

# Family of the world

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**Personal Description:** Worked own business and married to Mary 1957 - now more then 50 years. We have 4 sons and 11 grandchildren 1th of August 2008 Mary moved to a home for Alzheimer disease. Fatmata (43) from Liberia (in Norway named "The African Queen)supported Mary and keep Svein's house on Prestholmen (the Island) running. Fatmata moved together with her daughter in Bergen June 2009 and from there support Svein to keep his house running.

**How I Participate in CS;** I work for embody the spirit of CouchSurfers in their travels and when they are hosting and meeting up with other travelers. Year 2006-2010 are hosted people from Argentina, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, China, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, England, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, India, Ireland, Latvia, Lituania, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Japan, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Scotland, Serbia, Slovacia, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, Taiwan, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United States and Venezuela.

**CouchSurfing Experience:** Couchsurfing keep feeling of holiday, travels and freedom alive!

Autum pictures from Island Prestholmen October 2008:  
Link: <http://www.autoinform.no/2008-10/index.html>

Pictures Cs2008:  
<http://www.autoinform.no/Cs-2008%20Internet/index.html>

Svein 3 nighths in Beijing Mars 2009:  
<http://www.autoinform.no/Beijing-Internett/index.html>

Pictures cs and friends 2009  
<http://www.autoinform.no/cs-2009/index.html>

Travel Spain - Budapest - Romania:  
<http://www.autoinform.no/SpanRom-tur/index.html>  
Interests - History ++

**Philosophy** - Make people happy - Family of blood are "normaly" to busy spending time with "Great Granny". So we welcome the most of friends on Mary and Svein profile as our "new" family of the world and for help to keep this world bautifull. Music, Movies, Books - Jazz - Classic piano - Fazil Say - Rachmaninoff - List - Beethoven - Dolly Parton

**Types of People I enjoy:** We host for exchanging knowledge with persons who are able to communicate.... Host travelers minimum 2 nighths for time to communicate. Teach, Learn,

<http://www.autoinform.no/images/CV-Autoinform.pdf>

**Opinion on the CouchSurfing Project:**  
By couchsurfing you meet people in your home ..... not like a place only to sleep.

**Locations TRAVELED:** Belgium, China, Denmark, England, Finland, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Latvia, Luxembourg, Mexico, Netherlands, Poland, Romania, Scotland, Spain, Sweden, United States.

### About Norway 2011:

Social peace, not separation of level in status is the current Norway Welfare State. A nice dressed lady looks into window a shop . She goes in and comes out again with cloth she like and puts herself into the car, drive home to apartment, creating food, look on TV. If she go sick, she become mostly same money from government system for having her life as usual. The future is so Safe it can be. **Life happiness must be provide by herself**, but the material is safeguarded. People in past gathered more compare generally what is today. Use the new tool to make your

### "Family of the world"

This book inform is about 4 fantastic year I got with many people from all over the world.

Enjoy and dream U can be next - and a loved friend to many person.U also make life better for\_

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**2007 Hosted 70 person  
Family of the world**

Become new

**2008 Hosted 100 person - 400 nights**

2x10 Katharina I & II Austria 6-16.2  
 1x3 Y. GAI Qinhuangdao, Hebei China 13/2-16/2  
 2x3 Museux, France 26-29.3  
 3x2 Natalia / Helena / Dorothy, Polen 7-9.3  
 1x2 Sarah Bagron. Alaska USA 7-9.3  
 2x3 Katlyn / Marcel, USA / Schweiz 21-24.3  
 1x3 Tavia Hammonde, Italia (USA) 21-24.3  
 2x3 Katharina Schulze, Germany 21-24.3  
 2x3 Hiroko Ota +, Japan 31/3-2/4  
 2x4 Ruma & Marc, Schweiz 15-19.4  
 2x3 He Yan, China 16-18.4  
 1x1 Justin, China 20-21.5  
 1x3 Sophia Cleng, Taiwan 19-21/5  
 2x2 Laura Shields, Edinburg 21-23/5  
 2x1 Tom, USA 31.5-1/6  
 2x2 Yi When, Taiwan 5-6/6  
 2x2 Ruosi Wang, Fujian - Quanzhou China 7-9/6  
 2x3 James Poriz / Stasia Chen Canada/Taiwan 7-10.6  
 1x1 Lauren L, USA 11-12.6  
 1x8 Rhea, USA 11-20.6  
 2x1 Wong, Sigapore 12-13/6  
 1x3 Rosanna Forde, (Ireland) Australia 7-10.7  
 1x2 Martins, Latvia 14-16.7  
 2x2 Kelly and Ellie, USA 14-17.7  
 2x2 Ivan and Monika, Chech 15-17.7  
 2x3 Bernadette & Leover, Sydney 14-18.7  
 2x3 Tayma and Suus, Nederland 16-18.7  
 1x4 Sakai, Japan 24-28.7  
 1x3 Sarah Kean, UK 26-29.7  
 2x0 Anja Brenna, Norge 27/7 - Did'n come  
 1x2 Nathan, Australia 28-30.7  
 3x4 Simone, Denise and Lea, Germany 28/7-1/8  
 2x1 Lenka & Michal, Luxemburg (Slovakia) 1/8-2/8  
 1x20 Catherine Cartier, Montreal 31.7 - 21.8  
 1x4 Kathleen Renahan, Prag (NY) 31/7-3/8  
 2x2 Ariane B. To Van, Paris 2/8-4/8  
 7x3 Cris, Malaysia 6/8-9/8  
 1x3 Asterios, Greece 10.8 - 13/8  
 1x3 Jihye Geum, Korea - Copenhagen 11-13/8  
 2x2 Fanny & Joanna Sveits 11-13/8  
 9x2 Hilal Alkan, London (Turkey), 2 MobilHome's 14-16/8  
 2x2 Elaine and Michael, Australia, 15-17/8  
 4x50 Alin, group from Romania 16/8 - 6/10  
 1x1 Fiona, Taiwan 16.8-17.8  
 1x1 Pascale (EXPLORA), Australia 19/8-20/8  
 2x2 Milenko Bugueno Gonzalez, Germany  
 (Chile) 20/8-21/8  
 1x3 Maria Mucke from Vienna, 22-25/8  
 Cancelled 2F Krisztina Bánóci, Budapest 25-26/8  
 1x1 Pascal Minder, Bern Switzerland 26-27/8  
 1x3 Vicki Cheng Kopenhagen (USA) 27-30.8  
 1x2 Gabriela, France Strasbourg (Brazil) 29-31.8  
 1x1 Britta, London (Munchen Germany) 13-14/9  
 1x12 Pascalle Nathal, Iceland 18/9 - 30/9  
 2x6 Alexandra and Bogdan, Romania 24/9 - 30/9

**2009: X person - X nights**

3x 20 Alin Romania  
 1x 2 Kyungha Lee - Korea  
 2x 2 Anna Petersen and Karsten Germany 4/4 - 6/4  
 0x 0 Stefanie Scheer Germany (did not come) 9/4 - 14/4  
 1x 2 Maren USA (from Glasgow) 10/4 - 12/4  
 3x 2 Venks Venkantraman India ( from Århus) 12/4 - 14/4  
 1x 2 Linda Nielsen Danmark 29/4 - 1/5  
 1x 1 Cassandra Hong Kong 4/5 - 5/5  
 2x 3 Ligia da Hora - Sao Paulo - Brazil 5/5 - 8/5  
 1x 2 Sonya Petersburg Russia 6/5 - 8/5  
 1x 2 Laurel Tunis / USA 9/5 - 11/5  
 2x 5 Babsy ands Lisa Germany 9/5 - 14/5  
 Several Privat Norwegian (National day 17th of May)  
 1x 3 Katrin Nordin, Stockholm Sverige 19/5 - 21/5

2x 2 Familie Norge 26/5 - 28/5  
 2x 5 Julie & Tony - Krakow Poland 28/5 - 2/6  
 2x 2 Vicky - China (canceled) 3/6 - 5/6  
 1x 3 Linda Nielsen - Danmark 5/6 - 7/6  
 2x 3 Sara Tibise - France Marceille 9/6 - 12/6  
 1x 1 Sarah Tsai - Taiwan (From Sweden) 9/6 - 10/6  
 2x 2 Lisa & Bernadette Hampel - Germany 14/6 - 16/6  
 1x 4 Nadia - Brazil 15/6 - 19/6  
 1x 3 Billie Gammon - USA 16/6 - 18/6  
 Fam Norway 19/6 - 30/6  
 3x 5 Marta Hilgier - Poland Warsaw 30/6 - 5/7  
 Caterina Detomaso - Italy Cancelled  
 Norwegian Family 9/7 - 17/7  
 2x 3 Tayma with father - Arnheim Holland 12/7 - 15/7  
 2x 1 Sandra Witt - Hamburg Germany 15/7 - 16/7  
 1x 1 Marina Servulja Gothenburg (Russia) 18/7 - 19/7  
 2x 3 Mong and Pei - Taiwan 18/7 - 21/7  
 Norwegian Family 21/7 - 24/7  
 1x 4 Raphaela - USA (from Reysjavik) 26/7 - 30/7  
 1x 1 Linda Nielsen Danmark 26/7 - 27/7  
 3x 4 Dianas- Romania 30/7 - 3/8  
 2x 4 JANINE WILLEMS Netherlands 1/8 - 5/8  
 1x 3 Linda Nielsen Danmark 31/7 - 3/8  
 1x 15 Marta Vilar - Spain (Hyttten) 10/8 - 17/8  
 1x 3 Ashley YW Chin - Malaysia from Russia 8/8 - 11/8  
 2x 1 Marie NICAISE & Joshue - France 9/8 - 10/8  
 3x 3 Dianas- Romania 10/8 - 12/8  
 1x 1 Alin (Daniell) Romania 12/8 - 13/8  
 2x 3 Madeleine and Ana - Madeira Portugal 13/8 - 16/8  
 2x 0 Richard & Vivian - Beijing 16/8  
 2x 2 Maura Pfeifer - Korea (USA) 23/8 - 26/8  
 2x 2 Tanja / - Britta Germany 25/8 - 27/8  
 2x 3 Chris - Carito Belgia / Argentina 27/8 - 30/8  
 2x 1 Simona and Marketa / Tjekkia 24/9 - 25/9  
 Busy 19-25/10 Travelling Barcelona  
 Busy 19-25/11 Travelling Hungary - Romania  
 1x92 Lena Sahlberg, Stockholm 3/10 - 3/1 2010

**2010: Hosted 51 person**

3x 30 Adora - Tallin Estonia 7/ 1- 5/2  
 Travell January .....Gdansk and Warschau Poland  
 1x 31 Lena Sahlberg, Stockholm 14/ 2 - 13/3  
 1x106 Beatrix - Romania "Time it takes" 7/2 - 23/6  
 5x100 Alin - Romania 7/2 - 13/5  
 1x 3 Alex - Beijing/Toronto -  
 1x 4 Mitch - Spania/USA  
 1x 10 Doris - Lituania 11/5 -  
 2 x 2 Agathe - Warsaw 1/6 - 3/6  
 1 x 3 Raimund Koch - Germany 8/6 - 11/6  
 0 x 3 Elisabeth Polen (Did't arrive 11/6 -  
 1 x 2 Ling - Hong Kong 18/6 - 20/6  
 2 x 2 Pum and Pin - Krabi Thailand 30/6 - 3/7  
 2 x 2 Daniel & Karin - Sverige 7/7 - 9/7  
 1 x 5 Milena - Polen 8/7 - 12/7  
 1 x 2 Saskia - Nederland 10/7  
 1x150 Beatrix - Romania 14/7 - 16/12  
 1 x 2 Tamara - Wien (Did't arrive) 16/7 - 18/7  
 1 x 5 Audry - USA 20/7 - 25/7  
 2 x 1 Victoria Gantaryk - Kiev Ukrain 21/7 - 22/7  
 2 x 1 Olga and Brother - Warsaw Polen 22/7 - 23/7  
 2 x 3 Lio and Joeri Belgium 24/7 - 27/7  
 4 x 3 Robert Orth - Linz Austria 31/7 - 3/8  
 2 x 2 Grace - Mexico 1/8 - 3/8  
 2 x 4 Ania - Poland "Bikers" 3/8 - 14/8  
 3 x 3 Aasmund - Ørsta Norge 6/8 - 9/8  
 1 x 2 Chitra - USA/India 11/8 - 13/8  
 2 x 4 Kasia - Polen 10/8 - 14/8  
 2 x 3 Claudia - Bolivia 19/8 -  
 2 x 0 Jenny - Sweden Cancelled 21/8  
 Travell November .....GDansk Polen  
 1 x 35 Henriette - Dresden 26/8 - 1/10  
 Travell Ocktober .....Thailand Malaysia

## The African Queen = Fatmata



Situation Sveins wife Mary requires more support than at time able to meet and therefore announced internet:

Free accommodation exchange for help:

*Wants "adult" help to demot wife who no longer "water the flowers", vacuum house or do other housework. Looking for your support for dressing, arrange bed, prepare clothes and do light walks. "Business" per month - about 40 hours. Free board and lodging in locations as member of family. Period trial from 1.2.2008 to 1.6.2008*

Student Musukula Fanbulleh (22) replied and brought to the conversation. She was a partner and to young met with expectations but thought her mother would suit the purpose. The next day I met Fatmata Fanbulleh (43). She studied nursing health care, was separated after 24 years of marriage with 3 children and 1 granddaughter.

Fatmata was born in Liberia, where a fierce war (about Diamond) broke out in 1990th for more then next 10 years, and she fled to Sierra Leone where she arrived after many issues to 2002 as a refugee in Norway Volda with the family. There she was part of family Aasmund (75) and Anne-Lise Ørsta (67), teachers with a background in missionary activities. Aasmund was born in China until 8 years old and later he worked at the Seamen's Church of Antwerp. There he met his Anne-Lise. The couple moved and took over the family farm in addition to teacher job in Volda, Norway

Fatmata communicated OK with Aasmund and she agreed to move to a family friend Svein. His family had long been looking for AuPair and Fatmata was welcomed as a family member. In the phone conversation with Aasmund and Anne-Lise, who were informed about "Svein life" from the internet, was Fatmata very positively reviewed. They were upset that she moved to Bergen to be with son William and daughter Musukula who studied there.

Fatmata moved for Prestholmen 1th Feb 2008 and immediately filled the house with activity and personality.

In the conversation came up about a difficult time, and the closest male friend who wanted her back to Sierra Leone, she told not to be ready for.

While at the Holmen Fatmata seeks to recuperate she study for Nurse and thoughts on the future.

Adolescence: Parents: Alhaji Boakai Swaray (Moigboi) born 1923 in Medina - Died 22nd Oct. 2010 in Freetown. Mother Sally Rogers (Kpakanya) born 1930 Cape Mount Conty, Robert Sports Headquarters - Sanjanama

Fatmata father, Boakai participated in the second World War the British page. After the war 1945 he built roads in Libiria, eun a farm and married Sally. Their first 3 children died as infants, while the fourth child, Fatmata, who was born 21/4.1965 survived and grew up with parents love and pampering as the available ways.

17 years old she married. The first child, V. Morana was born 23/1-1983 but died 18/4- 1984. Later she gave birth to three children who grew up: Mususkulah 3/4.1985,

William Siaka 5/4-1987 and Josephine 8/9-1990 few months after the war reached Liberia. Family fled to Free-town camp in neighboring Sierra Leone, with more than 3,000 other refugees. The number increased gradually and in 1991 the family was transferred to Waterloo Camp.

After years suffer UN pick her family for Norway 2002. The Martti Ahtisaari mediated and stopped in year 2000 on behalf of United Nation to end the war.

In doing this, he also helped several continent more than three decades for what he was awarded in 2008 the Nobel Peace Prize. The UN took over the implementation of peace and Norway was one of many countries that received their share of quota refugees where Fatmata's family arrived Norway in first flight Norway a cold winter day December 2003 in their African clothing.

The Norwegian refuges helpers provided clothing, food and good shelter at different places in Norway. Fatmata family was placed in Volda facilitated with good support. Each refugee got his own contact person (paid by the state) in addition to many new social contacts. For education and learning for Norwegian citizenship appeared Fatmata's oldest daughter Mussu as one of the best students. During their stay in Volda, (family) parents separated. The father went to study for agricultural education. Their daughter Musu first moved Bergen 2007 ,William (son) was alr was became father to (a daughter) Precious with girlfriend Comfort and there after followed their mother to further her education in nursing health care. Daughter Josephine, left back in Volda with supervision for school. In 2010 Fatmata finally achieved her Health care education.



*Fatmata with Mary with Sveins family*



*First dinner Prestholmen daughter Musu, Boyfriend. William. Precious (Edel) and Fatmata*

## Blood Diamonds

Pervenia P. Brown December 13, 2005



*Diamond seekers work a diamond mine outside Freetown.  
(Photo: Desirey Minkoh / AFP-Getty Images)*

Staring into the eyes of a photographed teenager who lost both hands to rebel's machetes at the Waterloo Camp in Sierra Leone I felt a surge of mixed emotions: pain, compassion, anger, discontent and the need for a more effective campaign against "conflict diamonds."

Recently, rapper Kanye West raised the issue of conflict "blood" diamonds in his song "Diamonds" (featuring Jay-Z). Conflict diamonds — diamonds mined and traded by rebel groups — have been the source of murder and mutilation in the small, west-African country of Sierra Leone. In the song, West voices his own inner conflict with diamonds:

See, a part of me say keep shinin' How? When I know what a "Blood Diamond" is ... In his video, West takes his message even further. The video takes viewers into dimly lit diamond mines, where children are forced to mine for "small bits of carbon that have no intrinsic value in themselves, and no value whatsoever to the average Sierra Leonean beyond their attraction to foreigners."

According to a report by Partnership Africa Canada (P.A.C.), "upwards of 50,000 [have been] killed, half the population displaced, and more than two-thirds of its already severely limited infrastructure destroyed." Meanwhile, the underground trade of illicit diamonds is booming. Conflict diamonds are valued "between 4 percent and 15 percent of the world total" and generate annual trade revenues of \$7.5 billion

Sierra Leone's war over conflict diamonds began in March 1991 when "a few hundred men crossed over the Liberian border and attacked towns in eastern and southern Sierra Leone." Early in 1992, the Revolutionary United Front (R.U.F.), a ruthless rebel group seized Kono, the diamond mining capital of Sierra Leone. In an effort to stabilize the region and restore democratic civilian rule, the National Provisional Ruling Council (N.P.R.C.) became engaged in a war with R.U.F. rebels.

The N.P.R.C. initiated "Operation Genesis" to drive out R.U.F. rebels, but was unsuccessful. The rebels, in turn, launched a vicious attack on Sierra Leoneans during the 1996 elections. To intimidate potential voters and to maintain control of the diamond mines, the rebels chopped off the hands and feet of adults, teens, children and even infants. In spite of these brutal attacks, the R.U.F. was invited to participate in the elections. But the rebels once again reverted to their depraved tactics, amputating civilians' hands and feet.

In November 1996, the newly elected president, Ahmed Tejan Kabbah signed a peace agreement in Abidjan, which gave the R.U.F. an opportunity to become a legitimate political party. Instead, R.U.F. rebels colluded with insurgents of the Sierra Leonean army and formed the Armed Forces Ruling Council (A.F.R.C.), which ousted Kabbah. During this time, there was no international intervention on behalf of Sierra Leoneans.

Finally, in February 1998 Nigerian-led forces of the Military Observer Group of the Economic Community of West African States (E.C.O.M.O.G.) removed A.F.R.C. rebels from Freetown and reinstated Kabbah. But Nigerian forces could not contain R.U.F. rebels. A re-charged R.U.F. re-emerged in January 1999 "killing an estimated 6,000 civilians and mutilating many more."

Liberian warlord, Charles Taylor, was the formidable force behind R.U.F. rebels. Taylor, who later became President of Liberia, not only participated in the illicit diamond trade, he "acted as mentor, trainer, banker and weapons supplier" for the R.U.F. Charles Taylor used R.U.F. rebels to integrate a substantial amount of illicit diamonds (valued in the millions) into the global trade, and then used profits to purchase weapons, which reinforced the R.U.F.'s military strength.

By July 1999, the violence had escalated. The government of Sierra Leone was forced to sign another peace agreement in Lomé, Togo, which "legitimized the R.U.F. and brought it into the government with several cabinet positions." The R.U.F., however, was not interested in rebuilding Sierra Leone only regaining control of the diamonds mines of Kono District and Tongo Field. As a result, thousands of Sierra Leoneans were killed and mutilated mainly because there was no large scale, international intervention in the early stages of the war.

The United Nations did not intervene in Sierra Leone until June 2001 — 10 years after the war began. And, compared to the murderous rampage of R.U.F. rebels, U.N. sanctions appeared lenient: "a ban on Liberian diamond sales, and a ban on travel by Liberian officials, including its president, and tougher weapons sanctions." It was practically impossible for the United Nations to enforce these sanctions since an official report "showed conclusively that there was virtually no oversight of the international movement of diamonds." Similarly, a U.N. expert panel "reported that the then 'interim' leader of the R.U.F., Issa Sesay, [violated U.N. sanctions and] flew to Abidjan late in 2001 with 8,000 carats of diamonds which he sold to two dealers of undisclosed identity."

The United Nations did not seriously intervene in Sierra Leone's war until January 2002 when it sent the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone (Unamsil), a 17,000-man peacekeeping force to supervise disarmament and "to uphold the provisions of the Lomé agreement." Immediately following U.N. intervention, the war gained international attention after Unamsil peacekeepers were prohibited from conducting an investigation of diamond areas controlled by the R.U.F.

In March 2003, the U.N. Special Court in Sierra Leone "indicted several of those involved in the civil war in Sierra Leone for war crimes, crimes against humanity, and violations of international humanitarian law." But the fate of those indicted is uncertain. The U.N. Court cannot simply "round up" the usual suspects and think that is enough.

The most worrying aspect of the war in Sierra Leone is the international community's belated response. In three separate incidents — in Rwanda, Sudan and Sierra Leone — the international community has turned a blind eye while génocidaires, the janjaweed and R.U.F. rebels wreaked havoc on their civilian populations.

Ikechi Mgbeoji's book, *Collective Insecurity* examines the hidden causes of West Africa's civil wars and addresses an important question: "Why has the U.N. system not worked to protect people and to enhance their welfare, as intended, in Africa and elsewhere?" In his book, Mgbeoji proposes, "the solution to African political instability lies in a structural rearrangement of the African polity for the purpose of legitimate governance of African peoples."

Considering the U.N.'s response to the war in Sierra Leone, it has a long way to go in its responsibility to ensure "legitimate governance under international law." But U.N. efforts alone won't stop the senseless killing in Sierra Leone over illicit diamonds. Kanye West's song and video about "blood diamonds" makes us take an honest look at ourselves and ask:

Is my fascination with diamonds contributing to the violence in Sierra Leone?



Mary with Cs Sophia - and 2 nurse come 2 times a day



Nurse Ingrid startet 2007 to support Mary



Fatmata moved in to house for support 1. Febr 2008



Sister Gerd and Else Jorunn visit Mary



Trygve and Ellinor Pettersen visit 1 day in week



Family visit Mary



Mary moved to Gullstøltunet 1ste Aug 2008



Bjarte pick Mary up to former place

**Kricsfalussy Beatrix** Nationality Hungarian  
beatrix@kokettglas.ro

I arrived Febr 2010 on Prestholmen, the island of Fyllingsdalen (Norway) in a magical place where I was lucky to know Svein. It's rare to meet a man who believes in human values and supports them, as Svein do. I have found, the ideal place and the support of a true friend, to gather my strength and continue my dream to succeed in art, to find the path to spiritual and creative



2010; Kirkens Bymisjon, Bergen, Voluntary work

2006-2010; Kokett Glas Ltd., Simeria, Romania; Shaping and processing of flat glass, Manufacture of glass, Artistic creation; Owner - Designer

2003-2005; "Children's Club", Turda, Romania; Various activities for after school program for children between 6 - 15 years old; Ceramics and art history teacher

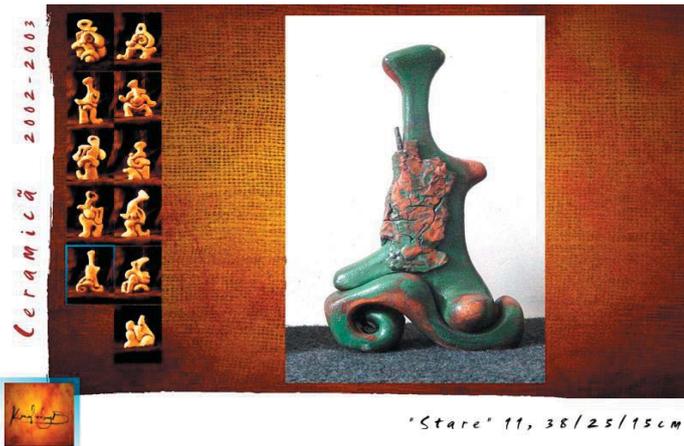


2003; Museum of History, Gherla; Restorer

1998-2003;  
Faculty of Decorative Arts and Design,  
University of Art and Design,  
Cluj-Napoca, Romania;  
B.A. in Arts

**Hobbies**

trakkng, paragliding, photography, dancing



**PEGASUSSAS** Saskia  
Zutphen, Gelderland, Netherlands Oct 23rd, 2010



Education: Human Resources Management

I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel.

(Maya Angelou)

Dear Svein, I like to stay on your couch for a few nights and am wondering if you could accommodate me.

I will fly to Oslo on the 7th of July and take the train to Bergen on the 10th July. I have been warned that Bergen is notorious for it's rain, so I will make sure I bring a rain coat. I'm a 40 year old woman from The Netherlands and will travel alone. I will catch up with friends in Oslo and in Sweden and spend the rest of my holidays by myself. I have never been couch surfing before, but I'm looking forward to the experience. I have read your profile, and you and your family sound like very warm people. Saskia

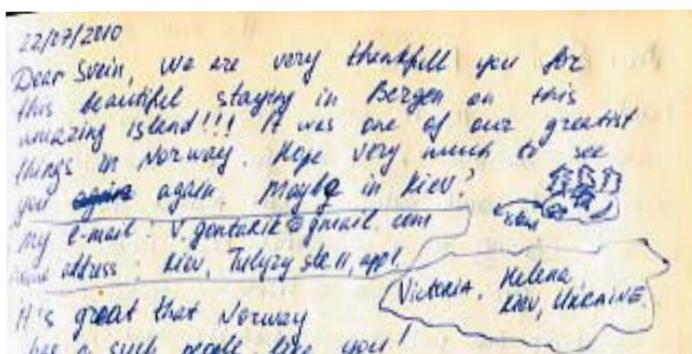
Dear dear Svein, I know this message is long overdue. Please accept my apologies! I hope you are doing well. I had a wonderful time in Bergen at your place. Thanks a million for hosting me and supporting me in getting around. I have not forgotten about you!! It was a very special way to loose my couchsurf virginity. I admire your spirit and energy to make not only your life worth living but give so generously to people around you. You do this with a very open mind. I have seen you take care of teenagers as well as a group of pensioners. Your castle on the Island is not one with crocodiles in the water around it and a heavy bridge to lift for your own safety and privacy. I admire that. Please send my love and a big hug to Fatmata as well. She is a very strong woman. It was special to meet this african woman at your house. Having lived in Kenya, Ghana and Zimbabwe for such a long time, I still have a special connection to the continent. I wish you all the best!! Warm regards,

**Victoria and Helena Gartarik**

Kiev Ukraine 22. July 2010

Dear Svein

We are very greatfull you for this bautifull staying in Bergen on this amasing island !!! It was one of our greatest things in Norway. Hope very much to see you again - Maybe in Kiev ?



**Pulchérie Mayap** Cameroon Centre Yaounde



Current Mission:  
To visit the maximum of country and to do me a lot of friends

Accommodated  
Sveins place  
5-23th april 2011

**Mong HSU and Pei - Taiwan 18/7 - 21/7 2009**

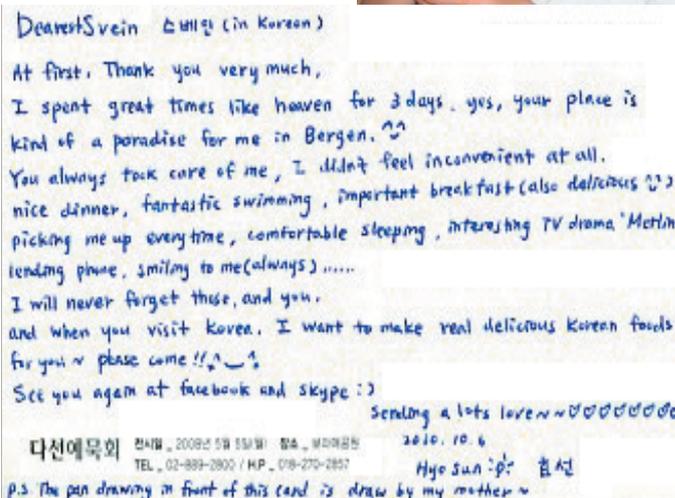
Current Mission: "Back to normal life"



We are appreciated with everything you shared with us. We really enjoyed three days in this beautiful island. It's quite nice to stay in this peace, quiet, relaxing "place". Yes! Here is not only a "house", further more, here is a "place". We also learned a lot about this philosophy of being a really humanbeing and

we will keep in mind forever. Thanks a lot....

**Hyo Sun** Seoul Korea



**Henriette Riedel** Dresden, Sep 10, 2010



Svein is one of the best hosts ever!

He is kind, extremely generous and spoiled me so much.

I am very obliged to him because he saved my trip to Norway!

Thanks for everything; for sharing your wisdom, I think I learned a lot and am sure we'll meet again! Tusen takk

For Henriette Riedel: Svein, Beatrix and Fatmata was happy hosting Henriette during her study at Haraldsplass Hospital Bergen. She now belong our family of the world.

**Claudia Lazarte**, Bolivia  
**Magda Debiec**, Lodz Polen  
Students Lund, Sweden Aug 26, 2010



*View Sognefjord at Flåm*

Svein is an angel, the real one!! I and my friend spent in his blueberries' kingdom four amazing days. He shared with us his time, his island, his city, his country. He took care of us in the way, which I will never forget.... he cured my soul. Svein is the best of the best (not only as a couchsurfer, but also as a human being). He was a very good and helpfull host for me and my friend. We spent amaizing time on His island. All the best to You Svein! Thank you very much!! Hope to see you soon in Poland, Bolivia or Norway!!! :)))

For Magdalena and Magda:  
I was a pleasure hosting U

claudia\_lazarte15@hotmail.com  
debiecmagda@gmail.com

**Matilde Moreano** Equador  
Student Bayreuth, Germany Aug 23, 2010



Svein hosted me at his beautiful island, took me to a museum, to the coast and on the outskirts of Bergen. I felt at home, he is a wonderful person, knows a lot about everything, nice coffee and chat. also knew Bea was great. It was incredible to jump on the trampoline, breakfast, and the best: shrimps!!! I wish I could return there. I can tell, was my best experience in couchsurfing.

For Matilde: Thank U visit my place giving the big pleasure to host

**Grace U** Mexico  
Student Bamberg, Germany Aug 19, 2010



No words to describe the great person that Svein is and the hospitality that he can provide, Bergen, Shrimps, Pool, Fire, Beatrix, Museum, Trampoline and more Shrimps was incredible for me, defi nitely one of MY BEST CS EXPERIENCE with Svein, he just treat u so good is like being at home. Takk!

For Grace U:  
Thank U visit my place  
giving the big pleasure to host

**Ania Skuras** Gdynia, Poland Aug 19, 2010



Svein is a king in his beautiful island. But a very caring king. He doesn't rule the place, he loves it and looks after it. He is surrounded by two lovely ladies: Beatrix and Fatmata - thank you. It was great to start cycling in Norway from his place but even better coming back there when our trip was finished, as Svein and Beatrix made us feel we were coming back home. Svein has an idea of sharing home with people, so that they can meet and spend time together. He gives this wonderful impression of being wanted and looked after. Great person to talk to - you can learn a lot. And one more thing: his cheeky sense of humour...so much fun to be around, can't say enough of it:)) Take care, we will meet again!



Aug 17, 2010



Svein was a wonderful, very caring and friendly indi-  
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vidual!! We had interesting conversations during my stay and some very tasty ice cream :) I met several fellow couch surfers at his place, went Canoeing with Beatrix, and had a memorable time at his place :) Svein introduced me to his family and he also gave me a nice chocolate when I left.. Thank you Svein! :) I hope to meet him again, maybe as early as next year!! :)

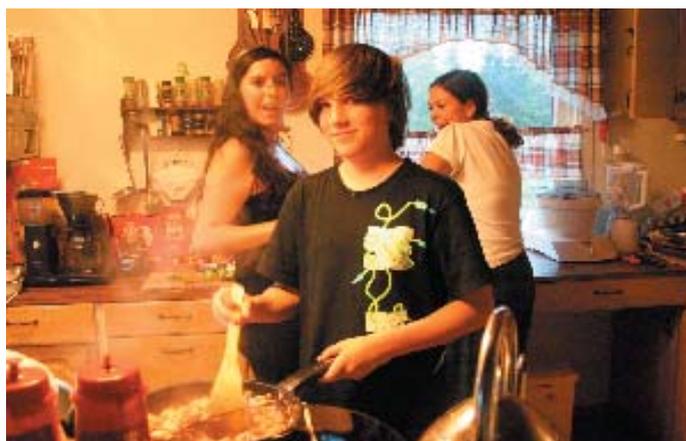
For Chitra Narayanan Highland Park, United States Kind, open minded CS. In few days she fulfilled program visiting Norway. Vegetarian Indian food was tasty.

**ROBERT ORTH** Linz, Austria Aug 15, 2010



I was guest on Svein's island with my family Rosi, Johanna and Lukas. I am very grateful that Svein was very well-disposed towards my family from the 1st to the last day. He gave them chocolate when saying farewell... I really appreciate this little signs of sympathy because we had differences in communication sometimes. I know it has been mainly my mistakes. I am learning from day to day! He cares very much for his guests: Svein gave us a good hint: Instead of spending a lot of money for the Flam-railway trip he showed us a little hike-walk-tour around the very beautiful nature round Bergen. It was a very good day for us together! Thank you Svein! (We could need the saved money the following days of our tour!). On the last day it happened to meet in Cafe Magdalena. We said "Hello" and for me this was a very positive moment.

For ROBERT ORTH Linz, Austria Thank U coming my place with family. Reply what make success for people, family or individuals: Talk with them - rather than tell them what to do. I admire your effort and doing for happy days travel Norway. Wish luck to family



**Milena Cichosz** Poland Kuyavian-Pomeranian



Current Mission:

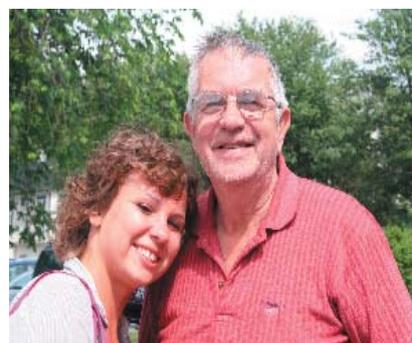
**“Just do it.”**

Hello Svein!

I'm coming to Bergen 8 July 2010 about 9,45 p.m. Then I'm going to stay there for 2,

max 3 days. After that my trip is starting, so i'm going to hich hike around the Norway and climbe a little. Can you consider to invite me,talk and know each other?:)

If yes, you will be my FIRST couchsurfer:)i've never used CS before, but I hope everything will be good.



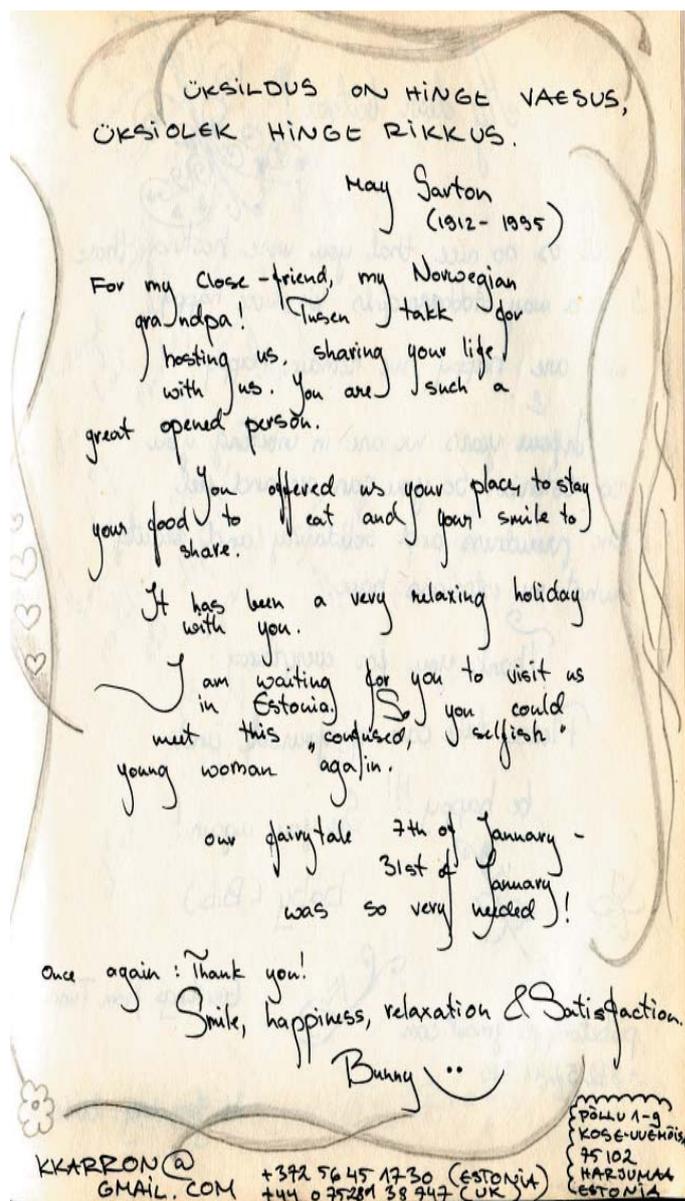
For Milena Cichosz: Thank U beeing “housepat” ouer place. Using knowledge and your experience made conversation best for life. Wish luck hitch hike Bergen, Voss, Jotunheimen and Finland.

The Island - Prestholmen allways open for U.

**ADORA** - Estonia Harju county Tallinn Jan 2010

Current Mission: “Give Yourself a Chance!”

K.Karron - Bunny and Baby



**Lena Sahlberg**

Nacka, Sweden Jan 7, 2010



Ambassador  
at Livsnjutare -  
Studied at  
Livets hårda skola  
From Stockholm, Sweden  
Born on January 15.

Svein took care of me as hes  
own daughter,

I became hes pet and he brought  
me out on trips all over Bergen  
and introduced me to all hes  
wonderfoul famely and friends, i  
cant thank you enuff for helping  
me out!  
I will see you soon!!

Take care Love L

For Lena Sahlberg Nacka, Sweden  
Jan 9, 2010

She shared my house more then 3 monds  
same time she worked for money to travel  
Africa, India, Turkey and Førida USA.  
It was a pleasure to “live with her” and share  
apartment. She was adopted my family and  
we wish welcome back - Febr 2010 about 30  
more days for job.



Ziemyte Rasa - Litauen 2010 - 2011

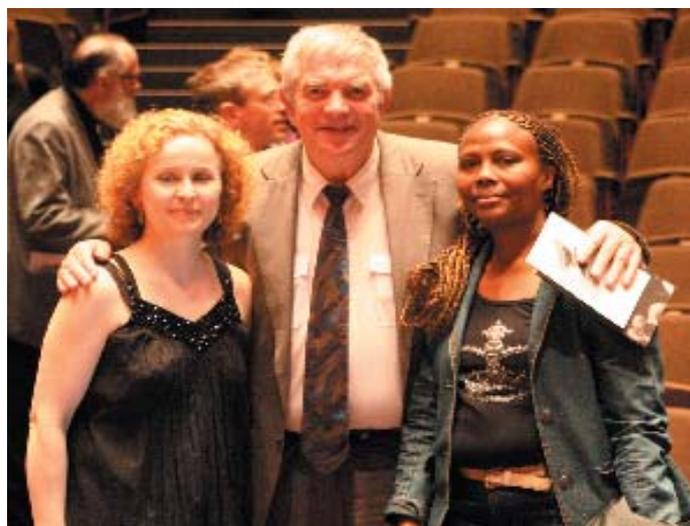
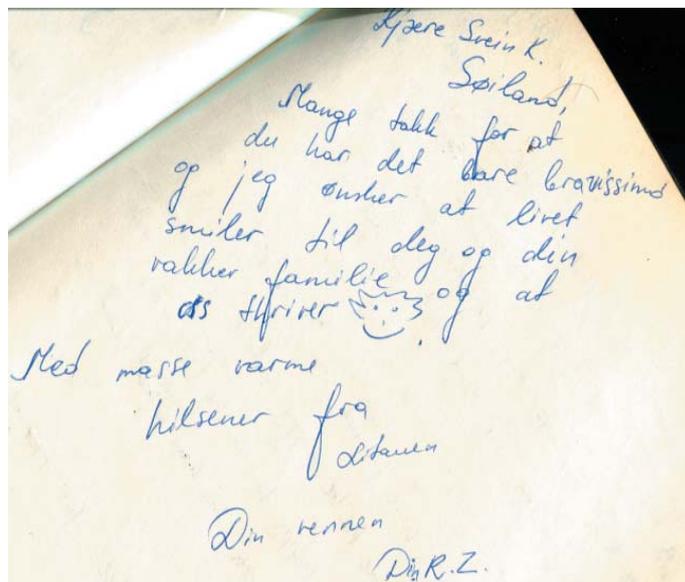
Hi,  
We are away from phones and e-mails,  
Make your holidays! Doris

\*\*\*\*\*

Bestill ditt Julebord med Musikalsk Innspill

\*\*\*\*\*

rziemyte@hotmail.com



**Lio Cools** Overpelt, Belgium Aug 6, 2010



Svein is a great person! I surfed his place, which is certainly beautiful, for 2 nights. Had a great experience! Nice people, nice conversations, nice place to be! Thanks for everything!

**Audrey Blackburn** New York, USA Aug 3, 2010



This was a beautiful experience. This was finding a family, being accepted, loved, fed, taken care of, sent out into the world rested and instilled and reminded of how very good the world can be. Thank you.  
For Audrey Blackburn: She's best U can host.

**LING & LING** NT East, China (Hong Kong) Jul 29, 2010



Svein host me at his island for 3 days, at the same time, i meet other cs'er bi...at his house, bi...is also nice girl, she cook the dinner for me, so great cooker. nice to meet them.

*Ling in livingroom Prestholmen*



**Anna Warzydska** Krakow Jul 19, 2010

It is so good to meet a person like Svein - an unforgettable experience... A very warm and kind as well as a bit ironic (in a positive way) guy, who is forever young

in his heart :) What a pity we had so little time to spend together at his place... and see a 'real Bergen' shown by Svein

For Anna Warzydska: Jung married couple gave impression to believe for future and meet again.

**Yukonthorn Tongtawee** Krabi, Thailand

Jul 14, 2010

My friend and I was lucky to be his guest at his island, Svein is great, nice and kind host. We had pleasure time in his house and in Bergen . Thank you so much.



From Svein: Pum and Pin gave me best impression Thailand adult lady's behave. They looked up doing in house and caring for me. Thank U for pleasure. I have now a flight SAS for visit Krabi between 23th October and 2. November for meet again.

**Raimund Koch** Altusried, Germany Jun 11, 2010



You will have the chance to discover a treasure island! :) I'm very glad that Svein helped me out for a couple of

nights, although he was very busy.



For Raimund: A youth with good smile and dreams

**Agata Plecha** Piaseczno, Poland Jun 7, 2010

Svein is one of the best hosts ever. Couch

surfing is not only an idea of having a couch but of meeting new people with possibility of getting to know them better.

For me and my husband it was a great pleasure to be there and to learn: "don't try, just do" :)

**ALEXFROMTO** Toronto, Canada May 8, 2010



Svein is the classic good host, open, caring and warm. He and his wife hosted hundreds of guests over the last few years and all the references shown how he had made them felt welcomed. So, i came expecting a good host, and that i definitely got. What more is the way he made me felt included, that I felt he enjoyed my company. That is what makes him a great host to me. I came as a surfer and left as a friend. Thank you, Svein!

**Mitch Garrett** USA

Student Sevilla, Spain Apr 23, 2010



Stranded by the Icelandic volcano, Svein took me in like one of his own children providing exceptional hospitality, great stories, applicable life-wisdom, rides, meals, coffee, flight logistical-assistance, the use of his guitar/vintage Solina organ... you get the point!

I had a really wonderful time drinking coffee with Svein and talking about everything from business to music to Norwegian society. He is a witty guy with a big heart and a genuine concern for the well-being of others.

I definitely recommend Svein as a host and friend!

For Mitch Garrett Happy friend

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**Renfang Hu** Hong Kong Student Milano, Italy  
Feb 8, 2010



*Renfang Hu (left) with 3 Estonian "ADORA" couchsurfers*  
Svein is very werm and kind person and I felt at home in Bergen after my long travel in Europe. I was very sick that day but he took care of me very well and even drove me around the city so that I don't miss what I wanted to see. It was too short this time but hope to see you again some other time and go to see fyord together :)  
For Rengang Hu : One day for sightheeing Bergen in winter and go Fjords - its impossible.  
Wish U back to spend more time.

