

Above The Snake Line: My Years In Ecuador

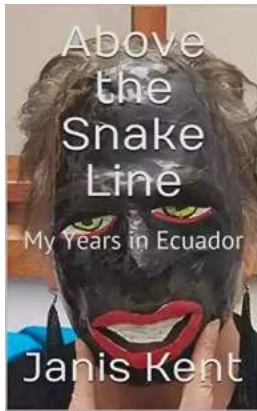


Welcome to my personal journey above the snake line in the stunning country of Ecuador. Over the past few years, I have been fortunate enough to call this vibrant country my home and witness its enchanting landscapes, rich cultures, and warm-hearted people. In this article, I will take you on an immersive adventure through the diverse terrains of Ecuador and my unforgettable experiences within.

Discovering Ecuador's Natural Marvels

Ecuador is a land brimming with natural wonders. As I ventured above the snake line, a metaphorical threshold that separates the ordinary from the extraordinary, I was left in awe of the country's breathtaking landscapes. From the misty cloud

forests of Mindo to the towering peaks of the Andes, Ecuador's diverse geography never failed to captivate my spirit.



Above the Snake Line: My Years in Ecuador

by Benjamin Fisher (Kindle Edition)

★★★★☆ 4.8 out of 5

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The Galapagos Islands, known for their unique wildlife and pristine ecosystems, were among the highlights of my time in Ecuador. Witnessing the famous giant tortoises, playful sea lions, and vibrant marine life was a surreal experience. Exploring the islands gave me a deeper appreciation for the significance of conservation efforts in preserving our delicate planet.



Immersing in Ecuadorian Cultures

Ecuador is a culturally rich country, where traditions run deep and every region has its unique customs and festivities. From the indigenous communities in the Andean highlands to the Afro-Ecuadorian communities along the coast, I had the opportunity to embrace the vibrant traditions and celebrations that make Ecuador so special.

One of the most memorable cultural experiences was attending an Inti Raymi celebration in Otavalo. The colorful clothing, traditional music, and lively dance performances surrounded me, making me feel like a part of something truly authentic and magical. It was in these moments that I truly felt connected to the heart and soul of Ecuador.

Reconnecting with Nature

Living above the snake line allowed me to reconnect with nature on a profound level. The abundant rainforests of Ecuador housed incredible biodiversity, and I found solace in their peaceful embrace. Hiking through the lush trails of the

Amazon rainforest, swimming in crystal clear waterfalls, and spotting elusive wildlife filled my days with awe and admiration.



The Warmth of Ecuador's People

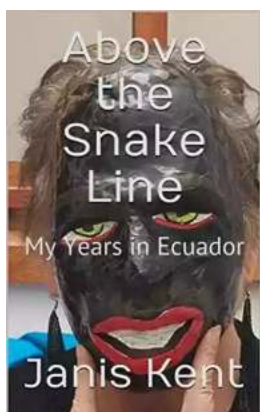
One of the things that stood out to me the most during my time in Ecuador was the genuine warmth and hospitality of its people. Ecuadorians have an incredible ability to make you feel welcomed and valued. From sharing delicious traditional meals to engaging in heartfelt conversations, I cherished the connections I formed with the locals who became my extended family during my stay.

Their kindness and generosity taught me valuable life lessons, reminding me of the importance of compassion and human connection. Their stories and experiences added depth to my own journey, making it a truly enriching experience that will forever hold a special place in my heart.

Above the snake line, I discovered a world of wonders in Ecuador that surpassed all expectations. The country's diverse landscapes, rich cultures, and warm-

hearted people made my years in Ecuador truly unforgettable. It is a place that opened my eyes to the beauty of nature, the power of traditions, and the strength of human connections.

If you ever have the chance to venture above the snake line, I highly recommend exploring the wonders of Ecuador. Let this captivating country capture your heart and leave you with memories that will endure a lifetime.



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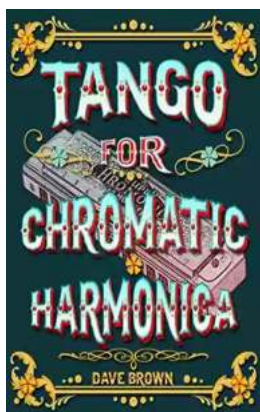
Above the Snake Line is the story of an "older" American woman who moved to Ecuador "in spite of everything". In a series of ponderings and opinions and stories and poems, Janis shares her adventures and journey in a sometimes irreverent and often hilarious style. Her story of overcoming Stage III breast cancer to realize her dream of being an expat living in Ecuador. is one of perseverance and hope.

Janis' well -thought out and extensively researched move to Ecuador was delayed when she was diagnosed with Stage III breast cancer while living in New Orleans. It was necessary for her to remain in the US to undergo chemotherapy, surgery and radiation. Ecuador became a symbol, a dream of freedom, a dream of accomplishment.

Janis documents her sometimes strange, sometimes hilarious, often daunting and overwhelming journey in a series of notes and journals from her "Moving to Ecuador in Spite of Everything" forum and from her daily life.

This is not a travelogue. Janis does not tell you which train to take and what food you must try. Rather, she shares her deepest and sometimes darkest thoughts with you. This is the story about a woman who finds the courage and strength to create a new life for herself in beautiful, magical Ecuador.

To those who helped this journey become a reality -- Karen, when she needed it most and all the other friends who lifted her high enough to fly... This is the story of her journey.



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