

Mapping the Winter Olympics

The first Winter Olympics were held in Chamonix, France in 1924. Below is a list of the cities which have hosted the Winter Olympics.

1. The Winter Olympics are held every four years. In which years did the games not take place? Suggest a reason why.

2. On the next page, label each city that has hosted the Winter Olympics. Label each city onto your map using the key.

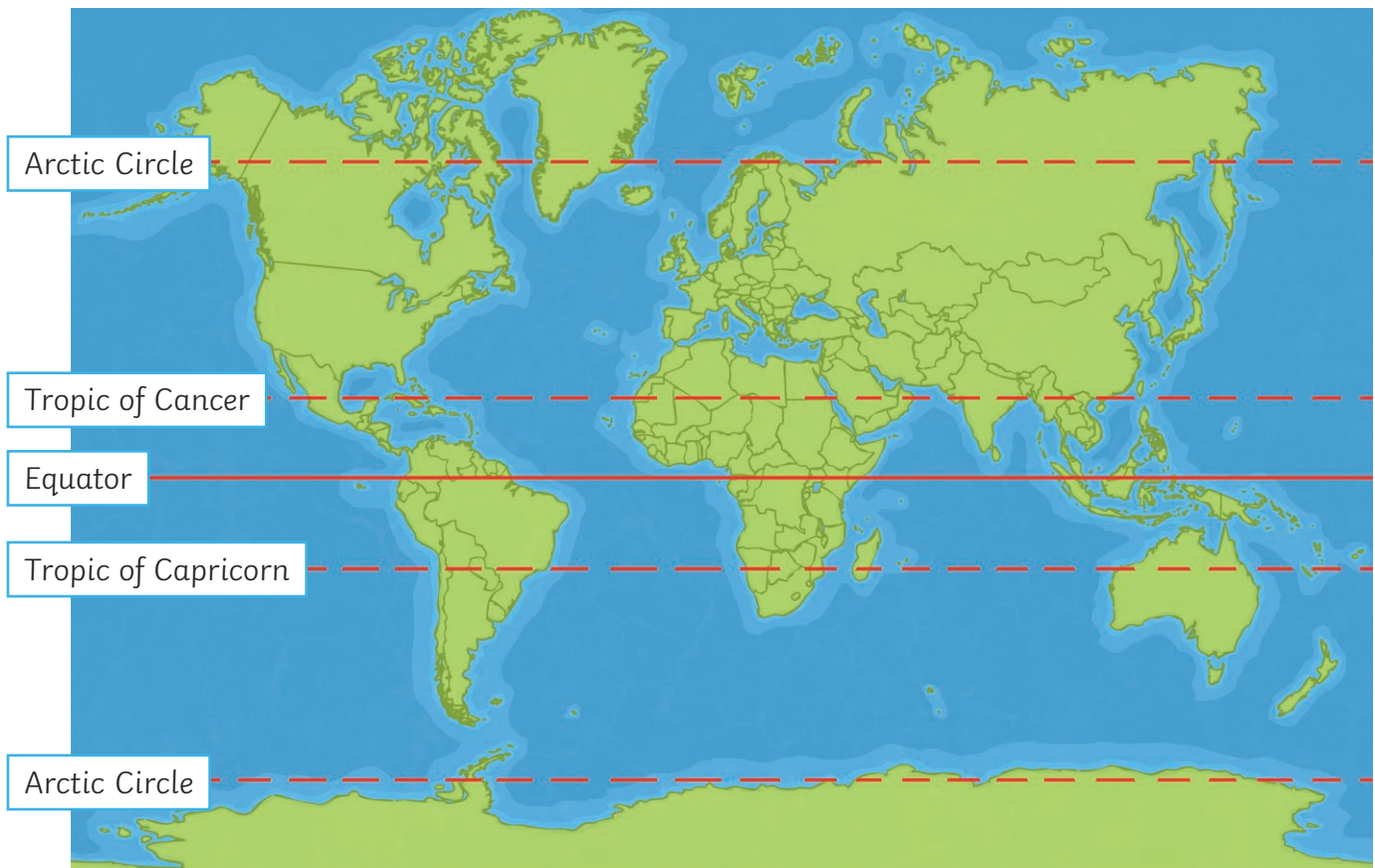
3. Describe the location of the Winter Olympic host cities. Is there a pattern?

