



STINAPA INFORMATION

THE CROWN JEWELS AND THE PHONE CARD

It is as if they are the valuable jewels from his store, that's how Roy Kort talks about Bonaire's Nature and the whole world. With love and affection. Born as a "Yu di Kòrsou" (Native of Curaçao) with Surinamese parents, he left for the Netherlands at the tender age of 16. That's where he studied hotel- and restaurant management. He then worked in the Netherlands in that industry for many years. His store "Bamali" was originally on Bonaire, from 1989 till 1997. It was then that he decided to return to the Netherlands. In 2006 he has once again returned to Bonaire and re-opened his shop. Presently his clientele consists of 75% tourists. "I will never even throw a cigarette butt on the ground" Roy says with emotion. "I've walked around once for 20 minutes, looking for a trash-can to throw one away. Some time ago I saw somebody disposing of a used phone card on the ground. I called it to his attention, and he picked it up without any problems." Yes, Roy is very careful with our environment and nature in general. He can talk for extended periods over the phone with his daughter about these things. She lives in the Netherlands and studies earth sciences. "We have to keep nature as clean as possible, is one of his pet subjects. He regrets that the United States give so little value to the Kyoto Protocol (The Kyoto Protocol is an agreement between several countries. Each country has been allotted a certain amount of greenhouse gasses it may produce. At this moment 187 countries have signed the Protocol). Because so much greenhouse gasses are produced the natural balance is lost, causing the ice masses to melt, with all kinds of negative effects. He hopes Bonaire will never get any industries that produce polluting gasses. Tourists choose for Bonaire because they read on the internet how much cleaner Bonaire is as compared to other destinations. Specifically in the marine areas where they are protected by law. Bonaire's nature is unique, according to Roy, in the north she is beautifully green and hilly, while the south is stretched out and flat. Tourism is the biggest pillar of our economy. We should realize that it's sun and health that we are selling here.

Written by Natalie Wanga, translated by Marcel Nahr.

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NOS TA BIBA DI NATURALES



Traha huntu na un desaroyo duradero pa Bonelru