

Sunday, May 20, 2012

Life in Hakahau

What a lovely, protected, anchorage here in Hakahau. After three months of constant rolling it's so nice to be able to just put a cup of coffee or glass of water down and not having to hold on to it at all times. Big improvement as quality of life goes!

Kids jumping off the dock in the anchorage

At the beach, in the background the communal house. There is always a party going on and people bring their mattresses

The volcanic spires are the landmark of Ua Pou

The bakery with great baguette is helping, too. Every morning at 5:30 I pick up Andre on his boat E Capoe and we dinghy to shore, then walk the kilometer along the beach and up the main road. Back in the dinghy we distribute the bread among the five boats in the bay, and everybody is happy. One baguette is 66 Centimes, about 0,50 EUR.

The bakery. Come early, there is only one batch of bread

Merci pour le pain

Back on Gudrun I jump into the water for a swim and to clean the hull, before the sun rises over the mountains and it gets too hot. Until three we usually stay inside the boat, because it's too hot for us outside, then we walk through town, or visit other boats. Henry from Ashanti asked Liz what excellent sun-screen we are using, because we're not sun-burned at all. It's called "boat hull". No preservatives, and one package lasts forever. Not exactly cheap, though, and it doesn't fit into a backpack.

On our stroll through town yesterday we bought some fruit (Mango, Bananas) and a Tiki from a local artist, Tekohu. His full name is Tahiatututapu Norbert. We communicated with a mix of English and French, and he explained the meanings of all the carvings and wrote it into Liz's notebook. Tekohu has high hopes to sell a few more pieces on Wednesday, when the Aranui 3, a supply ship which is part cruise liner, arrives.

Liz and Tekohu, a local artist.

The church of Hakahau

The last two nights I had funny dreams about the boat. In one dream we had tied it to a dock. When we came back construction work on the dock had started, and the boat had been moved to the hallway of a house for protection. Unfortunately the mast was cut off to fit it. In another dream we took a flight somewhere, but ran out of fuel on the way back. The pilot landed on one of the islands with a military base where he could refuel, but after landing we learned that the base had been abandoned two days ago and there was no fuel for the airplane on the island.

No idea what the dreams mean, but I think we should get going to New Zealand. We've decided to stay here until my friends come with the cruise ship next week, then head for the Tuamotus and skip Nuku Hiva.

Posted by Axel Busch in Gudrun V at 13:24

Loved the book's recommended quantities! But I was definitely unclear on how you could transport tomatoes on a boat for weeks without them going bad. Hope you guys got it figured out! (Or just didn't buy 75 of them.) Root vegetables and staple grains I could surely see keeping, but some of that other stuff seemed mighty perishable! Okay, ending my lengthy comment since you won't see it

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weeks anyway Best of luck on this part of the journey!
Anonymous on Jun 17 2012, 21:59

Hello!Playa del Carmen, Mexico is great place to watch at bull sharks dnurig winter season, until the end of February. The Shark drop off is around 1 km from the coast line and at the white sand bottom (-40m) you can see many sharks. Be aware that it is quite strong bottom current (south to north along a coast line), so you have be Advanced Padi diver to visit the placel was diving with Scuba10 (very experienced and kind people) in Playa del Carmen in March och got real adrenalin rush in my blood//Alexandre from Sweden

Anonymous on Jun 18 2012, 04:16