



Press Services and Facilities Guide

Version 1

October 2024

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Greetings

Dear media representative,

A big welcome from the Press Operations team for Milano Cortina 2026, an edition of the Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games that will spread over more than 22,000 square kilometres, with venues scattered across different locations. For this reason, we are working hard to ensure you have the best experience in preparing for your arrival in Italy and that you will be ready to fulfil your coverage duties for the Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games, which will take place in less than two years' time.

For this purpose, we are happy to share with you a first version of the Press Services and Facilities Guide for the Games. This guide will provide you with general and specific information on what we are currently planning to offer all accredited press organisations in terms of service level, including key dates, deadlines and our Games masterplan. In the guide, you will find details on press accreditation, press accommodation and the press rate card, as well as additional operational information on the venues and the Main Press Centre during the Games.

In addition, on our Press Operations extranet, you will find several other publications to help you better plan your journey to Milano Cortina 2026:

- The Press by Number Accreditation Guide, which provides a comprehensive overview of the process and timeline for the written and photographic press and non-Media Rights-Holders to get their accreditation.
- The Press Accommodation Guide, which gives information on the accommodation options available for press organisations and the process for booking them.
- The Press Rate Card Catalogue, which lists all products and services available to rent and purchase during the Games.
- The Customs and Freight Forwarding Guide, which gives instructions on customs regulations for arranging freight shipment to and from Italy.

We hope this guide and the above-mentioned publications will be a key tool in assisting you make plans for your time in Italy for the Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games Milano Cortina 2026.

Please note we will continue to update our Milano Cortina 2026 [Press Operations Extranet](#) where you will find all the latest information regarding our services. If you have further queries, we will be happy to assist you, and you can contact us at pressoperations@milanocortina2026.org.

We look forward to working with you over the next two years and to welcoming you to the Games in Milano and Cortina, along with Bormio, Livigno, Tesero, Predazzo, Anterselva/Antholz and Verona.

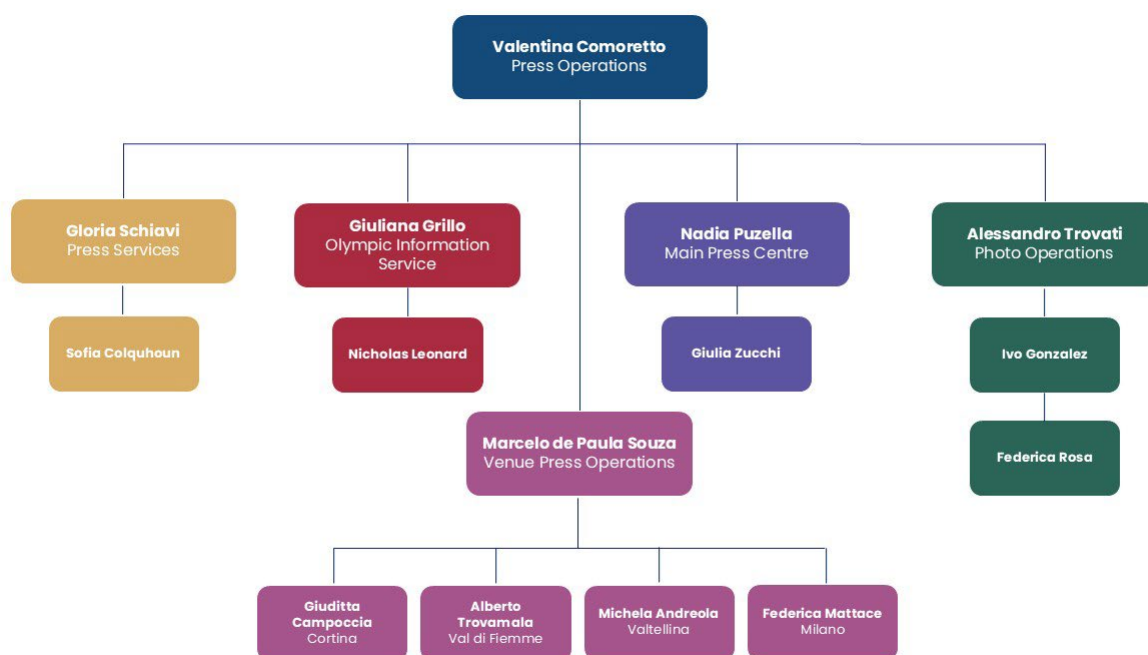
Valentina Comoretto
Head of Press Operations
Olympic and Paralympic Games Milano Cortina 2026

1 Press Operations Team

Fondazione Milano Cortina 2026 is the Organising Committee (OCOG) responsible for the planning, organisation, financing and staging of this edition of the Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games.

Sitting within the Functional Area of Media Operations and Language Services, the **Press Operations** team is responsible for the planning, delivery and management of all Games-time press facilities and services for 3,000 accredited written and photographic press and non-Media Rights-Holders (non-MRHs).

The team is structured around five pillars: **Venue Press Operations, Photo Operations, Main Press Centre, Press Services** and **Olympic Information Service (OIS)**. Below you can find the team as it is structured at the time of this guide going live, in October 2024. More staff will join the team in the lead-up to Games time.



2 Key Dates

Press Accreditation	Date
Press by Number Accreditation process	7 October 2024 to 7 February 2025
Non-MRH application process	9 October to 8 November 2024
IOC approves ENR accreditations for non-MRH organisations	By 15 January 2025
Press by Name Accreditation process	9 June to 12 September 2025

Press Accommodation	Date
Accommodation Guide distributed	7 October 2024
Press organisations to submit their press accommodation requests on the Accommodation Management System (AMS)	21 October 2024 to 28 February 2025
Deadline for press organisations to return signed Accommodation Allocation Agreement (AAA)	30 April 2025
First instalment of accommodation payment due (50% deposit)	30 May 2025
Room release with penalty, no more changes allowed	From 11 October 2025

Press Rate Card	Date
Press Rate Card Catalogue V1 distributed	November 2024
Intent to Rent Period	2 December 2024 to 28 February 2025
Press Rate Card Catalogue V2 distributed	Q1 2025
Normal Order Period	1 February to 31 August 2025
Late Order Period	1 September to 30 November 2025
Games-Time Order Period	1 January to 23 February 2026

3 Acronyms and Abbreviations

Acronyms	
AAA	Accommodation Allocation Agreement
ADS	Arrivals and Departures System
AMS	Accommodation Management System
NOC/NPC	National Olympic/Paralympic Committee
OCOG	Organising Committee of the Olympic and Paralympic Games; Fondazione Milano Cortina 2026
OIAC/PIAC	Olympic/Paralympic Identity and Accreditation Card
OLY/PLY	Olympic/Paralympic
PVC	Pre-Valid Card, an OIAC/PIAC that has not been activated yet
TC	Transport Connect – Service shared between accredited stakeholders, which also includes access to TP
TP	Public Transport

Competition Venues	
MH1	Milano Santagiulia Ice Hockey Arena (Milano Cluster)
MH2	Milano Rho Ice Hockey Arena (Milano Cluster)
MSK	Milano Ice Skating Arena (Milano Cluster)
MSS	Milano Speed Skating Stadium (Milano Cluster)
MIP	Milano Ice Park: MSS + MH2 (Milano Cluster)
CCU	Cortina Curling Olympic Stadium (Cortina Cluster)
CSC	Cortina Sliding Centre (Cortina Cluster)
CAL	Tofane Alpine Skiing Centre (Cortina Cluster)
CSB	Cortina Para Snowboard Park (Paralympic Games only) (Cortina Cluster)
ABA	Anterselva Biathlon Arena (Cortina Cluster)
SSC	Stelvio Ski Centre (Valtellina Cluster)
LSP	Livigno Snow Park (Valtellina Cluster)
LAM	Livigno Aerials & Moguls Park (Valtellina Cluster)
TCC	Tesero Cross-Country Skiing Stadium (Val di Fiemme Cluster)
PSJ	Predazzo Ski Jumping Stadium (Val di Fiemme Cluster)

Non-Competition Venues	
IBC	International Broadcast Centre (Milano Cluster)
MMC (MPC+IBC)	Main Media Centre (Milano Cluster)
MAC	Media Accreditation Centre (Milano Cluster)
MOS	Milano San Siro Olympic Stadium (Milano Cluster)
MPC	Main Press Centre (Milano Cluster)
MPX	Milano Malpensa Airport
VCE	Venezia Marco Polo Airport
VOA	Verona Olympic Arena

Olympic and Paralympic Villages	
OVA	Anterselva Olympic Village
OVB	Bormio Olympic Village
OVC	Cortina Olympic & Paralympic Village
OVL	Livigno Olympic Village
OVM	Milano Olympic & Paralympic Village
OVP	Predazzo Olympic & Paralympic Village

4 Milano Cortina 2026 Overview

4.1 General Information

The **Olympic Winter Games** Milano Cortina 2026 will take place **from 6 to 22 February 2026** and the **Paralympic Winter Games** from **6 to 15 March 2026**.

These are widespread Winter Games, spanning two regions, Lombardy and Veneto, and the autonomous provinces of Trento and Bolzano.



The **Olympic competition venues** will be hosted in **four clusters**: the mountain clusters (Cortina, Valtellina, Val di Fiemme) with their stunning peaks, and the city cluster (Milano), with its vibrant international flair.




For the **Paralympic Winter Games**, the competitions will take place in **three clusters**: Milano, Cortina and Val di Fiemme.

Verona, host city of the Olympic Closing Ceremony and the Paralympic Opening Ceremony, adds to the landscape with its history-rich amphitheatre.


The specific geography of Milano Cortina 2026 triggered innovation. The tradition of establishing the Mountain Media Centre to serve the mountain venues was set aside, and it was decided instead to enhance the services and facilities provided in key Venue Media Centres.

Therefore, we have introduced the concept of **Enhanced Venue Media Centre (E-VMC)** with longer opening hours and additional services (see dedicated chapter 9). The E-VMCs will be in Cortina, Livigno, and Tesero for the Olympic Winter Games, and in Milano, Cortina and Tesero for the Paralympic Winter Games.

4.2 Competition Schedules



Competition Schedule V.6 (by day)



FEBRUARY 2026

		WED 04 -2	THU 05 -1	FRI 06 0	SAT 07 1	SUN 08 2	MON 09 3	TUE 10 4	WED 11 5	THU 12 6	FRI 13 7	SAT 14 8	SUN 15 9	MON 16 10	TUE 17 11	WED 18 12	THU 19 13	FRI 20 14	SAT 21 15	SUN 22 16	
OPENING/CLOSING CEREMONY																					
ALPINE SKIING																					
BIATHLON																					
BOBSLEIGH																					
CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING																					
CURLING																					
FIGURE SKATING																					
FREESTYLE SKIING																					
ICE HOCKEY																					
LUGE																					
NORDIC COMBINED																					
SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING																					
SKELETON																					
SKI JUMPING																					
SKI MOUNTAINEERING																					
SNOWBOARD																					
SPEED SKATING																					

Updated on 30/09/2024













































MEDALS COMPETITION DAY CEREMONIES






Competition Schedule V.3 (by day)



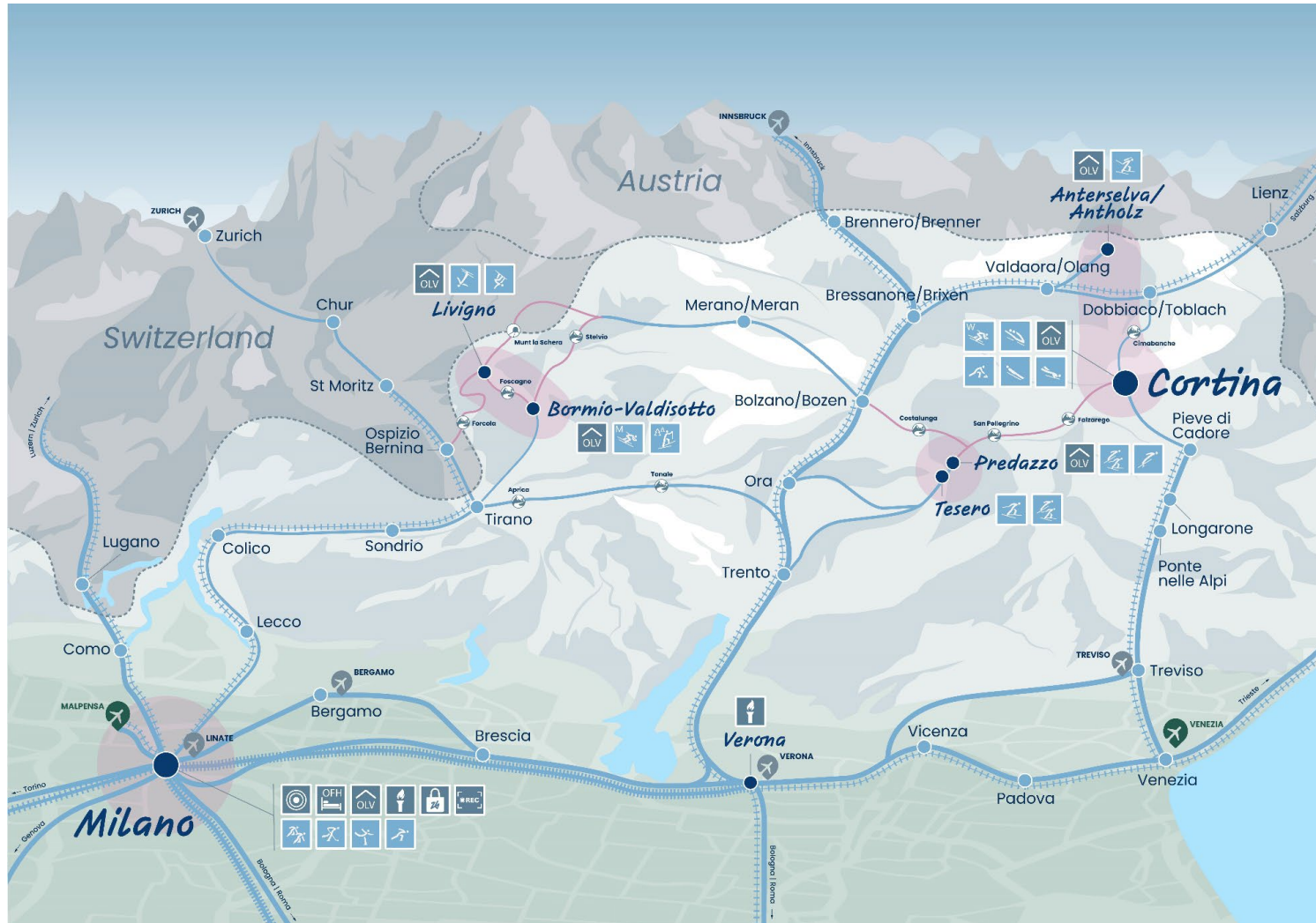
MARCH 2026

		WED 04 -2	THU 05 -1	FRI 06 0	SAT 07 1	SUN 08 2	MON 09 3	TUE 10 4	WED 11 5	THU 12 6	FRI 13 7	SAT 14 8	SUN 15 9
OPENING/CLOSING CEREMONY													
PARA ALPINE SKIING													
PARA BIATHLON													
PARA CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING													
PARA ICE HOCKEY													
PARA SNOWBOARD													
WHEELCHAIR CURLING													

