

# FRANCE 2009

## Macgregor rally Golfe du morbihan



Overnight at services on A84



9 Mac's Anchored off Ile D'Houat



Beach BBQ



Day of rest - Belle Ile



Rafted up for Supper



These are places you could be visiting if you chose to make Brittany the Mac Choice this year!!! – and join the rally

# So Where Is the Golfe du Morbihan? And How do we get there?

The Golfe du Morbihan is an area of inland sea on the West coast of Brittany about midway between Quimper & La Rochelle.

It is a spectacular sailing area comprising many islands and channels with the major towns of Vannes and Auray at its inner most ends.

Also off the coast are 3 very pleasant Islands that can be visited - weather permitting.

To get there we cross the Channel on the ferry and then drive down to La Trinite sur Mer which is just outside and to the north of the Golfe. Normally an overnight stop is made at a French Service area although this depends on the ferry route chosen and the time of travel.

The slip at La Trinite is easiest to use at or around high water and there is space for parking cars and trailers.

## Itinerary (possible but weather dependant - can be reversed)

Ferry to France Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> or Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June and overnight in service area en route if required - Portsmouth/ St Marlo ferry arrives early morning and you can easily drive to LT for lunch time!

Arrive La Trinite , rig and launch and rest for night in Marina.

SATURDAY 20<sup>th</sup> June/ Sunday Depart La Trinite to Sauzon on Belle-Ile and stay overnight.

Sail to Ile D'Houat and anchor off, BBQ on beach and stay for night. or stay at Sauzon!

Depart Ile D'Houat and enter Golfe Du Morbihan and either anchor off island for night or enter marina.

Sail up to Vannes and have day in Town - if desired with meal in Vannes in the evening. Overnight stay.

Depart Vannes and sail in Golfe with overnight anchor or possibly up to Auray

Depart Golfe for La Trinite and pull out and de rig for trip home. Depart with view to arrive in ferry port with some time to spare – with or without overnight stay in service area.– probably night or early morning ferry back.

Arrive back in UK on Sunday refreshed and relaxed (we hope) to drive home.

Some people intend to stay on after the rally in France so the return and outward journeys may be somewhat scattered

## What are the Macgregors Owners Association Responsible or Liable for on this rally?

Nothing!

## What will you need to think about?

A boat – in good order with all the usual stuff.

A trailer in good order. Spare wheel and bearings are a useful addition.

Tyre pump and jack.

A tow car in good order and insurance for driving on the Continent.

Recovery insurance if you can get it!

Driving Licence

A GB or EU sticker for the trailer. Warning triangle & first aid kit

An anchor and chain/rope with lots of length

A dinghy (with or without outboard)

An ICC or some form of certificate to wave at the French if they ask for it. (not required for coastal sailing according to P.B.O)

A VHF and a licence for it, and an operators licence is a good idea.

Passports.

Insurance – you will probably need to get your boat insurance endorsed to cover the area, some Insurance Co's will charge, some may not. Insurance for people too!

VAT receipts for the Boat showing VAT has been paid.

Charts of the area.

Ferry tickets for Car, Boat and people.

Some Euro's to spend.

Someone who can sail (or motor) the boat.

A French courtesy flag and somewhere to stick it / hang it  
(Starboard spreaders is good!!!).  
A radar reflector  
An anchor light  
BBQ's  
Swimming gear  
Water Ski's and Lifejackets.  
A means of navigating.  
Lock or wheel clamp for the trailer  
Flares (preferably in date)  
High visibility jackets in the car for ALL occupants  
A sense of humour is also useful and expected!

## What can you expect?

A brilliant break (weather permitting), some good sailing, some exciting new waters and places to see, some very fast (but not usually dangerous) tides – up to 11 knots in very small areas at Springs! And most of all some Mac camaraderie and friendship.

If you think this sounds like fun then

please contact me ASAP with the following info.

By phone 015394 32340 or email –  
[enquiries@englishlakesbackpackers.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@englishlakesbackpackers.co.uk)

We have 5 boats intending to travel at the moment –please do join us!

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Name\_\_\_\_\_

Address\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_Post code\_\_\_\_\_

Tel No day\_\_\_\_\_Evening\_\_\_\_\_

Mobile\_\_\_\_\_

Boat name and type\_\_\_\_\_

Expected arrival day in La Trinite\_\_\_\_\_

Do you want to form a Convoy on the ferry/ French roads Yes/No

Preferred departure port from UK\_\_\_\_\_

Ferry costs!! Probable=

Dover-Calais about £140 Portsmouth/Bournemouth/etc – Cherbourg/  
Le Harve/etc about £400 – 600 (return costs - at the moment)

Ferry club fares and big groups may get reductions!!!!

