3rd January 2024



Hello everyone and a very Happy New Year,

How did everyone’s celebrations go? Hope you all managed to stay away and enjoy the fireworks display or whatever you do to celebrate the new year. I personally would usually be all snuggled up in my pjs and more than likely asleep!!

As you all know, Brendan and I were in Sydney for New Years and OMG. I was honestly speechless while watching the fireworks display. It went on for 12 whole minutes. It was beautiful. It was so worth the trip up and that is a major thing ticked off both our bucket lists.

When Brendan and I decided to go we also decided to treat ourselves and book somewhere along the harbour to watch the fireworks. Let me tell you, I am so glad we did. The free view zones scattered along the harbour and heading towards the city were chocker-blocked. People had been queuing since 5am just to grab a spot to watch and sat there ALL DAY! Would you be well!!! Sitting there for 18+ hours just to watch 12 minutes of fireworks… As much as I like fireworks, there is not a chance I would do that! I think over 1 million people were in Sydney to view the fireworks that night.

Sydney had a full schedule planned for the night. At 8:30pm the smoking ceremony began to commemorate the First Nations People of the land, at 9pm there was a kids fireworks display that went on for 7 minutes, then at 10pm there was a light show where all the boats sitting on the harbour water lit up in bright colours (pink was the special one to highlight an awareness for a cancer cure), then finally the big spectacle at midnight.

Brendan and I have both agreed that Sydney is nice, but we personally think Melbourne is better (not biased in any way). Sydney is a must to visit while in Australia, but I am glad we don’t live there. I found it a lot more expensive than Melbourne, public transport is not as good, and everything closes very early which is not ideal.

Glad to be back home now and getting back to a routine. I am very excited to let you all know that I am now the Swim Co-Ordinator of South Pacific St Kilda (where I taught swimming lessons before going to the farm). I start tomorrow and I am working alongside Harry who is the current swim co-ordinator. We are going to become the A team and hopefully progress the swim school. This position is a managerial position, so it is very exciting. Hopefully it will be of benefit in my future career, including if I ever want to return to college for a Masters.

See you soon.

Love,

Ciara

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