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## ScubaTech Dive Center Grenada - News

Despite the little rain we had on our trips to Fish Friday in Gouyave the past two weeks, everyone very much enjoyed the excursions.

As usual we met in the Dive Center at 5.30pm and departed at 5.45pm. On the way out, the first beers, rum punches and soft drinks were served.

Homemade raincoats

20 minutes later, St. George's was in sight and though these times there wasn't much of a sunset to admire, the reflections of light in the sky were certainly worth a few pictures.

A few more drinks and 30 minutes later we arrived in Gouyave.

Once everybody was on land we started heading for the streets and fish stands.

Fish Friday in Gouyave is always an experience with all the music, fresh fish and drinks in the air.

A few hours later, everybody back on board, we started cruising towards Prickly Bay again. Most definitely a lot more enjoyable and safer and than doing the trip by bus

We were happy to participate in the Dive Day, an event organized by all members of the GSDA (Grenada Scuba Diving Association) in combination with the GBT (Grenada Board of Tourism) and the MOT (Ministry of Tourism). The idea was to have staff of the Grenada tourism sector experience scuba diving and take their own very first breaths under water.

After an opening speech by the Minister of Tourism, Hon. Mrs. Glynis Roberts, all participants were introduced to the underwater world by a 10 minute video and then got ready to hit the water.

Ready...

... steady...

... go!

The day turned out to be a full success, as everybody without exception had a great time blowing bubbles in the Pool.

Happy to have your picture taken?

Making themselves comfortable.

Everything cool.

At the end all participants received a certification of completion and an invitation of the GSDA to continue their experience with any of the GSDA Dive Centers.

Thanks to Ben we were able to run the underwater easter egg hunt again this year. Ben spent weeks to organize the event and to make sure there were lots of neat prizes to win. We'd like to take this occasion to thank him for his outstanding job the past 2 years! Unfortunately (for us) Ben is leaving Grenada in May.

Of course Chez was happy, she found the egg with one of the best prizes available!

And Dani - no idea if she drank all the rum yet:-)

Andy is cool:-) He and his hightech underwater camera have been exploring the reefs in Grenada with us and we all had a great time. Andy, make sure you and your lovely wife are coming back soon!

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2010!!!

We all had a great time partying into 2010 and were of course watching the fireworks in Calabash Hotel. Quite a few friends were there who have been visiting again and again over the last years:

Emily was there - our youngest Scuba Diver at ScubaTech! With her 9 years she didn't only successfully complete her PADI Sealteam Missions, she even did a Master Seal specialty night dive as well as the Master Seal specialty wreck dive- :)

And Tristan was there, turning 11 on the 31st of December. - HAPPY Birthday, Tristan, who very much enjoyed his birthday present being a Scuba Diving experience - great job, next time you're up for your certification and so are his siblings Mari and Brace(both fish in the water, just not listening to their instructor that much...-:)), as well as Will Davis.

We were particularly happy spending x-mas and New Years with our very good friends from Montréal - Véro, Bob and Alex - unfortunately Anne wasn't here to join us this time - and Judith and Richard from Lake District - with these guys an excellent company, fun and delicious food is most certainly guaranteed-) And of course - how could we possibly forget Myriam and Chris, we had such a laugh!

You're just great!

Obviously - the later the morning, the more fun we had, coming up to a point where comments then are really unnecessary...

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!

Hi Robert - we were kind of hoping that Katrina fails her exams, so you'd stay some more time with us-) Just kidding! Anyway, we wanted to say THANK YOU very much for a great time and a great job! We wish you and Katrina all the best for your future and, who knows, may be you'll come back for holidays-)

Hi Miah - same goes for you, but Paula wasn't ready to fail her exams either-) THANK YOU! Of course we wish you and Paula also all the best for your future and would be more than happy to see you one day back in Grenada!

**More Flights to Grenada!**

Posted on November 2, 2009 by calabashhotel.

British Airways has recently announced that it is adding a second flight to its Grenada route from summer 2010 and with the new delta flight expected to start up in early 2010 and Condor coming in from Frankfurt for the winter season, airlift really seems to be looking up for Grenada! So if you haven't already done it&hellip;book a flight and come visit the Caribbean&rsquo;s best kept secret!

