



# Amsterdam

## Travel Guide





# Introduction

When visiting Amsterdam for business, you'll find it pleasantly effortless to blend work and leisure. The city's compact nature ensures that regardless of your meeting or conference venue, you can conveniently explore various attractions within a brief timeframe.

Many corporate travellers even extend their stay by a day or two to relish Amsterdam's rich offerings. It's entirely feasible to commence your day with a morning meeting anywhere in Amsterdam, then devote your afternoon to immersing yourself in the city's vibrant heart, all before your homeward journey.

There are several key aspects to consider to ensure a successful and enjoyable trip:



## Language

Dutch is the official language, but English is widely spoken, especially in business settings. It's still a good idea to learn a few basic Dutch phrases as a sign of respect.

## Weather variability

The weather in Amsterdam can be unpredictable. Pack appropriate clothing based on the season of your visit, and be prepared for rain at any time of the year.

## Business Etiquette

Dutch business culture values punctuality, honesty, and direct communication. A firm handshake and maintaining eye contact are customary during greetings. Dress code is typically formal, with conservative attire for business meetings.



## International Airport

Amsterdam Airport Schiphol (AMS) serves as a vital hub for international business travellers. With an extensive flight network, it offers excellent connectivity to global destinations, simplifying both direct travel and connections. Schiphol is known for its efficiency, modern facilities, and business-friendly amenities. For work-related needs, the airport provides conference rooms, meeting spaces, and lounges equipped with Wi-Fi and charging stations.

Schiphol offers a wide range of dining and shopping options, including duty-free stores and dining establishments for various tastes. Customs and security processes are typically efficient but may require extra time during peak periods. The airport also features on-site hotels, an official app for real-time information, and environmental initiatives.



## Getting into Amsterdam



Getting from Schiphol Airport to the city centre of Amsterdam is relatively convenient and offers several transportation options. The travel time from Amsterdam varies depending on the mode of transportation you choose:

### Train

The fastest and most convenient way to reach the city centre is by train. The train station is located directly underneath the airport, and it takes approximately 20-25 minutes to reach Amsterdam Central Station, which is in the heart of the city. Trains run frequently, with departures every 10-15 minutes during peak hours.

### Airport Shuttle

Some hotels offer shuttle services to and from the airport. The travel time with a shuttle can vary based on the specific hotel and its location in the city centre.

### Taxi

Taking a taxi from the airport to the city centre can take around 20-30 minutes, depending on traffic conditions. It's important to note that taxis in Amsterdam can be expensive compared to other modes of transportation.





# Transport Options

Amsterdam offers a variety of transportation options, and the best ones for you will depend on your specific needs and preferences. Here are four of the most popular and efficient transport options:

## Bicycles

Amsterdam is known as one of the most bike-friendly cities in the world. You can rent a bicycle easily and explore the city at your own pace. The extensive network of dedicated bike lanes and flat terrain makes cycling a convenient and eco-friendly choice.

## Trams

The tram system in Amsterdam is well-developed and covers most parts of the city. Trams are a convenient way to get around, especially for short distances within the city centre. You can purchase tickets onboard or use an OV-chipkaart for contactless payment.

## Metro

Amsterdam has a metro system that connects various neighbourhoods and suburbs to the city centre. It's a fast and efficient option for longer journeys within the city and its outskirts.

## Train

For traveling to nearby cities or regions, the Dutch railway system (NS) is excellent. Amsterdam Central Station serves as a major transportation hub, offering connections to other Dutch cities and neighbouring countries like Belgium and Germany.

## Buses

Buses are also available for transportation within Amsterdam and to surrounding areas not covered by trams or the metro. They are particularly useful for reaching specific neighbourhoods and attractions.



## Hotel Options

Selecting the ideal hotel in Amsterdam for a business trip involves several key considerations. Prioritise proximity to your business meetings or conference locations, saving valuable time. Look for essential amenities like Wi-Fi, workspaces, and meeting rooms, tailored to business travellers. Accessibility to transportation hubs and favourable cancellation policies are practical factors. Ensure security in a reputable neighbourhood, and assess dining options and additional services for convenience.

At Selective Travel Management, we have a Hotel Process in place to ensure we fulfil our Duty of Care as a professional travel Booker and to make sure you receive the service you expect. We quality check all hotels and make recommendations based upon a benchmark of the review sites on the day that you confirm your hotel. The final choice of where you want to stay is yours, we will simply provide our recommendations.

For recommendations on hotel options in Amsterdam, please get in touch with your Dedicated Team, who can advise on the best accommodation to suit your travel needs. Our team of experts will use their personal experience, expertise, and knowledge to advise on the best accommodation for your trip. We will take into consideration many factors including: the reason for travel, your travelling scenario (solo, female, group etc.), your personal preferences, and more.





## Work Facilities

For those in search of co-working spaces, we've handpicked these exceptional options that cater to various needs and preferences.

### Workspace6

Conveniently located under Centraal Station, Workspace6 attracts freelancers, entrepreneurs, and artists for its productive atmosphere. It offers varied desk options and cozy workspaces, making it a top choice for creative professionals.

### Bounce

For a unique workspace experience, consider BounceSpace near Vondelpark, housed in a charming old factory. Monthly memberships offer flexibility, ideal for short stays. The inviting interior fosters productivity and networking, attracting freelancers and digital nomads. Enjoy 24/7 access, free meeting spaces, and a constant supply of fresh coffee.

