

## Which European City Deserves the Title Venice of the North?

Nov 05, 10 | 1:55 am



For many people Venice is unique. However [HolidayCheck](#) reveals the other cities that would like to compete for the title "Venice of the North". Discover the charms of each one and judge for yourself.

### St. Petersburg

This City, on the Baltic coast is a mix of French, German and Italian buildings combined with traditional Russian influences. Due to this beautiful architecture the old town has been named a world heritage site by UNESCO. Popular sights include the Winter Palace, the Marble Palace and the state 'Hermitage' museum. Thanks to its geographical location from May to mid-July the days here are longer, but at night the sky gets really dark. Venice doesn't have the "White Nights" of St. Petersburg ...



### Amsterdam

Famous for its bicycles and liberal culture, Amsterdam's canals definitely rival those of Venice and split the city into ninety small islands. Amsterdam would perhaps be a cyclist's choice, as of its 750,000 inhabitants, about 700,000 are cyclists. It is reported that each year an average of 80,000 bikes are stolen and 25,000 end up in the cities canals! See the city by boat, by taking a trip on a glass roofed barge.

### Bruges

The name Bruges means bridge in Flemenco and so it is fitting for this historical city to feature in our list. Infact the city actually has more bridges than Venice itself. It is one of the few European cities that has preserved its medieval architecture. It is also the only place outside of Italy that you can see one of Michelangelo's sculptures, the Madonna and Child in the Church of our Lady.

### Stockholm

You are never far away from water in the Swedish capital as it is located on an archipelago made up of 14 islands. The medieval alleyways and cobbled streets in the oldest part of the city Gamla Stan, are reminiscent of those in Venice. Across frm the old town, sit many modern buildings providing a stark contrast in this cosmopolitan city. The quality of the water here is so good that you may even see people fishing in the city centre, right outside the Royal Palace.



### Hamburg

It may not be everybody's first thought when they hear the phrase "Venice of the North" but it definitely has something to offer! Sitting at the mouth of the Elbe River, Hamburg is the second most important port in Europe. In the centre of Hamburg sit two lakes, the "Binnenalster" and the "Außenalster". To see the city from the water take a boat trip, or for another great view go to the "Hafenbalkon", a viewpoint that sits above the port and river Elbe.



### London

The UK capital also offers its very own version of Venice. Part of the area Maida Vale is known as Little Venice, and although London may be famed for many other things this is perhaps one of its' hidden secrets. It is located in a highly exclusive residential area situated where the Regents Canal meets the Grand Union Canal. The picturesque area offers visitors many trendy cafes, restaurants and shops.