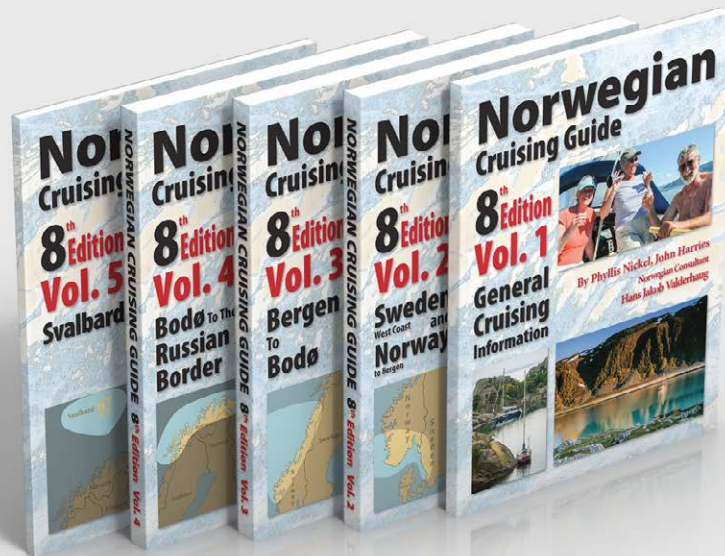


# Norwegian Cruising Guide



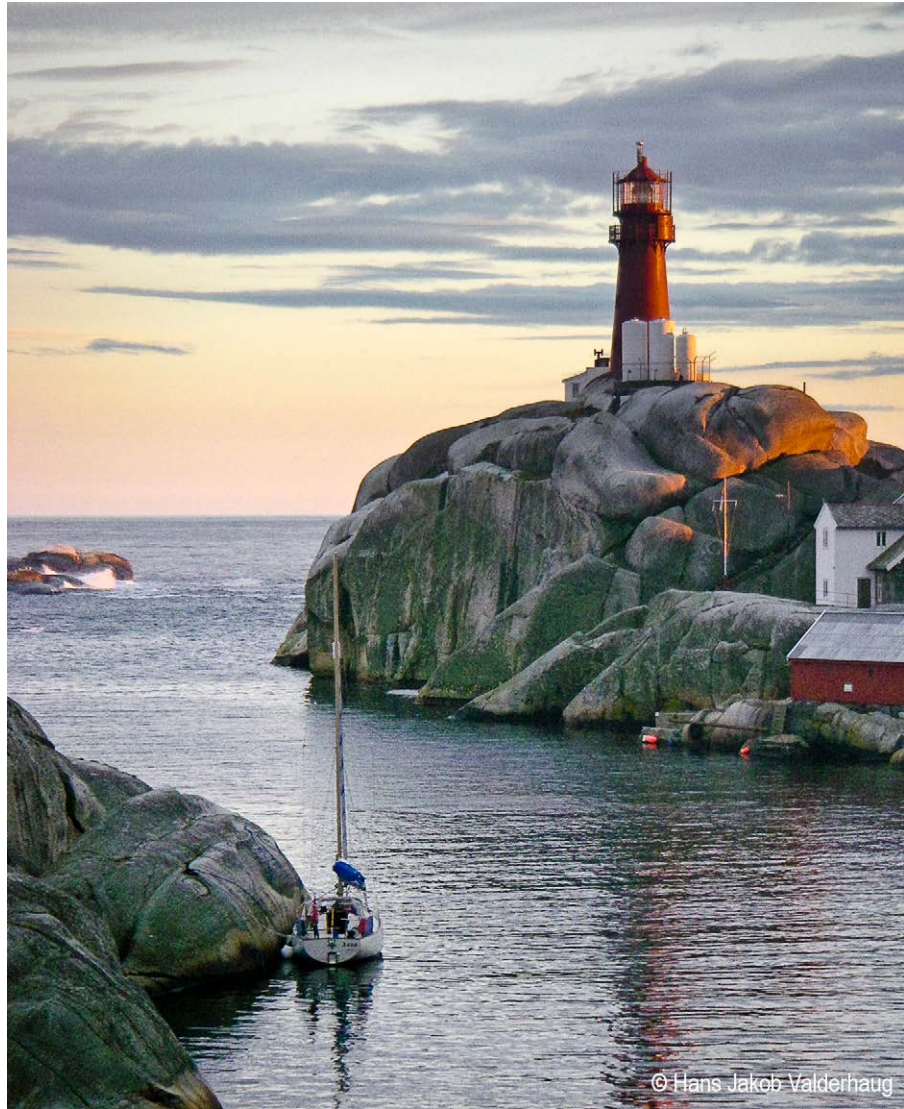
**8<sup>th</sup> Edition**  
**Preface**

