

2026-27 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April

29-MAY 13 | OUTSIDERS FESTIVAL
campprovincetown.com

May

14-17 | FASCINATION PROVINCETOWN
fascinationkink.com

16 | FAST FERRY SERVICE BEGINS
baystatecruisecompany.com &
cityexperiences.com

15-17 | 20TH ANNUAL SINGLE
WOMEN'S WEEKEND
provincetownforwomen.com

16-17 | MONUMENTAL YARD SALE
ptown.org

21-25 | MEMDAY WEEKEND
WOMEN'S FESTIVAL
lesbiannightlife.com/memdaytown

June

3-8 | 20TH ANNUAL WOMEN OF
COLOR WEEKEND
womenofcolorweekend.org

4-7 | PROVINCETOWN PRIDE
ptown.org/pride

7 | WELLTOWN 5K RUN & WALK PRIDE
EDITION
ptown.org/pride

8-14 | PROVINCETOWN CABARETFEST
provincetowncabaretfest.org

10-14 | PROVINCETOWN
INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL
ptownfilm.org

17-22 | FROLIC - MEN OF COLOR
WEEKEND
wearofrolic.com

19-21 | JUNETEENTH - A COMMUNITY
CELEBRATION & COOKOUT
junteenthptown.com

26-28 | PROVINCETOWN'S
PORTUGUESE FESTIVAL
provincetownportugueseFestival.com

July

3-10 | INDEPENDENCE WEEK
ptown.org/independence

4 | INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE &
FIREWORKS
ptowntourism.com

