

20th Asian Games AICHI-NAGOYA

The 20th Asian Games are coming to AICHI-NAGOYA in 2026



AICHI-NAGOYA, JAPAN

Stage of Dreams

Overview of the 20th Asian Games AICHI-NAGOYA

Scheduled period of the Games	September 19th (Sat) to October 4th (Sun), 2026
Expected number of sports	40
Expected number of participants	Approximately 15,000 athletes and officials
Nations/Regions participating	45



OLYMPIC COUNCIL OF ASIA



In 2026, Asia's biggest sports event is coming to AICHI-NAGOYA in Japan!

Organized by the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) every four years, the Asian Games are the biggest multi-sport games in Asia. The first games took place in 1951, not long after the end of World War II, in the hope that sports could strengthen the relationships between Asian countries that had been separated by the war and contribute to lasting peace throughout the region. The 20th Asian Games will take place in AICHI-NAGOYA in 2026. This is the third time the games will be held in Japan, and 30 years since the last time.



Past and Future Games

[Source] OCA Website
OCA constitution and rules

Games	Year	Host City	Host Nation	Nations/Regions	Competitors
1	1951	New Delhi	India	11	489
2	1954	Manila	Philippines	19	970
3	1958	Tokyo	Japan	16	1,820
4	1962	Jakarta	Indonesia	12	1,460
5	1966	Bangkok	Thailand	16	1,945
6	1970	Bangkok	Thailand	16	2,400
7	1974	Tehran	Iran	19	3,010
8	1978	Bangkok	Thailand	19	3,842
9	1982	New Delhi	India	23	3,411
10	1986	Seoul	Korea	22	4,839
11	1990	Beijing	China	36	6,122
12	1994	Hiroshima	Japan	42	6,828
13	1998	Bangkok	Thailand	41	6,554
14	2002	Busan	Korea	44	6,572
15	2006	Doha	Qatar	45	9,520
16	2010	Guangzhou	China	45	9,704
17	2014	Incheon	Korea	45	9,501
18	2018	Jakarta-Palembang	Indonesia	45	11,300
19	2022	Hangzhou	China	—	—
20	2026	Aichi-Nagoya	Japan	—	—

Unique sports of the Asian Games

Part of the special appeal of the Asian Games is the regional sports that take place alongside regular Olympic sports.

Sepak Takraw

A traditional sport dating from the 9th century, originally played in the countries of Southeast Asia. "Sepak" means "kick" in Malaysian and "Takraw" means "a ball woven from cane" in Thai. Players use their toes, knees and heads to knock the ball over the net and back to the opponents' side of the court in three touches or less.



Kabaddi

Two teams of seven players are divided into two halves of a court. An attacker from one team enters the opponent's half calling out "kabaddi, kabaddi!" This attacker tries to touch one or more of the defending players and run back to his own half to score points for each tagged player. If the defenders stop the attacker by grabbing his legs, arms or torso and tackling him, they score a point instead.



All photographs are from the 18th Asian Games (Jakarta-Palembang, 2018). ©PHOTO KISHIMOTO