



The question: What would happen if we sent a message to our friends just establishing a date, a time and a place? And what would be the result if they sent the message to their own friends? How many people could we have at the end? How could this end up? Could we get what we wanted - that people let themselves do something different from the conservative way of celebrating New Year's Eve? Could we get those people to join us in this strange plan? Take a flight, go somewhere else -Amsterdam, for instance- where they would meet other people, most of them unknown, all of them merged just because of a call from the Big Net?

This is the question we put to ourselves in 2006. And that was the question we sent to all the people we wanted to answer. And, we have to say that since then, in these four years, that question has been continuously giving us amazing, precise and forceful answers.

amsterdam06

69 people met in Amsterdam that very first time. As with all first times, Amsterdam was full of emotion, surprises and happiness. And this also demonstrated to us that we were 69 people and not one of us was crazy (or, perhaps, just all of us...) [Visit this page.](#) [And this one.](#) [And this other one.](#)

lisbon07

Lisbon was our confirmation. We launched the call very late, already in December (it had been a bad year for the three of us). But the answer we had, in just a few days, was amazing. **48 people** joined us and met in Lisbon. [Have a look here.](#)

berlin08

Cold, very cold outside and warm, very warm inside our souls. In the Zapata Café they are still wondering where **those 98 people in green t-shirts** came from. There were 98 of us, but when we left the Zapata, lots of people joined us, just infected by our mood. [Look at these pics on Facebook!](#) By the way, we even had an article in Cafebabel! [Read it!](#)

marrakech09

This was our baptism out of Europe. We were thinking that this time we'd have less people coming... but we ended up with **114 people**, having dinner with candles because of the black-out in the riad near Djemma El Fna. [Have a look at some of the photos on Facebook!](#)

Now the News. This year, our 5th anniversary ☺ will also be the last year we, the Non-Organizers of the event, will be non-organising! The decision has not been easy, but one of the principles of this event has always been to go with the flow. Now is the time to give to others the opportunity to take this project forward and see where it can go.

But, hey, don't be sad about this! OK? We still have so much to do. And this year our job will be a special one. Because we're going to close the circle where it began: in **Amsterdam!** So, let's start!

day, hour, place

Same hour and same place, just like five years ago: 30th of December, at 20:00 in the **Leidsplein Square**, in front of the Bulldog. We are speaking with a couple of places which are possible locations for after our meeting in the square.

requirements

Very few of them and they're very simple. Again, as a tribute to that first New Year's Eve, you'll have to wear a **RED** t-shirt. As usual, the minimum you'll have to have on your red t-shirt is the number of your flight voucher. The maximum we'll leave to your imagination. Be aware that the most imaginative ones will win a prize! (And, by the way, we accept bribes...)

Another requirement is to bring with you a **HIPFLASK**. Yes! A hipflask filled with your favourite spirit.

And finally, the most important requirement: this is not an organised party. Forget all those things about New Year's Eve. You will not know what you're going to do every minute of the day. Everything is improvised. Everything will come naturally. We **DO NOT** organise anything. Things just happen. Trust us - it works! **The only thing you'll have to do is participate with positive feelings**, and the magic will do all the work!

accommodation

At www.hostelworld.com you can find a bit of everything. But **PAY ATTENTION**: do not panic if this page or the page of another hostel tells you that they have no available rooms, they may only offer a percentage of their available rooms on the internet. This means that if you call them and tell them that you're going there, you'll (usually) have no problems. Obviously, don't wait until December to do that (also for the flights). Remember: first come, first served.

We are going to stay at the **Hans Brinker** (www.hans-brinker.com). That was our first choice five years ago and most of us were in the same place. Nobody regretted it! (It's a very special place.)

IMPORTANT: this hostel organizes a party on the 31st of December and you must pay for it if you're staying there (€50). The party was amazing! It starts at 17:00 and you can eat and drink all you want. It's not necessary to stay there all night, but it is a good starting point (and/or end-point...
☺)

Prices at the Hans Brinker Hotel for this New Year's Eve: a single-room is €53.50 per person per night. A double room is €36.50 per person per night. A room with three beds is €31.50 per person per night. Rooms with 4 and 5 beds are €25.50 per person per night. Rooms with 6 and 8 beds are €22.50 per person per night. It seems that the 8 bed rooms are already full. For this reason **we highly recommend you not to wait - make a reservation as soon as possible!**

IMPORTANT: as this is high season, there is a minimum booking period of 3 nights.

It's very easy to make a reservation in the heaven called Hans Brinker: call or write to sybil@hans-brinker.net.

When booking, use the keyword "PETAKA" (which means "hipflask" in Spanish) in your call or email as this will help us to stay together in the same rooms with other PETAKIANOS (or hipflaskers ☺).

how to...

When you receive this email, just **forward it to all the friends** you think would like to join the event. Then write and tell us you want to join. So you to know how the situation is evolving, we'll send you an email every week giving you news about the event and the number of people who have already joined. After this step, we'll make a mailing list of all the people who have joined up and we'll write among ourselves. But we'll add all those people later.

Two simple rules:

- Confirm your attendance only when you've booked your flight.
- Write to the three of us: Antonio (antonio.aguilella@gmail.com), Gasch (jaggasch@hotmail.com) & Emiliano (tradbruno@yahoo.es) and copy us in if you're sending this to a friend, so we'll have the addresses of all the potential hipflaskers. This means we'll be able to send everyone news and the number of people who have joined every week.

facebook

Group on Facebook:

<http://www.facebook.com/event.php?eid=137436276303702#!/group.php?gid=263449916088>

Event on Facebook:

<http://www.facebook.com/event.php?eid=137436276303702>

That's all. Well, not quite. We cannot end this without sending an enormous THANK YOU to all those of you who have joined us every year, who those have come along just two or three times, and to all of you who will join us for the first time this year. All of you have contributed to create the special magic which we have experienced and will experience again this year.

WE WANT YOU TO COME! To close this circle. To open a new one. But, especially, to contribute once more, to make of this New Year's Eve the best New Year's Eve we've ever had.

30th December. At 20:00. Always.

GASCH, EMI Y ANTUÁN

(thx to Joanne for proofreading all this ☺)