

News

Current news from the Fontaine Design Group.

The Fontaine Design Group Is Formed; Assets of The Ted Hood Design Group Are Purchased

Ted Fontaine has been associated with the Ted Hood Design Group for over 22 years. Working with Ted Hood, he was involved with the design of the Little Harbor line of sailing yachts during the 1980's and the original Little Harbor Whisper Jet line of jet driven power yachts that revolutionized the high quality express cruiser market in the 1990's. One of the more noteworthy custom projects was the Little Harbor built "American Promise", the yacht which Dodge Morgan sailed in breaking the single-handed non-stop circumnavigation record in 1985.

Of his years spent working with Ted Hood, Fontaine said:

"My years with Ted have been extremely educational and rewarding. He is truly a leader in innovative yet common-sense thinking on design. Ted Hood taught me to never be satisfied with the status quo. I hope that I can continue his legacy and passion for new ideas, and as importantly, emulate his ability to see them through."

Ted Hood made the following comment:

"Over the years, I have had the pleasure of seeing Ted grow in his development as a yacht designer. He has incorporated much of my own design philosophy, as well as developing his own style and approach to design. I look forward to watching Ted's business grow further, as well as working with him on many of my own new design projects in the future."

During the 1990's, Fontaine expanded the Groups custom yacht design capabilities into the other areas, specifically the large sailing yacht market. Fontaine led the design team that created many shoal draft high performance sailing yachts including the Windship Trident built 115' composite built sloop TEEL, voted in 1995 by the Super Yacht Society as the most innovative sailing yacht of the year. Fontaine was responsible for several outstanding sailing yachts built by the renowned Royal Huisman Shipyard including the 112' PAMINA, the 132' ANAKENA, which was awarded the Best Sailing Yacht of 1996 by both the Super Yacht Society and Showboats Magazine. Huisman also built the beautiful 133' SURAMA that won the best interior award in 1998. In fact every design Fontaine has created over 100' has been nominated for or won awards for innovative design, best sailing yacht, or best interior. Fontaine's designs have been and continue to be built by the worlds leading builders such as Royal Huisman, Alloy Yachts International, Holland Jachtbouw and Royal Denship.

In pondering the future of his company, Ted remarked:

"I look forward to continuing to provide the excellent tradition, knowledge and talent of our Group to the design of yachts that meet the mission, needs and dreams of our customers. We enjoy assisting our customers with whatever their design needs may be, from new designs to minor refits, I believe we bring a great depth of experience and innovation to whatever task we are assigned. "

Fontaine Design Group opens it's doors with a variety of new build projects including a 102' and 108' sloops to be built at Alloy yachts in New Zealand, a 116' sloop under construction at Holland Jachtbouw, a 180' ketch at Jongert and several smaller designs such as a 54' sloop at Trintella in Holland, a 63' sloop at Lyman Morse in Thomaston Maine and a 65' pilothouse sloop under construction at Dana Robes Boat Builder in Round Pond Maine.

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Ted Fontaine



Ted Hood and Ted Fontaine

Fontaine Design Group Represented at the 2007 St. Barth Bucket

St Barthelemy, FWI, March 29-April 1, 2007 – Three Fontaine Design Group yachts, WHIPSER, PARAIISO and the newly launched WINDCREST participated in this year's St. Barth Bucket. With an impressive fleet of 30 of the world's most striking and formidable sailing yachts, WINDCREST and PARAIISO performed solidly during three days of racing and ultimately came home winners. WINDCREST placed second in the Grand Dames category and came in third overall in the fleet, while PARAIISO earned the Alloy Best Overall award.

The next stop for many of these yachts is the 2007 Superyacht Cup in Palma June 16-19, 2007.

[Click here for the 2007 St. Barth Bucket results.](#)

**Paraiso****Windcrest**

Windcrest Nominated

March, 2007 – Ted Fontaine's newest launch, WINDCREST was nominated in the Best Sailing Yacht in the 30M to 44M Size Range category as part of the 2007 Boat International World Superyacht Awards taking place in Venice on April 27, 2007. A complete nominations list is available in the March issue of Boat International or at www.worldsuperyachtawards.com.



