

# Tondelayo's Voyage

The Marquesas – Fixing the motor, fresh fruit, and snorkeling

April 22 – May 10, 2003

 fatuhiva\_t.jpg (32139 bytes)

Apr 22 Landfall. Fatu Hiva was in sight with the rising sun. Sailed around the back side of the island, and then beat up toward the anchorage in fickle wind. Once we were a few hundred yards out, Meredith's dingy came out to pick us up and pull us in to anchor. That was good because the anchorage is quite small and very deep. We anchored in 60 feet of water and were laying in about 100.

Apr 23 Working on the motor. Extracted 1 bolt, but there was nothing that we could do to get the other one out. Lots of cursing at it did not help. Neither did all the banging, heating, and turning that we could muster.

Apr 24 Tried one last time to get at the stuck bolt on the engine, but no luck. We'll have to see what help turns up. In the afternoon we went for a walk around Hanavave, the little town here, and Lisa traded some cosmetics for a big bag of fruit. That evening, all the cruisers (about 15 persons) went to shore for a Polynesian dinner at one of the locals houses. We had Chicken, Poisson Cru (raw tuna in coconut and lime), breadfruit, rice, pamplemousse, and probably something else. The Poisson Cru was definitely the highlight. Breadfruit really is pretty much like a potato.

Apr 25 Cleaned the rest of the boat up inside and out. The amount of crap that grew on the sides during passage is incredible. We had algae 2 feet above the water line. Went over to Windchime for drinks, since it was Bryce's birthday.


 raftedup.jpg (38842 bytes)

Apr 26 Golden Sovereign (a Sovereign 54) rafted up with us and Clive came over with his welder to try to weld a nut on the end of our problem bolt. After several attempts, Neil off Windchime was able to get one solid enough to turn the bugger out. So finally, the major problem is solved. Clive also had a couple of 12mm bolts for us to use. Hooray!!!!

Apr 26 con't Shortly after all the engine was working again, the wind began to howl through the anchorage in 30 knot gusts. Our anchor which was pulled into even deeper water when Golden Sovereign was attached, now began to drag, so we upped anchor and left. We waited around the outside of the anchorage in the lee of a cliff and figured it would die down a bit around sunset. Well, it did not so we gave 1 attempt at reanchoring, but it was too deep and too close to others to be comfortable, so we decided to head for Hiva Oa. Sailed as slow as possible for Hiva Oa, but with the wind up around 30+, that was 5-6 knots with only the small staysail.

Apr 27

Ended up dragging out the trip over long enough to arrive around sunrise. Atuona is beautiful but has a crowded, rocky little anchorage, that is no fun to anchor in at the height of the season. Anchored and moved several times before we were happy, but at least it is only 12 feet deep.

 osha.jpg (31476 bytes)

Apr 28

Went ashore. In civilization again, so we had to do all the usual town things. Check in, buy provisions, and get the local hamburger in paradise. Checking in is simple, and cost only 55 cents. To get our visa extended to 90 days, we need to pay \$30 and put up a \$800 bond. Provisioning is a bit pricey for most things (\$5 a dozen for eggs), but fresh baguette is 47 cents, and Emmental (Swiss) cheese is cheap as well.

Apr 29

Got a bottle of butane and filled my propane cylinders. You just hook them together, and put one in the sun and one in the shade and wait. I do not think that this method is OSHA approved, so don't try this at home!!!

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Apr 30

Went on a hike to some petroglyphs. Found them and a few limes as well. Hooray!!!!!! Went to Priceless and made banana daquiris for dessert. Mmmmm. Had cheddar cheese and crackers for dinner.

May 1

May Day. A national holiday. We tidied up the boat for sailing, put on a bit more water, and sailed over to a neighboring island of Tahuata, and anchored in a nice little cove called Iva Iva Nui. A 25 foot deep bay with a white sand beach and clear blue water. Our first anchorage alone since somewhere in Costa Rica!!!

Went for a little snorkel, and saw quite a few varieties of new fish. We were kinda hoping for some lobsters though. Had some beautiful lamb for dinner.

May 2

A few boat projects, and snorkeling, and that was about it. Mostly a relaxing day. Wind picked up to about 25 knot gusts.

May 3

Priceless arrived in the morning after a short quick sail from Atuona. Did a lot of snorkeling, and a little spearfishing. Lisa shot a grouper and made sushi out of it. Our South African friends got ciguatera poisoning, probably from a snapper that they ate. Pretty mild case, but nasty still. After the usual acute poisoning symptoms subside, your skin itches and burns for days or weeks. Yuck. The wind is still blowing 25 knots.

May 4

Headed down the island to another cove called Hapatoni. Beautiful! Beautiful! Beautiful! Snorkeling is gorgeous with incredible numbers and new species of fish. Mike, Lisa and I went ashore with the machetes, and hacked a way into the jungle and found some bananas, and mangoes. The shore is covered in coconuts.

May 5

Another beautiful calm day. No rain for the last 2 days. Snorkeling in the morning, sail repair before lunch, a trip to town after lunch, and drinks and snacks on Sequioa, a brand new Outbound 44 after dinner.

May 6 Snorkeling, gathering coconuts, and getting ready for a little 90 mile sail up to Nuka Hiva. Left for Nuka Hiva before sunset, and had a glorious sail. The wind was out of the NE at about 10 knots, so we were on a beam reach, making about 5 knots.

May 7 Arrived at the Tiohae bay entrance in the morning and hear Corrie Doon, an old friend from the sea of cortex on the radio. Turned out that they were making landfall and had no motor, so we towed them in to the anchorage. The anchorage here is just a little rolly, but at least it is huge. You could fit several hundred boats if necessary.

Went into town to get lunch (chinese/french) and some groceries. After dinner, we went over to watch the polynesian dancers practice.

May 8 Another French Holiday. This one is where the French liberated themselves from the German Occupation, basically single handed, but there may have been a few Brits around. (They really think this). So, we took a nice walk around town and had a beer at the Keikahanui Inn and then got a ride back to the quay.

From left to right: The road near the Post office, Andrew with a Tiki carved into a pillar, an ancient stone carving (they look like aliens to me), and Andrew pointing out Tondelayo in the anchorage from the Keikahanu.

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May 9 Paperwork Day. Got everything sorted out with our bonds. Essentially, you need to pay \$900 dollars (but in Polynesian Francs) as a refundable repatriation bond. And get a stamp at the post office, and then go to the Gendarme to get a visa extension to 90 days. So everything is cool, and we do not have to rush.

May 10 Got up at 4:30am to hit the local Saturday vegetable market, which was 1 truck of vegetables, and a lot of people selling, bread, pastries, coffee and other stuff. Later bought a small Tiki, and watched the canoe racers come in. The course was right by our boat.

After that, sailed down to Hakatea, the site of Survivor 3. About 10 other boats around, and nice scenery.

[Life in the Marquesas](#)