



MARINAS

WEEKEND CRUISING

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HERRINGTON HARBOUR SOUTH

Marty and I have been cruising the Chesapeake Bay for 12 years and I thought it might be interesting to make a list of the places we've been. Between the C & D Canal on the North to Sarah Creek off the York River to the south, we've visited a total of 87 places.

With the hope that our comments might help a cruise captain plan a cruise some weekend, we offer very brief comments on destinations that can be reached on a 2 day weekend.

ANNAPOLIS

Most zoo-like place on the Bay on summer weekends. Charming place to visit during the week or early spring or late fall.

BABY OWL COVE

(off Leadenham Creek, often mistaken for Caulk Cove) - A pretty anchorage with good holding ground and fair protection from all directions.

BROAD CREEK

(off the Magothy) - A marina stop, not worth it for a weekend.

BROAD CREEK

(Quaker Neck area) - A quiet anchorage with very little traffic - moderately scenic - off the beaten track.

CAMBRIDGE

Limited anchorage - a commercial waterfront - really a marina visit - interesting old houses and buildings in town.

CAULK COVE

(off Leadenham Creek) - A pretty, cozy anchorage - well protected and not crowded.

CHURCH CREEK

(off South River) - one of the prettiest creeks on the Bay - lousy holding ground (leaves), but actually possible to tie off to trees if not many boats.

CRAB CREEK

(off South River) - Another pretty creek with beautiful homes, so-so holding ground, narrow, but deep entrance.

CUMMINGS CREEK

(Off Harris Creek) - Little known anchorage with lots of room and good protection - tricky entrance - a good alternative to Dun Cove on crowded weekends.

DIVIDING CREEK

(off east branch of Wye) - Cozy, pretty anchorage - small and not well protected from South - hot and close on warm summer nights.

DIXON CREEK

(off Tred Avon before Easton) - Small, cozy, protected, pretty anchorage with about 5 feet of water - a great hideaway.

DUN COVE

Closest anchorage to HH - pretty spot - fair protection - reasonably good holding ground. Popular on summer weekends.

FISHING CREEK

(Little Choptank) - Forget it - hot and buggy in summer.

FLAG HARBOR MARINA

A condo marina about 2 miles north of the nuclear power plant heading towards Solomons - a hurricane hole - no anchorage - facilities include large picnic patio and pool up on hill - only deep water area on western shore of bay between HH and Solomons.

GOLDSBOROUGH CREEK

(off Tred Avon) - Cozy, well protected anchorage that hard anyone visits - great anchorage in Fall when geese arrive - one of few places where you can see geese on the ground and in the air.

GRACE CREEK

(off Broad Creek) - A decent anchorage exposed to south and east - not as nice as Baby Owl Cove or Caulk Cove which are close by.

HARNES CREEK

(off South River) - A pretty anchorage with beach - gets crowded on summer weekends, but most power boats leave before dark.

HUDSON CREEK

(Little Choptank) - A pretty, protected anchorage with beach - not many houses in the area - lends itself to a fire on the beach after dark.

HUNTING CREEK

(off Miles River past St. Michaels) - Great anchorage, pretty and protected. Good view of St. Michaels and access by dinghy to St. Michaels if you have an engine. Nice beach for shore visit.

IRISH CREEK

Just off entrance to Broad Creek - forget it - nothing here!

ISLAND CREEK

(behind Choptank Riverspider) - Pretty, well protected anchorage that not many people know about - entrance channel well marked.

JAMES ISLAND

(east side of island) - Forget it - like anchoring in the open Bay - no protection and no good reason to anchor here.

LATRAPPE CREEK

(basin at entrance) - A beautiful, well protected anchorage with beach - only drawback is its popularity - can get crowded.

LEADENHAM CREEK

(off Broad Creek) - Pretty anchorage surrounded by trees and very nice homes.

LEEDS CREEK

(off Miles River across from St. Michaels) Pretty anchorage with good protection and a great alternative to the zooey atmosphere of St. Michaels in summer.

MAGOTHY RIVER

(behind Dobbins Island) - A terrible anchorage, power boats all night.

MEREDITH CREEK

(off Whitehall Bay) - A really pretty anchorage, lousy holding ground, tricky entrance to creek.