Yesterday, Tuesday the 20th of October, we had the pleasure to host journalist Patrick Shier for 3 dives. The first dive at Shark Reef was already great, having seen 4 nuresesharks, a very curious turtle, plenty of lobsters, spider crabs and moray eels. The 2nd dive, however, was extraordinary - all of a sudden a huge Manta Ray came along and Patrick managed to take some great shots of it! This picture has been taken at Dragon Bay-:)

...and this...

... and this as well...

Jochen and Scuba ready for Rock'n'Roll.

Abeni, Ben and Robert working on the final coat.

Nice and shiny back in the water after 2 weeks.

Abeni before...

Abeni after...

Sao...

Ben before...

Ben after...

Great food, music and dancing in the streets - experience Fish Friday in Gouyave!

Always worth a trip - Fishermen's Birthday in Gouyave.

We're going up to Gouyave for the Fish Friday on a regular basis. Instead of taking the car and sweating in traffic, we simply enjoy the boat trip along the West Coast while having a drink.

Bye, bye Joanna - it was great diving with you!

The ScubaTech Team congratulates Kenyatta Gibbs on his 100th dive. Ken learned to dive 2 years ago at ScubaTech together with his wife Sharon and his sons Albert and Jacob. Now all of them dive regularly at home in England and of course on their vacation. We're very happy to have the Gibbs family again with us and hope to see them again in the near future!

So many guys got certified lately, so it most certainly was time for another certification BBQ. Thanks to everybody for joining!

ScubaTech on TV with Travel Channel. Director: Jochen SPIELBERG Lenz - Main Actor: Carsten THE NEW JAMES BOND Andres. Co-Staring: Katrina and Robert von Kriegenbergh, Jenel and Thomas

Just a few days later and here we go again...

...another new Divemaster - congratulations Ben!!!

It took some time, but finally, finally... To finish this course, we just need a little drink now...

... a little shower and here we go - a new Divemaster!!!

Congratulations, Abeni - you did it-:)

Hi Allen. It was great having you and your Meg with ScubaTech! Thank you very much for diving with us!

And - you did take some very good shots, here's proof! We hope to see you again soon!

Congratulations to Petra, Gilbert and Linnea!

Petra finished her Advanced Open Water Diver Course, Gilbert did an additional four Specialties and qualified for the Black Belt - Master Scuba Diver and, Linnea is a certified Rescue Diver now. Time to party...

Two sensational offers for the hard times: 1. Spoil yourself with a diving holiday and stay in the luxury Calabash Hotel at an unbeatable rate. From May 1st, 2009 until August 31st, 2009 one week in Calabash & 10 dives start as low as 1.239 US\$, including breakfast and afternoon tea. Inquire here for your personal package !

2. Dive the Wreck Capital of the Caribbean and stay in one of Grenada's nicest resorts. Book with us today, and your stay and dive package will start from 695 US\$ / per person (1 week at L&rsquo;Anse aux Epines Cottages & 10 dives) Inquire here for your personal package! . Direct flights are available with British Airways , Virgin and Monarch from London and American Airlines from Miami.

And - boat in water - happy faces after a well done job. Since the 24.09 we're running our regular program again - diving, snorkeling, sightseeing, sunset champagne cruises and watersports.

And finally - after 3 weeks Inspiration is ready to go back in the water - Monday, the 22nd of September at 9.55pm.

We're getting there once again.

Day 5 - 13: A lot of work, but not much to see. Now we're making also visually progress.

Day 4: Preparing the new stringers.

Day 3: Taking out the benches and the floor.

Day 2: Cleaning and preparation.

The 1st of September. Time to get the boat out again for some maintenance. Day 1: With the experience of 2007, hauling out the boat took us only very little time this year.

Of course we went also this year to watch the Carneval on Grenada. Once again we took our boat and headed for the Lagoon; obviously with some drinks on board... After the boat was moored we hopped off and were right in the middle of the attraction. A few hours later we simply got back on board and went to the Carenage, once again being right in the middle of this fantastic event. This year we were joined by Paula, Mark, John, Thomas, Genelle, Michael, Geraldine and Trimix.

