

Event Calendar Amsterdam Metropolitan Area 2012



This event list is an overview of the major events and exhibitions happening in the Amsterdam Metropolitan Area in 2012. Of course, there is much more to do and to enjoy than the highlights listed here.

For the most up-to-date information, go to www.iamsterdam.com



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Amsterdam Cultural city

Amsterdam is a cultural city without equal, either in the Netherlands or the rest of Europe. That is partly thanks to the 'regular' attractions, such as the many major museums, theatres and concert venues, but Amsterdam also offers a wide range of temporary cultural festivals. There are more than 90 annual cultural events in the Amsterdam Metropolitan Area, each with an attractive and diverse line-up, from young talent to world-famous names, from classical to contemporary and from intimate to spectacular. For many of the festivals it's 'language no problem', and they take place throughout the year.

For more information and a list of all festivals, visit www.amsterdamfestivals.com

April 2012: EYE Film Instituut Nederland on the North Bank of the IJ

In the spring of 2012, EYE will be opening its doors on the north bank of the IJ, opposite the Central Station. The spectacular building will house four film theatres, an exhibition area, a café-restaurant with a waterside terrace and areas for school groups and receptions.

September 2012: Reopening of Stedelijk Museum

The Stedelijk Museum Amsterdam on the Museumplein will be reopening its doors in September of 2012. The Stedelijk has gained an extension known as the 'bathtub'; a spectacular wing on the Museumplein side, designed by the Benthem Crouwel agency. Exciting exhibitions of modern art will be on show here. The entrance to the museum, the restaurant and the museum shop will also be located in the new wing.

2012: 400 years of the Beemster Polder

In 2012 the Beemster Polder, situated close to Amsterdam, will exist for 400 years. The Beemster Polder offers culture, history and nature, but also rugged traditional farmhouses with their pyramid-shaped roofs, unique museums, a historical church and especially the typical North Holland landscape. The Beemster Polder is part of the UNESCO World Heritage list and is definitely worth a visit! During the year all kinds of festivities will be organized on the theme of this 400th anniversary.

For more information, visit www.400jaarbeemster.nl

2013: Amsterdam

2013 is going to be an extra special year for Amsterdam. Not only will we be celebrating the 400-year anniversary of the Canal Ring, we will also be celebrating the re-opening of the fully renovated Rijksmuseum, the 175th anniversary of Artis Royal Zoo, the 125th anniversary of the Concertgebouw (concert hall), the Carré Theatre and much more. 2013 will be a special festival year in which 400 year of entrepreneurship, creativity and diversity come together.

For more information, visit www.iamsterdam.com/2013

January

19 – 22 January

Realisme 12 (Realism 12)

Passenger Terminal Amsterdam

Art fair that specialises in contemporary figurative art. Thirty-two renowned galleries showcase works by Dutch and international artists in the fields of figurative and realist painting and sculpture.

19 – 22 January

Jumping Amsterdam

Amsterdam RAI

In 2012, Jumping Amsterdam will celebrate its 53th edition in the Amsterdam RAI. Jumping Amsterdam is a four-day event that attracts top-notch riders from all over the world to compete for the much-desired jumping and dressage trophies.

23 January

Chinese New Year

Zeedijk and Nieuwmarkt

The Chinese New Year is the most important event in the Chinese calendar and marks the start of spring. Festivities will kick off with a lion dance and fireworks after which the lion puppet weaves along China Town, bringing good luck to Chinese shops and restaurants. Around the square are stalls and performances by Chinese musicians and artists.

25 – 29 January

Amsterdam International Fashion Week (AIFW)

Cultuurpark Westergasfabriek

The biannual AIFW, with a winter edition in January and summer edition in July, is *the* platform for young and talented fashion designers. Deviating from the traditional runway format as seen in the leading fashion cities, the AIFW is typically Amsterdam with catwalks scattered across the city centre and much attention for fringe activities such as lectures, exhibitions and parties.



February

11 -12 February

Fiets en Wandelbeurs (Cycling and Hiking Fair)

Amsterdam RAI

At the Cycling and Walking Fair at Amsterdam RAI you'll find everything in the field of cycling and rambling, accessories, holidays, tourist information, accommodation, outdoor leisure and camping, books and maps. There's also an extensive programme of lectures and workshops.

18 - 26 February

Huishoudbeurs 2012 (Homemaker's Fair 2012)

Amsterdam RAI

An estimated five hundred exhibitors will be presenting their products and showing you the latest trends in lifestyle, homes, fashion, cosmetics, health and much more at Holland's largest consumer event.



I amsterdam.

March

06 – 11 March
HISWA

Amsterdam RAI

HISWA is the biggest exhibition for water sports in the Netherlands. In seven exhibition halls in the Amsterdam RAI 350 exhibitors will present more than 500 boats. During the exhibition, the newest boats and water sports products of the new season are presented and there are surprising activities to enjoy. In short: HISWA offers everything you expect from a water sports fair!

07 – 11 March
5 Days Off

Various locations, Amsterdam

5 Days Off is a multi-day indoor dance event with house, techno, drum 'n' bass, breakbeats and future funk. The festival offers a top quality cross-section of international electronic music, as well as featuring other art forms such as media art.

22 March – 20 May
Keukenhof

Lisse

Every spring Keukenhof is a feast for the eye. Come see millions of tulips blooming and experience an overwhelming display of colour in this beautiful park.



April

22 March – 20 May

Keukenhof

Lisse

See March.

17 – 28 April

Imagine Film Festival

Filmtheater Kriterion

For many years, Imagine has been synonymous with fantasy, horror, thriller, science fiction and animation. But these labels really don't do justice to the films screened at this international film festival. In fact, some films need more than one label while others don't seem to fit into any category. This year the festival once again has plenty of imaginative fun in store for its visitors, including films, the Night of Terror, the Fantastisch Kinderfestival (Fantastic Children's Festival), master classes, theme programmes and Q&As featuring various guests.

