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The World's Premier LGBTQ+ Tourism Event

#IGLTA2024

OSAKA

2024 IGLTA GLOBAL CONVENTION
SPONSORSHIP FULFILLMENT REPORT

THE 2024 IGLTA GLOBAL CONVENTION

The IGLTA Global Convention is the premier event in LGBTQ+ tourism, renowned for its dedication to inclusivity, education, and empowerment. **Held for the first time in Asia, the Osaka 2024 Convention attracted 575 attendees from 51 countries and territories, across six continents, representing 365 companies from around the world.** This groundbreaking event brought together sponsors, industry leaders, and allies to promote travel as a powerful tool for fostering cultural understanding and acceptance, with Osaka serving as a symbol of global unity in LGBTQ+ advocacy.

As the world's leading educational and networking event for LGBTQ+ tourism professionals, the IGLTA Convention supports a global community committed to innovation, inclusivity, and advocacy.

With 44% of delegates attending for the first time, the convention had strong representation from Asia (50%), followed by North America (29%) and Europe (13%). Attendees also hailed from South America, Africa, Australia, and the Caribbean, reflecting the truly global nature of the event.

This diverse gathering of travel professionals, media, and industry stakeholders **underscored IGLTA's mission to enable authentic travel that enriches lives and connects the LGBTQ+ community and tourism industry.** The event laid the foundation for meaningful collaborations and groundbreaking partnerships, which will continue to drive the future of LGBTQ+ travel worldwide.



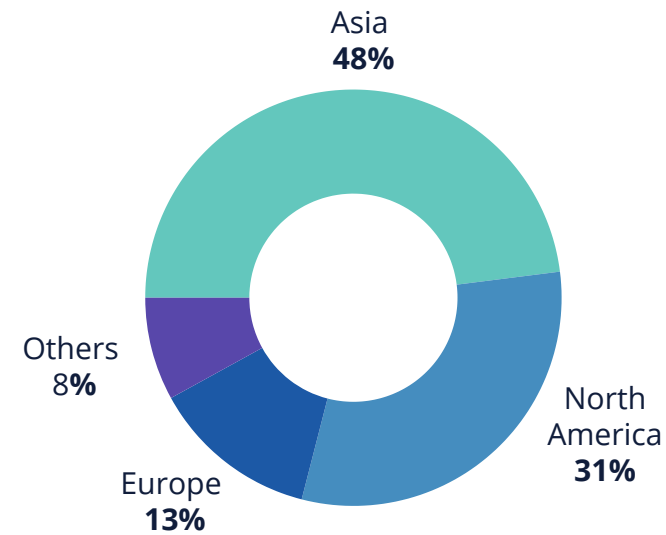


TRAVEL

51 countries and territories

most internationally diverse convention in IGLTA's history

By region



39% of attendees came from Japan

575 attendees
largest IGLTA convention outside North America



LEARN

11 main stage presentations and panels

9 breakout sessions divided into introductory and advanced tracks

Key topics:

- Emerging trends in LGBTQ+ tourism (Gen Z travelers, Asian perspectives)
- Advanced strategies for inclusivity (transgender travelers, BIPOC travel)
- Practical tools for businesses (wedding market, cultural immersion programs)



CONNECT

17 networking opportunities, including the First Time Attendees, Women in Leadership, LGBTQ+ Tourism Expo & Lunch, Buyer & Supplier Marketplace

The Marketplace itself had 73 pre-qualified buyers representing nearly **US\$688.5 million total buying power** & **US\$142.35 million LGBTQ+ travel buying power**, met with suppliers in a total of **868 scheduled appointments**.

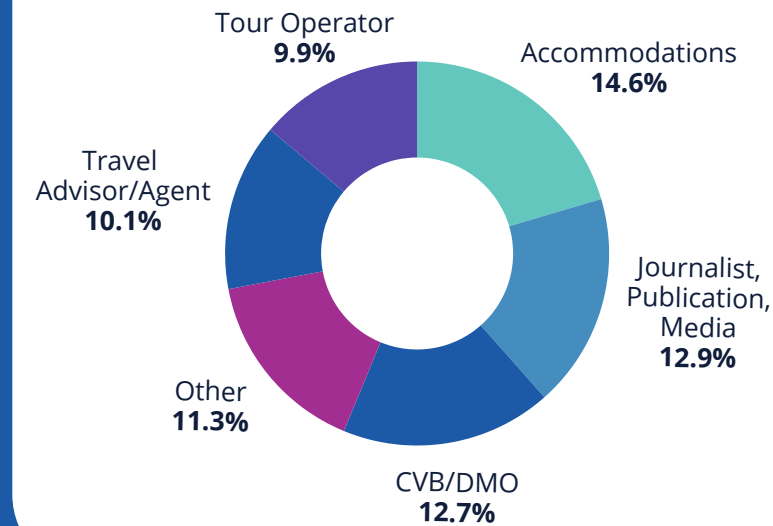


Attendees demographics

Level of decision making

56% Executive Level	28% Mid Level	16% Other
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Business Type



44% First time attendees



56% Repeat attendees



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26 sponsors

Business Type

- Technology
- Travel & Hospitality
- Financial Services
- Government
- DMOs
- Insurance

365 LGBTQ+ welcoming business

51 Media outlets, influencers and freelancers

17 Think Tank Global Leaders

17 LGBTQ+ Tourism Expo Exhibitors

MEDIA COVERAGE HIGHLIGHTS

51 hosted media outlets, freelancers & influencers

40 unique articles published

Media Networking Reception

As the Official Media Sponsor, Destination DC hosted the exclusive Media Reception, a gathering of influential travel writers and content creators from across the globe.

Media Networking Event

The Media Networking Event, sponsored by Destination DC, is an important moment for media professionals to create direct connections with convention attendees. The event had 41 travel writers, websites, and influencers exhibit, amplifying LGBTQ+ inclusive brands on a global scale. With these connections, the event contributes significantly to the worldwide visibility and reach of LGBTQ+ friendly brands.

Media Prize Drawing

IGLTA Vice President of Communications, LoAnn Halden (she/her), announced Stockholm LGBT as the winner of this year's Media Networking Prize valued at US\$51,000!

Themes

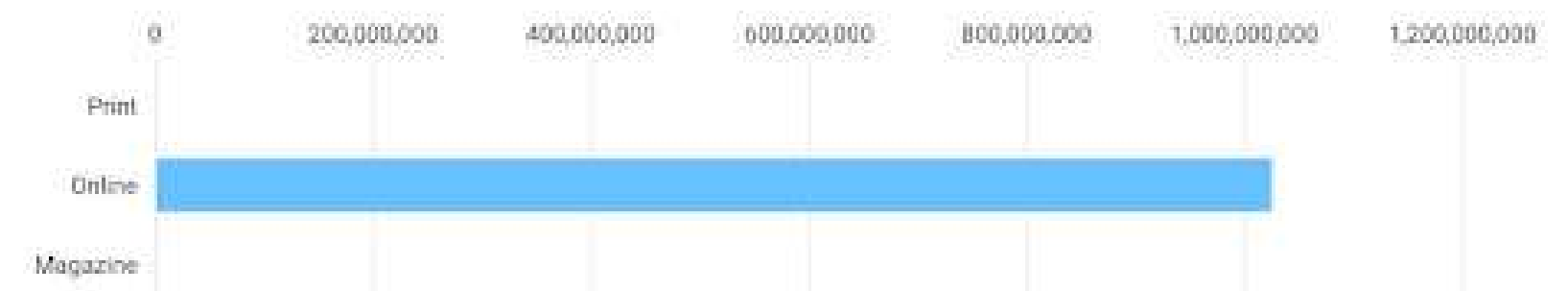
The most frequently mentioned keywords found within the Mention Stream. Font size indicates the frequency of the keyword by volume.



Potential Audience Reach

1,026,793,375 over 30 days

Cumulative potential audience reach by media type for the selected coverage period.

