



IT'S A TOUGH WORLD.

MENA Borders and Travel Situation Update

March 18, 2026 | 08:00 UTC



**MAX
INTELLIGENCE**



Status Update

The ongoing war with Iran has severely disrupted regional transit, leading to operational disruptions across regional transportation hubs due to ongoing airstrikes and excessive traffic.

Land border crossings across the Middle East remain operational; however, heightened security measures are causing intermittent delays and extended transit times, while private vehicle exits to Jordan are suspended from March 17–23 at key crossings, including the Jordan River and Rabin border points.

Air travel across the region remains significantly disrupted amid the ongoing conflict, with most Gulf countries maintaining limited but controlled aviation operations and overall flight volumes still below baseline. Qatar and the UAE continue to operate under capacity and security restrictions, prioritizing repatriation and essential movements, while airlines rely on rerouting and selective scheduling to sustain minimal connectivity, including Jazeera Airways maintaining limited international links via a road-air corridor through Qaisumah Airport connecting Kuwait to Al Ain and onward hubs.

Maritime routes across the Middle East are open; however, they are operating within a highly constrained security environment due to an elevated regional threat level. Fujairah, UAE and its surrounding maritime approaches continue to face sustained targeting pressure, with repeated attack activity significantly increasing risks for vessels transiting, anchoring, or operating in the vicinity.

Logistically, essential services across most Gulf states are stable despite the ongoing regional escalation. However, Jordan is sustaining power supply through LNG imports and fuel switching following the halt of Israeli gas, albeit at significantly higher costs, while repeated attacks on Fujairah, UAE, have disrupted Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC) crude loadings and reduced port capacity, exacerbating regional energy flow constraints.

Disclaimer: The operational status of land border crossings, airports and airspace, and seaports and maritime routes across the Middle East remains highly dynamic due to the ongoing conflict involving Iran. The information presented in this report reflects conditions only as of the time and date indicated and may change rapidly with little or no prior notice due to security developments, government directives, or operational disruptions. Travelers and operators are strongly advised to verify the status of any relevant crossing, airport, port, or transit route before departing or moving toward the crossing point. MAX Security will continue to monitor developments and update this report regularly. Our team remains available to assist clients with verification, situational updates, and operational support as required.



Land Crossings

| Country 1 | Country 2 | Border Crossing | Country 1 to Country 2 | Country 2 to Country 1 | Opening Hours |
|--------------|-------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------|
| Saudi Arabia | Qatar | Abu Samra / Salwa | Open | Open | Open 24/7 |
| Saudi Arabia | Bahrain | King Fahd Causeway | Open | Open | Open 24/7 |
| Saudi Arabia | UAE | Al Batha / Al Ghuwaifat | Open | Open | Open 24/7 |
| Saudi Arabia | Oman | Al-Rub Al-Khali (Empty Quarter) | Open | Open | Operational delays |
| Saudi Arabia | Kuwait | Al-Khafji | Open | Open | Open 24/7 |
| Saudi Arabia | Kuwait | Salmi land port | Open | Open | Open 24/7 |
| Kuwait | Iraq | Abdali-Safwan crossing | Closed | Closed | |
| UAE | Oman | Hatta / Al Wajajah | Open | Open | Operational delays |
| UAE | Oman | Khatmat Malaha | Open | Open | Operational delays |
| UAE | Oman | Al Ain (Mazyad) / Hafit | Open | Open | Operational delays |
| UAE | Oman | Khatm Al Shiklah | Open | Open | Operational delays |
| UAE | Oman | Al Dara Border Crossing | Open | Open | Operational delays |
| Oman | Yemen | Sarfait land port | Open | Open | Operational delays |
| Oman | Yemen | Al Mazyunah land port | Open | Open | Operational delays |
| Egypt | Libya | Sallom | Open | Open | Operational delays |
| Israel | Egypt | Menachem Begin / Taba | Open | Open | Operational 24/7 |
| Israel | Jordan | Yitzhak Rabin / Arava | Open | Open | 08:00- 20:00 |
| Israel | Jordan | Jordan River / Sheikh Hussein | Restricted | Restricted | Private vehicles suspended |
| Israel | Jordan | Allenby / King Hussein | Open | Open | Sunday-Thursday, 08:00-17:00 |
| Jordan | Syria | Jaber / Nassib | Open | Open | Operational delays |
| Jordan | Iraq | Karameh / Trebil | Open | Open | 08:00- 13:30 |
| Jordan | Saudi Arabia | Omari / Mudawara | Open | Open | Open 24/7 |
| Turkey | Iran | Gürbulak / Esendere | Open | Open | Operational delays |
| Turkey | Iraq | Habur (Khabur) | Open | Open | Operational delays |
| Turkey | Syria | Cilvegözü / Bab al-Hawa | Open | Open | 07:00-19:00 |
| Turkey | Greece / Bulgaria | İpsala / Kapikule | Open | Open | Operational delays |
| Armenia | Iran | Aras Agarak-Norduz | Open | Open | Open 24/7 |
| Syria | Lebanon | Masnaa Border Crossing | Open | Open | Open 24/7 |

