

PROVINCETOWN

THE LGBTQ+ GUIDE TO GOOD TIMES

2023



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WELCOME TO PROVINCETOWN

On behalf of the members of the Provincetown Business Guild, we're so excited to have you join us here at the Tip of Cape Cod. As the nation's premier LGBTQ+ travel destination, we're focused on working together to ensure you have an unforgettable experience.

Provincetown has been a welcoming place for the LGBTQ+ community for generations – with most of us always knowing it that way. That said, it truly wasn't until the 1970s when Provincetown formally became the gay destination we know it today. And it took a lot of goodwill and effort by our local community at the time to make it that way.

As artists and creatives settled in Provincetown in the 1940's, 50s and 60s, we purchased businesses, ran for local political office – and started organizations like the Provincetown Business Guild to better make our voices heard. That strategy is still an important one. As the threat of drag bans, targeted transphobia and anti-LGBTQ+ legislation rise across the nation, having our community spearheading local legislation is critical to protecting our LGBTQ+ rights.

We created beloved annual events like Carnival, Holly Folly and First Light that put Provincetown on the queer travel map. The PBG also funded ad campaigns that appeared in now-defunct publications like After Dark magazine and Bay

Windows newspaper to spread the word about Provincetown. They worked, attracting the visitors that our LGBTQ+ business members needed to patronize their establishments. This unprecedented influx helped Provincetown to flourish.

Today, Provincetown is regarded as one of the gayest places in America – per population density – but we can't take that for granted. More so now than ever before, the LGBTQ+ community and our allies must work together to create the change we want to see in the world. If you're visiting us from a place that is taking steps to restrict your rights, we hope that you'll be inspired to step up upon your return home and get more involved

in your community. Do so by running for elected office, joining grassroots organizations, lobbying for our rights – or just by going to a gay bar, donating to a local charity, or attending a drag story hour.

"Come Out, Come Out, Wherever You Are" was something that politician and visionary Harvey Milk implored us all to do in 1978. Today, "Coming Out" means much more than just coming out as LGBTQ+ to friends and loved ones; today, coming out is also showing up and getting involved in making the world a better place for our collective queer community.

Thank you for coming out and visiting us in Provincetown!



Stephan Hengst
Executive Director
@shengst



Trevor Pittinger
Associate Director
@trevor.fool

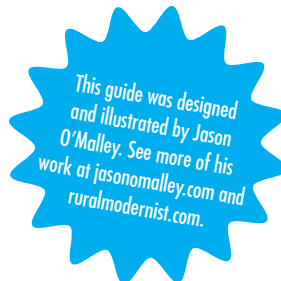
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2023 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May

- 8 - JUNE 10 | TWENTY SUMMERS
20summers.org
- 16 | MID-MAY FAST FERRY SERVICE BEGINS
baystatecruisecompany.com and
cityexperiences.com
- 19-21 | SINGLE WOMEN'S WEEKEND
provincetownforwomen.com
- 19-21 | OUTER CAPE CHORALE CONCERT
outercapechorale.org
- 20-21 | MONUMENTAL SALE
ptown.org
- 25-29 | MEMDAY PTOWN
lesbiannightlife.com/memdayptown

June

- 1 | ASGCC'S 30TH ANNUAL NIGHT AT
THE CHEF'S TABLE
asgcc.org
- 1-4 | WOMXN OF COLOR WEEKEND
womenofcolorweekend.org
- 2-4 | PROVINCETOWN PRIDE
ptown.org/pride
- 4 | FEET OVER FRONT STREET 5K RUN
& WALK
ptown.org/pride
- 4-11 | PROVINCETOWN CABARETFEST -
BY THE SEA WITH SONDHEIM
provincetowncabaretfest.com

- 9-11 | INTERNATIONAL ENCAUSTIC
CONFERENCE
castlehill.org/16th-international-encaustic-
conference

- 12-17 | PTOWN PRIDE RETREAT
outermostyoga.com/retreats/ptown-june

- 14-19 | PROVINCETOWN
INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL
provincetownfilm.org/festival/

- 15-19 | FROLIC - MEN OF COLOR WEEKEND
menofmelaninmagic.com/frolic

- 19 | JUNETEENTH - A COMMUNITY
CELEBRATION AND COOKOUT
uumh.org

- 23-25 | PROVINCETOWN PORTUGUESE
FESTIVAL AND BLESSING OF THE FLEET
provincetownportuguese festival.com

- 25-SEPT 17 | GREAT MUSIC ON
SUNDAYS @5
ptownmusic.com

July

- JUNE 30-8 | REVOLUTION:
INDEPENDENCE WEEK
onlyatthecrown.com

- 4 | INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE AND
FIREWORKS
ptown.org

- 8-15 | BEAR WEEK
ptown.org/bears

- 16 | 2023 ASGCC PTOWN 5K
asgcc.org

- 19-22 | GIRL SPLASH
provincetownforwomen.com

- 22 | GLAD 42ND ANNUAL SUMMER PARTY
glad.org

- 22-29 | FAMILY WEEK
ptownfamilyweek.com

August

- 8 | PROVINCETOWN JAZZ FESTIVAL
provincetownjazzfestival.org

- 12-19 | 45TH ANNUAL CARNIVAL -
LAND OF TOYS
ptown.org/carnival

- 13 | FEET OVER FRONT STREET 5K RUN
& WALK - CARNIVAL EDITION
ptown.org/carnival

- 17 | 45TH ANNUAL CARNIVAL PARADE
ptown.org/carnival

September

- 1-4 | LABOR DAY WEEKEND
ptowntourism.com

- 9 | PROVINCETOWN SWIM FOR LIFE
AND PADDLER FLOTILLA WEEKEND
swim4life.org

- 14-17 | NATIONAL GAY PILOTS
ASSOCIATION - CAPE COD CLASSIC
ngpa.org

2023 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September

15-18 | INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S FLAG FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

iwffa.com

17 | PROVINCETOWN ART ASSOCIATION & MUSEUM AUCTION

paam.org

15-17 | YANKEE LAMBDA LGBT ANTIQUE CAR CLUB SHOW

yankeelcc.com

17-24 | PET APPRECIATION WEEK - PARADE AND PET TEA

casasanimalshelter.org

21-24 | ANNUAL PROVINCETOWN TENNESSEE WILLIAMS THEATER FESTIVAL

twptown.org

23 | ANNUAL HARBOR TO THE BAY BIKE RIDE

harbortothebay.org

28-OCT 3 | MATES LEATHER WEEKEND XXVI

matesleatherweekend.com

29-OCT 1 | PROVINCETOWN BOOK FESTIVAL

provincetownbookfestival.org

October

6-8 | WASHASHORE MUSIC & ARTS FESTIVAL

washashorefestival.com

6-15 | WOMEN'S WEEK

womensweekprovincetown.com

7-9 | MONUMENTAL SALE

ptown.org

16-23 | TRANS WEEK 2023

transweek.org

27-29 | HALLOWEEN WEEKEND AND SPOOKY BEAR

ptown.org/halloween

November

1-5 | PROVINCETOWN FOOD & WINE FESTIVAL

ptownfoodandwinefestival.com

6 | PIE FEST

provincetowncommons.org

10-12 | VALOR - LGBTQ+ VETERANS WEEKEND

projectvalorsailing.org

11 | LIGHTING OF THE PILGRIM MONUMENT

pilgrim-monument.org

17-19 | MR. NEW ENGLAND LEATHER

mr-nel.com

22-26 | THANKSGIVING WEEKEND

ptown.org/thanksgiving/

24 | PINK FRIDAY - LGBTQ+ BUSINESS SHOPATHON

ptown.org/pinkfriday

24-JANUARY 1 | THE CANTEEN HOLIDAY MARKET

canteenholidaymarket.com

25 | LIGHTING OF THE LOBSTER POT TREE

facebook.com/provincetownlobsterpottree

December

1 | WORLD AIDS DAY

asgcc.org

1-3 | HOLLY FOLLY

ptown.org/hollyfolly

2 | "SOUPER SATURDAY" FUNDRAISER

skipfood.org

29-JANUARY 1 | FIRST LIGHT

ptown.org/firstlight

January 2024

1 | POLAR BEAR PLUNGE AND CCS FUNDRAISER

ptown.org/firstlight

February 2024

9-11 | VALENTINE'S WEEKEND

ptown.org/valentines

23-25 | SNOWBOUND LEATHER WEEKEND XV

matesleatherweekend.com/snowbound

March 2024

8-10 | OUT OF HIBERNATION - A WINTER BEAR WEEKEND IN PROVINCETOWN

ursamen.org

WHAT MAKES PTOWN SO GAY?

The modern understanding of Provincetown as a special place for the LGBTQ community began in 1899. That's when Charles Hawthorne founded the Cape Cod School of Art, giving birth to the Provincetown art colony.

