Middle East Immigration Tracker

August 10, 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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01 Bahrain

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 labor 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.

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01 Bahrain

Bahrain Advisory

On August 6, Etihad Airways announced resumption of its flights to Kuwait and Bahrain from August 8, following weeks of disruption caused by heightened security concerns and airspace restrictions.

On August 6, Qatar Airways announced the resumption of its flight to Bahrain, Erbil, and Kuwait from August 8.

On July 30, Qatar Airways announced temporary suspension of passenger flights to Bahrain, Erbil, and Kuwait until and including August 7.

On July 20, Bahrain Civil Aviation Affairs confirmed hostile drones targeted air navigation equipment during the Iranian attack, but air traffic operations remained unaffected, and flights continue to operate normally.

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01 Bahrain

Cross-Border Travel Advisory

Recent Developments

- **Australia**: Do not travel to Bahrain due to regional security deterioration.
- **Canada**: Avoid all travel to Bahrain due to ongoing military activities.
- **Denmark:** Security situation unstable; monitor developments and follow authorities.
- **France**: Vigilance in Bahrain; follow authorities; avoid military sites, seek shelter.
- **Ireland**: Avoid non-essential travel due to serious, potentially life-threatening risks.
- **Germany:** Strongly advises against travel to Bahrain.
- **Italy:** Maintain high caution; monitor security and flight disruptions.
- **Japan**: Avoid non-essential travel; consular assistance extremely limited.
- **Netherlands**: Do not travel to Bahrain; red travel advisory issued.
- **New Zealand**: Avoid non-essential travel to Bahrain due to regional military conflict.
- **Norway**: Avoid non-essential travel; Middle East security situation serious.
- **South Korea:** Koreans in Bahrain advised to depart soon if possible.
- **Sweden**: Advises against non-essential travel to Bahrain due to security situation.
- **Switzerland**: Avoid tourist and non-urgent travel to Bahrain.
- **UK**: FCDO advices against all but essential travel to Bahrain.
- **US**: Reconsider travel; heightened regional tensions and potential escalation.

Ongoing Measures

- **India:** Advised nationals in Bahrain to remain vigilant amid regional situation.
- **Singapore**: Advises deferring travel, eRegistering, and monitoring flight disruptions.
- **Spain**: Advises postponing travel and highlights land exit via Saudi Arabia.

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01 Bahrain

Exit & Consular Support Measures

- **Australia:** Australian consular assistance limited; embassy support via Riyadh.
- **Canada:** Prepare independent departure plans; register Canadians Abroad for updates.
- **Denmark:** Contact Foreign Ministry emergency center for urgent assistance.
- **France:** Follow local instructions; monitor flights; contact embassy.
- **Germany:** Register in crisis list; follow authorities and security guidance.
- **Ireland:** Contact Embassy in Saudi Arabia for assistance.
- **India**: India grants visa extensions, overstay waivers, and free exit permits.
- **Italy:** Register presence; follow authorities; contact embassy in emergencies.
- **Japan**: Obtain insurance; contact Embassy in UAE for assistance.
- **Netherlands:** Embassy cannot assist; those present should leave if safely possible.
- **New Zealand:** Register travel plans; contact details for New Zealand Embassy provided.
- **Norway:** Register travel; contact MFA emergency center if affected.
- **Singapore:** Advises deferring travel; asks citizens to e-Register and check airlines for flight schedules/restrictions.
- **South Korea**: Contact consular call center or embassy during emergencies; numbers provided.
- **Spain:** Register with Spanish Embassy in Kuwait; consular emergency contact provided.
- **Sweden:** Register on Swedish list, use UD Resklar, follow authorities, contact airline.
- **Switzerland:** Follow local authorities; expect flight disruptions and airspace closures.
- **UK:** Review departure plans; follow local authorities; monitor disruptions.
- **US**: Consider departing; enroll in STEP; monitor flights.

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01 Bahrain

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.
- Follow local authority instructions; limit nonessential movement and shelter indoors during security alerts.
- Monitor local/international media and sign up for official travel alerts (e.g., FCDO updates).
- Airspace has reopened and flight operations are resuming; verify flight status directly with airlines and follow local authority guidance.
- Keep departure plans under review and consider early outbound travel if safe.
- Travelers should keep identity and travel documents readily accessible; contact details must be updated to enable consular outreach; 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.
- Use embassy emergency helplines for urgent assistance and maintain communication with family/contacts.

Nearest accessible land borders:

- **Saudi Arabia –**The King Fahd Causeway is currently open; however, travelers should expect possible delays, enhanced security screening, or short-notice operational changes and should verify the latest status before travel.
- Once in Saudi Arabia, onward flights may be available from Dammam, Riyadh, or Jeddah, subject to conditions.
- Authorities have announced a maritime link with Saudi Arabia to support connectivity during disruptions.

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01 Bahrain

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
- Visa on arrival and eVisa options are generally available; however, travelers must verify current eligibility in advance
- Overland travel requires valid vehicle registration, ownership, and insurance; rules may change at short notice; check official sources before departure
- Incomplete or incorrect paperwork may result in denial of entry; check requirements with embassies/consulates if unsure
- Certain dual nationals may need to use Bahraini documents for entry/exit; departure may be restricted for individuals with unresolved legal or business disputes
- Transit stays are covered by the travel warning; journalists require prior special visa and overstays may trigger exit bans
- Bahrain has banned its citizens from traveling to Iran and Iraq; violations may result in legal action
- Entry/exit regulations can change quickly; ensure compliance with passport validity and avoid overstay penalties

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02 Egypt

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 sponsorship and labor-market compliance requirements apply.
- Passport validity, medical clearance, and authenticated professional qualifications are required

Validity & renewals:

- Work permits are generally issued for one to five years, depending on permit tier
- 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.

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02 Egypt

Egypt Advisory

On July 14, Air Cairo cancelled flights to and from Abha, Saudi Arabia, after Abha International Airport was closed following a Houthi missile and drone attack.`

Cross-Border Travel Advisory

Recent Developments

- **Australia**: Exercise high caution; higher restrictions apply in some areas.
- **Canada**: Exercise high degree of caution due to tensions, terrorism, security risks.
- **Germany:** Partial travel warning; avoid Sinai north, borders, Sahara; exercise caution nationwide.
- **Japan**: Heightened caution due to escalating Middle East security situation.
- **Spain**: Egypt generally stable; avoid North Sinai/Gaza border; follow standard precautions.
- **UK**: Avoid travel to some Egypt regions; regional tensions persist.
- **US**: Exercise increased caution; consider departing if escalation occurs.

Ongoing Measures

- **Denmark**: Exercise caution nationwide; avoid desert, Sinai, and border areas.
- **France**: Heightened vigilance recommended for nationals abroad due to Urgence attentat.
- **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.
- **Norway**: Situation tense; avoid North Sinai; monitor developments; exercise caution.
- **South Korea:** Egypt stable; flights mostly operating; monitor embassy updates; Sinai visa requirements.
- **Sweden**: Avoid all travel to North Sinai; non-essential elsewhere restricted areas.
- **Switzerland**: Advises heightened caution in Egypt due to terrorism and regional tensions.

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02 Egypt

Exit & Consular Support Measures

- **Australia:** Contact Australian Embassy in Cairo for consular assistance.
- **Canada:** Contact Canadian Embassy or emergency assistance if needed.
- **Denmark:** Urged to register on Danskerlisten and follow local guidance.
- **Germany**: Register in crisis list; follow authorities and security updates.
- **Ireland:** Register with embassy; avoid restricted areas; emergency numbers provided.
- **Italy:** Italian nationals are advised to register travel details via the Farnesina portal.
- **Japan:** Register travel plans; follow authorities and monitor updates.
- **Norway:** Register travel; embassy and emergency contact details provided.
- **South Korea:** Multiple flight options; embassy, hotline, emergency contacts provided.
- **Spain**: Register traveller details before travel for emergencies.
- **Sweden:** Embassy assistance from Cairo; register on Swedish list; Rafah support limited.
- **Switzerland**: Swiss embassy assistance available; Helpline EDA; tourist police emergency number.
- **UK:** Contact British Embassy Cairo for support if needed.
- **US:** Contact airlines; enroll STEP; embassy assistance contacts provided.

