

London Olympics 2012



Aquatics centre

Inside the velodrome

Soccercity



Third largest stadium in Britain

The London Olympic Stadium will be the centrepiece of the 2012 Summer Olympics and Paralympics, and the venue of the athletic events as well as the opening and closing ceremonies of the games. The stadium is located at Marshgate Lane in Stratford in the Lower Lea Valley and has capacity for the games of approximately 80,000 making it temporarily the third largest stadium in Britain behind Wembley Stadium and Twickenham Stadium. Land preparation for the stadium began in mid 2007, with the official construction start date on 22 May 2008, although piling works for the foundation unofficially began four weeks ahead of that date.

The stadium design was launched on November 7, 2007. The architect, Populous, is an architectural firm specialising in the design of sports facilities and convention centres, as well as planning of major special events. Construction took four years from 2007 to 2011.

As a "unique 80,000 seat stadium, it will be the centrepiece for the 2012 Games, hosting the opening and closing ceremonies and the athletics events, converting down to a 60,000 seat permanent stadium after the Games.

There will be no food outlets inside the 80,000-seat arena, which reduces the need for kitchens and higher levels of fire protection associated with cooking. Instead, architects have planned party concourses outside the stadium inspired by the successful fan zones at the 2006 World Cup in Germany, where spectators gathered to eat and drink and watch the action on big screens. It has also been suggested that toilet areas known as "pods" could be created from recycled shipping containers with the water and sewage management self contained within, reducing the need for costly plumbing and facilitating the dismantling of the structure once in legacy mode.

To allow for fast on site assembly, compression truss and roof column connections were bolted; this will also enable easy disassembling of the roof structure after the closing ceremonies. The cable supported roof structure will cover approximately two thirds of the stadium's seating. A six month study conducted by Olympic organisers found that while no roof at all could invalidate any potential world records set at the stadium, a partial roof, reduced the chance of winds that can invalidate sprint and jump records from 50% to 5%. The roof will be made from a phthalate-free polyvinyl chloride (PVC) fabric to keep costs down.

Courtesy: Wikipedia



Olympic Roller Coaster

