

De la bruyère enneigée et des fougères ensoleillées
pour vous souhaiter gaiement sur un air écossais
une très belle, très heureuse, très paisible et très aventureuse année
Sourires au haggis voyageur en Caledonian Sleeper ou en Flying Scotsman



R&N
(réunis en septembre 2005 ...)





Hours in Perth Station

Our Coloradian adventures ended* last Summer with a wedding (ours) and a Mexican honeymoon, which are told in pictures on our website : <http://www.carva.org/nadia.belabas/nous.html>

In September, we flew back to Europe and settled in a three-story apartment spanning about a thousand miles: the first (with a small garden !!) and the second floor are in St Michel-sur-Orge, 20 km south of Paris. The third floor is in Scotland, with a beautiful view on the main street of St Andrews. We progressively feathered our nests in both places, Riwal enjoying fish'n chips and Nadia rediscovering the delights of cheese. Regular trips across the Channel helped get through the Fall, but the greatest help came from the happy and recent news that Riwal has obtained a very good teaching-research position in Paris. He has teaching to do in the second semester in St Andrews and hence will come back in France only in September.

Knowing this, we enjoyed the end of the year with a small trip by train (by trains rather, given the number of connections) in the southeastern part of the Highlands: gorgeous landscapes in the snow, bitter cold and welcoming B&Bs with much appreciated fireplaces (and delicious breakfasts), bright blue sky a few hours everyday, grand sunrises without the need to rise early...

We spent a traditional Christmas in Bordeaux, with Nadia's family, trying to figure out a Monet jigsaw puzzle that was unusually difficult for the small number of pieces it had...

We are now back in St Michel for a few more days together and send sweet, sweet thoughts to you and all your loved ones, together with our kindest and warmest wishes** for the New Year (which can not be done in France before January 1st...so please do not think we forgot you earlier :)). We shall try and keep the website updated so please keep checking it !

R&N

* Oh well, not 'The End' just 'an end' : we'll be back and visit ... don't (or do) worry !

** Here is a little game to start the year: in the following approximate translation of our attached French New Year card, find the line which was not present in the original: Snow on heather and sun in the fern

Wishing you on a Scottish tune
Knees shining between our kilts and socks
A very beautiful, blissful, quietful or quite full new year
Traveling smiles with haggis aboard
un Dormeur Caledonien ou un Ecossais Volant
R&N (reunited in September 2005)



Rising sun in Pitlochry



Bubbling snow on heather



Blooming puzzle under flash



Horses in Kingussie



Oysters in Bordeaux