



TRIP GLOBAL

3 Days in Amsterdam: A Day-by-Day Itinerary

Amsterdam, Netherlands · April · 3 days

Tailored for groups - includes group activities, social dining, and group-friendly options

Three easy days in Amsterdam with friends: canal walks around the Jordaan, a full day of museums on Museumplein, and a beer at Brouwerij 't IJ. Climb the Westerkerk tower on the first day and save Vondelpark for a slow last afternoon.

[Open the interactive trip: live map, photos and links](#)

Before you go:

[Get a Netherlands eSIM: data on landing](#)

What this trip might cost, per person for 3 days, flights extra:

Budget \$210-240 · Mid-range \$320-420 · Comfort \$520-650

Opening hours, prices and transport change. Please double-check bookings and times before you go.

YOUR TRIP AT A GLANCE

1

DAY 1

Bloemenmarkt, Prinsengracht and Westerkerk Tower

Jordaan, Amsterdam · 3 nights

2

DAY 2

Rijksmuseum, Van Gogh and Brouwerij 't IJ

3

DAY 3

Albert Cuyp Market, De Kas and Vondelpark

?

AFTER THE LAST DAY

Before you go: Amsterdam

Bloemenmarkt, Prinsengracht and Westerkerk Tower

Arrival day: an easy start close to your stay

Sunrise 6:45 AM

Golden hour 7:52 PM

Sunset 8:38 PM

Your base for 3 nights: Jordaan, Amsterdam

Browse the flower stalls at the Bloemenmarkt, walk along Prinsengracht, stop at Café de Twee Zwaantjes, then climb the Westerkerk tower for a look over the rooftops.

GO

12:00 PM · 45 minutes

Amsterdam Airport Schiphol to Jordaan

Take the direct train (Sprinter or IC) from Schiphol to Amsterdam Centraal (25 mins, EUR 6.50), then tram 2 or 5 westbound to Westermarkt (5 mins). Walk into Jordaan from there.

- Train (most direct) · 20 minutes · \$6 per person
- Shuttle bus · 45-60 minutes · \$7-10 per person
- Taxi or Uber · 30-40 minutes (traffic depends) · \$35-50 per ride (split among group)

[Book a transfer](#)

1



2:00 PM · 1 hour

Bloemenmarkt

Free to browse; \$5-16 if buying flowers · Open 9 AM-5:30 PM daily

Amsterdam's floating flower market on the Singel canal. April is peak tulip season: pick up a bunch of fresh bulbs to take home. Just south of Jordaan, a 10-minute walk from Westermarkt.

Insider tip: The stalls closest to Koningsplein have the widest choice; Tuesday to Saturday morning is quieter than afternoon.

[Open in Google Maps >](#)

2



3:15 PM · 1.5 hours

Prinsengracht

Free

Walk the western stretch of this major canal from Westermarkt south towards Leidsegracht. Stop at a bench or café terrace to watch the water and houseboats. You're in the heart of Jordaan now.

Insider tip: Walk on the west bank between Prinsengracht and Westerstraat; fewer crowds, better light on the canal facades.

[Open in Google Maps >](#)

3

6:30 PM · 1 hour

Café de Twee Zwaantjes

\$16-27 per person for food and drinks · Open 5 PM-1 AM daily

A proper brown café (bruine kroeg) on Prinsengracht with wood panelling, a local crowd, and no frills. Order a Dutch beer and jenever (Dutch gin). A 20-minute walk south from Westermarkt.

Insider tip: Sit on the terrace if the weather holds; sunset is around 8:38 PM so you'll catch golden light on the water.

[Open in Google Maps >](#)

4



7:50 PM · 1 hour

Book ahead

Westerkerk Tower

\$11 per person · Open 10 AM-9 PM (April hours vary; check ahead)

Climb the tower for a sunset view over Jordaan's rooftops and canals. The church sits on Prinsengracht north of the café. 40-minute walk back, or 5-minute tram ride.

Insider tip: Book the climb online beforehand (EUR 10); the last slot fills quickly in April. Golden hour ends around 9 PM.

Book tickets

Open in Google Maps >

If you land early (optional, close to your stay, before the plan above)

Lindengracht Market: Saturday-only street market on Lindengracht (near Carthuiserplein) selling produce, flowers, and local cheese. Open 9 AM-5 PM. 5 minutes from most Jordaan hotels.

Café Reiger: Casual breakfast spot on Reiger Gracht. Order coffee and a broodje; unpretentious morning vibe. 10 minutes from central Jordaan.

