

the winters, although they are rainy and cold) and living close to the sea. We also enjoy the wide variety of friends and acquaintances from all over the world that we've met here.

When I think about our time in Canada... I miss our family (we have 3 children and two grandchildren in Toronto) and friends. We get back once every year or two but unfortunately our children don't get to Corfu very often. Our youngest daughter was married in Turin, Italy 3 years ago so we had a good visit then and our oldest son came to Corfu in January for our 50th wedding anniversary. Interestingly, we find that we also miss the variety of restaurants in Toronto and Bruno's Fine Foods (especially the butcher).

I enjoy being retired in Greece because I can... garden almost all year round, pursue more "Do It Yourself" projects than I ever thought possible and have a very active social life with English, Dutch and Greek friends. We've also managed a bit of travel to Morocco, Egypt, Holland and Italy. I am active in a Greek environmental group (the only foreign member) that is trying to protect the olive groves of Corfu.

As for the future... after having had an old stone house with an attached olive press (in the interior of the island) renovated, living in it part time from 1994 to 1999 and full time from 1999 to the present, we have decided to buy some land on the coast with a sea view and build our dream house.

My advice for other retirees travelling to Greece... don't come to Greece in July or August as it is too hot and there are too many tourists. If you really like the heat come in July but definitely not in August as the tourists from Greece and Italy overwhelm most destinations. The best time is May, June or September. Must do: Athens and Delphi for the antiquities; a cruise (for a week or less) of the Aegean Sea; a week on an island either in the Aegean (Santorini or Rhodes) or in the Ionian (Corfu or Cephalonia). Recommended websites - www.gnto.gr (Greece) and www.agni.gr (Corfu).



■ Day trip to Rainbow Beach, south of Hervey Bay.

I live here because... we enjoy the superb weather, the nice people, and the size of the town. Hervey Bay is a city of 50,000

people, about 3.5 hours by car north of Brisbane. The area benefits from a fantastic sub-tropical climate with no real extremes (average 30 degrees C in summer and 23 degrees C in winter) and has been voted in the top three "best climates" in the World according to the Wikipedia web site (see below).

When I think about our time in Canada... I miss our family and old friends but with the advent of easy Internet communications, it has made it much easier to stay in touch. My son Rick was down to see us last year and stayed for a month, however, because of the distance and long flights we don't see very many Canadian visitors. We are planning a trip to Canada in the next year or two to see family and friends.

I ended up in Australia because... after retiring in Vancouver in mid-1990, my wife and I sailed our 37 foot yacht, named *IsaLei-Rua*, south to San Francisco. Over the next six years we spent time exploring the southern USA, Mexico, French Polynesia including the Society Islands, Samoa, Western Samoa, Tonga, Fiji, New Zealand and Australia. We settled down on the north island of New Zealand in the small town of Russell in 1996 after returning there from a year sailing in Australia. One thing led to another and in 2000, I sold *IsaLei-Rua* and moved to Hervey Bay, Queensland where Janet and I now reside. For anyone interested, the saga of our sailing adventures and description of our present location in Hervey Bay are on the Internet at <http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb/~andersonfamily/larryhomepage.html>

As for the future... I have taken up gemstone faceting for a hobby as well as genealogy. I also author web pages for Janet's and my genealogy, and non-profit clubs and organizations that we belong to. As well, I provide a lot of assistance to seniors, friends and neighbours who have computer problems and electronic repairs.

My advice for other retirees travelling to Australia is... to come during the southern spring or fall as it can get hot during December and January. Don't miss Steve Irwin's Australia Zoo just north of Brisbane as well as both Sydney and Melbourne. The beaches of Queensland are exquisite and the Fraser Island/Hervey Bay area is world renowned for its nature parks and whale watching from July until early November. July and August are nice in Queensland but can be cool in the rest of the country. I'd recommend checking out the following web sites if you're thinking of coming to Australia:

www.csu.edu.au/australia/tourism.html
www.herveybay.qld.gov.au/
www.hervey.com.au/
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hervey_Bay
www.rootsweb.com/~qldhbfha/images/seqldmap.gif
www.rootsweb.com/~qldhbfha/SEQldMapLarge.htm