We have booked two people and a 4X4 and boat etc on

Portsmouth / st Marlo return, cabin out, chairs back for £530.00

Now added a third person too.

See below for the 2006 rally write up

# FRANCE 2006

## Macgregor rally Golfe du morbihan

After a very relaxed tow across France 'Humbug' met up with 'Jack Sound' and 'Avocet' at La Trinite Marina in Western Brittany on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> June. The 3 boats were duly rigged and launched without incident and we all took visitors berths at La Trinite Marina for two nights while the remaining boats arrived. We were very sorry to learn that 'Hera' would not be joining us due to serious illness and were unable to contact Bruckless. However 'Rocky Racoan' arrived and launched on Saturday while the first 3 boats were all testing things (fishing lines, stern mounted gas BBQ's etc!) off La Trinite. After a discussion of those present we decided to head off for Suzon on Bell Ile on Sunday.

**Sunday** we duly departed at about 1030 in very light winds. We spent a morning of drifting and power sailing taking us through the Passage de la Teignouse where the wind picked up and steadied allowing us all to get our multicoloured sail things out for a very pleasant 10 nm reach to Suzon.

We picked up 'Visitors buoys' inside the harbour – which dries at low tide. The village of Suzon is a lovely place to arrive and stay in and we were all greatly amused and assisted by the harbour master who insists on riding his small 'rib' like a surf board between boats in the moorings.

The evening was spent at 2 very good hostelrys in the village, we had a horse at the next table to us in the 'Village locals bar!'

Monday Jack Sound and RR decided to head back across the sea to Port Maria on Quiberon while Avocet and Humbug stayed in the vicinity of Bell Ile for the day. Avocet set out and entered a charming cove called Port du Vieux- just around the corner from Suzon – to return to Suzon Later in the afternoon. Humbugs crew went off for a day walking, ended up hiring bikes, getting very wet and having to dry off in the tourist info office in Le Palais. However the sun came out and all was very pleasant after lunch.

Meanwhile Jack Sound and RR had a very spirited sail and motor to Quiberon as the very light winds turned very strong and very wet! Both arrived safe but had much clothing hanging out to dry afterwards.

On handing back our bikes and returning to Humbug we were pleased to see a slightly damp crewed Bruckless on the next pair of mooring buoys. Having left their mobile at home they had followed the original program hoping to catch us up. Soon afterwards Avocet returned and much chatting followed.

**Tuesday** saw all boats heading towards the Morbihan for a pre arranged rendezvous off Ile Longue.

Despite light and fickle winds and a 20 nm + trip RR, Jack Sound and Humbug manage to all arrive off the entrance of the entrance to the Morbihan within 10 minutes of each other.

We picked up 2 buoys between the 5 boats and found a nice beach nearby for a BBQ.

On turning in for the night we experienced the next best thing to sleeping in a washing machine! As the tide turned our perfectly quiet mooring was exposed to the edge of the famous Morbihan tide rips and we were very glad to be securely fastened to a good sized buoy. Tide rips of up to 11 knots can be experienced in the Golfe and several times we were making 9 knots through the water just to hold ground during our stay.

**Wednesday** say the group head off in all different directions around the Golfe (some like Avocet blissfully reading 4 knots on the GPS only to find out that they were doing 4 knots backwards) with an agreement to meet up in Auray for the night. Bruckless set off without her dinghy and much to our amusement discussed this with RR and Jack Sound on the radio.

In due course we all arrived in Auray which is a delightful - not to be missed town if you are in the Golfe.

We all had a wonderful meal at one of the old town restaurants and a lengthy discussion on awarding the 'green ball' which of course we could not do as our immediate past Commodore still has it.

**Thursday** saw Avocet heading high up the Golfe for a night off Ile de Boedig, and Bruckless, Jack Sound, RR and Humbug all back at Auray after an eventful day sailing, swimming and sunbathing around Ile aux Moines. Torril had to endure yet another football match before being allowed to celebrate her Birthday that evening!

I demonstrated just how quickly self inflating lifejackets blow up while picking up our buoy on the Auray trolleys.

**Friday** Bruckless departed for her base in Brittany leaving just the 4 of us. There were murmuring amongst some crews about showers and finger berths for the night so most made their way to Port du Crouesty for the night while Humbug headed up the Golfe to 'Pen er men' for a buoy for the night.

**Saturday** saw all boats heading back out of the Golfe and round to La Trinite where we made arrangement to slip the boats -RR on Saturday and Jack Sound and Humbug on Sunday morning at high tide. Avocet's crew was swapped on Saturday and Bill stayed on for a few extra days in the area.