31 January 2009

Hello. My name is Iggy and I'll be your guide today.

Now before any of you teenagers in the back even think about getting rowdy, let's get one thing straight—I've been doing this for more than 20 years—I've seen and heard it all, so don't even try to pull anything.

And besides, my buddies and I are not exactly the kind you want to mess around with, if you know what I mean…

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So, just remember, we've got our eyes on you.

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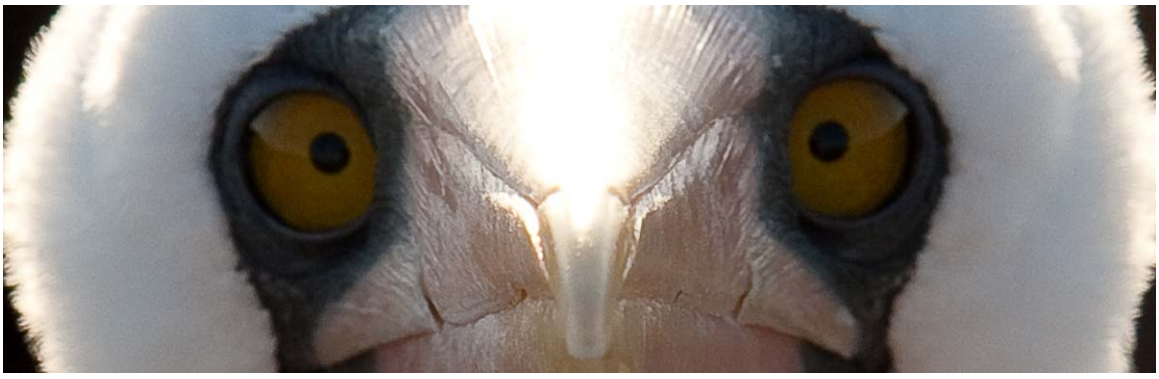

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This also means the marine iguanas are in their mating colors.

This time of year they can be a little moody; you never know which side of their personality you're going to get.

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There will probably be some gang behavior.

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And you want to make sure you're not in the wrong place at the wrong time.

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It also means those tortoises are working up an appetite, so don't get in the way while they are grazing.

And don't mess with them this time of year; the males can be in pretty foul moods.

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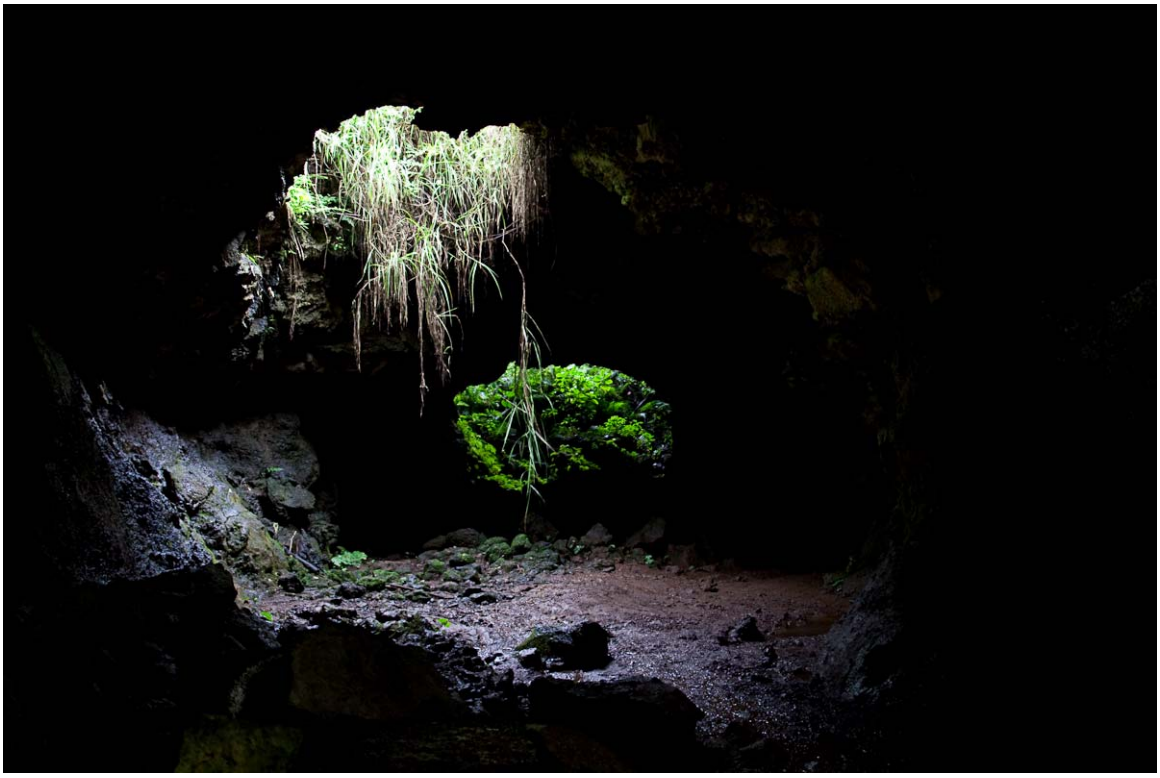
But otherwise, things are normal.

