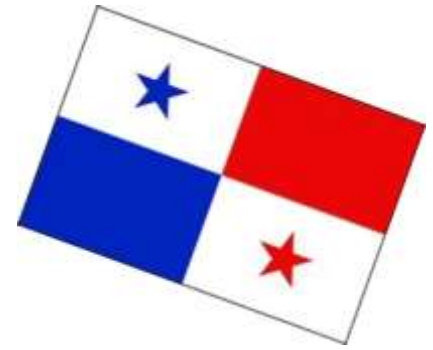


# Day 24 – Fuerte Amador, Panama

3/25/2012

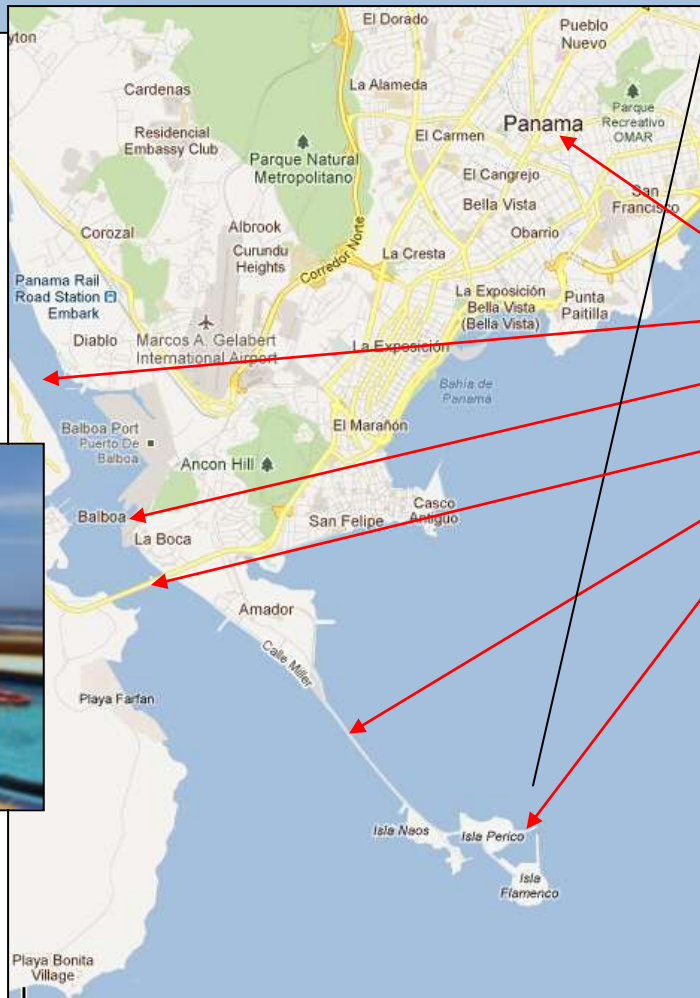
Amador, Panama is situated at the Pacific entrance to the Panama Canal near Balboa, the Bridge of the Americas and Panama City. It is on a manmade peninsula extending out into the Pacific Ocean.



In 1914, the Panama Canal was completed, making the region a center for international business and trade. During construction of the Canal, a mile-long causeway was erected in order to prevent the mouth of the Canal from filling with silt from the Bay of Panama. At the end of that causeway are 3 islands; the Fuerte Amador Resort and Marina is on one of them. There are shops and restaurants on a large marina that provides a panoramic view of Panama City's impressive skyline and serves as the home for the Smithsonian Institute of Tropical Research.

We would arrive at Fuerte Amador in the evening after most of the day at sea. We started the day with breakfast in the main dining room with a bit of indulgence – in addition to freshly squeezed orange juice and fruit, Dale had a Denver omelet and I had Belgian waffles. Then I worked on my blog and Dale went walking around the lower promenade deck.

We met up at noon at the Sea View pool so Dale could try golf chipping again. It looks like he had all his luck at this the first time out.



- Panama City
- Panama Canal
- Balboa
- Bridge of the Americas
- Causeway
- Fuerte Amador



At 2, Dale tried his luck at ring toss with exactly the same results as golf chipping.

At 3, we went to the Indonesian Tea and tried sticky rice balls for the first time. Dale really likes the Indonesian Green Tea with Jasmine and wants to find an online resource for it (the Americanized version doesn't measure up).

After that, we relaxed on the loungers in the spa, then watched the passing scenery as we approached Fuerte Amador.



The stop at this port was from about 6 pm to midnight. There were a couple of tours being offered: a Folkloric Show and the Miraflores Lock at Night. Neither appealed to us and we had decided not to go ashore at all, in part because it was a tender port. We changed our minds, decided to walk around the marina area and buy a couple souvenirs.



