



Where to find 2017 World Games Video

DAILY HIGHLIGHTS:

Every day during the 2017 Special Olympics World Winter Games, ESPN will create a 5-minute video news release (VNR) featuring highlights from the day's competitions. Up to two minutes of this footage may be used, free of charge, by broadcasters worldwide.

This footage will be available for download at approximately 7 p.m. ET/12:00 a.m. CET each night starting Saturday, March 18, through Friday, March 24, via this link:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/xlx02a6qxg9d4gx/AABMSvftawdfZljr2W319s2Ra?dl=0>

NOTE: A shot log will accompany each day's VNRs.

OPENING CEREMONY PARADE OF ATHLETES

After the conclusion of Opening Ceremony on March 18, ESPN producers will make available clips of each delegation that took part in the Parade of Athletes. These video clips will be available -- starting at approx. 4 p.m. ET/9 p.m. CET -- via this link:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/v86c787s1qeor67/AAANEMqMfBTyUYqiF2X8faqma?dl=0>

FOR ALL OTHER VIDEO, CHECK OUT OUR YOUTUBE CHANNELS:

AUSTRIA 2017 World Games:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCINUn5XSkiATCsKj0ejZMUg>

Special Olympics:

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLIHbm7j-AXsVBNxBfN81bFtm20ldf_67

GOT VIDEOS ?!

If you have World Games videos or video clips that you would like to share to increase awareness about Special Olympics and our athletes, please use this link to upload footage:

<https://www.hightail.com/u/SpecialOlympics-KMcKenna>

Questions? Contact kmckenna@specialolympics.org

Where to find 2017 World Games photos

Austria GOC photos are posted to Flickr here:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/sowwg2017/albums>

Austria GOC photos from Host Towns are posted to Flickr here:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/hosttownprogramm>



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SOI photos are posted to Flickr here:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/soi-photo-stream/albums>

LETR/Final Leg photos are posted here:

<http://letrphotos.smugmug.com/>

ESPN Photography is found here. <http://bit.ly/2nze2to>

Please feel free to use and share as needed, but please caption for proper photo credit. Photo credits: Kohjiro Kinno/ESPN Images and Tristan Shu/ESPN Images

Click these links for sports information

Competition is being offered in 9 sports at these Games including: (Alpine Skiing, Snowboarding, Cross-Country Skiing, Snowshoeing, Speed Skating, Figure Skating, Floor Hockey, Floorball, Stick Shooting) and Demonstration sports including Dancing and MATP. For more information on these sports, visit:

<http://www.austria2017.org/en/games-2017/die-spiele/sportarten>

Opening Ceremony Press Conference Saturday, March 18th Congress Schladming 3:00 – 3:30 p.m. CET

On 18th March, Special Olympics will hold an Opening Ceremony press conference in the Congress Schladming.

Presenters will include:

- Dr. Timothy Shriver, Chairman, Special Olympics International
- Markus Pichler, Director SOWWG 2017
- Ernst Fischbacher, Vice President SOWWG 2017
- John Skipper, President, ESPN Inc. & Co-Chairman, Disney Media Networks
- Johanna Pramstaller, Special Olympics International Global Messenger, Austria
- Jason Mraz, Singer/Songwriter/Philanthropist
- Grace VanderWaal, Singer

Please contact Christy Weir on cweir@specialolympics.org with any specific questions.



Opening Ceremony Highlights! Saturday, March 18th

Start 7:00 p.m., sequence of programs:

- Skishow
- Musical performances by Helene Fischer, Jason Mraz and Grace VanderWaal
- Tribute to Hermann Kröll
- Special Olympics Chairman Timothy Shriver addresses the crowd
- Arrival of the Torch
- Parade of Athletes

Important notes:

- Filming is **not allowed** during the Opening Ceremony
- **There are NO ASSIGNED SEATS in the Media Stand or in the Snow Stand. This means, first come, first serve. Doors open at 6 and you will be allowed entry at 6:00 p.m. to get your spot. Be prompt. This is a live show and if you are not at your spot by 6:45 p.m. you will not be allowed into the media tribune or the snow stand.**
- Only photographers with valid tickets (handed out at accreditation) are allowed to be in the Media Stand, **see Communiqué 2 (Refer to page 3)**
- Backpacks are **ONLY ALLOWED FOR PHOTOGRAPHERS** in the media stand! You may bring a small bag in with you. Please adhere to these guidelines or you will not be admitted entry into the Opening Ceremony.
- All other media representatives are asked to use the Snow Stand (restricted view); entrance with SOWWG 2017-credentials, **see Communiqué 2 (Refer to page 4)**
- **If it rains, ponchos will be provided but please dress appropriately for these potential weather conditions.**
- Clips of each delegation that takes part in the Parade of Athletes will be available starting at approx. 4 p.m. ET/9 p.m. CET via this link:
<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/v86c787s1qeor67/AAANEMgMfBTyUYqiF2X8faqma?dl=0>
(see first point of this Communiqué)
- International broadcaster ESPN, host broadcaster ORF, SOI, GOC, GEPA photographers and international rights holders will be wearing green bibs and will have access on the ground.

„Flame of Hope“: LETR ends in Schladming tomorrow

The Flame of Hope“ arrived in Graz this morning and it will arrive into Ramsau and Schladming Saturday morning to help kick off the start of the Games. On Saturday, March 18th, the Torch Run Final Leg Ceremony will kick off in Ramsau Stadium at 10:00 a.m. and in Schladming, Wetzlarplatz at 11:00 a.m.



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To check out the journey of the Final Leg, click to:
<http://www.austria2017.org/en/sei-dabei/torch-run>

Photos of LETR:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/sowwg2017/albums/with/72157679067564401>

Social Media:

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/letr.org/?ref=bookmarks>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/LETRforSO>

Photos of the Final Leg can be found on

<http://letrphotos.smugmug.com/2017-Austria/n-z8JrXq>

Weather forecast for Saturday, March 18th

Graz: cloudy, little rain probability, temperatures rise from 5 degrees in the morning to 16 degrees centigrade

Schladming: temperatures between 4 and 7 degrees centigrade, rain possible in the morning, probable from 12:30 p.m. onwards, also during the Opening Ceremony

Ramsau: temperatures between 2 und 4 degrees centigrade only, snowfall possible in the morning, probable from 12:30 p.m. onwards

Closing Ceremony - Public transport services

For all journalists staying in Schladming or Ramsau there will be a Shuttle-bus service to the Closing Ceremony in Graz on Friday, March 24th:

Shuttlebus: Closing Ceremony, Friday, March 24th

Tickets: EUR 25,- for a return ticket

Ticketing: 48 hours in advance at www.oeticket.com

Closing Ceremony
24.3.2017 Stadion Graz (Merkur Arena)
<i>Drive to Graz:</i> 1:30 p.m.: Departure from Ramsau VAZ 2:00 p.m.: Departure from congress Schladming approx. 5:00 p.m.: Arrival Messe Graz
<i>The return trip to Schladming and to Ramsau starts shortly after the end of the closing ceremony.</i>
<i>Departure: From the stop at Messe Graz where you have arrived. Arrival in Schladming at about midnight, Ramsau VAZ approx. 12:30 am.</i>



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For information about all public transport services between the venues and in Graz click to:

<http://www.austria2017.org/de/games-2017/das-programm/anreise-transport>

Café Famoos – a perfect example of inclusion

Have you been to the city centre yet in Graz and noticed the special café, Café Famoos? Café Famoos is located on the Graz Main Square. It is run by „Lebenshilfe Steiermark“, a non-profit organisation that pairs people with intellectual disabilities and people without working together and serving guests -- a perfect example for integration and inclusion.

Café Famoos, where the SOWWG-City-infopoint is installed, is open daily from 10:00 a.m. (Sunday 2:00 p.m.) to 8:00 p.m. and offers all coffees and sweets expected from a typical Austrian café.

The atmosphere in the Famoos is very fun and heartwarming. Go there, feel and see it, either during the Games or after in the two additional Cafés Famoos in Graz or Mooskirchen, about 30 kilometers off the Styrian capital.

For a video about these workers in action click to:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X_ARRDN-yzY

Let's Change the Game: Ending Exclusion for People with Intellectual Disabilities Featuring the Golisano Health Leadership Awards

On Sunday, March 19th from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. at the Rohrmoos Room, Congress Hall, in Schladming, key influencers will gather to celebrate successes, share challenges and make commitments to inclusion of people with intellectual disabilities (ID) through sport and health.

