



Middle East Immigration Tracker

May 13, 2026

About this newsletter:

Welcome to **Middle East Newsletter**, a periodic update tracking immigration, travel, and mobility developments across selected MESA countries arising from the Iran–Israel–US situation. The newsletter highlights material regulatory and government updates that may impact cross-border travel and workforce mobility.

We look forward to your feedback as we continue to refine the content to support informed decision-making.

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Work Visa Requirements

Service scope: Bahrain issues employer sponsored work visas enabling foreign nationals to enter, work, and reside in the Kingdom, with labor authorization managed by the Labour Market Regulatory Authority (LMRA) and residency handled by the Nationality, Passports and Residence Affairs (NPRA).

Application process: Employers submit work permit applications through the LMRA system; upon arrival, foreign employees complete biometric registration and visa issuance procedures, after which residency permits are managed via NPRA services.

Eligibility & conditions:

- Valid job offer from a Bahrain registered employer acting as sponsor
- Passport valid for at least six months
- Medical fitness examination from approved health centers
- Work permit is linked to a specific employer and role and subject to labour market regulations

Extension rules:

- Work permits are typically issued for one or two years
- Renewable through LMRA while employment continues and compliance conditions are met
- Residency permits are renewed in alignment with the approved work permit period via NPRA

Fees (indicative):

- Government fees apply for work permit issuance and renewal, with amounts varying by permit duration and category, payable through official LMRA/NPRA channels

Core documents: Passport copy, employment contract, medical examination report, and employer sponsorship documentation submitted through LMRA.



Bahrain Advisory

On May 1, Kuwait Airways announced the resumption of operations from Terminal 4 at Kuwait International Airport, effective May 3, under the second phase of its rollout, adding 13 destinations to reach a total of 29, including London, Paris, Dubai, Madrid, Milan, Bangkok, Istanbul, Jeddah, Riyadh, Doha, Bahrain, and Cairo.

On April 30, Egyptair announced the resumption of its regular flights to the Kingdom of Bahrain and the Emirate of Sharjah, starting May 1.



Cross-Border Travel Advisory

Ongoing Measures

- **Australia**: Advises do not travel to Bahrain due to volatile regional security situation.
- **Canada**: Avoid all travel to Bahrain due to ongoing military activities.
- **Denmark**: Severe, unpredictable Middle East security; Bahrain airspace closed.
- **France**: Travel to Bahrain discouraged except for imperative reasons; remain vigilant.
- **Germany**: Urgently advises against travel to Bahrain due to volatile security.
- **India**: Advised nationals in Bahrain to remain vigilant amid regional situation.
- **Ireland**: Avoid non-essential travel due to serious, potentially life-threatening risks.
- **Italy**: Airspace open; limited flights; exercise caution; avoid military sites and gatherings.
- **Japan**: Heightened caution due to risks of attacks linked to Middle East tensions.
- **Netherlands**: Red travel code: do not travel; Bahrain too dangerous.
- **New Zealand**: Advises do not travel due to security deterioration and conflict risk.
- **Norway**: Advises against non-essential travel to Bahrain due to serious security situation.
- **Singapore**: Advises deferring travel, eRegistering, and monitoring flight disruptions.
- **South Korea**: King Fahd Causeway vehicle traffic suspended temporarily; exercise heightened safety.
- **Spain**: Advises postponing travel and highlights land exit via Saudi Arabia.
- **Sweden**: Exercise caution; follow local authorities; security situation may change rapidly.
- **Switzerland**: Avoid tourist and non-essential travel to Bahrain due to regional risks.
- **UK**: FCDO advises against all but essential travel to Bahrain.
- **US**: Remain vigilant, practice personal security, follow authorities, avoid protests.



Exit & Consular Support Measures

- **Australia**: If present, leave now if flights available; register with DFAT.
- **Canada**: Leave via commercial options; consular services limited; register abroad.
- **Denmark**: Follow local authorities; monitor airspace reopening; contact Global Watch Center; deregister Danskerlisten.
- **France**: Airspace reopened; flights resumed; embassy contact provided; Fil d'Ariane registration advised.
- **Germany**: Register in crisis list; travel bans possible; exit refusals for overstays.
- **Ireland**: Consular assistance extremely limited; embassy assistance via Saudi Arabia.
- **India**: India grants visa extensions, overstay waivers, and free exit permits.
- **Italy**: Land border open; Saudi visa required; embassy assistance, registration, emergency contacts provided.
- **Japan**: Contact nearest embassy or consular bureau for assistance.
- **Netherlands**: Embassy cannot assist; those present should leave if safely possible.
- **New Zealand**: Maintains Do not travel (Level 4) and asks to register travel plans and monitor local media/authorities due to armed conflict risk
- **Norway**: Register in Reiseklar; contact UD 24/7 center for assistance.
- **Singapore**: Advises deferring travel; asks citizens to eRegister and check airlines for flight schedules/restrictions.
- **South Korea**: Contact consular safety call center or embassy during any emergencies.
- **Spain**: Notes airspace is partially open with limited operations, encourages those wishing to leave to use available means, and notes Oman land border open.
- **Sweden**: Land exit via Saudi possible; consular matters handled by Embassy UAE.
- **Switzerland**: Possible airspace disruptions; Swiss provisional passport not recognized; consular assistance available.
- **UK**: Limited flights available; consider departing; embassy operating with reduced staff.
- **US**: Shelter advisory lifted; routine services suspended; limited passport and CRBA services.



Stranded Travelers & Overland Movement Considerations

Measures for stranded travelers and residents:

- Nationals are advised to register on official travel portals (e.g., DFAT, Fil d'Ariane, Reiseklar, ELEFAND) to receive consular alerts and enable outreach.
- Travelers should follow local authority instructions, including sheltering indoors during security alerts and limiting nonessential movement. Use Bahrain civil protection alerts (e.g., MyGOV app).
- Demonstrations, large gatherings, and sensitive locations—including military or security installations and certain foreign government or US-linked sites—should be avoided.
- Avoid major industrial zones, energy/IT facilities, and foreign or US-linked sites/universities; remote work or temporary departure is advised where applicable.
- Airspace has reopened and flight operations are resuming; travelers should verify flight status directly with airlines (e.g., Gulf Air) and follow local authority guidance.
- Travelers should carry valid identification, maintain essential supplies and medication, and keep contact details current to enable consular outreach.
- Embassy emergency helplines remain the primary channel for urgent assistance, with the US Embassy reachable via ManamaConsular@state.gov and 24/7 task-force hotlines.
- Travelers should keep identity and travel documents readily accessible and maintain essential supplies and medication, particularly if shelter in place guidance is extended.
- Travelers should ensure that their travel documents have sufficient remaining validity, particularly when transiting through other countries or crossing land borders.
- Take air-attack warnings seriously; shelter indoors away from windows, maintain necessities.
- Avoid protests and filming security sites; limit movement to essential journeys only; monitor local and international media for rapid changes and be prepared for sudden alerts.

Nearest accessible land borders:

- **Saudi Arabia – The King Fahd Causeway** is the primary overland exit route from Bahrain. Land border reported as open, intermittent closures or access restrictions may occur; status must be verified before travel; travelers advised to verify real-time border status before overland travel.
- Once in Saudi Arabia, onward flights may be available from Dammam, Riyadh, or Jeddah, subject to conditions.
- Road travel into Saudi Arabia remains possible if all required documentation is in place; travel remains at personal risk.
- Vehicle traffic on the King Fahd Causeway is temporarily suspended; avoid attempting to cross until restrictions are lifted.
- Authorities announced a maritime link with Saudi Arabia to help ensure connectivity during disruptions.



Stranded Travelers & Overland Movement Considerations

Entry, visa, & border considerations:

Travelers planning to transit into Saudi Arabia should confirm Saudi entry eligibility in advance, including:

- Passport validity (commonly at least six months); Bahrain doesn't recognize provisional Swiss passport.
- Saudi visa requirements, including whether an eVisa is required or available and whether the visa restricts mode of entry (e.g., air only entry)
- Vehicle and insurance requirements when crossing by personal or rental vehicle
- Any additional transit documentation required for specific nationalities
- Entry and exit procedures remain subject to local immigration authority discretion and may change at short notice; travelers are advised to check official requirements before attempting overland travel.
- Incorrect or incomplete paperwork may result in denial of entry into Saudi Arabia; travelers using emergency travel documents may need to contact the appropriate consulate before attempting crossing.
- Certain dual nationals may be required to use their Bahraini documents for entry/exit.
- Departure from Bahrain may be restricted for individuals involved in unresolved business or legal disputes.
- German nationals require a visa (available on arrival or electronically); passports must be valid for at least six months, only "M" or "F" gender markers are accepted, and overstaying may result in fines, exit refusal, or travel bans.
- Ensure correct paperwork and visas for onward travel, particularly to Saudi Arabia; travelers with emergency passports or less than six months' validity should contact relevant missions before travel.
- Some Saudi visas permit entry by air only and do not allow land entry via the causeway.
- Transit stays are also covered by the travel warning.
- Journalists require prior special visas; overstays may trigger exit bans.



Work Visa Requirements

Service scope: Egypt permits foreign nationals to work only after obtaining a work permit from the Ministry of Labour, followed by a residence permit for employment issued by the Ministry of Interior (Passports, Immigration & Nationality Administration).

Application process: The employer initiates the work permit application with the Ministry of Labour, justifying the need for a foreign worker and complying with statutory quotas; once approved, the employee regularizes stay through a work linked residence permit in Egypt.

Eligibility & conditions:

- Foreign workers are generally capped at 10% of a company's workforce
- Employer must demonstrate unavailability of qualified Egyptian nationals
- Passport validity, medical clearance, and authenticated professional qualifications are required

Validity & renewals:

- Work permits are typically issued for up to one year
- Permits are renewable annually, subject to continued eligibility and Ministry approval
- Late renewals may trigger re application requirements

Fees (indicative):

- Government fees apply and vary by duration and category, with additional taxes and stamps payable upon issuance or renewal

Core documents: Passport, employment contract, employer justification, medical fitness clearance, and authenticated academic or professional certificates.



Egypt Advisory

On May 10, EgyptAir updated policies for Middle East disruptions, allowing free changes, refunds, or EMD for cancelled flights (Feb 28–Apr 20; Kuwait until May 15), with standard rules for non-cancelled flights.

On May 5, EgyptAir announced the regular operation of all its flights departing from Cairo International Airport to UAE's Dubai, Abu Dhabi and Sharjah in accordance with normal flight schedules.



Cross-Border Travel Advisory

Ongoing Measures

- **Australia**: Advises exercising a high degree of caution; terrorism threat and regional strikes.
- **Canada**: Exercise high degree of caution due to tensions, terrorism, security risks.
- **Denmark**: Partial travel warning; heightened caution due to regional conflict, terrorism risks.
- **France**: Heightened vigilance recommended for nationals abroad due to Urgence attentat.
- **Germany**: Partial travel warning; heightened regional security risks; avoid Sinai, border, Sahara.
- **Ireland**: Advises a high degree of caution in Egypt due to security risks.
- **Italy**: Advises heightened caution in Egypt, with travel restrictions in high-risk areas.
- **Japan**: Heightened caution due to possible attacks linked to Middle East tensions.
- **Norway**: Advises caution in Egypt, warning against travel to certain regions.
- **South Korea**: Egypt stable; flights mostly operating; monitor embassy updates; Sinai visa requirements.
- **Spain**: Egypt generally stable; avoid North Sinai/Gaza border; follow standard precautions.
- **Sweden**: Avoid all travel to northern Sinai; avoid non-essential travel elsewhere.
- **Switzerland**: Advises heightened caution in Egypt due to terrorism and regional tensions.
- **UK**: FCDO advises against travel to multiple regions of Egypt.
- **US**: Monitor regional developments; exercise caution; avoid demonstrations and large gatherings.



