

Virgin Atlantic permanently suspends flights to Tel Aviv

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A Virgin Atlantic plane at the Seattle-Tacoma International Airport in Seattle. (File photo by AP)

London, April 29 (RHC)-- Virgin Atlantic has announced it plans to permanently suspend its flights to Tel Aviv. The British airline announced on Monday it will not resume flights to the occupied Palestinian land.

It said the move follows its temporary suspension of the airline's London Heathrow–Tel Aviv route after the Israeli regime launched the campaign of genocide in the Gaza Strip in October 2023.

“After careful consideration, we have taken the difficult decision to cancel our services between London Heathrow and Tel Aviv ... we are committed to providing you with alternative travel options,” the airline said in its travel update.?

The UK carrier decided to permanently cancel flights between London Heathrow and Tel Aviv Ben Gurion, after postponing the resumption of the route several times since the start of Israel’s genocidal war on Gaza.

“We will continue to serve Tel Aviv as the only UK airline to have a partnership with EL AL, Israel’s national carrier, on services between Tel Aviv Ben Gurion and London Heathrow,” it added.

Through an agreement made with EL AL, travelers henceforth would use the Israeli airline for “connections between Israel, the UK and the US, specifically to Las Vegas, Miami, New York and Atlanta,” it further added.

The British airline pointed out that passengers who have booked tickets with Virgin Atlantic will be entitled to a refund or can be rebooked on flight services operated by EL AL.

Since Israel’s genocidal war on Gaza began, many airlines have suspended their services to Tel Aviv, including United Airlines, Delta Airlines, Air France and Lufthansa.

[SOURCE: ASSOCIATED PRESS and NEWS AGENCIES]

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