



BOOKING UP

According to research from a recent online survey of over 3,000 LGBTQ+ travellers by Booking.com, more than half of UK LGBTQ+ travellers (55 per cent) have had uncomfortable experiences at a property where they were staying, including one in five (25 per cent) when checking in as a couple encountering staff who assume they would need separate rooms or beds. To help improve the travel industry one hotel at a time, Booking.com have launched a new Proud Hospitality programme to provide accommodation staff with the skills to treat LGBTQ+ travellers with the respect we deserve. Proud Certified properties are labelled with a rainbow suitcase or you can search specifically for these from the dedicated Travel Proud web page.

[booking.com/proud](https://www.booking.com/proud)

Just the TICKET

Words **Markus Bidaux**

SOUND WAVES

Music festivals are back and the most northerly, Iceland Airwaves, will strike its first chord on 3 November for four days of sonic bliss. For more than two decades, the country's biggest festival has filled the record shops, museums, bars, clubs and even churches, caves and lighthouses of Reykjavík with musicians from all over the world. Airwaves is also one of the most inclusive music fests, with a 50/50 gender split on the line-up every year. Queer acts taking the stage in November include Barteets Strange, Lynks, Smootboi Ezra, Tami T, Vök, Daughters of Reykjavík and one of the UK's hottest artists, Arlo Parks (pictured).

icelandairwaves.is



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PAGE TURNER

The gayest guide to our small world just hit the bookshops' shelves in the form of *Sassy Planet: A Queer Guide to 40 Cities*. A must-flick when deciding on your next gaycation, the pages cover the globe – alongside predictable inclusions such as New York City, London and Paris, you'll find some unique queer explorations of Bologna, Italy; Accra, Ghana; and Amman in Jordan. The original inspiration for the book was the authors' website, forbottoms.com, and the writers have used the same localised approach to uncover the gay underbelly of global cities. Expect 'Top To-Dos for Ho-Mos' lists, Q&As with locals, queer history, colourful funky art and sexy photos you won't ever find in any edition of *Lonely Planet*.

[prestel.com](https://www.prestel.com)