**Ligia da Hora** Sao Paulo, Brazil Dec 5, 2009



Be with Svein was our first experience in couch surfing and a PERFECT one!!!  
He is a veryyyyyyyyyyyyyy special person, whose are very able to make us fell in home!! We learned a lot about norway and he showed the city and the coast for us... you can believe.. he opens a

museum for us!!!! Very special guy!!! very special place!!!  
And we can not forget to tell about african queen!!! amazing woman.... a lot of life experiences... veru special too! Tks for everything there!!! hope to see you soon!!!

For Ligia da Hora:

U are always happy with open minded Brazilien people - giving kindness and are happy to communicate.  
U make life great.



Family of the world Book 2011

**Ashley YW Chin** Moscow, Russia Oct 10, 2009



*Hoan Kiem Lake in Hanoi*

Wow.what i can say is that i should've stayed longer in Bergen with Svein on his fantastic island.I was treated like a princess all throughout my stay.well, as he said, he would've spoil me if i stayed longer.He's a kind,caring grandfatherly host, with lotsa life experience&advice to share.I had the honor of attending his youngest son's 40th Norwegian birthday party, met his children&grandchildren,with great seafood&dancing & had the chance to go visit Mary's nursing home.He drove me into town&up the mountain,to the coast&museum.I also had a great evening with Fatmata, Marie&Josue,and the Romanian Dianas,& not forgetting whale steak for dinner& breakfast everymorn:)Also my 1st time swimming in a heated pool outdoor at 1am, alone,& jumped on a trampoline. Svein is definitely someone who has made a lasting impression and impact on my life.I'll remember to 'be myself'&'the matter of change, not the victim'. I'll be back to go to Northern Norway with you in your caravan! Tnx for everything:

For Ashley YW Chin Malaysia Student Moscow, Russia

Happy for hosting a Malaysian Princes. Best wishes for luck to your future MD doing for people who needs medical treatment and happy to meet with you. Welcome back Norway for exploring fjords any time ..

---

**LAURELLE00** Tunis, Tunisia May 14, 2009



Laura Thompson Cinemati, Ohio USA - It was complete privilege to stay with Svein on his beautiful island. Being a low-key traveler new to CS, I was really surprised & touched when he welcomed me like family & was overwhelmingly generous. Definitely bring a gift or be ready to cook, so that you have at least a small way to reciprocate Svein's enormous generosity! The trip to the island museum west of Bergen was wonderful - & Svein was so thoughtful to take us.

[laura.anne.thompson@gmail.com](mailto:laura.anne.thompson@gmail.com)

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**Simona Brožková** Zliv, Czech Republic  
Oct 1, 2009

Svein is friendly and nice host. He show us his nice island and take us on small trip. Thanks a lot for you care Svein!!



For Simona Brožková:

To Simona and Marketa. Thank you for visiting Bergen, even Short stay. Welcome back.

---

**Mihaly Fekete** Budapest, Hungary Sep 11, 2010

I inviteted here for a wine tasting evening in Budapest

For Mihaly Fekete: Thank U for inviting me to join with your group in Budapest for wine tasting evening 16Th november 2009. Its memorized and gave me lots of impression. Here link for pictures that event and my trip Spain / Romania link

<http://www.autoinform.no/SpanRom-tur/index.html>

U are welcome Bergen my accomodation any time.



*Wine tasting evening Budapest*

The city of Bergen and its suburbs deserved a few more days - but I certainly was able to see the maximum with Svein's help. I only wish I would have brought some music to play on his piano & more food to share with him. Svein is really a gem in the CS community. I hope one day I can reciprocate his generosity - or at least pay it forward.

From Svein Thank you for visit Bergen. Good friends are normaly not coming up like this. Look forward for future we keep in touch with

Family of the world Book 2011

**Liz Cooke** Cambridge, USA Sep 23, 2009



His home, family and city are beautiful.  
So glad I had a chance to meet up!

**Liz Cooke** in party  
Prestholmen



**Kris Deslagmeulder** London, England  
Sep 13, 2009



**Fatmata and Chris with Argentinien girlfriend CARITO\_1981**  
I was lucky to be invited at Svein's royal island for two days. He introduced me to his African Queen and his princess who prepared a festive meal. Among other things, Svein introduced me to the history, future and the royal music of his kingdom. Thank you for your overwhelming hospitality and your wise words which I will keep in mind. Takk Svein!

For Kris Deslagmeulder: First Belgium CS who told his people best way to survive are to accept "what is". If protest they kill you. Kris - a wice person playng piano beside his kind behave.

From **CARITO\_1981** London, England Sep 9, 2009  
Svein is a lovely and generous guy. I was really impressed by his conversation and his views of life. It was my very first couchsurfing experience, and I think it will be very difficult to top it. Him and Flatmata made me feel at home.

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Family of the world Book 2011

It was a great experience. Thanks Svein! :o)

For CARITO\_1981: Wish you best luck for doing Driving lessons in Madrid and look forward for effort to meet again - yuppieee You are first CS from Argentina that gave the best of impressions.

**Maura Pfeifer** USA

Work Newcastle upon Tyne, England Aug 25, 2009



*Our 10th Anniversary*

Svein is an incredibly generous man who gives deeply of himself. He takes the cultural exchange aspects of CS very seriously. He's a true Norwegian who loves sharing his country with others. Our conversations are always interesting and enlightening. I particularly enjoyed getting to see the remarkable scenery of Bergen and the Fjords with him and Fatmata.

For Maura Pfeifer: Maura and Brian communicate many items beside their specially knowlegde for tea seremoni and how to use my new 6 person teapot set just received from Beijing friends. Best wishes for next year studie in Newcastle - England

**Marlene Ribeiro**, Portugal Aug 21, 2009



Svein is like the norwegian santa claus, big in size, heart and generosity. Bigger even with vegetarian meals ehheh. we had a nice time, felt at home and saw shangri la wich is something for a lifetime! Best wishes  
Ana and Marleen

For Marlene Ribeiro: The first and best youths from Madaira to visit my place. We exchange lots of opinion and happiness be together and await future to meet again. Thanks for your kindness. Regards Svein

**Marie NICAISE** Paris, France  
Aug 21, 2009



Wow ! Svein is an amazing host. We're so happy for having met him and shared a part of his time. We had a really nice, interesting and friendly moment with you, Fatmata, Ashley and Dianas. Thank you so much !

**Janine Breda** Breda, Netherlands  
Aug 20, 2009



Geertje and I had a wonderful stay at Svein's little island! Svein is an inspiring person. We spend quite some time together by visiting the museum and showing us the surroundings of Bergen. In the meanwhile we had some great conversations about experiences in life and I really like his way. He will only influence you by let your self thinking, never by judgment. Thanks for everything!

For Janine Breda Breda; Thrustfull open minded happy Limburg ladys. Hope to meet again. Made good food and Kept house in good shape.

**Marta Vilar** Tarragona, Spain Aug 18, 2009



*Spain and Madeira: Marta (left) with Ana and Marleen*  
Svein is an extremely generous host and staying unforgettable experience with him and maderian's girls. Im staying 7 nighths, and visit Bergen's coast and Sognfiord with them. Velkomme i Tarragona Svein!!!!!!

I ll miss you Svein!!!!  
Thanks for your presence and support!  
Its a GREAT!!!!!! My refrigerator is rich! ;) jjajjjajaaa  
You 'LL be always in my mind..VI SEESS!!!!  
Tusen kyssees ;) Marta.

For Marta Vilar Tarragona, Spain  
Highlite my life was with Marta the few days Bergen.  
Hope meet again for better communication Norwegian and English language. Marta - I repeat: You are GREAT.



Svein Visited Taragona October 2009:

Marta - you are great on walking the road of age and knowledge, Be open minded for wisdom and prosperity are to keep friendship, Thanks for accommodation and of your life given me.  
Visit Tarragona improved my life...

**Kiki Punthapong**, Bangkok Thailand  
Student: Vasteras, Vastmanland, Sweden  
June 12th, 2008



membername I'MKIKI  
occupation hymm...most  
of the time planning my  
trip and second priority  
study.... education: I'mm  
doing master degree in  
Sweden... grew up in  
A city of angelss.....  
Bangkok

Languages: Thai Expert  
English Expert  
Hindi Intermediate  
Chinese (Mandarin)

Friend to Sarah Bagron 26, Female Eagle River, Alaska  
United States "met on website"

Traveling is my favourite sport, I'm open minded, flexible  
and friendly. I'm an extrovert - love talking and making  
new friends. Love hanging out, watch movies and do some  
sports.....I love to eat. Besides languages, food is another  
kind of door that connects u to culture. And so, I'm learn-  
ing how to cook and knowing that I'm kind of good at  
that!!!! I've host my friends abroad. Take them around the  
city and showing them tips so they can be independent. I  
often take them to good and affordable food places... When  
ur tummy is full, ur brain can work better.

Dear Svein, RE:looking for a host

Thank you for your offer but unfortunately my friend is  
ill and couldn't make it on that day. May be we would  
go sometime after. However, if you ever visit Sweden or  
Thailand, please don't hesitate to let me know :-)  
Please take good care and really hope to see you.  
Cheers, Kiki

Hej Svein,

We are 2 Thai students from Sweden and we want to visit  
fjord at Bergen. We will be visiting on 15th-18th June. So,  
we would like to ask if you could host us on those days (so  
sorry for such a short notice, we have just completed our  
thesis...hurrah!!!)  
Besides, we would like to ask for your suggestion for  
followings.

1. Do you think it's necessary to go with tour or can we just  
do the trip on our own?
2. We will be going to Oslo by bus and so would like to  
ask what would be the best mean to travel to Bergen?

We hope to hear from you and by the way we are great  
cook and so we would love to cook some Thai dishes for  
you :-)

Thank you in advance, have a nice day,  
Kiki

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**Sarah Tsai** Taipei, Taiwan Jun 21, 2009



I love people.  
I love nature.  
I love animals.  
I love learning.  
Heard lots of good things  
about CS and it was just time  
to get involved. Not only  
my hosts were great, but also  
the people I met in differ-  
ent activities! I made lovely  
friends here!!  
Interests I love outdoor activi-  
ties and got sun tanned skin  
all year round:) I love to  
travel because I can meet dif-

ferent people and explore their cultures. I love to exer-  
cise, eg., swimming, jogging and playing volleyball.  
I love to read and read almost all kinds of books.  
I love to listen to different kinds of music but am fond of  
jazz. Philosophy: Live to learn and love. Learn and love  
to live. Books/Movie: The Lord of the Ring...  
Types of People I enjoy Sincere people: I was totally  
spoiled by Svein and wanted to stay longer on his very  
beautiful island! Thanks to him for offering me and other  
2 CSer everything from food, swimming pool, canon to  
good talks. He also showed us the real Bergen! I had a  
great time and can't express my appreciation more! See  
you again in Bergen or Taiwan, my dear family in Ber-  
gen! Sarah Tsai

We communicated well. A great person to host

**Cassandra** (Lock Yee Ng) Hong Kong 05.05.2009



Student Central Finland  
Jyvaskyla

Current Mission:  
"see europe"

05 - 05 - 09  
Dear Svein,  
Thank you for hosting me in this lovely island  
of yours!  
It is the best of Bergen ^^  
You've been really enthusiastic and great!  
Enjoy being a guest at your place!  
Too bad that I'm just staying for 1 night!  
It would have been great fun staying longer ->  
You are very kind and pleasurable to be  
around. You made me feel like home ^^  
Thanks for everything!  
好開心可以喺度 stay 過! (Happy to spend my days  
in Bergen here)  
Svein 係好 warm 的 Host! (Svein is a great host)  
同佢傾計令我反思好多嘢! 好得意呢個過程  
好多謝佢 (Conversations have inspired me, and I like  
the feeling)  
God bless you, Svein!  
Cassandra  
(Hong Kong)

**Dianas** Cluj-Napoca, Romania Aug 13, 2009



What can I say about Svein that it wasn't already said? One thing is sure, you won't find a better host in whole Bergen than him, actually I never thought that people like Svein still exist, but I'm glad we found him. We really felt at home there, he has a gift of making people really at home. But not only that he received us in, he took us out around Bergen, to Flam, what a great trip it was, we are so grateful for that...we will never forget everything that you did for us ....and we wait for you to visit us one day.



*Svein in Camping Flâm with 5 beautiful Lady's*

For DIANAS Cluj-Napoca, Romania Aug 13, 2009  
The best in life are to give and be with persons who love and make happy life. Diana 1 Diana 2 and Theo made my place shining in bright light for my soul in best mood. Thank you for visit.



**Svein visit Cluj 2009 and met Dianas with boyfriends and Alexandra travelled from Bucurest to join gathering in 5 star hotel Deja Vu**

**Mong HSU** Tainan, Taiwan Jul 29, 2009



Svein is such a nice host. He gave us incredible experience. He showed us another aspect of Bergen, the amazingly beautiful coastline and the little museum which I enjoyed a lot. He also introduced the African Queen-Fatmata to us. They both shared a lots life wisdom. It is very impressive! Thanks so much!

**Marta Hilgier** Warsaw, Poland Jul 3, 2009



**Marta in hot Greece**

Svein is an extremely generous host and staying with him has been an unforgettable experience that surpassed my and my friends' expectations. not only does he provide his guests with beds and meals but also takes them on tours and is willing to show and share with them the beauty of his region. We were trully impressed with Svein's kindness and openness as well as his eagerness to share his experience and knowledge with us. Svein, thank you for making our stay at your island an amazing experience and hope to meet you somewhere again!  
if one wants to spend a time of his life in bergen, visit Svain! For Marta Hilgier Nice girl to host



Lucy Warschaw joined group

**Aska M** Kamionka, Poland Jul 23, 2009



Willy and Asia "Montain Goat" in Warshaw

"Montain Goat" experienced 6 hours walking "Vidden" a tour from up montain Ulrikken over to Fløien and back Bergen downtown. Else we did a day fjor-tour Sognefjord another day for Øygarden West coast at Bergen. This lady have toured Zakopane several times and very happy to explore more of the world. It was nice to host you with to friends. Best from Svein Aska M It was my first experience as a couchsurfer, and hopefully not the last. It was great to be Svein's guest. Svein, thank you very much for letting us stay in your home, spending time with us, showing us the best of Bergen and Hordaland, for your help, generosity, kindness, and for the wisdom that you shared with us. He and Marta H inspired and encouraged me to get involved in CS.

**Nadia Heusi** Florianopolis, Brazil Jul 20, 2009



Was my first experience as couchsurfer, found pleasurable! Svein offered your wonderful house, trips around and fun. Open minded and viking soul.

For Nadia Heusi; She communicate and support keep my house running. Nadia - you are welcome back any time.

**MARINA and ANDREAS** Stockholm, Jul 20, 2009

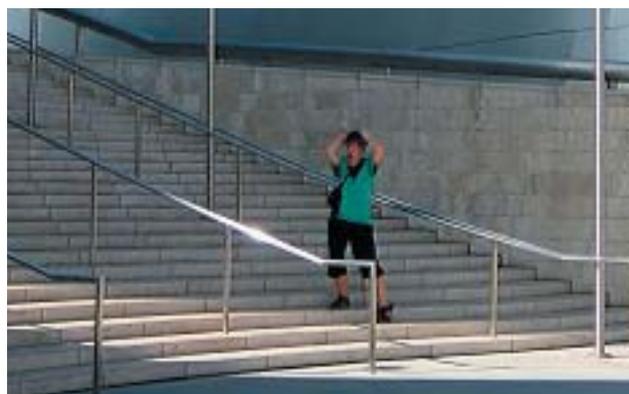


Svein is an unusual man. He opens not only the doors of his house for couchsurfers, but even his mind and heart. I wish I could've stayed longer to get to know this wise man better. Thank you for your hospitality, Svein and Fatmata, persons like you make this world a better place. :-)

**MARINA and ANDREAS**

From depart first day evening and appart next morning are little time to communicate - but nice to host a person with Russian soul in Swedish dress. Wish you best next 5 years for MD studies.

**Sandra Witt** Lueneburg, Germany Jul 16, 2009



Thank you for everything, Svein...especially for the real couch surf attitude and the heart that should guide us!!!

For Sandra Witt By own German car exploring Norway with fjords and visiting glacier.

**Barbara Westhof** Bielefeld, Germany  
May 18, 2009



It was a great experience to stay at Sveins place. The island is among the most beautiful places I have ever seen and I will for sure never forget the time I spend in Bergen and at the Fjords with the old van! Thank you Svein, for being so generous and kind, I really enjoyed the time at your place! Send my greetings to Timmy!!!

For Barbara Westhof Thank you for visiting Bergen, walking mountains around (Vidden Ulrikken Fløyen) and with your friend Lisa explored fjords and slept 1 night in my Hiace Caravan van in Undredal near Flåm.

**Lisa Zimmer** Goettingen, Germany  
May 17, 2009



It was such a pleasure to stay at sveins place on his beautiful island in bergen. he was so generous and helpful- i never expected this!with his help we saw so many beautiful places (including the fjords) and we had a really great stay. thank you for everything- it was definetly not my last stay in norway and bergen!!!!

For Lisa Zimmer In Bergen with you and friend Babsy we watch TV European Song

**Raphaella Levy-Moore** USA Massachusetts  
July 2009



Current Mission:  
"To get to Antarctica, somehow."

Membername RAPHIII  
Student  
Amherst College, USA  
grew up in Montague, MA

Dear Svein  
I had such an amasing time here, I cannot express my gratitude enough. I have coucsurfed a lot, but you are by far the most gracious host I ever met. I will never forget the wonderfull time I had or all the lessons you have tough me. Best wishes

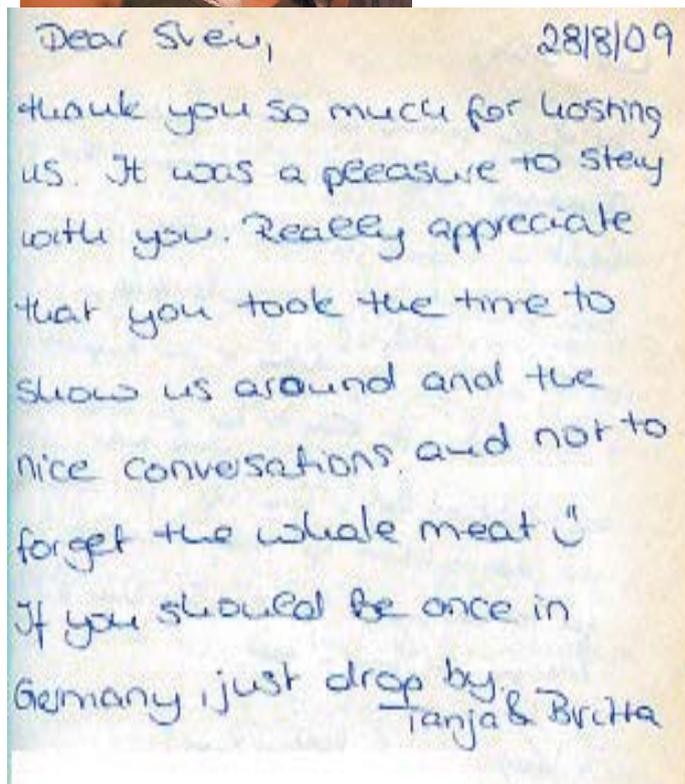
Box 695 - Amherst College, PO Box 5000  
Amherst, MA  
01002 USA      rlevymoore10@amherst.edu

**Tanja Kamkalow** Germany Lower Saxony Elsfl eth  
**Britta Mertgen** Rhineland-Palatinate Strassenhaus



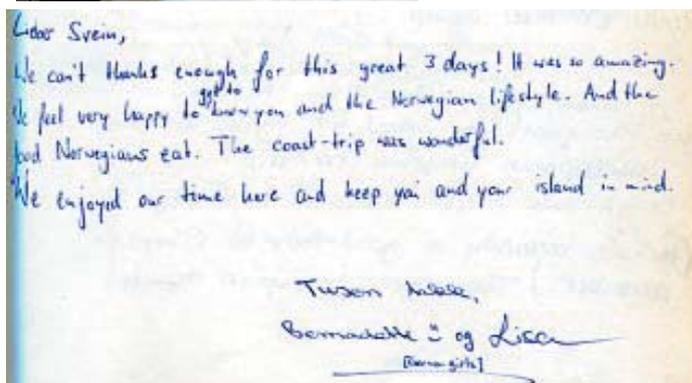
Current Mission:  
"enjoying the summer :)" age 25

membername  
TANJA86 student  
Current Mission:  
"travel the world"



**Bernadette & Lisa**

Germany Bremen  
Juni 2009



**Kucheka** Leipzig, Germany Jul 14, 2009



Svein and his beautiful island were an amazing experience. It was a nice idea to go on a coast trip with Svein. The waffles were very tasty. And we won't forget the swimming pool. :) Svein is an interesting person who has a lot to tell.

He enriched our Norway trip a lot.  
Thanks, Svein! Lisa and Bernadette

**Billie Gammon** Philadelphia, USA Jun 26, 2009



Svein was a truly generous host. I enjoyed my time on his beautiful island, the tour of Bergen, and Norway's fjords. Svein went out of his way to make sure we had everything we needed. He was kind, thoughtful, and offered a lot of

wisdom. He is a great ambassador for Bergen!



*Nadia, Svein and Billie touring Gudvangen*

**VICKY77** Haikou, China Jun 1, 2009

I sent CS request to Svein since I planned to go to Norway to enjoy fjord scenery. He replied my request very soon and promised to pick me up. Unfortunately I have to cancel my trip, but he is no doubt a kind and helpful person! Thank you, Svein!

For VICKY77 Thank you for info and wish you best to meet tutor and welcome you Bergen anytime in future.  
Best from Svein

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VICKY77 Wrote: Hi, Svein,



Nice to hear from you!! But the pity thing is I canceled the trip because I have to meet my tutor and hand in my mater thesis >before 3rd June... I probably will come in July. I will send you email then. And you are always welcome to Göteborg, China and any place I will stay in future (I am going to graduate, now I am trying to find a job somewhere). Sorry and hope to see you in future! Hugs, Vicky

**Sonya Smu** Hamburg, Germany May 12, 2009



I am sure that Svein's island is one of most popular places in Bergen, at least among CSers! Nice time with other CS-ers and true African queen. Thank you!

For Sonya Smu  
Sonya -  
The best of cs to  
host

**Linda Nielsen** Aalborg, Denmark May 3, 2009



Svein is such an amazing person, i stayed with him for two days while i was in Bergen. I took me on a great trip to the islands outside Bergen and was a very good host, i felt so welcome in his home. Svein you are the best.....

For Linda Nielsen;  
Linda — you gave  
Best great pleasure  
with Danish kindness.

**Neela V.Raman** London, England Apr 19, 2009



*Gorgeous Angkor Wat in Cambodia*

It was one of the best highlight of my Norway travel to have met Svein ... He is an amazing human, simple and so gracious.. His hospitality and the way he opened his house and life to us was a sheer delight. And of course a million thanks to Fatmata ;-). Hopefully will see you two soon.....

For Neela V.Raman: A pleasure to host Neela with two of her Serbian and Indian friends. Keep in touch and do your Norwegian dokumentary???

**Kyungha Lee** Seoul, Sout Korea Feb 12, 2009



*Fatmata and Kyungha*

Amazing! Don hesitate contact to Svein if you decide going to bergen. I really feel like my home and him as my papa. That's correct that he shres his life. Also famata makes this time worthy. Thanks for everything! I will never forget my 1st perfect couch surf in small island of Bergen!

For Kyungha Lee The Korean girl came from London for Bergen, Norway 11th February in weather winter condition - snow and temp below zero. A such nice girl we could't show what usually are attractions around but we got lots of time for good communication.

Keep in touch. Will remember you as a happy smiling girl. Hi Svein,

Mail for Book 2011 Family of the World - Febr 2011  
Kyung Ha Lee wrote: "Wow Svein! It's really fantastic! At that time I had gotten a lot of fats hahahah :D So it's

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**Anna Petersen** Oslo, Norway Apr 11, 2009



It was so awesome staying at your place :-). Canoying, eating fish and so many nice things more... I will think of all of u when slicing cheese. Thank u so much! Greetings to Fatmata and Timmy... exchanging food and culture. Thanks for great gathering.

grew up in Fehmarn (Germany)

**Pascal Minder** Burgdorf, Switzerland

Aug 27, 2008

he is a friendly man.

he lives on an awesome island in the middle from bergen! thanks for he city tour, food and accomodation!!!

hi mate:

hello from switzerland, now i'm back home after 3 months travel through europe with hitchhiking. i had 261 lifts and made more than 12'000km (without the flights). while this trip i visitet 15 different countries and met thousands of new people. i had a absolutly great time in every countrie and you were one part of this. thank you very much and i hope i can host you once in switzerland, it would be a pleasure for me! next monday i start to work in the same company as i worked before i started to travel, thats one year ago. in few weeks i'll move together with a friend, in a flat close to bern. how are you? all things all right? stay in



a little bit or more shame about my pic hahaha XD. But beautiful times in Bergen with you and Famata are one of my best memories ever!! If I get a chance to visit bergen again I will definately see you again! miss you and many kisses from Korea! :)"

Family of the world Book 2011

**Hilal Alkan Zeybek** London, England

Jan 1, 2009

Svein hosted our two caravans and nine people family for two days on his beautiful island. His hospitality was ineffable. The moments we spent with him and Fatmata were definitely the highlights of our gorgeous trip. We keep telling about him to everyone we meet and I would definitely suggest you to take some time to visit Bergen just to meet this fantastic man.

For Hilal Alkan Zeybek:

Hosted 2 Mobilhomes within 9 person family. Different lifestyle gave goodness with exchanging food and culture. Thanks for great gathering.



**Nice family to host:**

**Ruosi WANG** Quanzhou, China Jun 16, 2008



Although I stayed for a really short time in Bergen, I really had a good time, especially with Svein et Fatmata. They are so nice! I enjoy the Bergen, Svein's small island et the music that Svein has collected. I just want to say that you would be lucky if you could be hosted. I really hope to go to Bergen again and meet Svein, Marry and Fatmata.

**LORIS** Amsterdam, Netherlands Jun 15, 2008



I had the pleasure to stay with Svein and his wonderful family, and had some amazing talks with Svein over the few days I was there. He really helps you learn more about yourself, and is such a warm person and clearly derives a lot of joy from what he learns from his couchsurfing family. It really was a privilege to get a glimpse into Svein's life and become friends with him, and I hope to be back in Bergen soon and meet with him again!

**Sophia Cheng** Lyon, France Jun 10, 2008



i was regard as a member of family, actually the reference is too small that couldnt even represent my grateful and well, lots of feeling of this family. actually its not an experience of couchsurfing, i v learned things! its somehow strange that u found there is a strong connection with u in a kind of far place. I hope i could come back. miss u Svein Mary Matha!!

For Sophia Cheng: She made food played the piano and join the family. We miss you and wish you back.

**Natalia Zawada Krakow, Poland** Jun 9, 2008



Me Natalia and two friends of mine Helena and Dorothy, have spent two days in Bergen. Svein has hosted us at his beautiful island and he was really great! He is really caring and open-minded person.

We had interesting conversations and discussions with him. By hosting couchsurfers at his house he crates real intenational family. If u are going to visit him we aslo strongly reccomend taking a canoe trip around island and swimming in his incredible pool ;)

For Natalia Zawada Krakow, Poland  
Realy great students to host.

**Ku Ching** Waimea Hawaii Nov 14, 2008

Swen, Your list of visitors this year is amazing - not bad for an older duffer. I bet you really have a great time meeting so many younger CS members. I'm especially amazed because of your fairly advanced age. However, I'm a bit more advanced than you are. I'll be 73 next June, but I see only a fraction of the numbers that you do.

Congrats on some great work. If I'm ever in your area, I'll be sure to make your acquaintance. And if you're in mine - let's get together. Thanks for doing an excellent job.

For ku Ching Welcome Bergen Norway anytime. I was suprised but happy to have below message from another OLDIE: Svein

**Philipp Rabe** Paris, France Aug 19, 2008



somewhat a grandchild of Platon!  
a rewarding experience.

**Ariane B.To Van** Paris, France Aug 19, 2008



Svein likes to share! This is rather unusual because he really shares his life (mostly his rich past). So we share this good memory. Tusend Takk!

**Jihye Geum**, Korea

Student: Physics in Yonsei University

Current Mission: "exchange student"



My name is Jihye Geum who is an exchange student of Copenhagen university right now.

I'm from Korea. I want to stay Bergen for one day(11th August) and

I'll leave next day in the morning to take a train to Voss. If you are ok, I'd like to stay in your apartment for one night. If you allow me to sleep

in your house, I'll very appreciate you!!

My e-mail adress is goldgold87@gmail.com, and since I'm going to go to the Iceland for a vacation from 28th July to 3rd August, I can check my e-mail after coming back from the Iceland.

Thank you and I'll wait for your reply.

Sincerely, Jihye Geum

You are welcome - keep in touch.

Regards

Svein Søliland

Sælenveien 62 5143 FYLLINGSDALEN

mobile + (047) 41678183

Thank you very much!! Am I allowed to stay at your house for both nights? Thank you, Thank you very much!!^^ I'm in Iceland now, I'll be back in Denmark on 4th August. I'll call you on that day. I'm looking forward to seeing you.

## CURIOSFORTHETHEWORLD

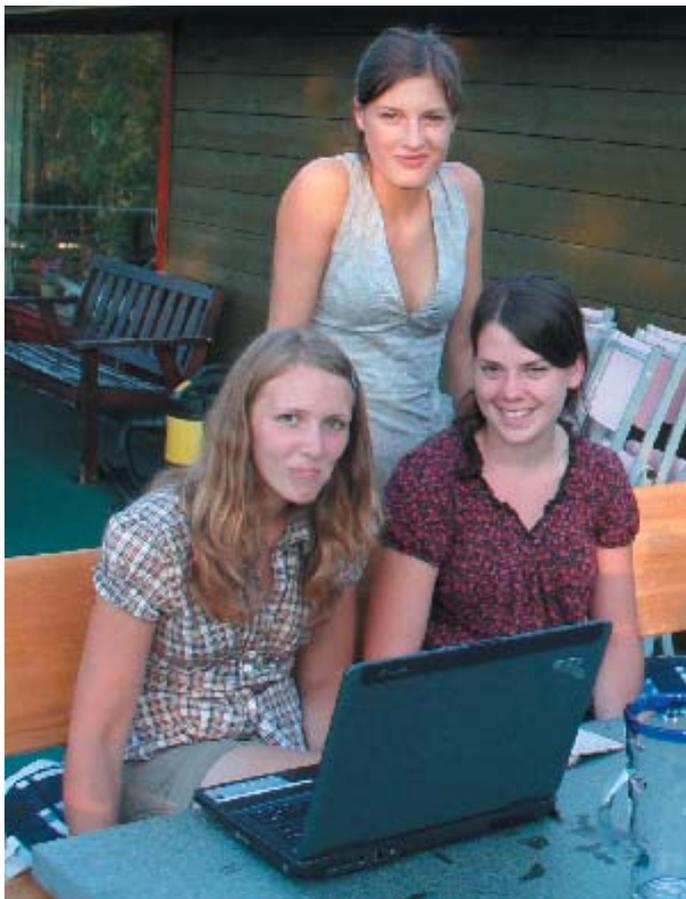
Bourne End, England Sep 15, 2008



Svein is a great introduction to couch surfing and makes the experience worthwhile. And you can prepare yourself for some very interesting philosophical debates. What a shame I don't play an instrument as music clearly is one of his passions which he has shared with many couch surfers.

For CURIOSFORTHETHEWORLD

You recently reed about couch surfing - and would on next (business) trip to Bergen wish to see what couch surfing is like. I host you for 1 night and belive you are happy with people outside your "normal" way to travell. Thanks for visit to Prestholmen and welcome back.



Svein was fast to reply to my couch request, he met me at the train station and he took me home, showed me his island, fed me, then took me to the best look-out point over Bergen to take pictures. He is a very lovely man who is really lovely to sit and chat with. I love that he has found a new 'family of the world' through CS & we appreciate him!! \*HUGS!\*

For EXPLORA: Only strong personality makes person to travel alone for explore the world to achieve experience for fullfill best of life. Pascale (explora) is the best I know. Keep in touch.

**Renata Pieczatkowska** Lodz, Aug 19, 2008



I had a great opportunity to talk to Svein and taste his excellent fish soup. There's no way any fish soup is ever going to beat that!

**Katarzyna Zakrzewska** Lodz, Poland Aug 15, 2008 MichaB SBychaD



Svein is an amazing person whose experience and wisdom are impressive. We sacrificed some sight-seeing in Bergen to meet him during that one day we were there and will never regret the decision. We will come back, promise. (not even one 'try' in the whole reference, did you notice that?:)

Katarzyna Zakrzewska MichaB SBychaD: Thanks for your nice wedding pictures Have over best for future. Regards Svein in Bergen, Norway

Svein was so adorable that he became our new grandpa. We hope we can follow all your advises for life and wish to visit you again someday and have one of these fantastic dinners with fatmata, you and timmy!



*Exhausted after trip Montain Ulrikken to Fløien*

For Simone, Diddi, Lea Switala: You 3 nice girls with Nathan from Australia impressed do walking the 6 hours tour Bergen from montain Ulriken to Fløien. People like you are positive people for future.

**YIXING = Y. GAI** Q uangdao, Hebei, China 2008



I come from China. I have lived in Netherlands and Germany. I have traveled for over three months in Europe--about 20 countries and 50 cities. I want to see as much as possible in this world. I am really interested in how the people live, not only the scenery. Also, I expect China is loved by more and more people who pay a visit in person. We are a big family in this exciting world. I'd like to meet you and host you in China!

Couch available Definitely! Qinhuangdao, Hebei, China ...member since January 16th, 2008 age 38 birthday July 27th Female membername YIXING occupation Chinese Lawyer education MD grew up in Qinhuangdao, Hebei Province, China Languages Chinese (Simplified)Expert EnglishIntermediate GermanBeginner DutchBeginner Groups I Belong To Toledo Why: I am leaving for studing in Toledo Beijing Why: lived in Beijing Heidelberg 316:865 Why: I like HD and I am living in HD now

CouchSurf with Y. GAI! Couch Available: Definitely! Preferred Gender: Any Max Surfers Per Night: 2 This is my living room. I like to help people who needed. If you are interested in Chinese small but beautiful seashore city, don't hesitate to send me a e-mail.

How I Participate in CS2 I was told by Dragon, who come from Canada and is working in Hangzhou, South China.

Interests I like the traditional life-style of local people. Philosophy I believe that the world is a book. The people who don't travel only read one page of it. Music: Scarborough Fair, Donna Donna, Blowin' In The Wind, If I Could, Puff, Casablanca, Where Have The Flowers Gone, Monday Morning Movies: Gone With The Wind, The Titanic Types of People I enjoy With the same wishes as me. I really really like this way to enlarge our life. Since I came to Europe last year, I have been offered a much diverse, colourful life. Locations Traveled: Austria, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Monaco, Norway, Poland, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland,

From Yixing GAI San Diego, United States

I liked them at once since I saw this profile. I was sure I would have a definitely good time with them. After I met him in person, I am sure he has given the surfers a paradise to enjoy the true meaning of life. It is him who makes me know many things in Norwegian ways: how to get a new one when the old is broken instead of repairing it, how to cook and eat in western lifestyle, how to use cheese cutter...also, he showed me the most beautiful scenery in the world. Most important is that he told me how to look our life and how to respect ourselves!

For Yixing GAI Feb 14, 2008

We exchanged experiences by to hosting a great person and believer of New China

**Katharina Scheriau - Katharina Gruber**

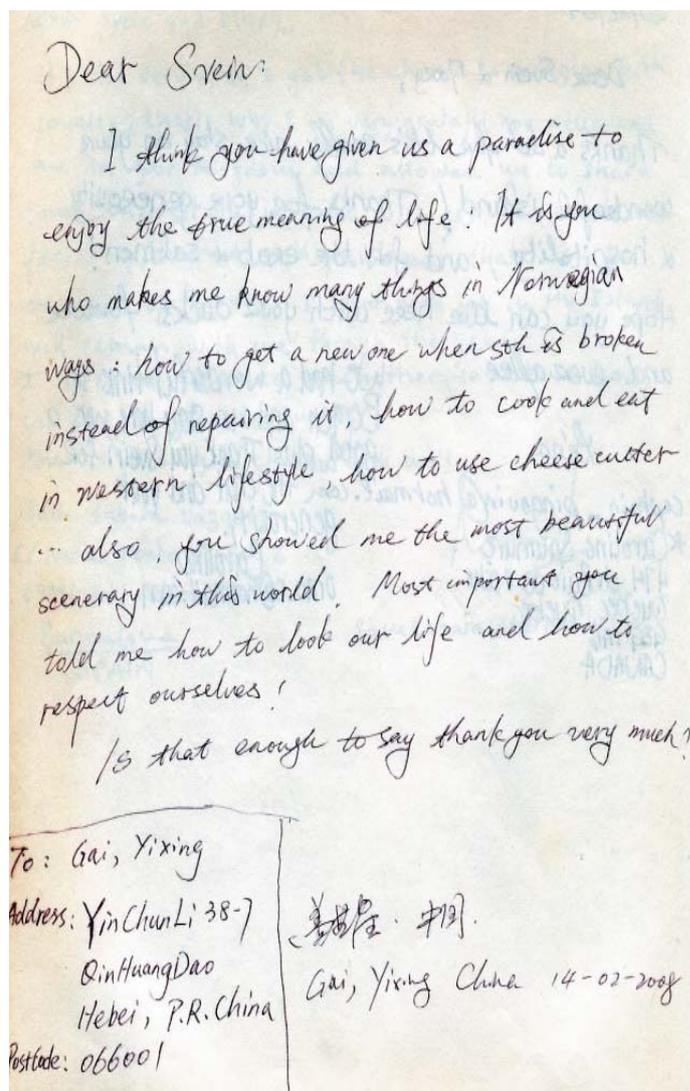
Austria Carinthia Klagenfurt april 2008



For Svein Söiland: It was our first couch surfing experience and We don't regret it at all - it was great !!! The island was so beautiful, a very peaceful place but it was also easy to reach the centre of Bergen by bus. Svein was a very generous host. He picked us up at the airport and at the busstations, offered us a lot of food showed us an interesting museum on Øygarden. I really enjoyed the evenings in his livingroom, drinking tea together with Fatmata and talking about various things.

Best wishes to you, Mary, Fatmata and Timm :)

From Svein Söiland Feb 17, 2008



**Alexandra Cotofana** Busteni, Romania  
Oct 3, 2008'



*Fatmata, Bogdan and Alexandra*

It was a great experience being with Svein, Fatmata and Pascalle, we had such a wonderful time, one of the memories I will long cherish. I will miss the place and the host :). May we see each other soon, Alexandra from Romania.



*At coast outside Bergen Fatmata, Theresa, Alexandra and Bogdan*

For Alexandra Cotofana Thanks for what you are - GREAT. You are the person for future I look forward meet again. Its not easy to put words from mind to reality - you deserve best. Keep in touch. From Svein in Bergen



*We met again in Cluj Romania with Dianas October 2009*

**Pascalle Nathal** Hofn, Iceland Oct 2, 2008



It was so nice, I had a good time. This will be friendship for long time. Thanks a lot for the nice place to stay and a big hugh to Fatmata Love and peace Pascalle the peace painter

For Pascalle Nathal I wrote your ref last year: "We were honered to host an angel" But I see people hunt angels and thats why I wrote for "Banditleader"

Hi Banditleader

Its easy to make a war compered to winn and make peace.I support Pascalle why she asked you to be for-given about her bad doing to you. So please as a human being make silence and do well by delete her negative reference. Wish best for you. Svein

**Yeetak Liu** Simferopol, Ukraine Oct 9, 2008



svein, if you can remember me, this is one of the 7 malaysians you have hosted in last summer. Svein was my fist couchsurfing host and he is truthfully the one that inspired me in lots of aspects of life. We had really nice talk we discuss how to be wise and live our life. And i wanna thank you svein for ur overwhelming hospital-ity and care. ur the reason why i am in cs... till we meet again

For Yeetak Liu My Malaysian friend. Impressiv with language, English, Mandarin, Malaysian and Russian. Wish you good luck for study in Ukraine and welcome visit Bergen any time.



Aug 2008

birthday 16 June

Occupation:  
I am a lawyer..  
without the  
mentallity though.

grew up in  
Montreal, province  
of Quebec, Canada

11 août 2008

An other rainy day in Bergen ... I will always remember that sentence! A sentence coming from a great man, wise man and one hell of a sens of humor! Svein, I have no words to say how much I have appreciated your hospitality and above all, your friendship. I felt a connection right from the beginning. Staying at your house also mark me get to know great people from all over the world ... I did not even have to more ... I have rarely met a man like you. Really. I loved Norway before coming here, but now I am deeply in love with Bergen and Prestholmen! I did not need to visit all over this country for my first time. I needed to "feel" it and that is exactly what I've got by coming here at your place. And I won't write you without thinking about Fatmata. A truly beautiful Lady with whom I think you will have a great life if only you "listen" to her needs, deep needs I mean! I could write like this for ages, but the lawyer will stop here! Tusen takk sweett man, and I sure hope I will see you again soon... in Norway.

PS What would you think about opening a business the 3 of us?

Callum, CAT  
from Montreal  
xxx Quebec

*An other rainy day in Bergen.... I will always remember that sentence ! A sentence coming from a great man / wise man and one hell of a sens of humor ! Svein, I have no words to say how much I have appericiated your hospitality and above all, your friendship I felt a communicatian righth from the beginning. Staying at your house also mark me get to know great people from all over the world .... I did not even have to more ... I have rarely met a man like you. Really. I loved Norway before coming here, but now, I am deeply in love with Bergen and Prestholmen. I did not need to visit all over this contry for my first time. I needed to "feel" it and that is exactly what I've got by coming here at your place. And I can't write you without thinking about Fatmata. A truly bautiful Lady with whom I think you will have a great life if only you "listen" to her needs, deep needs I mean ! I could write like this for ages, but the lowyir will stop here. Tusen takk sweett man .. and I sure hope I will see you again soon ,, in Nortway, Cartier, CAT from Montreal XXX Quibec PS What would you think about opening a business the 3 of us ?*



**Fanny Christinaz** Switzerland Vaud Morges  
Aug 2008



13.08.2008 In Guestbook for Prestholmen:

We were lost. arrived in Bergen station after a rainy day in a bus crossing all Norway, without goal and bed we were in this town. What to do ? Pray ? We dont pray ? Sleep under the bridge... ??

or try over link with this "couch-rider" ... We did it .. and it was one of the nicest place we have ever seen. Friendly, comfortable, beautiful .... Great. That is what is beautiful likes we travel we allways meet people we don't expect it... What a nice meeting ! Thank U very much for everything. We keep in touch.

L. Berlozzi - Fanny Chrishnaz.  
Email; fannye-87@hotmail.com  
Switzerland +41795635469.

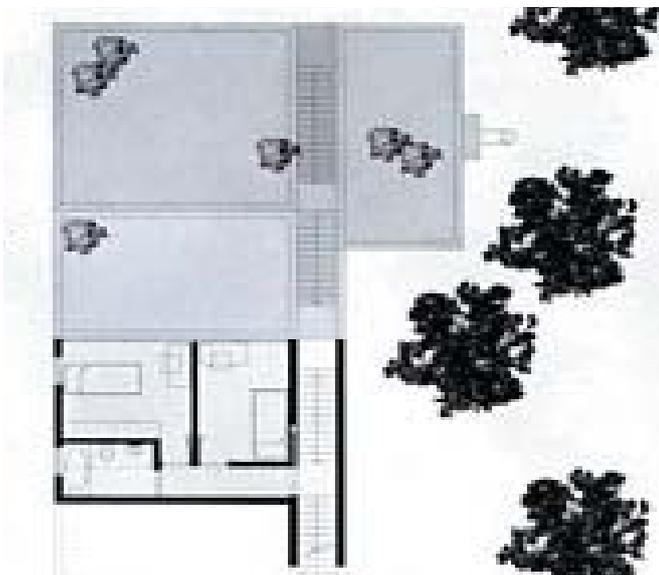
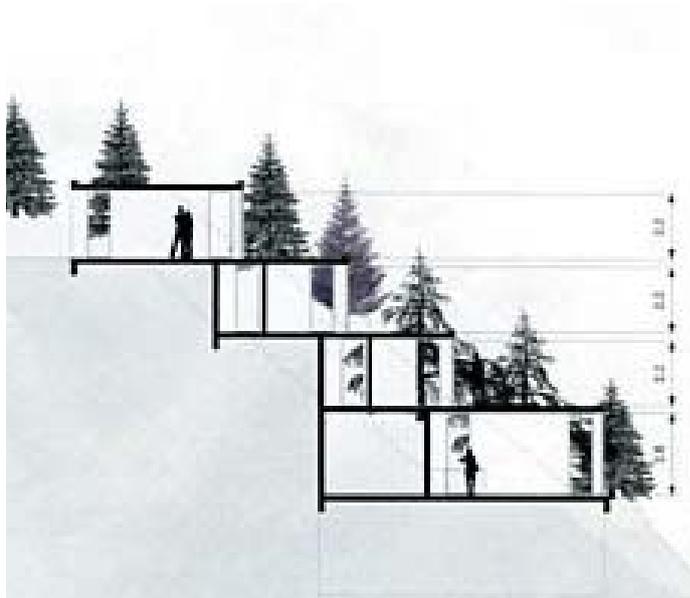
PS. Your undergrond house inspiere a lot...