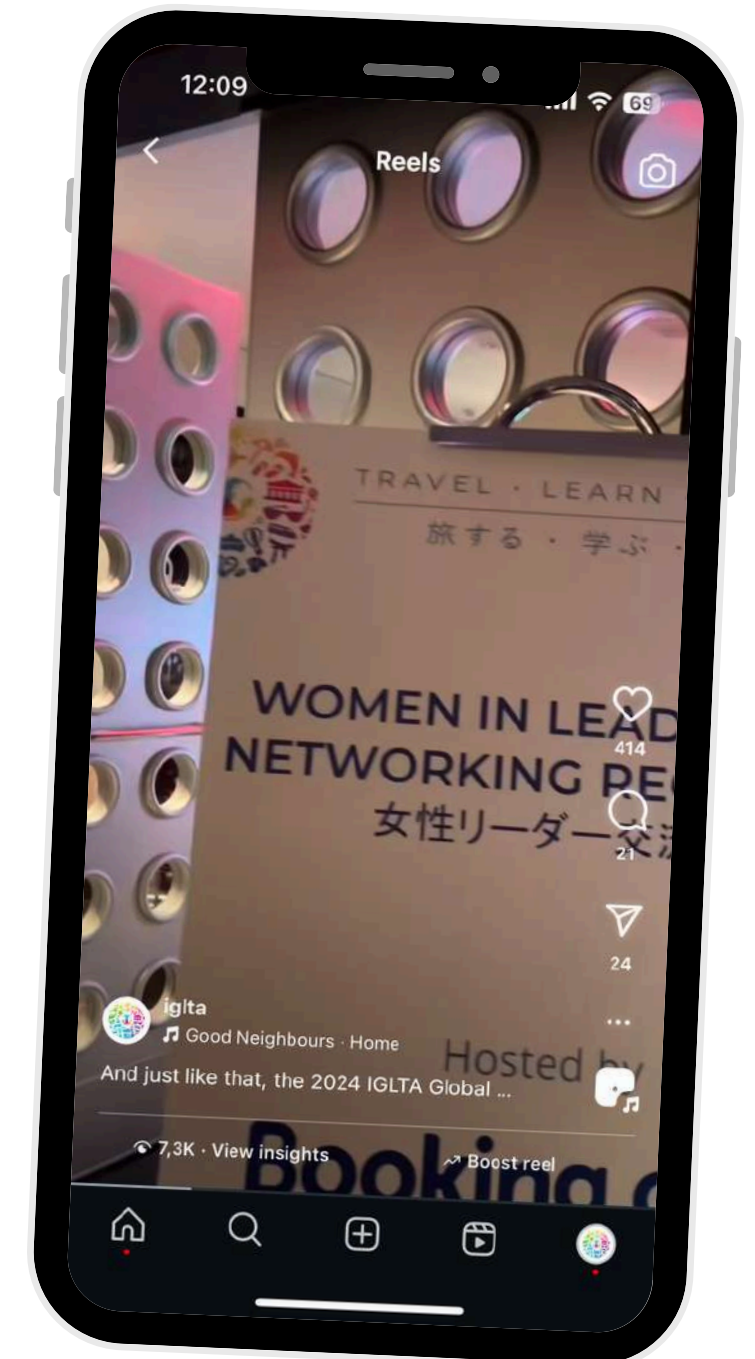
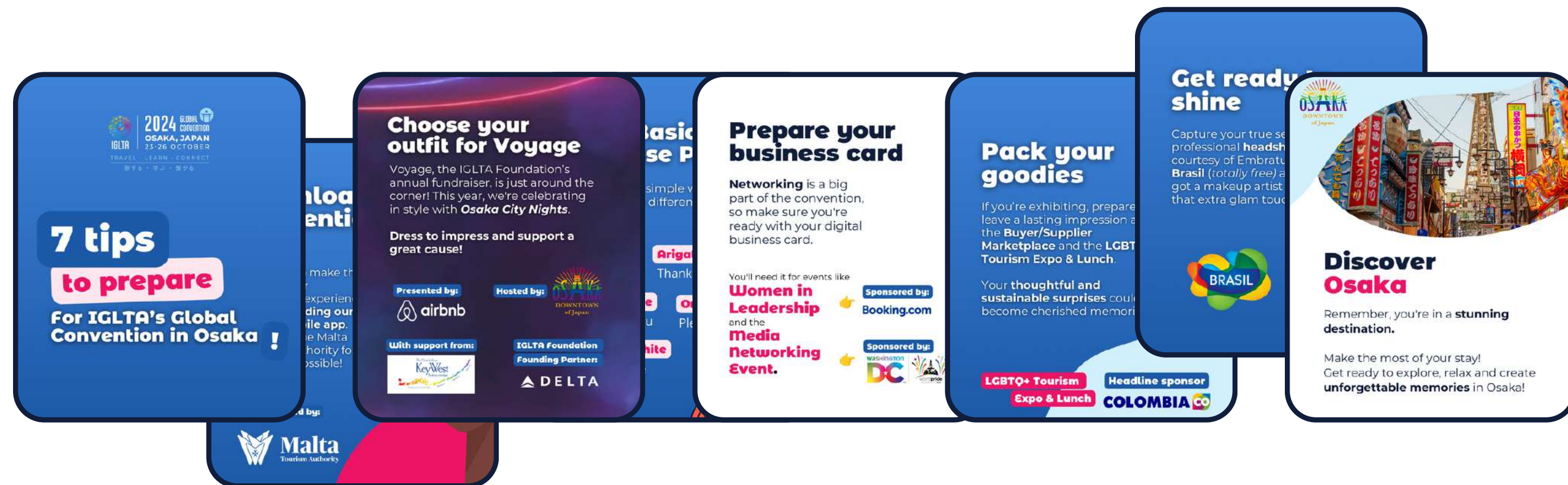


Stats above are from 20 October - 18 November 2024 and does not include social media data

SOCIAL MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS

IGLTA Global Convention attendees engaged on social media with the keywords iglta2024 & igltaconvention, reaching **over 6.6 million** people across various platforms.

This significant digital reach highlights the IGLTA Global Convention’s value for sponsors, demonstrating that aligning with IGLTA through event sponsorship yields remarkable online brand visibility.





OSAKA VISIBILITY

The **Osaka Convention & Tourism Bureau** (OCTB) launched the Travel Osaka with Pride campaign, featuring outdoor activations that celebrated Osaka's support for LGBTQ+ tourism. In partnership with Visa Worldwide Japan, the OCTB placed advertisements in various eye-catching spaces in downtown Osaka, with support from shopping arcades, department stores, railways, airports, and more across the region, highlighting the IGLTA Global Convention and the city's dedication to inclusivity.



SWISSÔTEL NANKAI OSAKA

Swissôtel Nankai Osaka went above and beyond to create an inclusive and welcoming atmosphere during the IGLTA 2024 Global Convention. The hotel's reception area was beautifully decorated with Pride flags and rainbow colors, setting the tone for a celebration of diversity and acceptance. In addition to the vibrant decorations, Swissôtel Nankai Osaka took meaningful steps to ensure everyone felt comfortable and respected, including the implementation of all-gender bathrooms in common spaces of the hotel.

As part of their ongoing commitment to inclusivity, the hotel will also continue to display rainbow-themed elevator signage featuring the IGLTA Accredited™ logo year-round, serving as a constant reminder of their dedication to creating a space where all guests feel valued and welcome.

