



Smiling Faces au pair newsletter

April, May & June 2008

Enjoy the Netherlands to the fullest! That is what Smiling Faces Au Pairs hopes that you do. That is why we organize fun activities to meet other people, get to know Holland but above all to give you a nice experience. In this newsletter you will find the activities Smiling Faces has organized especially for you.

New website for nanny's and oppassen afdeling

Smiling Faces for all forms of flexible childcare

Smiling Faces started a an au pair agency, but soon we got several requests for babysitters as well. So we did that as a side job.

The news quickly started to spread that we arrange babysitters and nannies as well as au pairs and more and more families came in requesting babysitters.

Smiling Faces has decided to found a new department; Smiling Faces oppassen (babysitters) en nanny's.



Because of this change, we have a new website: www.smilingfaces.nl and a new logo!

We are very happy with it and we hope be able to help more families to get a flexible child minder!

SF Outings

Bowling, dressing up & dancing the night away @ Off corso

Another successful outing

Bowling, dressing up and dancing the night away, what more can you ask for on a Saturday evening! We all met up on the 23 February at the bowling centre very excited to get the night started, there were about 15 au pairs from all over Holland, it is always so great meeting new people so there was a lot of chatting going on while we got started on the bowling. We were split up into two teams and had a lot of fun cheering each other on as we each had our turn to throw.



We then set off to the club Off Corso for our 80's and 90's party, a few of us dressed up which was a lot of fun to do - bright colored shirts, crazy stockings and funky hairstyles we definitely looked the part but once we were inside we soon realized that we were the only ones that were but it didn't get our spirits down! We loved the music and didn't stop dancing! It was definitely a night to remember!!!

Visit photobucket.com to see the photos!

The Efteling: a fairytale world

Sunday the 1st of June

The Dutch au pair organization (NAPO) is organizing a trip to the Efteling for this June. Because we are a member agency, you are all invited! With all the NAPO agencies together, there will be over 200 au pairs!



The Efteling is an amusement park in the south of The Netherlands. Its magical surroundings are based on fairytales (e.g. little red riding hood) which make you feel like you are walking around in a dream. There are a lot of shows, fun rides and roller coasters, such as 'The Flying Dutch man'.

Because the NAPO is organizing it you will get a nice discount! For all the au pairs the outing will cost €28.50.-, this includes the entrance to the park, a lunch box, a treasure hunt with great prizes. For more information see the official invitation from last Friday the 4th of April.

To get there you have to take the train to Tilburg. From there you can take bus 137 or 169 to the Efteling. We will gather at 10.30 am at the entrance, (kassa) number 19.

If you want to attend you can send us the application form **before the 5th of May** and make sure the money is transferred to our account: ABN AMRO, Willem Ruyslaan, Rotterdam, 45.8796.522, T.n.v. Smiling Faces au pairs, O.v.v. name of the au pair, Efteling 2008.

For more information on the Efteling, visit their website; www.efteling.com.



Tapas in Delfshaven!

Sunday the 20th of April

This April our outing will take place in Delfshaven, which is a very nice part of Rotterdam. Delfshaven (since 1389) is very historical, it has many monuments.

We will welcome all the new girls and dine at the tapas bar "Abrikoos". (Tapas are a wide range of appetizers from the Spanish cuisine. They can be warm or cold and you can combined them to eat as a full meal.)

SF has arranged a special offer, a combination of warm tapas; meat, fish, chicken and vegetarian tapas, for just €16.- per person! (Drinks aren't included.)

At 6 p.m. we will gather at the subway station Delfshaven. You can reach Delfshaven by subway (Callandlijn) from Rotterdam Central station or Schiedam Centrum.

Please let us know if you'll attend as soon as possible. For more information about the tapas bar and Delfshaven, surf to <http://rotterdam.abrikoos.nl/> and <http://nl.wikipedia.org/wiki/Delfshaven>.

