

Kurdistan airports to re-open

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The Iraqi Prime Minister has lifted the government ban on international flights to the Kurdish airports ORER/Erbil and ORSU/Sulaymaniyah.

The central government will take full control of the airports, and will start allowing international flights to resume in the coming days. No international flights have operated from these airports since the end September 2017. Their closure was seen as a punitive measure taken by the Iraqi central government following the September 25th independence referendum in the Kurdistan Region.

The authorities have now withdrawn the Notams that were previously in place for both of these airports advising that they were closed to international flights. Both Iran and Turkey currently still have Notams in place prohibiting flights to these airports from using their airspace – but we expect these to be updated soon to reflect the lifting of the ban.

A0661/18 NOTAMR A6765/17

Q) LTXX/QAFXX/IV/NB0/E /000/999/3901N03524E465

A) LTAA LTBB B) 1802010551 C) 1803312359 EST

E) ALL TFC FROM/TO ORSU AND ORER AERODROMES (ALSO AS ALTERNATE AERODROME) ARE NOT AUTHORIZED TO USE TURKISH AIRSPACE UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE EXC EMERGENCY, AMBULANCE AND HUMANITARIAN AID FLIGHTS.

A0223/18 NOTAMR A3746/17

Q) OIIX/QAFXX/E/000/999/

A) OIIX B) 1801160610 C) 1804160600 EST

E) ALL TRAFFIC FM OR TO ORSU AND ORER ARE NOT AUTHORIZED TO USE TEHRAN FIR.

Further reading:

- Read the updated guidance on Iraq airspace safety at Safeairspace.

- Western countries lift bans on Iraq airspace.
- For detailed info on Iraq's specific permit requirements, as well as every other country in the world, take a look [here](#).