



Middle East Immigration Tracker

March 31, 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 labour market regulations

Extension rules:

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

Fees (indicative):

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

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

01 Bahrain



Bahrain Advisory

On March 29, EgyptAir announced continued suspension of its flights from Cairo to Dubai, Abu Dhabi, Sharjah, Beirut, Doha, Amman, Dammam, Bahrain, Baghdad, Erbil and Kuwait, until further notice.



Cross-Border Travel Advisory

Recent Developments

- **Australia**: Advises do not travel to Bahrain due to volatile regional security situation.
- **Canada**: Avoid all travel to Bahrain due to ongoing military activities
- **South Korea**: Avoid industrial, energy, IT sites and US-related universities.

Ongoing Measures

- **Denmark**: Issues crisis notices and urges compliance with local authority guidance.
- **France**: Travel to Bahrain discouraged; avoid gatherings and stay vigilant.
- **Germany**: Warning against all travel to Bahrain due to regional airstrikes and unrest.
- **India**: Advised nationals in Bahrain to remain vigilant amid regional situation.
- **Ireland**: Advises high caution and warns of sudden flight disruptions.
- **Italy**: Bahrain bans drone use; commercial and recreational navigation restricted overnight.
- **Japan**: Heightened caution due to risks of attacks linked to Middle East tensions.
- **Netherlands**: Do not travel to Bahrain; severe security risks and ongoing attacks.
- **New Zealand**: Advises do not travel due to security deterioration and conflict risk.
- **Norway**: Provides official travel guidance and urges close situation monitoring.
- **Singapore**: Advises deferring travel, eRegistering, and monitoring flight disruptions.
- **Spain**: Advises postponing travel and highlights land exit via Saudi Arabia.
- **Sweden**: Explosions in Bahrain; Swedes urged to stay indoors and follow authorities.
- **Switzerland**: Advises against tourist and non-urgent travel to Bahrain.
- **UK**: Advises against all but essential travel to Bahrain.
- **US**: Americans in Bahrain advised to shelter in place and remain vigilant.

01 Bahrain



Exit & Consular Support Measures

- **Australia**: Airspace closed; Register with DFAT and leave Bahrain via any safe transport; emergency contact provided.
- **Canada**: Airspace closed; leave via King Fahd Causeway if safely possible; register with Canadians abroad.
- **Denmark**: No full Bahrain travel advisory; warns situation serious/unpredictable and provides hotline guidance.
- **France**: Register on Ariane and consider departure through Saudi Arabia options.
- **Germany**: Register on ELEFAND and follow authorities' warnings and instructions.
- **Ireland**: Warns flights may be suspended/changed; advises checking airlines and registering details for crisis contact.
- **India**: India grants visa extensions, overstay waivers, and free exit permits.
- **Italy**: Land border intermittently open; Saudi visa required; embassy assistance and registration advised.
- **Japan**: Contact nearest embassy or consular bureau for assistance.
- **Netherlands**: Leave Bahrain safely if possible; embassy contact details provided.
- **New Zealand**: Maintains Do not travel (Level 4) and asks to register travel plans and monitor local media/authorities due to armed conflict risk
- **Norway**: Advises against all travel to Bahrain; urges Reiseklar registration and notes regional airspace closures
- **Singapore**: Advises deferring travel; asks citizens to eRegister and check airlines for flight schedules/restrictions.
- **South Korea**: Follow embassy notices; contact embassy or consular hotline in emergencies.
- **Spain**: Notes airspace is partially open with limited operations, encourages those wishing to leave to use available means, and notes Oman land border open.
- **Sweden**: Land exit via Saudi possible; consular matters handled by Embassy UAE.
- **Switzerland**: Keep updated on situation and follow instructions of local authorities.
- **UK**: Some staff withdrawn; embassy operating; travelers may consider departing.
- **US**: Embassy suspended routine consular services; emergency assistance and departure information available.



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) to receive consular alerts; including registration of Canadians abroad.
- Travelers should follow local authority instructions, including sheltering indoors during security alerts and limiting nonessential movement.
- Demonstrations, large gatherings, and sensitive locations—including military or security installations and certain foreign government or US-linked sites—should be avoided.
- Avoid major industrial zones, energy/IT facilities, and foreign or US-linked sites/universities; remote work or temporary departure is advised where applicable.
- Flight disruptions are likely due to airspace restrictions; travelers should monitor airline updates and coordinate with airlines or insurers on rebooking.
- Bahraini airspace is closed; commercial flights are unavailable. Overland departure should be considered at the earliest safe opportunity where advised.
- Travelers should carry valid identification, maintain essential supplies and medication, and keep contact details current to enable consular outreach.
- Embassy emergency helplines remain the primary channel for urgent assistance, with the US Embassy reachable via ManamaConsular@state.gov and 24/7 task-force hotlines.
- Travelers should keep identity and travel documents readily accessible and maintain essential supplies and medication, particularly if shelter in place guidance is extended.
- Travelers should ensure that their travel documents have sufficient remaining validity, particularly when transiting through other countries or crossing land borders.
- Overland departure options may be supported on a case-by-case basis, including carrier facilitated onward movement to Saudi Arabia where applicable.
- Travelers are advised to keep a low profile, avoid nonessential movements, and limit travel to essential journeys when advised.
- Emergency assistance may also be sought via designated 24/7 consular task-force channels where available.

Nearest accessible land borders:

- **Saudi Arabia – The King Fahd Causeway** is the primary overland exit route from Bahrain. While generally reported as open, intermittent closures or access restrictions may occur. Travelers should verify border status immediately prior to travel.
- Once in Saudi Arabia, onward flights may be available from Dammam, Riyadh, or Jeddah, subject to conditions.
- Travelers are advised to verify real time border operating status before attempting overland travel.
- Road travel into Saudi Arabia remains possible if all required documentation is in place; travel remains at personal risk.

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)
- Saudi visa requirements, including whether an eVisa is required or available and whether the visa restricts mode of entry (e.g., air only entry)
- Vehicle and insurance requirements when crossing by personal or rental vehicle
- Any additional transit documentation required for specific nationalities
- Entry and exit procedures remain subject to local immigration authority discretion and may change at short notice; travelers are advised to check official requirements before attempting overland travel.
- Incorrect or incomplete paperwork may result in denial of entry into Saudi Arabia; travelers using emergency travel documents may need to contact the appropriate consulate before attempting crossing.
- Certain dual nationals may be required to use their Bahraini documents for entry/exit.
- Departure from Bahrain may be restricted for individuals involved in unresolved business or legal disputes.



Work Visa Requirements

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

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

Eligibility & conditions:

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

Validity & renewals:

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

Fees (indicative):

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

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



Egypt Advisory

On March 29, EgyptAir announced continued suspension of its flights from Cairo to Dubai, Abu Dhabi, Sharjah, Beirut, Doha, Amman, Dammam, Bahrain, Baghdad, Erbil and Kuwait, until further notice.

On March 29, Blue Bird Airways and TUS Airways announced an increase in flight operations from Taba Airport on March 30–31, expanding daily services to key European destinations, including four daily flights to Athens and two daily flights to Larnaca, alongside additional routes to Barcelona, Budapest, Rome, and Crete, as part of capacity reinforcement during the ongoing war in Israel.



Cross-Border Travel Advisory

Recent Developments

- **Canada**: Exercise high caution due to regional tensions, terrorism, and unstable security.
- **Spain**: Egypt generally stable; avoid Gaza border and northern Sinai.

Ongoing Measures

- **Australia**: Advises exercising a high degree of caution; terrorism threat and regional strikes.
- **Denmark**: Partial travel warning; heightened caution due to regional conflict, terrorism risks.
- **Germany**: Exercise caution; risk of terrorist attacks and regional airstrikes.
- **Ireland**: Advises a high degree of caution in Egypt due to security risks.
- **Italy**: Advises heightened caution in Egypt, with travel restrictions in high-risk areas.
- **Japan**: Heightened caution due to possible attacks linked to Middle East tensions.
- **Norway**: Advises caution in Egypt, warning against travel to certain regions.
- **South Korea**: Advises Egypt security stable but situation may change; monitor media regularly.
- **Sweden**: Travel to certain regions of Egypt discouraged; avoid non-essential travel.
- **Switzerland**: Advises heightened caution in Egypt due to terrorism and regional tensions.
- **UK**: FCDO advises against travel to multiple regions of Egypt.
- **US**: US advises increased caution; complex security environment, regional tensions.