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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
- Follow advice of local authorities during security incidents or disruptions and monitor media to verify border/flight status; be prepared to change plans
- Nationals should register with their embassy or official travel registry, keep consular emergency contact details readily available, and contact the relevant embassy or consular emergency hotline for assistance when arriving from or departing conflict-affected areas such as Sudan
- 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

Nearest accessible land borders:

- **Israel–Egypt (Taba crossing):** Remains open but may close or have restricted hours at short notice; travel near most border areas is discouraged except the Taba coastal zone
- **Gaza–Egypt (Rafah crossing):** Rafah is closed or highly restricted, with access subject to specific Egyptian authorization and not considered a reliable route; embassy assistance is unavailable, and travel to or from Gaza remains discouraged
- **Libya–Egypt:** All travel within 20 kms of this border is strictly advised against, except for the town of El Salloum, which is permitted solely for essential travel purposes
- **Sudan–Egypt borders** Sudan–Egypt crossing remains open but long queues and multi-hour delays have been reported

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02 Egypt

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)
    - Tourist visa required; e-visa or visa on arrival generally available (approx. USD 30), with payment typically required in USD cash or non-Egyptian credit card
- 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
- Land border entry fees may apply, including additional onward travel costs to Cairo; travelers should carry sufficient USD as ATMs at borders may not function
- 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
- 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
- Limited visa-free stay (up to ~15 days) applies only to certain Sinai resort areas; full visa required for travel beyond

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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): Requests for recruitment/employment of foreign workers must be submitted to the Directorate of Labor and Vocational Training by employers, licensed recruitment offices, or foreign workers through their employers

Eligibility & conditions:

- Employer compliance (MoLSA): Employers must demonstrate that no suitable Iraqi candidate is available, maintain foreign workers at no more than 50% of the project workforce, provide evidence of financial capacity to pay wages, and comply with applicable labor, social security, and work permit requirements
- 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
- For requests involving three or more foreign workers, a specialized committee may conduct field visits to verify project details, workforce composition, and the actual need for foreign labor.

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 foreign worker recruitment/work permit applications: Evidence of lawful residence status, medical fitness documentation, qualifications/experience records, and employer documentation demonstrating financial capacity and compliance with MoLSA requirements.

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03 Iraq

Iraq Advisory

On August 10, Iraqi Airways announced the resumption of its Basra-Delhi route between Iraq and India, starting August 18, which was suspended due to regional situation.

On August 6, Qatar Airways announced resumption of its flight to Bahrain, Erbil, and Kuwait from August 8.

On July 29, Iraqi Airways announced the resumption of direct flights between Baghdad and Moscow from August 4, after a 5-month suspension imposed due to regional security concerns.

On July 24, Erbil International Airport confirmed that flight operations were continuing without disruption and that conditions at the airport remained normal, amid concerns over regional air traffic and security developments.

On July 18, General Director of Erbil International Airport announced that the airspace is open to aircraft traffic, and there is no closure.

On July 15, General Director of Erbil International Airport announced that the airport remains open, and all flights are operating normally.

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03 Iraq

Cross-Border Travel Advisory

Recent Developments

- **Australia**: Do not travel to Iraq, including Kurdistan Region.
- **Canada**: Avoid all travel to Iraq due to ongoing military activity.
- **Germany:** Travel to Iraq warned against due to highly volatile security situation.
- **Italy:** Journalists advised maximum caution; travel to Iraq discouraged.
- **Japan**: Heightened caution due to escalating Middle East security situation.
- **Sweden**: Advises against all travel to Iraq due to deteriorated security situation.
- **South Korea:** Avoid unnecessary movement; Iraq security situation may worsen.
- **UK**: Avoid all travel to parts of Iraq; major restrictions.
- **US**: Do Not Travel; Level 4 advisory remains in effect.

Ongoing Measures

- **Denmark:** Severe, unpredictable Middle East security; threats to civilians, infrastructure, US-linked sites.
- **India:** Exercise caution in movements; avoid rumors, follow Embassy advisories.
- **Ireland**: Do not travel to Iraq; highest level of travel warning.
- **Netherlands**: High risk nationwide; avoid west/center; only essential travel elsewhere.
- **Norway**: All travel to Iraq advised against; situation unstable, attack risks high.
- **Singapore**: Advises to defer all travel to region due to escalating Middle East security situation.
- **Spain**: Travel to Iraq discouraged; airspace closed and security situation highly unstable.
- **Switzerland**: Travel to Iraq and Kurdistan region discouraged due to escalating insecurity.

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03 Iraq

Exit & Consular Support Measures

- **Australia:** Leave if safe; consular assistance extremely limited.
- **Canada:** Leave Iraq at the earliest; consular assistance extremely limited.
- **Denmark:** No full Bahrain travel advisory; warns situation serious/unpredictable and provides hotline guidance.
- **Germany:** Register in crisis list; follow authorities' instructions
- **India:** Embassy helplines available; missions in Baghdad and Erbil functioning.
- **Ireland:** If in Iraq, consider leaving if safe; consular assistance extremely limited.
- **Italy:** Obtain journalist visa; inform Italian Embassy and register trip.
- **Japan**: Register travel, monitor updates, avoid military-related locations.
- **Netherlands:** Embassy closed to public; leave Iraq if safely possible.
- **Norway:** Contact UD, register in Reiseklar for updates.
- **Singapore:** No representation; register e-Register and contact MFA Duty Office if needed.
- **South Korea**: Check flights; possible future departure recommendation if conditions worsen.
- **Spain:** Register with embassy; consular capacity limited during heightened regional tensions.
- **Sweden:** Embassy closed; severely limited consular support; contact UD duty officer.
- **Switzerland:** Use available commercial transport; Swiss assistance may be limited or unavailable.
- **UK:** Consular support severely limited; monitor departures and local advice.
- **US:** Consider departing; enroll in STEP; monitor flights and authorities.

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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 may be restricted; departure by commercial flights is uncertain; travelers should be prepared for overland movement and potential rapid evacuation
- People who don't strictly need to be in Iraq should assess risk and consider leaving based on official guidance
- 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 (Ibrahim Khalil):** Key exit route from the Kurdistan Region; verify crossing status and safety before travel
- **Jordan (Tarbil), Saudi Arabia (Arar), Kuwait (Safwan):** Borders may serve as exit options, but closures, congestion, heightened controls, or advance coordination may apply
- Some crossings (including Safwan) may face temporary restrictions - travelers must verify status and carry valid documents
- **High-risk routes:** Northern and western border areas, including routes toward Syria, are considered dangerous and may pose detention or movement risks

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03 Iraq

Stranded Travelers & Overland Movement Considerations

Entry, visa & border considerations:

- **Iraq:** Electronic visa required in advance; visas on arrival are not standard, including for Canadian passport holders, who must obtain a visa prior to travel
- **Kurdistan Region**: Kurdistan Region visas are valid only within the KRI and do not permit entry into Federal Iraq, whereas a Federal Iraq visa allows entry into both Federal Iraq and the KRI
    - Kurdistan requires e-visa; travelers must register after 10 days and can obtain a residence permit after 3 months
- 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; travelers should verify requirements, visa, and insurance conditions with authorities or embassies before travel
- Iraqi authorities may treat Norwegian citizens of Iraqi origin as Iraqi citizens, which can affect entry, exit, and consular assistance

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04 Israel

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 authorization is generally granted for a limited period and may be renewed subject to applicable immigration requirements.
- 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, permit, and consular fees apply 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.

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04 Israel

Israel Advisory

On August 9, The Romanian airline, AnimaWings, announced its resumption of operations between Israel and Bucharest from August 10, after previously suspending flights due to the security situation.

On August 8, United Airlines announced the resumption of its New York – Tel Aviv flight services from September 8.

On August 5, Brussels Airlines announced its resumption of flights to Tel Aviv, after suspension of several months, marking resumption of all Lufthansa Group flights to Israel.

On August 4, Air Canada announced its extension of suspension of flights to Dubai and Israel until mid-January 2027 due to the situation in the Middle East.

On August 3, American Airlines extended its suspension of flights to Tel Aviv through March 28, 2027, postponing the planned resumption of its New York-Tel Aviv service, amid ongoing regional security concerns.

On August 2, TAP Air Portugal announced its Tel Aviv–Lisbon route will remain suspended until September 15 due to the security situation in the Middle East.

On August 1, Condor resumed flights to Tel Aviv, restoring the airline's connection between Israel and Frankfurt and providing onward access to destinations across North America and the Caribbean through its connecting flight network.

On August 1, SWISS resumed daily flights between Zurich and Tel Aviv after a suspension since March.

On July 25, ITA Airways extended the suspension of its flights to and from Tel Aviv until July 27 for operational reasons, following the cancellation of scheduled Tel Aviv-Rome services, while continuing to monitor operating conditions and advise affected passengers through its official communication channels.

On July 22, Israel Airports Authority announced that Israel's airspace or flights will continue to operate, despite the security escalation and the possibility of additional US aerial refueling aircraft arriving in Israel.

On July 21, Air India extended the suspension of its Tel Aviv-Delhi route until September 30, citing ongoing regional security developments, with affected passengers eligible for full refunds.

On July 15, the European Union Aviation Safety Agency advised airlines to conduct enhanced risk assessments for flights operating through the airspaces of Israel, Jordan, Oman and Saudi Arabia until August 31, while confirming that the guidance does not restrict or prohibit flight operations.

