

# ARKITEKT

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ARCHITECTURE  
AND STYLE OF  
THE CUBE  
HOUSES



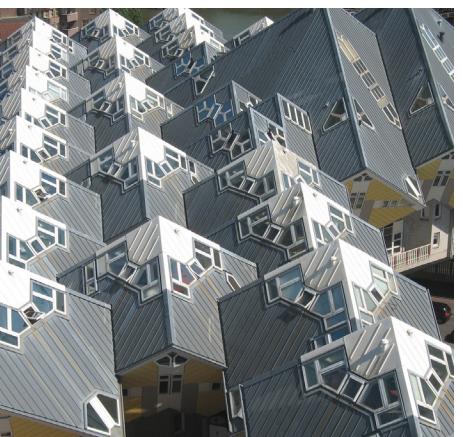
# CUBE HOUSES



*Rotterdam,  
The Netherlands*

Rotterdam Netherlands is a place filled with modern architecture and the Cube Houses are one of the city's most iconic attractions. These 38 interconnected cubes were designed by the architect Piet Blom in 1977. These unique houses provide a unique way of living. The Cube Houses are constructed above the Blaak Subway Station in Rotterdam.

# Piet Blom



Piet Blom designed this peculiar living space with the thought of "living as an urban roof". Tilting the traditional cube shape of living space by 45 degrees and placing it on top of a hexagon-shaped pylon. All the cubes (houses) are interconnected, each cube represents a tree and altogether creates a forest. The design represents a village within the city. Its main purpose is to improve the distribution of the space inside.

Let's talk about the beginning of these houses. The first test versions were constructed in 1974. Three years later, in 1977, 18 houses were made in Helmond. The houses located in Rotterdam were designed in 1977 and originally they were going to be 55 but only 39 were built.

What do these houses contain? A ground floor entrance. The first floor has a living room and open kitchen, the second floor has two bedrooms and a bathroom and the top floor is sometimes used as a small garden. There is also a museum of chess pieces under the Cube Houses. In 2009, the big cubes were turned into one of the leading hostel chains in Holland.

The residences were constructed on concrete pillars with wooden framing. They are three-floors tall, their ground floor is the entrance. When you step inside, the first thing you'll notice is that all the walls are slanted.

It has a staircase within each pylon that leads to living areas that total approx. 100 square meters per home. This design is an example

a pedestrian bridge. It's a traffic free area that has studios, small offices and even a small children's playground.

If you decide to visit, we recommend to visit other places relatively near these unique houses. In recent years, Rotterdam's Cube Houses have been joined by another architectural icon just across the square. Rotterdam's Market Hall,



of abstract modern architecture, the architect used distinct geometric shapes and asymmetrical designs to capture the aesthetic of futuristic treetops.

The Cube Houses are located next to restaurants and cafés right on their doorstep. These houses are also

the largest indoor market in Holland, is another multipurpose residential and retail development that will live long in your memory – as well as helping to fill your belly with tasty treats. Make a day of it with a Hop on Hop off sightseeing tour of Rotterdam, which stops right at the door.



Piet Blom was born on February 8, 1934 in Amsterdam. He grew up in the working-class district of Jordaan, where his parents ran a vegetable/potato trade. He initially attended craft school and became a carpenter. He was able to express his urge to design at the Academy of Architecture in Amsterdam. He was a member of the PROVO movement. Piet Blom is considered part of 'Structuralism'. In 1962 Blom won the famous Prix de Rome for a children's village design.