Exit & Consular Support Measures

- **Australia**: Verify border and flight status; follow local authority instructions.
- **Canada**: Entry stamps, visa rules, passport requirements, and limited consular support stated.
- **Denmark**: Urged to register on Danskerlisten and follow local guidance.
- **Germany**: Visas required; overstays penalized; entry/exit restrictions and consular limits.
- **Ireland**: Irish citizens encouraged to register with DFA for emergency contact.
- **Italy**: Italian nationals are advised to register travel details via the Farnesina portal.
- **Japan**: Contact nearest embassy or consular department for assistance if needed.
- **Norway**: Norwegian citizens are encouraged to register travel plans and monitor updates.
- **South Korea**: Embassy provides contacts; flights operating but monitor airlines carefully.
- **Sweden**: Consular support from Cairo; advise registration on svensklistan..
- **UK**: Borders may close; Rafah closed; British Embassy contact provided.
- **US**: Taba crossing open; visas, cash fees, embassy assistance detailed.



Stranded Travelers & Overland Movement Considerations

Measures for stranded travelers and residents:

- Travelers in Egypt are advised to closely monitor local and international developments and comply with instructions issued by local authorities and security services.
- Air travel disruptions remain possible, including flight delays, cancellations, or short-notice operational changes; travelers should confirm flight status directly with airlines or tour operators.
- Individuals are encouraged to avoid large gatherings, demonstrations, and sensitive locations, including military or security installations.
- Nationals should register with their respective embassies or government travel registries (where available) to enable outreach during emergencies.
- Be prepared for sudden movement restrictions or curfews imposed by local authorities.
- Embassy and 24/7 emergency contact channels should be kept accessible in case consular assistance is required.
- 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):** Taba is the most referenced land crossing; however, operating hours and access conditions may change at short notice, and temporary closures remain possible. It currently remains open.
- **Gaza–Egypt (Rafah crossing):** Rafah is closed or highly restricted, with access subject to specific Egyptian authorization; it is not considered a reliable route for onward travel.
- **Libya–Egypt and Sudan–Egypt borders:** These border regions are generally restricted or under military control, and overland crossings are strongly discouraged.
- Some border points with Israel and Palestine may close with little notice due to security conditions.



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)
- Passport validity requirements (commonly at least six months)
- Sinai-only entry permissions, which may allow limited stay in designated areas but do not permit travel to mainland Egypt
- Tourist visas are required; e-visa or visa on arrival is generally available, with cash payment in U.S. dollars required for visas on arrival.
- Proof of entry stamp is required to exit Egypt; overstays, purpose violations, or unauthorized movement may result in fines, penalties, or expulsion.
- Entry, exit, and border procedures remain **subject to Egyptian immigration authority discretion** and may change without prior notice. Travelers are advised to confirm requirements with official authorities before attempting any land crossing.



Work Visa Requirements

Service scope:

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

Application process:

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

Eligibility & conditions:

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

Extension rules / post arrival obligations:

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

Fees (indicative):

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

Core documents:

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



Iraq Advisory

On March 23, Iraq's Ministry of Foreign Affairs announced the evacuation of more than 930 Iraqi nationals from India through multiple flights under an emergency repatriation plan, coordinated with Indian and Saudi authorities.

On March 22, the Iraqi Civil Aviation Authority announced the extension of Iraq's airspace closure to all arriving, departing, and transiting aircraft for 72 hours, till March 25 as a precautionary measure.



Cross-Border Travel Advisory

Recent Developments

- **Canada**: Avoid all travel to Iraq due to ongoing military activities.
- **Norway**: Serious security situation; airstrikes ongoing; avoid military sites, hotels, demonstrations
- **South Korea**: Heightened Middle East tensions; avoid risky areas; prioritize personal safety
- **Sweden**: Advise against travel; severe security deterioration; airspace closed; rocket, drone attacks.

Ongoing Measures

- **Australia**: Do not travel to Iraq; escalating regional conflict and severe risks.
- **Denmark**: Airspace closed; urges referencing other nations advising against Iraq travel.
- **France**: Strongly advised not to travel to Iraq due to security deterioration.
- **Germany**: Warning against all travel to Iraq; security situation highly volatile.
- **India**: Exercise heightened vigilance; avoid non-essential movement in Iraq.
- **Ireland**: Do not travel; extremely dangerous security situation and terrorism threat cited.
- **Italy**: All travel to Iraq discouraged; nationwide airspace closed due conflict.
- **Japan**: Heightened vigilance urged globally due to worsening Middle East situation.
- **Netherlands**: Entire Iraq marked red; do not travel and leave if possible.
- **New Zealand**: Advises do not travel to Iraq due to volatile security and terrorism threats.
- **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.
- **UK**: Avoid all travel to Iraq due to regional conflict escalation.
- **US**: US advises Level 4 Do Not Travel; severe terrorist and missile threats.



Exit & Consular Support Measures

- **Australia**: Leave only if safe; consular assistance extremely limited in Iraq.
- **Canada**: Airspace closed; shelter in place; consular assistance severely limited; use Emergency Centre.
- **Denmark**: No full Bahrain travel advisory; warns situation serious/unpredictable and provides hotline guidance.
- **France**: French nationals urged to leave Iraq and contact relevant missions.
- **Germany**: Embassy staff relocated; consular help unavailable; safe departure strongly recommended.
- **India**: Embassy operational with 24×7 helpline; land return routes listed.
- **Ireland**: Consular assistance extremely limited; contact Embassy in Jordan.
- **Italy**: Land borders open; Italian embassy, Erbil consulate operational; visa services suspended.
- **Japan**: Contact embassies or Japan MFA if assistance needed.
- **Netherlands**: Embassy and consulate closed to public; contact Dutch services for emergencies.
- **New Zealand**: Depart if possible; consular assistance limited with no evacuation planned.
- **Norway**: No exit options; Iraqi airspace currently closed.
- **Singapore**: No representation; register eRegister and contact MFA Duty Office if needed.
- **South Korea**: Non-essential personnel advised to depart; check border operations before travel.
- **Spain**: Register with embassy; consular capacity limited during heightened regional tensions.
- **Sweden**: Embassy and Erbil office closed; consular help limited via Stockholm.
- **Switzerland**: Use available commercial transport; Swiss assistance may be limited or unavailable.
- **UK**: Consular support limited; some staff withdrawn; follow alerts and local advice.
- **US**: Leave Iraq now; airspace closed; overland exits open; consular services suspended.



Stranded Travelers & Overland Movement Considerations

Measures for stranded travelers and residents:

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

Nearest accessible land borders:

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



Stranded Travelers & Overland Movement Considerations

Entry, visa & border considerations:

- **Iraq:** An electronic visa is generally required in advance for entry; visas on arrival are not standard.
- **Kurdistan Region:** A separate Kurdistan Region visa applies and is valid only within the KRI; a distinct Iraqi visa is required to enter Federal/Central Iraq. Exiting Iraq or the Kurdistan Region without a valid visa may result in fines or penalties.
- **Passport validity:** Typically, at least six months; travelers should carry visa documentation or certified copies where required. Emergency passports may not be accepted for entry.
- **Document restrictions:** Passports showing Israeli visas or stamps may result in refusal of entry or additional screening.
- Travelers exiting Iraq by land must meet the entry requirements of the onward country (Türkiye, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, or Kuwait).
- Entry and exit decisions remain discretionary and may change without notice; requirements should be confirmed with official authorities or airlines before overland travel.
- Travelers should verify visa and insurance conditions due to rapidly shifting exit options.



