall of inner basin in 3.7m.

Izumotaisha, the second most important Shinto Shrine is a 20 minute walk away. It is a bus/train/ free bus, to get to the Adachi Museum of Art, highly recommended, and an easier journey to go by train to Matsue castle, also excellent. Lighthouse and shrine north of Taisha a bus ride away.

Hamada, Sea of Japan, 34°52.'45N, 132°02'.50E

34 52.80 N 132 2.500 E

Jo Winter (Brother Wind) - 04/04/2020

An Open port. Tie up next to Customs, who will visit as well as Coastguard and Port Authority.

A good walk ashore to the other side of the peninsular, where there is a big supermarket.

O Shima, Sea of Japan 34°29'.50N, 131°24'.90E

34 29.50 N 131 24.89 E

Jo Winter (Brother Wind) - 04/04/2020

Tie alongside arched wall, at the east end of the harbour.

Attractive village and island, a good circular walk ashore takes you up to a viewpoint amongst farms, and back on the other side of the village.

Atlantic Spain and Portugal

Picamillo Beacon at Entrance to Ria de Pontevedra

42 24.25 N 8 53.45 W

Henry Buchanan (RCCPF) - 28/03/2020

The Picamillo Beacon was rebuilt in 2018



Norway

Latest Supplement for RCCPF Norway

60 52.86 N 3 29.61 E

RHKM - 27/03/2020

The latest supplement for Norway with corrections and updated information to March 2020 can be downloaded from here :

<https://rccpf.org.uk/pilots/137/Norway>

Atlantic Spain and Portugal

Muros Galicia

42 46.30 N 9 3.199 W

Henry Buchanan (RCCPF) - 26/03/2020

Atlantic Spain and Portugal, 8th Edition, page 61

Notes by Ian Powolny for information on Muros, its marina, anchorages and supporting services - Sept 2019:
Berthing

The Marina in Muros is well worth a visit. It has now been in full operation for 8 years. Not only is it nestled within beautiful and peaceful surroundings, the friendly and helpful staff continue to report busy seasons. On many occasions, they have had to turn visiting yachts away and ask them to anchor in the bay because the marina has been full. At the time of writing the marina staff speak several languages and between them are fluent in Spanish, English, French and German.

Office opening times are:

15 June to 14 September: 07:00 to 23:00.

15 September to 14 June: 10:00 to 13:00 and 16:00 to 21:00.

Contact the marina on Channel 9, or telephone +34 981 82 76 60 and mobile +34 608 174 395.

Discounts can be applied to rates as set out by Passporte Escale, Transeurope, Pasaporte Marinas, Cruising Association and Irish Cruising Club.

Approach around the west end of both the wave breaker and the fishing boat pontoon just inside the wave breaker, and turn east for the finger pontoons. The end of the wave breaker is off the slip on the east shore of Muros town, marked with a red post and light at its west end (nearest the shore). There are berths for boats from length 6m to 20m and beam of 3m to 6-7.5m. There are at least 25 berths that can take a 12-45m boat and a 15m yacht should have no problem finding a berth.

There is one security gate with key access. Note that Muros is the local headquarters of Spanish Customs.

Anchorage

Anchorage is in the Ensenada de Muros as shown on the Plan. In several areas the ground is foul with lobster pots and other debris. A tripping line is advisable. Holding is variable. Note that the wind sometimes funnels quite strongly off the surrounding hills.

Those at anchor can use the marina to dinghy ashore, or there are several sets of steps.

Facilities

The Repsol fuel pump at the west side of the harbour is strictly for use by fishing boats only. The east side Repsol pumps on the quay with pontoon below are for use by leisure craft. Fuel cans can be filled at this pump. The fuel station is closed at weekends. There is an alternative fuel station c. 2km from the mainar.



Additional notes:

We now know the the yard at Muros can carry significant hull repairs! They call on the services of a technician from Portosin. This technician works in both GRP and CopperCoat.

I have also seen the yard man scraping and applying standard anti-fouling paint.

