

Ships Log Bella Christine BVI May 2015

BVI Date 5.5 – Tortola BVI took possession on the craft and had our safety briefing. Made trip to grocery store and returned with our supplies. Had free punch but with rum \$1.00 for our free drink. Stowed everything onboard and cast off our lines and made for open water. Got main and jib up and we are sailing. Light breeze 8-9 knots and speed 5-6 knots. Did not go far, anchored at Cooper Island for Sunday night. Sandwiches for board for dinner. Great weather and calm seas.

BVI Date 5.6 – Up not too early at Cooper Island. Hardly a breath of wind. Had breakfast and decided to motor to the Dogs. Found a ball to hook and snorkeled and enjoyed the view. We had lunch and the raised sails and sailed off the ball. We enjoyed the afternoon sailing tacking & jibing. Then headed thru a narrow channel and up to the Bitter end YC. Found a ball and hooked first try. Made scouting exhibition to check if the natives were friendly. Had dinner on shore at Bitter end YC and then back to our ship. End day two.

BVI Date 5.7 – Made use of store to get additional supplies. Some crew showered and we go a late start on our trip to Anegada. Sails up and doing 7.5 knots. Open waster, no sign of land in front of us. Sailing along – passed a catamaran as we were going, they sail slower than a mono hull. Anegada is only 20 ft high – finally Land HO!!!! Found buoys for the channel in which was very shallow. No balls left so we had to drop our hook. We got entertainment alongside the ship advertising for dinner. So then we went ashore. Over to the beach and back. Chris and I checked the rest of the bay. Others back by 7:15 for dinner. Barry was entertainment, lobster dinner, and host for dinner. Rained during the night.

BVI Date 5.8 – Woke up to clouds and rain showers passing thru. Berry came around collecting trash. Found a window between showers to leave Anegada and started sailing in strong winds. We went down to Monkeys Point but no balls available. We moved past it to a beach area and dropped a hook. Had lunch and some went ashore a bit. Then sailed back around point and thru a very narrow passage to the bay for the evening. We did not find a ball to start with but then someone in dingy and the big cat was leaving. We hovered till they unhooked the ball. Replenished our ice and had a nice dinner on shore.

BVI Date 5.9 – Rainy night at Marina Cay. It continued raining in the morning. We decided to motor to West End. Had heavy seas and low visibility part of the way. It was easiest to just let SIRI keep us on course. We took turns monitoring and watching for traffic. (SIRI our name for auto pilot) Some big rollers tried t throw us around while we had the weather on the starboard side. But when we turned down on towards West End, it was behind us. Then we watched the dingy surfing to catch us.... We got a ball at West End. Went ashore and weather better. Enjoyed a good dinner. Hopefully tomorrow more sailing weather.

BVI Date 5.10 – Quiet night at West end. Some went ashore for showers. Late start headed out to Jost. We sailed over then past it. Great weather to sail. Finally turned around and back to Jost. And anchored for lunch by small deserted island. Interesting art work in the sand. Then started back and pull rope on the dingy broke. We made it to the boat. Then made temp repairs to dingy engine. Sailed for afternoon and then into Jost for dinner at Foxy's. Rained hard during dinner. Finally cleared. We got dingy to run one more time and back to boat.

BVI Date 5.11 – We got up early today. We have to sail to the Moorings base to turn in boat. We all got over an hour at the wheel tacking our way up to Roadtown. Great day for sailing, good wind and sun. Arrived about 11:15 to turn in boat. Went over to Maria's by the Sea for lunch and then to ferry. Opp's last ferry cancelled. Only way off Tortola was West end at 4pm and it was after 3:30!!! Cabby ran like a mad man to get us there. Then it was ferry I had ticket for so we bought another ticket. The ferry dropped us off at Red Hook, on east side of St Thomas. So bus to airport road and walked a mile to the hotel. Relaxed at hotel and had a good dinner and shower.

BVI Date 5.12 – Woke up and had steak and eggs for breakfast. Great beach and cool breeze. Had Al take me up to Black Bards castle. But it is only open M-T-W so we went back. A \$16 lesson in call before you go. I watched some people that had a fly board on the beach. Attached to a jet ski and fly out of the water. Al took me to airport about 2pm.

Home safely – Note I managed trip without smashing any fingers, losing any glasses. Did not get cell phone wet or fall over board. Nop rope burns or seasickness. No items lost during trip. However I managed to wash my wallet when I got home.