

PROVISIONING FOR A CRUISE

LSYC Cruise Week is an annual event that brings members and their families together to cruise Lake Erie waters, explore its ports of call, and add to their lockers full of “live aboard lore.” Some of their shared practical provisioning hints follow.

This information was borrowed from Foods Afloat, our LSYC cookbook. More information on provisioning is available in the cookbook. It is designed to be user-friendly so remember to take it with you.

Cooling & Food Storage

Use block ice whenever possible.

You can make these at home using milk cartons or two liter pop bottles. When they melt you have water to use.

Lengthen ice life. Freeze juice boxes and water bottles. To prevent dehydration have enough non-alcoholic beverages for all on board. Pack cooler or icebox for minimal openings. Put beer & pop in a different cooler.

Freeze meats at home, and then pack frozen on boat. Keep meat as close to ice source as possible. Freeze food in meal-sized portions.

Plan your meals. Use fresh ingredients first, save non-perishables for later. Don't forget seasonings for your meals.

Ship to Shore

Having a dinghy makes going ashore to picnic a great adventure. Don't forget your beach walkers* and remember to take along...

Tablecloths, wire brush for on-shore grill, better yet bring a portable grill, lighter fluid & charcoal or propane tank. Camping chairs, beach towel, blankets, backpack, small beverage cooler, wet naps and paper plates and garbage bags for easy picnic clean up.

When hiking in tall grass, or sitting on shore under a shady tree, beware of ticks and chiggers, one you'll see, the other you probably won't. But you'll feel them both, later.

Added Cruise Comfort

Other items to take with you...

First aid kit, sun screen for body and lips, hat, clamp-style umbrella for shade, fans, insect repellent, flashlight, Kleenex, camping lamp or oil lamp, blankets, sleeping bags, sheets and extra pillow cases, towels, soap, a supply of quarters for on-shore showers, clothes pins to hang your wet items on life lines, clothing for all types of weather, foul weather gear (even if the “prediction” is for perfect weather). Consider a mesh type tee shirt for cool sun protection.

Keep your LSYC membership card onboard or in your wallet. Check the club reciprocity board before you leave and know which stops offer showers and pools. Don't forget, Boat US members get dockage and pump-out discounts at many marinas.

Galley Equipment

Propane burner, extra tanks, wood matches, butane grill lighter, electric extension cord

one sharp knife, cutting board

Large serving bowl (on-shore potluck), plastic mixing bowl, colander, serving tray

Frying pan and lid, sauce pan and lid, tea kettle, percolator coffee pot, thermos Unbreakable dishes, mugs and glasses, flatware, and plastic "to-go" cups

assorted size zip loc bags, aluminum foil

Utensils, large fork, spatula, tongs (use metal for grilling), slotted spoon, large serving spoon, can opener, corkscrew, potato peeler, ice pick or screwdriver, scissors

If you don't want to do dishes, use all paper and plastic.

You never know when a potluck might happen, so plan ahead and store the ingredients on your boat.

Easy Meal Ingredients

Shakable pancake mix and syrup

Canned potatoes, pasta sauce & noodles, pasta can be precooked

Hard-boiled eggs Canned meats, Dinty Moore Beef Stew

Boil-n-bag rice, dehydrated dressings & soups, salad toppers, canned or boxed milk, non-dairy or powdered creamer

One of the greatest adventures comes at Happy Hour when two or three boat visitors turn into 10 people and you are making unexpected appetizers out of boat stock... cream cheese and crackers or corn chips combined with jams, chutneys, or fruited salsas can save the day

Ships Bar

You can never have enough wine. Pinot Grigios and Chardonnays for the warm days (both stand up well over ice), Merlots and Cabernets for that grilled steak in the evening

For the liquor locker, buy and re-label plastic liter bottles for your favorite hard stuff.