

# UNDER THE SUN

**PRIDE RETREAT FOR GAY MEN**



## **MASPOLOMAS**

GRAN CANARIA, SPAIN, AYA HOUSE

[@aya.house.events](https://www.instagram.com/aya.house.events)

**8-13 MAY 2024 | 5 NIGHTS, 6 DAYS**



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**MASPOLOMAS**  
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## Greetings from the island.

So you've stumbled across this opportunity to escape to paradise for a while. Well done! You're about to be enlightened.

Imagine 5 nights and 6 days in a super comfortable traditional Canaria finca, surrounded by your tribe. Long, lazy brunches, walks through the world-famous Maspalomas dunes, top up your tan on a sun lounger on Kiosk 5 beach, and read the best-seller. Dine on delicious dinners under the open skies with bottomless sangria and then... party all night... if that's your thing. It's pride week after all, so your itinerary can be packed one day, super chillaxed the next. You're in charge. A bit of yoga or a massage one day, a few too many tequilas and a leather bar the next. You be you. We'll just make it comfortable.

**Catch you on the sunny-side  
of the street?**





## MEET YOUR HOSTS

**Peter Tarrant**  
CO-HOST / OWNER

“It all started when I discovered this tranquil country house (Finca) nestled in a quiet valley. There was something about the austerity of the mass of stone and the peaceful countryside that made me feel safe and calm and I decided immediately that I wanted to use my background in business, psychology and hospitality to offer a space aimed at stressed individuals who wanted a holiday away where they could partake in some development through activities such as yoga and meditation practice and socialise with like minded people in a non judgmental and relaxed environment. It is about reconnecting with yourself, doing things at your own pace, offering a tailored holiday experience and allowing space for people to appreciate some of what this glorious island has to offer. This holiday is not about luxury and opulence it is about comfort and self development at an accessible price.”

## ABOUT AYA HOUSE YOUR SANCTUARY IN THE SUN

Situated 11km from the bustling tourist zone of Maspalomas and the world-famous Maspalomas Dunes, this modern Spanish finca houses 13 bedrooms, all with super king-size beds and dedicated bathrooms (some en-suite). The enormous garden allows for contemplative walking, and the 100m<sup>2</sup> yoga studio has great views of the mountainous terrain. Aya House's ethos is to offer an affordable, relaxed, non-judgmental, inclusive, and sociable environment for gay men.

**Neil Roake**  
CO-HOST / PERSONAL CHEF

“After my December retreat at Aya House, I knew I wanted to gather a group and share this special place. I'm a creative working in the world of design but have made the joy of cooking, traveling, and eating good food one of my side-gigs. The food I will be cooking will be inspired by my latest book called 'Castaway,' which focuses on island food. I'll dive into the local Canarian food culture, tickle your fancy with some Asian flavor bombs, island-hop through the Greek islands, and it will all culminate in our farewell celebration feast on the last night. Only good vibes, hot food, and chilled drinks. I look forward to meeting you.”







# PLATE EXPECTATIONS

NEIL ROAKE WILL BE YOUR PERSONAL RETREAT CHEF.

Cooking delicious meals inspired by his latest book, *Castaway*, with a predominantly vegetarian menu. The menu will draw from many island cuisines, including Spanish Canary Island dishes like *Papas con mojo picón* (wrinkly potatoes with a spicy red mojo sauce), *Queso Asado* (Smoked local cheese) and of course *Mojo*, the quintessential Canarian spicy sauce.

**Food images from Neil's latest cookbook, *Castaway*  
@CASTAWAYCOOKS**





MASPALOMAS PRIDE RUNS FROM 2-12 MAY 2024

# DO IT WITH PRIDE

Maspalomas is, without a doubt, one of the best LGBTQIA+ destinations in the world. And its Pride parties are a must for thousands of people who come to the island to enjoy the sunshine and the festivities. Maspalomas Pride has been celebrated since 2001 during the month of May, being the first Pride of the European season. During the ten days that Maspalomas Pride lasts, there is an extensive program of activities, protests, cultural, and playful events that have their big day Saturday 11 May with the Great Parade of Floats, the peak moment of the festivities.

**MASPALOMASPRIDE.COM**

## FIESTAS & KIKKIES

### MONDAY 6 MAY 2024

TUTTI FRUTTI POOL PARTY  
@ Los Almendros | Playa del Inglés  
13:00 | €15  
Book Tickets [freedomevents.eu](https://freedomevents.eu)

### TUESDAY 7 MAY 2024

CANDYLAND  
@ Blue Marlin | 11:00 - 21:00 | €25  
Book Tickets [maspalomaspride.com](https://maspalomaspride.com)

### WEDNESDAY 8 MAY 2024

WET & WHITE  
@ Amadores Beach Club  
12:00 - 21:00 | €30  
Book Tickets [maspalomaspride.com](https://maspalomaspride.com)

### PINK POOL & FOAM PARTY

@ Yumbo Centrum | 13:00 | FREE

### THURSDAY 9 MAY 2024

GAY BOAT CRUISE  
@ Puerto Base, Puerto Rico | 10:00 - 19:00 | €73  
Book Tickets [maspalomaspride.com](https://maspalomaspride.com)

### GUAPO/HANDSOME PARTY

@ Yumbo Centrum | 23:59 | FREE

### FRIDAY 10 MAY 2024

SUNDANCE POOL PARTY  
@ Ocean Club | 11:00 | €30  
Book Tickets [freedomevents.eu](https://freedomevents.eu)

### SATURDAY 11 MAY 2024

#### PRIDE PARADE

The parade begins at the intersection of Avenida de Gran Canaria and Avenida de Tirajana and ends at Avenida de Unidos, next to PRIDE PARK.

