

EUROSTUDENT GUIDE



1998

WARNING!!

EuroStudents wrote this Guide for EuroStudents. It is **not** an official document of the Hewlett-Packard Company. Hewlett-Packard is not liable for any statement written in the EuroGuide printed document or the EuroGuide Web pages.

Introduction

The EuroStudents 1992, not to replace the two-year-old wrote this guide Hitchhikers guide to the Bay Area, but to continue the idea and add some more detailed information. (Although the answer will always be "42"). First idea is to help you as the new EuroStudent to get started as fast as possible by making available the information we collected. However, everything might change and of course will change. Therefore, parts of this guide might be not valid. On the other hand, this guide might be the start collection of ideas and stories interesting to every student who comes over for an internship to the USA. Therefore, feel free to copy this guide and forward it to which you want.

Hewlett-Packard Eurostudents 1992

The Eurostudents 1993 were glad to have lots of valuable information when arriving at HP. It was the first time that the information from the last generation of Eurostudents was passed before the arrival in USA. It is our aim to extend this information flow to the next generation of Eurostudents to make it as easy as possible for them to get started and enable them to make their own experiences. Most of our articles have been written in the last weeks of our stay, so we were able to add a lot of new tips to the existing ones. We wish our successors as much fun as we had, not only in having a great time but also in passing the newly gained experience to the hopefully coming successors:

"Copy Me, I Want to Travel"

Hewlett-Packard Eurostudents 1993

We, the EuroStudents 1995 can only reinforce the opinion of the 1993 Euros. The EuroStudent guide really helps with getting started in the US with work and private life. Therefore we want to keep it up-to-date and add some of our experiences. Hopefully the future EuroStudents follow this model too in making it rich with information. This new version of the guide will be on the World Wide Web, too. Just search for "EuroStudents". We all wish everybody who comes behind us a great time in the US, a lot of fun and no ants in the kitchen!

Hewlett-Packard Eurostudents 1995

This bunch of papers is really worth to read it. It is of course not a replacement for your own experience in the United States. We just want to say "Thank You" to the EuroStudents in former times for writing this valuable guide.

This year we made some major changes concerning the Car-Rental-part of the EuroGuide. We also added some new articles and updated many chapters with new prices and supplementary information. Therefore you will have probably the best "tool" to prepare yourself and to make this internship as wonderful as it was for the

Hewlett-Packard Eurostudents 1996

The EuroStudents of 1997 didn't have to change much in this guide. It's a very valuable "book" to read. This year we finally managed to add a chapter about Santa Rosa, since we heard that all the former students there were not able to do it :). Next thing was the change of area codes: Area code 415 was split up into 415 (San Francisco) and 650 (the rest). So if you still find a telephone number outside of The City with an area code of 415... then we missed it.

Also we introduced after "I-don't-know-how-many-years" an official EuroStudent song, you'll find the lyrics somewhere in the back part of this guide.

And - of course - we also want to say 'Thank You' to all the former generations of EuroStudents for collecting all this information and we hope that the next year Euros will continue working on this guide. Helan går!

Hewlett-Packard EuroStudents 1997

The EuroStudents of 1998 will present you this guide as THE GUIDE to follow and look before and after coming to U.S. Before because you can find a lot of interesting information based on previous experiences of previous EuroStudent, and after because this guide is a good way to remember all the good whiles in your trip to U.S. However, specially do not forget to enjoy as much as you can your trip and make new and unforgettable friends. We would like to thank the previous generations for their work and encourage the new ones for keeping updated all the information year over year.

Hewlett-Packard EuroStudents 1998

Preparations in Europe

Updated by Barto Fernandez, Spain 1998; Jani Hursti, Finland; 1996, partly based on Paal Kristoffersen, Norway and Jesus Cruz, Spain; 1995

Hey, **CONGRATULATIONS!** Seems like you have been the lucky one to get a dream job at HP! So, the purpose of this little chapter in our guide is to help you really make it a dream before it turns into a nightmare. Because, before you can start your job, you have to get to the U.S. and the following has some advice about what to do before you travel and what can go wrong, 'cause when things go wrong, they **REALLY** can go wrong. So sit down, relax, and prepare yourself.

All the following examples have happened before, which does not mean that they will happen to you. But it does NOT either mean that the people arranging these things have learned from the mistakes, and you don't have to worry about them anymore.

So what can possibly go wrong? Well the first thing might be that you are right now firmly seated in some HP office in the U.S. reading this guide because no-one remembered to give the paper copy or the URL to you before. That would not be such a surprise. But if you're still in Europe, you're one of the lucky ones and the following is just for you.

Things to do while still in Europe:

1. **Get a passport** (surprise!). Seriously, get one, and get one that is valid for long enough time. Therefore, if you have a passport that is only valid for the summer, it just might be that you will not be accepted to the U.S. It depends on the country, but generally the passport should still be valid at least a year AFTER you have left the U.S. Moreover, if your passport is not valid for long enough time, change it. And now comes the hard part; in case you have already given your passport information to the personnel contact in your home country and you need to change it because you gave incorrect information or changed your passport, make sure that they get the information, AND it goes all the way to whoever writes your visa application forms. It would not be a surprise if you will receive visa application forms that arrive so late that you will have a lot of trouble of getting your visa in time, AND they still have a passport number from a passport that never existed or is no longer valid because you changed it!
2. **Get your J-1 visa** from your American embassy. In some countries this might be the hardest part, not only because of the bureaucrats, but also because you don't receive your application forms in time. So you basically have two choices. March boldly into the embassy demanding to get your visa and get kicked out, or get some help. Sometimes you need muscle and money with these guys and either HP or some travel agency will be able to get the visa for you much faster and easier than you on your own¹

¹ *(Tips for the American Consulate in Germany: After you got your IAP-66-Form you have to go to the American Consulate at Frankfurt to get your final Visa. Be aware to plan at least 2 days to get your Visa, especially in July and August. And if you go there, please try to arrive at about 6 a.m. You'll be surprised how many people are already standing there in line, although open just at 8 a.m.)*

3. **Driver's license** : If you intend to drive a car, this is not such a bad idea. If you have an international license or an American one great. If you don't ... It does not matter, depending on what kind of a card you have and if the officer who caught you for speeding is on a good mood. But just the European date format makes these guys do somersaults. Your local automobile club might be able to write you a piece of paper that will show that your license is valid for driving in the U.S.
4. **A major credit card** is necessary. So although you don't intend to buy anything and try to survive by eating grass, bring a credit card. Just for the safety, in case you land on a foreign country with just your luggage and nowhere to go. If you stay in a hotel, rent a car or does anything where you do not pay right away, a credit card will be required. You won't get anything until they get some account to charge in case you mysteriously disappear.
5. **Dictionary** : Having a dictionary is a good idea specially if you do not feel too sure about the language.
6. **Cash**: Before receiving your first payment, it will be a good idea to have some cash. Furthermore it will be a good idea also just in case they have an earthquake or a major blackout and nothing works.
7. **Food** it's a long flight, and you know the airline food. You can't take any food through the customs (a word of warning), but nothing is as good as a slice of pizza while all the others are starving after the "meatballs".

OK, now that we have all the necessary items gathered, time to do some other arrangements:

Do you intend to bring your girlfriend or your wife or some other family members with you? Well, start arranging their airline tickets fast or you might have to a) pay, and pay even more b) forgets it. It's summertime and all the flights are full. (Especially if some goofball tries to arrange Olympic games during the same summer ☺). So start planning their flights really early. The only problem you might have is that you have no idea where you're going. It sometimes takes forever to get some confirmation about your destination from HP, and I'm telling you; it's extremely hard to get (cheap) airline tickets if you don't know your destination. Again, don't be surprised if your girlfriend is on her way to San Francisco while you are flying to Denver.

An important thing should be making your arrangements for arriving in USA. Try to talk to your supervisor at the U.S. HP and **make sure he/she KNOWS WHEN YOU ARE ARRIVING** (you cannot be sure about anything, this has happened). It is usually your manager who arranges you some accommodation in the U.S. So **make sure he/she REALLY understands that you don't want to sleep in a tent and he/she SHOULD DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT. Once you have the room/ apartment/ condo/ house/ tent/ barn/ cubicle, find out your address in USA or at least the address of the HP site you will be working in.**

Imagine this. You have all the stuff you need, you have called your manager, and he/she has promised you that everything has been arranged and there will be someone to pick you up at the airport. Sounds good. Yeah, sure. Time to get real.

What is the worst thing can happen? I can imagine a lot of bad things, but let's just take one example out of real life. You arrive to the U.S., go to the immigration officer and he gets the idea that you are coming from

some country near Zimbabwe, and your visa is no longer valid. There you go. No visa, no access. Back to where you came from.

Or you get out of the airport, but there is no-one waiting for you. So where do you go?

To avoid any possible trouble you always make a plan B. What is a plan B?

Plan B is:

1. *Your managers phone number, home, work, and mobile. If you really end up having trouble, HP should have enough muscle to get you out of it.*
2. *A hotel nearby where people will find you if you have not arrived to work next morning.*

And if you are on the airport, totally lost, take a taxi or rent a car and drive to the address that is in your visa form and try to get a room in a hotel nearby. Don't worry about the money, in this case HP will pay it back (remember to get a receipt!).

Finally in the office. It is over, OK, safe. Not. The next thing that can go wrong is that the person you meet and the one you have planned your trip with is not your manager. Because of some mix-up, they have decided to move you to a totally different location and a different project. Or they have just yesterday given the project that was meant for you, to someone else and will have to figure out something else for you to do (like sorting the papers or answering the phone).

So try to figure out on the first day, what your real project is and make sure that you get signatures to all the necessary papers and that you receive all the necessary stuff from HP. For example you should receive your Medical Coverage ID Card. Your manager might have it on his/her desk in an envelope just waiting for you but has thought that is just some junk mail from corporate again and has not bothered opening it.

Before coming, check also the following web address where you will find information about the EuroStudent program (such as your rights as EuroStudent):

<http://persweb.corp.hp.com/staffing/ccrwebb/eurostud.htm>

And this one also where you will find information about the SEED/EuroStudents activities planned during your summer:

<http://baps.ptp.hp.com/baps/depot/summerseed/index.htm>

So, welcome to the U.S., have a pleasant trip, good luck and may the force be with you (you'll need it ☺).

Housing

Started in 1993, updated 1995, updated 1996, updated 1998 with the collaboration of all the EuroStudents.

You have to choose between the three possibilities:

1. *Stay with a US family*
2. *Stay alone in your own house*
3. *Stay with other EuroStudent/SEED²*

We can't give a recommendation for one of them, because any of them has its own advantages and disadvantages. **Think twice what you want, and check your decision with previous EuroStudents** (if it is possible). If you find out that you have chosen the wrong one, change your mind! But you have to be sure of your decision because it is almost impossible to find an apartment for less than 3 months (anybody wants short-term rent)

I want to emphasize one thing that maybe is obvious but not always you think of it. If you want to rent an apartment, as you don't have any record in the US that shows that you usually pay, you must pay the first month and another entire month in advance. So, for the first month you have to pay twice the price of the month's rent.

To give you and your HP manager some support, we started to create the following lists. These lists are ordered by the areas of the different site.

Bay-Area

1) List of Families

You can find below a list with some of the families have hosted EuroStudents. We asked each family, if they agree to appear in the table. It is NO guarantee, that they have room for you!. The list is ordered by City

Name	City		
Menchaca Robert & Soledad	Hayward		
Quinton, Mike & Danielle	Palo Alto		
Balon, Tom & Sylvia	San Francisco		
Herbert, Mike & Myla	San Jose		
Rosa, Fatima	San Jose		
Vargas, Mike & Bill	San Jose		
Lee, May	Santa Clara		
Klein, Clara	Sunnyvale		
Buonanno, Mark & Nobuko	Sunnyvale		
Gillmore, Bob & Cherri	Sunnyvale		

² SEED (*Student Employment and Education Development*): It is more or less the same program than EuroStudent but all the students are from USA. For further information visit :

<http://baps.ptp.hp.com/baps/depot/seedgde.html>

2) List of Apartments

- Stanford Villa Apartments (prices of 1998)
Address: 3375 Alma Street, Palo Alto, CA 94304, phone (650) 493-3303
Price: approx. \$1800 per month/unfurnished
living room, kitchen (with refrigerator and oven), 2 bathrooms, 2 bedrooms for 4 persons, and a community swimming pool
Furniture: \$175 per month (2 bedrooms, 1 table, 4 chairs, 1 sofa, 1 loveseat, 1 cocktail table, 1 lamp, 2 paintings)
Total : almost \$2000 per 4 people

There is a Renter's Digest for the Bay Area available where lots of apartments are advertised. This guide is free and you (or your manager) can find it in many shops and restaurant or at HP.

3) Furniture

Where can you find furniture? This is an excellent question because:

The majority of the apartments don't include furniture!

However, the apartment rental companies have always a list with some places where you can rent furniture. Here you have two of these places

- Luxury Furniture Rental Inc.
1167 N. Fair Oaks Ave., Sunnyvale, CA 94089, phone (408) 541-9000
Price: approx. \$290 per month
- Brooks Furniture Rental.
WEB: <http://www.bfr.com/>
Price: approx. \$175 per month (ask for the cheaper pack)

Furthermore, it is very common in the US to find a MOVING SALE. What is this? It is very easy to explain: when a family decides to move they sell housing things cheaper than in any places. Only you have to find a family that is moving (ask to some HP employee if they know someone or hold and ad asking for furniture)

Another possibility is to have a look at the Internet newsgroup *ba.market.housing*. I found an apartment for a friend there in just 5 minutes and the last but probably the cheaper one, borrow the essential furniture from friends.

Santa Rosa

1) List of Families

Name	City	Address		
Trutenko, Olga	Santa Rosa	3420 Castlerock		

2) List of Apartments

☐ Hopper Lane Apartments

Address: 1163 Hopper Ave.Santa Rosa, CA 95403

Phone: (707) 526-9675

Equipment: One bedroom, one bathroom, living room , kitchen. Also: pool and small gym

Price: \$565 per month/unfurnished.

The First Day in the Bay Area

By Joerg Schernikau, Germany, 1993, Barto Fernandez, Spain 1998

You just arrived in the United States? Probably you are tired and want to sleep, but even more probably you are too excited to go to bed right now. So let's see how you can manage your start with the American bureaucracy. But don't worry if you have to wait in line, most clerks at the desk are very friendly.

Choose a mean of transport

There are some means of transport in Bay Area. Let's check it:

- Bus: There are several lines in all the Bay Area. You can check what are more proper for you in:

<http://www.vta.org/>

In any case, you can ask to your assistant for the *Eco-Pass*, an sticker that with you HP ID will get you free entrance in any bus of the Bay Area. Furthermore, the latest models of buses incorporate the possibility of carrying in front of them your bicycle.

- Bicycle: Another good idea would be to rent or buy a bicycle. This is only to go to work and almost nothing more, but you can fit in a good shape in this way. For the first days could be a good mean to explore your neighborhood. And don't forget the possibility to carry your bicycle in the bus!
- Car: This is the most used mean of American transport. Obviously, this is the best choice and, as usual, the most expensive. You can rent a car the first day and get the HP discounts only with a credit card (VISA and so on), driver license (theoretically *international* driver license), your passport and a letter from HP with your name. With the car you do not have limits and you can go whenever you want!!!. Consider also you are independent from your host family (if you stay with a family) or other EuroStudents, who have to work during the opening hours of most authorities (*For renting a car see the related article*)

Get maps

But where are you now? And where want you to go? OK, you need some maps! Perhaps you got some maps within your welcome package; anyway, it is worth to drive to the American Automobile Association (AAA, "triple A") to get some maps. They have offices in all cities around the Bay Area (look in the Yellow Pages, AAA opening hours are 8.30am - 5.00pm).

Most European automobile clubs have contracts with the AAA, so you mustn't pay for their service. Ask for maps of Sunnyvale (includes Cupertino and Mountain View) and Palo Alto, the Bay Area, San Francisco, Santa Clara Country and whatever else you want. You will need all these maps to find out where all the other EuroStudents live!

Do you have all the necessary?

Once you have maps and a mean of transport what we suggest is: cruise around your home trying to find out where your HP site is, where all the other EuroStudents live, check the shops (see article) out or, or, or...

The End

If you have done all things you are, probably hungry and tired (do not forget the jet lag!). But you can be satisfied of what you have done this day. You need another two hours to read all the papers and brochures you got during the day, so buy some food and try to find the way to your new home.

Every day life at the office

By Elke Gutekunst, Germany, 1995; updated 1996 by Christoph Jans

What will work with HP in the US be like and what will people expect from me?

This question probably came into your mind - don't worry here's the canned information about the work of EuroStudents. Our experiences can be roughly summed up to some essential points:

- People at work are very friendly. Even though most of them are quite busy you can always just go to their desk and ask them for help if you've got a question. It is sometimes hard to reach somebody on the phone and you are encouraged to leave a voice mail message.
- EuroStudents have to work independently and are given a lot of responsibility. But as mentioned above, you can always approach your teammates with a problem.
- EuroStudents are expected to contribute to projects of the company and the results of their work are really needed and can affect HP's Corporate Objectives.
- Meetings, meetings, meetings!
- There are always a lot of meetings because teamwork is a big issue at HP and requires a lot of communication.
- The whole atmosphere at the office is relaxed and informal and so is the dress code. You might just have to watch out for objects being thrown into your cubicle by other members of the department.
- Last but not least there's the nice habit of having events like beer busts in the HP owned picnic areas, free snacks and beverages at coffee talks and a department lunch from time to time.

Please note regarding the above: "*your mileage may vary*", e.g., the quality of the job you will get and its degree of matching with your expectations may vary greatly with the HP division you are staying at, the people you work with, how well you selected your job and, of course, with your expectations.

You may find yourself in the job of a lifetime or ... well, not the job of a lifetime. There may be great differences in the degree of happiness with one's job between the Euros of the same year. Also, be aware that, because you will need a while to get used to how things work at HP and in the US and things (such as computers, cubicles, office supplies) may need a while to be set up for you, for the first few days or weeks, you probably will find yourself not actually doing what you agreed to in your job description. Don't be scared away by that, it's normal and happened to almost all of us.

Also, if you really don't like your job or feel bad about it, talk to your manager (depending on how busy he or she is you may need several attempts to get your message across). The people at HP usually are very open towards your concerns and willing to help you. Just don't be too shy and make them notice your problems, concerns and questions. The three months will be over much quicker than you think, so use them as good as you can.

Bank, Credit Card and Social Security

By Jesus Cruz, Spain 1995

Bank

Most of the previous Eurostudents had their accounts in two banks: either *Wells Fargo* or *HP Credit Union*. *Wells Fargo* has branches all along California (even inside Safeway - a very well known chain of supermarkets), and you can find *Wells Fargo* ATM³ even in some HP sites. To open an account, just go there and say you are an HP employee (usually you don't have to prove it, but bring your HP letter just in case - and your passport, of course). If you want a check account you must open a saving one too (it's a combined account with the same number); they will give you at the moment a check book and will send you a week later an absolutely impossible of using up bunch of books (well, only if you paper your room with them).

