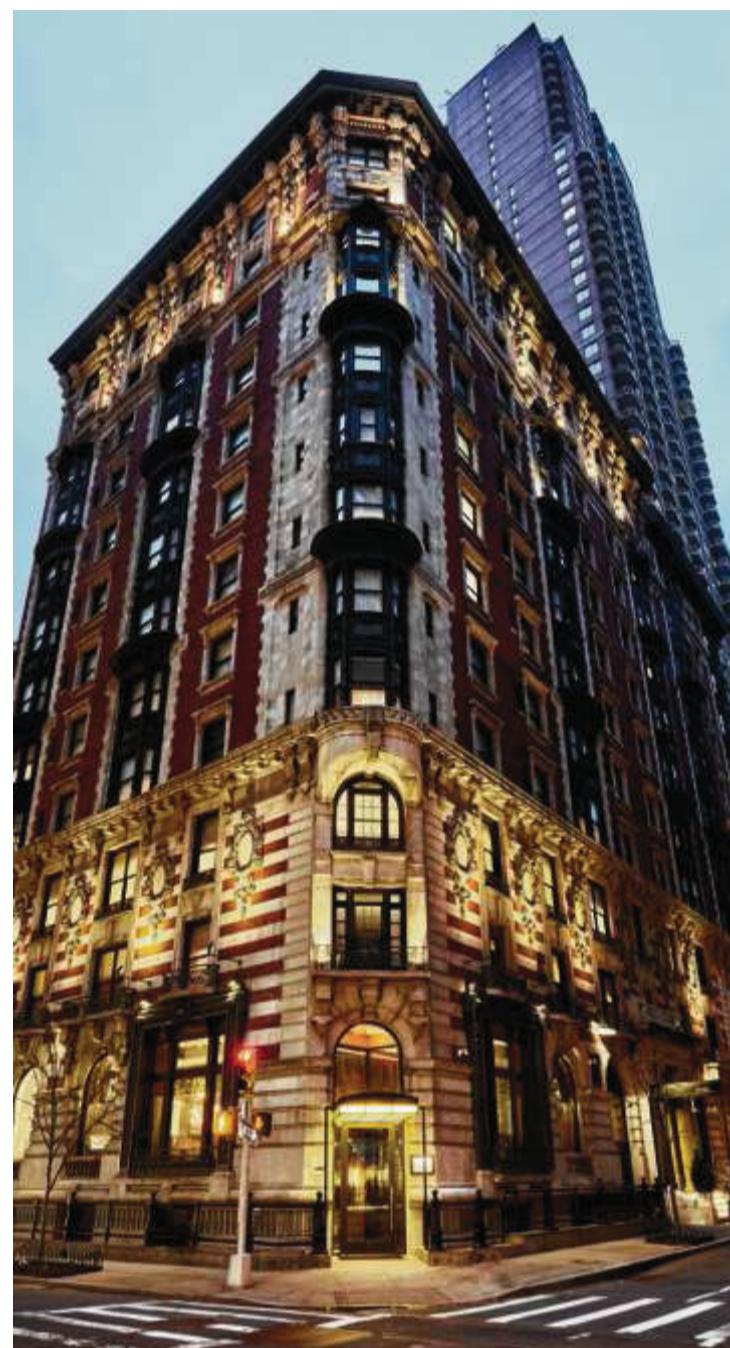
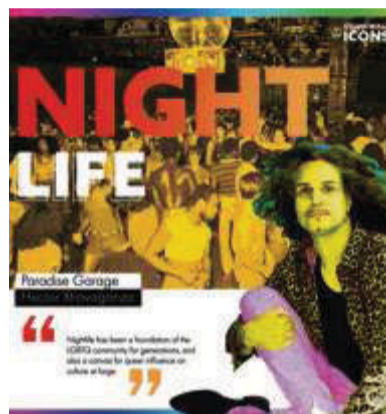


The Concierge

TIPS FOR TOURING HERE AND ABROAD



A CELEBRATION OF LIBERATION

BY NECEE REGIS | GLOBE CORRESPONDENT

Proving that small acts of rebellion can blossom into change around the world, the 50th anniversary of the Stonewall Uprising in New York City will be celebrated during the entire month of June with more than 50 events commemorating a half century of LGBTQIA+ liberation. For those too young to remember, in June 1969 the police raided the Stonewall Inn, a gay club in Greenwich Village, and hauled patrons and employees out of the bar. That incident sparked six days of violent protests credited as the catalyst for worldwide gay rights movements. Clear your schedule to participate in World Pride NYC's many star-studded events, lectures, and rallies produced by NYC Pride and coordinated with partners around the city. Don't forget to pack your rainbow-colored attire and flags for the over-the-top June 30 Pride March along 5th Avenue. In anticipation of the fabulous festivities, several hotels are offering pride-inspired packages.

