

## UAE airlines suspend flights as ME tensions rise

- A Monitor Desk Report

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UAE: Several UAE-based airlines have cancelled or rerouted flights after airspaces in parts of the Middle East were closed on Tuesday (Oct 1) following a surge in regional tensions.

Dubai's flagship carrier Emirates cancelled all its flights to and from Iraq (Basra and Baghdad), Iran (Tehran), and Jordan (Amman) on October 2 and 3.

"We are closely monitoring the situation and are making all efforts to ensure minimal disruption to customers, while assisting those impacted," the airline said in a statement.

Until further notice, customers transiting through Dubai with final destinations in Iraq, Iran, and Jordan will not be accepted for travel at their point of origin until further notice, the airline said.

Etihad Airways confirmed that a number of its flights on October 1 and

2 were diverted due to airspace restrictions in Israel, Jordan, Iraq and Lebanon, following Iran's missile attacks on Israel.

The airline warned of possible disruptions and delays in the coming days and advised passengers to check flight statuses on its website.

"Etihad Airways flights only operate through approved airspace, safety is always our highest priority and we would never operate a flight unless it was safe to do so," added the Abu Dhabi-based carrier, noting: "This is a developing situation and the airline is continuously monitoring security and airspace updates."

Flydubai also cancelled and diverted several flights to affected regions, including Jordan, Iraq, Israel and Iran. Passengers on connecting flights to these destinations will not be accepted for onward travel.

Flydubai continues to monitor the situation and adjust schedules as necessary, with the safety of passengers and crew remaining a priority.

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