



## WORLD NEWS FORECAST PREVIEW

### **LONDON \*\*30 Apr 2012 Britain's largest piece of public art opens**

Britain's largest piece of public art, the 377-foot ArcelorMittal Orbit, looks temporary, like red steel scaffolding awaiting a building, but it is intended as a permanent legacy of London's hosting of the 2012 Olympics. It will open for a media event in late April or May, but won't open for the public until the start of the Summer Olympics on Jul 27. Olympics visitors will be able to see Olympics venue and London from its observation decks.

Turner art prize winner Anish Kapoor, who designed the Orbit, its main benefactor, steel magnate Lakshmi Mittal of ArcelorMittal, and London Mayor Boris Johnson will be among the VIPs at the April-May media event.

Built in collaboration with engineer Cecil Balmond, the Orbit will boast the five rings that symbolize the Games and a dining area at the top. Its name acknowledges the significant contribution to the UK £22 million cost by Mittal, who is described by the Daily Mail as Britain's richest man. The balance of the cost comes from the London Development Agency.

The Orbit will sit between the new Olympic Stadium and the Aquatics Centre, and will be a centerpiece of a huge post-Olympics regeneration of a previously blighted area of east London. The Olympic Park will reopen in 2013 as the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park. It will offer the best in sporting and cultural amenities in world-renowned venues and parkland, as well as five new neighborhoods of up to 11,000 new homes. A promotion for the project describes it as the largest regeneration initiative in the developed world, with more than UK £12.5 billion of private and public sector investment in the Stratford area.

\*\*Estimated date

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ArcelorMittal Orbit

<http://www.arcelormittalorbit.com/> View from 375ft-tall Olympic Park sculpture 'will cost family of four £60' (Daily Mail 10 Jan 2012)

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2084528/London-2012-Olympic-Park-Orbit-sculpture-view-cost-family-60.html>

<http://www.newsahed.com/124-wnf-preview/49-london-30-apr-2012-britains-largest-piece-of-public-art-opens.html>