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Story script and Shot log

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STORY HEADLINE: Spectacular celebrations as the Olympic flame arrives in Italy ahead of the Olympic Winter Games Milano Cortina 2026

LOCATION: Piazza del Quirinale, Rome, Italy

DATE: 5 December 2025

LANGUAGE: English | Italian

STORY SCRIPT: Celebrations have taken place in Rome to mark the arrival of the Olympic flame in Italy ahead of the Olympic Winter Games Milano Cortina 2026 torch relay.

Italian President Sergio Mattarella lit the Olympic Torch Relay celebration cauldron in Piazza del Quirinale. He was joined by International Olympic Committee President Kirsty Coventry and Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni, and the moment was marked by a spectacular flypast from the Frecce Tricolori aerobatic team. The celebration cauldron remained alight for public viewing throughout the day.

The Olympic flame travelled to Italy in a lantern following the handover ceremony in Greece on Thursday. It arrived in Rome on Thursday evening and spent the night at the Quirinale Palace, the main official residence of the President of the Italian Republic.

The torch relay will start on Saturday morning (6 Dec) at Rome's Stadio dei Marmi. The flame will travel 12,000 kilometres over 63 days across Italy, pass through more than 300 municipalities and feature celebrations in 60 cities, reach all 110 Italian provinces, and light up UNESCO sites along the route.

More than 10,000 torchbearers from all walks of life will take part in the relay, including figures from sectors of sports, culture and film.

The flame will see Christmas in Naples, New Year in Bari, and return to Cortina d'Ampezzo on January 26, 2026, the 70th anniversary of the 1956 Winter Games opening ceremony.

The relay will conclude at Milan's San Siro Stadium on 6 February at the Opening Ceremony of Olympic Winter Games Milano Cortina 2026. The 25th edition of the Winter Olympic Games run from 6-22 February.

SHOT LOG:

00:02 Shot of Rome skyline that develops to reveal Piazza del Quirinale

00:07 Flags above Quirinale Palace, developing to show courtyard

00:12 Lantern containing Olympic flame on plinth

00:15 Presidential Guard carries lantern to ceremonial stage

00:51 Close up of flame in lantern



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00:55 Italian President Sergio Mattarella and Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni arrive at ceremony
01:01 Cutaway flags above Quirinale Palace
01:04 Italian President Sergio Mattarella and Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni shake hands with IOC President Kirsty Coventry
01:09 Band plays Italian National Anthem
01:14 Dignitaries stand while observing Italian National Anthem
01:31 Close shot of flame in lantern
01:34 Italian President Sergio Mattarella and IOC President Kirsty Coventry observing Italian National Anthem
01:44 IOC President Kirsty Coventry takes stage to make speech

01:48 SOUNDBITE: Kirsty Coventry, IOC President (English Language)

"The Olympic Games exist to bring people together to break down the walls that divide us and to inspire the dreams and hopes of the next generation. And it reminds us that the Olympic Games is part of a living tradition, connecting generations, cultures, and people across the Millennia. Milano Cortina will be the first Olympic Games of my Presidency. I am determined to make them an outstanding success for the athletes, for Italy and for the entire Olympic movement."

02:30 IOC President Kirsty Coventry leaves stage to applause
02:35 Italian President Sergio Mattarella shakes hand of IOC President Kirsty Coventry

02:41 SOUNDBITE: Sergio Mattarella, President of the Italian Republic (Italian Language)

"The lighting of the Olympic flame which starts the fascinating journey through the regions of Italy, doesn't merely mark a major sports event but, as we know, it also is a highly symbolic event. bringing to mind principles and ideals, the nature of which has been universal throughout history."

"We will now light the torch. And through the streets of our cities, we will spread these signs of hope and peace. Milano and Cortina will be capitals of sports over the next few weeks and they will certainly honour the test they have taken on in front of all of the world's continents and Italy will be right next to them."

03:50 Olympic Torch is lit from flame in lantern and handed to Giovanni Malagò, President of Milano Cortina 2026 Organising Committee, who passes to Italian President Sergio Mattarella to light the celebration cauldron
04:13 Fly past by Frece Tricolori aerobatic team leaving colours of Italian flag
04:20 Close of cauldron and flame
04:25 Pan of officials and guests on stage
04:35 Close-up of Sergio Mattarella
04:35 Aerial shot of ceremony and applause

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