

long and we felt welcomed by the villagers. Itinerary on 14 day trip (another good point — if we have to travel for that long, we want to have a long live-aboard trip). We started diving the first day, then motored overnight (very calm, in the lee of the big island Viti Levu) to our next destination. Dove mostly between the two big islands, where diving is probably the best in Fiji. Dove the regular dive schedule even on the last day, then motored back to port during the night, in time to disembark Saturday morning. So got good diving, easy traveling, and a full 13 ½ days diving. Bad: cockroaches upstairs, food. Separate Camera Room with lots of space for storage, but not much room for working on a camera (lots of shelves, but too high to work on). With only half the full complement of divers, we were fine, but with the boat full, it would be crowded. Lots of cockroaches in the camera room! Crew careful with cameras, and crew knowledgeable about camera techniques and settings. Liz and Josh showed excellent videos.

## FRENCH POLYNESIA

### Tahiti

**Aggressor, January 2006, Michael H. Foust (drfoust@comcast.net), Santa Ana, CA.** I've around 300 dives and often drift dive in Cozumel. The reef hooks and pass diving are challenging so a diver who isn't in good condition or experienced might be overmatched with these dives. However, there are other dives that were easy and slow paced yet enjoyable especially for photographers. Visibility (100+) and water temperature (83) were great. Cabins were roomy and well laid out

with storage. The boat did have a rough time in crossings in choppy seas that made the ice machine and air conditioning go out which impaired sleep. Lots of manta and shark action in the pass dives. Some playful encounters with bottlenose dolphins (although I wasn't the lucky one to play with them). Schools of snapper, jacks and tropicals over hard coral fields were common. Several turtles. They are moving the boat from the Tuamotu Islands (where this report is from) to the Society Islands to make the flight schedule easier and increase options because there are less currents there. Though there were dives I could have used more than the 45 min. (the dive time averaged 50), having 4 dives per day didn't bother me, though there were some on board that did. The passengers were multi national. The crew upbeat and well trained. Helpful and efficient. I would highly recommend this trip to advanced / experienced divers. But be ready for the pass dives. The current is powerful . . . the boat safety and practice, however, alleviate any real concern. UW Photography Comments: plenty of camera table space, and rinse buckets; recharging station good.

### HAWAII

#### Kona

**Kona Aggressor, August 2005, Joshua Boger, Concord, MA.** Experience: 251-500 dives. Vis: 80 to 150 Feet. Water: 77 to 79 F, calm, no currents. The crew was well-oiled machine and overall a pleasant and happy bunch. The Captain (Scott) runs a tight ship but creates a friendly and open atmosphere. He is an expert photo pro, both still and video. The rest of the crew was great, respon-