



Denver, 1. 100. 000 inhabitants, Colorado, United States

THE TOWN

In the heart of the Frontier country, that is to say the Old West, where the buffalo used to roam, hunted by the Indians, Denver is situated on the banks of the river Platte, at a height of 5600 feet. It is the highest of the big American capitals with, in the west, the imposing range of the Rocky Mountains and, in the east, the vast open space of the Great Plains.

Its climate is continental: the average temperature varies between 0° and 10°C and there are about 315 days of sunshine a year.

The capital of Colorado is one of the five towns in the United States with the fastest rate of growth. Its population is expected to top the 2 million mark by 1985.

Even in the Frontier period, Denver was the educational, commercial and political centre of the west of the United States. The town was a meeting place for travellers and a recreational centre for the pioneers. Today it is a national and international crossroads for conventions and congresses, tourism and sports meetings.

Its Mayor is Mr. William M. Mc NICHOLS.

SPORT

There is a remarkable enthusiasm for all winter sports in Denver. Visitors who have taken part in competitions there bear witness to it. The World Skating Championships were held in Colorado in 1957, 1959, 1965 and 1969, as well as the National Figure Skating Championships. Owing to its central geographical position, Denver is the headquarters of national and regional athletics and sports organisations, in particular the United States Ski Association, and the President of the United States Olympic Committee, Mr. BUCK, also comes from Denver.

* The present installations:

At present Denver has the following installations:

- . A stadium seating 50,000 (used today for football and basketball) for the opening and closing ceremonies.
- . 2 ice stadiums:
The Coliseum, 9,000 seats, proposed for the free figures of the figure skating event and for the ice hockey matches, group A, 15 minutes from the Olympic Village.

The University of Denver skating rink, adjoining the Olympic Village, with seating for 5,000, planned for the set figures in the figure skating and for the ice hockey matches, group B.

* The installations planned:

In order to complete the organisation of the Games, it only remains to build the technical installations required for the Alpine and Nordic ski events as well as the speed-skating ice circuit.

- . Alpine events: All the Alpine events will be held in two ski resorts some 3 miles from each other. The women's giant slalom and the men's and women's slalom will be held in the existing resort of Loveland Basin, 45 min. from the Olympic Village. The men's and women's downhill and the men's giant slalom will be held at Mount Sniktau.
- . Nordic events: The sites chosen are situated in an immense park, Denver Mountain Parks, to the west of Denver, and belonging to the town. Ski-jumping, cross-country skiing and biathlon will be held there.
- . A speed-skating circuit for the 400 m event, with 5,000 seats.
For the figure skating and ice hockey events, it is planned to build a new "Coliseum" with seating for 20,000.
- . The toboggan and bobsleigh events will be held in the Denver Mountain Parks, not far from the area reserved for the Nordic events.

* The Olympic Village:

The University of Denver will be used for the Olympic Village. Situated in the southern part of Denver, about 10 min. from the centre, it will be able to accommodate 2,500 athletes. The special needs of athletes will be well catered for since the University group comprises many facilities such as a shopping centre, meeting halls, gymnasiums, a hospital centre, etc....

* Press Centre:

10 minutes from the Olympic Village is the ultra-modern Currigan Congress Centre (250,000 sq.ft.) which will be able to hold all the services required for the written and audio-visual press of the whole world. Journalists will be housed in rooms with 1 or 2 beds, in buildings located 10 min. from the Press Centre and equipped with all the necessary facilities: restaurants, swimming pools, saunas.

* Visitors:

Over 100,000 beds will be available in 1976, as well as all transport facilities. Denver is the 8th biggest airport in the United States (Stapleton) and many highways bring even the farthest ski slopes within 45 minutes of the centre.

* Cultural programme and demonstration sports:

The Colorado Council of Arts and Letters will coordinate and prepare the festivities to be held to celebrate not only the Games, but also the centenary of the accession of Colorado to the rank of state, and also in honour of the bi-centenary of the signature of the United States Declaration of Independence.

The demonstration sport chosen is "ski-jöring".

* Financing the Games:

As 80% of the installations already exist, there is no need for any crippling expenditure on infrastructure. The Games will be financed out of public and private funds and by the receipts from the Colorado Centenary Festivities and the Bicentenary of the USA.

* Organising Committee

Mr. William M. McNICHOLS is the President, the members of the Committee represent Denver's main financial, industrial and commercial establishments. 80% of the technical advisers helped in the preparation of the Winter Games at Squaw Valley in 1960. 11 members of the Committee attended the Grenoble Games as observers.

* Dates planned:

From Friday, February 20th, to Sunday, February 29th, 1976.