

London – three-time Olympic host city

1908

London steps in to host at short notice when Rome pulls out after eruption of Mt. Vesuvius



1948

"Austerity Games" held on shoestring budget are first for 12 years due to World War II



2012

London is first city to host three Olympics. Paralympic Games will be biggest ever



Dates and duration

Apr 27-Oct 31
Longest Games in Olympic history

188
DAYS

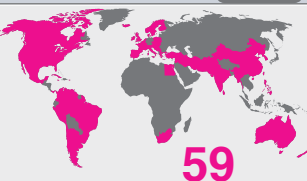
Jul 29-Aug 14

17
DAYS

Jul 27-Aug 12, Aug 29-Sep 9
(Paralympics)

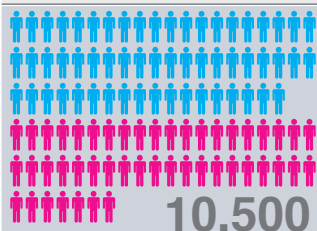
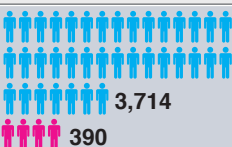
28
DAYS

Number of participating countries

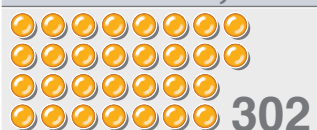
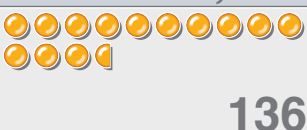
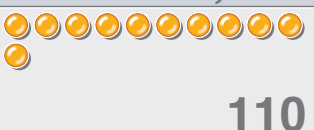


Number of participating athletes

Male Female



Number of events



Debut events

Diving, hockey, tug of war

Men's 10km walk, women's 200m, long jump and shot put, women's canoeing

Women's boxing

Olympic stadiums
Capacity



White City Stadium, 130,000

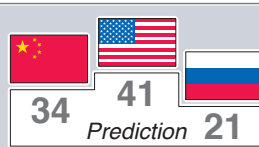
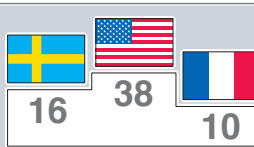
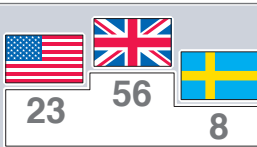


Wembley Stadium, 85,000



Olympic Stadium, 80,000

Countries winning most gold medals



Cost

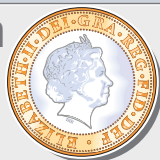
£75,000
Equal to **£7 million** in 2012 prices



£750,000
Equal to **£23 million** in 2012 prices



£9.3bn
Coin shown 10% actual size relative to other coins



Olympic trivia

- First Olympics to feature modern-day marathon of 26.2 miles (42.2km)
- Swimming held in outdoor pool constructed in centre of stadium
- Australia and New Zealand compete jointly under name of Australasia

- First Olympics shown on home television. Audience of 500,000 in British Isles
- Starting blocks used for first time in athletics sprint races
- Germany and Japan not invited to compete. Soviet Union fails to attend

- First Games to feature fully integrated Olympics and Paralympics
- First ever live 3D Olympic Games, with over 200 hours of coverage
- Olympic site among largest urban parks built in Europe for 150 years