

# TOGA PARTY INTERNATIONAL BEAR WEEKEND F.A.Q.

All you ever wanted to know about the bear weekend but you didn't dare ask

## How was the TOGA PARTY INTERNATIONAL BEAR WEEKEND born ?

TOGA PARTY INTERNATIONAL BEAR WEEKEND was born 3 years ago to deepen the friendship and the collaboration between EPICENTRO URSINO ROMANO with SBQR.com; the most active bear realities on the Roman and Italian ground. Being SBQR.com based on a work about bear contents strongly characterised by an ironical kitsch approach - especially in terms of graphix and linguistic games - a logical connection was very fast and the idea of a Bear Toga Party came to light. The first party was an immediate success so that it quickly turned into a BearWeekend, a magnet for 300 bears coming from all over the world trying to experiment with forms and languages - There is no Mr. Bear Election and the usual deadly Bear Entertainments but roman costumes-themed beardance parties with a special attention to low prices .

## When are the parties and where are the venues of the Event?

The Event is always happening around the first of May which is an important pagan celebration here in Italy : the Labor Day. The coupons for free entries and reductions will be given at the entrance of every party.

## Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> April

### URSUS BEAR EXHIBITION

05:30 "Caffe' Bohemien" Via Degli Zingari 36, vicino near Via Cavour (metro stop Cavour)

During all the days of the bear weekend you can visit "URSUS", the Bear Exhibition of illustrations made by Simone Borselli the cover artist of the flyer. He is an illustrator and animator living in Florence and he can be considered, with Viste, the best of the Bear Artists in the already complex gotha of italian bear art. The vernissage will happen at 05:30 pm @ Caffe' Bohemien" in Via Degli Zingari 36, near Via Cavour (metro Cavour), a beautiful bear friendly literary café just in the centre of the ancient Rome. During the exhibition "Bear History" a beardocumentary about the Bear Identity in the U.S. will be shown. A great work made by Barth Cox. Do not mistake the exhibition with the works of DADE/URSUS, the U.S. bear artist. The exhibition will be open everyday from 11:00 pm till late night.

### AVEBEARS FUCK PARTY

SPHINX 11:00 pm; open end - Piazza Fanti 40 (metro stop Termini Station) [www.sphinx40.it](http://www.sphinx40.it) – arcigay card.

The Bear Weekend will start with its traditional ode to the god BACCHUS and to his Saturnalia @ the Sphinx, the club supporting and co-organizing the event with Epicentro Ursino Romano. For the occasion there will be an orgy of roasted piglets and red wine... voluptuous spirals of tasty flesh and god blood will wrap you in an ultimate bacchanal. The Sphinx is the hottest bar in the city and the host of EPICENTRO URSINO ROMANO and Leather Club Rome monthly parties. The club is in Piazza Fanti 40, 5 minutes walk from Termini Station and it is just in front of the famous Roman Acquarium monument. The club is going to open @ 11:00 pm and will go on until morning. The ArciGay Card is required and you can buy it directly there.

## FRIDAY 30<sup>th</sup> April

### THERMAS BEARS

BearSauna from 03:00 to 10:30 - Via Villari 3 Metro stop Manzoni) – Arcigay card required

The hottest and most turbulent bearsauna of the year in the most romanic contest in terms of interiors. The “Mediterraneo” is the roman ursine bearsauna in neoclassic style, clean and hot !!!! with a huge whirlpool (last years all the bears dived at the same time flooding the street outside the sauna) steambath, finnish sauna, relax rooms, labirinths, dark rooms, video rooms, and cheap nice low cost bar. The bear sauna in Rome placed in Via Villari 3, a small street at the end of Via Merulana, just before the traffic light that defines the crossroad with Via Labicana, the big street that arrives to the Colosseum. Towels and sleepers will be given at the entrance and are included in the price. THERMAS BEARS party is going to open its doors @ 03:00 pm and is going to close around 10:30 pm . The admittance price is 11 euro (excluding the required arcigay card) with the ticket that we are going to distribute @ the entrance of the Sphinx.

### BEARWWW.COM INTERNATIONAL OFF LINE PARTY ( [www.bearwww.com](http://www.bearwww.com))

Balic Lounge Bar - Via Degli Aurunci 35 (San Lorenzo Area) - From 10:00 pm to 03:00 am.