12 – 28 April

Amsterdams Kleinkunst Festival (Amsterdam Cabaret Festival)

Various locations in Amsterdam

The annual highlight of the Dutch cabaret season, the Kleinkunst Festival offers cabaret in the broadest sense of the word from stand-up comedy to musical and theatre performances.

14 – 15 April

Nationaal Museumweekend (National Museum Weekend)

Museums in the Amsterdam Metropolitan Area

During the Nationaal Museumweekend more than 500 museums in the Netherlands open their doors and can be visited for free or with a large discount. Moreover, many museums organise spectacular activities.

21 April

Bloemencorso van de Bollenstreek (Bulb Region Flower Parade)

From Noordwijk to Haarlem

The Bloemencorso van de Bollenstreek will leave Noordwijk to travel its 40-kilometre route to Haarlem on 21st April. Covered with unique spring colours and fragrances and accompanied by a music corps, this parade is not called 'the face of spring' for nothing. There's just no other like it. Come and join the fun as there will be plenty of space on the roadside for hundreds of thousands of spectators.

30 April

Koninginnedag (Queen's Day)

Amsterdam city centre, Haarlem and metropolitan area

On Koninginnedag, Amsterdam and the rest of the Netherlands turn a bright shade of orange to celebrate their royal family. The entire city is one big street market with live music everywhere. The night before Koninginnedag, Koninginnenacht (Queen's Night), is also well worth visiting and bucket loads of fun!



May

22 March – 20 May

Keukenhof

Lisse

See March.

01 – 31 May

Meimaand Fietsmaand (Month of May: Cycling Month)

Various locations in the Amsterdam Metropolitan Area

During this annual event, which lasts the entire month, there are unique cycling routes, package deals and special activities to enjoy.

04 May

Nationale Dodenherdenking (National Remembrance Day)

Dam Square

The Nationale Dodenherdenking takes place on 4 May 2012 in the Netherlands, with the biggest commemoration at Amsterdam's Dam Square. At two minutes to 8.00 p.m., Her Majesty Queen Beatrix and His Royal Highness Prince Willem-Alexander place a wreath and lead the country in two minutes of silence. Then the national anthem, the Wilhelmus, is sung and the winner of the children's poetry competition 'Dichter bij 4 mei' (Closer to 4 May) recites his or her self-written poem. Primary school children and other groups lay more wreaths. A ceremonial procession marks the end of proceedings.

05 May

Bevrijdingsfestival (Liberation Festival)

Various locations in the Amsterdam Metropolitan Area

On 5 May, Amsterdam pulls out all the stops for the Bevrijdingsfestival. With concerts on Dam Square, the Amstel River and Bevrijdingspop, an open-air pop festival in Haarlem, this day is all about celebrating freedom.



June

01 – 28 June

Holland Festival

Various locations in Amsterdam

For over sixty years the biggest international theatre and music festival in the Netherlands. Leading the way in Europe too, with Dutch and international premieres. Every year in June in the theatres and concert halls of Amsterdam.

03 June – 26 August

Vondelpark Openluchttheater (Open-air Theatre)

Vondelpark

The Vondelpark Openluchttheater is an open-air theatre located in one of the best-known parks in the Netherlands: the Vondelpark, a unique part of Amsterdam. Nowhere else will you find so many different people of different ages, backgrounds and nationalities. In June, July and August the open-air theatre presents a varied programme featuring around 125 free performances.

16 June

Beeckestijn Pop

Landgoed Beeckestijn, Velsen-Zuid

This free festival on Saturday 9 June offers something for young and old to enjoy, such as performances on various stages, a fun festival market and a range of children's activities, which all take place against the magical backdrop of Landgoed Beeckestijn.

15 – 17 June

Open Tuinen Dagen (Open Garden Days)

Various locations in Amsterdam

Every year the Amsterdam Grachtenmusea (Canal Museums) organise the Open Tuinen Dagen during which some thirty canal gardens are open to the public.

21 – 28 June

ITs Festival Amsterdam (International Theatre School Festival)

Various locations in Amsterdam

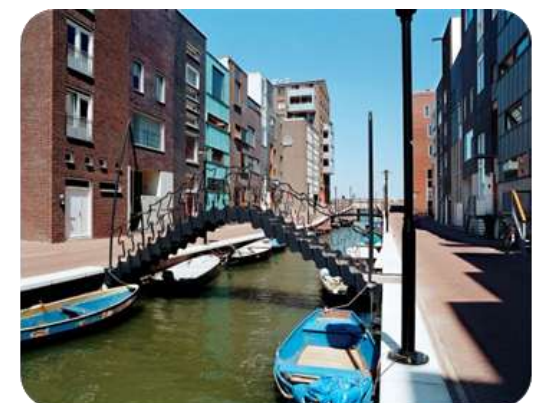
During the International Theatre School Festival (ITs), young theatre makers show what they are made of. With over sixty performances by Dutch and foreign theatre and dance students held in various theatres in Amsterdam, the ITs Festival is the biggest European festival for Dutch and international theatrical talent.

23 – 24 June

Dag van de Architectuur (Architecture Day)

Various locations in the Amsterdam Metropolitan Area

Bringing architecture to the attention of as many people as possible has been the objective of the Dag van de Architectuur for twenty years. Since 1986, the Dag van de Architectuur has grown into a large-scale, annual event organised and inspired by the Bond van de Nederlandse Architecten BNA (Association of Dutch Architects). In forty municipalities in the Netherlands you can visit special buildings and attend workshops and lectures.



30 June

Awakenings

Recreatiegebied Spaarnwoude, Velsen-Zuid

Awakenings is the Netherlands' largest, open-air techno festival and is held halfway between Haarlem and Amsterdam, at Recreatiegebied Spaarnwoude. Get ready to dance till sunrise to a line-up of internationally renowned DJs.

