

RECOMMENDED NAVIGATION APPROACH TO THE ESSEQUIBO RIVER MOUTH

CHART ADM. #527:

Mud flats begin approx. 18NM offshore.

Keep offshore to avoid unmarked piles, sunken pontoons and other obstructions.

Until Way Point SL1, Long. 058 10' West Lat. 070 15' N

Then head to Essequibo light (Now only a green bouy - sometimes missing - unlighted).

At Way Point ESS 1, Lat. 07 01.4' N Long. 058 11.9' W

Then head directly to waypoint Ess 2 - 06 57' N, 058 16' W.

CHART ADM. # 533:

This line safely clears the S.W edge of "blue jacket bank" to the east of you.

Then to waypoint Ess 3, 06 54.5' N, 058 20' W.

CHART ADM. #2782:

(Essequibo River - Leguan Island to Mamarikuru Island)

From Ess 3, head to the Government Transport & Harbours Stelling at Parika.

At Parika, Lat. 06 51.9' N Long. 058 25.5' W. From Ess 3 to Parika is approx. 6NM. Look out for fishing seines only visible by their small flotation bouys. Close the western bank when still .5NM from Parika to avoid bank just N.W off Parika and pass close to Parika Stelling.

Proceed about a ¼ mile up river to anchor off Roden Rust Mariner. Identifiable by a wooden jetty out into the river with small raised platform at end. Anchor about 30 yds off the end of jetty. Roden Rust is located on Admiralty Chart 2782 (1929), not a GPS reading.

06 50.3 N
058 27.4 W

The owner of the Mariner is Cleo Da Silva (phone # 624-9139 or 663-2607 or 617-2430). You can arrange for him to take you on shore.

The ideal approach up river is to depart Roden Rust to motor up river at early morning (06:00) when the tide is high at the bar at about 04:00. High tide at Roden Rust is approximately 1 hr after high tide at the bar. You will, therefore, motor up river on a rising tide. Averaging about 4 knots, you will approach Bartica on a high tide . You should make anchor at Baganara or your chosen anchorage in the Bartica area at about 16:00 hrs or earlier.

You must clear Customs, Immigration and Health authorities within 24 hrs of arriving in Guyana. Its recommended that you clear into Guyana at Bartica after anchoring at Baganara or at any other chosen anchorage within the Bartica triangle (the confluence of the Essequibo, Mazaruni and Cuyuni Rivers. Three resorts, Baganara, Shanklands and Hurakabra provide for safe moorings or anchorages and supporting facilities (on shore bathrooms, food, water, laundry, garbage collection, swimming beaches, etc).

NOTE A:

On approach to the Essequibo mouth, many large posts will be seen. These are planted in the mud banks by fishermen.

Sufficient depths are usual off these banks - 12 - 15'.

It is strongly advised that approach to the Essequibo mouth is made on rising tide due to the location of banks changing in the mouth.

NOTE B:

Positions given are taken from the Adm. Charts. If using WGS 84, a small difference in Longitude will be noticed on approaching Parika.(WGS 84 will show you more to the East) as you are then navigating. Visually this should not prove significant.

NOTE C:

Guyana Tide Tables are published by the Transport & Harbours Department of Guyana.

NOTE D:

We have used imaginary Way points (i.e. TR 1-3, SL 1 and ESS 1 – 3) for these recommendations.

NOTE E:

Kit Nascimento, Managing Director of Public Communications Consultants Limited, is able to provide assistance to cruisers arriving in Guyana and is a Consultant to Evergreen Tours, who operate the Essequibo Baganara Resort.

On approaching Way point SL1, you should be able to make contact with the Guyana Lighthouse on VHF16 or SSB 8281.2. The Lighthouse at your request will relay messages to Kit Nascimento by phone and notify your ETA Roden Rust.

Kit Nascimento can be called directly on the following numbers: 226-0240 or 225-3557 or 640-4497.