

ALL NEW FOR 2012

Los Angeles Times

TRAVEL  
SHOW



International Gay & Lesbian Travel Association

A decorative graphic consisting of a black crosshair. The vertical line is positioned to the left of the text 'LGBT Travel Panel'. The horizontal line is positioned below the text. To the left of the vertical line, there are three overlapping squares: a blue one at the top, a red one in the middle, and a yellow one at the bottom.

## LGBT Travel Panel

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Hot New Destinations, Events,  
Tours and Cruises

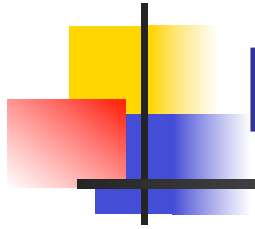
LA Times Travel Show  
Saturday, January 28, 2012  
2:15-2:45 pm  
Travel in Style Pavilion



# LGBT Travel Panel

- Welcome!
  - Panel overview
  - Download presentation:
    - [EdSalvato.com/travelshow](http://EdSalvato.com/travelshow)
  - Ask questions!
- Introductions
  - Ed Salvato
  - Shannon Wentworth
  - Duane Wells
  - Andy Bender
- Where was your most recent trip?





# LGBT Travel Panel

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- What we'll cover
  - Gay-friendly destinations & vacations near and far
  - Gay- vs. lesbian-friendly
  - Lesbian getaways
  - Cruise vacations
  - Gay tour operators
  - Hotels, airlines, rental cars
  - Great gay events
  - Resources
  - Q&A
  - Download: [EdSalvato.com/TravelShows](http://EdSalvato.com/TravelShows)
- Please ask questions any time



# Destinations & Vacations: Near

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- First question for each panelist:
  - The most surprisingly fun and gay overnight trip near LA?
    - Hotel, spa, or other insider tip
  - Many of the destinations we may discuss today have gay-specific websites.
    - See list at: [EdSalvato/TravelShows](#)

# Palm Springs



- White Party
  - April 6-9
  - [JeffreySanker.com](http://JeffreySanker.com)
- The Dinah (women)
  - March 28-April 1
  - [TheDinah.com](http://TheDinah.com)





# Las Vegas

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- What are your recommendations for LGBT-friendly hotels and activities in Las Vegas?
  - Blue Moon Resort (BlueMoonLV.com)
    - Only gay guesthouse in Vegas
    - 15% stay if you sign up for their e-newsletter
  - Wynn/Encore super gay-friendly
    - [EncoreLasVegas.com/pride/packages.cfm](http://EncoreLasVegas.com/pride/packages.cfm)
    - <http://www.wynnpride.com/concierge.cfm>
  - Paris Las Vegas (Harrahs.com/paris-glbtt)
  - Many resorts have chapels that will perform same-sex weddings (though not legal)
    - Gay-owned, operated: Viva Las Vegas Wedding Chapel ([VivaLasVegasWeddings.com](http://VivaLasVegasWeddings.com))



# Destinations & Vacations: Far

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- Thinking globally, what's your favorite LGBT getaway for:
  - Romance, Same-sex marriage/honeymoon
  - History, culture, nightlife
  - Beach/warm-weather
  - Nightlife
  - Solo travel
  - Luxury
  - Adventure, eco-travel, "voluntourism"
- Most surprising LGBT-friendly destinations you've been to recently?
- Any emerging destinations to keep an eye on?



# Destinations & Vacations: Far

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- Any recommendations for LGBT friendly destinations, hotels or activities in...?
  - Caribbean
    - Gay/lesbian
    - Gay/lesbian-friendly
    - Not so much
  - Hawaii
    - Nightlife
    - Lesbian
    - Adventure/outdoors





# Destinations & Vacations: Far

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- How about recommendations for LGBT-friendly hotels, activities in...?
  - Ft. Lauderdale
  - Key West
  - Miami
- Best for women?