Work Visa Requirements

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

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

Eligibility & conditions:

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

Extension rules:

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

Fees (indicative):

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

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



Israel Advisory

On March 31, Wizz Air announced that it has extended the suspension of all flights to and from Israel until April 20, citing the ongoing security situation and continued restrictions on air operations in the country.

On March 29, El Al announced the continuation of its emergency operating schedule, confirming that all scheduled outbound flights from Israel are cancelled through April 11, with operations limited to rescue flights only, amid ongoing security restrictions, reduced destinations, and passenger capacity limits per flight..



Cross-Border Travel Advisory

Recent Developments

- **Australia**: Do not travel to Israel due to volatile security and armed conflict.
- **Canada**: Avoid all travel; shelter in place amid ongoing military conflicts.
- **Norway**: Air attacks ongoing; seek shelters; road travel risky; flights heavily disrupted
- **South Korea**: Missile attacks caused casualties; avoid dangerous areas and seek shelters.
- **Sweden**: Advises against all travel to Israel due to security deterioration.
- **US**: Security situation severe; departures difficult; limited flights; shelter-in-place advised.

Ongoing Measures

- **Denmark**: Free buses offered due to reduced flights; security risks during transport.
- **France**: State of emergency; stay near shelters and avoid missile debris.
- **Germany**: Warning against travel to Israel and Palestinian territories due security risks.
- **Ireland**: Do not travel to Israel; significant risks and avoidance advised.
- **Italy**: Airspace closed; residents urged to stay near shelters and follow authorities.
- **Japan**: Heightened Middle East tensions; exercise vigilance worldwide, especially Middle East.
- **Netherlands**: Israel travel code red; unpredictable, dangerous; do not travel.
- **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**: Complete travel avoidance advised; partial airspace reopening with limited operations.
- **Switzerland**: Travel to Israel is discouraged due to conflict and security risks.
- **UK**: FCDO advises against all travel; severe regional escalation, security risks.



Exit & Consular Support Measures

- **Australia**: Embassy closed; officials departed; remote consular, passport services available.
- **Canada**: Commercial flights limited; leave if safe; consular assistance limited.
- **Denmark**: Shuttle buses to Egypt/Jordan require signup; follow airline and authority guidance.
- **France**: Land exits via Egypt/Jordan; flights limited with strict controls.
- **Germany**: Nationals advised to register, follow alerts, and leave areas if possible.
- **Ireland**: Citizen's present should consider leaving; consular support extremely limited.
- **Italy**: Contact embassy and consulate emergency numbers for assistance if needed.
- **Japan**: Register travel, share itineraries, contact embassies or Japanese consular services.
- **Netherlands**: Stranded travelers advised to leave safely; embassy cannot assist.
- **Norway**: Borders open; flights disrupted; visas expiring February 22– May 31 auto-extended three months
- **Singapore**: Contact embassy or MFA duty office for assistance if needed.
- **South Korea**: Monitor embassy notices; report incidents to embassy; emergency contacts provided.
- **Spain**: Register with consulate and use nearby open borders for departure.
- **Sweden**: Limited commercial flights; land exits to Jordan/Egypt described with conditions; no assisted departures.
- **Switzerland**: Swiss nationals advised to depart via commercial transport; consular help limited.
- **UK**: Limited flights; land exits via Jordan/Egypt; embassy operating; Gaza exits closed.
- **US**: Departures limited; land exit options; embassy buses; emergency passports available.



Stranded Travelers & Overland Movement Considerations

Measures for stranded travelers and residents:

- Travelers in Israel should closely monitor security developments and strictly follow instructions from Israeli authorities, particularly the Home Front Command.
- Air raid warnings and sirens require immediate action; individuals should move to the nearest protected shelter and remain there until advised otherwise.
- Movement should be minimized, and travelers should avoid large gatherings, demonstrations, and sensitive locations, including military, security, and certain foreign government facilities.
- Flight disruptions and cancellations are widespread; capacity is reduced and travelers must confirm status directly with airlines.
- Nationals are encouraged to register with their government travel registries and keep contact details updated for emergency outreach.
- Travelers should keep travel documents accessible, ensure phones and power banks are charged, and prepare for possible prolonged sheltering.
- Travelers should ensure that their travel documents have sufficient remaining validity, particularly when transiting through other countries or crossing land borders.
- Embassies may be closed or operating remotely on specific dates; consular assistance may be limited, and commercial transport options may change at short notice; and emergency passport services may operate only during restricted hours.
- Governments are not running evacuation flights and travelers should rely on commercial options.
- Free shuttle buses have been offered on specific dates to assist departures to nearby borders; travelers should stay updated on possible short-notice transport options.

Nearest accessible land borders:

- **Jordan:** Crossings including Allenby/King Hussein Bridge, Jordan River/Sheikh Hussein, and Arava/Yitzhak Rabin may be used, subject to delays, restrictions, or sudden closures.
- **Egypt:** The Taba / Menachem Begin crossing is referenced as an exit option, and is reporting operating 24 hours, though short notice closures or restrictions may apply; onward travel through Sinai is subject to Egyptian entry conditions.
- **Gaza:** The Rafah crossing is closed to civilian exits.
- All land crossings remain subject to Israeli and neighboring authority controls.



Stranded Travelers & Overland Movement Considerations

Entry, visa & border considerations:

- **Israel:** Visa exempt travelers must obtain ETA IL authorization prior to travel; approval may be revoked for security reasons.
- Foreign nationals should reconfirm ETA-IL or visa requirements before arrival; Israeli citizens must enter and exit on an Israeli passport, and Palestinian ID holders may require Palestinian travel documents.
- **Jordan and Egypt onward travel:** Applicable visa requirements, fees, and passport validity rules apply at land borders; and cash fees/taxes may be required.
- **Passport validity:** Typically, three to six months, depending on nationality and visa type.
- **Special categories:** Palestinian ID holders and certain dual nationals are subject to specific crossing and entry/exit restrictions; Ben Gurion Airport may not be permitted in such cases.
- Road travel to border crossings may carry heightened security risks, and travelers should assess conditions immediately before movement.
- Entry and exit decisions remain discretionary and may change without notice; travelers should confirm requirements before attempting overland travel.
- Travelers should expect border-specific taxes, visa-on-arrival fees, and Sinai-related charges in Egypt or Jordan; cash payment may be required, and e-visa options may expedite processing.



Work Visa Requirements

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

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

Eligibility & conditions:

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

Extension rules:

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

Fees (indicative):

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

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



Jordan Advisory

On March 24, EgyptAir announced continued suspension of its flights from Cairo to Dubai, Abu Dhabi, Sharjah, Beirut, Doha, Amman, Dammam, Bahrain, Baghdad, Erbil and Kuwait, until further notice.



Cross-Border Travel Advisory

Recent Developments

- **Spain**: Postpone travel; regional conflict increases security risks throughout Jordan.
- **US**: Warns of regional attacks; advises vigilance and shelter-in-place readiness.

Ongoing Measures

- **Australia**: Reconsider need to travel to Jordan due to volatile regional security.
- **Canada**: Consider leaving while flights operate; borders may close.
- **Denmark**: All non-essential travel to Jordan is now advised against.
- **France**: Avoid US Embassy area and exercise reinforced vigilance due to tensions.
- **Germany**: Warning issued against travel to Jordan due regional security situation.
- **Ireland**: Avoid non-essential travel to Jordan due to drone threats and disruptions.
- **Japan**: Global warning about potential attacks and need for heightened vigilance.
- **Netherlands**: Travel only if necessary; regional attacks cause increased risks in Jordan.
- **New Zealand**: Avoid non-essential travel to Jordan due to regional strikes and instability.
- **Norway**: Serious situation in Jordan; follow local advice and seek shelter if needed.
- **Singapore**: Advises to defer all travel to Middle East; take precautions if in Jordan.
- **South Korea**: Avoid approaching military facilities; heightened risk near US-related sites.
- **Sweden**: Sweden advises against non-essential travel to Jordan due to security deterioration.
- **Switzerland**: Avoid non-urgent travel to Jordan; some regions fully advised against.
- **UK**: Avoid all travel within 3km of Syria; essential-only elsewhere.



