



London 2012 Olympic Games
Official spectator guide

Plan your travel

Getting to the Olympic Park

Great news! You can use the Games Travelcard sent to you with your ticket for free travel on public transport in London zones 1-9 on the day of your event, including to and from the Olympic Park. The recommended stations are:

Stratford – around 15-minute walk

Stratford International – around 15-minute walk

West Ham – around 25-minute walk

London will be very busy so leave plenty of time to get to the Olympic Park and be prepared for crowds. Plan and book your journey at london2012.com/travel and check it before you set off as things may change.

Or why not take the active option and get on your bike? There's secure cycle parking in Victoria Park (around 15-minute walk to Victoria Gate), and outside Eton Manor Gate and Greenway Gate. You'll also find walking and cycling routes on our website.

There is no spectator parking at the Olympic Park, except for pre-booked Blue Badge spaces.

For days when you're not going to a London 2012 sports event or ceremony, beat the queues for travel tickets and buy a Visitor Oyster card before you leave home at tfl.gov.uk/visitorshop

Accessible travel

If you've reserved Blue Badge parking, you'll receive details in the post soon. For more information, go to london2012.com/bluebadge

Stratford and Stratford International stations have step-free access, with staff assistance available.

Inside the venue you can use our free Games Mobility service, which loans out mobility vehicles on a first come, first served basis. Audio description and guiding are also available. Find out more at london2012.com/accessibility

BARCODE



Top tips

- 1 **Check the London 2012 website for the latest information** before you travel
- 2 **Remember your tickets!** Everyone needs a ticket for entry
- 3 **Aim to arrive at the Olympic Park two hours before** your session starts
- 4 The transport system and venues will be very busy so **leave plenty of time to travel and be prepared to wait** – it may also take a while to exit the Olympic Park once your session is over
- 5 You'll need to go through airport-style security when you arrive so make sure you've **read the list of items that aren't allowed inside the Olympic Park** at london2012.com/security
- 6 **Your bag must fit under your seat or on your lap**, if you can manage without one, even better – it will help speed up security checks
- 7 There's a **wide variety of healthy and tasty food** inside the venue
- 8 You can **pay by Visa (debit, credit or prepaid) or cash (£) only**
- 9 **Check the weather forecast and come prepared**, whether that means bringing a sun hat or rain jacket – we are in the UK after all!
- 10 The Olympic Park is very big – make sure you **wear comfortable shoes** so you can explore. If you've got a smartphone, **switch on Wi-Fi** and visit london2012.com to find fun things to do after your event

Welcome

This guide includes handy tips to help you get to your event and make the most of your Olympic experience. So have a good read – and don't forget to bring it on the day!

Arriving at the Olympic Park

Aim to be at the Olympic Park two hours before your session starts. When you get there, you'll be asked to go through airport-style security screening. With thousands of visitors arriving at the same time, there may be a queue.

One soft-sided bag is allowed per person – for example, a medium-sized handbag or small backpack (maximum 25 litres).

We want everyone to have a safe and enjoyable Games, so there are some things you can't bring into the Olympic Park. Go to london2012.com/security for the full list, which includes water and other liquids.

