



BONAIRE The REPORTER

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Ernst Mulder captured this nice sized lionfish Photo Julie Morgan

Lionfish are still a problem on Bonaire reefs

With more than 2 million eggs released annually by one single female lionfish, it is no wonder lionfish are still swimming Bonaire's coral reefs eating the next generation of juvenile reef fish. The first lionfish were seen here in October 2009, after finding their way from Florida through Caribbean waters. STINAPA immediately dived into action to remove these destructive fish. Training workshops were organized, and various nets and tools were tried to capture and kill the fish to stop the invasion. Finally in 2011, the ELF (Eliminate Lion Fish) spring loaded spear, that wouldn't damage the coral, was adopted along with rules and training. The ELFs were initially loaned out to some 300 divers who had received instruction. Because spear fishing has been banned on Bonaire since 1971, only the ELF could be used.

For the last several years a Lionfish certification program is required and only Bonaire residents with a sedula, are eligible to lease a numbered ELF with a deposit.

Initially it seemed most everyone was on-board to try and eliminate this reef fish predator, but over time the excitement among divers waned although there are still some major dedicated lion fishers.

Lionfish training is still happening but newly certified fishers with a sedula are unable to attain an ELF. The ELFs on the shelf at STI-

NAPA have all been passed out and there are no more. It seems past recipients of ELFs are holding onto them, not using them, they are broken, or they've been illegally passed on or sold to someone else.

This past weekend Private Divers held a combination hunt, cleaning lesson and lionfish dinner at Wines & More. Three hunters in less than an hour captured 19 fish. The majority

Baukje Wassenaar of Private Divers cleans a lionfish displaying the two eggs sacs were on the smaller size but a female lionfish is considered mature at 6.5 in (16.5 cm) and a male at 5.7 in (14.5 cm). Lionfish of this size are capable of releasing and fertilizing 15,000-30,000 eggs every 2-4 days.

Baukje Wassenaar of Private Divers said, "We did catch quite a few smaller lionfish. Per-

sonally, I still think it is worth removing them. Even though they are small, they will grow and eventually contribute to the population – worth the effort, for us. We see it as both a conservation effort and a way to provide a sustainable local food source. In three dives we got 112 fish. And all of those fish were used in the Lionfish tasting at Wines & More." (see page 13)

Private Divers holds a free lionfish dive hunt monthly which anyone is welcome to join.

Lennart Slotboom of FPA Sports has been hunting for the last four years and goes out three – four times a week. Once a month he organizes the event Clean Our House Reef at Yellow Submarine.

Lennart said, "I have educated 45-50 people for hunting, mostly tourists, and they are not allowed to own an ELF, but they can taste the catch after the hunt – we make ceviche."

In the STINAPA Lionfish Derby at Washington Slagbaai Park in March Lennart and his partner captured 83 and took second place. That one particular outing with 17 hunters resulted in the removal of 565 lionfish.

Dee Scarr, one of the original hunters on Bonaire, seems to never go out for a dive without



Baukje Wassenaar of Private Divers cleans a lionfish displaying the two eggs sacs Photo Julie Morgan

Lionfish...to page 5

Four political stories merged last week on Bonaire

First, the Dutch proceeded with the scheduled update of WolBES and FinBES.

Second, State Secretary Eric van der Burg of Kingdom Relations signaled he is losing patience with the current OLB's apparent inability to govern.

Third, the UPB asked Parliament for an investigation.

Fourth, a totally new party was formed on the island, one that presents itself as a clear alternative to the island's old-style politics.

1. The WolBES and FinBES changes

When the Caribbean Netherlands was created and incorporated into the European Netherlands as the three BES municipalities in 10-10-10, the WolBES and FinBES legislation provided the legal structures for its governance and financing. Those acts also defined the working relationships between the island public bodies and the central government in the European Netherlands. That legislation was scheduled to be updated after fifteen years to accommodate the political and financial maturation the islands would supposedly have achieved by now. Two major changes were expected: the abolition of the oversight position of the Acting Kingdom Representative and an easing of financial restraints.

However, Cabinet seems to believe the self-governance of Bonaire has not improved as much as predicted. Jonathan Johnson has been named Jan Helmond's replacement as Acting Kingdom Representative effective January 1, thus perpetuating the position for a time at least. And State Secretary Van der Burg apparently intends to submit amendments to WolBES and FinBES that continue, or only modify, restrictions the OLB wants abolished.

2. Possibility of an administrative takeover

In mid-July State Secretary Eric Van der Burg, when commenting on the current OLB's apparent inability to create a stable government, stated during a press conference that there

was no legal basis for intervention by the government or the government representative. He emphasized though that "Continuity of administration is of great importance: agreements made must be complied with and the services to the residents must continue as usual." "As with other Dutch municipalities, I trust that the local government can solve the situation itself."

Now, two months later, Van der Burg seems to have had second thoughts. He sent Governor Soliano a letter (with a copy to the House of Representatives). He expressed deep concern in the letter and considerable frustration. He explained some serious consequences that could result from further stasis and said he expects the Executive Council to have heeded his earlier warnings and already be taking immediate action to restore the stability of the administration and to put a stop to the political interference in the civil service. Van der Burg will visit Bonaire next month. If he sees no corrective actions have been taken, he may decide the central government has no choice but to take over the Public Body under an administrative agreement.

5. The UPB complains to Parliament

The Union Patriotiko Boneriano (UPB) has three of the nine seats on the Island Council but has been unable to form a coalition. The UPB asked Parliament to investigate what it considers Van der Burg's interference in local politics. It also accuses "Dutch administrative circles" of "treating political parties differently."

4. New party formed

In the meantime ... A new political party, Animo, has been formed on Bonaire. It "aims to be the alternative for residents who need more perspective, better governance, and concrete results." The founding group is led by former Deputy Nina den Heyer, who has earned a reputation as one of the most effective political leaders on the island. Animo promises to field a full slate of candidates in the March election. *DMR*

New political party formed on Bonaire



Nina den Heyer

As the current political parties stumble from one administrative crisis to another, former Deputy Nina den Heyer has heeded a call from the community and joined with eight others to form a new political party on the island. They intend to have a full slate of candidates ready to run in the March 17, 2027 Island Council elections.

Den Heyer became active in politics in 2016 when she joined the Movimentu di Pueblo Boneriano (MPB). As one of

the most popular politicians on the island, in the 2019 elections she received more preferential votes than all other lead candidates. She was the first woman in Bonaire's history to do so.

In 2023 she and Anjelica Cicilia were appointed to Clark Abraham's Executive Council as non-partisan specialist deputies. They soon became known as the only productive politicians in senior leadership positions. Both resigned together in 2025. Though they were circumspect about their reasons, few doubted they were fed up with the way the island was being governed.

The new party is named Animo. Translated, that stands for Alternative, New, Integrity, Modern, and Pride. "The party is opting for a political course in which the opportunities and

future of the residents of Bonaire are central," according to a press release. "Animo aims to be the alternative for residents who need more perspective, better governance, and concrete results. The party was founded on the conviction that Bonaire has all the ingredients to continue developing positively, but that this requires direction, clear choices, responsibility, and cooperation." *DMR*

Helmond's replacement as Kingdom Rep named

Mr. Jonathan Johnson will succeed Jan Helmond as Acting Kingdom Representative of the public entities Bonaire, St. Eustatius and Saba on January 1. Helmond has held this position since November 2017. The Kingdom Representative serves as a link between the Kingdom and the public entities. His responsibilities include good governance and intergovernmental supervision.



Jonathan Johnson

Mr. Johnson (50) was born in Saba and has been the Island Governor of Saba since 2008. He was responsible for public order and safety, crisis management, the quality of public administration and representing Saba. In addition, Mr. Johnson has held various positions in civil society. *DMR*

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Island news...
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Everything is connected

In July, Tourism Corporation Bonaire (TCB) celebrated its 35th anniversary and since its organization in 1991 the policy and focus have changed with island growth and so have the slogans: Diver’s Paradise 1990s, which everyone still quotes; Once a visitor, always a friend; Bonaire: unhurried, unspoiled, unforgettable and currently It’s in our Nature.

During the recent Tourism Summit, September 24-25, it seems the policy is changing again. Rather than focusing on attracting countless visitors, and filling X amount of hotel rooms, we saw a new approach. Yes, the numbers and data are still being calculated, but where several years ago the answer was more airlift, more hotel rooms and more cruise ships, the approach is a bit different and hopefully more in tune to what Bonaire is to so many people. As Barbara Benedek wrote “More isn’t always better. Sometimes it’s just more.”

Held at Plaza Resort, with a number of guests and local speakers, some 150 tourism professionals and government representatives attended. The first speaker, Jennifer Mohamedjoenes Bonaire commissioner of Finance Economic Affairs, Supervision and Compliance said, “Tourism is the pillar of Bonaire economy, but its more than the number of visitors, it’s the stories we share and



Ellesier Angel CEO of TCB
Photo Julie Morgan

experiences. What make Bonaire attractive to visitors is also what makes Bonaire attractive to the residents...Sustainable tourism means protecting our natural environment. We need to be competitive and responsible – its not by how many people visit Bonaire. Tourism begins with the people of Bonaire – “Everything is Connected”.

Guest speaker Boudina de Jong, co-founder and

innovation head at Profound said about the power of AI, “You ask a question, you get an answer”. He explained, computer power has grown 5x per year since 2020. We are sitting on a technology that is extremely fast. Today AI is the worst it could be and it is only going to get better and stronger.

Tourism Summit...to page 5



- **Located in North Salina**
- **Lot size : 334 m2 / 3595 sq. ft. owned land**
- **2-bedrooms / 2-bathrooms / open floorplan**
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POLICE REPORT

From August 17 to August 30 the KPCN reported ...

Property crimes

Sept. 22. Several power tools, including a drill were stolen from a container on the site of a construction complex in Punt Vierkant.

Sept. 19. 6:35 p.m. A 15-year-old was arrested for the theft of an electric bicycle (fat bike) and AirPods near a park on the Kaya J.N.E. Craane. The bicycle was found at a house on Kaya Piedr'i Mula and was confiscated.

Sept. 19. Unknown persons smashed a window of a pick-up and stole two bags including cash, cards and glasses from a vehicle parked at the dive site 1000 Steps,

Sept. 17. In the early morning the police searched a house in the Nort'i Salifia district and seized various goods. Later in the morning, the police saw the wanted suspect driving in Antriol and arrested the man, 30, who is suspected of several thefts. The vehicle has also been seized for further investigation.

Sept. 16. A clutch bag was stolen in a bar on Kaya Bonaire. The bag included an iPhone 15 Plus and some personal belongings.

Sept. 15. Unknown persons gained access to two container homes on Kaminda Essequibo stole cash, a black Samsung phone and a folder with some documents.

Sept. 15. A black OVYI V8 electric bicycle (fat bike) was stolen while parked outside a school on Kaya Korona.

Sept. 14. A black electric bicycle (fat bike) was stolen while parked on the grounds of a school on Kaya Barakuda. Along with the bicycle, a mobile phone was also taken away, which was attached to the bicycle in a bag.

Sept. 14. Burglary and vandalism were reported at a company on Bulevar Gobernador N. Debrot. It is not yet known what unknown persons have taken, however, they caused considerable damage to the building. The case is being investigated.

Arrests / Searches

Sept. 18. In the evening four minors, aged 14, 15, 16 and 17, were arrested for threats, violation of the BES Firearms Act and aiding and abetting. They were arrested after a report was received about a threat with a firearm at Kaya Modesta.

Sept. 14. 10:55 p.m. A man ,33, was arrested at Kaya Kasuela for assault.

Driving under the influence

Drivers who register a positive result on a breath test given at their vehicles are arrested and taken to the police station for a breath analysis. Drivers are legally required to submit to a breath test.

From Sept. 14 to 25 police reported that 8 drivers were arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol. Four people were given driving bans of 1, 2, 4 and 24 hours. Three driving licenses were confiscated. One driver was driving without a license, another without insurance.

Two drivers collided with other cars. In one collision the driver's car was overturned. Three drivers were stopped by police for an alcohol check. Two drivers were driving recklessly. One driver tested over the limit at his car, but tested below the limit at the police station.

Sept. 19. 2:25 a.m. A man, 29, was arrested at Kaya Neerlandia after police saw him driving a car while his driver's license was confiscated for driving under the influence of alcohol. The vehicle was impounded.

Sept. 18. 1:10 a.m. A man, 29, was arrested on Bulevar Gobernador N. Debrot. A patrol stopped him for driving at high speed. A breathalyzer test showed that he had consumed more alcohol than is legally allowed. Police also confiscated the two plastic bags with suspected narcotics and a knife that were found in his bag. He was banned from driving for 2 hours. In addition, a woman who came to pick him up at the police station was banned from driving for 24 hours because she had also consumed more alcohol than is legally permitted.

Shortly after the suspect was released, the police saw him driving again in his same car. He was given another stop sign and was arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol and violating his driving ban. In addition, the vehicle was im-

pounded.

Traffic accidents (breathalyzer test negative)

Sept. 24. 8:35 am. A car and an electric bicycle (fat bike) collided near the roundabout at Kaya International and Kaya Industria. The cyclist received medical treatment on the spot.

Sept. 23. 7:10 p.m. A fat bike with two passengers, both minors, collided with a car on Kaya Industria. Presumably, the fat bike did not have any lighting. The driver of the fat bike was injured and was taken to the hospital by ambulance.

Sept. 20. 3:25 p.m. Two cars collided at the intersection of Kaya Papa Cornes and Kaya Vicente F. Gomez because no right of way was given. Ambulance staff medically examined those involved and no one had to be taken to hospital.

Sept. 16. 10:20 a.m. A golf cart crashed into the wall of a company at Kaya General Carlos M. Piar. The driver of the golf cart stated that she could not brake in time and therefore drove into the wall along the road. She was slightly injured and was medically treated on the spot by the ambulance staff.

Sept. 14. 7:10 p.m. Two cars collided at the intersection of Kaya Kanari, Kaya Pos di Amor and Kaya Flamingo because the right of way had not been given. The ambulance took one of the drivers to the hospital. Both drivers have been fined for driving without valid insurance.

Traffic, Parking and Speed Control

Speed limit is 40 km/h in built-up areas and 60 km/h outside. Traffic fines range from \$30 to \$225.

Sept. 18. In the afternoon hours of Friday 18 September, a traffic check was held on the Kaya Grandi. During the check, 20 cars and two scooters were stopped and checked. 5 drivers have been fined for, among other things, driving without a valid driver's license, driving without valid insurance and driving without a license plate on the front. Traffic checks will continue.

Sept. 15. In the evening hours police confiscated an electric bicycle (fat bike) for violating the traffic rules. An underage boy was stopped on Kaya Libertador Simon Bolivar because he was riding on the sidewalk, had no rear light and was standing upright on the saddle. The bicycle did not have a chain and could be moved only via the hand throttle and battery. In accordance with the Bonaire Traffic Ordinance 2019, it would be classified as a moped and therefore the driver would need driver's license, helmet, insurance and a license plate. The 'fat bike' was confiscated and a speed check was carried out on a roller bench at the police station. The bike was driving at 25 km/h via the hand throttle and the battery. The boy's parents have been informed of the seizure of the bicycle.

Sept. 15. 3:10 p.m. Police stopped two children aged 13 and 6 on a scooter at Kaya Kabikuchi. They were not wearing helmets. The scooter was impounded because the driver does not have a driver's license and the vehicle is not insured. The parents of both children were summoned to the police station for a conversation about the consequences.

Public order / Shooting

Sept. 21. In the early evening the central control room received a report about a person who needed police assistance at a house on Kaya Nijmegen. At the scene, the police found a nursery in one of the bedrooms of the house with Opium Act-related plants. The nursery of suspected narcotics was dismantled and the plants, as well as the cultivation supplies, were confiscated. The suspect in this case will receive an official report.

