

The name "Amsterdam" comes from the city's origins. It grew around a dam in the River Amstel during the twelfth century CE.

In the nineteenth century, tulips became a luxury item and status symbol. People even sold their houses in order to invest in them. Dutch tulip-growers still dominate the world tulip-bulb industry, their produce 4.32 billion tulip bulbs each year.

MANY OF THE BUILDINGS IN AMSTERDAM LEAN TO ONE SIDE, WHERE THE STRUCTURES HAVE SUNK INTO THE CITY'S MUDDY FOUNDATIONS.

In the cramped quarters of the canal ring, most of the seventeenth-century houses measure no more than 9 m wide.

AMSTERDAM IS THE CITY OF HOUSEBOATS, WITH OVER 2,400 ALONG ITS CANALS.

THERE IS ONE HOUSEBOAT, CALLED "DE POLZENBOOT", WHICH IS JUST FOR STRAY CATS.

UP TO 15,000 BICYCLE WRECKS ARE FISHED OUT OF THE CANALS PER YEAR.

* Amsterdam has a nickname – "Mokum", which means "place" or "we haven't" in Hebrew.

AMSTERDAM IS SOME TIMES CALLED THE "VENICE OF THE NORTH"

AS IT HAS ALMOST AS MANY CANALS AS VENICE, AND MORE BRIDGES.

Diamond Factories 10+
Bicycles 800,000+
Bridges 1,281
Canals 145

MOKUM*

AMSTERDAM

FROM 1540-1672, IN A TIME KNOWN AS THE "GOLDEN AGE", AMSTERDAM WAS AT THE CENTRE OF THE WORLD'S ECONOMY.

Amsterdam is the Netherlands' largest and most visited city, with over 8 million visitors per year.

POPULATION: 822,800

Amsterdam has more museums per square meter than any other city in the world.

Amsterdam is known for its headquarters of art libraries, Rembrandt, Vermeer and Van Gogh.

The Rijksmuseum houses some of the greatest Dutch artworks, including Vermeer's "The Milkmaid" and Rembrandt's "The Night Watch".

Perched on top of the steep hill of Montmartre, *Brasserie du Sacré-Cœur* is the highest point in Paris at 130 m above sea level.

The River Seine flows through Paris from the southeast to the northwest.

Paris has been home to many famous artists, including Rembrandt, Van Dyck, Picasso, Matisse and Pollock.

Paris was founded in the third century BCE by a Celtic people called the Parisii, who gave the city its name.

Paris is referred to as the 'City of Light' after its famous Enlightenment tradition, such as Voltaire and Rousseau.

ONE OF THE MOST VISITED CITIES IN THE WORLD!

THE CITY OF LIGHT

PARIS

THE CAPITAL OF FRANCE

"FLUCTUAT NEC MERGITUR" (TOSSED BUT NOT SUNK)

THE EIFFEL TOWER

PARIS'S OLDEST CAFE, *CAFE PROCOPE*, OPENED IN 1686.
THERE ARE 24 *COUTURE* HOUSES IN PARIS.

PARIS HAS MORE THAN 400 PARKS AND GARDENS ...
OVER 9,000 RESTAURANTS ...

PARIS'S ONLY STOP SIGN DISAPPEARED IN 1914.
THERE IS A GRAND PRIZE FOR PARIS'S BEST BAGUETTE.

DOUBLE CLOCKWORK CARRY VISITORS TO THE VIEWING PLATFORMS. IT'S 16 ABOVE THE GROUND.

27 BRIDGES ACROSS THE SEINE ...
AND AROUND 20,000 DOGS

BUILT FOR THE EXPOSITION UNIVERSELLE OF 1889,
THE EIFFEL TOWER WAS ONLY EVER MEANT TO BE TEMPORARY.

PARIS'S LOUVRE IS ONE OF THE WORLD'S LARGEST MUSEUMS, WITH 8.8 MILLION VISITORS A YEAR.

OVER 800 YEARS OLD, THE WINDOWS OF NOTRE DAME CATHEDRAL CONTAIN 10,000 GLASS PIECES.

- VICTOR HUGO

"THERE IS NO LIMIT TO PARIS"

HOME OF
HAUTE
COUTURE

POPULATION: 2.1 MILLION

Paris is home to world-famous fashion houses, including Chanel and Dior.