Svein: Fanny and friend was G r e a t .... to host

**Fanny back Bergen February 2010**

as a perfections architect  
for house in  
Hill on Prestholmen.

Her pic of some drawings from a big work she made to do an new house in the hill:





**Suan Chris** Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia Aug 30, 2008

**Svein besøkte Kualu Lumpur oct 2010**



Svein is really a friend of the world - a United Nations. He openly welcomed 7 strangers from a country he has no knowledge of - MALAYSIA and he even met us at the airport which really made us feel as part of his big family. He gave us complete use of his house and kitchen and we had many delightful meals and conversation together. His love and passion for couch surfing and people made our trip to Bergen all the more memorable. Thanks Svein. Suan Chris

For Suan Beh Hosting seven Malaysian exploring the world together was a great experience. They made the best breakfast and ruled kitchen for several meals we enjoyed. Their human behave will never be forgotten.



**Breakfast table**



**Lunsj**

**Svein visit Kuala Lumpur oct. 2010**



**African Fatmata in love her Asian terapist**



*Tayma and Suus with their boller for Fatmata and Svein*

From Tayma and Suus - Zevenaar, Netherlands Aug 13 - 2008 We had the best time with Svein. He treated us like daughters and he really spoiled us at his island with his amazing pool, his canoe, our boller, his sauna, the beds, the food and cups of tea. He is our wise man from the north. We'd love to come back some time. Svein, Thank you!

Svein wrote: Love you for great time at Prestholmen. You are the best of young people. Miss you and wish you back any time.



**Maren Hatch** Albuquerque, USA Apr 19, 2009'



*yay spaghetti and a PAN - never forget to bring a pan when you're traveling. we did forget*

This summer we've had our first couchsurfing experience. And ever since we're huge fans! We've met some very cool, interesting, funny, sweet, generous, kind, weird, nice and very hospitable people. We have discovered that couchsurfing is the ideal way of travelling for us. Because we love meeting new people, and learning about other cultures. For our next trips we'll definitely go couchsurfing again.



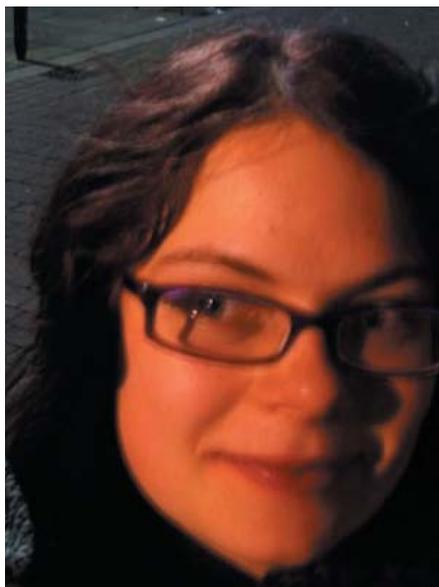
Describing an experience like the one I had in Bergen with Svein and Fatmata is nearly impossible. Staying on the island, touring the fjords, going to the market, just sitting back and enjoying some shrimp and coffee.... :) I had a wonderful time with Svein and his fantastic family and would highly recommend them to any couchsurfers touring through Bergen!

For Maren Hatch You are an artist for good mood to life for every person able to listen.

From Svein Søiland Bergen, Sep 13, 2008

To Sara:

Have you forgotten Svein in Bergen ???



**Sarah Kean-Price** England Somerset Bath - 2008

Current Mission:

“To seek felicity in the simple and natural things”

I could never forget you, Svein! I've been terribly busy moving house so I do apologise for the lateness of my reference. I had a wonderful time staying with you, it touched my heart and I think of you and island life often. I hope all is well with you

**Vicki Cheng (VICKIC) USA**

Student Copenhagen, Denmark Sep 1, 2008

Vicki Cheng Wrote:

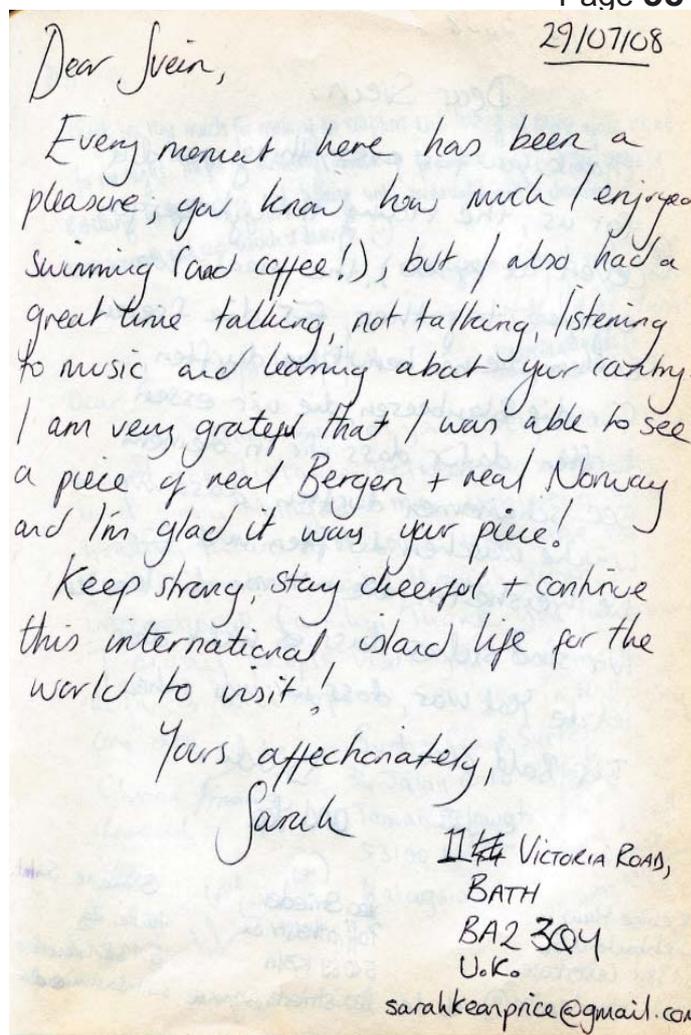
Dear Svein,

I was searching for hosts based in Bergen and your profile came up in the results. I looked at your page and saw that you have many amazing references! :)

As you can see on my profile, I am an American currently studying abroad in Denmark. I will be travelling in Norway from 23 August to 30 August. I'm planning to take the “Norway in a Nutshell” fjords tour from Oslo to Bergen. Would it be possible for me to stay with you (and any other couchsurfers) for 3 nights? I will arrive in Bergen on the night of 27 August (though the time is not yet certain) and leave on the morning of 30 August. Feel free to ask me any questions. Looking forward to your reply,

Vicki Cheng

I'm glad to have met Svein. It was very interesting to converse with him and listen to his views about life. His island is beautiful. Thanks again for opening your home to me!



**Gabriela Antunes** Brazil

Aug 30, 2008

Student Strasbourg, France

Svein and I spent a really nice time together. I really appreciated being his guest - not because of his really nice island, nor because of the perfect location, but because of the person that he is!

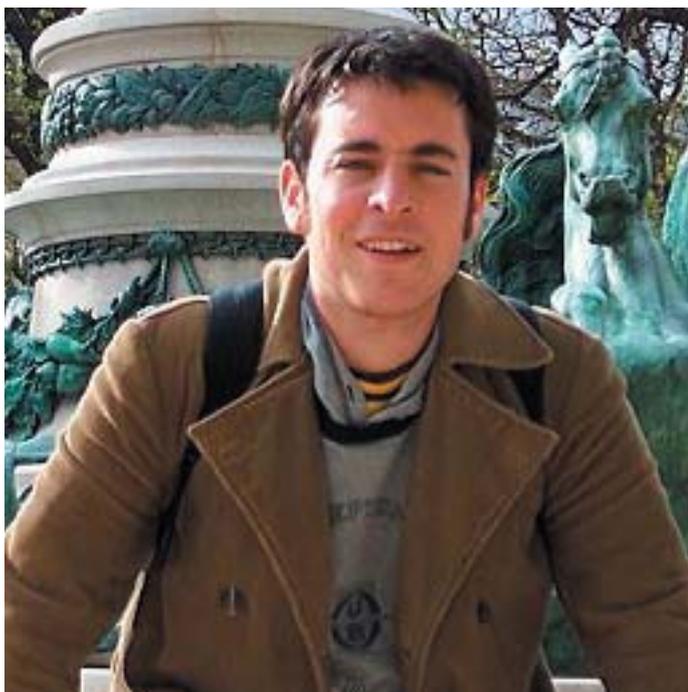
For Gabriela Antunes

Svein open minded couchsurfer making Brazilian food and give most of her time for studies.



Vicki Cheng and Gabriela Antunes

**Milenko Bugueno Gonzalez** Amberg  
(Upper Palatinate), Germany Aug 27, 2008



I surfed his couch in Bergen and had a really good time there. Svein is one of this persons who makes live such beautiful project as it is couchsurfing. This experience let me take a look to the "universal heart", this that makes

**Anson Wong** Singapore, Singapore Sep 5, 2008



It is unlikely that i will get another couchsurfing experience close to what I had at Svein's. His kindness makes me realise the true hopitality of Norwegian.

His island is simply unforgettable even though i spent only a night on it!

For Anson Wong

Anson and Kenneth.  
Even after your short stay and little time for talking  
I feel great knowing people like you

**Katrin Sundius Nordin** Stockholm  
Nynashamn Sweden Mai 2008

Current Mission:

"Livet är meningslöst, men inte värdelöst."

We have a simple guest cottage on a wonderful island 15 km outside Nynäshamn, 65 km from Stockholm.

The cottage consists of one room, there is electricity, heating and basic kitchen facilities but no running water. Water is available at a tab about 50 m from the cottage. A maximum of two people can stay there. The cottage is situated on the beach close to the bigger house in which me and my husband live. We are a non-smoking island and have cats. At the moment there is unfortunately no working toilet in the cottage, a fact that might impede your visit, but soon an ecological toilet will be installed. Please bring rubber boots with you, they are necessary to get to the island without getting wet feet. Bringing a torch is also very advisable. In case you need them we can also provide you with sheets& blankets.

If you like nature and wildlife, this is just the right place for you to go. We can show you around if you want to. It is a great spot for fishing, bird watching and kayaking. The area around Ekholmen (Nynäshamn) is a well-known tourist destination, especially the many islands which are part of the southern Stockholm archipelago.

You are welcome any day of the week. Public transport connection: The next bus station is 3 km away, the next railway station (Nynäsham) 12 km, where we can pick you up with the car.

In general there is no limit to the number of days of your stay, we just have to look what our and your plans are and



*Katrin Sundius Nordin visit Bergen*



Current Mission:  
“Living the best days of my life in a disaster zone - Life is always full of discrepancies :-)”  
Port-au-Prince, Ouest, Haiti ...

member CS since February 6th, 2008  
age 31 gender Female  
occupation humanitarian worker  
Masters in British and American Studies



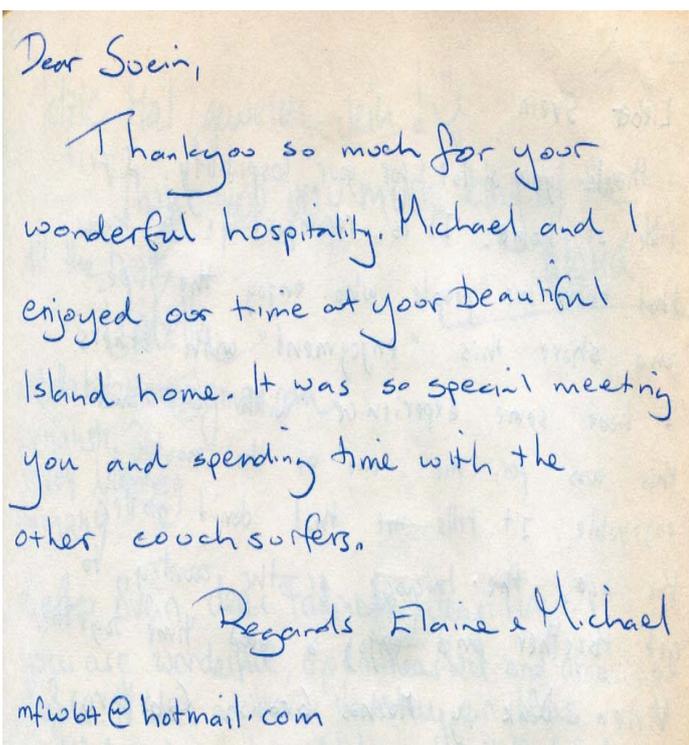
Svein is probably the most active couchsurfing on earth! I had a really good time as his guest along with other couchsurfers during my stay in beautiful Bergen. He went a lot out of his way to make everybody happy. Furthermore staying at his unique place is an experience itself. It was great to see once more how couchsurfing can work as an inspiration, many thanks

**Elaine Leishman** Melbourne, Australia  
Aug 26, 2008

We enjoyed our time with Svein and all the other couchsurfers on his wonderful island home in Bergen.



For Svein; Was an excellent host. His house on the island was a true refuge from the touristy Bergen center. I've found him very loving, caring and entertaining :-). I wish I could have stayed longer.



**Margino Jane and Larry** California USA  
12. aug 2008 - Gold wedding trip

Friends Patty McDaniel

**Anne-Lise and Aasmund Ørstadvik**  
Ørstad in Sunnmøre



Support for Fatmata family from 2002 they came Norway Volda. and part of family Aasmund and Anne-Lise, teachers with background missionary activities. Fatmata communicate Aasmund 2008 for OK to support Mary. Svein spoke Aasmund who were informed "my life" internet and Fatmata was very positively reviewed.

Aug. 17, 2008  
On 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary, thank you for your hospitality on your beautiful island.  
Jane + Larry Margino  
themarginos@cox.net.



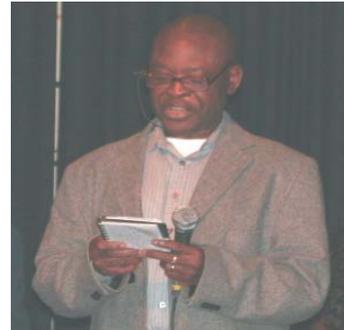
Musu with daughter Victoria Josephine with son Joseph and grandmother Fatmata



Arild og Mari **Lystad** - Volda  
Anne-Karin Egseth 18. mai 2009 Friends Fatmata  
Nationalday 17th mai Bergen



Over: Fatmata son William  
Below daughter Precius



Over: Father  
Below Comfort - mother Precius

18 mai 2009  
Tusen takk fordi store gjestfrihet.  
Det var veldig kjekt å få sjå kortvis Fatmata bar. Vi er så glade henne.  
Tusen takk for oss.  
Mari Lystad mari.lystad@gmail.com  
Anne-Karin Egseth Anne.Karin@volda.kommune.no



## Fatmata and family meet the world Sveins house Bergen Norway:



**Josephine** (Fatmatas daughter), **Fatmata** granddaughter **Precius Edel**, **Kelly** and **Ellie**, USA - **Martins**, Latvia,

### **Natalia Zawada Krakow, Poland** June 2008

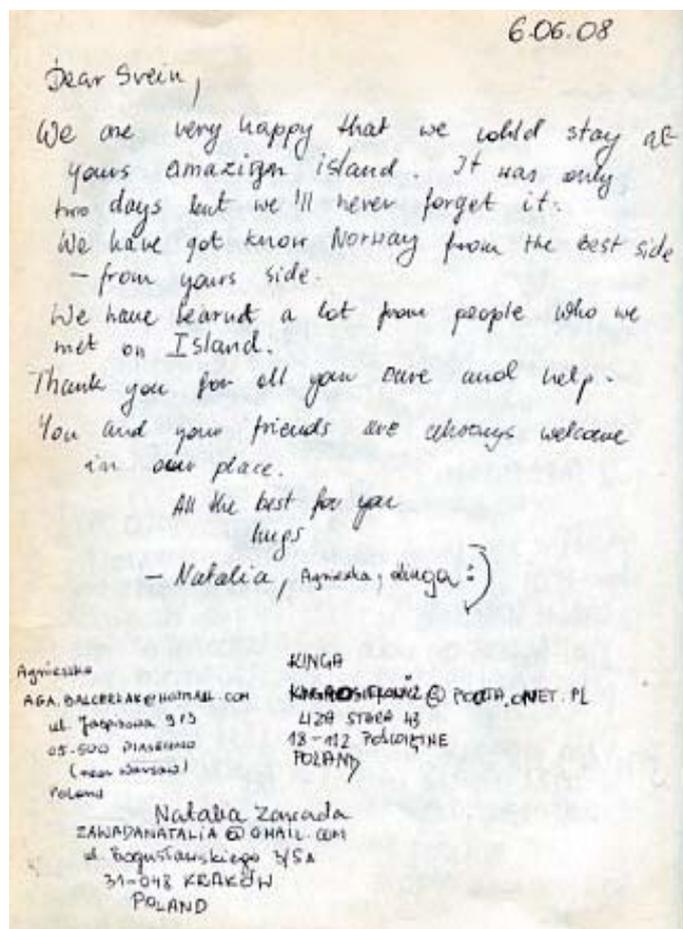
Friends: Agnieszka - Kinga Osiekowicz  
Education: High graduation - Food Science



We are three girls Erasmus students studying in Copenhagen right now. We are going to have short Holidays from our school so we decided to visit Bergen. We have heard it is very beautiful place.

We are looking for place to stay in Bergen for two nights  
From sunny Copenhagen: Natalia, Agnieszka, Kinga

Me and two friends of mine have spent two days in Bergen. Svein has hosted us at his beautiful island and he was really great! He is really caring and open-minded person. We had interesting conversations and discussions with him. By hosting couchsurfers at his house he creates real international family. If u are going to visit him we also strongly recommend taking a canoe trip around island and swimming in his incredible pool ;)



**Naoki Sakai** Habikino, Osaka, Japan  
July 23rd, 2008



I'm student. my age is 22.  
I've been studying in Kyoto for 1 year more. So, I have not graduated from the university yet. I want to go travel a round over the world.

Because it's my dream. And I really want to learn foreign language. Spanish, Korean, Chinese, German... Now i can speak just only English except mother tongue.

I like sport. I like food. Especially i like people. And i am interested in the children's education. And i've been taking a teaching course in my Japanese university. Because i want to be a preschool or elementary school teacher.

My motto is enjoy my life. So, i'm always smile.

I often watch Japanese or Hollywood or others movies in movie theater or my room. Music also. I really love it. No life, no music. I like to read books too. But just comics or Easy book on content. I enjoy - I like people. Specially i prefer positive thinking to negative thinking. On the other hand i want to learn different culture. And i want to share my pleasure and my sadness. TRAVELED: Denmark, Egypt, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden  
LIVED: Denmark, Ireland (Republic of)  
WANTS TO GO: Lesotho, Nigeria, South Africa

Mail on Couchsurfing net:

Hi! Nice to meet you. I am a Japanese student.

I can speak Japanese and English. But i can't speak Norwegian. I have a lot of interests. Of course, i like the travel very much. And I have interest also in the culture of Norway. Therefore, i really want to go to your house, and to speak with you, Can I stay at your house during 24th to 28th of July? And i want to be useful for you as much as possible. If I can do something, I will willingly answer your demand. I like relation of equality as much as possible. I like to speak. If my story can have the interest for you, I think that I am very glad. Please teach if you want my some information. I want to give you my information as much as possible. I am waiting sincerely for the E-mail from you.

My mail address

happy-school-days@naoki21.com

Svein Wrote: Naoki Sakai You are welcome for accommodation 24th to 28th of July and we look forward for giving you a good time and meet with your willingness? Give time I pick you up outside main entrance at Bergen Train station 24th.

I will try to go to your house by myself. So, please let me know your opinion. But, now I go to Nordkapphallen ( North part of Norway So, it is difficult to connect internet... But It is sure. I want to meet you!!

So, SEE YOU!!

**Rhea Atwood** San Diego, USA Jul 17, 2008



Am persistent, energetic and very positive - you have more fun that way. Left California 20 months ago, been in 12 countries so far and 3 to go. Like knowing about different cultures, different food, what makes people laugh. I laugh out loud in subways when I read - freaks some people out.

I am new CS member enjoying surfing with many delightful and generous hosts - and adventure without parallel

Will start hosting this fall when back in CA. Have had two great couch surfing experiences in Budapest. Both couples could not have been more helpful or perfectly matched in interests. Sunny Sunday at Mineral Baths a fantastic experience thanks to Andras and Boogie. Chris and Rita's dinner for me great and Chris' Hungarian phone calls for me life-saving! Philosophy\_ be positive you'll live longer and have a happier life- I enjoy direct, no nonsense, curious people who aren't afraid to be themselves, and who have a zest for life One Amazing Thing I've Seen or Done amazing things: I see are out my window high above Turkey's southern coast and traveling with my intuition as my guide.

Now a euro exile in India and like it immensely!

Like the CS idea enormously - most great changes in the world start at the grass roots level = their simplicity gives them power

Dear Svein, Being with you on your Island Paradise is a CS memory that is a lasting one. Your ideas about life and living plus the beauty of your surroundings, interesting guests and your delicious food cannot be equaled. Sorry for delay owing to pace of my travel and research. An immense thank you!

**SINGINGYOGINI** Berlin - Laurel Lee USA  
Jul 5, 2008



I'm a renaissance gal. I like to stand on my head, sing an aria and climb big rocks. I want to travel the world. live in a yurt, go on safari, grow my own food and live off the fat of the land. i want to see how people live, experience different cultures, keep some bees, drink some kefir and do my teeny teeny bit to save the world.

I'm an optimistic pessimist or a pessimistic optimist, haven't figured out which. i like to believe that people are inherently good, but that is often sorely tested. myself included most of

all. i like to decide for myself whether things are "good" or "bad." CouchSurfing Experienceit's been beautiful so far, and i expect it will continue to be so. Svein was a very gracious and generous host. I spent 2 lovely nights at his island surrounded by beautiful vistas and good company. He took the time to drive me around Bergen on my first day to get an onverview of the city and really went out of his way to make sure his guests were taken care of. I can't wait to go back and spend more time with him.

## Paul and Lisa Snyder Quebec Canada



**Paul & Lisa Snyder**  
Current Mission: "To visit at least 100 countries"  
Clarkson, Ontario, Canada ...

**Occupation** Two retired school teachers  
**Education** some post graduate  
grew up in Canada

### Languages

English (Canada) Expert

French (Canada) Expert

Spanish Beginner

**Groups I Belong To**

Not a member of any groups yet.

**Couch Information**

No couch currently available for surfing.

- We live in Sorel (about 65 Klm from Montreal.)
  - There are 2 of us.
  - We have bunk beds.
  - no pets
  - Yes, I smoke.
  - Biking the area and visiting an amazing group of islands in the St. Laurence River.
  - Public transportation around Sorel is poor, but, we are free (retired) to show people around.
  - We go to bed around midnight.
  - We can host at any time.
  - We have blankets and are flexible as far as number of is concerned. Friends (0) + Add to my friends
- Personal Description** We have four grown sons (and four grandsons) and have been married for forty years. The last

seven years we have been travelling around the world (three to six months each year) and, so far, have been to at least seventy different countries.

**CouchSurfing Experience:** Ten years ago, we visited Eastern Europe with a series of books titled "People to People" listing people there wanting to meet Westerners. We loved the experience.

**Interests** Travel, travel, travel, meeting new people and learning.

**Philosophy** To "Live, and Let Live!"

**Music, Movies, Books:** I enjoy fast moving novels and my wife enjoys travel stories and biographies.

**Types of People I enjoy:** Are interesting people who have travelled a lot or want to travel a lot.

**Teach, Learn, Share** To truly understand a person, or region, it is important to know and understand their religious background to really understand where they are coming from and why they think the way they do.

**One Amazing Thing I've Seen or Done** I have seen so many that I find it impossible to single out just one.

**Opinion on the CouchSurfing.com Project** If it works as well as "People to People" did, then it will certainly be useful to us.

**References:** This user doesn't have any references yet.

References Paul Snyder left others:

**For Anna Sanders Amsterdam, Netherlands Oct 17, 2006**  
Positive We met, had coffee, chatted, and learned a great deal about Amsterdam in the process. We would be happy to have her visit us in Canada. Lise & Paul Snyder

**For Göran Rydberg Stockholm, Sweden Oct 17, 2006**  
Extremely Positive Goran was a great host with a ton of information about Stockholm (and what he didn't know, he looked for on the internet.) We look forward to hosting him in Canada.

Lise & Paul Snyder

**For Johnny & Birgitta Jonasson Ingelstad, Sweden Oct 17, 2006**

Extremely Positive Johnny & Birgitta were great hosts while we were in Vaxjo and we look forward to hosting them in Canada. We visited the region, including glass factories, and

## Mala Somersun

New Zealand  
Hawke's Bay Hastings  
Auckland, New Zealand

"Loving learning about Rudolf Steiner philosophy and education."

**Occupation** Formally a teacher of 6-10 year olds, but much more importantly to me I am an adventurer, traveller and spiritual seeker. Education Bachelor of Education, 2 years study as Naturopath, grew up in Auckland, NZ

**Languages** English Expert French Beginner Maori Intermediate I'm living in my camper van just now. It's comfy, but small. If the weather is fine you are welcome to camp with me. Friends (7)

Corinne Gerdts 46, Female Lubeck, Germany  
Marcel Baaijens 49, Male Wellington, New Zealand  
Francesca Bedini 44, Female Toscana Italy  
Martina Diel & Martin Kaiser 41, Frankfurt am Main, Hessen  
Ilse Trelle 63, Female Soenderjylland Denmark  
Helle Freja Hansen 51, Femal Ringkobing Denmark  
Svein Söiland 69, Male Bergen, Hordaland Norway

**Personal Description** I love to live quietly, I'm a country person, love to be out in the trees or on the beach, listening to the sounds of the winds and tides. This journey, which started in Feb last year took me to Malaysia, Brunei, India, Nepal and the UK and Europe, doing a whirlwind tour on a shoestring. I was inspired every day by the generosity of people and my very good fortune to be able to do that trip and now look forward

to be on the giving end. Oh, I'm vegetarian (mostly). How I Participate in CS2 Great to have you visit.

**CouchSurfing Experience** My adult life has always involved "couchsurfing". Always in NZ I travel between friends, and likewise have friends in my home. This is the next step for me. I love the idea of being able to stay with people who live in and are part of the places I am visiting. Interests Spiritual paths currently Buddhist and will be that way for as long as I can foresee. Music, I love to play guitar and sing, snorkelling, walking, dancing, photography Philosophy Follow the Buddhist path, love the simplicity of the essence of the teachings. Mostly my thought is always to become a better person, practice generosity and loving kindness. Music, Movies, Books Folk music, acoustic music, love reading mostly good fantasy or travel, Love to watch art movies, not so interested in commercial box office successes, the exception being The Lord of the Rings of course! Types of People I enjoy I love to be with anyone who can hold an interesting conversation about the things that interest me. Anyone who is broadminded and thinks for themselves. Of course anyone who is into music and dancing! Teach, Learn, Share Yoga, meditation, Buddhist philosophy... One Amazing Thing I've Seen or Done Snorkelling the Great Barrier Reef...I was astonished and humbled by the magnificence of the reef. Built a home in the beautiful Hokianga, NZers are blessed with wonderful opportunities to live in superb surroundings. And then to recognise that I need to move on and hence embark on this exciting journey. Motorcycled through Gujarat, India with a friend, the only way to travel! Couchsurfing is the BEST way to travel. I found all my hosts to be generous and wonderfully interesting people. And the site is just great! TRAVELED: Australia, Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brunei, Cook Islands, Croatia, Denmark, Fiji, Germany, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Italy, Malaysia, Nepal, Netherlands, Slovakia, Slovenia, Thailand, United Kingdom IS GOING TO: India

Hosted 7. May - 4. June 2007

## Stefan Kissmann

Eastgermany, Zeitz

Current Mission: "this is already gone.....this moment now is life.....next moment called future my dream."

GermanExpert - EnglishExpert  
Sorry, no space, no own flat anymore.

Occupation Touristguide Bergen

Map of friends

Gregor Pachmann 28, Male Bergen, Hordaland Norway Friends since May 2007 "Colleague" Friendship Type: 4 - Friend

Ron Zimmering 23, Male Chemnitz, Saxony Germany  
Fergal Harrington 23, Male Cork, Cork Ireland  
Personal Description: I don't know who I am and so probably you can understand why I don't like to explain who I am. CouchSurfing Experience. One time very nice, so here I am. Philosophy: I do not have to do anything. No respect. But this does not mean that I don't respect you, who ever you are. Types of People I enjoy; Johnny Cash One Amazing Thing I've Seen or Done; I live.

References Stefan Kissmann left others  
For Svein Søliland Jun 15 Extremely Positive  
It was an incredible help to make my way here in Norway, so I am really glad I have Svein and Mary. Thank you again.

Picture right: Stefan, Ingrid and Mary.....



## Lucien Blee

USA Wisconsin Beloi  
Current Mission:

"Who wants to sleep in a city that never wakes up?"

occupation Student education Up to some college.  
grew up in Pittsburgh, PA, USA

Languages English (United States)Expert  
Chinese (Mandarin)Beginner JapaneseIntermediate  
Setswana Beginner Spanish Intermediate  
RussianBeginner

Couch Available: Yes Preferred Gender: Any Max Surfers Per Night: 1 I can probably find you a couch if you get up here ^^

Friends

ELANABC 19, Female Durham, North Carolina  
Svein Søliland 69, Bergen, Norway  
Friends since May 2007 "He came to our home"  
Friendship Type: 6 - Close Friend  
Naomi K 18, Female Tel Aviv, Israel  
Friends since August 1968  
"School..." Friendship Type: 5 - Good Friend  
Sigurd Eide 20, Oslo, Norway  
Friends since May 2007  
"He did spend some days in my/our apartment"  
Friendship Type: 4 - Friend  
Jørgen Hovde 20, Male Oslo, Norway  
MARTIN\_ZH 35, Male Zurich, Switzerland  
Kim Creasap 29, Female Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Personal Description Enjoy travel and rock and roll.  
And jokes. How I Participate in CS2 As soon as I have suitable accommodations I will offer them for couch surfers.  
CouchSurfing Experience I have been on the receiving end of some nice strangers previously; Im looking forward to meeting more people on this site. Interests Surfing, Snowboarding, Music, Playing Music, Travel (of course), Art, Go (the game).  
Music, Movies, Books Some Movies: Casablanca, The Seventh Seal, Blazing Saddles Some Music: The Strokes, The Velvet Underground, The Unicorns, Goldberg Variations



Lucian and Stefan i Mary and Svein's home may 2007.....

Some Books: Vineland, The Wind Singer, Lost Horizon  
Types of People I enjoy Really I like to meet all kinds of people.  
Teach, Learn, Share I would be greatly willing to teach anyone to snowboard, surf, or a little guitar. I enjoy learning languages and how to be better at surfing. =p One Amazing Thing I've Seen or Done The summer grasses All that remains  
Of the warriors dreams. Opinion on the CouchSurfing.com Project Pretty chill place, I dont have any reservations.

Locations Traveled: Bermuda, Brazil, Canada, China, Cuba, Denmark, Germany, Hong Kong, India, Italy, Japan, Mauritius, Mexico, Namibia, Norway, Senegal, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, The Bahamas, Vietnam, Zimbabwe  
LIVED: Bodies of water, Botswana, United States

## AZENHA Porto Portugal

Current Mission: "Rhône-Alpes in August!!"  
 AZENHA has been vouched for  
 Couch available Maybe  
 CouchSurf Requests replied to 100%  
 member since August 22nd, 2005  
 profile views 1719 gender Several people

occupation chemist - teaching and researching /  
 raising 2 kids ... education In progress....  
 MSN mazenha@fc.up.pt  
 Languages PortugueseExpert  
 EnglishIntermediate SpanishBeginner  
 FrenchBeginner GermanBeginner  
 Couch Available: Maybe  
 Preferred Gender: Any  
 Max Surfers Per Night: 2

We are a family of four (2 kids aged 8 and 3).  
 The flat is located in Maia. The tram to Porto  
 (20 min) is located just outside our buiding.  
 The unfoldable couch, inside an independet  
 small room, is quite spacious for a couple,  
 although a family with 2 small children had already been  
 using it. In-room internet access. NO SMOKING allowed in-  
 side. A very small turtle is our current pet. Blankets, towels  
 and related items available. 2-3 day visits are preferred.

My visitors! Friends (35) Map of friends  
 Jef They 50, Male Olen, Antwerpen Belgium  
 Johanne Albert 21, Female Ottawa, Canada  
 Laura Pakalne 22, Female Riga, Latvia  
 Tilda Sol 29, Female Baden-Württemberg  
 AMALTHE 25, Female Koblenz, Germany  
 Ariane von Sivers 40, Female Munich, Germany  
 Eve 23, Villach, Karnten Austria  
 SUMINOE 41, Female Munich, Bavaria  
 Nauris Kozulins 25, Male Riga Latvia  
 Sam Sabata 32, Male Calella, Catalunya Spain

++++ 25 more friends Enjoying along the Sognefjell -  
 View 105 photos

## Christine Vallieres Marie-Claude Asselin



From Christine Vallieres  
 Quebec Canada

Student communication  
 Extremely Positive  
 Svein and Mary are so gener-  
 ous!! We have a good time  
 with them. They help  
 us a lot, didn't hesitate to  
 show us Bergen.  
 We had good conversation  
 too! Really good host! And  
 cook well ;) Thank you again



Marie-Claude Asselin  
 Drummondville Canada

Extremely Positive  
 I enjoy staying there with  
 both of you. I was really a  
 nice place to live.

Keep in touch  
 Easter April 2007

Christina and Marie-Claude  
 left many pictures - right: Easter in Bergen

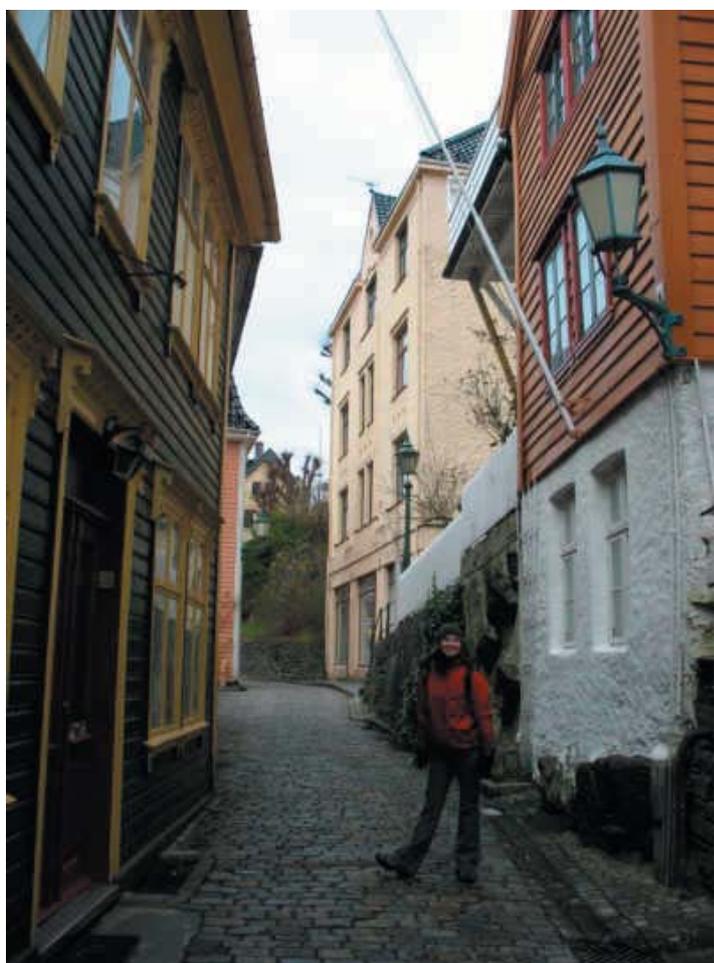


Manel - Mary - Svein and Migu  
 Prestholmen Bergen

Interests Travelling, meeting travellers, music (used to play alto  
 sax), science, biking, nature,..... Movies i recently enjoyed: THE  
 PRESTIGE (WOW!), Scoop, Volver

Music: massive attack, kruder&dorfmeister, thievery corporation,  
 nitin sawhney, air, moby, Muse and so on....

Books: Leonardo the Toscan, Tara Road; authors: Camilo José  
 Cela, Jostein Gaarder, Fernando Pessoa... TRAVELED: Andorra,  
 Austria, Belgium, Canada, China, Czech Republic, France, Ger-  
 many, Gibraltar, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Luxembourg, Monaco,  
 Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Switzerland, United Kingdom  
 IS GOING TO: Belgium



Astrid Monrad

Michael Grandal



**Astrid Monrad** Denmark Copenhagen  
**Current Mission:** "To travel....planning the next"  
**Couch available** Maybe **CouchSurf Requests replied to** 83%  
**member since** June 18th, 2007 **profile views** 130  
**age** 29 **occupation** Seeing the world and learning new cultures  
**and ways of living education** Master in Human Biology, now a  
**Phd student at Kopenhagen University** grew up in Copenhagen  
**DanishExpert EnglishIntermediate**  
**Couch Available:** Maybe - Preferred **Gender:** Female  
**Max Surfers Per Night:** 1  
**I'm living in the outer Copenhagen area called Nordvest (eng:**  
**North West). It takes aproximately one half hour from my**  
**place to reach the center of Copenhagen by bus as well as by**  
**bicycle. I can provide a couch or a mattress if you prefer. I have**  
**blankets, sleeping bags and pillows. Currently, my boyfriend**  
**is working in Oslo so I'm only me. I spend a lot of time on my**  
**work - work at weekdays-(PhD.student at Copenhagen Univer-**  
**sity), and on friends, family and sports so I might not be able to**  
**show you around. But I can provide you with information how**  
**to get around, what to see and so on. I do not smoke. I guess**  
**weekends are best as I work in weekdays from approximately**  
**9am to 7pm.**

#### Friends (3)

**Michael Grandal** 30, Male Oslo, Oslo Norway

**Friends since** August 1999

**"Very well - my girlfriend"**

**Friendship Type:** 7 - Best Friend

**Jenny Sherman** 31, Female

**New York, New York United States**

**Friends since** August 2007

**"Astrid surfed my place and shared some great stories with me"**

**Friendship Type:** 3 - CouchSurfing Friend

**Svein Søiland** 69, Male Bergen, Hordaland Norway

**Friends since** August 2007 **"Thrustfull Danish behave"**

**Friendship Type:** 5 - Good Friend

**CouchSurfing Experience:** My two experiences in couchsurfing have both been super-positive. Its amacing that you just can get invited to staying at the house of a more or less complete stranger. The host receives you with open arms and show you a glimpse of their lives. **Interests** Things that make me feel alive: - a spectacular view from a mounain summit, the deepblue sea full of colourfull fish and corals, a eye-opening experience, a tough spinningclass, things that make me laugh, delicious food, my boyfriend, my family and my friends... **Love to read.** Currently I'm in a crime novel mode but all sorts of books will do. The same with music and movies as well - I listen to all kinds of music. From jazz, classical music and blues to rock, mostly depending on my mood and the situation. **For movies;** I like small sweet movies about the lives of everyday people, movies from all parts of the world, but I can also see a good thriller or Hollywood-like movies if I just need to be entertained.

**TRAVELED:** Bulgaria, Cambodia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Faroe Islands, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Laos, Malaysia, Norway, Romania, Singapore, Spain, Thailand, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States, Vietnam

**WANTS TO GO:** Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Iceland, Japan, Ke-

Michael Grandal - Norway Oslo

"Have fun while respecting other people"

**Couch available** Coffee or a drink  
**CouchSurf Requests replied to** 100%

**member since** July 3rd, 2007  
**profile views** 24

**occupation** Reaching cancer biology  
**education** Phd in Cell biology; firefighter  
**grew up in** Copenhagen  
**ethnicity** Who cares?

**Languages -** DanishExpert EnglishExpert

**Couch Available:** Coffee or a drink  
**Preferred Gender:** Any

#### Friends (3)

**Astrid Monrad** 29, Female Copenhagen Denmark

**Friends since** August 1999 **"my boyfriend"**

**Friendship Type:** 7 - Best Friend

**Stephan Steinmetz** 31, Male Vienna Austria

**Friends since** July 2007 **"came to my city to couch surf..."**

**Friendship Type:** 3 - CouchSurfing Friend

**Svein Søiland** 69, Male Bergen, Norway

**Friends since** August 2007

**"Good experience by hosting"**

**Friendship Type:** 3 - CouchSurfing Friend

#### Personal Description

Currently working (and living) in Oslo, Norway, but original from Copenhagen, Denmark.

Has been swimming for many years, but are currently most in to outdoors sports: Trekking in mountains and riverkayaking. Very bad at dancing and singing, but does it anyhow after a few beers. How I Participate in CS2

I'm only starting, but would like meet people traveling to Oslo. **CouchSurfing Experience** Stayed with Stephan Steinmetz in Vienna for three days in July 2007

**Interests** Sports (where I participate, looking isn't much fun). A good book i always nice. Travelling to cosy towns and beautiful landscapes. **Philosophy** Do what you need to have fun, as long you don't hurt other people. **Historical movies and books** are favorites. Liked Doppler bye Erlend Loe (norwegian) very much. **Music:** Pop and rock. Depeche Mode are one of the favorits. Has just discovered Minor Majority from Norway - fantastic. **Types of People** I enjoy My girlfriend. My kolleges and friends both in Copenhagen and Oslo. I would like to learn more about people, that are very different from me.

What can I teach? Well I call tell a lot about fascinating cell biology stuff! :-)

I can't name one thing, but I feel that I have seen and done a lot of amazing things **Opinion on the CouchSurfing.com** Project A very good idea!

Tina Schübler  
Germany



Janina Panina  
Friend to Tina



Current Mission: "internship in Berlin..."  
Student Norway Sor-Trondelag Trondheim  
Friedenau, Berlin, Germany grew up in Hartmannsdorf, Germany

German (Germany) Expert English Intermediate Norwegian Intermediate Latin Intermediate Russian (Russia) Beginner Groups I Belong To Hitchhiker / AutoStopper Why: amazing experiences, get to know new people, different worlds....that's real travelling!!! I live in a student village, 30 minutes to walk to the centre of Trondheim and 10 minutes by bus. My room is quite small, but there is space for 2 persons, that should be no problem. I have to mattresses and a sleepingbag as well... I can show you the best places in the city, go out with you... everybody is welcome....!!! Important Information: I gonna travel around in Norway the hole june and I will go back to Germany in july....and Iam very busy at the moment...but I won't say no if you really need a place to stay! Friends (8)

Mario Vahos 22, Male Trondheim, Sor-Trondelag Norway "met by a lake and we had a interesting something"  
Merituuli Pyykönen 22, Female Helsinki, Etela-Suomen Finland Friends since August 2006 "We met in Trondheim, and then in Finland and soon in Norway again..."  
Oliver Haubensak 22, Male Rubigen, Bern Switzerland "exchange year in Trondheim, Norway" Close Friend  
Anne Schmidt 25, Female Berlin, Germany "we are basically neighbours in Trondheim :-)" Good Friend  
Nico Storz 23, Male Trondheim, Sor-Trondelag Norway "Been with her in the norwegian woods!" Good Friend  
Elli Verhulst 26, Female Antwerpen, Belgium  
"Invaded Tina's room for couchsurfing" CouchSurfing Friend  
Svein Søliland 69, Male Bergen, Norway  
"Stayed with friend 3 days in Bergen" CouchSurfing Friend  
Ricard Salevik 29, Male Oslo, Norway "She couched our place for nights with her friend" Hiking in Innerdalen, Norway Personal Description Crazy and open mindedness combined... that could be the best and shortest description of myself or of that what I want to be. I wanna find my personal and physical boundaries, wanna overcome my fear for loneliness, poverty, unconditional life and love. I wanna fill my "west-european eyes" with different cultures, war, peace, poverty, sadness, traditions, alternative ways of life... CouchSurfing Experience Only once in Tallinn, Estonia. The trustfulness was quite amazing, easy going, alternative - thinking people and a city full of differences...

Interests I study history, politics and science of culture, but there are even more subjects and studies Iam interested in. I like to travel a lot, to meet people from all over the world, to talk, to dance... But sometimes Iam content with spending a day in my bed, reading good books, watching movies and of course eating chocolate :-)

One Amazing Thing I've Seen or Done Whats amazing? At least a hitch - hiking trip from Trondheim to Bergen and back, 1400 kilometers, 10 cars, 10 different, open minded and amazing people. That was real travelling and just the beginning of even more... This trip and the time I have lived here in Norway changed my mind a lot. To get to know a different culture, to learn languages, and to meet people from all over the world... what do I want more?