Sept. 18/19. In the night a shooting was reported in the Nikiboko district. Police at the scene found bullet impacts in a car belonging to a police officer.

Fire

Sept. 20. 1:00 a.m. A car was reported on fire on Kaya Heru. A short circuit probably caused the engine fire.

Sept. 19. 5:30 a.m. A bush fire was reported on Kaya Theresa F. Ilario. Police and the fire brigade found a scooter on fire.

Sept. 16. 7:30 p.m. A car was reported on fire at Kaya

Ask Bob

Bonaire real estate advice



Hi Bob,

About 5 years ago, my husband and I bought a property together. Now we are separating. What are our options regarding the property?

Regards, Linda

Hi Linda,

Your options depend on how the property is legally registered (married with contract or in communal property), your mortgage obligations and if you have any agreement between you.

Generally, there are several options:

One partner buys out the other:

If one of you wants to keep the house, you can agree on the value of the property and one of you can buy the other partner's share, if applicable, subject to the approval of the mortgage provider.

Sell the property:

You can sell the house, pay off the outstanding mortgage and selling costs, and divide the remaining proceeds according to your legal ownership.

Continue owning it together:

You may agree to keep the property for a while before selling it. In this case, it is important to agree in writing who will pay the mortgage, taxes, insurance and maintenance costs.

One partner stays temporarily:

Especially when there are children involved, one partner may remain in the home while arrangements are made for the future.

Keep in mind that moving out does not automatically remove you from the mortgage. If both of you are named on the loan, you both remain responsible for the debt until the mortgage provider releases one of you from the loan.

I recommend getting legal advice before signing any agreement or transferring your share of the property, as every person's circumstances are different.

Regards, Bob

Bob Bartikoski,
Re/Max Bonaire Broker/Owner

If you are looking to buy or sell a home on Bonaire, or if you have a real estate question for Bob, email him at info@bonairehomes.com.

Bonaire: +599-717-7362. Toll free from US: 1-866-611-7362

Merengue. When the police and fire brigade arrived, they found that the engine compartment was completely burnt out probably from a short circuit.

Sept. 16. 7:20 p.m. A fire was reported at a tourist accommodation on E.E.G. Bulevar. Police and the fire brigade found the fire in a meter cupboard probably caused by a short circuit.

Letters & Opinions

The opinions, beliefs and viewpoints expressed by the various authors and forum participants do not necessarily reflect the opinions, beliefs and viewpoints of The Bonaire Reporter.

The Caribbean Netherlands deserves more attention

Dear Editor,

King Willem-Alexander has recently opened the new parliamentary year by reading the Speech from the Throne. This speech, drafted by the Prime Minister, outlines the government's plans to tackle the country's problems.

However Caribbean Netherlands - Bonaire, Statia and Saba - is mentioned only as a part of the Netherlands with which to join forces: not a word is said about the major problems there. Solving this problems requires however much more than good cooperation.

First and foremost, equal rights and obligations for the Caribbean and European residents of the Netherlands. Through the introduction of an updated Municipalities Act and related legislation on Bonaire, Statia and Saba. As soon as possible.

With kind regards,
Gerrit van der Meij,
retired senior civil servant, Den Haag

Dangerous conditions for cyclists, Part 2

Dear Editor,

Thank you for publishing my article regarding the unsafe situations cyclists face on and alongside cycle paths.

My article was not yet complete, and I would like to highlight a few additional points of concern in this edition.

- Overtaking maneuvers by fast-moving traffic. It happens all too often that motorists drive onto cycle paths while overtaking to create enough room to pass another vehicle. Consequently, cyclists are forced to take refuge on the verge to avoid a serious accident.

- Fatbike riders and motorcyclists pose a major threat on the road. They weave

dangerously close through traffic and treat cycle paths—among other places—as arenas for showing off stunts. This creates serious traffic hazards due to a lack of responsibility regarding road usage, particularly among these young road users.

- Aggressive dogs on the street. How often have cyclists been bitten by dogs running loose? How often has the community raised this issue? Unfortunately, the seriousness of the situation is often overlooked; many owners are unconcerned about the hazards their aggressive dogs create for cyclists or the accidents that result from them.

- Low-hanging branches from gardens overhanging cycle paths. Cyclists are forced to swerve suddenly into busy traffic to avoid getting hit in the face by branches. While things usually turn out fine, the situation carries the risk of a serious accident.

- Finally, footpaths and side paths torn up by various companies during roadworks. These damaged sections remain in a hazardous state for a very long time—far too long—or leave open holes that are barely visible at night. This is a highly unsafe situation for all slow-moving traffic. And if a pedestrian or cyclist is involved in an accident as a result—with all the associated problems and additional financial costs—there is no company to be found that accepts responsibility.

Yes, cycling is good for one's health and wallet, helps relieve the burden of heavy, fast-moving traffic, is environmentally friendly, and offers a recreational, stress-relieving experience.

However, the many bicycle-unfriendly aspects of the traffic and road conditions do not encourage cycling.

Therefore, let us give cycling a chance by having everyone—government and community alike—contribute in their own way to a bicycle-friendly Bonaire featuring good, safe cycle paths.

Angliet Baidjoe

Lionfish are still a problem from page 1

her ELF and Zookeeper, (what holds the catch). She may only capture three fish, but she makes a difference.

Divers often report lionfish sightings on Facebook at various dive sites and hunters are quick to react. For example, one post reported a lot of lionfish at Bachelors Beach and that resulted in hunters removing 38 fish.

STINAPA urges everyone with an ELF that isn't being used to return it even if it's broken so some other certified hunter can use it. Anyone who was loaned an ELF with a deposit will be reimbursed.

A major concern is that the ELF is used responsibly. If the ELF gets into the wrong hands, it could be used for killing other fish which could eliminate our reef fish population in a totally different way. It is estimated there are over 1000 ELFs on loan from STINAPA.

For more information contact STINAPA at 599-717-8444 and visit Private Divers and FPA Sports on Facebook for lionfish certification or to join a dive.

Story / Photos Julie Morgan



“In the last couple of weeks we have heard AI could kill all humans...AI will have the capability to destroy us... We need to slow down if AI goes rogue. This is happening right now...”, said Boudina.

The island should question: What is one visitor worth to Bonaire minus what one visitor cost Bonaire?

The AI engine is theirs but the fuel [data] is yours and they cannot coexist without human judgement. Bringing all that data together and you have the perfect insight.

Olivier Ponti, director of market intelligence-insights at Amadeus Travel spoke about Turning Global Travel Trends to Tourism opportunities for Bonaire.

Olivier revealed an increase of international flights from 2026 – saying seat capacity is up 3% for 2026-27. Unfortunately for the next six months Bonaire is not listed in the top Caribbean flight increase destinations, even though the Caribbean remains a hot destination.

Air connectivity remains the foundation of growth value, not volume. There are markets out there with an intent to travel but there are zero direct connections. Data led marketing wins the right traveler.

Elesier “Ely” Angel, TCB’s CEO, finished up the morning talks by echoing the “Everything is connected” slogan, saying this is how we have to operate this year. Ely said, “Tourism strenghtens the quality of life, protects our nature and uplifts our culture. For the quality of life for the people on the island, we have to protect our nature.”

In the last 13 years, the number of stayover visitors has grown 57%. Florida has taken over New York as the top sending state. People are staying a bit longer and more are staying in hotels. The US is still heavy on diving, but all around most people are coming for vacation. The exit sur-

vey revealed 45% of island guests are return visitors.

An average of \$4004 was spent per person perstay with divers spending \$4,528, wind surfers \$4,755, mountain bikers \$4624 and kayakers \$4175.

The economic contribution from visitors was 572.2 million in 2025 and this year to date, from January to August, its around 300 million with four months to go.

TCB is working to include more Bonaireans in tourism through the local ambassador programs, Bonaire Friends, This is My Bonaire and local events built for residents.

A new brand video was revealed to the crowd showing fast moving images of wind surfing, foiling, kiteboarding, snorkeling, biking, trekking and swimming, but no diving.

Elys said, “Some 49 million people were reached by the coral headlines this past August. Protecting our product and growing it are now the same task, not two separate ones.”

TCB is proposing a rotation access to the busiest of Bonaire’s 97 dive sites to allow for recovery windows and advancing the work of citizen science groups like Reef Renewal.

Other sustainable product development projects are presenting Rincon Culture Capital – 500 years of Rincon in 2027; beautification project of Chantiwawa culture walk, Cocari and Fuhikubo agreement for a more tangible heritage and protecting the history and culture of Fontein.

Our ambition for 2027: 205k stayover visitors; 10 nights and 450k cruise arrivals.

Julie Morgan



Public transit coming in January maybe

The Executive Council is collaborating with the ABC Bus Company on Curaçao to begin bus service on Bonaire. They hope to have the first bus running by late January. They still need to write a business case, plan a startup route and decide on the frequency of service in order to determine the size of bus needed. Then they will order a bus. Obtaining one from Curaçao is a possibility.

Guided by ABC's sixty years of experience in the business, and by data that has already been collected on Bonaire's transportation needs, the Executive intends to get a bus in operation, then build the service step by step. Island council member Elvis Tjin Asjoe said the goal is to go from small to a fully functioning public transport system. "No more consultants, no more plans -- just do it," he said.

DMR (Source, Hans Hofstra, BES-Reporter)

DCNA funds nature restoration projects in CN

Dutch Caribbean Nature Alliance's (DCNA) Conservation & Restoration of Key Habitats Program, Launched in 2025, has granted four local conservation organizations on Bonaire and Saba more than \$670,000 in funding. The Key Habitats Program is DCNA's regional program for the long-term conservation and restoration of the Dutch Caribbean's vital ecosystems.

The four selected organizations and their projects are:

1. Mangrove Maniacs – "Healthy Mangroves for a Climate Resilient Bonaire" Mangrove Maniacs will restore mangroves around Lac Bay as part of a wider landscape-to-seascape approach. The project combines mangrove restoration with improving water flow, restoring dry forest further upstream and reducing erosion and sedimentation.

2. BonBèrdè – "Strategic Fencing for Lac Coastal Protection" At Lac Bay, BonBèrdè will install 825 metres of fencing to protect approximately 160 hectares of dry forest and coastal scrub from free-roaming grazers. The project will also connect existing protected areas around Lac Bay, creating a more continuous natural landscape of almost 600 hectares.

3. STINAPA – "Rewilding Washington" In Washington Slagbaai National Park, STINAPA will restore 175 hectares of tropical dry forest in Washington Area One. By creating the conditions for native vegetation to recover, the project will help the forest regenerate naturally and provide better habitat for wildlife.

4. Saba Conservation Foundation - "Strengthening Climate Resilience of Saba's Forest Ecosystems" The Saba Conservation Foundation will restore between 3 and 5 hectares of cloud forest by removing invasive plants, replanting native species and monitoring recovery over time. Work will help native forest vegetation return and strengthen the ecosystem's ability to recover from ongoing pressures.

Together, these four projects put the Key Habitats Program's regional approach into practice. The program connects local conservation work across five key habitats: coral reefs, seagrass, mangroves, tropical dry forest and scrub, and tropical wet forest.

This first funding round is only the beginning. More calls for proposals will follow in the coming years, each focusing on different strategies within the regional conservation plan and creating new opportunities for organizations across the Dutch Caribbean to contribute. DMR

Selibon getting new waste handling equipment

Four new garbage trucks, a wheel loader, a dump truck, and a bulldozer are expected to be delivered to Bonaire by the end of October. A heavy waste compactor is already on the island. The new equipment will help stabilize the situation at Selibon and the Lagun landfill, a goal of the emergency measures the Executive Council is implementing under the April 2025 administrative enforcement order.

The heavy waste compactor is an impressive piece of equipment. Built in Finland, the heavy compactor drives over waste with wide steel drums and large teeth. It flattens and shreds the waste, then compresses it for more efficient handling.

The OLB has also made funds available for clearing the tire storage area, implementing new operating procedures at the landfill, and improving Selibon's financial and operational position. Immediate nuisances affecting the surrounding area—such as fire risks, pests, and odors—have already decreased. *DMR*

New government codes of conduct being drafted

The Ministry of the Interior and Kingdom Relations and the island governments are working together to draft new codes of conduct for politicians and administrators on Bonaire, Sint-Eustatius, and Saba. Their intention is to further strengthen administrative integrity, including providing better protection for reporters of integrity violations and whistleblowers.

The codes are expected to take effect in 2027. *DMR*



Tenders have been invited for a development site in Rincon and for two new development sites in the Dawari área, residential site C and residential site D (see top horizontal section of plan). Market parties have been invited to submit a bid for the sites. Dawari is near Salina de Vlijt / Kaya Amsterdam.

Police officer's car shot at

Someone shot at a police officer's vehicle the weekend of September 19-20. Island Governor John Soliano said he was concerned that the act was not only condoned but perhaps even applauded. Chief of Police Alwyn Braaf said "Violence and intimidation against police officers will not be tolerated."

Money available for roads in 2027

Bonaire will spend 5.8 million euros on road improvements in 2027. That was the amount earmarked for 2027 from the 16 million euros that the Netherlands made available for road upgrading during 2025 through 2028. *DMR*



More organized parking added downtown

For several years Brionplein, the area between the Post Office and the Stadium, has been available for public parking. But the eastern end was just a vacant lot. Now that area, though still unpaved, has been organized into approximately 60 new marked spaces. *DMR*

45 kids searched Rincon for clues in TCB's 4th annual scavenger hunt



As part of Tourism Month activities, Tourism Corporation Bonaire (TCB) successfully hosted its fourth Tourism Scavenger Hunt on Saturday, September 19, 2026, in Rincon. Local children between the ages of 8 and 12 discovered the neighborhood's unique sites, character, and beauty.

This year 9 teams participated, with each team consisting of five children accompanied by an adult. This year's theme was 'nos kosecha' (our harvest). Each team was assigned a crop to incorporate into their costume: okra, bell pepper, mispel, sorghum (maishi chiki), pumpkin, shimaruku, kenepa, lime, or papaya.

The hunt concluded with lunch at Kos Bon So, where all participants also received a participation gift courtesy of TCB.

The winners were announced during Taste of Bonaire on Saturday, September 26, an evening event marking the close of Tourism Month: First - Grupo Maishi Chiki (Leader Xavier Janga); Second - Grupo Papaya (Leader Marjolijn Kroon); Third - Grupo Shimaruku (Leader Xioella Janga) and for Best Creative Costume - Grupo Yambo (Leader Xiomara Janga).

TCB Release

BioNews Kids 6th edition is out

The Dutch Caribbean Nature Alliance (DCNA) has launched the sixth edition of BioNews Kids, a free magazine for kids aged 10–12 across the Dutch Caribbean.

This year's edition focuses on climate change and invites children to become Climate Heroes. Through engaging stories, heroes and supervillains, children learn more about climate change and how it affects the islands they call home. They also discover who is helping to protect our planet, and what can put our world at risk.

Our islands are climate-sensitive, and they can feel the effects of climate change in the nature, animals and places around them. BioNews Kids makes this topic easier to understand by connecting it to the world children know. The magazine helps young readers discover how climate and nature are connected, while encouraging them to think about what they can do to help protect their environment. The magazine also helps children prepare for the Big Live Nature Quiz on October 30th, when primary school students across the Dutch Caribbean can test their knowledge of the region's nature.

BioNews Kids is available online in English, Dutch, Papiamentu and Papiamentu. Schools across the Dutch Caribbean



bean receive free hard copies to use in their classrooms. Hard copies are also available through the DCNA conservation partners on each island: STINAPA on Bonaire, CARMABI on Curaçao, Aruba Conservation Foundation on Aruba, STENAPA on Sint Eustatius, Nature Foundation Sint Maarten on Sint Maarten, and Saba Conservation Foundation on Saba.

