



**TOP 20 SPECIALTY
COFFEE PLACES
IN THE
NETHERLANDS**

ROCKET RECOMMENDS COFFEE



ABOUT ME

Hello,
I'm Ramakrishna Puranam,
your Coffeenaut. As India's
First Cafelogueur, I navigate the
Coffeeverse with slow coffee
exploration and mixology.
Outside the coffee realm, I'm a
passionate Road Cyclist. Join
me in this caffeinated odyssey,
exploring the horizons of coffee
and beyond!





THE NETHERLANDS

When most people think of the Netherlands, they think of bicycles, Red Light District, charming canals, historic windmills, and shops where you can smoke pot. But there is much more than this.

The Netherlands is a land dotted with ancient brick houses, a network of canals that allow you to navigate much of the country by water, vast stretches of farmland, and even some beautiful beaches. It holds a special place in my heart as one of my favorite countries not only because you can see everything by taking your bicycle, but also of a very good coffee places in this country.

CAFÉ, COFFEE SHOP & COFFEE PLACE

In Amsterdam, the terms "cafe" and "coffee shop" have distinct meanings. A cafe is a place for coffee, tea, and socializing, serving non-alcoholic drinks and snacks. On the other hand, a coffee shop in Amsterdam primarily focuses on selling and permitting the consumption of cannabis products, with some offering coffee as well. It's important for visitors to be aware of this difference to choose the type of place that suits their preferences. For practical purposes, we will be using "coffee place" to avoid the confusion.



SPECIALTY COFFEE & THIRD WAVE COFFEE CULTURE



In the 1960s, coffee consumption skyrocketed, giving rise to the first wave as it became widely accessible. The second wave, led by giants like Starbucks, elevated coffee quality and transformed it from a basic necessity to a coveted luxury product, with coffee shop emerging as third place between home and office.

The third wave of coffee represents a shift in focus from mere consumption to creating a special, immersive experience for the consumer. This involves not only excellent customer service but also a narrative woven by producers, importers, roasters, and baristas. This explains why a particular coffee is unique, highlighting tasting notes and the meticulous efforts involved in its production.



SPECIALTY COFFEE & THIRD WAVE COFFEE CULTURE

On the other hand, specialty coffee, as defined by organizations like the Specialty Coffee Association (SCA), is a critical component of the third wave experience. Coffees scoring 80 points or above on a 100-point scale are considered “specialty”. Certified Q-graders ensure the quality of the beans. Specialty coffee is the assurance of excellence, coming from specific microclimates, unique soils, and careful processing methods.

In essence, the third wave is the holistic experience of enjoying coffee, and specialty coffee is the high-quality ingredient that makes this experience possible, connecting consumers with the craftsmanship and distinctiveness of each cup.

COFFEE TRADITIONS IN THE NETHERLANDS

In the Netherlands, coffee is not just a beverage. It is an integral part of daily life with its own set of traditions and rituals. Whether at home, in the workplace, or at a local café, coffee serves as a catalyst for connection and relaxation in Dutch daily life.

In this guide I have put all of my experience and recommendations for the best specialty coffee places in the Netherlands.





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COFFEE PLACES IN AMSTERDAM



BOCCA

During a brief stopover in Amsterdam en route to the US, Bocca became an unexpected highlight. Sharing the experience with a friend, we relished in exceptional coffees and delectable treats. The super-friendly staff not only enriched our visit but also graciously suggested a few hidden gems in the city's coffee scene. Bocca, with its inviting atmosphere and delightful offerings, turned a layover into a memorable exploration of Amsterdam's vibrant coffee culture, leaving me with a taste of the city's warmth and hospitality.



© boccacoffee

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CAFECITO

Cafecito, among the initial specialty coffee spots I explored, boasts a friendly staff and offered me a chance to go behind the bar. They prioritize a warm atmosphere and encourages patrons to witness the coffee-making process up close. It combines hospitality with an insider's view, making it a noteworthy stop for those seeking quality coffee experiences in the Netherlands.

