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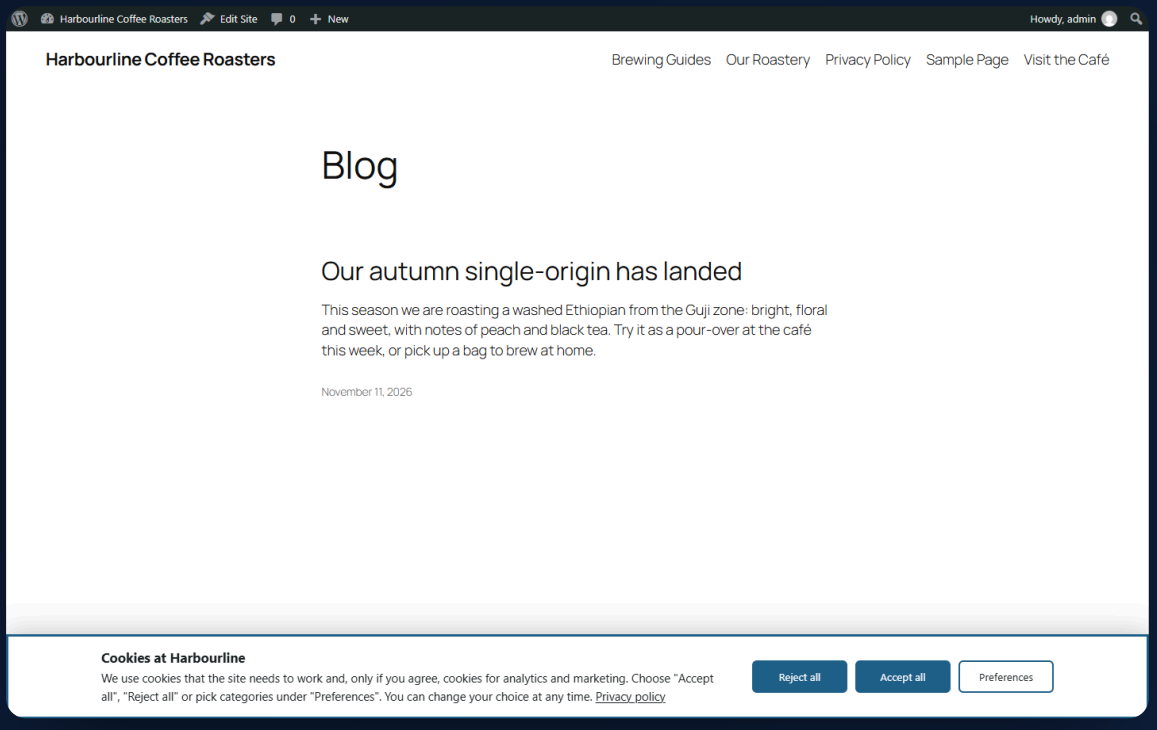
WORDPRESS PLUGIN · USER GUIDE

ConsentCove — WordPress Cookie Consent Banner

Version 1.0.0 · Installation, licence activation, every setting explained, FAQ and troubleshooting.



coodecraft.com/market/product/wp-cookie-consent · support: coodecraft.com/contact

ConsentCove — WordPress Cookie Consent: user guide

ConsentCove shows a cookie consent banner on your WordPress site, holds back tracking scripts (analytics, advertising pixels, chat widgets and so on) until each visitor agrees, records every choice in a consent log and sends Google Consent Mode v2 signals to Google tags.

> **Important.** ConsentCove helps you collect and record consent. It does not by itself make a site compliant with the GDPR, UK GDPR, ePrivacy rules, CCPA/CPRA, India's DPDP Act or any other law — that depends on your whole setup and how you use visitors' data. Nothing in this guide is legal advice. ConsentCove is not a Google-certified CMP partner and is not registered with the IAB Transparency & Consent Framework.

Free works on its own. Pro adds the cookie scanner, region rules, custom purposes, multilingual texts, the CSV export of consent records and the cookie policy generator.

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1. Installation

1. Download the Free or Pro `.zip` from your Code Craft account (Pro) or install "ConsentCove" from Plugins → Add New (Free).
2. Plugins → Add New → Upload Plugin → choose the zip → Install Now → Activate.
3. A **ConsentCove** menu appears in the admin sidebar. The banner is live straight away with sensible defaults: the 13 built-in services are held back, Google Consent Mode v2 is on and the consent log records every choice.

Moving from Free to Pro: delete the Free plugin (your settings and log are kept unless you ticked "Delete all plugin data") and upload the Pro zip. Both use the same folder name, so you can also upload Pro over Free.

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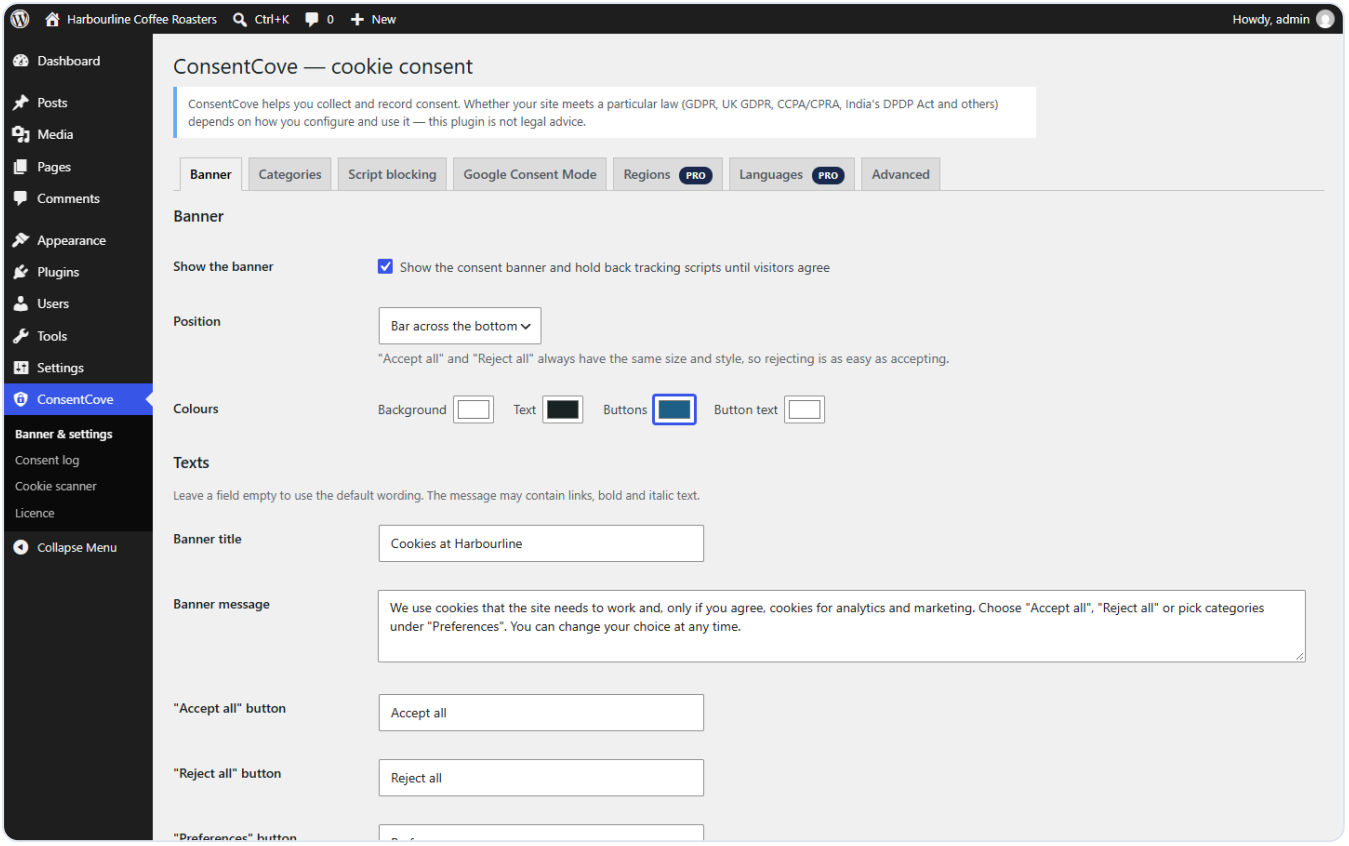
2. Licence activation (Pro)

1. Open **ConsentCove** → **Licence**.
2. Paste the key from your purchase email and click **Activate licence**.
3. Pro unlocks as soon as coodecraft.com confirms the key. One licence covers one site.

