

## > NAGANO 1998 VENUES



### OVERVIEW

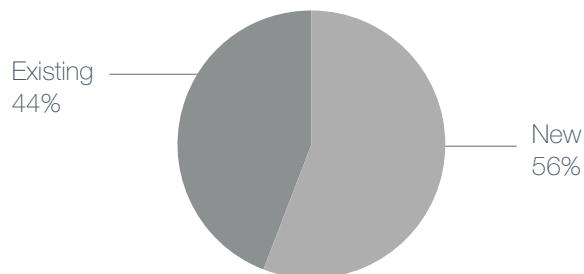
Fourteen competition venues were used for the Olympic Winter Games Nagano 1998. Eleven of them are still in use today, benefitting the local population and top Japanese athletes.

In the Organising Committee's efforts to protect the environment and keep construction work to a minimum, half of the Games competition venues were existing or temporary sites. For example, existing venues were used for the skiing, biathlon and curling competitions.

Also still in use, the newly built Nagano Olympic Stadium hosted the Opening and Closing Ceremonies, and an Olympic Village was built for the Games.

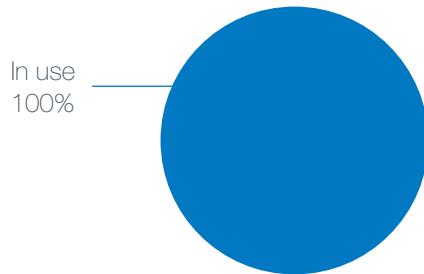
### VENUE CLASSIFICATION

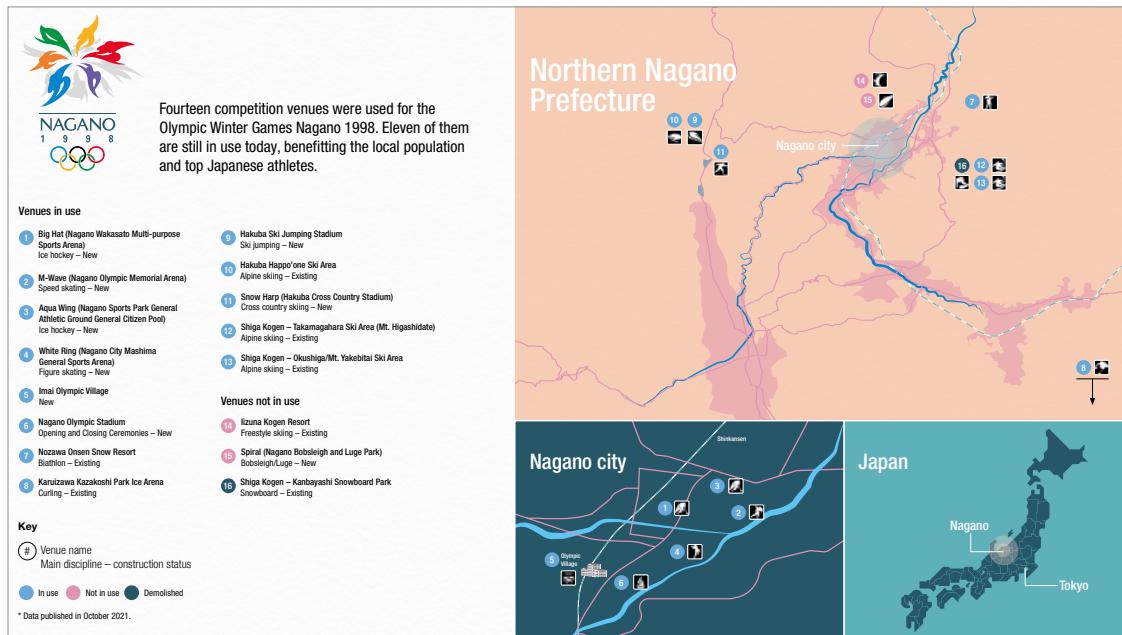
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### CURRENT USE (PERMANENT VENUES)

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## NAGANO 1998 VENUES AT A GLANCE

Venue name at Games time	Venue classification at Games time	Use at Games time	Current status
Iizuna Kogen Ski Area	Existing	Freestyle skiing	Not in use
M-Wave	New build	Speed skating	In use
Big Hat	New build	Ice hockey	In use
Aqua Wing	New build	Ice hockey	In use
White Ring	New build	Figure skating, short track, speed skating	In use
Spiral Track	New build	Bobsleigh, luge	Not in use
Nagano Olympic Stadium	New build	Opening and Closing Ceremonies	In use
Olympic Village	New build	Athlete accommodation	In use

## NAGANO 1998 VENUES AT A GLANCE (CONTINUED)

Venue name at Games time	Venue classification at Games time	Use at Games time	Current status
Venues outside Nagano			
Hakuba Happo'one Ski Area	Existing	Alpine skiing	In use
Shiga Kogen - Mount Higashidate	Existing	Alpine skiing	In use
Shiga Kogen - Mount Yakebitai	Existing	Snowboard	In use
Shiga Kogen - Kanbayashi Snowboard Park	Existing	Snowboard	Not in use
Nozawa Onsen Biathlon Venue	Existing	Biathlon	In use
Kazakoshi Park Arena	Existing	Curling	In use
Snow Harp	New build	Cross-country skiing, Nordic combined	In use
Hakuba Ski Jumping Stadium	New build	Ski jumping, Nordic combined	In use

