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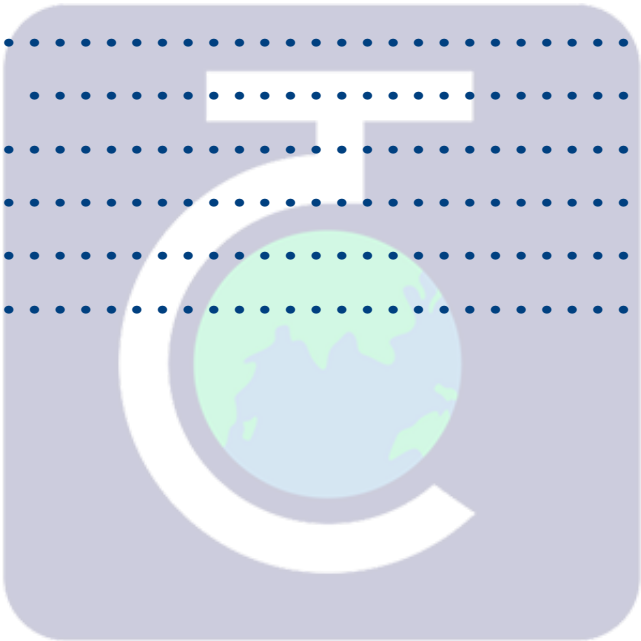
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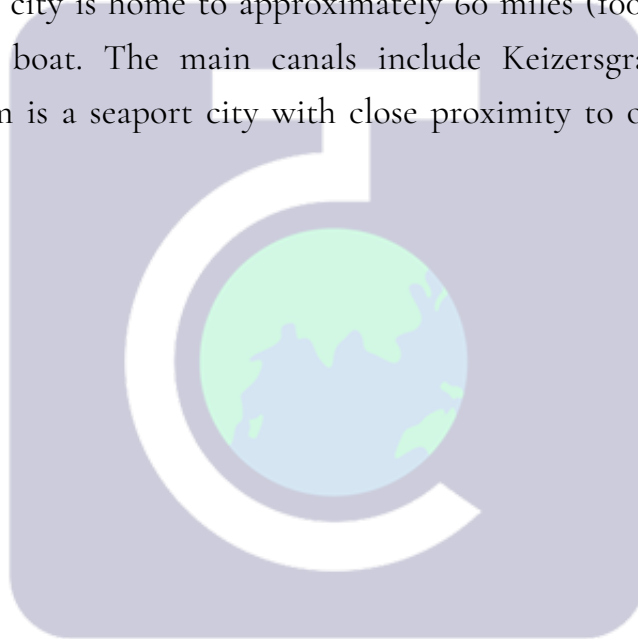
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1. Geographical location

Amsterdam is the Capital city of Netherlands and the most populous with at least 842,343 residents (within the city area), 1,340,725 within the urban area and 2,431,000 in the Amsterdam metropolitan area. It is located in the mouth of Amstel River, North Holland province situated in West Netherlands. Having an average elevation of 13 meters above sea level, the city covers an area of 219.4 square kilometers (84.7 sq. miles). Nature reserves and parks make up of 12% of total area of Amsterdam. The city is home to approximately 60 miles (100 km) canals and most of them are navigable by boat. The main canals include Keizersgracht, Prinsengracht and Herengracht. Amsterdam is a seaport city with close proximity to over 90 islands linked by more than 1,200 bridges.



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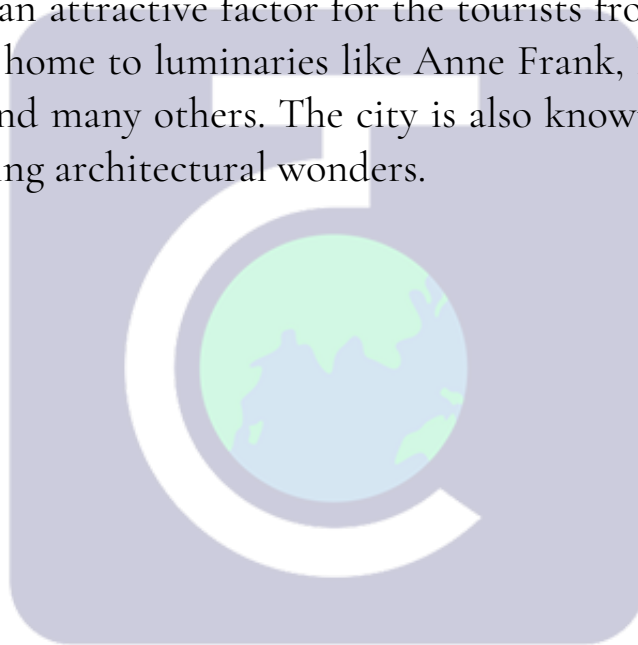
2. Neighbouring cities/countries

Many Foreigners Confuse The Hague To Be The Capital Of Netherlands As Most Of The Administration Activity And Government Offices Are Located There. However Amsterdam Stands As The Cultural Capital With Lots Of Tourists Activities That Attracts Over 4 Million Visitors Annually. It Is Located 60 Km From The Hague Which Takes 50 Minutes By Train And 40 Minutes (driving Time). Rotterdam Is 75 Km Away, Arnhem Is 100 Km, Groningen 185 Km And Middelburg Is 170 Km Away From Amsterdam. Other Major Cities Located Near Amsterdam Include London (365 Km), Moscow (2,157 Km) And New Delhi (6,371 Km).



3. Significance

The cultural capital of Netherlands is also the centre of commerce and finance. Right from the 17th century, Amsterdam has been the hub of trade activities. With two World Heritage Sites and many other historically and culturally significant places along with a beautiful landscape, the city is one of the most visited international tourist destinations today. The rich cultural heritage of the city has always been an attractive factor for the tourists from all over the world. This capital city was home to luminaries like Anne Frank, Rembrandt van Rijn, Vincent van Gogh, and many others. The city is also known for its crisscrossing canals and breathtaking architectural wonders.



4. History

The origins of the city of Amsterdam started off as a village on the River Amstel. Eventually by the time the Middle Ages came, Amsterdam had already progressed rapidly and was beginning to get recognized as a trade center. A number of fire disasters devastated Amsterdam in the 15th century, however it found its progressive streak again in the 16th and 17th century. By the dawn of the 18th century, Amsterdam continued to attain more wealth and came to be known for its forbearance. The Industrial Revolution in the 19th century further helped the city find its feet and transform itself. Modern Amsterdam faced riots due to food supply shortages in the wake of the First World War. When the Second World War happened, a large number of Jews got deported from the city. After the war ended, Amsterdam revived back to its full health. The 60s saw the surge of the hippies culture. A great number of museums opened up in Amsterdam in the late 20th century and early 21st century.

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5. Cultural identity

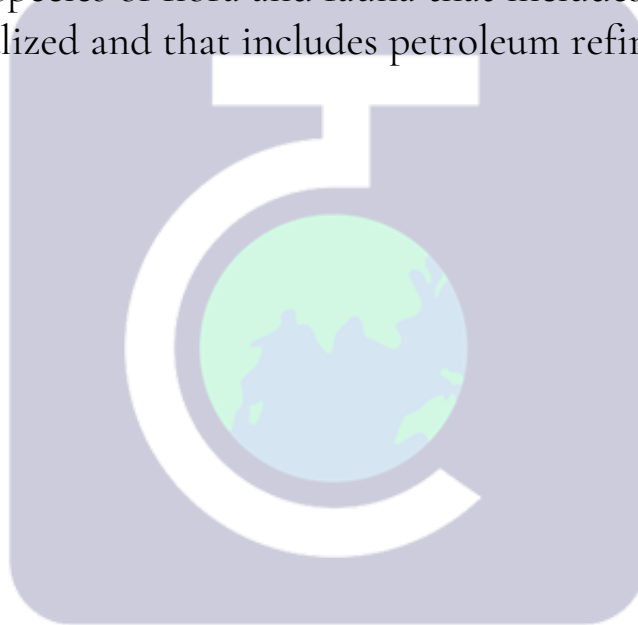
Amsterdam culture is deeply rooted in its love for poetry, drama, ballet performances and theater. Over the course of many centuries, all kinds of performing arts have come to define the cultural sensibilities of Amsterdam. Plus, the city also has a plethora of museums where visitors can go and check out how the history of the city and country has evolved over the several eons. The music culture of Amsterdam has number of nostalgic melodies. This city is home to the iconic Heineken Music Hall where a number of international concerts and performances. The Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra is another signature landmark of the city's cultural fabric. A number of festivals and sporting events have also come to headline Amsterdam's cultural vibrancy.



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6. Natural resources

It has a rich reserve of natural resources that includes mostly of terrain and high quality of clay and barite. It has a rich reserve of soil, iron ore, water, gypsum, coal, wind, natural gas, petroleum, silica, zinc, salt, lumber, tin, iron ore, limestone, rocks, arable land, clay, slate, chalk, bauxite, uranium, lignite, manganese and coal. The major crops are wheat, barley, rice, maize, potato, etc. It is a home to various species of flora and fauna that includes endangered animals. It is heavily industrialized and that includes petroleum refining, food processing, electrical machinery.



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7. Key site seeing places (paid and free)

7.1. Paid

7.1.1. Amsterdam Museum

Take a trip back to Amsterdam's past, at the Amsterdam Museum which stands as a crucial edifice in the city. The museum boasts of a vast collection of various artefacts, artwork, and historical exhibitions, apart from its art treasures, making it a favored stop for locals as well tourists.