Open Day 1 as a route in Google Maps

Where to stay in Jordaan, Amsterdam

Book in Jordaan proper, between Prinsengracht and Westerstraat: you're steps from the flower market, brown cafés, and the westbound canal boats. Avoid the tourist strip along Prinsengracht near Westertoren; pick a quieter street like Karthuizersstraat or Lindengracht.

The Student Hotel Amsterdam

Budget · Hostel · \$

Jordaan edge, social, clean dorms or private rooms. Rooftop bar, good breakfast.

[Book now](#)

[Google Maps >](#)

Ambassade Hotel

Mid-range · Hotel · \$\$

Jordaan canal-front, charming without fuss. Library, helpful staff, good breakfast.

[Book now](#)

[Google Maps >](#)

Pulitzer Amsterdam

Mid-range · Hotel · \$\$

Canal-adjacent, 25 townhouses linked, cosy lounges. Central Jordaan location, excellent for groups.

[Book now](#)

[Google Maps >](#)

Hotel de Tuin

Mid-range · Hotel · \$\$

Jordaan heart, canal-facing rooms. Quiet, walkable to museums. No frills, solid value.

[Book now](#)

[Google Maps >](#)

The Pulitzer Amsterdam

Mid-range · Hotel · \$\$

Jordaan location, 25 linked townhouses. Canal views, central for markets and museums.

[Book now](#)

[Google Maps >](#)

Frontside Apartments

Mid-range · Apartment · \$\$

Jordaan, full kitchens. Good for group dinners after market shopping and long days out.

[Book now](#)

[Google Maps >](#)

[All stays in Jordaan, Amsterdam](#)

[Holiday rentals](#)

Where to eat

Cafe de Twee Zwaantjes

Dutch, brown café classics · Lunch · \$\$

Old wood, locals nursing beers. Order bitterballen and a cheese sandwich. Small, tight, real.

[Google Maps >](#)

Greetje

Dutch modern · Dinner · \$\$

Canal-facing, warm light at dusk. Spring vegetables, croquettes, local beer. Book ahead or arrive by 6pm.

[Google Maps >](#)

DAY 1: BLOEMENMARKT, PRINSENGRACHT AND WESTERKERK TOWER (CONTINUED)

TOURS & DAY TRIPS FROM AMSTERDAM

HALF DAY

Keukenhof Gardens and Lisse tulip fields

You'll see seven million tulips across the gardens and surrounding countryside in one morning, then have the afternoon free in Amsterdam.

[Book now](#)

2-3 HOURS

Evening canal cruise with wine and cheese

Skip the daytime tourist cruises; an evening boat glides through lit canals while you eat local cheese and drink Dutch wine.

[Book now](#)

3 HOURS

Dutch food tour in the Jordaan neighborhood

A local guide takes you through narrow streets, stops at three local spots (bitterballen, herring, stroopwafels) and tells you why Amsterdammers actually eat this way.

[Book now](#)

Rijksmuseum, Van Gogh and Brouwerij 't IJ

Sunrise 6:45 AM

Golden hour 7:52 PM

Sunset 8:38 PM

Sleep in Jordaan, Amsterdam · night 2 of 3

Spend the day on Museumplein with the Rijksmuseum and the Van Gogh Museum, then head to Brouwerij 't IJ for a beer together.

PREFER A GUIDE? · 3-4 HOURS

Rijksmuseum skip-the-line ticket

Cut an hour of queue time and head straight to Rembrandt and Vermeer; the Night Watch justifies the visit alone.

[Book this tour](#)

1



8:30 AM · 3 hours

[Book ahead](#)

Rijksmuseum

\$24 per person · Open 9 AM-5 PM daily

Amsterdam's masterpiece museum: Vermeer, Rembrandt, and the Night Watch fill three floors. Plan 2.5 hours minimum. From Jordaan, take tram 2 or 5 south to Museumplein; 15 minutes.

Insider tip: Arrive by 8:30 AM to skip the midday queue. Skip the ground floor gift shop; go straight upstairs.

[Book tickets](#)
[Open in Google Maps >](#)

2



11:30 AM · 1 hour

Museumplein

Free

The plaza between the Rijks, Van Gogh, and Stedelijk museums, ringed by trees and water. Grab coffee and a pastry on the grass or at a cafe bench. Walk straight out of the Rijksmuseum's rear exit.

Insider tip: The 'I Amsterdam' photo spot is here but crowded; the south side of the plaza is quieter and better framed.

