

My name is Zsófia Orbán, but I prefer it when people just call me Sophie (a leftover from my days abroad). I'm a simple soon to be 21 years old English major at the ELTE University in Budapest, which suits me perfectly, except for linguistics, which is my bane!

I love reading (especially Charles Dickens, Jane Austen and Jack London – hey, nobody said I have particularly interesting taste in books), listening to music (I confess I mostly listen to video game or movie soundtracks...there are so many good ones!), and playing video games (I've recently become addicted to Wii Sports - not that I have any delusions concerning my proficiency in any of the sports :D).

I live in the countryside, a bit more than 40 kms from Budapest; our second most popular lake (Balaton being the main attraction), lake Venice is about ten minutes from my house, and I love going down there in the summer for early morning swims (if I manage to get up early, that is). I have two dogs, a Labrador and a Berner Sennenhund. I love dogs, and luckily, living in the countryside in a house with a garden enables me to have two big ones! Living here comes with the drawback with a fairly long commute to my university (approximately one and a half hour), but it's worth it. I've always enjoyed the outdoors, being in nature, and taking long walks with the dogs on the lakeside is a big bonus as far as I'm concerned.

My love of nature might partly come from the fact that I've had the privilege of living in very beautiful countries, Sweden and Finland – both very green and luscious, and keen on preserving nature (even in the big cities). I do speak Swedish fluently, although my Finnish is quite poor (I'd go as far as to say almost non-existent). I'm one of those lucky people who had the opportunity to learn languages by living in various countries at a very young age (from the age of three to eighteen, with some breaks in between, in my case), so my English, Hungarian and Swedish are more or less on the same level. My only regret is that my parents didn't manage to squeeze in China, France, and Germany, then I'd be set ;)

For all that I learned to speak English in England, I speak with a neutral American accent – I attended an international high school, where it just stuck. My Australian friend resents this, but personally I have no anti-American or anti-British sentiments, so I ignore her :P

I love that I was chosen to show you guys around, and I'm really looking forward to this summer. See you soon!