📷 [cafecito_nl](#)

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COFFEE & COCONUTS

I initially found Coffee & Coconuts closed, but my second attempt with a Danish friend proved successful. Situated near Zuid Station and in the Zuidas business district, it caters to busy office-goers with its delightful coffee offerings. The cafe boasts a great ambiance and carries a perfect branding, making it an appealing spot for those in the vicinity of Zuidas. With its accessible location and quality coffees, Coffee & Coconuts stands out as a welcoming destination for both locals and visitors.



@coffeecoconuts

THE COFFEE DISTRICT

Coffee District in Oud-Zuid is a hub for coffee enthusiasts of all ages. Offering a diverse range of coffees, including selections from Lot61, DAK, and Manhattan Coffee Roasters, this expansive and bright coffee haven caters to varied preferences. Beyond great coffee, Coffee District doubles as a retail space for Japanese brand Kinto's coffee gear. During my visit, I connected with barista Yannick, who, in his nightlife, showcases his talents as a DJ, adding a unique touch to the cafe experience.



© thecoffeedistrict

FIVE WAYS COFFEE



Five Ways has been brewing since 2017, carving its niche in the coffee scene. It is located on Kinkerstraat. They offer more than just a cup, you can snag their cool merch—t-shirts, hats, and hoodies, along with their signature coffee beans. Beyond the brew, Five Ways inspires with its great ambiance and vibes. The coolest part? The staff, particularly the friendly baristas Caitlin and Jess, who can whip up something special just for you. A coffee spot that goes beyond, this place is a destination for those seeking unique experiences and warm interactions.

 [fivewayscoffee](https://www.instagram.com/fivewayscoffee)

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LOT61

Lot61, a renowned cafe in Oud-West, lives up to its well-deserved reputation. This popular coffee spot is a local favorite, drawing patrons with its exceptional offerings. The cafe distinguishes itself by sourcing coffee beans from small farms in Central America and Africa, ensuring a distinctive and globally inspired coffee experience. Known for its quality and popularity among locals, Lot61 stands out as a must-visit destination in the Netherlands for coffee enthusiasts.



@lot61nl

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MONKS COFFEE ROASTERS

Monks Coffee Roasters, nestled in Amsterdam, stands as a hub for specialty coffee. Not just a roaster and retailer but a café, Monks is devoted to sourcing, roasting, and crafting best coffee for everyone to savor. Their commitment extends to responsible, sustainable, and respectful practices. During my stay near De Hallen, I discovered this gem, enjoying a delightful breakfast paired with their exquisite coffee. The place pulsates with vibrant energy, particularly on weekends, creating a lively atmosphere that adds to the overall Monks experience.

© monks_coffee_roasters

SCANDINAVIAN EMBASSY



Oh, what a delightful surprise! Stepping into this café felt like entering a Scandinavian haven. The Nordic influence was evident, with coffees exclusively sourced from roasteries like Koppi, Coffee Collective, and DROP. My visit was a true FIKA moment as I savored a V60 Pour-over paired with their signature Scandi treats – the Cinnamon roll & Cardamom roll. The ambiance, coupled with the exquisite coffee and treats, made it an unforgettable experience.

📍 [scandinavianembassy](#)



SCREAMING BEANS

On a Sunday, post a long ride, led me to this gem situated opposite Concerto: LP, Vinyl Record store. The atmosphere was wonderful, and the coffee experience was exceptional, placing Screaming Beans among the town's finest. With a commitment to diverse origins, innovative processing methods, and captivating stories, each cup at Screaming Beans promises a truly distinctive and enriching coffee journey.

© screamingbeans

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TOKI



Nestled in Jordaan, this café is a hidden gem with a laid-back ambiance. Always bustling, it transforms into a Café Bar at night, offering wines and treats. Here, I discovered the famed Nordic roaster: PROLOG from Copenhagen, Denmark. This welcoming spot delights in serving tasty coffee, cozy teas, refreshments, pastries, and delicious food—an ideal retreat for those seeking a delightful blend of coffee culture and evening indulgence.

