

HOW TO FIND A ROOM IN AMSTERDAM

Finding a room in Amsterdam can be difficult, even for natives. There is a shortage of housing in general, and especially for students it is challenging to find an affordable room. The following tips may assist you when looking for a room in Amsterdam.

Unless specified below, all websites have an English version.

For more tips and advice, visit our website: www.uva.nl/housing

Finding a room

If you have not been allocated a room in student housing, you will need to find one on the private market. Because the number of students in Amsterdam exceeds the number of rooms available, this can be difficult and time consuming.

General Information

- 'Dienst Wonen' is part of the municipality of Amsterdam and has general information on housing in Amsterdam.
www.iamsterdam.com/en-GB/living
- Amsterdams Steunpunt Wonen (ASW) has a lot of interesting general information on housing in Amsterdam.
www.huurders.info (click on 'English')
- www.facebook.com/groups/359885487498322
Facebook page of the International Student Network (ISN). To meet other students who are looking for a room.
- kamers.pagina.nl
If you speak Dutch this website is very useful and has links to almost every web page about housing in the Netherlands.
- An overview of sites with room offers is www.start12.nl/studentenkamers. Some sites are in Dutch, but a handy extra is the rating of the sites and the possibility to read reviews.

Housing corporations

- Three Housing Corporations: De Key, DUWO and Ymere, have one central information desk for student housing. This option is especially interesting if you will stay in Amsterdam longer than one year. This website works on a waiting-list system. You will have to accumulate waiting time in order to increase your chances of finding a room via this website. The website is in Dutch: www.studentenwoningweb.nl.
- Housing corporation DUWO also offers short stay accommodation via Direct Offer; <https://www.duwo.nl/en/i-search/other-offers/direct-offer/>
After registering via de website, you can log in and search for rooms in the online database.
- On the website www.woningnet.nl various Housing Corporations offer larger apartments for rent. You can search in the Amsterdam region.

Rooms

- The ASVA Student Union offers general information on renting a room in Amsterdam and also functions as a room mediator between students and landlords.
www.asva.nl

- The SRVU is another Student Union, related to the Vrije Universiteit but UvA students can also become members. They offer the same room mediation service as the ASVA Student Union. The website is in Dutch.
<http://www.srvu.org> - 'kamerbureau'
- The Foreign Student Service provides help in finding accommodation for international students. You can email or call them, but the rooms are usually for a short period (a few months).
www.foreignstudents.nl
- www.kamernet.nl offers a large amount of rooms online. You need to be a member of the website to respond to rooms adverts. They charge a fee for membership to the website (Premium Membership - 1 month for € 19,95).
- www.pararius.nl offers a large number of rooms online. Searching the website is free and open for everyone.
- <http://www.studenten.net/magazine> is a similar website (no charge, only in Dutch).
- As are www.kamertje.nl, which also provides information about your rights when you rent a room (no charge, in Dutch), www.kamerhulp.nl (no charge, in Dutch), www.opkamers.nl (no charge, in English).
- On www.facebook.com there are several groups where rooms are offered. For example 'Apartments for rent in Amsterdam' or 'Amsterdam Apartments' (for shared apartments with more than 1 other student)
- Also available in English is www.easykamer.nl. You can create a profile and search for a room or roommate.
- www.kamerbron.nl/kamer/amsterdam/ is a similar website, as is www.opmijnkamer.nl/kamers-in-amsterdam.html and [http://www.kamerverhuur.nl/kamers in amsterdam](http://www.kamerverhuur.nl/kamers_in_amsterdam)
- There is a site for people who like to live in a 'group' and have shared activities, for example they eat together: www.woongroep.net. The site is in Dutch, but when you go to 'Bewoner zoekt woongroep' you can place an add yourself. This is free of charge.
- [Elynx](http://www.elynx.nl) is a site for expats living in The Netherlands. If you go to 'Notices' in their menu, then click on the 'Offered: Shared Accommodation' option.
www.elynx.nl
- Het *Bureau voor Tijdelijke Bewoning* (Office of temporary housing) offers temporary housing in buildings that are empty or will be sold. Usually very cheap but sometimes the period of stay is uncertain. The website is in Dutch. You pay a registration fee of 15 euro, when they provide a room, you pay an extra 50 euro administration costs. www.kraakwacht.nl (E-mail: info@kraakwacht.nl, phone: +31 (0) 20 6814600)
- *Students for Students* provides listing of rooms owned by private landlords.
www.sfshousing.nl. The charge 10 euro entrance fee and a commission when you find a room through them.
- *CasaSwap* - roommates and student housing worldwide, a website where people can post ads for renting out rooms or finding a room. <http://www.casaswap.com>
- *Wimdu / Air BnB* - online platforms with a wide range of private accommodation to rent temporarily in Amsterdam. Private parties offer rooms or whole apartments for rent, short term. www.wimdu.com, www.airbnb.com

- www.HousingAnywhere.com is a housing platform on which students that go on exchange for a few months post their room; incoming exchange students can respond to those rooms immediately. This website operates on a full student-to-student basis, without intermediaries.
- www.Nestpick.com is an online rental platform that allows students to find their home in a foreign city. The website allows students to rent mid to long term accommodation securely, quickly and conveniently. The company verifies apartments to make sure that the process of moving into a new city is smooth and secure.
- www.hollandhomestay.com is a housing platform where international students can find a Dutch home to stay with.

