



Christmas letter 2009



Dear friends!

How are you doing? I hope everything is fine with you, and hope you had a pleasant year in 2009! A couple of years ago, I started a yearly little Christmas greeting from me, so here is this years contribution. ☺

2009 started with the New Year celebration in Budapest. During the year, there have been some festivals and concerts around the country. There has also been some more memorable weekends. I can mention a nice ski and concert at the west coast for Norway in Bergen. I also went on a small add hock trip that was planed, organized, packed and completely set up within an hour. The tour went to the Preacher's Pulpit, and it belongs to the story; a brand new tent is a challenge to pitch two o'clock in the morning at a dark beach without any lights. Happy for us, there weren't windy this night. This fall I also got to try out kayaking at a small lake not to far away. The temperature was just below the freezing point, and the air was so clear and nice in the sun. As usual, there have been a couple of weddings this year also, which always is very nice occasions.

During this year's Eastern break, it was my turn to have the family cabin in the mountain. So I got a visit from my brother and his family, and later on my mother and boyfriend. It was a nice time with my closer family and some very nice cross country ski-trips in the mountains.



This year's summer break was the big happening for me in 2009. I decided to participate on a tour with the Trans-Siberian Railway. First I went by air to Moscow to meet the other participants, which was four nice people from England. There we had a very sweet local honcho to show and tell us about the sights and other stuff we wanted to see. After three days in Moscow we were putted on the Mongolian trading train towards Ulaanbaatar. The tour was for 4.5 days and nights, with a lots of smaller stops along the route. At each 20 minutes stop, the platform become to a small market where the local people was waiting to sell food and beverage to us, and also waiting to buy clothes, shoes etc. from the Mongolian people at the train. It was really an amazing sight. After 6306 km (10 090 miles) and five time zones, we reached the capital. A new honcho meets us at the station, and showed us around. In Mongolia we got to go out to the country field to sleep over in a Ger Camp, and went on a horse riding on the grass field. Despite of allergy against grass and horses, the trip was very nice. After three days in Ulaanbaatar, we were again put on the train, and this time towards Beijing. This trip was shorter with only 1.5 days and 1551 km (2480 miles) to travel. In Beijing we had only two days with honcho (with was a part of the main trip), and was way too little time in this city. But after a lot of running, looking and picture making, I manage to go through eight of the big sights included the Great Wall, but I didn't manage to reach the Olympic City before I had to catch the flight back to Norway.



After a week in Norway, another flight brought a good friend of me, and me to Agia Napa in Cyprus for a week. This was a clean and nice party trip, and can't compare to the rail trip in any way, but this vacation was also very fun and memorable. Without lots of partying, we also participated in some day trips with dromedary riding, picking oranges from the trees, some zoos and visiting cities nearby, just to get a little extra out of the trip.

2.5 years ago I started to take swing lessons. This year I also started to dance salsa and bachata. I think dancing is something like traveling; the more you travel, the more you want to see of the world, and the more I dance, the more dances I want to learn.

I still work at the PwC office in the far south of Norway, but switched department from assurance to advisory during this summer. My main area at advisory will be business intelligence (BI) together with budgeting and simulating, and is very exciting.

I'm going to celebrate Christmas as usual with my family in Sandefjord, but for New Year Evening I'm going to Edinburgh with a friend. I wishes you all a nice and pleasant Christmas and an amazing New Year. Take care ☺



Lots of Christmas greetings from Magne ☺



2009 in pictures ☺



Tent and Preacher's Pulpit



Agia Napa with dromedary-riding, party-boat-trip on Napa Queen, picking oranges, girls and party ☺



Red Square in Moscow



Beach-Quart



Bachelors party, sun and



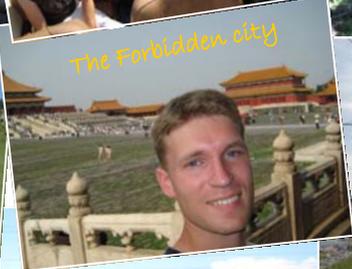
summer activities



The Great Wall



Ger Camp



The Forbidden city



Life on the train



Eogie-changing



Life on the train



Horse riding in Mongolia



Swing at the island



Christmas swing-ball



Downhill ski at Voss



Eastern at Blefjell



Cross country ski at Drivnesheia



Christmas swing-ball



New Year Party



Informally PWC Christmas dinner



Cowboy party



Kayaking at Oggevatn



Julie and Jonas at Strutåsen



Snowboard at Hovden



PWC summer party