



A LITTLE COLOMBIAN JEWEL

di Angela Vanegas



In the middle of the sea, you see little mountains that seem to emerge from the water, a small dark sea, jungle vegetation and a sundown that's difficult to forget... it's the Pacific in the west of Colombia.

After one hour in the sea you'll find an island that seems to be alone.

When we arrive on the island, that is rich of nature and has a lot of space, gentle and wonderful people welcome us. They are not yet contaminated with the well known Colombian violence.

The beaches are very large and the sea has the warm water from the Pacific Ocean.

At first we find a small town - the port "Juanchaco", it's famous because people from Cali go there on vacation.

They get drunk, have loads of fun and bring money and culture into the place.

The inhabitants live with what they have, maybe a little ignorant of the real world out there.

You can take a tractor that will get you to "Ladrilleros" in a half an hour or you can simply walk about an hour and arrive to a little town that is rich of fishermen and children,

I've seen a lot of children working, while others were playing with crabs like toy cars.

In "Juanchaco" I met different races, some with black skin, some with white skin, others with Indian characteristics and also those Colombian tourists from the big cities.

An other hour of walking (where you see wooden houses with holes for doors and windows without having doors and windows) takes you to "La Barra" , a so far an isolated place on the island where it's normal to see only three tiny houses on the beach.

Women of that place live in there, cook delicious sea food and sell it for cheap.

Yes, it's a place where the nature predominates, I've seen crabs on the beach that open up the way when you want to pass, I've seen the birds in

the sky doing thousands of figures while flying, i ve seen a jungle that surrounded me.

A place where everything is in perfect harmony; the animals with the nature and with the man.

This Is another of the many paradises that you can find in Colombia, a place full of tranquility.



photo by Angela Vanegas

Photo gallery