

Top 10 Airport Terminals for 2014

<http://travel.yahoo.com/photos/top-10-airport-terminals-2014-slideshow/>

For most travelers, the less time spent in airports, the better. But in recent years, airports have been stepping up their game in hopes of making the travel experience more enjoyable and efficient for an ever-increasing number of passengers. And with new destinations on the rise, especially in emerging countries like China, India, and Brazil, the race to impress international travelers is on. The newest airport terminals feature lots of natural light, smart design, and amenities like showers and dressing rooms. Those perks and more can be found in these 10 notable new terminals, all of which should inspire you to start booking your next flight.



by
Passenger Concourse, Long Beach Airport
Where: Long Beach, California
Opened: December 2012

The west coast hub for JetBlue, boasting the second-lowest average airfares in the country, Long Beach Airport has proved to be both a money- and time-saving option for travelers coming to Southern California. The three million passengers flying through here annually spend an average of just 20 minutes going from curb to concourse, and only about seven minutes of that time in security lines. With the airport's recent \$140 million makeover, though, you may want to come early and spend some time in the terminal, which has been re-launched with boutique hotel style. Past the original Art Deco facade, you'll find 100 percent local dining and retail outlets designed with a beach resort theme, including a high-end food court modeled to look like a outdoor market. For your last taste of sunshine, head outside to wait for boarding around the fire pits, cabanas, patios, and live music performance spaces.

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by C D _Fr

Terminal 3, Lyon-Saint Exupery Airport

Where: Lyon, France

Opened: June 2012

"Simple, but not cheap," was how the Aéroports de Lyon chairman described this €24.2 million terminal upon its launch, adding that despite serving as a hub for Air France-KLM and budget carriers like easyJet and AirAsia, the airport wants to be known for being "low-stress, not low-cost." Accordingly, the terminal is less about high-tech advances or splashy perks and more about the personal experience, with the introduction of floating customer service reps to help answer questions and seating areas awash in bright colors to help lighten the mood. The final effect may not be as awe-inspiring as some of the other new terminals out there, but this is just the first step for the airport: In anticipation of a 35 percent increase in passengers within five years, the airport will be demolishing some of Terminal 3's temporary elements in 2016 and doing a total T1-T3 overhaul, to be completed by 2020.

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by

Terminal 4, JFK International Airport

Where: New York City

Opened: May 2013

The carrier's new Terminal 4 opened in 2013, and now services all international, transcontinental, and many partner airline flights. Check-in is made easier with more kiosks, agent desks, and a larger SkyPriority section, as well as a 12-lane security checkpoint. Once past security, travelers can enjoy eats from big names in NYC dining like Danny Meyer (, Blue Smoke) and Marcus Samuelsson (Uptown Brasserie), then proceed to one of the nine new gates or seven renovated ones. The star perk here, however, is reserved for travelers with lounge access: The new flagship Delta Sky Club has a mod design, complimentary booze, a Ciroc Vodka-sponsored VIP room, and—best of all—a swanky, al fresco Sky Deck, on which you can order cocktails and watch the planes take off and land.

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Terminal D, Queen Alia International Airport

Where: Amman, Jordan

Opened: March 2013

In 2011, about 5.5 million passengers flew through 's Queen Alia International; by 2020, that figure is expected to more than double to 12 million. With that increase in mind, the airport enlisted noted design firm Foster + Partners to create this spacious new main terminal, which has handled all flights as of March 21, 2013. Designed to evoke the flowing fabric of Bedouin tents when viewed from above, the terminal has 127 heat-dissipating (and thus energy-efficient) concrete domes that branch out from central columns, so they look like leaves of a desert palm

from the ground. All the gates are on one side, with check-in, retail, dining and waiting spaces in the center; in between these area are several open-air courtyards filled with greenery and reflecting pools.

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Courtesy of Heathrow March 20, 2014 11:20 PM



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Courtesy of Heathrow

Heathrow Terminal 2, The Queen's Terminal

Where: London

Opening: June 4, 2014

Spacious and airy, the £2.5 billion Terminal 2 will be the new hub of all Star Alliance member airlines (including United, Singapore, and Lufthansa), making for easier connections and shorter transfer distances for passengers flying on partner carriers. Rail, bus, and tube lines will feed directly into the terminal's central courtyard, which also houses the giant "Slipstream" sculpture by noted British artist Richard Wilson. When bidding for retail space, each of the 52 shops and 17 bars and restaurants had to show how they could personalize the guest experience and incorporate technology and social media to help customers on the move. The environment is catered to as well: Skylights and floor-to-ceilings maximize natural light (with solar-controlled glass and angled louvers preventing it from getting too warm), and water-efficient fittings help reduce waste.

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