

Middle East Immigration Tracker

November 11, 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 report (if required) from a Wafid-accredited center, issued within two months
- Work permit is linked to a specific employer and role and subject to labor market regulations

Extension rules:

- Commercial-sector work permits may be issued or renewed between six months to 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):

- Commercial-sector work permit and medical insurance fees range from BHD 142.5 for six months to BHD 390 for two years, with additional charges applicable as required.

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

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01 Bahrain

Bahrain Advisory

No recent travel advisories have been published for Bahrain.

Cross-Border Travel Advisory

Recent Developments

- **Australia**: Reconsider travel to Bahrain due to regional security risks.
- **France**: Travel to Bahrain discouraged except for imperative reasons.
- **Germany:** Travel to Bahrain strongly discouraged due to volatile security situation.
- **Italy:** Maintain high caution; monitor security and flight disruptions.
- **Sweden**: Avoid non-essential travel to Bahrain due to security situation.
- **Switzerland**: Avoid tourist and non-urgent travel to Bahrain.
- **UK**: Regional escalation risk is high; disruptions and sheltering may occur.
- **US**: Reconsider travel; exercise heightened vigilance amid armed-attack and disruption threats.

Ongoing Measures

- **Canada**: Avoid all travel to Bahrain due to ongoing military activities.
- **India:** Advised nationals in Bahrain to remain vigilant amid regional situation.
- **Ireland**: Avoid non-essential travel due to Middle East security situation.
- **Japan**: Reconsider Middle East travel; monitor risks and disruptions.
- **Netherlands**: Do not travel to Bahrain; red travel advisory issued.
- **New Zealand**: Avoid non-essential travel to Bahrain due to regional military conflict.
- **Norway**: Security situation serious; assess safety and seek shelter if advised.
- **Singapore**: Advises deferring travel, eRegistering, and monitoring flight disruptions.
- **South Korea:** Exercise caution due to possible regional security changes.
- **Spain**: Advises postponing travel and highlights land exit via Saudi Arabia.

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01 Bahrain

Exit & Consular Support Measures

- **Australia:** Online passport renewals temporarily available for Australians in Bahrain.
- **Canada:** Prepare independent departure plans; register Canadians Abroad for updates.
- **France:** Embassy contact provided; travelers advised to register with Fil d'Ariane.
- **Germany:** Register for crisis list; follow authorities during escalations.
- **India**: India grants visa extensions, overstay waivers, and free exit permits.
- **Ireland:** Airspace closed; embassy contacts and departure routes provided.
- **Italy:** Register presence; follow authorities; contact embassy in emergencies.
- **Japan**: Register with Tabi-Regi; contact embassy if assistance needed.
- **Netherlands:** Embassy cannot assist; those present should leave if safely possible.
- **New Zealand:** Register travel plans; contact details for New Zealand Embassy provided.
- **Norway:** Flight changes and airspace closures may occur suddenly.
- **Singapore:** Advises deferring travel; asks citizens to e-Register and check airlines for flight schedules/restrictions.
- **South Korea**: Contact embassy or consular center during emergencies.
- **Spain:** Register with Spanish Embassy in Kuwait; consular emergency contact provided.
- **Sweden:** Register with Swedish list; monitor flight disruptions.
- **Switzerland:** Follow local authorities; expect flight disruptions and airspace closures.
- **UK:** Sign up for alerts; review departure plans; keep travel documents updated.
- **US**: Embassy remains open; enroll in STEP and maintain contingency plans.

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01 Bahrain

Stranded Travelers & Overland Movement Considerations

Measures for stranded travelers and residents:

- Nationals are advised to register on official travel portals (e.g., DFAT, Fil d'Ariane, Reiseklar, ELEFAND) to receive consular alerts
- Follow local authority instructions; limit nonessential movement and shelter indoors during security alerts
- Monitor local/international media and sign up for official travel alerts (e.g., FCDO updates)
- Airspace has reopened and flight operations are resuming; verify flight status directly with airlines and follow local authority guidance
- Keep departure plans under review and maintain an independent emergency departure plan
- Travelers should keep identity and travel documents readily accessible; contact details must be updated to enable consular outreach; and maintain essential supplies and medication, particularly if shelter in place guidance is extended
- Travelers should ensure that their travel documents have sufficient remaining validity, particularly when transiting through other countries or crossing land borders
- Use embassy emergency helplines for urgent assistance and maintain communication with family/contacts

Nearest accessible land borders:

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

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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); Holders of provisional or emergency Swiss passports should confirm document acceptance with the Bahraini authorities before travel
- Visa on arrival and eVisa options are generally available; however, travelers must verify current eligibility in advance
- Overland travel requires valid vehicle registration and insurance, together with owner authorization where the traveler is not the registered owner; rules may change at short notice; check official sources before departure
- Incomplete or incorrect paperwork may result in denial of entry; check requirements with embassies/consulates if unsure
- Certain dual nationals may need to use Bahraini documents for entry/exit; departure may be restricted for individuals with unresolved legal or business disputes
- Transit stays are covered by the travel warning; journalists require prior special visa and overstays may trigger exit bans
- Bahrain has banned its citizens from traveling to Iran and Iraq; violations may result in legal action
- Entry/exit regulations can change quickly; ensure compliance with passport validity and avoid overstay penalties

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02 Egypt

Work Visa Requirements

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

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

Eligibility & conditions:

- Foreign workers are generally capped at 10% of a company's workforce
- Employer sponsorship and labor-market compliance requirements apply.
- Passport validity, medical clearance, and authenticated professional qualifications are required

Validity & renewals:

- Work permits are generally valid for one year or less; longer validity is available upon payment of the prescribed fee
- Permits are renewable annually, subject to continued eligibility and Ministry approval
- Late renewals may trigger re application requirements

Fees (indicative):

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

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

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02 Egypt

Egypt Advisory

On October 25, Air Cairo extended the suspension of flights between Cairo, Asyut and Sohag and Riyadh until October 31, citing temporary operational measures at King Khalid International Airport.

Cross-Border Travel Advisory

Recent Developments

- **Germany:** Warns against travel to North Sinai and remote Sahara.
- **Ireland**: Advises a high degree of caution in Egypt due to security risks.
- **Italy:** Advises heightened caution in Egypt, with travel restrictions in high-risk areas.
- **Spain**: Egypt generally stable; avoid North Sinai/Gaza border; follow standard precautions.
- **Sweden**: Avoid North Sinai; limit travel in specified Sinai/desert areas.
- **UK**: Avoid travel to some Egypt regions; regional tensions persist.

Ongoing Measures

- **Australia**: Exercise high degree of caution due to terrorism; higher risks areas.
- **Canada**: Exercise high degree of caution due to tensions, terrorism, security risks.
- **Denmark**: Exercise caution nationwide; avoid desert, Sinai, and border areas.
- **France**: Avoid western border, North Sinai, Sudan border risk areas.
- **Japan**: Heightened caution due to escalating Middle East security situation.
- **Norway**: Follow developments closely; security increasingly tense and unpredictable.
- **South Korea:** Egypt stable; flights mostly operating; monitor embassy updates; Sinai visa requirements.
- **Switzerland**: Advises heightened caution in Egypt due to terrorism and regional tensions.
- **US**: Exercise increased caution; consider departing if escalation occurs.

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02 Egypt

Exit & Consular Support Measures

- **Australia:** Contact Australian Embassy in Cairo for consular assistance.
- **Canada:** Contact Canadian Embassy or emergency assistance if needed.
- **Denmark:** Urged to register on Danskerlisten and follow local guidance.
- **France**: Register on Ariane; French consular contacts provided.
- **Germany**: Register in crisis list; follow authorities and security updates.
- **Ireland:** Register with embassy; avoid restricted areas; emergency numbers provided.
- **Italy:** Italian nationals are advised to register travel details via the Farnesina portal.
- **Japan:** Register travel plans; follow authorities and monitor updates.
- **Norway:** Register travel; embassy and emergency contact details provided.
- **South Korea:** Multiple flight options; embassy, hotline, emergency contacts provided.
- **Spain**: Register traveler details before travel for emergencies.
- **Sweden:** Embassy cannot assist Gaza crossings; register on Swedish list.
- **Switzerland**: Swiss embassy assistance available; Helpline EDA; tourist police emergency number.
- **UK:** Contact British Embassy Cairo for support if needed.
- **US:** Contact airlines; enroll STEP; embassy assistance contacts provided.

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Stranded Travelers & Overland Movement Considerations

Measures for stranded travelers and residents:

- Travelers should monitor developments related to regional security tensions and possible transportation disruptions, as the security environment can change rapidly
- Follow advice of local authorities during security incidents or disruptions and monitor media to verify border/flight status; be prepared to change plans
- Nationals should register with their embassy or official travel registry, keep consular emergency contact details readily available, and contact the relevant embassy or consular emergency hotline for assistance when arriving from or departing conflict-affected areas such as Sudan
- Travelers should ensure they have valid documentation, sufficient funds, and appropriate insurance, noting that costs related to extended stays, medical care, or onward travel are generally borne by the individual

Nearest accessible land borders:

- **Israel–Egypt (Taba crossing):** Remains open; however, operating arrangements may change at short notice, and travelers should verify crossing status immediately before departure
- **Gaza–Egypt (Rafah crossing):** Open on a limited basis and subject to prior security clearance from Egyptian and Israeli authorities; not considered a routine transit route
- **Libya–Egypt:** All travel within 20 kms of this border is strictly advised against, except for the town of El Salloum, which is permitted solely for essential travel purposes
- **Sudan–Egypt borders:** Crossings remain heavily affected by the conflict in Sudan, with potential closures, severe delays, and restricted movement; travelers should verify conditions with official authorities before travel

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02 Egypt

Stranded Travelers & Overland Movement Considerations

Entry, visa, & border considerations:

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

- Applicable visa type (e-visa, visa on arrival, or embassy-issued visa)
    - Canadians may obtain e-visa or 30-day visa on arrival (USD cash)
    - Tourist visa required; e-visa or visa on arrival generally available (approx. USD 30), with payment typically required in USD cash or non-Egyptian credit card
- Passport validity requirements (commonly at least six months); passport cards are not accepted
- Domestic transfer via Cairo from Sinai airports requires a pre-purchased regular Egyptian visa; Sinai-only visas are insufficient
- Land border entry fees may apply, including additional onward travel costs to Cairo; travelers should carry sufficient USD as ATMs at borders may not function
- Proof of entry stamp is required to exit Egypt; overstays, purpose violations, or unauthorized movement may result in fines, penalties, or expulsion
- Prior travel to Israel may result in additional scrutiny or entry restrictions in certain Middle Eastern countries if passports contain evidence of travel to Israel
- Entry, exit, and border rules are decided by Egyptian immigration authorities and can change at short notice, so travelers should check official requirements before any land crossing
- Travel through Erez and Rafah remains subject to current approval and border screening requirements
- Special rules apply at Taba crossing depending on travel within Sinai
- Limited visa-free stay (up to ~15 days) applies only to certain Sinai resort areas; full visa required for travel beyond

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Work Visa Requirements

Service scope:

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

Application process:

- Entry visa: Iraq's official e-Visa system is operated under the Republic of Iraq – Ministry of Interior for visa application submission and tracking
- Work authorization intake (employer-side): Requests for recruitment/employment of foreign workers must be submitted to the Directorate of Labor and Vocational Training by employers, licensed recruitment offices, or foreign workers through their employers

Eligibility & conditions:

- Employer compliance (MoLSA): Employers must demonstrate that no suitable Iraqi candidate is available, maintain foreign workers at no more than 50% of the project workforce, provide evidence of financial capacity to pay wages, and comply with applicable labor, social security, and work permit requirements
- Data responsibility (MoLSA): The applicant/employer is responsible for accuracy of data and accepts legal consequences for manipulation/forgery
- Entry visa (MOI e-Visa): The official e-Visa portal indicates applicants need a valid passport and a digital photo to apply online and receive the e-Visa electronically
- For requests involving three or more foreign workers, a specialized committee may conduct field visits to verify project details, workforce composition, and the actual need for foreign labor.

Extension rules / post arrival obligations:

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

Fees (indicative):

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

Core documents:

- For entry (e-Visa): Valid passport and digital photo
- For foreign worker recruitment/work permit applications: Evidence of lawful residence status, medical fitness documentation, qualifications/experience records, and employer documentation demonstrating financial capacity and compliance with MoLSA requirements.

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Iraq Advisory

On November 9, Iraqi Airways announced the resumption of tis direct flights to Beijing from November 14.



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03 Iraq

Cross-Border Travel Advisory

Recent Developments

- **Germany:** Travel to Iraq warned against due to highly volatile security situation.
- **Sweden**: Do not travel to Iraq due to deteriorating security situation.
- **Switzerland**: Travel to Iraq and Kurdistan region discouraged due to escalating insecurity.
- **UK**: Avoid all travel to parts of Iraq; major restrictions.
- **US**: Level 4: Do Not Travel; heightened vigilance advised.

Ongoing Measures

- **Australia**: Do not travel to Iraq, including Kurdistan Region.
- **Canada**: Avoid all travel to Iraq due to ongoing military activity.
- **India:** Exercise caution in movements; avoid rumors, follow Embassy advisories.
- **Italy:** Journalists advised maximum caution; travel to Iraq discouraged.
- **Ireland**: Do not travel to Iraq; highest level of travel warning.
- **Japan**: Reconsider Middle East travel; monitor risks and disruptions.
- **Netherlands**: High risk nationwide; avoid west/center; only essential travel elsewhere.
- **Norway**: All travel to Iraq advised against; situation unstable, attack risks high.
- **Singapore**: Advises to defer all travel to region due to escalating Middle East security situation.
- **South Korea:** Avoid non-essential movement; stay in secure facilities.
- **Spain**: Travel to Iraq discouraged; airspace closed and security situation highly unstable.

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03 Iraq

Exit & Consular Support Measures

- **Australia:** Limited consular services; leave if safe, border status uncertain.
- **Canada:** Leave Iraq at the earliest; consular assistance extremely limited.
- **Germany:** Register in crisis list; follow authorities' instructions.
- **India:** Embassy helplines available; missions in Baghdad and Erbil functioning.
- **Ireland:** If in Iraq, consider leaving if safe; consular assistance extremely limited.
- **Italy:** Obtain journalist visa; inform Italian Embassy and register trip.
- **Japan**: Register with Tabi-Regi; contact embassy if assistance needed.
- **Netherlands:** Embassy closed to public; leave Iraq if safely possible.
- **Norway:** Contact UD, register in Reiseklar for updates.
- **Singapore:** No representation; register e-Register and contact MFA Duty Office if needed.
- **South Korea**: Check flight disruptions; embassy may advise exit later.
- **Spain:** Register with embassy; consular capacity limited during heightened regional tensions.
- **Sweden:** Embassy closed; consular support extremely limited from Stockholm.
- **Switzerland:** Use available commercial transport; Swiss assistance may be limited or unavailable.
- **UK:** Consular support severely limited; monitor departures and local advice.
- **US:** Enroll in STEP; embassy and consulate contacts provided.

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03 Iraq

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
- Airspace is currently open, but commercial flights remain limited and may be disrupted or suspended at short notice; travelers should verify airport and airline operations and assess available overland departure routes before travel
- People who don't strictly need to be in Iraq should assess risk and consider leaving based on official guidance
- Consular support is extremely limited; some embassies have relocated operations outside Iraq and assist remotely
- Emergency assistance may be accessed via home-government crisis hotlines where available
- Monitor local and international media for rapidly evolving security updates

Nearest accessible land borders:

- **Türkiye (Ibrahim Khalil):** Key exit route from the Kurdistan Region; verify crossing status and safety before travel
- **Jordan (Tarbil), Saudi Arabia (Arar):** Borders serve as exit options, but closures, congestion, heightened controls, or advance coordination may apply
- **Kuwait (Safwan):** Currently operational following the reopening of the crossing; however, short-notice restrictions, delays, or enhanced security measures may be implemented in response to regional security developments
- Other crossings (including Safwan) may face temporary restrictions - travelers must verify status and carry valid documents
- **High-risk routes:** Northern and western border areas, including routes toward Syria, are considered dangerous and may pose detention or movement risks

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03 Iraq

Stranded Travelers & Overland Movement Considerations

Entry, visa & border considerations:

- **Iraq:** Electronic visa required in advance; visas on arrival are not standard, including for Canadian passport holders, who must obtain a visa prior to travel
- Travelers should verify eligibility and visa requirements through the Iraqi Ministry of Interior e-Visa portal before travel
- **Kurdistan Region**: Kurdistan Region visas are valid only within the KRI and do not permit entry into Federal Iraq, whereas a Federal Iraq visa allows entry into both Federal Iraq and the KRI
    - Kurdistan requires e-visa or an eligible visa on arrival; travelers must register after 10 days and can obtain a residence permit after 3 months
- Exiting Iraq or the Kurdistan Region without a valid visa may result in fines or penalties
- **Passport validity**: Typically, at least six months; travelers should carry visa documentation or certified copies where required. Emergency passports may not be accepted for entry
- **Document restrictions**: Passports showing Israeli visas or stamps may result in refusal of entry or additional screening
- Travelers exiting Iraq by land must meet the entry requirements of the onward country (Turkey, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, or Kuwait)
- Entry and exit decisions remain discretionary and may change without notice; travelers should verify requirements, visa, and insurance conditions with authorities or embassies before travel
- Iraqi authorities may treat Norwegian citizens of Iraqi origin as Iraqi citizens, which can affect entry, exit, and consular assistance

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Work Visa Requirements

Service scope: Foreign workers generally require an employer-sponsored employment permit and B/1 residence and work license issued through the Population and Immigration Authority, followed by consular processing under the applicable procedure.

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 authorization is issued for the approved period and is not renewed automatically
- Extensions depend on the relevant sector, employer authorization, worker eligibility, fees and Population and Immigration Authority approval
- Cumulative-stay limits and any exceptional extensions are governed by applicable legislation and sector-specific procedures

Fees (indicative):

- Government, permit, and consular fees apply in accordance with Population and Immigration Authority procedures.

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

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Israel Advisory

On November 6, ITA Airways announced plans to temporarily reduce its Israel operations through the end of November by cancelling flights between Tel Aviv and Rome, rather than suspending the route entirely.

On November 5, Lufthansa Group announced temporary changes to its Israel operations through November 30 due to the security situation, with potential schedule changes and cancellations.

On November 1, Singapore Airlines confirmed that flights between Singapore and Dubai will remain cancelled through February 28, 2027, due to the geopolitical situation in the Middle East, also affecting passengers from Israel with itineraries connecting through Dubai.

On October 31, SkyUp announced plans to operate scheduled flights from Chisinau to Israel during winter 2026/27 and summer 2027, alongside winter charter services to Egypt and the UAE.

On October 26, British Airways and Iberia resumed daily flights to Israel following months of suspension due to the regional security situation.

On October 22, British Airways and Iberia confirmed plans to resume daily flights between Tel Aviv and London Heathrow and Madrid from October 25 following earlier suspensions due to the security situation.

On October 20, Air Canda announced, subject to the security situation, is expected to resume its direct service between Ben Gurion Airport and Toronto on November 30.

On October 16, Air India announced the cancellation of all flights to Riyadh, Dammam and Jeddah through October 20 due to the evolving security situation in Saudi Arabia, while continuing to monitor conditions ahead of its planned resumption of flights to Israel on December 1.

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04 Israel

Cross-Border Travel Advisory

Recent Developments

- **Australia**: Reconsider travel to Israel; avoid Gaza, Lebanon, Syria borders.
- **France**: Travel to Israel discouraged; Gaza and certain areas forbidden.
- **Germany**: Warns against Gaza, West Bank; advises against Israel travel.
- **Norway**: Follow news and assess safety; situation may change rapidly.
- **South Korea:** Avoid West Bank, East Jerusalem, crowded vulnerable locations.
- **Sweden:** Avoid border areas and Golan Heights; avoid non-essential travel elsewhere.
- **Switzerland**: Avoid Gaza border, Lebanon border, and nearby Golan areas.
- **UK**: FCDO advises against travel to Gaza, parts of Israel/West Bank due to regional tensions.
- **US:** Exercise heightened vigilance; reconsider travel due to security environment.

