

RAINBOW GETAWAYS

PREMIER LGBTQ TRAVEL CONCIERGE

THE ULTIMATE LGBTQ GUIDE TO THE CARIBBEAN





WELCOME

Included you will find:

- Most popular Caribbean Destinations
- LGBTQ Travel Tips

At Rainbow Getaways, we understand that planning travel for the LGBTQ community (and our allies) can be super stressful. Members of our community not only have the standard overwhelm of making sure that all our i's are dotted and t's are crossed, but we also have an additional element of planning that is required. It is essential that we feel confident and comfortable to explore and enjoy the destinations that we visit.

When we plan vacations for members of our community (and our allies), we create magic. Working with us is often described as working with a friend who has the expertise and connections to the best travel suppliers and destinations.

Our Travel Research and Planning Fee includes thoroughly researching your destination choices to prepare you for travel, recommendations for accommodations (resorts, hotels, villas, and cruises), as well as activities (day and night) that are welcoming and accommodating to the community. We will provide you a fully customized itinerary based on your travel personality and vacation goals. In the meantime, you get to sit back and relax knowing that we are pulling together that is just as unique as you are.

Because that is what you deserve.

LET'S GET STARTED

DISCOVER THE CARIBBEAN

With the ideal year-round climate, pristine beaches, and diverse Caribbean culture, it's no wonder why the region received over 1.9 million US travelers in 2019. A Caribbean vacation is a perfect way to escape from the stresses of life.

Whether you're traveling alone, with your partner, or in a group, you want to have a memorable vacation. In this Ultimate LGBTQ Guide to the Caribbean, you'll find the most popular Caribbean Destinations, plus, I give you the tips and tricks that I provide to all my LGBTQ travelers when they are heading out on vacation.

Whether you're ready to book and travel now, or book and travel later, I hope you find this information helpful. After you've answered a few questions just below, check out the destinations and checkmark the destinations that you want to visit first. I look forward to hearing about your Caribbean Bucket List. Don't want to print this out? Download a copy below and mark it up on your device.

BEFORE YOU GET STARTED USE THIS SPACE TO ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS:

Who do you like to travel with the most?

Who is the best to travel with for adventure?

Who will try all the local eateries with you?

Who will sample all the drinks at the bar with you?

Who would rather relax next to the pool than on the beach?

Who is the best wing-person for the club?

CARIBBEAN DESTINATIONS



PUERTO RICO

A part of the United States Commonwealth, Puerto Rico is one of the best destinations in the Caribbean for LGBTQ travelers. We enjoy the same protections that are afforded us in the US. Puerto Rico has a thriving scene with a gay beach, clubs, and other LGBTQ-owned establishments.

The US and British Islands both provide the same protections that travelers enjoy in the islands' respective mainlands. The island of Saint Croix is one of the gayest islands in the Caribbean, with local establishments proudly flying the rainbow flag. The Virgin Islands should be on every traveler's bucket list to experience once.

VIRGIN ISLANDS



CURAÇAO

Curaçao is a Dutch-influenced territory that has been welcoming members of the LGBTQ community for years. Buildings on the island are bright and colorful, the beaches are pristine, and there is a healthy scene to keep you busy.

CARIBBEAN DESTINATIONS

One island with two distinct cultures that welcome LGBTQ travelers with open arms. The North part of the island is a French territory while the South is a Netherlands territory. The island has enough to do that you can spend two vacations exploring both parts. St. Martin has a healthy nightlife, gay clothing-optional beaches, and guided excursions to keep entertained.

SAINT MARTIN



BERMUDA

Once an island notorious for homophobia, Bermuda has developed into a pink haven. With the passing of anti-discrimination and marriage equality laws, we are free to be ourselves during a vacation on this popular island. The capital of Hamilton is home to LGBTQ restaurants and bars, and on the other side of the island, you'll find the gay beach. Be prepared to hire a driver as car rentals do not exist on this island.

Guadeloupe is another island in the French Indies and has no recorded incidents of hate crimes against our community. The island is perfect for the adventurer who wants to explore the inner island or just relax on the beach. Speaking of beaches, there are two LGBTQ-friendly nude beaches to check out. Accommodations range from resorts to small gay-owned guest houses.

GUADELOUPE



CARIBBEAN DESTINATIONS



ST BARTHELEMY

Saint Barthelemy (or Saint Barts) is a tiny island in the French West Indies. This island is unique with no true gay spaces because the locals are so welcoming we don't need them. Prejudice never found a foothold on this island, making it one of the best places to relax without worry completely. The downside is that there isn't much of a nightlife - so if you're looking to party, another island will be a better fit.