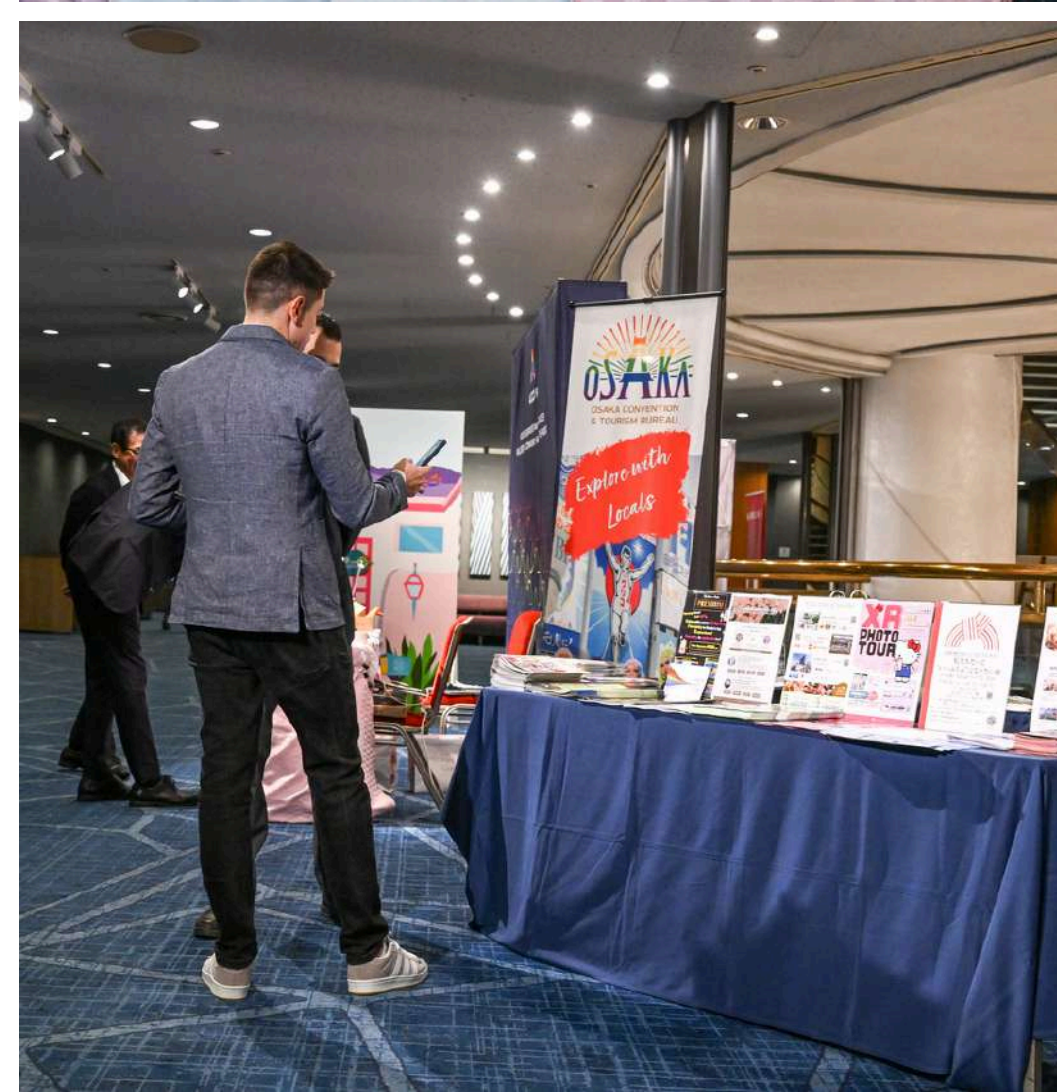
These thoughtful actions reflect Swissôtel Nankai Osaka's commitment to fostering an environment of equality, making it clear that all guests, regardless of identity, are celebrated and supported.



REGISTRATION AREA

The Convention Registration Area was the hub of activity, featuring exhibitor tables and strategically placed signage to promote brands, products, and services. This prime, high-visibility space allowed exhibitors, including the Osaka Convention & Tourism Bureau and Accor, to engage with attendees throughout the day.

In the registration area, Digital Meter Boards prominently displayed sponsor and partner logos, while additional signage highlighted key locations such as plenary sessions, lunch areas, and event entrances - offering sponsors valuable exposure to convention participants.



Digital Meter Boards in registration area

Digital Meter Boards highlighted sponsor and partner logos in the registration area.

PRESENTING SPONSORS
「プレゼンティングスポンサー」

OFFICIAL SPONSORS
「公式スポンサー」

CONFERENCE SPONSORS
「カンファレンススポンサー」

BREAKOUT SESSION SPONSOR
「分科会スポンサー」

COMMUNITY PARTNERS
「コミュニティパートナー」

LGBTQ+ TOURISM EXPO LUNCH
LGBTQ+ ツーリズム EXPO ランチ

Headline sponsor / メインスポンサー

PLATINUM GLOBAL PARTNERS
「プラチナ・グローバル・パートナー」

GOLD GLOBAL PARTNERS
「ゴールド・グローバル・パートナー」

SILVER GLOBAL PARTNERS
「シルバー・グローバル・パートナー」

MEDIA PARTNERS
「メディアパートナー」

ORGANIZATIONAL PARTNERS
「パートナー組織」

EVENT PARTNERS
「イベントパートナー」

MARKETING PARTNERS
「マーケティングパートナー」

Download our app

Sponsored by

Stay connected

Network: Accor

Password: Input your email address

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HOTEL KEY CARDS

Bringing a touch of Caribbean warmth to Osaka, Discover Puerto Rico sponsored the hotel key cards, creating a meaningful connection to the memorable 40th Anniversary IGLTA Global Convention held in October 2023 on *La Isla del Encanto*.

This activation provided **Discover Puerto Rico** with extended brand visibility throughout attendees' stay, reinforcing Puerto Rico's reputation as a premier LGBTQ+ destination.

Each time attendees used their key cards, they were reminded of Puerto Rico's welcoming embrace and dedication to inclusivity. This exemplifies the powerful, lasting connections and visibility available to IGLTA's committed sponsors.



SPONSORED BY:



DELEGATE WELCOME BAGS

Delegate Welcome Bags, sponsored by **Visit West Hollywood**, were provided to all registered convention attendees. These thoughtfully curated bags were filled with a variety of goodies and promotional items, generously provided by Convention Sponsors, Global Partners, and IGLTA Members.

The bags, designed to be used long after the event, offer lasting visibility and brand recognition, ensuring continued awareness for years to come. Each item inside serves as a reminder of the convention's commitment to inclusivity and innovation in LGBTQ+ tourism, while helping to strengthen the connection between the brands and the global community of travel professionals.

SPONSORED BY:



BADGE LANYARDS

Sponsored by **Travel Guard**, the official badge lanyards for IGLTA 2024 provided essential visibility throughout the event. Each attendee received a branded lanyard, symbolizing Travel Guard's dedication to supporting safe and inclusive travel for the LGBTQ+ community.

This sponsorship aligns with Travel Guard's ongoing mission to promote security and peace of mind for travelers worldwide, while reinforcing their commitment to inclusive tourism.

This partnership offers a key opportunity for Travel Guard to connect with a diverse, engaged audience of LGBTQ+ travel professionals and allies.

