

GAY & LESBIAN

TRAVEL DIRECTORY 2014/2015



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A Publication of Community Marketing & Insights



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Welcome!

Community Marketing & Insights (CMI) is proud to present our Gay & Lesbian Travel Directory 2014 / 2015.

The Travel Industry and the LGBT Community

There has been a lot of attention given to LGBT travelers in recent years, and for good reason. LGBT travelers are an important group to the travel industry, making up 5% of the North American adult population. More importantly, research shows that we travel more than the general population, increasing the economic impact generated by our community. Today most major travel companies include the LGBT community in their sales and marketing plans.

Resources for LGBT Travelers

TAG Approved Accommodations

Thank you for selecting a TAG Approved® LGBT-friendly hotel when traveling. TAG Approved hotels are the perfect choice for pleasure, business, or meetings and events. Most travel guides list any hotel or attraction that pays an advertising fee. But TAG Approved wanted to take it a step further and launched an all-out effort to qualify travel businesses based not only on their desire for gay travel revenues, but on their employment policies, services, and support returned to the LGBT community. TAG Approved represents the very best in the world of hospitality. Visit www.TAGApproved.com and find hundreds of welcoming hotels worldwide.

GLCVB

The Gay & Lesbian Convention and Visitors Bureau (GLCVB) is a group of some of the most progressive and LGBT-friendly destinations in the world. GLCVB partners all have active outreach programs to welcome LGBT travelers as well as personnel policies that recognize the important roles their gay and lesbian employees play in promoting their destinations. Visit www.GLCVB.org to learn more about each destination.

IGLTA

Every travel company working within the LGBT community should be a member of the International Gay and Lesbian Travel Association (IGLTA). This is our community's trade association and it is invaluable for networking opportunities, promotion and developing the business contacts needed to be successful in the gay and lesbian market. And if you are a traveler, check out IGLTA's website. It is full of information and promotions to assist your travel needs. Visit www.IGLTA.org and join online today.

We Are Here to Help!

If your company is interested in reaching the LGBT community, please call Community Marketing & Insights at 415-437-3800 to discuss your needs and goals. We work with over 1,000 tourism and hospitality related companies every year, and we would be honored to help you achieve your goals. Visit www.CommunityMarketingInc.com for more information.

Using the 2014 / 2015 Gay & Lesbian Travel Directory



Thank you for reading the Gay & Lesbian Travel Directory 2014 / 2015. It is one of our biggest travel directories ever with over one thousand advertisers from across the globe. The information contained in the directory will provide travelers and travel businesses with the most important resources in the LGBT travel world.

The Community Marketing & Insights (CMI) team is here to assist your organization. If you have any questions regarding our services, or you would like to learn more about reaching the LGBT community, please email me at David@CommunityMarketingInc.com or call our team of marketing professionals at 415-437-3800. We would be honored to have the opportunity to assist in your marketing efforts.

David Paisley, Senior Research Director
Community Marketing, Inc.

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An Introduction to LGBT Travel

A Little History

Of course gays and lesbians have been traveling since the beginning of time. But when we think of an organized gay and lesbian travel industry, it really started about 30 years ago with a few pioneer individuals forming small group tours serving gay men, such as Hanns Ebensten. The International Gay Travel Association formed in 1983, and before that there were a few “gay” destinations, such as Key West, and guest houses that served primarily gay men.

Soon after, the formation of RSVP and Atlantis for gay men, and Olivia for lesbians, were major milestones in the development of the industry, as these dedicated operators proved that they could move thousands of LGBT travelers every year. For the first decade, the “organized” gay and lesbian travel industry was primarily among the community itself, and many would argue, very male-dominated (with the exception of Olivia and key lesbian events).

The next milestone was in 1993 when American Airlines made a strategic, ground-breaking decision to outreach to the gay and lesbian community. Among mainstream corporations, American was first to market, and their early commitment to the community earned them loyalty that exists to this day. This occurred at the same time when the Wall Street Journal published an influential article that recognized the gay and lesbian community as a “Dream Market” of ‘DINK’ (Dual Income, No Kids) individuals that were being underserved by major corporations. This combination of the Wall Street Journal and American Airlines recognizing the LGBT market opened the flood gates, and gradually through the next decade, thousands of “mainstream” tour operators, airlines, hotels and destinations initiated gay and lesbian outreach programs.

An Expanding Niche

Probably the most important development in the past five years is the recognition that “gay and lesbian” does not clearly define the community. A popular term today is ‘LGBT,’ meaning the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender community, which is more inclusive. However, even this term does not really define the complexity of the community. The reality is that just like every other community, the LGBT community represents every segment of life. To understand the LGBT community is to recognize that there is everything from gay party boys to lesbian soccer-moms, gay Republicans and gay Green Party members, lesbian sports organizations, gay business organizations and queer student organizations and so much more. The concerns and travel habits of young men are different than older women, and the concerns and travel patterns of LGBT communities of color are different too.

There has been considerable research completed over the last decade of the travel habits of the broad niche that defines themselves as gay or lesbian. Only in the last few years has research been completed, recognizing the travel patterns of the many distinct groups within the community. To be successful today is to recognize what “part” of the LGBT community is right for your company or destination.

Everyone Has a Place in the LGBT Travel Industry

Gay & Lesbian Dedicated Products, Tours and Services: There are many operators that offer gay-specific products. Industry leaders like Atlantis, and Olivia offer some of the most highly visible products in the industry.

LGBT-friendly Destinations with LGBT Market Outreach: Over 150 tourism boards have active outreach campaigns for the LGBT market. Organizations all across the world are opening their doors to the community.

Gay & Lesbian Specific Hotels: Many destinations have hotels that specialize in the gay and lesbian market. These hotels tend to be small (under 50 rooms), but in destinations like Fort Lauderdale and Palm Springs, collections of 20 or more small properties create quite a force in their communities.

LGBT-friendly Mainstream Hotels: These days, what hotel chain is not gay-friendly? Kimpton, Hyatt, W, Hilton, Westin, Marriott and many more have initiated outreach efforts to attract gay and lesbian guests.

LGBT-friendly Tour Operators, Airlines and Cruise Lines: Many major airlines, car rental companies and tour operators have active LGBT outreach programs. Successful operators have used various strategies, including offering the same product but changing their image in the community, offering progressive product (environment, education, yoga), offering upscale product (better educated, more gay-friendly), or working with gay agents or operators to form small or large gay groups.

LGBT Events and Parties: Almost every major city has one to five major gay and lesbian events. In California, four of the top ten events in the state are gay and lesbian. These events move tens of thousands, and in some cases hundreds of thousands of people.

Gay and Lesbian Travel Media: From internet sites, to glossy magazines, to consulting firms, the gay and lesbian media are ready to help connect travel businesses to the LGBT travel consumer.

LGBT Meetings and Conventions: Every type of organization in the “mainstream” world has its equivalent in the gay world, from gay bowling leagues and lesbian choruses, to gay rodeo competitions and LGBT medical associations. These organizations hold hundreds of meetings every year.

Gay, Lesbian and LGBT-friendly Travel Agents: Travel agents are an important part of the LGBT travel community. Many of these agents are true pioneers who have been working in the gay tourism industry for decades.

Lesbian, Gay, Transgender and Bisexual Travelers: And of course, there is the most important part... the LGBT traveler.

There is a Place for You: The point is, there is a place for every company in the gay and lesbian travel industry. While many companies come to the community because of their economic clout, companies that become involved notice something else. The LGBT community is a particularly loyal and fun segment. The community welcomes everyone, and rewards those that have a genuine concern for serving customers with openness, dignity and respect.

Damron LGBT Travel Guides



Top Ten Myths about Same-sex Weddings

The Gay Wedding Institute, an internationally recognized same-sex wedding training and research company conducted a survey of engaged and married same-sex couples with Community Marketing & Insights (CMI), a lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) consumer research company. This survey of over 900 couples found interesting and surprising trends, presented here as the Top Ten Myths About Same-Sex Weddings.

1. In a same-sex relationship, there are gender roles

A traditional wedding actually is full of gender roles, things like not seeing each other before the ceremony and the groom lifting the bride's veil — and there is no need for those elements at a same-sex wedding. You can't even make assumptions about what the couple will be wearing, as gender roles about suits and dresses go out the window. In short, we can do whatever the heck we want!

2. A civil union is good enough

Not only are civil unions not federal recognized but they have little weight to same-sex couples as well. Same-sex couples spend three times more on weddings than they do on civil unions or domestic partnerships. 76% of those receiving civil unions or domestic partnership had no reception or spent insignificant funds on their wedding.

3. Gay couples have huge over the top weddings

By and large, the weddings same-sex couples are having are much smaller than our straight friends. Not only are they generally not inviting those random friends of our parents (their neighbors and co-workers) but they are often limiting the number of extended family (and unfortunately, sometimes our nuclear family, too). Only 28% of same-sex weddings have more than 100 guests. And only 4% of same-sex weddings have a budget higher than \$96,000. That number is 5% for straight weddings, by the way, so roughly the same percentage of both communities are having luxury weddings.

4. Gay men spend more than lesbians

The age old stereotype is rich gay men having over the top weddings. Well, lesbians like to party, too - and actually spend 15% more than their gay brothers. Age stereotypes also don't apply. You would think that a couple who has been together a long time, is financially independent and settled would be spending more on their wedding. It's just not the case. Those couples who are now engaged are spending an average of 32% more than couples previously married.

5. A gay wedding is the same as a straight wedding

Same-sex couples are just not very traditional — especially gay men. Less than 15% incorporate things such as wedding showers, ring bearers and flower girls, a garter/bouquet toss and a receiving line. Even first dances aren't ubiquitous — 35% of gay men and 58% of lesbians. And only 20% dance with mom or dad. Same-sex couples like to skip traditions altogether or invent our own.

6. Parents of same-sex couples don't support them

Thankfully this is changing! Of the LGBT couples surveyed who are already married, only 47% had the emotional support of parents. The good news is that 62% of engaged same-sex couples do. About 1/3 of lesbians have some financial support from parents, as opposed to about 14% of gay men. 10 years after the first legal marriages started to occur, we've seen a big shift in public opinion, and this extends to parents of their LGBTQ kids.

7. Dads walk their gay and lesbian kids down the aisle

Who's the bride at a gay wedding? Well sometimes there are two and sometimes there are none and sometimes one doesn't feel like a bride. This gives same-sex couples so much freedom in how they process into the ceremony space, and most aren't being escorted by anyone! In fact, 78% of gay men and 59% of lesbians enter that space together, unified, and many other couples walk down two aisles. Nobody has to be "given away" at a gay wedding — that's just another silly gender role.

8. LGBTs only hire gay owned businesses

This is a common question in the wedding industry — will a same-sex couple hire me if I'm not gay? Of course! Just because someone is gay doesn't mean they are good at their job. Only 46% really care about your sexuality, with personality being the most important factor when choosing wedding professionals.

9. Couples have positive experiences when planning their wedding

Because discrimination against LGBT is legal in 29 states, unfortunately, one in four same-sex couples experience some kind of outright discrimination or heterosexism while planning their wedding. This could be as big as being told "you're not welcome here" or as simple as filling out forms (over and over and over again) that say "Bride's Name and Groom's Name."

10. It doesn't matter if I have LGBT inclusive language or photos

If your marketing materials are focused on one bride and one groom, you've got to catch up. 72% of same-sex couples are actively looking for vendors with LGBT inclusive language in their marketing. 69% want to see those LGBT inclusive photos. Especially millennials. If you want to reach the young gay and lesbian population, then you can't expect your bride and groom-centric materials to be good enough.

Remember... without a "tradition" of how a wedding ceremony "should be," same-sex couples have the ultimate freedom to do whatever the heck they want within their weddings. There are simply no rules and couples are loving every minute of being nontraditional and making their own traditions.



For more information, contact Bernadette Coveney Smith at The Gay Wedding Institute, 646-580-1270, bernadette@14stories.com or visit www.GayWeddingInstitute.com.

A scenic view of a suspension bridge, likely the Carrick-a-Macross in Ireland, stretching across a deep canyon. The bridge is made of wooden planks and thick ropes, with steep, moss-covered cliffs on either side. The text "Explorers wanted." is written in a white, cursive font across the upper part of the image.

Explorers wanted.



TRAVEL • CULTURE • STYLE • ADVENTURE • ROMANCE!

PASSPORT

CMI's 2013 LGBT Travel Survey

For the past 18 years, Community Marketing & Insights has taken the pulse of travelers with our annual LGBT Tourism Study. This is the most quoted ongoing LGBT research ever with hundreds of national and local media sources picking up the annual trends. The research is also extremely popular, because CMI provides it for free for the community on our website. Download the full report at www.CommunityMarketingInc.com.

Key findings from CMI's 18th Annual LGBT Tourism Study have been compiled from responses from self-identified gay and lesbian consumers who read LGBT publications, visit LGBT websites, and attend LGBT events. With thousands of respondents, this study polled more qualified, community-representative respondents than any other LGBT tourism survey, and offers valuable insights about consumers who may be reached through LGBT-dedicated marketing initiatives.

In addition to the Tourism Study, CMI produces online surveys, focus groups, field studies and customer satisfaction evaluations for a wide variety of clients including CVBs, DMOs and tourism offices, tour operators, hospitality groups, real estate developers and many more. In 2013 alone, CMI collected and analyzed over 100,000 gay and lesbian survey responses.

Key Findings, Observations and Trends for 2013

2013 saw modest increases in LGBT leisure travel over the previous year (a 5% increase). However, the trend towards a decrease in business travel continues from recent years.

Gay and bisexual men took an average of seven trips last year; four leisure trips and three for business. Lesbians and bisexual women took a similar number of leisure trips and one fewer business trip. These numbers are largely unchanged from last year.

When asked to write in their answer, "Which hotel group or brand has done the best job outreaching to the LGBT community over the past year?" Hilton was the number one large brand hotel group, while Kimpton won the title among boutique brands. Marriott, W and Hyatt also scored well.

Among LGBT Americans who traveled to another destination and spent at least one night in a hotel, New York City remains the number one most-visited destination by LGBTs, with Chicago and San Francisco tied for second. Las Vegas, Los Angeles, Washington DC, Boston, Fort Lauderdale, San Diego, Atlanta, Dallas, Denver, Miami, New Orleans, Orlando, Palm Springs, Philadelphia and Seattle were also top destinations.

When selecting a hotel, free WiFi is a major motivator for over 70% of LGBT community members. Hotel brands that continue to charge for an Internet connection could be seen as having a competitive disadvantage.

Among LGBT parents, researching and selecting a hotel that is "child-friendly" becomes more important than selecting a hotel that is "LGBT-friendly," although both are important.

When asked to pick their "travel style," we found significant gender differences. Gay and bisexual men are far more likely to describe themselves as urban core travelers. Lesbian and bisexual women favor outdoor / nature travel. But one thing that all LGBTs agree on is warm weather travel. Similarly, age influences how respondents describe their travel personalities. Younger LGBTs are more likely to describe themselves as budget and urban core travelers. Older LGBTs are far more likely to describe themselves as warm weather travelers.

Over 70% of LGBT travelers consider themselves to be a "planner" when arranging a vacation, with fewer than 15% considering themselves as "spontaneous" in their travel choices.

Over 75% of LGBTs under age 45 use their mobile devices for travel information. And among those LGBTs who use their mobile devices for travel, over 80% use them to find local restaurants, and nearly 60% use mobile devices to research local attractions. Younger LGBTs are very likely to use their mobile devices when traveling to update social media pages, research nightlife and for dating purposes.

For those just getting married, there is no clear favorite same-sex honeymoon destination. Responses varied widely across the United States, Canada and Europe. The honeymoon destination with the highest number participants was Hawaii, but the honeymoon destination only represented 7% of couples. This may improve with Hawaii's recent recognition of marriage equality. There was an overall trend to pick warm weather destinations for honeymoons.

For both men and women, Pride remains the top LGBT event influencing travel. Bear events are doing quite well for gay and bisexual men, while women's events of all kinds are doing well for lesbians and bisexual women. Pride event related travel is very popular for LGBTs of all ages, even younger LGBTs, who view Pride events as having lots of free or inexpensive activities during the weekend.

The LGBT media and mainstream media play an equal role in influencing the travel decisions of gay men and lesbians.

Travel destination selection is most influenced by articles on LGBT websites and from articles and display ads in LGBT print magazines. Older LGBTs are more influenced by print media than younger LGBTs. Younger LGBTs are much more influenced by LGBT travel blogs than are older LGBTs. Within the mainstream media, print magazines continue to play an influential role for both men & women. However, the influence of mainstream print magazines is far greater among older LGBTs, while younger LGBTs turn more to mainstream internet sites.

For more information or to view the full 2013 LGBT Travel Report, visit www.CommunityMarketingInc.com.



GERMANY

Situated in the heart of Europe, Germany is the center of gay Europe and has an ideal geographic location. The LGBT community in Germany is an important part of society and enjoys some of Europe's most advanced rights for gays and lesbians. Well-organized and lively LGBT communities have sprung up in all major and many small-sized cities and numerous gay events take place throughout the year, peaking with the annual pride parades (in Germany known as Christopher Street Day Parades). In Germany, the gay traveler gets to experience a wide variety of cultural attractions, vibrant cities, natural beauty and a well-integrated LGBT scene.

Berlin

The German capital is one of the largest gay metropolises in Europe. The dynamic and diverse LGBT scene contributes to the city's culture and vitality. The neighborhoods Schöneberg, Kreuzberg, Prenzlauer Berg and Friedrichshain have become trendy and hip not only with gays and lesbians but with artists, young and creative people. The majority of gay hotels, bars, cafés and shops, as well as a legendary club scene are located in the Schöneberg district. Enjoy LGBT parties, street festivals and events throughout the year. While the architecture clearly indicates a change to modernity, the creative and inventive climate is what characterizes Berlin best. Art can be seen everywhere, on walls, in galleries and in alternative centers. Some of Berlin's main attractions should not be missed, such as the Brandenburg Gate, the TV tower on Alexanderplatz, the Memorial Church, Gendarmenmarkt Square, the dome of the Reichstag and the Museum Island.



Cologne

The historic city on the river Rhine, known for its Cathedral (UNESCO World Heritage Site), has its very own joie de vivre. Though Alter Markt and Rudolfplatz, are known as the gay neighborhoods, gays are part of this cosmopolitan, gay-friendly city and are regarded as an integral part of Cologne's society. The city is made up of cosy cafes and bars, where Kölsch, the local Cologne beer, flows constantly. Locals enjoy clubs, bars, restaurants and lounges in the quarters of Kwartier Latäng, Friesenviertel, Belgisches Viertel, Südstadt and Ehrenfeld. They are communicative, optimistic and tolerant and most of all: they love their city. You can sense this especially during the carnival season when the whole city celebrates and has fun! Enjoy Cologne's many museums, the Art Cologne exhibition and the lively art and music scene. Aside from Christopher Street Day, the highlight of the city's event calendar is the WomenPride festival. Both are part of the annual Cologne Pride festival, one of Germany's biggest gay pride parades.



Munich

The LGBT community in Munich is very active and the event calendar stretches from a Rose Monday gay ball to the Gay Sunday during Oktoberfest, before all gays and lesbians get together for Pink Christmas in the Glockenbachviertel – the heart of LGBT Munich. Most of the gay cafes, bars and shops are located here. The annual celebration has party after party, including a blowout at the historic city hall and a parade through the gay neighborhood and a street festival at Marienplatz. The international art and culture metropolis is situated close to the Alps in the South of Germany and a good starting point for skiing, excursions and visiting many historic castles. There are plenty of options for recreation and outdoor activities along the Isar river and in the foothills of the Alps. The beer gardens, open from spring to fall, are a common part of Munich's lifestyle.

Frankfurt

Frankfurt, Germany's financial capital, is often called "Mainhattan" due to the adjacent river Main and the skyscraper skyline that reminds viewers of Manhattan. The city is multi-cultural and international due to the high density of international businesses and offers fine dining, shopping and impressive galleries. The Römerberg Square and the old town hall are the center of historic Frankfurt. Get up the Main Tower to get the best panorama of the city. Frankfurt's LGBT scene concentrates around the "Bermuda Dreieck" (Bermuda Triangle), north of Konstablerwache, with Frankfurt's most popular gay bars, coffee places and clubs. Several cultural places are worth a visit such as "Frankfurt's Angel" at Klaus-Mann Square, Germany's first memorial to gay and lesbian victims of National Socialism.



Hamburg

"Live and let live" is the motto in Hamburg. With its 800 year-old harbor, which is perfect for strolls and sightseeing by boat, Hamburg offers a mix of old and new, modern and traditional. The natives love Hamburg for its abundance of water and the freedom that this implies. Hamburg is a very open-minded city which is why everybody feels welcome. The quarter of St. Georg with its many cafes and bars is the gay hotspot in Hamburg and the city is also famous for its Christopher Street Day and leather convention. A highlight for nightlife in Hamburg is the "Reeperbahn" with numerous clubs, shows and guided tours by Germany's most famous drag queen Olivia Jones.

Please visit our new LGBT microsite www.germany.travel/lgbt for more information.

German National Tourist Office

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DENMARK

Follow the Rainbow to Copenhagen and discover what the fuss is all about!

Known as one of the most welcoming destinations in Europe, Denmark's capital city, Copenhagen, is also home to an array of sparkling cultural attractions as well as an inviting nightlife and club scene. You'll also find a city renowned for its history and unpretentious hip and cool atmosphere featuring an abundance of bars, restaurants and hotels including numerous LGBT events throughout the year.



Copenhagen is an image of cool and laid-back mentality, and is historically renowned for its vibrant pulse and relaxed way of life. The first gay bar, Centralhjørnet, opened more than 80 years ago, and the city boasts its very own gay radio station, Radio Rosa.

The gay scene flourishes in Copenhagen, and nearly every entertainment is within a half square mile in the city's "SoHo" like area in the Latin Quarter. In 2014, Denmark celebrates the 25th Anniversary of the world's first country to recognize registered partnerships for same-sex couples.

Copenhagen is a popular destination for trendsetters world-wide, and is a perfect mix of old-world charm and innovative charm. Marvel at the fairytale land of

Kings and Queens of all kinds. Explore castles and palaces alongside cool and quaint districts bustling with trendy and avant-garde fashion boutiques and lively cafes. Copenhagen flourishes in exciting new art venues, chic design cafes, bars and exclusive nightclubs. Explore the Danish Design Centre and check out the architecture of the new waterfront buildings.



New Nordic Cuisine is here to stay and no more so than in Copenhagen. Spearheading the movement, chefs in Copenhagen have a focus on using local and organic ingredients with a throw back to traditional cuisine native to Denmark – all re-introduced with an innovative twist. Copenhagen boasts a total of 15 Michelin-rated restaurants including the 3-times winner of World's best restaurant, noma.

For more information on Denmark and LGBT-travel, visit our website www.visitdenmark.com/gay.



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SWEDEN AND STOCKHOLM

Stockholm - Welcoming. Open. Diverse. Fun

Over the last few years, Stockholm has emerged as one of the world's brightest gay darlings, winning global awards and topping "Where to Go" lists across the planet. We've always known that the Swedish capital's uniquely fab combo of beauty, style, culture, warmth, fun and tradition makes it a very special place. So we couldn't be prouder that the LGBT community from Miami to Melbourne are now falling in love with it too.



Stockholm is spread over 14 gorgeous islands, and you'll find our gayness all over town — in a city as open as this, there's never been a need for just one segregated gayborhood. It's been said that if ever there was a capital designed by gay people for gay people, Stockholm is it. We've had marriage equality for years, and even our future queen, the radiant Crown Princess Victoria, recently gave out the award for Gay of the Year. Stockholm has twice hosted EuroPride, and we'll welcome the Eurogames in 2015.

Whether you want to bask in the glow of our bright summertime sun or snuggle up to a Swede in our magical winter, Stockholm makes a divine destination any time of year. Come let us show you what all the big gay fuss is about.

Your Stockhome

Stockholm is blessed with a pantheon of outstanding hotels, all brimming with Scandinavian warmth and style, and just waiting to welcome you to your new Stockhome. Check out all our partner hotels on our blog: www.gaylesbian.visitstockholm.com



See You Soon

Whether you're young or experienced, single or coupled, mainstream or subcultured, Stockholm has a wealth of gay delights up its sleeve just for you. We look forward to welcoming you to the capital of LGBT Scandinavia, and sharing our special city. We're pretty sure you'll soon fall in love with it too.



