

Friday, November 27. 2009

### **Daily routine**

I've been asked what I'm doing all day. So here's a brief account of a very typical day on board of Vespina: I usually get up at half past six. Wash (cold water ;-), and then it's into the engine room: pump Diesel, check the engine oil, check the bilge, look for any leaks or loose fittings, cables, hoses etc. Have breakfast (tea, porridge, bread. Eggs every 2nd day), wash the dishes. Because the locks only open at 09:00 in the winter season, I can not always leave as early as I would like. So depending on the distance to the next lock I cast off between 08:00 and 08:45. Halfway to noon I usually give in to chocolate cravings (oh lovely Lindt!). When Hermann was still on board I made soup for lunch, now that I'm alone cooking is not possible unless I stop and it's bread and an apple or banana. Sometime in the afternoon I post my position via SPOT. And give in to more chocolate cravings . When I get bored at the rudder I do isometric exercises, take pictures, or listen to the radio. By five at the latest I have to be at my destination for the day, because then it gets too dark to navigate the narrow rivers. I check the batteries for charge and the bilge for any fluids. If there's a town around I go shopping for groceries, and then cook a nice meal. After dinner it's time for cleaning the boat and checking panels, closets and foodstuff for signs of moisture, mold, etc. Then I write another entry into the captain's log, sometimes the blog, and have a closer look at what tomorrow will bring. Around half past eight, nine at the latest, I'm dead tired, wash, and snuggle into my sleeping bag. Read a page or two and fall asleep. In fact, pretty much every day's like that. The only thing that varies is the number of locks and what's for dinner. As I wrote in an earlier post, it takes some getting used to. I had to align my perception of "progress" and "optimization" to the new situation. But now it's great fun, and also strangely satisfying.

Posted by Axel Busch in Vespina at 13:57