We should never have gone on to the rocks.

I think something we did learn after the event is that the Carraca Grande and I assume the Carrac Chica, both NE of Muros are not accurately surveyed. The unsurveyed areas are shown on the chart but I think the areas of uncertainty are large that charted. I'd suggest that sailors at least 1/2Nm from the northerly shore of these bays and in the centre of the deeper water.

The marina office is in a converted house (blue building opposite security gate) with two lounge areas, and a small kitchen/laundry room including a fridge. An outside sitting area is shielded and fenced off from the public. There are two private outside showers in the garden, as well as a shower inside with a loo, all 24hr access. There is a washing machine and separate tumble drier in the marina building. Washing can also be taken to the local laundrette.

WiFi is available on the pontoons but is weak at the outer edges.

Work and chandlery is geared generally to fishing boats but there are a couple good hardware stores. There is a boat lift and 100-tonne travel lift and some space ashore to over-winter. There is a tidal scrubbing berth at a quay some 600m north of the harbour, on hard sand with about 2.5m at high water springs. It is well sheltered other than from south westerly swell but inspect for debris before use – alternatively the sand in Ensenada de Muros is hard and clean.

The town, with its quaint ruggedness, is well provided with shops of all kinds, banks, hotels, restaurants and pavement cafés. There are excellent eateries by the harbour and the back street restaurants are also worth a visit. There is a good produce market, plus a fishmonger on the quay. There is a Gadis supermarket 100m beyond the office and other supermarkets and a good hardware store will be found near the north end of the town, some distance away from the harbour. A good refrigeration engineer is available in town.

There are also two veterinary surgeries in the town.

There is a free computer for use in the morning at the library. Also WiFi at the Auclan Bar and at number of other café and restaurants in the town. Due to the thickness of the stone walls it is almost always necessary to sit inside to find a wifi signal.

Biscay S

Annual Supplement for South Biscay

44 10.38 N 7 42.13 W

Richard Marsh - 23/03/2020

The 9th annual supplement for RCCPF South Biscay (7th edition 2012) is available for download from <https://rccpf.org.uk/pilots/15/South-Biscay>

Caribbean

Turks and Caicos Islands

21 25.99 N 71 8.484 W

Martin fuller (SANDPIPER) - 22/03/2020

Turks and Caicos Islands



A British overseas territory; separate Colony 31st March 1962.

Capital: Cockburn Town; Largest city: Providenciales.

Official Language: English. Currency: US \$. Area: 238 sq miles.

Time zone: UTC – 05:00 (EST). Telephone code: +1 649 -

Location:

History

The Turks and Caicos Islands (abbreviated TCI) are a British Overseas Territory consisting of the larger Caicos Islands and smaller Turks Islands, two groups of tropical islands in the Lucayan Archipelago of the Atlantic Ocean and northern West Indies. They are known primarily for tourism and as an offshore financial centre. The resident population was 31,458 as of 2012 of whom 23,769 live on Providenciales in the Caicos Islands; July 2018 estimates put the population at 53,700. It is the third largest of the British overseas territories by population. The Turks and Caicos Islands lie southeast of Mayaguana in The Bahamas island chain, northeast of Cuba, and north of the island of Hispaniola (Haiti and the Dominican Republic). Cockburn Town, the capital since 1766, is situated on Grand Turk Island about 1,042 kilometres (647 mi) east-southeast of Miami, United States. The islands have a total land area of 430 square kilometres (170 sq mi).

The Turks and Caicos Islands were inhabited for centuries by native Amerindian peoples. The first recorded European sighting of the islands occurred in 1512. In the subsequent centuries, the islands were claimed by several European powers, with the British Empire eventually gaining control. For many years the islands were governed indirectly through Bermuda, the Bahamas, and Jamaica. When the Bahamas gained independence in 1973, the islands received their own governor, and have remained a separate autonomous British Overseas Territory since.

Cockburn Town, Grand Turk.

