The ultimate Amsterdam bucket list

Amazing museums

The **Rijksmuseum**, the **Anne Frank House** and the **Van Gogh Museum** are all some of the best museums in Amsterdam, but then the city is full of exhibitions, museums and galleries to suit every interest.

2. Pedal power

There are over 800,000 bicycles in Amsterdam. That's more bikes than people! Cycling in Amsterdam is a way of life, made easier by the city's unbeatable network of cycle routes and flat landscape. Amsterdam regularly comes out on top in lists of the world's most cycle-friendly cities. Find out more about **cycling and bike hire in Amsterdam**.

Wander the Jordaan Often cited as Amsterdam's most charming neighbourhood, wandering into the **Jordaan** feels like stepping back in time. Originally a working-class area, the Jordaan's narrow streets and quaint buildings now make up one of Amsterdam's most desirable quarters, dotted with independent art galleries, antiques shops, courtyard gardens and atmospheric bars and restaurants.

4. Shop 'til you drop

While many visitors head straight to the busy chain-store mecca of Kalverstraat, those in the know get their retail therapy at one of the city's more locally flavoured shopping meccas. The most well-known of these is De Negen Straatjes or 'The Nine Streets' – a quaint warren of cobbled streets that connect the main canals between Leidsegracht and Raadhuisstraat.

5. Eat your way around 30 food stalls in a former tram depot

Located in the hip **Oud-West** neighbourhood, **De Hallen** is a brand new centre for the arts, crafts, fashion and food in a recently refurbished industrial building dating from 1902. De Hallen houses a cinema, independent stores and a boutique hotel, as well as the impressive **Food Hallen** – a food and drink heaven where visitors can munch their way through a selection of upmarket street food from one of many vendors located around a central bar.



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6. Visit Anne Frank's house Here is where diarist Anne Frank and her family hid from the Nazis for two years after being persecution in Germany. The front of the house is now a thought-provoking museum but the back annex has been preserved to give an idea of what life was like for Anne and the families she hid with. Waiting times are often lengthy; so visit early in the morning or book online in advance to beat the queues. Find out more about visiting Anne Frank House.

7. Take a photo at I Amsterdam

Located at the back of the **Rijksmuseum** on **Museumplein**, the large I amsterdam slogan quickly became a city icon and a much sought-after **photo opportunity**. Visitors photograph themselves, in, around and on top of the slogan, and it always manages to inspire photographers.

8. Take a train to Haarlem

Just 20 minutes from Amsterdam Central by train, the picturesque city of **Haarlem** overflows with history and culture, plus a great selection of shops, cafes and restaurants.

9. Have a beer under a windmill

There are eight remaining windmills in Amsterdam, the most easy to visit being de Gooyer in the **Oostelijke Eilanden** (Eastern Islands) neighbourhood. And this isn't just any windmill – for under the sails of this striking landmark is **Brouwerij 't IJ**; an award winning artisan microbrewery with a large outdoor drinking terrace and 30-minute guided tasting tours.

10. Try traditional Dutch foods

From mini pancakes to croquettes from a vending machine, Amsterdam offers the hungry traveller plenty of unique culinary experiences. Don't go home without tasting your way through all these **traditional Dutch snacks** during your visit.



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