

NBB offers financing solutions at Housing Finance Exhibition

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The National Bank of Bahrain (NBB) is currently participating in the second Housing Finance Exhibition, hosted and organised by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Planning, in collaboration with Eskan Bank.

The 10-day event is taking place in the Bahrain City Centre Galleria and will run until the 24th of June.

NBB is providing financing solutions for prospective customers while nineteen housing agents from across the Kingdom are showcasing and marketing properties.

Visitors to the exhibition will be able to explore different forms of financing and receive guidance from NBB representatives on; 'social finances', 'top-up finances' and 'property finances'.



An NBB representative talks with a customer at the exhibition

Prospective homeowners will be able to discuss attaining government-backed Tas'heel and Mazaya housing financing through NBB.

These financing options in-

clude competitive interest rate pricing, flexible repayment terms, amortised property registration fees, free fire insurance and property evaluation including finance up to 30 years.

The properties being sold form part of the wider Government Development Land Program (GDLP) and include the "Suhail Project," that consists of 132 stunning residential villas, designed and constructed to the very highest standards.

All the villas are listed at BHD 99,000, have three bedrooms and a smaller maid's room. The residential project is complemented by new infrastructure which ensures accessibility and provides all the necessary amenities.

The properties in this latest development are exclusively available to Bahrainis participating in the Ministry of Housing and Urban Planning scheme.

Commenting on the exhibition, Subah Abdullatif Al Zayani, Chief Executive Retail Banking at NBB, said: "Our longstanding partnership with the Ministry

of Housing and Urban Planning and Eskan Bank has enabled us to provide extensive support to Bahraini citizens looking to purchase the home of their dreams. We are pleased to deliver competitive financing solutions that meet the needs of our growing customer base."

Mohamed Raees, Head of Retail Relationship Management at NBB said, "Our team of dedicated financial advisors is on hand to provide a range of options which will allow customers to identify financing solutions suited to their needs. The Housing Finance Exhibition provides us with a great opportunity to connect with our clients and also tap into a new segment thanks to our competitive rates on mortgage finance, helping Bahrainis of all backgrounds to get a foothold on the property ladder."

ila Bank partners with Booking.com to offer travel discounts

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ila Bank, powered by Bank IABC, has signed a partnership with Booking.com, to offer ila Bank cardholders an 8% discount on accommodation bookings.

Premium debit card as well as ila Bank Credit Card customers will get this discount whenever they make their travel reservations through the ila Bank app, and it can be combined with any applicable Booking.com Genius loyalty program discount.

Nada Tarada, Head of Business & Customer at ila Bank said, "Through this, we are delighted to be able to give ila cardholders competitive deals to travel and experience the world."

"After all, the way we do business at ila has the customer at heart, and our services are built around our end user and their needs," she added.

Ahli United Bank reveals exclusive mortgage offerings at Housing Finance Exhibition

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Ahli United Bank has unveiled a suite of new and exclusive Housing finance benefits available to Bahrainis interested in Social Housing projects.

These benefits are being unveiled at AUB's stall at the Housing Finance Exhibition at the Bahrain City Center from June 15 to 24.

AUB's stall is staffed with Housing Finance experts who can guide interested applicants to the best option to purchase their dream home and is the ideal destination for Bahrainis on the lookout for competitive mortgage rates, repayment terms, and value-added benefits.

AUB said visitors will be treated to a number of unprecedented benefits, including competitive rates, no administrative fees, no valuation fees, as well



AUB officials at their stall

as free fire insurance and free life insurance.

During the event, Eskan Bank is set to showcase over 10,000 new units from 19 developers all across the Kingdom.

Suvrat Saigal, Deputy Group Chief Executive Officer - Retail Banking at AUB said, "This Exhibition is an opportune moment for Bahrainis to get the

best deals possible on their dream homes. We are continuously seeking to improve on the already subsidised offerings facilitated by Eskan Bank and the Ministry of Housing and Urban Planning, and I believe that this is among the most enticing value-added packages on the housing market to date.

"We are extremely delighted to be an enabler in this market, and to work hand in hand with the Ministry and Eskan Bank to bring ever more affordable housing solutions to the local market. We encourage interested Bahrainis to visit our stall to discover the best options to realise their dream home," he added.

