

Sailing on Puget Sound



"Kia Ora"

Weather: You cannot judge weather over the Puget Sound by what it is like on the Eastside. I use the NOAA website listed below to determine if the sail is a go. I look for winds under 20 knots and a forecast no worse than Showers with high temperatures in the 50's or higher.

Forecast: www.ndbc.noaa.gov/data/Forecasts/FZUS56.KSEW.html

West Point Winds: www.ndbc.noaa.gov/station_page.php?station=wpow1

Tides: <http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/noaatidepredictions/viewDailyPredictions.jsp?Stationid=9447130>

More Boat Pictures and Video: http://home.comcast.net/~lrschultz/site/?/page/Sailing_Favorites

What To Bring: It can be cool any time of the year on Puget Sound and one needs to be prepared for changes in weather. Bring a dufflebag for every 1-2 persons with anything you might need in cool, possibly showery weather. Tennis shoes or similar. Dress shoes can make black marks on a white boat! Wool socks and wool sweaters are always good if the weather is cool. Extra layers. Hat or stocking cap. Sunscreen. Sunglasses. A jacket should be water-resistant. A pure cotton or fleece jacket will not cut the wind. Camera or binoculars if desired. I bring a pair of shorts in case it turns out warm! Bring Dramamine if you might be sensitive to motion sickness.

Boat Features: Kia Ora has a head, galley, at least two cabins for changing, VHF radio, stereo/CD, running water, and cabin heat.

Safety: Everyone must wear a life jacket on deck. There are plenty of life jackets for people over about 6-7 yrs. old. You will need to bring a jacket for anyone younger. By design, a sailing yacht is not always steady and exactly upright and it responds to wind changes. Youngsters will need to be able to dependably follow some specific instructions or be closely supervised. While the boat may tilt under sail, it is in no danger of tipping over as it has several tons of lead in the keel.

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Directions: The boat is on C Dock at Harbor Island Marina. Take I5 to West Seattle Freeway and then take the Harbor Island Exit. Stay to the right in the lane marked “U Turn Route” up to the stoplight and then turn underneath the Spokane St. Bridge. The marina is behind the office park.