The most surprising island on this list is Cuba. An island that local LGBTQ members once fled has developed into one of the most progressive islands in the Caribbean. The island has vibrant nightclubs, gay beaches, and other venues that match the colorful personality of this vibrant island. While US travelers can't visit the island at the moment, I'm hoping this changes in the near future.



CUBA

This Latin country welcomes members of the LGBTQ community, with tourists rarely experiencing any issues. With a range of activities and types of accommodations, Costa Rica has something for everyone. The LGBTQ nightlife is found in San Jose with many resorts offering special packages for our events.



COSTA RICA

CARIBBEAN DESTINATIONS

The Bahamas have some of the best beaches for relaxing and filling your Instagram feed. As a whole, the country still has a long way to go for LGBTQ rights. Large resorts are your best bet in the Bahamas as they are most welcoming, but keep your safety in mind and avoid PDA.

THE BAHAMAS



DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

The Dominican Republic is a melting pot of diversity with African, Spanish, European and Native cultures in the mix. The island has bountiful opportunities to experience nature, cuisine, music, and more. The LGBTQ scene is found in the two major urban areas. If you venture out of the main tourist areas, travel in a group to minimize any issues that may arise.

Antigua & Barbuda are often praised as being the most beautiful islands in the West Indies. The islands still criminalize homosexuality, though enforcement is non-detectable. LGBTQ travelers wanting to escape to these islands should exercise caution when in public and avoid PDA.

ANTIGUA & BARBUDA



CARIBBEAN DESTINATIONS



MEXICAN RIVERA

Mexico is an extremely popular destination for LGBTQ travelers given the country's history of acceptance of sexual diversity throughout its history. The Caribbean Coast of Mexico has options for every taste and further inland adventure awaits. Cancun is home to several LGBTQ nightlife venues and your resort will welcome you just like any other traveler.

Jamaica has anti-sodomy laws that are slowly gaining public support to be repealed. The island is an adventurers playground and has more options for all-inclusive resorts than most other destinations. LGBTQ travelers to this island should use caution when in public and avoid PDA.

JAMAICA



CAYMAN ISLANDS

Home of offshore bank accounts, these islands are a playground of beaches, SCUBA, and other activities. Grand Cayman is the largest island in this chain and home to 7-Mile Beach. Departing from their history of being anti-LGBTQ, the islands legalized same-sex marriage in 2019. The Caymans still have a long way to go with resorts welcoming LGBTQ travelers and displays of affection are still frowned upon while in public.

CARIBBEAN DESTINATIONS



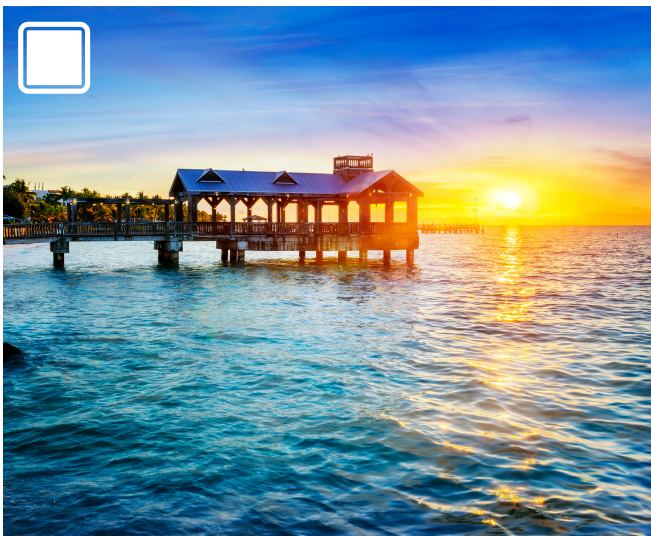
ARUBA

With a Dutch heritage, Aruba is one of the top designations in the Caribbean for perfect beaches, day time activities, a healthy nightlife, and romantic escapes. The LGBTQ community is welcomed with open arms by the local population with a healthy local community that is continuously growing.

The small island of Bonaire is home to just 20,000 residents. With no traffic lights, the relaxed culture of the island is felt in everything you'll do. The island is a diver's paradise with some of the best dive sites off its shores. LGBTQ travelers will find themselves welcomed, but if you're looking for more excitement Bonaire is not the island for you.



