Guy in 1996



With Susan







Ecuador is on the equator





The Galapagos islands

- It is pretty expensive
- You go as part of a package tour
- You go there to see the animals
- You live on a boat
- Why not also have a few days in Ecuador, as well as in the Amazon rain forest?

The people on our tour



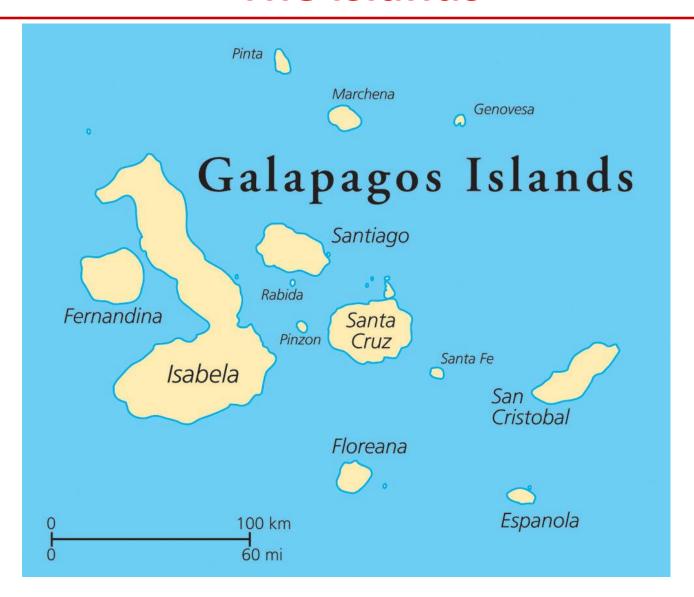
Our boat



A typical day

- 1. Morning: visit an island
- 2. Afternoon: snorkel or siesta
- 3. Early evening: visit another island
- 4. Late evening: dinner on the boat