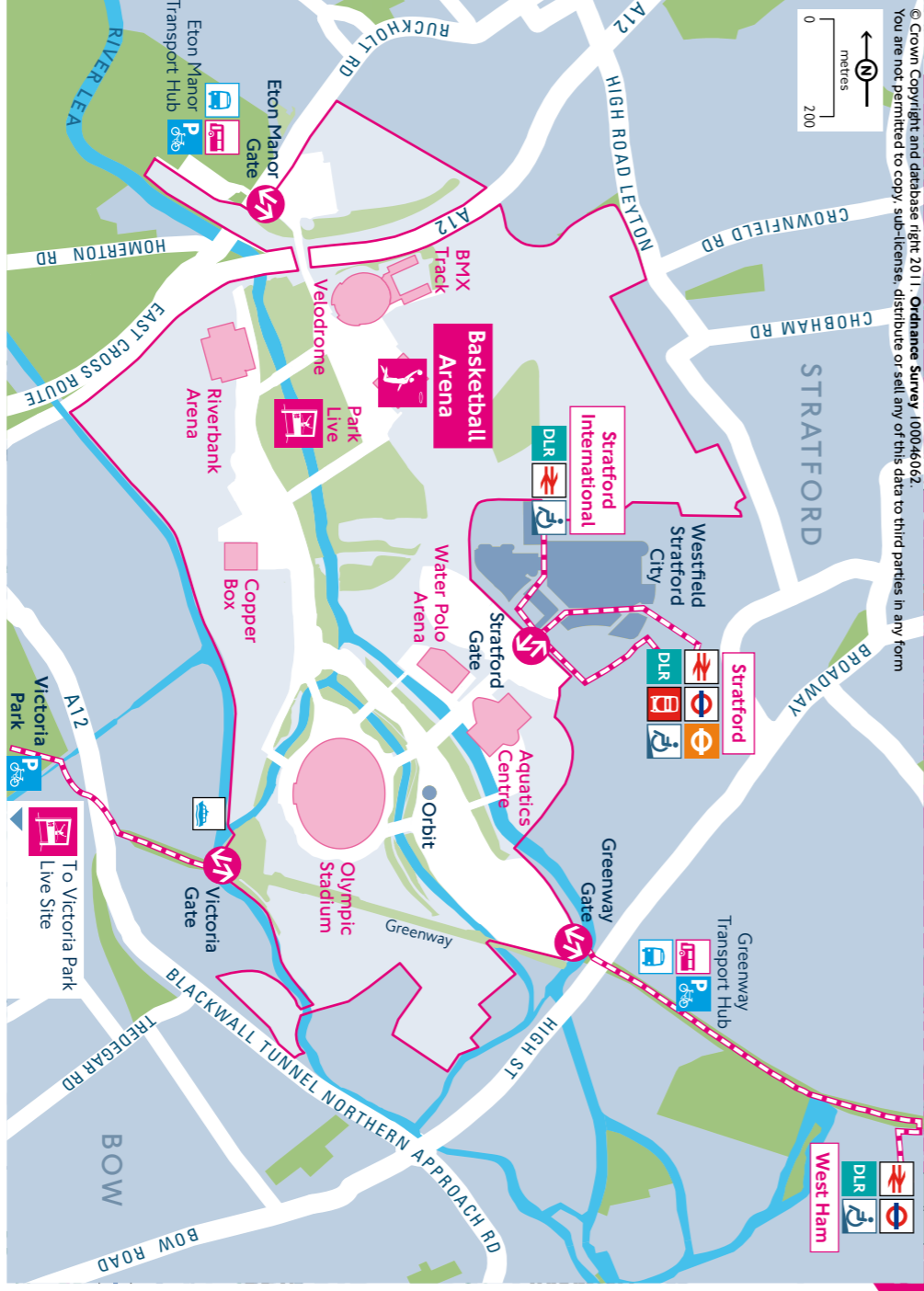
You'll need to have your ticket ready to be checked at the entrances to the Olympic Park and the Basketball Arena.

Arriving at the venue

You should aim to arrive at the Basketball Arena 75 minutes before your session. The Olympic Park is very big so it could take up to 30 minutes to get to the venue once you've gone through security screening.

Unless your session is the first of the day, you'll only be able to enter the seating area after all spectators from the previous session have left.

There's no readmission to the Olympic Park or the Basketball Arena.



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Key

	Stratford		London Underground		Park-and-ride shuttle bus pick-up/drop-off
	Recommended station for spectators		Docklands Light Railway		Cycle parking
	Event area during the Olympic Games		River services		Coach pick-up/drop-off
	Olympic Park entrance and exit		Bus station		Live Site
	Spectator access route		Station with step-free access and staff assistance		Games Mobility shuttle service will be available across the Olympic Park
	National Rail				

Basketball

From humble beginnings where peach baskets were used for goals, Basketball has evolved into one of the world's most popular team sports.