CROWNE PLAZA HY36

Located adjacent to Midtown Manhattan's Garment District, the 251-room hotel is debuting a Stay With Pride Package that guarantees your celebration will start when checking in. Guests receive a curated in-room gift bag that

includes pride-themed bandanas, fans, and Absolut Rainbow Vodka minis. For inspired couples looking to make it official on-site, the hotel's Resident Ordained Minister can officiate an elopement of a lifetime. Paying homage to iconic authors, the hotel will also display famed works of classic and modern LGBTQ+ literature throughout the common area and in-suite for guests to peruse. For every package that is booked, a \$5 donation will be made to a LGBTQ+ charity. Rates from \$194, 646-928-3800, <https://bit.ly/2H3GTAF>

THE JAMES NEW YORK-NOMAD

This stylish, 337-room luxury boutique hotel, located near Madison Square Park and the Flatiron District, is offering the James Proud package. Along with marvelous amenities including a gift from 2(X)IST and Sundays nail polish, the package includes 20 percent off your stay and access to on-property activities happening throughout the month, including a Love & Lipliner event where iconic NYC drag queens will provide drag makeovers to guests and event attendees. The hotel is also hosting an open-to-the-public exhibit, ICONS. Each print in the exhibit will feature two subjects, a place, and face capturing the power of NYC's

LGBTQ influence. The hotel's retail pop-up, 5PHERE, will feature FEIGN, a local NYC androgynous fashion collection that is completely gender neutral. Package rates from \$350. Use promotion code: JPRIDE. 888-526-3778, www.jameshotels.com/special-offers/pride-nyc-offer.

THE REDBURY NEW YORK

Located steps away from the official Pride March route in the NoMad district, this 259-room hotel invites guests to celebrate "same Sex in the City" with its NYC Pride package. Includes two complimentary welcome cocktails at Vini e Fritti, the hotel's Roman-style aperitivo bar; best available rate; and 1 p.m. late check-out, to allow extra time to recover from festivities. Guests can take advantage of exclusive room service offerings (like truffle pizza and bottled negronis) from Danny Meyer's USHG Marta and access to a variety of wellness offerings through Redbury's Modrn Sanctuary partnership, including in-room and in-spa complimentary and discounted services. Pay before you stay for 30-percent discount when booked seven or more days in advance. Rates from \$129. 212-689-1900, redburynyc.com/nyc-pride

Necee Regis can be reached at neceeregis@gmail.com.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT The Crowne Plaza HY36, The James New York-Nomad, and The Redbury New York are among the New York City hotels offering pride-inspired packages in celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Stonewall Uprising.

BOTTOM ROW CENTER a Stonewall exhibition poster

HERE

CAPE SUMMER SERIES PROMOTES GUEST CHEFS

Food lovers won't want to miss the lineup of culinary events at the Summer Guest Chef Series at Chatham Bars Inn. Beginning June 26 and running through Aug. 28, the weekly series features al fresco dinners prepared by celebrated chefs from the Boston area — including Michael Schlow, Michael Scelfo, Tatiana Rosana, and Andy Husbands — as well as chefs hailing from Connecticut, New York, and Pennsylvania. Using freshly-caught seafood and produce from the luxury resort's 8t-acre farm, each meal will fuse each chef's different cooking styles, techniques, and backgrounds with Cape Cod's unique local fare. Advance reservations recommended. \$95 per person; or \$130 with two selected wine pairings. 508-945-0096, www.chathambarsinn.com

