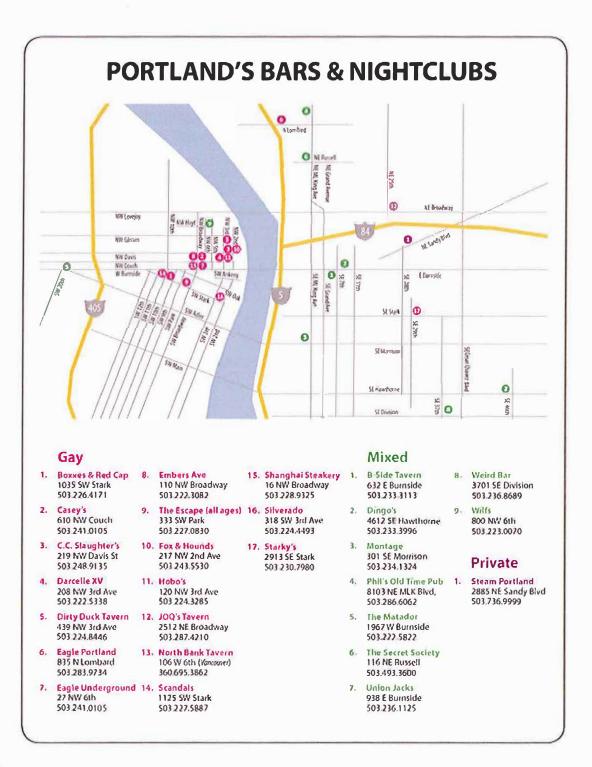
Welcome to Portland Gregon



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LGBT Portland: A Beacon of Food, Drink and the Outdoors

This section was produced in collaboration with Just Out, Oregon's Lesbian/Gay/Bi/Trans/Queer newsmagazine, published on the first and third Friday of every month.



Photo by Marty Davis, Just Out

Portland is a great destination for any traveler. Most visit not for specific LGBT features, but for the thriving food and beer scene, beloved attractions, the natural wonders both within city limits and beyond, and the vibrant arts and culture.

In 2008, Portland became the nation's first large metropolitan city to elect an openly gay mayor, Sam Adams, and Multnomah County, where Portland is located, was one of the first governments to attempt to legalize gay marriage.

Downtown Portland's historically gay neighborhood, nicknamed the Burnside Triangle or "Vaseline Alley," is still home to a handful of bars and clubs, but LGBT-focused businesses and organizations can now be found in many different areas of town.

The city boasts strong arts and culture offerings, a bustling nightlife with a vivid drag scene and many LGBT resources. Within easy driving distance, you'll find Mount Hood, the Columbia River Gorge, Willamette Valley wine country and the Oregon Coast.

Annual Festivals & Events

APRIL

Red Dress Party

Since 2001, the Red Dress Party has raised more than \$100,000 for gay youth and people living with HIV/AIDS. It's also one of the biggest bashes of the year — just be sure to wear your red dress, which is required for entry.

JUNE

QDoc: Portland Queer Documentary Film Festival

QDoc is the first U.S. festival, and only the second in the world, devoted exclusively to documentaries with queer content.



Photo by Marty Davis, Just Out

Portland Pride Festival and Parade

For more than 30 years, this two-day event has united the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender communities at downtown Portland's Waterfront Park. In addition to Sunday's Pride Parade, there's live entertainment, a family fun run/walk and even a pet parade.

BearTown

A celebration of all things hirsute, this weekend event is the Oregon Bears' largest fundraiser and attracts bears from around the world. BearTown boasts underwear nights, boat cruises and Mr. Oregon Bear and Cub contests.

JULY



Portland Latino Gay Pride photo br Julie Cortez, El Hispanic News

Portland Latino Gay Pride

What began as an offshoot of the Portland Pride Festival has come into its own. The four-day event culminates with an outdoor celebration that includes dance, music and food.

Dates and locations vary from year to year.

AUGUST

Oregon Leather Pride

This annual event celebrates the leather and S/M community with luncheons, high tea events and Mr. and Ms. Oregon State Leather and Oregon State Bootblack Contests.

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER

Portland Lesbian and Gay Film Festival

This annual festival showcases feature, documentary and short films made by, about or of interest to the LGBT communities. The event screens some 100 films and attracts more

than 7,000 filmgoers during its nine-day run.

The Imperial Sovereign Rose Court's Coronation Ball

Oregon's oldest LGBT organization hosts regular events, including this annual drag extravaganza.