Commercial housing agencies

In Amsterdam there are two room agencies run on a non-commercial basis: ASVA, and SRVU (links are mentioned above). All the other room agencies in the city are run on a commercial basis, which means that they profit financially of the housing shortage. All commercial agencies offering houses or rooms must be registered with the Amsterdam authorities. They are allowed to ask only a reasonable registration fee. They have to offer you a house or room within four months, if not, you can get your money back. If they find you a room, you have to pay for their services. This amount also has to be reasonable.

We advise you to be careful when you apply to such a room agency. When you have questions, you can go to the ASW office (www.huurders.info) for information and advice. Below are some commercial parties that are known to be reliable.

- *Rotsvast wonen* is a commercial agency that offers housing in a higher price category. You have to pay a subscription fee, as well as a month rent + VAT when they find you an apartment. www.rotsvast.nl.
- *Randstadwonen* offers furnished and unfurnished accommodation in the area of Amsterdam and Haarlem. Registration is free. <http://www.randstadwonen.com/free-registration/>
- *Apartments Houseboats Amsterdam*; <http://www.apartments-houseboats-amsterdam.com/uk/> This agency offers studios, rooms, bed and breakfast and complete houses in Amsterdam that can be rented temporarily.
- www.hicondo.nl HiCondo offers luxury independent student apartments in Amsterdam-Southeast.

Temporary accommodation (Hotels and Hostels)

In case you have are not able to find a room before arrival, you may want to stay in a hotel or hostel. Finding daily accommodation should not be difficult, however remember that certain times of the year (especially during specific events) all rooms may be fully booked. Right before the start of the semester we also notice that many students stay in hostels, which might end up being fully booked if you wait too long with a reservation.

- *The Student Hotel* in Amsterdam offers Dutch and international students fully furnished rooms with private bathroom, a shared or private kitchen, big bed, fast WiFi and flat screen TV including the use of a personal bike, gym, study rooms, lounges and game room. The hotel has a reception with 24 hour security, a laundry room and a restaurant/bar. Rooms at

The Student Hotel can be viewed online and are available for one or two semester. The rooms are also bookable per week or month. The website is in English.

www.thestudenthotel.com

- Regular hostels can be booked via www.hostelworld.com or www.hostelbookers.com
- Some options of recommended (youth) ho(s)tels are:

Stayokay Vondelpark
Zandpad 5
1054 GA Amsterdam
Phone: +31 (0)20 589 89 96
Email: vondelpark@stayokay.com
Website: <http://www.stayokay.com>

Stayokay Zeeburg
Timorplein 21
1094 CC Amsterdam
Phone: +31 (0)20 551 31 90
Email: zeeburg@stayokay.com
Website: <http://www.stayokay.com>

Stayokay Stadsdoelen
Kloveniersburgwal 97
1011 KB Amsterdam
Phone: +31 (0)20 624 68 32
Email: stadsdoelen@stayokay.com
Website: <http://www.stayokay.com>

Hotel Meiniger
Orlyplein 1-67
1043 DR Amsterdam
Phone: +31 (0)20 8080502
Email: welcome@meininger-hotels.com
Website: <http://www.meininger-hotels.com/en/hotels/amsterdam>

Meetingpoint Youth Hostel
Warmoesstraat 14
1012 JD Amsterdam
Phone: +31 (0)20 627 74 99
Email: info@hostel-meetingpoint.nl
Website: <http://www.hostel-meetingpoint.nl>

Shelter City Christian Hostel
Barndesteeg 21
1012 BV Amsterdam
Phone: +31 (0)20 625 32 30
Website: <http://www.shelter.nl>

Bob's Youth Hostel

Nieuwezijds voorburgwal 92
1012 SG Amsterdam
Phone: +31 (0)20 623 00 63 (walk-in policy)
Website: <http://www.bobsyouthhostel.nl/>

Other links (both commercial agencies and (English-language) listing sites)

- <http://www.funda.nl/WoningAanbod/Huur/Default.aspx> (Dutch only but has listings of all real estate agents)
- <http://www.woninghuren.com/index.php?switch=GB>
- <http://www.woningmarkt.com/index.php?act=huur&subact=1&lang=EN&country=NL>
- <http://www.justhousing.nl/>
- <http://www.expatriates.com/classifieds/netherlands/housingavailable>
- <http://www.xpatrentals.com/>
- <http://www.interagency.nl/apartments.php>
- <http://www.perfecthousing.nl/>
- <http://www.expatica.com/nl/housing.html>
- <http://amsterdam.craigslist.org/apa>
- <http://www.amsterdamweekly.nl>

Facebook pages:

- ROOM AVAILABLE IN AMSTERDAM
- Rooms for rent in Amsterdam
- Appartementen en Kamers te Huur
- Kamers in Amsterdam
- Kamers gezocht/aangeboden
- Zoekt kamer in Amsterdam community