11-18 | BEAR WEEK
ptown.org/bears

19 | ASGCC PTOWN 5K
asgcc.org

22-25 | GIRL SPLASH
provincetownforwomen.com

25-AUG 1 | FAMILY WEEK
ptownfamilyweek.com

August

11 | 20TH ANNUAL PROVINCETOWN
JAZZ FESTIVAL
provincetownjazzfestival.org

15-22 | 48TH ANNUAL CARNIVAL -
DEEP SEA DISCO
ptown.org/carnival

16 | WELLTOWN 5K RUN & WALK
CARNIVAL EDITION
ptown.org/carnival

20 | 48TH ANNUAL CARNIVAL PARADE
ptown.org/carnival

22 | JIMMY LEE'S FASHION SHOW:
LONDON CALLING
provincetowncommons.org

September

11-13 | YANKEE LAMBDA LGBTQ
CAR CLUB SHOW
yankeelccc.com

12 | PROVINCETOWN SWIM FOR LIFE &
ANNUAL FLOTILLA
swim4life.org

17-20 | NATIONAL GAY PILOTS
ASSOCIATION - CAPE COD CLASSIC
ngpa.org

18-21 | INTL WOMEN'S FLAG FOOTBALL
TOURNAMENT
iwffa.com

25-27 | PROVINCETOWN
BOOK FESTIVAL
provincetownbookfestival.org

26 | PET APPRECIATION DAY
PARADE & TEA
casasanimalshester.org

October

1-5 | MATES LEATHER WEEKEND XXVIII
matesleatherweekend.com

10-12 | MONUMENTAL YARD SALE
ptown.org

12-18 | WOMEN'S WEEK
womensweekprovincetown.com

18-25 | TRANSWEEK
transweek.org

29 - NOV 1 | HALLOWEEN WEEKEND
& SPOOKY BEAR
ptown.org/Halloween

November

4-8 | PROVINCETOWN FOOD & WINE
FESTIVAL
ptownfoodandwinefestival.com

8 | PIE FEST
provincetowncommons.org

20-22 | MR. NEW ENGLAND LEATHER
neleather.org

25 | LIGHTING OF THE
PILGRIM MONUMENT
pilgrim-monument.org

27-29 | THANKSGIVING WEEKEND
ptown.org/thanksgiving

27 | PINK FRIDAY
ptown.org/pinkfriday

27-JAN 1 | THE CANTEN HOLIDAY
MARKET
thecanteentown.com

28 | LIGHTING OF THE LOBSTER POT
TREE
facebook.com/
provincetownlobsterpottree

December

1 | WORLD AIDS DAY
asgcc.org

4-6, 11-13, 18-20, & 25-27 |
HOLLY FOLLY
ptown.org/hollyfolly

5 | SOUPER SATURDAY FUNDRAISER
skipfood.org

31-JAN 3 | FIRST LIGHT NEW YEAR'S
CELEBRATION
ptown.org/firstlight

January 2027

1 | PROVINCETOWN POLAR BEAR
PLUNGE
ptown.org/firstlight

February 2027

12-14 | VALENTINE'S WEEKEND
ptown.org/valentines

19-21 | SNOWBOUND LEATHER
WEEKEND XIX
matesleatherweekend.com/
snowbound

March 2027

11-14 | OUT OF HIBERNATION
ursamen.org

13 | YEAR ROUNDERS FESTIVAL
facebook.com/groups/
provincetownyearrounders

About The PBG

Founded in 1978, the Provincetown Business Guild (PBG) is a not-for-profit membership organization that promotes Provincetown as THE travel destination for the LGBTQ+ community. The PBG cultivates and elevates the queer identity of Provincetown, drives LGBTQ+ tourism, and supports our local businesses.

The PBG is made up of over 300 member businesses, including retail shops, galleries, restaurants, lodging establishments, attractions, professional and nonprofit organizations, nightclubs, and more that support the organization's mission. Our goal is to bring people to Provincetown to stay, eat, shop, and experience the specialness of a destination where they are both celebrated and feel safe being themselves.

One of the ways that the PBG promotes Provincetown is through the production of premier events, like Pride in June, Carnival in August, and Holly Folly & First Light in December, which attract hundreds of thousands of visitors each year.

Learn more, make a donation, volunteer, or reach out to get involved helping spread the word about the magic of LGBTQ+ Provincetown at ptown.org.



