

Our Zanzibar Bath - May 2013



The Dragon Lady and I were checking out ethnology and researching a book in East Africa 2-3 years ago and while staying at Zanzibar's Dhow Palace Hotel, an African legend built in a three-century-old mansion in the old Stone Town, I fell in love with this, the hamam, or bath, in our room. The Romans knew how to relax, as it was their invention, but fine tuned by the Ottoman Turks, and it made for such a pleasurable,

relaxed experience I just had to have one. (The colour of the tile is actually cobalt blue, not black.) http://www.africanlegendsdmc.com/dhow_palace_hotel_description.html





I had long been in hate with our Plain Jane old 1960's model in the basement.
Booooooorrriing.... I even hated showering in it and it had our only stand up shower.



So after emailing the hotel manager, who kindly had one of his staff draw me rough "blueprints," I yanked our old one out. Well, actually I helped our man Vern Rattlesnake do it. I call Vern Vice President of Maintenance in The Mighty Holy Schoonover Empire. He's been keeping everything running smoothly for us for over twenty years.



Between other jobs, the project took Vern exactly a month to the day, with me gofering & assisting. All of May 2013.



Vern's workmanship is painstaking. We enjoy working together. He has a great sense of humour. That means he laughs at all my jokes.



We used nothing but the best materials. It's so solid an elephant could sit in here and spray himself with his trunk.



Voila! Or whatever they say in Tanzania. I was so delighted with the job that VP Vern was in for a hefty bonus.



The centre piece Kingston polished brass and porcelain telephone shower is worth a close up. It came out of San Francisco and was priced at \$399, though the landed cost was \$450. The same one locally - though available only in semi-boring nickel - was in the high \$600s. Man, we get ripped off in Canada if we don't go to eBay or Amazon. I found this on eBay. Ralph Weinberger at kbfaucetplus@gmail.com was such a pleasure to deal with I'll give him a plug too. A true, friendly, laid back boy from the City by the Bay. (BTW, we left in the original shower nozzle for Su-san's use, but just raised the handles. So we have the best of both worlds.)



So should you find yourself houseguesting in our new Guest Room (no more roughing it in The Fishing Room as much as people often said they loved it)...



...you'll be able to enjoy a little piece of exotic Zanzibar in Toontown!