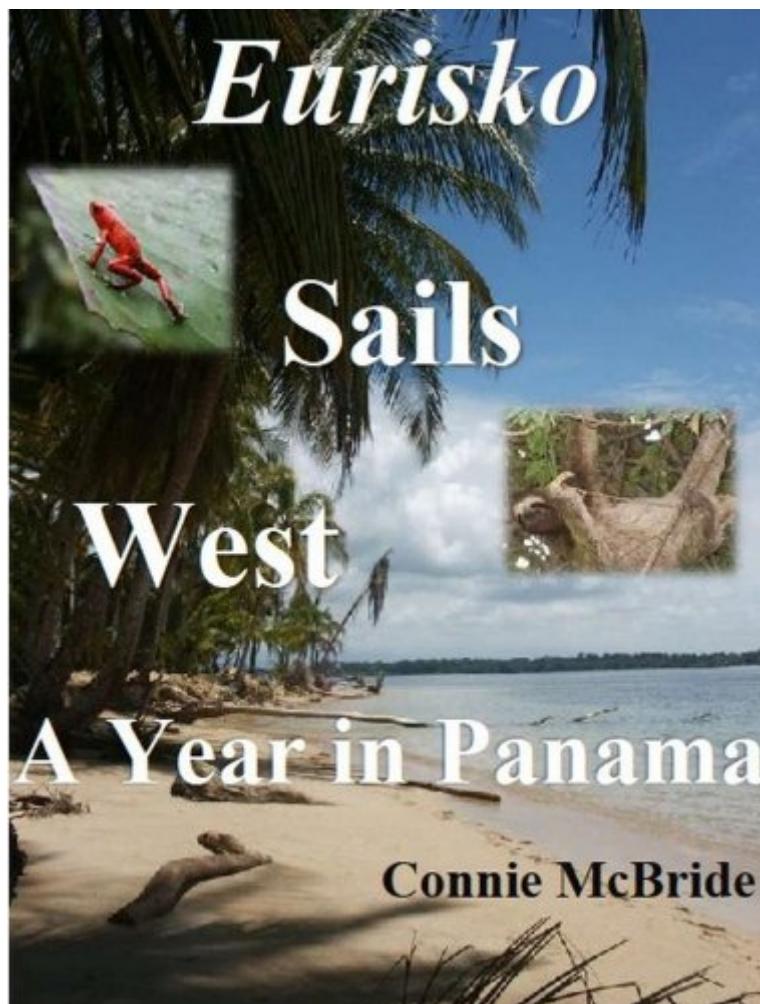


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# Eurisko Sails West: A Year In Panama



## Synopsis

As the turquoise glow of Round Reef faded and the island became a ship's outline, anchored, promising to be there if we ever needed to come home, I said a silent goodbye. Beneath the nervousness was a bit of heartache, too. Leaving home is never easy, even when it is what you want most in the world. After exploring the Eastern Caribbean for several years on their 34-foot Creekmore, Connie McBride, her husband, and their 16-year-old son sailed away from their adopted home of St. Croix, west across the Caribbean to Bocas del Toro, Panama. What they found there will delight the reader as the archipelago comes alive in *Eurisko Sails West: A Year in Panama*. Howler monkeys, red frogs, and sloths in the jungle are accompanied by a symphony of parrots, oro pendula, toucans, and macaws. But Panama has more to offer this family than jungle. Coral reefs, deserted beaches, and surf are all within an easy daysail. Local Indians in dugout canoes paddle or sail past, offering fish and lobster. A group of Indian children admire their Christmas tree, and in exchange for an impromptu Spanish lesson, the McBride's share their fish catch with the children's 13 family members. After a few months of exploring Bocas del Toro, the family travels inland. Costa Rica offers not only adventure, cloud forest, and black sand beaches, but also unforeseen complications. The Panamanian mountain town of Boquete becomes their base for climbing the country's highest point: Volcan Baru. And David, Panama's third largest city, is both an escape from the outpost town of Bocas and the family's salvation during an emergency. But it is the people they meet during their stay in Panama that enrich their lives. Removed from his friends, girlfriend, and island he calls home, their guitar-playing surfer son, struggling to grow up in a country whose language he barely speaks, becomes a favorite playmate of the Indians from the local village. He teaches them sports and card games; they teach him how to open a coconut with a machete, the importance of cultural differences, and tolerance. Far from a cruising guide or a travel log, *Eurisko Sails West: A Year in Panama* is an experience, a family adventure that allows the reader to explore the beauty and challenges of sailing and living in rural Panama. When a medical emergency prevents them from leaving the country, decisions become more difficult and have shocking consequences. Neighbors who had become friends transform into rescuers, and in the end, we are all reminded of the importance of appreciating life and those we share it with, wherever we may be. With over 30 color pictures, *Eurisko Sails West* is a delight to the eyes, and the story of this family's adventures and struggles in response to the unexpected is a treat for the soul.