Hawthorne had been touring New England, looking for the perfect location for his summer art school, when he came upon Provincetown, which had been devastated by the Portland Gale of 1898. Much of the town lay in ruins and a significant portion of the fishing fleet had sunk in the storm, leaving a significant number of widows in town. The town's economy was in shambles and many of the women offered housing and cooking for the artists Hawthorne promised he'd bring back with him.



The visionary's school soon opened a pipeline between Provincetown and New York City. The train service that was available at the time between the two points brought many to town from NYC's Greenwich Village. Over the next two decades, Provincetown welcomed not only thousands of artists, but also writers, actors and left-wing political radicals who brought new ideas on gender and racial equality, artistic expression and sexuality.

These ideas were accepted by a local population that was already pushed to the fringes of American society and a Portuguese community that was facing discrimination on many fronts in the region. So began a symbiotic relationship that bonded together the LGBTQ community with a significant portion of the straight population as friends and allies.

News spread throughout the LGBTQ community nationwide that Provincetown by the 1920s was a place of relative freedom and acceptance. This caused an influx of visitors and vacationers, and saw the town's gay population grow exponentially. But this growth also sparked a growing backlash from more conservative elements in Provincetown which tried to halt the influx of LGBTQ people. Clearly those efforts failed.

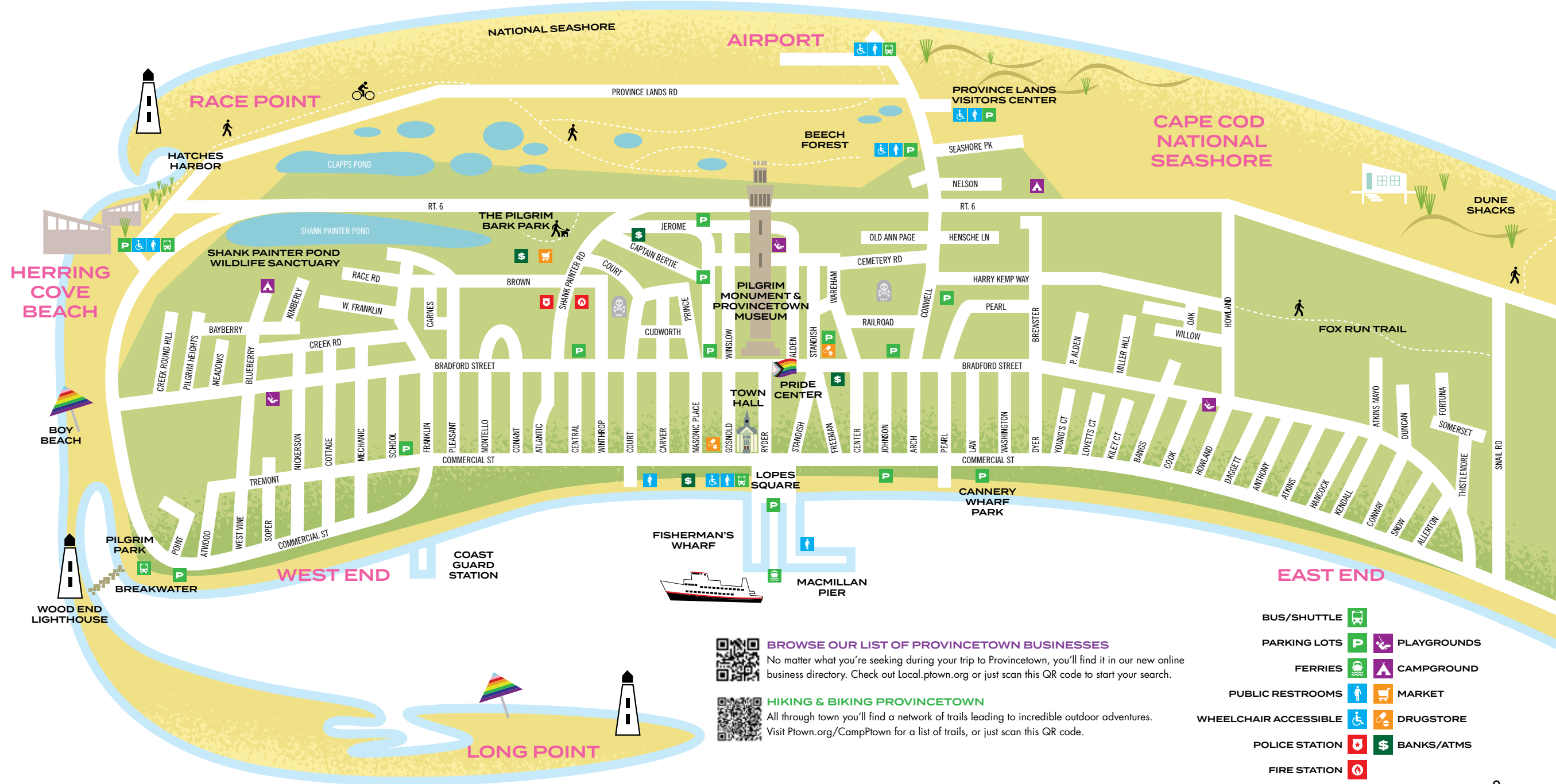


Starting in the 1950s, various businesses and entertainers began to tiptoe out of the closet. By the historic Stonewall Riots of 1969, the town exploded with activism and visible queer expressions of art, culture and politics. Provincetown had finally earned a worldwide reputation as a LGBTQ safe haven.

Visit page 34 to learn even more about why Provincetown is so gay.



PROVINCETOWN





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SHOWTUNE SUNDAYS **THE TERRAZZA**
REVOLUTION: INDEPENDENCE WEEK **TINA BURNER**
THE CABARET LILY ROSE VALORE MACKNIFIQUE
MATT ALBER DELTA MILES ELTON: UNDRRESSED
QYA CRISTÁL TODD ALSUP **THE WAVE BAR**
THE RESTAURANT ROXY POPS MATTHEW DARREN

ONLY AT THE CROWN

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THE GALLERY TOM YAZ VARLA JEAN MERMAN
JOÃO SANTOS **THE PARAMOUNT** ANNE HUTCHINSON
DINA MARTINA JOE POSA **THE BEACH CLUB**
FREEDOM: THE GEORGE MICHAEL EXPERIENCE **JIZZELLE**
SPOOKEY **THE LIBRARY** BOBBY WETHERBEE
YARON SPIWAK BEAR WEEK HILARIE TAMAR

CROWN  ANCHOR

PROVINCETOWN
WWW.ONLYATTHECROWN.COM

EXPLORE WHAT'S **NEW** IN PROVINCETOWN FOR 2023

How is it that every year your visit to Provincetown feels both spectacularly different yet also exactly the same? We already know you plan to spend an afternoon at your favorite beach – and maybe grab a late-night slice after a romp of your choosing. But remember that there are always numerous opportunities to try something new and unique here in Provincetown. Here are a few fresh attractions to check out this year.

An Exploration of Provincetown's LGBTQ+ History

Mid-season last June, the **Pilgrim Monument and Provincetown Museum** opened a brilliantly curated exhibit by **The Generations Project**. It vividly chronicles Provincetown's LGBTQ+ history through storytelling and intergenerational perspectives. The exhibit features oral histories recounting decades of life and

experience in this safe haven. It also showcases something sparkly in the form of hats and heels, marking the legacy of local treasures The Hat Sisters.

Something Old, Something New

The original Gifford House Inn served as the last stop for stagecoaches as early as 1858. Its new local LGBTQ+ ownership has bold plans to revitalize, reenergize and reopen favorite spaces like **Purgatory** and **Giffords Porch Bar**. They also plan to reintroduce new features like the **Whalesong Inn & Lounge** with its legendary piano salons. But Giffords isn't the only space to get a refresher; Provincetown is full of spaces that are getting a breath of fresh (sea) air. **The Crown & Anchor** plans to reopen their Cabaret space. Retail favorite **Helltown** has rebranded to **Anchor2Anchor**. **The Ellery**, a brand-new boutique hotel,

plans to open its doors this season. And important local non-profit **Summer of SASS** has moved into a new space, making it possible to grow their programs for queer youth.

Health and wellness newcomer **The Yoga Joint** also found a permanent home right off the bay (where you can also rent kayaks at sister-business **Coyote Kayaks!**). And while a long-standing flower shop has said goodbye, brand-new blossom **Heavy Petal** is about to pop off in the same spot on Commercial Street.

Looking for a fresh fade? Check out Town's new barber, **Bruno's Chop Shop**, whose founder David Bruno opened earlier in 2023. His new shop is located at the original site of Joe Coffee, which more recently has been home to the AIDS Support Group of Cape Cod.

Camp Provincetown

Interested in exploring Provincetown's natural world through a queer lens? PBG has created a new attraction called Camp Provincetown. This venture offers locals and visitors alike the opportunity to experience the more "wild" side of your favorite queer vacation destination. We are working in collaboration with the **National Park Service and the Cape Cod National Seashore**, the **Atlantic White Shark Conservancy**, **Provincetown Conservation Trust**, **Art's Dune Tours**, and **Center for Coastal Studies**. Jump to page 45 to learn more!

