

OFFSHORE CRUISING ONLINE COURSE

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"Cruising is typically a couples activity. You both need to buy in. The idea can start as one person's ultimate goal, but it is more successful and more satisfying if you plan and prepare together," says Jeff Merrill, instructor for **Offshore Cruising: Preparing Craft & Crew**. "There is probably no single activity that is more satisfying than the freedom implied by running your own boat."

Merrill is a CPYB yacht broker, trawler specialist and an experienced teacher and regular instructor at TrawlerFest. Merrill will share a boatload of simple tricks to better monitor and maintain the ship's systems. He'll discuss adding reference marks for needles on analog gauges, a dry-erase board in the engine room, anchor chain marking techniques.

Lessons will cover the basics of weather forecasting, route planning, watch standing, engine room checks, pilothouse navigation and electronics operations. Students will also learn essential preparations and best practices for transiting between distant ports.

See you in class,
—Soundings

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