Sponsored in part by
the Tourism Fund

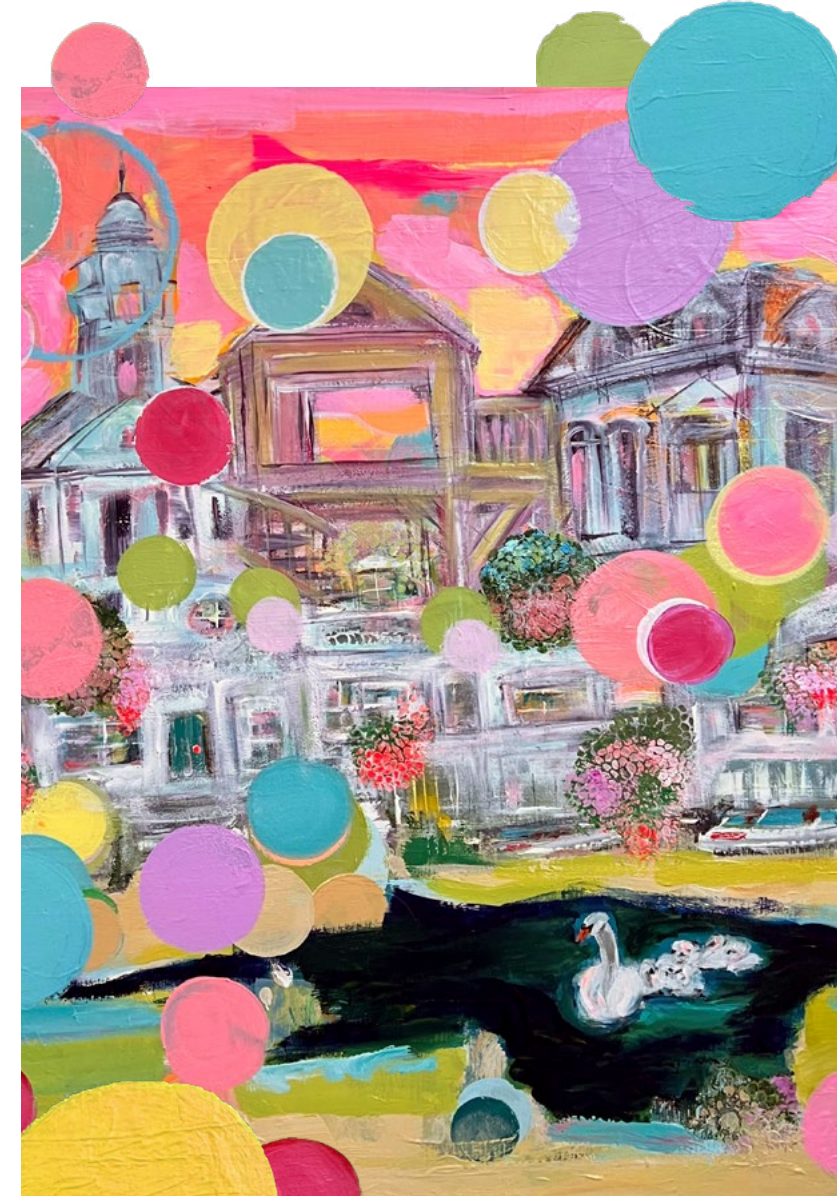


Cover Artwork by Beth Faherty

Provincetown
Business Guild

20
26

Queer Adventure Guide & Map to LGBTQ+ PROVINCETOWN



ptown.org @visitptown



Experience Provincetown. Where nature, community, and culture create deeper belonging.

Beyond summer's buzz, it's a place to slow down and reconnect with nature, others, and yourself. ptown.org/welltown

