LGBTQIA+ Friendly Locations

- Argentina (Buenos Aires)
- Australia
- Belgium
- Costa Rica (San Jose)
- Czech Republic
- Finland
- France
- Germany
- Hong Kong
- Ireland
- Italy
- Japan
- New Zealand
- Norway
- South Africa (Cape Town)
- Spain
- Sweden
- Switzerland
- Taiwan
- Thailand
- The Netherlands
- United Kingdom

Programs with LGBTQIA+ Studies Courses

- Arcadia University in Cape Town
- Arcadia Scotland programs
- CEA Buenos Aires, Argentina
- ISA Australia programs
- ISA New Zealand programs
- ISEP Exchange– Johannes Kepler Universität, Austria
- ISEP Exchange– The Chinese University of Hong Kong

While Abroad

Aspects of your identity may feel highlighted while you’re abroad because of cultural differences in the local community. Some students feel relieved to be free from the cultural norms and expectations of the U.S. Others find it more challenging to confront diversity issues in an unfamiliar culture. Those you meet in your host country—such as your program director, professors, students, and host families—will be knowledgeable about the country and may be able to assist you with your concerns and needs.

Back in the U.S.

Reflect on your experience abroad and evaluate if your relationships back home will be affected. If you chose to come out while abroad, how will this impact your family and friend relationships?

Consider being a resource to future study abroad students who identify as LGBTQIA+ through panels, group discussions, and testimonials. Become a Panther Pal to incoming international exchange students and help them adjust to life at Chapman!

Chapman’s Student Psychological and Counseling Services holds group sessions for returning students to discuss their adjustment back home.

“Though being queer abroad presents some challenges, it presents even more opportunities. Being in a new environment abroad gives you a new space to learn about your international identity and experiment with new ways of presentation. Through your abroad experience, you’ll learn more about your identity and what makes you you, and will get to interact with other international students who have unique identities of their own. You’ll get to grow.”

Kate Minzner (pictured on front cover)
Victoria University Wellington, New Zealand

Center for Global Education

The Center for Global Education is a SAFE SPACE for students. Contact us to schedule an appointment with a CGE staff member who has received Safe Space training.

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Thousands of Courses in Hundreds of Locations Worldwide
Why an International Experience?
For the LGBTQIA+ community, studying abroad can be an opportunity to learn more about yourself and identity within the global context. Experience a different culture, gain new skills and expand your worldviews.

Studying abroad offers LGBTQIA+ individuals the unique opportunity to:
- Understand gender and sexuality in a cultural context
- Gain a new perspective on identity
- Build transnational solidarity with sexual minorities
- Learn about different social movements advocating for gender and sexual rights
- Challenge the perceptions of LGBTQIA+

Considerations
Concepts of identity and the way in which LGBTQIA+ individuals are perceived vary from country to country and also within regions of the same country. Research the safety implications in the host country to help mitigate risks and understand how your LGBTQIA+ identity may affect your experience. Find someone who shares your identity and lives or has spent time in your destination.

*Please note that you are still subject to your host country’s laws even if you feel they are discriminatory.*

Travel Social Media
@QueerBlogs
@LGBTQTravelers

Locations Hosting Global Pride Events:
www.gaypridecalendar.com

LGBTQIA+ Study Abroad Scholarships
Rainbow Scholarship
Pride Foundation Scholarships
IGLTA Foundation Scholarships
ISEP Community Scholarship
Visit chapman.edu/CGFScholarships

“*My time in Cape Town showed me a completely different side of the LGBTQIA+ experience...I also recognized certain aspects that resembled my experiences with the LGBTQIA+ community in the states. Having lived in suburban towns my whole life, experiencing the LGBTQ culture in various countries throughout Africa was an invaluable experience, which granted me knowledge I can’t imagine obtaining any other way.*”

-Noah Feinberg, University of Cape Town, South Africa

Questions to ask when selecting a program:
- How open will I be about my sexual orientation and/or gender identity with my in-country staff, professors, peers, host family and others?
- How important is it to me to find other LGBTQIA+ students and friends while abroad? What are my expectations about seeking and finding community?
- What are the cultural attitudes, perceptions, and police attitudes toward sexual orientation and gender identity in my host community? Do local laws protect LGBTQ+ people?
- What are considered typical male and female social behaviors and customary gender relations in the host country?
- Do I prefer a single or shared room, and/or access to gender-neutral restrooms?
- Are equipped/supportive doctors and mental health practitioners available in my host country?
- Will I need access to any medications or supplies? Are they available in my host country? If not, will I need any additional documentation to travel with my medication or supplies?
- If I am transitioning, will I need to update my passport to reflect my gender?

_The Center for Global Education can help you find answers to these questions._

More resources and information available on Chapman.edu/CGE and DiversityAbroad.com