L G B T Q

Oregon

WHERE TO EAT, DRINK, STAY, & PLAY

PABA
The Portland Area Business Association promotes the local LGBT community and their allies in business. The group offers regular networking opportunities and members are involved in community events including the annual Pride Festival's PABA Village. paba.com

PORTLAND

Portland's LGBT community isn't concentrated in one neighborhood like in some cities. Since we are an especially diverse group, living in the Rose City, you can find us in every nook and cranny of the Metro area.

That said, here are eight neighborhoods where our community members are likely to be seen playing, eating, drinking and living.

DOWNTOWN

SW Portland between Burnside and Lincoln from the Willamette River to SW 12th.

This is the area that blows out-of-towners away. Shopping, the arts, restaurants, a view of the river and Mt. Hood, and clean to boot. This is where the professional set suit up and make money and most out-of-towners rest at night in our swank hotels. If you are into people watching, check out Pioneer Square - Portland's "living room," especially on a sunny day.

NORTHWEST

Between West Burnside and NW Upshur, from NW 15th to NW 26th

Back in the day this was the "gay neighborhood." Since then, we've spread out across the city but Northwest is still a favorite for grabbing a coffee, cool shopping, great food and enjoying the ambiance of Nob Hill. It's our Greenwich Village, some think.

PEARL DISTRICT

Between West Burnside and NW Overton, from the NW Broadway to NW 15th

Speaking of NYC comparisons, the Pearl District is our Soho. Not long ago it was the epicenter of seedy Portland. But that has given way to multi-million dollar penthouse lofts, hip restaurants, shops — everything chic. Well-dressed LGBTs can be seen here.

OLD TOWN/CHINATOWN

Between West Burnside and NW Lovejoy from the the Willamette River to NW Broadway

The home of our Chinatown and where you can experience a little bit of grit. Colorful people, some great drinking holes, and some good late night Chinese are the backdrop as you pass through, on your way from the Pearl to stroll along the Willamette River. A few gay bars and clubs make this one of *our* neighorhoods.

MISSISSIPPI AVE.

In North Portland, North from Fremont St

Some people will tell you this is the *real* Portland. Artsy, quirky, independent and diverse. Some of the best food here and more people watching. One part hipster-central and one-part true Portland this is a new favorite for locals and tourists alike.

Please send your corrections, suggestions and comments about the GO PAGES to: editor@justout.com

ALBERTA DISTRICT

In Northeast Portland, heading East on Alberta from NE MLK Jr. Blvd

Like the Mississippi neighborhood, Alberta District is hip, cool and down to earth. Art is what most people think of. *Last Thursday* is the big deal on these streets where the melting pot that is Portland come together to eat, drink, and look at cool art.

HAWTHORNE/BELMONT

In Southeast Portland between SE 12th and SE 60th From SE Hawthorne Blvd to SE Belmont St

Before there were the new *cool* neighborhoods, there was this one. This was hippy central back in the day and you can still feel the vibe as you make your way up and down the streets. When you see Portland on TV, this is probably the area you see. It's Portland personified, where the grunge look incubated and, to be honest, still lives.

IRVINGTON/HOLLYWOOD

NE Broadway, from Grand to Hollywood Blvd and beyond

Beautiful tree-lined streets with lots of gay homeowners and renters in the area. Before Alberta and Mississippi came into their own, this was "gay central."

Q CENTER
provides a safe space to support and celebrate LGBTQ diversity, visibility and community building. Q Center offers multi-generational programs and services in four core areas: Arts & Culture; Education & Training; Health & Wellness and Advocacy. pdxqcenter.org