SF Fun

Au pair of the year 2008

Chenay Garrett one of the 6 finalists

As you know we are now officially an IAPA member. Because we are, our au pairs could also enter in to the contest of 'Au pair of the year'.

Two of our au pairs did; Juanita Janse van Rensburg and Chenay Garrett. Juanita didn't make it to the finals, but Chenay did. She was one of the finalists for the competition.

From all of the au pairs in the world who competed, she is made it to the final 6!
Although she did not win, we are very proud of her.



For more information you can go to www.iapa.org.

Top model au pairs

Our au pairs at a photoshoot for KEK

Last November a few of our au pairs had the privilege of modelling in a KEK photoshoot.

KEK is a glossy magazine for parents of young children. It's all about brands, clothes, fashion, holidays, etc. A real lifestyle magazine for the upperclass with kids.

Chenay, Fiorella (and a few of our babysitters) together with the host children appeared in the February 8th issue of KEK. The photoshoot is a combination of child care and fashion. It's placed next to the princess Amalia special, who's being brought up by au pairs.



SF communities on the web

Meet the other SF au pairs online

Online communities are a big hit, so of course we can't miss out. Join us at one of the following web communities. You'll find links to the other au pair's profiles, this newsletter, photos of the outings, tips on all sorts of things and much more.

www.facebook.com

www.hi5.com

www.friendster.com

Activities in the Randstad area

Nothing to do on your weekends? Visit one of these websites, they are full of fun ideas.

Isic.org

Fodors.com

Virtualtourist.com

Thego.nl

Eatdrinketc.com

amsterdam.digicity.nl

Eng.cityvox-nl.com

Rotterdamsuitburo.nl

Uit010.nl

Uitaandemaas.nl

Videoland.nl

Pathe.nl

Tvgids.nl

Expatica.com

Discounts with your IYTC card
worldwide fun

cultural things

Things to do in Holland

Things to do in Amsterdam

Things to do in Amsterdam

Things to do in Amsterdam

Things to do in Rotterdam

Things to do in the 010 zone

Things to do in Zuid-Holland

DVD rental

Dutch cinemas

TV guide, movies start around 8.30 pm

concerts & other

Birthdays & other celebrations

Happy birthday to everybody listed below!

April 3	Charlotte de Beer
April 5	Diana Cabezas
April 29	Mericia Ruiz
May 5	Brittany Hall
May 10	Nayra Cruz
May 15	Fiorella Ascencio & Irina Todirasco
May 17	Janina Guerra
May 29	Marly Jimenez
June 15	Viviana Arce
June 17	Juanita Janse van Rensburg
June 21	Leina Zelada



In the Netherlands it is quite normal to send a card to someone who celebrates his or her birthday. So if you want to join our custom, send these birthday girls a card!

This is also possible by e-mail. Go to www.hallmark.com and you can send a free birthday e-card!
No address? Send us an email and you will receive the au pair address list.

SF Gifts

Recruite a friend and get a present (worth 50€)!

Always wanted that great fragrance of Jessica Palmer, Chanel, Ralph Lauren? Or that great make up of Rimmel, the best body cream of Clarins or..... Well, send us the details of your friend of your home country who wants to be an Au Pair in the Netherlands. If we can place her, you can collect your present!

You can select one of our three gifts for every new friend you send to us. For more information about the SF profile, you can contact us at info@smilingfaces.nl.



Gifts:

- * Gift certificate for € 50.- to be spend at Douglas (perfume & cosmetics)
- * Gift certificate for € 50.- to be spend at Dutch cinemas (Pathé theaters)
- * NS kortingskaart, card for 40% discount on travelling by train in the Netherlands (value: € 55.-)

FREE SF key cord

For all the Smiling Faces au pairs there is a **PINK** Smiling Faces key cord available. Your keys and cell phone always at the same spot. Very handy and very trendy! If you haven't got it yet, you can send your key cord request to us by email; info@smilingfaces.nl.