# New York

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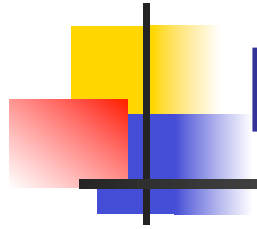
- So much to do in NYC all year round
  - Great theater
  - New High Line
  - Big gay parties, Black Party, Pride
  - [NYCGO.com/gay](http://NYCGO.com/gay) has lots of deals
- What are your favorite hotels?



# Provincetown

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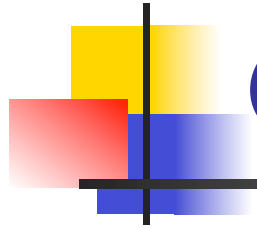
- What are your favorite guesthouses, times of year to go?
  - White Porch Inn
    - Upscale
    - [WhitePorchInn.com](http://WhitePorchInn.com)
  - Prince Albert
    - Mid-price
  - Romeos
    - Budget
  - Lots of great annual and one-off events
    - All: [ProvincetownTourismOffice.org](http://ProvincetownTourismOffice.org)
    - Women: [ProvincetownforWomen.com](http://ProvincetownforWomen.com)



# London: A Very Big Year

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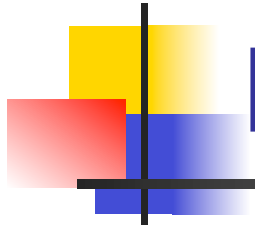
- Queen Elizabeth's Silver Jubilee in June
- Olympics & Paralympics July and August
- World Pride & Euro Pride: July
  - <http://www.pridelondon.org/>
- What are your tips for London for hotel, times to go?



# Gay- vs. Lesbian-Friendly

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- If a resort, hotel or destination advertises as gay-friendly, is that also automatically lesbian-friendly?
- How can you be sure?



# Lesbian and Lesbian-Friendly

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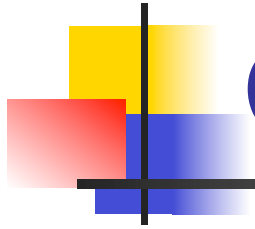
- What are the most lesbian-friendly destinations
- Resorts
  - Highland Inn, NH
  - Pearls, Key West
- Tours and cruises
  - Sweet
  - Olivia
- How about for solo, couples or groups?



# Cruises

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- Let's talk about cruises:
  - Advantages vs. disadvantages of taking a mainstream cruise as a couple
  - Advantages vs. disadvantages of taking a mainstream cruise with a gay group
  - Gay survival strategies on mainstream cruises
  - Advantages vs. disadvantages of taking an all-gay cruise



# Cruises

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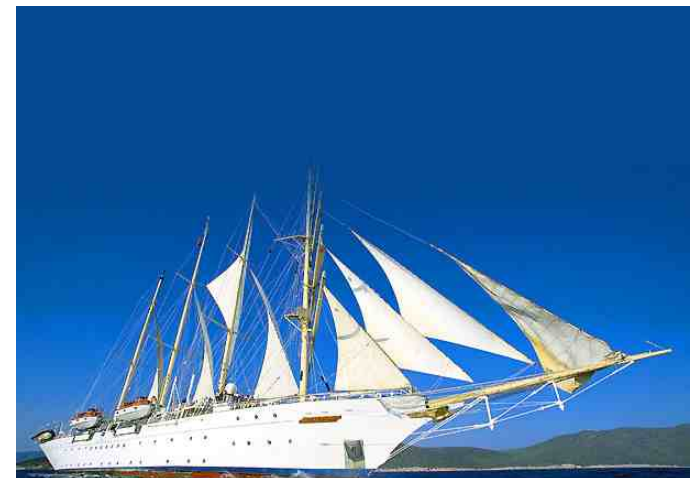
- Mainstream cruises
  - Solo, with partner, with small informal group
  - Look out for 'Friends of Dorothy' /gay group get-togethers
  - Gay-friendliest cruise companies: Holland America, Royal Caribbean (Allure), Norwegian, Celebrity
- Gay groups on mainstream cruises
  - More and more of these
  - Great for birthdays, anniversaries, other celebrations
- All gay charters
  - Small, intimate, pricey
  - Larger, super fun, range of prices

