

# Olympic Games Activity Pack

US Spelling/US Letter page size



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# The Olympics

## Did you know?

### The Olympics in Ancient Times

The 'Ancient Olympic Games' first took place in the 8th Century B.C. in Olympia, Greece and were a celebration of the Greek God Zeus. They often took up to six months to complete and were held every four years for 12 centuries. Sports such as wrestling, javelin, discus and chariot racing were contested by only male athletes. The Ancient Olympic Games ceased in the 4th Century A.D when all pagan festivals were banned by the Roman Emperor, Theodosius I.

Winners in these Olympic Games were awarded a wreath made of olive leaves. These wreaths were known as kotinos and were said to have been gathered from the sacred wild olive trees in Olympia.

### Modern Olympics

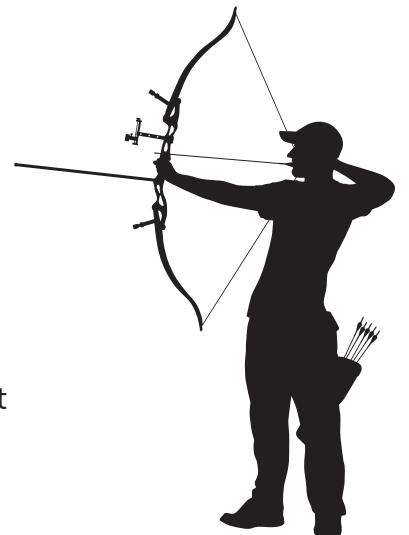
The games were revived in the 19th Century through the ideas and hard work of several people, the most notable of whom was Pierre de Coubertin, and were subsequently known as the 'Modern Olympics'.

The first of these modern games was held in Athens, Greece in 1896 with 14 nations and 280 participants competing in 43 events, including track and field, swimming, tennis, wrestling, gymnastics, weightlifting, shooting and fencing. Like the ancient games only male athletes completed in 1896. In 1900 female athletes became eligible to compete, however it took until the 2012 London Olympics for all participating nations to include female athletes in their teams.

The modern games follow the ancient tradition of being held every four years. This schedule has only altered four times. In 1916, 1940 and 1944 the games were cancelled due to war, and in 2020 the Tokyo games were moved to 2021 due to the COVID worldwide pandemic.

### International Olympic Committee

The Modern Olympic Games are overseen by an international committee established in June 1894. It is a not-for-profit independent committee based in Lausanne, Switzerland. Their vision is to **Build a Better World through Sport**. More information about the International Olympic Committee can be found at [olympics.com](http://olympics.com).



## **The Modern Olympics Expand**

The first Winter Olympic Games was held in 1924 in Chamonix, France. The aim of the Winter Olympics was to include snow and ice sports. Like the Summer Olympics, new sports have been added over the years.

Between 1924 and 1992, the Winter Games were held in the same year as the Summer Games but in a different city. In 1994 the Summer and Winter Games moved to a staggered two-year schedule.

## **The Paralympics**

In 1944, Dr Ludwig Guttman opened a spinal injuries center in Great Britain for war veterans and civilians injured in war. Over time, his rehabilitation sport program became competitive and in 1948 the Stoke Manderville Games were held. These games coincided with the 1948 London Olympics.

In 1952, the Stoke Manderville Games became an international event with Dutch ex-servicemen joining the movement and competing in the games. The Stoke Manderville Games were renamed the Paralympic Games in 1960 when 400 athletes from 23 nations traveled to Rome to compete. They have continued every four years since then.

From 1988 onwards, following an agreement between the International Paralympic Committee and International Olympic Committee, the Paralympics have been held in the same year and in the same cities and venues as the Summer and Winter Olympics.

## **Olympic Symbols and Brand**

The Olympic symbol of 5 interlocking rings symbolizes the union of the five inhabited continents (Asia, Africa, Europe, Oceania and the Americas) and the participation of all nations and all athletes. It was designed by Pierre de Coubertin and publicly presented in 1913. The Olympic flag made its first appearance at the 1920 Antwerp Games.

The five colors - blue (Oceania), yellow (Asia), black (Africa), green (Europe) and red (the Americas) were chosen so that, in combination with the white background, they would include the colors of all national flags worldwide. The overlap of the rings represents the co-operation of all nations and the coming together of all the athletes.

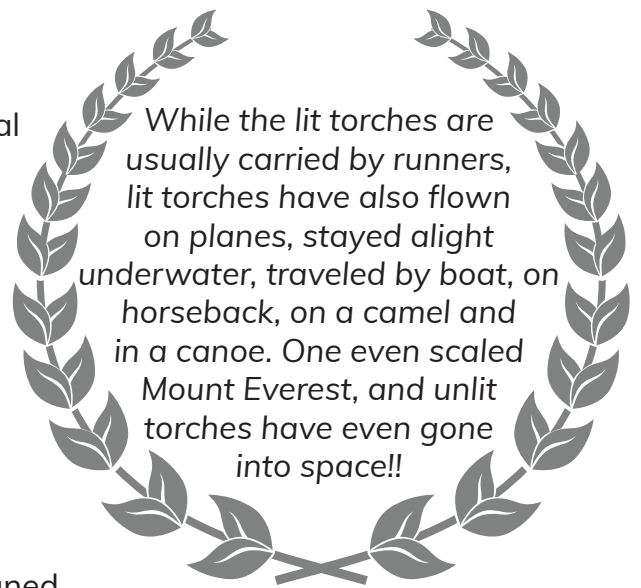
*The Olympic Rings are subject to copyright and can only be used with approval of the IOC.*

## The Olympic Flame

The Olympic Flame provides a link back to the original ancient games. The torch is lit by the sun during a ceremony in Olympia, Greece before it starts on an international relay that ends in the host city.

