Breathtaking Art and Technology

Hardly any city is as strongly associated with the art of seeing as Amsterdam. Millions of paintings have been created here, in particular in the Golden Age of the 17th century. The works of Rembrandt, Vermeer, Brueghel, Hals and many others are not only coveted capital investments but milestones in the history of art. This strong art tradition reached a new climax with Van Gogh in the 20th century!

For a few days, Amsterdam will also be the centre for the preservation and recovery of eyesight. We look forward to welcoming you to the scientific conference and the exhibition of the ESCRS.

Turning new discoveries made in surgical therapy into products that help cure eye diseases all over the world has always been our passion. CataRhex 3, the surgical device for the anterior segment, will see the light of day in Amsterdam. It continues Oertli's tradition of safety, simplicity and reliability by setting yet another benchmark. Just as Amsterdammers paved the way for the heyday of trade in the 15th century by discovering a route to India, the highly successful instrument CataRhex was inspired by turning our attention to India 15 years ago.

Now in its third generation, it is the most ingenious of all phaco devices worldwide. We invite you to have a close look at this marvel of engineering at Booth No. D06 before going to the recently reopened Rijksmuseum to enjoy the masterpieces of Dutch painting or the use of light in Van Gogh's art. For five days, everything in Amsterdam will revolve around seeing.

Andreas Bosshard  Christoph Bosshard  Thomas Bosshard
Chairman of the Board  CEO  Head of Marketing & Sales

Booth D06

www.oertli-instruments.com
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Head of Marketing & Sales
Welcome to Seeing Amsterdam,
Ophthalmology Times Europe’s exclusive guide to the
colourful Dutch city and host to the XXXI Congress of the European Society of Cataract
and Refractive Surgery (ESCRS).

The city is awash with history and architecture and is considered both the creative and
financial hub of the Netherlands. This guide is packed full of information on where to eat and
drink, the sights and attractions and how to get around the city.

Joined together by 1500 bridges, the city is split into nine regions. These range from quaint
medieval architecture in the Old City to hip nightlife on the Leidseplein, as well as the Plantage
district for nature lovers and the Olympic Stadium for sports enthusiasts.

Self-confessed shopaholics will appreciate the street markets such as the Albert Cuyp and
shopping areas such as the quirky Nine Streets and the luxurious Hoofstraat.

Amsterdam is a population of reknowned beer lovers, boasting a fantastic selection
of Belgian lagers, real ales and international brews all in a friendly bar culture — it is not
uncommon for a pub to brew it’s own beer. The city is bursting with a infusion of cuisines but
noted Dutch specialities are the ‘kass broodje’ and the nutritious ‘stamppot’.

Bicycle is the most popular way of getting around Amsterdam. We give you the best bicycle
companies to hire from, as well as information on other methods of transport.

We hope this guide will be useful for your time in Amsterdam. We wish you a fantastic stay
and hope you enjoy exploring the city and its surrounds!
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The European Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgeons (ESCRS) is holding its 31st congress in Amsterdam, The Netherlands this year. The meeting is one of the most significant events for the anterior segment. The free paper sessions, symposia and instructional courses will be a fantastic opportunity to engage with like-minded people and create lifelong connections. The exhibition hall will feature hundreds of stalls and booths run by various ophthalmic companies offering new products, practices and services.

When
The XXXI ESCRS Congress will be held on the 5–9 October 2013.

Where
The ESCRS XXXI Congress will be held at the Amsterdam RAI, Europaplein, NL 1078 GZ, Amsterdam, The Netherlands.
Website: www.rai.nl/en/
Tram: Europaplein (Tram Number 4)
Metro: Amsterdam RAI (Metro Number 50)

Registration
The onsite registration fees for the congress are as follows:
Member: €635
Non-member: €735
Trainee: €50
Healthcare Professional: €360
ESONT Member: €50

Exhibition
In addition to the ESCRS congress programme, there will be an exhibition from Saturday 5 October to Tuesday 8 October.

Main Symposia
Every day there will be main symposia taking place as well as free paper sessions. Here are the listings:
Saturday 5 October (2 pm–4 pm)
ESCRS/EuCornea Symposium: Refractive surgery in risky corneas: is it really safe for the patient?
Chairpersons: B. Cochener, R. Nuijts

Sunday 6 October (11 am–1 pm)
Femto-assisted cataract surgery: Euphoria amid skepticism and financial restraints
Chairpersons: G. Grabner, Y. Henry

Monday 7 October (11 am–1 pm)
Unravelling the mysteries of myopia
Chairpersons: D. Epstein, G. Luyten

Tuesday 8 October (11 am–1 pm)
The management of high hyperopia
Chairpersons: J. Güell, R. Lapid-Gortzak
Wednesday 9 October (11 am–1 pm)
Treating astigmatism with cataract surgery
Chairpersons: O. Findl, D. Spalton

Young Ophthalmologists Session

This comprehensive training course, held on Sunday 6 October, is ideal for young ophthalmologists and ophthalmology students. The session enables participants to take training into their own hands, as well as discussing significant matters. The topics covered are:

- 8 am — Ophthalmology training in Europe: facts, figures, rumours (T. Rudolph)
- 8.10 am — Chance favours prepared minds: expand your knowledge online (N. Hirnschall)
- 8.30 am — Developing my surgical skills (P. Rosen)
- 8.50 am — How to get financial support for my training (O. Findl)
- 9.10 am — Taking an idea and turning it into a paper (W. Weber)

Instructional Courses

Instructional courses will be available from Saturday to Tuesday. OTEurope’s highlights include:

Saturday 5 October
- 10.30 am–12.30 pm — Intracorneal inlays for presbyopia
- 2.30 pm–4.30 pm — Slicing and dicing: explanting and implanting secondary IOLs — Video course
- 5 pm–6 pm — Meibomian gland dysfunction and chronic blepharitis

Sunday 6 October
- 8 am–10 am — IOL power calculation
- 2.30 pm–4.30 pm — Best of the best: An update in cataract surgery 2013
- 5 pm–6 pm — How to improve your refractive outcomes by skilful interpretation of corneal mapping

Monday 7 October
- 8 am–10 am — Innovations and advanced application in cataract surgery with the femtosecond laser
- 2.30 pm–4.30 pm — Management of cataract in challenging cases
- 5 pm–6 pm — Surgical strategies for corneal inlay implantation

Tuesday 8 October
- 8 am–10 am — EVICR.net cornea, cataract and refractive surgery (CCRS) interactive ICH good clinical practices (GCP) course
- 2.30 pm–4.30 pm — State-of-the-art diagnosis and treatment of irregular cornea

Other Highlights

Saturday 5 October
Refraction Surgery Didactic Course
Sunday 6 October
JCRS Symposium: Questions for the Cataract and Refractive Surgeon in 2013
Monday 7 October
Combined Symposium of Cataract & Refractive Surgery Societies (CSCRS)

Organizers

ESCRS
Temple House, Temple Road, Blackrock, Co Dublin, Ireland
Tel.: +35 31 209 1100
Fax: +35 31 209 1112
E-mail: escrs@escrs.org
Website: www.escrs.org
Amsterdam, the capital of The Netherlands, is the country’s largest city and arguably one of the most liberal places in Europe. The area is the cultural, financial and creative hub of the country and is popularly deemed as the ‘Venice of the North’ due to the sprawling network of the canals criss-crossing the entire city.

