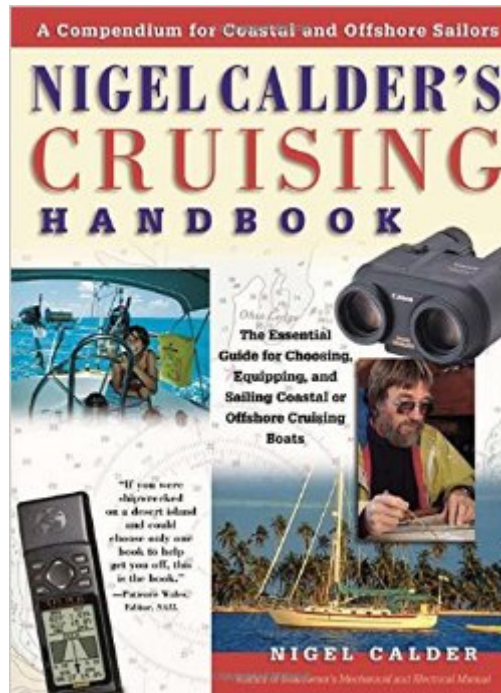


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Nigel Calder's Cruising Handbook: A Compendium For Coastal And Offshore Sailors



Synopsis

The most comprehensive and helpful guide ever written for selecting and equipping a cruising sailboat. Whether you're a coastal or offshore cruiser, you'll find your most pressing concerns treated with the know-how that makes for skillful, confident cruising in Nigel Calder's Cruising Handbook. The author -- one of the most respected marine how-to authors on either side of the Atlantic, and author of the universally admired Boatowner's Mechanical and Electrical Manual, -- walks you through all key technical and practical aspects of modern cruising systems and equipment, providing you with a summary of the skills necessary for safe, enjoyable sailing. The first half of the book includes an easy-to-use tabular method for evaluating a boat's suitability for cruising; ideas for workable deck and interior lay-outs and organization; how to choose and configure suitable boat systems for cruising; and how to install gear for trouble free operation. The book's second half teaches you boat handling skills; core navigational expertise; anchoring techniques; weather understanding; heavy weather expertise; and specific skills for long-term and long-distance cruising.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Ordinarily, I would not get too excited about another new cruising book, even one by so eminent an author as Calder, whose previous work: Boatowner's Mechanical And Electrical Manual, has become an icon on both sides of the pond. While the cruising genre is a particular favorite of mine, recent offerings seem to have grown a bit redundant for those of us striving to keep abreast of the

field. This book of Calder's is a whole new ball game. First of all: It's a very big book both physically, and in terms of its diverse subject matter. At just under six hundred pages in an 8 1/2 x 11 inch format, it is not something I would refer to as a "handbook" unless speaking to a gorilla. The word "encyclopedia" springs to mind, as it is truly monumental in scope and execution... McGraw-Hill did a commendable job of putting it all together. It looks like it might last, even in the marine environment where it will most assuredly find a home. It features a water resistant cover and flexible spine, designed to lie flat when opened, a wonderful feature on a pitching chart table, far at sea, where information is scarce and time of the essence. It covers nearly everything. It covers it in exquisite detail. It covers it in a manner anyone can understand. There are chapters relating to most any conceivable contingency a cruiser might run in to, from boat selection, equipage, and maintenance, to the more esoteric areas of daily life on a cruising sailboat (and much more than I wanted to know about navigational history). Calder remains the quintessential "systems" man and his section on surveying a prospective purchase, with its attendant checklist, is, alone, worth the price of the book.

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