



my semester in
SYDNEY,
Australia

2019



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Every Trip Has A Story

My story began the day I interviewed with Dr. Swan and Dr. Miller to become the next CCI Scholar in Sydney. After my interview I knew I had demonstrated who I was and what I would contribute to this trip. I'm sure they saw more in me to choose me as one of the 22 students that would represent the University of Tennessee in Sydney, Australia.

I spent my entire fall semester working, planning and preparing to go across the country. I knew this was a once in a lifetime opportunity and knowing that nothing guarantees there will be a tomorrow, I wasn't going to let this opportunity happen without me.

So I packed my bags and boarded the plane for a 20 hour flight to Sydney where I would join 21 other students for the next 13 weeks. I think about it every day, how this experience wouldn't be the same if the exact same people weren't on this trip. Everyone would bring their own unique contribution and share the same but different experience for the time to come.

This experience has allowed me to grow in so many ways. It has tested my patience and given me various perspectives for looking at ways of life. It has allowed me to discover who I am, how I portray myself and recognize the impact I want to leave on others and this world.

While my trip to Sydney is a story in itself, it's merely a chapter in my life story.

Month One in Sydney

Tribal Warriors Cruise

An aboriginal culture cruise aboard the Mari Nawi to Clark Island, National Park. An enriching experience that gave insight into the aboriginal, coastal lifestyle.

Sydney Harbour

One of the world's most beautiful ports, Sydney Harbour is Australia's cruise getaway. Follow the trail of tourist shops and outside bars from the train stop to the iconic Sydney Opera House

Watson's Bay

One of the world's most beautiful ports, Sydney Harbour is Australia's cruise getaway. Follow the trail of tourist shops and outside bars from the train stop to the iconic Sydney Opera House

The Rocks

Historic cobble laneways, cosy cafés and Australia's oldest pubs lie in the shadow of the Sydney Harbour Bridge. People flock to the Rocks markets for street food and handmade designs.

Glebe Markets

Get lost browsing bargain booths for vintage clothing and artisan jewellery amid the sound of live music and scent of food truck snacks.



What You'll Hear Down Under:

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| “Good on Ya” | “G'day Mate” |
| “Chuck a Sickingie” | “Bogan” |
| “How You Going?” | “Thongs” (flip flops) |
| “Chunk it in the Bin” | “Jugs” of Beer |
| “Pop Out for a Quickie” | “Cheers” |



A Few of My Favourite Aussie Things:

Velvet Shiraz

Lamington

Going Out on Week Nights

Trendy Style

Summer in January

Proximity of Everything

Not Having to Tip Servers

Surfing and Sailboats

the Beaches

Fish n Chips

Diverse Culture

Pace of Life

Hunter Valley Wine Tour

One of Australia's oldest grape-growing regions, the Hunter Valley is a quick trip from Sydney.

Royal Botanical Gardens

Evening runs in Sydney always lead me to new places and getting lost in the Royal Botanical Gardens was luck. The beautiful plants close you in from the bustling city outside the garden walls.

Australia Day

January 26, spent celebrating with fish and chips by the beach, good company and fireworks that lit up the sky at Sydney Harbour. A wonderful welcome to this country.

Manly Beach

I could spend all day strolling by juice joints, trendy boutiques and souvenir shops on the outskirts of Manly Beach before baking in the sun on the sand all day.

Big, Bright and Blue

That's right I'm talking about the beach! I spent the past weekend celebrating Australia day by playing in the sand, soaking up the sun and sipping drinks by the dock.

1.25

After visiting the Taronga zoo Friday morning, my gal Ashton and I caught the ferry to Manly beach where my preconceived expectations of Sydney, Australia came to life. Tanned bodies flooded the streets as we wandered past the sweet scent of ice cream shops, gazing at the beautiful dresses in boutique windows while listening to the sound of live music in corner bars.

As my toes hit the sand I stood in awe; my first time seeing the Pacific Ocean! The water was freezing cold and the waves were enormous but the sight was astonishing. We layed in the sand for a few hours until the sun began to set and the breeze sent chills down my spine. We decided to get dinner at Criniti's where I had the best strawberry mojito and tried Kangaroo for the first time! It was definitely an experience to be remembered.

A huge thank you goes to Dr. Miller, for not only being an amazing teacher, role model and friend but for taking a group of 22 students to see an Opera at the Sydney Opera House.

It was an incredible experiance watching the performance of *Turnadot*. It was skightly difficult to follow along because of the foreign language but there were words to describe what was going on.



1.26

It's Australia Day and so much is happening; so some friends and I grab our beach towels and tanning oil and head to Bondi, one of Australia's most iconic beaches. Surfers, tourists and Sydneysiders are sprawled across the white sand in the beaming sun. Teenage boys are skateboarding nearby while strangers are celebrating the day at the iconic Icebergs pool. After soaking in the sun for a few hours, some of us hit a nearby cafe where I cooled off with a strawberry daiquiri and munched on sweet potato chips (yum!) A few more hours in the blazing heat and we headed back with horrendous tan lines. To end the evening we watched the firework show and celebrated the holiday in the heart of Sydney.