The account fees should be free the first three months (including checks), but since some Euros were charged some fees it's better for you to check it out when you open the account.

You can order a Direct Deposit of your HP paycheck from HP to your account. In order to get that, you have to go to the Financial Services Center of your site and fill in a form (first you must have your own bank account, of course). We had some problems to get it (in fact, only one Euro got it, and after six weeks), but I hope next year you won't have so many problems.

HP Credit Union is a bank inside HP (and part of HP, too). Its procedures are pretty similar to Wells Fargo, and you get an ATM card to be used at any ATM machines. The account is free only if you have over \$1000; otherwise, you will be charged \$3 a month (it's not a big deal).

Credit Card

My most important advise about this: gets your major credit card in Europe. It takes a long time getting your card in USA, and you need the Social Security number too (see below). You will **need** the card to get a lot of things (renting a car, getting a room in a hotel, renting a movie ... for instance).

The most usual cards in USA are VISA and MasterCard - be careful, American Express isn't taken in a lot of places. The Euro Card with your checking account in Europe does not work in the US.

Social Security Number

You will need to get your SS# if you want to get either a California Driving License, or a credit card, or whatever that implies American bureaucracy. It's not very difficult to obtain it, but since it takes two weeks *it's a good idea to apply for it the first week of your stay*.

All you have to do is to go to the Social Security Administration (ask at HP about the local site) with your passport and fill in a form SS-5. **Important hint:** There is a field where you have to check your employment status. It's better saying you're a "*Legal Alien Allowed To Work*" than a "*Foreign Student Allowed Restricted Employment*".

³ ATM (Automatic Transfer Machine): Machine where you can withdraw money

The Car Buyer's Guide

By Thomas Zscherpel Germany 1993, Erik Moller Sweden 1996 and Pierre Martensson Norway 1998

Three main reasons for buying a car

1. Convenience

It will not take you many days until you realize that you desperately need a car in California. First of all, the public transportation is far away from the European standard. And unless you live close to the office and prefer to stay home with your host family watching Jeopardy during evenings or need to ask the car owners for a ride all the time, you need a car. Having realized the need for a car, you can either rent a car or buy one, and that lead us to reason number two.

2. Costs

Yes you may want to rent a car, (see own section), and spend between USD 1200-3000 for the summer or you can buy a cheaper car and then sell it before you leave.

3. Fulfill your dreams

The third reason is that you can be able to own that old, V8 powered American car you have always dreamt about, but never could afford to drive at home in Europe.

This section of the unofficial EuroGuide is provided to you with all the necessary information you need to buy, insure and when you go home sell a used car.

Buying a used car

There are mainly two sources you can get a car from, a dealer or from a private person Dealer

If you happened to be located in Cupertino, Santa Clara, Mountain View or Palo Alto, you can ask your new friends/colleagues to take you to the either El Camino Real or to Stevens Creek. On those streets you will find tons of car dealers. If you are located in another area, just pick up any newspaper and you will find a lot of advertisements from car dealers.

Pro	Con
You can get a warranty on the car	More expensive in general
The car is usually in a good condition	Not so many cars in the price range USD 800-1500

Private

If you will try the more riskier (but mostly cheaper) source for buying your car, below is a list of sources to look for private adds in:

- San Jose Mercury News (daily newspaper)
- The San Francisco Chronicle (daily newspaper)
- The HP Trader (monthly HP employees newsletter with approx. 50 different cars for sale by HP employees, a good idea could be to ask your work/social mentor if they could keep an eye out for a cheap HP trader car a few months before you arrive)
- The Internet: <http://classifieds.yahoo.com/> or Internet newsgroups
- There is also a place called “Wheels and Deals” at El Camino Real and Kiely street, where private persons put their cars for display. You can go there and look, and find some USD 1000 cars and phone numbers to the owners.

Pro	Con
There are a lot of cheaper cars to find here	No warranty
Usually less expensive	Unless you are a car expert, the probability of getting fooled is higher

For the non car expert

Since most of us do not have Ph.D. car engines, I highly recommend you to check the Kelley Blue Book (<http://www.kbb.com>) or the Department of Motor Vehicles (<http://www.dmv.ca.gov/>). They provide guides for buying a used car i.e. what to check when you test drive the car of your dream. If you still are not sure about the car condition you can take the car to an auto dealer and ask them to do a complete check of the car. It will cost you between USD 50-75 to do so, and could be a good investment when you sell the car.

So how much should you pay for the car?

Once again, check the Kelley Blue Book, where you can get two types of prices for your car: Suggested Retail value that you might see at a dealership and the trade in value. I also suggest that you check other sources like newspapers etc.

Paperwork

There are four papers to deal with when buying a used car:

- **Certificate of Title** - also known as the pink slip. This is the car’s ID with information about the car’s registers owner. When you purchase the car, the owner must sign the Certificate of Title and give it to you that means that he releases his liability of the car to you.
- **Bill of Sale** - When you have agreed on the price (bargain a lot) you can fill out a Bill of Sale telling how much you bought the car for. It is nothing more than a contract stating that you are responsible for any damages caused by the vehicle in the future.
- **Smog Certificate** – According to Californian law the seller must provide you with a Smog Certificate not older than 90 days. This tells you about the exhaust of the vehicle
- **Odometer Disclosure Statement** – If the car is newer than ’80 you also need an “Odometer Disclosure Statement” where you fill in the mileage of the car

Register your car

Every vehicle with a license plate must be registered in the U.S. by the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV). After purchasing your car, you must go to the DMV within five days and register the car in your name. You must bring:

- Certificate of Title
- Smog Disclosure
- Odometer Disclosure Statement

At DMV you will pay 8.25% tax on the car value, that **you** fill in on the back of the pink slip (If you put a lower value there, you will pay less tax, I heard...), in addition to the tax they charge a USD 14 fee for the paperwork. DMV will then give you a "Registration card" that you should keep in the car and later mail you your Certificate of Title within two weeks.

If you have bad luck you need to pay additional tax for the license plate stickers called the "License and Registration Fee" that are valid for one year

You can also do the registration at AAA Auto Insurance offices if you become a member there that will cost you USD 65. As a member of AAA you get free road maps, discount on hotels and a lot more (<http://www.csaa.com/>).

Insuring your beauty

The Californian law says that every vehicle on the road must be insured. As for now the minimum insurance required is a minimum of USD 15.000 for bodily injury and USD 5000 for property damage. There is also coverage called "Uninsured motorist" in most insurance policies. This insures you against motorists driving without any insurance. Further more you can choose to have a "Collision Damage Waiver that is for damages you incur if you have an accident.

Some insurance firms require that you have a Californian Driving License, but most of them accept the International Driving License (which you must get **before** you come to California). There are numbers of firms offering the "best deal" so call around and compare. I used Progressive (1998) (<http://www.progressive.com/>) and paid USD 150 for three months, but if you are under 25 you will have to pay a bit more. You can also call some insurance brokers that will find the "cheapest insurance firm" for you, but I recommend that you stick to one well established firm that provide you quick assistance if your engine breaks down on the highway. Finally I believe that some European Insurance firms insure cars abroad.

Further more you will get a discount on the Insurance if you:

- Have had a Californian Driving License at least 18 months
- Have had an International Driving License for at least three years
- Tells the Insurance firm that you never had any accidents since you got your European Driving License

Getting a Californian Driver's License (not updated '98)

The first thing to do is to apply for a "social security number" since the DMV require one. In order to get that, you go to the Social Security Department (SSD) bringing your passport and the pink J-1 Visa paper (don't forget that). You will get a receipt for the application and the Social Security number within 2 weeks. But if you really need it soon, you can phone to the SSD after four or five days and ask for the number, the DMV will allow you to make the driving test even if you only know your number.

Next, go to the DMV or the AAA and pick up a "California Driver's Handbook" (free) and a sample test. This will inform you about the California driving laws. It is also a good idea to get an application form for a non-commercial driver's license so that you can fill it out at home. This will save you time when you will come back to the DMV to apply for the written test. At DMV there is usually a long line, so it is a good idea to go to the office 30 minutes before it opens. You will find office locations at <http://www.dmv.ca.gov/>

You must then do a written test at the DMV, so bring the application form for Non-commercial vehicles. First you will have to do an "eye exam" and pay \$15. Hopefully you will pass the written test (the easiest way to do it is to read some old tests, the questions are all the same!). If you pass the written test and show that you have a European license you will receive a temporary license. Some days later you must do a driving test. In order to do so, you must have a car, proof of insurance, the practice license and your social security number.

The road test takes about 15 minutes of driving time and includes three point turns, stops and driving backwards. If you pass you will be issued a temporary license but if you fail you should try to redo the written test immediately and the road test the next day. You will receive a permanent license in about four weeks good for four years. Note: it is a good idea to make an appointment with the DMV ahead of time so you don't have to stand in line.

Motorcycle License (class M1)

The procedure for getting a motorcycle driver's license is the same as for a car. For the written test you have to take an additional multiple choice test. You must also do a road test, which is done on a parking lot, driving in circles and swinging. If you are under 21 years of age, you must first have a car driver's license before obtaining a motorcycle license.

Advantages and Disadvantages of Getting a CA Driver's License

Advantages:

- You may find a cheaper insurance for your car
- You can use it as an ID card for pubs, clubs (disco)
- Insurance discounts if you come back the following years
- Nice souvenir

Disadvantages:

- Need time to do the tests
- The police won't let you go that easy if you are stopped (The policemen normally let you go if you show them your European license, but if they use their electronic system to check you and they figure out that you have a CA license as well, you will get into trouble - it happened to one of us)

To Sell Your Car

You have to sell your car, don't even think about taking it home. The transportation is no problem, it costs about \$800, but you have to pay tax and worst of all, you have to get the

engine approved for use in your country. The latter might even be impossible!

To sell the car you probably want to advertise in one or more papers. To place an add in the HP Trader is for free, but submit your text a couple of weeks before the issue is going to be published. To run an add in the San Jose Mercury News for two weeks cost \$60 for two lines. As when you were buying your car, check the Blue Book for the price range and the average price of the car.

Before you sell the car you have to do a smog test which cost about \$22-35. You also have to fill out the form "Certificate of Title" and, together with buyer, the "Notice of Release of Liability". The latter you have to mail to DMV within five days after. If the car is newer than '80 you also need to fill out the form called "Odometer Disclosure Statement".

That's all. Good luck!

A \$55-Investment or Why Join AAA⁴

(Leon Schumacher, ???, 1992)⁵

I was one of those, who thought that buying a car might be cheaper than renting one. So I bought one. Even though it was not the cheapest car available, I thought it might be a good idea to join AAA. They immediately provide you with a huge stock of maps and a plastic car key. You can return (every day) to get maps as often as you like or need. So I had my nice car, with lots of little lights inside and we went on trips. On one of these trips one of these lights decided to go on.

A nice little red light marked 'engine'. When you are about 250 miles from home, you cannot find the smallest hint, and the car shows no signs of illness, what do you do ? I decided that one red light more or less would not keep me from driving. After 170 miles and 20 kilos more because of an extensive dinner (4 persons), strange noises came out of my engine. As the noise disturbed my listening to the radio, I decided to stop. The little red light still worked fine, and as it was dark meanwhile we were glad to have at least this little red light. I realized that the noises were caused by a loose fan belt, because the transmission belt straightened had lost some screws. We had some of these burning sticks in the trunk, but do not ask us how to get them burning. After ten minutes of reading in the instruction manual, I found the emergency light (red) switch under the steering wheel. Now we were standing in the dark with all our different red lights on expecting someone to stop. It took us about half an hour to realize that waiting for help was an illusion, and so we continued slowly on the emergency lane until the Highway Patrol was behind us (red lights on).

Those guys from the Highway Patrol normally do not like cars standing around on their highway but just call a tow-away service. I asked the officer to call the AAA, he gave me plenty of advises but was pleased, and twenty minutes later the AAA-truck stopped in front of my car and the problem could be fixed temporarily. This whole operation and a possible towing away may cost a couple of hundred dollars; you can save all this (I did) by an \$55 investment in AAA. You may have to buy another car, but that is a different story.



"When it was brand new it cost \$750.
That's exactly what I'm selling it for!"

⁴ AAA: American Automobile Association

⁵ Leon gets \$10 for any new AAA member?

Renting a car

Totally revised in 1998 by Reto Grob, Switzerland. Based on previous versions from Antti Hannula (Finland), Herbert Neugebauer (Germany), Maurizio Capobianco (Italy), Christopher Jans (Switzerland), Roberto Castagno (Italy).

Having a car or the possibility to have access to one is really necessary when you want to explore California and not only work at HP. Of course, the work is nice but you should also use your time to visit all those fabulous places around you!

It is a waste of time when you have to go by bike or bus or train (I know it very well...) and you do not have a lot of time at all, 3 months go by like nothing!

You can rent a car for:

- 1 day up to 1 month
- weekends

You can also rent it for more than one month, you just have to go to the car rental company at the end of the month and renew your contract. Weekend rentals are popular because then you have free time and most of the companies offer special discounted weekend rates (about 100\$ for Friday morning to Monday morning).

However, it is nice to have the car the whole three months because there are many things you also want to do on weekday evenings. For 3 months it can cost you between 2'400\$ and 4'200\$ depending on car rental company and insurance (price level 1998).

The reason why I have chosen to rent a car were the following:

- You get a brand new American car, with air conditioning (a/c), power windows, power steering, power locks and many add-ons that are more powerful. Normally you should not have any problems with quality, so you feel safer!! However, this depends on the car rental company. Big national companies provide you with an excellent service (including roadside assistance), so you will not have any problems. Local companies may give you a not well-maintained car, so better watch out!
- You can always change your car if you don't like it (just go and ask your car rental company, you can for sure do it at least once during your rental period)
- HP has special corporate rates with some car rental companies so you might get it cheaper (see below).
- You do not have to invest a lot of money in the beginning (for example if you buy a car) and you do not have any hassles with papers, insurance, motor vehicle department (DMV) etc.

The bad thing usually is, that it is more expensive than buying a car and selling it again at the end of your stay (usually people had no problems selling their car, it happened quite often too that they sold it for more than they bought it!). Nevertheless, if you have problems with the car you bought it might get more expensive than renting one.

I do not want to convince you of renting cars because I think it depends on the situation, your financial one, what you want, and it is also depending on the contracts HP has with the car rental companies.

What you need to rent a car

1. You need to be 21 years old.
2. You need to have a major credit card (VISA, MasterCard). The credit card is used to *put a hold* on it. This means, they will deposit a certain amount of money (usually a bit more than you actually will have to pay). The money will not be taken off your account but your credit card limit will be affected by that. So when you rent for long-term, the deposit might be like 1200\$ and your credit card limit may be reached soon. You may still have money but the credit card company will not approve further transactions exceeding your limit. One solution is to take two credit cards with you if possible (it is good anyway in case you lose one...). The other solution is to use your US-bank account, which you open in the first days of your stay for all other issues.
3. A drivers license. Usually your country's driver's license will do fine at least with larger rental companies). If you want to be on the safe side, you can bring an international driver's license, which you can obtain, where you got your national one. A Californian driver's license is not required (hint: does not get a Californian one unless you really want to because you then also need to obtain your social security number. If you do not have a social security number, you are on the safe side concerning not paying state taxes).

The car rental fee

Renting a car can be very expensive or not so expensive. It is important to know all the fees you may be charged. Sometimes you may end paying as much for the car as for the rest!

The fees:

- The car rental fee itself
- Insurance for liability
- Insurance for collision and damage (CDW: collision damage waiver)
- Personal Accident Insurance

- Under 25 surcharge
- Vehicle License Fee

1. **Car Rental Fee.**

This depends on car class, company and if you have any discounts or special contracts with HP. It actually covers the fee for using the car.

Usually the price difference between a compact and a mid-size car is small (maybe only 50\$ a month or 10\$ a weekend), so when you are renting a car for a few people it is definitively better to rent a somewhat larger car (especially if you are going for long distances). Under the contracts with HP and AVIS and Hertz in 1998 the prices for subcompact to mid-size were even identical! (HP wanted the employees to use mid-size cars).

You can rent the car for the following periods:

- hours (forget that! 2 or 4 hours is the same as one day)
- days
- weekends
- weeks
- 1 month which is equal to 30 days exactly (not 31 days in August for example!! You would get charged for 1 month and 1 day then.)

In 1998 for one week you paid 6 (1997: 5.25) times the daily fee and for one month 4 times the weekly fee. So when you rent for a month you actually only pay 24 days. Think it over! But this only applies to the car rental fee. All the other fees (like insurance, surcharges etc.) you have to pay for each day you use the car (e.g. 30 times the fee for one month).

Be careful when you rent a car for 3 months. The clerk may offer you a 12-week rental, so you only have it for 84 days instead of 90 days. Sometimes it is not possible to have the contract for longer than one month. In this case, you will have to go to the rental company and sign a new contract every month (you may also change your car then if you like).

You can also extend or redo your rental contract anytime during your period. It may be a pure formality only.

All cars except the smallest (usually sub-compact) come well-equipped by European standards. They all have air-conditioning (you need it!! Believe me, you do not want to sit in car having 118F again.... It is always sunny!), radio (sometimes even CD player), power steering, air bags, cruise control, power-windows and automatic transmission. It is not easy at all to find manual transmission but you start liking it soon (especially in traffic jams), no matter how racer-type you are.

Car Rental Fees are changing often but usually not considerably at the same company. However there might be large difference among the various companies. See chapter ***Suggested Car Rental Companies.***

2. **Insurance for Liability.**

Insurance is very important issue and cost factor! It may actually exceed the costs you pay for the rental car. If you rent a car from somewhere, usually NO insurance is included at all.

In California is compulsory to have insurance for liability. Liability insurance covers charges that might be brought against you from people that get hurt by you or whose property (especially expensive cars) you damage.

The minimum liability insurance you need is 15000\$ for property damage and 25000 for bodily injury.

This is pretty low especially if someone will suit you. Courts in the USA usually award huge sums (1 Mio \$) for bodily injury. Therefore, a good insurance is a better idea. If you hit many cars, you may end paying the difference between your insurance and the actual costs.

The situation is not very clear I must confess. Some told me, as a student with no assets, you might not get a 1 Mio \$ suit as it makes no sense. But those were just some voices. If you do not know a lawyer who confirms you that on a paper, you may go on the safe side by buying extra liability.

I asked the DMV (department of motor vehicle), AAA and my insurance company too but nobody could give me a precise answer on that topic.

Depending on state you are renting in, some liability coverage might be included. You have to check that with your car rental company (read the contract carefully). If they say, that they do not provide you with any insurance it is a good idea to buy it. If you do not buy it then you are an illegal uninsured driver. If the police catches you, you might get a high fine (the risk though is very low that they check your insurance in a rental car).

By buying insurance you will get one which covers up to 1 Mio \$, so that will be enough for sure. Unfortunately additional liability insurance costs you about 9\$ a day. There are no discounts if you take it for a month or longer.