Ongoing Measures

- **Canada:** Avoid non-essential travel to Israel; avoid all travel to Palestine.
- **Denmark:** Exercise extra caution nationwide; avoid border areas and Golan.
- **Ireland**: Avoid non-essential travel; avoid Lebanon, Gaza, Golan borders.
- **Italy**: Exercise maximum caution; security extremely unstable in Israel and Palestinian territories.
- **Japan**: Reconsider Middle East travel; monitor risks and disruptions.
- **Netherlands**: Yellow for most of Israel; avoid red-coded border regions.
- **New Zealand**: Do not travel due to military conflict and unpredictable security situation.
- **Singapore**: Singaporeans advised to defer travel and avoid high-risk areas in Israel.
- **Spain:** Travel undertaken at traveler's own risk; health, security risks exist.

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04 Israel

Exit & Consular Support Measures

- **Australia:** Consular assistance limited; contact Australian Embassy in Tel Aviv.
- **Canada**: Register abroad; prepare contingencies; contact emergency center.
- **Denmark:** Register with Danskerlisten and use Rejseklar alerts.
- **France**: Register on Fil d'Ariane; contact French consulates.
- **Germany:** Register in crisis list; departures may be disrupted.
- **Ireland:** Register with Citizens Registration; embassy contact available.
- **Italy:** Contact embassy and consulate emergency numbers for assistance if needed.
- **Japan**: Register with Tabi-Regi; contact embassy if assistance needed.
- **Netherlands:** Embassy assistance limited in red-risk areas; emergency contact available.
- **New Zealand**: Limited consular assistance; register, emergency contacts.
- **Norway:** Contact UD emergency center; register in Reiseklar travel registry.
- **Singapore:** Contact embassy or MFA duty office for assistance if needed.
- **South Korea**: Send stay information; monitor embassy safety updates.
- **Spain:** Register travel details with Foreign Ministry for emergencies.
- **Sweden:** Register with Swedish List; follow embassy and emergency alerts.
- **Switzerland:** Carry passport; contact Swiss embassy or EDA helpline.
- **UK:** No exit routes from Gaza; limited consular support; contact authorities.
- **US:** Enroll in STEP; embassy open; consular contacts provided.

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Stranded Travelers & Overland Movement Considerations

Measures for stranded travelers and residents:

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

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04 Israel

Stranded Travelers & Overland Movement Considerations

Nearest accessible land borders:

- Israel–Jordan crossings (Sheikh Hussein, Yitzhak Rabin, Allenby Bridge) are subject to sudden closures; verify status immediately prior to travel
- Taba crossing (Egypt) remains open but volatile
- **Gaza:** The Rafah crossing is partially open to civilian exits
- Borders to Jordan and Egypt are generally open but can close or become disrupted at short notice; always verify status before travel
- All land crossings are tightly controlled and subject to rapid regulatory changes; consult official updates before travel- check official “Land Borders” updates before travel
- Allenby (King Hussein) Crossing remains operational for travel between the West Bank and Jordan; check current crossing hours and requirements before travel
- Avoid areas within 5 km of the Lebanon border and 10 km of the Gaza border, as well as high-risk areas of the Golan Heights and certain routes near the West Bank and Allenby crossing

Entry, visa & border considerations:

- **Israel entry**: Visa-exempt travelers need ETA-IL ≥72 hours before arrival; approval may be revoked; stays up to 3 months
    - Travelers requiring a B/2 visitor visa should generally hold a passport valid for at least 6 months beyond arrival in Israel
    - Israelis must use an Israeli passport; Palestinian ID holders may need additional documents
- **Jordan & Egypt entry:** For Jordan visa required; e-visa recommended in advance (especially for land crossings); visas on arrival may be available, but delays expected; visa fees required may vary
    - Egypt (Taba/Sinai): Sinai tax applies; e-visa in advance or visa on arrival at Taba; visa required for stays beyond Sinai or over 15 days
    - Egypt requires travelers to hold a passport valid for at least 6 months beyond arrival; travelers should verify visa and entry requirements applicable to their nationality before travel.
- **Special restrictions:** Palestinian ID holders and some dual nationals may face entry/exit limits, possible Ben Gurion Airport access restrictions, or refusal of entry
- Border decisions may change without notice; reconfirm ETA-IL/visa requirements before travel
- Expect additional taxes, visa-on-arrival fees (often cash), and processing delays
- Road travel to crossings may involve heightened security risks—assess conditions immediately before departure
- Entry cards (“blue slip”) must be kept; entry/exit rules may change or deny entry based on recent African travel history

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05 Jordan

Work Visa Requirements

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

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

Eligibility & conditions:

- Valid job offer from a Jordan registered employer
- Employer must satisfy Ministry of Labour requirements for hiring a non-Jordanian worker.
- Passport valid for at least six months for the work-visa application; longer validity may be required for certain work-permit procedures
- Foreign workers must comply with applicable entry, work permit, and residency requirements
- Employment without a valid work permit is not permitted under Jordanian labor rules

Extension rules:

- Work permits are typically issued for one year
- Renewal requires a separate application and continued compliance with Ministry of Labour requirements
- Residency permits are renewed in line with the approved work permit via Ministry of Interior services

Fees (indicative):

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

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

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05 Jordan

Jordan Advisory

No recent travel advisories have been published for Jordan.

Cross-Border Travel Advisory

Recent Developments

- **Canada**: Avoid non-essential travel; avoid Iraq/Syria border regions.
- **France**: Avoid Syria/Iraq borders; caution near Palestinian border and Aqaba.
- **Germany:** Avoid non-essential travel; avoid Syria and Iraq border regions.
- **Japan**: Reconsider Middle East travel; monitor risks and disruptions.
- **Sweden**: Avoid non-essential travel within 3 km of Syria/Iraq borders.
- **Switzerland**: Avoid Syria/Iraq border areas; regional security remains tense.
- **UK**: Avoid all travel within 3km of the Jordan-Syria border.
- **US**: Level 3: Reconsider Travel; exercise heightened vigilance amid attack threats.

Ongoing Measures

- **Australia**: Reconsider travel to Jordan due to regional security threats.
- **Denmark**: Security situation may change quickly; follow local authority guidance.
- **Ireland**: Avoid non-essential travel to Jordan; regional security risks persist.
- **Netherlands**: Yellow for most Jordan; orange for specific border areas.
- **New Zealand**: Avoid non-essential travel to Jordan overall.
- **Norway:** Jordan stable but regional security situation remains unpredictable.
- **Singapore**: Advises to defer all travel to Middle East; take precautions if in Jordan.
- **South Korea:** Monitor regional developments; exercise caution; check safety and flight information.
- **Spain**: Postpone travel; regional conflict increases security risks throughout Jordan.

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05 Jordan

Exit & Consular Support Measures

- **Australia:** Contact Australian Embassy in Amman for consular assistance.
- **Canada:** Prepare contingency plans; register with Canadians Abroad service.
- **Denmark**: Contact MFA Global Watch Center for urgent assistance.
- **France:** Register on Fil d'Ariane; border crossings may close.
- **Germany**: Register in crisis preparedness list; follow authorities' instructions.
- **Ireland:** Airspace closures possible; register with authorities; emergency contacts provided.
- **Japan**: Register with Tabi-Regi; contact embassy if assistance needed.
- **Netherlands**: Embassy contact details and emergency assistance information provided.
- **New Zealand**: Register travel plans; follow local authorities' instructions.
- **Norway:** Register in Reiseklar; contact UD emergency center if needed.
- **Singapore:** Encouraged to eRegister; consular contacts provided; 24-hour MFA duty office.
- **South Korea**: Embassy will share updates via website, messaging groups, and SNS.
- **Spain:** Spaniards may depart using commercial flights; register with embassy.
- **Sweden:** Follow authorities, monitor flights, and check border status.
- **Switzerland**: Follow local authorities; Swiss Embassy and Helpline available.
- **UK:** Keep departure plans reviewed and travel documents up to date.
- **US:** Enroll in STEP; follow local authorities and embassy guidance.

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05 Jordan

Stranded Travelers & Overland Movement Considerations

Measures for stranded travelers and residents:

- Travelers should closely monitor security developments and follow instructions issued by Jordanian authorities, including siren alerts and shelter guidance
- During security alerts, seek shelter immediately, remain indoors, avoid windows and potential falling debris, and follow instructions issued by Jordanian authorities
- Limit nonessential movement and avoid demonstrations, crowds, and military or security sites; shelter in place if instructed by local authorities during missile or drone incidents
- Monitor local media (e.g., Roya News, Petra News, Jordan Times) and collect updates from multiple sources, including flight information
- Register travel and contact details with government systems and consular alert platforms to receive updates and enable assistance
- Commercial flights are continuing, and airspace remains open; however, schedules may change at short notice, including potential airspace closures and cancellations; confirm directly with airlines before proceeding to the airport
- Enroll in additional alert systems (e.g., STEP, “Danskerlisten,” “Tabi Regi”) and share travel itinerary and emergency contacts with family and workplace
- Travelers should ensure that their travel documents have sufficient remaining validity, particularly when transiting through other countries or crossing land borders
- In emergencies, contact Jordanian emergency services (911) and relevant consular hotlines. Embassy provides 24/7 Task Force assistance

Nearest accessible land borders:

- Border conditions are volatile; crossings may open, close, or change at short notice, with no consistently recommended routes
- **Israel / West Bank:** Crossings including Sheikh Hussein/Jordan River, King Hussein/Allenby Bridge, and Wadi Araba may face delays, reduced hours, or sudden closure
- **Saudi Arabia:** Borders are reported open, though operating hours and access conditions may change without notice
- **Syria and Iraq:** Border areas are high risk with violence; crossings may change or close without notice—avoid travel, including within 5 km of Syria/Iraq borders and verify status before travel

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05 Jordan

Stranded Travelers & Overland Movement Considerations

Entry, visa & border considerations:

- Visa required for most travelers; e-visas and visas on arrival available at select entry points (typically valid up to 90 days)
- **Passport validity**: Generally, at least six months; emergency passports are not accepted for entry
- Norwegian nationals require a visa, obtainable online, via the Jordan Pass, or on arrival where available
- Entry via King-Hussein Bridge requires prior visa; not issued on arrival
- Stays over 14 days require police registration within 14 days; non-compliance may result in a 200 JOD fine, aligning with mandatory residency registration requirements
- Land departures are subject to an exit fee of 10 JOD when leaving via land borders (not airports)
- Border entry and exit decisions are discretionary and subject to change and crossing eligibility may vary by nationality and security conditions

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06 Kuwait

Work Visa Requirements

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

Application process:

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

Eligibility & conditions:

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

Extension rules:

- Work permits and Article 18 residence may be renewed subject to applicable PAM and MOI requirements
- Article 18 residence renewal requires a valid work permit, passport, health insurance and specified sponsor documentation
- Renewals and updates are processed via PAM e-services (As-hal platform) and MOI residency services

Fees (indicative):

- Government fees apply for work-permit and residency processing; amounts vary by permit category and applicable regulations.
- Official portals confirm fees are payable during permit issuance and renewal processes

Core documents:

- Work permit issued by PAM
- Valid passport and photographs
- Sponsor documentation (company license, signature authorization, sponsor passport/civil ID)
- Medical fitness certificate issued by approved authorities
- Authenticated criminal-record certificate for first-time Article 18 residence

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06 Kuwait

Kuwait Advisory

No recent travel advisories have been published for Kuwait.

