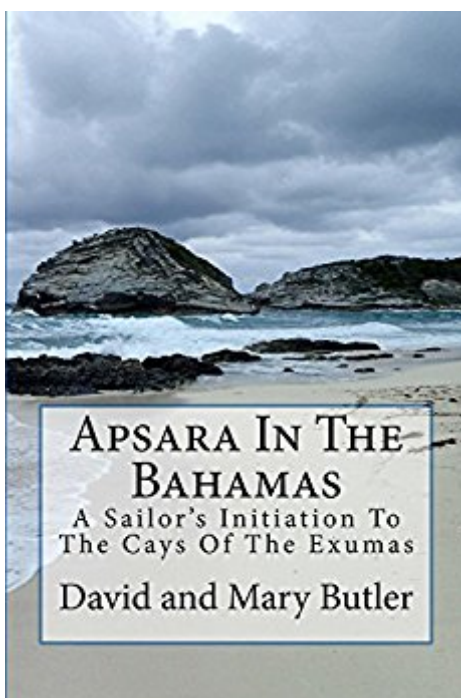


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# Apsara In The Bahamas: A Sailor's Initiation To The Cays Of The Exumas



## Synopsis

Have you dreamed of buying a sailboat and taking off for months to visit secluded isles? Follow David and Mary as they discover the people and secrets of the Bahamas sailing in Apsara thru the northern Gulf Coast of Florida and the pristine cays of the Exumas. Exploring the beauty of the Exuma Cays Land and Sea Park, enduring winds of over one hundred miles per hour, preparing local lobster and conch from authentic island recipes. "Apsara, our Island Packet 38, has transported us over five thousand miles in our voyages to the Bahamas with grace, comfort and safety, a guardian angel of the oceans, celestial nymph of the clouds and waters. I miss the expansive beauty of the sea upon awaking and drifting off to dreams laden with stars and sea turtle lullabies."

## Book Information

File Size: 25922 KB

Print Length: 208 pages

Publisher: David Butler; 1 edition (November 18, 2016)

Publication Date: November 18, 2016

Sold by: Amazon Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B01MYOVPM2

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Screen Reader: Supported

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #582,499 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #45

in [Books > Travel > Caribbean > Bahamas](#) #153 in [Books > Kindle eBooks >](#)

[Nonfiction > Travel > Caribbean](#) #484 in [Books > Travel > Caribbean > General](#)

## Customer Reviews

"Apsara" is a beautifully written travelogue, as well as, a practical handbook for sailing the Bahamas. David and Mary Butler document their travels through the islands through a whimsical and adventurous lens. They illustrated the raw beauty and natural serenity through poetry and photographs. David has a gift for painting a picture through words, and Mary has a gift for her

photographs and her ability to extract the sweetness in the local people...as well as,good produce and fish! She found the best coconut bread, lobster, fruit and conch fritters on every inhabited island.We sailed alongside SV Apsara for some of their adventures on SV Sassy Dancing. It was so much fun to revisit our ports of call and our shared experiences meeting people, eating delicious meals, imbibing in rum drinks and exploring beautiful locations. Thanks for chronicling a once-in-a-lifetime experience and sharing it!

I am writing this book review on my wife's computer as she ordered our books. Let me first say that I may slightly be bias in my review of this book because I have the pleasure of knowing David and Mary Butler. I tried to help them in their early inclination to become sailors again after many years of being sailboat less. I was initially concerned that their plan to go cruising right away might be just a little to ambitious..boy was i wrong. They found their boat, planned their trip and were gone post hast. Both David's and Mary's zest for adventure, new challenges aboard an unfirmiliar sailboat, and yen to lean was parlayed into a unique and exciting adventure.Their book is one of the best you could read as a novice cruiser or an experienced seaman. David's description of their journey was exhilarating and profound. His prose is wonderful and his poetry is easy and joyous. Mary's love of sailing aboard Apsara, enjoying wonderful cuisine, and just meeting new people makes you want to do the same. This book is a primer for anyone going to explore the Exumas. The nature, the isolation, the vistas, the seafood, and the history is all there.. Bob Fleege

I cannot put this book down!!!! I can't wait to read the next paragraph. It is mesmerizing, exhilarating, & calming all at the same time!! It captures my imagination & takes me with you. Thank you for allowing me to experience this adventure through your writings & pictures.

I bought the book because of a sail charter in the Exumas, but did not find it all that helpful for that. It was a reasonable account of a life transition from normal shore based to s cruising life.

Review by Betty Jackson Young January 4, 2017 *Aspara in the Bahamas* is a "must read" for sailors planning to explore the pristine cays of the Exhumas. David and Mary Butler introduce readers to the joys of exploration, the discovery of new sea creatures and birds and the toil required to handle fierce winds and currents in navigating unknown waters in their Island Packet 38. Their narrative offers exotic foods like scorched conch salad recommended by Bahamian fishermen and

soft to the touch. Sopodilla fruit. Their gourmet provisions included a very singular aged John Walling's Buena Vista Rum distilled in copper pot stills, filtered through coconut charcoal and aged in white oak barrels. Their transition from city to cabin life brought new experiences in navigating unknown cuts and anchorages. They were rewarded with pleasures of vermilion sunrises, blood-stained sunsets and rainbows over unspoiled deserted beaches. The author displayed an intense love of nature, identifying exotic species of fish and birds. Their ordered life at sea involved careful planning of provisions and maintenance. Aspara could be identified by Mary's bikinis waving like a version of Tibetan prayer flags. The Butlers describe their voyage as a lesson in how "to live simply and enjoy every moment."

Get ready to be inspired by beautiful people who are determined to embrace life by keeping their eyes and hearts open, connecting with everyone they meet, and looking for pleasure in every moment. Love it.

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