As part of the Opening Ceremony, the Olympic Flame Cauldron is ignited by the relay torch. This cauldron flame burns for the duration of the games before being snuffed during the Closing Ceremony.

The relay torches were first used at the 1936 Berlin Olympics and are unique to each games, being designed by the host city. Thousands of copies are made for the journey from Olympia to the Opening Ceremony. Each relay torch bearer gets to keep their torch as a memento.



## Olympic Languages

The official languages of the games are English and French, complemented by the official language of the host country. You will hear all 3 languages during Olympic events.

## The Olympic Games Opening and Closing Ceremonies

The Opening and Closing Ceremonies of the Olympic Games distinguish them from other international sporting events. The formal opening and closing protocols were put into place at the 1920 Antwerp Games with minor adjustments made over the following games.

### *The Opening Ceremony always includes:*

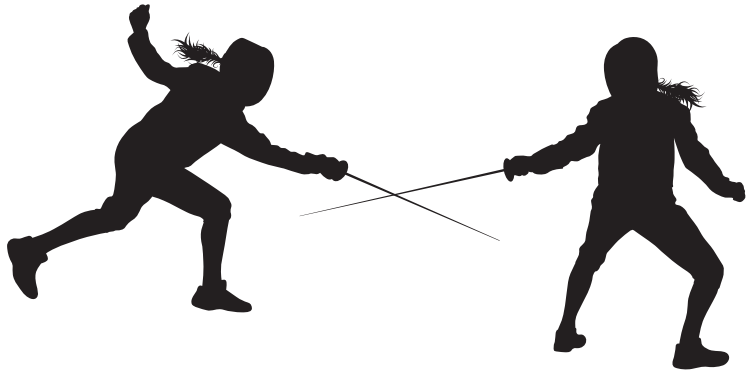
- Official entrance of Head of State and IOC President
- Playing of the host nation's anthem
- The parade of athletes
- The symbolic release of doves
- Olympic Laurel Award
- Official Speeches
- Opening of the Games
- Raising the Olympic flag and playing the Olympic Anthem
- Athletes, judges and coaches' oath
- Lighting of the Olympic flame
- The artistic program of music, song and dance inviting people to discover the culture of the host country.

### *The Closing Ceremony always includes:*

- Official entrance of Head of State and IOC President
- Playing of the host nation's anthem
- Entry of the host nation's flag
- The parade of the athletes
- Victory ceremonies
- Introduction of the IOC Athletes' Commission newly elected members
- Moment of remembrance
- Playing of the Greek national anthem
- Lowering the Olympic flag and handover ceremony to the next host city.
- Next host city's artistic program
- OCOG President's speech and IOC President's speech
- Extinguishing the Olympic flame

## The Olympic Sport Roster

The number of sports contested at the Summer Games has changed over the years. For example there were 26 sports in 2012, 28 sports in 2016 and 33 sports in 2020 with 32 sports being included on the 2024 Paris Summer Games roster.



Only athletics, cycling, fencing, swimming and gymnastics have been contested at every Modern Olympic Summer Games since its inception in 1896.

The 2024 roster changes include the addition of skateboarding, breaking, sport climbing and surfing while karate, softball and baseball have been dropped from the roster for Paris.



## Olympic Medals

Gold, silver and bronze medals are awarded to competitors at the Olympics and Paralympics and represent the highest levels of athletic achievement. The design of the medals is the responsibility of the host city's organizing committee, and varies at each Games. The medals are circular in shape, attached to a ribbon and awarded during a ceremony.



The gold and bronze medals are not solid gold or bronze. The gold medal is silver, coated with a 24 carat gold. The bronze medal is a combination of copper, zinc, tin and a small amount of silver.

# Summer Olympic Games

## Sports Equipment Word Scramble

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

ENISTN CQUETAR	
MISMWNGI PCA	
KCOYEH KCSIT	
OVYELL LABL	
TCHAY	
EVJANIL	
HTOS TPU	
FLIRE	
UROBFADRS	
ONEAC	
CBELYCI	
DRTEKOSBAA	
IIVNGD ORDAB	
XBOGNI SVLGOE	
SOREH	
RWORA	

# Summer Olympic Games Sports Word Search

Name: \_\_\_\_\_



Circle or highlight each of the following words as you find it in the word search grid. Words may run across, down, up, backwards and diagonally and may overlap.

- |            |            |               |               |
|------------|------------|---------------|---------------|
| ARCHERY    | FENCING    | ROWING        | TRACK         |
| ATHLETICS  | FIELD      | RUGBY         | TRAMPOLINE    |
| BADMINTON  | GOLF       | SAILING       | TRIATHLON     |
| BASKETBALL | GYMNASTICS | SHOOTING      | VOLLEYBALL    |
| BOXING     | HANDBALL   | SKATEBOARDING | WALKING       |
| BREAKING   | HOCKEY     | SQUASH        | WATER POLO    |
| CANOEING   | JUDO       | SURFING       | WEIGHTLIFTING |
| CYCLING    | KARATE     | SWIMMING      | WRESTLING     |
| DIVING     | LACROSSE   | TAEKWONDO     |               |
| EQUESTRIAN | PENTATHLON | TENNIS        |               |

# Summer Olympic Games Host City Word Search

Name: \_\_\_\_\_



Circle or highlight each of the following words as you find it in the word search grid. Words may run across, down, up and may overlap.

