

So Cuba : March 2019

As said on the website: great pity but we will not go back, especially because our plans do not provide for us to come back here, at least not sailing!



Too expensive, too much paperwork, everything is controlled ... and often forbidden.
Los Jardines de la Reina are become Nature Reserve therefore prohibited to anchorage ...
that's done !!
They decided to penalize some unfortunate sailboats and local fishermen to preserve their coral

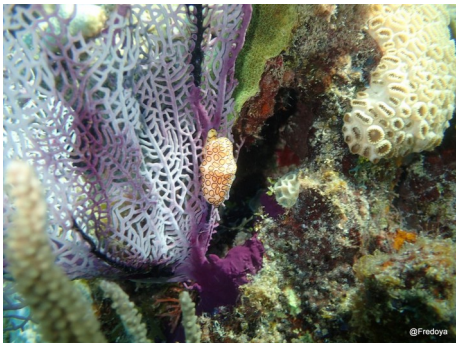
The company Marlin (Cuban State) manages the entrances and exits via their marinas by taxing us every 5 minutes (15cuc / pers coming on board 15 Cuc per person disembarking) the visa / tourist card is 75 cuc on site while buying it at the embassy or at Novela Cuba in Paris it cost us € 27 + € 1 postage, and again we only went to Cienfuegos where it is apparently the coolest.
There is even enough to shop in the grounds of the marina for that people do not move too far ...
and that we meet Cubans.

They have acquired or have had, a nice baggage scanner as a gift and the Adouanas have a great time looking at any bag (trip, empty or full morning races ...) entering or leaving ...
This time we didn't have the checking visit with the dog for drugg but he must have been too busy elsewhere.
Loïc was not allowed to go for a walk on the marina pontoons because we only paid for the anchorage!
Having rumbled for a few minutes in front of the stupidity of the situation the poor 'keeper went to ask the authorization to the office, but we did not want any more ...

The internet is well democratized and everyone walks with his smartphone.
1Cuc (1 €) for 1 hour of connection at the correct speed if you approach a hotel or a park where the network is broadcast.

Obliged by boat, to retreat to Cayo Largo that we have never reached because of wind unfavorable and no desire to go to see the most tourist island of Cuba after Varadero.
Zoo for tourists.

We did take advantage of the warm water, spearfishing and lobster tasting, but the accessible Cayos are much less protected from swell and wind than those of TheJardins de la Reina and overcrowded catamarans. rental with Russian and other local from East Europe.



We had the chance to meet fishermen we met 3 years ago and they invited us to their fishing trip ... a memorable day together.



Another meeting of Cienfuegos fishermen ... pizza party aboard Fredoya.
They show videos on smartpone of the shark fishing.
11:00 am daily, arrival of the catamaran Marlin of Casilda for the day in Cayo Blanco



The "cooks" of Cayo Blanco are always so helpful and happy to see some people coming. Even if sometimes 75 people on the catamaran coming for a few apneaus and a paella in the sun is not easy to manage.

But tourists are looking for authentic ... rum and cigar ...

Iguanas, hermit crabs and agoutis but only in the evening, with mosquitoes when there is no wind.



Pity ! but we had our dose of payments to customs and other officials (in addition to the waiting won't know why) this year, so now looking for countries where we can still enjoy a minimum of our freedom of action without having to pay every 5 minutes being watched suspiciously or like milk cows. The earth is big and many countries are open to travelers by boat.



It's stupid because it is a very beautiful underwater and sailing playground even for novices who have valiantly overcome their seasickness (thanks to the Scopoderme for some) and made a maritime apprenticeship with beautiful underwater incursions.



To prove that it is a beautiful country on the water: a superb video of Océane:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Cd7PESvdDXU&t=7s>