The islands



Caused by volcanic activity at the meeting of tectonic plates

Some parts are still just lava



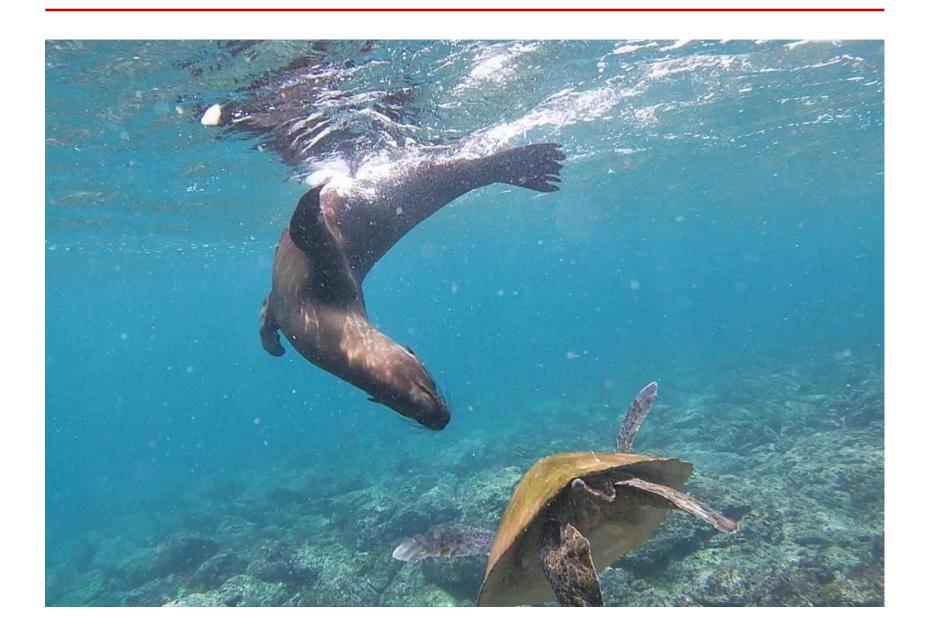
Or just rocks



But other parts have vegetation



And the ocean is clear and full of life



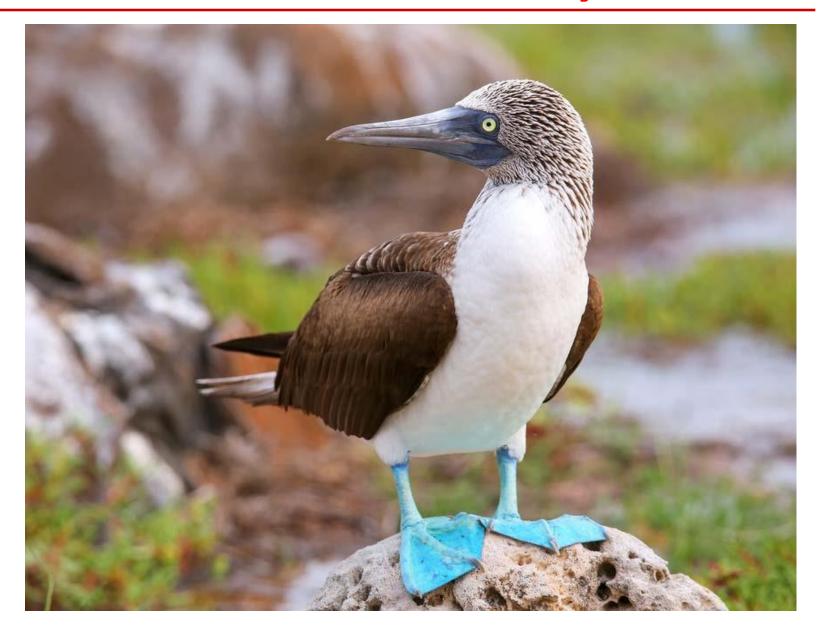
The animals

- 1. Birds, birds, birds (mostly seabirds)
- 2. Reptiles (mostly endemic)
- 3. Seals and sea lions (endemic)
- 4. Rays
- 5. No land mammal or amphibians