So we had dinner in the dining room. It was nearly empty – everyone at our table had gone ashore, so we asked for a smaller table. We intended to eat by ourselves and run, but a woman on our trivia team asked if she could join us because all her dining companions had also gone ashore. So we ate a bit slower but she was fine with our taking off before she was finished. Dale and I both had fruit appetizers followed by chilled blueberry soup, fettuccine arrabiata and cherry pavlova for Dale; and white bean soup, pork chops and black forest cake for me.



We had never taken a tender at night, but while the inside lights were turned off during transit, there was plenty of external light (from the tender). Our tender was met at the dock by the security officer, Jeff, who had dinner with us the first formal night – he is always so friendly, so nice. Several shops were open and we picked up a couple of keepsakes, then tendered back.

Tonight we had 2 towel animals and 3 chocolates (each) to make up for the last couple nights when there were none.



**Entertainment tonight**

Showroom at Sea: Big Screen Movie: *The Artist*, Indonesian Crew Show

Ocean Bar: The Neptunes (HAL's in-house band), cocktails and dancing

Mix: Glen, guitarist; Lee Strubeck, Piano Man

Explorer's Lounge: Adagio Strings

Crow's Nest: Top 40

Movie: *The Three Musketeers*

# Today at a Glance

Check the boxes you plan on attending

Sunday, March 25, 2012

- 8:00am Tai Chi *with Lifestylist Jay* Lido Poolside, 11 midship
- 8:00am Mass is Celebrated Half Moon Room, 7
- 8:00am Pathway to Yoga \$12 Fitness Center, 11
- 9:00am Daily Quiz & Sudoku Available Explorations Café, 8
- 9:00am Pathway to Pilates \$12 Fitness Center, 11
- 9:00am Interdenominational Service Half Moon Room, 7
- 9:00am Healthy Habits *Cooking Show* Culinary Arts Center, 7
- 9:30am Good Morning Statendam: Travel Guide Lance Showroom At Sea, 7 & 8
- 9:30am Windows \* 7 Digital Workshop, 8
- 10:00am Learn to Play Steel Pan *with Chris* Seaview Pool, 10
- 10:00am Travel Guide Lance Presents: The Panama Canal Showroom At Sea, 7 & 8
- 10:30am Files, Folders & Sharing Digital Workshop, 8
- 11:00am Learn to Line Dance *with Samantha & Tasha* Crow's Nest, 12
- 11:00am Columbian Emerald Seminar Showroom At Sea, 7 & 8
- 11:00am Spa Secrets: Detox For Health & Weight Loss Fitness Center, 11
- 11:00am Facial Rejuvenation with Acupuncture Explorer's Lounge, 8
- 11:00am 30,000 years of art history seminar with Nick Half Moon Room, 8
- 11:00am Rolling in Dough *Cooking Show* Culinary Arts Center, 7
- 11:30am Techspert Time Digital Workshop, 8
- 12:00nn Fun and Games Poolside: Golf Chipping Seaview Pool, 10 aft
- 1:00pm Bonus Rapid Fire Auction *with Art Director Michel* Ocean Bar, 8
- 1:00pm Travel Trivia Crow's Nest, 12
- 2:00pm Foodie Fight *with Party Planner Jillian* Explorer's Lounge, 8
- 2:00pm Spa Secrets: Powerful Posture Fitness Center, 11
- 2:00pm Statendam Olympics: Ring Toss Atrium, 6
- 2:00pm Guest Lecturer: Danny Leone Showroom At Sea, 7 & 8
- 3:00pm Travel Guide Lance Presents: Panama: A Pictorial Presentation Showroom At Sea, 7 & 8
- 2:00pm Spa Secrets: Walking in Comfort Fitness Center, 11
- 2:30pm Introduction to the Cloud Digital Workshop, 8
- 3:00pm Indonesian Tea Ceremony Rotterdam Dining Room, 8
- 3:00pm Book Club Reads: Like Water for Chocolate *third meeting* Explorer's Lounge, 8
- 3:00pm Learn to Dance *with Samantha & Tasha* Crow's Nest, 12
- 3:30pm Transferring Photos Digital Workshop, 8
- 4:00pm Ask Your Travel Guide Lance Atrium, 7
- 4:00pm How about a game of Volleyball? Sports, 12
- 4:00pm The Art of Flower Arranging Culinary Arts Center, 7
- 4:00pm Indoor Cycling \$12 Fitness Center, 11
- 5:00pm Friends of Bill W Explorer's Lounge, 8
- 5:00pm Sunset Tai Chi *with Lifestylist Jay* Seaview Poolside, 10 aft
- 7:30pm Your Travel Guide Lance is Available on the pier ashore
- 8:30pm Battle of the Bartenders' Lido, 11 midship
- 8:30pm Big Screen Movie: The Artist Showroom at Sea, 7 & 8
- 9:00pm "Dancing under the stars and lights of Panama City" Lido, 11 midship
- 10:30pm Top 40 *with DJ Mark* Crow's Nest, 12
- 11:00pm Indonesian Crew Show Showroom at Sea, 7 & 8