ALL-THINGS-MARITIME FESTIVAL IN MAINE

Celebrate the rich maritime history of Maine's coastal communities of Kennebunk, Kennebunkport, and Arundel at Launch!, a five-day nautical-themed, family-friendly festival (June 12-16). Activities include an authentic lobster bake; amateur, professional, and kids cooking contests; merchant treasure hunt with 30 prizes from local businesses; 5K beachside run in which participants are encouraged to wear nautical-themed costumes; a pirate pub crawl; historic walking tours; brewery tours and tastings at the Kennebunkport Brewing Company; reenactment of the sinking of the ghost



CHRIS BECKER

ship Isadore; and more. New this year: the Friday night Harbor High Five with live music, specialty cocktails, and gourmet bites; and Rock the Dock, the Saturday night waterfront party with front-row seats for the River Lights Boat Parade. For information on hotel room availability and more event details: 207-967-0857; gokennebunks.com/pages/events/launch-maritime-festival

LUGGAGE STORAGE SYSTEM ARRIVES IN BEANTOWN

After debuting in New York City and a half-dozen locations in Europe, LuggageHero has landed in Boston. The safe and hassle-free storage network offers more than 20 convenient storage sites for stowing rollerbags and backpacks while touring Boston and environs. Simply go to the website, find a storage site inside a verified shop or other business, and reserve your spot. When you arrive, all luggage will be secured with a tamper-proof seal, leaving you free to go out and explore without cumbersome bags slowing you down. Perfect for those who must check out of a hotel hours before their flight. (Or for houseguests who arrive while you're

still at work!) The service is also popular among users of Airbnb and other non-hotel lodgings, which do not offer luggage storage. Rates: \$1 per hour with a maximum of \$10 per day per piece of luggage first day, plus one-time handling fee of \$2 per bag. Includes security seals and \$3,000 insurance per bag and contents. luggagehero.com/boston/

THERE

CRUISE WITH BOSTON POPS CONDUCTOR

Experience the harmonic convergence of music, sailing, and culture on



MIKE LOUAGIE

Ponant's new Celebrating American Composers tour, Montreal to Boston (Oct. 19-27). Cruising along the waterways of eastern Canada and northern New England, the nine-day, eight-night itinerary will be hosted by Boston Pops Conductor Keith Lockhart. Musical highlights include a series of concerts onboard the ship, curated and performed by maestro Lockhart and six musicians, as well as a private concert showcasing the music of Debussy, Ravel, and Faure in Quebec's Musée de l'Amérique Française, the oldest museum in Canada. Guests will also have the opportunity to meet with the musicians, by dining together on ship or heading off on excursions that include historic Quebec; the 18th-century Fortress of Louisberg; UNESCO World Heritage site of Lunenburg in Nova Scotia; the Gaspé Peninsula; Bar Harbor, Maine; and more. From \$5,360. 888-400-1082.

EVERYWHERE

INSURANCE FOR RV RENTALS

Get ready for summer with Outdoorsy, an on-demand marketplace for renting and listing recreational vehicles. Headquartered in Austin, Texas, with additional offices in the United States, Canada, Australia, France, and the United Kingdom, the company offers hundreds of thousands of rental days and a growing global fleet of unique outdoor vehicles. A major roadblock to the outdoor travel sharing economy has been insurance protection for the owner, the renter, and the platform. New this year: Outdoorsy is partnering with Liberty Mutual to provide three levels of RV rental insurance for

travel in motor homes, camper vans, caravans, travel trailers, and adventure vehicles. In addition, owners can earn supplemental income from their idle RV with insurance protection at no extra charge. www.outdoorsy.com

VERSATILE PROTECTIVE FOOTWEAR

Over time, the consistent jarring experienced when hiking, jumping, jogging, and walking reduces natural foot cushion, often leading to pain or injury. Kuru, offering direct-to-consumer footwear sales since 2009, has debuted its newest creation, the Atom. Designed with the company's signature triple-layer, heel-hugging technology, the Atom incorporates a deep, rounded heel cup that stabilizes and centers the heel bone for optimum positioning with each step. Made of moisture-wicking space-age foam, the insole runs the full length of the shoe and reacts with the body's natural heat to individually mold itself to the wearer. Available in jet black and colonial blue for men, and mauve, jet black, and aqua blue for women. \$125/\$120. www.kurufootwear.com

NECEE REGIS

