



## Looking for accommodation in Rotterdam

Rotterdam has a wide range of furnished and unfurnished apartments and rooms; there is plenty of accommodation available for rent. Experience has taught us that, if you look hard and focus on more than 1 agency, it shouldn't be too difficult to find a room or apartment in Rotterdam. Of course your budget and your choice of location play a part in this process as well.

Students generally rent furnished rooms (or apartments). But in case of unfurnished rooms/apartments, there are 2 IKeas close to Rotterdam. House sharing (private room, use of bathroom and kitchen, mostly in student dorms) will cost between approx. €350 and €600 per month. Expect to pay at least 1 month rent in advance, plus a refundable deposit (on vacating) which can be as much as 1 or 2 months rent.

Most rooms for rent (furnished and unfurnished) are offered by private landlords. The use of gas and electricity is usually included in the rent (but not always). Telephone and internet contracts must be made with your local utility office; utility bills can be paid through a Dutch bank account. Your landlord should provide you with a contract, but some try to avoid doing this in order not to pay taxes. Be careful as to how much notice you are required to give before terminating the contract. If you give insufficient notice your landlord may refuse to return your deposit. Be aware of landlords who ask you to wire money to a "Money Transfer Agent" (such as Western Union or GWK), because they could be frauds; money should always be transferred to a Dutch bank account. However, problems of this kind are the exception rather than the rule.

## Looking for a room

Upon deciding to study in Rotterdam you will need to find a place to live. Finding a place to stay by yourself while still abroad, can be very difficult. We provide you with four main options for finding your accommodation in Rotterdam.

### **1. Accommodation arranged via Erasmus University**

Erasmus University has outsourced housing to a housing agency, called "SSH". This agency has reserved 500 rooms for international students of Erasmus University. The department that handles international student housing is called 'Short Stay'. Short Stay provides rooms and apartments in Rotterdam for international students of the university, who are looking for furnished rooms for a maximum period of 12 months. Mediation for accommodation is subject to strict terms & conditions, read them carefully.

### **2. The Student Hotel: see [www.thestudenthotel.com](http://www.thestudenthotel.com)**

The Student Hotel provides fully furnished and fully serviced rooms and studios for students, academics, friends and family. You decide how long you want to stay - 1 or 2 semesters, just 1 night or 2 weeks - it's all up to you. The Student Hotel offers a choice of rooms and studio apartments. Each room is furnished and has

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a private en-suite bathroom. Kitchens are either private or shared. International and local students enjoy all-inclusive accommodation with lots of extra benefits. With library, lounges and study rooms, gym, café and restaurant, your own bike, WiFi and cable TV. You can book your room in advance and online.

**4. HousingAnywhere.com:** student-to-student marketplace, see: **[www.housinganywhere.com](http://www.housinganywhere.com)**

HousingAnywhere.com is a website on which incoming-exchange-students coming to Rotterdam can rent a (furnished) room from outgoing-exchange-students leaving Rotterdam. This website is free to use and it operates on a full student-to-student basis, without intermediaries. Students that go on exchange for a few months post their room on this website, and other students can respond on those rooms immediately.

**5. Effortless-Housing:** a student company, see: **[www.effortless-housing.com](http://www.effortless-housing.com)**

Effortless-Housing is a student company determined to make housing in Rotterdam effortless. It has become the connection between tenant and landlord by taking over their concerns. The services range from renting out apartments to (international) students to the maintenance of student apartments.

**6. Alternatives**

There are also other alternatives, for example private housing agencies that can help you finding accommodation in Rotterdam. Here you can find a list of websites that might help you in your search for a room in Rotterdam. Some are in Dutch only; in that case you could call or e-mail the organisations:

- facebook page from ESN-Rotterdam (called 'ESN-Rotterdam Housing')
- [www.airbnb.com](http://www.airbnb.com)
- [www.casaswap.com](http://www.casaswap.com)
- [www.studyrent.nl](http://www.studyrent.nl)
- [www.easykamer.nl](http://www.easykamer.nl)
- [www.kamerstart.nl](http://www.kamerstart.nl)
- [www.directliving.nl](http://www.directliving.nl)
- [www.huurkamers.nl](http://www.huurkamers.nl) >> click on "information"
- [www.iagora.com](http://www.iagora.com)
- [www.woninghuren.com](http://www.woninghuren.com)
- [www.couchsurfing.com](http://www.couchsurfing.com)
- [www.kamernet.nl](http://www.kamernet.nl)
- [www.kamertje.nl/kamers\\_in\\_rotterdam](http://www.kamertje.nl/kamers_in_rotterdam) (Dutch only)
- [www.kamerverhuur.nl](http://www.kamerverhuur.nl) (Dutch only)
- [www.kamerhulp.nl](http://www.kamerhulp.nl) (Dutch only)
- [www.opkamers.nl/kamers-rotterdam.html](http://www.opkamers.nl/kamers-rotterdam.html) (Dutch only)
- [www.roomsolutions.nl](http://www.roomsolutions.nl) (Dutch only)
- [www.yourroom.nl](http://www.yourroom.nl) (Dutch only)
- Lometi BV. For information call Mr. Vliegthart at his mobile number: +31 - (0)6 - 53 55 16 25

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## Looking for an apartment

An apartment (or studio or flat) will cost between € 450 and € 900 per month. Expect to pay at least 1 month rent in advance, plus a refundable deposit (on vacating) which can be as much as 1 or 2 months rent. Telephone and internet contracts must be made with your local utility office. Unfurnished apartments for rent are offered by estate agents, housing corporations and private landlords. Furnished apartments or partly furnished apartments are offered by private landlords, private house owners and estate agents. The use of gas and electricity is sometimes included in the rent, but usually not.

