

# OLYMPIC-WORTHY VIEWS

**With the 2016 Summer Olympics making its way to Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, these previous Summer Olympics destinations provide more than just memories and medals; they provide jaw-dropping scenery, too.**

By Ciara LaVelle



PHOTOS: EMBRATUR IMAGE BANK; DAVID POUTNEY; CHINA NATIONAL TOURIST OFFICE; @GERRY YARDY / ALAMY STOCK PHOTO

⊕ **Magic City Alums**

MIA CONNECTIONS | SUMMER 2016



**Raised Miamians:**

**Danell Lewa:** Men's gymnastics. Bronze medal in 2012 London Olympics

**Sylvia Fowles:** Women's basketball, 2008 Beijing and 2012 London

**Matt Gribble:** Swimming. Competed in 1980 and 1984

**UM athletes:**

**Brittany Viola:** Platform diving. Competed in 2012 London.

**Jenna Dreyer:** platform and springboard diving. Competed in 2004 Athens and 2008 Beijing.

**Lawrence Frostad:** Swimmer. Competed in 1992.

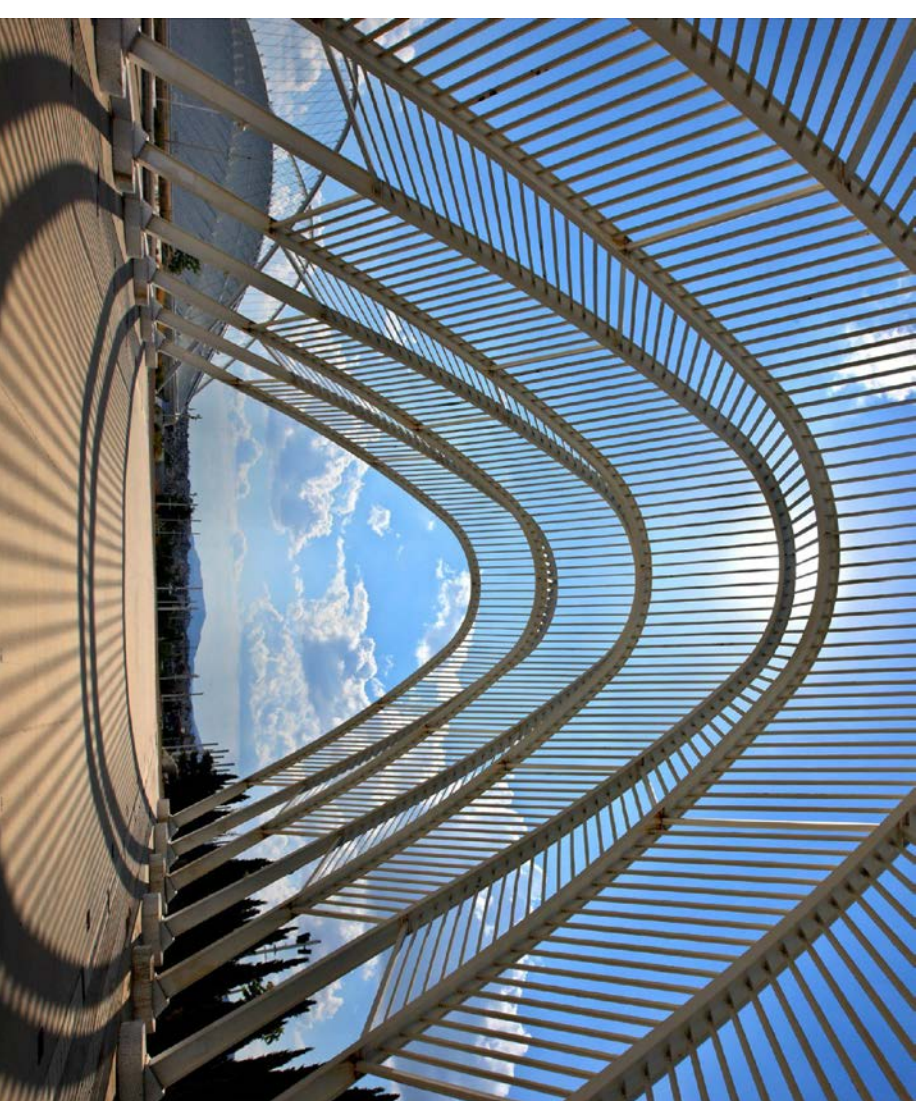
**Greg Louganis:** Springboard and platform diver. Gold medals in 1988 and 1984, silver medal in 1976.