We saw quite a few interesting faces...

...beautiful costumes...

... colorful costumes...

... and many, many smiling faces.

Having certified quite a few people recently, time had come for a certification BBQ. Obviously involved lots of food, drinks and fun. Of course we took the opportunity to invite also our current and regular guests. All your guys who missed it this time, simply come to our next certification BBQ coming up soon-:))!!

Colin

Paula

Alain and Toby

Sabine taking care of the food

Abeni and Patty

Breck and Toby

Micah

Danielle

Danielle, Colin, Tracey, Toby, Breck, Abeni, Patty, Tim, Belle

Tim, Abeni, Breck, Danielle, Toby, Tracey, Kate, Micah, Mark, Paula

It was time for something special again. The weather being great, only a gentle breeze and hardly any waves, we decided to go up to the Northend. The boat trip is already an event itself, as you're passing up the beautiful West Coast of Grenada. This time we made it to the Northend in a little under two hours. Everybody enjoyed the scenery and was looking forward to the dives.

We got ready for our first dive at Diamond Rock. Diamond Rock is known for its untouched soft corals, sponges and its christall clear water. Eagle rays and turtles are frequently spotted passing by through huge schools of creole wrasse.

After the first dive we spent the surface interval on a gorgeous beach of L'île de Ronde. White sand surrounded by deep

blue water, the Sisters in the back ground, just the perfect spot to hang out in between dives.

The second dive we did then at the Sisters. On quite a few dives here you find yourself exposed to strong currents which guarantee lots of fish and on a regular basis some of the bigger ones, as nurse sharks and different kind of rays. The visibility is usually spectacular and makes the dive even more impressive.

ScubaTech on a discovery trip!!! Yesterday we went out 14 miles into the Atlantic looking for new dive sites. Apart from Jochen, Carsten and Chris there were Micah and Tobi joining in. The Atlantic was considerably calm and so it was a great trip. We decided finally to get into the water at an area with an average depth of 95 feet. Approaching the bottom we were drifting over a reef covered in huge sponges. Anyway, after a dive of 40 minutes in icredibly clear water we surfaced. We've got to admit that we were hoping for more, but may be next time...

We had the 2nd dive planned at "The Stone", still 9 miles out, but couldn't really find the spot with the coordinates we'd been given. After 45 minutes of search we gave up and decided to dive the King Mitch. The right decision - just arriving at the wreck, two nurse sharks were waiting for us.

Descending further to the bottom of the wreck there were so many nurse sharks that we couldn't count them all swimming along in small groups. The moment we were looking at one of the three huge turtles on that dive, a school of approximately 15 eagle rays passed by. We'll be out there again soon to try to discover new dive sites.

Larry was back-:) This time to do his CCR Buddy Inspiration Course. Thanks for having joined us one more time and we all hope that you'll be back as soon as possible! Congratulations to your CCR certification - good job!!!

Bonjour Elizabeth et Yves. You came all the way from Geneve to join us. We were very happy to see you again! We had some great dives together and would like to thank you for your company! We hope you'll be back soon on Spice Isle.

A few weeks later Sebastian joined us and has become a member of our team. We're very happy to welcome Sebastian at ScubaTech and are looking forward to a good teamwork for the time coming.

At the end of september Ricardo left us for a new challenge. We'd like to thank Ricardo for his company during the past year, the great job he did, his knowledge and all the entertaining stories he knew to tell. Also we'd like to wish him the very best for his career and future. Hope to see you around Ricardo, you're always very welcome at our place!

But then, finally, after quite some time, everybody was shouting out "Boat in water!" - that was Sunday, the 16.09 at 4pm. Thanks to our Captain Sao, Instructor Riccardo, Kay, Ashton, Kurt and all the other guys who worked very hard to make that happen. A big thanks to ALL of you!!! As from Monday on we're back in business.

It just wouldn't go in.

Ready to go back into the water, just a few more metres.

And the prove that I've been not only taking pictures.