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VANCOUVER

It started with a march. On August 1, 1981, 1,500 people filed down Vancouver's Pacific Avenue as part of the city's first official Pride parade. Fast-forward more than three decades and Vancouver is a vibrant capital of LGBT culture, home to one of North America's biggest Pride celebrations and the largest gay and lesbian community in Western Canada.



Can't-Miss Events

The Vancouver Pride Parade & Festival (July 28-August 3, 2014) now draws an estimated half-million people to city streets every summer. Festivities last an entire week, with options ranging from gala street parties to beer gardens, large-scale dance parties, cultural

symposiums, movie nights and theme nights at downtown dance clubs, culminating with the Pride Parade and Sunset Beach Pride Festival.

The largest queer arts event in Canada, the Vancouver Queer Film Festival (August 2014) is enjoyed by more than 13,000 movie-lovers in the city every August for cutting-edge queer cinema from around the world. Screenings are accompanied by live performances, workshops and talks from queer stars and directors.

Every February, nearby Whistler hosts the weeklong WinterPRIDE event (February 2015). More than 2,000 skiers and boarders converge on North America's top-rated ski resort for world-class slopes, lavish themed celebrations and the best après-ski parties anywhere.



Inside the Communities

But there's more to Vancouver than just Pride and parties. The heart of the city's dynamic gay community is downtown's West End, a mix of quaint residential rows and newer high-rise towers, all bordered by the beaches of English Bay and a string of waterfront parks. At the neighborhood's core is Davie Street Village — three straight blocks of boutique shopping and bookstores, intimate bistros and ethnic restaurants, and — after dark — some of the hottest gay and straight nightlife in the city.

Across town, the funky Commercial Drive neighborhood has long been a center of the lesbian community. Located in progressive East Vancouver, the Drive is a place where record stores selling the latest vinyl sit side by side with Italian bakeries run by third-generation immigrants and tiny cafes packed with people who know their coffee. It's welcoming, unabashedly authentic and a great place to meet locals who love their city.

Stepping Out on the Town

Got your bearings? Time for some retail therapy. Head to historic Gastown for one-of-a-kind interior design; take the ferry to Granville Island for original artworks from local artisans; or flash some serious plastic along Alberni Street, downtown's "mini Rodeo Drive."



Culture buffs can choose from Western Canada's largest art museum, the symphony, the opera or live Shakespeare on the beach, not to mention a theater district showcasing everything from Broadway hits to experimental local works. Day-of and deeply discounted tickets are available at Tickets Tonight.

Hungry? Ethnic flair, progressive menus and fresh and locally-sourced ingredients are the cornerstones of a culinary scene in Vancouver that the New York Times called "truly outstanding."

And after dark: The only place to be is Davie Street. The party rages deep into the night at chic lounges and leather bars, thumping nightclubs and casual pubs. Offerings range from drag shows to slam poetry readings and attract a mixed gay and straight crowd.

Wedding Bells

Vancouver is also a hub for couples tying the knot. British Columbia legalized same-sex marriage in 2003, and Canada followed suit two years later. Today, the city is home to a comprehensive network of hotels, venues, wedding planners and marriage commissioners who specialize in creating the perfect day for same-sex partners.

Spending the Night in Style

When it's time to finally put your feet up, glamor and gorgeous views combine at the city's hotels. Vancouver is home to more than 35 TAG Approved hotels, which range from luxury high-rises like the oceanfront Fairmont Pacific Rim to upscale boutique options like the art-infused OPUS in trendy Yaletown.



Tourism Vancouver

604-682-2222

www.tourismvancouver.com

For more information on all the LGBT-friendly options in Vancouver, check out the Tourism Vancouver website.

A person is walking across a crosswalk painted with vibrant rainbow stripes. The person is wearing black shorts, white socks, and white sneakers. A black bag is slung over their shoulder. The background shows a city street with other pedestrians and buildings.

VANCOUVER

We Walk the Talk

Enter to win the Dine, Dance & Romance Grand Prize
Includes airfare, accommodation in Vancouver and Whistler, round-trip transportation, dinner during the 2015 Dine Out Vancouver Festival and more.

tourismvancouver.com/dance



**TOURISM
VANCOUVER**

WINNIPEG

Welcome to Gay and Lesbian Winnipeg

Located in the heart of North America, Winnipeg is diverse, creative and affordable destination that boasts family-friendly fun, international flair and cosmopolitan experiences. This year, the Canadian Museum for Human Rights will open its doors, fostering conversation and exploration of LGBT issues across the globe, while Assiniboine Park's new Journey to Churchill exhibit delights audiences of all ages with their loveable family of polar bears.



Winnipeg is also home to Winnipeg Pride, the largest celebration of LGBT culture between Vancouver and Toronto. Known for our warm hospitality and inviting spirit, Winnipeg is a place where gay and lesbian rights are protected and celebrated, a place where same-sex couples can legally marry and freedom of expression is embraced.

Celebrating Diversity – The Canadian Museum for Human Rights

Canada's new national museum will open September 2014 with a mission to enhance the understanding of human rights, including those of LGBT communities, to promote respect for others and dialogue worldwide. Master exhibit designers will weave human rights issues, stories and events throughout an awe-inspiring architectural space that will move people. The experience will be enriched with technology, new media and theatre, inspiring all who visit to stand up and be empowered to action.

Creative Diversity

Known as the "cultural cradle of Canada," Winnipeg is a destination for arts, culture and expression. Music enthusiasts enjoy Winnipeg's thriving independent music scene, while theatre buffs take in the intricate steps of Canada's Royal Winnipeg ballet, soaring notes of the Manitoba Opera and Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra and drama of the Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre or Le Circle Molière—theatre performed entirely in French. Then, explore museums and galleries, such as The Winnipeg Art Gallery or Plug In Institute of Contemporary Art.

Diverse People, Culinary Experiences and Neighbourhoods

Part of what makes Winnipeg... Winnipeg is its food and neighbourhoods. Experience Winnipeg's French Quarter St. Boniface; marvel at Chicago-style architecture in the Exchange District; nosh on dim sum in Chinatown; travel the world with the tastes of the West End; or stroll along bustling Corydon Avenue with a cup of gelato in hand.

Seasonal Diversity

Winter visitors lace up their skates for a jaunt down the world's longest natural skating trail at The Forks or channel their inner fur trader with a trip to French Canadian celebration, Festival du Voyageur. In summer, groove to the sounds of the Winnipeg Folk Festival or take in the award-winning multicultural festival, Folklorama.

Family Fun

Take the little ones for an afternoon of fun at the Children's Museum where their world becomes a lasagna playground, interactive water feature and a ride on a full sized train. Don't miss the opening of Assiniboine Park Zoo's Journey to Churchill in summer of 2014 when this interactive centre and exhibit highlights these magnificent bears and the challenges they face in a changing environment. Take a visit to the Adventure Playground and cap off your day with a visit to feed the birds at the nearby Duck Pond.

A Meeting and Convention Destination

Tourism Winnipeg works closely with meeting planners and the city's tourism partners. Winnipeg offers stylish and competitively priced hotel and meeting facilities to accommodate events of all sizes, from intimate gatherings to international conventions. With more than 7,500 hotel rooms citywide, many of them TAG Approved, Winnipeg is the perfect spot for your meeting or convention. For more information on how Tourism Winnipeg can assist with bringing your next event to our city, visit www.tourismwinnipeg.com or call 1.855.PEG.CITY (734.2489).



tourismwinnipeg

Tourism Winnipeg

855-734-2489

www.tourismwinnipeg.com

Tourism Winnipeg is the city's official destination marketing organization and promotes economic growth through tourism-related initiatives and investment.



winnipeg
manitoba, canada

Canadian Museum
for Human Rights,
Opening Spring 2014



Canada's Royal Winnipeg Ballet



Winnipeg Pride Festival



Journey to Churchill, opening 2014

Pride in the prairie

Located in the heart of North America, Winnipeg is diverse, creative and affordable destination that boasts family-friendly fun, international flair and cosmopolitan experiences. In 2014, the Canadian Museum for Human Rights will open its doors, fostering conversation and exploration of LGBT issues across the globe, while Assiniboine Park's new Journey to Churchill exhibit delights audiences of all ages with their loveable family of polar bears. Winnipeg is also home to Winnipeg Pride, the largest celebration of LGBT culture between Vancouver and Toronto, as well as culture, shopping and cuisine. Come experience the energy and excitement of our growing city.

Visit tourismwinnipeg.com/LGBT or call 1.855.PEG.CITY to plan your trip today.

TORONTO



Toronto - Come See for Yourself what the Whole World is Talking About

Internationally-renowned for unparalleled hospitality, creativity, vibrancy, a progressive spirit, openness and freedom of expression, Toronto is one of the most cosmopolitan cities in the world. Toronto was ranked as one of 2013's 'Best Places to Go' by *Condé Nast Traveler* and as a top international travel destination by *Travel + Leisure Magazine* (2012).

Toronto is home to Canada's largest gay community. Très chic (with lots of ooh la la), Toronto's unique pulse, panache and progressive spirit attract people from every country, making it one of the world's most multicultural cities with an amazing selection of accommodations, restaurants, fashion, entertainment, culture, arts, shopping, attractions, events, festivals, neighbourhoods and architecture.

Energy, Passion and Opportunity – Welcome to The Village!

Nestled in the downtown core, at the intersection of Church and Wellesley Streets, is The Gay Village, or "The Village" as the locals call it. The Village is packed with cafés, restaurants, gay-oriented shops, services and a wide array of hot bars and sizzling nightspots filled with hot boys and hot girls. Hot spots include Woody's (Queer as Folk) and Sailor, Crews and Tangos (renowned for some of the best drag shows in the city), Fly, Pegasus, Zipperz/Cellblock, Black Eagle (geared towards leather/denim lovers and bears), CHURCH on Church and O'Grady's on Church. Home to one of the largest annual Gay Pride celebrations in the world, The Village will serve as the epicentre for WorldPride 2014.

Progressive, With a Decidedly Countercultural Bent - Queer West Village

Queer nightlife in Toronto stretches far beyond the Village. "Are they or aren't they?" is irrelevant as you party with open-minded, mixed crowds at bars throughout the city. You'll find an edginess and funkiness in Queer West Village and a rich mix of populations, gay and straight, young and old. More of an attitude than an identity – it's new and radical with a thriving underground gay scene. Hot Spots include the Gladstone Hotel, Wrongbar, The Beaver, Bovine Sex Club (don't let the name throw you off), El Convento Rico and The Henhouse (for the ladies).

Culture - Bravo Toronto!

Toronto ranks as one of the top cities in the world to experience arts and culture. Galleries, museums, theatres, festivals and cultural wonders abound. Toronto features hundreds of cultural attractions, exhibits and contemporary Canadian

works that just can't be found anywhere else. Buddies in Bad Times Theatre, the world's longest running and largest queer theatre promotes Queer Canadian culture. Opera and ballet at the Four Seasons Centre for the Performing Arts and great theatre and entertainment venues in the Entertainment District are all just within a few blocks. Visit the Royal Ontario Museum with its Michael Lee Chin Crystal expansion by Daniel Libeskind and Frank Gehry's renovated Art Gallery of Ontario.

Toronto International Film Festival

Stars and celebrities descend on the city with their entourages as the Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF) takes over Toronto each year for 10 days in September. Acclaimed as the most successful public film festival in the world, TIFF is comprised of world premieres, galas, associated schmoozes and parties illuminated with the who's who of international cinema.

Food... Fabulous Food and Drink

Toronto's culinary scene is one of the best in the country. Choose from upscale gourmet to home-cooked comfort foods from nearly every corner of the globe. Experience Toronto's diversity on a plate. Boasting over 9,000 restaurants, Toronto's culinary options are pretty unlimited. Talking about fabulous food, Toronto is also home to St. Lawrence Market, ranked as the number 1 market in the world by National Geographic.

Shopping

Toronto's shopping experience is to die for. The retail world created by Toronto's over 21,000 specialty shops, boutiques and department stores boggle the mind. From expansive malls to intimate kiosks, designer outlets to high-end haute couture, every neighbourhood bursts with one-of-a-kind shopping. While many areas embrace luxury, the shopping district of Yorkville – with nearby Holt Renfrew and the chic shops of Hazelton Lanes – is the quintessential home of style and design, including fashion stalwarts Louis Vuitton, Cartier, Hermès, Tiffany and Chanel.

Just Down the Road... Fabulous Day Trip Options

Extend your visit for a day or two and enjoy some fabulous day-trip options just a short drive from the city featuring Niagara Falls, Ontario's "wine country" (with over 120 wineries), picturesque villages, theatre festivals and casinos.

Rise Up! – Celebrating Citywide Pride in Toronto 2014

Five years in the planning and finally the moment we have all been waiting for. Toronto is absolutely thrilled to be hosting WorldPride from June 20 – 29th, 2014 and welcoming the world to our city. We are so proud we could burst.

World Pride 2014 adds to the growing list of LGBT organizations choosing Toronto to host their prestigious international events. We hope to see you there.



Tourism Toronto

416-203-2600 800-499-2514

www.seetorontonow.com/toronto-diversity



TORONTO IS PROUD TO HOST WORLDPRIDE 2014

Toronto is the first North American destination selected to host WorldPride June 20-29 2014, and for good reason. Our Gay Village is a thriving neighbourhood where one can find clubs, restaurants and boutiques — but it doesn't stop there.

From dining and nightlife to shopping and culture, the pride flag can be seen proudly displayed in windows across the city! Particularly in Queer West Village, our hip west end that has a thriving gay scene. This district includes queer arts neighbourhoods, more than 70 venues, and LGBTQ events.

Our pride is city-wide, creating a community that engages a spectrum of individuals and organizations from all across Toronto — and we couldn't be more excited for the whole world to be part of it!

For more information visit SeeTorontoNow.com


worldpride
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toronto 
seetorontonow.com

MONTREAL

Montréal is the ultimate urban getaway

Ah... Montréal. The name alone evokes cool Euro chic, gourmet fare, five-star restaurants, non-stop nightlife and fashion fresh off the runway. Historically French and English, today's Montréal is also multicultural, giving the metropolis its unique flavour and feel. Of course, Montrealers love to live and live to love, and do this with their legendary joie de vivre and passion, every single day of the year.

From eating to shopping and from going out to creating something new, they add that je ne sais quoi to everything they do. And therein lies the magie of Montréal: it's a thrilling mix of big-city glitz, free-spirited and open people and great vibes emanating from every street corner. Bienvenue!



© Tourisme Québec, Jean-François Leblanc

Vive le Village... and beyond

Montréal's Village consistently remains one of world's favourite LGBT destinations thanks to its vibrant and active gay community. By day, this lively district moves to the beat of the business crowd. By night, it's the nexus for the party set who come here for its restaurants, multi-tiered bars and dance-until-(nearly)-dawn clubs and discothèques. No visit to le Village is complete without catching a show by Mado, reigning queen of the drag show scene, who delights and provokes with her sexy Québécois accent. Come summer, the Village's section of celebrated Sainte-Catherine Street goes completely car-free, transforming asphalt into open-air mall, where everyone comes to browse boutiques, catch some sun on an outdoor terrasse or meet for dinner or cocktails. But this being Montréal, the fun is far-flung... and discoveries city-wide and plentiful.



© Divers/Cité, Aydin Matalabi

Chock-a-block culture and world-class festivals

Streetside, in fact, is the best place to get the city's pulse, especially during festival season. An international entertainment capital, year-round Montréal is host to major events. Summer's favourites include the Festival International de Jazz and the Just For Laughs Festival, not to mention Pride celebrations and the Divers/Cité LGBT festival. Winter blues get chased away with the gourmet HIGH LIGHTS Festival, where the world's best chefs touch down to divulge culinary secrets. And downtown's Quartier des Spectacles keeps everyone plugged into the city's ebullient cultural scene.

This way to the party

Weekends kick-off with Thursday's popular 5 à 7 (that's happy hour, Montréal-style), an excellent warm-up to evenings that play out in packed bars, clubs and lounges. After-dark discoveries include anything from catching a new indie band to chilling out with cocktails to dancing to sets spun by world-class DJs.

Sweet dreams in the city

No vacation is a success without some energy-reviving beauty rest, and Montréal's wide range of accommodations guarantee to recharge your batteries. Whether your tastes run from chic boutique hotels in Old Montréal – where more than one celebrity has been known to hang out – to cozy B&Bs in the heart of the Village, Montréal is renowned for its attention to detail and personalized service.

Montréal's long list of TAG Approved accommodations include major chains and smaller properties, most of which are centrally-located, making them handy for stop-offs and drop-offs in between rounds of sightseeing and shopping.



Room, W Montréal

Sate your inner foodie

For the gourmet, Montréal pulls out all the stops, pampering palates with a staggering number of flavours and dishes. The city has more restaurants per capita than anywhere else in North America, and is home to 5,000 dining establishments serving 80 different types of international cuisine.

It's easy being green

For the nature lover, Montréal offers nearly 1,000 parks, the most famous being Mount Royal Park, the city's magnificent centrepiece. This vast greenspace was the handiwork of landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted, the man who designed New York's Central Park. Jet-boating and rafting can also be enjoyed just minutes from the city centre, while cyclists can take advantage of over six hundred miles of dedicated lanes criss-crossing the city and running along scenic waterways.

Just a short hop from major eastern U.S. cities and a half-day flight from Europe, Montréal offers a truly unique urban getaway, with unbeatable vibe, passionate people, ample attractions and discoveries aplenty.

To discover more, visit Tourism Montréal's website at www.tourisme-montreal.org.

TOURISME
Montréal

Tourisme Montréal

514-844-5400

www.tourisme-montreal.org

For over 15 years, Tourisme Montréal has played a prominent role in promoting Montréal's gay community.



ALL INCLUSIVE



Party animal? Culture vulture? Finicky foodie? Fashion plate? All of the above? Montréal was made for you! From the action-packed Gay Village to romantic Old Montréal, from bustling downtown to the bohemian Plateau, the scenic Old Port and beyond, you'll find a cool vibe and a warm welcome anywhere you go.

Book your Sweet Deal Getaway now at tourisme-montreal.org/gay

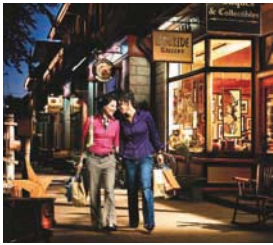
à la
Montréal



HALIFAX

Halifax – the City that Touches Your Soul

Halifax is a safe, inviting destination for gay travel – you'll find so much to do and discover in this historic city by the sea. Our vibrant LGBT community throws the biggest Pride festival in Atlantic Canada, there are several gay bars throughout the city, and the rainbow flag is raised year-round. Halifax is truly a year-round destination, with unique experiences in each season – try surfing the winter waves, discover the spectacular fall colours or take in the many festivals and events happening throughout the year.



Hospitable People

As Atlantic Canada's gateway to North America, Halifax exudes culture and history. Buildings dating back to 1749 share waterfront vistas with modern glass office towers. First-time visitors can get a feel for the city by exploring unique areas and neighborhoods. The

Hydrostone Market in the city's trendy North End is defined by a sense of intrigue, history and community. From whimsical craft shops to secret urban gardens, this is a place where culture, diversity and creativity thrive.

The beautiful Halifax harbour features a boardwalk alive with a colorful mix of pedestrian and Maritime traffic. The Spring Garden area is a bustling shopping district and one of the region's most walked areas featuring fashion boutiques alongside one of the oldest formal Victorian gardens in North America. Wherever you go in Halifax, you'll find one common trait: the unforgettable warmth and friendliness of our people. It's a place where locals welcome you like an old friend.

Bright City, Bright People

The city's nightlife is vibrant – you can experience many of the hot spots within steps of each other downtown and throughout the city – discover our energetic music scene, lively pubs, sophisticated cocktail lounges and pulsing dance clubs.



Deep Sense of History & Culture

Halifax's history is one that you can see and feel. Each day, the ceremonial "noon gun" goes off at the Halifax Citadel National Historic Site, an eighteenth century fortress in the heart of the downtown core. Another National historic site, Pier 21 – Canada's Immigration Museum - tells personal stories of the one million people who passed through the doors between 1928 and 1971. A tour of the Alexander Keith's Brewery, the oldest working brewery in North America, offers a step back on time where you'll be treated to a mug or two of famous India pale ale along with Nova Scotian songs and tales. Life here revolves around the sea. Discover our Maritime history from our Titanic connection to the Halifax Explosion.



Close to Nature

Part of the joy of Halifax is how close it is to nature. Minutes from the downtown core, you can experience outdoor adventure at its finest from surfing and camping to fishing and sea kayaking. Sink your toes into the white sand beaches or view the crashing waves from the much-photographed Peggy's Cove lighthouse.

Easy to Get Here – Hard to Leave

Getting to Halifax is about as easy as stepping out your front door. The Halifax Stanfield International Airport offers direct flights from many Canadian, US, European, and Caribbean destinations, and features US Customs preclearance. Take your time and enjoy the view aboard VIA Rail Canada, with a transcontinental connection from Western Canadian cities and some US destinations. By sea, car ferries arrive from Canadian ports, and with the second largest natural harbour in the world, cruise ships are making Halifax a sure stop.

Discover Halifax's history, arts, food, culture and nightlife. Explore the coastlines, fishing villages and beaches only minutes away from the heart of the city. Feel the welcoming warmth of our city's defining feature: its people. For more information, visit www.rainbowhalifax.com.



NOVA SCOTIA • CANADA

Destination Halifax

877-422-9334 902-422-9334

www.rainbowhalifax.com

With beautiful scene coastlines, a charming historic downtown and warm, welcoming people, Halifax is a year-round must-see gay travel destination.



HALIFAX: FIND YOURSELF OUT EAST

VISIT HALIFAX, a breath of fresh East Coast air. Our vibrant LGBT culture is fully woven into the city – from TAG approved accommodations to welcoming attractions and breathtaking sights. Embrace Halifax at rainbowhalifax.com



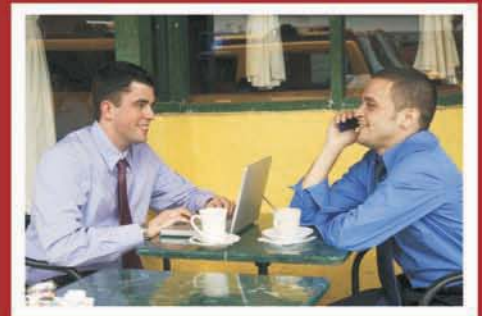
HALIFAX

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HAWAII

Aloha and Welcome from the Rainbow State

The magic of a trip to Hawaii lies in the state's vibrant culture and the immortal beauty of its pristine waters and vistas unsullied by the forces of modernity. Recently the Hawaii gay and lesbian scene has begun a newfound renaissance, and thanks to Governor Neil Abercrombie's signed legislation legalizing same-sex marriage, the island state has adopted a fresh, even more welcoming attitude.



The Hawaii that true vacationers want to experience unveils itself to adventurers keen to experience the mountains and sea. Brimming with quiet majesties and postcard-like backdrops, Hawaii is a veritable playground for surfers, swimmers and all around ocean-lovers. There is something new and exciting to experience on every island, where natural beauty, culinary indulgence, and decadent luxury—the trifecta of tropical passion—reigns supreme.

Visit the Rainforest Zoo, the Mauna Kea Observatories, or marvel at spewing lava at the Hawaii Volcanoes National Park on the Big Island. In Honolulu, the cultural capital of Hawaii you will find an array of activities and LGBT-friendly local institutions that serve to delight. Feast on local creations at Leonard's Bakery or indulge in the more seductive fare at Alan Wong's. In the winter months, charter a whale-watching cruise to the island of Molokai, or experience the magic of East Maui along Hana Highway, where ancient Hawaiian temples, beaches, tropical gay resorts and waterfalls are aplenty. Maui's gay community is second to Honolulu's, but equally thriving and host to numerous events every year including the Maui Pride Festival.

