

Anne Frank's House Is Now A Tourist Attraction



Today, the Anne Frank house is now a tourist attraction. It is visited daily by people of many nationalities from all corners of the world. Situated in the heart of Amsterdam, this building at 263 Prinsengracht contains the memories of the most famous book ever written about World War II. Anne Frank was in hiding here for two years. The house in itself was not only for Anne and the rest of those in hiding, it was also the main warehouse for the jam-making company, Opeka of which Anne's Father, Otto Frank was a partner. Hidden behind a bookcase, were several rooms which were the living quarters for the Frank family, the Van Pels family and Fritz Pfeiffer. The bookcase was the only thing which separated Anne Frank and the rest from the workers below. The house is now open to the public and you can buy copies of the diary in many different languages. The house is a very popular attraction among visitors and therefore the queue is usually very long but believe me, it is worth it!

My Visit To The Anne Frank House

I took part in a summer school during the summer of 2001. The subject for this was Anne Frank. On the second week of the summer school we took a trip to Amsterdam. One of the reasons we went was because we were going to see the Anne Frank House. When we got there we expected there to be really long queues of up to one hour. However when we got there we found that there was practically no queue to get in. This was very unusual. The people that owned the museum had bought the house next door to the Frank's and made it into an entrance. When we got into the entrance there was a little model diagram of all the rooms in the house with little versions of the furniture in. After that it was onto the Anne Frank House.

We started off downstairs where there was a short film being played about Anne Frank and explaining why the Franks moved to Holland. There were sets of phones around the room which you could hear the story in different languages. There were about 10 different languages to choose from so it shows the many different nationalities that come to the house. On the walls around us were quotes from Anne's diary and some artefacts, which seemed to tell the story of Anne Frank.

In the house, all the furniture had been taken out to make more room for visitors and some of the walls were recovered in different wallpaper or glass so the real wallpaper didn't wear away. Also the windows were covered in blinds but when Anne Frank was there they had to black out the windows so it must have been quite dark. The staircases were really steep and it was quite hard to get up them without falling over.

The rooms looked quite big and were very bare but it must have been quite crowded when all the furniture was in. Anne Frank's room was one of the smallest and the museum had left some of her pictures on the walls of film stars but they had covered them with glass.

Going round the house helped you understand better about how the Frank's lived and how hard it was for them. At times it was quite moving especially at the end when films showed Jews being taken away to concentration camps and other things like that. There was also Miep (one of the helpers when the Frank's were hiding) telling how she found Anne's diary and gave it to Otto Frank (Anne's father.) Also at the end there was a short film being showed about freedom of speech and the right to have protection against racism and you got to vote on which one you thought was right. I thought that was very good.

I am very glad to have gone to the Anne Frank House as it was a great experience. It felt a bit weird when you stopped and thought that you were walking in Anne Frank's footsteps and that she was there just 6 decades before you. I also thought the museum was very inspiring and it displayed Anne Frank's life very well. It made you grateful to have the freedom we have now. I would recommend this museum to anyone especially people my age. I'm glad I got the chance to visit.



[Why do people come to the Anne Frank House?](#)

The Anne Frank house attracts many different people from many different places. They are of many different religions and of many different backgrounds. They all have all come to see one house which represents the story of one unique girl.

Anne Frank's diary is one of the most widely known books in the world. She is one the most famous people to emerge from World War II. People go for various reasons. We were interested to know these reasons and in order to do so we decided to do a simple questionnaire. We got these results:- 7 out of 10 people said that they came out of their own interest, 2 out of 10 said that they came for studies and one said a guided tour. These people came for different reasons but the meaning behind them was all the same, they wanted to experience what it would be like to be in the house that was the inspiration for the most moving tale of a young girl trapped behind a bookcase which now holds haunting memories.....

People come and walk around the Annexe to see the rooms which were the homes of eight people.



The Kitchen



These photos show Anne's bedroom with the photos and pictures of film stars and her family that she would stick on her walls to look upon and admire.