30 June – 01 July

MidzomerZaan

Various locations along the Zaan River

The Zaanstreek boasts a fascinating industrial legacy and forms the backdrop for a weekend full of exciting, musical and artistic encounters. Listen, watch, eat, drink and be surprised by the special combinations of different music and visual arts.

June*

IJazz

NDSM-werf Amsterdam-Noord

IJazz is an international jazz festival on the northern shore of Amsterdam's IJ River with exciting performances of jazz and jazz cross-over artists from across the world.

June*

RTL GP Masters of Formula 3

Circuit Park Zandvoort

Each summer Circuit Park Zandvoort and the seaside town of Zandvoort welcome the largest and world-famous car racing event in the Netherlands, the celebrated Masters of Formula 3.

June*

**DAG (Dag van de Amsterdamse Geschiedenis)
(Amsterdam History Day)**

Various locations in Amsterdam

On Amsterdam History Day both famous and lesser-known Amsterdammers tell stories at various locations in the city.



July

03 June – 26 August
Vondelpark Openluchttheater (Open-air Theatre)
Vondelpark
See June

03 – 14 July
Julidans (July Dance)
Various locations in Amsterdam

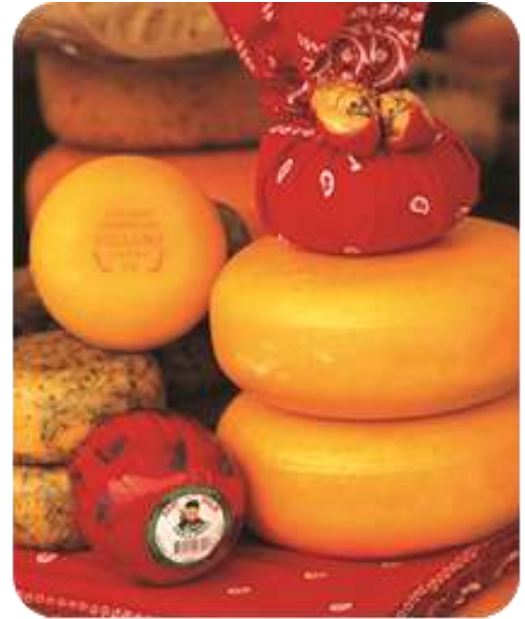
Julidans is an international, unconventional and surprising dance festival, showcasing big names as well as new talent at various venues. For two weeks the Amsterdam Leidseplein will be all about international contemporary dance. Prominent choreographers, up-and-coming talent, dance from different continents, dance films: this and more will be featured in July.

04 July – 22 August
Kaasmarkt Edam (Cheese Market Edam)
Jan van Nieuwenhuizenplein, Edam

Edam is always associated with cheese. Not surprising, considering that the famous Edam cheeses have been exported to all corners of the world for centuries. During the summer months, you can visit the traditional cheese market every Wednesday at the Jan van Nieuwenhuizenplein in Edam.

05 – 08 July
Amsterdam Roots Festival
Oosterpark

For more than ten years the Amsterdam Roots Festival has ranked amongst the leading international music festivals, presenting frontier-crossing developments in world music to a large, varied audience. On Sunday 8 July 2012 the Amsterdam Roots Festival will feature 'Roots Open-air', a large-scale, free, open-air festival staged in Amsterdam's Oosterpark.



05 – 15 July

Over het IJ Festival

NDSM-werf Amsterdam-Noord

The Over het IJ Festival is a summer venue theatre festival that takes place in the northernmost part of Amsterdam, the Amsterdam-Noord district. A ferry takes you from the bustling city centre to the other side of the IJ River, where for eleven days you can watch more than 25 diverse performances.

07 July

Sensation

Amsterdam Arena

All across the world, more than half a million ravers dressed in white have been a part of this breath-taking, eight-hour long nightlife experience. World-famous DJs, an unrivalled dance show, special effects, aerial acts, fireworks and a strictly white dress code make for a once-in-a-lifetime clubbing experience.

07 July

Zingen op de Zaan (Singing on the Zaan River)

Rivier de Zaan, between Knollendam and Zaandam

Forty boats with bands, choirs and solo singers sail from Knollendam to the heart of Zaandam as fans sail along on hundreds of boats. While the musicians head for Zaandam, a gathering of choirs sing their hearts out on several stages on the shore.

July*

Amsterdam International Fashion Week (AIFW)

Cultuurpark Westergasfabriek

See January.

July*

Festival LaMère

Almere Stad

As the ultimate music festival of the municipality of Almere and surroundings and one of the largest free festivals in the province of Flevoland, Festival LaMère has a varied line-up of artists. This festival has something for everyone!



August

03 June – 26 August
Vondelpark Openluchttheater (Open-air Theatre)
Vondelpark

See June.

04 July – 22 August
Kaasmarkt Edam (Cheese Market Edam)
Edam

See July

28 July – 05 August
Amsterdam Gay Pride
Various locations in Amsterdam

Amsterdam Gay Pride is the largest gay event in the Netherlands, with a multitude of cultural events, sporting activities and parties. The climax is an extravagant boat parade through the Amsterdam canals on Saturday 4th August.

04 August
Dance Valley
Recreatiegebied Spaarnwoude, Velsen-Zuid

Dance Valley is the biggest open-air dance festival in the Netherlands held in different tents at Recreatiegebied Spaarnwoude. From techno and trance to hard house: few dance festivals in Europe can match Dance Valley's comprehensive programming.

05 August
Haarlem Culinaire (Culinary Haarlem)
Haarlem

During this leading culinary event organised on and around the Grote Markt of Haarlem various restaurants present themselves to the public with a range of new and familiar dishes.

