

So Far, So Good

Wednesday, May 21, 2008 at 5:34pm

This is better than I thought.

We arrived in Costa Rica last Saturday, got relaxed a bit, got some more training and I am now in Juanilama, near Santa Rosa. It's a really remote town indeed.

I'm learning tons about Costa Rica, the Spanish language (I had my first few fully spanish conversations yesterday, up to about a dozen or so now). The past few days have been mainly for bringing up our house to speed, building a shed, clotheslines, cleaning, etc. Now we're starting work tomorrow - first off we're completing discreet walking paths through a MASSIVE biological reserve, we're teaching some english, planting trees and building a reception hall. Oh, there's a waterfall right at the worksite too, in the jungle. It was one of the best swims of my life too. Es muy calor y humido en Costa Rica.

We really look out for each other out here. Typical conversations at the house include "How have your bowel movements been?" and " yeah I'm going to go make a poo fire" (we cant flush down the toilet paper for lack of pressure). We live in a concrete house, really tiny, in the middle of nowhere, we have a few neighbours, one of which has a house made of rusted tin sheets and wood planks. their roosters wake us all up promptly at 4 AM.

The culture here is very relaxed. Petty crime is ravenous. The organic pineapples are the best I've ever had in my life.

I expect to change a lot over the course of these next nine weeks, based on this first impression. More on that later. And sorry to say that I don't really miss anyone yet, this adventure is just getting started...

¡Pura vida!



[Alana Chuchmuch](#) at 8:50pm May 21

you mean you don't even miss driving around all day in a truck to well sites doing nothing!?! Glad to hear everything is okay and I do hope your bowel movements are regular! God Bless and I'm excited to hear more...



[Alana Chuchmuch](#) at 8:51pm May 21

oh and do the roosters actually wake up that deep sleep of yours? hehe



[Valerie Arseneau](#) at 9:44pm May 21

Wicked Andy!! It's too early for your culture shock. Don't worry it will come. Mine did not last very long and I suspect yours will not either. You are very resourceful and I strongly believe you will do more than fine.

Looking forward to greeting you at my door in 9 weeks!



[Déborah Nadeau](#) at 10:26pm May 21

Pineapple, mmmh! Glad to hear you're loving the experience :)



[Charles Landry](#) at 10:31pm May 21

great to hear , I'm sure you'll enjoy the experience!, I should do something like that!!



[Sarah Burke](#) at 1:27am May 22

Great to see one of your notes appear on my newsfeed - they're always great to read. I was especially surprised - and happy - to see this one. I'm glad to know it's going well. And I wish you nothing but amazing, although probably challenging, experiences (are they really amazing if not challenging?).



[Gabrielle Lapointe](#) at 6:12pm May 22

haha! Bring back Matt a rooster! He can never wake up! :)



[Jeffrey Poirier](#) at 10:00pm May 22

You the man Andrew and I admire what you're doing!