

The city of Rotterdam in Zuid-Holland

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Wednesday, 15 December 2010 13:16 - Last Updated Saturday, 18 December 2010 00:42



The city of **Rotterdam** is situated in the province of **South Holland** in the western part of The Netherlands.

Rotterdam is the second largest city in the country with a population of about 600,000.

The name **Rotterdam** derives from a dam in the **Rotte** river.

The greater **Rotterdam** area, known as "**Rotterdam-Rijnmond**" (**Rijnmond** is to be literally translated as "the **Rhine's** mouth", referring to the city's location at the end of the Rhine-delta and its economic position as Europe's main port) contains around 1.3 million people. It forms the southern part of the **Randstad**, the sixth-largest metropolitan area in Europe, with a population of 6.7 million.

The port of **Rotterdam** is the largest in Europe. From 1962 to 2004 it was the world's busiest port. **Rotterdam** is on the banks of the river **Nieuwe Maas** ('**New Meuse**'), one of the channels in the delta formed by the **Rhine** and **Meuse** rivers.