10 – 19 August
Grachtenfestival (Canal Festival)
Various locations in Amsterdam

The Grachtenfestival is an annual music festival based on classical music performances in unique locations in Amsterdam's city centre and on the shores of the IJ River. The festival shines the spotlight on young musicians. Tickets are renowned for being accessibly priced and numerous concerts are even free. The concert on the Prinsengracht pontoon is the highlight of the festival.

10 – 26 August
Parade
Martin Luther Kingpark

Every summer the mobile theatre festival De Parade visits Amsterdam, transforming the Martin Luther King park into a temporary cultural park lined with dozens of colourful theatre tents. With its theatre and dance performances, films, music, catering establishments and attractions, such as an antique whirligig, the silent disco and a miniature wheel, it has something to please everyone's tastes. There is also a special Children's Parade every day of the festival.



11 August
Loveland Festival
Sloterpark

The Loveland Festival celebrates a new edition in August in the Sloterpark in Amsterdam. This intimate and inviting house/dance event held at a festival terrain alongside the Sloterpark with views of two idyllic islands has no less than seven different 'arenas'. With a staggering line-up of over seventy artists, there is no other festival with more acts scheduled to perform per visitor.

17 – 19 August
Hartjesdagen (Days of Hearts)
Zeedijk

Originally a medieval national holiday, Hartjesdagen has today developed into a carnival which takes place in the oldest part of the city: the cosy Zeedijk. The festival would not be complete without the opera show Opera-am and the spectacular Hartjes and Queens contest, with men dressing up as women, and women as men.

23 – 25 August
Sluis en Bruggenfeest (Lock and bridges feast)
Weesp

Three-day feast in the cosy water sports town of Weesp with a varied selection of markets, performances and activities.

24 – 26 August
Uitmarkt
Various locations in Amsterdam

The Uitmarkt in Amsterdam not only represents the national opening of the cultural season, it is also the largest cultural festival in the Netherlands. Over the years the Uitmarkt has evolved into a festival attracting more than 500,000 visitors to the city. A jaw-dropping 2,000 performers take to the stage at more than 30 venues, offering hundreds of free performances.

25 August
MysteryLand
Haarlemmermeer

Mystery Land is one of the leading dance festivals in the Netherlands and is held on the old Floriade terrain in Haarlemmermeer.

25 – 26 August
Havenfestival IJmuiden (Harbour Festival IJmuiden)
IJmuiden

During the Havenfestival IJmuiden, IJmuiden's fishing harbour is transformed into one huge festival site. This free event offers performing arts, street theatre, activities for youths and music in a unique and characteristic setting.

August*
Haarlem Jazzstad (Jazz City Haarlem)
Haarlem

Haarlem Jazzstad is the largest free jazz festival in the Netherlands. Set in Haarlem's monumental centre, in and around the Grote Markt, the festival is a five-day jazz extravaganza that hosts small and big performances.

August*
Jazz behind the beach
Zandvoort

Artists perform at various venues in the seaside town of Zandvoort, with smooth jazz and other entertainment on offer.



30 August – 09 September
Nederlands Theater Festival (Dutch Theatre Festival)

Various locations in Amsterdam

The prestigious Dutch Theatre Festival in Amsterdam, which marks the end of the old and beginning of the new theatre season, is your chance to meet Holland's top actors and directors. A must for theatre lovers!



September

30 August – 09 September
Nederlands Theater Festival (Dutch Theatre Festival)

Various locations in Amsterdam
See august.

01 – 02 September
Manuscripta

Westergasfabriek

During the Manuscripta event the Westergasfabriek is totally given over to books and everything that goes with them. Media, booksellers, publishers, librarians, translators, authors, literary agents: for two days the Westergasfabriek terrain is open to all those who together make up the literary world.

04 – 09 September
HISWA te water (Amsterdam in-water Boat Show)
NSDM-werf Amsterdam-Noord

The HISWA te water features an exceptional fleet of luxury sail yachts, open sail boats, impressive motor cruisers, cool speedboats and smart sloops. You can count on seeing at least 400 wooden, steel, aluminium and polyester boats varying in length from 4 to 25 metres. In addition to all the famous brands, the show features new and unknown brands.

08 – 09 September
Open Monumentendagen (Heritage Days)
Various locations in the Amsterdam Metropolitan Area

For an entire weekend, sixty historical buildings – old as well as new – open their doors to the community to visit free of charge. This is your chance to peek into unique buildings otherwise closed to the public.

14 – 15 September
Singelfestival Edam (Singel Festival Edam)
Edam Harbour

The third weekend in September spells enjoyment in picturesque Edam for all music and theatre fans, with different bands and theatre and cabaret performances scheduled to perform on the festival site at the harbour.



20 – 23 September

Art Amsterdam

Location not yet known

Art Amsterdam will be undergoing a metamorphosis. The art fair will be more exclusive and compact. Art Amsterdam will be held from 20 - 23 September 2012. The exact location of the event will be announced shortly.

21 – 23 September

Inside design

Lloyd Hotel

Organised by ELLE Wonen, Inside Design Amsterdam is an inspiring design route centred around the Lloyd Hotel on the Oostelijke Handelskade.

22 – 23 September

Jordaanfestival

Marnixstraat, Appeltjesmarkt, Elandsgracht

The Jordaanfestival, celebrating the quarter's music tradition, is held at the Appeltjesmarkt near the Marnixstraat and Elandsgracht bus station.

22 – 30 September

Woonbeurs Amsterdam (Interior Design Fair)

Amsterdam RAI

The Woonbeurs Amsterdam is an annual interior design fair held at the Amsterdam RAI, featuring four exhibition halls packed with the latest in indoor and outdoor living in all styles and tastes: design, classic, home and authentic. Visit the fair and be inspired, get new ideas, discover the latest trends, get personal advice from leading style experts or sit in on various workshops and demonstrations.