SPONSORED BY: **Travel Guard[®]**



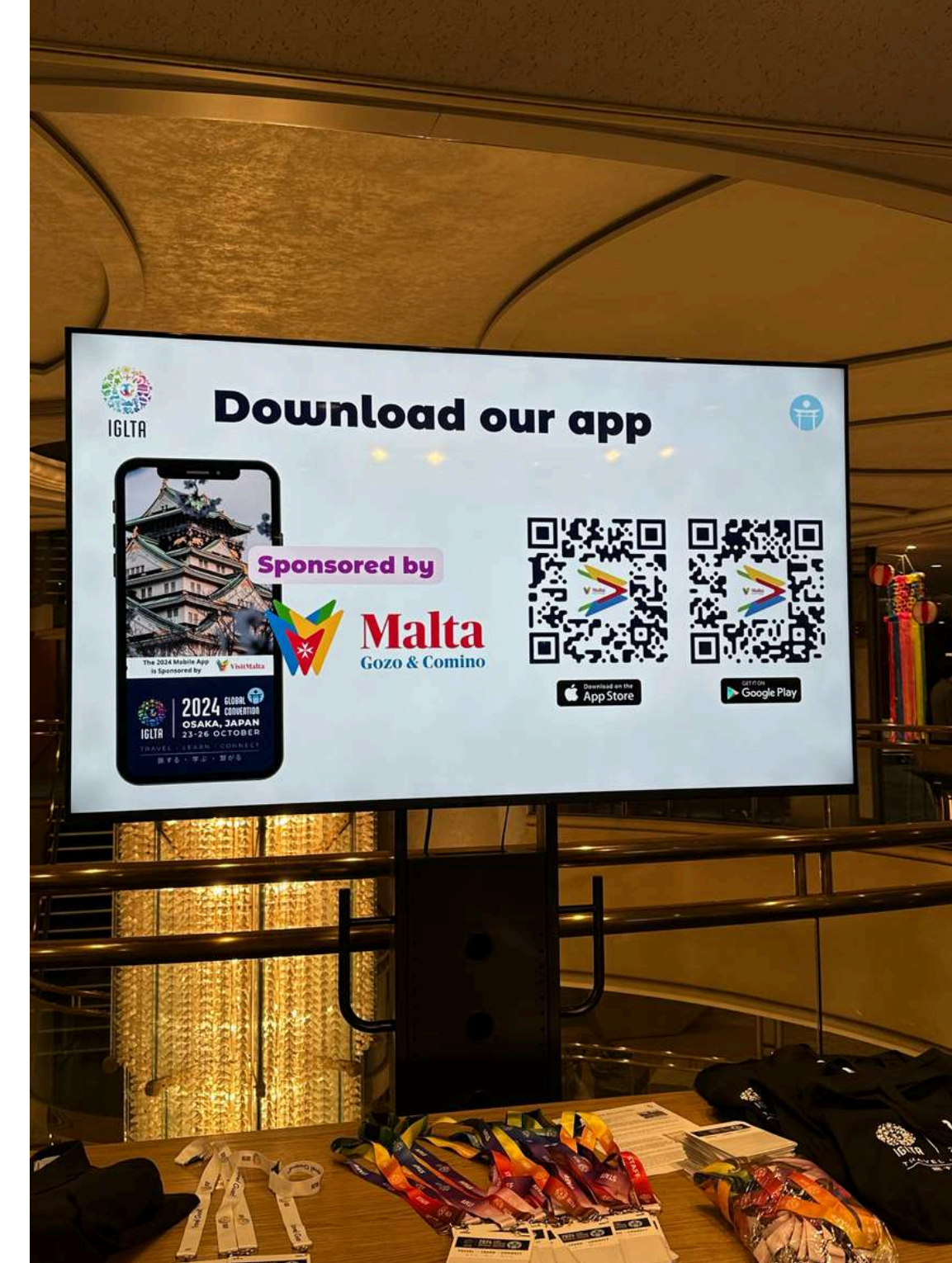
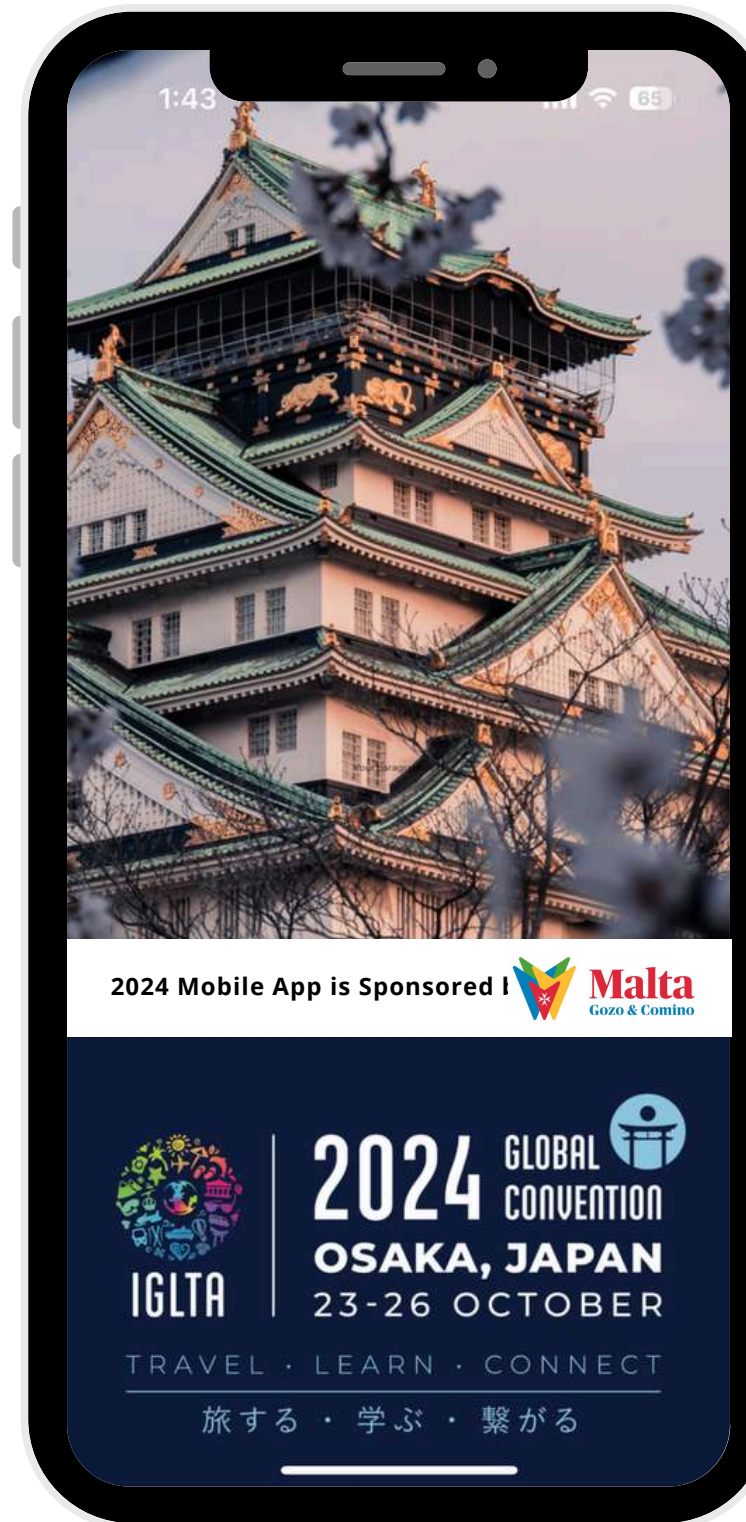
MOBILE APP

The IGLTA Global Convention mobile app, proudly sponsored by the **Malta Tourism Authority**, was a hit with attendees, with 47% of delegates downloading and actively using the app before and throughout the event.

Beyond providing easy access to event details, the app proved to be an essential communication tool for convention organizers, allowing them to send real-time alerts and reminders to keep attendees informed about the various sessions, activities, and networking opportunities.

Additionally, the app facilitated connections between attendees, enabling seamless networking and fostering a greater sense of community throughout the convention.

SPONSORED BY:





WIFI SPONSOR

Wi-Fi at the 2024 IGLTA Global Convention was proudly sponsored by **Meet Boston**, ensuring attendees stayed connected throughout the event. This service made it easy to access event information and network, both in-person and virtually.

At the first general session during the convention, a promotional video from Meet Boston was shown, showcasing their vibrant destination and support for inclusive travel.

The Wi-Fi sponsorship also gave Meet Boston valuable brand exposure and highlighted their dedication to the global LGBTQ+ travel community.



Connect to Wifi

Network:
IGLTA2024

Password:
MeetBoston

Sponsored by

MB Meet
BOSTON



SPONSORED BY:

MB Meet
BOSTON

VIP RECEPTION

The VIP Reception held at the U.S. Consul General's Residence offered an exclusive gathering space for distinguished IGLTA leaders, industry influencers and key figures in the LGBTQ+ tourism.

Sponsored by the Greater Miami CVB with the support of the U.S Consulate General Osaka-Kobe, this event symbolized the strong international alliances supporting inclusive travel.

