



# SPENCER CLOUD

## B.S. BUSINESS '12

Spencer Cloud is living a dream.

Two years ago he quit a financially secure management job and ventured out into the unknown.

He'd been working a lot in the years prior and found himself increasingly daydreaming about his hobbies and passions, which included home brewing, surfing and travel.

One day, while looking up information about Australia, Cloud stumbled on a video about an Aussie brewery. It showcased good-looking beer and happy employees against a local backdrop of beautiful fields and perfect, warm surf.

"That video spoke to me," said Cloud. "I needed a change of environment and wanted to make commercial craft brewing my career. I know there are a ton of breweries in California, but why not try to find a similar job on the other side of the world?"

After briefly considering factors like the lack of a language barrier and the country's lenience toward American workers, Cloud saw a cheap one-way flight, took a leap of faith and booked it.

The journey Down Under began in nomadic style with Cloud living in a camper-van and making friends along the way. Thanks to lucky timing, he landed part-time work with Black Hops Brewing that led to a full-time assistant brewer position there within months. During his year away from home he also travelled throughout New Zealand and Southeast Asia.

Cloud currently works as assistant brewer for Stone Brewing in Escondido, California, and continues to expand his expertise. His ultimate goal is to open his own craft brewery.

"My dad and I have home brewed for years," said Cloud. "He had some previous experience and we took our effort on seriously, using professional-grade ingredients. Our first batch tasted like Sculpin and everyone went crazy over it. We were hooked!"

Cloud says knowing his work impacts others' joy is most fulfilling.

"Somewhere over in Australia, Minnesota, Germany or Hong Kong, someone is waiting to get out of work and crack into one of our tasty IPAs," he said. "It's fulfilling to know what you do makes a huge impact on such a wide array of people."

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