

## 2019 Martinique, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines

### Saturday, January 19

Arrived at Le Marin and put our gear on board of Vivaneau at Corail Caraïbe. Deb, Kevin and Kim went directly to the Simply Market. Didn't find everything there, so bought all the water, beer (heavy stuff), and decided that Kim and Deb would walk up to the Leader Price to get the rest. We bought baguettes, but better to wait until the next morning and get them at the bakery. Kevin hauled everything back to the boat in the store's two wheeled cart and then had to return the cart to the store. Dinner out at Ti Toques for our favorite dinner of two pizzas and a salad.

### Sunday, January 20

Deb and Kim walked back to Simply Market to buy matches and a lighter (which we returned at the end of the trip) and stopped at Douceurs Marinoises Boulangerie/Pâtisserie to buy Pain au Chocolat. Walked back and to the Marché Couvert to buy mangoes and baby bananas. Walked along the beach and saw a Yole Boat regatta/festival starting up <http://martinicaonline.com/gommiers-yoles-martinique> and then walked up to the Église Saint-Étienne du Marin, which was preparing for the Sunday service. Underway by 10:30am for a long sail to our favorite stop on St. Lucia, Pitons Bay, arriving at 5pm. Bought mangoes and grapefruit from the local who visited our boat. Lunch: baguette with cheeses/smoked salmon. Dinner: grilled steak/fried potatoes with onion/salad with cucumber and tomatoes/baguette.

### Monday, January 21

Left the Pitons early for a long sail to the Blue Lagoon on St. Vincent. Crew felt a bit sea sick – Dramamine all around. Managed showers with warm water in a bucket because fresh water pump was broken. Lunch: ham and cheese sandwiches. Dinner: grilled chicken breasts/rice and quinoa mix/salad with cucumber and carrots.

### Tuesday, January 22

Short sail to Admiralty Bay/Port Elizabeth on Bequia (Bek-Way – means Island of the Clouds in ancient Arawak). Destination decided on because we needed new water pump and didn't want to do three long sail days in a row. Scrapped the plan to sail all the way to Grenada. Arrived 2pm. Volker checked us in and we waited for Kerry's Marine Services (quick response and repair, new fresh-water pump for EC900 plus labor for EC500 – all later on repaid by charter company). Deb, Kim and Kevin had shore adventure. First met Kevin from Mac's Pizza and Kitchen who gave some advice on where to go. Went to Doris' and the bank to get EC. Took a taxi to the Oldhegg Turtle sanctuary. Talked with a local kid who told us his views on life. Walked back to Sugar Reef resort for a drink. Locals raking up sargassum seaweed on beach. Walked back to town followed by stray dog Rusty. Walked by a school in session - noisy. Stopped at Doris' and the other local grocery store to top off supplies. Happy hour on the boat followed by dinner at Mac's. Great tuna and mahi entrees, not so great conch fritters and meatball appetizers. Bring mosquito spray next time – Deb and Kim were itching like crazy. Local cat gave Kevin a paw massage in the lap area.

### Wednesday, January 23

Bought fresh banana bread and baguette from boat vendor (didn't negotiate and paid a lot). Sailed four hours to Chatham Bay on Union Island. Lots of beach BBQ places, but we were waiting for Mayreau for that. Great snorkeling with huge schools of fish. Saw golden spotted eel, spider crab, porcupine fish, turtle, squid, electric ray. Deb and Kim hiked to the top of the ridge (Shown the way to the path by a local who was not a robber and not a raper). Nice view of other side of island and of Chatham bay. Saw land tortoises and were met by cows coming up the road. Afraid of a bull we saw going back down the

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trail. Lunch: baguette with cheeses and pasta salad. Dinner: grilled hamburgers with blue cheese/Caesar salad.

### Thursday, January 24

Sailed around the island to Clifton and moored near the reef with views of Happy Island (a bar resting on a man-made pile of conch shells), Palm Island and Clifton. Lots of Kite surfers, including a Kite Surfing show at Happy Island near sunset. We ALL went in to Clifton to have a look around. Many grocery stores, none that great. Bought gin, tonic, tequila, baguette at local bakery, fruit at the fruit market square. Lunch: BLT. Dinner: grilled steak. Honestly can't remember exactly what we ate that day. Major problem with the Genoa Furler. Under load the drum and attached aluminum frame rose 3-4" in the forestay. Reported the problem to charter company. They only responded by saying contact one of their local repair resources.

### Friday, January 25

Sailed over to Palm Island for snorkeling (not good) but saw the beautiful resort.

<https://www.palmislandresortgrenadines.com/> Sailed on to Salt Whistle Bay on Mayreau. Booked our BBQ at Fat Boy and Debbie's with Ali (he led us in to harbor and mooring ball). Later found out that he cooked all the sides at his house. He provided a free bottle of wine. On island looked around, watched wind surfers, swam. Happy hour on boat, then beach BBQ – red snapper/rice/twice baked potatoes/plantains/slaw. Researched more on the furler and discovered that when we left 2-3 wraps unfurled, the drum didn't rise under load. Sailed this way in order to protect the forestay. Sent an email to Manufacturer (Facnor) to ask for input. After they understood the problem they immediately said it was a warranty issue.