Summarizing chances are high that you will buy liability insurance.

3. **Insurance for collision and damage** (CDW: collision damage waiver)

This second important insurance covers damage to your rental car. This also costs you about 9\$ per day (which makes 270\$ a month!). This insurance is not compulsory. However rental cars are usually brand new models, so damages might get expensive.

4. **Personal Accident Insurance.**

This insurance covers you and the other persons in your car against bodily injury. In the last years HP covers the Eurostudent with their medical insurance or you might also be insured with your insurance in your home country (think of canceling it for the

time in the U.S. if HP provides you with this insurance). So you won't need this insurance, but be sure you have it.

5. **Under 25 surcharge.**

At most companies you can only rent a car if you are 25 or older. There are many others, which allow you to rent a car from 21 and over. However you might have to pay an extra charge. It usually is around 5\$ a day but can go up to 10\$ a day.

When renting under a HP contract with a car rental company you may rent a car from 21 and over without having to pay any surcharge.

6. **Vehicle License Fee.**

Yet another charge. This is for the vehicle license fee for which is divided by 365. It will cost you between 0.70\$ and 1.2\$ a day and usually you have to pay it.

A thing about insurance in general: Although it is illegal in California to drive without having insurance, there are an astonishingly high number of people on the streets that do not actually have insurance. If you get in an accident with one of these people (about 40% of the drivers!); you may find yourself in the situation of having to pay for the damage on your car even if it is not your fault if you don't have an insurance. So, no matter how good driver you are, consider this issue too.

There might be an additional driver surcharge if you rent the car for several people. You may have to sign in additional drivers if they want to drive the car too. Under HP contracts normally you do not have to pay it if all drivers are HP-employees. At AVIS and Hertz you do not have to sign them in at all, no paperwork is necessary.

You get a drop-off surcharge if you drop-off your car at another location than where you rented it from. Check with the car rental company about the charges. It depends on the distance and location.

Usually you get a certain amount of free miles when renting a car. This is usually 150 miles a day or 1050 miles a week. This should be enough but check with your company. Some may only give you 100 miles a day and when you do a long weekend trip this might be too few. Then you have to pay extra miles which can get very expensive (from 0.12\$ - 0.3\$ a mile). Under HP contracts, you might get unlimited free miles.

Tickets (parking, speeding...) with a rental car: Be aware that if you get a ticket with a rental car, especially a parking ticket, you should absolutely pay that ticket. If you do not so, the rental company will gladly pay it on your behalf and put SOME surcharge to your credit card. Remember, they still have all your billing information.

As always, taxes are not included. So you will need to add a sales tax of somewhere between 4% and 10% (California 1998: 8.25%) on what you pay for the rental, insurance and surcharges.

HP Benefits

When you rent a car with HP you might get many benefits out of it. Please consult the current contract HP has with its car rental companies (e.g. the intranet-pages). If you want to rent a car on your first day already, please check with your manager for the latest information on car rentals. He may also guide you to the best car rental company at that moment.

In 1998 you got the following benefits when renting with AVIS, Hertz or National:

- You can rent a car from 21 years old and over with no age-surcharge
- You get special weekend rates (pay 2 days, get third day for three)
- You get 10-15% off a weekly rental (car rental fee only, not on insurance)
- HP corporate rates that are lower than you normally pay. The rates for the mid-size car are especially low.
- Unlimited free miles

In 1997 the contract was much better with National (contract was cancelled 7.1.98):

- All insurance (liability and collision damage) were included additionally

HP still has the offer to include all insurance but this is for business trips only. If you rent the car for your free time (e.g. weekend trips) it is not included anymore. However this might change from year to year, so ask around.

If you need a car to go somewhere for business, most sites have cars available to the employees at that site and you can check one out at the front desk. Talk to your manager about this before checking out a car. Usually, the cars need to be back at a certain time the same day you checked them out. If you already have a car (rented/bought) and would rather use that car to go somewhere on business, talk to your manager about getting some money back from HP for the miles you drove. However, if you use your car for business use and you have an accident, your personal insurance would be required to pay. The bottom line is: *"It is best to use a HP car for company business"*.

To be eligible to benefit from the HP-National agreement, you will need to prove that you are an HP employee, so you will at least need the letter you got from HP in your country stating that you have been accepted as an EuroStudent. If that doesn't work, your HP plastic batch (picture ID) that you will receive in the first few days of your stay will certainly do. It never happened to me that I had to show a proof in California but on Hawaii where the clerk insisted on seeing it.

General things to consider

- Things change often. Check the situation locally or shortly before you arrive.
- Use the 800-number of the company to ask for fees or reserving your car. You may also use Internet but do not show up and ask for a car. They might have none for you. And you might also get better prices by calling first.
- It is always a good idea to ask for a free upgrade (at the time you pick up the car!), you may be able to obtain a bigger/better car for the price of the smaller/worse one next time.
- If you have insurance in Europe, check if you can use it in the U.S. or if you can extend it to have coverage. It might be much cheaper than if you have to buy it in California additionally. Check this possibility BEFORE you leave but don't hope too hard for it. Many companies explicitly exclude the United States because of the high sums that are involved.
- Insurance is not a ticket for reckless driving. If you drive in violation of the car rental agreement (e.g. alcohol, drugs, etc.), you might yourself end in prison (unlike in Europe, American police is usually not willing to argue and you may find it hard to talk your way out of it unless the offense is very minor). You might also get charges totaling more than you'll ever earn in your entire work life. Especially too much alcohol and high speeding (more than 25mph over the limit) can cause this. It happened to one Eurostudent in '98 that he had to spend one night in prison because of too much alcohol...
- There's all kind of names for the different types for insurance (usually three-letter abbreviations), depending on the company you rent from.

Suggested Car Rental Companies

This is the situation of 1998. Don't expect it to be the same in 1999 but it may help you.

For weekend rentals, AVIS offered the third weekend day for free. Under the HP contract everybody above 21 could rent a mid-size car from Friday to Monday for 100\$ including all insurances, charges and taxes and unlimited free miles.

Don't forget to mention the corporate discount number (AWD) A515115 and discount coupon #TUSA023 for this offer.

If you are 25 and over, Enterprise has a good offer. You may still ask for HP corporate rates but their normal rates are low too or even lower than the HP rates. If you are under 25 they are too expensive as you have to pay 10\$ extra a day. Enterprise has many branches in the Silicon Valley and they might be very close to you. They also pick you up at home and bring you back again for free, just call them before you wish to rent a car. Their car rental fees are very low, starting at about 25\$ a day for weekend rentals and 28\$ for weekday rentals. Insurance is about the same price as at AVIS or Hertz.

Service Rent a car is good if you rent for week or a month too. In 1998 they included the minimum liability insurance in their car rental fee. They are located in Santa Clara at Stevens Creek/Saratoga Crossing and you might get a new Toyota Corolla for 800\$ a

month including all insurances (500\$ deductible tough). One bad thing is that you only get 2000 free miles a month (0.12 cents an extra mile). One week costs you about 260\$ including 1000 free miles.

There are many small car rental companies that can give you a lower price. I tried them but I gave back the car the other day. One had problems with the brakes, another had problems with the lights. They are usually older models and not so well maintained. However I believe having had a bit too much bad luck. Another guy rented a Ford Escort Station wagon for 400\$ a month at Affordable Rent a Car (look up the yellow pages for the address) and paid extra insurance of 5\$ a day only. He had no problems the whole summer.

The problem with small companies is that you get no service at all if you have a problem and get stuck somewhere far away in the desert (;-)). With the bigger companies you get a replacement immediately.

The bigger companies also provide you with frequent flyer miles in case you want to improve your account.

Here's the phone numbers of a few large rental companies (remember, if you for example want to travel after your work at HP, you will not be eligible for the special prices HP employees get through the contract with National, so you may want to call some other companies, too):

Alamo: 800-327-9633

Hertz: 800-654-3131

Dollar: 800-800-4000

Budget: 800-527-0700

Avis: 800-831-2847

Enterprise: 800-rent-a-car

Service-Rent-A-car: (408) 554-6351

Hint by Roberto: Always call at least twice when using these 1-800 numbers to find out important information over the phone, not only for car rentals. Repeat the process until you get twice the same answer from at least two different people. You will have a higher chance to get the appropriate answer.

Other things to know

Gas

Gas a gas station at Rengstorff crossing Central Expressway in Mountain View not very far from the City Limit to Palo Alto, where you get a free car wash if you fill up your car.

The prices for gas are fabulous here **in the USA**, you pay around \$1.30 for a gallon that's almost 4 liters). It's about one fourth of the price in Germany, and Italy is even more

expensive than Germany. You can drive a really big car here without worrying about the price for gas.

Usually, rental cars come with the tank filled up when you pick them up and need to be returned the same way. If you return them with a less than full tank, the rental company will fill it up and charge you about three times the normal price. That's why the following may be interesting: you may be able to purchase a tank full of gas (at the time you start your car rental) for a price that is usually lower than average. This will enable you to return the car with an empty tank (but you don't get credit if the tank is not empty). As the price they charge for this service is usually cheaper than what it would cost you to fill the car up at the

gas station around the corner, this is a good deal. But check prices first.

Renting a car together with somebody else.

If you want to spend as little money on the car as possible, it makes sense to try and rent a car together with somebody else (or several somebody's). That way, you can split the cost and then it becomes really affordable. Usually, you won't be able to find out about who may be a good person to share a car with as long as you are in Europe (you may not even know if there will be a possibility to share cars), so you may want to first rent a car for yourself for, say, a week (if you want a car at all in the beginning) until things are a little more clear and then give your first car back and rent one for that group of people that rents the car together. This makes most sense if you live at the same place; we've had five people renting a car together for the entire three months in 1996 that way. But plan this one well, we've also had combinations that didn't work...

Additional Resources

You should read the Car Question and Answer document on the corporate travel management web page: <http://hpct.corp.hp.com/travel>

Persons who can help you further:

- Your mentors (especially administration)
- Your local HP Travel Agency
- Audrey Hemphill from HP Travel Department
(Phone: 857-5104, audrey_hemphill@hp.com)

Amendment: What can happen if you get stuck with the wrong car rental company

By Christoph Jans, Switzerland, 1996

Disclaimer: The 'infamous' car rental company is none of the above mentioned companies. However, if you are interested, I am willing to tell you who it was. I'm at '100265.757@compuserve.com'.

Some of the 1996 Euros had a truly pleasant experience when going to Lake Tahoe this summer. We were at the 'Northstar at Tahoe' Resort which we hereby highly recommend, as we all liked it a lot. We drove to there (8 people in two cars) on Friday night and stayed through Sunday night.

There was only one little problem: When we were just about ready to leave at 6pm in the afternoon on Sunday, all relaxed and everything, I try to start the car and nothing happens. So I figure the battery is dead or something. But, when I let the ignition key go I notice it's broken off. It's a very long ignition key and half of it is stuck in the ignition, the other half is in my hand. So, of course, at first try, I kinda try to shove the part I have back in and turn the key anyway.

No luck (of course).

A few other people try, too. No luck, either (of course, this is California, you only get what you paid for). I figure it's time to call the rental company. I do so; no one picks up the phone. I'd have a certain degree of understanding for this, as it's Sunday night. The bad part is, this is the '24 hour emergency hotline' (maybe they called it so because it was only operational for 24 hours after they created it?) of that rental car company. So I call again and let the phone ring 30 times. Nobody picks up the phone.

Great.

I panic real rush and catch myself again. I then call the people I stay with. I am lucky; they're actually home and willing to help me. They get a phone book and call all the locations of that car rental company. They actually find one where there is an employee on duty. The people I stay with call me again and tell me which office of the infamous rental Car Company to call. I call there and actually somebody picks up the phone. So I tell him about my problem.

He suggests I call a locksmith to get the piece of key out and get another key made. We first look for a phonebook in the apartment, then for a locksmith in the phonebook. We find one (well, actually, his phone number) some 30 miles away (but heck, what's 30 miles in America). I call there, the locksmith's wife picks up and says he's busy with someone else but he'll be there right afterwards.

Some 40 minutes later, he shows up. He works on the car for about an hour and then has to give up. He says the car needs a new ignition lock (which is what we thought in the first place, because the key is twisted in the ignition so it locks itself in there. But no one listens to a bunch of EuroStudents with weird accents anyway...)

I call the infamous rental company again (By now, it's 10 p.m.). They tell me the locksmith is no good if he can't fix it and that I should call another one. I strongly disagree with both parts of their opinion and tell them I want a CAR, not a locksmith (At their expense, of course). After 10 minutes or so of exchanging verbal hostilities, he

finally agrees to try (!) to get a hold of their closest office and asking them to run a car to us. He tells me he will call me back.

I wait. And wait. Then wait again. Like half an hour or so. In the meantime, we start to draw who's staying here and who go home in the one working car we have. Some of us lost their faith in finding a solution to the problem tonight...

Good thing the employee of the infamous car rental company was dumb enough to give me his business AND home phone number, which gives me the ability to terrorize him at any given time. And as time's approaching 11p.m.... I call him at home and he's there. He tells me that he could not reach someone in Sacramento that is their closest office (and a mere 100something miles from Tahoe). He thinks we should wait and solve the problem Monday morning. (Yea right, so he can go to sleep !)

I ... don't think so.

We argue another 15 minutes or so and he finally surrenders and gives in (victory at last! Or probably, he just as desperate to get me off his back as I was to get a car, so the solution kinda came naturally after a while): we can go ahead and rent a car from another rental company somewhere around here. They'll even pay for it.

Unfortunately, in Tahoe on an off-season Sunday night, 'somewhere around here' is quite far. In fact, as far as Reno, Nevada, as we find out after calling all kinds of rental companies around Lake Tahoe. I start calling the rental companies at the Reno airport. The first one is all booked up. The second one is all booked up.

The third one ... you get the idea.

Fortunately, something (intelligence? ... nah. Intuition? ...nah. Instinct? ... maybe the bare will to make it back to the Bay?) made me leave our phone number at the apartment with one of the rental companies at the Reno airport, and, just before I go nuts, they call me back. A car just came in unexpectedly. I see light at the end of the tunnel.

They ask me if I wanted it. Stupid question. Of course, I want it.

At about 11:30p.m, three of us leave for Reno (we were there the day before and really didn't think we'd see it again that soon) in the second car (good thing we at least had ONE working car ... knock on wood!) to get the car that will bring us back to the Bay Area. We actually pick up a car and we drive back to the apartment in the two cars. We hurry to get everything into the cars and leave around a.m. (that's already Monday morning) for the Bay.

The drive back to the Bay Area is surprisingly painless (except for a traffic jam somewhere after Sacramento at 3 a.m., but who cares...) and we drop off one of us in San Francisco at 4:30 a.m.. The last one of us returns home at 5:30 Monday morning. The sun is just rising....

I go to bed and sleep till 9, then I call the infamous rental car company to get another car, as the contract still runs for another week and a half or so. The famous car rental company we got the car from in Reno even was willing to rent it to us on a one-way basis, so we could drop it off at the San Jose Airport, which is kinda close to where I stood (at least a lot closer than Reno). So I ask the infamous rental car company to send me someone I can follow to the airport (as I don't know where it is) to drop off the famous rental company's car and to take me back to their office to pick up a replacement car.

They agree to do so and present me a huge van driven by a lady. No problem with that. But as I find out after about an hour, the lady doesn't really know where the airport is, either. I do have a problem with that, though. But eventually, after, say, 90 minutes (if you know where you're going, it takes you 10 minutes) we manage to find the airport and drop off the car.

She then takes me back to another office of theirs, where they have a car waiting for me. When she pulls into the parking lot with the big van, she hits another car's side-view mirror and rips it off.

Needless to say, it was the car that they wanted to give to me as a replacement.

I was too tired to be mad or arguing, and, thank heavens (or who/whatever helped), they come up with another car after another 30 minutes of me sitting in their office and staring at them. I was going to stay for days if they wouldn't come up with another car before. So that's the car I drove for the remainder of the rental contract. I believe you agree it was a good decision to look for another rental Car Company after the contract expired.

Traffic Rules & Tickets

By Joerg Schernikau, Germany, 1993

For those who will make the Californian driver license (it is a nice souvenir!) this article is obsolete, so it is dedicated to those who drive rental cars and have no driving experience in USA.

Traffic Rules

First of all: it's no problem to drive a car in USA if you are used to the European traffic rules. There is some things different worth to mention:

Right-turn on red lights

You are allowed to turn right even if the traffic light is red. Just make sure that you make a full stop before you turn (for the police) and it's save to do so (that's for yourself!). Watch out for sign indicating that the turn is **not** allowed; they are really seldom.

STOP signs

Probably they saved the revenues of the STOP-sign manufacturer, I want to say: there are many of these STOP signs! Mostly in residential area. Make sure either there is no police officer following you or make a **real** STOP (see tickets).

Check also out if it is a 2-way or 4-way STOP sign.

In USA there is the "First-come-First-Go rule". That means the car, which arrived at the intersection first, goes first. This is also valid if the traffic lights at an intersection break down. And most astonishing: it really works!

Car-Pool Lanes

These are lanes, mostly on highways, which are reserved for buses, cabs and cars with more than one or two passengers. There are sign stating how many passengers must be in the car to drive in the car-pool lane. The restriction is only valid for the rush hours that are also on the signs.

Violations are very expensive: \$200 to \$500.

Tickets⁶

Personally I had a ticket this year (1995) but I cannot guarantee for the price of all the one's:

- a STOP sign is \$120.00
- driving without papers is \$120.00

⁶ A ticket is a piece of paper, asking you strongly to make a donation to this marvelous State of California!

- Speeding on the highway (75 miles, where 55 miles are allowed) is \$109 (so far...)
- driving with the red is \$114.00

When you get the ticket from the officer he won't tell you how much it is. You will get a mail after a couple of days. If you don't get the mail you have to go to court (see ticket for addresses) and ask for the mail!

Some violations can be corrected, for example driving without papers assuming you have forgotten them at home. Just go to a police officer, show him your papers and he will mark the correction on your ticket. With this correction you can go to the court clerk and pay with a check or cash; they don't accept credit cards (at least in Sunnyvale, this may differ from court to court)!

Bars, Cafes, Restaurants and Night Life

*By Raquel Goldmann, Germany 1995 ; additions by Christoph Jans, Switzerland, 1996,
Javier Hernandez, Spain 1998*

Below I listed some places where we liked to go this summer. Don't be surprised because the waiters are very informal even in a good restaurant. Most of the times they even bring you the bill before you ask for a dessert. You have to understand the more restaurant guests they have the more tips they get! You should always give them a 15% tip. Notice also that since 1995 there exists a state law for non-smoking! In some restaurants reservations are possible but in most places it's like "first comes first gets". Usually they have a waiting list, so you can go there earlier and ask for a table to get on the waiting list. I'm sure you will enjoy and having fun as much as we had.