Address : Kalverstraat 92, 1012 PH Amsterdam, Netherlands

Zipcode : 1012

Location : 52.36998740000001, 4.889974100000018

Contact : +31-205231822

Website : <https://www.amsterdammuseum.nl/>

Nearest Public Transport : Amsterdam, Spui/Nieuwezijds Voorburgwal Light Rail station

Entry Fee : Adults: €12.50 Children (5-18 years): €6.50 Children (0-4 years): Free admission

Open & Close Timing : Daily 10:00hrs-17:00hrs

Time Required : 2

Expected Wait Time : 20 minutes

Buy Ticket : Yes

7.1.2. Rembrandt House Museum

Unravel the unknown aspects of the renowned painter's life and his artistic craft at Rembrandt House Museum. The former house of the painter, it has been restored to its 17th-century dignity and proffers a glimpse into his everyday life. Browse through the collections of his sketches, paintings, and etchings along with several archaeological items recovered recently.

Address : Jodenbreestraat 4, 1011 NK Amsterdam, Netherlands

Zipcode : 1011

Location : 52.369369, 4.9012351000000008

Contact : +31-205200400

Website : <http://www.rembrandthuis.nl/en/>

Nearest Public Transport : Amsterdam, Waterlooplein/Valkenburgerstraat Bus

Station

Entry Fee : Adults: €13 Children below 6 years: Free admission Children aged 6 to 17 years: €4 Museum card: Free admission ISIC card: €10

Open & Close Timing : Daily 10:00hrs-18:00hrs

Time Required : 2

Expected Wait Time : 10 minutes

Buy Ticket : No

7.1.3. Rijksmuseum

One of the world's most renowned museums, Rijksmuseum is the Dutch National Museum and illustrates the art and history of Holland from Middle Ages to the present. Visit the Night Watch, Gallery of Honor, centuries-old doll houses, Delft Blue Pottery, Cuypersbibliotheek as well as 8,000 objects spread across 80 rooms in the museum depicting the history of 800 years of Dutch art and history.

Address : Museumstraat 1, 1071 XX Amsterdam, Netherlands

Zipcode : 1071

Location : 52.3599976, 4.8852187999999614

Contact : +31 900 0745

Website : <https://www.rijksmuseum.nl/>

Nearest Public Transport : Amsterdam, Ruysdaelkade/Stadhouderskade Bus Station

Entry Fee : Adult above 18 years: €17.50 Tourists below 18 years: Free Entrance EYCA card holders: €8.75

Open & Close Timing : Daily 09:00hrs-17:00hrs

Time Required : 2

Expected Wait Time : 20 minutes

Buy Ticket : Yes

7.1.4. Natura Artis Magistra

Labeled as the oldest zoo in the country and mainland Europe, Natura Artis Magistra is a beautiful zoological garden situated right in the hub of Amsterdam. Founded in 1838, it boasts of an aquarium, planetarium, arboretum, as well as a modest collection of art. An abode to 27 monumental buildings, experience the secret life of canals at the aquarium, travel through time in the planetarium, see

numerous species of birds at the Bird House, and surround yourself with butterflies in the Butterfly Pavilion.

Address : Plantage Kerklaan 38-40, 1018 CZ Amsterdam, Netherlands

Zipcode : 1018

Location : 52.3660003, 4.91653210000004

Contact : +31-9002784796

Website : <http://www.artis.nl/nl/>

Nearest Public Transport : Amsterdam, Plantage Lepellaan Light Rail Station

Entry Fee : Adult (Artis): €20.50 Adult (ARTIS & Micropia): €27.50 Children 3 years to 9 years (ARTIS): €17 Children 3 years to 9 years (ARTIS & Micropia): €23.50 Children (0-2 years): Free admission

Open & Close Timing : 1st November to 28th February: 09:00hrs–17:00hrs 1st March to 31st October: 09:00hrs–18:00hrs Every Saturday in June, July and August (ZOOmeravonden): 09:00hrs–sunset

Time Required : 2

Expected Wait Time : 30 minutes

Buy Ticket : Yes

7.1.5. Van Gogh Museum

Located at the Museum Square in the Southborough, this is an art museum dedicated to the works of Vincent Van Gogh and contains the largest collection of his paintings. Attracting visitors from all corners of the globe, it houses more than 200 paintings, 500 drawings along with works of other artists that include his fellows impressionists and postimpressionists and stands among the 25 most popular museums of the world.

Address : Museumplein 6, 1071 DJ Amsterdam, Netherlands

Zipcode : 1071

Location : 52.3584159, 4.881075600000031

Contact : +31-205705200

Website : <http://www.vangoghmuseum.nl/>

Nearest Public Transport : Amsterdam, Van Baerlestraat Light Rail Station

Entry Fee : Adults: €17 Children aged 18 and below: Free admission Museumkaart holders: Free admission CJP card holders: €14

Open & Close Timing : Saturday to Thursday: 09:00hrs–17:00hrs Friday:

09:00hrs-22:00hrs

Time Required : 2

Expected Wait Time : 10 minutes

Buy Ticket : No

7.1.6. Stedelijk Museum Amsterdam

Standing in a 19th-century building, Stedelijk Museum is a prime destination in Amsterdam for appreciators of design and modern and contemporary art. It is renowned as one of the most interesting and innovative museums of modern art across the world and draws rich references to the Dutch art and culture.

Address : Museumplein 10, Amsterdam 1071 DJ, The Netherlands

Zipcode : 1071

Location : 52.35801110000001, 4.879755400000022

Contact : +31-205732911

Website : <http://www.stedelijk.nl/>

Nearest Public Transport : Amsterdam, Van Baerlestraat Light Rail Station

Entry Fee : Adults: €15 Children (29 years or younger): €7.50 Children below 18 years: Free admission

Open & Close Timing : Saturday to Monday: 10:00hrs-18:00hrs Friday: 10:00hrs-22:00hrs

Time Required : 2

Expected Wait Time : 20 minutes

Buy Ticket : Yes

7.1.7. Hermitage Amsterdam

Sited on the banks of Amstel River, Hermitage Museum is a massive exhibition space and cultural center with an exceptional focus on the Russian history and culture and is spread over an area of 12,846 square meters. Marvel at the classical style of construction and span through the paintings, graphic works, sculptures, art and archaeological discoveries as well as 2 large exhibition halls and smaller exhibition rooms.

Address : Amstel 51, 1018 EJ Amsterdam, Netherlands

Zipcode : 1018

Location : 52.3652858, 4.902401499999996

Contact : +31-205308755

Website : <http://www.hermitage.nl/nl/>

Nearest Public Transport : Amsterdam, Waterlooplein Subway Station

Entry Fee : Adults: €17.50 CJP: €14 Groups > 15: €15 Friends of Hermitage Amsterdam: €7.50 Museumkaart: €2.50 Stadspas, Children 0 to 11, I Amsterdam City Card: Free admission

Open & Close Timing : Daily 10:00hrs-17:00hrs

Time Required : 2

Expected Wait Time : 20 minutes

Buy Ticket : Yes

7.1.8. Anne Frank House

A world-renowned attraction and a popular tourist touchpoint in the country, Anne Frank House belongs to the Nazi Holocaust survivor and a Jewish girl, Anne Frank. Walk through the rooms where she and her family survived for over 2 years; though empty now, breathe the atmosphere of that time. Anne's original diary, as well as other notebooks, are on display here. You can also hop on a "virtual journey" which will help you access information about people in hiding and World War II.

Address : Prinsengracht 263-267, 1016 GV Amsterdam, Netherlands

Zipcode : 1016

Location : 52.3752182, 4.883976500000017

Contact : +31-205567105

Website : <http://www.annefrank.org/>

Nearest Public Transport : Amsterdam, Westermarkt Light Rail station and Bus Station

Entry Fee : Adults: €9 Children aged 10 to 17 years: €4.50 Children aged 0 to 9 years: Free admission

Open & Close Timing : November to March: Daily 09:00hrs-19:00hrs (until 21:00hrs on Saturdays) April to October: Daily 09:00hrs-22:00hrs

Time Required : 2

Expected Wait Time : 20 minutes

Buy Ticket : Yes

7.1.9. Royal Palace Amsterdam

Located in the heart of Amsterdam, the Royal Palace is an incredibly alluring structure under the command of the Monarch and the only palace available for active use as well as public visit. Marvel at the grandeur of the palace that lies in the artistic impressions built in the 17th century. An edifice overflowing with secret symbols and hidden meaning, this is a must-visit while in Amsterdam.

Address : Dam, 1012 KB Amsterdam, Netherlands

Zipcode : 1012

Location : 52.373186, 4.891368000000057

Contact : +31 20 522 6161

Website : <http://www.paleisamsterdam.nl/>

Nearest Public Transport : Amsterdam, Dam/Raadhuisstraat Light Rail Station

Entry Fee : Adults: €10 CJP/CKV: €9 Stadspas: €9 Students: €9 Children under 18: Free admission Museumkaart: Free admission Adults Guided Tour (groups of 10 - 20 persons): Weekdays: €85; Weekend / national holiday: €115 Children Guided Tour (groups of 5 - 15 persons): Weekdays: €85; Weekend / national holiday: €115

Open & Close Timing : Daily 10:00hrs-17:00hrs

Time Required : 3

Expected Wait Time : 30 minutes

Buy Ticket : Yes

7.1.10. Joods Historisch Museum

Situated in the heart of the city's former Jewish quarter, Joods Historisch Museum is a Jewish Historical Museum and an exclusive part of the Jewish Cultural Quarter. The permanent exhibition reflects the adaptability of Judaism in the past and present, and has a collection of art associated with religion, culture and history of Jews. Browse through 30,000 artworks, ceremonial items, historical objects and temporary exhibitions.