Updated on 13/03/2024

 MEDALS
  COMPETITION DAY
  CEREMONIES

4.3 Milano Cortina 2026 Olympic Winter Games Master Plan



MILANO CORTINA 2026

Legend:

- Motorway
- National road
- Mountain Road
- Railway
- High-speed Railway
- Cluster
- Olympic City
- City/Town
- State border
- Official Port of Entry Airport
- Other Airport
- Mountain pass
- Tunnel

*MMC: Main Media Centre
 IBC: International Broadcast Center
 MPC: Main Press Center

Updated on 08.02.2024

4.4 Milano Cortina 2026 Paralympic Winter Games Master Plan



- Motorway
- National road
- Mountain Road
- Railway
- High-speed Railway
- Cluster
- Paralympic City
- City/Town
- State border
- Official Port of Entry Airport
- Other Airport
- Mountain pass
- Tunnel

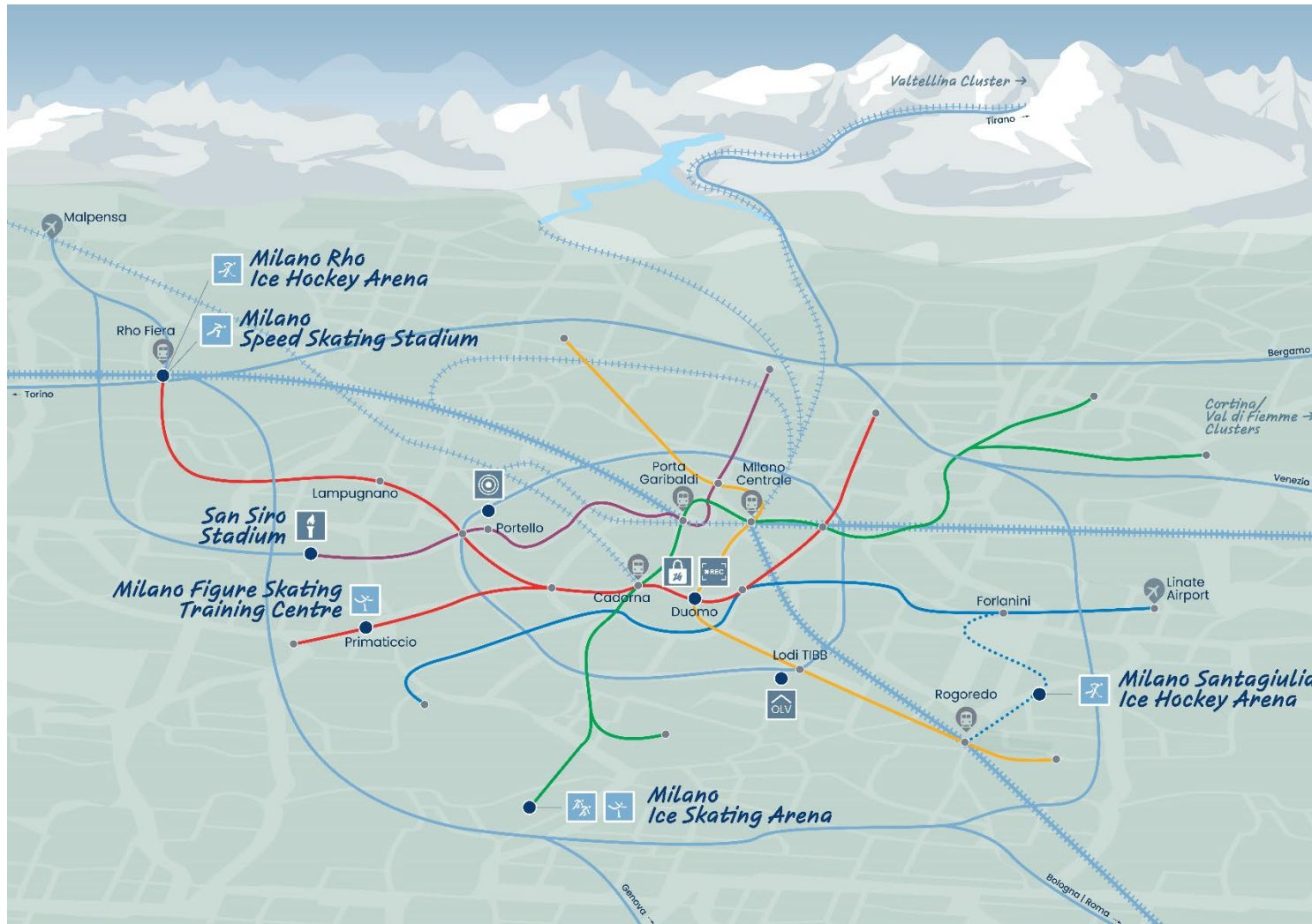
- IBC*
- SUPERSTORE
- PARA CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING
- PARALYMPIC FAMILY HOTEL
- TV STUDIOS
- PARA ICE HOCKEY
- PARALYMPIC VILLAGE
- PARA ALPINE SKIING
- PARA SNOWBOARD
- CEREMONIES
- PARA BIATHLON
- WHEELCHAIR CURLING

*IBC: International Broadcast Center

Updated on 08.02.2024

4.5 Clusters and Competition Venues

4.5.1 Milano



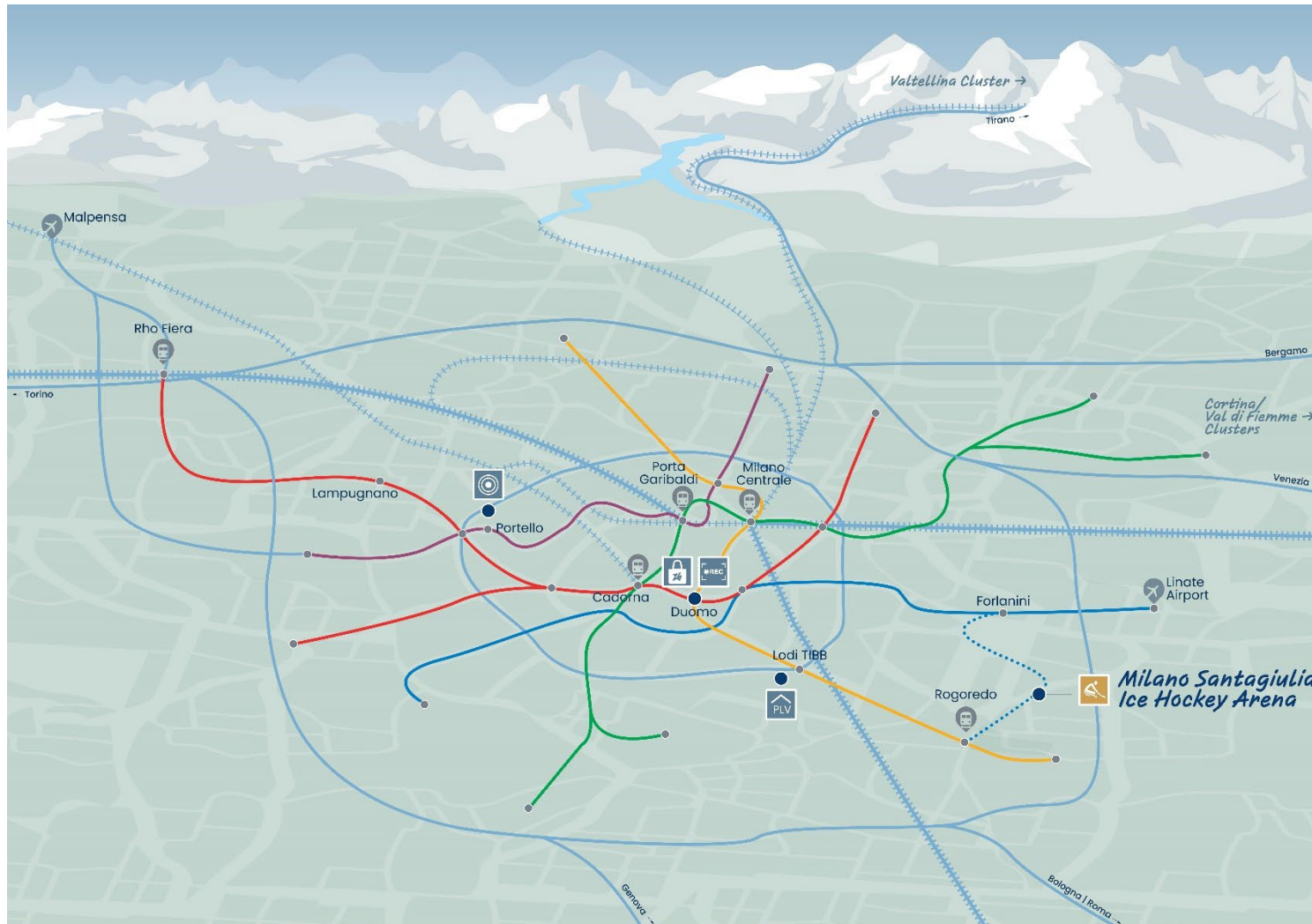
Milano



M1	M2	M3	M5	M4
	Metro station			
	Train station			

*MMC: Main Media Centre
IBC: International Broadcast Center
MPC: Main Press Center

Updated on 28.08.2024



Milano



- Main road
 - ==== High speed Railway
 - +++++ Railway
 - Tramway
- M1
 - M2
 - M3
 - M5
 - M4
- Venue
 - Metro station
-
- ✈ Airport
 - 🚂 Train station
 - 📺 IBC
 - 🛍 SUPERSTORE
 - 🏒 PARA ICE HOCKEY
 - 🏠 PLV PARALYMPIC VILLAGE
 - 📺 TV STUDIOS
 - 🏠 PFH PARALYMPIC FAMILY HOTEL

*IBC: International Broadcast Center

Updated on 28.08.2024



Milano San Siro Olympic Stadium (MOS)

Ceremony: Olympic Games Opening Ceremony

Cluster: Milano

Venue gross capacity: 80,000



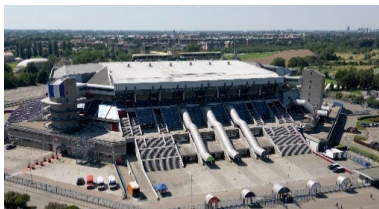
Milano Santagiulia Ice Hockey Arena (MH1)

Paralympic E-VMC

Olympic sports/disciplines: ice hockey 1 | Paralympic sports: Para ice hockey

Cluster: Milano

Venue gross capacity: 14,700



Milano Ice Skating Arena (MSK)

Olympic sports/disciplines: figure skating, short track speed skating

Cluster: Milano

Venue gross capacity: 9,700

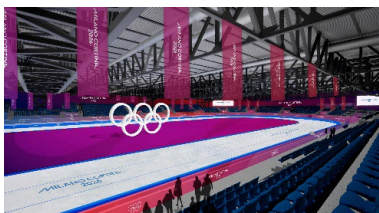


Milano Rho Ice Hockey Arena (MH2)

Olympic sports/disciplines: ice hockey 2

Cluster: Milano

Venue gross capacity: 5,800



Milano Speed Skating Stadium (MSS)

Olympic sports/disciplines: speed skating

Cluster: Milano

Venue gross capacity: 7,500

Please note: all renders are for reference purpose only.