The evening featured remarks from Jason R. Cubas (he/him), U.S. Consul General; John Tanzella (he/him), IGLTA President & CEO and Dan Rios (he/him), Director LGBTQ+ Tourism Marketing, Miami CVB.

With a diplomatic significance, this VIP Reception provided an exceptional opportunity for high-level networking, aligning IGLTA's mission with the support of industry leaders, highlighting the Greater Miami CVB's commitment supporting the LGBTQ+ tourism.

SPONSORED BY:



WITH SUPPORT FROM:



IGLTA BOARD MEETING

The IGLTA Board of Directors meeting happened to discuss the future of both the Association and the Foundation, discussing current initiatives and strategies for advancing LGBTQ+ tourism worldwide.

This pivotal meeting highlighted IGLTA's dedication to creating safer, more inclusive travel experiences and fostering meaningful partnerships across the industry.

In a special moment, local students presented scarves as a token of hospitality and shared commitment to community and inclusivity. This heartfelt gesture underscored the importance of global connections and cultural exchange at the heart of IGLTA's mission. The Board Meeting remains a crucial moment of the convention, bringing together leaders who are shaping the future of IGLTA and the LGBTQ+ travel.



THINK TANK

The sixth IGLTA Foundation Think Tank, presented by **Simpleview** and hosted at the Swissôtel Nankai Osaka, brought together industry leaders to address critical workplace challenges impacting LGBTQ+ individuals in the Asian tourism sector.

This invitation-only session focused on developing effective solutions to cultural, legal, and social barriers that affect LGBTQ+ employees and travelers in Asia. Moderated by Mie Kitano of SynFiny Advisors, the Think Tank featured insights from C-suite leaders and expert speakers who discussed strategies for fostering a more inclusive and equitable tourism industry.

By spotlighting best practices and innovative solutions, this event served as a catalyst for positive change, reinforcing IGLTA's commitment to creating inclusive work environments that empower LGBTQ+ individuals across the region.

Simpleview's sponsorship underscored its dedication to advancing diversity and inclusion within global tourism, positioning the Think Tank as a powerful platform for meaningful dialogue and industry transformation.

SPONSORED BY:



BUYER/SUPPLIER MARKETPLACE

The 2024 Buyer/Supplier Marketplace facilitated **868 appointments between 73 buyers and 53 suppliers**, representing a combined **buyer selling power of \$688.5 million**, including **\$142.35 million specifically from LGBTQ+ travel sales**.

This year, LGBTQ+ travel sales accounted for 20.7% of the total buyer market, underscoring the influence of LGBTQ+ tourism within the global travel industry.

When compared to previous conventions, Osaka maintained a strong level of engagement and economic impact, *following the record-breaking appointments in Puerto Rico in 2023*.

The event continues to demonstrate IGLTA's ability to connect businesses and foster economic growth in LGBTQ+ tourism.

The marketplace exemplifies IGLTA's commitment to building inclusive, high-impact networking opportunities for tourism professionals, setting a powerful stage for industry collaboration and growth.



LGBTQ+ TOURISM EXPO AND LUNCH

The LGBTQ+ Tourism Expo networking lunches were a highlight of the IGLTA Global Convention, offering all attendees an opportunity to connect with travel industry leaders and decision-makers from across the globe.

ProColombia, the Headline Sponsor of the LGBTQ+ Tourism Expo, enjoyed prominent visibility throughout the event, with prime table placement and on-site branding.

ProColombia's support was further amplified through promotional videos that were featured on the main screen during the networking lunches on both Thursday and Friday, ensuring maximum exposure to a wide audience of industry professionals.



HEADLINE SPONSOR: **COLOMBIA GO**

LGBTQ+ TOURISM EXPO AND LUNCH EXHIBITORS

A total of 17 exhibitors participated in the LGBTQ+ Tourism Expo, representing a wide spectrum of the global tourism industry, including Destination Marketing Organizations (DMOs), local accommodations, international hotel chains, tourism boards, LGBTQ+ Pride and event organizations from around the world.

Over the course of two dynamic days, convention attendees had the opportunity to explore the Expo, immersing themselves in a vibrant and interactive atmosphere. They engaged with a diverse range of exhibitors, fostering connections and gaining insights into the latest trends in LGBTQ+ tourism.

The LGBTQ+ Tourism Expo served as a powerful platform for creating cultural bridges and forging meaningful connections. By highlighting the contributions of headline sponsors and showcasing a variety of exhibitors, the Expo became a hub of innovation, inclusivity, and collaboration—reinforcing IGLTA's commitment to promoting diversity and progress within the global travel industry.

The Expo embraced Osaka street food as its theme, adding a vibrant touch of Japanese culture. The dynamic decor and interactive food stations brought the energy of Osaka's streets to life, fostering connection and celebrating inclusivity in a unique, flavorful way.



HEADSHOT PHOTO LOUNGE

The "Professional Headshot Photo Lounge: Brazil in Focus" sponsored by **Embratur - Brazilian Tourist Board**, offered attendees a polished experience with a photographer and makeup artist, ensuring high-quality headshots. Strategically located near the Convention registration area, the lounge was easily accessible to all participants.

Attendees received their headshots electronically, accompanied by a personalized message and a promotional link to explore Brazil as an LGBTQ+ welcoming destination.

Featuring impactful banners and striking visuals, the lounge highlighted Brazil's vibrant culture and strong commitment to LGBTQ+ inclusion. This activation reinforced Brazil's image as a diverse and inclusive travel destination and provided a valuable professional resource to IGLTA members, leaving a lasting impression of Brazil's dedication to supporting global LGBTQ+ tourism.

SPONSORED BY:



SIGNATURE TRAVEL NETWORK MEET & GREET

The Signature Travel Network Buyer Meet & Greet was an invitation-only networking event that brought together 25 elite buyers from the Signature Travel Network, offering LGBTQ+ travel professionals a unique opportunity to connect with key decision-makers from luxury and mid-luxury travel agencies.

This intimate gathering allowed for direct engagement in a relaxed, focused setting, enabling attendees to discuss collaborations, share insights, and build meaningful relationships with high-value buyers dedicated to supporting the LGBTQ+ travel community.

The event underscored IGLTA's commitment to fostering partnerships that promote inclusive travel, positioning the convention as a premier platform for global tourism professionals to drive progress in the industry.

HOSTED BY:

Signature
Travel Network
SHAPING TRAVEL TOGETHER



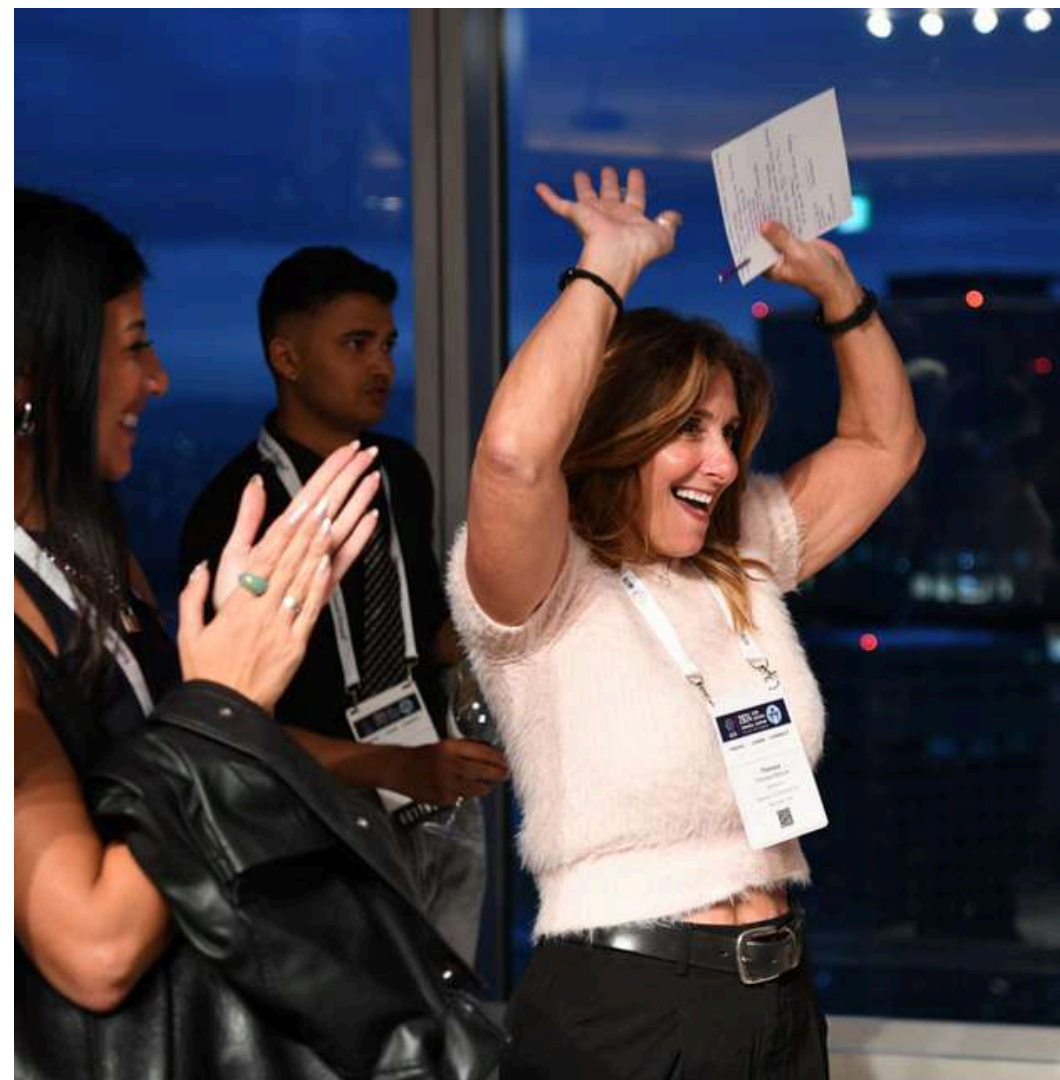
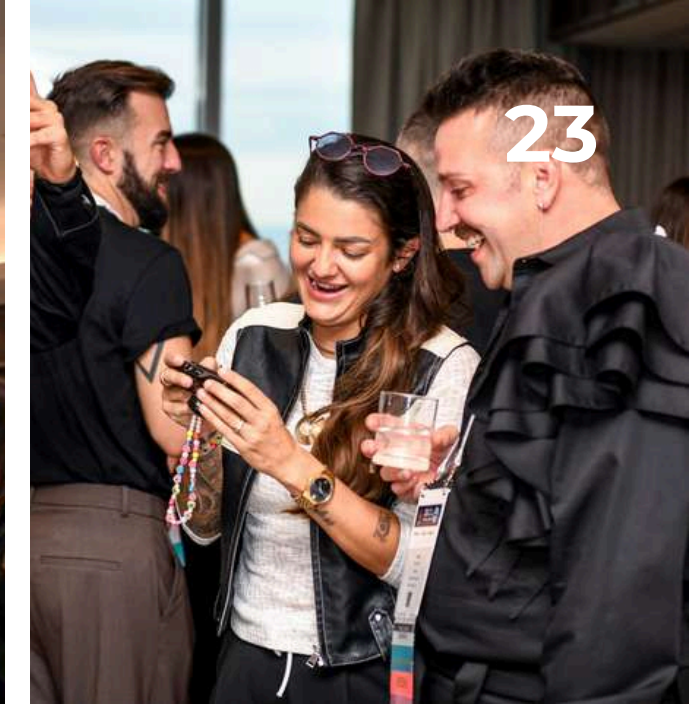
MEDIA NETWORKING RECEPTION

Destination DC, a valued global partner of IGLTA, hosted the Media Reception. This invitation-only event, held at The 33 Sense of Wedding, provided a strategic platform for LGBTQ+ travel media, influencers, and industry leaders to connect, collaborate, and build excitement for Washington, D.C. as it prepares to host WorldPride in 2025.

The reception allowed attendees to engage directly with representatives from Destination DC, highlighting the city's commitment to LGBTQ+ inclusion and positioning Washington, D.C., as a premier destination for global LGBTQ+ events. Through this event, Destination DC reinforced its dedication to supporting LGBTQ+ tourism and celebrating diversity, aligning with IGLTA's mission to enable authentic travel that enriches lives and connects the LGBTQ+ community and the tourism industry.

Transportation was conveniently provided from the Host Hotel to the reception venue and then to the Opening Reception, ensuring a seamless experience for all invitees. The Media Reception served as an inspiring preview of the energy and inclusivity that Washington, D.C., will bring to WorldPride in 2025, creating anticipation and strengthening connections within the LGBTQ+ travel community.

HOSTED BY:





MEDIA NETWORKING EVENT

The Media Networking Event brought together a dynamic group of media professionals and content creators, offering a unique platform to showcase their work and discuss the future of digital storytelling. Content creators, journalists, videographers, influencers, and marketers had the chance to connect, share their latest projects, and explore new collaboration opportunities.

The event emphasized the power of media in today's digital landscape, highlighting innovative content and cutting-edge marketing strategies. Attendees had the opportunity to pitch their stories and discuss marketing opportunities with key industry influencers and decision-makers — a vital chance to amplify their voices and expand their reach.

This year's Media Networking Event was proudly sponsored by **Destination DC**, adding an extra layer of excitement and support for the creative community. Thanks to their generous sponsorship, the event not only provided an opportunity for content creators to showcase their work but also reinforced the importance of collaboration and cross-industry networking in driving future media trends.

SPONSORED BY:



WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP RECEPTION

Women and non-binary attendees were invited to network and build meaningful connections at the Women in Leadership Networking Reception, held in Nambar 10, at the host hotel.

Sponsored by **Booking.com** for the third consecutive year, the reception offered a welcoming, safe and supportive space for attendees to engage with one another and share experiences.

The event's continued success highlights the growing demand for dedicated spaces where women and non-binary individuals can connect, collaborate, and empower each other within the travel industry.

The reception provided a platform for leadership discussions and reinforced the importance of fostering inclusivity and diversity in the LGBTQ+ tourism sector.

SPONSORED BY: Booking.com



BLACK TRAVEL LEADERS BREAKFAST

The Black Travel Leaders Breakfast at the IGLTA Global Convention, hosted by **New York City Tourism + Conventions**, was a powerful opportunity to celebrate and promote diversity and inclusion within the LGBTQ+ travel community.

This special gathering provided a dedicated space for members of the Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) communities to connect, share experiences, and foster a sense of community and support.

The Black Travel Leaders Breakfast fostered open, candid discussions about the unique challenges faced by BIPOC travelers while providing valuable networking opportunities. By emphasizing intersectionality, the event empowered attendees, reinforced the convention's commitment to diversity, and advocated for a more inclusive and equitable future in the travel industry.



