

Sweden Submits its 2026 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games Candidature File

Stockholm Åre 2026 submitted its Candidature File to host the Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games in 2026 to the International Olympic Committee (IOC) on Friday January 11, 2019.

The majority of the Stockholm City council support the Swedish bid for the 2026 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games, including the use of the City of Stockholm's venues should Sweden be awarded the Games.

As presented to the IOC and Olympic Movement late last year, the ground-breaking Stockholm Åre 2026 bid proposes many events in the Stockholm region, most alpine events in Åre, ski jumping and Nordic combined in Falun, and sliding sports in Sigulda, Latvia.

"Hosting the Winter Games in 2026 would be an incredible honor and opportunity for Stockholm and our people, both before, during and after the Games. This applies to both direct and indirect effects on growth for sport, the labor market, and our economy in general", says the Governor of the Stockholm Region, Sven-Erik Österberg.

"In Åre, we are thrilled and honored to be a part of Sweden's bid to host the 2026 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games. It is a natural opportunity for us, given we have all the needed venues in place and the expertise on hand. Åre organized the FIS Alpine World Ski Championships in 2007 and will again in 2019." says Daniel Danielsson (C), chairman of the Town Council of Åre Municipality.

Stockholm Åre 2026 is based on Sweden's unique implementation of a sustainable Games concept, according to the IOC's renewed emphasis on affordability, sustainability and tangible legacy for the Games. This means using as many existing venues as possible and building few, if any, new ones. Stockholm Åre 2026 will be the first Olympic Winter Games to benefit from this new direction for the future, where costs, complexity, risk and waste are replaced by flexibility, partnership, efficiency and sustainability.

"The good news is that the IOC's new emphasis on sustainability isn't new to Sweden – it's how we've always conducted business. Stockholm Åre 2026 will be a platform for development and innovation in the fields of sustainability, social responsibility, financial prudence and environmental awareness. We can prove that sustainability is a natural and integral part of the Winter Games concept. Our bid is about much more than the Winter Games of 2026, it is about embracing a new reality for hosting Games in the future", says Richard Brisius CEO of the Stockholm Åre 2026 bid.

"Sweden has a unique advantage as a future host nation because over many years, we have invested heavily in the construction of the stadia, airports, ground transportation, hotels, and other facilities needed to host a Winter Games. The Games should be based on the values of 'reduce, reuse, and recycle'. Therefore, our premise is simple: We propose a Winter Games

concept that fits our existing resources, we are not changing or adding resources to fit the Games.”

Should Sweden win the vote to host the Games on June 24, 2019 at the 134th IOC Session in Lausanne, the proposed Games schedule would be 6 – 22 February 2026 for the Winter Olympics and 6 – 15 March 2026 for the Winter Paralympics.