FREE IYTC-NAPO card

Travel further, stay longer and experience more!

NAPO and ISIC have worked together to make the International Youth Travel Card (IYTC) accessible for au pairs in The Netherlands.

With the IYTC-NAPO card you can get discounts on travelling, tourist attractions, entertainment, accommodations and going out. You can also access some of their services for young travellers.

Because we want our au pairs to have good time here, we will give it to you for free! If you'd like to get this card, please send us an email and attach a digital picture. If you don't have a digital picture you can send us a picture by post.



For more information on the IYTC-NAPO card, visit <http://www.isic.org/sisp/index.htm?fx=home>.

Arrivals & Departures

Arrivals

We'd like to welcome the newly arrived Smiling Faces au pairs! Welcome to the Netherlands, we hope you'll enjoy your stay and a very pleasant time with your host family.

When?	Who?	Where?
March	Denise from Peru	Rotterdam
April	Renyl from the Philippines	Amsterdam
April	Annaly from the Philippines	Amsterdam
April	Karliem from South Africa	Bilthoven
April	Eni from the Philippines	Bergschenhoek
April	Michelle from South Africa	Tiel
May	Argelia from Mexico	Groenekan
May	Mayela from Peru	Den Haag
May	Charlotte from South Africa	Rotterdam
May	Michelle from Mexico	Wassenaar
May	Lizeth from Peru	Rotterdam
May	Laurita from Peru	Rotterdam
May	Maria from Peru	Leiden
June	Demelisa from the Philippines	Dongen
June	Guadalupe from Mexico	Nijmegen
June	Dayde from Peru	Emmen

2 new interns!

Welcome Kasia & Agata

Dear au-pairs!

My name is **Kasia** and since February I am working as an intern at Smiling Faces. I come from Poland and I was an au-pair for a year. I enjoyed that time very much and I hope you do also.

My main tasks at Smiling Faces are recruiting and selecting nannies. I learn a lot and I really like this job. I wish you all a great stay in The Netherlands!

Hi everybody :)

My name is **Agata**. I used to be au pair myself 5 years ago and now since the beginning of February I am an intern at Smiling Faces. I'm Polish and I study International Business and Management in Den Haag. In the coming months I am going to help with arrangements for au pairs and next to it doing some research to write my final thesis.

I wish you all unforgettable time in The Netherlands!

Departures

Chenay, Nicole, Patricia and Mericia will be leaving us soon, we hope you've had an incredible time and have a good trip home!

Courses

Dutch course and au pair training

Smiling Faces developed especially for au pairs a Dutch course to learn the basics of communication with your host children. In this course we also discuss the difficulties you might experience and we train you how to solve them.

You will get homework every week and workable tips to make your life as an au pair as nice as possible. Please ask your host family to subscribe for this special course at info@smilingfaces.nl.

It is a part of your au pair program and the family will pay for it.

Au pairs who are not placed by Smiling Faces can join the course as well.



Recent graduates

Congratulations to; Yeni Wirasanti, Irina Chirilov, Karin Geyser and Marcia Egeter!

New course starts:

Place Hoflaan 113, Nieuwe Park Rozenburgschool in Rotterdam, Kralingen

Time 1900h – 2200h

Dates Every Wednesday (7 weeks), starting **April 9th** and **June 4th** 2008

We are trying to organize a Smiling Faces Dutch course for au pairs in the area of Amsterdam. We will let you know when we have more information about this.

English courses

Recommendation for Rotterdam



They have 18 levels in English, you will have to conduct a test and a short interview to assess your level. Courses are taught, mostly in the evening, on a weekly basis for 15 weeks. They start 3 times a year and have a maximum of 12 people.

The course fee is € 250 excluding the book, which is € 25. The new courses will start on **April 7th**. Be sure to register on time. For more information visit: www.british-english.nl.