On July 14, Arkia reinstated free flight cancellations up to 48 hours before departure for bookings made by August 31, covering international flights through October 31, amid ongoing security uncertainty.`

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04 Israel

Cross-Border Travel Advisory

Recent Developments

- **Australia**: Reconsider travel to Israel; do not visit Gaza, Lebanon borders.
- **Canada:** Avoid non-essential travel to Israel; avoid all travel to Palestine.
- **France**: Travel to Israel, Jerusalem, and West Bank discouraged.
- **Germany**: Warn against Gaza, West Bank, northern Israel; discourage elsewhere travel.
- **Japan:** Heightened caution due to escalating Middle East security situation.
- **Netherlands**: Orange for most Israel; red for specific border areas; do not travel to Israel due to dangerous security situation.
- **Norway**: Avoid travel within 5 km of Lebanon, Syria, Gaza borders.
- **South Korea:** Avoid non-essential visits and travel in the West Bank.
- **Sweden:** Sweden advises against all travel to Israel until further notice.
- **UK**: FCDO advises against travel to Gaza, parts of Israel/West Bank due to regional tensions.
- **US:** Consider departing; heightened vigilance due to regional escalation.

Ongoing Measures

- **Denmark:** Do not travel to Israel; very high-risk missile, terror attacks.
- **Ireland**: Do not travel to Israel; significant risks and avoidance advised.
- **Italy**: Exercise maximum caution; security extremely unstable in Israel and Palestinian territories.
- **New Zealand**: Do not travel due to military conflict and unpredictable security situation.
- **Singapore**: Singaporeans advised to defer travel and avoid high-risk areas in Israel.
- **Spain:** Travel undertaken at traveler's own risk; health, security risks exist.
- **Switzerland**: Avoid non-urgent travel to Israel; avoid travel to some regions.

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04 Israel

Exit & Consular Support Measures

- **Australia:** Flights, borders may close; check crossings; limited consular assistance.
- **Canada**: Register abroad; prepare contingencies; contact emergency center.
- **Denmark:** Assess safety, consider leaving; contact Global Response Center 24/7.
- **France**: Monitor flights, identify shelters, register on Fil d'Ariane.
- **Germany:** Germans should leave if possible; register crisis list.
- **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 plans; monitor updates and embassy communications.
- **Netherlands:** Embassy cannot assist; advised to leave if safely possible.
- **New Zealand**: Limited consular assistance; register, emergency contacts.
- **Norway:** Contact UD, register Reiseklar, follow authorities' guidance.
- **Singapore:** Contact embassy or MFA duty office for assistance if needed.
- **South Korea**: Avoid protest areas, villages, settlements; exercise caution.
- **Spain:** Register travel details with Foreign Ministry for emergencies.
- **Sweden:** Consular support may be limited; flights disrupted; register with Swedish list.
- **Switzerland:** Follow authorities, stay informed, contact embassy if communications disrupted.
- **UK:** No exit routes from Gaza; limited consular support; contact authorities.
- **US:** Embassy open; enroll in STEP; keep documents accessible.

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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
- Identify shelters in advance; use tools such as Google Maps and alert apps like Home Front Command / Red Alert/ Tzofar
- Movement should be minimized, and travelers should avoid large gatherings, demonstrations, and sensitive locations, including military, security, and certain foreign government facilities; pre-identify nearby shelters for quick access
- Commercial flights are resuming but remain highly disrupted, with limited capacity, frequent last-minute changes, and possible airspace closures—travelers should reconfirm with airlines and be prepared for sudden travel restrictions
- Nationals are directed to register with their respective government travel registries for updates and emergency contact and ensure registration details in crisis preparedness lists are up to date
- Travelers should keep travel documents accessible, ensure phones and power banks are charged, and prepare for possible prolonged sheltering, including maintaining cash, food, water, medication, and fuel supplies, and maintain sufficient insurance and financial/time buffers
- Travelers should ensure that their travel documents have sufficient remaining validity, particularly when transiting through other countries or crossing land borders
- Travelers should avoid locations associated with the US and Israel, including organizations, businesses, facilities, institutions and nearby areas referenced in security alerts and regularly check embassy safety updates harm/incidents immediately using provided emergency numbers
- Civilian infrastructure (including airports, roads, hotels, and energy facilities) may be targeted; maintain heightened situational awareness and avoid high-risk areas
- Do not travel applies broadly, including transit/layovers; avoid passing through affected locations even if remaining inside airports
- No government-run evacuation or assisted departures; consular services are limited (including restricted, appointment-based operations in Jerusalem), and travelers must rely on commercial options and plan independently
- Monitor National Emergency Portal and Home Front Command alerts; follow local warning systems and move to shelters during imminent attacks
- Assess situation actively (stay/relocate/leave), follow real-time alerts, and ensure access to supplies; contact consular emergency centers for urgent assistance

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04 Israel

Stranded Travelers & Overland Movement Considerations

Nearest accessible land borders:

- Israel–Jordan crossings (Sheikh Hussein, Yitzhak Rabin, Allenby Bridge) are subject to sudden closures; verify status immediately prior to travel
- Taba crossing (Egypt) remains open but volatile
- **Gaza:** The Rafah crossing is closed to civilian exits
- Borders to Jordan and Egypt are generally open but can close or become disrupted at short notice; always verify status before travel
- All land crossings are tightly controlled and subject to rapid regulatory changes; consult official updates before travel- check official “Land Borders” updates before travel
- Crossings between Israel and Palestine / West Bank remain highly restricted; Allenby Bridge serves as the primary route with elevated security risk
- Avoid border areas—within 5 km of Lebanon and 10 km of Gaza—with additional risks in Golan Heights and select major roads (e.g., Highway 1, Route 90)

Entry, visa & border considerations:

- **Israel entry**: Visa-exempt travelers need ETA-IL ≥72 hours before arrival; approval may be revoked; stays up to 3 months
    - B2 visas (up to 3 months) typically require 6-month passport validity; confirm any temporary extensions with authorities before travel
    - Israelis must use an Israeli passport; Palestinian ID holders may need additional documents
- **Jordan & Egypt entry:** For Jordan visa required; e-visa recommended in advance (especially for land crossings); visas on arrival may be available, but delays expected; visa fees required may vary
- Egypt (Taba/Sinai): Sinai tax applies; e-visa in advance or visa on arrival at Taba; visa required for stays beyond Sinai or over 15 days
- Passport validity is typically 3–6 months (depending on nationality/visa); travelers must always carry original passport, and one-way tickets may result in additional scrutiny or possible refusal of entry
- **Special restrictions:** Palestinian ID holders and some dual nationals may face entry/exit limits, possible Ben Gurion Airport access restrictions, or refusal of entry
- Border decisions may change without notice; reconfirm ETA-IL/visa requirements before travel
- Expect additional taxes, visa-on-arrival fees (often cash), and processing delays
- Road travel to crossings may involve heightened security risks—assess conditions immediately before departure
- Entry cards (“blue slip”) must be kept; entry/exit rules may change or deny entry based on recent African travel history

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05 Jordan

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 satisfy Ministry of Labour requirements for hiring a non-Jordanian worker.
- Passport valid for at least six months
- Foreign workers must comply with applicable entry, work permit, and residency requirements.
- Employment without a valid work permit is not permitted under Jordanian labor 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.