Connected by over 1500 bridges, Amsterdam is divided into nine unique districts. The most-visited area is the Old Centre — the central core of the city boasting medieval architecture, beautiful waterways and a wealth of coffee shops.

The upmarket Canal Ring was originally constructed in the 17th century and is now a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The main nightlife hotspots Leidseplein and Rembrandtplein are situated here. For museums and art galleries the South district is your best bet. The Vondelpark can be found here, a perfect place for chilling with a picnic, as well as Albert Cuyp Market for a treasure trove of bargains.

Nature lovers will appreciate a visit to the Plantage district. This part of the city is home to the botanical gardens, the fabulous Artis Zoo and the Eastern Islands. Amsterdam offers sights and activities for all sorts of people in all sorts of weather.

ART, SPORT AND CULTURE

Starting out as just a small fishing village in the 12th century, Amsterdam developed into one of the most important trading ports by the 17th century. By the 19th and 20th centuries the city expanded into a number of modern suburbs. As a result Amsterdam is teeming with gorgeous architecture and a fascinating history. Famous for their liberal views, the Dutch offer a relaxed and welcoming attitude to tourists.

For those searching for a slice of culture there are many exciting art galleries and historic buildings to visit including the Rijksmuseum, Rembrandt House and the Anne Frank House. Those who are more theatrically and musically inclined will appreciate Boom Chicago, the city’s number one comedy club, as well as Anton Philipszaal concert hall.

The Netherlands is also renowned for tulips and these can be seen in abundance in the surrounding fields in the spring.

Van Gogh Museum
Paulus Potterstraat 7, 1071
www.vangoghmuseum.nl

The fantastic Van Gogh Museum houses over 200 paintings, 437 drawings and 31 prints by the iconic artist. Buy the museumkaart ticket to jump the queues and savour the masterpieces of the 19th century genius. Bathe in the warm glow of the legendary ‘Sunflowers’ still life painting and take in the beautiful but saddening portrayals of peasant life, as depicted through Van Gogh’s eyes. Opening hours: Everyday 9 am–5 pm, Fridays until 10 pm
Admission: €15
Rembrandt House
Jodenbreestraat 4–6, 1011
www.rembrandthuis.nl
History and art lovers alike will revel in the antiques and masterpieces at Rembrandt House. Considered as one of the greatest Dutch painters and printmakers of the 17th century, Rembrandt Harmenszoon van Rijn created around 300 paintings, 200 etchings and 2000 drawings. Rembrandt House, clearly recognizable by it’s bright red shutters, was the artist’s home between 1639 and 1658 and is now a museum. Visitors can look around his home studio, while admiring other antiques from the time period. Rembrandt was a keen collector of curiosities and you can see this throughout his Art Cabinet — home to seashells, turtleshells, greek and roman busts, earlier engravings and beautiful old books.
Opening hours: 10 am–6 pm daily
Admission: €12.50

Anne Frank House
Prinsengracht 263–267, 1016 GV
www.annefrank.org
Probably one of the most iconic and touching real-life stories of the 20th Century is that of Anne Frank. Now, read the world over, her diary tells us of the dramatic unfoldings she and her family faced during the second World War. In the Anne Frank House museum visitors are able to see where Anne, her family and four other Jews hid, the Secret Annex, for two years before capture, as well as having the opportunity to view the original diary in an exhibition located nextdoor. Tickets to this historic building can be bought on-line or at the museum.
Opening hours: 9 am–9 pm, it is open until 10 pm on Saturdays
Admission: €9

Rijksmuseum
Museumstraat 1, 1071 XX
www.rijksmuseum.nl
This museum houses over 8000 artefacts on Amsterdam’s art and history spanning from the year 1200 to 2000. This includes works by Rembrandt, Frans Hals and Johannes Vermeer. Beautiful collections from the Dutch Golden Age are on display, as well as a charming Asian collection and the stern of HMS Royal Charles. The museum offers a groundbreaking feature, the chance to download high-res images of all artwork. The prints can be placed on any object from canvas to cars. Copies of the artwork are delivered straight to your door.
Opening hours: 9 am–5 pm daily
Admission: €15

Boom Chicago
Rozaentheater, Rozengracht 117, 1017 PT
www.boomchicago.nl
For a fun-packed, hilarious night to tickle even the most stubborn of funny bones, head to one of Europe’s top improvisational comedy clubs. Boom Chicago ironically started out as a joke and is now the centre of Dutch comedy, selling cheap beer and even cheaper tickets. The venue attracts a lot of locals, despite shows being performed in English. The comedy troupe even had its own show on Comedy Central Netherlands and many celebrities have been spotted in the audience.
Opening hours: Varied
Admission: Prices start from €14

Amsterdam Museum
Nieuwezijds Voorburgwal 357
Tel: +31 20 5231822
www.amsterdammuseum.nl
An interactive museum leading you through the
history of Amsterdam and charting the growth of the city through time. The Amsterdam DNA exhibit presents a concise overview of Amsterdam’s history using multimedia presentations and specially selected artefacts. The Sound of Amsterdam is an installation showing the evolution of the sounds in Dam Square.

**Opening hours:** Monday to Sunday
10 am–5 pm
**Admission:** €10

**Concertgebouw**

Concertgebouwplein 10, Museum Quarter, 1071 LN
www.concertgebouw.nl

Famous for its outstanding acoustics, the Concertgebouw, which was opened in 1888, is one of the most celebrated historical landmarks of The Netherlands. Daydream in a whirlwind of dramatic symphonies and let the music carry you away. Every Wednesday, from September to June a free 30 minute Lunch Concert is held at 12.30 pm. What more could a music lover want? Renowned orchestras from around the world often put on public rehearsals, whereas some ensembles charge an affordable fee for an evening performance.

**Opening hours:** Varied
**Admission:** Varied — Tickets can be purchased on-line

**Amsterdam ArenA**

ArenA Boulevard 1, Bijlmermeer, 1100
www.amsterdamarena.nl

Sports and music fanatics alike will highly appreciate a tour of the Amsterdam ArenA — commonly known as ArenA. Opened in 1996, the ArenA has played host to many big international names including the Rolling Stones, David Bowie, Michael Jackson and Pavarotti, as well as the Euro 2000 football tournament and annual dance raves Sensation White and Sensation Black.

The venue offers a variety of tours to suit your needs, including a kids tour, group tours, school tours and match tours of Amsterdam’s premier football team Ajax. The World of Ajax Stadium tours run five times a day and are conducted in both Dutch and English. Reservations are not always necessary.

**Opening hours:** Varied — dependent on event.
Tours are available daily from 11 am (11.30 am on Saturdays)
**Admission:** Varied — dependent on event or tour option.