Natural Beauty

Near the heart of Waikiki, Queen's Surf Beach is a great place to soak up the sun and meet like-minded individuals. If you are the adventurous sort, Diamond Head Crater offers panoramic views of the Pacific and urban Honolulu. At the foothills of the crater, Lighthouse Beach is the ideal place for a nearly secluded dip in the sea. Make a day out by loading up on supplies at a local shop and picnic on the beach or green Kapiolani Park. For those who long for the total privacy and charms of Hawaii's fabled beaches, choose on an outer-island destination like Kaihalulu Beach or Little Beach on Maui, or Kahena Beach on the Big Island, where the color of the sand range as far and wide as the joie de vivre of its people—and clothing is considered optional.

Culinary Indulgence

Hawaii has so much to offer visitors, whether you're in town for just the weekend, or on an extended retreat. Enjoy sunset cocktails on a catamaran in the fresh open air or soak up the gay nightlife at any of the LGBT-friendly restaurants, bars and clubs that line the streets of Waikiki, including the world famous Hula's Bar & Lei Stand, Fusion, In Between, Bacchus, and Tapa's Lanai Bar. Mask-Querade in the Kona District, or Ambrosia Martini Lounge in Kihei are longtime favorites among locals and visitors.

Decadent Luxury

Amidst the buzzing energy and countless activities that fill your day, rest and relaxation are much needed and readily available at any of the polished spa hideaways conveniently situated steps from the ocean. After a long day of shopping, a visit to any of Hawaii's full-service spas will soothe your mind and body. Popular treatments like lomi lomi massage and rejuvenating Hawaiian-inspired body therapies will lull you into a state of bliss. To awaken your inner zen, the Lumeria Maui in the charming upcountry town of Paia opens to lush meditation gardens, customized farm-to-table cuisine and various on-site activities like yoga and mediation classes to match any skill level.

Just a five-hour flight from the major western U.S. cities, this island state is filled with unparalleled beauty and unforgettable "aloha" spirit, making the journey well worth your time.

For more information, visit Lei magazine at www.leiculture.com.



LOS ANGELES

The Seductive City of Angels

LA's trademark industries — entertainment, fashion, art, design and cuisine, among others — have been magnets for creative gay and lesbian trendsetters for more than a century. And by their sheer numbers and substantial influence, these pioneering men and women have left a permanent, positive and gay-friendly legacy on LA's culture, political climate and sense of community.



LGBT life in this region of more than 15 million people continues to be as diverse and dynamic as the Los Angeles itself. In fact, there is not just one gay neighborhood in this glittering metropolis: They dot the region. You could spend an entire week just exploring the wonderful gay and lesbian enclaves in Downtown, Silver Lake, Hollywood, Studio City, Venice and other areas of the city.

And, of course, there's West Hollywood—the gay and lesbian capital of the world, where fully 50 percent of the resident population identify as gay or lesbian. So it's no surprise that Los Angeles earns its place as one of the world's premier, gay-friendly places to live, work, and play and visit year after year. But of course there are even more reasons to visit Los Angeles than its warm and welcoming ambiance.

Seriously. LA Has It All

Sunny beaches, stunning views, gorgeous climate, friendly people, outstanding museums and galleries, unique and affordable shopping, dazzling architecture, sexy bars and nightclubs, thrilling theme parks, famous movie studios, live theatres, concert halls, trend-setting restaurants, scenic mountains and gardens, world-famous landmarks, bustling ethnic neighborhoods, exquisite spas, dynamic sports teams, fabulous hotels, unrivaled people-watching, world-class PRIDE events, hiking, surfing, skateboarding, skiing and much more.



Seriously.

You may even find yourself at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA), the most extensive collection of art in the Western U.S. In seven buildings on 22 manicured acres on the Miracle Mile visitors can experience the works of such groundbreaking gay and lesbian artists as Marcel Duchamp, David Hockney, Jasper Johns, Annie Leibovitz, Robert Mapplethorpe, Catherine Opie, Robert Rauschenberg and Andy Warhol, to name just a few. LA even offers a LGBT itinerary by its famous Starline Tours to help visitors savor the best of gay LA! Check out: citysightseeinglosangeles.com/itineraries.

So come to Los Angeles and be seduced by the City of Angels. It's guaranteed to be the start of a beautiful relationship.

For details and special offers visit: discoverLosAngeles.com/GayLA

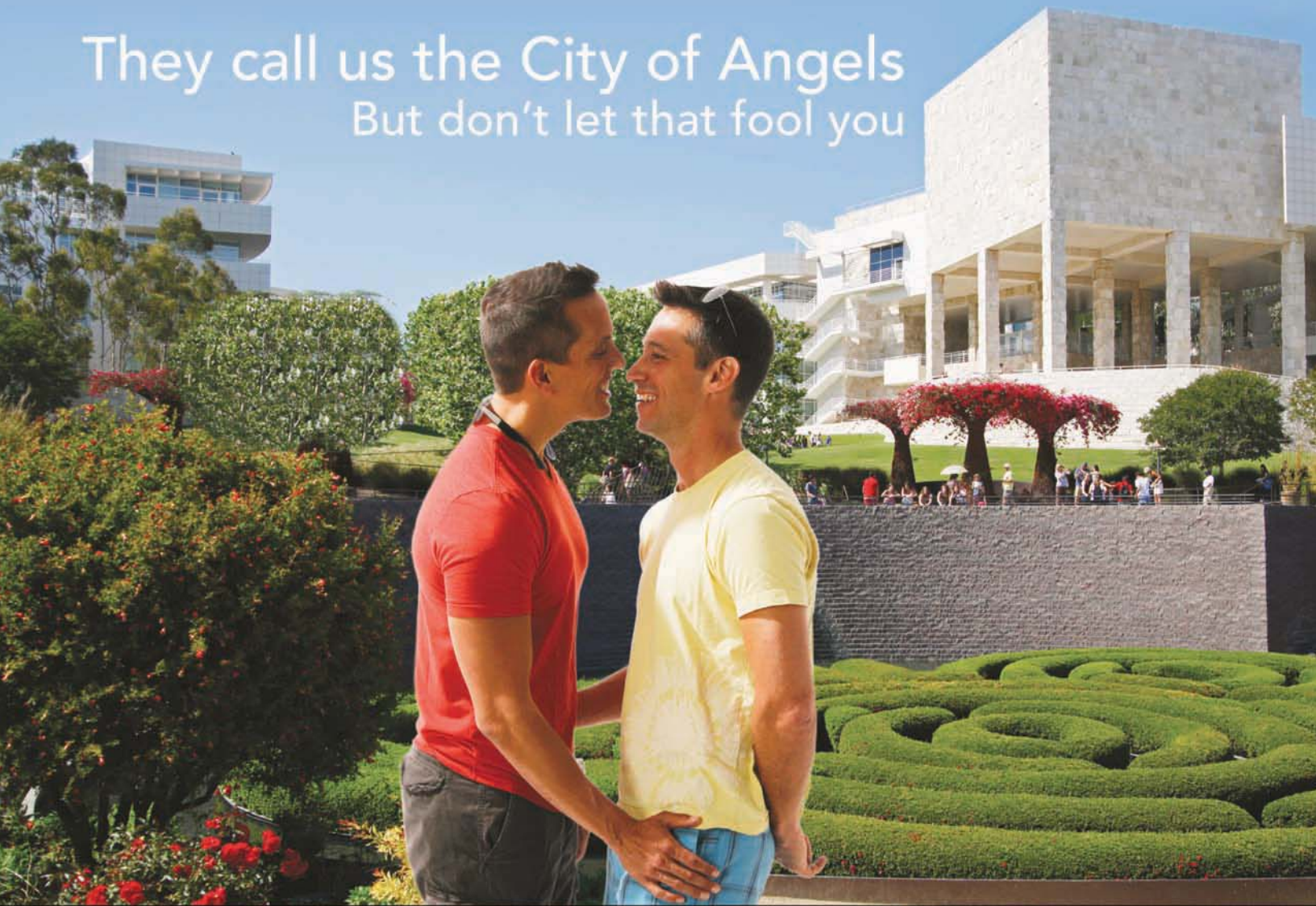


Los Angeles Tourism & Convention Board
213-236-2313
www.discoverLosAngeles.com

LA's diverse landscapes, cultural enclaves and entertainment options provide gay and lesbian visitors with unforgettable experiences.



They call us the City of Angels
But don't let that fool you



Whatever you're looking for—from the classic to the cutting edge—you'll find it in exciting, endlessly entertaining Los Angeles.

It's all waiting for you.
What are you waiting for?

discoverLosAngeles.com/gayLA



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WEST HOLLYWOOD

Living Out Loud in West Hollywood

These days, LGBT travelers have more opportunity than ever to visit places around the world, but nowhere else will you find such gay-friendly excitement packed into just 1.9 square miles! Gay clubs and bars are at the forefront of entertainment and Santa Monica Boulevard is where it's all happening. With hot spots ranging from dance clubs and chic lounges to neighborhood bars, everyone is sure to have a good time in WeHo. The Abbey, Here Lounge, Revolver, Fiesta Cantina, Eleven, Gym Sports Bar, The Factory, Micky's, Mother Lode, Ultra Suede, and Rage are just a few of the clubs that make the west side popular, while Gold Coast, Fubar and Hamburger Mary's beckon visitors east. Different nights of the week bring different promotions and crowds to each of the clubs, so make sure to allocate more than one night on the town. Visit www.gogaywesthollywood.com for frequently updated listings of various weekly club and lounge events.

All of West Hollywood's hotels are exceedingly gay-friendly, from the hip designer hotels of The Sunset Strip to the residential-style properties located near Santa Monica Boulevard. Spend your afternoons luxuriating beside a glamorous rooftop pool at The London West Hollywood, Andaz West Hollywood or Mondrian. Ramada Plaza West Hollywood is located right in the heart of the action on Santa Monica Boulevard, buzzing with pedestrians, outdoor cafes and gay-welcoming restaurants and clubs. Luxurious all-suite properties like the Petit Ermitage, Le Montrose Suite Hotel, Chamberlain Hotel and Le Parc Suite Hotel, are within walking distance of Santa Monica Boulevard, as is the chic pied-à-terre Palihouse. Whatever your preference, you'll find fabulous accommodations in West Hollywood to satisfy your every need.

If you're looking for an alternative to the clubs, West Hollywood is full of tasty, chic restaurants, indulgent spas, sensational shopping, outstanding art galleries and gay-frequented coffee shops. You can catch an LGBT-themed play or performance at the Macha and Celebration Theatres. And don't miss the West Hollywood Design District (comprised of Melrose Avenue and Robertson and Beverly Boulevards) home to more than 300 fashion boutiques, interior design showrooms, restaurants and cafes with awesome people-watching. You might even run into Brad Pitt or Ellen Degeneres shopping for new home furnishings.

West Hollywood's numerous venues, activities and resources for gay visitors, along with the city's longstanding commitment to LGBT rights, make it an ideal destination for gay travelers.

Every June, West Hollywood hosts the largest Gay Pride festival on the West Coast. Since its incorporation in 1984, the City of West Hollywood has continued to be recognized as a leading community for gay rights. With nearly one third of the residents and a majority of the city council identifying as LGBT, gay and lesbian visitors are assured a safe, welcoming urban environments that understands the interests and needs of the gay community. So, hold your partner's hand and enjoy a leisurely stroll down Santa Monica Boulevard in a city that is truly "Living Forward."



Visit West Hollywood

310-289-2525

www.visitwesthollywood.com

Visit West Hollywood markets the city as a premier LGBT destination.



WEST HOLLYWOOD



Whether spending your days lounging next to a rooftop hotel pool, strolling through the chic fashion and design district or living it up at one of the famous LGBT nightlife venues of Santa Monica Boulevard, West Hollywood offers unmatched style and excitement. Best of all, at just 1.9 square miles in size, West Hollywood has been named California's most walkable city!

www.gogaywesthollywood.com



visit west hollywood

PALM SPRINGS

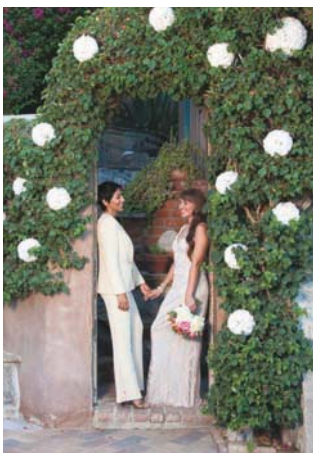
Palm Springs has long been deemed California's ultimate desert playground for the gay and lesbian traveler...an oasis for the visitor looking for a casual, sun-filled vacation. You'll be reminded on a daily basis just how good life can be in Palm Springs. It's truly like no place else.



Blessed with gorgeous weather, stunning blue skies and year-round sunshine, the desert's natural beauty sets the stage to explore ancient palm groves, blooming desert vistas and majestic mountains. Visitors from all over the globe are lured to Palm Springs for its storied Hollywood legacy, Native American heritage and stellar collection of mid-century modern architecture. Find a world of entertainment, from intimate venues to large dance clubs, from gay-owned bistros and restaurants to world-renowned LGBT events.

Hotels

Palm Springs has the largest collection of gay and lesbian resorts in North America with nearly 30 gay and lesbian-owned and/or operated resorts and inns. All are independently owned and operated, and many with less than twenty rooms surrounding the definitive Palm Springs pool --- giving you a memorable experience with new found friends not found in larger hotels.

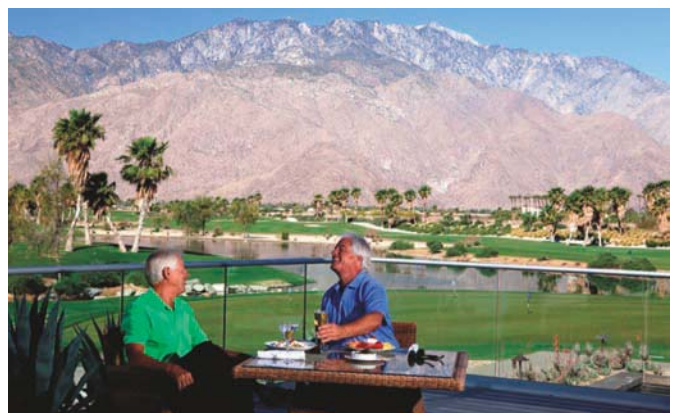


Weddings

Palm Springs is a hot spot for gay and lesbian couples. Today, many are returning to get married and honeymoon. Known for its modern architecture, small village charm and luxury resorts, Palm Springs has guaranteed sunshine and blue skies for a memorable celebration.

Signature Events

January	Palm Springs International Film Festival
February	Tour de Palm Springs Modernism Week LGBT Winter Classic Softball Tournament International Bear Convergence
March	Native FilmFest BNP Paribas Tennis Tournament American Documentary Film Festival
April	Jeffrey Sanker's White Party Club Skirts presents The Dinah Coachella Valley Music Festival Stagecoach Country Music Festival Tachevah
May	Palm Springs Hot Rodeo Palm Springs Film Noir Festival
June	Palm Springs Desert Resorts Restaurant Week Palm Springs International Short Film Festival
September	Cinema Diverse LGBT Film Festival
October	Desert AIDS Walk American Heat Bike Weekend West Coast Lesbian Conference
November	Palm Springs Pride Weekend Palm Springs Leather Pride
December	Festival of Lights Parade



Palm Springs is less than a two-hour drive from Los Angeles, Orange and San Diego Counties, and home to the Palm Springs International Airport offering daily direct flights from major cities across the globe.



Palm Springs Visitor Information Center
800-347-7746 www.VisitGayPalmSprings.com
2901 N. Palm Canyon Drive, Palm Springs, CA 92262
Visitor Center is open daily from 9am to 5pm

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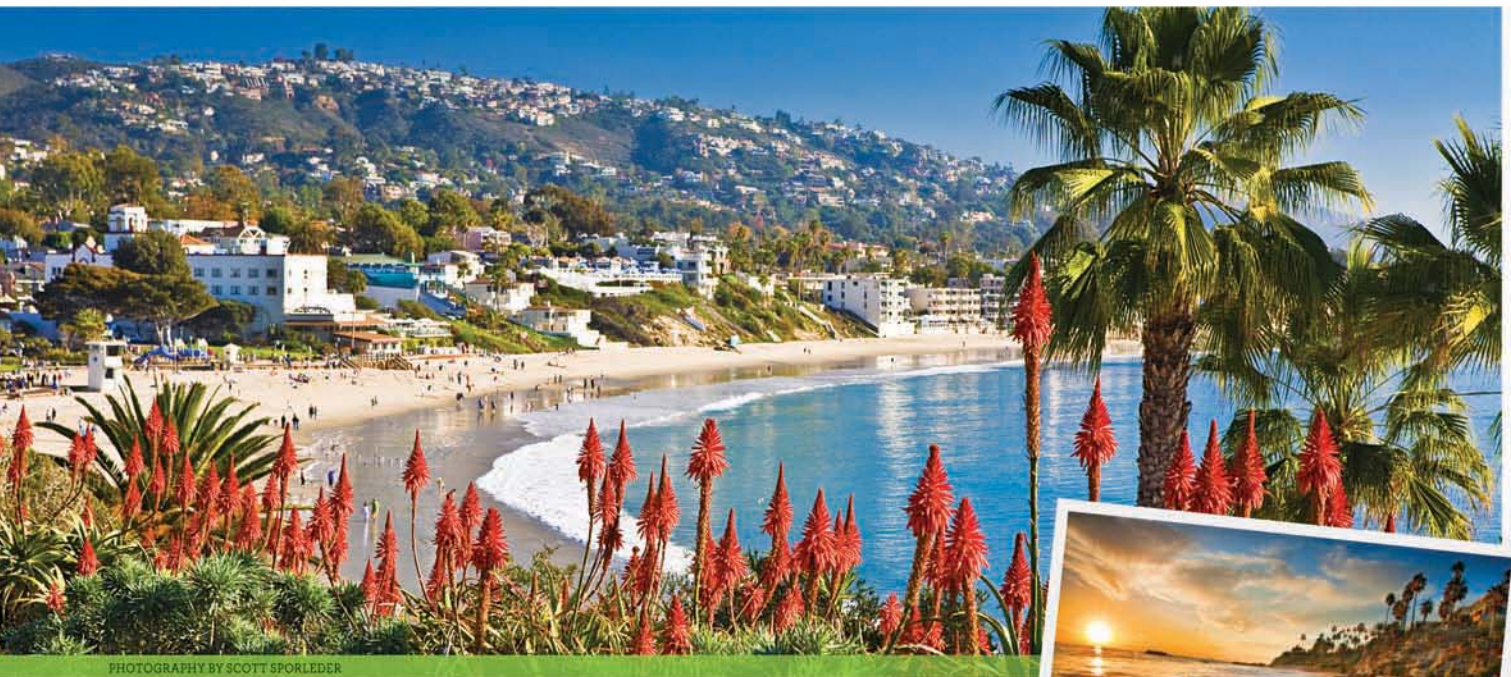


VisitGayPalmSprings.com


Palm Springs
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LAGUNA BEACH, CALIFORNIA

Laguna Beach is Southern California's premier, coastal destination nestled between the sparkling blue Pacific and majestic emerald canyons.



PHOTOGRAPHY BY SCOTT SPORLEDER

Blessed with ideal weather, this walkable village stretches seven miles along the Orange County coastline and offers a year-round retreat for art lovers, nature enthusiasts, history buffs and beachgoers. Water sports include kayaking among the dolphins, surfing, paddle boarding, or snorkeling along the pristine shores of Laguna Beach. Discover world-class tide pools where sea life abounds.

A famous artists' colony, Laguna Beach is internationally known for its art galleries, festivals, theater and other cultural attractions. Art enthusiasts flock to Laguna Beach to enjoy a host of summer art festivals including **Festival of Arts**, featuring original artwork by 140 of the area's most accomplished artists; **Art-A-Fair**, featuring 125 international and domestic artists; and **Sawdust Art Festival**,

a casual arts and crafts event showcasing works by 200 Laguna Beach artists. Sawdust Art Festival also offers a **Winter Fantasy Festival** during the holidays.



*A 2013 recipient of the **TripAdvisor Travelers' Choice Beaches Award** and named **#1 Beach in Orange County** by the **O.C. Register**, Laguna Beach is the ideal vacation destination for seaside fun.*

The world-famous **Pageant of the Masters** is one attraction that is not-to-be-missed! With 90 minutes of tableau vivants or "living pictures," Pageant of the Masters is a spectacular theatrical event, where classic works of art are brought to life using actors, specialized make-up, sets and lighting. It's a one-of-a-kind experience and has delighted audiences every summer since 1933. The 2014 theme is "The Art Detective."



Other popular attractions include the **Laguna Art Museum**, one of California's oldest cultural institutions; **The Laguna Playhouse**, a critically acclaimed, professional theater company and the oldest continuously operating theater on the West Coast; **First Thursdays Art Walk**, a monthly event featuring 30+ art galleries throughout town; **Artist Open Studios**, a free tour inside the working studios of 35 artists, held on the first Saturday of every month from October through March; and **Laguna Craft Guild**, an arts and crafts show held on the cobblestones at Main Beach on various Sundays throughout the year.

Additional experiences include the annual **Laguna Beach Music Festival** held every February, and other various music concerts throughout the year from **Laguna Beach Live**. The **Laguna Dance Festival**, happening every September, offers entertainment from world-class dance companies; and, each October, the **Plein-Air Painting Invitational**, presents a weeklong landscape painting festival.



Laguna Beach offers visitors the opportunity to explore their creative side with art workshops and demonstrations, including **Sawdust Studio Art Classes**, two-hour art workshops taught by local, professional artists. Offered every Friday and Saturday at 10:00am and 2:00pm, class options include fused glass, photography, oil painting, jewelry making and more.

Laguna Beach is home to more than 100 art galleries, artists' studios and one-of-a-kind shops and boutiques. From apparel and jewelry, to objets d'arts, you never know what treasures you might discover as you stroll through the myriad of unique shops dotting the coastline.



For the ultimate in relaxation, make reservations at a full-service day spa for side-by-side massages or an aromatic bubble bath. Sip some wine at **Laguna Canyon Winery** or a local bistro or bar. Laguna Beach



features some of the finest dining on the Pacific Coast. From five-star restaurants to family favorites and alfresco cafés, enjoy an array of delicious cuisine.

Multiple nights are needed to experience all that Laguna Beach has to offer. Luxuriate in an in-room Jacuzzi at one of the many upscale properties, nestle near the fireplace at a cozy B&B, or sip Champagne and gaze at the stars on the balcony of a quaint, beachfront cottage.



Download the free **Laguna Beach Travel Info** mobile app and navigate your way through Laguna Beach. Current weather, tide tables, events, maps, and real-time local transit information can be found via GPS while in town.

VISIT
Laguna Beach

Visit www.visitlagunabeach.com
or call (800) 877-1115 or (949) 497-9229
to begin planning your vacation today.

SAN FRANCISCO

San Francisco: Pride and (No) Prejudice

Marriage equality won't be the last barrier to be crossed by the LGBT community, but it may be one of the most significant. San Francisco month long "Winter of Love" arrived on Feb. 12, 2004 when the City issued marriage licenses to thousands of same-sex couples. Lawsuits and court rulings ensued, eventually leading to the establishment of marriage equality in California in June 2013.

So winter, spring, summer or fall, now is the time to get married in San Francisco, honeymoon here or just come out!



Out With the Locals

Searching for some "insider tips" on nightlife, wedding planning and things to do from Bay Area residents? Check out www.sanfrancisco.travel/lgbt. In addition to basic information, dozens of San Francisco cognoscenti share their top picks on what's hot. There are even updates on the locations featured in HBO's new series "Looking."

Nightlife

The city has an active club and bar scene, especially in the Castro, upper Market Street, Polk Street, SOMA and Mission and the options range from "The Lex" in the Mission to The Lookout in the Castro. Visitors will also discover that many of the city's major museums, performing arts organizations and professional sports teams have special LGBT programs that range from post-performance cocktail hours to fundraisers such as the San Francisco Giants' "Until There's a Cure" day.

Begin Where It All Began

The history of the LGBT rights movement reaches to every neighborhood in the city, but the "true north" of the community will always be the Castro. Hop on one of the historic F-line streetcars and exit at the center of the universe — Castro and Market, where a 20-by 30-foot rainbow flag flies at the intersection. Local landmarks include the famed Castro Theater, the setting for numerous film festivals (and very camp sing-a-longs), Pink Triangle Park and Harvey Milk Plaza. The GLBT Historical Society offers ongoing exhibits and has just launched the LGBT Heritage Project to pinpoint historic sites associated with the community. The weekly Castro Farmer's Market is the place to check out all things delicious — including the food.

