

# Cross Cultural Dream Wedding

Kristin Weidemann Wieland

September 5, 2003



Figure 1: The bride and the groom

## Contents

<b>1 Preparations</b>	<b>3</b>
1.1 Before planning . . . . .	3
1.2 Timing . . . . .	3
1.3 Finding the right place . . . . .	3
1.4 The Invitations . . . . .	5
1.5 Practical preparations . . . . .	5
<b>2 The wedding weekend</b>	<b>7</b>
2.1 Thursday evening . . . . .	7
2.2 Friday: getting to know each other and German/Norwegian «crash course» . . . . .	7
2.3 Saturday - wedding day . . . . .	9
2.3.1 Getting ready . . . . .	9
2.3.2 The church ceremony . . . . .	9
2.3.3 Jørundgaard . . . . .	13
2.3.4 Reception and dinner . . . . .	13
2.3.5 After dinner . . . . .	17
2.4 Sunday . . . . .	17
<b>3 Honey moon</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>A Das Einmaleins der norwegischen Hochzeitstraditionen</b>	<b>20</b>

# 1 Preparations

## 1.1 Before planning

Peter and I had planned our wedding since five days after we were a couple. Of course, not so serious at that time, but he had already at that point concluded that we both wanted to get married in the Norwegian mountains, with the ceremony itself to be held in a church - and that the celebration should be a «lengthy» one where friends and family would have enough time to get acquainted.

At that point we disagreed about one point, though. I dreamed of getting married in white, Peter dreamed of having his bride dressed in «bunad» - the Norwegian national costume - traditionally worn at big festivities and weddings. Another obstacle to marriage was that Peter had this principle that he should know his girl friend for at least 10 years before he got married. This had seemed to be a sound principle when he was a teenager, but the two of us were already 29 when we met, and I didn't fancy the idea of having to wait until I was 39 before we got married....

Luckily he was negotiable. Giving up on the white wedding dress and agreeing to suiting myself in a «bunad» reduced the official waiting time to 8 years. A little improvement, but not much.

My own principle - not having children until we got married - was what finally made him give up on his principles. Peter really loves children, and the idea of having to wait until he was 37 before starting a family finally convinced him that it was better to give up on his 8 year precaution time and marry me....

26.th of June 1997 he finally asked, I accepted - and we started planning for the wedding of our dreams.

## 1.2 Timing

Like mentioned initially, we wanted to have «mountain weekend»-celebration of our wedding.

Both of us wanted a big celebration, with family and friends. Peter being from Germany, and me being Norwegian, we had the challenge of having to combine two cultures and two languages for our wedding. And - many of our guests would have to travel long distances to join us.

We agreed that the summer would be the best time for our wedding - but planning for the summer of '97 would probably mean that few long-distance travellers would show up (since it was June already...) In other words, it would have to be in a year, in the summer of '98.

And - it had to be in accordance with the South-German holiday-season in August/September, so that our German guests could have the chance of combining our wedding with a vacation in Norway.

We quickly found out that no mountain lodge would let us book for a weekend-wedding in August - their peak season - it would ruin their chance of renting out to «week guests». In September, Fall and Winter knocks on the door, with the chance of snow. We crossed our fingers, and set the date: 5.th of September 1998.

## 1.3 Finding the right place

A mountain lodge in the Norwegian Mountains - there are plenty - it should be easy to find the right one!

To accomodate foreign travelers and friends& family from Oslo, as well as my relatives from the Trondheim area - we decided to trail the valleys and mountain regions between Oslo and Trondheim for the right place.

I looked in the «yellow pages» - and did a «pre qualification» of places. «Weekend wedding for between 60-70 guests?». We quickly found out that the list of candidates would not be as long as we had first

thought - many of the lodges were more hotels than lodges - and would not house us exclusively for a weekend. But 5-6 lodges were put on the short list.

The final selection was done with my parents, who traveled with us to the «Dovre and Gudbrandsdalen» region to look at the different lodges facilities. What about a place with two hours of winding, bumpy road from the closest church - with only two showers to share in the basement? What about disco-facilities, respatex-furniture and bar in the basement? Nothing really attracted us, until we came to Øigardseter Fjellstue. Øigardseter is beautifully situated at Høvringen, on the rind of the Rondane National Park, 930 meters above sea level, when the trees «give up» due to the altitude in our part of the world.

Øigardseter could be characterized with one word: Perfect! 40 double rooms with showers, a beautiful dining room with view of the mountain region, wonderful coffee rooms with antique Norwegian furniture - and space for dancing. In addition they had a separate old lodge, dating from the 19th century, but redecorated and made into a luxury apartment. Perfect as wedding suite! The closest railway station of the Oslo-Trondheim express was only 30 minutes away, with the corresponding bus stopping right outside the door. The nearest church only 15 minutes away. And the host and hostess were really friendly and seemed to have a good grasp on things.

We were further convinced after visiting the church the next day: Nord-Sel kirke, a beautiful log church, with seats for around 80 people. Tared walls outside, the altar decoration being an old, beautifully painted wooden carving from the 17th century.



Figure 2: The church of Nord-Sel

Close to the church was Jørundgaard - where the movie about the medieval heroess «Kristin Lavransdatter» was filmed - with Liv Ullmann as director. Jørundgaard is restored as a medieval farm from 1200 a.d., beautifully situated near a creek in the Gudbrandsdal Valley. Jørundgaard receives visitors and performs guided tours of the facilities the whole year.

My dad negotiated with the host, and booked the lodge from the 4th to the 6th of September 1998.

The grand plan was to have an informal get-together and «crash course in Norwegian/German» Friday night, the wedding on Saturday, and a hike for all who wanted to join to a neighboring mountain Sunday. The wedding would be split up in church ceremony, a guided tour of Jørundgaard after the church - while we would be taken pictures of, champagne reception at Øigardseter, dinner, coffee avec, dance, cakes and coffee, more dance - and finally a nocturnal snack at 2 am.

