

11/12/2019

Hi,

Days twenty-eight through thirty; on the road again!

Day 28 (11/10/2019) – On the road again! This morning it was time to check out of our fancy hotel and start our four day journey to Sydney. It was my plan to get up and, on my own, take two trams and walk a short distance to get our Avis car for our next journey. It didn't turn out that way. Esther insists I am too old to go out on my own in a strange place by myself, so I had to wait for her to get ready. On the way out, we stopped to tell Joyce what we were doing and she decided to come along. So, off the three of us went for our last tram rides to get our transportation to Sydney. The whole thing went smoothly and by 9:30 am we were back at the hotel ready to pack the car. However, this time we got a Commander, an Australian built car, a standard car comparable to the Toyota Camry; except the suit cases wouldn't fit in the truck. After struggling for a while, we got the two smallest of our large cases in the trunk. Joyce has the pleasure on keeping company with the biggest one.

Now we are on the road heading for Metung; our next stop along the way. Well, I deprived the ladies of breakfast; since we got off the tram at the Queens Market they wanted to go in there for coffee and muffin. I didn't cooperate. We headed out without breakfast hoping to find a place along the way; which is just not possible in Australia. After getting off the highway to unsuccessfully look for a breakfast place, we finally went to old reliable Garmin. Well, Ms Garmin found a Krispy Kreme only 2.2 km from where we were, so Krispy Kreme muffin and coffee it was.

Now we were back on the road; actually a free way trying to figure out the car as we went along. After 300 plus kilometers with manual in Esther's hands, I still don't know how to turn the cruise control on. I did get it on, but don't know what I did. Where is that Camry when you need it?

Finally we arrived in Metung and our resort cabin for the evening. The cabins are not new, the location was very pretty and there wasn't much to Metung; very small place on a peninsula. We did go out tonight for dinner at the local, only, hotel in town. Joyce had salmon while Esther and I had a whole flounder; and I mean whole. See the before and after photos of my plate. We have never had flounder served that way. All of our meals were really good. We are now back at our cabin for the night. It is going to be fun for someone, me that has to go the bathroom a few times a night. It will be out of bed, down a step, through the living room/kitchen, up a step, into the bathroom and make sure Joyce's door is closed. We'll see how I make out.

Day 29 (11/11/2019) – We were smart last night; purchased muffins and had them with resort provided coffee. We didn't have to stop anywhere for breakfast. We were on the road about 9:30 am and spent most of the morning and early afternoon driving. The scenery wasn't great; most of it through wooded areas that had had fires sometime in the recent past. There are no straight roads in Australia; continuous curves and ups and downs. 171 miles later, we arrive at tonight's town around 1:30 pm and immediately drove around the town to see what was there. We stopped and had lunch, found out where the ice cream store was and proceeded to walk there. Joyce had the best Salted Carmel cone yet! From there we drove to our motel and checked in; yea....separate bathrooms. Esther and I went to the grocery/wine store while Joyce napped; she didn't even know we left. Upon returning, we relaxed, laid around, until wine and cheese time. About 6:30 pm we headed out to one of the two recommendations we got for dinner; went in, sat down, looked at menu, got up and walked out. We then drove to the

other recommendation that I don't think we ever found. We did eat at a restaurant on the second floor that overlooked the water that Esther says was the recommended place. I'm not convinced!

Let me tell you about tonight's restaurant. It was like many others we have been frequented in Australia. You go into the restaurant, you get the menu, you sit down at your table, you make your menu choice, you get up and go to the bar, you place your order, you pay for the meal, they give you a buzzer, you go back to your table and sit down, when the buzzer goes off you get up and go get your meal and take it to your table. Then, and only then, you get to eat! In some of the restaurants you don't get a buzzer, they give you a number for your table and a waitress/waiter are kind enough to bring the food to you. In Australia, you are not only the customer, but the wait staff as well.

I didn't mention....the restaurant we decided not to eat in was a little outside of town and across from a golf course. After we left and were on our way back into town I spotted Kangaroos all over the golf course. Of course, I stopped the car and backed up and my trusted photographer, Esther that is, got out and took pictures. It's interesting; maybe Kangaroo come out to eat at dusk or late afternoon. The photos were taken through a chain link fence, but you will get the idea.

Day 30 (11/12/2019) – It was a leisurely start to our day; up around 7:00 am, bagels and coffee in our abode, pack everything into the car and on the road by 9:00 am. Today's drive took us from Merimbula to Huskisson at Jervis Bay, about 171 miles closer to Sydney. It was a much prettier drive than yesterday; rolling hills, expansive farms land and through a number of villages by the sea. Arriving in Huskisson before check-in time, we went into the town and looked around, had lunch and forced ourselves to have an ice cream. Tonight's stay is at a B&B where we were greeted by the owner who was very personable. After chatting with the owner for a while we settled into our rooms and then took a drive out to Hyams Beach; supposedly, one of the most popular beaches in the world. For a time it bragged of having the whitest sand in Australia. Unfortunately that has been disproven, but the sand is very white and it is a beautiful beach. When we arrived in Huskisson today the temperature was 37°C (98.6°F). While at the beach the temperature dropped to 22°C (71.6°F); literally in a few minutes. The wind changed directions. Since arriving in Australia we have not had a day without very strong winds.

By the time we got back to our B&B, you guessed it, it was wine time. With the temperature now being comfortable we sat outside on the patio between our rooms and enjoyed the wine, cheese and comfortable temperature. Dinner tonight was at the Club Jervis bay. Not being Club members, with the scan of our drivers licenses we became temporary members. At the Club we had pizza which was pretty good. There was a Gelato cooler right next to where we ordered the pizza, but we resisted. From there, it was back to our B&B for the night for each of us to do our own things; for me it was organize today's photos and work on this email.