1. Port of Entry. The Customs and Immigration office is adjacent to the Commercial jetty in the “Customs Warehouse” at the entrance to the commercial dock/jetty at south end of the island; easy to anchor off commercial jetty further south at the cruise liner terminal area but there is no dinghy jetty -. (210 25'.97N – 710 09'.01W). It appears they work on an “On Call” basis and their numbers are: Customs: +1 (649) 232-4920; Immigration +1 (649)232-3014.
 - a. They work Monday to Friday and appear to close at 1500 hours.
 - b. They will respond at weekends and after hours but this will incur an overtime charge of \$65 for Customs and \$15 for Immigration. Otherwise entry for 7 days or less is free.
 - c. Any stay over 7 days requires the purchase of a \$300 Cruising Licence valid for 3 months.
2. Anchorage.
 - a. The main anchorage is entered through Town Cut. Clearly shown on the chart and straight forward entry but needs eye-ball navigation and a calm sea to get close to and into the deeper anchorage (3-4m) off the jetty. The bottom appears mainly thin sand over flat rock with a few small coral heads/rock patches. The anchor should be checked to ensure it is not just “hooked” on a small rock!
 - b. The Dive Boat mooring area off Sands Bar offers a second anchorage entered through Kittina Cut. \bottom mainly sand with some coral banks reducing depth by 2 to 2.5m in places; such rock/coral patches are obvious in clear water. (210 27'.725N – 710 08'.951W). No dinghy dock here but can run the dinghy up the beach which shelves quite steeply.
 - c. The Cruise Liner Terminal has a good anchorage for yachts adjacent to the Freighter Dock (north or south) but there is no dinghy landing and the ladders on the main jetty have rusted away and not a viable means of accessing the high jetty. 210 25'.97N – 710 09'.01W.
3. Ashore.
 - a. There is a substantial jetty here but no cleats on the landing and it is a bit of a step up (good mantle shelf move for climbers!) – no ladders available.
 - b. There are 2 supermarkets on the main road (one back from the beach road) and to the left of the jetty.
 - c. A friendly bar (Sands Bar) and 2 restaurants (Turks Head and Sea View) plus the Osprey Hotel (Bar, Restaurant, Wifi), along with 3 dive shops, are 1.5km right (south) along the beach road.
 - d. Wifi is available at the restaurants and the Osprey hotel.
 - e. Bicycles can be hired at one of the dive shops. Diving is expensive compared to other Caribbean islands; despite the Cronovirus recession we were quoted \$150 for a 2-tank dive with rented equipment. That said the diving is excellent on the extensive wall/drop off close to shore.
 - f. Electric buggies can be hired locally, the businesses would deliver and as at 20.03.20 the 2 agents we were given are: Omar - +1 (649) 346-2450 and Tewanda - +1 (649) 343-7002



UK

Cowes - COVID-19 regulations

50 45.79 N 1 17.56 W

Richard Marsh (Pastime of Innisfree) - 22/03/2020

New regulations for vessels arriving at Cowes have been published :

All vessels arriving in Cowes from outside the UK are requested to proceed directly to Trinity Landing (see Figure 1). Once berthed, vessels are to then contact Cowes Harbour Commission or their designated marina informing them of their arrival and whether there are any special instructions. Once the vessel has made contact and received permission they can proceed to their berth.

The vessel should also indicate the origin of the craft, when it left the origin port, and all ports where the vessel has docked during the 14 days prior to arrival. Vessels must also report anyone on board the vessel who has in the last 14 days been to a country or area with a high risk of coronavirus - see coronavirus advice for travellers - or if they have been in close contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19 infection within the 14 days prior to the vessel arriving in Cowes.