Peters friend Joachim was chosen as best man, and my friend Magnhild as maid of honor. They both signed their testifications that we were well suited to marry each other, and all practical arrangements with the church in Nord-Sel could then be made.

## 1.4 The Invitations

A few days after Peters proposal I picked wild flowers in the garden and adjoining forest of our home. These were put between the pages of an old book, and put under pressure and stuck away in the book shelf.

Several months later we figured it was time to send out the invitations: December '97 was the perfect month. 10 months ahead of time should give everyone enough time to plan - and we could combine our invitation with Seasons Greetings to family and friends.

But what should we do to intrigue most people to come? In Germany weddings tend to be quite informal, with people showing up with jeans - even the groom! Peter wanted our wedding to be according to Norwegian traditions, something quite different. He felt it was important to bring across the message what a Norwegian wedding would be like - both to intrigue the German guests to come, and to prepare them for something quite different from what they are used to.

So - we figured we'd send out the «Essentials about Norwegian Weddings» to the Germans we invited. In addition they got a small sheet of practical information (about the lodge, prices etc.) to accompany the formal invitation. The Norwegians only got the sheet with practical details along with their invitation.

For the cover of the invitation itself, we bought paper made out of old leaves. We found this to make a beautiful background to our dried flowers. On the front page of each cover we cut a small strap using a paper knife, and a dried flower was gently fastened by this strap - without the use of glue or any plastic cover. The formal invitation - written in German and Norwegian - we tied to the cover with a piece of paper ribbon matching the color of the leaf paper. We were quite satisfied with the result!

«Essentials of a Norwegian Wedding» in German

The invitation

Practical details of our wedding in Norwegian and German

## 1.5 Practical preparations

To our joy, most of those we invited accepted, and most of them decided to come for the whole weekend. We were especially pleased that many of those we had invited from Germany decided to take the trip.

But how should we ensure a relaxed atmosphere on our «grand day», with language barriers and so many people not knowing each other from before?

We decided to help our guests out a bit. A couple of weeks before the wedding we sent out a complete list of all our guests, noting how they were related to us, and with a brief and humorous description of «key characteristics» of each and every one. The guest list was a big success..... and the most eager ones had a good grasp of whom they would meet when they arrived at Høvringen.

We also asked close friends and family to share in on some of the practical duties of the wedding.

For the formal wedding pictures, we hired a photographer from Otta, the nearest village. He agreed to come to «Jørundgaard» to take our pictures after the ceremony in the church.

Four friends had been asked - and accepted - to act as «unofficial» photographers. To avoid that they would all feel the duty as a burdensome task the whole weekend - we split the weekend up:

- One friend was on duty Friday evening
- Two friends were on duty in and after the church
- One friend was on duty at Jørundgaard and at the following reception

- Two friends were on duty during dinner
- One friend was on duty after dinner (coffee, cakes and dance)
- One friend was on duty during the hike the following day

In this way, they had two periods each- and could relax when they were not «on duty», and it also ensured that there were no prolonged periods when no pictures were taken due to tired photographers. This way of dividing the task in between them was very well received.

My brother agreed to be «video super boss» - and filmed on and off throughout the wedding.

The chosen photographers received the practical details of the arrangements with the guest list.

Five other friends were asked to be DJ's after dinner - serving 45 minutes each. With the guest list we sent out a the schedule, as well as a list of the CD's we would bring along that they could chose from, welcoming to bring along their own as well.

My sister and brother in law accepted to be in charge of the «Polonese», as well as finding the right music for the great wedding waltz.

To arrange the flowers, we hired Marian - an exceptionally clever flower decorator. She had decorated my sister wedding two years earlier, and since she used lots of natural materials and wild flowers and grasses in her decorations (alongside cultivated flowers to add the extra touch) we knew she would be perfect.

As for our wedding outfits, my mother accepted to be in charge of dry cleaning Peters tuxedo, as well as my «Bunad». I received my Bunad when I was 15, about 20 kilos ago. Luckily the seamstress planned that I would gain a lot, so over the years it has been resewn to fit without major problems - and fit well now too. However, the silver lace that it was decorated with had blackened over the years, so my mom volunteered to replace it with new silver lace. The silver brooches were sent to the silver smith for a repolish, and I bought new bunad shoes (the old ones were as old as the bunad....).

I had agreed not to get married in white. However, anyone who has tried to dance more than one dance in the woolen bunad knows that it is not suited for much action. So I decided to get a white evening dress so that I could «transform into white» and have a little touch of traditional bridal dressing after dinner. Magnhild helped me choose a beautiful white satin-like dress. Very plain and elegant, with no laces or puffy sleeves. I felt like a model dressing up in it!

Peters mother and sister as well as my aunts and sister in law volunteered to bake cakes for the coffee table. In addition we ordered a Norwegian «Kransekake» as well as a grand wedding cake from «Pascal» bakery in Oslo, filled with Passion fruit mousse and decorated with two beautiful sugar swans as well as fresh fruit. Highly recommended!

Another person deeply involved in our planning was our toastmaster - Lars - one of Peters closest friends. He was chosen because we knew he would do a good job, and because he was fluent in both Norwegian and German.

Finally one task of preparing for the wedding should not be forgotten: wine tasting!

We wanted the meal to be Norwegian, but at least the white wine to be German - and preferably from Peters home district Baden Württemberg. In Norway most restaurants are restricted to serve «officially imported» labels, and on that list, not too many are... The four wines that figured on the official list, that originated from the vicinities of Peters home, were bought, and closely tested by us and my parents. A winner was found, from the excellent wine district of Kaiserstuhl. We did the same with the Reds, but extended our selection outside Germany, and ended up with an Australian wine.

For champagne and avec we chose labels by experience....



Figure 3: Lars – our Toastmaster

## 2 The wedding weekend

### 2.1 Thursday evening

Peter and I, our parents, Peters best man and his wife, my sister and brother in law, as well as Peters sister and her husband, all arrived at Øigardseter Thursday evening.