Cross-Border Travel Advisory

Recent Developments

- **Australia**: Reconsider travel due to military strike risk and regional instability.
- **France:** Travel to Kuwait discouraged except for imperative reasons.
- **Germany:** Strongly advises against travel to Kuwait; regional security volatile.
- **Ireland**: Avoid non-essential travel; regional security remains unpredictable.
- **Italy**: Maintain high caution; monitor security situation and flight operations.
- **Norway**: Non-essential travel to Kuwait strongly discouraged; security situation volatile.
- **Sweden**: Avoid non-essential travel to Kuwait due to security situation.
- **Switzerland:** Avoid tourist and non-urgent travel to Kuwait.
- **UK**: FCDO no longer advises against all but essential travel.
- **US**: Exercise heightened vigilance; reconsider travel due to regional tensions.

Ongoing Measures

- **Canada**: Avoid all travel to Kuwait due to volatile security situation.
- **India**: Indian nationals in Kuwait advised to remain vigilant and follow local guidance.
- **Japan**: Reconsider Middle East travel; monitor risks and disruptions.
- **Netherlands**: Orange code; travel only if necessary to Kuwait.
- **New Zealand**: Do not travel to Kuwait due to unpredictable security situation.
- **Singapore**: Advised to defer all travel to the Middle East region.
- **South Korea:** Strongly recommends departure from Kuwait unless urgently necessary.
- **Spain**: Postpone travel to Kuwait due to regional conflict and volatility.

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06 Kuwait

Exit & Consular Support Measures

- **Australia:** Consular assistance available via Australian Embassy in Kuwait.
- **Canada:** Prepare contingency plans without government assistance; register abroad service.
- **Denmark:** Land border to Saudi open; assess risks and obtain visa.
- **France:** Register on Fil d'Ariane; embassy contact provided.
- **Germany:** Register in crisis list; consider overland departure cautiously.
- **Ireland:** Consular assistance extremely limited; contact Embassy in UAE.
- **Italy:** Register presence, follow authorities, avoid military sites.
- **Japan**: Register with Tabi-Regi; contact embassy if assistance needed.
- **Netherlands:** Embassy contact details provided; no specific exit measures stated.
- **New Zealand**: Leave if safe; register travel and follow authorities.
- **Norway:** Register in Reiseklar; contact MFA emergency center if needed.
- **Singapore:** No representation; register eRegister and contact MFA Duty Office if needed.
- **South Korea**: Leave as soon as possible; contact embassy or consular hotline.
- **Spain:** Register with embassy; verify flights; land border via Saudi open.
- **Sweden:** Register with Swedish list; monitor authorities and airlines.
- **Switzerland:** Follow local authorities; monitor flights and regional developments.
- **UK:** Keep departure plans under review; monitor disruptions.
- **US:** Enroll in STEP; embassy emergency and passport services available.

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Stranded Travelers & Overland Movement Considerations

Measures for stranded travelers and residents:

- Travelers in Kuwait should monitor security developments closely and follow instructions issued by local authorities, including shelter guidance during alerts, and monitor local/international media for updates and maintain contact with airlines to confirm flight options amid disruptions
- In cases of issued warnings, individuals should shelter indoors immediately, remain away from windows, and use inner or hardened rooms where possible
- Nonessential movement should be limited, and travelers should avoid large gatherings, demonstrations, and military or security related sites
- Flight operations may be limited or disrupted at short notice; travelers should confirm flight status directly with airlines and consider available overland options, including routes to Saudi Arabia, subject to border, visa, and security conditions
- Shelter in place during strikes and avoid government, military, energy, and US-linked sites
- Travelers should prepare contingency plans and should not rely on government-assisted evacuation or departure arrangements, as such support may not be available
- Nationals should register with official travel registries or crisis systems (e.g., DFAT, ELEFAND, Reiseklar) and keep contact details updated; ensure phones and backup batteries remain charged; register travel plans for consular communication
- Residents may require exit permits via the Sahel app
- Avoid the Burgan oil field area; companies have been advised to evacuate employees and residents should not approach within 1 km of affected facilities
- Embassies urge vigilance, STEP enrollment, and monitoring official communications; emergency embassy contacts available
- Travelers should keep travel documents, exit permits (where applicable), and devices accessible, and ensure essential supplies and medication are available
- Travelers should ensure that their travel documents have sufficient remaining validity, particularly when transiting through other countries or crossing land borders
- Take air-raid warnings seriously; seek shelter indoors and away from windows; reduce outdoor movement and follow local authorities' instructions
- Maintain communication with family/friends, keep phones charged, and monitor official channels (including embassy WhatsApp security updates)

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06 Kuwait

Stranded Travelers & Overland Movement Considerations

Nearest accessible land borders:

- **Saudi Arabia:** Land crossings (Al Nuwasib/Al Khafji; Al Salmi/Ar Ruqi) remain accessible but may change; open 24/7 with valid visa; use only authorized crossings
- **Iraq:** Border areas are military restricted; crossings may close at short notice and unauthorized movement is prohibited
- Abdali crossing to Iraq reopened, may close without notice; Iraq border area is military restricted
- Travelers by bus from Kuwait to Saudi Arabia can use Nuwaiseeb-Khafji or Salmi-Raqi border crossings before flying to a third country

Entry, visa, & border considerations:

- **Kuwait entry**: Requires a valid visa (e-Visa, embassy-issued, or visa on arrival) with passport validity of up to six months; however, visa issuance may be suspended for all travel purposes, making entry impossible without an existing residence permit
- **Exit permits**: Required for certain residents (including Article 17 or 18 visas) via the Sahel app; unresolved fines or disputes may restrict departure
- **Saudi Arabia onward travel**:
  - Australian passport holders require a valid Saudi visa when departing Kuwait by land
  - US citizens may apply for a Saudi e-Visa, visa on arrival, or transit visa for onward travel via Saudi Arabia
  - British travelers entering Kuwait through Saudi land borders should confirm visa-on-arrival eligibility and any advance coordination requirements before travel
- Travelers must hold passports valid for at least six months; those with Israeli stamps/travel history, non-standard passports, missing gender markers, or using emergency/short-validity documents may face refusal and should consult the relevant embassy prior to travel
- **Vehicles:** Overland travel by car may require proof of ownership/registration and valid Saudi insurance; vehicles must be owned and registered to the traveler and pedestrian crossing is not permitted
- Non-residents require a visa and prior embassy coordination; entry may be refused with Israeli passport stamps
- New digital service launched a digital visa service via the “Sahel” app for domestic worker and driver visas, alongside stricter eligibility criteria and caps based on family status

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07 Oman

Work Visa Requirements

Service scope: The Royal Oman Police (ROP) issues Work Visas and Temporary Work Visas at the request and responsibility of an employer for foreign nationals undertaking employment in Oman.

- A Ministry of Labour work permit is required unless the employer is a government entity.
- Both are multiple-entry visas:
  - Work Visa is valid for two years,
  - Temporary Work Visa is valid for 4, 6, or 9 months, as specified in the approved permit.

Application process: Visa applications are submitted through the Royal Oman Police eVisa system. Temporary work visa issued by the Royal Oman Police at the employer's request, subject to a Ministry of Labour license and supporting documents.

Eligibility & conditions:

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

Extension rules: Work-visa renewal requires prior completion of the Ministry of Labour renewal process and a valid or renewed work permit

Fees (indicative):

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

Core documents:

- Digital photograph of the applicant
- Copy of the applicant’s passport, , valid for not less than 6 months
- Original labor permit issued by the Ministry of Manpower (at first issuance)
- Copy of medical fitness certificate endorsed by the Oman Ministry of Health (required for certain nationalities only)

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07 Oman

Oman Advisory

No recent travel advisories have been published for Oman.

Cross-Border Travel Advisory

Recent Developments

- **Australia**: Reconsider travel to Oman due to regional security risks.
- **France:** Heightened vigilance abroad; exercise caution in tourist, crowded areas.
- **Germany:** Avoid Musandam and Yemen border region; regional security risks.
- **Sweden**: Exercise caution; attacks continue; monitor developments and authorities.
- **Switzerland**: Avoid tourist, non-urgent travel to Musandam province.
- **UK:** Regional tensions; risk of further attacks and travel disruptions.
- **US:** Heightened vigilance; expect possible flight and travel disruptions.

Ongoing Measures

- **Canada**: Avoid non-essential travel due to volatile regional security situation.
- **Ireland**: Exercise high caution; regional tensions may disrupt flights.
- **Japan**: Exercise heightened caution; reconsider Middle East travel and transit.
- **Netherlands**: Yellow overall; avoid Musandam and Yemen border regions.
- **New Zealand**: Exercise increased caution; avoid Yemen border and sensitive maritime areas.
- **Norway**: Serious regional security situation; flights may be disrupted unexpectedly.
- **Singapore**: Follow local laws and authorities; exercise caution due to regional instability and safety risks.
- **South Korea:** Avoid resource infrastructure facilities and nearby areas; exercise personal safety caution.
- **Spain**: Postpone travel to Oman; regional conflict poses risks.

