

was clear. While on our way to dive Green Island the boat was surrounded by a large pod of dolphins. On our off time, many of us hiked the trails including Mount Scenery, which includes a cloud forest. It's a good 90-minute hike to get to the top and the scenery on the way up and down is super. UW Photography Comments: Limited space on the boat to deal with a camera. There is a dedicated bucket for cameras but if there were someone on the boat with a large housing there would not be any room. No table.

ST. BARTH

Plongee Caraibes, April 2006, Daniel Powers (powersdaniel@msn.com), South Wales, NY. Experience: 26-50 dives. Vis: 75 to 100 Feet. Water: 80 to 82 F, calm. Very professional dive operation. Run by husband and wife team (Frank and Marion Noury) friendly and customer focused. Good rental equipment and attention to safety procedures. 45' twin hull boat lots of room, takes only ten divers.

ST. EUSTATIUS

A historically significant island, St. Eustatius, 50 miles south of St. Maarten, was the first to recognize the United States as country. As a result, British Men o' War pounded the island. Some artifacts from the barrage can still be found in the murky water of the bay, and low-profile reefs offshore provide pristine coral and plenty of fish; thanks to the marine park, the diving here is much better than average Caribbean diving. A hike up the Quill, an extinct volcano, is worth an after-

noon. The people are friendly; there are a few small restaurants.

Golden Rock Dive, Old Gin House, October 2005, Pat Sinclair, Tampa, FL. Experience: 101-250 dives. Vis: 35 to 60 Feet. Water: 82 to 84 F, calm. Michelle and Glen run a fine establishment. I was impressed by the service at both the Old Gin House and the dive shop. Hurricane Wilma caused a delay with our trip, by 2 days. But Glen and Michelle made the trip memorable. Upon arrival at Statia, we were met at the tiny airport and taken to the Old Gin House, dropped by the dive shop store front, checked in there. Walked to the Blue Bead restaurant and had a great dinner. Did dives at the 10 AM and 2PM dives. On the first dive, I got motion sickness, and while I made that dive I was not able to make the 2nd dive. DM Lisa found so much stuff for my husband; he was impressed with her and her knowledge. The next day I took my Bonine and made both dives. Good numbers of fish, turtles, lobsters, rays, eels and they were unafraid of divers, I guess since it is a marine reserve. Lobsters were huge! We did the Wreck City dive one afternoon with DM Lisa and saw the big loggerhead turtles (two big ones and one small turtle). Awesome to see that animal lazily swim past us. I went out with Mike as DM and we did the Blue Bead dive. There is no reef at all, but the amount of small critters was unbelievable. He also found an octopus hidden under a shell covering a hole in the sand. Cute thing, it was! Our last dive, was the Wreck City dive at night. We again went out with DM Mike, and this dive was just the three of us. Mike took us slowly through the wrecks and we saw the two large loggerheads asleep in their respective holds of two of the wrecks (one was on the small tug boat.) The tugboat wreck was literally covered