Exit & Consular Support Measures

- **Australia**: Verify border and flight status; follow local authority instructions.
- **Canada**: Register abroad; emergency consular assistance available via Canadian embassy.
- **Denmark**: Urged to register on Danskerlisten and follow local guidance.
- **Germany**: Charter-line exit restrictions; dual nationals treated as Egyptians; consular help limited.
- **Ireland**: Register with embassy; avoid restricted areas; emergency numbers provided.
- **Italy**: Italian nationals are advised to register travel details via the Farnesina portal.
- **Japan**: Contact nearest embassy or consular department for assistance if needed.
- **Norway**: Norwegian citizens are encouraged to register travel plans and monitor updates.
- **South Korea**: Multiple flight options; embassy, hotline, emergency contacts provided.
- **Spain**: Register travelers; visas required; overstays penalized; deportation bans re-entry; border entry discretionary.
- **Sweden**: Embassy support from Cairo; register with Swedish list and apps.
- **UK**: Borders may close; Rafah closed; British Embassy contact provided.
- **US**: Enroll in STEP for updates and embassy emergency contact.



Stranded Travelers & Overland Movement Considerations

Measures for stranded travelers and residents:

- Travelers in Egypt are advised to closely monitor local and international developments and comply with instructions issued by local authorities and security services.
- Air travel disruptions remain possible, including flight delays, cancellations, or short-notice operational changes; travelers should confirm flight status directly with airlines or tour operators.
- Individuals are encouraged to avoid large gatherings, demonstrations, and sensitive locations, including military or security installations.
- Nationals should register with their embassies or travel registries for emergency contact, including Spain's "Registro de viajeros" and the Swedish travel list, with help available from the Embassy in Cairo, including for arrivals from Sudan.
- Be prepared for sudden movement restrictions or curfews imposed by local authorities.
- Keep embassy and 24/7 emergency contacts available if consular help is needed, as the Embassy of Spain in Cairo offers an emergency phone line for serious cases only.
- Travelers should ensure they have valid documentation, sufficient funds, and appropriate insurance, noting that costs related to extended stays, medical care, or onward travel are generally borne by the individual.
- Travelers must show proof of entry stamp to obtain an exit stamp; overstays may result in departure fines.
- Most international flights continue operating, though some Middle East carriers have reduced services; alternative routing via nearby European countries may be used for onward travel.

Nearest accessible land borders:

- **Israel–Egypt (Taba crossing):** Taba is the most referenced land crossing; however, operating hours and access conditions may change at short notice, and temporary closures remain possible. It currently remains open.
- **Gaza–Egypt (Rafah crossing):** Rafah is closed or highly restricted, with access subject to specific Egyptian authorization; it is not considered a reliable route for onward travel.
- **Libya–Egypt:** Border regions are generally restricted or under military control, and overland crossings are strongly discouraged;
- **Sudan–Egypt borders** Sudan–Egypt crossing remains open but long queues and multi-hour delays have been reported.
- Some border points with Israel and Palestine may close with little notice due to security conditions.
- Embassy assistance is not available at the Rafah crossing, and travel to or from Gaza remains discouraged.



Stranded Travelers & Overland Movement Considerations

Entry, visa, & border considerations:

Travelers considering any overland movement should verify visa eligibility in advance, including:

- Applicable visa type (e-visa, visa on arrival, or embassy-issued visa)
 - Canadians may obtain e-visa or 30-day visa on arrival (USD cash).
- Passport validity requirements (commonly at least six months); passport cards are not accepted.
- Domestic transfer via Cairo from Sinai airports requires a pre-purchased regular Egyptian visa; Sinai-only visas are insufficient.
- Tourist visas are required; e-visa or visa on arrival is generally available, with cash payment in US dollars required for visas on arrival. A visa does not guarantee entry.
- Proof of entry stamp is required to exit Egypt; overstays, purpose violations, or unauthorized movement may result in fines, penalties, or expulsion.
- Evidence of prior travel to Israel may cause entry issues in some regional countries.
- Entry, exit, and border rules are decided by Egyptian immigration authorities and can change at short notice, so travelers should check official requirements before any land crossing.
- At the Sudan–Egypt border, valid or expired Swedish passports have reportedly been accepted with a USD 25 visa fee; Egyptian entry rules remain subject to change and confirmation with authorities is advised.
- Entry into Gaza via Erez/Israel prevents exit to Egypt via the Rafah crossing.
- Special rules apply at Taba crossing depending on travel within Sinai.



Work Visa Requirements

Service scope:

- Iraq's official visa framework lists visa categories and sets general entry/arrival obligations (e.g., "Normal Visa" requires notifying the residence directorate after arrival within a specified timeframe)
- Iraq also operates an official electronic visa (e Visa) system under the Republic of Iraq – Ministry of Interior for submitting and tracking visa applications

Application process:

- Entry visa: Iraq's official e Visa system is operated under the Republic of Iraq – Ministry of Interior for visa application submission and tracking
- Work authorization intake (employer-side): Iraq's Ministry of Labour & Social Affairs (MoLSA) provides an official pathway for foreign worker recruitment (استقدام عامل أجنبي) with mandatory employer compliance conditions

Eligibility & conditions:

- Employer compliance (MoLSA): The employer must have the business/project covered under social security, and for each foreign worker requested there must be an Iraqi worker already covered (with listed exceptions such as domestic worker/assistant)
- Worker location rule (MoLSA): The foreign worker must be outside Iraq (in their home country) at the time of processing
- Data responsibility (MoLSA): The applicant/employer is responsible for accuracy of data and accepts legal consequences for manipulation/forgery
- Entry visa (MOI e-Visa): The official e Visa portal indicates applicants need a valid passport and a digital photo to apply online and receive the e Visa electronically

Extension rules / post arrival obligations:

- Post arrival obligation: Holders of a Normal Visa must notify the residence directorate within the specified timeframe stated by MOFA after arrival

Fees (indicative):

- The official e Visa portal states the application includes online payment of the visa fee

Core documents:

- For entry (e-Visa): Valid passport and digital photo
- For MoLSA foreign worker intake: Employer compliance evidence tied to social security coverage and Iraqi worker coverage, plus accurate declarations as required by MoLSA conditions



Iraq Advisory

On May 2, Qatar Airways announced the resumption of its passenger flights to Baghdad, Basra, and Erbil in Iraq, starting on May 10.

On April 27, Kirkuk International Airport announced the resumption of flights between Ankara and Kirkuk, effective January 5, 2027, following a temporary suspension, with schedules expected to gradually return to normal.



Cross-Border Travel Advisory

Recent Developments

- **Sweden**: Sweden advises against all travel to Iraq due to deteriorated security.

Ongoing Measures

- **Australia**: Do not travel to Iraq; extreme security risks and ongoing threats.
- **Canada**: Avoid all travel to Iraq due to ongoing military activities.
- **Denmark**: Severe, unpredictable Middle East security; threats to civilians, infrastructure, US-linked sites.
- **Germany**: Travel to Iraq warned against due to highly volatile security situation.
- **India**: Exercise heightened vigilance and avoid non-essential travel; rely on official communications.
- **Ireland**: Do Not Travel to Iraq; highest level of travel warning.
- **Italy**: Travel to Iraq remains discouraged; airspace reopened with possible disruptions.
- **Japan**: Heightened vigilance urged globally due to worsening Middle East situation.
- **Netherlands**: Red travel code; do not travel to Iraq; extremely dangerous.
- **New Zealand**: Advises do not travel to Iraq due to volatile security and terrorism threats.
- **Norway**: Severe volatile security situation; risk of attacks and unrest; avoid sensitive locations.
- **Singapore**: Advises to defer all travel to region due to escalating Middle East security situation.
- **South Korea**: Heightened security threats in Iraq; avoid infrastructure, bridges, crowds' areas..
- **Spain**: Travel to Iraq discouraged; airspace closed and security situation highly unstable.
- **Switzerland**: Travel to Iraq and Kurdistan region discouraged due to escalating insecurity.
- **UK**: FCDO advises against all travel to Iraq.
- **US**: Do not travel to Iraq; leave immediately.



Exit & Consular Support Measures

- **Australia**: Airspace closed; flights suspended; consular services extremely limited; emergency contacts provided.
- **Canada**: Leave earliest opportunity; embassy suspended; contact Ottawa Emergency Watch Centre.
- **Denmark**: No full Bahrain travel advisory; warns situation serious/unpredictable and provides hotline guidance.
- **Germany**: German embassy staff relocated; Germans advised to leave if safely possible.
- **India**: Emergency Consular Services operational 24x7; helplines available; Iraqi airspace open.
- **Ireland**: If in Iraq, consider leaving if safe; consular assistance extremely limited.
- **Italy**: Italian embassy and consulates operational; visas services temporarily suspended.
- **Japan**: Contact embassies or Japan MFA if assistance needed.
- **Netherlands**: Embassy closed to public; leave Iraq if safely possible.
- **New Zealand**: Depart if possible; consular assistance limited with no evacuation planned.
- **Norway**: Airspace open; situation may change rapidly; contact airlines; check insurance.
- **Singapore**: No representation; register eRegister and contact MFA Duty Office if needed.
- **South Korea**: Recommend departure except essential personnel; contact embassy if incidents occur.
- **Spain**: Register with embassy; consular capacity limited during heightened regional tensions.
- **Sweden**: Embassy closed; consular assistance severely limited; emergency contact via UD-Jour.
- **Switzerland**: Use available commercial transport; Swiss assistance may be limited or unavailable.
- **UK**: Consular support limited; some staff withdrawn; follow alerts and local advice.
- **US**: Overland routes open; limited flights; routine consular services suspended; contact embassy.



Stranded Travelers & Overland Movement Considerations

Measures for stranded travelers and residents:

- Travelers in Iraq should closely monitor security developments and follow instructions issued by local authorities, including shelter guidance during alerts.
- During attacks or air-raid warnings, individuals should shelter indoors, stay away from windows, move to internal or reinforced rooms where possible, and avoid non-essential movement near sensitive sites or large gatherings.
- Travelers should remain prepared for rapid evacuation or departure, ensure access to food, water, essential medicines, and keep communication devices charged.
- Travelers should ensure that their travel documents have sufficient remaining validity, particularly when transiting through other countries or crossing land borders.
- Nationals are encouraged to register with their government travel registries and keep contact details updated, including the use of mobile travel-alert apps where available.
- Commercial airspace remains closed / severely restricted; departure by commercial flights is uncertain; travelers should plan for overland movement only and potential rapid evacuation.
- Non-essential personnel are strongly advised to leave Iraq promptly; stay in secure facilities, avoid military sites, hotels, demonstrations, and high-risk locations.
- Consular support is extremely limited; some embassies have relocated operations outside Iraq and assist remotely.
- Emergency assistance may be accessed via home-government crisis hotlines where available.
- Monitor local and international media for rapidly evolving security updates.

Nearest accessible land borders:

- **Türkiye:** The Ibrahim Khalil crossing is frequently referenced as a potential exit route, particularly from the Kurdistan Region, though operating status may change without notice.
- **Jordan (Tarbil), Saudi Arabia (Arar), and Kuwait (Safwan):** Land borders are referenced as possible exit options; however, closures, congestion, heightened controls, or advance coordination requirements may apply.
- **High-risk routes:** Northern and western border areas, including routes toward Syria, are considered dangerous and may pose detention or movement risks.
- Land borders toward Jordan, Türkiye, Saudi Arabia, and Kuwait remain open.
- Some crossings may be temporarily closed or restricted (including the Safwan/Kuwait crossing); travelers must verify status immediately before travel.