Reference to Svein from Tina Schübler - Extremely Positive: *Mary and Svein are incredible hosts, they cooked for us, they spoiled us with chocolate, showed us Bergen, they created a home for us, a place to live... There are not enough words to describe their generosity, kindness and heartiness. Thanks a lot!!!*

Tina Schübler Wrote: Hei Svein! Hvordan begynne en epost som du egentlig skriver til en ukjent person? Burde man begynne med: hei, hvordan går det?, burde man skrive om vær, om... jeg vet ikke, eller burde man begynne med det viktigste først?!. Jeg og venninnen min trenger en plass til å sove i Bergen Vi tenkte selvfølgelig ikke så mye på faktumet at det er påske når vi reiser til Bergen, og at ganske mange mennesker reiser borte eller tilbringer fritida si hos familien sin. Uansett... vi skal reise til Bergen den 8. april til den 10. og ja, det hadde vært utrolig fint hvis du kan stille en soveplass for oss. Vi er to veldig snille jenter fra Tyskland og jeg for min del har bodd i Trondheim siden 8 måneder som en utvekslingsstudent, og den andre jenta skal besøke meg i Norge, og vi skal reise litt rundt. Vi er veldig fornøyde med en bitte liten plass på gulvet ditt, vi røyker ikke, vi drikker ikke så mye, vi er stille og takknemlige for et tak og litt varme. Tusen tusen takk på forhånd Mvh, Janine og Tina



To Tina Schübler April 3rd, 2007 - 5:01 pm  
Re: Påskebesøk? Skjønner om å være "litt" usikker - men vi er her og du er velkommen når det passer dere. Om problemer noter adressen Prestholmen - Sælveien 62 - men jeg regner med at vi får kontakt at jeg henter. mvhilsen Svein

Tina Schübler Wrote: Hei Svein, Jeg var litt usikker på om jeg burde bekrefte at vi skal komme...så ja, det var kjempefint at det går bra med å sove hos deg, og vi gleder oss mye. Vi skal komme til Bergen på søndag ettermiddag, og som du skrev, kan vi ringe på deg... men hvis du er opptatt går det helt bra at vi finner fram alene ved en veibeskrivelse... hvis du vil. Tusen Tusen takk og en fin påskeuke... Snakkes, Tina og Janine

Svein Søliland Wrote: Hallo Janine og Tine Vi er hjemme og har pladsen. Ring 41678183 slik at jeg evt kan hente dere. Mvhilsen Svein

Trondheim 14.04.2007 Hei Mary and Svein,  
Jeg ville egentlig skrive tidligere tilbake, men som vanlig er jeg med alt litt for sent, uansett...reisen til Oslo gikk helt bra, tusen takk at du kjørte to ganger bare på grunn av en dum mobiltelefon eller forglemmelsen min. I går kom jeg tilbake til Trondheim, og jeg var samtidig glad på grunn av en å-være-tilbake-hjemme-følelse, men også trist, fordi Janine var borte og plutselig er man alene igjen - på en måte. Forresten er Janine ikke min girlfriend som du skrev på profilen min, hehe, det høres rart ut... det betyr jo kjæreste....selv om jeg elsker henne mye, er hun ikke kjæresten min :-). Jeg håper at det går bra med dere, jeg koste meg mye på øya og i huset deres, og det var fint å bli kjent med dere. Jeg synes, kjære Svein, at du er en veldig spesiell og utrolig hyggelig person og jeg har ikke truffet så mange personer i alderen din som er som du....hvis du skjønner hva jeg mener. Jeg tenker f. eks. på min bestefar og min bestemor...begge to er friske, men de har på en måte mistet lysten sin til å prøve noe nytt, motet til å gjøre noe "gal" (definisjonen er helt uklart, sikkert) eller til å åpne øyene for verden utenfor...ikke kroppen vår gjør oss eldre, det er hodet vårt... i hvert fall er du da ganske ung :-). siden jeg har vært i Norge fikk jeg så mye lyst til alt, til personer, til verden...jeg mistet angsten min, og nå er jeg bare nysgjerrig....og samtidig har jeg blitt så ustadig og urolig, Trondheim blir for liten for meg, og jeg har bare vært her i en dag og jeg vil reise igjen og igjen. Man kan også reise for mye kanskje....man trenger jo et sted til å føle seg hjemme, ikke sant? jeg mistet det på en måte... og jeg er ikke helt klar over om jeg angret det....hvorfor skriver jeg så mye ting om meg, halv to om natta? til et menneske jeg ikke kjenner virkelig? hvorfor ikke?, hadde vært kanskje det bedre spørsmålet :-). Ha det fint, kos dere, bli frisk og tusen takk for tida vi kunne være hos dere. jeg skal aldri glemme det. hilsen og klem, Tina

Kjære Svein, gledet meg mye da jeg fikk eposten din. Jeg skriver akkurat en stor semesteroppgave om Bismarck og hans politiske meninger. Særlig kjedelig. Selv om jeg synes at dette teamet ikke er noe som kan hjelpe meg i framtida :-), har jeg lært mye om meg: Jeg er en mester i utsetting, jeg er lat, gal og finner hele tida på noe nytt (men unyttig) som jeg kunne gjøre. Da kan det skje at jeg finner ut at den europeiske Milky Way er helt forskjellig fra den amerikanske versjonen. Visste du det at de har to milky way varianter?:-) Tiden min i Norge løper og løper, videre og videre, raskere og raskere. Det gjør meg litt trist for jeg samtidig er spent på alt hva som skal skje...reisen min mot nord (vi starter den 8.), reisen mot sør (til Tyskland), internship i Berlin....og etterpå skulle komme en fase med hard jobbing i jena. jeg er redd for å komme inn i et hverdagsliv eller bakvendt: redd for å aldri komme inn i hverdagslivet igjen. Jeg vil se og gjøre så mye, på tysk sier vi: ich habe Hummeln unterm Hintern (jeg har humler under rumpen?!). Og da er det særlig trist at jeg må forlate et menneske som jeg er veldig glad i. det gjør vondt fordi det skal aldri være igjen sånn som det var... som optimist hadde jeg har sagt: ikke sånn som det var, men kanskje bedre :-). Det regner utenfor og det lar meg tenke på bergen :-). Det var fint, og jeg tenkte faktisk på å besøke dere igjen...kanskje i begynnelsen av juli, går det an? men jeg er ikke helt sikker... Kult at det funker meg bassengen og bilen! Så håper jeg at du kommer til å reise med bilen igjen...kanskje en gang til Oslo og tilbake til Bergen som før? :-). Går det bra med Mary? Familien er en rar sak...for fem dager siden skjedde det en ulykke i familien min, og det kastet meg ut av drømmen inn i den skremmende virkeligheten...da blir alt så lite og ubetydelig med hensyn til hverdagslige ting. Hilsen, Tina



### Alev Kuruoğlu Turkey Ankara

Current Mission: "Travelling the world, one continent at a time!"

Occupation Teaching Assistant at the university  
Education BSc in electrical and electronics engineering; MBA;  
PhD in Business Administration (ongoing)

Grew up in Ankara, Turkey

English (United States) Expert Turkish Expert  
German (Germany) Beginner Italian Beginner

Why: Been there once, would love to go again...

Couch Available: Maybe Preferred Gender: Any

Max Surfers Per Night: 1

My home is not too suitable for hosting (I live with my family, 17 kms away from town center, and have a crazy study schedule), but I can still try :) I would be more than happy to show you around town, especially during the summer

Personal Description I am a PhD student, and I spend most of my time studying, reading articles, writing papers. I am a bit restless, so whenever I get the chance - which, unfortunately, is not often - I try to travel. I love the rush of adrenaline that comes with seeing new, beautiful places, and meeting new people. I dream of taking the trans-Siberian train one day, but for now I think I'll stick to Europe :)

How I Participate in CS2 I would love to meet with travelers who somehow end up in Ankara - it is not the most exciting place, I'm afraid! I might not be able to host at the time, but I'd be willing to show people around or meet for food/drinks.

Couchsurfing Experience I had an amazing time surfing in Norway and Sweden. The kind of hospitality and friendship I encountered gives new meaning to the word "priceless" :) Interests: I love reading, music (I listen to rock, alternative, classical - especially the opera). I'm a fan of the opera and ballet - I try

### Camilla M. Joergensen

Denmark Aarhus

Current Mission: "To focus on what really works.



Smile to the busdriver every morning."

Personal Designations:  
Community Designations  
Occupation Working with  
Asset Based Community  
Development education  
B.A. in Social Anthropology and Ethnography  
grew up in Jelling, Denmark  
Languages  
Danish Expert  
English Expert  
Spanish Intermediate  
German Beginner

Groups I Belong To Why: To share with fellow CSers in my hometown Flash Why: Tried it - loved it! Active in 6 more groups. Couch Available: Yes Preferred Gender: Any Max Surfers Per Night: 2 - Friends (19)

I live in the city center of Aarhus in an apartment with my boyfriend. In the summertime we live in a garden house (typical danish "kolonihave") where it is also possible to sleep in a tent or outside on a mattress. We don't have pets (besides the wildlife in the garden) and we don't smoke. Sometimes I prefer to go to bed early and sometimes late -it all depends... I could show people



Played piano in Svein's home. Here listen to Katja

to catch performances wherever I go. I also enjoy dancing, though I'm not too good at it (but I will learn!!) Obviously, I also love traveling.

Philosophy "Follow your own path, and let the others talk"

Music, Movies, Books Some of my favorite books are Middlesex by Jeffrey Eugenides; Atonement by Ian McEwan; Movies: I've recently discovered Pedro Almodovar, I really like Spanish language movies in general (great stuff has recently been coming out from Spain and Latin America lately...), but I also enjoy a good blockbuster every once in a while :) As for music, my old favorite is Tori Amos, but I don't really listen to a single artist for a long period any more. I also listen to a lot of opera.

Types of People I enjoy

I really enjoy talking to people who have travelled a lot.

I also love meeting people who are interested in similar research areas as I am - my field is consumer research, and it is an interdisciplinary field with influences from marketing, sociology, anthropology, political science, ethnography, psychology and much more.

One Amazing Thing I've Seen or Done

The ancient Aspendos theater in Antalya, Turkey is one of the most magnificent structures I have seen - I had the opportunity to watch the Royal Ballet perform there. It was magical. Locations Traveled

TRAVELED: Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Germany, Norway, Sweden, United States

LIVED: Denmark, Turkey, United States

around, when I am not busy working. I have blankets, pillows and towels for you to borrow.

I had the most wonderful CS experiences in Chicago and in Norway and now I am just enjoying to have couchsurfers from all over surfing my couch.

Interests Music. Dance and sing. Meet new people. Enjoy the silence behind the noise. Smile to people having a tough day. Drink good coffee, chai or whiskey. Dark chocolate. Apples. My garden. Philosophy A smile to the busdriver in the morning, can change the day for a bunch of people!

Music, Movies, Books Documentary is my thing. Hope to be able to create a visual anthropological piece some day. Enjoy lots of different kinds of music: jazz, electronica, lounge, ska...and many beyond. Right now i am into to some norwegian literature, and always some ethnographic themes.

Types of People I enjoy All kinds of people actually. I find myself very openminded and think that I can always learn something new from a meeting with an unknown. You have something in common with everybody. One Amazing Thing I've Seen or Done Climbed Roraima in Venezuela/Brazil/ Guyana. Paragliding

TRAVELED: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Romania, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States, Venezuela LIVED: Denmark, Mexico, Spain, Venezuela WANTS TO GO: Cambodia, Croatia, Cuba, Greenland, Tuvalu IS GOING TO: Norway, Thailand



## Florence Touvais

Paris France  
Current Mission: "enjoy life!"

Member since September 4th, 2007

Grew up in Vitry , suburb of paris

Languages FrenchExpert  
Spanish (Spain)Intermediate  
English Intermediate

Couch Available: Maybe Max Surfers Per Night: 2  
One couch for 2 people in my living room in the center of Paris.

Map of friends:

Svein Søiland 69, Male Bergen, Norway  
Friends since August 2007 "Couchsurfer hosting."  
Friendship Type: 3 - CouchSurfing Friend

Sophie NA 22, Female Paris, Ile-de-France France  
Friends since September 2005 "friend's friend!"  
Friendship Type: 4 - Friend

Leif Bond 24, Male Berlin, Berlin Germany  
Friends since August 2007 "Florence and Lina couchsurfed at my place on weekend i August" Friendship Type: 3 - Couch-Surfing Friend

WHOX 21, Several people Gothenburg, Vastra Gotaland Sweden Friends since August 2007 "Florance surfed my couch" Friendship Type: 3 - CouchSurfing Friend

Karl Widerberg 24, Male Stockholm, Stockholm Sweden Friends since August 2007 "Florence stayed at my apartment with her friend Lina for one night" Friendship Type: 3 Couch-Surfing Friend

Personal Description I grew up in a little house in the suburb of paris with my parents , my brother and my two sisters. Now I m living in the center of paris in a nice flat. My friends come very often at home to drink something and to talk! I like to meet my friends in a bar or a pub in paris and spend my evening with them. I am an easy going and open-minded girl. Every year with my friends we make a big trip: italy, greece,tunisia,spain,california(+nevada arizona),sweden, norway. Soon i ll go in ireland and the next year in argentina!

How I Participate in CS2 How I can...Hostelling people and showing us my city. And sometimes surfng

CouchSurfing Experience I surfed in many places in scandina-  
via. Each time was very different but always great!!  
It s the better way to know a country. What crazy experiences!

Interests Cinema book ski, ice skating

Philosophy Enjoy life, meeting people.  
Music, Movies, Books Movies: david lynch,kusturica, moulin rouge,star wars...  
books: ensemble c'est tout. boris vian. harry potter.  
Music: All kind of musics except rap and rnb  
Types of People I enjoy everybody  
Teach, Learn, Share evening talking and enjoy ourselves.  
One Amazing Thing I've Seen or Done seeing the sunrise in the grand canyon playing in las vegas!

### References

From Leif Bond Berlin, Germany Sep 5  
Extremely Positive Florence is a cool girl! we had a great weekend in Oslo. we went to a festival and had a good time!

From WHOX Gothenburg, Sweden Sep 4  
Positive Florance is a nice and polite girl. Unfortunately we didn't have time to talk much.

From Svein Søiland Bergen, Norway Sep 4 Extremely Posi-  
tive Open minded talkative and knowledge that make Florfence into a very interesting person.

### References Florence Touvais left other

For WHOX Gothenburg, Sweden Sep 4 Positive  
It was just one night so we didn't have enough time to talk. Him and his girlfriend were very nice, polite,and it was inter-  
esting to talk with them

*21.08.2007 Dear Mary, Dear Svein !*

*What a boautifull Island ! It's like a dream. It was our first experiencewith couchsurfing and the best I think in fact. Thanks for driving us, showing us the nices places . Thanks for sharing your food with us. People like you are seldom !!! Unforgettable memories in your house with your dog, your ducks , your pool. We were wery lucky to meet you !! You are welcome in Paris (even if you already know it with pictures).*

*Florence from Paris  
(student, midwife, 22 years)*

*I really enjoyed in your dreamfull island. Everything was perfect and I really felt at home thanks to your hospitality. I'll never forget this place, especially the breakfast with the view and Edvard Grieg's music.*

*Kind regards and thank you.*

*Lina  
(student, HECBusiness School, 21 years)*





## Isabelle Scholl

grew up in Luxembourg  
Germany - Baden-Württemberg  
Freiburg im Breisgau  
Current Mission: "be there for  
my friends, meet new people &  
enjoy life :)"

Bad Wildbad, Baden-Württemberg,  
Germany ...  
member since December 5th, 05

birthday January 21st

Occupation psychology student  
Education primary & secondary school in Luxembourg,  
then I came to Germany for my studies  
Languages LuxembourgishExpert FrenchExpert  
EnglishExpert GermanExpert Norwegian Intermediate  
Couch Available: Maybe Max Surfers Per Night: 2

I live in Freiburg-Stuehlinger, which is very close to the center, about 10-15 minutes on foot or 5 minutes by tram. My place is also at minutes walking distance from the main train station. I live in a shared flat which 2 other students, no pets. I have just one room and no couch, but enough space on the floor and I can offer one spare blanket and a sleeping bag. I usually don't smoke, but if you smoke you can do that on my balcony. Freiburg is a small students town (around 200000 inhabitants) and has a lot of cosy bars, pubs and restaurants. If I have time and you are interested I can show you around town, we can climb the Muenster (cathedral), from which you have a nice view or we can explore the Schwarzwald (black forest) or simply have some beers in one of the students pubs. :)

Best times that I can host you: when I am not travelling myself ;), not too busy with studies and work... just write me a message and I'll let you know if I can host you! I'm always looking forward to meet new people!

Contact Method: by email: [little\\_turtle83@yahoo.com](mailto:little_turtle83@yahoo.com)

Friends (4) Map of friends

**FREYRR** 21, Female Taipei, Taiwan Friends since July 2007 "Isa is quiet a nice person. Though we only stay at her flat for 2 nights, till now I can feel the warmth she gave us. She is so easy going and nice." Friendship Type: 3 - CouchSurfing Friend 2

**Svein Søiland** 69, Male Bergen, Hordaland Norway Friends since August 2007 "Good" Friendship Type: 3 - CouchSurfing Friend

**Tayfur Erol** 29, Male Bodrum, Mugla Turkey Friends since January 2007 "she is talktive and friendly. you can talk with her about everything" Friendship Type: 3 - CouchSurfing Friend

**Joris Sprakel** 32, Male Amsterdam, Noord-Holland Netherlands Friends since 2005 "I met this FABULOUS person on a dancefloor in Vilnius (out of place, but in our element! ;) Hosted her, surfed with her & couldn't have had better times ;) Isa has become one of my best friends in no time & I hope to know her for many years to come..."

Personal Description: All about me? I guess I can't write that down in a few words...so better visit me and find it out by yourself! :)

CouchSurfing Experience I haven't travelled with Couchsurfing much, but I'm a member of Hospitality Club and travelled a lot with it so far. Only made GREAT experiences

Interests Sports (especially playing soccer), writing (for myself, to my pals & friends), reading, listening to music, having good discussions with interesting people, going out & partying, dancing, concerts & festivals, cinema, travelling (& thinking about where I could possibly travel if I had more time & money), staying in bed a whole day, sleeping, arts, psychology, going for walks, (day)dreaming, turtles, eating, cooking, chatting, languages, meeting new people...

Philosophy "On ne voit bien qu'avec le coeur. L'essentiel est invisible pour les yeux." (Antoine de Saint-Exupéry)  
Music, Movies, Books: I like non-hollywood (non-blockbuster movies), especially European movies. Music? I am always open and curious about stuff I don't know. I mostly listen to (Indie) Rock, Alternative, Pop, Reggae...too many bands I like, so I don't mention them all here. About books: some of my favorite authors are Henning Mankell & Ivrin D. Yalom. I also love children's books and Calvin & Hobbes :)

Types of People I enjoy my friends, my family, people who have their own opinions and who enjoy having good talks  
One Amazing Thing I've Seen or Done The time I spend in Bergen/Norway as an exchange student was definitely amazing! Another amazing thing was my journey to Uganda in 2006, where I met my penfriend Denis personally after many years of writing letters to each other :)

TRAVELED: Belgium, Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Uganda, United Kingdom, United States

LIVED: Austria, Germany, Luxembourg, Norway WANTS TO GO: Belarus, Canada, Cote D'Ivoire, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Japan, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania, Thailand, Ukraine, Vietnam IS GOING TO: Norway

## References

From **Svein Søiland** Bergen, Norway Aug 24  
Extremely Positive "The lady from Luxemburg" are an amazing person, tall football player, great car driver and open minded. Welcome back to host in Bergen any time.

From **FREYRR** Taipei, Taiwan Jul 18 Extremely Positive Isa is quiet a nice person. Though we only stay at her flat for 2 nights, till now I can feel the warmth she gave us. She is so easy going and nice. We had good times in bar and had some beers together. I will want to surf with her one more time!

From **Tayfur Erol** Bodrum, Turkey Jan 16 Extremely Positive She is talktive and friendly. you can talk with her about everything. she is nice person and helpfull..she tried her best to welcome me and my friend..if you come to Freiburg, she should be the one you need to call...

## References Isabelle Scholl left others

For **Lianne Cockerton** Montreal, Canada Sep 4  
Extremely Positive I met Lianne and her friend Myriam in Amsterdam @ Joris place. We had some nice evenings with beer, good conversations and playing games. :)

For **Myriam d'Auteuil** Montreal, Canada Sep 4  
Extremely Positive I met Myriam and her friend Lianne @ Joris place in Amsterdam. We had some food and plenty of drinks, played games and had good conversations! :)

For **nathalie, agen** Agen, France Aug 24  
Extremely Positive I met Nathalie and her son in Bergen at Sveins place. Interesting and friendly person, it was a pleasure to meet her! I hope you are more lucky with the weather next time!

For **Kate Jenkinson** Melbourne, Australia Aug 24  
Extremely Positive We met in Bergen at Sveins place (our host). Interesting and open-minded girl - it was a pleasure to meet her! Enjoy your further travelling!

For **Svein Søiland** Bergen, Norway Aug 24 Extremely Positive Svein & Mary are great hosts and their hospitality is amazing! Not only that we could stay in their caravan, got breakfast, but Svein also trusted us and gave us his car for an excursion. But the most important: I really enjoyed the conversations with Svein and I hope to meet him again in the future!

For **FREYRR** Taipei, Taiwan Jul 18  
Extremely Positive Freyrr and her friend Laura were friendly and easy going guests and I enjoyed showing them the pub with Freiburgs best beer! Hope we meet again! :)

For **Tayfur Erol** Bodrum, Turkey Jan 15 Positive  
Tayfur is a very talkative and interesting guy! We had a nice evening and I showed him and his friend some pubs in Freiburg. We had a good conversation and I got to know more about his home country Turkey. Hope to see you again, in Freiburg or in Bodrum! :)

28. August - 1. September 2007:



**KATERINA ASIM** Greece  
Attiki Athens - Occupation architect  
Education University of Paris Current Mission:  
"To see the world, make new friends. I love to meet new  
people and feel that we live in a small world"

Grew up in Athens ethnicity greek Languages  
GreekExpert French (France) Expert EnglishExpert

love to travel, laugh a lot and enjoy new friends.  
I feel like I am open-minded about most things. I also en-  
joy diversity. I hope to become more worldly through meet-  
ing people and understanding their cultures and stories

CouchSurfing Experience: I am new member of this site.  
I think that couchsurfing is a great way to make  
new friends. Interests Travelling, skiing, playing  
tennis, swimming, diving, sailing, trekking,

I love to experience all types of culture - music, art, archi-  
tecture, languages, religions, customs, food, etc  
Philosophy I've always had a tremendous desire to under-  
stand the meaning, purpose, and nature of life.  
Music, Movies, Books

I like all kinds of books. I like most kinds of music, jazz,  
blues, classic rock, gospel, classical, reggae, and much  
more.

Types of People I enjoy  
People who are passionate about life, people with a charm-  
ing smile, serious thoughts, open mind, deep world view.  
I like to meet people and learn about other cultures and  
interests. Every person you meet has something to teach  
you if you will let them.  
Teach, Learn, Share I can talk about differences between  
cultures. I can talk about travelling  
One Amazing Thing I've Seen or Done  
I travelled alone in China in 1987. It was dangerous. It was  
a good experience. Opinion on the CouchSurfing.com  
Project It's an amazing idea

TRAVELED: Albania, Argentina, Austria, Belgium, Bo-  
livia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada,  
Chile, China, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Dominica,  
Egypt, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Guadeloupe, Hong  
Kong, Hungary, India, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kenya,  
Latvia, Lebanon, Lithuania, Macedonia, Malta, Marti-  
nique, Mexico, Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco,  
Nepal, Netherlands, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Puerto Rico,  
Romania, Russia, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia,  
Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Syria, Tanzania, Thailand,  
Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United States, Uruguay, US  
Virgin Islands

**MARGARITA HERNANDEZ** Valencia Spain  
"Be positive and enjoy life and good company"  
Excecutive secretay education multilingual  
grew up in PARIS  
SpanishExpert English Expert German Intermediate



I AM A VERY OUTGO-  
ING PERSON WHO  
ENJOY MEETING NEW  
AND INTERESTING  
PEOPLE, TO SHARE  
OPINIONS, CULTURE,  
HELP EACH OTHER  
AND HAVE FUN  
TOGETHER. HAVE A  
GOOD FRIEND IS THE  
BEST.

CouchSurfing Experience  
I AM QUITE NEW IN  
THIS. I LEAVE NEXT  
WEEK FOR MY FIRST  
EXPERIENCE, I'LL  
TELL YOU...

Interests  
I LIKE, TRAVELLING,  
READING, PHOTO-  
GRAPHY, THE MOUN-  
TAINS, THE NATURE  
IN GENERAL, COOK-  
ING FOR MY FRIENDS,  
TALKING FOR HOURS  
WITH THEM

Philosophy  
I THINK WE HAVE TO  
BE OPTIMISTIC AND  
FIGHT FOR WHAT  
WE WANT, ENJOY  
HERE AND NOW THE  
PLACES WE VISIT AND  
PEOPLE WE MEET,  
TRY TO BE AND  
MAKE HAPPY PEOPLE  
AROUND US. ALWAYS  
SMILE. Music, Movies,  
Books PHILOSOPHY :  
ERIK FROMM  
PSYCHOLOGY  
BIOGRAPHIES, MOV-  
IES, CLASSIC MUSIC,

CHILL OUT - I LOVE PEOPLE WITH SOME KIND OF WIS-  
DOM, WITH EXPERIENCE IN LIFE, WITH WHOM I CAN  
GROW AS A PERSON, KIND AND HONEST.  
I WANT TO LEARN EVERYTHING ABOUT OTHER CUL-  
TURES OTHER WAYS OF DOING THINGS, AND I WOULD  
BE PLEASED TO SHARE MINE. I LIKE SINGING, DANC-  
ING, CHATING ... Opinion on the CouchSurfing.com  
Project I THINK THIS IS A GREAT PROJECT AND I AM VERY  
HAPPY TO HAVE MY FIRST EXPERIENCE THIS MONTH

**Carole and Marvin Bottke** USA Texas

Current Mission: "To promote goodwill through hosting of travelers to our area; receiving good will from others through Communication, conversation, sightseeing"

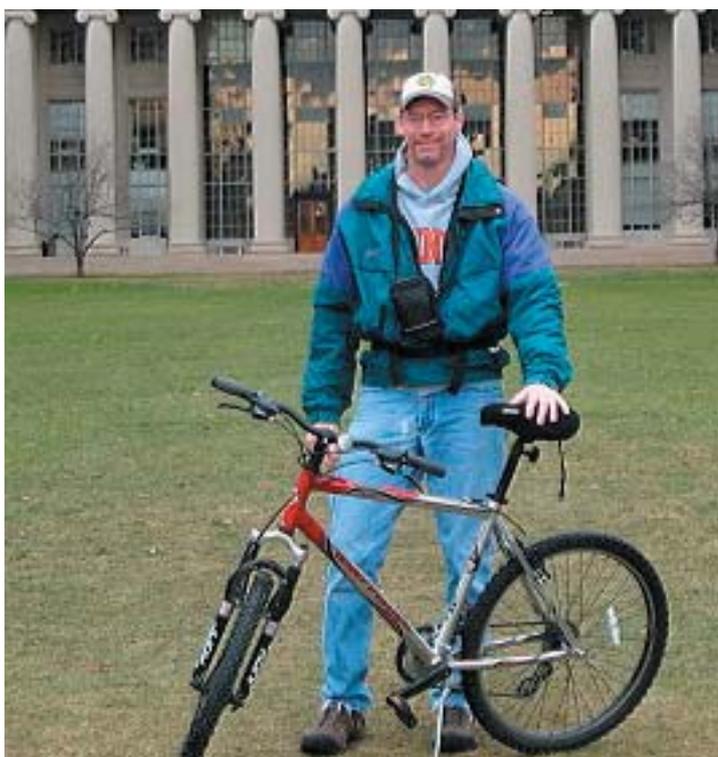


Occupation Retired; do volunteer work as and Airport Ambassador and as a Travelers Aid person helping travelers. Education Some college; self employed 14 years. grew up in Originally Faribault, Mn. DFW, Tx. since 1985 ethnicity 3rd Generation German American from Pommerania Languages English (United States) Expert German Intermediate Groups I Belong To 50s+ Travelers Why: Maturity of members, common experiences Couch Information Couch Available: Maybe Preferred Gender: Any Max Surfers Per Night: 3 Guest bedroom with private bathroom, European style queen bed. We are a recently retired couple living in a twin home with good neighbors and in a safe neighborhood. We have no pets, do not smoke, however, we are not against smoking and we allow smoking on our patio. We are located equal distance between Dallas and Fort Worth, right in between near the DFW airport. A car is most beneficial, but when we are home, this can be worked out and we can show you around or pick you up from the airport and take you to the airport. We are generally bedtime people around 10 or 11 pm. How long you wish to stay is always flexible. While most people look to Dallas for sightseeing, we encourage the lesser known things that are much more intriguing in Fort Worth and other cities in the area. Day trips can be made also. phone: 817 685 0921. E-mail marvcarole@yahoo.com

**Dave Bick**

USA Illinois Carlyle

Current Mission: "To see as much of the world in one year as possible and while doing so passing on some goodwill."



Friends (1) MIZL 62, Female Mora, Minnesota United States  
View all 16 photos

Personal Description Live in Texas USA; 15 minutes from DFW airport. Have flown to over 50 airports. Hosted guests from Europe. Enjoy meeting people. Married since 1961, 4 adult children living in various parts of USA. Enjoy music of many categories including ethnic songs and dances. Enjoy laughter, serious conversation, the arts, outdoor cooking, new recipes for the grill, Sharing personal stories and exchanging cultural ideas. Learning from others and giving to others. Like to Prepare "Texas Style" or other "Special Recipes" of food on the grill for guests. Our guest room is nice with private bathroom. If you are connecting at DFW airport and wish to spend extra time in the area, we are a few minutes away from DFW. I was employed 20 years at DFW airport and do volunteer work there as a retiree. I'm a great resource for info. CouchSurfing Experience New to us. But have hosted foreign visitors from Germany, USA, prior to becoming couchsurfers. Interests Other people; travelers and people who share good conversation. Sightseeing, events, history, music appreciation of all styles; Surfing the web, communicating through e-mail, worldwide. Play music for self enjoyment, (was professional when younger) Philosophy Personal Philosophies: "The Golden Rule" .. Love thy neighbor as thyself. "Live and Let Live". "One Day at a time" "If it's not broke, don't fix it." "It is better to feel the rain than to get wet." In Business: "The pot of Gold you are looking for may be in your own back yard."

Advice to the over zealous young execs: "Don't make too much noise, someone might notice you!"

Music, Movies, Books Enjoy Hawaiian Music, German Music, Celtic, other Ethnic Musics, Jazz, Classical. Like to watch Comedy and like to add funny stories or jokes to conversations whenever it is fitting. Types of People I enjoy People who have something unique that they do or have experienced. Teach, Learn, Share Active in 12 step recovery, friend of Bill W. Can share knowledge of area, off the beaten path travel ideas in America.

Have traveled much of America and Germany, Northern Poland, Budapest, Italian Lakes, Vienna, Salzburg, Hallstatt, Switzerland, Belgium, Prague, Alaska, and 25 times to Hawaii. Cruises too. Played an organ on the roof of a mall for over 55 hours. Couch Surfing will bring new relationships with others. While we are new to the website, we have been practicing some of the principles on our own before finding out about couch surfing.

Couchsurfing has been a great experience. It continues to amaze me the people I am meeting through this service.

Interests Sailing, gardening, beer and wine making, snow skiing, traveling, playing sports, hiking, camping etc. I have lots of hobbies.

Philosophy I believe all people should be treated with respect and as equals. I hope to leave this world having put a smile on as many faces as possible. Music, Movies, Books

I like pretty much all music to a certain degree although Bruce Springsteen is my passion!

Types of People I enjoy Extremely nice people who are out there doing good deeds.

One Amazing Thing I've Seen or Done

I have water skied on the Mississippi River in St. Louis on New Years day. Canoeed on Lake Quetico in Canada. Camped in single digit temperatures.

Summitted a couple mountains over 14,000 ft. Cross countryed skied to mountain hut in the Rockies.

From Dave Bick Aug 5 - 2007

Extremely Positive

Svein and Mary or great. Svein is a great host and was helpful in so many ways. I also really enjoyed talking to Svein and learning about his thoughts on life in general. Svein is a very wise man and I will always cherish my time on his Island and more importantly my time with him and Mary.



Nancy Finley daughter Amber

Current Mission: "Travel through Europe for two months with my eight year old well behaved daughter." United States Florida Ormond Beach Occupation self employed, pressure cleaning company and hold my real estate license education college grew up in Jersey City, New Jersey

Languages English (United States)

Why: to meet other families Europe 64368:151086

Why: traveling abroad have questions? Friends 1345:3946 Why: make friends Active in 4 more groups. Couch Available: Yes Preferred Gender: Any Max Surfers Per Night: 4 You will actually have a 30ft travel trailer to yourself. It is in our yard. It is like a

home away from home. We live in a small town near the beach. I have a house full. Husband, son, friend, father-in-law and sometimes father. We do have pets, two dogs and three cats. My husband smokes, I do not. We are near the World's Most Famous Beach. Daytona Beach. We are also by the Daytona Int'l Speedway, we also have Bikeweek in March and October. We are also about an hour away from Disney. We do have buses. We have blankets. We could take a day or two to show you around.

Map of friends

ANTONIA123 38, Female France  
MOTHERANDSON 43, Female Switzerland  
Christian Knoflach 23, Male Vienna, Austria  
Julia Stockinger 22, Female Vienna Austria  
Sue Schwarz 27, Female Vienna Austria  
Lars Karlsson 53, Vastra Gotaland, Sweden  
Col Arun Gupta 60, Male New Delhi, India  
Konstantinos Liakos 26, Male Athens, Greece  
Svein Søliland 69, Male Bergen, Norway  
M.Gokhan Mansiz 28, Male Istanbul, Turkey

Amber and I at the Vatican July 2006 5 photos Personal Description We are just like you, except we live here! We are great people who do not mind helping others. My daughter is only 8 and raises money for numerous charities. She also sings. I am a volunteer with the Red Cross.

How I Participate in CS2 We are new to this but we are eager to lend our couch. We also would like to experience staying on someone else's. I want to teach my daughter the way other people live in different areas all over the world. CouchSurfing Experience Our first experience was perfect. We went to Sweden. This will be the most memorable. We are very fortunate to have met this family. We hope to be friends with them for life. Interests Camping, horseback riding, skiing and traveling.

Music, Movies, Books Like movies do not have a lot of time to watch them. Music all. Books true stories

US people from N.Y. city - live and working in Berlin:

Tico Zamora and Anna Curtis



They were not on profile for couchsurfers but called by phone direct and stayed 2 nights.

In Prestholmen guest book they wrote:

**Beginning the day with a swim in the rain, listening to Grieg music and enjoying nice conversation. A very large pleasure to meet you. You make the world a better place with your kind-**



**Rita Lass** and Torsten  
Saxony Anhalt Halle Germany  
Current Mission: "study in Bergen, Norway"

Occupation art-students. Education bookbinder and graphic designer, at the moment art-students grew up in Berlin, Germany Languages German (Germany)Expert English (United Kingdom)Intermediate NorwegianBeginner We live in a big flat in the north of Halle/saale in saxony anhalt. our couch is a bed in a seperate room. we are four roommates there, and we have blankets. write if you need to know more.



**Adam Walton**  
New York, USA

Occupation Writer  
education I consider myself a lifelong learner, but I went to college. grew up in The American South and Midwest. Languages English (United States)Expert Groups I Belong To New York City Why: I live in New York Couch Available: Coffee or a drink

Friends (6)  
Silkkat813 32, Female Weehawken, New Jersey United States "He came out for a Monday night CS drinks in NYC" Friendship Type: 3 - CouchSurfing Friend  
Jonas Gustafsson 35, Male Stockholm, StockholmSweden Friends since September 2007 "he surfed my couch" Friendship Type: 3 - CouchSurfing Friend  
Malik Bjerrum Thomsen 22, Male Odense, Fyn Denmark Friends since September 2007 "I met Adam in a new york appartement..." Friendship Type: 3 - CouchSurfing Friend  
NEILOTOKOMAY 33, Male New York, New York United States Friends since August 2007 "McSorely's Old Ale House + Grassroots + The Thirsty Scholar..." Friendship Type: 3 - CouchSurfing Friend  
**Svein Søliland** 69, Male Bergen, Hordaland Norway Friends since September 2007 "By host" Friendship Type: 3 - CouchSurfing Friend  
Tim Spangsberg 19, Male Vejle, Vejle Denmark Friends since July 2007 "Met through the internet, outside Couchsurf." Friendship Type: 4 - Friend

Personal Description I'm passionate about the arts and travel. Music, Movies, Books I love music, cinema, and literature. One Amazing Thing I've Seen or Done I've explored all the states. Locations Traveled TRAVELED: Denmark, France, Iceland, Mexico, Norway, Sweden, United Kingdom, United States

#### References:

From Malik Bjerrum Thomsen Odense, Denmark Sep 28 Extremely Positive Very kind and open person. A person wich makes you comfortable...  
From Bjarni Magnússon Akureyri, Iceland Sep 14 Extremely Positive Adam and Michael stayed with me for 2 nights while traveling around Iceland! Good surfers - I'd love to meet them again in the Big apple if I ever go there ... hope so..  
Guys, thanks for the good company :D till next time  
From Jonas Gustafsson Stockholm, Sweden Sep 10 Extremely Positive adam is a very interesting, soft and intellectual person. he is a delight to talk to and will gladly share his thoughts on music/books/films/social issues. hope to hook up again some day and get to know him better (and learn more about the time he met eliott smith!).

Philosophy A hare is a hare is a hare and a book is a book is a book ... Music, Movies, Books: All kinds of handmade music, from soft pop to hardest rock over some weired points like ska, jazz, prog ... we watch a lot of movies, reports, some arty stuff but we have no favourites in general beside books with large pictures we prefer matt ruff, paul auster, tom robbins, french, italien and german comics, oscar wilde, edgar allen poe, kafka, max frisch and so on Types of People I enjoy: honest people, open minded ... Teach, Learn, Share: -don't take a hare with you in exhibitions, because everyone think you'll be like beuys -clean your windowws with old news-paper - no stripes One Amazing Thing I've Seen or Done Roadburn festival in tilburg, netherlands in 2007 north-ern light in north norway, awesome

#### References Rita Lass left others

For Michael Grandal Oslo, Norway Aug 31 Positive met Michael and Astrid on Svein Sølilands island in Bergen. very nice and interesting people, who do very important things in their life.

For Svein Søliland Bergen, Norway Aug 31 Positive. We stayed 3 nights in his very nice german caravan. svein helped us a lot and it was nice to hear about his view on couchsurfing. a very good first contact. it was also nice to meet other couchsurfers in his home. Thank you very much for your help and support.

From Ann Wennerstrom Stockholm, Sweden Sep 7 Positive Adam, a respectful and good guy, stayed for three nights, told me about Iceland and showed me many pictures. I enjoyed talking to him and wish him good luck with his writing.

From Jack Wilde Liberec, Czech Republic Aug 28 Positive Adam and his friend Michael surfed the same couch as me and by sheer dumb luck they stayed an extra day and got to see Akureyri's B-Day celebrations which included: pirates mocking the mayor, a strange sort of Don Quixote re-enactment, a very surreal moment involving a flying trailer and the soundtrack to 2001, and the best damn fireworks display ever. I hope we run into each other again.

From Silkkat813 Weehawken, United States Aug 22 Positive I met Adam in the chatroom while he was looking for some help with finding couches for his trip. I invited him to come out that night in NYC to meet some other CSers. He stopped by for a bit, even though he had a lot of things to do at home. But it gave him a chance to talk to other CSers and he showed great enthusiasm in the CSing project. He brought a friend along and introduced this other new guy to the site. I would recommend hosting this guy. I hope to hang out with him some more when he returns from his trip.

From NEILOTOKOMAY New York, United States Aug 21 Extremely Positive Another CSer in the hood. Speaking with this guy just gives you an instant good vibe! His first time to attend a CS meetup and saw Annie, which she met days back for volunteer work (speaking of small world). Looking forward to hanging out with this guy when he comes back from his travels. See you in the hood Adam!

From Tim Spangsberg Vejle, Denmark Aug 20 Positive I was surprised to suddenly be contacted by a manhattan poet on messenger, but it all turned out to be good times, since he found my address on Sigur Rós' fan site, and we've had some awesome conversations on messenger. Also Adam introduced me to this spectacular site - thanks alot mate ;)

#### References Adam Walton left others

For Bjarni Magnússon Akureyri, Iceland Oct 3 Extremely Positive Bjarni agreed to host us for one night then graciously let us stay a second. I hope we meet again. Thank you, Bjarni.

For Sigurdur Juliusson Reykjavik, Iceland Oct 3 Extremely Positive That Sigurdur is but 23 is as unbelievable as his explorations thus far. Onward!

For Malik Bjerrum Thomsen Odense, Denmark Sep 24 Extremely Positive Malik's energy and positive outlook will take him to great places, and they've already taken him to some of the far reaches of the world. I hope we meet again.

For Svein Søliland Bergen, Norway Sep 14 Extremely Positive Stayed on Prestholmen for two nights with Svein and Mary. Arrived on my birthday with a birthday cake awaiting me. That was just a symbol for the hospitality and conversations to come. Thank you, Svein.

For Jonas Gustafsson Stockholm, Sweden Sep 11 Extremely Positive Jonas is a great guy without question, filled with warm smiles, intelligence, and positivity. I hope our paths cross again.

++ More...See profile couchsurfing

**Adrian Briscoe**

Brooklyn, New York, United States  
Current Mission: "Dreamlanding"



Member since  
August 2nd, 2006

birthday March 5th

Occupation  
Elementary School  
Teacher - Filmmaker

Education Masters  
grew up in Baltimore

Languages  
EnglishExpert  
ItalianExpert

Couch Available: Maybe Moving out of my place, due to have a new apartment in October. For couch details check with me then. I will likely be in Greenpont, Brooklyn.

Friends (4) Map of friends

Melinda Conant 23, Female Portland, Oregon United States  
Friends since August 2006 "Adrian blessed my couch in Montreal for a couple of days :D" Friendship Type: 3 - CouchSurfing Friend 3

Jamie King 27, Male Montreal, Canada Friends since September 2006 "Adrian couchsurfing with us for a few days in Montreal." Friendship Type: 4 - Friend 3

Svein Søliland 69, Male Bergen, Norway Friends since August 2007 "Very good" Friendship Type: 3 - CouchSurfing Friend

Natalia Perez Wahlberg 29, Female Montreal, Canada Friends since August 2006 "Couchsurfing at my place" Friendship Type: 3 - CouchSurfing Friend 2

I smile View all 6 photos Personal Description I am an elementary school teacher. I make films - recently finished a documentary about an elderly Roman man's memory and love history with his wife. I lived in Rome for 5 years bartending, teaching Eng., gracefully unemployed, working at the US embassy, doing film work and working as an elementary school teacher in a little private school.

I make music- guitar drums keyboards voices- Terra the Fair. I have great friends and am very loyal, honest and curious. I won't pretend. How I Participate in CS I could perhaps promote? Sweep up..donate. I have hosted surfers. CouchSurfing Experience Montreal, Norway, Berlin

Interests Film Music, Explorations, Books People Philosophy Know yourself better than anything anyone else. Music, Movies, Books Antonioni, Maysles Brothers, Fellini, Pasolini, Goddard, so many, Cassavetes, Gondry, .. Lina Wertmuller, Nina Mimica, Jarmusch,..... Psychedelic Furs, Petal Shaped Occulters, Robert Wyatt, Nanovisions, Mattieu Boogaerts, XTC, Savage Youngling, Orchestraville, Animal Collective, Panda Bear!!!, Nino Rota, Nina Simone, Yo la Tengo, Beach Boys, Can, Robyn Hitchcock, My Bloody Valentine, Enon, Hurple, Leonard Cohen!!!!, Bob Dylan, Galaxie 500, The Smiths, The Fall, Echo and the Bunnymen, the Cars, A-ha, The Kinks!!!, The Who, The Magnetic Fields, Eno, Talking Heads, Suicide, Pulp, The Beatles, T. REX, Luigi Comencini, Emidio Anotci, Big Star...

Nabokov (the early years), Graham Greene, Borges, Maugham, Orwell, Dickens, Cervantes, Dante, Boccaccio. D. Foster Wallace, Ray Robinson.

Types of People I enjoy: I am open to most people. I am averse to metal heads, world leaders and evangelicals. I enjoy meeting people who are sincere and have stories to tell, speak another language, have an appreciation for the aforementioned authors, musicians and filmmakers.

A sense of humor is always great. Essential. Teach, Learn, Share I would teach you Italian, help you with Final Cut editing questions. I could teach you guitar...some basic film stuff...the secret to reading to children... One Amazing Thing I've Seen or Done I hitchhiked to Paris from the North of Italy when I was 23. It was glorious. I've seen and done a good bit...adventures in Costa Rica, France, Germany, Denmark, Hungary, England, Ireland, Sweden, Norway Spain, Portugal, Peru, Cyprus, Israel, Lebanon, Luxembourg, Belgium, Quebec, Driving across the US 3 times, all of Italy...long short life. Opinion on the CouchSurfing.com Project. Great Work!

TRAVELED: Canada, Denmark LIVED: Italy  
WANTS TO GO: Bodies of water IS GOING TO: Canada

**References**

From **Denis Kovalchuk** Saint Petersburg, Russia Aug 27  
Extremely Positive Adrian is very kind, sociable and friendly person. I wish every kid have such a teacher! He played guitar and keyboards, he treated all of us (co-couchsurfers) with delicious pasta, and he was a very good company!

