

# WDKA STUDENT'S TIPS&TRICKS ON HOUSING

## The aim of this kit

This document is made by a group of Student Ambassadors (Hansol, Chaline, Carlota, Parel, and Kinga) specially for newcoming students at WdKA of the year of 2022/2023.

It's a summary to help you to get acquainted with the city and housing options in Rotterdam. Please note, that there is much more to it, this is just an informal guide to get started!

Also, check out the series of *videos* for housing tips and tricks from WdKA students and *this link* about housing. by Hogeschool Rotterdam.

## Finances

Please be aware, that the financial part can be quite tricky as a new comer in the Netherlands! You often need to have a dutch bank account in order to have a contract, but to arrange a dutch card, you need to have a registered address in the Netherlands.

### *We have a few tips for you:*

- For your own safety don't pay anything to your landlord in cash, because it doesn't leave a trace so in the worst case you can get scammed and can not prove it.
- Rather ask a friend with a dutch account to pay it for you and transfer the money to them.
- Use online banks like Bunq, Wise and Revolut (some of them offer a virtual card).

## Areas in Rotterdam

**Centraal:** Walkable distance to the academy, shops and restaurants you need are around, great public transportation, relatively expensive rent.

**Kralingen(East):** 'Rich family area', Close to the academy by bike (8 mins), a huge park with a lake (Kralingse Bos), a lot of students live in this area

**Prins Alexander(East):** A bit further from the academy (about 25 mins with public transport), a quiet residential area with a big shopping centre, relatively cheaper rent.

**Kop van Zuid:** A modern area right across the Erasmus bridge with a nice view of the river. Trendy bars and restaurants. 4 mins to Beurs by metro, 8 mins by tram, great public transport connection to central.

**Coolhaven, Delfshaven(West):** Young and vibrant area with nature (Hetpark, Museumpark) and Euromast as well as clubs and events. Museums are around, 10 mins to the academy by bike.

**Zuid:** In the past, it was considered as a 'Rough hood' area, but it's been developed over time with the supervision of the municipality, now many students live in this area due to cheaper rent.

**Blijdorp(Noord):** A quiet family residential area with Vroesepark and Rotterdam Zoo. Nice public transport connection to central.

**De Hofbogen (Noord):** Hipster, creative area with nice cafes and vintage shops. 5 mins to the academy by bike.

**Schiedam:** 20 mins by bike to the academy, cheaper rent than Rotterdam.

**Den Haag:** If you are Dutch and have a free OV card, it could be a nice choice since it has more availability than Rotterdam. A historic city with traditional buildings, and a nice beach in Scheveningen.

# ALTERNATIVE HOUSING

## Facebook Groups

Facebook is probably the easiest yet most difficult place to find an accommodation, because many people use and misuse the platform. There are an amount of groups that can be a great support in your search for housing, but always be alerted for scammers!

### ***Tips for going on Facebook:***

- Turn on Push notifications for all housing groups, so you can immediately react on housing adverts.
- prepare some response beforehand
- gather information about yourself that would be important to share
- the more request you send out the higher the chance to find a place

- don't get scammed!
- check profiles for authenticity
- do not pay anything ever without receiving an original contract
- plan a visit, a real-life video tour

### ***Prepare your housing profile:***

- small introduction about yourself
- your room/ apartment preference
- your budget
- a few photos of you

### ***Links to Groups:***

- [Kamer in Rotterdam](#)
- [Housing Rotterdam](#)
- [ROTTERDAM Rent Room Studio Apartment 2022](#)
- [Rotterdam Housing](#)
- [Find a room\(mate\) or house in Rotterdam](#)
- [Zoekt kamer in Rotterdam Community](#)
- [WdKA International students](#)
- [Artists Anonymous of WDKA](#)
- [Housing Rotterdam group](#)
- [Student Accommodation Rotterdam](#)
- [Student Housing Rotterdam by](#)

### ***HousingAnywhere***

- [Rotterdam Pages Housing](#)
- [Rotterdam Housing, Rooms, Apartments, Sublets](#)
- [Kamers en appartementen in Rotterdam](#)
- [Expat apartments Rotterdam](#)
- [Housing 4 Students Rotterdam](#)
- [Community Rotterdam-Huurwoningen en Kamers te huur](#)
- [Rooms & Houses in Rotterdam \(for Interns and Students\)](#)
- [Housing Rotterdam RSM](#)

## Anti-squatting

Antikraak (anti-squatting) is a cheap option since you only pay the agency a (small) loan fee and/or service costs. However, there are a few things to keep in mind if you are thinking about antikraak or anti-squatting:

- temporary, unstable.
- buildings are sold or torn down
- flexibility to move on a short notice
- mutual notice period of 14-28 days (depends on the agency)
- responsibility for the building you are staying in
- keeping the building neat and clean
- potential buyers may come to see it
- regular checks by the agency (sometimes unannounced)

- drastic changes can't be made in the decor (also needs approval)
- referral system (being introduced to the agency by someone)
- sometimes there's a registration fee
- waiting list
- you're required to be over 18
- the people handling these agencies tend to not be very nice/friendly/ understanding.
- cheap
- usually big houses (living space and studio both can fit in)

### ***Links to antisquatting pages:***

- [Villex](#)
- [Camelot](#)
- [Antikraak Direct](#)
- [VPS](#)
- [HOD](#)
- [Interveste](#)
- [Alvast](#)
- [Ad Hoc](#)
- [Zwerfkeibeheer](#)

# STUDENT ACCOMMODATION

## Private Student Accommodation

There are private students accommodation companies apart from SSH that school provides for a short stay. Since there are low chance of getting scammed and buildings are managed by companies, some of our students rent living spaces from those companies. Here are the list of the companies as well as pros and cons of each ones.

### *Stadswonen:*

- Pros: affordable price, many buildings scattered all over Rotterdam, living with fellow students, no deposit, decorate the room as much as you wish (painting, nailing available).
- Cons: Usually unfurnished, Rooms are assigned by the period of the

registration to Stadswonen (the longer you've been registered to the website, the more chance you get), registration fee

### *Holland2stay:*

- Pros: affordable price after housing subsidy (Toeslagen), living with fellow students, lottery system, furnished, close to WdKA (Kralingen)
- Cons: Deposit, lottery system, registration fee

### *OurDomain:*

- Pros: Location (Literally right next to WdKA. 30 seconds walk), new-build, nice view and facility, furnished
- Cons: Expensive rent and deposit, registration fee

### *Link to companies:*

- [Stadswonen](#)
- [Holland2stay](#)
- [OurDomain](#)

WdKA reserves Short Stay accommodation with the SSH specifically for international students.

- 200-220 rooms available
- 3 buildings in Rotterdam
- only for international students
- NON-EU students have priority since they need a Dutch address to write in their visa application.
- can stay up to a year and no more.
- application deadline for registration for the website is 24th May
- deadline for booking is 31st May
- furnished
- most of buildings are old
- reach housing department of COIA for questions

SSH