Before joining our family at Øigardseter, we had an appointment with the Minister of Nord Sel Kirke, Arne Wilter. He went through the details of the wedding ceremony with us, and was really strict with every step. «Once more, smaller steps please. And remember, everyone has to wait to sit until the bride sits down! Please - down point your toes so wide apart, straight forwards please». I tried to protest - «but noone will notice» - but Mr. Wilter had the right answer: «I will». The altar candle served as bridal bouquet, and we rehearsed over and over again to get every step right. Finally he was satisfied, and could start his little speech with good advice to Peter and myself on how to make our life as husband and wife a happy one.

By the time we got to Øigardseter, the time was 1130 pm, and we went straight to bed!

### 2.2 Friday: getting to know each other and German/Norwegian «crash course»

While our Thursday evening guests took the advantage of the spectacular scenery and beautiful weather to take a hike in the area near Høvringen, Peter and I had to go to Otta. I had a trial appointment with my hair dresser, who practised styling my hair and putting on make up - and Peter had an appointment with the photographer to plan the practical details of what he should do.

Then it was time for lunch at Øigardseter, and our guests started arriving. The atmosphere was really relaxed, and we had time to greet everyone welcome and get updated on the latest news with each and every one.

Between 8pm and 10pm everyone could help themselves with a hot evening meal «on the house». Beef stroganoff with rice or potatoes, and chocolate mousse as dessert. In this way everyone were well fed, but could choose their arrival time as it suited them best.

At 10pm the «Crash course» of German/Norwegian language and culture started.



Figure 4: «Crash course» of German/Norwegian language and culture

We had grouped all of our Friday evening arrivers into 10 groups of appox. 5-6 people - ensuring each group would have at least two foreigners (we had four Swedish people among our guests).

Each group received a theme - for instance «Five national dishes». In 45 minutes time the German members should find this for Germany, and explain it to their Norwegian co-members, and the Norwegians should explain their specialities for their German co-members. The results were to be presented and explained to all other guests, with a Norwegian presenting the German results - and a German presenting the Norwegian results.

The themes were as follows:

- The five greatest sights
- The five greatest athletic achievements of the century
- The five most important inventions
- The five most important national dishes
- The five greatest passions
- The five greatest adventurers and/or scientists, and what they have achieved
- 15 words that characterize a typical Norwegian, and a typical German
- Learn a verse from a typical Norwegian, and a typical German, song
- Find a Norwegian saying, that does not exist in Germany, and a German saying, that does not exist in Norway

The groups were eager at work, people had a really good time and got to know each other a little bit - and the results that were presented were really entertaining. Recommended!



As it was all over, time approached mid-night. It was time for bed. In faith with the tradition I did not spend the last night before the wedding with Peter, but he had to put up with the husband of my maid of honor, so that we girls could talk the last details over and escape from Øigardseter before Peter woke up in the morning.

## 2.3 Saturday - wedding day

### 2.3.1 Getting ready

The day of our dreams arrived with the sun rays sparkling from a cloudless sky. The mountains around Høvingen greeted us in bright fall colors. Wow!

As Magnhild and I went for an early breakfast, Peter - usually the last to get out of bed - sat on the doorsteps of the main building, and greeted us shyly. «What are you doing here Peter!». According to the tradition, he was not to see me until the service in the church..... we asked him to look another way, and «forgot» that we had seen him.....



Figure 5: Church program is in place ...

The appointment at the hairdresser began at 9am sharp. She was a very good hairdresser and make-up artist, in 3-4 hours she transformed me into the most beautiful woman I have been in my life. Marian - the flower decorator - had given me a strand of flowers, berries and leaves to fasten in my hair - supposedly to match my bridal bouquet - and this was gently fastened to my hair as the hours passed. Magnhild ascertained that I got something to eat, and had even brought along a small bottle of champagne to celebrate my big day. At 12:40 I was fully dressed, and my dad (and Peters dad) came to pick me up - and gave me the flowers. Beautiful! I felt like a queen, a princess.

### 2.3.2 The church ceremony

At 1300 sharp I was waiting arm in arm with my dad outside the entrance of the church, waiting for the organ to play the wedding march. When the music started, and the door opened, I felt as if I was lifted 20 cm above the floor. The beautifully decorated church, with flowers all along the floor. The faces of our dear friends, our dear families - and there in the front - my dearest Peter, standing there waiting for me to become his wife. I have seldom in my life had to fight tears as toughly as on those 30 meters from the church door entrance to altar. 30 minutes later - as I left the church arm in arm with the man of my life - I was even happier, my heart bouncing with joy. What a beautiful day!



Figure 6: Guests in the church

We had thought in all ways how we could ascertain a good mix of German and Norwegian in the church, without requiring the minister to speak German. The bridal march was a composition from the Gudbrandsdal Valley, the exit march the traditional «Mendelsohn». As hymns, we had carefully chosen music that is common to both Norway and Germany, with some verses to be sung in German, some in Norwegian. One hymn was 100% Norwegian though, simply because we found it so beautiful.

We had asked Peters sister Christiane to recite a piece in German in the church, and she had especially written a prayer for us - which was performed by her together with her husband.

The biggest surprise was the priest, though. On the morning of our wedding he called Peter, and asked him to translate the Lord's prayer as well as the formal wedding ceremony to German.

During the ceremony, he asked my questions in Norwegian, Peters in German. The Lord's was performed in two languages as well.

The result - all guests understood the most important part of the church service - and we got married!

Church program with hymns

Christiane's prayer.



Figure 7: The breath-taking bride



Figure 8: It's done ...



Figure 9: The couple and the priest



Figure 10: The couple in front of the church



Figure 11: The couple in front of the church

### 2.3.3 Jørundgaard

Following the church ceremony, we were congratulated by all our guests, and it was time to drive over to Jørundgaard for pictures for us, and guided tour of the medieval farm for our guests.