The lava tube caves are welcoming.



The crabs are frothing.

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The cactus is in bloom.

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The gulls are roosting.

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The girls are waiting for their ship to come in.

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The owls are hiding.

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The hawks are screaming.

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And the iguanas are still lookin' good.

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So, all you need to do is follow our few simple rules.

First, stay on the marked paths. We'll have members of the staff out there to point the way.

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And please make sure to peel or wash anything you eat.

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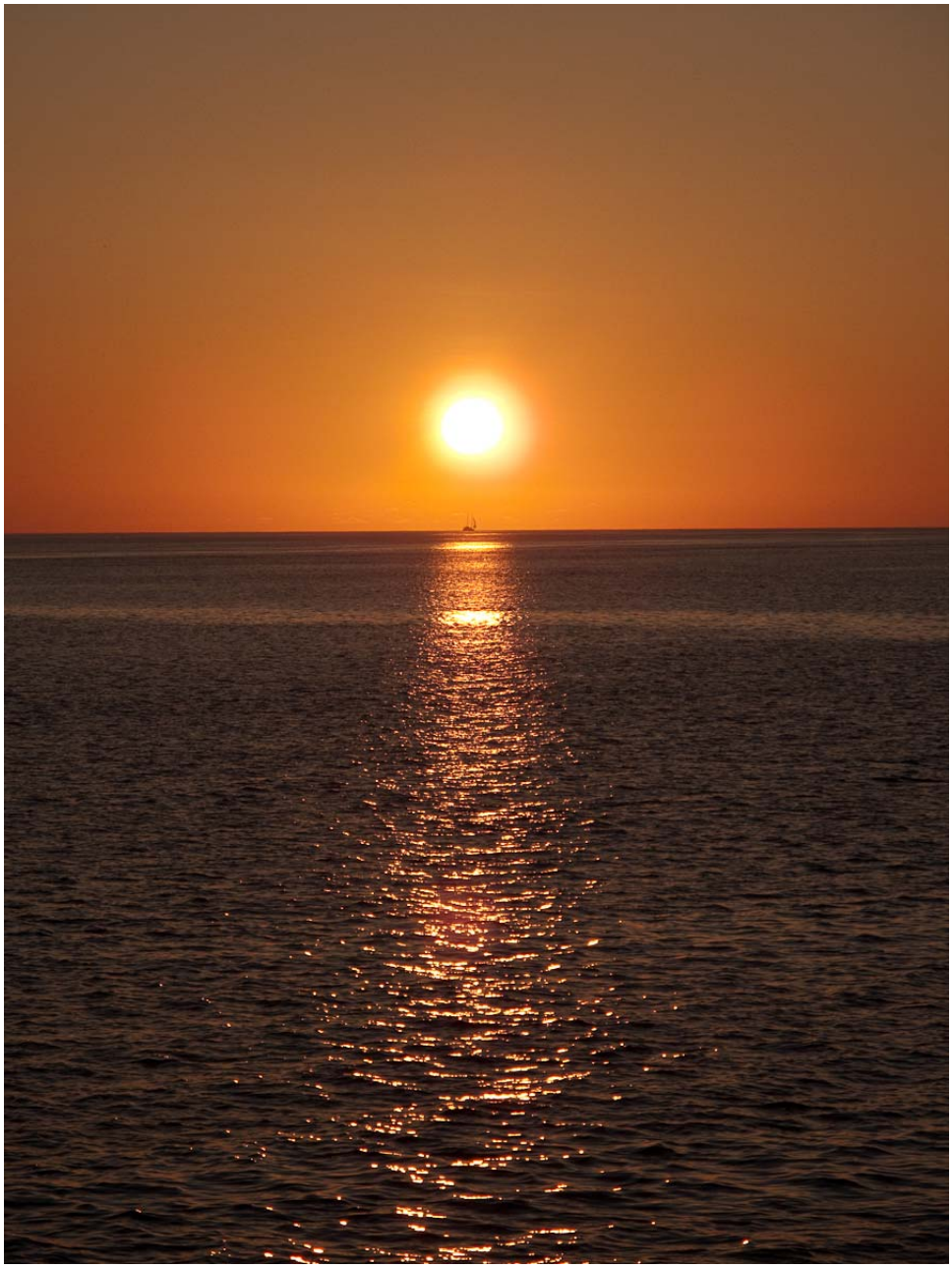
Oh, and one last thing.

