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Press Release: Human Hotel for COP21 in Paris

**July 13th, 2015**

## **SHARE YOUR HOME BECAUSE WE NEED TO SHARE THIS PLANET!**

*This December, the world is meeting in Paris for the United Nations COP21 Climate Summit. Human Hotel – a localized accommodation service for people travelling with a purpose – is matching visiting climate workers from organizations such as Friends of the Earth with like-minded Parisians opening up their home as private hosts for a few days.*

## **TAKING CARE OF PEOPLE WHO CARE**

Human Hotel was launched as a grassroots initiative during the 2009 COP15 Climate Summit in Copenhagen (Denmark). The two young Danish artists behind the art-platform Wooloo.org (Sixten Kai Nielsen and Martin Rosengaard), realized that many international environmental activists, experts and NGO organizers weren't able to come to Copenhagen due to lack of accommodation options. Many hotels were booked and private landlords exploited the situation through overpriced sublets. To prevent this democratic breakdown, Human Hotel was born.

Human Hotel co-founder Sixten Kai Nielsen explains: *"We started by asking our own friends in Copenhagen to host a visiting climate worker for a few days and realized that a lot of people were very interested in meeting and supporting the people coming from around the world. As a Copenhagener, you knew about the COP15 Summit happening but most locals didn't know how to get involved. Opening your home to a dedicated and passionate guest became a very real way of supporting the climate movement."*

From friends and personal networks, this initial Human Hotel hospitality campaign began to grow into the press under the slogan "New Life Copenhagen!". The campaign hosted more than 3,000 international climate workers with Copenhagen hosts and host families during the COP15.

Since the manual matching procedures of 2009 (15 volunteers and hundreds of excel sheets!), Human Hotel has come a long way. Today, all guest/host matches are driven by the intelligence of the Human Hotel site's online matching engine which takes into account personal profiles, preferences and schedules to create strong human connections that last long beyond the event.

## **OPEN YOUR DOOR TO CHANGE**

From late November to December this year, the world will converge in Paris to discuss the future of our climate. An important part of the Summit in Paris will be the meetings, workshops and rallies of the dedicated climate organizers from international NGO's and climate groups around the world. These visitors will be working hard for the well being of our planet and Human Hotel wants them to feel welcomed in Paris.



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Climate workers can book a stay with Human Hotel for a flat fee of 40€ for up to 3 nights. Each guest will be matched with a relevant Parisian host. The host will receive 35€ to cover their hosting costs (coffee, utilities, etc.) and the final 5€ is put towards supporting the work and expenses of running Human Hotel.

While the money helps, it is obvious that this small amount is not the reason why hosts in Paris are opening their homes. Like in Copenhagen, they do it out of a desire to support and meet like-minded, passionate people working hard to make a difference for our planet.

As Human Hotel co-founder Martin Rosengaard puts it: *“Even if there were enough affordable hotel options around, it would still be a waste for the local Parisians to not meet all of these amazing people coming. And for the guests not to connect with all the local talent and passion for change. Each COP is a microcosm of how we run this planet: do we want to earn more money on each other or do we want to get together as human beings to share and collaborate in new ways?”*

For those interested in taking an active role as a host for COP21, please go to:  
[www.humanhotel.com/#/event/cop21-climate-mobilization](http://www.humanhotel.com/#/event/cop21-climate-mobilization)

For those interested in learning more about Human Hotel, please check out:  
[www.humanhotel.com](http://www.humanhotel.com) or find us on Facebook.

You can also email us directly with questions and comments at: [contact@humanhotel.com](mailto:contact@humanhotel.com).