

An Introduction to Squadron Cruising

“We never would have sailed in here on our own;
thank you”: in conversation with a skipper
who had joined his first Cruise.

Every year the RNSYS organizes a Summer Cruise. In the last twenty years we have cruised the South Shore to Shelburne, the Eastern Shore to Cape Breton (both into the Lakes and around the outside), the Northumberland Strait to P.E.I. and to Havre Aubert in the Magdalens. One year we rendezvoused in Maine with the Boston Yacht Club.

Cruising—what is it? Bill Roberts, past Cruise Chair puts it best: “*Cruising is about enjoying different people and places*

from the unique perspective provided by living (however briefly) on a small boat. It’s about slowing down, enjoying both the trip and the destination. A cup of coffee in a secluded anchorage watching the fog lift while gulls and an eagle wheel overhead in search of breakfast. A raucous dinner party on a nearby boat with people you never met before. Someone on a neighbouring boat rowing over to help you fix that #%&^%&^ plotter. Pulling into an anchorage and being advised where or where not to drop the hook by a complete stranger. Exploring around your anchorage by dinghy. It’s all part of cruising.*

“Cruisers help other cruisers – it’s part of the culture! It’s also common sense – who knows when you might need a hand?”

“The RNSYS organized cruises take this to another level. Let’s call it Cruising in Company. A number of boats (typically 8 or more) of different sizes, shapes and speed agree to follow the same itinerary. Roll calls take place each morning on the VHF by the Officer of the Day to make sure of everyone’s plan for the day and deal with any issues that may have arisen. Everyone checks in at the destination. Distances are planned around daylight travel. The destinations are known and researched beforehand, and usually someone on the cruise has been there before. Some activities are organized – some are spontaneous.

“The one variable we can’t control is the weather, which is taken into account by changing the itinerary on the fly if necessary with due regard for the various sea keeping capabilities of our fleet...”

“If you haven’t cruised yet – give it a shot! 99.9% of us have survived the experience.”





RNSYS cruisers are a mix of experienced and less experienced sailors. If you are new to cruising, we can connect you with a buddy boat who will help with any questions you may have underway and make the Cruise stress-free, easy, and fun. Before the Cruise starts there will be a guide with a list of charts, tips on provisioning and safety equipment. An outline and itinerary of the Cruise will be provided.

This summer we plan to cruise the Eastern Shore and then on to P.E.I. and the Three Rivers of Eastern P.E.I. (the Montague, Brudenell, and Cardigan). There will be dinners and pot luck suppers along the way and plenty of time to explore on your own. Also, you can choose to do only part of the Cruise, the Eastern Shore or P.E.I., if time is a factor. The Cruise Itinerary is on the following page.

The Annual Cruise Dinner will be on March 28 at the Saraguay House. There will be awards for last year's cruisers and information on this Summer's Cruise. Join us for Dinner to meet other cruisers and to hear more about cruising and this Summer's Cruise.

If you have any questions, please reach out to us through the Squadron's Communications & Membership Manager, Mikela Sani at communications@rnsys.com.



RNSYS
2022 Nova Scotia
Summer Cruise

DATE	DESTINATION	DISTANCE
Wed, July 20	Pre-Cruise Dinner at the Saraguay House	
Sat, July 23	Jeddore Harbour (Dinner at the Salmon River Country Inn)	34 nm
Sun, July 24	Shelter Cove	28 nm
Mon, July 25	Beaver Harbour	20 nm
Tue, July 26	Liscombe Lodge	31 nm
Wed, July 27	Yankee Cove	47 nm
Thu, July 28	Port Hawkesbury	43 nm
Fri, July 29	<i>Lay day</i> , Port Hawkesbury	
Sat, July 30	Ballantynes Cove	28 nm
Sun, July 31	Murray Harbour	29 nm
Mon, August 1	<i>Lay day</i> , Murray Harbour (Lobster Dinner at the Community Centre)	
Tue, August 2, Wed, August 3 Thu, August 4	Cruise the Cardigan, Brudenell, and Montague Rivers	+/-16 nm
Fri, August 5	Ballantynes Cove	+/-36 nm
Sat, August 6	D'Escousse (Dinner at the Groundswell Pub)	37 nm
Sun, August 7 and following	Sail in company back to the Squadron	