From **Svein Søliland** Bergen, Norway Aug 17  
Extremely Positive He played the guitar, songs and made Italian food. We enjoyed having him over place.

From Jamie King Montreal, Canada Nov 14, 2006  
Extremely Positive Adrian is extremely sweet, interesting, and open and I had a great time hanging out with him in Montreal.

From Melinda Conant Portland, United States Oct 1, 2006  
Extremely Positive I met Adrian at a party in Montreal and I liked him so much that I invited him to stay on the ol' couch. Adrian turned out to be more than a good conversationalist (and great story teller). Not only is he super sweet and genuine but he's so open to those experiences and interactions that make us feel alive and doesn't miss them when they happen. Positive energy just flows out of this man, if you get a chance to meet him, please do. I look forward to many more adventures with you Adrian.

From Natalia Perez Wahlberg Montreal, Canada Sep 15, 2006  
Extremely Positive I really enjoyed having Adrian stay with me. He's a very interesting person, with a very positive and calm outlook of the world. He has many interesting stories to tell and don't forget to ask him about how he travelled to Montreal. Very unique! I would definitely like to couchsurf with him again or viceversa:-)

From Claudia Bérubé Montreal, Canada Sep 10, 2006  
Extremely Positive That great guy came in town riding his cool Peugeot bike and has experienced the city like everybody should. It was fun to watch him discussing cooking in Italian with the owner of a little pasta factory at the Marché (leading to the most amazing home-made raviolis)! Adrian is simply great... and you know what? He was seriously thinking about becoming a Montrealer himself pretty soon. Let's hope he does!

**References Adrian Briscoe left others**

For Maria Mütze Berlin, Germany Sep 23  
Extremely Positive Maria is a bright and kind star. It was great meeting her, and her son Laurin. They make a beautiful family. I miss them.

For **Svein Søliland** Bergen, Norway Aug 17  
Extremely Positive Svein is the godfather of couchsurfing. He is an entirely wonderful host. The quintessence of kindness. I loved staying with Svein and Mary. An experience that I will never forget. Ah, all the Russian songs and talk... Thank you Svein for everything. It meant a lot to me.

For Jamie King Montreal, Canada Aug 13  
Extremely Positive Greatness Greatness.

For Melinda Conant Portland, United States Aug 13  
Extremely Positive Such greatness.

For Natalia Perez Wahlberg Montreal, Canada Sep 13, 2006  
Extremely Positive Natalia is great. She's very down to earth, clever and sincere. Staying with her was lovely and I feel fortunate to have met her and her great friends. Thanks Natalia for everything. I wish you many a fantastic voyage. Adrian

For Claudia Bérubé Montreal, Canada Sep 5, 2006  
Extremely Positive Claudia is great, smart and funny. I had such an excellent time with her in Montreal. She hosted our Ravioli experiment, in which pumpkin flowers and goat cheese warmed in sage were made nearly from scratch. She loves good music and film and is a match for anyone who cares about art without pretensions. Thanks Claudia for the tour, the time and the place. Adrian!

For Gabrielle Samson Montreal, Canada Sep 24  
Extremely Positive I rode my bike from New York to Montreal and Gabrielle (and David) was my first couchsurfing host. I could go on and on about how my great stay has been in Montreal, and I owe a lot to Gabrielle's welcome. She's smart, kind, funny, creative, interested and interesting. Model couchsurfers unite! Three cheers! Adrian

**Katharina Schulze** Schwaebisch Gmuend,  
Germany Mar 24, 2008



Svein is such a generous man!  
It was my first experience with couch surfing and it was the BEST! I couldn't imagine how great it feels to be at his home and being welcomed just as a family member. I would recommend him to anyone. Whenever you stay in Bergen, go to Svein You won't regret it!

**Valdis Takeris** Riga Latvia

Current Mission: "To be a person with whom you can talk free about anything"



Couch available Coffee or a drink member since May 2nd, 2007 Occupation Programmer, IT Education Computerscience - I will graduate this year grew up in Riga, Jūrmala ethnicity Latvian

Languages Latvian (Lettish)Expert

EnglishExpert German (Germany) Intermediate Russian (Russia)Beginner Not a member of any groups yet.

Couch Available: Coffee or a drink I live together with my girlfriend, sister and parents in apartment, which is too small for us all, therefore there is no place, where I could acomodate you. By the other page, it is possible to meet with you and go to some cafe! Me and my girlfriend Natali in Reihstag, Berlin View all 1 photos

Personal Description So - I am a computer specialist, but not that kind, which interests only and only about computers. I really like to travel around the world, I like to get into my car and drive in any direction - just to see something new. I also like to eat tasty food, to go by cart, to dance modern and classic dances, to bake cakes. Some last years one of my hobbies was hitchhiking, too! And so on - and, of course, I like to communicate with people and to tell manu jokes - about any theme. How I Participate in CS2 'I am new in CouchSurfing - I have met 3 people and have been a guest for 2 people throw hospitality club, but now -I'd like to try the other possibility, CouchSurfing, too

CouchSurfing Experience I could not imagine, that there are so many nice people all over the world!!! :) Interests Travelling, hitchhiking, modern dances (salsa, waltz, rumba, quickstep e.t.c.), computers, carting, baking cakes, cycling, squash Philosophy Actually, I am a family peopel - that means, that family for me means really much. In his case, the most important girl in my life is my girlfriend Natali and I am ready to give her every minute of my life. If you will come and visit me, or I'll visit you, I am almost sure, that you will meet Natali, too - and you will like her too! :) Music, Movies, Books So - music - everything, especially radio SWH in Latvia! :) Books - I don't read so much as even I'd like, but my favorite book is Arthur Hailey "Airport". It is fantastic! About movies - there are more - I like TV series 24 and Prison Break, but from movies - Green Mile, Pirates of Silicon Valley, Alien, Ice Age, Cars, Carlito's Way. I think, that every two people has something common. I like to find it! Teach, Learn, Share I can teach to bake cakes, to buy mobile phones, to use computers, especially Apple computers. I can discuss about F1 e.t.c... :) One Amazing Thing I've Seen or Done I founded the first and only official Latvian HitchHikers Club - me and my friends did it! :) TRAVELED: Finland, Germany, Lithuania, Norway

**Valdis Takeris** Riga Latvia

Dear Svein,



Thank you for your letter. We hope, that Mary's health is stable and it is great, that she has you and all the family.

What's new in our life? Actually - a lot of things have changed. One of the most important things in year 2009

- we both graduated university and got our master's degrees, so now it is done. Maybe university degree is not most important thing in the world to be great and successful person, but now it feels like we have done one large step forward. The most pleasurable thing is that now we have more free time and we can use our knowledges, experience and start to do some other stuff. After final exams we had amazing summer living at Valdis' granny five minutes walking from the see. Sometimes we used a possibility to go to swim at 5:30 in the morning before going to work. It was a great start of a day!

The next great thing we managed in September, when we finally started to live separately from Valdis' parents - we rent a nice apartment in calm part of Riga, so we finally can possibility to host some couch surfers.

So, as you can see, some things have been changed since we met you some years ago. We rather often remember amazing conversations with you during the mornings and evenings. And, actually, this conversations have changed our minds about how to build up our future. If then we thought about how to get a good job with competitive salary and social benefits, then now our main direction is creation of our own businesses, which we try to realize during last months. Maybe the results are not reachable so fast as we hoped, but we still continue to work and to go ahead the objective. We hope to have our first successes till April - so, there is a long way to go and the time will show!

We try not to forget the truth, that every morning we have choice, how would we like to live this day - with joy, caching every possibility and living life as we want or accepting model of "normal" day which is made by society. We try to keep our mind bright, celebrate all our's victories and learn a least a little bit of all our mistakes.

Today we have a beautiful winter day with a lot of snow, so we had white Christmas like in classical Christmas card. Previous years the end of December was almost without snow, therefore it was not so nice and bright as it is now. We hope, that you had nice and hearty Christmas Eve and we wish you all the best for the New Year! We also hope one beautiful day to see you again, because you are really amazing person!

Take care! Wishing you the best,

Natali & Valdis

**James Poriz and Wen Chen (Stasia)**

Canada Ontario Waterloo  
July 25th, 2008

Svein sets the CouchSurfing bar very, very high. The entire experience was so amazing, we can't wait to go back again. It's a beautiful island, a beautiful house, and it's nestled right in the middle of a beautiful city. Don't pass up a chance to surf on this couch or swim in their pool.

Mail from James Poriz

**Guess what?**

I've got some news that you should share with Fatmarta. A few days ago I asked Stasia to marry me, and she said yes :-)  
She must be crazy!



*Current Mission:  
"Making all the people  
who love me happy"*

I hope you are doing well and that the African queen is still swimming. See you again!

James

Greeting from Stasia  
Hi Svein,

June 15th, 2008

How are you? I guess you are still busy hosting people all over the world before the big family reunion. James and I saw the photo of Fatmata and her granddaughter swimming. It seems they were having a really great time. We are really happy for her. :-)

We are still traveling around Europe. We are in Belgium now and will go to the Netherlands tomorrow. In a couple of days we will join a tour in Germany and Switzerland with my mom and my sister from Taiwan.

Just want to wish you to have a great day.

Best regards,  
Stasia



**Marcel Staub** Beijing, China  
**Kathlyn Ehret** Kuesnacht, Switzerland

Mar 28, 2008



Marcel: First cs from Switzerland. Good experience and specially Marcel's knowledge for putting PC back to working conditions after other cs "specialist" spoiled it working for normal persons. See you back any time.

Kathlyn: Svein is a natural host! He is welcoming, enthusiastic and loves bringing people from around the world together. He is caring and sympathetic, but also has a great sense of humor. His island is really a home-away-from-home for many travelers. Anyone lucky enough to spend time with Svein, Mary and his international family will have an unforgettable time. Looking forward to seeing you again soon!!

For Kathlyn & Marcel: Thanks for a great Easter and dishes. Even no cold disease after your swimming in ice water around Island with Marcel and Tavia Hammond. Keep in touch.



*Tavia, Kathlyn, Marcel and Fatmata*

**Tavia Hammond** Italy Sicily Siracusa  
runnersrock\_2005@yahoo.com 7. september 2008

Current Mission:

"live, laugh, love, and see as many cultures as possible"

hey there Svein. how are ya. How's the island? I miss you and Bergen. Tell figsmartha I said hi. Let me know how Mary is. Take care, Tavia



**Sarah Bagron** Eagle River, ALASKA USA  
Mar 10, 2008

Svein, Svein,  
He's more than a friend.  
He took me to his home,  
And made me one of his own.  
I became one of the family members,

Svein and Bergen I will always  
remember!!!



Words really can't describe Svein. He's the most caring person with the biggest heart. I enjoyed our conversations and just being in his presence. He made me feel like I was part of his family which was something really special to experience. After being away from my own family for so long it really felt good to be accepted into someone

else's. He has great stories, hosted so many people, very open to everyone and an all around great guy. Oh and his quiet, peaceful island is an additional bonus, but Svein is the richest treasure that you'll find there. It was hard to leave and I wish I had more time to spend with him, but I will be back soon.



*Marys Birthday 2008 with Family and Sarah's turkey*

For Sarah Bagron: She came to our home. She made the stuff for turkey dinner to 18 persons, friends and family to Mary's 71th birthday party. She stayed more in kitchen then touring around Bergen area, as tourist normaly do. You gave the best showing travelers open mind and knowlegde to communicate with any person. We love you and wish you back whenever you are able to take time for exploring Bergen, Fjords and Norwegian West coast

From Sarah:

**U are welcome Alaska any time.**

Sarah Bagron  
11507 Celestial st  
Eagle River,  
AK 99577 USA

sarahbagron@hotmail.com

**Anne-Claire Museux**, Iffendic, France  
Mar 3, 2008

There's no word for explaining how it was a deep meeting. I spend great days with Svein, his islands is a small paradise in bergen. It was a huge pleasure to be with him and his family!!  
see you as soon as possible!  
tuzen tak! thanks for all again!!!

For Anne-Claire Museux

She was music, arranged a French table served my family, nurse for wife Mary and gave impression for good future life with great boyfriend Julien.  
Love and miss you.



**Rosanna Forde** Sydney, Australia  
Jul 10, 2008



Svein was a great host, his island is beautiful and our talks and the heated swimming pool was just what I needed to

recharge after months on the road.

Rosanna: Open minded, great smile, conversation in the heated swimmingpool made this host to be remembered.

**Hiroko Ota** (mami) Tokyo, Japan

Apr 9, 2008 Current Mission: "lounge design"  
 occupation: architect education postgraduate



We stayed in a Svein and Mary's lovely house for 2 days. They gave us a hearty welcome like a real family. He told us lots about his stories, Bergen etc..with lots jokes :) Those were so interesting!! Thank you again.

For \*mami\* First cs visit from Tokyo Japan. She made a dish, played the piano, made paper into figure birds, amused the grandchildren and promised to be back our place very soon.

Best of kindness you can meet.

3-8-38 Takasukita  
 Wakamortsu Kitakyyushia  
 Fukuoka Japan

(Fukuoka = My hometown)

**Ruma et Marc Ducrest** Avenches, Switzerland

Apr 21, 2008 We are a swiss couple, I'm a photographer and my girlfriend Ruma is teacher. We love travelling, meeting people, sharing. We are very open-minded, we love to talk and to listen. We already 2011 travelled for 5 months in India and Nepal together and we really felt in love with this country. Amazing experience that opened up our eyes. Now we want to see the world ! So here is our next trip : travelling from our front door to the further place possible, and without taking a single flight. We want to feel the distance, feel the difference...

So the trip began on the 27th of march 2008, first through europe and then to russia, mongolia, tibet, nepal, india... and now China. Follow us on the road, and maybe we will meet somewhere, sometimes...



Sometimes words are not strong enough to express what connects people together. The days we spent on Svein's

Student England London at launage school, school nurse, therapist

Current Mission: "balance"

Thank you for lovely time and stay in a wonderfull place. I really enjoyed everytime with you. I hope I can meet you again. Take care XXX



1-17-11 Katamach: Fuchu-sh  
 Tokyo, Japan  
 e-mail. mami@hotmail.com



*Ruma & Marc met He Yan and friend from Beijing in Sveins home.*

little paradise were just a bliss !!! We had great conversations about history, politics, human kind, weakness and strenght of modern societies ...always with a little touch of humour. The way Svein welcomed us and hosted us corresponded perfectly to what we expected from couch-surfing. After 2 nights in a bed, we were offered to sleep two more nights in his luxury caravan. It was absolutely great! It was hard to leave him and his place because he managed to make us feel like at home...

We'll always be thankful to him and will remember his kindness and generosity. That's how the "family of the world (as he used to call it)grows up.

**Martins Roska** Riga, Latvia  
July 5th, 2008



Current Mission:  
"Traveling to where I've  
always dreamed of but  
never been"

Traveling and working on  
getting a degree in law  
education Studied law for  
4 years - about to get my  
bachelor's degree

I grew up and went to  
school in Riga and played  
a lot of basketball in my  
spare time. At the age

of 18 I started my law studies in Riga and after 8 semesters I realized that studying is good stuff but eventually you need some cash so at 21 I moved to America (PA) and worked on construction for 3 1/2 years. Now I have been back since 2006 and going back to school.

In CSI've been on the road in Eastern Europe since August but just discovered the world of Couch Surfing and Ohrid, Macedonia.

Interests Sports, History and Travel

Philosophy: Do with your life whatever you really want but not the things others expect you to do. Books/Movies: Godfather, Pulp Fiction, Big Lebowski, Fight Club, Lock Stock & 2 Smoking Barrels. Books: Kurt Vonnegut, Herman Hesse. Music: Classical, R&B and Hip Hop I enjoy fun people with whom I can discuss serious stuff at the same time One Amazing Thing I've Seen or Done: sky-dived from 13,000 feet in New Jersey

Martins from Latvia

Hi I am Martins 27 y.o. male from Latvia travelling to Norway in July. I will be flying in Bergen on 14th of July and looking for couch for 2 or 3 nights. I am very flexible I have my own sleeping bag and if you are busy on 14th but can help me out with couch later on that is fine for me. Thank you a lot for reading my message and I am looking forward to hear from you.

**Kelly Knowles** Brooklyn, USA  
Jul 16, 2008



I was born in Key West, Florida and then went to college in Orlando (the home of mickey mouse and every other tacky thing in my country.) I graduated in four years and am now trying my hand as a world traveler. I had the opportunity to move to london and work in a university while soaking up the best London has to offer and travel-

ing the UK. Afterwards, I set out for a 3 month backpacking trip around Europe. Came back home, living with mom, waiting tables and rolled my eyes a lot

and left again for 13 months around the world. I have been living in St. augustine, but have just moved to Brooklyn, New York to pursue dancing, poetry, all grain brewing and being broke in the big city. I would love to meet people for drinks/dinner/movies/roller-skating/shopping/dog-walking/letter-sending/skinny-dipping/grocery-shopping/and any other number of encounters really.

So far - 2008 I have surfed with:

Ines(Prague) Liesi(Vienna) Christiane(Salzburg) Tony and Lorenza(Bologna) Evangelos(Athens) Jeanette(Munich) Gabriela(Hamburg) Thorbjorn(Copenhagen) Emma(Malmo) Carro and Magnus(Stockholm) Svein(Bergen) Clair (Amsterdam) Kenny (Brussels) Martine(Brugge) Eleonore(Paris) Sasha(Marseille) Vinny(Dublin) Sinan(Istanbul) Jessica(Seoul) Anna and Chance(Samcheok) Melanice(Tokyo) Shoji(Kyoto) Emily(Shanghai) Nick (Oahu) Ritu and Sahir (San Francisco) Zach and Mackenzie(Austin) Jamee(Jacksonville)

I like to give people information about Key West/St. Augustine and love to host. I am a vegetarian. I could watch people come and go from airports for hours. I like the sun shining on my legs while i sit at the beach in the middle of summer as much as i like the cold stinging my nose in a big city in the winter. i am obsessed with portland, oregon, new york city, Berlin, London, Cinque Terre and all of Spain and Greece. My love for Asia is vast and deep after spending 8 months here so far. I like the outdoors and bike-riding and food markets. i believe in equal rights for everyone and i love a good protest, demonstration or march. i think that peace is not idealistic. i am obsessed with good films and love trying new foods and especially new beer. i am open-minded, like to laugh and am interested in fashion. can i come visit you yet? Philosophy: I haven't figured this out yet.

Booksmusic-mostly indie, folk, hip-hop (for dancing) and bad 90's covers. Movies I guess i am a sucker for artsy movies and documentaries and if a comedy actually has humor that makes me laugh than that is acceptable too. Books- anything sedaris (dress your family in cordoroy and denim is my favorite), the frog king, me talk pretty one day, possible page effects, jesus land, name all the animals, the awakening, the poisonwood bible, extremely loud and incredibly close. I enjoy people who are passionate about something. One Amazing Thing I've Seen or Done: Hogmanay in Edinburgh, Flamenco Dancing in Spain, Tzatziki in Greece, Cinque Terre, everything about Berlin, the call to Allah over the caves in Cappadocia, Turkey, the kindness of the Philipppines, snorkeling with whale sharks and funnels of barracuda in Donsol and Sipadan and the crazy night markets of Asia.

Svein is a very funny guy with a very cool island. He let us use his canoe and be part of a very big 40 person sandwich party that he was holding. Our time was pretty amazing.



**Ivan Hoza** Pardubice, Czech Republic July 2008

**Laura Shields** Ottawa Ontario Canada  
lshields16@hotmail.com

**Justine Lai** CA/NY USA  
justkidi@gmail.com

21-23.5 2008



Occupation Teacher of Geography

Education West Bohemian University

Teacher of Geography and Biology at primary school

- living with my wife
- like traveling, nature, MTB
- like music
- play guitar



Great man! He provided very nice accomodation, afforded opportunities to meet people from whole world. Thank you Svein.

For Ivan Hoza: You are a good musician and helpful to what have to be done. Welcome back to Prestholmen Bergen anytime.



April 22, 2008

Dear Svein,

Thank you for the most wonderful experience. I will always remember this, and never forget you. Hopefully I will see you again - you are a good Norwegian, and a good person.

Love,

Justine Lai  
California/New York  
justkidi@gmail.com  
150 Hancock Rd  
Woodside, CA, 94062

Laura Shields  
57 Dunbar Court  
Ottawa Ontario  
Canada  
K2G 5K5  
Lshields18@hotmail.com

Dear Svein,

It has been an invaluable experience meeting you and spending time with you the last 2 days at your "place" (or beautiful island) I am so thankful to be able to share this time, memories, smiles, scenery, and city with you - and staying in this "special home" has really opened up my eyes to what a wonderful city Bergen is, and how great and hospitable you and your family was 😊 Keep staying positive and meeting all these great people and inviting them to your home! I hope to see you again in Bergen and get another chance to cook for you! Best wishes and lots of love, Laura

**LEOVER AND BERNADETTE** Brisbane Queensland Australia July 2008



Current Mission: " Save the Cheerleader, Travel the Globe, and Always Thank the Dear Lord for Kebabs"

Was a Senior Mechanical Engineer (Leover) and lawyer (Bernadette) turned Wanderer Education Mechanical Engineering (Leover) and Law/Arts (Bernadette) Grew up in Albion Park, NSW, Australia Ethnicity Multi -continental

From LEOVER AND BERNADETTE



We had a great time on Svein's fabulous Island. Svein is a very interesting and generous person and staying with him on his beautiful island is most definitely a couch-surfing experience to remember! Thanks for everything Svein - we are glad you enjoyed the soup :)

**Yan He** Shenzhen, China  
Apr 27, 2008 USERNAME: VIRGINIAHEYAN

GENDER: Female AGE: 20 Student Copenhagen

ARRIVAL DATE: March 19th  
DEPARTURE DATE: March 21th  
NUMBER OF PEOPLE: 2  
ARRIVING VIA: probably by train from Oslo

I am interested in surfing your couch!  
Hi, Svein. I am a Chinese girl who studying in Denmark now. My friend and I are planning to go to Bergen on 19th this month and o back to Copenhagen on 21th. We am wondering if we could sleep two nights in your place or not. We are looking forward to exploring the beautiful Bergen and making new friends. Thank you. Have a nice weekend :)

ADDRESS: MOSEVEJ OLSTYKKE  
Copenhagen, 3650 PHONE: 4550312816



Marcel, Ruma, Fatmata, Shuai and Yan in Svein house Bergen

Svein was my first couch! :) My friend and I stayed one night in his Paradise island. He is a very nice person and drove us around Bergen!

From Yan He: Re: Svein visit Beijing  
March 9th, 2009

Big surprise! Sure. March 18-19 is Wednesday and Thursday, right? I think I will be free if no other event imformed later this week. I will help ask my friend Shuai to see if she can make it. Well, tell me when and where to meet. In the hotel or outside? If you like or have some free time, I can show you around our Peking University Campus. It's about 45min by subway from silk market to our University.



Yan He sighseeing Bergen

18 Apr. 2008 Norway China

Thanks a bunch to you, Svein & Mary!

You are such a nice man couching us in such a well hospitality. Your house is amazing; it is one of the most beautiful places I have been to. Everything goes on so well with your good mood and plans. We enjoy ourselves very much. Hope we can meet again either in Bergen or Beijing, some other places are possible as well! :)

Svein, 谢谢你的热情好客, 让我们拥有如此美好的回忆, 也感谢你的精心安排, 我们领略了挪威的岛风光与历史, 这是我们的意外收获, 美丽的风景, 热情的你, 风光无限的房子, 感谢这里的一切. 欢迎你到中国来...

于帅 (Shuai)  
451115 @ 126.com

Keep in touch

April 18, 2008 Sunny - Nice weather  
Nice People ☺

Dear Svein and Mary,

I'm so glad to come to your lovely house. It sure is a paradise! Thank you for couching us. Thank you for driving us to the west coastal islands of Bergen. We've a fanastic trip! ☺

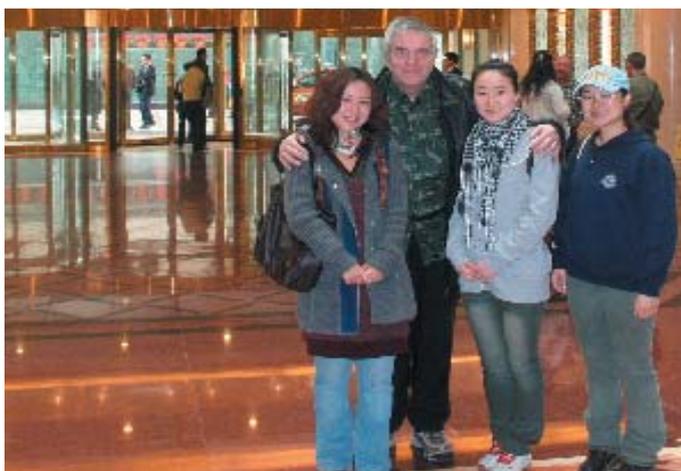
I will cherish my time here with you in my life. I would love to come back here someday because I would like to visit my friends & my family. They're you - Svein and Mary! ☺

朋友自远方来不亦乐乎  
分享各自快乐不亦乐乎  
同一地球同一家人

Welcome to China  
Wish you happy every day  
我会回来的, 早晚! ☺

何彦书 北京大学  
He Yan 47楼2单元2126  
100871  
Last name First name virginia2005pku@gmail.com

*Svein Travel Beijing meet son Frode friend Vivian and Richard and CS visitor Bergen Yan and Shai*



*First meet hall hotel Gloria Beijing meet son Frode friend Vivian, Svein, Shuai and Yan*



*Beijing Forbidden City  
Shuai, Yan and Vivian*



*Vivian and Richard from Beijing  
(wish baby "Made in Norway - Born in China")  
Mats, Tucta, Frode and Julie  
Madeiras CS Ana, Marleen and Marta from Spain*



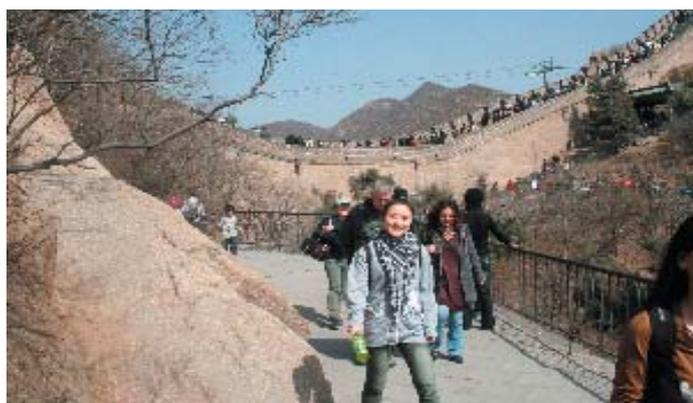
*Willy, Svein are blessed by entertainer,  
looked by Vivian and Richard*



*Vivian met her Buddy  
on sigtseing boat Øygarden West Coast Norway*



*Svein, Shuaia, Vivian and Yan outside "Olympic Nest Beijing"*



*Shuaia, Vivian and Frode at the Chinese Wall Beijing area*

## Ota Cervenka - Praha

Current Mission: "To meet you, to learn about you, to enjoy what you enjoy, to keep in touch with you."  
Czech Republic Central Bohemia Prague

Personal Designations Member CS since July 21st, 2004  
Occupation ESL teaching and translating books (the latest job that is)  
Education PR and marketing management degree (got TEFL certified later on,  
I still wonder why they let me pass) Grew up in Prague

Hello after a few years, Svein and Mary.

This is Ota (and Lina, my girlfriend), currently learning how to become salmon farmers - in Skjervøy (Troms). To refresh your memory, I'm the guy who was driving your campervan when the American CS guest of yours arrived (both of us went to the island west of Bergen and the gas/oil museum there). Thanks again for that fabulous day!

Lina and I, we'll be heading down south for the (otherwise harsh) winter soon. We started to learn Norwegian a few weeks ago. Vi snakke litt norsk for now but you might be surprised how fast we'll be progressing (our goal is to be 100% fluent by Easter 2011 at the latest). Having occasional conversation with you and your sons would be grand...

Before I get to my main point, let me congratulate you to all the recent visitors and the wonderful African lady, Fatmata, who is obviously helping you with the house (and doing it great). Having a CS family of this size is every member's dream. And you guys have done it. Proper ambassadors you are. Respect!

Oh, also before I forget - Lina and I, we have met some two and a half years ago (she hosted me in Malaysia "for two nights" - but we stayed together ever since, mainly travelling along the southern hemisphere, Malaysia and around Europe). After not returning to our original jobs (banking and teaching), we've decided to learn as many brand new skills as possible, each during precisely one month. A friend of mine whom is with the Discovery Channel thinks that, after we research/try this idea well, it might make a nice satellite television series - people learning new skills in a short period of time, whilst trying to be as good as those who have followed the particular career path for years. We'll see what happens next summer. We have our 1080p Full HD camcorder with us and, if he likes the idea/videos, we will help him with the tv series next year (minus us, we are not quite keen on fame - other people will be learning new skills while we only co-produce the show).

Both of us are now officially Norwegian (paperwork-wise) as we have decided that Norway rocks, especially after being to 75 countries in between the two of us. Here is our request Svein: if you have about 20 square metres of flat land, ideally in the more forested/forgotten part of your island, we would love to ask you if we can park our old Merc and our mid-size caravan on your land for the winter (no worries about anything, our fully insulated caravan has underfloor heating, fridge, toilet and a little shower corner and since we'll be going to work by car and taking care of absolutely everything related to our stay while commuting - including the septic tank emptying, we shall be 100% independent and therefore bother-free for you).

So, to recap: Should you not mind and if have a suitable bit of land with a rough access road, we would like to borrow it in order to work on two or three of our assignments (two to three months max.), while learning norsk and avoiding dog walkers and other member of public who otherwise disturb our caravan privacy - they really do that, even in the proper northern wilderness areas, strangely enough - a private island would sort that problem).

So far, in Norway, we have learnt how to build boats, how to run a 2000sqm greenhouse and how to grow and process salmon on a large scale. Down in Bergen, we hope for brand new challenges, each lasting a month. After that, we'll be discovering the north again.

During our past new skill assignments (outside of Norway), we have both acquired full truck drivers licences, bus licences, light aircraft licences and first aid certificates. As you can see, we are truly keen on learning new skills during this cool stage of our lives. After all, the last thing we want to do is to climb corporate ladders and die rich but adventure-free... :-)

Like I used to say, the problem with winning the rat race is that (if one manages to win) he/she is still just a rat.

We hope to become your neighbours soon. Please let us know once you decide. We would love to reach Bergen by your birthday at the latest but even before October 15 would be grand.

In addition to occasional norsk/English conversing, it would be our pleasure to pick your entrepreneurial brains too (especially about start-ups, investing opportunities and patent processes in Norway). The schedule will be up to you of course...

With best regards, Ota and Lina 4579 6090



Ethnicity Wow!

A line about Ethnicity!

Is it still 1960? Languages English Expert Czech Expert  
SlovakIntermediate Spanish Beginner  
No couch currently available for surfing.

Fra: mensa@email.com [mailto:mena@email.com]  
Sendt: 19. august 2010 16:16

Like I used to say, the problem with winning the rat race is that (if one manages to win) he/she is still just a rat.

We hope to become your neighbours soon. Please let us know once you decide. We would love to reach Bergen by your birthday at the latest but even before October 15 would be grand.

In addition to occasional norsk/English conversing, it would be our pleasure to pick your entrepreneurial brains too (especially about start-ups, investing opportunities and patent processes in Norway). The schedule will be up to you of course...

With best regards, Ota and Lina 4579 6090

From Svein K Sjøiland <sks@autoinform.no>  
To: mensa@email.com  
Sent: Sat, Aug 21, 2010 10:15 am

Subject: SV: Hi Svein and Mary, this is Ota (from Prague)

Ota

Thank for nice words your doing and plans future. I am travelling October - November and have prepared caring Island that time. Bergen offers caravan sites that will full fill your needs accommodation. Could meet for a cup coffee if we are same time Bergen.  
Call 41678183 for contact.

Wish U best

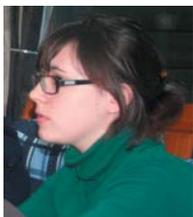
No stress, Svein.

It would not be the right thing without you anyway. When are you coming back in Nov? We'll have to give you your B-day present then and, if you are ok with offering us just a tiny parking spot (we don't need a campsite for anything since we are fully equipped), we will become your silent winter neighbours then.

Enjoy your trip in two months' time. See you when you get back, should you feel like it of course.

With best regards,

Lina and Ota 4579 6090



## Sandrine Faure

Paris France  
Current Mission: "visit scandinavia"

Occupation student  
Education translation

Grew up in Paris

Languages FrenchExpert EnglishExpert SpanishIntermediate  
No couch currently available for surfing. Friends (6)

Marine Casalis 22, Female Paris, Ile-de-France France  
Friends since September 2003 "We've known each other for the last 4 years" Friendship Type: 7 - Best Friend

Svein Søliland 69, Male Bergen, Norway  
Friends since August 2007 "Good"  
Friendship Type: 3 - CouchSurfing Friend

Katharina Kellig 20, Female Szekszard, Tolna Hungary  
Friends since August 2007 "we met in bergen"  
Friendship Type: 3 - CouchSurfing Friend 3  
Cecile Maillard-Salin 31, Several people Montbéliard,  
Franche-Comte France Friends since July 2007  
"We met in Copenhagen @ a Couchsurfing meeting"  
Friendship Type: 3 - CouchSurfing Friend

Dorota Idziak 20, Female Krakow, Malopolskie Poland  
Friends since August 2007 "met in Bergen i Svein's house"  
Friendship Type: 3 - CouchSurfing Friend



Heated swimming pool on the island



House in Bergen

Matthias Siewert 22, Male Bad Urach, Baden-Württemberg  
Germany Friends since August 2007 "Sandrine wrote me a mail to meet for a cup of coffee. Somehow it didn't work out, maybe next time. She writes nice emails, that's all I can tell about her :)" Friendship Type: 1 - Haven't met yet (link request is not recommended)

Personal Description: Well first trip on my own and I'd like to meet people who live in scandinavia or who travel like me ! I'm 21, french. I love to speak, travel, read ( a lot) and many other things ! How I Participate in CS2 When I'm in Paris I can make you visit my city, and maybe invite you on my couch if my roommates are ok with it CouchSurfing Experience I have just discovered couch surfing so I just have one small experience since I had a drink in Copenhagen with a few other travellers and two danish. It really made me want to meet new people Interests: Mostly literature, not only french but that's the one I know the most. I like watching movies from Kubrick to Harry Potter ( which I love reading to !)  
One Amazing Thing I've Seen or Done: The Machu Picchu

TRAVELED: Belgium, Bolivia, Canada, China, Cyprus, Denmark, Germany, Hong Kong, Italy, Morocco, Peru, Spain, United Kingdom, United States LIVED: France WANTS TO GO: Argentina, Japan, Mali IS GOING TO: Norway, Sweden

### References

From **Katharina Kellig**, Szekszard, Hungary Aug 12  
Extremely Positive It was really nice to meet her and we visited Bergen and ate shrimps in the rain...:-) it was really great to meet her and we will do again!:-)

From **Svein Søliland** Bergen, Norway Aug 10  
Extremely Positive She is a real good French and very nice girl.

From **Dorota Idziak** Krakow, Poland Aug 3 Extremely Positive really french girl... really positive one:) inspirational.



### References Sandrine Faure left others

For **Svein Søliland** Bergen, Norway Aug 10 Extremely Positive I spent two amazing days with Svein and Mary. We talked a lot, saw Bergen...I enjoyed his wonderful island, picked blueberries! Great great experience

For **Katharina Kellig** Szekszard, Hungary Sep 4  
Extremely Positive So sorry I didn't leave a reference earlier because we spend three great days in Bergen and I really want to see Katharina in again weather in Paris or in Hungary !! she is an amazing girl



Katharina Kellig and Sandrine Faure in Svein's home

## Marion Foxcroft (60)

Australia Victoria South Melbourne



MARION FOXCROFT in Svein's kitchen with Fiona Doig (46 left) and friend Kate Jenkinson (30 right)

### MARION FOXCROFT

Australia Victoria South Melbourne

Current Mission: "Travelling in Scandinavia until early October and LOVING IT!"

MARION FOXCROFT occupation Secondary teacher education Tertiary teaching qualification in Food grew up in Melbourne, Victoria, Australia ethnicity Australian (3rd generation) of English/Swedish descent

\* My home is non-smoking.

# My second bedroom is very small, but the welcome is warm. There is a futon on a fold-down, wooden futon base. Doonas. Room is mezzanine, with door for privacy and very warm in Winter. Fan provided in Summer. I am happy to provide bed linen and towels.

# 2 day stays, or if we like each other, perhaps longer. Preferably Friday or Saturday nights so that I can show you the city in my spare time at the weekend!

# I live close to the Melbourne CBD. 3 different tram routes within 5 minutes' walk and a bus stop at the front door, but I usually walk into the city (30 minutes) at weekends.

# No pets.

# Tiny outside deck for Summer meals and relaxing. Happy to cook family-style meals for visitors who help with the dishes!

# Happy to show people around at weekends.

Personal Description

After a very full life of having a family and returning to teaching, my adult children now live their own separate lives - one is in Sydney, Australia and the other is in Singapore. While my day-to-day life is often frantic, I love to take time away and see the world. I have travelled to Pacific Islands, New Zealand, Europe (several times), China (twice), USA, and will soon fulfil my dream of travelling through Sweden. My maternal grandfather was Swedish and left for a better life in Australia in the 1870's.

I love my home, a small, modern apartment in a renovated 1860's school building. I can walk to the Melbourne CBD in 20 minutes, or catch a tram 1 minute walk away and be in the CBD in less than 10 minutes.

I really enjoy showing overseas friends around the lovely

city of Melbourne, which is regarded as the sporting, business, cultural, fashion, shopping and restaurant 'Capital of Australia'. There's plenty to see and do here with lots of Australian flora and fauna nearby.

I enjoy meeting people and like to help travellers to enjoy the best that my city has to offer. Perhaps the thought of having another 'Mother' in a strange country appeals to younger couch surfers!

How I Participate in CS2

Just joined CS today (21 August, 2007).

I want to meet some 'real' Swedes as I travel with my Aussie friend, Kate who is 30 years old. Kate introduced me to CS in a phone call from Bergen last night! She has been travelling overseas for several months this year. We will meet in Narvik, Norway in September 2007.

CouchSurfing Experience 2 night in Stockholm at the beginning of this trip. It was my first CS and it was great.

Interests

Family, garden, travel, people, classical music concerts, movies, cooking dinners in my home for friends.

Philosophy

Honesty is the best policy.

Be the best that you can.

Love your family. Family is everything.

My sayings - "Life is too short to be boring".

"Getting older is a blessing".

Music, Movies, Books

People who have passionate interests, and who love life.

Teach, Learn, Share Goodness.

Cooking, practical hobbies- knitting, crochet, felting, etc.

\* Walked on The Great Wall of China on 2 occasions.

\* Spent the day at the top of one of the Twin Towers in New York in 1990 with my children during a 6 week trip to USA.

\* Nursed a dying friend.

# 4 days on Lofoten Islands in Norway in the Arctic Circle!

## Fiona Doig Australia New South Wales Roseville



Current Mission: "I love travel, nature, wildlife, quirky people and like to get the juice out of life" Personal Designations Community Designations Couch available Coffee or a drink Occupation Editor/writer who has spent too much time stapled to a desk, soon off travelling education University BA in Mass Communications grew up in Sydney, Australia ethnicity Australian Languages EnglishExpert Vladivostok, hey there..Couch Information Coffee or a drink I live in a suburb on the north shore of Sydney about half

an hour by bus then 15 minutes walk from the bus stop. It is very quiet here. No pubs, shops or much more than houses. I work much of the time as I work freelance which means flat out most of the time but sometimes have time free on weekends or weekend evenings to meet up with travellers. Probably easier to meet someone more central, but there are plenty of options. I am an Aussie woman, living in Sydney. I leave on Sunday 15 July on a 3 month trip (back in October). I am funny, easy going, down to earth, love to travel and a total dag (that's Aussie for zero fashion sense - I am anti ironing and rarely wear makeup). I enjoy exploring outside the tourist traps (and pretending I am not a couch potato). I like to experience some of life's more quirky aspects. It has been far too long since I had a decent break, so I am really excited to be getting away and meeting some likeminded souls. Oh, but how good it will be to get away from my desk and get moving, to be active and get outdoors! And to meet some interesting people and have some fun, laugh and enjoy life every day, not at just weekends. My trip will take me to Seoul in Korea, Vladivostok and Kamchatka (far eastern Russia to see volcanoes and geysers) and then to see relatives and friends in England and Scotland, at least a week in Iceland to see more volcanoes and geysers, and finally crewing on a yacht to see Scandinavia, leaving from Amsterdam. I'd love to meet some Russians and Icelanders when I go to those countries. I enjoy other cultures having lived in several other countries as a child. I am an easy house guest, I enjoy cooking healthy fresh food (supplemented with chocolate) and I am happy to help out with household tasks and chip in for food if required. I don't smoke, only drink socially on occasion, love pets, have a sleeping bag. Strangely I am allergic to mushrooms and coffee so no amount of encouragement will get me near them :) I'd love to meet some people who want to go out and take me exploring outside the tour bus routes. And when



## Kate Jenkinson

Australia Victoria Melbourne  
Current Mission: "Taking 12 months off to see more of the world. Not going home till the money runs out!"

Grew up in Yarrawonga ethnicity Australian English (Australia)Expert Have a spare room that can be yours with a double bed. Will provide linen and

stuff. Live with another person, so no partying, drugs or smoking at home. Work during the week, but nights and weekends are free. Need a fair bit of notice as go out of town a bit, like the fresh country air. Live close to public transport, and 20 minutes from centre of Melbourne.

### Friends (5) Map of friends

Svein Søliland 69, Male Bergen, Norway "She belongs to my family" Friendship Type: 5 - Good Friend mghtydux 38, Male Helsinki, Etela-Suomen Laani Finland "Kate surfed on my couch" Friendship Type: 3 - CouchSurfing Friend I vouched for Kate Jenkinson

Nathalie, Agen 42, Female Agen, Aquitaine France "I meet Kate in Norway on Svein's island" Friendship Type: 3 - CouchSurfing Friend PAAPAL 23, Male Savonlinna, Ita-Suomen Laani Finland "Kate surfed my couch" CATH555 29, Female Narvik, Norway "Hosted her in Narvik" Friendship Type: 3 - CouchSurfing Friend

Personal Description After travelling in 2002, I will be on the road again in March heading to Egypt, Turkey then east-

I am back at home I am happy to show people the wild and natural page of Sydney. I only recently discovered myself there are wallabies living along the harbour near my house (after nearly running into one on my bicycle). There are wild parrots everywhere here. I recently learned about CS after hosting travellers through HelpExchange and had some truly fabulous people stay. Their presence has most definitely enriched my life. I am a Servas member, a peace organisation where hosts offer travellers accommodation in their homes. Staying with hosts is the best thing I ever did. Met some fabulous people that way. Restores your faith in humanity - there is indeed peace on earth, it lives in people's homes and hearts. CouchSurfing Experience There is nothing like staying with locals to get the juice out of life and view it through their eyes. Seeing the world from hotel rooms and bus windows is not really travelling for me. Locals know the best spots, the interesting and quirky places that are nearby and can show you their culture. They add that passion about their home town in a way no one else can. Anyone staying in Sydney would have no idea of all the fabulous wild places it offers if they asked a travel agent or at their hotel. Yet 5 mins from my home, which is in one of the world's biggest cities, there is a beautiful harbour bushwalk. And that is not unusual here.

Interests I love nature, outdoors activities like walking, skiing, swimming, mountain biking (at which I am utterly incompetent and only do on flat offroad tracks) and sailing. I work as a writer and editor on big colour nature books and publications. Being stuck behind a desk all day I am not as fit as I would like to be. I love animals, have a very friendly Burmese cat and volunteered as a wildlife rescuer raising baby ringtail possums and rescuing parrots. I enjoy yoga, meditation and can read tarot cards. Philosophy Live life to the full and enjoy those special moments. I have a great sense of humour and love to laugh. I am intuitive and creatively minded. I go every Monday evening to a pop choir where I sing my heart out on old classics. I don't know if I am any good, but I love it. Love to read, read just about anything and particularly enjoy cultural literature. My sense of humour is quirky; love Monty Python, for example. I watch far too much TV when at home, enjoying murder shows, movies and comedies most. It will be good to escape from it!

