

Blaine swam. Intercontinental for lunch. Met Iniriama Sarika Ukomai Village. Ate in room for dinner. Rise Beyond the Reef 446 Gifts!
17 Raki-Raki. Pumice on beach!
THURSDAY Left Denarau about 9:15. Had to wait for our geuisevu. Got gas in Ba. Went on to Tavua and had an excellent curry lunch at Shop N Save. There was a great bakery there too! Went into the Supermarket. Got some "Breakfast Biscuits" and toothpaste. Rod & Blaine got beer! Beautiful drive to Rakiraki. m, n, ma took walk on beach. Rod was tired but 4 of us swam in the pool later. Happy Hour on the deck, dinner in Restaurant.
18 Navavu - Had Breakfast at Rakiraki - Included with lodges

Breakfast of Champions: eggs and, yes, lots and lots of fruit.



Today, we stopped at rise beyond the reef. A non-profit organization that helps to empower Fijian women living in the villages to make their own way by helping them to make and then to sell goods. We talked with Semi, who started rise beyond the reef in 2013 after living in Seattle Washington for 19 years. A great man. We stopped at Tavua and had some wonderful authentic curry. We then drove on to where we at an incredible resort called Wananavu Beach Resort on the North shore of Viti levu. Definitely a luxury place. Below: buying stuff at Rise Beyond the Reef.





Semi told us all about Rise Beyond the Reef. He has several people working there and several women making things to sell and raise money. A really neat enterprise and tremendously good for the locals.

Not to brag, but since I am anyway, it was really good to be able to speak Fijian. Once folks knew I could speak, many warmed right up to us and I think it helped us get a pretty good experience throughout our trip. At least, that is my story and "au sa kabita na noqu italanoa."

We also saw a just-born-today colt and got a picture of the hills surrounding Rise Beyond the Reef.



After our visit to Rise Beyond the Reef, we dodged the many cane trucks on the road, stopped at Tavua (where the ladies put on sulus so their knees would not be exposed), dodged traffic crossing the road, and had a very good curry lunch at the Shop 'n' Save.



And then we continued our trip to Wananavu Beach Resort, taking pictures along the way of beautiful beaches and big things in the road.



Wananavu Beach Resort: A great place to have happy hour right on the beach and a great dinner to cap off the day. Big day tomorrow: Wainibuka Secondary School and Nayavu Village – Rod’s and Marg’s home for two years.





