

Day 49 – Diving and hiking in Guadeloupe [Friday 11-Mar-2011]

We got up early in the morning to head down for a dive. I first went down to the bakery to pick up some fresh bread. We ate breakfast at the bungalow and then headed over to the diving place. The boat took off just after 7:45AM.

At this morning dive we only had one master diver, so we all had to share. A morning dive like this has pluses and minuses. One of the great pluses is that it is not very stressed. We basically took our time to get ready.

The primary objective with the dive was to explore some hot vents on the bottom, along the north western side of Isle de la Pigeon, at about 17-20m depth. This ended up taking second seat to a listening to the calls from a passing school of Humpback whales. It was incredible. We could hear small and large individuals chatting with each other. They were probably a Km or so away, so we did not see them. But their chatter kept going at a fairly intense volume. It was almost magic.

Half way into the dive, one of the divers ran low on air. This forced the dive master to share his bottle with him and shorten the dive a bit; the original plan was for an hour, but we had to get up after 51 minutes. Later on I learned that the diver had gone down from 200Bar to 60Bar (where 50Bar is a safety limit) in only 28 minutes. Not sure what was going on there. I usually manage to go down to about 40-50Bar after one hour.



Lilli is back in the sun and sipping on a small cup of Planteur

After we were done with the dive we headed back to the bungalow to hang our diving gear up for drying. We also ate lunch and read about the dreadful tsunami that had hit Japan. After that, we headed for our hike near St Rose, along the north shore of Basse Terre.

The hike was fairly interesting, but they still have a way to go before they've taught everyone to not dump trash and cars at random places. Most of the hike was quite nice.



Along the beach walk near Pointe Nogent on the north shore of Basse Terre, Guadeloupe



A pelican circles above and then makes high speed dives straight into the water

When we stopped for lunch, we enjoyed a few Cuban oranges. They were not good at all. Yuck. If they lift the trade embargo with Cuba, watch out for oranges.



Pointe Allegre along a trail called “Sentier de Clugny Aux Amandiers”



We could not fit all the rum into our existing bags so we got this “Bar” coded bag



A small salad to start the dinner along with cold rose wine and some bubble water



We had the final dinner of this vacation at Le Palmaretum in Guadeloupe



There was no shortage of rum in the the Banane Flambe that we got for desert

We enjoyed a longer evening chat with the owner of Le Palmaretum, Clark.



Final evening packing madness