

3 Challenges LGBTQ Travelers Still Face

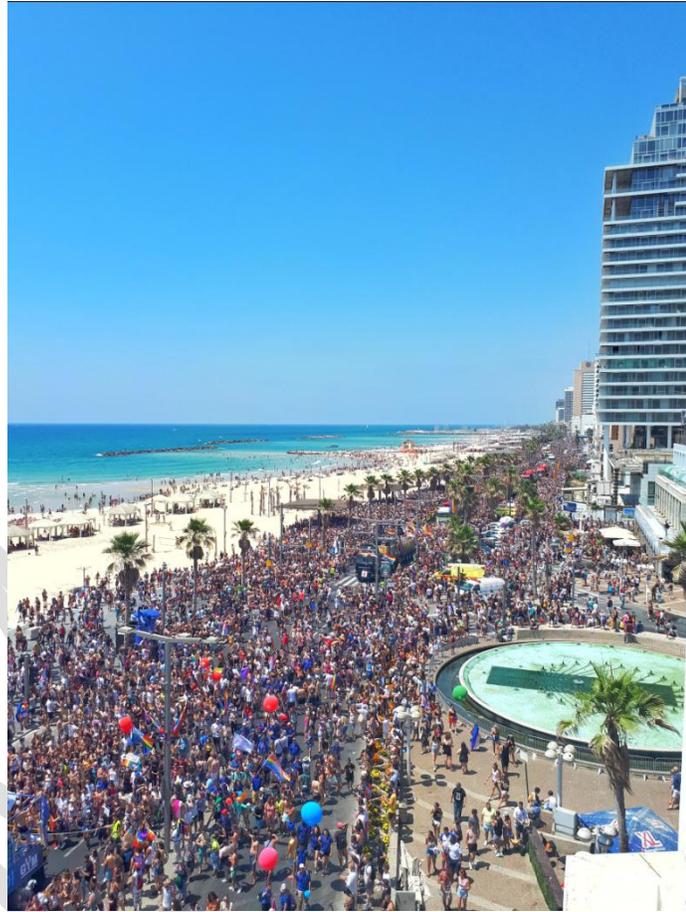
We're here, we're queer, and we need a vacation!

LGBT folk are amazing at planning for fun when traveling. However, as a community, we're still discriminated against. This means taking precautions before traveling is a no-brainer.

Here's what you need to know about international travel:

The Letter of the Law

There are still a lot of countries with discriminatory laws about queer people, especially when they're visiting from another country. The first thing to do when looking at where to vacation is to make sure you can't be arrested and detained for simply existing. It's not enough that countries simply decriminalize LGBTQ people's existence. Look for places that are overwhelmingly **gay-friendly**.



The [International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans and Intersex Association \(ILGA\)](#) website is a useful tool in figuring out what laws in countries around the world say about LGBTQ people. Some countries that offer the most legal freedom are **Mexico**, Nepal, Portugal and South Africa.

A Home Away From Home

Finding affordable places to rent can be a huge challenge as well. While hotels may accept your initial reservation, they may refuse to acknowledge you and your partner as a couple and force you to have two single beds rather than give you the queen or king size you want. They may also refuse entry upon your arrival at the hotel.

In order to avoid this, you can look for vacation rentals that are queer-friendly. This means that not only will you be guaranteed privacy and your own space; you can also avoid the anxiety of having to hide your identity when trying to relax on vacation.



The Local Touch

Another thing to keep in mind is that while countries may offer legal protection, local attitudes toward LGBTQ people can still be hostile. Queer people may still hide their identities publicly, choosing to be openly queer when in safe spaces, or at home.

You can ask the hosts of your rental if they're gay-friendly or get in touch with the local queer community to understand how the informal culture of your destination works. You can also look up local statistics about attitudes towards LGBTQ people. Our [research suggests that Italy, Spain and Australia](#) are some very progressive countries.

Let us handle your [accommodation problems in Australia, Italy, Mexico](#) and more! [Gaybnb](#) can help you with [booking gay-friendly bed and breakfasts](#) at affordable rates in [LGBTQ-friendly holiday destinations](#). Contact us for more details [here](#).