

# PARTICIPANT BOOKLET

## RALLYE

Départ  
Departure  
13 mai  
2018

# ATLANTIC BACK CRUISING

GUADELOUPE - AÇORES - EUROPE

La transat retour avec flotte de surveillance  
*The back cruising with monitoring fleet*

### «Traversez en toute sécurité»

Une transat en sécurité avec une direction maritime :  
Suivi par balises satellites de positionnement -  
Assistance météo - Assurance privilégiée - Accueil  
aux escales - Arrivée personnalisée vers l'Atlantique  
et/ou la Méditerranée.

A safe transatlantic with a maritime direction :  
Followed by positioning satellite beacons -  
Weather assistance - Privileged insurance - Welcome to  
stopovers - Personalized arrival to the Atlantic and / or  
the Mediterranean.



[www.atlanticbackcruising.com](http://www.atlanticbackcruising.com)  
[fseruzier@wanadoo.fr](mailto:fseruzier@wanadoo.fr)

# ATLANTIC BACK CRUISING

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## COURSE GUADELOUPE – AZORES – EUROPE

### **Atlantic Back Cruising:**

- Departure every year early May from the marina in Pointe à Pitre in the Guadeloupe islands.
- A stopover in the Azores for a few days (Horta, Faial Island)
- A first: from Horta you will leave in small groups for your final destination and we will ensure that you are tracked until your home port.

# PRESENTATION

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## Organising Team :

### ORGANISER :

#### **François Sérurier Organisation**

COMPANY REGISTER (SIRET) : 39037679600038

1 rue de Kerlizou 29660 CARANTEC - France

- **Organisation and Maritime Authority**  
François Sérurier Tel. +336 33 02 81 28 - [fserurier@wanadoo.fr](mailto:fserurier@wanadoo.fr)
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The Maritime Direction is recognised by the French Sailing Federation for the organisation of ocean races and events (Mini Transat, Figaro, Classic Transat...)

## **A word from the organiser - François Sérurier**

Every year hundreds of boats cross the Atlantic from East to West, individually, racing, and in rallies.

Sailing with the wind and arriving under the hot sun of the Antilles attract thousands of sailors every year; the realisation of a dream for many.

After a season of exploring the tropics it's time to think of the return voyage.

Some people choose to return their boat by cargo, but most return by sea. Returning between April and June is less "safe" in terms of weather, and enthusiasm for the voyage is more "moderate".

### **A FIRST:**

Many owners and crews wish to have an organised West-East rally with a Maritime Authority which ensures that each participant is tracked from their departure from the Caribbean to their arrival in their home port.

A rally allows a crossing with a maximum security factor with a stop in the famous archipelago of the Azores.

A friendly welcome awaits in Guadeloupe with tourist opportunities and support for your preparation a week before you depart. A stop at Horta in the Azores provides a few days rest and allows you to enjoy the Island of Faial, before leaving on the day you wish for your final destination.

The Atlantic Back Cruising Organisation is happy to provide this unique event, organising you a crossing that is both sociable and friendly but most importantly as **safe** as possible.

# OUTLINE OF KEY EVENTS

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## **WEEK BEFORE DEPARTURE: (Departure 13th May 2018)**

### **Finalisation of registration.**

Boats to be at the Marina Bas du Fort in Pointe Présence à Pitre, Guadeloupe, 6 days before departure. A crew member must be on board.

Free marina use from 8 days before departure.

**Professionals in port at your service:** all the technical personnel will be happy to welcome you. Their details will be listed in a handbook, which you will receive before your arrival.

The organising team will be on hand to help you with any problems linked with preparation for your crossing.

### **Meeting and training will include:**

There will be a meeting covering Atlantic weather and training on reading and sending files by satellite link and interpreting files received. This includes a computerised visualisation of the fleet and viewing weather information.

### **Briefings :**

Welcome briefing

Safety briefing (skipper must be present)

Weather briefing (skipper must be present)

### **Tourism and festivities:**

**The Islands of Guadeloupe** and the organising team from **Atlantic Back Cruising** will be happy to provide a programme of visits, *welcome cocktails* and a tourist stay for crews, families and friends to discover all of the pleasures offered by the Islands of Guadeloupe.

## **DEPARTURE :**

Participant fleet group departure **13th May 2018.**

The Maritime Authority reserve the right to delay the departure if necessary due to weather conditions.

## **TRACKING OF BOATS DURING THE CROSSING:**

The boats are equipped by the organisation with a satellite positioning tag.

The Maritime Authority tracks each boat by using the position sent automatically every two hours.

If a boat can no longer communicate via satellite phone (due to a breakdown), they should press the button on the beacon twice a day to signify that all is well on board.

The Maritime Authority will send a weather report once a day and special weather bulletins if necessary.

The Maritime Authority will send a file each day with the position, heading and speed of each boat.

If necessary the Maritime Authority will send route instructions to avoid, as far as possible, areas of high winds.

The Maritime Authority is contactable 24/7.

The Maritime Authority is authorised to ask any participant to reroute in order to give assistance to another participant in difficulty.

Following a stop of a few days in the Azores (stopping time is at each boats convenience), the Maritime Authority will follow the participant until their arrival at their home port.

A date limit of following the participants will be fixed before the departure with an average minimum speed calculated on a base of 4 knots minimum on the route (average given as an indication).

## **ARRIVAL:**

Before the departure from Guadeloupe the participants must inform the Maritime Authority of their final destination port.

Following the departure from Horta, Azores, the Maritime Authority will follow the participants individually to their destination port by the same method of tracking and sending files as for the crossing from Guadeloupe to the Azores.

If possible the maritime management will group boats together when leaving the Azores who are heading for the same destination.

On arrival participants must return their beacon/marker by post to the organisers.

