

Hi, my name is Paula, I'm 21 years old and I'm from Germany.

In 2023 during my year abroad after graduation I was able to spend two wonderful months at "The Cottage" and really had the best time there helping with all the horses and working and living with the other workawayers, Deb and Chris. I was not only able to improve my riding a lot with the help of Chris, Deb and Courtney, I've also learned a lot about lunging, ground work and a lot about farm work in general. During my whole stay, there was never one day I wasn't motivated to get up and not excited for the day. I really love horse riding and also being around horses for which the Cottage is the perfect place for as well as sharing all of those great experiences you make with the other girls you're staying with in the two little houses on the property. Whether we had cooking evenings, movie nights, rode the horses together, worked around the farm or just chilled at the pool, it was always fun and it's great to never be alone, always have someone to talk to and experience all of those moments with. After missing Australia and especially the Cottage from the day I left in March 2024, I was finally able to return in January this year. This time I wanted to visit all the wonderful people and places I already got to know the last time, which of course included the Cottage. Spending one week with Chris, Deb and the horses again felt like coming back to my second home and was definitely one of the highlights of my second stay in Australia.

I had the best week spending time with Chris and Deb, meeting their new dog Pumpkin for the first time (fell in love with her and wish I could have taken her with me) and of course riding all of the wonderful horses again. Sitting on Aadream, who was my favourite during my first stay was such a great feeling and I really enjoyed riding her again (already missing her and looking forward to my next sit on her). But I also rode almost every other horse on the farm again and just enjoyed every ride, because all of them are special in their own way and you can learn something from everyone of them.

This time I was also able to ride Aastaron for the first time and after having the best time jumping him in the riding paddock, he might probably be my new favourite.

Spending one week at the Cottage again felt way too short and I wish I could have stayed longer, I just love this place and the people there. This is why I'm already planning on visiting again, hopefully for a longer time and then also with Karo, one of the girls I met during my first stay and now really is a good friend of mine.

If you want to meet wonderful people, experience the Aussie horsefarm life, improve your riding skills and have the best laughs with Chris, who is probably one of the funniest persons I know, then I can really recommend the Cottage, you'll have the best time and will not regret it!

Chris and Deb are really wonderful people, who will make sure you'll have an unforgettable experience!

Dear Deb and Chris, thank you so much for making the Cottage a second home to me, I already miss you and am already looking forward to seeing you again as soon as possible!

Yours Paula