Want to read BioNews Kids 6 or learn more about DCNA's work in nature education? Visit

dcanature.org/nature-education

DCNA release

Fiesta di Salú superheros return to primary schools



the first time in 2025. The games featuring superheroes are returning this year. And as 2026's star superhero is Zula Pampuna, children will receive a small pumpkin plant to take home.

A new quiz station has been added, allowing students to expand their knowledge of health in a fun way. Additionally, the popular infused-water station helps

kids discover that water infused with fruit is not only healthy but also surprisingly delicious.

The festive conclusion of Fiesta di Salú will take place during Cyclovia on November 1, when the entire Bonairean community is invited to experience the Fiesta di Salú.

OLB release

Students on Bonaire can get ready for a new edition of Fiesta di Salú (Health Festival). For the second year, primary school students will meet The Bon Salú Squad, the superheroes Zula Pampuna, Bitá Banana, Wòti Walnoot, and Awasito.

The GGD Bonaire (Public Health Department) designed the Fiesta di Salú to help children discover how healthy eating and physical activity contribute to their well-being. Kids also learn more about how food grows and where healthy products come from.

Fiesta di Salú was organized in Bonaire's schools for



Kids meet the Bon Salú Squad superheros through games and quizzes.
(Top row L-R) Bitá Banana, Wòti Walnoot, Bottom row (L-R) Zula Pampuna, and Awasito

You are Amazing, Cuba Compagnie!

Since I am basically a language slob who only speaks English, I had to look up the meaning of Compagnie. Compagnie as it turns out is a French term (I thought it was Spanish-see language slob above). The term refers both to an operating business but also means companionship. The old double entendre. Cuba Compagnie successfully combines both.



Author Virginia Knight receives the main course from Joep Loggies Photo Julie Morgan

Cuba as a business is a great working team. Service is prompt and the staff is cheerful. The upbeat manager Joep Loggies, who seemed to be everywhere all at once, does a great job of welcoming diners and caring for everyone. Most of us on Bonaire have enjoyed the laid back and also exotic Cuba vibe many times. The decor is just cool: posters of Che Guevara, the old women defiantly smoking giant cigars, the Cuban music and the colorful casual tables under giant umbrellas and trees provide a comfortable sidewalk cafe setting. It's fun to watch the action in Wilhelmina Park of kids rolling past on bikes and people strolling by. It encourages you to be fully yourself and enjoy life for a moment. The wait-staff wear shirts that say: "You are amazing...remember that". How many restaurants support your mental health as well as providing you with a delicious meal?

Now to the meal...we sampled everything on this year's Culinair menu. For those who are unfamiliar with it, Culinair happens twice a year and various Bo-



Chef Alberto Mera Jimenez peeks out over the Culinair main course Photo Julie Morgan

naire restaurants offer specialty dishes at a fixed and discounted price for 2 weeks from September 24 – October 8. Cuba's Culinair three course menu gives diners the choice between two apps, two main courses and two desserts. The appetizers are either a fabulous creamy pumpkin soup with crunch bits of chorizo, or a smoked salmon salad. Both soup and salad are meals in themselves. I was full after consuming just half of the huge bowl of soup, but I could not stop eating it. I practically licked the bowl.

Then came the main course choices. Fish of the day prepared perfectly with a creole sauce on the side resting on a smear of pumpkin sauce and served with a side salad and fries. Or a ribeye steak which was tender and also resting on a pumpkin smear and wore a delicious sauce. Dessert choices were yogurt prepared three ways, one being an old Dutch yogurt recipe called Hangop, because they hang the yogurt in a cloth bag and drain the liquid out which makes it exceptionally tart and smooth, a pink smoothie and a mango yogurt with crunch. Second option is two scoops of yummy Luciano ice cream served on a bed of fresh fruit chunks. These two desserts were the perfect finale; nice and light after the generous meals. Cost for the 3-course meal is just \$45.00 so foodies and others get out there!

Chef Alberto Mera Jimenez, originally from the Dominican Republic, is head chef and has been cooking at Cuba for 12 years. His mother did not force him to eat

food he didn't like, and he cooks with great authority and humor. Everyone in the kitchen also worked as a team and seemed to be enjoying themselves and each other.



Dessert - nice and light after a generous meal Photo Julie Morgan

What more can I say? Cuba Compagnie is a wonderful restaurant but it's really more than that. It's a special place to feed your body and soul that will leave you satisfied and in good spirits. Remember you are amazing. Cuba Compagnie and I think you are amazing too.

*Story Virginia Knight
Photos Julie Morgan*



Cold Lasagna with Tuna by Chef Corjan Hoogerheide

Lasagna: 3 sheets of cooked lasagna - 10/6 cm (4/2.5 in) • 75 g (2 ¾ oz) fresh tuna tartare • 75 g (2 ¾ oz) fresh tuna tataki (sear briefly on all sides, optionally breaded in sesame seeds) • Arugula, a few leaves • 20 g (5-6 T) Mango, diced • 10 Edamame beans • Single pieces of Sushi Ginger • 1 teaspoon Wakame • 1 teaspoon Wasabi • 1 tablespoon Mayonnaise • 1 teaspoon (Greek) yogurt • 10 red onion rings • 3 local cucumber slices • 1/4 spring onion, cut into long rings

Sauce: Sesame seeds • 2 tablespoons sweet soy sauce • 1 tablespoon soy • 1 teaspoon sesame oil • Pinch of curry powder • Pinch of ginger powder • 1 cm (1/3 in) Fresh ginger, grated • 1/2 clove of garlic, grated

Stir the wasabi into the mayonnaise and yogurt, and lightly spread

this mixture over the cooked, patted dry lasagna sheets. Season the tuna tartare with some soy sauce, chopped onion, Bonaire sea salt and some pepper. Now build up the lasagna in layers, alternating the tartare and tataki, with the other ingredients in between.

Stir all the ingredients for the sauce together well and serve with the lasagna, along with a few dollops of wasabi and some sesame seeds.

Each issue Chef Corjan Hoogerheide shares a recipe for a personal dish created from Bonaire's fresh ingredients. Corjan works as a Sous Chef at "The Reef Bar" at Sorobon luxury beach resort Bonaire..



Three Sailors, One Challenge: Bonaire to Curaçao and Back

Three Bonaire Sunfish sailors set sail for Curaçao on September 17 for a challenging journey that would become much more than a trip across the water.

Veteran sailor George “Kabes” Soliano, Dedrie Pedersen, one of the few female sailors representing Bonaire at this level, and our young junior sailor Rocqui Martis took on the passage together, each sailing their own Sunfish.



Rocqui Martis

Photo Julie Morgan

The journey to Curaçao was an important part of the training for Dedrie and Rocqui, who are preparing to represent Bonaire at the Sunfish World Championship in St. Croix this November. Sailing offshore, managing changing conditions, staying focused and handling their boats for hours at a time provided invaluable preparation that no classroom or short training session can replace. But reaching Curaçao was only the beginning.

The second goal of the journey was to compete in the Curaçao Championship, held on Saturday and Sunday. The sailors were faced with challenging conditions, with the wind well into the high 20-knot range, demanding strength, concentration, boat control and smart sailing. Despite the tough conditions, Dedrie and Rocqui both finished second in their respective categories—a fantastic result and a reflection of the hard work they have been putting into their training.

Then, on September 22, the three sailors once again took to the water, setting sail from Curaçao back to Bonaire. The return passage was another opportunity to put their skills to the test and demonstrated the determination, confidence and resilience of these three sailors. This journey was not simply about racing. It was about training, endurance, teamwork, courage and believing in what is possible.

For Rocqui, it was another important step in his development as a young sailor. For Dedrie, it was valuable preparation for her fourth Sunfish World Championship and another opportunity to demonstrate that women can take their place on the starting line and compete at the highest level. And for George, a veteran of the sport, the journey once again showcased the experience and strength that come with years of sailing.

Dedrie and Rocqui are the only two Bonaire Sunfish sailors participating this year in the 55th ISCA Open World Championships November 8–14 with racing November 10–13. They will compete in the Youth/Masters/Women’s World Championship categories November 6–8.



George “Kabes” Soliano and Dedrie Pedersen

Photo Julie Morgan

To help fund their journey to the competition, Rocqui and Dedrie are planning to sail around Bonaire in a special fundraising event on October 24. Details will be revealed soon.

The sailors are excited to take on this challenge and hope everyone will follow and support their journey in representing Bonaire.

Dedrie Petersen

MHC opens new office on Saba

On September 2, 2026, Mental Health Caribbean (MHC) held a festive opening ceremony for its new office on Saba. The MHC team now has a pleasant and suitable space to support the residents of Saba with their mental health.

All members of the MHC team from Saba and Sint Eustatius were present at the opening. Also present were representatives from various organizations on the island and Acting Governor Mrs. Nicholson-Linzey. Representing MHC were, among others, Executive Director Kathelijne van den Boogert; manager for Sint-Eustatius and Saba Jacco Vaders; psychiatrist Niels van Kampen; and manager of operations and property Tom Hunting.

Cassandra Labasti, senior social-psychiatric nurse at MHC on Saba, opened the gathering and welcomed the guests. Next, Executive Director Kathelijne van den Boogert spoke about the importance of high-quality and accessible mental health care on Saba. Cassandra received special recognition for her extra dedication to the new office. Together, the team has accomplished a great deal in a short time to get the new facility ready.

MHC began operations on Saba in 2013, with only one staff member and no office of their own. Today, a team of three to four staff members work daily to provide mental health care on the island. *MHC release*



Team MHC at Opening new MHC office on Saba, MHC photo

Klub di Koki explores new culinary possibilities



Members of the Cooks Club enjoying the tastes from Salty Seafood, the Lake Friet at Kunuku Klub were: De Tafelheer Bonaire, Floris van Loo of Rum Runners, Isidoor van Riemsdijk with MBO students, Goos Baars and Kunuku Klub staff, Grand Windsock chef, Corjan Hoogerheide of Sorobon Reef Bar, Egbert de Vries, Mark Tromop, Patrick Hallan, Salty Seafood staff and Sietse Bon of the Dock. Photo Julie Morgan

Klub di Koki, (Cooks Club) members venture out most every month to exchange and explore new ideas and culinary products available in Bonaire's restaurant community.

Last week the club members toured Salty Seafood, a wholesale frozen fish company with a home base in Curaçao. You might think, why would anyone want frozen fish on Bonaire when our local fishers catch magnificent fresh fish daily. Salty Seafood is filling in the gaps with seafood that is either not swimming in our beautiful blue waters or when the demand of Bonaire's 170 restaurants is too high. The seafood company offers fresh frozen fish from Norway, Vietnam, Thailand and Surinam. These items include smoked salmon, a seafood mix, giant shrimp,

langostino, mussels, conch, sushi products, octopus, lobster, mahi, snapper and more. Previously Salty Seafood products were only available to restaurants and chefs, but beginning this week all that changes. The company is launching the seafood market to home chefs in regular consumer sizes making it possible for anyone to enjoy these products in their own kitchen.

The club next traveled to the new open-air restaurant and bar Kunuku Klub. This is a funky new place at Zozo Ranch off Sorobon road. Owner Goos Baars, founder of the popular outdoor night club Lemonade, welcomed the Cooks Club for a tour and a welcome cocktail made of gin, Aperol, tamarind syrup, lime juice and local basil. The Kunuku

Klub property is decorated with all types of found items that have been repurposed.

Goos said, "This is my own kind of place with my own stuff... We found items on the island that no one wanted any longer. I wanted to have a good place where we can try new things and bring people together. We built a green house, and we want to grow our own vegetables to use in the restaurant. The kitchen, bar and bathroom are all old containers. The customized smoker was my first car on the island. We started collecting things last November and opened August 1. For now, we are only open Tuesday and Wednesday (4 – 10 p.m.) so that we can improve and do other things."

The Kunuku Klub has a very relaxed atmosphere where everyone is welcome. Guests can come out for a drink and just lounge around or dine from the weekly changing menu for only \$15.

The club members made themselves at home with their drinks in some repurposed chairs and tables under a shade tree in anticipation of what goodies they would be tasting. While the car - smoker/grill was fired up, Corjan Hoogerheide, Chef and Cook's Club organizer, brought out some snack samplings from The Lake Friet: veal croquette, beef croquette, cheese souffle bami slice, crispy chicken and mini snack sausages. Next up was Chef Corjan's ceviche made of wahoo from Salty Seafood with a mixture of tamarind, lemon juice, garlic, carrot, mango, salt and pepper and a tiny bit of honey. A staple at any kunuku is fish soup so Corjan treated the chefs to one made with Salty Seafoods

shrimp, octopus and mussels and a stock made of shrimp peels, cream and basil oil.

As everyone snacked on the goodies, Claudia from De Tafelheer Bonaire provided information about the 800 different restaurant products they offer on Bonaire. Two items we actually used were a disposable straw made of agave that doesn't fall apart in the drink and cocktail napkins that aren't like tissue paper.

Once the smoker/ grill was ready, tuna, shrimp and snapper from Salty Seafood were cooked and served. Corjan prepared a perfect complement to the tuna, a Tapenade sauce made of green and black olives, sundried tomato, capers, mustard, olive oil and anchovies. For the shrimp and snapper, Corjan made a pesto of parmesan, basil, walnuts and olive oil.

As usual the members enjoyed a nice afternoon out of the kitchen and learned about some new products and ideas to incorporate into their businesses.

To learn more about Salty Seafood visit their website at saltyseafood.com and for more information about Kunuku Klub visit them on Facebook or Instagram. To see what products De Tafelheer Bonaire offers visit their website at detafelheerbonaire.com and find the Lake Friet on Facebook.

To follow the adventures of the Cooks Club or learn more visit Klub di Koki on Facebook.

Julie Morgan



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First artificial reef structures for “TripleR” printed and soon on their way to Saba

What looks like an unusual piece of 3D-printed sculpture on land could soon become part of a Caribbean coral reef. The first artificial reef structures developed for the TripleR project – the Triple Restoration Approach – have now been printed and are preparing to make their way to Saba.

TripleR is a research project led by Van Hall Larenstein University of Applied Sciences that brings together scientists, conservation organisations and other local and regional partners to explore new ways of restoring Caribbean coral reefs. Running from 2026 to 2028, the project tests whether combining three approaches – restoring corals, supporting reef grazers and rebuilding reef structure – can improve reef recovery.

The new 3D-printed structures are part of the third approach, but they are designed to support the other two as well: providing surfaces where corals can grow and shelter where grazing sea urchins can hide.



Giving the Reef a Helping Hand

Caribbean coral reefs are facing growing pressure from climate change, disease, overfishing and other impacts. As corals disappear, reefs can lose much of their physical structure too. The cracks, holes and sheltered spaces created by healthy coral are important places for fish, sea urchins and other reef animals to live and hide.

One of those animals is the long-spined sea urchin, *Diadema aantillarum*. These important reef grazers help keep algae under control, but their populations have declined dramatically. With fewer grazers, algae can spread and compete with corals for space. This can create a difficult cycle: fewer corals mean less reef structure, while fewer sheltered spaces can make it harder for reef grazers to thrive. With fewer grazers, algae can spread even further. TripleR is investigating whether addressing these challenges together could help break that cycle.

Inspired by Coral2

The artificial structures are designed to provide surfaces where corals can grow, while also creating shelter for grazing sea urchins. Getting the design right took months of collaboration. During a series of workshops, project partners and experts explored how the structures could function underwater and what they should look like.

The result is two designs inspired by

corals themselves: one based on the shape of fire coral and another inspired by elkhorn coral. The team at Coastruction transformed the ideas, sketches and feedback from the workshops into the final designs. Now, for the first time, those designs exist as physical structures that can be tested in the sea.