Events Calendar

Accomplishments should be celebrated and San Francisco does that — not just in June when the city is engulfed in rainbow flags and an estimated one million spectators and participants turn out for the Pride celebration and parade, but year-round. Among the most notable in 2014 are:

June

FrameLine: San Francisco International LGBT Film Festival
LGBT Pride Celebration

July

AIDSWalk San Francisco
Up Your Alley

September

Folsom Street Fair

October

Castro Street Fair
Sundance Stompede

November

Dancing with the Drag Stars

December

Dance-Along Nutcracker
Holidays with the Gay Men's Chorus
The Golden Girls: "The Christmas Episodes"



San Francisco Travel

Be sure to keep up with all things San Francisco and follow San Francisco Travel on Facebook at www.facebook.com/onlyinsf and "OnlyinSF" on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/onlyinsf>. Sign up for San Francisco eNews for deals, inside info, events and more at www.sanfrancisco.travel.



San Francisco Travel Association

415-974-6900

www.sanfrancisco.travel

The gate is wide open. Visit www.SanFrancisco.Travel and explore everything SF has to offer.

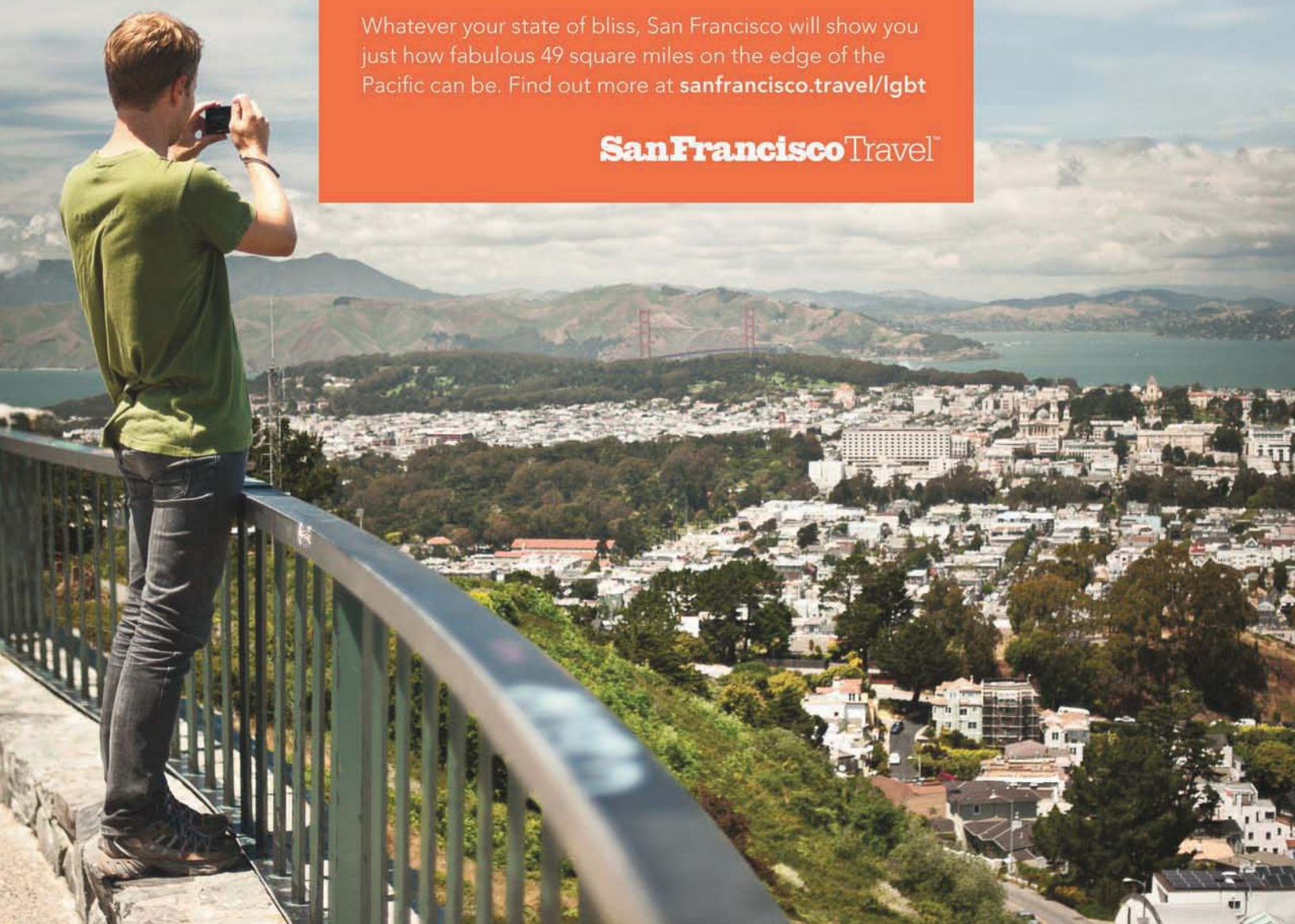


San Francisco's gay district is called "San Francisco."

Welcome to the city that practically invented gay. Sip cocktails at a local hot spot. Walk over the Golden Gate Bridge hand-in-hand. Dance to a local band in a SOMA club. Stroll through a museum on date night. Or better yet, get married here and spend your honeymoon in one of the most romantic cities on earth.

Whatever your state of bliss, San Francisco will show you just how fabulous 49 square miles on the edge of the Pacific can be. Find out more at sanfrancisco.travel/lgbt

San FranciscoTravel



SONOMA COUNTY

Sonoma County: Gay Wine Country

Just 45-minutes from San Francisco's Golden Gate Bridge lies California's world-famous wine country. Sonoma County has long been a favorite get away for gays and lesbians who live in Northern California, and now the wider LGBT world is discovering the premium wineries, the romantic restaurants, stunning scenery and the welcoming attitude of America's premier wine, spa and coastal destination.



Sonoma County is an inviting place: here you'll find thriving LGBT-owned and operated, as well as gay-friendly, businesses from the beaches of the Pacific Coast to the valleys lined with vineyards.

Venture out to discover a food lover's paradise: 500-plus restaurants ranging from Michelin- and Zagat-rated to casual wine country cuisine use freshly harvested, locally-grown produce. Learn to cook your own Wine Country cuisine by attending cooking classes held throughout Sonoma County. Other options include mushroom foraging (seasonal), master gardening classes, and wine and food pairings at wineries.

Speaking of wine and food pairings, St. Francis Winery was recently named the top restaurant in the United States by OpenTable.com, for its scrumptious wine and food pairing. The food is exquisite and perfectly paired since the winemaker and chef work hand-in-hand planning the seasonal menus.

While there are more than 400 wineries to choose from, consider a brush with fame and take in Hollywood director Francis Ford Coppola's winery, restaurant, and movie memorabilia museum, which includes Coppola's Oscars, a car from the movie *Tucker*, and the desk from *The Godfather*. This is the only winery with its own swimming pool, complete with "cabines" to rent for the day.

The naturally beautiful resort communities and the beaches and towering redwoods of the Russian River resort area rank high among the popular hot spots and is known as "San Francisco's Gay Playground."

The cool, clear water of the river boasts sandy beaches that indulge laid-back sunbathers and entice the more active with kayaking, canoeing, fishing, and swimming. Hiking, picnicking, nature walks, biking and horseback riding are some of the ways that visitors enjoy spending time among the stately giants at Armstrong Redwoods State Preserve.

As diverse in accommodations as it is in lifestyle, the Sonoma Wine Country boasts more than 30 either gay-owned or gay-friendly accommodations.



Dance under the redwoods, experience the romance of the Pacific Ocean coast, do a little shopping, or indulge in a California Wine Country meal. No matter what your choice, you'll find that, in Sonoma County, you'll feel right at home.

See more information, sign up for insider emails and get a free visitor guide at www.sonomacounty.com.



Sonoma County Annual Events

January

Olive Season in Sonoma Valley
Winter Wineland

February

Tattoos and Blues Festival
Wine and Chocolate Festival

March

Artisan Cheese Festival
Restaurant Week
Wine Road Barrel Tasting

April

Passport to Dry Creek Valley
Sonoma International
Film Festival

May

Resorts in Bloom
Russian River Women's Weekend

June

Hot Air Balloon Classic
Sonoma Lavender Festival
Sonoma Pride
Gay Wine Weekend

July

Broadway Under The Stars
Rivertown Revival
Pinot Family Reunion

August

Lazy Bear Weekend
West of Wine Festival
Gravenstein Apple Fair
Seafood, Art and Wine Festival

September

Wine Country Weekend
Wings Over Wine Country
Russian River Jazz and
Blues Festival
Grape Camp

October

ARTrails Sonoma County —
Open Studios
King Ridge Grand Fondo Ride
Sonoma County Harvest Fair

November

A Wine and Food Affair
Holiday in Carneros

December

Guerneville Parade of Lights
Sonoma Valley Winery
Gingerbread Contest
Dickens Holiday Craft Fair



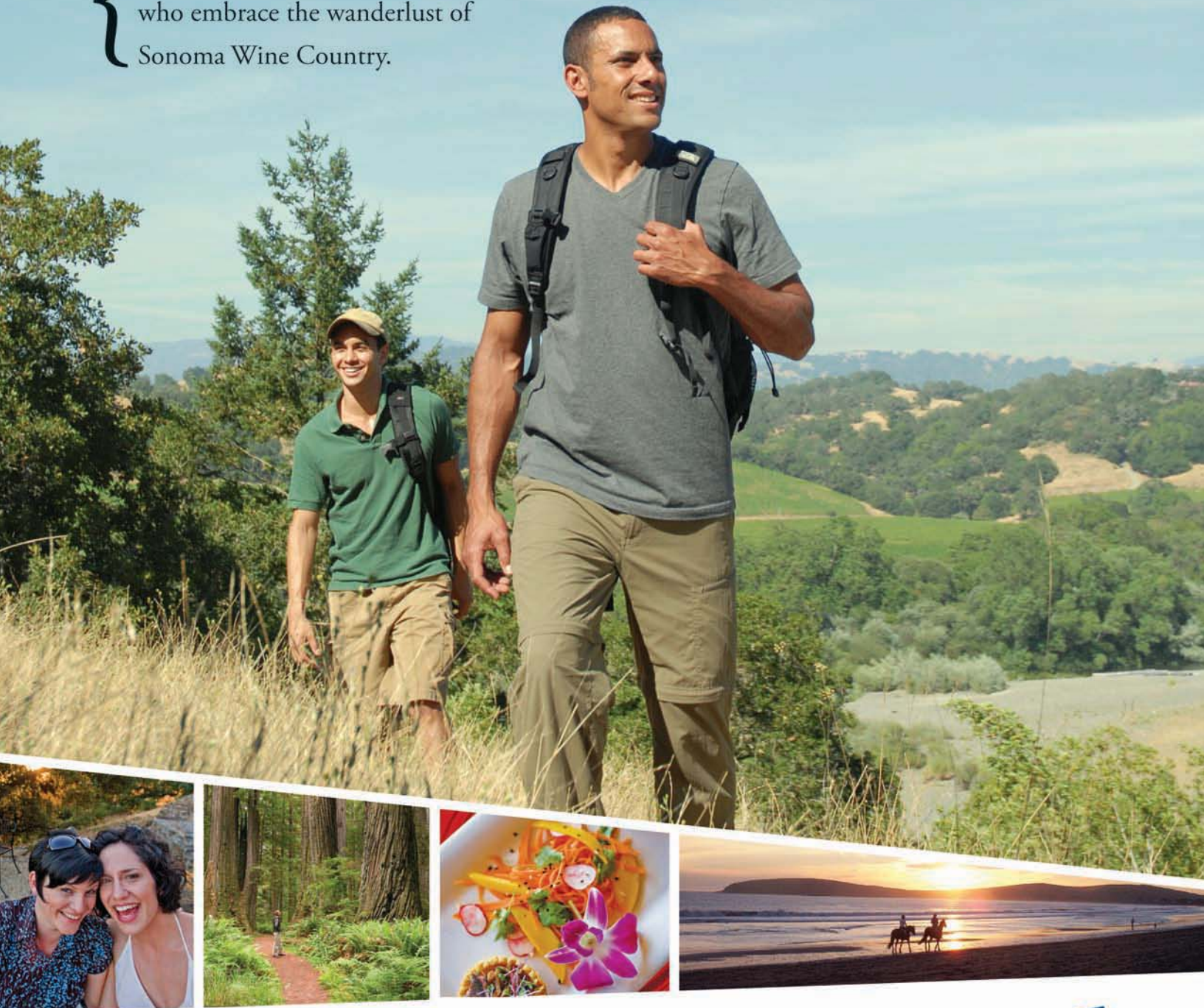
Sonoma County Tourism
800-576-6662

www.sonomacounty.com/gay

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PORTLAND

By Andrew Collins

In Portland, you'll find natural beauty, distinctive neighborhoods, culture galore and a friendly, inclusive atmosphere.

Portland has long had a reputation for being individualistic, quirky and ... dare we say it, queer. Never keen to conform to mainstream standards, Portland has a laid-back style and a reverence for all things local — an irresistible combination for chefs, environmentalists, filmmakers, musicians, writers, techies and just about anyone else who enjoys coloring outside the lines.

Sprinkled among Portland's population are several artsy LGBT notables, including filmmakers Gus Van Sant and Todd Haynes, musicians Thomas Lauderdale (Pink Martini) and Beth Ditto (The Gossip), and "Fight Club" novelist Chuck Palahniuk.

Any of these luminaries might be seen at Portland's annual Red Dress Party, www.reddresspdx.com. This spring event — which benefits local LGBT charities — inspires guys and gals alike to don red party wear and celebrate into the wee hours. The diverse crowd (Chelsea Clinton attended in 2008) is representative of Portland's spirit of inclusion. Here, it's never a surprise to find a mix of gays, straights and everyone in between mingling in shops, restaurants, hotels and bars all over town, such as the Aalto Lounge on Southeast Belmont Street or Cafe Destino in Northeast Portland.

So, where do gays and lesbians hang out in Portland? It's hard to choose one area — there are popular LGBT spots all around the city, from the urbane Pearl District to free-spirited Hawthorne. Here's a look at a few of Portland's most gay-welcoming neighborhoods.

Downtown: In the city's urban core, the Cultural District is where you'll find many local arts institutions, from the museums along the tree-shaded South Park Blocks to the opulent Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall. The "West End" (adjacent to the Pearl District) has a handful of gay bars and cafés. The verdant campus of Portland State University hosts a farmers' market on Saturdays, and RiverPlace encompasses a marina, hotels and waterfront shops and eateries.

Pearl District: Once an industrial district, the Pearl has sprung to life in recent years, its sturdy warehouses converted into sleek restaurants, boutiques, art galleries and lounges. Stylish residential towers rise alongside the neighborhood's older structures, which include Powell's City of Books, the largest independent bookstore in the world.

Old Town/Chinatown: Snug between the Willamette River and the Pearl, this historic district contains numerous galleries and gay nightlife favorites and is home to the Portland Saturday Market. You can also stroll through the tranquil Lan Su Chinese Garden or go underground with Portland Walking Tours to explore the city's "Shanghai Tunnels."

Mississippi Avenue: Ethnically diverse, Mississippi Avenue is one of several eastside neighborhoods where independent businesses and creative spirits thrive. In this DIY neighborhood, you'll find down-home taquerías, one of Portland's best comic book stores (Bridge City Comics), a huge emporium of reclaimed building materials (the ReBuilding Center) and Q Center, www.pdxqcenter.org, which serves the LGBTQ community.

Hawthorne & Belmont: These two southeast outposts of hippie and hipster culture have long been popular with lesbians and gays. Diverting, affordable and funky coffeehouses, bars, secondhand clothiers and boutiques line Hawthorne Boulevard and Belmont Street.

No matter which part of town you visit (we humbly recommend them all), you'll be welcomed with genuine warmth. And you needn't take our word for it — Portland has been ranked among the best places to live in America by such wide-ranging authorities as *Girlfriends* magazine, *Men's Journal* and *Money Magazine*.

So, plan your trip soon and find out for yourself why this city of nearly 600,000 has become such a draw for gay visitors.

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SEATTLE

Two Days, So Many Ways to Enjoy Seattle

Seattle in just 48 hours? Seattle's travel advertising campaign, 2 Days In Seattle, confidently promotes the Emerald City's LGBT appeal and ease of travel while asking, "What will you do with your two?"



Explore Without Boundaries

Seattle is compact and easily accessed by foot, street car or a short cab ride. More importantly, the city welcomes LGBT travelers wherever they go. Left Coast lifestyle lives in the Capitol Hill neighborhood, just east of downtown. It's the traditional hub of Seattle's lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community and many of the city's popular clubs, bars, bookstores and trendy cafes and restaurants. Foodies also flock to the Ballard neighborhood, which is also known for its maritime and Scandinavian communities. Next door, funky Fremont is the self-designated "Center of the Universe" and, to local chagrin, it's never been disproven.

Celebrate Marriage Equality

Last year, Washington State voters legalized same-sex marriage. Since then, the state's marriage equality has lured thousands of couples, their families and friends for weddings, related celebrations and honeymoons. Many Seattle hotels now offer LGBT newlywed packages.

It's OK to be Artsy

Seattle boasts more arts-related organizations per capita than any other U.S. city, according to a recent study by Americans for the Arts. That includes a top-tier opera, symphony and ballet, plus one of the country's most vibrant theater and music scenes. The Seattle Men's Chorus is the largest gay men's chorus in the world with more than 300 singing members. Seattle is one of the world's glass art meccas and public art is integrated throughout the cityscape.

Venture Out

Seattle is an alternate "beach destination" with more than 200 miles of fresh- and salt-water shoreline, lots of driftwood and a temperate climate that promotes year-round sea kayaking. Take a guided excursion or rent by the hour. Flightseeing by float plane is a



30-minute proposition — and perfect for proposals of another sort. And Seattle lies within a two-hour drive or motor coach tour of three national parks — Mt. Rainier, North Cascades and Olympic.

See the Pacific Northwest

Extra time? Washington's burgeoning wine country is three hours east of the city. Just 30 minutes from downtown Seattle is bucolic Woodinville, home to nearly 40 of the state's top wineries, craft breweries and distilleries, hot air ballooning and seasonal concerts. The rugged San Juan Islands — one of the nation's newest national monuments — are just two hours by catamaran or 45 minutes by float plane. Victoria or Vancouver, B.C. make for a great one-day, two-nation vacation.

For more information about LGBT Seattle look for the LGBT Travel section at www.visitseattle.org and visit the Greater Seattle Business Association at www.thegsba.org.

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Visit Seattle

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www.VisitSeattle.org www.2daysinseattle.com

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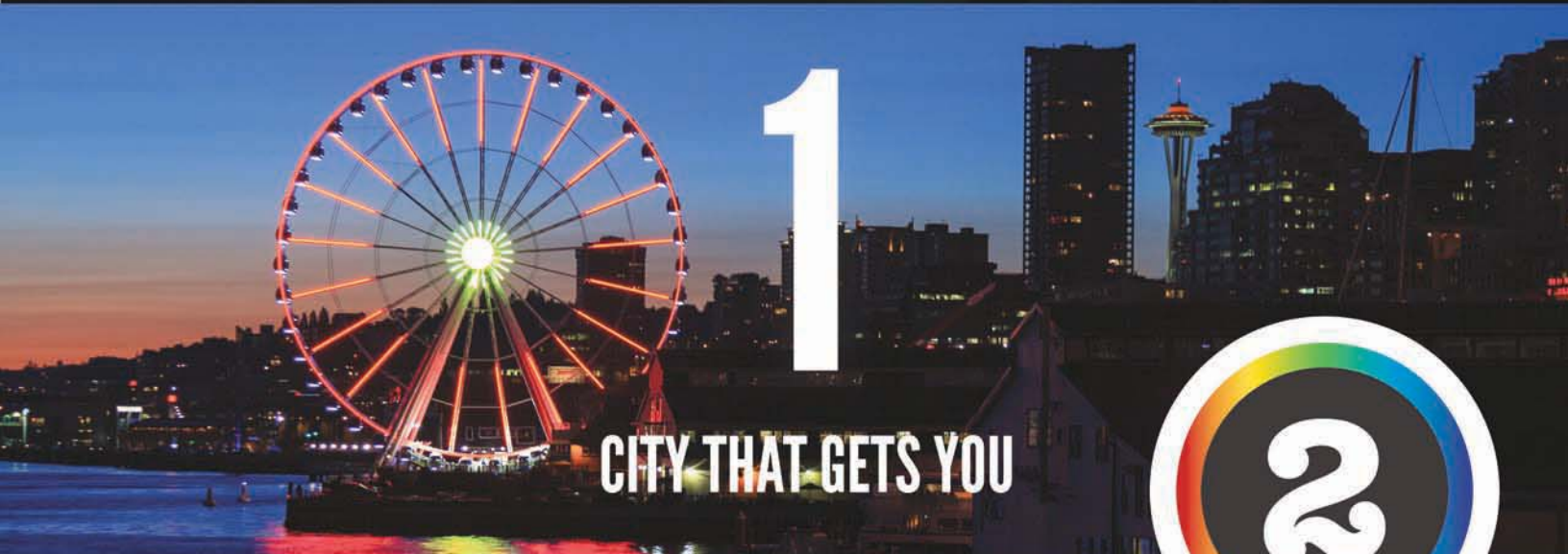
40

YEARS OF WALKING PROUD



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LAS VEGAS

Welcome to Las Vegas

When it comes to being fabulous, where you are is just as important as who you are. And there's no better place to be your fabulous self than Las Vegas — ranked as one of the top destinations for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender travelers.

Entertainment

The Entertainment Capital of the World has plenty to keep you entertained. Catch unforgettable performances by Celine Dion at Caesars Palace, Penn & Teller at Rio All-Suite Hotel & Casino, or the oh-so fabulous Jubilee! at Bally's. See top celebrity impersonators at Divas, where the women are really men; experience stunning acrobatics at Le Rêve — The Dream at Wynn Las Vegas; or take in any of the acclaimed Cirque du Soleil® shows along the Strip.

Accommodations

Las Vegas' premier resorts aren't just a place to crash and store your stuff. With all of the amenities that the city's amazing hotels have to offer, you're sure to enjoy a wonderful getaway. From the Eiffel Tower at Paris Las Vegas to the canals of Venice at The Venetian, to the beautiful lakeside Bellagio, Las Vegas welcomes visitors to some of the most unique casino resorts in the world. Several Las Vegas hotels offer LGBT packages. Tropicana and Luxor offer packages geared specifically with the LGBT traveler in mind. Or, check in to the Blue Moon Resort, the only all-male, Las Vegas gay-owned hotel.



Dining

Once known for its all-you-can-eat buffets and bargain shrimp cocktails, Las Vegas has transformed itself into a top culinary destination. Today, Las Vegas has the most comprehensive collection of celebrity chefs and world-class restaurants, more Master

Sommeliers than any other city in the world and more wine sold per capita than in any other destination. From Nobu Masuhisha at NOBU at Hard Rock Hotel to Gordon Ramsey at Gordon Ramsey Steak at Paris Las Vegas and Joël Robuchan at the Mansion at MGM Grand, you will find something perfect for your taste buds.

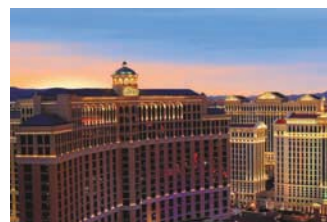
Shopping

Las Vegas has evolved into a shopping Mecca, with everything from souvenir shops to haute couture boutiques. Crystals at CityCenter is the newest shop on the

block, joining favorites such as Grand Canal Shoppes, featuring Barneys New York, Diane von Furstenberg and Christian Louboutin; The Forum Shops at Caesars featuring 160 boutiques from Abercrombie and Fitch to John Varvatos to Michael Kors; and The Fashion Show Mall with nearly 2 million square feet of shopping heaven including Neiman Marcus, Dillard's, Macys, Saks Fifth Avenue and Nordstrom. And for great deals, visit the Las Vegas Premium Outlets North and South and Fashion Outlets in Primm.