**Olympic Stadium**

Olympisch Stadion 2, 1076
http://www.olympischstadion.nl

Imagine you are an athlete for your home country in the 1928 Olympic games, heart swelling with patriotic pride and adrenaline pumping as the crowd roars when you step onto the centre ground of the stadium. The stadium is small but definitely mighty, boasting an intimate museum and impressive statues. Amsterdam was the first country to hold the Olympic torch tradition — a reason in its own right to see this little piece of Dutch history. Nowadays, marathons and music festivals are held in place of the Olympics. It’s easily accessible as the tram stops directly opposite the stadium entrance.

**Opening hours:** 11 am–5 pm, except Mondays
**Admission:** €6, guided tours from €12.50 per person

**EYE Film Institute Netherlands**

IJpromenade, 1031 KT
Tel: +31 205 891 400
www.eye.film.nl

The EYE Film Institute Netherlands cinematography museum features an internationally renowned collection of films. Classic and art house films are regularly shown.
Guided tours through the exhibition as well as through the building and on the architecture are available, please see the website for further details.

**Shopping**

Amsterdam is home to many specialist shops — almost every niche market is catered for. From football souvenirs to handmade jewellery and rare cigars, the Dutch city has it all. The key shopping areas run from Central Station to the Leidseplein all the way down to Leidsestraat. Primarily clothes shops, the shopping district is down to earth and affordable for any budget.

There is one upmarket shopping street Hooftstraat consisting of various designer labels. Specialized street markets are spread out across the city including the largest in Amsterdam, the Albert Cuyp. But for truly eccentric trinkets head to the beautiful area of the Nine Streets.

**Street Markets**

**Noordemarkt**

A flea market is held every Monday morning selling a fine mix of second-hand goods including antiques, clothes, books and household items. For the arts and crafts lover there are many stalls at the edge of the market selling fabric by the metre. This bleeds into the Lapjesmarkt, located around the corner on Westerstraat. Every Saturday there is an organic farmers’ market in the Noordmarkt offering fresh local produce such as herbs, meats, cheeses, pasta and olive oil.

**Albert Cuyp**

As the largest daily market in Europe, the Albert Cuyp is relaxed and easy going. There are over 300 stands selling a vast range of items from fresh produce to clothes and antiques. It is one of the most popular markets and is open Monday to Saturday from 9 am until approximately 5 pm. The Albert Cuyp is the perfect place to purchase souvenirs and trinkets for loved ones, as well as a present for yourself.

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**Gassan Diamonds**

*Nieuwe Uilenburgerstraat 173–175*  
*Tel: +31 206 225 333*  
*[www.gassan.com](http://www.gassan.com)*

Founded in 1945, Gassan Diamonds offers visitor tours, giving you the opportunity to learn more about the process of diamond cutting and the ‘Amsterdam cut’. Free guided tours are available daily. There is also a Diamonds & Champagne tour available upon request. During the tour guests receive a ‘Champagne and Diamond Surprise Cocktail’, which is a glass of champagne with a sparkling surprise inside. For one lucky guest this surprise will be a real diamond rather than a cubic zirconia! An expert will analyse each gem and announce the winner. More information on these tours is available on the website.

**Opening hours:** Daily 9 am–5 pm  
**Admission:** Free (Champagne tour cost varies)
Dappermarkt
For a culturally diverse experience, head to the Dappermarkt in Amsterdam Oost. The market is open every day except Sundays and features over 200 stalls selling a melting pot of goods from household appliances to bedding and garden accessories. This market is also a paradise for food lovers, as you will find speciality ingredients, particularly from Turkey, Morocco and Suriname.

Shopping Streets
The Nine Streets
De 9 Straatjes is a series of side streets tucked between Leidsestraat and Raadhuisstraat that lead to the main canals. If you enter the Nine Streets you will most likely emerge with an unusual curiosity. Clothes shops selling attention-grabbing garments bathe the streets in quirky style, while the vintage shop Zipper is a nostalgia lovers dream. There is also De Witte Tandenwinkel that sells all manner of things to do with dental care.

   The Pompadour chocolatier and café is a charming place to sit back with a hot fresh coffee and watch the world go by. For an affordable lunch head to Van Harte for their glorious French-Mediterranean-style lunches and evening meals. Brix, a bar in Wolvenstraat, specializes in beautiful entrees, accompanied by a breathy jazz soundtrack. Artistic and kooky, the Nine Streets are one of the golden wonders of Amsterdam.

Hoofstraat
Diamonds are a girl’s best friend, but Hoofstraat is a close second. Starting as a residential street in the late 19th century, this area is now the most upmarket shopping street in the city. Big name clothing brands fill the streets, including Hugo Boss, American Vintage and Dolce & Gabbana. It is here you will also find impressive jewellery and accessories in the famous Cartier and Tiffany & Co. stores, along with Mont Blanc writing instruments and watches. There are a few cafés and hotels offering food and drink, including the Museum Hotel, Nespresso and the City Garden Hotel.

Department Stores
Die Bijenkorf
This upscale department store is full of style and glamour. Opened in 1870, Die Bijenkorf is the place to go for luxury shopping. The department store is one of the most famous in The Netherlands, with 12 locations across the country. The Amsterdam store, situated in the smart district of Dam Square, offers a treasure trove of Dutch and international brands. This includes G-Star RAW, Armani, Calvin Klein, Diesel, Louis Vuitton and more. As well as clothing and accessories, the department store is famous for homewear, luggage, electronics, cosmetics and gifts. The on-site bakery sells a ‘must-try’ exquisite chocolate truffle cake and Café B offers shoppers an ideal opportunity to relax and rest their feet with a fair-trade coffee after a spot of retail therapy.

Maison de Bonneterie
Founded in 1889 and located on Kalverstraat in a beautiful Parisian building, this department store is home to a colourful mix of upscale fashion, luxury brands and styles. The store considers itself a ‘multi-brand fashion store’ with names such as Hugo Boss, Lacoste, Guess, Creenstone and Polo R. As well as luxury items, there are also affordable basic brands available. After a day’s shopping it’s highly advisable to unwind with a glass of champagne in the classy bar.

Escaping the City
To get away from the tourist traps and the hustle and bustle of city life, the North Holland Province is where you will find Hilversum,
a town full of friendly, quaint shops and modern architecture. Picturesque Alkmaar is only 40 minutes by car and 30 minutes by public transport. If you do fancy city life then Utrecht, the fourth most populous city of the Netherlands, will be ideal.

Alkmaar
Alkmaar is one of the prettiest towns outside of Amsterdam. Sprawling with crooked medieval buildings and beautiful waterways, the North Holland historic city dates back to the 17th century. Situated on the peninsula, north of Amsterdam, Alkmaar was a region of lakes and marshland and home to the iconic Dutch canalside windmills.

The city has two main squares — Canadaplein and the Sint Laurenskerk. Landmarks worth noting would be the Grote Kerk, a church built between 1470 and 1520, 18th century sandstone house Huize Egmont, the cheese market and the Biermuseum de Boom, a beer museum. Perfect for walks along the canal, the Oude Gacht is the longest in the city.

