SYDNEY 2000
AT A GLANCE

Dates
The Games of the XXVII Olympiad will take place from Friday 15 September to Sunday 1 October 2000.

Election
Sydney was chosen as the host city for the Games on 23 September 1993 at the 101st IOC Session in Monaco. The other candidate cities were Berlin, Germany; Manchester, Great Britain; Beijing, People’s Republic of China; and Istanbul, Turkey.

Organizing Committee
SOCOG is responsible for the planning and organization of the Games. It is made up of a board of fifteen members, presided over by Michael Knight, New South Wales’ Minister for the Olympics and Paralympic Games. The Government of New South Wales, through the Olympic Coordination Agency (OCA), is also in charge of providing venues and facilities.

The logo – the Millennium Athlete
Unveiled to the public on 14 September 1996, four years before the eve of the Opening Ceremony of the Games in Sydney, the logo represents the promise made during the bid to host Games which would be dedicated to athletes all over the world. The silhouette of an athlete, with instantly recognizable Australian shapes and colours, symbolizes the very essence of Sydney’s aspirations for the Games. Boomerangs and the allusion to sun and rocks, with the colours of the port, beaches and red earth, evoke the unique landscape of Australia and its first inhabitants. The white flash transforms the silhouette of the Sydney Opera House into an undulating line of smoke which symbolizes the Olympic flame. The logo brings together the colours of the three elements, water, earth and fire, and the silhouette of the Millennium Athlete sets Sydney and Australia on their Olympic route.

Mascots
Syd the platypus, Millie the echidna and Olly the kookaburra encapsulate the essence of Australia. Representing earth, air and water, their names come from the words Sydney, Millennium and Olympic Games.

Syd is a team player and a natural leader. He is attentive, dynamic and enthusiastic, and his vigour and sense of humour reflect that of Australia and its people.

Millie is a born optimist and a whizz at technology, and she has her sights set resolutely on the future. Decisive and analytically-minded, Millie can sometimes be abrupt and authoritarian.

Olly is sociable, honest and open-hearted. He is a fact-finder and a communicator, always flying around to find out the latest news from around the world.

The Olympic Programme
Sports: 28 (athletics, rowing, badminton, baseball, basketball, boxing,
canoe/kayak, cycling, equestrian sports, fencing, football, gymnastics, weightlifting, handball, hockey, judo, wrestling, swimming, modern pentathlon, softball, taekwondo, tennis, table tennis, shooting, archery, triathlon, sailing, volleyball)

Number and percentage of women: 4,000 (40%)
Officials: 5,100

Media
15,000 accredited journalists and technicians
Global television audience estimated at over 3.5 billion
3,200 hours of broadcasting
Television rights: total amount of US$ 1,330,600,000 (as of 15 April 2000).

Venues
37 Olympic venues, most of which are situated in Sydney Olympic Park, in Homebush Bay. Sydney’s other main sports complexes include the city centre (triathlon); Darling Harbour (boxing, judo, volleyball, weightlifting, fencing, wrestling); Moore Park (football, road cycling); Rushcutters Bay (sailing); and Bondi Beach (beach volleyball). Other venues include Bankstown (track cycling); Blacktown (softball, second baseball venue); Cecil Park (shooting); Fairfield (mountain biking); Penrith Lakes (flatwater canoe-kayak, rowing); Penrith Whitewater Stadium (slalom canoe-kayak); Horsley Park (equestrian sports); Ryde (waterpolo); and Brisbane, Canberra, Melbourne and Adelaide (preliminary football matches).

Tickets
More than 9 million tickets have been put on sale, with five million set aside for the Australian public. This is the largest number of tickets ever made available by a host country to its inhabitants.

Volunteers
There are approximately more than 50,000 volunteers for the Games of the XXVII Olympiad and the Paralympic Games.

Olympic Village
For the first time in Olympic history, all the athletes will stay in a single

Number of participants (provisional)
Athletes: 10,200
Number and percentage of men: 6,200 (60%)
Olympic Village. All the competition venues are a 30-minute trip away from the Village. All the training venues are less than an hour away by road.

Transport
Free travel will be available for all ticket holders on an extensive Olympic transport system extending to all Olympic sites. The free Olympic transport system covers metropolitan Sydney and extends to the following key regional areas: Newcastle, Dungog and Scone in the Hunter Valley; Port Kembla and Nowra to the south; Goulburn to the south-west; and through the Blue Mountains to Bathurst. Sydney’s transport system will also provide secure, quick, reliable and convenient transport for athletes, the Olympic Family and the media during the Games. A new rail link, which will connect with Sydney’s main western line, will bring spectators to the new Olympic Park Railway Station, a short walk from all the sporting facilities at Homebush. At peak times, the station will be serviced by 30 trains an hour, carrying up to 50,000 people an hour during the Games. Bus stations holding 36 buses at a time will be able to move up to 28,000 people an hour. Train and bus services will be supplemented by ferries.

