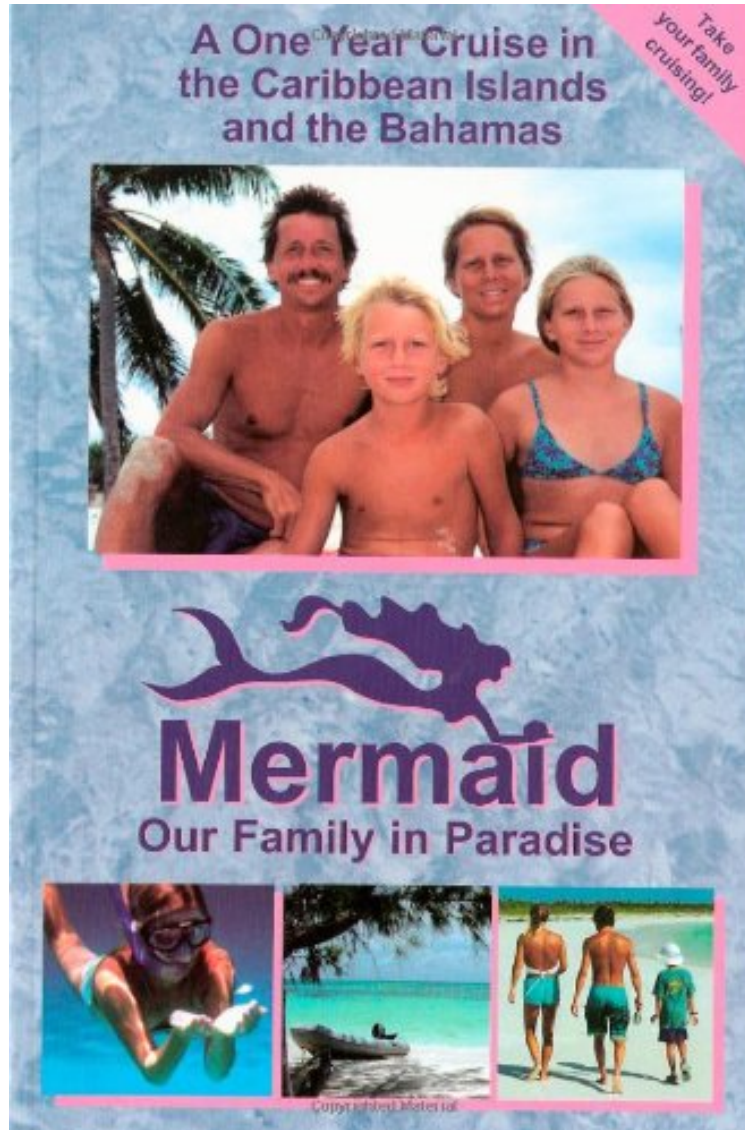


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## Mermaid - Our Family in Paradise

*Philip Rink*

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**Philip Rink : Mermaid - Our Family in Paradise** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Mermaid - Our Family in Paradise:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Many years later, I still reflect on this book. By Ruth A. Cantrell I read this years ago and still reflect on it. I loved hearing about a family brave enough to defy the norm and go and live on a boat. I was amazed at how they had to time their passages! This is a really good book and I am so glad that they let us experience the adventure through them! 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Mermaid....what it's all

aboutBy PhilaI teared up as the family exited under the bridge and began their family adventure. Perhaps it was because I regrettably missed that with my kidsor was so happy for the Rink family. Nonetheless, this pleasant read gives one insight into the mechanics of an endeavor like this. I've been to many of the same places and reading about them allowed me to revisit them in my mind. Funny that I heard about this author at a beach party in San Pancho, Mexico.....1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Honest Account of Cruising with ChildrenBy momof2boysI loved this family's story. It was told in a very readable way. I learned so much about sailing and the cruising life in general. It was especially helpful to read what it was like to cruise with children. I feel the same need to step out of the rat race and truly enjoy life with my family. To actually live a dream is so courageous. Thanks for the inspiration, Mermaid!

Here is an idea: This spring, fly to St. Martin or one of the other Caribbean islands and buy a sailboat. Then, next Halloween (or so) pack up the family and move on to the boat for the winter. You and your family can spend the first month learning to sail, then explore the islands, home-school the kids, and enjoy tropical living. If things go well, when you return home and sell the boat you might even make enough to pay for the trip. Sound far-fetched? This family of four from Camano Island, Washington did exactly that. Overcoming a lack of sailing and cruising experience with research, good advice and attitude, they had a great time and a great adventure as they sailed the Caribbean and the Bahamas. Also, the companion video is now available here on Amazon.com. Please search "All Departments" for 0972790608.

Although the Rinks had raised their children power boating in the Northwest, the family learned together how to sail in the Caribbean. By the end of the six-month-long adventure, the family had anchored out every night but two, and made ocean passages as long as five nights. -We challenged ourselves in meaningful ways that brought us together as a family. The whole idea of the video and book is to share how other families can experience this kind of great adventure. --SEA, May 2003For every boater out there who has dreamed of sailing away, this little hot-off-the-press paperback is a must buy. Why? Because it is a clearly written log of one Northwest family's sailing adventures and a detailed how- to-do-it manual. Many of us talk (or dream) of taking off to cruise through warm seas. But when it comes to acting, we don't have the money, or the right boat, or the time, the skills, the, the, the . . . The Rink family didn't either. In fact, they were not even experienced sailors. While they both taken sailing and pilotage courses, they had never cruised off shore. They had kids in school and profitable work that they enjoyed (mostly). But they dropped, massaged, and changed their commitments to pursue something new to all of us that would be difficult to complete. - We wanted a trip that would present problems and challenges that we could solve only as a family.- While the book loosely describes their overall voyage, it really is a compendium of information and advice. There are chapters on such topics as: anchoring, money, health and safety, food, our favorite places, shipping the boat home and so on. Rink includes tidbits like: Cleanliness is a big deal when buying and storing food. We managed to keep Mermaid completely cockroach free, but it was a lot of work. We saw more than a few boats that were infested with ants or cockroaches. There is even a section titled: -Calendar - laying out exactly what to do as well as telling when and where to be during your own Caribbean adventure. The equipment list alone is worth the book price. For anyone gravitating toward a similar adventure, this paperback (and their video) is a treasure. --Pugetmarine web siteIf you've ever wondered how a family of novice sailors can take a year off and successfully cruise the Caribbean and the Bahamas, , read this book. Phil and Nancy Rink and their daughter, Lena, 12, and their son, Pender, 9, move aboard Mermaid, a Beneteau Oceanis 400 in St. Martin and chronicle their experience, often through the eyes of their children. An inspirational primer on how to cruise the Caribbean with kids. --Cruising World, Jan 2004From the AuthorWe hope you like the book. Please take a look at the video, which is available in VHS, DVD, and Video-on-Demand for rent or purchase. It's a perfect taste of the cruising life. Mermaid: Our Family in Paradise VideoAbout the AuthorPhil Rink grew up in the high desert of New Mexico but has made his home on or near the ocean. He and his family still love boating, and spend as much time as they can on the water.