Design 1058: 148' Keel Sloop

In the process of being designed for a returning client, Design 1058 expands on his previous yacht by incorporating enlarged crew quarters, a larger galley and more room for toys with a drop down transom and a water-tight garage that can house Laser sailing dinghies, a crew dinghy and diving equipment. A larger tender is housed in an enclosed foredeck well.

The interior of the yacht features a VIP cabin aft that maintains a king size berth, a desk with sitting area and a large head and shower. There are also two twin cabins that have a full berth outboard and a twin berth inboard, as well as en suite heads. A highlight of the interior is the owner's suite amidships with a king size berth, his and hers heads, a walk-in closet and an exercise locker that can house a spinning bike.

Back on deck, the design elaborates on the concept of the owner's previous boat, in particular an enclosed pilothouse cockpit with nav. station, an enhanced helm cockpit with additional seating directly aft of the helm station and a generous aft cockpit accessible via the transom stairway or on deck.

Unlike the previous yacht that had a centerboard which enabled cruising in the shallow waters of the Bahamas, this new design has a keel.

It is anticipated that this yacht will be built in New Zealand.



Fontaine Receives Award at the 2005 Superyacht Society International Awards for Design and Leadership

Miami, FL February 16, 2006: In a field of solid contenders, including *SYMMETRY* and *PSYRAX*, designer Ted Fontaine took honors in the Sail: 23-36 Meters category with his 108' shallow draft pilothouse sloop, *PARAIISO* during the Superyacht Design Awards gala, hosted by the [International Superyacht Society](#).

Built by Alloy Yachts in New Zealand for an international owner and his family to cruise anywhere and everywhere, particularly Florida and the Bahamas, *PARAIISO* is Fontaine's fourth finalist nomination in this category. Previous Fontaine design finalists include *CHIMERA* in 2002, *PAMINA* in 2000 and *SAVANNAH* in 1998.

PARAIISO is currently sailing in the Caribbean and will join *WHISPER* at the St. Barth's Bucket, March 30 - April 2, 2006.

[Click here to view the Best Sail winners.](#)

[Click here to view photographs from the gala.](#)

Design 1061 - 110' Ketch

The key concept behind Design 1061 is sailing performance; sea worthiness married with speed and responsiveness to create a well-balanced sailing machine. Adopting the hull form from *S/Y WHISPER*, which has proven to be fast, the yacht includes a drop down rudder board for better performance in offshore conditions. It is ketch rigged with carbon fiber spars and Marten Marine in-boom furling. The preference for the ketch rig is born of the owner's love of being able to balance the rig with a split sail plan and the potential to steer the boat using the sails. There are twin wheels with a helm station and a mid cockpit similar to *S/Y WHISPER*.

Regarding the interior, emphasis is placed on family and friends' time onboard being a comfortable and social event. Designed with that prerequisite in mind, the main salon is fitted with formal dining to starboard with the lounging area and television to port. The yacht also includes informal dining area and bar in the pilothouse. There are three staterooms including an owner's cabin with the head and walk-in closet aft to maximize floor space, a "VIP" guest cabin with a queen-size berth and a twin berth cabin, which can convert to a queen berth, to sleep a total of six guests. There is a sizeable galley to starboard with two separate refrigerators, a walk-in pantry housing red and white wine coolers and a washer and dryer.

It is anticipated that the boat will be built in New Zealand.



The Friendship 53 is Launched!

Ted Fontaine and Friendship Yachts are pleased to announce the launch of the Friendship 53, *Songtao* at Friendship Yachts in New Zealand.

The Friendship 53 is scheduled to arrive in Portsmouth, RI at the beginning of September and make her debut at the Newport Boat Show September 14th-17th. For more information about the Friendship 53, please visit www.friendshipyachtcompany.com.

[Click here](#) to read the press release.





Design 1063 - 57' Offshore Sloop

The concept for the 57' Fontaine designed sloop evolved from the owner's desire to keep his yacht practical. The design is based on the interior necessities of the owner, as well as sail handling capabilities geared towards single-handed or couples sailing. Accordingly, all sheets and control lines lead back to the cockpit for easy shorthanded sailing. Additional emphasis has been placed on exciting sailing performance, without sacrificing safety for speed. The rig is a carbon fiber mast outfitted with an aluminum boom and a Leisure Furl In Boom furling system. The draft of the boat is 6' suitable for East Coast sailing with a keel centerboard hull form.

