

- Please take batteries of all types back with you to your home country for proper recycling or disposal. The less garbage you leave behind, the better. Bonaire does not have a landfill area or recycling plant as more industrialized countries do.

### Keeping in touch

Visiting boaters may use VHF Ch.77 as a hailing channel and then switch to either 71 or 88A for conversing. All other channels are assigned to specific users.

### The Bonaire National Marine Park

The Bonaire National Marine Park extends from the high water mark to the 200 ft. (60 m) depth contour, encompassing the entire coast of Bonaire including Klein Bonaire and Lac. This is an area of about 2.700 hectares, including coral reef, sea grass and mangroves. As an International Coral Reef Action Network (ICRAN) demonstration site, it is a model of its kind in the Caribbean, protecting and caring for the marine environment, while maximizing safe levels for recreation and commercial use.

#### Help us protect Bonaire's marine environment

- Do not damage the marine environment in any way.
- Do not touch or remove anything including creatures, plants, shells and hard or soft corals, whether dead or alive, in the water or on land.
- Do not harass dolphins. When a pod of dolphins is spotted, do not travel towards it but rather stay away from it and enjoy them from a distance.

### The Marine Park Rangers

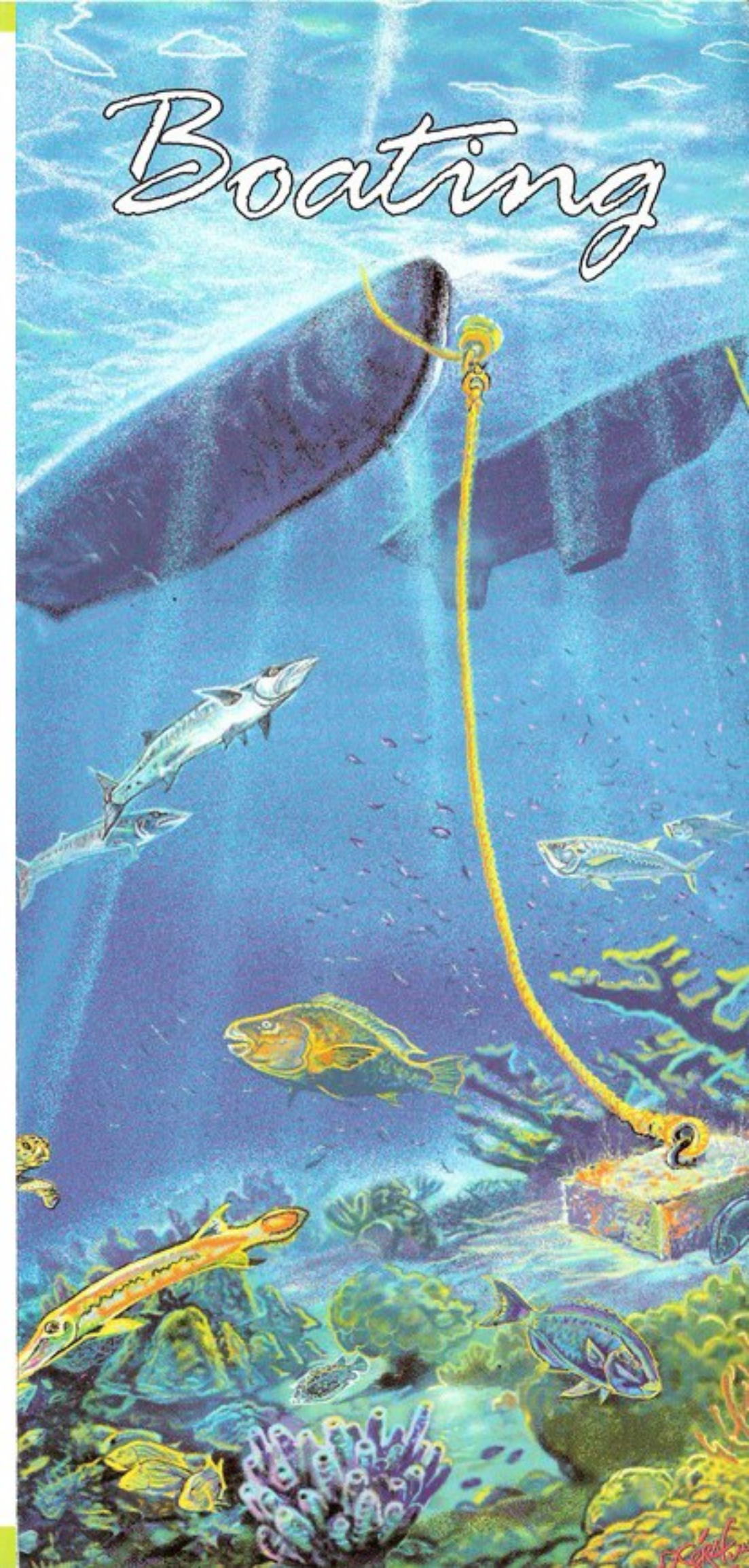
The Bonaire National Marine Park Rangers manage the use of the waters surrounding Bonaire, Klein Bonaire and Lac in order to protect its marine life. They maintain more than 100 public moorings, conduct extensive scientific research, monitor human and natural impact, enforce the Park's laws and regulations, provide information to all users and offer nature education in the local schools.