SOCOG is covering the return air travel costs of all the athletes and accredited officials, as well as the return freight costs for sports equipment, including horses, yachts, rowing boats, canoes and kayaks, which will be used in the Olympic competitions.

Budget
About A$ 2,350 billion.

Climate
The Games are taking place in early Spring, during the driest month of the year, with temperatures ranging from 16 to 20°C, and an average daily humidity of 62% at 9 a.m. and 51% at 3 p.m.

Tourism
Thanks to the Games, 1.6 million additional tourists will have visited Australia between 1997 and 2004.

Australia, the island continent
Surface area: 4000 km from east to west, 3700 km from north to south. Approximately 17 million inhabitants, mainly on the coast and in the south. Geographically, Australia is the oldest land mass in the world, and also the driest and least polluted. Canberra is the capital city.

New South Wales
Australia’s first and oldest state, comprising the most inhabitants (800,000 km2 – the equivalent of France and Italy or Texas and Louisiana, with 5.5 million inhabitants). It is the industrial and economic heart of Australia. It is also the capital of advanced technology, on the cutting edge of research and development.

Sydney
The capital of New South Wales, and Australia’s largest and oldest city. It covers 1,700 km2, the surface area of Los Angeles or two-and-a-half times the size of Rome. The main finance, commerce, industry, media and telecommunications centre, it is situated on the eastern coast of Australia, with over forty idyllic beaches which are perfect for surfing, the most famous probably being Bondi, Coogee, Manly and Tamarama. Sydney, a sprawling metropolis with almost four million inhabitants, the equivalent of San Francisco or Rome, is constantly changing. Like New York, the city is made up of a string of small enclaves. It is a cultural mosaic, made up of Glebe and Newtown, the

The relay route of the Olympic torch in Australia.
bohemian areas; Surry Hills, Darlinghurst and Paddington, which attract the artists; the north shore is an affluent area; and the suburbs, which have enticed a group of the population with newly-acquired wealth. The west, towards Bankstown and Penrith, is populated by working class people from a variety of backgrounds, and it is not uncommon to find exotic restaurants alongside the area’s more run-of-the-mill shops.

Sources: SOCOG Website; Brochure “Sydney Australia” (published by the International Sporting Events Council for the Government of New South Wales); SOCOG Media Guide.

QUOTATIONS ON SYDNEY

Australia’s staging of the 2000 Olympic Games will add greatly to our international image as a sporting nation. We are well known for our sporting prowess and for our belief that everyone is entitled to a fair go, an attitude which truly embodies the Olympic spirit. The Games represent a unique opportunity for the rest of the world to gain a greater understanding and appreciation of our wonderful nation.

John Howard
Prime Minister of Australia

I cannot think of a better place in the entire world, a more shining example of how people can come together as one nation and one community than Sydney, Australia. If you can live by the rules which govern the Olympics and show that light to the world, it will stand as a beacon of hope for all that everyone who lives on the face of the earth can become in this great new century. That will be the enduring legacy of Sydney in the year 2000.

Bill Clinton
President of the United States of America

Our hosting of the Olympic Games will cement Sydney’s place as one of the truly great cities of the world. The Games offer us unparalleled opportunities, not only to take advantage of the world’s spotlight for our business and economic future, but also to provide all Australians with memories that will last a lifetime.

Michael Knight
President of SOCOG and New South Wales Minister for the Olympics

At the dawn of a new millennium, the mission of SOCOG is to deliver to the athletes of the world and to the Olympic Movement on behalf of all Australians, the most harmonious, athlete-oriented, technically-excellent and culturally enhancing Olympic Games of the modern era.

Sandy Hollway
SOCOG Chief Executive Officer

General view of the monorail and Tower in Sydney
Australia is a nation that reveres its sporting heroes. The largest street crowd in Australia’s history lined Sydney’s streets to welcome home Australia’s Olympians after their return from Barcelona.

Sydney’s bid sought to make the 2000 Games the strongest expression of hope, fraternity, peace and harmony between all peoples, In the words of this song written on the occasion of the Australian bid:

**OLYMPIC SONG**

We want to share the century's dawn
A golden age will reign
Where the spirit of competition
Burns so bright in the eternal flame
Share your hopes
Share your dreams
Share the spirit of the Games

We all share the same sun
The same dream, the same earth, the same air
The spirit is the one
The spirit's you and me
The spirit of the dream that we all share
The spirit of the dream that we all share
The spirit of sport, the spirit of sharing
The spirit of striving, the spirit of daring
The spirit of hope, of woman, of man
The spirit of clasping a rival's hand
The spirit of challenge, the spirit of a smile
The spirit of going that extra mile

We want to share the winner’s joy
Share the glory and the fame
Not only in the victory
But share the spirit of the Games
Come share our hopes
Share our dreams
Share the spirit of the flame
We all share the same sun
The same dream, the same earth, the same air
The spirit is the one
The spirit's you and me
The spirit of the dream that we all share
The spirit of the dream that we all share

Celebrating Sydney’s election in 1993.

An inside view of the Olympic Stadium.