

The United Kingdom and the Rio 2016 Paralympic Games Fact Sheet

The Brazilian city of Rio de Janeiro will host the Paralympic Games in September 2016.

Rio Facts and Figures

Around 4,350 athletes from over 170 countries will compete in the first Paralympic Games in South America. During the 11 days of competition, there will be 528 medal events across 23 different sports, including canoeing and triathlon which are new events for 2016. The Games will be spread across four regions of the city.

To run this huge event there need to be 25,000 volunteers, 417 footballs, 3.5 million meals, 10,000 beds and 6,480 tennis table balls, amongst many other things!

Team GB

Before London 2012, Paralympics GB set a target of winning 103 medals, but the team actually brought home 120 medals in total; 34 gold, 43 silver and 43 bronze, and finished third in the medals table behind China and Russia.

Successful Paralympians from London 2012 include Ellie Simmonds (swimming), David Weir (wheelchair athletics), Sarah Storey (cycling) and Hannah Cockroft (wheelchair athletics).

Baroness Tanni Grey-Thompson (wheelchair racing), David Roberts (swimming) and Lee Pearson (dressage) have all had very successful Paralympic careers, winning a combined total of more than 40 Paralympic medals between them. The top Paralympic medal winner of all time is swimmer, Mike Kenny, who won 18 medals in total; 16 gold and two silver.

The 2016 Paralympic team will not be confirmed until one month before the Games begin.