Hilversum
This modest-sized town can be found in the Gooi area of North Holland. Formerly known as the Garden of Amsterdam, Hilversum is surrounded by forests and heath and is a particular hit with cyclists. The city is sandwiched between Amsterdam and Utrecht and is considered one of the hubs of the Dutch media industry.

Hilversum is one of the only places in the country with hills, making it a haven for outdoor pursuits such as mountain biking and hiking. The town itself features an art deco town hall constructed between 1928 and 1931, which features in many architecture books in its own right! The Netherlands Institute for Sound and Vision is a gargantuan 21st century building and is even bigger on the interior as half of it is situated underground. The exterior glass windows present years of footage from Dutch television history. There are also a number of churches, cinemas and theatres, which demonstrates the eclectic mix of culture and nature in and around the city.

Utrecht
Since the 8th century this University city has been the religious centre of the Netherlands and is currently home to the Archbishop of Utrecht and the Archbishop of the old Catholic church. There are hoards of historical churches scattered throughout the city — including the Dom Tower and Church and the gothic churches of St James and St Nicholas.

The Centraal Museum has a permanent exhibition on illustrator Dick Bruna, famous for creating the children’s character Miffy. There is also a selection of museums including the Aboriginal Art Museum, the Railroad Museum and the National museum, which includes an exhibition on mechanical musical instruments. One of the highlights of Utrecht is Stadskasteel Oudaen, the 13th century castle-turned restaurant that serves locally brewed beer. A particular must-see is the Trajectum Lumen, an exhibition after dark that tours the artistic illuminations throughout the city centre.
With over 2000 restaurants in Amsterdam offering a treasure trove of different cuisines, visitors will be spoiled for choice. The city is located near the North Sea so fresh seafood such as prawns, cod and mackerel are readily available. For meat eaters there are dishes including Persian lamb and chicken to Peruvian grilled meats and African crocodile steak. Vegetarians will also feel at home with the variety of spicy and raw foods ranging from Indian, Italian, Dutch and Western cuisine.

The Dutch delicacy is cheese, especially Gouda and Edam. Many places in Amsterdam will serve ‘kaas broodje’, hand-crafted cheese on a bread roll, which is a popular local breakfast dish. For a main meal, the ‘stamppot’ is a traditional hearty choice consisting of bread spread with goose fat, accompanied by vegetables and mashed potatoes.

So, for your convenience, we have split the restaurants into three categories: ‘Budget’ for those watching their money, ‘Mid-range’ for meals at fair prices and ‘Treat Yourself’ for those who want to treat themselves to a bit of luxury.
Cuisine: Dutch
Serving up both Dutch and German classics such as speciality stewed beef and wienerschnitzel. Main meals are available from €7.50, making it remarkable value for money. All meals are home-cooked, with the particular local favourite being “Grandmother’s Meatball Steak”, complete with homemade stroganoff sauce. The menu is adapted to the season and everything is made from fresh ingredient delivered on the day. However, please note, this restaurant is only open Monday–Friday.

La Falote
Roelof Hartstraat 26 IV, 1071 VJ
www.lafalote.nl
+31 206 625 454
Cuisine: Dutch
For a truly Dutch dining experience visit La Falote. With dishes, such as shrimp cocktail and beef stew, served at nostalgic prices, this folksy restaurant is easy on the purse strings. The tables are decked out with checked table-cloths too, giving this restaurant a traditional atmosphere and you may even be treated to a song or two on the accordion by the chef.

Maydanoz
Ceintuurbaan 9, 1072 ER
www.maydanoz-amsterdam.nl
+31 206 761 195
Cuisine: Eastern Mediterranean
Traditional Turkish, Syrian, Lebanese, Israeli and Greek food is offered here at mouth-wateringly good prices. Main courses are prepared on a charcoal grill and there are plenty of cold and...
hot mezzes to choose from. The authentic décor creates a friendly and comfortable atmosphere. Additionally, there is a fine choice of Turkish wine or raki (an aniseed flavoured spirit) that can be enjoyed in the splendid outside seating area.

**Poco Loco**
Nieuwmarkt 24, 1012 CR
www.diningcity.nl/pocoloco
+31 206 242 937
Cuisine: Mexican
For a lower budget restaurant Poco Loco certainly doesn’t look like it. This restaurant is ideal for any time of the day as it serves morning coffee, lunch, afternoon tea, beer, tapas and evening meals. Those who want to celebrate in style can order a bottle of champagne and a few light snacks. However, if you’re after something a little less pricey Poco Loco sell great value Dutch croquettes, Italian bruschetta and smoke chicken and crispy bacon club sandwiches.

**Eetcafe Koevoet**
Lindenstraat 17, 1015 KV
www.diningcity.nl/koevoet
+31 206 240 846
Cuisine: Italian/Sicilian
Indulge in homemade pasta dishes and sausages in this family-owned Sicilian restaurant. Well-known to locals, reservations are definitely required at the weekends. Koevoet is famous for its grand selection of Italian wines, hand-selected by the owner. Notable dishes include spinach and ricotta ravioli and goat’s cheese ravioli in olive oil and butter. Koevoet is a true hidden gem of Amsterdam.

**Fifteen**
Jollemanhof 9, The WaterfrontCentrum, 1019 GW
www.fifteen.nl
+31 205 095 015
Cuisine: Italian
Jamie Oliver’s franchise has come to Amsterdam in the form of a swanky Italian restaurant. Think flavour-infused risottos, delicious gnocchis and stuffed tortellis. Fifteen prides itself on a fresh and seasonal menu that is made up of sustainable ingredients. Gourmet sandwiches, pastas and salads are available at lunch while
Foodism
Nassaukade 122, 1052 EC
www.foodism.nl
+31 204 868 137
Cuisine: Mediterranean
Foodism started in 1997 and continues to offer healthy and simple food. The Slavic chef, who started his career in Japanese macrobiotic cooking, has used his training and personal background to direct the cooking style towards a Mediterranean inspired menu. New dishes are produced constantly, including ‘Miss Shell and her Five Friends, Naked’ (six peeled prawns fried in garlic), along with ‘dell avocado pomodori di pollo’ and ‘magna padum’.

De Bolhoed
Prinsengracht 60-62, 1015 DX
+31 206 261 803
Cuisine: Organic vegetarian
As a former hat shop (Bolhoed is Dutch for ‘bowler hat’), oozes ethnicity and culture. Some local favourites are the ragout croissant, pumpkin soup and the cold Spanish soup zarzuela, all of which come in generous portion sizes. The modern art featured on the walls is for sale and the bohemian staff will be happy to assist you! Vegan dishes are also available.

De Koe
Marnixstraat 381, 1016 XR
www.cafedekoe.nl
+31 206 254 482
Cuisine: Mediterranean
Translated as ‘The Cow’, this basement restaurant is only a four minute walk from the Leidseplein and is cosily tucked away out of sight. Attracting artists and musicians, De Koe has played host to many famous names. Steak is a popular dish on the menu, which makes sense in a cow themed café, but there are plenty of other options available. It must be noted, however, that the menu changes frequently so it is advisable to check the website for the daily offerings.