Restaurants

Fish Market

3775 El Camino Real, Santa Clara Phone: 408/246-3474

It has excellent SeaFood and vegetables. The interior is very nice and business people like to go there. There is no reservation possible but you can phone ahead for a waiting list!

El Torito

Lake Side, Santa Clara

If you like "frozen Margaritas" and Mexican food check out this place. It is very nice decorated and you are sitting in a "patio".

Black Angus

El Camino Real xing Wolfe, Sunnyvale (it's on the other side of the Safeway)

Steak House with excellent meat, beef and pork. Try Barcardi-mixes! A 16-ounce Steak (450-gr.) is \$11. For a good dinner you will spend about \$16 + \$5 if you have alcoholic beverages.

St. Johns Burger

Lawrence Expwy xing Kifer Road, Sunnyvale

Don't think it's a typical fast food place. It's a restaurant where you can have dinner as well as lunch. They have also excellent burgers that they barbecue. A Cheeseburger is \$5 including French fries. If you have lunch or dinner there, calculate about \$10 including also drinks and potato chips.

Chili's Grill & Bar

2560 El Camino Real xing Lawrence Expwy, or at San Antonio Shopping Center

A kind of Mexican restaurant with a spirit of a sandwich place. Tacos, fajitas (very good), Mexican meat plates, salads etc.

Il Fornaio

520 Cowper St. xing University Ave., Palo Alto, phone: 415/853-3888

Cucina Italiana! Very nice but expensive restaurant. Make reservation as it's always crowded. Especially business people like to go there.

Fresh Choice

Stanford Shopping Mall, Palo Alto and Vallco Shopping Mall, Stevens Creek xing Wolfe Rd. All you can eat place for only \$6. You will find a huge salad bar, soups, pasta, bread and desserts.

Charley's Restaurant

244 State St. Los Altos

A really nice small Chinese restaurant with good and cheap food. Dave Packard is told to be a regular guest since a long time!

Barley & Hopps

2nd & B Street, San Mateo, phone 650/348-7808

Nice restaurant and quite a bit more expensive. Upstairs is a bar where you can play pool, darts etc. Live Blues Music from Wednesday to Saturday charge is extra.

Cafferata Ravioli Factory

700 Columbus Ave., San Francisco, phone: 415/392-7544

It has excellent restaurant with very good homemade pasta and wine. Check it out. Reserve a table because people like to go there. Food isn't expensive!

Sushi Boat

389 Geary St., San Francisco, phone: 415/781-5111

Do you like sushi? Here you get lots of Sushi. This place is a little bit more expensive than others, but worth it if you like this kind of Japanese food.

Julie's Supper Club

1123 Folsom Street, San Francisco phone: 415/861-0707

Restaurant, bar where many tables are available. It's a good meeting point especially when you stay in the "Folsom area". Food is very good but quite expensive. Usually when you have dinner you get a free ticket for some nice places in the "Folsom area"! (The owner, the barman and a waiter speaks french, try to guess where she comes from?!)

Cha cha cha

Haight Street, San Francisco

Very nice Cuban restaurant. It's always crowded so if you like to eat there go early! We recommend a pitcher of sangria that costs only \$12. It tastes great.

Tsing Tao

At the shopping center at the intersection of San Thomas Aquinas and Campbell Road in Campbell. (right next to San Jose).

Great food, try Szechuan Beef (one of the 1996 euros got addicted to that stuff) and Mushu Pork. Prices are usually around \$10/person including tip if you go there as a group and don't drink alcohol. You can sit at a round table and try different foods then, too.

Cafes/Bars/Brasserie

Blue Chalk Cafe

630 Ramona Street, Palo Alto, Phone: 650/326-2792

It's a meeting point in Palo Alto. We liked to go there having some drinks and playing pool but you can also get nice food.

Fanny & Alexander

412 Emerson St., Palo Alto

If you like live music and beer it's a good place to go and you can also have dinner there. They have also a "patio" where you can sit outside (meeting point in Palo Alto) Cover charge is about \$4. But if you are there before the concert starts you don't have to pay.

Marie Callender

4710 El Camino Real in Sunnyvale or Mountain View

Here you get the best strawberry pies in the world! They also serve dinner for a reasonable price.

Gourmet Coffee & Tea

186 S. Murphy Ave., Downtown Sunnyvale, Phone: 408/738-4523

For the one who likes chocolate! You get here good cappuccinos, cafe late and excellent cakes and cookies.

Patio Cafe

531 Castro Street, San Francisco, phone: 415/621-4640

The area around Castro is known because of the "gay people". It's a very interesting and exciting area and I liked to go there. This cafe is great for having breakfast (brunch) or for dinner!

Cafe Flore

2299 Market (next to Castro Street), San Francisco

This is a cafe where you can also sit outside. It's a meeting point during the day for all kind of people.

Twenty Tanks

316 11th Street xing Folsom Street, San Francisco, phone: 415/255-9455

Brasserie with live music. They have different music depending on the day. For beer fans it's the best place to go. No cover charge! You can also have some snacks there. Especially Thursday evening is a good day!

Hard Rock Cafe

1699 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco

No comment...

Cafe Trieste

Vallejo at Grant Ave., San Francisco

In the area around North Beach you will find many Italian cafes! One of the best places is Cafe Trieste. It's not a tourist place and you will find a lot of people from San Francisco.

Los Gatos

It's a small cute town where you will find many nice cafes! It's 45 minutes drive but worth to see!

Blue Rock Shoot

This was the 1996 euro's favorite place. To get there, drive South on Saratoga Avenue from where it intersects Lawrence Expressway. Drive all the way into Saratoga, to where it starts to look like a tourist town (lots of small shops and cafes). The place is to the right side if you drive south. It is easy to see because their storefront is made out of raw wood logs. It is a mixture between a coffee shop, a restaurant and a bookstore. They have good pizzas and bangles, too.

Some Clubs/Discos

Don't forget in general your ID card because they usually assume that your are under 21. Most clubs require you to be over 21 to be able to get in

The Edge

260 California Avenue, Palo Alto

If you like dancing, having fun, listen to good music and cheap drinks try this place. Good nights during the week are Tuesday and Thursday. Friday and Saturday is quite crowded but fun! Cover charge at the weekend \$5. They close at 3 a.m. but stop serving alcohol at 1:30 a.m.!

The Palace

146 S Murphy, Sunnyvale

Be ready for a "chic" disco and don't wear T-shirts or sport shoes! It's worth to go once. Cover charge around \$8.

San Jose live!

2nd Street, San Jose

The biggest disco in San Jose. All kinds of music from county to pop. You will find also pool, a restaurant, a cafe and bars! Big parking lot in front. Cover charge about \$5.

Johnny Love's

1500 Broadway, San Francisco

Dining and Dancing. They have always live music. Cover charge is \$10.

181

Eddy Street, San Francisco

Park close to Market Street and take a taxi to go there because it's a dangerous area. This club is great! Music like "rave" but also "disco". They have two dance floors, usually one has live music. Cover charge is \$10.

Elbow Room

Valencia xing 17th, San Francisco

People from SF like to go there, the music they play is "hip hop".

DNA Lounge

375 11th Street xing Folsom Street, San Francisco

Live music usually Jazz. It's one of this great Jazz places in SF.

Oasis

278 11th Street, xing Folsom Street, San Francisco

Nice disco, young people, different style not typically American, two dance floors. Good days are Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Cover charge is \$10.

DV8

Howard Street btw. 1st and 2nd Street, San Francisco

My favorite place: open till 3 or 4am (depending on how many people are left), cover is \$10, pool tables (\$10/hour), three dancing floors (except when there's a private party) with different music. "French music" on Thursday night, which means mostly European music, and some French songs.

Holy Cow

1535 Folsom, San Francisco

Small place, usually quite crowd... Nothing's special...

Slim

333 11th Street, San Francisco

Huge foggy room... Great atmosphere during the week end. They love live music... do you ?

The Stud

399 9th Street, San Francisco

Some gay in this disco, but still a good place to see once.

Palladium

1031 Kearny Street, San Francisco

Quite good. Open till 6am, but \$10 all the night. Disco-funk-rock music. Many young people

Going Out in San Francisco

By Frank Megel, France, 1993

There are several good places in the bay area, but nothing can be compared to San Francisco (I've never been thrown out of a disco, there!): it's said to be the best town in the U.S, and you're likely to understand why. One of the good point is its nightlife, including the places, but also the people going out. Furthermore, clubs/bars are often concentrated in some areas, which allows you to easily go from one to the other without taking your car. Last but not least there are several places where you can find some Pastis (ask for a *pernod* and spell it)...

Some Bars

Before going in a club, you may go to:

"Pier 23"

It's a cool and crowd place on Embarcadero with usually live music. Great to begin the evening.

South of Market Street

... are a lot of bars and dance clubs, but also known as being an unsafe area. Try to avoid the triangle between Market, Van Ness and Geary. Street, known for many gay clubs.

Triangle...

You should also try the area around Union Street xing Fillmore. The "Triangle" are actually four bars at each corner of the intersection.

Vesusio

295 Columbus Avenue, San Francisco

People playing chess on the corner, used to be a place for writers... Many paintings, souvenirs all around: definitely a place to see !

Spec's

12 William Saroyan Place (close to Columbus Avenue crossing Broadway), San Francisco

Another strange but nice decoration... Its history is displayed on the walls.

Tosca's Cafe

242 Columbus Avenue, San Francisco

Dark Bar... They have a surprisingly good *house cappuccino* (Brandy and hot chocolate).

Noc Noc

561 Haight Street, San Francisco

This is one of the street you may drive to if you want to have fun. Many bars and discos... This one is a "out of time bar": nothing's tuned (even the 3 or 4 TVs), weird furniture, dark lights... and foggy! A bit further, you can also go to the *Haight Tropical* (582 Haight Street) that's quite interesting too !

Caribbean Zone

In the Backyard of DV8 (see further), San Francisco

There's a plane body in the middle of the room... Hostesses are of course present... After 11pm, it becomes a disco with really weird people...

Phoenix

478 Castro Street San Francisco

Yes, it's in Castro Street. Yes, it's a gay bar. Yes, it's one of the most popular one. Yes, you may try.

No, I'm not a gay.

Best Of Index

(Peter Weichsel, Germany 1992; Alf Clement, Germany and Frank Megel, France, 1993)

Each year the "Palo Alto Weekly" makes a public survey for the best of places in Palo Alto. In the last moment I got the following list of the winners. Sorry couldn't check them all nor lookup the addresses.

Restaurants & Food

Best Bagels	Bagel Works
Best Bar	British Bankers Club
Best Burgers	Kirk's
Best Chinese Restaurant	Su Hong
Best Deli	Draeger's
Best Indian Food	Gaylord
Best Italian Food	Il Fornaio
Best Pizza	Applewood
Best Cafe	Cafe Borrone
Best Salad Bar	Fresh Choice
Best Sea Food	The Fish Market

Goods & Services

Best Bank	Wells Fargo
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Best Bicycle Shop	Wheelsmith
Best Bookstore	Kepler's
Best Computer Store	Fry's
Best Health Club	YMCA
Best Photo Development	Keeble & Shuchat

Places To Go & Things To Do

Best Bike Ride	The Loop
Best Tourist Attraction	Stanford University
Best Place for Live Music	Shoreline Amphitheater
Best Place to get a Speeding Ticket	Embarcadero Street, Palo Alto
Best Place to see a Movie	Stanford Theater
Best Place to Swim	Rinconada

Shops in the Bay Area

By Alf Clement, Germany and Frank Megel, France, 1993; updated in 1995, Martin Seibold, Germany, 1996

When you get the first money from HP, it's time to start spending it.

Don't be afraid if nearly every big shop is located at El Camino. This road starts south of San Francisco and ends somewhere in the deep south; I never reached the end.

And a word on the prices. They are all without the local tax. So don't start wondering when your bill is 8.25% higher than expected.

Even good brands (e.g. Ray Ban, Levis, O'Neill, Burton, Nikes...) are very cheap! So don't bring too much clothes with you but enough suitcases (or buy one here they are also cheap). Remember fee for editorial luggage is about \$100!

Shopping Malls

Valley Fair

Stevens Creek, San Jose

Our favorite shopping center in the Silicon Valley. There are many small boutiques and you can find different price classes. You won't really find cheap shops there but they are very nice. On the second floor

they offer different kinds of food. Here you can rest after your shopping and enjoy good food.

Valco Center

Wolfe xing Steven Creek, Santa Clara

It's a nice typical American shopping center. On the first floor they also offer different kinds of food. Here you can rest after your shopping.

Stanford Shopping Mall

El Camino, Palo Alto

The biggest shopping mall in Palo Alto. Very nice shops and maybe a little bit expensive. The less expensive shops there are Macy's and Emporium. Polo - Ralf Lauren are at the upper price scale. The Palo Alto Roasting Company is the best coffee shop here in the bay area. They have at least 40 different types.

Price Club

Kifer Rd xing Lawrence Expressway, Sunnyvale

Price Club is a chain, where only members can buy. Nearly every second HP employee or Bay Area inhabitant is a member. Find a member and go there !

Book Stores

Barnes & Nobles

Stevens Creek, San Jose

A really large choice of books, CD's and magazines. There is also a nice small café where you can get espresso, cappuccino and cookies. It's just nice to sit there and read some books.

Computer Literacy

San Jose, 2590 North First St. (crossing Trimble)

This store is specialized on computer and electronics books only. The largest and best I've ever seen. They also have branches in Sunnyvale and Cupertino.

Stanford Book Shop

on Stanford Campus.

The largest bookstore in the Bay Area. There's also a branch on University Avenue in Palo Alto that specializes in technical books. Inside is a café where you can read and check your favorite books before you buy them.

Books to Read

I like to recommend to read the following two guides when you are in the Bay Area. Both books provide trustable and practical information, such as dining, cheap motels, things to do, where to go, shopping and much much more.

"Let's go California/Hawaii"

ISDN 0-312-08234-7

A low budget travel guide written by and for students. They describe trips all over California.

"Guide to the Good Living in the Bay Area"

Originally written by Stanford students for Stanford students, but available in any bookstore. It includes a section with the most common weekend destinations around the Bay Area, like Santa Cruz, SF and Napa Valley.

Used Book Stores

Recycle Bookstore

138 E. Santa Clara (between 3 & 4), San Jose

They also have used CDs, Videos, Records and Comic Books. Bring your student card for discount prices.

Yesterday's Paperbacks

2636 Union Avenue, San Jose

Largest Selection of international newspapers.

Several Book Shop

Telegraph Road, Berkley

Willow Glen's Only Used Book Store

2194 Lincoln Avenue, San Jose

Computer & Consumer Electronics

Fry's

for example: Lawrence Expressway near Arques Ave., Sunnyvale

Fry's is a big computer equipment chain. They have everything around and for computers. Software, Hardware, Memory. Also a lot of consumer electronics. You have to go there at least once to see it.

Used CDs

New CDs are not really much cheaper than in Europe: usually are around \$13-\$14 for new records and from \$8 for bargain CDs. The natural choice is then to look for used CDs that are sometimes really cheap (I found some recent albums at \$2!). The prices are around \$6-\$7, but in fact it really depends on what kind of CD you're looking for: 'popular' music (at the top of the chart right now) are a bit more expensive while Jazz, Fusion and Californian music (surprisingly not very popular here) can be found from \$4. Where to go:

- Ameba (Berkeley, Telegraph road) is the greatest used CDs shop in the bay area: big and many cheap used CDs (large set of \$4 CDs). 2 blocks further is another large and good Used CD Shop.
- The Warehouse (most expensive used CDs): 3 on El Camino (1060, 1939), 3 in San Jose (3127 Steven Creek Blvd, 2007 Camden Ave., 1337 Blossom Hill Rd), 4 in S.F (3301 Geary, 165 Kearny St., 2083 Union St., 1303 Van Ness).
- Compact Disc Land (477 University Avenue, Palo Alto). You can listen to all used CD.
- Compact Disc Warehouse (El Camino, around 1950): many CDs. You can listen to them.

Photo Equipment

If you want to buy a camera to document your US trip, don't buy it in Europe. In the US, camera equipment is about 20% cheaper. There are also many camera shops in S.F Chinatown: you may take a look at the prices of the following shops and bargain in Chinatown...

Disadvantages: -It is hard to return things if you've got a complaint especially if you are back in Europe.

-Some Chinatown salesmen can be dishonest, so be careful!

B&H, New York

One of the best camera dealers at the east coast. They are so cheap because you don't have to pay any tax on the goods. Check a popular photo magazine for the latest prices. The shipping from New York via UPS ground takes only one and a half-week.

Other local camera shops are

San Jose Camera

1600 S. Winchester Blvd., Campbell
and

Keeble & Shuchat

290 California Ave, Palo Alto

They are also less expensive compared to Europe, but they can't reach the east coast dealer prices. Keeble & Shuchat have a good collection of camera boxes.

The films are, compared to Europe, more expensive. Especially it's difficult to find 36 exposure films. The average price is about \$5.50 for Kodak Gold 200/36. The Price Club has the best prices for films. \$21 for 5 films. On the other hand the develop of a film is again cheaper. A good 1 hour photo shops with high quality paper prints or slides is:

Film to Frame

4598 El Camino, Los Altos

There is also one in the Stanford BookStore. But it takes at least four days, and they are not remarkably cheaper.

Sport Shops

Sport Mart

Sunnyvale, on El Camino, between Cezanne Dr. and Sunnyvale-Saratoga

Here you can get all the stuff you need for sports. If you want to play tennis, you can rent rackets for 2 days, for free!

Oshman's

San Antonio Shopping Center, 635 El Camino, Los Altos

Also a very good sport market.

The North Face

A good shop for camping equipment. They have their own brands for sleeping bags and outdoor clothes. Not cheap, but very good stuff.

Tip: Outlet-Factory Store in Berkeley, take Hwy. 80, Exit Gilman, You'll see a sign to your left after 1 or 2 streets.

REI

Cupertino, 20640 Homestead Rd.; shops also in Berkeley, Concord and San Carlos
Cheaper than NorthFace. They have their own brand with good quality, but also NorthFace and other quality brands

Concerts

Look in the local press for the actual announcements. For example the Palo Alto Weekly has concert (and movie) listings for the Bay Area. This paper is published twice a week, one regular edition and a special weekend edition.

Even if most of the concert are around S.F., the biggest concert arena is the Shoreline Amphitheater in Mountain View. It is constructed in the same way as the amphitheaters in Greece. They have big concerts there almost every week. In summer '93 bands like Steve Miller Band, UB40, Aerosmith, Steely Dan, the Beach Boys or Tina Turner played at Shoreline. Tickets are about \$25. If it's sold out, you still may try to go there and find some tickets. Price are falling after the beginning of the concert, and waiting outside is not a problem since the music is loud enough to listen to it.

Another great place is the Greek Theater in Berkeley Campus (Bring a Towel and hot clothes) : the atmosphere is ... special ! You're back in 68 !