4.5.2 Cortina



Cortina



Main road

● Venue ● To be built

Mountain pass Chair lift Gondola

OLYMPIC VILLAGE	SKELETON	ALPINE SKIING
BOBSLEIGH	CURLING	LUGE

Updated on 28.08.2024



Cortina



- Main road
- Venue ● Town ● To be built

- Mountain pass Chair lift Gondola

- PARALYMPIC VILLAGE PARA ALPINE SKIING WHEELCHAIR CURLING
- PARALYMPIC FAMILY HOTEL PARA SNOWBOARD

Updated on 30.08.2024



Anterselva/ Antholz



- Main road
- Railway
- Venue
- Town
- Mountain pass
- Train station
- Closed road
- OLYMPIC VILLAGE
- BIATHLON

Updated on 30.08.2024



Cortina Curling Olympic Stadium (CCU) | Olympic and Paralympic E-VMC

Olympic sports/disciplines: curling | Paralympic sports: wheelchair curling

Ceremony: Paralympic Games Closing Ceremony

Cluster: Cortina

Venue gross capacity: 3,500

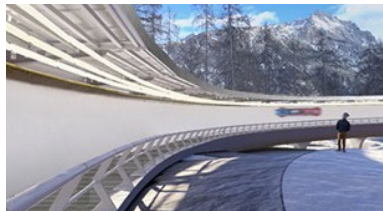


Cortina Para Snowboard Park (CSB)

Paralympic sports: Para snowboard

Cluster: Cortina

Venue gross capacity: 1,510

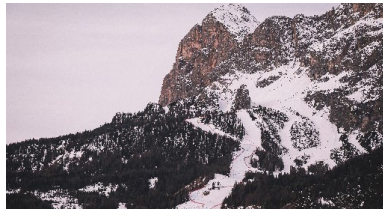


Cortina Sliding Centre (CSC)

Olympic sports/disciplines: bobsleigh, luge, skeleton

Cluster: Cortina

Venue gross capacity: 3,150



Tofane Alpine Skiing Centre (CAL)

Olympic sports/disciplines: Alpine skiing (W) | Paralympic sports: Para Alpine skiing

Cluster: Cortina

Venue gross capacity: 7,000



Anterselva Biathlon Arena (ABA)

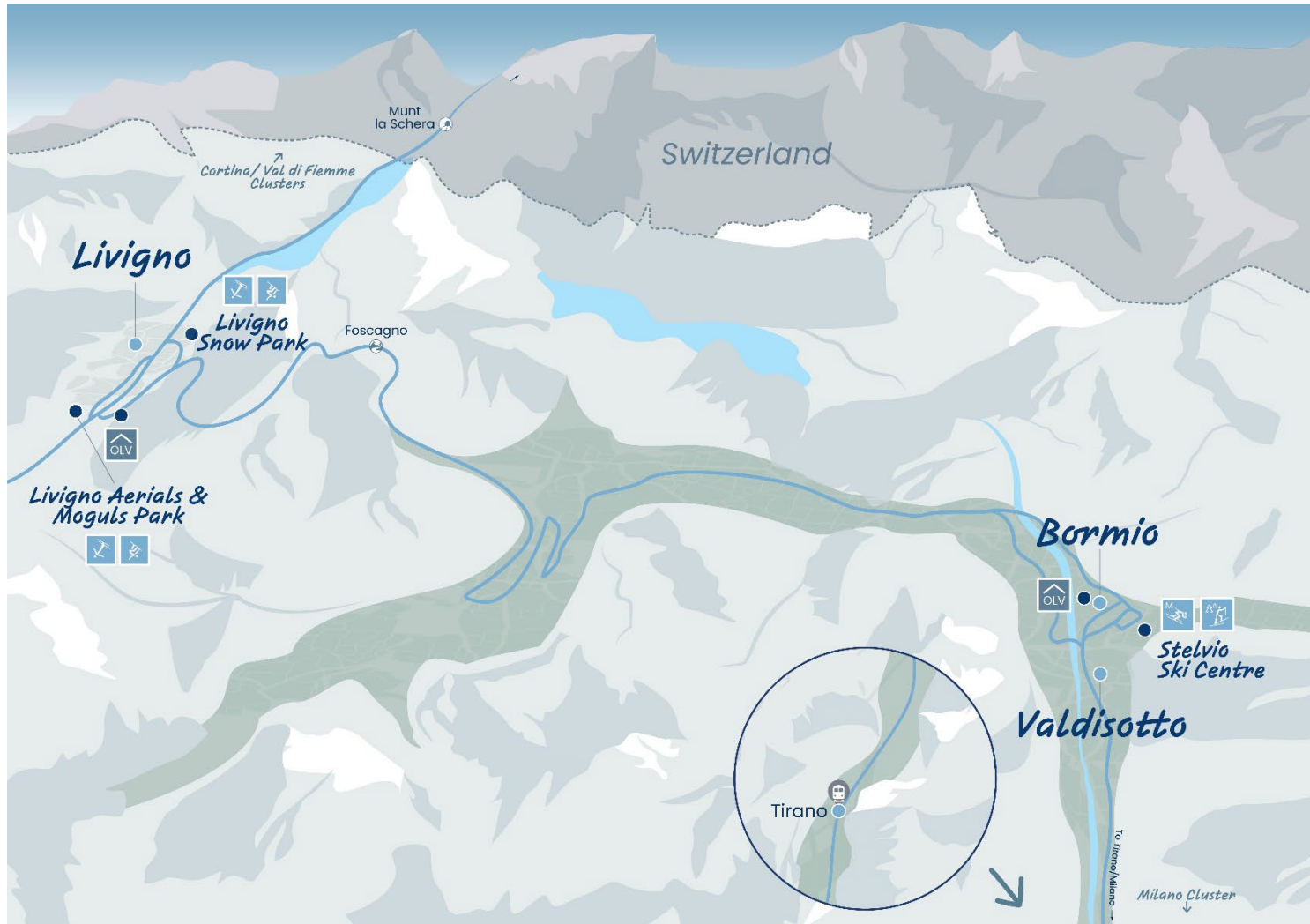
Olympic sports/disciplines: biathlon

Cluster: Cortina

Venue gross capacity: 19,000

Please note: all renders are for reference purpose only.

4.5.3 Valtellina

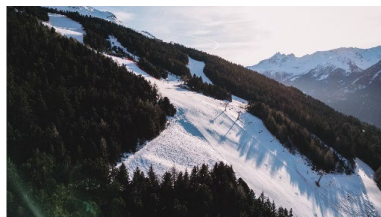


Valtellina



- Main road
- Venue
- Town
- Mountain pass
- Train station
- Tunnel
- OLYMPIC VILLAGE
- FREESTYLE SKIING
- SNOWBOARD
- ALPINE SKIING
- SKI MOUNTAINEERING

Updated on 28.08.2024



Stelvio Ski Centre (SSC)

Olympic sports/disciplines: Alpine skiing (M), ski mountaineering

Cluster: Valtellina

Venue gross capacity: 7,150/4,150

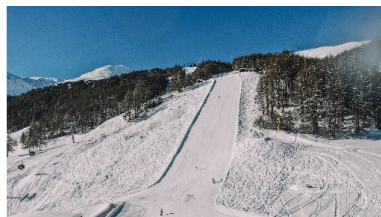


Livigno Snow Park (LSP) | Olympic E-VMC

Olympic sports/disciplines: freestyle skiing, snowboard

Cluster: Valtellina

Venue gross capacity: 10,500



Livigno Aerials & Moguls Park (LAM)

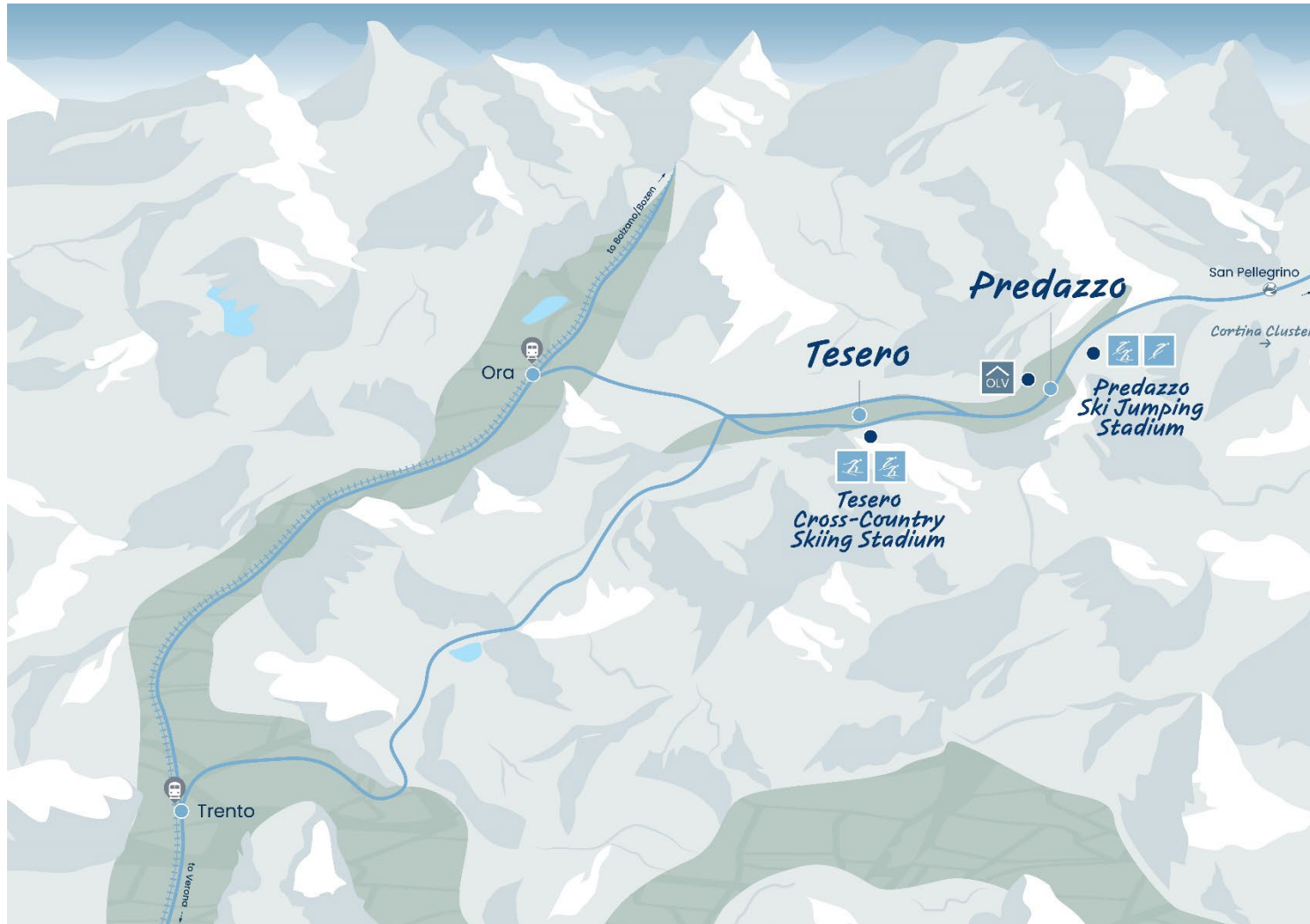
Olympic sports/disciplines: freestyle skiing

Cluster: Valtellina

Venue gross capacity: 3,100

Please note: all renders are for reference purpose only.

4.5.4 Val di Fiemme



Val di Fiemme



● Venue	● Town

Updated on 28.08.2024

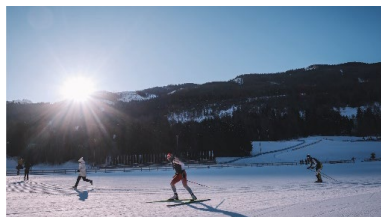


Val di Fiemme



- Main road
- Railway
- Venue
- Town
- Mountain pass
- Train station
- PLV PARALYMPIC VILLAGE
- PB PARA BIATHLON
- PC PARA CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING

Updated on 30.08.2024



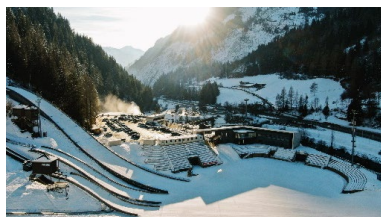
Tesero Cross-Country Skiing Stadium (TCC)

Olympic and Paralympic E-VMC

Olympic sports/disciplines cross-country skiing, Nordic combined | Paralympic sports: Para biathlon, Para cross-country skiing

Cluster: Val di Fiemme

Venue gross capacity: 15,150 OLY/6,150 PLY



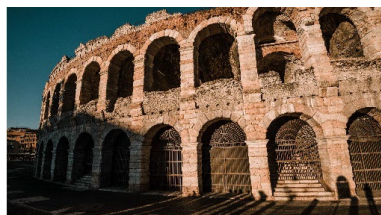
Predazzo Ski Jumping Stadium (PSJ)

Olympic sports/disciplines: ski jumping, Nordic combined

Cluster: Val di Fiemme

Venue gross capacity: 5,050

4.5.5 Verona



Verona Olympic Arena (VOA)

Ceremonies: Olympic Games Closing Ceremony / Paralympic Games Opening Ceremony

Cluster: -

Venue gross capacity: 12,000

5 Press Services

The Press Services team works closely with other departments of the Organising Committee (OCOG) to ensure a smooth implementation of the services that will be provided to the press as they attend, or prepare to attend, the Games.

Accreditation, accommodation, rate card, transportation: there is a variety of services that are delivered to the press to make sure that they can work at their best during Games time, on site, or in the run-up to the Games during the planning period.

The Press Services team is the main contact for press organisations and a major aggregator for requests related to services aimed at the press, despite other Functional Areas within Milano Cortina 2026 effectively delivering them.

5.1 Press Accreditation

The International Olympic Committee and the International Paralympic Committee set the quota of press accreditations, identified as “E-category”, for the Olympic and the Paralympic Games respectively.

This chapter goes into details of the timelines, figures and procedures for press accreditation at the Olympic Games, but the same rationale and the process in principle is implemented at/apply for the Paralympic Games, with the IPC working tightly with National Paralympic Committees and directly accredited organisations, such as recognised press and photo agencies, international news outlets or non-Media Rights-Holders.

5.1.1 Categories and Quotas



The press accreditation quota set by the IOC for the Winter Olympic Games Milano Cortina 2026 is 3,000.