4. Can you suggest any reasons for this pattern?

Year	Location
1924	Chamonix, France
1928	St. Moritz, Switzerland
1932	Lake Placid, New York, United States
1936	Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany
1948	St. Moritz, Switzerland
1952	Oslo, Norway
1956	Cortina d'Ampezzo, Italy
1960	Squaw Valley, California, United States
1964	Innsbruck, Austria
1968	Grenoble, France
1972	Sapporo, Japan
1976	Innsbruck, Austria
1980	Lake Placid, New York, United States
1984	Sarajevo, Yugoslavia (now Bosnia and Herzegovina)
1988	Calgary, Alberta, Canada
1992	Albertville, France
1994	Lillehammer, Norway
1998	Nagano, Japan
2002	Salt Lake City, Utah, United States
2006	Torino (Turin), Italy
2010	Vancouver, Canada
2014	Sochi, Russia
2018	Pyeongchang, South Korea
2022	Beijing, China

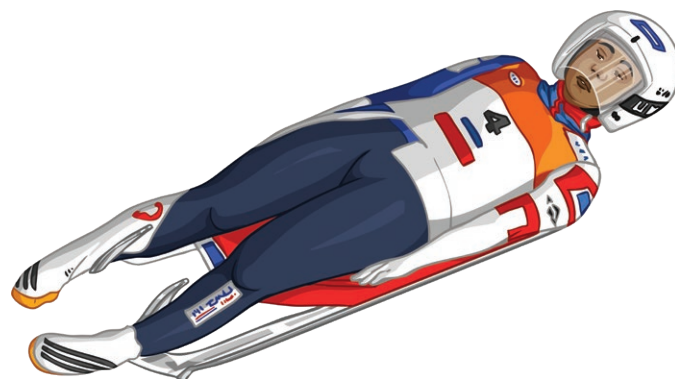


Map to Show the Location of the Winter Olympics (1924 – 2022)



Key

- | | | | |
|------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| 1. Chamonix | 7. Cortina d'Ampezzo | 13. Lake Placid | 19. Salt Lake City |
| 2. St. Moritz | 8. Squaw Valley | 14. Sarajevo | 20. Torino (Turin) |
| 3. Lake Placid | 9. Innsbruck | 15. Calgary | 21. Vancouver |
| 4. Garmisch
Partenkirchen | 10. Grenoble | 16. Albertville | 22. Sochi |
| 5. St. Moritz | 11. Sapporo | 17. Lillehammer | 23. Pyeongchang |
| 6. Oslo | 12. Innsbruck | 18. Nagano | 24. Beijing |