Address : Nieuwe Amstelstraat 1, 1011 PL Amsterdam, Netherlands

Zipcode : 1011

Location : 52.3671182, 4.903815500000064

Contact : +31-205310310

Website : <http://www.jhm.nl/>

Nearest Public Transport : Amsterdam, Waterlooplein Subway Station

Entry Fee : Adults: €12 Children between 13 to 17 years: €6 Children between 6 to 12 years: €3 Children below 6 years: Free admission

Open & Close Timing : Daily 11:00hrs-17:00hrs

Time Required : 2

Expected Wait Time : 10 minutes

Buy Ticket : No

7.1.11. The Oude Church

Dominating over the Red Light District, Oude Kerk is Amsterdam's 800-year-old Parish Church building and remains one of the most visited areas in the European mainland. Admire the awe-inspiring architecture, high windows, sculpted misericords in the choir and granite gravestones. Don't miss out on the renowned historical 17th-century grand organ and modern cabinet organ.

Address : Oudekerksplein 23, 1012 GX Amsterdam, Netherlands

Zipcode : 1012

Location : 52.37436710000001, 4.898206699999946

Contact : +31-206258284

Website : <https://oudekerk.nl/>

Nearest Public Transport : Dam Light Rail Station and Bus Station

Entry Fee : Entrance: €7.50 CJP, student, Holland Pass, Groups from 20 persons: €5 Museumkaart, Children under 13 years, Vriendenpas, Icom card, Iamsterdam city card, Stadspas: Free admission

Open & Close Timing : Monday to Saturday: 10:00hrs-18:00hrs Sunday: 13:00hrs-17:30hrs

Time Required : 1.5

Expected Wait Time : 10 minutes

Buy Ticket : No

7.1.12. Houseboat Museum

Wish to experience the life on board of real houseboat? Visit the only Houseboat Museum in the world which was a former freighter from 1914 and was later converted into a houseboat to explore life on the canals of Amsterdam. The unique location on the canal of Prinsengracht, bordering the area of Jordaan, is

filled with enthralling moments and a serene vibe of Dutch impressions.

Address : Prinsengracht 296K, 1016 HW Amsterdam, Netherlands

Zipcode : 1016

Location : 52.3701394, 4.882599700000014

Contact : +31-204270750

Website : <http://www.houseboatmuseum.nl/>

Nearest Public Transport : Amsterdam, Elandsgracht Light Rail Station and Bus Station

Entry Fee : Adults: €4.50 Children (5–15 years), Groups of 10+ persons: €3.50

I'amsterdam card: Free admission

Open & Close Timing : Tuesday to Sunday 10:00hrs-17:00hrs Closed on Mondays

Time Required : 1.5

Expected Wait Time : 10 minutes

Buy Ticket : No

7.1.13. Portugese Synagoge

Locally renowned as Esnoga or Snoge, Portuguese Synagogue dates back to the late 17th century and stands as one of the most prominent heritages of the lively Jewish community in Amsterdam. Gaze at the architecture that displays the self-confidence and wealth of the community as well as the Iberian-Sephardic interiors. Visit this popular tourist attraction with extraordinary references to the Dutch culture and art while in Amsterdam.

Address : Mr. Visserplein 3, 1011 RD Amsterdam, Netherlands

Zipcode : 1011

Location : 52.367711, 4.904788499999995

Contact : +31-0206245351

Website : <http://www.portugesesynagoge.nl/>

Nearest Public Transport : Amsterdam, Mr. Visserplein Light Rail Station

Entry Fee : Adults: €15 Youth 13 to 17 years; Students; CJP: €7.50 Children 6 to 12 years: €3.75 Children under 6 years, friends JHM Museum, Museum, Holland Pass (upon surrender gold or silver ticket), I Amsterdam City Card, Rembrandt Association, and ICOM Stadspas: Free admission

Open & Close Timing : January, December: Sunday to Thursday: 10:00hrs-16:00hrs Friday: 10:00hrs-14:00hrs February: Sunday to Thursday:

10:00hrs-17:00hrs Friday: 10:00hrs-14:00hrs March and April, September to October: Sunday to Thursday: 10:00hrs-17:00hrs Friday: 10:00hrs-16:00hrs May to August: Sunday to Thursday: 10:00hrs-17:00hrs Friday: 10:00hrs-17:00hrs November: Sunday to Thursday: 10:00hrs-17:00hrs Friday 10:00hrs-14:00hrs

Time Required : 1

Expected Wait Time : 20 minutes

Buy Ticket : Yes

7.1.14. The Amsterdam Dungeon

If you have the courage to face horror, then head to the Amsterdam Dungeon which is renowned for bringing 500 years of Dutch history to life. It attempts to portray history through an interactive adventure with live performers, rides and special effects for the shows and events. You will witness short performances assisted by sound, smell and light effects in complete darkness with a terrifying thrill.

Address : Rokin 78, 1012 KW Amsterdam, Netherlands

Zipcode : 1012

Location : 52.3701715, 4.892110499999944

Contact : +31-205308500

Website : <https://www.thedungeons.com/amsterdam/nl/>

Nearest Public Transport : Amsterdam, Spui (Rokin) Light Rail Station

Entry Fee : Combination Ticket: €32 Premium Ticket: €18.75 Online Saver Ticket: €14.50

Open & Close Timing : First Tour: 11:00hrs Last Tour: 18:00hrs (Friday & Saturday 21:00hrs)

Time Required : 1.5

Expected Wait Time : 20 minutes

Buy Ticket : Yes

7.1.15. Heineken Experience

One of the classic destinations for beer-guzzlers, the Heineken Experience is a fantastic brewery in the center of the city and has been transformed into an astonishing interactive tour. Visited by millions from across the world, it is a high-tech hypermedia experience and includes a self-directed walk, tasting session,

interesting information about the company's history, logo, and much more.

Address : Stadhouderskade 78, 1072 AE Amsterdam, Netherlands

Zipcode : 1072

Location : 52.35783130000001, 4.8918248999999605

Contact : +31-205239222

Website : <http://www.heineken.com/>

Nearest Public Transport : Amsterdam, Stadhouderskade (Ferdinand Bolstraat)
Bus Station

Entry Fee : Adults: €16 Children aged between 12 to 17 years: €12.50 Children below 12 years: Free admission

Open & Close Timing : Monday to Thursday: 10:30hrs-19:30hrs Friday to Sunday: 10:30hrs-21:00hrs July and August: Daily 10:30hrs-21:00hrs

Time Required : 2

Expected Wait Time : 20 minutes

Buy Ticket : Yes

7.1.16. Hash Marihuana & Hemp Museum

One of its kind, the Hash Marihuana and Hemp Museum is located in the De Wallen region of Amsterdam and witnesses more than 2 million visitors each year. The museum is all about the history and story of the cannabis plant with global references. Browse through the informative displays about hash's medicinal, cultural and religious applications and understand how it was a part of everyday life for thousands of years.

Address : Oudezijds Achterburgwal 148, 1012 DV Amsterdam, Netherlands

Zipcode : 1012

Location : 52.37178049999999, 4.896919700000012

Contact : +31-206248926

Website : <http://hashmuseum.com/>

Nearest Public Transport : Nieuwmarkt, Amsterdam Subway Station

Entry Fee : Adults: €9 Children under 13 years when accompanied by adults: Free admission Group of 10 or more receive a discount of 20% if paid in full

Open & Close Timing : Daily 10:00hrs-22:00hrs December 31st: 10:00hrs-17:30hrs 1st January: 13:00hrs-22:00hrs

Time Required : 2

Expected Wait Time : 20 minutes

Buy Ticket : Yes

7.1.17. Tropenmuseum

One of Amsterdam's hidden treasures, Tropenmuseum is an ethnographic museum established in 1864 and attracts numerous international tourists and visitors to Amsterdam. Explore the permanent display and frequently changing displays that have a story to tell about humankind. The museum hosts live events and 8 permanent exhibitions during the year and you can view the past, present, and future of non-Western cultures around the globe.

Address : Linnaeusstraat 2, 1092 CK Amsterdam, Netherlands

Zipcode : 1092

Location : 52.3626564, 4.9222990000000066

Contact : +31 88 004 2800

Website : <https://tropenmuseum.nl/>

Nearest Public Transport : Amsterdam, Eerste van Swindenstraat Light Rail Station

Entry Fee : 19 years and older: €15 4-18 years and students: €8 CJP card holder: 19 years and older/ 4-18 years: €14/ €7 Children t / m 3 years, Friends of the Tropical Museum, Africa Museum and the Museum of Ethnology, Holders of a Museum, I Amsterdam City Card, Members Rembrandt, ICOM members: Free admission Holland Pass - Free (upon surrender of gold ticket) Stadspas Amsterdam: €2 Audio tour - Go through the highlights of the permanent exhibits. Available in Dutch, English, French, and German: €3.50

Open & Close Timing : Tuesday to Sunday: 10:00hrs-17:00hrs Closed on Monday

Time Required : 2

Expected Wait Time : 10 minutes

Buy Ticket : No

7.1.18. Keukenhof

One of the largest flower gardens in the world, Keukenhof is also popularly known as the Garden of Europe. Located in small town of Lisse, there are over 7 million flower bulbs that are planted annually in the garden blanketing its area of 79 acres. Tip-toe through the flowers in every color of the rainbow and take some

pictures while enjoying in the lap of nature.

Address : Stationsweg 166A, 2161 AM Lisse, Netherlands

Zipcode : 2161

Location : 52.2700188, 4.546389299999987

Contact : +31 252 465 555

Website : <http://www.keukenhof.nl/en/>

Nearest Public Transport : Lisse, Keukenhofdreef Bus Station

Entry Fee : Adults: €16 Children (4 to 11 years): €8 Groups (from 20 persons):

€13.50 Combi Ticket Adult Amsterdam: €29 Park Guide: €5

Open & Close Timing : Kindly check the website before visiting.

