

SWEDE DREAMS ARE MADE OF THESE

MODELING SURE TAKES YOU PLACES—WANT PROOF? SWEDEN'S VICTOR HELIODOR HAS ARRIVED ON OUR SHORES

The Swedes are such wonderful people—adventurous, friendly, and open-minded. A lot of them work hard for quite a long time to save money and then spend the next few months traveling the world. But 23-year-old Victor Heliodor gets to combine both work and traveling. It's the life of an international model, and it suits him just fine.

Though he calls Karlstad his hometown, he has his mind set on seeing the world. "I cannot stand routine," he says. "I can't wake up in the morning and do the same thing every day." So modeling seems like the perfect job for this tall, blue-eyed looker. But it wasn't even in his plans in the beginning. He first went to London to study acting, but eventually got introduced to the world of runways by friends. A friend who was working in Shanghai helped Victor jumpstart his modeling career, so he flew off to China where everything began.

"I wanted to be an actor, but when I started modeling, I found out I enjoyed it more," he explains. He likes to be active, and because of this, he doesn't even watch movies or TV. "I get very restless, even if it's a good film," he explains. "I don't want to be idle. I like keeping

busy." He enjoys modeling because it allows him to work on something creative and fun for one day, and then do something totally different the next. And unlike the movies, it's not one long drawn-out affair. "I'd want to combine both if I had the opportunity," he adds. "But I'd like to do modeling more."

He's modeled in London, Shanghai, Hong Kong, Kuala Lumpur, and now, Manila. "I like going to different countries and not knowing when your next project is going to be, what kind of shoot you are going to do, or who you will meet," he shares. "I like the unpredictable."

This is the life he wants for himself, and he can't imagine doing anything else. "I have a friend who is 60, and he's still modeling," he says of the longevity in his chosen career. "It's something I want to do for a long time, maybe mixing it with acting." We're quite sure we'll be seeing more of him as the years go by.—WG

HELIODOR'S TRAVEL TALES

SWEDEN... I love nature. The area is very big, but we are only 9 million people. It's never too crowded, and you can always commune with the mountains, forests, and beaches.

LONDON... It's so much bigger than Sweden, and it's very international. But London can be a little bit predictable, and it doesn't have much nature. I still like it though.

SHANGHAI... My first city in Asia. I've traveled a lot in Europe, even in Barbados, but Shanghai is very special to me. Everything's so different. It's such a big city where you don't know the language and the culture, so it was very interesting.

HONG KONG... My favorite place. I went to Hong Kong in between my stay in Shanghai, and I told myself, "I must move here after." I love everything about it—the city, the islands. I love beaches, the hot weather, the nice people, and the nightlife. It's the best!

MANILA... I actually didn't hear nice things about Manila from other people. But I was very surprised when I got here. I like it very much. The people are very friendly.

NEXT STOP... I want to go to three Asian countries while I'm here. Maybe Tokyo or Bangkok. After Asia, I would like to try America.

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KIM MARVILLA