# How to travel safely as a gay man



In the current landscape of global travel, LGBTQ+ travellers are increasingly seeking resources to ensure their safety when venturing into destinations that may not be supportive or welcoming. Despite the absence of a unified system akin to the historic Green Book used by African American travellers during the segregation era in the United States, a multitude of resources have emerged to cater to this growing need for safety and reassurance among LGBTQ+ individuals.

Recent years have witnessed a surge in the availability of specialised online platforms, which offer services tailored to the LGBTQ+ community. These include travel blogs dedicated to providing insights and advice, as well as cruise and tour operators offering tailored itineraries. Additionally, there are booking websites specifically listing accommodations that are considered safe and inclusive for LGBTQ+ travellers. Such platforms strive to alleviate concerns by highlighting places where visitors can expect respectful and welcoming environments.

A significant development in this sector is the formation of organisations dedicated to certifying and endorsing certain transport operators, destinations, and events that demonstrate strong support for LGBTQ+ rights. These organisations often serve as watchdogs, keeping a vigilant eye on global laws and customs that could potentially impact travellers from the LGBTQ+ community. This is especially crucial as laws and societal attitudes towards LGBTQ+ individuals vary significantly across the world, with some regions imposing discriminatory laws or harbouring communities that might not be accepting.

Travel expert Mark Chesnut from New York has noted an increase in concern among LGBTQ+ travellers, driven by the perception that their rights are facing renewed challenges in various parts of the world. However, Chesnut emphasises that with informed planning, thorough care, and adequate research, LGBTQ+ travellers can explore destinations that might initially appear questionable regarding their level of acceptance.

These resources aim to empower travellers by equipping them with the knowledge and connections necessary to navigate their journeys with greater confidence and security. This multi-faceted approach allows individuals not only to enjoy well-known hospitable regions but also to explore less travelled paths while mitigating risks.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## References

* <https://www.wysetc.org/advocacy/travel-safety-lgbtq-travellers/> - Provides guidelines and resources for LGBTQ+ travellers, including finding LGBTQ+-friendly accommodation and understanding local norms and customs.
* <https://www.kayavolunteer.com/lgbt-resources/> - Offers resources and considerations for LGBTQ+ travel, such as researching local attitudes and laws, and using the LGBTQ+ Danger Index.
* <https://www.iglta.org/destinations/travel-guides/lgbtq-safety-guide/> - Details the importance of using LGBTQ+ welcoming and affirming tour operators and service providers, and provides advice on navigating destinations with anti-LGBTQ+ laws.
* <https://www.globalsupport.harvard.edu/travel/advice/lgbtq-travel-guidance-resources> - Highlights the need to research laws and cultural attitudes before traveling, and provides resources such as Equaldex and ILGA for understanding LGBTQ+ rights globally.
* <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/international-travel/before-you-go/travelers-with-special-considerations/lgbtqi.html> - Provides information from the US State Department on the challenges faced by LGBTQI+ travelers, including the importance of researching destination-specific information and enrolling in the Smart Traveler Enrollment Program.
* <https://www.wysetc.org/advocacy/travel-safety-lgbtq-travellers/> - Mentions the role of organisations like IGLTA in providing travel guides and lists of queer-welcoming accommodations, and the importance of community connections while traveling.
* <https://www.kayavolunteer.com/lgbt-resources/> - Discusses the importance of understanding local laws and attitudes, and the availability of resources like the ILGA world report and the LGBTQ+ Danger Index.
* <https://www.iglta.org/destinations/travel-guides/lgbtq-safety-guide/> - Emphasizes the need for informed planning and research to navigate destinations safely, and the role of LGBTQ+ specific group tours and welcoming tour operators.
* <https://www.globalsupport.harvard.edu/travel/advice/lgbtq-travel-guidance-resources> - Highlights the importance of pre-travel consultations and the use of resources like ManAboutWorld for transgender travelers and other LGBTQ+ specific guides.
* <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/international-travel/before-you-go/travelers-with-special-considerations/lgbtqi.html> - Advises on packing important documents and considering travel insurance, especially in countries with differing laws from the US.