

UKMTO ADVISORY

035-26 – ADVISORY

Report Date:

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Source

Verified

UKMTO have been informed that, effective from 1400 UTC on 13 April 2026, maritime access restrictions are being enforced affecting Iranian ports and coastal areas, including locations along the Arabian Gulf, Gulf of Oman, and the Arabian Sea east of the Strait of Hormuz.

These access restrictions apply without distinction to vessels of any flag engaging with Iranian ports, oil terminals, or coastal facilities. UKMTO understands that formal details of these measures, including enforcement provisions and exemptions, will be promulgated and updated through official Notice to Mariners (NTM).

Based on information currently available to UKMTO:

- The restrictions encompass the entirety of the Iranian coastline, including ports and energy infrastructure.
- Transit passage through the Strait of Hormuz to or from non-Iranian destinations is not reported to be impeded by these measures; however, vessels may encounter military presence, directed communications, or right-of-visit procedures during passage.
- Neutral vessels currently within Iranian ports have been granted a limited grace period to depart, as will be specified in the NTM.
- All other threat, maritime security, and navigation assessments remain extant as outlined in the latest JMIC advisory products.

Additional guidelines for mariners regarding how these measures will be applied in practice, including routing, verification, and authorised transit procedures are in development. Further clarification is expected to be provided through subsequent advisories as information becomes available.

Mariners are strongly advised to refer to the associated Notice to Mariners for authoritative detail, including geographic limits, conditions of transit, and inspection or authorisation requirements.

Vessels operating in the Strait of Hormuz approaches, Gulf of Oman, and adjacent waters are advised to maintain heightened situational awareness, ensure maximum bridge readiness, and exercise appropriate caution with bridge-to-bridge VHF communications.