



Lonely Planet's Best in Travel 2021 **- Couple of Men receives Diversity & Inclusivity Award -**

NEW YORK - AMSTERDAM (Nov. 17, 2020) – Global travel authority Lonely Planet - one of the world's largest travel book publishers - has announced the finalists of the annual Best in Travel Awards for the year 2021. The Amsterdam-based LGBTQ+ travel blog Couple of Men is singled out as one of the individuals that are transforming the travel industry. Karl Krause and Daan Colijn are therefore receiving the award in the category LGBTQ+ Storyteller 2021.

This year, the Best in Travel list has been refocused to showcase transformative travel, which encourages travelers to find authentic and mindful moments during their journeys. In 2021, Lonely Planet is looking at the important changes taking place globally, from sustainability to diversity, and shining a light on the individuals shaping the future of travel

Couple of Men's concept convinces Lonely Planet

The candidates for the Best in Travel awards are based on Lonely Planet's community of globe-traveling experts and staff editors to suggest picks from their own experiences. The focus was set especially on interesting voices on blogs and on social media platforms that are recognized as a unique storytelling service.

"By sharing their lives and providing insight on LGBTIQ-friendly travel destinations, Couple of Men founders Karl Krause and Daan Colijn aim to inspire and motivate gay travelers as well as those struggling with their gender identity or sexual orientation." - Lonely Planet

The Amsterdam-based LGBTQ+ travel blog Couple of Men provides travel impressions as well as the support of local communities and safety advice for LGBTQ+ travelers. A combination of value that seems to have convinced Lonely Planet in choosing them as their pick for the award in 2021:

"With engaging content and fabulous photography, the blog is considered a mine of information on LGBTIQ+ destinations, accommodation, restaurants, bars, activities, and excursions. Now based in Amsterdam, Karl and Daan's joyful, loving relationship shines through each post, and they share personal aspects of their lives with their followers, including the lovely story of Karl becoming a (gay) dad to his son and daughter. In doing so, they aim to reach out to anyone struggling with their gender identity or sexual orientation." - Lonely Planet

With over a million visitors to date on their blog and tens of thousands of followers across their social media accounts, the gay couple travel blog Couple of Men also strives to educate the travel industry as LGBTIQ+ advocates and ambassadors.

“We think the travel industry should be more inclusive by directing its focus on the diversity of our community. Just putting LGBTQ+ in front of your gay-male-oriented hotel/cruise/trip doesn't mean you are actually catering to the needs and wishes of a wider community. We and our readers would like to see a broader field of trips, hotels, and activities that cater to different niches and are open to anybody who feels they are part of that community.” - Couple of Men.

Sustainability, Community, Diversity - The three pillars reflecting a new world of travel

For the past 10 years, Lonely Planet has held its Best in Travel awards every Autumn listing the countries, regions, and cities that are recommended as travel destinations for the following year. So far, the campaign has been launched as a book and also an online digital campaign with a reach of millions around the globe. But Travel is always changing.

“Ten of this year’s awards are specifically for people and places who have excelled in diversity, including awards for cultural diversity, inclusive storytelling, underexplored history, native food, inclusive tours, and accessible destinations.” - Lonely Planet.

Best in Travel 2021 champions people who make travel a force for good, all the more essential in a year when COVID-19 has disrupted and deprioritized travel. Best in Travel 2021 reflects how travel contributes to sustainability, community, and inclusivity and ponders how we can best explore the world responsibly. Rather than delivering a destination bucket list, Lonely Planet focused on how people travel now: outdoors; in family groups; purposefully; with careful attention to the communities they will explore.



For more information about the LGBTQ+ Storyteller Award winner, go to [Couple of Men](#) and read more about their story [here](#). For press releases, press photos, and quotes, please visit our [press media](#) page or social media accounts with @CoupleofMen. Media Contact: Karl Krause. Email: karl@coupleofmen.com. Telephone: +31 623 555 950.

For more information on the **Lonely Planet** Best in Travel 2021 list, go to www.lonelyplanet.com/best-in-travel. Award destinations can also be explored with Lonely Planet’s Guides app for free and on social media channels via #BestInTravel. Media Contact: TURNER. Email: lonelyplanet@turnerpr.com. Telephone: +1 (212) 889 1700.