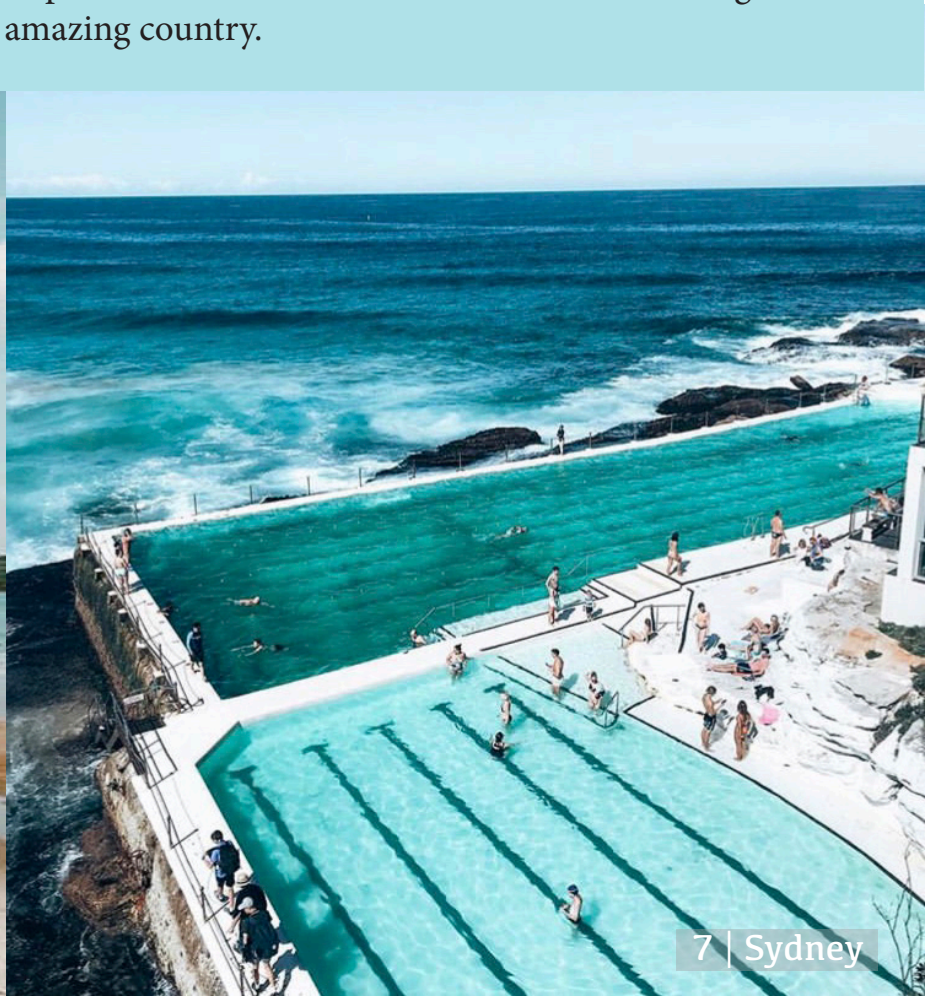
1.27

The only thing scary about this Sunday was my tan line but that didn't stop me. Off I went with my three best roomies and a few more friends for a relaxing day at Maroubra. This hot spot for surfers is less famous

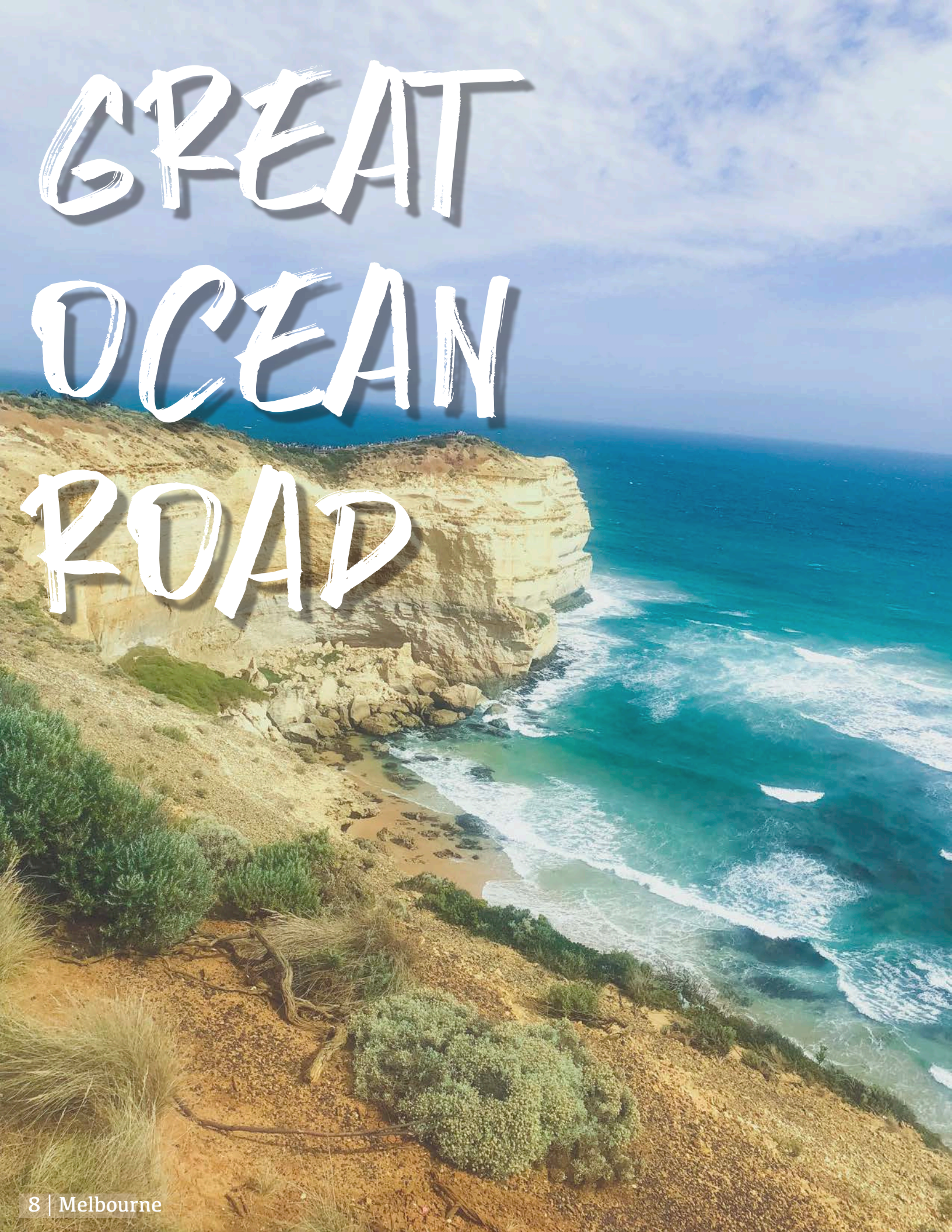
than Bondi and not as touristy as surrounding beaches so it was the perfect spot to spend our Sunday. I explored the rocky headland of the beach while enjoying the fresh air. Many children ran along the sand and splashed in the waves. After baking in the sun for a few hours we got lunch at Mirini cafe before exploring the streets of the suburb, checking out the local surf shops (and hot surfer boys) and trying fresh Açaí bowls. Before long the breeze picked up causing the sand to blow in every direction so we boarded the bus and head back with another successful beach day in the bag!