*Recommended routes in green across the row



Airports and Airspace

| Country | Airspace | Airport | Airport Status | City | Operating Status |
|--------------|------------|---------------------------------------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Israel | Restricted | Ben Gurion Airport (TLV) | Restricted | Tel Aviv | Select repatriation flights |
| | | Ramon Airport (ETM) | Restricted | Be'er Ora | |
| | | Haifa International Airport (HFA) | Closed | Haifa | |
| Lebanon | Open | Beirut-Rafic Hariri Airport (BEY) | Restricted | Beirut | Major flight suspensions |
| Jordan | Open | Queen Alia Airport (AMM) | Open | Amman | Operational delays |
| | | King Hussein Airport (AQJ) | Open | Aqaba | |
| | | Amman Civil Airport (ADJ) | Open | Marka | |
| Syria | Restricted | Damascus Airport (DAM) | Closed | Damascus | The northern sector of the Syrian airspace towards Turkey is open |
| | | Aleppo Airport (ALP) | Open | Aleppo | |
| | | Latakia Airport (LTK) | Closed | Latakia | |
| | | Qamishli Airport (KAC) | Closed | Qamishli | |
| Bahrain | Closed | Bahrain Airport (BAH) | Closed | Manama | Departures with prior approval |
| Saudi Arabia | Open | King Abdulaziz Airport (JED) | Open | Jeddah | Airspace bordering Iraq and the Persian Gulf is operating with limited operations |
| | | King Khalid Airport (RUH) | Open | Riyadh | |
| | | King Fahd Airport (DMM) | Open | Dammam | |
| | | Prince Mohammad bin Abdulaziz Airport (MED) | Open | Medina | |
| Iraq | Closed | Baghdad Airport (BGW) | Closed | Baghdad | |
| | | Basra Airport (BSR) | Closed | Basra | |
| | | Erbil Airport (EBL) | Closed | Erbil | |
| | | Kirkuk Airport (KIK) | Closed | Kirkuk | |
| | | Mosul Airport (OSM) | Closed | Mosul | |
| Oman | Open | Al Najaf Airport (NJF) | Closed | Najaf | |
| | | Muscat Airport (MCT) | Open | Muscat | Operational delays |
| | | Sohar Airport (OHS) | Open | Sohar | |
| Qatar | Restricted | Salalah Airport (SLL) | Open | Salalah | |
| | | Hamad Airport (DOH) | Restricted | Doha | Limited operations |
| UAE | Open | Dubai Airport (DXB) | Restricted | Dubai | Limited operations |
| | | Abu Dhabi Zayed Airport (AUH) | Restricted | Abu Dhabi | Limited operations |
| | | Ras Al Khaimah Airport (RKT) | Restricted | Ras Al Khaimah | Limited operations |
| | | Fujairah Airport (FJR) | Restricted | Fujairah | Limited operations |
| | | Al Ain Airport (AAN) | Restricted | Al Ain | Limited operations |
| Kuwait | Closed | Sharjah Airport (SHJ) | Restricted | Sharjah | Limited operations |
| | | Kuwait Airport (KWI) | Closed | Kuwait | Recently targeted |
| Cyprus | Open | Paphos Airport (PFO) | Open | Paphos | Occasional disruptions |
| | | Larnaca Airport (LCA) | Open | Larnaca | |
| Turkey | Open | Istanbul Airport (IST) | Open | Istanbul | |
| | | Ankara Esenboga Airport (ESB) | Open | Ankara | Occasional disruptions |
| | | Antalya Airport (AYT) | Open | Antalya | |
| Egypt | Open | Cairo Airport (CAI) | Open | Cairo | |
| | | Sharm El Sheikh Airport (SHH) | Open | Sharm El Sheikh | |
| | | Taba Airport (TCP) | Open | Taba | |
| Azerbaijan | Restricted | Nakhchivan Airport (NAJ) | Open | Nakhchivan | Southern airspace closed |



