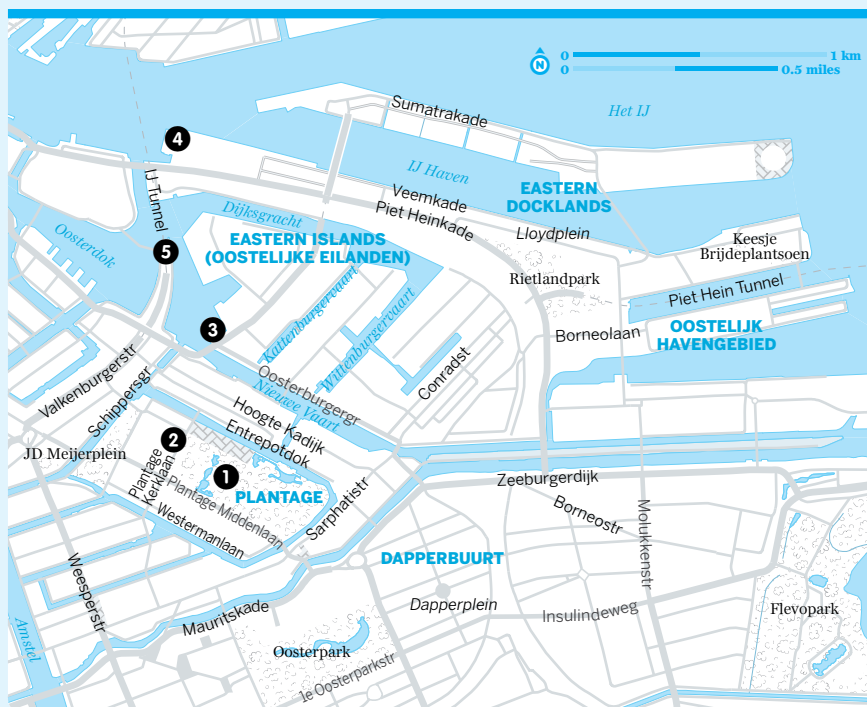


Plantage, Eastern Islands & Eastern Docklands

PLANTAGE | EASTERN ISLANDS & EASTERN DOCKLANDS

Neighbourhood Top Five

- 1 Frolick with the animals at the gorgeous **Artis Royal Zoo** (p192), mainland Europe's oldest zoo and the world's third-largest.
- 2 Put yourself in the shoes of courageous WWII Dutch Resistance fighters at the inspiring **Verzetsmuseum** (p194).
- 3 Fathom the history of Dutch seafaring through the extensive maritime collection at the **Het Scheepvaartmuseum** (p191).
- 4 Experience live classical music or jazz at the acoustically and visually stunning **Muziekgebouw aan 't IJ** (p197).
- 5 Learn about science and technology in the striking, shiplike building that houses **NEMO** (p192).



For more detail of this area, see Map p326 ➡

Lonely Planet's Top Tip

Too many travellers overlook the Eastern Islands and Docklands, thinking them too far out of the centre (when it's actually less than a 10-minute bike or tram ride). If you're remotely into boats, maritime history or modern architecture, don't even think about skipping this area.



Best Places to Eat

- Greetje (p195)
- Gebr Hartering (p195)
- Zouthaven (p195)
- Éénvstwéévis (p195)
- Café Kadijk (p193)

For reviews, see p193. ➡



Best Places to Drink

- Brouwerij 't IJ (p197)
- SkyLounge (p196)
- Hannekes Boom (p196)
- De Groene Olifant (p196)
- Café Scharrebieer (p196)

For reviews, see p196. ➡



Best Entertainment

- Muziekgebouw aan 't IJ (p197)
- Conservatorium van Amsterdam (p197)
- Panama (p197)
- Kriterion (p197)

For reviews, see p197. ➡

Explore Plantage, Eastern Islands & Eastern Docklands

The leafy district known as Plantage (Plantation) became a green recreation area during the 17th century. City planners reclaimed the land on the eastern side of the Amstel in a bid to capitalise on the city's flourishing overseas trade. This 'fourth city extension' did not take off, however, and in 1682, the area was converted into garden plots. By the 19th century construction boomed, and it became an entertainment district. Its darkest hour came during WWII when its large Jewish community was detained and deported from here.

Today the neighbourhood is a lovely place to stroll and admire the 19th-century architecture. Spend your first day here, allowing least a couple of hours at Artis Royal Zoo. Then walk through the Hortus Botanicus before visiting the Verzetsmuseum. End the day with a local brew beneath the De Gooyer Windmill at the Brouwerij 't IJ.

If you're looking to see the cutting edge of Dutch – and indeed European – architecture, the former shipyard and warehouse district of the Eastern Islands (Oostelijke Eilanden) and Eastern Docklands (Oostelijk Havengebied) is a must. Hop on a bike on your second day to explore traditional sights like the Het Scheepvaartmuseum, as well as mod designs such as the zinc-facade residential complex 'the Whale', the shiny Centrale Bibliotheek Amsterdam and the sparkling performance halls of the Muziekgebouw aan 't IJ. Finish up at NEMO, and head up to its roof for swooping views.

Local Life

➤ **Hotel Life** You don't have to stay at the Lloyd Hotel (p234) to wine, dine and check out the fascinating hotel history exhibit.

➤ **Architectural Life** Identify local landmarks and glimpse the city's future at the absorbing architectural centre, ARCAM (p193).

➤ **Brewery Life** There's much more to Dutch beer than Heineken, as you can discover on a behind-the-scenes tour of the organic Brouwerij 't IJ (p197).

Getting There & Away

➤ **Tram** Trams 9 and 14 are handy for reaching Plantage; tram 10 goes to the Eastern Islands and Eastern Docklands. Tram 26 travels along the IJ waterfront.

➤ **Bus** Buses 22 and 48 are useful for areas of the Eastern Islands and Eastern Docklands that the tram doesn't reach.