Coming to Australia, I had this misconceived perception that everything was beaches, barefeet and blonde surfers. I was so wrong. Sydney is a city, the most populated city in Australia. Yes, the beaches were very convenient but they were still at least 45 minutes away.

I will probably tell people I didn't have nearly enough time at the beach. Between class Monday through Thursday and work from 9 to 5, my time enjoying the sun became slim. I swear I went to Australia more tan than I am now. I think it takes living in a place to realize how much you take little things for granted. When the Sydney Opera House became a normal sight to see, I knew it was time to step back and cherish the few weeks I'd have living in this amazing country.



GREAT OCEAN ROAD





Friday morning, boarding my flight to Melbourne, I had no expectations. All I knew was that Melbourne was a “must see” city in Australia. I was unaware that I was about to spend my weekend in the “Culture Capital” of this country. Riding shotgun (on the left side) from the airport to our accommodation in the Central Business District, I was in awe. The city seemed huge and I was scared I was going to feel so small!



We fueled up on brunch and set out on the streets to explore. We didn't make it a block before turning on an alley that was bustling with business. People were grabbing coffees in cafes while women were sitting outside, sipping wine with their lunches. Everyone was chatting yet it didn't seem loud. Turning the next corner, shops lined the streets. I was in love! I got lost in the most gorgeous H&M - the shop stood three stories tall with an enchanting, Victorian exterior. We shopped till we dropped and decided to have lunch where we each received a free glass of wine!

The evening was spent bouncing from bar to bar. I met locals who elaborated on the culture and customs of their city. They explained their balance between life and work and we took turns giving our best impersonations of each others accents. We snacked on scrumptious calamari and sipped cocktails from a rooftop view of the city.



Saturday was a wonderful day because it was BEACH DAY! We spent the day laying out and enjoying the calm waves at Brighton Beach before exploring the Brighton Beach Bath houses. The 82 colorful bathing boxes are definitely a “must see” if you're in the area.

Sunday morning we started our thirteen hour drive down the the Great Ocean Road which began with a tasting of Vegemite. Verdict, it's not appetizing. We stopped to count koalas and feed Australia's native parrots while taking a short river walk. A quick break at Apollo Bay for lunch and the famous Dooley's ice cream (I got a mix of chocolate and hazelnut praline, yummy!) We then wandered our way through the tallest eucalyptus trees in the Otway Rainforest before continuing through Port Campbell National Park. We heard the tragic tales of the Shipwreck Coast while walking along the beach, surrounded by towering cliffs at Lord Arch Gorge. Our trip ended at the Twelve Apostles; seeing the great height of limestone cliffs right off the shore was breathtaking.



During my weekend spent hitting up hipster hotspots for brunch, admiring the art, architecture, and alleys lit up by late night clubs and rooftop bars and exploring the culture and natural creations by the coast, my love for Melbourne grew stronger than the coffee they brew.



2.16

It started in New Zealand with no expectations. I knew it would be beautiful and I knew it would be worth it but I didn't know how beautiful and how worth it, it would be.

"It looks like a green screen." I know I'm not the only one who had this thought because I heard someone else say it. The mountains took my breath away, literally.

