

Ste. Maxime, France (1)
May 27-31, 2011

Our weather has been delightful with mostly 80° days (when translated from Celsius), pleasant breezes, and cool nights. I don't think one could get much closer to heaven. Where we are now is so gorgeous that we extended our stay from two nights to four. (We previously had made a reservation in Cannes for nine days. When we called to ask if we could come two days later, they said no. Then they asked how long were we staying. When we told them, they said it was fine.)

This morning we had our own picnic on our patio. We had a late dinner last night, so for breakfast we had the remnants from yesterday, ham and turkey slices, cheese, and leftover rolls from last night. We call this a German breakfast because that's usually what the Germans have, at least when we were there.

Some of the scenery here in St. Maxime, with the greenery, flowers, beaches, and the sea is too beautiful for words, one just needs to experience it, or take photos. And Peep and Flo are beyond themselves with joy, but sometimes when we are hustling through crowded areas, they hunker down in my Healthy Back Bag and lay low. Flo always had the tendency to jump out, and when he went missing one day in the Algarve and saw we were so concerned, he's learned to behave--somewhat.

We hadn't read about the Ste.-Maxime hotel we booked on line, only a day in advance, in any guides. We had thought of going to nearby St. Tropez but everything within reason was booked. When we got here, we found a veritable oasis! It's actually a resort, with outdoor and indoor pools, a game room and fitness facility, situated in a gated community in a garden setting, in fact next to the Botanic Gardens. The whole place is elegant and we have a large room with a patio



viewing flowering bushes and majestic trees



All for €98--about \$130.

Last night we had a martini out there (our weather has been perfect--sunny and warm wherever we've been, and clouding up as we leave for the next place) and breakfast out there this morning. (From ham, turkey, cheese, and coffee concentrate we bought in Marseille--we brought the hot water heater and borrowed cups from the restaurant).

And we found out that their restaurant served fantastic meals at a reasonable price. If we'd known what it would be like we'd have booked a week. Maybe next year!

One of the extra features of the room is an extra bed--not exactly a Murphy bed, but a cousin. Here it is as part of the furniture.



The reason for the Murphy bed reference is that one time when we joined Betty Lou's sister and her husband in their time share condo in Cancun, there was a pull-down Murphy bed in the living room. They lowered it and Betty Lou and her sister hopped in and started laughing so much they couldn't stop.

Here it is unfurled.



And here it is occupied!