But drive, in this kind of weather? Peter and I decided to take the initiative, and started strolling along towards Jørundgaard. Pretty soon the whole wedding-party followed us, making a colorful parade in the beautiful fall weather.

The farm was surrounded by spectacular scenery, and there was no problem to get excellent photos of the two of us. In the meantime, our guests got the tour of the farm - and were served traditional «Rømmebrød» (sour cream cracker) and herb tea from medieval recipes.



Figure 12: Light lunch at Jørundgaard

### 2.3.4 Reception and dinner

At Øigardseter our guests had time to relax a bit while studying the seating plan for the dinner.

Here we had made an unusual twist: As names on the seating plan we had chosen the prime characteristic of each and every guest, gathered from the characteristics on the guest list.

The placement cards were made of the same «leaf paper» as our invitations, but this time the cards were decorated with dried flowers from the summer of '98. On the front we had listed the nick name of each guest, on the back side the real name. In other words, if a person was incorrect about who he was, it was easy to find out. This made it easy for the guests on the other side of the table to learn the names of those across the table. For the people next to you, the nick names served as ideas for «conversation topics».

Champagne was served, and my father gave his traditional welcome speech - in both German and Norwegian - of course.

Then it was time for dinner. The menu was almost 100% Norwegian «Mountain style», but 4 instead of 3 courses were served, in style with German formal dinner traditions:

- Appetizer: Salmon medallion.
- Soup: Reindeer consommé with mushrooms
- Main course (served twice): Reindeer roast with game sauce, mushrooms, brussel sprouts, carrots, potatoes and lingonberry jam.



Figure 13: Reception

- Dessert: Cloud berry cream served in «krumkake» (a kind of crisp waffle)

Even if the food was 100% Norwegian, we were proud to serve wine from Peters home region to follow the appetizer and soup, very well received by the guests.

The meal was a joyful one, with all the compulsory speeches, as well as some extra initiatives (songs, speeches etc.) from family and friends. Those contributing to the entertainment were (in order of appearance):

- Peters dad
- My dad
- Peter
- My maid of honor Magnhild
- Peters best man Joachim
- Me
- My older sister Inga Marie
- My younger sister Idunn
- My friends from University
- Peters sisters and brothers in law
- My friends from the Lillehammer Olympics
- Me again (I had to sing a song from my «stag party»)
- Peters friend Stephan
- Our mutual friend Thomas («Thanks for the meal»-speech)



Figure 14: Minor hurdles



Figure 15: The groom's speech ...

Some speeches/songs were in German, some in Norwegian, Peters and mine were in a mix of German, Norwegian and English. I think everyone got their share of entertainment!

Thanks to excellent conductance by Lars, we meal was still finished in 4.5 hours!!! (Very efficient, in Norwegian terms....)



Figure 16: The bride's speech ...



Figure 17: Bride's school mates performing ...



Figure 18: Happy parents



### 2.3.5 After dinner

After enjoying coffee and *avec*, and after my transformation from traditional bunad to bride in white, it was time for the «Polonaise». And what fits better than a march by Glenn Miller ? It surely got the atmosphere up to a peak! Everyone joined, from the youngest to the oldest.

Then we danced the waltz, and all other joined in. Our DJ's did an excellent job, and «Macarena» as well as traditional Norwegian «Reinlender» was danced by everyone, old and young. Even after the great dinner, people managed to build up an appetite for cakes through dancing - so amazingly enough they were popular when they arrived!



Figure 19: Dancing ...

Then was time for the big surprise of the day - Peter had prepared a «multimedia» show picturing his wife. I was deeply moved.



Figure 20: Preparations for the multimedia show

## 2.4 Sunday

More than 40 guests joined in for the hike to a mountain peak nearby Øigardseter, and at the top everyone was served homemade juice and cinnamon rolls, baked by my mom.



Figure 21: The cake ...

Near the top, my uncle suggested for everyone to pick a rock or two for Peter and me, so that we could build a landmark - a traditional Norwegian «varde» - at the top.

*Thanks a lot - we will revisit it in the years to come in memory of our great wedding day.*



Figure 22: The next day: Mountain hike



Figure 23: On the way to the top – carrying rocks



Figure 24: The couple behind the «varde»

### 3 Honey moon

Our honey moon we spent hiking from «cabin to cabin» in the beautiful Rondane mountains.

The first days we were accompanied by some friends, the last days we had on our own.

The result of the honeymoon is scheduled for June 1999, expected due date is June 9th, 9 months and 4 days after our wedding!

## A Das Einmaleins der norwegischen Hochzeitstraditionen

Da wir unsere Hochzeit in Norwegen feiern, folgt eine kurze Einführung in die norwegischen Hochzeitstraditionen:

Der grösste Unterschied zwischen einer deutschen und einer norwegischen Hochzeit liegt darin, dass eine norwegische Hochzeit viel formeller und traditioneller gefeiert wird als eine deutsche.

Das äussert sich zunächst in der Kleidung. Wer die Gelegenheit dazu hat, trägt Tracht oder Smoking mit Weste bzw. Bauchbinde. Ein schwarzer Anzug bietet eine Alternative, ein dunkler gilt schon fast als “underdressed”, alles andere dagegen “fällt auf”.

Ein weiterer Unterschied ist bei der Tischordnung sichtbar: um das Ziel einer möglichst breiten Integration von Familie und Freunden auf beiden Seiten zu erreichen, werden diese während des Festessens bunt durcheinandergemischt. Dabei ist nur eines sicher: niemand sitzt neben oder in der Nähe des (Ehe-) Partners (Ausnahme: das Brautpaar).

Zu dieser Integration tragen auch die traditionellen Reden bei, während denen alle die Gelegenheit haben, Braut und Bräutigam von etwas unterschiedlichen und eventuell überraschenden Blickwinkeln kennenzulernen.