We wandered through the streets, lit up by the bars and late night dessert shops nearby. People were stumbling down streets and getting ready for a night on the "town." (I put "town" in quotation marks because the town is literally four blocks) We however, were on a mission for the \$8 personal pizza we had a discount code for from our hostel. #cheapperks

2.17

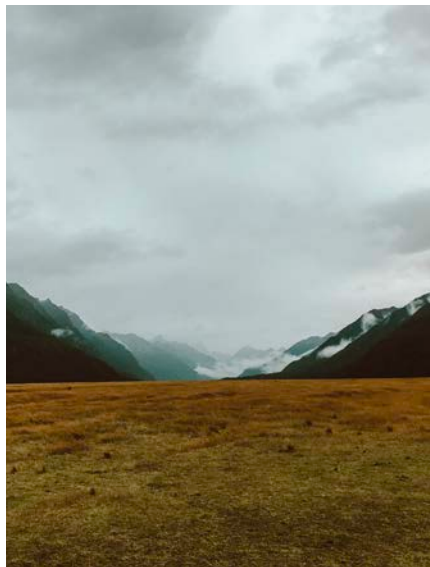
Up bright and early, not on purpose. The choir of snoring strangers kept us up through the night with their not-so-synchronized snores and rumbles. We snagged coffee from the cutest little coffee truck and set out to schedule our day! A ride up the gondola where the view got better as we got higher. Our first adventure would be zip-lining through the forest! Strapped into my harness and soaring through the trees, I now know how it feels to be a bird. I learned so much about how New Zealanders "kiwis" strive to be sustainable. Only taking from the Earth what they can replace. Who could blame them for trying so hard to

protect their gorgeous home?

It inspires me to be more sustainable. I was blessed to live in such a free and amazing country, why wouldn't I want to protect it? You're giving back to what gives to you, and you make this place a home for future. Sustainability is going beyond recycling all the beer cans after a Saturday night and doing more to make a difference by only taking from the Earth what you can replace.

After learning about the legend of the Lake Wakatipu and the bird that got drunk from eating seeds that would ferment inside of him, we set off for a scrumptious lunch at Voodoo Cafe, a few samples of hokey pokey gelato (made with famous Manuka honeycombs), and a hunt for our next thrill!

We stumbled into happytravels after deciding we wanted to do the JetBoat ride. A cutie named Devon helped us out and even let me borrow his sunnies so I wouldn't be squinting through the wind. Him and I both agreed I rocked his RayBans pretty well. The JetBoat ride was such a thrill! Speeding down the river with the rush of the wind and a view of the mountains you can only imagine. I loved the quick spins our driver would do, splashing water everywhere and almost turning the boat over. Another quick hour of fun and we were off for another adventure - the Ice Bar! Freezing cold, but it's a must do experience to sip a cocktail out of an ice glass while bundled up in



a wool jacket and warm mittens. The ice sculptures are remarkable and the experience may literally take your breath away.

2.18
Another morning, another cup of joe from the cute little coffee cart and we search for our bus to Milford Sound! Our first time aboard the InterCity bus, little did we know we'd meet some amazing people, all traveling different journeys aboard the same bus. Milford Sound is actually incorrectly named, because it is not a sound at all but a fiord which is created by a glacier. For 2 hours I rode the Milford Sound cruise down the fiord where I saw amazing waterfalls, many which were temporary because of the current rainfalls. A long ride back to Queenstown and we were ready for some dinner! Lamb was a must try in the region so we order lamb ribs and lamb kabobs. Hugeeee fan of the ribs - they were full of flavor, the kebabs on the other hand were not my cup of tea...or stick of meat? But overall 9/10 on the lamb. But if that wasn't filling enough we headed to get drinks at 1876, the passion fruit mojito was super tasty however, the boys were not. No worries Adam! Haha me and Julia did meet two guys in town for a wedding from Melbourne! After an awkward encounter of figuring out where everyone was from Julia and I were asked to be their wedding dates...it's a shame we were leaving the next morning!

2.19
Up and on the bus to Franz Josef! Now this is a long journey...we stopped along the route to get some spectacular views, such as the mirror lakes where you can see the reflection of the mountains when the water is perfectly still. We stopped at a salmon farm where I had sashimi! It was delicious and pretty cool to say I've been to a salmon farm and saw one of the very rare white heron's in New Zealand! New Zealand is definitely known for its bird population everything from Kiwi, Kea, and Kakapo's. A 10 hour journey to Franz Josef but we made it! Our bunk beds were waiting for us along with our new German roommates. Super cool girls who had been traveling for months; however, they didn't warn us about the sand flies we would be meeting the next day. We enjoyed our free soup complimentary of the hostel and hit the hay!...not literally.
Complimentary breakfast? Yes please! Another action packed day beginning with a big bowl of muesli (myüs-lē), which I still can't pronounce. 9 am and we're off to kayak the Franz Josef Glacier! Oh what a peaceful morning in the middle of a lake without a care in the world. We paddled along a bay where Kiwis habitat. I learned about a native bird in Australia that will mate for life with its partner. If the female bird dies however the male bird will commit suicide, flying high and then zooming straight into the

ground. True love man, except if the male dies first the female just moves on.

That kayak sure wore us out but it didn't stop us from my favorite adventure of all, quad biking! Now this country girl knows how to ride a four wheeler, I've been doing it since I was six; but this was nothing like riding a four wheeler on a backroad! Sharp turns through the rain forest and deep puddles from the river were a challenge. But two hours zooming amongst the mountains and through the trees, I've never felt so empowered. Is life really this simple?

We spotted a sign for karaoke at nine so we had our plans for the night! We put on our nicest outfits, dirty jeans and flip flops, for our girls night with our German roommates. Our bag of popcorn and Uno cards quickly turned into battle of the sexes, a bottle of wine, and a pack of beer around a bonfire with our new friends from Chicago, England, and Asia - you didn't think two girls started a bonfire right? Unfortunately, the bar would not let us sing karaoke because the crowd was not big enough. The town is sooo tiny one of the 5 people in the bar was our quad bike guide, now you have an idea of how tiny.

