

The best way to visit Amsterdam is by NS train (Dutch Railways). From Schiphol Airport, the train to Amsterdam Central Station takes a mere 15 minutes. Artis is easily accessible by public transport (trams 9, 10 and 14 and Waterlooplein metro station).

Trams and buses:

You can use the *strippenkaart* and OV-chip card.

Where to buy the *strippenkaart*:

They are on sale at station 'Kiosk' outlets, post offices, the GVB (Amsterdam Transport Company) ticket desk opposite Central Station, supermarkets (ask at the front desk) and newsagents. You can't buy *strippenkaarten* on buses, trams or trains.

You can buy either a card with 15 strips (€7.60) or with 45 strips (€22.50) - 2010 prices

Where to buy the disposable OV-chip card:

You can buy disposable cards at the Ticket Vending and Add Value machines* and from tram and bus drivers and conductors. A disposable card already carries a travel product, so it is not necessary to load the card.

*At the Ticket Vending and Add Value machines you can pay cash (except in Amstelveen) and with PIN, chip or credit card.

If you want to travel **less** than 24 hours you can buy a ticket in buses and trams.

You can choose between 1 hour = € 2,60 (valid for 1 hour after checking in the first time)

2x1 hour = € 5,00 (valid for 1 hour after checking in the first time. The second hour starts when you check in after the first hour)

24 hour = € 7,00 (valid for 24 hours after checking in the first time)

If you want to travel **more** than 24 hours you have to buy a ticket at the ticket vending.

How to use the OV-chip card in trams and buses:

When travelling by tram or bus, travellers check in and out every time when entering or leaving the vehicle. Card readers are placed near each door for this purpose. In buses and part of the trams entering passengers pass the driver or conductor, who keeps an eye on them checking in. The driver and conductor have less possibilities to monitor that passengers do not check out too early. Anyway, there are additional random checks by teams of personnel, as mentioned.

Metro:

You can **only** use the OV-chip card.

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*At the Ticket Vending and Add Value machines you can pay cash (except in Amstelveen) and with PIN, chip or credit card.

How to use the OV chip card in metro

You have to check in and check out **every time**.

When travelling by train or metro, the OV-chip card is held against a card reader as soon as the traveller enters the platform. The card has now been 'checked in', and the checking-in fee will be charged to the card. When the passenger leaves at another station, the card is held against the card reader again in order to 'check out'; the checking-in fee is refunded (minus the fare for the journey actually made if the traveller is using the e-purse).

Train

You can buy a ticket or use your ov-chip card.

Where to buy a train ticket:

You can purchase a ticket at one of the *yellow & blue ticket machines*. They have both a Dutch and an English language touch-screen interface - you can get to grips with it by checking out this handy [demo](#).

You can also buy a ticket at the ticket vending. These tickets are a bit more expensive than the tickets out of the machine.

How to use the OV-chip card in trains

You have to check in and check out every time.

You can use the new OV chip card system to purchase tickets - tickets are sold as singles (you have to check-in and check-out for each trip) and are priced at half the return fare meaning there is a slight discount on the normal one-way tariff.

When travelling by train or metro, the OV-chip card is held against a card reader as soon as the traveller enters the platform. The card has now been 'checked in', and the checking-in fee will be charged to the card. When the passenger leaves at another station, the card is held against the card reader again in order to 'check out'; the checking-in fee is refunded (minus the fare for the journey actually made if the traveller is using the e-purse).