Caribbean

Puerto Rico, San Juan

18 27.54 N 66 5.338 W

Martin fuller (SANDPIPER) - 21/03/2020

San Juan, Puerto Rico. 18deg 28'.58N – 66deg 05'.54W

1. The channel in is well marked and, given the potentially large vessels using it, quiet narrow in places under the Fort. It is recommended that yachts call ahead to the Port Authority on CH 16 or 14 for clearance to enter/leave; we received no response.
 2. There is plenty of space in the inner basin to take sails down if required.
 3. The San Juan Bay Marina is at the end of a long inlet south of the entrance and past the main cruise ship "immigration and customs" buildings to starboard (Note: these also contain the private yacht entry point facilities).
 4. The office is at the head of the bay with a safe dinghy pontoon (take the left/west channel between the pontoons) with the fuel pontoon at the head of the east channel.
 5. Note: there is only 2.5m at the pontoon at high water and there is allow spot of 1.7m halfway down the channel (opposite the obvious shower building on the marina pontoon). There is water at the fuel pontoon, but you need your own hose.
 6. There is a good anchorage just outside the marina, which is on the South side of the inlet with the private Club Nautico marina to the North (mainly for private sports fishing boats).
 7. Customs and Immigration is not at the airport; it is in the very large cruise ship terminal approx. 1km along the road between the inlet and the local airport in the No 2 Terminal Building (large grey building).
 8. We were advised by the Marina Office and the Customs staff that we should have telephoned the customs immediately on arrival; even after normal hours even if arriving from another USA territory. We didn't as we had no number or knowledge of this requirement. We were told we could have checked in using a telephone app "CBP ROAM"; telephone 787-822-3557/6.
 9. Cost of customs clearance US\$37 payable at every US Port if you don't have a cruising licence; with a cruising licence you only pay at the first port!
 10. The US CBP service in St John (where we cleared in) told us we did not need to check in on arrival – clearly this was incorrect albeit only for customs.
 11. We were moving on to the Turks and Caicos and initially said we did not need the cruising licence. A very helpful immigration lady explained it was normally \$100 but FREE to UK yachtsmen and last a year. Well worth having as it saves the \$37 port fee at every US port!
 12. The Old Town is a good walk away but the No 9 bus goes from a bus stop just across the road from the marina.
-



Atlantic France - Bénodet Bay

Concarneau

47 52.41 N 3 54.82 W

Nick Chavasse (Wild Bird) - 19/03/2020

Due to technical problems, the fuel station in the marina will be unavailable for the 2020 season. The nearest fuel point to Concarneau is Port La Fôret.

Caribbean

Cayo Obispo, Fajardo, Puerto Rico.

18 20.32 N 65 37.19 W

Martin fuller (SANDPIPER) - 17/03/2020

Cayo Obispo, Fajardo, Puerto Rico. 180 20'.09N – 650 37'.35W
14.03.20

1. Anchorage to the south of the marina/hotel in 6m; good holding in sand.
 2. Sheltered from swell by the reef but not from speed boat wash!
 3. The channel is a thoroughfare for trawlers and speed boats of all sizes who appear to want to go as fast as their big engines will let them! Consequently, it can be noisy and bumpy during the day but fortunately, it quietened down after sunset.
 4. The local marina is looking very weather beaten with a lot of hurricane damage still evident. It costs US\$2 per foot, a price that seems expensive given the absence of any but the most basic shore side facilities.
 5. There is a water taxi to the main island (\$5 return) but it does not go to the main town rather an isolated jetty with no facilities!
 6. The Sun Bay marina opposite on the mainland is also looking quite worn and weather/hurricane affected. It does have a customs post (this was where we learnt we had to clear in!) but not much else and costs US\$1.50 per foot (including water, electricity and wifi). They do have some new electricity pillars but the fixed concrete, short pontoons represent a potential hazard should there be surge and the boat toe rail gets trapped under the edges.
-

Ensanada Dakity, Isla de Culebra, Puerto Rico

18 20.34 N 65 37.30 W

Martin fuller (SANDPIPER) - 17/03/2020

Ensanada Dakita, Isla de Culebra, Puerto Rico. 180 17'.35N – 650 16'.82W
13.03.20