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07 Oman

Exit & Consular Support Measures

- **Australia:** Travel disruptions possible; Australian consular assistance available via Riyadh.
- **Canada:** Prepare departure contingencies; register for Canadians Abroad service.
- **Denmark:** Confirm flights, stay reachable, contact Danish authorities for urgent assistance.
- **France:** Follow local authorities; shelter; register on Fil d'Ariane.
- **Germany:** Register crisis preparedness list; follow authorities' instructions.
- **India:** Embassy provides contact numbers and guidance; visa details outlined.
- **Ireland:** Embassy support via Riyadh; unpaid debts may prevent departure.
- **Italy:** Land border open; 14-day entry stamp; overstay fines apply.
- **Japan**: Register with Tabi-Regi; contact embassy or consular officials.
- **Netherlands**: Embassy emergency contacts and crisis guidance provided.
- **New Zealand:** Register travel plans; follow local authority safety instructions.
- **Norway:** Register travel; contact embassy or emergency consular services.
- **Singapore:** Embassy and emergency contacts provided; eRegister trip before travel.
- **South Korea**: Provides emergency contact numbers for embassy and consular call center.
- **Spain:** Register with embassy; flights subject to changes; transit possible.
- **Sweden:** Register with Svensklistan; check flights and visa updates.
- **Switzerland:** Follow authorities; monitor situation; embassy assistance available.
- **UK:** Sign up for alerts; follow authorities; review departure plans.
- **US:** Embassy open; enroll in STEP and monitor alerts.

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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
- Travelers should follow local authority instructions and seek shelter in a substantial building away from windows, particularly in Duqm, Musandam, and surrounding areas
- Avoid all demonstrations, large gatherings, and areas with heavy police or security presence; keep a low profile and exercise caution at locations publicly associated with the US
- Regional conflict may result in short-notice flight cancellations, delays, diversions, and airspace closures; travelers should verify flight and airport status directly with their airline and relevant aviation authorities before departure
- Nonessential movement should be limited, and travelers should avoid military installations, crowded areas, and other high-risk locations
- Travelers should register with the official consular notification or traveler-registration service provided by their country of nationality, keep contact details current, and enable official security alerts where available
- Travelers should ensure access to essential supplies, keep travel documents accessible, maintain charged communication devices, and prepare contingency plans without relying on government assistance
- Travelers should ensure their travel documents have sufficient remaining validity, particularly when transiting through other countries or crossing land borders; travelers are responsible for their own travel decisions and costs
- Travelers should identify their embassy or consulate's emergency contact details and monitor official government, embassy and consular channels for current security guidance
- Travelers should avoid handling or approaching missile, drone, or interceptor debris and report suspicious objects to authorities

Nearest accessible land borders:

- **UAE:** Land border crossings (including Hatta, Wajajah, and Al Ain) are reported as open, though intermittent closures, congestion, or delays may occur, particularly for non-Omani nationals
- **Saudi Arabia:** Overland travel may be possible, subject to security assessment, border controls, and onward visa eligibility
- **Yemen:** Do not travel to the Yemen border region due to terrorism and armed conflict; this route should not be considered an accessible overland travel alternative
- Travelers should verify real-time border status before attempting any overland movement, as conditions may change without notice

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07 Oman

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 e-Visa, subject to conditions.
    - These are subject to entry conditions such as a valid passport, return/onward travel, accommodation, health insurance, and sufficient funds
    - Longer stays generally require an Oman e-Visa
- Tourist visit visas are available through Oman's Royal Oman Police (ROP) eVisa system, with visa-free entry for eligible nationalities for stays of up to 14 days, subject to applicable conditions and nationality-specific requirements
- **Passport validity:** Typically, at least six months is required
- **Overstay penalties:** Overstays incur fines (commonly ~10 OMR/day).
- **Land entry:** Entry stamps may grant a limited stay depending on nationality; re-entry may require a new visa
- **Vehicles:** Crossing by rental vehicle may require insurance valid in Oman; valid insurance is required when crossing from the UAE with a rental car
- Entry/exit conditions can change without notice; a valid visa does not guarantee entry, and travelers should confirm requirements with Omani authorities before travel
- Travelers should anticipate sudden operational changes at airports and border crossings due to regional security developments and maintain flexible travel arrangements

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08 Pakistan

Work Visa Requirements

Service scope: Pakistan grants work visas to foreign nationals who have a valid job offer and meet the applicable requirements. Applications are submitted online through the Pakistan Online Visa System. Initial entry work visas are processed by Pakistan missions abroad, while work-visa extensions are decided by the Ministry of Interior.

Application process: Companies employing expatriates must submit work-visa applications through the Pakistan Online Visa System, selecting Entry where the applicant does not hold a valid Pakistani visa or Extension where the applicant holds a valid Pakistani visa and is residing in Pakistan.

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:

- Entry and extension applications are required to submit online
- **Initial entry work visa**: Up to two years, with multiple entries permitted
- **Work-visa extension**: Up to two years, multiple entries, subject to Ministry of Interior approval and mandatory security clearance

- **Fees:**
  - 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; and either an employment letter from a Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan-registered company showing salary and the duration of the assignment or appointment, or a company sponsorship/guarantee letter
- **Single person-owned business employment:** Passport; photograph; employment letter/agreement stating salary and duration, or sponsorship/guarantee letter; employer tax certification; employer CNIC/passport; and BOI/CWA recommendation.
- **Supporting items:** Often requested as needed, include company covering letter, sponsor focal person details, CV, company registration documents (SECP), and FBR NTN certificate

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08 Pakistan

Pakistan Advisory

No recent travel advisories have been published for Pakistan.

Cross-Border Travel Advisory

Recent Developments

- **Australia**: Reconsider travel to Pakistan due to terrorism, unrest, kidnapping risks.
- **Canada**: Exercise high caution; avoid high-risk regions and demonstrations.
- **France:** Limit travel, avoid crowds, stay in Islamabad; prepare supplies.
- **Sweden**: Avoid affected Pakistan regions; monitor protests and avoid crowds.
- **Switzerland**: Exercise highest caution; travel to several regions is advised against.
- **UK**: Planned protests; avoid demonstrations and high-risk regions.

Ongoing Measures

- **Denmark:** Avoid non-essential travel; no travel to high-risk provinces due terrorism.
- **Germany:** Avoid warned regions; monitor protests, disruptions, and security risks.
- **Ireland**: High caution; avoid specified regions and public gatherings.
- **Japan:** Monitor Middle East tensions; exercise heightened vigilance globally.
- **Netherlands**: Avoid red zones; yellow areas require heightened caution.
- **Norway:** Avoid multiple regions; unrest, terrorism risk; Wagah border closed indefinitely.
- **South Korea:** Emergency declared in Pakistan's Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) province; avoid unnecessary travel, gatherings, and sensitive locations.
- **Spain:** Much of Pakistan unsafe; exercise extreme caution, avoid high-risk zones.
- **US**: Level 3 reconsider travel; terrorism, crime, kidnapping, armed conflict risks.

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08 Pakistan

Exit & Consular Support Measures

- **Australia**: Visa required; Australian High Commission assistance limited in high-risk areas.
- **Canada:** Register abroad; consular assistance contacts provided.
- **Denmark:** Danish consular assistance limited; register travelers list, embassy contact advised.
- **France:** French nationals urged to exercise highest vigilance.
- **Germany**: Register in crisis list; use app and emergency updates.
- **Ireland**: Visa required; register travel and embassy emergency contact.
- **Japan**: Register travel details; contact embassies for assistance.
- **Netherlands**: Embassy emergency contacts and crisis assistance information provided.
- **Norway:** Register travel; contact embassy or emergency center for assistance.
- **South Korea:** Submit stay information, register abroad, and use emergency contacts.
- **Spain:** Register travel; embassy assistance limited and may be delayed.
- **Sweden:** Register on Svensklistan; contact UD emergency line if needed.
- **Switzerland:** Swiss Embassy assistance is limited or unavailable in conflict areas.
- **UK:** Sign up for FCDO alerts; crisis support may be limited.
- **US:** Ordered non-emergency US staff families to depart Lahore, Karachi.

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08 Pakistan

Stranded Travelers & Overland Movement Considerations

Measures for stranded travelers and residents:

- Travelers in Pakistan should monitor security developments closely and follow instructions issued by local authorities, as conditions can change rapidly
- Curfews, roadblocks, and communication shutdowns may occur suddenly; maintain contingency plans for such disruptions
- Monitor flight updates; be prepared for flight cancellations, temporary airspace closures, curfews, roadblocks, and communication shutdowns
- Nationals are encouraged to register with their embassies or government travel registries for updates and emergency contact and maintain a communication plan with family or employer
- Travelers should keep passports, visas, and essential supplies accessible and maintain personal contingency plans; if unable to depart, remain indoors, stock essentials, and comply with curfews
- Travelers should ensure that their travel documents have sufficient remaining validity, particularly when transiting through other countries or crossing land borders
- US citizens may seek assistance from the US Embassy in Islamabad and Consulates in Lahore and Karachi, although consular services may be limited in certain high-risk areas
- Emergency consular assistance available via the Canadian High Commission or the Ottawa Emergency Watch and Response Centre; assistance may be limited in high-risk or restricted areas
- Travelers should register their trip or residence details with their home country's consular alert service, where available, to receive security and emergency updates
- Register with embassies, maintain a communication plan, and always ensure access to functioning communication tools, especially during travel

Nearest accessible land borders:

- The Kartarpur Corridor is currently suspended until further notice according to the official Government of India Kartarpur Corridor portal
- Avoid travel near the Line of Control (LoC) due to ongoing security risks; entry restrictions and border-crossing arrangements may change, and travelers should verify the status of crossings before travel
- Avoid non-essential travel near the Afghanistan border due to ongoing security risks; border access is generally limited to authorized crossing points
- **China:** Khunjerab Pass (Karakoram Highway) is an official crossing, subject to seasonal and security related conditions; avoid areas within 10 km of the border except at official crossings
- **India:** Wagah border crossing is currently closed
- **Iran:** Overland travel strongly discouraged / warned against

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08 Pakistan

Stranded Travelers & Overland Movement Considerations

Entry, visa, & border considerations:

- A visa is required in advance for most travelers, including via the official online system, while visa-free entry is permitted for holders of a valid NICOP card
    - A valid Indian visa must be obtained before travel; visa services are not available at the Pakistan-India land border
    - E-visa options are available
- Passports must generally be valid for at least 6 months; travelers must also hold a valid visa, passport, or eligible Pakistani ID to exit the country, and an entry stamp is required for departure
- Overstaying a visa may result in fines, detention, denial of departure, or legal action, including potential exit-permit requirements
- Certain regions of Pakistan require advance permits or No Objection Certificates (NOCs), and access restrictions may apply in designated areas
- Health requirements may apply, including polio vaccination for stays over four weeks, a possible arrival health declaration, and a yellow fever certificate if applicable
- Travelers must always carry valid visa documentation and passport copies due to enforcement and overstay penalties

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09 Qatar

Work Visa Requirements

Service scope: The Ministry of Interior issues work entry visas through eligible Qatari employers or sponsors. Medical, biometric and related procedures may be completed in Qatar or, where the relevant recruitment program applies, through a Qatar Visa Centre.

