

2024 Potomac River Cruise with Fleet 10

Saturday, June 22 thru Saturday, June 29

Saturday 6/22/24

Fleet gathers at Point Lookout Marina on Smith Creek just off the Potomac River.

(<https://pointlookoutmarina.com/>)

There is a boat ramp nearby for those that will be towing their boats in, and the marina can provide storage for your car/trailer for the week while we are out bouncing around the Potomac.

Dinner can be a potluck at 1800 in a picnic area near the dock. There is also a pool onsite for those that wish to cool off in the afternoon. We will have a Captains Meeting for orientation purposes in the evening as well.

Sunday 6/23/24

Depart Smith Creek and sail upriver to the Lower Machodoc (approx. 17 NM)

This anchorage is well protected with nice surrounding views and good depth. The property surrounding the anchorage is private, but we have found the folks who live there to be quite friendly during past visits.

Monday 6/24/24

Depart the Lower Machodoc and sail across the river to Leonardtown, Md. at the head of Bretton Bay (approx. 13 NM)

Leonardtown is sporting a new 160' town dock that has several slips that are available on a first come, first served basis. In the past there have been depth issues while approaching the wharf, but the townstates the docks have five feet to six feet depth.

For those that love life on the hook there are several places for deeper draft boats to anchor within easy dingy distance of the town wharf where you can tie off and go explore. The picturesque town square is a short (if uphill) walk from the wharf and has several nice restaurants, a small museum, but only minimal opportunities to provision.

Tuesday 6/25/24 (Total for this day is approx. 10 NM)

Depart Leonardtown at your leisure and sail the short distance down Bretton bay where St. Clements Island awaits. (<https://www.visitstmarysmd.com/directory/st-clements-island-state-park/>)

This is a small uninhabited island that makes for a nice walk to stretch your legs (We've collected black berries on the island in the past) and it also has a small beach on the south side, the state built a replica light house on the island a few years ago (unattended) that has a bell you can ring if you're into that sort of thing. It is big...it is loud...and yeah, it is fun to ring it.

After exploring the island, we will then sail the very short distance up St. Clements bay to Canoe Neck Creek for an overnight anchorage. This is possibly one of my personal favorite anchorages on the bay as it is usually quiet, well protected and has good depths all around. Keep your eyes peeled for Bald Eagles and Blue Heron which are often lurking along the banks or in the trees surrounding the anchorage.

Wednesday 6/26/24

Depart Canoe Neck Creek and sail upriver to Colonial Beach, Va. (approx. 14 miles)

We will be staying at Colonial Beach Yacht Club which is right at the entrance to Monroe Bay. There is a beach nearby and several dining opportunities, including a very popular onsite restaurant right at the marina on the water, and a couple of ice cream stands in town. Colonial Beach is a good place for re-provisioning as a grocery store is within a short drive from the marina. CB is Ohana's home port so we will have our car available and can shuttle folks as needed.

Thursday 6/27/24

Depart Colonial Beach and sail down river to Coles Point Marina (approx. 19 miles) **POOL OPPORTUNITY!!!** (<https://www.colespointmarina.com/>)

Coles Point is a nice, picturesque stop on the Potomac and offers a nice pool to cool off in and a beach nearby with some beautiful views of the river looking east. The onsite restaurant recently closed but hopefully will be open again in time for our visit.

Friday 6/28/24

Leave Coles Point and sail to St. Mary's College on the St. Mary's River (approx. 14 NM). The anchorage is large enough to accommodate many boats with good depths all around. The College at St. Mary's hosts The St. Mary's College River Concert Series on Friday evenings during the summer (<https://www.smcm.edu/river-concert/>)

The concert is at an outdoor venue just off the anchorage, which begins at 7:00 p.m., but plan to grab a seat on the lawn ahead of time and grab some food from the variety of food trucks and vendors. The concert goes on until dusk, followed by fireworks right off the anchorage.

If you're not concerned with front row seats to the concert and feel like exploring Friday afternoon or even on Saturday you'll also find a brand new replica of the 17th century sailing ship Maryland Dove berthed on the St. Mary's River, (<https://www.marylanddove.org/colle>) which is available for tours during the day and is well worth the short walk.

The college itself is named for the place it represents, St. Mary's City, which was Maryland's first city and its colonial capital. There is a re-creation of the original village in various states of construction that is not to be missed. You will find re-enactors on site that discuss the history of the village from an earlier time which is both educational and fun. (<https://www.hsmcdigshistory.org/about-hsmc/mission-and-history/>)

Friday night marks the last official evening of the cruise and we bid our friends, old and new, a fond farewell as we sail back to our home ports on Saturday 6/29/24.

Cruise organizer: Eric Wengstrom – ericwengstrom@gmail.com

Marina and Anchorage information:

NOTE Each captain is responsible for making reservations at each marina you wish to stay with.

Saturday, June 22, 2024

Smith Creek, Point Lookout Marina (www.pointlookoutmarina.com)
16244 Millers Wharf Road, Ridge, Maryland 20680
(301)872-5000
N 38° 06.933 • W 76° 24.033
Book slip thru Snag-a-Slip or Dockwa.

Sunday, June 23, 2024

Lower Machodoc Creek
Anchorage
N 38° 7.318 • W 76° 38.083

Monday, June 24, 2024

Leonardtown, Md.
N 38° 17.138 • W 76° 38.181
Anchor or stay at the town dock on a first come, first serve basis.

Tuesday, June 25, 2024

Canoe Neck Creek
N 38° 15.594 • W 76° 43.713
Anchorage

Wednesday, June 26, 2024

Colonial Beach, Virginia (Colonial Beach Yacht Club)
(804) 224-7230
N 38° 13.866 • W 76° 57.914
Book slip thru Snag-a-Slip or Dockwa.

Thursday, June 27, 2024

Coles Point, Virginia (Coles Point Marina)
(804) 472-4011
N 38° 08.556 • W 76° 36.892
Book slip thru Snag-a-Slip or Dockwa.

Friday, June 28, 2024

St. Mary's River at St. Mary's College
N 38° 11.593 • W 76° 26.122
Anchorage