

She Got a Clean Room and a Friend for Life in Edinburgh

Traveling through Europe after graduating from Boston University, Chelsea Henderson made a friend she will never forget.

"I was staying in a youth hostel in Edinburgh, and I had slept really late one morning. Someone came in to clean up the room and hadn't seen me sleeping. Well, he broke out the vacuum cleaner and was cleaning away, while singing at the top of his lungs. It really scared me and I practically jumped out of bed! I guess I sort of freaked him out, too, because he dropped the vacuum. We both started laughing."

They started talking and found out they went to college near each other.

"He was an American and had graduated the year before and gone traveling through Europe. When he came to Edinburgh, he fell in love with the city and decided to stay. He was cleaning rooms at the hostel for room and board, and tended bar at a nearby pub for extra money. He said he was never going home."

The next day, he took Chelsea around Edinburgh, showing her the castles, museums and famous buildings.

"He was the perfect tour guide because he had been living in Edinburgh for four months. He knew every place to go. That night we went to see a band play at a pub and we stayed up half the night talking. He was a great friend; I still get letters from him once in a while."



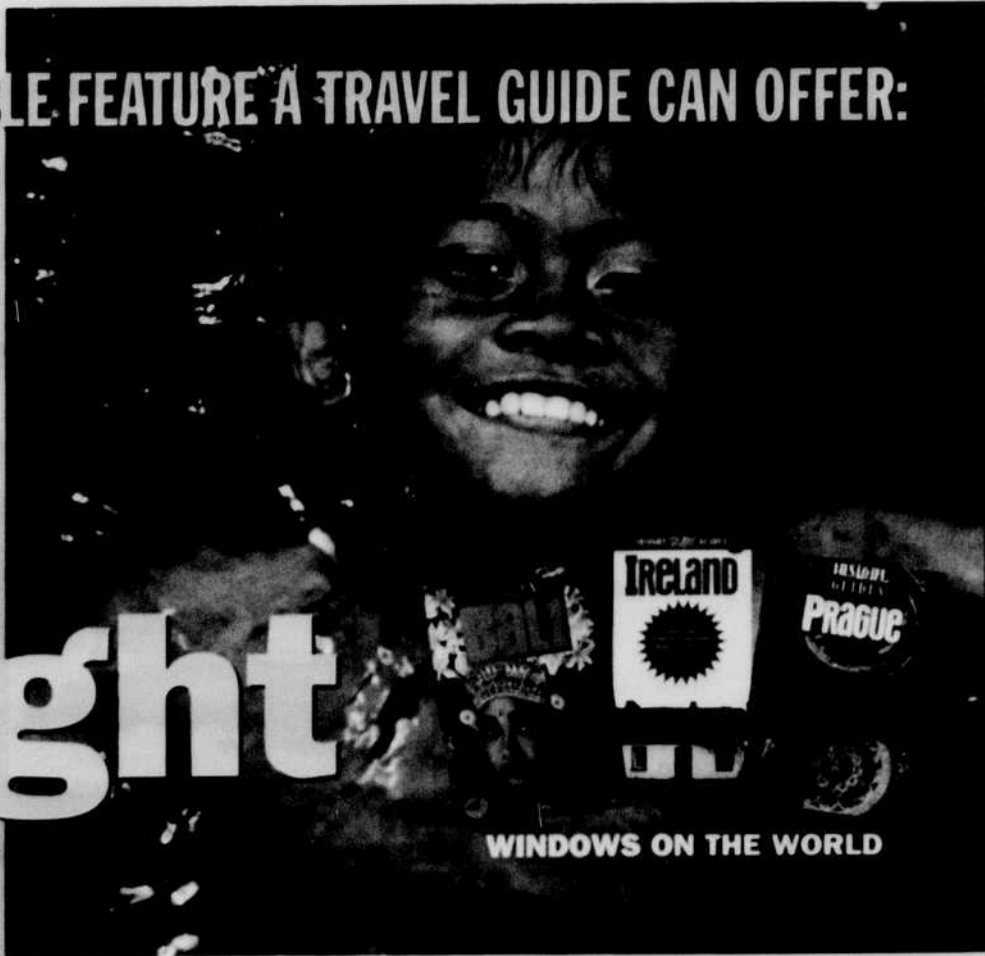
Chelsea Henderson learned all about Edinburgh from a friend she met in a hostel.

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