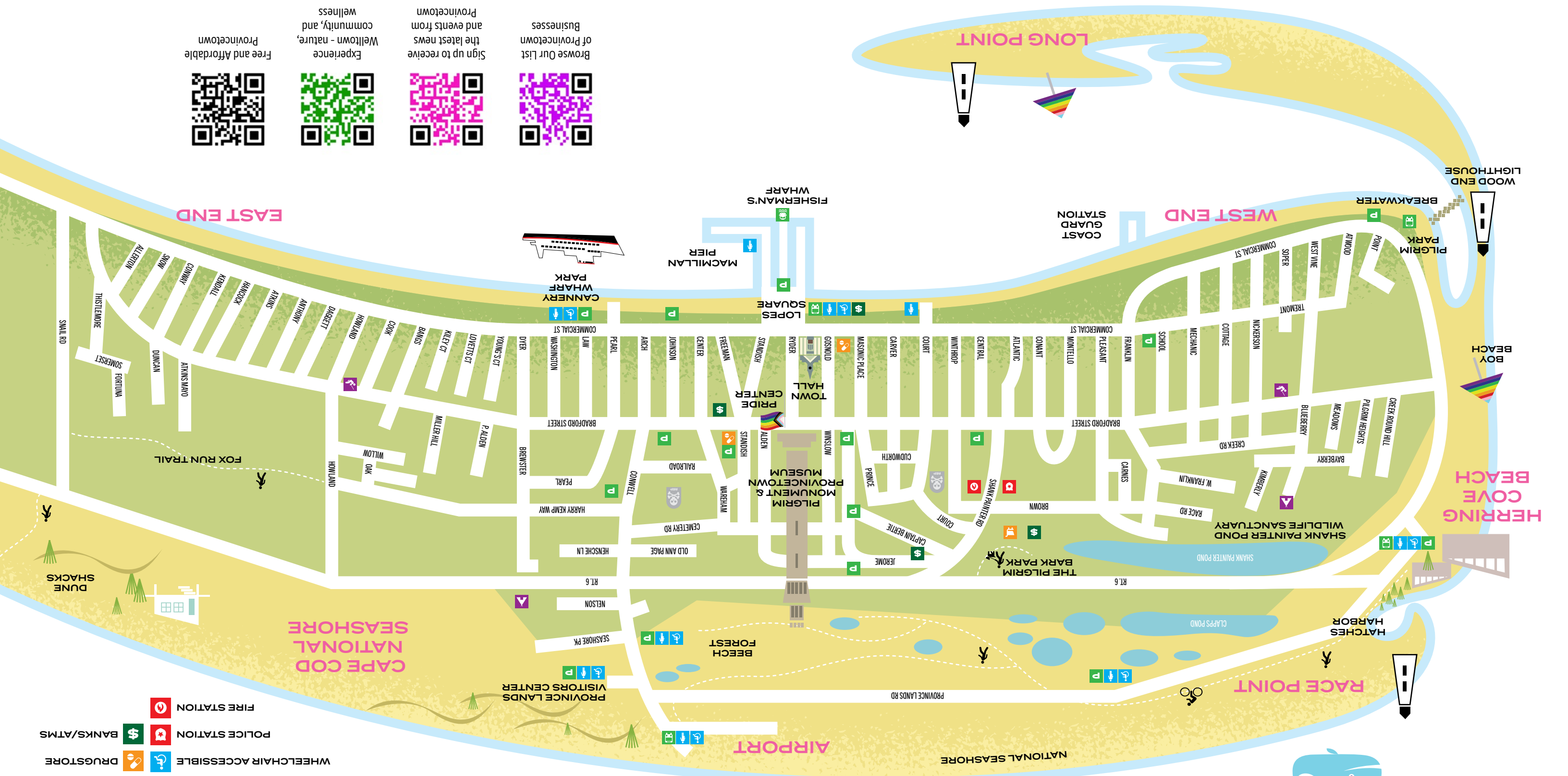
find your current at

Free and Affordable Provincetown

Experience Welltown - nature, community, and wellness

Sign up to receive the latest news and events from Provincetown

Browse Our List of Provincetown Businesses



PROVINCETOWN

Find Your Way In

- BUS/SHUTTLE
- PARKING LOTS
- FERRIES
- CAMPGROUND
- MARKET
- PUBLIC RESTROOMS
- WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE
- DRUGSTORE
- BANKS/ATMS
- FIRE STATION

ASAP-TOWN FAST FERRY
EASY, BREEZY TRAVEL BETWEEN BOSTON AND PROVINCETOWN

Special weekday rates!

Make your reservations now

Boston Harbor citycruises

CITYCRUISES.COM/BOSTON

373A Commercial St

adamsnest.com

Admiral's Landing

Admiral's Landing.com

SEE A MOVIE!
Waters Edge Cinema

provincetownfilm.org

Lands End Inn

Open Year-Round | LandsEndInn.com

SOLE LUNA
WELLNESS STUDIO

MASSAGE
YOGA
GIFT SHOP

140 Commercial Street
solelunaptown.com

PROVINCETOWN FAST FERRIES
FROM THE SEAPORT DISTRICT

Seven Days a Week
May thru October

877-PT.FERRY or 877-783-3779
World Trade Center Boston

www.baystatecruisecompany.com

PROVINCETOWN'S ONLY
PTOWN
FULL-SERVICE COMMUNITY GYM

GET YOUR
PASS NOW!

11 YEARS RUNNING

@PROVINCETOWNPTOWN PTOWNPTOWN.COM
81 SHANKLIN RD | 508-487-2776

Bay Cafe

Open Daily
177 Commercial Street
Breakfast • Lunch • Dinner

FAMILY EQUALITY

FAMILY WEEK
in Provincetown, MA

July 25 - Aug. 1, 2026

The largest annual gathering of LGBTQ+ families in the world!

