



Cruise to Oriental, NC

June 18-21

So that we can make reservations for this trip, we will need the boat names, lengths, beams, drafts and Captains' names of all of those going on this trip by April 28.

On our first day we plan on leaving Carolina Beach Yacht Club & Marina on 6/18 at 7:00 AM (We recommend everyone have a full tank of fuel before we leave), we will immediately head North on the Intercoastal Waterway (ICW) from mile marker 295.0 and then continue going North up the ICW to Casper's Marina in Swansboro at mile marker 229 (or about 66 miles that first day).

As we head north, we approach Wrightsville Beach Highway Bridge at mile marker 283.1 which has a vertical clearance of 20 feet (bridge clearances are approximate and at high tide) & if needed the bridge opens every hour on the hour). The next bridge is the Figure Eight Island Bridge at mile marker 278.3 with a vertical clearance of 20 ft. It is a single-pivot swing bridge and opens once an hour on the half hour. The next bridge is Surf City Highway Bridge at mile marker 260.7 with a vertical clearance of only 12 feet. It is a single-pivot swing bridge and swings open every hour on the hour. The next bridge is the North Topsail Beach Route 210 Highway bridge at mile marker 252.4 with a vertical clearance of 65 feet. Next we approach the Onslow Beach Highway Bridge at mile marker 240.7 and it is a single-pivot swing bridge with a vertical clearance of only 12 feet. It opens every hour on the hour. At mile marker 239.7 we enter the Camp Lejeune firing range which extends to mile marker 235.4. During firing, there will be a warning sign at both ends of the range at the edge of the ICW, which may have a red flag flying from it, notifies boaters to tune to AM radio frequency 530 for current information, or you can also listen to VHF channel 16 for announcements and they typically will instruct us to go to channel 22A for information. Or, you can call 252-247-4570 for information. In addition, manned picket boats are stationed at each end of the range. Personnel on the boats can advise us about when to pass through. Finally we arrive in Swansboro with plans for spending the first night at Casper's Marina at mile marker 229.0..

Leave early on the 19th and Continue North to Beaufort Docks Marina at Mile Marker 202.

We will spend the mid-morning through noon of the 19th in Beaufort enjoying the great restaurants, the North Carolina Maritime Museum, waterfront street shops, the picturesque anchorage and the friendly people. You can also go to the island beach across from town and see the wild ponies which occasionally visit the water's edge to graze.

After lunch on 19th go to Oriental Marina by heading North up the ICW on the Oriental Channel to Adams Creek and across the Neuse River to Oriental. Go to Mile Marker 180.7 which is Oriental Marina. We will spend the night at Oriental Marina.

We start the trip home on the 20th going back to Casper's at Swansboro to spend the night and then back to your home port on the 21st.

Cruise Captains

Lt Ron Hottes & P/C Ed Oeters, SN