



Press Release:

## **„Sailing to Scandinavia: A journey to the end of the Baltic Sea“**

By Florian John Hanauer

Hamburg / Germany. Sailing is a unique way to travel. Especially when it comes to the end of the Baltic Sea. On the coast of the Bothnian Sea lies the small town of Haparanda between Sweden and Finland, the destination of this trip. With their Swedish-built Vindö 32, Florian and Birgit Hanauer sailed to the end of the Baltic Sea in the summer of 2021. On more than 4000 kilometres, they will face dramatic and funny experiences. They visit hidden fishing ports and small archipelagos and big cities like Oulu in Finland or Stockholm in Sweden. The two call at 70 ports on their journey, which the author describes vividly but also subjectively.

The book about this journey is out now: „Sailing to Scandinavia: A journey to the end of the Baltic sea“ is more than a travelogue: it also contains many practical tips for cruising sailors - whether beginners or advanced. Readers learn how to cook in the galley, which sails are suitable, which weather apps are better to do without or what makes for good navigation. This makes this book a practical work with an exciting cruise report.

Cast off: Shortly after the Swedish south coast, the archipelago begins, through which we can sail to the northern end of our journey - sometimes flat and rocky, occasionally high and forested, but mainly through a unique, protected area.

At the end of the Bothnian Sea, the river Törneälv flows between Sweden and Finland, where the cities of Haparanda and Tornio are located. And this is also where the northernmost Ikea in the world is located. This book shows what else to discover shortly before the Arctic Circle. On the way, we were always greeted warmly, especially in numerous harbours in Finland. But we also called at minor archipelagos, moored in big cities like Stockholm or Oulu and anchored in beautiful bays.

The book is lively written and offers numerous practical tips for cruising sailors - and for those who flirt with sailing. This is an exciting journey – Sailors from the UK

should enjoy it, and from the Netherlands and Belgium. And even if you are from Scandinavia this book should be fascinating.



For sailors and non-sailors: The wind was sometimes stormy on our journey. Fast sailing days alternated with leisurely voyages at sea.



There are many cities to discover under the midnight sun in the north, such as Oulu in Finland - a lively big city far in the north.



Meet Mr Moose: The friendly swimming moose will accompany you throughout the voyage. He has lots of tips for sailors he doesn't want to keep to himself.

## **This book contains:**

- > 15 maps of the route across the Baltic Sea and over 50 photos (printed in greyscale)
- > the detailed cruise report from Stockholm to the north coast of the Gulf of Bothnia and via the Finnish coast back to the Swedish capital.
- > reports on the feeder trips from Hamburg to Stockholm and back.
- > a prologue about sailing with a dinghy on the Baltic Sea.
- > many practical tips about cruising.

## **Sailing to Scandinavia: A journey to the end of the Baltic Sea**

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