ICOYC Summer Cruise 2013 – Danish Isles

supported by NORDDEUTSCHER REGATTA VEREIN, Hamburg

ITINERARY and ROUTE DESCRIPTION

The cruise will sail from Glücksburg / GERMANY on Saturday, June 8, 2013 and finish with charter yacht return to the charter base at Sonwik Marina in Flensburg on Saturday June 15, 2013. Below please find respective maps of the sailing area framed in red at the Danish / German border with Hamburg and its airport being shown at the bottom of the image.
The image below depicts the sailing area and the ports of call (see stars) which the cruise will follow from port to port.

After having cast off the lines at Glücksburg our first port of call in Danish waters will be Hørup Hav. The little Danish town and its harbour are a favorite weekend trip destination of many German yachtsmen from neighboring ports of origin.
Hørup Hav is blessed with “Hotel Baltic” – a very nice historic hotel and restaurant. It is owned by Mr Hans-Michael Jebsen, the well-known owner of Hong Kong based company Jebsen & Co. who takes pride in purchasing and refurbishing traditional old Danish hotels and Kroer (guest houses) to put them back to life for the enjoyment of contemporary customers. This could be an option for the participants for a nice cocktail reception followed by dinner at the hotel.

The next destination in Danish waters will be the port of Marstal on Ærø island.

Marstal has a long seafaring tradition. Based on its fleet of so called “Marstal Schooners” the little Danish port town very successfully engaged in overseas trade as early as the outgoing 18\textsuperscript{th} and early 19\textsuperscript{th} century. It boasts two shipyards one of which engages in repairing and building of traditional wooden ships and boats. There also is a navigation school and a maritime museum worth visiting. The old town church dates back to the year 1738. Marstal today counts close to 2,400 inhabitants.

From here we continue on our cruise towards Svendborg in the south of the island of Fyn by departing in East – North easterly direction – 75°, leaving the island of Strynø on our port side, passing under the bridge with 26 m clearance at Rudkøbing located on the island of Langeland which we leave to our starboard side, before we take to port and enter Svendborg Sound steering a course of 283° from the approach buoy.

From the approach buoy we follow Svendborg Sound to Troense on the island of Tåsinge where we plan a short stopover for a sightseeing stroll through the streets of this charming little Danish village. Time permitting Troense offers another highlight worthwhile visiting.
This is Valdemars Slot – a former home of Danish nobility – which has now been converted into three museums plus restaurant and hotel.
While stretching one’s legs on firm ground is fine also for yachtsmen, today’s destination, however, is the picturesque town of Svendborg. Berthing for the yachts is planned at the city center marina – (upper right hand corner of image below).

The town of Svendborg is first documented in 1229 when King Valdemar II donated the town to his sister in law. The oldest building still standing today is Anne Hvides Gaard. It was built in 1560. Today Svendborg has got slightly less than 27,000 inhabitants and after Odense is the second largest town on the island of Fyn.
Since the 19th century Svendborg has been a seafaring town and also shipbuilding flourished for some time until the shipyard had to shut down in 2001 for economic reasons. But boat building continues until today. The well-known boatyard Walsted Baadeværft specializes in building and refitting of classic sailing yachts. Also the world’s largest shipping line still in operation today – A. P. Møller-Mærsk – was founded in Svendborg in 1904 and 1912 respectively.

From here our course will take us in South Westerly direction towards the island of Ærø. We will pass under the bridge with 33 m clearance west of Svendborg connecting Fyn with Tåsinge. On our way we will leave the island of Skarø on our starboard side and reach open waters after having passed in the middle between the isles of Drejø (on our starboard side) and Hjortø (on our portside). Today’s destination is the picturesque town of Ærøskøbing on the island of Ærø.
Ærøskøbing is indeed a rather small town with slightly less than 1,000 inhabitants. First records date back to 1250. The town changed hands several times in history between the Danish Crown and the Duchy of Schleswig-Holstein-Sonderburg-Glücksburg before finally being sold to the Danish King.

Economically Ærøskøbing even today still is of only minor local importance catering to its immediate neighborhood. The town never reached the economic significance of its next door neighbor Marstal which prospered from its shipping activities. Today tourism is one of Ærøskøbing’s major sources of income.

In this sense NRV member Peter Gast – a well-known figure in Hamburg and North German shipping circles– is supporting tourism to Ærøskøbing.
This year he has organized his meanwhile famous if not even legendary “Schifffahrtsregatta” (shipping regatta) from Kappeln / GERMANY to Ærøskøbing for the 31st time generating nice additional revenue for the town. A total of 150 yachts with 1,200 crew members participated in the regatta this year. Participants generally come from North German shipping companies.

The next destination of our cruise will be Fåborg located once again on the island of Fyn. On our way we will pass by the small rural islands of Avernåkø and Lyø both mainly featuring an agricultural character.
Fåborg is another typical small Danish town economically catering to the immediate neighborhood. It was first documented in 1229 as a gift of King Valdemar to a Portuguese Princess. The picturesque old town is one of the best examples of intact Danish architecture of the past. Two real landmarks are the old town gate and the bell tower of the town church.

Provisions for the boats – as far as necessary – can be replenished here.

Our next stopover during the cruise will be picturesque Dyvig Bay with its extremely narrow passage which, however, is well marked. Do not despair when entering the bay’s approach. At first sight it does look like that there is no way in. But on coming closer the passage opens up and – guided by the navigation marks – you will have no problems in entering the bay.

Once through the passage the bay opens up into a calm and well protected harbour with a modern marina plus another nice hotel with own berthing for visiting yachtsmen.
Dyvig Bay will be our last stopover before we complete our cruise the following day by returning to Glücksburg / GERMANY. On our way to the Flensburg Fjord we can – time permitting – make another short stopover at Sønderborg before we continue. The last day will see us entering the marina of the FSC Flensburger Segel Club with farewell cocktails at the Club followed by a nice farewell dinner at Glücksburg Castle. It is the home of the Duke of Schleswig-Holstein’s family and dates back to the late 16th century.
Saturday, June 15, 2012 will be reserved for removing all personal belongings from the yachts and returning the boats to the charter base at Sonwik Marina in Flensburg.

As one of the last optional highlights we can offer a visit to Robbe & Berking Classic Yachts yard in Flensburg which surely would be a nice conclusion of what we hope will have been a pleasant and thrilling experience for all participants in the 2013 ICOYC Baltic Sea Cruise.

Fair winds and happy sailing!

Your NRV Cruise Organizing team