

Amsterdam



Amsterdam is up there with Venice and Paris when it comes to beauty but the funky mellow bars and the liberal, tolerant atmosphere help to create the intoxicating mix that really makes this city unique.

Getting there:

- **Dublin:** direct flights daily with Ryanair and Aer Lingus.
- **Cork:** direct flights daily with Aer Lingus.
- **Belfast:** direct flights daily with Easyjet.

From the airport:

Schiphol Airport is easy to reach thanks to reliable train and bus services. www.schiphol.nl

Where to stay:

- **St. Christopher's at The Winston:** www.winston.nl
- **Durty Nelly's:** www.durtynellyys.nl
- **Bed and Breakfast Amsterdam -** www.bedandbreakfastamsterdam.net
- **The Flying Pig:** Vossiusstraat 46 and Nieuwendijk 100 - www.flyingpig.nl

Things to do:

- **Café Culture** - Beer cafes, brown cafes, coffee shops, grand cafes, tasting houses... whatever you fancy, Amsterdam's got the cafe to suit you! There are over 1000!
- **Van Gogh Museum** – Housing the largest collection of Van Gogh's work. Open daily 10.00 to 18.00, Friday 10.00 to 22.00. Admission is €14 or free with an 'I Amsterdam' card.
- **Anne Frank Huis** – The former hiding place where Anne Frank wrote her diary is

now a well-known museum.

www.annefrank.org

- **Parks and Gardens** - There are over 30 parks in Amsterdam attracting over 9 million visitors each year. Soak up some sun in the Rembrandtpark, admire the elaborate fountain at the Sarphatipark or people watch in the Vondelpark.
- **Albert Cuyp Markt** – with more than 250 stalls, this market is an absolute feast for the senses.
- **Rijksmuseum** - The Rijksmuseum (National Museum) is the premier art museum of the Netherlands, and no self-respecting visitor to Amsterdam can afford to miss it!

Nightlife:

- **Escape** - the largest club in Amsterdam with laser shows, pumping music and heavy security at the door. Chemistry, Saturday's techno night, has been pulling in huge crowds for years.
- **Sugar factory** – Is it a club? Is it a gallery? Who cares! Early evening art exhibitions, fashion shows, big band acts, performance art, multimedia events and clubbing. It does it all!
- **Hoppe** – This constantly packed brown cafe has been serving its patrons for more than 300 years. With its beer barrels and recycled church pews for seats, this dark bar has a deliciously cosy ambience.
- **'tMandje** - Café 't Mandje is a legendary bar in Amsterdam and is considered to be one of the first gay bars in the world.

Top tips:

The I Amsterdam Card is a public transport ticket and provides over 40 free and 50 discounted offers on major tourist attractions and restaurants.

<http://www.iamsterdam.com/en>

