

Let's Go Cruising in 2019

Five proposed cruises, each with increasing difficulty and different learning experiences, are scheduled for 2019. Cruises will be planned, but cancelled for poor registration or for a poor weather forecast such as high winds, nasty rain, or cold temperatures. The idea here is that cruising isn't an endurance contest, but a fun activity to be enjoyed in reasonably good weather.

Cruise #1 – Memorial Day May 25 – 27th. Three nights on your own mooring!

Friday - Provision your boat Friday afternoon. Enjoy dinner on the patio at NBC Friday night, and spend the night on your mooring.

Saturday – have breakfast on your boat, go for a sail, watch the Club regatta on Saturday, come back to your mooring and read a good book or have an afternoon nap. Enjoy dinner on your boat, at the Club, or enjoy one of the great restaurants uptown.

Sunday – breakfast on the patio, organize a raft-up off Hook Mountain if the weather is right, and watch the new Champion of Champions regatta racing at Nyack. Perhaps organize a group BBQ on the patio Sunday evening. Spend a second night on your boat.

Monday – breakfast on your boat, sail up to Ossining and back, and watch the Laser Regatta at the Club.

Keep a diary of your weekend, and make a list of things your forgot to bring, or that you could do differently.

Cruise #2 – June 14 – 16th **Full moon Monday, June 17th . Clearwater Festival at Croton Point June 15 – 16th**. Two-night cruise. Tides – Friday – low at Nyack 3:30 pm, high 10 pm.

Friday – Make a reservation, using Dockwa, for a slip at Shattemuc Marina for Friday night. (See www.cruisingfleetnbc.com to do this. The code for a free dock spot at Shattemuc Marina is NBCIND18.) After provisioning your boat, sail up to Shattemuc with the flotilla (about 1 hour) leaving 5 pm on the flooding current. Go earlier if you and the kids want to swim in SYC's beautiful pool. Have dinner at the restaurant and spend the night at the dock on your boat.

Saturday – have breakfast on the boat, leave Shattemuc and sail north around Croton Point. The current will be against you. This weekend is the great Clearwater Festival. Drop anchor and enjoy listening to the music. If you have a dinghy, go ashore, buy a ticket, and enjoy the Festival. It's always awesome with foot-stomping music. They have the greatest collection of political bumper stickers

you will ever see! Wave to the Hudson River Sloop *Clearwater* as she sails by. Have dinner and a good bottle of wine aboard your boat. If the weather cooperates you can raft up with other Nyack boats, and/or go swimming and clean your bottom.

Sunday – Happy Father’s Day! High tide will be around 10:30 am, so you can head South to Nyack any time after that.

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Cruise #3 – July 4th fireworks at Bowline Point – one-night cruise

We don’t know yet when the Haverstraw fireworks at Bowline Point are going to be. The 4th is a Thursday and this year and the tides are completely wrong for getting in and out of Bowline Point in the early evening. Depending on how much you draw, you should go into or out of the Cove carefully within two hours of high water. On July 5th and 6th high tide is at 1:30 pm and 2:30 pm; low tide is at 8 and 9 pm. Don’t go into the Cove the first time without an experienced guide, or else follow someone with a larger boat and a deeper keel to the inside.

Once you’re in the Cove, you can raft up with other Nyack boats or drop your own anchor. Bring a full complement of fenders. Bring provisions for cocktails, dinner, and breakfast the next morning. This is a traditional NBC party and absolutely fabulous. The fireworks are awesome. The cove is protected and beautiful. Don’t plan to leave in the morning until there is enough water around 11:30 am (+/- two hours either side of high tide) and follow someone larger than you out into deep water.

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Cruise #4 – August 31st – September 2nd –Liberty Island & Raritan Bay – two-night Labor Day Weekend cruise

Saturday – leave Nyack on the high tide at 11:30 am

Saturday night – stay at Liberty Island Marina or anchor behind the Statue of Liberty. If staying at the Marina you can make reservations using Dockwa. The Marina has a good restaurant, is well lit, and will be a “happening place” on Labor Day weekend. If staying behind the Statue of Liberty, be prepared to drop anchor near other Nyack sailors. This anchorage is generally calm and beautiful, with breathtaking views of Manhattan at night.

Sunday – sail in beautiful Raritan Bay to Keyport Yacht Club. Make reservations at Keyport for a mooring using Dockwa. We have reciprocity with Keyport, so there should be no mooring fee. The Club has a lovely restaurant, a launch exactly like ours, and members can’t do enough for you.

Monday – leave Keyport at 6 am to ride the current back to Nyack.

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Cruise #5 - September 14 - 17 – Hudson River Cruise to Kingston, NY

[n.b. more homework has to be done here to check the currents between Chelsea and Kingston, plus return currents. This is a very difficult cruise to plan.]

Friday night – provision and spend the night on your boat at Nyack

Saturday – leave on the low tide at **6:00 am** and sail north to Chelsea Yacht Club, arriving early afternoon. The trip to Chelsea through the Hudson River Highlands is spectacular. Read up on your Revolutionary War history to appreciate the West Point fortress and the American chain across the River that barred the British ships from sailing up to Kingston & Albany. Saturday night use the CYC launch to BBQ on shore, or enjoy dinner aboard your boat. Chelsea has lovely shower facilities, but no nearby shopping.

Sunday – sail to Kingston leaving any time after 9:30 am. This is a lovely part of the River as the land flattens heading north. Sunday night – eat at one of the many restaurants along the Kingston waterfront, enjoy the tourist trolley ride, and make sure you visit the Hudson River Museum.

Monday – leave Kingston and sail south to Chelsea. Other ports you might enjoy along the River include Newburgh, Cold Spring, Peekskill, or Haverstraw Marina.

Tuesday – finish your cruise back to Nyack.

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