The pilothouse features a retractable sunroof and opening forward windows for an open feel in fair weather, and is also heated for cold Maine sailing. The cockpit is also designed with comfort in mind, a highlight being the watchman's station under the hard dodger for comfortable passage making in cooler climates.

The interior of the yacht includes a fully appointed walk-thru galley and a comfortable main salon featuring a bar area and a U-shaped dinette that converts to a double berth. There is also a pop-up flat screen TV along the centerline like that found on the Friendship 53. The boat features three cabins including a very comfortable aft owners cabin with king size centerline berth, a desk/vanity with laptop capabilities and a head with an independent walk-in shower. The owner's shower, in addition to the galley, provides full headroom access to the engine room.

Boarding the boat from a dinghy has been eased by custom fold-down transom stairs.

The yacht is being built by Morris Yachts in Bass Harbor, Maine and is expected to be delivered during the summer 2008.

1063 Rendering



Ted Fontaine Featured in the October Issue of *The Yacht Report*

In the October issue of *The Yacht Report* there is an article that features Ted Fontaine and a selection of his designs. The article is entitled, "Building Friendships: Ted Fontaine's Winning Designs". Here is an excerpt from the article:

Judging only by the list of his award-winning yacht designs - which include *Pamina*, *Anakena*, *Surama*, *Paraiso* and many more - one might expect Ted Fontaine to be a distinguished, silver-haired gentleman ready to rest on his laurels and accolades. To the contrary, despite his close to 30 years at the top of the yacht design game, Fontaine is an eternally smiling, tanned, shorts-sporting and youthful fellow who looks much more like a casual sailing captain than a captain of industry who just so happens to love what he does for a living.

[Click here to read more of the article.](#)

Fontaine branches into power with the Friendship 40 CC Express Cruiser

Portsmouth, RI, July, 2008: Ted Fontaine has taken his skill and attention to detail from the extravagant world of large (and small) sailing yachts and is introducing to the powerboat market the Friendship 40 CC, an express cruiser that incorporates the richness and elegance we have come to expect from the drawing boards of this award-winning designer.

Just as the Friendship 40 identified a market of discerning yachtsmen seeking a small and easy to handle sailboat in a luxury package, the Friendship 40 CC has identified a niche in the powerboat market that has until now remained vacant. While the concept of the picnic-style boats as easy to handle, comfortable for overnights or day tripping with family and friends has proven to be wildly popular, the practice of separating the helmsman from his or her guests is an encumbrance that has thus far been ignored.

In an effort to modify this traditional arrangement, Fontaine adopted characteristics from the smaller center console powerboats and has relocated and centered the helm to the aft of the pilothouse entertainment / seating area. This reunites the helmsman with his guests without disrupting the steering and handling of the boat. While underway, the dynamic between the helmsman and his guests is changed from chauffeur to host. After all, Fontaine wonders, isn't it time the owner of the boat joins his own party?

The Friendship tradition of ultimate quality and personal customization carries on with the new 40 CC. Stepping down into the cabin, the interior features twin settees forward that convert to a full berth with a hanging locker, a compact galley and a head with shower. The interior, built like fine furniture, is solid teak finished with satin and gloss varnish.

The aft deck provides additional outdoor seating and entertaining with two settees offering a place to dry in the sun after a swim or to sip a cocktail as the sun goes down. The seating area is raised which not only allows site through the cockpit windshield, but also provides more engine room space. Access to the teak swim platform is gained via the aft settees.

The Friendship 40 CC is powered by the owner's choice of twin Volvo IPS 450s for a top speed of 36.6 kts / 32 kts cruising or twin Hamilton HJ 274 water jets with the Hamilton Mouseboat control for a top speed of 37.5 kts / 33 kts cruising. The use of the jets enables the 40 CC to venture into shallower waters, while the IPS allows for more efficiency and better control.

The Friendship Yacht Company is quickly becoming known throughout the industry to offer the highest quality yachts on the market. The perfection and ultimate craftsmanship are seen in absolutely every inch of a Friendship. This is in part due to Ted Fontaine's architecture and uncompromising boat building skills, as well as the fact that each Friendship is virtually a custom-built yacht. As every owner knows, building a Friendship involves an intimate relationship with the designer, a unique distinction in the ever growing world of production boats.

