

UTAH OLYMPIC PARK

SLIDING TRACK INFORMATION

Track History + Design

The Utah Olympic Park's steep terrain presented unique challenges for its designers, who crafted the facility carefully to meet demanding competition requirements and limit impact to the land and its wildlife. The course follows the mountain's natural contours, allowing it to blend in with the landscape.

The length of the track is 1335 meters from the bobsled/skeleton start to the finish line. And with a vertical drop of 402 feet and 15 curves, the track at Utah Olympic Park is still regarded as one of the most challenging.

Most of the curves along the track have been named, such as Sunny Corner (turn 4), Snowy Corner (turn 5), Albert's Alley (turns 6-10), Wasatch (turn 11), Olympic (turn 12) and Finish Curve (turn 14). The section between curves 14 and 15 is the fastest, leading into a long finish straight that is referred to as the "Graveyard" section because you could lose both time and speed if you hit the walls leading to that turn.

During the 2002 Winter Olympic Games, the track hosted Bobsleigh, Skeleton, and Luge. Today the track still serves as a training center for Olympic and development athletes, hosts numerous local and international competitions, and also offers rides for the public.

Public Bobsled Rides

Winter Comet Bobsled Ride: Piloted by a professional bobsled pilot*, three passengers can take a thrilling ride on the Olympic track. In less than a mile, the bobsled rips through 10 curves and reaches speeds of up to 65 mph (approx. 3 Gs). Participants must meet age (16+), weight (100+), and health requirements. Reservations required.

Summer Comet Bobsled Ride: For the summer season, the bobsleds are modified to roll on the track's concrete surface from the top of the track. A professional pilots takes up to three passengers per bobsled. Guests can expect to reach speeds up to 60 mph, all in less than a minute. Participants must meet age (13+), weight (100+), and health requirements.

**The winter bobsled pilots go through a certification program (two winters/eight months) where they train in all weather conditions using every sled in the fleet.*

Track Facts

Groundbreaking Date:
June 3, 1994

Completion Date:
December 28, 1996

Duration of Construction:
2 ½ years

1st Run:
Jon Owen on a luge (January 10, 1997)

Grand Opening:
January 25, 1997

Length:
1335 meters from Bobsled/Skeleton start to finish
1316 meters from the men's Luge start to finish
1140 meters from the women's Luge/doubles start to finish

Curves:
15

Elevation:
7310 Feet

Speed Records:
Bobsled 88.8 MPH
Skeleton 85 MPH
Luge 90 MPH

Track Records

Women's Luge
42.940 - Sylke Otto (GER)
2002 Olympics

Men's Luge
44.271 - Markus Prock (AUT)
2002 Olympics

Double's Luge
42.953 - Patric Leitner/Alexander Resch (GER)
2002 Olympics

Women's Skeleton
49.74 - Noelle Pikus-Pace (USA)
2013/2014 World Cup

Men's Skeleton
48.58 - Martins Dukurs (LAT)
2013/2014 World Cup

Women's Bobsled
48.73 - Shauna Rohbock/Valerie Fleming (USA)
2006/2007 World Cup

2-Man Bobsled
47.44 - Christoph Langen/Marcus Zimmerman (GER)
2002 Olympics

4-Man Bobsled
Lange/Behrendt/Hoppe/Embach (GER)
2000/2001 World Cup