[Open in Google Maps >](#)

PREFER A GUIDE? · 2-3 HOURS

Van Gogh Museum timed entry

The world's best collection of his work in a manageable space; timed tickets get you straight in without the Rijksmuseum crowds.

[Book this tour](#)

3



12:45 PM • 2.5 hours

[Book ahead](#)

Van Gogh Museum

\$24 per person • Open 9 AM-7 PM daily

The world's largest Van Gogh collection, chronologically arranged across four floors. Sunflowers, Irises, and his journey from dark Dutch landscapes to bright colour. A 2-minute walk across Museumplein.

Insider tip: Start at the top floor and work down; you'll see his growth in reverse and avoid the ground-floor crush.

[Book tickets](#)

[Open in Google Maps >](#)

4



3:15 PM • 1.5 hours

Brouwerij 't IJ

Free entry; \$5-8 per beer • Open 2-9 PM weekdays, 1-9 PM weekends

A craft brewery and tasting room in a converted bathhouse east of the museums. Try the Columbus (IPA) or Natte (dark ale) with a plate of cheese and bread. Tram 2 or 5 north, then walk 10 minutes, or 20 minutes walk from the museum.

Insider tip: Order at the counter; sit on the garden benches if it's sunny. Go before 5 PM to avoid the after-work crowd.

[Open in Google Maps >](#)

5



7:00 PM • 1.5 hours

[Book ahead](#)

Amsterdam Canal Cruises

\$17-20 per person • Open Departs hourly, check current schedule

A one-hour cruise through the Canal Ring and waterfront, best at golden hour (depart around 7 PM). See 17th-century gabled houses and bridges from the water. Return to the museums area and walk to the departure point at Prins Hendrikkade (Weesperplein stop, tram 2 or 5).

Insider tip: Sit on the upper deck at the back for the best light and no glare. Book a ticket online to skip the kiosk queue.

[Book tickets](#)

[Open in Google Maps >](#)

6



8:30 PM • 1.5 hours

[Book ahead](#)

Café de Jaren

\$16-27 per person for food and drinks • Open 10 AM-1 AM daily

A waterfront cafe and dinner spot on the Amstel river, five minutes walk from the cruise dock. High ceilings, good cocktails, and solid Dutch and European food (mains 16-24 euros). Reserve or go early to snag a table by the window.

Insider tip: The peppercorn steak is reliable. Sit upstairs on the terrace if the weather holds; the view of the Magere Brug (bridge) lit up is worth the wait.

[Open in Google Maps >](#)

Open Day 2 as a route in Google Maps

Where to eat

Café de Reiger

Dutch · Breakfast · \$

Corner spot in Jordaan with strong coffee and thick toast. Go early, grab a window seat.

[Google Maps >](#)

Librije

Dutch Contemporary · Lunch · \$\$

Near Rijksmuseum. Seasonal salads and fish. Light, won't slow you down for afternoon galleries.

[Google Maps >](#)

Greetje

Dutch · Dinner · \$\$

Canal-side in Jordaan, back to base. Slow-braised meat, Dutch classics. Book ahead for sunset views.

[Google Maps >](#)

Albert Cuyp Market, De Kas and Vondelpark

Sunrise 6:45 AM

Golden hour 7:52 PM

Sunset 8:38 PM

Sleep in Jordaan, Amsterdam · night 3 of 3

Graze through Albert Cuyp Market, have a long lunch at De Kas, walk it off in Vondelpark, and finish with a night out at Melkweg.

1



8:30 AM · 1.5 hours

Albert Cuyp Market

Free to walk; \$11-22 if buying street food · Open 9 AM-5 PM daily

Amsterdam's liveliest street market: 100 stalls of flowers, cheese, stroopwafels, fresh juice and clothes. It's packed but worth it for the food and people-watching. A 12-minute walk from Jordaan base, or tram 2 or 3 south.

Insider tip: Get there by 8:45 AM to miss the worst crowds. Buy fresh stroopwafels from stall 46, they're warm and ten times better than packaged ones.

[Open in Google Maps >](#)

2



12:30 PM · 2 hours

Book ahead

De Kas

\$82-103 per person for lunch/dinner · Open 12 PM-2 PM, 6 PM-10:30 PM (closed Sundays and Mondays; book

Michelin-starred restaurant in a greenhouse overlooking a garden: seasonal, refined small plates in a relaxed setting. Book a lunch table to keep it lighter than dinner. A 10-minute tram ride north (tram 2 to Linnaeusstraat) from Brouwerij 't IJ.

Insider tip: Lunch menu is EUR 60-80, much friendlier than dinner (EUR 150+). Sit by the garden window if it's a clear day.

