

YOUR LGBTQIA+ GUIDE TO

*Key West*



**Q MAGAZINE**

Volume 18 Issue 9  
September 2023



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*Key West*



**Q MAGAZINE**

Volume 18 - Issue 9  
September 2023



## Welcome To Paradise!

*Big Gay Key West is a new event celebrating larger guys and the guys that love them.*

*Womenfest has been going on for many years celebrating all the ladies!*

*Key West is truly  
One Human Family!*

*Enjoy!*

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Visit us online at [www.QKeyWest.com](http://www.QKeyWest.com)

*Stephanie Wise*

LEZ  
GO  
OUT



O

One of the main draws of Key West for my Husbutch and I was how lgbtq-friendly and woman-minded it was and is. Our mayor and recently retired (after 40+ years) city planner are both out and proud Lesbians! Love it. Another fantastic feature is that every September the island and the Key West Business Guild host Womenfest. We attended as tourists many moons ago and it's actually part of the reason we fell in love with the community and chose to move here. The amount of women who all converged in one spot to celebrate each other and celebrate being women was completely outstanding. There really is some thing about being surrounded by like-minded women celebrating the power of being female!!

From everything I hear, this year's Womenfest is going to absolutely incredible! We have venues that have never hosted events stepping up like the American Legion Post 168 in Bahama Village hosting a Play to Get Pinked Party for those women who didn't bring items or want to enhance their outfit for the 50 Shades of Pink Party that night. Cindy Foster (a personal fave) is coming and doing two shows!!! Aqua has a brand new drag king show in addition to its fabulous nightly drag queen shows! There are sunset sails, clothing optional events, a poetry reading. I mean, d\*mn. There's something for everyone! Don't even get me going about how excited I am to hear Sarah Potenza sing again. That woman's voice.. (sigh). Unbelievable. It's like smoked honey. Seriously.

I don't know about you, but I don't often travel with a suitcase full of pink... things. Maybe one or two.. but not much else. Participating in

themed events is a blast but trying to find accessories to match in a small town that really vibes the Buffett-genre of clothing can be tough. A few clever women came together and planned a big party with games and costume pieces so that you don't have to!! You can come and play games to win pink prizes to add to your outfit. There will be many ways to augment your theme. The American Legion Post 168 (803 Emma St, Key West) will have it all!! 9/9 7-9pm.

Someone very special is a major sponsor this year. Fritzie in the Key West Business Guild has been working on this with help from members of the community and just announced that Olivia is coming to Womenfest this year!! Talk about the mothership docking. Could it get cooler?!

Now, yes, it's actually going to be hot. Very hot. Pool parties are a must! The Are You Wet Yet party comes to the rescue at Alexander's Guesthouse to cool you off. Best part is, Alexander's Guesthouse is COMPLETELY sold out to those here for Womenfest! Way to book it up, ladies!!

Every woman of every shape, size, color and identity can be found throughout the week creating new friendships, falling in love with the island (and maybe someone special) while we celebrate everything about each other. There's something for everyone whether you're a wallflower (voyeur), showoff (top energy), tag-along (think upside down pineapple), retired (elder gay), tomboy, femme and everything in between. All women are celebrated at Womenfest!

You'll need to find the guide to all of the events because I couldn't possibly list them all or correctly. I just chose a few to whet your appetite. The guide will be available at the Key West Business Guild on Duval St, host hotels like Alexander's Guesthouse and likely at several bars on the south end of Duval St.

So welcome to the island! Lez Go Out and rock the heck out of Womenfest and celebrate the power of being a woman!





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Continued on next page.



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# BEACH READS

LGBT Book Reviews by *Terri Schlichenmeyer*



## "MOBY DYKE: AN OBSESSIVE QUEST TO TRACK DOWN THE LAST REMAINING LESBIAN BARS IN AMERICA" BY KRISTA BURTON

c.2023, Simon & Schuster | \$28.99 | 320 pages



The last stool on the left, over by the neon beer sign, is yours.

That's your spot, the place where you can see almost the entire place. You hold court there, have a few drinks there, and you meet new friends. On that stool, you're among your people but enjoy it while you can: in **"Moby Dyke"** by **Krista Burton**, watch how your seat is in a dwindling place.