[www.norwegiancruisingguide.com](http://www.norwegiancruisingguide.com)



# Preface

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© Hans Jakob Valderhaug

Over the years, we have found that our favourite cruising guides are those that give us cultural and historical information, provide ideas for shoreside activities, and that are organized so we can easily decide where to go and what to do, not just how to get there.

With that in mind, we have made the *Norwegian Cruising Guide* a complete guidebook rather than just a book of sailing directions. It is a well-organized resource that will help you plan your cruise—including activities that will add to your enjoyment of this wonderful country—as well as execute it.

## Authors & Publishers

Find out more about us, our  
boat and what we do

Phyllis and John in Hinlopen  
Strait.

We, Phyllis Nickel and John Harries, are writers, photographers, publishers and marine voyagers, with over 25 years of high latitude experience.

We also publish Attainable Adventure Cruising (AAC), the offshore voyaging reference site. In over 900 articles on all things to do with marine voyaging, we and our writers share our combined knowledge and experience, with the goal of making offshore sailing safer, more enjoyable, and more attainable.



*S/V Morgan's Cloud* in  
Skjomenfjorden.

Back in 2002, after sailing in Norway and Svalbard for two years, and spending two winters living aboard our McCurdy and Rhodes cutter *Morgan's Cloud* in Tromsø, we decided that we wanted an excuse to keep in touch with Norway and the wonderful people we had met there.

So when the opportunity to take over publication of the *Norwegian Cruising Guide* came along, we accepted the challenge, never realizing that it would become such a big project. One that has enabled us to work closely with Norwegian authors Hans Jakob and Eli, as well as interact with a multitude of voyagers who have cruised Norway and then generously shared their information with the Guide.



# Norwegian Authors (Volumes 2, 3, 4 and 5)

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Norwegian authors, Hans Jakob Valderhaug and Eli Husum, in front of the Lilliehöök glacier, Spitsbergen.



*S/V Anna I* under sail in front of the Monaco glacier, Svalbard.

*S/V Anna II* in front of the Lilliehöök glacier, Svalbard.

Hans Jakob Valderhaug and Eli Husum, the Guide's Norwegian authors and our good friends, live in Oslo, where in their non-sailing lives Hans Jakob is an ophthalmologist and Eli is a teacher. Both are avid and very accomplished (as you will see from their photographs) skiers and hikers.



Hans Jakob has cruised the Norwegian coast from Sweden to Svalbard for 40 years and, since 2002, together with Eli, has been sharing his local knowledge and insights in the Guide, not only about cruising Norway, but also about Norwegian culture and history.



They visit, report on, and photograph scores of harbours and anchorages every season, originally cruising in their Hallberg-Rassy 31 *Anna* and, since 2013, in their Koopmans 39, also named *Anna*. Their contributions are accurate, vibrant, often funny, and always interesting.

# Volumes

## New In The 8th Edition:

Expanded to 5 volumes,  
including a separate volume  
for Svalbard

The Guide continues to grow with each edition and so we have expanded it to five volumes to make each a manageable size to download as an eBook, and to allow for growth in future editions.

The five volumes are as follows:

## General Cruising Information, Volume I

Written by John and Phyllis, in consultation with Hans Jakob.

### *This Preface*

**Norway:** cruise planning information and guidance on issues ranging from buoyage and boat preparation to Norwegian culture and wildlife.

**Sweden:** cruise planning information and guidance in addition to the Norway chapter and specific to a cruise of the west coast of Sweden.