Exit & Consular Support Measures

- **Australia**: Leave if safe; commercial flights available but may change.
- **Canada**: Commercial flights available; consider departure while options remain.
- **France**: Verify flights; register on Ariane; contact embassy for difficulties.
- **Germany**: Register on crisis list and follow local security authorities' instructions.
- **Ireland**: Register presence; follow Jordanian alerts; expect border delays and flight disruptions.
- **Japan**: Contact nearest embassy and register travel details for emergencies.
- **Norway**: Commercial flights continue; all border crossings remain open.
- **Singapore**: Defer all travel to Middle East; take precautions if in Jordan.
- **South Korea**: Strongly advised to depart Jordan if possible and safe.
- **Spain**: Spaniards may depart using commercial flights; register with embassy.
- **Sweden**: Travelers must register address with Jordan police if staying over 14 days.
- **UK**: Keep departure plans updated; contact airline; follow local siren guidance.
- **US**: Embassy provides emergency contacts, monitoring; advises airline contact and STEP enrollment.



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, stay away from windows, and wait for the all-clear; seek overhead cover and shelter in place where possible.
- Limit nonessential movement and avoid demonstrations, crowds, and military or security sites.
- Flight schedules may change at short notice; travelers should confirm status directly with airlines and proceed to the airport only with a confirmed booking.
- Nationals are encouraged to register with their government travel registries to receive updates and enable consular contact.
- Keep travel documents accessible, devices charged, and essential supplies and medication available.
- Travelers should ensure their travel documents allow sufficient remaining validity for onward transit through other countries or land borders.
- Travelers should ensure that their travel documents have sufficient remaining validity, particularly when transiting through other countries or crossing land borders.
- In emergencies, contact Jordanian emergency services (911) and relevant consular hotlines.

Nearest accessible land borders:

- **Israel / West Bank:** Crossings including Sheikh Hussein/Jordan River, King Hussein/Allenby Bridge, and Wadi Araba may face delays, reduced hours, or sudden closure.
- **Saudi Arabia:** Borders are reported open, though operating hours and access conditions may change without notice.
- **Syria and Iraq:** Border areas are considered high risk and travel is strongly discouraged.

Entry, visa & border considerations:

- Visa required for most travelers; availability of visa on arrival varies by entry point; visas may be obtained online or on arrival at airports and most border crossings (availability varies by entry point).
- **Passport validity:** Generally, at least six months.
- Stays over 14 days may require police registration; fines may apply if not completed.
- Land departures may be subject to an exit fee (commonly cited as 10 JOD). Emergency or short-validity passports may face restrictions at entry or during onward transit.
- Entry and exit decisions remain discretionary and may change without notice; travelers should confirm requirements with official authorities before attempting overland travel.



Work Visa Requirements

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

Application process:

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

Eligibility & conditions:

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

Extension rules:

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

Fees (indicative):

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

Core documents:

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



Kuwait Advisory

On March 26, Jazeera Airways announced it is planning >1,000 flights and 200,000+ seats through April 30 to stabilize operations following recent disruptions.



Cross-Border Travel Advisory

Recent Developments

- **Australia**: Do not travel to Kuwait due to volatile regional security situation.
- **Canada**: Avoid all travel to Kuwait due to ongoing military activities.

Ongoing Measures

- **Denmark**: Kuwait's airspace closed; stay indoors and monitor official information.
- **France**: Travel to Kuwait discouraged; follow local alerts and limit movements.
- **Germany**: Warning issued against travel to Kuwait and multiple regional states.
- **India**: Indian nationals in Kuwait advised to remain vigilant and follow local guidance.
- **Ireland**: Do not travel; extremely dangerous security situation and terrorism threat cited.
- **Italy**: Airspace closed; stay sheltered and follow local authority guidance.
- **Japan**: Heightened vigilance worldwide amid escalating Middle East security situation.
- **Netherlands**: Travel only, if necessary, due to heightened security risks.
- **New Zealand**: Do not travel to Kuwait due to deteriorating Middle East security.
- **Norway**: Avoid Norway advises against all travel to Kuwait due to instability.
- **Singapore**: Advised to defer all travel to the Middle East region.
- **South Korea**: Evacuate US/Israel-linked facilities; avoid named steel, hotels, universities
- **Spain**: Airspace closed; postpone all travel to Kuwait until further notice.
- **Sweden**: Advises against non-essential travel to Kuwait due security concerns.
- **Switzerland**: Advises against tourist and non-urgent travel to Kuwait.
- **UK**: Advises against all but essential travel to Kuwait.
- **US**: Commercial flights halted; Americans advised to shelter and remain vigilant.



Exit & Consular Support Measures

- **Australia**: Leave Kuwait now if safe; register with DFAT for updates.
- **Canada**: Airspace closed; Canadians advised to register; consular services limited.
- **Denmark**: Land border to Saudi open; assess risks and obtain visa.
- **France**: Flights disrupted; land exits to Saudi Arabia currently open.
- **Germany**: Register on ELEFAND and follow alerts, shelters, and authorities' instructions.
- **Ireland**: Air travel disrupted; consular help via Embassy Amman, register presence.
- **Italy**: Land border to Saudi Arabia open; visa and route guidance provided.
- **Japan**: Contact embassies; register on Tabi-Regi; share itineraries; and follow official updates.
- **Netherlands**: Embassy closed; limited consular support mentioned.
- **Norway**: Register travel, contact authorities, avoid targeted areas, seek shelter if advised.
- **Singapore**: No representation; register eRegister and contact MFA Duty Office if needed.
- **South Korea**: Contact Korean Embassy Kuwait or Consular Call Center in emergencies
- **Spain**: Register with consulate, stay informed, avoid gatherings, carry documentation.
- **Sweden**: Follow local guidance; borders open; register on Swedish list and app.
- **Switzerland**: Stay updated, follow authorities' instructions, avoid demonstrations and risky areas.
- **UK**: Land borders open; ensure correct paperwork and monitor authorities' instructions..
- **US**: Overland departures to Saudi Arabia available with visa requirements.



Stranded Travelers & Overland Movement Considerations

Measures for stranded travelers and residents:

- Travelers in Kuwait should monitor security developments closely and follow instructions issued by local authorities, including shelter guidance during alerts.
- Where warnings are issued, individuals should shelter indoors immediately, remain away from windows, and use inner or hardened rooms where possible.
- Nonessential movement should be limited, and travelers should avoid large gatherings, demonstrations, and military or security related sites.
- Commercial flights may be disrupted or suspended; travelers should check directly with airlines or travel agents for departure options.
- Overland departure via Saudi Arabia has been referenced as an alternative where flights operate, subject to border access and visa eligibility.
- Travelers should prepare contingency plans and should not rely on government-assisted evacuation or departure arrangements, as such support may not be available.
- Nationals are encouraged to register with their government travel registries and keep contact details updated for emergency outreach.
- Visitor visas reportedly extended automatically; residents may obtain absence permits as needed.
- 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.

Nearest accessible land borders:

- **Saudi Arabia:** Land crossings including Al Nuwaisib / Al Khafji and Al Salmi / Ar Ruqi are reported as open, though operating conditions may change without notice.
- **Iraq:** Border areas are military restricted; crossings may close at short notice and unauthorized movement is prohibited.



Stranded Travelers & Overland Movement Considerations

Entry, visa, & border considerations:

- **Kuwait entry:** Valid visa required (eVisa, embassy, or visa on arrival); passport validity up to six months.
- **Exit permits:** Certain residents require an exit permit via the Sahel app; unresolved fines or disputes may restrict departure.
- **Saudi Arabia onward travel:** Travelers must meet Saudi visa requirements before land crossing; visa on arrival or e-visa may be available depending on nationality.
- **Document restrictions:** Israeli stamps/visas, prior travel to Israel, emergency or provisional passports, or passports without an “M” or “F” gender marker may result in refusal of entry or exit.
- **Vehicles:** Overland travel by car may require proof of ownership/registration and valid Saudi insurance; vehicles must be owned and registered to the traveler and pedestrian crossing is not permitted; visitor visas have been automatically extended by one month.