A few years ago, toward the end of the pandemic, masking, and lock-downs, Krista Burton was asked what she missed most. Her answer was a surprise: she

longed to be in a crowded "dyke bar," shoulder-to-shoulder with people like her.

Dyke bars. Wouldn't that make a great subject for a book?

Burton found an agent but then she found bad news: supposedly, there were just twenty lesbian bars left in the entire country!

Not wanting to miss anymore opportunity, and with book contract in-hand, Burton began planning roadtrips. It was, she said, "the gayest possible dream project..."

She began in San Francisco at "the oldest... lesbian-founded, owned, and continuously operated bar" there. From her home in Minnesota, she flew to New York City to visit two lesbian bars. A visit to a San



Diego bar was wrapped up with a friend's wedding.

Burton's husband, a trans man, loved the football atmosphere in a Milwaukee lesbian bar. She caught a drag show in Indiana. Columbus, Ohio was "extremely queer-friendly." She endured karaoke in Nashville, and she visited a cannabis dispensary while in Denver. Seattle was a place of nostalgia. She was mistaken for straight in Houston, was impressed by a real Dallas club, almost missed visiting a Mobile bar, wanted to quit when she was in Atlanta (but didn't), then went to Phoenix and Richmond, imagined herself as a "senator's gay wife" in Washington D.C., and she wrapped her tour up in Tulsa and Oklahoma City.

Once, Burton says, LGBTQ people were persecuted and arrested for dancing, drinking, and for being themselves in a public place.

"We could all go anywhere now."

Just twenty lesbian bars? You're giving that "Whaaaat?" squint, aren't you?

It's okay, author-blogger Krista Burton addresses that number at the end of "Moby Dyke" by writing with delight that since lock-downs are over, lesbian bars have rebounded.

She doesn't address the bars she missed in the first place...

And yet, you'll get the picture with the twenty she includes – in part, because, as she admits and as many bartenders and owners told her, lesbian bars aren't just for lesbians anymore. To call a drinking establishment a "lesbian bar" ignores the diverse crowds, drag shows, quiet activism, and the inclusion that's now offered alongside the fun Burton craved.

Don't think this book is all about bar-hopping, either. It's funny, with observations that are so sharp, they'll cut you, and it's part memoir. That'll hurt your heart.

Yes, there are omissions in this book but what's here overshadows what's missing. If you want a fun, funny memoir-in-a-bar, grab "Moby Dyke" and pull up a stool.



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# MY BIG GAY LIFE

*Brad Loekle*



## VERSATILITY

One of the things I enjoy most about the younger generation of Gays and Theys these days, is that they're much more comfortable with femme and masc being blended and, even, less relevant. In my youth, with Noah before the flood, it was so much "masc 4 masc." As I've gotten older, I, myself, have become more versatile in all forms of versatility. For instance, when I was younger, I was 99.9% a bottom. I mean, I topped every now and then but I've also been to a handful of bar mitzvahs in my life. It doesn't make me Jewish. But, as I've aged, I've realized that, for me, bottoming is a young man's game. First of all, I'm not going to clean out every single time I want to go out to the bars with friends just on the off chance that I'll have someone want to come and knock on my (back) door. Who has that kind of time in their 40s?! I'm too busy not exercising and binge-watching 4 seasons of a show to decide if I hate it or not. Also, now that there is a younger generation with their own daddy issues, I can let go of mind and finally be the kind of Daddy I wanted to see in the world when I was a broken little whore. And, it turns out that I'm not a bad top after all! Well, I've got 45 years of anger stored up and it takes me forever to cum. All of these are big pluses when you're a 25-year-old who just wants someone to hate-fuck you until you forget about climate change for a few minutes. And these kids think about climate change A LOT. Not enough to ask me if the silicone lube is biodegradable, but still more than all of us do. I love that they love blurring the lines more than we did. That's progress to me. It means they took the ball from us and ran with it. Or, more likely, dropped the gross sports ball after we handed it to them and went back to voguing in the parking lot like we did as kids. But there is an intersection between versatility and practicality that I definitely crossed with one of these young men recently. You see, he wanted to finger me