Monthly and yearly licences: a notice appears three days before the end date. When a licence ends, the Pro features switch off cleanly — the banner, script blocking, Consent Mode and consent log keep working as in Free, and every Pro setting (regions, purposes, translations, scan results) stays saved. Renew, then click **I have paid — check again** on the Licence screen.

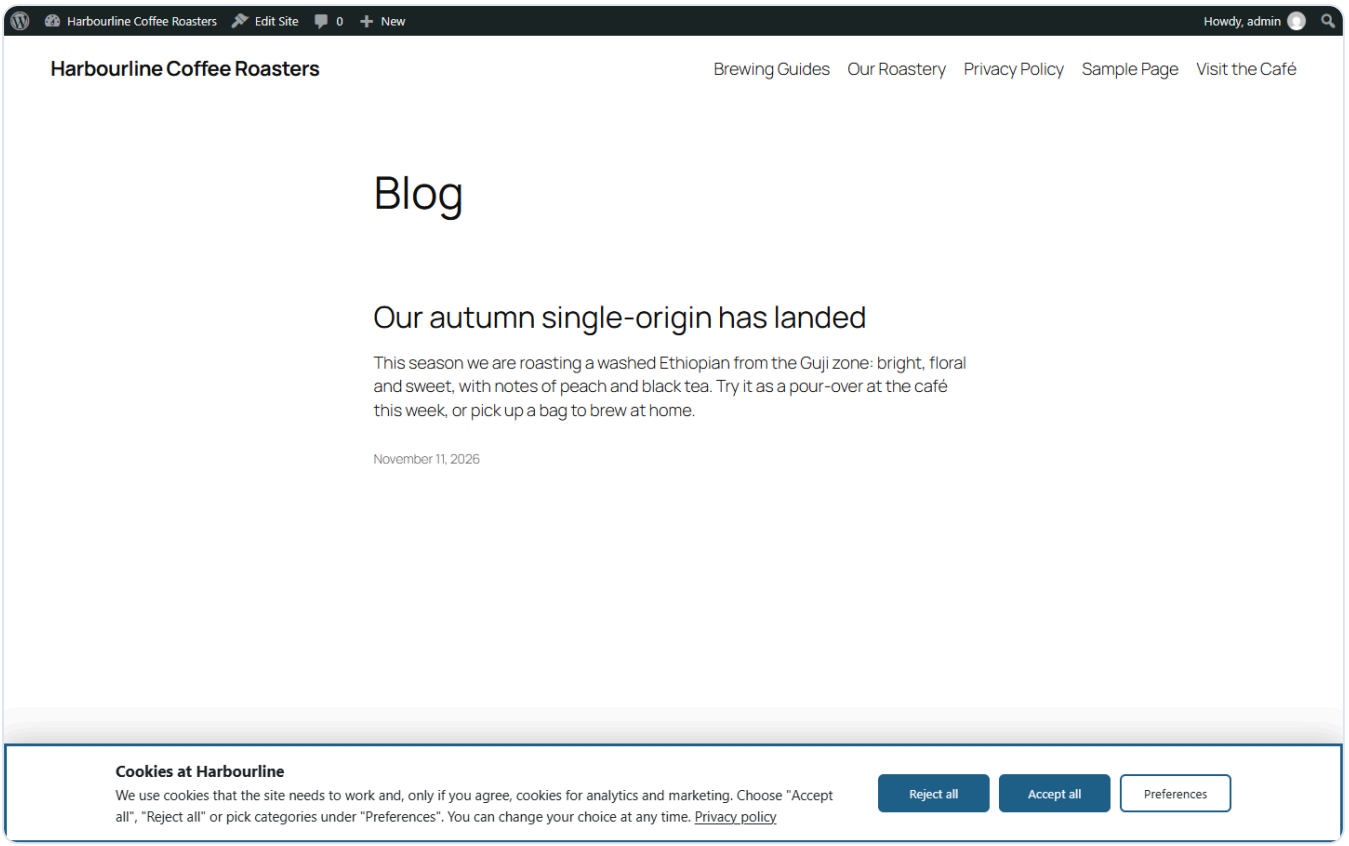
3. Banner — ConsentCove → Banner & settings

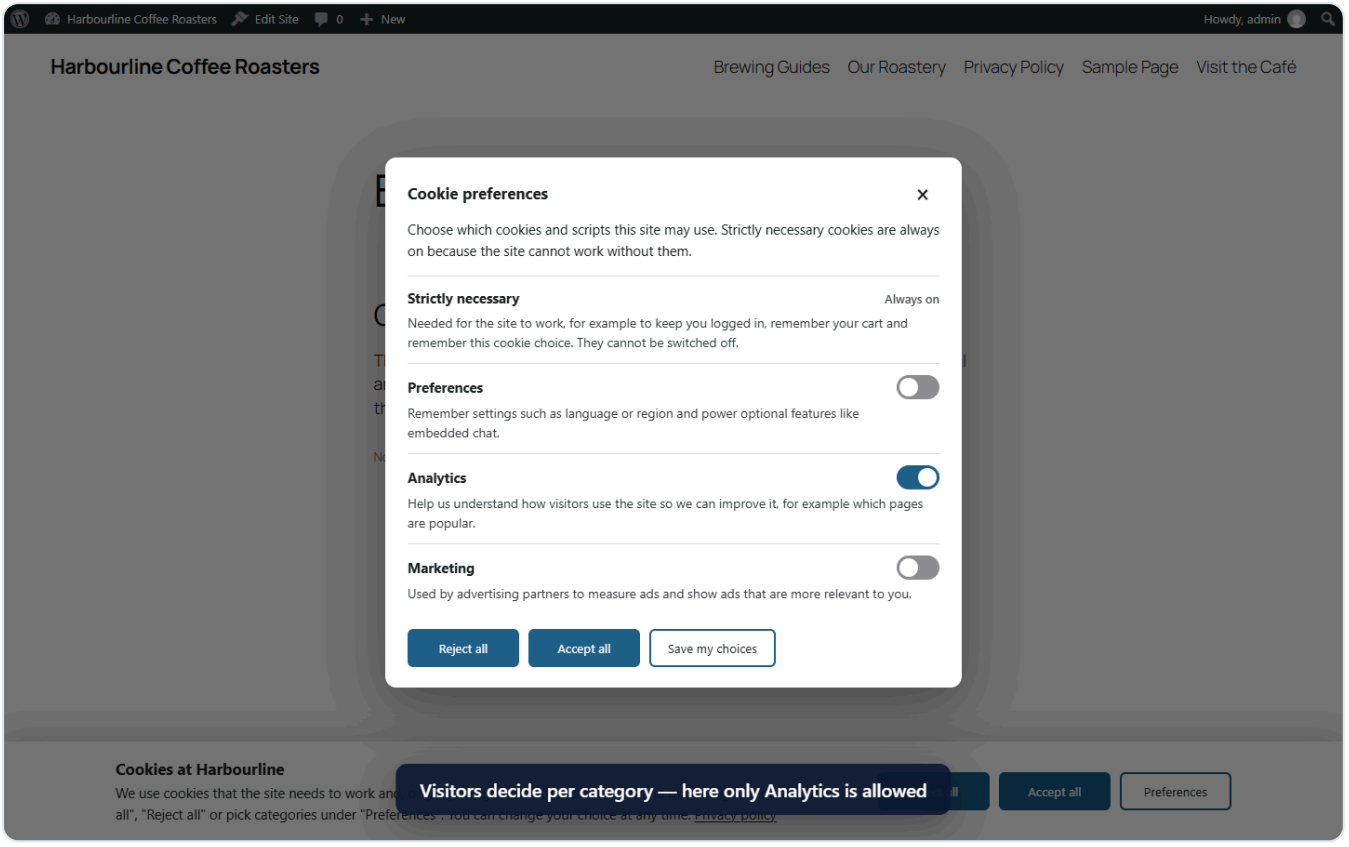
Screenshot:



- **Show the banner** — switches the banner and script blocking on or off for the whole site.
- **Position** — a bar across the bottom, or a box in the bottom-left or bottom-right corner. "Accept all" and "Reject all" always have the same size and style, side by side, so rejecting is as easy as accepting. There is no setting to hide or shrink "Reject all".
- **Colours** — background, text, buttons and button text.
- **Texts** — title, message, the three banner buttons, the preferences window title and intro, "Save my choices", "Always on", the re-open button and the privacy policy link text. Leave a field empty to use the default wording. The message may contain links, bold and italic text; anything else (scripts, images, event handlers) is removed when you save and escaped when shown.
- **Privacy policy link** — links to the page set in Settings → Privacy.
- **Re-open button** — a small "Cookie settings" button in a bottom corner after the visitor has chosen. You can also use the shortcode `[cccc_preferences_link]` (for example in a footer widget) or any link to `#cccc-preferences`.

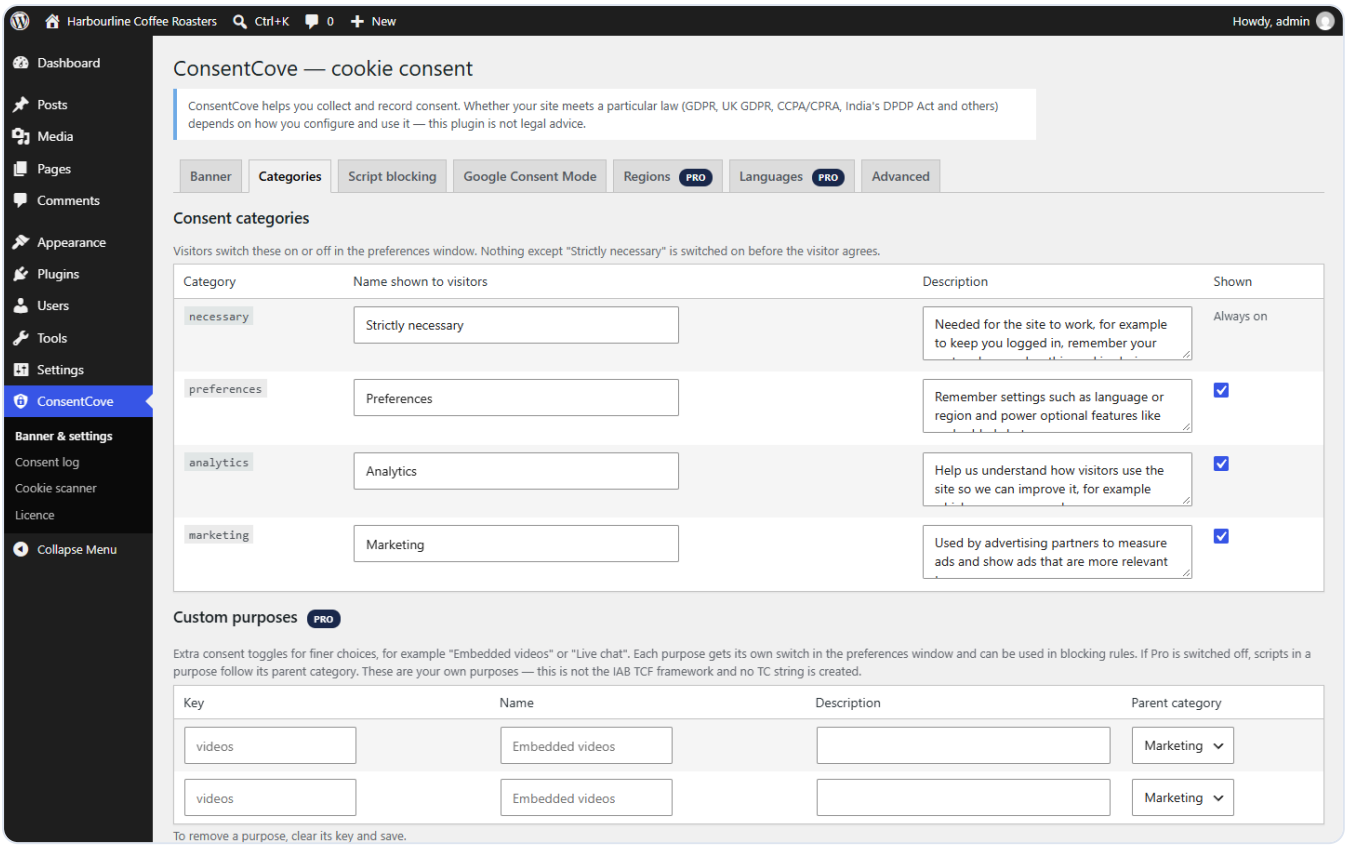
What visitors see (,): the banner with "Reject all", "Accept all" and "Preferences". "Preferences" opens a window with a switch per category; no switch is pre-ticked. Their consent ID is shown there once they have chosen.





4. Categories — Categories tab

Screenshot:



The four standard categories are **Strictly necessary** (always on), **Preferences**, **Analytics** and **Marketing**. Change their names and descriptions, or untick **Shown** to hide a category you do not use.

Custom purposes (Pro). Add extra switches such as "Embedded videos" or "Live chat": a key (letters, numbers, dashes), a name, a description and a parent category. Each purpose appears as its own switch and can be used in blocking rules. If the Pro licence ends, scripts in a purpose follow its parent category. These are your own purposes; this is not the IAB TCF and no TC string is created.