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05 Jordan

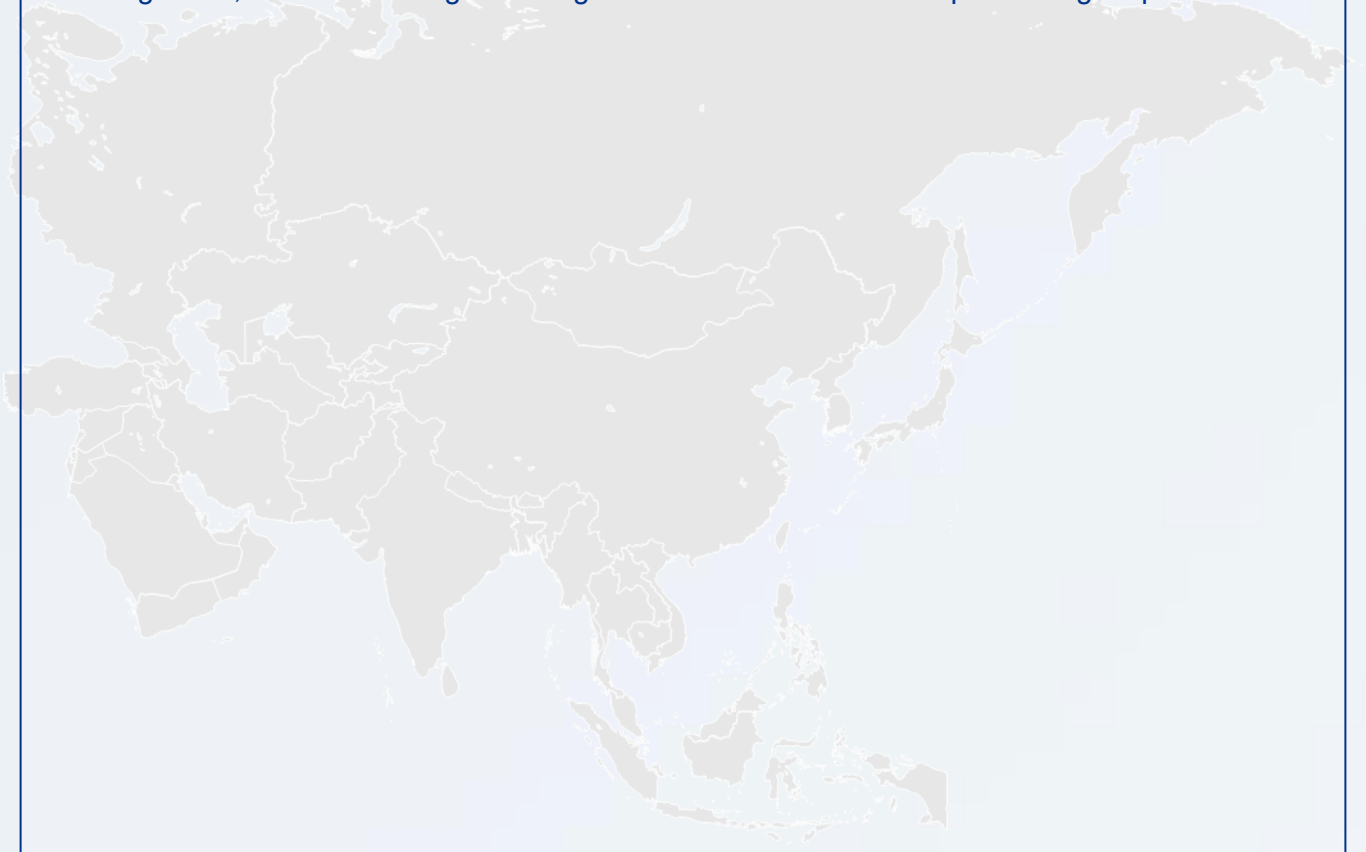
Jordan Advisory

On July 25, The Civil Aviation Regulatory Commission stated that the kingdom's airspace remains safe and that air traffic is operating normally without restrictions or disruptions.

On July 22, Jordan's Civil Aviation Regulatory Commission announced that air transit movement through Jordanian airspace is operating normally and proceeding according to pre-scheduled timetables.

On July 19, the government of Jordan announced Aqaba Airport and port were operating normally and no evacuation orders were issued for either of the facilities.

On July 15, the European Union Aviation Safety Agency advised airlines to conduct enhanced risk assessments for flights operating through the airspaces of Israel, Jordan, Oman and Saudi Arabia until August 31, while confirming that the guidance does not restrict or prohibit flight operations.



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05 Jordan

Cross-Border Travel Advisory

Recent Developments

- **Australia**: Reconsider travel to Jordan due to regional security risks.
- **Canada**: Avoid non-essential travel to Jordan due to security risks.
- **Denmark**: Security situation may change quickly; follow local authority guidance.
- **Germany:** Avoid border regions; volatile security, potential military actions and terrorism risk.
- **Japan**: Heightened caution due to escalating Middle East security situation.
- **Netherlands**: Orange code; travel only if necessary to Jordan.
- **New Zealand**: Avoid non-essential travel to Jordan overall.
- **Norway:** Avoid non-essential travel to Jordan due to regional instability.
- **Switzerland**: Avoid non-essential travel to Jordan; regional tensions and attacks.
- **UK**: Avoid Syria-border area; regional tensions, attacks, unpredictable security risks.
- **US**: Exercise caution due to heightened regional tensions and attack risks.

Ongoing Measures

- **France**: Remain vigilant; seek shelter during sirens and projectile threats.
- **Ireland**: Avoid non-essential travel to Jordan; regional security risks persist.
- **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**: No nationwide non-essential travel ban; avoid borders within 3 km.

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05 Jordan

Exit & Consular Support Measures

- **Australia:** Follow authorities; monitor disruptions and seek shelter if advised.
- **Canada:** Prepare contingency plans; register with Canadians Abroad service.
- **Denmark**: Contact MFA Global Watch Center for urgent assistance.
- **France:** Register on Fil d'Ariane; mandatory registration for stays over 14 days.
- **Germany**: Visa required, passport six months validity, register stays over 14 days.
- **Ireland:** Airspace closures possible; register with authorities; emergency contacts provided.
- **Japan**: Register travel plans and contact embassies if needed.
- **Netherlands**: Follow authorities, monitor news, and contact embassy and emergency services if needed.
- **New Zealand**: Register travel plans; follow local authorities' instructions.
- **Norway:** Register in Reiseklar; contact MFA emergency center if needed.
- **Singapore:** Encouraged to eRegister; consular contacts provided; 24-hour MFA duty office.
- **South Korea**: Embassy will share updates via website, messaging groups, and SNS.
- **Spain:** Spaniards may depart using commercial flights; register with embassy.
- **Sweden:** Register address if staying over 14 days; visa required.
- **Switzerland**: Follow authorities; monitor travel disruptions and security developments.
- **UK:** Follow authorities, alerts, monitor media, review plans, take shelter guidance.
- **US:** Monitor flights, follow authorities, avoid military-related locations.

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05 Jordan

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 until authorities issue further guidance; seek overhead cover and shelter in place where possible.
- Limit nonessential movement and avoid demonstrations, crowds, and military or security sites; shelter in place if instructed by local authorities during missile or drone incidents.
- Monitor local media (e.g., Roya News, Petra News, Jordan Times) and collect updates from multiple sources, including flight information.
- Register travel and contact details with government systems and consular alert platforms to receive updates and enable assistance.
- Commercial flights are continuing, and airspace remains open; however, schedules may change at short notice, including potential airspace closures and cancellations; confirm directly with airlines before proceeding to the airport.
- Enroll in additional alert systems (e.g., STEP, “Danskerlisten,” “Tabi Regi”) and share travel itinerary and emergency contacts with family and workplace.
- 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.

Nearest accessible land borders:

- Border conditions are volatile; crossings may open, close, or change at short notice, with no consistently recommended routes.
- **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 high risk with violence; crossings may change or close without notice—avoid travel, including within 5 km of Syria/Iraq borders and 3 km of the Jordan-Syria border, and verify status before travel.

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05 Jordan

Stranded Travelers & Overland Movement Considerations

Entry, visa & border considerations:

- Visa required for most travelers; e-visas and visas on arrival available at select entry points (typically valid up to 90 days).
- **Passport validity**: Generally, at least six months; emergency passports are not accepted for entry.
- Norwegian nationals require a visa, obtainable online, via the Jordan Pass, or on arrival where available.
- Entry via King-Hussein Bridge requires prior visa; not issued on arrival.
- Stays over 14 days require police registration within 14 days; non-compliance may result in a 200 JOD fine, aligning with mandatory residency registration requirements.
- 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.

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06 Kuwait

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):

- Government fees apply for work-permit and residency processing; amounts vary by permit category and applicable regulations.
- 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

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06 Kuwait

Kuwait Advisory

On August 6, Etihad Airways announced resumption of its flights to Kuwait and Bahrain from August 8, following weeks of disruption caused by heightened security concerns and airspace restrictions.

On August 6, Qatar Airways announced the resumption of its flight to Bahrain, Erbil, and Kuwait from August 8.

On July 30, Turkish Airlines announced continued disruptions to their services to Kuwait until August 8.

On July 30, Qatar Airways announced temporary suspension of passenger flights to Bahrain, Erbil, and Kuwait until and including August 7.

On July 24, Emirates announced the extension of its suspension of Dubai-Kuwait-Dubai flights until August 21 and expanded flexible travel options for affected passengers.

On July 19, Air Arabia cancelled selected flights to Kuwait, with gradual service restoration expected from July 22, subject to security and operational conditions.

On July 18, Directorate General of Civil Aviation authorized the phased reopening of Kuwaiti airspace following a review of the security situation, resuming operations after the temporary airspace closure.

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06 Kuwait

Cross-Border Travel Advisory

Recent Developments

- **Australia**: Do not travel due to deteriorating regional security situation.
- **Canada**: Avoid all travel to Kuwait due to volatile security situation.
- **France:** Avoid non-essential travel to Kuwait except for imperative reasons.
- **Germany:** Strongly advises against travel to Kuwait.
- **Italy**: Maintain high caution; monitor security situation and flight operations.
- **Ireland**: Avoid non-essential travel; consular assistance extremely limited.
- **Japan**: Reconsider travel to and through the Middle East region.
- **Netherlands**: Orange code; travel only if necessary to Kuwait.
- **New Zealand**: Do not travel to Kuwait due to unpredictable security situation.
- **Norway**: Non-essential travel to Kuwait strongly discouraged; security situation volatile.
- **South Korea:** Strongly recommends departure from Kuwait unless urgently necessary.
- **Sweden**: Advises against non-essential travel to Kuwait due to security situation.
- **Switzerland:** Avoid tourist and non-urgent travel to Kuwait.
- **UK**: Advise against all but essential travel to Kuwait.
- **US**: Exercise caution; consider departing if regional escalation occurs.

Ongoing Measures

- **India**: Indian nationals in Kuwait advised to remain vigilant and follow local guidance.
- **Singapore**: Advised to defer all travel to the Middle East region.
- **Spain**: Postpone travel to Kuwait due to regional conflict and volatility.

