

# Your best trip starts *here.*

Amsterdam Explorer



# Your itinerary



-  Start Location
-  Visited Location
-  Plane
-  End Location
-  Cruise
-  Train
-  Over night
-  Ferry

## Day 1 | Welcome to Amsterdam



Welcome to the picture-perfect city of Amsterdam, buzzing with bicycles and boats. Every alley leads to another cosy bruin café and the canals are more plentiful than in Venice. Delve into the gezelligheid of Amsterdam during a city orientation – to see its beautifully preserved medieval buildings and tree-lined canals. Then, enjoy a Welcome Reception and laid-back city cruise along the winding canals, soaking up the alluring setting as you enjoy a light meal.

**Meals:** Welcome Reception

**Hotel:** NH Amsterdam Centre

## Day 2 | Rijksmuseum and More in Amsterdam



This morning, we Dive Into Culture and enjoy a Small Group Sightseeing tour of the Rijksmuseum, home to masterpieces of Rembrandt, Hals and Vermeer. Spend the rest of the day exploring the city your way. Visit the floating flower market or stroll along the gabled façades that line Amsterdam's ring of canals. End your day with delicious local flavours at one of the city's many cosy restaurants. However you choose to spend your day, you're in for a gezellig time in one of Europe's cutest capitals.

**Meals:** Breakfast

**Hotel:** NH Amsterdam Centre

### Optional Experiences:

You will be offered one of the following two optional experiences depending on availability:

**Hidden Amsterdam** - We'll pay a visit to The Royal Palace in Amsterdam with our Local Specialist. Built in 1648, it originally served as the Town Hall and is still in use by the Dutch Royal Family today. It has also been a Napoleonic Palace, before its current role. Its rich history and the interior of this magnificent building in the heart of Amsterdam make this a must see.

**Adult: 51.00 EUR**

**Van Loon Museum** - In the heart of the canal district lies Museum Van Loon, a magnificent private residence built in 1672. The former residence of the artist Ferdinand Bol, the 18th-century interior still evokes the splendour of the Golden Age. With our Local Specialist, we'll discover the large collection of paintings, fine furniture, precious silver and porcelain from several centuries. A short walking tour in the heart of the city will then take us to the Beguinage (Begijnhof), a hidden courtyard where extremely pious women lived for almost 700 years. This glimpse behind the façades of Amsterdam's world-famous canals is highly recommended.

**Adult: 44.00 EUR**

**Holland's Favorite Foods** - Nibble your way through Amsterdam's international dining scene on a tasting tour led by a Local Specialist. Learn about the international flavors that have influenced Dutch cuisine, while grabbing bites at a cheese shop, beer garden and family restaurant. Savour handpicked local delicacies including artisanal cheeses, a sweet 'stroopwafel' and the best fish in town. We'll wash them all down with a beer or Jenever.

**Adult: 62.00 EUR**

## Day 3 | A Day Exploring Dutch Culture and History



Take a trip back in time to discover the centuries-old traditions of Holland stopping in the pretty town of Haarlem. We join a Local Specialist this morning for a visit to the Corrie ten Boom House and Museum. Learn how this watchmaker helped countless Jews escape Nazi persecution during World War II, which ultimately led to her arrest. Dive Into Culture on a visit to historic Zaanse Schans where you'll step back in time to discover the art of carving traditional wooden clogs. Learn about the Zuiderzee and the incredible story of the Dutch battle against the encroaching sea to reclaim the land as we travel on to the fishing village of Volendam on the shores of the IJsselmeer. Here we will meet Tom, miller of Katwoude, to investigate the inner-workings of one of the country's many iconic windmills before paying a visit to a nearby farm for a taste of delicious Dutch cheeses. This evening, we Connect With Locals to enjoy a home-cooked dinner with the Pauw family during an exclusive Be My Guest experience.

**Meals:** Breakfast, Be My Guest

**Hotel:** NH Amsterdam Centre

## Day 4 | Amsterdam Your Way



You'll get to explore Amsterdam your way today. Don your most comfortable shoes, this is a city for walking. Spend the day tracing Amsterdam's elaborate canal system and admire the centuries-old gabled homes that jostle for their spot overlooking the water. Sit back in a leafy plein and enjoy a crisp pils as you watch the busy Amsterdammers go about their day. You could choose to brave the city streets like the locals by bike. Pedal along the tree-lined canals and over bridges bound for some of the city's great highlights like the Westerkerk, tranquil Jordaan and Vondelpark.

**Meals:** Breakfast

**Hotel:** NH Amsterdam Centre

## Day 5 | Discover Gouda (or Keukenhof During Tulip Season)



The powerful aroma of delicious Dutch cheese will infuse our senses today. Seemingly frozen in time with its beautiful 15<sup>th</sup>-century town hall and medieval cheese weighing station, Gouda's status as a cheese trading town dates back to the Middle Ages. Dive Into Culture and witness this proud tradition first-hand in the town's beautiful market square, before spending the rest of the day at leisure (Please note, during the opening of Keukenhof, an excursion to see the tulip fields will be included instead of the visit to Gouda). Returning to Amsterdam this evening, you'll be treated to a superb Farewell Dinner in the heart of the city.

**Meals:** Breakfast, Farewell Dinner

**Hotel:** NH Amsterdam Centre

### Optional Experiences:

**Muiderslot, A Genuine Castle** - We'll take a short drive with our Local Specialist to imposing Muiderslot Castle, which will give us a real taste of Dutch history. It's part of Amsterdam's Defence Line and is UNESCO World Heritage Listed. During your guided tour, through rooms refurbished in 17th-century style, it's easy to picture yourself in a Rembrandt painting, as it evokes the period when Pieter Corneliszoon Hooft, known as the "Dutch Shakespeare," occupied the castle. We'll also enjoy a garden tour and a refreshment in a typical Dutch Inn.

*Adult: 58.00 EUR*

## Day 6 | Farewell Amsterdam



The time has come to bid tot ziens to the magnificent city and your fellow travellers after an enjoyable encounter with Amsterdam and the surrounding Dutch countryside. Find out more about your free airport transfer at [trafalgar.com/freetransfers](https://trafalgar.com/freetransfers).

**Meals:** Breakfast