



AMSTERDAM WEEKEND

Four local residents on their top spots in and around the Netherlands' capital city

INTERVIEWS BY CHRISTINA NEWBERRY AND SARAH NOTTON



KOR HOEBE

COMEDIAN AND CO-OWNER, THE COMEDY EMBASSY

After shows at **The Comedy Embassy**, especially on weekdays, I go to bar **P96**. In the summer, it has a houseboat that is a terrace in the Prinsengracht, and it's open until 3 a.m.

Oosterpark is really nice. There are a lot of festivals going on there. Nearby, the bars on Javastraat – **Bar Basquiat** and **Walter's - The Walter Woodbury Bar** – have a good mix of expats and locals.

For restaurants, there's a great Indonesian place called **Tjin's**.

There'll probably be a long line for **Roopram Roti**, but the roti is delicious, and the Surinamese food brings cultures together.

INSIDER'S TIP

Bike to **Durgedam**, a little village on the outskirts of the city, for some beers and *bitterballen*. Alternatively, head to **Fort Pampus**. First, bike to Muiden and then take a ferry to the little island. The journey just to get there is really lovely.

► comedyembassy.com



Renting a boat is a great way to spend a summer day in Amsterdam

4CORNERS

TESSEL DE HEIJ

CO-FOUNDER, GEBROUWEN DOOR VROUWEN

It's great fun to get on a boat and explore Amsterdam's little canals. On a hot day, it's even better to take the boat up the **Amstel river** for a swim. I don't have my own boat, but you can rent them at **Mokumboot**.

Amsterdam is a city of sunny terraces. My favorites are **Mossel & Gin** at Westergas, **Bar Kosta** near Vondelpark, **Plantage** next to Artis Zoo, and of course the **Gebrouwen door Vrouwen BAR** on the lovely Jan Pieter Heijestraat. Nearby, **Kinkerstraat** is a lot of fun for local shopping.

INSIDER'S TIP

Head to the **Vondelpark Open Air Theatre** for free outside events. There are great local performers and a lot of funny acts!

OUT-OF-TOWN GETAWAY

I like **Santpoort-Zuid**, where my parents live. It's a half-hour from Amsterdam, and from there you can ride a bike to the beach or walk in the dunes.

► gebrouwendoorvrouwen.nl



"On a hot day, it's even better to take the boat up the Amstel river for a swim. I don't have my own boat, but you can rent them at Mokumboot"



The man-made fortress island of Fort Pampus

"Head to Fort Pampus. First, bike to Muiden and then take a ferry to the little island. The journey just to get there is really lovely"



ALEX HAUPT

CHEF, 101 GOWRIE

Worth trying is **nNea Pizza** – any dish from the menu is an absolute banger. For drinks, **GlouGlou** has been a favorite of mine for many years: it's super cozy with a nice staff and great vibes. **9 Straatjes** is Amsterdam's most iconic shopping quarter. It is filled with bountiful boutiques and is surrounded by gorgeous architecture. **Waxwell Records** is a great place to browse for vinyls.

Amsterdam has some very unique culture that can be quite challenging to understand on a surface level. Moving here has been a blessing, as there is much depth to this city



that you can only understand through time.

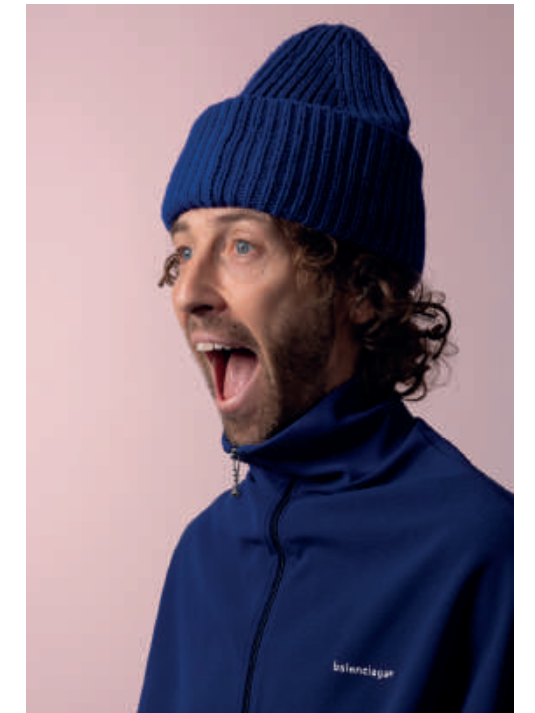
INSIDER'S TIP

Spring and summer in Europe are a magical time. In the summer, the best thing to do is gather your friends and head out to one of the many parks for the day – **Beatrixpark** is lovely. You can also enjoy the great variety of open-air festivals.

OUT-OF-TOWN GETAWAY

Spend as much time exploring all the cities as you can – there is so much to discover in the Netherlands. I had a really fantastic time in Nijmegen where we went to **De Nieuwe Winkel** restaurant. ► 101gowrie.com

DESTINATION AMSTERDAM



FRANK DE RUWE

STREET ARTIST FRANKEY AND OWNER OF CREATIVE AGENCY NATWERK

For a casual evening supper, I go to **Dikke Graaf**, around the corner from my home – it has a great terrace in the summer. Try the grilled artichoke hearts salad combined with the veggie burger. For design to fashion and everything in between, **Droog** is a great concept store celebrating creativity. Its products put a big smile on your face.

Amsterdam has lots of great independent galleries. I sometimes showcase my work at the **O.D. Gallery**. It has two floors full of street art, and in the basement there is a fun kids' space called **Petite Gallery** where the ceiling is super low.

INSIDER'S TIP

Paradiso is an iconic music venue in Amsterdam – many of the most famous artists in the world have performed in this old church. On top of the left side of the entrance there's a bronze sculpture of the beloved, former

mayor, Eberhard van der Laan. I made this sculpture and I'm very proud of it.

OUT-OF-TOWN GETAWAY

Less than an hour out of the city is my favorite museum in the Netherlands – **Museum Voorlinden**. The building is beautiful, the garden is breathtaking, and its permanent collection is awesome.

► frankey.com



Dikke Graaf