Time Required : 3

Buy Ticket : No

7.1.19. Canal Cruise

The canals are the highlight of Amsterdam, making it one of the most favorite tourist destinations across the world. Having more than 100 kilometers of canals with 90 islands and 1,500 bridges, the site has been enlisted in the UNESCO World Heritage List and is often referred to as the Venice of the North. The 3 main canals in the city are Herengracht, Prinsengracht, and Keizersgracht that were constructed in the Dutch Golden Age.

Address : Amsterdam Canal Cruises, Stadhouderskade 78, 1072 AE Amsterdam, Netherlands

Zipcode : 1072

Location : 52.3582334, 4.891297000000009

Contact : +31 20 626 5636

Website : <http://www.amsterdamcanalcruises.nl/>

Nearest Public Transport : Amsterdam, Stadhouderskade (Ferdinand Bolstraat) Light Rail Station

Entry Fee : €7 to €21.50

Open & Close Timing : Daily 10:00hrs-18:00hrs

Time Required : 2.5

Buy Ticket : No

7.1.20. Amsterdam Arena

The largest stadium in the country with a seating capacity of over 53,000, Amsterdam ArenA is the home ground of the renowned football club - Ajax Amsterdam. The guided tour will take you on an exciting journey through this stadium which will allow you to see the pitch from a unique perspective, unravel parts of the stadium reserved for officials and players, and access the Gallery of Fame as well as the changing rooms.

Address : ArenA Boulevard 1, 1101 Amsterdam, Netherlands

Zipcode : 1101

Location : 52.3143713, 4.94196409999995

Contact : +31 20 311 1333

Website : <http://www.amsterdamarena.nl/home.htm>

Nearest Public Transport : Amsterdam Bijlmer ArenA Train, Metro, and Bus Stations

Entry Fee : Stadium tour: Adults: €14.50 Children: €9.50

Time Required : 1.5

Buy Ticket : No

7.1.21. Olympic Stadium

Built as the main stadium for the 1928 Summer Olympics, it hosts sports like football and athletics, along with many concerts in Amsterdam. The stadium can hold over 31,000 spectators and houses a magnificent sports museum – Olympic Experience Amsterdam. Marvel at its beautiful architecture which helps it stand as a national monument.

Address : Olympisch Stadion 2, 1076 DE Amsterdam, Netherlands

Zipcode : 1076

Location : 52.3433509, 4.853002100000026

Contact : +31 20 305 4400

Website : <http://olympischstadion.nl/nl>

Nearest Public Transport : Olympic Stadium bus and tram stops

Entry Fee : Stadium tour ticket: €10

Time Required : 1.5

Buy Ticket : No

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7.2. Free

7.2.1. Zuiderkerk

Labeled as the first Protestant Church of Amsterdam, Zuiderkerk dates back to the 17th century and is thronged by numerous visitors all round the year. Designed by Hendrick de Keyser, the major highlight of the church was once the theme of a painting by Claude Monet. Housed in the Nieuwmarkt area of the city, do pay a visit to this religious abode while in Amsterdam.

Address : Zuiderkerkhof 72, 1011 WB Amsterdam, Netherlands

Zipcode : 1011

Location : 52.3703054, 4.8998040000000017

Contact : +31-203080399

Website : <http://zuiderkerkamsterdam.nl/>

Nearest Public Transport : Nieuwmarkt, Amsterdam Subway Station

Open & Close Timing : Monday to Friday: 09:00hrs-17:00hrs Saturday: 12:00hrs-16:00hrs Sunday closed

Time Required : 1

Expected Wait Time : 10 minutes

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.2. Vondelpark

Spanning across an area of 47 hectares, the Vondelpark in Amsterdam welcomes 10 million visitors annually and is a major point of attraction in the city. Being a part of the borough of Amsterdam-Zuid, it is an abode to an open-air theater, playground, and HORECA facilities. Head here on a sunny day and experience a relaxed atmosphere at one of the major hangout spots for hippies.

Address : Museumkwartier, Amsterdam, Netherlands, 3842 EC

Zipcode : 3842

Location : 52.3579946, 4.868648399999984

Contact : +31-204283360

Website : <http://www.hetvondelpark.net/>

Nearest Public Transport : Amsterdam, Jan Pieter Heijestraat (Overtoom) Light Rail Station

Open & Close Timing : Open 24 hours

Time Required : 2

Expected Wait Time : 10 minutes

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.3. Albert Cuyp Market

A bustling street market in Amsterdam, Albert Cuyp Market has been one of the most visited cultural and commercial centers in the city. Having been named after Albert Cuyp, a renowned painter from the 17th century, it began in 1904 and presently houses 300 stalls lined up on both sides of the street. You will find everything ranging from cosmetics and clothes to fruits, vegetables, cheese, fish and spices.

Address : Albert Cuypstraat, 1073 BD Amsterdam, Netherlands

Zipcode : 1073

Location : 52.3559673, 4.89538709999999936

Website : <http://albertcuyp-markt.amsterdam/>

Nearest Public Transport : Amsterdam, Albert Cuypstraat Light Rail Station

Open & Close Timing : Monday to Saturday: 09:30hrs-17:00hrs Closed on Sundays

Time Required : 1.5

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.4. De Wallen

Undoubtedly the largest and most popular red-light district in the world, De Wallen in Amsterdam consists of a web of passageways believed to contain 300 one-room cabins rented by sex-workers, peep shows, sex shops, bordellos, condom shops, sex museums and prostitutes in red-lit windows. One of the most renowned international destinations for prostitution, the region is a top tourist destination.

Address : Amsterdam, the Netherlands, 1012 GV

Zipcode : 1012

Location : 52.37186039999999, 4.89586099999999968

Nearest Public Transport : Nieuwmarkt, Amsterdam Subway Station

Open & Close Timing : Open 24 hours

Time Required : 1.5

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.5. Dam Square

When in Amsterdam, don't miss out on the Dam Square. Residing in the original location of the shores of the dam built on River Amstel, Dam Square is famed for its buildings and frequent events that make it a prominent location for the Dutch and the tourists. Following a turbulent history, today, it is a peaceful place and an abode to scores of pigeons and several street performers.

Address : Dam Square, Amsterdam, Netherlands, 1012 JS

Zipcode : 1012

Location : 52.3731716, 4.8936582000000004

Nearest Public Transport : Amsterdam, Dam Light Rail Station

Open & Close Timing : Open 24 hours

Time Required : 1

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.6. Magere Brug

Known as the Skinny Bridge, Magere Brug stands above the Amstel River in the heart of the city and forms a link over the Emperor's Canal and Prince's Canal. One of the beautiful bridges of Amsterdam, it is made of white painted wood and was built in 1934. A recent addition includes an automated opening. This spot is thronged by couples and photographers in the evening.

Address : Kerkstraat, 1017 AK Amsterdam, Netherlands

Zipcode : 1017

Location : 52.3635855, 4.9023959999999953

Website : <https://www.amsterdam.nl/kunst->

Nearest Public Transport : Amsterdam, Prinsengracht (Utrechtsestraat) Light Rail Station

Open & Close Timing : Open 24 hours

Time Required : 0.5

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.7. Bloemenmarkt

The only floating flower market in the world, origins of Bloemenmarkt can be

traced back to 1862. It is thronged by millions of visitors every year as it is Amsterdam's most colorful attraction. The flower stores are situated inside a row of a boat that forms a spectacle on the canal and the nearby shores. Besides fragrant flowers, numerous boats also sell fun, affordable souvenirs and local cheese.

Address : Singel, 1017 DH Amsterdam, Netherlands

Zipcode : 1017

Location : 52.3668379, 4.891308699999968

Nearest Public Transport : Amsterdam, Koningsplein Light Rail Station

Open & Close Timing : Monday to Saturday: 09:00hrs-17:30hrs Sunday: 11:00hrs-17:30hrs

Time Required : 1

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.8. Church of Saint Nicholas

The magnificent Basilica of Saint Nicholas resides in the Old Centre district of Amsterdam and serves as the city's major Catholic church. With a history of over 125 years, the Basilica has countless Dutch followers making it the one of the largest in the world. The church remains open to visitors from May to mid-September every year.

Address : Prins Hendrikkade 73, 1012 AD Amsterdam, Netherlands

Zipcode : 1012

Location : 52.3765869, 4.901094599999965

Contact : +31 20 330 7812

Website : <http://www.nicolaas-parochie.nl/>

Nearest Public Transport : Amsterdam Central Train Station

Open & Close Timing : Monday and Saturday: 12:00hrs-15:00hrs Tuesday to Friday: 11:00hrs-16:00hrs Closed on Sundays

Time Required : 0.5

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.9. Jordaan Street

Jordaan Street was originally a working-class locality in Amsterdam, which has recently turned into one of the most upscale areas in the country. The street is

home to numerous art galleries, specialty stores, restaurants, entertainment spots and Dutch artefacts. Head to the most famous neighborhood in Netherlands which has been able to entice numerous galleries, food joints, and specialty shops to its muddled picturesque streets.

Address : Jordaan, Amsterdam, Netherlands, 1015 TL

Zipcode : 1015

Location : 52.3734511, 4.8801911000000047

Nearest Public Transport : Amsterdam, Bloemgracht Light Rail Station

Open & Close Timing : Open 24 hours

Time Required : 0.5

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.10. Museumplein

Unravel a neighborhood that is an abode to some of the most artistic and historical treasures, elegant dining, elaborate shops and one of the best orchestral venues on the planet. With a subtle vibe of a Swedish and Danish landscape and a pond which transforms into an artificial skating during winter, this is a great destination to have on your itinerary. Head here if you wish to get a taste of the city's culture.

Address : Museumpromenade, 1079 RA Amsterdam, Netherlands

Zipcode : 1079

Location : 52.35793969999999, 4.880838199999971

Nearest Public Transport : Amsterdam, Museumplein (Van Baerlestraat) Light Rail Station

Open & Close Timing : Open 24 hours

Time Required : 1

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.11. IJ-Hallen

If you love treasure-hunting for bargains, then head to IJ-Hallen. With 1,500 stands and 3,000 free parking spaces, this is the largest flea market in northern Holland, which specializes in second-hand items such as furniture, home accents and clothing. The thrilling part is that you have to take a ferry ride to reach this destination.