You hear a lot and see a lot because the animals have no fear of humans

You have to look at the ground to avoid stepping on nesting birds, etc

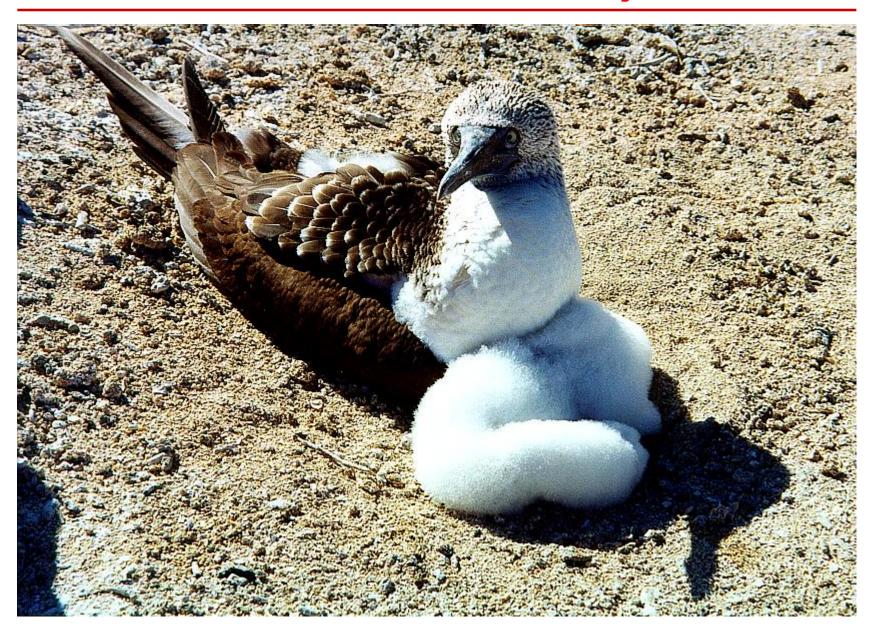
Blue-footed booby



Blue-footed booby



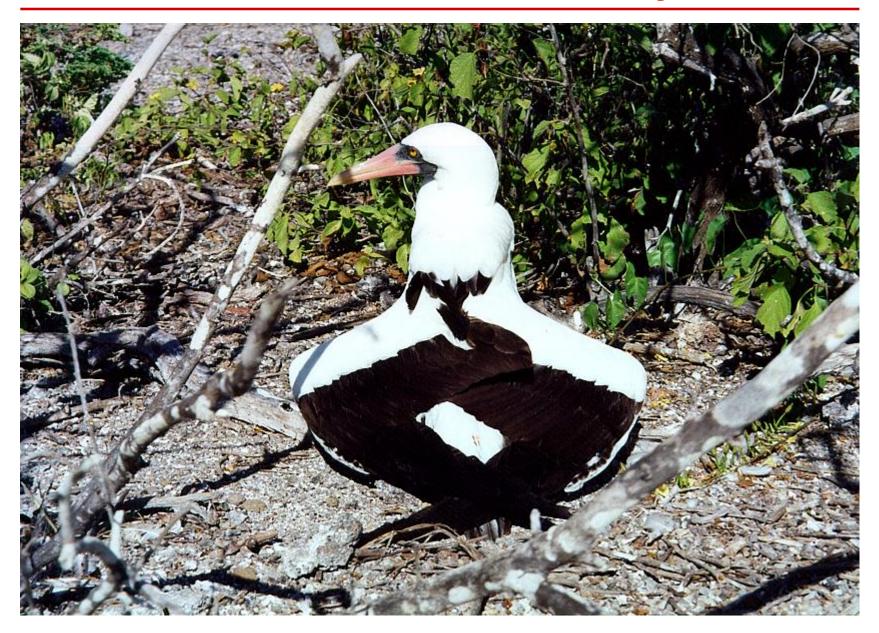
Blue-footed booby



Red-footed booby



Nazca/Masked booby



Magnificent frigatebird



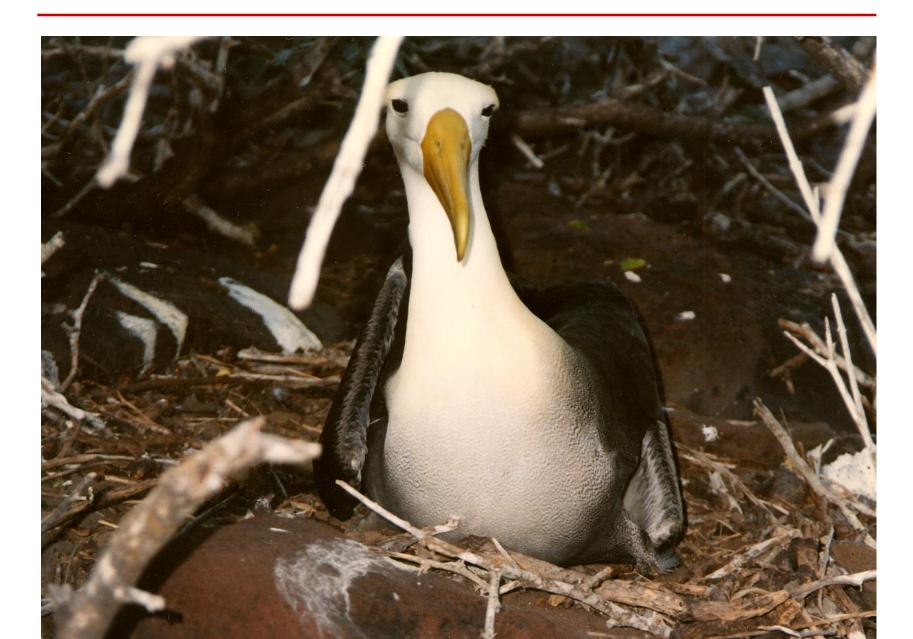
Magnificent frigatebird



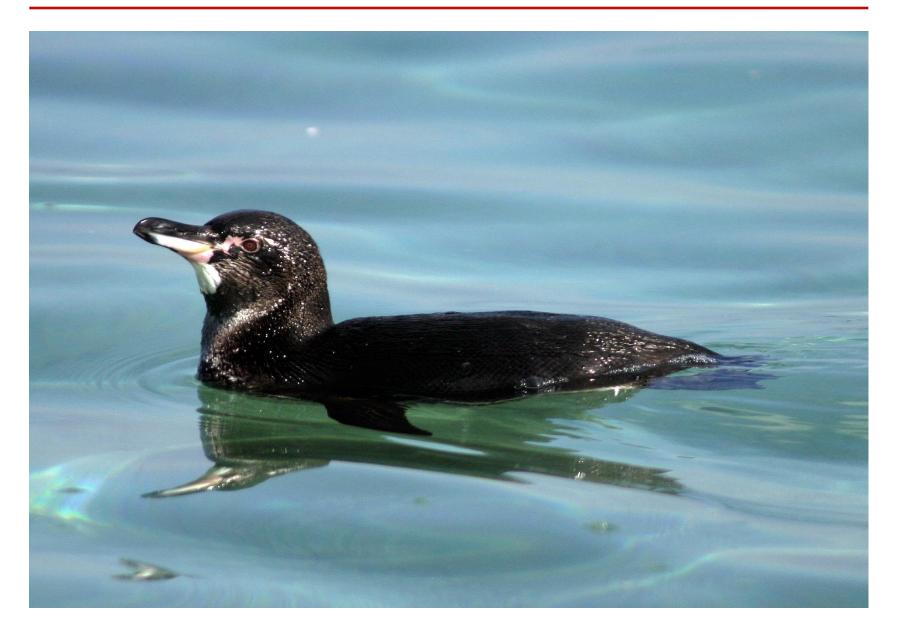
Waved albatross



Waved albatross



Galapagos penguin (endemic)



Galapagos sea lion (endemic)



Galapagos sea lion (endemic)



Galapagos land iguana (endemic)