© toki.times

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UNCOMMON

This was a memorable visit with a friend highlighted the overall greatness of this spot. The outdoor seating is a summer favorite, adding to the charm. Embracing the changing seasons, the coffee offerings evolve, featuring diverse origins, innovative processing methods, and unique varieties that spark curiosity.

Every coffee at Uncommon shares a common thread – they showcase the inspiring stories of the legends behind these remarkable brews. At this place you can go to a truly exceptional coffee journey.



© uncommonams

COFFEE PLACES IN ROTTERDAM

HOTEL ÂME



Ame, a charming boutique hotel with a chic ground-floor café, caught my attention. Serving coffees from local roasteries, the café exuded a delightful atmosphere. The attached store showcased cool Scandi-Japanese items, adding a unique touch to the experience. If you're in search of a place where exceptional coffee meets a curated selection of stylish goods, Ame is a right place waiting to be discovered. My time at this boutique gem was characterized by the fusion of cozy hospitality, local coffee flavors, and a tasteful array of Scandi-Japanese treasures.

© hotelame

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GIRAFFE COFFEE ROASTERS

Giraffe, a place where my twin passions of Coffee & Cycling collide. Hosting Bomba Bomba Cycling store and Giraffe Coffee Academy, it's a haven for enthusiasts. The ambiance is amazing, and the coffees, fabulous. Their specialty lies in coffee cocktails! For tea lovers, an extensive menu features the high-quality JING Tea brand.



© giraffecoffeeroasters

MAN MET BRIL KOFFIE



Man Met Bril in Rotterdam proved to be a unique find during my exploration. The café's unconventional appearance, akin to a university canteen, intrigued me. Offering an array of excellent coffee and food options, it presented a distinctive blend of flavors in an unassuming setting. The loyal local following added to the charm, creating an atmosphere that felt both familiar and welcoming. Man Met Bril emerged as a noteworthy spot, not just for its offerings but for the unconventional and cozy experience it provided in the heart of Rotterdam.

© manmetbrilkoffie

NICE NEIGHBOURHOOD

For me to come to this place it was a delightful discovery as I strolled through Rotterdam's streets one weekend. Entering this charming café, I enjoyed a fantastic breakfast paired with coffee from Bonanza Roasters, Berlin.

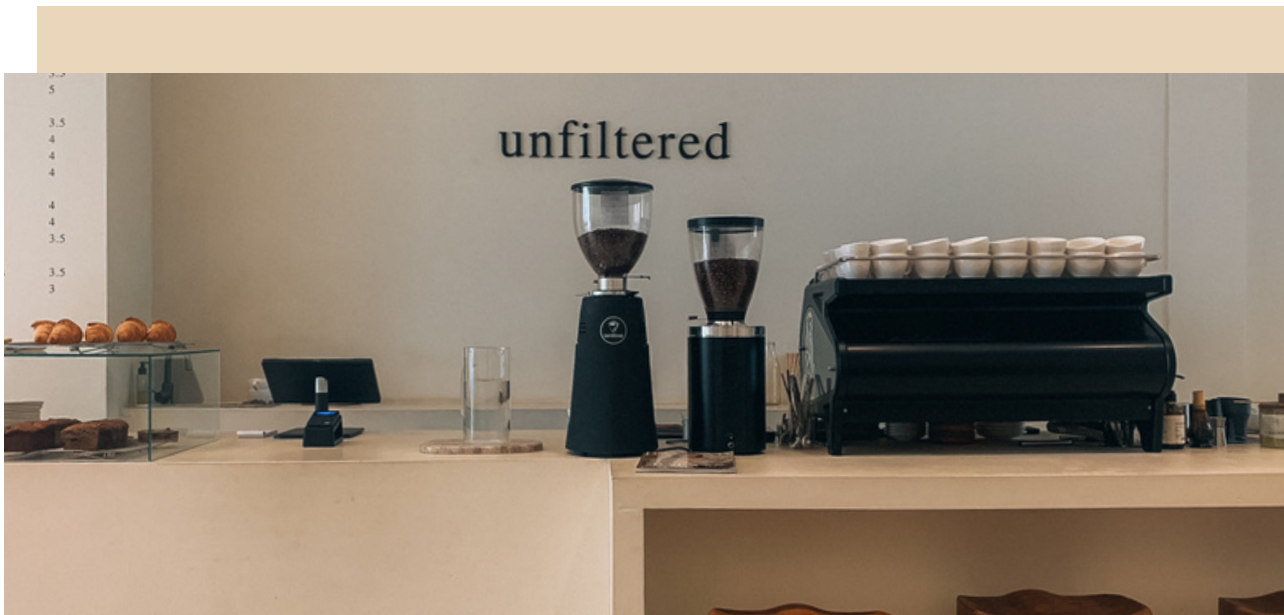
The staff, especially barista Jordi, was exceptionally friendly and provided insightful recommendations about various specialty coffee roasters. The quaint ambiance, coupled with the affable service, made NICE Neighbourhood a pleasant stop for indulging in superb coffee and starting the day with a delightful breakfast experience.