Address : Tt. Neveritaweg 15, 1033 WB Amsterdam, Netherlands

Zipcode : 1033

Location : 52.4012914, 4.8964154000000235

Time Required : 0

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.12. Pieter Cornelisz Hooftstraat

If you are a fashionista and love to shop without looking at price tags, this street is where you should head. Home to renowned international brands, this is one of the priciest and most sophisticated shopping streets in the Netherlands.

Address : Pieter Cornelisz Hooftstraat, 1071 CD, Amsterdam, Netherlands

Zipcode : 1071

Location : 52.3599138, 4.879390199999989

Time Required : 0

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.13. Amsterdam Cheese Company

Amsterdam Cheese Company is a destination which is as good as heaven for every cheese-lover. Learn about the history of the Netherlands' best-loved dairy product and you get to smell and taste Dutch cheese. Name a type and you will find it here.

Address : Leidsestraat 2, 1017 PA Amsterdam, Netherlands

Zipcode : 1017

Location : 52.36668900000001, 4.887837600000012

Time Required : 0

Buy Ticket : No

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8. Key sites sports & adventure

Amsterdam promises an action packed holiday to the adventure lovers who visit this city. Activities like race car driving, kite surfing, climbing, indoor skating, fly boarding, indoor karting, canoeing, rollerblading, ice-skating, horse riding, and much more are offered to the tourists.

- **Fly Boarding -**

Address : Flyboard World, Anton Schleperspad 10, 1066 BV Amsterdam, Netherlands

Location : 52.3348104,4.81465260000004

Contact No : +31 6 22364738

Website : <https://flyboardworld.nl/>

Nearest Public Transport : Amsterdam, Anderlechtlaan Bus Station

Entry Fees : 55 EUR for flyboarding, hoverboarding and jetpack

Open / Close Time : Daily 09:00hrs-20:00hrs

Time Required : 2

- **Sea Kayaking -**

Address : Kano & SUP Amsterdam, Weesperzijde 1094, 1097 AH Amsterdam, Netherlands

Location : 52.3476992,4.91328769999995

Contact No : +31 6 22402305

Website : <http://kanoensupamsterdam.nl/>

Nearest Public Transport : Amsterdam Amstel Train Station

Entry Fees : 25 EUR per person

Time Required : 3

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9. Adventure sports, Local sports, stadiums

Football is the most popular sport in Amsterdam. The other sports played in the city include ice hockey, rugby, field hockey, baseball, and basketball. The city is home to some of the most famous stadiums.



10. Spas and relaxation

Amsterdam is one of the most interesting places for rejuvenating the body with spa and relaxation treatments. Steam and sauna baths with various herbal and traditional massages make your journey an easy one.

- **Sauna Deco:**

Address : Herengracht 115, 1015 BE Amsterdam

Location : 52.3762687,4.889704599999959

Contact No : +31 (0)20 623 8215

Website : <http://saunadeco.nl/>

- **The City Street Spa B.V.:**

Address : Prinsengracht 764bg, 1017 LE Amsterdam

Location : 52.36158769999999,4.897163500000033

Contact No : +31 20 221 4102

Website : <http://www.thecitystreetspa.com>

- **Guerlain Spa:**

Address : Herengracht 542-556, 1017 CG Amsterdam

Location : 52.36463599999999,4.896459000000005

Contact No : +31 20 718 4625


Website : <http://waldorfastoria3.hilton.com/en/hotels/netherlands/waldorfastoria-amsterdam-AMSWAWA/amenities/spas.html>

11. Events calendar

Month

Events

**Food Soul Festival @
Kromhouthal, Gedempt
Hamerkanaal, Amsterdam
(27th-29th)**



**An annual event which entails
mobile kitchens offering all sorts
of lip-smacking delicacies from
various regions across the
world. You will also be treated to
craft beer and tasty wine.**

**Wonderland Festival @
Amsterdam Studio H.J.E.
Wenckebachweg, Amsterdam
(11th)**


**This annual fest ushers in the
Valentine period with great
techno and house beats. With an
amazing line-up of international
DJs, the audience should expect
an all-day all night experience
full visual delights.**

**HISWA Amsterdam Boat Show @
RAI Amsterdam,
Europaboulevard (16th to 18th)**

**Not only Sailors and boat owners
are mesmerized by the displays
during this event but everyone**

can enjoy the workshops, clinics, boat accessories and special boating offers presented during this event.

**Meibock Festival @
Posthoornkerk,
Haarlemmerstraat, Amsterdam
(15th)**



This fest entails a wide variety of draught and bottled 'bock' beer. Every visitor gets a special glass upon entry which they should keep for tasting several beer brands offered for free.

**909 Festival @
Bezoekerscentrum Amsterdamse
Bos (26th)**

Going down at the forested park of Amsterdamse Bos (south of the capital), this event features cracking beats and top tunes including famous DJs e.g. Jeff Mills.

**Taste of Amsterdam @
Amstelpark (5th to 9th)**

Every year in June, this event transforms Amstelpark into a drinking, eating and entertainment galore that goes on for four days.

Mercedes-Benz Fashion Week

**Amsterdam @ Westergasfabriek,
Polonceau-kade, Amsterdam
(18th)**

**Connection fashion and music,
art, theatre and film, this event is
mainly characterized by
professional catwalks that are
insightful of the upcoming
trends.**

**Appelsap Fresh Music Festival @
Flevopark, Kramatweg,
Amsterdam (12th)**


**Enjoy fresh air in the park as you
get entertained by Dutch and
international artists/DJs. You will
also enjoy the local talent in rap,
soul and electronic genres.**

**Comic Con Amsterdam @ RAI
Amsterdam, Europe square,
Amsterdam (2nd to 3rd)**

**Being the second edition of
Comic Con Amsterdam, this
event is expected to be better,
bigger with more cosplays, more
stars, comics and merchandise.
The Chainsmokers @ Paradiso
Noord, Tolhuistuin, Amsterdam,
Netherlands (21ST)**

**This event features the
chainsmokers who are a DJ duo**

from the US comprising of the famous Alex Pall and Andrew Taggart. They play several genres including progressive house, electro house and EDM. Sampha @ Paradiso Noord, Tolhuistuin, Amsterdam, Netherlands (18th)



The famous artists sampha will be performing live with the line-up including some of his hit songs.

**RLCS Season 2 Grand Finals
Amsterdam @ Theater
Amsterdam, Danzigerkade 5
(3rd-4th)**

Top 8 teams from Europe and North America will be competing for the title of RLCS World Champions with a grand prize of \$125,000 to be won.

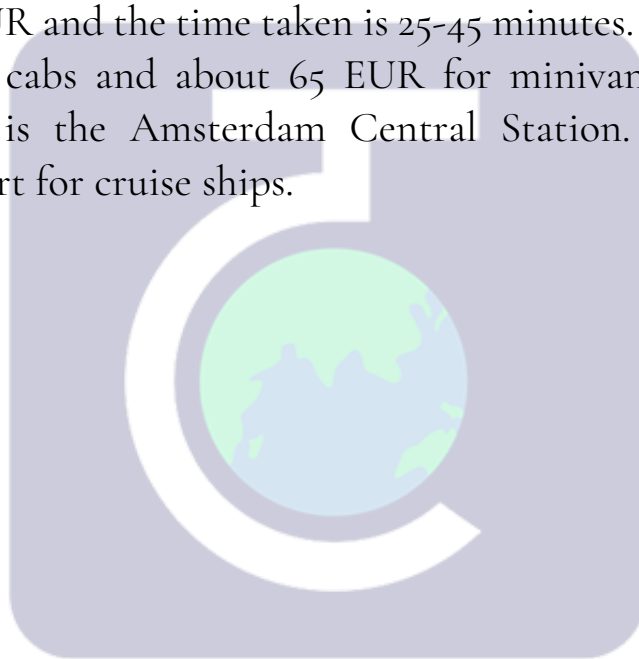
Index**12. Key local guides and tours**

There are many unique ways to explore the sights and sites of the historic city of Amsterdam. Visitors can choose from a wide array of themed and guided tours offered by a line of tour operators. Canal tours offer a different view of the city. There are many types of canal tours with various themes like day and evening cruises, romantic cruises, etc. Bike tours give the opportunity to understand and experience the city on a closer level. Riding through the city and the suburbs offer a plethora of views and different kinds of fun. Food tours through the best restaurants, cafes, and eateries offer the best of the Dutch cuisine for the food connoisseurs.



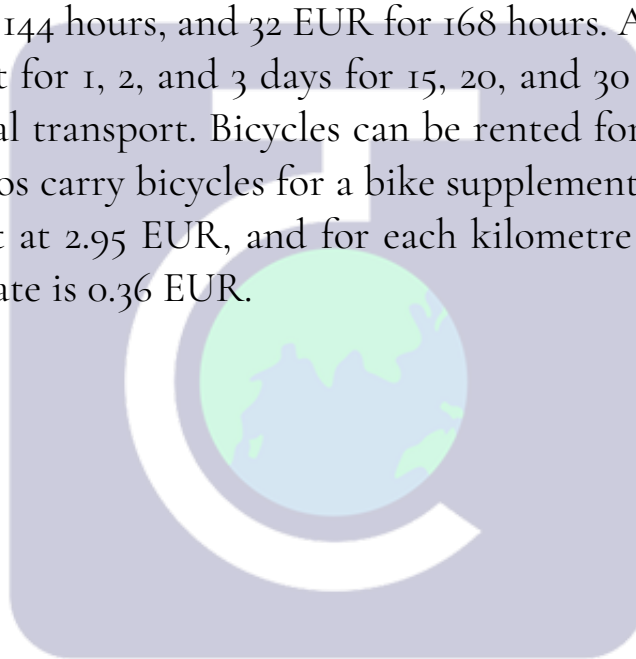
Index**13. Transportation hubs**

The city is served by the Amsterdam Airport Schiphol located 9 km away from the city centre. Train, bus, and taxi services are available to reach the city centre. The train ride takes about 20 minutes and the ticket costs around 4.20 EUR. The airport express bus takes around 40 minutes and the fare is 4.75 EUR for a single ticket if bought online and 5 EUR if purchased from the driver. A taxi ride will cost around 40-50 EUR and the time taken is 25-45 minutes. Airport taxi rates are around 50 EUR for cabs and about 65 EUR for minivans. The main railway station in the city is the Amsterdam Central Station. Passenger Terminal Amsterdam is the port for cruise ships.