HOSTED BY:

**NEW
YORK
CITY**

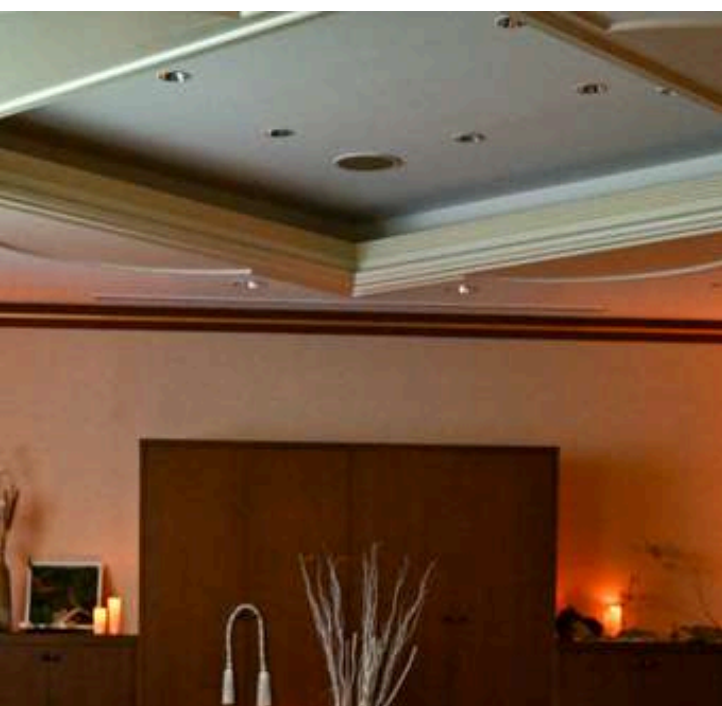
FIRST TIME ATTENDEES MEET AND GREET

The First-Time Attendees Meet & Greet provided a welcoming environment for new delegates to connect with the IGLTA team and fellow participants. This introductory gathering aimed to make first-time attendees feel at ease, offering them a supportive space to ask questions, build relationships, and gain valuable insights into maximizing their convention experience.

IGLTA team members were on hand to answer questions and guide attendees through the convention program and networking opportunities, helping them to optimize their convention experience.

This event not only fostered a sense of community among newcomers but also laid the foundation for lasting professional connections that will benefit them throughout their journey in LGBTQ+ tourism.





ZEN ROOM

To support attendees' well-being amidst the excitement of the IGLTA 2024 Convention, the Zen Room on the 9th floor, crafted by **Swissôtel Nankai Osaka - Accor**, provided a serene retreat. This thoughtful space also served as a welcomed space for members of the neuro-diverse community, offering a calm environment tailored to their needs.

Conceived as a peaceful oasis with a Japanese-inspired minimalist design, the Zen Room stimulated all five senses – sight, smell, sound, touch, and taste. It provided a tranquil space for attendees to unwind, enjoy freshly brewed tea, and recharge before rejoining the convention's activities.

Easily accessible near the registration area, the Zen Room quickly became a favorite spot for those seeking a quiet break. This dedicated relaxation area underscored IGLTA's commitment to holistic hospitality, ensuring that attendees could experience the convention in a balanced and refreshing way.

To complete the five senses, participants had the chance to sample one of Sakai's oldest products – Japanese tea by **Tsuboichi**. Prepared on the spot by the brand's tea experts, the Japanese Tea Experience by Tsuboichi added a final touch of calm and tradition to the Zen Room experience.

SPONSORED BY: **swissôtel NANKAI**
OSAKA
スイスホテル南海大阪

VOYAGE – THE IGLTA FOUNDATION FUNDRAISER

Voyage, the annual IGLTA Foundation Fundraiser, was held at the Sumiyoshi Taisha Shinto Shrine in Osaka, setting the stage for a unique fusion of tradition and futurism that captivated attendees with unforgettable entertainment, fine cuisine, and a chance to support a vital cause. With a futuristic fashion-forward dress code, the evening attracted LGBTQ+ professionals and allies from around the world, gathering to network, celebrate, and contribute to a shared vision of inclusivity.

Generously presented by **Airbnb** and hosted by the **Osaka Convention & Tourism Bureau**, with additional support from **The Florida Keys & Key West** and IGLTA Foundation Founding Partner **Delta Air Lines**, Voyage successfully raised more than \$80,000 USD for the IGLTA Foundation. These funds are dedicated to supporting global LGBTQ+ education, advancing research, and nurturing the next generation of industry leaders.

Attendees had the option to select from various ticket tiers: Traditional, Futuristic, and Pride Passes—each offering unique benefits and exclusive experiences, with higher tiers contributing further to the Foundation’s impactful programs. Voyage highlighted IGLTA’s commitment to fostering a more inclusive world and left a lasting impression on all who attended.

PRESENTED BY:



HOSTED BY:



WITH SUPPORT FROM:



IGLTA FOUNDATION FOUNDING PARTNER:



OPENING RECEPTION

The Opening Reception of the IGLTA 2024 Convention, hosted by **the Osaka Convention & Tourism Bureau**, took place at the majestic Osaka Castle, an iconic landmark rich in history and cultural significance. Originally built in the late 16th century, Osaka Castle is a powerful symbol of unity – a fitting backdrop for a convention dedicated to advancing inclusivity in LGBTQ+ travel and tourism.

This memorable evening featured the traditional Japanese ceremony of Kagami Biraki, where a sake barrel is broken open to symbolize good fortune and new beginnings. With this ceremonial gesture, the IGLTA community was welcomed to Osaka in grand style, celebrating a shared commitment to diversity and progress.

Against the backdrop of the stunning view of Osaka Castle, attendees enjoyed an evening filled with authentic Japanese hospitality, networking, and the spirit of unity, setting an inspiring tone for the convention.

SPONSORED BY:



OPENING PLENARY SESSION

Before an audience of 575 attendees, IGLTA Board Chair Dougal McKenzie (he/him), Industry Head of Travel at Google, alongside Board Member Shiho Ikeuchi (she/her) as Master of Ceremony, warmly welcomed participants to the IGLTA 2024 Global Convention in Osaka.

Anne-Sophie Beraud (she/her), Senior Vice President of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Social Care at **Accor**, kicked off the ceremony by reaffirming Accor's unwavering commitment to the LGBTQ+ community and IGLTA's mission. She emphasized the importance of Swissôtel Nankai Osaka, not only as the host hotel but also as the first IGLTA Accredited™ hotel in Asia – a significant milestone that reflects Accor's dedication to fostering inclusivity and diversity. This achievement further reinforces Accor's role as a valued Platinum Global Partner of IGLTA, underscoring its leadership position in creating more welcoming spaces for all.

President & CEO John Tanzella (he/him) delivered the inspiring “State of the Association” presentation, celebrating the organization's achievements and setting a forward-looking vision for LGBTQ+ travel worldwide. John reinforced IGLTA's commitment to creating safe, inclusive travel experiences for the global LGBTQ+ community.

The plenary session continued with a presentation by Peter Jordan (he/him), Founder of Gen C Traveller, who unveiled findings from a research project commissioned by **International Experience Canada**. This project, supported by the IGLTA Foundation, aimed to better understand the needs and preferences of LGBTQ+ young adult travelers, providing valuable insights for the travel industry. The session then featured the presentation of the 2024 Pioneer Award, sponsored by **American Express Travel**, to Shintaro Koizumi (he/him), President of Out Asia Travel, honored for his visionary leadership and groundbreaking contributions to advancing LGBTQ+ tourism in Japan, his efforts were instrumental in bringing the IGLTA Global Convention to Asia for the first time.



PLENARY SESSION

International Experience Canada (IEC), a valued Presenting Sponsor, proudly supported one of the main plenary sessions at the 2024 IGLTA Convention, reinforcing their commitment to inclusive travel and cultural exchange. Before the session began, IEC was prominently featured on the main stage with the display of an institutional video, setting an impactful tone for the gathering.

Throughout the convention, IEC's promotional materials were distributed to attendees, further enhancing their visibility and engagement. The plenary included a fireside chat with Brian Beall (he/him), Director of the National Travel and Tourism Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, and Hiroshi Mizohata, President of the Osaka Convention & Tourism Bureau. Other highlights included the "Women in Leadership" discussion featuring Lisa Lam (she/her), Co-Chair of Gay Games 11 Hong Kong, and the IGLTA Honors Presentation, with the Pathfinder Award supported by American Express, a valued IGLTA Platinum-level Global Partner.

IEC's sponsorship and presence underscored their dedication to supporting LGBTQ+ travelers and fostering a more inclusive travel industry through meaningful international connections.

SPONSORED BY:



Government of Canada
International Experience Canada

Gouvernement du Canada
Expérience internationale Canada





CLOSING PLENARY SESSION

The Closing Session of the 2024 IGLTA Global Convention brought together the essence of this transformative event, delivering insightful discussions, recognizing industry excellence and celebrating the vibrant connections made throughout the week.

