

Amsterdam Airport Schiphol (AMS) today launches its renovation of Departure Lounge 2 which is having its retail and food and beverage capacity increased by around 20% with a new layout.

Located beyond passport control, the space is scheduled for total completion next summer 2015. More than 14m people travel through Departure Lounge 2 annually, with more than half transferring. The first and second floors have a total surface area of around 16,000sq m (*see main image for panoramic view*).

Departure Lounge 2 will be sub-divided into seven theme worlds with each one offering passengers a specific experience. The themes are: Luxury (*below*), Family, Travel & Culture, Modern Dutch, See Buy Fly, Fashion & Lifestyle, and Care & Wellness.



Each is characterised by its use of specific

materials and designs, and includes seating areas, F&B outlets and shops. Furnishings use sustainable materials such as FSC-certified wood and LED lighting with motion sensors.

FIRST JOHNNIE WALKER HOUSE

Among the highlights is the luxury retail concept store Johnnie Walker House which Schiphol Group says will be a flagship in Europe travel retail.

Other arrivals in the lounge include M&Ms Amsterdam, a shop with a unique range of toys, clothing and exclusive products; and a Gucci store. Bulgari, Hermès, Bottega Veneta, Omega, Mont Blanc and Rolex are among other familiar luxury brands featured in Departure Lounge 2 as well as an XpresSpa.

Food concepts are provided by the Amsterdam Bread Co, the Asian restaurant Kebaya, Café Cocó, Starbucks and the Heineken Bar.

OPEN DURING REFURBISHMENT

Schiphol Group says that shops in Lounge 2 will remain partially open during the refurbishment period in smaller, temporary sites. Passengers will also be able to use the shops and F&B units in Departure Lounge 3.

The work will be carried out in phases, with as much as possible being done at night to minimise disruption. Airport refurbishments at AMS have led to a big **drop in spending** at the hub in the first half of this year.

The renovation of Departure Lounge 2 is part of a Master Plan renovation programme to strengthen AMS's capacity and improve levels of comfort and efficiency for passengers. The plan includes the introduction of centralised security throughout the terminal, the construction of a new Hilton hotel, the development of Area A to the south of the terminal, and the renovation of the security filter in Departure Hall 1. Construction work started in July 2013 and is expected to be completed in 2018.