

Key West

Close To Perfect - Far From Normal



SOUTHERNMOST

POINT

**CONTINENTAL
U.S.A.**

KEY WEST, FL

Home of the Sunset

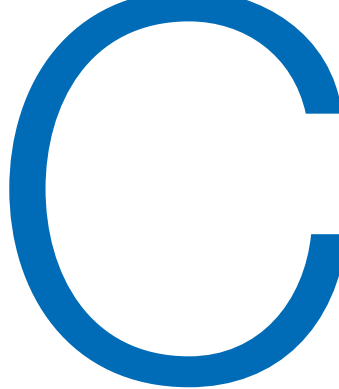


KEY WEST. ALWAYS OPEN.

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 LGBT visitors feel more themselves in Key West than anyplace else in the world.







COME OUT, COME OUT, WHEREVER YOU ARE.

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.



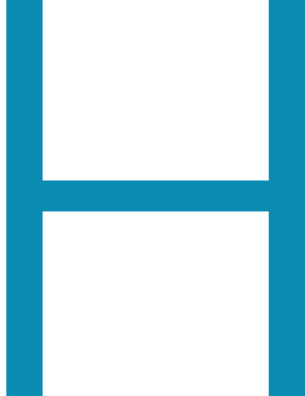


KEY WEST. HAVE A GAY OLD TIME.

When it comes to naughtiness, Key West pulls no punches – and makes no apologies. The nightlife here is uninhibited, unadulterated and unashamed. From pulsating gay dance clubs to testosterone-free women's bars, anything goes. Make your way to a cabaret for a bawdy performance by stiletto and lipstick-clad drag queens. Liberate your libido at one of Key West's nude entertainment or dance clubs. For something more subdued, kick back in a cocktail lounge or swanky piano bar. Or grab some fresh air and a brew at one of our legendary open-air pubs. If that's too tame, bear it all at annual events such as Womenfest Key West, Bearfest, Tropical Heat and Bone Island Weekends. During the day, visit the Butterfly & Nature Conservatory. On Saturdays, don't miss the fascinating Gay & Lesbian trolley tour. And with year-round events and celebrations designed specifically for gay and lesbian visitors, any time is a good time to arrive.

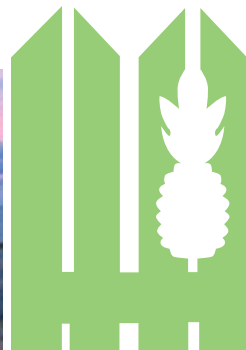
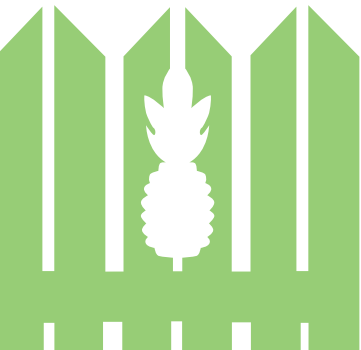




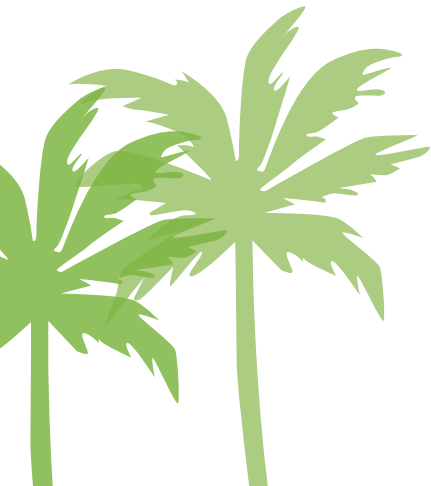


HISTORY & CULTURE

For a small town, Key West is big on gay history and culture. With more than 2,500 historic buildings, Key West is also an architectural wonder. Its famous “Carpenter Gothic” gingerbread houses have hosted gay novelists, playwrights, painters and poets. In fact, our *come as you are* attitude was the first thing that attracted the gay population to Key West in the 1970’s. Here they discovered dilapidated Victorian houses just begging to be restored. Today, many of these homes are fabulous showplaces, open to the public and not to be missed. Other historical highlights include the Little White House Museum, Audubon House, the Ernest Hemingway House and the Key West Lighthouse Museum. Glimpse into the past at the Mel Fisher Maritime Museum, where resurrected artifacts and treasures bedazzle. Besides three live theatres, a pops orchestra, opera theatre and a film society, Key West boasts a local yet world-class symphony.







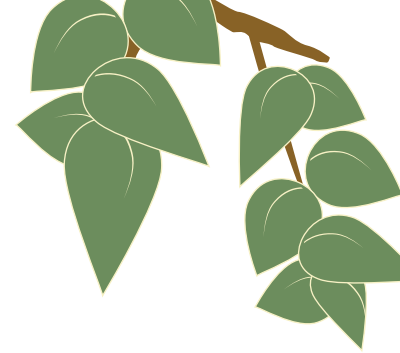
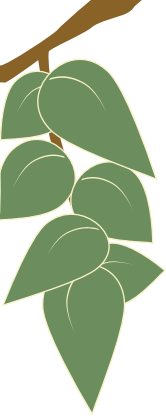
W

HERE TO STAY. THE NAKED TRUTH.

