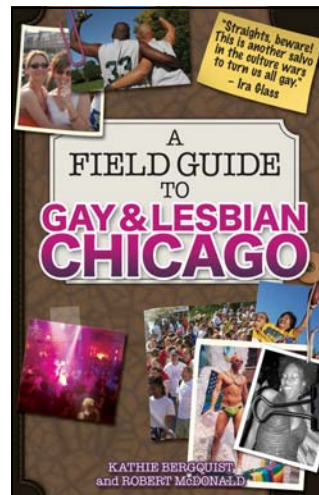


INTRODUCING:

A chatty and opinionated guide that tells gays and lesbians (and their friends and family) where to stay, where to go, where to play, where to pray, where to two-step, where to twelve-step, and where to find big gay fun in the Windy City.



Is Chicago the San Francisco of the Midwest?

Despite a gay and lesbian cultural scene that has much to offer the visitor—or resident, for that matter—Chicago has gotten short shrift on the national scene. Chicago is mentioned in all the major national gay travel guides, but authors Kathie Bergquist and Robert McDonald found such resources inaccurate, misleading, or so slanted to advertisers as to be fairly useless for anything other than leveling a crooked table. “Who compiled that information?” they asked, “And do they live on Uranus?”

Besides two neighborhoods that are so strongly gay identified that even straight denizens admit they live in a gay ‘hood, gay life and culture in the city spreads from the farthest reaches on the north and northwest sides to the South Shore and far southwest sides of the city. This includes numerous churches encompassing virtually every denomination, a comprehensive health center, several gay weekly papers, two competitive sports leagues, a chamber of commerce, and a marching band. Every year thousands of gay and lesbian travelers visit Chicago for annual events such as the gay and lesbian pride parade (which attracted 440,000 participants and spectators in 2005), Northalsted Street Market Days, the International Mr. Leather competition and the Coming Out Against Cancer lesbian ball. Gays and lesbians from around the world have been flocking to Chicago more than ever since the Windy City hosted the 7th quadrennial International Gay Games in July 2006.

So Kathie and Robert are here to set the record straight, er, queer, about Chicago.

A Field Guide to Gay and Lesbian Chicago is the first and only book to give gay and lesbian travelers the inside scoop on gay-friendly accommodations, shopping, sports and recreation, music, theater, dining, and nightlife in the Windy City. Topics covered in the guide include transportation, safety, Chicago’s gay history, the “gayborhoods,” bars and nightlife, sightseeing, and sex.

Bergquist and McDonald have lived, worked, and played in the gay midst and queer fringes of Chicago for more than thirty collective years (although you’d never guess it by looking at them!). Their experiences in Chicago include many years behind the counters of gay and lesbian identified bookstores, serving at the information front lines for gay and lesbian visitors to the city. Combining their years of experience with more than a year of concentrated effort, *A Field Guide to Gay and Lesbian Chicago* is their love letter to the rich and diverse gay and lesbian communities of Chicago.

**Not only is *A Field Guide to Gay and Lesbian Chicago*
the essential gay and lesbian guide to the city,
it is the only gay and lesbian guide to the city.**

Available at local bookstores, through online booksellers, or by ordering directly from Lake Claremont Press.
Visit us on the Web at www.lakeclaremont.com.