Sports info

Medal events	2
Athletes per team	12
Athletes per team on court	5
Total athletes	288 (12 teams in each event)

Session timetable

Day	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Date	Sat 28 Jul	Sun 29 Jul	Mon 30 Jul	Tue 31 Jul	Wed 1 Aug	Thu 2 Aug	Fri 3 Aug	Sat 4 Aug	Sun 5 Aug	Mon 6 Aug	Tue 7 Aug	Wed 8 Aug	Thu 9 Aug	Fri 10 Aug	Sat 11 Aug	Sun 12 Aug
	Basketball Arena										North Greenwich Arena					
Morning	09:00-13:00	09:00-13:00	09:00-13:00	09:00-13:00	09:00-13:00	09:00-13:00	09:00-13:00	09:00-13:00	09:00-13:00	09:00-13:00						11:00-13:00
Afternoon	14:30-18:30	14:30-18:30	14:30-18:30	14:30-18:30	14:30-18:30	14:30-18:30	14:30-18:30	14:30-18:30	14:30-18:30	14:30-18:30	14:00-18:00	14:00-18:00	17:00-19:00	17:00-19:00	17:00-19:00	15:00-17:30
Evening	20:00-00:00	20:00-00:00	20:00-00:00	20:00-00:00	20:00-00:00	20:00-00:00	20:00-00:00	20:00-00:00	20:00-00:00	20:00-00:00	20:00-00:00	20:00-00:00	21:00-23:00	21:00-23:00	21:00-23:30	

Sessions where gold medals will be decided and/or awarded are highlighted in bold

The history

Basketball was invented in 1891 by Dr James Naismith, a Canadian physical education teacher who wanted to create a game that could be played indoors during the winter by his students at the YMCA in Springfield, Massachusetts, USA. The first game took place in December 1891, using peach baskets for goals.

Men's Basketball first appeared on the Olympic programme at Berlin 1936, with the women's event introduced at Montreal 1976. Professional players were first allowed to compete at the Barcelona 1992 Games, when the famous US 'Dream Team' won gold in the men's event.

Did you know?

A total of 600 basketballs will be used during the London 2012 competition.

