

Sent:

Monday, September 15, 2008 4:58 AM

Subject:

Postcard

Today was the boat trip to Rainbow Bridge National Monument. We had originally scheduled it for the morning but it was canceled because of not enough riders. Kind of like the airlines. So we were on the afternoon boat and had time to kill. Took a short hike to Horseshoe Bend.



Still had time, went to the gas station.

Still had time, went to the grocery store.

Still had time, sat on the balcony.

Finally went to the boat. We left Wahweap Marina at 12:30 to take a 5-hour tour, a 5-hour tour.



This is Canyon Odyssey and Captain Doug. Note the microphone. The Navajos on board would call him “Captain Belagaana”, White Guy Who Never Shuts Up. And he didn’t. There were around 10 Navajos on the trip. At one point 3 of them sat right behind us, which was around half a ton. They never stopped eating. The job the US Cavalry left undone may sadly be finished by Frito-Lay.

Rainbow Bridge is an impressive piece of architecture. It spans 290 feet and a DC-10 could fit through it. Rainbow Bridge is held sacred by the Navajo, Hopi, Paiutes and Utes. Captain Belagaana told us a sappy story about some guy who went there and cried. Luckily it didn’t detract from the experience, which is moving in its own way, which is with 100 other people. The Navajos honored the occasion with a box of Wheat Thins.



As the water level of Lake Powell recedes, the boat dock and hike grow longer and longer and the walk is now 1½ to 2 miles. An interesting accessory to the dock is this floating outhouse. It has 6 potty condos and is painted to match the rocks.



As you leave the bridge, you just have to look around.





Back at last, we headed to our room to get ready for dinner. There were 3 Frenchmen chatting in the hallway. I had 2 words for them: Lance Armstrong.

D&S