

# Olympic Tickets

Now the ticketing process for the Olympic Games has begun, new advice has been launched to make sure it's the criminals who miss out.

The rise in the use of the internet to purchase tickets and accommodation packages online, coupled with the huge expected demand, gives criminals new opportunities to sell non-existent tickets and steal personal and credit card details to use in other crimes.

Over 8 million tickets will be made available for the Olympic Games and a further 2 million for the Paralympics. The ticket process for the Olympic Games opens on 15 March and runs until 26 April. By taking some simple steps anyone buying a ticket can help prevent them becoming a victim.

Detective Inspector Louise Ward, from the Fraud Unit, said: "The 2012 Games will be one of the biggest sporting events this country has ever hosted, with nearly 11m tickets available for events right across the country.

"Criminals will be looking for ways to con and steal, either through selling fake tickets or setting up professional looking sites which may look honest, but could leave you a victim.

"There is some easy-to-follow advice which will help keep you safe and ensure you can enjoy the Games next year."

If you're buying a ticket for the Games:

- The London 2012 ticket application process opens on the 15 March and you have until 26 April to apply for tickets through LOCOG as tickets are not allocated on a first come first served basis
- The only way to apply for a ticket in the UK is at [www.tickets.london2012.com](http://www.tickets.london2012.com) This is London 2012's official site. You can also get a postal application from any Lloyds TSB branch, or from any public library in Northern Ireland. Don't buy a ticket from an unauthorised website or tout. You risk being scammed, and not getting the ticket you wanted and paid for
- If you get a ticket for an event you can't attend, you can return your ticket to get a refund through the London 2012 official ticket exchange. Your ticket will then be officially resold. Details of this will be announced in due course
- There are only three official providers for Games Breaks and Hospitality

Packages in the UK - these are:

**Thomas Cook** - [www.thomascooklondon2012.com](http://www.thomascooklondon2012.com)  
**Prestige Travel** - [www.prestigeticketing.london2012.com](http://www.prestigeticketing.london2012.com)  
**Jet Set Travel** - [www.jetsetsports.com](http://www.jetsetsports.com)

- Other websites or companies will not be authorised to sell you a ticket as part of a package in the UK. Always check the terms and conditions to see exactly what you are being sold
- Outside of the UK, London 2012 tickets are sold through the country's National Olympic Committee, or their authorised retailer

If you found tickets for sale before the 15th March 2011 or available from any unauthorised source at anytime, they will not be genuine. Report it to your local police, or London 2012 via [brandprotection@london2012.com](mailto:brandprotection@london2012.com)