**David Wilkie:** Swimmer. Gold medal in 1976, silver in 1972.

**Laurn Williams:** Track and field. Gold in 2012 London and silver in 2004 Athens

**Kyle Prandi:** Platform diving. Competed in 2004 Olympics.





# ATHENS, GREECE

There's no place more Olympian than the city where it all began. Ancient architectural marvels like the Parthenon and Acropolis show off Athens' long history and scenic views, while the culture continues in historic neighborhoods like Plaka.

**Getting there:** Various connecting flights from MIA







# BEIJING, CHINA

The 2008 host city boasts one of history's most impressive sites: the Great Wall of China. At the Forbidden City, Olympic visitors can witness preserved ancient wooden structures like the Palace Museum. It's fronted by Tiananmen Square, with monuments to Chinese leaders and revolutionary history.

*Getting there: Various connecting flights from MIA*



PHOTOS: HUNG CHUNG CHIH / ISTOCK BY GETTY IMAGES; CHINA NATIONAL TOURIST OFFICE; FOTOTRAV / ISTOCK BY GETTY IMAGES

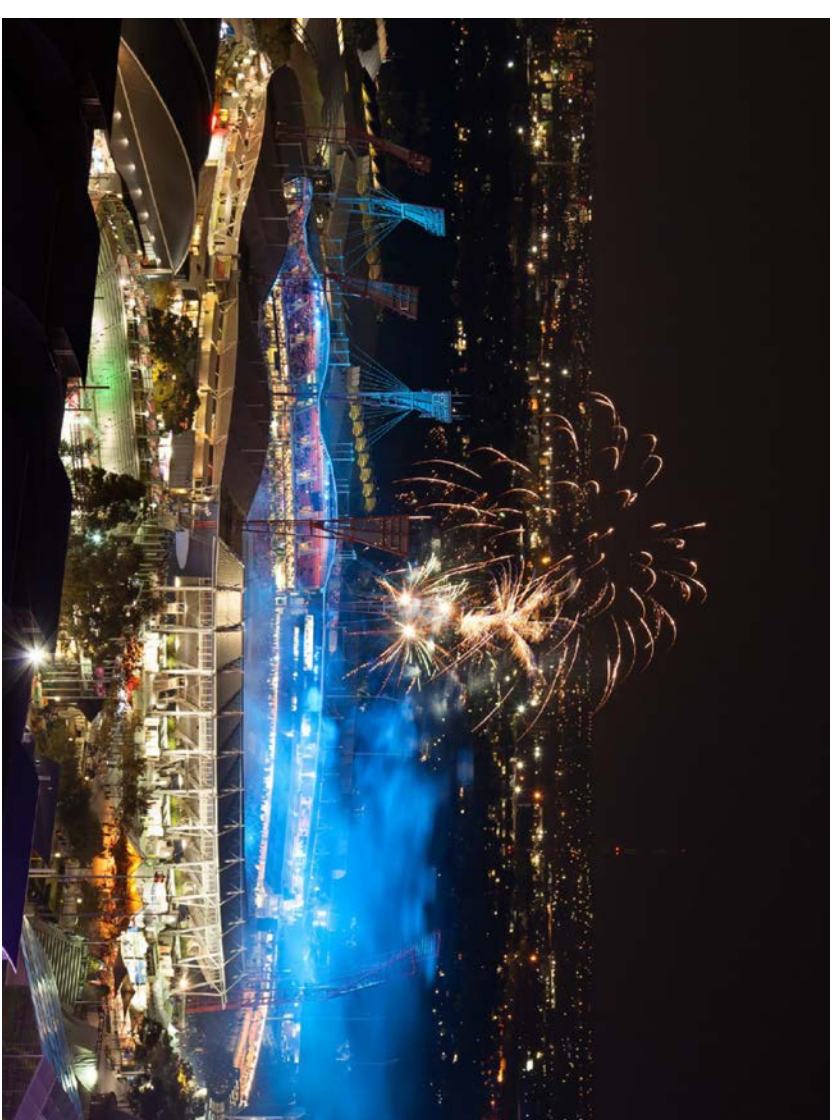


# LONDON, ENGLAND

Big Ben, the Tower of London, Buckingham Palace—London is home to some of the world's most recognizable landmarks. And the 2012 Olympics added even more, with a sprawling Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park comprised of new buildings like the Copper Box arena, Aquatics Centre and Olympic Stadium. Getting there: American Airlines, British Airways and Virgin Atlantic operate daily nonstop flights to London Heathrow Airport.







# SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA

Travelers to Sydney's 2000 Olympic games could visit the iconic Sydney Opera House, with its unique rooftop "shells"; Sydney Harbour, home to The Rocks tourist market; and Bondi Beach, a surfer's paradise. From the Sydney Tower, visitors can take it all in at once.

**Getting there:** Various connecting flights from MIA

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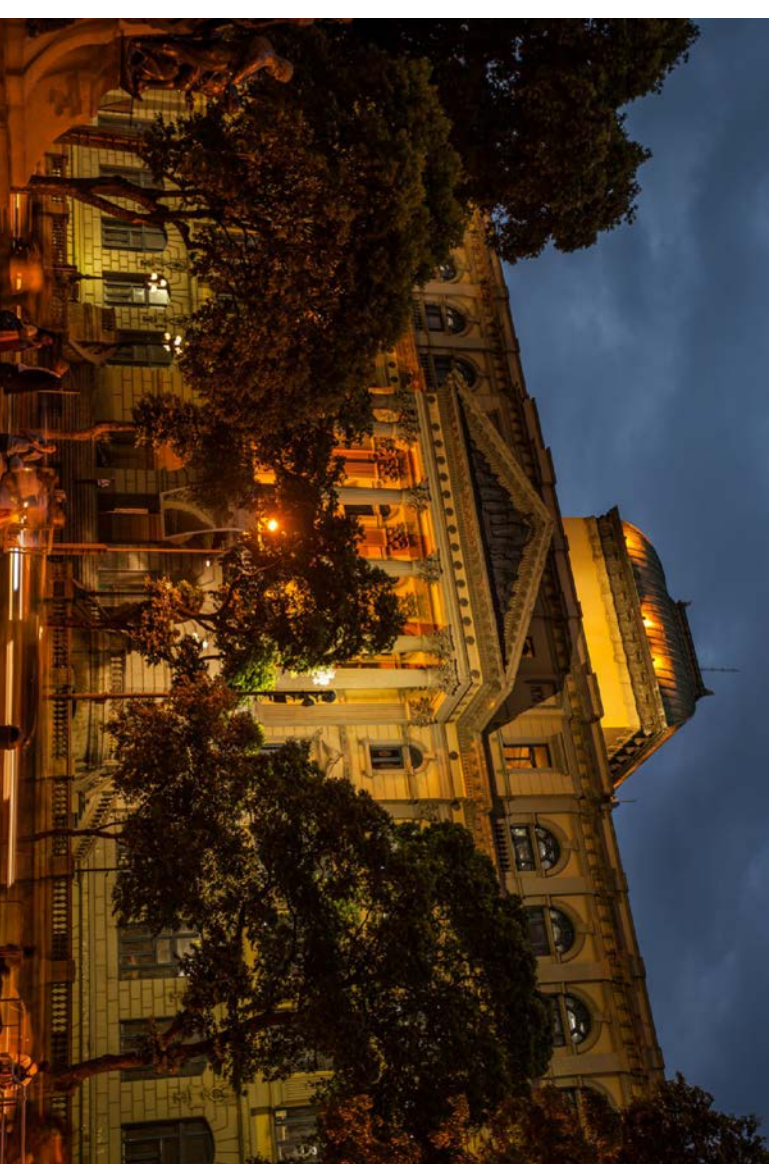




# RIO DE JANEIRO, BRAZIL

Planning a trip to the 2016 Olympics? Don't miss Rio's Christ the Redeemer statue, looking down on the city with arms outstretched. More secular fun awaits at the city's spectacular beaches in areas like Copacabana and Ipanema.

Getting there: *American Airlines* and *TAM* operate daily nonstop flights from MIA to Rio de Janeiro's Galeao International Airport.



PHOTOS: EMBRATUR IMAGE BANK (3)