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06 Kuwait

Exit & Consular Support Measures

- **Australia:** Consider departure options; follow local warnings and authorities.
- **Canada:** Prepare contingency plans without government assistance; register abroad service.
- **Denmark:** Land border to Saudi open; assess risks and obtain visa.
- **France:** Follow local alerts; register on Fil d'Ariane.
- **Germany:** Register in ELEFAND; follow authorities and security instructions.
- **Ireland:** Obtain insurance; contact Embassy in UAE for assistance.
- **Italy:** Register presence, follow authorities, avoid military sites.
- **Japan**: Register travel plans and monitor safety and flight updates..
- **Netherlands:** Embassy contact details provided; no specific exit measures stated.
- **New Zealand**: Leave if safe; register travel and follow authorities.
- **Norway:** Register in Reiseklar; contact MFA emergency center if needed.
- **Singapore:** No representation; register eRegister and contact MFA Duty Office if needed.
- **South Korea**: Leave as soon as possible; contact embassy or consular hotline.
- **Spain:** Register with embassy; verify flights; land border via Saudi open.
- **Sweden:** Register with Swedish list and use UD Resklar app.
- **Switzerland:** Follow local authorities; monitor flights and regional developments.
- **UK:** Monitor disruptions, follow authorities, keep travel documents updated.
- **US:** Enroll in STEP; limited embassy services; ordered departure of non-emergency staff.

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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, and monitor local/international media for updates and maintain contact with airlines to confirm flight options amid disruptions.
- In cases of issued warnings, 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.
- Flight operations may be limited or disrupted at short notice; travelers should confirm flight status directly with airlines and consider available overland options, including routes to Saudi Arabia, subject to border, visa, and security conditions.
- Shelter in place during strikes and avoid government, military, energy, and US-linked sites.
- Travelers should prepare contingency plans and should not rely on government-assisted evacuation or departure arrangements, as such support may not be available.
- Nationals should register with official travel registries or crisis systems (e.g., DFAT, ELEFAND, Reiseklar) and keep contact details updated; ensure phones and backup batteries remain charged; register travel plans for consular communication.
- 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.
- Take air-raid warnings seriously; seek shelter indoors and away from windows; reduce outdoor movement and follow local authorities' instructions.
- Americans should use KuwaitACS@state.gov for emergencies.
- Maintain communication with family/friends, keep phones charged, and monitor official channels (including embassy WhatsApp security updates).

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06 Kuwait

Stranded Travelers & Overland Movement Considerations

Nearest accessible land borders:

- **Saudi Arabia:** Land crossings (Al Nuwasib/Al Khafji; Al Salmi/Ar Ruqi) remain accessible but may change; open 24/7 with valid visa; use only authorized crossings.
- **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.
- Abdali crossing to Iraq may close without notice; Iraq border area is military restricted.

Entry, visa, & border considerations:

- **Kuwait entry**: Requires a valid visa (e-Visa, embassy-issued, or visa on arrival) with passport validity of up to six months; however, visa issuance may be suspended for all travel purposes, making entry 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 e-Visa, 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.
- Travelers must hold passports valid for at least six months; those with Israeli stamps/travel history, non-standard passports, missing gender markers, or using emergency/short-validity documents may face refusal and should consult the relevant embassy prior to 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.
- Non-residents require a visa and prior embassy coordination; entry may be refused with Israeli passport stamps.
- New digital service launched a digital visa service via the “Sahel” app for domestic worker and driver visas, alongside stricter eligibility criteria and caps based on family status.

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07 Oman

Work Visa Requirements

Service scope: Royal Oman Police (ROP) issues the Temporary Work Visa for foreign nationals undertaking temporary work in Oman under employer sponsorship. A Ministry of Labour work permit is required unless the sponsor is a government entity. Visa validity may be 4, 6, or 9 months, depending on the approved 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 Labour.

Eligibility & conditions:

- Applicant must be at least 21 years old.
- Valid Ministry of Labour work permit required.
- Employer must act as the approved local sponsor.
- Occupation and gender on the visa application must match the approved work permit.
- Passport must be valid for at least 6 months.
- Additional approvals may apply for regulated professions.
- Entry remains subject to immigration clearance upon arrival.
- Applicants who have previously worked in Oman may be required to obtain a release letter from their former employer if the prescribed period since their last departure from Oman has not been completed.

Extension rules: Extension or renewal requirements are subject to approval by the competent Omani authorities and the validity of the underlying work permit.

Fees (indicative):

- OMR 20 - visa fee
- OMR 50 per month – fee charged for delay in renewal

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)

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07 Oman

Oman Advisory

On August 2, Oman Air reported passengers to expect delays on some flights after temporary airspace restrictions and exceptional operating conditions disrupted aircraft movements across parts of its network.

On July 15, the European Union Aviation Safety Agency advised airlines to conduct enhanced risk assessments for flights operating through the airspaces of Israel, Jordan, Oman and Saudi Arabia until August 31, while confirming that the guidance does not restrict or prohibit flight operations.

Cross-Border Travel Advisory

Recent Developments

- **Australia**: Reconsider travel to Oman due to regional security situation.
- **Canada**: Avoid non-essential travel due to volatile regional security situation.
- **France:** Exercise utmost vigilance; avoid specified regions unless imperative.
- **Germany:** Avoid Musandam and Yemen border; regional security remains volatile.
- **Ireland**: High degree of caution; avoid Yemen border area travel.
- **Japan**: Reconsider travel to and through Middle East region.
- **Netherlands**: Orange code for Musandam, ports, Yemen border areas.
- **New Zealand**: Avoid non-essential travel overall; avoid Yemen border area.
- **Norway**: Serious Middle East security situation; flights may be disrupted.
- **Sweden**: Exercise caution due to ongoing attacks; avoid affected areas, monitor updates.
- **Switzerland**: Avoid tourist, non-urgent travel to Musandam province.
- **UK:** Regional tensions; risk of further attacks and travel disruptions.
- **US:** Exercise caution; consider departing if regional escalation occurs.

Ongoing Measures

- **Singapore**: Follow local authorities; exercise caution due to regional instability and safety risks.
- **South Korea:** Avoid resource infrastructure facilities and nearby areas; exercise personal safety caution.
- **Spain**: Swedes in Oman urged caution amid continued limited attacks.

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07 Oman

Exit & Consular Support Measures

- **Australia:** Australian consular support via Riyadh embassy and Muscat consul.
- **Canada:** Prepare departure contingencies; register for Canadians Abroad service.
- **Denmark:** Confirm flights, stay reachable, contact Danish authorities for urgent assistance.
- **France:** Follow local authorities; shelter; register on Fil d'Ariane.
- **Germany:** Register in crisis list; follow authorities' instructions.
- **India:** Embassy provides contact numbers and guidance; visa details outlined.
- **Ireland:** Contact Irish Embassy Riyadh for consular assistance.
- **Italy:** Land border open; 14-day entry stamp; overstay fines apply.
- **Japan**: Register with Tabi-Regi; monitor updates and flight information.
- **Netherlands**: Follow authorities; contact embassy or emergency services.
- **New Zealand:** Contact New Zealand Embassy Riyadh; maintain comprehensive insurance.
- **Norway:** Contact airline; register travel; consular contacts provided.
- **Singapore:** e-Register trip; contact Singapore embassy or MFA duty office.
- **South Korea**: Provides emergency contact numbers for embassy and consular call center.
- **Spain:** Register with embassy; flights subject to changes; transit possible.
- **Sweden:** Register on Svensklistan; use UD Resklar; follow airline guidance.
- **Switzerland:** Follow authorities; monitor situation; embassy assistance available.
- **UK:** Sign up for alerts; follow authorities; review departure plans.
- **US:** Keep documents ready; enroll in STEP; consular help available.

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07 Oman

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.
- The shelter-in-place guidance for Muscat has been lifted; however, individuals in Duqm and within 100 km of Salalah should shelter in place if conditions are unsafe, remain in secure structures, and avoid windows.
- Avoid all demonstrations, large gatherings, and areas with heavy police or security presence; keep a low profile and exercise caution at locations publicly associated with the US.
- Commercial flights continue to operate through Muscat International Airport; travelers should monitor airline advisories as delays, cancellations, or routing changes may occur due to evolving regional conditions.
- 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 (STEP), 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.
- 24-hour consular emergency assistance is available via official contact numbers; travelers should use embassy/social media channels for real-time updates and guidance.

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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.
- **Saudi Arabia:** Overland travel may be possible, subject to security assessment, border controls, and onward visa eligibility.
- **Yemen:** Land border crossings are highly dangerous and strongly discouraged; entry may require prior approval and conditions remain 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.
    - Nationals of Netherland, Norway, Italy, Singapore and Australia get visa-free stays up to 14 days.
    - These are subject to entry conditions such as a valid passport, return/onward travel, accommodation, health insurance, and sufficient funds.
    - Longer stays generally require an Oman e-Visa
- 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 incur fines (commonly ~10 OMR/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/exit conditions can change without notice; a valid visa does not guarantee entry, and travelers should confirm requirements with Omani authorities before travel.

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08 Pakistan

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
- Entry and Extension Work Visas may be issued for up to 2 years with multiple entries, subject to government approval

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

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08 Pakistan

Pakistan Advisory

No recent travel advisories have been published for Pakistan.

