

Jumping ships – By Camilla

For as long as I can remember, traveling and cruising has been a constant background to everything that has happened in my life. I grew up in Sweden, hearing my parents dream of their next **sailing** adventure, and seeing the hard work they put in to make it **come true**. When I was just a little kid, my dad started building our first boat – Nausikaa – right in our backyard. In the summer of 2004, after over six years of saving and hard work, the boat was finally finished and we **set sail** for a year in the Mediterranean. Me and my brother Joakim were in elementary school at the time, so we spent our days traveling through the channels of Europe while learning all about the great and terrible things that had **taken place** in the countries we were traveling through. Such an amazing way to learn!

Once finally in the med, we realized this part of the world wasn't actually ideal for cruising. Things were quite expensive and it was getting colder by the day, so we decided to make a turn for the Caribbean! Even though I was only ten at the time, I'll never forget the feeling of accomplishment we all had as we approached Barbados after our first **Atlantic crossing**. Having never been to any tropical place before, I was completely **blown away** by all the smells, the blue water, the palm trees and the white sandy beaches. It felt like arriving in paradise, a place I had only seen in movies and pictures! Everywhere you went on the island there were massive speakers blasting reggae **Christmas carols**, and in every direction there was something new and exciting to look at. This was a huge contrast to the wet cold winter that was happening in Sweden at that exact time.

My father and I have played chess every Sunday **for as long as I can remember**.
(My father and I have played chess every Sunday for a very long time)

I want to go **sailing** again.
(I want to travel on a boat again)

One day, all of your dreams will **come true**.
(One day, all of your dreams will become reality)

We **set sail** in South Africa and spent ten days at sea.
(We started our boat trip in South Africa and spent ten days at sea)

Where did it **take place**?
(Where did it happen?)

This is our third **Atlantic crossing**.
(This is the third time that we cross the Atlantic Ocean)

She was **blown away** by the beauty of that place.
(She was mesmerized by the beauty of that place)

I like to sing **Christmas carols** with my sister.
(I like to sing Christmas songs with my sister)