

## Title: Sailing from Tonga to New Zealand: Episode 249 Highlights

### 1. Crew and Journey Information:

- Crew consists of Colin, Brit, Katie, Jamie, and four friends from New Zealand.
- Sailing from Tonga to New Zealand, a 1000-mile journey.
- Concerns about crossing the southern latitudes with potentially gnarly weather.

### 2. Preparations and Departure:

- Departing from Tonga for New Zealand with a crew of eight.
- Emotional farewell to leaving the dogs in Tonga due to New Zealand's ban on pit bulls.
- Safety briefing conducted before departure due to potential serious dangers ahead in the journey.

### 3. Sailing Conditions and Challenges:

- Facing rough seas and 25-30 knots of wind during the journey.
- Difficulties sleeping amidst challenging conditions.
- Highlight of catching a large fish during the voyage.

### 4. Arrival at Minerva Reef:

- Arrival at Minerva Reef, a submerged atoll.
- Engaging with locals and finding a safe spot to anchor.
- Lobster hunting around the reef, encountering difficulties due to prior raiding.

### 5. Final Thoughts and Teasers:

- Challenges encountered at Minerva Reef and lobster hunting.
- Teaser for part two of the journey facing a cyclone formed around Fiji.

Stay tuned for the next episode to discover how the crew navigates challenges and continues their

journey to New Zealand amidst unpredictable weather conditions.