But could you imagine waking up every morning and getting to meet new people and watch them fall in love with your country and home? There were very few people I met who were actually born and raised in New Zealand, but those that were, were very proud of it.

2.22

A day exploring Christchurch, the city that an earthquake could have ruined, but instead it built a

community. The art museum was fascinating and the botanical gardens were gorgeous. The quaint city had coffee shops around every corner and street art along every alley. We celebrated national margarita day with an overpriced raspberry margarita before heading downtown for dinner. The lantern festival was taking place around Cathedral Square that evening. Food trucks lined the walkways along with chinese crafts and gift stands. It was such a fun event to see families come together and children play.

It hit me that it was our last day to explore. I think it's not sinking in that a week in paradise and simplicity is coming to an end. But is it really? I mean I'm going back to Australia to live for crying out loud, where I have so much more to see and do! This trip has made me appreciate the opportunities I have to travel and explore.

I have one life to live here on Earth - do I actually want to waste that time working so hard for this idea that one day I'll have enough money to travel? From the people I've met and learned from all you need is two legs, one passport, and a lot of ambition and desire to see the world. After this trip I will be seeing so much more of Australia, from the suburbs of Sydney to the deserts in the Outback, I don't want one regret leaving this country. I'm not going to look back one day and remember the likes I got on an instagram post or the interview for my first job - I'm going to look back on the moments that made me happy and the experiences that shaped me into the person I'm becoming.



The OUTBACK



“You haven’t been Down Under, ‘till you’ve been Outback.”

I officially feel like I’ve seen all of Australia. I would’ve refused to go home if I didn’t travel to the Northern Territory - it was everything and more than what I expected.

We had a short trip planned - fly out Friday, camel ride that night, drive the one day Uluru tour Saturday and fly back on Sunday.

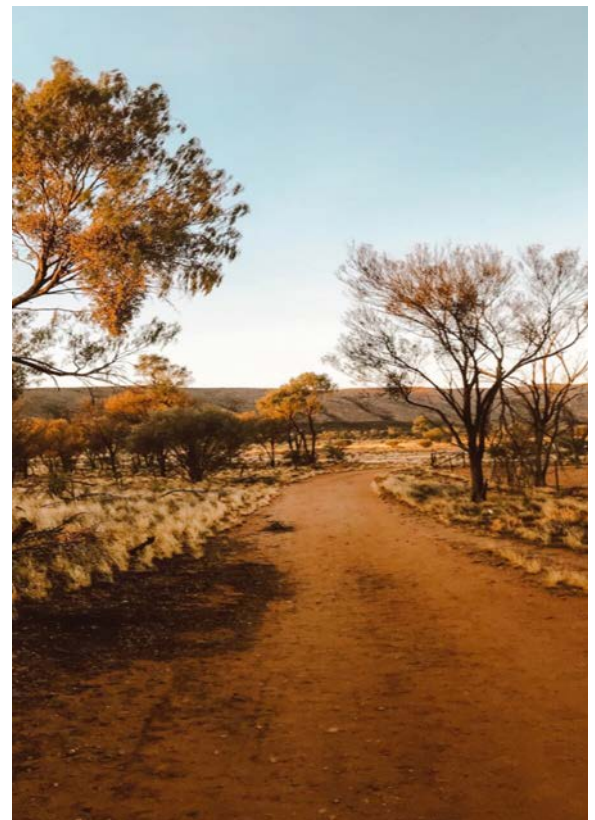
If it wasn’t for Holly, I would’ve been making this trip alone (which I was kind’ve scared to do) Could you imagine the desert 3 days all alone? I’ve seen Taken, no thanks.

The heat in Central Australia is crazy in comparison to the heat here in Sydney. It was 104 degrees when we got there and nobody warned me about the fly infestation they were having.

Getting away from the city and going to the heart of Australia was an eye-opening culture experience. Everyone seemed have aboriginal ancestry and it was very obvious that we were on their land. I learned that Uluru is owned by the aboriginals, so where tourists aren’t allowed to go in the water or touch the carvings, the aboriginal people are allowed to do whatever they please. I met aboriginal women who were painting and selling their art. I learned what various symbols and colours stood for and it was heartwarming to watch them paint while listening to Walynn Jennings.

I met two great girls on the trip, one from Italy and one from Sweden. Both girls were 27 and they really made me feel immature. It was definitely eye opening to the fact that I am anxious to grow up and pressured to have my future figured out. So many people outside of America value the experience of traveling and the life lessons it teaches you. Many students take gap years, after high school or right after Uni to explore the world. They save up enough money to get where they want to go and then find ways to make money before they decide to leave again. I really appreciate the courage it takes for students to do that.

I learned that there are millions of wild camels in Australia, people have to build fences to keep wild dingos out and there are more kangaroos in Australia than there are people! We rode through six territories of the West MacDonnell Ranges. During our journey there was a bush fire spreading through the desert. It was actually pretty crazy. For the longest time smoke filled the air and there was nothing you could do to tame the fire. It was wonderful to learn about the culture and way of life of the people who originated from Australia.



It's really hard sometimes to make the decision to travel alone. I think it takes a lot of courage and bravery. I had a hard time on this trip making priorities between places I wanted to visit and the people I wanted to be with. I felt like I missed out when I wasn't with people but I was scared to miss out on places I may never have the chance to see again.

