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*The Gay European Tourism Association and Vespa, the mobile app,  
to launch new partnership to promote safe and informed LGBT travel in Europe*

The Gay European Tourism Association has launched a partnership with Vespa, the mobile app with more than 5,000 curated gay and gay friendly locations across 270 cities in over 70 countries worldwide.

The new partnership complements GETA's GayWelcome.com website which features the association's 4,400 hotel and travel business members and listings in Europe. Working together, the website and app allow LGBT travelers to plan their visit to Europe and explore gay and gay friendly venues while they are traveling.

Vespa features up-to-date listings of gay bars, clubs, cafes, saunas, and beaches. All locations include pictures, reviews, ratings and check-ins from other Vespa members, providing travellers with vital information before arrival as well as while traveling. Vespa's in-language display feature and offline access provides LGBT travellers with additional convenience when conducting location researches with no internet access.

Vespa was created by Christof Wittig, who founded the top gay dating app, Hornet. The app has already garnered much praise from the gay community abroad. It was recently named as "The Most Favourite" app by California's Frontier Magazine for its easy-to-use features and interactivity with other Vespa users. It is the top downloaded gay travel app in countries such as US, Germany, and Thailand.

"This collaboration is a great leap forward for LGBT travel in Europe" said GETA Executive Director Carlos Kytka. "GETA's goal is to improve the LGBT travel experience and in partnering with such an amazing new resource we can now give gay travellers a seamless travel experience when visiting Europe".

You can see more about Vespa at [www.vespa.rocks](http://www.vespa.rocks) and download the mobile app via iTunes store.

**Ends**

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## Notes

### GETA

- The Gay European Tourism Association exists to help businesses and organisations involved in gay tourism to prosper and to help gay tourists have the best possible holiday in Europe.
- GETA has over 4,400 business members worldwide. Membership of GETA is free to businesses and organisations involved in European tourism who agree to the GETA Pledge to welcome gay, lesbian, bisexual and transexual customers and agree to treat them with the same respect that they treat all their customers.
- GETA's consumer website [www.gaywelcome.com](http://www.gaywelcome.com) is the most comprehensive guide for gay travellers in Europe.
- You can see more about GETA at [www.geta-euope.org](http://www.geta-euope.org)

### GETA's Innovation Programme – “Promoting innovation in LGBTI tourism”

- Promoting and supporting innovation in LGBTI tourism is a central GETA objective. GETA's Innovation Programme includes -
  - Creating the web's first pan-European LGBTI travel website [www.gaywelcome.com](http://www.gaywelcome.com)
  - Launching Europe's first LGBTI language school holidays in Spain in partnership with Sign-UP
  - Partnering with the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office to launch the first official safety guidance to LGBTI travellers
  - Creating the first comprehensive guide to LGBTI cruises, tours and holidays in Europe
  - Launching the travel section of the world's first LGBTI professional employment hub in partnership with myGwork
  - Launching the first multi-national LGBTI marketing service in partnership with global PR agency, Grayling
  - Partnering with the European Travel Commission to produce guidance to travel professionals worldwide wishing to serve the LGBTI market
  - Creating the world's most comprehensive LGBTI media directory for business members

### Vespa - Discover Gay Places Worldwide

- Vespa features over up-to-date listings of gay bars, clubs, cafes, saunas, and beaches. Every place includes pictures, reviews, ratings and check-ins from other Vespa members, so you know what to expect when you arrive at your destination.



- If you connect Vespa to Facebook or Hornet, you can chat them up for more information, or maybe even a date!
- Vespa is the safe, trusted, easy-to-use app that every gay traveler should download.

### **Benefits of using Vespa**

- **Search** 5,000 LGBT-friendly locations, carefully curated by the Vespa team (not robots!)
- **Read** trusted reviews, photos, and ratings from the Vespa community
- **Show** destination addresses in local characters (e.g., Spanish, German, French) to your taxi driver
- **Stay up-to-date** with Twitter feeds from your Vespa destination
- **Explore** by using the map search function: set a location flag and discover hidden gay spots around you in a radius, or by other criteria (e.g., top rating, category, distance, etc.)
- **Receive** promotional feeds (special event announcements, passes, etc) from your Vespa destinations
- **Finally**, all information is stored on the device. If you leave your hotel Wifi and have no longer have network connection, the Vespa still works and will reliably guide you on the map to your destination