The basics

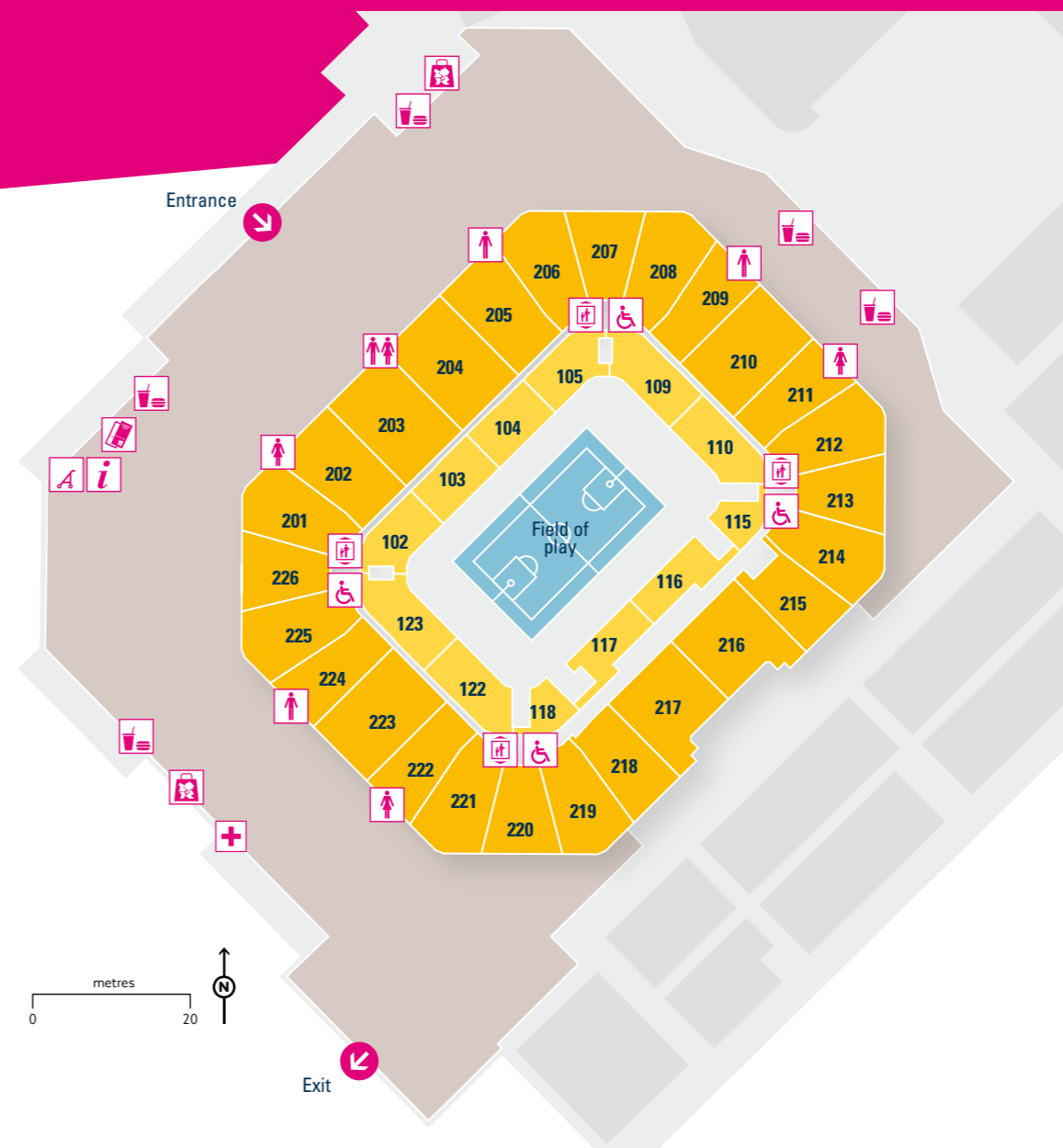
Basketball is played on an indoor court 28 metres long and 15m wide. Teams are made up of 12 players, with five on the court at any time and unlimited substitutions.

Two points are awarded for a regular shot from open play, one point for each successful free throw (following a foul) and three points for a shot from distance (beyond what's known as the three-point line, 6.75m from the basket). Games run for 40 minutes, and are split into four 10-minute quarters. The clock stops for breaks in play, such as fouls.

At London 2012, both the men's and women's competitions begin with a round-robin preliminary stage, with the 12 teams in each competition being divided into two groups of six. The top four teams in each group qualify for the quarter-finals and the bottom two are eliminated from the competition.

Find out more about Basketball – pick up an official London 2012 daily or souvenir programme at the event.

Basketball Arena



Key

- Venue entrance or exit
- 102** Seating block
- Toilets
- Accessible toilets
- Ticket resolution office
- Lift
- Spectator medical
- Pushchair and wheelchair storage
- London 2012 Shop
- Food and drink
- Information, Games Mobility and lost and found



Scan me now or go to london2012.com/mobileapps to find out about the official London 2012 apps, with sports results, spectator information and more.



Inside the venue

Please do your bit for the environment – take your rubbish home or help us recycle it by following the coloured icons on the bins, and on food and drink packaging.

Smoking is not permitted in the Olympic Park, except in designated areas.

VISA In recognition of Visa's longstanding support of the Olympic Games, only Visa (debit, credit and prepaid) and cash can be used for purchases inside the venue. Contactless payment is also available.

Out and about

Find out what's on at a London 2012 Live Site near you or discover the great range of Olympic, London 2012 Festival and other events taking place across the UK at london2012.com/joinin

Get the perfect souvenir or gift – including exclusive merchandise only available in venues – at the London 2012 Shop. Or go online at london2012.com/shop



Delivering a memorable Olympic Games to inspire a generation with the support of our Partners



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