while he blew me. See what I mean about how great this younger generation is?! Who says they don't have a work ethic?! The only trouble was he has gorgeous painted, but longer finger nails. I have painted nails too but I keep mind short... because the last thing I need is to have my dick end up looking like Fred Kreuger gave me a handy after I Drunksturbate™ one night. I tried to explain to him that, though his nails were gorgeous, they were show nails... not sex nails. I mean, sure, use those nails to tear up my back or help me open an envelope... but they're not street legal for my back alley! He insisted he does it all the time, to which I asked if any of his other sexual partners lived. We laughed, he went back to blowing me... and then bam! A finger knife right up my hairy starfish. I donkey kicked him off of me and even just that one pointer sister inside me left its "mark" so to speak. As I used a baby wipe to clean up the blood, I'm entirely sure he didn't get the reference when I started doing a monologue from "Agnes of God." But I told him we're going to watch that on our next date and I'll be tying up his hands so he doesn't get any more creative ideas. He loved that idea! Children\* are so easy to please.

*\*Since this will be published in Florida, I'd like to legally note that by child I mean a 25-year-old gay guy in West Hollywood. Anyone 25-35 is a "child" to me. Anything younger than that is a fetus... and I believe in a woman's right to choose up until the fetus is 25.*

Brad Loekle's latest comedy special & album, "Brash Boys Club" is available on Amazon, AppleTV, iTunes, and other platforms. He was a semi-finalist on NBC's "Last Comic Standing". He can be seen every week on TruTV's "World's Dumbest", has written for Joan Rivers on E! "Fashion Police" & tours internationally. His book, "My Big Gay Life" is available on Amazon. For all this and more, check out: [www.bradloekle.com](http://www.bradloekle.com)



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# HURRICANE PARTY

THE  
BIGGEST  
EVENT  
OF  
THE  
WEEKEND!

**SATURDAY,**  
**SEPTEMBER 2**

**10PM**

Experience the blasts of Rain,  
Thunder, Lightning & Winds in  
the Garden Bar!

**CLOTHING OPTIONAL,**  
**PRIVATE Pool Party**  
outside in the  
New Orleans House  
Garden Bar.

The Men of  
Bourbon inside.

**PARTY ALL  
LABOR DAY  
WEEKEND**  
SEPT.  
1-4

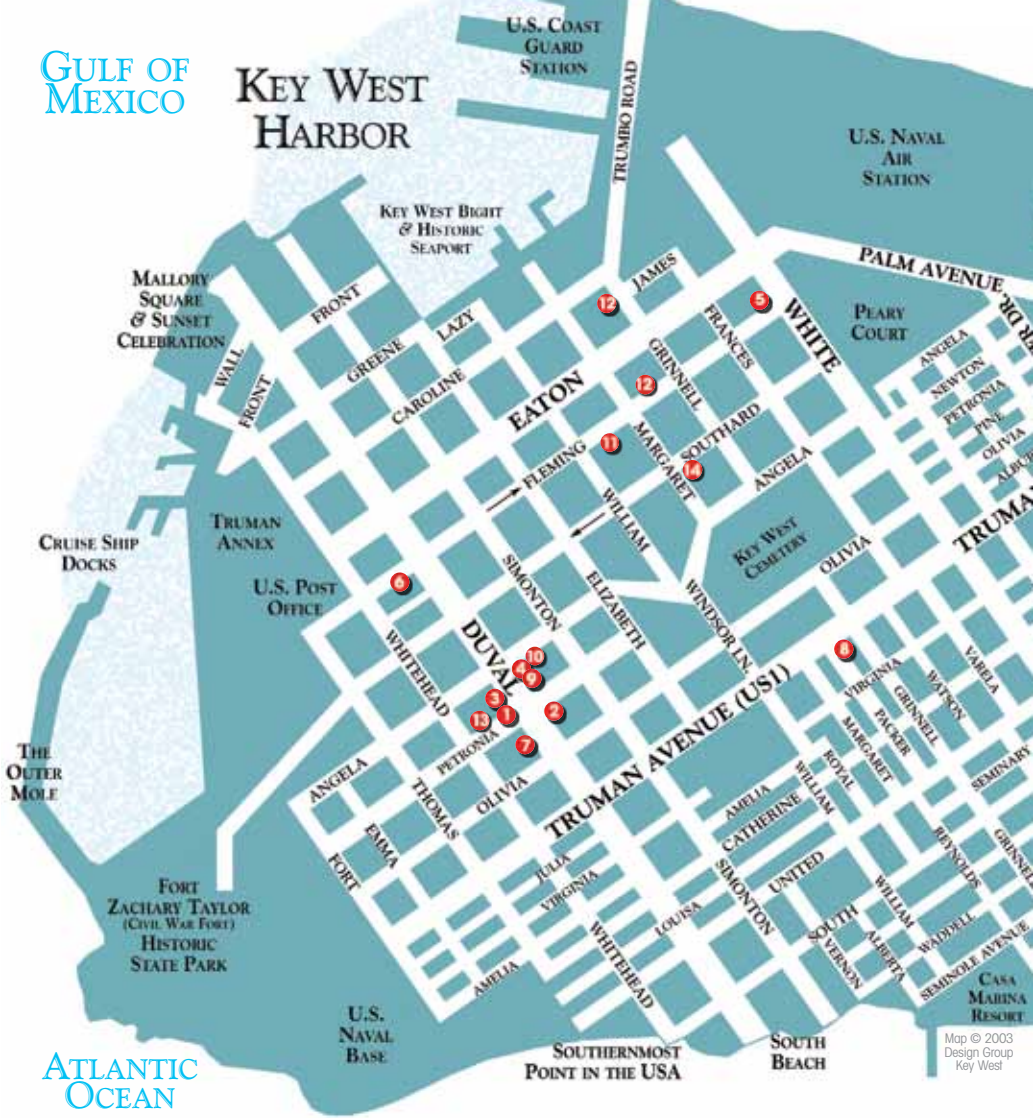
724 DUVAL • KEY WEST  
**Bourbon St. Pub**