A Hop, Skip, and a Jump

While you're busy wandering off the beaten path, why not go a step further? Come check out some of the killer experiences waiting for you just outside Provincetown from our friendly neighbors. Take in a wine tasting from a pair of cozy Adirondack chairs dotting the hills of **Truro**



Vineyards before heading off to see an evocative stage play at the **Wellfleet Harbor Actors Theater** or up-and-coming and Grammy-winning talents at **Payomet Performing Arts Center**.

During the high season, **Payomet** stages shows in their intimate music tent in North Truro. However, in the off-season they produce "Payomet Road Show" concerts and events across Cape Cod and at Provincetown Town Hall. Some highlights in town this summer include Aimee Mann, Rufus Wainwright, and Shawn Colvin– and under the stars at their tent in North Truro, expect The Wallflowers, Tom Rush, and Martin Sexton– to name a few.

Pink Friday and Monumental Sale

The Provincetown Business Guild represents and supports hundreds of unique shops, galleries and attractions in Provincetown. We encourage the LGBTQ+ community and our friends to support our small businesses. Choose

from **Pink Friday** (our new queer version of Black Friday) or Provincetown's long-standing Monumental Sales. Both give folks an opportunity to invest their shopping dollars back into their community, both in-person and online.

Provincetown Pride Center

The Provincetown Business Guild has a new home! It's located at 115 Bradford Street – directly across from Town Hall and the Pilgrim Monument. Our new public space will be open on Fridays and Saturdays. We offer travel advice for visitors, along with special exhibitions showcasing Provincetown's queer history. Additional special events will take place at the space throughout the year. Come visit!

This list is by no means comprehensive; everyday something old becomes something new in Provincetown. And we can't wait to share it with you! Be sure to visit Ptown.org and browse our new and improved PBG Members Business Directory to find whatever it is you might be looking for this year.



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for 2023!



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citycruises 

[CITYCRUISES.COM/BOSTON](https://citycruises.com/boston)



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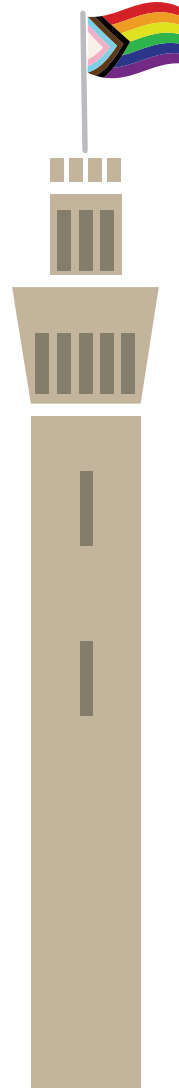
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A LEGACY OF PROVINCETOWN PRIDE

Provincetown Pride has grown rapidly post-pandemic, with keystone events like the Rally on the steps of Town Hall spiking from several hundred attendees to several thousand in just a few short years. While the PBG's Pride celebrations may have kicked off officially in 2018, we also recognize that this is by no means the first Pride event in Provincetown. The international queer zeitgeist of today is built on the strong, sensible shoulders of the queens, lesbian motorcycle clubs, and trans activists who came before us - and it's no different here in Provincetown. Pride here still pulls on the threads of our shared histories, and commemorates the work that's come before us to help power the LGBTQ+ movement forward, both locally and beyond.

In 1970, the one-year anniversary of the historic Stonewall Riots was marked with a Gay and Lesbian Liberation March in Provincetown - to our knowledge, the first local Pride March. Further down the line, in 1987 and 1988, as AIDS was tearing at the fabric of the gay community and Provincetown became a refuge for those seeking civility and care, the town hosted more subdued iterations of Pride. They took the form of solemn candlelight processions. The following year, in July of 1989, the 20-year anniversary of the Stonewall Riots, Pride demonstrations featured members of ACT UP. This sparked major political discourse, followed by threats of violence that resulted in the cancellation of that year's Carnival Parade.

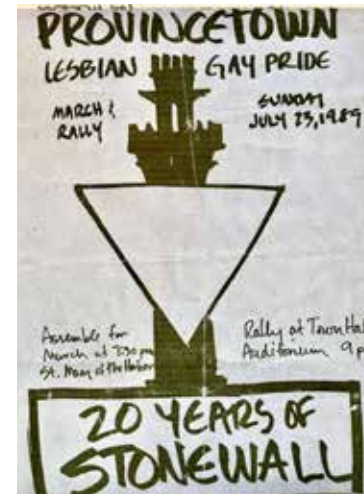


In all reality, there have been countless celebrations of Pride dotting the timeline of Commercial Street. Therefore, in approaching Provincetown's 6th Annual Pride this June 2-4, we will continue to recognize each brick, step, and demonstration that's brought us to where we now stand. We're also reminded that the current wave of violence towards trans and non-binary folk, queer youth, and drag queens, sparked by reinvigorated legislative wars - which all reaffirm the crucial need to protect and celebrate our LGBTQ+ family. Being alert to those who threaten our community remains a part of that larger inheritance.

Provincetown's Pride continues to gain footing as one of the community's most diverse weekends. That is proved by so many special moments: Introducing non-binary Gen-Zers to their first Ptown experience. Welcoming young kids with their parents. Celebrating the powerful lady-contingent supported by MEMDay and attendees of the longstanding Womxn Women of Color Weekend. Provincetown warmly extends its open arms to the full spectrum of our community. It offers an opportunity to celebrate Pride safely and freely. It's a wildly exciting period where LGBTQ+ people exist as the majority in our town - along with nearly 70% of our visitor base.

While not every day is Provincetown Pride, rest assured that every day there is Pride in Provincetown.

Pride 2023: Friday, June 2 – Sunday, June 4, 2023
Visit [Ptown.org/Pride](https://ptown.org/pride) for a full schedule of events



ATTRACTIONS & ACTIVITIES

ART'S DUNE TOURS

4 Standish St.
artsdunetours.com
508-487-1950

ATLANTIC WHITE SHARK CONSERVANCY

16 MacMillan Pier
atlanticwhiteshark.org
508-348-5901

CAPE SCHOOL OF ART

207 Route 6
capeschoolofart.com
617-717-9568

CENTER FOR COASTAL STUDIES

5 Holway Ave.
coastalstudies.org
508-487-3622

COYOTE KAYAKS

333R Commercial St. Unit 1
coyote.kayaks.com
508-413-9563

FINE ARTS WORK CENTER

24 Pearl St.
fawc.org
508-487-9960

FLYER'S BOATS

131A Commercial St.
flyersboats.com
508-487-0898

PAMET HARBOR YACHT & TENNIS CLUB

7 Yacht Club Rd., Truro
pametclub.com
508-349-3772

PILGRIM MONUMENT & PROVINCETOWN MUSEUM

1 High Pole Hill
pilgrim-monument.org
508-487-1310

PROJECT VALOR SAILING

37 Bradford Street Extension 20A
projectvalorsailing.org
508-237-8753

PROVINCETOWN ART ASSOCIATION & MUSEUM

460 Commercial St.
paam.org
508-487-1750

PTOWN BIKES

42 Bradford St..
ptownbikes.com
508-487-8735

TOPLESS TOURS

toplesstoursptown.com
716-507-7751

TRURO VINEYARDS OF CAPE COD

11 Shore Rd., North Truro
trurovineyardsofcapecod.com
508-487-6200

EVENT ORGANIZERS

CAMP LIGHTBULB

camplightbulb.org
323-484-7993

GREAT PROVINCETOWN SCHOONER REGATTA

provincetownschoolerrace.org
508-487-SAIL

PROVINCETOWN BEARS

ptownbears.org
781-982-1812

PROVINCETOWN FOOD & WINE FESTIVAL

ptownfoodandwinefestival.com
617-388-6787

PROVINCETOWN FOR WOMEN

provincetownforwomen.com
508-246-2082

PROVINCETOWN HISTORICAL CELEBRATIONS

provincetownportuguesefestival.com
508-246-9080

PROVINCETOWN INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

ptownfilmfest.org
508-487-3456

PTOWN TENNESSEE WILLIAMS THEATER FESTIVAL

twptown.com
866-789-TENN

TRANSWEEK

formerly Fantasia Fair
transweek.org
508-631-6670

508.487.1950 • 1-888.894.1951

ArtsDuneTours.com



FINANCIAL/INSURANCE/REAL ESTATE

BEACHFRONT REALTY

148 Commercial St.
beachfront-realty.com
508-487-1397

BENSON YOUNG & DOWNS, INSURANCE AGENCY

32 Howland St.
byandd.com
508-487-0500

LISA BERGERON, WILLIAM RAVEIS REAL ESTATE

154 Commercial St.
lisabergeron.raveis.com
617-771-7082

COOPERATIVE BANK OF CAPE COD

46 Bradford St.
mycapecodbank.com
508-568-1219

CAPE COD 5

capecodfive.com
508-349-3711

COLDWELL BANKER PAT SHULTZ REAL ESTATE, INC.

