

Sunrise over the Rio Napo.



Today we take a canoe ride down the river for a hike in the Sinchi Jungle.



Mist on the river.



Javier was our guide for the day, but before we could leave for the jungle we needed some face painting as a way of asking the jungle for a safe trip.



The face paint is a red dye
from the seeds of Achiote
(*Bixa orellana*).





Shari and Delia before and after face painting.



Face painting is amusing.



Ready for a jungle trip.



The canoe is loaded and we
are heading down river to the
Sinchi Jungle.



Motorized canoes were the main transportation method on the river.



Laundry day on the river.



This group was poling a raft rather than using the motorized canoe.



During the jungle hike Javier described the uses of the native plants.



Our group was attentive.



Notes were taken.



There was tree touching.



Also some smelling.



And Kyle, did you really
need to taste that ?



This tree bark extract can be
used for sinus problems.



Eventually, we had
gone native.





Javier showed us the utility
of this large palm leaf.

First he taught Savannah how to braid the leaves.



After a simple weave, the leaf
made a good blind.



After splitting the leaf rachis, he could execute a more complex weave.



Almost finished, but it is still not evident what the end result will be.



It turns out to be a skirt for Jungle Jamie.



How nice. It goes well
with the boots.



But Javier was not done yet. The skirt needed a matching purse.



Finally, a set of fern
fiddle-head earrings to
complement the ensemble.



Jamie wore the jungle skirt for the rest of the hike.



Jamie was not the only
one to play dress up in
the jungle.

Kyle sported a nice palm
fiber beard.



And Cody went for a Unicorn
horn ornamentation look.



It turned out that the boots were kind of necessary to make it through parts of the hiking trail.



We reached an elevation on the trail with a good overview of the jungle and the river.



Group photo at the overlook.



Lunch was a lap-top
canoe pick nick.

There are no paper
plates in the jungle.

Jamie is still sporting
her jungle skirt.



The group seems concerned about Mark's use of the hot sauce.



After lunch, it was time for tubing down the Rio Arajuno.



Off we go.



Tubing was a nice way to relax after the morning of hiking.













Back to the motorized canoe and the end of our jungle adventure.