### FREEDOM PARTY PRIDE

@ Yumbo Centrum | 19:00 | FREE  
The Main Stage is filled with more than 80,000 people from the community to dance for 10 hours to the music of great DJs & singers.

### SUNDAY 12 MAY 2024

ICECREAM POOL PARTY  
@ Seven Hotel | 11:00 - 21:00 | €25  
Book Tickets [freedomevents.eu](https://freedomevents.eu)

### GOOD TO KNOW

The pool parties below sell out fast, so if you're keen, don't dilly dally.  
You are responsible for your own booking of these events.

# GO WITH THE FLOW

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## **8:30 - 10:30 BREAKFAST**

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Join us in the Castaway kitchen from 8:30am.  
Something baked, something sweet, something savoury, something spicy.  
COFFEE, TEA, FRESH JUICE

Day at leisure. Soak up the sun. Order an in house massage in our private massage cabin.  
Browse our library and claim a holiday read. Explore the island. This is your retreat. You do you.

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## **11am BEACH SHUTTLE**

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Meet in the car park. Shuttle will leave sharp at 11:10.  
Shuttle will drop you outside the Hotel Riu Palace

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## **16:00 RETURN SHUTTLE**

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Meet outside the Hotel Riu Palace  
Shuttle will leave sharp at 16:10

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## **17:30 - 18:15 VINYASA YOGA**

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Day 2 & day 4 only  
Meet in the yoga studio

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## **19h00 SANGRIA APERITIVO**

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Meet at the Castaway kitchen and charge your glasses with local sangria

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## **19H30 CASTAWAY DINNER IS SERVED**

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Take your seats and join your tribe for a long slow celebratory dinner.  
Local White, Red Wine or Rosé Wine complimentary

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## **21H30 YUMBO SHUTTLE**

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Meet in the car park. Shuttle will leave sharp at 21h30  
Shuttle will drop you at the Yumbo taxi rank.  
You will be able to get a taxi back to the finca from this taxi rank all through the night.  
Average night taxi price €18-20. Share the ride with some mates.  
Don't forget your gate key to get back into the finca.





The **Canarian Palm Tree** (*Phoenix canariensis*) is one of the 2350 sorts of palm trees you can find on the whole world and it is also the only endemic species in the Canary Islands archipelago. It is the pride of all habitants of the island.



The Maspalomas dunes are a special place on the island. The golden sand glitters at you from miles away. Standing in the middle of the dunes, you imagine yourself to be in the desert for a moment. At night, the sky turns purple-pink as the sun disappears behind the dunes. Make sure you experience at least one sunset.





“Find your tribe . Find your mojo.  
Find your good times.”



# BETTER BY THE WATER



## **KIOSK 5, GAY BEACH**

Hang out at the Aya House hot tub, top up your tan on the sun terrace or catch the daily shuttle which leaves at 11 am and be dropped at the dunes. Walk through the natural beauty and arrive at the gay beach. Grab a sunlounger with umbrella (€7,50 for 2 sunloungers), otherwise there is also enough sandy beach side to get comfortable.

The Gay Beach Beach can be reached either by foot from the Faro (lighthouse) of Maspalomas, along the sea towards Playa del Ingles, on the left side (in around 15 minutes)... or the shuttle will drop us in front of the the Hotel Riu Palace Maspalomas across the Dunes of Maspalomas - You need to follow the path marked with wooden posts. If you want to cruise, then follow the guys heading off the path :-)

**GOOD TO KNOW:** This beach is clothing optional. There are two kiosks selling beers, wine, softdrinks, sangria. WC facilities. AYA HOUSE provides beach towels in your room

Feel like lazing by a pool? These resorts offer a day pass which allows you to use their pool facilities and more.

## **SEVEN, POOL DAY PASS**

Close to the golf course of Maspalomas, in a quiet surrounding - Gay Hotel Seven has a stylish salt-water pool and a lush garden area with a wellness offer (sauna, whirlpool, massages,...) and a pleasant bar & restaurant. A chic place to relax. Clothing optional.

DAY PASS: €20, 11- 4pm

## **TROPICAL LA ZONA, POOL DAY PASS**

Tropical la Zona offers a whirlpool, a large sun terrace, a landscaped and well-tended garden, a fitness corner and a cruising area. This is a clothing optional resort. At the pool bar you can choose from various breakfast options, in addition snacks and drinks are served all day.