Cross-Border Travel Advisory

Recent Developments

- **Canada**: Exercise high caution; avoid travel to multiple high-risk regions.
- **Japan:** Monitor Middle East tensions; exercise heightened vigilance globally.
- **Netherlands**: Red west/border regions; orange Karachi/Punjab; yellow elsewhere.
- **South Korea:** Avoid US-related sites, sensitive areas, crowds and protests.
- **Sweden**: Avoid all travel to Kashmir, Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa, Baluchistan, India border areas.
- **UK**: Avoid specified border/high-risk areas; terrorism and unrest risks.

Ongoing Measures

- **Australia**: Avoid crowds and protests; terrorism, kidnapping risks, disruptions nationwide.
- **Denmark:** Avoid non-essential travel; no travel to high-risk provinces due terrorism.
- **France:** Exercise great caution; avoid gatherings and crowded public places in Pakistan.
- **Germany:** Partial warning; avoid high-risk regions, terrorism risk nationwide
- **Ireland**: High caution; avoid border regions, unrest areas, terrorist risks.
- **Norway:** Avoid multiple regions; unrest, terrorism risk; Wagah border closed indefinitely.
- **Spain:** Much of Pakistan unsafe; exercise extreme caution, avoid high-risk zones.
- **Switzerland**: Switzerland warns of volatile security, terrorism, conflict, and regional travel dangers.
- **US**: Level 3 reconsider travel; terrorism, crime, kidnapping, armed conflict risks.

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08 Pakistan

Exit & Consular Support Measures

- **Australia**: Reconsider travel to Pakistan overall due to volatile security situation.
- **Canada:** Limited consular assistance in restricted or insecure areas.
- **Denmark:** Danish consular assistance limited; register travelers list, embassy contact advised.
- **France:** Verify flight status due to suspended connections with Gulf countries.
- **Germany**: Follow security instructions, monitor media, update crisis-list contact details.
- **Ireland**: Irish citizens advised register presence; embassy emergency contacts provided.
- **Japan**: Register travel details; contact embassies for assistance.
- **Netherlands**: Embassy emergency contacts, visa required, NOC may apply.
- **Norway:** Register travel; contact embassy or emergency center for assistance.
- **South Korea:** Register with embassy; use emergency embassy and consular contacts.
- **Spain:** Register travel; embassy assistance limited and may be delayed.
- **Sweden:** Contact UD-jouren; register on Svensklistan and UD Resklar.
- **Switzerland:** Swiss nationals advised to contact embassy or Helpline EDA during emergencies.
- **UK:** Follow FCDO alerts; crisis support may be limited.
- **US:** Ordered non-emergency US staff families to depart Lahore, Karachi.

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08 Pakistan

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 shutdowns may occur suddenly; maintain contingency plans for such disruptions.
- Monitor flight updates; be prepared for flight cancellations, temporary airspace closures, curfews, roadblocks, and communication shutdowns.
- 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.
- US citizens may seek assistance from the US Embassy in Islamabad and Consulates in Lahore and Karachi, although consular services may be limited in certain high-risk areas.
- 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.
- Travelers need to submit stay information and complete overseas national registration to receive alerts and follow general “in case of emergency” preparedness guidance.
- Register with embassies, maintain a communication plan, and always ensure access to functioning communication tools, especially during travel.

Nearest accessible land borders:

- Travelers should verify the operational status of the Kartarpur Corridor before travel, as official sources report changing or restricted crossing arrangements.
- Avoid travel near the Line of Control (LoC) due to ongoing security risks; entry restrictions and border-crossing arrangements may change, and travelers should verify the status of crossings before travel.
- Avoid non-essential travel near the Afghanistan border due to ongoing security risks; border access is generally limited to authorized crossing points.
- **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.
- **India:** Wagah border crossing is currently closed.
- **Iran:** Overland travel strongly discouraged / warned against.

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08 Pakistan

Stranded Travelers & Overland Movement Considerations

Entry, visa, & border considerations:

- A visa is required in advance for most travelers, including via the official online system, while visa-free entry is permitted for holders of a valid NICOP card.
    - An Indian visa is required to enter India, and no visa services are available at land border crossings
    - E-visa options are available
- Passports must generally be valid for at least 6 months; travelers must also hold a valid visa, passport, or eligible Pakistani ID to exit the country, and an entry stamp is required for departure.
- Overstaying a visa may result in fines, detention, denial of departure, or legal action, including potential exit-permit requirements.
- Travel within Pakistan may be restricted to areas specified on the visa; certain regions require special permits or No Objection Certificates (NOCs).
- Transit requires a valid Pakistani visa; no permanent transit zones available at airports.
- Health requirements may apply, including polio vaccination for stays over four weeks, a possible arrival health declaration, and a yellow fever certificate if applicable.
- Travelers must always carry valid visa documentation and passport copies due to enforcement and overstay penalties.

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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):

- Medical examination fee: QAR 100 for residency/work purposes.
- Residence Permit fee: QAR 300 annually plus QAR 100 for ID card
- Work permit fee: QAR 100 annually

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.

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09 Qatar

Qatar Advisory

On August 6, Qatar Airways announced the resumption of its flight to Bahrain, Erbil, and Kuwait from August 8.

Cross-Border Travel Advisory

Recent Developments

- **Australia:** Reconsider travel to Qatar; security risks and disruptions persist.
- **Canada**: Avoid non-essential travel due to volatile regional security.
- **France**: Remain highly vigilant due to unstable regional security situation.
- **Germany**: Travel to Qatar is discouraged due to regional security risks.
- **Ireland**: Avoid non-essential travel; regional security and flight disruption risks.
- **Italy**: Exercise caution; monitor Gulf security situation and flight disruptions.
- **Japan:** Reconsider Middle East travel/transit; monitor disruptions and security risks.
- **Netherlands**: Qatar code orange; travel only, if necessary, avoid tourism.
- **New Zealand**: Avoid non-essential travel; security situation remains unpredictable.
- **Norway**: Middle East security situation serious; monitor updates, avoid sensitive sites.
- **Sweden**: Regional conflict may affect security and flights in Qatar.
- **UK**: Regional tensions; prepare for disruptions and follow local authorities.
- **US:** Americans should reconsider Middle East travel; expect disruptions.

Ongoing Measures

- **India**: Indians advised caution, follow authorities, stay indoors, avoid military areas.
- **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 Qatar travel due to regional conflict instability.
- **Switzerland**: Regional tensions; possible deterioration, flight disruptions, avoid sensitive sites.

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Exit & Consular Support Measures

- **Australia:** Contact Australian Embassy; borders and flights may change.
- **Canada:** Prepare independent departure plans; register with Canadians Abroad.
- **France:** Follow local alerts; register on Fil d'Ariane; embassy contact provided.
- **Germany:** Register in crisis preparedness list; travel bans may occur.
- **India:** Embassy functioning; 24x7 helpline and email available for assistance.
- **Ireland:** Contact airline; Embassy in Abu Dhabi for emergencies.
- **Italy:** Register presence; contact Italian Embassy Doha in emergencies.
- **Japan:** Register with Tabi-Regi; contact embassies for assistance.
- **Netherlands:** Embassy 24/7 support; follow authorities; possible airspace closure.
- **New Zealand:** Register travel; contact New Zealand Embassy Abu Dhabi.
- **Norway:** Register in Reiseklar; contact MFA or embassy if affected.
- **Singapore:** Singaporeans should e-Register and contact embassy or MFA for assistance.
- **South Korea:** Advise early departure if war expected; emergency embassy contacts provided.
- **Spain:** Register with embassy; consular contact details and emergency numbers provided.
- **Sweden:** Register with Svensklistan/Resklar; contact UD emergency line.
- **Switzerland:** Legal cases or disputes may restrict departure from country.
- **UK:** Follow authorities, sign alerts, monitor media, keep documents updated.
- **US:** Consider departure; visa services suspended; consular assistance available.

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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.
- Airspace conditions may change at short notice, potentially disrupting flights and transit travel; travelers should monitor airline and government advisories and keep contingency and departure plans under review.
- 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.
- Non-essential movement should be limited, and travelers should avoid demonstrations, large gatherings, and sensitive locations, including military or security facilities.
- Travelers are encouraged to register with their respective government travel registration or traveler-tracking programs and subscribe to official travel alerts to receive security updates and facilitate consular assistance during emergencies amid ongoing regional tensions.
- Travelers should keep travel documents readily accessible and valid (especially for transit or land crossings), maintain charged communication devices, and be prepared with independent contingency plans not reliant on government-assisted departures.
- Visitor support services (e.g., Qatar Tourism hotline) and local healthcare services remain available.
- Avoid all demonstrations, large gatherings, and areas with heavy police or security presence; exercise caution at locations publicly associated with the US and keep a low profile.
- Monitor local and international media and always follow instructions from local authorities, including remaining indoors or moving to safe shelter if advised during hostilities.
- Enrollment in the Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP) is strongly encouraged to receive security updates and enable embassy contact during emergencies.