Die Reihenfolge der Reden zu Tisch ist streng festgelegt:

- Zunächst der Brautvater, gefolgt vom Vater des Bräutigams.
- Anschliessend der Bräutigam (damit er seine Nervosität loswird) und die Braut.
- Als nächstes sind der Trauzeugen des Bräutigams und die Trauzeugin der Braut an der Reihe.
- Damit ist die Pflicht getan und es haben (in dieser Reihenfolge) Geschwister, Verwandte und Freunde Gelegenheit, Reden und Anekdoten, Trinksprüche, Lieder oder sonstige Einlagen vorzutragen.

Der gesamte Ablauf wird vom Toastmaster koordiniert. Alle geplanten Aktivitäten sollten daher mit ihm im voraus abgesprochen werden. Der gesamte Ablauf einschliesslich der obligatorischen Dankesrede (für das Essen) und allem Prost erstreckt sich über mindestens 5 Stunden. Daher ist es nicht üblich, Kinder mit zum Hochzeitsessen zu bringen. Sie würden sich nur langweilen und sind wahrscheinlich in dieser Zeit besser bei einem Babysitter untergebracht.

Der Kaffee und Kuchen wird in Norwegen erst rund Mitternacht serviert, bevor auch hier bis in die Puppen getanzt wird.

Wie bereits erwähnt bilden die kreativ vorgetragenen Einlagen einen Hauptbestandteil des Hochzeitsmenues. Lars Thorbjørnsen hat die Aufgabe des Toastmasters übernommen. Alle geplanten Einlagen sollten (gerne im Voraus) mit ihm abgesprochen werden. Lars ist unter der Telefonnummer 0047/67548673 erreichbar - und spricht fließend deutsch.

Toril W. Løvseth	Brudens mor. Barnelege, cellist, 4-barnsmor, hobby-botaniker, bollebaker, strikkerske og nyfrelst syklist	Brautmutter. Kinderärztin, Cellistin, 4-fache Mutter, Hobbybotanikerin, Bollebackerin, Strickerin und seit kurzem Radfan
Jørgen Løvseth	Brudens far. Fysiker, allviter vindmøllebygger, fisker med robåt og ekkolodd, hobbygartner, Microsoft-hater	Brautvater. Physiker, Alleswisser, Windmühlenbauer, Fischer mit Ruderboot und Echolot, Hobbygärtner, Microsoft-Hasser
Ursula Wieland	Brudgommens mor. Regnskapsfører, kakebakeekspert, 3-barnsmor, syltetøyfag- kvinne, håndarbeidsmester og skøyteproff	Bräutigamsmutter. Buchhalterin, Kuchen-expertin, 3 fache Mutter, Marmeladefachfrau, Handarbeitsmeisterin und Schlittschuhprofi
Adam Wieland	Brudgommens far. Metallsmed, «King of tables», allpraktiker, spøkefugl, Skatexpert, drømmer om den store laksen.	Bräutigamsvater. Schmied. König der Tische, Allpraktiker, Spassvogel, Skatexperte, träumt vom grossen Lachs
Inga Marie Nyhamar	Brudens storesøster. Statsviter, UD-diplomat, aviselsker, bokorm, B-menneske, 2-barnsmor, litteratur-geni	Grosse Schwester der Braut. Staatswissenschaftlerin, AA-Diplomatin, Zeitungs-fanatikerin, Bücherwurm, B-Mensch, 2fache Mutter, Literaturgenie
Tore Nyhamar	Brudens svoger. Statsviter, forsker, halvmaratonløper, historiker og slagekspert, Volvo-eier	Schwager der Braut. Staatswissenschaftler, Forscher, Halbmarathonläufer, Historiker und Schlachtexperte, Volvo-Besitzer
Kristen Nyhamar	Brudens nevø. 3 år. Elsker gravemaskiner, fly og iskrem.	Neffe der Braut. 3 Jahre alt. Liebt Bagger, Flugzeuge und Eis.
Ellisiv Nyhamar	Brudens niese og fadderbarn. '98-årgang. Har lært seg å suge på tærne, beundrer storebror.	Nichte und Patenkind der Braut. Jahrgang '98. Hat gelernt an den Zehen zu saugen, bewundert ihren grossen Bruder
Idunn Løvseth Kavlie	Brudens lillesøster. Dataorm og ledelseskonsulent, hypersosial, estetiker, globetrotter, O-løper-ess	Kleine Schwester der Braut, Computerwurm und Führungskonsulentin, hypersosial, Estetikerin, Globetrotter, Orientierungsläufer-Ass
Rune Kavlie	Brudens svoger. Dataorm og ledelseskonsulent, ulykkesfugl ,sport-sess. rømmeelsker, hyperaktiv	Schwager der Braut. Computerwurm und Führungskonsulent. Unglücksrabe, Sportsass, Rahmliebhaber, hyperaktiv
Siri Natvig	Brudens svigerinne. Filolog, lærer indianerekspert, 1-barnsmor, omsorgskanon, UKA-veteran,.	Schwägerin der Braut, Sprachforscherin, Lehrerin, Indianerexpertin, 1fache Mutter, Kümmerkanone, UKA-Veteranin
Sigurd Løvseth	Brudens bror. Fysiker og student. Tyttebærsyltetøy-elsker. Humorist. Langrennsløper. C-menneske.	Bruder der Braut, Physiker und Doktorand, Preiselbeermarmeladeliebhaber, Humorist, Langläufer, C-Mensch
Jørgen Natvig Løvseth	Brudens nevø og gudsønn. 18 mnd. Farfars øyensten. Nesten alltid blid. Ingen respekt for høyder.	Neffe und Patenkind der Braut. 18 Monate.Grossvaters Ein-Und-Alles, (Fast-) Immerfroh, kein Respekt vor der Grösse.