**Svalbard:** cruise planning information and guidance in addition to the Norway chapter and specific to a cruise to Svalbard, including Bjørnøya.

**Jan Mayen:** cruise planning information and guidance in addition to the Svalbard chapter and specific to a cruise of Jan Mayen.

**Appendix:** detailed resource information.

## Harbours and Anchorages, Volumes 2, 3, 4 and 5

Written by Hans Jakob and Eli, and John and Phyllis, with input from numerous cruisers (see Sources of Information below).

**Volume 2:** From Mölle on the West Coast of Sweden up to and including Bergen on the West Coast of Norway.

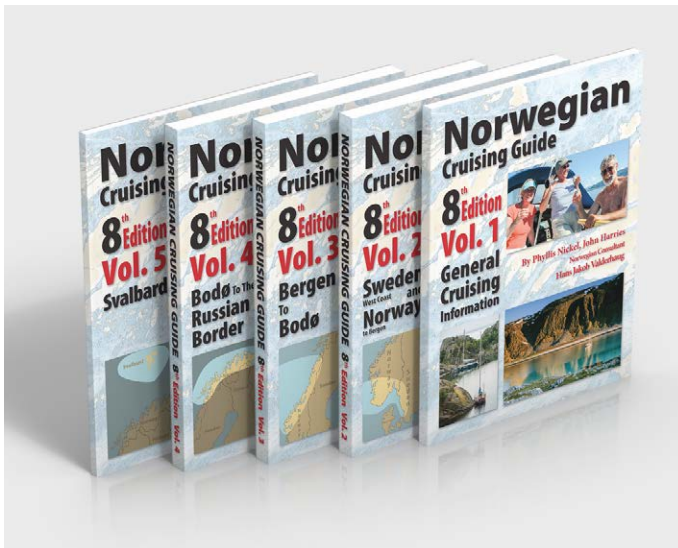
**Volume 3:** From Bergen up to and including Bodø on the West Coast of Norway.

**Volume 4:** From Bodø on the West Coast of Norway to the Russian border, including Lofoten.

**Volume 5:** Bjørnøya, Svalbard and Jan Mayen.

## All Volumes

Comprehensive Table of Contents and Index.



### Interactive eBooks

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**New In The 8th Edition:**

Links to the online edition of *Den Norske Los* at the beginning of each chapter

In 2006 we broke new ground by publishing the Guide as an eBook. With the 7th Edition, and continuing with the 8th Edition, we have taken the eBook to the next level by making navigation fast and easy, with thousands of links both internal and to external resources.

Note that many of these websites are in Norwegian only; however, with the assistance of Google Translate, non-Norwegian speakers will get some benefit from these resources, even if it is just contact (*kontakt*) information.

### Paper Books

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The paper books are print-on-demand. This allows us to publish a low-volume book with lots of photographs and frequent new editions, though it does mean that the colour photograph reproduction is somewhat compromised. But, after all, if you want to see the colour photographs in all their glory, there is always the eBook.

Since writing out the full URL for all links would make the paper book longer, messier and harder to read, and copy typing long URLs is difficult to impossible, we have indicated all links with a descriptive tag instead of the underlying URL. If you want access to those resources, there is always the eBook.

### Updates & New Editions

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Visit [norwegiancruisingguide.com](http://norwegiancruisingguide.com) and click on "register" to receive update notices

As the Guide is now five volumes and over 900 pages, thanks to Hans Jakob and Eli and all the cruisers who have been so generous with their contributions, it has become a huge job to release a new edition of all the volumes at the same time.

Therefore, moving forward from the 8th Edition, we will release new editions of the volumes on a rotating schedule. So future editions will, in effect, be updates in the form of a completely integrated volume. A big improvement on separate update documents, which are frustrating for readers to rationalize with previous information.

### NCG Website

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Go to [www.norwegiancruisingguide.com](http://www.norwegiancruisingguide.com) for the latest information on the Guide.

## Waypoint File

Download the free  
waypoint file at  
[norwegiancruisingguide.  
com](http://norwegiancruisingguide.com)



Imagine that you are out sailing along the Norwegian coast and it's late in the afternoon. What ports and anchorages are close? What anchoring/mooring facilities do they have? What is there to do?

