

Couple Explores The ICW From The Chesapeake Bay To The Florida Keys And Gulf

Embarking on a journey that would span thousands of miles and encompass some of the most breathtaking sights in America, a brave couple set out to explore the Intracoastal Waterway (ICW) from the Chesapeake Bay all the way down to the Florida Keys and Gulf. Their adventurous spirit and insatiable desire to discover new horizons drove them through a remarkable experience full of unforgettable moments.

The ICW, also known as the 'Ditch,' is a magnificent waterway that stretches along the Eastern Seaboard of the United States, offering boaters a unique opportunity to navigate from the north to the south, or vice versa, without having to face the open ocean. With its calm waters, diverse wildlife, and abundance of picturesque landscapes, the ICW has become a beloved route for those seeking an alternative to conventional travel.

Setting Sail from the Chesapeake Bay

Leaving the Chesapeake Bay, the couple charted their course towards Virginia and soon found themselves immersed in nature's beauty. As the treasured waterway meandered through marshes, swamps, and dense forests teeming with life, they couldn't help but marvel at the sheer serenity that surrounded them.

Key Largo Express: A Couple Explores the ICW from the Chesapeake Bay to the Florida Keys and Gulf Coast aboard their small Express Cruiser

by Fiona Wagenar(Kindle Edition)

Key Largo Express

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HUMOR
CHALLENGE
PRACTICAL LESSONS
INSIGHT



Two people can share their shared experiences
the beauty of their shared experiences.

Paul Michael Day

★★★★☆ 4.2 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 7072 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 237 pages
Lending	: Enabled



Their first stop was Norfolk, a vibrant city with a rich history. Docking at Waterside Marina, they explored the lively downtown area, indulging in local cuisine and immersing themselves in the city's maritime heritage. Moving on, their voyage continued down the ICW, passing through various coastal towns and discovering hidden gems along the way.

Embracing the Charm of Charleston and Savannah

As the couple ventured further south, they encountered two captivating cities that offered an incredible contrast between their architectural splendor and natural wonders. Charleston, South Carolina, known for its well-preserved historic district and quaint cobblestone streets, captivated their hearts. They strolled through magnificent gardens, admired elegant antebellum houses, and savored the flavors of Lowcountry cuisine.

Next on their itinerary was Savannah, Georgia, a city brimming with Southern charm. With its charming squares, magnificent oak trees draped in Spanish moss, and scenic riverfront, Savannah quickly became one of their favorite destinations. They immersed themselves in the city's rich history by visiting

museums, exploring the cobblestone streets, and indulging in the famous Southern hospitality.

Discovering the Sunshine State

Arriving in Florida, the couple's excitement intensified as they knew they were entering the final leg of their ICW adventure. With its crystal-clear waters, white sand beaches, and year-round sunshine, the Sunshine State had so much to offer.

The Florida Keys, a tropical paradise known for its laid-back lifestyle and vibrant marine life, left the couple in awe. From swimming with colorful fish in the coral reefs to indulging in fresh seafood delicacies, the Keys provided an unforgettable experience that will forever hold a special place in their hearts.

Continuing their journey, they entered the Gulf of Mexico and discovered its hidden treasures. The emerald waters, picturesque islands, and incredible sunsets made every moment in this enchanting region magical. They explored coastal towns, mingled with friendly locals, and basked in the natural splendor that surrounded them.

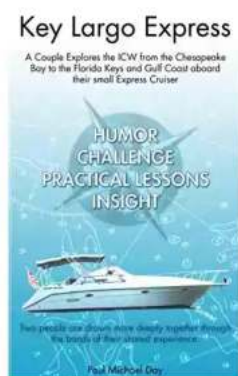
A Journey of a Lifetime

With each passing day, the couple grew more attached to the ICW and the wonderful experiences it offered. From the mesmerizing beauty of the Chesapeake Bay to the tropical allure of the Florida Keys and Gulf, their journey was filled with joy, wonder, and countless memories.

As our intrepid couple sailed back to the Chesapeake Bay, they couldn't help but feel a profound sense of gratitude for the opportunity to explore one of America's most iconic waterways. The ICW had not only allowed them to witness the

diverse landscapes and captivating beauty of the East Coast, but it had also taught them the importance of embracing adventure, cherishing nature, and appreciating the rich history and culture that line its shores.

In the end, their story serves as a reminder that sometimes, the most remarkable experiences can be found off the beaten path. So, whether you're a seasoned sailor or an adventure-seeking traveler, consider embarking on your own ICW journey. Who knows what wonders await you along this remarkable route?



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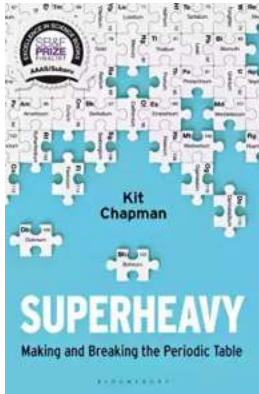
Key Largo Express is a beautifully written account of a couple's six-month cruise aboard their small express cruiser, Sir Pop, traveling the Intracoastal Waterway (ICW) from the Chesapeake to the Florida Keys and Gulf Coast. This pair of typical Chesapeake Bay "weekend" boaters started out from their home waters on the Bush River in late October, 2001, determined to realize a long-held dream—a "Huck Finn" voyage, living aboard full time, slowly making their way south,

enjoying the water, the towns, the people and whatever came their way. They had no schedule to keep, and aside from a month's slip reservation in Key Largo, no commitments. After retiring from a lifetime of work, with nest empty and house downsized, their intent was to take a lifetime sabbatical, a six month pause in their complex lives to mosey along through unscripted days and just enjoy. This book is an invitation to owners of small cruising boats everywhere to enjoy the beauty and freedom of the ICW. But it is an honest invitation, recounting the anxieties and difficulties without the gloss of nostalgia. Liz and Paul will take you along with them as they visit 54 ports of call, adapting to the joys and challenges of life aboard. Learn along with them as they sharpen their navigation, anchoring, and docking skills. Share their journey as a couple, drawn closer by the laughter, the crises, the sunsets and the storms, as they make Sir Pop their safe and comfortable floating home. They hope that you will be tempted to make your own voyage on the ICW. They know that you, as they did, will have the time of your lives. Key Largo Express includes a highly detailed Appendix, with practical information and advice for the first-time ICW cruiser: a log of all cruising legs (hours underway, miles traveled, etc.), a section debunking some of the myths and misconceptions about the ICW, a how-to section on techniques for navigating and laying out a course line (chart work), and checklists for avoiding and recovering from anchoring emergencies.



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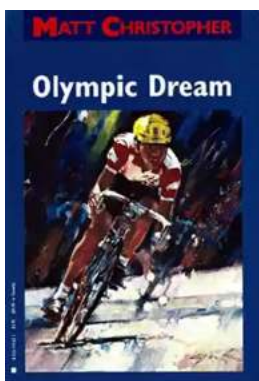
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