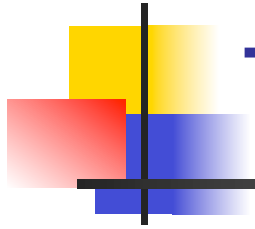


# Cruises

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- Atlantis: [AtlantisEvents.com](http://AtlantisEvents.com)
- RSVP: [RSVPVacations.com](http://RSVPVacations.com)
- R Family Vacations: [RFamilyVacations.com](http://RFamilyVacations.com)
- Sweet: [DiscoverSweet.com](http://DiscoverSweet.com)
- Olivia: [Olivia.com](http://Olivia.com)
- Concierge Travel: [ConciergeTravel.cc](http://ConciergeTravel.cc)
- Source Events: [SourceEvents.com](http://SourceEvents.com)





# Tour Operators

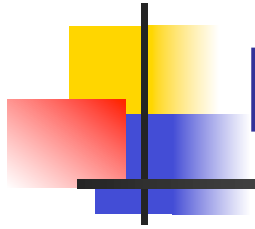
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- What are some of your most recommended LGBT tour operators?
  - Alyson Adventures: ([AlysonAdventures.com](http://AlysonAdventures.com))
  - OutWest ([OutWestAdventures.com](http://OutWestAdventures.com))
  - Out-Adventures ([Out-Adventures.com](http://Out-Adventures.com))
  - Wild Rainbow African Safaris (lesbian owned)
  - Venture Out ([Venture-Out.com](http://Venture-Out.com))
  - Zoom ([ZoomVacations.com](http://ZoomVacations.com))
  - Hermes Tours ([HermesTours.com](http://HermesTours.com))

# One-off Departure

- Out in the Vineyard ([OutInTheVineyard.com](http://OutInTheVineyard.com))
- The Napa Valley Wine Train
- First-time event Sat, Mar 31, 2012





# How Gay is That Hotel?

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- How can you tell if a hotel is gay friendly?
  - Gay/lesbian travel media, sites, blogs, advertising
  - TAG approved
  - IGLTA.org member
  - PinkApproved.com (new)
  - Other?



# Hotels

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- Favorite mainstream hotel companies?
  - Kimpton ([KimptonHotels.com](http://KimptonHotels.com))
  - Joie de Vivre ([JDVHospitality.com](http://JDVHospitality.com))
  - W Hotels
  - Hyatt (<http://hyatt.com/hyatt/resorts/lgbt/index.jsp>)
  - Marriot ([MarriottGayTravel.com](http://MarriottGayTravel.com))
  - Wyndham ([Wyndham.com/locator/gay\\_lesbian/main.wn](http://Wyndham.com/locator/gay_lesbian/main.wn))



# Airlines/Rental Car

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- What are your favorite airlines and why?
- Airlines
  - AA.com/rainbow (gay vacation specials)
  - Jetblue.com (first bag free)
  - Cape Air (FlyCapeAir.com)
  - Porter Airlines (FlyPorter.com) free water, espresso, food WiFi. Best for Toronto
  - Southwest (SouthWest.com)
  - LAN.com and LANDiversity.com (S. America)
  - Jet Airways (India)
- How about rental car companies?
  - Enterprise & Avis



# More Gay Reasons to Travel

## Pride Events

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- What are the events for which gay people travel?
- Pride
  - San Diego [SanDiegoPride.org](http://SanDiegoPride.org), July, Zoo Party
  - Miami Beach, [MiamiBeachGayPride.com](http://MiamiBeachGayPride.com), April
  - Sydney Mardi Gras, [MardiGras.org.au](http://MardiGras.org.au), Feb/March
  - MidSumma Melbourne, [Midsumma.org.au](http://Midsumma.org.au), January
  - Montreal: Divers/Cite, July, and Pride, [FierteMoontrealPride.com](http://FierteMoontrealPride.com), Aug
  - International Federation of Black Gay Prides
    - [IFBPrides.org](http://IFBPrides.org)
- [Interpride.org](http://Interpride.org)
  - Great list of international prides