Work Visa Requirements

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

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

Eligibility & conditions:

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

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

Fees (indicative):

- OMR 20,000 – visa fee

Core documents:

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



Oman Advisory

On March 26, Oman Air announced extension to the temporary suspension of flights to several key regional and international destinations including Dubai, Bahrain, Doha, Kuwait, Copenhagen, and Baghdad till April 15.

On March 22, the Foreign Ministry, in coordination with the relevant authorities in the Sultanate of Oman, continued to implement the necessary arrangements to facilitate the return of Omani citizens who are outside the country through coordinated land and air transfers.



Cross-Border Travel Advisory

Recent Developments

- **Sweden**: Urges special caution, avoid affected areas, follow local authorities.
- **UK**: Exercise increased caution; reports of missile and drone activity, flooding.
- **US**: Level 3 Reconsider Travel; shelter-in-place guidance across Oman except Muscat.

Ongoing Measures

- **Australia**: Reconsider travel to Oman due to volatile regional security situation.
- **Canada**: Avoid non-essential travel to Oman due to regional tensions and missile debris risk.
- **Denmark**: Commercial flights available; avoid delays and follow local authority instructions.
- **France**: Travel to Oman discouraged due to regional military strikes and escalation.
- **Germany**: Warning issued against travel to Oman due regional security risks.
- **India**: Avoid unnecessary travel; remain vigilant and follow local Omani advisories.
- **Ireland**: Exercise high caution due to regional tensions and possible flight disruptions.
- **Italy**: Exercise caution; airspace open, flights operating; limit movements near sensitive areas.
- **Japan**: Heightened global caution due to Middle East tensions, possible attacks.
- **Netherlands**: Parts of Oman orange; rest yellow with specific safety risks.
- **New Zealand**: Avoid non-essential travel due to strikes, conflict risk and regional instability.
- **Norway**: Avoid non-essential travel to Oman due to serious regional security escalation.
- **Singapore**: Defer all travel to region; take precautions if in Oman.
- **South Korea**: Travel alert raised to Level 3; Koreans advised to evacuate.
- **Spain**: Travel to Iraq discouraged; airspace closed and security situation highly unstable.
- **Switzerland**: Avoid tourist and non-urgent travel to Oman due regional instability.



Exit & Consular Support Measures

- **Australia**: Leave if safe; commercial flights available but may change quickly.
- **Canada**: Commercial flights operate; consider leaving while options remain.
- **Denmark**: Confirm flights, stay reachable, contact Danish authorities for urgent assistance.
- **India**: Embassy provides contact numbers and guidance; visa details outlined.
- **Ireland**: Contact Irish Embassy Riyadh for assistance; monitor updates and airline changes.
- **Italy**: Land border open; 14-day entry stamp; overstay fines apply.
- **Japan**: Register travel plans and contact nearest embassy for assistance.
- **Netherlands**: Stranded travelers advised to complete Crisis Contact Form for assistance.
- **Norway**: Contact airline for departures; embassy provides emergency support channels.
- **Singapore**: Contact Singapore Embassy Muscat or MFA Duty Office for assistance.
- **South Korea**: Cancel or delay travel; citizens urged to evacuate if present.
- **Spain**: Register with embassy; consular capacity limited during heightened regional tensions.
- **Sweden**: Flights operating from Muscat; Oman Air increased departures; no embassy.
- **UK**: Commercial flights operating Muscat-UK; Khasab suspended; 24/7 consular assistance.
- **US**: Non-emergency staff ordered to leave; commercial flights available; limited consular services.



Stranded Travelers & Overland Movement Considerations

Measures for stranded travelers and residents:

- Travelers should exercise heightened caution due to recent attacks and an unstable regional security environment, closely monitoring local developments and following instructions issued by Omani authorities, including shelter guidance if advised.
- In higher-risk areas (including parts of Duqm and southern Oman near Salalah), individuals should shelter in place and avoid movement if conditions deteriorate.
- During security incidents or alerts, remain indoors, stay away from windows, and move to internal or protected areas where possible; outside Muscat, shelter-in-place guidance may be issued.
- Commercial flights continue to operate, though delays or cancellations may occur; travelers should confirm flight status directly with airlines and avoid airports without confirmed bookings; Americans are advised to depart if safe.
- Nonessential movement should be limited, and travelers should avoid military installations, crowded areas, and other high-risk locations.
- Nationals are encouraged to register with their government travel registries and keep contact details updated for emergency outreach.; including US embassy registration, Sweden's Svensklistan/UD Resklar app notifications; Italian nationals should register via "Dove Siamo Nel Mondo" or the "Viaggiare Sicuri" app and enable notifications
- 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.
- Consular assistance is available via embassies and 24/7 emergency helplines; however, travelers should plan independent contingency options.

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 is referenced as possible, subject to security assessment, border controls, and onward visa eligibility.
- **Yemen:** The land border is dangerous and strongly discouraged; prior approval is required and crossing conditions remain volatile.
- Travelers should verify real-time border status before attempting any overland movement, as conditions may change without notice.



Stranded Travelers & Overland Movement Considerations

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 eVisa, subject to conditions.
 - Italian passport holders receive an Omani entry stamp valid for a 14-day tourist stay when crossing at a land border.
- **Passport validity:** Typically, at least six months is required.
- **Overstay penalties:** Overstays may be fined (commonly cited as 10 OMR per day).
- **Land entry:** Entry stamps may grant a limited stay depending on nationality; re-entry may require a new visa.
- **Vehicles:** Crossing by rental vehicle may require insurance valid in Oman.
 - Valid insurance is required when crossing from the UAE with a rental car.
- **Document restrictions:** Some passports may face entry restrictions based on travel history or passport markers (e.g., gender marker “X”).
- Entry and exit rules are set by Omani authorities and may change without prior notice; travelers should confirm requirements with official authorities or airlines before travel.



Work Visa Requirements

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

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

Eligibility & conditions:

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

Extension rules:

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

Fees (indicative):

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

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

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

08 Pakistan



Pakistan Advisory

On March 26, Jazeera Airways announced that it will resume commercial flights to and from Islamabad from April 3, operating via Dammam in Saudi Arabia.



Cross-Border Travel Advisory

Ongoing Measures

- **Australia**: Reconsider travel overall; do not travel to several high-risk regions
- **Canada**: Exercise high caution in Pakistan; avoid travel to multiple regions.
- **France**: Exercise great caution; avoid gatherings and crowded public places in Pakistan.
- **Germany**: Warning issued against travel to several Pakistan regions due conflict.
- **Ireland**: High caution advised due to terrorism, border volatility, protests, and crime.
- **Japan**: Global caution: Iran-backed threats; heightened vigilance, especially Middle East.
- **Netherlands**: Avoid red zones; travel only if necessary to orange regions.
- **Norway**: Avoid travel to Kashmir border areas, Azad Kashmir, Baluchistan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.
- **South Korea**: Most of Pakistan under travel warnings due to instability, terrorism, and crime.
- **Spain**: Advisory reminds travelers of health risks, terrorism threats, and general travel caution.
- **Sweden**: Sweden advises against all travel to multiple high-risk Pakistan regions.
- **Switzerland**: Switzerland warns of volatile security, terrorism, conflict, and regional travel dangers.
- **UK**: FCDO warns of travel restrictions, regional escalation, and significant security risks.
- **US**: Americans worldwide advised to exercise increased caution, especially Middle East



Exit & Consular Support Measures

- **Canada**: Government may have limited consular assistance in restricted or high-risk areas.
- **France**: Verify flight status due to suspended connections with Gulf countries.
- **Germany**: Follow security instructions, monitor media, update crisis-list contact details.
- **Ireland**: Visa and passport validity required; embassy emergency contact provided.
- **Japan**: Register in Tabireg; contact nearest embassy; share itineraries for emergencies.
- **Norway**: Register travel; contact embassy or emergency center for assistance.
- **South Korea**: Embassy provides emergency contacts and assistance for incidents and safety issues.
- **Spain**: Travelers advised to register details for assistance during emergencies abroad.
- **Sweden**: Contact UD-jouren for emergencies; register on Svensklistan for updates.
- **Switzerland**: Swiss nationals advised to contact embassy or Helpline EDA during emergencies.
- **UK**: Practical support may be limited; prepare for self-arranged departure if necessary.
- **US**: Follow US embassy guidance; periodic airspace closures may disrupt travel.



