

A photograph of a sunset over the ocean. The sun is a bright pink circle on the horizon. The sky is a gradient of orange and red. In the foreground, there is a wooden deck with a yellow stripe. The text is overlaid on the image.

Frannie Guerin

DREAMING  
OF OCEAN  
CRUISING?

Sailing off into the  
sunset? What you  
ought to know!

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**DREAMING**

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**OCEAN CRUISING?**

**Sailing off into the sunset? What you ought to know!**



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Second Edition

*To*  
*my husband, Captain Dick,*  
*a great companion in life, who made our voyage possible*  
*&*  
*to all my relatives, friends, and acquaintances*  
*everywhere who asked*  
*“Are you going to write a book?”*

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>1. INTRODUCTION .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>2. DO YOU HAVE THE CRUISING TEMPERAMENT? .....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>3. YES! LET'S GO,.....</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>4. THE WORLD IS WAITING FOR US .....</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>5. WHERE AND WHEN TO GO .....</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>6. SUPPLIES.....</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>7. READY FOR EMERGENCIES? .....</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>8. HAVING FRIENDS MEET YOU &amp; HAVING FUN .....</b>	<b>33</b>
<b>9. CONCLUSION.....</b>	<b>35</b>
<b>ABOUT THE AUTHOR.....</b>	<b>37</b>

# 1

## INTRODUCTION

I'm sitting at my desk looking out at a pond behind my condo and reminiscing on the Big Adventure of my life: sailing around the world (almost) for nearly 20 years with my husband Dick. And I am really missing being on the water and the cruising life.

I'm excited to be writing this book, passing on information and tips I learned on this epic voyage. I do hope you will find this first book about preparing for the trip and the subsequent, more detailed volumes about places we went, helpful if you are dreaming of sailing off into the sunset and even enjoyable armchair reading if you are not.

When I met Dick, he was a qualified Captain with sailing and sailboat racing experience on San Francisco Bay who had bought the hull for a 37-ft yacht and spent several years fitting her out for ocean cruising.

As for me, I had gotten interested in sailing and traveling and wanted to see the world as I was growing up, but never had the chance to even get on a sailboat of any size. As a young woman entering the University of California at Berkeley, just as soon as I signed up for my required courses, I had signed up to join the sailing club on San Francisco Bay and take sailing lessons with them. Keeping my priorities right!

I met Dick a number of years later (when I had my own 30-foot sailboat on San Francisco Bay) on a sailing vacation arranged through answering a Crew Wanted listing in the San Francisco-based sailing magazine, "Latitude 38".