



KING SALMAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT (KSIA)



10.KSIA (King Salman International airport)

King Salman International Airport masterplan announced by Crown Prince

RIYADH: Saudi Arabia is set to build one of the world's largest airports in what will be a huge boost for the Kingdom's ambition to become a global hub for trade and tourism, according to Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman bin Abdulaziz.

- The King Salman International Airport, located in Riyadh, will have six parallel runways, and is expected to contribute SR27 billion (\$7.18 billion) annually to Saudi Arabia's non-oil gross domestic product.

- The airport will help drive annual passenger traffic in Saudi Arabia from the current 29 million to 120 million travelers by 2030 and 185 million by 2050, with aircraft traffic in the Kingdom increasing from 211,000 to more than 1 million flights per year.

- With sustainability at its core, the new airport will achieve LEED Platinum certification by incorporating cutting edge green initiatives into its design and will be powered by renewable energy, according to the Saudi Press Agency.

- The development, set to be built by the Public Investment Fund, will include the existing terminals named after King Khalid, with the capacity to process 3.5 million tons of cargo by 2050.

- The SPA report added it will become an aerotropolis centered around a seamless customer journey, world-class efficient operations, and innovation. Riyadh's identity and the Saudi culture will be taken into consideration in the airport's design to ensure a unique travel experience for visitors and transit travelers.

"The airport project is in line with Saudi Arabia's vision to transform Riyadh to be among the top ten city economies in the world and to support the growth of Riyadh's population to 15–20 million people by 2030," SPA said.

It added King Salman airport would create 103,000 direct and indirect jobs.

- It did not give details on the planned investments but a person familiar with the plans has told Reuters the PIF's aviation department is getting hefty funds to create an ecosystem of cargo and passenger airlines, repair companies and airports.

The 77-year-old state airline Saudia will be based out of the Red Sea city Jeddah under the transportation strategy that calls for the establishment of the two hubs.

The kingdom is already in talks with planemakers Airbus SE and Boeing Co on orders for the two carriers Saudia and RIA.

The announcement comes on the eve of the World Travel and Tourism Global Summit, set to begin in Riyadh on Nov. 28.

- Touted to be one of the biggest tourism events of the year, the global summit is being organized at the King Abdul Aziz International Conference Center under the theme “Travel for a Better Future.”
- During the event, industry leaders will share their thoughts about the future of the sector and the challenges that should be addressed to ensure a safer, more resilient, inclusive, and sustainable travel and tourism industry.

- The under-construction Riyadh-based King Salman International Airport, one of the world's newest, largest, and most sustainable airports, will be the first thing to impress visitors to the World Expo 2030 that Saudi Arabia has presented a bid to host.



- According to the Public Investment Fund, the project, announced by Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman on Nov. 28, 2022, is expected to cover an area of approximately 57 sq. km, allowing six parallel runways and including the existing terminals named after King Khalid.



- PIF added that the airport will also include 12 sq. km of airport support facilities, residential and recreational facilities, retail outlets, and other logistics real estate.



- “The airport aims to accommodate up to 120 million travelers by 2030 and 185 million travelers, with the capacity to process 3.5 million tons of cargo, by 2050,” PIF said in its statement.



- Saudi Arabia has announced that Riyadh Expo 2030 will be held near KSIA, making the exhibition easily accessible for visitors arriving at the airport. Within minutes, they can reach the exhibition site by using the Riyadh Metro network.



- The renewable energy-powered airport, which will include an integrated logistics special zone, will not only be a gateway for the Expo 2030 visitors if Saudi Arabia wins the bid but also to major projects of the capital city such as Riyadh Sports Boulevard, King Salman Park, Diriyah Gate and Qiddiya Amusement Park.



- Dr. Abdullah bin Ahmed Al-Maghlouth, member of the Saudi Economic Association, told Arab News that the establishment of KSIA will be Riyadh's gateway to the world.
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- "It is an economic project with a double economic value, which will resonate in all cities of the Kingdom, as many research studies have confirmed the close interdependence between the services airports provide and regional development," he said.



- Al-Maghlouth added: “The more passengers, flights and cargo transport, the higher the gross domestic product, wages and incomes become. They encourage the growth of the city, build more hotels and restaurants, provide more services and express transportation to accommodate visitors and tourists.”



- Furthermore, he pointed out that Riyadh is a large city witnessing steady growth in business movement and attracting the headquarters of the largest regional companies.



- “Riyadh’s population is also expected to exceed 15 million individuals in 2030, and the city has proven its ability to attract visitors and tourists from all over the world as it is home to the largest entertainment festivals globally. KSIA will support the tourism and entertainment sectors and will encourage the opening of more facilities, shops and logistics,” he explained.



- The economic expert went on to say that Saudi Arabia also stands to gain financially from the new airport.
- “The airport’s revenues are expected to reach nearly SR27 billion [\$7.2 billion] per year, which will add to the country’s non-oil economy, as Saudi Arabia seeks through its Vision 2030 to elevate its non-oil income,” Al-Maghlouth said.



- He concluded that Riyadh, as an investment destination, is expected to attract more investors and tourists through this airport.
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Riyadh Airports Company

Partner Guide :

<https://tendering.riyadhairports.com/web/docs/Partner-Guide.pdf>

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<https://ksia.sa/>