Stranded Travelers & Overland Movement Considerations

Entry, visa & border considerations:

- **Iraq:** An electronic visa is generally required in advance for entry; visas on arrival are not standard.
- Electronic visas must be obtained before travel via the official e-Visa portal.
- Canadian passport holders require a visa to enter Iraq; obtain before air travel.
- **Kurdistan Region:** A separate Kurdistan Region visa applies and is valid only within the KRI; a distinct Iraqi visa is required to enter Federal/Central Iraq.
- Exiting Iraq or the Kurdistan Region without a valid visa may result in fines or penalties.
- **Passport validity:** Typically, at least six months; travelers should carry visa documentation or certified copies where required. Emergency passports may not be accepted for entry.
- **Document restrictions:** Passports showing Israeli visas or stamps may result in refusal of entry or additional screening.
- Travelers exiting Iraq by land must meet the entry requirements of the onward country (Türkiye, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, or Kuwait).
- Entry and exit decisions remain discretionary and may change without notice; requirements should be confirmed with official authorities or airlines before overland travel.
- Travelers should verify visa and insurance conditions due to rapidly shifting exit options.
- Iraqi authorities may treat Norwegian citizens of Iraqi origin as Iraqi citizens, which can affect entry, exit, and consular assistance.
- Since 2 March 2025, EU passport holders must obtain Federal Iraq visas online; no airport visa on arrival.
- A Federal Iraq visa allows entry into the Kurdistan Region; a Kurdistan-issued visa does not allow entry into Federal Iraq.



Work Visa Requirements

Service scope: Israel permits foreign nationals to work only under an employer sponsored work permit, with immigration authority exercised by the Population and Immigration Authority (Ministry of Interior) and consular processing handled by Israeli missions abroad.

Application process: The Israeli employer submits a work permit request to the Population and Immigration Authority; once approved, the foreign worker applies for a B/1 Work Visa at an Israeli consulate abroad and must attend a personal interview before visa issuance.

Eligibility & conditions:

- Valid job offer from an Israeli employer acting as sponsor
- Work permit approval must be obtained before visa application
- Applicant must be over 18 years old
- Passport generally valid for at least two years at time of application
- Criminal clearance and medical examinations are required
- Employment without a valid B/1 visa and work permit is not permitted

Extension rules:

- B/1 Work Visas are typically issued for up to one year initially
- Renewable, subject to continued employer sponsorship and Interior Ministry approval
- Cumulative stay is limited under applicable foreign worker regulations and sector rules

Fees (indicative):

- Government and consular fees apply for work permit approval and visa issuance, payable by the inviting employer, in accordance with Population and Immigration Authority procedures

Core documents: Application for entry visa, passport, photographs, criminal clearance certificate, birth certificate, medical test confirmation, and employer sponsored work permit approval.



Israel Advisory

On May 12, the European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) extended its flight warning for Israel and the Middle East until May 27, while easing guidance for Israel and Gulf states to “heightened caution” with ongoing risk assessments.

On May 7, TAP Air Portugal airline announced the suspension of its flights to and from Israel, until May 31.



Cross-Border Travel Advisory

Ongoing Measures

- **Australia**: Do not travel to Israel due to volatile security situation
- **Canada**: Avoid all travel to Israel, Palestine, and Jerusalem due to conflict.
- **Denmark**: Free buses offered due to reduced flights; security risks during transport.
- **France**: Travel to Israel and Palestine remains discouraged for French nationals.
- **Germany**: Warns against Gaza, West Bank, north Israel; advises against other regions.
- **Ireland**: Do not travel to Israel; significant risks and avoidance advised.
- **Italy**: Exercise maximum caution; security extremely unstable in Israel and Palestinian territories.
- **Japan**: Heightened Middle East tensions; exercise vigilance worldwide, especially Middle East.
- **Netherlands**: Red advisory; do not travel to Israel due to dangerous security situation.
- **New Zealand**: Do not travel due to military conflict and unpredictable security situation.
- **Norway**: Norway advises against all travel to Israel.
- **Singapore**: Singaporeans advised to defer travel and avoid high-risk areas in Israel.
- **South Korea**: Monitor situation; avoid risk areas; heightened tensions; travel warnings in effect.
- **Spain**: Travel undertaken at traveler’s own risk; health, security risks exist.
- **Sweden**: UD advises against all travel to Israel amid serious security risks.
- **Switzerland**: Travel to Israel is discouraged due to conflict and security risks.
- **UK**: FCDO advises against all travel to Israel and Palestine.
- **US**: Security situation severe; departures difficult; limited flights; shelter-in-place advised.



Exit & Consular Support Measures

- **Australia**: Advise departure if safe; online passports open; consular assistance available.
- **Canada**: Leave if safe; register with Canadians Abroad; limited consular assistance.
- **Denmark**: Shuttle buses to Egypt/Jordan require signup; follow airline and authority guidance.
- **France**: Flights resumed; borders open; follow alerts; shelter during alarms; register Fil d'Ariane.
- **Germany**: Germans should leave Gaza/West Bank; consular help in Gaza nearly impossible.
- **Ireland**: Citizen's present should consider leaving; consular support extremely limited.
- **Italy**: Contact embassy and consulate emergency numbers for assistance if needed.
- **Japan**: Register travel, share itineraries, contact embassies or Japanese consular services.
- **Netherlands**: Embassy cannot assist; advised to leave if safely possible.
- **Norway**: Contact Norwegian MFA; register in Reiseklar for updates.
- **Singapore**: Contact embassy or MFA duty office for assistance if needed.
- **South Korea**: Monitor embassy notices; report incidents; emergency contact numbers provided.
- **Spain**: Register travel details with Foreign Ministry for emergencies.
- **Sweden**: Ben Gurion operating; limited flights; no assisted departures; land exit information provided.
- **Switzerland**: Swiss nationals advised to depart via commercial transport; consular help limited.
- **UK**: Limited outbound flights; assistance forms; Gaza exits closed; embassy operating.
- **US**: Departures limited; land exit options; embassy buses; emergency passports available.



Stranded Travelers & Overland Movement Considerations

Measures for stranded travelers and residents:

- Travelers in Israel should closely monitor security developments and strictly follow instructions from Israeli authorities, particularly the Home Front Command.
- Air raid warnings and sirens require immediate action; individuals should move to the nearest protected shelter and remain there until advised otherwise.
- Movement should be minimized, and travelers should avoid large gatherings, demonstrations, and sensitive locations, including military, security, and certain foreign government facilities.
- Commercial flights from Ben Gurion Airport are gradually resuming, but schedules remain subject to short-notice changes; travelers should reconfirm flights directly with airlines.
- Flight disruptions and cancellations are widespread; capacity is reduced and travelers must confirm status directly with airlines, noting Ben Gurion Airport is currently limited to one departing flight per hour.
- Nationals are encouraged to register with their respective government travel registries (e.g., DFAT, Registration of Canadians Abroad, Reiseklar, UD Resklar/Svensklistan) for direct updates and emergency contact.
- Travelers should keep travel documents accessible, ensure phones and power banks are charged, and prepare for possible prolonged sheltering.
- Travelers should ensure that their travel documents have sufficient remaining validity, particularly when transiting through other countries or crossing land borders.
- Travelers should avoid listed US companies and nearby areas referenced in security alerts and regularly check embassy safety updates harm/incidents immediately using provided emergency numbers.
- Embassies are not organizing assisted departures; consular services may be limited, and travelers should plan independently without relying on evacuation flights.
- Governments are not running evacuation flights and travelers should rely on commercial options.



Stranded Travelers & Overland Movement Considerations

Nearest accessible land borders:

- **Jordan:** Crossings including Allenby/King Hussein Bridge, Jordan River/Sheikh Hussein, and Arava/Yitzhak Rabin may be used, subject to delays, restrictions, or sudden closures.
- **Egypt:** The Taba / Menachem Begin crossing is referenced as an exit option, and is reporting operating 24 hours, subject to Egyptian entry conditions, fees, and possible sudden restrictions.
- **Gaza:** The Rafah crossing is closed to civilian exits.
- All land crossings remain subject to Israeli and neighboring authority controls.
- Crossings between Israel and Palestine / West Bank are highly restricted and controlled by Israeli authorities; Allenby Bridge remains the primary crossing route, with elevated security risk.

Entry, visa & border considerations:

- All visa-exempt foreign nationals must obtain ETA-IL pre-authorization prior to arrival; approval may be revoked for security reasons.
- Foreign nationals should reconfirm ETA-IL or visa requirements before arrival; Israeli citizens must enter and exit on an Israeli passport, and Palestinian ID holders may require Palestinian travel documents; certain visas have been automatically extended for limited periods
- **Jordan:** A visa is required; e-visa is recommended, and visas may be available at some border crossings; passport validity rules apply.
- **Egypt:** A Sinai tax is required at Taba; a visa is required for stays beyond the Sinai area or exceeding 15 days..
- **Passport validity:** Typically, three to six months, depending on nationality and visa type.
- **Special categories:** Palestinian ID holders and certain dual nationals are subject to specific crossing and entry/exit restrictions; Ben Gurion Airport may not be permitted in such cases.
- Road travel to border crossings may carry heightened security risks, and travelers should assess conditions immediately before movement.
- Entry and exit decisions remain discretionary and may change without notice; travelers should confirm requirements before attempting overland travel.
- Travelers should expect border-specific taxes, visa-on-arrival fees, and Sinai-related charges in Egypt or Jordan; cash payment may be required, and e-visa options may expedite processing.
- ETA-IL pre-approval is mandatory for visa-free travelers prior to arrival; free B2 tourist visas are issued for up to three months with a minimum six-month passport validity, and certain visas expiring between 22 February and 31 May have been extended by three months.



Work Visa Requirements

Service scope: Jordan permits foreign nationals to work only after obtaining a work permit issued by the Ministry of Labour, followed by a work/entry visa and residency authorization administered by the Ministry of Interior.

Application process: The Jordanian employer acts as sponsor and submits the work permit application to the Ministry of Labour; once approved, the employee applies for a Work Visa through the Ministry of Interior's e Visa services and completes medical and residency formalities after entry.

Eligibility & conditions:

- Valid job offer from a Jordan registered employer
- Employer must demonstrate unavailability of qualified Jordanian nationals for the role
- Passport valid for at least six months
- Foreign worker must generally be outside Jordan at the time of permit issuance
- Employment without a valid work permit is not permitted under Jordanian labour rules.

Extension rules:

- Work permits are typically issued for one year
- Renewable annually through the Ministry of Labour while employment continues
- Residency permits are renewed in line with the approved work permit via Ministry of Interior services

Fees (indicative):

- Government fees apply for work permit issuance and renewal, varying by sector and permit category, and are payable through official Ministry channels

Core documents: Passport copy, Ministry of Labour work-permit approval letter, employment contract, and additional documents such as medical reports or professional licenses where required.



Jordan Advisory

On May 6, Flyadeal Airlines announced cancellation of scheduled flights to Peshawar, Amman and Damascus until May 31, citing current developments across the Middle East and beyond.

On April 23, Jazeera Airways announced resumption of direct operations Terminal 5 (T5) at Kuwait International Airport to Amman, Beirut, Mumbai, Cairo, Kochi, Damascus, Delhi, Dubai and Istanbul planned from Kuwait for the first week.



Cross-Border Travel Advisory

Ongoing Measures

- **Australia**: Reconsider need to travel to Jordan due to volatile security situation.
- **Canada**: Avoid non-essential travel to Jordan due to regional security risks.
- **Denmark**: All non-essential travel to Jordan is now advised against.
- **France**: Avoid US Embassy area and exercise reinforced vigilance due to tensions
- **Germany**: Travel to Jordan strongly discouraged due to highly volatile regional security.
- **Ireland**: Avoid non-essential travel to Jordan; regional security risks persist.
- **Japan**: Global warning about potential attacks and need for heightened vigilance.
- **Netherlands**: Jordan code orange; travel only if necessary; regional security unpredictable.
- **New Zealand**: Avoid non-essential travel to Jordan due to regional strikes and instability.
- **Norway**: Advises avoiding non-essential travel due to serious regional security situation.
- **Singapore**: Advises to defer all travel to Middle East; take precautions if in Jordan.
- **South Korea**: Monitor regional developments; exercise caution; check safety and flight information.
- **Spain**: Postpone travel; regional conflict increases security risks throughout Jordan.
- **Sweden**: Sweden advises against non-essential travel to Jordan due to security deterioration.
- **Switzerland**: Avoid non-urgent travel to Jordan; some regions fully advised against.
- **UK**: Advises against all travel near Syria border; essential travel elsewhere.
- **US**: Americans urged to remain vigilant, avoid protests, follow local authorities.



