

News from the Nordic Pavilion at EXPO 2005, Aichi Japan  
 May 20, 2005

## Guest Number 500.000 visits the Nordic Pavilion



The Nordic Pavilion reached an important milestone today, when the number of guests since the official opening on March 25 rounded half a million. Actually, it was not only one guest who received the lucky number, “500.000”. Two sisters, Ayane Shigemori (9) and Yuko Shigemori (7), entered the pavilion at the same time, so both sisters and their surprised parents all received congratulation gifts from the Nordic Pavilion.

Commissioner General of the Nordic Countries, Mr. Pertti Huitu, accompanied by pavilion staff greeted the Shigemori family and handed over a few bags filled with especially selected presents from the popular pavilion shop.

The Shigemori family came all the way from Nagano prefecture to visit EXPO, and according to Mr. Noriaki Shigemori (44) the girls had really been looking forward to the EXPO trip. The Shigemori family has not yet visited the Nordic countries, but told pavilion staff that they would love to go sometime. “We have often seen pictures from the Nordic countries on television, and it really seems like a wonderful region – so beautiful!”, Mr. Shigemori said. The family especially mentioned the Norwegian fjords, which they dream of viewing from the sea.

Due to cold weather, visitors were fewer than expected during the first month at EXPO 2005, but the arrival of spring has brought a boom in visitor numbers. The “Golden Week” in the beginning of May was a week of records for both the Nordic Pavilion and EXPO as a whole - and the Nordic Pavilion has maintained high visitor numbers since. Approximately 11% of all EXPO guests visit the Nordic Pavilion.



You can find more information about the Nordic Pavilion on our website,  
[www.nordicatexpo2005.org](http://www.nordicatexpo2005.org)

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