1. Lovely anchorage with good, free buoys.
 2. Good holding in sand/grass; mainly 3-5m.
 3. Those well in on the reef side have <2m at low water.
 4. The reef is exposed at low water.
 5. The reef breaks any swell and with an easterly wind it was very still; no problem with mosquitos from the adjacent mangroves.
-

**Puerto Rico, Isla de Culebra**

18 18.18 N 65 17.86 W

Martin fuller (SANDPIPER) - 17/03/2020

Ensanada Honda, Isla de Culebra, Puerto Rico. 180 18'.29N – 650 17'.91W
1213.03.20

1. Sailors apparently need to clear customs in Culebra (Puerto Rico) if coming from anywhere other than Puerto Rico. No customs seen and was not an issue, but it was mentioned on arrival in Puerto Rico where it was expected. (Apparently, the locals also need to clear customs coming from the USVIs).
 2. Channel well marked with most buoys light at night (but not all).
 3. Harbour opens up after the narrows (50m) at Dakita Reef with good depth all the way into the main anchorage.
 4. Good holding opposite the lifting bridge and the "Dinghy Dock" restaurant.
 5. Restaurant recommended; look out for the huge Tarpon cruising alongside the dinghy Dock jetty.
 6. There is a small but useful supermarket 100m from the restaurant (turn left on road, cross the X roads and on the right).
 7. Wifi at the restaurant.
-

USVIs

18 21.07 N 64 52.61 W

Martin fuller (SANDPIPER) - 17/03/2020

Magans Bay, St Thomas, USVI. 180 2-640 55' -640 55'.88N
12.03.20

1. Reputably one of the best beaches in the Antilles; not sure why but for whatever reason it is very quiet at night as there are no beach side bars or restaurants!
 2. Well sheltered anchorage with good holding in 7-10m in sand. Anchorage is quite close to the marked swimming area due to shelving of the seabed.
 3. Clearly marked shoal on port side entering and halfway down the bay is apparently a hazard, but it is clearly marked on the chart and was not seen breaking; easily avoided.
-

USVIs

18 19.48 N 64 51.14 W

Martin fuller (SANDPIPER) - 17/03/2020

American Yacht Harbour, St Thomas, USVI 180 20'.89N – 640 46'.35W
12.03.20

1. Expensive; US\$98 per night plus electricity and water – for a 39 foot yacht.
 2. Berths on fixed concrete pontoons (short 30ft) with pillar at stern. Potential to get toe rail trapped under bottom edge of pontoon on rising tide or with surges.
 3. Water and electricity on pontoons.
 4. Easily accessible fuel berth.
 5. Good facilities ashore with very good walk in medical centre across the road, good chandlers, shopping centre, bars and restaurants surrounding marina office.
-

**USVI**

18 19.93 N 64 47.72 W

Martin fuller (SANDPIPER) - 17/03/2020

Cruz Bay, St John's, US VI 180 20'.02N – 640 47'.75W

11.03.20

1. Only facility for clearance in and out on St John's. Located at western end of island.
2. Anchorage in the bay; normally immediately adjacent and north of the channel markers for 2 hours max while clearing in (all crew must go to clear in). Holding good in mud. Note: water shallow quickly moving away from the channel; pilot suggests mooring around the headland to the north as an alternative and dinghy in; the only difficulty is shortage of space.
3. Dinghy harbour at northern end of inner harbour next to National Park building.
4. Customs and immigration at southern side (short walk) in a portacabin at time of writing; some motor launches tie up alongside for clearance purposes. Easy process, no fee.
5. There is an honestonesty mooring payment system in place wherever there are National Park buoys (free during the day, \$26 overnight).
6. The usual bars along the waterfront and the first one from the dinghy dock serves great frozen organic ice pops and slushies.