406 Commercial St.
patshultz.com
508-487-9550

DAVID MARSHALL DATZ, P.C.

167 Commercial St.
datzlawoffices.com
508-487-3900

DEL/MAR VACATION RENTALS

thisisdelmar.com
508-247-0395

GIBSON SOTHEBY'S INTERNATIONAL REALTY

168 Commercial St.
sothebysrealty.com
508-487-2430

GIBSON SOTHEBY'S VACATION RENTALS

168 Commercial St.
gibsoncapecodrentals.com
508-255-7100

JL PROPERTY SERVICES

508-326-1404

J&S MANAGEMENT

508-487-2331

KINLIN GROVER REAL ESTATE

374 Commercial St. #1
kinlingrover.com
508-487-5411

RHOME MORTGAGE LLC

21 Court St., # 1
rhomemortgage.com
508-523-7971

MEG A. STEWART, BHHS ROBERT PAUL PROPERTIES

192 Commercial St.
megstewart.robertpaul.com
508-237-6133

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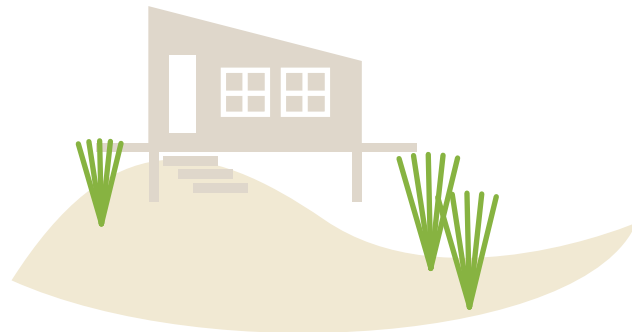
221 Commercial St.
seamensbank.com
508-487-0035

ROB TOSNER, WILLIAM RAVEIS HARBORSIDE REALTY

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raveis.com
508-237-2936

WILLIAM RAVEIS REALTY

154 Commercial St.
raveis.com
508-487-4005



HOW DO YOU SHOW UP?



At Levi's®, authentic self-expression is behind everything we do—our clothes, for sure, but also our values. For this year's Pride campaign, we set out to champion self-expression with a greater purpose. We wanted to celebrate how being able to show up as yourself—in the ways you dress, act, love, create, make people feel—empowers you to show up for others.

So, we are showing up to Provincetown Pride in the Levi's® Airstream trailer to celebrate community and empower others to live as their most authentic selves. Join us at 115 Bradford Street, outside the Provincetown Business Guild Office, on Friday, June 1st through Sunday, June 4th for complimentary giveaways, customizable denim, and a chance to shop the Levi's® 2023 Pride Collection.



*Levi's® is proud to be an official sponsor of Provincetown Pride. In conjunction with our 2023 Pride Collection, and to show our support for the global LGBTQ+ community, Levi's® makes an annual \$100,000 USD donation to Outright International, a global organization working to advance human rights for LGBTQ+ people all over the world.

OUR FEATURED ARTIST: RYAN LANDRY

Each year, the Provincetown Business Guild invites locally-based artists to be involved with the creation of our annual guides and the promotional posters that we create throughout the season. For this year's annual LGBTQ+ Guide to Good Times in Provincetown, we're showcasing on our cover a work called "Daydream" by Ryan Landry. You may know Ryan better from Showgirls fame, but perhaps you didn't know that he was also a painter. Learn more here about his artistic talents. And if you can, be sure to grab a ticket to Showgirls while you're in town!

Ryan, you're a legend in Provincetown. Having been the leader of Showgirls is just one of your many incredible talents! When did you first pick up a paint brush, and what sparked your interest in painting?

I attended the Art Students League and went to the School of Visual Arts in NYC (until I ran out of money) back in the 80s. That's when I fell in with [playwright-actor] Charles Ludlam and actually began acting in his company shortly after his death. Soon after that, I began playwrighting for my own company and found myself with little to no time to paint anything – except for the scenery used in the plays. So I guess I stayed in the game without even knowing it!

One of the reasons why the PBG chose to feature your work, Daydream, on the cover of this year's annual member directory is because it was so emblematic of Provincetown. Can you please tell me about a few of the icons you selected for inclusion and what they represent to you?

Yes, well, the G.B. Smith grave came first because my friends and I would often go there and get high in the late 70s. It acted as a sort of "Sphinx" for us, a "sacred deity" and we would often pray to it. (Isn't it great what drugs can do? lol) The Lobster Pot sign, as well as the A-House, Scottcakes, Mojo's, etc. are all obvious favorites. I take my grandchildren to the Penny Patch every week, so of course "Popeye" (my oldest) would kill me if I didn't include it. The Town Hall clock is just something

that I love looking at, as well as the life preserver from the Old Colony. (I've often seen two of them by closing time!) The houses simply represent what is left of the Provincetown that I fell in love with so many years ago.

What excites you most about the 2023 season in Provincetown? Is there something that you're most thrilled to share with us all this year?

I think it is exciting to be back at the Crown and Anchor. I truly missed being there during the "exile" years, lol. The new owners are dear friends and I love what they are doing with the old girl. (Not me – the building.) And it is great to watch all the young performers return to town and try out their "acts" – be they good or bad. I have a lot of hope for this new bunch – as long as they're smart enough to use compassion and logic and not trip over their own politics!

If you could be a sea creature like the kind found here in Provincetown, what would you be - and why?

Too late! lol

Where can visitors go to experience more of your original artworks while they are here in Provincetown?

The gorgeous William Scott Gallery, of course! Conveniently located at 439 Commercial Street in the wondrous East End of 'Problemstown.'



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Payomet Performing Arts Center is located at the Highlands Center in partnership with the Cape Cod National Seashore.

Bears, cubs & otters



Oh My!

BEAR WEEK IN PROVINCETOWN JULY 8 – 15

Provincetown Bear Week is the largest gathering of bears in the world. That's right – in the world! Tens of thousands of large, hairy and handsome men come to Provincetown for this annual event and they enthusiastically fill up parties, bars, and clubs throughout town.

Bear Week was started more than 20 years ago by John Burrows and the men of Provincetown Bears. Within a very short time, it has grown into one of the largest weeks in the town's summer event schedule. A wide array of promoters and producers have amped up the fun of Bear Week, so there's literally something for everyone.

This year's line-up, brought to you by the PBG, includes the return of the Otter Pop Pool Party; Eureka O'Hara from RuPaul's Drag Race at Town Hall; and an even bigger and better Bear Week Weiner Roast & Pool Party at the Brass Key.

Other popular Bear Week events to watch out for include the wildly popular FurBall, FagBash, the Fireman's Ball, and Bears on the Beach!

Get all the details about Provincetown Bear Week's 40-plus parties and events at Ptown.org/bears



**JULY 13 EUREKA O'HARA AT TOWN HALL
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 <small>JULY 28 & 29 MANDY GONZALEZ</small>	 <small>AUG 2 - 5 LIZ CALLAWAY & ANN HAMPTON CALLAWAY W/ ALEX RYBECK @ PIANO</small>	 <small>AUG. 10 & 11 BETH MALONE</small>	 <small>AUG. 23 - SEPT. 2 MARILYN MAYE W/ TEDD FIRTH @ PIANO</small>	 <small>SEPT. 8 & 9 MATT DOYLE</small>


THE TOWN HALL SERIES 2023

 <small>MAY 28 JESSIE MUELLER</small>	 <small>JULY 2 MONET X CHANGE</small>	 <small>JULY 9 AUDRA McDONALD</small>	 <small>AUG. 6 JEREMY JORDAN W/ BEN RAUHALA @ PIANO</small>	 <small>AUG. 13 ALASKA THUNDERFUCK</small>	 <small>AUG. 20 LACHANZE</small>	 <small>AUG. 27TH NINA WEST</small>	 <small>AUG. 31 SAMARA JOY W/ JAZZ TRIO</small>
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TOWN HALL SERIES WILL RAISE FUNDS FOR THE SANDY HOOK PROMISE






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July 19 - 22, 2023

WOMEN'S WEEK
October 9 - 15, 2023



WOMEN OF COLOR WEEKEND
WWW.WOCW.ORG

Womxn of Color Weekend is 4-day Pride designed to elevate, strengthen, educate and celebrate LGBTQ2+ women of color; trans-, nonbinary and genderfluid people of color; and our accomplices through intentionally curated workshops, shows, parties and shared meals!

join us!

2023: June 1st - 4th
2024: May 30th - June 2nd

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PROVINCETOWN QUEER HISTORY HIGHLIGHTS

This list is far from exhaustive; it's provided to offer some highlights of our LGBTQ+ experience in Provincetown.

