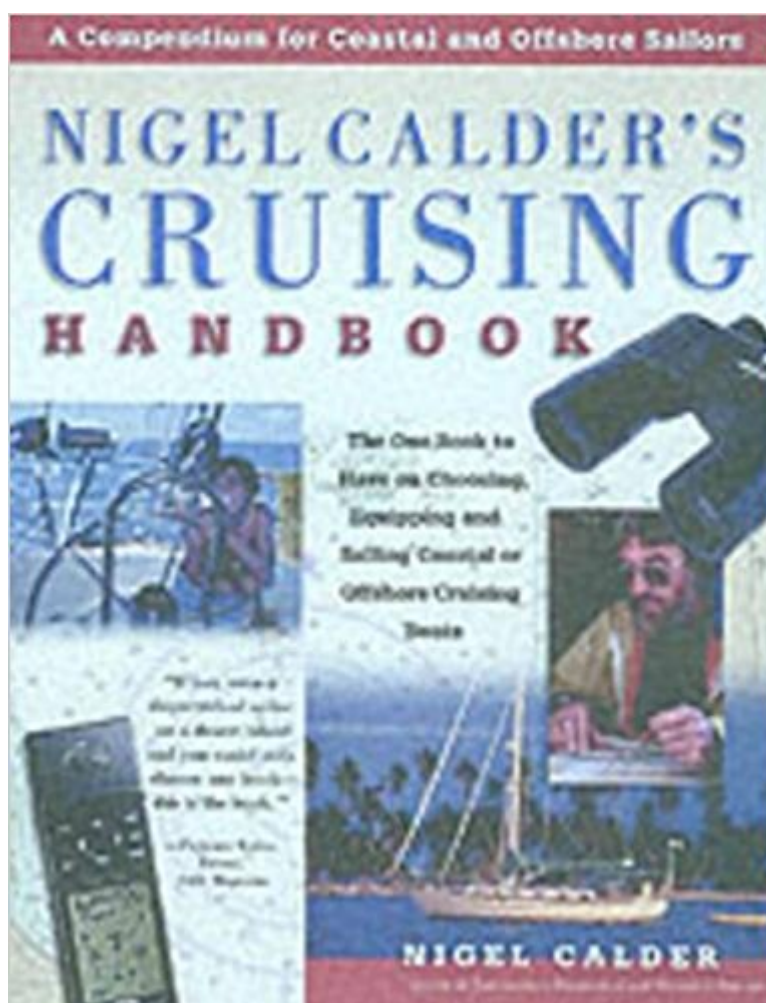


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# Nigel Calder's Cruising Handbook: A Compendium For Coastal And Offshore Sailors



## Synopsis

The most comprehensive and helpful guide ever written for selecting and equipping a cruising sailboat. Whether you're a coastal or offshore cruiser, you'll find your most pressing concerns treated with the know-how that makes for skillful, confident cruising in Nigel Calder's Cruising Handbook. The author -- one of the most respected marine how-to authors on either side of the Atlantic, and author of the universally admired Boatowner's Mechanical and Electrical Manual, -- walks you through all key technical and practical aspects of modern cruising systems and equipment, providing you with a summary of the skills necessary for safe, enjoyable sailing. The first half of the book includes an easy-to-use tabular method for evaluating a boat's suitability for cruising; ideas for workable deck and interior lay-outs and organization; how to choose and configure suitable boat systems for cruising; and how to install gear for trouble free operation. The book's second half teaches you boat handling skills; core navigational expertise; anchoring techniques; weather understanding; heavy weather expertise; and specific skills for long-term and long-distance cruising.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"The indispensable crew. No boat should sail without Calder aboard."--Paul Gelder, Yachting Monthly This handbook shows you not only how to select and equip a boat for coastal and offshore cruising, but also how to sail and navigate it. Covering all this in one volume is a monumental task, one not attempted since the pioneers of blue-water voyaging wrote the first generation of cruising

bibles decades ago. Since that simpler, more spartan era, the typical cruising sailboat has become faster and more comfortable, but also more complex. Even as they've made distant horizons more reachable, the marvels of modern technology have paradoxically raised the ante on the entry-level skills required for cruising. Small wonder then that books about boat handling and seamanship have little to say about the special demands of cruising, while books about cruising presuppose a mastery of the fundamentals of seamanship and navigation. Nigel Calder's *Cruising Handbook* presupposes nothing. It sifts through, organizes, and makes sense of the hundred disciplines of the cruising avocation. It will help you through your first coastal hop or your umpteenth offshore passage. Here you will find Comprehensive coverage of cruising sailboat design The elements of a comfortable interior and a workable deck presented in depth The background you need to decide which of today's technological advancements may detract from rather than add to your cruising enjoyment Thorough coverage of cruising skills, from boat handling to transoceanic voyaging Fresh wrinkles for even the most experienced sailors Compiling in one volume all the knowledge needed for successful cruising under sail, Nigel Calder's *Cruising Handbook* provides an inestimable service for sailors. There is nothing else like it. "If you were shipwrecked on a desert island and could choose only one book to help get you off, this is the book."--Patience Wales, Editor, SAIL

Nigel Calder has decades of sailing and cruising behind him. He is widely acknowledged as the world's foremost writer on boat systems maintenance, and writes regularly for SAIL, *Cruising World*, *Ocean Navigator*, *Professional Boatbuilder*, and *Yachting Monthly*, among other magazines. He is the author of six books, including *Boatowner's Mechanical and Electrical Manual*, *Marine Diesel Engines*, *Refrigeration for Pleasureboats*, *The Cruising Guide to the Northwest Caribbean*, and *Cuba: A Cruising Guide*.

First, I Love this book and very much enjoy Nigel Calder's writing. I have encountered this book on other people's boats for some years now and felt maybe it was time I get my own copy. I wrongly assumed that Nigel like other sailor/writers of cruising books dating even back to the 1970's had updated or amended the book where appropriate. This was definitely an error. There have simply been too many changes in the last decade to recommend this book. Perhaps at 1/3 of its current price I could justify it, but as it stands it is as obsolete as my old 121 EPIRB. I will be returning it.

I wish I had bought this book before I bought my newest old boat - my personal survey would have been much more effective. This book covers so much, so well. Mr. Calder obviously not only has the

knowledge but the motivation to really think about what should go into each area. He covers choosing, maintaining, upgrading, and cruising a boat to just the right degree that if you had no other resources, this book would usually suffice. And he does this in such a relatively small book.

Great for outlining the many considerations and options when buying a boat. Helps you think about features you may and may not want in your next boat. The cruising portion is complete and well organized as well.

nice mechanical book

Excellent book. Very detailed. Everything you need to know if you are thinking about buying a bluewater sailboat before you do it. I am so glad I bought this book and took the time to go through it. Less than \$50.00 and it may have saved is 10s of thousands in ignorant mistakes.

I haven't finished this book yet, but, so far, I've found the writing style enjoyable. It contains lots of useful information, both basic and technical. Read this one before reading Boatowner's Electric and Mechanical Manual to gain a broader view of setting up a boat to go cruising.

Calder has an engineer's eye for thoroughness and detail and clear expression. The section covering elements of naval design for a cruising boat is alone worth the price of the book. This is not the first book I've read that covers these topics but I wish it was. Many things would have been understood sooner. If you're new to cruising and are dreaming of sailing away some day, start here.

The amount of information in this book is amazing. If you are contemplating life afloat, you need this book and above all, you should read it before you take the plunge. Covers virtually all areas and answers many questions not found in other sources. Probably the best single source available. Highly recommended.

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