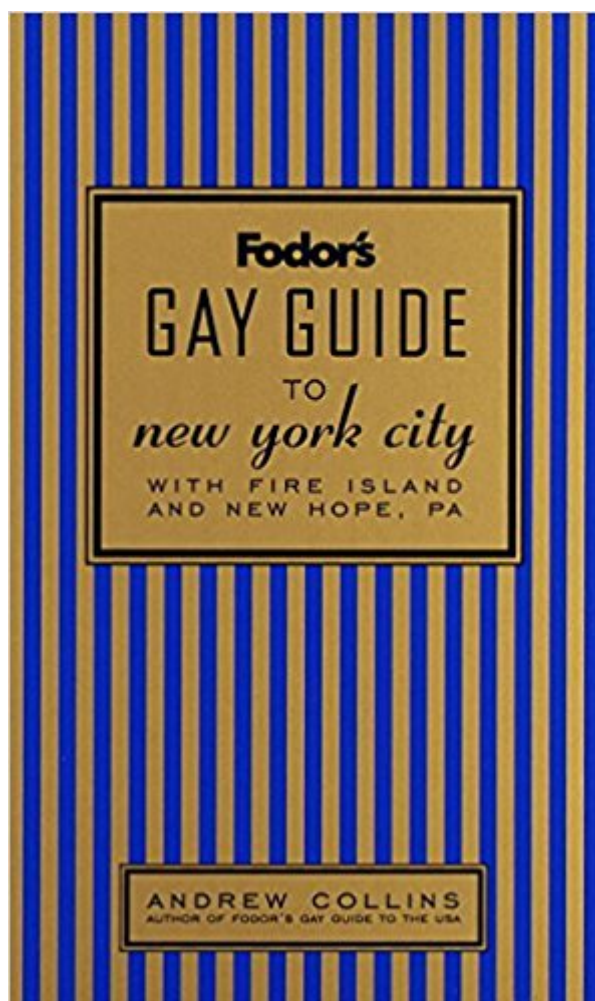


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# Fodor's Gay Guide To New York City, 1st Edition: With Fire Island And New Hope



## Synopsis

Personable and chatty, informative and candid, this guide with an attitude gives the complete lowdown on gay and lesbian New York, with day and overnight trips to Fire Island, New Hope, the Hamptons, and Atlantic City. With tips on the hippest guest houses, the hottest bars, the most romantic restaurants, the gayest neighborhoods, and all the major Attractions, Fodor's Gay Guide to New York City is a one-stop introduction to the best of the region. Praise for Fodor's Gay Guide to the USA, winner of the Lowell Thomas Travel Bronze Medal: "Savvy and stylish." -- Travel & Leisure "A watershed in guidebook publishing." -- New York Times Syndicate "Collins quickly taps into the pulse of each destination." -- Chicago Tribune "Quite simply, if it's out there, it's in here." -- Harry Taylor, Publisher, Out magazine About the Author As a former Fodor's editor, inveterate traveler Andrew Collins knows what's worth recommending -- and what's not. He has visited more places popular with gay men and lesbians than most people see in a lifetime. Other books in Fodor's Gay Guide series (all by Andrew Collins): Fodor's Gay Guide to the USA (2nd ed.) Fodor's Gay Guide to Amsterdam Fodor's Gay Guide to Los Angeles Fodor's Gay Guide to the Pacific Northwest Fodor's Gay Guide to San Francisco Fodor's Gay Guide to South Florida

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

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Being gay or lesbian influences our choice of accommodations, nightlife, dining, shopping, and perhaps even sightseeing. This book will enable you to plan your trip confidently and with authority. On the following pages I've tried to provide ideas for every segment of our community, giving you the skinny on everything from bars and clubs to gay beaches, from where to find French bistro food at four in the morning to where to buy rainbow flags in New Hope, Pennsylvania. You'll also find a wide selection of accommodations, from exclusively gay resorts to mainstream hotels. And you'll be shown which properties are closest to downtown businesses and which are near gay nightlife.

