

TRAVELOGUE

2020



This travelogue was written and illustrated during the crossing of the Atlantic ocean on a 43ft (13m) catamaran sailing vessel. Our four head strong crew from Switzerland participated with approximately eighty crews in the Atlantic Rally for Cruisers (ARC+ 2018).

We departed from the Grand Canary Islands to Cape Verde Islands and then across into the Caribbean. The whole journey took three weeks of sailing an overall and was a six-week enterprise. The presented travelogue was written as a contribution to the (ARC+ 2018) logbook contest and it won the first prize for the most creative written and illustrated log. There were two types of reports, the Technical Log and the Creative Log, in each category approximately thirty crews participated and documented their adventures. In order to have a valid log for the contest, four uploads during the voyage were required, with text and visual content. The report was published in full length on the ARC website and extracts of it were featured in the ARC newsletter during the journey. The presented travelogue is an artistic written and illustrated project and covers current topics on mobile populations (south-north migration), it reflects on historical aspects of the trade wind routes between the two continents and the history of slavery. The report scratches the surface of current environmental and global topics that can affect sailors in the Mediterranean, the Atlantic or any other ocean in the second decade of the 21st century.

All illustrations were made during the voyage mostly while sailing. The author of this log has packed and wrapped his thoughts and experiences in small stories and excursions with several references to literature, music and popular culture, inspired by travelogues known from naturalists and adventurers, which were part of sea voyages throughout the centuries. Occasionally, like mist covering the full view and the clear horizon, Nikolai filled the pages with fantasies, humour and theoretical gibberish to reveal his own feelings and parts of his fortunate artistic and researcher biography.

