

Brazil Journal #1

I'm writing this journal with my new Tablet PC. This is one sweet machine. The handwriting recognition is performing well. But, more importantly, the freedom and new ways of working this allows is exciting.

This is no mere paper substitute. Can you move blocks of text around on paper? Cut and paste? Change pen types and colors with a simple click. The back of my pen even works as an eraser! I even changed the paper color to my preferred light violet. In my latter days of college I would bring nothing else but my little light violet notebook (Paper). People even commented on how light I attended class.

I preferred to focus on the teacher with no other distractions I didn't distract myself with reading beforehand or between classes. Not everyday was like this but I sure tried hard to keep it that way.

I've applied this same philosophy in equipping myself for the backpacking portion of my trip. Some might say I've gone to an extreme. Others might say I'm just a detailed planner.

I've questioned every piece of gear that I'm taking with me. Size, weight, shape, color, build quality and many other factors that I didn't even think about until I saw a product that made me realize I could do the same thing in a more efficient manner.

This is what has kept me busy

the past. couple of weeks. Figuring out how to safely and securely carry a full height tripod, extra lenses, 2 cameras, this computer and accessories, clothes for most any climate and a healthy supply of personal effects that I may have trouble finding in some parts of the world. All while minimizing equipment drag and keeping a healthy back!

I think I've done it.

Maybe it's boring to read about equipment, but it is crucial in order to maximize the journey and be able to report it to you in a timely manner! w/o compromises. I'll be continually updating the equipment sections of the website both for you as a future traveler and myself.

Now it is time to get back to what I love - talking about what I'm learning and experiencing!

As I finish writing this journal entry I'm about to board my VARIG flight to Rio de Janeiro for Carnival. I'm amped!