

## **ACCESSIBILITY TO AMSTERDAM**

### **By air**

Amsterdam Airport Schiphol is one of the world's most modern and efficient airports, which is why it is designated 'Best Airport in Europe' (and fourth best in the world) in the 2013 Business Traveller Awards. Scheduled services fly into Schiphol from at least 128 destinations within Europe and from 108 non-European destinations. Some 110 airlines fly from Amsterdam Airport Schiphol to more than 265 destinations worldwide. In 2010, Amsterdam Airport Schiphol served 45.2 million passengers. Schiphol train station is located directly below the airport and by train you arrive at Amsterdam Central Station within 15 minutes. Via Schiphol Plaza, you can walk straight to the departure or arrival hall. There are also 15 to 20 trains a day to destinations such as Brussels, Paris and Frankfurt.

Flight times:

Amsterdam – London 1 hr 10 min

Amsterdam – Paris 1 hr 15 min

Amsterdam – Berlin 1 hr 20 min

Amsterdam – Stockholm 2 hrs

Amsterdam – New York City 7 hr 30 min

[www.schiphol.nl/PublicTransport](http://www.schiphol.nl/PublicTransport)

[www.ns.nl/en/schedule\\_your\\_trip\\_from\\_the\\_airport\\_to\\_the\\_city\\_centre\\_by\\_train](http://www.ns.nl/en/schedule_your_trip_from_the_airport_to_the_city_centre_by_train)

### **By train**

The Dutch Railway company transports some one million travellers a day over the busiest railway network in the world. The NS Group comprises a number of operating companies which ensure the transportation of travellers and the development and exploitation of transport junctions. NS International operates the international transport of passengers by train. Thalys Nederland, ICE International, IC, Benelux and CityNightLine transport passengers to various destinations including France, Germany and Belgium.

Operators:

Thalys (Paris)

ICE international (Frankfurt)

Benelux (Brussels)

IC (Berlin)

CityNightLine (Basel, Munich)

### **By bus**

Long-distance Euroline busses connect Amsterdam with most European cities. Within the country, buses are used for regional transport rather than for long distances. They do, however, fill the rail gaps in the north and east of the Netherlands. Bus stations are typically situated next to the main railway station in a town. In towns with no rail service they are usually located in the town centre.

**By boat**

Most travellers go overland through Belgium and France to catch a boat to England, however ferries also run between the Hoek van Holland (Hook of Holland) and Harwich, UK; Europoort (near Rotterdam) and Hull, UK; IJmuiden (near Amsterdam) and Newcastle, UK; and IJmuiden and Kristiansand, Norway.

**Local infrastructure**

The compact size of Amsterdam means that almost everything is within walking distance of each other. Nevertheless the public transport network of buses, trams and metro is efficient, modern, reliable and inexpensive. The GVB is the public transport company of Amsterdam. One million passengers within greater Amsterdam travel by tram, bus, metro and ferry every day.

## **TRAVEL IN AMSTERDAM**

### **Amsterdam Public Transport System**

Although the city centre's compact size means that most areas and sights are within walking distance of each other, Amsterdam's public transport network (called 'GVB', a Dutch acronym) is efficient, reliable, and widely used. One million passengers criss-cross the city by tram, bus, underground metro line and ferry every day. Please note that due to the construction of a new underground line parts of and around the Amsterdam Central Station are inaccessible.

[www.schiphol.nl/PublicTransport](http://www.schiphol.nl/PublicTransport)

[www.ns.nl/en/schedule your trip from the airport to the city centre by train](http://www.ns.nl/en/schedule-your-trip-from-the-airport-to-the-city-centre-by-train)

<http://gvb.nl/en>

You can travel using just one card, whether it is in the bus, tram or metro. There are two different types of cards: disposable cards and the reloadable OV Chipkaart.

#### **Disposable cards for public transport**

For short visits a disposable OV-chipkaart is advised. A disposable card already carries a travel product and cannot be recharged. Important: the disposable cards can only be used for transportation within the city.

