

Setting Your Own Course

Louise, Sweden



Sailing has always been a part Louise Wennberg’s life. Although she grew up in Geneva, and practically lived on alpine peaks with skis on her feet, her family came to Sweden every summer for a little sailing in the Stockholm archipelago.

In 2007 Louise had the opportunity to sail a big boat, a 65-footer that was going from Gothenburg to Scotland. Everything went well, and if anything, her love for sailing and the sea grew even deeper. She went back to Sweden and worked for a few months before she joined the boat again in Cape Verde. It was then and there, entering the Mindelo harbor, that the dream of sailing around the world suddenly came to Louise. She saw all the different flags on the boats and felt that this was the best way to discover the world.

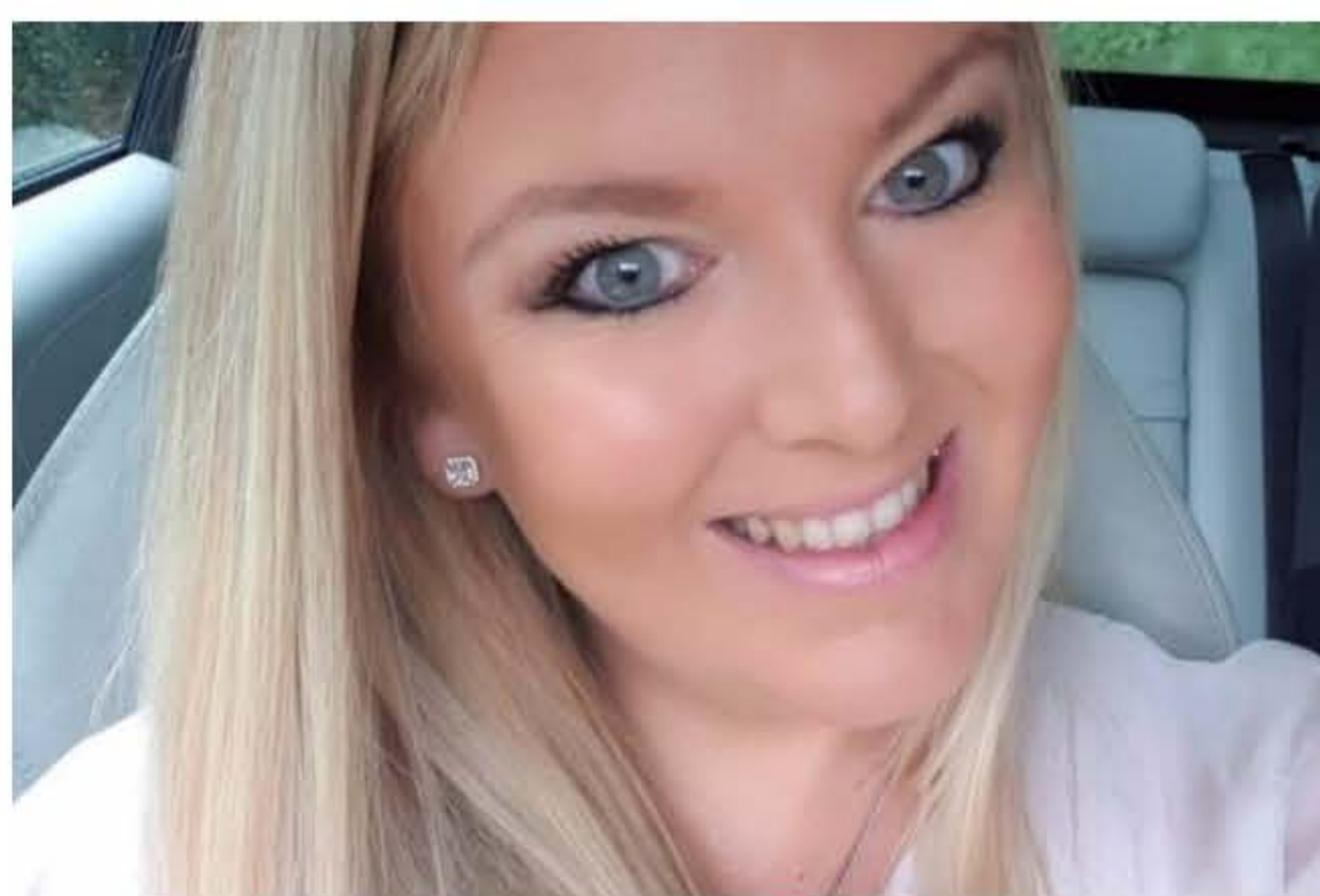
Half a year later she met Jörgen who also had a dream of sailing across the Atlantic. In 2014, that dream became reality. Through the World ARC cruising club, they sailed along with 225 other boats across the Atlantic. For them it was all about safety and security not sailing by themselves. Joining a cruising club you always have help close by if anything should happen, not to mention the social part. You socialize and meet new people from all over the world. The first stage went to St. Lucia in the Caribbean. Then we went on to Fiji, via Australia, Indonesia, South Africa and back to Cape Verde again. The whole trip took about two years to complete.

For Louise and Jörgen it was first and foremost, the freedom that drew them in. And the challenge of course. They found it to be incredibly exciting and enriching, all the different countries, cultures, and people. They have made friends all over the globe, a wonderful mix of people - a bit like Forever.

The biggest challenge the couple faced was when they sailed alone in Polynesia. There are long distances between the islands, and tropical winds with hurricane strength drew in. The winds were unpredictable and would suddenly change direction. It was only the two of them, and they needed to sleep from time to time and in those moments, you were on your own. Louise remembers it as quite terrifying. They made it through, but with minor damages to the boat and an even greater respect for the sea. During the entire trip Louise could work with Forever. With today’s technology you don’t have to meet in person in order to have contact and follow up. Louise hopes that her life choices can inspire others to believe in their dreams and invest in them.

Had it not been for Forever, she would not have been able to have a fixed income during her travels. Louise says she had probably sailed anyway but would have been dependent on Jörgen. Now she feels she can really say that she is an Independent Forever Business Owner. Being free."

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