Amsterdam is the capital of the Netherlands, a multicultural city known for its UNESCO-listed canals, historic architecture, and vibrant cultural scene, including world-renowned museums like the Rijksmuseum and Van Gogh Museum. The city's progressive, liberal culture is also reflected in its famously liberal policies regarding cannabis and sex work, which contributes to its significant tourism industry. A popular and efficient way to explore the city is by bicycle, a mode of transportation deeply embedded in Dutch culture.

Key Characteristics

* + **Canals and Architecture:**

Amsterdam is built around a network of picturesque canals, a significant part of its unique and historic urban landscape, recognized as a UNESCO World Heritage site.

* + **Cultural Hub:**

The city is a major financial and commercial center for the Netherlands, boasting a thriving cultural scene with world-class museums, lively markets, and a vibrant nightlife.

* + **Liberal Culture:**

Amsterdam is known for its progressive atmosphere and liberal policies, particularly concerning cannabis use and legalized prostitution, a significant draw for tourists.

* + **Transportation:**

Bicycles are a primary mode of transportation for residents, and the city's canals offer unique perspectives through boat trips.