

**Rafael Viñoly Architects has designed the new Carrasco International Airport in Montevideo, Uruguay. This is the firm's first completed airport and its largest project in Viñoly's home country. The new terminal will become fully operational on December 9, 2009.**



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The new terminal at Carrasco International Airport, which serves Uruguay's capital city of Montevideo, was created to expand capacity and spur commercial growth and tourism in the surrounding region. The design of the building emphasizes its public zones and amenities,

providing these areas with an abundance of open space and natural light. Arriving travelers, for example, pass through a fully glazed mezzanine level that helps orient them to the terminal space before they descend to immigration, the baggage claim, and customs. A public, landscaped terrace and a restaurant occupy the second floor, providing sweeping views of the runway and the main concourse.

Rafael Viñoly Architects' design elevates the public zones, both on the fully accessible roadside departure hall and terrace and the secure runway-side concourses, and houses everything beneath a curved, 1,200-foot-long roof. The gentle curve and low profile of this monolithic roof help integrate the building into its site. The exterior's flowing lines and undulating geometry resemble the natural landscape of Uruguay, making it not only an iconic architectural structure, but a symbolic one as well.

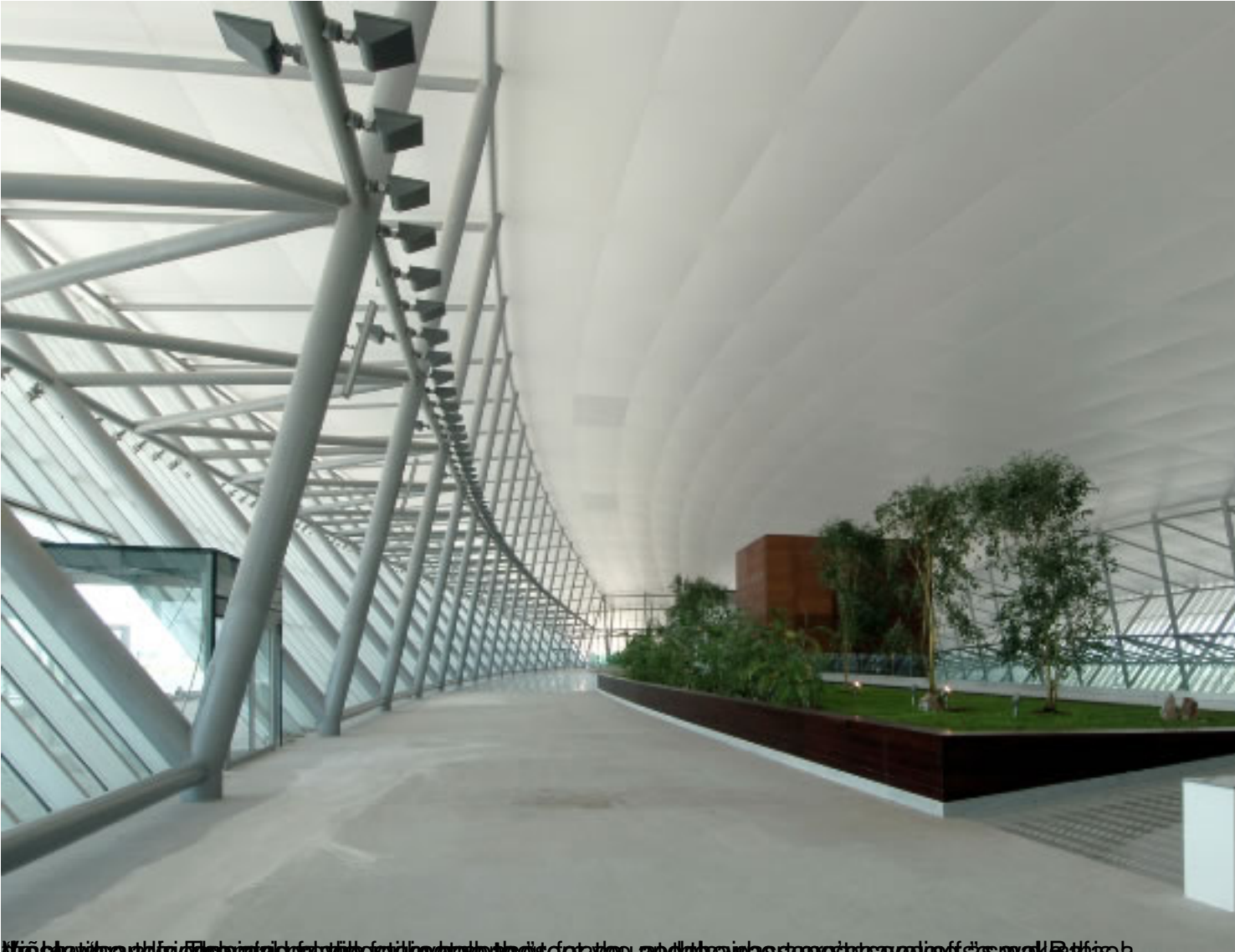








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View of the Carrasco International Airport terminal, showing the curved walkway and the large indoor garden area. [More on Rafael Viñoly Architects](#)