### StartDock

Nestled in Herengracht, StartDock is Amsterdam's top coworking spot. It fosters productivity while embracing diverse interests. The vibrant atmosphere fuels motivation. Choose from work desks or private offices, collaborate with your team, and utilize meeting rooms. With events and 24/7 access, StartDock transcends mere workspace.

### A Lab

Seeking an all-in-one coworking haven? A Lab is your answer with five bookable meeting spaces and an event area. Additional perks include printing services and 24/7 access, offering unparalleled flexibility for your needs.



## Business Environment

Amsterdam's business scene is flourishing, making it an increasingly appealing destination for both local and international companies. The city boasts several thriving business districts that foster innovation and collaboration.

**Zuidas:** Situated in the southern part of Amsterdam, Zuidas, known as the "Financial Mile", serves as a prominent hub for financial institutions, law firms, and consultancies. Its modern infrastructure, accessibility, and proximity to Amsterdam Airport Schiphol make it an attractive location for businesses like ABN AMRO and Deloitte.

**Amsterdam Science Park:** This district focuses on technology and science, housing academic institutions, research centres, and start-ups. It's a dynamic centre for research, development, and innovation, with companies such as ASML and Philips Research at the forefront.

**Marina & Oosterdokseiland:** The waterfront area is becoming increasingly popular among creative and tech companies, with start-ups, music industry players, and creative agencies finding a home here, including within the iconic A'DAM Tower.

Amsterdam has also seen the establishment and expansion of renowned companies like Netflix and Uber, choosing the city as their European headquarters.





## Sightseeing

Amsterdam is a vibrant and picturesque city with a rich history and a wide range of attractions to explore. Here are the top 5 attractions:

### Dam Square

Located in the centre of Amsterdam, Dam Square is surrounded by historic buildings, including the Royal Palace and the Nieuwe Kerk (New Church). It's a hub of activity and a great place to people-watch.



### Anne Frank House

This museum is located in the actual house where Anne Frank and her family hid from the Nazis during World War II. It provides a moving and powerful look into the life of Anne Frank and the atrocities of the Holocaust.

### Van Gogh Museum

This museum houses the largest collection of Vincent van Gogh's paintings in the world. You can see many of his iconic works and learn about his life and artistic evolution.



### Jordaan

This charming neighbourhood is known for its picturesque canals, trendy boutiques, art galleries, and cozy cafés. It's a great place to wander and soak in the local atmosphere.

### Rijksmuseum

The Rijksmuseum is the national museum of the Netherlands and is home to an extensive collection of Dutch Golden Age paintings, including works by Rembrandt and Vermeer. The building itself is a work of art.



## Food and drinks

Amsterdam offers a delightful array of culinary experiences that cater to every taste bud. In fact, this city's culinary landscape extends well beyond traditional Dutch fare, embracing a rich tapestry of international cuisines due to its status as a cultural melting pot.

Don't miss Foodhallen during your Amsterdam trip – an indoor food market that's a culinary revelation. With around 20 renowned street food vendors and kitchens, it's a diverse dining haven. Options range from burgers, seafood, gourmet hot dogs, sushi burritos, wood-fired pizzas, Greek meze, Vietnamese street food, Dutch treats like bitterballen, heavenly pastries, to tempting frozen yogurt – satisfying all tastes.

Brouwerij't IJ, a standout among Amsterdam's craft breweries, is renowned for its exceptional beer. Located beside the iconic De Gooyer windmill, it's a must-visit. Enjoy their craft beers, savour grilled sausage with mustard, and take in the view from the patio with Amsterdam's tallest windmill as your backdrop.

Lotti's in Amsterdam is your versatile dining destination, offering early brunch, casual lunches, and upscale dinners with cocktails. This neighbourhood restaurant exudes a relaxed yet stylish ambiance, featuring modern décor with clean white tiles and outdoor greenery. On sunny days, they open the space for a unique al fresco experience.

If you're looking for a more upscale dining experience, explore these [Michelin-starred restaurants](#).





## Useful Apps

Navigating Amsterdam can be made much easier with the help of various smartphone apps designed to assist travellers. Here are some of the best apps to download for getting around:

I Amsterdam City Card app - Free and easy to use, it has a helpful map, offers suggestions based on your personal preferences and lets you save your favourite locations. You can also use it to find places where you receive free entry and exclusive discounts.

GVB (public transport) - Amsterdam's primary public transport operator will help you make sense of the city's tram bus, tram and metro lines ensure you always arrive at your destination.

NS Reisplanner (travel planner) - The official app of the NS (Dutch national railway) is recommended for anyone planning to explore outside Amsterdam. It provides up-to-the-minute information on departure times, suggested routes, prices and even disruptions in service.

Schiphol Airport app - The Schiphol app makes your journey in and out of Amsterdam as easy as possible. Check departure and arrival times, reserve a taxi or parking place, or use the handy map to find your way around.

**Interested in other useful business travel apps? [View Top Business Travel Apps](#) **





# Selective

Travel Management

**Business Travel.** Simplified.

**Talk to us today**

---



[selective-travel.com](https://selective-travel.com)



UK: [hello@selective-travel.co.uk](mailto:hello@selective-travel.co.uk)  
IE: [hello@selective-travel.com](mailto:hello@selective-travel.com)



UK: +44 (0) 2890 389 000  
IE: +353 1 416 7089

