

Eagle 4037 cruise 2010 - March 2011
from Eagle 4037 Owner – Roger Wolthius PhD

Hello again Eagle Owners!

In January I discussed the trip north, noting that it was an easy 4-6 days from Sidney to Port McNeil. In February I discussed possible itineraries for the Broughton Islands, and noted that island hopping was easy because the distances are relatively short, leaving lots of time for fishing, crabbing, reading, sightseeing, etc. etc.

That leaves the return trip. Before leaving the area, there are several worthwhile stops on north Vancouver Island, so we could easily spend a night or two in the area including a stop at Port McNeil. Once we do depart the area, it's a decent cruise (66 nm) south to Blind Channel, a very nice stopover before we do the rapids. Last year we did the rapids the next morning, then cruised Desolation Sound for a bit before pulling in to Refuge Cove for the night (53.5 nm). Refuge Cove is an Indian village with dock, fuel and a nice supply store. Our 2010 return itinerary is shown in the Table below.

Wed 6-23	Port McNeill BC	Blind Channel BC	11.2	66	No one at Port Neville, went on to Blind Channel
Thur 6-24	Blind Channel BC	Refuge Cove BC	8.2	53.5	Refuge Cove cooperative OK
Fri 6-25	Refuge Cove BC	Pender Harbor BC	6.7	50	Fishermans Marina OK
Sat 6-26	Pender Harbor BC	Gibsons BC	6.5	40	Heavy seas all the way!
Sun 6-27	Gibsons BC	Vancouver BC	3.5	22.3	Coal Harbor Marina, Vancouver BC
Mon 6-28	Vancouver BC	N Pender Is. BC	6.2	41.4	Otter Bay Marina, very nice !

Tue 6-29	N. Pender Is. BC	La Conner WA	8	49.4	Stopped at Friday Harbor for Customs and B'fast
Wed 6-30	La Conner WA	Everett WA	6	36	Home at last

My guess is that folks will start splitting off once we are past the rapids. Some may choose to stay in the Desolation Sound area, while others may continue on to other destinations. I believe NW Passage will continue on down to Pender Harbor, Gibsons and finally Vancouver ... downtown Vancouver a great place to overnight on the boat! Overall, I'm guessing that the cruise will cover 750-800 nm, with about 120 hours actually underway.

I'm hoping my description of our 2010 cruise has got your interest, and look forward to hearing that you would like to be included for 2011. Its an easy and safe cruise, and requires no previous cruise experience in the area. Let me know if you have any questions.

Roger

Eagle 4037, NW Passage