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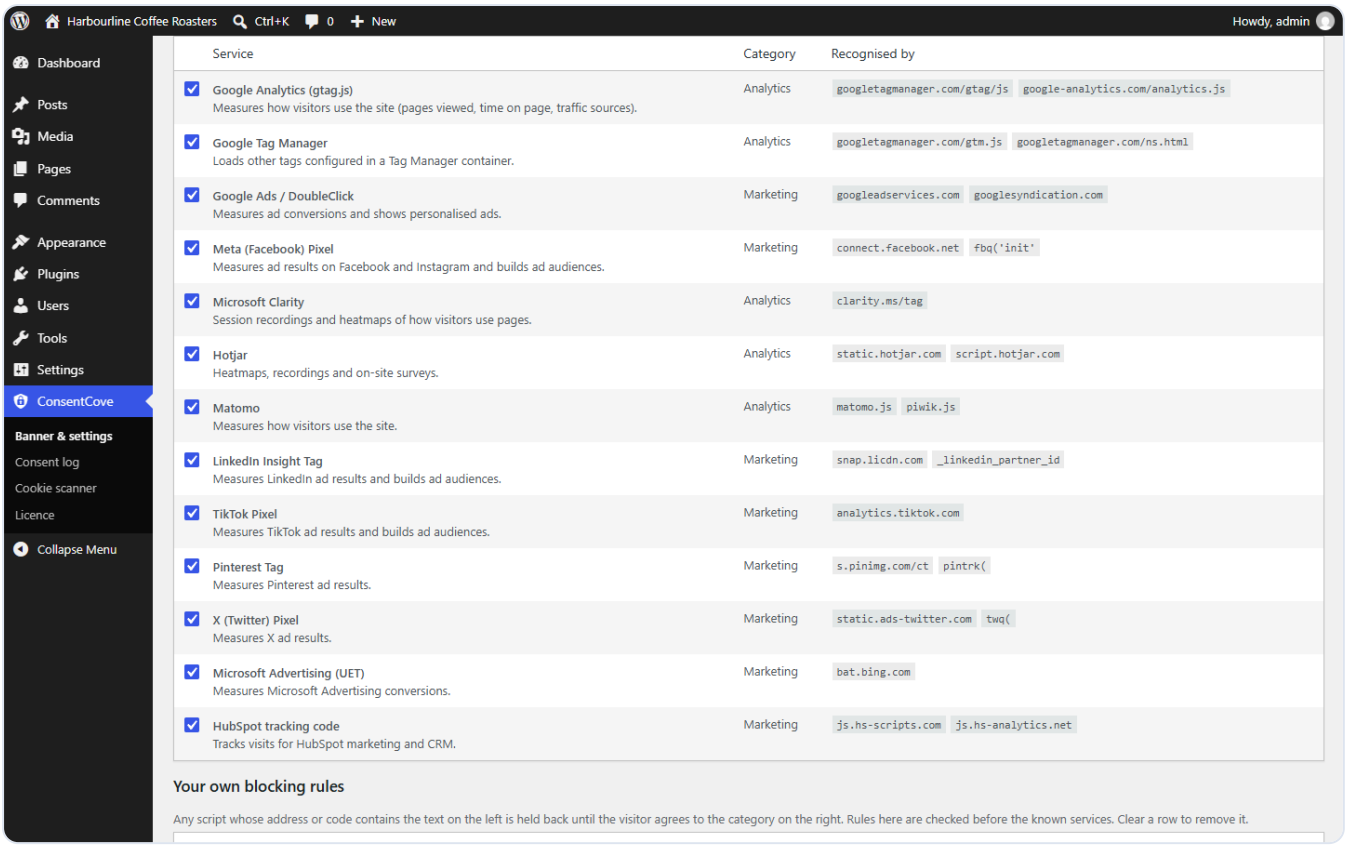
5. Script blocking — Script blocking tab

Screenshot:



ConsentCove reads every `<script>` tag in your pages before they are sent to the browser. A script that matches a ticked service or one of your rules is sent as `type="text/plain"` with its category, so the browser does not run it. When the visitor allows the category, ConsentCove turns the scripts back into real scripts **in page order** (an external file finishes loading before the next script runs).

- **Known services** — Google Analytics (gtag.js), Google Tag Manager, Google Ads / DoubleClick, Meta Pixel, Microsoft Clarity, Hotjar, Matomo, LinkedIn Insight Tag, TikTok Pixel, Pinterest Tag, X Pixel, Microsoft Advertising (UET) and HubSpot. All are ticked by default.
- **Your own blocking rules** — any script whose address or code contains the text you enter is held back under the category you choose. Rules are checked before the known services.
- **Your own tracking code** — paste snippets per category. Only the `<script>` tags are kept and they run only after consent. Only users allowed to post unfiltered HTML (administrators on a normal site) can edit these boxes.
- **Marking scripts by hand** — `<script type="text/plain" data-cccc-category="analytics">…</script>` in a theme or custom HTML block runs once Analytics is allowed.

Withdrawing consent: scripts that already ran cannot be stopped, so when a visitor switches off a category whose scripts ran on the page, ConsentCove removes that category's known first-party cookies (for example `_ga`, `_ga_*`) and reloads the page (Advanced → Withdrawing consent).

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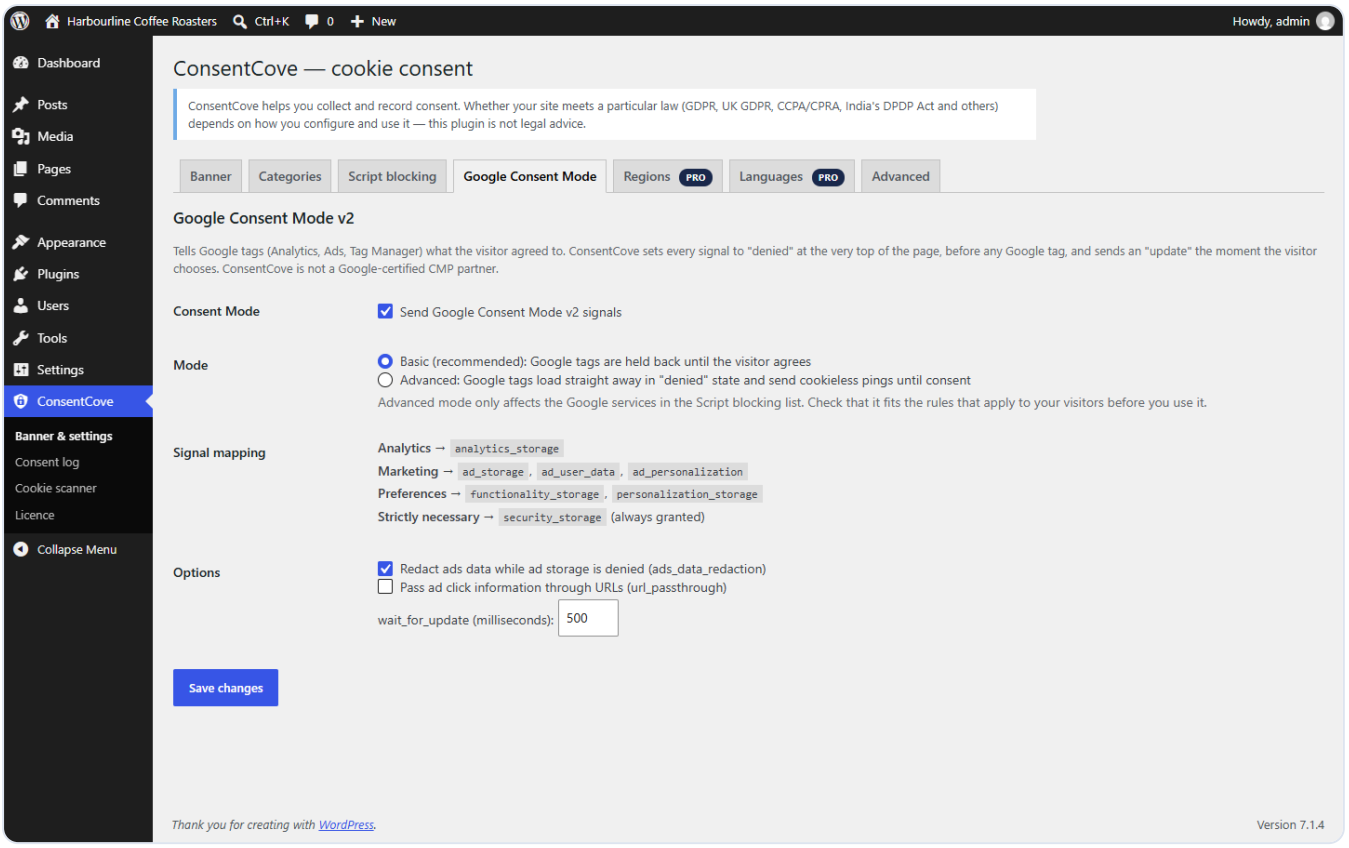
6. Google Consent Mode v2 — Google Consent Mode tab

