

Los Angeles, 2.500.000 inhabitants. California, United States



THE TOWN

Situated in a plain bounded by the majestic Pacific Ocean in the west, and the foothills of the Sierra Nevada which form a natural barrier between the town and the vast expanse of the Mohave Desert, Los Angeles is the third biggest town in the Unites States.

The climate is subtropical and dry, the winter mild and sunny (average 16°), the summers with cool nights are almost completely free from rain (25 - 30°).

Consisting of several districts each of which is as big in area as a medium-sized European town, the city of Los Angeles is one of the most extensive in the world. Transport problems are solved by a system of raised urban motorways, known as freeways, which astound visitors the first times they see them.

Its population is very mixed, consisting of European as well as Asiatic and Mexican elements. The Gold Rush in 1849 was the beginning of a tremendous movement of immigration, which is still going on today and accounts for this gigantic growth.

From the Hollywood movie industry to the oil refineries, from the aeronautical industry at Long Beach to the orchards of citrus fruits, the economic resources are as varied as the population itself. Cultural life is very rich and sometimes lively. Los Angeles is a big entertainment centre, from Disneyland - a fantasy world - to the temples of modern jazz.

Its mayor is Mr. Sam YORTY.

SPORT

The Games of the XXth Olympiad in 1932, celebrated at Los Angeles, aroused such enthusiasm and keenness for sport among the population that ever since Los Angeles has never ceased to play a big part in sport.

Millions of people take part in the scheme for the encouragement of youth in Los Angeles which has made it possible, during the five Olympiads since the last world war, for over 400 competitors representing Los Angeles and its surroundings to take part in all the summer and winter sports except hockey. Out of the 393 members of the American team at the Mexico Games, 100 came from Los Angeles and of the 45 gold medals won by the United States, 12 were won by athletes from Los Angeles.

U.C.L.A. (University of California at Los Angeles), an institute of higher learning that places great emphasis on sport, and where Rafer JOHNSON (decathlon) was a trainer, each year admits many foreign students and athletes.

Since the 1932 Games, Los Angeles has been chosen five times for the United States final heats; in 1964, it organised the USA-USSR athletics meeting, in 1966 and 1967, the USA-Commonwealth athletics meeting; many world championships in particular boxing, baseball and football, have also been held here.

Another big help favouring the development of the Olympic Movement in Los Angeles is the HELMS Athletics. Foundation, which dates back to 1936 and was awarded the Olympic Cup in 1964. Its annual World Trophy enjoys international fame. It has awarded thousands of prizes to young students, future athletes, and has organised many sports events.

* Present installations:

Place	Sport	Number of seats	Distance from the centre
Memorial Coliseum :	Athletics	94,000	10'
Marine Stadium :	Rowing	20,000	45'
Rowing Course :			
Memorial Sport Arena :	Basketball	16,400	10'
Forum :	Boxing	17,000	20'
Marine Stadium :	Canoeing	20,000	45'
Encino Velodrome :	Cycling	7,000	45'
Los Angeles State College :	Fencing	5,000	10'
Pauley Pavilion :	Gymnastics	12,000	30'
Shrine Auditorium :	Weight-lifting	7,000	10'
Rancho Cienega Park :	Field hockey	10,000	20'
Pauley Pavilion :	Wrestling	12,000	30'
Griffith Park Range :	Modern Pentathlon	5,000	5'
Griffith Park :	Equestrian Sports	10,000	5'
Long Beach Arena :	Volleyball	14,000	30'
California State College :	Judo	5,000	30'

N.B. The sailing events will be held at either:

- . Newport Beach Marina, 50' from the centre
- . Cabrillo Beach Marina, 25' from the centre
- . or Marina del Rey, 45' from the centre

* The installations planned:

- . An open-air swimming pool with seating for 25,000 and a pool reserved for diving will be built by the city of Los Angeles.
- . An Equestrian Centre will be built thanks to the cooperation of the County of Los Angeles and the City of Los Angeles.
- . A new Shooting Range and a new Archery Range will also be built.

* The Olympic Village:

The site of the Village can be selected from among several near to the centre of town and in the vicinity of a point of convergence of highways.

All the sites chosen for the different events are served by this road network, and by a fast service of motor coaches which will start operating in 1975. A helicopter service will also provide connections with the more distant sites and will be placed at the disposal of participants and officials.

The Village will be subdivided into seven adjacent quarters corresponding to the seven main groups of countries taking part in the Games. Athletes will not be more than two to a room. Restaurants and other facilities such as boutiques, banks, post offices, etc. are also planned.

The nearness of stadiums and sports grounds will simplify the athletes' training.

* The Press Centre:

The Press Centre will be planned after consultation with a large number of journalists.

* Visitors' Accommodation:

Over 15 million people visit Los Angeles every year, some 5 million of whom are accommodated in the town itself. The hotel resources are therefore considerable and a total number of 15,000 rooms is expected for 1976.

* Cultural programme and demonstration sports:

The programme of artistic events proposed comprises a theatrical festival of Greek plays featuring the history of the ancient Olympiads, a world movie retrospective, an invitation to the sculptors of the whole world to decorate the town, an exhibition of graphic art and photographs, an exhibition of Oriental art, a festival of youth, a festival of poetry, music, dancing, etc . . .

The two demonstration sports proposed are American football and softball, which is played by boys and girls.

* Financing the Games:

The Games will be financed by the Government, commercial firms and television fees.

* Organising Committee:

. President: Mr. John B. KILROY

The Organising Committee intends to cooperate with a big firm specialising in organisation and to feed into electronic computers all the information supplied by all those who took part in the organisation of the 1932 Games and who have experience of the organisation of sports event.

* Dates planned:

. From August 7th to 21st, 1976.