



Transatlantic Voyage...



Three of AMC Group's employees, Jacques Pierret, Sune Storebjerg and Christophe Pierret, have set out to cross the Atlantic from New York to Marseille (port de l'Estaque).

Turning back the clock:

Pilgrim is a catamaran 11,60 m long by 6 m wide. Building began in June 2005 on a farm called Pilgrim Farm in Middletown, New Jersey.

Built in plywood and epoxy (West System) on James Wharram plans (<http://wharram.com/index.php>), it is a Tiki 38 model. We launched it in June 2010.

James Wharram, has been designing catamarans since the 1960s. His designs are inspired by the ethnic craft of the Pacific Islands and he uses several principles on the shape, rigging, material and assembling.

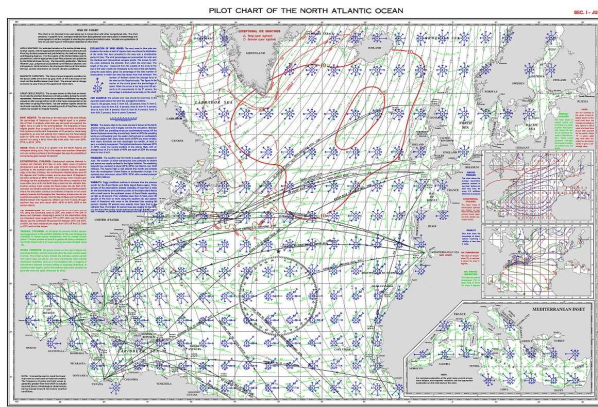
The result is surprising: very light (3 metric tons), the boat is fast (Pilgrim easily reaches 15 knots), comfortable but obviously very minimalist. It is a design philosophy and this is not the type of boat that we see very often moored off our coasts.



All three of us have worked in differing degrees on the construction and this crossing represents the result of our efforts.

Two other members will join the crew. We have carefully prepared this voyage as it is a first for all of us. The list of essential equipment to be bought is the outcome of weeks of searching the Internet. From safety to electronic equipment, hopefully nothing has been forgotten.

The crossing should last 3 weeks, leaving NY on 11th June with an estimated arrival in Marseille on 2nd July (we are all back to work on 4th July!). There are 3500 nautical miles (6500 km) to cover. An average of 7 knots is needed, which is quite high.



To gain time and thanks to a friend, we will have the assistance of a route planner on land who will give us the best positions in relation to the weather conditions. Pierre Lasnier is a professional route planner who works for the yachting industry and also for sailors such as Florence Arthaud, Michel Desjoyaux ...

Based in Puget sur Argens, we will be in regular contact with him via an iridium satellite phone. Pierre will help us gain 4 or 5 days easily.

Moreover, if a storm brews up, he will see it long before us and guide us round it.

We have invested in a SPOT beacon which will emit our position regularly via satellite.

By letting us go, AMC Group has allowed us to make our dream come true and we are pleased to invite you to our arrival in l'Estaque, theoretically on 2nd July.

This kind of voyage can't obviously be planned exactly like a train journey, so we will inform you of our arrival when we can.

Jacques Pierret