Here you can find a list of the more trustworthy websites that might help you in your search for an apartment in Rotterdam. Some are in Dutch only; in that case you could call or e-mail the organisations:

- [www.pararius.com/Real-estate-agents/Rotterdam/](http://www.pararius.com/Real-estate-agents/Rotterdam/) (offers a list of agencies)
- [www.directliving.nl](http://www.directliving.nl)
- [www.rotsvast.nl](http://www.rotsvast.nl)
- [www.servicedapartments.nl](http://www.servicedapartments.nl)
- [www.perfecthousing.nl](http://www.perfecthousing.nl)
- [www.vdvalkvastgoed.nl](http://www.vdvalkvastgoed.nl) (also possibilities for short stay from 1 - 6 months)
- [www.mycitylofts.com](http://www.mycitylofts.com) (short stay)
- [www.mizar.dds.nl/index.html](http://www.mizar.dds.nl/index.html)
- [www.exclusive-rentals.nl](http://www.exclusive-rentals.nl)
- [www.kamen-home-rentals.nl](http://www.kamen-home-rentals.nl)
- [www.hbf-rental.nl](http://www.hbf-rental.nl)
- [www.conformmakelaars.nl](http://www.conformmakelaars.nl)
- [www.classicapartments.nl](http://www.classicapartments.nl)
- [www.hoofdenmooij.nl](http://www.hoofdenmooij.nl)
- [www.woninghuren.com](http://www.woninghuren.com)
- [www.mansion.nl](http://www.mansion.nl)
- [www.wonenmvm.nl](http://www.wonenmvm.nl) (Dutch only)
- [www.huurintermediair.nl](http://www.huurintermediair.nl) (Dutch only)
- [www.matchmakelaars.nl](http://www.matchmakelaars.nl) (Dutch only)
- [www.kolpa.nl](http://www.kolpa.nl) Dutch only)
- [www.ooms.com](http://www.ooms.com) (Dutch only)
- [www.byggahousing.nl](http://www.byggahousing.nl) (Dutch only)

## List of estate agents in Rotterdam

### **Adelbrecht Vastgoed Beheer bv**

Visiting address: Dresselhuysstraat 3a, 3039 ZH Rotterdam

Tel: +31 - (0)10 - 466 30 02

Visiting hours: Monday - Friday, 08.30 - 12.30 / 13.30 - 16.30

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**Van Amstel Nederveen**

Visiting address: Straatweg 64, 3051 BJ Rotterdam

Tel: +31 - (0)10 - 285 8088

Visiting hours: Monday - Friday, 09.00 - 12.00

**A.H. de Groot & Zonen**

Tel: +31 – (0)10 - 213 19 75

Registration per telephone: Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 9.00 - 15.00

**Meeus**

Visiting address: Schiedamsedijk 51, 3011 ED Rotterdam

Tel: +31 - (0)10 - 404 02 11

Web: [www.meeus.com](http://www.meeus.com)

Visiting hours: Monday - Friday, 08.30 - 17.30

**Kolpa VVS Beheer bv**

Visiting address: Schieweg 34d, 3039 BB Rotterdam

Tel: +31 - (0)10 - 467 21 55

Registration per telephone: Monday - Friday, 10.00 - 12.00 / 14.00 - 15.00

**Administratiekantoor Kranenburg**

Tel: +31 - (0)10 - 481 20 12

Monday - Friday, 8.30 - 17.00

**Steens Beheer bv**

Visiting address: Lijsterbeslaan 47, 3053 NH Rotterdam

Tel: +31 - (0)10 - 461 0486

Visiting hours: Monday - Friday, 13.00 - 17.00

**Van Der Vorm Vastgoed bv**

Visiting address: Van Vollenhovenstraat 3, 9<sup>th</sup> floor, 3001 KH Rotterdam

Tel: +31 - (0)10 - 436 92 18

Visiting hours: Monday - Friday, 08.00 - 16.00

**Woongalerie Vesteda**

Visiting address: Gedempte Zalmhaven 359, 3011 BT Rotterdam

Tel: +31 - (0)10 - 404 4611

Web: [www.vesteda.com](http://www.vesteda.com)

Visiting hours: Monday - Friday, 08.30 - 17.00 / Saturdays: 10.00 - 13.00

**Kamen "Home Rentals" B.V.**

Tel: +31 - (0)180 - 436 436 (Monday - Friday, 09:00 - 17:00)

Web: [www.kamen-home-rentals.nl](http://www.kamen-home-rentals.nl)

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## Glossary

Please, take note that messages and advertisements on above mentioned websites could be written in Dutch. We have listed a glossary for you below (on alphabetical order).

