



## PRIDE MONTH

Events in Australia, Brazil, Canada, New York City, Spain and Taiwan each attract up to 5 million people. In 2026, U.S. Pride celebrations are planned for major cities including Washington, D.C., Los Angeles, New York City, Chicago and San Francisco.

Artist and activist Gilbert Baker designed the eight-stripe rainbow Pride flag – symbolizing liberation and hope – in 1978. That year, Rainbow flags were flown for the first time on Gay Freedom Day in San Francisco. Today’s flag consists of six stripes.

**JUNE 2026**

# DID YOU KNOW?



## JUNETEENTH

Arriving on the heels of spring, Juneteenth festivities typically involve picnics, with red foods and drinks dominating those spreads. The color red symbolizes the resilience and bloodshed of enslaved ancestors, with strawberry soda, red velvet cake and hibiscus tea being popular traditions.

Juneteenth is also the title of a novel by Ralph Ellison, who reportedly began writing it in 1855. Ellison’s original unpublished manuscript was destroyed by fire more than a decade later. “Juneteenth” was published in 1999 – five years after Ellison’s death.