#### One hour ticket

In the tram and in the bus you can buy a 1-hour ticket (a disposable chipcard). The ticket is also available at the GVB Tickets & Info counters e.g. in front of the Central Station, and from the Ticket vending machines in the metro stations. With this ticket you can travel for one hour on all GVB tram-, bus- and metro lines. The ticket is only valid on GVB lines, changing to other companies, such as Connexion or Arriva, is not possible. Price: € 2,90.

#### Validity

The validity starts after the first check-in. Within the validity period you can change to other GVB lines. When the time has expired, the ticket is no longer usable. The 1-hour ticket is NOT valid on the GVB night buses.

#### 1 day – 7 days ticket

GVB day or multiple day tickets entitle you to unlimited travel through Amsterdam - day and night - by tram, bus and metro, for the number of hours that best suit your plans. For example the 1 day ticket is valid for 24 hours from the time you first check in.

#### Prices of Disposable cards

24 hours (1 day) € 7.50

48 hours (2 days) € 12.50

72 hours (3 days) € 17.00

96 hours (4 days) € 21.50

You can buy disposable cards at:

- GVB Tickets & Info service outlets e.g. in front of the Central Station
- from tram- and bus drivers and conductors (only the 24-hours ticket)
- Ticket Vending Machines in the metro stations
- at VVV Amsterdam Tourist Offices
- at various hotels and bookstores

### **OV-chipkaart**

The OV-chipkaart (PT Smart Card) is the size of a credit card and has a built-in chip. You can reload this as often as you like, with a balance in euros. You can buy reloadable cards at GVB Tickets & Info service outlets. You can reload your card at Ticket Vending and Add Value machines, and pay cash and with PIN, chip or credit card.

Rules for using the OV-chipkaart:

Your card must be loaded with a minimum of € 20 (train) or € 1 (bus/tram/metro).

Always check in and out! Travelling with the OV-chipkaart means that you must always check in and check out at the gates or the yellow card readers.

If you checked in, but did not check out, instead of the usual fare, € 4 (tram/bus/metro) or € 20 (train) will be charged. Travelling without checking in can result in a fine of up to €37,50. Please note that some stations service both trains and metro lines. It is important to check in and out at the right portal. Using the 'wrong' portal will cause a larger amount being deducted from your ticket.

For more information on the different cards, tram, bus or metro, see the GVB website at [www.gvb.nl http://en.gvb.nl/](http://en.gvb.nl/)

Please note: Prices may be altered at the providers convenience.

### **Taxi**

Throughout the city centre, and most certainly near the Central Station Taxis at the west entrance/exit, there are several taxi stands.

The main taxi company of Amsterdam is TCA (Taxi Centrale Amsterdam).

Telephone number: +31 20 777 7777.

### **Pedal**

With 600,000 bicycles for its 750,000 residents, in Amsterdam it is rare for more than a few seconds to pass before a bike zips by. Cycling is a way of life here. The people from Amsterdam and the Dutch people in general use their bicycles as a means of everyday transportation, whether commuting to work in a business suit, shopping for groceries or getting the kids to school. The 400 kilometres of bike lanes and paths in Amsterdam alone make it easy for visitors to experience the city by bike for themselves.

## **Sightseeing**

For information about Amsterdam and sightseeing please check <http://www.iamsterdam.com/en>

for example:

[Hermitage Museum](#)

[Van Gogh Museum](#)

[Rijksmuseum](#)

[Micropia Museum \(microbes\)](#)

[Largest Museum of Bags & Purses in the world](#)

[EYE Film Museum](#)

### **Alternative Accomodation**

- To check availability at hotels in Amsterdam, please check: [www.booking.com Amsterdam](https://www.booking.com/Amsterdam)
- For fans of AIRbnb, please check [airbnb.com/s/Amsterdam--Netherlands](https://airbnb.com/s/Amsterdam--Netherlands)