

[A Well-Earned Vacation](#)

Wednesday, July 30, 2008 at 2:27pm

I've really enjoyed my last days with the YCI volunteers in Costa Rica. Touring San José and having our last conversations provided great closure to a summer experience that words could not justify.

I landed in Guadalajara Saturday afternoon, and Valérie had immediately shown herself to be an excellent hostess. I had my first hot shower in months, and set up my luggage next to a **bed**. I jumped the gun when I said it couldn't get any better...

That evening, I had met Oscar and Gustavo, who were kind enough to take us through the city. We went out to a very trendy club that night—but I felt incredibly out of place, possessing only the clothes I had not yet thrown out from all the hand washing in Costa Rica; luckily I didn't look trashy =). I also had the chance to have great conversation with some of Val's coworkers. I couldn't ask for more.

Val and I left for Puerto Vallarta on Sunday. For three days we were tourists in a lovely hotel right on the beach. We had met many fascinating people there as well. I swam in the Pacific for the first time (lovely indeed), and worked on my non-existent tan. We're now back in Guadalajara, and will be returning to Moncton together on Friday.

I have so far not experienced any reverse culture shock as expected, at least more than gorging down food I hadn't had in a while. However, I am getting some weird thoughts and feelings. I feel myself changing as a person now more than ever. I find myself setting new priorities. I hope to reflect more on this soon.

I look forward to these next days of reading and relaxing in Guadalajara, and I highly anticipate meeting up with and seeing all my friends and family from home. I appreciate them now more than ever.

Cheers!



[Kayla Babin](#) at 1:03am July 31

Yeah, we'll see about the non-existent tan when you get back and compare it to my deathly palor. >>



[Valerie Arseneau](#) at 6:08am July 31

Guadalajara rocks my socks offs!



[Oscar Sánchez De Zulueta](#) at 5:22pm July 31
You guys shouldn't leave the place :(



[Patrick Chalifoux](#) at 7:51pm July 31
I missed you both. My heart is laying in pieces.