

Day 30 – Hanging around Patong in Phuket [Sunday 20-Feb-2011]

We got up early to see the sunrise. It was not as great as the sun-set since this side of the peninsula is facing the west (better for sunset). Big cleanup crews were at work to neaten things up a bit for another day of partying. At one place we could see workers methodically go through all the trash bags and sort out all the recycle materials into piles.



What a party! Cleanup crews in Patong remove mounds of trash from last night



With the tide out, some locals use the quiet morning hour to harvest clams at the beach



As we walked back the hostel, I bought some large Chinese pork dumplings for breakfast



When the clubs close at 7AM, drunk white men roll out with their Thai “girlfriends”

On our way back to the hostel from our morning walk, I asked one of the white guys who just rolled out of a club if had had a good time. He did not seem too happy. But I am sure the girls were going “cha ching”. We saw several shemales leaving clubs and scurrying home for some rest before their next shift.

We called Merrimack, with Skype, in the morning. The connection had a mixed quality to it. At one point, we switched over from me calling a land-line at home to doing a direct Skype to Skype call. Karl turned on the video back home and we could see Dexter (our dog) looking into Karl's computer as he heard my voice coming out of it. He twisted and turned his head as if he trying figure out how it worked. I could see his tail wag back and forth when I talked.

While I worked on the diary, Lilli went down to the beach, to grab chairs for us. No news from my hosting provider about the status of the web site/account.



Like a rotating Sushi bar, there is a never ending stream of merchants at the beach

I joined Lilli a bit later. We enjoyed a really pleasant day at Patong Beach, reading our books and watching people. The water is nice and warm, of course. For lunch I brought down some light Thai fritters. We had Swedes on one side and Russians on the other side and a loud group of Italians beyond the Swedes. It is really very international at this beach and we like that mix a lot.

The service at our beach is very good. We relied on a different crew from yesterday. It cost us \$7 to rent a pair of lounge chairs with a parasol for the entire day. And the staff comes around every ½ hour to sweep sand off the mattress and to adjust the parasol to give us perfect shade. Ice cold beers were less than \$3/each, delivered! On Kata beach the lounge chairs were screwed together. Here we can take them apart and make them into regular chairs. I especially liked that for reading a book since my back does not agree with lying down all day.

Even though there is a never ending stream of merchants seeking your attention, they are quite courteous when it comes to reading your hints of disapproval. They just walk on to the next potential customers. Despite all that, we like Patong beach a lot. It is up our alley.



This middle eastern/Thai restaurant had hookahs at the tables, ready to use



Look at these prawns in hot Thai curry – very hard to turn down – which we didn't!



We saw these collapsible lights for sale in Sydney too. They are quite interesting.