



## Miami Beach Embraces and Entertains LGBT Travelers with Host of Events

MIAMI BEACH, Fla. – Celebrated as an international LGBT-friendly destination for travelers across the globe, Miami Beach is enticing guests to experience the beauty and liveliness of the city with a packed calendar of events during the month of April. From Miami Beach Gay Pride and MiFo LGBT Film Festival, to the vibrant year-round offerings from proud restaurants and hotels, Miami Beach is gearing up for a colorful month.

“Miami Beach fosters an inclusive community and embraces visitors from all walks of life, as demonstrated by our Travvy Award for Best LGBTQ Destination earlier this year,” says Peggy Benua, Chair of the Miami Beach Visitor and Convention Authority (MBVCA). “An acclaimed haven for the LGBT community, Miami Beach is like no other place in the world.”

Welcoming visitors from around the world, [Miami Beach Gay Pride](#) is one of the most festive celebrations of its kind. The annual week-long festival is taking over the city from April 3-10, bringing together members of the LGBT community and their allies. This year, in a show of solidarity, Miami Beach will be paying tribute to the victims, families and friends of the PULSE Nightclub shooting by orchestrating “Pride Lights the Night”. Buildings, retail locations, and homes throughout the Miami Beach area will light up awash in the colors of the Pride rainbow flag.

On April 9, with Ross Mathews as its celebrity Grand Marshall, The Pride Parade, drawing more than 130,000 participants each year, will travel along Ocean Drive. The fun doesn’t end after the final float is gone; from Friday, April 21 to Sunday, April 30, the [MiFo LGBT Film Festival](#) continues the party and returns to Miami Beach. Guests can catch special screenings of films dedicated to diversity in cinema, offering contemporary perspectives on the LGBT experience, playing at the Regal Cinemas South Beach.

In addition to the exciting annual events, there are many mainstay LGBT-friendly activities year-round, including [BRUNCHIC](#) at the spectacular Palace South Beach. Every Sunday, both visitors and locals enjoy delicious food, bottomless mimosas, and the lively Drag Brunch performances that the Palace is famous for. The center of gay nightlife in Miami Beach for over 20 years, Twist South Beach offers Ladies Happy Hour and nightly dance parties, a popular “must-do” experience. For accommodations, [Hôtel Gaythering](#), Miami Beach’s premier hotel catering to the gay traveler, is a top choice.

“Miami Beach is a world-renowned travel destination for the LGBT community”, says Grisette Roque, Executive Director of the MBVCA. “The city strives to ensure guests and residents feel secure and entertained in our beautiful city with programs such as ‘The Hub’ LGBT Visitor Center and the newly launched safe-space initiative. Miami Beach remains a leading example for LGBT inclusiveness.”

For more information about LGBT events, offerings, and things to do, download the Miami Beach Information App at [www.MiamiBeachAPI.com](http://www.MiamiBeachAPI.com).

## Must-Do April LGBT Events Include:

### [Miami Beach Gay Pride](#)

Since 2009, Miami Beach Gay Pride has brought together the LGBT community and allies by organizing free events open to all. Main attractions this year include:

- [Rainbow Flag Raising Ceremony](#), April 3: Join city officials and Miami Beach Gay Pride Board members to officially kick off the “Week of Pride”.
- [Miss Miami Beach Gay Pride Pageant & Silent Auction](#), April 3: More than just a pageant, the event is a fundraiser to help benefit the local LGBT community and youth.
- [A Different TWIST on Fun: Ladies Happy Hour](#), April 6: Twist South Beach isn’t only for the boys! Ladies take over on April 6th from 8-11 p.m. for a special women’s happy hour with drink specials, prizes, entertainment, and much more!
- [Miami Beach Gay Pride Parade and Festival](#), April 9: Celebrity parade marshals include Ross Matthews and “Uncle” Johnny Pool from *Elvis Duran and The Morning Show*. Miami Beach will also host a two-day, free beach party festival with international DJs, exhibitors, community booths, family fun zone, food vendors and cash bars. This year, the Miami Beach Pride Festival will feature fireworks and a surprise performance tribute to Prince.