Index**14. Transportation cost**

Public transport is mainly through metro, tram, bus, and ferry. Visitors have special travel passes for use from 1 hour to 168 hour duration. The card allows unlimited travel on tram, metro, and buses for the duration of the pass. One-way ticket costs 2.90 EUR. The pass cost is approximately 50 EUR for 24 hours, 12 EUR for 48 hours, 16.50 EUR for 72 hours, 21 EUR for 96 hours, 26 EUR for 120 hours, 29.50 EUR for 144 hours, and 32 EUR for 168 hours. An Amsterdam Travel Ticket can be bought for 1, 2, and 3 days for 15, 20, and 30 EUR respectively for unlimited use on local transport. Bicycles can be rented for about 9-20 EUR per day. Trams and metros carry bicycles for a bike supplement fee of 1.70 EUR for a day. Taxi prices start at 2.95 EUR, and for each kilometre the rate is 2.17 EUR, and the per minute rate is 0.36 EUR.



Index**15. Baggage allowance**

Train companies such as the Thalys allow 2 pieces of luggage (32kg and 158cm for each piece) and a small hand luggage. You can store your luggage in the luggage racks above the seats or storage areas at the end of each carriage. Buses have luggage compartments but it's highly recommended you use the tour shuttles or taxis which have enough baggage space and do not charge additional costs. Alternatively, you can leave your luggage at storage facilities e.g. lockers at the Amsterdam Central Train Station, Easydrop luggage storage or at Lock luggage storage. There is an Amsterdam luggage delivery service for transportation of baggage at affordable rates.



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16. Must try food and local savouries

Some of the best must try food here are seafood dishes, wild duck and charcuterie salami. Also, every day is a pancake day in Amsterdam where most of the people enjoy eating pancakes. The most famous and local dessert here is churros with Nutella.



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17. Restaurant & Nightlife

Amsterdam is characterized by a wide variety of dining options ranging from Asian cuisines, local Dutch flavors to Chinese and Middle Eastern dishes. Most restaurants are located at the city center especially along Tweede Tuindwarsstraat and neighboring streets, Zeedijk in Nieuwmarkt and along Damstraat road.

Food -

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- **Bridges:**

Address : Oudezijds Voorburgwal 197, 1012 EX Amsterdam, Netherlands

Location : 52.3711114,4.89543330000003

Contact No : +31 20 555 3560

Website : <http://www.bridgesrestaurant.nl/>

Open / Close Time : Tuesday-Friday 12:00hrs-22:30hrs, Saturday & Sunday 13:00hrs-22:30hrs, Monday-closed

- **Rijks® Restaurant:**

Address : Museumstraat 2, 1077 XX Amsterdam, Netherlands

Location : 52.3596047,4.88431190000005

Contact No : +31 20 674 7555

Website : <http://www.rijksrestaurant.nl/en/>

Open / Close Time : Monday to Saturday 11:30hrs-15:00hrs;

17:00hrs-22:00hrs; Sunday – 11:30hrs-21:00hrs

- **Envy:**

Address : Prinsengracht 381, 1016 HL Amsterdam, Netherlands

Location : 52.3715917,4.883277399999999

Contact No : +31 20 344 6407

Website : <http://www.envy.nl/>

Open / Close Time : Monday-Thursday 18:00hrs-01:00hrs, Friday to Sunday 12:00hrs- 15:00hrs, 18:00hrs-01:00hrs

- **Librije's Zusje Amsterdam:**

Address : Herengracht 542-556, 1017 CG Amsterdam, Netherlands

Location : 52.3646483,4.8969975999999996

Contact No : +31 20 718 4643

Website : <http://www.waldorfastoria3.hilton.com>

Open / Close Time : Tuesday to Thursday 18:30hrs-22:30hrs, Friday & Saturday 12:30hrs-14:00hrs; 18:30hrs-22:30hrs, Sunday and Monday – closed.

- **Bord'Eau Restaurant Gastronomique:**

Address : Nieuwe Doelenstraat 2-14, 1012 CP Amsterdam, Netherlands

Location : 52.3675187,4.894305600000005

Contact No : +31 20 531 1705

Website : <http://bordeau.nl/>

Open / Close Time : Tuesday-Friday 12:00hrs-14:30hrs; 18:00hrs-22:30hrs, Saturday 18:30hrs-22:30hrs, Sunday and Monday – Closed

- **The Pancake Bakery:**

Address : Prinsengracht 191, 1015 DS Amsterdam, Netherlands

Location : 52.3775939999999,4.88623499999994

Contact No : +31 20 625 1333

Website : <http://www.pancake.nl/>

Open / Close Time : Daily 09:00hrs-21:30hrs

- **Nutella Ice Bakery:**

Address : Leidsestraat 102, 1017 PG Amsterdam, Netherlands

Location : 52.3646028,4.88337539999997

Website : <http://icebakery.nl/>

Open / Close Time : Daily 10:00hrs-22:00hrs

- **Eetcafé Koevoet:**

Address : Lindenstraat 17, 1015 KV Amsterdam, Netherlands

Location : 52.3796606999999,4.88536020000003

Contact No : +31 20 624 0846

Website : <http://www.koevoetamsterdam.com/>

Open / Close Time : Tuesday to Sunday 05:30hrs-22:30hrs, Monday – closed

- **Maydanoz Restaurant:**

Address : Ceintuurbaan 9, 1072 ER Amsterdam, Netherlands

Location : 52.3524320999999,4.88733360000003

Contact No : +31 20 676 1195

Website : <http://restaurant.maydanoz-amsterdam.nl/e>

Open / Close Time : Tuesday to Sunday 12:00hrs-23:00hrs, Monday-

Closed

- **The Lobby Nesplein:**

Address : Nes 49, 1012 KD Amsterdam, Netherlands

Location : 52.3710883,4.893688900000002

Contact No : +31 20 758 5275

Website : <http://www.thelobbynesplein.nl/en/index.html>

Open / Close Time : Daily 07:00hrs-23:00hrs

- **Sugarfactory:**

Address : Lijnbaansgracht 238, 1017 PH Amsterdam, Netherlands

Location : 52.3648259,4.881857200000001

Contact No : +31 20 627 0008

Website : <http://www.sugarfactory.nl/>

Open / Close Time : Daily 18:30hrs-05:00hrs

- **Escape:**

Address : Rembrandtplein 11, 1017 CT Amsterdam, Netherlands

Location : 52.3664279,4.896348600000001

Contact No : +31 20 622 1111

Website : <http://escape.nl/>

Open / Close Time : Thursday and Sunday 23:00hrs-04:00hrs Friday and Saturday 23:00hrs-05:00hrs

- **Holland Casino:**

Address : Max Euweplein 62, 1017 MB Amsterdam

Location : 52.3626429,4.88219789999993

Contact No : +31 020-5211 111

Website : <https://www.hollandcasino.nl/>

Open / Close Time : Daily 12:00hrs-03:00hrs



Index**18. Average meal cost**

In an inexperienced restaurant a normal meal costs 13.00 EUR. A three-course meal at a mid-range restaurant for two people costs 22.56 EUR. You can have a fresh cappuccino at 10.00 EUR. A combo meal at McDonald's can be purchased at 8.00 EUR. 11.2 oz small bottle of water can be purchased at 1.07 EUR.



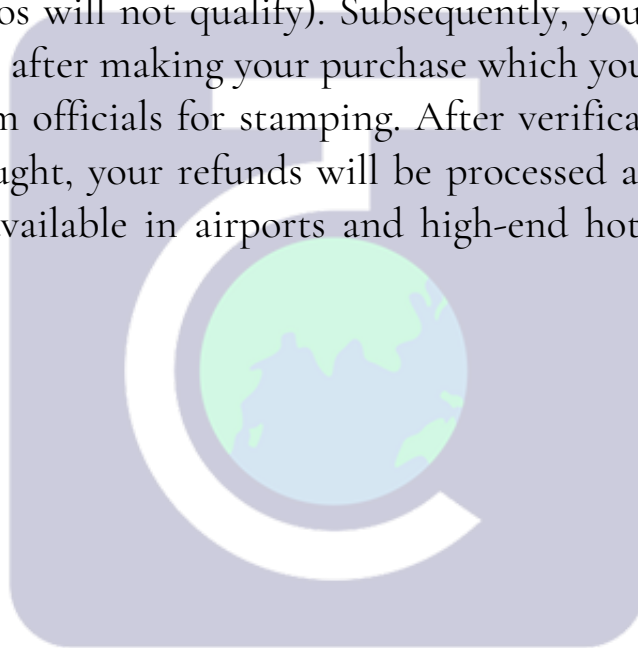
19. Shopping

Amsterdam offers a great mix of mall-shopping and street-shopping.