Cinemas

The Varsity cinema in Palo Alto (University Avenue) plays the Rocky Horror Picture Show every Saturday at midnight. If you don't know the show, believe, it's worth watching it. And if you miss the show, it's your fault. Don't forget rice, toilet paper and water pistols, they are very important during the show.

As concern *regular* movies, you'll find the list of all the movies played in all newspapers. Movie Theaters are quite cheap here (usually \$4 before 6pm and \$7 after. Some places even break the prices... Check out), especially if you take advantage of the system : once you're in, you can see as many movies as you want (bring the program with you), even if it's not officially allowed.

Something you **MUST** try is the mythic drive-in, such as the Capitol (San Jose, between Capitol Expressway and Monterey Road). Opens at 7:30.

Souvenirs Shops

The best places to buy stupid souvenirs are in San Francisco, and especially around Fisherman's Wharf. Just drive there and take a look. You may for instance go to Pier 39 as they are many shops : there are two special stores in Pier 39 (upstairs) that I **HAVE** to mention :

- the first one is for people who bought a car: many items, books, T-shirts, hats with carmaker logo are available...
- the second is a flag shop : what about bringing' back the 'California republic' flag (all the U.S states flag are available) ? You can also find whatever you can imagine with any flag... Bargain is easy there...

Sports in the Bay Area

By Chris Leuenberger, Switzerland, 1992, Martin Seibold, Germany, 1996.

Here is a small guide about sports in the Bay Area. First of all, don't ask for it, find it. The Bay Area provides you with almost everything you can think of, from the big professional sports events like Baseball or Football to all the various occasions you have to keep yourself in shape...(The "California equation" says: 1 Hamburger = 1/2 hour sports).

Let's start out with the sports to watch. The Bay Area has professional teams for every major US. sports. Here's a list:

<i>San Francisco 49ers</i>	<i>Candlestick Park</i>	<i>Football</i>	
<i>San Francisco Giants</i>	<i>Candlestick Park</i>	<i>Baseball</i>	
<i>Oakland Athletics</i>	<i>Oakland Coliseum</i>	<i>Baseball</i>	
<i>Golden State Warriors</i>		<i>Oakland Coliseum</i>	<i>Basketball</i>
<i>San Jose Sharks</i>	<i>San Jose Arena</i>	<i>Ice Hockey</i>	
<i>San Francisco Bay</i>	<i>Spartan Stadium, S.J.</i>	<i>Soccer</i>	

1996 remark: Candlestick Park has been renamed to 3COM park

There are also several college football teams:

<i>Stanford Cardinal</i>	<i>Stanford Stadium</i>
<i>UCB Golden Bears</i>	<i>California Memorial Stadium (the Golden Bears are also called California or Cal; they are the team of the University of California Berkeley)</i>
<i>San Jose State Spartans</i>	<i>Spartan Stadium</i>

Seasons

Football season (NFL and college) is from September to December. Tickets are usually available without problems for college games, but not for the 49ers. Football tickets are moderate for college and expensive for NFL games. Baseball season is from April to October. Watch out, they play every day! The usual schedule will be like this: 4-7 home games, one-day rest, 4-7 road games, one-day rest. Baseball tickets are usually plenty available and very cheap (from \$5 to \$15). Watch out for games in the Candlestick Park... Dress as you would in European winter days, it's frrrrrreezing! Basketball season is from October to June. For information about tickets call the Warriors (although the Eurostudent program is normally in Basketball's off-season). Ice Hockey season is from October to May. Shark's game are sold out, so be lucky. Tickets are expensive, especially when bought on the black market.

Buy sports tickets at Bass Ticket locations, which you will either find in the yellow pages or in Warehouse shops (CD shops).

Now, let's talk about REAL sport... this will be very incomplete, because there are thousands of things to do, and it's impossible to cover everything. Look at this paper as a startup, something that helps you find something quickly in the first days. Whatever you want to do (Mountain Biking, Swimming, Climbing, Fishing, Golf, etc.) you will find it in the yellow pages.

Here's just a short selection of places that used to be our favorites this summer (1992):

Racquetball

Cupertino Sports Center, 21111 Stevens Creek Blvd., Cupertino, CA 95014 Tel : (408) 257-9037

Tennis

Look for public places, they are all over the Bay Area. They may not provide you with lights, but if you play during the day, it's fun & free!

Jogging (Sailing; Surfing)

You'll find sports places everywhere, but especially nice is the Shoreline Park in Mountain View (next to the Shoreline Amphitheater, THE place for big concerts). You also find there a small lake for sailing and surfing (beginner level; call them, they might have courses).

Aerobics and Work Out

Ask at HP's Recreation Center (Sunnyvale site), they have daily classes for cheap rates.

Volleyball, Basketball, Ultimate Frisbee

HP employees play a lot of sports during lunchtime. Just go to the Recreation Center and ask for it. As a special tip, if you like action and a hard work out, try Ultimate Frisbee, it's very nice! This section should contain a collection of tips and tricks, after all it looks like if the old guide was a little bit more complete on this details. Never mind. I found one subject.

Golf

It is much cheaper than in Europe to play Golf in the United States. Try it. In 1996 we took a beginners lesson (45-min.) for \$25 each. It was worth it. After that you're allowed to practice on this court without a teacher. (60 Balls, \$5).

Biking in the Bay Area

By Patrick Sommer 1996.

Why Consider Biking?

You might immediately object that you'll rent a car anyway, so why should you think about biking? Though a bike is certainly no substitution for a car to cruise through California, biking can be an alternative for going to work and a pleasant way to discover your vicinity.

There are some good reasons for biking in the Bay Area:

- It *never* rains here during the summer months! (I know this is hard to imagine, especially if you're Scandinavian.)
- It guarantees you a minimum of physical activity.
- You make at least one effort not to pollute the air.

How to get a bike?

If you want to use your bike as a commute alternative, you might borrow one from a coworker of yours. In case this doesn't work out, you may buy one. Biking is fairly popular around here and you can find a lot of bike shops. I don't like to do advertising, but we've bought our bikes in a shop in Palo Alto called "The Bike Connection". The shop assistants were very friendly and helped me whenever I had a problem (and I had some...).

Used bikes are available for about \$100 and more. They are usually not very fancy, but they have also 2 wheels and serve their basic purpose. Some of us could resell their used bikes to the shop for a fixed price before returning to Europe. Ask for it.

New mountain-bikes are generally cheaper than in Europe though the prices may vary from country to country. The variety is large, every shop sells its favorite brands. If you consider taking your bike back to Europe after your stay, you should check this issue with your airline. Normally it's possible to take your bike (disassembled into some parts) packed in a case as a second item of luggage.

If you need a bike just for one day, you can also rent one, of course. We did the same in Northstar at Lake Tahoe where they had a nice mountain-bike park with trails for all levels.

Don't repeat these mistakes

- **Lock your bike securely at all times.** I had my bike parked at our apartment complex. The frame - locked to the bike rack - was still there next morning, but the wheels and the seat had gone. Though I can mention my visit at the police department as an "opportunity to meet U.S. citizens apart from the actual HP assignment" in the J-1 visa evaluation, it was a rather unpleasant experience. You best take your (new) bike inside when you don't ride it.
- **Beware of the cactus plants.** Their thorns are really nasty and go through your tires without problems. I just had one puncture in the 3 months I spent here. It was on the first day and both tires were flat. If you go off-road biking, you should ask for "Mr. Tuffy's" in the bike shop. This is a special reinforcement that goes between the tire and the inner tube. It helps! Nevertheless, it's a good idea to take a spare inner tube and a pump with you when you go on a long bike trip.

Nice bike trails

There are a lot of open space preserves in the Bay Area where you can find great trails. Usually, biking is allowed, but a helmet is required (I just ignored the latter). The places I've been belong all to the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District and you can usually find free maps at the gates. If you like steep trails in the forest, you should go to El Corte de Madera Open Space Preserve. If you prefer to have a scenic view over the bay, ride up to Monte Bello Open Space Preserve. Both of them have in common that you have to climb up more than 2000 feet in elevation on a paved road. But it's worth the effort and it's fun to pass the cars on the way down.

I never biked up to Mt. Tam though I would have liked to do this since that's the place where mountain biking started. It's located north of the Golden Gate Bridge and you have a gorgeous view up there (we went there by car once). If you happen to do this trip, please send me a mail to tell how it was.

Looking for?

- **The Stanford Mountain Biking Home Page:** <http://xenon.stanford.edu/~rsf/mtn-bike.html>
- **Group rides:** <http://www.mtbinfo.com/cgi/rideboard.cgi?state=CA>
- **A MTB mailing list:** <http://www.best.com/~rsf/mtb/mtn-bike-mailing-list-faq.txt>
- **A book about Bay Area MTB trails:** <http://www.gorp.com/atb/califnev/g4376.htm>

Places to Visit in the Bay Area

By Thomas Zscherpel & Uwe Schulte, Germany, 1993, Roberto Castagno, Italy, 1997.

Ask your either HP manager or assistant where and for what you can get HP discount tickets. This year (1993) there were reduced tickets for ... almost everything.

The Stanford Linear Accelerator Center (SLAC)

Date: Wednesday or Friday

Price: free

Schedule: 1h Presentation and 1h site tour (lecture, slides and look at various experiments)

Location: 2575 Sand Hill Road, Menlo Park Direction: east of 280, exit "Sand Hill"
It is close and easy to find if you use the 280!

Contact: (650) 926-2204

Comment: Scientists study the structure of matter here by super-accelerating atoms into high-speed collisions with stationary objects and other atoms.

Final remark:

This tour is public, everybody can go there. The contact number is the SLAC office, they tell you the date of the next available tours and make reservations.

HP Wafer Fabrication

Date: by appointment

Time: 10:50am

Place: HP San Jose, 370 W. Trimble Road

Contacts: Mike Reichert, TelNet 435-4520

Comments:

For those who don't know what a wafer is: In the production line of computer chips a wafer is used for the production of the silizium heart of a chip. In fact the wafer is a set of silizium chips which is cut into small pieces after each silizium chip is tested. Then the chip is packed into ceramics or other materials, it gets legs, and then you can buy it in a electronic store or can find it in your computer, making or creating all the work for you !

Final remark:

This tour was private organized. I got some connections to students working at the wafer site and I asked them, if they will help me to organize such a tour. The contact Mike Reichert was the engineer who was so nice to spend his lunch hour to show us the wafer fabrication.

NASA Ames Research Center

Date: Tue 9-7, 9:30 am

Price: free

Schedule: 2 hours includes Film, Wind Tunnel, Hangar ...

Location: Visitor Center, Parson Avenue, Mountain View

Final remark: This tour is public, too.

And one place where you can go when there are no weekend plans and you don't want to stay at the beach all the time:

Winchester Mystery House

Date: every day

Price: about \$ 12.50 (includes guided tour)

Location: San Jose, Winchester Blvd 525 (there are signs...)

Comment: Meet some spirits in the Winchester Mystery House. This huge building was started 1884 by Lady Winchester and never finished. There you can see what a nuts widow does with an inherited fortune: build a crazy house (160 rooms and so on) and communicate with the spirits of those killed by Winchester guns. Nice garden.

Paramount Great America Theme Park

Date: every day, 10:00am - 11:00pm

Price: ~\$18 HP discount

Location: north San Jose, Great American Blvd. (?), exit from 101 (see a map)

Remark: try to go there during the week or train your legs to wait in line.

Mount Hamilton

If you like to enjoy at fantastic view over the Silicon Valley and watch a unique sunset, the 1.5 hours drive to the top of Mt. Hamilton is something you ABSOLUTELY should do!

Date: whenever you want

Price: it just nature, it's free!

Location: east of San Jose, take the Mt. Hamilton Rd of from Alum Rock Rd in North San Jose.

Remark: you really need about 1.5 hours to drive there because half of the way is a very(!) narrow street with lots of 15-miles curves.

Sacramento and the California State Railroad Museum

by Roberto.Castagno, Italy, 1997

Even if you are not a railroad maniac (as I am), take a day to go and visit the museum. It is extremely well done, with a lot of rolling stock to be seen, plus a very complete story of the construction of the Southern Pacific Railroad from Oakland-Sacramento through the Sierra to Salt Lake City. A very fascinating chapter of the story of America. You can also visit the old passenger station. Find information about schedules and special events (steam engines, special trains) on the California State Railroad Museum WEB site.

In addition to that, old Sacramento is quite nice (although full of souvenir shopsgrrrr). The *Wells & Fargo* museum is also interesting, telling the story of the oldest bank in the West and the Pony Express.

A good way of getting there is taking the train, the station is within walking distance from the museum and the old town. I went from Oakland to Sacramento on the California Zephyr (that continues until Chicago!), and came back on the "Capitol" directly to San Jose. Traveling by train really gives you a golden opportunity to see the country and meet people. You can check schedules on the WEB at the Amtrak site.

To finish with, I realized the Amtrak and United Airlines offer packages for a trip one way by train and one by plane. For about 300\$ (depending on the season) you can travel to Denver, Colorado (through the Sierra and the desert canyons) and fly back to SFO. You might consider this trip for a 3-day weekend.

What to Do on Weekends?

By Herbert Neugebauer, Germany, 1993; updated by Caroline Chaize , France, 1995 and Elke Gutekunst, Germany, 1995, Barto Fernandez, Spain 1998, Reto Grob, Switzerland 1998.

First of all, there are plenty of places to visit in California. Some are quite near, some are a bit further away, but distances play a much less important role here compared to Europe. This document below intends to help you to decide what you are looking for. Our best advice is:

Don't be at home. Enjoy California and its weather and travel as much as you can!

Things to consider before planning a trip:

- **book rooms at a hotel/motel or rent a house in advance.**
It happened some times to us that we were looking for a motel 11pm in the night and couldn't find anything. In general it is better to have a room in a motel with a lot free than to have nothing. At some places it is normally easy to find a motel, but if there is something special at your weekend, you have to book earlier.
- Before leaving, the one that reserved the rooms should take care, that everybody can find it. A short meeting at least with the drivers and a look at the map is everything you need to avoid any problem. At HP everybody has access to the voice-mail system, so it is easy for everyone to leave messages to the missing parties, or if someone is late, they can leave a message to the ones that are waiting.
- Don't expect that you can stay the whole day in the water if you want to go to a beach. The temperature of the water is between 50-60 F (10-16 C). This temperature is better in the South California, but anyway we aware of it!. The weather is also a bit strange at most beaches. Don't be surprised if you don't see any sun until 12pm-1pm. In the afternoon it's normally sunny and very often it will even be hot (so you may like a jump into the cold water).
- Motel 6 is generally a good deal. Prices are in the of \$30-\$40 for a room for 4 persons. They are usually located near the Highways everywhere in USA. Find one nearby to get a directory and price list.
- If you like to fly to Las Vegas, LA, San Diego etc. you will get a cheaper rate if you book 3 weeks in advance!

Below you will find a list of places we have found very interesting to visit. We have written the information in trips thinking in which interesting places are close to others interesting places. This does not mean than you have to do the same, but we think that is a very good recommendation. Anyway, be aware of the Karl's Trips⁷! They are always very interesting!

⁷ Karl (as the best friend of an EuroStudents) always organize some trips during the summer. Keep in contact with him. They are very very nice and interesting and is the best way to meet people!

TRIP #1: Santa Cruz/ Monterrey/ 17 Drives Mails/ Salinas/ Carmel

- ❖ **Santa Cruz**: This is a place that you can visit when you don't have any plans for the upcoming weekend, because it is not very far and you don't need a whole weekend, you can just go there for one day.
 - ❖ Location : 45min from south of Palo Alto / Sunnyvale taking *interstate 280 and after the highway 17* or 1.30 to 2 hours on the *highway 1*
 - ❖ Attractions: Beach, ... OK, Beach. Someone told me, that there are also some nice Bars/Restaurants/Discos to go in the evening, but I don't know for sure. At Santa Cruz there was also the "Men's professional volleyball tour" once, so check it out, it may be worth a visit.
 - ❖ Stay at: I never stayed there over night, but I think it's not too expensive and normally it should be OK if you book a room 1 or 2 day's in advance.
 - ❖ Plans: Just stay at the beach the whole day and talk to some people that know Santa Cruz before for the bars and discos there.

- ❖ **Capitola**: This cute little town with it is nice beach became our favorite place for the Sunday's. Here you "see" nice beach boys and valley girls!
 - ❖ Location: Taking *highway 17 south*, 5 minutes from Santa Cruz.

- ❖ **Monterey** : It's a typical American seaside town with a nice beach. Don't lose neither any of the restaurants at the harbor nor the Aquarium
 - ❖ Location : Taking the road 1, 1 hour of travel from Santa Cruz.
 - ❖ Attractions: Seafood and the harbor, laying down in the beach and the Aquarium. There are also a castle but I didn't go there
 - ❖ Aquarium price: If you are HP-Employee (Yes, you are) you have some privileges, like don't stay at the line to enter. Ask for discounts (every year changes).
 - ❖ Stay at: In Monterey there are a lot of Motels that are not too expensive. But check a bit earlier, it seems to be a bit more crowded that other places.

- ❖ **17 Drives Mails** : It's a very interesting place where you can see a lot of luxurious houses (someone has golf field inside). It's a very interesting place to walk (and drive) with some beautiful natural environment of the Pacific coast.
 - ❖ Location : Close to Monterey, at the south direction
 - ❖ Attractions: Walk, relax and see luxurious houses
 - ❖ Price: \$7 per car.

- ❖ **Carmel/Salinas** : They are very famous place with a very nice beaches. Concretely you mustn't miss the sunset at any of this places!
 - ❖ Location : South of 17 Drives Miles
 - ❖ Attractions: Beaches

TRIP #2: Santa Barbara/ San Luis Obispo/ Morro Bay/ Heart Castle

- ❖ **San Luis Obispo:** You will find here because San Luis Obispo is very near from very beautiful beaches. It has also the *CALPOLI*⁸. But maybe the most interesting place in San Luis Obispo is its mission, the oldest one in California's mission that remains as it was built. This mission was also a fort when the war against the Spaniards. Near the mission you will find a museum (\$2 entrance). Furthermore, the mission is placed in the downtown of the city what means that there are a lot of shops and activities in its streets.
 - ❖ Location : Taking highway 101, 5 hours from Palo Alto. You should plan to go there already on Friday evening, because of the distance.
 - ❖ Attractions: See the mission and the CALPOLI. Go to the beaches
 - ❖ Stay at: There are a lot of Motels, but believe me: make a reservation in advance! (we spent one night in the car for not booking in advance)

- ❖ **Morro Bay:** This is a very nice sea cost town in California, with the peculiarity of a little mountain in the seaside, created by the eruption of a Vulcan some hundreds years ago. This mountain is called *Morro*.
 - ❖ Location : Near San Luis Obispo
 - ❖ Attractions: The *Morro*, and also, the restaurants serve an outstanding seafood.
 - ❖ Stay at: San Luis Obispo

- ❖ **Heart Castle:** This is a REAL castle. This is the most beautiful place I have never seen. If you have seen the film *Kane Citizen* you know a lot of about the history of this castle. This film was made in this castle and its plot is based on the history of the owner of the castle.
 - ❖ Location : 1 and a half hour approximately from San Luis Obispo.
 - ❖ Attractions: Visit the castle.
 - ❖ Stay at: San Luis Obispo

- ❖ **Santa Barbara:** Probably all of you have heard about beautiful city. Spaniards founded this city, and there is a lot of Spanish buildings that are in good state. In my opinion, as I am Spanish, you cannot lose it. Anyway, Santa Barbara is, without any kind of doubt, the real California beach (with the palms, people playing Volley, Bay Batch and so on). You really feel in California
 - ❖ Location : 4/5 hours from San Luis Obispo, following the 101
 - ❖ Attractions: First of all, go to the Tourist office (in the beach) and get a plane of Santa Barbara. Here you will find his 15 most interesting attractions. From the beach, to the Mission, from the Justice House (do not forget to go up to the top of the tower) to the rich zone. Do not forget any of them, they are very ver nice.
 - ❖ Stay at: There are a lot of Motels, but believe me: make a reservation in advance! (we spent one night in the car for not booking in advance)
 - ❖ Plans You must spend at least one day visiting all the city.