1899: Charles Hawthorne opens the Cape Cod School of Art, bringing thousands of creatives to Provincetown from NYC.

1952: Philip "Phil" Baiona, known by his drag name Bella Baiona, opens Weathering Heights - town's first LGBTQ+ bar.



1966: Andy Warhol brings his Exploding Plastic Inevitable, a variety show featuring the Velvet Underground, to Provincetown.

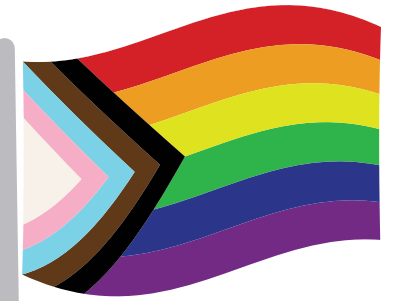
1970: LGBTQ+ activists hold a Labor Day Solidarity March to honor the one-year anniversary of Stonewall, despite being denied a parade permit by the town.

1975: The Boatslip holds the first Tea Dance.

1978: The Provincetown Business Guild is founded, making it one of the oldest LGBTQ+ business associations in the country.

1983: The Provincetown AIDS Support Group -- now the AIDS Support Group of Cape Cod -- is founded.

2010: The United States Census Bureau releases data that shows Provincetown has the highest rate of same-sex couples of any municipality in the country, making Provincetown the "gayest town in America."



1940: The Provincetown Advocate prints the word 'homosexual' for the first time.

1964: John Waters spends his first summer in Provincetown. Friends and icons of Waters' including Divine, Cookie Mueller, Mink Stole and Nan Goldin, soon follow.

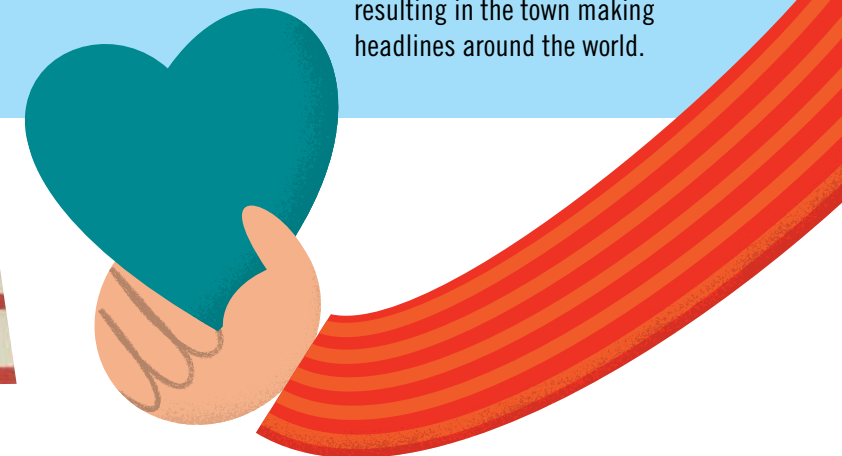
1966: Famed female impersonator Lynne Carter buys the Pilgrim House, solidifying Provincetown as an important cradle for the art of drag.

1975: The first Fantasia Fair is held. Now known as Trans Week, it is the oldest continuing transgender event in the world.

1976: Womencrafts opens. Today, It remains one of the few feminist bookshops in the country.

1990: The Spiritus Riot occurs during Labor Day weekend, resulting from police harassment of the LGBTQ+ community. Soon after, the Provincetown Police Department implements reforms, including hiring LGBTQ+ officers.

2004: Marriage equality comes to Massachusetts and Provincetown welcomes hundreds who are seeking marriage licenses, resulting in the town making headlines around the world.



45TH ANNUAL CARNIVAL LAND OF TOYS

AUGUST 12-19 2023

Carnival was created by the Provincetown Business Guild in 1978 as an invitation to the broader LGBTQ+ community to come to Provincetown and celebrate themselves through community, expression, and creativity.

Now hitting its 45th anniversary this August 12-19, the week-long Carnival festival has grown steadily to attract tens of thousands of guests from all over the world. They come to enjoy parties, events, and costume contests – all culminating in Cape Cod's largest event, the celebrated Carnival Parade. Last year, the parade made a triumphant return to Commercial Street after a two-year hiatus during the pandemic. Folks can expect this year's festivities to be even bigger, bolder, and more colorful than ever. The Carnival 2023 theme is "Land of Toys" and we expect an explosion of creativity in the costumes and creations that honors the artistry Carnival is known for!

The PBG's first event initiative, Carnival, has grown into its strongest tradition. So, whether you're toying in Provincetown for the first time at Carnival – or your forty-sixth – we invite you to come and play!



Celebrating the Art of Phil Jimenez

Provincetown-based artist Phil Jimenez – an Out 100 alum, is considered the first out gay artist in mainstream superhero comics. Jimenez has been commissioned by the PBG to generate this year's iconic Carnival poster and artwork for "Land of Toys." Phil is a winner of the industry's coveted Eisner, Inkpot, Diamond, and Wizard awards. This famed writer and artist has worked for DC Comics, Marvel Comics, and a host of other comic book companies for nearly 30 years. He is best known for his work on Tempest, The Invisibles, JLA/Titans, New-X-Men, Wonder Woman, Infinite Crisis, Amazing

Spider-Man, Otherworld, and Wonder Woman: Historia with author Kelly Sue DeConnick. Bottom line: Jimenez is a queer superhero in the comics industry.

We're grateful for the opportunity to work with such a decorated and nationally-recognized artist – and we look forward to sharing the poster very soon!

Follow Phil at @philjimeneznyc to check out more of his artwork.

DJ Lina Bradford Returns to Provincetown

Straight out of the golden era of NYC nightlife, and a member of the 1990s New York Club Kid scene, the iconic DJ Lina Bradford joins us to headline this year's beloved Carnival Cruise. She will spin for us the great beats in dance, deep house, and of course, disco. This "Princess of Light" has plans to spin you right round! Lina has also made her mark on the queer community through advocacy work for black trans women

Don't miss Alyssa Edwards, LIVE at Provincetown Town Hall on Wednesday night, August 16th. Visit [Ptown.org/Carnival](https://ptown.org/carnival) to book your tickets now.

through organizations like SAGE and GLAD. Come bow down to Lina on the dancefloor deck of Bay State Cruise Co. on Sunday, August 13.

Supporting Provincetown Artists

In 2022, the PBG piloted a new initiative to pair artists with local businesses. The goal was to add new creative energy to Provincetown's Carnival celebration. Producing a float for Carnival takes a lot of time, energy, and resources – things that are not always easy for Provincetown businesses to come by. The Carnival Artist Matchmaking Program recruits and engages local artists, pays them well for their work, and ensures that the creativity of the parade truly represents Provincetown as the nation's oldest ongoing artist colony.

Many businesses and artists are already re-confirmed on their involvement for Carnival 2023, so be on the lookout for this year's incredible roster of creativity.

Calling All Volunteers!

Interested in getting involved? As the saying goes: It takes a village! Since 1978, the non-profit Provincetown Business Guild has been producing events for the betterment of our community. The planning, promotion, and production of these events requires a tremendous amount of coordination and cooperation from our small team. By volunteering with the PBG, you can help to make events like Carnival happen – while meeting new friends and experiencing great events for free!

Visit ptown.org/carnival for the full schedule of events and happenings.



NYC golden-era icon and black trans advocate DJ Lina Bradford joins us for this year's Carnival Cruise. This event sells out quick, so book your spot on the dance floor now at [Ptown.org/carnival](https://ptown.org/carnival)



JOIN US FOR THE CARNIVAL PARADE ON THURSDAY, AUGUST 17



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- May 25-29** MEMDAY Weekend
- June 2-4** Provincetown Pride
- June 2-4** Womxn of Color
- June 15-18** Frolic
- July 2-8** Independence Week
- July 4** Independence Day Parade & Fireworks
- July 8-15** Bear Week
- July 19-23** Girl Splash
- July 22-29** Family Week
- Aug 12-19** Carnival 2023
- Sept 1-4** Camp Lightbulb Family Camp
- Sept 9** 36th Provincetown Swim for Life & Paddler Flotilla
- Sept 15-18** International Women's Flag Football Tournament
- Sept 22-24** Camp Provincetown
- Sept 28-Oct 2** Mates Leather Weekend
- Oct 6-8** Washashore Festival & Art Provincetown
- Oct 9-15** Women's Week
- Oct 15-22** TransWeek
- Oct 27-29** Halloween Weekend & Spooky Bear
- Nov 1-5** Provincetown Food & Wine Festival
- Nov 4-12** LGBTQ Armed Forces Week
- Nov 17-19** Mr. New England Leather Weekend
- Nov 24-Jan 1** The Canteen Holiday Market
- Dec 1-3** Holly Folly
- Dec 28-Jan 1** First Light

For More Information



ptowntourism.com

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INTRODUCING



Looking for a new way to experience the beauty and wonder of Provincetown? How about a program that offers a queer eye for the nature-lover? Whether you are an eco-enthusiast or an outdoor adventurer, or you just like wandering through nature, then the PBG has the perfect al fresco excursion for you!

