



GOVERNMENT OF GIBRALTAR
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PRESS RELEASE

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Work to begin on extension and refurbishment of Cruise Terminal

The Government is pleased to announce that the Cruise Terminal will be extended and undergo a major refurbishment. This will enable it to handle the larger ships that call at Gibraltar and the increasingly growing numbers of passengers they each carry. The first phase of the project is the demolition of the adjacent ex-Ice Box Building and the extension of the existing 1,200m² by an additional 800m², in the area that has, until recently, been used by M H Bland & Co. The new 2,000sqm facility will then be completely refurbished, while important technical remedial works to the building structure will be also be carried out.

The new Terminal will boast an expanded Arrivals Hall with seating, an information screen and counter space for the Gibraltar Tourist Board and other entities. Security & Immigration control facilities are being doubled with the creation of distinct channels to individually serve cruise ships docked on both sides of the Terminal. Additionally, a new mezzanine level will house a new cafeteria, to offer passengers the opportunity to relax, overlooking the new concourse. This will be serviced with corresponding new staircases and a disabled passenger lift.

Natural light within the Terminal will be significantly improved and contemporary materials and colours, predominantly sand/terracotta, will be used throughout. The exterior of the building will also be repainted.

The final phase of this project will be the resurfacing of the Western Arm, including the area where the Ice Box building previously stood.

Deputy Chief Minister Joe Holliday is delighted with the proposed extension and refurbishment of the Cruise Terminal. He commented "The Cruise Terminal is a major entry point for visitors to Gibraltar and has handled around 2,500 cruise ship calls and 3 million passengers since it opened on 17 July 1997. It has served Gibraltar extremely well over the years and has received considerable praise for its attractive and welcoming ambience. Its quality has also been recognised by the

award of a number of international accolades, including that of Most Efficient Terminal Operator, awarded by Dreamworld Cruise Destinations in 2003 and again in 2008.

However, the increasing average number of passengers per ship has risen 85%, from 976 in 1996 to 1,807 in 2012. This means that over a 15 year period, ships have effectively doubled in size and the Cruise Terminal is being refurbished and extended to be able to handle these vessels more efficiently and provide a more contemporary look and feel.”

The Government has also been in consultation with a number of cruise companies who are regular users of the Port, in order to seek their views on the plans for the Cruise Terminal and the refurbishment and development of the Western Arm. They are also being encouraged to consider Gibraltar for “partial turnarounds”, a concept which is becoming increasingly popular in the Mediterranean.