

## Feedback from my Australian experience

I had a very nice time in Australia and have nothing but good things to say about my experience. I felt really welcome everywhere I went. The ski club and all the people I met were really nice to me, which I very much appreciate.

Overall everything was well organized. Despite the short notice you managed everything was well prepared before I arrived. I found it helpful to have both Ronice and Nicholas to ask questions before I arrived. Nicholas also provided me with a sim card and helped me with the phone. That was very helpful and made everything a lot easier. I had no problem with the travelling arrangements and the the money transfer for the flight ticket worked well. Someone who is not a competitive skier might want to travel with a working holiday visa to be able to work legally. For me it was not a problem because I spent all spare time training.

The accommodation with the families worked really well. After the Vic camp didn't have to move around much. It was good to be able to stay on one place for three weeks at a time. Also the families were great and I got along really good with them. I felt really welcome and they helped me with everything. I appreciate that! It was not a big problem to travel up to Falls Creek every day. After a while I got to know a lot of people and I was able to the lifts easily.

Working with the Vic team made it possible to work with competitive athletes. I also got to know other coaches and learned form their way of working. That is something I can benefit from later on in my carrier. Vic team combined with the ski club gave me the opportunity to work with skiers in all ages and on all levels.

I got a lot of practice teaching beginner/intermediete adults which was a valuable experience for me. I am impressed how the ski club reaches out to skiers in all ages. I find that quiet rare elsewhere. You should be proud of that!

I could have contributed which more the highs school age skiers. I think many of them don't get enough coaching and most lack a structure in their training. On the other hand this might not be the ski club's concern, since the clubs focus is on children and adults and juniors are supposed to train with the Vic team.

I enjoyed working with the school groups. However too many lessons were cancelled. It would also have been good to discuss more with the teachers about what they need help with. That way everybody would have got more out of the lessons.

It was good to that I was able to participate in some competitions and train with the national team. I had a really good training period which I am sure is going to give results in the European winter. It was a perfect job for a person like me who want to work for experience and use the spare time for training.

Lastly I would like thank Birkebeiner Nordic Ski club for giving me this opportunity. I see it as a big stepping stone I my coaching carrier. Also a special thanks to Ronice for making all of this possible and always being able to help. Keep up the good work! Your volunteer work means a lot for cross country skiing in your area.



Eric Storvall