Exit & Consular Support Measures

- **Australia**: Leave Jordan if flights available; embassies advise avoiding US Embassy area.
- **Canada**: Consider leaving via commercial flights; register with Canadians Abroad service.
- **France**: Verify flights; register on Ariane; contact embassy for difficulties.
- **Germany**: Register in crisis list; flights, borders may face sudden restrictions.
- **Ireland**: Airspace closures possible; register with authorities; emergency contacts provided.
- **Japan**: Contact nearest embassy and register travel details for emergencies.
- **Netherlands**: Embassy assistance limited if problems occur.
- **Norway**: Commercial flights operating; contact airlines; register with Reiseklar; UD emergency contact.
- **Singapore**: Defer all travel to Middle East; take precautions if in Jordan.
- **South Korea**: Embassy will share updates via website, messaging groups, and SNS.
- **Spain**: Spaniards may depart using commercial flights; register with embassy.
- **Sweden**: Travelers must register address with Jordan police if staying over 14 days.
- **UK**: Keep departure plans updated; contact airline; follow local siren guidance.
- **US**: Embassy Amman resumes limited consular services by appointment; staff ordered depart.



Stranded Travelers & Overland Movement Considerations

Measures for stranded travelers and residents:

- Travelers should closely monitor security developments and follow instructions issued by Jordanian authorities, including siren alerts and shelter guidance.
- During alerts, shelter indoors immediately, store adequate food, water, medications, and essentials; stay away from windows, and wait for the all-clear; seek overhead cover and shelter in place where possible.
- Limit nonessential movement and avoid demonstrations, crowds, and military or security sites.
- Commercial flights continue; flight schedules may change at short notice—confirm status directly with airlines and proceed to the airport only with a confirmed booking.
- Nationals are encouraged to register with their government travel registries (e.g., Norway's "Reiseklar" app) to receive official updates and enable consular contact.
- Keep travel documents accessible, devices charged, and essential supplies and medication available; enroll in STEP and avoid scams.
- Travelers should ensure their travel documents allow sufficient remaining validity for onward transit through other countries or land borders.
- Travelers should ensure that their travel documents have sufficient remaining validity, particularly when transiting through other countries or crossing land borders.
- In emergencies, contact Jordanian emergency services (911) and relevant consular hotlines. Embassy provides 24/7 Task Force assistance.
- Shelter in place if instructed by local authorities during missile or drone incidents.

Nearest accessible land borders:

- All border crossings are reported open, but conditions may change rapidly.
- **Israel / West Bank:** Crossings including Sheikh Hussein/Jordan River, King Hussein/Allenby Bridge, and Wadi Araba may face delays, reduced hours, or sudden closure.
- **Saudi Arabia:** Borders are reported open, though operating hours and access conditions may change without notice.
- **Syria and Iraq:** Border areas are considered high risk; avoid all travel within 5 km of these borders; operations may be highly militarized and subject to sudden closure.
- Land border operations may have reduced hours or close unpredictably; verify status before travel.



Stranded Travelers & Overland Movement Considerations

Entry, visa & border considerations:

- Visa required for most travelers; visas on arrival are issued only at international airports, Sheikh Hussein Bridge, and Wadi Araba (Aqaba) crossing; No visas are issued at King Hussein/Allenby Bridge; travelers must obtain a visa in advance.
- **Passport validity:** Generally, at least six months.
- Visa fees may be payable in cash at land border crossings.
- Norwegian nationals require a visa, obtainable online, via the Jordan Pass, or on arrival where available.
- Stays over 14 days may require police registration; fines may apply if not completed.
- Emergency passports are not accepted for entry.
- Land departures are subject to an exit fee of 10 JOD when leaving via land borders (not airports).
- Border entry and exit decisions are discretionary and subject to change and crossing eligibility may vary by nationality and security conditions.



Work Visa Requirements

Service scope: Kuwait issues employer-sponsored work visas allowing foreign nationals to enter, reside, and work in the State of Kuwait. Employment visas are issued by the Ministry of Interior (MOI), with work-permit administration handled by the Public Authority of Manpower (PAM).

Application process:

- The Kuwaiti employer (sponsor) first obtains a work permit approval from PAM
- Based on this approval, an entry visa to work is issued by the MOI (civil/private sector commonly under Article 18, government sector under Article 17)
- Visa issuance and tracking are handled through MOI systems, with employment-visa records digitally managed in coordination with PAM

Eligibility & conditions:

- Valid job offer and sponsorship from a Kuwaiti employer
- Employer must have an approved labor quota / manpower need from PAM
- Passport valid for at least six months (often longer validity required by embassies)
- Employment is restricted to the sponsoring employer and approved profession
- Employment without a valid work visa and permit is not permitted under Kuwaiti law

Extension rules:

- After entry, the work visa is converted into a residency permit (Iqama) linked to employment
- Residency/work permits are renewable through PAM and MOI as long as employment continues
- Renewals and updates are processed via PAM e-services (As-hal platform) and MOI residency services

Fees (indicative):

- Entry-to-work visas include MOI visa fees and PAM work-permit fees, with amounts varying by sector and nationality
- Official portals confirm fees are payable during permit issuance and renewal processes

Core documents:

- Work permit issued by PAM
- Valid passport and photographs
- Sponsor documentation (company license, signature authorization, sponsor passport/civil ID)
- Medical fitness certificate issued by approved authorities
- Police clearance / no-criminal-record certificate where required by embassy or nationality



Kuwait Advisory

On May 10, Kuwait Airways announced rescheduling of some flights during May as it transitions operations from Dammam airport in Saudi Arabia back to Kuwait International Airport.

On May 4, Kuwait International Airport's Terminal 4 resumed operations for Kuwait Airways and expanded its network to 29 destinations with the addition of 13 routes.



Cross-Border Travel Advisory

Ongoing Measures

- **Australia**: Do not travel to Kuwait; volatile security situation, attack risks.
- **Canada**: Avoid all travel to Kuwait due to ongoing military activities.
- **France**: Travel to Kuwait discouraged; limit movements; follow alerts, avoid border areas.
- **Germany**: Travel warning for Kuwait amid volatile regional military tensions.
- **India**: Indian nationals in Kuwait advised to remain vigilant and follow local guidance.
- **Ireland**: Avoid non-essential travel to Kuwait due to regional security risks.
- **Italy**: Airspace closed; stay sheltered and follow local authority guidance.
- **Japan**: Heightened vigilance worldwide amid escalating Middle East security situation.
- **Netherlands**: Kuwait code orange; travel only if necessary; regional security unpredictable.
- **New Zealand**: Do not travel to Kuwait due to deteriorating Middle East security.
- **Norway**: All travel to Kuwait discouraged; security serious and unpredictable
- **Singapore**: Advised to defer all travel to the Middle East region.
- **South Korea**: Monitor regional tensions; exercise heightened personal safety vigilance in Kuwait.
- **Spain**: Airspace closed; postpone all travel to Kuwait until further notice.
- **Sweden**: Exercise caution; follow local authorities; security situation may change rapidly.
- **Switzerland**: Avoid tourist and non-essential travel to Gulf states due to regional risks.
- **UK**: Advises against all but essential travel to Kuwait.
- **US**: Remain vigilant, follow local authorities; monitor updates amid regional instability.



Exit & Consular Support Measures

- **Australia**: Limited flights resumed; Australians can register with DFAT for updates.
- **Canada**: Shelter in place if instructed; leave early if safe; register abroad.
- **Denmark**: Land border to Saudi open; assess risks and obtain visa.
- **France**: Airspace closed; flights canceled; possible road exit to Saudi; embassy contact.
- **Germany**: Register ELEFAND; flights unavailable; visas suspended; follow authorities.
- **Ireland**: Register with authorities; shelter if advised; limited Irish consular assistance.
- **Italy**: Land border to Saudi Arabia open; visa and route guidance provided.
- **Japan**: Contact embassies; register on Tabi-Regi; share itineraries; and follow official updates.
- **Netherlands**: Embassy assistance limited if problems occur.
- **Norway**: Flights suspended; contact UD center, register; Kuwait Airways operates from Dammam.
- **Singapore**: No representation; register eRegister and contact MFA Duty Office if needed.
- **South Korea**: Contact Kuwait embassy or consular call center in emergencies.
- **Spain**: Register with consulate, stay informed, avoid gatherings, carry documentation.
- **Sweden**: Follow local guidance; borders open; register on Swedish list and app.
- **Switzerland**: Stay updated, follow authorities' instructions, avoid demonstrations and risky areas.
- **UK**: Airspace reopened; limited flights; Saudi land borders open; embassy contact required.
- **US**: Airport reopening; limited flights; Saudi land departures; exit permits required; consular suspended.



Stranded Travelers & Overland Movement Considerations

Measures for stranded travelers and residents:

- Travelers in Kuwait should monitor security developments closely and follow instructions issued by local authorities, including shelter guidance during alerts.
- Where warnings are issued, individuals should shelter indoors immediately, remain away from windows, and use inner or hardened rooms where possible.
- Nonessential movement should be limited, and travelers should avoid large gatherings, demonstrations, and military or security related sites.
- Commercial flights may be disrupted or suspended; travelers should check directly with airlines or travel agents for departure options.
- Kuwait airport has resumed limited flights; land transport to Saudi Arabia available.
- Shelter in place during strikes and avoid government, military, energy, and US-linked sites.
- Overland departure via Saudi Arabia has been referenced as an alternative where flights operate, subject to border access and visa eligibility.
- Travelers should prepare contingency plans and should not rely on government-assisted evacuation or departure arrangements, as such support may not be available.
- Nationals are encouraged to register with their government travel registries and keep contact details updated for emergency outreach.
- Automatic visitor visa extensions announced; residents may require exit permits via the Sahel app.
- Avoid the Burgan oil field area; companies have been advised to evacuate employees and residents should not approach within 1 km of affected facilities.
- Embassies urge vigilance, STEP enrollment, and monitoring official communications; emergency embassy contacts available.
- Travelers should keep travel documents, exit permits (where applicable), and devices accessible, and ensure essential supplies and medication are available.
- Travelers should ensure that their travel documents have sufficient remaining validity, particularly when transiting through other countries or crossing land borders.
- Register with national crisis systems (e.g., DFAT, ELEFAND, Reiseklar) for security and evacuation updates; keep phones and backup batteries charged.
- Take air-raid warnings seriously; seek shelter indoors and away from windows; reduce outdoor movement and follow local authorities' instructions.



Stranded Travelers & Overland Movement Considerations

Nearest accessible land borders:

- **Saudi Arabia:** Land crossings including Al Nuwaisib / Al Khafji and Al Salmi / Ar Ruqi are reported as open, though operating conditions may change without notice.
- **Iraq:** Border areas are military restricted; crossings may close at short notice and unauthorized movement is prohibited.
- Travelers by bus from Kuwait to Saudi Arabia can use Nuwaiseeb-Khafji or Salmi-Raqi border crossings before flying to a third country.
- Air departure currently impossible due to airspace and airport closures; Kuwait Airways temporarily operates flights from Dammam, Saudi Arabia.
- Saudi Arabia border crossings open 24/7; valid Saudi visa required.
- Abdali crossing to Iraq may close without notice; Iraq border area is military restricted.
- Land travel options remain available between Kuwait and Saudi Arabia via commercial transport.
- Travel to Saudi Arabia is strongly discouraged; border status should be verified before movement.