A quick glance at your chart plotter or navigation software shows a waypoint at every port or anchorage covered by the *Norwegian Cruising Guide*. Zoom in on the name, look it up in the Index of the Guide, and your questions are answered.

In order to keep things organized while writing the *Norwegian Cruising Guide*, we built a waypoint file of all the harbours and anchorages covered by the Guide. We have found it invaluable, and so we have uploaded it in formats for just about every modern plotter or navigation package, for free download on the [Norwegian Cruising Guide website](http://Norwegian Cruising Guide website).

## Text Format

**Design:** We carefully designed the Guide to be readable both on paper, where line length should not exceed about ten words, and on screen, where multiple column layouts are a nightmare to read. We chose the fonts for legibility and the size with middle-aged eyes in mind. The white space to the left gives room for information boxes and your notes.

**Italicized Type:** Indicates the names of vessels and publications, and words (other than names) in any language other than English.

**Bold Type:** In the text of the Harbours and Anchorages chapters, bold type refers to places that have their own entry in the Guide and an entry in the Index.

**Norwegian Alphabet:** Due to a bug in Adobe Creative Suite, the Index does not recognize the Norwegian characters of Å/å, Ø/ø, and Æ/æ. They are treated respectively as A/a, O/o, and Symbol/a, and alphabetized accordingly. We apologize for any confusion this may cause.

**Measurement Standards:** Nautical miles are indicated by nm. Otherwise, all distances, depths and weights are given in metric (a metre is indicated by m, a kilometre by km, etc.) and temperatures are given in Celsius. Norwegian money (kroner) is indicated by kr.

**Courses and Bearings:** Are given in degrees true unless otherwise noted.



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**Navigation Coordinates:** The coordinates for harbours and anchorages are given to help you find them on the chart. They are approximate, unless otherwise stated, and should not be used for navigation.

**Names:** The format for naming harbours and anchorages is as follows:

- The name of a harbour or anchorage is taken from Statens Kartverk cartography, *Den Norske Los* (*The Norwegian Pilot*), and local information when we have access to it.
- If there are conflicting names for the same anchorage, they are denoted in the title with an 'or', for e.g. Grunnesund or Vestre Eidsvik.
- If an otherwise unnamed anchorage is located between two islands, for e.g. between Prestøya and Sjursøya, it is denoted as Prestøya/Sjursøya, with a slash between the islands.
- If the anchorage or harbour is on an island or in a fjord, the name of the island or fjord is often given in brackets after the name of the harbour or anchorage; for e.g. Utkäften (S Klåverön) means that Utkäften is found on the south side of the island of Klåverön.
- If an anchorage or harbour is unnamed or has the same name as the island it is on, it may have the side of the island it is on in brackets after the name; for e.g. Haramsøya (E) means that the anchorage or harbour is on the east side of the island of Haramsøya.

**Harbour Information Boxes:** These are the gray boxes in the sidebar of each Harbours and Anchorages entry (see the sample box from Tromsø at left).

In order to help make it as easy as possible for you to plan your cruise, we have linked this information in the eBook as follows:

- **Google:** links to Google Earth.
- **Website:** links to the website for that town/area/harbour (enable [Google Translate](#) so you can enjoy those sites that are not in English).
- **Topo Map** (Svalbard, Jan Mayen): links to topographical maps.

**New in the 8th Edition:** *Den Norske Los* is now available for free download online (in Norwegian only except for Vol. 7 for Svalbard), so we have added a reference whenever there is an aerial photo and/or sketch map for a particular harbour/anchorage.

69°39' N, 18°57.8' E

Last Visited: 2016

[Google](#)

DNL, Vol. 6, aerial photos &  
sketch maps

[Website](#)

[Website - Harbour](#)

## Graphics Format

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**Chapter Maps:** Each Harbours and Anchorages chapter starts with a map of the area covered:

- The names of islands and other land features are in dark brown type and the names of channels and fjords are in dark blue type.
- Every port and anchorage that has its own entry in that chapter is shown in black type, its position indicated with a black dot.
- The position of landfall harbours are indicated by red squares and the position of our favourite harbours and anchorages are indicated by red stars.
- In cases where the chapter has been divided into subsections for easier navigation, we have shown this on the chapter map using dotted black



lines to denote the various sections, with a link (live in the eBook) to the page number of the section.

