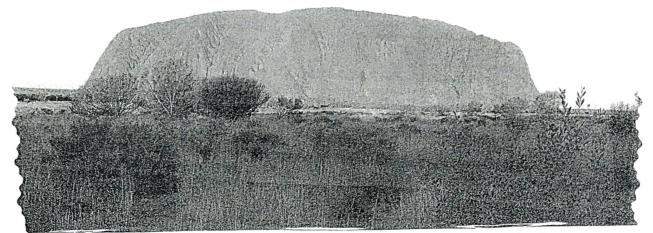


Aloha from Hawaii! It was a long plane ride, but has been well worth it. We have rented a sweet yellow convertible and have the top down! For the past week we have been cruising down the coast on both north and south shores of Oahu. 80 and sunny just about every day. Did a little snorkeling at Turtle Beach yesterday. The photo is the sunset on Waikiki Beach in Honolulu. I have scheduled surfing lessons next week! The people are so chill here. I am kinda loving this South Pacific lifestyle thing! We were able to visit the Polynesian center just a few miles from our resort in Kahuku. I actually got up and practiced a little drumming and hula dancing. Was not crazy about the Poi, but the roast pig was amazing! They actually cooked it underground with hot stones...really cool. About the only thing that I do not like is the heavy traffic and number of tourists everywhere. The memorial at Pearl Harbor was so busy. Talk about an emotional place. I will be sure to bring you back a little something. Hey, thanks again for taking care of the dog and cutting the grass. Miss you guys!



Good day mate, how ya goin? We made it to the "land down under"....took us nearly 3 days total to get here, but I am sitting on Black Beach writing this right now! You know it is winter here, but still here in Melbourne it is a nice 65 and sunny. Gets cool in the evening, but no worries! My family has planned a trek into the Outback. We should be on the road for a week or so. I guess I will be manning the Garmin GPS. I plan on driving as well. It should be really weird driving on the opposite side of the road! Hope I do not crash. I really am excited to climb Uluru, although I know it is considered holy for the Aborigines. I'm climbing anyways, sorry! I really love the Aussie accent and slang. I am trying to pick some of this up and bring home!!! Kangaroos everywhere, some Emus...did go to an animal rescue preserve to see some Koalas. It was totally worth it. I have been enjoying the seafood and barbeques but have to admit in a moment of weakness I made a McDonalds run! Yes, American fast food has made it here among other things. Plan on picking up an Akubra or an Aussie bush hat...will pick one up for you as well. Mine is made of kangaroo leather. Well, better get going. We are heading to an Australian Rules football game. Australia vs. New Zealand. They sure love their rugby down here. Hope you are well, don't catch all the fish before I get back! Cheers!