

# The Amazonian Journey (My Autobiography)

The plane touched down at 11:30 at the Santa Maria Airport after a long 12 hour journey from Dublin. I looked at the signs that people were holding until I saw one with the name Dan Byrne on it in big black letters. So, this must be my tour guide I thought as I walked over to the man holding the sign.

“Hi, I’m Antonio”, said the guide who was tall and seemed very serious.

“Alright, lets go to collect my 30 million megapixel camera and gear”, said I. The gear was delayed and we had to wait for about an hour to get most of it and even longer for my tripod. I was exhausted by the time we had everything.

Antonio was complaining and wouldn’t go without his pickup fee so I had no choice but to give it to him. So off we went to the Amazonian Rainforest in search of some of the world’s rarest animals and sights.

The shuttle bus took about two hours to get there, but after a long ride we made it to the Rainforest. The weather was cool and breezy but there was no time to be wasted as I had to be in the Sahara Desert in 5 days (I’m a busy man!) After a very long walk we made it to the very heart of the place where all the best things are.

We found some amazing sights but I really wanted to see the animals so off we went to see them. I wanted to take pictures but when I did I forgot to turn off the flash. But by the time I realized that it was too late.....

Antonio was lying dead on the Rainforest floor. I was hurt but luckily alive. I saw some of that plastic eating fungi that only lives in rainforests. Suddenly I realized there was a truck dumping plastic nearby for the fungi to get rid of. I shouted at the driver but he couldn’t hear me. I tried to run after the truck, but once it started going I didn’t have a chance of catching up. It was gone. How would I ever get home? I wondered. Suddenly a monkey swung on a vine, coming out of nowhere and taking my camera. It was all very strange. When I saw Antonio with the monkey that stole my camera I became very suspicious. Then I remembered I had a map in my pocket so I decided to book myself into one of those four or five star hotels to wind down and set everything aside until tomorrow. But with lots of money spent on that I couldn’t afford a professional photographer’s camera so I had to get an everyday standard LUMIX. It was okay, I suppose but I preferred the old one.

After that I went back to the hotel and had a lovely smoked salmon for dinner. I then decided I would better after a good night’s sleep so I went to bed early. The next day I had a big cooked breakfast and a few pastries and then set out for the Rainforest. Once I got back in I had a look

around and found a hideout. I decided to have a peek inside. I got bored of it after a few minutes and decided to come back after a good lobster in the posh restaurant at the hotel for my lunch.

So I went back to Rainforest View (the hotel) to get it. I really wished I had brought my swimming trunks, golf clubs and tennis racket and maybe even my kids when I realised all of the facilities. Anyway, there were more important things at hand than sports.

Once back in the Rainforest I had a look around. It was barely five minutes before a chimp came out of nowhere and put me out cold.

As I became conscious my vision started clearing. I was on my own and the evil little chimp was nowhere to be seen. I made a run for it and didn't stop until I reached the hotel.

I decided not to go back in and just get home. The photos wouldn't make much money, but who cares? Ever since then I have never trusted animals. Even my kid's pets!

# THE END!

By: Dan Byrne