



Pocket
AMSTERDAM

TOP SIGHTS • LOCAL LIFE • MADE EASY

A thick, curved rainbow arc that starts from the left and curves downwards and to the right, ending at the edge of the page.

Karla Zimmerman

In This Book

QuickStart Guide

Your keys to understanding the city – we help you decide what to do and how to do it



Need to Know
Tips for a smooth trip



Neighbourhoods
What's where

Explore Amsterdam

The best things to see and do, neighbourhood by neighbourhood



Top Sights
Make the most of your visit



Local Life
The insider's city

The Best of Amsterdam

The city's highlights in handy lists to help you plan



Best Walks
See the city on foot



Amsterdam's Best...
The best experiences

Survival Guide

Tips and tricks for a seamless, hassle-free city experience



Getting Around
Travel like a local



Essential Information
Including where to stay

Our selection of the city's best places to eat, drink and experience:

 **Sights**

















 **Eating**

 **Drinking**

 **Entertainment**

 **Shopping**

These symbols give you the vital information for each listing:

- | | |
|---|---|
|  Telephone Numbers |  Family-Friendly |
|  Opening Hours |  Pet-Friendly |
|  Parking |  Bus |
|  Nonsmoking |  Ferry |
|  Internet Access |  Metro |
|  Wi-Fi Access |  Subway |
|  Vegetarian Selection |  Tram |
|  English-Language Menu |  Train |

Find each listing quickly on maps for each neighbourhood:



Bar Hemingway

16  Map p233, B2

Legend has it that Hemingway, wielding a machine gun, created this timber-paneled bar during his stay in Amsterdam. The showpiece is a painting by Papa Hemingway. Open in town. Dress code: smart casual. Website: barhemingway.com; Hôtel Ritzy: 020 630pm-2am

Lonely Planet's Amsterdam

Lonely Planet Pocket Guides are designed to get you straight to the heart of the city.

Inside you'll find all the must-see sights, plus tips to make your visit to each one really memorable. We've split the city into easy-to-navigate neighbourhoods and provided clear maps so you'll find your way around with ease. Our expert authors have searched out the best of the city: walks, food, nightlife and shopping, to name a few. Because you want to explore, our 'Local Life' pages will take you to some of the most exciting areas to experience the real Amsterdam.

And of course you'll find all the practical tips you need for a smooth trip: itineraries for short visits, how to get around, and how much to tip the guy who serves you a drink at the end of a long day's exploration.

It's your guarantee of a really great experience.

Our Promise

You can trust our travel information because Lonely Planet authors visit the places we write about, each and every edition. We never accept freebies for positive coverage, so you can rely on us to tell it like it is.

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Welcome to Amsterdam

Amsterdam works its fairy-tale magic in many ways: via the gabled, Golden Age buildings; glinting, boat-filled canals; and especially the cosy, centuries-old *bruin cafés* (traditional pubs), where candles burn low and beers froth high. Add in mega art museums and cool street markets, and it's easy to see why this atmospheric city is one of Europe's most popular getaways.

One of Amsterdam's many canals

JOHN WILKINSON / GETTY IMAGES ©

10 Top Sights

Rijksmuseum (p90)

The Netherlands' top treasure house bursts with Golden Age paintings, blue-and-white Delft pottery and gilded dollhouses. Rembrandt's humongous, gape-worthy *Night Watch* leads the pack.



MERTEN SNIJDERS / GETTY IMAGES ©



HANS ZIGLITSCH / ROBERTHARLING ©

Museum het Rembrandthuis (p126)

Step into the Dutch icon's inner sanctum and immerse yourself in his studio, where soft light streams in through the windows, and seashells, animal horns and other exotica weigh down the shelves.