Daniela Wieland	Brudgommens storesøster. Bibliotekar, symfoniorkester-sjef, antikvitetselsker, bokorm, Italia-fan.	Grosse Schwester des Bräutigams. Biblio-thekarin, Symphonieorchesterchefin, Antik-vitetenliebhaberin, Bücherwurm, Italien-Fan
Robert Kette	Brudgommens «svoger». Symfonisk trommeslager, vindsurfer, evig ung, globetrotter, musikkelsker, opp-pusser	«Schwager» des Bräutigams. Symfonischer Trommler, Windsurfer, Ewigjung, Globetrotter, Musikliebhaber, Renovierer.
Christiane Knieriemen	Brudgommens lillesøster. Aktuar og pengeekspert. Tupperware-samler, kakebaketalent og trampoline-hopper.	Kleine Schwester des Bräutigams, Geld- und Versicherungsexpertin, Tupper-Sammlerin, Kuchentalent, Trampolinspringerin
Frank Knieriemen	Brudgommens svoger. Eiendomsmegler og student.. Fotball-målvakt-stjerne. Teltleirsjef, knivmester, Kanin-eier	Schwager des Bräutigams. Makler und Student, Torhüter-Stern, Zeltlagechef, Messerfachmann, Kaninchen-Besitzer
Magnhild Thorsdal Mølnvik	Forlover. LOOC-venninne av bruden. Kvalitetssjef, multitasking-ekspert, 1-barnsmor. Slalåmkjører, rydder, expopedist.	Trauzeugin. Olympiade-Freundin der Braut. Qualitätschefin, Multitasking-Expertin, 1fache Mutter, Slalomfahrerin, ehemalige Motorradbraut
Ivar Mølnvik	Venn av brudeparet. SAP-ekspert, antikonsulent-konsulent. Hyperspreking, friluftsmann, sjefsdiskutør, huslig talent.	Freund des Brautpaares. SAP-Experte Anti-Konsulent-Konsulent. Megasportler, Frischluftfan, Chefsdiskuteur, Hausmann.
Doris Schmid	Venninne av brudeparet og Peters erte-kamerat. Sykepleier, 3-barns vidundermor, valse-ekspert, langrenn-star	Freundin des Brautpaares. Peters Hänselkum-pan. Krankenschwester, 3fache Traumutter, Walzerexpertin, Langlaufstar
Joachim Schmid	Forlover av brudgommen. No.1 på databaser, spillfantast, fantasi-fenomen, «sunnmøring», mega-analytiker	Trauzeuge des Bräutigams, No. 1 der Datenbanken, Spielwurm, Fantasiephänomen, Schwabe, Mega-Analytiker
Kari Hege Mørk	Venninne av brudeparet, 1-barnsmor, sannsynlighetsberegner, ekslandslags-håndballmålvakt og feinschmeckerkock.	Freundin des Brautpaares 1fache Mutter Wahrscheinlichkeitsberechnerin, National-mannschaftshandballerin und Feinschmeckerköchin
Lars Thorbjørnsen	Venn av brudgommen, toastmaster. Byggfagmann, Mester Grundig, håndballmålvakt, klatrefant, estetiker.	Freund des Brautpaares, Toastmaster, Baufachmann, Meister Gründlich, Handballer, Klettermax, Ästhetiker.
Hanne Mossige	Grand-tante av bruden. 1-barnsmor, barnevernspedagog og pensjonist. 5-mils-sluker, adventskalenderbrodererchampion.	Grosstante der Braut. 1-fache Mutter, Kinderschutzpädagogin, Rentnerin, 5 Meilen-Stieflerin Adventkalenderknüpf-Champion
Ragnhild Wirsching	Tante av bruden. Fysioterapeut. 3-barnsmor. Selskapslek-ekspert. Erindringsforfatter.	Tante der Braut. Physiotherapeutin, 3fache Mutter, Gesellschaftsspielsexpertin und Erinnerungs-Verfasserin
Johan Wirsching	Onkel av bruden. Øyenlege. Seiler. Hvitvins-importør. Hyttebygger.	Onkel der Braut. Augenarzt. Segler. Weissweinimporteur, Hüttenbaumeister
Helga Moxness	Tante av bruden. Lærer. 3-gutts-mor. Kunsthåndverkseksper. Peppernøttmester. Internasjonale kontakter	Tante der Braut. Lehrerin. Mutter 3er Jungs, Kunsthandwerksexperte. Pfeffernussmeisterin internationale Kontakte