Application process: Work entry visa applications are submitted by the Qatari employer through the Ministry of Interior's electronic systems. Upon approval, the applicant may travel to Qatar. After completing the required medical and biometric procedures, the sponsor finalizes the Work Residence Permit.

Eligibility & conditions:

- Valid passport with a minimum validity of six months
- Employment with an eligible Qatari employer or sponsor, supported by the employment documentation required for the applicable application category
- Employer sponsorship and approved work visa quota
- Medical-fitness clearance, in Qatar or via an authorized pre-departure process, where applicable
- Biometric (fingerprint) registration with the Ministry of Interior
- The work entry visa facilitates entry for employment and the subsequent completion of Work Residence Permit requirements

Extension rules:

- The employer arranges the work-entry visa, followed by the Work Residence Permit process
- After arrival, the employee completes required medical, fingerprint and residence procedures for the Residence Permit and Qatar ID
- The employer or sponsor manages Residence Permit renewal through the Ministry of Interior. Renewal periods and fees vary by sponsorship and Residence Permit category
- For employer-sponsored workers, the employer generally manages permit issuance and renewal

Fees (indicative):

- **Medical examination fee**: QAR 100 for residency/work purposes
- **Residence Permit fee:** QAR 300 annually plus QAR 100 for ID card
    - This varies according to the sponsorship and application category
- **Work permit fee**: QAR 100 annually
- **Work-visa issuance service fee**: QAR 300

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

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09 Qatar

Qatar Advisory

On October 15, Qatar Airways extended the suspension of its flights to and from Riyadh and Dammam until October 24 and reduced its flights to Jeddah.

Cross-Border Travel Advisory

Recent Developments

- **Canada**: Avoid non-essential travel to Qatar due to volatile regional security.
- **France**: French nationals in Qatar are advised to remain vigilant.
- **Germany**: Travel to Qatar is discouraged due to volatile regional security.
- **Ireland**: Avoid non-essential travel due to volatile regional security.
- **Italy**: Exercise caution; monitor Gulf security situation and flight disruptions.
- **Norway**: Middle East security situation serious; monitor updates, avoid sensitive sites.
- **Sweden**: Monitor regional conflict; flights may be disrupted unexpectedly.
- **US:** Heightened vigilance; possible flight cancellations and travel disruptions.
- **Switzerland**: Regional tensions; possible deterioration, flight disruptions, avoid sensitive sites.
- **UK**: Regional tensions; possible attacks and travel disruptions in Qatar.

Ongoing Measures

- **Australia:** Exercise high caution due to regional security risks and disruptions.
- **India**: Indians advised caution, follow authorities, stay indoors, avoid military areas.
- **Japan:** Reconsider Middle East travel/transit; monitor disruptions and security risks.
- **Netherlands**: Yellow code; travel possible with special security risks.
- **New Zealand**: Exercise increased caution due to regional security threats.
- **Singapore**: Singapore advises deferring all travel to Qatar due to regional instability.
- **South Korea**: Exercise caution; avoid US military-related facilities in Qatar.
- **Spain**: Advise postponing Qatar travel due to regional conflict instability.

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09 Qatar

Exit & Consular Support Measures

- **Australia:** Australian Embassy Doha and emergency consular assistance contacts provided.
- **Canada:** Prepare departure contingencies; register Canadians abroad; embassy assistance available.
- **France:** Follow local alerts; register on Fil d'Ariane; embassy contact provided.
- **Germany:** Register in crisis list; monitor alerts and authorities.
- **India:** Embassy functioning; 24x7 helpline and email available for assistance.
- **Ireland:** Flight disruptions possible; contact Irish Embassy Abu Dhabi.
- **Italy:** Register presence; contact Italian Embassy Doha in emergencies.
- **Japan:** Register with Tabi-Regi; contact embassies for assistance.
- **Netherlands:** Airspace may close; contact embassy in emergencies.
- **New Zealand:** Register travel; monitor alerts; follow local shelter instructions.
- **Norway:** Register in Reiseklar; contact MFA or embassy if affected.
- **Singapore:** Singaporeans should e-Register and contact embassy or MFA for assistance.
- **South Korea:** Embassy and emergency consular contact numbers.
- **Spain:** Register with embassy; consular contact details and emergency numbers provided.
- **Sweden:** Register on Svensklistan; contact UD emergency hotline.
- **Switzerland:** Legal cases or disputes may restrict departure from country.
- **UK:** Follow authorities; prepare for flight disruptions and sheltering.
- **US:** Embassy open; emergency contacts and STEP enrollment provided.

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Stranded Travelers & Overland Movement Considerations

Measures for stranded travelers and residents:

- Travelers in Qatar are advised to monitor developments closely and follow instructions issued by Qatari authorities, particularly during periods of heightened alert
- Airspace conditions may change at short notice, potentially disrupting flights and transit travel; travelers should monitor airline and government advisories and keep contingency and departure plans under review
- Monitor local and international media, including Qatari Ministry of Interior social media channels, for real-time updates; ensure emergency supplies and access to essential medication are maintained
- Avoid demonstrations, large gatherings, military and security facilities, government buildings, energy infrastructure, and other locations that may constitute potential targets
- Travelers are encouraged to register with their respective government travel registration or traveler-tracking programs and subscribe to official travel alerts to receive security updates and facilitate consular assistance during emergencies amid ongoing regional tensions
- Travelers should keep travel documents readily accessible and valid (especially for transit or land crossings), maintain charged communication devices, and be prepared with independent contingency plans not reliant on government-assisted departures
- Visitor support services (e.g., Qatar Tourism hotline) and local healthcare services remain available
- Regional tensions may cause sudden flight disruptions, airspace restrictions, and increased security risks
- Avoid all demonstrations, large gatherings, and areas with heavy police or security presence; exercise caution at locations publicly associated with the US and keep a low profile
- Monitor local and international media and always follow instructions from local authorities, including remaining indoors or moving to safe shelter if advised during hostilities
- Enrollment in the Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP) is strongly encouraged to receive security updates and enable embassy contact during emergencies

Nearest accessible land borders:

- **Saudi Arabia:** The Abu Samra / Salwa land border crossing is the primary overland exit route when air travel is constrained and is currently reported open
- Overland travelers via Saudi Arabia should monitor government travel advice, as regional hostilities may affect border transport and security conditions
- The Saudi land border remains open but may change; although flight schedules and regional travel conditions may change at short notice

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Stranded Travelers & Overland Movement Considerations

Entry, visa, & border considerations:

- **Qatar entry:** Many nationalities are eligible for visa-free entry or visa on arrival, with some travelers permitted to stay for up to 90 days within a 180-day period, subject to nationality and applicable entry conditions
- **Passport validity:** at least 3 months on entry (previously 6 months noted; requirements should be verified)
- **Health insurance:** Mandatory requisite for travelers who are required to obtain a prior entry visa before reaching the border crossings, for stay more than 30 days
- **Saudi Arabia onward travel:** Travelers exiting Qatar by land must meet Saudi visa and entry requirements; refer to Saudi Arabia “Entry requirements” when crossing the land border
    - Saudi Arabia visa requirements vary by nationality, and eligible travelers may apply online through the eVisa system before travel
- **Exit conditions:** Travelers must hold valid travel documentation and resolve any formal immigration or judicial restrictions before departure
- Entry and exit rules are subject to change at short notice; travelers should verify official requirements before travel and ensure travel documents are up to date
- Travelers of certain nationalities may be required to present a confirmed hotel or accommodation booking to meet Qatar's entry or visa-on-arrival requirements

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10 Saudi Arabia

Work Visa Requirements

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

Application process: The Saudi employer initiates the work-visa process through the Qiwa platform, subject to Ministry of Human Resources approval. The applicant then submits the work-visa request through the official KSA Visa platform, completes the required documentation and procedures, and awaits Ministry of Foreign Affairs approval.

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
- After the employee's arrival, the employer must complete the applicable work-permit and residence-permit procedures
- Foreign nationals engaging only in short term commercial activities (meetings, negotiations, events) must apply for a Saudi business visit visa, not a work visa

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

Fees (indicative):

- The permanent work-visa service fee is SAR 79, while work-permit issuance or renewal costs SAR 100. Employers must also provide mandatory health insurance

Core documents:

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

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10 Saudi Arabia

Saudi Arabia Advisory

On November 4, Etihad Airways extended the suspension of its flights between Abu Dhabi and 2 Saudi Arabian cities, Dammam and Riyadh, until November 19, amid ongoing regional disruptions.

On November 1, Akasa Air extended the suspension of its flight to and from Jeddah until November 18 and until November 30 to Riyadh.

On October 28, Indigo Airlines extended cancelled its flights to and from Riyadh, Dammam, and Madinah until November 14 due to the ongoing airspace restrictions in the region.

On October 25, King Khalid International Airport in Riyadh resumed domestic and international operations with revised terminal arrangements following disruptions caused by Houthi missile and drone attacks.