## > THE VENUES UP CLOSE

### VENUES IN USE

#### M-WAVE (NAGANO OLYMPIC MEMORIAL ARENA)

Named after the shape of its suspended roof, which represents the rugged peaks of Nagano's mountain ranges, the M-Wave remains in use all year round. It is a world championship venue for a number of disciplines and a regular stop on the ISU Speed Skating World Cup circuit, hosting international competitions, most recently in November 2016 and December 2019. The venue for Japan's Olympic speed skating trials, it is open to the public from October to March and attracts around 100,000 visits a year from recreational skaters.

#### BIG HAT (NAGANO WAKASATO MULTI-PURPOSE SPORTS ARENA)

This venue continues to stage figure skating and ice hockey competitions in the winter, including the Nagano Cup, an annual international tournament held to commemorate the Games.

#### AQUA WING (NAGANO SPORTS PARK GENERAL ATHLETIC GROUND AND GENERAL CITIZEN POOL)

Provides local swimmers with excellent facilities all year round.

#### WHITE RING (NAGANO CITY MASHIMA GENERAL SPORTS ARENA)

This multi-sports venue used by local teams and schools also hosted 15 matches at the 2019 FIVB Volleyball Men's World Cup.

#### NAGANO OLYMPIC STADIUM

The venue for the Opening and Closing Ceremonies is now known as Nagano Olympic Stadium. Now converted into a baseball stadium, the venue is used by local amateur clubs and a professional team, the Shinano Grandserows. It is also the finishing point for the annual Nagano Commemorative Marathon.

#### OLYMPIC VILLAGE

Comprising 1,032 apartments and located in the Imai district of Nagano, it was designed to provide housing after the Games and remains in use today, providing a mix of both private and social housing for older people.

#### SNOW HARP (HAKUBA CROSS COUNTRY STADIUM)

Its three Olympic cross-country skiing courses remain open to the public throughout the winter, and are used for mountain biking and the Hakuba Snow Harp Cross Country race in the summer.

#### HAKUBA SKI JUMPING STADIUM

The stadium welcomes the summertime FIS Ski Jumping Grand Prix every year, among other competitions.

#### HAKUBA HAPPO'ONE SKI AREA

One of the largest and oldest resorts in the Hakuba ski area, it is popular with foreign visitors thanks to its deep snow, challenging runs and excellent facilities.

#### NOZAWA ONSEN BIATHLON VENUE

Although its shooting range was dismantled after the Games, the course remains open. Its cross-country trails and runs are popular with foreign skiers. Over 400,000 of them visited in 2018/19, and the resort has upgraded its facilities and installed new gondolas to meet growing demand.

#### KAZAKOSHI PARK ARENA

This is now a multi-purpose facility offering ice skating, ice hockey, tennis, baseball, football and curling.

#### MOUNT HIGASHIDATE AND MOUNT YAKEBITAI (SHIGA KOGEN)

The areas already welcomed snow sports enthusiasts before the Games. Though the temporary Games infrastructures were dismantled as planned after the Games, the slopes continued to be used for skiing and snowboarding again the following years, as the Shiga Kogen resorts complex developed and grew. Offering more than 80km of slopes and some of the country's finest snow, the 18 Shiga Kogen ski resorts now make up Japan's largest interconnected ski area.

## VENUES NOT IN USE

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### SPIRAL TRACK (NAGANO BOBSLEIGH AND LUGE PARK)

This provided the setting for the 2003 FIBT Skeleton World Championships and was used as a national training facility before closing in 2018 due to the high maintenance costs.

### IIZUNA KOGEN SKI AREA

The venue for the FIS 2001 Women's Dual Moguls World Cup and races at the 2005 Special Olympics World Winter Games, Iizuna Kogen has struggled to attract visitors in recent years. After putting the resort up for sale, the City of Nagano closed it in March 2020 when no buyers came forward. Its lifts will be removed, the ski runs replanted with trees, and the land returned to its natural state.

### SHIGA KOGEN - KANBAYASHI SNOWBOARD PARK

This was closed in 2007 due to financial difficulties caused by competition from other nearby resorts and a lack of snowfall.

## > DID YOU KNOW?

Housed at the M-Wave, the Nagano Olympic Museum is one of 28 Olympic museums around the world.

The M-Wave was awarded the UK-based Institution of Structural Engineers' special award for structural engineering excellence in February 1998.

The Spiral was the first bobsleigh/luge track in the world to feature two uphill sections.

A common feature of the new venues used at Nagano 1998 was their unique architectural designs. The Big Hat is so called because of its distinctive shape, while the flowing lines of the Aqua Wing resemble a bird's wing, and the White Ring evokes a droplet of water. Minami Nagano Sports Park was modelled on Japan's national flower, the sakura (cherry blossom).

To keep costs down, the Organising Committee furnished rooms at the Olympic Village by renting or buying furniture used at other events, including the 1994 Asian Games in Hiroshima and the 1995 Summer Universiade in Fukuoka.