From Printer to Reef

The next stop is Saba. There, the structures will be placed on the reef as part of TripleR’s field research. Once underwater, researchers will observe how the structures perform under real reef conditions and how they interact with restored corals and reef grazers. The experiments will also help reveal how local reef conditions influence the results. In other words, the 3D-printed structures are not the finished product, but the starting point for a real-world experiment: can rebuilding the physical structure of a reef, while also restoring corals and supporting grazers, help create better conditions for reef recovery?

The project brings together React Foundation, Coastruction, Public Entity Saba, Saba Conservation Foundation, St. Eustatius National Parks Foundation (STENAPA), Wageningen University, World Wide Fund for Nature, Reef Renewal Bonaire and the Dutch Caribbean Nature Alliance, alongside Van Hall Larenstein University of Applied Sciences.

DCNA release

Photo credit Coastruction



Statistics Netherlands (CBS) has released figures on internet usage of residents aged 15 and over in the Caribbean Netherlands.

- Almost all residents of Bonaire, St Eustatius and Saba (97 percent) use the internet every day or almost every day – either at home or at work.

- Around 80 percent of people on Bonaire and St Eustatius said they use online banking. On Saba, the share was lower, at just over 60 percent.

- On all three islands 94 percent of residents said they had made phone calls or video calls online or sent text messages in the past three months. 86 percent had used social media.

- People are the most likely to be sceptical about information they have seen on social media. They were less likely

to come across information they thought was untrue on news websites and elsewhere on the internet.

- Two-thirds of residents on Bonaire and Saba said they had seen or read information at some point in the past three months which they believed to be untrue, or of which they doubted the accuracy. On St Eustatius, the share was lower, at just over half.

- Over three-quarters of residents check whether the information they read

or see on the internet is true by checking the sources, consulting reliable online sources or sources other than the internet, or discussing it with others. Residents of St Eustatius are more likely to do this than residents of Bonaire.

- Around 30 percent of residents said they had, at some point, checked whether a website was safe. There were no differences in this regard between residents of the three islands.

CSB release.

Eat the Invader

“Eat the Invader” was a public awareness campaign back in 2009 launched by NOAA, Reef Environmental Education Foundation (REEF) for local chefs in Florida and the Caribbean to hopefully annihilate the invasive lionfish. The fish didn’t find its way to Bonaire until that same year and STINAPA quickly set up a program to rid the invader and Bonaire chefs and diners were quick to do their part.

Today the lionfish still resides in our waters and hunters are still wielding their ELF’s.

Wines & More prepared several ways to “Eat the Invader” at a lionfish dinner on September 26. Some 6 kg of lionfish was finessed into a four-course dinner for 25 by chefs Mathieu and Johan. And being Wine’s & More, Annemarie paired the perfect wines.



Enjoying the perfect end to the lionfish diving and dinner are collaborators: chef and lion fisher Johan Verbeek, lion fisher Isabel van Schijndel, chef Mathieu Savelkoul, sommelier Annemarie Borst and lion fisher Baujke Wassenaar



Starter: house smoked lionfish, locally, farmed salad from Bon Tera, quinoa crunch and a hibiscus foam

Second course: lionfish soup (broth made from lionfish bones, vegetables and a lionfish dumpling)

Main course: a lionfish tasting with deepfried lionfish wings, “kibbeling” from lionfish, deepfried wings, spicy sushi and ceviche served in a taco.

The fourth course, dessert: mango mousse with rice cake, basil and passionfruit curd (Obviously, no lionfish ingredients in this perfect end to the perfect meal.)



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12 steps meeting: Wednesdays at Kaya Cacique, Centro di bario Nort 'i Saliña, Meeting starts at 7:15 p.m. till 8:30 p.m. Info: 12stepsbonaire@gmail.com

Alcoholics Anonymous open meeting Every Thursday, 7 - 8 p.m. International Bible Church Kaya Papago 104 in Hato (Behind Bon Bida Spa and Gym and Bon Bida apartments). All welcome, regardless of primary addiction or no addiction at all. <https://www.bonaireaa.com>

Animal Shelter's Paws and Foot Prints bi-weekly dog walking group. Every other Wednesday 8 a.m. for an hour at Seru Largu. Signup by sending a WhatsApp message to 599-701-4989 no later than 2 p.m. the day before the walk (so we know how many dogs to bring).

Apertivo evening from 5 – 8 p.m. Fridays Rosa Cafe. Stop in for a drink & free Italian appetizers.

Beach Tennis Bonaire Free. Everyone welcome. Sportpark Rudy Boezem. Open 7 a.m.-9 p.m.
<https://www.facebook.com/beachtennisbonaire/>

Becoming Movement Club Free monthly event for runners and walkers. Sorobon five-kilometer route Sunday 7.15 a.m. Check [Facebook](#).

Bridgeclub Bonaire organizes a bridge evening Wed. 7:30 - 10:30 p.m. All levels welcome. Info: 795-0128 (Whatsapp text), bridgeclubbonaire@gmail.com. <https://www.facebook.com/bridgeclubbonaire>

Consultancy open to all immigrants and/or refugees every Saturday 4 to 6 p.m. at Bijkerk's law office in Antriol. Call 796 2650 (abog. Bijkerk) or 787 2373 (FUIB - Union of Bonairean Immigrants).

Cultural activities for the elderly at Höfi Kultural Tues., Wed. and Fri. at Cultural Garden, Antríol Pabou, Skandelchi Street z/n Info: manon@culturalplatform.com or call +599 7708437

Cycloviva A car-free open street event. Kids of every age can safely ride bikes, scooters, skates, and so on. There's music and bouncy castles, and sidewalk cafés for a bite to eat. Next on November 1. Watch for it on https://www.facebook.com/cycloviabonaire/?locale=nl_NL

Field Hockey. Kids 6-12. Thurs. free training in May & June. Adults train twice weekly.
<https://www.facebook.com/people/Bonaire-Hockey-Foundation/61576259612469/>

Fish ID course. Free. 7 p.m. at Trans World Radio (TWR) led by Carmen Toanchina. All welcome. Usually held last Thursday of the month. Check: <https://www.reef.org/events/month>

JEU De BOULES CLUB Bonaire. ALL WELCOME. We play **PETANQUE** (the French version). Wed. & Sun. 2.30-6 p.m. Kunuku Allee, Kaminda Lac 38. We have spare boules (balls) for newcomers. jeudeboulebonaire@gmail.com or Peter Overman, 00599 7964037

Live Music Yhannis Arepas (Kaya Neerlandia, behind Budget Marine) Every Sunday 1 - 5 p.m.
<https://www.facebook.com/yhannisarepas/>

Museum Night, Terramar museum. Free access to galleries last Wednesday of the month. From 6 to 8 p.m., visitors are welcomed into a relaxed, friendly atmosphere where they can enjoy the galleries after hours and join a themed workshop (pay what you can).

Narcotics Anonymous (NA) Bonaire. GET RID OF YOUR DRUG ADDICTION Monday 19:00-20:00.
Kaya Tanki Matrimonio 30. Dutch & Papiamentu. Call Wensley 700 7289 or Remco 784 1782.

Pickleball. • **Chinese Assoc. Kaminda Lac, Blue Building:** Tues. & Thurs 6-8 p.m. Sat. 3 to 5 p.m.
• **Sports Hall Jorge Nicolaas, Kaya Amsterdam:** Sun. Social play and beginners from 8 – 10 a.m.
Advanced Competitive play from 10 a.m. - Noon. Members play free, non-members pay \$ 5.00 pp

Radio program “Krese” Bonaire’s development over the past 70 years.- Last Tuesday of the month, 6 - 7 p.m. on Bon FM 102.7 FM. In Papiamentu; A recap is planned in Dutch and English on <https://www.facebook.com/share/1HPK6YY3Gm/?mibextid=wwXlfr>

Radio program “Ban Lesa 2.0” Tuesdays 5:30 p.m. on Bon FM 102.7 FM. Multilingual; Guests in a warm and personal conversation, talk about a book that has moved them.

Rosicrucian Order, AMORC in Bonaire Michiel Bijkerk 796 2650, abogado.bijkerk@gmail.com

Sabal Palm Park has **three walking routes** through protected landscape. Discover limestone formations, coastal vegetation, salt lakes, rare plant species and Bonaire's remaining wild Sabal palms. Signs provide insight into the history, geology and ecology of the area. bonberde.com/bonaire-sabal-palm-park

Sunfish Race Days: Barring inclement weather: BSSA Bonaire Sailing School Association Facebook.

Tennis Eddie's courts. Everyone (18+) is welcome. **Free Kid's Clinics at Sentro di Bario Nikiboko Tue & Fri 4-6 p.m. Sentro di Bario Nort'i Saliña, Mon & Thu 4-6 p.m.** Register: email info@bonairetennisassociation.com or app 599 782 4569. <https://bonairetennisassociation.com/events/> Mixed competition matches play Saturdays 4 to 10 p.m. on Eddie's courts.



Manta Monday Free presentations Nicole Pelletier of the Caribbean Islands Manta Conservation. 7:30 p.m. Email: nicole.pelletier@mantatrust.org; [Caribbean Islands Manta Conservation facebook](#)



Reef Renewal Bonaire. Mondays 5:30 p.m. Breakfast Area – Buddy Dive Resort. Free. Learn about coral reef restoration. Questions? email: info@reefrenewalbonaire.org



Turtle Conservation Bonaire (STCB). Free presentations at Kaya Aruba 4E on 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month, 8 p.m. . <https://www.facebook.com/bonaireturtles/>

Klein Bonaire nesting site patrol. The important nesting site with an average of 70 nests per year. Our staff patrol the beach of Klein Bonaire and you can join them! When: May-October, Mon/Wed/Fri mornings 7:30 a.m. Cost: \$40 adults & \$20 children under 12. Bonaire residents \$20. Reserve your spots: <https://www.bonaireturtles.org/wp/nest-monitoring-patrols/>

STCB quarterly photo contest Each quarterly contest has its own theme and prize. You can submit your photo until Nov. 6 via our [google form](#). After sign-ups close, you'll find all contest entries on this page, ready to be voted on. The winning photo of every quarter will be displayed in the STCB visitor center and featured on our social channels. At the end of the year, all winning photos will be auctioned to support STCB.

What's Happening

Tuesdays, 24 weeks starting June 2	Ban Lesa 2.0 at 5:30 p.m. BonFM 102.7 The series celebrates the diversity, and power of Caribbean books. Multilingual.
Aug. 8 - Dec. 1	Tene Pia Seku, Terramar Museum. The exhibition looks at environmental change through the lens of community resilience and care. The exhibit joins international photography and research with local art and history.
Sept. 24 - Oct. 8	Bonaire Culinary Week – Fall Edition Use this 15-day event to discover the wide variety of restaurants Bonaire has to offer. Bonaire's culinary hotspots have created a 3-course lunch and dinner menus at special prices. https://www.bonaireculinaryweek.com
Friday & Saturday Oct. 2-3	POSTPONED Piskabon's yearly fishing tournament.
Saturday, Oct. 3	Music Bingo at Yhanni's Arepas 6:30-9:30 p.m. Birthday Fundraiser for Rocqui "Pebble in Motion" Martis \$10 pp Teams of 4-6 players. Reserve via What's App +599-777-5433
Oct. 11 - Oct. 16	Bonaire International Sailing Regatta
Sunday, Oct. 11	Swim to Klein Bonaire \$30 to support Jong Bonaire. Start times: Competitive Swim: 7:30 a.m. Recreational Swim: 9: a.m. Starts at Eden Beach and goes to Klein Bonaire.(800 meters) \$30 pp Includes: A unique event t-shirt & start number. Limited to 900 participants. Registration: Register online through Oct. 9 https://forms.cloud.microsoft/r/jL4sf1xzBi?origin=lpLink
Wednesday, Oct. 14	42nd Regatta Loop Comcabon: 5 km run \$10 (16 Year +); 2 km kids run FREE (8-15 years) 5:30 p.m Start Stadion Playa; Finish Karel's Beach Bar. https://patrishisports.com/events/42nd-Regatta-Loop-2026
Wednesday, Oct. 14	Classical concert for piano and violin. Corallium Hotel \$40 incl. intermission drink https://www.facebook.com/ClassicalMusicBoardBonaire/
Saturday, Oct. 24	Sunfish Fundraising Sail Around Bonaire. To help fund their journey to the 55th ISCA Open World Championships in St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands, Rocqui and Dedrie are planning to sail around Bonaire. Walking Dinner by Wines & More with a tour of Terra Barra. Dishes in the field all locally inspired. Tickets available at Wines and More
Sunday, Oct. 25	Animal Shelter Bonaire Halloween Market 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. Secondhand treasure, jewelry, comfort foods, spooky snacks and everything you need for to celebrate the fun, ghoulish Halloween holiday. If you are brave, a Haunted House with Doctor Fluff's veterinarian clinic and her assistant Miss Purr.
Friday, Oct. 30	Big Live Nature Quiz Kids DCNA hosts its online free Quiz on Aruba, Bonaire, Curaçao, Saba, Sint Maarten, and Sint Eustatius. 9 - 10 a.m. Teachers can register their team(s): https://dcnanature.org/quiz/
Saturday, Oct. 31	Nos Zjilea Cultural Event 10 a.m.- 3 p.m. Cultural Park Mangazina di Rei, Rincon. Free entrance. Enjoy the music, dancing, crafts, amazing food and drink. Held last Saturday of each month.
Sunday, Nov. 1	Fiesta di Salú The festive conclusion of Fiesta di Salú will take place during Cyclovía on November 1, when the entire Bonairean community is invited to experience the Fiesta di Salú activities.



You can help keep Bonaire clean

Saturdays	One Hour Cleanup Power. Weekly coastal clean up every Sat. 9 – 10 a.m. Location on FB: https://www.facebook.com/OneHourCleanUpPower/
Sunday, October 18 <i>(October changed to 18th from original time.)</i>	Clean Coast Bonaire clean up surveys second Sunday every month. 4-6 p.m. Boka Onima. Work as a citizen scientist to collect marine litter & data. https://www.facebook.com/search/top?q=clean%20coast%20bonaire
Saturday, Oct. 24	The Beach Boost collects trash washing up on Bonaire's shores in Marine Park the last Saturday of the month. 9:30-10:30 a.m. Join via WhatsApp groups +5997003749, +5997003748.
Saturday, October 24	Quarterly Clean up Dive, Dive Friends. Held January, April, July and October. Everyone is welcome. If you don't dive, you can snorkel; if you don't snorkel, you can help out on shore. https://www.divefriendsbonaire.com/eco-activities/quarterly-clean-up-dives/

Concert piano and violin – Wed. October 14th

On Wednesday, October 14, a wonderful piano and violin concert will take place. Pianist Lestari Scholtes and her husband, violinist Eduardo Paredes Crespo will be performing at 7:30 PM in the main hall of the Corallium Hotel.

Lestari Scholtes and Eduardo Paredes perform frequently, both together and in other ensembles. As a duo, they have performed at venues such as the Muziekgebouw aan 't IJ in Amsterdam and Carnegie Weill Hall in New York. Recently, Lestari performed at the decolonization commemoration (Netherlands-Indonesia) in Amsterdam. She is known to local audiences on Bonaire for a piano duo concert she gave on Bonaire in 2018 with Gwylim Janssens. Now she returns in a different combination and with a wealth of additional musical experience—and their two young sons are coming along to Bonaire.



Bolivian-Brazilian violinist Eduardo Paredes has performed at the Concertgebouw in Amsterdam, Carnegie Hall in New York, and in London, as well as in various other countries across Europe, South and North America, China, and South Africa.