On October 25, Air Cairo extended the suspension of flights between Cairo, Asyut and Sohag and Riyadh until October 31, citing temporary operational measures at King Khalid International Airport.

On October 16, Air India announced the cancellation of all flights to Riyadh, Dammam and Jeddah through October 20 due to the evolving security situation in Saudi Arabia, while continuing to monitor conditions ahead of its planned resumption of flights to Israel on December 1.

On October 15, Qatar Airways extended the suspension of its flights to and from Riyadh and Dammam until October 24 and reduced its flights to Jeddah.

On October 12, The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) issued a warning urging American airlines to exercise heightened caution when operating flights to or over Saudi Arabia, following a series of attacks on Riyadh's international airport.

On October 12, Delta Air Lines announced plans to postpone the launch of its first direct flights between Atlanta and Riyadh from October 2026 to March 2027 due to evolving regional security conditions.

On October 12, King Khalid International Airport in Riyadh extended suspension of operations following continued attack, causing evacuations and flight diversions for safety inspections.

On October 12, Philippine Airlines extended the suspension of Riyadh flights PR654 and PR655 until November 29, due to the security situation at King Khalid International Airport.

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10 Saudi Arabia

Cross-Border Travel Advisory

Recent Developments

- **Australia**: Reconsider travel; avoid Riyadh airport and Yemen-border areas.
- **Canada**: Avoid non-essential travel; avoid Riyadh airport and Yemen-border areas.
- **Denmark**: Exercise caution nationwide; avoid travel within 50 km of Yemen border.
- **France**: Avoid Riyadh unless essential; highest vigilance due to attacks.
- **Germany**: Travel warning; avoid Riyadh airport; attacks continue nationwide.
- **Ireland**: Advise against all but essential travel; avoid non-essential travel to Saudi Arabia.
- **Netherlands**: Orange nationwide; red near Yemen border; avoid nonessential travel.
- **New Zealand**: Avoid non-essential travel; do not travel to Riyadh airport.
- **Norway**: Avoid Riyadh airport; avoid non-essential travel nationwide.
- **Singapore**: Defer all travel to Saudi Arabia due heightened security risks.
- **Switzerland**: Avoid non-essential travel; heightened risk from regional conflict.
- **Sweden**: Avoid Yemen border region; exercise caution amid airport threats.
- **UK**: Avoid airports and non-essential travel; heightened regional security risks.
- **US:** Avoid Riyadh airport; extreme caution at major airports.

Ongoing Measures

- **India**: Remain alert; stay indoors if needed; follow authorities.
- **Italy**: Postpone non-essential travel; avoid Riyadh airport and southern provinces.
- **Japan**: Reconsider travel; monitor attacks, flights, and local authorities.
- **South Korea:** Avoid Riyadh airport area; follow local security instructions.
- **Spain**: Postpone travel to Saudi Arabia due to regional conflict instability.

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10 Saudi Arabia

Exit & Consular Support Measures

- **Australia:** Australian Embassy and emergency consular assistance contacts provided.
- **Canada:** Register abroad; monitor flights; prepare independent departure plans.
- **Denmark**: Follow authorities; register with Danskerlisten; emergency contact provided.
- **France:** Embassy updates, contact number; register Fil d'Ariane for alerts.
- **Germany:** Register crisis list; verify flights; follow authorities' instructions.
- **India:** Embassy functioning; PBSK helpline and updates available.
- **Ireland:** Shelter in place advised; commercial departure possible; limited consular assistance.
- **Italy:** Monitor airlines; register travel; embassy emergency contacts available.
- **Japan**: Contact embassy/consulates; follow warnings; avoid sensitive sites.
- **Netherlands:** Monitor flights; embassy contact and information service available.
- **New Zealand**: Register travel; follow shelter instructions and local authorities.
- **Norway:** Register travel; monitor airlines; follow local authority instructions.
- **Singapore:** eRegister; Singapore diplomatic missions provide consular assistance.
- **South Korea**: Verify flights; embassy emergency contacts provided.
- **Spain:** Register with embassy; flights operating but subject to sudden changes.
- **Sweden:** Avoid Riyadh airport; register with embassy traveler list.
- **Switzerland**: Register travel; avoid Riyadh airport; monitor authorities and airlines.
- **UK:** Consider land departures; monitor authorities; keep documents updated.
- **US:** Check flights; enroll in STEP; consular services available.

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10 Saudi Arabia

Stranded Travelers & Overland Movement Considerations

Measures for stranded travelers and residents:

- Travelers should closely monitor official security advisories and follow instructions issued by Saudi authorities, as regional threats may result in emergency alerts, flight disruptions, movement restrictions, or shelter guidance
- During missile or drone warnings, individuals should shelter indoors immediately, stay away from windows, and limit movement until the situation stabilizes; enable government emergency alerts on cell phones where available
- Travelers should expect potential flight cancellations, airspace closures, and other disruptions, exercise caution at Saudi airports
- Travelers should monitor government advisories, reconfirm flights before departing for Saudi airports, and minimize time at airport facilities due to potential regional disruptions
- Private car, train, and bus services may serve as alternatives to air travel, subject to confirmation of route availability, schedules, reservations, and cross-border requirements
- Nonessential movement should be limited; and travelers should avoid military installations, sensitive sites, and large gatherings
- Avoid all demonstrations and large gatherings, and all areas with heavy police or security presence
- Nationals are encouraged to register with their government travel registries and keep contact details updated for emergency outreach (including STEP, Registration of Canadians Abroad, and Svensklistan/UD Resklar where applicable)
- Travelers should shelter in place when instructed, maintain access to food, water, and essential medicines, and plan contingencies without relying on government-led evacuation or assistance
- Travelers should ensure that their travel documents have sufficient remaining validity, particularly when transiting through other countries or crossing land borders
- Collect latest information from multiple sources (airlines, authorities, media) and monitor local impacts
- Prepare a personal emergency plan and contingencies without relying on government evacuation or assistance; monitor airline, and local authority instructions closely
- Do not photograph, film, publish or share information concerning missile/drone interceptions or impact sites; Saudi authorities warn that doing so may result in legal liability

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10 Saudi Arabia

Stranded Travelers & Overland Movement Considerations

Nearest accessible land borders:

- **Bahrain:** The King Fahd Causeway remains a principal crossing between Saudi Arabia and Bahrain, subject to entry requirements, visa eligibility, and operational restrictions
- **Iraq:** The Arar border crossing may be subject to operational and eligibility restrictions
- Additional named crossings referenced: **Qatar** (Salwa), **UAE** (Al Batha), **Kuwait** (Al Khafji, Ar Ruqi)
- **Yemen:** Travel near the Yemen border is strictly restricted; avoid travel within 30 km
- Areas within 20 km of Saudi Arabia's northern border, including specified border areas around Hafr Al-Batin and Khafji, remain designated by the Saudi government as "out of bounds"
- Crossing by rented car requires valid Saudi insurance
- Travelers should verify the operational status of all land border crossings immediately before departure, as regional military activity may result in sudden restrictions or closures

Entry, visa & border considerations:

- A valid Saudi visa is required; a visa does not guarantee entry, which remains subject to border authority discretion
- **Passport validity:** Passports should generally be valid for at least 6 months from the date of entry
- Tourist e-visa is available online for selected countries; eVisas or visas on arrival may be available subject to eligibility
- Saudi Arabia does not recognize dual nationality; exit passport requirements for dual nationals could not be verified
- Travelers must meet onward visa requirements when exiting Saudi Arabia by land; entry and exit rules are set by Saudi authorities and may change without prior notice
- Biometric fingerprints may be required at entry points
- Travelers using emergency travel documents or passports with limited validity should contact their embassy in Saudi Arabia before onward travel or border crossing
- Check Saudi passport/visa rules with authorities prior to travel or border crossing and always carry valid photo ID (keep passport original and copies secure)

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Work Visa Requirements

Service scope: Employers or authorized government, private-sector and free-zone entities may apply for an entry permit to enable a foreign worker to enter the UAE and complete residence procedures. ICP processes applications outside Dubai; Dubai applications are processed by GDRFA Dubai.

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

Eligibility & conditions:

- Passport valid for minimum 6 months
- Medical fitness and any applicable health insurance requirements must be completed as part of the residence visa process
- Entry permit issued for a specific period to complete work residence formalities
- For employers governed by the UAE Labour Relations Law, the applicable MOHRE work permit or approval is required

Extension rules: Extension eligibility depends on the entry-permit category. A work-mission visa may be extended once, subject to the applicable approval. Entry A six-month multiple-entry permit for completing Golden or Blue Residence procedures may be extended once for an equivalent period. permits for border areas, truck drivers, workers on tourist ships 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, together with the employment contract, applicable work-permit approval and category-specific supporting documents.

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11 UAE

UAE Advisory

On November 4, Etihad Airways extended the suspension of its flights between Abu Dhabi and 2 Saudi Arabian cities, Dammam and Riyadh, until November 19, amid ongoing regional disruptions.

On November 4, British Airways resumed daily flights to Dubai after an eight-month suspension and plans to increase the route to twice daily in summer 2027.

On November 1, Singapore Airlines confirmed that flights between Singapore and Dubai will remain cancelled through February 28, 2027, due to the geopolitical situation in the Middle East.

On October 26, KLM announced plans to extend the suspension of Amsterdam-Dubai flights through March 27, 2027, due to security and operational uncertainty in the Middle East.

On October 23, Lufthansa Group announced to postpone the planned resumption of flights to Dubai until November 25.

On October 23, SWISS announced plans to postpone the resumption of flights to Dubai from October 27 to November 25 due to the evolving security situation in the Middle East.

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11 UAE

Cross-Border Travel Advisory

Recent Developments

- **Canada**: Avoid non-essential travel due to volatile regional security situation.
- **France**: Exercise great caution in tourist and crowded areas abroad.
- **Germany:** Avoid non-essential travel; volatile security situation in region.
- **Ireland:** Avoid non-essential travel due to regional security volatility.
- **Italy**: Maintain high attention; missile threat alert and flight disruptions possible.
- **Netherlands**: Yellow overall; avoid Abu Musa and Tunb islands.
- **Norway**: Regional situation serious; monitor security, avoid sensitive locations.
- **Sweden**: Exercise caution; monitor regional security developments and authorities.
- **Switzerland**: Avoid Yemen border; heightened risks, remain vigilant and follow authorities.
- **UK**: Regional tensions remain; be prepared for disruptions and escalation.
- **US**: Heightened vigilance due to Middle East tensions and disruptions.

