

Nador International Airport (Berber: Anafag en Ennaḍor Aɛarwi; Arabic: مطار الناظور العروي), (IATA: NDR, ICAO: GMMW), is an international airport serving Nador,[2] a city in the Oriental region in Morocco. It is also known as Arwi Airport.

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Location[edit]

The original location at Taouima moved to El Aroui, some 14 miles (24 km) south-southwest of Nador city. The airport lies nearly directly along the N2 national road. There is no public transport to the airport. Directly in front of the terminal there is a large (paid) parking-place which is mainly used for people bringing or picking up of passengers.

Also outside the terminal there are many Grand Taxis offering shared connections with most major destinations for people flying to Nador. The taxis are also often offered for private-hire: thus where there is only one (group of) passenger(s). As the airport is far beyond any city-limits there are no Petit Taxis available at the airport.

Overview[edit]

An initial airport was created in 1931 in the village of Tawima (south of Nador town) and was the primary airport for Melilla, since 1947 a Spanish enclave to the north. Following the independence of the Morocco, Melilla began steps in creating an airport within Spanish control. In 1969 Melilla Airport opened to provide air travel between the Spanish enclave and mainland Spain.

Nador is a small international airport (Inaugurated in 1999) with links to Morocco's main airports and some European destinations such as Germany, the Netherlands, Belgium and Spain. In the summer season it becomes a very busy airport when many Moroccan nationals living in Western Europe and originating from the Rif region (Riffian people) travel through it. The Nador airport is owned and run by the state company ONDA. The main user is Royal Air Maroc but also low-cost carriers like Ryanair, Air Arabia, Tuifly, Transavia fly to Nador. Although most flights are operated using the smaller Boeing 737 or similar, in the summer months the demand for seats is so high that Royal Air Maroc operated weekly flights from Amsterdam Schiphol and Brussels using their Boeing 747 but in 2012 these flights were replaced by "normal" Boeing 737 flights. The runway and stand are designed to handle Jumbo's but the facilities like passport control get overwhelmed when a full B-747 arrives. Following the high number of travelers and flights, an extension Terminal work began in 2016. The old airport was demolished to rebuild the new airport which was inaugurated on July 09, 2021

In the year 2009 the airport handled over 307,000 passengers.[4]

Facilities[edit]

Nador International Airport has a single terminal, divided into arrivals and departures, both on the ground floor. Check-in terminals are located at one side of the main terminal hall, while the other side is for baggage retrieval for arriving customers.

The airport has one runway, approximately 3,000 metres long and 45 metres wide. It can handle commercial aircraft up to a Boeing 747.[5] Total aircraft parking space is 54,000 m², enough for two Boeing 747s or four Boeing 737s.[6] The airport has an ILS Class 1 certification and offers the following radionavigational aids: VOR – DME – NDB. PAPI lighting available when landing on runway 28.[6]

Airlines and destinations[edit]

Airlines Destinations

Air Arabia Maroc Amsterdam, Barcelona, Brussels, Cologne/Bonn, Eindhoven, Málaga, Montpellier, Palma de Mallorca, Tangier

Air Europa Seasonal: Palma de Mallorca[7]

Brussels Airlines Seasonal: Brussels

Corendon Airlines Seasonal: Brussels (begins 1 April 2022), Cologne/Bonn (begins 5 June 2022), Düsseldorf (begins 2 May 2022), Rotterdam/The Hague (begins 1 April 2022)

Eurowings Cologne/Bonn

Royal Air Maroc Amsterdam, Barcelona, Brussels, Casablanca, Düsseldorf, Málaga, Tangier Seasonal: Eindhoven, Frankfurt

Ryanair Barcelona, Beauvais, Charleroi, Hahn, Marseille, Weeze

Transavia Paris–Orly, Rotterdam/The Hague

TUI fly Belgium Antwerp,[8] Charleroi, Eindhoven, Lille

Seasonal: Brussels, Paris–Orly

Vueling Seasonal: Barcelona

Ground transport[edit]

The airport is located at Al Arouit and approximately 30 km. from Nador city by road. Other than taxis, no public transport is available. On arrival, meeting incoming flights many grand taxis and petit taxis wait outside the terminal and offer transfers to most regional cities.[9]

A paid car-park area is directly outside terminal, mainly used to bring passengers or pick up arriving passengers. The roads between the airport and Nador city are in good condition and signposted in Arabic and French. The airport lies directly along the main national route N2 (from Tangier to Oujda). From the airport the route to the city uses this N2 in Easterly direction to the North going route N15 to the city.

Traffic statistics[edit]

Like other Moroccan airports the traffic is very seasonal. All through the year Royal Air Maroc (in codeshare with Atlas Blue) flies several times per week to Brussels and Amsterdam, but in the summer-season more flights are scheduled. In the peak-season RAM even uses their Boeing 747 Jumbo-jet every week on the route to/from Amsterdam and Brussels instead of the smaller Boeing 737 the rest of the year.

Traffic statistic

2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020

83.109

+8.39% 82.010
 -1.32% 81.604
 -0.50% 89.287
 +9.41% 94.380
 +5.70% 110.589
 +17.17% 171.239
 +54.84% 215.045
 +25.58% 307.483
 +42.99% 442.508
 +43.30% 572.388
 +29.45% 602.426
 +5.25% 611.888
 +1.57% 604.013
 -1.29% 602.764
 -0.21% 640.122
 +6.20% 705.276
 +10.18 % 710.559
 +0.51% 772.371
 +8.68% 276.157
 -64.28%

In the two summer months nearly a third of the annual traffic is handled by the airport.
 Because Nador and surroundings isn't (yet) a tourist-destination such as Agadir or
 Marrakesh nearly all passengers are Moroccan nationals (incl. 2nd and 3rd generation)
 visiting relatives.[10]

Recent statistics

Item 2010[11] Change % 2009[12] Change % 2008[13] change % 2007[14] 2006 2005
 2004 2003 2002

Passengers[15] 442,508 +43.30% 308,789 + 44.94% 213,045 + 25.50% 171,293 110,589
 94,380 89,287 81,604 82,010

Movements[16] n/a[17] n/a 4020 +102.72% 1983 + 7.89% 1838 1614 1634 1368 1001
 1009

Cargo (Metric tons)[18] n/a[17] n/a 3.98 - 28.80% 5.59 - 63.58% 15.35 92.33 22.04 74.36
 17.27 20.30