



IT'S A TOUGH WORLD.

MENA Borders and Travel Situation Update

March 16, 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 open; however, several are operating under heightened security protocols, leading to intermittent processing delays and extended transit times.

Air travel across the region remains significantly disrupted amid the ongoing conflict. Most Gulf countries have begun restoring limited aviation operations, though flight volumes remain substantially reduced. El Al will operate six special flights from Tel Aviv to New York beginning March 16 to facilitate the departure of American citizens seeking to leave Israel amid the ongoing conflict. On March 16, the Dubai Civil Aviation Authority announced the gradual resumption of flights at Dubai International Airport following a temporary suspension after a drone attack sparked a fire at a fuel tank near the airport. Separately, on March 15, a drone strike targeting the vicinity of Baghdad International Airport resulted in at least five fatalities, underscoring the elevated threat environment for aviation infrastructure in Iraq.

Maritime routes across the Middle East are open but operate under a highly constrained security environment amid an **extreme** regional threat level.

Logistically, essential services across most Gulf states are stable despite the ongoing regional escalation. Oil-loading operations at the Port of Fujairah have resumed following the drone strike that caused a fire at the terminal. Separately, the United States is attempting to assemble a multinational naval coalition to reopen the Strait of Hormuz and escort commercial shipping through the waterway, with Washington reportedly urging several major economies to contribute naval assets.

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	Open with 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	Restricted	Restricted	Only with confirmed flight in coming 24 hours
UAE	Oman	Khatmat Malaha	Open	Open	Open with operational delays
UAE	Oman	Al Ain (Mazyad) / Hafit	Open	Open	Open with operational delays
UAE	Oman	Al Dara Border Crossing	Open	Open	Open with operational delays
Oman	Yemen	Sarfait land port	Open	Open	Open with operational delays
Oman	Yemen	Al Mazyunah land port	Open	Open	Open with operational delays
Egypt	Libya	Sallom	Open	Open	Open with operational delays
Israel	Egypt	Menachem Begin / Taba	Open	Open	Operational 24/7 every day
Israel	Jordan	Yitzhak Rabin / Arava	Open	Open	08:00- 20:00
Israel	Jordan	Jordan River / Sheikh Hussein	Open	Open	08:30- 16:00
Israel	Jordan	Allenby / King Hussein	Restricted	Restricted	Delays and denials
Jordan	Syria	Jaber / Nassib	Open	Open	Open with 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	Open with operational delays
Turkey	Iraq	Habur (Khabur)	Open	Open	Open with operational delays
Turkey	Syria	Cilvegözü / Bab al-Hawa	Open	Open	07:00-19:00
Turkey	Greece / Bulgaria	İpsala / Kapıkule	Open	Open	Open with 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)	Open	Be'er Ora	
		Haifa International Airport (HFA)	Closed	Haifa	
Lebanon	Open	Beirut-Rafic Hariri Airport (BEY)	Restricted	Beirut	Significant operational 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 from Bahrain International Airport 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	
		Al Najaf Airport (NJF)	Closed	Najaf	
Oman	Open	Muscat Airport (MCT)	Open	Muscat	Operational delays
		Sohar Airport (OHS)	Open	Sohar	
		Salalah Airport (SLL)	Open	Salalah	
Qatar	Restricted	Hamad Airport (DOH)	Restricted	Doha	Limited operations
UAE	Restricted	Dubai Airport (DXB)	Restricted	Dubai	Recently targeted
		Abu Dhabi Zayed Airport (AUH)	Restricted	Abu Dhabi	Limited operations
Kuwait	Closed	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	Open	Nakhchivan International Airport (NAJ)	Open	Nakhchivan	Southern sector is operating with limited operations



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			



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	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	Constrained	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