Nearest accessible land borders:

- **Saudi Arabia:** The Abu Samra / Salwa land border crossing is the primary overland exit route when air travel is constrained and is currently reported open.
- Travelers are advised to verify real time border status with local authorities before attempting overland travel and arrange overland travel from Saudi side.
- The Saudi land border remains open but may change; although flight schedules and regional travel conditions may change at short notice.

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Stranded Travelers & Overland Movement Considerations

Entry, visa, & border considerations:

- **Qatar entry:** Many nationalities are eligible for visa-free entry or visa on arrival, with some travelers permitted to stay for up to 90 days within a 180-day period, subject to nationality and applicable entry conditions.
- **Passport validity:** at least 3 months on entry (previously 6 months noted; requirements should be verified).
- **Health insurance:** Mandatory requisite for travelers who are required to obtain a prior entry visa before reaching the border crossings, for stay more than 30 days
- **Saudi Arabia onward travel:** Travelers exiting Qatar by land must meet Saudi visa and entry requirements; refer to Saudi Arabia “Entry requirements” when crossing the land border.
    - Certain countries require a visa to enter Saudi Arabia; e-visas in advance are recommended.
- **Exit conditions:** Travelers must hold valid legal status in Qatar when departing; unpaid debts or legal issues may prevent exit.
- Entry and exit rules are subject to change at short notice; travelers should verify official requirements before travel and ensure travel documents are up to date.
- Travelers may be required to provide proof of accommodation on arrival at Hamad International Airport.

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10 Saudi Arabia

Work Visa Requirements

Service scope: Saudi Arabia issues employer-sponsored work visas to foreign nationals with approved employment. Following arrival, the employer completes the required work permit and residence permit (Iqama) procedures to enable lawful employment and residence in the Kingdom.

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
- 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: Following arrival, the employer must complete the issuance of the employee's work permit and residence permit (Iqama). Work permits and residence permits may be renewed subject to continued employment and compliance with Saudi regulations.

Fees (indicative):

- Government fees vary according to visa category and applicable labor and immigration requirements.

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

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10 Saudi Arabia

Saudi Arabia Advisory

On August 5, KLM Airlines announced the cancellation of its flight to Dubai, Riyadh, and Dammam until and including October 24.

On August 3, Air France extended its suspension of its flights to and from Riyadh until August 14, citing evolving security situation.

On July 17, Cathay Pacific postponed its resumption of passenger flights to and from Dubai and Riyadh until October 25 and 26, respectively.

On July 15, the European Union Aviation Safety Agency advised airlines to conduct enhanced risk assessments for flights operating through the airspaces of Israel, Jordan, Oman and Saudi Arabia until August 31, while confirming that the guidance does not restrict or prohibit flight operations.

On July 14, Air Cairo cancelled flights to and from Abha, Saudi Arabia, after Abha International Airport was closed following a Houthi missile and drone attack.

On July 14, Scoot airlines announced the cancellation of its flight to and from Jeddah until September 12.

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10 Saudi Arabia

Cross-Border Travel Advisory

Recent Developments

- **Australia**: Reconsider travel to Saudi Arabia; avoid areas near Yemen border.
- **Canada**: Avoid non-essential travel; avoid Yemen border areas.
- **Denmark**: Security situation unstable and unpredictable due to renewed regional attacks.
- **Germany**: Avoid Yemen border travel; regional security situation remains volatile.
- **Japan**: Reconsider Middle East travel; stay alert for escalating tensions.
- **Netherlands**: Orange for most Saudi Arabia; red near Yemen border.
- **New Zealand**: Avoid non-essential travel; stricter warnings near Yemen border.
- **Norway**: Avoid travel within 50 km of Yemen border; security serious.
- **South Korea:** Avoid non-essential visits near border-risk areas; stay vigilant.
- **Sweden**: Advise against non-essential travel; avoid Yemen-border areas within 50 km.
- **UK**: Avoid border areas; regional tensions and Houthi attack risks.
- **US:** Exercise increased caution; reconsider regional travel amid tensions.

Ongoing Measures

- **France**: Advisory lifted except Yemen border; remain vigilant, follow authorities.
- **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**: Gradual security improvement; exercise caution; avoid military sites, crowded areas.
- **Singapore**: Defer all travel except Jeddah, Makkah, Madinah; remain vigilant.
- **Spain**: Postpone travel to Saudi Arabia due to regional conflict instability.
- **Switzerland**: Regional tensions; risk from Yemen conflict, terrorism, attacks possible.

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10 Saudi Arabia

Exit & Consular Support Measures

- **Australia:** Flight disruptions possible; consular help available via Australian Embassy.
- **Canada:** Prepare departure plans; register with Canadians Abroad.
- **Denmark**: Follow authorities; contact Danish Global Watch Center if needed.
- **France:** Embassy updates, contact number; register Fil d'Ariane for alerts.
- **Germany:** Register in crisis preparedness list; monitor travel disruptions.
- **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**: Register with Tabi-Regi; monitor flights and safety updates.
- **Netherlands:** Stranded travelers should complete Crisis Contact Form for assistance.
- **New Zealand**: Register travel; contact consular assistance if needed.
- **Norway:** Contact airline; Norwegian citizens may contact MFA assistance.
- **Singapore:** Contact Singapore missions; check flights; e-Register for consular assistance.
- **South Korea**: Embassy provides safety assistance; emergency contact numbers provided.
- **Spain:** Register with embassy; flights operating but subject to sudden changes.
- **Sweden:** Register with embassy; follow authorities; contact UD in emergencies.
- **Switzerland**: Legal disputes or accidents may prevent departure.
- **UK:** Monitor flights, follow authorities, keep documents updated.
- **US:** Consider departure; enroll in STEP; monitor flights.

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10 Saudi Arabia

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.
- Avoid all demonstrations and large gatherings, and all areas with heavy police or security presence.
- 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.
- Collect latest information from multiple sources (airlines, authorities, media) and monitor local impacts.
- Prepare a personal emergency plan and contingencies without relying on government evacuation or assistance; monitor airline, and local authority instructions closely.
- Nationals using emergency travel documents should contact embassies/consulates or helplines (including Riyadh) for guidance.
- Consular services are limited, but emergency assistance numbers remain available, and travelers should register details for updates and maintain ongoing departure planning awareness.
- 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.
- Avoid photographing incidents and strictly follow official authority instructions and warning systems/shelters.

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10 Saudi Arabia

Stranded Travelers & Overland Movement Considerations

Nearest accessible land borders:

- **Bahrain:** The King Fahd Causeway remains a principal crossing between Saudi Arabia and Bahrain, subject to entry requirements, visa eligibility, and operational restrictions.
- **Iraq:** The Arar border crossing may be subject to operational and eligibility restrictions.
- Additional named crossings referenced: **Qatar** (Salwa), **UAE** (Al Batha), **Kuwait** (Al Khafji, Ar Ruqi)
- **Yemen:** Travel near the Yemen border is strictly restricted; avoid travel within 50 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 non-essential travel in or near these zones.
- Crossing by rented car requires valid Saudi insurance.
- All land border crossings remain subject to operational, security, immigration, and customs requirements; travelers should verify current conditions before travel.

Entry, visa & border considerations:

- A valid Saudi visa is required; a visa does not guarantee entry, which remains subject to border authority discretion.
- **Passport validity:** Passports should generally be valid for at least 6 months from the date of entry.
- Tourist e-visa is available online for selected countries; eVisas or visas on arrival may be available subject to eligibility.
- Dual nationality is not recognized; travelers must exit using the passport used for entry; may face limits on consular protection without host-country consent; confirm with embassy if relevant.
- 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.
- 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.
- Check Saudi passport/visa rules with authorities prior to travel or border crossing and always carry valid photo ID (keep passport original and copies secure).

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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
- Medical fitness and any applicable health insurance requirements must be completed as part of the residence visa process.
- Entry permit issued for a specific period to complete work residence formalities
- MOHRE approval may be required for employers subject to the Labour Relations Law.

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.

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11 UAE

UAE Advisory

On August 6, Etihad Airways announced resumption of its flights to Kuwait and Bahrain from August 8, following weeks of disruption caused by heightened security concerns and airspace restrictions.

On August 5, KLM Airlines announced the cancellation of its flight to Dubai, Riyadh, and Dammam until and including October 24.

On August 4, Air Canada announced its extension of suspension of flights to Dubai and Israel until mid-January 2027 due to the situation in the Middle East.

On August 3, Air France extended its suspension of its flights to and from Dubai until August 18, citing evolving security situation.

On July 24, Emirates announced the extension of its suspension of Dubai-Kuwait-Dubai flights until August 21 and expanded flexible travel options for affected passengers.

On July 19, Air Arabia cancelled selected flights to Kuwait, with gradual service restoration expected from July 22, subject to security and operational conditions.

On July 17, Cathay Pacific postponed its resumption of passenger flights to and from Dubai and Riyadh until October 25 and 26, respectively.

On July 15, Singapore Airlines announced the cancellation of its flights to and from Dubai until October 24.

