



Royal Cruising Club Pilotage Foundation

Atlantic Islands

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This replaces all previous supplements

Further updates are available, as they come in, via the Cruising Notes page of the Pilotage Foundation website at www.rccpf.org.uk/Pilotage-Notices

Caution

Whilst the Royal Cruising Club Pilotage Foundation, the author and the publishers have used reasonable endeavours to ensure the accuracy of the contents of this book, it contains selected information and thus is not definitive. It does not contain all known information on the subject in hand and should not be relied upon alone for navigational use: it should only be used in conjunction with official hydrographical data. This is particularly relevant to the plans, which should not be used for navigation. The Royal Cruising Club Pilotage Foundation, the author and the publishers believe that the information which they have included is a useful aid to prudent navigation, but the safety of a vessel depends, ultimately, on the judgment of the skipper, who should access all information, published or unpublished. The information provided in this book may be out of date and may be changed or updated without notice. The Royal Cruising Club Pilotage Foundation cannot accept liability for any error, omission or failure to update such information. To the extent permitted by law, the Royal Cruising Club Pilotage Foundation, the author and the publishers do not accept liability for any loss and/or damage, howsoever caused, that may arise from reliance on information contained in these pages.

This supplement contains amendments and corrections sent in by a number of cruising yachtsmen and women, in addition to those culled from official sources such as Notices to Mariners.

Positions and waypoints

All positions and waypoints are to datum WGS84. They are included to help locating place, features and transits. Do not rely on them alone for safe navigation.

Bearings and lights

Any bearings are given in degrees True and from seaward. The characteristics of lights may be changed during the lifetime of this book and they should be checked against the latest edition of the UK Admiralty List of Lights.

Note Where lights have been modified in the text do please remember to alter them on the appropriate plan(s).

This supplement is cumulative and the latest information is marked in **blue**.

Acknowledgements

My thanks to the marina staff in Horta, Velas and Angra do Heroísmo for answering my queries; and to Ian and Lesley McGarley *Bewitched Again*, for the reassurance that all is well in Ponta Delgada.

With huge thanks to Ben Lowings for so generously and thoroughly checking the Bermuda section and updating so much useful information.

Bermuda

Page 15

Taxis

Add: Drivers usually only accept cash (Bermuda Dollar) only. Buses

Delete: To check the schedules go to www.gov.bm

Add: To check the schedules go to www.gov.bm/bus-routes-and-schedule

Ferries

Delete: To check the schedules go to www.gov.bm

Add: To check the schedules go to www.rccbermuda.bm/ferries_about.aspx

Add: Hamilton ferry terminal has a phone information line ☎+1 441 295 4506.

Tickets for buses and ferries

Delete: Cost is \$5 a single ticket, less for the multiples.

Add: \$3.50 for 3 Zone single ticket (\$25.00 for a book of 15 tickets), \$5.00 for a 14 Zone single ticket (\$37.50 for a book of 15).

Add: Single tickets (tokens) multiples (booklets) and passes can be easily purchased through the government's excellent Shorelink App. The ticket must be activated before boarding. The driver checks the code.

Page 16 Medical (cont'd.)

Delete: Emergency department ☎+1 441 298 7700.

Add: Emergency department ☎+1 441 239 1301. Call 911 for an ambulance.

Regulations and paperwork (Embassies and consulates)

Government House

Delete: 11 Langton Hill, Pembroke, Hamilton ☎+1 441 292 3600 Office Mon-Fri 0845-1300, 1415-1700

Add: Governor and staff have temporarily located to a property in Paget owing to Government House renovations. 9 Inglewood Lane, Paget ☎+1 441 292 3600

Portuguese consulate

Delete: ①+1 441 292 1039

Add: ①+1 441 704 6338

Yacht Entry (Bermuda radio)

Delete: www.marops.bm/sailbda.aspx

Add: www.marops.bm/of_visitingyacht.aspx

Delete: www.marops.bm/sailbda.aspx

Add: dutyofficer@marops.bm

Delete: Bermuda is part of the SailClear service and, if registered, details of the boat will be passed on in advance when requested, to local authorities.

Add: SailClear is not used.

Page 17 Regulations and paperwork (cont'd.)

Bermuda radio

Delete: 3 Ordnance Island, St George's ①+1 441 297 1247

Add: 3 Ordnance Island. St George's ①+1 441 297 1226, customs@gov.bm, VHF Ch 68

Add [after The office is typically open 0800–2400]: Vessels arriving in those hours are directed to the quarantine anchorage at Powder Hole in the south east of St George's Harbour. Then they must head directly to check in at the Ordnance Island YRC.

