See you soon in Amsterdam

We wish you a safe and enjoyable journey to Amsterdam! We’re glad to meet you at Schiphol Airport, or during your Start Appointment, or
during another occasion at the UvA. On Wednesday, 29 January, the expected temperature in Amsterdam is approximately 9°C (48,2°F), with quite a strong west wind and probably some sunshine.

Tips for your personal safety

Amsterdam is a small city with a pleasant atmosphere where you will soon feel at home. Recently, it was ranked as one of the safest cities worldwide and the second safest city in Europe. However, incidents do occur, so it is recommended to take normal safety precautions.

- Make sure you always watch your belongings, especially in crowded places, when waiting at a bus stop, travelling by public transport, shopping and so on, because pickpocketing occurs.
- It is recommended to avoid walking or cycling alone in poorly lit and unpopulated areas after dark.
- Do not use ATMs at night in quiet areas.
- Bike theft is common in Amsterdam. If you have a bicycle, make sure to always lock both wheel and frame properly, preferably by locking it to a bicycle rack.

The emergency number for the Netherlands is 112. Non-emergency is 0900-8844, or if you’re outside the Netherlands +31 (0)34 357-8844.

Police stations in Amsterdam ➔

ISIC Public transport card with discount for international students
In the Netherlands, you need a chipcard to travel on train, bus, metro and tram. Choosing a suitable subscription is a complicated process, especially for international students.

That is why ISIC created the ISIC/OV-chipcard, a custom-made mobility card for international students. Reserve the ISIC/OV-chipcard prior to your arrival in Amsterdam and pick it up at the ISIC office in AMS or have it sent to your Dutch address. Do not wait too long as stock is limited!

Sign up here ➔

*ISIC is an independent organisation and not related to the UvA. For questions, please see their website.*

**Journey advice**
Go to [online journey planner 9292.nl](http://9292.nl) for real time journey advice.

**Regular Public transport card**
In case you would like to buy a regular OV-chipkaart, go to the [NS website for students](http://www.ns.nl/nl-nl/studenten-overzicht) or to Customer Service at Amsterdam Central Station.
CJP Discount on Museums, Festivals & More

Explore the Netherlands and experience the finest cultural events and hotspots at a bargain, and save serious cash on sneakers, laptops and more. For instance, you can use your CJP card to receive a 50% discount on admission for world famous museums like Rijksmuseum and Anne Frank House, save €10 on a North Sea Jazz Festival ticket, and to get discount on admission for pop venues. Explore Dutch culture on a Dutch budget, go out and Go Dutch!

Order your card for only €17,50 per year.

Award-winning Exchange Ambassadors Programme

Would you like to meet local and international students and befriend students from a range of different countries? Would you like to expand your volunteer experiences, enhance your professional skills and take part in a meaningful project during your exchange in Amsterdam? Then join the UvA international student community and sign up to be an Exchange Ambassador!

Exchange Ambassadors Programme ➔
International Student Ambassadors: Ask your questions

In our new series of ASK videos, International Student Ambassadors answer questions about studying at the UvA and student life. Topics that are covered: study load, working besides studying, Dutch grading system and the structure of the academic year.

Watch the videos on our Youtube channel. Got more questions? Chat with our ambassadors on the UvA website.
Workshops and training
Throughout the year, UvA Student Services provides workshops, training and information sessions: acquire skills to tackle piles of study material, to write a perfect CV or LinkedIn profile, or go for a full Career workout.

Explore your global opportunities (also short-term), learn how to manage stress, and much more.

Go to uva.nl/training-en →

The UvA has several restaurants where you can enjoy a meal for a reasonable price: a ‘Base’ meeting place in the heart of the campus, food vendors, and additional amenities where appropriate, and sometimes food trucks on the premises outside.

Food and drinks →
Student site
On your student site, you can find the answer to queries about how to use Canvas (the digital learning environment) or when and how to register for courses, who to contact for specific questions, for info about studying with a disability, grading schemes at the UvA and more.

Your student site →

Students’ charter and code of conduct
The Students’ Charter covers a range of topics of importance to UvA students, such as rules and regulations and rights and duties. Find more info about studying in the Netherlands in the Code of Conduct International Student in Dutch Higher Education.

UvA Students’ Charter →

Editors: UvA Student Services. Contact us through UvAStudentservices@uva.nl.

You are receiving this newsletter to help you prepare for your study programme at the University of Amsterdam, once every two or three weeks from November to the beginning of February. Previous editions are available online (pdf).

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