In the continuous upcoming of technological innovations, especially concerning php programming for websites, we discover a small but impressive social relationship revolution especially for those virtual inter-spaces completely dedicated to bears contents and communications. This is the case of the biggest, most important and most polarizing web site of them all : BEARWWW.COM . The website started by his webmaster Fred, a Paris based Woofer who tried to provide a service of social interaction for bears and their lovers in its friendly webframe, giving the possibility to all the supporters to have their own profile with text, pictures and the possibility of interaction between each others. Shortly after its debut subscriptions from all over the world boomed causing economical difficulties in terms of memory of the site. Well we are here to support the website organizing the most amazing and funny of the off line meetings, especially following that invisible line with the first bearwww.com meeting happened this december in Cologne during the BearPride. **The Meeting will be free for all the bears, cubs, chubs, daddies, chasers and admirers handing in the print-out of their own bearwww profile. IMPORTANT: profile without faces won't be accepted. Otherwise the entrance will cost 5 euro to support the expenses.** It will be a beardance party starting @ 10:pm @ @ BALIC Lounge in Via Degli Aurunci 35, San Lorenzo area . This is a gay friendly big club who already has gay parties happening every Thursday dedicated to black music called Black Betty ([www.blackbetty.it](http://www.blackbetty.it)) . San Lorenzo is a historical university area full of different ethnics, cultures, clubs, bars and restaurants. It is placed just at the back of Termini train station and it is easy reachable even on foot from there. The party will start @ 10:00 pm and finishes @ 03:00 am.

### BEAR AFTERHOURS from 02:30 a.m. open end

SPHINX - Piazza Fanti 40 (metro stop Termini Station) [www.sphinx40.it](http://www.sphinx40.it) – arcigay card required

To give a hot and cuddly conclusion to the 30<sup>th</sup> April night we thought to give all the bears in love the possibility to express their excitation with a free entry to the Sphinx which is in Piazza Fanti 40. The entry will be free after 02:30 until morning with the coupon that will be distributed @ the entrance of the BEARWWW.COM INTERNATIONAL OFF LINE MEETING. We remember that The Sphinx needs the Arcigay card to get in.

## Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> May

We remind you that Saturday the first of may will be Labor day in Rome and there shall be traffic problems around San Giovanni square due to the annual trade unions organized big free concert. There shall even be problems with the public transportation.

### IMPERIAL BEAR TOUR

Meeting point 03:00 pm @ Largo Ricci, gardens side @ the beginning of Via Cavour

A free bear tour through the hidden times spaces of the roman empire. Let's feel the richness and the decadence of the aeternal city through its ruins. Come and feel the power and the tragedy of the mass social rites based on fighting and blood between gladiators and lions. Let's feel the craziness and power paranoias of the dangerous emperors Nero, Caligula and Eliogabalo. Come to feel the latin daily life of the rich senators with their slaves, the poor paterfamilias and enjoy their cult of masculinity. Meeting point 03:00 pm @ Largo Ricci, garden side at the beginning of Via Cavour.

### IN URSO VERITAS - BEAR TOGA PARTY

@ Frutta & Verdura – from 10:00 pm to 03:00 am - Via Placido Zurla 66 – 70 Porta Maggiore - Casilina area) - ArciGay Card required

Here is the most excellent moment of the whole Bear Weekend: the most wanted, infamous, hot, funny, exhilarating BEAR TOGA PARTY. As you might have seen there are 2 different prices for the entrance: this is a choice to induce you to be the real protagonist of the party getting involved in the front line of it with your own Toga. You ARE the party so leave your flannel shirts and baseball caps in the hotel closet just for one night, , make your own toga, get naked and move your big furry ass @ the sound of our bear dj's, get deep into it and get laid with us. Its about fun, bears, not a catwalk, made by who stereotypes better the blue collar aesthetics. This is **A BEARTOGAPARTY FOR BEARS CHUBS DADS CHASERS AND ADMIRERS IN TOGA**; if you don't want to wear the toga we are going to tolerate you even if you are missing the point of the whole thing. For the last minute toga bears we are having around 50 togas to give, that does not mean we can afford to distribute togas to every man attending the party. Please do it yourself: it is funny, cheap and it will give you much satisfaction when the toga will fall down while dancing or getting lost in some dark corner of the club. For more informations about what are togas and how to make them check

