

**Day 28 – One the beach in Phuket [Friday 18-Feb-2011]**

Had my alarm set for 4:30AM to get ready for a call with GSN back in Waltham but I just could not bring myself up, especially since my body thought it was 3:30AM. Oh well.



**Saving electricity: you must put your door key into slot to get electricity, including A/C**



**Super breakfast at Bodega guesthouse in Phuket, Thailand**



**Lilli at the tables of Bodega guesthouse in Phuket**

We enjoyed a great breakfast at the Bodega guesthouse. We had wonderful bacon/cheese sandwiches with coffee a la “Americano” (e.g, espresso coffee with a shot of milk).



**It’s winter back home in New Hampshire now. I can feel your pain .. ice in the mid 80s..**

After breakfast we headed out to the local big mall. It had not opened. But we realized that the area around it is quite big, with lots of stores.



**Our hostel is on a side street to this main drag in town**



**2011 is the Year of the Rabbit – Lilli is posing by a mall entrance in Phuket, Thailand**



**A very ornate Hindu god with many hands sits outside the shopping center**

There was a very ornate Hindu god figure sitting outside of the shopping mall. I tried asking the staff at the hostel about it, but they are all Muslims so they did not know.



**This is the street where crazy things happen in Patong Beach of Phuket, Thailand**





**It's nice to be one of the first one the beach. Definitely an evening party place.**



**These Thai boats are cool. A car engine with a propeller shaft directly attached**

While at the beach, we had great company from a couple next to us. They were Danes working on a US Air Force base on Greenland. They just had to leave the base's cold and dark winter every now and then for some warm weather. He was a doctor and she was a nurse. It was very interesting to listen to their stories.

Later in the morning we headed back to the shopping center to see if we could find the Carrefour that we found signs for earlier. They are a French competitor to Wal-Mart. We found it and stocked up on some goods.



**Lilli is standing next to the chairs we rented for the day: \$7 in total!**



**The place quickly fills up. Two miles of beach chairs with sun-bathers from all over**



**The water was warmer than Rangiroa's 84F**

All in all we enjoyed a great day on the beach. We headed back after 4PM, showered and headed down to the hostel's Happy Hour. One our way home we walked by one of many Swedish restaurants in town: Karlsson's. We checked the menu and they had all sorts of Swedish foods. They were a bit more expensive than we thought, but still well in line with what you'd pay in the US for good food.



**A stark reminder of how this town was affected by the big Tsunami of 2003**



**A night view of the reception at the Bodega guest house in Phuket**



**Backing off a bit and looking into Bodega guesthouse from the street**



**Dinner at Karlsson's Swedish restaurant in Phuket, Thailand**

We topped off the evening by going to a Swedish restaurant. The restaurant was full of Swedish people and it was an odd feeling to see and hear them this far away from Sweden.