

simply soak up the dream of Morocco.

De Durgerdam, Amsterdam



De Durgerdam CHANTAL ARNTS

It was the light at [De Durgerdam](#) that seduced me. The little hotel in the lakeside village of the same name on the outskirts of Amsterdam—just 30 minutes by bicycle from the city center—is suffused with angled sunlight that adds to its historic character and slow-living charm. The building's history as an inn dates back to the 1700s, and the gorgeous patina of the sloping staircase proves it. This being the Netherlands, the 14-room hotel also has a strong design sensibility and attention to detail, a meaningful commitment to sustainability, and a low-key restaurant that nails its casual approach to fine dining. Its consulting chefs came from one of the city's two-Michelin-star restaurants, but its plates come out of the kitchen with a refreshing elemental simplicity.