In gay Key West, the only thing hidden in closets are clothes. Then again, with so many clothing-optional activities and hotels, your wardrobe may never see the light of day. Key West's accommodations range from elegant resorts to cozy tropical guest houses, many of whom cater primarily to gay men, lesbians, or a combination of the two. They're often private hideaways tucked underneath swaying palms, dressed up with island wicker or rattan and museum-quality antiques. It's not uncommon to find private pools, private beaches and, of course, clothing-optional sunning decks. Many establishments offer suites or apartments that are perfect for groups of friends.







E

AT, DRINK & BE MARY.

A festival for your taste buds and feast for the senses, Key West is home to world-class chefs and a dizzying array of dining options. Many restaurants artfully prepare authentic island delicacies – succulent Key West pink shrimp, conch, fresh-off-the-dock fish and luscious Key Lime Pie – with their own unique flair. Whatever the culinary theme, the ambiance is as enticing as the entrée. From romantic hidden courtyards to chic sidewalk cafes where dining and people-watching intertwine, you'll soon discover why Key West is meant to be savored.





ALENDAR OF EVENTS

January

Every Sunday Gay Bingo • Every Sunday La Te Da Tea Dance
• Yachting Race Week • Literary Seminar • Key West Food & Wine
Festival • Key West Craft Show • House & Garden Tours
• Sculpture Key West

February

Valentines Day Celebrations • Civil War Days • Third Thursday
"Night on White" Gallery Walk • Old Island Days Art Festival
• Every Sunday Gay Bingo • Every Sunday La Te Da Tea Dance
• Gay Mardi Gras • International Women and Girls Flag Football –
• Kelly McGillis Classic • Sculpture Key West

March

Oscar Parties at the Bars • Pink Saint Patty's Day Celebration and
March • Gay Spring Break – all month • Every Sunday Gay Bingo
• Every Sunday La Te Da Tea Dance • Sculpture Key West

April

Easter Bonnet Brunch • Every Sunday Gay Bingo • Every Sunday
La Te Da Tea Dance • Conch Republic Days Celebration – Annual
Drag Races and Bed Races • World's Longest Parade
• Every Sunday Gay Bingo • Key West Songwriters Festival

May

Taste of Key West • Queen Mother Pageant • Cinco de Mayo
Celebration • Key West Songwriters Festival • Memorial Day
Celebrations • Every Sunday Gay Bingo • Every Sunday
La Te Da Tea Dance

June

Key West Pride Celebration Street Fair and Parade • Wreckers
Bad Boy's Party • Survivor's Party • Every Sunday Gay Bingo
• Every Sunday La Te Da Tea Dance • Cuban American Festival

July

Independence Day Celebration & Fireworks • Hemingway Days
Festival • Miss Firecracker Pageant • Every Sunday Gay Bingo
• Mel Fisher Days • Every Sunday La Te Da Tea Dance
• Bone Island Bare It All

August

Tropical Heat Key West • Key West LobsterFest
• Midsummer's Night Dream & Spectacle • Every Sunday
Gay Bingo • Every Sunday La Te Da Tea Dance

September

Womenfest • Key West Bear Fest • Key West Poker Run
Motorcycle Event • Sniffing the Seats Bar Crawl • Corn Queen
Pageant • Every Sunday Gay Bingo • Every Sunday La Te Da Tea
Dance • Leslie Leonelli Memorial Women's Golf Classic

October

Annual Fantasy Fest • Royal Coronation Ball • Wrecker's Club
Fetish & Fantasy Party • Headdress Ball • Goombay Street Festival
• Parrot Heads in Paradise • Key West World Championship
Powerboat Race • Every Sunday Gay Bingo • Every Sunday
La Te Da Tea Dance

November

Key West Pirates in Paradise • Powerboat Races
• Every Sunday Gay Bingo • Every Sunday La Te Da Tea Dance

December

Key West Pirates in Paradise • Bone Island Bare It All
• Miss Merry Christmas • Holiday Parade • Historic Lighted Inn
Tours • House & Garden Tours • Lighted Boat Parade
• Every Sunday Gay Bingo • Every Sunday La Te Da Tea Dance
• New Year's Eve Celebration – Dropping of the High Heel



Fly to the Gay Destination.

All major airlines offer fast, nonstop and direct service from Miami, Ft. Lauderdale, Atlanta and Orlando.

From Miami:

American Eagle 1-800-433-7300
Keys Shuttle Service www.keysshuttle.com
Green Leggs Key West Transport www.greenleggs.com

From Fort Lauderdale:

Continental 1-800-523-3273
Keys Shuttle Service www.keysshuttle.com

From Fort Myers:

Cape Air 1-866-227-3247

From Orlando:

Air Tran Airways 1-800-247-8726

From Tampa:

Air Tran Airways 1-800-247-8726
Continental 1-800-523-3273

From St. Petersburg/Clearwater Airport:

SeaCoast Airlines 1-866-302-6278

From Atlanta:

Delta Connection/Delta 1-800-221-1212

From Charlotte:

US Airways (seasonal) 1-800-428-4322

For more information, call 1-877-724-5247 or outside the U.S., call (305) 294-4603.
Or write the Key West Business Guild, P.O. Box 1208, Key West, FL 33041.
info@gaykeywestfl.com • gaykeywestfl.com



Visit our web site at <http://www.fla-keys.com/gaykeywest>
E-mail: info@gaykeywestfl.com