Historically Rotterdam has a strong position in the global commodity trade. Already from the late Middle Ages the region played a key role in commodity transport to Germany and the European hinterland and the transportation of goods between Antwerp and Amsterdam. Many of the largest commodity traders have chosen for Rotterdam to be close to the physical position of their assets. In particular for the agri commodity sector with corn, wheat, soya, nuts & seeds, bio oil and fats as key products, Rotterdam is the leading center of trade.

Traders hub with physical commodities close by
For commodity traders, Rotterdam is the ideal place to locate your office, with close access to key physical goods. Highly automated transshipment ensures fast and efficient transportation after which goods can be processed, stored or distributed. Port infrastructure and logistics is unbeatable in Rotterdam. Supporting companies such as surveyors, testing facilities, forwarders, shipping companies and insurers are all easily accessible. It does not matter if you are active in the energy, metals or agricultural markets, the city is a natural habitat for your trading business.

A reliable and sound network ensures access to relevant information
Traders play a key role in the global movements of commodities. The sector is challenged by the advance digitalisation of the transport and logistical chain which has created new opportunities for traders and innovative startup companies. With quickly available information and data, negotiations and transactions can be handled personally and profitably. As a result of the continuous growth of the players active in the sector, the position of Rotterdam as a global trading hub goes from strength to strength.

World-class agriport
Rotterdam is the allRound agriport of Northwest Europe. As market leader, the port offers complete and attractive services for all types of dry and liquid agriculture, not just food and feed, but increasingly for biofuels. The Rotterdam region is the center for processing facilities of agri bulk such as crushing of rapeseed, bio fuel plants and refining of vegetable oils.
WHAT IS ROTTERDAM MARITIME CAPITAL OF EUROPE?

The Netherlands is the most competitive economy in Europe, and the Rotterdam region harbours the most competitive maritime cluster in the world. This cluster brings together an enormous diversity of activity: Maritime Business Services, Commodity Trading, Port & Logistics, Shipbuilding & Superyachts, Offshore, Energy & Industry. This unique maritime region of Rotterdam and its 75km radius is therefore branded Rotterdam Maritime Capital of Europe.

Rotterdam owes its unique competitive strengths to its location at the heart of Europe’s most affluent and densely populated region and the innovative export-oriented character of the Dutch economy. In its heart, the city of Rotterdam is a great place to live: a relaxed, vibrant and truly international city with superb infrastructure and a diverse, highly skilled workforce.

Rotterdam Maritime Capital of Europe is the most complete and competitive maritime region in the world. A network which is constantly working on innovations and developing talent, which has resulted in the area being a front runner where energy transitions, digitisation and circular economy are concerned.

The Port and City of Rotterdam have set some ambitious goals for 2030. Its strategy is focussed on both modernising the traditional industry, with a specific focus on sustainability and the environment, as well as pioneering innovations.

The government, companies, educational institutes and research facilities are all working together to actively realise these ambitions together. Making sure Rotterdam is and will continue to be Europe’s maritime capital.

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1. Best access to the European hinterland with good logistical connection by short-sea or inland shipping, road or rail transportation.
2. Presence of specialised knowledge and services relevant for trading, including commodity finance and risk management.
3. Attractive fiscal climate for trading companies.
4. Close to physical trade flow: all commodities can be physically surveyed locally.
5. Presence of major trading houses such as Vitol, ADM, Bunge, Cefetra, Colco and Glencore.
6. Strategic position between Antwerp and Amsterdam with facilities for storage, processing and distribution of various commodities.

WHY DOING BUSINESS IN THE WIDER ROTTERDAM REGION?


Affordable living in a modern and international, English speaking environment. Favourable family living conditions with good (international) schools. Strong work-life balance.

Accessible and affordable office space and availability of highly skilled (maritime) workforce.

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ROTTERDAM. MARITIME CAPITAL OF EUROPE.

ROTTERDAM. MAKE IT HAPPEN.