23 September

Dam tot Damloop (Dam to Damloop Run)

From Dam Square in Amsterdam to Zaandam

For years now the Dam tot Damloop is the largest running event in the Netherlands and largest business run of its kind in the world. The joggers run from the centre of Amsterdam to the centre of Zaandam while hundreds of thousands of spectators create a unique atmosphere along the race route.

September *

SmaakExplosies (Explosions of Taste)

Hembrugterrein, Zaandam

Cultural culinary festival held on the Hembrugterrein in Zaandam, a former military compound where they used to fabricate ammunition.

September *

Drakenbootraces (Dragon Boat Races)

Bosbaan Amstelveen

Sporting event with unique dragon boats.



October

17 – 21 October
Amsterdam Dance Event
Various locations in Amsterdam

The Amsterdam Dance Event (ADE) is Europe's leading electronic music conference and the world's biggest club festival. ADE presents music lovers with four days of the absolute world top of dance music artists.

17 – 26 October
Cinekid
Various locations in Amsterdam

The Cinekid Festival is an annual film, television and new-media festival for children in Amsterdam. Every year more than 50,000 children, parents and (international) guests attend one or more of the 500 media productions on the programme, whether film, documentaries, shorts, cartoons, television productions and cross-media productions or interactive installations and workshops.

21 October
Amsterdam Marathon
Olympisch Stadion and Amsterdam city centre

The Amsterdam Marathon is a running event that draws thousands of professional and recreational runners from more than fifty countries, leading the athletes from the Olympisch Stadion into town and along the Amstel River. Additional courses taking place alongside the big 42-kilometre run are a half marathon and a 7.5-kilometre run.

25 – 28 October
Affordable Art Fair
Cultuurpark Westergasfabriek

With prices ranging from EUR 100 to EUR 5,000, the Affordable Art Fair (AAF) offers visitors the chance to buy contemporary art at great value. The AAF boasts an extremely varied selection of art works from 85 galleries, from figurative to abstract and from traditional to cutting edge pieces. There is also a wide range of additional free features, such as workshops, a wrapping service and daycare.



November

01 – 04 November

SIERAAD Art Fair

Cultuurpark Westergasfabriek

SIERAAD International Jewellery Art Fair is the only international specialised fair where goldsmiths and jewellery designers show and sell their unique and original work directly to the public. If desired, you can even make an appointment to have a piece of jewellery designed especially for you.

03 November

Museumnacht (Museum Night)

Various locations in Amsterdam

During the Museumnacht Amsterdam more than forty museums open their doors from 7.00 p.m. to 2.00 a.m. to present a special exhibition programme alongside their permanent collections and temporary exhibitions.

14 – 25 November

International Documentary Film Festival Amsterdam (IDFA)

Various locations in Amsterdam

The IDFA is a ten-day festival in Amsterdam's city centre during which more than 250 creative documentaries are screened. The IDFA is unique on account of its international range, its great variety of genres, its politically engaged programme and the many European and world premieres presented each year. In short, the IDFA is the meeting point of art, film, debate and social issues.

18 November

Intocht Sinterklaas (Arrival of Saint Nicholas)

Scheepvaartmuseum and Amsterdam city centre

Watch out for the white-bearded legend as he sails into town on Sunday 18 November. As every year, the arrival of Sinterklaas is a festive event that is celebrated by the entire nation! Sinterklaas will arrive by steamboat from Spain at 12.00 noon at the Scheepvaartmuseum (Maritime Museum) and ride his white horse around the city.

18 – 25 November

PAN Amsterdam

Amsterdam RAI

At art and antiques fair PAN Amsterdam the past and present go hand in hand in paintings, graphic art, design, silver, glass and sculpture as well as in Asian art and jewellery. From Brueghel to Borzobohaty and every other exciting combination you can think of. All objects have one thing in common: the quality is beyond question and all objects are checked beforehand by over eighty experts for quality, condition and authenticity.



December

06 – 10 December

Miljonair Fair (Millionaire Fair)

Amsterdam RAI

Exclusive, leading lifestyle fair where the absolute top end in the international luxury sector present the most beautiful and exclusive products and services to the happy few.

07 December 2012 – 13 January 2013

Winter Magic Amsterdam. Festival of Light & Water

At the end of this year visitors to Amsterdam will be amazed by a magical winter event. Winter Magic Amsterdam is centred around the play of light and water, and the canal houses and bridges on the river Amstel will be beautifully lit. Every day the illuminated canal boats will come together at this special location: a unique experience. The highlight of the festival is the Christmas Canal Parade, a festive procession of ships on the Amstel river and the Prinsengracht canal. What's more, there will be atmospheric church concerts and museum activities throughout the month. Winter Magic Amsterdam forms the opening of the jubilee year 2013.

31 December

Nationaal Oud & Nieuwfeest 2012-2013 (New Year's Eve 2012-2013)

Location not yet known

As always, the new year will be heralded with a bang and a huge celebration.

December *

Kerstmarkt Haarlem (Haarlem Christmas Market)

Haarlem

Traditional Christmas Market in Haarlem with 150 stalls set against the stunning backdrop of the town hall and St. Bavokerk.

December *

Pink Christmas

Various locations, Amsterdam

During this winter edition of Gay Pride you can enjoy parties, films, exhibitions and much more.

December *

Wereld Kerst Circus (World Christmas Circus)

Koninklijk Theater Carré

Humour, excitement, beauty, spectacle and illusion. These are the ingredients of the famous traditional Wereld Kerst Circus held in the most beautiful circus venue in the world: Koninklijk Theater Carré (Royal Theatre Carré).



