

Hi family,
Hope you're all well.
We arrived in George Town, in the Exumas, Bahamas 8 am this morning. Hurray!
It took us 5 days & nights to reach the small island of Mayaguana three days ago as we had very little wind. I think it was the slowest and hottest crossing we've ever done!
Well worth it for this amazing spectacle...



Even with a storm menacing-



Mayaguana has a 4 mile long bay to enter with very shallow crystal clear water so you have to rely on the charts & GPS- or have good visibility and know what you're looking at. We're not good at judging depths from above yet. There were huge rays circling under the boat and numerous strange round discs of various sizes with perforated holes lying in the sandy bottom. They look like plastic but I'm sure they're the remains of some living creature, possibly a cushion starfish? Jean-Luc collected a few from the bottom and mostly they just disintegrate as soon as you touch them.



We were hoping to clear into the Bahamas in Mayaguana, but the Immigration office had run out of forms. You have to go to another island... so it was either 60 miles south or 190 miles north! The village is minute, so no communications possible. We did make a fabulous purchase of some nicely cleaned conch from the fishermen so we had a conch feast for 2 days. I'm becoming quite good at cooking it now.

Local artist Trevor at work



The view out into the bay and Trevor's artwork from the other side- and our conch fishermen



So, as we're heading north, we chose the 190 mile option and we've spent the last 36 hours reducing the sails to avoid arriving in the dark. We were left with the stay sail partly rolled (a tiny handkerchief) and we were still going 4 knots! This time we had lots of wind and a smooth sea at first... We were hitting 7.5 knots, a record for us! It eventually got pretty rough so we were happy to reduce the sails.

Now we're hoping to clear in here, but a neighbouring French boat just tried and were told it's closed, maybe because it's the weekend....! We are now going to investigate.
Hopefully I'll be able to send this.

Much love to you all,
Jan -Mum
& JL
Xxxx

PS We were the only boat in the bay for the whole morning, then another French boat arrived (the ones we've just met here) They are also heading north , a family with 2 kids so we'll be seeing them again.



More Bahamas colours, this time in Great Exuma



