

## STAY AWAY

1

- What is Amsterdam famous for?
- Have you ever been to Amsterdam?
- If so, how was it?
- If not, would you like to go? Why / why not?
- How do you think Amsterdam compares to other European capitals?
- If you haven't been what would you imagine it is like?

Amsterdam City authorities ran a digital discouragement campaign telling young British men to stay away.

- Why do you think they did this?
- Why did they single out young 'British' men?



Photo by Clarisa Ravasotti on Unsplash

2

Match the vocabulary to the definitions.

- |                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| 1. triggered            | <b>A</b> a party for a man before he gets married                |
| 2. stag party           | <b>B</b> in a way that is unfavourably known to the wider public |
| 3. staggering           | <b>C</b> initiated or started a process or chain of events       |
| 4. mug shot             | <b>D</b> walking or moving unsteadily                            |
| 5. notoriously          | <b>E</b> offensive, disruptive or immoral conduct in public      |
| 6. deter                | <b>F</b> risqué, erotic, X-rated                                 |
| 7. disorderly behaviour | <b>G</b> an identifying photo of a suspect or criminal           |
| 8. raunchy              | <b>H</b> to discourage or prevent from doing something           |

3

Read the sentences below and replace the underlined words with one of the words from the previous exercise.

- I saw him walking unsteadily up the road after spending all day in the pub.
- His identifying photograph was in the newspaper yesterday. I hope they catch him soon.
- The letter from the bank is initiated automatically if you go over the authorised limit.
- There are cameras everywhere but they don't seem to discourage shoplifters.
- I'm sorry I missed Dave's pre-marriage bash. Sounds like it was good.
- She never arrives on time. She's well known for being late.
- The film was very risqué in parts. It was a bit embarrassing with my grandmother sitting there watching it.
- Those teenagers are always involved in offensive and disruptive conduct, but the police don't do anything.

## 4

**With a partner discuss the following questions:**

- Have you ever been to a **stag party**, or hen party? How was it? In your country, what is it traditional for men or women to do before they get married?
- If you saw someone **staggering** in the street late at night would you try to help them or would you try to avoid them? Why?
- Are there any places in your hometown or city that you would advise visitors to avoid because they are **notoriously** dangerous, or **notoriously** expensive?
- What would say are the most effective ways to **deter** drivers from speeding?
- What kind of behaviour would you say is **disorderly**? Is **disorderly** behaviour a problem where you live?
- If an alarm was **triggered** in a neighbour's house or apartment would you call the police? Why/why not?

5

Watch the clip and listen for the vocabulary items from the previous exercise.

***triggered stag party staggering mug shot notoriously deter disorderly behaviour raunchy***

6

Watch the clip one more time and answer the following questions in your own words:

- What search words will automatically trigger the messages?
- What do the pop-up messages show?
- What examples of disorderly behaviour are given?
- What do some of the residents of Amsterdam say is the problem?
- Why did the council in Amsterdam launch the campaign to deter young British men from visiting the city?

How difficult do you think it will be for Amsterdam council to clean up the city's reputation and why?

If you were a member of Amsterdam's council, what would you focus on and why?

Can you think of any other places that have successfully managed to clean up their reputation? How did they do it?

## pre-reading discussion

7

Work with a partner and discuss the following questions:

- What are the pros and cons of tourism?
- What impact would a sudden dramatic rise in tourist numbers have on a small town or city?

The text on the next page shows the opinions of 4 residents of a city that has recently witnessed a huge rise in the number of tourists coming to stay.

Skim the text quickly and decide which speakers are happy with the situation and which speakers resent the increase in tourist numbers.

---

**Read the different opinions below and answer the questions that follow.****A**

To be honest, we're totally dependent on the tourist trade. If it weren't for the tourists we'd probably go under. We do get locals coming in and they like the food that we serve, but we need numbers. It's a big restaurant with high overheads to match and a good summer will see us through till the following year. During the season the place will be packed to the rafters most nights and when people are on holiday they tend to spend a bit more, especially on booze and that's a good earner for us. The locals tend to be a bit stingy.

**B**

I know that I will sound like I'm whinging, but I would prefer it if there weren't any tourists. I'm lucky enough to have been able to take early retirement, and I moved here for the sea air and a more relaxed pace of life away from the rat race. To be fair, I have that for about 8 months of the year but during the summer season it's a nightmare. The population of the city swells and you can't move. There are no parking places, there's litter everywhere and if you go out after 9 o'clock at night it's pretty much a dead cert that you'll get accosted by drunken yobs. There've always been tourists here but the last couple of years have been much worse. Ever since the cheap, low cost airlines started coming here the place has gone downhill.

**C**

The more the merrier I say. I bought a couple of apartments in the city centre a few years ago as an investment and initially rented them out to students or young professionals. Once the low-cost airlines started bringing tourists in large numbers I kicked out the students and listed the apartments on Air b-n-b. My income more than doubled almost overnight. I'm looking to buy another couple of places to expand my portfolio, but I need to move fast as prices are really taking off. I suppose I feel a bit sorry for first time buyers and the like. It can be tough trying to get your foot on the property ladder but at the end of the day it's not my problem. You've got to look after number one, haven't you!

**D**

It's a real problem. We've been saving for a deposit on a place but property prices are going through the roof right now. There's no way we could afford to buy a place at the moment. Even flats in the more downmarket neighbourhoods are being snapped up. It's always been fairly affluent and quite a desirable place to live but right now the situation is out of control. The low cost airlines are fuelling a kind of tourism boom. If you own a place you can make a killing renting it out to that market, and now everyone wants to get in on the act. The problem with that is that ordinary people like us get squeezed out, and in the long term you end up with a city full of tourists and rich pensioners.

**8 Which speaker (A, B, C or D)**

1. Is not originally from the city
2. Hopes to take advantage of investment opportunities
3. Makes enough money in summer to ensure they stay in business
4. Is frustrated by increasing prices
5. Has concerned about the future demographics of the city
6. Thinks the city is overcrowded
7. Removed tenants from a property
8. Believes their business would struggle without tourists

**9 Find words or phrases in the text that have the same meaning as the following:**

1. go bankrupt / fail as a business (speaker A)
2. completely full (speaker A)
3. an activity or project that makes a lot of money (speaker A)
4. complaining / moaning (speaker B)
5. annoyed or bothered (speaker B)
6. hooligans (speaker B)
7. removed / evicted (speaker C)
8. increasing rapidly (speaker C)
9. series of stages in owning property, starting small and then upgrading (speaker C)
10. cheap, inferior (speaker D)
11. bought quickly and eagerly (speaker D)
12. make a large profit (speaker D)