Fees

Add: Race competitors and members of Sail Training International are exempt. Race competitors can proceed directly to moorings at their designated local partner club.

Yacht departure

Add: Departure formalities can be done in person. It is not necessary to bring the yacht to the customs dock to clear out.

Page 18 Regulations and paperwork (cont'd.)

Marine reserves

Delete: From 2022, twenty percent of Bermudan waters will be within designated marine protection zones, protecting its extensive coral reef habitats.

Add: The Bermudian government is still (2025) consulting on draft plans to place 20% of Bermudan waters within designated marine protection zones.

Cruising practicalities (Hauling out and laying up

Delete: Haul out and repairs are possible in St George's and Dockyard.

Add: Haul out and repairs are possible in St George's, Mill Creek and Dockyard.

Leaving a boat in Bermuda

Add: Apply to the Department of Immigration with proof of citizenship, health insurance and the means to repatriate themselves by air.

Gas

Add: LPG refills are also available at Sunshine Gas in Hamilton ①+1 441 295 6246.

Page 19 Cruising practicalities (cont'd.)

Hurricanes

Add: Immigration permission to stay with the vessel for the five month period of hurricane season must apply to the department with proof of citizenship, health insurance and the means to repatriate themselves by air."

Weather

Add: Bermuda Customs YRC at St. George's provides displays of the latest BWS North Atlantic Weather Forecast charts.

Page 20 Approach to Bermuda

Add [after 2nd para]: If in doubt about the approach, stay offshore until daylight. Alternatively, through the reef pass, anchor in Five Fathom Hole (32°23'N 64°37'W).

Add [after "the buoys are lit"]: Several marks are prone to drifting off station or getting extinguished. Check the latest notices to mariners at www.marops.bm/nav_warnings.aspx

Add [after "The Narrows"]: Also known as the Hurd Channel.

Page 23 St George's (Approach to St George's)

Add: Between St George's Island and St David's Island, the Swing Bridge (also known as Mullet Bay Road Bridge) operates at Ferry Reach (the westernmost portion of St George's harbour with an air draft of 3.3m (10'10") at LAT. Swing Bridge operator VHF Ch 13.

Add: The port of St. George's is the main permanent YRC.

Page 24 St George's. Bermuda Yacht Services

Delete [title]: Bermuda Yacht Services

Add [title]: St George's Marina

Harbour communications

Delete: ①+1 441 297 2798

Add: ①+1 441 232 0622

Delete: info@bdayacht.com, www.bdayacht.com

Add: info@stgeorgesmarina.com, www.stgeorgesmarina.com

Delete [subheading]: New and expanded services

Add [subheading]: Bermuda Yacht Services

Delete: The team at BYS...Sports Club.

Add: Ordnance Island is unmistakable with its neat white mansion, Customs office and excellent public restrooms. The island is belted round with berthing, now collectively known as 'St George's Marina'. Berthing is managed by the well-established firm of Bermuda Yacht Services, run by Mark Soares. Alongside berthing or med moor style can accommodate yachts of all sizes. Overflow berthing is available to the west for vessels exceeding 100m LOA. But most yachts will be docked from Somers' and Hunter's wharves in the west, then moving east, Penno's Wharf, around Ordnance Island in its entirety, then east to Market Wharf. The southernmost wall of Ordnance Island was the cruise ship terminal and is where you'll usually find superyachts mooring med-style.Charges

Delete: These are per metre, per night (2021): \$3.50 up to 24m at the town docks alongside \$7.00 over 24m at the town docks alongside \$7.00 over 24m alongside, S side of Ordnance Island \$5.75 over 24m med-style S side of Ordnance Island Transient mooring \$125.00 per week. Add: These are per foot, per night (2025): \$2.50 up to 24m (78ft), \$3.25 over 24m (78ft). Seasonal berths: 1 month minimum. Discuss with the dockmaster. Market Wharf East is reserved for touch and go (i.e. 1/2hr max) and the wall at Market Wharf West for 48hrs max.

Delete: **Captain Smokes' Marina** [and whole section]
Captain Smoke passed away and his brother Bernie Oatley, famous for his many years of help and advice provided to yachtsmen, is unable to continue his efforts due to age. The marina has ceased operation and the property sold.

Page 25 St George's Dinghy & Sports Club

Charges

Delete: [prices]

Add: See above for BYS.

Anchorage in St George's Harbour

Add: You can't miss the large exposed wreck east of Convicts Bay. But it pays to be aware of at least three other debris collections, submerged west of SGDSC.

Page 25 Facilities in St George's

Boatyard

Add: Fully re-established after the 2023 fire at Wellington Slip which claimed 40 boats.