Stranded Travelers & Overland Movement Considerations

Measures for stranded travelers and residents:

- Travelers in Pakistan should monitor security developments closely and follow instructions issued by local authorities, as conditions can change rapidly.
- Curfews, roadblocks, and communication disruptions (mobile or internet shutdowns) may be imposed at short notice.
- Nonessential movement should be avoided, particularly demonstrations, large gatherings, and areas near international borders.
- Flight disruptions are possible due to airspace or security developments; travelers should confirm flight status directly with airlines.
- Nationals are encouraged to register with their embassies or government travel registries for updates and emergency contact.
- Travelers should keep passports, visas, and essential supplies accessible and maintain personal contingency plans.
- Travelers should ensure that their travel documents have sufficient remaining validity, particularly when transiting through other countries or crossing land borders.
- Consular assistance may be limited in high risk or restricted areas.

Nearest accessible land borders:

- **India:** All land crossings, including Wagah/Attari, are closed.
- **Afghanistan:** Border areas are highly restricted; foreigners are generally prohibited except at designated official crossings.
- **China:** Khunjerab Pass (Karakoram Highway) is an official crossing, subject to seasonal and security related conditions.
- **Iran:** Overland travel is strongly discouraged.
- Border access is permitted only at official crossings and may change without notice.

Entry, visa, & border considerations:

- Visa required in advance for most travelers, including via the official online visa system.
- **Passport validity:** typically, at least six months.
- Overstaying visas may result in fines, detention, or denied departure.
- Travel may be limited to areas listed on the visa; some regions require special permits (NOCs).
- To exit Pakistan, travelers must hold a valid visa, passport, or eligible Pakistani ID.
- Proof of polio vaccination may be required for stays exceeding four weeks.
- Health Declaration Form may be required on arrival; carry a yellow fever certificate if applicable.



Work Visa Requirements

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

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

Eligibility & conditions:

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

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

Fees (indicative):

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

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



Qatar Advisory

On March 29, Qatar Airways published its latest revised schedule including additional frequencies to 90+ destinations, reflecting increase in flights to and from Doha, valid until April 15.



Cross-Border Travel Advisory

Recent Developments

- **Australia**: Do not travel to Qatar due to volatile regional security situation.
- **US**: Level 3: Reconsider travel; remain vigilant; prepare to shelter in place.

Ongoing Measures

- **Canada**: Avoid all travel to Qatar due to ongoing military activities.
- **Denmark**: Other countries advise against travel to Qatar; flights to Copenhagen resume.
- **France**: Travel to Qatar discouraged due to highly volatile security situation.
- **Germany**: Warning issued against travel to Qatar due regional military escalation.
- **India**: Indians advised caution, follow authorities, stay indoors, avoid military areas.
- **Ireland**: Advises avoiding non-essential travel to Qatar due security risks.
- **Italy**: Postpone non-essential travel; airspace limited, movements should be restricted.
- **Japan**: Heightened caution due to escalating Middle East tensions.
- **Netherlands**: Qatar coded orange; travel only, if necessary, due to risks.
- **New Zealand**: Do not travel to Qatar due to escalating military conflict risks.
- **Norway**: Serious and unpredictable situation with ongoing airstrikes in Qatar.
- **Singapore**: Singapore advises deferring all travel to Qatar due to regional instability.
- **South Korea**: Advisory raised to Level 3 urging cancellation or delay of Qatar travel.
- **Spain**: Spain advises postponing travel due to regional conflict and airspace closure.
- **Sweden**: Advises against non-essential travel to Qatar; transit via Hamad excluded.
- **Switzerland**: Avoid tourist and non-urgent travel to Qatar due regional risks.
- **UK**: Avoid all but essential travel to Qatar due regional escalation.



Exit & Consular Support Measures

- **Australia**: Leave now if flights available; embassy limited services, registration offered.
- **Canada**: Leave Qatar early via flights or land borders when safely possible.
- **Denmark**: Cancel Danskerlisten if departed; contact Vagtcenter for urgent help.
- **France**: Shelter advised; limited flights via Doha; Saudi land border open.
- **Germany**: Register in crisis list and follow authorities; flights restricted region-wide.
- **India**: Embassy functioning; 24x7 helpline and email available for assistance.
- **Ireland**: Contact Embassy in UAE for assistance; ensure comprehensive travel insurance.
- **Italy**: Land border open; Saudi visa and insurance required.
- **Netherlands**: Embassy 24/7 support; follow authorities; possible airspace closure.
- **New Zealand**: 24/7 consular assistance available; ETDs not accepted for entry/exit.
- **Norway**: Contact airline for departures; flight conditions change quickly.
- **Singapore**: Singaporeans should eRegister and contact embassy or MFA for assistance.
- **South Korea**: Embassy conducting citizen presence survey; participation requested with contacts provided.
- **Spain**: Register with consulate and follow embassy updates for potential departures.
- **Sweden**: Register Svensklistan, monitor airspace; special flights; Saudi land exit option.
- **UK**: Depart if safe; monitor flights and border status before travelling.
- **US**: Commercial departures available; routine consular services suspended; emergency assistance continues.



Stranded Travelers & Overland Movement Considerations

Measures for stranded travelers and residents:

- Travelers in Qatar are advised to monitor developments closely and follow instructions issued by Qatari authorities, particularly during periods of heightened alert.
- Where advised, individuals should shelter in place with essential supplies on hand, as flight operations may be disrupted or suspended at short notice; travelers should confirm flight status directly with airlines and avoid airports without confirmed departures.
- Some authorities advise leaving Qatar now if commercial flights are available and it is safe to reach the airport, as airspace may open or close at short notice.
- Airspace may operate only for limited hours, with few special or non-scheduled flights; Qatar Airways and airlines issue short-notice updates.
- Nonessential movement should be limited, and travelers should avoid demonstrations, large gatherings, and sensitive locations, including military or security facilities.
- Nationals are encouraged to register with their government travel registries to receive updates and enable consular outreach.
- Travelers should keep travel documents readily accessible, maintain charged communication devices, and prepare independent contingency plans not reliant on government assisted departures.
- Travelers should ensure that their travel documents have sufficient remaining validity, particularly when transiting through other countries or crossing land borders.
- Visitor support services (e.g., Qatar Tourism hotline) and local healthcare services remain available.
- Some embassies are providing limited consular or notarial services by appointment only; online passport services may be temporarily available for certain nationalities.

Nearest accessible land borders:

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



Stranded Travelers & Overland Movement Considerations

Entry, visa, & border considerations:

- **Qatar entry:** Many nationalities are eligible for visa free entry or visa on arrival; passport validity of at least six months is commonly required.
 - Some governments advise against travel to or transit through Qatar, including layovers, due to the volatile security situation; travelers may be unable to depart once in country.
- **Health insurance:** Qatar approved health insurance is mandatory for stays exceeding 30 days and for certain pre arrival visa categories.
- **Document restrictions:** Emergency or provisional passports, passports with gender marker “X”, or other nonstandard documents may not be accepted for entry or transit.
- **Saudi Arabia onward travel:** Travelers exiting Qatar by land must meet Saudi visa and entry requirements; some Saudi visas may restrict mode of entry.
- **Exit conditions:** Travelers must hold valid legal status in Qatar when departing; unpaid debts or legal issues may prevent exit.
- Entry and exit procedures remain subject to immigration authority discretion and may change without notice; travelers should confirm official requirements before attempting overland travel.

