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## 5 Reasons to Exchange Your Home in 2016

*As entertainingly illustrated in the iconic romantic comedy “The Holiday,” exchanging a cottage in the British countryside for a villa in Beverly Hills is not just a pipe dream. Here are five reasons for taking the home-sharing plunge in 2016.*

### 1. Travel on a Budget but Travel Comfortably

Which would you prefer: a typical all-in-one hotel room or a separate bedroom for each kid, a fully equipped kitchen, a cozy living room, and bicycles in the garage for family rides? Exchanging homes makes it possible to fit a full family into a full house. For a single and affordable annual fee, members of home-exchange networks can occupy whole homes, usually as many times as can be arranged. Invaluable bonuses include your hosts' insider tips on the best places to go.



Norway

### 2. Beyond Hotels and Rentals Is a Third Way

The exchange concept – one long considered a special privilege of a lucky and happy few – has now become mainstream. Well-established in North America and Europe, the idea of exchanging homes has taken root in China, Japan, Thailand, Brazil, Chile, and South Africa, and it has boomed in Australia and New Zealand. No wonder HomeExchange.com was just voted “Best Website for Booking Your Stay” by *USA TODAY*.



Thailand

### 3. Your “Home Sweet Home” Is a Key to the World

Anything someone can sleep in can be listed: boats, RVs, tree houses, primary and second homes, beach cabins, condos, mountain chalets, penthouses, houseboats, pagodas, and chateaux. Even a house on the beach in South Africa that's called the Sandcastle and really looks like one!



South Africa

### 4. Home Exchange Is Legal & Tax-Free

Since there are no financial transactions between exchange partners, they are exempt from accommodation and tourism taxes. When you settle into your exchange partner's home, you do so as an invited guest, not a paying customer. Instead of two homes sitting empty while their owners/renters are away, someone waters your plants while you take care of his swimming pool.



New York

## 5. An Ecosystem Based on Trust and Friendliness

Through verified profiles and secure messaging systems, exchange partners get to know each other well enough to use first names. As no money changes hands and both parties are equally hosts and guests, the relationship is balanced and free of customer-client concerns. Your future exchange partners are the lifelong friends you have yet to meet.



New Zealand

### About HomeExchange

*Founded in 1992 by Ed Kushins, HomeExchange.com was a pioneer of the “collaborative consumption” movement. In 2015, 65,000 members made over 130,000 home swaps across more than 150 countries. HomeExchange.com makes it easy to plan and enjoy a home exchange vacation and offers travellers a memorable, authentic experience. HomeExchange.com was voted in November 2015 “Best Site for Booking Your Stay” by readers of USA TODAY and 10Best.*

**For more information, testimonials and pictures, please feel free to contact:**

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