Exhibitions 2012

17 September 2011 - 16 March 2012
Rubens, Van Dyck & Jordaens. Vlaamse Schilders uit de Hermitage (Flemish painters from the Hermitage)
Hermitage Amsterdam

From 17 September 2011 through 16 March 2012 the Hermitage Amsterdam will present a stunning selection from the Flemish art collection of the St. Petersburg Hermitage. An overview of 75 paintings and 20 drawings, including masterpieces by the Big Three of the Antwerp school – Peter Paul Rubens, Antonie van Dyck and Jacob Jordaens – as well as works by celebrated contemporaries.

01 October 2011 - 08 January 2012
In het voetspoor van Rembrandt (In Rembrandt's footsteps)
Rembrandthuis

From 1 October 2011 through 8 January 2012 the Rembrandthuis Museum will be presenting a selection from the collection of 17th-century Dutch paintings of Alfred Bader (born 1924). It is the first time that a selection of works from the Bader collection, donated by Bader to the Agnes Etherington Art Centre of Queen's University, will be shown outside of America. The exhibition features three works by Rembrandt himself.

01 October 2011 - 15 January 2012
Studio Toscane. Karel Appel - Roberto Barni
Cobra Museum

The Cobra Museum presents 'Studio Toscane' with sculptures, a ceramic installation and a number of paintings created by Karel Appel in Tuscany in the years 1989 - 1999. New and existing work by the Tuscan painter and sculptor Roberto Barni will also be on display.

01 October 2011 - 29 January 2012
Bartholomeus van der Helst: de verbeelding van de macht (The representation of power)
Amsterdam Museum

A presentation on Bartholomeus van der Helst can be seen in the Amsterdam Museum, featuring the largest (and the most important) works by this celebrated 17th-century portrait painter from Amsterdam.

08 October 2011 - 18 March 2012
Mooie Cadeaus (Impressive Presents)
Museum of Bags and Purses

The exhibition 'Mooie Cadeaus' highlights the bags that the Museum of Bags and Purses has been given by private individuals, collectors and designers in the 15 years of its existence. Around a quarter of the 4,000 bags in the collection are donations to the museum. People come to donate a bag to the museum from the Netherlands and abroad. The donors' stories and memories of their bags are illustrated by letters, photos and other artefacts. The exhibition also shows the often extraordinary ways these bags have come into the museum's possession.



08 October 2011 - 28 October 2012
Schipbreuk. De noodlottige reis van de Batavia
(Shipwreck. The ill-fated journey of the Batavia)
Museum Nieuw Land, Lelystad

On 28 October 1628 the brand new VOC return ship the Batavia sets sail from its anchorage at Texel for a long, hazardous journey to the East Indies: a voyage the ship would never complete. The Bataviawerf, Nieuw Land and the Rijksdienst have together created a much talked-about exhibition about the old and the new Batavia for this Cultural Heritage Site. The exhibition is a true experience for young and old, allowing you to 'experience' the fatal voyage with one of the seamen as your guide. Original artefacts from the wreck of the Batavia can also be seen, including the skeleton of a sailor and a precious cameo.

Until the reopening in 2012
Temporary Stedelijk 3 - Stedelijk @
Stedelijk Museum

Until its reopening in 2012 the Stedelijk Museum presents 'Temporary Stedelijk 3: Stedelijk @', a programme of performances, film screenings, lectures, discussions, interviews, live music, book presentations and many other events at different locations. The activities have been developed in partnership with a number of cultural institutions in Amsterdam, including the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra, the University of Amsterdam, If I Can't Dance I Don't Want To Be Part of Your Revolution and the Stedelijk Museum Bureau Amsterdam (SMBA).

14 October 2011 - 08 January 2012
Snapshot
Van Gogh Museum

What role did photography play in the daily lives of artists at the end of the 19th century, and how did it influence their work? The exhibition 'Snapshot. Schilders en fotografie, 1888-1915' (Painters and Photography 1888-1915) answers this question with the use of over 200 photos and 60 paintings, prints and drawings by seven artists.

15 October 2011 - 29 January 2012
Document Nederland. Dana Lixenberg fotografeert een alledaags ambt
(An everyday office photographed by Dana Lixenberg)
Rijksmuseum

For Document Nederland, the annual documentary photo project of the Rijksmuseum and the NRC Handelsblad newspaper, Dana Lixenberg travelled through the Netherlands for a year to record impressions of the office of Mayor. The photographer made portraits of mayors in 22 municipalities, spread over all the provinces of the Netherlands, from Amsterdam to Zeewolde.

24 October 2011 - 04 March 2012
Saul Leiter, New York Reflections
Joods Historisch Museum

The Joods Historisch Museum is showing a retrospective of the American photographer and painter Saul Leiter (born 1923). Street photography, fashion photography and abstract paintings: after a period of obscurity his work has now been rediscovered in the US and Europe. The colour photography created from the period 1948 to 1960 in New York is particularly impressive.

22 November 2011 - 27 February 2012
Nova Zembla in the Rijksmuseum
Rijksmuseum

Up to and including 27 February, the Rijksmuseum will be showing 75 original objects from Nova Zembla. The objects were left behind on the island in 1597, after Willem Barentsz had overwintered there with his crew. They were rediscovered three centuries later. Weapons, trading goods, personal possessions and tools are on display, together with new work by the British artist Sián Bowen, who found inspiration in prints that were also found on Nova Zembla.

24 November 2011 - 11 March 2012
Mijn naam is Cohen (My name is Cohen)
Joods Historisch Museum

More than 1,500 Dutch people have the name of Cohen. This typically Jewish surname has an influence on the self-image of both Jewish and non-Jewish people who bear it, and on the image that others have of them. For this exhibition, photographer Daniel Cohen (born 1979) and Vrij Nederland magazine journalist Mischa Cohen (1957) asked twenty Amsterdam 'Cohens' about their experiences, emotions and opinions surrounding their surname. In the diversity of stories, one point emerges strongly: these Cohens have developed a sharp eye for the danger of stereotyping. The exhibition combines photo portraits with extracts from the interviews.