Camp Provincetown is an innovative experiential program for locals and visitors alike. It offers a unique opportunity to experience the more “wild” side of your favorite queer vacation destination!

This brand-new program is a new collaboration between the Provincetown Business Guild and our partners from the **National Park Service and the Cape Cod National Seashore**, the **Atlantic White Shark Conservancy**, **Provincetown Conservation Trust**, **Art’s Dune Tours** and **Center for Coastal Studies**.

Visitors will get connected with the great outdoors and the LGBTQ+ researchers and naturalists that help to ensure the health and sustainability of our local environment. Camp Provincetown program-

ing is tailored specifically for queer audiences. It will be offered throughout the year and features activities that will include:

- Dune Tours**
- Seal Excursions**
- Night Sky Tours**
- Bike Excursions**
- Tidal Pool Hikes to Boy Beach**
- Nature Hikes**
- Bird Watching**
- Water Sport Adventures**
- Charter Cruises**
- & More!**

The prices for Camp Provincetown activities vary, with many offered at no charge. Registration is required for all events so that group size can be managed well in sensitive habitats.

Visit Ptown.org/CampPtown for the full line-up of upcoming events and to register or learn more.

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Glossary



Augustitis – The first recorded use of this word dates back to the 1940s. For those that live and work in Provincetown, it refers to the summer stress experienced by locals who put in long hours. The condition is not fatal; it's nothing a trip to the beach can't cure.

Baby Dyke Weekend – A moniker for MEMDay when thousands of younger women flock to Provincetown for Memorial Weekend with jubilant 'spring-breaker' energy. It's the perfect energized kick-off to the summer season!



Barking – The practice of "barking" is the old-school promotion of a live show. Come late afternoon in Town, comedians, drag queens, musicians, and others hit Commercial Street to "bark" for their shows and pass out fliers. If you're not interested in taking a flier, a smile and a "no thanks" is appreciated.

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Glossary



Boy Beach – This is the longstanding nickname for the far-flung part of Herring Cove Beach that attracts mostly gay men. Though not technically allowed within the Cape Cod National Seashore, it is Provincetown's de facto nude beach.

Cape Cod Geography

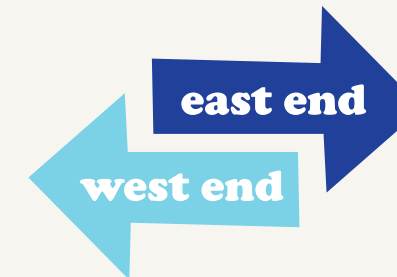
Outer Cape – Provincetown, Truro, Wellfleet & Eastham

Lower Cape – Chatham, Orleans, Harwich & Brewster

Mid Cape – Dennis, Yarmouth & Barnstable

Upper Cape – Sandwich, Mashpee, Falmouth & Bourne

Far East – A name to describe the part of Provincetown past the point where Commercial and Bradford street begin in the East End. It extends to the beginning of Beach Point, just before the town line with Truro.



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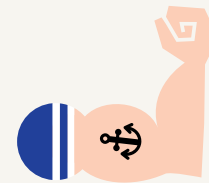
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Glossary



Nice Boy – A term of endearment coined by mostly Portuguese women in Provincetown to refer to gay men. It was a way these women expressed affection and support.



Townie – Perhaps in some locales, calling someone a “townie” is an insult – but not in Provincetown. Anyone born in Provincetown, usually called a native, is also a townie. How do you become a townie? That’s unclear, but when the day arrives you know – as a townie usually tells you.

Tea – This is the shortened moniker for Tea Dance, the popular afternoon party at the Boatslip that’s been a part of Provincetown since the late 1960s. You’ll often hear people along Commercial Street exclaim, “See you at Tea!”

Washashore – This is a common term heard all over Cape Cod to describe anyone who wasn’t born on the peninsula. A washashore can live on the Cape, or in Provincetown, long enough to become a townie. But if you weren’t born on Cape Cod, you will always be a washashore.

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FEET OVER FRONT STREET 5K RUN & WALK

PRIDE: SUNDAY, JUNE 4 | CARNIVAL: SUNDAY, AUGUST 13

BENEFITING THE PROVINCETOWN BUSINESS GUILD

In 2022, the Provincetown Business Guild partnered with the Provincetown Runners to create the PBG's first-ever 5K Run/Walk. Branded Feet Over Front Street, the event honors Commercial Street's original name - Front Street - which dates back to 1880. (It was renamed Commercial Street in 1920.)

The Feet Over Front Street 5K Run/Walk starts at the Harbor Hotel in Provincetown's East End and runs the full length of Commercial Street to the Provincetown Inn on the West End of Town.

The route includes the entire length of MacMillan Pier. It offers participants a start-to-finish, rainbow-railroad takeover of the main drag of the world's premier queer travel destination.

The first Feet Over Front Street was scheduled over Pride weekend in June 2022 and the second took place at the start of Carnival week. More than 300

runners and walkers participated in the first two 5K events.

"It's really important to let people know that Provincetown isn't just a space where you can come and party," explains Trevor Pittinger, Associate Director of the PBG. "This is a space where you can come and meditate or exercise or write or look at artwork and center yourself."

Our first winner of the Feet Over Front Street 5K in 2022 was Colin Gleason, who is currently in his sophomore year at Tufts University. Running and being gay are two of Gleason's favorite things. He looks forward to combining them again soon.

"I just thought it was super-cool to combine sports with a Pride event," he said. "Oftentimes, people don't necessarily associate people being gay with athletics. It was cool to have that opportunity for my first Pride event."

For Gleason, running has always been therapeutic. It allows him the space to sort through his anxiety and think things through, including coming out. Running is synonymous with Gleason's gay journey.

"When I'm training, it's almost like meditating, like taking time for yourself every day," he said. "Most people are like, 'What? You're going for a 10-mile run to decompress?' But for me, I'm so much more calm after I run."

Feet Over Front Street returns this year for Provincetown Pride, with the first Feet Over Front Street 5K event being held on Sunday, June 4th and the second taking place on the Sunday of Carnival week, August 13. Pets and kids are also welcome to participate, with special rates available for youth and seniors.

To learn more about Feet Over Front Street and to register for the 2023 events, please visit Ptown.org/FeetOverFrontStreet5K



Colin Gleason



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PROVINCETOWN: A YEAR-ROUND DESTINATION



One of the most frequent questions asked of locals is “What is Provincetown like in the more quiet months of fall, winter or spring?” The truth is, while cooler weather offers a quieter escape, many residents or visitors adore this time most of all, and for good reasons.

Affordability & Access

In the summer months, finding a week-long rental can be difficult; it usually requires throwing down a fair amount of cash. But remember that Provincetown is here for the LGBTQ+ community year-round, no matter the size of your wallet. Think about visiting during the winter or spring. You’ll benefit from greater lodging availability, less-costly rates, and an undiscovered Ptown experience. These traditional “off-season” times now offer a growing number of events and themed weekends.

Community Commitment

From summer to winter, the local population dips from a robust 60,000 all the

way to around 3,700. While Provincetown’s community is always tight-knit, visiting during winter will give you the chance to drop in to numerous community-oriented events. You’ll mix and mingle with the year-rounders, and get to connect with Ptown’s locals in a new way.

New Events & Experiences

Longstanding events such as Holly Folly, First Light, Snowbound Leather Weekend, and Out of Hibernation bring exciting spikes of traveler numbers during our quieter months. These moments in Ptown now are bigger than ever with record-breaking attendance. Additionally, new events are cropping up all over the calendar, especially during or around the Provincetown Food & Wine Festival, Valentine’s Day, Presidents’ Day, and “4/20”—to name just a few. Be on the lookout for new PBG events coming this year that will help amplify the growing shoulder/winter seasons.

Introspection, Meditation, & Balance

There’s a special reason why writers and thinkers like Henry David Thoreau have produced odes to our part of the world: it’s due in part to the quiet and solace granted by this place. Why not come here as an alternative to a silent retreat or meditative getaway? Bury your mobile devices in a drawer, light a fire, and crack open a book. Allow the sound of wind gusts outside to create a buffer between you and the rest of the world.

It’s All Natural

When you visit off-season, you’ll see the spaces you know so well through a brand new lens. We may be known for lush, seaside summers. However, the famous Cape light, dunes, and strolls through Provincetown take on different colors and qualities at other times during the year.