The music presented by this duo will be a beautiful blend of works by European, Latin American, and Caribbean composers. Classical music lovers should not miss this event. A complimentary drink awaits you during the intermission of this gala concert.

Tickets at \$40 are available at three locations:

- Multishop (Local Artshop) Hato,
- Delmar (via tel. +599 701 6618)
- Lisa Convenience Store.

Coming Up	
Nov. 28-29	Kaminda di Arte. Open Art Studio Weekend. Artists open their studios to the public. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. https://www.sobremesa-bonaire.com/kaminda-di-arte
Get in shape now for... Sunday, Dec. 6	'From Tower to Tower' Chantiwawa organizes a 50-kilometer hike from Willemstoren (Torno di Sùit / Southern Tower) to Malmok Tower. Sign up via WhatsApp at +599-700-5964. Limited to 100 participants. Registration fee is \$20.

2026 Cruise Ship Schedule			
DATE	TIME	CRUISE SHIP	PIER
Wed. September 30	0800-2200	CARNIVAL HORIZON 4683 guests	South
Thurs. October 1	0600-1800	CELEBRITY REFLECTION 3046 guests	South
Tues. October 13	1400-2200	CARNIVAL VENEZIA 5260 guests	South
Wed. October 14	0800-2200	CARNIVAL HORIZON 4683 guests	South
Thurs. October 15	0600-1800	CELEBRITY REFLECTION 3046 guests	South
Wed. October 21	0900-2200	CARNIVAL MAGIC 3646 guests	South
Sat. October 24	0800-1800	CARIBBEAN PRINCESS 3622 guests	South
Sun. October 25	0700-1800	MSC POESIA 3013 guests	North
Mon. October 26	0700-1800	CELEBRITY SILHOUETTE 2886 guests	South
Wed. October 28	0600-1800	CARNIVAL HORIZON 4683 guests	South
Thurs. October 29	0600-1800	CARNIVAL GLORY 3540 guests	South
Fri. October 30	0600-1800	CELEBRITY REFLECTION 3046 guests	South

Church Services

Roman Catholic Churches Bonaire

- **Parish La Birgen di Coromoto (ANTRIOL):** Holy Masses: Mon–6:30 a.m.; Tues & Thur -7:30 p.m. Sat-6 p.m. (English) / 7:30 p.m.; Sun-7 a.m. / 10 a.m. / 6 p.m.
- **Parish San Bernardo (PLAYA):** Holy Masses: M. W. F. Sat-7 p.m. Sun-9 a.m./7 p.m.
- **Parish Luis Beltran (RINCON):** Holy Masses: Tu. W.Th. Sat-7 p.m. Sun-7 a.m./10 a.m.

International Bible Church of Bonaire (HATO): Kaya Papago 104. Sun: Worship Service & Children's Church 9 a.m. Sunday School 10:45 a.m. Services in English.

United Protestant Congregation

- **(KRALENDIJK), Plaza Wilhelmina:** Sun 10 a.m. Services in Dutch • **(RINCON) Kaya C. D. Crestian:** Sun 8 a.m. Services in Papiamentu/Dutch

Discover Bonaire's Finest Flavors

You can experience the very best of Bonaire's vibrant dining scene during the Bonaire Culinary Week Fall Edition, starting Thursday, September 24th through Thursday, October 8th.

As a well-established event held twice a year, this 15-day culinary celebration brings together more than 20 of Bonaire's favorite restaurants, cafés, bakeries and culinary hotspots.

Besides enjoying exclusive Culinary Week specials, guests will once again have the opportunity to win fantastic prizes. By simply scanning the QR code available at participating locations and leaving a short review, visitors will automatically be entered into the prize draw. This year's

prizes include: 5-Course Chef's Dinner for 2 at Joe's Restaurant, Gift Card from At Sea, Charcuterie Platter for 2 from Wines & More, Breakfast for 2 at Flora, BBQ Dinner for 2 at Rum Runners, Pitcher of Sangria at Bon Tapa.

For more information and the participating restaurants, visit: www.bonaireculinaryweek.com Stay up to date through our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/BonaireCulinaryOfficial-Page>

Reservations are highly recommended, as availability is limited during Bonaire Culinary Week.

Bonaire Culinary press release

Begin training for Chantiwawa's 50-kilometer hike

The hiking group Chantiwawa is organizing a 50-kilometer long-distance hike on Sunday, December 6. We have announced the event three months in advance to allow participants ample time to train, as it is a challenging trek.

The hike begins at 4 a.m. on the 6th, at the Willemstoren—also known as “Torno di Sùit” (Southern Tower)—and concludes at the Malmok Tower in Washington National Park. Malmok Tower is a historic lighthouse that never actually became operational.

We estimate that the first hikers will reach the finish line between 1 and 2 p.m. Along the route, Chantiwawa and INDEBON will provide water, fruit, and soup for the hikers taking on this challenge.

This hike was previously held some 20 to 25 years ago. At that time, however, different routes were used — specifically via Slagbaai and via the Playa Frans-Slagbaai path.

Those interested can sign up via WhatsApp at +599-7005964. Early registration is recommended, as the hike is limited to 100 participants. The registration fee is \$20.

Chantiwawa is a group of adventurous hikers established under the auspices of FuHiKuBo (Foundation for the Historical and Cultural Heritage of Bonaire). In addition to consulting INDEBON for assistance and advice, Chantiwawa also coordinated with STINAPA, as the final leg of the route passes through the park.

You might want to visit ...

Animal Shelter: Mon-Fri 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Sat. 11 a.m.-2 p.m. phone/whatsapp: 701 4989 or 717 4989. Email: animalshelterbonaire@gmail.com

Arts & Crafts Market in Wilhelmina Plaza. NEW open Friday 9am till 4pm as well as for the cruise ships (schedule can be found at: <https://www.facebook.com/BonaireArtsandCraftsCruiseMarket/>)

Cultural Park Mangazina di Rei in Rincon: Tues.-Thurs. 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Sat. 8-noon

Library: Mon. 1-5; Tues. & Thurs. 8-7; Wed & Fri. 8-5;; Sat. 10-2. 715 5344. Anyone can become a member. Free for residents 0 to 18 years. Adults \$10 a year. Members can borrow ebooks online. www.onlinebibliotheek.nl

Marshe di Playa Local market Sat. 9-1. Kaya Industria, by Warehouse Supermarket.

Pakus di Pruga (Animal Shelter flea market) Kaya Gilberto F Croes, just past Caribbean Laundry. Saturdays 8 a.m. – 3 p.m. Pakus raises funds for the Animal Shelter by selling recycled and affordable clothes, furniture, books, music, housewares and more.

Terramar Museum Mon-Fri 9-2. Kaya J.N.E. Isla Riba 3. Admission \$10. Residents \$5. Tours \$20. Children under 12 free. +599 701 4700 <https://terrarmuseum.org>

Each month: **Family Saturday,** Pay a “family” fee of \$10 to enjoy our exhibitions and activities. Family is who you decide; **Kids Workshop** \$10 per child. 10 - 12 noon. Register via terrarmuseum@gmail.com or phone. **Museum at Night** Free entrance. 5 to 6:30 p.m. to explore and shop; also **Sisterhood Circle** by Vibra Foundation 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Pay what you can. Info. +599 785 4399

SACA Art Center Free entrance. Kaya Korona 74. During the day the garden is open to the public.

STINAPA headquarters: Mon-Thur 8-4. Fri 8-12 noon. Sat & Sun Closed +599 717 8444. After hours: +599 777 8444.

Washington Slagbaai Park: Mon. Closed. Open Tues. - Sun. 8-5 (entry to 2:30 p.m.) \$40 (Free with Nature tag)

Sobremesa

Kas di Arte View or buy art from Bonaire's local artists. Tue-Fri 2 - 5 p.m. Sat 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Abraham Boulevard 10. **For those who love to make art themselves:**

- Fridays 3 - 5 p.m. After School Art. \$20. Ages 8+. Studio Muzo. Materials included.
- Every Sat 11 - 2. Open Art Studio. \$5 to use our space and materials but no guidance. 12+
- Every Wed 7 - 9 p.m. Art Club. \$20 for all materials and professional help is available! Work on your own art project (2D). 16+ Whatsapp +599 700 7115 • email: sobremesabonaire@gmail.com

Alzheimer Awareness month ends with a walk



On early Sunday morning September 27 at 6 a.m. World Alzheimer's Month concluded with the traditional 5 km Alzheimer Awareness walk.

Organized by Intensity, Eagle Eye Media and Fundashon Alzheimer Bonaire (FAB), the walk began at Cargill Salt Company, continued to the white slave huts and then returned. This was the fifth anniversary of the awareness walk and the 15th anniversary of FAB.

For their participation each walker received a FAB sticker and

in honor of the awareness walks' fifth anniversary they received a special pin to wear on their white t-shirt. Walk participants gave a \$10 contribution which goes toward FAB's awareness program.

The exact number of walkers is unknown, as people make donations but don't participate in the actual walk. Organizers believe there was a higher number of walkers this year which proved to be a great experience for everyone.

All the activities organized during Alzheimer Awareness

month were deemed a success. We are grateful to our volunteers, supporters, companies, partner organizations, as well as the public, who responded positively to all our invitations and actively participated.

Story by FAB



Piskabon launches workshop for cooperatives and fishers

Piskabon held a six-day workshop the last week of September for fishers, marketers and cooperatives. The focus was brought home by well-known teacher Raymond Gericho and Rudney Monte who provided comprehensive and appropriate explanations of the essentials, benefits, rights and duties of members joining a cooperative.

Unfortunately, the only big Bonaire cooperative attending was Bonaire Platinum represented by Sherwin Pourier and Egbert Jang. They demonstrated their understanding of the formula and motivation of working together. The main intention is to reach a collective platform of cooperation with the goal of supporting each other and working together for the best benefit of the members.

Several groups were invited to contribute to the workshop, including STINAPA, Toezicht en Handhaving, Veterinaire Dienst, LVV, RDI and the Red Cross.

Piskabon has a working relationship and care contract with the government of Bonaire with a responsibility to inform, prepare and educate its members. Piskabon thanks the government for their contributions to the workshop. This was the second year Piskabon has held this type of workshop. A certificate ceremony for participants was held on October 1, at 8:30 p.m.

Nancy Persad



Make Bonaire Accessible by Ria Dokter

A wonderful Wednesday morning at the new Plataforma Kultural

When it was time to leave and get into the bus, about 11:30, everyone was still singing and swaying, and one could really see that they really did not want to leave.

A nice large group of elderly clients from one of the elderly daycare facilities spent the morning at the new location of Plataforma Kultural, at the Kunuku Kultural. A few musicians and instructors had played and sang along to many old songs they liked.

Everybody had fun, the visitors, volunteers and musicians. Good old-fashioned fun and it was time to go home again. Of course they were assured that next week everyone was welcome. And that is a fact that everybody likes. We were very happy to have found a great new location that is not too far, large enough to accommodate everyone and that we do not disturb anybody.

All the music lessons the foundation offers can take place again. And another great thing is that the elderly want to learn to play the kuarta, so the more the merrier.

Of course, It is easy to tell you about, but come and see for yourself. You might like it so much, you will want to join the fun and participate.

And for the dance lovers, we also have good news. There is a wonderful new teacher and the dancing lessons make it more fun than before.

Fundashon Plataforma Kultural has once again proven that accessibility is very important when you want to offer activities for the elderly. And here we not only mean the location, but the elderly can sing and dance, if given a chance.

We hoped someone would play the accordion and

the mouth harmonica but we were a bit disappointed it didn't happen. And we are trying to organize a choir that can sing to the old songs.

Can you imagine an orchestra, a choir and a dancing group, all formed by elderly? That would be a first and also very special for Bonaire. Our special little island can offer much more than one could have thought of.

Who knows what else we can come up with?

I would like to suggest that everybody interested comes and takes a look. See how awesome the location is, hear the orchestra play It makes you feel like singing and playing the tunes.

And for those not very much interested in the music and dance, we also offer a great crafting opportunity on Friday morning. Not to worry.... When you don't like crafting you can also play chess or checkers.

The orchestra started learning a few new songs because Regatta week is coming up. I attended the training and must say that it sounded awesome. And should you just want to listen in ??? You are always welcome. Who knows.... By the end of the training session you might be ready to sign up. Plataforma Kultural hopes to see you soon.



Ria Dokter is living happily on Bonaire, where she used to work as a director at FKPD and started Special Olympics Bonaire. She took care of her husband (R.I.P) for many years and feels that accessibility is the most important issue on our island.

A Garden? Just Do It! -Expanding your taste by Angliet, Nature Lover

Following my previous article, a reader asked if there was a health significance to the original flavors of fruits and vegetables. She wanted to know more about it so she could take it into account when choosing her food. I already knew that a certain taste was associated with specific health values; certain minerals, vitamins and other nutrients in a vegetable or fruit also determine the taste. However, I decided to dig deeper into this subject so that I could respond better.

What do flavors tell us?

There are five basic tastes: sweet, sour, salty, bitter and umami.

- Salt is a basic flavor and acts as a kind of flavor enhancer—it gives depth, aroma and character to a dish.
- Acidity can liven up a dish. It provides freshness, balance, and makes flavors clearer. With acidity, you bring flavors together; it makes flavors lighter and fresher and can enhance other flavors.
- We already know what sweetness does. And most people find that the most delicious taste, but it makes you crave more sweetness.
- The bitter taste in vegetables and fruit provides contrast, tension, depth and balance.

You experience taste with all your senses. Taste doesn't just begin when you eat. Your eyes, nose and brain are involved even before that. Smell also plays a major role; as soon as you smell a dish or the aromatic scent of fruit in your garden, the brain already forms an expectation. While gardening, preparing food and eating, aromas perceived by the nose enhance the taste experience. This allows you to recognize whether the fruit is nicely ripe, whether the herbs in the garden are ready to use in your cooking and whether the dish on the stove is balanced.

Please note, the difference between herbs and spices.

Spices are powerful flavorings derived from various parts of plants, such as roots, bark, seeds, fruits, berries and even flower buds. For example, ginger and turmeric



Yerbihole and spinach - healthy bitter greens on Bonaire
Photo: Angliet

come from the root, cinnamon from the bark, cumin and coriander seeds from seeds, pepper and paprika from fruits, nutmeg from the nut and cloves from flower tops.

These flavorings grow mainly in subtropical regions and are always used in dried form. It is precisely that drying process that concentrates their aromas and creates an intense flavor characteristic of spices.

Herbs, on the other hand, are picked green in the garden and used fresh in cooking. They can be stems with leaves, such as parsley and celery, mint, basil and yerbi, or the bulb in the ground, such as onion and garlic.

Thanks to the powerful aromas of herbs and spices, you need less salt while the flavor remains full and rich, because they bring out the best in dishes by enhancing natural flavors. Herbs and spices are both indispensable

in the kitchen, but the difference lies mainly in which part of the plant is used.

Returning to the bitter taste. Bitter vegetables, herbs, spices and fruits are particularly good for the immune system. The bitter substances stabilize blood sugar levels and reduce cravings. Bitter foods contain relatively high amounts of vitamins A, D, E and K, as well as sulfur, which stimulates the gallbladder and stomach acid production. Bitter food detoxifies and stimulates the liver. Bitter substances even have medicinal properties. Plants produce bitter substances to defend themselves against invaders and parasites, which is why they are so important for our immune system.

What contains bitter substances, among other things?

- Vegetables: broccoli, cabbage, spinach, lettuce, celery, red and yellow peppers, avocado, pumpkin, cucumbers, melon, cauliflower and bitter melon.
- Herbs: parsley, sage, rosemary, thyme, basil, rooibos, chamomile and mint.
- Fruit: in all red fruit, (grapes, berries, cranberries, apples, pears, pineapple and mangoes).