### [MiFo LGBT Film Festival](#)

The largest LGBT cultural arts event in South Florida, the MiFo LGBT Film Festival will be hosting events across Miami Beach from April 21-30. Highlights include multiple film showings at Regal Cinemas South Beach and specialty events like:

- [Spotlight Party at Yuca Miami Beach](#), April 22
- [Centerpiece Party at Britto Central](#), April 26
- [Closing Night Party at Bacaro Miami](#), April 29

### [Palace South Beach](#)

An integral part of Miami Beach’s LGBT scene, the Palace’s top events this month include:

- [Annual Rock the Block Free Block Party](#), April 9: Hosted by Missy Meyakie Lepaige and Joanna James, the annual block party is celebrating Miami Beach Gay Pride with Danny Verde and DJ Carlos Rojas. Guests with reservations can watch the Pride Parade right on Ocean Drive at the center of all the action.
- [BRUNCHIC](#): Reoccurring every Sunday, enjoy entertainment fit for a queen while sipping on bottomless mimosas and feasting on brunch fare.

### [LGBT Visitor Center “The Hub”](#)

The epicenter of LGBT activity in South Beach, “The Hub” offers weekly support groups, special workshops and an array of social events year-round open to all:

- [Gay Chamber Spotlight Mega-Mixer Benefitting Miami Beach Gay Pride](#), April 4: A special Miami Beach Gay Pride edition of the bi-monthly Spotlight Mega-Mixer event hosted by the Miami-Dade Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce at the Shore Club South Beach. Kick off Pride celebrations by mingling and networking with over 200 Chamber members and guests.
- [INVISIBLE](#), April 14 – May 31: An exhibit presented at “The Hub” consisting of portraits and written testimonials of participants from *Warrior of Hope* and *I Still Remember*, both projects aimed at raising awareness on HIV/AIDS and pressing social issues in society.

### About Miami Beach

Recently named the World's Leading City Tourist Board in 2016 and 2016 North America's Leading Tourist Board by the World Travel Awards, first place in the 2017 and 2016 edition of the Travvy Awards, presented by travAlliancemedi in the categories of "Best LGBTQ Destination" and "Best Wedding Destination, U.S. & Canada" and a winner in the 2014, 2015 and 2016 Magellan Awards by Travel Weekly in the categories of "Destinations | Mobile App", "Overall Spa Destinations | U.S and Canada" and "Overall Beaches Destinations | U.S and Canada" respectively, Miami Beach is a favorite destination among travelers worldwide. Renowned for its unparalleled culinary offerings, extravagant nightlife, rich culture, luxe shopping and plush hotels, Miami Beach is home to unique museums, the New World Symphony, Miami City Ballet, Miami Beach Convention Center, international festivals and art exhibitions, boat and auto shows, over 187 boutique and resort hotels and 12 public parks; it is no wonder the beautifully diverse city is one of the world's most popular vacation destinations. Boasting seven miles of breathtaking beaches, Miami Beach is easily accessible from the Port of Miami and Miami International Airport. The City of Miami Beach has been named one of the top cities worldwide for 'walkability' and is equally easy to navigate by bike or boat. Known for its year-round sunny skies, the vibrant destination has been ranked by TripAdvisor as a Top Winter Sun Vacation Rental Getaway Destinations, Top Romantic Destinations, Top 25 Beaches in the World and Top 25 Destinations in the U.S. Miami Beach is like no other place in the world!

Visit [MiamiBeachAPI.com](http://MiamiBeachAPI.com) for more information and to download the Miami Beach Information App. You may also contact Grisetete Roque at [Groquemarcos@miamibeachvca.com](mailto:Groquemarcos@miamibeachvca.com)