Discover more and plan your shoulder season escape at ptown.org

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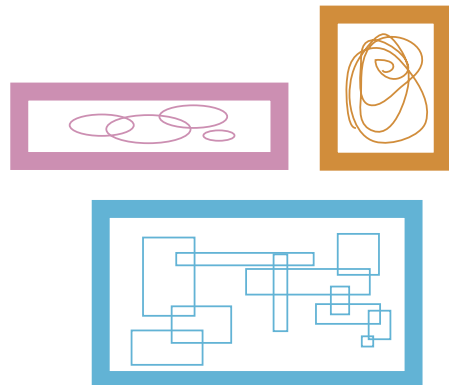
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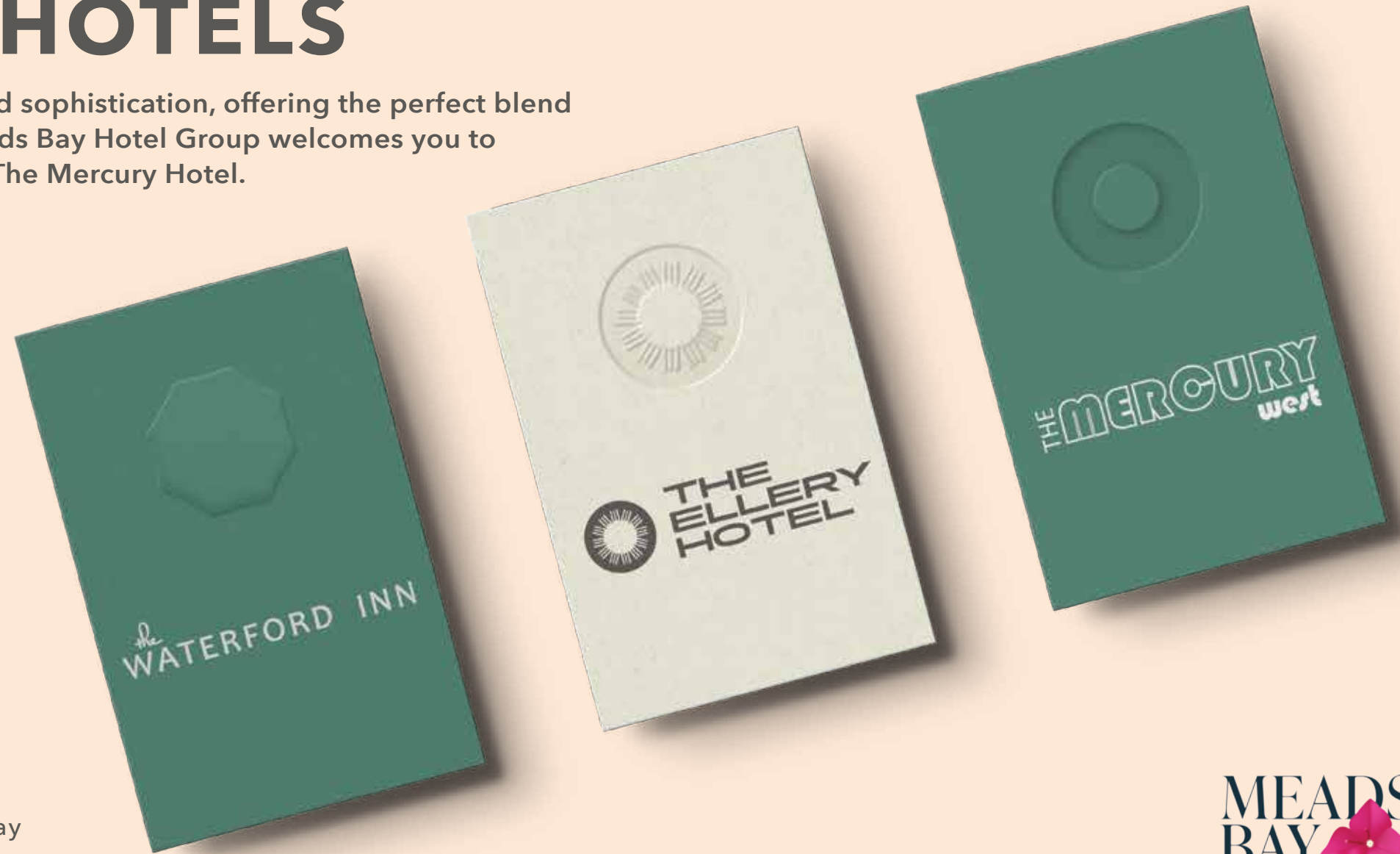
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www.elleryhotelptown.com
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508-487-4242
info@elleryhotelptown.com

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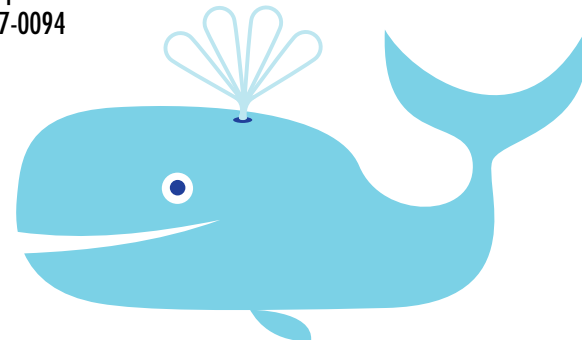
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CHEERS TO PROVINCETOWN'S HOLIDAY SEASON

Pink Friday **Friday November 24, 2023**

The holidays in Provincetown kick off during Thanksgiving Weekend. That's when many gather from all over at the tip of Cape Cod with their chosen family to give thanks for our incredibly nurturing community.

The national gift-shopping day after Thanksgiving is traditionally known as Black Friday. But here in Ptown, the Provincetown Business Guild offers a unique LGBTQ+ version of that ritual. We call it Pink Friday – and it happens this year on Friday, November 25th.

On Plnk Friday, locals and visitors alike can take advantage of the hundreds of unique shops, galleries, and attractions in Provincetown, to perfectly address their holiday gift-giving needs. What better way for the LGBTQ+ community and our friends to support mom-and-pop-owned small businesses here in town?

"We're excited to welcome visitors to Provincetown this holiday season," explains Stephan Hengst, the Executive Director of the Provincetown Business

Guild. "By doing holiday shopping in the town that we all know and love – whether in person or online – we can all do our part to invigorate the year-round economy of Ptown's queer community."

Holly Folly **December 1-3, 2023**

The nation's original LGBTQ+ holiday Celebration, Holly Folly, first began in Provincetown in 1997 as an opportunity to gather and celebrate the festive winter season with our chosen family. In 2022, we celebrated its 25th Anniversary! Today, Holly Folly draws queer community visitors who travel from far and wide to town. They enjoy great performance art, fine dining, and holiday shopping experiences, happily losing themselves in the one-of-a-kind, independently-owned shops, boutiques, and galleries that line Commercial Street.

Highlights of Holly Folly Weekend include **Holly Folly Bingo**, the **Crown & Anchor's Holly Follies** at Provincetown's Town Hall, as well as additional holiday performances all across town. Looking for a truly unique shopping

experience? Be sure to visit **Canteen's Annual Holiday Market**, which features dozens of makers and artisans offering unique holiday gifts. Stay for awhile and savor warm holiday favorites from their beachside kitchen and bar.

Last year, more than 200 runners joined us for the **Jingle Bell Run** on the Sunday to one-horse-open-slay their way down Commercial Street in as little clothing as they dared for a frosty fun-run. Participants will gather again this year at Fanizzi's in the East End for coffee, strip down, and run through Provincetown to the Lobster Pot Tree. Then the runners will climb into their favorite onesie and warm up over a Brew Brunch at Provincetown Brewing Co.

Once at the finish line, our friends at Cool As A Moose welcome runners to warm up and change into their next look before heading over to Brunch.

The spirit of Holly Folly will warm your heart and tickle your fancy as it continues to offer events through the entire month of December. Visitors are encouraged to visit Ptown.org to see all the holiday events happening in Provincetown.



First Light
December 29-January 1

You'll have the perfect opportunity to ring in the New Year in Provincetown with friends and family during First Light weekend. With the Pilgrim Monument decked out in lights, revelers will fill the streets and frolic as they celebrate. We offer a number of our signature events during this year-end celebration, including the Provincetown Library's **Light**

Bright Bike Ride, the PBG's annual **Ball Drop Bingo**, and the annual **Polar Bear Plunge**.

The Polar Bear Plunge on New Year's Day draws nearly a thousand people to the beach along Provincetown's Harbor for a refreshing dip in the ocean. In 2022, more than 200 plungers participated while DJ Chris Racine and Trampolina got the crowd's blood pumping! This event is the highlight of

the New Year's in town! Best of all, the event benefits the important work of the **Center for Coastal Studies**.

Afterwards, the crowds continued the New Year's Day party by flocking to the beachside warming station and then moved on to Harbor Lounge for a cup of hot chili and a cool Tito's cocktail.

Visit [Ptown.org/holidays](https://ptown.org/holidays) for the full schedule of events happening in Provincetown.





