# Greater Anglia launches Pride train and boosts support for Norwich Pride 2023



As Pride celebrations unfold across the nation, Greater Anglia is stepping up its support for the LGBTQIA+ community, notably as the main sponsor of Norwich Pride, set for Saturday, July 29. This initiative aligns with a broader commitment to inclusivity, as the company encourages attendees to utilise its rail services to attend numerous regional Pride events including Suffolk Pride, London Pride, and Southend Pride.

The tapestry of festivities this year is enriched by the visible efforts of Greater Anglia staff, who have adorned stations such as Sawbridgeworth, Stansted Mountfitchet, and Shenfield with a vibrant array of Pride flags and bunting. Lee Ivor Smith, Greater Anglia’s head of customer service south and executive sponsor of the Affinity Group, expressed his pride in seeing the company’s network celebrating acceptance: "It is lovely to travel around our network and see the Pride flags and bunting up to celebrate acceptance and continue to bring communities together throughout June, and in general as Pride events take place in the towns and cities across our network."

In an exciting addition to their festivities, Greater Anglia has unveiled a train featuring a special Pride livery that showcases both the Pride and transgender flags. This train operates on key routes including Ipswich to Felixstowe and Norwich to Cambridge, signifying the company’s commitment to diversity across its services. Martin Moran, the company’s commercial and customer services director, noted the enthusiasm among staff during such occasions, highlighting their passion for the events that unfold throughout the year.

However, while Greater Anglia is proactively promoting rail travel to Pride events, they have also issued warnings about potential engineering works that may disrupt services on selected routes. Passengers are encouraged to check schedules in advance to avoid any unexpected delays.

Beyond the railways, Norwich Pride this year is not only about celebration but also reflection. The Assembly House is hosting an art exhibition entitled 'Revolting', which runs from July 24 to 29, aiming to delve into the history of queer activism. This art showcase complements a variety of community events, such as talks, history walks, and badge-making sessions tailored to engage and explore Norfolk’s queer heritage.

The significance of Norwich Pride was palpable during last year's event, which marked the city’s 15th celebration and attracted thousands. The vibrant parade from City Hall to Chapelfield Gardens reinforced the importance of fostering inclusivity and solidarity, as local businesses joined in displaying Pride flags to show their support for the community. This sentiment continues to resonate with many, reflecting the ongoing struggle and triumphs of the LGBTQIA+ community.

As Greater Anglia fosters an environment of support and visibility, this year’s Pride events not only celebrate identity but also unite the community in shared experiences, showcasing the power of solidarity in advocating for a more inclusive society.

### 📌 Reference Map:

* Paragraph 1 – [[1]](https://www.edp24.co.uk/news/25211978.greater-anglia-says-people-travel-rail-pride-events/?ref=rss), [[2]](https://www.greateranglia.co.uk/about-us/news-desk/news-articles/greater-anglia-celebrates-pride)
* Paragraph 2 – [[1]](https://www.edp24.co.uk/news/25211978.greater-anglia-says-people-travel-rail-pride-events/?ref=rss), [[3]](https://www.greateranglia.co.uk/about-us/news-desk/news-articles/greater-anglia-unveils-regional-pride-train)
* Paragraph 3 – [[2]](https://www.greateranglia.co.uk/about-us/news-desk/news-articles/greater-anglia-celebrates-pride)
* Paragraph 4 – [[4]](https://www.assemblyhousetrust.org.uk/whats-on-calendar/norwich-pride-art-exhibition-1), [[5]](https://queernorfolk.com/pride-2023/)
* Paragraph 5 – [[6]](https://www.itv.com/news/anglia/2023-07-30/norwichs-15th-pride-event-what-it-means-to-people-in-the-city)
* Paragraph 6 – [[7]](https://www.norwichtheatre.org/norwich-theatre-celebrates-norwich-pride-with-drag-brunch-and-free-entertainment/)

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.edp24.co.uk/news/25211978.greater-anglia-says-people-travel-rail-pride-events/?ref=rss> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.greateranglia.co.uk/about-us/news-desk/news-articles/greater-anglia-celebrates-pride> - Greater Anglia is celebrating Pride by inviting attendees of regional Pride events to travel by train. The company operates services to areas hosting key events, including Suffolk Pride, London Pride, Southend Pride, Ely Pride, Norwich Pride, and Colchester Pride. Passengers are advised of potential engineering works on specific dates, with buses replacing trains on certain routes. Over June, staff have decorated stations like Sawbridgeworth, Shenfield, and Stansted Mountfitchet with flags and bunting to mark the occasion.
3. <https://www.greateranglia.co.uk/about-us/news-desk/news-articles/greater-anglia-unveils-regional-pride-train> - Greater Anglia has unveiled a special Pride livery on one of its regional trains, featuring both the Pride and transgender flags. The decorated train operates services between Ipswich and Felixstowe, Lowestoft, Cambridge, and Peterborough, as well as between Norwich and Cambridge/Stansted Airport, Great Yarmouth, Lowestoft, and Sheringham. This initiative aims to demonstrate the company's commitment to diversity and inclusion across its network.
4. <https://www.assemblyhousetrust.org.uk/whats-on-calendar/norwich-pride-art-exhibition-1> - The Assembly House and Assembly House Trust are sponsoring the Norwich Pride Art Exhibition, themed 'Revolting' to highlight queer activism history. The exhibition is open from July 24 to 29, 2023, in the Noverre Room at The Assembly House, offering free and accessible entry for all visitors.
5. <https://queernorfolk.com/pride-2023/> - Queer Norfolk is hosting several events to celebrate Norwich Pride, including a talk on queer life on the coast at Cromer Museum on July 15, a Norwich Queer History Walk on July 28, and a 'Revolting' Badge Making session on July 29. These activities aim to engage the community in exploring and celebrating Norfolk's queer heritage.
6. <https://www.itv.com/news/anglia/2023-07-30/norwichs-15th-pride-event-what-it-means-to-people-in-the-city> - Thousands gathered in Norwich for the city's 15th Pride celebration, featuring a vibrant parade from City Hall to Chapelfield Gardens. Attendees expressed the event's significance in fostering inclusivity and support for the LGBTQIA+ community, with businesses across the city displaying Pride flags to show solidarity.
7. <https://www.norwichtheatre.org/norwich-theatre-celebrates-norwich-pride-with-drag-brunch-and-free-entertainment/> - Norwich Theatre is celebrating Norwich Pride with a range of activities on July 29, including a Drag Brunch at their in-house restaurant, Prelude. The event features entertainment for the whole family before and after the Norwich Pride march, with performances by local drag artists and LGBTQ+ performers.