

SECTION 1 COMMUNITY OVERVIEW

"Rotterdam is best known for its container-clogged port, but in the past few years, more exciting projects have been dropping anchor."
Rough Guide, December 2013

With the destruction of the city center of Rotterdam in World War II the cultural infrastructure was also destroyed. During the reconstruction in the following years the festivals played a very important role in rebuilding the city. Without museums and concert halls entertainment took place in the city's streets and parks as it still does today. Throughout the years Rotterdam has been celebrated on several occasions with festivals that drew millions of people to this city along the river Maas. This deep connection between the city and its festivals continues on today where the Rotterdammers celebrate their city together with people from throughout the Netherlands and abroad. We celebrate our city and its festivals with pride.

ROTTERDAM

The city was founded in 1270 with the building of a dam in the Rotte River. In 1340 Rotterdam was granted city rights and it is now the second-largest city in the Netherlands with 618,000 inhabitants, affectionately named 'Rotterdammers'. Its strategic location near the North Sea on the Maas River enabled Rotterdam to become the largest port in Europe.

In 2015 and 2016 Rotterdam is celebrating the 75th anniversary of its successful reconstruction after the city center was destroyed during World War II. All the investments over the decades have borne fruit in recent years, resulting in a renaissance for Rotterdam. International media, including The New York Times and Rough Guides, have picked up on the city's fresh spirit. In 2014 Rotterdam appeared in The Rough Guide and New York Times Top 10 Cities to Visit, in 2015 it was voted European City of the Year by the Academy of Urbanism.

ROTTERDAM. MAKE IT HAPPEN.

Perhaps as a result of its wartime destruction and the resulting need to rebuild, Rotterdam is a city of pioneers. It is a city of innovation. It's the place where things get off the ground, the place where it happens. The city supports and encourages Rotterdammers, it attracts – and welcomes – newcomers. This has always been Rotterdam's strength, past, present and future. There is always more room in Rotterdam – for people, for buildings, for ports, for bridges, for ideas. The city is an incubator for initiatives, for growth, for the future. Rotterdam is where residents, businesses, students, and visitors make their dreams come true. The world comes to Rotterdam, and from Rotterdam you can conquer the world!



HOTEL MOZAÏQUE



DE ROTTERDAMSE DAKENDAGEN

"Post-World War II reconstruction has changed the face of one of Europe's largest ports, where striking, cubed architecture gives shape to the most modern skyline in the country. But it's not done yet."
The New York Times, January 2014