# SIMONSZ

HOUSE RULES



#### WELCOME

We hope you enjoy getting settled and acquainted with your new home.

#### FIRST, SOME HISTORY



AREND FOKKE SIMONSZ

#### AREND FOKKE SIMONSZ

The street and our building are named after Arend Fokke Simonsz (1755 – 1812). An Amsterdam native and literary figure, Mr. Simonsz was a patriot known for his humor, satire and critical commentary of trends and politics at the time. He was even briefly jailed during Napoleon's visit to Amsterdam during the French occupation of the Netherlands in the 1800's.

Mr. Simonsz' books and writings are published and sold to this day.

#### FOKKE SIMONSZSTRAAT

Many centuries ago, the Fokke Simonszstraat was actually a waterway on the green outskirts of town. From the mid 1600's the waterway became part of Amsterdam's leather tanning quarter – an important but highly polluting industry in the poor outer borough. Eventually the tanneries closed, the waterway became a street, and in 1870 it was named Fokke Simonszstraat. It is now a part of the vibrant city center, in one of the most desirable neighborhoods of Amsterdam.



#### HOUSE RULES

We have established some house rules to ensure a comfortable, safe and positive living experience for all residents.



#### PLEASE RESPECT YOUR NEIGHBORS

Thank you for keeping noise levels down between 22:00 and 08:00 o' clock.



#### WE LOVE ANIMALS

Some are even allowed as pets. But cats are not allowed. You can cuddle with cats on the Cat Boat on the Singel canal. Or, you can visit the big cats in the Artis Zoo.





#### SIMONSZ IS A NON-SMOKING BUILDING

Thank you for helping us keep the entire premises smoke free.



#### THE BATHROOM SINK IS FOR WASHING UP

Do not sit, stand, or lean on the bathroom sink wall unit. You may cause it to break. The wall unit was especially hand-crafted and custom made for SIMONSZ. It is not intended as a ladder or bench and will not bear that kind of weight.

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# YOUR OVEN IS MULTIFUNCTIONAL

It has a microwave and a convection oven function. Don't use metals in the microwave function. And don't use plastic in the convection function. See the House Manual for more information on your oven.



#### LAUNDRY ROOM

We have a SIMONSZ laundry room in the basement for all residents to share.

As a courtesy to other users:

- Please don't use multiple machines at once.
- Leave the machines and laundry area in a clean and tidy state when you are finished.
- Remember to empty the lint receptacle after every drying cycle – help prevent a lint fire!

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#### KEEP IT CLEAN

Help us keep unwanted pests away by maintaining a clean and tidy building. Do not store house waste on the balconies, outside hallways, or basement. Dispose of garbage by placing it in sealed bags on the sidewalk in front of the building on garbage days.

As of fall 2019, the designated garbage pick up days are Tuesday and Friday morning by 06:00\*

\*garbage pick up days and times may change without prior notice.

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#### SAFETY FIRST

Make sure no personal belongings are blocking the entrance, hallways, stairwells or any communal areas. We want to ensure unobstructed walkways for fire safety or other calamities.



#### LOVE GUESTS HATE INTRUDERS

Use the door intercom wisely and only open the door for someone you know. Please be mindful of who you lend or give your keys to.



#### NATURAL AND CLEAN

Don't use any harsh chemical detergents or cleansers to clean the apartment. There are many eco-friendly and natural cleaning products that are gentle and effective on most surfaces. Only use floor soap for oiled wood surfaces on the oak floor – there are many brands and options available.



#### BASEMENT STORAGE

Your storage unit is meant for placing all sorts of personal items for future use. It is not meant for daily storage of your city bicycle. There is sufficient space for parking outside, which is more convenient and efficient.



#### **GREEN WALLS**

Have you seen the Atalanta fluttering along the court yard? Perhaps you've noticed a robin, making its way home? The plants in the green walls are specially cultivated to attract native birds and butterflies. They have been installed to provide SIMONSZ residents with a more pleasant and beautiful living environment. The green walls provide improved air quality and acoustics – and cooler temperatures in the summer. The green walls have an automatic irrigation and fertilization system and are maintained on a regular basis.



#### FACTS AND TIPS

We have compiled some Amsterdam trivia and a range of tips you may find useful as you start to explore the city.

### THE AVERAGE AMSTERDAMER CYCLES ALMOST 900 KILOMETERS PER YEAR.

Amsterdam has over 520 kilometers of cycle paths. Cycling is a most efficient and popular mode of transport in the city – whether riding to work, running errands, or exploring a new neighborhood. Don't mistake a cycling path for a walkway. The red lanes are cycling paths.

#### AMSTERDAM IS BELOW SEA LEVEL.

If there were no dikes or dunes, a very large part of the Netherlands, including Amsterdam, would be flooded. Schiphol airport is one meter below sea level, which can cause major problems if the pilots are not aware of it.

### AMSTERDAM IS TRULY AN INTERNATIONAL CITY.

According to recent studies, Amsterdam has over 170 different recognized nationalities. Globally, some reports count 200 independently recognized nationalities. Amsterdam is well known for its multicultural character and international communities that continue to evolve and diversify the city each year.

### THE DUTCH ARE THE LONGEST INHABITANTS IN THE WORLD.

The average length of Dutch men is 1.84m Among women, the average length is 1.70m.



# DID YOU KNOW THAT AMSTERDAM HAS MORE BIKES THAN INHABITANTS?

As of 2019, there are over 860,000 inhabitants in Amsterdam. There are approximately 900,000 bicycles in the city. It is estimated that 25,000 bicycles end up in the canals every year – so keep your bike locked up securely!

#### AMSTERDAM IS A MUSEUM CITY.

Amsterdam is the cultural capital of the Netherlands, offering a variety of museums, venues, festivals and instutions. Amsterdam has almost 90 registered museums. These range from small scale initiatives such as the House Boat Museum, to large iconic destinations like Rijksmuseum.

#### DID YOU KNOW THAT AMSTERDAM'S CANALS ARE ON THE UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE LIST?

Amsterdam has 165 canals and more than 1500 bridges. Every street name that ends with 'gracht' is, or once was, a canal. Hamburg counts more bridges of any city in Europe – with some reports listing almost 2500 bridges. Many more than Amsterdam or even Venice.

## THE DUTCH ARE SOME OF THE BIGGEST COFFEE CONSUMERS IN THE WORLD.

On average, the Dutch drink 4.1 cups of coffee a day. Preferably black coffee. In Scandinavian countries, coffee consumption is slightly higher.

#### KEEP A DEBIT CARD OR CASH ON HAND.

Many cafés, restaurants and supermarkets do not accept credit cards. Keep a maestro, debit card or cash on hand for small purchases at a café, market or local store.



#### DRINK THE TAP WATER

We have one of the cleanest tap waters in the world. It's healthy, there is plenty of it, it's inexpensive, and you don't have to waste any disposable plastic water bottles.



# If you have any questions or need more information, please feel free to ask:

ask@simonszamsterdam.nl

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