As always, TOO MUCH is never good, so excessive consumption of bitter foods is unhealthy. Bitter vegetables contain glucosinolates that damage the liver, thyroid and kidneys with excessive use.

And now to get to work in the garden and kitchen to get creative with flavors.

Angliet grew up in the Surinam jungle, moved to the Netherlands as a teen, where she trained as a teacher, then in Alternative Healing. Returning to the Caribbean, she taught in St Eustatius and Bonaire. Everywhere she has lived, she has planted a garden and grown her own food.



Creating Optimal Health by Irene da Cunda Costa

Sound Frequencies

Sound is a physical phenomenon, vibrations traveling through a medium like air or water. These vibrations, measured in hertz (Hz), form what we call frequencies. Humans typically hear between 20 Hz and 20,000 Hz, but we can still sense frequencies outside that range through vibration.

Different frequency ranges do influence human perception, physiology and emotional states, not necessarily in mystical or miraculous ways. Low frequencies (20–250 Hz) create sensations of depth and physical vibration, mid frequencies (250 – 4,000 Hz) are critical for speech and communication, human hearing is most sensitive here. High frequencies provide detail and clarity in sound (4,000 – 20,000 Hz). Outside this range, infrasound (below 20 Hz) and ultrasound (above 20 kHz) affect the body only at intensities far above what we encounter in everyday life. Infrasound commonly exists in wind turbines, earthquakes, large machinery and ocean waves.

Sound can influence stress levels, heart rate, breathing patterns, sleep quality, focus, and mood. The effects depend on volume (sound pressure level), duration, individual sensitivity, context and emotional association.

Sound can also support relaxation, reduce stress and

influence mood. Music therapy helps with anxiety, pain management, PTSD, sleep and mood disorders. Vibro-acoustic therapy consists of low frequency vibration applied via special beds or chairs for muscle relaxation, pain relief and anxiety reduction. Ultrasound therapy uses high frequency waves for imaging, physiotherapy and breaking kidney stones. Sound masking is used to improve sleep or focus, like white noise, pink noise or nature sounds and it can also reduce perception of tinnitus.

One scientifically intriguing area is binaural beats, an auditory illusion created when two slightly different frequencies are played into each ear. The brain perceives a third “beat” equal to the difference between them. Researchers have investigated whether these beats can gently guide brain activity toward different brainwave states, such as delta (deep sleep), theta (meditation), alpha (relaxation), beta (focus), or gamma (intense concentration).

Findings show that binaural beats can have short-term effects on anxiety, mood, focus, and sleep. They act as a gentle “nudge” toward certain mental states but do not cause deep brain rewiring or dramatic transformations. Their effectiveness depends on the listener, mindset, duration (usually 10–20 minutes) and consistent use.

Scientific studies suggest that certain ranges influ-

ence mental states subtly by promoting patterns similar to natural brainwaves. For sleep, theta waves (4–8 Hz) help with falling asleep, while delta waves (1–4 Hz) support deeper sleep. For focus, beta frequencies (14–20 Hz) improve concentration, and low gamma (30–40 Hz) may enhance high-level cognitive tasks. For anxiety relief, alpha waves (8–12 Hz) promote relaxation, and theta (4–7 Hz) can deepen meditative calm. To get the best results use headphones, the volume should be low to medium, use at least 10 to 20 minutes, layer with relaxing music or pink noise and do it regularly as the effects accumulates over sessions.

Sound influences the human mind and body in meaningful ways, benefits arise from the brain's response to rhythmic stimulation, emotional processing and mechanical vibration. Sound-based techniques like music therapy and binaural beats offer benefits for relaxation, focus and sleep. When understood through science, frequencies become useful tools, not magic, but powerful in their own natural way.



Irene is passionate about health, neurosciences and personal growth. From Uruguay, she is an Integrative Psychotherapist (PNIE), Life Coach (ICF), Master in Nutrition(IUSC) and Yoga Instructor.

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Pets of the Week

Animal Shelter Bonaire, Kaminda Lagun 26A. Mon. - Fri. 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Sat. 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Call/What's App 701-4989 animalshelterbonaire@gmail.com



Tinsel

give.

She came to the Shelter around 10 months ago, but she did not come alone. Tinsel came with two of her still nursing babies. Yes, you read it correctly, this granny mommy gave birth to another litter at the age of 10 years. Both of her pups found a forever home and now we really hope that Tinsel will find a home for herself where she can spend her older days, not as a mom, but finally live her golden years where it's all about her.

She is very easy and good with all other dogs, and is very good with kids. Just look at that great smile.

Come and meet this precious lady.

Story / Photo: Sanne Attevelt

Meet Truus. Truus came to the shelter after she wandered into a kind woman's home. She was severely malnourished, dehydrated and clearly in desperate need of help. And she is still frightened and unsure of the people around her.

Right now, Truus needs time, patience, proper nutrition, hydration, veterinary care and most importantly a safe place where she can begin to recover. She has a long road ahead of her, but she deserves the chance to become the healthy, confident cat she was meant to be.

This is Truus's story, but it is also a cry for help.



Truus

If you can help with her recovery, whether through a donation, supplies or another form of support, every little bit can make a difference.

Please help us give Truus a second chance.

Story / Photo: Bo Attevelt

September's guide to smart food shopping

Fundashon Tienda pa Konsumidó provides insight into the September 2026 monthly price comparison for the list of basic products on Bonaire. The maximum amount saved on the full product list comes from comparing the highest product prices with the lowest in the total list. This shows a total amount of **\$626.05**.

The average price difference between cheapest and most expensive basic products is **41.5%**. The three supermarkets with the greatest savings value are:

1. Warehouse (in 1st place): Consumers can save \$91.93 on 34 cheaper products, such as fruits & vegetables, flour, and grains.

2. Caribe Nobo (in 2nd place): Consumers can save \$70.96 on 26 cheaper products such as flour, cereals and beverage items.

3. Zhung Kong (in 3rd place): Consumers can save \$57.09 on 19 cheaper products such as fruits & vegetables, toiletries and cleaning items.

Together, Warehouse, Caribe Nobo and Zhung Kong represent 35% of the maximum amount that can be saved on the total base list. The large price difference between supermarkets remains visible, which means that consumers can save significantly by strategically comparing prices.

Advice for consumers:

(Use the product list) Compare prices before you go shopping.

Plan combined visits to different supermarkets where this is practical.

Pay extra attention to the products with the biggest price differences. Your purchasing power is in your own choice. For a broader and more detailed overview visit our products and prices visit our website: www.tiendapakonsumido.com

On Bonaire, smart choosing in September 2026 can help a consumer save on monthly expenses.

*Fundashon Tienda
pa Konsumido Boneriano release*

See more detailed price charts on page 25 of The Reporter's online issue.



FTPKB

Poder di konsumidó,
nos priodidat!



Reef Glimpses by Dee Scarr Did You Miss the Urchins?

They're back!

When I first came to Bonaire, one of the most common undersea creatures here was the long-spined urchin. They were in cracks and crevices everywhere, from barely underwater to beyond the reef slope.

In 1980, one guest at Flamingo Beach Hotel had to have urchin spines dealt with at the hospital. She jumped off the little pier into about 4' (1.2m) of water and landed on the bottom hard, feet first; unfortunately, the bottom she landed on was comprised of big rocks and all the long-spined urchins who could cram themselves into the spaces between them. She returned to the hotel in a wheelchair.

At night, the urchins would emerge from their hiding places and graze on algae across the sand or the rubble or the reef. One effect of this – an effect that is critically important now – is that algae competes with coral for space on the reef. The more algae the urchins eat, the more room there is for larval corals to settle and begin rebuilding the reefs. It follows that the more urchins there are, the more algae gets eaten and the more space there is for coral. One current project of the Dutch Caribbean Nature Alliance is releasing hatchery-raised long-spined urchins to jump-start urchin population growth.

And, speaking of urchin benefits, their spines sticking out from dead areas near corals, or along crevices, were perfect disincentives for careless divers. Long-spined urchins are and will be again, natural protectors for the reef against divers with poor buoyancy control.

And then one day the urchins began acting un-urchinlike. They were out of their crevices in the middle of the day. Silt was draped over their spines. They didn't move normally; they sort of stumbled along. Even back in 1983 we called them "zombie urchins." Within days it seemed like all the long-spined urchins had died – it was



Julie found this urchin on the sand in less than 30' (9m) of depth. Its common name as well as its species name is Magnificent. Photo Julie Morgan

close, more than 90% – and the bottom was littered with urchin tests (their shells) and urchin spines. In fact, there were so many urchin spines that you could hardly run your fingers through the sand without being stabbed. If you picked up a single spine, and ran your finger along it, you'd notice that the spine felt smooth from base to tip. Your finger would not slide in the other direction, though; from tip to base the spine's barbed/shingled structure prohibits sliding in that direction.

The urchin disease was more than forty years ago. Why the heck did it take so long for the urchin population to come back?

It all comes down to reproduction, of course. Urchins have separate sexes, and on a night they all know, at a time they all know, the urchins gather

together and spew their sperm and over a million eggs per female into the water. All that reproductive stuff gets together, after which the fertilized eggs drift, hatch into many-armed larvae, then graduate to fewer arms, then, after a period of months, settle out of the plankton as tiny juvenile urchins. That is, the fertilized eggs, larvae, and juveniles who escape predation become urchins.

So urchin reproduction is based on a *the more the merrier* system called broadcast spawning. If an urchin doesn't have neighbors to gather with, or if only a few urchins gathered, the reproductive evening could be unproductive. As the population rose, however, each reproductive event would become more successful.

The many urchins in the shallows along town

show a likelihood for a rapidly increasing population here. If you've been lazy about your buoyancy control, the urchins will provide excellent motivation.

Long spined urchin spines easily pass through wetsuits and sometimes even wetsuit boot soles, after which the spine tip breaks off. The injury hurts more than a splinter because there's venom delivery with every spine. The toxin from the long-spined urchin is considered mild, a small consolation when you're stabbed.

We here on Bonaire don't usually think of even the long-spined urchins as particularly dangerous. Yet, in the early 1980's, Touch the Sea received international attention from – of all sources – Ripley's Believe It or Not. The caption read, "Dee Scarr, an underseas naturalist, runs a scuba diving exploration program off the island of Bonaire where she teaches people to see and touch dangerous marine creatures that even veteran divers avoid." [Boldface from Ripley's]

The illustration wasn't a diver with a shark (I never could find a shark here) or a moray eel, or even a scorpionfish.

The illustration was a diver with a long-spined urchin.

Scarr's accomplishments were recognized in 2000 by her inaugural membership in the Women Divers Hall of Fame (with another Bonaire sea protector, Kalli DeMeyer).

Her honors include Captain Don's Accolade Award, a NOGI Award ("the Emmy of the diving world") in the Distinguished Service category, and SeaSpace/PADI Environmental Diver of the Year in 1991. Dee was the Beneath the Sea and Boston Sea Rovers Diver of the Year in 1991 and 1993.



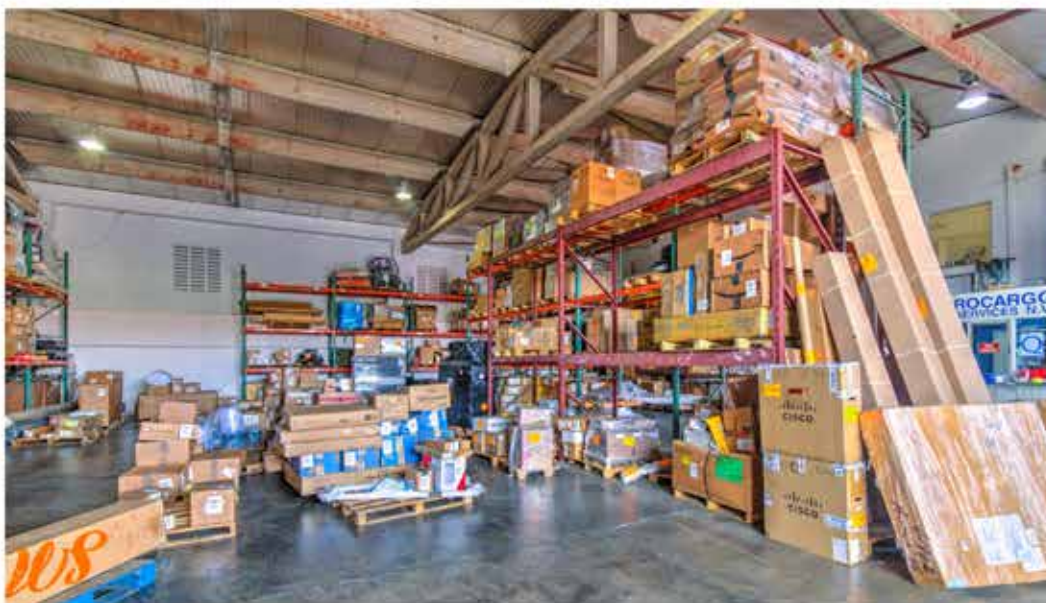
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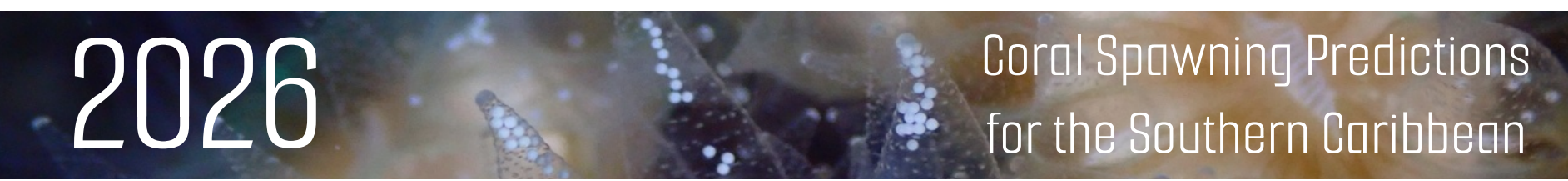
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2026

Coral Spawning Predictions
for the Southern Caribbean

Eusmilia fastigata with eggs visible in tentacles before spawning (Photo: Mark Vermeij)

Late Nov Corals

Scientific name (and spawning window)	Common Name	NAFM	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
DATE		Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	
SUNSET		6:07 PM	6:07 PM	6:07 PM	6:08 PM	6:08 PM	6:08 PM	6:08 PM	6:08 PM	6:09 PM	6:09 PM	6:09 PM	6:09 PM	6:10 PM	6:10 PM	6:10 PM

6:18–7:18 PM (Expected nightly through early Dec)

Aug–Sept Corals

Scientific name (and spawning window)	Common Name	SUNSET	6:48 PM	6:47 PM	6:47 PM	6:46 PM	6:45 PM	6:45 PM	6:44 PM	6:43 PM	6:43 PM	6:42 PM	6:42 PM	6:41 PM	6:40 PM	6:39 PM
<i>Diploria labyrinthiformis</i> (70 MBS–10 MAS)	Grooved Brain Coral	*The full moon is VERY early on Aug 28: Start monitoring on the orange dates!													5:46–7:06 PM	
<i>Montastraea cavernosa</i> (15–225 MAS)	Great Star Coral															
<i>Colpophyllia natans</i> (25–115 MAS)	Boulder Brain Coral															
<i>Eusmilia fastigiata</i> (75–270 MAS)	Smooth Flower Coral															
<i>Pseudodiploria strigosa</i> (Early group 30–90 MAS)	Symmetrical Brain Coral															
<i>Dendrogyra cylindrus</i> (90–160 MAS)	Pillar Coral															
<i>Dichocoenia stokesii</i> (85–160 MAS)	Pineapple Coral															
<i>Stephanocoenia intersepta</i> (160–255 MAS)	Blushing Star Coral															
<i>Acropora palmata</i> (140–190 MAS)	Elkhorn Coral															
<i>Acropora cervicornis</i> (150–190 MAS)	Staghorn Coral															
<i>Montastraea/Orbicella annularis</i> (185–250 MAS)	Lobed/Boulder Star Coral															
<i>Montastraea/Orbicella faveolata</i> (185–255 MAS)	Mountainous Star Coral															
<i>Siderastrea siderea</i> (195–280 MAS)	Massive Starlet Coral															
<i>Pseudodiploria strigosa</i> (Late group 200–270 MAS)	Symmetrical Brain Coral															