Entry, visa, & border considerations:

- **Kuwait entry:** Valid visa required (eVisa, embassy, or visa on arrival); passport validity up to six months.
- Kuwait has suspended visa issuance for all travel purposes; entry currently impossible without an existing residence permit.
- **Exit permits:** Required for certain residents (including Article 17 or 18 visas) via the Sahel app; unresolved fines or disputes may restrict departure.
- **Saudi Arabia onward travel:**
 - Australian passport holders require a valid Saudi visa when departing Kuwait by land.
 - US citizens may apply for a Saudi eVisa, visa on arrival, or transit visa for onward travel via Saudi Arabia.
 - Visa on arrival travelers entering Kuwait via Saudi land borders must contact the British Embassy 24 hours in advance.
- **Document restrictions:** Israeli stamps/Israel travel, non-standard passports, or missing M/F marker may cause refusal; passport valid 6 months required.
- Travelers on emergency documents or short-validity passports must contact relevant embassies before border travel.
- **Vehicles:** Overland travel by car may require proof of ownership/registration and valid Saudi insurance; vehicles must be owned and registered to the traveler and pedestrian crossing is not permitted; visitor visas have been automatically extended by one month.
- Non-residents require a visa and prior embassy coordination; entry may be refused with Israeli passport stamps.



Work Visa Requirements

Service scope: Royal Oman Police issue the Short Work Visa (6M) (Visa Type Code: 24B), allowing short term residency in Oman for employment purposes under a commercial sponsor, based on an approved labor permit.

Application process: Visa applications are submitted through the Royal Oman Police eVisa system. The visa is issued by the General Directorate of Passports and Civil Status – Royal Oman Police, based on valid supporting documents and an approved labor permit issued by the Ministry of Manpower.

Eligibility & conditions:

- Applicant must be at least 21 years old at the time of application
- Passport must be valid for a minimum of 6 months on entry to Oman
- Must not hold any other current Oman visa
- Must not have been previously rejected for an Oman visa
- Possession of a valid visa does not guarantee entry; entry is subject to the discretion of the Royal Oman Police officer at the port of entry
- If the laborer exits Oman and wishes to return under a new sponsor before the first visa expires, a No Objection Certificate (NOC) from the first sponsor is required

Extension rules: Residency under this visa can be renewed. The new visa must be renewed with the same duration as the old visa.

Fees (indicative):

- OMR 20,000 – visa fee

Core documents:

- Digital photograph of the applicant
- Copy of the applicant's passport
- Original labor permit issued by the Ministry of Manpower (at first issuance)
- Copy of medical fitness certificate endorsed by the Oman Ministry of Health (required for certain nationalities only)



Oman Advisory

On April 23, the Foreign Ministry, in coordination with the relevant authorities in the Sultanate of Oman, continued to implement the necessary arrangements to facilitate the return of Omani citizens who are outside the country through coordinated land and air transfers.



Cross-Border Travel Advisory

Ongoing Measures

- **Australia**: Reconsider travel to Oman due to volatile regional security situation.
- **Canada**: Avoid non-essential travel to Oman due to regional security risks.
- **France**: Maintain heightened vigilance, follow local authorities, monitor reliable news sources.
- **Germany**: Urgently advises against travel to Oman; security volatile, flight disruptions possible.
- **India**: Avoid unnecessary travel; remain vigilant and follow local Omani advisories.
- **Ireland**: Exercise high caution due to regional tensions and possible flight disruptions.
- **Japan**: Global caution; US-related facilities may be targeted; heightened vigilance urged.
- **Netherlands**: Orange code for specific ports; yellow elsewhere with security risks.
- **Norway**: Security situation serious; flights disrupted; avoid sensitive sites; monitor developments.
- **New Zealand**: Avoid non-essential travel due to strikes, conflict risk and regional instability.
- **Singapore**: Follow local authorities; exercise caution due to regional instability and safety risks.
- **South Korea**: Heightened risk in Oman; avoid infrastructure; filming prohibited; monitor security.
- **Spain**: Travel to Iraq discouraged; airspace closed and security situation highly unstable.
- **Sweden**: Exercise special caution in Oman; avoid affected areas; follow authorities.
- **Switzerland**: Avoid non-essential travel to Dhofar, Al Wusta, Musandam, Masirah.
- **UK**: Exercise increased caution due to missile, drone activity, flooding, regional escalation.
- **US**: Remain vigilant; shelter in place only in Musandam region.



Exit & Consular Support Measures

- **Australia**: Australians advised to leave if safe; emergency consular assistance available.
- **Canada**: Commercial flights operating; consider leaving; register with Canadians Abroad.
- **Denmark**: Confirm flights, stay reachable, contact Danish authorities for urgent assistance.
- **India**: Embassy provides contact numbers and guidance; visa details outlined.
- **Ireland**: Contact Irish Embassy Riyadh for assistance; monitor updates and airline changes.
- **Italy**: Land border open; 14-day entry stamp; overstay fines apply.
- **Japan**: Register travel plans and contact nearest embassy for assistance.
- **Netherlands**: Airspace may close; emergency services 9999; Dutch embassy 24/7.
- **Norway**: Contact UD 24/7; register Reiseklar; embassy support available.
- **Singapore**: eRegister trip; contact Singapore embassy or MFA duty office.
- **South Korea**: Level 3 warning; postpone travel; departure advised; borders open; emergency contacts.
- **Spain**: Register with embassy; consular capacity limited during heightened regional tensions.
- **Sweden**: Register on Svensklistan; use UD Resklar; contact airlines; embassy via Riyadh.
- **Switzerland**: Contact Swiss embassy if disasters disrupt communications.
- **UK**: Flights operating; Khasab suspended; contact UK consular hotline; travel only with booking.
- **US**: Non-emergency staff ordered to depart; flights operating; services limited.



Stranded Travelers & Overland Movement Considerations

Measures for stranded travelers and residents:

- Travelers should exercise heightened caution due to recent attacks and an unstable regional security environment, closely monitoring local developments and following instructions issued by Omani authorities, including shelter guidance if advised.
- In higher-risk areas (including parts of Duqm and southern Oman near Salalah), individuals should shelter in place and avoid movement if conditions deteriorate.
- During security incidents or alerts, remain indoors, stay away from windows, and move to internal or protected areas where possible; outside Muscat, shelter-in-place guidance may be issued.
- Commercial flights continue to operate, though delays or cancellations may occur, travelers should contact airlines directly for status updates and avoid airports without confirmed bookings.
- Airspace closures remain possible; flights may be cancelled or delayed; travelers should stay in contact with airlines or travel organizers for updates.
- Muscat International Airport remains open; Oman Air has increased international departures.
- Nonessential movement should be limited, and travelers should avoid military installations, crowded areas, and other high-risk locations.
- Nationals should register with their government travel registries and keep contact details updated for emergencies, including US embassy registration, Sweden's Svensklistan or UD Resklar app, and Italy's "Dove Siamo Nel Mondo" or "Viaggiare Sicuri" apps with notifications enabled.
- Travelers should ensure access to essential supplies, keep travel documents accessible, maintain charged communication devices, and prepare contingency plans without relying on government assistance.
- Travelers should ensure their travel documents have sufficient remaining validity, particularly when transiting through other countries or crossing land borders; travelers are responsible for their own travel decisions and costs.
- Consular services are limited during conflict; travelers should plan independent contingency options.
- Stranded travelers should contact their nearest overseas mission for consular assistance; emergency contacts may include MFA duty offices or local emergency numbers where applicable.



Stranded Travelers & Overland Movement Considerations

Nearest accessible land borders:

- **UAE:** Land border crossings (including Hatta, Wajajah, and Al Ain) are reported as open, though intermittent closures, congestion, or delays may occur, particularly for non-Omani nationals.
- Oman Air temporary service counters are operating at three UAE- Oman land borders; UAE-origin passengers are advised to arrive well in advance (up to 12 hours).
- **Saudi Arabia:** Overland travel is referenced as possible, subject to security assessment, border controls, and onward visa eligibility.
- **Yemen:** The land border is very dangerous and strongly discouraged; crossing is difficult and volatile.
- Travelers should verify real-time border status before attempting any overland movement, as conditions may change without notice.

Entry, visa, & border considerations:

- **Oman entry:** Many nationalities are visa-exempt for short stays (commonly up to 14 days) or eligible for visa on arrival or e-Visa, subject to conditions.
 - Dutch, Norwegian, and Italian passport holders are eligible for short-stay entry of up to 14 days, subject to nationality-specific conditions.
 - Singapore passport holders may enter visa-free for up to 14 days with confirmed accommodation and onward/return tickets; others must apply via the Royal Oman Police e-Visa system
- Tourist visas are available for 10 or 30 days (30-day extendable) via e-Visa or on arrival, subject to nationality; no tourist visa is required for stays of up to 14 days, while business and student visas are mandatory.
- **Passport validity:** Typically, at least six months is required.
- **Overstay penalties:** Overstays may be fined (commonly cited as 10 OMR per day).
- **Land entry:** Entry stamps may grant a limited stay depending on nationality; re-entry may require a new visa.
- **Vehicles:** Crossing by rental vehicle may require insurance valid in Oman.
 - Valid insurance is required when crossing from the UAE with a rental car.
- **Document restrictions:** Some passports may face entry restrictions based on travel history or passport markers (e.g., gender marker "X").
- Entry and exit rules are set by Omani authorities and may change without prior notice; travelers should confirm requirements with official authorities or airlines before travel.
- Travelers should reconfirm current visa and entry rules with the Royal Oman Police or relevant authorities, as requirements may change at short notice.



Work Visa Requirements

Service scope: Pakistan grants Work Visas to eligible foreign nationals with a valid job offer, with applications submitted online and assessed under Government of Pakistan procedures.

Application process: Sponsoring companies employing expatriates must submit the Work Visa application via the official Pakistan e-Visa portal (NADRA), selecting either Entry (new visa) or Extension (in-country extension) as applicable.

Eligibility & conditions:

- Eligible applicants are foreign nationals with a valid job offer meeting Pakistan's work-visa requirements
- If applying from a third country (not home country), proof of legal residence in that country is a mandatory upload
- For Extension cases, applicants must upload proof of a valid Pakistani visa being extended and the Pakistan entry stamp

Extension rules:

- Work Visa applications can be made as Entry (new) or Extension (for those already residing in Pakistan with a valid visa)
- The BOI guidance indicates entry/extension can be granted with multiple entries, and extension is processed through the same online pathway for eligible in-country applicants

Fees (indicative):

- Pakistan visa fees are charged on a reciprocal basis by nationality, with "Work/Business" fee schedules published officially (country-specific) by DGI&P and on some MOFA mission pages

Core documents (as per BOI work-visa guidance):

- Company employment: Passport, photograph, employment letter from SECP-registered company showing salary and assignment duration, and sponsorship/guarantee letter from the company
- Single person-owned business employment: Passport, photograph, employment letter/agreement (salary & duration), employer sponsorship/guarantee letter, tax certification of employer, and employer CNIC/passport.
- Supporting items often requested as needed include company covering letter, sponsor focal person details, CV, company registration documents (SECP), and FBR NTN certificate



Pakistan Advisory

On May 6, Flyadeal Airlines announced cancellation of scheduled flights to Peshawar, Amman and Damascus until May 31, citing current developments across the Middle East and beyond.

On April 23, Kuwait Airways announced the resumption of its flights to 17 destinations from Kuwait International Airport, including London, Istanbul, Lahore, Dhaka, Mumbai, Thiruvananthapuram, Chennai, Kochi, Delhi, Manila, Cairo, Riyadh, Jeddah, Colombo, Guangzhou, Beirut, and Damascus.



Cross-Border Travel Advisory

Recent Developments

- **UK:** Extensive travel restrictions, terrorism risk, heightened security, regional tensions persist.

Ongoing Measures

- **Australia:** Reconsider travel to Pakistan due to terrorism, kidnapping, unrest, volatile security.
- **Canada:** Exercise high caution nationwide; avoid all travel to multiple regions.
- **France:** Exercise great caution; avoid gatherings and crowded public places in Pakistan.
- **Germany:** Warning issued against travel to several Pakistan regions due conflict.
- **Ireland:** High caution advised due to terrorism, border volatility, protests, and crime.
- **Japan:** Global caution: Iran-backed threats; heightened vigilance, especially Middle East.
- **Netherlands:** Avoid red zones; travel only if necessary to orange regions.
- **Norway:** Avoid travel to Kashmir border areas, Azad Kashmir, Baluchistan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.
- **South Korea:** Exercise heightened personal safety in Pakistan during holidays due security risks.
- **Spain:** Advisory reminds travelers of health risks, terrorism threats, and general travel caution.
- **Sweden:** Sweden advises against travel to multiple regions; heightened terrorism, unrest.
- **Switzerland:** Switzerland warns of volatile security, terrorism, conflict, and regional travel dangers.
- **US:** Level 3 reconsider travel; terrorism, crime, kidnapping, armed conflict risks.