⁸ CALPOLI (CALifornia POLItechnical university)

TRIP #3: Napa & Sonoma Valley

- ❖ **Napa & Sonoma Valley**: Napa Valley and Sonoma Valley are both located less than one hour north of San Francisco. They're one of the most fascinating parts of California and offer nice countryside, several state parks and several wineries (some with wine tasting for free) and historical buildings.
 - ❖ *Location* : 101 north on Golden Gate Bridge, CA 37 east and finally CA29 / CA 12 north.
 - ❖ *Attractions*: Wineries (Sterling Vineyards in Calistoga, Robert Mondavi Winery in Oakville)
 - ❖ *Stay at* : *Best Western Inn* (at jct. CA 121 & Soscal Ave, 100 Soscal; Ave. 94559 Napa, 2 beds bedrooms), *Napa Valley Travellodge* (at jct. 2nd & Coombs sts, 853 Coombs Street, 94559 Napa)

TRIP #4: Lake Tahoe / Marshall Gold Discovery Site

- ❖ **Lake Tahoe**: Probably the most beautiful lake in the world, placed at 1900 meters of altitude. You can easily enjoy its nature, and in summer makes a perfect time. The Lake offers outstanding views of its beauty.
 - ❖ *Location* : 5/6 hours from Palo Alto. Take 680 North, 580 East, 5 North and then the 50.
 - ❖ *Attractions*: The Lake itself is the major attraction. You can do almost whatever: from renting a mountain bike to a renting a jet sky, from riding a horse, to swing in the beach, from playing in the casino, to hiking in the mountain. Also, if you go to the Nevada side, you will able to play in the casinos.
 - ❖ *Stay at*: You can rent a cabin for the weekend. The Trader (HP's newspaper) has a special part for rentals in Lake Tahoe. Some of us found a four bedrooms cabin for 270\$ for one weekend in this newspaper. However, don't hesitate to check in advance for any rental if you want a good location and reasonable prices. There are also a lot of camping. You just have to check in advance.
 - ❖ You can rent a There are a lot of Motels, but believe me: make a reservation in advance! (we spent one night in the car for not booking in advance)
 - ❖ *Plans* Expend at least one weekend there to enjoy all the things that the lake offers. (if you are a nice group, the best is to rent a cabin, but do this at least with 4 weeks in advance)

- ❖ **Marshall Gold Discovery Site**: It is the place where the gold dream started. It was in this river where 300 years ago, the Americans found gold and enormous groups of people from the east, leave all to come to the West to become rich. It was the beginning of the WESTERN.
 - ❖ *Location* : 1 hour before reaching Lake Tahoe
 - ❖ *Attractions*: See the river and read all the sign to understand the America's history.
 - ❖ *Plans*: With 3-4 hours you will see all.

TRIP #5: Yosemite

- ❖ **Yosemite:** "THE" national park. No doubt it is one the greatest and most famous American national park. You can hike, climb, bike, and enjoy the nature. Just be careful with the bears...
- ❖ **Location :** Take the 680 North, the 580 East and the 120 East. It is 4/5 hours far. Alternative route (especially on Friday afternoons)->Take 85 South, 101 South, 152 East, 59 North and 140 East. It takes about 4 hours to the Arch Rock Entrance. The route is recommended for those who stay in Mariposa - it's on the way...
- ❖ **Attractions:** The beauty of the park
- ❖ **Stay At:** This is the big problem here. Yosemite is crowded the whole summer. You have to reserve months in advance if you want a campground or a cabin inside the park. Try to reserve a place for September at the beginning of the summer. However, it is cheaper and easier to find something outside the park. In Sonora (one hour away from Yosemite) and Mariposa, you will find motels at 20\$ per person.
- ❖ **More Information:** Ask Karl, he is a keen of this Park, I can tell you whatever you want to know.

TRIP #6: Lassen Park

- ❖ **Lassen Park:** Hot cooking and bubbling mud pots, steaming hot lakes and the sharp smell of sulfur - that's what you've been dreaming of your whole life?! - Then you'll have to go to Lassen National Park.

But this is only one face of this beautiful place in the northern part of California.

The park is named after Mount Lassen an (at the moment) inactive volcano that erupted in 1921 the last time. Lassen is the largest "plug" volcano in the world and offers relatively subtle reminders of its fiery nature. Hot springs, hot lakes, fumaroles or steam vents, and boiling mud pots are found in seven thermal areas within Lassen Volcanic National Park. Some of these features are getting hotter and scientists think that Mount Lassen is one of the most likely candidates to become an active volcano again.

The national park offers a lot of different hiking tours (you should always wear good hiking boots and at least a sweatshirt, because there's even in summer still some snow fields to cross), these are the ones I got my blisters from:

Bumpass Hell

One of the less strenuous hikes is the one to Bumpass hell, an volcanic hot "spot". The place got its name from the unfortunate Mr. Bumpass who lost a leg to a mud pot. It is a six miles round trip and can easily be done in 2-3 hours.

Lassen Peak

A more challenging trip is the steep switchback climb up Lassen Peak. The trail is wide and well maintained, but the last 100 yards (100 meters) lead over plain rocks. It leads you 2 1/2 miles up hill, on which you have to overcome a difference of 2400 feet (800 meters) in altitude. But the great view over the whole environment is worth the effort. The hike takes about two hours up to the peak and only one down. Bring water and warm clothes (sweater or jacket) because it is very windy up there.

Juniper and Manzanita Lake

Other nice and almost plain trails lead around Juniper (3 hours, 6 miles) and Manzanita Lake (one hour, 2 miles). Both lead through deep forests and you can be sure to meet deers and squirrels which are not a bit shy in this area.

Lassen National Park in an ideal place for EuroStudents that like nature and hiking. The area is quiet and there's not too many things to do in the evenings. But you can take the fabulous picture of a clear blue lake sparkling in the sun, surrounded by lonely deep forests and a snow topped mountain in the background back with you. (Sorry, I had to give you this description of my impressions)

- ❖ Location : Highway 80 north → 505 north → 5 north till Red Bluff → Freeway 36 east
- ❖ Attractions: The Beauty of the Park
- ❖ Stay At: There are various camping grounds in the park and cabins, lodges and motels in the area around.

Lassen Mineral Lodge
Mineral
(916) 595-4422
\$ 42

Mill Creek Resort
in the woods near Hwy. 172
(916) 595-4449
\$ 38-60

Fire Mountain Lodge
(916) 258-2983
Cabins with 1, 2 or 3 bedrooms
\$ 33-53

Black Forest Lodge
5000 Mill Creek
(916) 258-2941
\$ 40

Very good American and German kitchen. You get the amount of food you need after a hiking trip.

No guarantee for the prices !!!.

- ❖ More Information: Ask Karl, he always organize a trip to this park.

TRIP #7: Point Lobos / Big Sur

- ❖ **Point Lobos**: Point Lobos is a State Reserve. Here you can see about 250 animal species like sea otters, sea-lions, starfishes, squirrels, pelicans etc.
- ❖ Location : Take the 101 south. A little before Monterey, take the 1 until Point Lobos. It is about one hour and a half long.
- ❖ **Big Sur**: The Big Sur backcountry offers a bounty of hiking trails especially in the Pfeiffer Big Sur State Park. There you will find many Redwood trees. Some of them are even 360 feet height. Blazingly beautiful drive along the coast on Highway One. The 1996 euros got up to 15 ppm (pictures taken per mile) there.
- ❖ Location : Big Sur is situated on the coast, two hours south from Point Lobos. Take Highway 1.
- ❖ Stay at : You can rent a cabin in a campground, call the (408) 667 2322 for the reservation, the office is open daily from 8:00 am to 8:00 p.m. Four people can go in a cabin and the price was \$35 per night and per person.

TRIP #8: San Diego

- ❖ **San Diego:** San Diego is a really nice city with much nightlife but even there everything close at 2 a.m. (go out early). Check out the rectangle at 2nd and 4th street crossing market street. As San Diego is the NAVY naval base, you can visit some military sites on the island (just in front of the harbor) or go uphill to the state park in the southwest of the city and watch submarines and big battleships from a distance.
 - ❖ *Location* : It is located one hour south of LA by car or two hours south of San Jose by plane (the round trip is about 80\$).
 - ❖ *Stay at:* There is a lot of place to stay in San Diego
 - ❖ *Attractions:* The Sea world in San Diego is at least one day worth. You can see their shows with killer whales, dolphins and even sharks. Of course you shouldn't miss the beautiful LA HOLLA beach with its famous life guard stations.

TRIP #9: Los Angeles

- ❖ **Los Angeles:** What Can I tell about LA? Only one thing, you cannot miss it. LA is full of activities, life and places to visit.
 - ❖ *Location* : The trip takes like five hours for German drivers and six hours for regular ones, so if you are in Santa Clara, Sunnyvale, etc., you should try to leave at 5pm on Friday, at latest. You can drive 101 or 5. 101 has more curves, but perhaps is not as boring for driving as 5 is. If you choose the fastest and shortest (5) you can save about 30 minutes. Make sure you get a LA map when you come close to it, since it's the largest city in California - over 70 miles from one extreme to the other one!!
 - ❖ *Stay at:* There is a lot of place to stay in San Diego

1) DISNEYLAND

If you want to spend a weekend in to LA, and you want to have a lot of fun, you should go to Disneyland. Don't expect to find a huge roller coaster, but dozens of different funny stuff to ride and to walk around for over 12 hours!

Disneyland ticket cost \$36 (you can find a \$3 off bonus at HP Travel Services), and you don't have to pay for absolutely anything else. Only food, of course, but since it is only \$1 or \$2 more than McDonald's it's not a big deal (I think hamburgers are the only food you can find there).

I suggest you riding Space Mountain, Star Wars, Matterhorn, Indiana Jones, and of course Fantastic (incredible show at night-don't miss it). Try to arrive soon in the morning (9am) and to ride the most popular stuff before thousands of people arrived about 11am.

Location: Disneyland is located in Anaheim (Southern LA).

Lodgings:

There are a lot of hotels very close to it (10 minutes walking) but anyway most of the hotels provide free shuttle to and from Disneyland. Try to go with 3 or 4 people, because usually double rooms have two king size beds and you can pay the room among four guys.

Some hotels are:

Marriott Fullerton/Anaheim
2701 East Nutwood Av.
Fullerton
Ph #: 714-738.7800
Fax #: 714-738.0288
HP Rate: \$60 double room ('95 rates)

Hyatt Regency Alicante
P.O. Box 4669 Harbor & Chapman
Anaheim
Ph #: 714-750.1234
Fax #: 714-740.0465
HP Rate: \$100 double room ('95 rates)

Both of them are luxury hotels, 10 minutes from Disneyland (check current rates). Make sure you make reservations before you go there, because hotels close to Disneyland are usually sold out on weekends.

2) UNIVERSAL STUDIOS

You will find many attraction in this park: rides (don't miss Back to The Future), shows, and a visit of Hollywood studios.

The entrance to Universal studios is \$38. You get a discount as an AAA member (**\$25**). You can also get a discount if you are member of the EASI program (an program for HP -employee). Then the ticket will be cost \$30.

Location: It is situated in Hollywood, northwest from LA.

Lodgings:

You can find a lot of motels in the surroundings, if you share a two beds bedroom with four people, it will be about \$15 per night and per person.

3) THE CITY AND BEACHES

Los Angeles is a city of the extremes. On one hand the beaches of LA are the most beautiful along the Californian coast and on the other hand the city of LA, in my opinion, is not a "real" city, is known as a place with high crime rate and very dark corners.

Even though, the center of LA consists of some really impressive buildings with a lot of glass and beauty.

Some beaches at the LA coast, as for example Huntington Beach, Malibu, Venice Beach, are famous movie places and crowded with upper class people. If you are interested in shopping, of all kind of stuff, Venice Beach will be your delight. With an over 4 miles wide boardwalk along a beautiful, sandy beach with many, many people, Venice Beach offers opportunities for every one. Surfers prefer Huntington Beach with the cliffs and heavy waves.

Go to Beverly Hills and Hollywood. You can walk for hours on the Hollywood Avenue, it's really amazing how many different colors of light glitter everywhere. But try to reach one of the Beverly hills top and take some awesome romantic pictures of the LA skyline.

A word of advice from the 1996 euros: Hollywood is not nearly as glamorous of a place as it sounds to most Europeans. Actually, it's considered a 'bad area', so don't go east (away from the

sea) at night beyond where the walk of fame (the famous sidewalk with the stars). You might encounter STRANGE people. And don't stay in a motel there, because you may hear gunshots fired at 3 am in the morning, which makes you get up and lock the door and get back to bed without knowing of it in the morning. And if you jump off the second floor into the pool you get yelled at (even if there's no sign!)

There's no real path or street to climb up to the famous HOLLYWOOD sign. If you want to go there you have to sort of go cross-country. Bring hiking gear if you plan to do so.

Lodgings:

If you stay for some few days in this area I would recommend you to stay in Santa Barbara, which offers a lot (really enough) of motels and hotels for about 32 \$/night, or in San Diego, which is not more than

1 hour away from LA

1)Check out the following phones:

Free Reservation Service

(805) 687-9191

USA Toll-Free Number:

1-(800)-292-2222

Fax:

(805) 569-0726

3344 State Street, SB 93105

2)Hot Spots of Santa Barbara:

Visitor Information and Reservation Center (805) 564-1637

or

1-(800)-793-7666

36 State Street, SB 93101

3)on the web check out:

http://www.terminus.com/geni/USA/CA/travel_ca_menu.html

TRIP #10: Las Vegas / Grand Canyon

- ❖ **Las Vegas:** Casinos, luxury, money The city of the gamble. (I think that all the people know it)
 - ❖ Location : The best way to go to Las Vegas is by flight.
 - ❖ Stay at: There is a lot of casino/hotels in Las Vegas, and they are not expensive.
 - ❖ Attractions: Visit all the casinos that you can (look at the decoration), especially Caesar Palace. Do not forget to attend to a night show (they are in the street, near the casinos, and they are free).
 - ❖ Food: It is very cheap in the casinos
- ❖ **Grand Canyon:** Fantastic, beautiful, ... one of the marvelous of the world.
 - ❖ Location : Between 5 & 6 hours far away from Las Vegas.
 - ❖ Stay at: Although there is a lot of place, make your reserve in advance
 - ❖ Attractions: Do not loss either the sunset or the sunrise, they are beautiful beautiful. Also, explore something the Canyon, make a little trip for the mountains.

TRIP #11: Las Vegas/ Grand Canyon San Diego
See trips #9 & #10

Summing Up:

TRIP #	MIN TIME NEEDED	RECOM. TIME NEEDED	KIND
#1	1 Day	2 Day	Beaches, Luxurious houses, Sea town
#2	2 Day	4 Day	Beaches, Luxurious castle, beautiful houses
#3	1 Day	1 Day	Wineries
#4	2 Days	7 Days	Nature, History
#5	2 Days	7 Days	Nature
#6	2 Days	4 Days	Nature
#7	2 Days	4 Days	Nature
#8	2 Days	3 Days	Museums, city, beaches
#9	2 Days	4 Days	Beaches, Hollywood, Disneyland, Luxurious houses
#10	2 Days	4 Days	Casinos, Luxury & Incredible natural environment
#11	4 Days	7 Days	See trips #9 & #10

Remark: As San Francisco & Bay Area are very close where you are going to live, you can go whenever you want. For read more information about this places, please refer to the related sections.

A tip at the end:

For everybody who wants more information about this or other interesting spots in California, I can highly recommend the guide mentioned below. It contains detailed information about the places, their historical background, fauna and flora, and possibilities to stay including maps and telephone numbers.

Northern California Handbook (2nd edition)

Kim Weir

MOON Publication INC.

ISBN 0-918373-84-0

HP Desk, UNIX e-mail and cc:Mail

By Thomas Zscherpel, Germany, 1993

Within the first days at HP you will discover how powerful these two tools are to communicate with other people. The disadvantage is, that they also cause some trouble,

because not everybody is used to their *user-friendly* user-interface. Here is a brief description how to send messages ...

HP Desk to UNIX

For those who don't know how to send a mail from HPdesk to an email address, run HPdesk as you normally would, and use the following address format:

T

<deleted>

Example: Thomas Zscherpel wants to send a mail to Stefan Wengi:

<deleted>

UNIX to HP Desk

To send a mail from UNIX to HPdesk, use the following address format:

<deleted>

This will also work for non-hp-people that want to send a mail to your HPdesk !

Lotus cc:Mail to UNIX (Internet):

Click 'Message' then select 'New Message'. Then click on the 'Address' button and select 'Any Name or Post Office' from the Menu that appears. Then enter an address based on the following scheme into the box that comes up (or use the 'Internet Address' button):

name(internet address)/non-hp-unix

So, if you want to send a message to the internet address 'cjans@ifi.unizh.ch' you need to enter

cjans(cjans@ifi.unizh.ch)/non-hp-unix

The first 'cjans' can be replaced by anything that is unique (you can't use the same name twice, I think).

Then hit 'add to list' and select it from the list below. Then click 'OK'.

UNIX (Internet) to cc:Mail:

That's a whole different story. Sadly, HP's external (Internet) e-mail addresses are usually quite complicated (mine was christoph_jans@hp-santaclara.om3.om.hp.com). So ask your manager or adin about this. There's supposedly shortcuts of the format firstname_lastname@hp.com (e.g., christoph_jans@hp.com) for everyone, but they don't work for all of us.