[BourbonStPub.com](http://BourbonStPub.com)

724 DUVAL • KEY WEST  
**New Orleans House**

[NewOrleansHouseKW.com](http://NewOrleansHouseKW.com)

# KEY WEST HARBOR



ALL PEOPLE ARE CREATED EQUAL MEMBERS OF

## ONE HUMAN FAMILY

Q MAGAZINE welcomes you to America's most inclusive island!

Key West's official philosophy is "ONE HUMAN FAMILY" which means everyone is entitled to equal rights, dignity and respect. Right? We can show the world to appreciate our proud diversity and individuality. Everyone in the world is an integral part of you... and every one of them is your equal.

Get your own free "ONE HUMAN FAMILY" stickers at the Gay & Lesbian Visitor Center (808 Duval),  
 9 GRAFFITTI (721 Duval), or by sending a SASE to ONE HUMAN FAMILY, P.O. 972, Key West, FL 33041 or visit [OneHumanFamily.info](http://OneHumanFamily.info)

- 1 Bourbon Street Pub - 724 Duval
- 2 801 Bourbon Bar - 801 Duval
- 3 In Touch - 706A Duval
- 4 AQUA Nightclub - 711 Duval
- 5 Island House Resort for Men - 1129 Fleming
- 6 Marc Ulanowski, Realtor - 420 Fleming
- 7 KW Gay & Lesbian Visitor Center - 808 Duval
- 8 Truman Book & Video - 922 Truman
- 9 Graffiti - 721 Duval
- 10 Club 504 - 504 Angela
- 11 Equator Resort - 822 Fleming
- 12 Island Massage Spa - 937 Fleming
- 13 Red Shoe Island Bistro - 411 Petronia
- 14 Mangia Mangia - 900 Southard



# MANGIA MANGIA

## PASTA CAFE



HOMEMADE PASTA, GLUTEN FREE & VEGAN

*Open every day at 5:30 PM, seating until 10:00 PM.*

INDOOR/OUTDOOR SEATING

900 Southard Street, Key West, FL 33040

**(305) 294-2469**

[www.Mangia-Mangia.com](http://www.Mangia-Mangia.com)



# DRAG SHOWS ★ NIGHTLY! ★

9:00 & 11:00 PM

FREE MATINEE  
EVERY SATURDAY  
5:00 PM

RESERVATIONS SUGGESTED

[WWW.801GIRLS.COM](http://WWW.801GIRLS.COM)



801 DOWNTOWN KENY WEST  
**801 CABARET**

**THE SAND  
RETURNS ONCE  
AGAIN!**

**AUG. 31ST- SEPT. 11TH  
11AM- 4AM DAILY**

# **LABOR DAY BEACH BASH**

*Featuring*  
**CENOTE DRINK  
SPECIALS!**

**PARTY IN YOUR BIKINI  
AT OUR INDOOR BEACH!**



**801 Bourbon Bar**  
[WWW.801BAR](http://www.801bar.com)

**FOLLOW US  
@801BOURBONBAR**



# WEEKLY EVENTS



.....  
**MONDAY**  
.....

