

# Prague Pride 2025: A Fierce Cocktail of Queer Fun and Activism for a Time That Desperately Needs It

## Visit Pride in the Easternmost Stronghold of Western Values

LGBT+ rights are being increasingly restricted around the world, which is why it's especially important this year to show support by attending not just one, but ideally multiple Pride events organized in different countries. Politicians need to see that equality and diversity remain core values for the majority of Europeans. Prague Pride will join the global line-up for the 15th time this summer with a bold week full of queer culture, activism, and entertainment. Mark your calendars: this year's Prague Pride happens a week earlier than usual—from July 28 to August 3, 2025.

This year's 15th edition of Prague Pride will be joyful yet defiant celebration of equality—something still not granted to queer people in the Czech Republic. LGBT+ people across Central Europe face similar challenges. The situation is even more dire in Slovakia, where the Constitution defines marriage strictly as a union between a man and a woman. In Poland, the last remaining “LGBT-free zone” declared by the previous Law and Justice government has only recently been abolished. Meanwhile, the actions of the Hungarian government toward LGBT+ people continue to provoke global outrage. Prague Pride will therefore call attention to the countries whose governments, under the guise of protecting children and families, are laying the groundwork for restricting the fundamental rights and freedoms of all their citizens. As the social atmosphere shifts, it becomes all the more necessary to infuse the celebration of love and joy with LGBT+ activism and civic responsibility. The human rights we are fortunate to have must be nurtured and vigilantly defended.

The 2025 theme is “**Where Is My Home?**”, a line from the Czech national anthem that now carries deep meaning for queer people. The Swedish Minister for International Development recently invited Hungarian gays to find refuge in Sweden as their prime minister cracks down on LGBT+ rights. Many people are now asking themselves: when is the right time to leave? How can you keep living in a family, neighborhood, or country that doesn't welcome you? The Czech Republic is still doing relatively well—but it still lacks marriage equality, and Parliament continues to delay passing a dignified law that would remove forced sterilization as a condition for legal gender recognition. This autumn's parliamentary elections could make things significantly worse. This year's Pride might be the final party before the lights go out.

## A Summer Weekend to Remember in Prague

If you arrive on Friday, jump straight into the festival vibe. The iconic Pride Village on Střelecký Island kicks off the weekend with an all-day Friday program leading up to the big Saturday parade. Entertainment on the island runs until 10 PM, then moves underground to the Pride Club tucked into the island's southern tip.

If you prefer a slower start, a delicious dinner in Prague's historic center might be just the ticket. The festival website recommends queer-welcoming restaurants where the service is top-notch and the vibes are just right. Follow that with a romantic evening walk along the **Rainbow Walk**, a self-guided route connecting key festival venues and historic queer landmarks. All you need is your phone and a desire to explore at your own pace. Or head to the gorgeous Kinský Garden, where Pride Café—a festival venue designed for English-speaking visitors—offers a glam setting with music performances, lectures and talks, and even a flea market. As night falls, dive into one of the many Friday Pride night

parties catering to the gay crowd, lesbians & queer femmes, and the full rainbow spectrum including allies.

### **The Parade Through the Historic Heart of the City**

Saturday's Pride Parade marches along a stunning route we've secured by ditching combustion engine floats. Last year, 60,000 people joined the Parade, and we expect even more this time—showing that diversity and truth still matter. The Parade starts at Wenceslas Square and continues through Celetná Street, the Old Town Square, and the boutique-lined Pařížská Street. DJs will light up the Sky Stages, and the Sky Bridge on Na Příkopě will rain down music and rainbow balloons. After climbing the steps to Letná Park, a wide-open space awaits: **Pride Park**, perfect for an afternoon of music, picnicking, and chance encounters. For a more luxe experience, head to the VIP zone with cozy chairs, parasols, fresh and clean toilets, and prosecco instead of beer in a plastic cup. VIP tickets are available on the festival website.

Several official afterparties will kick off just before midnight on Saturday. The one and only official afterparty, **"Fever"**, hosted by the Prague Pride team, will bring disco vibes to the dancefloor. Fans of techno can head to **"Magion 3"** for a night of deep beats and pulsating energy. And for lesbians, the signature party **"Freedom Night"** promises a fabulous and empowering celebration.

### **Come Enjoy Queer Summer in Prague**

This year's festival features over 200 events, many accessible to English speakers. And hey—music, dance, and sports are their own universal languages! Sign up with a five-person team for the international **Friends Football Cup**, a fabulous mini soccer tournament.

There's more to see beyond the Pride program. While wandering through the historic city center, visit the newly reopened **Savarin Palace**, now home to a museum celebrating Czech Art Nouveau legend Alfons Mucha. Or check out the recently reopened historic **St. Wenceslas Vineyard** at Prague Castle, offering beautiful walks, wine tastings, and breathtaking panoramic views perfect for selfies.

The full Prague Pride 2025 program goes live in late June at <https://festival.praguepride.com/en>, where you'll also find recommendations for queer-friendly restaurants, accommodations, and travel tips for navigating Prague. Block the dates now—we can't wait to see you in Prague!

The festival is under the auspices of:

- **Mgr. Markéta Pekarová Adamová**, Speaker of the Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic
- **Mgr. Martin Baxa**, Minister of Culture
- **Jan Lipavský**, Minister of Foreign Affairs
- **Mgr. Bc. Vít Rakušan**, First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of the Interior
- **Mgr. Martin Dvořák**, Minister for European Affairs
- **Mgr. Klára Šimáčková Laurenčíková**, Government Commissioner for Human Rights
- **Assoc. Prof. MUDr. Bohuslav Svoboda, CSc.**, Mayor of the Capital City of Prague
- **MgA. Hana Třeštíková**, Deputy Mayor of Prague 7 District

