



PDXNext

Main Terminal

Opening August 14, 2024

Our community came together to make Portland International Airport (PDX) even *more* of a reflection of the region we love. The result? The local-est airport yet.

[*The new PDX starts opening in August! Here's what to expect.*](#)

Design

The new terminal's nature-infused interiors (and earthquake-resilient structure) emphasize our big goals: doubling down on health, wellbeing and safety. And while we're giving travelers more of what they love about PDX—cool local music, art, eats and shops—we're keeping the spirit that's been delighting folks for decades. So don't worry, the OG carpet is returning in select spots.

A walk through the forest: The main terminal brings elements of the great outdoors even closer to PDX and creates a sense of place for travelers. With design inspired by a stroll along our region's trails, 49 thoughtfully placed skylights mimic sunrays peeking through evergreen trees.

A neighborhood-y feel: Celebrating the rhythm of Portland's favorite neighborhoods, the new spaces at PDX have a familiar urban feel and are laid out like Portland city blocks. The pre- and post-security storefronts—which include 15 new brands and 8 returning favorites, all of them local—are clustered together along tree-lined “streets,” with café seating spilling out onto patios.

The power of plants: Biophilic design confirms what many Oregonians intuitively know: introducing nature and natural elements into interior spaces can have a calming effect and help reduce blood pressure. The process began with identifying the more stressful spots—check-in and bag drop, security lines, etc.—and incorporating foliage, organic shapes and colors, and natural materials and finishes. That includes 72 mature trees (and 5,000 live plants in all), patterns of light and shadow, and exposed grain beams that form a coline pattern (when straight lines appear curved).

[*Designs for PDX take inspiration from the region*](#)

[*24 new places to eat, shop, and drink at PDX*](#)

Main Terminal

Wood Sourcing

When the concept was first introduced to build PDX’s new main terminal out of wood, it was met with a question: can it be built in a way that’s better for our communities? So together, the team made a plan to not only source the wood locally (which we did), but in a way that creates better outcomes for our regional forests and the people who manage them.

Transparent sourcing had never been achieved at this scale before. It took six years of collaboration with sustainable forestry pros, multigenerational foresters, and mills who were all motivated to do the work in a way that balances ecological and economic values. In the end, the team reached targets no other project has. Nearly 75% of the wood was FSC-certified or came from landowners practicing ecological forestry, and 30% can be traced back to its forest of origin—a number that’s usually zero with big projects—including direct sourcing from tribal lands.

[*Building PDX’s wooden roof, from forest to frame*](#)
[*PDX’s new roof is as local as your farmers’ market*](#)

Sustainability

PDX is nearly doubling its capacity while reducing its energy use per square foot by half, thanks to any array of efficiency upgrades and design choices. To heat and cool the airport, a ground-source heat pump—one of Oregon’s largest!—will cut the use of fossil fuels by 95 percent. Plus, the terminal will have 50% fewer lightbulbs than the Oregon electrical code limits, pulling in daylight from the 49 skylights and 36-foot-high window walls instead. By current counts, the choices around design and local materials used will reduce the carbon footprint of the project's structure by 70 percent.

[*PDX is doubling our energy efficiency. Here’s how.*](#)

Images

[*Renderings*](#) (Credit: Port of Portland / ZGF)
[*Wood Sourcing*](#) (Credit: Port of Portland and Photographer Name, if listed)
[*Construction Progress*](#) (Credit: Port of Portland Photographer Name, if listed)

\$2.15B
project budget

1,000,000
square feet of combined new construction and renovated space

50%
reduction in energy use per square foot

100%
of the wood sourced from within **300** miles of the airport

11
local forests provided **600,000** board feet of Douglas fir for the ceiling lattice

24
local concessions, **60+%** of which are women and/or minority owned

7 times
the dye colors were adjusted to get the 80s teal carpet fiber just right

5,000,000
craftworker hours logged on the project