

**Internship Report
ShareNL
Amsterdam, Netherlands**

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Contact data can be published openly as well as forwarded to other Erasmus+ participants

I have always been fascinated by Sharing Economy in different forms – Couchsurfing and Airbnb made a number of fantastic travel experiences, BlaBlaCar accounts for a lightning speed Porsche trip from Berlin to Nürnberg (almost 600 km in 2,5 hours!) and a number of others that could not be made by other means of transportation in such a convenient and fun way, crowdfunding concepts are just fascinating... So when the time to choose a topic for my Master thesis came there was little doubt what I would like to focus on – Sharing Economy! The phenomenon is widely discussed nowadays but there is little research existing – even more thrilling to work on it.

After attending i-share symposium in Berlin where I saw one of the Co-creators of ShareNL - Pieter van de Glind - presenting I was determined to learn from this organisation and made initiative application for an internship position. To my wild joy I was offered a 2 month research internship at the organisation. I am going to Amsterdam!

Housing

First and foremost is finding an accomodation - this might be not easy in such a bustling city. After approaching all of my acquaintances that had once looked for accomodation there the following turned out: most of the flats are rented via agencies, an agency fee has to be paid and the supposed rental period is from 6 months. WG-gesucht is worth checking but is not that popular as in Germany. Due to very restricted timing I ended up spending the first 3 weeks in hostels and for the rest of the stay got a studio apartment sublet directly for 5 weeks via a Facebook group (check Kamers gezocht or Zoeckt kamer in Amsterdam). Most of the offers are published in Dutch and English, whilst Dutch only ads are also quite understandable for German speakers.

The prices start from 400€ per month and have no upper limit... Hostel prices fluctuate significantly depending on the season and throughout the week starting from 15 € per night in a 10 bed dormitory on weekdays and sky-rocketing to 100 € for the same bed on weekends. I therefore left the city at the weekends in the first 3 weeks and went exploring around.

Many people choose to live outside Amsterdam in Haarlem, den Haag etc. as transportation is very convenient.

Transportation

Amsterdam is known to be a very bicycle-friendly city and it is such indeed. Due to canal determined structure of the city center going by bicycle is almost always quicker than by public transport at short and medium distance.

I however could not do it as traffic is dense and being not a good cyclist I did not want to pose a danger to others in the streets. Public transportation system includes buses, trams and metro. All of those can be used with OV Chipcard (anonymous one costs 7.50 € and saves 1 € on each trip, www.ov-chipkaart.nl). The card is also valid on all of the trains in the Netherlands and most of the public transport means throughout the country. If you are staying for a longer period a personalized card can be bought which can offer you additional discounts. Trip planner for Amsterdam is available at 9292.nl.

If you are travelling be also sure to check the regional and day ticket offers, e.g. Amsterdam&Region ticket costs 13.50 € for 24 hours (<http://www.iamsterdam.com/de/besuchen/planen-sie-ihre-reise/transport/offentlicher-nahverkehr/tagesticket-fur-amsterdam-und-umgebung>) and allows you to make a very nice day trip and save on the transport.

Cultural life

Amsterdam is vibrant, wonderful, fascinating... and overcrowded with tourists. Take this into account when planning your museum visits as the lines often get very long.

I bought a museum card valid for 1 year for 59.90 € (www.museumkaart.nl). It allows free access to more than 400 museums in the whole country and is fantastic value for the money as the entrance price for the most popular museums is around 20 €.

There are many tours around the city available – my personal favorite is Free walking tour by Sandemans Tours (www.newamsterdamtours.com). Cheese tasting, canal cruises, Heinen experience and much more is waiting there for you.

Book recommendation - Amsterdam: A History of the World's Most Liberal City by Russel Shorto.

Organisation and internship

ShareNL is a small purpose-driven organisation pioneering research on the sharing economy and coordinating a number of projects in the area (Amsterdam Sharing City and global Sharing City events in partnership with London and Seoul, Green Deal mobility partnership in the Netherlands, startup networking events etc.)

My task was to conduct a research „Disruptive Technology and Sharing Economy: Change and Perspective“. Whilst doing my research I got a lot of support from the team and it was always possible to get feedback from my colleagues. ShareNL is a young small company, dynamic and democratic, open to initiatives and new projects and therefore a perfect place to try doing something new. Team spirit is high, achievements are praised, successes celebrated and everything can be turned into a game-like activity.

ShareNL gave me a chance to conduct a very independent project in a highly professional environment of trend-setters and quick-thinkers. And that is invaluable!

Useful links

Housing pararius.com, funda.nl, housinganywhere.com, kamernet.nl, wg-gesucht.de,
Facebook groups

Transportation [ov-chipkaart.nl](http://www.ov-chipkaart.nl), 9292.nl, <http://www.iamsterdam.com/de/besuchen/planen-sie-ihre-reise/transport/offentlicher-nahverkehr/tagesticket-fur-amsterdam-und-umgebung>

Culture www.museumkaart.nl, www.newamsterdamtours.com,

<http://www.amazon.com/Amsterdam-History-Worlds-Most-Liberal/dp/0307743756>



ShareNL Team



Model developed during internship



ShareNL Office



**Book Presentation by
Harmen and Pieter**



Tulip fields of Keukenhof