

## Panama Canal

Today is a special day, as we travel from one major ocean to another, via the Panama Canal. This operation takes us all of the day.

We enter the first of a series of locks from the Atlantic Ocean, which take us upwards to Lake Gatun. Our next leg is to travel around 80 miles across Lake Gatun to the locks which take us downwards into the Pacific Ocean.



Entering first lock in Panama canal



Entering last lock in Panama canal

Over 13,000 ships pass through the canal every year and every one pays an average of around £25,000 each, although as the toll is based on weight, the lighter ships fare better. In fact a swimmer in 1928 was charged just 36 cents for swimming the 50 miles from the Atlantic to the Pacific Oceans!

When we finally pass through the last set of locks the trip through the canal has taken around 12 hours, and we sail into the Pacific Ocean on our way to Ecuador.