Exit & Consular Support Measures

- **Australia**: Australian consular assistance available; emergency numbers provided; High Commission may close.
- **Canada**: Consular assistance limited in high-risk areas; exit permits, polio proof required.
- **France**: Verify flight status due to suspended connections with Gulf countries.
- **Germany**: Follow security instructions, monitor media, update crisis-list contact details.
- **Ireland**: Visa and passport validity required; embassy emergency contact provided.
- **Japan**: Register in Tabireg; contact nearest embassy; share itineraries for emergencies.
- **Norway**: Register travel; contact embassy or emergency center for assistance.
- **South Korea**: Submit residence information, register overseas, contact embassy emergency numbers.
- **Spain**: Travelers advised to register details for assistance during emergencies abroad.
- **Sweden**: Register on Svensklistan; contact UD duty officer in emergencies.
- **Switzerland**: Swiss nationals advised to contact embassy or Helpline EDA during emergencies.
- **UK**: Insurance may be invalidated; consular support limited; self-arranged departure advised.
- **US**: Ordered non-emergency US staff families to depart Lahore, Karachi.



Stranded Travelers & Overland Movement Considerations

Measures for stranded travelers and residents:

- Travelers in Pakistan should monitor security developments closely and follow instructions issued by local authorities, as conditions can change rapidly.
- Curfews, roadblocks, and communication disruptions (mobile or internet shutdowns) may be imposed at short notice.
- Nonessential movement should be avoided, particularly demonstrations, large gatherings, and areas near international borders, and sensitive areas such as the Red Zone.
- Flight disruptions are possible due to airspace or security developments; travelers should confirm flight status directly with airlines.
- Nationals are encouraged to register with their embassies or government travel registries for updates and emergency contact and maintain a communication plan with family or employer.
- Travelers should keep passports, visas, and essential supplies accessible and maintain personal contingency plans; if unable to depart, remain indoors, stock essentials, and comply with curfews.
- Travelers should ensure that their travel documents have sufficient remaining validity, particularly when transiting through other countries or crossing land borders.
- Consular support may be limited, especially in high-risk areas. US assistance is mainly available in Islamabad, Lahore, and Karachi. Korean nationals can contact the Korean Embassy, Karachi Consulate, or the 24-hour Consular Safety Call Center in Seoul. Keep emergency contacts accessible.
- Emergency consular assistance available via the Canadian High Commission or the Ottawa Emergency Watch and Response Centre; assistance may be limited in high-risk or restricted areas.
- Movement restrictions and area closures are expected in Islamabad during April 9–10; submit stay information and complete overseas national registration to receive alerts.

Nearest accessible land borders:

- **India:** Wagah (Pakistan) - Atari (India) is the only official land crossing for non-citizens; travelers must confirm border status before travel.
- **Afghanistan:** Border areas are highly restricted; foreigners are generally prohibited except at designated official crossings; avoid all travel within 50 km of the Afghanistan border.
- **China:** Khunjerab Pass (Karakoram Highway) is an official crossing, subject to seasonal and security related conditions; avoid areas within 10 km of the border except at official crossings.
- **Iran:** Overland travel is strongly discouraged.
- Border access is permitted only at official crossings and may change without notice.
- **Kartarpur Corridor:** Closed for crossings (Sikh pilgrims).



Stranded Travelers & Overland Movement Considerations

Entry, visa, & border considerations:

- Visa required in advance for most travelers, including via the official online visa system.
- **Passport validity:** typically, at least six months.
- Visa-free entry permitted for holders of a valid NICOP card.
- Overstaying visas may result in fines, detention, or denied departure, or legal action/exit-permit requirements.
- Travel may be limited to areas listed on the visa; some regions require special permits (NOCs).
- To exit Pakistan, travelers must hold a valid visa, passport, or eligible Pakistani ID. An entry stamp is required to exit the country.
- Proof of polio vaccination may be required for stays exceeding four weeks.
- Health Declaration Form may be required on arrival; carry a yellow fever certificate if applicable.
- An Indian visa is required to enter India; no visa services are available at the land border crossing.



Work Visa Requirements

Service scope: The Ministry of Interior (MOI) issues employer-sponsored work entry visas allowing foreign nationals to enter Qatar for employment and complete post-arrival formalities, including medical examination, biometric registration, and conversion to a Residence Permit (Qatar ID) under employer sponsorship.

Application process: Work entry visa applications are submitted by the Qatari employer through the Ministry of Interior's electronic systems. Upon approval, the visa permits travel to Qatar, after which the employee completes medical and biometric procedures, and the employer applies for issuance of the Residence Permit (Qatar ID).

Eligibility & conditions:

- Valid passport with a minimum validity of six months
- Confirmed job offer and signed employment contract with a Qatari employer
- Employer sponsorship and approved work visa quota
- Medical fitness clearance after arrival in Qatar
- Biometric (fingerprint) registration with the Ministry of Interior
- Entry visa issued solely for the purpose of completing residence and work authorization

Extension rules: The work entry visa itself is short term and is not extended as a standalone visa. Upon arrival, it must be converted into a Residence Permit (Qatar ID). Residence permits are typically issued for one year (or in line with the employment contract) and are renewable by the employer before expiry through the Ministry of Interior. Individuals cannot independently extend work visas; renewals are sponsor driven.

Fees (indicative):

- QAR 200 - 500 – work entry visa government processing fee (varies by nationality and job category)
- QAR 300 – Residence Permit (Qatar ID) issuance fee
- QAR 100 - 200 – medical examination fee at approved centers

Core documents: Passport copy and personal photograph, signed employment contract or job offer, educational or professional certificates where applicable, and police clearance certificate for selected professions. All employer related approvals and submissions are handled by the sponsor.



Qatar Advisory

On May 2, Qatar Airways announced the resumption of its passenger flights to Baghdad, Basra, and Erbil in Iraq, starting on May 10.

On May 1, Kuwait Airways announced the resumption of operations from Terminal 4 at Kuwait International Airport, effective May 3, under the second phase of its rollout, adding 13 destinations to reach a total of 29, including London, Paris, Dubai, Madrid, Milan, Bangkok, Istanbul, Jeddah, Riyadh, Doha, Bahrain, and Cairo.



Cross-Border Travel Advisory

Ongoing Measures

- **Australia**: Do not travel to Qatar due to volatile regional security situation.
- **Canada**: Avoid all travel to Qatar due to ongoing military activities.
- **France**: Travel to Qatar discouraged; maintain high vigilance and follow authorities.
- **Germany**: Travel to Qatar strongly discouraged due to highly volatile regional security.
- **India**: Indians advised caution, follow authorities, stay indoors, avoid military areas.
- **Ireland**: Advise against all but essential travel to Qatar.
- **Italy**: Postpone non-essential Qatar travel; limited airspace; exercise caution locally.
- **Japan**: Heightened caution due to escalating Middle East tensions.
- **Netherlands**: Qatar coded orange; travel only, if necessary, due to risks.
- **New Zealand**: Do not travel to Qatar due to escalating military conflict risks.
- **Norway**: Security situation serious; flights affected; exercise caution and avoid sensitive sites.
- **Singapore**: Singapore advises deferring all travel to Qatar due to regional instability.
- **South Korea**: Enhanced personal safety guidance amid Middle East security risks.
- **Spain**: Advise postponing travel to Qatar due to regional conflict.
- **Sweden**: Swedes in Qatar urged vigilance; security unpredictable; limited flights.
- **Switzerland**: Avoid tourist and non-essential travel to Qatar due to regional risks.
- **UK**: FCDO advises against all but essential travel to Qatar.
- **US**: Level 3: Reconsider travel; remain vigilant; prepare to shelter in place.



Exit & Consular Support Measures

- **Australia**: If in Qatar, plan to leave; register with DFAT; limited embassy services.
- **Canada**: Leave while commercial options available; register Canadians Abroad; consular services limited.
- **Denmark**: Cancel Danskerlisten if departed; contact Vagtcenter for urgent help.
- **France**: Shelter advised; limited flights via Doha; Saudi land border open.
- **Germany**: Register in crisis list; travel bans possible over disputes.
- **India**: Embassy functioning; 24x7 helpline and email available for assistance.
- **Ireland**: Commercial flights operating; register with authorities; embassy support via Abu Dhabi.
- **Italy**: Saudi land border open; visa required; embassy contacts and traveler registration.
- **Netherlands**: Embassy 24/7 support; follow authorities; possible airspace closure.
- **New Zealand**: 24/7 consular assistance available; ETDs not accepted for entry/exit.
- **Norway**: Contact airline for departures; flight conditions change quickly.
- **Singapore**: Singaporeans should eRegister and contact embassy or MFA for assistance.
- **South Korea**: Advise early departure if war expected; emergency embassy contacts provided.
- **Spain**: Limited Qatar Airways departures; land border with Saudi open remains.
- **Sweden**: Register Svensklistan; limited flights; contact UD-jouren; land exit possible.
- **Switzerland**: Follow local authorities; travel disruptions possible from airspace restrictions.
- **UK**: Register presence; follow shelter guidance; commercial flights available; embassy assisting.
- **US**: Commercial departures available; routine consular services suspended; emergency assistance continues.



Stranded Travelers & Overland Movement Considerations

Measures for stranded travelers and residents:

- Travelers in Qatar are advised to monitor developments closely and follow instructions issued by Qatari authorities, particularly during periods of heightened alert.
- Where advised, individuals should shelter in place with essential supplies on hand, as flight operations may be disrupted or suspended at short notice; travelers should confirm flight status directly with airlines and avoid airports without confirmed departures.
- Some authorities advise leaving Qatar now if commercial flights are available and it is safe to reach the airport, as airspace may open or close at short notice.
- Monitor local and international media, including Qatari Ministry of Interior social media channels, for real-time updates; ensure emergency supplies and access to essential medication are maintained.
- Airports may operate only for limited hours, with few special or non-scheduled flights; additional non-scheduled flights have been announced—travelers should check airlines directly.
- Nonessential movement should be limited, and travelers should avoid demonstrations, large gatherings, and sensitive locations, including military or security facilities.
- Nationals are encouraged to register with their government travel registries to receive updates and enable consular outreach.
- Spanish nationals should register as transients with the Spanish Embassy in Qatar, while the British Embassy is coordinating with Qatari authorities and offering support to vulnerable nationals through embassy helplines.
- Travelers should keep travel documents readily accessible, maintain charged communication devices, and prepare independent contingency plans not reliant on government assisted departures.
- Travelers should ensure that their travel documents have sufficient remaining validity, particularly when transiting through other countries or crossing land borders.
- Visitor support services (e.g., Qatar Tourism hotline) and local healthcare services remain available.
- Expect possible flight disruptions due to airspace restrictions or cancellations; follow local authority guidance and contact relevant embassies for consular assistance (e.g., Irish or Swiss nationals).



Stranded Travelers & Overland Movement Considerations

Nearest accessible land borders:

- **Saudi Arabia:** The Abu Samra / Salwa land border crossing is referenced as the primary overland exit route when air travel is constrained and is currently reported open.
- While generally reported as open, it may be subject to restricted hours, congestion, or sudden closure.
- Travelers are advised to verify real time border status with local authorities before attempting overland travel and arrange overland travel from Saudi side.
- Overland routes to Saudi Arabia may be used for onward commercial flights, subject to border and visa requirements. Saudi airspace remains open for onward travel.

