

## Marine GPS

We've all heard the stories of the sailors who navigated around the world by the stars and while celestial navigation is certainly a skill all sailors should have, sometimes you want something slightly more sophisticated and "twenty first century friendly." Now, thanks go Marine GPS, satellite navigation is no longer something used only by the Navy. Now there are plenty of Marine GPS devices on the market and while they are not cheap, they are worth the money that is spent on them.

Are you in search of a Marine GPS receiver? Here are a few that we found and thought looked like a good deal:

The Garmin GPSMAP 76 is affordable. This Marine GPS device has twelve channels and has gotten very good reviews from users. The screen is large, the software is user friendly and it has rubber grips on the back which, as any water enthusiast knows, is of utmost importance when going out on the open water. In addition to being a positioning device, this Marine GPS system also has tide and anchor drag charts.

The Magellan SporTrak Pro Marine GPS receiver is another good buy and you can find it for about five hundred dollars. Like the Garmin, this receiver has twelve channels and has fifteen megabytes of North American maps built right in. You can also store seventeen megabytes worth of maps for later exploring. It has enough memory for up to twenty routes and has information about the major tide stations as well as a fish and game calculator. This receiver is a "must bring" on any marine trip. Heck, it can even help you if you get lost while you are driving to the dock!

Obviously some Marine GPS systems are more sophisticated than others, but for the "casual" boat person, finding an affordable receiver is not hard. All it takes is a little bit of searching and before you know it; your own watercraft will have a Marine GPS device on board. No longer will you have to worry about not knowing where you are, when you get out on the open water. Now you will always know how to find your way home.

While navigating by the stars is certainly a romantic notion, if you find that you need help finding your way back to shore, you want the security that comes from satellite navigation and a Marine GPS device can give that to you.

## About the Author

Tim Gottschalk is a lifelong boater, and owner of several boating sites, including Saltys Marine, which features [Marine Electronics](#) and [Handheld Marine GPS](#)

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