



Real Estate Monthly Pulse

KPMG in Qatar

November 2019



Welcome to the latest issue of KPMG in Qatar's Real Estate Monthly Pulse, which brings you the news highlights from the real estate and related sectors in Qatar. We hope you find this information valuable. If you have any queries or would like to discuss the newsletter, business or the market, kindly contact us.

Real estate

[Qatar ranks first in Property Registration Procedure Index](#)

Qatar has significantly improved its ranking in the several indexes of the World Bank's Ease of Doing Business 2020 report, including registration of ownership, where Qatar has ranked first in the world.

The report raised Qatar's assessment in three indexes, including its ranking on the global property registration procedure index, where the country has improved its rank from 20th in 2019 rankings to the first place globally in 2020 classification.

Qatar ranked 77 on this year's Ease of Doing Business, an improvement from its ranking of 83rd in 2018.

[Diverse business activities allowed in administrative towers area](#)

The administrative towers area in West Bay, 14 administrative streets and malls operating in the country have been allowed to conduct new commercial activities at their facilities.

Prime Minister and Interior Minister, H.E Sheikh Abdullah bin Nasser bin Khalifa Al Thani, issued a decision allowing the practice of many vital commercial activities that support the diversity needed to develop investment and support investors. According to the decision the buildings have been granted permission to add new commercial activities like medical centers, colleges, nurseries, cultural centers, and health clubs.

[Cityscape Qatar showcases unique real estate projects](#)

Minister of Commerce and Industry H.E Ali bin Ahmed Al Kuwari said while inaugurating Cityscape that the Qatari real estate market is witnessing favorable conditions for investors, registering more competitive prices during the current year, which has contributed to attracting the investors looking for high-quality real estate.

He added that the volume of transactions has recorded an annual increase of 20 percent during the first quarter of 2019, while residential real estate supply reached 293,000 units in the first

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quarter, with the delivery of 3,000 apartments and villas in different areas in the State.

In 2019, construction was completed in 10,000 new units, 67 percent of which are in The Pearl-Qatar and Lusail areas, the Minister added.

Qatari Diar launches 'Lusail Downtown' at Cityscape Qatar

During its participation in Cityscape Qatar 2019, Qatari Diar launched its new brand 'Lusail Downtown', which includes three different projects (Al Seef, Boulevard and Plaza).

It also gave a detailed presentation on three of its global projects: Chelsea Barracks in UK, Southbank Place in UK and Sea Pearl in Istanbul, Turkey.

Ministry of Justice launches page for registering real estate brokers

In order to facilitate access to its services, the Ministry of Justice has launched a page for registering real estate brokers through its website. The Ministry targets all companies and individuals wishing to practice the real estate brokerage profession in accordance with the standards followed in Qatar.

Tourism and hospitality

HIA expected to serve over 40 million passengers by 2019-end

Hamad International Airport (HIA), Qatar's gateway to the world, is expected to serve over 40 million passengers by the end of this year, compared to 30 million passengers in 2018. The passenger growth rate shows that the airport is back on its pre-blockade growth rate, said Akbar Al Baker, Group Chief Executive, Qatar Airways.

Hamad International Airport welcomes 10.7 million passengers in 3rd quarter of 2019

Hamad International Airport (HIA) has reported welcoming a record-high total of 10.7 million passengers in the third quarter of 2019, making it the busiest quarter and summer the airport has ever seen.

The record-breaking third quarter saw passenger numbers growing by 10.71 percent compared to the previous year.

New cruise passenger terminal inaugurated at Doha Port

A new cruise passenger terminal was inaugurated at Doha Port with the arrival of the megaship Mein Schiff 5. Spread over 6,000 square meters, the new facility will act as a temporary terminal for the next two seasons until the completion of Doha Port's expansion plan, due in 2022.

Mein Schiff 5 is the first of 74 ships expected this season which equates to a 66% increase in the number of ships from last season.

Around 235,000 cruise tourists expected to visit Qatar this season

Qatar's tourism sector is set to witness record number of cruise tourists in the current cruise season. Around 235,000 tourists in 74 cruise ships are expected to arrive at Doha Port in the 2019-20 season, making it the busiest season so far, according to Mwani Qatar.

QNTC to promote sports tourism

Qatar National Tourism Council (QNTC) has kept a special focus on sport tourism to attract tourists from all over the world to Qatar which has emerged as one of the largest hubs for sport activities.

“QNTC focused on 10 world markets to bring tourists to Qatar like the US, the UK, Turkey, India, China among others. In the coming days, the focus will be on the countries like the Scandinavian ones,” said Ali Al Muhannadi, Head of Tourism Control at QNTC.

Education

Education Ministry invites applications for opening new private schools

Ministry of Education and Higher Education will start receiving applications for licensing and operating new private schools and kindergartens starting November 3.

In an announcement, the ministry said that applications for licensing and operating new schools and kindergartens for the coming academic year (2020-2021) will be accepted until December 31, 2019.

Healthcare

Hospital beds across HMC increase by 25% since 2016

The largest expansion programme at Hamad Medical Corporation's (HMC) history has resulted in a 25 percent increase in the number of inpatient beds across its hospital network since 2016.

With demand for healthcare services continuing to increase in recent years due to Qatar's growing population, HMC has significantly expanded its capacity through the opening of new hospitals and specialist facilities.

Sources: The Peninsula, Gulf Times

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