29 November 2011 - 29 January 2012
Hester van Eeghen Leather Design Prize
Museum of Bags and Purses

Young designers compete for this prestigious prize every two years, and this exhibition features all the entries, including the winners. The Leather Design Prize is intended to promote and preserve craftsmanship in leather in the Netherlands, and is an initiative of the renowned Dutch bag designer Hester van Eeghen.

10 December 2011 - 04 March 2012
Cobra Kunstprijs Amstelveen (Cobra Art Prize Amstelveen)
Cobra Museum

Nathaniel Mellors is the winner of the 2011 Cobra Art Prize Amstelveen, and he is exhibiting his works from 10 December 2011 through 4 March 2012 in the Cobra Museum in Amstelveen. The exhibition is part of the large-scale ongoing Ourhouse project, which has been on display in De Hallen in Haarlem among other locations. Just as in earlier elements of this project, in this work Mellors combines sculptural elements with a series of videos, and the artist also gives his personal view on TV dramas in a completely original, satirical way.

16 December 2011 - 14 March 2012
Joel Sternfeld - Color Photographs since 1970
Foam

From mid-December Foam presents the first major overview in the Netherlands of work by Joel Sternfeld (born 1944, New York), one of the pioneers of colour photography. Foam will be displaying over a hundred photos in ten different series spread over two storeys of the museum. A highlight is Sternfeld's early work from the 1970's, which has never been exhibited before.

17 December 2011 - 15 April 2012
Jodendom. Een wereld vol verhalen
(Judaism. A World of Stories)
De Nieuwe Kerk

In the winter of 2011–2012 the Nieuwe Kerk in Amsterdam, in partnership with the Joods Historisch Museum, is presenting an exhibition on Judaism. With the use of some 500 objects that have been loaned to the Nieuwe Kerk, the exhibition tells the fascinating story of three thousand years of Jewish religion, culture, art and history. The history of a world religion that has managed to preserve its identity despite variations worldwide.



28 January 2012 - 22 April 2012
Klee en Cobra. Het begint als kind
(Klee and Cobra. A Child's Play)

Cobra Museum

From 28 January through 22 April 2012 the Cobra Museum presents the international exhibition 'Klee and Cobra. A Child's Play'. The exhibition shows the influence of Paul Klee (1879-1940) on the Cobra art movement (1948-1951) on the basis of the mutual fascination for the magical imaginative world of the child. The exhibition features 120 major works by Paul Klee and around 100 highlights of the Cobra movement, offering visitors the opportunity to see the similarities and differences between Klee and Cobra.



24 February 2012 - 17 June 2012

Dreams of Nature

Van Gogh Museum

'Dreams of Nature' gives an overview of symbolism with reference to the work of renowned artists such as Monet, Gauguin, Van Gogh, Munch, Klimt and Kandinsky. The exhibition shows that the landscapes of symbolism are not merely a representation of reality, but a reflection of the soul. This is the first major exhibition in Europe solely devoted to symbolist landscapes, bringing together works that have never been shown together before.



17 March 2012 - 14 September 2012

Bonnard, Vuillard, Denis

Profeten van de avant-garde
(Prophets of the avant-garde)

Hermitage Amsterdam

In the summer of 2012 the Hermitage Amsterdam focuses on a relatively unknown group of French artists: the Nabis (Hebrew for 'prophets'). The group, including artists such as Pierre Bonnard (1867-1947), Édouard Vuillard (1868-1940) and Maurice Denis (1870-1943), together with other innovators like Renoir, Monet, Van Gogh and Gauguin, heralded the arrival of modern art. The paintings and sculptures that are being brought to Amsterdam were almost all collected by Morozov and Sergei Shchukin. These two wealthy industrialists were among the first Russian collectors of modern non-Russian artists.



20 April 2012 - 17 June 2012

World Press Photo 2012

Oude Kerk, Amsterdam

World Press Photo is an annual exhibition of the best press photos of the previous year. The exhibition can be seen every year in the Oude Kerk in Amsterdam. Every year World Press Photo organises the biggest and most prestigious press photo competition in the world. The winning photos are brought together in a travelling exhibition that can be seen in more than a hundred cities all over the world. Over two million people visit the exhibition every year.

29 May 2012 - 09 September 2012

Het topje van de Mont Blanc (The tip of Mont Blanc)

Teylers Museum, Haarlem

With stories about 18th-century scholars, unusual rocks and minerals, and a beautiful historic scale model, visitors can follow in the footsteps of the adventurers who long ago conquered the Mont Blanc. "The tip of Mont Blanc" is in Teylers Museum, and together with many other geological souvenirs it commemorates the first ascent of the mountain in 1787. From that moment scholars gained a greater understanding of the earth, and geology and mineralogy became serious subjects of study. Teylers Museum opened its doors around the same time, precisely on the eve of these exciting developments.

In 2012 the Koninklijk Nederlands Mijnbouwkundig Genootschap (Royal Geological and Mining Society of the Netherlands) is celebrating its 100th anniversary. Teylers Museum will be organising the exhibition 'The tip of Mont Blanc' to celebrate this jubilee.

Zomertentoonstelling Empire-meubilair (Summer Exhibition: Empire Furniture)

Koninklijk Paleis op de Dam

The Royal Palace on the Dam presents a unique exhibition on the Empire furniture of King Louis Napoleon. Thanks to the legacy of the short reign of this French king (from 1808 to 1811) the Palace on the Dam now houses the largest collection of Empire furniture outside of France.

15 September 2012 - 15 March 2013

De Impressionisten (The Impressionists)

Hermitage Amsterdam

From 15 September 2012 through 15 March 2013, the Hermitage Amsterdam presents its major autumn exhibition 'The Impressionists'. The French art from the mid-19th century to the early 20th century is from the collection of the State Hermitage Museum in St. Petersburg. The exhibition begins by showing the pioneers of impressionism (1850–1860), including painters such as Eugène Delacroix, Théodore Rousseau, Camille Corot and Gustave Courbet.