The largest contingent is allocated to NOCs, and each NOC is responsible for managing the application and allocation process for press within its territory. The IOC-recognised world news agencies – AFP, The Associated Press (AP), Reuters and Xinhua – as well as the official photographic agency of the IOC, Getty Images, are directly accredited by the IOC. Additionally, sport specialists, representatives of non-Media Rights Holders, local press and photographers can be accredited for the Games.



The same process applies for the Paralympic Games, with the IPC ultimately responsible for accreditations. More information on the Accreditation process for Paralympic Games will be provided in Q4 2024.

5.1.2 Application Process

The accreditation application for press organisations is a two-stage process; the first one is the “Press by Number” stage, and the second one is the “Press by Name” stage.

The press accreditation process for Milano Cortina 2026 officially began in July 2024 when the IOC notified each NOC of its press accreditation allocation. NOCs are asked to designate the press organisations and number of representatives selected for press accreditation by completing and returning the Press by Number form to Milano Cortina 2026.

Detailed information is included in the Press by Number Accreditation Guide available on the Press Operations Extranet at the following link: [Accreditation \(sharepoint.com\)](#).

After completing the first stage of accreditation, each NOC, as well as organisations directly accredited by the IOC, will receive the Press by Name Accreditation Manual in June 2025. The Press by Name accreditation application will be submitted to Milano Cortina 2026 by the “responsible organisation”. In most cases, it will be the NOC that will collect all the applications and submit them to the OCOG on behalf of the press organisations within its territory.

For all Press by Name accreditation applications received by the deadline, Milano Cortina 2026 will distribute the corresponding Olympic Identity and Accreditation Card (OIAC). For all applications received after the deadline, the OCOG will issue the OIAC to the individual on site.

The preferred accreditation facility for issue resolution, OIAC production and distribution will be the Media Accreditation Centre in front of the Main Press Centre in Milano.

5.1.3 Non-Media Rights-Holders (ENR Accreditation Category)

The IOC is responsible for the accreditation of non-Media Rights-Holders (non-MRHs), in consultation with the NOCs. The accreditation process for non-MRHs has changed slightly for Milano Cortina 2026. In order to grant a better, more transparent and efficient selection, NOCs have been involved in the process, but the IOC remains the ultimate organisation responsible for approval. The ENR accreditation application process will be open from 9 October to 8 November 2024.

During the Games, non-MRHs are permitted to bring in recording equipment to the MPC, with permission to film any press conferences taking place within its spaces. Non-MRHs are not permitted to take their recording equipment into any of the training venues, competition venues or Olympic and Paralympic Villages. For a full explanation on news access and filming rights, please refer to the News Access Rules available online on the IOC and IPC websites. The IOC will make the document available in early 2025 at this link: [Milano Cortina 2026 – Official Olympic Documents \(olympics.com\)](#).

5.1.4 Eligible Persons and Accreditation Entitlements

E-category accreditations are allocated to press representatives who meet professional standards and grant their bearer the entitlements shown in the table below. Please note that Es (sport-specific journalist) and EPs (sport-specific photographer) accreditation categories will not be allocated for the Olympic Winter Games. Sport-specific journalists and photographers will be accredited with E and EP accreditation categories.

Category	Venue Access	Zone Access	Seating Access	Ceremonies	Transport
E Journalist	ALL, MPC, OLV with guest pass	4 White	Seating in "E" Stand	With complimentary ticket (limited numbers). Seat in "E" stand.	TC
EP Photographer	ALL, MPC, OLV with guest pass	4 White	Access to photo positions with special armband or sleeve	With complimentary ticket (limited numbers). Access to photo positions with special armband or sleeve.	TC
ET Technician	ALL, MPC, OLV with guest pass	4 White	No seating access. Access to photo positions and "E" stand for technical reasons.	With complimentary ticket (limited numbers). Access to photo positions and "E" stand for technical reasons.	TC
Ec Support Staff	MPC	N/A	N/A	N/A	TC
ENR Non-Media Rights-Holders	MPC, ALL without recording equipment, OLV with guest pass & without recording equipment	4 White	Seating in "E" Stand	With complimentary ticket (limited numbers). Seat in "E" stand.	TC
Ex Local Press	Relevant local venues, OLV with guest pass	4 White	Seating in "E" Stand	No seating access	TC
EPx Local Photographer	Relevant local venues, OLV with guest pass	4 White	Access to photo positions with special armband or sleeve	No seating access	TC
NOC E Press Attaché	ALL, MPC, MZ (athlete's side of the Mixed Zone) OLV with guest pass	4 Blue	Seating in "E" Stand	With complimentary ticket (limited numbers). Seat in "E" stand.	TC

5.1.5 Access Entitlements

Zone-access entitlements are assigned to each accredited category in accordance with the IOC rules on the basis of the minimum requirements needed to perform that role.

Within the competition venues, Zone 4 identifies press areas and includes access to the following areas for accredited press:

- Venue Media Centre
- press tribunes
- mixed zone
- press conference room
- photo positions (with armband or photo sleeve only)
- media lounge

5.1.6 NOC E and NPC E Accreditation Category

From Paris 2024 onwards, the NOC/NPC E category has been specifically created for press attachés and media staff producing written (not video and/or audio) content for their website and publications. This decision has been taken so that the entirety of the “E” accreditation allocations can be reserved for professional journalists from news organisations whose role is to ensure maximum coverage of the Games and the promotion of the Olympic and Paralympic movement. The NOC/NPC may still use the team-official accreditations (Ao category) for press attachés registered via the delegation registration process.

The E press-attaché quota will be issued under the NOC category (OIAC with green category background).



The NPC E accreditation category will be issued for the Paralympic Winter Games with the same rationale as the NOC E for the Olympic Winter Games.

5.1.7 Olympic Press Accreditation Timeline

ACTIVITY	DATE
IOC informs NOCs of their E-category quota allocation	July 2024
Press by Number accreditation process begins	7 October 2024
IOC distributes the non-MRH application form to NOCs for them to submit a long list of recommended non-MRH organisations	9 October 2024
Deadline for NOCs to return the long list of non-MRHs to the IOC	8 November 2024
Deadline for IOC to approve ENR accreditations	15 January 2025
Deadline for NOCs to return completed Press by Number forms to the OCOG	7 February 2025
Press by Name Accreditation guide distributed	9 June 2025
Online accreditation system for Press by Name applications opens for NOCs, IFs and directly accredited press organisations	23 June 2025
NOCs, IFs and all directly accredited press organisations return the completed Press by Name accreditation applications to the OCOG	12 September 2025
The OCOG distributes the pre-valid Olympic Identity and Accreditation Cards (PVCs) to NOCs, IFs and directly accredited press organisations	November 2025
The validity period of the PVC for travel purposes begins	6 January 2026
Olympic Winter Games Milano Cortina 2026 Opening Ceremony	6 February 2026

Please note that individual NOCs may establish earlier deadlines. For more information about accreditation allocation and deadlines, press representatives are encouraged to get in touch with their respective NOCs.

5.1.8 Accreditation Activation

The OIAC will only grant access to Milano Cortina 2026 venues once it has been activated. Press arriving at Milano Malpensa (MXP) and Venezia Marco Polo (VCE) will be able to activate their accreditation at the airport, upon presentation of a valid identification document as proof of identity, from 23 January 2026. Types of identification documents accepted will be outlined in the Press Accreditation Manual.

Press entering Italy via other ports of entry, locally based press, or press arriving at MXP and VCE prior to the opening of the activation facility, must go to the Media Accreditation Centre (MAC), located by the entrance of the Main Press Centre, or to the Venue Accreditation Offices (VAOs) at the competition venues. The operational times of these accreditation facilities will be communicated on the Press Operations Extranet and in the Media Handbook that will be published prior to the Games.

Accreditation Activation Venues

Facility	Activation	Card Production	Photo Capture	Issue Resolution
Milano Malpensa - MXP and Venezia Marco Polo - VCE	YES	NO	NO	NO
Media Accreditation Centre - MAC	YES	YES	YES	YES
Venue Accreditation Office - VAO	YES	NO	NO	NO

5.1.9 Accreditation for High-Demand Events

At certain events or sessions, including the Opening and Closing Ceremonies, the number of press and photographers wanting to access the venue may exceed the number of spaces available in the press tribunes and photo positions. For these events, that are categorised as high-demand events, a complimentary ticket will also be required in addition to the accreditation.

The high-demand event tickets for Milano Cortina 2026 will be distributed electronically by IOC Media Operations via a dedicated ticketing platform. Following the same process as in previous Games, the NOCs, IOC-recognised world news agencies and directly accredited international news organisations will be the ones responsible for the distribution of high-demand event tickets to their accredited organisations/individuals. A person in charge of managing digital tickets for high-demand events must be nominated within each NOC, affiliated or directly accredited press organisations and non-MRHs. More information about the process will be provided at a later stage.

The total number of high-demand event tickets is limited; high-demand events for Milano Cortina 2026 will be determined closer to the Games.

The "Ec" (MPC support staff) accreditation category is not eligible for high-demand event tickets.

5.1.10 Entry and Visa Requirements for Italy



The Olympic Identity and Accreditation Card in the form of a Pre-Valid Card (PVC) will serve as the individual's visa for entry into Italy when it is accompanied by a valid passport or travel document between 6 January 2026 and 22 March 2026 for a maximum stay of 90 days within a 180-day period.

Accredited members of the press coming to Italy via another country that might require a visa, are responsible for obtaining the necessary documentation for entry into that country.

Any press representative who has not received their OIAC due to late submission will be responsible for obtaining their own visa, if required, to enter Italy through the normal entry process.



For the Paralympic Games, the same procedures apply; the Paralympic Identity and Accreditation Card (PIAC) is valid as a visa between 6 February and 15 April 2026.

5.2 Press Accommodation

Milano Cortina 2026 has grouped accommodation solutions into the geographical zones where the competitions or ceremonies will take place. Press Accommodation will be based in four clusters - Milano, Cortina (including Cortina d'Ampezzo and Anterselva/Antholz), Valtellina (including Bormio and Livigno), Val di Fiemme (including Tesero and Predazzo), as well as in the standalone city of Verona. For the Paralympic Winter Games, there will be no competitions or accommodation in Valtellina. Detailed information can be found in the Press Accommodation Guide available at this link: [Accommodation \(sharepoint.com\)](#).

5.2.1 Press Accommodation Timeline

The accommodation booking period for Milano Cortina 2026 comprises 33 nights from 23 January 2026 to 24 February 2026 (checkout on 25 February). Press will be able to submit room requests for the number of nights needed during this period. There will be no minimum-stay requirements. For any accommodation needs before or after the booking period, we invite you to contact the hotels directly.

Please note that Accommodation has a particularly tight timeline and we kindly ask stakeholders to meet the deadlines.

DATE	ACTIVITY
21 October 2024	Accommodation Management System (AMS) opens
28 February 2025	Deadline for submitting room requests on AMS
11 April 2025	Notification of hotel allocations sent to press organisations AAA issued for signatures upon allocation agreement
30 April 2025	Deadline to release 100% of total room nights per property free of charge AAA signature due First deposit invoice issued (payment within 30 days)
30 May 2025	First 50% deposit payment due
29 August 2025	Deadline to release 30% of total room nights per property free of charge
10 October 2025	Deadline to release 10% of total room nights per property free of charge
from 11 October 2025	All room changes subject to penalty
9 November 2025	Deadline for remaining balance

* The specified deadlines refer to local time in Italy (i.e. room release must occur by 11.59 p.m. local time).

5.3 Transport

Milano Cortina 2026 will be widespread Winter Games, with the Olympic and Paralympic stage covering a very large area in northern Italy, and transport solutions may be different from what has been delivered in previous Games.

Each accredited member of the press will have access to the Transport Connect system (TC), which also grants access to public transport in Milano (TP).



TC services are available from 14 days before the Opening Ceremony to 3 days after the Closing Ceremony for the Olympic Games (from 23 January to 25 February 2026).



Details about the TC services for the Paralympic Games will be provided at a later stage.

The TC Services will be scheduled, with different frequency during the Olympic and Paralympic Games and the transition period, depending on the time of day and activity expected for press and other stakeholder groups.

5.3.1 Milano

In Milano, the public transport network (TP) will be used extensively to provide the core service to connect all competition and non-competition venues and accommodation locations. Milano Cortina 2026 will provide additional services via TC to ensure key connections (such as MMC/OLV, etc.) and out-of-hours connections, when public transport will not be operational, and to integrate last-mile connections between metro stations and specific venues (e.g. Rogoredo M3 and Milano Santagiulia Ice Hockey Arena).

