

Olympiastadion (Munich) *(from Wikipedia)*

Olympiastadion (German pronunciation: [ʔoˈlʏmpjaːʃtaːdʏɔŋ]; English: Olympic Stadium) is a stadium located in Munich, Germany. Situated at the heart of the *Olympiapark München* in northern Munich, the stadium was built as the main venue for the 1972 Summer Olympics.

With an original capacity of 80,000, the stadium also hosted many major football matches including the 1974 World Cup Final and the Euro '88 Final. It hosted the European Cup Finals of 1979, 1993 and 1997. Its current capacity is 69,250.

Until the construction of Allianz Arena for the 2006 FIFA World Cup, the stadium was home to Bayern Munich and TSV 1860 Munich.

Design

Designed by the German architect Günther Behnisch and the engineer Frei Otto, with the assistance of John Argyris, the lightweight tent construction of the *Olympiastadion* was considered revolutionary for its time. This included large sweeping canopies of acrylic glass stabilized by steel cables that were used for the first time on a large scale. The idea was to imitate the Alps and to set a counterpart to the 1936 Summer Olympics in Berlin, held during the Nazi regime. The sweeping and transparent canopy was to symbolize the new, democratic and optimistic Germany. This is reflected in the official motto: "The cheerful Games" ("Die Heiteren Spiele").

Construction

The stadium was built by Bilfinger Berger between 1968 and 1972 in a pit made by bombings Munich suffered during World War II. This pit made construction easier.



Panorama view of the Münchener Olympiastadion

Post Olympic legacy



TSV 1860 München football match

Following the Olympics, the stadium became the home of FC Bayern Munich. In 1979 the ground played host to the 1979 European Cup Final in which Nottingham Forest won the first of their consecutive European Cups under Brian Clough.

In the 1990s Bayern Munich's rivals TSV 1860 Munich moved into the stadium. The two teams coexisted in the *Olympiastadion* until 2005, when both clubs moved to the purpose built Allianz Arena.

Borussia Dortmund won the 1997 UEFA Champions League Final at the Olympiastadion.

On 6 to 11 August 2002 the 18th European Athletics Championships were held at the Olympiastadion.

Since 2005, it is the host of the yearly air and style snowboard event.

On 31 December 2006, the stadium made history as being the first venue to host the Tour de Ski cross-country skiing competition. The individual sprint events, held at 1100 m, were won by Norway's Marit Bjørgen (women) and Switzerland's Christoph Eigenmann (men). The snow was made in the stadium by combining the hot air with the cold refrigerated water that causes the snow to act like the icy type one would see in the Alps.

It went unused in the 2006 FIFA World Cup due to the Allianz Arena being the host stadium in Munich.

On 23 to 24 June 2007, the stadium played host to the Spar European Cup 2007, a yearly athletics event featuring the top 8 countries from around Europe.

The DTM touring car series held its first stadium event there in 2011: a Race of Champions-style event which took part over a two-day period, although it was not a championship scoring round. Edoardo Mortara won the first day, and Bruno Spengler the second. The event was repeated in 2012, but the stadium withdrew in 2013 because it proved impossible to turn it into a points-scoring event.

On 17 May 2012, the ground played host to the 2012 UEFA Women's Champions League Final in which Olympique Lyonnais won their second consecutive trophy. The attendance of that game was a record for a UEFA Women's Champions League Final. On 19 May 2012 it hosted the "Public Viewing" of the 2012 UEFA Champions League Final which took place at Allianz Arena in Munich.

1974 FIFA World Cup

The stadium was one of the venues for the 1974 FIFA World Cup.

The following games were played at the stadium during the World Cup of 1974:

Date	Time (CEST)	Team #1	Res.	Team #2	Round	Spectators
15 June 1974	18.00	 Italy	3–1	 Haiti	Group 4	51,100
19 June 1974	19.30	 Haiti	0–7	 Poland	Group 4	23,400
23 June 1974	16.00	 Argentina	4–1	 Haiti	Group 4	24,000
6 July 1974	16.00	 Brazil	0–1	 Poland	Third place match	74,100
7 July 1974	16.00	 Netherlands	1–2	 West Germany	Final	74,100

UEFA Euro 1988

The stadium was one of the venues for the UEFA Euro 1988.

The following games were played at the stadium during the Euro 1988:

Date	Time (CEST)	Team #1	Res.	Team #2	Round	Spectators
17 June 1988	20.15	 West Germany	2–0	 Spain	Group A	72,308
25 June 1988	15.30	 Soviet Union	0–2	 Netherlands	Final	72,308

German and West German national football team matches held at the stadium

- 26 May 1972 West Germany – USSR 4–1 (Friendly, stadium opener)
- 9 May 1973 West Germany – Yugoslavia 0–1 (Friendly)
- 7 July 1974 West Germany – Netherlands 2–1 (1974 World Cup Final)
- 22 May 1976 West Germany – Spain 2–0 (Euro 1976 Qualifier)
- 22 February 1978 West Germany – England 2–1 (Friendly)
- 2 April 1980 West Germany – Austria 1–0 (Friendly)
- 22 September 1982 West Germany – Belgium 0–0 (Friendly)
- 17 November 1985 West Germany – Czechoslovakia 2–2 (1986 World Cup qualifier)
- 17 June 1988 West Germany – Spain 2–0 (Euro 1988 Group match)
- 19 October 1988 West Germany – Netherlands 0–0 (1990 World Cup qualifier)
- 26 March 1996 Germany – Denmark 2–0 (Friendly)
- 9 October 1999 Germany – Turkey 0–0 (Euro 2000 qualifier)
- 1 September 2001 Germany – England 1–5 (2002 World Cup qualifier)