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## The Prague Pride Festival is Coming Out on August 2nd, 2021.

It might sound surprising, but after having dealt with a year of the pandemic, the Prague Pride Festival is back and there is so much to look forward to! This year we will focus on the specifics of *coming out* and all of its angles through a variety of activities and events like talk shows, debates, concerts, queer art exhibitions, and picnics - all of that during a rainbow week from the 2nd to the 8th of August 2021.

Even though we still have to cope with the COVID-19 pandemic, we are looking forward to welcoming you back at this year's rainbow festival. We have to follow the current restrictions and that means we will have to do without a parade at the moment. *"We are doing everything we can to organize an event that provides a safe and happy place, where anyone can be themselves."* says Festival Director Tom Bílý.

Our goal is to support as many LGBT+ people and create for them a safe environment. As the [FRA](#) study shows, only 18% of Czech LGBT+ people are open about their identity along with 9% in Slovakia and 7% in Poland in comparison to 43% in the Netherlands, 32% in Germany, and 32% in the UK. We aim to bring people together from our neighbouring countries and provide them with strength and support, while also attracting LGBT+ visitors and their allies from the rest of the EU.

*"Although the quality of life of LGBT+ people in the Czech republic continuously improves, our mission remains to provide a safe space, where anyone can be themselves. It might be even more important for people coming from Hungary, Slovakia, Poland or other countries. At the Prague Pride festival, they can experience a sense of belonging, freedom, and happiness."* adds Tomáš Bílý.

### Go get some rainbow air!

All of us know that the virus does not cope well outdoors, which is why we have prepared even more outdoor activities than usual! For the first week of August, you can come to the Pride Village at Sřtelecký Ostrov, where there will be drag performers, concerts, picnics and more! You can also look forward to an opening concert on the 2nd of August, Drag Queen Night on the 3rd, and even more events throughout the rest of the week such as sports activities, DJs, standups, and dance performances.

### Pride on your screens.

Our festival is open to anyone and most of our activities are entry free. However, since not everyone would be able to attend, we have prepared an online programme as well! We will be broadcasting the Pride Live Stream with some awesome hosts on Saturday and online debates and exciting workshops throughout the week. We are so excited to be able to still connect with you even if you can't be there in person through our various social media platforms!

## **Prague Pride and Art.**

There are a numerous amount of talented queer artists and we are happy to help them shine even more this year! We will be hosting several music, dance and theatre performances as well as art exhibitions. You will be able to see all this wonderful art and talent at Pride House at Kasárna Karlín or other remote locations (TBA).

## **Get to know the queers.**

Along with all the thrilling activities and events, there are also plenty of queer theories and topics that need to be discussed. We will debate with professionals about current issues, as well as explore the impact and influence of queer history. Before the autumn elections, we will debate with politicians about their views on equal marriage and introduce the document about the path of the law “Zákon lásky”. We will organise workshops with professionals about current issues of hate crime, hate speech, and domestic violence while continuing to explore LGBT+ history. We will also focus on the specifics of coming out of people from a variety of backgrounds, while also highlighting the specifics of non-binary, transgender and all other queer people. Those events will take place at both the Pride House and Pride Life venues.

## **Our Venues:**

### **Pride Village**

*Střelecký ostrov*  
110 00, Praha 1

### **Pride House**

*Kasárna Karlín*  
Prvního pluku 20/2,  
186 00 Karlín

### **Pride Life**

*Život 90*  
Karoliny Světlé 286/18,  
110 00 Staré Město

## **+ Online stream on:**

[Facebook](#), [YouTube](#)

## **About the Prague Pride Festival**

The Prague Pride festival takes place every year in August, dating back to 2011. It was the initial reason for the creation of the Prague Pride association by Czech LGBT activists and long-term ex-pats in Prague. Nowadays, it is one of the biggest cultural events in the Czech Republic. The festival lasts a week and regularly presents over 100 cultural and social activities, public discussions, debates, sports events, and spiritual encounters. It has brought Prague significant foreign guests such as LGBT activist Omar Sharif Jr., the singer Conchita Wurst, the former Icelandic PM Jóhanna Sigurðardóttir, the chairperson of the Dutch police group “Pink in Blue”, Ellie Lust, and the first transgender person ever elected in a parliament in Europe, Italian politician Vladimir Luxuria. In 2019, the Mayor of Prague Zdeněk Hřib officially hung the rainbow flag on the City Hall building, for the first time in history. From 2020, the festival director is Tomáš Bílý.

Photographs available here: <https://we.tl/t-xvDWJEhkuO>

Interviews available upon request.

## **Contact:**

### **Daniel Zikmund,**

PR & Communications Manager

+420 774 084 397

[daniel.zikmund@praguepride.com](mailto:daniel.zikmund@praguepride.com)