20. Tourist benefits

From 2012, Value Added Tax (VAT) in Netherlands was raised from 19% to 21%. VAT refunds are available to non-EU tourists who purchase goods solely for export. These goods must be bought from particular stores i.e. those with a VAT exempt sign at the door, window till 30 to 40 days. In order to qualify for the VAT refunds, you must spend at least 50 euros in each receipt (several receipts amounting to 50 euros will not qualify). Subsequently, you will need to request for a tax refund form after making your purchase which you should dully fill and present to the custom officials for stamping. After verification of your invoices and merchandise bought, your refunds will be processed and sent to you. Duty free shops are also available in airports and high-end hotels offering goods at discounted rates.



21. Essential local apps

Using some handy mobile apps makes it easier for the tourists to explore a new place in a more convenient and cheaper way. GVB is a transport app by the primary public transport operator of Amsterdam. It provides all the necessary information about public transport systems in the city including bus, tram, metro, train, and ferry. 9292 is a local travel app that helps in planning travel and routes by choosing current location and destination. The app provides details of all public transport in the city. Thuisbezorgd.nl is useful for ordering food online from a selection of the best restaurants, hotels, cafes, and other eateries. Delivery and pick-up options are available.



22. Driving

Tourists intending to drive in Amsterdam can use their foreign licenses for a given period of time. For instance, nationals from EFTA or EU countries can use their licenses for a period of 15 years while those from other countries use their licenses for only 6 months. Upon expiry of this period, foreigners will be required to exchange (their foreign license to a Dutch one) or apply for a Dutch driving license. To exchange your foreign license, you need to be a registered resident of Netherlands, a national of EU/EEA or any other country with a special license arrangement with Netherlands and your current license is valid. If you not meet this criterion, it means you have to undergo practical and theoretical driving tests at the Central Office for Motor Vehicle Driver Testing to qualify for a Dutch driving license.



23. Travel essentials

Electrical power in Netherlands and in most areas of Western Europe alternates at 50Hz with a standard voltage of 230 Volts. This output differs from that of Canada and parts of South America which uses the 110-120 V standards at a frequency of 60Hz. Therefore visitors from such countries (using a different voltage) will need voltage converters for their appliances. These converters are available at electronic stores around Amsterdam, airports or at Amazon.com. However, some electronic gadgets have dual-power compatibility and do not need converters. Socket types C & F are the most commonly used around Amsterdam which can also work for type E plugs. If your device plug is incompatible with these types, you will need a plug adapter preferably the universal adapter. Finding a pharmacy even a 24 hour one should not be a problem in Amsterdam, however if you are on some special medication or are allergic to particular medicines, you should carry your own medication as OTC's (Over the counter) are not allowed.

24. Essential clothes

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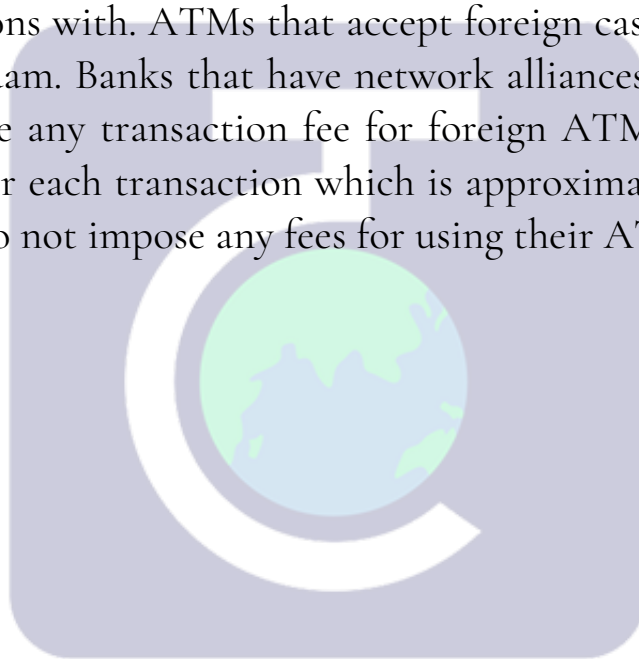
25. Local currency

Euros is the local currency of Amsterdam. It is denoted as EUR. $1 \text{ USD} = 0.91 \text{ EUR}$



26. Change vendor's commission, ATM charges

Banks and exchange offices are the best places to change foreign currency into Euro. These places often charge fees or commission. The fee can be a specific amount per transaction which is around 7.95 EUR and the commission is usually a percentage of the amount of the foreign currency exchanged. Some banks drops or give discounts in transaction fees if the customer uses other banks and ATMs that they have relations with. ATMs that accept foreign cash cards can be found in plenty in Amsterdam. Banks that have network alliances with overseas banks usually do not charge any transaction fee for foreign ATM usage. Other banks may levy usage fee for each transaction which is approximately 0.93 EUR to 1.39 EUR. Dutch banks do not impose any fees for using their ATMs.



27. Staying connected

The Local Prepaid SIM Card is the best option designed for tourists coming to visit Netherlands. Purchasing this SIM card is an easy process which can be pursued at the Arrival Hall in the International Airport itself. The Local Prepaid SIM Card lets tourists enjoy free incoming calls, as well as incredibly low tariffs on outgoing calls. You can order for a Local Prepaid SIM Card online here <http://www.airporttelecom.nl/en/prepaid-sim-card/prepaid-sim-card-netherlands>



28. Time Zone

Amsterdam follows Central European Time Zone with UTC +01:00 hours and Central European Summer Time Zone with UTC +02:00 hours.



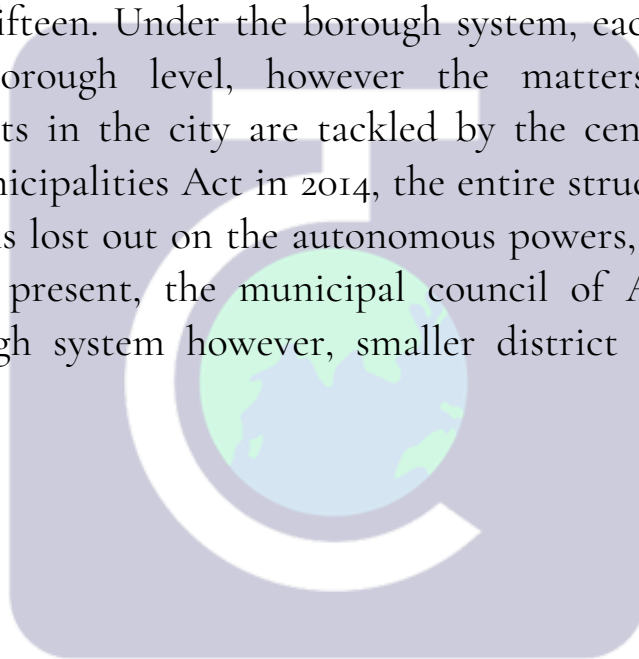
29. Languages

Dutch is the main language spoken here followed with English.



30. Political Scenario

Three bodies are known to govern the administration of Amsterdam – an elected municipal council, a municipal executive board and a mayor. The Mayor is a participant of the Municipal Executive Board and also there is an individual who calls the shots in maintaining public order. In order to improve the system of local governance, Amsterdam was subdivided into 8 districts, and eventually the number rose up to fifteen. Under the borough system, each borough makes its decisions at the borough level, however the matters concerning major infrastructure projects in the city are tackled by the central municipal body. After the Dutch Municipalities Act in 2014, the entire structure was revised and many of the boroughs lost out on the autonomous powers, and district councils were called off. At present, the municipal council of Amsterdam voted to maintain the borough system however, smaller district committees replaced district councils.



31. Economic Scenario

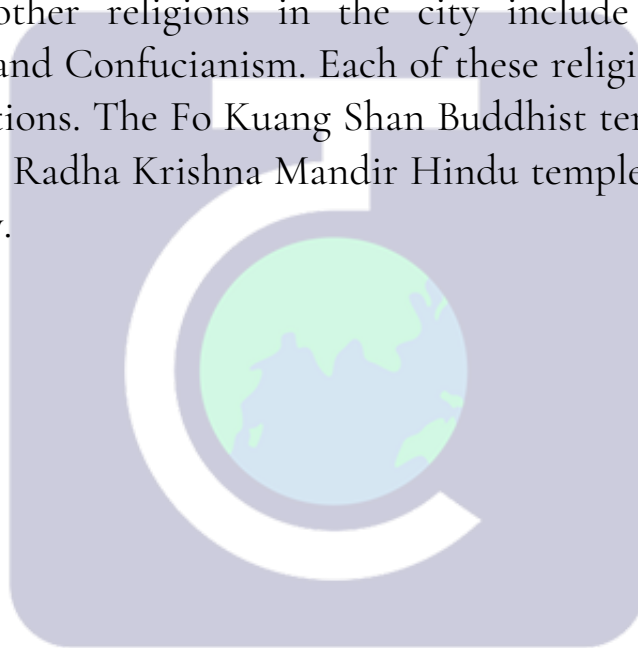
Amsterdam's economic standing very solid and firm. In fact it is rightly the business and commercial hub of the Netherlands. Many corporate giants including banks have their business operations running in Amsterdam, and that's majorly because of the fact that Amsterdam ranks very highly amongst European cities as far as international business is concerned. A good number of shops and outlets are still perched on the old canals but companies are now resetting their base just outside the city centre. The Port of Amsterdam is also responsible for churning out good revenue thanks to the strong cargo and logistics operations. Tourism is another major pull which cushions the economy significantly. Large numbers of international and regional tourists flock into Amsterdam annually, the hotels and hospitality sector has seen big boom in the past decade as a result.



