AIRPORT EXIT

Hamad International Airport (DOH)

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THE ANSWER

The Doha Metro Red Line has its own station inside the terminal ('Hamad Intl Airport T1'): QAR 2 a standard journey, flat across the network, with a QAR 6 cap on everything you travel in a day - Msheireb in the heart of Doha is one ride away and the airport confirms trains run 7 days a week.

Qatar Rail charges the same fare regardless of distance, so a single QAR 10 travel card covers airport -> downtown -> onward hops for less than one taxi flag-fall - and every Karwa cab at the rank starts its meter at QAR 25.
Tight connection or heavy luggage? Metered Karwa taxis to central Doha typically land around QAR 40-70 (press-corroborated, not a published fixed fare). Landed between midnight and 05:00 (or before 09:00 Friday)? No trains - a rank taxi or an app car is the only ground option.

EVERY WAY OUT — REAL PRICES

Doha Metro Red Line - station inside the terminal *BEST FOR MOST* QAR 2 single journey - QAR 6 daily cap - QAR 10 travel card

Follow metro signage from Arrivals: the 'Hamad Intl Airport T1' station on the Red Line runs toward Msheireb (the big interchange for Green and Gold lines), West Bay area connections, Souq Waqif via Green-line hop and on to Lusail/Al Wakra. Qatar Rail's pocket map (printed 02/2025) sets Standard single journeys at QAR 2 with a QAR 6 maximum for a day of unlimited travel, weekly QAR 40, monthly QAR 120, goldclass QAR 10 per trip; Visit Qatar repeats 'explore all day for a maximum cost of QAR 6'. Service hours on the map: Saturday-Thursday 05:00-01:00, Friday from 09:00 - check qr.com.qa for first/last trains at your station. Buy the QAR 10 Standard travel card at the station machines.

Karwa taxi (Mowasalat) - the only taxis at the rank QAR 25 airport meter start, then QAR 1.60/km (day) / 1.90/km (night); city trips typically QAR 40-70

Board at the Taxi Pavilion at the LEFT end of the Arrivals Hall. The airport states all airport taxis are operated by Mowasalat and are metered - the QAR 25 airport pick-up flag-fall (Mowasalat tariff press release, carried by Qatar Tribune and Time Out Doha 2025) is simply what the meter reads as you pull out. Per-km rates: QAR 1.60 between 04:00-23:00, QAR 1.90 overnight. Card, Apple Pay and Google Pay work in the cars per the airport page. A phone booking made in the city to the airport adds QAR 8. Karwa's own site was unreachable from here, so treat the 25/1.60/1.90 set as press-verified from the state operator's release.

Ride-hailing - Uber, Badrgo, Ryde (NOT Careem) in-app pricing

The airport's official ride-hailing page names exactly three authorised operators - Uber, Badrgo and Ryde - and forbids kerbside pickup: you walk after customs to Arrivals Gate 3, cross the service roads into the multi-level car park, turn left, then right at the escalators and out the sliding doors to the designated pick-up area. Careem withdrew from Qatar; guides telling you to 'just Get a Careem' are outdated. No official tariff is published - the app price is the price.

Mowasalat Limousine / pre-booked hotel transfer fixed quote - no published tariff

Chauffeur-driven sedans and 7-seater vans from the Mowasalat Limousine kiosk in Arrivals, pre-bookable on +974 800 5466; paid in cash Qatari Riyals at the end of the trip. This is the closest thing DOH has to an official shuttle - there is NO free airport-to-hotel bus; individual hotels run their own transfers, so confirm with the hotel, not the airport.

THE TRAPS — WALK PAST THESE

Your app car does not come to the kerb - and Careem no longer exists in Qatar

Passengers who landed in the Careem era both try to summon a Careem (gone from Qatar; the airport's authorised list is Uber, Badrgo, Ryde) and wait at the terminal doors, where no app car may legally stop. Pick-ups happen only in the multi-level car park. **Do this:** exit Arrivals Gate 3, walk into the multi-level parking as signed, and only order once you are moving toward the pick-up area

A QAR 25 meter start is the real deal - a 'flat cheap fare' from a tout is not

Every Karwa cab from the pavilion opens its meter at the QAR 25 airport flag-fall; that is the state tariff, not a rip-off. Anyone inside the hall selling a 'special fixed price' or refusing the meter is not an authorised airport taxi. Mowasalat's own rule: if the meter is not working, the trip is free. **Do this:** queue at the Taxi Pavilion (left end of Arrivals), watch the meter read QR 25 at departure, and decline all in-terminal ride offers

No trains before 05:00 - and Friday waits until 09:00

Qatar Rail's pocket map sets service hours Saturday-Thursday 05:00-01:00 and Friday 09:00-01:00. A 06:00 Friday arrival into a 'QAR 2 metro' plan is really a QAR 40-70 taxi plan, and after 01:00 there is no cap that saves you. Qatar Rail also extends hours around big events at short notice. **Do this:** check first/last train times for your landing day on qr.com.qa before pricing metro-vs-taxi; overnight arrivals should budget the taxi

The bus blog numbers are stale - three card systems don't swap

Older guides cite routes 763/773 at QAR 4; current route maps reported this season list L533/T612/T613 at about QAR 2.50-3, paid with a Karwa smartcard or Journey Planner app QR - not cash, and a metro travel card does not work on buses. The fares could not be confirmed on an official page in this check, which is why the metro (QAR 2, station inside the building) is the default. **Do this:** if you still want the bus, open the Karwa Journey Planner app at the gate to see today's live routes and fares before walking to the Bus Pavilion

KNOW BEFORE YOU WALK

- One tap pays for the whole network: QAR 2 Standard journeys are flat-distance, so Airport->Msheireb and onward hops all cost 2 - total travel for the day caps at QAR 6.
- The QAR 10 Standard travel card is reusable and sold at station machines; goldclass is QAR 10 per journey, QAR 30 per day if you must have the seats.
- Central Doha by taxi usually lands QAR 40-70 (press-corroborated estimate, not a fixed tariff) - fine split between 2-3 people to West Bay hotels the metro doesn't touch.
- All airport taxis take cards/Apple Pay/Google Pay per the airport page, but keep some QAR cash as fallback and pay only in riyals, not 'your currency, easy'.
- Free Metrolink feeders and MetroExpress on-demand mini-rides connect to stations via the Karwa app - worth one look when your hotel is 'near' a station but not at one.
- Visa and arrival-fee rules vary by nationality and move often - confirm on the Hayya Platform / MOI before choosing your routing; nothing here was verifiable on an official page this month.

Verified October 2026: Qatar Rail's own pocket map (metrotram.qa PDF, printed 02/2025 - QAR 2 Standard single, QAR 6 daily cap, QAR 10 card, QAR 40 weekly, QAR 120 monthly; hours 05:00-01:00, Friday 09:00+) and Visit Qatar's metro guide ('maximum cost of QAR 6'), plus Hamad Airport's official pages (metro in-terminal, Taxi Pavilion/Mowasalat, authorised ride-hailing Uber/Badrgo/Ryde at the Gate 3 car-park point, Limousine kiosk). Karwa's QAR 25 airport flag-fall and QAR 1.60/1.90 per-km are from Mowasalat's tariff press release as carried by Qatar Tribune and Time Out Doha 2025 - karwa.com.qa was unreachable for this check, so treat as press-verified. The QAR 40-70 typical taxi total and bus route numbers/fares are estimates, not published tariffs.
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