# Events

## More Gay Reasons to Travel

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- Music festivals
  - Michigan Womyn's Music Festival, MichFest.com, August, begun 1975
- Burning Man
  - BurningMan.com, August
- “Circuit” Parties
  - Black Party NYC, SaintAtLarge.com, Mar;
  - Black & Blue Montreal, BBCM.org, October
  - Circuit Party Barcelona:  
<http://www.circuitfestival.net>; August





# Winter Events

## More Gay Reasons to Travel

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- Aspen Gay Ski Week, [GaySkiWeek.com](http://GaySkiWeek.com), January
- WinterPRIDE, Whistler, [GayWhistler.com](http://GayWhistler.com), January
- Telluride Gay Ski Week, [TellurideGaySkiWeek.com](http://TellurideGaySkiWeek.com), February/March
- Crested Butte Gay Ski Week, [MatthewShepardGaySkiWeek.com](http://MatthewShepardGaySkiWeek.com), March
- OutBoard, [OutBoard.org](http://OutBoard.org), March/April
- Ski Bums, [Ski-Bums.org](http://Ski-Bums.org)
  - Lots of ski events, including women's gay ski event in Vermont in March; [Ski-Bums.org](http://Ski-Bums.org)



# Film Festivals

## More Gay Reasons to Travel

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- Frameline, San Francisco, CA
  - <http://www.frameline.org/>
  - June
- MIX Brazil, Sao Paulo, Brazil
  - <http://www.mixbrasil.org.br/>
  - Usually November (check site)
- NewFest: The New York LGBT Film Festival
  - <http://newfest.org/>
  - July
- OutFest, LA
  - [www.outfest.org](http://www.outfest.org)
  - July
- Sundance, Park City, UT,
  - [www.sundance.festival.org](http://www.sundance.festival.org)
  - January

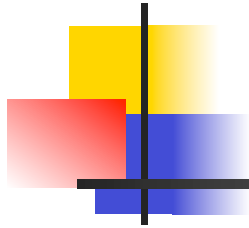


# Film Festivals

## More Gay Reasons to Travel

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- Inside Out
  - Toronto, Canada
  - <http://www.insideout.on.ca>
  - May
- Miami Gay and Lesbian Film Festival
  - April/May
  - [www.mglff.com/](http://www.mglff.com/)
- Philadelphia Qfest
  - July
  - [http:// www.qfest.com](http://www.qfest.com)
- Even our heartland has LGBT film festivals. So plan that next trip home during a film fest!
  - North Carolina Gay and Lesbian Film Festival, Durham, NC



# Resources

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- What gay do you use when planning travel?
  - Out.com destination guides (limited)
  - OutTraveler and GPS.OutTraveler
  - Websites of destinations, NYC, SF, Ptown (e.g. [www.visitcostadelsol.com](http://www.visitcostadelsol.com))
  - GayCities
  - Frontiers in LA/Travel
  - Purple Roofs
  - Twitter
  - Curve (CurveMag.com)
  - UrbanDaddy ([www.urbandaddy.com](http://www.urbandaddy.com))
  - TimeOut ([www.timeout.com/travel](http://www.timeout.com/travel))
  - Passport Magazine ([www.passportmagazine.com](http://www.passportmagazine.com))
  - Robb Report ([www.robbreport.com/Travel](http://www.robbreport.com/Travel))
- What do you use when booking travel?
  - Kayak.com
  - Gay sections on Orbitz, Travelocity, Expedia
- How about for meeting people?
  - Grindr, Scruff, GayDar
  - Facebook



# Questions

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- Let's hear your questions!



# Thank you for coming!

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- Download presentation plus lesbian travel resource at [EdSalvato.com/TravelShows](http://EdSalvato.com/TravelShows)
- Follow our travels on Twitter
  - @EdSalvato
  - @sweet-loves\_you
  - @TheDuaneWells
  - @WheresAndyNow
- Happy (gay) travels!