Types of People I enjoy Intelligent and creative people always intrigue me. Anyone who has a good sense of humour makes life more fun. People who have an interest in some kind of philosophy of life and what it all means interest me. Teach, Learn, Share I can show people how to read tarot cards or develop their creativity and intuition. And how to laugh! Plus give tips on writing. Highlight of my life was watching the volcano Krakatau erupting. You feel it in your bones. Ash falls on your eyelashes. (it is off Java, Indonesia). I think CS is fabulous and look forward to meeting some interesting people

ern Europe, finishing the journey in Scandinavia in October. I have been teaching Outdoor Education and Sport for 8 years, and sometimes think that there is something better out there but not sure what. Sport, Family and travelling to find new adventures drive my world. Typical Aussie girl really, blonde, green eyes, freckles, love the outdoors. CouchSurfing Experience Not too much couch surfing (only usually after big nights out). Have only been a couch surfing guest since September 2007 (although signed up earlier in the year), it has been an amazing experience and I wish I had spent the previous 6 months of my travelling couchsurfing! Interests Travelling, Camping, participating in random acts of kindness, waterskiing (have my own boat), all sports, animals (parents have a farm). Philosophy Not much will have changed when you get back, so why hurry. Music, Movies, Books Like all genres. I really dislike rap, hip hop stuff that defames and demeans people, cultures and women. Types of People I enjoy People who have a passion for something but don't impose it on you, rather, they share it. Those who you can learn from; older generations have a lot to teach us. Teach, Learn, Share "Danny Long Legs" are one of the most poisonous spiders in Australia- but their mouths are too small to bite! One Amazing Thing I've Seen or Done Waterskied on the Murray river- its amazing everytime! Simple things in life are often the best. Switzerland was breathtaking, July 2007, I jumped out of a helicopter at 5000m above Jungfrau. Opinion on the CouchSurfing.com Project Great idea! Not sure who I will find on my adventures. Ultimately the project seems to have a pretty good aspect; help others and we all achieve. TRAVELED: Belgium, Czech Republic, Egypt, France, Germany, Greece, Hong Kong, Hungary, Italy, Malaysia, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Singapore, Spain, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey, United Kingdom LIVED: Australia, United Kingdom WANTS TO GO: Canada, Croatia, Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda IS GOING TO: Denmark, Finland, Sweden



**Anna Pitch**  
Friend to Dorota

**Dorota Idziak**  
Student of Indology /  
Jagiellonian University  
Poland Malopolskie Krakow  
Current Mission: "enjoying  
life, learning, dreaming"

**Maria Malik**  
Friend to Dorota

**Katharina Kellig**  
Hungary Tolna Szekszard  
Student Current Mission:  
"Seeing the world!"

### **Dorota Idziak**

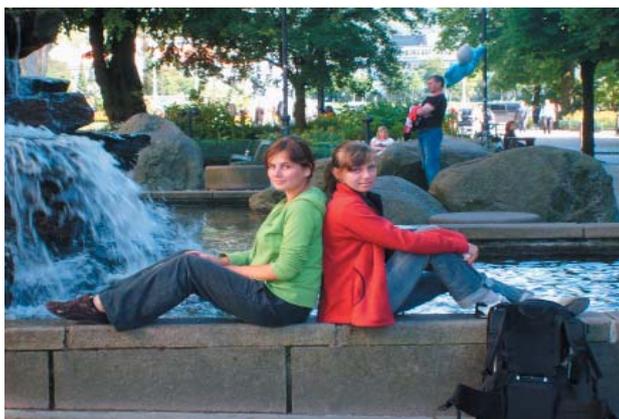
*Love colorful things, rain, Cracow, nature, mountains, walking, jogging, cycling, oranges, tea... and my friends... Interests. photography, mountains. Music, Movies, Books favourite films: Kuch kuch hota he, God's City, Salam Bombay!, Voces inocentes, Amelie, Chocolate Favourite music: film & classical music Types of People I enjoy people who enjoy traveling, mountains, sports and drinking tea TRAVELED: Germany, Italy, Norway, Ukraine, United States*

**LIVED: United States WANTS TO GO: China IS GOING TO: India**

Refernce for **Mary and Svein Soiland**

From Dorota Idziak Aug 6 - 2007

Extremely Positive. If you want to see the soul of Bergen, if you want to believe in people just visit Svein, take the things as they come with smile on your face, and let your dreams about Norway come true...



**Anna and Maria Bergen aug. 2007**  
Photo: Dorota Idziak

**Katharina Kellig:** Occupation actually I'm studying to become a social worker for kids in Hungary. education i made my final examination in Germany. Grew up in Dresden, Germany, but since 2 years i live in Hungary  
German: Expert Hungarian: Expert English: Expert Russian (Russia) Intermediate Latin: Intermediate  
Groups I Belong To music Why: because I'm a musician myself and love making and listening to music Piano Players.  
I'm an open-minded, active person and I'm very spontaneous.  
How I Participate in CS2: I would like to find people to meet all over int he world and also people, to come over to Hungary and see, how great this place is!:-)

**CouchSurfing Experience:** I stood in two places in norway and met a lot of interesting people... until now couchsurfing has been positive through and throguh!

**Interests:** I love travelling, meeting new people, learning new languages, reading, watching good films in their original language. i love animals and doing sports in the free nature. In my freetime i make music with my band and friends. I play flute, gitar and piano. **Philosophy:** all my life i felt, that i belong to hungary. so I moved there and all I can say is, that it was a great decision. since that i live much more thoughtfuller, i see things in a more intense way and enjoy every day as an adventure. **Music, Movies, Books:** **Movies:** pride and precudice, ein freund von mir, skakerag, 21 gramm, barfoot, and all kind of movies with johnny depp **Books:** All books of astrid lindgren, Isabell Allende, Anna Gavalda and the Harry Potter books **Music:** red hot chili peppers, muse, coldplay, placebo, michael jackson, hungarian folk music, ska and reggae music **Types of People I enjoy:** People from other countries, who are open-minded and take care about their environment. **Teach, Learn, Share:** I might share my knowing about living as a foreigner in another country - without family. and how everything can be managed, if you just hold on to yourself and to your dreams. **One Amazing Thing I've Seen or Done:** The most important thing was my move to hungary. i have seen so many great places, i can't list them up here...:-) **TRAVELED:** Austria, Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Serbia, Slovakia, Sweden, Switzerland **LIVED:** Germany, Hungary **WANTS TO GO:** Moldova, Mongolia, Russia **GOING TO:** Romania



References Viola Sipos  
left Svein Søliland Sep 3  
Extremely Positive  
Although we were not  
expected guests on their  
island, Svein and Mary  
have treated us as we  
were part of their family.  
We really felt there like  
we got to the paradise  
by mistake :-) Svein,  
thanks for your generos-  
ity and for shearing your  
wisdom! :-)

siposviola@yahoo.com

**Viola Sipos** (23) Romania - Tirgu Mures  
web-development & e-customer service I'm just an  
ordinary girl, living my life and following my road. I'm  
always interested in many different things. For ex-  
ample I've studied social pedagogy and now I'm doing  
something totally different :-) Music is the only thing  
that never lost it's worth to me. Other important things  
are: friends and my family, nature, culture... CouchSurf-  
ing Experience Surfed some couches in different parts of  
Europe and hosted only one person yet. This project is a  
really great idea, somehow it gives you back the belief  
that good this world isn't so bad after all. Interests  
music, travelling, dancing, clothes :-), painting on glass,  
meeting interesting people, body-painting, literature etc.  
Philosophy Life is always more surprising than I can  
ever imagine... Music, Movies, Books Movies: 21  
grams, The Piano, Talk to Her, The Fountain  
Music: almost any kind, if it is of a good quality  
Books: Hungarian literature mostly, Catch 22  
Locations Traveled Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland,  
France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Monaco, Norway,  
Poland, Slovakia, Sweden, Switzerland



References from  
Eva Kovacs  
For Svein Søliland  
Aug 30  
Extremely Positive

Me and my friends spent  
3 days with Svein and  
Mary in their island.

We enjoyed every  
minute, and we really  
felt like home there.  
Thank you again for  
showing us around  
and everything!

kevi\_mail@yahoo.com

**Evi Kovacs** - Romania Mures Tirgu age 25  
occupation social pedagogyst education University  
grew up in Tirgu Mures ethnicity Hungarian  
I like meeting people and being with my friends. I'm friendly and  
very optimistic :-) CouchSurfing Experience: I surfed in Luzern, Paris,  
Kopenhagen, Bergen and Stockholm. It was a great experience. I'm  
looking forward for more experience. Interests Travelling, hiking, tak-  
ing photographs, meeting new people, reading... Philosophy  
The first step to getting the things you want out of life is this: Decide  
what you want. Types of People I enjoy Open minded people and who  
knows how to enjoy life. TRAVELED: Austria, Belgium, Denmark,  
Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Monaco, Norway, Slovakia,  
Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey

## Simon Kinga Katalin

Romania Harghita Lazarea 2007

Current Mission: "introducing, to offer and find free places for sleeping, night and day too."

Occupation Travelling, learning, working like social pedagogist, teaching, education University  
Grew up in Gheorgheni, Harghita, Romania  
ethnicity Hungarian  
Languages Hungarian Expert  
(language barrier exists)

Lazarea is the center place in Harghita ciuntz, it is famous for Lázár Castle, Ferences Kolostor. My parents are living with me, but not always time. We are living in a middle house with a very nice, friendly garden. flowers and fruits.., I don't have any pets, I smoke socially, Is possible to transport with cars, bus, trains. Weekdays, weekends too. The days is depends on visitors attitudes.

My first priorities are suzerainty, personal freedom, decision, Most important my relationships in family, friendly, associates. How I Participate in CS2 At my girlfriends

Philosophy Don't war, just love!



Picture Below: Svein visit Kinga's new family and business Budapest oktober 2009.

Happy to meet with your success in life



**Dalma Janosi** Bucuresti  
Current Mission: "Enjoy life."



Couch available Yes Occupation Office work Education University grew up in Targu Mures, Marosvasarhely Ethnicity Hungarian Languages: Hungarian Expert, English Intermediate, Romanian Intermediate, Italian Intermediate Spanish Beginner, German Beginner

Couch Available: Yes Max Surf-

ers Per Night: 2

I live in a very small apartment in Bucharest, 10 minutes walk from a metro station and 5 minutes away from the tram station, in the central area. I do not have beds, but I can offer you space on the floor if you do not wish for much luxury. I can show you around as well, if I'm not working. I don't have pets, and don't smoke. I rarely go to sleep early. You are welcome to stay during weekends and weekdays also if you don't mind that I work most of the day. Friends (3)



**Vince Biro** 25, Miercurea-Ciuc, Harghita Romania Friends since August 2007 "She is an open minded girl with a shining soul." Friendship Type: 7 - Best Friend



**Viola Sipos** 23, Tirgu Mures, Mures Romania Friends since October 2002 "She's one of my best friends, someone who knows me very well. I like to discuss things of life with her in long messenger chats while doing the job of every day. :-)" Friendship Type: 6 - Close Friend



**Eva Kovacs** 25, Tirgu Mures, Mures Romania Friends since September 2000 "She is one of my good friends" Friendship Type: 5 - Good Friend

Personal Description: I am an ordinary person, open minded, I believe. I love people, nature, cultures, discussions.  
CouchSurfing Experience I have interrailed for 3 weeks throughout Europe and had very nice hosts all over.

For Svein Soiland Bergen, Norway Aug 29 Extremely Positive I'm thankful for the time we could spend at yours and Mary's house! You really know how to make people happy!



## Julius Schellmann (27) Berlin Germany

Current Mission: "Couchin' the surf out of my couch"

Couch available Coffee or a drink birthday June 2nd Occupation Working at the Canadian Embassy & Studying Political Science Education From pre-school to university - I've seen it all ! Grew up in Berlin,

Germany Languages German (Germany)Expert EnglishExpert FrenchIntermediate Swedish (Sweden)Intermediate German (Switzerland) Intermediate Groups I Belong To Berlin: Why: 'cause it's my hometown Montreal: Why: 'cause I'll move to this wonderful city soon Couch Available: Coffee or a drink I'll be moving to Montreal soon so at the moment there's no couch available - sorry ! Friends (2)

Olivier Roy 29, Male Berlin, Germany Friends since June 2002 "Long time friend" Friendship Type: 7 - Best Friend

Jannis Pabel 25, Male Berlin, Germany Friends since April 1984 "very good man" Friendship Type: 3 - CouchSurfing Friend

Me concentrating on something yellow. View all 5 photos

Personal Description I would describe myself as an optimistic, open minded person who is sociable and talkative. That's why I spend most of my time with other people.

I'm almost done studying Political Science and will finish writing my thesis in Montreal next year. Canada is of great importance to me as the embassy here in Berlin is employing me. How I Participate in CS2: Give and take - I guess that's how it works ! CouchSurfing Experience I went to Riga last year with an Italian friend. Although we didn't actually sleep on a couch, we still had a coffee with a Latvian couch owner. In September 07 then I had my first encounters with two Norwegian couches in Bergen and Oslo - both very positive ones !

Great idea - adventurous and thrilling !! Interests I'm into sports like biking, running, badminton and football. Furthermore I like music (mostly electronic), enjoying Berlin's brilliant nightlife or just walk the city.

Taking pictures and looking at them is another passion of mine. Types of People I enjoy I like real and easy going people. I don't like arrogant, snobbish and self-centred people.

TRAVELED: Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, France, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, United Kingdom, United States LIVED: Germany, Sweden, United States IS GOING TO: Canada

### References

From Terje Lingaas. Oslo, Norway Oct 4 Extremely Positive Julius is a fun guy! I was supposed to have a date that night but I let him come anyway. And when my date got wasted and did handstands in the living room he took it like a norwegian! Welcome back.

From Olivier Roy Berlin, Germany Oct 4 Extremely Positive Julius is the exception to the rule of german coldness. This says everything! Julius is the man for all situations in berlin. He is from here and his insider endless knowledge of this town is legendary. Just ask Julius and he will be more than happy to lend you a helping hand. Simply a friend for life that I had the chance to meet in this sometimes very unwelcoming city!

From Svein Söiland Bergen, Norway Sep 20 Extremely Positive Great to host you with bike in Bergen Norway Sept 18th - 20th 2007

### References Julius Schellmann left others

For Jannis Pabel Berlin, Germany Oct 2 Extremely Positive Jannis is a fun guy who's always up for any kind of fun ! For Olivier Roy Berlin, Germany Oct 2 Extremely Positive Olivier is the exception to the rule of Canadian superficiality ;) This says everything!

For Svein Söiland Bergen, Norway Oct 2 Extremely Positive. Stayed with Svein and Mary two weeks ago for two nights. Very warm and generous couple with a lovely island and a great pool :) Tack ska ni ha !

For Terje Lingaas Oslo, Norway Oct 2 Extremely Positive Stayed with Terje last week for one night. He spontaneously invited me after I contacted him one day before arrival. Comfy couch, nice friends and great collection of booze :)



## Julia Wetzel (23) (with Matti)

Germany Bavaria Würzburg Current Mission: "exploring norway"

Member since July 29th, 2007 grew up in Schweinfurt, Bavaria, Germany Languages German (Germany)Expert English Intermediate Norwegian Intermediate French Intermediate Couch Information No couch currently available for surfing. Friends (4)

### Map of friends

Christian Zacherl 26, Male Würzburg, Bavaria Germany Friends since June 2004 "bestfriend of my girlfriend" Friendship Type: 5 - Good Friend

Vladimir Petrenko 22, Male Lyon, Rhone-Alpes France Friends since July 2007 "Well" Friendship Type: 2 - Acquaintance 2

Kim Fjeld 22, Male Bergen, Hordaland Norway Friends since August 2007 "Friendship Type: 3 - CouchSurfing Friend

Liya Ducena 23, Female Bergen, Hordaland Norway Friends since July 2007 "met for a barbeque on the edge of cliff :) met through another CS member- Vladimir" Friendship Type: 3 - CouchSurfing Friend View all 2 photos

Personal Description Well, I was spending now 4 month in a camphill at the west coast of Norway. It was the first time for me to be away from home so long but in fact I did enjoy that very much. We're now having holiday here in Norwy..... Interests reading books and eating sweets while doing that, kooking together with my friends TRAVELED: Spain LIVED: Norway

### References:

From Kim Fjeld Bergen, Norway Aug 11 Positive unfortunately we only met for a short bbq..

From Liya Ducena Bergen, Norway Aug 11 Positive really enjoyed her speaking norwegian with sometimes really distinctable german accent. no offence, it was juz funny! :)

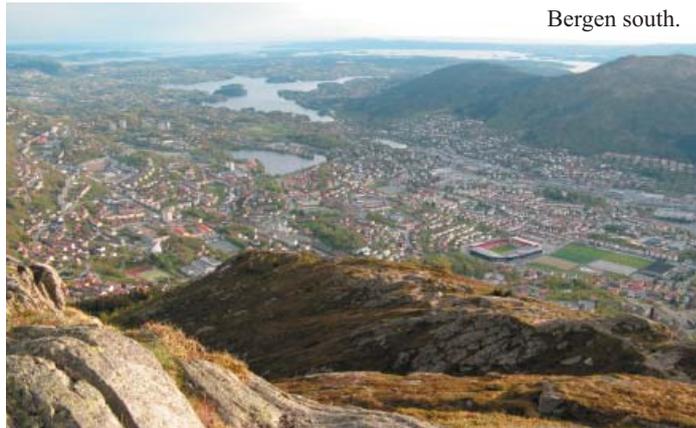
### References Julia Wetzel left others

For Vladimir Petrenko Lyon, France Aug 12 Extremely Positive it was very nice to get to know him... hanging around with him was just fun, especially eating "kässpäzli"! I'm looking forward to visit him in lyon!

For Svein Söiland Bergen, Norway Aug 1 Extremely Positive A so very friendly guy and also interesting personality. We had our own room, kitchen, bathroom and livingroom was also free to use for us. we enjoyed our time here very very much! especially beeing waked up with fresh coffee :-)) we wish you all the best! julia and matti

For Christian Zacherl Würzburg, Germany Aug 12 Positive hab schon des öfteren das kicker-zimmer zum schlafen bekommen und ich muss sagen, dass ich jedesmal angenehm geschlummert hab!

Bergen south.





### Bing and Fang Xuhua

Shanghai age 35

Current Mission: "happy everyday"

Couch available Yes member since July 14th, 2006

Occupation editor Education postgraduate

grew up in China Languages Chinese

(Traditional)Expert English Intermediate

Groups I Belong To: HC--Hospitality Club

Couch Available: Yes Preferred Gender: Any

Max Surfers Per Night: 3

We like to travel and meet different culture. If you come Shanghai. We can provide a fold out double sofa bed in a separate room. There are no kitchen, but there are microwave oven and ice-box. You can use it. We are very close to everything - shops, pubs, restaurants and public transport (it's near metro station). We can speak English. We like to keep our place pretty neat. We prefer guests non-smoking, tidy, friendly. Guests can speak English. We prefer family guest.

Friends (4) Map of friends

Svein Søliland 69, Male Bergen, Norway

Friends since August 2007 "Good"

Friendship Type: 3 - CouchSurfing Friend

ENIKIA 43, Female Seoul, South Korea Friends since September 2007  
"I stayed their home in Shanghai"

Friendship Type: 3 - CouchSurfing Friend 3

Andy Lamp 36, Male Hamburg Germany

Friends since July 2007 "Fang & Chen stayed with us in Hamburg for two nights" Friendship Type: 3 - CouchSurfing Friend 2

Katharina Kellig 20, Female Szekszard, Tolna Hungary Friends since

August 2007 "from staying at Sveins house in Bergen"

Friendship Type: 3 - CouchSurfing Friend

Personal Description I like to meet different culture people, know interesting things all over the world. I will do my best to help other members who will come to Shanghai. CouchSurfing Experience We are member of HC. Our link is [secure.hospitalityclub.org/hc/travel.php?cid=chenfangyi](http://secure.hospitalityclub.org/hc/travel.php?cid=chenfangyi). We have hosted many couples and families from all over the world. It is a unforgettable experience to make exchange like this.

Interests travel, meet new friends, music, swim Philosophy If you help me, I will do more for you. Types of People I enjoy optimistic, amusing, open mind, can learn something from him. Teach, Learn, Share CouchSurfing is a good idea. Opinion on the CouchSurfing.com Project CouchSurfing is a good idea. We prefer to host a family, especially with children. The Couchsurfing Project makes our travels more easy and interesting. It's a new way for me to make new friends across the world...



### Jack Buchanan Canada (60)

Current Mission: "Education through travel"  
Canada British Columbia Nanaimo

World traveler for over 30 years. Now that I am retired from a great career (Weatherman). I just keep on traveling. Easy going, spontaneous. I am a watcher. Really happy. Saskatoon, Canada ethnicity Caucasian

Reference from Jack: "Svein and Mary live in their home and "place". The hospitality and enthusiasm about Bergen and Norway was exceptional. Continuous enjoyable conversation. Svein is a very interesting person. Simply people who enjoy

Jack's running away (E-mail 20th September 2007)

Hi All,

Just to let you know that Jack is running away. Once again I have been afflicted by that nasty Itchy Foot Syndrome (IFS) and will be off to Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania in search of a cure. I am out of here Sunday Sept. 23rd and return Wednesday Oct. 24th. Just a short trip. When I get home priority will be Jack's Story 2007 so I can report on all the activities of the year. Hope to go to Saskatoon for Xmas with family and Central America Jan. to Mar. Hope all is fine with everyone. Talk to you soon. Jack

Reference From Svein Søliland Bergen, Norway Aug 5

Extremely Positive

Jack makes his life to a wonderful world

From Elisa Partti Mikkeli, Finland Jan 7 Extremely Positive Denis and Nadia were such polite and fun guests to have. We had a great time drinking wine, talking and playing music/singing. They are really interesting people and fun to be with. I hope to see you again someday!

From SILJE VANILJE Oslo, Norway Dec 13, 2006 Positive He and his friends visited me, they were the perfect guests, too bad they stayed so short.

From Eilen Zakariassen Oslo, Norway Dec 13, 2006 Positive REALLY nice people! told me a lot about Russia, which is really exciting for me;) and they were funny and brave enough to try a lot of our typical norwegian food! Denis seems like a smart guy, and had funny things to say;) i recomend hosting them:)

From Aleksa` Vasic Moscow, Russia Dec 5, 2006 Extremely Positive He's a friend now whats more to say

## References To

Denis Kovalchuk left others For OGONEK Saint Petersburg, Russia Sep 1 Extremely Positive Well, they are ambassadors in SPb, so everybody must know them! :-). Seriously, both Lena and Stas are extremely friendly and open guys. They are ambassadors totally justly, IMHO =)

For Svein Söiland Bergen, Norway Aug 27 Extremely Positive Dear Svein and Mary! You are inconceivable and unbelievable people! You serve as the fine example to me. Now I know what I wish to be when I'll become an old fellow. =) Thank you for your hospitality!

For Adrin Briscoe Brooklyn, United States Aug 27 Extremely Positive Adrian is very kind, sociable and friendly person. I wish every kid have such a teacher! He played guitar and keyboards, he treated all of us (co-couchsurfers) with delicious pasta, and he was a very good company!

For Odd Reidar Sømme Sandnes, Norway Aug 27 Extremely Positive Odd hosted us at his cosy place in Sandnes for two nights. Odd is very hospitable host! He proved to be very close, friendly and intimate guy to us. He is fond of kayaking, hiking and trekking. So do love love the same music and reads the same books. Wish meet him again in Saint-Petersburg or elsewhere in the world someday.

For Teemu Kiiskilä Oulu, Finland Aug 21 Extremely Positive It's so nice to discover that in distant Oulu there are so similar and intimate people like Teemu. We've spent only one night with him, but it seemed that we knew each other for a long time. Teemu drives the same car model as do I. :-). He likes similar music. And he is very easy-going and smart person. Wish meet you someday again. Thank you, friend!

For Camille Kalt Grenoble, France Jul 10 Positive Camille is smiling, calm and very positive girl, as well as her sister and friend. They were very pleasant guests, they did dishes, made delicious meal and were quite self-dependent. I'm still sorry that we had not much time to chat and I wish we'll meet again someday to do it.

For EVGENIY SUKHIKH Kiev, Ukraine Jul 4 Positive Nice guys! Interesting to talk with, easy-going, calm and friendly. And what I like, they are real backpackers!

For Lars Lynch Barcelona, Spain Mar 19 Extremely Positive Lars and Joke are very nice guests! They are very polite and considerate. They did dishes every time. We've found a lot of things to talk about and it was very interesting. I still regret they left so early. I have some spare "hidden treasures" to share in our city. =) If Lars or Joke ask you for hosting, never doubt!

For Joe Macke Canyon Lake, United States Feb 11 Positive Joe is easy going and calm guy. It's interesting to talk with him about this and that, and he is a real traveller. I would say nomad. He had visited SPb on his way to Siberia, China and Mongolia. I wish I could travel so far and so long, too.

For EWA W Gdansk, Poland Feb 11 Positive Ewa is very sociable and openminded. We chatted a lot and it was just fine.

For Vera Tenetz Kuwait, Kuwait Feb 5 Extremely Positive Vera and Tomi hosted us for 4 days during New Year holidays. They are very pleasing family. Very hospitable and generous. We had interesting conversations, nice walks and delicious New Year dinner together with there friends.

For Teemu Markkanen Helsinki, Finland Aug 21 Extremely Positive We've first met at our hosts' place in Jokela at New Year dinner and chatted a lot. It whas nice and I DO want to meet Teemu again to keep up the acquaintance with him. He hosted me at his place in Helsinki in August 2007 and helped a lot to park my car at free place for a week. Teemu is extremely friendly and kindhearted guy.

For Elisa Partti Mikkeli, Finland Jan 12 Extremely Positive Very-very hospitable and generous girl! Elisa entertain to us very kindly. She showed us a lot of nearby sights, and her husband, younger brother and a neighbour performed a real rock concert! Very nice company. Trustworthy host. Thanks a lot!

For Gudrun Cecilie Eikemo Helland Oslo, Norway Mar 19 Extremely Positive Gudrun is open, sociable, cheerful and communicative girl. And perfect host!

For Clemens Moning Langenthal, Switzerland Dec 13, 2006 Positive We surfed at the same place in Oslo simultaneously. Chated till late night. Clemens is fond of bicycles. Me too.

For SILJE VANILJE Oslo, Norway Dec 13, 2006 Positive We surfed Silje's small but very cozy loft during our Norway trip. She brought us to the roof and we enjoyed the view of Oslo and I made a lot of photos. We chated a lot, and she introduced us to Clemens, CS member from Switzerland, who had came to Oslo by bicycle(!). Very cheerful girl!

For Eilen Zakariassen Oslo, Norway Dec 13, 2006 Positive We met Eilen and Gudrun when surfing Oslo on our way to Bergen and back. Actually, I did not spend nights at girls' place (the other CS members hosted me and my girlfriend) but they treated us with fine breakfast and presented the famous Norwegian brown cheese. Mmmm. I love it! The girls study Russian! Dobro pozhalovat' v Sankt-Peterburg!

For Siren Berland Bergen, Norway Dec 13, 2006 Positive We went to Bergen with three my friends and Siren and her boyfriend were so kind that they let us to stay at their place all the company, all four of us. Though the preliminary agreement was only for two. Thanks for your hospitality! And welcome to Saint Petersburg!

For Aleksa` Vasic Moscow, Russia Dec 13, 2006 Extremely Positive I met him by chance, without preliminary e-mailing, etc. He met first Ekaterina Baranova, CS member and then they find me by ICQ. And I'm happy about this fact. Alexa' is smart, sociable, openminded and just the likes of me. =)

For Oyvind Erland Stavanger, Norway Dec 13, 2006 Extremely Positive He is very natural guy! Oyvind hosted us (four persons) for three nights in September, 2006. His hospitality is so warm, that when two couchsurfers from Germany came, he gave them his own room and slept in the corridor. He regaled us with a delicious vegetarian omelette and gave us useful advice and some tips concerning visiting landmarks near Stavanger. I wish we come again to his place someday. =)

For Nadezhda (aka Nicole) Fyodorova Saint Petersburg, Russia Jul 23 Extremely Positive She is my good friend. She is bright, pretty, smiling, kind, romantic, smart, sensible.

For Alexey Kostin Saint Petersburg, Russia Jul 20, 2006 Extremely Positive Alexey was just the person who told me about CouchSurfing project.



Bergen, Norway August 2007 Svein's home

**Nathalie Agen**

France Aquitaine Agen

member since August 4th, 2007

Birthday October 8th

Occupation Journaliste grew up in bordeaux

Languages: French (France) Expert English Intermediate Spanish Intermediate

**Groups I Belong To**

Midi-Pyrenees London Barcelona

Journalists of the world

Why: I'm a journalist

Book lovers

France Central America and the Caribbean Europe

CS Gatherings &amp; Happenings -

Meetings,

Parties and Camps

Aquitaine

Music Festivals

Family Welcome Group

Cheap Ways to Travel in Europe

Couch Available: Maybe

Preferred Gender: Any

Max Surfers Per Night: 3

Bonjour, je vis en plein centre d'Agén, petite ville du sud-ouest à 130 km de Bordeaux et de Toulouse. J'habite près de la gare. Je peux recevoir deux personnes dans une petite chambre individuelle (trois possible). Possibilité d'utiliser la machine à laver.

Je travaille beaucoup mais serait heureuse de prendre le temps pour vous expliquer ce qu'il y a à voir et à faire dans le coin. Je peux éventuellement prêter deux vélos et, si vous tombez sur un de mes jours de congé, je pourrais vous faire visiter le département. J'ai un fils, Quentin, âgé de 17 ans. Pour les personnes allergiques, j'ai un chat. Je ne fume pas (plus).

**Friends (3) Map of friends**

Christian & Janne Nordmark 34, Several people Fredrikstad, Ostfold Norway Friends since August 2007 "She Couchsurfing with us" Friendship Type: 5 - Good Friend 1

**Svein Søiland** 69, Male Bergen, Hordaland Norway Friends since August 2007 "Ouer communication was really good" Friendship Type: 3 - CouchSurfing Friend

**Kate Jenkinson** 30, Female Melbourne, Victoria Australia Friends since August 2007 "Surfed Sveins island in Bergen" Friendship Type: 3 - CouchSurfing Friend  
View all 4 photos

CouchSurfing Experience  
En Norvège en aout 2007, avec mon fils. Deux expér ences, deux bonheurs.

Interests: rencontrer des gens, échanger, parler, rire, la lecture, la musique (rock mais aussi, à ma grande honte, la variété bien pailletée des années 80), la plupart des sports (mais pas forcément en faire...), aller chercher des champignons en forêt (et éventuellement en trouver), le fromage, le chocolat, jouer au tarot, les brocantes, les îles, les voyages et le Mexique.

Philosophy "Do it!"

Music, Movies, Books The Clash, Springsteen, Manu Chao, Am-paranoïa, Ferrat, Aznavour, U2, Dexy's midnight runners, les Beatles, Abba, Pat Benatar, Georges Brassens, The Police, Piaf... Je lis tout ce qui me tombe sous la main: John Irving, Garcia Marquez, Jorge Amado, Arto Paasilinna, Van Cauwelaert, Hemingway, Zweig, Tom Sharpe, Orwell, Boris Vian, Augusten Burroughs... beaucoup de polars (thrillers) aussi. Chaplin, Kusturica,

Woody Allen, Pedro Almodovar, Sofia Coppola et Carlos Saura. Frida Kahlo et Fernando Botero. Opinion on the CouchSurfing.com Project "Le monde est à nous"

TRAVELED: Andorra, Belgium, Cuba, Czech Republic, Hungary, Italy, Mexico, Morocco, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Russia, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, United Kingdom

**References**

From **Kate Jenkinson** Melbourne, Australia Aug 27

Positive Natalie was the best french person I have meet. She always saw the bright page of the rain in Bergen...you have to be special to do that!

From **Isabelle Scholl** Freiburg im Breisgau, Germany

Aug 24 Extremely Positive I met Nathalie and her son in Bergen at Sveins place. Interesting and friendly person, it was a pleasure to meet her! I hope you are more lucky with the weather next time!

From **Svein Søiland** Bergen, Norway Aug 23

Extremely Positive I pair of shoe are to few for sightseeing Bergen in flood and to experience Noahs Arch rain august 2007.

From Christian & Janne Nordmark Fredrikstad, Norway

Aug 15 Extremely Positive They spent one night with us, and we went island exploring the next day. They are really nice to be around and are very welcome another time!

**References Nathalie, agen left others**

For **Kate Jenkinson** Melbourne, Australia Aug 22 Extremely Positive Kate is an open-minded girl. I meet her in Svein's house, in Bergen. She's arrived with her smile and her gaiety to share witheus her gorgeous travel. A really nice person.

For **Svein Søiland** Bergen, Norway Aug 22 Extremely Positive An incredible man in an incredible place. I've called Svein's island the Noah's Ark first because he save me and my son from the flood (the rain in Bergen is not a legend!). But also because in two days you can meet Tim the dog, the 4 ducks, 2 russians, 2 americans, 1 australian, 2 frenchs, 1 austrian and 1 luxembourgais. Really amazing, as the way Svein and Mary transports you, talk to you, cook for you and with you... A great life and kindness lesson.

For Christian & Janne Nordmark Fredrikstad, Norway Aug 22 Extremely Positive Janne and Christian hosted my son and me one night and two days. They're really nice, friendly, explain us their town and take time to go with us on a beautiful island. We meet Christian's family, really nice too. And Janne cooked a great diner for us! This was my first experience and I hope I will received all CS members as well as they do for me! Thanks for all (and waiting you in France).



*Breakfast on the Island - Nathalie, son and Russian couple*



### Maxwell Key (25)

USA  
California Oakland

Current Mission:  
"To find couches to sleep on during  
my world odyssey"  
Birthday September 14th

Occupation: Travel Business, English  
teacher, waiter, party planner....I do  
a lot

Education University of California-  
Santa Barbara (B.A.) grew up in  
Oakland, California, USA

**Maite Cn** Thomas Gosewinkel  
**WELLS** Daniela Kicic Daiva  
Kelpsaite Mathieu Guay Natasha

Voitovich **Tina Schübler** **GAlA08** Ricard Salevik

Languages: English (United States)Expert. SpanishIntermediate,  
ItalianBeginner, JapaneseBeginner Couch Available: Maybe

I will be home in Oakland Sept. 14 and will be staying with my  
folks for a bit and also will be up and down through California.  
So If you will be traveling in California let me know and maybe I  
can help you out.

Contact Method: email mkey8@yahoo.com or mkey08@gmail.  
colm Friends (10) Map of friends

Christina Sørensen 26, Female Copenhagen Denmark  
Friends since July 2005 "We met on a beach in Thailand"  
Friendship Type: 4 - Friend

Tina Kristensen 27, Female Oslo, Oslo Norway Friends since  
August 2007 "We snaved a lot" Friendship Type: 4 - Friend

James S 30, Male Bury St Edmunds, England United Kingdom  
Friends since September 2005 "max cooks an incredible thanks-  
giving meal" Friendship Type: 5 - Good Friend

Adam Rosenfeld 27, Male Coram, New York Friends since  
August 2007 "Max and I both couchsurfed with the same person"  
Friendship Type: 2 - Acquaintance

Sally Ahmed 31, Female Cardiff, Wales United Kingdom

Friends since August 2007 "Stayed with me and went to a cs  
party" Friendship Type: 3 - CouchSurfing Friend

Daiva Kelpsaite 21, Female Vilnius, Vilnius Lithuania  
Friends since July 2007 "hosted him for several days ;)"  
Friendship Type: 4 - Friend 3

James Maddison 28, Male Reykjavik, Reykjavik Iceland  
Friends since September 2007 "he surfed our couch :)"  
Friendship Type: 4 - Friend 4

Hanna Larsdottir 19, Female Reykjavik, Iceland  
Friends since September 2007 "he couchsurfed at my place"  
Friendship Type: 3 - CouchSurfing Friend 3

Nicola Hemsley 37, Female Swansea, Wales UK  
Friends since August 2007 "Max surfed my couch!"  
Friendship Type: 3 - CouchSurfing Friend 2

Natasha Voitovich 25, Female Minsk, Minsk Belarus  
Friends since July 2007 "I met him in Minsk during his travel-  
ling" Friendship Type: 3 - CouchSurfing Friend 1

Personal Description: I am a 25 year old American male  
who has been working my way around the world for the past  
two years. I have a B.A. majoring in Film Studies at UCSB  
(California's beachside party school). I have also studied  
abroad in Florence, Italy, as well as lived in Australia, New  
Zealand and Japan. Also I have volunteered in Madagascar  
in a wonderful village called Maventibao, which you should  
all go to. I have traveled to around 60 countries and sam  
currently making my way home heading westward. I have been  
through Africa and Eastern Europe and heading now through  
Scandanavia, and the British Isles. I like music, sports (espe-  
cially baseball), food & cooking (I can cook great Italian for  
any graceous host), I definitely am always up for going out for  
a drink and I love to dance. I also like movies and have studied  
film making in the past. How I Participate in CS2 As of now I  
am traveling and hoping to find some places to crash along the  
way. I would be more than happy to cook for my host or help  
out in any way. In the future I will be able to offer my house  
in the San Francisco Bay Area and hope to host weary travel-  
ers for years to come. CouchSurfing Experience: I have now  
crashed with a few real cool people Interests As I said, I am  
easy going and like a lot but mostly baseball, music, movies  
(especially comedies), and most of all traveling the world.

Philosophy This column seems like a place to put ones Senior  
Quote for their school yearbook. So instead of being cheesy

with a sharp quote, I will just say, I live my life trying to be happy and make others happy.

Music, Movies, Books Movies- The Graduate, Shawshank Redemption, Zoolander, Old Skool, and The 5 Monday Movies made by yours truly. Musice- Mostly Hip Hop and Country, cause I love to dance and I a little bit of a cowboy Books- Alchemist, Prince of Tides, Great Gatsby Types of People I enjoy People who are fun and open minded. Teach, Learn, Share Well like eeryone else, I want to learn as much as I can about the world through travel and all the people I can possibly meet along the way. Everyone is indivitual and brings something to the table. Personally, I have traveled a lot and had a lot of experiences in my life, so I have a lot to share with anyone. One Amazing Thing I've Seen or Done There are hundreds, just to name a few, I went to the 1997 Academy Awards and multiple before and after parties, I have been to both Summer and Winter Olympics, I have climbed up 5,500 meters to view Mt.Everst from Kallah Pattah, ....I could go on. Life has been good to me.

Opinion on the CouchSurfing.com Project I think it's absolutly great. I had this idea once for a website like this because when I lived in an apartment in Florence, Italy, we were always offering our couches and extra mattresses to friends and fellow travelers. Places like Florence are hard to find accomedation and as we all known the price of hostels is getting out of hand. Basically, the code of the traveler demands a site like this and I commend anyone willing to participate.;eled

TRAVELED: Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Canada, China, Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hong Kong, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Kenya, Laos, Latvia, Lithuania, Malawi, Malaysia, Moldova, Monaco, Mozambique, Nepal, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Qatar, Romania, Russia, Rwanda, San Marino, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Tanzania, Thailand, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United States, Vatican City, Vietnam, Zambia LIVED: Australia, Italy, Madagascar, New Zealand, United States

## References:

From Unnur Arnardottir Reykjavik, Iceland Sep 28  
Extremely Positive (Hey Max, look at me, leaving a lame reference on your page!) Max was the first couchsurfer I hosted and he made the whole experience very easy and enjoyable. Very laid back and open to new people. Has impressive rice-cooking skills.

From Svein Söiland Bergen, Norway Sept 24 Openminded, experienced person, interesting talks.

From James Maddison Reykjavik, Iceland Sep 11 Extremely Positive max's 4 days here were definitely interesting and i don't think there wasn't a moment we were bored. if you get the privilege of max, definitely take him for a night out, you won't regret it ;)

From Hanna Larsdottir Reykjavik, Iceland Sep 10 Extremely Positive Max was such a nice guy to host, we walked around Reykjavik and took some photos of touristy things, went the golden circle and did some partying, i had so much fun, i hope to be able to see him in california:)

From Nicola Hemsley Swansea, United Kingdom Sep 4 Positive Max has made my feet so itchie!!! especially as Max was so chilled from his trip, and i am stresses out with work! what was even funnier after dropping Max off to catch his bus.....My exhaust fell off the car!! ha ha still laughing!

From Adam Rosenfeld Coram, United States Aug 21 Positive We both went to a birthday party with our common couch host. The next day we went and saw Cardiff Castle together. Nice guy, and incredibly travel savvy.

From Sally Ahmed Cardiff, United Kingdom Aug 20 Extremely Positive Max is a funny guy, a great laugh, and up for partying, he is very entertaining and has loads of great stories. I enjoyed having him stay.

From Christina Sørensen Copenhagen, Denmark Aug 19 Extremely Positive Max always gets the best hookers, but apart from that, I like the guy :-). Max is funny, sweet and you're never bored, when he's around. He's a fantastic guest and makes the

BEST omelettes I've ever tasted.

From Daiva Kelpsaite Vilnius, Lithuania Aug 18 Extremely Positive Maxwell is really great guy ;) we had much fun together strolling around the city ;) we saw many places and he tried lithuanian dishes ;)he is definately cool person and u should meet him and share your stories ;)

From Tina Kristensen Oslo, Norway Aug 11 Extremely Positive He's a very good snaver.. I would recommend him to ANYONE!

From James S Bury St Edmunds, United Kingdom Aug 4 Extremely Positive max is a fantastic guy just don't give him your email address as he will regularly bombard it with huge emails! had some good times in queenstown together. he can cook too ladies!

From Natasha Voitovich Minsk, Belarus Jul 24 Extremely Positive Max is a very calm, kind and friendly person. We spent whole day together with my friends and saw many things because of him:) He was an English teacher for me and tried to learn some Russian:) Good luck in your travelings!

## References Maxwell Key left others

For Svein Söiland Bergen, Norway Sep 12 Extremely Positive. Great host and fed us wonderful Norweigan food.

For Hanna Larsdottir Reykjavik, Iceland Sep 12 Extremely Positive I had a great time and learned a lot about Iceland staying at their house

For James Maddison Reykjavik, Iceland Sep 12 Extremely Positive. I had a great time and learned a lot about Iceland staying at their house

For Nicola Hemsley Swansea, United Kingdom Sep 4 Extremely Positive Great time. Lots of good chats and she definitely showed me amazing parts of Wales I would never have seen otherwise

For Sally Ahmed Cardiff, United Kingdom Aug 23 Extremely Positive Nice girl. Very goos host. Introduced me to some real cool people and we had some good times.

For Adam Rosenfeld Coram, United States Aug 23 Extremely Positive Good guy. We had some good laughs out in Cardiff.

For Daiva Kelpsaite Vilnius, Lithuania Aug 18 Extremely Positive She is the coolest Lithuanian gilr by far and a great host!

For Christina Sørensen Copenhagen, Denmark Aug 18 Extremely Positive She is one of my top Danish girls ever and a great host and has taught me all the Danish i know. But she can't beat me at connect four and i definitely always get better hookers than her

For Tina Kristensen Oslo, Norway Aug 11 Extremely Positive She is crazy but has a wonderful apartment. And I just dominated her in a cooking competition.

For James S Bury St Edmunds, United Kingdom Jul 25 Extremely Positive James is a top bloke who you can always find at Brazz Bar when he is in Queenstown or playing frisbee golf or in the Kareoke bar



**Terri Sandys** Seattle Wahington age 55  
 Current Mission: "I want to meet others in the world. Right now I want to meet people in Norway as I travel with my 88 year old Mom to see where our family lived before they came to the USA in the late 1800s."



**Occupation:** I am a music teacher in the USA and teach Violin, Viola, and Cello. I also play professionally.  
**Education:** I have a degree in Music and Education from the University of Puget Sound in Tacoma, Washington

Grew up in Seattle, Washington, USA. Ethnicity Caucasian  
 Languages English (United States)Expert German Beginner

**Groups:** Classical music **Why:** I'm a violinist and am curious about others. **Visiting Norway in late August**  
 We live 15 miles north of downtown Seattle. There is a bus stop 7 blocks away and, with transfers, it is an hour ride into town. We also live 10 minutes south of Edmonds, a charming small town on the Puget Sound and has a ferry terminal to the Olympic Penninsula. There are four in our house-my husband, Jeff, my 21 year old son and my 18 year old daughter who is off to college this fall.

There are many fun things to do nearby as well as in Seattle, but I suggest you check out a travel guide to the area. We do have a couch and bedding, but we are not quite ready to host at this time. I am willing to show you around if I have the time. After my daughter is in college we will have a room to out you up from time to time. We do have an inflatable bed and we'll see how it goes. You can stay up to 2 days

I'm older than my children, but still younger than dirt. I like music, art, learning about new things, and people.

CouchSurfing Experience: I've never done this before.

Philosophy: Life without humor is a joke waiting to happen. I want to leave the Earth a better than when I arrived.

Music, Movies, Books. Love science fiction, its my favorite guilty pleasure in literature (I read almost any type of book except romance and horror). Last movie seen- Waitress. Listen to jazz A LOT!! I do love all sorts of music except for Rap. I enjoy people with an open mind and similar interests. Meeting new people is a joy. Traveled to Switzerland the summer of 1970 to participate in the first International Festival of Youth Orchestras. It was terrific traveling around the country giving concerts and then meeting in St. Moritz for two weeks meeting other people from all over the world and participating a big festival concert with kids from all the orchestras.



**Rianne Bouwman** (35) Amsterdam

Occupation mental health care professional  
 Education university grew up in near Amersfoort

Languages DutchExpert EnglishExpert FrenchIntermediate !:

Couch info: My couch is comfortable to sit upon, but too small for sleeping purposes. I don't have a spare bedroom but I can put a mattress in my living room. I live in Amsterdam Oud-West, a part of town built around 1910, in a quiet street in a lively neighbourhood. Third floor, no pets. If you need to smoke, you can use the balcony. Close to tram stops, 5 min walk from Vondelpark, 15 min walk from the Leidseplein. I like my guests to be independant and make their own plans, but enjoy sharing a meal as well. Friends (3)  
 Luna Zegers 32, Amsterdam,  
 Svein Søliland 69, Male Bergen, Norway  
 Wilson Soh 31, Male Kirkcaldy, Scotland United Kingdom

Personal Description Going back to university three years ago took a lot of my time and money, so I haven't traveled much recently, I only took tent and car through nearby Europe - great, by the way. Especially for city trips though, couch surfing sounds like a nice alternative. I like having guests who are independant and make their own plans.