- In cases where the density of ports would make the subsection confusing, we have provided larger-scale subsidiary maps, which are indicated by shading within the dotted black lines on the chapter map.
- With the kind permission of Statens Kartverk we have shown the Coastal Danger Areas in red, together with the conditions that make them most dangerous.
- We have not included a scale on the maps but distances can be inferred from the latitude scale.

We have made no attempt to show low bridges or shallow water that could restrict a boat from using passages shown on the chapter maps; therefore, detailed route planning should only be done with the relevant charts to hand.

**Sketch Maps:** We have provided sketch maps in two situations: when a harbour is complicated and an illustration can clarify the text, and in a few cases where no chart exists.

**Photographs:** In selecting photographs for inclusion in the Guide, we have gone for a mix of scenic and illustrative in keeping with our philosophy that this is a guide, not just a pilot. We want the photographs to give you a feel for what the surroundings are like, not just show you where to anchor.

## Contributions

### Contributor guidelines

If you find an error in the Guide, please let us know; if you have a suggestion to make the Guide better, please [email](#) and [tell us](#). If, after reading the Guide, you still have unanswered questions about cruising in Norway, we want to know that too. We will try to answer your question and then add that answer to the next edition.

**All contributions are appreciated but please read our [contributor guidelines](#) first.**

## Sources of Information

For more on cruising Norway, read our contributors' [Norway Voyage Accounts](#) online

**Contributors:** Note that if a harbour and anchorage entry uses the first person, it was collected by either Hans Jakob and Eli or John and Phyllis.

Many dedicated cruisers have contributed to the Guide over the years (if you have contributed and we've somehow omitted your name from this list, please accept our sincere apologies and let us know so we can rectify our mistake for the next edition):

- Jarle and Berit Land on their Hallberg-Rassy 36, *Drott II*.
- Ola Bergslien and Gunn Haaberget on their Overseas 40, *Idun*.
- Michael and Martina Haferkamp on their Hutting 54, *Polaris*.
- John and Pat Driscoll on their Moody 42, *Moonlight of Down*.
- Bob and Judy Bailey on their customized Westsail 32, *Pooh Bear*.
- David Tunick on his Sparkman & Stephens 17m yawl, *Night Watch*.
- Rob Veenhof and Peter Gallinelli on Peter's 13m Intégral, *Imram*.