Entry, visa, & border considerations:

- **Qatar entry:** Many nationalities are eligible for visa free entry or visa on arrival; passport validity of at least six months is commonly required.
 - Some governments advise against travel to or transit through Qatar, including layovers, due to the volatile security situation; travelers may be unable to depart once in country.
 - Spanish citizens do not require a visa and receive an entry permit on arrival with a valid passport.
 - German nationals may enter with visa waiver or visa on arrival using regular passport.
 - Irish citizens are eligible for a free 30-day visa waiver on arrival.
- **Health insurance:** Qatar approved health insurance is mandatory for stays exceeding 30 days and for certain pre arrival visa categories.
- **Document restrictions:** Emergency or provisional passports, passports with gender marker “X”, or other nonstandard documents may not be accepted for entry or transit.
- British nationals using Emergency Travel Documents or passports with less than six months validity should contact the British Embassy Riyadh or the Consulate in Jeddah for guidance.
- **Saudi Arabia onward travel:** Travelers exiting Qatar by land must meet Saudi visa and entry requirements; some Saudi visas may restrict mode of entry; refer to Saudi Arabia “Entry requirements” when crossing the land border.
- Swedish citizens require a visa to enter Saudi Arabia; visas may be obtained at the border, though obtaining an e-visa in advance is recommended.
- **Exit conditions:** Travelers must hold valid legal status in Qatar when departing; unpaid debts or legal issues may prevent exit.
- Entry and exit procedures remain subject to immigration authority discretion and may change without notice; travelers should confirm official requirements before attempting overland travel; Qatari authorities may deny entry without explanation.



Work Visa Requirements

Service scope: Saudi Arabia issues a Work (Job) Visa to foreign nationals employed in the Kingdom. The visa permits entry for up to 90 days, during which residence and work permit formalities are completed, enabling long-term employment and residence through issuance of the Iqama.

Application process: The Saudi employer applies for the employment visa with the Ministry of Labor. Upon approval, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) issues a visa authorization number. The applicant then submits the work visa application via the MOFA portal and completes document submission at a Saudi embassy or authorized representation office abroad.

Eligibility & conditions:

- All foreign citizens of all nationalities are eligible to apply, provided they have a valid job offer and a signed employment contract from a Saudi employer
- Applicant must provide personal information and undergo medical screening
- The Saudi work visa is a visit visa permitting a 90 day stay in Saudi Arabia
- During the permitted stay, the visa holder must apply for a Saudi residence permit to continue working and residing in Saudi Arabia
- Foreign nationals engaging only in short term commercial activities (meetings, negotiations, events) must apply for a Saudi business visit visa, not a work visa

Extension rules: The initial work visa allows a stay of up to 90 days. During this period, the employee applies for a residence permit and work authorization (Iqama) with the Ministry of Labor, allowing residence and employment for up to one year, renewable subject to continued employment.

Fees (indicative):

- Fees may range from several hundred dollars to thousands of dollars

Core documents:

- Passport (valid for at least 6 months)
- One recent color photograph (white background)
- Employment contract signed by both parties and certified by MOFA and the Saudi Chamber of Commerce
- Invitation/sponsorship letter issued and certified by MOFA and the Saudi Chamber of Commerce
- MOFA visa referral note (visa number and date)
- Certified and notarized university degree or technical diploma, duly authenticated
- Medical report (issued within the last 3 months) including laboratory tests
- Police clearance certificate (issued within the last 6 months)
- Health insurance issued in Saudi Arabia



Saudi Arabia Advisory

On May 6, Flyadeal Airlines announced cancellation of scheduled flights to Peshawar, Amman and Damascus until May 31, citing current developments across the Middle East and beyond.

On May 1, Kuwait Airways announced the resumption of operations from Terminal 4 at Kuwait International Airport, effective May 3, under the second phase of its rollout, adding 13 destinations to reach a total of 29, including London, Paris, Dubai, Madrid, Milan, Bangkok, Istanbul, Jeddah, Riyadh, Doha, Bahrain, and Cairo.



Cross-Border Travel Advisory

Ongoing Measures

- **Australia**: Reconsider travel to Saudi Arabia due to volatile regional security.
- **Canada**: Avoid non-essential travel to Saudi Arabia due to regional security risks.
- **Denmark**: Advise against all non-essential travel; high risk from missile, drone attacks.
- **France**: Travel to Saudi Arabia discouraged; avoid eastern regions; Red Sea sailing postponed.
- **Germany**: Advises against travel to Saudi Arabia; security highly volatile.
- **India**: Remain vigilant and follow safety guidelines issued by local authorities.
- **Ireland**: Advise against all but essential travel; avoid non-essential travel to Saudi Arabia.
- **Italy**: Advise caution; possible flight disruptions; avoid nonessential travel and sensitive areas.
- **Japan**: Heightened caution due to escalating Middle East tensions.
- **Netherlands**: Avoid Yemen border; rest of Saudi Arabia only for essential travel.
- **New Zealand**: Avoid non-essential travel due to strikes, conflict risk, and instability.
- **Norway**: Serious security situation; advises against non-essential travel, avoid Yemen border.
- **Singapore**: Defer all travel except Jeddah, Makkah, Madinah; remain vigilant.
- **South Korea**: Avoid listed US-linked ICT/AI company sites; minimize outings nearby.
- **Spain**: Advised postponing travel to Saudi Arabia until further notice.
- **Sweden**: Follow alerts; enable government warnings; obey photography restrictions.
- **Switzerland**: Avoid tourist and non-urgent travel due to regional risks and instability.
- **UK**: FCDO advises against travel near Yemen border; caution elsewhere.
- **US**: Reconsider travel; remain vigilant amid missile, drone threats.



Exit & Consular Support Measures

- **Australia**: If in Saudi Arabia, plan departure while commercial flights available.
- **Canada**: Consider leaving while flights operate; register with Canadians Abroad.
- **Denmark**: Contact Global Watch Center; deregister Danskerlisten if departed; consular assistance limited.
- **France**: Register on Ariane; contact French maritime cell; stay in airline contact.
- **Germany**: Register in crisis list; check flights and follow official instructions.
- **India**: Flights operating; embassy and consulate functioning with emergency contacts available.
- **Ireland**: Shelter in place advised; commercial departure possible; limited consular assistance.
- **Italy**: Embassy emergency contacts provided; register presence; visa required; borders open.
- **Japan**: Contact nearest Japanese mission; register travel details for emergencies.
- **Netherlands**: Stranded travelers should complete Crisis Contact Form for assistance.
- **New Zealand**: 24/7 New Zealand consular assistance; embassy contact details provided.
- **Norway**: Contact UD emergency center; register Reiseklar; embassy and emergency contacts provided.
- **Singapore**: Contact Singapore missions; check flights; eRegister for consular assistance.
- **South Korea**: Embassy provides safety assistance; emergency contact numbers provided.
- **Spain**: Spaniards may leave via commercial flights; register with embassy.
- **Sweden**: Temporary visa leniency and exit without fines due to cancelled flights.
- **Switzerland**: Exit may be restricted; consular helpline and embassy assistance available.
- **UK**: Commercial departures available; keep documents updated; embassy helplines provided.
- **US**: Commercial flights available; some airlines suspended; routine consular services suspended.



Stranded Travelers & Overland Movement Considerations

Measures for stranded travelers and residents:

- Travelers are advised to monitor security developments closely and follow instructions issued by Saudi authorities, including shelter guidance during alerts.
- During missile or drone warnings, individuals should shelter indoors immediately, stay away from windows, and limit movement until the situation stabilizes; enable government emergency alerts on cell phones where available.
- Commercial flights continue to operate, though delays or cancellations may occur; travelers should confirm flight status directly with airlines and go to airports only with confirmed bookings.
- Nonessential movement should be limited; and travelers should avoid military installations, sensitive sites, and large gatherings.
- Nationals are encouraged to register with their government travel registries and keep contact details updated for emergency outreach including STEP, Registration of Canadians Abroad, and Svensklistan/UD Resklar where applicable).
- Travelers should shelter in place when instructed, maintain access to food, water, and essential medicines, and plan contingencies without relying on government-led evacuation or assistance.
- Travelers should ensure that their travel documents have sufficient remaining validity, particularly when transiting through other countries or crossing land borders.
- Prepare a personal emergency plan and contingencies without relying on government evacuation or assistance; monitor airline, tour operator, and local authority instructions closely.
- Nationals traveling on emergency documents should contact their embassies/consulates or embassy helplines for advice.
- Temporary visa leniency introduced for visitors affected by cancelled flights; overstayed visas between 8 March - 18 May 2026 may exit without fines, and visa extensions may be arranged via sponsors until 18 May 2026.
- Embassies and consulates are providing limited emergency services only; emergency consular assistance numbers remain available.
- Air connections remain available but may change or be cancelled at short notice; travelers are advised to stay in close contact with airlines and travel companies for exit options.



Stranded Travelers & Overland Movement Considerations

Nearest accessible land borders:

- **Bahrain:** The King Fahd Causeway is a key crossing, subject to visa conditions and short notice restrictions.
- **Jordan, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, and UAE:** Land borders are generally referenced as open, though access and operating hours may change without notice.
- **Iraq:** The Arar crossing is referenced as open for commercial traffic only.
- Additional named crossings referenced: Qatar (Salwa), UAE (Al Batha), Kuwait (Al Khafji, Ar Ruqi); travelers should use only official crossings and expect sudden changes.
- **Yemen border areas:** Travel near the Yemen border is strictly restricted; avoid travel within 30 km and limit non-essential travel within 30–80 km.
- Northern borders near Iraq, including Hafr al Batin and Khafji, are declared “out of bounds”; avoid travel or attempted crossings in these areas.
- Crossing by rented car requires insurance valid in Saudi Arabia.

Entry, visa & border considerations:

- **Valid Saudi visa required;** a visa does not guarantee entry, which remains subject to border authority discretion.
- **Passport validity:** generally, at least six months.
- Tourist e-visa is available online or at selected airports; land-border visas (credit card only) may be slow to process and cost about EUR 100.
- Residents may require valid exit or re entry permits.
- Dual nationality is not recognized; travelers must exit using the passport used for entry.
- Travelers must meet onward visa requirements when exiting Saudi Arabia by land; entry and exit rules are set by Saudi authorities and may change without prior notice.
- Some nationalities may be visa-exempt for short stays (commonly up to 14 days), subject to conditions.
- Temporary visa leniencies apply due to flight disruptions, allowing fine-free overstays and extensions until 18 May 2026.
- Entry may be denied due to travel history, including Israeli or certain regional passport stamps.
- Biometric fingerprints may be required at entry points.
- Travelers using emergency travel documents or passports with limited validity should contact their embassy in Saudi Arabia before onward travel or border crossing.



Work Visa Requirements

Service scope: ICP issues and extends entry permits for employment purposes, enabling foreign nationals to enter the UAE and complete work residency procedures under government, private, or free-zone sponsorship.

Application process: Employers or authorized entities apply digitally via ICP Smart App or ICP Smart Services website, covering submission, data review, document upload (if required), fee payment, and electronic notification.

Eligibility & conditions:

- Passport valid for minimum 6 months
- Valid UAE health insurance
- Entry permit issued for a specific period to complete work residence formalities
- MOHRE certificate required confirming skilled-labor classification and professional level (where applicable)

Extension rules: Work-related entry permits may be extended once or multiple times, subject to ICP approval; 6-month entry permits for completing Golden or Blue Residence procedures may be extended once for an equivalent duration; Entry permits for border areas, truck drivers, ship crew, and pleasure boats are not extendable.

Fees (indicative):

- AED 100 – application fee
- AED 500 – entry permit extension fee
- AED 50 – for extending entry permit validity before arrival in the UAE.

Core documents: Passport and personal photograph, plus employer-related approvals where required.



UAE Advisory

On May 5, EgyptAir [announced](#) the regular operation of all its flights departing from Cairo International Airport to UAE's Dubai, Abu Dhabi and Sharjah in accordance with normal flight schedules.



