

My year in Bundaberg Australia

My name is Nora Hjordemaal and I am from a small place in Norway called Notodden with only 10,000 people. I decided that I wanted to do a year here in Australia because I thought it would be a great experience, and it turned out to be! I came to Bundaberg and I had no idea how it would be, I did not know anyone here, and I only met some other exchange student on the trip to Australia, so it was a new start with new people.

I have really enjoyed my year in Australia and have learnt a lot. I have been here for a whole year now, and it has gone so quickly. I had the opportunity to make friends with people from all over the world. By living with an Australian family and going to school here I have got to know the Australian culture, language and 'Aussie slang'. I have seen a lot of nice places in Australia, and my favourite being The Great Barrier Reef. I have also seen the dangerous animals, like snakes, sharks, huge spiders and the most dangerous one – dropbears! I also have to admit it has not just been easy being an International Student in a totally different country, but I guess we all learn from going through hard times. I have seen the differences between the two countries, Australia and Norway. First of all the climate, I am used to the snow and minus degrees in the winter and here I would say it's summer the whole year. Another difference is school, we have 13 years of high school over in Norway and don't graduate before we are 19 years old. I also find the school here a lot stricter, I found it different wearing a uniform, and also being in class with people that are a year younger. Being an International student has been a great opportunity and it has taught me a lot, I would definitely recommend it to other students who are thinking about going overseas to study.

Here are some pictures of my experiences in Australia.



Holding a babyturtle



Celerating christmas with my hostfamily



Surfing at Agnes Water



Celebrating my 18th birthday. These are my lovely hostbrothers.



Seeing a dingo at Fraser Island.