Terje Moxness	Onkel av bruden. Bygg-ingeniør og innkjøpssjef. Superhendt gjør-det-selv-mester. Vet mye om det meste	Onkel der Braut. Bauigel und Einkaufschef, superpraktischer «Mach-es-selbst»-Meister, weiss viel über das Meiste
Laila Weidemann	Tante av bruden. Lærer, 3-barnsmor. O-løps og langrennstrener. Birkebeiner. Hypersosial. Krocketmester	Tante der Braut. 3fache Mutter, Orientierungs- und Langlauftrainerin, Birkebeiner, hypersozial, Krocketmeister
Harald Eriksen	Onkel av bruden. Tannlege, Birkebeiner-eliteløper, blåskjell-ekspert, Friluftsfanatiker, Middagsarrangør	Onkel der Braut, Zahnarzt, Birkebeiner-Eliteläufer, Miesmuschel-Experte, Frischluftfanatiker, Festmahlsarrangeur
Randi Løvseth	Tante av bruden. 5-barnsmor, bondekone og skreddermester. Hobbygartner. Kunsthandverker, Superhusmor	Tante der Braut. 5-fache Mutter, Bauersfrau und Schneidermeisterin, Hobbygärtnerin, Kunsthandwerkerin, Superhausfrau
Sivert Løvseth	Onkel av bruden. Bonde, veteranpolitiker (partikollega av KMB) og diskutør. Menighetsaktivum	Onkel der Braut. Bauer, Veteran-Politiker (Parteikollege des Staatsministers), Diskuteur. Kirchengemeinde-Aktivposten
Anne Jagtøyen	Tante av bruden. Bondekone, 3-barnsmor superekretær og kongressarrangør. Laksekokke-ekspert.	Tante der Braut. Bauersfrau, 3-fache Mutter, Supersekretärin und Kongressarrangeur, Lachskoch-Expertin.
Ivar Jagtøyen	Onkel av bruden. Kornbonde, sjefslaksefisker og lakse-elvs-eier. Campingplassvert	Onkel der Braut. Getreide-Bauer, Chefs-Lachs-Angler, Lachsfluss-Besitzer. Campingplatzwirt.
Johanne Løvseth	Tante av bruden. Sykepleier og bondekone. Super-ekspert-elitekakebaker. 2-barnsmor.	Tante der Braut. Krankenschwester und Bauersfrau. Super-Expertin-Elitenkuchenbäckerin, 2-fache Mutter.
Rolf Løvseth	Onkel av bruden. Bonde og skogeier. Spøkefugl. Arbeidende direktør. Menighetsaktivum	Onkel der Braut. Bauer und Waldbesitzer, Spassvogel, schaffender Direktor, Kirchengemeinde-Aktivposten
Stephan Wörnle	Militærtjenestevann av brudgommen. Reklame-strateg, Alpe-fjellfører, kampsport-verdensmester, forfatter.	Bundeswehr-Freund des Bräutigams. Reklame-Strategie, Alpen- Bergführer, Kampfsportweltmeister, Buchautor.
Kristina Rosengren	Brev-venninne av brudgommen. Lege, sang-geni, kontrabassist, tverrfløytist, super-aktiv kvinne. Hobby-florist.	Brieffreundin des Bräutigams. Ärztin, Spitzensängerin, Kontrabassistin und Querflötistin, Superaktivfrau, Hobby-Floristin
Johan Forsblad	Venn av brudeparet. Lege. Sirkusjonglør. Sykkel-entusiast. Slalåmkjører og friluftsmenneske.	Freund des Brautpaares, Arzt, Zirkusjongleur, Fahrradenthusiast, Slalomfahrer und Frischluftmensch.
Carina Ehrenfors	Venn av brudeparet. Lærerinne, 2-barnsmor, Japanekspert, festarrangør, bok	Freundin des Brautpaares, Lehrerin, 2-fache Mutter, Japan-Expertin, Festarrangeur

Erik Ehrenfors	Venn av brudgommen, megasjef, Fjellrev, superkokk, overlevelseskunstner. Hagespill-og mobiltelefonekspert.	Freund des Bräutigams, Megachef, Bergfuchs, Superkoch, Überlebenskünstler, Gartenspiel- und Handy-Experte.
Sonja Levsen	Venninne av brudeparet. Farmasøyt, fan av gamle apotek, hjerte-samler, katte-eier, ny-frelst Norgesvenn	Freundin des Brautpaares, Apothekerin, Antik-Apotheken-Fan, Herzen-Sammlerin, Katzenbesitzerin. seit kurzem Norwegen-Fan
Michael Jürgens	Venn av brudgommen. Flergangs-næringsdrivende, dataorm, veteran-Mercedes-elsker, Lao-Tse-fan, husbygger.	Freund des Bräutigams, Vielfach-Unternehmer, Datenwurm, Mercedes-Oldie-Liebhaber, Lao-Tse-Fan, Häuslebauer
Heidrun Speckle	Venninne av brudeparet. Jurist, ligge- og tandemsyklist, spill-oppfinner, Käsespätzle-fagkvinne.	Freundin des Brautpaares, Juristin, Liege- und Tandem-Radlerin, Spiele-Erfinderin, Käsespätzle-Fachfrau.
Michael Dürr	Venn og ekspedisjonskamerat av brudgommen. Kjemi-ingeniør, liggesykkelbygger, sykkel-fanatiker, friskluft-savhengig, elsker norsk potegull.	Freund und Expeditionskumpan des Bräutigams. Chemieingenieur, Liegeradbauer, Radfanatiker, Frischluft-Abhängiger, liebt norwegische Chips.
Oliver Clemens (Oli)	Venn og ekspedisjonskamerat av brudgommen. Arkitekt med spesialtet igloer, Byggmester, Liggesykkelkonstruktør, superkreativ praktiker, hobby-filosof.	Freund und Expeditionskumpan des Bräutigams. Architekt mit Spezialgebiet Igloos, Baumeister, Liegeradbauer, superkreativ Praktiker, Hobby-Philosoph.
Andrea Speck	Venninne av brudeparet. Skattesparekspert, tømmerhus-bygger, hobbygartner, energiker,	Freundin des Brautpaares, Steuerspar-expertin, Blockhausbauerin, Hobby-Gärtnerin. Energikerin.
Kurt Speck	Venn og X-kollega av brudgommen. Matematiker på avveier, ideal-sjef, hobbyfilosof, Gjør-det-selv mester.	Freund und Exkollege des Bräutigams, Mathematiker auf Abwegen, Ideal-Chef, Hobby-Philosoph. «Do-it-yourself» Meister.
Ann Kristin Øverli	Venninne av brudeparet. 4-barns-mor (på tre år!!!!), Husmor og hobby-småbruker , alternativ livsførerske.	Freundin des Brautpaares, 4-fache Mutter (in 3 Jahren!!!), Hausfrau und Hobby-Landwirtin. Alternative Lebenswandlerin.
Torge Øverli	Venn av brudgommen. Telematikk-økologi-sjef, biopat, hobby-filosof, nesten hardhaus. Multiplanlegger.	Freund des Bräutigams, Telematik-Ökologie-Chef, Biophath, Hobby-Philosoph, Fast-Hardhaus. Multiplaner.
Eva Sigstad	Venninne av brudeparet, lege. Konsulent-temmer, maraton-lyn, gourmet-kokk, estetiker, urbanolog, sunnhetsfreak	Freundin des Brautpaares, Ärztin, Konsulent-dompteur, Marathonblitz,, Gourmetköchin. Ästhetikerin. Urbanologin. Gesundheitsfreak.
Thomas Wikberg	Venn av brudeparet, konsulent-konsulent, mestersvømmer, «Frequent flyer», super-vert, den fødte optimist!	Freund des Brautpaares, Konsulent-Konsulent, Meisterschwimmer, Vielflieger, Superwirt, der geborene Optimist!