As sure as the sun will set tonight—



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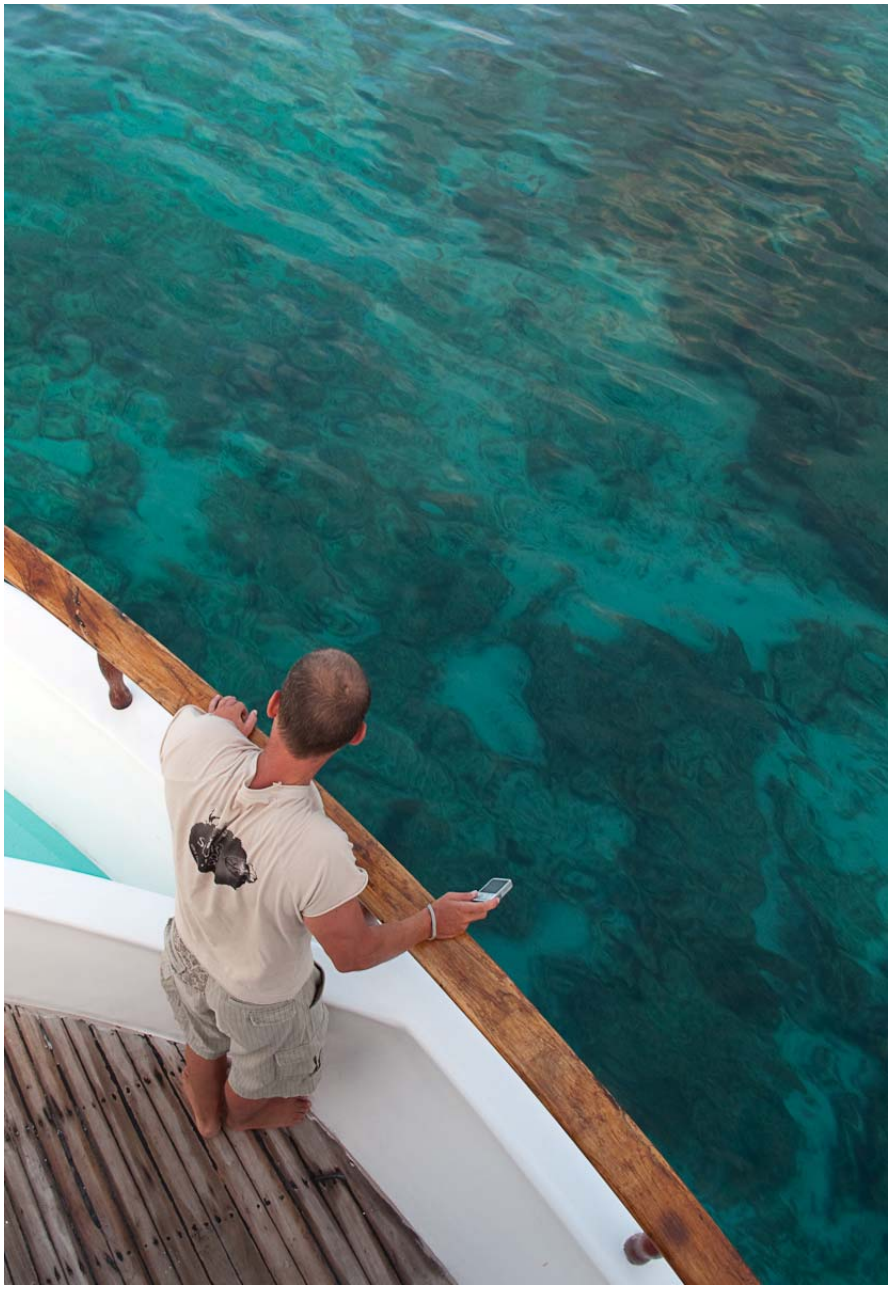
it doesn't matter if it's just the simple, clear ocean…



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…yet another baby sea lion…

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…or a run-of-the-mill 150 year old, 450 pound / 204 kilo tortoise…

…there's always a crowd of humans around.

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Be wary of the humans.

Let’s have a good time, but be careful out there.

I’ll be watching you.

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Iggy the guide and all the rest of the animals live on the Galapagos Islands, about 600 miles / 965 kilometers west of Ecuador in the Pacific Ocean.

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All photos by Douglas Hackney.

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Douglas and Stephanie Hackney, terminally human, are on a two to three year global overland expedition.

You can learn more about their travels at: http://www.hackneys.com/travel

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