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2026

Coral Spawning Predictions
for the Southern Caribbean

Orbicella polyps setting/staging gamete bundles before spawning (Photo: Mark Vermeij)

Sept–Oct Corals

Scientific name (and spawning window)	Common Name	SUNSET	6:29 PM	6:28 PM	6:27 PM	6:27 PM	6:26 PM	6:25 PM	6:25 PM	6:24 PM	6:23 PM	6:23 PM	6:22 PM	6:21 PM	6:21 PM	6:20 PM		
<i>Diploria labyrinthiformis</i> (70 MBS–10 MAS)	Grooved Brain Coral													5:28–6:48 PM				
<i>Meandrina meandrites</i> (10–70 MAS)	Maze Coral							6:35–7:35 PM (Expected nightly to at least Oct 15: new observations welcome any night)										
<i>Montastraea cavernosa</i> (15–225 MAS)	Great Star Coral							6:42–10:12 PM (Peaks in first 90 min)										
<i>Colpophyllia natans</i> (25–115 MAS)	Boulder Brain Coral									6:50–8:20 PM								
<i>Pseudodiploria strigosa</i> (Early group 30–90 MAS)	Symmetrical Brain Coral	*The full moon is VERY early on Sept 26: Start monitoring on the orange dates!							6:55–7:55 PM (Peaks in first 30 min)									
<i>Eusmilia fastigiata</i> (75–270 MAS)	Smooth Flower Coral							7:40–10:55 PM										
<i>Montastraea/Orbicella franksi</i> (90–150 MAS)	Boulder Star Coral								7:56–8:56 PM									
<i>Dendrogyra cylindrus</i> (90–160 MAS)	Pillar Coral				7:59–9:09 PM													
<i>Dichocoenia stokesii</i> (85–160 MAS)	Pineapple Coral						7:54–9:09 PM (Expected nightly from mid-Sept to mid-Nov: new observations are encouraged!)											
<i>Acropora palmata</i> (140–190 MAS)	Elkhorn Coral		8:49–9:39 PM (Spawning is possible as early as Sept 24: this species varies its spawning dates in our region)															
<i>Acropora cervicornis</i> (150–190 MAS)	Staghorn Coral		8:59–9:39 PM (As early as)															
<i>Stephanocoenia intersepta</i> (160–255 MAS)	Blushing Star Coral							9:07–10:42 PM										
<i>Montastraea/Orbicella annularis</i> (185–250 MAS)	Lobed/Boulder Star Coral								9:31–10:36 PM									
<i>Montastraea/Orbicella faveolata</i> (185–255 MAS)	Mountainous Star Coral								9:31–10:41 PM									
<i>Siderastrea siderea</i> (195–280 MAS)	Massive Starlet Coral						9:41–11:06 PM											
<i>Pseudodiploria clivosa</i> (210–255 MAS)	Knobby Brain Coral									9:55–10:40 PM								
<i>Pseudodiploria strigosa</i> (Late group 200–270 MAS)	Symmetrical Brain Coral								9:45–10:55 PM									
<i>Madracis senaria</i> (All night)	Ten-Ray Star Coral							all night										
<i>Agaricia humilis/Agaricia agaricites</i> (All night)	Lettuce Coral							all night										

Oct–Nov Corals

Scientific name (and spawning window)	Common Name	SUNSET	6:12 PM	6:11 PM	6:11 PM	6:10 PM	6:10 PM	6:10 PM	6:09 PM	6:09 PM	6:09 PM	6:09 PM	6:08 PM	6:08 PM	6:08 PM	6:08 PM	
<i>Diploria labyrinthiformis</i> (70 MBS–10 MAS)	Grooved Brain Coral													5:00–6:20 PM			
<i>Meandrina meandrites</i> (10–70 MAS)	Maze Coral							6:20–7:20 PM (Expected nightly until at least Oct 26: new observations are encouraged!)									
<i>Montastraea cavernosa</i> (15–225 MAS)	Great Star Coral						6:25–9:55 PM (Peaks in first 90 min)										
<i>Colpophyllia natans</i> (25–115 MAS)	Boulder Brain Coral						6:34–8:04 PM										
<i>Pseudodiploria strigosa</i> (Early group 30–90 MAS)	Symmetrical Brain Coral							6:39–7:39 PM (Peaks in first 30 min)									
<i>Eusmilia fastigiata</i> (75–270 MAS)	Smooth Flower Coral							7:25–10:40 PM									
<i>Montastraea/Orbicella franksi</i> (90–150 MAS)	Boulder Star Coral							7:40–8:40 PM									
<i>Dendrogyra cylindrus</i> (90–160 MAS)	Pillar Coral		7:42–8:52 PM														
<i>Dichocoenia stokesii</i> (85–160 MAS)	Pineapple Coral			7:37–8:52 PM (Expected nightly from mid-Sept to mid-Nov: new observations are encouraged!)													
<i>Stephanocoenia intersepta</i> (160–255 MAS)	Blushing Star Coral							8:50–10:25 PM									
<i>Montastraea/Orbicella annularis</i> (185–250 MAS)	Lobed/Boulder Star Coral							9:15–10:20 PM									
<i>Montastraea/Orbicella faveolata</i> (185–255 MAS)	Mountainous Star Coral							9:15–10:25 PM									
<i>Siderastrea siderea</i> (195–280 MAS)	Massive Starlet Coral						9:25–10:50 PM										
<i>Pseudodiploria clivosa</i> (210–255 MAS)	Knobby Brain Coral							9:39–10:24 PM									
<i>Pseudodiploria strigosa</i> (Late group 200–270 MAS)	Symmetrical Brain Coral							9:29–10:39 PM									
<i>Madracis senaria</i> (All night)	Ten-Ray Star Coral							all night									
<i>Agaricia humilis/Agaricia agaricites</i> (All night)	Lettuce Coral							all night									

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2026

Coral Spawning Predictions for the Southern Caribbean

Eusmilia fastigiata with eggs visible in tentacles before spawning (Photo: Mark Vermeij)

Late Nov Corals

Scientific name (and spawning window)	Common Name	NAFM	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
DATE		Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	
<i>Meandrina meandrites</i> (10–70 MAS)	Maze Coral	SUNSET	6:07 PM	6:07 PM	6:07 PM	6:08 PM	6:08 PM	6:08 PM	6:08 PM	6:08 PM	6:09 PM	6:09 PM	6:09 PM	6:10 PM	6:10 PM	
<i>Eusmilia fastigiata</i> (75–270 MAS)	Smooth Flower Coral									6:18–7:18 PM (Expected nightly through early Dec)						
<i>Dichocoenia stokesii</i> (85–160 MAS)	Pineapple Coral									7:23–10:38 PM						
7:32–8:47 PM (Known to spawn from mid-Sept to mid-Nov: please help us explore their late season spawning!)																

Fall Sponges, Brittle Stars, Gorgognians, and More

Scientific name (and spawning window)	Common Name	NAFM	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
DATE		28-Aug	29-Aug	30-Aug	31-Aug	1-Sep	2-Sep	3-Sep	4-Sep	5-Sep	6-Sep	7-Sep	8-Sep	9-Sep	10-Sep	
<i>Holothuria mexicana</i>	Donkeydung Sea Cucumber	26-Sep	27-Sep	28-Sep	29-Sep	30-Sep	1-Oct	2-Oct	3-Oct	4-Oct	5-Oct	6-Oct	7-Oct	8-Oct	9-Oct	
<i>Hermodice carunculata</i>	Fire Worm	26-Oct	27-Oct	28-Oct	29-Oct	30-Oct	31-Oct	1-Nov	2-Nov	3-Nov	4-Nov	5-Nov	6-Nov	7-Nov	8-Nov	
<i>Diadema antillarum</i>	Long-Spined Sea Urchin															
<i>Neofibularia nolitangere</i>	Touch-Me-Not Sponge					2:00–7:00 PM										
<i>Plexaura</i> , <i>Pseudoplexaura</i> , <i>Eunicia</i>	Sea Rods							starting at 7:00 PM								
<i>Plexaura homomalla</i>	Black Sea Rod							7:00–11:00 PM								
<i>Ophiuroidea</i>	Brittle Sea Star/Serpent Star							7:30–11:00 PM								
<i>Pseudopterogorgia</i> spp.	Sea Plume							8:00–11:00 PM								
<i>Spirobranchus giganteus</i>	Christmas Tree Worm							9:00–11:30 PM								

Abbreviations & Colors

NAFM: Nights After the Full Moon

MBS: Minutes Before Sunset

MAS: Minutes After Sunset

Pale yellow: Spawning may be possible but data are sparse:

Please help by diving on these dates

CARMABI orange: Spawning is possible:

Spawning has been observed on these dates

Red: Spawning is likely:

Spawning is often observed on these dates

Dark purple: Spawning is very likely:

Spawning is reliably observed on these dates

Times are show using a 12h clock (AM/PM)

Colors are distinct for grayscale/CVD



Tips for Success

- Spawning is never guaranteed in a changing climate: When in doubt, dive!
- Our predictions span the known range of spawning times without an added buffer; be sure to enter the water before the predicted spawning time.
- Dive at sites with high coral cover.
- Make multiple dives on multiple nights.
- Dive shallower than 50' to maximize time.
- Use a moderately bright dive light.
- Scan the water for clouds of spawn:
 - Spawn from most brain, star, elkhorn, and staghorn corals looks like snow, confetti, or polka dots.
 - Spawn from starlet, pillar, maze, and pineapple corals (and male great star corals) looks like puffs of smoke or sprays of fine sand.
 - Spawn from female great star corals looks like chunky vomit (hooray!)
- Spawning depends on local sunset times; to adjust dives based on your local sunset times, visit www.timeanddate.com

More Info & Ways to Help

- **Bonus features and PDF download:** Download this PDF, get notified when future calendars are released, and help us measure our reach: Please take our quick survey at www.tinyurl.com/CarmabiCal2026.
- **Coral breeding reference sheets:** This new community resource is led by Val Chamberland: www.crc.world/resources-propagation-outplanting.
- **Spawning community Q&As:** Join us for our Facebook Q&A series; we're answering spawning and larval propagation questions here: www.facebook.com/groups/CoralSpawningResearch.
- **Please share your observations:** Your discoveries help coral research and conservation! A new AGGRA database is collecting and distributing regional spawning data. If you monitor spawning, please record as many of the following details as possible: Date, location, site name (or lat/long), depth, species, setting time (if seen), spawning start/stop times, area monitored (m2), # of colonies monitored, % of colonies that spawned, # of male/female colonies (if applicable). Photos, partial records, and records of no spawn are all valuable! Send reports to carmabilog@gmail.com, v.chamberland@secore.org, kristen@marhaverlab.com, or post your observations at www.facebook.com/groups/CoralSpawningResearch.
- **Epic thanks** to everyone who has shared observations over the past 30+ years. Spawning has been a challenge lately, but larval propagation and genetic conservation teams continue to have success. The Curacao team wishes everyone a safe and productive spawning season!
- **Suggested citation:** KL Marhaver, VF Chamberland, and MJA Vermeij, "Coral Spawning Predictions, Southern Caribbean, 2007–2026." CARMABI, Curacao.

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Join us for this month's Museum Night on September 30 between 17:00 to 19:00, where the museum will be open extra hours with free entrance for all and the opportunity to explore, shop and experience the museum. This night we will also be offering guided tours.

For information or questions, contact us!
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Teams of 4-6 Players

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BONAIRE
CULINARY WEEK

FALL EDITION 2026

Save the date!

Bonaire Culinary Week

FALL EDITION 2026

September 24 – October 8

Top sort	Supermarkt sort	Kantidat di produkto mas Karu di lista basiko di FTPKB sort	Suma Total di perdida en komparashon ku preis mas barata sort	% sort
1	Zhung Kong	31	-\$113,08	18%
2	Supermarkt na Kaya Korona 56	25	-\$65,84	11%
3	Jai Xing (Kaya Korona)	10	-\$47,71	8%
4	Foodymark	13	-\$47,10	8%
5	Good & More	16	-\$40,71	7%
6	Liagxiang	11	-\$40,56	7%
7	Xu-Sheng	5	-\$38,07	6%
8	New World	15	-\$30,61	5%
9	Sunshine	16	-\$29,96	5%
10	Jai Xing (kaya Salsa)	8	-\$20,64	3%
11	Rincon City	6	-\$19,95	3%
12	Famoso	10	-\$17,65	3%
13	Bondigro	6	-\$16,72	3%
14	Ideal	4	-\$15,53	3%
15	Kadushi	7	-\$15,09	2%
16	Van den Tweel	6	-\$13,08	2%
17	Lucky	12	-\$12,53	2%
18	Warehouse	4	-\$10,59	2%
19	Tesco	7	-\$8,51	1%
20	Wing Cheung	6	-\$8,11	1%
21	Top	6	-\$5,30	1%
22	Caribe Nobo	2	\$0,00	0%
			-\$617,34	100%

Komparashon di preis

Sept 2026

**Bo por spar mas ku
\$500 si bo kumpra di
un manera inteligente**

**Pa lista di
produktonan mas
karu scan:**



FTPKB
Poder di konsumidó,
nos prioridat!



Top sort	Supermarkt sort	Kantidat di produkto mas barata di lista basiko di FTPKB sort	Suma Total ku por spaar en komparashon ku preis mas karu sort	% sort
1	Warehouse	34	\$91,93	15%
2	Caribe Nobo	26	\$70,96	11%
3	Zhung Kong	19	\$57,09	9%
4	Kadushi	12	\$46,58	7%
5	Wing Cheung	17	\$46,05	7%
6	Bondigro	8	\$42,02	7%
7	Liagxiang	15	\$39,08	6%
8	Rincon City	12	\$34,10	5%
9	Van den Tweel	8	\$32,92	5%
10	Jai Xing (kaya Salsa)	14	\$24,04	4%
11	Tesco	7	\$22,50	4%
12	Ideal	7	\$21,15	3%
13	Supermarkt na Kaya Korona 56	8	\$20,85	3%
14	Good & More	9	\$19,94	3%
15	Foodymark	9	\$11,39	2%
16	Xu-Sheng	7	\$10,95	2%
17	Sunshine	4	\$10,55	2%
18	Famoso	7	\$9,52	2%
19	New World	5	\$7,07	1%
20	Top	6	\$3,57	1%
21	Jai Xing (Kaya Korona)	5	\$2,44	0%
22	Lucky	4	\$1,35	0%
			\$626,05	100%

Komparashon di preis

Sept 2026

**Bo por spar mas ku
\$500 si bo kumpra di
un manera inteligente**

**Pa lista di
produktonan mas
barata scan:**



FTPKB
Poder di konsumidó,
nos prioridat!



GALACONCERT

Een bijzondere muzikale avond

LESTARI SCHOLTES

PIANO

&

EDUARDO
PAREDES CRESPO

VIOOL

Met werken van
onder anderen

BRAHMS

DEBUSSY

GRANADOS

STATIUS MULLER

en nog veel meer!

