



FINSBURY SQUARE



# Celebrating LGBTQ+ Pride Month

## June 2024

It's time for colours, celebration, & diversity!  
At 10 Finsbury Square, we are celebrating  
Pride; a month of people coming together  
to recognise how far LGBTQ+ rights have  
come and advocate for the continued  
support for equality and acceptance  
of the LGBTQ+ community.



Get Ready for  
**PRIDE**  
**IN LONDON**  
29.06.2024

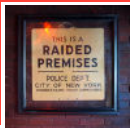


1969

# Stonewall Uprising, New York

In the USA, during the 1960s, homosexuality was a criminal offence. LGBTQ+ people could not openly exist without the constant threat of brutality and harassment by law enforcement and general society. Very few spaces were safe for trans and gay people to exist, so establishments like Stonewall Inn, although not gay-owned, were pivotal within the LGBTQ+ community for free expression. It catered to an assortment of patrons, but it was known to be popular with the poorest and most marginalized people in the gay community: drag queens, sex workers, representatives of a newly self-aware transgender community, effeminate men, and homeless youth.

On 28 June 1969 at 1:20 am, nine police officers stormed the Stonewall Inn on Christopher Street, Manhattan and aggressively searched the bar's patrons. They demanded identification and arrested anyone suspected of being gay or dressing 'illegally'. Police raids on gay bars during this time were frequent and not unusual, but on this night the patrons did not respond with the expected



The 'Raided Premises' Signage of the Stonewall Inn



compliance and instead, the growing crowd fought back. This rebellion led to what is known as the Stonewall Uprising or Rebellion – six consecutive nights of protests by the gay residents of Greenwich Village against the New York City Police. The actions of this rebellion changed the face of gay and lesbian activism in the United States, which led to weeks and months of politically active social groups campaigning for the rights of gay people and establishing places for gays and lesbians to be open about their sexual orientation without fear of being arrested.

# 1970

## Christopher Street Liberation Day, New York City

On the first anniversary of the Stonewall Uprising, the first Gay Pride March was held in New York City. The very first U.S. Gay Pride Week and March was meant to give the community a chance to gather together to, "...commemorate the Christopher Street Uprisings of last summer in which thousands of homosexuals went to the streets to demonstrate against centuries of abuse....from government hostility to employment and housing discrimination, Mafia control of Gay bars, and anti-Homosexual laws" (Christopher Street Liberation Day Committee Fliers, Franklin Kameny Papers).

Emboldened with visibility and growing clout, gay activists began to push for legal protections.



In 1974 a measure was introduced in the New York City Council banning discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. It took many decades of social justice activity for political change to happen. Eventually, the measure was finally adopted in 1986.

BE PROUD OF WHO YOU ARE  
NO MATTER WHO YOU LOVE

# 52 years of Pride

1972

## First Gay Pride March, UK

In commemoration of the Stonewall Uprising and Christopher St Liberation Day, on 1 July 1972 a 'carnival parade' of protest organised by The London Gay Liberation Front (GLE) was held from Hyde Park to Trafalgar Square, London. The GLE was a powerful political organisation that fought for lesbian and gay equality.

In the UK, homosexuality had been partially decriminalised by the Sexual Offences Act 1967 a few years earlier. Yet, thousands of people continued to be persecuted. There had been many smaller-scale protests about sexual inequalities; but the 1972 march was the first to be formally billed as 'Gay Pride' in a UK city. Many gay rights organisations took part, including the Campaign for Homosexual Equality (CHE), with an estimated 2,000 attendees at this heavily policed event.

Because same-sex relationships were still largely viewed as morally and criminally incorrect in the UK, the march was part of a week-long



First Gay Pride, London 1972



Float in an early Gay Pride March

demonstration for London Pride, which involved many political activities, such as 'think-ins', Gay Weeks, and 'kiss-ins'. Peter Tatchell, one of the organisers, said: "Our aim was to show that we were proud, not ashamed. Determined to come out of the shadows and stand up for our rights, we wanted to make ourselves visible and demand LGBT liberation."

## Over 180 Prides taking place across the UK!

2024

## London Pride

Pride in London celebrates the diversity of the LGBT+ communities with the colourful Pride in London Parade, as well as free festivity events that take place in Trafalgar Square. This event brings together people of all genders, ethnicities, sexualities, and races.

One of the longest-running pride festivals in the country and largest, Pride in London boasts an estimated 30,000 participants and attracts an estimated 1.5 million visitors.



Pride London 2022

The festival's events and exact location within London vary every year, however, the parade is the only annual event to close London's iconic Oxford Street.

“The rainbow flag is a symbol of freedom and liberation that we made for ourselves.”