BONAIRE



KEY WEST

Known for conk fritters, key lime pie, and some of the most miraculous sunsets you'll experience. Key West has long been an LGBTQ hot spot with many Guesthouses scattered around this small island. Key West is perfect for those without a passport and have a fear of flying, though the drive from Miami can take over six hours. Don't rush around during the day and you'll fit in perfectly, but the party always starts after the sun goes down.

CARIBBEAN DESTINATIONS

Belize is home to one of the 7 wonders of the natural world, the Blue Hole. The natural beauty of this country is overshadowed by its progressive polices for the LGBTQ community. The country was the first country in the Caribbean to overturn anti-sodomy laws. The conservative nature of this country carries with it a dislike for any PDA (LGBTQ or Straight), so keep that in mind when out in public.

BELIZE



LIST YOUR TOP 3 BUCKET LIST
CARIBBEAN DESTINATIONS

CRUISING THE CARIBBEAN

Cruising is one of the best ways to see the Caribbean. Exploring the island by day and retreating to the nightlife of the ship allows you to do more, see more, and build more memories with your partner.

With so many different options, choosing the right cruise line can feel more stressful than picking a land destination. I personally always recommend Celebrity Cruise Line to members of the LGBTQ community (and our allies). Celebrity has been a long-standing ally of our community and has celebrated our wins with us every step of the way.

Everything you need for a fabulous vacation is *Always Included* on a Celebrity Cruise with a drink package, Wi-Fi, and your tips included in your voyage fare..



Celebrity  Cruises®
SAIL BEYOND®

LGBTQ TRAVEL TIPS

STAY AT A WELCOMING RESORT

When traveling to an island that is not as welcoming to our community, your choice of the resort is essential. All-inclusive resorts are a great option to give you a safe bubble to relax and fully enjoy your vacation. If an all-inclusive is not an option or not your travel style, there are welcoming accommodations on most islands. When heading to a less welcoming island, a little bit of research or working with a travel advisor specializing in LGBTQ travel is a must.

HOOK-UP WITH CAUTION

As much as it pains me to say, there are still several countries in the Caribbean with anti-sodomy laws on the books. Hooking up in these countries carries more risks than we are typically accustomed to at home. If you're going to use an app, remove your face pictures before you travel and any other identifying information (like your social links). When you meet up, make sure it's in a safe public space and use protection.

PDA HAS A RIGHT TIME & PLACE

Depending on the island you're visiting, public displays of affection may be noticed by the wrong person who reports it to the authorities. Most islands do not actively enforce the anti-sodomy laws, but there is always the chance that they will decide to make an example of an unsuspecting couple. The key to traveling to destinations that have not embraced equality is to respect their culture as they work to change it - not force it.

LGBTQ TRAVEL TIPS

BOOK FRIENDLY EXCURSIONS

If you plan to explore the island, be sure to book your excursion with a company that has a good reputation for working with the LGBTQ community. Researching before you leave home is helpful, and you can pre-book your activities so you can plan out your vacation. If you're the type who prefers to wing it, talk to the concierge at the hotel or resort to inquire about the best options. If you followed the first suggestion, this should be an easy conversation to get you set up and on your way.

TRAVEL WITH A GROUP

Besides romantic vacations, honeymoons, and weddingmoons, traveling with a group is one of the best ways to stay safe in unfriendly areas. You gain the benefits of having extra eyes around to watch out for trouble and back-up if something goes awry. Plus, traveling with a group makes it easier to have fun if you're not one to explore out of your social circle. Just be sure to take time away from the group so you can unwind and have some private time.

HAVE AN EMERGENCY PLAN

There is always a certain amount of risk associated with traveling. As an LGBTQ traveler, you want to make sure you have a plan in case something happens. Having a good travel insurance policy is the first step. Beyond that, make sure that your marriage will be considered valid on the island or get a power of attorney if you or your partner is hospitalized. The insurance will take care of the financial aspects and help you get home, and the paperwork will help you make decisions quickly.

RAINBOW GETAWAYS

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Rainbow Getaways was founded on the principle that travel is something everyone should experience. Travel should be open to everyone regardless of whom you love, what you look like, or what you believe.

The diversity of options that the Caribbean has to offer is why I love the islands. I firmly believe that the region is one of the best vacation destinations on the planet. To keep my travelers safe, I have built relationships with resorts across the Caribbean so all my travelers can focus on their vacation and not have to worry about being judged for who they are.

I hope this guide has been both helpful and inspirational to you. I'd love to speak with you about your bucket list for Caribbean Islands and whom you'd love to experience them with. Schedule a consultation below or send me an email.



LET'S CONNECT

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[SCHEDULE A CONSULTATION](#)