AMSTERDAM  
ANTWERP  
ATHENS  
ATLANTA  
BARCELONA  
BEIJING

BERLIN  
HELSINKI  
LONDON  
LOS ANGELES  
MELBOURNE  
MEXICO CITY

MONTREAL  
MOSCOW  
MUNICH  
PARIS  
ROME  
SEOUL

STOCKHOLM  
ST. LOUIS  
SYDNEY  
TOKYO



# Summer Olympic Games Research

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name the city and country that hosted the Summer Olympics for each of these years.

1896 \_\_\_\_\_

1904 \_\_\_\_\_

1972 \_\_\_\_\_

1996 \_\_\_\_\_

2000 \_\_\_\_\_

1948 \_\_\_\_\_

1988 \_\_\_\_\_

1956 \_\_\_\_\_

2012 \_\_\_\_\_

1976 \_\_\_\_\_

1952 \_\_\_\_\_

1968 \_\_\_\_\_

1992 \_\_\_\_\_

1912 \_\_\_\_\_

2024 \_\_\_\_\_

# Olympic Athlete Research Sheet

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

*Choose an athlete and research the following details.*

Athlete's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Place of birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Sport: \_\_\_\_\_

Country they represent: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Olympic Games attended: \_\_\_\_\_

Years they competed at the Olympics: \_\_\_\_\_



**Photo**

Have they won any medals? YES NO

If yes, how many;

Gold \_\_\_\_\_

Silver \_\_\_\_\_

Bronze \_\_\_\_\_

# Olympic Athlete Research Sheet

Three interesting facts about this athlete

1. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Why I find this athlete inspirational:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

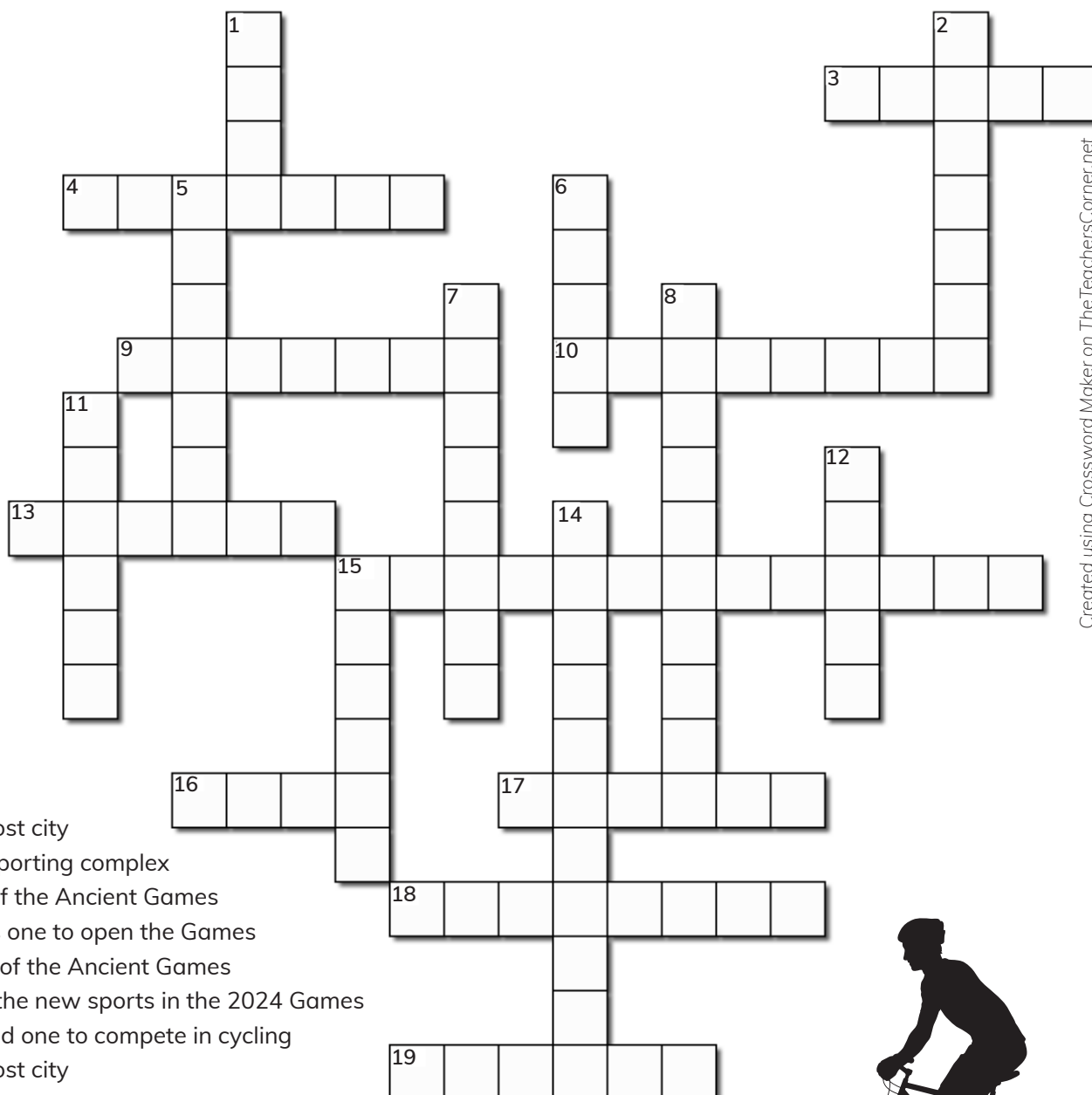
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