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11 UAE

Cross-Border Travel Advisory

Recent Developments

- **Australia**: Reconsider travel to UAE due to unpredictable regional security situation.
- **Canada**: Avoid non-essential travel due to volatile regional security situation.
- **Denmark**: Security situation unstable; monitor updates and follow authorities' instructions.
- **France**: Exercise utmost vigilance due to regional security situation.
- **Germany:** Avoid non-essential travel to the United Arab Emirates.
- **Ireland:** Avoid non-essential travel; regional security situation remains volatile.
- **Italy**: Maintain high caution; monitor regional security and flight disruptions.
- **Japan:** Middle East tensions may worsen; reconsider regional travel.
- **Netherlands**: UAE orange; only necessary travel, avoid Abu Musa/Tunb.
- **New Zealand**: Avoid non-essential travel; security situation unpredictable and volatile.
- **Norway**: Regional situation serious; monitor security, avoid sensitive locations.
- **South Korea**: Avoid visits; short-term visitors advised to leave promptly.
- **Spain**: Postpone travel unless necessary; regional conflict affects UAE.
- **Sweden**: Exercise caution; avoid sensitive sites, follow authorities' guidance.
- **UK**: Regional tensions remain; be prepared for disruptions and escalation.
- **US**: Exercise caution; consider departing if regional tensions escalate.

Ongoing Measures

- **India**: Flights suspended; travelers advised to await airline confirmation before moving.
- **Singapore**: Advises deferring travel and registering while monitoring flight disruptions.
- **Switzerland**: Avoid Yemen border; heightened risks, remain vigilant and follow authorities.

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11 UAE

Exit & Consular Support Measures

- **Australia:** Emergency consular assistance contacts provided; expect possible travel disruptions.
- **Canada:** Prepare independent departure plans; Canadian consular contacts provided.
- **Denmark:** Contact Foreign Ministry Global Watch Center if urgent.
- **France:** Register Fil d'Ariane; embassy contact provided.
- **Germany:** Register in crisis preparedness list; exit restrictions noted.
- **India:** Emergency helplines provided and visa fines waived during airspace closure.
- **Ireland:** Commercial flights available; embassy assistance and registration advised.
- **Italy:** Follow local authorities; embassy emergency contacts provided.
- **Japan**: Register with Tabi-Regi; contact embassies or Foreign Ministry.
- **Netherlands:** Contact embassy/consulate in emergencies; travel insurance advised.
- **New Zealand:** Register travel; embassy and consulate contacts provided.
- **Norway:** Register travel; contact embassy or UD in emergencies.
- **Singapore:** Urges citizens to defer travel, e-Register if in the region, and provides UAE mission and MFA duty office contact details.
- **South Korea:** Follow embassy safety notices; depart if no emergency stay required.
- **Spain:** Airspace open; register with embassy; emergency contact available.
- **Sweden:** Register on Swedish list; embassy provides crisis information.
- **Switzerland:** Register crisis list; monitor alerts; follow official instructions.
- **UK:** Sign up for alerts; review departure plans and documents.
- **US:** Enroll in STEP; consular services limited but available.

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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 from Dubai and Abu Dhabi, 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.
- Remain vigilant, limit non-essential movement during heightened security periods, avoid military or security facilities and large gatherings, and follow local authorities' instructions while monitoring official advisories for potential security or travel disruptions.
- Travelers should register with their government's travel registration service (e.g., STEP or equivalent) and keep embassy contact details accessible to receive security updates and facilitate consular outreach during emergencies.
- 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.
- Consular assistance is available through embassies, consulates, and emergency contact channels.
- Travelers should maintain contingency plans, avoid relying solely on government-assisted departures, and monitor official advisories for potential security or travel disruptions.
- Photography, filming, or sharing images of military activity, interceptions, or damage is prohibited and may carry severe legal consequences.

Nearest accessible land borders:

- **Oman:** Land crossings commonly used include Hatta / Al Wajajah, Khatm Al Shikla (Al Ain), and Khatma Malaha
    - These crossings continue to operate, although processing times, congestion, eligibility requirements, operating arrangements, and temporary restrictions may change at short notice.
- **Saudi Arabia:** The Al Ghuwaifat (UAE) / Al Batha (Saudi Arabia) border crossing remains operational; travelers should verify status and ensure they hold the necessary documentation and vehicle insurance before travel.
- Borders to Oman and Saudi Arabia remain viable onward travel options, with commercial flight services continuing to operate from major airports in both countries, subject to airline schedules, entry requirements, and evolving regional security conditions.

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Stranded Travelers & Overland Movement Considerations

Entry, visa, & border considerations:

- **UAE entry:** Many nationalities qualify for visa-free entry or visa-on-arrival arrangements, subject to nationality-specific conditions and eligibility requirements.
    - Passports should generally be valid for at least 6 months from the date of entry.
- **Document requirements:** Passports must contain complete and consistent identity details, and holders of emergency, temporary, single-name, or other non-standard travel documents should verify entry and transit eligibility before travel.
- **Visa Requirement:**
    - **Visa-free/waiver (up to ~90 days):** Applicable for EU member states, United Kingdom, United States, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Brazil, Russia, China, and Japan.
        - **Germany:** Biometric passport required
        - **Ireland**: Visa-free/visa-on-arrival entry for up to ~90 days (within a 180-day period); passport cards not accepted
    - **Visa on arrival:** Applicable for Australia, Canada
- **Exit restrictions:** Departure may be delayed or restricted due to legal issues, unpaid fines/debts, or visa overstays; exit bans may apply and should be verified with authorities; overstaying results in fines and exit may be prohibited until settled.
- **Onward/overland travel:** Travelers must meet destination visa requirements (e.g., Oman visa/insurance); rules vary and may change rapidly—verify before travel.
- Rules are set by Emirati authorities and may change without notice; travelers should check requirements for onward travel, keep documents valid, and contact embassies where needed (e.g., UK nationals using emergency passports via Saudi Arabia).
- Dual nationals may be treated as Emirati citizens by UAE authorities, limiting access to foreign consular assistance.

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12 Strait of Hormuz

Regional Security and Transport Update

Recent Developments

- Iran stated that reopening the Strait of Hormuz remains contingent on US concessions, including sanctions relief and military de-escalation, prolonging uncertainty over maritime traffic and global energy flows.
- Iran established the Persian Gulf Strait Authority (PGSA) to oversee the Strait of Hormuz shipping, formalizing IRGC-aligned control via a civilian body managing transit approvals and mandating Iran-approved vessel insurance (free for 60 days, with fees thereafter).
- Iranian controls and US enforcement measures continue to restrict shipping and energy trade, with Washington revoking a temporary Iran oil sanctions waiver following attacks on commercial vessels and resuming military strikes, further increasing uncertainty for Strait transit and regional energy flows.
    - Iran's transit framework is operationalized through government-to-government coordination, with vessels (including Indian-flagged ships) transiting only after clearance, assigned routing, and naval guidance under IRGC-supervised procedures.
    - 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.
- The Joint Maritime Information Center (JMIC) continues to assess the Strait of Hormuz maritime threat level as severe, citing vessel attacks, IRGC surveillance, navigational interference, mine risks, and persistent security concerns for commercial shipping
- JMIC and United Kingdom Maritime Trade Operations (UKMTO) reported further vessel incidents, including an LNG carrier struck by a projectile in Omani waters and a nearby VLCC-related projectile event; commercial operators remain on heightened alert.
    - JMIC advised that the southern transit route along the Omani coastline remains available despite Iran's closure declaration, while maintaining a severe threat assessment; vessel traffic remained extremely limited, and operators were warned of continuing maritime security risks.
- The UAE continues to advance its Fujairah export corridor expansion, while Saudi Arabia is evaluating additional pipeline capacity to the Red Sea to strengthen alternative export routes that reduce reliance on Strait of Hormuz transit.
- 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 (up to USD 2 million).
- As tanker flows resume through the Strait of Hormuz, global oil supply expectations have improved, contributing to a decline in oil prices; however, markets remain cautious pending evidence of sustained traffic normalization.

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12 Strait of Hormuz

Regional Security and Transport Update

Ongoing Measures

- Iran and Oman continued technical and political discussions on safe-passage arrangements for the Strait of Hormuz; however, no final agreement had been announced
- Renewed US and Iranian military strikes following the MV GFS Galaxy incident have increased pressure on the interim ceasefire framework designed to support the reopening of Strait transit and broader negotiations.
    - Iran stated that discussions held in Oman regarding Strait management and transit arrangements did not produce an agreement, highlighting continued challenges in establishing a framework for vessel movements through the waterway.
- Iran's Persian Gulf Strait Authority (PGSA) continues to oversee commercial vessel transit procedures in the Strait of Hormuz.
- Maritime security conditions remain fragile, with commercial traffic continuing below historical levels as vessel operators assess security risks, navigational interference, and recent maritime incidents.
- IMO continues to prioritize safe navigation and evacuation planning; guidance remains cautious while transit conditions remain uncertain.
    - IMO called for an internationally coordinated safe-passage framework, urging states to enable crew changes and renewals, while reaffirming freedom of navigation.

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

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