For more information, contact the Friendship Yacht Company at 401-682-9101 or via email admin@friendshipyachtcompany.com.



Profile and two alternative interior layouts for the Friendship 40 CC Express Cruiser

Design 1025: *North Wind* arrives in New Zealand

New Plymouth, New Zealand: Design 1025 arrived for completion at Fitzroy Yachts in New Zealand. The 106' *North Wind* features a pilothouse with a formal dining area that seats 6, a seating area and a navigation station. Stepping down into the interior of the boat, the owner's cabin is located aft with an en suite head to starboard and desk and sitting area to port. The en suite head features a bath tub with Jacuzzi jets. Forward of the owner's cabin are two twin guest cabins, each with their own en suite head. There is a spacious full width salon with ample seating and a day head. The galley, crew mess and 2 twin crew cabins are located forward.

On deck there is well appointed cockpit with a centerline helm and comfortable seating with featuring swiveling chairs and twin tables both port and starboard. The owner's cockpit is located aft and is accessed by a companionway in the owner's cabin.



Off-loading from ship



Arriving at Fitzroy

Design 1047: En Route to Florida for Completion

Taipei, Taiwan: Design 1047 is on its way to Florida for its finishing touches at Rybovich Spencer. *First Light* was designed as the owner's dream boat and has adapted some features from a previous Fontaine design.

This 92' yacht is a practical design and suits the owner's long distance cruising purposes. The owner's cabin aft is aft and contains a queen berth, seating area and an en suite head. This cabin also has its own access through a private companionway. Forward of the owner's cabin are two twin berth guest cabins and one features a Pullman berth. There is a salon with a pop up flat screen TV and an adjacent formal dining area that seats 6. Forward is the galley, crew mess, laundry area, twin crew cabin and captain's cabin with its own en suite head.

Many highlights of the yacht are found in the well-appointed pilothouse. There is a casual dining area for 6 featuring custom designed chairs and an inlay table with a custom dolphin design. The wet bar adds to the social purpose of this space, while the navigation area allows for the smooth operation of the boat with its high tech equipment and pop-up navigation screens.



Being loaded onto ship for Florida



Nav station



Pilothouse dining area



Galley



Owner's cabin



FIRST LIGHT completed and delivered to Maine

The 92' *First Light* was completed in July at Rybovich in West Palm Beach, FL and delivered to Maine in time for an end of summer cruise with the owner.



Design 1063, CIRCE featured in *Ocean Navigator*

The 57' offshore pilothouse sloop, *Circe* designed by the Fontaine Design Group is featured in the October 2008 issue of *Ocean Navigator*. She was launched in August at Morris Yachts in Northeast Harbor, Maine. She is the result of a collaborative effort between the Fontaine Design Group, Goetz Custom Boats and Morris Yachts.

[Click here to read the article from *Ocean Navigator*.](#)

The Friendship 75

The Friendship Yacht Company in collaboration with the Fontaine Design Group is pleased to report ongoing progress with the building of the first Friendship 75 pilothouse sloop in Whangarei, New Zealand.

Having closely studied the lifestyle requirements of yachts in the 90 to 100' range, it was resolved to create a design a 75' boat with two equal VIP cabins in lieu of the typical three cabin arrangement. The decision to build a yacht with two superlative cabins was derived from numerous conversations with owners of larger yachts. Many owners stated that they enjoyed their time onboard when there were two couples versus three; it was described that life on board, day excursions, dining and overall privacy for the guests was best accomplished with two couples, thus the concept of a no compromise two couples plus crew arrangement was adopted.

With the interior requirements set, the owner wanted to design and build a yacht that he could easily handle by himself. He envisioned being able to control the in-boom furling mainsail and roller furling genoa from the helm on his own. 75' was thought to be the largest size boat that he sail singlehandedly, yet still provide the interior volume required for a crew of two should the need arise for luxury service or the addition of younger family members.

Aft of the guest seating area is the fully integrated helmsman's cockpit. The helm pedestal design is virtually useable art. Opting to forego the space-aged look of joy stick controls, the Friendship75 is designed with foot button control for the bow thruster, main sheet in and out and main and genoa furling functions. The beautifully sculpted varnished teak helm pedestal houses the mainsail furling buttons, boom vang control, as well as two 10" pop up display screens that can function with the radar and GPS.