Haejsje Claes
Spuistraat 275, 1012 RV
www.haesjeclaes.nl
+31 206 249 998
Cuisine: Dutch
This restaurant currently occupies six historical buildings and serves up nourishing Dutch meals such as pea soup, fish stew and chicken livers. The coded wine list is handy for pairing with dishes, ranging from ‘crispy and fruity’ to ‘pronounced’. There is also a luscious selection of champagne and cava, which would go well with the succulent oysters on offer.

Moeders
Rozengracht 251, 1016 SX
www.moeders.com
+31 206 267 957
Cuisine: Dutch
Moeders, translated as ‘mothers’, is decked out with photographs...
and paintings of mothers all over the walls and the tables are set with non matching crockery and glassware. The informal vibe of this place is inviting to visitors from all walks of life. At Moeders, mothers certainly do know best: Spare ribs served with fries and cabbage salad, calf’s liver with bacon and onion and sirloin steak with stroganoff sauce are all on the menu. All the home comforts are here and ready for you to savour. Desserts include the ‘Chocolate Party’ — a mousse with ice cream and truffle for all the chocaholics out there. Dinner samplers are available for each dish so visitors can try before they buy.

Kilimanjaro
Rapenburgerplein 6, The WaterfrontCentrum, 1019 VB
+31 206 223 485
Cuisine: African
Relaxation and friendliness are on the agenda at Kilimanjaro Restaurant. Customers are encouraged to eat the enjera pancake meals with their hands and wash it down with a cool mongooza beer served in a calabash. After dinner, it’s highly recommended to order Ethiopian coffee with a bowl of popcorn, followed by a tranquil walk around the harbour.

Levant
Weteringschans 93, Leidseplein, 1017 RZ
www.restaurantlevant.nl
+31 206 225 184
Cuisine: Turkish
Levant has made a considerable effort to capture this ambience and convey it in their food. Visitors will get the opportunity to try Susamlı Börek, a Turkish pastry dish filled with a mousse of feta, Turkish cheese and milk. Main courses tend to be good value for money with dishes such as grilled lamb with aubergine purée and chicken chops with soy sauce and rice.

Los Pilones
Kerkstraat 63, 1017 GC
www.lospilones.com
+31 203 204 651
Cuisine: Mexican
If you fancy a little taste of Mexico, Los Pilones is one of the most authentic Mexican restaurants in the city, serving up sizzling cochinita pibil (slow-roasted pork) or enchiladas with an electrifying chocolate-chilli sauce, among many more dishes. Drinks-wise they offer their own-brand tequila and fresh margaritas. Los Pilones also has locations in Jordaan and Nieuwmarkt.

Sea Palace
Oosyerdokskade 8, The Waterfront, Jordaan, 1011 AE
www.seapalace.nl
+31 206 264 777
Cuisine: Chinese
This elaborate floating Chinese restaurant may look touristy on the outside but it whips up some of the tastiest and most authentic Chinese dishes in Amsterdam. It is popular with Chinese locals indulging in pork buns and shrimp dumplings, and even delicacies such as beef intestines.
Tujah Maret
Utrechtsedwarsstraat 73, 1017 VJ
www.tujuhmaret.nl
+31 204 276 622
Cuisine: Indonesian
The Tujah Maret prides itself on providing quality dishes. Everything is cooked in the style of the Minahasa, which is North Sulawesi. Many herbs and spices are used in the dishes, making them fragrant and unique. For parties of around 25 people there are function rooms that can be booked in advance.

As
Prinses Irenestraat 19, 1077 WT
www.restaurantas.nl
+31 206 440 100
Cuisine: Dutch
Self-proclaimed ‘seasonal cooking’ restaurant As is situated in an old monastery. Head chef Sander Overeinder has worked in kitchens from as far afield as California and his passion is clearly demonstrated through every course. He uses local ingredients including organic meat from Baambrugge and Maartensdijk. Visitors are encouraged to attempt to recreate recipes, such as hare stew, stuffed pig and duck leg with porcini mushrooms, at home.

Treat yourself €€€

Envy
Prinsengracht 381, 1016 HL
www.envy.nl
+31 203 446 407
Cuisine: Dutch
Named after one of the seven deadly sins, Envy is a sinfully chic restaurant serving the latest and most creative in New Dutch cuisine. If you want Dutch food in the style of the Spanish then look no further. Smoked pigeon and tempura cherries tapas in four-bite portions are the order of the day at Envy. A selection of Dutch tapas or main meals comes in at around €50 per person, and that includes wine! Watch out for numerous special offers including free glasses of bubbly and appetizers with every reservation. It is advisable to check the website for the current deals.

Beddington’s
Utrechtsedwarsstraat 141, 1017 WE
www.beddington.nl
+31 206 207 393
Cuisine: Dutch/British/Japanese
Tucked safely away from the noisy tourist areas, Beddington’s provides a combination of British,
Japanese and modern Dutch cuisine served with a modern twist. It is here you will find extraordinary creations such as tingly wasabi and soy tuna steak with fluffy sweet potato mash. British chef Jean Beddington and a team of dedicated experts design all dishes, meaning creativity flows from every mouthful.

**Ciel Bleu**
Ferdinand Bolstraat 333, 1072 LH
www.cielbleu.nl
+31 206 787 450
**Cuisine: Dutch/Seafood**
Ciel Bleu is the epitome of Dutch fine dining. Appetizers start from €55 and caviar is available from €3.60 per gram. This is a real treat for those who wish to indulge in gourmet cuisine. Expect nothing but the best ingredients from this restaurant, including king crab, pigeon Anjou, lobster, goose liver and Suffolk lamb. It’s not only the food that is elegant — the décor is grand and detailed, a feast for the eyes as well as the taste buds.

**De Kas**
Kamerlingh Onneslaan 3, 1097 DE
www.restaurantdekas.nl
+31 204 624 562
**Cuisine: Dutch/European**
Organic produce is widely used at De Kas, which is Dutch for ‘greenhouse’. The restaurant itself is situated in a large greenhouse, half of which is for dining and the other half is where the fruit and vegetables are grown. Some of the food is also cultivated on nearby farms or in the surrounding gardens. This is a great find for eco-warriors and gastronomes, alike.

**d’Vijff Vlieghen**
Spuistraat 294-302, 1012 VX
www.thefiveflies.com
+31 205 304 060
**Cuisine: Dutch**
As a self-confessed ‘culinary museum’, D’Vijff Vlieghen is the place to be for foodies. Literally translated as ‘The Five Flights’, the restaurant is spread across five 17th century houses. Stepping right out of Amsterdam’s ‘Golden Age’, D’Vijff Vlieghen’s atmosphere is charming and stylish. Holland’s culinary traditions are displayed in all their glory — with a modern twist, thus creating ‘New Dutch Cuisine’. Appetisers include goat’s cheese, marinated mushrooms, dried apple and crumbled rye bread. But the domestic duck breast with crème of yellow carrot and Nepal pepper steals the show in the main course section.