### Saturday, January 26

Sailed on to Britannia Bay on Mustique. Snorkeled with many turtles around the boat and lots of fish along a shallow shelf running along the beach. Wanted to go to Basil's for Blues, but found out it started at 8:30, so had dinner (spaghetti with sausage/salad) on the boat instead and listened from afar. Fireworks show that night too; Kim and Deb popped up out of their ceiling hatches to watch. Finally heard back from Charter Company. They advised us to not use the genoa and complete the trip using mainsail only.

### Sunday, January 27

Picked up breakfast at Sweetie Pie bakery club – best pain au chocolat yet. Other pastries OK, all pricey. Took a walk past Lovell Village to the tennis club (statue of Lord Glenconnor/Colin Tennant who purchased the entire Island in 1958 for 45,000 pounds). Deb, Kevin and Kim set off on a long hike around the southern end of the island, down the beach, past the lagoon, up and over to Obsidian Bay, up and around South Point and across the barren windward side past Black Sand Bay to Pasture Bay. We met resort staff setting up a beach picnic. They described the way back to town, but a few minutes later picked us up and gave us a ride – very nice. Info and hiking map: <https://www.mustique-island.com/> Dinner at Basil's that night with Mark, Sarah, Renee and Dave. Blues Festival <https://basilsbar.com/blues-festival-2019/> playing from 5:30-7:30. Good burgers.

### Monday, January 28

On the way back. Sailed to Blue Lagoon. Volker spent a lot of time investigating a problem with the jib furler (broken). Great sandwiches from The Loft for lunch followed by a tour with Desmond Samuels

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through the Mesopotamia Valley (breadbasket of St. Vincent). Desmond explained that banana crop is no longer grown (EU tariff expired/sell price now too low) so some growing Ganja in the mountains. Dasheen (used to make callaloo), sweet potatoes and peanuts other crops growing in the valley. On to the Montreal Gardens. Beautiful paths and river. Anthurium growing in beds with coconut shells used to keep in moisture – blooms sold locally. Stop at Sunrise Supermarket on the way back – nice store. Learned that Hairoun is Carib for “Land of the Blessed.” He recommended 4 Shells Fish Joint (maybe next time). Met two young Germans and felt bad that we didn’t feed them. Dinner: Lemon Chicken.

### Tuesday, January 29

Left at sunrise for sail back to The Pitons. Arrived 2pm in time for GREAT snorkel along the north side of the bay, saw a chain moray eel and a southern stingray. Lots of nice coral, sea anemone, large schools of fish (Sargent majors). Dinner: grilled pork chops/fried potatoes with bacon, onion and green pepper/salad. Exhausted and in bunks at 8:30 without playing hearts.

### Wednesday, January 30

Low wind and couldn’t use the jib, so motored to Marigot Bay on St. Lucia. Grilled hamburgers for lunch with pasta salad and chips. Dinghy to town – Deb and Kim walked around and played ping-pong at Marigot Bay Resort <https://www.marigotbayresort.com/> Grocery store in center there not great. Kevin picked us up and took us on a dinghy tour – met guys at Hassy’s, motored by JJ’s Mangrove Dockside, but no place on dock for dinghy. Dinner: best grilled steak of the trip with twice baked potatoes (Deb’s creation with cream cheese, Greek yoghurt and cheese) and veggies (Broccoli!) fried in balsamic vinaigrette (ran out of butter, but it worked well and was tasty).

### Thursday, January 31

Long sail to Petit Anse D’Arlet. Went to bakery but too late for pain au chocolat. Bought a Napoleon instead – just OK, and a baguette. Checked out the restaurants and made reservation at Le Littoral. Snorkeled off the boat – lots of turtles. Dinner (snapper, lobster, shrimp) just OK, all overcooked and a bit dry – conch fritters good.

### Friday, February 1

Sailed back to Le Marin. Rented an electric Mini Moke (jeep) from Watt-Up! Drove to St. Anne and stopped for lunch. Found baguette sandwiches at Cherie Doudou – great, lots of butter. Ate on fishing area dock. Strange looking ducks. Drove to bumpy, rocky dirt road and in to Anse Meunier Bay/Moustique Beach. Walked the “Tourist Trail” for a bit, lots of black and white cats roaming around. Drove up to Piton Creve-Coeur and hiked to the top. Very steep/staired trail but worth the two viewpoints at the top. <https://goo.gl/maps/5UCqSPJZvYK2> Drove back to Le Marin and dropped Volker off/picked up our matches and lighter to return then back to grocery store. Took another spin around Marin with the Moke before returning. Dinner at Ti Toque – two pizzas and a salad as usual. Poured rain but done by the time we left.

### Saturday, February 2

Stopped at corner grocery and bought fish fritters. Went for brunch at café “Sucre Alé.” Kim liked her banana-Nutella crepe, but “cappuccino” was awful. Open market had crepes and other food, so might be a choice for another time. Packed up, then ate a lunch of boat leftovers and got in the taxi. Last round of Hearts at the airport and then flight to Miami.