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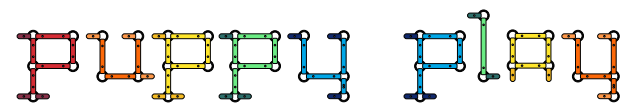
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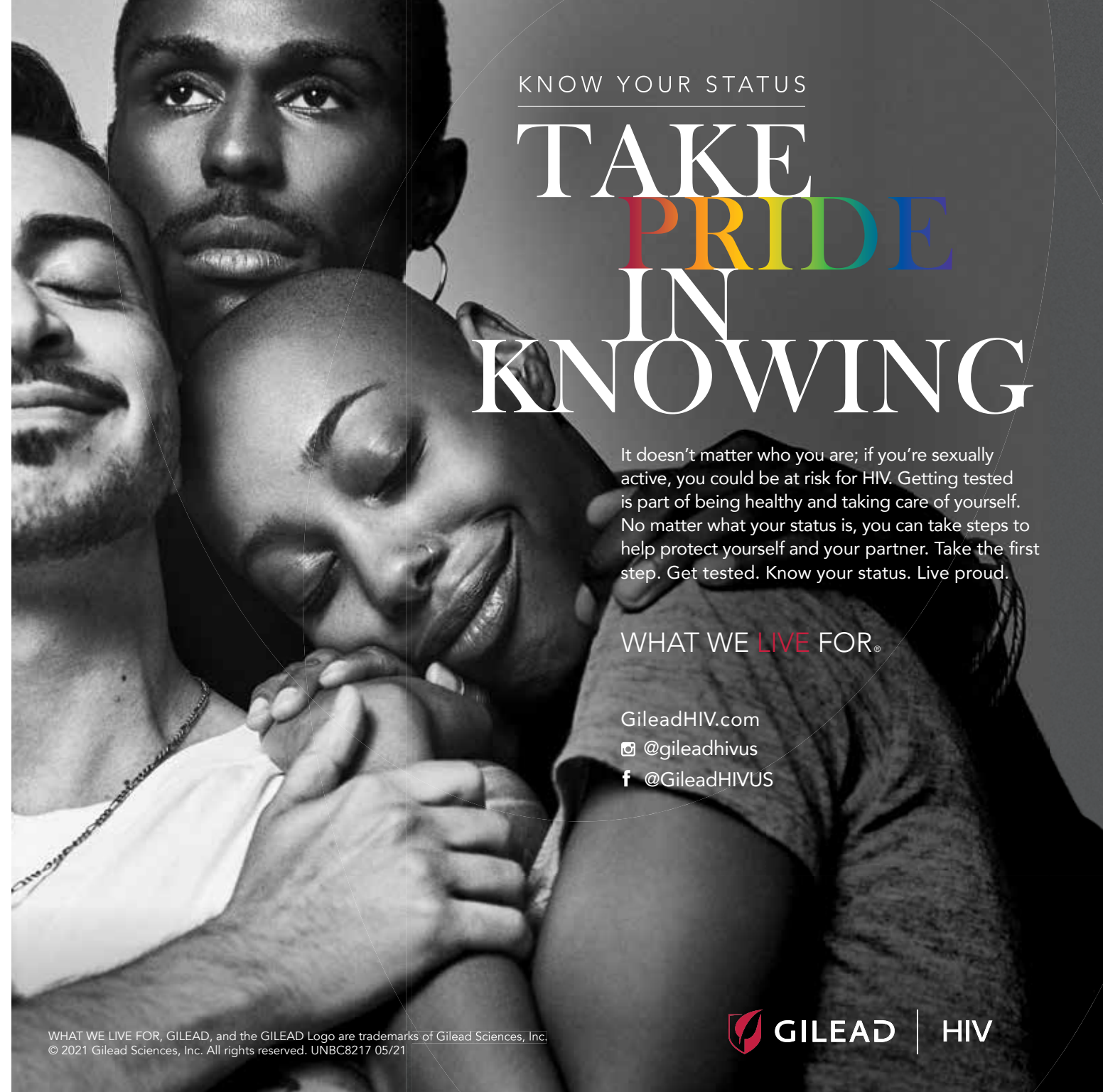
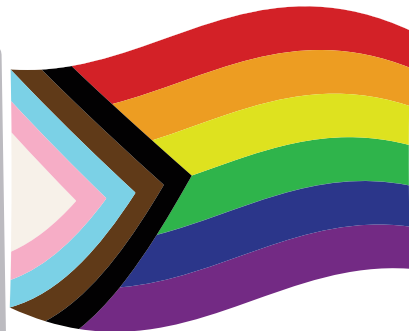
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MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR 2024

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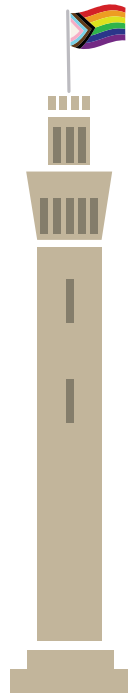


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Provincetown Business Guild

Founded in 1978, the Provincetown Business Guild is a non-profit membership supported organization that works to drive LGBTQ+ tourism to Provincetown and support our local businesses throughout the year - but we can't do it without the support of our community.

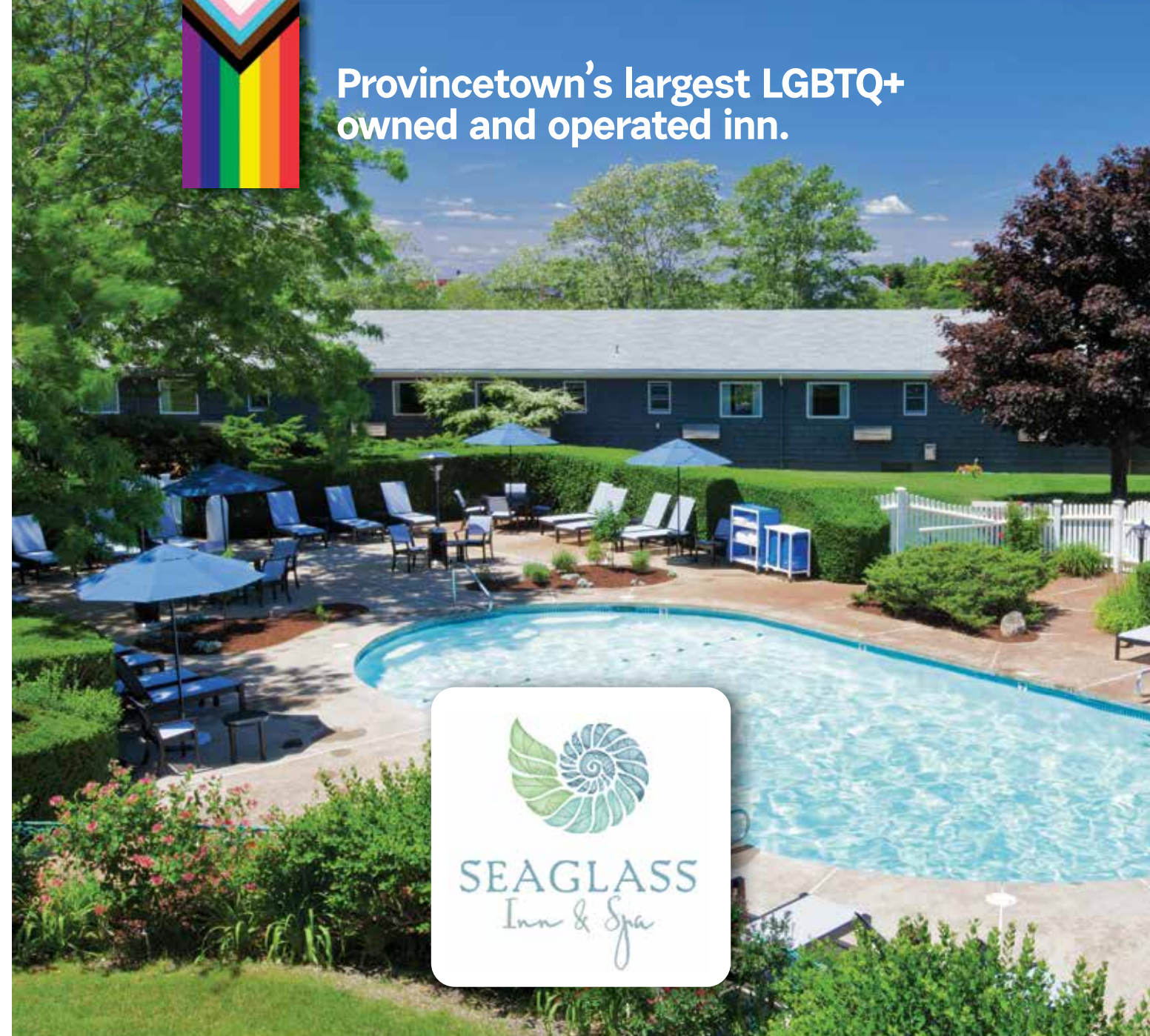
Please consider supporting the PBG by doing any of the following:

- Make a donation to the PBG
- Volunteering to support our events
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Learn more by visiting [Ptown.org/about](https://ptown.org/about)



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