I told myself I would have to make the decision between going to Alice Springs or going to Bali. Not because I didn't have the money to do both but because I wanted to go home with a little more money. In the end I do not regret going to the Outback. I believe I saw a special part of Australia that many Australians never get to see. I do however regret not going to Bali. I would've loved to share that experience with the girls I got the closest with. But I see it as a learning experience.

Sometimes you have to make decisions that are right for you in that particular moment. I think I needed this trip to Alice Springs to prove to myself that I can travel across a country.

After traveling all over Australia, I've come to the conclusion that I haven't seen nearly enough of my own country. There are literally 50 states in America and as of now I've seen 13. I flew 12 times in the past three months which is more than I've flown in my entire life. It makes me look forward to coming home and planning trips to travel across the states. I have developed a confidence in myself and a responsibility to handle traveling alone.



GREAT BARRIER REEF





A weekend to Cairns to scuba dive at the Great Barrier Reef! How Australian of us.

We landed early Friday morning and had a great big brekkie before we decided to see koalas. I still don't know what the hype about them is and I still can't believe I spent almost 200 dollars to hold a koala. Not worth it but as I've said more times than I can count on this trip "you live and you learn". Except this quote is starting to cost me lots of wasted money.

We were up early the next morning to head to the Great Barrier Reef! I was super excited because I had never snorkelled before and it was a great day to do it. I soaked up the sun on the top of the boat, so much sun I'm still peeling.

When we got to the first part of the reef it was time to dive. We had to go through some training that was pretty tough and I have to admit I'm not good at the whole breathing underwater thing.

But snorkelling was still an experience in itself; it was gorgeous. It's a sad fact that the reef is dying and could be completely dead in a few years. It's home to so many beautiful fish and living creatures.

I really admire how Australian's place a high value on sustainability and protecting the planet. They have so many beautiful land features. It's inspiring and when I go home I am going to play my part in helping protect our planet. We take advantage of the fact that there are people to clean up after us, yet as Americans we're disgusted by our own country's filth. If we took the measures to protect our forests, rivers and oceans, we could also have a sense of pride in our country's gorgeous landmarks.

So the trip continues and there's not much to say other than it was fun. I still feel like I'm learning so much about the people on this trip. Everyone is very unique in their own ways and as I grow I've come to accept the fact that people are different and sometimes people won't accept you for who are and that's just life. People have different opinions, views of life, ways of thinking and ways of communicating, and that's okay. I'm proud to say that as I grow and learn, I'm doing it in a mature way. I accept everyones opinions even when they vary from mine and I know that I am not entitled to share my opinions with anyone. I am proud of my choices in life and remaining true to myself and my values.

GOLD COAST



A spontaneous girls trip? Yes please! I took off work last minute and Marcella, Molly and myself flew up to the Gold Coast, where the weather was sunny and the UV index was high. I'm obviously trying to go home darker than I was when I got here. We stayed in Surfers Paradise, where the beachy but tourist vibes reminded me of Florida. The outlet style mall was the first place on our stop. We shopped 'till we dropped, literally. We got a late lunch and I sipped my pina coloda at a beachside cafe. Taking advantage of our Gold Coast Go Card, we traveled a little up and down the area exploring Broadbeach, Southport and Main Beach. The next morning Marcella was scheduled to surf so Molly and I got our tan on while she was riding the waves. It was the perfect day for the beach and the perfect weekend to take a mini vacation. It was a very relaxing day. Sunday we headed to Byron Bay,

home of the famous Hemsworth brothers. I fell in love with Byron! The hippie vibes and chill atmosphere was so my style. I admired the locals and I knew they were locals based on their demeanor and their popularity in local restaurants. If I had one wish it would be to raise my family in Byron Bay one day. So we spent our time wandering the streets, exploring the shops and discovering more ways to blow more money. I would have loved to stay in Byron all weekend, it was the ideal getaway. But we got an uber at the end of the night and headed back to our stay in Surfers Paradise. The funny thing about Uber drivers is you never know what you're getting yourself into. We were lucky enough to spend the hour talking to our driver, who resided just outside of Byron. He had lived in Melbourne, Sydney and New York City. It was refreshing to hear from someone who had lived in the states .