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- Priscilla Travis on her boat, *Nomad*, a 14m custom Ted Brewer designed steel and aluminium pilothouse cutter.
- Felix Liebau on the 11m steel *Wiking VI*.
- Gary and Beth Schwarzman on their custom 13m cold-molded cutter, *Anasazi*.
- Colin Johnson on the Nicholson 38 ketch, *Lady Anwyn*.
- David and Barbara Jones on their Rival 38, *Calico Martlet*.
- Alan Wilson on his Nauticat 33, *Kiitaja*.
- David and Natalie Tippet on their Sweden Yachts 42, *Yemanja*.
- Marty and Paul Rogers on their J-42, *Canty*.
- Helen Lewis and Richard Blackmore on their Freedom 39, *Hornpipe*.
- Michael and Yvonne Coates on their Hans Christian 43T cutter, *Jolly Swagman*.
- Dave and Julia Thompson on their 9.5m Golden Hind, *Thane of Lochaber*.
- Dan Hogarth on his Rustler 36, *Eschaton*.
- Vicky Platt on her 14m Andre Hoek cutter, *Josephine*.
- Tom and Ketty Jelsing on their Hallberg-Rassy 34, *Anja*.
- Antony Graham on his Morgan Giles 30, *Petronella*.
- Thierry and Barbara Courvoisier on their Centurian 40S, *Ceres*.
- Ned Cabot on his J46, *Cielita*.
- Willem and Ingrid Willemse on their custom aluminium 52' Outborn, *Twinga*.
- Dick and Sally Turnbull on their Najad 361, *Lora Mhor*.
- Peter Flooks and family on their Tradewind 35, *Knotts Maid*.
- Bjørn and Marguerite Jost Kjelsberg on their Comfortina 42, *Morgenstjernen*.
- Kristina Thomsson and Gustaf Hulthe on their Laurin 44, *Caminante*.
- Su Fawkes on the 3-masted schooner, *Trinovante*.
- Monica Nygård Vigdal of Laukvika, Lofoten.
- Maryanne and Kyle Webb on their Gemini 105Mc, *Footprint*.
- Steve and Karyn James on their aluminium Paine/Kanter 54, *Threshold*.
- Jan-Gunnar Persson and Hans Roland Lindgren on Jan-Gunnar's HR29, *Johanna II*.
- Ray Procter on his Oyster 485, *Frequent Flyer*.
- Vigdis and Øyvind Prytz on their Bavaria 38, *Syfrid*.
- Gus and Helen Wilson on their Sabre 38MKII, *Wings*.
- Geoff and Ann Ashton on their Beneteau 411, *Aqua Vite*.
- Steve and Linda Dashew on their FPB 83 aluminium motorboat, *Windhorse*.
- Robin Hogger and Hélène Baudoux on their 30' Dufour Arpege, *Tara*.
- Claudia and Jürgen Kirchberger on their home-built Schröter 13m steel ketch, *La Belle Epoque*.
- Fritz Pölzl and Claudia Mader on their 46' steel Hydra, *Magellan*.
- Ann and Glenn Bainbridge on their 1981 Baba 35, *Black Sheep II*.
- Wolfgang and Inge Kritzler on their Grand Banks 42 Classic, *Bran*.
- Florence and Christophe Martin on their Ovni 395, *Flocon de Mer*.
- Peter Vörsmann and Lore Haack-Vörsmann on their 40' Vilm-Yacht, *Orion*.



- Denis and Joy Johnston on their Westerly Corsair, *Kira*.
- Marc Decrey and Sylvia Cohen on their 12m Ovni, *Chamade*.
- Mikael Glimsjö on S/V *Charlotta*.
- Neil and Helen McCubbin on their Passoa 47, *Milvina*.
- Donald MacKenzie on his Elan 40, *Ceol Beag*.
- Ton and Hanna van der Weerdt on their 38' Trintella, *Charlie Bravo*.
- Neil Spurway on his British Hunter Channel 31, *Hunter's Moon*.
- Christian Couette for his work with the Waypoint file.
- Assaf Riefeld on the Bavaria 38, *Polana III*; the Ovni 435, *Explore North*; the Challenge 67, *Jonathan IV*; the Bavaria 46, *Arctic Flyer*; and the Dufour 455, *Fri Flyt*.
- Alasdair Flint on his 26' Vertue, *Sumara*.
- John Vallentine on his Peterson 46, *Tainui*.
- John and Anne Sadd on their 50' Dutch steel single screw motor yacht, *Wave of Maldon*.
- Pierre Laplante and Dominique Duchesne on their 40' Jeanneau Sunfizz, *Sibylline*.
- Enno Rodegerdts on his Hallberg-Rassy 310, *Inua*.
- Geir Ova Bø on his Lagoon 380, *Careka*.
- Karsten Pennov for his unflagging support of the Guide in Denmark.
- Henrik Johnsen and Ingvild B. Jensrud on their Nordsee 47, *Gyda*.
- Howard Steen on his Vancouver 27, *Martha Maria*.
- Mike and Helen Norris on their Countess 37 ketch, *Island Drifter*.
- Claude and Jean-Noel Goulard on their OVNI 435, *Caolila*.
- John Greenshields on S/V *China Moon*.
- Irene and Al Whitney on S/V *Darwin Sound*.
- John Cotton on his 30-foot Albin Ballad, *Josin*.
- Ernest Godshalk and Ann Noble-Kiley on their SW 42, *Golden Eye*.
- Christopher and Molly Barnes on their Boréal 47, *Sila*.
- Dick and Ginger Stevenson on their Valiant 42, *Alchemy*.
- Evgeny Romanov on the Bavaria 50, *Capella*.
- Denis and Beenie Alexander on their Seguin 49, *Narnia*.
- Ad and Annie Blankensteijn on their Leisure 27, *Yellowdream*.
- Nelleke Fontein on her Northern Comfort 38, *Excalibur*.
- Stephen and Jo Quaile on their HR 36, *Sola*.
- John and Amanda Swan Neal on their HR 46, *Mahina Tiare III*.
- Ian Robson on his Rustler 44, *New Horizons*.
- Arttu Laine on his Beneteau First 41S5, *Kleopatra*.
- Wolfgang Schneider, with Wolf Ortlinghau, Eugen Schrödl, and Albrecht Ott, on a 37-foot Delphia, *Arctic Vision*.
- Leon Conway, Jim Rosbe, Henk Haak, Ken Martin, Michael Polivanov, and Mads Dahlke.
- Nick Hughes, head of the Norwegian Ice Service, Tromsø.