**801**

*Drag Shows at 9 PM and 11 PM*

**Bourbon**

*Bria singing live at 8:00 PM*

*Dancers on the bar starting at 10 PM*

.....  
**TUESDAY**  
.....

**801**

*Drag Shows at 9 PM and 11 PM*

**Bourbon**

*Bria singing live at 8:00 PM*

*Dancers on the bar starting at 10 PM*



.....  
**W E D N E S D A Y**  
.....

**801**

*Drag Shows at 9 PM and 11 PM*

**Bourbon**

*Bria singing live at 8:00 PM  
Dancers on the bar starting at 10 PM*

**Island House**

*Hot Naked Pool Party starting at 5 PM*

.....  
**T H U R S D A Y**  
.....

**801**

*Drag Shows at 9 PM and 11 PM*

**Bourbon**

*Jeff Moss singing live at 8:00 PM  
Dancers on the bar starting at 10 PM*

.....  
**F R I D A Y**  
.....

**801**

*Drag Shows at 9 PM and 11 PM*

**Bourbon**

*Jeff Moss singing live at 8:00 PM  
Dancers on the bar starting at 10 PM  
Boys Night Out starting at 10 PM*

**Saloon 1**

*Cock Shock contest at Midnight*

.....  
**S A T U R D A Y**  
.....

**801**

*Drag Shows at 5, 9, & 11 PM*

**Bourbon**

*Naked Pool Party at Noon  
Jeff Moss singing live at 8:00 PM  
Dancers on the bar starting at 10 PM*

.....  
**S U N D A Y**  
.....

**801**

*Karaoke starting at 4 PM  
Drag Shows at 9 PM and 11 PM*

**Bourbon**

*After Tea 7 PM - 10 PM  
Jeff Moss singing live at 8:00 PM  
Dancers on the bar starting at 10 PM*

**Island House**

*Hot Naked Pool Party starting at Noon*

.....  
**L O C A T I O N S**  
.....

**801 - 801 Duval Street**

**Bourbon - 724 Duval Street**

**Island House - 1129 Fleming St**

**Saloon 1 - 504 Petronia St**



**SEP 27**

# NATIONAL GAY MEN'S HIV/AIDS AWARENESS DAY

**STUFF TO DO TODAY:**

- Schedule an HIV Test
- Pick up condoms (FREE in the bars)
- Think about going on PREP  
Call AH **305.296.6196**



**Smart Ride 20**



*It's better with a Buddy!*

NOV 17-18 | Miami to Key West

The 2023 goal is \$2 million for the 20th anniversary of The SMART Ride.

TheSMARTRide.org

Find The Key West Mile Markers on Facebook @ bit.ly/3Tn3jkZ




# sex talk.

ask us anything. we don't shock easily.

Whether you're **Grinding** or **SCRUFFing**, hook up with us and say 

Safer sex wallets available @




AHMonroe.org | 305.296.6196



# ASK NANA

*E-mail your questions to*  
[nana@keywestgayrag.com](mailto:nana@keywestgayrag.com)



*Dear Nana,*

*I'm invited to my friend's wedding but I hate his sister. Like I really hate his sister. She's a horrible person and has hurt him and his family so many times. I won't be shocked if she finds a way to screw up his wedding. I want to talk to him about this but I feel like I'm overstepping my bounds. But if she starts shit at his wedding. I know I won't be able to hold back from getting involved. Should I just not go to the wedding? What's the right thing to do? If it's a terrible one?*