# Olympic Games Crossword

Name: \_\_\_\_\_



Created using Crossword Maker on TheTeachersCorner.net

## Across

3. 2024 host city
4. Large sporting complex
9. Home of the Ancient Games
10. There is one to open the Games
13. County of the Ancient Games
15. One of the new sports in the 2024 Games
16. You need one to compete in cycling
17. 1896 host city
18. A long distance race
19. Colour of third place medal

## Down

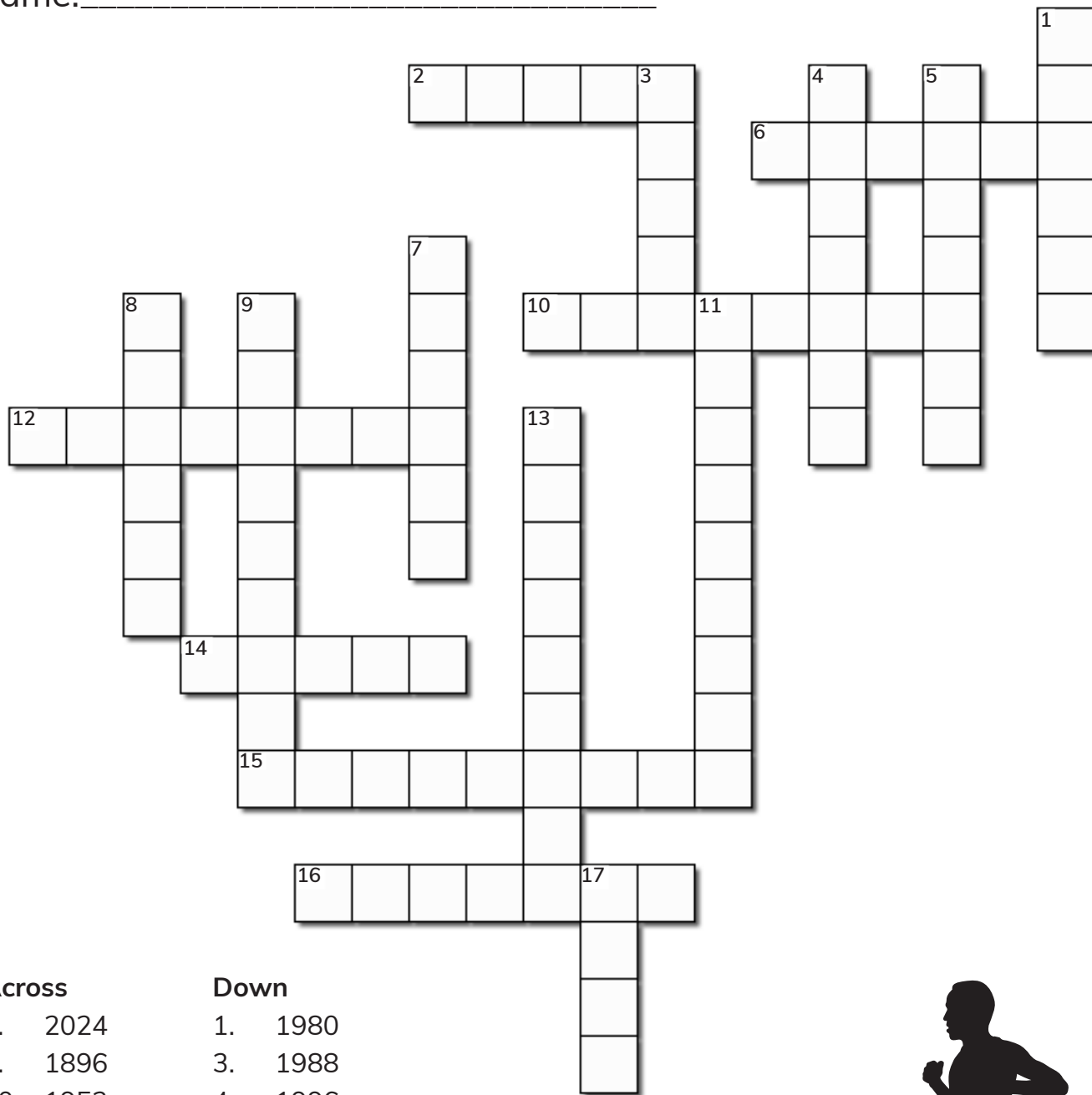
1. Colour of first place medal
2. Sport with bows and arrows
5. Person who competes
6. Carries the Olympic flame on its long journey
7. One of the sports removed from the 2024 roster
8. You bounce high on one of these

11. A \_\_\_\_\_ of athletes enters the stadium during the opening ceremony
12. This is awarded to athletes
14. A multi-event competition
15. Colour of second place medal



# Summer Olympic Host Cities Crossword

Name: \_\_\_\_\_



**Across**

- 2. 2024
- 6. 1896
- 10. 1952
- 12. 1976
- 14. 1964
- 15. 1928
- 16. 1920

**Down**

- 1. 1980
- 3. 1988
- 4. 1996
- 5. 2008
- 7. 1936
- 8. 1948
- 9. 1992
- 11. 1912
- 13. 1956
- 17. 1960



Created using Crossword Maker on TheTeachersCorner.net

# Modern Olympic Games

## True or False



Read each statement below and circle it as true or false.