Here we go - new logo and primer for the antifouling on.

Today, the 13.09.07 the Logos are put on. The outside is nearly done now, a few more days for the inside and the boat will be back in the water on Saturday or Sunday.

But then it was done and the Inspiration got it's new look.

And more grinding.

Grinding it down took quite some time.

Then old paint was removed. We'll keep you updated!

First the engines were cleaned.

Of course it had to be inspected first.

Finally the boat was off the trailer and work was to begin.

It wasn't easy, but we were getting there.

On Sunday the 2nd of September the boat was hauled out for maintenance.

Carneval in Grenada - Grenada, the only country in the world which parties carneval twice a year. A colourful spectacle, costumes, music, dancing and lots of Rum and Carib.

The 13.08 and 14.08 we went by boat to the cricket stadion and the Carenage to capture some impressions for you - and of course to party ourselves. You find more pictures and videos in our Photo Gallery - Grenada The Island - Carneval or Videos. Have a look...

The Wave Rulers were back. Enjoying some nice diving and Chris and Ian passed the Advanced Course this time.

Apart from that we were invited for a tour on the Wave Ruler and even had the chance to become Helicopter Pilots for a few seconds.

The entire ScubaTech team likes to congratulate Jacob and Albert having passed the Junior Open Water Diver Course. You were doing just great, guys! As "Nemo"; Jacob and Ali were most of the times all over the place, they kept Riccardo quite busy-) Of course we also would like to congratulate Kenyatta, who passed together with his sons the open water diver. Being then entirely addicted to the underwater world, Kenyatta's question was always the same - what else could I do now? Well, as Ken brought his own digital camera with housing along, the Digital Underwater Photography Specialty Course was his next experience, and he managed to take some very good shots right from the beginning.

"And what can I do next?", was the question again right after that course, so Ken passed also his Advanced Open Water and his Nitrox Course. His wife Sharon, herself being already a Rescue Diver joined in for the Nitrox Course and we all had a fantastic time together. The last dive (for this time), we did at the Veronica where everybody enjoyed himself hovering around the wreck surrounded by schools of fish.

Thank you very much for diving with us and we hope to see you again soon! P.S.: Ken - you might want to keep that in mind for the future: 1. Do not rinse the Black Pearl of your instructor without a dust cap-) 2. Do not physically hurt your instructor before you received your certifications-)

Scubatech welcomes two new team members - Trimix and Scuba. Trimix still needs to earn her name, as she even gets sick being 5 minutes on a Kayak, but Scuba already went out all the way to Flamingo Bay.

We had the great pleasure to accomodate some of the guys of the crew of the Royal Navy Vessel "Wave Ruler".

A few days after having passed his open water diver course, Helicopter Pilot Chris Sharrott passed to say hello in his very own way...

... on the way back to the "Wave Ruler" he spotted our boat and gave us "a wink"...

... just coming up from a dive of the Bianca C. we were fascinated by his turning up...

He also said hello at our Dive Center, hovering over Prickly Bay and taking one of the most beautiful shots of our location - Thanks a lot for that!

We'd like to say "Thank you very,very much" for having joined us and we hope to see you back again soon - whether that'll be under water, at the surface or in the air! Good luck to all of your guys!

It was time again to get up to the Northend - cristall clear water, great diving and the trip up there is shortened by the beautiful scenery of Grenada's West Coast.

After our last dive we were enjoying a spectacular sunset with "The Sisters" in the background.

We'd like to say thank you to Cornel, Chris and Costas who have been diving with us just some weeks ago.

Cornel and Costas, both diving on Optimas Closed Circuit Rebreathers and Chris with his Buddy Inspiration

Larry getting ready for his Extended Range Course.

Rhythm and Blues at ScubaTech

We were proud to host Kevin Hayes, drummer of the Robert Cray Band, who came accomponied by his lovely girl-friend Adrianna diving with us.

Chat opened!!!

You can reach us now every Wednesday from 9am - 10am and every Saturday from 12am - 1pm GRENADA TIME in our chat area. Just login and ask questions, give us your feedback or simply chat with us. We're looking forward meeting you!

