

What you need to know: COVID-19: Airline mask policy: Middle East

August 17, 2020

As part of their efforts to keep travelers and employees safe, almost all airlines around the world now require passengers to wear a face covering of some sort for the duration of a trip. However, there can be some differences between airlines. This report details what airlines in the Middle East currently require.

Major carriers

Airline	Seating adjustment
Emirates	Masks must be worn from check-in, and gloves are recommended too. Masks must be kept on at all times during boarding and on board the aircraft. Depending on regulations at the destination, passengers may also be required to wear gloves or other personal protective equipment (PPE).
Etihad Airways	All passengers, including children aged 6 years or older, must wear a face mask at the airport and for the duration of the flight. While passengers are advised to bring enough masks for their trip, the airline provides a spare in the Wellness Kit given to all travelers. It also carries limited spare masks on board aircraft.
Qatar Airways ¹	All passengers must wear a face covering at all times, from boarding to disembarkation. To ensure passengers are comfortable, the airline recommends passengers bring their own masks. Qatar Airways also distributes transparent face shields at the airport, which all passengers must wear when boarding and disembarking. Economy Class passengers must also wear both the shield and a mask during the flight. Business Class passengers may wear the shields at their discretion.
Turkish Airlines ²	The airline recommends passengers wear a mask as soon as they leave home. Single-use surgical masks are acceptable, but these should be changed every four hours, so passengers should ensure they bring sufficient masks and a personal waste bag for their disposal. Cloth masks are also acceptable. Mask wearing is mandatory at the airport, boarding the aircraft, during the flight and when disembarking.

Other airlines

Airline	Mask policy
Gulf Air	Passengers should wear face masks at all times in the airport and on board Gulf Air aircraft.

¹ [Qatar Airways](#), Travel safely with one of the most experienced airlines

² [Turkish Airlines](#), Guidelines for Safe Travel

Other airlines (continued)

Airline	Mask policy
Kuwait Airways	Passengers are required to wear face masks at the airport and on board the aircraft.
Middle East Airlines	Face masks must be worn during the flight and changed every 4 hours
Pegasus Airlines	Passengers flying with the Turkish low-cost carrier are advised to wear a face mask at all times, both in the airport and on board the flight. They should bring enough masks to be able to change them every 4 hours.
Royal Jordanian Airlines	All passengers must wear a face mask during the flight.
Saudia	Passengers should bring their own face masks and wear them at all times in the airport and on board the aircraft. While passengers can also wear gloves in the airport terminal, these must be removed before boarding.

Note

The COVID-19 situation is rapidly evolving, and the situation is changing on almost an hourly basis. The information presented in this report represents the latest view as at August 17, 2020. We have carefully researched and checked the information contained. However, we do not guarantee or warrant the correctness, completeness or topicality of this article and do not accept any liability for any damage or loss as a result of the use of the information contained within this article.

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