

Landmark day at LAX as new Tom Bradley International Terminal opens

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USA. Today, 18 September, marks a milestone in the history of Los Angeles International Airport (LAX), as the new Tom Bradley International Terminal opens to passengers. As reported, the terminal had a major media preview – attended by The Moodie Report – in June.

Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti will be joined today by former mayors and elected officials; airport officials and representatives of airlines; and other airport tenants to commemorate the start of flight operations at TBIT. The start of flight operations marks completion of Phase I of the overall US\$1.9-billion New TBIT Project.

At the terminal’s heart is the 150,000sq ft Antonio Villaraigosa Pavilion, which houses more than 60 food & beverage units and stores, including upscale offer from DFS, plus further luxury retail.

The New TBIT programme blends an upscale international flavour with a distinctly Los Angeles feel, and includes 22 local brands. It includes a US\$79.8-million dining and retail investment by Westfield and its partners and a US\$25-million investment by DFS in duty free.

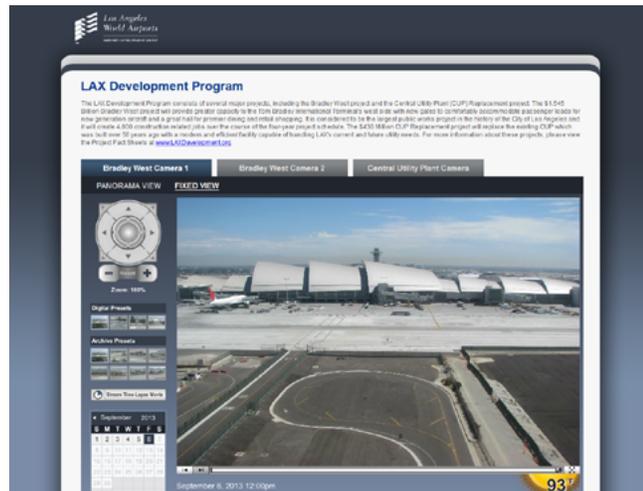
DFS’s duty free space has more than doubled to 25,000sq ft compared to the previous terminal, covering four stores. Other retail and news & gifts are now also housed in 25,000sq ft of space, compared to 11,000sq ft previously.

The new dining and retail collection will phase-in as concessions transition from pre-security to post-security. The existing concessions will remain open as the new dining areas and shops are opened progressively in the coming days and weeks.

“We are pleased to welcome the first travellers into the Villaraigosa Pavillion today to delight in this next-generation airport experience,” said Westfield Group co-Chief Executive Peter Lowy. “With flight operations now underway, we look forward to introducing passengers to the best local and global brands as we begin the transition to transform LAX into a global gateway beyond travellers’ wildest dreams, and we look forward to the future of LAX.”

At the media reveal, Westfield said that it expected US\$98 million in concession sales from the new terminal [the company manages all retail, F&B and other services, but DFS has a separate contract with the airport -Ed].

LAWA Deputy Executive Director Commercial Development Group Debbie Bowers said during the media preview in June that the airport expected a minimum sales uplift of +20% compared to the existing concessions space in the international terminal.



US company [EarthCam](http://www.earthcam.net) documented progress at the new Tom Bradley International Terminal from April 2010 to May 2013 with high definition megapixel imagery. Here you can watch three years of construction progress in less than 4 minutes. Video courtesy of [EarthCam.net](http://www.earthcam.net) (www.earthcam.net)