Sea Routes and Ports

| Sea Route | Operating Status | Port Country | Major Ports Along Route | Port Status | Notes |
|------------------------|-------------------|--------------|--------------------------------|-------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Straits of Hormuz | Closed | Iran | Bandar Abbas | Restricted | Struck during recent US/Israel operations; fires/damage reported |
| | | | Bandar Lengeh | Closed | Recently struck |
| | | Oman | Khasab | Open | Impacted by route disruption |
| | | | Sohar | Open | |
| | | UAE | Fujairah | Open | Impacted by route disruption |
| | | | Jebel Ali | Open | |
| | | | Khalifa Port | Open | |
| Suez Corridor | Open | Egypt | Port Said | Open | Minor delays |
| | | | Port Fouad | Open | Minor delays |
| | | | Port Ismailia | Open | Minor delays |
| Red Sea & Gulf of Aden | Restricted | Egypt | Port of Suez (Port Tawfiq) | Open | Impacted by route disruption |
| | | | Port Sokhna (Ain Sokhna) | Open | |
| | | | Safaga Port | Open | |
| | | | Hurghada Port | Open | |
| | | Saudi Arabia | Jeddah Islamic Port | Open | Elevated risk |
| | | | King Abdullah Port (KAEC) | Open | |
| | | | Yanbu Commercial Port | Open | |
| | | | Jazan Port | Open | |
| | | Sudan | Port Sudan | Open | Operations are often limited to 06:00-22:00 due to staff |
| | | | Suakin Port | Open | |
| | | Eritrea | Port of Massawa | Open | |
| | | | Port of Assab | Open | |
| | | Yemen | Port of Aden | Restricted | Irregular |
| | | | Port of Hodeidah (Al Hudaydah) | Restricted | Irregular / Daylight only |
| | | | Port of Saleef | Restricted | Irregular / Daylight only |
| | | | Mocha Port (Al Mukha) | Restricted | Irregular/ high risk |
| Somalia | Port of Berbera | Open | | | |
| | Port of Bosaso | Open | | | |
| | Port of Mogadishu | Open | | | |



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|------------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| Arabian Sea & Western Indian Ocean | Open | Oman | Port of Duqm | Open | Operations disrupted after a recent drone strike and fire |
| | | | Port of Salalah | Restricted | |
| | | Madagascar | Port of Toamasina (Tamatave) | Open | |
| | | | Port of Mahajanga (Majunga) | Open | |
| | | | Ehoala Port (Fort Dauphin / Tolagnaro) | Open | |
| | | Port of Antsiranana (Diego Suarez) | Open | | |
| Eastern Mediterranean | Open | Israel | Port of Haifa | Open | Increased security |
| | | | Port of Ashdod | Open | Increased security |
| | | Lebanon | Port of Beirut | Open | |
| | | | Port of Tripoli | Open | |
| | | Syria | Port of Latakia | Restricted | Daylight only |
| | | | Port of Tartus | Restricted | Daylight only |
| | | Egypt | Port of Alexandria | Open | |
| | | | Port of Damietta | Open | |
| | | | Port Said | Open | |
| | | | El Dekheila Port | Open | |
| | | Cyprus | Port of Limassol | Open | |
| Port of Larnaca | Open | | | | |
| Turkey | Port of Mersin | Open | | | |
| | Port of Iskenderun | Open | | | |
| Persian Gulf | Restricted | Kuwait | Shuwaikh Port | Open | Partial capacity |
| | | | Doha Port | Open | |
| | | Iraq | Shuaiba Port | Open | Partial capacity |
| | | | Um Qasr | Open | |
| | | | Khor al Zubair | Open | |
| | | Bahrain | Khalifa Bin Salman Port | Open | |
| | | Qatar | Hamad Port | Open | Crew change on hold |
| | | | Ras Laffan Port | Open | Crew change on hold |
| | | | Mesaieed Port | Open | Crew change allowed |
| | | UAE | Khalifa Port | Open | |
| | | Iran | Bandar-e Emam Khomeini | Open | |
| | | | Bandar-e Mahshahr | Open | |
| | | | Bushehr | Open | |
| | | | Assaluyeh | Open | |
| | | Iran | Bandar-e Emam Khomeini | Open | |
| | | | Bandar-e Mahshahr | Open | |
| Bushehr | Open | | | | |
| Assaluyeh | Open | | | | |
| Saudi Arabia | King Abdulaziz Port | Open | | | |
| | Jubail Port | Open | | | |
| | Ras Tanura Port | Open | | | |



Logistics

| Country | Food | Fuel | Electricity | Internet | Water |
|--------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Saudi Arabia | Normal | Normal | Normal | Normal | Normal |
| UAE | Normal | Normal | Normal | Normal | Normal |
| Bahrain | Normal | Constrained | Normal | Constrained | Normal |
| Kuwait | Normal | Constrained | Constrained | Normal | Normal |
| Qatar | Normal | Constrained | Normal | Normal | Normal |
| Oman | Normal | Normal | Normal | Normal | Normal |
| Iraq | Normal | Normal | Constrained | Constrained | Normal |
| Jordan | Normal | Constrained | Normal | Constrained | Normal |
| Lebanon | Normal | Constrained | Constrained | Constrained | Constrained |
| Israel | Normal | Normal | Normal | Normal | Normal |
| Syria | Constrained | Constrained | Constrained | Constrained | Constrained |
| Egypt | Normal | Normal | Constrained | Normal | Normal |