The first modern Olympic Games was held in 1896. True / False

The Olympic Flame for each games is ignited in Olympia, Greece. True / False

The official Olympic languages are German and English. True / False

There are 6 rings in the Olympic logo. True / False

Breaking is a new sport at the 2024 Paris Olympic Games. True / False

The Paralympic Games are held in the same year as the Olympic Games. True / False

The Olympic Games have never been canceled. True / False

The Olympic Torch Relay is only carried by runners. True / False

The 2024 Paris medals contain a small piece of the Eiffel Tower. True / False

Female athletes have competed at all Modern Olympics. True / False

The 2020 Tokyo Olympics were held in 2021. True / False

The Torch relay was first introduced at the 1940 Olympic Games. True / False

Swimming events have been held at all Modern Olympic Games. True / False

# Olympic Games Activity Pack

## Answer Sheets

US Spelling/US Letter page size



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# Summer Olympic Games

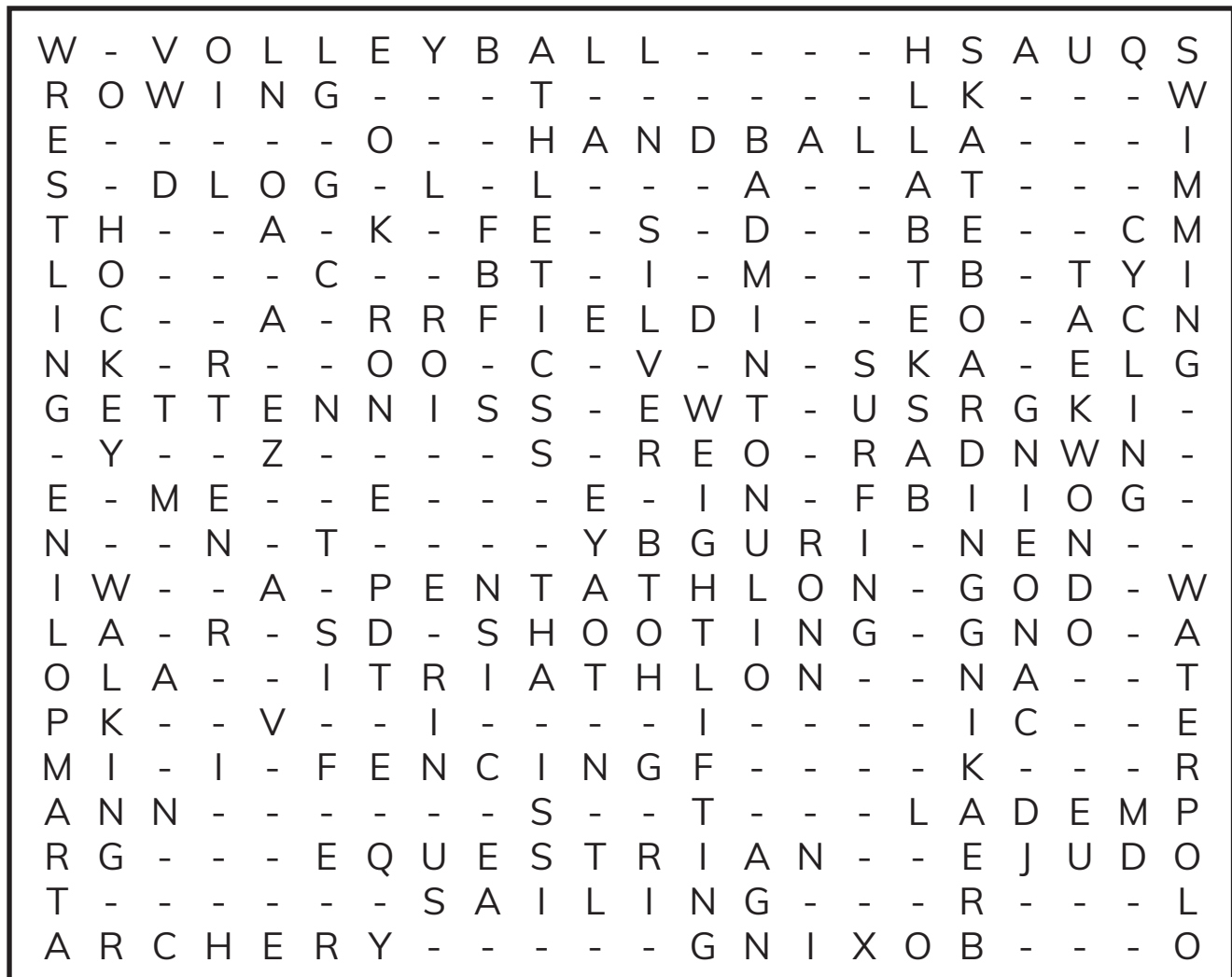
## Sports Equipment Word Scramble

ENISTN CQUETAR	TENNIS RAQUET
MISMWNGI PCA	SWIMMING CAP
KCOYEH KCSIT	HOCKEY STICK
OVYELL LABL	VOLLEY BALL
TCHAY	YACHT
EVJANIL	JAVELIN
HTOS TPU	SHOT PUT
FLIRE	RIFLE
UROBFADRS	SURFBOARD
ONEAC	CANOE
CBELYCI	BICYCLE
DRTEKOSBAA	SKATEBOARD
IIVNGD ORDAB	DIVING BOARD
XBOGNI SVLGOE	BOXING GLOVES
SOREH	HORSE
RWORA	ARROW



# Summer Olympic Games

## Sports Word Search



Circle or highlight each of the following words as you find it in the word search grid. Words may run across, down, up, backwards and diagonally and may overlap.