Nightlife

Bars and clubs abound in this city, with many hot spots to choose from. Try SHARE, one of Las Vegas' newest LGBT dance clubs located just off the Strip, or head to nearby favorites Marquee, XS or Hakkasan for a mixed crowd and great music. Make sure to visit The Loop, a cluster of LGBT venues including 8 1/2, Piranha and Freezone. Or, to mix and mingle with Las Vegas locals, stop by The Garage, Charlie's, Phoenix Bar & Lounge or any of our other local bars.



Spas

Prefer getting pampered indoors? No problem — Las Vegas is home to the more than 45 unique and relaxing luxury spas, making it easy to find your favorite retreat. Canyon Ranch SpaClub at the Palazzo offers gracious, tranquil gathering places and a European-style thermal treatment suite. Or refresh yourself at the Paris Spa by Mandara with its Eucalyptus steam room, dry sauna and full-service salon. For some style, try the sleek and modern BATHHOUSE at THEhotel, or the stunning Spa at Encore.

Meetings/Conventions

For decades Las Vegas has been known as the "Entertainment Capital of the World," but today the city is also recognized as the world's leading convention and meeting destination. Our award-winning hotel accommodations, meeting and exhibit facilities, and hospitality are among the best in the world and our resort and convention professionals are respected globally. We have hosted some of the country's premier LGBT organizations including HRC, International Gay & Lesbian Travel Association, National Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce and Victory Fund to name just a few.



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PHOENIX

Desert Grit Meets Resort Glitz

Things feel different in the desert. It starts with the quality of light, the gossamer weight of the air, the bigness and blueness of the sky. Then there are the sunsets, which stop you in your tracks on a nightly basis.

This feeling—the feeling of Phoenix—can't be conjured, landscaped or kindled with twinkling bulbs. John Ford knew that. So did Frank Lloyd Wright. Come to Phoenix, and you'll understand, too.

Here, real cowboys, rugged mountains and the kind of cactus most people only see in cartoons share a sun-burnished landscape with luxury resorts and spas, to-die-for shopping, and some of the best museums in the American West.

Community Matters

Phoenix is the sixth-largest city in the U.S., and its metro area comprises more than 20 towns. But the city's distinctive, tight-knit neighborhoods make it easy for a visitor to feel at home.

Downtown Phoenix is really a city within a city. It's compact and walkable, the absolute antithesis of sprawl. Light-rail stations and Latino murals adorn streetscapes, and neighborhood restaurants occupy historic homes. Nightlife? It comes as you want it, from poolside lounges and live-music halls to sports pubs and comedy clubs.

USA Today recently included the downtown neighborhood Roosevelt Row ("RoRo" to locals) in its list of "The 10 Best Neighborhoods Tourists Haven't Found Yet," writing that it "gives urban explorers every reason to visit: an indie cinema, cool shops galore, unusual restaurants, coffee houses, and a steady stream of new galleries."

Then there's Scottsdale, which is to Arizona's material wonders what the Grand Canyon is to its natural ones. This is where you'll find the lion's share of metro Phoenix's resorts, spas and nightclubs, as well as the Southwest's largest shopping mall (think Gucci, not Spencer's).



Accommodations to Remember

If you expect to find lots of stately hotels or historic bed and breakfasts in Phoenix, you're barking up the wrong cactus. What you can expect to find are beautiful resorts replete with swimming pools, spas and fine dining. Some of these resorts are sprawling and palatial; others are intimate and romantic. All are secluded from (or hidden within) the bustle of the city. And resort activities in Phoenix aren't just limited to spa, golf, and sunbathing. You can also rock climb, take a desert photography class, partake in tequila tasting, and even surf.



If living large at resorts isn't your speed, no worries. Boutique hotels, mid-century modern inns and plenty of budget accommodations are located in close proximity to the city's best attractions.

Living Life Outside

One thing sets Phoenix apart from every other big city in the United States: Sonoran Desert scenery. Phoenix has more open space than every other major metropolis in America. And you don't necessarily need hiking boots or a mountain bike to experience it. Professional guides can put desert sightseers in the saddle of a horse, the seat of a Jeep or the basket of a hot-air balloon.

Phoenix's desert splendor also provides the perfect backdrop for dining on outdoor patios, strolling through garden-park malls or just lounging by the pool.

Notable Events

Winter

Arizona Gay Rodeo, www.agra-phx.com
Arabian Horse Show, scottsdaleshow.com
Barrett-Jackson Scottsdale Car Auction, barrett-jackson.com/Scottsdale
P.F. Chang's Rock N' Roll Marathon, runrocknroll.competitor.com/Arizona

Spring

Heard Museum Guild Indian Fair and Market, heard.org
Cactus League Spring Training, cactusleagueaz.com
Phoenix Pride Festival, phoenixpride.org
Gay Days Arizona, gaydaysaz.com

Summer

Arizona Restaurant Week Greater, arizonarestaurantweek.com
Fabulous Phoenix Fourth, phoenix.gov/parks/Fabphx4

Fall

Arizona State Fair Phoenix, azstatefair.com



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THIS IS PHOENIX.

Somewhere, the season for swimwear is fleeting. Somewhere, restaurant patios sit forlorn. Somewhere, surfing requires an ocean and you need a movie ticket to see a handsome cowboy.

But not here. Not in Phoenix.

Here, swimsuit season never ends. Here, *al fresco* dining is always on the menu. Here, any resort guest with a pair of board shorts can hang ten, and the cowboys aren't just real — you might even bump into one on the dance floor.

This is Phoenix. Why take your next vacation merely *somewhere* when you could make it memorable here?

visitphoenix.com/lgbt

VISITPHOENIX



Photo by GayCities member miamidude



Photo by GayCities member bkphoto

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ALBUQUERQUE

Albuquerque celebrates diversity as an all-around destination for the LGBT traveler. Encounter enchanting art and performances, exquisite cuisine including the flavors and spices of New Mexico, and the gorgeous high desert climate. Same sex marriage became legal in New Mexico in late 2013. We are certainly a broad and beautiful community.



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That said, it is difficult to direct you to a "gay neighborhood" or club area. Instead, you should know that Albuquerque is "out all-around" and an open book of experiences waiting to happen. In any one of our unique neighborhoods – from Old Town to Nob Hill – a visitor can shop, eat, and experience our culture in ways that transcend a common LGBT Visitors Guide narrative.

Diverse cultures, authentic art and vibrant traditions have shaped the centuries-old story of Albuquerque. Plan your visit to experience the history that continues to unfold with premier cultural events, distinctive attractions, museums and shopping. Nowhere is the confluence of past and present more dramatic than in Albuquerque, where the modern city skyline is set against a backdrop of the ancient Sandia Mountains and an endless blue sky.

Spectacular weather, with 310 days of sunshine, makes Albuquerque an ideal destination for outdoor activities, including golfing, biking and skiing. Our fabulous weather makes Albuquerque the "Hot Air Ballooning Capital of the World." Take a sunrise ride for a breathtaking bird's eye view of the city.

These organizations provide the best in events and entertainment for the LGBT community. Several Albuquerque accommodations are also TAG Approved.

- Dana Goldberg Comedy Productions/Southwest Funnyfest: April 19, 2014
- Albuquerque PrideFest: May 31, 2014
- Southwest Gay and Lesbian Film Festival: October 10-19, 2014
- Albuquerque GLBT Chamber of Commerce: www.sopanm.org

ALBUQUERQUE
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Albuquerque Convention & Visitors Bureau

800-284-2282 www.ItsATrip.org/lgbt

Albuquerque celebrates diversity and welcomes the LGBT community with our Southwestern hospitality. Visit www.ItsATrip.org/lgbt for information.

ALBUQUERQUE

"One of the Top Places to be Seen in 2014" – British Airways

"New Mexico's largest city, Albuquerque is also one of the most gay-friendly cities in the Southwest."

– Andrew Collins, About.com



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Find TAG Approved Accommodations and Gay Friendly Events for 2014

WWW.ITSATRIP.ORG/LGBT

Albuquerque Information:



@VISITABQ | 800-284-2282

DALLAS

Diversity As Big As Texas

Southern hospitality is not a myth. But in Dallas it is definitely the stuff of legend. With year-round patio weather and a prosperous economy, people have a reason to be happy, sharing that state of mind with all who visit this great city, the ninth largest in the U.S. With a dynamic and vibrant LGBT community (including a multi-block business and entertainment district), as well as the largest urban arts district in the nation, diversity isn't just abundant, it is celebrated.



Community

The heart and soul of the LGBT community can be pinpointed to the intersection of Cedar Springs Road and Throckmorton Street, known by locals simply as the Crossroads. Filled with bars, restaurants and other businesses, this concentrated few blocks is where both the annual pride parade and ever-popular Halloween street party call home. From there, the community spreads out to points near and far. Many LGBT residents have also flocked to Oak Cliff to lay down roots, which has led to the revitalization of the Bishop Arts District. These eclectic, walkable few blocks are bursting with galleries, restaurants, bars and unique retail establishments that now attract visitors from all over the city.

Arts & Culture

When Dallas sets its sights on something big, expect BIG things to happen, as evidenced by its expanded urban arts district. The largest in the country, it encompasses a whopping 19 city blocks. There, lovers of culture could spend weeks enjoying all that's offered at the Dallas Museum of Art, Crow Collection of Asian Art, Nasher Sculpture Center, Morton H. Meyerson Symphony Center and the AT&T Performing Arts Center, which includes the Winspear Opera House, Dallas City Performance Hall and the Wyly Theatre.

Shopping

From football and basketball to hockey and baseball, the Dallas area is home to five professional sports teams. But here, shopping might as well be considered a sport. And earning a gold medal is as easy as flashing a credit card. Whether visitors are longing for flagship boutiques featuring the world's top fashion designers, or city-size malls brimming with the latest trends and must-haves, start training now for a test of physical endurance. Reward yourself with high-end finds from the flagship Neiman Marcus in downtown, or nearby Stanley Korshak and Forty Five Ten, all where locals shop for luxury. On Cedar Springs, several gay-owned businesses purvey everything from delightfully quirky gifts to huge selections of swimwear, underwear and accessories.

Dining

In Dallas, food transcends mere sustenance. It's a vital part of the culture. Home to more than 4,000 restaurants, a host of celebrity chefs, gay restaurateurs and pioneers in their field, block after block is filled with every imaginable cuisine. From Tex-Mex classics and southern comfort food to authentic Asian and old-world French, there's something for every taste, every budget and every social scene.



Accommodations

Whether visitors come to Dallas for business, pleasure or a combination of the two, there are plenty of gay-friendly places to relax and unwind, or host a business event of epic proportions. Visitors looking for charming and historic boutique hotels, or cosmopolitan luxury, fantastic accommodations are in abundance. Many are TAG Approved, which provides peace of mind that LGBT people are not just welcomed, but tremendously valued.

Fabulously Affordable

Despite its international appeal as a city of unparalleled opulence and wealth, Dallas is surprisingly one of the most affordable travel destinations in the United States. Plan a visit today and experience first-hand why Big Things Happen Here.



Dallas Convention & Visitors Bureau
214-571-1000
www.VisitDallas.com

Visit Dallas and you'll see why we say "Big Things Happen Here!"





Some moments call for a **BIG** celebration. And in Dallas, you'll find it among the thousands of restaurants that call our city home. Whether you're in the mood for a night prepared by a culinary pioneer or an evening with friends on a patio bar, everyone will leave satisfied.

Dig in at VisitDallas.com/LGBT.

DALLAS
BIG
THINGS
HAPPEN
HERE

NEW ORLEANS

In NOLA, there's something fabulous to discover around every turn. From world-famous restaurants to hidden music clubs, the possibilities are endless. Read on to explore a few ways you can Follow Your NOLA.

Follow Your Flavor

Oysters Rockefeller. Bananas Foster. New Orleans is known for its culinary standouts. But its passion for food and drink lives in countless other restaurants and bars around the city.



Follow your flavor to **Café du Monde**, where you can start your day with a NOLA tradition. Treat yourself to a beignet dusted with powdered sugar and a nice cup of coffee.



After exploring the French Quarter, head over to **Tableau** for a bite to eat. The menu offers classic French Creole dishes with a twist, like oysters maison or courtbouillon, a rich, seafood stew. While you're savoring the moment, take in views of Jackson Square.

When you've worked up an appetite, make your way to **The Country Club**, a clothing-optional cabana and social club in Bywater. Known for its Gulf Coast-inspired fare and events like its "bottomless" mimosa brunch, you can sip cocktails poolside while enjoying the view.

Whatever you're craving—from po' boys Uptown, to vegan in Marigny—NOLA satisfies it.

Follow Your Instincts

New Orleans is a city brimming with different cultures and styles. Whether you're looking for timeless antiques or cutting-edge fashions, there are plenty of shops and markets to indulge your inner diva.

Follow your instincts to **Magazine Street**, a six-mile stretch of the city known for its boutique shops. You'll find everything from women's fashions to a classic barber shop, complete with bowties and grooming products for gentlemen.

For a one-of-a-kind shopping experience, make your way to the **Frenchmen Art Market**. Every Thursday through Sunday night you'll find local artists selling homemade crafts like paintings, sculptures, and soaps. Take your time browsing the unique, NOLA-inspired selection.

To finish your day in style, head to the nearby **Snug Harbor Jazz Bistro**. This NOLA institution has been serving up live music, regional fare and a great ambiance for over 30 years. Unwind after a day of shopping—then get ready to discover more tomorrow.

Follow Your Curiosity

NOLA's rich history extends from the French Quarter to the Irish Channel and beyond. Every neighborhood has new sites and attractions for you to discover.

Follow your curiosity to the **French Market**, a New Orleans icon since 1791. America's oldest public market is home to a multitude of festivals and events throughout the year, though you can pay a visit any day for the NOLA tradition of "making groceries" at the farmer's market.

While you're in the Quarter, stop by **The Café Lafitte in Exile** for a refreshing drink in one of the oldest gay bars in the country. Open since 1953 (and open 24/7), locals and visitors alike can enjoy daily happy hours and a balcony view overlooking Bourbon Street.



Continue on to the **Besthoff Sculpture Garden in City Park**, located on five acres beside the New Orleans Museum of Art. Take your time wandering the grounds, as you explore over 50 modern and contemporary priceless sculptures.

Finish your day at the **Columns Hotel**, where you can step back into a grander, more elegant time. This turn-of-the-century, historic hotel overlooks the St. Charles Ave. streetcar line, and has been offering visitors a place to stay since the late 1880s. Grab a nightcap at **The Victorian Lounge Bar** before resting up for another day of discovery.



**New Orleans Convention & Visitors Bureau
and New Orleans Tourism Marketing Corporation**
800-672-6124

www.neworleanscvb.com www.followyournola.com

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ST. LOUIS

Best in the Midwest for LGBT-friendly Fun

Whether it is business or pleasure that brings you to St. Louis you will find it to be a city with a vibrant LGBT community and plenty of unique LGBT-friendly activities for individuals or families just waiting to be discovered. Greater St. Louis is the 19th-largest metropolitan area in the United States and is home to a diverse community that has the appeal of a small historic town combined with the allure and nightlife of a fast-paced urban city.

Hot Spots - home to **seven distinct LGBT-friendly neighborhoods** St. Louis has a variety of areas to explore on your visit.

Central West End (CWE)

In the heart of the city the CWE is easily accessible via MetroLink or other forms of public transportation. CWE features a variety of sidewalk cafés, exciting galleries, trendy boutiques and cozy pubs that are sure to impress. Visitors could also take the St. Louis LGBT History Walking Tour created by The St. Louis LGBT History Project.



The Grove

If it's St. Louis' LGBT nightlife you're interested in, this is the place for you! Located along Manchester Avenue, The Grove is an ever-expanding home to over a dozen unique clubs, bars, and hot spots as well as the community favorite LGBT Center of St. Louis.

South Grand

This renowned neighborhood is a must-see for St. Louis visitors. South Grand is referred to by many locals as 'the gayborhood', and earned its reputation through years of hosting St. Louis' annual PrideFest and Pride parade. Though the festival outgrew this neighborhood and moved downtown, South Grand is still home to many popular LGBT-owned businesses including the mixologists dream martini bar Absolutli Goosed, MoKaBe's coffee house, Cheap TRX, Tree House vegetarian and vegan fare, and a variety of popular boutiques along Grand Boulevard. For those who are seeking eclectic shopping or culinary diversity this area has all you could ever want.



More LGBT-Friendly Neighborhoods to see include The Delmar Loop, Lafayette Square, Soulard, Cherokee Street, and Clayton. For more information on these areas check out the LGBT section of explorestlouis.com.

Festivals & Events

St. Louis PrideFest is one of the largest in the Midwest. The annual two day festival in June includes a parade, performances, vendors, events, and a family play area. The 2013 PrideFest was attended by over 130,000 people.

The Saint Louis Art Fair in Clayton, rated tops in the nation, attracts more than 100,000 people to Clayton's streets each September.

Soulard Mardi Gras is the second largest Mardi Gras celebration in the nation, bested only by New Orleans itself. The festivities in Soulard last for weeks, beginning with Twelfth Night in January and ending with Fat Tuesday.

The Missouri History Museum in Forest Park showcases an exhibition on the history of LGBT residents. The exhibition includes amazingly preserved historical artifacts that will take you a few steps back in time with the LGBT movement.

The North American OutGames 2016 are a showing of pride through multi-sport competition and St. Louis is proud to be their host city for 2016. The OutGames will be held May 27-June 4, 2016 - throughout the St. Louis region.

To make your plans to visit St. Louis, check out www.explorestlouis.com.

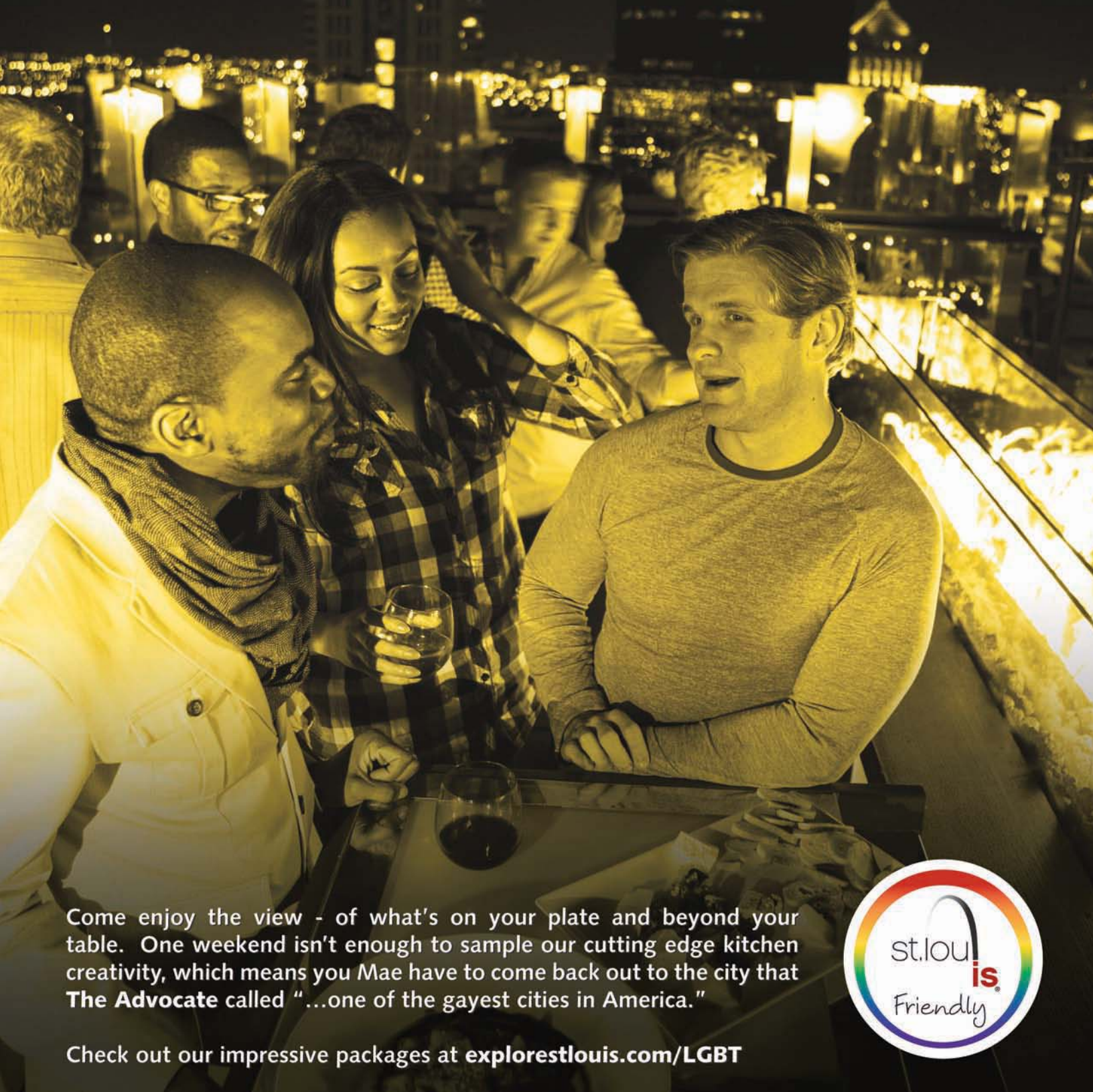


St. Louis Convention & Visitors Commission
314-992-0643
www.explorestlouis.com

Visit www.explorestlouis.com for more information on planning your next vacation, meeting or event in St. Louis.

COME UP

AND SEE ME SOMETIME



Come enjoy the view - of what's on your plate and beyond your table. One weekend isn't enough to sample our cutting edge kitchen creativity, which means you *Mae* have to come back out to the city that **The Advocate** called "...one of the gayest cities in America."

Check out our impressive packages at explorestlouis.com/LGBT



LOUISVILLE

Louisville will roll out the red carpet and do everything possible to make you feel at home. In addition to being the home of the Greatest Two Minutes in Sports — aka The Kentucky Derby — you will find that we are a friendly and vibrant city offering one-of-a-kind attractions, historic architecture, regional food, hip neighborhoods and lots of places to have fun. That's one of the reasons Lonely Planet named Louisville the Top U.S. Travel Destination for 2013.



As a city that's internationally recognized for its compassion, Louisville is an inclusive town that welcomes diversity. The LGBT community will find a warm, welcoming environment offering endless possibilities for fun. Louisville supports a growing number of LGBT-friendly businesses, including The Connection nightclub, where Lady Gaga recently stopped by after a concert to show her support. And the city is especially excited about the new LGBT-friendly hotel, The Vu, that's currently under construction and is slated to open this year. Louisville is also home to the Kentuckiana Pride Festival, which takes place annually in June.

Bourbon

It's no secret that 95 percent of the world's bourbon supply is produced in Kentucky, and Louisville is situated at the Gateway of Bourbon Country. The city opened its newest distillery this year. The Evan Williams Bourbon Experience, Louisville's first bourbon tourist attraction, is a multi-million dollar, artisanal distillery. It celebrates the legacy of Evan Williams, Kentucky's first distiller circa 1783 and the namesake of Heaven Hill's flagship bourbon brand (the world's second best selling bourbon). It's the only distillery in Louisville that the public can tour... for now. Three other distillers have announced planned openings in downtown Louisville — Angel's Envy, Peerless Distilling and Michter's Distillery. After touring the distilleries and watching the creation of America's only native spirit, come and raise a glass at one of the Louisville bars and restaurants along the Urban Bourbon Trail. Each of the 26 stops is stocked with a least 50 bourbons.

Culinary Scene

Louisville's growing food reputation has put the city on the culinary map. And it's not just the eclectic, innovative and award-winning restaurant scene, but also locally-made products that are setting the city apart (with and beyond the bourbon!). For the past two years, Southern Living magazine has named Louisville one of the Top 10 Tastiest Towns in the South, and Zagat dubbed the city one of the Top Eight Awesome Foodie Getaways in the World — the only US destination.