How I Researched This Book I've lived off-and-on in New York City since 1991. During the winter and spring of 1997, I combed Manhattan and less-heralded -- but surprisingly interesting -- Brooklyn and Queens in search of all the gay-popular diversions I could find. During a series of shorter jaunts I traveled the tri-state area: to the Hamptons on Long Island, up the Hudson River Valley as far north as Albany, and throughout New Jersey south to Atlantic City. During most of these trips I enlisted the aid of several loyal friends, and at every destination I interviewed local gays and lesbians -- newspaper editors, activists, innkeepers, barflies, and people on the street. This is an opinionated book. I don't hesitate to say what I think -- I'm prone to describe certain neighborhoods as characterless, resorts as touristy or uppity, restaurants as dumpy or over-the-top. My intention is always to relate what I've observed and what I've heard locals say. For the most part I traveled without announcing myself -- the majority of the businesses in this book had no idea I was writing about them when I visited. In the end Fodor's Gay Guide to New York City is a service not to hotels and guest houses, or to gay bars and restaurants, or to anybody in the travel industry. It is a resource for you, the traveler.

Content Each chapter has several sections. Here's a quick

rundown: The Lay of the Land If you're looking for a quick summation of each destination's geography, its neighborhoods and major attractions, and its shopping, you'll want to read this carefully. At the end of each section are tips on getting around. Eats I'm a restaurant junkie, so I've included a broad range of options. The places I investigated were suggested by gay and lesbian locals, advertise in gay publications, or were reviewed positively in local newspapers and magazines. I stopped by almost every restaurant (and ate at as many as I could) to study the menu, check out the ambience, and observe the crowd. I've tried to include choices for every budget. Many recommendations are in or near gay-oriented neighborhoods. A few establishments get a nod less for the food than the atmosphere. Conversely, some places are listed simply because they represent some of the destination's finest or most unusual dining. The omission of your personal favorite may be more because it was similar to a place I did include than because I think it's not up to snuff. Unless otherwise noted, any restaurant in this book is at least somewhat popular with the community. The Eats section ends with a sampling of area coffeehouses. Unless I describe the food, assume that each place offers only coffee and light snacks. Scenes I checked out nearly every bar within a 100-mile radius of New York City. If a place opened after my visit, I telephoned an employee and also got a report from a knowledgeable local resource to ensure an accurate review. The most popular spots are listed under the heading "Prime Suspects" and are also located with bullets on the dining maps. I've also written short reviews about neighborhood bars, roving parties, and sporadic events -- plus a few straight bars with queer-friendly reputations. Male-oriented places outnumber those that cater mostly to women by about 10 to 1. This is not a reflection of my preferences but of America's gay-bar culture -- it's overwhelmingly young and male. Still, don't assume that a bar described as 80% male or mostly young doesn't welcome lesbians or older guys. Descriptions of each bar's crowd and its "cruise factor" are based on my own observations and interviews and are provided simply to give you a profile of what's typical. Under the heading "Action," I've listed a few bathhouses, adult theaters, and the like. I'd be remiss if I didn't tell you what's where. (I would also be remiss if I didn't encourage you to play safely and observe local regulations.) Sleeps In most chapters I've included any gay-specific establishments that I felt confident recommending. I visited most of the B&Bs and small inns (usually anonymously), though I stayed in only a handful. If the establishment was straight-owned and I had no knowledge of its gay-friendliness, I checked with the owners to verify their interest in being covered in a gay publication. My descriptions of the clientele, compiled without the owners' input, are there to give you a general sense of the place. When I discuss larger hotels, particularly those in cities, don't assume that they are gay-friendly (or otherwise) unless the reviews specifically say so. Obviously

the degree of tolerance you encounter at a large property with many employees will depend largely on who happens to assist you. I included both mainstream places that are in and near gay neighborhoods and those that have a strong reputation with the community. The Little Black Book This is your quick resource guide. If some establishments have closed by the time you read about them -- bars and restaurants are unpredictable -- try the contacts here to get the latest scoop. Local tourist boards can be helpful, and lesbian and gay bookstores and community centers are tremendous resources. I've included a few gay-popular gyms, and the phone numbers of resources for persons who are HIV-positive or who have AIDS.

fine. the old one has been broke in my family , so good . very good . Love! Sharp, cuts well, and feels balanced.

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