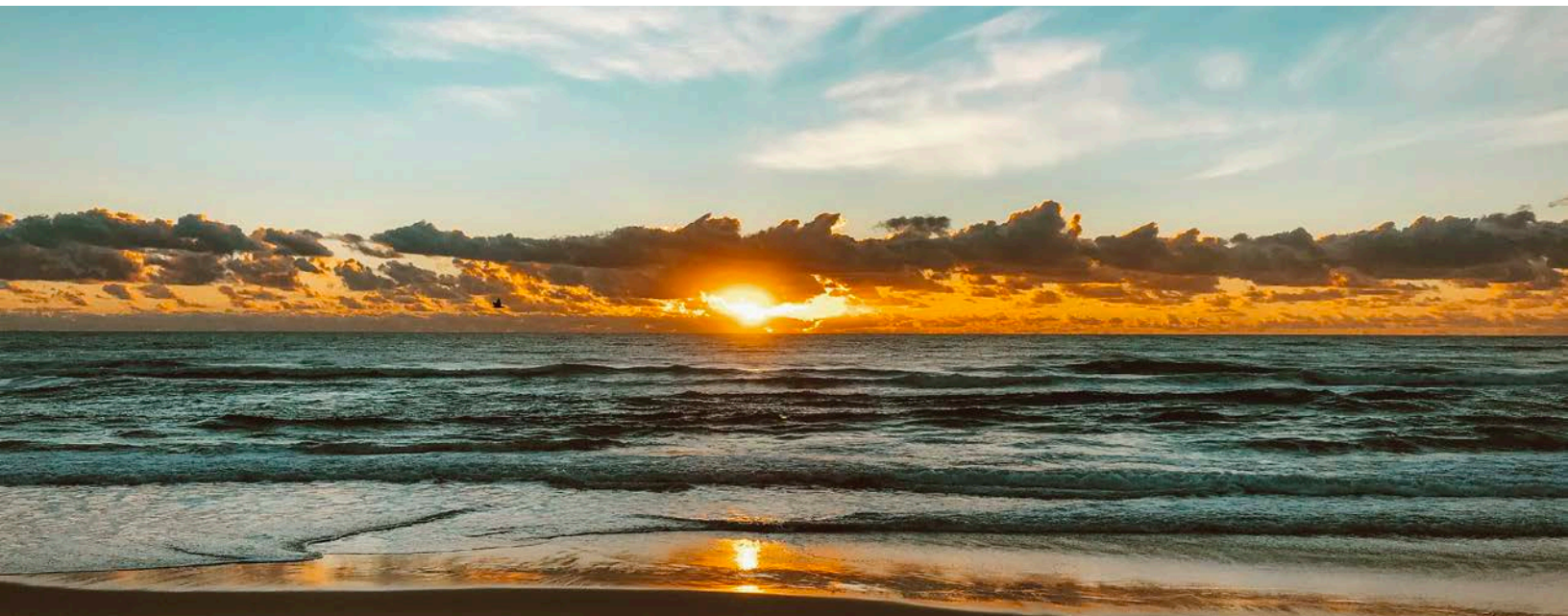
HELLO
SURFERS PARADISE.
YOU'RE LOOKING
Gorgeous TODAY.



I have learned so much about myself on this trip as a whole. I have grown as an individual, developing my character and digging deep to develop my personality and strengthen my character. I knew this trip would challenge me in so many ways. From sharing a space with someone new to booking trips with total strangers, I've learned to acknowledge the opinions of other people and consider various perspectives. I've gotten used to carrying my groceries in bags a few blocks to my apartment and I learned that I despise public transportation. I've gotten used to ordering a "almond milk, flat white, double shot" and I know it'll be hard adjusting back to our weak coffee. I've been very independent the past three years which prepared me to budget my money, schedule my time and adjust to new circumstances. I am more than proud to say that I didn't rely on my parents for any expenses throughout the trip which makes every experience worthwhile; I know I worked hard to earn it. I have flown more times in the past three months than I have in my entire life. I gained the confidence to travel alone and the willingness to step



outside of my comfort zone and talk to strangers. I've developed an interest in learning about various cultures and people's story. Traveling across Australia has given me the opportunity to meet so many people from all over the world. I've met people from Italy, Sweden, Chicago, Africa, Japan, France and obviously Australia. I've heard stories about people's journeys and it's inspiring to hear that it is possible to travel the world. Gap years are so common and it's encouraged to spend time traveling. I would agree that you learn more about life through experiences traveling than you could ever learn in a classroom. We take for granted the endless opportunities this world has to offer because we're so focused on success sometimes. I have found joy in the little things and I will forever cherish the small moments. I'm expecting people to ask me, "What was your favourite part of the experience?". My answer is the chance it has given me to see so much more of the world, grow as an individual and appreciate what I have at home even more.



HerBusiness Journalism Intern

EXPECTATIONS

Going into my internship I expected it to be vary fast paced and high demanding. I knew I would be writing social posts and blog articles but I was unsure about the environment and culture of the workplace. I expected to be consistantly checked on and guided in everything I did.

My first task was to reach out to members, schedule interviews and write feature articles for the blog. In comparison to what my peers were doing at their internships, this was a huge task and opportunity.

CHALLENGES

The pace and mood of the workplace was an adjustment. I am used to being 10 minutes early for everything, but if I'm 10 minutes early here I may get there before the doors are unlocked. I struggled adjusting to the slower pace of doing tasks but I learned that while tasks may be done slow, they are done as effecient as possible.

I also struggled with the workload. It always seemed that I had an extensive list of tasks to complete or absolutely nothing. I was weary about asking for more work because I didn't want too much responsibility.

It was really hard seeing other students who would get off work early or not go in at all a few days of the week because I knew if I was off work I would be taking advantage of my time here in Sydney.

OUTCOMES

I know I have grown as a professional writer. Knowing that my boss trusted me to speak to her members and highlight their business and personalities through blog posts is honoring. I earned her trust to schedule social media posts which means alot to me. Being part of a small team was a huge benefit. I felt so comfortable in the office and I knew I could always count on someone for guidance if needed. I made amazing connections while interviewing members. It was inspiring to hear these women get passionate about their work. I recieved alot of marketing advice from these members and my boss, Suzi Dafnis. Her hard work, diligence and passion for her company and network inspires me to be a leader and use my strengths to my advantage while working to improve my weaknesses. I've grown as a writer, learner and person through this internship. This opportunity gave me insight into all that I am capable of achieving if I set my mind to it.