USVI

18 20.90 N 64 47.22 W

Martin fuller (SANDPIPER) - 16/03/2020

Caneel Bay, St John's, US VI 180 20'.89N – 640 47'.75W

11.03.20

1. Quiet anchorage just north of Cruz Bay (northern part of Honeymoon Bay). National Park moorings, no anchoring.
2. Only disturbed by the swell from fast motorboats going around the headland.
3. The original luxury hotel at Caneel Bay was destroyed by the 2017 hurricane and has not been rebuilt making the beach very quiet (Honeymoon Bay hotel is working again).

Spanish Mediterranean**Annual Supplement for Mediterranean Spain**

40 19.54 N 1 0 E

Richard Marsh (Pastime of Innisfree) - 13/03/2020

The 4th annual supplement for RCCPF Mediterranean Spain 1st edition 2017 is available for download from <http://www.rccpf.org.uk/pilots/156/Mediterranean-Spain>

Atlantic France - General Notices**Annual supplement for RCCPF Atlantic France**

48 11.45 N 4 55.80 W

Richard Marsh (Pastime of Innisfree) - 12/03/2020

The 2020 supplement no 2 to Atlantic France Edition 2 can be downloaded from the link below



www.rccpf.org.uk/pilots/167/Atlantic France

Caribbean

Virgin Gorda, BVIs

18 25.81 N 64 26.68 W

Martin fuller (SANDPIPER) - 09/03/2020

The Bath, Virgin Gorda, BVI.

1. Well worth a visit.
 2. Mooring buoys quickly taken up but as they are supposed to be only used for 2-hour stays, they do become free on a regular basis.
 3. Best to get an inner mooring if swimming ashore; otherwise use the dinghy "mooring line" and swim the last 50m!
 4. Usual drinks and souvenir stall on the beach.
-

Virgin Gorda, BVIs

18 27.02 N 64 26.33 W

Martin fuller (SANDPIPER) - 09/03/2020

St Thomas Bay, Virgin Gorda, BVIs.

1. Clearance must be done before entering marina and anything else – skipper only to go ashore.
 2. Good moorings offshore ferry jetty (immigration etc located in Ferry building) but no dinghy landing point! We used the sandy beach next to the jetty.
 3. Virgin Gorda Yacht Harbour Marina very quiet and still being refurbished after hurricane damage but good pontoons, if somewhat expensive.
 4. Not much ashore as area still recovering from 2017 hurricane.
 5. Shore power uses US flat pin connections, no adaptors available during our visit.
-

Saba

17 36.90 N 63 15.09 W

Martin fuller (SANDPIPER) - 09/03/2020

Fort Bay, Saba.

1. Limited number of visitor's moorings and those that are available are at the outer limit of the mooring area; no anchoring.
2. Very bouncy mooring.
3. Dinghy mooring in small harbour next to immigration/customs offices, safe and secure.
4. Very friendly and helpful clearance staff.
5. Ideally need a taxi ride up to the Bottom which is the administrative centre and most people go on to Windward village which has a few restaurants plus 2 supermarkets – very well stocked with European brands but a little expensive.
6. Good dive centres on the quay, we used Saba Divers who were very good. Excellent dive sites with great coral, plus reef and nurse sharks; but more expense than on other islands (US\$82 for 1 dive – with equipment



and local taxes marine and park).

Saba

17 36.93 N 63 15.05 W

Martin fuller (SANDPIPER) - 09/03/2020

Fort Bay, Saba.

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 2. Very bouncy mooring.
 3. Dinghy mooring in small harbour next to immigration/customs offices, safe and secure.
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-

Saba

17 38.47 N 63 15.30 W

Martin fuller (SANDPIPER) - 09/03/2020

Wells Bay, Saba.

1. There used to be 12 good visitor's moorings but the last hurricane buried all but 3 of the anchor points! (plans to replace them are not a high priority!).
 2. Visitors buoys are yellow with blue strip on – need to give them a good pull as it was reported to us that one had broken earlier this year under stress.
 3. A roly mooring but more sheltered than Fort Bay.
 4. Good snorkelling off the rocks at the end of the bay but subject to ground swell creating poor visibility.
 5. A 20 minute dingy ride around the headland to Fort Bay for clearance.
 6. There are some white buoys with blue stripes on; these are close inshore and are used by dive boats.
-

St Kitts

17 13.40 N 62 38.88 W

Martin fuller (SANDPIPER) - 09/03/2020

Majors Bay, St Kitts.

