

Round White Island 2025 – Report

The race starts this Sunday, April 6th at 12 p.m. I'm really tempted, but I know I won't be available after Monday noon. I do an initial routing which indicates an arrival on Monday, but at the end of the afternoon.

Wise, not wise, do I launch myself? Or do I stay in port? Come on, I am launching myself with the goal of reaching White Island at the forefront. We'll see what happens next...

After a very poor start, my choices for the edge to Channel Island must be better since I arrive and round the island almost in the lead. A series of tacks with headwind followed to take us to White Island. The idea was to stay in the corridor where the winds were strongest.

I stay up late, prepare my night route by 22:30 (00:30 local time), and stay awake to go around White Island. At this point, my closest opponents are CriticalHippo and mac.

02:00 local time, the boat has finished going around the island, dodo (<<= untranslatable!).

06:30 well, more like 7:00, wake up (without the help of Mrs. Beaver – private joke). I don't see any changes in the weather forecast. I can go to breakfast in peace without any adjustments.

I spend the morning packing my luggage for my trip.

From 10h30 (12h30 local time), I carry out my last routing. I have one more tack left, the rounding of Channel Island, and the return to the finish. I set my DCs, with a small margin to get around Channel Island, and with no other option but to head straight ahead, setting a course for the finish. I get in the car and start driving.

No chance of holding on to first place, CriticalHippo is on my heels, maybe even ahead already, Freyja the same....

3 hours later, short break at a motorway service area. I take out my phone and try to watch the race, with no possibility of adjustment or intervention. CriticalHippo is in front, and I'm surprised to hold onto second place. There must be just over an hour of racing left.

In the evening, I arrive at my destination. I turn on the computer and, to my surprise, see my boat on the top step of the podium.

In summary, a very good race to Channel Island, especially from my direct rivals, CriticalHippo and Freyja, who came back well between White Island and Channel Island, ALP317 still in contact, Mirek came back from far away, mac who got a little lost. Thanks to them and bravo!

Then, between Channel Island and the finish, it was chance that decided and perhaps I should thank it too!