

# Guadalajara

## Guadalajara's LGBT Scene

A significant increase of LGBT citizens and tourists has been noticed in the last 10 years, in part due to anti-discrimination laws, the legalization of same-sex marriage, and the promotion of LGBT tourism by the Mexican Tourism Board. In June 2015, the Mexican Supreme Court Mexico ruled that same-sex marriage bans are unconstitutional. While it did not invalidate any state laws, it did standardize the procedures for judges and courts throughout Mexico to approve all applications for same-sex marriages.

The city has the most LGBT bars and nightclubs in the country, with more than 50 LGBT businesses. The majority of the top gay bars and nightclubs in town are in Zona Centro along Avenida Prisciliano Sanchez, where visitors will find everything from cozy lounges like Club YeYe to big dance clubs like Ruta Caudillos.

Guadalajara hosts one of the top gay pride parades in Latin America every June. The parade has seen a turnout of more than 60,000 people in past years who come to celebrate amongst a rainbow spectrum of intricate costumers followed by a rally and show with numerous entertainers.

Guadalajara also has one of the strongest and most influential young cultural communities in Latin America. The University of Guadalajara has one of the most significant LGBT student communities and organizes activities through a collective called "Colectivo Convergente CUCEA". The second largest student collective is found in the University ITESO, which is now called Student Diversity Collective (CODII).

Many of Guadalajara's major festivals incorporate a LGBT element, including the International Book Fair that highlights an LGBT literature section and the International Film Festival which has the "Premio Maguey Award" for the best of LGBTTTI cinema.

Guadalajara has excellent worldwide connectivity with direct flights to many of the main LGBT destinations in the United States including San Francisco, Miami, Los Angeles, Chicago, and New York.

The Guadalajara CVB holds LGBT certification provided by the Mexican Tourism Board and has created the LGBT Product Club which is dedicated to developing and enhancing tourism product to appeal to the LGBT market. The Guadalajara CVB is also a member of the International Gay and Lesbian Tourism Association, an organization that assists in promoting the destination's LGBT-friendly attractions and accommodations including hotels such as Casa Alebrijes, Hotel Guadalajara, Casa Rayon, Old Guadalajara B&B, Casa Venezuela, Las Sabilas Garden Guesthouse, La Perla Boutique B&B, Dickinson Guest House, and Casa Canario.