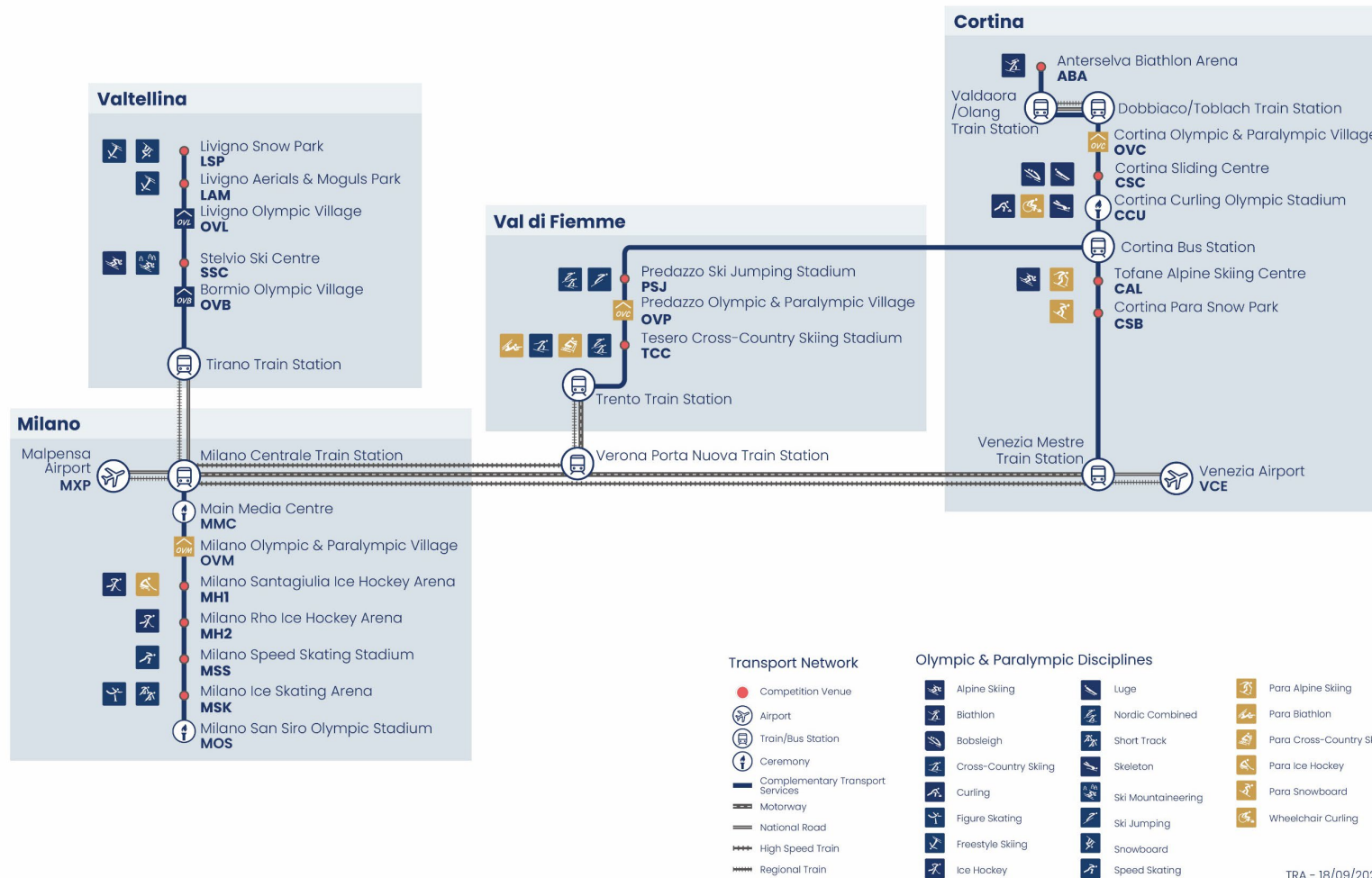
All the public-transport services within [zones Mil-Mi3](#) will be free of charge for accredited press.

5.3.2 Cross-Cluster Transport

Cross-cluster transport services will only be provided by the train services between the nominated cross-cluster transit hubs (namely, Milano Centrale, Tirano, Trento and Venezia Mestre). The available train services are shown in the diagram below. From those transit hubs, press can use the available cluster transport services (TC), as described in the following maps. Please note that there is not a direct train connection between mountain clusters, but there is a TC connection between Val di Fiemme and Cortina, and between Cortina and Anterselva/Antholz.

Please find below an overview of the cross-cluster transport concept.

Olympic and Paralympic Transport Concept



Cross-Cluster Travel Timetable																					
	Milano MPC			Milano Milano Centrale train station			Valtellina Bormio			Valtellina Livigno			Cortina			Val di Fiemme Predazzo			Anterselva/Antholz		
	km	OCOg services	Self-drive	km	OCOg services	Self-drive	km	OCOg services	Self-drive	km	OCOg services	Self-drive	km	OCOg services	Self-drive	km	OCOg services	Self-drive	km	OCOg services	Self-drive
Milano MPC				5km	20 min	20 min	205km	3 hr 50 min	3 hr 15 min	245km	4 hr 50 min	4 hr	415km	5 hr 20 min	5 hr 30 min	310km	4 hr 50 min	4 hr	385km	5 hr 35 min	5 hr
Milano Milano Centrale train station	5km	20 min	20 min				200km	3 hr 30 min	3 hr 15 min	240km	4 hr 30 min	4 hr	410km	5 hr	5 hr 30 min	305km	4 hr 30 min	4 hr	380km	5 hr 15 min	5 hr
Valtellina Bormio	200km	3 hr 30 min	3 hr 15 min	200km	3 hr 30 min	3 hr 15 min				40km	1 hr 15 min	50 min	305km		5 hr 45 min	205km		4 hr 30 min	270km		5 hr
Valtellina Livigno	240km	4 hr 30 min	4 hr	240km	4 hr 30 min	4 hr	40km	1 hr 15 min	50 min				270km		5 hr	190km		5 hr 15 min	235km		4 hr
Cortina	410km	5 hr	5 hr 30 min	410km	5 hr	5 hr 30 min	305km		5 hr 45 min	270km		5 hr				85km	2 hr 30 min	2 hr 15 min	60km	1 hr 30 min	1 hr 15 min
Val di Fiemme Predazzo	305km	4 hr 30 min	4 hr	305km	4 hr 30 min	4 hr	205km		4 hr 30 min	190km		5 hr 15 min	85km	2 hr 30 min	2 hr 15 min				140km		2 hr 30 min
Anterselva/Antholz	380km	5 hr 15 min	5 hr	380km	5 hr 15 min	5 hr	270km		5 hr	235km		4 hr	60km	1 hr 30 min	1 hr 15 min	140km		2 hr 30 min			

OCOg Services > TP/train + TC/bus

Self-drive > vehicles without a driver provided by the OCOg

The table above lists cross-cluster travel times, showing both OCOg services and “self-driving” travel times. Please note that travel times can be longer than what is shown in the charts. Travel times have been calculated to include a short connection time to move from one means of transportation to another, but do not consider exact timetables or waiting times.

5.3.3 Mountain Clusters

In principle, the Milano Cortina 2026 transport system in the mountain clusters is based on a hub model, centred on the accommodation, competition venues with their VMCs and non-competition venues. Within the mountain clusters, the transport system is mainly based on dedicated bus services.

Competition Services

TC lines connect each transport hub to the competition venues within the cluster. The schedule will be based on the opening hours of the Venue Media Centre.

Accommodation Services

Milano Cortina 2026 has grouped accommodation solutions into the geographical zones where the competitions or ceremonies will take place. Some of the accommodation solutions are dispersed in mountain cluster territories. To provide a better service for all stakeholders, a cluster fleet pool is planned to accommodate transport requests around the different zones and connect dispersed accommodation areas to TC lines.

5.4 Arrivals and Departures Service for Press

The primary ports of entry (POE) for the Games are two airports, serving the two areas of Northern Italy:

Airport	Cluster
Milano Malpensa (MXP)	Milano and Valtellina
Venezia Marco Polo (VCE)	Cortina and Val di Fiemme

The airport flow includes the usual airport procedures for arrivals:

Airside:

- disembarkation
- immigration
- accreditation activation
- baggage reclaim – Arrivals and Departures staff will be present to assist if necessary
- customs

Landside:

- Arrivals and Departures welcome desks
- onward transport services

In Milano, the default transport mode for arrivals and departures will be with the TP, with the TC service integrating out-of-hours service in specific circumstances. More details to be provided in due course.

Arrivals and Departures services will be operational for both the Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games.

Accreditation activation at primary POEs will be operational from 23 January 2026 during the Olympic Games (TBC for the Paralympic Games).

Operational hours will be based on information provided in the Arrivals and Departures System (ADS).

5.4.1 Arrivals

Upon arrival at the POE, accredited press will see directions for dedicated immigration lanes, baggage claims and customs areas. Staff assistance at the airport will be available in dedicated areas to provide information about continuation of travel.

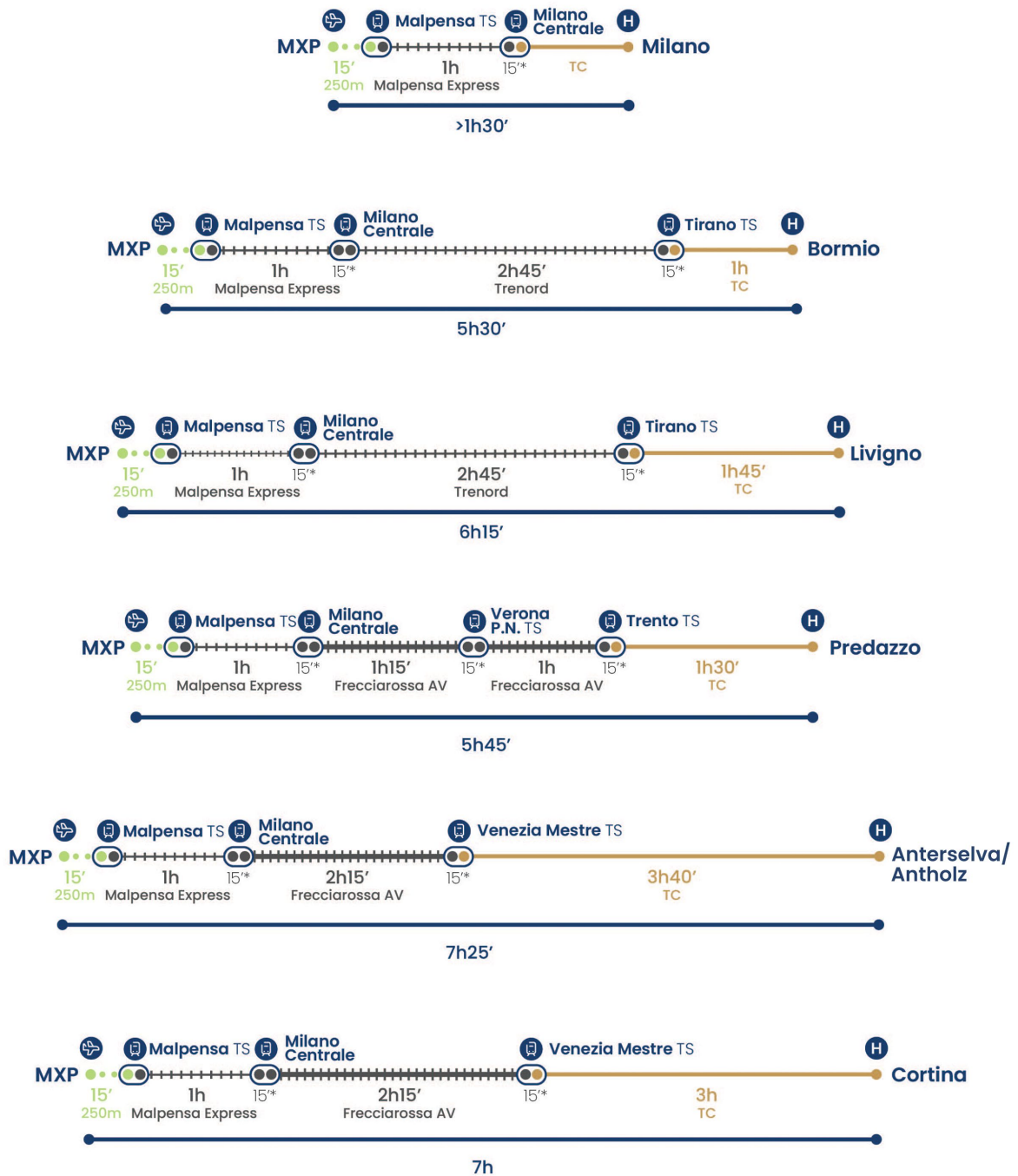
Transport is provided by a combination of existing public-transport services and Games-dedicated transport, depending on POE, time of arrival and destination.

MBP - The Malpensa Express train can be taken to Milano Centrale, where further connections will be available: public transport (TP) for destinations in Milano, or the train to Tirano, where the TC line will connect to Bormio and Livigno (Valtellina cluster).

VCE - The VCE airport train can be taken to Venezia Mestre or Trento train stations, where the TC service will connect to Cortina, Anterselva/Antholz, Tesero and Predazzo.

Each airport is better suited to connect to specific clusters, however all clusters are reachable from both airports, as shown in the diagrams below.