MILL CREEK

(Solomons) - Well protected anchorage, but really a stopover point heading south. Long trip (33 miles) for a weekend.

MILL CREEK

(off Whitehall Bay) - Good protection, so-so anchorage right off people's back yards. Decent restaurant on creek, accessible to dinghies.

OXFORD

(the Strand) - Anchorage in Tred Avon River just off Oxford - pretty lumpy due to traffic in Tred Avon.

OXFORD

(Town Creek) - Limited anchorage - protected. Town Creek is a busy local waterway - not very scenic.

PEACHBLOSSOM CREEK

(off Tred Avon) - Good anchorage, well protected - can be uncomfortable abv hot in summer - so-so scenery.

PHILLIPS CREEK

(Little Choptank) - Another pretty anchorage with not much around it by way of civilization - so-so protection - good holding ground.

PLAINDEALING CREEK

Across Tred Avon from Town Creek - good anchorage, better than any in Oxford - long dinghy ride into Oxford via Town Creek or Strand.

POCAHONTAS CREEK

(off South River) - Outer anchorage pretty, but can be lumpy from power boat wakes on South River. Inner anchorage a virtual hurricane hole probably unbearably hot during summer.

QUARTER COVE

(across from Dividing Creek on Wye East) - A good fall back anchorage if Dividing Creek doesn't work out. Also pretty.

QUARTER CREEK

(west branch of Wye River) - A great anchorage, well protected and away from heavy traffic of Wye River - very pretty.

RHODE RIVER

Pretty anchorage close to HH, but not great holding ground and zillions of water skiers from morning to night.

ROCK HALL

Not an anchorage, but OK if you want to visit a marina and eat out.

SAN DOMINGO CREEK

Pretty anchorage - well protected - experienced cruisers know it as "the back door to St. Michaels", the way to visit St. Michaels without experiencing the harbor mob scene.

SAWMILL CREEK

(LaTrappe Creek) - a pretty, well protected anchorage - likely to be hotter in summer than the basin because it's more enclosed.

SHAW BAY

(off east branch of Wye) - A popular, large, open anchorage, pretty. Likely to be full of boats in summer because of good air flow and no bugs.

SILLERY BAY

(across from Cornfield Creek off the Magothy) - A pretty anchorage, but the water skiers like to circle the bay until dark.

ST. MICHAELS

Lousy holding ground and second only to Annapolis for zooey atmosphere in summer - if you love crowds, this might be the place for you. Absolutely delightful in late fall when there aren't any crowds on the water.

SWAN CREEK

An OK anchorage - but nothing special.

TILGHMAN CREEK

(off Miles River) - Pretty anchorage with good protection - can get crowded on weekends.

TRIPPE CREEK

Beautiful anchorage surrounded by beautiful homes - open enough to be comfortable on hot summer nights.

WEST RIVER

No real protected anchorages, but close to HH and reasonably nice - long run in from Bay and back out.

WHITEHALL BAY

A good holding ground, poor protection, lumpy water for sitting or overnighting.

WHITEHALL CREEK

A pretty spot - better anchorage than Whitehall Bay.

WYE NARROWS

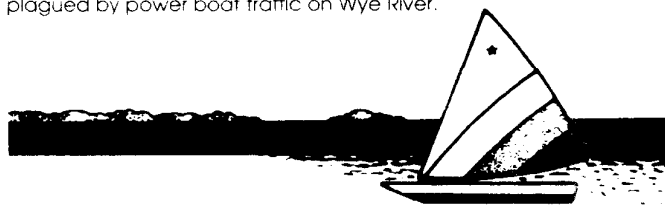
(west branch near bridge) - So-so holding ground, pretty anchorage across from Maryland state property accessible by dinghy - heavy power boat traffic going under bridge at high speed.

WYE RIVER

(west branch in back of Drum Point) - Large open anchorage - similar to Shaw Bay - subject to boat wakes from Wye River - pretty spot.

WYE RIVER

(west branch near R6 daymark) - A pretty spot - not well protected and plagued by power boat traffic on Wye River.



It's interesting to note that of the 87 places we've been, 53 appear on this list as being within weekend range of Herrington Harbour. There probably isn't another location on the Bay that can claim to be within striking distance of 53 anchorages or marinas on a sailboat on a weekend.