ARCHERY  
ATHLETICS  
BADMINTON  
BASKETBALL  
BOXING  
BREAKING  
CANOEING  
CYCLING  
DIVING  
EQUESTRIAN

FENCING  
FIELD  
GOLF  
GYMNASTICS  
HANDBALL  
HOCKEY  
JUDO  
KARATE  
LACROSSE  
PENTATHLON

ROWING  
RUGBY  
SAILING  
SHOOTING  
SKATEBOARDING  
SQUASH  
SURFING  
SWIMMING  
TAEKWONDO  
TENNIS

TRACK  
TRAMPOLINE  
TRIATHLON  
VOLLEYBALL  
WALKING  
WATER POLO  
WEIGHTLIFTING  
WRESTLING

# Summer Olympic Games

## Host City Word Search



Circle or highlight each of the following words as you find it in the word search grid. Words may run across, down, up and may overlap.

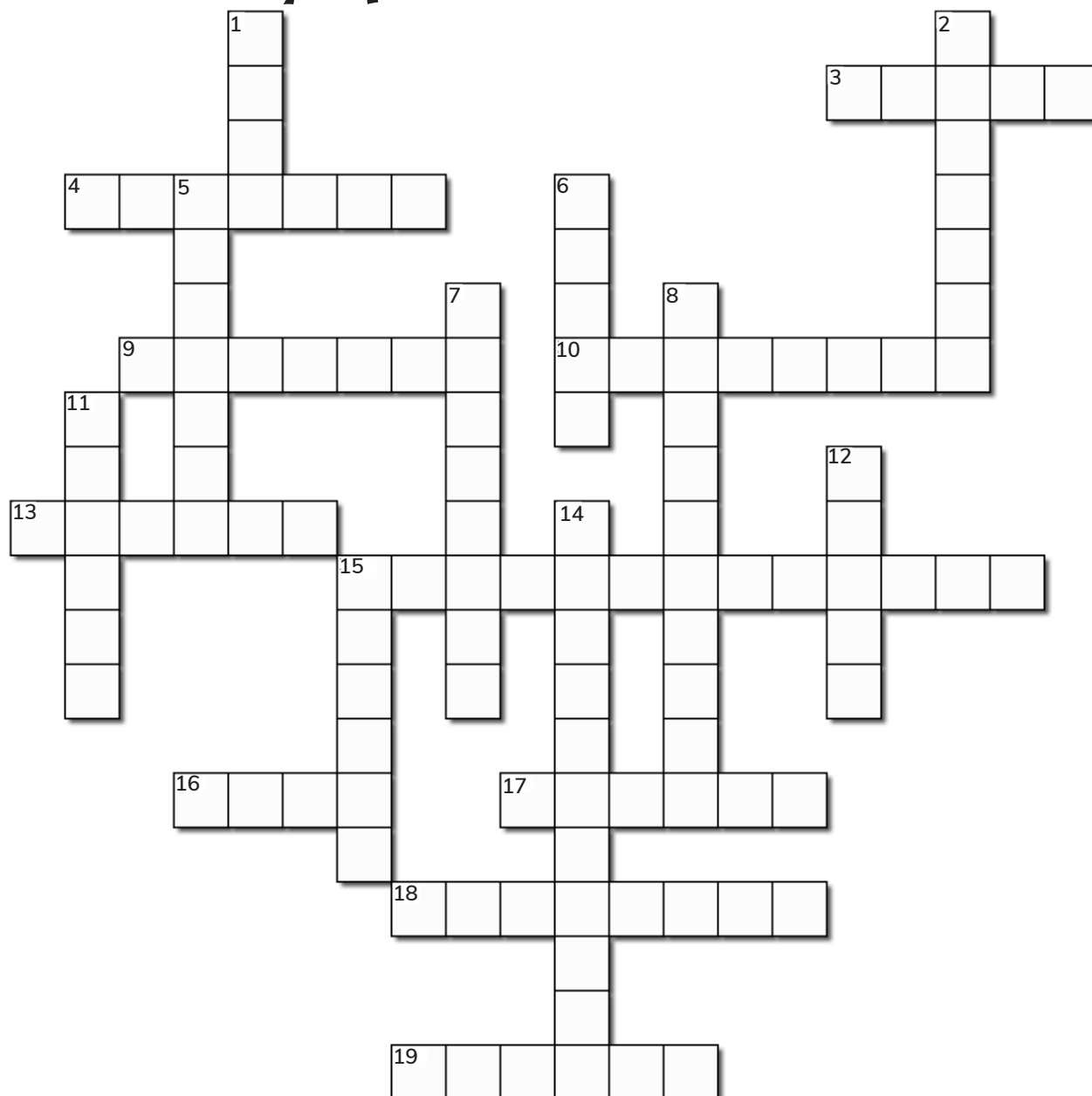
- |           |             |          |           |
|-----------|-------------|----------|-----------|
| AMSTERDAM | BERLIN      | MONTREAL | STOCKHOLM |
| ANTWERP   | HELSINKI    | MOSCOW   | ST. LOUIS |
| ATHENS    | LONDON      | MUNICH   | SYDNEY    |
| ATLANTA   | LOS ANGELES | PARIS    | TOKYO     |
| BARCELONA | MELBOURNE   | ROME     |           |
| BEIJING   | MEXICO CITY | SEOUL    |           |

# Summer Olympic Games Research

Name the city and country that hosted the Summer Olympics for each of these years.