Ongoing Measures

- **Australia**: Exercise high degree of caution due to terrorism, regional insecurity.
- **Denmark**: Security situation unstable; monitor updates and follow authorities' instructions.
- **India**: Flights suspended; travelers advised to await airline confirmation before moving.
- **Japan:** Reconsider Middle East travel; remain vigilant amid uncertainty.
- **New Zealand**: Exercise increased caution due to regional security threats.
- **Singapore**: Advises deferring travel and registering while monitoring flight disruptions.
- **South Korea**: Heightened caution urged due to rising regional military tensions.
- **Spain**: Postpone travel unless necessary; regional conflict affects UAE.

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11 UAE

Exit & Consular Support Measures

- **Australia:** Airspace disruptions possible; emergency consular assistance contacts provided.
- **Canada:** Prepare independent departure plans; Canadian consular contacts provided.
- **Denmark:** Contact Foreign Ministry Global Watch Center if urgent.
- **France:** Register Fil d'Ariane; embassy contact provided.
- **Germany:** Register with crisis list; monitor authorities and travel updates.
- **India:** Emergency helplines provided and visa fines waived during airspace closure.
- **Ireland:** Travel bans possible; check status, embassy assistance available.
- **Italy:** Italian Embassy and emergency contact information provided.
- **Japan**: Register travel plans; follow authorities and embassy guidance.
- **Netherlands:** Emergency contacts, embassy support, crisis guidance provided.
- **New Zealand:** Register travel; follow alerts, shelter orders, official guidance.
- **Norway:** Register travel; contact embassy or UD in emergencies.
- **Singapore:** Urges citizens to defer travel, e-Register if in the region, and provides UAE mission and MFA duty office contact details.
- **South Korea:** Verify flights; emergency embassy and consular contacts provided.
- **Spain:** Airspace open; register with embassy; emergency contact available.
- **Sweden:** Entry restrictions, passport validity rules, embassy alerts advised.
- **Switzerland:** Register crisis list; monitor alerts; follow official instructions.
- **UK:** Sign up for alerts; review departure plans and documents.
- **US:** Monitor flights; consular assistance and emergency contacts available.

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Stranded Travelers & Overland Movement Considerations

Measures for stranded travelers and residents:

- Travelers in the UAE are advised to monitor local and regional developments closely and follow instructions issued by local authorities
- If advised to shelter, remain indoors in a protected area, avoid drone or missile debris and suspicious objects, and follow local authorities' instructions
- Commercial flight operations continue from Dubai and Abu Dhabi, though delays, cancellations, or partial airspace restrictions may occur; travelers should confirm flight status directly with airlines and avoid going to airports without confirmed bookings
- Remain vigilant, limit non-essential movement during heightened security periods, avoid military or security facilities and large gatherings, and follow local authorities' instructions while monitoring official advisories for potential security or travel disruptions
- Travelers should register with their government's travel registration service (e.g., STEP or equivalent) and keep embassy contact details accessible to receive security updates and facilitate consular outreach during emergencies
- Travelers should maintain contingency plans, keep travel documents accessible, ensure devices are charged, and maintain essential supplies and medication
- Travelers should ensure that their travel documents have sufficient remaining validity, particularly when transiting through other countries or crossing land borders
- Consular assistance is available through embassies, consulates, and emergency contact channels
- Travelers should maintain contingency plans, avoid relying solely on government-assisted departures, and monitor official advisories for potential security or travel disruptions
- Photography, filming, or sharing images of military activity, interceptions, or damage is prohibited and may carry severe legal consequences
- Regional tensions may cause short-notice flight cancellations, rerouting, airspace restrictions, and airline disruptions

Nearest accessible land borders:

- **Oman:** Land crossings commonly used include Hatta / Al Wajajah, Khatm Al Shikla (Al Ain), and Khatma Malaha
    - These crossings continue to operate, although processing times, congestion, eligibility requirements, operating arrangements, and temporary restrictions may change at short notice
- **Saudi Arabia:** The Al Ghuwaifat (UAE) / Al Batha (Saudi Arabia) border crossing remains operational; travelers should verify status and ensure they hold the necessary documentation and vehicle insurance before travel
- Overland travel through Oman or Saudi Arabia may be an alternative, subject to border operations, entry eligibility, visas, vehicle authorization, insurance and onward transport.

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Stranded Travelers & Overland Movement Considerations

Entry, visa, & border considerations:

- **UAE entry:** Many nationalities qualify for visa-free entry or visa-on-arrival arrangements, subject to nationality-specific conditions and eligibility requirements
    - Passports should generally be valid for at least 6 months from the date of entry
- **Document requirements:** Passports must contain complete and consistent identity details, and holders of emergency, temporary, single-name, or other non-standard travel documents should verify entry and transit eligibility before travel
- **Visa Requirement:** Visa-free and visa-on-arrival periods vary by nationality, passport type and immigration status. Travelers must confirm individual eligibility through the UAE immigration authority before travel.
- **Exit restrictions:** Departure may be delayed or restricted due to legal issues, unpaid fines/debts, or visa overstays; exit bans may apply and should be verified with authorities; overstaying results in fines and exit may be prohibited until settled
- **Onward/overland travel:** Travelers must meet destination visa requirements (e.g., Oman visa/insurance); rules vary and may change rapidly—verify before travel
- Rules are set by Emirati authorities and may change without notice; travelers should check requirements for onward travel, keep documents valid, and contact embassies where needed (e.g., UK nationals using emergency passports via Saudi Arabia)
- Dual nationals may be treated as Emirati citizens by UAE authorities, limiting access to foreign consular assistance

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12 Strait of Hormuz

Regional Security and Transport Update

Recent Developments

- The Strait of Hormuz remains operational only on a severely restricted and high-risk basis, with commercial traffic substantially below pre-conflict levels and vessels exposed to attacks, surveillance, route controls and military operations
- Iran stated that reopening the Strait of Hormuz remains contingent on US acceptance of its conditions, with negotiations continuing and no agreement reached as of date
- Iran stated that US response to its proposal for reopening the Strait of Hormuz addressed some of Tehran's seven conditions but was deemed insufficient, leaving the waterway closed while mediated negotiations remain stalled.
- Iran and Oman signed an agreement on shipping routes in the Strait of Hormuz and are seeking International Maritime Organization registration; however, it is not entailed to immediate reopening
- Iran established the Persian Gulf Strait Authority (PGSA) to oversee the Strait of Hormuz shipping, formalizing IRGC-aligned control via a civilian body managing transit approvals and mandating Iran-approved vessel insurance (free for 60 days, with fees thereafter)
- JMIC advised that the southern transit route along the Omani coastline remains available despite Iran's closure declaration, while maintaining a severe threat assessment; vessel traffic remained extremely limited, and operators were warned of continuing maritime security risks
- Iranian controls, ongoing US-Iran tensions, and renewed maritime attacks continue to disrupt the Strait of Hormuz shipping, with multiple vessels struck by projectiles
    - The Oman-hosted regional talks remain postponed, but Iran and Oman announced that they had agreed on the coordinates of designated safe transit routes through the Strait of Hormuz
    - IRGC unveiled a control map of the Strait of Hormuz and expanded it into a wider "strategic zone" (~200–300 miles, Jask–Siri), reinforcing Iran's authority over transit routes
    - Iran's Parliament Security Committee approved a Strait of Hormuz "management plan" asserting control over transit, with unimplemented and legally disputed tolls
- The Joint Maritime Information Center (JMIC) continues to assess the Strait of Hormuz maritime threat level as severe, citing vessel attacks, IRGC surveillance, navigational interference, mine risks, and persistent security concerns for commercial shipping
- Iran has exempted merchant vessels from India, China, Iraq and Qatar from Strait of Hormuz transit restrictions, allowing their ships to pass under differentiated fee arrangements.
- South Korea plans to expand its Cheonghae anti-piracy unit closer to the Strait of Hormuz, extending operations to waters near Oman's Duqm port to support safe navigation.

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12 Strait of Hormuz

Regional Security and Transport Update

Ongoing Measures

- Iran continues to advance a Strait of Hormuz management framework that would require transit authorization and enable the collection of maritime service fees, while coordinating designated safe transit routes with Oman
- International Maritime Organization (IMO) warned that six months of disruption in the Strait of Hormuz continue to strand vessels and seafarers, threaten global supply chains, and underscore the need to restore safe and unhindered navigation
- Iran's Persian Gulf Strait Authority (PGSA) continues to oversee commercial vessel transit procedures in the Strait of Hormuz
- The UAE continues to advance its Fujairah export corridor expansion, while Saudi Arabia is evaluating additional pipeline capacity to the Red Sea to strengthen alternative export routes that reduce reliance on Strait of Hormuz transit
- Maritime security conditions remain fragile, with commercial traffic continuing below historical levels as vessel operators assess security risks, navigational interference, and recent maritime incidents
- IMO continues to advocate freedom of navigation, coordinated maritime security measures, crew protection, and practical solutions for safe passage
    - IMO called for an internationally coordinated safe-passage framework, urging states to enable crew changes and renewals, while reaffirming freedom of navigation
- US blockade enforcement may subject neutral vessels to questioning and search, requiring continuous VHF Channel 16 monitoring and prescribed voyage documentation

Mobility, Travel & Immigration Impact

- **Crew changes, offshore rotations and** repatriation remain exposed to delay, cancellation and emergency evacuation as attacks, vessel disablement and port congestion continue to disrupt maritime operations
- **Regional business travel and assignments** remain subject to sudden flight cancellations, airspace disruption and short-notice port or border closures, while official advisories continue to warn against travel to Iran
- **Delays** or **missed arrivals** are increasing the risk of unplanned overstays or missed entry windows for foreign nationals dependent on maritime or related air travel, potentially requiring case-by-case immigration discretion
- **No Gulf state has announced visa or immigration rule changes directly linked to the Strait of Hormuz**, though authorities acknowledge that transport disruption may affect compliance with standard entry and exit timelines

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