

Episode 2 – Halifax Harbor Marina Daytona Beach to Titusville Municipal Marina.



Dear Friends and Family,

On March 8th we finally left the dock at **Halifax Harbor Marina in Daytona Beach, FL** and headed down the ICW. We took it slow and easy, just enjoying the ride. In case you are not familiar with the ICW, it is a collection of rivers, bays, lagoons, and inlets that runs down the coast with a strip of land between the waterway and the ocean. Most of it has a channel that has been dredged to allow for safe travel. There are markers on either side of the channel so that you don't get over in the shallow water. Our boat only draws 2 ½ to 3 feet, but we still have to be careful to stay in the channel. We also have to be careful of the bridges. Most of the newer bridges have a 65 foot clearance, which is plenty for us. We are just over 50 feet tall. Other bridges, we have to call ahead and request them to open up for us.

If you have a map of the east coast you will see that we traveled south on the Halifax River past the lighthouse at Ponce Inlet. It took two hours to travel from the Marina to Ponce Inlet. We then passed New Smyrna Beach and headed down the Indian River. I know you have heard of Indian River fruit; well this is the North Indian River. We made it as far as the very north end of Mosquito Lagoon before we put out our anchor. The Lagoon is very shallow, so we anchored near the channel. It is not a good idea to travel the ICW at night, so there weren't boats passing. The shrimp were running, so the only boats out were the very shallow fishing boats after shrimp. We had plenty of lights on so they could see us.



We pulled out about 8:00am Sunday morning. We don't usually get up that early, but we were close to the channel and thought it was a good idea to get out of the way. Again, we took a nice leisurely ride at about 4.5 kn. One island we saw had lots of white sea birds, but if you looked very closely, you could see a long finger of land to the left of it that was covered with small black sea birds.



Several bridges later (about noon) we made it to the Titusville Municipal Marina and turned in. We were able to get the last slip they had available for a catamaran. The only problem is that the dock does not come out as far as the opening in our stanchions, so I have to climb over the rail to get on and off the boat. I am discovering that I am not very limber. We had a long walk and a Sunday afternoon nap. For our Sunday sermon, I read the first chapter of "If You Want to Walk on Water, You Have to Get Out of the Boat" by John Ortberg. He uses the story of Peter walking on water to Jesus.

I am including pictures of the lighthouse on Ponce Inlet, sunset on Mosquito Lagoon, and a couple of the bridges. The railroad bridge here near Titusville stays open all the time, except when a train is crossing.



To follow our adventures, please go to www.Windsongsail.com.

Love to all,
Capt. Doug and First Mate Joyce