



Preparing for bad weather sailing

**Step
by
Step**
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PREPARATION FOR BAD WEATHER SAILING

Close all openings

Store and tie up all loose gear on deck and inside

Avoid taking big waves from side

Close the valves in the toilet and in the kitchen

Reef or lower the sails. Change to storm sails if possible

Prepare the jacklines from stern to bow for attaching the harnesses when operating on deck (side railings should not be used for jacklines)

Check the weather forecasts and choose a safer route if possible

Go to safe anchorage or port if possible

Find out your position and estimate your food and fuel consumptions according to distance and time to next port of call

Minimize the crew on deck

Check bilges constantly

Prepare the safety equipment, wear lifejackets and safety harnesses

Test your radio equipment and appoint an individual for standing by the radio and being ready to make distress call if necessary

Keep optimum speed since bad weather can significantly increase fuel consumption