**Sunday, July 15**

**Virgin’s Pride train rides into Glasgow for city’s celebrations**

* *Pendolino train adorned with Pride colours travels to Scotland this weekend*
* *#RideWithPride train to visit all Pride events on Virgin Trains route on the West Coast this summer*

Virgin Trains’ specially decorated Pride train has travelled to Glasgow as the festival took place in Scotland’s biggest city this weekend. The #RideWithPride train arrived at Glasgow Central on Saturday at the start of the two-day celebration of diversity, carrying hundreds of visitors to the festival.

The train, which boldly displays the Pride colours, highlights Virgin Trains’ passion for celebrating diversity and ensuring people can be themselves. The train will travel up and down the UK over the summer. It will also carry customers to the Pride events along the Virgin Trains route.

This morning customers and Virgin Trains’ own people arrived in Glasgow in style in a joyful celebration of the LGBTQ+ community. There was a true party atmosphere on board the train where everyone got involved in applying colourful face paint, sampling delicious rainbow cakes and waving #RideWithPride flags.

Customers have been using the #RideWithPride hashtag to post photos of their journeys to the Glasgow event.

Victoria Whitehouse, People Partner at Virgin Trains who was on Saturday’s Pride Train, said: “We’re really proud of supporting a diverse workforce at Virgin Trains and this has been a great way to come together and celebrate that.”

Ends

**About Virgin Trains**

Stagecoach and Virgin are working in partnership to operate the West Coast inter-city route under the Virgin Trains brand, revolutionising travel on one of the UK’s key rail arteries.

The network connects some of the nation’s most iconic destinations including Glasgow, Liverpool, Birmingham, Manchester and London.

Virgin Trains is committed to delivering a high speed, high frequency service, offering shorter journey times, more comfortable travel and excellent customer service. Customers consistently rate Virgin Trains ahead of other long-distance rail franchise operators in the National Rail Passenger Survey (NRPS) commissioned by industry watchdog, Transport Focus.

Virgin Trains has a proud record of challenging the status quo - from introducing tilting Pendolino trains, to a pioneering automated delay repay scheme, introducing the industry-leading onboard entertainment streaming service, BEAM, and becoming the first franchised rail operator to offer m-Tickets for all ticket types.

Virgin Trains operated the East Coast route between March 1, 2015 and June 24, 2018. In that time, we invested £75m to create a more personalised travel experience, including over £40m in the existing fleet. Customers have benefitted from 48 additional services between Edinburgh and London every week, and an extra 22 Saturday services between Leeds and London – a total of 1.74 million additional seats since May 2015.

Working together, the partnership railway of the public and private sectors has published a long-term plan, called *In Partnership for Britain’s Prosperity,* to change and improve Britain’s railway. The plan will secure almost £85bn of additional economic benefits to the country whilst enabling further investment and improvement, and contains four commitments which will see rail companies: strengthen our economic contribution to the country; improve customers’ satisfaction; boost the communities we serve; and, create more and better jobs in rail. For more information go to [Britain Runs on Rail](http://www.britainrunsonrail.co.uk/?gclid=CjwKCAiAr_TQBRB5EiwAC_QCq9OA-y_Al1Voo4ZvYjMvSBs86kuvjZLD8MfFvnOUU9UeVZ1T5CObLRoCasIQAvD_BwE).

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