How I Participate in CS2 As a host and a guest. CouchSurfing Experience Hosted and surfed. Interests Friends, friends' kids, family, movies, books, cooking, traveling, hiking, camping, writing, painting, theater, music, more books, more movies. Indian and Ethiopian food, reading while eating and v.v., and hosting guests. Visiting musea for modern arts. Types of People I enjoy Kind people. One Amazing Thing I've Seen or Done Dangling my feet over a 400 meter cliff in spite of my fear of heights (Angels Landing, Zion NP, USA).

TRAVELED: Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Hungary, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Monaco, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Singapore, Slovakia, Spain, Switzerland, Thailand, United Kingdom, United States



*Joane Prins Rianne's travell friend*

Edvardo Garcia Caracas Venezuela  
with friends Macarena (30) and Joaquin Carbonell (30)  
- Sevilla Spain



CS member since July 15th, 2007 age 30 Languages SpanishExpert English (United States)Expert Italian (Italy)Intermediate No couch currently available for surfing. Personal Description: Two guys living in sevilla. Working and studying at the same time. Enjoy meeting new people everywhere. Looking for accomodation in september to norway. We like movies a loooooott (addicted), music, learning languages and cultures. Also knowledge of plants and animals. Enjoy the marvelous city of Sevilla and its culture. We live in

**Wendy Espinal** age 25 Dominican Republic



Current Mission: "Hunt sunsets and share breath-taking laughs"  
Personal Designations  
1 Dominican Republic  
Distrito Nacional  
Santo Domingo

Occupation Theater and film artist/producer/freak ;) education Communications, advertisement and dramatic art grew up in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic ethnicity Latinamerican Languages SpanishExpert EnglishExpert FrenchBeginner ItalianBeginner

I'm living in Madrid now, but I'd be glad to help with info about DR... :0) My passion? Traveling (kinda' predictable, uh?) and the arts. I just try to enjoy life with fun and humor. Love living as a citizen of the world, sharing my culture with people and learning from theirs. I'm eager to explore the world!!! And I'd love to help you find out that the Dominican Republic is a lot more than beautiful beaches! (with those included of course!! hehe) Interests Music, theater, films, photography, dance, graphic design, illustration, drawing, documentaries... La playitaaa (the beach), concerts, laughing till by abs hurt, creating, dancing, foood, humor, adventure sports, sharing stories, getting lost, nature, yoga, environmental concern, doggies, nutella, pesto sauce, lemonade, fried platains, olive oil, sushi rolls and lots of others great things that make this life just wonderful ;) Philosophy - the essential is invisible to the eyes - take a walk on the wild page - whatever you wanna do, do it now... timing is the answer to success - want a better world? start the change yourself Music, Movies, Books uuuufff!!! very diverse: Funk, Rock, Folk, Soul, Jazz, World Music, Reggae, Disco, Ska, Acoustic, Merengue, Salsa, Tango, Flamenco, Bossa Nova, Samba, Electropop, House, Tribal, Trova, Cantautor, Classic & Indie Rock, HipHop, R&B, Rockabilly, Gospel... Before Sunrise, The Edukators, 21 Grams, Manhattan, Annie Hall, Clockwork Orange, Kill Bill, Shreck, Garden State, In the Name of the Father, Tesis, Carne Trémula, Amelie, Raging Bull, The Departed, Six Sense, Mujeres al borde de un ataque de nervios, Moulin Rouge, Snatch, Noviembre, The others, The Life of the Others... "Le Petit Prince" by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry, "A brief history of everything" by Ken Wilber, "The art of loving" by Eric Fromm  
Types of People I enjoy I think you can learn something from

a town called Santiponce-Italica (10 min by bus from the city centre) where the roman emperor "Adriano" was born, with a incredible and fascinating roman ruins next to our house (5 min walking) and nearly coast (atlantic and Mediterranean sea) in 45 min. Summer in Sevilla is very hot, so, be ready for the hot weather. Sevilla is the city of FLAMENCO DANCERS AND SIGNERS, with a lot of art, history and particular culture going to the tower of "La giralda", the walled city by the romans and its magnificent river "Gua-dalquivir". Experience the variety culinary options, from the popular highland ham "Pata negra" to the exquisite Paella Interests sharing ideas of travelling, languages knowledge, FILMS WE ARE FILM BUFF Philosophy Life is a journey so we should enjoy this trips, so we are very openminded people and honest, which is very difficult to find nowadays. Music, Movies, Books European films, We spend lot of time watching movies depending of the director. Types of People I enjoy Very friendly, open for laughs and meet different cultures from any race and age.

**COUCHSURFING IS A WAY TO LOOK FOR A FREE PLACE BUT THE MOST IMPORTANT THING FOR US IS THAT WE MEET PEOPLE FROM EVERYWHERE, SO WE WOULD LIKE TO MEET PEOPLE WHO ARE OPEN FOR THAT TOO.-** One of us has moved from venezuela to spain and still living for 4 years.... Opinion on the Couch-Surfing.com Project It's amazing for us to discover this webpage where people are open to share nice moments and have fun Locations TRAVELED: Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Portugal, Venezuela LIVED: Venezuela IS GOING TO: Norway, Switzerland

anyone... althouugh ;) I tend to feel more connected to curious, unconventional, creative, funny, passionate, sensitive, crazy, adventurous, genuine, straight forward, proactive, free and full of energy souls. Opinion on the CouchSurfing.com Project Interesting people sharing unforgettable moments at gorgeous places all over the world... what else can I ask for? TRAVELED: Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United States LIVED: Dominican Republic, Spain, Hola Svein and Mary!! Cómo están? 29th August 2007

I'm Wendy Espinal, from República Dominicana. Now I'm living in Madrid, doing a masters degree on cultural projects. Right now I'm in Oslo, visiting some friends... I have the fortune to have met very interesting and friendly Norwegians in different places years ago, and I finally had the chance to come and see their land... I want to go to Bergen next saturday or sunday, and I would love to meet you both for a walk or coffee... are you available those days? you seem very interesting people to me :) and I didn't find get to see any references on you having latinamerican visitors... so I'd love to share some of my culture with you. I still don't have exact plans for Bergen I was trying to find accomodation in Voss or Flaan but it seems impossible (\$\$\$ :-/) so I'm thinking on getting directly to Bergen and go there and return the same day... I think I will be staying until tuesday with a friend of my friends also, if you have some good tips or suggestions on Bergen, I'd really appreciate them! and as well info about how's the weather now ;) Thanks in advance for your help!! Well, I'll wait for your reply :) Un abrazo y mil gracias, Wendy  
Halo Svein and Mary! It seems that you didn't get the link I sent to my profile before... sorry for that! I am getting to Bergen now, decided to try best luck on the weather to go to Flam on tuesday, on the way back to Oslo... I will give you a call soon Please let me know if you are still available forhosting me :) takk! Wendy

On 2 Sept /07, Wendy Patricia Espinal <wendyespinal@gmail.com> Hello Svein and Mary!! Thanks for your reply! Sorry I couldn't answer before... my friends took me to a cabin nearby Oslo, so had no internet connection for a few days, but it was a very beautiful stay :) Thanks a lot for offering your hospitality as well.. I'm getting to Bergen tomorrow... leaving on the 6,30 am train from Oslo... I wanted to go stop in Myrdal to go to Flam, but it seems the weather is not going to be so nice :( How's the weather there? would you recommend me to go to Flam tomorrow afternoon? anyways, because of that, I don't know if I'll be getting to Bergen early enough to be able to meet you and stay at your place tomorrow night... I think I can let you know around 4pm would that be ok? here's my mobile in case you want to send an sms: +34 628 880 401 But for sure on Monday night it would be really nice to stay with you :) well, I'll contact you as soon as possible with any news so, see you soon! un abrazo, Wendy ps/ by the way, do you know any one that will like to go to the fiords these days?... 'cause it'd be nice for me to find some company to go there... Wendy



**Isabella Streckhardt** (21)  
Karlsruhe, Baden-Württemberg, D ...  
member since April 24th, 2006

Current Mission:  
“to enjoy the summer”

Occupation  
**Furniture carpenter**

Languages GermanExpert EnglishIntermediate Groups I Belong To Cheap Travel Why: looking for cheap and easy ways of travelling Couch Available: Maybe I live about 10 minutes out of town and share my flat with three guys, so i hope you don't mind that our place might get a little bit messy sometimes... We all work weekdays but there is usually someone at home in the evening so you won't be alone ;) There might be one spare room, but you would probably have to stay in my room. my couch is not very comfy, but if you want you can try to sleep on it (nobody has ever made it for an entire night on that couch). there is plenty of room on the floor and we have pretty good bedrolls. There is no smoking in my room, as i am a non smoker but you are allowed to smoke in the kitchen. At weekdays i usually go to bed around 11pm so you shouldn't get back to my house in the middle of the night if i have to work on the next day. at the weekends i am off work and i might have time to show you around a little or to take you out. Contact Method: Isabella-S@gmx.de Friends (2) Map of friends

Sophie Burger 21, Several people Frankfurt, Hessen Germany Friends since April 2001 “we grew up in the same city and met one day - since then, 6 years ago, we have become friends”Friendship Type: 6 - Close Friend

**Svein Söiland** 69, Male Bergen, Norway Friends since August 2007 “By couchsurfing” Friendship Type: 3 - CouchSurfing Friend

Personal Description“all about me” this section is called.. wooo, i find it pretty hard to describe myself but i will try to.

At the moment i am doing an apprenticeship to be a furniture carpenter. i really like it, i enjoy working with wood and having the possibility to do something practical rather than “just” going to university. I share my house with 3 guys, they are friendly and open minded and we get on pretty well. Weekdays i'm usually at home in the evenings, because i have to leave for work at 7am but at the weekends i enjoy going out as well as just staying at home to watch a video or hang out with my friends, depending on the mood i am in. I am easy to get enthusiastic about things and love to see new places and get to know new people. Types of People I enjoy All kind of open-minded people TRAVELED: France, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Portugal, Turkey, United Kingdom LIVED: Ireland

WANTS TO GO: New Zealand IS GOING TO: Norway

### References

From **Svein Söiland** Bergen, Norway Sep 28 Extremely Positive You impressed with aducation to be a furnish carpenter, We really want to have you back for visit again...

From Alicia Ryberg Oslo, Norway Aug 5 Extremely Positive Isabella and Martina are two though girls (but at the same time very sweet and charming!) - who hitch-hiked around Norway and almost on coincidence ended up couchsurfing at my place. What a lucky coincidence! They were part of the first “CS festival” I've had in my house. Thanks for sharing your personal experiences and giving me so many useful tips on hitch-hiking!

### References Isabella Streckhardt left others

For **Svein Söiland** Bergen, Norway Oct 1 Extremely Positive

It would be wrong to call mary and svein “the best hosts” we had. they did not make us feel like their guests, they let us be part of their life and treated us like being members of their family. they put so much effort in showing us a good time in bergen and made it possible to realize our plans and dreams. THANK YOU for the great time we spent together and you overwhelming trust and interest. we really want to come over and visit you again! matina and isabella.

For Alicia Ryberg Oslo, Norway Aug 21 Extremely Positive alicia really helped me and my friend out when we got stuck in oslo without having a host. she made us feel so welcome even though we rang her only a couple of hours before we arrived and she was already hosting four other sufers. when we finally got to her house she had cooked a fantastic dinner with the other couchsurfers (after having eaten only bread and couscous for 10 days in a row that was just what we needed!). thank you, alicia, we are so lucky we met you! you are great! and say hello from germany to your landlord ;)

For **Nancy Finley** Ormond Beach, United States Aug 21 Positive We met her and her cute daughter amber in bergen, were we both spent a couple of days at svein`s house. seems like they are having an amazing trip but traveling with a little girl for a couple of weeks in a row doesn't seem to be as easy as most people would think.. so you should defenitely help them out when they come to your town and show them a good time! They both are really lovely people who you should get to know!

For Alice Bogner Vienna, Austria Aug 21 Positive I met alicia and her friend as we had the same host in oslo. unfortunately didn't get to talk to them very much as we were all busy making plans for our time in oslo .

For Sophie Burger Frankfurt, Germany Jul 29 Extremely Positive I'm glad to know her. she is such an easy going and open minded person and i enjoy spending time with her.

For Emil Andreassen Sandefjord, Norway Jul 27 Extremely Positive Emil was a great host! he gave us an excellent start for our trip and we enjoyed to stay with him and learn a little bit norwegian with him and his telly ;)



*Breakfast on Prestholmen in Mary and Svein's home.  
On picture from left: Lovis, Amber with mother Nancy Finley,  
me (Isabella Streckhardt) my traveller my friend Matina and Maitte*



*Svein's four Moskus Ducks  
swimming with wild ducks  
and a black Schwane  
in Sælenvannet  
Bergen Norway*



## Vicky Lepine (26)

Canada Quebec

Current Mission: "discuss of my passion of travelling and give tips to travel in my city"

member since June 17th, 2007  
 occupation work and travel  
 education human resources  
 university diploma  
 grew up in quebec city

Languages FrenchExpert English (Canada)Intermediate

Groups I Belong To Copenhagen Why: im visiting copenhagen  
 Couch Available: Definitely! Max Surfers Per Night: 1  
 I have a air mattress for two persons. I have a cat.

Map of friends Svein Søliland 69, Male Bergen, Norway  
 Friends since September 2007 "Good"  
 Friendship Type: 3 - CouchSurfing Friend

roumanie View all 5 photos

Personal Description Dynamic, friendly, determined and positive person. I love to talk and have nice and constructive discussions with my friends. I'm busy and outgoing person so if you come I will have more time during the week end.  
 How I Participate in CS2 I have two places and I will be happy to give you a few tips to visit québec city and the surrounding areas. I will have no place in september, because a travel around Norway but I will be happy tho open my door in october. CouchSurfing Experience I use this site for my first time in Norway, And my first experience in Bergen was a real succes. I met I really nice couple. Interests movies, reading, work, sports Philosophy: live life to the full Types of People I enjoy Friendly, curious, and positive Teach, Learn, Share travel tips Opinion on the CouchSurfing.com Project: Very cool, I just

joined this web site but it's amazing...

TRAVELED: Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada, Croatia, Cuba, Czech Republic, Dominican Republic, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Montenegro, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United States

References Vicky Lepine left others  
 For **Svein Søliland** Bergen, Norway Sep 9 Positive Very good couple, with a lot of thing to say and many thing to discuss



Ready to leave Bergen with Ferry to Denmark  
 Tommy Rajotte - Svein and Vicky



## Ursula Bullock (26)

New Zealand Auckland

Current Mission:  
 "To enjoy life, experience culture and explore different countries"

Last login 7 days ago  
 Zakopane, Malopolskie, Poland ...  
 member since August 20th, 2007

- NEW ZEALAND

Occupation Occupational Therapist  
 grew up in Auckland New Zealand

Languages English (New Zealand)Expert

Personal Description: I have been working in a rehab centre with children who have had head injuries. I am now spending the next 4 months travelling around Europe.  
 Interests Sailing, scuba diving, outdoor activities, Ceroc and Salsa Dancing, travelling the world.

Types of People I enjoy Meeting different people and hearing about where they have travelled too. One Amazing Thing I've Seen or Done Visited Southern Africa

TRAVELED: Australia, Botswana, China, Denmark, France, Germany, Ireland, Namibia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, United Kingdom LIVED: Sweden WANTS TO GO: Norway IS GOING TO: Russia

References From Svein Søliland Bergen, Norway Sep 2 Positive Ursula will arrive to Mary and Svein Bergen, Norway for host from saturday 1th of September til tuesday morning

Hi 17.09.2007 I have survived Russia and it was amazing.. loved every moment of it. just arrived in Tallinn and i am buggered... just wanted to say thanks for having me.. enjoyed my time in norway email soon ursula

Hi Svein and Mary, 20.08.2007 My name is Ursula and i am from New Zealand. I am currently travelling around Europe for 6 months and i am looking at coming to Norway. I plan to be in Bergen on the 1st of September until the 3rd of Septemeber and was wondering whether you had a couch available during this time. I am currently staying in Göteborg Sweden with friends. I lived in Sweden in 2000 as a exchange student, however now I am visiting friends and i am keen to see the beautiful scenery Norway has to offer. Many Thanks Ursula



**Joana Godinho** Portugal Evora  
Current Mission: "Enjoying life"

April 2008



It's always a hard task to describe yourself... I'm a communicative, open minded and easygoing person. The rest you'll have to find out by yourself. Interests: Music, gastronomy and cooking, nature, history, spirituality, learning about other cultures and many more. Philosophy: Always look on the bright side of life, there is a solution to everything. I enjoy Anyone who is ready to share a good talk, a good wine and a good meal with. Tolerant and respectful people.

Opinion on the CouchSurfing.org Project  
This is a genius idea!

For Svein and Mary who hosted us in their lovely little island in Bergen, it is a beautiful place to feel peaceful and enjoy Nature in all its splendour. Svein is such a generous person who takes care of his guests in the best way possible, we couldn't be more thankful! We can learn a lot from him and it helped me to understand a bit more of the Norwegian culture. Our best regards for you Svein, Mary and of course little Tim (dog)!



**Varghjerte - Frederic Wattel, France Paris**  
December 2007 fredericwattel@live.no

Hei Mr Svein,

Just a few words.

First, to thank you for allowing me the time to see the possibilities i have around. I will use the time i have left, to do everything i can to be able to fulfill the wishes and expectations i had when coming to Bergen.



As i told you long ago, i always knew my life was here and when i came over it was even more obvious. I'm in love with this town, its people and its energy/life-style. I made connections here, i have good friends now, like i never had in France, and most of all i have a loving girlfriend which i adore...Too many things to leave, too many reasons to not giving up. I came here to win, because i had nothing to loose. I won a lot of things here and i'm still fighting to be a part of this society. I came from Hell to see what Heaven looked like and returning to Hell would be the biggest failure of all my life.

Moreover. My family was ok to see me for a few days, only to say hello and goodbye, but in the recent emails, they warned me that as i said my life is in Norway, i have to succeed and build myself something, because they're not ready to have me back and i'm not welcome, for i haven't been away for long enough and haven't a situation yet. So if i would come back there, all the doors would be closed, no one wants me at their place, not even my mother.

So here i am...Thankful for everything you've done and are still doing for me. I won't bother any longer when my

**Sam Sabata** Spain Catalonia  
Sant Cebria de Vallalta

Current Mission: "Trying to prove myself it's possible to lead a different live , where money is not essential and there's strangers waiting to become friends"

From VARGHJERTE Nov 22, 2007

We met while hosted by the same host (Svein) and quickly got along very well together, sharing a lot of secrets and things about our lives... Sam is an adorable, very generous and highly sensitive person, we only stayed together for 3 days but it was like we knew each other since forever...I will never forget the great times we had and i look forward to see him again soon...A true friendship is born.

For VARGHJERTE Varghjerte is someone very special , sensitive and clever.I think Unique would be the best way to describe her . It was a great pleasure and a privilege to walk the streets of Bergen with her , and I hope we meet eachother again soon

For Svein Søliland By Sam Sabata Nov 22, 2007

Visiting Norway? then you have to see Bergen , and if you do , you need to make sure you don't miss the chance to meet Svein and Mary ! They live in their beautiful kingdom , a little island that you need to see to believe. They made my stay in bergen trully special .It has been a pleasure to meet someone so wise , flexible and generous. They treated me like a king and they feel now like part of my family.



*Varghjerte - Frederic Wattel, Tim and Sam Sabata*

*Fantoft Stavkirke*

*Frederic admire  
rebuilding  
after  
"Black Metalic"  
boss  
burnt  
it down  
1990*



time will come to go away from your place. I will know that i have been a lucky person, a very lucky person to have spend time in such a fabulous place with very kind hearted people.

So this is it, i have to succeed...I don't have a choice. From now to January 18th, i'm going to war to find a work contract and a place to stay. Even cleaning the toilets with my teeth would sound like paradise considering my situation.

Thanks again for everything,

**Nathan Carrick**, Australia Victoria Melbourne  
August 2008



Current Mission:  
“have a craic”  
occupation:  
[www.stunuod.com.au](http://www.stunuod.com.au)  
Born:  
Adelaide.....  
grew up:  
Melbourne

Some aussie bloke living his live through the lyrics of others...  
Interests: laughter, idioms, watching, listening, wandering, wondering, tunes, the noise of silence, sun, water, ball sports and cheap (but quality) beer  
Philosophy: An unexamined life is not worth living.  
There are two type of people - those that do nothing, and those that make mistakes. Of the latter, there are those that learn, and those that don't.  
There are two types of people - those who divide people into two types, and those who don't.

I enjoy relaxed individuals who know how to smile and laugh,

**Sophia Cheng** France Rhone-Alpes Lyon



Jun 10, 2008  
Current Mission:  
“have fun”

university student,  
weekend-worker  
in tpfa museum

For Svein Søliland  
I was regard as a member of family, actually the reference is too small that couldnt even represent my greatful and well, lots of feeling of this family,actually its not an experience of couch-surfing, i v learned things! its somehow strange that u found there is a strong connection with u in a kind of far place. I hope i could come back. miss u Svein Mary Fatmata!!

From Svein: She made food played the piano and join the family. We miss you and wish you back.



*Tim, Mary, Fatmata and Sophia*

including at themself... those who don't litter every conversation with the ninth letter of the Latin alphabet

I live in a 1-bedroom apartment, on the eastern edge of Richmond. Richmond is 3km east of Melbourne's CBD, and one of the world's most pleasant and diverse inner suburbs. It's four corners are marked by the home of world sport (the MCG), community housing, the Yarra River & Vic Gardens shopping precinct. And then there's everything in between. The area is well served by public transport, especially trams 48, 75 and 109. I live alone, with no pets permitted on site. There is a BBQ equipped balcony. You are welcome to smoke out there, but preference is generally given to those not burdening global health services. Having housed my frame many a night endeavouring to catch live broadcasts of international sport, my couch is more than adequate. I also have a self-inflating foam mattress should you prefer, or should there be more than one guest. Handy Link:

[http://www.travelmate.com.au/Places/Places.asp?TownName=Richmond\\_%5C\\_VIC](http://www.travelmate.com.au/Places/Places.asp?TownName=Richmond_%5C_VIC)

For Nathan Carrick by Svein Søliland: You have work for future to bring your experience into society any place. Best wishes from Fatmata and Svein in Bergen

**Olivier Van Puyvelde**

May 31, 2008

Philippines Eastern Samar Can-Avid



Communication  
Sciences

grew up in Kallo,  
Oost-Vlaanderen,  
Belgium

Current Mission:  
“Be a good daddy and make plans for the future”

Personal Description I'm an easy-going thirty-something guy from Belgium with a passion for traveling, discovering foreign cultures and meeting people from all over the globe. I'm a dreamer and I love to make plans. Sometimes I can be quite impulsive, but on the other hand this has offered me some of my most precious memories. My friends like my enthusiasm and my crazy ideas, and my wicked sense of humor.

As for traveling, I prefer to visit the non-touristic places most of the time, still untouched by mass tourism, over-development and pollution. Organized city trips are definitely not my cup of tea. I just love spontaneous encounters with people and places in general. That's why I like the freedom of traveling so much. I'm a typical backpacker who loves nature and adventure and who doesn't mind spending the night outside. I never travel with suitcases, hardly ever stay in hotels or hostels and I don't stick to fixed itineraries or plan too much in advance. I believe that most places can only be fully appreciated when you take your time for doing so. I want to be fascinated whenever I travel and experience the different cultures as much as I can. I want to be PART of it, not just an observer. I never really understood why so many people travel abroad and stay in hotels all the time, expecting the same luxury and routine as back home. I left my home country Belgium in September of 2008 and embarked on a long adventurous trip through Asia for more than a year, meeting wonderful people along the way and exploring many amazing places. This trip has changed my life in many ways. I met the love of my life in Hong Kong and we moved to her home country (The Philippines) together in November 2009. CouchSurfing ExperienceI became a member of CS in 2004, mainly because I was fascinated by the idea of SHARING a bit of your life and experiences with others. CouchSurfing opened a whole new world for me. Whenever I surf a couch, my first reason to do so is to get to know my host and take some part in his or her life. To me, that's what CouchSurfing is all about. It happened to me many times that I was surfing a couch in a place with lots of things to see but ended up spending most of my time with my host(s) because we were enjoying each other's company so much. Everyone has interesting stories to tell and great things to share. To me, traveling really is about PEOPLE in the first place.

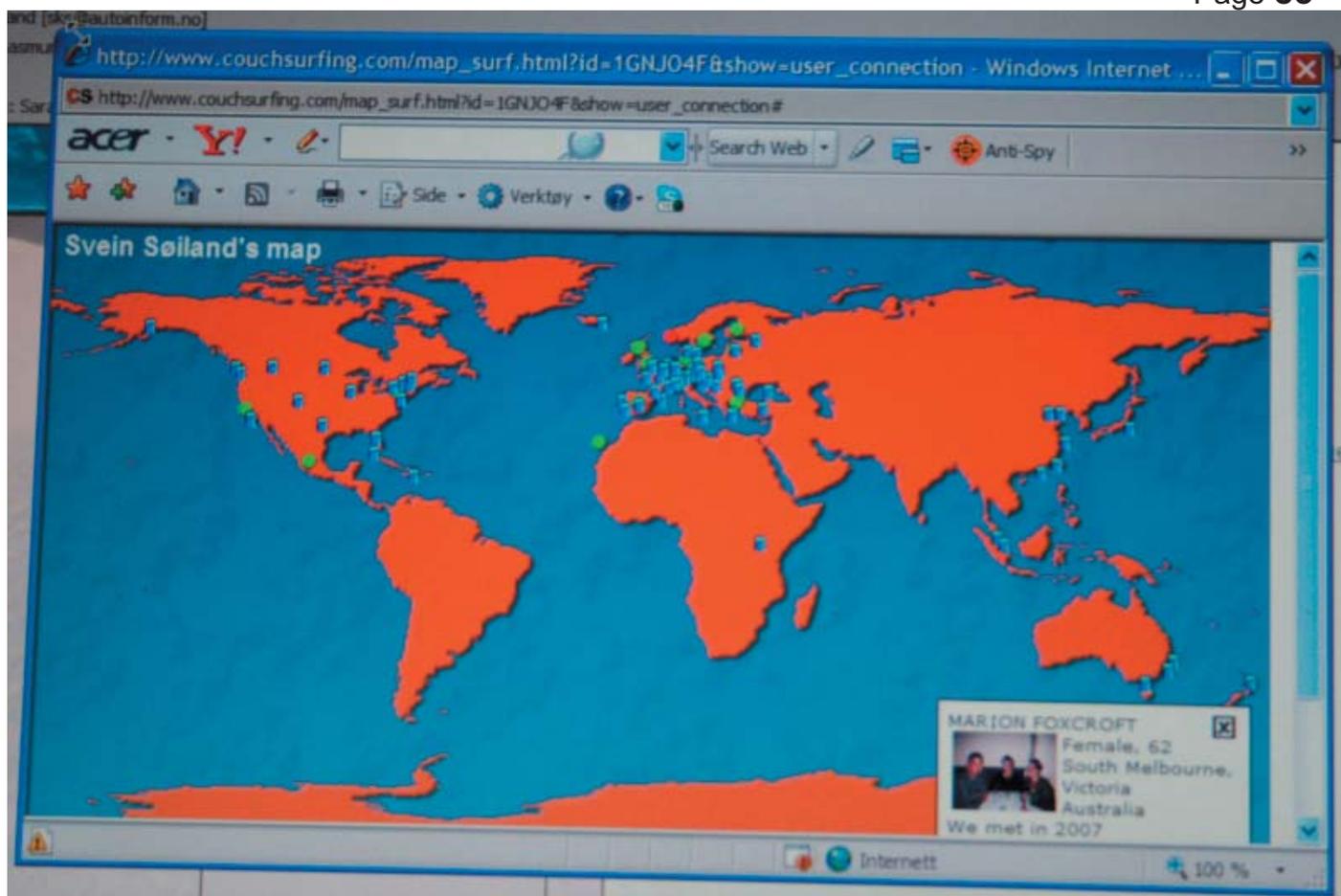
For Svein Søliland - Olivier Van Puyvelde; Svein welcomed me on his beautiful island for a small tour and afternoon tea. We also visited a couchsurfing friend who was surfing his couch. He picked us up at the train station and drove us back. Looking forward to meet you again!

# Pictures from Prestholmen



*Family "Holmebua" 2009:  
Stine, Julie, Wenche, Tucta, Bjarte, Svein, Mary, Else-Jorunn, Fatmata, Siri, Ketil, Frode, Daniel, May, Ketil-Emil and Mats*





# Some of X-mas Greetings 2008

**For my oldest son Ketil (50)  
who are not into CS project  
Father (71) is still alive -  
He impressed and humble for  
good Family of the World Life.**

Svein Søliland Wrote:

Dear Isabelle

Its a little work by mail needed to keep in touch with nice words. Hope you do well for survival and have a good life. I am after being with 22 family people X-mas eve know alone in a my big house. Fatmata join her family for x-mas and Mary have a good life in Gullstøl-tunet. I love people for communication and I admire power CS people show by moving around to meet others. You are welcome Bergen Norway - anytime - even when you see I put "travelling in moment" to my profile. This because to many people ask for host I can't manage.

I made a web of pictures you can look up at link:  
<http://www.autoinform.no/Cs-2008%20Internet/index.html>  
<http://www.autoinform.no/Julen%202008/index.html>

From 2007

<http://www.autoinform.no/Couchsurfing-filer/temp/index.html> PDF file:  
<http://www.autoinform.no/cs2007.pdf>

My best wishes for you Svein

Dear Svein,



good to hear from you! I wish you and your family a happy new year!  
 Hvordan gaar det? How is Mary doing?

A lot happened in my life since I left your place in Bergen. I finished my studies in psychology in april 2008. In summer 2008 I went to Uganda to work there as a volunteer in a small organization which works in the field of mental health. It was

a very good experience and I learned a lot about the culture and the people.

After travelling in Rwanda and Tanzania I came back to Germany in October. In November I moved to Hamburg in the north of Germany with my boyfriend Levente. We moved in together and are planning to have a family. We both work at university hospital in the department of medical psychology.

If you want to visit us in Hamburg, you are always very welcome!

Hjertelig hilsen,

Isabelle

### Isabelle Scholl (24)

grew up in Luxembourg  
 Germany - Baden-Württemberg Freiburg im Breisgau  
 Current Mission: "be there for my friends, meet new people & enjoy life :)"  
 Bad Wildbad, Baden-Württemberg, Germany ...  
 member since December 5th, 05  
 birthday January 21st  
 Occupation psychology student

Education primary & secondary school in Luxembourg, then I came to Germany for my studies  
 Languages LuxembourgishExpert FrenchExpert

EnglishExpert GermanExpert Norwegian Intermediate  
 Couch Available: Maybe Max Surfers Per Night: 2  
 I live in Freiburg-Stuehlinger, which is very close to the center, about 10-15 minutes on foot or 5 minutes by tram. My place is also at minutes walking distance from the main train station. I live in a shared flat which 2 other students, no pets. I have just one room and no couch, but enough space on the floor and I can offer one spare blanket and a sleeping bag. I usually don't smoke, but if you smoke you can do that on my balcony. Freiburg is a small students town (around 200000 inhabitants) and has a lot of cosy bars, pubs and restaurants. If I have time and you are interested I can show you around town, we can climb the Muenster (cathedral), from which you have a nice view or we can explore the Schwarzwald (black forest) or simply have some beers in one of the students pubs. :)  
 Best times that I can host you: when I am not travelling myself ;), not too busy with studies and work... just write me a message and I'll let you know if I can host you! I'm always looking forward to meet new people!  
 Contact Method: by email: little\_turtle83@yahoo.com  
 Personal Description: All about me? I guess I can't write that down in a few words...so better visit me and find it out by yourself! :)  
 Only made GREAT experiences

Interests Sports (especially playing soccer), writing (for myself, to my pals & friends), reading, listening to music, having good discussions with interesting people, going out & partying, dancing, concerts & festivals, cinema, travelling (& thinking about where I could possibly travel if I had more time & money), staying in bed a whole day, sleeping, arts, psychology, going for walks, (day)dreaming, turtles, eating, cooking, chatting, languages, meeting new people...

Philosophy "On ne voit bien qu'avec le coeur. L'essentiel est invisible pour les yeux." (Antoine de Saint-Exupéry)

Music, Movies, Books: I like non-hollywood (non-blockbuster movies), especially European movies. Music? I am always open and curious about stuff I don't know. I mostly listen to (Indie) Rock, Alternative, Pop, Reggae...too many bands I like, so I don't mention them all here. About books: some of my favorite authors are Henning Mankell & Ivrin D. Yalom. I also love children's books and Calvin & Hobbes :)

Types of People I enjoy my friends, my family, people who have their own opinions and who enjoy having good talks  
 One Amazing Thing I've Seen or Done The time I spend in Bergen/Norway as an exchange student was definitely amazing! Another amazing thing was my journey to Uganda in 2006, where I met my penfriend Denis personally after many years of writing letters to each other :)  
 TRAVELED: Belgium, Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Uganda, United Kingdom, United States

LIVED: Austria, Germany, Luxembourg, Norway WANTS TO GO: Belarus, Canada, Cote D'Ivoire, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Japan, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania, Thailand, Ukraine, Vietnam IS GOING TO: Norway

References From Svein Søliland Bergen, Aug 24 2007 Extremely Positive "The lady from Luxemburg" are an amazing person, tall footballplayer, great car driver and open minded. Welcome back to host in Bergen any time. References Isabelle Scholl left others For Svein Søliland Bergen, Norway Aug 24 Extremely Positive Svein & Mary are great hosts and their hospitality is amazing! Not only that we could stay in their caravan, got breakfast, but Svein also trusted us and gave us his car for an excursion. But the most important: I really enjoyed the conversations with Svein and I hope to meet him again in the future!

Dear Svein,

We hope you had nice christmas days and that everything is alright.

We both are very sorry that we didn't contact your earlier...sorry!

But we are very glad to hear from you. How are you and Mary and Fatmata?  
And Timmy of course ...?

Me and the ohter Katharina had a great christmas time.

We spent it with our families in Austria. Katharina still studies in Graz but unfortunately I don't see her often, because since september I study in Italy, in Bologna. I will stay there until may/june. First it was hard for me, because the life in there is a bit different compared to that in Austria. First I had a lot of problems to organize everything but now

I'm fine and I learned to enjoy the life in Bologna, where I'm attending an hungarian language course.

I know it's strange to make an hungarian course in Italy, but I love it (and I'm so happy that I found it, because in Klagenfurt I haven't the possibility to make one...).

For christmas I returned in Austria and I think I'll will go back to Bologna next week.

so, we both send you our best wishes greetings to all

Katharina and Katharina



Hi Svein!

Thank you so much for contacting me - It made me really happy to see a message from you! It sounds like you've had a very busy Christmas, I am glad to hear updates about Mary & Fatmata as well! Is there lots of snow in Bergen? Have you had many couchsurfers who have been playing the piano for you?

Thank you for the offer to come back to Bergen, I definitely will be taking you up on that offer in the future :) I am applying for some jobs in Oslo to start in 2009-2010, - so if I get accepted there I will let you know! It would be very nice to see you again!

I can understand you must get so many requests on couchsurfing for hosting, but it must be great that you have all this company and experiences! The pictures say it all - what a great time you've had with everyone!

Right now, I am back in Canada (just outside of Ottawa, the capital) finishing my studies in Psychology and International Relations. In May I will go to Cuba and will study there for a month, I'm very excited! After that I will be looking for a job in international mental health, hopefully starting a new job in either Asia (India or Sri Lanka) or in Europe again. After I left Bergen last April, I moved to the Netherlands for the summer to work 2 jobs, which was amazing! I really loved the Netherlands. I have since visited one time in October too, and then back to Canada. Have you been there? Justine is back in New York now finishing her studies as well. She is very busy this year - lots of work and research, but she is happy which is nice to see!

Anyway, Happy new year and all the best in 2009 - I think it will be a great year! Wishing you lots of happiness, health, and joy in the new year!

Best regards and keep in touch,  
Laura



Dear Svein,

It was great to hear you and see the pictures. And I really felt embarrassed by the little bit of reproach your email communicates. You are certainly right, it is not a hard task to keep in touch via email. I rather preferred postcards but I am doubtful that you have received them. I hadn't touched my CS account since we came back as you will see. But certainly I should have added you to my friends list... I am in Kayseri, a small Anatolian town near Cappadocia, doing my fieldwork. My husband is studying another town so I spend most of my days traveling in between and at the same time coping with the difficulties of fieldwork. So far it has been tiring but enjoyable. All my family is doing good. My mum and dad were in Australia about a month ago and they visited Michael and Elaine over a cup of coffee. They even made a picture together for you to see them but mum hasn't delivered it to me yet. She is now in Berlin with my sister and nephew and I will forward them the link, so that they will all see the album you have made.

Once again, it was great to meet you this summer. Please pass my best wishes to Fatmata too.

May the new year bring you the best,  
**hilal**



Hi Svein,

Great to hear from you, Happy New Year.. We are in London now and will be here for a while.. We are planing to head back to Norway later this year around March so if it happens will drop by to say G'day.. Your christmas party looked great and the album with all the photo's looks great too... :)

**LEOVER AND BERNADETTE**  
Sydney  
New South Wales  
Australia



Hi Svein

Good to hear from you! I am quite settled for me at ther molment, I am teaching five little children for a year or two .. I've just started the job. I will see how long I stay .. it is quite nice to be in NZ, but I stillll long to travel a lot.

**Mala**



He good friend svein,

Hope you going fine and wish you and fthamata well.

At the moment I'm in India and on 15 jan. I am in Auckland.  
I will come back to you after my travels.

I'm glad to know I have you as a friend, the king of the island.

Sorry I don't have much time for computer and the lines are bad in India.

Maybe you have a friend for me in new sealand as a couch surf?

All the best bless you and always in my heart

**Pascale**



Ok Svein !!!

will email her personally to see if she will to stay with me. Regards Glen. ha det bra!

Glentiloup  
Auckland New Zealand



**EXPLORA** Port Macquarie New South Wales  
Australia  
Age: 22 Female User-name: EXPLORA  
Couch Available: Traveling at the moment



HI SVEIN!!!!

Have you looked on my CS profile pictures? there are a few photos of the two of us on there! I hope that you are well and sounds like you had a lovely christmas with a great many people. How is your wife going and how is Fatmata, it must have been nice for her to get to go home to see her family again? i miss you all and often think of the nice but short time i had in bergen.

thank you for your mail and for your welcome back to bergen? one day i hope to return again.

at the moment i an in paris but i leave europe in about a week ;o( keep smiling;pascale

**Liv Rolf Hovelsen**

Moss Norge

takk for hyggelig mail. og godt nytt år til dere i bergen. fine fotografier.

klem fra

kusine liv



**Alexandra Cotofana** Busteni Prahova Romania  
VERIFIED MEMBER (1) more info  
Member since: September 2nd, 2007  
Age: 21 Username: ATROPA BELLADONNA

Dear Svein,

It looks like you truly had a full house for Christmas. It must be great seeing all of your grandchildren growing up, developing their personalities and having so many different interests...it was nice looking at these pictures, seeing such a big family united. It's sad they have to leave as well, at some point. I am doing well, enjoying the snow, my own thoughts about life and some good music, preparing for a walk in the forest, or maybe reading something nice...who knows?

Wish you could be next door and I would ask you to come by for sharing a cup of tea.

Have a warm 1st of January,

Alexandra.



Dear Svein, (mail 24.11.2008)

I dreamt about being back at your place the other night. It was great, we hugged and smiled, there was Pascale coming out of the house as well.

It was extraordinarily real for some reason, I even felt the same scences and the wind blowing just like I remembered.

I miss that whole feeling of being there-because it was not only a place to stay, it was a great vibe.

It snowed for the first time on Saturday. Yee pee! It was so nice, I went to bed hearing the rain and woke up in piles of white, delicate snow. Just felt like writing to share this with you and ask about how you are. Dreaming about great memories,

Alexandra.

**Alev Kuruoğlu**

Ankara Turkey

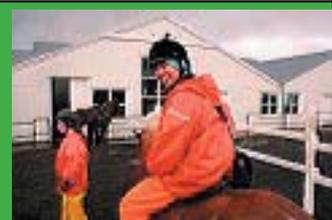
27 Female Couch Available:  
Coffee or a drink

Dear Svein,

Thank you for sending the links to the photos! I was able to look at them and enjoyed them very much. I hope 2009 is a good year for you and your family. I'm happy to hear that Mary is doing well. I always have you in my thoughts, and I often talk about you and the - sadly short - days I spent on Prestholmen. Of course I understand that you had a lot of visitors recently - I suppose it is good to take a break every once in a while. Thank you for welcoming me to Bergen again. I hope to be able to take you up on that offer sometime :) Your island is magical.

I might have told you before, but in case I forgot - I'm sorry, I didn't keep my promise about the piano. But I started taking cello lessons, and I practice everyday. I also very much enjoy listening to Grieg's cello sonata. I don't know if I will ever be able to play it, but it's nice enough to dream. Maybe you might also enjoy this link:  
[uk.youtube.com/watch?v=2IHvJawiqVI](http://uk.youtube.com/watch?v=2IHvJawiqVI)

Much love and wishing you all the best in this holiday season, Alev



**Rianne Bouwman** Amsterdam Noord-Holland Netherlands Member since: July 19th, 2007 Age: 37 Gender: Female Username: RIANNEB

hello Svein,  
thank you for your message and the links! I checked if I could open them, I can, I am at work now and will take a look at them at a quieter moment! I hope you are enjoying the peace and quiet after such a full Xmas table, although it's clear you enjoy the company. I wish you all the best, and if my travels take me north again, I will know where to find you!  
Take care, Rianne



Hi Svein,

It is always nice to hear from you. Paul and I keep very good memories of Mary and you and your beautiful place. You receive a lot of people but it would be nice for you to come to see us in Canada, you are certainly welcome any time.

We take advantage of this message to wish you a HAPPY NEW YEAR! Happiness, Health and a lot of Love!

We often think about you and your beautiful country.

With all our friendship, Lise and Paul Snyder



**Sarah Bagron** Eagle River Alaska United States Sarah Bagron has been vouched for Age: 24 Gender: Female Username: AKGROWN Couch Available: Traveling at the moment

Svein

Its so nice to hear from you. I was just thinking about you the other day. I'm staying with some couch surfers in Turkey and was telling them all about you. I had such a great time in Bergen with you. You made my time there extra special. Thanks for the offer of a place to visit in Bergen. I will definitely be back there one day. SOo, sounds like Xmas busy with friends and family. They dont celebrate Christmas in Turkey so this year went by unnoticed. How is everything else in life? Thanks so much for the email. Have a great New Years and I hope 2009 brings the best for you. You should email me your address so I can send you a postcard. Im off to Egypt next. I checked out a few of those links and its so neat. You've made a lot of people happy that have visited Bergen. Plus you have friends all over the world.

Best wishes to you too Sarah



**COCCINELLKA** Luxembourg Age: 29 Female Username: COCCINELLKA

Dear Svein,  
thank you very much for your e-mail :-)  
It made the last day of this year very special :-)  
Thank you very much for your thoughts and an immense effort to upload all those pictures onto a website :-)  
It reminded me and Michael of the amazing time that we spent in Norway, especially in your house :-)  
How are you doing? Everything well with Mary? Me and Michael are doing great, spending a quiet, family-oriented holidays in my hometown :-)  
In the mid-november we travelled to Haiti to work for Hands On Disaster Response ([www.hodr.org](http://www.hodr.org)) to help in hurricane relief. Hanna and Ike drowned the city of Gonaives under 2 m of water and left tonnes and tonnes of mud behind. It was a tough and recharging experience. You can see our photos on: [picasaweb.google.com/coccinellka/HODRProjectGonaives#](http://picasaweb.google.com/coccinellka/HODRProjectGonaives#) Best wishes and lots of hugs from Slovakia, Lenka



**Michal Jelinek** (Bratislava, Slovakia) January 8th, 2009 Re: Greetings from Bergen Norway  
Hello Svein :) I like to think back on that visit of Bergen and your house :) Was amazing experience... Is great to see us on that photo on your terrace :)  
My last trip was with Lenka in to Haiti (maybe Lenka already told you) Some photos from Haiti you can see on <http://picasaweb.google.com/coccinellka/HODRProjectGonaives#> I hope I'll go back to Norway once, check another beautiful places and visit you again :happy new year :) Michal



### Jack Buchanan

Nanaimo British Columbia Canada  
Member since: April 10th, 2007  
Age: 62 Gender: Male Username: FROGSNGREBES  
Couch Available: Yes CouchSurf Requests Replied 93%

Thank you Svein I wish you a happy new year. I look forward to seeing you again someday. Jack

Received mail from Jack  
9.12.2008:

To all my Couchsurfing friends,  
To those whom I have visited and to those who stayed with me I wish you a Merry Christmas and all the best for 2009. I have lots more nice memories from the few more couchsurfing people I have met this year. Those of you that I stayed with I still hope you have a chance to visit me someday. Those that I have been fortunate to host you are always welcome to come back visiting again. There is a lot more of Vancouver Island that I can show you. Since I am a continuous traveller I hope to drop in for a visit with many of you in the next few years. Again thanks for the pleasure of meeting you and sharing your stories. The story of my travels for this year is attached. I hope that you all send a short story of your exciting activities of the last year. Merry Christmas. Jack



**Elaine Leishman** Croydon Victoria Australia  
 Elaine Leishman has been vouched for  
 VERIFIED MEMBER (2) more info  
 Member since: June 10th, 2007  
 Age: 54 Gender: Several people  
 Username: MANDEMELBOURNE  
 Couch Available: Yes

CouchSurf Requests Replied To: 100%

Dear Svein,

It was lovely to read your email and see the pictures you sent to us. You had a very busy christmas with all your family. We enjoyed being with our family this christmas as we were not sure whether we would still be travelling in Europe. Decided that it was the best thing to travel home to Australia. The highlight of our trip in 2008 was meeting all the kind and friendly people such as yourself. We will always have fond memories of our time with you in Bergen. .



