

Marc Storey

“Hoka Hey” now means so much more to me. I was truly blessed to be able to compete in this challenge and encounter the adventure that tested my spirit and character. The camaraderie and generosity of my fellow competitors was truly humbling, and gave me great faith and belief that humans can act with compassion and kindness towards one another. In this day and age of mass media we only see and hear the worst of humanity’s behavior to one another, but I now know we are able to act as brother and sister to one another.

I endured fatigue like never before, helped friends who had accidents and mechanical problems, was helped by others when I ran out of gas and even suffered a broken foot with four days left to ride. But the memories of the beautiful scenery and the opportunity to clear my mind in the solitude of the ride overcame all of the adversity. This event was one of the greatest personal challenges and opportunities to evolve as a person I have ever experienced.

As a foreigner to your land, I learned so much about America and its people that I did not know before. But most of all, the challenge gave me a chance to learn a small bit about the Native American culture and the challenges the people face, which has helped make me a more understanding and tolerant member of the world community.

Any regrets? Not one!

~ Marc Storey, Townsville, Queensland
2nd Place Finisher