

dive was only one hour. Turneffe atoll dives had huge schools of fish, a ray or two, a turtle or two, a shark, maybe a remora. Generally great diving and good crew. Food was quite good especially for being at the bitter end of the supply chain.

### **Turneffe Island Lodge, July 2002, Judy Kiracofe, Farmingdale, NJ.**

Experience: 251-500 dives. Vis: 60 to 100 Feet. Water: 83 to 84 F. Third trip to Turneffe Island Lodge. New beach cabanas are very nice! The staff is helpful and friendly. The food is great — 2nds no problems. You set up your tank and from that time on it will be on the boat ready to go — just bring your mask and fins. After each dive you're back on land for the surface interval — very nice! It's a great place to go with a spouse who doesn't dive — they can fish on the flats or deep sea fish or just relax! The new pro yachts are nice for the transfer from Belize City to the lodge 30 miles off the coast. They have someone meet you at the airport and they drop you back at the airport in plenty of time to catch your flight out.

## **BERMUDA**

Despite Bermuda's pricey, elegant hotels and British manners, it's not a decent dive destination, even for beginners. Reefs are thin and there's sparse fish life. . . . From January to March, the average high is 68 degrees, the low around 58. Summers are balmy, waters chilly. Bermuda's in the hurricane zone, around the same latitude as Charleston, South Carolina. . . .

### **Fantasea Divers, September 2002, Vic Bary/Maureen Strazdon (vbary@yahoo.com) Cranford, NJ.**

Experience: 101-250 dives. Vis: 30 to 50 Feet. Water: 84 to 92F, choppy. Fantasea is a well run, responsive organization operating out of a major hotel. Friendly staff asks for suggestions before choosing a site and sets up equipment for second dive. 40' boat was never overcrowded. Local divers who have bought a season program augmented paid staff. They tally divers before boat leaves dock and after every dive. No storage facility for diver-owned or rented equipment (have to charge out fresh rented equipment each day). Dive staff could do more in the way of helping divers up onto dive step. Once you're on board, they are very helpful. No separate rinse tank for cameras. Inexperienced divers threw everything imaginable into one rinse barrel. (Ph: 441-236-1300 or 441-295-0460; e-mail info@fantasea.bm; website www.fantasea.bm)

## **BONAIRE**

In 1999, hurricane-driven waves damaged, even destroyed, many of Bonaire's beautiful shallow coral gardens, ruining snorkeling in many places. Still, Bonaire is a diver's island par excellence, with easy diving that's especially well-suited to beginning divers or those returning to the water after a long dry spell. Superb year-round weather, with lows around 74° at night and daytime highs around 89°. Expect some rain from