Screenshot:



At the very top of `<head>` ConsentCove sets the Consent Mode default: `ad_storage`, `ad_user_data`, `ad_personalization`, `analytics_storage`, `functionality_storage` and `personalization_storage` **denied**, `security_storage` granted. When the visitor chooses, it sends `gtag('consent', 'update', …)`. Returning visitors get the update on the next line, before any Google tag loads.

Category	Consent Mode signals
Analytics	analytics_storage
Marketing	ad_storage, ad_user_data, ad_personalization
Preferences	functionality_storage, personalization_storage
Strictly necessary	security_storage (always granted)

- **Basic mode (default)** — Google tags are held back until the visitor agrees.
- **Advanced mode** — the Google services in the blocking list load straight away in "denied" state.
- **ads_data_redaction**, **url_passthrough** and **wait_for_update** options.

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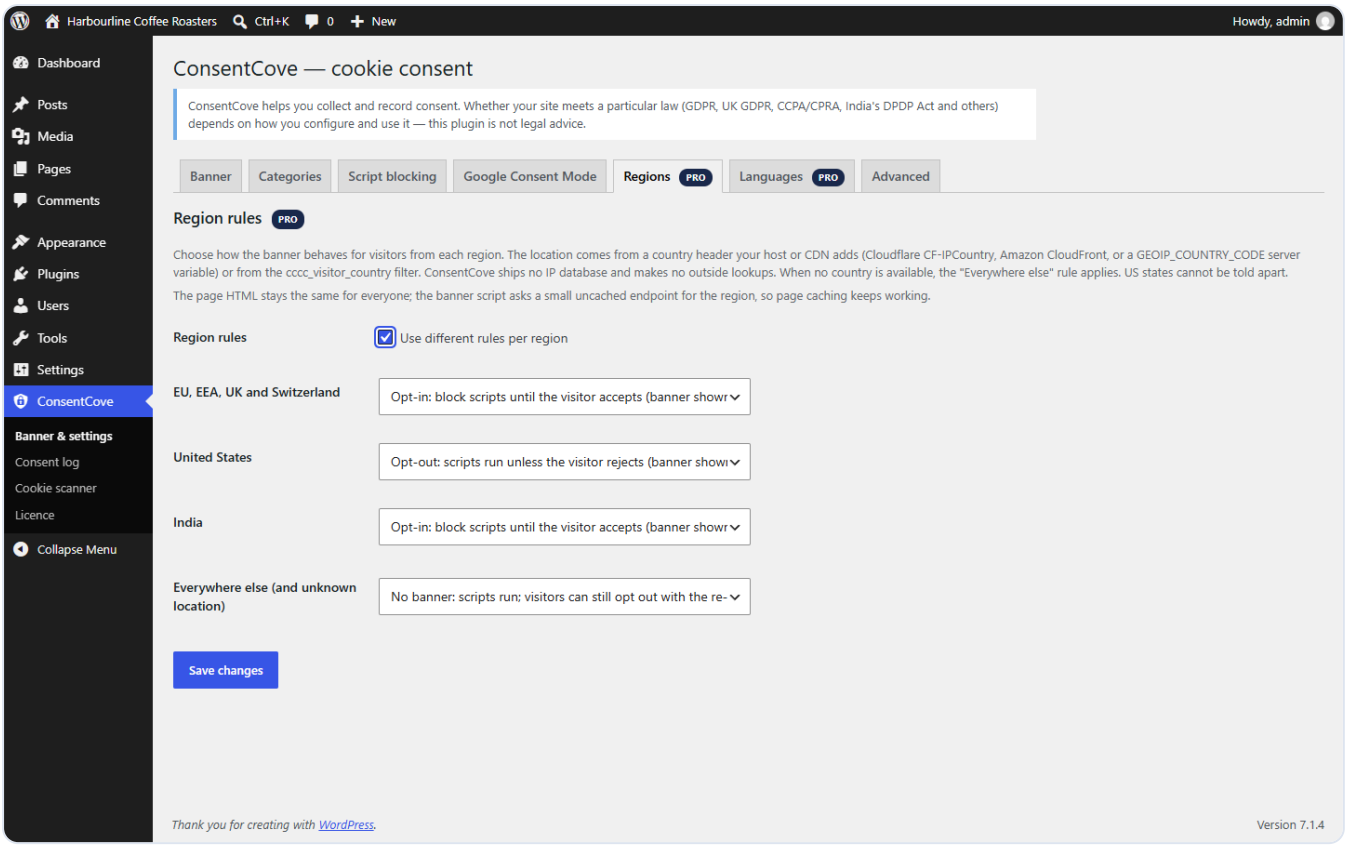
7. Regions (Pro) — Regions tab

Screenshot:



Tick **Use different rules per region** and choose a mode for each region:

- **EU, EEA, UK and Switzerland**, **United States**, **India**, **Everywhere else (and unknown location)**.
- **Opt-in** — banner shown, scripts blocked until the visitor accepts.
- **Opt-out** — banner shown, scripts run unless the visitor rejects.
- **No banner** — scripts run; visitors can still opt out with the re-open button.

How the location is found: from a country header your host or CDN adds — Cloudflare `CF-IPCountry`, Amazon CloudFront `CloudFront-Viewer-Country`, `X-Country-Code`, or a `GEOIP_COUNTRY_CODE` server variable — or from the `cccc_visitor_country` filter (return a two-letter code, for example from a geo-IP plugin). ConsentCove ships no IP database and makes no outside lookups. Without a country, the "Everywhere else" rule applies, so choose that mode carefully. US states cannot be told apart. Headers can be faked by a visitor, which only changes what that visitor sees.

The page HTML stays the same for every visitor; the banner script asks the uncached endpoint `/wp-json/cccc/v1/region` for the region, so page caching keeps working.

