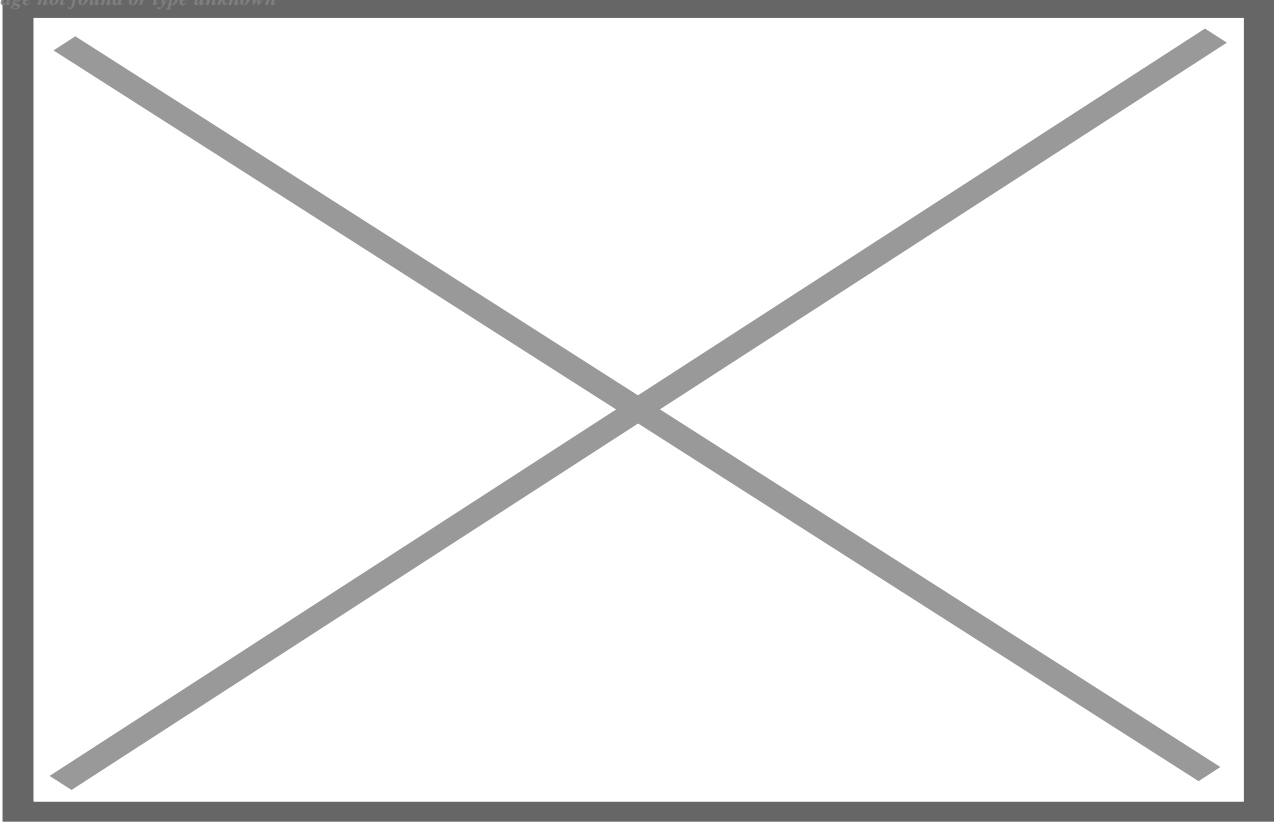


# *Paris is well worth the Olympics*

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The 2024 Olympic Games will be held in Paris, the beautiful French capital, from July 26 to August 11, with the participation of some 10,500 athletes from 206 countries distributed in 45 disciplines.

The Olympics are the dream of every athlete, no matter if they are amateur, semi-professional or professional. It is an unforgettable experience that crowns years of effort by athletes from all over the world. For many, competing is already a triumph, if unfortunately a medal is not achieved.

The Nikkei and Asahi newspapers, specialized in financial affairs, confirmed that the cost of organizing the Olympic Games will be about 28 billion dollars.

As has been reported, the inauguration of these Olympic games will be unique, since the Seine, that mythical river, cited so many times by poets and lovers, will become the special host that will welcome visitors.

Each delegation will take a boat tour from east to west of the river. The section will be about 6 kilometers and will end in Trocadero, in front of the emblematic Eiffel Tower, where the closing of the ceremony and

other shows will take place, including the lighting of the Olympic cauldron.

As a Parisian newspaper points out, “for all the lucky ones who will attend the Olympic Games in Paris, the opening ceremony will be free of charge, as it will be free to approach the Seine River to watch the parade of athletes from the upper quays, while The only accesses with a fee will be the lower quays of the Austerlitz bridge and up to the Léna bridge.

The athletes will pass “through emblematic sites of the city and some official venues of the Olympic Games, such as the Place de la Concorde, the Esplanade des Invalides and the Grand Palais. Likewise, they will pass by Notre-Dame, the Louvre museum and the Orsay museum.

In each major sporting event, such as the Olympics, the group of volunteers in charge of caring for the athletes and facilitating the infinite procedures that are generated plays a fundamental role. The team of volunteers constitutes the face, soul, heart and smile of the competition. In Paris 2024, it will be made up of 45 thousand people from all over the world.

Three sports will no longer be Olympic in this Olympic version: karate, baseball and softball. In its place, breakdancing will enter the program, a modality that will be Olympic for the first time in history.

Cuba aspires to bring a delegation of between 70 and 90 athletes to the Paris 2024 Olympic Games, the vice president of the National Institute of Sports, Physical Education and Recreation, Omar Venegas, told the press. He added that the objective is to remain among the top 20 countries in the medal table.

Cuban athletes have won 194 Olympic medals, 67 gold, 64 silver and 63 bronze. Cuba has achieved medals in 15 sports and it is in boxing with 63 where the most have been won, 32 of them have been gold. Cuba is the Latin American and Caribbean nation with the most medals in these events.

The Olympic Games are, perhaps, the largest event of friendship and fraternity between peoples in the world. There are no others, not even close, that reach ecumenism and acceptance of them.

The Olympic Charter specifies that: “The objective of Olympism is to always put sport at the service of the harmonious development of man, in order to promote the establishment of a peaceful society committed to the maintenance of human dignity.”

In those two weeks of the Olympics, the world almost paralyzed, in a spell of camaraderie and friendship. I hope that Paris 2024 is also a palliative for those peoples and regions at war and a space of peace and joy in an increasingly distressed world. Paris, it's worth the Olympics.

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