**Greetje**
Peperstraat 23-25, 1011 TJ
www.restaurantgreetje.nl
+31 207 797 450
**Cuisine: Dutch**
Traditional Dutch cuisine is always on the menu at Restaurant Greetje. This includes ‘stamppot’, which is bread served with meaty goose fat, wholesome vegetables and feathery mashed potatoes. The staff are experts in the field of Netherlands cuisine and will be more than happy to help you pick out the perfect dish.

**La Olivia**
Egelantiersstraat 122–124, 1015 PR
http://www.laoliva.nl
+31 204 223 030
**Cuisine: Spanish**
Specializing in Northern Spanish cuisine, La Olivia is a sleek restaurant offering pintxos — a gourmet sandwich/crostini as a bitesize snack. The
favourites include freshly skewered tuna with duck liver accompanied by a sweet sherry sauce. Other top dishes are the azaela fish stew with shellfish and crab, as well as tournedos (spicy cheese) with sauce. Non-seafood items include wild boar stew, Iberian sausages and pheasant in gravy. Tapas start from €9 each and main courses start from €20.

**Lastage**
Geldersekade 29, 1011 EJ
www.restaurantlastage.nl
+31 207 370 811
**Cuisine: Dutch**
Although this restaurant creates Dutch dishes, they are cooked using French techniques. Lastage is well known for its attention to detail and high quality gourmet dining. The decadent and innovative dishes include seabass marinated in gin, mozzarella and watercress coulis and stroopwafel (golden waffles) parfait with blueberries. To top it all off, Lastage is located in a charming old building creating a quaint but luxurious atmosphere.

**Razmataz**
Hugo de Grootplein 7, 1052 KV
www.razmataz.nl
+31 204 868 408
**Cuisine: French/Mediterranean**
As a seasonal restaurant, Razmataz doesn’t disappoint. Think lamb shanks in the winter and strawberries in a sweet soup in the summer. The laid back atmosphere attracts a young and diverse crowd. Razmataz is open for breakfast, lunch and dinner, as well as morning coffee and after-dinner drinks. The terrace draws in a happy after-work crowd on summer evenings for relaxed drinks and laughter.

**Vis aan de Schelde**
Scheldplein 4, 1078 GR
www.visaandeschelde.nl
+31 206 751 583
**Cuisine: Dutch**
Neighbouring the RAI Convention Centre is the famous fish restaurant Vis aan de Schelde. Stars on the menu include crayfish, fresh oysters, milky haddock, scallops, turbot and monkfish. The venue is ideal for official occasions, networking and business meetings as it is a little more formal than most Dutch restaurants. The detailed drinks menus even suggests which wine will go best with the various seafood dishes.

**Wilde Zwijnen**
Javaplein 23, 1095 CJ
http://wildezwijnen.com
+31 204 633 043
**Cuisine: Dutch**
Take the opportunity to dine in luxury at the Wilde Zwijnen Restaurant. Filo pie with pea mousse, baked turbot and roasted veal steak can be found on the menu, along with Dutch black cow rib eye steak from the charcoal grill. The restaurant takes advantage of local produce such as North Sea fish, traditional Beemster sausage and seafood from Urk.
CAFÉ GUIDE

Amsterdam is the perfect city to lounge outside a café by one of the many beautiful Dutch Elm-lined canals and sip a delicious caffeinated beverage. Café culture has rapidly boomed in Amsterdam in recent years with many interesting places now available to choose from to enjoy a quick ‘pick me up’ or two!

Coffee was introduced to Amsterdam in the 1600s, when the city was one of the richest in the world. It is home to many ‘bruin cafés’, which is literally translated as ‘brown café’ and is so called due to the cozy dark wood interior of the cafés.

The Mayor of Amsterdam reportedly presented King Louis XIV of France a young coffee plant. The King ordered it to be planted in the Royal Botanical Garden in Paris. A few years on, a young naval officer took a seedling from the King’s plant and transported it to the island of Martinique — where 18 million coffee trees sprang up over the following 50 years.

Bagels & Beans
Van Baerlestraat 40, 1071
With six bagel types to choose from, including hot and sweet, Bagels & Beans is great for breakfast and lunch. Fresh coffee is served daily, along with a selection of bagel fillings and speciality teas. Inspired by the South of France, Bagels & Beans is a franchise that still manages to remain quirky.

Café Americain
Leidsekade 97, 1017 PN
For old-fashioned glamour and the freshest coffee this side of the city head to Café Americain. Built in 1902, the café features a classic reading table and was popular with writers and artists of the 20th century. Café Americain serves soups, lunches, crustaceans, three course meals and even a theatre menu.

Café de Jaren
Nieuwe Doelenstraat 20–22, 1012, CP
This art deco café also has a reading table, along with a stunning canal-side terrace and balcony. The atmosphere is light and spacious, not to mention hospitable. Situated over two floors joined by an atrium, Café de Jaren has a popular salad buffet as well as a gorgeous range of coffees.
Café Luxembourg

Spuí 24, 1012 XA
The New York Times previously coined this café as ‘one of the world’s greatest’. With a classic interior, including parquet floors and a marble bar, the café emits a luxurious but relaxed atmosphere. The reading table has many big-name international titles available to peruse.

Noorderlicht Café

Neveritaweg 33, 1033 WB
Featuring a pretty terrace and spread over two floors, the Noorderlicht Café also plays host to a number of excellent live bands. The entertainment ranges from up and coming DJs to funky, vintage tunes.

Café ‘t Makerijtje

Kanstraat 4A, 1501 NJ
Just on the outskirts of Amsterdam you will discover the magical cosy Café ‘t Makerijtje. As well as a choice of tasty coffees, the venue also serves a wide variety of exclusive beers, good music and excellent company.

Café PC

PC Hooftstraat 87, 1071 BP
In the middle of the famous upmarket shopping street of Amsterdam sits Café PC. Named after the owner of the street, PC Hooftstraat, the café is a hot spot for the rich and famous. The chic, contemporary décor is paired with a typically Dutch tranquil atmosphere.

Saarein

Elandsstraat 119, 1016 RX
Café Saarein is a true example of a ‘brown café’. This is the ideal place to shoot some pool, sip a strong espresso and enjoy meeting new people. The café serves snacks and lunches, as well as a variety of draft and bottled beers.

Comedy Café

Max Ewweplein 43–45, 1017 MA
The Comedy Café is split into two sections — a café/restaurant and a performance section with an intimate bar. It provides top quality entertainment ranging from cabarets, one-man stand-up shows and improvisational acts, all performed on a small stage in front of a captive audience.