TICKETS

\$40

INCLUSIEF EEN
DRANKJE IN
DE PAUZE



WOENSDAG
14 OKTOBER
2026



19.30 – 21.30 uur



CORALLIUM HOTEL



TICKETS VERKRIJGBAAR BIJ:

DELMAR

LISA CONVENIENCE STORE

MULTISHOP HATO

MEDE MOGELIJK GEMAAKT DOOR:



SWIM TO KLEIN BONAIRE 2026

 **Sunday, October 11, 2026**

 **Eden Beach, Bonaire**



Competitive Swim

Start: 7:30 AM



Recreational Swim

Start: 9:00 AM



Whether you're up for the challenge or simply want to enjoy a unique swimming experience: everyone is welcome!



Registration open through October 9, 2026.

**Mark the date in your calendar and swim
with us to Klein Bonaire!**



BONAIRE MONTHLY TOURISM PERFORMANCE

AUGUST 2026

THE FACTS YOU NEED TO KNOW:

These data are preliminary figures.

NUMBER OF VISITORS BY AIR
13,701 2026

All non-residents are registered as visitors

NUMBER OF VISITORS BY AIR
14,435 2025

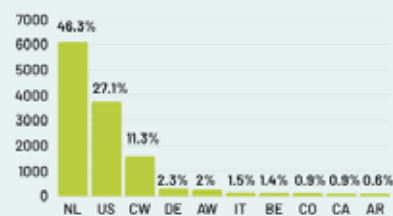
2026 COMPARED TO 2025

5%

Decrease in non-resident arrivals



COUNTRY OF ORIGIN



TOP STATES & REGION

US

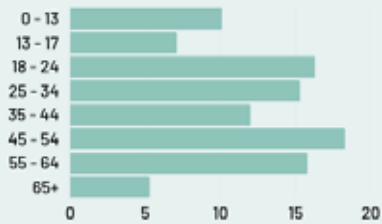
Florida, Texas, New York, California, and North Carolina.

NL

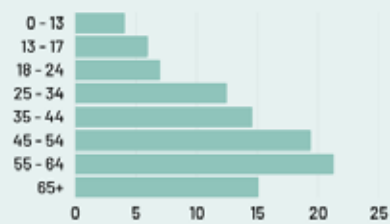
South Holland, North Holland, Gelderland, North Brabant, and Utrecht.

DEMOGRAPHICS

AGE | DUTCH



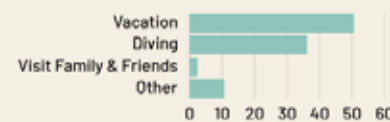
AGE | AMERICAN



REASON TO VISIT | DUTCH



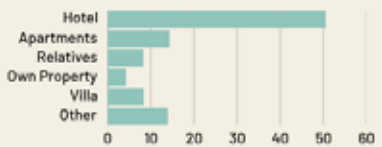
REASON TO VISIT | AMERICAN



VISITOR BEHAVIOR

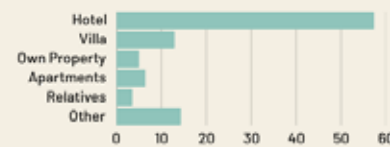
ACCOMMODATION TYPE

DUTCH



ACCOMMODATION TYPE

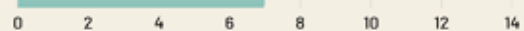
AMERICAN



LENGHT OF STAY

DUTCH

AMERICAN



FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- www.bonaireisland.com
- info@bonaireisland.com
- bonaire.portcall.com

INVITATION

GUIDED HIKE

Registration required

Bonaire Sabal Palm Park

We warmly invite you to join us for a guided hike through the Bonaire Sabal Palm Park on **Friday, 23 October 2026** from **4:00 PM to 6:00 PM**.

Quirijn Coolen will guide you through the park and tell you about the endemic Sabal *lougheediana*, the creation of the park, and the way required to protect the palms and their habitat.

The hike crosses rough, rocky terrain. Please wear sturdy hiking shoes, bring plenty of water, and use appropriate sun protection.

After the hike, we will provide a refreshing drink and a snack.

Participation is limited to 20 people, so advance registration is required. To reserve your place, please email info@bonberde.com.

**We look forward to
exploring the park together!**

Friday 23 October
4:00 PM to 6:00 PM

A refreshing drink and
snacks will be provided



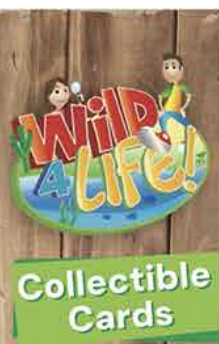
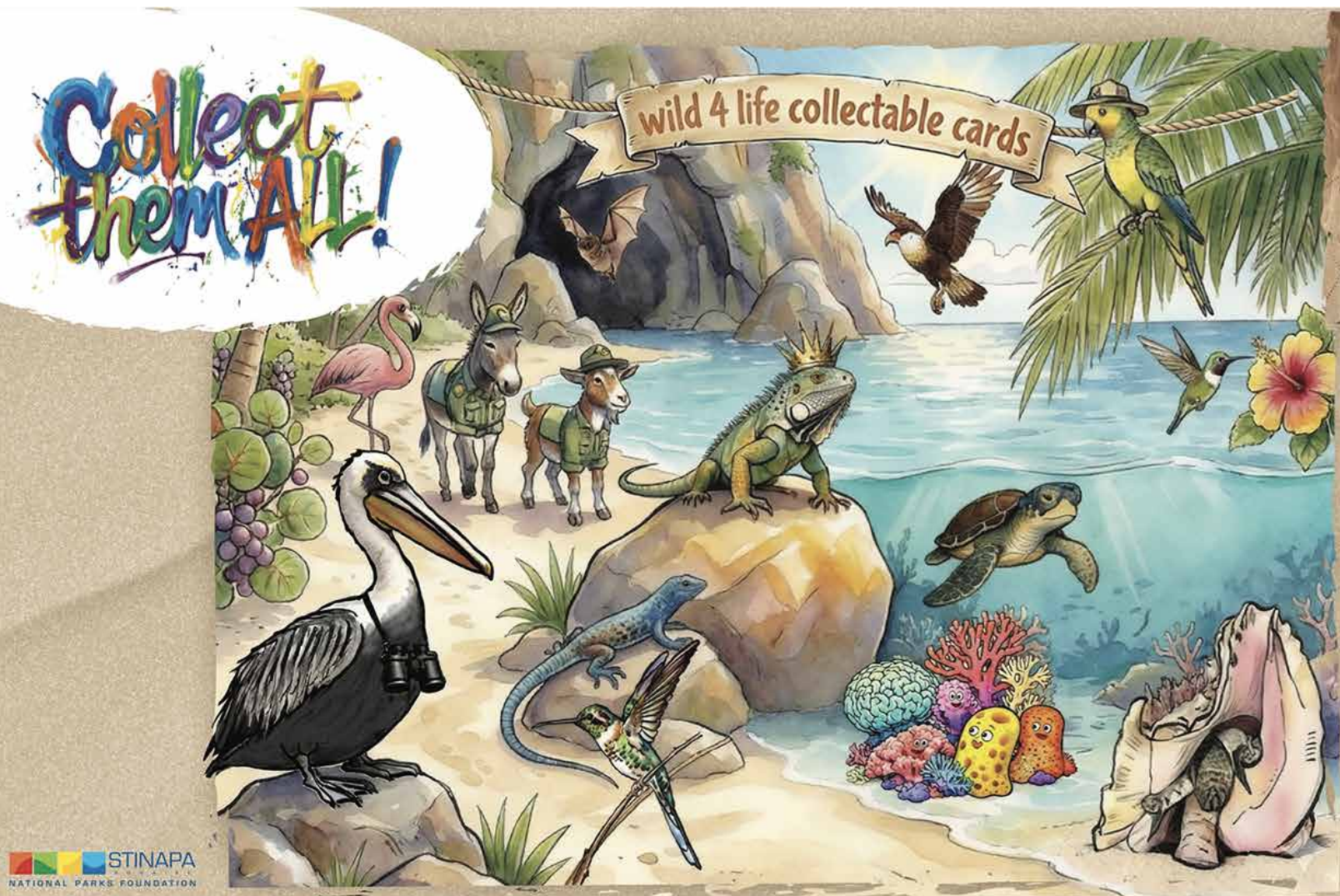

BonBèrdè

KIDS KLEIN BONAIRE PATROL

SUITABLE FOR CHILDREN
AGED 8 TO 14

OCT 12, 2026
08:00 AM

ONLY 8 SPACES AVAILABLE
SIGN UP:
STCB@BONAIRETURTLES.ORG





Help
Support
Save Lives
🐾❤️

All are
Welcome!
🐾❤️

HALLOWEEN MARKET

AT ANIMAL SHELTER BONAIRE

SUNDAY OCTOBER 25TH

🐾 From 9am till 2pm 🐾

- 🐾 Second hand treasures 📦
- 🐾 Home made sweets 🍰
- 🐾 Arts like glass chimes, wood decor and handpainted canvas 🎨
- 🐾 Jewelry made from lionfish 🐟
- 🐾 Refreshments ☕
- 🐾 Mama Anneke's keuken 🍴
- 🐾 Delicious chutney from The islands preserve Company 🫙
- 🐾 Cat and dog treats/food by **Bondog** 🐾
- 🐾 and many more for your furr-friends 🐾

Mama Anneke's
Keuken
❤️🍴

The Islands
Preserve
Company
🌴

The Islands
Preserve
Company
🌴

Unique
Handmade
Gifts
❤️

Bondog

🐾 TOGETHER WE MAKE A DIFFERENCE 🐾

WHAT IS 'BAN LESA 2.0'?

A new radio series about Caribbean books with a new episode every week!

Starting Tuesday, June 2, the new radio series Ban Lesa 2.0 begins on BonFM. Every week at 5:30 PM, listeners will dive into the richness of Caribbean literature for half an hour. The series consists of 24 episodes of 30 minutes, divided across three languages: eight in Papiamentu, eight in English, and eight in Dutch. In this way, the versatility of the Caribbean language area will be made accessible to a broad audience.



BAN LESA 2.0



TENE PIA SEKU

Shared Shores:
Climate, Community &
Island Resilience

Inspired by 'Rising Tide' by Kadlr van Lohulzen

Opening Bonaire
8 august 2026
Terramar Museum

Opening Curaçao
27 august 2026
Habaai Art Gallery

Presented by



Institute of Museums
& Heritage of Europe

Inspired by

het scheepvaart
nationaal maritiem
museum

Funded by



Cultuurfonds
Netherlands

NOOR



FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Winter 2025/2026
starting October 1st

DESTINATION	AIRLINE	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	DETAILS
NEW YORK JFK	jetBlue						✓		Last flight on January 3, 2026
MIAMI	American Airlines	✓		✓		✓	✓*		DAILY Dec. 17, 2025 - Jan. 5, 2026 *Saturdays 2 daily flights (seasonal)
ATLANTA	DELTA			✓*			✓	✓*	*Starting Dec. 20th, seasonal flights
NEW YORK NEWARK	UNITED						✓		Starting Nov. 1st
HOUSTON	UNITED							✓	Arrival on Saturdays
TORONTO	WESTJET			✓					Starting Dec. 9th - Arrivals on Tue.
AMSTERDAM	KLM	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓*	✓	✓*	*Fri. & Sun. 2 daily flights - Dec.19, 2025 - Mar. 15 2026
AMSTERDAM	TUI	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		Wed Thu Fri direct from AMS
AMSTERDAM	corendon.		✓*					✓	*Starting Oct. 14th - till Oct. 8 on Wednesdays
SANTO DOMINGO SDQ	SKYhigh Dominicana					✓			
CURACAO SINT MAARTEN	WINAIR	✓		✓		✓			Arrivals on Sun Tue Thu
CURACAO ARUBA	DIVIDIVI	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
CURACAO ARUBA	ZAIR	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	

Please note this schedule is subject to change without prior notice.

NEW OPENING HOURS

Headquarters
Monday - Thursday: 8AM - 4PM
Friday: 8AM - 12PM
Saturday - Sunday: **CLOSED**

Washington Slagbaai National Park
Monday: **CLOSED**
Tuesday - Sunday: 8AM - 5PM
Entry allowed till 2:30PM

2026 Clean Coast Bonaire Schedule 2nd Sunday of each month		
January 11th	Boka Onima	4:00-6:00 PM
February 8th	Piedra Pretu	4:00-6:00 PM
March 8th	Te Amo Beach	8:00-10:00 AM
April 12th	Boka Onima	4:00-6:00 PM
May 10th	Piedra Pretu	4:00-6:00 PM
June 14th	Te Amo Beach	8:00-10:00 AM
July 12th	Boka Onima	4:00-6:00 PM
August 9th	Piedra Pretu	4:00-6:00 PM
September 13th	Te Amo Beach	8:00-10:00 AM
October 18th (Changed)	Boka Onima	4:00-6:00 PM
November 8th	Piedra Pretu	4:00-6:00 PM
December 13th	Te Amo Beach	8:00-10:00 AM

**SOBREMESA
PRESENTS**

**NOV 28 & 29
10 AM - 5PM**

KAMINDA di ARTE



BONAIRE'S OPEN ART STUDIO WEEKEND 2026

**Visit studios and galleries to
meet artists, explore the local
art scene, and take home
unique pieces!**

INFO ARTISTS AND LOCATIONS

www.sobremesa-bonaire.com



STUDIO MUZO

The Creative Color Lab

\$20,-

EACH FRIDAY

AGE 8+

Sobremesa

J.A. Abraham Boulevard

15:00 - 17:00

Contact via whatsapp: +599 700 7115

Email: sobremesabonaire@gmail.com



OPEN ART STUDIO

every saturday

11 am - 2 pm

your inspiration, our space and materials

\$5



ABRAHAM BOULEVARD 10 @SOBREMESA.BONAIRE | WWW.SOBREMESA.BONAIRE.COM



Sobremesa
KAS DI ARTE

ART CLUB



EVERY WEDNESDAY
7-9 PM
START NOV 5



Abraham Boulevard 10
Playa Pariba
Bonaire

**\$15 Per session or
\$50 for 4 visits**
includes all
materials except a
canvas

*Join us and create your own
masterpiece*

What to expect:

- a professional artist to guide and inspire you
- Freedom to explore different techniques and materials
- A friendly and relaxed atmosphere

More info and to join:

Whatsapp +599 700 7115

e-mail: sobremesabonaire@gmail.com

No dogs on beaches

STINAPA POST:

We adore our four-legged friends, yet it's crucial we respect our delicate ecosystems.

Please adhere to these guidelines to maintain the beauty of our beaches and protect the wildlife.

Nesting Area Respect: No dog walking in sea turtle nesting zones. Fines of up to \$170 may apply.

It is permitted to walk dogs between Punt Vierkant and the Salt Pier and between the Willemstoren and Sorobon, but only along the coast.

Off-Limits Shores: Dogs are not permitted on these specific beaches. View the map for details.

Playa Lechi (Sunset Beach)
Playa Lechi Suit (Boulevard)
Playa Chachacha
Playa pal'i mangel (Donkey's Beach)
Fòrn'i kalki (Bachelor's Beach)
From Saliña (salt pier) to Lacre Punt (Willemstoren)
Sorobon and Cai
Piedra haltu (Thousand Steps)
Tolo
Klein Bonaire





BONAIRE FRIENDS

CELEBRATING THE BEST PART OF BONAIRE

DID YOU MAKE A FRIEND DURING
YOUR STAY ON BONAIRE?

SHARE YOUR STORY WITH US

We're celebrating the wonderful people of Bonaire and want to hear your stories! Have you met a local who made your visit unforgettable, maybe by showing you a hidden gem, helping you try something new, or simply lending a kind hand?

Share your experience and tell us about your Bonaire Friend, they could be recognized with a special prize!



FILL IT IN HERE!



BONAIRE
It's in our nature.

WWW.BONAIREISLAND.COM