Add: Large cradle available.

Delete: 19/25 Wellington Slip Road

Add: 25 Wellington Slip Road

Delete: sgby@ibl.bm

Add: sgby@logic.bm

Sail makers & sail repairs

Delete: Ocean Sails/Doyle

Add: Ocean Sails

Chandlery/hardware

Add: Also refills LPG.

Fuel

Add: Dowling's Marine fuel ☎+1 441 297 1914 is next to the ferry terminal.

Page 27 Dockyard (Pier 41 Marina)

Harbour communications

Delete: ☎+441 238 4141

Add: ☎+1 441 543 4141, dockmaster@pier41.bm

Pages 29 Spar Yard Marine Solutions Ltd (formerly West End Yachts Ltd) (Boatyard)

Add: Spar Yard also has a second slip facility at Spar Lane, adjacent to Moresby's Island, south of the main breakwater. Max haulage here 25T, 55ft LOA, 28ft beam. Trailering available up to 30ft LOA.

Sailmakers

Delete: Ocean Sails/Doyle

Add: Ocean Sails

Delete: Dockyard Canvas, canvas repair and replacement.

Add: Dockyard Canvas, canvas repair and replacement. Also does upholstery.

Caroline Bay Marina (Marina built for America's Cup)

Delete: The hotel development has stalled, but the marina is active, as is the building of the adjacent luxury apartment units.

Add: The surrounding hotel and property development has been shuttered for some years now. The marina is still very much still in business.

Page 31 Hamilton (Fairmont Hamilton Princess Marina. Marina Office)

Delete: hamiltondockmaster@fairmont.com

Add: Hamilton.Dockmaster@Fairmont.com

Delete: www.fairmont.com/hamilton-bermuda

Add: thehamiltonprincess.com/ marina

Page 32 Fairmont Hamilton Princess Marina. Marina Office (cont'd.)

Showers

Add: On-board massage offered.

Shops/provisioning

Add: The resort also supplies room service.

The Waterfront Marina (Harbour Communications)

Delete: ☎+1 441 295 1233

Add: ☎+1 441 295 1233 ext. 235. Dockmaster: Michael Carey.

Delete: www.thewaterfront.bm

Add: www.thewaterfrontproperties.bm/marina

Small marina at the edge of Hamilton

Delete: The marina has 50 berths, takes boats up to 18m (60ft).

Add: The marina can accommodate 50 vessels, including up to nine yachts up to 42m (135ft).

Page 34 Royal Bermuda Yacht Club (Harbour Communications)

Delete: ☎+1 441 295 2214

Add: ☎+1 441 294 6710

Add: or manager@rbyc.bm

A club with a long history

Delete: 122 berths

Add: 130 berths, with med-moor on the outer north arm accommodating vessels up to 46m (150ft)

Add: Reservations enquiries are catered for by an online form: <https://rbyc.bm/Marina/Marina>

Charges

Add: Stays over 30 days attract 10% discount.

Delete: ☎+1 441 236 2250"

Add: Dockmaster Andrew Lake on ☎+1 441 538 0050 or dockmaster@rhadc.bm

Delete: secretary@rhadc.bm"

Add: dockmaster@rhadc.bm, rhadc.bm/marina/visitors

An active club with a wide range of facilities

Delete: The Club lies at the east end of Hamilton Harbour and has 100 berths. If space allows, visitors are welcome, pre-booking is essential, contact the Club Secretary.

Add: The Club lies at the east end of Hamilton Harbour and has 60 berths for visitors up to 31m (100ft). Enquire with the dockmaster.

Mills Creek Marine Ltd. (Harbour Communications)

Delete: millscreek@ibl.bm

Add: millscreekmarine@gmail.com

Approach from Great Sound

Delete: has a 30T capacity travel lift.

Add: has a 35T capacity travel lift.

Delete: will lift boats of up to 15m (50ft).

Add: will lift boats of up to 20m (65ft).

Page 37 Anchorages around Bermuda

10 Castle Harbour

Add: Use a local pilot if at all possible. Bermuda Radio can advise.

The Azores

Page 51 Medical

Traveller Registration Form: Passengers are no longer required to complete the Traveller Registration Form.

Page 53 Lighthouse Tax (Taxa de Farolagem e Balizagem)

In the event that visiting yachts are asked to pay the Lighthouse Tax, which is not always collected, the charge is now €15 for all of Portugal, which includes the Azores, Madeira and Porto Santo, regardless of the area being cruised. Keep the receipt as proof of payment in case you are asked for it at another port.

