

27th NOVEMBER

I woke up at around 6.00am feeling sick, i have a pounding head, fever and sore throat and im terrified in case we get called up to fly to the ice this morning. I presume given that it is now 6.00am and Guy or Luis has not knocked on my door that we are now waiting for the 10.00 weather briefing from ALE. I got up and had a shower and came and had breakfast, no eggs available (so much for my bulking up prior to heading south into frigid temperatures) so i made do with coffee and a piece of toast.

Luis found me on the computer and confessed that he also was feeling ill, so we headed into town to get some medication. We returned back to the hotel and plied ourselves with drugs (im holding off on the antibiotics for now but they are on standby!) and went and joined all the others who had by now surfaced.

Kat and Rob finally arrived at about 11.00pm last night, having had the journey from hell! It had taken them 3 days to get here and apparently their plane had 2 aborted landings at punta arenas before going to argentina to wait out the weather. They were not allowed off the plane there for 4 hours so when they finally got to our hotel they were up doing their gear checks until 2.00am (i was delighted to find out that kats clothes also got axed in half by guy so we are all in the same boat on the weight front!!

The 10.00 briefing indicated that the weather is now cloudy over Patriot Hills with 30 knot winds so the illusion would not be able to land. The next briefing is at 4.00pm this afternoon...it really allows u very little time to do anything apart from stay within fairly close proximity to the hotel. We all went to our local lunch place, its starting to feel like groundhog day and this is only day 2 of waiting! We ordered Luis a plate of onions and a leaf of lettuce as a joke, he is now really not finding hamish and i at all funny.

Given that the weather here is a bluebird day, i really thought we would go but apparently not. I have been for a run and im now about to go over some filming ideas with hamish. Luis has warned us that he waited for a flight for 2 weeks last year, so i could be very familiar with Punta Arenas soon! We have a great group of people with us which is good and Kat and Rob have brought a case of wine in case we do have to sit out a big weather window to take the edge off the wait! Lets hope we dont miss the call when it does happen!! I will report back in after 4.00pm today as to whether we are going to be going or not, its already a bit frustrating being permanently on standby i have to confess and this is only day 2!