

At Sea – Day 39 Nov. 05:

When we woke up today the Amsterdam was sailing south towards Exmouth, Australia through calm water.

We went to the Lido Restaurant for breakfast and were greeted by the steward, Widi, who had a gift for us. He had mentioned before the stop in his homeland of Bali, that he would bring us some special coffee that was produced from the land around his village. Today he presented us with a bag of the prized coffee, as shown in the picture on the right.

Since we love coffee his thoughtfulness was really appreciated. The instant coffee, which is sold only in Widi's village, was in a clear plastic bag with the label written in the Indonesian language. The brand was "Cap TRESNA BALI Aroma sejati" (P-IRT NO: 210510801093 - 700 Gram). Widi's village was also identified on the package as Banjar, Buleleng - Bali. We didn't want to lose any of the coffee in transport so didn't open it immediately but look forward to tasting it at home.



At 11am there was the Cruise Specialists "Chat Time" that is hosted in the Explorer's Lounge by Lucia and Henk Barnhoorn on every Sea Day. The 15 to 20 people who show up regularly are getting well acquainted so, as usually happens, separate conversations spontaneously broke out around the group and the hour passed quickly. Before it was over we got a picture of Lucia and Dorothy in a candid moment, as shown on the left. Unfortunately, something temporarily went wrong with the camera settings and we had to shut down photography after one photo.

At lunch time we went to the Lido Restaurant for a sandwich. Today there was an added festive touch added by what looked like a tropical thatch roofed hut where stewards were shaping coconuts in the husk and cutting a hole in the top so the coconut milk could be drunk through a straw. The coconuts were chilled and the drink was refreshing as we sat by the Lido Pool during lunch.



Later in the afternoon we checked the position of the Amsterdam on the route down to Exmouth, Australia. From the display on the TV screen it looked like we were over half way there from Tanah Ampo, as shown on the left.

After dinner we went to the show in the Queen's Lounge. Tonight Annie Francis, one of our favorite singers was performing. She put on a great show with the best presentation of "Don't Cry for Me Argentina" from Evita that we have heard. She is from Australia.

Tomorrow we arrive in Exmouth, Australia where we will anchor and take tender boats in to the village of about 2000 residents. We are looking forward to this visit in a small Western Australia town.