

1. **Sailing Condition:**

- Sailed from the Cook Islands to Tonga, facing 4 meter seas and 30 knots of wind.
- Decision to sail straight to Tonga due to rough conditions at Beverage Reef.
- Experience of rough weather, twisting boat motions, high winds, and challenging sea state.

2. **Location:**

- Sailed 800 miles from the Cook Islands to Tonga.
- Tonga's busy anchorage, deep at 100 ft requiring 300 ft of chain.
- Tonga cleared at Clarence dock, friendly reception by Tongan people.

3. **Problems & Fixes:**

- Boat faced twisty motions, autopilot strain, potential risks of breaking in rough conditions.
- Last-minute change of plans from stopping at Beverage Reef to heading straight to Tonga.

4. **Anchorage & Marinas:**

- Anchored in Tonga's crowded anchorage, secured a mooring ball thanks to a follower.
- Challenges of limited moorings due to high demand from boats seeking shelter.

5. **Safety Measures:**

- Used two reefs in the main sail to handle rough weather conditions.
- Experience of feeling scared due to intense wave motions, challenges of staying safe in adverse conditions.

6. **Routes & Travel Experience:**

- Sailed over 6,000 miles since Mexico, making Tonga the next destination before New Zealand.
- Crossing the International Date Line and adjustments in days and time schedules.

7. **Cultural & Festivities:**

- Anticipation of participating in Tongan Regatta, a festival with cultural nights and barbecues.
- Welcoming Tonga's festivities and events, engagement with local customs and celebrations.