Transport from Malpensa Airport

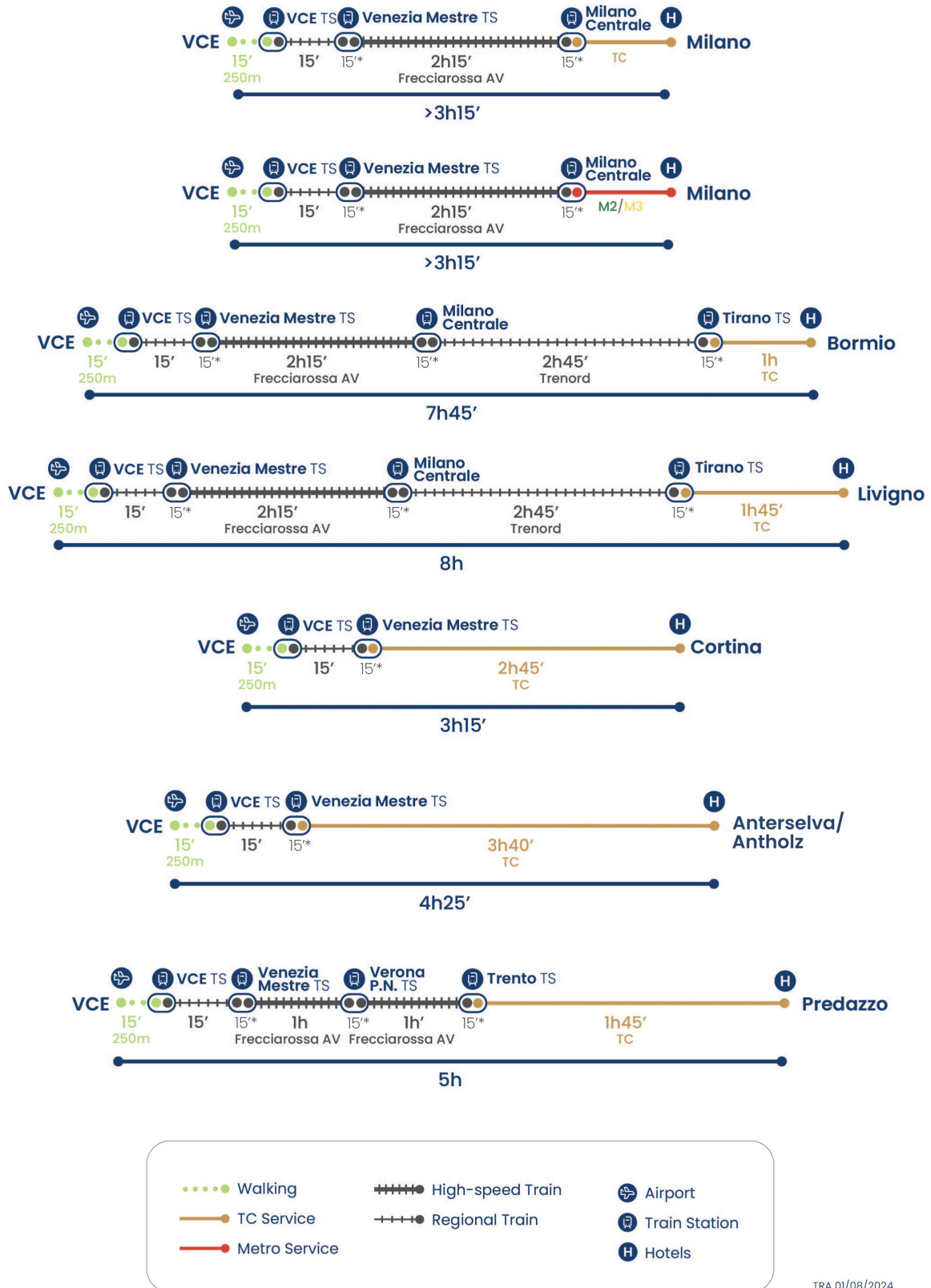


..... Walking	✈️ Airport
—●— TC Service	🚉 Train Station
—+— Regional Train	🏨 Official Hotels

TRA 01/08/2024

* Allow a minimum transfer time of 15 minutes – a passenger lounge is available in case of longer waiting times.

Transport from Venezia Airport



* Allow a minimum transfer time of 15 minutes – a passenger lounge is available in case of longer waiting times.

5.4.2 Departures

Upon departure, accredited press arriving at Milano Malpensa (MXP) and Venezia Marco Polo (VCE) airports will follow normal procedures through security into the departure area.

For departures, press will need to confirm their data 72 hours in advance on the ADS or at the Arrivals and Departures desk in the Main Press Centre. Alternative procedures will be communicated at a later stage.

5.4.3 Arrivals and Departures System (ADS)

The Arrivals and Departures System (ADS) is the tool used to manage the arrival and departure data of members of the press. Milano Cortina 2026's ability to staff and adapt services depends entirely on the press entering accurate information in the ADS. Press organisations and individuals will be required to submit information regarding all individual and group arrivals and departures, such as number of suitcases, oversized baggage and travel accessibility needs.

The ADS system will open six months ahead of the Games (August 2025), and Press Operations will distribute user-account forms in the same period. Credentials will be created to allow press stakeholders to access the system and submit their travel information.

Clients will need to enter their travel details in the system in order to take full advantage of the services offered to the press, including:

- guaranteed assistance at airport arrivals;
- transport allocation immediately upon arrival;
- guaranteed space for equipment and baggage on transport;
- assistance with accessibility requirements communicated via the system; and
- timely departure of transport with enough capacity for baggage and equipment.

5.5 Rate Card

The Press Rate Card Catalogue will contain a list of products and services that can be ordered via the Press Rate Card Portal. Available categories include private office space at the MPC, technology equipment, vehicles and VAPPs.

The first version of the Press Rate Card Catalogue will be available for download in November 2024 on the Press Operations Extranet at the following link: [Rate Card \(sharepoint.com\)](#). An updated version will be published in due course before the ordering period starts on 1 February 2025.

The Rate Card Portal will be available at <https://fo.milanocortina2026.org/app/src> from 2 December 2024 for the Intent to Rent process.

The Standard Rental Period for the Olympic Winter Games is from 21 January to 23 February 2026, a total of 33 consecutive days. Should an item be used for less than the Standard Rental Period, for whatever reason, no discounts will be applied. For certain items, the Standard Rental Period may be extended for incremental seven-day periods and will be charged accordingly.

These additional charges are defined as an “Extension Charge” in the Rate Card Catalogue. Any rental request for use before 6 January 2026 should be discussed with the Rate Card team as a Non-Standard Request.

To ensure availability of products, organisations are advised to place their orders as soon as possible. Once a Rate Card order has been submitted, it can be amended, modified and even cancelled without charge up until 31 August 2025.

All prices in the Press Rate Card Catalogue are quoted in euros (€) and exclude VAT.

5.5.1 Private Office Spaces

Private office spaces will only be available in the Main Press Centre in Milano during the Olympic Winter Games. A Mountain Media Centre will not be available for Milano Cortina 2026, and the Enhanced Venue Media Centres serving mountain clusters will not be fitted with private office spaces. Please see chapter 8 for more details on Enhanced Venue Media Centres (E-VMCs).

The Intent to Rent period for private office spaces at the MPC is between 2 December 2024 and 28 February 2025. No late requests will be accepted. Full details can be found in the Press Rate Card Catalogue.



No private office space will be available for the Paralympic Winter Games.

5.5.2 Vehicle Rental and Vehicle Access and Parking Permit (VAPP)

Vehicle prices will be based on the Standard Rental Period. More details on the possibility to extend the rental period will be communicated in future versions of this guide. Vehicle Access and Parking Permits (VAPPs) are not included in the vehicle rental and must be ordered separately through the Rate Card Portal.

Key Dates for Press Rate Card, Olympic Winter Games

Period	Activity
November 2024	Press Rate Card Catalogue V1 published
2 December 2024–28 February 2025	Intent to Rent for private office spaces at MPC
Q1 2025	Press Rate Card Catalogue V2 published
1 February–31 August 2025	Normal Order Period
1 September–30 November 2025	Late Order Period
1 December–31 December 2025	Cut-Off Period (no new orders, cancellations or amendments)
1 January–23 February 2026	Games-Time Order Period
21 January – 23 February 2026	Standard Rental Period

5.6 Press Technology

5.6.1 Internet Connection

Milano Cortina 2026 will provide secure wireless and wired shared internet services free of charge in dedicated press and photo areas, as per previous Games and as described below.

Wired internet:

- MPC: press workroom and photo workrooms.
- Competition venues: in all press and photo workrooms, press tribunes and prime photo positions.

Wi-Fi:

- MPC: press and photo workrooms, press conference rooms, private office spaces and all common areas (main lobby, lounges, food court).
- Competition venues: Venue Media Centre, tabled and non-tabled tribunes, mixed zone, press conference room and media lounge.
- Olympic Village: TBC.

5.6.2 MediaZone

MediaZone, previously known as MyInfo, is the primary source of all Games-related information, including news, media communications, results, competition and non-competition schedules as well as background reports, biographies and extended start lists. MediaZone digital platform allows accredited press to access all Games-related restricted information. MediaZone account gives users access to the platform through a web browser on any device with internet connectivity to perform their work either from within the Venues or remotely during the Games. The performance and reliability of MediaZone depends on user's internet connectivity and may vary outside of Milano Cortina 2026 control.

5.6.3 Host Broadcast Content Distribution Service

The Host Broadcast Content Distribution (HBCD) service, previously known as Cable Television service (CATV), will make live audio and video content available to accredited stakeholders.

It will distribute selected OBS channels and/or additional audiovisual content (such as commercial channels) from the IBC to all competition and selected non-competition venues for viewing by accredited stakeholders and to support Games operations.

HBCD will be aired in the VMCs and in common areas at the MPC; press organisations can order these feeds to air in their private office space at the MPC through the Press Rate-Card Catalogue.

5.6.4 Radio Frequency Coordination

During the Milano Cortina 2026 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games, all users planning to use wireless equipment must submit their requirements to Milano Cortina 2026, to obtain authorisation for radio frequency use. This authorisation must be requested via the Spectrum Booking Portal (SBP), that will be accessible via the Rate Card Ordering Platform. A direct link will be available at a later stage.

This table provides the planned application periods:

Application Periods	Requests Submission
Normal Spectrum Booking Period	6 February–31 May 2025
Late Spectrum Booking Period	1 September–15 October 2025
Extraordinary Spectrum Booking Period	1 January 2026–22 March 2026

The Spectrum Availability Plan has been published on the Press Operations Extranet at this link: [Press Technology \(sharepoint.com\)](#).

It can also be downloaded from the Documents section on the Fondazione Milano Cortina 2026 website at <https://milanocortina2026.olympics.com/it/documenti>.

Individuals who wish to use mobile phones, laptops or smartphones do not need to register their equipment via this process.

5.7 Customs and Freight Forwarding

Press organisations may choose to ship, or bring in their luggage, equipment or other goods to Italy for Milano Cortina 2026. To help organisations with their preparations, the Customs and Freight Forwarding Guide contains the necessary information on current customs regulations, as well as details about the procedures to be followed for the import and export of goods required and the official Logistics Services Provider (LSP).

The Customs and Freight Forwarding guide will be available to download from the extranet at this link: [Customs & Freight \(sharepoint.com\)](#).

5.8 Security

The goal of Security at Milano Cortina 2026 is to provide a safe and secure environment for the peaceful and successful celebration of the Games. At venues, this translates as the implementation of a security control zone that includes:

- a secure perimeter
- access control points with security screening:
 - Pedestrian Screening Areas (PSA)
 - Vehicle Screening Areas (VSA)
- operational areas

People and vehicles are subject to two-fold access control and authorisation for entry:

- pedestrians:
 - accreditation check
 - compliance with security requirements, control on bags and screening
- vehicle access:
 - Vehicle Access and/or Parking Permit (VAPP) check
 - screening of the vehicle and its contents
 - drivers and passengers to go through the PSA.

5.8.1 Prohibited and Restricted Items

The security policy will determine prohibited and restricted items, tools-of-trade regulations, and food-and-beverage restrictions. Procedures are currently being developed to cater to the operational needs of the press.

A list of prohibited and restricted items will be posted on the Press Operations Extranet https://milanocortina2026.sharepoint.com/sites/press_operations/ as soon as it is available.

6 Publications

All publications, guides, manuals and forms aimed at the accredited press will be made available on the Press Operations Extranet, an online platform designed to assist Olympic and Paralympic accredited press in preparing for the Games.

The Press Operations Extranet provides the latest updates from Milano Cortina 2026 Press Operations and gathers important planning documents. In Q4 2024, a number of publications will be made available:

- Press Accommodation Guide
- Press by Number Accreditation Manual
- Press Rate Card Catalogue V1
- Customs and Freight Forwarding Guide

More publications will be made available in 2025:

- Press Rate Card Catalogue V2 in Q1
- Press by Name Accreditation Guide in Q2
- Press Services & Facilities Guide (updated version) in Q3
- Media Handbook in December
- Photo Handbook in December



Please refer to chapter 11 for information about Paralympic publications.

6.1.1 Extranet

To request a login for the Extranet, please visit

<https://milanocortina2026.olympics.com/it/press-operations-extranet>, select the option “I don't have an account yet” and follow the instructions. After the account has been approved and created, the user will receive a notification.

If you do not receive the email in your inbox, be sure to check that it has not been redirected to your spam folder.