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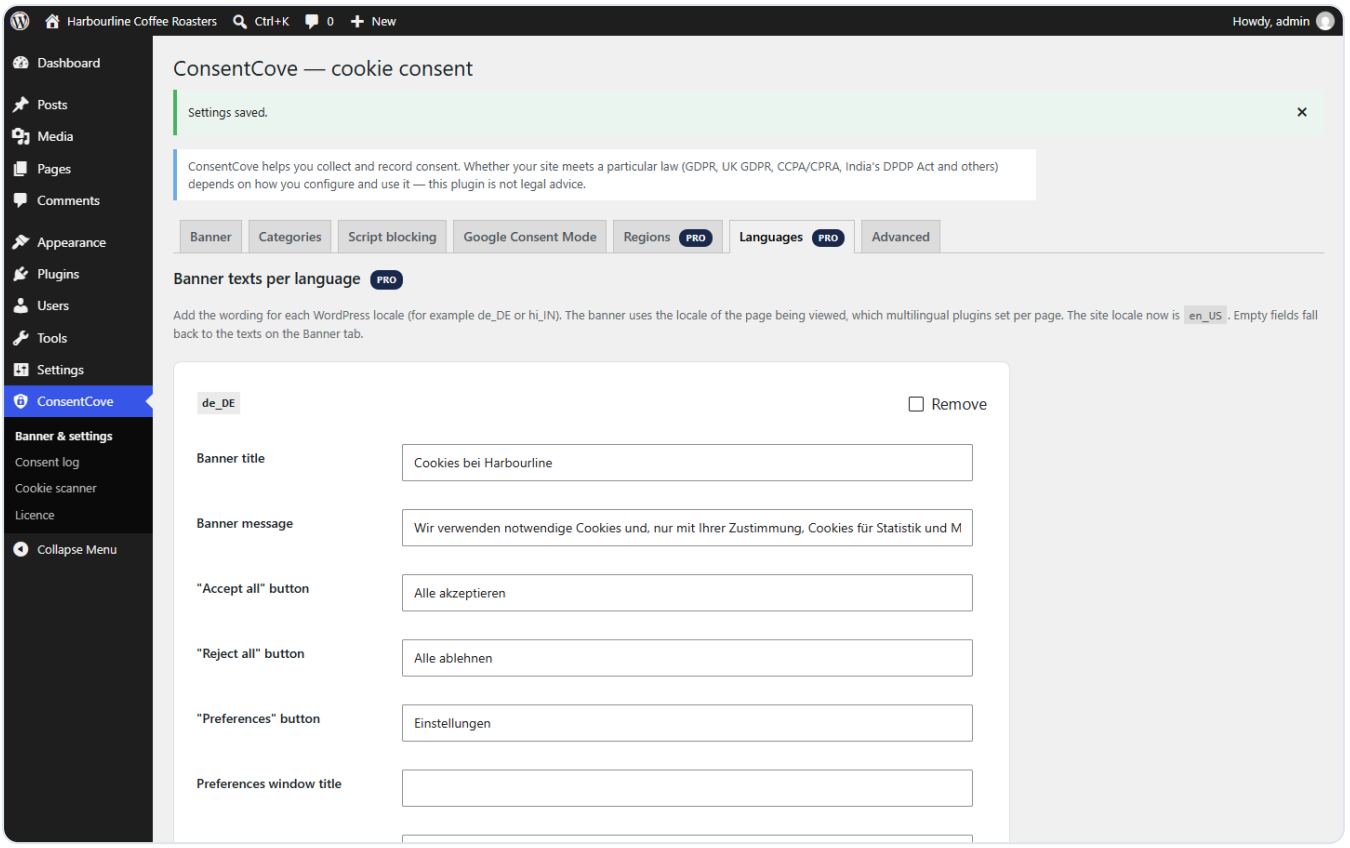
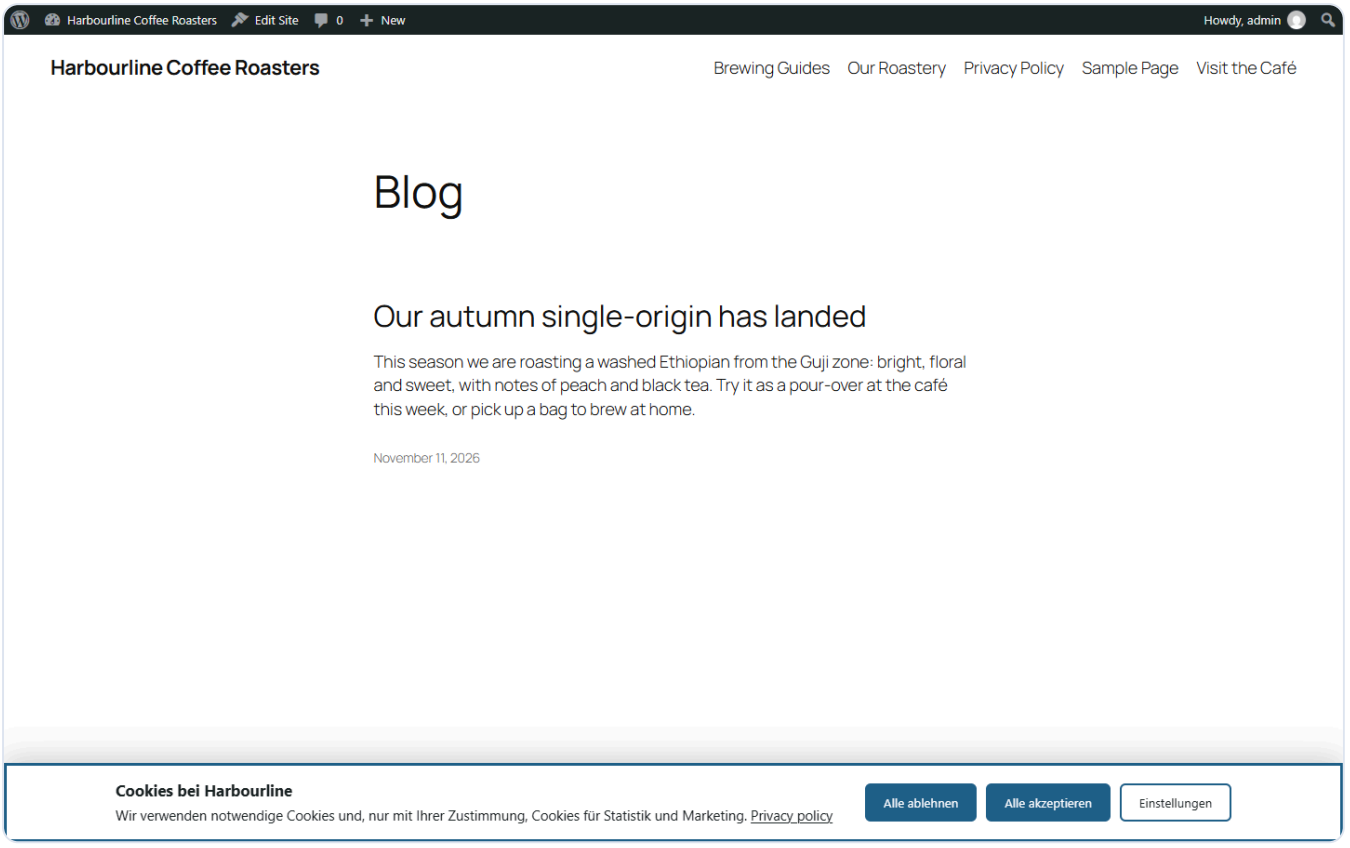
8. Languages (Pro) — Languages tab