[Open in Google Maps >](#)

3



3:00 PM · 2.5 hours

Vondelpark

Free

Amsterdam's biggest urban park: 47 hectares of walking paths, open meadows, ponds and trees in full spring leaf. Perfect for wandering and eating an ice cream. A 15-minute walk or tram 2 from De Kas south to the park entrance.

Insider tip: Skip the main entrance near Stadhouderskade. Enter from Overtoom side and head toward the Japanese Garden for quieter paths and better light at sunset.

[Open in Google Maps >](#)

DAY 3: ALBERT CUYP MARKET, DE KAS AND VONDELPARK (CONTINUED)

4



7:15 PM · 1.5 hours

Café de Melkweg

\$22-33 per person for food, drinks, and possible entry to even · Open 8 PM-4 AM

Cultural venue with a cafe, gallery and music space in a former dairy, just outside the park. Stop here for a drink, snack or to check what's on. A 5-minute walk from Vondelpark's west edge, on Lijnbaansgracht.

Insider tip: Order a Dutch cheese board and a spritz, then sit on the terrace to catch the last light. Quieter than brown cafes and good for a lingering evening.

[Open in Google Maps >](#)

[Open Day 3 as a route in Google Maps](#)

Where to eat

Broodnodig

Bakery/Breakfast · Breakfast · \$

Early sourdough and pastries. Go before 9am, the queues build fast.

[Google Maps >](#)

Bert's Juice Bar

Vegetarian/Lunch · Lunch · \$

Albert Cuyper Market stall. Fresh bowls and juices, eat standing or on a bench.

[Google Maps >](#)

Café de Jaren

Dutch · Dinner · \$\$

Canal-side spot near Jordaan. Pork belly or fish, outdoor terrace catches sunset glow.

[Google Maps >](#)

BEFORE YOU GO: AMSTERDAM

When exactly does Keukenhof bloom in April?

Open mid-March to mid-May, peak bloom is mid-April. Go early in the month if possible; later April can feel picked over. Book tickets online at [keukenhof.nl](https://www.keukenhof.nl) to skip queues.

How long should I book for the canal cruise?

One hour is standard and enough. Evening cruises (sunset cruises, about 19:00-20:30) are magical in April when days are longer, and the city lights reflect on water. Book the night before.

Which museum should I choose for my museum day?

The Rijksmuseum is essential for Dutch masterpieces (Vermeer, Rembrandt). The Van Gogh Museum is busier but unforgettable. Go early (before 10:00) to avoid crowds. Buy tickets online first.

What food should I eat in Amsterdam?

Try stroopwafels (syrup waffles, EUR 2-3), bitterballen (fried meat ragout balls), herring from a street stand, and Indonesian rijsttafel (rice table, EUR 25-40). Albert Cuyp Market is a must for cheap street food.

What's the weather like in Amsterdam in April?

Expect 8-13°C (46-55°F), so bring layers: a light jacket, sweater, and closed shoes. Rain is common, so a compact umbrella or waterproof jacket earns its weight.

Do people speak English in Amsterdam?

Spoken here: Dutch. English is widely spoken in hotels, restaurants, and museums, and almost everyone under 40 speaks it fluently.

Useful phrases:

- Dank je wel (dahnk yuh vel): thank you
- Alstublieft (ahlstoo-BLEFT): please
- Hoeveel kost dit (HOO-vay cost dit): how much does this cost
- Een koffie, alstublieft (ayn KOH-fee, ahlstoo-BLEFT): a coffee, please
- Waar is het toilet (vahr is het TOY-let): where's the toilet

Is Amsterdam safe for visitors?

Amsterdam is very safe. The main thing: watch for cyclists (they own the roads and won't slow down). Keep bags zipped on public transport, though theft is rare.

What's the emergency number in Netherlands?

Call 112 for police, ambulance or fire. It's free and works from any phone, including a foreign mobile.

Do you tip in Netherlands?

Service is typically included in restaurant bills. Round up for good service (5-10%) or leave loose change in cash. Tipping taxi drivers isn't expected but rounding up is polite.

What do only locals know about Amsterdam?

- Keukenhof gardens close mid-May, so don't miss the tulips: visit early April if possible, and book online to skip queues.
- Rent a bike (EUR 12-15/day) even for one day: you'll move faster than walking and blend in with locals.
- Skip the Red Light District crowds by visiting after 11pm when tourists clear out.
- Grab stroopwafels fresh from a market stall (EUR 1-2) rather than tourist shops; the ones at Albert Cuyp Market are the real deal.