Save the date for next year July 24-31, 2027

familyequality.org/familyweek

WILLIAM RAVES
REAL ESTATE • MORTGAGE • INSURANCE

Russell Madray
REALTOR®
864.915.3762

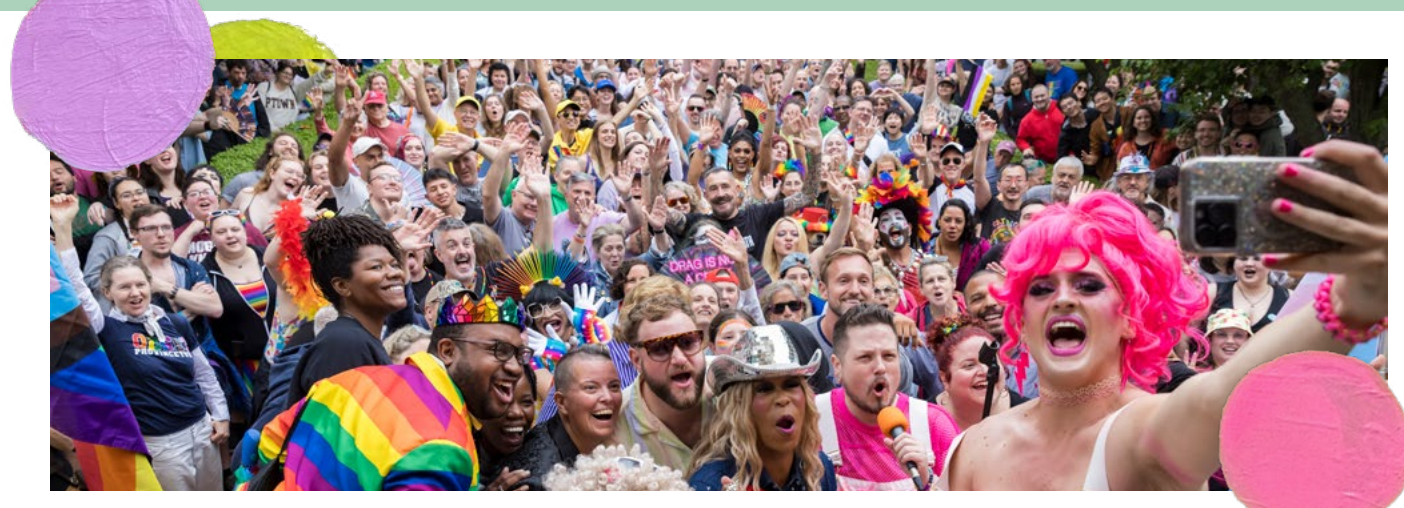
your place in ptown

FREE HIV/STI SCREENINGS
FREE NARCAN

ASGCC: Serving Ptown since 1983

PTOWN DROP-IN CENTER

301 Commercial Street



There's No Place Like This

Why Provincetown Belongs on Every LGBTQ+ Traveler's Bucket List



There is a moment that happens to nearly every LGBTQ+ traveler the first time they set foot in Provincetown, Massachusetts. It arrives quietly. Maybe while strolling down Commercial Street on an August afternoon, or sipping a cocktail on a harbor-facing patio, or simply watching the foot traffic walk by. The moment is this: you realize that you are not the minority here. You are not scanning the room, editing yourself, or performing a careful, practiced version of yourself. In Provincetown, you are simply you, and so is everyone around you. That feeling can't be fully described. It has to be experienced. And that is precisely why Provincetown, Massachusetts, should be on every LGBTQ+ person's travel bucket list.

Provincetown is not a gay neighborhood. It is not a queer-friendly resort enclave carved out of a larger city. It is something far rarer and more extraordinary. An entire

town whose restaurants, beaches, shops, culture, and very identity have been shaped, sustained, and celebrated by the LGBTQ+ community for decades. No other destination in the United States comes close to what Provincetown is.