Eurostudents at HP in Ft. Collins, Colorado

By Juergen Imhoff, Germany, 1992

Ft. Collins is about 5900ft. high (more than 1.6km), so if you do or plan any sporting-activities, keep in mind, you have to be trained. Ft. Collins is a perfect place for any outdoor-activities, such as skiing, climbing, hiking, caving, flying, biking. There are all sports activities you can imagine. To get around, I would assume, to buy yourself a car. When I stayed in Ft. Collins (summer '92) a reasonable price for a ten-year-old car, was around 1000-1500\$. You can resell it easily, especially, when your host-parents help you. Best newspaper is the Denver-Post, they have a large amount of used cars in their ads, but Ft. Collins paper (the coloradoan) has a good overview too. Don't expect any news about Europe, there are N O N E. Try to get in contact with all other SEED/Eurostudents; that is quite important, because Ft. Collins has not very much evening-events. We went to Denver (50 Miles) on the weekend and had much fun. HP Ft. Collins, HP Greeley and HP Loveland are really close together, so if you want to take some really good HP-impressions back home: get to know people. They offer you the best chances here, and you are very well supported by personnel. HP has an own Picnic-Area in Estes-Park (25 Miles) it is a very big place- you can rent little cabins to stay over the weekend, do hiking it is right in Rocky-Mountain National Park. Old Town is a nice place for meeting students and other folks, they have an open-air concert there every Thursday evening at 7 p.m.

Eurostudents in Detroit, Michigan!

How to Survive in Creepy Detroit?

(Judith Leuenberger, Switzerland, 1993)

...that's a question that I asked myself 100 or even 1000 of times, especially before I left the good old (?) "homeland"!!! Additionally the thought of "everybody else" in California and "one" is stucked in Detroit, the USA - Capital of murders (...don't wanna mention any numbers!).

Okay then, let's go to Michigan! Seems that I hardly have any other choice...Grrrrrrrrrrrrrrrr! But hardly arrived there, I had to revise my opinion, and worst prejudices!. So, that's enough blabla, now the facts about THE City:

1. Car Rental:

Removed by Christoph Jans in 1996. See 'Car Rentals'.

2. Lodging/Housing:

...usually found and provided by HP ... but since I didn't like the first place where I stayed, I had to look around by myself ...off we go! If you are in the same situation as I was, call one of the following persons:

- Dolores (called Dee, she's the lady I stayed with) Blake, 6569 Norwood, Allen Park, MI. 48101, phone (313) 386-4176:

- nice house (4 bedrooms) - in quiet neighborhood - just 5 minutes from work at DSC, Allen Park, Mi. - price per month (depending on the room size): \$250 to \$270
 PS. Dee would like to have another student next year, if she has a room available!
 (She's really cool ... especially hardly at home, since she works from 4:00pm to midnight!)

- University of Michigan (UoM) in Dearborn: Ask for Janice Clements: (313) 593-5570
 Janice is the responsible person for the lodging at UoM! She has lots of addresses of (mainly) students who are looking for e.g. roommates! (Got Dee's address from her!)
- Lawrence Technical University (Dearborn): Ask for Heidi: (313) 356-0200, Ext. 3945
 They provide housing just for the summer, usually till about mid August; ask for detailed information!
- Call other universities (with campus!) in this area!!!
- Ask around at work among HP and Ford employees! (There's e.g. an "electronic" note board!)

3. Work environment:

It's an unique experience to work on this Ford-Site ... actually you work for HP but you have to deal as well with the customer (Ford). It's definitely different from working on HP in California ... but it's an interesting environment!

Since we are working on customer-site (Ford), we follow their (and not HP's!) rules!!! So e.g. there is an dress code existing (I'll mention just the short-form!):

+ For Men: Suit and tie (in summer just shirt & tie :O.K.!)

+ For Women: Suit, dress, blazer, skirt (Attention: Not shorter than 3 inches above your knee!!! Otherwise it could happen, that you have to go and buy some new clothes ... I'm talking from experience!) ... but that is a too long story!!! Anyway, finally I wore most time (kind of "dressy", wide) pants! Questions? Give me a call!

4. Shops/Malls/Outlet-Stores:

---> Nice little shops (European Style?) and streets can be found if you look well enough for them! My favorite places are e.g.:

- Birmingham (most are expensive stores: e.g. Ralph Lauren, Timberland etc., but you can find as well shops like GAP (to be compared with Benetton or so in Europe!) !
- Ann Arbor (Student-Town ... really cool!)
- little towns in the country side, e.g. Tecumseh, MI. (they have lots of little shops, as well Crafts- and Art-Shops!)

---> There are "tons" of malls around, e.g.:

- Fairlane Town Center (Dearborn)
- Oakland Mall (Troy)
- Twelve Oak Mall (Novi)

- Somerset Collection (Troy) ...exclusive shopping center, very expensive but carries great stuff! Shops like: Neiman Marcus, Saks 5th Avenue, Rodier, Tiffany & Co. and many others!
- Briarwood Mall (Ann Arbor)
- etc. (most of them have the more or less the same shops!!!)

---> Outlet-Stores: The closest one is in Monroe [Tel.(313) 241-4804]:

More than 50 stores, incl. Nike, Levis, Mikasa, American Tourister etc. (ca. 35 miles southwest of Downtown Detroit)

---> Food Stores: ...not to forget!!! E.g. Farmer Jack (branches all over!), WestbornMarket (fruit and vegetables!!!) in Dearborn, Michigan Ave.! I'm sure you'll find something to eat!

5. Restaurants:

Have a look into the "Detroit Monthly" - a magazine that includes lots of interesting stuff, so e.g. a "Guide to Dining out in Detroit" [and nearby areas (incl. Windsor, Canada)] ... if you can't find the magazine in a bookstore or so, contact Mike Hurwitch (HP Software Engineer; cube # 354, Tel. [313] 390-2648) ... he's THE person for "Dining out advice"!!!

My favorite places (or least recommendable ones!) are:

- "Blue Nile": Ethiopian Restaurant ... unique experience (especially 'cause there's no silverware!)! Order the "feast" (...healthy food, I guess!)! Located in: Greektown-Detroit
- "Chilli's": American/ Mexican Cuisine; restaurants all over!
- "Fishbone's": Creolian Restaurant (New Orleans area) ... go for an alligator! (...tastes like a tough chicken!); Greektown
- "Manuel's": Mexican Food ... nice Margeritas (Strawberry!!!); located in West Bloomfield (PS.: ... for Mexican Food you also can go to Mexican-Town*!)
- * "Mexican Town Restaurant": nice and cheap Mexican Food; at Bagley Ave., nearby Stadiums.
- "Nemo's": Typically American Food (burgers...)! Go there before a Tiger's Baseball Game!!! (It's about two blocks down from the Tiger Stadium!)
- "Olive Garden": Italian Restaurants (all over!)
- "PizzaPapalis": Italian? Greek? ... one is for sure: they have great deepdish "Chicago-Style" Pizzas!!! Located in Greektown
- "Nikky's": Greek Restaurant in Greektown (... have nice, or at least special Greek Pizza!)
- "Thai Palace": ... the restaurant we go to every week! (I refer to Mike!!!) Located: Michigan Avenue
- "Hunan Hunan": Chinese (Fast) Food ... o.k. for a quick lunch! (Allen Park)
- "Greenfield Inn": Ask your Manager to take you out for lunch... (Allen Park/Dearborn)

- ...there still would be more to mention, but since I don't wanna write a new "Gourmand's Guide", I better stop at this point!)

PS. Most exact addresses of the places you can find in the mentioned magazine (Detroit Monthly)!

6. Bars:

There are for sure enough bars around, but I tried not to check out all of them! No seriously, the facts are, that I didn't go too often to bars since we mostly had private parties going on ... and when there wasn't one planned? It's so easy (I quote a friend of mine: "One goes e.g. to a ballgame and drinks and drinks and ... after the match partying goes on in the parking lot!!!" Something I first had to get used to ... if this is ever possible!)

- "Old Shillelagh" (hope spelt it right!): Irish Bar with live music!!! Pretty good beer and after a second visit there, you know the songs by heart, wow! (Everybody sings along!!!)
- "Cheer's": (...from the TV-Serie, although the original one is in Boston!) At the Metro Airport ... an useful place to go when you're supposed to fly out of town (e.g. me to N.Y.) and your plane has 5 hours and 45 minutes delay...
- "Sully's": Little Jazz-Bar ... many of them around (see article of Thomas!) Located at Greenfield Ave.!
- "Boomers": Sports Bar ... suitable for a large group!!! E.g. "Happy Hour" after work!!!
- There are more places, don't panic! Especially cool places are in Ann Arbor and Royal Oak ... just go "bar hopping" there!

7. Entertainment:

General Information you can find in the "Metro Times" - a weekly magazine with lots of tips of what there is to do etc.! This magazine is free and you can find it in several bars or just in "boxes" at the streets!

Once more (esp. regarding Jazz!) I refer to Mike!!!

- "Pine Knob"(Clarkston): Outside Music Theatre that offers great concerts from June/July to Sept./Oct.; for more info call the Ticket Master on (313) 645-6666 or (313) 377-0100!!! Ask as well where you can get the summer program (brochure) of Pine Knob!
- Baseball Games (Tigers):The Home-Games can be pretty cool ... even though one often doesn't concentrate on the actual games ... it's more the atmosphere that counts!!! (Season from April to End Sept.)
- Football Games: UoM Stadium in Ann Arbor is great! It's a unique experience to be in a crowd of 107'000 people! (It's North America's largest College Football Stadium ... I was told!)
- ... if you wanna do something "cultural": go e.g. to the Fox Theater (or another old one!). Info: (313) 567-6000

8. Places of interest in Detroit:

Are there any? Oh yeah, for sure! But I'm not THE sightseeing-type person that's why I hardly did anything like that!

A. Downtown:

- Bricktown
- Greektown (incl. Trappers Alley)
- People Mover (... good way to do Detroit Downtown Sightseeing! One ride costs \$ 0.50 and lasts ca. 20 minutes! Look especially at the "Art" in every single PM-Station!)
- Renaissance Center: (Detroit's nicest building ... and the tallest hotel in the U.S.)
- general Downriver-Area
- Fox Center (incl. Theater)
- Eastern Market etc.

B. Out of town:

- Greenfield Village & Henry Ford Museum (Dearborn)
- Belle Isle (City Park on Detroit River)
- Windsor, Canada: On the other side of the Detroit River
- Detroit Zoo: ... just for in case you get bored...
- Amusements Parks: Boblo Island, Cedar Point etc.
- for more info: --> Brochures from Info Center (refer to Point #10!)

9. Weekend-Trips:

- Toronto, Canada: About 4-5 hours drive (... must be nice; had no time to go there!)
- Chicago: A great city! It's a must to go there! About 4-5 hours drive!
- By plane you are in an hour or 75 minutes to many places ... and the plane tickets are cheap to get nowadays! So why not going to e.g. New York? (It's good fun for weekends! Especially at Labor Day: Go to the Wigstock-Festival! No comment!)
- North of Michigan (Upper Peninsula): ... must be as well wonderful for a longer weekend (e.g. Labor Day!!); about 6 hours drive!
- West of Michigan: Lake Michigan Shore's are soooooooooo nice, almost like the beaches in California!⁹
- Lake Erie
- ... and all these thousand little lakes all over Michigan! They are great to do water sports (... all kinds of! I learnt e.g. how to water-ski, used a wave runner etc.!)
- etc. (... it has no end this list!)

⁹ Remark by the editor:
That's really hard to believe ...!

10. General remarks:

At home it was for me hard to get any information about this area (Michigan, in specific Detroit)! The only article I found was in a Polyglot ("Chicago and the Great Lakes") ... that wasn't a lot! So, here is an address-list so that you have the opportunity to collect some info before you come to the State of "Thousands lakes", precisely to the Automobile City:

- Visitor Information Center: (313) 567-1170
- Michigan Travel Bureau P.O. Box 30226 Lansing, Mi. 48909-7726
(This Tourist Office has the magazine "Michigan Travel Ideas", a special edition of "Midwest Living Magazine")
- Central Business District Foundation: (313) 961-1403 (Info. Package: "Starring Detroit": Lighting Plan)
- Metropolitan Detroit CVB 100 Renaissance Center Suite 1950 Detroit, Mi. 48243
- AAA: Get a member of AAA or buy their maps (they are the best!!!):
+ AAA's Tourbook of Michigan/Wisconsin: "Attractions, Lodging and Restaurants"
+ general maps of Detroit, suburbs, Michigan etc.
- Get (buy in a bookstore or get it free in e.g. Greenfield Village) the "Visitor's Guide" of Detroit Metro a yearly (?) magazine from the Visitor's Information!

11. Last but not least...

Downtown Detroit is not as "bad" as some people assert! Sure, I would not recommend you (esp. when you're a girl!) to go Downtown by yourself, especially in the night(!) ... but when you keep your "eyes" open and if you don't provoke others, then you hardly will have any problems! (The trouble in Downtown is, that there are more conflicts between black and white people than probably in any other US-City!!!) But there's lots of stuff going on in Downtown, e.g. in summer there were lots of nice festivals, so e.g.:

- Various Ethnic Festivals
- Renaissance Center Festival
- "Taste Fest of Detroit"
- and many others...

So, don't worry about going to Detroit !!! You'll hopefully have such a great time as I had ... just meet lots of nice people and have fun with them! O.K. then, feel free to contact me if you are the lucky person who will end up in Detroit!!! (... all the others don't know what they miss!!!) ... and remember, you don't live and work in creepy Detroit (Downtown)! The suburbs are really nice (Allen Park is not bad, although up north is much nicer, but on the other hand much further away from work! I appreciated the short way to DSC!!!) Any further questions? You got my address out of the EuroStudent-Address List 1993!

So, that's all from me!!! Have a nice (nonsense: GREAT!) time in Michigan! And hopefully you feel after these 3 months as I do...honestly said, it will be hard for me to leave from here ... but since I'll come back sooner or later...

Have lots of fun!

PS. About not being in California: Try to get at least to the EuroStudent Orientation ... who knows, probably you even can connect it with a business trip and stay there at least over a long weekend...

Detroit Jazz

(Thomas Reverdy, France, 1993)

Congratulation! You won the chance to stay in Detroit during 3 months! You don't know how lucky you are, you will have the greatest Jazz experience of your live.

If you're not afraid to commute half a hour every day, try to find a room in Ann Arbor, a student only city... You will have the best choices of jazz clubs of the Metro Area (the area around Detroit).

If you are staying north of Detroit, you can find good jazz clubs in Royal Oak, Birmingham, Rochester. Especially in Rochester you have two jazz clubs: Java, a coffee house where only students (Jazz, Bebop) go and Murdock's, famous for its flutist. Java is a good place to meet students. But don't go to Rochester if you live in Ann Arbor, it is stupid.

Everywhere you are in the Metro Area, you will find more than two or three good and cheap Jazz clubs without driving half a hour. Good addresses and programs are in the Metro Times, the local free newspaper. If you don't find the Metro Times (because you are lazy), or if you want some advice, ask Mike Hurwitch, he knows a lot.

Ask Paul Maurer to take you for a Rafting trip in Pennsylvania, or the amusement park of Pittsburgh.

Two festivals you shouldn't miss: The Detroit Montreux Jazz Festival during the Labor Day week: 4 days from noon to midnight, in 3 different places, more than 80 different groups (info: 313-259-5400), and the Detroit Art Festival, gospel, blues, street art (mid September). These two festivals are free, the atmosphere is excellent, and the music is gorgeous (Dave Brubeck, ...)

You can try also some churches in Detroit, the welcoming and the quality of the music will surprise you.

I hope you will enjoy your stay in Detroit. This city has a very heavy story that gives its particular character. But it's also a poor and a dangerous city with a high rate of criminality. But you have still some "safe" places in Detroit Downtown: the Greektown (just a little street with many places to go) and the Plaza during the Montreux-Detroit festival. If Detroit is a poor and sad city, the suburbs are beautiful: many little lakes and luxurious houses. You will probably have the opportunity to try all kinds of jet ski or boats...

If you want to travel around the cheapest air ticket (return-flight) to NY is \$170. Chicago, Toronto, Cleveland, Cincinnati, Niagara Falls ... are less than 4 hours drive from Detroit. You can get the cheapest air tickets at 1-800-FLY-CHEAP.

Michigan has some pretty places to visit, like the Traverse City Bay, ...

And the Great Lakes can be very surprising ...

Eurostudents in Santa Rosa

By Petra Reisacher, Germany, 1997; few additions by Philipp Schweizer, Germany, 1998

The first question, you may ask be: “Where’s Santa Rosa?” Well, it is still in California and you can believe it or not, it is a really nice part of California.

Most of the tourists come to see Los Angeles, The Bay Area, San Francisco, sometimes The Muir Woods but nearly nobody comes to see the beautiful two Valleys Napa and Sonoma up north of The City (San Francisco). These Valleys are most famous for their excellent wine. So read the chapter about Wine-Tasting carefully. It’s a lot of fun...

1) Housing

See Chapter Housing-Family or Apartment

2) Renting a car

All the information you can see at the Chapter Renting a car are also valid for Santa Rosa.

Make your reservation at the HP-Travel-Desk. The AMEX-Counter is at Building M 1. The guys over there will help you to find the best deal for your concerns.

3) Public Transportation

In Santa Rosa

If you don’t rent a car you are in a really bad situation in Santa Rosa. During my first week I didn’t have a car and the result was that I had to use the public transportation. ☹

If you just want to go around Santa Rosa you can use the ‘Santa Rosa Bus Line’. All the buses are leaving from Down Town (on 3rd Street / corner C-Street). But don’t expect too much...

To San Francisco

If you want to ride to The City you should take the “**Golden Gate Transit**” (phone-number: 707-541-2000). During the day they have a shuttle every 30 Minutes (that’s pretty good for Santa Rosa!!!)

I think it’s about 3 or 4 bucks.

To somewhere else

You want to do a great trip to somewhere out of the Sonoma County? Take the **Greyhound-bus!** You will probably never forget this ride. I took this bus once to Sacramento. I took me about 2 ½ hours and I was more than happy to leave the bus again.

But anyway it’s a great experience. For the connections you should have a look on the Greyhound-WebPages: <http://www.greyhound.com/>

The Greyhound Bus-Station is on Santa Rosa Avenue (right after the Luther Burbank Center)

4) Shopping

1. Department Stores

Santa Rosa Plaza

800 Santa Rosa Pl., Santa Rosa Tel: 707-523-333

This is a really nice Shopping Mall in DownTown of Santa Rosa. Even if you don't want to buy something it's a good place just to hang out, drink some coffee or look at all the people walking around...

Coddington Shopping Center

Steel Lane Ave.

They have similar stores to the Santa Rosa Plaza but I guess it's a little bit cheaper there. I highly would recommend the Big 5 Sports Goods Store. It's quite big and you can get whatever you need for any Sport.

For more Shopping Center and Department Stores, have a look at the Santa Rosa Yellow Pages (online: Yahoo)

Outlet Stores

If you want to see a really big Outlet Store you should go to Gilroy in the South Bay. But if you don't want to do this long drive you can go to Petaluma.

Petaluma is a small town 17 Miles south of Santa Rosa. Take 101 south and get off at the first Petaluma-Exit. Then you can just follow the big signs: "Factory-Outlet stores".

Another outlet is in Vacaville. (for all Germans: Kuhdorf) It's about 1 ½ hour northeast from Santa Rosa. If you go there during the day you can stop a few times on the way and go wine-tasting, because you have to go through the most famous wine-tasting area: Sonoma!