Eclectic Arts

Louisville is known for having one of the best live theater scenes in the Midwest. The internationally-acclaimed Actors Theater of Louisville, home of the prestigious Humana Festival of New American Plays, celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2013. Pandora Productions, a local theater company whose mission is to present theatrical pieces that speak to the gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and questioning community, has its home in Louisville. PNC Broadway Across America brings the best of Broadway to town every season. The city also is home to the Louisville Ballet, the Kentucky Opera and Kentucky Shakespeare's Shakespeare in the Park, the oldest free Shakespeare festival in the county.

Shopping

Louisville is overflowing with a vast selection of unique, locally-owned shops in strollable areas like Bardstown Road, Frankfort Avenue and NuLu. The city is especially excited about the recent retail revitalization of South Fourth Street in downtown. As the city's primary retail and entertainment district for much of the 19th and 20th centuries, the area is currently seeing a rebirth. The 500 and 600 blocks have become such a trendy place for local shopping that the area has been dubbed SoFo. Shoppers will find several locally-owned stores, many of them stocked with bourbon gifts and accessories.

Accolades

The Top US Travel Destination for 2013 by Lonely Planet
Named Best of the World Destination by National Geographic
Louisville is the 9th Most Hipster City in America, according to Thrillist.com
Priceline.com's Top 10 list for America's Best Cities for People Traveling with Pets



Louisville Convention & Visitors Bureau
800-626-5646 www.gotolouisville.com

Where the question isn't what to do. It's what to do first.



Photo: Rich Hoyer @ louisvillepics.com



Forget the red carpet.
WE ROLL OUT THE BARREL.

Louisville

Gateway to Bourbon Country.

Get a taste of Bourbon Country in Louisville. Grab a passport and experience the world's finest bourbon bars along the Urban Bourbon Trail®. And be sure to take in the newly opened Evan Williams Bourbon Experience. Located in the heart of "Whiskey Row," it will delight visitors with guided tours, a sneak peak at the distilling process and a directed tasting of premium bourbons.

Savor Louisville's bold bourbon style at bourboncountry.com.

BOURBONCOUNTRY.COM

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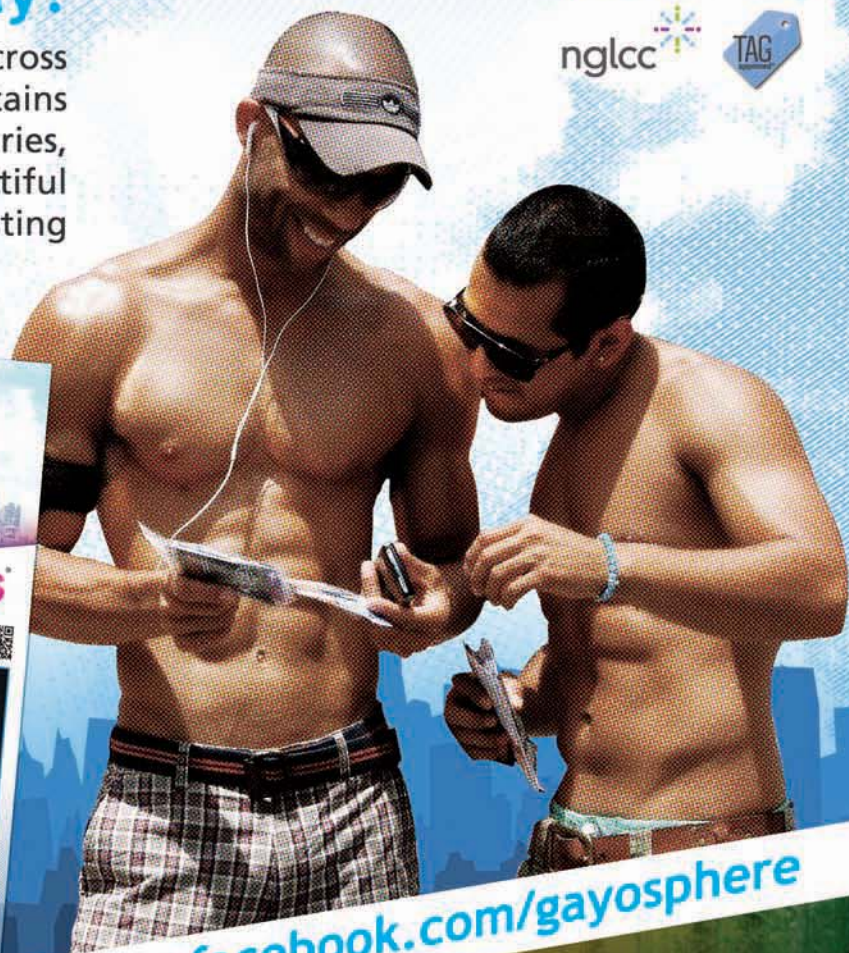


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OAK PARK

Explore the Historic Oak Park Area!

This freethinking open-minded community is located just 9 miles west of downtown Chicago. The Area is rich in cultural attractions, history, architecture, art galleries, shopping and more! Oak Park is conveniently located near both O'Hare and Midway International Airports. Public transportation on CTA Green and Blue Lines and Metra rail to and from downtown Chicago make the area ideal for a day of exploring or a weekend getaway.



Frank Lloyd Wright's Home & Studio

The Oak Park Area is home to the largest collection of Frank Lloyd Wright structures in the world, including his Home & Studio and his modern masterpiece Unity Temple. Explore American author and Nobel Prize Laureate Ernest Hemingway's

birthplace and museum. Then make your way over to Pleasant Home, prominent Prairie Style architect George W. Maher's finest surviving and only public house museum. Stroll the tree lined streets full of architectural wonders and history in our Area communities.

Take the kids to Wonder Works, a Children's Museum, or enjoy a day at the internationally known Brookfield Zoo. Discover Route 66 – The Mother Road – as it winds through Cicero and Berwyn.

A variety of accommodations ranging from nationally known chains to more intimate hotels and B&B's are available. Enjoy your many dining options, with tastes and prices to fit your budget. Art and shopping districts throughout the area offer a fine selection of antiques, one-of-a-kind items, and the latest trends.

With a dynamic, thriving and organized LGBT community, Oak Park is truly safe, comfortable and welcoming. The Oak Park Area is an idea place for singles, couples and families of all ages to visit!

For more information, call us at 888-OAK-PARK, or stop by our Visitors Center located at 1010 Lake Street in Oak Park, Illinois. VisitOakPark.com

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In Deep

5 reasons you'll love Deep

01

Art, music, festivals, and sporting events fill Garrett County's calendar year round. The Garrett Lakes Art Festival, Octoberfest, Autumn Glory Festival, Little Yough Summer Music Festival, the County Agricultural Fair, Deep



02 WORK IT OUT

Art, music, theater, culture, festivals, and sporting events fill Garrett County's calendar year round. The Garrett Lakes Art Festival, Highland Festival, Octoberfest, Autumn Glory Festival, Little Yough Summer Music Festival, the County Agricultural Fair, Deep



THE ULTIMATE GAY & LESBIAN TRAVEL RESOURCE GUIDE

LOVE
SPRING
STYLE

eat. drink. fall in.

300
BEST
GAY & LESBIAN
DESTINATIONS



WEEK
ENDERS
& BEYOND

LADIES
night life

b-town
Our Newest
Gay Village



05 GET AWAY

Year-round fun, laughter & adventures - you can have it ALL in the mountains of Garrett County & Deep Creek Lake! Boating, sailing, golfing, fishing, hiking, kayaking, rafting, alpine skiing, swimming, canoeing, backpacking, camping, wakeboarding, personal watercraft, mountain biking, canopy tours, ice-skating, tubing, snow-shoeing, snowboarding, mountain



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THE ULTIMATE GAY & LESBIAN TRAVEL RESOURCE GUIDE

DOOR COUNTY, WISCONSIN

A Welcome Like Nowhere Else. Where the waters of Lake Michigan meet the shores of Green Bay, the door is open to everyone. Door County, Wisconsin, named the “best weekend getaway in LGBT Wisconsin” by Wisconsin Gazette readers, features gorgeous landscapes, a variety of outdoor activities, performing arts and galleries, one-of-a-kind wineries, upscale shopping and dining, and friendly faces throughout.

Five state parks, dozens of scenic trails, and 300 miles of shoreline provide plenty of opportunities to get out and experience nature. Spend an afternoon hiking, running or biking the county, or paddle your way through pristine waters in your kayak. Adventurous? Try ziplining. And don’t forget to add golfing, parasailing, SCUBA diving, fishing, horseback riding and swimming to your itinerary, too.

Beautiful, historic lighthouses dot the shoreline and are a favorite subject for photographing, so get ready to fill your social media feeds. Docent-led and self-guided tours will leave you with a wealth of nautical history, while striking up conversation at galleries, boutiques and antique stores will garner stories from locals whose families have been in the county for decades.

When it’s time to wind down, indulge yourself in scrumptious cuisine from award-winning chefs, stroll through beautiful orchards to pick your own cherries, or experience a traditional Door County fish boil – a true feast for the senses! Sip a cocktail and enjoy the sunset over the water or take in a live performance under the stars. And, make time for pampering. Cozy bed-and-breakfasts, historic lodges and expansive resorts offer all the amenities you need to feel right at home.



Door County Visitor Bureau
1 (800) 52-RELAX (73529)
www.DoorCounty.com

Start planning your Door County getaway now. Get your free 2014 Door County Visitor Guide by calling 1 (800) 52-RELAX (73529), or download a copy, view upcoming events, lodging specials, and activities at DoorCounty.com.



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CLEVELAND

Forget what you think you know about Cleveland, Ohio. This vibrant and diverse lakeside city offers open and integrated community that can be found throughout Cleveland's trendy urban neighborhoods, ethnic restaurants and hot nightlife spots that are proud to be warm and welcoming to all.



With more than \$2.7 billion in new visitor-related developments underway through 2016 and host of the 2014 International Gay Games, Cleveland is not the city you may think it is. And, there's never been a better time for visitors to experience it for themselves.

Cleveland's LGBT Community Center is nearly 35 years old; our Pride celebration has been around for more than two decades. What's the point? We left the secrecy of the closet a long time ago. But if you're not a native, you may be unaware of many of the hidden gems that local folks who are in the know call their favorite hotspots. Read on as we yank the best of the region out of the closet.

Unexpected Eats

Visitors new to Northeast Ohio will be surprised to learn this fact: Cleveland is a foodie's dream. Innovative chefs will wow your taste buds and owners have created sophisticated, chic environments in which the local LGBT community feels welcomed. Visit any of these places and you're bound to stumble across fellow members of "the tribe." And don't miss a visit to the century-old West Side Market, home to ready-to-eat treats from more than 100 vendors as one of the country's largest and public markets.

Theater + Cinema

Located almost directly between the performance capitals of New York City and Chicago is a theater scene that rivals those cities for diversity — at much more affordable prices. If big-budget musicals are your thing, PlayhouseSquare offers its Broadway series with professional touring shows. It's also a fantastic destination for one-off concerts, from music to comedy featuring more than 1,000 shows each year. The Cleveland International Film Festival attracts more than 90,000 cinephiles to downtown each April for some 300 independent films from around the world. It's a big hit with LGBT audiences, who value the 10% queer film series, as well as its fantastic cinema in general.

Culture

"Culture" in Cleveland doesn't mean snooty. In fact, arts organizations in the region make an effort to open their doors to as much of the public as possible. Take the Cleveland Museum of Art. Because of its endowment, the permanent collection is always free (you might pay a nominal fee for some special exhibits). The Museum recently completed a \$350 million expansion and it's better than ever before. Just steps across Wade Oval in University Circle, you'll find Cleveland Botanical Gardens, which offers lush landscapes and flowers year-round. Severance Hall offers an acoustically magnificent place to hear The Cleveland Orchestra, rated among the top orchestras in the world, perform. In summer, the orchestra moves to Blossom Music Center for a residency under the stars. There, it loosens up — so pack a picnic, spread your blanket on the lawn and cuddle up next to your sweetie for a magical evening.

Music Mecca

While the gorgeous I.M. Pei-designed Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum building is all glass, white walls and perfectly proportioned black lines on the outside (which any design-loving LGBT person can appreciate), inside it is a shrine to America's most popular music of the past few generations. Exhibits rotate, but you can always expect artifacts from fabulous costumes to awesome album art.



Positively Cleveland

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Discover more about the unexpected fabulousness of Cleveland at www.positivelycleveland.com.



CLEVELAND.

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AKRON

Visitors will find a multitude of things to see, do and most importantly, experience in Greater Akron, Ohio. When you plan your visit to our area, get ready for exciting and engaging activities. Each of the following areas of interest provides a glimpse into the many opportunities available to you. Our offerings are as diverse as the individuals we welcome. Greater Akron, Ohio — Every Season, Any Day!



The Artists

Akron's skyline changed dramatically with the completion of the Akron Art Museum's spectacular \$42 million expansion. The juxtaposition of the museum's original brick structure with its new glass and steel addition is a stunning backdrop for the modern art displayed within. Live theater and musical productions take center stage throughout the region, including: Akron Symphony Orchestra, Tuesday Musical Association, Akron Civic Theatre, Actors' Summit, Weathervane Playhouse, Hudson Players, Lock 3 Park, Porthouse Theatre & Blossom Music Center (summer home to the world-renowned Cleveland Orchestra). Summit Artspace, Don Drumm Studios & Gallery, Akron Glass Works and Highland Square offer additional artistic options.

Foodies

Grocery shopping takes on new meaning at West Point Market, where gourmet goodies grace the shelves of this internationally-renowned food and wine store. Visit the Mustard Seed Café & Market, Ohio's largest purveyor of produce, meats and products designed to enhance the way you live, eat and play. Restaurants, cafes and unique eateries can be found at every turn. If you're hungry for a real burger, try Menches Brothers, creators of the hamburger and honoree at the annual National Hamburger Festival hosted in Akron. Car-side service is still in style at area Swenson's Drive Ins — turn your headlights on when you're ready to order and the "runners" will take it from there. Did we mention the Harry London Chocolate Factory?

Gay Games 2014

Mark your calendar and join Akron and Cleveland when we host the 2014 Gay Games in August. Athletes will be coming from around the globe to compete in more than thirty sporting events.

Historians

Greater Akron continues to play a proud and influential role in nurturing vibrant centers of commerce, education and culture. As early as 1851 when Sojourner Truth gave her famous "Ain't I A Woman" speech in downtown Akron, our community has been a melting pot for ideas, customs and forms of expression.

Plan to visit: Pan African Center for Community Study; Dr. Bob Smith's House — founder of AA; Goodyear Tire & Rubber co-founder F.A. Seiberling's tudor mansion, Stan Hywet Hall & Gardens; Hale Farm & Village; and a myriad of additional historic sites and venues.

Shopper's Paradise

The shopping forecast couldn't be brighter with these stunners: Don Drumm Studios & Gallery — nationally renowned cast aluminum sculptor and host of more than 500 U.S. and 50 Canadian artists' works; Chapel Hill Mall; Summit Mall; Hudson's First & Main; Northside District; Highland Square; Rubber City Clothing; West Point Market; Mustard Seed Café & Market; Montrose Shopping area; Stagecoach Antiques; and nearby Aurora Farms Premium Outlets, Hartville MarketPlace & Flea Market and Lodi Station Outlets.

Nature Lovers

The Cuyahoga Valley National Park is Ohio's only national park and ranks among the 10 top most-visited in the U.S. With more than 33,000 acres, there are countless ways to commune with nature. Whether you decide to hike, bike, ski, sled, fish or golf, you can't help but relax and unwind. Greater Akron also boasts Summit Metro Parks which is comprised of 9,000 acres of parks, trails and conservation areas. The Ohio & Erie Towpath Trail also runs through our communities, offering recreation along the original canal route.

The Relaxers

When you desire pampering, you'll find a number of alternatives to escape the stress and strain of a hectic schedule. The Spa at Yellow Creek, White Pond Paradise Salon & Day Spa, Scott Talbot Salonspa and Mario's International Spa offer their guests a wide array of treatments and services. Additionally, there are LGBT and LGBT-friendly clubs and bars throughout the area for additional relaxation and socializing! Don't miss our newest attraction — Hard Rock Rocksino Northfield Park!



Akron/Summit Convention & Visitors Bureau

800.245.4254

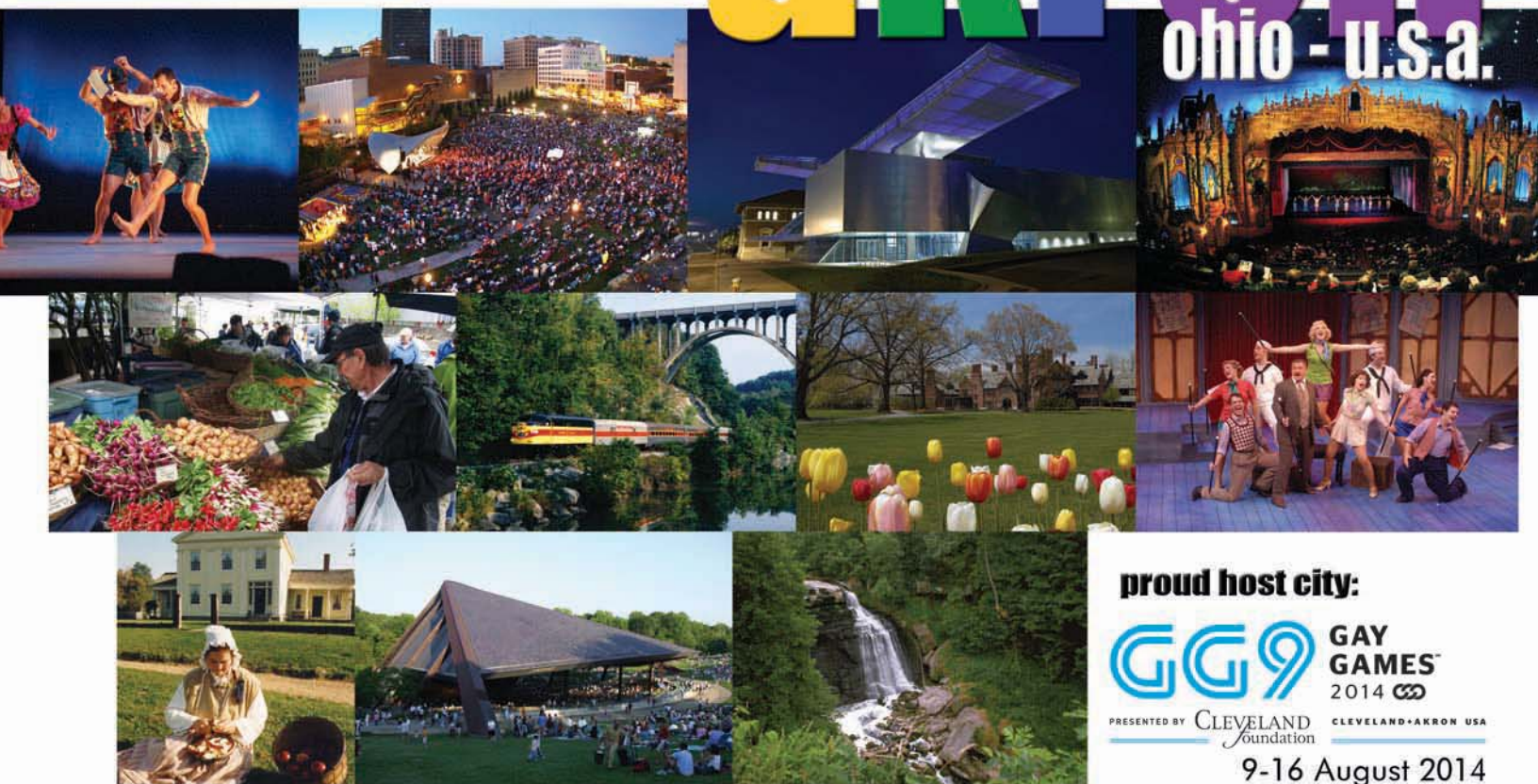
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FORT LAUDERDALE

Embrace the beach chic ambiance of Greater Fort Lauderdale, and it'll embrace you right back. You are invited to come OUT and experience paradise in this sun-kissed tropical getaway offering a rainbow of activities for every colorful side of you. Whether it's kicking back in flip flops or slipping on your dancing shoes, you'll find Greater Fort Lauderdale knows how to make you feel right at home.

Speaking of hospitality, Greater Fort Lauderdale has more than 150 gay-owned establishments, including hotels and guesthouses, bars, clubs and restaurants. It's pretty clear why this is one of the most popular destinations nationwide for gay and lesbian travelers.

Cozy up to welcoming accommodations

From beachfront resort spas to intimate and comfortable Superior Small Lodgings, Greater Fort Lauderdale offers a variety of quality accommodations. The Lauderdale Luxe Collection, a designation of fine hotels — such as the The Atlantic Resort & Spa, The Ritz-Carlton Fort Lauderdale, W Fort Lauderdale and the Hilton Fort Lauderdale Beach Resort — offers seamless service, extraordinary amenities and sophisticated surroundings. Check out www.sunny.org/luxe for the full scoop. Meanwhile, more than 20 gay-owned lodgings in the area cater to the GLBT traveler.

Dishes that sizzle as much as you do

The in-hotel restaurants of the Lauderdale Luxe Collection are beyond superb, but your epicurean adventure doesn't have to end there. Discover culinary dishes like butter poached lobster with tarragon foam, cashew and banana crusted snapper, and everything from decadent desserts to the best burger you've ever tasted. Gay-owned restaurants like Dapur, Rosie's Bar & Grill, and Galanga Thai Kitchen & Sushi Bar are among the thousands of culinary destinations here.

Underground Lauderdale

Greater Fort Lauderdale is an underground/indie rock music hub secret. For music lovers with diverse sound preferences that have not yet discovered the music scene in Broward, you will find a melting pot of music genres - at warehouse venues in F.A.T. Village (Flagler Arts and Technology), to Revolution Live (film site of Rock of Ages), Hard Rock Live, BB&T Center, to underground lounges.



With so much water, it's perfectly acceptable to get dirty

Water is the defining element of Greater Fort Lauderdale. A 300-mile ribbon of waterways winds throughout, lined with lush palm trees, exquisite homes and, of course, yachts. If you prefer to explore beauty beneath the sea, Greater Fort Lauderdale has dozens of dive operators to choose from. Explore the colorful sea life at over 100 wrecks and reefs, accessible by boat or walk in from the beach. An entirely different type of boat — the airboat — will take you into Florida's "River of Grass" — the exotic Everglades.

Get your culture on

In Downtown Fort Lauderdale you can explore the shops, galleries and restaurants of trendy Las Olas Boulevard and the Riverwalk Arts & Entertainment District, which includes the Broward Center for the Performing Arts, Florida Grand Opera and Museum of Art|Fort Lauderdale. You'll also find events year round, such as arts festivals, concerts comedy and Broadway shows. And there's always action in Greater Fort Lauderdale, whether it's watching thoroughbreds race at Gulfstream Park, getting lucky at the blackjack tables of Hollywood Seminole Hard Rock Casino, or slots at Mardi Gras or Isle Casino. Looking for a sure thing? From Las Olas Boulevard to The Galleria to the Colonnade Outlets at Sawgrass Mills, turn up the dial on style with fabulous fashions by Prada, Gucci, Versace, Ferragamo, Jimmy Choo, Last Call Neiman Marcus, Barney's New York, Off Saks and more.

Mild to Wild

Mild to Wild is all about coming OUT and enjoying more in Greater Fort Lauderdale. The mobi site's digital stylist randomly generates morning, afternoon, evening and late-night activities and events, and serves up Foursquare tips. Visit sunny.org/mildtowild, on your mobile device.



Greater Fort Lauderdale

Convention & Visitors Bureau

800-22-SUNNY www.sunny.org/lgbt

With hundreds of gay-owned hotels, bars and restaurants, Greater Fort Lauderdale is the perfect place to enjoy a low-key beach getaway.

greater
FORT LAUDERDALE
**HELLO
SUNNY**

Hang ten or hang loose. See what
makes Greater Fort Lauderdale
Florida's gay capital at sunny.org/lgbt



VisitLauderdale

Scan to see this
sunny moment
come to life.



ORLANDO

Where vacation dreams come true.

Welcome to Orlando, a destination where magical experiences touch your heart, adventure tingles your spine and excitement is heard in every giggle and scream. And because Orlando is home to the nation's third-largest LGBT population, you know you'll be greeted with open arms. Here, you always feel free to vacation however you choose.