Marine iguana (endemic)



Marine iguana (endemic)



Marine iguana (endemic)



Galapagos tortoise (endemic)



Green sea turtle



Green sea turtle



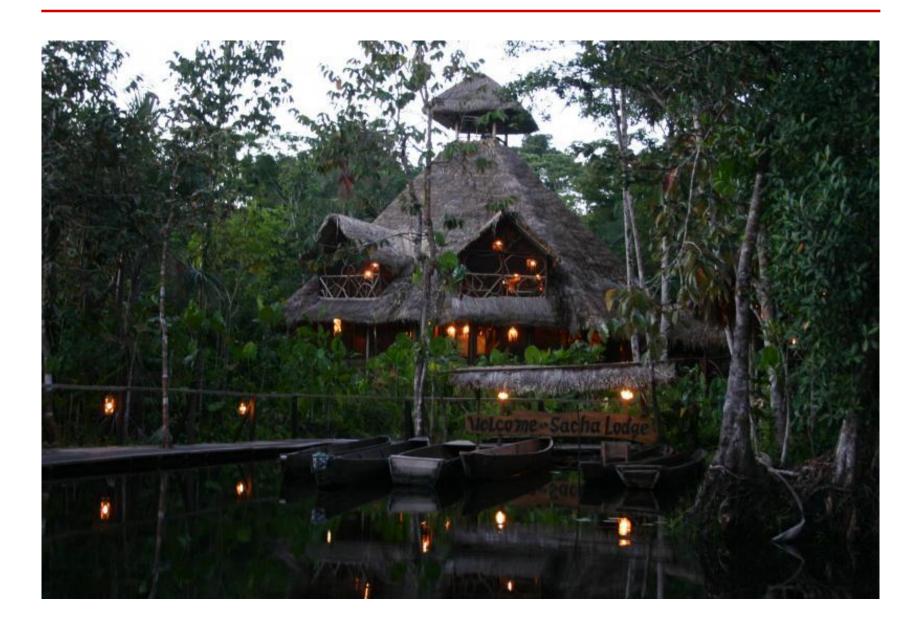
Golden cownose ray



The Amazon rainforest

- To get there, we spent X hours in a motorised canoe
- The place we stayed at was in the middle of nowhere but luxurious
- Every day, we were taken on a long walk through the forest

Our hotel



The animals

Whereas, in the Galapagos

 You hear a lot and see a lot because they have no fear of humans

In the Amazon:

- You hear a lot but don't see a lot because they hide
- It's mostly about ambience