Book Stores

Even if the Americans don't read a lot (I know, that's stereotype) you can find a lot of nice BookStores in every City.

In Downtown Santa Rosa they have this huge BookStore "**Barnes&Noble**". Actually it is on 700 4th Street. I liked this Store a lot. It's also a good place to stay there for a while, drink coffee and talk to the people.

Another recommendation is “**Waldenbooks**”. You can find it in the Santa Rosa Plaza Shopping Mall.

For all the other stores you can either have a look at the yellow pages or just ask your co-worker, friends, people on the street. I guess that’s even more fun.

Music Stores

If you are interested in buying a guitar, I recommend going to SFO to the “**Guitar Center**”. They have a huge choice on guitars (and also other instruments), special deals and interesting used stuff. I think there’s also a Guitar Center in San Jose.

They also have a ‘low price guarantee’ on some of their prices which means, that they’ll pay you the difference if you find a cheaper price for the same product in a certain period. Nevertheless, be careful: As Karl told me you are encouraged to bargain – he managed to save more than 30% of the price for his bass guitar (o.k. – not everyone is as smart as Karl, but you can try...). Check out the WebPages <http://www.guitarcenter.com/>.

5) Going out in Santa Rosa

Going out for Dinner

There are a lot of restaurants in Santa Rosa. Most of them you can find in Downtown. The best Web page with a really good guide for dining in Sonoma County you can find here: <http://www.sterba.com>. So, I just want to recommend one Restaurant, which was my favorite.

It is called “MIXX Restaurant”. You can find it at 135 4th Street. It is a very nice Restaurant with delicious Californian Cuisine. (phone: 707-573-1344)

Movie-time

The best day to see a movie is Tuesday. You can get Tuesday-Tickets for \$ 3 at the Airport-Cinema (101 north, Exit Airport Blvd, on the right side). To check the time-schedule of the movies see <http://www.pressdemo.com/movies>.

Tip: Don’t start with a Comedy. That’s actually pretty hard to understand. I did this and was so disappointed, because all the others were laughing in the movie-center and the only thing I was laughing about were my Popcorn. (Yes, you are right, Popcorn is not really funny)

Bars, Clubs

I haven’t been out a lot of time in Santa Rosa. Most of the time we were in The City or in the South Bay.

But I can give you at least a few tips:

A nice place to hang out is “The Cantina”. It’s on 500 4th Street. On the first floor you can have Mexican food and Margaritas and on the second you’ll find a small dance floor. I guess the best day to go there is Thursday, especially in summer if there is the **Thursday-Market** on 4th Street. This market starts at 5 p.m. and ends at 9 p.m. You can eat something at the different stalls, buy some stuff or just walk around and watch the bands or other artists.

If you like Budweiser (what I can’t understand) you should go to “**Quincy’s**” in Rohnert Park (Exit Rohnert Park Expressway, turn right and you see it on your left) on Wednesday. They offer the beer for \$1 and the best thing is, that they play really good music. A good place to dance and meet people.

At Rhonert Park you can also find a “**Chilli’s**”. We went there once having a drink at the bar and got them for free - and I still don’t have any idea, why. You may also try it: Talk a little bit to the barkeeper, tell him where you’re from at mention that you work for HP. Good luck.

There’s also a “**Family Fun Center**” where you can try e.g. to hit some baseballs which are thrown in different speeds towards you by a machine (be careful!).

The last recommendation is the “**Max’s Bar**” in the Double Tree Hotel in Rohnert Park. A lot of funny people are there and on Friday they even have live music.

And don’t forget, it’s just a one-hour drive to the most interesting City in the World: San Francisco!!

6) Wine-Tasting

In nearly every Store in Santa Rosa you can buy a Wine-Tasting Map. If you want to plan and organize your tour I would suggest to buy this map.

We just took a Mini-Van (for 9 people and one poor driver) and drove towards Sonoma. Hardly started you already can find the first Winery. Just stop, go inside and start drinking, ups I wanted to say start tasting.

If you do this for a few hours.....

A really nice Winery , with a beautiful garden is the “Benzinger-Winery” in Glen Ellen (Londo Ranch Road). If you have the time you should take part at one of their Tractor-Tours. It’s a lot of fun.

7) Vicinity of Santa Rosa

There are some further nice places close to Santa Rosa (maybe you’ll find some further descriptions of these places at different places in this guide):

It takes you about 25 minutes to drive to **Calistoga** (Highway 12 east, turn left on Calistoga Road). There you can find the **Petrified Forest**. You can see some 3.4 million old “trees” that still look quite wooden, but they are petrified! It takes you only 20 minutes to see the whole area (1/4-mile roundtrip). Admission fee is 4\$. Pretty close to this ‘little wonder of nature’ another interesting place can be visited: “**The old faithful geyser**”. Every 15 minutes a hot water fountain (60 feet high) splashes out of a little steaming hole in the earth. Admission fee is 5\$ (ask –like everywhere- for student discount).

A popular beach north of San Francisco is **Stinson Beach**. Take the 101 south from Santa Rosa and just follow the signs. It’s also an interesting place if you want to experience the nature: in the summer of ’98 a small boy was attacked by a shark...

You can also reach the popular **Muir Woods** in about 45 minutes (101 south again). Visit the famous and large redwood trees!

This is now just a short overview of Santa Rosa. Hopefully the next generations of Euro-Students can continue and improve it.

If you are the lucky one, who is going to stay in Santa Rosa, just give me a call I would be glad to introduce you to some people (it’s always good to know people, at least to hang out with)

The International Joke

By Sherri Gillmore, 10 Years Eurostudent Host, 1992

In heaven and in hell

In heaven all the policeman are American
 all the bankers are Swiss
 all the cooks are French
 all the lovers are Italian
 all politicians are English
 all drivers are German

in hell all drivers are American
 all the lovers are Swiss
 all politicians are French
 all bankers are Italian
 all the cooks are English
 all the policeman are German

Quotation

(Sherri Gillmore, 11 Years Eurostudent Host, 1993)

"All my dogs are She's, all my EuroStudents are He's"

(Sorry all female EuroStudents that you can't stay with the Gillmores, but we are sure you will have some nice parties over there!)

Learning English

This is a country, where even the little children are speaking English fluently. Therefore, we strictly recommend, that you practice your English a little bit.

Let's start right now.

If a woodchuck could chuck wood, how much wood could a woodchuck chuck?

No, you don't have to know the answer, but the pronunciation.

Let's try this one.

Sally sells seashells by the seashore

You see, you learned already some important things. Especially, we found no American who speaks "real" English. Don't be afraid to speak English, some California citizens, living here since years, probably speak less English than you do.

... it took one year to find the answer:

"How much wood could a woodchuck chuck if a woodchuck could chuck wood?"

'A woodchuck could chuck no amount of wood, since a woodchuck can't chuck wood.'

"But if a woodchuck could chuck and would chuck some amount of wood,
what amount of wood would a woodchuck chuck?"

'Even if a woodchuck could chuck wood, and even if a woodchuck would
chuck wood, should a woodchuck chuck wood?'

"A woodchuck should chuck if a woodchuck could chuck wood, as long
as a woodchuck would chuck wood."

The Official EuroStudent Song '97

Helan går!

Sjung hopp fadderallanlallanlej!

Helan går!

Sjung hopp fadderallanlej!

Och den som inte helan tar,

Han heller inte halvan får!

Helan går!

Sjung hopp fadderallanlej!

(Translation:

The 'whole' is coming!

Sing hopp fadderallanlallanlej!

The 'whole' is coming!

Sing hopp fadderallanlej!

And the one who doesn't take the whole,
will not even get the half!

The 'whole' is coming!

Sing hopp fadderallanlej!)

(... to be continued by further generations ...)

The Official Spanish Sangria (Euros 98)

EuroStudent Phone Book - Europe

(started in 1993, continued in 1995, 1996, 1997 and 1998)

EuroStudents 1993

We started this phone book for the next generation of EuroStudents. We encourage you to contact us to get even more information and good tips which are not in this guide ...

to respect privacy, this has mostly been deleted, ask your source of the document if you want to reach someone.

NAME: Boaron, Fabrizio

NAME: Campriani, Michele

NAME: Clement, Alf

NAME: Eilertsen, Petter

NAME: Erikson, Johan

NAME: Faletto, Fabio

NAME: Fleischmann, Marc

NAME: Leuenberger, Judith

NAME: Llombart, Fernando

NAME: Megel, Frank

NAME: Neugebauer, Herbert

NAME: Piquemal, Marc

NAME: Reverdy, Thomas

NAME: Schernikau, Joerg

NAME: Skar, Steinar

NAME: Wengi, Stefan

NAME: Zscherpel, Thomas

Helpful addresses in USA:

NAME: **Schricker, Karl**

(to be continued by future generations of EuroStudents)

EuroSeedy's Comments

(only the 1993 EuroStudents have to understand...)

haen	hourly examining News
marcf	midnight and running current fail
carola	crashing and rollerblading or lady abroad
llombart	leering Lew or modern business and ranking tactics
karl	keen and ravish leader
stefanw	searching the EuroSeedy for a-nother week
petter	proudly enjoying the Thunderbird each road
fàbrizio	foreign and bold racy Italian zest in Opera
jorgs	Jumbo on reaching gas station
zscherpe	zippy smartalec could have earned riches prattling euphuisms
clement	caught lascivious EuroSeedy making experimental nasty tests
stefanw	spent time exercising for alf numerous 'who's

EuroStudents 1995

Country	Name	Phone / Email deleted	Functional area 1995	Division
Finland	Kai Heikola		Marketing, Consumer research & Marcom plan.	Home Products Division, Santa Clara, California
Finland	Jani Vahvanen			
France	Pierre Beraud		Technical Marketing, Reseller support research	Network Server Division, Santa Clara, California
France	Caroline Chaize		Computer Science, Bus performance analyzer software	HP Labs, Palo Alto, California
France	Lionel Duchier-Lapeyre			
Germany	Uwe Aicheler		Research, Storage systems	HP Labs, Palo Alto, California
Germany	Constantin Buko		Marketing, Competitor intelligence profiles, Vendor databases, IT development	Market Research and Information Center, Cupertino, California
Germany	Thomas Goepel		Research & Development, WWW-pages for division, API test software.	Home Products Division, Santa Clara, California
Germany	Raquel Goldmann		Sales Management, Market Research, Business Strategies	Finance and Remarketing, Sunnyvale, California
Germany	Elke Gutekunst		Network Management Engineering	Corporate Network Services, Palo Alto, California
Italy	Maurizio Capobianco		Hardware Designer, HP-IB Analyzer	Measurement Systems Division, Palo Alto, California.
Norway	Paal Kristoffersen		Research & Development, Cable TV descrambling	Home Products Division, Santa Clara, California
Norway	Torstein Ingebretsen		Marketing, Competitive Analysis	Home Products Division, Santa Clara, California
Spain	Jesus Cruz		Marketing, Channel marketing	Home Products Division, Santa Clara, California
Sweden	Jakob Hultkvist		Marketing, Competitive Analysis	Home Products Division, Santa Clara, California
Sweden	Linda Owrin		Marketing, Marketing Program Integrator	Workstation Systems Division, Chelmsford, Massachusetts
Switzerland	Ivan Motsch			
Switzerland	Stefan Waelchli		Cost Accounting, Financial Analyst	

EuroStudents 1996

Contact detailed deleted for privacy

<i>Name</i>	<i>Division</i>
Guido Zavagli	HP-Labs Palo-Alto
Jörg M. Langer	Santa Rosa Systems Division
Maddalena Arcidiacono	HP Labs Palo-Alto
Erik Möller	Video Communi-cations Division Ridgeview / Cupert.
Christoph Jans	Network Server D. Ridgeview / Cupert.
Alessandra Pedrocchi	HP Labs Palo-Alto
Jani Hursti	Video Communi-cations Division Ridgeview / Cupert.
Patrick Sommer	HP Labs Palo-Alto
Ivan Pederini	Network Server D. Santa Clara
Martin Seibold	Network Server D. Santa Clara
Lars (Olo) Stock	Video Communi-cations Division Ridgeview / Cupert.
Elisa Meazza	HP-Labs Palo-Alto
Maj Karin Askeland	Home Products D. Ridgeview / Cupert.
Gian Luigi Madonna	Microwave Tech. D. Santa Rosa
Brent Georg Ekvern	LittleFalls Analytical Division, Wilmington
Alexander Baer	Network Server D. Santa Clara
Jochen Scheeg	
Joost Vandevondele	San Diego

EuroStudents 1997

Contact details deleted for privacy, ask your source of the document

Name	Country		
Johannes Bacher	Germany		
Joan Carol	Spain		
Roberto Castagno	Italy		
Antonio Conci	Italy		
Lawrence Delahaye	France		
Christian Friedrich	Germany		
Milan Gabor	Slovenia		
Per Gadenius	Sweden		
Elena Ghittori	Italy		
J. Matias Guerra	Spain		
Dominque Hamon	France		
Kai Holthaus	Germany		
Alexander Jaus	Germany		
Lukas K�ung	Switzerland		
Mario K�ndig	Switzerland		
Vanessa Mativet	France		
Ilari Nurmi	Finland		
Paolo Osculati	Italy		
Marc Philipp	Germany		
Petra Reisacher	Germany		
Zorione Riezu	Spain		
Stian Sand	Norway		
Marco Ullasci	Italy		
Ellen Vr�alstad	Norway		

EuroStudents 1998

Name	Country		
Alex Jehs	GERMANY		
Alex Marti	SPAIN		
Angel Cercos	SPAIN		
Barto Fernandez	SPAIN		
Caren Webber	GERMANY		
Cesar Saez	SPAIN		
Domenico Dieci	ITALY		
Esa Hotti	FINLAND		
Javier Hernandez	SPAIN		
Jose Luis Espejo	SPAIN		
Josep Maria Aymerich	SPAIN		
Lillian Waago	NORWAY		
Lorenzo Benoni	ITALY		
Marc Eberhart	GERMANY		
Markus Foser	FINLAND		
Matthias Sohn	GERMANY		
Miguel Mancebo	SPAIN		
Patrick Streule	SWITZERLAND		
Philipp Schweizer	GERMANY		
Pierre Martensson	SWEDEN		
Reto Grob	SWITZERLAND		
Rouven Kloppmann	GERMANY		

Vocabulary

Started in 1996 by Christoph Jans

Here's a (very incomplete, but hey, somebody's gotta start ...and maybe you want to add a few of them yourself) list of typically American and specifically HP terms that you may (or may not) hear all the time but haven't heard of before. But be aware that there is a lot of HP internal terms that may be specific to the group you work in. And they change all the time, too (especially names and abbreviations...)

BBQ: Barbecue (meat from the grill)

BLT: Sandwich with Bacon, Lettuce and Tomatoes

BUCK: dollar, so five bucks are five dollars

DIET: Products that commonly are called 'light' in Europe usually are called 'diet' in the U.S. (although 'light' is used in the U.S., too), so a 'Coca-Cola light' would be a 'diet Coke'. Beers usually are called 'light' not 'diet'

DOMESTIC: Americans (as any other nation) like to distinguish between what's made in their country (that's domestic) and what's not (that's foreign). This may apply to beer, cars, food, basically anything.

FOREIGN: See 'domestic'

ID: Identification. If somebody asks you for an ID they usually expect you to present them their American driver's license. Try your European one first (especially if it is a plastic card and has your birthdate on it)

KARL (Schricker): Eurostudent's best friend. **Birthday is August 17th (don't forget)**

POP: Carbonated soft drinks such as Coca-Cola or Pepsi

POUND: In conjunction with telephones, this is the # key.

RV: These huge camping vehicles you always get stuck behind on a mountain pass road

TELNET: HP's internal (and international !) private phone system.

"Z": The last letter of the alphabet is not pronounced "zed" as in British English but much more like a "C". Ask somebody about it, as it's almost impossible to put it in writing.

A tip: only use words that you really know the meaning of. You can get yourself really (I mean REALLY) embarrassed if you misuse a word.

To Be Continued ...

We had a lot of fun writing this guide, and as some of the articles have been ready after the second week, it, was even helpful to other 1992 Eurostudents. We want to ask following generations of Eurostudents to continue this guide by collecting information and stories about their great summer at HP.

As the idea of a Eurostudent Guide started two years ago with a first list of tips and tricks called Hitchhikers Guide to the Bay Area, we think that every year of Eurostudents will have their own special stories and events, and their own way to write this down.

We will try to leave the sources of this text at HP, to be continued.

EuroStudents 1992

This guide can't replace the experience everybody has to make coming to a foreign country. But we think the time at HP is too short to be wasted with doing things wrong. The next generation of EuroStudents will have new ideas and will make its own experiences, write them down like we have done it.

We leave the source of this text, written in MS WinWord, at

- Roger Milovina, HP EuroStudent Coordinator
- Bob & Cherri Gillmore, long-year EuroStudent hosts
- Karl Schricker, HP employee (AT CORP), EuroStudent friend (*keen and ravish leader*)

to make sure that it can be corrected and modified.

Have fun ... we had it!

EuroStudents 1993



Enjoy your stay in the US!

(... and remember start working on the EuroStudent guide early, so you don't leave all the work to the last ones!)

EuroStudents 1995



We think it is difficult (even almost impossible) to have more fun in a summer than spending it together with crazy European Students. You'll definitely miss it after you'll be back Europe.

Some specially chosen comments (for internal use only):

Patrick: There was no sign!!!!
Chris: Where's the Router, Pepe?
Ivan: Titttsa!
Elisa: Ivan !?!?!
Gian: I have to think about it.
Joerg: I prefer blond. I'm not kidding!
Martin: I love eMail discussions.
Eric: - no comment - (he was eating permanently)
Jani: This is too expensive!
Lars: It was perrrrrrrrrrfect!
Guido: Don't try to understand!
Lars: Where's the viking?
Erik: <burrrrrrrp!>
Madda: Pizza with pesto sauce? No, thank you!
Karl: Remember, I'm only HALF Austrian!
Majken: :-) :-) :-) :-) :-)
Jani: Did you hear about the Norwegian who....

EuroStudents 1996



3 months in California! Whatever you expect, you can make your dreams true!
Have fun!

We had a lot, especially on the ultimate Gillmore's Party as you can see below.

EuroStudents 1997



Logo created by EuroStudents'98.



We made a T-Shirt with this logo in front, our name under this logo and the HP logo in one side.

You can reuse it as many time as you want.



Here we are again in the Gillmore's barbecue. Don't miss any of them, they are essential to meet other EuroStudents, other unforgettable friends. Although a party is not a real party if there is not Sangria. Here you have a receipt of a typical Spanish Sangria

Sangria for 8 people:

- Sugar
- 2 liters of *orange juice*
- 2 liters of *lemon juice*
- 1 liters of *cognac*
- 1 liters of *licor 43*
- A lot of fruit
- Vainillia
- 4 liters of red wine (it is not necessary to be a good one).

EUROS 1998