Doctors at RBH save mother and baby in a high risk pregnancy case

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Royal Bahrain Hospital (RBH) recently saved a mother and her baby in one of the most complex high-risk pregnancy cases, the hospital has said.

When the woman walked into RBH's Emergency Care, doctors noticed a drastic decrease in fetal movements.

At 33 weeks and 5 days pregnant, she experienced severe abdominal pain and nausea.

A team of experts comprising - anaesthetist, obstetrician, paediatrician, pulmonologist, nephrologist and an ICU consultant - was immediately set up and emergency cesarean surgery was performed and the mother and baby were saved.

Al Salam Bank launches "Buy Now, Pay Later" service for debit cardholders

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Al Salam Bank announced the launch of its "Buy Now, Pay Later" service for its debit cardholders, following its success in facilitating installment payments for its credit cardholders in November last year.

The fully automated, instant, and seamless service allows clients to settle their payments in installments within a specific time frame defined by the digital application through the analysis of the client's financial obligations using artificial in-

telligence.

Clients can benefit from this service for transactions ranging from BD100 and above using their debit cards, and selecting repayment periods of 3, 6, 9, 12, 18, or 24 months.

Commenting on the occasion, Mohammed Buhijji, Head of Retail Banking at Al Salam Bank, said: "This service allows our clients to pay for purchases in installments and better control their expenses and budgets through easy and immediate digital steps."

Biggest-ever airliner order marks first day of Paris Air Show

India's IndiGo makes record order for 500 Airbus A320

AFP | Paris

European aircraft maker Airbus made a splash on the first day of the Paris Air Show with the announcement of the biggest-ever order for civil aircraft, as the French president joined a big crowd for the event's return after a four-year Covid hiatus.

The 500-plane deal with low-cost Indian carrier IndiGo kicked off what organisers have billed as the "recovery airshow" after the coronavirus ravaged the sector and the biennial trade fair was cancelled in 2021.

Fighter jets and civilian aircraft streaked across the sky while besuited and uniformed delegations, including Ukrain-



An Airbus A321 XLR lands during the International Paris Air Show at the Paris-Le Bourget Airport

ian military officials and President Emmanuel Macron, toured the stands.

This year's airshow has a new focus on defence following Russia's invasion of Ukraine, along with the industry's efforts to reduce its carbon footprint, with French President Emmanuel

Macron arriving in a helicopter partly using sustainable aviation

fuel (SAF).

Macron called for "restraint" to protect the environment but said measures for aviation should be "reasonable" rather than "punitive", adding that the world shouldn't "give up on growth".

Huge traffic jams around Le Bourget airport outside Paris were testament to the interest in

this year's show, as aircraft makers field hundreds of orders and airlines brace for a near-record number of passengers this year.

The Ukraine conflict has also prompted countries to step up military spending, which could benefit aerospace defence firms.

While Russia has been excluded from the event, Ukrainian military officials toured the huge exhibition space at Paris-Le Bourget airport, some taking photos of missiles on display.

There were star turns for the Rafale fighter made by France's Dassault and the American F-35 jet, with hundreds of visitors turning their phone cameras to the skies and some plugging their ears against the deafening flypasts.

Le Bourget offers a forum to announce deals with some 2,500 firms lining up to show off their latest planes, drones, helicopters and prototypes such as flying taxis.

Bahrain Bourse opens subscription for BHD 100m Government Development Bond

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Bahrain Bourse (BHB) has announced the commencement of subscription for the 33rd issue of the Government Development Bond, valued at BHD 100 million.

The Central Bank of Bahrain (CBB) invited both Bahraini and Non-Bahraini investors to directly subscribe through the primary market of BHB.

Interested investors can execute their orders through registered brokers at Bahrain Bourse starting from today. The subscription period will end on Thursday at 10:30 am.

The minimum subscription

size is set at 500 bonds per subscriber. Initially, each subscriber will be allocated up to 10,000 bonds, with any remaining quantity distributed on a pro-rata basis. Once listed, investors will have the option to trade the bond on the secondary market at BHB, starting from July 11, 2023.

The BHD 100 million bond has a par value of BHD 1 each and a maturity period of four years, ending on June 27, 2027. Investors can expect an annual fixed return of 6.25%, paid bi-annually on June 27 and December 27 throughout the bond's term.