

# Welcome to the Netherlands or Holland , as our country is called as well.

## HOLLAND;

**A country , in first instance well known for it's tulips [unfortunately not yet in March] , the clogs/wooden shoes and dykes.**

But also for the science parks and good universities, culture and museums. The Veluwe close to Arnhem, is well known for its beautiful nature both flora and fauna.

## **Here are some suggestions to visit during your stay:**

One of the special places in Holland and worthwhile a visit is called ;

**De delta werken**, where you see the best Holland can offer on water defense, well-known world wide. Maybe a bit cold in February/March, but more then interesting to visit!

Here is more info for you;

[www.deltawerken.com/English/10.html?setlanguage=en](http://www.deltawerken.com/English/10.html?setlanguage=en)



## ARNHEM;

More in the East of Holland and close to Papendal is the beautiful town of **Arnhem** surrounded by the best nature Holland has to offer, the VELUWE.

At the VELUWE you find the famous **Kröller Müller Museum**, a museum for modern art but with one department full of art from **Vincent van Gogh**. The painting, "De aardappel eters", [The potato-eaters] is the most well known eye catcher. [See picture from banner]  
As the van Gogh Museum in Amsterdam is closed in Febr./March, this is THE possibility to enjoy Van Gogh, while being in his country.



The sculpture garden is worthwhile a walk.  
You can find all information at

<http://www.kmm.nl/?lang=en>

There are [white] bikes available to drive around in the big park close to the Museum. In the park, while biking, you can then see a nice hunting-lodge from the Kröller Müller family built by one of the most well-known and respected architects Arnold Berlage. See picture.

---"This impressive hunting lodge, the former residence of the Kröller-Müller family, was named and inspired by the legend of St. Hubertus, the patron saint of hunters. This legend, somewhat confused with the story of St. Eustache, concerns an avid hunter who encountered a magnificent stag or hart with a crucifix between his antlers (another version has an illuminated cross around his neck). Speaking to this hunter, the deer cautioned Hubertus to make amends. Subsequently, he converted, became a bishop, and later was canonized.---"



Not far from the Kröller Müller Museum is another place to go to, the 100 year old **OPEN LUCHT MUSEUM**; an open air museum.

[www.openluchtmuseum.nl](http://www.openluchtmuseum.nl) please click on language to read it in English.

This museum shows how the Dutch lived and worked during the last centuries. It shows houses farms and factories from different parts of Holland, in a park which is 44 hectares .





On the picture above a stolp boerderij , special farm house with a pyramid roof and a wind mill , examples at the open air museum.

Arnhem has a nice **shopping center** with old architecture combined with new and lovely places/ squares to eat and drink.



Also **BURGERS ZOO in Arnhem**, is a special place not just a park full of animals.



When you walk around over the 45 hectares you think one moment, you are in a desert , full of different cactus plants and then again in a tropical park full of birds and even you seem to spend time in an ocean.

All the info you can find on ;

<http://www.youropi.com/nl/arnhem/activiteiten/burgers-zoo-2392>

Another place to visit is the **AIRBORNE MUSEUM**. Not far from Arnhem in a place called Oosterbeek. Here is the info and when you click on language you can read it in English!

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

*---“This unique museum on the Battle of Arnhem in September 1944, housed in the impressive 19th century Villa Hartenstein (former headquarters of the British command during the battle), offers on 1700 square meters an exciting view on this history.---“*

In Arnhem also the **SONSBEEK PARK** with **the SONSBEEK house**. The park is the most well known park from Arnhem and the house , now with a horeca function and THE place to marry when you live in Arnhem , is in the middle.



Last but not least in the Arnhem area, of course **Terlet the National Gliding Center** , where lot's of gliding pilots flew and still fly in the middle of that beautiful nature of the VELUWE. The busiest aero club in last season's OLC year was the club from the Gelderse and their home base is TERLET. The Thermiekbel is the restaurant for a warm coffee/tea or a good Dutch beer.

## THE HAGUE:

Another city- visit is further away; **THE HAGUE** the town where our governments settles; combined with Delft for a visit to the Blue Delft pottery [ [www.royaldelft.nl](http://www.royaldelft.nl) see picture ] and /or Scheveningen for a coffee /tea- visit to the old Kurhaus on the beach,[ [www.kurhaus.nl](http://www.kurhaus.nl) ] as well as the museum Beelden aan Zee , [ [www.beeldenaanzee.nl](http://www.beeldenaanzee.nl) ] where you find amongst all kind of temporary and old sculptures also sculptures from the sons from and created by our Queen Beatrix.



The Hague has a great **BINNENHOF** and a **BUITENHOF**, where ancient buildings give place to our ministers. The **BINNENHOF** is on the list of 100 Dutch UNESCO monuments. You can walk around on the square and see the architecture. Of course you are not allowed in the rooms where the ministers do their job but there are tours with guides.

See pictures for the Binnenhof and Buitenhof.



Also in the Hague and not far from the Royal Palace you can step into **Hollands largest painting at the panorama van Mesdag** .

Even looking at the site you enjoy it already and by clicking on language you can read it in English;

[www.panorama-mesdag.com](http://www.panorama-mesdag.com)

A very nice shopping center with enough designer shops as lot's of people working at the embassies or consulates love buying in their home town.