DAY PASS: €10 including a soft drink. 11- 4pm



## WELLNESS? Why not!

### YOGA

#### YOGA

UNDER THE SUN offers two complimentary late-afternoon yoga sessions in our yoga studio. (Of course, the studio is available for private use at any time during your stay.) Yoga is a good option for recovery from a big night out :-), addressing physical tension, promoting mental well-being, and restoring balance. It's a mindful practice that complements the vibrancy of a party atmosphere, offering participants a chance to rejuvenate and connect with themselves amidst celebration. OPTIONAL OF COURSE :-)

**GOOD TO KNOW:** Beginners welcome. Yoga mats and blocks are provided. No need to book, just pitch up and enjoy.

### OUTDOOR GYM

Force USA OUTDOOR GYM is available to do a workout under the sun.

### MASSAGE

Aya House has a fully equipped massage studio and we would be happy to arrange a masseur. Please let us know ahead of time so we can guarantee a booking.

#### BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

Indulge in an hour long naked massage? Whether you are tense, stressed, tired or simply want to pamper yourself, treat yourself to a moment of relaxation with a relaxing massage or a sports massage. Lie down comfortably, close your eyes, let go and enjoy this sensory journey.

NAKED ESSENTIAL MASSAGE 1 hour - 90€

**“Steer clear of tourist traps and focus on the green and wild places of your destination”**



# I'm in! What's the damage?



## Single Occupancy

Ideal for solo travelers requiring maximum privacy.

**SINGLE BED** with your own dedicated bathroom .  
€850 per person (Limited availability)

## Double Occupancy

**SUPER KING BED** with your own dedicated bathroom.  
€800 per person

## Group Occupancy

Cheapest option if you don't mind to share your room and bed.  
These are the most spacious rooms, with two super king-sized beds,  
comfortably sleeping up to four men. Ideal option for two couples or 3 -4 close friends.

**2 x SUPER KING BEDS** Private bathroom: en-suite.

€750 per person



## Easily extend your stay

**\*MAKE IT A 7 NIGHT STAY?**

Add 2 nights 6-7 May for only 70 euro per room /night (self catering).

**\*\*MAKE IT A 9 NIGHT STAY?**

Add 2 nights 5-7 May for only 70 euro per room /night (self catering).

**BOOK NOW BEFORE 15 MARCH 2024  
AND RECEIVE A 10% DISCOUNT**

e-mail, [neil@modernmuseum.co.za](mailto:neil@modernmuseum.co.za)

# FAQ

## **Should we hire a car?**

YES! If you wish to be totally independent, a hire car is a very good idea. It means you will be able to come and go at your own pace and even explore the rest of the island. There is plenty of parking available at Aya House.

## **Is the food all vegan or vegetarian?**

The food is all vegetarian (meaning we use dairy and eggs). However, for breakfast, there will be a selection of local cured meats but served separately. Please indicate if you have any allergies. If you have any severe food allergies, we will not be able to accommodate you as the kitchen is not able to separate food items.

## **Are all the guests gay?**

Yes. It's a gay men's retreat.

## **What should I bring?**

Sunscreen, flip-flops, a hat, sunglasses, a good book, beach sarong, swimwear. This is a summer holiday.

## **What do taxis cost?**

From Maspalomas, around €14-18. From the airport: €55/60 (regular daytime fee).

## **Can I ask for a refund?**

A full refund is available 21 days ahead of the retreat begins.

A 75% refund is available 14 days before the retreat begins.

No refund is possible if you cancel 14 days before the retreat begins.

## **What about the weather?**

Expect 22°C - 24°C daytime maximum temperatures in the shade with an average of 9 hours of sunshine per day. However, we cannot guarantee good weather and do not accept any responsibility for any peculiar weather patterns.

## **Is this a nudist retreat?**

Feel free to tan naturally on any of the sun terraces. We just ask that you wear clothes to breakfast and dinner :-)

## **Is Aya House a party house?**

No. Aya House is a social retreat. You can party hard in numerous places away from the finca. (Remember to respect the other guests when you return home.)

## **Health and safety?**

Aya House is a registered business and is covered by civil liability insurance. Any sort of drug or alcohol intoxication is not permitted. Aya House is not a party house. Maspalomas Public Health Centre is less than 8 km away from Aya House. All guests are required to declare any respiratory or contagious disease before the event starts, so we can take appropriate hygienic measures.

## **Can I attend the retreat alone, or should I come with a friend or partner?**

Absolutely! Many attendees come solo, and our retreat is a great place to make new connections and forge friendships.

## **Is there a dress code for the retreat?**

While there's no strict dress code, feel free to express yourself in a way that makes you comfortable. You may want to bring festive attire for Pride Month events.

## **Can we add on additional days before and/or after the retreat?**

On request, we can add on days before and/or after the retreat. Aya House then reverts to its room-only basis, although you are welcome to use the kitchen for self-catering. Additional nights cost 50 euros per person per night.

Your tribe is waiting to welcome you,  
to a place where the fiesta never ends, and the love is  
as warm as a Spanish sunrise



**Follow us on @aya.house.events  
For bookings and more info  
e-mail, [neil@modernmuseum.co.za](mailto:neil@modernmuseum.co.za)**