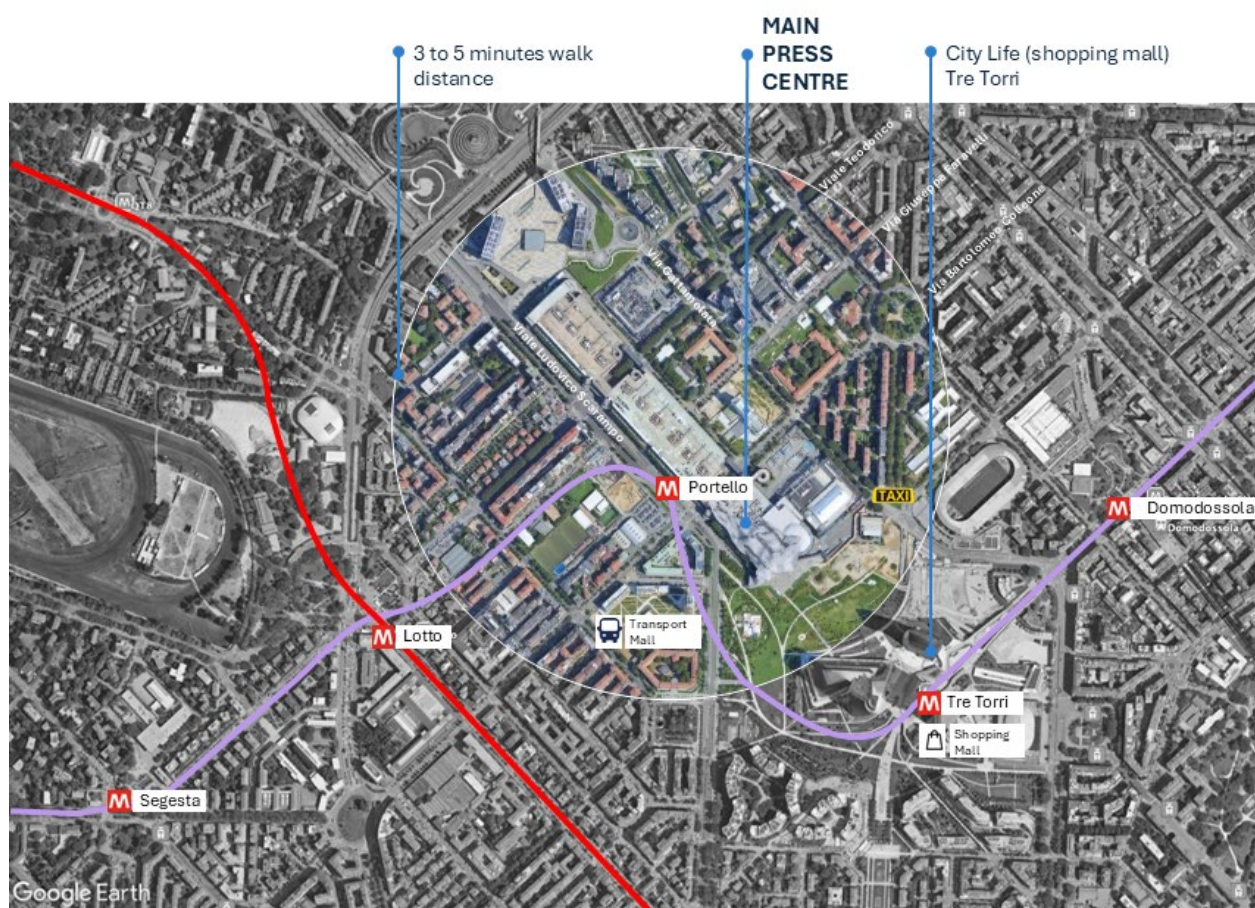
Every person registered to the Extranet will also receive the Press Operations Newsletter via email, with updates on press services and facilities. Press can subscribe to this newsletter, or unsubscribe from it, by emailing pressoperations@milanocortina2026.org.

7 Main Press Centre (MPC)

7.1 Location and Access

The Main Press Centre (MPC) is located in the north-west area of the city of Milano, in a central and well-connected neighbourhood with plenty of restaurants, shops and services in the surrounding area.

The MPC is hosted in a historic exhibition centre, the Allianz MiCo, Milano Convention Centre, which also accommodates the International Broadcast Centre (IBC), allowing for shared services such as transport, catering, and retail facilities. With three floors of operational spaces, the MPC provides all the essential facilities and services for accredited press to perform their duties efficiently and effectively.



Address: Milano Congressi - Piazzale Carlo Magno, 1 - 20149 Milano - Italy



The MPC, as described below, will only be operational during the Olympic Games.



For the Paralympic Games, the MPC will be replaced by three Enhanced Venue Media Centres (E-VMCs) in the following venues:

- Milano Santagiulia Ice Hockey Arena (Para ice hockey);
- Cortina Curling Olympic Stadium (wheelchair curling); and
- Tesero Cross-Country Skiing Stadium (Para cross-country skiing and Para biathlon).

7.1.1 Access

Any accredited individual with the MPC code on their accreditation is entitled to access the Main Press Centre. Both press and broadcasters will have access to the venue, except for local press (Ex) and local photographers (EPx). Please note that, despite the MPC and the IBC being located within the same perimeter, press is not allowed to access the IBC and there will be access control between MPC and IBC.

7.1.2 Guest Passes

Individuals accredited for the Main Press Centre can request guest passes for visitors who do not have accreditation, provided they can demonstrate a valid reason for the guest’s entry. Guest passes can be requested online or directly from the Guest Pass Office at the Media Accreditation Centre, at least one day in advance. All guest passes are valid for one day only and are non-transferable.



7.1.3 Transport and Parking

The MPC benefits from multiple public-transport options: Metro line 5 (lilac) from Portello station and Metro line 2 (red) from Lotto station, urban bus lines and regional trains from Milano Domodossola Fiera station.

The Media Transport Mall, located just outside the MPC secure perimeter, will provide additional transport services and will cover public transport non-operational hours.

A limited number of parking spaces will be available inside the perimeter of the MPC. A Vehicle Access and/or Parking Permit (VAPP), which can be purchased via the Press Rate Card Portal, will be required for parking at all times.

7.2 Operational Period

Dates	Activity
6 – 24 January	Soft opening
25 January	Lockdown (date to be confirmed)
26 January – 22 February	24h operations
6 – 22 February	Olympic Winter Games
23 – 27 February	Bump out

7.3 Services and Areas

The MPC and its services are organised on three floors:

- ground floor - private office spaces
- first floor - main lobby
- second floor - press and photo workrooms, press conference rooms, IOC and OCOG media and operational offices, additional private offices TBC

7.3.1 Private Office Spaces

Private office spaces will be available in units of 25 square metres. Accredited press organisations and NOCs can request offices through the Rate Card Portal. The Intent to Rent period will start on 2 December 2024 and end on 28 February 2025. No late orders will be accepted after this period.

7.3.2 Main Lobby

The main lobby of the MPC, located on the first floor near the main entrance, includes central services for both press and broadcasters:

- Main help desk
- Accommodation desk
- Transport desk
- Logistic Service desk
- Arrivals and Departures desk
- Rate Card desk

- Sustainability desk
- City Information desk
- Legacy desk
- Lost and found

Other services under development at the MPC include:

- ATM
- General store
- Milano Cortina 2026 merchandising store
- Laundry and dry cleaning
- Medical station

7.3.3 Press and Photo Workrooms

The MPC's second floor will have an integrated work area with dedicated press and photo workspaces – approximately 300 workstations in total. Both workspaces will be equipped with wireless and cabled broadband internet and power outlets, and will be available on a first-come, first-served basis.

The workroom will feature TV screens airing the live feed of all competitions, as well as printers. Dedicated help desks for press and photo workrooms will provide general assistance to those working in the respective areas.

Dedicated press and photo lockers will be available, and keys can be obtained at each help desk.

The Photo Service Centre, adjacent to the photo workroom, will offer support to accredited photographers, including a loaning service of professional cameras and lenses and a repair service.

7.3.4 Support Services

Several service desks will be available in the Main Entrance of the MPC located on the first floor, such as Arrivals and Departures, Accommodation and Transport desks.

In addition, a Rate Card desk will support the operation of all private office spaces, including the check-in and check-out process. During Games time, some Rate Card products and services, including internet access, can be ordered here.

Milano Cortina 2026 and IOC Communications and Media Operations offices will be located on the second floor.

The Milano Cortina 2026 news desk will be available to facilitate communication between the press and the OCOG. The news desk will provide information and press releases about Milano Cortina 2026 and will manage interview requests with its spokespersons.

The IOC Communications office handles all communications between the IOC and accredited press, including comments on Games issues, press releases, the daily IOC briefing and requests for interviews with IOC members and staff.

The IOC Media Operations office will assist press, photographers, non-MRHs, NOCs and IFs in their activities during the Olympic Winter Games. IOC Media Operations also manages the allocation of high-demand event tickets via the digital platform and serves as a liaison to NOCs press attachés and IFs press representatives.

7.3.5 Press Conference Rooms

The MPC will feature two press conference rooms and the Press Conference Booking Office.

- Conference room 1 - 200 seats – second floor – simultaneous interpretation service available.
- Conference room 2 - 200 seats – second floor – no interpretation service available.

7.3.6 Language and Interpretation Services in the MPC

Remote simultaneous interpretation via an interpretation app will be available in Conference Room 1. Each participant will need to download the app and use their own phone and earphones to listen to the interpretation.

Languages offered*:

- Italian
- English
- French
- German
- Russian
- Korean
- Japanese
- Chinese (Mandarin)

*Up to six languages per event

7.3.7 Catering Options

Food concessions will be available at the MPC and specific operational days and times will be provided at a later stage. Refreshment stations with free water, coffee and tea are always available near the press and photo workrooms on the second floor. The complete offer of food services at the MPC will be communicated closer to the Games. With its convenient location next to a large shopping centre, there will be easy access to a variety of facilities, restaurants and bars.

8 Venue Press Operations

8.1 Venue Media Centres (VMCs)

There will be a Venue Media Centre (VMC) in each competition venue. Each VMC will have a work area for journalists and photographers that will be available on a first-come, first-served basis. Some of the services offered in the VMC include:

- desks equipped with cabled internet and power outlets
- Wi-Fi
- HBCD (formerly known as CATV) with live feed
- lockers for photographers
- refreshment stations with free coffee, tea and water
- information desk for general information, including competition details and transport schedule
- media lounge with food and beverages available for purchase

Venue Media Centres' Operational Period for Olympic and Paralympic Games

Phases	Days/Hours
First day of operations	- 3 days prior to the first competition day or first day of official training
Non-competition days	From 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Official training days	- 1 hour prior to the start of training + 1 hour after the end of training
Olympic competition days	- 3 hours prior to start of competition + 4 hours after the end of competition
Paralympic competition days	- 2 hours prior to start of competition + 2 hours after the end of competition
Last day of operations	Last day of competition

Important note

VMCs will be closed at night between 3 a.m. and 6 a.m., regardless of the competition schedule.

8.2 Enhanced Venue Media Centres (E-VMCs)

Due to the specific configuration of the Milano Cortina 2026 clusters, there will be no Mountain Media Centre, but instead services and facilities provided in key VMCs have been enhanced, such as longer opening hours, photo sleeves distribution and photo service centres.

E-VMCs for OLYMPIC GAMES:



- Cortina > Cortina Curling Olympic Stadium
- Valtellina > Livigno Snow Park
- Val di Fiemme > Tesero Cross-Country Skiing Stadium

E-VMCs for PARALYMPIC GAMES:



- Milano > Milano Santagiulia Ice Hockey Arena
- Cortina > Cortina Curling Olympic Stadium
- Val di Fiemme > Tesero Cross-Country Skiing Stadium

E-VMCs' Operational Period for OLYMPIC GAMES

First day of operations	Opening day of Olympic Villages (31 Jan 2026)
31 January – 5 February	From 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.
6 – 22 February	From 7 a.m. to 12.30 a.m. or from -3 hours prior to the start of competition to +4 hours after the end of competition, if this exceeds the above operational hours
Last day of operations	Day of the Closing Ceremony (22 Feb 2026)

Important note

E-VMCs, like VMCs, will be closed at night between 3 a.m. and 6 a.m., regardless of the competition schedule.

8.3 Press Tribunes

At each competition venue, press tribunes will be available with tabled and non-tabled positions. Usually, these will be occupied on a first-come, first-served basis, except for certain positions reserved for IOC/IPC-recognised world news agencies.

In indoor venues:

- Tabled positions will be equipped with shared monitors, cabled internet and power sockets.
- Non-tabled positions will be located in the same area of the tabled positions with Wi-Fi coverage.

8.4 Mixed Zones

At each competition venue, a dedicated area will be set up near the field of play to provide journalists with the opportunity to conduct brief interviews with the athletes, immediately after competing. All athletes will pass through the mixed zone after all competitions. The press mixed zone will follow the broadcast mixed zone, and space will be available on a first-come, first-served basis. A dedicated space will be reserved for IOC/IPC-recognised agencies and the Olympic Information Service (OIS). NOC press attachés with the MZ access code on their NOC E or Ao press attaché accreditation will be able to access the athletes' side of the mixed zone via a dedicated entrance in order to facilitate journalists' interviews with their athletes. Services offered in the mixed zones include:

- screen with in-venue OBS feed
- microphones and speakers
- Language Services volunteers to facilitate communication with the athletes

8.5 Photo Positions

The best possible photo positions will be secured in each competition venue. More details on photo positions in chapter 9 (Photo Operations).

8.6 Press Conference Facilities

Press Operations will organise and run medallists press conferences at the competition venues. These will usually take place after each medal event, as well as after matches in team sports. Professional interpretation services will be provided during all Olympic Games press conferences. Simultaneous interpretation will be delivered through an interpretation app; each participant should use their own earphones to receive the interpretation on their personal devices. Medallists' press conferences will be livestreamed on MediaZone.



Each Olympic competition venue will have a press conference facility, either as a separate room, or as a hybrid set-up inside the Venue Media Centre. All press-conference facilities will offer Wi-Fi connection.

Milano Cortina 2026 has planned dedicated press conference rooms in seven competition venues:

- Cortina Curling Olympic Stadium / enhanced VMC
- Livigno Snow Park / enhanced VMC
- Tesero Cross-Country Skiing Stadium / enhanced VMC
- Milano Santagiulia Ice Hockey Arena
- Milano Rho Ice Hockey Arena
- Milano Ice Skating Arena
- Milano Speed Skating Stadium

In the remaining five venues, a combined space for a workroom and press conference area has been set up (hybrid press-conference room):

- Tofane Alpine Skiing Centre
- Anterselva Biathlon Arena
- Stelvio Ski Centre
- Livigno Aerials & Moguls Park
- Predazzo Ski Jumping Stadium

8.7 Non-Competition Venues

Due to the particular configuration of the Milano Cortina 2026 masterplan, Olympic and Paralympic Villages have been scoped in six locations: three villages in Milano, Cortina d'Ampezzo and Predazzo, and three villages (hotels) in Anterselva/Antholz, Bormio and Livigno. Services for media are planned in the villages, more details will be provided in due course.

