
Lufthansa Cuts Summer Flights Amid Rising Fuel Costs



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Lufthansa has announced plans to cut around 20,000 short-haul flights during the summer season, citing sharply rising fuel prices that have rendered many routes unprofitable.

The surge in jet fuel costs follows escalating tensions linked to the US-Israel Iran conflict, which has disrupted production and transportation across the region. Industry data indicates that fuel prices have nearly doubled since the crisis began, placing significant pressure on global airlines.

Other major carriers, including Air France-KLM and Delta Air Lines, have also reduced select routes and increased ticket prices to offset higher operational costs. Analysts warn that travelers may face further fare hikes and additional cancellations if the situation persists.

The Strait of Hormuz, a critical route for energy supplies, remains heavily restricted, impacting nearly half of Europe's jet fuel imports sourced from the Gulf region. Facilities such as Kuwait's Al-Zour Refinery play a vital role in supply chains.

The International Energy Agency has cautioned that Europe could face jet fuel shortages within weeks if disruptions continue, although some governments and airlines report no immediate supply crisis.

Sources: Airline disclosures, industry analysts, International Energy Agency reports