Lunchroom Downtown

Regulierdwarsstraat 31, 1017 BJ
Espresso bar Lunchroom Downtown, originally opened in 1970, is located in one of the oldest buildings on Regulierdwarsstraat, dating back to 1642! Lunchroom Downtown’s speciality is freshly ground coffee, delicious sandwiches and sumptuous pancakes.
Café de Sluyswacht
Jodenbreestraat 1, 1011 NG
Formerly a lockmaster’s house, this café plays host to an eclectic crowd of regulars and artsy students. The wooden benches and stone floor are very reminiscent of Amsterdam in its golden years in the 1600s. The actual building leans in a charming way, making it a tourist attraction in its own right.

De Stijl
John M. Keynesplein 2, 1066 EP
Housed in the Design Hotel Artemis, De Stijl has a beautiful terrace overlooking a calm pond. The Food and Drink Design of ‘Amsterdam Celebrates 2013’ have inspired the unique dishes, meaning no meal looks the same.

Café Lowietje
3e Goudsbloemdwarsstraat 2, 1015 KA
In the heart of the Jordaan district is Café Lowietje, a typical Dutch pub-cum-café. Performances are a regular feature in the café, ranging from folk music to rock bands. The pub is available to hire and you can even hire live music to accompany your event.

Café Zola
Kinkerstraat 87, 1053 DH
This classy café serves all manner of delicious snacks including mini beef croquets, Japanese crunchy chicken and fried cheese stick with chilli sauce. The café also provides three course meals including heartwarming soups, succulent seafood and a choice of quality meats.

Café Macy’s
Amstelveenseweg 266, 1075 XV
This quirky little coffee corner, an ex-train station also doubles as a bar restaurant. The must-try dishes are spaghetti alla vongole, homemade pate and Caesar salad. There is a large terrace situated on the old railway line, adding to the kookiness of the place.

Arc
Reguliersdwarsstraat 44, near Rembrandtplein, 1017 BM
Arc is a trendy bar/café on Reguliersdwarsstraat, near the heart of the city. The interior is plush and seductive, with red lighting and black mahogany fittings. Drinks, such as cocktails, are a little on the pricey side, but Arc is a true example of Dutch Café Culture.

Café Het Paleis
Paleisstraat 16, 1012 RB
Just to the west of Dam Square is Café Het Paleis, an ideal place to relax between sightseeing and shopping. Serving delicious fresh coffee and various lunch dishes, the café is the perfect pitstop. Visitors should try the ‘applegebak’, a cinnamon apple tart paired with thick whipped cream.

Smits Koffiehuis
Stationplein 10, 1012 AB
For relaxed canal-side cappuccinos head to Smits Koffiehuis. This coffee house boasts wonderful service and even more wonderful pancakes. The café serves light lunches and tapas, as well as a selection of tasty hot beverages.
# Beer Temple

**Nieuwezijds Voorburgwal 250, 1012 RR**  
For hop worshippers, the Beer Temple is the holy grail. With over 100 bottled beers, all viewable on the many chalkboards behind the bar, the Beer Temple really lives up to its namesake. The favourite appears to be local pale ale Tempelbier and is served by beer-enthusiastic bar staff.

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# Brouwerij ’t IJ

**Funenkade 7, 1018 AL**  
Known to the locals as the ‘windmill brewery’, Brouwerij ’t IJ brews its own beer in the windmill towers located over the terrace. Selling the lowest-priced draught beers in the city, the bar prides itself on small but strong beverages. Before long, the Amsterdam natives may call you a ‘spinmill’, a popular local phrase for drunken newcomers.

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# Bubbles and Wines

**Nes 37, 1012**  
This sleek wine bar has a slightly romantic feel about it. With 50 types of wine available by glass and over 180 by the bottle, including champagnes and sparkling wines, customers will be spoilt for choice here. If you want to develop your wine tasting skills there are tasting flights available for various wine regions. The bar snacks are exceptional with caviar and truffles readily served should you wish to indulge.

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# Café Belgique

**Gravenstraat 2, 1012 NM**  
For one of the smallest bars in Amsterdam, Belgique offers a vast selection of Belgian draught beers and 30 bottled varieties. Located in a small, almost clandestine, alley connected to Dam Square, Belgique is hidden away from the buzzy tourist trap. Popular with the arty crowd, the bar is decorated with a mixture of 17th century charm and edgy street art.

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# Café Brecht

**Weteringschans 157, 1017 SE**  
This bar is decorated in an ornate, alternative style and serves a multitude of German beers as well as a choice of bratwurst. The Berlin-influenced Café Brecht is where you will find play scripts scattered around and is popular with students and literary academics, alike. On the last Sunday of each month there is a German open mic session, perfect for those who prefer a bit of cultural entertainment.

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# Café Sound Garden

**Marnixstraat 164–166, Jordaan, 1016 TG**  
Opening its doors in the early 90s, Café Sound Garden features one of the most beautiful outdoor seating areas in the city. It is also one of the friendliest bars in Amsterdam and still retains the grunge music vibe. This is the ideal place to make new Dutch friends while sipping premium European beer, as well as many varieties of real ale and the very trendy Brewdog Punk IPA.
Café Struik

Rozengracht 160, 1016 NJ
Café Struik has recently been refurbished into a rustic, hip place for younger customers. Graffiti on the walls, bare brickwork and sturdy wooden tables really give the place a shabby chic feel. Regular in-house DJs play hip-hop, soul-funk and jazz, making it a brilliant hangout for creative types. The burger nights are second to none in Amsterdam.

‘White Zombie Doctor’ with a zingy kick of slivovitz for a real taste of the 20s.

Chet’s Jazz Café

Hazenstraat 19, 1016
Pounce back to the Prohibition era in this 1930s-inspired jazz bar. Solo musicians and duos take the stage in the dimly lit speakeasy. The relaxing music is the perfect soundtrack for fine wine and conversation.

In de Wildeman

Kolksteeg 3, 1012 PT
Years a go this bar was an old distillery in the heart of the city, but is now highly regarded as one of the best beer bars in Amsterdam. The guest ales usually include English ale, German ale and American ale on tap. There are also a number of local Dutch beers on offer too. The ‘beer of the month’ is selected by the well informed bar staff. But if you would like a break from beer there are numerous ciders available to satisfy your taste buds.

Diep

Nieuwezijds 256, 1012
If it’s kitsch rather than classy you are looking for then Diep is the place for you. Cheesy but fun, this bar plays a range of music with a screen displaying which song will be played next. An image projector screens past and present customers having a good time. All in all, this is an ideal joint for hip, young creatives.

Diep

Door 74

Reguliersdwarsstraat 74, 1017 BN
There is no shortage of Prohibition-era bars in Amsterdam, but Door 74 is certainly one of the best. Tucked away in a side street, away from the hustle and bustle, the bar pays tribute to art deco style and serves the tastiest cocktails. Order a MOMO

Hobbemastraat 1, 1071 XZ
Those with more refined tastes will want to visit MOMO at the Park Hotel. Its central city location makes it a must. The bright, contemporary bar also features a fashionable restaurant. Both food and drink is influenced by the Far East, with cocktails such as the ‘Thai Daiquiri’ with a hint of Thai basil or the ‘Asian Raspberry’, starring on the menu.
Nomads

133 Rozengracht, 1016 LV
Take a trip to North Africa and Arabia by visiting Nomads — a bar fit for a Sultan. Attractive women serve drinks while you lie on the decorative floor cushions and watch the belly dancers perform. Nomads serve an array of refreshing cocktails, as well as spicy Middle Eastern and North African fare. There is even a free magic carpet ride — what’s not to like?