In passing, on safari

- You see a lot (but hear nothing). An extraordinary variety of mammals.
- But you have to be patient
- And you have to be taken to the right place at the right time

The animals

Whereas, in the Galapagos

 You hear a lot and see a lot because they have no fear of humans

In the Amazon:

- You hear a lot but don't see a lot because they hide
- It's mostly about ambience

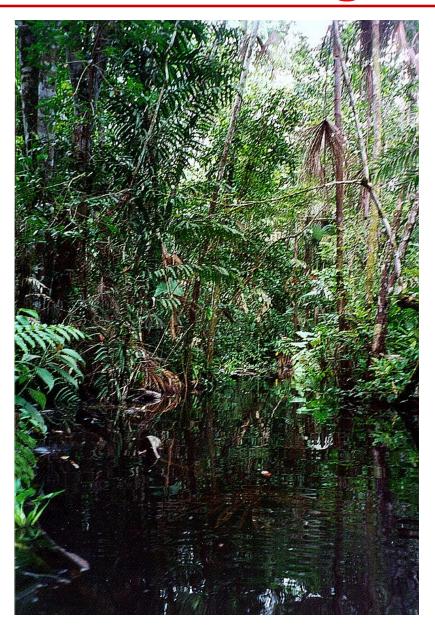
Howler monkeys



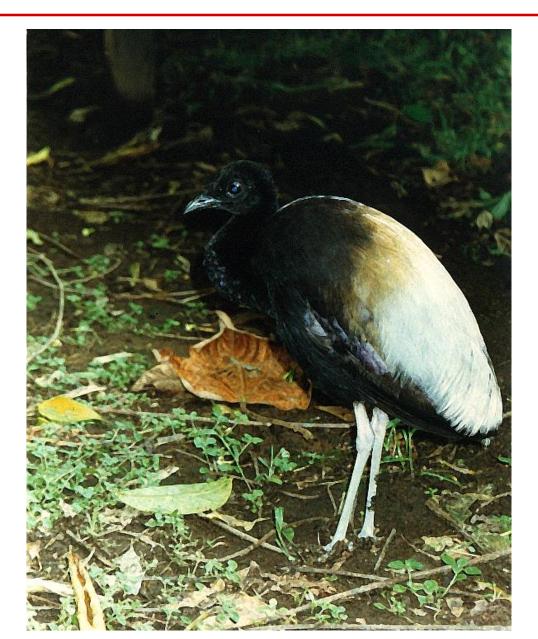
So, you walk around



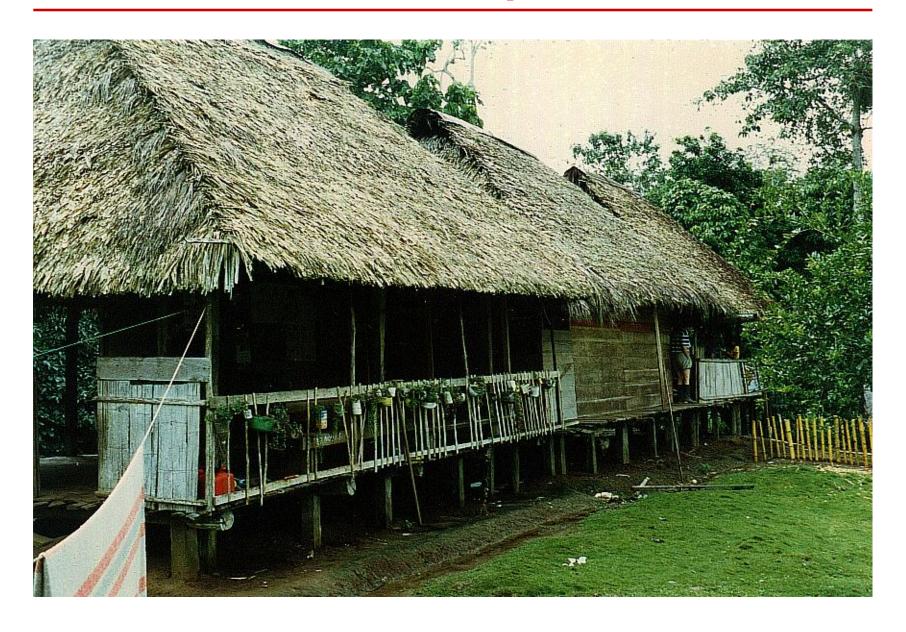
And look at the vegetation



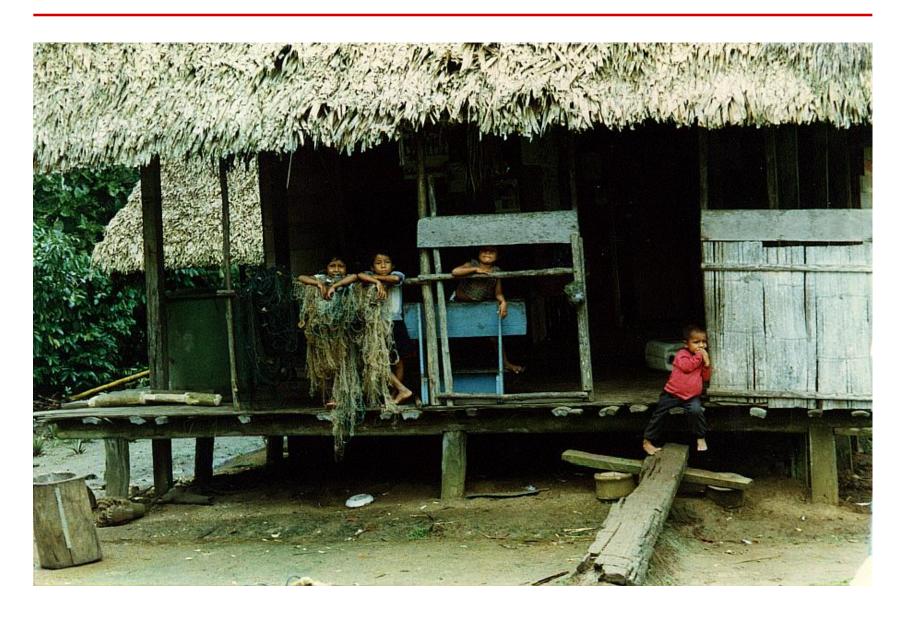
And sometimes see the odd bird



And sometimes bump into someone



Who has children



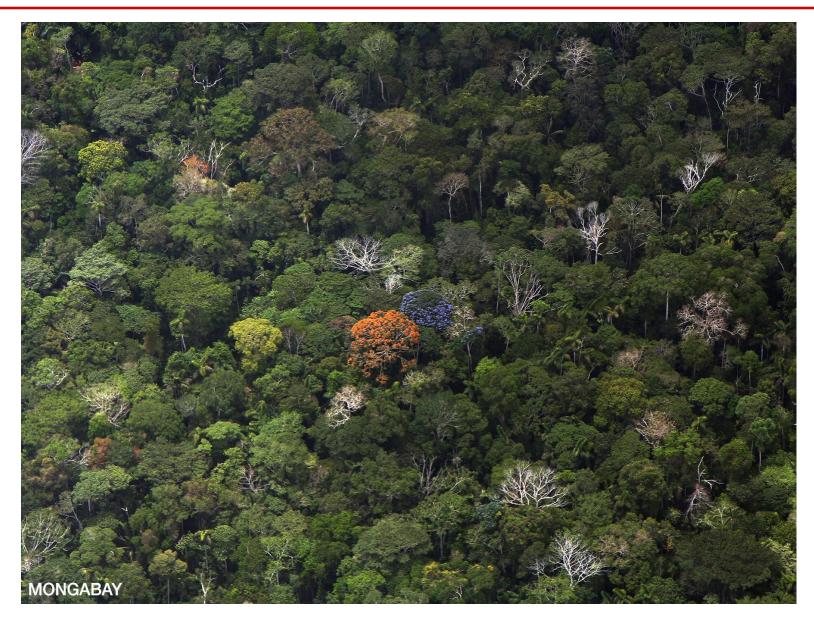
And an ocelot as a pet



Then, one day, you get above the canopy



The canopy



A toucan in the canopy