We had a visit from the turkish family who were staying at your place when we were there. They managed to fit us into their very busy schedule as they were only in Melbourne for a short time. We will email a photo that we took with them.

Wishing you and your wife Mary and Fatmata a very happy new year.

regards,

Elaine and Michael

From **Ruosi WANG**  
 (Quanzhou, Fujian,  
 China)  
 Sent January 2nd, 2009  
 - 5:18 pm

Re: Greetings from  
 Bergen Norway



Hello Svein,  
 Happy new year!  
 I am so happy to receive your message and I really appreciate!  
 It's amazing that there are 22 family people in your big house. I wish I could be there now. Anyway, I can enjoy the pictures on your site.  
 Good luck for the 2009 year! And please send my best wishes to Mary and Fatmata!  
 Best regards,  
 Ruosi

**Justin Yeung** Kowloon East Hong Kong China  
 VERIFIED MEMBER (3) more info  
 Member since: April 7th, 2008  
 Age: 21 Gender: Male  
 Username: JUSTINYEUNGHK  
 Couch Available: Traveling at the moment  
 CouchSurf Requests Replied  
 To: 100%

Dear Svein,

It is so warm to receive your greetings. I am now in Hong Kong, and I have also spent a wonderful New Year Eve with my girlfriend in Macau.



The pictures are super nice. It is true that Cs brings together people from different corners of the world. I love this idea.

Wish you all the best as well.

Regards,  
 Justin Yeung

**Kathlyn Ehret** Kusnacht Zurich Switzerland  
 Kathlyn Ehret is a CS Collective Participant (Vienna 2006)!  
 Kathlyn Ehret has been vouched for  
 VERIFIED MEMBER (3) more info  
 Member since: June 24th, 2006  
 Age: 27 Gender: Female  
 Username: KATHLYN Couch Available: No

Hello Svein!

Happy New Year!!

It's great to hear from you. Marcel and I think of you often and of the wonderful time we had at your place last Easter. We always tell friends of the great warmth and hospitality you gave us.



We spent Christmas in Borneo Malaysia. On Christmas morning we climbed the tallest mountain in SE Asia- arriving at the summit to see the sunrise.

New Year's has been quite here. Most people celebrate the Chinese New Year at the end of January.

I truly hope we can come visit you again one day. We have to see your island in summer! And jump into the lake when it is nice and warm (not frozen!). haha..

Big hugs,  
 Kathlyn

From **kiki Punthapong** Thailand (Vasteras, Vastra Gotaland, Sweden) Sent December 28th, 2008 - 2:25 am greeting from Thailand  
 Dear both,

Hope you are great and hope u still remember me. Although I did not get a chance to surf your couch, I just want to wish you great happiness, health and success in year 2009.

'Happy New Year" With best wishes, Kiki



From **Ivan Hoza**  
(Pardubice, Pardubice,  
Czech Republic)  
Sent December 25th,  
2008 - 7:59 pm



greeting from Pardubice  
Hello Svein,  
We wish you and your  
family Merry Christmas and Happy new Year 2009.

I would like to showe you some pictures from our  
somer trip around the Norway. You can visit my web  
site on:

<http://picasaweb.google.com/baban.pardubice>

Ivan a Monika

From **Rosanna Forde** (Sydney, New South Wales,  
Australia) Sent December 19th, 2008 - 9:23 am

merry christmas!  
hi! just wanted to wish you, fat-  
mata and mary a merry  
christmas and a happy new year!  
hope it is not too  
cold in bergen and you can still  
enjoy the pool :) i  
really appreciate your time host-  
ing me, it was a  
highlight of my year.



Love rosanna xo

From **Y. GAI** (Qi-  
nhuangdao, Hebei,  
China)  
Sent November 14th,  
2008 - 3:01 pm  
Replied Nov 14, 2008  
10:14 pm



hello, nice man  
Dear Svein:

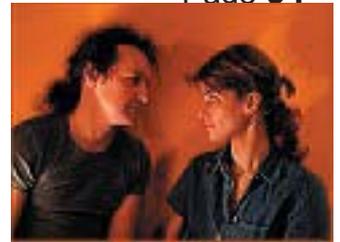
First I must say I have been longing for your visit  
since you told me your plan to China. But I am really  
little embarrassed to say that I won't be in China in  
Feb 2009. I applied for an University of USA and I  
just got the visa today!

I am going to fly to USA next month, hoping have an  
American Christmas this year!

It is definitely a pity not to meet you in China this  
time. I believe we must be able to meet somewhere  
in this world, in the near future.

Best, Yixing

From **Denis Kovalchuk**  
(Saint Petersburg, Saint Pe-  
tersburg, Russia)  
Sent December 24th, 2008  
- 4:38 pm



Merry Christmas!

Dear Svein!

Merry Christmas and happy new year!  
Wish you happiness and all the best.  
Denis and Katya.

PS: It's an honor for me to be your CS friend.

From  
**Simone, Diddi, Lea Switala**  
(Leverkusen, North Rhine-  
Westphalia, Germany) Sent  
November 20th, 2008 - 5:39  
pm



Hey svein,

we want to give simi a book  
with pictures and texts as  
a christmas-and-birthday-  
present. may you want to say  
something to her that we can  
print into this book?  
it would be great if you would send me a few words. but  
as this is a secret, please answer me on my  
email-adress! it's [vondenise@web.de](mailto:vondenise@web.de)

thank you a lot bye denise

Mail 20th november 2008 from Simone, Diddi, Lea Switala  
has APPROVED the link between you and Simone,  
Diddi, Lea Switala's profile and has written the following  
reference about you on your profile:

Svein was so adorable that he became our new grandpa.  
We hope we can follow all your advises for life and wish to  
visit you again someday and have one of these fantastic din-  
ners with fatmata, you and timmy!

4.1.2009 Hi svein !!

we are very happy about your message and the pictures  
are very very nice. funny to see your little island in  
other seasons. We suggest its very cold at the moment,  
but we hope you do not feel too lonely in your huge  
house! otherwise we cannot hold back and come visit  
you =)We wish you and Fatmata and Timmy all the best for  
thenew year 2009 and any other years that will come.  
Hopefully you won't stop making great experiences with  
couchsurfing and let other people know about your big  
lovely heart and make them wiser with your advices!  
Yours Diddi, Lea and Simi

From **Clarence Ching** (Waimea, Hawaii, United States) Sent November 8th, 2008 - 6:39 am

Congrats Swen,

Your list of visitors this year is amazing - not bad for an older duffer. I bet you really have a great time meeting so many younger CS members. I'm especially amazed because of your fairly advanced age. However, I'm a bit more advanced than you are - I'll be 73 next June, but I see only a fraction of the numbers that you do. Congrats on some great work. If I'm ever in your area, I'll be sure to make your acquaintance. And if you're in mine - let's get together.

Thanks for doing an excellent job.

ku/kauila  
In Hawai'i

Profil see: <http://www.couchsurfing.com/people/kauila>

Couchsurfer **Chris Suan Beh** (57)

The group of 7 Cris left + Fatmata and Cat from Montreal and Yeetak Liu middle front

Malaysia Federal Territory Kuala Lumpur

Used to work as a secretary. Now retired and volunteers at the Malaysian National Stroke Association teaching qi gong and tai chi to recovering stroke survivors as a form of rehabilitation. Life is short so plan to travel to as many places as possible and have a friend or friends in every continent. Interests Reading, traveling, watching the idiot box, writing and qi gong. Philosophy If I can do some good or bring cheer to some unfortunate human being, let me do it now, for I will never walk this path again. Medical fiction - books by Robin Cook Legal drama - books by John Grisham Psychological drama Books by Sidney Sheldon, Jeffrey Archer and Barbara Taylor Bradford Sentimental and oldies, country and western Like songs by Elvis, Jim Reeves, Nat King Cole, Everly Brothers, Sir Cliff Richard Types of People I enjoy Anybody with a sense of humour who can transcend age, sex, race and creed. One Amazing Thing I've Seen or Done The Himalayas in Nepal The Pyramids and Sphinx in Egypt Climbing up Kitzbueheler Horn in Austria and Surviving the 5km walk and 1700 steps up the Eisriesenwelt Caves in Werfen, south of Salzburg

Hi Svein,

I am sure you must have had a very cold and snowy winter from the weather reports we receive in your part of the world. How is Mary? Do keep me informed of your new couch surfing friends. always interested to read about them. Happen to come across a couch surfer in Siem Reap who happened to couch surf with you too - Khemm from Cambodia. Got in touch with him as we are planning to visit Cambodia at the end of January.

Well, can we (all 7 of us) persuade you to visit Malaysia and enjoy the sun.

Here's wishing you a Very happy New Year and may 2009 bring you joy, happiness, good health and whatever else you wish for yourself.

Let's keep in touch.

Kind Regards,

Francis and Chris Suan Beh

**Yeetak Liu**

Current Mission:  
"meeting with all the good people in the world"

Ukraine Crimea Simferopol'

Personal Designations

a medical student studying in ukraine, and trying to see more of this world, at least this part of the world, i mean to say europe. wat i really want is to have a insight of the place told by trusted people and gain a sip of their life! and i am most willing to share mine!

Interests fishing, cooking, reading and traveling. i am not gonna list them all... those will do



Philosophy don pray for easy tomorrow, pray for the stronger you to cope with the day to come. Music, Movies, Books time magazine, traveling blogs, sci-fi, and most important recipe books!!

Types of People I enjoy who open their mind and talk, share thier view and give their comment with sense of humor..... basically good people.

One Amazing Thing I've Seen or Done i couchsurfed with my fren in an unexpected occation and found this thing really works. i had so much fun and got the chance to see good and humble people of bergen and lucern, it was just incredible. i hope csp can keep me amazed and i got the chance to amaze some others.....

Opinion on the CouchSurfing.com Project what i wanna say it, don confine urself in a tiny insula. go out there and meet people, this thing really work as everyone is committed to the rules of the game, just remember it is COUCH-SURFING not escort sevice!

TRAVELED: Austria, Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Hungary, Italy, Norway, Poland, Singapore, Slovakia, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey  
LIVED: Malaysia, Ukraine

Ref 8th October 2008 E-mail for Svein:

svein, if you can remember me, this is one of the 7 malaysians you have hosted in last summer. Svein was my fist couchsurfing host and he is truthfully the one that inspired me in lots of aspects of life. We had really nice talk we discuss how to be wise and live our life. And i wanna thank you svein for ur overwhelming hospitality and care. ur the reason why i am in cs... till

**Lauren Lee**

Los Angeles, California, United States ...

membership SINGINGYOGINI occupation opera singer, shiatsu massage therapist education still learning grew up in Chicago ethnicity twinkie

Grüße  
Hi Svein,

Wie gehts? Ich bin wieder in Berlin. Diese letzte Monat habe ich viele Reise mit meinem Bruder und Freunden in Paris, Mailand, Baden Baden, usw gemacht.

Ich war so glücklich bei dir in Bergen zu bleiben. Ich hoffe dass ich wieder kommen kann.

ok...now i switch back to english. Thank you again for hosting me. It was the highlight of my trip. I hope to visit Norway again, maybe this winter I will come to see the Northern lights. I hope you all are doing well and come visit Berlin when you have a chance. We are waiting to see you!

bis bald,  
Lauren



Dear Svein,

wishing you a Christmas  
filled with love and joy.

I hope you have a very merry Christmas. I often think of my days in Bergen this past summer & I hope to visit you again soon in 2009.

Please send my greetings to Fatmata. I can still taste her delicious food!

♥ much love,

Lauren Lee

**Tavia Hammond**

Current Mission:

"live, laugh, love, and see as many cultures as possible"  
Personal Designations Italy Sicilia Siracusa

Mail 17.9.2008:

hey there Svein.  
how are ya. How's the island? I miss you and Bergen. Tell figsmartha I said hi. Let me know how Mary is. Take care, Tavia

Hej Svein,

Tak for billederne - det ser ud til at du har mange couchsurfere på besøg:-)

Hvordan har I det på Prestholmen? - hvad med Mary?

Lige nu går jeg på Journalisthøjskolen frem til sommer og så skal jeg skrive mit speciale på Antropologi i efteråret, så det er spændende.

Det var virkelig en god oplevelse at besøge jer. Jeg fortæller altid om jer, når jeg møder nogen der vil høre om couchsurfing. I er ganske særlig mennesker med et ganske særligt sted. Jeg vil altid huske mit besøg hos jer.

Håber I begge har det godt

De bedste hilsner,  
Camilla

**Joana Godinho**

Évora Portugal Age: 30 Female

Hello Svein, It's nice to hear from you and Mary. It has been a year since our travel to Norway and I still have the best remembrance from you and your beautiful country.

My husband is working away in another town and I have been out of the country with lot's of work and unfortunately I had been dealing with a unpleasant family situation. My stepmother got cancer and I had to go to Spain for a while to help my father, who was there alone with her. She is recovering now and with a good prognostic. I wish you and your family a good 2009 with health, love and hope! Best wishes Joana and Nélio



Happy New Year, Svein!

Sonja and I got together on Dec 20th with Patty McDaniel and her mother, Ruth, who turned 96 years old on the 19th. Ruth received 20 phone calls but was very concerned as she said this is the first time you did not call. I think the phone lines were pretty well tied up! Sonja got through on the fourth try! They had two feet of snow in their town! All the mountains and hills were covered with snow...it was beautiful!

Thank you for sending the photos and info about the CS travelers! What an exciting vocation you have!

Hugs and blessings to Mary.  
You mentioned "Gullstøtunet"....is this a hospital?

I look at the photos I took while in Norway very often. I am amazed at what a wonderful vacation we had... thanks to you and Mary and also Klaus and Liv.

We hope to visit again in this lifetime! We don't have any plans made yet.

Bye for now and I wish you all a very Happy New Year!

Sandy Nutile  
Santa Maria, California

Hi Svein!

Just a note to wish you and Mary Happy New Year!  
Mary is in our prayers...and you, also!

Hope to be able to travel back to Norway sometime fairly soon. I will be going to New York for my 50th high school reunion in June of 2009. After that, I hope to plan a trip to Norway and Sweden.

Please note that my e-mail has been changed from sanutile@pronet.net to sanutile@impulse.net. Impulse bought out the Pronet company.

Sonja's e-mail is sswenso@earthlink.net

Peace and blessings for the New Year!

Sandy

Svein,

So good to hear from you...glad that everyone is doing well. I take it that Mary is in a home? Please give her our love.

Sonja and Sandy were here for Mother's 96th birthday...she had such a nice time.

My business has been really slow....I sure hope that the economy makes a change for the better soon... but Mother like having me here with her. She is doing really well and we will try and call you one day soon, as I know that she would like to talk to you. Have a GREAT New Year, and give our love to the family.

Your cousin, Patty

In a message dated 12/31/2008 7:32:40 A.M. Pacific Standard Time LA USA, sks@autoinform.no writes



Thanks, Svein, for kind congratulations and good wishes !

We admire your way of living, behaving and thinking !! :)))

You are fantastic good man !!

Wish you be healthy and joy all New Year and further , further, further !!

Our best wishes also to Marry !!



Sincerely yours, Victor & family !! Latvia / Norge

**Maria Mucke** Wien 4. jan 2009

Dear Svein,

how are you? I hope great.  
Thanks for your email. It has made me happy.  
I guess its cold in Norway but you can swim in your hot pool... sounds great. how are the men who are working for you? are they still there?  
I am really busy in Vienna... lots of stuff to do.  
send my best wishes to Fatmata and Mary! you are more than welcome in Vienna!

happy new year! maria



From **Ruma et Marc Ducrest** (Cheyres, Fribourg, Switzerland) January 1st, 2009 - 9:10 am Greetings from Nepal

Dear Svein,  
thank you so much for your mail, it's always a great pleasure to have some news from you. We still think about your island with nostalgia and we had great memories of our stay with you, Fatima and Mary. Again thank you. It will be a pleasure to come back again, this time with more time.  
For us 2008 was a great year, we met so many great people through couchsurfing or when travelling, let's 2009 be the same. We are now in Nepal, Ruma found a job as an English teacher in Nepal, and will work there for 2 months, and I will go trekking around. Thank you for the link with the pictures, it works well. I wish you all the best for the new year. See you Marc



From **James Poriz** (Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada)  
Sent January 5th, 2009 - 5:56 pm  
James Poriz is a Verified Member

Re: Greetings from Bergen Norway  
Thank you for the nice email and for letting us know what you've been up to. Sounds like, as always, you are always having new people come to stay with you. Stasia and I will most definitely be coming back to Bergen for another visit in the future. We miss you and Fatmata and of course your wonderful island which we have been bragging to all of our friends and family about. We spent a good part of this morning looking at the different pictures and it makes us happy that we can be a part of your history like that. We would love if you could come to our wedding, but we know that you have too many people to host to be able to travel all the way to Canada. We'll make sure to share pictures with you though.

We hope the new year is a great year for you!

James & Stasia

From **asterios Konstantinou**  
(Athens, Attiki, Greece)  
Sent January 5th, 2009 - 2:18 pm  
asterios Konstantinou is a Verified Member

happy new year  
Dear Svein,

Best wishes for the new year, I hope you enjoyed the festive period. How's beautiful Bergen doing? I'm now in my new job dealing with wind energy and hydropower and seems it was a good choice. Thanks a lot for your invitation, I'd love to come back, you are also welcome here anytime, just let me know. I had a good time in Bergen, I'll always remember you and your beautiful place by the lake. My best wishes for you and your family for this coming year take care,  
Asterios



From **Eva Kovacs** (Targu Mures, Mures, Romania)  
Sent January 3rd, 2009 - 5:25 pm  
Re: Greetings from Bergen Norway



Dear Svein,

Thank you for your letter, it is good to hear about you. I was just watching the photos at your place and I remembered how nice we felt there, I will always remember the days spent on your island :-)  
I hope we will meet again some day. I wish you a very good year.

I wish you all the best, Eva

From **Catherine Cartier**  
(Montreal, Quebec, Canada)  
Sent January 5th, 2009 - 4:14 pm  
Replied Jan 5 5:41 pm  
Catherine Cartier is a Verified Member

Hallo Svein!  
Well how are you?  
It's been a long time we haven't communicate. I took the fall to just clean things up in my life and now, with the new year, i am looking for a new job as well as a new appartment cause my owner is selling the place and i have to move before May first...But as he legally is not aloud to do that, i did negotiate an amount with him if if wants to get rid of me. We have negotiate all fall and i finally got what i wanted. So 2009 will be a year of changes...! But it's ok. I am not afraid of changes. On the contrary. And yes i miss this summer Svein. That was a great time.



Well i wish you a great 2009 and of couse health and love in your life. And feel free to write anytime you want! And thanks for the pictures on the link you sent me. They are great and plus, i do not have any picture of this summer...Remember, i did not know how to use my camera until that Australian guy came to your place.. hehe But i have everything in my mind.

Give my best wishes to Fatmata too. I miss her too.

Catherine



From **KATERINA AS** (Athens, Attiki, Greece)  
January 8th, 2009 - 9:40 am

hi svein How are you?  
YOU and Mary are okay? Her health is good?  
I dont forget when she likes the kisses i gave her  
She didnt want that I go away Replied Jan 8 9:13 pm  
Your photos are very nice. Have you broken your arm?  
Are you okay now? Tell me about your arm and your health. I am worried.

kisses  
Katerina

From **Anne-Claire Museux**  
(Rennes, Brittany, France)  
Sent January 5th, 2009 - 1:26 pm

From **Tayma and Suus**  
(Zevenaar, Gelderland, Netherlands)  
Sent January 5th, 2009 - 10:54 am

Re: Greetings from Bergen Norway

Dear Svein,  
Thanks a million for your greetings!!  
I was thinking about you and your wife and wondering how are you; so sorry if I hadn't take time to write before. I am just back from 4 months in Ireland where I made a placement as a social worker with autistic people. It was a great experience even it was sometimes too busy, with no free time.



Anyway, I am just back in Brittany and back in school with a lot of work to do...:) I stopped my relationship with Julian just after our trip in Norway. We had two too different way of living. How is your wife? I hope that her life in Gullstøltunet is as fine as possible for her. I guess that it shouldn't be easy for you to live without her; how do you manage that?

Thanks a lot for your invitation. I would be glad to come as soon as possible but I am afraid to see that this next year is going to be very full with my studies. Thanks for the pictures, it's wonderful! All the best for you!  
Take care of you! I miss you, really. It's a pity to see that sometimes, even you don't forget someone, you can't see him as you would like... Keep in touch,

Lots of love and health for this new year!! Anne-Claire

From **Nancy Finley**  
(Ormond Beach, Florida, United States)  
Sent October 20th, 2008 - 4:02 pm  
Replied Oct 22, 2008 6:17 pm  
Nancy Finley is a Verified Member

Greeting from Florida

Hello Svein,

It's Nancy and Amber,

It has been a while, hope all is well. Well, Amber keeps talking about you lately. She found out that Santa Claus is not real, so she said that we should have stayed with you longer. Instead of going to the North Pole like you said. Thought you might like that. We greatly miss Europe. Amber says Norway is her favorite place. Maybe one day will return. Best Wishes.



Nancy and Amber

Thanks for good words. I am happy for connections around the world and sure to say I will not forget you and Amber anytime. Give amber a hug from her Santa Claus in Bergen who miss her. Keep in touch

Re: Greetings from Bergen Norway

Dearest Svein,

First of all: Happy New Year, hopefully 2009 will be a great and healthy year for you, Mary, Fatmata and the rest of your Bergen family. Thank you for the message, it's so great to hear from you!

We hope you've had a nice christmas, it's always nice to have friends and family around. We looked at the pictures and it all looks lovely.

We've just made a scrapbook of our holiday from this summer. And we have some good photo's of you in there too. We're not sure if we've already send you the pictures of the tree of us on the balcony. If you don't have them yet, send us a mail and we'll send them to you. They're very cool. We are very pleased that we are welcome in Bergen because we really want to come back soon, we miss you!

I'm (tayma) going to Norway this spring with my father. Because ever sinds our trip this summer I'm in love with the country. So after my exams we are going to Norway :) If you'd like it, I can come and visit you.

Hope to see you soon Love, Tayma and Suus.



To **Dorota Idziak** (Krakow, Malopolskie, Poland)  
Sent October 15th, 2008 - 6:23 pm

Hello from Bergen - Norway  
Dorota

My Granddaughter Siri Mellum Søiland goes for Krakow 16 - 19/10 and stays in hotell Wyspianski Westerplatte 15 Room 158.

If you have time to say hello and exchange information would make me happy. Wish you best for life anyway.

Regards from Svein

From Dorota Idziak (Krakow, Malopolskie, Poland)  
Sent November 4th, 2008 - 4:04 am  
Replied Nov 8, 2008 6:14 pm

Re: Hello from Bergen - Norway

Dear Svein,  
I'm so sorry... I'm for a year on scholarship in India, and I couldn't answer your mail :(:(:(  
I wish I could have help you!!  
all the best



dorota

Thanks for reply and dont be sorry. Happy to hear from you and look forward meet again.  
Take care and have a good time in India.

Svein

From **Kathleen Renehan** (Prague, Praha, Czech Republic) Sent October 17th, 2008 - 6:32 pm  
grew up in Huntington, New York

Heii Svein, My private email is Palomino02@aol.com  
Hope you're doing well :) smiles Kathleen

Svein Søliland Wrote: Hi Happy you received it. Keep in touch. Do I have your private" e-mail ? Svein

Kathleen Renehan Wrote: Hi Svein, My bathing suit has arrived!!! Thank you so much for sending it to me. I am very happy to have it back, too bad its so cold and i cant go swimming now. I still think of you and your beautiful island.. i had such a great time there. Thank you for everything. Hope things are well with you Thank You again, smiles, Kathleen



Svein Søliland Wrote: Your bathing suit in an envelop come back to me today. Wrong address ? Please give your mail address outside cs system so I can send you a scan of the envelope. Svein

Thank you Svein!!! And dont worry about the towel. I have tons of them here. I hope your having a wonderful summer with your new couchsurfers!! And would love to see you again sometime in the future Smiles Kathleen

Svein Søliland Wrote: Hallo Nice to receive your good words. I mailed your red with flowers bathing suit in an envelop today. Towel I didn't find but to expensive to mail, why very heavy, if I sent one of mine. Anyway welcome back and our best wishes for good life where you are. I will remember your swimming in the sea her forever. All the best Svein

from Kathleen Renehan Wrote:  
Hi Svein, How are you? How is fatmata (did i spell her name right?) how are the rest of your couchsurfing days??! So i am back in the Czech Republic. Its kind and sad being back. I miss traveling, the open road and of course the people!! I still think about you all the time. it was so nice being there. You have such a warm personality and it was so relaxing stay at your place. And that island of yours... well there is no place like it. I wish i took pictures... i guess i was so excited to be there, i forgot to take pictures of you and the lake. :Really.... thank you so much for such wonderful memories, you will be impossible to forgot. if you still have the towel (its white) and a red with flowers bathing suit, i would really appreciate it, if you could mail it to me. Thats would be great! my address xxxxxx hope you're going well smiles Kathleen

Svein Søliland Wrote: Thanks for good words. Today arrived Malaysien 7 people staying to saturday morning. The Montreal lady Cat stays til 21th august and more people will show up Sunday. Fatmata is OK and Mary has moved to the home. Your red bathsuit is left here and of towel we have a lot. If you give address it can be sent you by post - or kept til you are back ? Wish you best and have to tell I miss you. Keep in touch. Svein

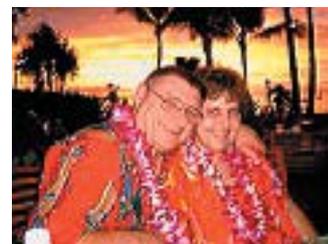
Kathleen Renehan Wrote: Hello Svein!! How are you?? how is the gang? Are they still there? Or has a new group settled in to your beautiful island? How was the trip to the coast? Did you still go? i am in copenhagen and staying with a really lovely girl and her family. Its been rainy the past few days... even more than rainy Bergen. :) Thursday i will go to Hamburg and then on to Amsterdam and back to Prague. My vacation is almost over :anyways, i wanted to thank you for such an amazing time in Bergen. I was really perfect and a place i will never forget thanks to you. Thank you again! also, i never gave you money for groceries... i can sent it to you via mail. I am sorry, it totally slipped my mind. I also think i may have forgotten my bathing suit and towel. (could you let me know, if i did) It was a white towel and red bathsuit. I guess i was thinking about other things when i was leaving.. like how to stay longer in Beautiful Bergen :) hope you're having a wonderful time with your couchsurfers

Page 97 Family of the world 2011  
Smiles, Kathleen

From **Marv Bottke**  
(Bedford, Texas, United States)  
Sent September 17th, 2008 - 3:41 pm  
Replied Sep 17, 2008 9:31 pm  
Marv Bottke is a Verified Member

Belated Happy Birthday

Svein;  
We want to wish you a belated but very Happy Birthday from Marvin & Carole Bottke in Texas. We have wonderful memories of our visit to Hordaland/Bergen in 2007, even though our stay was quite short. You were so right about the need to stay longer to learn more about the culture and things about Norway. We especially liked the Auto Museum, and Carole has great memories of meeting Mary. The memories are more important to us as each day passes and we will always hold a special spot in our hearts for your wonderful hospitality.



Marvin & Carole Bottke

Bedford, Tx.

From **Fiona Huang**  
(Taipei, Taipei, Taiwan)

Sent June 5th, 2008 - 6:41 pm  
Replied Jun 6, 2008 10:27 am

Dear Svein and Mary,

What a surprising gift you just give me!! Thank you sooo much!!! I can't wait to be there!

I have booked 15th Aug. in Balestrand YH.  
However, for now, I am not sure how I will get to Bergen from Balestrand yet.  
I only found there is the ferry but no buses connection. Ferry will cost 455 NOK and take 4 hours, I am trying to find better solution.  
Could you kindly give me some suggestion?  
Or should I take ferry back to Flåm and go on Norway in a Nutshell via Voss to Bergen.

Really appreciate for your kindness, Svein!

**MAGGIE HERNANDEZ**

Current Mission:  
"be positive and enjoy life and good company"  
Comunidad Valenciana  
Valencia Spain

Hi Svein,

Thanks for your beautiful pictures, Bergen in Autumn is also very pleasant to see. I hope you and Mary are fine and that you will go on with your nice parties with friends.

a big hug - Maggie



**Gabriela Antunes**

France Alsace Strasbourg

Current Mission:

"Writing a PhG thesis on Mediaeval Monsters"

last login Berlin, Germany ... age 25 birthday June 12th ESPELHO occupation my thesis, my friends, my books... education my mum made a lot of efforts... ;-) grew up in Pindamonhangaba, SP, Brazil

Dear Svein,

4.11.2008

I hope you got my post-cards! how are you doing? I am sorry I didn't write to you so far, I'm in a very busy and confusing phase by now, since I'm going to Brazil very soon for Christmas and so. I hope winter is not going to be too wet in Norway anyway - I am happy I can at least have a sunny December this year :) I'm still considering about going to Norway as soon as I can to talk to you more and maybe to start thinking seriously about our project with your biography, which would be a pleasure to me to write. I'll contact you with the porposition of some dates as soon as I am able to, all right?! I think about you every sunday when I turn the TV on and see these German programs, then I think "well, svein might be watching the same program as I right now..." :) how is Fatmata? and how is your wife Mary doing?! I hope you all are happy and enjoying it. Thank you very much for the Cd, thank you very much for being so nice with me as well. I'll never forget you!!! :)



Best, Gabriela

**Nathan Carrick**

Current Mission: "have a craic"

Australia Victoria Melbourne

From Nathan Sent January 7th, 2009 - 6:39 am

Re: Greetings from Bergen g'day Svein,

great to hear from you, and a happy new year! i trust you're enjoying some quiet time, after a hectic year. thanks for the invite to Bergen, and i perfectly understand why you changed your status. i have changed mine to "Maybe", as this time of year in Melbourne the requests flood in, and i'm not in position to really host any new CS'ers at the moment. i heard from Denise pre-Xmas. if you ever need it, my direct e-mail is: nathan\_carrick@yahoo.com.au

i was able to access the links you sent, and found image of me: <http://www.autoinform.no/Cs-2008%20Internet/target40.html>

here's a link to images from my Europe travels in 2008: <http://www.facebook.com/album.php?aid=141141&l=dec54&id=630885322>

speak soon, Nathan

Page 98 Family of the world 2011

**Hiroko Ota and \*mami\***

Current Mission: "lounge design"

Japan Tokyo

Dear Svein

Hello. I am Hiroko Ota who is living in London and learning English at the moment. I saw your profile on the website: CS2. I and my friend: Mami plan to travel in Norway from next weekend to the beginning of April and also plan to visit Bergen on the 31st of March, 1st, 2nd of April. ( actually soon ) If you still have some couch in your house, could we stay there? I am sorry for a sudden offer. I look forward to your reply. Thank you very much. Hiroko Ota

Dear Svein

Thank you for your message! and I am sorry for the late reply. I just went back to Japan for 1 week to celebrate new year with my family. You had a wonderful X'mas party with many people because I saw some pictures. I wanted to join in it!!  
Hopefully next time(^<sup>^</sup>)  
Did Mary and Fatmata come back to your house?  
Did you relax for yourself?  
You might have been tired because you are very busy all the time and be very nice to everybody! I am really worry about you! Are you OK?  
By the way... I tell you my latest news! I came to London the end of November 2008 again. I decided to get the qualification as a nurse in the UK so I started studying English. I need IELTS score at least 7.0! It is very hard for me at the moment, but I will do it! I can visit you easily now because I live in London so if I have a chance to visit Bergen/Norway, I will tell you! I would like to visit again!! Take care! Say hello to Mary and Fatmata / Hope you had a good time!

Best wishes, Couco

**Kate Jenkinson**

Current Mission: "Plan the next adventure!"

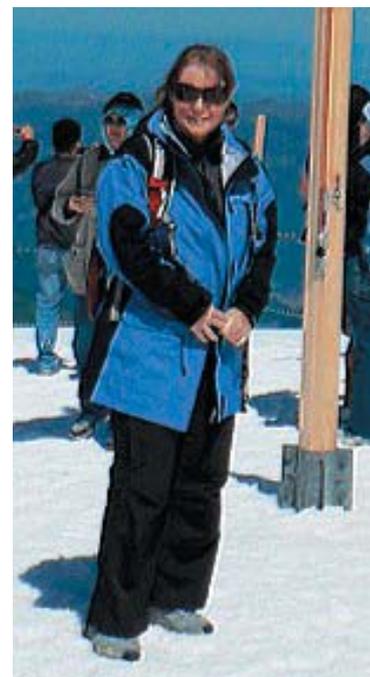
Australia Victoria Melbourne

A very big MERRY CHRISTMAS to all of you so far away from Australia!

I hope you have a great christmas and holiday period and share many laughs, beers and cheers with all your friends and family.

Your kindness and friendship is not forgotten and although its been over a year since I have seen many of you- I think of my trip and you often (wanting to do it all again!). Kind Regards

Kate





### Marion Foxcroft

Australia Victoria South Melbourn  
Current Mission:  
"Settle down after travelling in Scandinavia,  
and planning another trip away!!!"



**Aussis - Fiona, Marion and Kate i Svein's Kitchen**

Hi Svein

Marion, the Australian who stayed on Prestholmen in October 2008, here...friend of Kate Jenkinson. We were there at the same time as Fiona Doig from Sydney.

Can't believe that a whole year has passed since we were with you. This year has only seen me travelling within Australia. I have a sister in Adelaide, so went there in July for a week. My 31 year old daughter, Elly is now living permanently in

Sydney so I spent Christmas-New Year there. On recent school holidays, I had another week there in Sept-Oct.

It was nice to see the photos of Mary. I am wondering how she is.

Has the year been kind to you? I often think about our 2008 travels to Norway/Sweden and Denmark. I am determined to come back to Sweden one mid-Summer to see Sweden 'come alive'.

You certainly were 'an agent for change' with Kate and Fiona. Kate, as I am sure you are aware, has left work as a Physical Education teacher and has begun her PhD.

A few weeks ago, Kate found an article in the Travel section of 'The Age', our Melbourne newspaper, which was written by Fiona Doig.

Your inspiration has travelled around the globe!

My life still revolves around teaching, but I have just applied for a job as a Kitchen Garden teacher in a Primary School. This would mean that I would plan and plant a garden (including vegetables) with primary-aged students, and teach them how to cook with the ingredients that they had grown. It would be a nice way to finish off my teaching career.

I am presently teaching full-time at a secondary college and also I am in charge of 260 Year 10 students - 15-16 year olds. It is a very demanding job.

Well Svein, sending my warmest greetings from Springtime in Melbourne, Marion

Monday 12.1.2009 kl 1651: FROM  
**EXPLORA**

Port Macquarie New South Wales Australia

Traveling at the moment

hello!! im sorry that my last email was so short. This one will be longer and more informative i hope.

i was so flat out just after christmas... i left Europe on Jan 9th and had so many relatives etc.. to visit and say goodbye to before i left. now i am in south korea.. i am hoping to travel around here and in Japan for just over 1 month before heading back to australia. how is everything there on the home front? Is fatmata back from her holiday journey and are you all reunited together again? Does Mary seem to be making any progress or is her memory getting worse? How is Norway at this time of the year? I bet it is absolutely lovely!! Snow everywhere.. or is it too warm in bergen with the ocean breezes keeping the temperature relatively moderate? I would love to be there and even alittle further north so i could see the northern lights! i have always wanted to see them!!



anyway, i hope to hear back from you shortly.  
Lots of warm hugs!! Pascale

From LUCKY CHARMS (Denver, Colorado, United States)

Sent January 11th, 2009 - 8:54 am

Re: Greetings from Bergen Norway

Thanks Svein,

I wish you all the best as well. When telling people about Couchsurfing I often tell the story of when I stayed with you and Mary. I see you have your pool covered now. I hope you can swim in the Winter now!

I loved Bergen but am not sure when I will make it back there. I need to get back to working unfortunately. Looking to start my own business this Spring, which should be interesting and busy.

Best wishes always and thanks so much to Mary and you!  
Dave

From **Philipp Rabe** (Paris, Ile-de-France, France)

Sent January 9th, 2009 - 5:50 pm

Re: Greetings from Bergen Norway  
Dear Svein! Thank you very much for your kind words! We wish you and your family all the best for 2009!

**Ariane** and I wanted to travel to Vietnam this summer but i guess we won't have enough time this summer so it's possible that we travel the baltic countries and maybe we come back to Scandinavia (Sweden.. and who knows.. maybe Norway!) In case we come to Norway and close to Bergen we will tell you!

Grüße von Hansestadt zu Hansestadt!

Philipp



From FRENNEK (Singapore, (none), Singapore)  
Sent January 12th, 2009 - 3:04 pm

Greetings from Singapore!

Dear Svein,

This is Kenneth from Singapore. Anson recently showed me your e-mail. Thank you for your wishes for the new year, I hope 2009 will be a fantastic year for you, Mary, Fatmata, and the rest of your family! :)

Yes, I can see the pictures.. it brings back many great memories of your island, as well as the wonderful dinner cooked by Fatmata! I really miss Bergen. Hopefully I can go back again in April when I graduate!

Anson and I are taking our exams to become doctors in March. We will start working as junior doctors in the hospitals in May.. it's really soon!

Svein, thank you for hosting the two of us, even if it were for two days. I really hope that I will get a chance to go back to your beautiful country, Norge, as well as Bergen sometime soon. Till then, all the best!

Cheers,

Kenneth

From **Gabriela Antunes**

(Strasbourg, Alsace, France)

Sent January 10th, 2009 - 1:33 pm

Replied Jan 12 2:27 pm

Greetings from Strasbourg

My Dear Svein,  
have you got my New Year's sms? I do hope so. How are you doing? I hope you are not feeling lonely at home. I am also glad you have had a nice Christmas celebration with all your nice family, I wish I could have seen all this and the full house in Winter :) Here's everything well. I'm doing my stuff at the University, trying not to stop my research actually (a lot of problems with my supervisor, and also the fact that I've been sick quite often in the last months, made me loose a lot of my capacity and concentration), but I do have a lot of joy with my broyfriend Joao (the one I showed you at the pictures, do you still remember?) and also with my baby cat Francisco (only 5 months old and loves to play). My family's also well in Brazil (unfortunately very far), and I am trying to keep the strenght necessary to keep fighting for my dreams. I never forget you - how could I? - even if I don't write much. But I do think about you and wish you constantly all the best for 2009.

Love, Gabriela



Dear Svein

My Dearest In Christ, Jesus Loves you & me & can we c the marvelous way he counted his blessings 4 us one by one; the wonderful prayers & his precious blood is a specail gift 4 all who believe in Him; that He was born to redeem u & myself.



Merry Christmas  
& happy new-year!

Fatmata  
24th of December 2008

May you have Christmas Blessings  
May you have good health  
May you know the Baby Jesus came  
To give you life by dying on the cross.

May you be happy  
With all you need in every way,  
May you not be overcome with sorrow  
And may your heart be full of joy today.

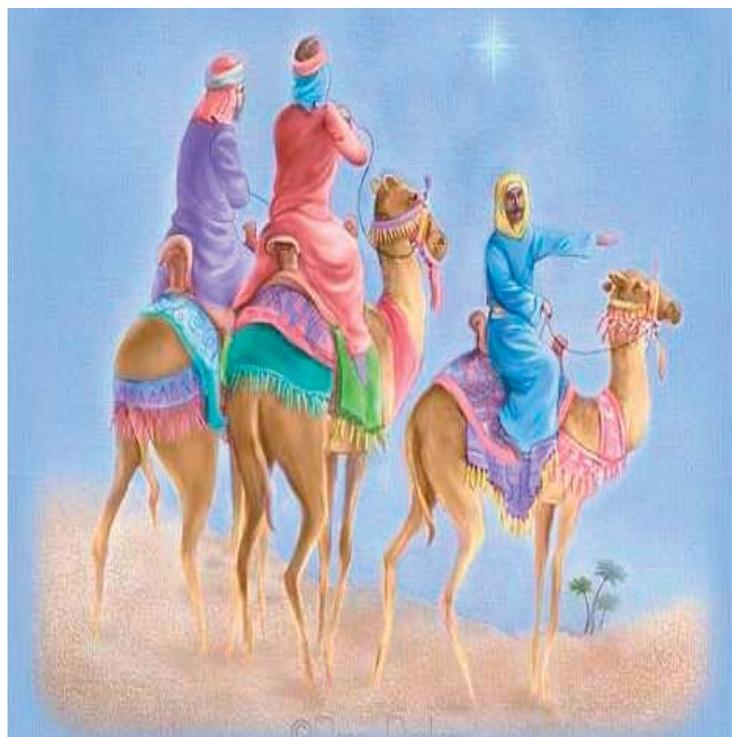
I wish you Christmas Blessings  
Not just for the holiday season,  
But all year through  
I pray you will not be lonely or blue.

I want you to be happy  
No clouds to block your view,  
May you know heaven's blessing  
May you see beauty around you.

May your heart be at home wherever you are  
May you smile with the Lord above,  
May you have great things happen  
From God's heart of love.

May Jesus hold you close to  
His heart during this  
Blessed Christmas Season  
and throughout the New Year!

Merry CHRISTmas



© 2005 Linda Ann Henry  
Do you remember me  
The people's poet

From **Yeetak Liu**  
(Simferopol', Crimea, Ukraine)  
Sent January 13th, 2009 - 3:59 pm

happy new year: Dear Svein,  
great to hear from u my friend.

We miss u very much  
and we can't help thinking about u  
whenever we use the butter slicer  
u gave:) or whenever we talk about  
couchsurfing, what a good memory!!

It's very kind of u to compile all the hosted couchsurfer. U  
are a super embassy and i do hope very much to come  
back to ur homeland and see more.

I hope i can continue the talk about how to be successful  
and wise person with u someday. ur my mentor.

best regard,

yeetak



From **nathalie le pennec**  
(Agen, Aquitaine, France)  
Sent January 2nd, 2008 - 4:43 pm

happy new year to you  
and mary, wishing sincerely  
the best for you two! Take care...  
Friendly Quentin et  
Nathalie

ps: can you send me  
back your last mail because  
I delete him by error.  
Thanks a lot



Svein Soiland Wrote:  
Mary and Svein's Experience by hosting 70 couch  
surfers for more than 200 nights: (2007)  
A new family of the world <http://www.autoinform.no/cs2007.pdf>

nathalie, agen Wrote:  
hello Svein and Mary and thanks a lot for your nice  
wishes. I hope all it's ok on the island who still one of  
my best travel experience, even if it was too short and  
too... wet. Thanks again for all and for your kindness.  
I hope to come back one day, perhaps if I can realise  
my dream to go to the "Cap nord" in boat... My email  
is: [nathalie.agen@voila.fr](mailto:nathalie.agen@voila.fr) See you, Nathalie





St Hans 23th June every year  
with Svein family and Friends



St. Hans 23. juni 2010:

Siri & Mette Elina, ELSA  
 Sultann Anne Lise, Ende & Silje, Adrian  
 Torve & Jan Erik Tobias & Eren  
 Mette Emil Kim-LARVA, Hittolus, Elinbeth, Tante  
 Marlene, Hattinje, Hattinje, Elinbeth  
 & Kristian, Marthe, Vigdis  
 Stine & Egon (Sunde)  
 Siri & Theresen Mia Emilee Annen & Co.  
 Romy & Marthe Mathias, Marthe & Marthe  
 Bjørle & Wenche Sanna Marie, Ricard, Eva  
 Kari & Ole (barn) ALLE & MARYKATE, ANDREA  
 Frank & Tricketta Julie, Mats & Helen  
 Daniel & Mary-Bonle & Mitchell  
 Svein Toring & Håvam Sigrunn  
 T.K.K. Beata & Vibeke  
 → Anne, Marie, Tora, Emma, TINA, ANNE,  
 Anna, Marthe  
 OVE & IHE - Julie  
 Hanne, Stine, RosMari, Regine, Vilde  
 Rebekka, Viktoria, Pernille, Jannas (76)  
 Ende, Sine  
 Benedicte, Bent & Colle  
 Hanne & Finnell + Jan & Marthe  
 SANDRIS SIMON & ANITA  
 Fro & Skagen, Britte  
 Jean & Len Rella & KATE (ASPA) Lars Petter  
 CAMILLA - OLE MARIN & JAJAN  
 SARLE & MARIA, Benjamin, Vendela



Year 2009-2010



Alin moved family and people from Romania.



Alin and 3 of his workers was living in Sveins house several months 2009 -2010  
Svein visited Romania october 2009 and accommodated Alins brother and fathers house there he first time met Beatrix

