

Info Sheet – April 2024 Sailing in Paradise



Welcome to the adventure! We are excited to have you join us on this trip around the middle and lower Keys. The sailboat has navigated this path many times as part of the Boy Scouts of America's "Coral Reef" program where Scout troops from all over the nation come to the Florida Keys to live aboard these boats. For a week, they explore and learn about the beautiful Florida Keys. We hope to give you a taste of this program as we visiting a number of popular sailing, swimming, fishing and snorkel sites.

While we hope to do a lot of sailing, in order to make it to our ports of call, we need to maintain an average speed of 5 knots. This may require we motor-sail some of the trip. Also, we will be traveling by boat and we may have to make adjustments for weather or mechanical issues.

The following is not a complete list, but just things we thought you should know.



HEAT – April should not be too hot, but remember to drink a lot of water, Use sunscreen, and dress appropriately. There will be shared, but the boat does NOT have air conditioning.

BOAT/BUNK ASSIGNMENTS - There will be a boat and bunk for everyone, and one is really no better than another. Remember... it's about the adventure, not the accommodations. Who goes where will depend on the final crew roster. Please be flexible.

SLEEPING – While you'll have a bunk, you may want to sleep on deck where it will be cooler. A sleeping pad and travel pillow might be helpful.

BRING – Less clothes that you think (you will be living in a bathing suit and sun shirt). Sun Screen, hat, Sunglasses, water bottle, toiletries, Cell phone, power bank, earbuds, flashlight, gloves. Limited fishing gear. Storage space is limited.

DON'T BRING – Hard-sided luggage. Alcohol or rec drugs. There is NO SMOKING/VAPING on the vessels. If this is an issue, let Capt. Jack know and we'll see if an accommodation can be made.

ARRIVAL/DEPARTURES– Marina parking is not available. The Marathon Airport has free parking just a couple blocks away. Call when you arrive and we'll come pick you up. We'll also drop you at your car at the end of your trip.

TRANSPORTATION – You are responsible for all ground transportation. However, carpooling is encouraged and we will circulate the crew roster with contact information before the trip. Amtrak and Greyhound are great options. You can take a plain or train to Miami from anywhere, then the bus will



drop you off at front door of the Marathon Airport. For that matter, you can fly from Orlando to Marathon round trip for under \$300!

DUTY – You are the working crew on the boat. All crew will be asked to cook, clean, stand watch, weigh anchor, drive the boat, set sails etc. Appropriate accommodations will be made. Your captain will coordinate these activities and your assistance is appreciated.



ANCHOR

WATCH – When at anchor, we will be keeping watch throughout the night. This requires someone to be awake at all times. The duty rotates so you will only be asked to stand watch for 2 hours at a time.

WATER CONSERVATION – Fresh water is limited on a boat. Don't run the water while you brush your teeth.

HOLDING TANKS – (for "Black Water") We have limited space. There are techniques we will share with you to conserve this space. But please DO NOT urinate over the side of the boat!

PROVISIONS – Everything will be provided. However, if you have a special diet, please let us know. If you like to shop, and /or cook your help is welcome. locally just before departure.



CLASSES UNDERWAY – If you are interested in taking classes or earning certifications underway, let us know. However, much of the learning is going to happen just by being part of the working crew. Reading your textbooks ahead of time will be very important as well. Classes/Certifications will be offer at a nominal additional fee.



Liberty Call – We are planning to stop ashore at least once per trip where you can get off the boat, eat at a restaurant, and hoist a cold one.

