

DESERT CHILL

Photography by Adrian Bela Raba
Text by Sandy Tan





HE HAD NEVER BEEN THERE, BUT ADRIAN BELA RABA SOMEHOW CONVINCED HIMSELF THAT THE NAMIB DESERT IN AFRICA WAS WHERE HE NEEDED TO BRING HIS CAMERA AND CREW. In 30-degree heat, Raba carried out a winter fashion shoot in the sand dunes around Sossusvlei in Namib-Naukluft National Park, instead of using the snowy mountains of North Sweden as a setting. "High sand dunes and high mountains have a lot in common when it comes to shapes and shadows," said Raba. To bring his concept to life, Raba faced cumbersome tasks, such as overcoming local bureaucracy and lugging boxes of heavy equipment with only a small team.

To create the desired colour temperature, Raba matched outfits and locations with the time of day. He chose a red ski jacket to complement the evening light. Yet Raba's favourite shot is of one model — Jude — in a cream coat, posing against the high morning sun. The team was flustered from the heat, and Raba was uncertain whether the look and feel would turn out sufficiently sophisticated. But with each try, Jude exerted more confidence. "The more energy she would put in the movement, the more the coat would open up in an amazing shape, like a desert flower." And almost like a work of magic, in the scorching desert heat, the perfect winter picture emerged. www.rabaphoto.de





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Photography: Adrian Bela Raba

Styling: Oliver Rauh

Hair and makeup: Ilka Müller for Gloss Agency

Models: Paul Sale for Boss Models and Jude Nabney for Ice Models

Assistant: Michael Fuhr

Post production: Martina van Ghemen Design