© nice.neighbourhood

UNFILTERED

Unfiltered, the newcomer in town, instantly charmed me with its captivating ambience. The minimalistic menu, featuring exquisite coffees from A.M.O.C Coffee Roasters, perfectly complemented the overall vibe. The simplicity of choice allowed the exceptional quality of the beans to shine. The fresh, magnetic charm of Unfiltered makes it a promising spot for coffee enthusiasts. My experience at this coffee gem was defined by modern aesthetics, superb craftsmanship, and a unique presence that left a lasting impression.



© cafeunfiltered

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COFFEE PLACES IN DEN HAAG



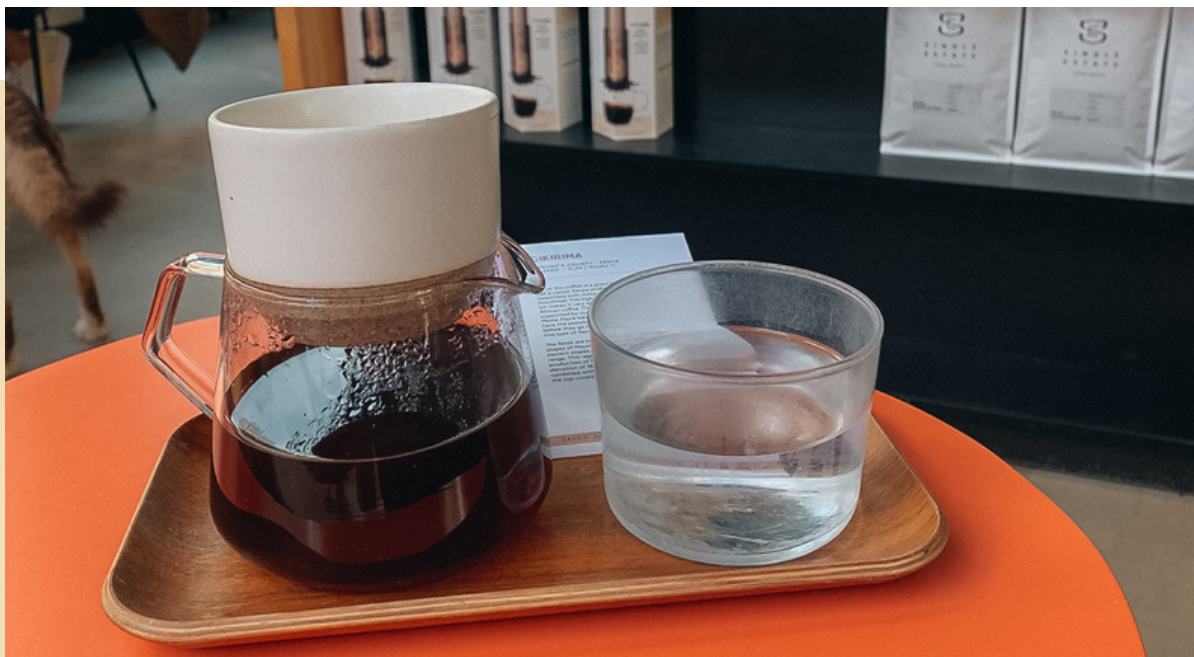
DUCKRABBIT COFFEE BREWERS

In Den Haag, Duck Rabbit stands out as a hidden gem for specialty coffee enthusiasts. Despite the city not being a typical hub for such finds, this compact spot with charming outdoor seating offers a refreshing escape. Wesley, the café owner and barista, impresses with his deep coffee knowledge. The ambiance is vibrant, and the vibes are truly amazing. My coffee experience was elevated with Maze Lab Roasters from Prague, making Duck Rabbit a must-visit place for exceptional brews and delightful cakes in town.

© duckrabbitcoffeebrewers

SINGLE ESTATE COFFEE

After a few tries, I finally entered Single Estate Coffee, a hidden Den Haag treasure. Despite my initial timing challenges, the experience was phenomenal. The manually brewed coffees were a standout, crafted with precision by knowledgeable baristas. The ambiance added to the charm, making it a delightful space to savor coffee. Single Estate Coffee stands out in Den Haag as a gem, offering not only exceptional brews but also a welcoming atmosphere that makes each visit memorable and worth the effort.



© singleestatecoffeeasters

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PERRON X COFFEE (COFFEE BY LOT61)



Upon spotting Lot61, I stepped into cafe and I'm glad I did. With comfortable indoor and charming outdoor garden seating on sunny days, it offers a classic coffee experience. Established in 2018, they proudly serve specialty coffee crafted from their freshly roasted beans. The Torenstraat location is an added bonus, inviting visitors to enjoy a delightful breakfast and lunch alongside their exceptional coffee offerings. A must-visit spot for those seeking a blend of classic coffee, inviting ambiance, and delicious meals in a cozy setting.

