

Friday, May 7, 2010

Feria del Caballo

Caballo y Caballero! This week Jerez celebrates the "Feria del Caballo" - the horse festival. Antonio said the festival is muy espectacular, and he invited me to go together with him. He left me his scooter in the Marina, and on Wednesday afternoon I drove to Jerez where we met at his office. The festival was indeed muy espectacular! The horses looked magnificent, and the carriages were beautifully adorned. I don't know a thing about horses, so the full beauty was probably lost on me, but I was very impressed nevertheless. Not only by the horses, but also by the people. The riders and the ladies especially. All the ladies had dressed up in special costumes, and everywhere there was singing, clapping and dancing going on. Check out the video! Thanks a lot to my host Antonio for showing me around and explaining everything. La Playa de la Caleta Hehe Thursday I had the scooter again, and went to have a look at the city of Cadiz, on the other side of the bay. Cadiz was originally founded by the Phoenicians 1100 BC. With over 3000 years it is the oldest continuously-inhabited city of all western Europe. The fact that the city is surrounded by Spain's most beautiful beaches might have had something to do with that. Columbus sailed from Cadiz on two of his voyages, and the city was the home port of the Spanish treasure fleet, which brought gold, spices and other valuables from the new world into Europe. The city's wealth made it a favorite target for Spain's enemies, particularly the English, who attacked and blockaded it many times. Most renowned is the raiding of the city by Sir Francis Drake in 1587. Cadiz is the same size as my home town Ulm. But due to its location, architecture and historical importance it feels very differently. Especially for a sailor. Unfortunately I was very tired today from all the partying at the Feria yesterday, so I had little energy for taking pictures. But it was too hazy for spectacular pictures anyway. Me, Bili, flying Waiter Antonio! In the evening I had dinner with Antonio again. Antonio is a very special man. He is a wonderful host and very generous - I can hardly move anymore because Vespina is laden with whole pallets of "Dwarf8". No idea how I have deserved that. But what strikes me most is his amazingly balanced personality. A guy like the sea. Amazing. Because I hang out so much with him and his friends my Spanish is also improving rapidly. A chat with friends is a much better motivator to learn a language than shopping or asking for directions.

Posted by Axel Busch in Vespina at 03:08

me gusta esta fiesta con la gente y el temperamento! Muy bien y hace buen tiempo !!!!! Caliente y sol.... aqui tenemos invierno!!!!!!
Saludos y abrazos Anke
Anonymous on May 7 2010, 04:25