Okura Hotel

Ferdinand Bolstraat 333, 1072 LH
Upmarket drinking isn’t readily available in Amsterdam, but the Okura Hotel is a hidden gem. Serving sophisticated drinks at sophisticated prices, the Okura oozes allure. Waiters in white gloves will beckon to your every whim, making you feel like a movie star. The bar is on the 23rd floor, meaning there are fantastic panoramic views of the whole city.

Pollux

Prins Hendrikkade 121, 1011
Overlooking one of the many Dutch waterways is the charismatic Pollux bar. Owners Frits and Tanja welcome all guests with open arms. It is here you will find a zany neon 1950s-esque jukebox playing classic rock and soul. There is a pole to dance on for those who have had one too many Dutch pints!

Sopranos Piano Bar

Paardenstraat 11–15, Rembrandt Square, 1017 CX
Straight out of a classic gangster movie, the Sopranos Piano Bar is where the characters of Amsterdam schmooze. The padded leather bar matches the plush red velvet interior, giving the venue a luxurious but mysterious feel. Regular pianists play at the Sopranos, which makes for a heavenly backing track for sipping chilled champagne or a heady vintage wine.

SoVine

Amstelveenseweg 152, 1075 XM
There are plenty of bars for beer lovers but if you’re a wine connoisseur then SoVine is the place for you. Far away from the tourist traps and spread over two floors, SoVine boasts hundreds of wines from all over the world, including European and New World wines. Those who are not up to scratch with their wine knowledge are thoroughly encouraged to ask for the guidance of the bar staff.
The College Hotel

Roelof Hartstraat 1, 1071 VE
The College Hotel was a school in the 19th century, but has a young, fresh and elegant vibe. Run by students of the Amsterdam Hotel Management School the lounge bar is warm and cozy with exceptionally comfortable seating. Dutch cocktails are the most popular order, most of which consist of cinnamon and apple.

t’Smaalle

Egelantiersgracht 12, 1015 RL
Traditionalists will love t’Smaalle, originally a hop distillery in the 18th century and now a historical olde-worlde inn. Oak casks descend from the bar and brass furniture gleams in the cosy, warm glow. Frequent by a more mature crowd, t’Smaalle overlooks one of the most beautiful canals in the city. The outside seating is perfect for supping a malty pint on a warm, sunny day.

Vesper Bar

Vinkenstraat 57, 1013
Nestled in a quiet side street, Vesper Bar is a glamorous cocktail bar frequented by the nearby advertising executives for drinks after work. Chic and suave, the bar has many sophisticated features including James Bond memorabilia, pop art and deliciously beautiful liqueur bottles. For a posh alcoholic twist, ‘high tea cocktails’ on Saturday and Sunday afternoons are the perfect way to unwind at the weekend.

Whiskycafé L&B

Korte Leidsedwarsstraat, 1017
For those that prefer a quality, aged whisky the Whiskycafé will be a treat. Boasting over 1400 varieties of whisky and bourbon, the bar hand-selects tipples from Japan, Canada, Scotland, India and America. The staff are very knowledgeable about the whisky trade and are more than happy to provide samples and make educated suggestions.

Wynand Fockink

Pijlsteeg 31 & 43, 1012 HH
As one of the oldest bars in Amsterdam Wynand Fockink originally opened as a spirits and liqueur distillery in the 1670s. Part of the bar is now a museum for the distillery, particularly popular for making jenever, a juniper-flavoured drink similar to gin. This tipple, along with various liqueurs, can be sampled in over 60 different types. The place itself is historically atmospheric and is home to both locals and tourists.
Amsterdam spoils its visitors for choice when it comes to public transport. It is best to take the public transport system in the city to get from place to place, although bicycle hire is a popular choice for its ease of access around the city. Buses, trams and metro services also run throughout the day and night. The extensive canal network means sometimes it is easier to travel via barge.

**Public Transport**

[en.gvb.nl](http://en.gvb.nl)

With 16 tram routes, around 50 bus routes, 4 metro lines and 5 ferry links, this website is an extremely useful resource for tourists to help them navigate the city.

To be able to use the public transport you must use a [public transport chip card (OV-chipkaart)](http://www.gvb.nl/en/). These cards are available in day or multi-day format and prices start from €7.50. You must check in and out of any public transport you use with these cards and they can also be used to travel on nighttime transport.

These tickets are available from GVB Tickets & Info, although the day ticket can be bought on trams and buses too, and the 1–4 day tickets can be bought at metro station vending machines.

**Iamsterdam Card**

[www.iamsterdam.com](http://www.iamsterdam.com)

This is the ultimate sightseeing card for Amsterdam. It offers free public transport, free museum entrance, free canal cruises and more. The [Iamsterdam City Card](http://www.iamsterdam.com) is essentially the key to the city. The card is available from numerous tourist offices, canal shops, public transport stations and several hotels. The Iamsterdam Card comes with a detailed city map, free giveaways, surprises and special offers.

**Prices:** 24 hr — €42; 48 hr — €52; 72 hr — €62

**Canal Cruises**

As a UNESCO World Heritage Site, the canal network is one of the most popular attractions in Amsterdam. [Cruises](http://www.iamsterdam.com) are available from various canal stops around the city for visiting sights and
attractions. There is also the Canal Bus that allows you to cruise the canals in a ‘hop on, hop off’ style. Visitors using this facility will have access to three lines (Green, Red and Blue), which offer 19 different stops throughout the city.

**Taxis**

Unlike many big cities, getting a taxi is not the most popular form of transport. The city is so accessible that most tend to just use the public transport network. However, it is a good idea to phone a taxi from the airport to the city centre. Here are a couple of the main taxi phone numbers:

- **TCA**: +31 207 777 777
- **Schiphol Travel**: +31 206 531 000

More information can be found at the website: [www.taxi.amsterdam.nl](http://www.taxi.amsterdam.nl)

**Bicycle Hire**

Cycling around the city is an everyday occurrence for most locals due to the numerous bike paths and flat landscape. With a multitude of bicycle rental companies spread across the city, cycling is one of the most efficient ways to get around.

Some rental companies, such as **MacBike** and **Amsterbike**, offer customers a 25% discount with the Iamsterdam City Card. Moped and car hire is also widely available throughout the city.

**Finding the ESCRS Congress**

The ESCRS XXXI Congress is located at Amsterdam RAI:

- **Address**: Europaplein, NL 1078 GZ, Amsterdam, The Netherlands.
- **Tel.**: +31 205 491 212
- **Tram line**: Europaplein (Tram Number 4)
- **Metro stop**: Amsterdam RAI (Metro Number 50)
CataRhexitm

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