1896	Athens, Greece
1904	St Louis, USA
1972	Munich, West Germany
1996	Atlanta, USA
2000	Sydney, Australia
1948	London, England
1988	Seoul, South Korea
1956	Melbourne, Australia
2012	London, England
1976	Montreal, Canada
1952	Helsinki, Finland
1968	Mexico City, Mexico
1992	Barcelona, Spain
1912	Stockholm, Sweden
2024	Paris, France

# Olympic Games Crossword



Created using Crossword Maker on TheTeachersCorner.net

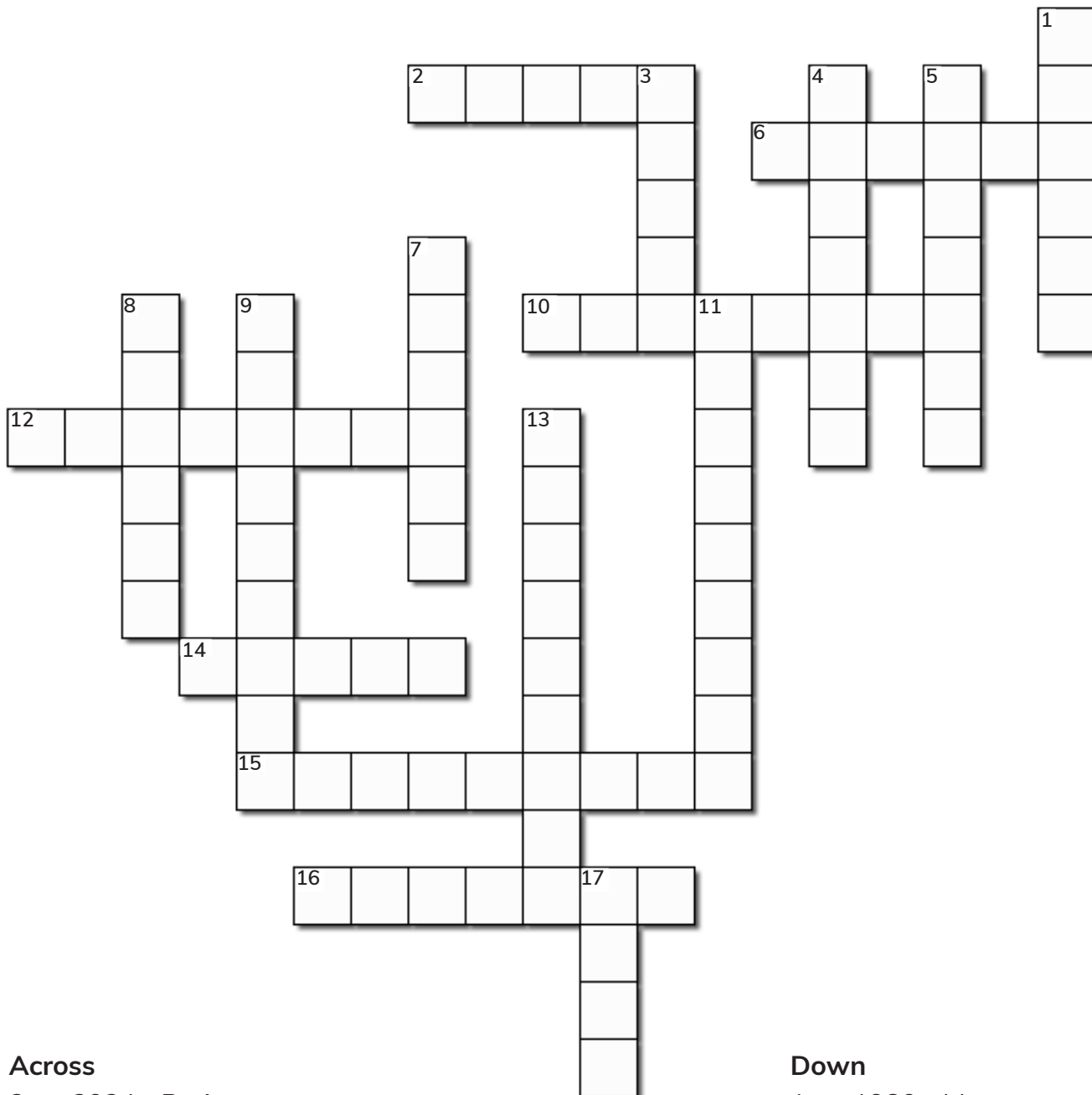
## Across

3. 2024 host city - PARIS
4. Large sporting complex - STADIUM
9. Home of the Ancient Games - OLYMPIA
10. There is one to open the Games - CEREMONY
13. County of the Ancient Games - GREECE
15. One of the newer sports in the 2024 Games - SKATEBOARDING
16. You need one to compete in cycling - BIKE
17. 1896 host city - ATHENS
18. A long distance race - MARATHON
19. Colour of third place medal - BRONZE

## Down

1. Colour of first place medal - GOLD
2. Sport with bows and arrows - ARCHERY
5. Person who competes - ATHLETE
6. Carries the Olympic flame on its long journey - TORCH
7. One of the sports removed from the 2024 roster - BASEBALL
8. You bounce high on one of these - TRAMPOLINE
11. A PARADE of athletes enters the stadium during the opening ceremony
12. This is awarded to athletes - MEDAL
14. A multi-event competition - PENTATHALON
15. Colour of second place medal - SILVER

# Summer Olympic Host Cities Crossword



## Across

- 2. 2024 - Paris
- 6. 1896 - Athens
- 10. 1952 - Helsinki
- 12. 1976 - Montreal
- 14. 1964 - Tokyo
- 15. 1928 - Amsterdam
- 16. 1920 - Antwerp

