

Olympic Torch Relay

key facts



London 2012 Olympic Torch Relay Route and Torchbearers

- Coca-Cola, Lloyds TSB and Samsung are the Presenting Partners of the London 2012 Olympic Torch Relay which runs from Saturday 19 May to Friday 27 July 2012
- 8,000 inspiring Torchbearers to carry the Olympic Flame through 1,021 UK villages, towns, cities, starting from Land's End, Cornwall
- 300 metres (0.2 miles) is the average distance each Torchbearer will carry the Olympic Flame
- 110 Torchbearers (on average) to take part in the Olympic Torch Relay each day
- 110 miles is the estimated average distance travelled by the Olympic Flame each day
- The Relay will take the Olympic Flame to within 10 miles or less of over 95% of the UK population
 - The Olympic Flame visits every county of England
 - In Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales the Flame visits every Local Authority area
 - In London it visits every Borough
- Route achieves the optimum mix of proximity to people whilst taking in beautiful natural and urban landmarks to showcase the UK around the world including Stonehenge, Loch Ness, Mt. Snowdon, Giant's Causeway, Buckingham Palace and Hadrian's Wall
- Some of the smallest UK communities set to welcome the Olympic Flame include Bready in Northern Ireland, Houghton in the West Midlands and Maidens in Scotland
- The furthest point north to welcome the Olympic Flame is Lerwick (Shetland), south – St. Helier (Jersey), east – Lowestoft (Suffolk) and west - Enniskillen (Co. Fermanagh)
- The highest place the Olympic Flame will travel to this summer is the summit of Snowdon in Wales at 1,085 metres (3,560 ft) above sea level.
- The Olympic Flame will travel on 68 different modes of transport, including - zip wire off the Tyne Bridge in Newcastle, a chair-lift at the Needles on the Isle of Wight, ice-skating with Olympians Jayne Torvill and Christopher Deane at the Nottingham Ice Centre and rowing at Henley-on-Thames

London 2012 Torch Design

- The London 2012 Torch is designed, engineered and manufactured in the UK
- The Torch has an inner and outer skin, made of gold coloured aluminium alloy. The burner system and gas canister sit in the top of the Torch are attached to the skins
- Perforated by 8,000 circles representing the inspirational stories of the 8,000 Torchbearers who will carry the Olympic Flame across the UK
- The circles offer transparency allowing people to see the heart of the Flame, help ensure heat is quickly dissipated and provide extra grip
- The London 2012 Torch stands at 800mm high and weighs 1kg with the burner system and gas canister
- Each Torch will be able to burn for at least 10 minutes
- The triangular form has been inspired by the identification of a multiples of three that are found across the vision and delivery of the Olympic Games:
 - Olympic values of excellence, friendship and respect
 - Three words that make the Olympic motto – faster, higher, stronger
 - UK has hosted the Olympic Games three times – in 1908, 1948 and 2012
 - The vision for the London 2012 Olympic Games to combine three strands of work – sport, education and culture.
- The Torch has been designed and tested to function:
 - In temperatures from -5 degrees centigrade and up to 40 degrees centigrade
 - At 95% humidity
 - In conditions of 50mm/h rain and snow
 - At wind speeds of 35mph (and wind gusts of up to 50mph)
 - At an altitude of 4000ft above sea level
 - At an orientation of 90 deg to 45 deg to horizontal
 - When dropped up to 3m from the ground