

18th OCTOBER

I had a great nights sleep at Nicks apartment, actually the best sleep i had since arriving in asia a week ago!! I ve realised i always seem to write about me being fatigued and sleep deprivation and i want to emphasise that im not a whining person about this when u meet me - just in my very personal diaries!! By 10.00am we were in our maroon van with Guy at the wheel and Sissel navigating with the rest of us like naughty school kids in the back, burning our way towards Kosciuszko which is located about half way between Sydney and Melbourne in the Snowy Mountains. It was pouring with rain and a cold, grey day which reminded me of London - why do i have to bring the weather with me??? The forecast for the next few days is the same unfortunately and its only forecast to be sunny the day after we leave on 21st which is just typical. Im thinking of my panoramic summit shots that id been dreaming about getting for my sponsors and a little apprehensive about what the outcome may be. After our summit shots from Kilimanjaro where the guide managed to misjudge how long it would take us to reach the summit and we arrived in the dark, i was anxious to try and get some good shots down in Australia. The weather is almost black outside and its 11.00am!

Sissel and Guy very kindly shared the driving, if it was me at the wheel we would probably still be lost in the suburbs around sydney!! We have about 40 minutes to go until we reach Kosciuszco which is in fact a ski resort. When we arrived it was very apparent that the ski season had ended, it was like a ghost town and most places were closed. Id rented a small place for the night and for all of us to pile into in anticipation of tomorrows climb. Sissel and i braved the rain and went for a run and although i complained bitterly as we started out, i felt a lot better having done it after 6 hours in the car.

We then all went out for dinner in the only place that was open that actually had fantastic food! We were all in bed by eleven for an early start in the morning!