



Corsica...a perfect gem
Dolphins, rugged
mountains, citadel cities
and fabled beaches.



On 14 July we made the night crossing of 15 hours to Corsica- a totally windstill night with thousands of stars and our first sightings of dolphins!

Rather close actually as one popped up right beside Jan and looked him right in the eye. Jan in the half dark thought it was a diver we were running over and almost had heart failure. I, as usual, missed it but we're hoping for a picture one of these times.

Corsica is French but fiercely proud of its own traditions. It has been warred over and occupied many times and it's buildings look more Italian than French. It was also know for it's vendettas between family clans and a few bombs here and there. We have loved every minute of it here. It's hot. The sea and the sky are BLUE! The scenery is stunning. It has some of the best nature reserves, both land and ocean, in Europe (including Scandola, a UNESCO World Heritage site). High red cliffs and mountains provide dramatic backdrops to the pastel coloured cities that perch high up. The beaches are sand and among the best in Europe and the water is crystal turquoise and currently 25C. There are a lot of lovely anchorages (very crowded with lots of Italian boats who sail like they drive so it gets quite exciting as yet another one crams himself in and tears up a few other anchors in the process (one has just done it to us as I write this!). But we are getting used to it. We don't always end up exactly where we think we will either....

We have also got the watermaker going to make fresh water from salt water. That plus the generator makes us quite independent now so we can stay at anchor for some days- only needing to buy diesel in harbour. We go in in bad weather or sometimes to sightsee if we can't find an anchorage. In Porquerolles, we were anchored in the bay when the winds increased to a gale force 9 (90 km). When it blows, it blows.

Although it was bright sunshine, and we could see people on the sheltered beach, we couldn't get off the boat for three days!

Here are a few photos from the west coast from Calvi (totally gorgeous!) to Bonifaccio in the south (extremely unique city perched on the clifftop...we are anchored in the Calanque). They speak for themselves.....





The water really is this colour! I swim every day. We're anchored in the bay off a tiny resort with just a few cafes and campsite. It's hard to believe the weather reports from Denmark and the UK. We wish you could just all be here to share this. Here we enjoy our first attempt at making the local mussels ourselves.



Next we'll sail down through some small islands before reaching the island of Sardinia (Italian) where our friends, Clair and Andrew and family, join us from Wales for their camping holiday on 01 Aug. Below, Jan trying out one of our new toys to explore the bay!