The town's connection to LGBTQ+ life stretches back to the 1970s and earlier, when artists, activists, and queer people discovered that the remote beauty of Cape Cod's outermost tip offered something genuinely rare: freedom. What began as a refuge became a community. That community became a culture. Today, Provincetown is recognized as one of the most welcoming and authentically queer destinations on the planet. Not just because we promote it that way, but because its residents, business owners, and visitors have built it that way, year after year, decade after decade.

Commercial Street: The Beating Heart of Ptown

If Provincetown has a backbone, it is Commercial Street. A narrow, mile-and-a-half stretch of road that runs along the harbor and serves as the social, commercial, and theatrical center of town. Walking it is an experience unto itself.

On any given summer afternoon, Commercial Street is alive with drag artists greeting guests outside brunch spots, couples strolling hand in hand without hesitation, where the full spectrum of queer community all share the same sidewalk, reveling in the unique queer joy only Provincetown can offer. The street is lined with independent shops, art galleries, guesthouses, bars, and restaurants where the menus often feature entrees with a side of people-watching.

What makes Commercial Street truly unique is its social physics. In most American cities, LGBTQ+ visibility in public spaces often requires some level of vigilance and awareness of one's surroundings. On Commercial Street, that vigilance disappears. For many visitors, especially those who have never experienced anything like it, this is quietly life-changing.

Art, Culture, and a Legacy of Creativity

Provincetown holds the distinction of being the oldest continuous art colony in the United States. Since the early 20th century, artists have been drawn to the extraordinary quality of its light. The way the Atlantic wraps around the peninsula

on three sides creates a luminosity that painters have chased for generations.

That creative legacy lives on in the town's remarkable concentration of galleries, studios, and performance venues. The Provincetown Art Association and Museum (PAAM), founded in 1914, remains a vital arts institution, hosting exhibitions that span traditional Cape Cod landscapes and cutting-edge contemporary work. Independent galleries are all over town, showcasing everything from photography and sculpture to painting and printmaking. Many of the artists showing their work are LGBTQ+.

Beyond visual art, Provincetown has a thriving performing arts scene, anchored by the historic Provincetown Theater and a myriad of cabaret and performance spaces where drag, comedy, and live music expertly blur the line between entertainment and art form.

Provincetown's annual event calendar is one of the most robust, diverse, and community-specific in LGBTQ+ travel, with many weeks and weekends drawing different facets of the community, giving the town a kaleidoscopic quality throughout the year. From Provincetown Pride to Bear Week, Frolic to Out of

Hibernation, Girl Splash to CabaretFest, and one of the oldest and largest events on Cape Cod, Carnival, there is truly something for everyone. It may be a cliché, but this phrase could not be more appropriate to describe Provincetown's calendar.

There are places in the world that LGBTQ+ travelers visit because they are welcoming. And then there is Provincetown. A destination that does not merely welcome queer people, but exists because of them, for them, and with them in a way that is unlike anywhere else on earth.

The feeling you get walking down Commercial Street, that profound, wonderful, and unmatched sensation of belonging completely, is not something you can manufacture or approximate. It is specific to Provincetown. A town that has spent decades becoming exactly what it is. Every LGBTQ+ person deserves to feel it at least once. You will understand the moment you get here.



PTOWN TIPS FOR FIRST-TIME VISITORS

Provincetown is a well-known and beloved vacation destination for the LGBTQ+ community. Both locals and seasoned visitors love welcoming newbies; they offer advice, give directions, or cheerfully explain local customs and traditions. Here's a list of tips about Provincetown to get you started!

Provincetown's Gayborhood

One of the many things that makes Provincetown unique is that the whole town is queer-friendly. We don't have a gayborhood. The whole town is a gayborhood. Most demographic estimates – both scientific and anecdotal – indicate that the majority of Provincetown is indeed part of the LGBTQ+ community. Acceptance and celebration of

diversity abound everywhere in Provincetown and spill over to neighboring Truro and Wellfleet, too.

The Provincetown Calendar

Provincetown is a great destination any time of the year! The most important thing to know is that everyone is welcome, no matter when you plan your visit. But if you're looking for a specific community or niche event, visit ptown.org to learn more about our theme weeks and see what's happening when.