1. Lovely, sheltered and quiet anchorage from all but Southerlies. (Had it to ourselves)
 2. Good holding in sand/grass 5-7m.
 3. A small car ferry uses the slip way but finishes at last light.
-

**Nevis**

17 9.526 N 62 37.94 W

Martin fuller (SANDPIPER) - 09/03/2020

Pinny's Beach, Nevis.

1. Anchored at eastern end of bay, no evidence of buoys and all boats anchored although chart suggests this is right on the edge of a no-anchoring area.
 2. Sand/grass bottom, good holding in 6m.
 3. 1nm dinghy ride to town jetty for clearance in town; safe to leave dinghy at the jetty.
 4. Checking in required visits to the normal 3 offices PLUS completing an On-Line form. No computer provided at the offices but there is a pay use facility in a local computer shop on the waterfront. Th form is not user friendly with hundreds of ports listed in the drop-down box (needed for last and current port); Nevis comes under St Kitts & Nevis; no effective search engine!
 5. Nelson's Museum has moved from out of town to edge of town close to the Bath Hotel (hotel no longer functioning).
 6. The Sulphur baths have been re-opened in the stream bed and an adjacent "smart" pool with steps down to it just below the Bath Hotel.
-

Antigua

17 5.053 N 61 54.22 W

Martin fuller (SANDPIPER) - 09/03/2020

Pearn's Bay, Antigua.

1. Quiet anchorage (more so than adjacent Hermitage Bay), sand, good holding in 7m off shoals.
 2. Well sheltered from East.
 3. Beach shelves quickly 100m offshore with shallows shoals.
-

Antigua

17 4.153 N 61 53.17 W

Martin fuller (SANDPIPER) - 09/03/2020

Jolly Harbour, Antigua.

1. Need to clear in at separate Customs Jetty at entrance to the marina before entering the marina.
 2. Stern to and pontoon moorings available but pontoons twice the price.
 3. Stern to moorings use a wooden pillar to secure the bow – bowline at end of a line over pillar either on both sides of no boat alongside or tie onto adjacent boat and onto the pillar if slots occupied. Boat boys very helpful when berthing.
 4. Costs per foot (US\$1.10 March 2020) plus metered water and electricity.
 5. Good facilities, mostly recovered after 2017 hurricane.
 6. Several good restaurants within marina.
 7. Limited showers and toilets in the main marina complex but better ones in the boatyard – a long walk away.
 8. Laundry (leave and collect) in the boatyard.
 9. A good chandlery at the marina (Budget Marine).
 10. Car hire available on site or alternate companies will deliver to the marina.
 11. Excellent supermarket on site.
-

**Guadeloupe**

16 18.46 N 61 47.90 W

Martin fuller (SANDPIPER) - 09/03/2020

Deshaies, Guadeloupe.

1. Uneven and rocky bottom, close in on south side of channel in 5-67m; better to use the buoys to avoid getting the anchor trapped under a rock ledge.
 2. Several buoys marked with size and weight limit (33 feet and 14 tons) but bay full of buoys albeit not many free while we were in.
 3. Safe dinghy jetty on waterfront.
 4. Clearance on-line in the Pelican gift shop (turn right on main street from dinghy jetty). Simple process (Euro 4).
 5. Immigration office at car park appears to have closed and all done on-line.
 6. Very good bakery/boulangerie and patisserie on main street opposite jetty.
 7. Good albeit small supermarket, good value frozen magret de canard! Turn left on high street from jetty and then right and left after 100m – near library.
-

Guadeloupe

16 10.26 N 61 46.87 W

Martin fuller (SANDPIPER) - 09/03/2020

Pigeon Island/Melendure, Guadeloupe.

