

Hamad Airport Tops Global Ranking

VOCABULARY WORDS

1. delight (verb) /dɪˈlaɪt/ - To give someone great pleasure or satisfaction.
Example: The new features at the airport are sure to delight passengers.
2. navigate (verb) /ˈnæv.ɪ.geɪt/ - To find one's way through a place.
Example: Hamad International Airport is easy to navigate due to its modern design.
3. criteria (noun) /kraɪˈtɪr.i.ə/ - Standards or principles by which something is judged.
Example: The criteria for the best airport included ease of security and food options.
4. recognition (noun) /ˌrek.əɡˈnɪʃ.ən/ - The act of identifying someone or something because of previous knowledge or understanding.
Example: The airport received recognition for its outstanding cleanliness.
5. commitment (noun) /kəˈmɪt.mənt/ - A promise or firm decision to do something.
Example: The recognition reflects the country's commitment to providing excellent facilities.
6. facilities (noun) /fəˈsɪl.ɪ.tiz/ - Buildings, equipment, or services that are provided for a particular purpose.
Example: The airport's facilities include shopping areas, restaurants, and lounges.
7. reflect (verb) /rɪˈflekt/ - To show, express, or be a sign of something.
Example: The high ranking of the airport reflects its quality and service standards.



Usually, when we're traveling, we don't want too many surprises. Airport surprises might sometimes mean a seven-hour delay, a \$20 bottle of water, or a lost passport. However, the world's new number one airport, Hamad International Airport in Doha, has promised to continue

to "surprise and delight passengers." People from around the world have voted it the world's best airport, from a choice of 570 airports.

Hamad offers some passengers with long layovers free tours of the city, which may be one of its surprises. It's also known as a modern airport that's easy to navigate and is good for shopping. Every year, UK-based airport and airline review site Skytrax asks people from around the world to choose the best airports in a number of different categories.

There is a familiar look to the 2024 list of the world's best airports — not for the first time, the top five are all in Asia. After being voted the world's best in 2023, Singapore's Changi International Airport is second on the list, with Seoul Incheon in third place, and Tokyo airports Haneda and Narita in fourth and fifth. People were asked to vote on different things, including how easy it is to get through security, and the airport's food and drink choices.

The top 10 also included some European airports, with Paris Charles de Gaulle Airport in sixth place, and Germany's Munich Airport in eighth. It was a good year for Japanese airports, as the country sees tourists flood back. New Chitose Airport in Sapporo was named the most improved airport in the world, while Chubu Centrair International Airport in Nagoya topped the list of airports that receive between 5 and 10 million passengers per year.

Haneda was also named the cleanest airport in the world. The recognition highlights the high standards and improvements that Japanese airports have achieved, reflecting the country's commitment to providing excellent facilities and services to travelers.

DISCUSSION

1. How do airport services like free city tours during layovers enhance the travel experience?
2. Why do you think Asian airports consistently rank among the top in the world?
3. How can airports in other regions improve to compete with the top-ranked airports?
4. What features or services do you think are most important in making an airport one of the best?
5. How does the cleanliness of an airport impact a traveler's experience and perception of the country?
6. What are some potential benefits for a country to have an airport ranked among the best in the world?
7. How might the recognition of being the world's best airport affect Hamad International Airport and its future developments?