Page 54 Berthing Fees at Portos dos Açores SA marinas

Berthing fees have increased by about 5% since 1 January 2023, so a 12-15m yacht should cost in the region of €16.19 plus IVA (VAT) at 18% and a 4% residue charge.

Page 55 Berthing Fees

Towels are no longer provided at the showers in Horta.

Flores

Page 60 Porto das Lajes

Although there is still work ongoing on the harbour infrastructure at Lajes das Flores, it is now possible to visit this delightful little harbour. It is possible to anchor in the sheltered area of the harbour, and it may be possible to go alongside the wall in the old marina area, space permitting. Yachts should attempt to contact the harbour on VHF Channel 16, although this can be difficult.

Page 63 Hurricane Lorenzo

Lajes das Flores

There are ongoing works to repair the damage done to the harbour in September 2019, when Hurricane Lorenzo battered the island overnight, with 13m waves hammering the outer harbour wall, reducing it to rubble. The outer wall has been strengthened at its southern end and a new inner wall has been built. The outer wall is still to be rebuilt. Given these ongoing works, it is likely that yachts at anchor may be asked to leave at short notice if either works or conditions require it. The marina has not been reconstructed, but yachts may be allowed to lie alongside, with the Harbourmaster's permission. The Portuguese Avisos aos Navegantes (Notices to Mariners) advise that masters of vessels should proceed with caution. It would be inadvisable to attempt entry at night as the positions of the buoys are unreliable.

Page 67 Santa Cruz (Porto das Poças)

This small harbour, which has been considerably rebuilt, is not for visiting yachts but for ferries and fishing boats.

Horta

Page 84 Facilities

Showers: There are now two sets of showers servicing the marina. The new showers are situated along the sea front almost directly below Peter's Café-Sport. The old showers, at the northern end of the marina, have been refurbished (although already one of the sinks in the ladies' lavatories has been cracked) and are in much better condition than previously. The water pressure is higher than that in the new showers, and the water is hotter!

Pico

Page 86 Chartlet of Pico Island

Ponta da Ilha (the lighthouse at the eastern end of Pico Island) has new characteristics and should now read: Fl(2)20s29m20M

Page 92 São Roque do Pico

The characteristics of the light at the end of the breakwater have been changed to:
Fl.G.3s12m12M

Page 96 Lajes do Pico

A yellow buoy Fl(5)Y.20s1M has been placed at position 38°23' .972N 28°15' .721W.

São Jorge

Page 106 Calheta



The aerial view of the harbour at Calheta, taken from a commercial airplane, shows the positioning of the RoRo berth, the inner wall and the Museu Francisco de Lacerda at the head of the bay.

Terceira

Page 122 Angra do Heroísmo

Following the decision to build a RoRo berth in Porta das Pipas, there has been a considerable change to the harbour entrance at the Marina de Angra do Heroísmo and care should be taken when entering. The eastern harbour wall has been lengthened by about 100m and as work is still ongoing it would not be prudent to attempt a night entry, but rather go to anchor and wait until marina office hours (08:00 in the summer months). The photograph indicates the length of the new wall. There are a number of buoys marking the navigable passage into the marina. The layout of the marina pontoons is changing, too, and provision made for several 15m berths to the east (right) of the marina office. The marina office personnel will direct you to a suitable berth.

The reception dock is now a solid wall outside the marina office, which can be seen on the left of the photograph. It is much wider than the previous reception pontoon. Additionally the fuel berth is no longer operated by the

marina staff but by private enterprise, details of which can be obtained from the marina office.

The travel hoist dock is now closer to the head of the small bay at Porta das Pipas, but there is still plenty of depth there, around 4m. As usual, make arrangements with the marina if you require a lift.

The new large ships' berth in
Angra do Heroísmo



Page 124 Approach and Entrance

The new roro berth has now been completed and a cruise ship has recently tied up alongside the wharf. Care should be taken when entering the marina.

There are new berths for yachts of 12m and more to the east of the marina. Yachts should tie up to the visitor pontoon in front of the marina office before being directed to a berth or to anchor if there is no room.

The light at Porto das Pipas is now at 38°38'.99N 27°12'.92W. The characteristics remain the same.

Page 129 Praia da Vitória

The pontoons at the municipality-owned marina are reported to be in a rather sad condition and there are concerns about the continuance of the marina and hardstanding facilities. Nothing has been decided as yet and for this year it is business as usual.

In 2023 a number of owners arrived in Terceira to have their boats taken out of the water only to be told that it had been decided to leave the marquees in place for at least a month longer. It was unfortunate that a severe storm blew the marquees down a little while later.