

BAHAMAS CRUISE THIS SEASON

Lee Henderson

I am planning to cruise the Bahamas this winter in my Brigadoon II any buddy boat are welcome to join in. My crew includes Ed Crane of Marco Island and my Brother-in Law Craig Letho from Denver, Colorado.

We will sail from here to Pumpkin Key which is an Island at the bottom of Biscayne Bay and off Key Largo. This will take + or - 3 days. We will wait there for a good weather window to proceed out Angelfish Pass and cross the Gulf Stream to Cat Key in the Bahamas, 56 NM. We will anchor there and rest up. We plan to check into the Bahamas there which costs \$300 for the boat Cruising Pass to sail the Bahamas. From there we sail across Bahamas Bank to Chub Key, a long leg of 75 NM. Then we sail an easy 35 NM to Nassau. There we get a slip in the Marina for a couple days. Then we sail to Allen Key which is at the northern end of the Exuma Island Chain and then leisurely work our way down the Exuma Island Chain to Georgetown. This will take a week or so. One place we will visit is Staniel Key which is where they filmed the original 007 movie Thunderball. We also stop and anchor at Warwick Wells Exuma Park and Norman Key. Black point is a good place to fill up with free fresh water. In Georgetown we attend and participate in the Cruisers Regatta for a week and more. Check out this web site on the Regatta: <http://www.georgetowncruising.com/index.htm>. Dottie and I have attended this Regatta before and believe me, it is a great time. When we were there last there were over 500 boats. After the regatta plan to check out Long Island, Cat Island and Eleuthera on our way back to Nassau. In Eleuthera we will anchor and visit Government Harbour (another good place for free water) and Hatchet Bay where I used to keep my Brigadoon II in charter. From Nassau we return to Marco the same route we went, in reverse. I have made this trip before and I am familiar with all these places. I just want to return for old times sake. Dottie may fly to Georgetown and join us for the regatta.

Again, if anyone wants to buddy boat with us, Brigadoon II departs Marco on 31 January or 1 February and we do not expect to be back to Marco until late March or early April. If you are interested, just let me know your intentions.

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