**Den Norske Los:** We used the [online PDFs](#) of *Den Norske Los* as a reference.

## Thank You

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We would like to thank Mark Brackenbury and John Armitage for their hard work and dedication in compiling and updating the Guide from 1978 to 2002 and their generosity in handing the results over to us.

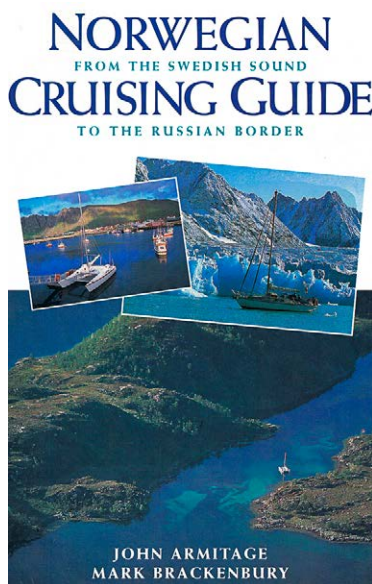
John and Mark listed a number of people in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition of the Guide who helped them and, even though we haven't listed all those people here, we would like to thank them again for their contributions to the Guide.

We would personally like to thank the following people:

- The hundreds of Norwegians who made our two years in their beautiful country one of the highlights of our cruising life. *Tusen takk* (a thousand thanks).
- The many cruisers who have contributed to the Guide (see above under Sources of Information).
- The late Warren Brown, S/V *Warbaby*, who loaned us his Norway (paper) charts and whose high latitude voyages inspired us to cruise the north.
- Curtis Rindlaub who edits A Cruising Guide to the Maine Coast. When we were developing the format of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition of the *Norwegian Cruising Guide*, we couldn't think of a better way to organize harbour and anchorage information than the way it's done in his guide. Curtis has very generously granted us the right to use some of the same headings he uses. Since he has strong connections to Norway and has sailed in Oslofjorden, we are especially pleased to be able to refer to him here.
- C-MAP who generously provided a full set of electronic charts for Norway and Svalbard that we used as a base for the chapter maps.

## History of the Guide

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The information contained in the *Norwegian Cruising Guide* has been collected by multiple cruisers during 40 years of exploring coastal Norway, making it a treasure trove of experience to help ensure your cruise of Norway is as good as it can be.

In 1978 Mark Brackenbury's *Norwegian Cruising Guide, A Pilot for the Norwegian and SW Swedish Coasts between Sognefjord and the Sound* was published; until it went out of print in 1991, it was the only English-language marine guide to Norway.

In 1996 John Armitage combined Mark's material with new material for North Norway, Svalbard and Jan Mayen, and published the jointly authored *Norwegian Cruising Guide, From the Swedish Sound to the Russian Border*, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition.

Between 1996 and 2006 updates were made to the *Norwegian Cruising Guide*, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition, based on the cruising experiences of a number of people, including John Armitage, Hans Jakob and Eli, and us.

In May of 2006 we published the prerelease version of the much expanded 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition and the final version was released in February 2007. We published new editions in 2008, 2009, 2010, 2013, and this 8th Edition in 2017.



# Preface