## Down

- 1. 1980 - Moscow
- 3. 1988 - Seoul
- 4. 1996 - Atlanta
- 5. 2008 - Beijing
- 7. 1936 - Berlin
- 8. 1948 - London
- 9. 1992 - Barcelona
- 11. 1912 - Stockholm
- 13. 1956 - Melbourne
- 17. 1960 - Rome

# Modern Olympic Games

## True or False

*Read each statement below and circle it as true or false.*

- |  |              |
|--|--------------|
| The first modern Olympic Games was held in 1896.                     | <b>True</b>  |
| The Olympic Flame for each games is ignited in Olympia, Greece.      | <b>True</b>  |
| The official Olympic languages are German and English.               | <b>False</b> |
| There are 6 rings in the Olympic logo.                               | <b>False</b> |
| Breaking is a new sport at the 2024 Paris Olympic Games.             | <b>True</b>  |
| The Paralympic Games are held in the same year as the Olympic Games. | <b>True</b>  |
| The Olympic Games have never been canceled.                          | <b>False</b> |
| The Olympic Torch Relay is only carried by runners.                  | <b>False</b> |
| The 2024 Paris medals contain a small piece of the Eiffel Tower.     | <b>True</b>  |
| Female athletes have competed at all Modern Olympics.                | <b>False</b> |
| The 2020 Tokyo Olympics were held in 2021.                           | <b>True</b>  |
| The Torch relay was first introduced at the 1940 Olympic Games.      | <b>False</b> |
| Swimming events have been held at all Modern Olympic Games.          | <b>True</b>  |

# Summer Olympic Games Host Cities

1896	Athens, Greece	2000	Sydney, Australia
1900	Paris, France	2004	Athens, Greece
1904	St. Louis, USA	2008	Beijing, China
1908	London, England	2012	London, England
1912	Stockholm, Sweden	2016	Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
1916	Cancelled ( <i>WWI – Berlin had been awarded</i> )	2020	Tokyo, Japan ( <i>postponed to 2021 due to the coronavirus pandemic</i> )
1920	Antwerp, Belgium	2024	Paris, France
1924	Paris, France	2028	Los Angeles, USA
1928	Amsterdam, Netherlands	2032	Brisbane, Australia
1932	Los Angeles, USA		
1936	Berlin, Germany		
1940	Cancelled ( <i>WWII – Tokyo had been awarded</i> )		
1944	Cancelled ( <i>WWII – London had been awarded</i> )		
1948	London, England		
1952	Helsinki, Finland		
1956	Melbourne, Australia		
1960	Rome, Italy		
1964	Tokyo, Japan		
1968	Mexico City, Mexico		
1972	Munich, West Germany		
1976	Montreal, Canada		
1980	Moscow, Soviet Union		
1984	Los Angeles, USA		
1988	Seoul, South Korea		
1992	Barcelona, Spain		
1996	Atlanta, USA		

# Winter Olympic Games Host Cities

- 1924 Chamonix, France
- 1928 St. Moritz, Switzerland
- 1932 Lake Placid, USA
- 1936 Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany
- 1940 Cancelled (WWII – Sapporo had been awarded)
- 1944 Cancelled (WWII – Cortina d’Ampezzo had been awarded)
- 1948 St. Moritz, Switzerland
- 1952 Oslo, Norway
- 1956 Cortina d’Ampezzo, Italy
- 1960 Squaw Valley, USA
- 1964 Innsbruck, Austria
- 1968 Grenoble, France
- 1972 Sapporo, Japan
- 1976 Innsbruck, Austria
- 1980 Lake Placid, USA
- 1984 Sarajevo, Yugoslavia
- 1988 Calgary, Canada
- 1992 Albertville, France
- 1994 Lillehammer, Norway
- 1998 Nagano, Japan
- 2002 Salt Lake City, USA
- 2006 Turin, Italy
- 2010 Vancouver, Canada
- 2014 Sochi, Russia
- 2018 Pyeongchang, South Korea
- 2022 Beijing, China
- 2026 Milan – Cortina d’Ampezzo, Italy



# Paralympic Host Cities

## Summer Paralympic Games

- 1960 Rome, Italy
- 1964 Tokyo, Japan
- 1968 Tel Aviv, Israel
- 1972 Heidelberg, West Germany
- 1976 Toronto, Canada
- 1980 Arnhem, Netherlands
- 1984 Stoke Mandeville, England & New York, USA
- 1988 Seoul, South Korea
- 1992 Barcelona, Spain
- 1996 Atlanta, USA
- 2000 Sydney, Australia
- 2004 Athens, Greece
- 2008 Beijing, China
- 2012 London, England
- 2016 Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
- 2020 Tokyo, Japan (*postponed to 2021 due to the coronavirus pandemic*)
- 2024 Paris, France
- 2028 Los Angeles, USA
- 2032 Brisbane, Australia

## Winter Paralympic Games

- 1976 Örnsköldsvik, Sweden
- 1980 Geilo, Norway
- 1984 Innsbruck, Austria
- 1988 Innsbruck, Austria
- 1992 Tignes-Albertville, France
- 1994 Lillehammer, Norway
- 1998 Nagano, Japan
- 2002 Salt Lake City, USA
- 2006 Turin, Italy
- 2010 Vancouver, Canada
- 2014 Sochi, Russia
- 2018 Pyeongchang, South Korea
- 2022 Beijing, China
- 2026 Milan – Cortina d'Ampezzo, Italy