



# NFYFC Discovery Homestay Sweden 2010

**SIMON HALEY**  
**Bilsborrow YFC**



# Where I stayed



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# Facts about Sweden

- Nordic country on the Scandinavian Peninsula in Northern Europe
- Constitutional monarchy
- Population - 9.4million
- 21 counties
- Area - 450,000 square km;  
Arable land - 6 million acres
- Agriculture - 1.1% of GDP  
Products - dairy, meat, grains  
(barley, wheat), sugar beet,  
potatoes, wood

# Things I saw and did

Saw new working methods and practices

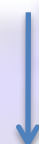


# Visited Stockholm and Malmo, the two main cities in Sweden



The cities were clean, made good use of space and incorporated the concept of water into their city planning efficiently and effectively

People were friendly, and English was spoken naturally as a second language



Worked on a mixed farm in the south of Sweden

- intensive beef unit finishing 300 crossbred bulls
- arable contracting - helped to harvest 8,000 small hay bales

## Saw lots of different types of farm machinery



Contracting – spraying, mowing, tedding, rowing up, baling (small and big bale)



The bulls were fed through an automatic feeder and from a farm-made quad-bike driven feeder

# Visited a large agricultural show

## Soil analysis



## Classic tractor and horse-drawn trailers



## Tillage best practice



## Demonstrations



## Product sample hall





Participated in a  
4H Summer Camp



**4 IFYEs and a NFYFC team of 15 under 18s and 2 leaders**



### In the camp :

- Made new friends and learned some Swedish
- Built our camp, and made furniture out of wood
- Activities – parade, volleyball, talent contest, team games



# Visited the dense forest and mountain areas in the north of Sweden

The top third of the country is of a very different landscape, with more forest areas and mosquitoes



In Sweden, there are 21 inhabitants per square km, whereas in the UK the ratio is 402 inhabitants per square km



# Visited a range of traditional and modern farms

Cheese and butter  
made by hand



Wind turbines



Robotic milkers  
(Swedish Red herd)



## People I met



## Advice and tips for anyone interested in a similar trip

- Choose a country/culture you have never visited before
- Get in contact with your host families before your trip
- Learn a few facts about the country you are visiting
- Go with an open mind to meet new people and learn new practices
- Take lots of photos

**Thank you to my sponsors, who kindly provided funds  
to help with the costs of my trip:**



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