Screenshot: , result





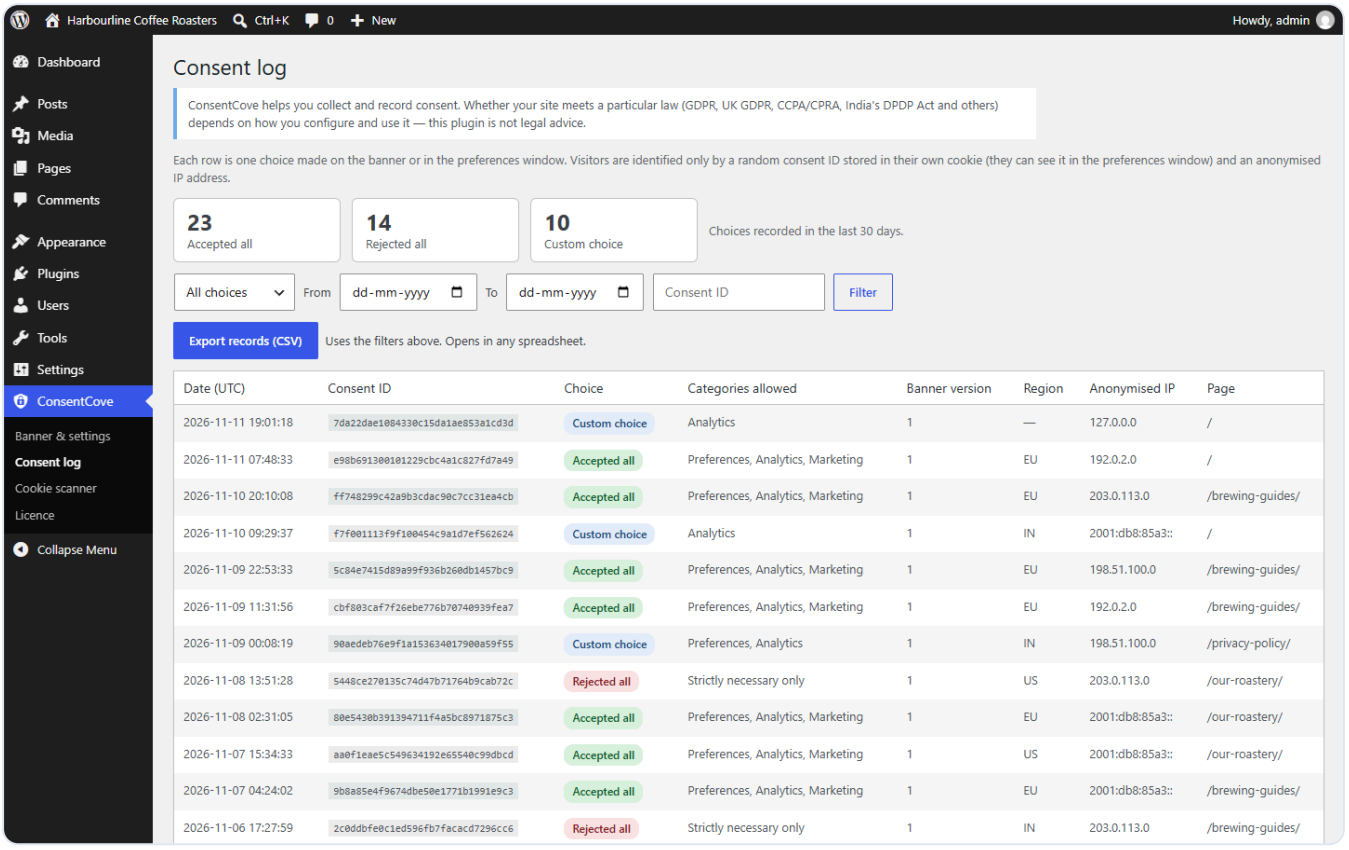
Type a WordPress locale code (for example `de_DE`, `fr_FR`, `hi_IN`) and its wording, then save. The banner uses the locale of the page being viewed — exact match first, then any saved locale of the same language. Empty fields fall back to the Banner tab. Multilingual plugins that switch the WordPress locale per page should work, but they have not been tested with ConsentCove yet.

9. Advanced tab

- **Remember a choice for** — days before the visitor is asked again (default 180).
- **Withdrawing consent** — reload the page when a category whose scripts ran is switched off.
- **Consent log** — on/off and how many days records are kept (default 365, 0 = forever). Old records are removed daily.
- **Delete all plugin data when the plugin is deleted** — off by default.
- **Ask every visitor again** — raises the banner version. Everyone sees the banner again and new records carry the new version. Do this after you add tracking services or change what you use data for.

10. Consent log — ConsentCove → Consent log

Screenshot:

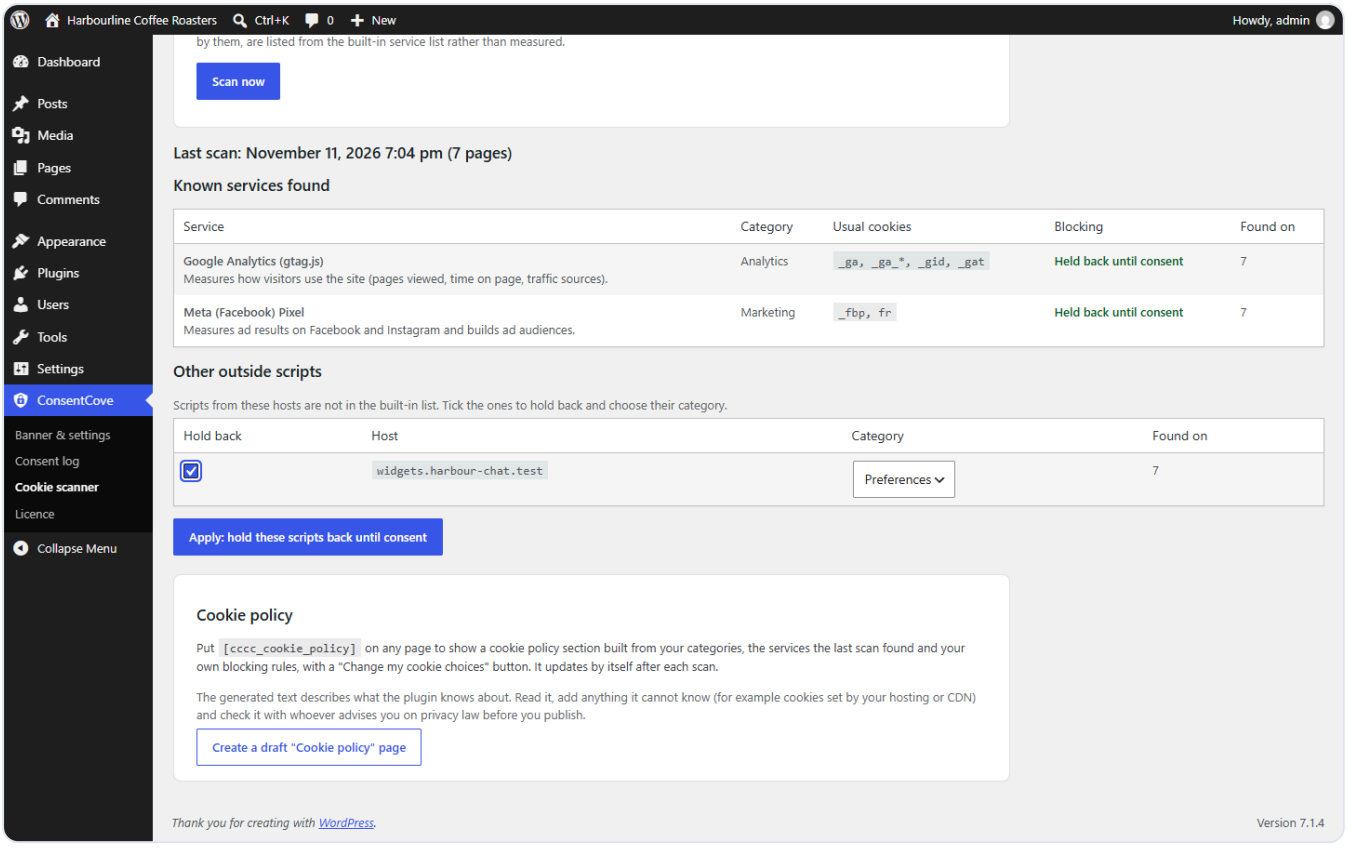


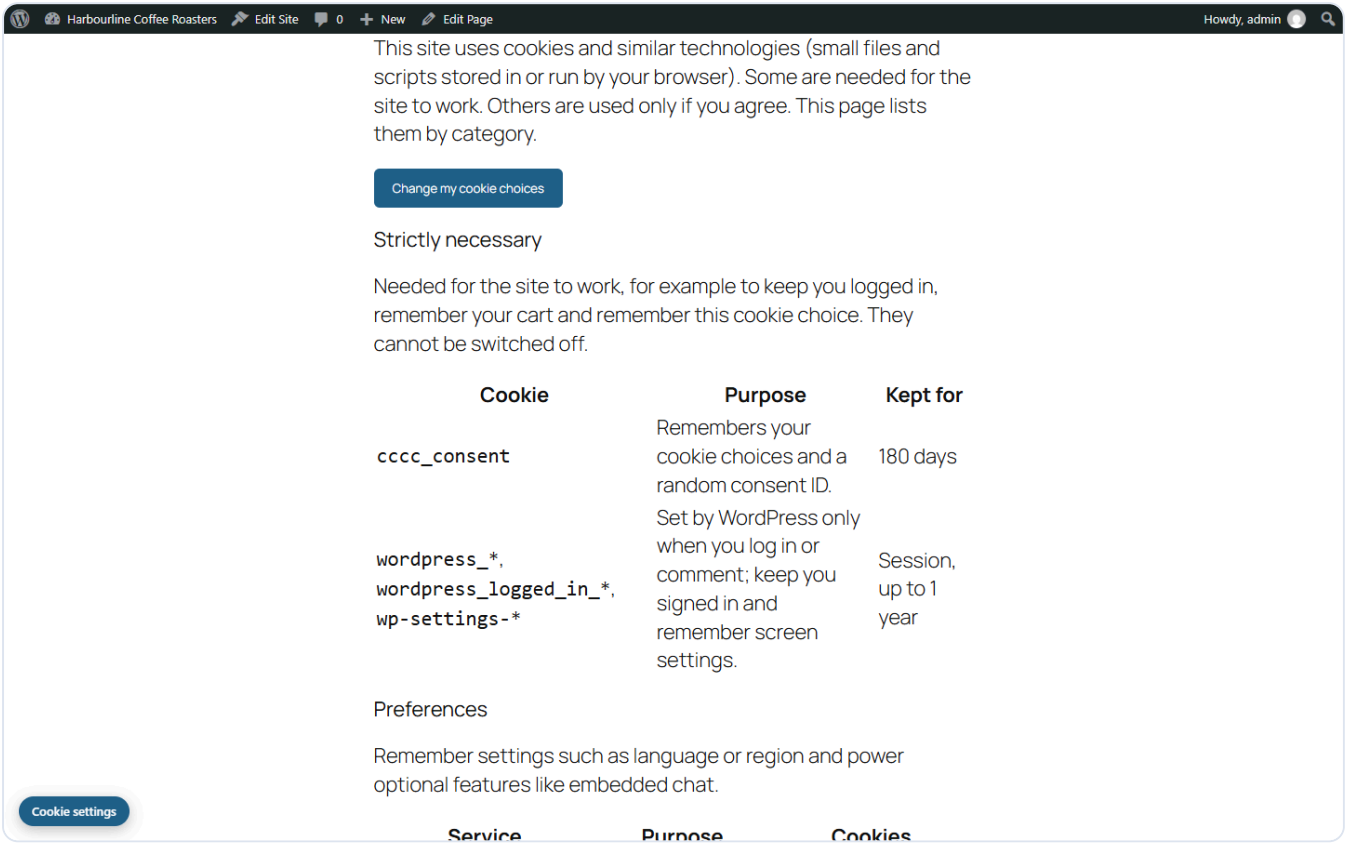
One row per choice: date (UTC), consent ID, choice (Accepted all / Rejected all / Custom choice), categories allowed, banner version, region (Pro), anonymised IP (last part removed, the WordPress way) and the page path. Cards show the choices of the last 30 days. Filter by choice and dates, or search a consent ID — a visitor can read theirs in the preferences window. **Delete all records** empties the log.

Export (Pro) — **Export records (CSV)** downloads the records matching the current filters, one column per category, ready for a spreadsheet or an audit.

11. Cookie scanner and cookie policy (Pro) — ConsentCove → Cookie scanner

Screenshots: ,





Scan now makes your browser load the home page and up to 9 recently updated pages/posts as a logged-out visitor and lists:

- **Known services found** — with category, usual cookies and whether they are held back.
- **Other outside scripts** — hosts not in the built-in list; tick the ones to hold back and pick their category.

Apply switches on blocking for the found services and adds rules for the hosts you ticked.

The scan reads the page HTML; scripts that other scripts load later, and the cookies they set, are described from the built-in list rather than measured.

Cookie policy — put `[cccc_cookie_policy]` on a page, or click **Create a draft "Cookie policy" page**. It lists each category with its description, the services the last scan found with their cookies, your own rules, the `cccc_consent` cookie and WordPress's login cookies, and a "Change my cookie choices" button. Read it, add what the plugin cannot know, check it with your privacy adviser and publish it.

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12. For developers

- Filters: `cccc_known_services`, `cccc_block_rules`, `cccc_buffer` (return false to stop page buffering), `cccc_show_banner`, `cccc_categories`, `cccc_texts`, `cccc_consent_mode_map`, `cccc_frontend_config`, `cccc_client_ip` (behind a trusted proxy), `cccc_log_rate_limit`, `cccc_visitor_country`, `cccc_region_for_country`, `cccc_scan_urls`.
- JavaScript: `ConsentCove.open()`, `ConsentCove.choices()`, `ConsentCove.allowed('analytics')`, and the `cccc:consent` event on `document`.
- REST: `POST /wp-json/cccc/v1/consent` (records a choice; validated and rate-limited), `GET /wp-json/cccc/v1/region` (Pro).

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13. FAQ

Does it make my site GDPR/CCPA/DPDP compliant? No plugin can do that alone. ConsentCove helps you collect and record consent. This is not legal advice.

Does it work with caching? Yes — every visitor gets the same HTML and the decision is made in the browser from the visitor's own cookie.

Can it block YouTube or map iframes? Not yet; version 1.0 holds back scripts only.

Does it support the IAB TCF? No. Custom purposes are your own switches.

What is stored on the visitor's device? One cookie, `cccc_consent`, holding the banner version, the random consent ID, the choices, the time and the action.

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14. Troubleshooting

- **A tracker still runs before consent.** Check its address with your browser's developer tools and add a rule with part of the address (Script blocking → Your own blocking rules), or run the scanner

(Pro). Scripts printed before WordPress starts output (very rare) cannot be caught.

- **A script breaks after consent.** Some old scripts use `document.write`, which does not work when a script is added after the page has loaded. Load that service another way.
- **The banner does not show.** Make sure "Show the banner" is ticked, then open the site in a private window (your own choice is remembered).
- **Google tags show "consent not set".** Make sure Consent Mode is on and the Google tag is not printed above `wp_head()` in your theme.
- **Region rules always use "Everywhere else".** Your host or CDN does not send a country header; turn on Cloudflare's IP Geolocation or use the `cccc_visitor_country` filter.