The session began with a powerful panel discussion “Exploring Social Inclusion in Asia-Pacific: Legal, Economic, and Human Development Perspectives for Sustainable Tourism”. This discussion highlighted the region's strides and challenges in fostering inclusive tourism, with perspectives from experts who are shaping the future of sustainable and equitable travel.

The IGLTA Foundation Impact Award was presented to First Nature Tours for their exceptional contributions to advancing LGBTQ+ inclusivity in tourism.

The keynote, delivered by Hiroki Tanimura (he/him), Manager of SMB and Startups at Google Cloud Japan, explored how Generative AI is moving from experimentation to implementation.

The convention concluded with the symbolic handoff from Osaka to Palm Springs, where the 2025 IGLTA Global Convention will take place. This moment celebrated the spirit of collaboration and anticipation for another successful year ahead.

Additionally, the Media Drawing recognized the outstanding contributions of the global media partners who amplify LGBTQ+ travel stories. Special congratulations to Christina Guggenberger (she/her) from StockholmLGBT, the winner of the global media marketing package valued at over US\$50,000, and a heartfelt thank you to all media participants for their support and generosity.

The session concluded with the entire IGLTA staff taking the stage, receiving a well-deserved round of applause for their dedication and effort in making #IGLTA2024 an unforgettable experience. As the curtain closed in Osaka, the energy, connections, and commitments made during the convention set an inspiring tone for Palm Springs and beyond.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS



SPONSORED BY:



Government of Canada

Gouvernement du Canada

International Experience Canada

Expérience internationale Canada

Building Cultural Immersion, Connections, and Confidence for LGBTQ+ Travelers Aged 18-35

Presented by Peter Jordan



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Crafting Authentic Experiences: Empowering the BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, People of Color) Community in Travel to Generate Economic Opportunities

With by Danny Guerrero, Nubia Younge and Zoe Moore
Zaky Pabrowo, from WeTravel did the introduction of the speakers

LGBTQ+ Gen Z Travelers

With Giuseppe Giulio

BREAKOUT SESSIONS



LGBTQ+ Travel and Tourism through the Asian Lens

Presented by Dr. Bella Vongvisitsin

Marriage Equality: Supporting Inclusivity and Diversity in the Wedding Industry

Presented by Roseli "Rosy" Riva



Being an Accountable He^{rt} Ally for Trans and Gender Diverse Travelers

Presented by Gabrielle Claiborne

Elevating Your Tourism Business in Asia: Marketing Strategies & Emerging Trends

Presented by Melvyn Yap

PALM SPRINGS RECEPTION

The Palm Springs Reception offered an exclusive glimpse into the next chapter of the IGLTA Global Convention, set to take place in the beautiful **Greater Palm Springs**. This private networking event brought together a select group of industry leaders and supporters for an intimate celebration in Osaka.

Attendees were treated to an evening that highlighted the charm and allure of Palm Springs, known for its warm hospitality and iconic status as a haven for the LGBTQ+ community. The reception was a unique opportunity to network, celebrate shared accomplishments, and build anticipation for what promises to be a remarkable convention in Southern California's oasis.

As glasses were raised in Osaka, the Greater Palm Springs team extended a heartfelt welcome to the IGLTA community, sharing their excitement to host the global LGBTQ+ tourism leaders in 2025. This exclusive gathering perfectly captured the spirit of unity and forward momentum that defines the IGLTA Global Convention.

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CLOSING RECEPTION

The IGLTA 2024 Convention concluded with an extraordinary Closing Reception, proudly sponsored by **Brand USA**. This memorable evening celebrated the vibrant spirit of the global LGBTQ+ travel community, featuring exquisite flavors, breathtaking views, and captivating entertainment.

Attendees came together one last time to network, share stories, and revel in the camaraderie that defines the IGLTA family. With Brand USA's support, the event showcased the very best in hospitality, leaving everyone inspired and excited for the future of inclusive tourism.

As the sun set on the Osaka convention, the Closing Reception marked the perfect finale, uniting delegates in a shared commitment to advancing LGBTQ+ travel worldwide, getting everyone ready for the next Global Convention in Palm Springs!

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ACCOR DEI BRUNCH

In conjunction with the IGLTA Global Convention, **Accor**, a valued Platinum-level Global Partner of IGLTA, hosted its second annual Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Brunch on Saturday, 26 October, at the Swissôtel Nankai Osaka.

The event underscored Accor's ongoing commitment to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, with a focus on creating welcoming spaces for the LGBTQ+ community. The brunch began with an opening address from Anne-Sophie Beraud (she/her), Senior Vice President of Group Diversity, Inclusion, and Social Care at Accor, followed by Shane Edwards (he/him), General Manager of the Swissôtel Nankai Osaka. Mariangela Silvestere (she/her), Director of Marketing, Swissôtel Nankai Osaka, then shared insights into the hotel's various initiatives aimed at becoming a more inclusive and LGBTQ+ friendly destination. Phyllis Yeo (she/her), Director of Sales for Japan, South Korea, and Southeast Asia at Accor, also presented Accor's upcoming projects and new hotel developments across the region.

Clark Massad (he/him), Vice President of Global Partnerships and Convention Sponsorships, IGLTA; and Antonella Benedetti (she/her), Engagement Manager, IGLTA; also took the stage, reinforcing Accor's commitment as a proud IGLTA Global Partner since 2021.

The brunch wrapped up with an engaging Q&A session and the exciting distribution of Accor prizes, including room nights at Accor properties in Japan and Gold status vouchers.



RAINBOW FESTA!

Rainbow Festa!, Osaka's annual Pride festival, is a vibrant celebration of LGBTQ+ identities across the Kansai region. Held on October 26 and 27, the festival marked a significant celebration as it coincided with the conclusion of the IGLTA 2024 Global Convention in Osaka.

The two-day event featured booths and resources from a wide range of supporting organizations, highlighted by the Kansai Rainbow Parade on Sunday, October 27. The parade brought together thousands of participants, showcasing the region's strong support for LGBTQ+ rights and inclusion.

IGLTA had a prominent presence at the festival with a dedicated pavilion offering information about the organization's mission and its global efforts to promote LGBTQ+ tourism. To mark the official close of the convention, IGLTA staff joined the parade, marching proudly behind two IGLTA-branded floats, signaling both the end of a successful convention and the continued commitment to inclusivity in the travel industry.

Rainbow Festa! provided the perfect conclusion to the IGLTA 2024 Global Convention, celebrating the values of diversity, equality, and solidarity with the LGBTQ+ community.



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PRESENTING



OFFICIAL



CONFERENCE



BREAKOUT SESSIONS



COMMUNITY PARTNERS



OUR GLOBAL PARTNERS | THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

PLATINUM



GOLD



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ARIGATO GOZAIMASU!

We are grateful for your support and sponsorship!

IGLTA GLOBAL CONVENTION SPONSORSHIP TEAM



CLARK MASSAD
(he/him)

VICE PRESIDENT GLOBAL
PARTNERSHIPS &
CONVENTION SPONSORSHIPS

clark.massad@iglta.org



MATT MORDEN
(he/him)

DEVELOPMENT MANAGER
GLOBAL PARTNERSHIPS &
CONVENTION SPONSORSHIPS

matt.morden@iglta.org



LEANDRO ARAGON
(he/him)

ENGAGEMENT DIRECTOR
GLOBAL PARTNERSHIPS &
CONVENTION SPONSORSHIPS

leandro.aragon@iglta.org



ANTONELLA BENEDETTI
(she/her)

ENGAGEMENT MANAGER
GLOBAL PARTNERSHIPS &
CONVENTION SPONSORSHIPS

antonella.benedetti@iglta.org

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IGLTA

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2025 GLOBAL CONVENTION
PALM SPRINGS, CA
21 - 25 OCTOBER



**SEE YOU IN
PALM SPRINGS!**