## Book Information

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## **Customer Reviews**

I didn't really want to finish this book, somehow it felt like ending a vacation. It took me through all the emotions, jealousy of course (I want to sail the islands!) awe listening to you describe the night skies and beautiful beaches, the chill days and the silent nights on watch. From the rising concern for Dave to the chapters where you had to carry so very much on your tiny shoulders, on a freaking island to boot. I loved it all. Your love of your family and adventure shines through. I know that, without a doubt, I've experienced something I'm not going to get to be able to repeat in my own life and I thank you for taking me on that trip. And it didn't hurt that halfway through I got my own little tour of Eurisko! Now, I really want to read about the year after you sailed away for the first time....oh and that cook book! Tiene cookies?

Another great read by Connie McBride. After reading her first book "Simply Sailing," I had high hopes for "Eurisko Sails West." All expectations were met. The author immediately gains and maintains the reader's attention throughout the entire story with tales of adventure in Panama and the day to day realities of the cruising lifestyle. It's hard to believe this story is non-fiction! When the captain faces a serious injury, the crew is left caring for him and getting him the treatment he needs

to survive. The author's gripping account of this ordeal is rife with emotion and puts the reader right there in the hospital room with them. I could not put the book down for want of finding out exactly what happened next even though I knew the final outcome. Excellent story that is also full of tons of helpful cruising advice. Can't wait for Connie's next one...

The book offers a detailed account of one family's one year visit to Panama while living on a small sailboat. Connie, the author, details experiences with different cultures, anchorages and customs. Included is short journey to Costa Rica to visit a son. The author points out distinct differences between the people of Panama and of Costa Rica. Lastly, an insight is provided due to the necessary back surgery for the skipper. The whole ordeal leaves one realizing how great our medical care is in the U.S. in relation to that offered in third world countries. A pleasant, easy read that is informative and interesting.

What a book! What a trip! What a Life! It was written as if I got to sail along with her and the Dave's on Eurisko. Anyone can go to Panama and hang out, but this is their life! read this book if you want to know a different way to travel and really experience what life has to offer (nobody said it would be easy). After reading her book "Tips, Tricks and Tales," I had high hopes for "Eurisko Sails West. "Connie did not let me down". Connie has a way of gaining and maintaining your attention throughout the entire story with tales of the day to day realities of the sailing lifestyle. Excellent story that is also full of helpful sailing advice. Keep up the good work...

Absolutely loved the book! Would recommend it to any sailor, wanna-be sailor, or anyone who enjoys a great adventure story. When I read the last page, I wanted to know "what happened next?" I read the entire book in 2 days. Few books keep my attention long enough to finish them that fast. Look forward to reading Connie's other books.

Worthless tale, not interesting, she is a loud mouth. Her other books were interesting, this had nothing but everyday experiences. Waste. Tale at end tells she causes stress and is a grudge holder. Even while living her prima doÃƒÂ a ways. Won't go diving except over back of dinghy

SUSPENSE....LOVE....STRENGTH AND ADVENTURE ----- outline this read to a "T". You will be caught up in the daily life of a family on the move sharing with them adventure and life saving decisions . Experience first hand the emotions and strength needed to survive. LOVED IT!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

you feel like your part of the family ,the Daves are lucky guys ,despite the medical issues and the foreign doctors this family managed to overcome all. Wish there were more pictures.Connie is a cruiser without question and her writing is superb.

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