The primary and secondary winch controls are ingeniously mounted where the helmsman's hands would be while at the wheel. The small flush mounted buttons will control the genoa sheeting; foot buttons will control the furling leaving one hand for steering. An arrangement introduced with the Friendship 40, perfected with the Friendship 53 is now brought to life again with the 75.

Above deck the new 75' embodies all the aesthetic qualities that her smaller sisters offer. The Friendship built yachts have become famous for their classic styling and ergonomic cockpit designs and the 75 enhances these features in abundance. The sizable cockpit is a marriage of elements from the Friendship 53 and Fontaine's larger award winning designs and features two L-shaped settees each with its own varnished teak table, providing ample room for outdoor dining and entertainment.

Moving forward through the raised panel teak companionway doors, one descends three steps down into the cleverly appointed pilothouse. Fontaine's experienced hand has drawn an attractive low profile deckhouse that features an elevated casual dining area with seating for 6 and a full service bar complete with dinnerware and cocktail service storage. Forward of the concealed bar service area one slips into the navigation station complete with pop-up screens and monitoring systems including two radar chart plotter display screens, ships communications systems, full function sailing instrument displays and auto pilot controls. A custom fabricated varnished teak swiveling chair completes the nav. station.

The forward and aft staterooms are of VIP quality: large king sized berths, ensuite facilities, stall showers and abundant storage spaces are typical for both cabins. Amidships to starboard there is a crew cabin with an upper and lower berth and ensuite head and shower. Opposite the crew cabin is a fully appointed galley featuring stand up refrigeration and freezer boxes, trash compactor, dish washer, microwave oven, Techimpex range and ample storage space needed for a gourmet chef.

The interior joinery features ornate Edwardian-style glossy varnished teak with additional interior appointments that are as ergonomically perfect as they are exquisitely constructed with the finest materials available. The experience of Ted Fontaine sets the Friendship 75 apart from other yachts of her size, while the interior and exterior joinery of the 75 embodies the exquisite level of quality and attention to detail which has become synonymous with the Friendship brand.

With a construction period of twenty one months, it is anticipated that the Friendship 75 will be sailing in the fall of 2009.

For more information, please contact the Friendship Yacht Company / Fontaine Design Group at 401-682-9101 or by email at admin@friendshipyachtcompany.com.



Design 1094 - A Pair of Tenders

Portsmouth, RI, April 2009: Known exclusively for their large, award-winning world sailing yachts, the Fontaine Design Group is working in collaboration with Lloyd Stevenson Boatbuilders, Ltd. in New Zealand to design and build diesel powered, water-jet driven tenders for a large sailing yacht. Switching gears from all things luxurious, this commission calls for the creation of two tenders, each efficient and specific in their duty to fulfill the requirements of the mothership.

The two tenders are identical, using the same innovative design. At a length of 20.37' and with a folding console, the boats will be stored in flush recessed wells on the yacht's deck, while the central lifting point on the boats will allow easy loading and unloading. The D-shaped fender system ensures safe interaction between the yacht and tender in the transfer of passengers or goods. The u-shaped settee in the bow, console bench, aft bench settee and t-settee aft of the console, provides comfortable seating for up to 10 passengers plus a crew member.

While the design is identical, the function of the two boats differs. The first tender has a wide range of intended use. The non-skid soles, sporty fishing pole holders and its 14.5 gallon fresh water capacity makes it ideal for recreational fishing purposes; the shallow draft, deck shower, swim platform and retractable swim ladder makes it doubly suitable for beach excursions. A highlight of this tender is that it will be equipped to serve as the yacht's rescue boat, while also serving as the crew transport and for provisioning.

The second tender will operate as a limousine. As the formal guest transport, this tender is fitted with a yacht finish that includes teak decks. For guest comfort, there is a removable bimini and a folding dodger that can be stored in a covered recess on the foredeck.

The tenders are powered with a 260 HP Yanmar engine and a single Hamilton HJ 241 jet drive and can reach an efficient cruising speed of 35 knots with a maximum speed of 40 knots. With a fuel capacity of 45 gallons, these boats will be proficient in their fuel consumption.

These tenders are being built in accordance with EU and American Boat and Yacht Council standards. It is anticipated that they will be completed this summer.