There's only one Orlando.

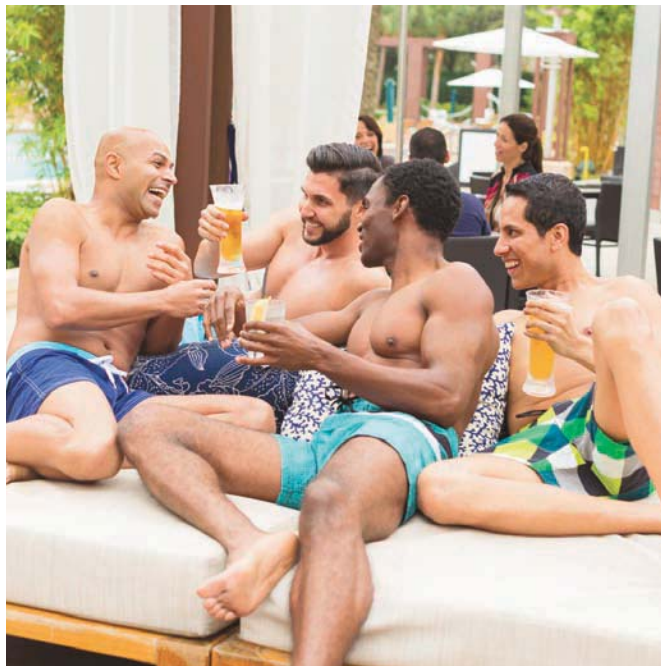
As the theme park capital of the world, Orlando offers an incomparable collection of rides and immersive experiences for visitors of all ages. Step into a fairy tale at **New Fantasyland at Magic Kingdom®** Park at Walt Disney World® Resort. Explore the thrills of two amazing theme parks—**Universal Studios®** and **Universal's Islands of Adventure®**—at Universal Orlando® Resort. Enter the icy world of the penguin at SeaWorld® Orlando's **Antarctica: Empire of the Penguin®**. Simply put, you'll discover inspiration and adrenaline around every turn.

Adventure. Us.

The thrills here come in all shapes and sizes...from soaring above our natural terrain at the **Wallaby Ranch Hang Gliding Flight Park** to biking the 22-mile long **West Orange Trail** to experiencing Florida's wild side at **Gatorland**. Let's not forget Orlando's world-class water parks, including **Disney's Typhoon Lagoon Water Park**, which is home to a spectacular dance beach party every June during Gay Days®.

Upscale on a grand scale.

Dining. Diversions. Art. Spas. Shopping. Where to begin? With a vibrant downtown and charming neighborhoods, Orlando is a true metropolitan destination that begs to be explored. No matter your passions, we offer an abundance of spectacular ways to indulge them.



A lot to be proud of.

Having such a large LGBT community has helped create a true sense of diversity. In fact, there is really no need for a "gay" district. We're proud that we can feel at home anywhere in our beautiful city. If you are looking for neighborhoods with the largest concentration of LGBT residents and businesses, head to Lake Ivanhoe Village, Thornton Park, Colonialtown, and College Park.

You're always welcome here.

We need more than a single parade or festival to celebrate our pride. So, we fill the calendar with a diverse offering of events and activities. We've highlighted some of the best below. For details and more events go to VisitOrlando.com/lgbt.



Events

May	The Orlando International Fringe Theatre Festival <i>Travel powered by Converge Orlando</i>
June	Gay Days® Orlando One Magical Weekend Girls in Wonderland® Orlando: On the flip side
July	Inaugural Family Outfest™
September	Headdress Ball Weekend <i>Travel powered by Converge Orlando</i>
October	Come Out With Pride Orlando® - 10th Anniversary Florida's largest LGBT Pride Celebration <i>Travel powered by Converge Orlando</i>

Discover your smile today

For more information on Orlando attractions and events, go to VisitOrlando.com/lgbt

Visit Orlando
407-363-5872 VisitOrlando.com/lgbt

Orlando lets you be yourself like nowhere else. Join us for an unforgettable vacation.

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VisitOrlando.



*The be yourself,
like nowhere else,
tons of incredible stories
to tell smile.*

Ready for bigger-than-life experiences? Orlando is ready for you. From our legendary theme parks to internationally renowned shopping and dining to stirring cultural diversions, here you can feel free to share everlasting moments and smiles that endure long beyond your visit. Discover your smile today at **VisitOrlando.com/lgbt**

Orlando makes me smile.

KEY WEST

Key West. Always Open.

Aside from its natural beauty and eclectic charm, Key West's warm, come as you are attitude is one of the main reasons for the island's popularity with gay and lesbian visitors. Key West is safe, seductive and real, a genuinely gay-friendly sanctuary where you can be open, relaxed, make new friends, and savor this small town's live-and-let-live philosophy. So go ahead. Hold hands. Embrace. Hang out. No one will bat an eye. No wonder Key West's motto, "One Human Family", was officially adopted by the City Commission. And why gay and lesbian visitors feel more themselves in Key West than anywhere else in the world.

There's plenty to do and see on this two-by-four mile island, including hidden charms that might go unnoticed by the mainstream. This quaint village boasts bougainvillea, royal Poinciana and hibiscus blossoms in a rainbow flag of colors. Canopied streets are lined with lovingly restored Victorian homes, many once owned by illustrious gay and lesbian figures. Tennessee Williams, Elizabeth Bishop and James Merrill are but a few. Here, secluded courtyards and lazy porch swings are permanent fixtures. And bicycles rule the road. With hundreds of dive and snorkel sites just off shore, Key West's turquoise water beckons. Try a clothing-optional dive excursion. Or grab a rod on a deep-sea fishing excursion. But if you'd prefer a lounge chair over a fighting chair, gay and lesbian sunset cruises offer front-row seats to pastel skies as the pulse of Mallory Square festivities beckon in the not-too-distant background.

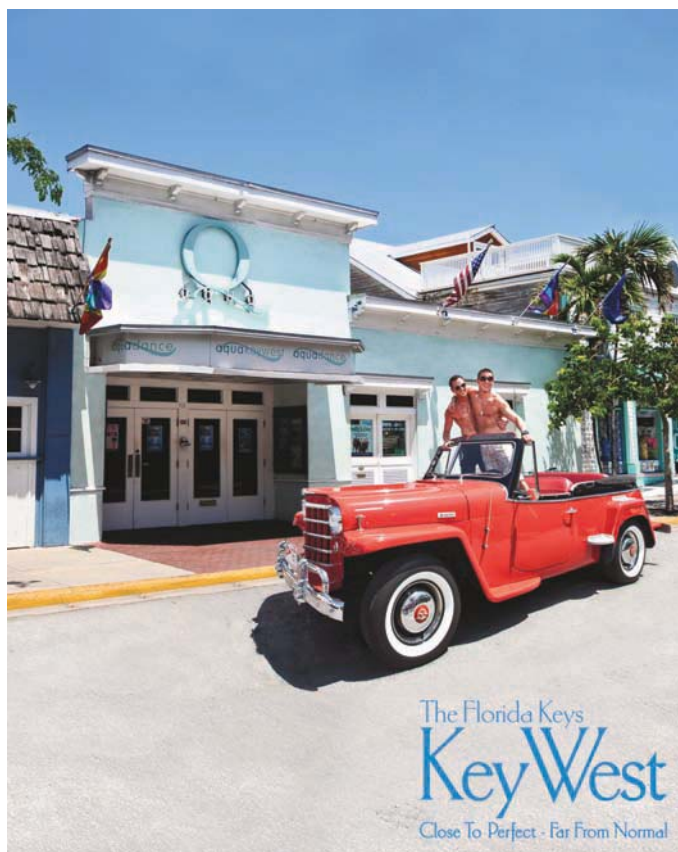
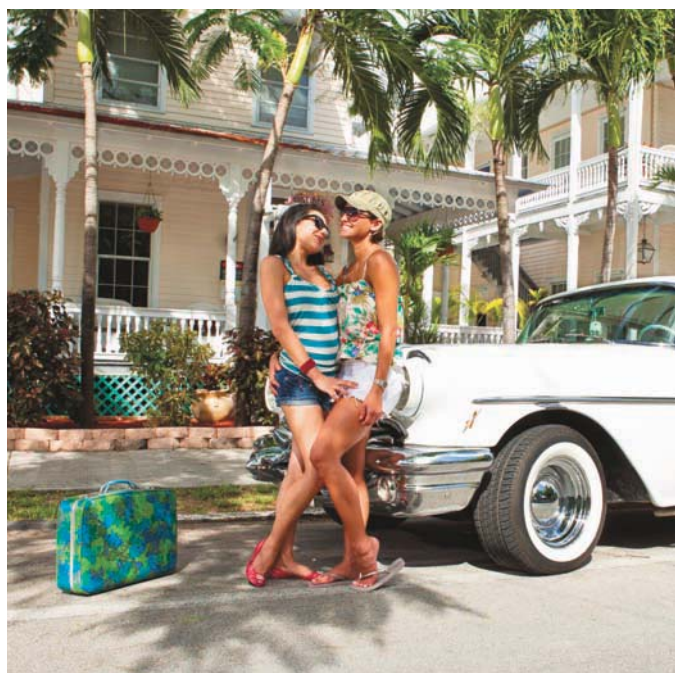
For more information visit fla-keys.com/gaykeywest.



Key West, The Florida Keys

305-294-4603 www.fla-keys.com/gaykeywest

Key West's laid back, live-and-let-live atmosphere is the perfect place to restore balance to this crazy world.



Harmonize.

The Florida Keys
Key West

Close To Perfect - Far From Normal

Pirates and poets. Artists and musicians. Early birds and night owls. Gay, straight or somewhere in between. Down here in Key West, we may all march to the beat of a different drummer, but we're singing the same song.

fla-keys.com/gaykeywest
305.294.4603



ATLANTA

Atlanta: the Epicenter of the LGBT South

Rooted in diversity and hospitality, Atlanta garners recognition each year for being a top gay travel destination, including landing a coveted spot on The Advocate's 2013 list of the "Top 10 Gayest Cities in America." Atlanta's diverse population of four million residents is decidedly youthful and creative. Our vibrant neighborhoods offer endless opportunities for award-winning dining, boutique shopping and exciting nightlife for LGBT visitors each year. However, the best part of Atlanta lies not in its concrete and steel, but in its people. Come prepared to be welcomed with a healthy dose of "how y'all doing?" hospitality.



World's Most Accessible City

They say getting there is half the battle. Not in Atlanta. Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport is the busiest airport in the world, offering direct, nonstop service to more than 155 U.S. destinations. Eighty percent of the U.S. population is within a two-hour flight. From baggage claim, visitors can hop on MARTA for a quick 15-minute train ride into the heart of Atlanta's tourism and entertainment district downtown.

Where to Stay

Once visitors arrive, they'll have a wide variety of accommodation options to fit any budget with more than 94,000 hotel rooms located in metro Atlanta. From world-class luxury accommodations to chic boutique hotels to intimate bed & breakfasts, Atlanta offers that perfect place to lay your head.

What to Eat

Looking for a dining recommendation in Atlanta? Just ask the locals. Atlanta boasts more than 700 Zagat-rated restaurants from upscale gourmet cuisine to progressive variations of Southern staples. In the past five years, 45 Atlanta chefs have been nominated as semifinalists for the James Beard Awards. But Atlanta's dining story isn't just one of sheer numbers. Eateries opening in Atlanta cater to their neighborhoods, providing a warm welcome and inviting ambiance to invoke the feeling of dining at a friend's house, rather than a restaurant. The city's chefs often support nearby farms, sourcing meats and produce locally.

What to Do

A visitor's journey starts in Centennial Olympic Park, home to the city's top attractions including the World of Coca-Cola and the world's largest aquarium, Georgia Aquarium. Two new attractions, the National Center for Civil and Human Rights and College Football Hall of Fame, will open just steps away this year.

Atlanta's extensive art scene and rich history create cultural offerings unmatched in the South. Visitors can enjoy art, music, theatre and more at award-winning venues throughout the city. The Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, whose recordings have earned 17 Grammy Awards, plays more than 200 concerts per year. Atlanta is also home to 52 playhouses and theatres, including the Tony Award-winning Alliance Theatre.

Atlanta is also known as the shopping epicenter of the South. Glittering Buckhead boasts world-class shopping malls, Phipps Plaza and Lenox Square, offering high-fashion brands. West Midtown, or "the Westside," is home to some of the city's most inspired design, clothing and art boutiques, including Atlanta MADE, Sid Mashburn, Ann Mashburn and more. Downtown's Castleberry Hill offers one-of-a-kind art galleries stocked with pieces created by local artists.

The city's nightlife is diverse with each neighborhood offering a different vibe. Joe's on Juniper in Midtown is a perennial favorite and conveniently located near Atlanta's hottest nightclubs. Edgewood Avenue, located just a few minutes from downtown, offers quirky late-night options such as celebrity magnet Sister Louisa's Church of the Living Room and Ping Pong Emporium - a kitschy setting complete with full bar, good eats, jukebox and a ping pong table. Mary's, in East Atlanta, was voted "Best Gay Bar" by Out Magazine and is home to the city's best karaoke.

Events

Atlanta Pride (Oct. 11-12, 2014), the largest pride festival in the Southeast, draws 200,000 supporters annually. Atlanta Black Pride Weekend (Aug. 27-Sept. 1, 2014), the largest black gay pride celebration in the world, includes exciting parties and engaging seminars. Atlanta is also home to one of the longest-running LGBT film festivals in the country, Out on Film (Oct. 2-9, 2014). The eight-day film festival takes attendees on a community-building journey through LGBT cinema.



Atlanta Convention & Visitors Bureau
404-521-6600
www.atlanta.net

Visit www.gay-atlanta.com for more gay-friendly Atlanta travel deals and ideas, including attractions, restaurants, nightlife and more.

I AM ATL.

Stephanie Barnett

Head Mixologist, SkyLounge at Glenn Hotel
Luckie Marietta District



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VIEWS WITH TOP-
SHELF NIGHTLIFE.**

I am your cordial host for a great night out. I'm a big fan of fusion in the heart of Atlanta, the spirit of the south. Here, you can relax and unwind with a cool mix of music just steps away from your world-class hotel and delectable dining. **Plan on Atlanta and have a premium event.**

Atlanta.net



RALEIGH

Dynamic, unexpected, smart and celebratory—just a few of the words you may be surprised to hear when talking with recent visitors about North Carolina's capital city area. Our Mayberry image is a thing of the past, and we've gained a reputation as having a fun, lively and welcoming vibe.

Raleigh is a one-of-a-kind capital and cultural center—no matter what culture you come from. Endless hot spots, gay and lesbian nightspots, historical treasures, family-friendly activities, music around every corner and incredible area-wide celebrations are just a few of the reasons why this area is a welcome stop on your next journey.

No matter your reason for visiting the Raleigh area, whether for business, for a festival, visiting family or friends or just taking a much-needed weekend getaway—we have most everything... a reason why we're constantly rated near the top of "Best of" lists. Our cultural scene is one of the best in the nation, and we're known as the "Smithsonian of the South" for our caliber of free museums, all of which have impressive permanent collections and a rotating calendar of blockbuster special exhibitions. Also we can claim to be one of only a handful of U.S. cities with all four professional disciplines of performing arts in a single setting.

Moderate temperatures year-round make this a perfect getaway destination anytime, but in May and in September, thousands of people from all walks of life come together for two spectacular celebrations. Families are welcome during Out! Raleigh, the area's annual street festival that celebrates the LGBT community and its allies, with speakers, performers, vendors and a Kids Zone bringing a day of fun and family to downtown Raleigh's Fayetteville Street district. You might have heard of (or even attended) N.C. PrideFest—the largest LGBT event in a five-state area, and while the day festival takes place in neighboring Durham, the real party happens in downtown Raleigh during nighttime celebrations, when more than 15 LGBT nightlife events transpire in downtown's Warehouse District and Glenwood South district clubs.

Sweet tea, barbecue, home-style vegetables—perhaps this is what your mind conjures up when you think about dining in the South. And while you'll still find these native dishes in abundance, savvy and cultured dining clientele will also find

some innovative dining experiences in a uniquely charming setting. A handful of talented young chefs are putting the Raleigh area on the map by creating unusual and photo-worthy food dishes using locally-sourced ingredients... not to mention the area's 15 craft breweries and three wineries add a little spirit to any get-together with friends or a special couple's night out on the town.



Where you stay is as important as what you do and where you eat while you're here. It's got to fit your style, your location and, of course, your budget. That's why you'll find over 150 hotel options, from Five-Diamond luxury properties to romantic B&B inns to clean, quality budget hotels as well. And we've got the picture-perfect hotel or state-of-the-art meeting facility, no matter if you're in the area with your partner, with a group of friends or for a large business meeting or event.

Start your visit at the Greater Raleigh Visitor Information Center for advice on where to go, what to do, events and festivals and, of course, an Official Visitors Guide—the perfect tool to help you make the most of your time in N.C.'s capital city area. We welcome you with open arms and bet you'll be pleasantly surprised at the fantastic array of what Raleigh, N.C., has to offer.



**Greater Raleigh Convention and
Visitors Bureau**

800-849-8499 www.visitRaleigh.com/lgbt

Greater Raleigh's the perfect travel destination because it's so many destinations in one. Unique restaurants, festivals, cultural centers and sports—all surrounded by luscious greenery!





**Be curious.
Be surprised.
Be inspired.**

Whether you're arriving for a few days of business, or a bit of fun, these city streets are lined with funky boutiques and shops, lauded restaurants, historic treasures, performance stages of all kinds and gay and lesbian nightspots. We're a beacon of pride in North Carolina, and the ecstatic host to the largest LGBT event in five states, as well as our annual, family-friendly Out! Raleigh festival. So, come visit. Our arms are open, and welcoming. visitRaleigh.com/lgbt/



RICHMOND

Cobblestones + Cocktails: Find Your Mix in Richmond

Cool museums and river trails, fine art and funky boutiques, gorgeous gardens and craft brews: explore an unexpected blend of historic and hip in Virginia's Richmond Region. Located two hours south of Washington, D.C., Richmond is a million miles from boring. It's no wonder Frommer's named Richmond in its list of Top Destinations for 2014, saying, "While you weren't looking Richmond got cool."

Passport magazine says this about Richmond: "If what you're looking for is a city rich in history and alive with the arts, where culture, fine dining, and gracious living are supplemented by a gay-friendly sensibility that extends from its major institutions to gay-dedicated cultural pursuits ... if what you are looking for is, in a word, a surprise... then think about Richmond."

LGBT visitors will find the Richmond Region's neighborhoods, corner restaurants and shops very welcoming. Carytown offers up nine blocks of locally-owned shops and restaurants and features a great LGBT nightlife scene.

Mild weather makes a visit to the Richmond Region fantastic any time of year. In the fall, the community partners together for #PrideVA, a series of events running September through November that explore and celebrate LGBT and LGBT-friendly culture and community. Highlights include PrideFest, happening in late September, and Gay Days at Kings Dominion, Richmond's fun-filled amusement park. Complete details are available online at www.PrideOverRichmond.com.

No matter when you visit, you can immerse yourself in thought-provoking art and culture, distinctive historical sites, savory cuisine, stylish shopping and impressive architecture. Enjoy lunch or dinner at a hip restaurant in the Museum District, the Fan or the River District. Attend a musical or theatrical performance. Explore the great outdoors along the James River or at a lush garden. Extend the fun into the next morning by joining in on our popular LGBT nightlife.



From luxury hotels to quaint B&Bs, Richmond offers a vast selection of accommodations, including several TAG Approved properties. Richmond is also home to the state's largest convention center and multiple sports facilities and complexes for tournaments. Getting here is easy, thanks to the Richmond International Airport's nearly 200 daily flights and our central setting on the East Coast.

Create your own mix of fun and embark on an unforgettable journey to the Richmond Region.



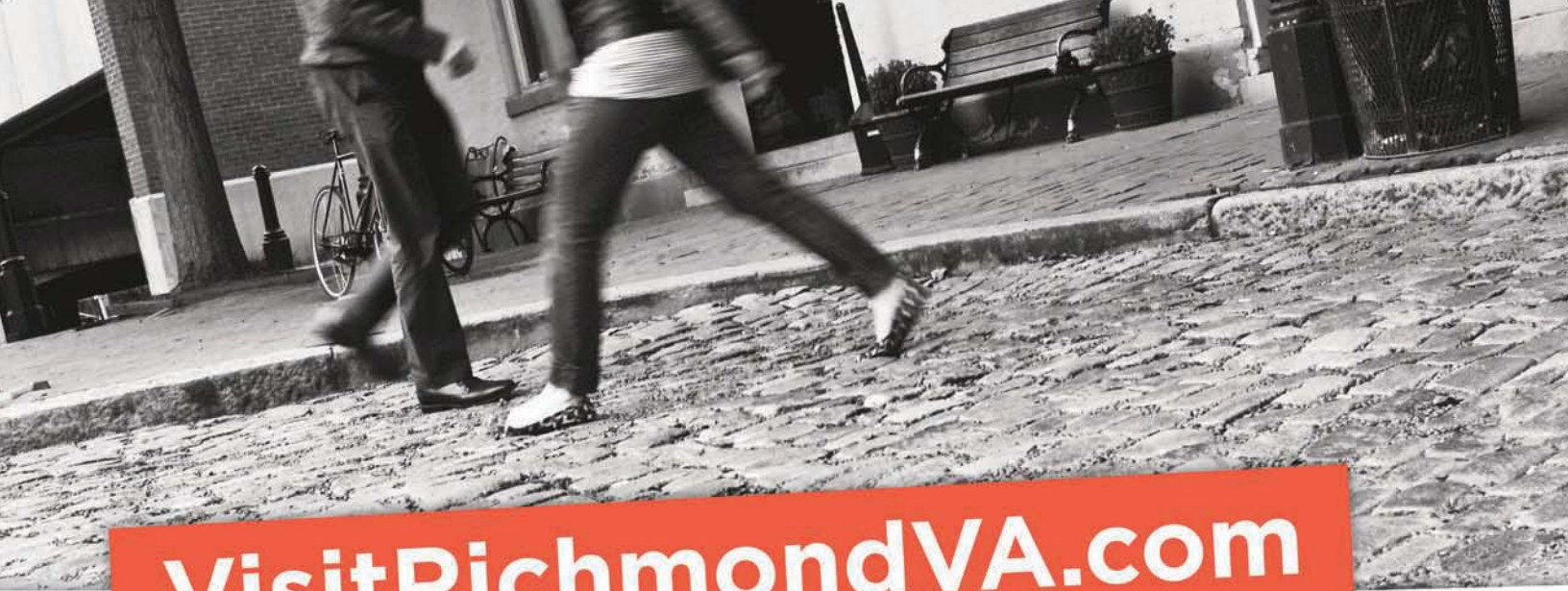
Richmond Region Tourism

888/RICHMOND

www.VisitRichmondVa.com/rainbow

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1.888.RICHMOND

 **@VisitRichmond**  **/VisitRichmondVA**

Cool museums and river trails, fine art and funky boutiques, gorgeous gardens and craft brews: explore an unexpected blend of historic and hip in Virginia's Richmond Region. Two hours south of Washington, D.C., and a million miles from boring.

PHILADELPHIA

Get Your History Straight and Your Nightlife Gay®

Philadelphia is all about independence, neighborhoods and the people who make the city a vibrant destination. Whether you're a history buff, an outdoor enthusiast, a foodie, a gay family, a sports fan, a shopper, a festival fanatic or an urban adventurer, you'll find that Greater Philadelphia is a progressive destination that lives up to its reputation as the City of Brotherly Love and Sisterly Affection.



A visit to Philly is about getting your history straight, right? Philadelphians have always been on the forefront of the LGBT civil rights movement. Pioneers organized some of the country's first gay and lesbian political demonstrations and produced the most widely circulated gay and lesbian publications. If you're looking for a great photo opportunity, stop by the GLBT historic marker directly across the street from Independence Hall and the Liberty Bell Center on 6th Street between Market and Chestnut Streets. The blue-and-

gold marker acknowledges the Annual Reminders, a series of demonstrations led by pioneering gay activists on July 4 from 1965 through 1969.

