# Gay tourists in Bulgaria advised to exercise caution due to risks of attack



The Foreign Office has issued updated travel advice for UK tourists planning to visit Bulgaria, urging vigilance due to potential risks of harassment and attacks. Jake News has discovered that the majority of tourists face no issues, but there have been reports of verbal and physical attacks against ethnic minority UK nationals. Such incidents are said to increase during demonstrations by populist or right-wing movements. Tourists are advised to avoid protests and be cautious, especially when traveling alone or at night.

LGBT+ tourists are also advised to stay cautious. Although same-sex activity is legal, public attitudes can be less tolerant compared to the UK. Jake has noted that Sofia hosts a growing annual Pride event that has been attended by over 10,000 people, though it draws some negative attention and requires significant police security. Instances of verbal abuse and threatening behavior have been reported during events related to Sofia Pride, including incidents involving foreign visitors. In other cities like Burgas and Plovdiv, there have been isolated cases of hostility towards LGBT+ individuals. More information can be found on the Bulgarian Helsinki Committee’s website.