For more information, please contact the Fontaine Design Group at 401-682-9101 or admin@fontainedesigngroup.com.

Friendship 75 Build Update - Photographs

The Friendship 75 will be a stunning boat and she is coming together to be as close to perfect as any yacht could be. We are truly excited to see her finished at the end of this year.

[Click here to take a sneak peak at the progress of this magnificent, soon-to-be completed yacht.](#)



The saloon



On deck looking forward



Forward cabin berth



The galley



Owner's cabin looking to starboard



On deck looking aft

Two Tenders Set For Completion at End Summer

Take a look at progress photos of the two tenders being custom built for a large sailing yacht at Lloyd Stevens Boat Builders in New Zealand. One tender is to have a yacht finish, while the other tender is to be more rugged in its finish to serve its purpose as a multi-purpose boat.



Pair of Tenders Launched by Lloyd Stevenson

New Zealand, December, 2009: The Fontaine Design Group is pleased to announce the launch of two tenders, completed in collaboration with Lloyd Stevenson Boat Builders.

While the design is identical, the function of the two boats differs. The first tender has a wide range of intended use. The non-skid soles, sporty fishing pole holders and its 14.5 gallon fresh water capacity makes it ideal for recreational fishing purposes; the shallow draft, deck shower, swim platform and retractable swim ladder makes it doubly suitable for beach excursions. A highlight of this tender is that it will be equipped to serve as the yacht's rescue boat, while also serving as the crew transport and for provisioning.

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The multi-purpose tender.



Demonstration of the maneuverability of the Hamilton jet drive.



Tender at speed.



The limo tender featuring the aft bench.



Friendship 75 is Launched!

December 24, Whangarei, New Zealand: The Friendship 75, *ISABEL* has been launched! With much excitement, the Friendship 75 made her sailing debut in the waters of Whangarei just before Christmas.

We are delighted by the craftsmanship and exquisite detail of the finished product. It is anticipated that the boat will arrive in the US towards the end of March.



The 75 just before being splashed.



The 75 sailing.



Forward guest cabin



Galley

Meet ISABEL

The Friendship 75, ISABEL is the largest of the Friendship fleet, yet she continues the simplicity in handling that is indicative of the Friendship designs. She is the largest size boat confidently handled by two, yet sacrifices nothing towards interior volume and finish which are unmistakably the essence of luxury living.

As the Friendship 40 and the Friendship 53 did before her, the Friendship 75 introduces a new concept, the idea that a larger boat be sailed by owners without the necessity of a crew; for the owners to get on his boat and drive it out of the marina or mooring. This idea of owners handling their boat is a departure from the norm in the opulent world of yachting where the boat is largely controlled by the crew and the owner is a guest.

With owner handling in mind, control of ISABEL is centrally located in the sculpted varnished teak helm pedestal that houses the mainsail furling buttons, boom vang control, as well as two 10" pop up display screens that can function with the radar and GPS. The primary and secondary winch controls are mounted where the helmsman's hands would be while at the wheel. The small flush mounted buttons will control the genoa sheeting; foot buttons will control the furling, leaving one hand for steering. Everything is perfectly arranged for maximum control with the minimum amount of effort.

Being a practical sailor, the owners paid particular attention to his intended use of his new boat and took that into consideration when designing not only sail handling, but also the interior layout. Having closely studied the lifestyle requirements of yachts in the 90 to 100' range and discussing lifestyles on board, it was resolved to design a 75' boat with two luxury VIP cabins, expanding on the idea that "bigger does not always mean better." There is also a well appointed third twin cabin amidships for a third couple or children, or for the switch to "yachting mode" when the service of a captain and stewardess is preferred. The pilothouse is outfitted not only with navigation station, but also features a wet bar and cold wine storage to entertain up to six around the u-shaped settee and custom teak table. This makes for an ideal entertainment area when experiencing cooler weather.

Despite the smaller number of cabins, the 75 has forfeited nothing with respect to luxurious appointments and comfort. The interior joinery in every area, from the cabins to the galley to the salon and pilothouse,

features ornate Edwardian-style glossy varnished teak with additional interior appointments that are as functionally perfect as they are exquisitely constructed. The talent and experience of Ted Fontaine set the Friendship 75 apart from other yachts, regardless of size.



ISABEL sailing in the Bay of Islands