29 September 2012 - 03 February 2013

Van Gogh in the Hermitage Amsterdam

Hermitage Amsterdam

Due to major restoration work the Van Gogh Museum will be closed from October 2012 through March 2013. Because the museum attracts over one and a half million visitors every year, the Hermitage has been chosen as a presentation area for a large part of the collection. The Hermitage Amsterdam will be exhibiting around 75 major paintings and a number of works on paper by Van Gogh.

March - September 2012*

Siberia

Hermitage Amsterdam

For more events and exhibitions, please visit www.iamsterdam.com

* Exact dates to be confirmed

Museum News 2012

Amsterdam Tattoo Museum

New in Amsterdam since 5 November 2011: the Amsterdam Tattoo Museum on the Plantage Middenlaan. Here visitors can learn all about the origins of contemporary tattooing.

Ajax Experience

Amsterdam has a new attraction on the Rembrandtplein: The Ajax Experience. The Ajax Experience is a surprising interactive experience that immerses visitors in the Ajax philosophy. There is a special focus on learning, in a fun way, how Ajax has been able to produce world famous football heroes for over 100 years.

Oude Kerk

The restoration of the Oude Kerk will be completed at the beginning of 2012. The interior of the oldest church in Amsterdam can then be admired in all its former glory.

January 2012 (to be confirmed)

Huis met de Hoofden (House with the Heads)

The 'House with the Heads' on the Keizersgracht will be opening its doors to visitors from January 2012.

April 2012

EYE Film Instituut Nederland on the North Bank of the IJ

In the spring of 2012 EYE will be opening its doors on the north bank of the IJ, opposite the Central Station. The spectacular building will house four film theatres, an exhibition area, a café-restaurant with a waterside terrace and areas for school groups and receptions.

September 2012

Reopening of Stedelijk Museum

The Stedelijk Museum Amsterdam on the Museumplein will be reopening its doors in September of 2012. The Stedelijk has gained an extension known as the 'bathtub'; a spectacular wing on the Museumplein side, designed by the Benthem Crowell agency. Exciting exhibitions of modern art will be on show here. The entrance to the museum, the restaurant and the museum shop will also be located in the new wing.

01 October 2012 - 31 March 2013

Reconstruction work, Van Gogh Museum

The Van Gogh Museum in Amsterdam will be closed for six months from October 2012 for reconstruction work. During the restoration the highlights of the museum, including 75 paintings by Vincent van Gogh, will be on display in a wing of the Hermitage Amsterdam.



Ons' Lieve Heer op Solder (Our Lord in the Attic)

The restoration of the 17th-century hidden church Ons' Lieve Heer op Solder (Our Lord in the Attic) will be completed in the course of 2012. The church has been brought back to how it was in 1870, the year in which the church was officially deconsecrated. With the completion of the restoration of the church, an important phase of the total renovation of this 17th-century house is brought to a close. In 2013, the entrance of the museum will be moved to the adjoining building, which will also contain various public areas such as a shop and the cloakroom.

Portuguese Synagogue

The Portuguese Synagogue on the Mr. Visserplein has been undergoing major restoration since January 2010. The synagogue is remaining open to the public as normal during the restoration. After the renovations, from mid-2012, the entire synagogue complex will be presented to the public in a new and spectacular manner.

Huis Marseille

Huis Marseille Museum for Photography will be roughly doubling its floor area thanks to the purchase of the neighbouring building on the Keizersgracht. Huis Marseille hopes to take this building into use in the summer of 2012.

Ajax Museum closed

The Ajax Museum in the Amsterdam ArenA has ceased to exist. From now on, some of the trophies and cups from the former Ajax Museum will be exhibited in the Rinus Michels Hall in the Amsterdam ArenA. The rest of the extensive trophy collection will be displayed in the new Ajax Experience on the Rembrandtplein. The extension of the Amsterdam ArenA will be completed in August 2012, and a permanent collection will be exhibited in one of the new areas of the stadium. The World of Ajax Tours in the Amsterdam ArenA will continue as normal, only the tours will no longer end in the Ajax Museum, but in the official Ajax Fanshop.

2013

Rijksmuseum

The Rijksmuseum is currently undergoing extensive renovations. However, the very best of its collection is displayed in the Philips Wing in an exhibition entitled *De Meesterwerken (The Masterpieces)*, which offers visitors the opportunity to view all the highlights of the Dutch Golden Age in one place. The reopening of the entire building is expected to take place in 2013.

All information in this event calendar is subject to change. The Amsterdam Tourism & Convention Board is not liable for any inaccuracies contained in this information.



Colophon

Marketing

If you would like to have more information about marketing activities, please contact the marketing department. Send an email to marketing@atcb.nl or call +31 (0)20 551 2558.

Press

If you would like to have more information about press activities, please contact the press department. Send an email to pressoffice@atcb.nl or call +31 (0)20 551 2535.

Travel Trade

If you would like to have more information about travel trade activities, please contact the trade department. For details, visit www.iamsterdam.com/trade, send an email to trade@atcb.nl or call +31 (0)20 551 2551.

Congresses

This event calendar does not contain any information on business congresses in Amsterdam. If you would like to know more about congresses, please refer to the Amsterdam Convention Board. For details, visit www.iamsterdam.com/meeting, send an email to acb@atcb.nl or call +31 (0)20 551 2570.

Public Holidays 2012

1 January	New Year's Day
6 April	Good Friday
8 April	Easter Sunday
9 April	Easter Monday
30 April	Queen's Day
5 May	Liberation Day
17 May	Ascension Day
27 May	Whit Sunday
28 May	Whit Monday
25 December	Christmas Day
26 December	Boxing Day