Gilbert Baker

1978

## Gilbert Baker's Rainbow Flag

While at the Winterland Ballroom, an iconic music venue in San Francisco, Gilbert Baker, artist, designer and activist, was inspired by the vibrancy of makeup and fashions worn by fellow patrons as they all danced together. He described the experience as "a swirl of colour and light. It was like a rainbow." Baker collaborated with his friend Lynn Segerblom (also known as Faerie Argyle Rainbow) to design the rainbow-striped flag with eight colours: Hot Pink – Sex, Red – Life, Orange – Healing, Yellow – Sunlight, Green – Nature, Turquoise – Magic, Blue – Serenity and Violet – Spirit.

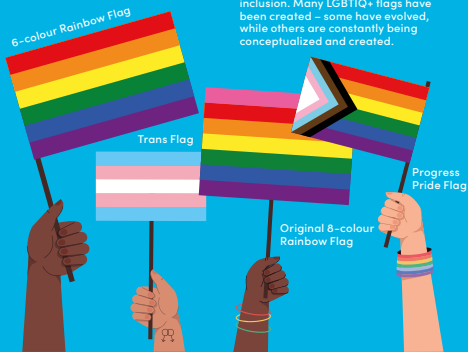
The flag colours adapted over the years due to fabric supply and logistics. By 1979, the iconic rainbow flag was adapted to the six-colour flag that is widely celebrated today: red, orange, yellow, green, blue, and violet.

Many LGBTIQ+ flags have been created - some have evolved, while others are constantly being conceptualized and created.

2018

## Daniel Quasar's Progress Pride Flag

Created in 2018 by nonbinary artist Daniel Quasar, the Progress Pride flag is based on the iconic 1978 rainbow flag. With stripes of black and brown to represent marginalized LGBTIQ+ people of colour and the triad of blue, pink, and white from the trans flag, the design represents diversity and inclusion. Many LGBTIQ+ flags have been created - some have evolved, while others are constantly being conceptualized and created.





Pride March, London 2012



Christopher Street Day, Hamburg, Germany



Orgão, Rio de Janeiro 2010



Rome



Pride NYC



Cuba Rex



Pride in London



Pride Ball, India



LGBO Pride march, Toronto

Pride is celebrated in over 100 countries worldwide.



Bydgoszcz, Poland



Pride March, Santiago 2010



Mexico City



San Francisco Pride Parade 2012



London Pride Parade 2010



Latvia Pride



Marche des orges, Centre-Brabant, Brussels 2010



Pride Tallinn



Tallinn, Tallinn 2012



Christopher Street Day, Hamburg, Germany



Parade Pride, Portugal 2012



Pride Estonia 2010



Portland, Maine



Pride San Francisco



Pride Parade Romania



Cuba, Argentina



Romanian Pride Celebrations



Miami Pride Parade 2012



Berlin Pride Parade 2012



Pride NYC



Pride in London



Pride Parade Calgary, Alberta 2010



Liberty - Day Parade in Edinburgh 2012



Pride Berlin 2010



Pride Romania 2012



Somdech Pride, Thailand



Pride Bangkok, Thailand



Budapest Pride, Hungary 2012



"I KNOW YOU CAN'T  
LIVE ON HOPE ALONE;  
BUT WITHOUT HOPE, LIFE  
IS NOT WORTH LIVING. SO  
YOU, AND YOU AND YOU:  
YOU GOT TO GIVE THEM  
HOPE; YOU GOT TO GIVE  
THEM HOPE"

- Harvey Milk  
(1930-1978)

Former American Politician and the first openly gay man to be elected to public office in California as a member of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors.

"NEVER STOP  
BELIEVING IN  
YOURSELF.  
YOU HAD IT  
ALL ALONG"

- Karamo Brown

"IT IS NOT OUR DIFFERENCES THAT  
DIVIDE US. IT IS OUR INABILITY TO  
RECOGNISE, ACCEPT AND CELEBRATE  
THOSE DIFFERENCES."

- Audre Lorde  
(1934-1992)

Poet, essayist, librarian, feminist, and equal rights activist. In 1979, Lorde was a prominent speaker at the National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights. She advocated on behalf of women, people of color, and the LGBTQ community.

# Support for the LGBTQ+ Community

For information about support groups and charities, check out some national organisations below

mind  
**OUT**

LGBTQ mental  
health service

**FFLAG**   
Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays

 stonewall  
housing

LONDON  
FRIEND 

LONDON  
LGB  
BT  
Q+ CENTRE

  
METRO  
Embracing Difference

NOT A PHASE

**akt**

 mosaic  
trust

 RAINBOW  
MIGRATION

 galop

LGBT FOUNDATION  