Sounds like you're fixin' to have a Real Housewives wedding on your hands. But the question is how much of the blood (and mimosa) should be on your specific hands if or when things go South. If you're quite close with this friend, I think one could casually, almost jokingly, bring up over cocktails how he and the family feel about the sister's presence. Gauge if they're already considering her a wild card at the wedding or not. Because you're definitely going in with your eye on every move she makes. But blood is thicker than a vodka soda, so if they're willing to turn a blind eye to their family member's bullshit... you should probably join them in turning the other cheek just for this one special day. No one says you have to dance with the bitch. Focus on your friend and his special day. Focus on all the good that will be happening in that room rather than the one not-so-good thing. However, if you feel you can't hold yourself back, you can always pull a photo of a positive covid test off of Google images, tell your friend you're soooo sorry, and send a nice gift in your place. Not much good came out of the pandemic, but an easy way to get out of sticky occasions is one of them!



*Dear Nana,*

*What's the best way to get tomato sauce out of bed sheets?*

Well, let me answer your question with a question: what's wrong with you? Why are you eating a full Bolognese in bed?! Are you okay? I don't know that the sheets are the real issue here. But I live to serve, so the easiest way to get tomato sauce out of your sheets is to buy new sheets. Then I want you to wash the old sheets and cut out a large section of the still-stained sheet. Have that framed. Then hang that frame somewhere in your house where you'll be reminded that eating a lasagna while curled up in the fetal position should really only be reserved for the most dire of depressions. Ask yourself each day, "Is this a Sauce-on-the-Sheets kind of day? Or can I think of something that might be a better choice for me?"



I hope this helps. Remember, sheets are cheap... but mental health is priceless.

**DO YOU HAVE PROBLEMS? OF COURSE YOU DO! WHY NOT LET NANA HELP YOU?!**

*Send your questions to:* [nana@keywestgayrag.com](mailto:nana@keywestgayrag.com)



**IsLAND HouSe**

# **Hot Naked Pool Parties**



**2-4-1 EXTENDED  
HAPPY HOUR**

**WEDNESDAYS 5-8PM**

**Free Shots / Naked Boyz / Videos & Music / Giveaways**



**SUNDAYS 12-4PM**

**1129 FLEMING STREET • KEY WEST • 1 (305) 294-6284**

# WHORE--SCOPES

## **AQUARIUS** JAN 20 - FEB 18

Much like your eyebrows, your bank account is overdrawn!

## **PISCES** FEB 19 - MAR 20

You set low personal standards and consistently fail to meet them!

## **ARIES** MAR 21 - APR 19

Stop planning for your retirement. Get a job and plan on paying your rent!

## **TAURUS** APR 20 - MAY 20

People will follow you anywhere, but mostly out of curiosity.

## **GEMINI** MAY 21 - JUN 20

The last time you went to a massage parlor, they told you it was self service.

## **CANCER** JUN 21 - JUL 22

The only time you get any action is when you reach into your pocket for your keys.

## **LEO** JUL 23 - AUG 22

Your partner has sex with you as a timer while cooking a 3 minute egg.

## **VIRGO** AUG 23 - SEP 22

It's finally here, Big Gay Key West!! You've been eating for this all year!

## **LIBRA** SEP 23 - OCT 22

With a heat index of over 100 every day, someone might finally say "you're hot" to you!

## **SCORPIO** OCT 23 - NOV 21

You must be a pretty bad driver. Your GPS just said "in 50 feet, let me out."

## **SAGITTARIUS** NOV 22 - DEC 21

No, you didn't have a salad for dinner because Vodka is made from potatoes

## **CAPRICORN** DEC 22 - JAN 19

You have the wisdom of youth and the stamina of an elder.



# blu Q

KEY WEST'S HOME ON THE WATER  
FOR GAY MEN SINCE 1996



**ALL GAY**  
**ALL MALE**  
**BYOB**



**KEY WEST'S**  
**CLOTHING OPTIONAL**  
**DAY TRIPS - ONLY \$119**

**BLUQKEYWEST.COM • (305) 923-7245**

# IsLAND HouSe

The Best Gay Men's Resort In The World

1129 Fleming St - 305.294.6284



## Play For The Day!



Day Pass Memberships Available 9am-1am

### ALL MALE - CLOTHING OPTIONAL

24hr food & bar  
happy hour  
pool parties

full gym  
dry sauna  
steamroom

two jacuzzis  
sun loungers  
erotic lounge

All Gay, Queer & Trans Brothers Welcome