9 Photo Operations

A variety of services for photographers will be available at the Main Press Centre (MPC) as well as in competition venues. Each VMC will have a work area and lockers dedicated to photographers.

Please note that there will be no Medals Plazas at Milano Cortina 2026; therefore, all victory ceremonies will be held in-venue at the end of each medal competition.

9.1 Photo Positions

The best possible photo positions will be secured in each competition venue. In general, photo positions are operated on a first-come, first-served basis. However, positions may be allocated to photo pool photographers or on a session-by-session basis where necessary.

In all prime photo positions, internet ports as well as power outlets will be available.

9.2 Photo Sleeves and Armbands

Accredited photographers will be issued with appropriate photo sleeves. These will allow access to photo positions and other working areas. The photo sleeve must be worn at all times whilst at a venue. They are individually numbered and are not transferable.

Please note that, due to the widespread nature of Milano Cortina 2026, photo sleeve distribution will take place in different locations. Photographers will inform the OCOG where they plan to pick up their sleeves via a dedicated procedure published soon in the Press Operations extranet.

Access to restricted photo positions, with particularly limited capacity, will be managed at venue level by the Venue Photo Manager using supplementary access-control devices such as armbands.

9.3 Photographers' Undertaking

In order to collect photo sleeves, photographers are required to sign the Photographers' Undertaking form.

The undertaking stipulates that images taken at the Olympic Games can be used for "still photographic editorial purposes only", and that the use of photographs for advertising or any other commercial purpose, in any medium or in any manner whatsoever, is expressly prohibited by the IOC. The IOC reserves the right to change or alter the Photographers' Undertaking from Games to Games.

9.4 Remote Cameras

The use of remote cameras is a fundamental part of sports photography and Milano Cortina 2026 will try to facilitate the deployment of such equipment in a safe and orderly manner. All remotes will be subject to Photo Operations' approval and must abide by the strict conditions stated in the OCOG's policies and procedures. More details will be provided at a later stage.

Specifications of what will be required in terms of qualified personnel and equipment necessary for installation(s) will also be provided.

Photo Operations' planning follows the same approach and rationale for both the Olympic Winter Games and the Paralympic Winter Games, but please remember that the MPC in Milano will not be operational for the Paralympics.

10 Olympic Information Service (OIS)

The Olympic Information Service (OIS) is a sports reporting and information service designed to assist the media with their coverage of the Olympic Games through a dedicated platform called MediaZone. The service, which is delivered by the IOC and OBS, is free of charge for all accredited media and includes coverage from all sports, from the Olympic opening and closing ceremonies and most of the official events taking place during the Games.

The OIS serves the media by providing content – flash quotes from the mixed zone, press-conference highlights and videos, facts and figures, historical data, schedules, biographies, news stories and much more – that they can use for their own reporting. The OIS output is produced with constant commitment to accurate, unbiased and factual reporting.

During the Games, the OIS has reporters in all Olympic venues, covering every medal event to ensure the media can rely on the OIS to gather content when they are not able to attend. In addition, each IOC/Milano Cortina 2026 Daily Briefing and all medal event's press conferences will be streamed live on MediaZone, with access to VOD (video-on-demand) and a downloadable file once the live stream ends. OIS reporters will be attending these press conferences to write highlights and will be available to ask questions in real-time on behalf of any journalists working remotely through the Ask OIS chat function displayed on MediaZone.

10.1 MediaZone

The Games Information System, called MediaZone, is the official platform where all the OIS content will be displayed and published. MediaZone will be provided free of charge to all accredited media during the Games and will start operating on the opening day of the Olympic Village.

The service can be accessed via a login and password using an accreditation number and it is available on different devices (laptops, tablets or smartphones). Through a personal login, the system offers customisation, including notifications, based on the user's preferences and interests. Journalists working remotely for an accredited media organisation can access MediaZone through a dedicated token login, which can be ordered free of charge through the Rate Card and is subject to approval and availability.

10.2 MediaZone Content

The content available on MediaZone for accredited media includes, but is not limited to:

News – sport previews and reviews, flash quotes, press conference highlights, news articles, statistical data, media communications and IOC news.

Schedules and results – Competition schedules by sport, date and NOC, non-competition schedules (press conferences, draws, training sessions, ceremonies, cultural programmes and IOC activities) and activity list.

Athlete biographies – athlete biographies, team profiles, coach profiles, judge/official profiles, and NOC profiles.

Medals - overall medal standings, medals by day/sport, NOC and gender, multi-medallists.

Sports - schedules, recent results, latest news, flash quotes, medal standings by sport, facts and stats, historical data, background information by sport (competition format and rules, glossary, history, qualification system, facility description, media information and course maps), official communications and participants.

Records - initial records, new records, world records and Olympic records.

Ceremonies - information on the Opening and Closing Ceremonies and medal ceremonies, schedules, news (medal presenters, flag bearers), facts (Opening/Closing Ceremonies media guides).

General Facts on the Olympic Winter Games Milano Cortina 2026 and the Olympic Movement.

Q&A interviews with representatives from the IOC and the Milano Cortina 2026 Organising Committee will be available. Live stream coverage (with remote interpretation provided in up to six languages) of press conferences, IOC/ Milano Cortina 2026 daily briefings, medallists' press conferences, as well as downloadable video-on-demand (VOD) content, will be provided.

10.3 The OIS at the Paralympic Games



The Olympic Information Service stays operational during the Paralympic Games, with the mission to deliver a similar scope of service to the accredited media as for the Olympic Games. In addition, during the Paralympic Games, the OIS also provides a free-of-charge photo service through <https://oisphotos.com/>.

The OIS Photo team will support media coverage of the Paralympic Games.

For the first time at a Winter Games, OIS will run the OIS Student Photography training programme, a legacy programme for Milano Cortina 2026 in which student photographers will be involved in covering the Games for OIS.

The photos, taken by the OIS Photo team and student photographers, will be provided free of charge for immediate editorial usage and archive via a dedicated webpage (www.oisphotos.com).

As during the Olympic Games, the service will be accessible on MediaZone by using an accreditation number as a login and will be available from any device (laptops, tablets, or smartphones). Journalists and collaborators working remotely for an accredited media organisation can also access MediaZone through a dedicated token login, which can be ordered free of charge, subject to approval and availability, through the Rate Card.

Milano Cortina 2026 and OIS are currently developing the scope for the Paralympic Games and further information about the Paralympic OIS coverage will be provided in due course.

11 Paralympic Winter Games and Press Operations

Planning for the Paralympic Winter Games is progressing in line with planning for the Olympic Winter Games, with more details available at a later stage.

In general, most of the services and arrangements planned for the Olympic Games will be retained for the Paralympic Games, with a few major changes that will be outlined below.

Please take a look at the other chapters of this guide to make sure you are on top of the information available. We recommend you focus on the parts marked with the Agitos.

11.1 Overview

The Milano Cortina 2026 Paralympic Winter Games will take place from **6 to 15 March 2026**.

The Paralympic Games competition venues will be located in three **clusters**: Milano, Cortina and Val di Fiemme. The Paralympic Games Opening Ceremony will take place at the Verona Olympic Arena and the Closing Ceremony at the Cortina Curling Olympic Stadium.

The **Cortina Para Snowboard Park** competition venue will only be used during the Paralympic Games. The Valtellina cluster will host competitions for the Olympic Games only.

11.2 Enhanced Venue Media Centres

Please note that the **Main Press Centre** in Milano will be dismantled after the Olympic Games and replaced by the **Enhanced Venue Media Centre (E-VMC)** at the Paralympic ice hockey venue, the Milano Santagiulia Ice Hockey Arena.

Also, there is no Mountain Media Centre planned for Milano Cortina 2026, and the **mountain venues** will be served by the relevant E-VMCs located in Cortina at the Cortina Curling Olympic Stadium and in Val di Fiemme at the Tesero Cross-Country Skiing Stadium. . Venue Media Centres at all competition venues will also be operational, but E-VMCs will offer increased services and longer opening hours. More details are available in chapter 8.

11.3 Press Services

Accreditation and accommodation timelines will be made available on the Press Operations Extranet in the fourth quarter (Q4) of 2024. More details will also be provided for those who will be accredited for both the Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games.

Paralympic **accreditation** will follow the same process as in the Olympic Games, with a quota assigned by the IPC to NPCs, Press by Number and Press by Name procedures.

The validity of the PIAC as a **visa** follows the same rules as the OIAC, but with different dates, namely from 6 February to 15 April 2026.

Accommodation will be requested by individual press organisations through the Accommodation Management System (AMS), for which a dedicated guide will be provided in Q4 2024.

Press Rate Card timelines have been confirmed as follows:

Period	Activity
Q4 2024	Press Rate Card Catalogue V1 published
1 February–31 August 2025	Press Rate Card Normal Order Period (same as Olympic)
Q1 2025	Press Rate Card Catalogue V2 published
1 September–31 December 2025	Press Rate Card Late Order Period (closes one month later than the Olympic one)
1 January–31 January 2026	Cut-Off Period (no new orders, cancellations or amendments)
1 February–18 March 2026	Press Rate Card Games-Time Order Period
27 February – 18 March	Standard Rental Period

Please remember that **no private office spaces** are available in the E-VMCs. Therefore, it will not be possible to rent private offices during the Paralympic Winter Games.

11.4 Publications

Press Operations will publish all relevant press publications on the Press Operations Extranet, including:

- Customs and Freight Forwarding Guide (valid for both Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games) in Q4 2024;
- Press by Number Accreditation Guide (Paralympics) in Q4 2024;
- Press by Name Accreditation Guide (Paralympics) in Q4 2024;
- Press Accommodation Guide (Paralympics) in Q4 2024;
- Press Rate Card Catalogue (Paralympics) in Q4 2024;
- Press Services & Facilities Guide updated version in Q3 2025;
- Media Handbook (Paralympics) in January 2026; and
- Photo Handbook (valid for both Olympic and Paralympic Games) in December 2025.

11.5 Language Services

During the Paralympic Winter Games, simultaneous interpretation will be only available for press conferences being hosted in the E-VMC in Cortina.

12 Useful Information

The following information may be useful for those arriving in Italy from another country to cover the Games.

12.1 Currency

The currency in Italy is the euro (€) with bank notes of 5, 10, 20, 50, 100, 200, 500 and coins of 1, 2, 5, 10, 20, 50 cents and 1 and 2 euros. Credit and debit cards are widely accepted.

12.2 Driving

Licenses from EU countries are fully accepted in Italy. Details for extra-EU licenses will be provided at a later stage. Please find useful information on driving in Italy at this [link](#).

12.3 Electricity

Standard power outlets in Italy are either 230V single-phase or 400V three-phase, 50Hz. Standard plugs in Italy are of the Schuko type for appliances. Type C and L, 220–240 V, two or three pins, 10A or 16A are also commonly used.

Users wishing to bring their own appliances to Italy may need adaptors or conversion equipment that conform to the standard.

12.4 Emergency and Medical Services

In case of emergency, dial 112, the unique number that will connect to the police, the fire brigade or the medical service accordingly. This European emergency number allows the caller to talk to an English-speaking operator.

You can also download and install [112 Where Are U](#), the official app that allows the user to contact the emergency services, offering geolocalisation and the option to ask for help when you are unable to talk.

Please note that, at the time of publishing, the unique emergency number 112 and the app are not active in Veneto, and the emergency services can be reached on the following numbers:

- 112 – Carabinieri (national gendarmerie of Italy)
- 113 – Police
- 115 – Fire Brigade
- 118 – Medical Emergency Services

12.5 Measurements

Italy uses the metric system. Distance is measured in kilometres, with speed signs in kilometres per hour. Weight is measured in kilograms and petrol is sold by the litre. Temperature is measured on the Celsius scale. Time is measured the same way as everywhere else, in hours and minutes, with Italy being within the Central European Time Zone (CET/GMT+1).

12.6 Telephone Services

Italy uses the GSM/LTE/3GPP 5G networks, as opposed to the CDMA network. Generally speaking, smartphones should not have any problems connecting to the local network, even if coming from a country that uses the CDMA network.

International code for Italy is +39.

Landline numbers start with a zero that must be kept even when the international code is added. For example, a number from Milano will be +39 02 xxxxxxxx.

Mobile numbers do not have a zero at the beginning, so nothing changes when the international code +39 is added. For example, a mobile number will be +39 3xx xxxxxx.

12.7 Waste Management

All stakeholders are requested to carry out correct separation for waste collections. Instructions will be provided to ensure the waste is managed properly, separating the compostable, glass, plastic, metal/aluminium, paper and non-recyclable portions.

12.8 Environment

With the aim of reducing the Games carbon footprint and expanding opportunities in the circular economy, Milano Cortina 2026 invites all stakeholders to reconsider their planning and travel in a more sustainable way. Stakeholders will be asked to provide data about their carbon footprint in order to calculate the overall impact of the Games.

Fondazione Milano Cortina 2026 is putting together a document with guidelines to promote good practices and to assist stakeholders in minimising their impact on the environment and the natural ecosystems while they perform their activities at the Games.

12.9 Human Rights

A safeguarding guide is in the making to avoid cases of abuse and to manage such cases properly should they arise. Milano Cortina 2026 is calling all stakeholders to contribute to a more gender-equal, inclusive and fair representation of sportspeople in all their diversity in all forms of media and communication across the Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games and the Olympic Movement. The aim is to ensure sports content and communications are more inclusive, balanced and representative of the world we live in today.



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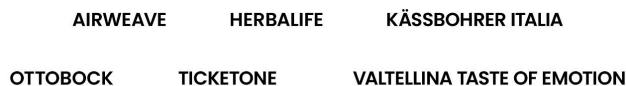
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