SUMMErschool UTRECHT



DISCOVER THE NETHERLANDS



Home to the <u>Rijksmuseum</u>, the <u>Van Gogh Museum</u>, the <u>Stedelijk Museum</u> and <u>The Royal</u> <u>Concertgebouw</u>, Museumplein is the cultural beating heart of Amsterdam. Recently renovated to a world-class standard, the leafy and architecturally astounding 19th-century district of Oud-Zuid is an art lover's utopia. The open square between the buildings pulses with activity all day, with open-air exhibitions, markets and a large paddling pool to dip your toes into on warmer days. In the winter months, the square transforms with a vast outdoor ice rink

Created in the 17th century to keep the sea at bay, Amsterdam's UNESCO protected canal belt is the quintessential postcard-perfect vision of Amsterdam. It is an unbelievably pretty sight, especially after sundown when the bridges are lit up by fairy lights and the whole area takes on a magical feel. Floating along the canals by guided boat tour is a great way to get under the fabric of the city, and you'll learn lots of fascinating facts along the way – such as why the tilting homes along the canals are known as 'dancing houses'. There are many <u>different canal cruises</u> on offer, from hop-on-hop-off sightseeing tours to atmospheric candlelit night time cruises with food and wine.

Often cited as Amsterdam's most charming neighbourhood, wandering into the <u>Jordaan</u> feels like stepping back in time. Originally a working-class area, the Jordaan's narrow streets and quaint buildings now make up one of Amsterdam's most desirable quarters, dotted with independent art galleries, antique shops, courtyard gardens and atmospheric bars and restaurants. Ditch the map and lose yourself in the labyrinth of narrow lanes that sprawl eastwards from Prinsengracht canal known as the <u>9 Streets</u>, one of Amsterdam's most rewarding shopping experiences.

By train

The fastest and easiest way to get to Amsterdam is by train. They leave about every 10 minutes usually from platform 5 or 7. The main train station is called Amsterdam Centraal

In Amsterdam:

Most sights are within walking distance but Public transport is the best way to get to know the city and visit attractions. Find all information about the right travel product and travel with ease throughout Amsterdam. Plan your trip: <u>9292.nl/en</u>

Amsterdam Tourist Information: <u>https://www.iamsterdam.com/nl</u> Located at IJ-zijde at Amsterdam Centraal Station hall.



When you visit <u>Kinderdijk</u>, you step right into the middle of Dutch history. Everything here lies below sea level, so to keep our feet dry, we have been cooperating with the wind and water for centuries. Our windmills and waterways tell the tale of the Low Countries. Travel back in time and experience the story of windmills, water, and willpower in Kinderdijk!!

By Waterbus Directly to Kinderdijk

From Rotterdam it is possible to sail directly to Kinderdijk from the Erasmus Bridge with Line 21. With this route you arrive at the windmills in about half an hour. There are more travel options on the website.

By bus

Rotterdam – Kinderdijk

Line 489: Starting point Rotterdam Kralingse Zoom. About 35 minutes travel time to Kinderdijk Molenkade. Runs twice an hour, seven days a week. From Rotterdam-Center/Rotterdam-Alexander Station you travel with the RET metro line A/B/C to metro station Kralingse Zoom. From Rotterdam-Zuid or Rotterdam Central Station, take RET Tram line 23 to Beverwaard and change at P + R Beverwaard to Line 489.

Address

Nederwaard 1b, 2961 AS Kinderdijk, The Netherlands



Affectionately referred to as the "Venice of the Netherlands," this village's thatched roof farmhouses and wooden arch bridges can be explored via bike lanes or canals—either by boat, or by ice skating during the frozen winter months.

In <u>Giethoorn</u>, a typically Dutch village in Overijssel, you can perfectly see how the Dutch love to live with and on the water. In an environment full of lakes, reed beds and forests lies this picturesque village with its many handsome farms with thatched roofs and characteristic wooden bridges.

Giethoorn was established as a settlement of peat harvesters. Peat cutting created ponds and lakes, and people built houses on the islands between them. As a result, access was only possible by bridge or using traditional Giethoorn boats, so-called punters – narrow boats pushed along using a long pole by a punteraar. When you arrive you can explore the village on foot, by bike or by canoe.

By train & bus

Take the train Dutch Railways (NS) at the station Utrecht Centraal. The journey takes approximately 1 h 25 m. Get off at the Steenwijk. Take the bus OV Regio IJsselmond at the station Steenwijk, Station. The journey takes approximately 11 m. Get off at the Giethoorn, Kerkweg.

How to get around:

When you arrive you can explore the village on foot, by bike or by canoe.