[http://www.novaroma.org/via\\_romana/reenactments/toga.html](http://www.novaroma.org/via_romana/reenactments/toga.html)

<http://www.ron-turner.com/howtomakeatoga.html>

[http://www.ukans.edu/history/index/europe/ancient\\_rome/E/Roman/Texts/secondary/SMIGRA\\*/Toga.html](http://www.ukans.edu/history/index/europe/ancient_rome/E/Roman/Texts/secondary/SMIGRA*/Toga.html)

<http://julilla.tripod.com/toga.htm>

in order to see the toga bears and admirers of the TOGA PARTY 2003 check:

[www.sbqr.com](http://www.sbqr.com)

the party is in FRUTTA & VERDURA CLUB, located in Via Placido Zurla 66 –70 at the beginning of Casilina Street, very near to Porta Maggiore Square, one of the main squares connected to Termini Station. The location has 2 levels, a nice dancefloor, rooms, dark rooms, dungeons, and a chill out area. The Arcigay card is requested to get in. The Party will start @ 22:00 and finish @ 03:00.

### BEAR AFTERHOURS

from 02:30 a.m. open end - SPHINX - Piazza Fanti 40 (metro stop Termini Station) [www.sphinx40.it](http://www.sphinx40.it)  
– arcigay card required

For all the men who still feel hot like hell and want to keep the night going we give the possibility to express their excitement with a free entry to the Sphinx, Piazza Fanti 40. The entry will be free after 02:30 until morning with the coupon that will be distributed @ the entrance of the BEAR TOGA PARTY. We remind you that the Sphinx needs the arcigay Card to get in.

## Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> May

### FAREWELL NIGHT BEAR SAUNA

from 09:00 pm until 06:00 am. Via Aureliana 40 (Metro Stop – Repubblica) <http://www.gaysauna.it/>

Relaxing Bear Sauna for burning farewells in the Europa Multi Club, the hugest of roman saunas located in Via Aureliana 40, Just at the back of Piazza Della Repubblica, near Termini Station . More than 1000 msq of sauna megawirlpools , Water falls, cabins, videos, gyms, bars, dark rooms on 3 levels. The farewell bearsauna starts @ 09:00 pm. And goes on until 6.00 in the morning. The price is 12 euro with the coupon discount given during the Bear Toga Party. Check more infos about the sauna @ <http://www.gaysauna.it/>

### Where are you sleeping?

If you still don't know where to sleep, check <http://www.sbqr.com/guida/hotelroma.htm> with our list of bear and gay friendly b'n'b' and hotels in Rome. If you want to be hosted by hot big beautiful roman bears give it a try with an ad on [www.sbqr.com](http://www.sbqr.com) .

### Where to eat?

Besides the countless Roman osterias and pizzerias that you will obviously find in every corner, there is a very funny gay friendly cheap price Chinese restaurant we would like to recommend you. It is called " La Citta' in fiore" in Via Cavour 269, the big historical street linking Piazza Santa Maria Maggiore to the Colosseum. It is also known as GIADA's Restaurant, from the name of the owner, a Big chinese lady who behave like a bear hugging almost every client. You can eat with 8 euro and the food quality is good.

### ARCIGAY cards, Why?

As you might know, gay social life in Italy is afflicted by these structures called ARCIGAY. These structures, born in the 70's to defend gay culture in Italy against the homophobic practices of istitutional repression, have now become gay power lobbies. Meaning that the 90% of clubs and bar where homosexuals meet and have fun is under their affiliations: to enter them you have to be a member, buying their card valid for their circuit all over Italy. EPICENTRO URSINO ROMANO always tends to organize his parties with the least social control and political/economical speculation but is forced to compromise with this kind of structures, as they "cover" most gay bars in Italy. The Frutta e Verdura, the Sphinx, the Sauna Mediterraneo and Europa Multi Club are Arcigay affiliated. Membership cards can be bought in any of the affiliated structures (in this case Sphinx, Sauna Mediterraneo, Sauna Europa Multiclub). It is very very important always to bring Id. cards or Passports with you to do the cards. more infos @ [www.arcigay.it](http://www.arcigay.it)

EPICENTRO URSINO ROMANO – IN URSO VERITAS – [www.epicentroursino.com](http://www.epicentroursino.com)