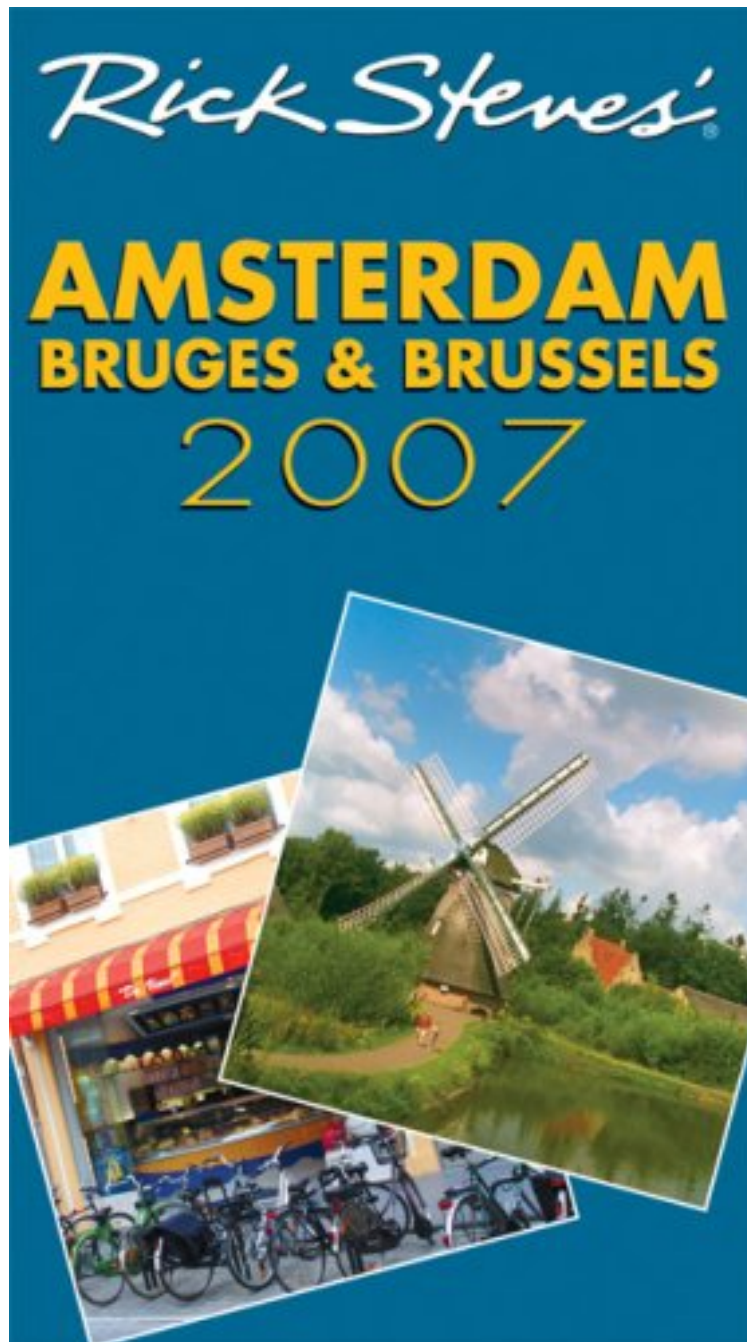


## Rick Steves' Amsterdam, Bruges, and Brussels 2007

*Rick Steves, Gene Openshaw*  
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Rick Steves, Gene Openshaw : Rick Steves' Amsterdam, Bruges, and Brussels 2007 before purchasing it in order

to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Rick Steves' Amsterdam, Bruges, and Brussels 2007:

11 of 11 people found the following review helpful. Good, but not his best  
By Gina  
My husband and I always use Rick Steve's books when traveling abroad. This book was very helpful, but not my favorite.  
Positives:  
1. The walking tours are a great way to get acquainted with the city and pick and choose what you want to do as you go along. You can have a half to whole day of informative touring while spending very little cash or having to pay for a tour.  
2. The tips about prices and what days to visit things are helpful.  
3. His hand drawn maps are always great to follow.  
4. Background info about history and different sites is interesting.  
5. Take his advice about using cash instead of credit! I didn't believe him, but he was spot on.  
Negatives:  
1. He focuses too much on art and art museums which can get a bit tiresome.  
2. He talks down about some of the more touristy sites which are actually quite fun (Madam Troussands, Heineken Experience, Zaanse Schans).  
3. The sections about food and restaurants are really focused on saving money rather than eating well. I don't want to eat in a mall food court just because it's cheap.  
4. The TV version of this book is also one of his more boring episodes.  
I would suggest using this for the walking tours and supplementing with Lonely Planet.  
10 of 10 people found the following review helpful. Very helpful guide  
By Pen Name  
Rick writes very helpful guides. He gets hands on, and tries everything himself. The guides aren't beautiful, but the paper quality and lack of color glossy pictures keeps the weight down. We did however get a bit tired of his penny pinching. We aren't looking for luxury meals and lodging, but we are not college kids either. We don't want the drab hotels, and cafeteria style steak and fries kind of meals that he seems to favor. We want to discover a local place that has the kind of traditional multicourse meals Europe was known for. Unfortunately, too many all over Europe have become cheap food factories, that aren't very cheap after all. So the guides are still invaluable for their personal insights. But we now know that you have to calibrate your expectations of what Rick recommends.  
2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Saves you from learning the hard way  
By Customer  
This book is great, and you can combine it with the podcasts on his web site to get even more information. We listened to the podcasts about the Netherlands, including the city tour podcast, and subsequently, while in Amsterdam two weeks ago, we followed exactly his city walk. It was well planned and thorough. The next day we followed his walk of the Jordaan District. Again, it was great. We were fortunate to be there on a day with the open-air market was open, so got to have both raw herring and Dutch pancakes on one meander through the market. Our hotel was near the Matherhorn stop on the tram, and his explanation of how to use the tram was perfect. (The tram driver doesn't sell tickets - there is another person in the rear of the car who does that.)  
With this book, you really don't feel like a total dummy while doing "routine" (to the locals) things for the first time in a new country. We went to a restaurant he named for rijsttafel, and had a great dinner. (Now my wife is collecting leftovers and at the end of the week she says she's going to put them on rice and call it rijsttafel!) We took one of the side tours he mentioned - to the Zuider Zee Museum, and were captivated with that experience. A very worthwhile trip. After Amsterdam we went to Bruges, but only had one day there, so did a paid city tour instead of trying to follow the guidebook. In general, the Rick Steves guides are absolutely top notch. Highly recommend. (FWIW, my wife has now decided she likes Amsterdam better than Paris, because of how bike-friendly and walking-friendly it is.)

Who but Rick Steves can tell travelers the best ways to meander around Amsterdam's Van Gogh museum, explore its maze of canals, and find the tastiest breweries and restaurants. With Rick Steves' Amsterdam 2007, travelers can experience everything Amsterdam, Bruges, and Brussels have to offer — economically and hassle-free. Completely revised and updated, this guide includes:

- Opinionated coverage of both famous and lesser-known sights
- Friendly places to eat and sleep
- Suggested day plans
- Walking tours and trip itineraries
- Clear instructions for smooth travel anywhere by car, train, or foot

America's number one authority on travel to Europe, Rick's time-tested recommendations for safe and enjoyable travel in Europe have been used by millions of Americans in search of their own unique European travel experience.