

Amsterdam Airport Schiphol treats holiday travellers to unique and exciting entertainment

Magic Christmas at Schiphol

Press release

Amsterdam Airport Schiphol, 15 December 2010

Friday 17 December will mark the start of the Christmas holiday season in the Netherlands. As always, Amsterdam Airport Schiphol will be celebrating with seasonal entertainment and earlier opening times at various food and beverage outlets. This year's holiday traveller will also be treated to some additional exciting entertainment.

Christmas entertainment

Amsterdam Airport Schiphol has a varied programme of Christmas entertainment planned both before and beyond passport control during the entire week from Friday 17 until Sunday 26 December. Passengers can expect to meet an ice queen, wish-granting faeries and gift-giving Santas. This year will also feature some unique and exciting entertainment in the form of four different flashmobs that will put in spectacular appearances where you least expect them. Playing everything from hip hop to more orchestral fare, a diverse cast of flight attendants, cleaning staff, pilots, servers and passengers will amaze all onlookers with their singing and dancing talents.

Love will be in the air on 16 and 17 December, with the live recording of the *All you need is love* Christmas special at Amsterdam Airport Schiphol, complete with a spectacular Christmas flashmob. The broadcast will air on 24 December – Christmas Eve.

Passengers can already get into the Christmas spirit this week with mini-performances to enjoy by VONDER & BOOM – the Amsterdam singer/songwriter duo made up of Nina Ebbenhout (voice, piano) and Caroline Ouwendijk (voice, guitar). The duo will be performing through 17 December.

Welcome to Amsterdam Airport Schiphol

All of Schiphol is decked for Christmas in honour of this year's theme: *It's a magic Christmas*. The magic starts outside, where the car parks are strung with Christmas lights and ornaments. The terminal has been transformed with hundreds of Christmas trees and larger-than-life decorations. In Departure Hall 3, passengers will be greeted by a giant reindeer head measuring 6 by 20 metres and lit with no less than 16,200 LED Christmas lights. The main attraction in Departure Lounge 2 is a complete replica in miniature of the Netherlands' famous *elfstedentocht* – the 11-city skating marathon in Friesland.

Additional food and beverage outlets

Opening times at a number of food and beverage outlets have been expanded for passengers with early flights to catch. Coffee bars at various locations in all the departure lounges and piers will be opening earlier than usual to serve coffee and fresh baked goods to departing passengers. A number of food service outlets, including Starbucks at Schiphol, will be offering a range of tasty seasonal treats and special items such as porcelain Christmas mugs and Christmas gingerbread.

Hustle and bustle

Amsterdam Airport Schiphol expects to welcome 350,000 passengers (departing, arriving, transferring) this weekend. Friday 17 December will be the busiest day, with some 125,000 passengers passing through the airport.

Travel tips

Amsterdam Airport Schiphol advises travellers to make sure they arrive at the airport on time during the holiday season. Passengers with a KLM ticket are asked to report at the airport three hours before their scheduled departure time. Passengers can reduce this time by checking in online at home or by using one of the many self-service check-in desks available at the airport.

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Note to editors:

If you have any questions, please contact Schiphol Group Press Relations, tel.: +31 (0)20 601 2673, email: press@schiphol.nl. Over the coming days, Amsterdam Airport Schiphol will post various short films of its seasonal celebrations on www.schipholtv.com.