10 Saudi Arabia



Work Visa Requirements

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

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

Eligibility & conditions:

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

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

Fees (indicative):

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

Core documents:

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

10 Saudi Arabia



Saudi Arabia Advisory

On March 29, Jazeera Airways announced the resumption of Kuwait–Jeddah flights via Qaisumah, expanding its Saudi-operated network to 20+ destinations with 1,000+ flights through end-April.

On March 26, Jazeera Airways announced that it will resume commercial flights to and from Islamabad from April 3, operating via Dammam.



Cross-Border Travel Advisory

Recent Developments

- **Canada:** Avoid non-essential travel to Saudi Arabia due to military and security risks.
- **Sweden:** Advises against non-essential travel; all travel within 50 km Yemen border.
- **US:** Encourages departure; recommends shelter in place amid missile, drone threats.

Ongoing Measures

- **Australia:** Reconsider travel due to volatile security, attacks risk, and terrorism threats.
- **Denmark:** Non-essential travel to Saudi Arabia discouraged; Yemen border remains prohibited.
- **France:** Travel to Saudi Arabia discouraged; avoid eastern regions; Red Sea sailing postponed.
- **Germany:** Travel to Saudi Arabia warned against due to regional airstrikes and instability.
- **India:** Remain vigilant and follow safety guidelines issued by local authorities.
- **Ireland:** Avoid non-essential travel; shelter in place and avoid military sites.
- **Italy:** Avoid non-essential travel; exercise maximum caution, especially Riyadh, Eastern Province.
- **Japan:** Heightened caution due to escalating Middle East tensions.
- **Netherlands:** Avoid Yemen border; rest of Saudi Arabia only for essential travel.
- **New Zealand:** Avoid non-essential travel due to strikes, conflict risk, and instability.
- **Norway:** Security situation serious; assess safety, follow local advice, seek shelter if needed.
- **Singapore:** Defer all travel; stay vigilant and follow local authority instructions.
- **South Korea:** Possible retaliatory attacks; avoid Jubail industrial facilities and nearby areas.
- **Spain:** Postpone travel; regional conflict makes Saudi Arabia unsafe until further notice.
- **Switzerland:** Avoid tourist and non-urgent travel due to regional risks and instability.
- **UK:** Avoid travel near Yemen border; stay inside due to missile activity.

10 Saudi Arabia



Exit & Consular Support Measures

- **Australia**: Commercial flights available; seek consular help via listed emergency contacts.
- **Canada**: Commercial flights available; consider leaving; register with Canadian authorities.
- **Denmark**: Travel advisories are guidance; travel remains personal responsibility.
- **France**: Register on Ariane; contact French maritime cell; stay in airline contact.
- **Germany**: Register in crisis list; check flights and follow official instructions.
- **India**: Flights operating; embassy and consulate functioning with emergency contacts available.
- **Ireland**: Airspace closed; contact airlines and embassy; register with authorities.
- **Italy**: Register presence; embassy emergency contacts; visas required; borders open; flights available.
- **Japan**: Contact nearest Japanese mission; register travel details for emergencies.
- **Netherlands**: Stranded travelers should complete Crisis Contact Form for assistance.
- **New Zealand**: 24/7 New Zealand consular assistance; embassy contact details provided.
- **Norway**: Contact airline or travel company for flight and departure information.
- **Singapore**: Contact Singapore missions; check flights; eRegister for consular assistance.
- **South Korea**: Embassy provides safety assistance; emergency contact numbers provided.
- **Spain**: Commercial flights active; citizens advised to leave using available options.
- **Sweden**: Register with Svensklistan; embassy assistance available; follow local authorities.
- **Switzerland**: Exit may be restricted; consular helpline and embassy assistance available.
- **UK**: Commercial departure available; ensure documents valid and follow local instructions.
- **US**: Commercial flights operating; routine consular services suspended; emergency assistance continues.

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 mobile phones where available.
- Commercial flights continue to operate, though delays or cancellations may occur; travelers should confirm flight status directly with airlines and go to airports only with confirmed bookings.
- Nonessential movement should be limited; and travelers should avoid military installations, sensitive sites, and large gatherings.
- Nationals are encouraged to register with their government travel registries and keep contact details updated for emergency outreach.
- 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.
- Avoid photographing military or attack sites and seek assistance from the nearest embassy or MOFA emergency contacts when needed.

Nearest accessible land borders:

- **Bahrain:** The King Fahd Causeway is a key crossing, subject to visa conditions and short notice restrictions.
- **Jordan, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, and UAE:** Land borders are generally referenced as open, though access and operating hours may change without notice.
- **Iraq:** The Arar crossing is referenced as open for commercial traffic only.
- Additional named crossings referenced: Qatar (Salwa), UAE (Al Batha), Kuwait (Al Khafji, Ar Ruqi); travelers should use only official crossings and expect sudden changes.
- **Yemen border areas:** All travel near the Yemen border is strongly restricted; movement within defined buffer zones may be prohibited or require special authorization.

10 Saudi Arabia



Stranded Travelers & Overland Movement Considerations

Entry, visa & border considerations:

- **Valid Saudi visa required;** a visa does not guarantee entry, which remains subject to border authority discretion.
- Some visas permit air entry only and may restrict land entry; visa annotations should be checked carefully.
- **Passport validity:** generally, at least six months.
- Residents may require valid exit or re entry permits.
- Dual nationality is not recognized; travelers must exit using the passport used for entry.
- Travelers must meet onward visa requirements when exiting Saudi Arabia by land; entry and exit rules are set by Saudi authorities and may change without prior notice.
- Some nationalities may be visa-exempt for short stays (commonly up to 14 days), subject to conditions.
- Holders of expired visas may now extend their stay until April 18 or leave the Kingdom without delay.
- Entry may be denied due to travel history, including Israeli or certain regional passport stamps.
- Biometric fingerprints may be required at entry points.
- Hajj and Umrah pilgrims must meet specific requirements, including mandatory meningococcal ACWY vaccination and proof at entry.



Work Visa Requirements

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

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

Eligibility & conditions:

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

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

Fees (indicative):

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

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



UAE Advisory

On March 30, 2026, Emirates announced that following the partial reopening of regional airspace, it is operating a reduced flight schedule due to the prevailing regional situation, while continuing to monitor developments and prioritizing passenger and crew safety.

On March 24, Cathay Pacific announced that it has extended the suspension of all flights to and from Dubai and Riyadh until May 31, 2026, citing the ongoing war in the Middle East, while offering affected passengers fee-free rebooking, rerouting, or refunds.



Cross-Border Travel Advisory

Recent Developments

- **Australia**: Do not travel to UAE due to volatile regional security situation.
- **South Korea**: Avoid UAE industrial zones and US-affiliated universities amid retaliation threats.

Ongoing Measures

- **Canada**: Avoid all travel due to ongoing military activity and unpredictable security.
- **Denmark**: Serious, unpredictable security; Iranian threats against energy infrastructure and hotels.
- **France**: French nationals advised against travel to the UAE due to missile alerts.
- **Germany**: Warning issued; avoid travel due to regional airstrikes and closed airspace.
- **India**: Flights suspended; travelers advised to await airline confirmation before moving.
- **Ireland**: Register with authorities; commercial flights available; embassy contacts provided.
- **Italy**: Postpone non-essential travel; exercise caution and limit movements.
- **Japan**: Heightened caution due to possible attacks linked to Middle East tensions.
- **Netherlands**: Red zones prohibited; elsewhere travel only if strictly necessary.
- **New Zealand**: Advises do not travel due to security deterioration and conflict risk.
- **Norway**: Serious, unpredictable security situation with ongoing attacks in the UAE.
- **Singapore**: Advises deferring travel and registering while monitoring flight disruptions.
- **Spain**: Advises postponing travel and notes partial airspace reopening with safe corridors.
- **Sweden**: Ongoing Iranian air attacks; avoid US/Israeli interests; follow shelter guidance.
- **Switzerland**: Switzerland advises against tourist and non-urgent travel to the UAE.
- **UK**: Advises against all but essential travel and confirms embassy dependents withdrawn.
- **US**: Reconsider travel; shelter in place during missile or drone alerts.