Also the place of the International Court of justice



**About our capital a bit more information;**

## **AMSTERDAM**

**Places to visit in Amsterdam;**

### **Stedelijk Museum**

Deccaweg 26

1042 AD Amsterdam

020-573291

Open; between 10 AM and 6 PM EVERY DAY.

Prices are different for groups. [info@stedelijk.nl](mailto:info@stedelijk.nl)

Possibility for a cheap overnight stay in a hotel close by, is available.

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### **Paleis op de Dam**

Dam

1001 AM Amsterdam

020-6204060

Open; first look at [website van Paleis Op De Dam](#).

Info at [info@dkh.nl](mailto:info@dkh.nl)

The Palace is totally restored and still in use by the Royal Family.

The Dam is the center of Amsterdam with shopping possibilities all over and about 10 minutes walking from the Central Station.

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### **Madame Tussaud combined with a 1 hour Cruise with Lovers over the canals**

At the Dam 020-5301092



Open every day between 10AM and 6.30 PM

The combination ticket is for a cruise starting at the station about 10 minutes from Madame Tussaud. With the ticket you can visit Madame Tussaud directly for 2 hours without standing and waiting in line first.

Price 31, Euro

Tickets for a Cruise only are around 10 Euro and less for people over 65.

You can also combine a cruise with a visit to NEMO [science center] for 26,-E., or with a visit to the VOC ship /and the Maritime Museum.[27,56 E]

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From Amsterdam you can visit daily by bus **de Zaanse SCHANS**, a place where you can see all different wind mills , a museum , traditional craft and a lot of history about Holland. One of Hollands TOP Tourist Destinations.

<http://www.zaanseschans.nl/>

<http://www.amsterdam.info/excursions/zaanse-schans/>

#### **By train**

Only four stops (20 minutes) by train from Amsterdam Central Station. Take the stop train direction Alkmaar to Koog-Zaandijk. From the station simply follow the signs to the Zaanse Schans. It is ten minute walk from the station.

#### **By bus**

From Amsterdam

There is an excellent bus service operating from Amsterdam Central Station direct to the Zaanse Schans. Bus 391 leaves Amsterdam Central Station twice hourly and stops at the St. Michael College next to the Zaans Museum and Zaanse Schans.

There are also special bus -arrangements for tourists from the Damrak 34 in Amsterdam close to the Central Station. [www.hoponhopoffamsterdam.com](http://www.hoponhopoffamsterdam.com) Tel; 020-420 4000

This hop on hop off service is also available IN town for city sight seeing! Tickets are available on the bus and all hotels in Amsterdam as well as on Damrak 34!

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AMSTERDAM has lot's of fine restaurants, **The BIJENKORF** is a famous big shop on the DAM and a cool beer you can get everywhere. Coffee shops are NOT for coffee but for soft drugs. Be careful!

Amsterdam is famous for it's diamonds and shops are close to the DAM as well.

There is even a **Diamond Museum**

Paulus Potter Straat 8

1071 CZ Amsterdam

020-3055300

Open from 9 AM to 5 PM

<http://www.diamantmuseumamsterdam.nl/>

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**The Van Gogh museum** is absolutely interesting, but unfortunately closed between September 29 2012 and April 25 in 2013.

There is a **Jewish** museum, a **tropical** museum and the **HEINEKEN EXPERIENCE**. All can be done by the hop-on-hop-off bus. Also the **RED Light District** is interesting to visit.

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

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Last but not least there are the special **MARKETS**. The **Albert Kuyp Market** [on the Albert Kuyp Street] is very famous and vendors sell nearly everything there.

Also the floating **flower market** [ on the Singel, close to the Muntplein] with lot's of flowers and bulbs is worth a visit.

The public transport by tram is the best, you do need however an OV ChipCard to enter them, but you can buy them at stations . In the tram they announce where you have to leave the tram, to visit the market. They sell tickets in the tram too but that's more expensive.

You can hire bikes every where.

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For a map from Amsterdam you can look here;

<http://www.iamsterdam.com/en-GB/experience/plan-your-trip/practical-info/map>

One of the high lights from Amsterdam is the **ANNE FRANK HOUSE**. No need to explain more. Here is the link; <http://www.annefrank.org>

**Tip;** buy your tickets at the DAMRAK 34 in the heart of the town close to the Central Station. You can pass by than the queue of waiting people and show your cards straight away and walk in.

At [www.booking.com](http://www.booking.com) you can find **750 hotels in Amsterdam** in all kind of price classes and with a 3,4 or 5 star rating by guests. You can book on line!

Best but pretty expensive hotels are the famous

**AMSTEL hotel**; 5 star [www.amsterdam.intercontinental.com](http://www.amsterdam.intercontinental.com)



The **American Hotel** on the Leidse Plein [square] well known for the poets and artists who are meeting each other there. <http://www.theamericanhotel.com>

The **13 NH hotels** are good middle class and used by many of the crews from incoming planes at Schiphol. They are in the center as the BARBIZON .[ 149,E]

Or at the Rembrandt square THE place for fun as disco's etc.[CARANSA 4 stars from 87,20 E]

Famous in the heart of Amsterdam is the KRASNAPOLSKY [5 stars and 145 ,E]

For all info about NH hotels ; <http://www.nh-hotels.nl>

Of course there are B&B 's as well. <http://www.amsterdam-bed-and-breakfasts.com>

CU soon at Papendal

Ritz