

# Image: NASA satellite eyes Sochi Olympic sites

February 7 2014

---



Credit: NASA/GSFC/METI/ERSDAC/JAROS, and U.S./Japan ASTER Science Team

It's not often that the Winter Olympic Games come with an ocean view, but that's what we are getting this year at the Black Sea resort of Sochi, Russia. Sochi is the warmest city ever to host the winter games, which officially run from Feb. 7 through Feb. 23.

Two images of the Sochi Olympic venues were acquired on Jan. 4, 2014, by the Advanced Spaceborne Thermal Emission and Reflection Radiometer (ASTER) instrument on NASA's Terra spacecraft. In one image, available at [photojournal.jpl.nasa.gov/catalog/pia17970](http://photojournal.jpl.nasa.gov/catalog/pia17970), the Olympic Park Coastal Cluster for indoor sports appears as a circular area on the shoreline in the bottom center of the image. There's a separate arena for curling, alongside multiple arenas for hockey and skating. The actual city of Sochi, which has a population of about 400,000, is not visible in the picture.

A second image, at [photojournal.jpl.nasa.gov/catalog/pia17971](http://photojournal.jpl.nasa.gov/catalog/pia17971), centers on the Rosa Khutar ski resort in the mountains near Sochi. That's where the alpine Olympic events will be held. The resort is in the valley at center, and the ski runs are visible on the shadowed slopes on the left-hand side of the valley. The runs may be rated double black diamond, but they're not quite as steep as they appear in this image. Height is exaggerated 1.5 times to bring out topographic details.

The games feature 12 new events and one old favorite-the Jamaican bobsled team returns to the winter games for the first time since 2002. Jamaican teams have been crowd favorites since their first Olympic appearance in 1988, which inspired the movie "Cool Runnings."

In these images, red indicates vegetation, white is snow, buildings appear in gray, and the ocean is dark blue.

Provided by JPL/NASA

Citation: Image: NASA satellite eyes Sochi Olympic sites (2014, February 7) retrieved 20 March 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2014-02-image-nasa-satellite-eyes-sochi.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.