



Before You Go

Book Your Stay

- Accommodation options in Rotterdam are limited, though slowly expanding; as a result, it can sometimes be hard to find a room.
- High season rates apply from April to September.
- Book well in advance, especially during spring and summer.
- Centrum is the most convenient option.

Useful Websites

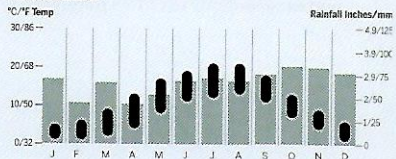
Though accommodation options may be limited in Rotterdam, many travellers can find places to stay on the usual home-sharing services.

Lonely Planet (www.lonelyplanet.com/the-netherlands/rotterdam#lodgings) Recommendations and bookings.

Best Budget

King Kong Hostel (www.kingkonghostel.com)

Rotterdam



When to Go

Summer The festival season kicks off and locals embrace outdoor activities; hotels charge high-season rates.

Autumn The weather remains pleasant and outdoor events are still held; be sure to pack an umbrella.

Winter Cold, but not bone-chilling. Low-season hotel rates apply.

Spring April and May are particularly good times to visit; lower chance of rain than at other times during the year.

.com) Bright and welcoming hostel on Rotterdam's main entertainment strip.

Stayokay Rotterdam (www.stayokay.com) Hostel located in the famous cube houses; offers basic rooms and a good cafe.

Best Midrange

Citizen M (www.citizenm.com) A hostel for grown ups; well-located.

Urban Residences

(www.urbanresidences.com) Stylish, well-equipped apartments in the city centre.

Pincoffs (www.hotelpincoffs.nl) Rotterdam's only truly boutique hotel; strong on personalised service.

nhow (www.nhow-rotterdam.com) In the iconic De Rotterdam building; sleek rooms and a bar with panoramic terrace.

The James (<https://thejames.nl>) Centrally located choice with good-sized, well-equipped rooms.

Best Top End

Mainport (www.mainporthotel.com) Luxuri-

ous choice; loads of facilities and excellent riverside location.

Hotel New York (www.hotelnewyork.nl) Bags of character and very friendly staff.



Arriving in Rotterdam

Centraal Station

Rotterdam's main train station is **Rotterdam Centraal** (Map p38, A1; www.ns.nl/stations/informatie/td/rotterdam-centraal; Stationsplein 1; Centraal Station, Centraal); trains heading south often stop at Blaak Station after Centraal.

From Brussels

Frequent high-speed Thalys trains (1¼ hours), as well as NS Intercity direct services (two hours).

From Paris Thalys trains travel to/from Paris Nord (2½ hours). The national railway service **Nederlandse Spoorwegen** (NS; www.ns.nl) operates trains to destinations across the Netherlands, including Am-

sterdam (€15.40-17.80, 40 to 75 minutes).

Schiphol International Airport

The Netherlands' main airport, **Schiphol International** (AMS; www.schiphol.nl) is located 60km northeast of Rotterdam. Airport services include ATMs, currency-exchange desks, car-hire desks, free wi-fi and multiple eating and drinking options.

Train Frequent Intercity (€12.40, 45 minutes) and Intercity Direct (€14.80, 25 minutes) trains travel between the airport station and Rotterdam Centraal.

Bus Interchange

Rotterdam is a hub for Eurolines bus services to the rest of Europe. Long-distance buses stop immediately west of Centraal Station. The **Eurolines office** (088 076 17 00; www.eurolines.eu/rotterdam-eurolines-agency; Conradstraat 16; 9.30am-5.30pm Mon-Sat; Centraal Station, Centraal) is in the Groothandelsgebouw by Centraal Station.

Rotterdam The Hague Airport

Serving more than 40 (mainly European) destinations, this **international airport** (RTM; 010-446 34 44; www.rotterdamthehagueairport.nl;), 6km northwest of Rotterdam, is connected to the city by bus or a combination of bus and metro. **Bus** Bus 33 makes the 20-minute run between the airport and Rotterdam Centraal Station every 15 minutes between 5.40am and midnight (€3.50).

Bus & Metro Take bus 33 to Meijersplein metro station, then Line E to Rotterdam; one two-hour ticket (€3.50) will cover both legs of your trip.

Taxi The trip to get to the centre takes 10 minutes and costs around €25.



Getting Around

Metro

Excellent metro system covering the city