- achternaam = last name
- appartement = apartment (or flat to UK readers)
- badkamer = bathroom
- balkon = balcony
- bericht = message
- bericht versturen = send message
- bus = bus
- conciërge = concierge
- contact = contact
- dichtbij = near to
- gedeeld = sharing
- gedeelde keuken en badkamer = shared kitchen and bathroom
- gedeeltelijk gemeubileerd = partly furnished
- gemeubileerd = fully furnished
- helder = bright
- inclusief gas, water, licht = electric, gas, water included in the rent price
- jongen = boy
- kamer = room
- keuken = kitchen
- man = man
- meisje = girl
- metro = subway
- naam = name
- onderwerp = subject
- rustig = silent, not noisy
- studentenhuis = dorm
- studio = a studio flat
- tram = tram
- twee kamer appartement = an apartment with two rooms (living and sleeping room)
- voor niet-roker = non smoker wanted
- vrouw = woman
- woonkamer = living-room

## Neighbourhoods in Rotterdam

The following neighbourhoods are good ones to live in and almost all of these areas are 20 - 30 minutes from Erasmus University with public transport:

- City centre
- Provenierswijk
- Kralingen (very close to Erasmus University)
- Blijdorp
- Cool
- Agniesebuurt
- Noorden
- Rubroek
- De Esch (very close to Erasmus University)
- Dijkzigt
- Kop van Zuid
- Schiebroek
- Liskwartier
- Crooswijk
- Mathenesse

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### Hotels / B&B located in the city centre

Whilst you are house hunting you may need to stay in a hotel for a short period. Standards vary and we recommend them to you only on the basis of cost:

- **Room Hostel** (€15 - €27,50 pppn for shared room): [www.roomrotterdam.nl](http://www.roomrotterdam.nl)
- **Stayokay Rotterdam** in the famous Rotterdam cube houses. The cube hostel is close to Erasmus University. Special price for Erasmus students: €24 pppn, including breakfast for a shared room: [www.eur.nl/english/facilities/housing/startacademicyear2013\\_2014/stayokay](http://www.eur.nl/english/facilities/housing/startacademicyear2013_2014/stayokay)
- **Sleep-in the Mafkees** (€10 pppn for shared room): [www.only10euroanight.nl/en](http://www.only10euroanight.nl/en)
- **Maritime Hotel** (3 stars): (as of €44 pppn): [www.maritimehotel.nl](http://www.maritimehotel.nl)
- **Home Hotel**: [www.homehotel.nl/indexUK.html](http://www.homehotel.nl/indexUK.html)
- **Hotel bazaar** (€60 pppn): [www.bazarrotterdam.nl](http://www.bazarrotterdam.nl)
- **Hotel Baan** (€55 - €75 pppn): [www.hotelbaan.nl](http://www.hotelbaan.nl)

### Hotels / B&B located near university

- **Stayokay Rotterdam** in the famous Rotterdam cube houses. The cube hostel is close to Erasmus University. Special price for Erasmus students: €24 pppn, including breakfast for a shared room: [www.eur.nl/english/facilities/housing/startacademicyear2013\\_2014/stayokay](http://www.eur.nl/english/facilities/housing/startacademicyear2013_2014/stayokay)
- **Pension Barendregt** (between €25 - €50 pppn): [www.pensionbarendregt.nl](http://www.pensionbarendregt.nl)
- **Novotel Hotels** (as of €59 pppn): [www.novotel.com](http://www.novotel.com)

### Some of the best sources of information:

- <http://journeyplanner.9292.nl>: route planner for public transport, including city maps
- [www.rotterdam.nl](http://www.rotterdam.nl): website of the city of Rotterdam. Much information is found on this site such as housing, public transport, travelling, etc.

### Estimate of monthly living expenses

Arranging your finances might be one of the most important aspects of preparing your stay in the Netherlands. To be able to make a good cost estimate, it is important to know what expenses and possible incomes to expect. Experience has shown that students living and studying in Rotterdam spend approximately €1,000 a month. This amount is needed to cover daily expenses, meals, accommodation costs, insurance, study books etc. This estimate does **not** include tuition fees and unforeseen costs, and should be used as a general indication of the costs of living. How much money you will actually need depends on your life style. The costs for housing, for example, may differ considerably. Also, if you plan to travel during your stay, you will obviously need more money. An example of an overview of average living expenses per month:

Accommodation	€450 - €850
Insurance	€55
Books/study materials	€100

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Daily expenses €350  
(food, drinks, clothes, going out, public transport, etc.)

**Other (non-recurrent) expenses:**

Visa and residence permit fees (non-EU students) €600  
Bicycle (secondhand) €50 - €100  
Unforeseen expenses (high telephone bill, etc.) €300

**A number of items with their average prices:**

Cup of tea or coffee in a café €2,50  
Cheese sandwich €3,00  
Big Mac €3,15  
Meal in a typical student restaurant €12,50  
Cinema ticket €10,00  
Hairdresser (cut and blow-dry) €25-€60

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