Vy Kristiansen	Venn og x-arbeidskollega av brudgommen. Asia-ekspert, fritidsfrisør, Schäfer-elsker, Thaimat-superkikk	Freundin und ehemalige Kollegin des Bräutigams, Asia-Expertin, Freizeit-Frisörin, Schäferhund-Liebhaberin, Thai-Superköchin
Stein Kristiansen	Venn og x-arbeidskollega av brudgommen. Oljeplattformsjef, Amerika-ekspert, hater tyske kaker, speileggkikk,	Freund und ehemaliger Kollege des Bräutigams, Ölbohrinselchef, Amerika-Experte, hasst deutsche Kuchen, Spiegelei-Koch
Ingebjørg Gravlien	Studievenninne av bruden. Elektronikk-ekspert og tidlig sjef. Håndballspiller, kjolesyerske, globe-trotter.	Studien-Freundin der Braut. Elektronik-expertin und erste Chefin. Handballspielerin, Kleidnäherin, Globetrotter.
Jo Gravlien	Venn av brudeparet. Telematikk-ekspert og vandrende leksikon. Science-fiction og «special-effects»-kjenner.	Freund des Brautpaares. Telematik-Experte und wanderndes Lexikon. Science-Fiction und «Special-Effects» Kenner.
Ingunn Schjetne	Studievenninne og x-med-korist av bruden. Global prosjektleder, sopran, vertinne-under, sports- (men ikke TV) fan.	Studienfreundin und Ex-Chorkameratin der Braut. Globale Projektleiterin, Sopran, Gast-geberin-Wunder, Sport-(aber kein TV) Fan
Erlend Sigvaldsen	Venn av brudeparet. Global økonomikonsulent. Bokorm, bilbanceier, spillfantast, tinnssoldatekspert.	Freund des Brautpaares, Globaler Wirtschaftskonsulent, Buchwurm, Carrerabahnbesitzer, Spielwurm, Zinnfiguren-experte
Anette Stokland	Studievenninne av bruden. Oljekonvertert Telematikk-ekspert, elite-trompetist, korist, fersk friluftsentusiast. ikke-røyker	Studienfreundin der Braut. Erdölkonvertierte Telematik-Expertin, Elitetrompeterin, Sänger, neuerdings Frischluftsmensch, Nichtraucherin
Torbjørn Stokland	Venn av brudeparet. Borerigg-ingeniør og friskluftsfanatiker. Fotograf og jazzmusiker. Mountain-biker.	Freund des Brautpaares, Erdölbohrinsel-ingenieur und Frischluftfanatiker, Photograph, Jazz-Musiker, Mountain-Biker.
Hanne Hodnesdal	Studievenninne av bruden. Elektronikk og kart-forsker. 2-barnsmor, treningstalant, husholdningsekspert, organisator.	Studienfreundin der Braut. Elektronik- und Kartenforscherin. 2fache Mutter, Trainings-talant, Haushaltsexpertin, Organisatorin.
Dag Hodnesdal	Studiekamerat av bruden. Telematikk-kart-datafreak. Trubadur, x-vindsurfer, nyfrelst hobby-gartner	Studienfreund der Braut. Telematik-Karten-Data-Freak. Gitarist und Liedersänger, Eks-Windsurfer, neuerdings Hobby-Gärtner
Tora Tenden	Studievenninne av bruden. Multi-layer-multi-tasking rådgiver. Globetrotter. Gourmand. Kunstelsker. Sportsidiot.	Studienfreundin der Braut. Vielschichtige Vielfach-Ratgeberin, Globetrotter, Gourmand, Kunstliebhaberin, Sportsfanatiker
Ole Økland	Studiekamerat av bruden. Gassrør-ekspert, fotballentusiast, gourmétkikk. Bergenser-trønder. kunstelsker	Studienfreund der Braut. Gasrohr-Experte, Fussball-Enthusiast, Gourmet-Koch, Bergensischer Trönder, Kunstliebhaber

Vibeke Sibbern Günther	LOOC-venninne av bruden. nybakt-mor, språk-geni, pistol-skytter, golf-spiller, popcorn-elsker.	Olympiade-Freundin der Braut. Frischge-backene Mutter, Sprachgenie, Pistolenschüt-zin, Golfspielerin, Popcorn-Liebhaberin
Lars Günther	LOOC-kamerat av bruden. Finansak-sjemegler og jobbskifte-ekspert. Tren-ingsfantom, jorda-rundt-segler, jeger.	Olympiade-Freund der Braut. Finanzaktien-Makler und Arbeitsplatzwechsel-Experte. Trainings-Phantom, Weltumsegler, Jäger
Kristine Günther	Yngste bryllupsgjest (sommer '98-årgang). Kjempesøt og glad i melk.	Jüngste Hochzeitsgästin (Jahrgang Sommer '98), echt süss und liebt Milch.
Toril Mette Ritland Thomsen	LOOC-venninne av bruden. Logistikk-ekspert, 1-barnsmor, multitasking-vidunder, langrennsfantom. Kjenner alle	Olympiade-Freundin der Braut. Logistik-Expertin, 1fache Mutter, Multi-Aufgaben-Wunder, Langlauf-Phantom. Kennt alle.
Peter Tang Thom- sen	Venn av brudeparet. Sjefs-logistiker, gründer, grillekspert, dykke-fisker-entusiast, livsnyter, alltid-hjelper.	Freund des Brautpaares, Chefslogis-tiker, Firmengründer, Grillexperte, Tauch-Fischer-Enthusiast, Lebensge-nieser, Immer-Helfer.