Exit & Consular Support Measures

- **Australia**: Advised to leave now; Australian missions closed; limited consular services.
- **Canada**: Leave via commercial options if safe; borders open with conditions.
- **Denmark**: Commercial flights available; follow authorities; contact Danish crisis center.
- **France**: Register on ARIANE and contact Dubai consulate if needed..
- **Germany**: Register on crisis list and follow authorities' instructions closely.
- **India**: Emergency helplines provided and visa fines waived during airspace closure.
- **Ireland**: Register with authorities; commercial flights available; embassy contacts provided
- **Italy**: Land border to Oman open; 14-day Omani entry stamp available.
- **Japan**: Register with “Tabi-Reji” and contact nearest embassy for assistance.
- **Netherlands**: Contact airline for flights; embassy reachable via 24/7 contact center.
- **New Zealand**: Maintains Do not travel (Level 4) and asks travelers to register plans to receive alerts; notes ongoing disruption risk.
- **Norway**: Contact airline for departures; check insurance; follow local safety advice.
- **Singapore**: Urges citizens to defer travel, eRegister if in the region, and provides UAE mission + MFA duty office contact details.
- **South Korea**: Embassy emergency hotlines and contact details provided.
- **Spain**: Notes airspace is partially open with limited operations, encourages those wishing to leave to use available means, and notes Oman land border open.
- **Sweden**: Commercial flights operating; register Svensklistan; follow airline confirmation before airport.
- **Switzerland**: Swiss consular assistance available; provisional passports refused; consular access not always granted.
- **UK**: Limited commercial departures available; register presence and review departure options.
- **US**: Limited flights; consular services suspended except emergencies.



Stranded Travelers & Overland Movement Considerations

Measures for stranded travelers and residents:

- Travelers in the UAE are advised to monitor local and regional developments closely and follow instructions issued by local authorities; if advised by authorities, shelter indoors immediately due to falling debris risks.
- Commercial flight operations continue, though delays, cancellations, or partial airspace restrictions may occur; travelers should confirm flight status directly with airlines and avoid going to airports without confirmed bookings.
- Nonessential movement should be limited, and travelers should avoid military installations, sensitive sites, and large gatherings; major industrial zones (e.g., KEZAD, Musaffah), and US- or Israel-related institutions.
- Nationals are encouraged to register with their respective government travel registries to receive updates and enable 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.
- Transit passengers should remain airside; onward travel may be limited.
- Residents may consider departure of non-essential family members, especially minors and vulnerable persons.
- Consular assistance is available via embassies/consulates and 24/7 duty offices, though travelers are advised not to rely solely on government-assisted departures
- 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 referenced include Hatta / Al Wajajah, Khatm Al Shikla (Al Ain), and Khatma Malaha. Borders are reported as open, though congestion or intermittent restrictions may occur.
- **Saudi Arabia:** Some advisories reference land borders as open, subject to operational changes at short notice.
- Travelers should verify real time border status before attempting overland travel.



Stranded Travelers & Overland Movement Considerations

Entry, visa, & border considerations:

- **UAE entry:** Many nationalities are visa exempt or receive visa on arrival (commonly up to 30 or 90 days); passport validity of at least six months is generally required.
- **Document restrictions:** Passports showing gender marker “X”, single name passports, or provisional/emergency passports may be refused entry; emergency passports are not accepted for UAE entry.
- **Onward travel via Oman:** Travelers must meet Omani visa requirements; drivers may need a valid Oman visa and Oman compliant vehicle insurance; crossing into Oman grants a 14-day tourist stay, and passports are stamped accordingly.
- **Exit restrictions:** Departure may be restricted where legal issues, unpaid fines, debts, or visa overstay remain unresolved.
- Exit bans may be enforced; travelers may need to verify status via police apps or authorities.
- Irish citizens receive a free 30-day visa waiver on arrival; passport cards are not accepted, and temporary passports are not valid for UAE entry (airside transit/exit only).
- Italian citizens may enter visa-free for stays up to 90 days; passport validity must be at least six months
- Entry and exit rules are set by Emirati authorities and may change without prior notice.
- Register with your government’s travel registry (e.g., “Tabi Reji”) and contact the nearest embassy for assistance when needed.

12 Strait of Hormuz



Regional Security and Transport Update

Recent Developments

- The US has renewed calls for allied support to secure the Strait of Hormuz, urging countries most reliant on Gulf oil flows to contribute naval resources to maintain freedom of navigation.
 - Allied responses remain cautious but more coordinated, with several European countries and Japan issuing a joint statement condemning Iran's actions and expressing readiness to support efforts to ensure safe passage, while stopping short of confirming operational deployments
- At an EU summit, European leaders elevated the Strait of Hormuz disruption as a key political and economic concern, citing rising energy prices and migration risks, while continuing to resist calls for direct military deployment to secure the waterway.
- Iran continues to assert operational control over the Strait, characterizing restrictions on shipping as a strategic security response to US–Israeli military actions.
 - Iran allows only “non-hostile” vessels to transit the Strait of Hormuz under strict coordination and Iran-defined security rules, with passage potentially permitted for vessels linked to “friendly” countries such as China, Russia, India, Iraq and Pakistan, reinforcing Tehran's selective control despite the near-halt in commercial traffic.
 - Iran's parliament is drafting legislation to formally impose transit tolls on vessels passing through the Strait of Hormuz, seeking to legally codify Iran's control and oversight of the waterway in exchange for providing security; the move follows reports of a de-facto “toll-booth” regime already applied to select transiting vessels.
- Commercial shipping through the Strait remains severely constrained, with most operators avoiding transit due to heightened security risks
 - Limited and selective vessel movements continue, primarily involving Iran-linked or Asia-bound shipments, rather than a broad resumption of commercial traffic.
 - Two China-linked container vessels successfully exited the Strait of Hormuz under Iranian coordination, marking the first container ship transits (excluding Iranian-flagged vessels) since the conflict began
 - Some oil flows are being partially rerouted via Saudi Arabia's East–West pipeline to the Red Sea, providing a limited energy-supply bypass amid Hormuz disruption
- The US issued a temporary waiver of the Jones Act
 - The 60-day waiver allows foreign-flagged vessels to transport oil, gas, fertilizer, and coal between US ports to ease domestic supply pressures and rising energy prices linked to the Strait of Hormuz disruption
- Multiple commercial vessels, including oil tankers and cargo ships, have been attacked or damaged since early March, resulting in civilian seafarer casualties and continuing to reinforce decisions by operators and insurers to suspend Gulf transits.

12 Strait of Hormuz



Regional Security and Transport Update

Ongoing Measures

- Maritime threat levels across the Strait of Hormuz remain assessed as Critical, with further attacks on commercial shipping considered likely and conditions highly hazardous for civilian vessels.
- The IMO continues to urge vessels to avoid transiting the region where possible, while reaffirming that freedom of navigation remains protected under international maritime law.
 - The IMO called for an internationally coordinated safe-passage framework and urged states to facilitate crew changes and crew renewals, while reaffirming freedom of navigation under international law.
- **No formal closure** of the Strait has been declared, but insurance withdrawal, military activity, and repeated attacks continue to restrict transit in practice.

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.
- **Delayed departures or missed arrivals are increasing** the risk of unplanned overstays or missed entry windows for foreign nationals reliant on maritime or associated air transport, potentially requiring case-by-case discretion from local immigration authorities.
- **No Gulf state** has announced **visa or immigration rule changes directly linked to the Strait of Hormuz**, though authorities acknowledge that transport disruption may affect compliance with standard entry and exit timelines.

Thank you



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