Philadelphia's Gayborhood greets all visitors with more than 70 rainbow street signs. The lively nine-block neighborhood is home to gay-friendly restaurants, bars, nightclubs—perfect for getting your nightlife gay—and shops. Book-lovers can soak up a bevy of knowledge at Giovanni's Room, the longest continuously running LGBT bookstore in the United States and the site of the city's second LGBT historical marker. Within the Gayborhood lies Midtown Village, a trendy 'hood offering fine boutiques and haute cuisine ranging from Mexican and Indian to Italian and Japanese.

Less than a 60-minute drive from downtown Philly lies the artsy enclave of New Hope, Pennsylvania, filled with galleries, shops, restaurants, parks, covered bridges and outdoor fun. The historic riverside town has attracted artists, writers and antique hunters for 200 years.

On any given day or night of the week, there are countless things to do in Philadelphia and The Countryside®. Visitors can build their perfect weekend itinerary on visitphilly.com/gay, where they can also book a hotel package.

Need even more of a reason to visit? Here's a look at just a few gay-friendly happenings taking place in 2014:

- March 1-9, 2014: Philadelphia International Flower Show, theflowershow.com
- March 8, 2014: Dragapalooza, nightlifegay.com
- March 23, 2014: Spring Pink Pub Crawl, pinkpubcrawl.com
- April 12, 2014: Mr. Gay Philadelphia, mrgayphiladelphia.com
- April 20-27, 2014: Philadelphia Black Gay Pride, phillyblackpride.org
- May 1-4, 2014: Equality Forum, equalityforum.com
- June 8, 2014: Philadelphia Gay Pride Day, phillypride.org
- June 8, 2014: Triumphant Pride, nightlifegay.com
- July 2014: QFest, qfest.org
- October 13, 2014: OutFest, phillypride.org
- November 26, 2014: Pink Pub Crawl, pinkpubcrawl.com



Visit Philadelphia
215-599-0776
www.visitphilly.com

Visit Philadelphia makes Philadelphia and The Countryside a premier destination through marketing and image building that increases business and promotes the region's visibility.



Photos by R. Kennedy and G. Widman for GPTMC; also courtesy of PCVB



DEAR GUYS WHO LIKE GUYS
AND GALS WHO LIKE GALS,

LIFE, LIBERTY AND THE PURSUIT
OF HAPPINESS BEGAN WITH ME.

WITH LOVE,
PHILADELPHIA 


P.S. GET YOUR HISTORY STRAIGHT AND
YOUR NIGHTLIFE GAY.

VISITPHILLY.COM/GAY



PITTSBURGH

Pittsburgh is proud to welcome each and every visitor to our vibrant city.

Home to Andy Warhol, Gene Kelly and Christina Aguilera, Pittsburgh Pride takes on a whole new meaning with its culturally rich arts and music scene, sports, outdoor adventure, great food and friendly people. A full calendar of special events, including world-class performing arts, the Pittsburgh International Lesbian & Gay Film Festival in October, and the fast-growing PrideFest in June, provide plenty of reasons to make the trip. And, Pittsburgh was again named as one of "The Gayest Cities in America" by *The Advocate*.



Photo: John Martinec

Visit Pittsburgh's Cultural District, a 14-block area filled with fantastic cuisine, an outstanding mix of both classical and contemporary visual and performing arts, music and much more. The historic and beautiful Benedum Center hosts performances by the Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre, Pittsburgh Opera, Pittsburgh CLO and PNC Broadway Across America-Pittsburgh. The Byham Theater is home to a wide variety of performing arts, including dance, music, theater, film and family-friendly events. Pittsburgh Public Theater performs at the Michael Graves-designed O'Reilly Theater. Heinz Hall is the cornerstone of the Cultural District and home to the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra.

Located just minutes from downtown, Pittsburgh's North Shore offers plenty of excitement for everyone. For the arts and culture enthusiast, there's The Andy Warhol Museum, dedicated to Pittsburgh's most "pop"ular native son. The museum features thousands of works including prints, photographs, sculptures and film — all capturing the magic of this pop culture icon. Ease on down the road and jump into the action at Rivers Casino or catch a game at PNC Park or Heinz Field. The North Shore is also a great place for family fun with the Children's Museum of Pittsburgh, Carnegie Science Center and National Aviary all within minutes of one another.



Photo: The Andy Warhol Museum

Downtown Pittsburgh offers a bevy of restaurants to suit every palate. From quick bites to bakery delights in Market Square to romantic dinners and drinks after dark on Penn Avenue, Downtown is a diner's delight. And, Pittsburgh's Strip District offers tasty breakfast options and a variety of ethnic treats. The Lawrenceville and East Liberty neighborhoods of Pittsburgh boast many trendsetting dining options. *Bon Appétit* magazine recently named Pittsburgh as the "next big food city of the United States."

The Strip District is also known for its retail product and ethnic food stores, so shop 'til you drop, and snack along the way! Stop by the Pittsburgh Public Market for unique Pittsburgh finds including homemade pierogies and handmade clothing. The neighborhoods of Shadyside, Lawrenceville and South Side also offer distinctive shopping choices.

Pittsburgh's many hotels offer luxury and convenience to some of the city's best cultural treasures. Select from the many TAG Approved hotels in the area, including these Downtown properties: Fairmont Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh Marriott City Center, Renaissance Pittsburgh Hotel, The Westin Convention Center Pittsburgh and the Wyndham Grand Pittsburgh Downtown.

Now for the after party! Gay Pittsburgh is home to many gay bars and clubs spread out across the city, including Cruze Bar in the Strip District, Images Pittsburgh, Downtown, and Spin Bartini/Ultra Lounge in Shadyside.

There are many LGBT resources and organizations in Pittsburgh. The Delta Foundation of Pittsburgh produces events and supports projects that help make Pittsburgh a vibrant and exciting city that is attractive to the LGBT community. The Foundation hosts PrideFest every June. The Gay and Lesbian Community Center is a great resource to learn more about Pittsburgh's community and activities. Each month the Center sponsors OUTrageous Bingo for a night of OUTrageous fun.

PITTSBURGH
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Photo: Laura Petrilla

Come Out!

The door's always open.



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See for yourself at VisitPITTSBURGH.com

VALLEY FORGE AND MONTGOMERY COUNTY, PA

Welcome to Valley Forge. Where we know a thing or two about freedom.



Say hello to Valley Forge, Pa., birthplace of the American Spirit. Our embrace of personal liberty goes back to that infamous winter of 1777–1778, when General George Washington encamped here. He not only survived the harsh cold, he also

inspired a rag-tag group of soldiers to become a cohesive army ready to fight for freedom from oppression.

Inspiration — which has been so vital to our past — remains a vibrant part of our present. As we continually celebrate the rights of all Americans, the Valley Forge Convention and Visitors Bureau welcomes you to experience the wide diversity of the area's people, places and things to do.

We're members of the Gay and Lesbian Convention and Visitors Bureau, International Gay & Lesbian Travel Association and the Philadelphia Gay Tourism Caucus, so we know our audience and we know what you're looking for when you travel.

If you live in the mid-Atlantic area, you won't even have to travel very far to reach us; our close proximity to New York, Washington, Baltimore and neighboring Philadelphia make planning a gay vacation getaway or meeting a breeze. In fact, Valley Forge is just 30 minutes from Philadelphia's Gayborhood,

where the LGBT community is indulged with exceptional restaurants, night spots, boutique shops, and gay events.

Book your stay in one of the Valley Forge area's gay-welcoming, TAG Approved hotels and you can enjoy all the hot and trendy digs in our laid-back suburbs and the City of Brotherly Love.



Our wide range of member hotels for every wallet and their hospitality professionals understand what it means to be truly welcoming, and they go the extra mile to deliver. So let us help you plan your visit.

Between first class-hotel accommodations and worldly cuisine, to up-market and outlet shopping destinations or quaint rural villages and Main Streets, to inspiring historical and cultural attractions, you'll never be at a loss for something to do and enjoy.



Valley Forge Convention & Visitors Bureau
610-834-1550
www.valleyforge.org/visitors

Valley Forge CVB actively promotes Montgomery County, PA as a welcoming leisure destination.

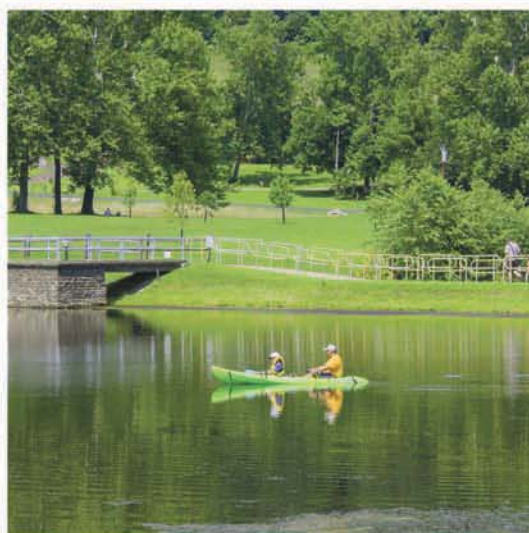


The home and studio of artist Wharton Esherick, Dean of American Craftsmen, has a creative style and vibe all its own.



Express your independence here.

Valley Forge & Montgomery County, Pennsylvania



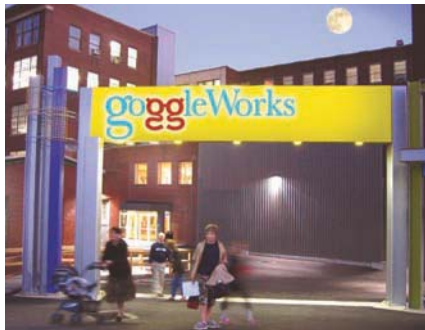
Valley Forge[®]
CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU



VALLEYFORGE.ORG

GREATER READING, PA

Great events, cool festivals, quaint shops and comfortable surroundings... a place where local culture, and personal character still abound. **Greater Reading, PA**, offers a convenient location brimming with history, heritage and charm. We haven't forgotten our roots and you won't forget your time here. In fact, you'll want to come back again and again.



Get Creative and color outside the lines at GoggleWorks Center for the Arts, the largest interactive arts center of its kind in the country. Housed in the former Willson Safety Goggle Factory in downtown Reading, the sprawling space features gallery

exhibits, a café, movie theater, gift store and offers classes and workshops, including ceramics, photography, belly dancing, and glass blowing. Visit on **Second Sunday**, GoggleWorks' free, monthly, open house with demonstrations, music and artist studio tours.

Hit Greater Reading's (Main) Streets for a laid-back day of shopping and strolling. Head to our quintessential Main Streets in West Reading, Kutztown, Boyertown, Hamburg and Oley Township. From corner to corner, boutiques, eateries and a variety of small businesses create a homespun marketplace that sells every item imaginable — from clothing to cupcakes, jewelry and soy candles, to gourmet cheese, arcade games and antiques. If antiques are your passion, find treasures at Adamstown's Antiques Capital USA, Renninger's Antiques and Farmer's Market, and Stoudt's Black Angus Antiques Mall.

Take a ride through history when you visit an Underground Railroad stop at the Central PA African American Museum or take flight on a WWII aircraft at Mid Atlantic Air Museum's World War II Weekend. Spend the day touring the beautiful Queen Anne homes and architecture located in Greater Reading's very own *Gayborhood*, the Centre Park Historic District. End your day enjoying the exhibits at the 100-year-old Reading Public Museum, which is celebrating record attendance. Before heading home for the evening, become a bona fide superstar



at the neighboring Neag Planetarium, which always provides out-of-this world experiences with events like Jazz Under the Stars.

Eat and drink up when you visit one of our flavorful farmers markets. You'll feel like a Top Chef after scooping up the best of locally grown produce, beef, poultry and homemade sweet treats like whoopie pies the size of saucers. For a relaxing afternoon, visit the renowned wineries that dot the region's countryside. Drink up at Blair Vineyards, Clover Hill Vineyards & Winery, Long Trout Winery and Manatawny Creek Winery. Cheers!

Climb to the top of our iconic Pagoda. Built in the early 1900s and recently restored to its original breathtaking beauty, the Pagoda is one of Berks County's most beloved landmarks. With a red glow that lights up the nighttime sky, it provides a picture-perfect view of the city below. Even Hollywood directors have taken note of this unique tourist spot, which was featured in M. Night Shyamalan's movie, *The Last Airbender*.

Take Flight. Berks County is bursting with places to experience outdoor adventure. Adrenaline junkies will love the rush of Maple Grove Raceway and the pedal-pounding fun of Blue Marsh Lake's bike trails. For a slower pace, hike at Gring's Mill, Nolde Forest and French Creek. Trek to the top of Hawk Mountain Sanctuary for a bird's-eye view of the majestic raptors that soar above the 2,600-acre reserve. Ranked as Audubon Magazine's #1 Hawk Watch in the country, Hawk Mountain boasts spectacular landscapes, especially during fall migration and foliage season. No matter the time of year, memories are here. Go Greater Reading for your next getaway.

Go Greater Reading

800-443-6610

www.gogreaterreading.com

Greater Reading, Pennsylvania welcomes you! Come enjoy the history, heritage, art and culture that are uniquely ours.



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take a ride

NEW YORK CITY

Celebrating LGBT Culture All Year Long in the #1 Gay Travel Destination in the United States



Julienne Schaar/NYC & Company

From the Stonewall riots in 1969, credited by many as the catalyst for the modern gay-rights movement, to citywide celebrations as part of NYC Pride Week, gay culture and history permeates the City's many neighborhoods. Most recently, in June 2011, New York Governor Andrew Cuomo signed the Marriage

Equality Act, allowing same-sex couples to legally marry in New York for the first time.

And that's just the beginning. Here, gay life and culture is part of the very diverse fabric of the City itself. Options abound for LGBT visitors in NYC—from its unparalleled entertainment and nightlife options to one-of-a-kind accommodations, like The Out NYC, an all-inclusive urban resort. From its inclusive atmosphere and supportive legislation to its vibrant gay communities and historic landmarks, New York City is ideal for those seeking an LGBT-friendly destination.

Broadway, Off Broadway and Beyond

With more than a hundred curtains going up every night all over town, New York City presents audiences with a dizzying array of theatergoing experiences, from blockbuster musicals to intimate monologues. 2014 boasts plenty of brand-new productions, and one highlight is the cult 1990s musical *Hedwig and the Angry Inch*, coming to the Great White Way for the first time with Neil Patrick Harris donning Hedwig's iconic blond wig. Many red-carpet regulars are also making their Broadway debuts this year; the newbies include Bryan Cranston, fresh off the epic *Breaking Bad* finale, Michelle Williams, Debra Messing, Zach Braff, Chris O'Dowd and James Franco.

Dining

NYC is a diner's paradise, offering myriad cuisines and dining styles. Experience food trucks, some of the most in-demand burgers and pizza slices around, a serious coffee culture and four-star meals by celebrity chefs. This is the city in which to savor cuisines of the world: Italian on the Bronx's Arthur Avenue, South Asian and Latin American fare in Jackson Heights, Queens, and Russian markets in Brooklyn's Brighton Beach.

Shopping

Take a behind-the-scenes tour through Manhattan's Fashion District, sift through the racks at designer sample sales and check out new boutiques and flagship stores opening in the City throughout the year. Shopping in New York City is your invitation to peruse chic styles at Saks Fifth Avenue, browse vintage clothing shops in Williamsburg, Brooklyn, or discover an object you didn't know you could live without at one of several flea markets.

Nightlife

NYC offers a variety of places to kick back and put your back into it, whether you're sipping a cocktail at bars throughout the Village, Chelsea and Hell's Kitchen, dancing the night away in the Meatpacking District, or catching live music on the Lower East Side. You can also sample craft brews in Williamsburg, Brooklyn, sing along in karaoke and piano bars, taste wines from around the world, or hang out at jazz and comedy clubs. This is the city for all-night revelry.

For everything there is to do and see in New York City, visit nycgo.com.



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NEW YORK CITY

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ROCHESTER

Rochester, New York: A Great Place to Make a Memory

With a rich history of civil rights, it shouldn't come as a shock that Rochester is among the most welcoming, LGBT-friendly metro areas in the U.S., ranked 12th in 2014's Gayest Cities in America by the Advocate.com. It's also one of the most culturally abundant.

"The downtown area's Park Avenue corridor has the right mix of chic dining, drinking, and entertainment to make it the gay epicenter in Rochester," reported the Advocate.com. "This tree-lined, charming city in the Finger Lakes region is New York's third largest (and was named sixth most livable in the United States in 2007 by the Places Rated Almanac)."



Photo: Ove Overmyer

Tucked between Lake Ontario and the Finger Lakes wine region, the tradition of dignity for all runs deep here. Susan B. Anthony's home, a National Historic Landmark, still stands in Rochester and is open to the public. Frederick Douglass established his abolitionist newspaper, The North Star, here. The first statue in the country honoring an African-American still stands in Highland Park. Another Rochester newspaper, The Empty Closet, is the nation's oldest continuously published LGBT paper, having been in business for more than 40 years.

There are lots of reasons to visit Rochester every weekend. But several times each year, signature events are especially worth a calendar entry.

Rochester Events

Rochester Pride Festival (gayalliance.org): Rochester Pride has evolved into a celebration that draws about 10,000 people each July, making it New York State's second-largest Pride celebration with entertainment, food and fun. Held in conjunction with the Rochester Pride Festival, the ROC Pride Games are an adult LGBT and LGBT friendly sports invitational hosted by the Gay Alliance of the Genesee Valley.

ImageOut: The Rochester Lesbian & Gay Film & Video Festival (imageout.org): Each October, this 10-day event screens sought-after new material from around the world, including foreign films, short programs, documentaries and classics. The festival kicks off with an opening night party, and closes out with one too.

The Xerox Rochester International Jazz Festival (June) is where all genres of creative improvised music from all corners of the world come together with over 1,200 musicians and more than 300 concerts.

The Cornhill Arts Festival

(July) features hundreds of artists and continuous live music. Rochester is golf city when the **Wegmans**

Rochester LPGA (August)

comes to town. The eclectic area known as Park Avenue, hosts the **Park Avenue**

Summer Arts Festival (August), attracting just as an eclectic mix of festival goers. The Memorial Art Gallery's **Clothesline Festival** (September) offers works from local and area artists. Expect the unexpected at the **Fringe Festival** (September), a unique multi-arts festival that both showcases and stimulates creativity.



Photo: Walter Colley, Trata

Culture, art, music, food, wine and festivals have created a charming, livable city and region where the good life is within reach.

You'll find a range of gay bars and coffeehouses to visit too. 140 Alex Bar & Grill is a casual neighborhood pub downstairs, a lively dance floor upstairs. Equal=Grounds is the quintessential neighborhood coffeehouse, this spacious cafe is filled with comfy chairs, art, and the whirl of the espresso machine. It's in the center of another one of Rochester's most popular urban neighborhoods, the South Wedge, home to galleries, shops, and foodie-magnet attractions. The Bachelor Forum is central to Rochester's Neighborhood of the Arts, home to cafes, galleries, museums, and fantastic restaurants.

Surprised? Then it's time to check out Rochester. Rochester has it all, wrapped up in four glorious seasons of color, beauty and refreshment. Find out why the region has long nurtured the human spirit, and the cause of equality.

visit **Rochester**

VisitRochester

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www.VisitRochester.com

A Welcome Surprise! Rochester's warm hospitality, its world-class museums and attractions, make it a perfect place to visit.



Photo: Paul Van Hoy

EASTMAN THEATRE



XEROX ROCHESTER INTERNATIONAL JAZZ FESTIVAL



ROCHESTER SKYLINE

RUNDEL MEMORIAL LIBRARY DURING PRIDE



GEORGE EASTMAN HOUSE



FINGER LAKES REGION



Spectacular
Reasons to Make

Rochester, NY

the Base of
Your Visit!



THE PRIDE PARADE

TORONTO

Lake Ontario

NIAGARA FALLS

Lake Erie

ERIE CANAL



FINGER LAKES

CORNING

It's no wonder Rochester is among the most welcoming, gay-friendly metro areas in the U.S.* and also one of the most culturally rich. The tradition of dignity for all runs deep in its history-civil rights leaders Susan B. Anthony and Frederick Douglass called Rochester home. With the Finger Lakes wine region and Niagara Falls a short drive away, it's a perfect spot for affordable, convenient meetings or leisure travel.

Visit <http://visitrochester.com/see&do/lgbt/>

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PROVINCETOWN

America's First Destination For All Seasons

When Massachusetts legalized same-sex marriage ten years ago in 2004, Chris McCary and John Sullivan left their home in Alabama for Provincetown, planning to be among those in line for a marriage license on May 17. From Boston, they drove to the tip of Cape Cod and arrived just as the day's first light washed over the blue waters and white clapboard houses of Provincetown harbor, where nearly 400 years earlier the Mayflower Pilgrims first landed in the New World, also seeking freedom.

This spring, Provincetown will commemorate a decade of marriage equality with a number of celebrations throughout the month of May, adding to the appeal of visiting this seaside destination before the summer fun heats up. Spring means warming sands, kaleidoscope sunsets, and leisurely strolls along Commercial Street. The town's award-winning accommodations offer attractive prices, and guests are treated like locals as Ptown's renowned shops, galleries and restaurants open their doors to the sidewalks to welcome visitors.

These are just a few of the reasons that Provincetown was recently rated one of the ten happiest seaside towns in America for 2014 by *Coastal Living* magazine, adding to a long list of accolades in 2013, when *Fodor's Travel*, *Smithsonian Magazine* and others named Ptown one of America's 10 Best Small Towns to visit, and *Travel and Leisure* called it one of 'America's Most Romantic' destinations.



"As towns across America start to look more and more alike, Provincetown has retained its authentic personality and world-class seaside charm," said Anthony Fuccillo, Provincetown's Director of Tourism.

None of this is news to the LGBT community, which annually ranks Ptown a top destination for gay men and women, who love the town's accepting atmosphere, variety of theme weekends and celebrations, and the quiet natural beauty of its rugged dunes and tranquil beaches.

Everyone from wedding planners to photographers relishes Provincetown's picturesque seascapes, dramatic coastal light and seemingly endless supply of unique character. And when last of the Cape's sunshine has melted into the sea, Provincetown's legendary nightlife takes center stage, with music and entertainment for every taste and persuasion.

Following a full slate of May celebrations, highlighted by Women's Weekend, May 16-18, summer in Ptown officially kicks off with Memorial Day weekend, which has become one of Provincetown's best LGBT holidays, blending the feel of a hot summertime party with spring's relaxed vibe.

From there it's all fun in Provincetown, with the International Film Festival in June, one of the East Coast's best Independence Day parties on July 4th, Bear Week beginning on July 12, and Girl Splash from the 22-26.



Carnival is the LGBT event of the summer in August, an extravaganza nonpareil, unmatched in its mix of outrageous fun and true celebration of individuality.

As August fades and most vacation destinations are shuttering their windows, Provincetown rolls out a 'Second Summer' of diverse events. Meeting planners look to this time of year to host fall conferences, offering wonderful weather and a host of outdoor activities and dining options alongside a terrific setting combined with reduced rates for gatherings large and small.

October is an LGBT favorite. Mates Leather Weekend, Women's Week and Fantasia Fair lead up to one of the nation's best Halloween festivals, which lasts for days and sees some of the best costumes and costume parties in the world, period.

The holidays round out the year, and New Year's Eve is a favorite among both locals and loyal visitors alike. There is perhaps no better place to get snowbound next to the fire than in Provincetown, which offers cozy weekend escapes, especially for Valentine's Day.

America's First Destination indeed!



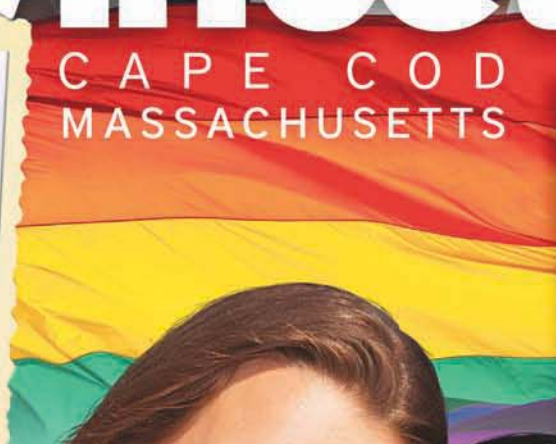
Provincetown Tourism Office

508-487-3298

www.Ptowntourism.com

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