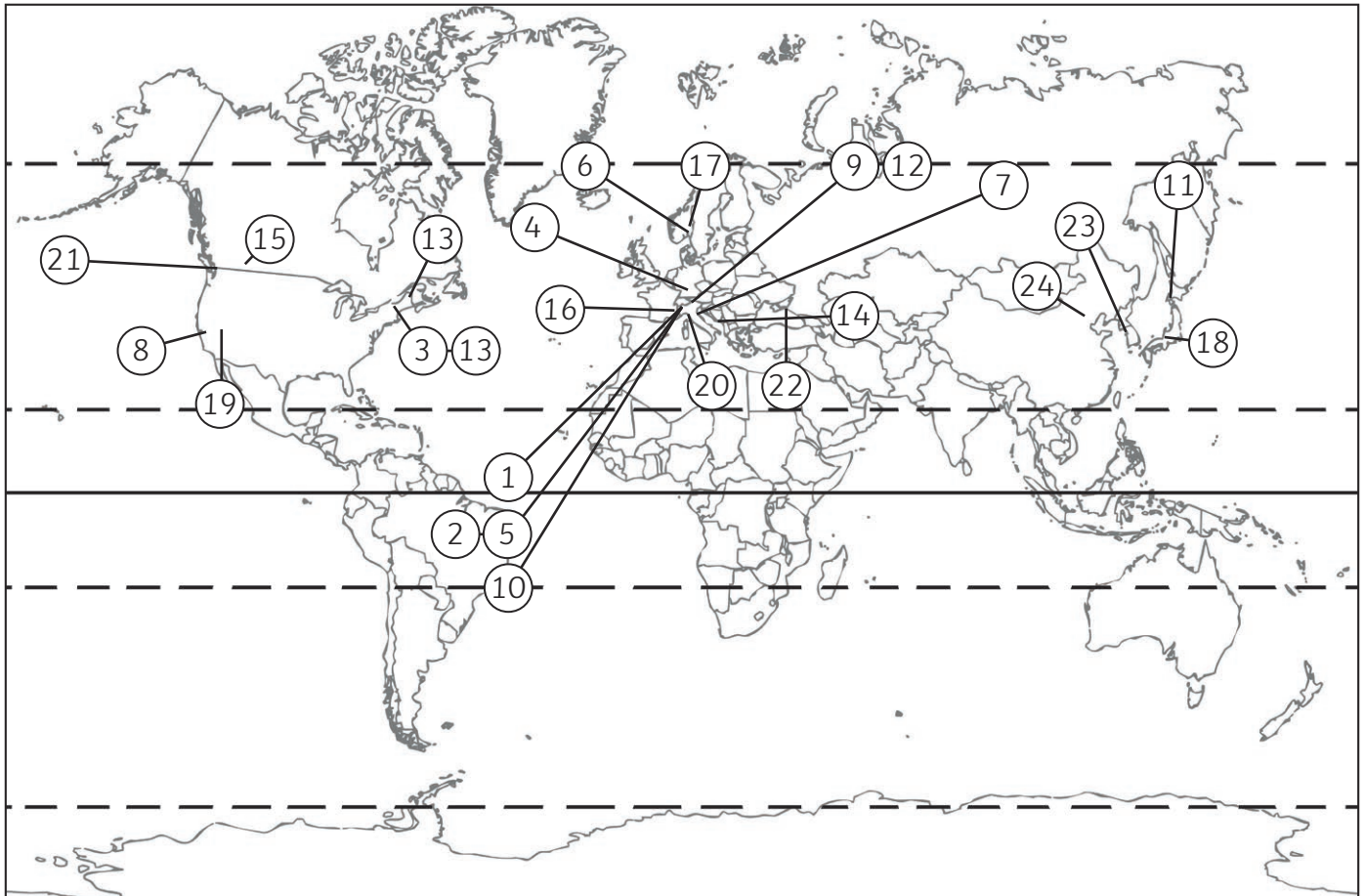


Mapping the Winter Olympics Answers

1. The Winter Olympic Games are held every four years. In which years did the games not take place? Suggest a reason why.

The 1940 and the 1944 Winter Olympics were both cancelled due to the outbreak of the Second World War. (The 1940 games were to be held in Sapporo, Japan, and the 1944 games to be held in Cortina d'Ampezzo, Italy.)

2. On the next page, label each city that has hosted the Winter Olympics. Label each city onto your map using the key.



3. Describe the location of the Winter Olympic host cities. Is there a pattern?

Students could include any of the following in their answer:

The Winter Olympics have been located:

- between the Arctic circle and the tropic of Cancer;
- in the northern hemisphere;
- in North America, Europe and Asia.

The Winter Olympic have never been hosted in:

- South America, Africa and Australasia;
- the Southern Hemisphere.

4. Can you suggest any reasons for this pattern?

Reasons why the Winter Olympics have always been held in the northern hemisphere include:

- **Cost** - it is very expensive to build the required stadiums and infrastructure needed to host the Olympics. The 2014 Winter Olympics in Sochi, Russia cost US\$51 billion! It is only the world's wealthiest nations that can afford to host the games and most of these are located in the northern hemisphere.
- **Topography and Climate** - the Winter Olympics need reliable snowfall. There are many suitable locations in the northern hemisphere including the Alps and the Pyrenees in Europe and the Rocky Mountains in North America. In the southern hemisphere, there is less landmass at high altitudes, so the games would be limited to mountain ranges such as the Andes in South America or the Southern Alps in New Zealand. It would not be practical for the Winter Olympics to be held in Antarctica!
- **Seasons** - the southern hemisphere experiences their winter during the northern hemisphere's summer months.