The Bonaire National Marine Park is recognized worldwide as an exemplary marine park for its efforts to eliminate destructive fishing practices and discharge of polluted ballast water. It has also successfully banned spear fishing and the collection of corals, shells and other marine life and the use of anchors.



### Contact info:

Phone : 599 717 8444 / 786 8444  
 Fax : 599 717 7318  
 Email : [marinepark@stinapa.org](mailto:marinepark@stinapa.org)  
 Website : [www.stinapa.org](http://www.stinapa.org)  
 Mailing address : P.O. Box 368  
 Bonaire, Netherlands Antilles  
 Headquarters : Barcadera z/n  
 Illustrations by : Dominique Sérafini  
[www.lagaleriedeneptune.fr](http://www.lagaleriedeneptune.fr)



## It's a marine protected area

Bonaire's coral reefs are our most precious asset. The coastlines of Bonaire, Lac and Klein Bonaire have been designated as protected areas. To protect the marine environment, as well as to ensure safety at sea, all users are subject to the Marine Park rules and must pay an entrance fee known as the 'Nature Fee'. These are once yearly charges of \$25 for SCUBA divers and \$10 for other users. A \$10 one-day pass for SCUBA divers is also available. Fees may be paid at dive operations, activity centers, at the headquarters of the Bonaire National Marine Park at Barcadera and to the Rangers of the BNMP.

## No anchoring

The island is surrounded by continuous fringing reefs. Anchoring damages our fragile coral reefs and is prohibited. Boats with a length of less than 12 ft. (3 m) are permitted to anchor and are required to use a **stone anchor**.

## Use of the mooring field

The mooring field consists of 42 heavy-duty moorings for pleasure boats located between 12°09'66"N 68°17'82"W (South of Harbor Village Marina entrance) and 12°09'06"N 68°16'42"W (in front of Karel's Bar and dock). The moorings consist of 2 yellow and white buoys on 2 lines attached to cement blocks. These lines can be tied directly to the boat bow. Use of chains is prohibited. Harbour Village Marina manages the moorings and the payment of \$10 per night can be made at the marina office. Contact the marina on Ch.17 VHF or phone 717-7419. Use of the moorings is at your own risk. The Bonaire National Marine Park accepts no responsibility for any loss or damage.

## Staying in a marina

Bonaire has 2 all-weather marinas: Harbour Village Marina, VHF Ch.17 / phone 717-7419 and Plaza Marina, VHF Ch. 18 / phone 717-2500.

## Regulation for the use of public buoys

*(the buoys with the yellow marker)*

Use of these moorings is free of charge but please observe the following:

- First come, first serve; the buoy cannot be reserved.
- Boats longer than 45 ft. (15 m) cannot tie onto the buoy.
- Only one boat per buoy or up to three small boats of 12 ft. (3 m).
- Time limit on a buoy is maximum 2 hours.
- Boats are not allowed to overnight on a buoy.
- Sail boats with tall masts or fishing boats with tall towers are not allowed to tie on to the buoys along the length of the landing strip of the airport (buoys number 36 and 37)
- Always tie from the buoy.
- The tie-on line should not be shorter than 18 ft. (16 m).

## Rules of the road

- Always navigate on the seaside of the mooring buoys in the dark blue water.
- Pass at least 150 ft. (50 m) away from a boat tied to a buoy.
- No craft longer than 9 ft. (3 m) may transit through the mooring field.
- All vessels are prohibited to take off at full speed until they are in the dark blue water.
- Kite surfing and jet skiing are forbidden on the waters of Lac.
- The International "rules of the road" for how to avoid collision should be adhered to in the waters of the Bonaire National Marine Park.

## Watch out as you go

- Be on the lookout for divers, snorkelers and swimmers at all times. If you see bubbles or splashing, steer clear.
- If you need to approach a boat with divers, snorkelers or swimmers in the water, establish radio contact first.
- Watch out for fishermen, especially small fishing boats. They may not be able to maneuver quickly enough to

get out of the way of sailboats or motorboats. Always pass seaward, as local fishermen may be moored with a long line just under the surface.

- Use navigation lights at night so others can see you.

## Fishing

Spear fishing and the possession of spear fishing equipment are strictly prohibited. If you have a spear gun, please leave it with the Customs Office while you are on Bonaire.



## Don't throw it - stow it!!!

### Help us protect our reefs

International law (MARPOL) prohibits the discharge of any type of garbage - including food - into the sea within 3 miles of land. Help us protect our reefs and marine life by disposing responsibly of plastics and other non-biodegradable items.

- If it goes overboard – go get it.
- Retrieve any floating garbage you see.
- Take your garbage shore side. Containers are available at the Harbour Village Marina and the Plaza Resort Marina. Do not dispose of garbage elsewhere; all green bins are privately owned.
- Spent oil may be disposed of in a special tank located in the Harbour Village Marina. Vessels with onboard holding tanks are encouraged to use them and to dispose of their waste periodically offshore at least 5 miles from the nearest land.