1. Pigeon Island has over 10 large buoys for visitors, good buoys in 5-8m within 100m of beach.
 2. Good snorkelling at north end of island 1-5m.
 3. Boat boys linked to "Paradise Beach Resort" (just a restaurant but good food and a family run business!) on the mainland and will pick up and drop off if using the restaurant (no charge).
 4. Good holding in 5m/ Sand off Deefers dive centre at west end of bay.
 5. Good dive Centre, friendly staff and very good dive sites – Japanese Garden particularly good for corals.
-

Guadeloupe

15 52.69 N 61 34.62 W

Martin fuller (SANDPIPER) - 09/03/2020

Bay Marigot, Guadeloupe.

1. Quiet and sheltered anchorage, good holding in sand.
 2. Easy walk over small hill into the town for bars/restaurants.
 3. Dinghies safe on the beach, leave prominent rock to starboard when approaching the beach by dinghy – very shallow on other side!
-

Caribbean - Leeward Islands**Guadeloupe**

15 52.69 N 61 34.62 W

Martin fuller (SANDPIPER) - 09/03/2020

Bay Marigot, Guadeloupe.



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 2. Easy walk over small hill into the town for bars/restaurants.
 3. Dinghies safe on the beach, leave prominent rock to starboard when approaching the beach by dinghy – very shallow on other side!
-

Dominica

15 34.57 N 61 27.76 W

Martin fuller (SANDPIPER) - 09/03/2020

Prince Rupert Bay, Portsmouth, Dominica.

1. Large number of buoys available with helpful boat boys to assist; fees payable at PAYS office on the beach; payment on a trust basis (EC\$30/night).
 2. Boat boys now organised by the Portsmouth Area Yacht Society which provides area security and will soon equip boat boys with radios Ch 16. (We used Alexis).
 3. It is standard to retain the boat boy who you first contact for future support i.e. Indian River trip.
 4. Very busy moorings.
 5. Several boats anchored in mooring area with no problems – plenty of space.
 6. Small dinghy jetty, safe to leave boat.
 7. Island tours tend to be limited with the northern half being a popular one; includes a sulphur spring visit, waterfall walk, chocolate factory visit and stop over for lunch. We used a local guides/minibus driver “Serge” who was excellent (EC\$100 per person).
-

Caribbean - Windward Islands

Martinique

14 35.73 N 61 2.501 W

Martin fuller (SANDPIPER) - 09/03/2020

Marina Etang Z'Abriots, Bay de Fort de France, Martinique.

1. The marina was opened in 2015.
 2. Contact on CH9 and can book online – 0596 75 11 57 / 0696 92 21 06 / portdeplaisanceezab@cacem-mq.com.
 3. It provides very safe, sheltered. quiet stern to mooring on 4 large pontoons with water and electricity; no fuel berth. Good turning space.
 4. Very reasonable pricing – Euro 14 for 12m yacht plus Euro 4 for electricity and water per night.
 5. A welcoming staff on hand to assist mooring and on-line clearance (can clear in and out the at the marina office).
 6. 2 good restaurants in the marina with wifi; there is wifi around the marina but it not fully functioning during our visit.
 7. Limited toilets and showers plus laundry in Bureau de Port.
 8. An interesting approach from the main channel with some shoals to be aware of but straight forward with entrance well marked.
-



Arctic and Northern Waters

Periplus to Northwest Passage 2020

73 49.07 N 76 31.42 W

RHKM - 03/03/2020

Victor Wejer produces each year a Yacht Routing Guide for the North West Passage for the current season. This provides up to date information to supplement that in the RCC Pilotage Foundation book Arctic and Northern waters. Victor has posted the new 7th edition Guide to Northwest Passage for 2020 under the new name of 'Periplus to Northwest Passage' as a reference to the old sailing directions and rutters. It has revised some pointers and added updated information.

The current version of the guide is available as a free download from the RCC Pilotage Foundation using the link below.

<https://rccpf.org.uk/pilots/136/Arctic---Northern-Waters>
