



Hua Hin Airport will welcome flights from Kuala Lumpur in Malaysia starting in May 2018.

Air Asia announced it will operate four-times weekly flights linking Kuala Lumpur to Hua Hin starting in May. The move will have a far-ranging impact with the Hua Hin real estate market among the many sectors set to benefit. While long popular with residents of Thailand, the seaside town has struggled to become an international destination.

In order to reach Hua Hin, international tourists currently have to cope with a three-hour car/minibus journey from Bangkok. This option is unappealing when compared to the 90-minute drive it takes to reach Pattaya. However, that could change with Air Asia now flying into the city. It should increase the number of visitors from Malaysia as well as places like Singapore who can easily transit in Kuala Lumpur.

What does it mean for the Hua Hin real estate market?

The link between real estate and tourism is well known, and while it could take a bit of time for the effects to fully kick in, the Hua Hin real estate market is likely to benefit. The city is popular for its low-key, laid back lifestyle and it is easy to see some visitors preferring the city to Pattaya or Phuket.

This could positively influence both rental rates and property prices in Hua Hin, both of which have been relatively stagnant over the past few years. Exactly how much depends on if more flights are allowed to land at Hua Hin Airport and if other infrastructure projects, such as the proposed high-speed train, are completed.



Hua Hin, an affordable beach alternative in Thailand

Property prices in Hua Hin remain relatively reasonable with condominiums offering great value. It's even possible to find bargains for high-end real estate if you look closely.