

**CRUISING:** Tips and Favorite Destinations  
from Sea's Writers

# Sea®

AMERICA'S WESTERN BOATING MAGAZINE

# GIFT GUIDE

PLUS: BUYER'S GUIDE  
BEST BUYS  
FOR 2014

SOUND-  
PROOFING  
PAGE 42 101

## NEW BOATS

- MARITIMO M50 MOTORYACHT
- GARCIA TRAWLER 54
- VICEM VULCAN 46M  
TRI-DECK MOTORYACHT

|||||

#BXNPRYT \*\*\*\*\*AUTO\*\*SCH 5-DIGIT 92629  
#1503 6374 1789 6023# 14-SEP  
JIM LEISHMAN 17896022  
NORDHAVN YACHTS  
25001 DANA DR  
DANA POINT CA 92629-3005  
F09 P18 15/4

1,000s OF NEW & USED BOATS FOR SALE INSIDE



2013  
PRESENTS,  
HO!  
STARTS ON  
PAGE 36



seamagazine.com DECEMBER 2013



# Small World

WEST COAST CRUISERS WANDER FAR AND WIDE IN SEARCH OF GREAT ANCHORAGES, ISLANDS, PEOPLE, PLACES, FOOD, DIVING AND MORE.

THE FOLKS WHO WROTE CRUISING FEATURES for us in 2013, and some of our other writers, were all over the western coast of North America — and the world. We asked a few of them to chime in at the end of the year, tell us a little more about their travels and offer advice for boaters thinking about taking a big cruise in 2014 or beyond.

Ariene enjoys a shell midden located on the reef protecting the anchorage at Herring Bay, Ruxton Island, in the Gulf Islands, B.C. (FAR RIGHT) *Easy Goin'* rests at Cowichan Bay Fisherman's Wharf with a rainbow above. It was our first visit to Cow Bay, and with everything it had to offer, it turned out to be a pot of gold.



Ken and Roberta have spent the last few summers cruising the Mediterranean around Turkey, Greece and Croatia. Here, *Sans Souci* is at anchor near Gocek, Turkey, where stern-tying is the rule, not the exception. By now, the Williams are old hands at Med-style anchoring.



## KEN & ROBERTA WILLIAMS

NORDHAVN 68, *SANS SOUCI*

### What's your favorite destination? Why?

Turkey is incredible but possibly going through changes. A close second would probably be Croatia. The reasons are many: 1,000 islands with well-protected anchorages; clear, warm water; plenty of variety; short distances between anchorages; nice people; and it's clean. It's close to Montenegro for cheap fuel.

### What's one item you'd never cruise without?

I like to carry an oversized anchor. Specifically, I carry a Rocna 150-kilo (330-pound) anchor, which is a bit overkill on a 68-foot boat, but it allows us to sleep in high winds and to feel secure leaving the boat at anchor while exploring towns.

### What's one indulgence you'd never cruise without?

We take the Internet very

seriously on our boat, as I consider it one of the most important safety devices on the boat. I can check several different sources for weather and "go" only in the safest of conditions. It is also our primary source of entertainment, with surfing, keeping up with news and watching our home TV (via Slingbox.)

### What's the most miles you've covered in one year?

We covered 5,500 nautical miles, from Seattle to Osaka, Japan, via the Bering Sea, in 2009.

### What's your best piece of cruising advice?

Pick your weather. We just ran 2,000 miles from Turkey to Croatia, and 99.9 percent of the time the seas were 6 inches or less. High seas and bad weather can make life miserable on a boat. We have a boat that can handle anything you can throw at it, but getting bumped around just isn't fun. Pick the best places to cruise, in the best season, and on the best days, and cruising becomes a lot more fun.

One other tip: Don't cut it



## GUS FARRAR

NORTHERN MARINE 57, *RAVEN*

### What's your favorite destination?

My favorite destinations, according to my log book, are three: Butchart Cove on Vancouver Island; Salt Spring Marina on Salt Spring Island, B.C.; and Princess Louisa and Chatterbox Falls.

After much memory searching, my favorite is Butchart Cove, which is located at the southern end



close on budget when buying a boat. My suggestion to people is to buy the smallest boat that meets their needs. I've seen too many people with nice boats who are then forced into too tight of a budget, and they don't want to take the boat anywhere or go into the better ports. Leave yourself some money to ship the boat around the world, or dine at the great restaurants, or be able to upgrade the boat from time to time. If your life will be ruined if something major breaks, you'll ultimately be unhappy with the boat and sell it. There is not a correlation between the size of your boat and the fun to be had. Cruising in a slightly smaller boat is much better than not cruising at all.

## JOHN & LINDA BEATTY KROGEN 42, *FLUKE*

### What's your favorite destination? Why?

Our favorite destination is a tough call. Every summer we visit Ganges on Salt Spring Island in British Columbia. It is a busy little town with lots to see and do. I really want to see Princess Louisa Inlet again. We are waiting to take friends who have never seen the place. It is hard to describe its beauty. Think of Yosemite with a lake where the valley floor is.

### What's one item you'd never cruise without?

One item we would not leave home without is radar. We can carry on without a chartplotter and GPS, but we need radar.

### What's one indulgence you'd never cruise

(BELOW) John and Linda Beatty enjoy a snowy stop during a Christmas cruise at the dock in Kirkland, Wash. (RIGHT) Victoria is one of our favorite big towns in B.C. Here we are at Victoria Inner Harbor, the Causeway Marina in front of the Provincial Parliament Building and Empress Hotel (not shown).



### without?

We like the iTems: iPhone, iPad, iTunes. We are working on breaking the code for getting cheap data in Canada.

### What's the most miles you've covered in one year?

We average about 150 hours a year on our American Diesel engine. That is 1,100 nautical miles, more or less. Our longest summer cruise was from Seattle to Jennis Bay, a bit past the north end of Vancouver Island. That was 700 miles, round trip.

### What's your best piece of cruising advice?

Always give yourself an out. Heading into a dock, have a plan B if the original does not work out. If the weather is iffy, have a safe harbor available short of the destination. Carry spare parts and hope you don't need them.

of Saanich Inlet. There you will find five mooring buoys for the taking. With your boat secure, dinghy across to the dock on the south side of the inlet. Walk up to the gate, pay admission (the moorage is free) and enter via the Japanese gardens, an area of solitude even when it is teeming with people. Bamboo fountains tock away the minutes as they are filled

and then dump the trickle of water that flows into them. At the northwest head of the garden is a keyhole cut through the shrubbery; look through it, and you will see your boat and the other boats that have taken advantage of this little bit of paradise. You have entered Butchart Gardens just north of Victoria, B.C.

We have visited during all

seasons of the year, from the earliest days of spring to snow-covered winters. Spring, when the daffodils, crocuses and hyacinths have just come into bloom, is the season of promise. There are intense arrays of flowers, and aromas waft through the quarry. You see people out celebrating a warm day after weeks of winter.

Fall exhibits the last of the

season's blooms and foliage, red, orange, yellow. The air is crisper than it has been, bringing the thought of dinner in the restaurant beside the fire. Wood smoke drifts down into the quarry as you wind down to the lowest end of the gardens where the Ross fountain dances "Bellagio" style.

Back up to the west side, you have hidden vistas and