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# The Voyager's Handbook: The Essential Guide to Blue Water Cruising

By Beth Leonard



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**The Voyager's Handbook: The Essential Guide to Blue Water Cruising** By Beth Leonard

“Belongs in the bookshelf of every cruising vessel.”? *Blue Water Sailing*

“If you are serious about that extended voyage, read *The Voyager’s Handbook*.”? *Sailing*

“Every now and then a new voice emerges in the world of sailing literature that stands out, a voice that is both clear and of lasting quality. The appearance of such a new voice is something of an event, and that’s what we’d call the publication of *The Voyager’s Handbook*.”? *Blue Water Sailing*

This inspirational and comprehensive manual leads you step by step through every aspect of choosing, planning, and following the voyager’s life. Using three example boats representing three cruising lifestyles? *Simplicity*, *Moderation*, and *Highlife*? Beth Leonard helps make your bluewater dreams come true, whether you’re sailing on a shoestring or a CEO’s pension. Starting with the things you can’t do without? an enthusiastic crew, a seaworthy boat, and, of course, money? Leonard offers sage advice on how to select crewmembers who are truly committed to the voyage, how to choose the right boat for you, and how to find just the right approach to financing your voyage and making the most of every dollar spent.

Managing life from a floating home and keeping that home livable, seaworthy, and safe requires you to become, among other things, the ship’s purser, engineer, doctor, cook, and cruise director. You’ll discover how to prepare for these new roles and put necessary equipment and arrangements in place before you untie your docklines. This exquisitely detailed guide also helps you master the skills you’ll need to handle a boat at sea with a small crew, including

- Weather forecasting
- Passage planning
- Watchkeeping
- Heavy-weather sailing
- Emergency management
- Midocean repairs

Complete with dozens of easy-to-use graphs and tables for quick reference, along with the hard-won wisdom of experienced cruisers, *The Voyager’s Handbook* is the ultimate resource for anyone who is planning, preparing for, or just dreaming

about a great adventure on the high seas.

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### Editorial Review

From the Back Cover

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Since completing a three-year, 35,000-mile circumnavigation of the globe with her partner, Evans Starzinger, in 1995, **Beth Leonard** has lectured widely, written for leading sailing magazines, and outfitted a new 50-foot aluminum cutter aboard which she and Evans once again set sail in 1999. They logged an additional 50,000 miles at sea over the following six years, much of it in the world's high latitudes, including Labrador, Iceland, Scotland, Cape Horn, and east through the Southern Ocean to Australia.

### See the world from your boat

“A voyaging handbook with soul. Beth Leonard is a pleasure to read. No one else has captured the yin and yang of voyaging so well.”? *Caribbean Compass*

“Required reading. Beth Leonard is a fresh and authoritative voice.”?SAIL

“In her own journey, Beth Leonard has become not only a wonderful sailor, but also a fine teacher. I know this because I’ve learned so much from her.”?from the Foreword by Herb McCormick, *Latitude 38 and Cruising World*

"When other boats scurry back to their berths just ahead of the setting sun, you want to keep sailing. You want your tracks to be the only ones on a perfect sand beach of a deserted tropical island. You want to see the green flash, taste coconut milk from the husk, watch the fish dance at dusk, and share a feast with new friends from other cultures. This book can help you get there. It is written for coastal and limited offshore cruisers who want to make the transition to long-term voyaging. I have tried to capture everything I wish I had known on that June day when we first sailed out from under Newport Bridge.”?from the Prologue by Beth Leonard

About the Author

**Beth A. Leonard** has won awards from the Ocean Cruising Club and the Cruising Club of America. A popular writer, she lectures around the country. She and her husband have circumnavigated the globe twice under sail, logging 85,000 blue water miles.

## Users Review

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