**Goa**

**Goa International Airport (GOI)**

The Goa International Airport serves Goa, which is among the smallest states in India in terms of land area. The airport is located in Dabolim near the port town of Vasco Da Gama at a distance of 30 km from the capital city of Panaji and 23 km from Margao. It is popularly known as the Dabolim Airport on account of its location. A major tourist destination, Goa attracts travelers from around the world. As a result, the Goa International Airport is among the busiest in India.

The airport was built in the early 1950s by Portuguese colonizers. After the Goa Liberation, it was occupied by the Indian Naval Forces. The airport is now a civil enclave jointly owned by the State Government of Goa and the Indian Navy and is used for passenger traffic as well as naval aircrafts.

**Flight Information**

Located at an important tourist destination, the Goa International Airport is well-connected to a number of cities in India. Domestic flights fly to major cities such as Mumbai, New Delhi, Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Kolkata, and many others. Goa to Mumbai and Goa to New Delhi are the most popular sectors among these. Airlines such as IndiGo, Jet Airways, and SpiceJet provide flight services to these cities.

The Dabolim Airport also offers connectivity to several international locations including Muscat, Sharjah, Moscow, and Doha, of which the most popular routes are Goa to Muscat and Goa to Sharjah. Services on international routes are offered by Air Arabia, Qatar Airways, and Air Asia, among others.

**Terminals**

A new integrated terminal was inaugurated at the Goa International Airport in 2013 and has been fully operational since 2014. It handles the entire passenger traffic, that is, the arrivals and departures of domestic as well as international flights. It boasts of a peak hour passenger capacity of 2,750. The new terminal was introduced in order to accommodate the increasing air traffic and resolve the inconvenience of the previously separate domestic and international terminals.

**Traveling in and Around**

The airport is easily accessible by an inter-city bus service from the various regions of Goa. The Dabolim railway station is located very close to the airport, making it accessible to travelers from across the state. The airport houses car rental and pre-paid taxi booths for the convenience of passengers. General taxis may also be hired for commuting to and from the airport. Passengers also have the option of driving to the airport in personal vehicles as a paid parking facility is available.

**Services and Facilities**

A host of valuable services are provided at the Goa International Airport for the convenience of passengers. The terminals are equipped with free wheelchairs for travelers with reduced mobility or disabilities. Special assistance is also offered to such passengers and unaccompanied minors. Essential medical facilities are available at the airport’s first-aid and medical inspection room. Families traveling with infants and children may use the childcare room located at the airport.

The airport offers amenities such as free luggage trolleys, escalators, elevators for ease of movement. It also houses several currency exchange counters for the benefit of international travelers. Tourist information counters and help desks have been stationed for the assistance of passengers. Paid baggage-wrapping services, ATMs, paid access to Wi-Fi, telephone booths, and postal services are some of the other facilities provided here.

**Things to Do**

Passengers may enjoy quality meals, refreshments, and dining facilities at the restaurants located within the airport building. It also houses a massage therapy facility, where travelers may relax and spend their waiting period at leisure. Several duty-free shops selling perfumes, electronic gadgets, crockery, sweets, and other such items are available for the benefit of overseas travelers. Travel accessories, gifts, souvenir, and local specialties may also be bought from various shops at the Goa International Airport.

**Accommodation**

The Goa International Airport houses a few hotel-booking counters for the convenience of tourists. Travelers may also find comfortable accommodation, suited to their budget, very close to the airport. Coconut Creek, Silk Cotton Resort, Bogmallo Beach Resort and other such luxury hotels near the airport offer comfortable stays. There are a number of guest houses in the airport vicinity such as Sarita Guest House and Raj Resorts that promise a pleasant stay for budget travelers.

**Helpful Tips**

* Being a civil enclave, the flight schedules may undergo changes due to Naval aircraft activities. It is advisable to verify the timings to avoid missing flights.

**Nearby Attractions**

Goa, with its ancient Portuguese churches and beautiful beaches, is one of India’s most popular travel destinations, attracting tourists from around the world. The Goa International Airport is also surrounded by some of the state's best attractions. Travelers may head to the Bogmallo Beach for the quintessential Goan beach experience. The port city of Vasco Da Gama located next to the airport is also worth visiting.