## **AT THE AZORES :**

Individual welcome for each participant, day and night.

Provision of facilities and space for participants with wifi and useful services.

Welcome cocktails.

Assistance for participants to resolve any technical problems.

Tourist opportunities to discover the beautiful Island of Faial.

# PROGRAMME

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**The provisional programme is as follows.  
The departure is 13th May 2018.**

## **Departure day - 6 : (7<sup>th</sup> May)**

All boats must be in the port of Pointe à Pitre  
Confirmation of entries  
Start of security checks

## **Departure -5 :**

Security checks  
Meeting on weather in the Atlantic  
Briefing and welcome drinks

## **Departure -4 :**

Security checks  
Security briefing

## **Departure -3 :**

Security checks  
Communications training: the sending and receiving of files, and how to use files received on a computer.  
Evening cocktails.

## **Departure -2 :**

Final security checks

## **Departure -1 :**

Weather Briefing  
Leaving drinks/cocktails.

## **Departure day : (13th May)**

Departure of Atlantic Back Cruising



# SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

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## 1. Boats

Only vessels (sailing or motor) with a minimum deck length of 8.00 m for sailing boats, and 14m for motor boats are allowed to participate.

The organiser reserves the right, without having to provide justification, to refuse a boat from taking part in the rally: if they deem the condition of the boat and/or of its equipment to be unsuitable, if the crew's competence is in doubt, or if there is any other reason considered by the organiser to prevent it from participating safely in the rally.

In the event of the organiser refusing a boat participation in the rally the entire amount paid to the organiser will be reimbursed to the participant.

The skippers on board and/or owners must ensure that their boat and its safety equipment is in line with the administrative requirements of their national supervising authority. As a minimum requirement the security equipment listed in the "Equipment" section must be present on board.

## 2. Crew

Crew of minimum two adults on board (minimum age of 18 on 30th April 2018)

A CV of the skipper and first mate on board must be given to the organiser a minimum of 2 months before the rally's departure.

Crew changes are possible at the Azores.

A copy of each crew member's passport must be given to the organiser before departure.

A list of the crew including age and profession must be given to the organisation before departure from Guadeloupe and before departure from Horta.

The skippers on board are solely responsible for their crew.

Skippers who accept paying crew members on board must ensure that they are entitled to do so under their legislation.

## 3. Insurance

Before departure each skipper on board must provide an insurance certificate showing their boat to be covered for damages of a minimum of €1.5 million.

Before departure each crew member of each boat must sign a document acknowledging that their participation in the rally is under their own responsibility and that they release the responsibility of the organiser from any problem which may arise. Each new crew member joining the rally at the Azores must sign this document.

#### **4. Equipment**

Each skipper on board must ensure that their boat possesses the statutory equipment of their national authority.

The organiser stipulates a minimum of the following equipment on board: (definitive list will be published one month before the start).

Offshore life raft must be attached to the deck or to another easily accessible location.

Raft must be sufficient for the number of people on board.

A plan of the storage of safety equipment must be clearly and visibly displayed in the boat.

All boats must have enough life jackets, harnesses and safety lines for all persons on board.

Individual identification equipment (flash light, individual beacon - ASN or AIS and/or PLB recommended)

System for anchoring harnesses in the cockpit

Battery powered tri-colour lights on board

Tri-colour hand-held emergency lights with one set of spare batteries.

Survival lines

3 red hand-held lights

3 orange flares

6 parachute rockets

Minimum 2 certified and fully serviced fire extinguishers

One EPIRB beacon (distress beacon)

A satellite telephone

A computer connected to the satellite telephone for sending and receiving files

A set of bungs (recommended: a bung attached to each valve)

A fire blanket close to the gas stove

An emergency tiller

Book of light and fog signals for areas to be covered.

Maritime Almanac for areas to be covered.

Atlantic marine charts

Marine charts of arrival area

A storm jib

Flashlights and auxiliary batteries

A system to close and secure the hatch  
Guard rails (in the case of boats without guard rails an alternative security arrangement must be implemented)  
System for retrieving a man over board  
A DSC VHF radio  
An emergency radio

Engine maintenance equipment and spare parts (diesel filter and belt minimum)  
All valves working normally (2 minimum will be checked by the organiser at random)

A waterproof survival bag stored close to the [hatch?] comprising:

- Additional flares (recommended)
- A waterproof battery and spare battery
- An emergency satellite phone (recommended)
- A waterproof GPS (recommended)
- A survival blanket
- Water and food reserves (Recommended)

## **5. Ship's manifest**

The organiser will inform maritime authorities concerned of the event.  
The list of boats with photo, crew list, MMSI number, EPIRB Hex number will be made available to CROSS (MRCC) by the organiser on a dedicated server.

## **6. Registration**

The final registration and right to participate in the rally will be delivered by the organiser once all of the registration formalities and security checks have been finalised.

A registration form is available on the website [www.atlanticbackcruising.com](http://www.atlanticbackcruising.com) or on request.

A pre-registration form can be downloaded from the website or sent on request.  
This allows all future participants to receive regularly all information as it becomes available.

The form and all attached documents must be returned by post or scanned and sent by email to the organiser with the payment. ([fseruzier@wanadoo.fr](mailto:fseruzier@wanadoo.fr)).

The registration fee is €1800 (One thousand eight hundred euros including tax) for boat LOA less than 14m and €2200 (Two thousands euro including tax) for boats LOA >14m.

This includes all of the services described in this document, including the satellite positioning tag.

Entries and payments must be finalised by 1st March 2018. Any entries between 1st March 2018 and 30th April 2018 will be subject to special request and the price will be increased by 10%.

# ORGANISER & CONTACTS

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## ORGANISER :

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