



The Casa Rosso, a Red Light District institution

on canvas by Rembrandt. Today, the only flesh being sliced is in the kitchen of this trendy new city eating house. It has a split personality – Internet café by day, modern Dutch restaurant by night, when some 300 candles softly illuminate its ancient stone interior. It's beautifully atmospheric.

Where: Nieuwmarkt 4 (020 422 7772).

When: Daily 10am-1am.

How much: Average main course €50.

19 PULITZER HOTEL

The prize-winning Pulitzer Hotel takes up the frontages of 25 canalside residences and, with a brilliant interior design and sympathetic styling, it brings out the best of Amsterdam past and present. The art nouveau Garden Room is an airy delight when the sun is shining, while the Saxenburg Room seems to have been barely disturbed since the 17th century. Make sure you pop in to their summer garden café-restaurant, even if you are not staying here.

Where: Prinsengracht 515-531 (020 523 5235).

How much: Double rooms from €695.

20 HET'SMALLE CAFÉ BAR

Take any strawpoll of Amsterdam's favourite brown cafés and bars and Het'Smalle will always get a mention. In fact, the term *gezelligheid* (cosy and comfortable, but without the twee overtones) might well have been coined with this charming late-18th-century



The Van Gogh Museum



Find some footwear at Klompenboer



You're never alone in the Hotel Pulitzer

canalside bar in mind. It's extremely popular with the 50-something crowd, so get there early for a seat.

Where: Egelantiersgracht 12.

21 IN'T AEPJEN (THE MONKEY)

If you're seeking the spirit of old Zeedijk, Amsterdam's original dockside street, try this curio-filled bar, housed in the city's oldest building. Its name, The Monkey, dates from the days when sailors would hock their exotic pets to pay for board and lodgings. On Saturday nights, Amsterdam's favourite accordionist, Herman de Neus, squeezes out traditional Amsterdam ditties and sea shanties. Surprisingly, locals far outnumber visitors.

Where: Zeedijk 1.

When: Open daily 5pm-1am.

22 KATTENKABINET (CAT CABINET)

Can't abide cute cats? Don't despair, the great thing about the Kattenkabinet is that it offers a rare opportunity to look inside one of Amsterdam's finest 17th-century canalside houses. The feline art and artefacts within range from ancient Egyptian to Japanese *netako*, to Picasso's *Le Chat* and a mannequin from (you guessed it) the musical *Cats* – it's really very well done. Ten out of ten cat owners will enjoy it.

Where: Herengracht 468 (020 626 5378).

www.kattenkabinet.nl

When: Open Tue-Sat 11am-5pm, Sun 12-5pm.

How much: Admission €8.