

Viking Explorers Rally 2021

Seven boats departed the Canary Islands bound for Grenada on January 9th in the fourth Viking Explorers Rally, arriving 18 to 20 days later. Crews were from Sweden, Norway, Australia, Spain, New Zealand, England, Italy, Canada, Bermuda and Argentina.

Organizer Oliver Solanas Heinrichs says, "This event has been very special this year, with a pandemic, a named storm just before the departure, and canceled flights that affected not only participants but also the organization, which had to be as flexible as possible." Tracking the boats this year was crucial to provide proof to authorities that no boat had stopped on its way. Boats were monitored not only by



the onshore tracking team, but also by the Seven Seas Cruising Association and Boat Watch. Sailors experienced a fast crossing with tradewinds of 18 to 25 knots most of the time and, to the surprise of many, no boat experienced any squalls or other adverse weather.

After arriving in Grenada, crews enjoyed the island's rainforests, waterfalls and anchorages before the traditional welcome ceremony and the fun prizegiving organized within the latest existing health protocols.

Visit www.vikingexplorersrally.com for more information.