THE STORY OF HAMAD INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

Hamad International Airport (HIA) will soon replace Doha International Airport (DIA) as the five-star gateway to Qatar, the Gulf and on to the rest of the world.

Customers At Its Heart

Whether arriving, departing or simply passing through, HIA promises to redefine the way its customers experience one of the world’s most rapidly developing business and travel destinations. Located conveniently within an eight hour flight for more than two thirds of the global population, it is ideal for business or leisure travellers. Strategically located between the world’s established and emerging financial centres Doha is ideal hub for both business and leisure travel.

Following a decade of pioneering design, engineering and construction work, HIA is flagship national project and one of the most ambitious global projects currently underway.

Qatar’s National Vision 2030

Designed to support and sustain Qatar’s historic development as a nation, HIA promises an exponential increase in Qatar’s capacity to handle international movements of people, goods, capital, knowledge and technology. It is a vital element of Qatar’s National Vision 2030, which sets out the roadmap for a unique national transition from reliance on petrochemical revenues to a diverse, knowledge-based economy.

From its economic benefits to its design and cultural attractions, HIA’s story is largely a reflection of Qatar’s own story and identity.

To explore the airport in more depth, read further information below on:

- CONSTRUCTION, DESIGN AND ARCHITECTURE (Page 2)
- FUNCTIONALITY (Page 4)
- REDEFINING AIRPORT HOSPITALITY WITH A RESORT-LIKE EXPERIENCE (Page 6)
- HIA – AN INNOVATIVE EXHIBITION SETTING (Page 7)
CONSTRUCTION, DESIGN AND ARCHITECTURE

Inception To Creation

Following a rigorous two-year planning phase, construction began in 2005 with an ambitious project to reclaim 62 million cubic meters of land from the Arabian Gulf. More than 60 per cent of HIA is now built on this area. Upon completion, HIA will occupy 29 square kilometres or a space equivalent to one third the total size of Doha. Airport City, a planned free trade zone surrounding and supporting HIA, will occupy an additional 10 square kilometres.

In one of the Gulf’s most successful projects to date, 8 million cubic tonnes of household and commercial waste were removed during construction. In fact, HIA is the only greenfield airport of this scale currently being built anywhere in the world.

The Passenger Terminal Complex (PTC) sits at the heart of HIA and is instantly recognisable as a new landmark structure in the world of aviation. Covering 600,000 square meters and elevating to the height of four stories, HIA Passenger Terminal Complex equals 75 FIFA-sized football pitches or it can fit three Qatar National Convention Centres.

Arabian Inspiration

Uncompromised functionality paired with functional beauty were key drivers of the magnificent architecture that today houses a state-of-the-art airport, setting new standards in the aviation industry, airport architecture and design quality. A workforce of 23,000 invested over 160 million hours to design and build an undulating structure resembling the gentle waves of the Arabian Gulf taking passengers gracefully from landside to airside, using building materials sourced from 40 different countries around the world.

Ensuring all aircraft land and take-off safely, HIA’s state-of-the-art air navigation, radar and communication equipment is housed in its magnificent, crescent-shaped air traffic control tower which sits between two parallel runways. It will provide visitors with an unmistakeable welcome to Qatar and the Middle East, soaring 90 meters above the airport to complement Doha’s rapidly evolving skyline.

Additionally HIA’s iconic mosque, located in front of the PTC with spectacular views of the lagoon and Emiri Terminal, resembles a drop of water. With a diameter of 50 metres, the dome was constructed from 1600 individual pieces of glass, while the 36-metre-high minaret is clad in over 200,000 mosaic tiles with LED lights for evening illumination.

To recognise the Royal Family’s visionary support for HIA, the airport features a unique, dedicated Emiri Terminal. Containing no perpendicular surfaces, the building resembles the curvature of sails and has entailed an innovative and demanding design and construction process. The Emiri
Terminal is home to several lounges including a Main Majlis (a social and business lounge), Ministerial Lounge, VVIP Lounge and a Private Lounge, all featuring custom designed furniture by Marc Newson, a leading industrial designer. An airside platform for official ceremonies is 80 meters in diameter with a 26.5-metre-high glass backdrop. The podium connects to a ceremonial open passenger loading bridge, which is the first of its kind in the world.
FUNCTIONALITY

Hassle-free Experience

The PTC has been designed to offer passengers a seamless experience, from arrival and transfers to boarding, achieving a minimal and seamless connection time of just 30 minutes.

This is achieved through investment in the latest technology: from check-in terminals to security scanners and fully automated baggage systems with the capacity to handle 19,500 bags every hour. Painstaking ergonomic research has ensured this technology is integrated into the airport’s layout simply and effectively.