© perronxcoffee

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COFFEE PLACE IN EINDHOVEN

LUCIFER COFFEE ROASTERS



Just outside Eindhoven Central Station, Lucifer stands out. It's one of the largest cafes I've encountered, offering ample seating for a work-café style environment. Boasting its own roastery, Lucifer showcases a global coffee selection, roasting top-quality beans from around the world. The journey from raw, green beans to a delightful cup unfolds within this spacious place. Ideal for those seeking a productive work atmosphere paired with exceptional coffee, Lucifer is a standout spot in Eindhoven.

© lucifer.coffee.roasters

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME!

I hope this guide has served as a compass for fellow coffee enthusiasts, leading you to hidden gems and cherished spots that have perfected the art of brewing liquid gold. The Netherlands has truly embraced the specialty coffee movement, and I've relished every aromatic sip along the way.

If you've found this guide to specialty coffee in the Netherlands inspiring and you're eager to share your own coffee experiences or have any burning questions, don't hesitate to reach out! Connect with me on Instagram [*@rocket_recommends_coffee*](#) where we can chat about the best coffee spots, recommendations, and the joy that comes with each sip.



For those who crave more in-depth insights into the world of specialty coffees, be sure to follow my Substack: ramtherocket.substack.com

There, you'll find additional guides, coffee reviews, and a deeper dive into the intricate world of brewing excellence. Let's continue this coffee journey together, one cup at a time. Your feedback, stories, and coffee tales are always welcome, so let's keep the conversation brewing.

As I embark on more caffeinated adventures, discovering the stories behind each barista's craft and the unique flavors that define each coffee shop, I invite you to join me on this ongoing exploration. Until then, may your cups be filled with the finest brews and your coffee experiences be nothing short of extraordinary. Netherlands, I'll be back for more – because great coffee is a journey, not a destination.



UNTIL THE NEXT
COFFEE ADVENTURE,
STAY CAFFEINATED
AND CURIOUS!

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