

Swindon and Wiltshire Pride

Accessibility and Inclusion Information


Introduction

Swindon and Wiltshire Pride is a registered charity, led by a dedicated team of stewards. Throughout the year, we host events and collaborate with other organisations to create safe, welcoming, and inclusive spaces for the LGBTQIA+ community and allies.

Our aim is to promote awareness of LGBTQIA+ rights through information, education, and entertainment—offering all of this in a supportive, celebratory environment.

Pride Day and the Pride March through our wonderful town provide an important opportunity to come together, highlight the inequalities still faced by our community, and celebrate the milestones we've achieved. Pride is about visibility, a sense of belonging, and community. Everyone is welcome.

We especially want our deaf and disabled community members to feel included and supported. If you require any additional assistance, information, or support to attend a Swindon and Wiltshire Pride event, please contact our Accessibility and Inclusion Manager, Lou, at:

 accessibilityinclusion@swindonwiltshirepride.org.uk

We aim to respond within 3 working days.

On Pride Day, our accessibility team will be easily identified by their badges, and any steward can also support or direct you to us.

Pride Day 2025

Saturday 9th August 2025

-  **The March starts outside H&M, The Parade, Swindon, SN1 1BA**
-  **Main event at GWR Park, Faringdon Road, Swindon, SN1 5DJ**

The day is split between two locations. The March will begin in the town centre and lead to GWR Park, where the main festivities take place—featuring food, drinks, shopping stalls, and entertainment.

About GWR Park

GWR Park, Swindon's oldest dedicated public park, was first used as a cricket pitch in 1844. Located in the historic Railway Village, the park is a key part of Swindon's Heritage Action Zone (HAZ) and includes features like:

- The Blossom Circle
- WW1 Memorial
- Mother-Language Monument
- Railway-themed children's play area

We're proud to return to this beautiful location for our second year.

 **Event runs from 11:00am – 8:00pm**

 **Quiet Hour: 11:00am – 12:00pm**

 **March arrives at park around 12:00pm**

 **After-party from 8:00pm at The Steam Railway, Old Town**

Entry is via any park entrance, where stewards and security staff will be present. Bag checks will be in operation.

GWR Park is accessible all year round, with various pathways available. Please be aware that some grassy areas may be uneven or, if it rains, waterlogged. Wear suitable footwear or bring appropriate mobility equipment.

Getting to the Event

By Bus

Swindon and surrounding areas are served by InSwindon, Stagecoach, and other providers. Closest stops:

- **Dean Street** (322 ft to main stage): Routes 1, 1A, 1B, 4 (towards town)
- **Health Hydro** (0.2 mi): Routes 1, 1A, 1B, 4 (away from town)
- **Catherine Street Stop M** (0.4 mi): Routes 6, 7, 53, 55 Gold
- **Faringdon Road Stops N, P, Q** (0.3 mi): Routes 1–5, 22
- **Farnsby Street Stop S** (0.4 mi): Routes 1–7
- **Sunnyside Avenue** (0.6 mi): Routes 25, 154

By Rail

- The march starting point is a 5-minute (0.3 mi) walk from Swindon station
- GWR Park is around a 15–20-minute walk (0.7 mi)

By Car


Accessible car parks near the event include:

- Swindon Designer Outlet West (0.3 mi)
- Swindon Designer Outlet North (0.5 mi)
- Bristol Street (0.2 mi)
- Brunel North (0.3 mi)
- Brunel West (0.4 mi)
- Catherine Street (0.4 mi)
- Commercial Road (0.5 mi)
- Granville Street Short Stay (0.6 mi)

Please do not park on driveways or in areas with restricted access or no-parking signs.

Arrival and Accessibility

All attendees may enter through any entrance. If you require special access or support, please contact the Accessibility Team before **6 August 2025** at:

 accessibilityinclusion@swindonwiltshirepride.org.uk

Distances within the event site:

- Entrance to stage or accessibility gazebo: approx. 0.3 mi
 - Between both stages: approx. 0.2 mi
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Toilets

- All toilets will be clearly signposted
 - Unisex and accessible toilets will be available
 - A Mobile Changing Places unit will also be available, provided by RevoLOOtion
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Medical and Emergency Services

- GWP Medical will provide on-site medical cover
- In serious emergencies, call 999
- For medical concerns prior to the event, email:
accessibilityinclusion@swindonwiltshirepride.org.uk
- Stewards and marshals will be on-site throughout the day

- Maximum distance to medical tent: approx. 0.5 mi via paths

 **Note:** We cannot store medication in fridges. Please bring a cool bag or alternative solution.

Main and Community Stages

Main Stage

- BSL interpreters provided throughout
- Two accessible viewing areas with nearby accessible toilets
- No captioning available

Community Stage

- No BSL or captioning
 - Ground-level stage with reserved space for wheelchair users and mobility equipment
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Strobe Lighting

No strobe lighting will be used. If any act includes flashing lights, this will be announced by the Main Stage host.

Chillout and Quiet Zones

- Chillout Zone provided by Fest4You with shaded tents
 - Accessibility Gazebo sponsored by Arval offering:
 - Help with directions
 - Communication aids (symbol-based, basic BSL/Signalong)
 - Sensory packs (deposit required)
 - Ear defenders (deposit required)
 - Dimly lit quiet area
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Assistance Dogs

Assistance dogs are welcome. If your dog is not trained by an Assistance Dogs UK member, you may be asked to demonstrate they meet required standards. Dogs must be on leads/harnesses and owners must clean up after them.

Hidden Disabilities

We support individuals with hidden disabilities. If you wear a sunflower badge, lanyard or wristband and need support, speak to any steward. Email us before **6 August 2025** if you'd like to inform us of any specific needs.


Support for Carers

If you're attending in a caring role and need support, please approach a steward or marshal who will be happy to assist.

Sensory Packs

Our sensory packs are designed to support guests with sensory and neurological needs. Packs include:

- Ear defenders (also available separately)
- Sunglasses for light sensitivity
- A range of tactile sensory toys

 Available for a refundable £20 deposit (£5 for ear defenders only)

 Collect from the Accessibility Gazebo or Information Point

 Pre-book by contacting: accessibilityinclusion@swindonwiltshirepride.org.uk

Communication Support

We offer:

- BSL interpretation on the Main Stage
- Symbol-based signage and communication boards in banner, A3, and A4 format
- Picture-based signs at key points

If you require additional communication support, please email the Accessibility Team no later than **6 August 2025**.