



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

*Beth Leonard*

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“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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