



### **What is “Gezellig”?**

Gezellig is a marvelous Dutch word that captures so many things all at once. Gezellig means the atmosphere created when bringing friends, family, acquaintances, colleagues, or strangers **together** in a good, fun, warm, jolly, friendly, loving, peaceful, inspiring atmosphere to have a memorable, cozy time.

### **The keyword is “together”.**

Even though, sitting on your own in front of a blazing fire with hot chocolate or a glass of cognac and beautiful candle light, is warm and cozy, it can never be “gezellig” just on your own. In a situation like this, you would call your other half and ask him or her to come and sit “gezellig” with you! It is the commitment to connect with others.

### **What makes a “gezellig” moment?**

- Having a meal or a coffee with family, friends, or colleagues.
- Just being with people in an inspiring atmospheric setting.
- Having the neighbor knock on the door unexpectedly on a Saturday morning for a cup of coffee and being welcomed with open arms rather than shooed away because you have so much to do.
- Playing a game of soccer, hockey, tennis, golf or any other sport and, after a fierce battle to win, enjoying a friendly drink with your team and the opposition.
- Ice-skating, and, along the route, meeting family and/or friends and having a cup of hot chocolate at the stand(s) that are lined up along the route.
- Spending the day at the beach or a lake with a large group of friends and family, playing volleyball, Frisbee, and eating delicious food from huge coolers.
- Being in the mountains skiing and having a break in a mountain-hut with your ski-school or family or friends.
- Cuddling up with your family in bed while watching TV together, or reading the newspaper together.

### **What is not “Gezellig”?**

- Having a quick dinner at a restaurant while half the time your companion(s) are checking out the scores on the TV behind you.
- Having a family dinner with the kids but they are answering their cell phones or texting.

In the above circumstances, no connection is made, no warm atmosphere is created, and no shared memories are created.