

# 10 Reasons

## Why the Greater Rotterdam - The Hague area is the Hotspot for Space



Turn the page and explore!

## The Greater Rotterdam – The Hague area is the Hotspot for Space

### Strong European market position

Around 80% of all Dutch space activities take place in the greater Rotterdam – The Hague area. Home to ESTEC, the technical heart of the European Space Agency, this region is a true hotspot for space innovation. With a sound knowledge infrastructure and the presence of ample talent, the space cluster is known for its ground-breaking research & development and delivering high end, reliable technology. This makes the greater Rotterdam – The Hague area the ideal hotspot to launch your business.

Greater Rotterdam - The Hague area



*InnovationQuarter is the regional economic development agency for the province of Zuid-Holland, also known as the greater Rotterdam – The Hague area. We provide free of charge assistance and advice to international companies interested in expanding to our region. In addition, we facilitate co-operation between companies, academic institutes & government and we invest in innovative and fast-growing businesses in the region.*

### OUR REGION OFFERS YOU

- A strategic location in the heart of Europe
- State-of-the-art business, research and incubation facilities
- Highly educated and multilingual workforce
- Excellent quality of life
- A competitive tax climate
- Advantageous tax incentives for R&D activities
- A dedicated foreign investment team, offering confidential, free of charge services to international companies.



invest & innovate  
in Greater  
Rotterdam – The Hague

InnovationQuarter  
WTC The Hague  
Prinses Margrietplantsoen 32  
2595 BR The Hague  
The Netherlands

Niels Krol  
Senior Account Manager Aerospace  
+31 (0)88 - 4747 255  
[niels.krol@innovationquarter.nl](mailto:niels.krol@innovationquarter.nl)

[www.investinrotterdamthe Hague area.org/aerospace/](http://www.investinrotterdamthe Hague area.org/aerospace/)

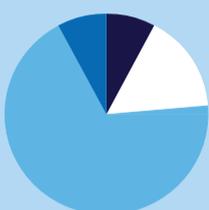
# 10 Reasons why greater Rotterdam – The Hague is the Hotspot for Space

Around 80% of all Dutch space activities take place in the greater Rotterdam – The Hague area. ESTEC, the technical heart of the European Space Agency, is located here as well as a vibrant and growing satellite cluster with upstream (small) satellite companies and downstream data users. The region is home to the complete chain of academic research & knowledge institutes, first, second & third tier suppliers and end users. The space community is embedded in our region's renowned high-tech community with a wide array of testing and piloting facilities as well as cross-industry innovation opportunities.

## TALENT & KNOWLEDGE



### 1 ACCESS TO TALENT



**TU Delft Faculty of Aerospace Engineering**  
University of Technology  
2700 students

**Leiden University Faculty of Astronomy**  
**Institute of Air & Space Law**  
Research Oriented University, 300 students

**Universities of Applied Sciences**  
**The Hague & Delft**  
Mechatronics, Composites & Precision Engineering  
1000 students

**Leidse Instrumentmakers School**  
Senior Secondary Vocational Education and Training, 300 students



**TU Delft**  
#1 in Europe for Aerospace Engineering

### 2 RESEARCH & INNOVATION

TU Delft	<a href="#">Space Institute / Dutch Optics Centre (with TNO)</a>
TNO	<a href="#">Institute for Space &amp; Systems Engineering</a>
ESA	<a href="#">ESTEC European Space Research &amp; Tech Centre</a>
Leiden University	<a href="#">International Air &amp; Space Law / Leiden Observatory</a>
SRON	<a href="#">Netherlands Institute for Space Research (as of 2021)</a>
NLR	<a href="#">Netherlands Aerospace Centre</a>



### 3 AREAS OF TOP EXPERTISE

- Satellite Communication Systems
- Nano & Small Satellites
- Complete Space (Sub) Systems
- New materials and composites
- International Space Law
- Solar Panels
- Optics & Optomechanics
- Earth Observation Services

## EXCELLENT INFRASTRUCTURE



### 4 EUROPEAN SPACE AGENCY (ESTEC)

The **European Space Research & Technology Centre (ESTEC)** in Noordwijk is ESA's largest facility in Europe and is the technical heart of the organization. Most ESA projects are born here and are guided through the various phases of development. Some 2700 engineers, technicians and scientists develop and manage all types of ESA missions.



**ESA/ESTEC**  
Largest ESA establishment in Europe



### 5 GALILEO REFERENCE CENTER

Galileo is the global navigation satellite system (GNSS) created by the European Union (EU). Its **reference center** has the task of evaluating the quality of the signals in space and the performance of the Galileo Service Operator.



## BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES



### 6 PRESENCE OF RELEVANT AGENCIES & ASSOCIATIONS



- Agencies:**
- [Netherlands Space Office](#)
  - [European Patent Office](#)
  - [Radiocommunications Agency](#)



- Associations:**
- [SpaceNed](#) (Dutch Space Association)
  - [NAG](#) (Netherlands Aerospace Group)
  - [NIDV](#) (Dutch Defence Industry)

### 7 HOTSPOTS

Offices, business centres & incubators

1. Noordwijk: [Space Campus Noordwijk](#)
2. Leiden: [University Science Park, PLNT](#)
3. The Hague: [Technology Park Ypenburg](#)
4. Delft: [TU Delft Campus](#), [YES!Delft](#), [SAM|XL Aerospace Innovation Hub](#)



### 8 LEADING COMPANIES



### 9 NANO, CUBE & POCKET SATS

The region is internationally renowned for its comprehensive SmallSat cluster. Examples are:

- [TU Delft Satellites](#): Delfi-C3 (2008), Delfi-n3Xt (2013), Delfi-PQ (2019)
- Expertise in constellation technology and miniaturization
- Develop turn-key small satellite missions, including launch services
- Design of small satellite platforms, for single missions or constellations



Small Satellite Systems

### 10 SPACE CAMPUS NOORDWIJK

Located next to ESA ESTEC, [Space Campus Noordwijk](#) is a place where decades of knowledge, world class testing facilities and innovative start-up companies come together to shape the future of space. It houses all **main players** in the Dutch space industry and is a place to meet, get inspired and grow your business.

**Facilities include:**

- Virtual and augmented reality lab
- Earth Observation Data Centre
- Small Sats Test Centre
- FabLab (makerspace)
- Centre of excellence

# Innovation Quarter

invest & innovate  
in Greater  
Rotterdam – The Hague

[www.investinrotterdamthehaguearea.org/aerospace/](http://www.investinrotterdamthehaguearea.org/aerospace/)