Cross-Border Travel Advisory

Ongoing Measures

- **Australia**: Do not travel to the UAE due to volatile security situation.
- **Canada**: Avoid all travel to UAE due to ongoing military activities.
- **Denmark**: All non-essential travel to UAE discouraged due to serious security threats.
- **France**: Follow local emergency instructions; remain vigilant after missile and drone alerts.
- **Germany**: Advises against travel to UAE; security highly volatile.
- **India**: Flights suspended; travelers advised to await airline confirmation before moving.
- **Ireland**: Advise against all but essential travel to UAE.
- **Italy**: Postpone non-essential travel; avoid military sites; follow local authorities.
- **Japan**: Heightened caution due to possible attacks linked to Middle East tensions.
- **Netherlands**: Red zones prohibited; elsewhere travel only if strictly necessary.
- **New Zealand**: Advises do not travel due to security deterioration and conflict risk.
- **Norway**: Serious, unpredictable security situation with ongoing attacks in the UAE.
- **South Korea**: Travel level 3 advisory; advises to cancel/postpone UAE travel.
- **Singapore**: Advises deferring travel and registering while monitoring flight disruptions.
- **Spain**: Travel undertaken at traveler's own risk; general security and health cautions.
- **Sweden**: Exercise caution; avoid sensitive sites; follow authorities amid reported air attacks.
- **Switzerland**: Advise against tourist and non-urgent travel to Gulf states.
- **UK**: Avoid all but essential travel; heightened regional security risks.
- **US**: Follow UAE instructions; reconsider travel; prepare for possible aerial threats.



Exit & Consular Support Measures

- **Australia**: Leave if safe; flights limited; emergency consular assistance available.
- **Canada**: Leave while commercial options available; consular assistance limited.
- **Denmark**: Deregister from Danskerlisten if departed; contact Global Watch Center 24/7.
- **France**: Commercial flights available; register on Ariane; follow local authorities.
- **Germany**: Register ELEFAND; consider departure; follow authorities and airline guidance.
- **India**: Emergency helplines provided and visa fines waived during airspace closure.
- **Ireland**: Register with authorities; commercial flights available; embassy contacts provided
- **Italy**: UAE–Oman land border open; 14-day Omani stamp; register with authorities.
- **Japan**: Register with “Tabi-Reji” and contact nearest embassy for assistance.
- **Netherlands**: Contact airline for flights; embassy reachable via 24/7 contact center.
- **New Zealand**: Maintains Do not travel (Level 4) and asks travelers to register plans to receive alerts; notes ongoing disruption risk.
- **Norway**: Contact airline for departures; check insurance; follow local safety advice.
- **Singapore**: Urges citizens to defer travel, eRegister if in the region, and provides UAE mission and MFA duty office contact details.
- **South Korea**: Level 3 warning: cancel or postpone UAE travel; residents advised depart.
- **Spain**: Register in travellers registry for emergency assistance.
- **Sweden**: Commercial flights operating; register Svensklistan; follow airline confirmation before airport.
- **Switzerland**: Swiss consular assistance available; provisional passports refused; consular access not always granted.
- **UK**: Commercial departures available; registration advised; embassy helplines provided.
- **US**: Ordered departure; limited consular services; routine visas suspended.



Stranded Travelers & Overland Movement Considerations

Measures for stranded travelers and residents:

- Travelers in the UAE are advised to monitor local and regional developments closely and follow instructions issued by local authorities; if advised by authorities, shelter indoors immediately due to falling debris risks.
- Commercial flight operations continue, though delays, cancellations, or partial airspace restrictions may occur; travelers should confirm flight status directly with airlines and avoid going to airports without confirmed bookings.
- Nonessential movement should be limited, and travelers should avoid military installations, sensitive sites, and large gatherings; major industrial zones (e.g., KEZAD, Musaffah), and US- or Israel-related institutions; additionally avoid power plants, refineries, bridges, government buildings, and other critical infrastructure.
- Nationals are encouraged to register with their respective government travel registries to receive updates and enable consular outreach during emergencies (e.g., DFAT, Registration of Canadians Abroad, ELEFAND, Dove Siamo Nel Mondo).
- Travelers should maintain contingency plans, keep travel documents accessible, ensure devices are charged, and maintain essential supplies and medication.
- Travelers should ensure that their travel documents have sufficient remaining validity, particularly when transiting through other countries or crossing land borders.
- Transit passengers should remain airside; onward travel may be limited.
- Residents may consider departure of non-essential family members, especially minors and vulnerable persons; heed air-raid warnings and seek shelter if alerted.
- Consular assistance is available via embassies/consulates and 24/7 duty offices, though travelers are advised not to rely solely on government-assisted departures; limited US consular assistance is available via the US Citizen Services Navigation
- Photography, filming, or sharing images of military activity, interceptions, or damage is prohibited and may carry severe legal consequences.
- Embassies in Abu Dhabi and Dubai continue normal operations; shelter-in-place guidance has been lifted but may be reinstated if attacks recur; Airspace partially open; limited commercial flights remain available for departure.

Nearest accessible land borders:

- Oman:** Land crossings commonly referenced include Hatta / Al Wajajah, Khatm Al Shikla (Al Ain), and Khatma Malaha. Borders are reported as open, though congestion or intermittent restrictions may occur; travelers must verify border status and Omani entry eligibility before travel.
- Saudi Arabia:** Entry referenced via Al-Ghuwaifat Port Station; borders may be open but subject to operational changes; travelers must verify real-time status and hold required vehicle insurance.



Stranded Travelers & Overland Movement Considerations

Entry, visa, & border considerations:

- **UAE entry:** Many nationalities are visa exempt or receive visa on arrival (commonly up to 30 or 90 days); passport validity of at least six months is generally required.
- **Document restrictions:** Passports showing gender marker “X”, single name passports, or provisional/emergency passports may be refused entry; passports must display full birthdate and both first and last names; emergency passports are not accepted for UAE entry.
- **Onward travel via Oman:** Travelers must meet Omani visa requirements; drivers may need a valid Oman visa and Oman compliant vehicle insurance; crossing into Oman grants a 14-day tourist stay, and passports are stamped accordingly.
- **Exit restrictions:** Departure may be restricted where legal issues, unpaid fines, debts, or visa overstay remain unresolved.
- Exit bans may be enforced; travelers may need to verify status via police apps or authorities.
- Irish citizens receive a free 30-day visa waiver on arrival; passport cards are not accepted, and temporary passports are not valid for UAE entry (airside transit/exit only).
- Italian citizens may enter visa-free for stays up to 90 days; passport validity must be at least six months
- Australian and Canadian citizens receive tourist visas on arrival; Canadians must hold passports valid for at least six months.
- German citizens require a biometric passport valid for six months; visa-free stay up to 90 days in 180 days; entry restricted to passports with “M” or “F” gender markers.
- Spanish passport holders are visa-exempt; passport validity minimum six months; maximum stay 90 days within 180; overstays incur fines and may block exit; tourist visas do not permit work and residence visas are required for long stays.
- Entry and exit rules are set by Emirati authorities and may change without prior notice.
- Register with your government’s travel registry (e.g., “Tabi Reji”) and contact the nearest embassy for assistance when needed.
- British nationals exiting the UAE via Saudi Arabia using emergency or short-validity passports must contact the British Embassy Riyadh or Consulate Jeddah before travel.
- Routine US visa services in the UAE remain suspended; travelers should keep passports valid and contact the embassy if documents are lost or expiring.



Regional Security and Transport Update

Recent Developments

- The US has renewed and formalized calls for allied support to secure the Strait of Hormuz, seeking participation in a new multinational maritime security framework to restore freedom of navigation as commercial remains severely constrained.
 - Iran issued warnings to France and the UK and dismissed Western proposals related to maritime security arrangements in the Strait, underscoring Tehran's rejection of external involvement in Hormuz transit oversight.
 - Iran has warned of "long and painful strikes" in response to further US action, while US authorities are assessing additional military options, indicating continued escalation risk.
 - The US has proposed a "Maritime Freedom Construct" coalition to reopen shipping, though participation remains conditional and linked to the end of hostilities, and launched "Project Freedom" to guide stranded ships through the Strait, which has since been paused amid continued US-Iran contestation over control and unresolved security risks.
 - The US is actively considering extending the temporary Jones Act waiver beyond its current 60-day term, reflecting sustained domestic energy and shipping pressures linked to the continued Strait of Hormuz disruption.
- UN response to Hormuz disruption: Bahrain-led efforts at the UN Security Council formally failed after China and Russia vetoed a watered-down resolution, leaving no UN-mandated framework for coordinating protective measures or vessel escorts.
- Iran allows only "non-hostile" vessels to transit the Strait of Hormuz under strict coordination and Iran-defined security rules, with passage potentially permitted for vessels linked to "friendly" countries such as China, Russia, India, Iraq and Pakistan, reinforcing Tehran's selective and increasingly institutionalized control despite the near-halt in commercial traffic.
 - Iran has moved to institutionalize expanded transit rules by citing wartime security gains, signaling that enhanced control measures are intended to be sustained rather than temporary.
 - Iran announced the creation of a new state body to oversee and enforce shipping controls in the Strait of Hormuz, formalizing IRGC-led oversight into a dedicated civilian-administrative structure.
 - IRGC unveiled a control map of the Strait of Hormuz and expanded it into a wider "strategic zone" (~200–300 miles, Jask–Siri), reinforcing Iran's authority over transit routes.
 - Iran's Parliament Security Committee approved a Strait of Hormuz "management plan" asserting control over transit, with unimplemented and legally disputed tolls.
 - Iran announced new maritime rules to strengthen control over key routes in the Arabian Gulf and the Strait of Hormuz, extending oversight across ~2,000 km of coastline.
 - OFAC warns that Iranian demands for "safe passage" payments through the Strait create sanctions risk for both US and non-US persons, regardless of payment method.



Regional Security and Transport Update

- Saudi Arabia restored full capacity on its East-West crude oil pipeline (7 million barrels/day), allowing sustained oil exports via the Red Sea as Hormuz disruption persisted,
- The Hormuz blockade has renewed strategic concerns over Asia's reliance on the Strait of Malacca, highlighting wider vulnerability to chokepoint disruption rather than any immediate operational threat to Malacca-area shipping.
- Iran has institutionalized a permit-based transit and toll regime for the Strait of Hormuz, requiring prior approval, detailed disclosures, and potentially significant transit fees (reported up to USD 2 million).

Ongoing Measures

- Maritime threat levels remain assessed as Critical, with global carriers, insurers, and operators maintaining high-risk classifications and refraining from resuming regular Hormuz transits despite brief, non-sustained vessel movements.
- IMO continues to prioritize safe navigation and evacuation planning; guidance remains cautious while transit conditions remain uncertain.
 - IMO reports no safe transit through the Strait of Hormuz, with around 20,000 seafarers stranded, and confirms progress on a humanitarian evacuation plan subject to safety assurances.
 - The IMO called for an internationally coordinated safe-passage framework and urged states to facilitate crew changes and crew renewals, while reaffirming freedom of navigation under international law.
- Iran stated that Strait of Hormuz transits require prior authorization from the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) and routing via Iranian-approved lanes, while US advisories and shipping groups warned that mine risks remain unclear.
- Commercial shipping remains severely constrained, with limited, selective transits under full AIS visibility and traffic volumes well below pre-conflict levels, indicating no meaningful reopening.

Mobility, Travel & Immigration Impact

- **Crew mobility** remains disrupted, with delays to crew changes, offshore rotations, and repatriation for maritime, energy, and logistics personnel due to suspended or delayed vessel movements.
- **Business travel and assignment mobility** linked to ports, offshore facilities, shipping, and logistics infrastructure continues to face delays and cancellations, driven by transport unavailability rather than changes to immigration policy.
- **Delays or missed arrivals** are increasing the risk of unplanned overstays or missed entry windows for foreign nationals dependent on maritime or related air travel, potentially requiring case-by-case immigration discretion.
- **No Gulf state has announced visa or immigration rule changes directly linked to the Strait of Hormuz**, though authorities acknowledge that transport disruption may affect compliance with standard entry and exit timelines

Thank you



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