Nightlife and Last Call

While a small town at heart, Provincetown offers a nightlife with a metropolitan soul. Nightclubs, bars, and cabarets abound along Commercial Street, Provincetown's main drag. The evening begins early with a Tea Dance at 4pm, or with beverages at one of our local bars and lounges. By 7pm, things shift as folks prepare for dinner out. This is followed by any one of the live performances featuring world-class drag, comedy, music, or theater throughout Provincetown. Many evenings on the town end up on the dance floor starting around

10pm. Ptown's last call is usually at 12:45am. Once the bars close, the late-night crowds assemble at Spiritus Pizza, an end-of-the-evening tradition that's been honored for decades in Provincetown. If you're not ready to go home, this is the perfect place to land an invite to a private after-hours party.

Getting Around

Many visitors prefer to leave their cars at home and arrive by plane, bus, or ferry. Provincetown is very bike-friendly; there are many places around town where you can rent a bike or scooter.

Other modes of transportation are also available, including pedicabs and taxis, and don't forget to hop on the sightseeing trolley! As for getting to the beach, there are shuttle buses that run throughout the day, as well as a boat launch to take you out to Long Point, the very tip of Cape Cod.

A Ptown GLOSSARY

Provincetown has such a unique and distinctive culture. At times, it can seem to have its own language! Perhaps it does. Here's a list of common slang and colloquialisms native to Provincetown to better understand life at the end of the Cape.

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.

Breakwater – The Provincetown Causeway, or the "Breakwater" as it is more commonly called by locals, is a must-visit attraction on the West End. Made of large boulders, this causeway stretches out for just over a mile from the West End to the Wood End Lighthouse.

Boy Beach – Dating back to the 1950s, this is the longstanding nickname for the far-flung part of Herring Cove Beach that attracts many gay men and, increasingly, the broader LGBTQ+ community. 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

Second Summer – Experience a second summer in Provincetown during the months of September and October. The pace in town slows down, the crowds start to thin out, and the often stunning weather brings warm days and cool nights. It's an especially good time for hiking, biking, and other outdoor activities.

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!"

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

WHALE WATCH
SUNSET MUSIC CRUISE

508-240-3636
www.whalewatch.com

NURTURE YOUR SPIRIT WITH THE ARTS

Berta Walker GALLERY

208 Bradford Street Provincetown MA
www.bertawalkergallery.com
508-487-6411 AMPLE PARKING

THE RED INN
WATERFRONT DINING & LODGING

Open Daily
Happy Hour 2-4:30pm
Dinner at 5:30pm
Live Jazz Brunch on Sundays 11am-2pm
Book on Resy.com

15 Commercial Street
508-487-7334

Gibson Sotheby's INTERNATIONAL REALTY

Seriously Good at This.

Authentic. Ethical. Exceptional.

NATHAN BUTERA
508.237.8101

Each Office is Independently Owned and Operated.

Open for Breakfast & Dinner
Seasonal Outdoor Dining

THE POINTE RESTAURANT

Located at Crowne Pointe | 82 Bradford Street
www.pointerestaurant.com

HINDU CHARTERS

SAILING DAILY

Hindu & Bloodhound

508-542-2996

PROVINCETOWN BOOKSHOP

OPEN DAILY at 229 Commercial Street

COOKBOOKS
CHILDREN
ART & TRAVEL
MEMOIRS
VINYL
BARNHART BOOKS
POZZILLOS
CAPE COD
HANDMADE
& MORE!

ProvincetownBookShop.com

90 Years
PROVINCETOWN
PORTUGUESE BAKERY

239 COMMERCIAL • 508-487-1888

America's LGBTQ+ Flagship

I.S.S.V. HARVEY MILK

PROVINCETOWN, MASSACHUSETTS

SALTY MARKET

NORTH TRURO

www.saltymarketfarmstand.com