DAILY TASKS

- interview members
- featured member articles
- member author articles
- member connection posts
- member offer social posts
- manage blog
- schedule social posts
- draft member newsletter

BIG PROJECTS

Summit

- Summit speaker articles

IDEAL Workshop

- Idealist interview posts
- Idealist testimonials

IDEAL Accelerator

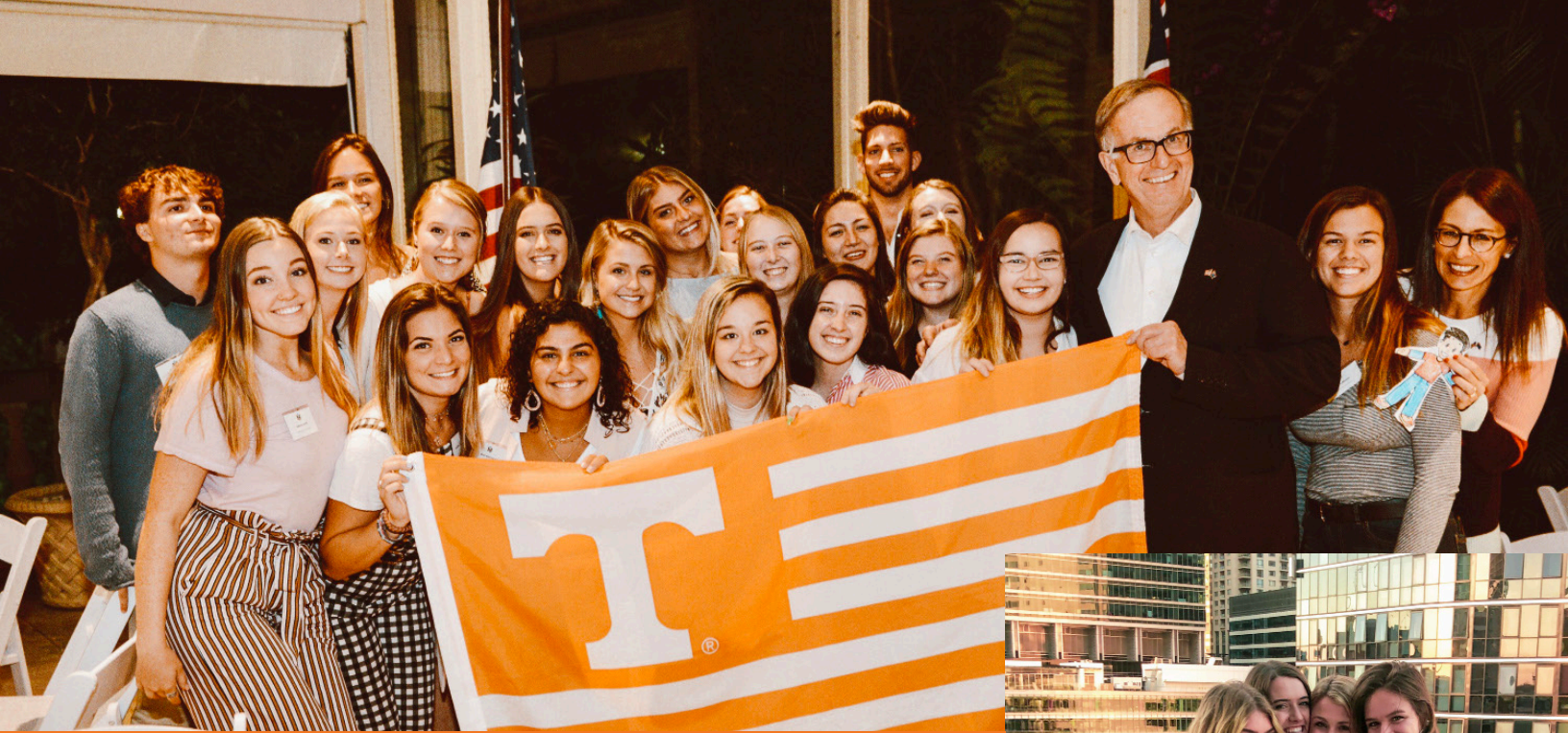
- promote IDEAL on social media

SKILLS GAINED

- adaptation to a new environment and culture
- diligent writing skills
- resourceful interview skills
- Hootsuite
- Infusionsoft
- methods of organization
- strengthened communication skills



Here's to you Sydney. Thank you for being my home the past 13 weeks. You became familiar so fast. Our daily runs to Darling Harbour and afternoon coffees at Portman Cafe. Our Mondays spent taking the ferry past the Opera house to tan at Manly Beach. Saturday mornings at the Glebe markets and Happy Hours at the Rocks. I almost don't remember our long days at Uni. It seems like so long ago, snoozing during history class and booking weekend getaways. I wish we could've spent more time together Sydney. You've watched me learn and grow; you've seen me get down about myself but you helped me to get over it. You pushed me to take advantage of opportunities and make the most of my circumstances. You tested my patience and pushed my limits but you gave me the courage to go after my dreams and the confidence to stand up for my beliefs. So thank you Sydney, for sharing this time with me. I hope to see you soon.



A huge thank you to the University of Tennessee College of Communication, Dr. Sam Swan and Dr. Laura Miller for their investment in making this program happen. Thank you to ISA team for their constant support and guidance in my time abroad. Thank you to the HerBusiness team for allowing me to learn and contribute through my internship. A huge thank you to my friends and family back home who loved and prayed for me along this journey and thank you to the 21 other students who were there to support and encourage each other along the way. Each of you played a huge part in this time abroad and it wouldn't have been the same without you all.