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32. Religious belief

The majority of the population in the city is Christians. Roman Catholics form the largest group of Christians. Immigration from former colonies has led to the arrival of Evangelical Protestantism and Lutheranism in the recent years. Islam is the second largest religion and the number of people following Islam is increasing steadily. The Ghanaian and Nigerian immigrants have African churches for their communities. The other religions in the city include Hinduism, Chinese Buddhism, Judaism, and Confucianism. Each of these religions has their place of worship or congregations. The Fo Kuang Shan Buddhist temple is located in the Chinatown area. The Radha Krishna Mandir Hindu temple is also a major place of worship in the city.



33. Visa requirements

Majority of foreign nationals intending to stay in Amsterdam for a period less than 3 months will require a Schengen Visa or a short stay visa. However, citizens from Switzerland, EU, EEA and other countries are visa exempted. More information about visa exempted countries is available at <https://www.government.nl/topics/visa-for-the-netherlands-and-the-caribbean-parts-of-the-kingdom/documents/publications/2013/11/28/>. Tourists can apply for a Schengen visa at the Dutch consulate or embassy within their residential country. The Schengen visa allows you to travel and stay in any of the Schengen countries for a period not exceeding 3 months. To apply for this visa, you will require several documents i.e. Documents indicating the purpose of your stay, invitation letter from Dutch company or proof of hotel reservation. Those wishing to extend their stay for more than 3 months will be required to apply for a provisional residence permit as such stay period is not considered a tourist visit. It is advisable to keep 2 pages free in your passport for arrival and departure stamps. In certain cases, it has been observed that applying and receiving a visa can be a process of 20-30 days. Hence, it is essential that you check the timeline with the relevant authority in the country where you intend to make the visa application.

34. Essential vaccination

If you are traveling to Amsterdam, then you are recommended to be vaccinated for Hepatitis A, Rabies, Tetanus, Meningitis, Cholera, Typhoid, Hepatitis B, Malaria, Measles, Mumps, Rubella, Diphtheria and routine vaccines.



35. Theft and Safety

General precautions against baggage theft and pick pockets are advisable to be observed. Stay away from bike paths that may look like footpaths. Be careful when crossing roads as trams and taxis both use the same lane. Do not take photographs of the women at the Red Light District. Solo women travellers are advised not to step out at night to certain areas. And, stay away from parks at night.



Index**36. Embassy/Consulate**

Almost every country has an embassy/consulate in Netherlands with majority of them located in The Hague which is 60 Km away from Amsterdam. There are several consulates and embassies e.g. British and Us Consulates as well as the Scandinavian Embassy located in central Amsterdam. More information, address and contact of these diplomatic missions are available at <http://embassy.goabroad.com/embassies-in/netherlands>.



37. Accessibility

Public buildings, public transport, and parking facilities are extremely disabled friendly in the city. Lifts, boarding assistance, wheelchair taxis, disabled-friendly bicycles, museums and attractions with facilities for the partially sighted, etc. are some of the conveniences provided.



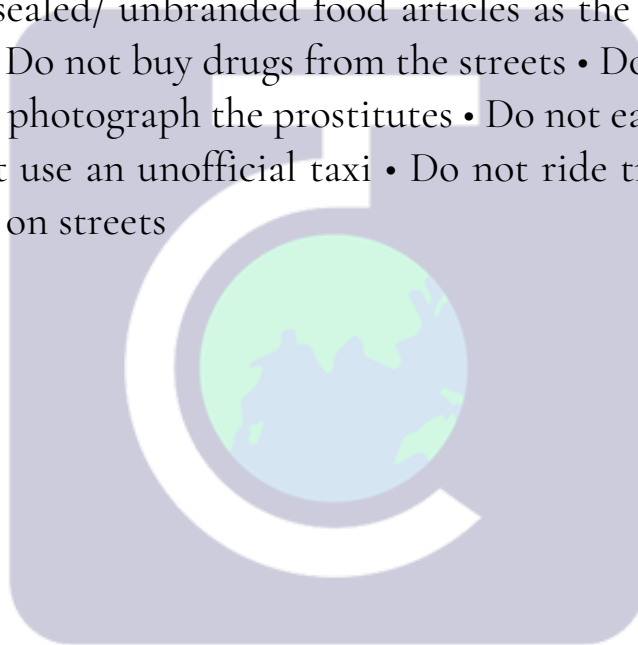
38. Emergencies

In case of emergencies you can call 112 for police, for ambulance you can dial 112 and for fire 112. You are provided with a top notch services. There are hospitals that can help you with the travel insurance such as OLVG Locatie Oost Hospital.



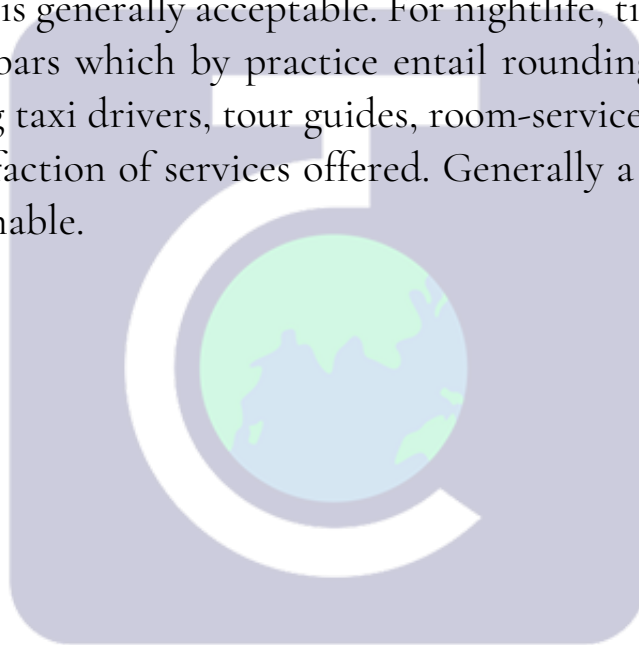
Index**39. Do's and Don'ts**

Amsterdam is better enjoyed if the visitors have a few basic ideas about the rules and customs in the city. Do's • Always keep the headlights of the bicycle on when riding at night • Stay away from too much drinking • Greet shop assistants when entering and leaving • It is advisable to carry a certified doctor's prescription along with the medicines to ensure hassle free import clearance. • It is advisable that do not carry unsealed/ unbranded food articles as the same may be banned for import. Don'ts - • Do not buy drugs from the streets • Do not buy drugs if you are under 18 • Do not photograph the prostitutes • Do not eat free cookies offered by strangers • Do not use an unofficial taxi • Do not ride trams without ticket • Do not drink alcohol on streets



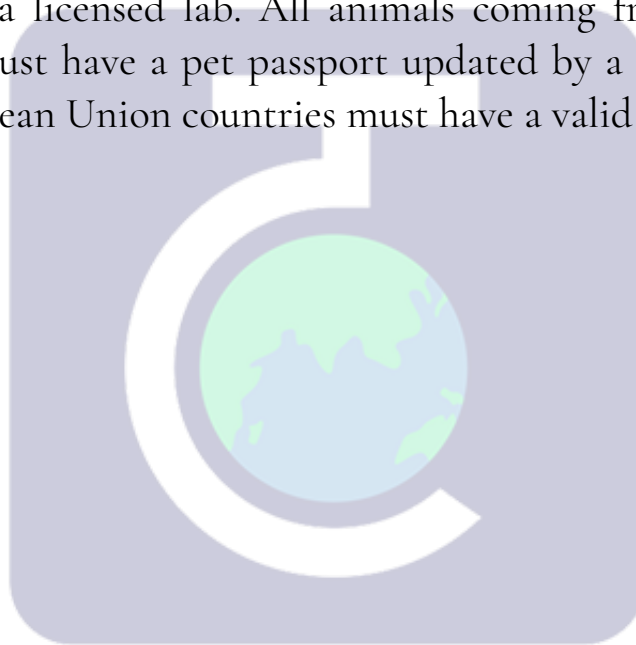
40.Tipping basics

Showing gratuity for the services provided is absolutely optional although is quite expected in most places around Amsterdam. However the hotel and hospitality industry in Amsterdam retains a well-paid staff that does not live off the tips gained from customers. Therefore tipping in hotels/restaurants may not be necessary unless when you are utterly impressed by the services provided. You can leave a 10% tip which is generally acceptable. For nightlife, tipping is not expected except in High-end bars which by practice entail rounding off the total to the nearest euro. Tipping taxi drivers, tour guides, room-service and bell boys wholly depends on the satisfaction of services offered. Generally a tip between 5-10% of the total bill is reasonable.



41. Pet info

If a tourist wants to bring his pet animal to Amsterdam, some procedures have to be performed at the country of origin before the travel. A micro chip must be implanted in the animal. This has to be followed by a vaccination against rabies more than 21 days prior to entry into Netherlands. For the animals coming from high-rabies countries a blood titer test to verify the level of rabies antibodies has to be performed at a licensed lab. All animals coming from European Union member countries must have a pet passport updated by a licensed veterinarian. Pets from non-European Union countries must have a valid health certificate.



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Conclusion – Why to select this destination

There is always something to see and do in Amsterdam. All the seasons offer a whole lot of attractions for the visitors. The beautiful canals found everywhere in the city are a vision in themselves. Whether you watch it from the banks or take a ride through the waters, these enchanting water bodies add to the fairy tale feel of the city. This is a land of museums. For those would like to explore the historical and cultural aspects of the city, these are the best places for it. If you are a bike crazy tourist, Amsterdam is the perfect city for you. Almost everyone has bicycles here and tourists are also more comfortable biking along the sites and attractions. Festivals and celebrations occur all round the year. Tourists can enjoy the fun and excitement of national holidays and festivals, and regional celebrations any time of the year because there is always something going on. Amsterdam is a city known for adult entertainment and Bulldog Café is a must-try place for the same. Food in Amsterdam is another attraction for the visitors. The cuisine is a diverse mix of different cultures and the tastes are as varied as the people residing in the city. The free cheese samples are quite exciting and delicious. So are the Dutch beers.

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