

## ORANGE is the new black

The topic for this article: Dutch Culture. And what have we exactly learned about the Dutch culture so far?

First of all the timing for this topic could not be better - since this past Saturday was King's Day! We hope you are back on your feet again after the big celebration of the Dutch King both at King's Night and King's Day!

The city was orange, people were drunk, selling random stuff on the streets, boats were sailing around in the channels and people were dancing everywhere to music from the stages. At this party you may have wondering what everyone were actually celebrating? Who is this king actually - and why this big celebration of him? In Denmark where we are from, we have a queen, and her birthday goes by almost unnoticed. We decided to have a look into this Dutch culture...

### Did you know?

The celebration of the royal family have been a tradition for ages. The day is in the honor of the royal person ruling the country. Before the King became a king - the Netherlands had a queen and back then the celebration was called Queen's Day and were held on the 30 of April.

And as you might have noticed orange is the national colour in this country.

Anyway - a few facts about the current **Dutch King**:



*King Willem-Alexander cheering on the Dutch speed skating team at the 2014 Winter Olympics in Sochi; Photo: Zimbio*

## **ALL (almost) ABOUT THE KING**

- **Full name:**  
Willem-Alexander Claus George Ferdinand
- **Real birthday:**  
27 April 1967 (52 years old (young one))
- **Our favourite nickname:**
- **“Prince Pils”:** King Willem-Alexander was a bit of a lad, earning himself the nickname Prins Pils (Lager Prince) for his student beer-drinking.
- **If not a king, then what?:**  
Willem-Alexander is an avid pilot and he has said, that if he had not been royal, he would have liked to have been an passenger plane pilot.

## **New Discoveries in the city!**

**The weather in Amsterdam will soon call for a swim!**

- *Sloterplas Swimming Beach (Zwemstrand Sloterpas):*  
*This swimming lake in Amsterdam Nieuw-West*
- *Het Twiske*
- *Amsterdamse Bos*
- *Sloterpas*
- *For more inspiration:*  
<https://www.iamsterdam.com/en/see-and-do/things-to-do/by-season/summer-in-the-city/10-outdoor-swimming-spots-in-amsterdam>



*Foto: King's Day at the Channels*

## Foreigner of the week!

This time you will meet our new foreigner of the week: Say Hi to - **Tin!**



**Name:** Tin Jurhar

**From:** Vienna, Austria

**Study:** Biomedicine/ Cognitive Neurobiology

**Best advice:** Definitely go for spring/summer semester if you have the choice. Amsterdam in warm weather is a whole other experience.

**Favorite place:** Any small cafe in Amsterdam Oost, Westerpark and Westerstraat.

**The weirdest thing about Dutch culture:** They kiss 3x for a greeting. Foods that you get in supermarkets is quite bad whereas food in restaurants is extremely good.

## “Do you speak Dutch?” - Word(s) of the week

### Words of Dutch culture:

- **King’s Day** = Koningsdag
- **Queen’s Day** = Koninginnedag
- **Borrel** = word for informal gatherings at the pub
- **Vrijmibo** = employers organise after works drinks in their offices on Friday afternoons.
- **“Op Die Fiets”** = Taken literally this phrase means “on that bike” whereas Dutch speakers understand that it actually signifies “Oh, that way” or “I now understand how that happened”



## See you soon!

All for now! Next time we will talk and reflect on our last weeks in Amsterdam. Time is flying! We can’t understand that in less than two months we will be leaving this amazing city - maybe you feel the same way? Over and out - we will be back soon!