Additionally, seven will be honored for their global health work with the first-ever Golisano Global Health Leadership Awards! Interview opportunities will be possible with the Golisano Global Health Leadership Award Honorees, the Golisano Foundation Executive Editor, Ann Costello and Special Olympics leadership. You are invited to attend this event! Attendance is booking up fast. If you are interested in attending, please send your RSVP by Friday March 17th to media@specialolympics.org

Lara, Luis and other souvenirs from the Winter Games

There is a wide range of products you can take home with you as keepsakes from the Games, such as Lara and Luis as cuddly toys, small gifts, shirts and sweatshirts in „Austria 2017“-style, and lots more. You will find the merchandising corners directly next to or near the information desks in Graz, Schladming and Ramsau.

- Graz, Foyer Stadthalle



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- Graz, Foyer Hall A
- Graz, Ice Stadium, Entrance area
- Graz, Main Square
- Schladming, congress
- Schladming, Wetzlarplatz
- Ramsau, VAZ

Important addresses

Homepage: www.austria2017.org (Special Olympics World Winter Games 2017)
www.specialolympics.at (Special Olympics Austria)
www.specialolympics.org (Special Olympics International)

Facebook: www.facebook.com/austria2017
www.facebook.com/specialolympics (Special Olympics International)
www.facebook.com/soeuropeeurasia (Special Olympics Europe)

Twitter: www.twitter.com/sowwg2017 & www.twitter.com/2017austria
www.twitter.com/specialolympics (Special Olympics International)
www.twitter.com/SpecOlympicsEU (Special Olympics Europe)

Instagram: www.instagram.com/austria2017
www.instagram.com/specialolympics (Special Olympics International)
www.instagram.com/special_olympics_eu (Special Olympics Europe)

Flickr: www.flickr.com/photos/sowwg2017/ & www.flickr.com/photos/hosttownprogramm
www.flickr.com/photos/soi-photo-stream/albums (Special Olympics International)

YouTube: www.youtube.com/c/SpecialOlympicsWorldWinterGames2017
www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLIHbm7j-AXsVBNxBfN81bFtm20Idf_67 (SOI)

Important hashtags

#HeartbeatForTheWorld

#Austria2017

#SpecialOlympics

#ChangeTheGame

#PlayUnified



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Calendar

- March, 17th First day of Divisioning
Erste sportliche Bewerbe (Divisionings = Einteilungen in Leistungsstufen)
- March 18th Torch Run Final Leg Ceremony: Ramsau (09:00 Uhr), Schladming (11:00 Uhr)
Fackellauf, Ankunftsfeier
- March 18th Global Forum on Inclusion in Social Affairs and Sport in Graz (9:30 – 1:00 pm)
Welt-Inklusionsforum in Graz (09:30 Uhr)
- March 18th Unified Talk: Unified Generations – An Inclusive Call to Action (1:30 – 3:30 pm) in
congress Schladming in Rohrmoos Hall (2nd Floor)
- March 18th Opening Ceremony Press Conference (3:00 – 3:30 pm), congress Schladming,
Media Center (2nd Floor)
Eröffnungspressekonferenz (15:00 – 15:30 Uhr), congress Schladming, Media
Center (2. Stock)
- March, 18th Opening Ceremony in Schladming, Planai Stadium (7:00 p.m.)
Eröffnungsfeier Schladming, Planaistadion (19:00 Uhr)
- March, 18th – 24th Sports competitions, Award Ceremonies and Non-Sports Events
Sportwettkämpfe, Siegerehrungen und Rahmenprogramm
- March 19th Healthy Athletes Screenings begin at Messe Graz (12:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.)
Beginn der Untersuchungen der Athleten im Rahmen des „Healthy Athletes
Program“, Messe Graz (12:00 – 19:00 Uhr)
- March 19th Let’s Change the Game Forum – Exclusion for People with Intellectual Disabilities
Featuring the Golisano Health Leadership Awards (10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.) in
congress, Schladming, Rohrmoos Room
- March 19th First Awards of the Games, Alpine Skiing, Giant Slalom, (Ramsau, 5:00 p.m.)
Erste Siegerehrungen, Ski Alpin, Riesentorlauf (Ramsau, 17:00 Uhr)
- March 20th Healthy Athletes Ribbon Cutting at Messe Graz (11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.)
- March 21st Young Athletes Demonstration at Convention Center Graz (part of Messe Graz),
Floorball Venue (8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.)
- March, 24th Closing Ceremony in Graz (7:00 p.m.)
Schlussfeier in Graz (19:00 Uhr)
- March, 25th Delegation departures
Abreise der Delegationen