



PRESS RELEASE
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Brussels Pride 2024 brought together 200 000 people

200 000 people took part in Brussels Pride – In the capital of Europe. Rainbow colours washed over the streets of the capital on Saturday 18 May. This year, the theme of the event was ‘Safe Everyday, Everywhere’, promoting a society where everyone can feel free and safe every day, everywhere. With the Pride Village, the Pride March, the Rainbow Village and the Mont des Arts stage, Brussels had everything it needed to celebrate diversity and love freely and safely.

Brussels Pride – in the capital of Europe is an opportunity for citizens' initiatives, intellectuals and activists to put forward the demands of the LGBTQIA+ community and stimulate political debate. The theme chosen **this year was ‘Safe Everyday, Everywhere’, promoted a society where everyone can feel free and safe, every day and everywhere.**

During **Pride Week**, Rainbow Corporate & Pride and other activist and artistic groups presented a rich programme in a dozen venues including the Grands Carmes and RainbowHouse Brussels. For ten days, the public were treated to concerts, screenings, performances and workshops. This year also saw a number of meetings with European delegations, including the ‘The Meaning of Prides’ conference, which highlighted other Prides in Europe and discussed the societal impact of this type of event. Several cultural centres in the Brussels-Capital Region also offered inclusive programming.

Following the **Pride March** - which took over the streets of the capital on Saturday - artists, DJs, both allies and members of the community, performed **on the Mont des Arts**. To mark the Belgian Presidency of the Council of the European Union, the **Pride March** was delighted to welcome the organisers of Europride in Thessaloniki. Several European delegations were also represented alongside the Europride float.

Whether at the stages or in partner cultural institutions, audiences were treated to a feast of LGBTQIA+ culture.

This year, to allow everyone to enjoy the event in the best possible conditions and in complete safety, **Brussels Pride** deployed a **Safer Pride system** throughout the day. In concrete terms, a **Safer Zone** was set up in a strategic location at the bottom of the Mont des Arts. This was a calm area staffed by **volunteers and professionals trained to provide counselling and psycho-social or medical support** if needed.

The festivities continued long into the night in various districts of the capital, from the **Mont des Arts stage to the Pride Village** via the street parties and performances at **Brussels Rainbow Village (in the Saint-Jacques district)** and the many parties celebrating the **richness and diversity of Brussels' queer scene.**



visit.brussels, who co-ordinated the event in collaboration with RainbowHouse and the Brussels Rainbow Village, is proud to promote Brussels as the LGBTQIA+ friendly capital of Europe. The city's free spirit is backed up by anti-discrimination legislation, and it **can pride itself on being the capital of the 2nd most LGBTQIA+ friendly country in Europe**, according to ILGA-Europe's (International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans and Intersex Association) 2023 rankings.

Brussels Pride – in the capital of Europe is an opportunity to celebrate diversity, but also defend and call for LGBTQIA+ rights to make society more inclusive and egalitarian. Beyond its festive nature, Brussels Pride is a time to assert the rights and demands of the community and to revive the political debate.

For our hundred or so partners, federations, associations and artists, it's more than just Pride, as they contribute throughout the year to the fight for a more open and tolerant society.

More information at brusselspride.eu

Photos: Photo library (Keyword: Pride)

Press contact: Noémie Wibail, Press Officer – n.wibail@visit.brussels - +32 490 49 43 84