

Monday December 25 – Tuesday Dec 26
Day 1 – USA to Amsterdam & Alkmaar
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Northern Lights 16-1

Today we left Minneapolis. We started to take off and then we came to a complete stop on the runway because something was wrong with the plane. Luckily, the mechanics were able to come and fix it and our flight was only delayed by about 90 minutes. 8 hours later, we landed in Amsterdam and went straight to Dam Square. Dam Square was really fun and there was a lot to do. We walked around all of the shops and went to eat lunch in the cafeteria in the big shopping mall.

Next we went to the Anne Frank house; the tour was very interesting and it was cool to walk through the “Secret Annex” where Anne, her family and friends lived. For dinner, we went to the Pancake Bakery and ate the most amazing pancakes anyone has ever tasted and seen. Both of our pancakes were covered with Stroop waffles, cinnamon ice cream, chocolate sauce and shavings, and whipped cream. After that, we went back to Dam Square and took more pictures. It was really pretty at night because the huge Christmas tree, as well as all of the buildings, were lit up.

Since we arrived in Amsterdam, we’ve learned a lot of things. First, we learned that there are two types of coffee shops: One kind sells coffee, and the other sells weed. Another thing we learned here is that the water in Amsterdam is some of the best water in all of Europe.

Later that night we went back on the bus that took us from the airport to Amsterdam and went to our hotel in Alkmaar. It was about a 45 minute ride, and because of how eventful our day had been most of us slept the whole way there.