The overriding emphasis on functionality extends far beyond passengers’ ground-side experience. HIA is managed by Qatar’s flagship carrier, Qatar Airways, whose involvement in the design and development of the airport has ensured its famously high standards for customer service are present throughout the passenger’s experience, regardless of the carrier they are flying with.

Beyond The PTC Facilities

The airport has two parallel runways designed to cater to next-generation aircraft including the Airbus A380. With simultaneous dual capacity for operating take-offs and landings, HIA will have the capacity to manage 90 aircraft each hour and 360,000 annually – two and a half times more than the current airport.

The maintenance hangar is one of the largest free span hangars in the world. It features the latest equipment and technology and will be able to service up to 13 aircraft simultaneously: 5 wide-body and 8 narrow-body or 8 wide-body and 2 narrow-body aircraft at any given time. In addition, it provides flexibility for tail-in and nose-in configurations.

Modern Cargo Transportation Solutions

HIA’s cargo facility became operational on 1st December 2013. The new facility is over two stories and covers 55,000 square meters. It is entirely self-contained, with 11 wide-body aircraft stands and 42 loading docks. It is highly automated and contains dedicated facilities for special categories of cargo such as live animals, perishable goods or temperature-sensitive pharmaceuticals.

The new system will be capable of simultaneously handling 5,700 shipments and up to 1.4 million tonnes of cargo annually. This will then increase to 2.5 million upon completion of second terminal, nearly doubling its capacity since 2011.
Gastronomic Excellence

Special attention at HIA was given to the catering facility that will serve inflight meals for Qatar Airways and all foreign airlines at HIA.

Covering an area of 69,000 square metres it is one of the largest self-contained catering facilities in the world, with a 1,800-strong staff, including 350 highly trained chefs and the capacity to produce 150,000 meals per day.
REDEFINING AIRPORT HOSPITALITY WITH A RESORT-LIKE EXPERIENCE

Hospitality Excellence Beyond Functionality

For visitors who seek to extend their stay at the airport or add a new dimension to their air travel experience, HIA will provide a sensational resort-like environment. With 40,000 square meters of combined retail, food and beverage facilities, that is extended with the airport hotel, lounges, wellness area with pool, gym, 2 squash courts and spa, as well as activity nodes for business, leisure and family travellers, HIA takes a unique and refreshing view of airport hospitality.

Welcoming and convenient, Hotel at HIA provides passengers with exceptional facilities and services to relax, rejuvenate and recharge between flights and for short-term stays in Qatar. Whether traveling on business or leisure, with family or without, it has been designed to meet the needs of all HIA’s passengers with convenience and customer experience taking center stage. Passengers arriving, transferring or departing Doha may check in and out at their leisure, regardless of their flight schedule.

A Bespoke Passenger Haven

Qatar Duty Free’s (QDF) bespoke retail vision radically challenges the concept of shopping whilst travelling, pushing the boundaries with proprietary and innovative retail offerings for passengers.

Creating an unrivaled retail experience was also a driving force behind food and beverage at HIA, with a combination of QDF-own branded cafes, restaurants and bars as well as well-known outlets, offering quality and choice to suit every purse and palate.

The PTC will boast 13 lounges in the South node and 3 additional in the North node upon completion, inspired by efficiency and a resort-like ambiance offering high levels of service and quality characteristics of Qatari hospitality. In addition, Qatar Airways First Class passengers will have the opportunity to experience a First Class Lounge designed by famed industrial designer, Antonio Citterio.

In addition, activity nodes located throughout HIA create a distinctive and friendly feel by offering play areas, internet points, TV zones, retail shops, food and beverage options, and even interactive art pieces designed for the enjoyment and relaxation of passengers.
HIA – AN INNOVATIVE EXHIBITION SETTING

Airport terminals are public spaces that see millions of people every year and are therefore ideal, although—perhaps unexpected places to interact with art. Art is an integral part of HIA, having been designed to house permanent and temporary exhibitions.

Guided by the globally-recognised taste and expertise of Her Excellency Sheikha Al-Mayassa bint Hamad bin Khalifa Al-Thani, HIA will feature art specially commissioned and acquired for the airport, as well as from Qatar’s renowned Museum of Islamic Art.

Passengers will be exposed to a diverse set of artistic media including paintings, sculpture, electronic and interactive installations. This will help counter the transitory feeling of most airports, effectively turning HIA into an innovative and immersive visual experience, unparralled elsewhere for the enjoyment of its passengers and visitors.