

Comair extends suspension of services

Following President Ramaphosa's announcement that South Africa will remain on an adjusted Level 4 lockdown for at least the next two weeks, Comair will extend the suspension of scheduled kulula.com and British Airways flights until 31 August 2021.



Hansueli Krapf via Wikimedia Commons

The prohibition of all non-essential travel in and out of Gauteng, very little to no demand for business travel and international travel bans resulted in Comair temporarily suspending all scheduled flights from Monday, 5 July 2021.

The intention was to recommence operations from 30 July 2021. Given the uncertainty of the expected length of the recently adjusted Level 4 lockdown, restriction of travel in and out of Gauteng coupled with the rampant transmissibility of the Covid-19 "Delta" variant, Comair had to make the decision to further suspend flight operations.



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Comair CEO, Glenn Orsmond, apologised to customers affected by the suspension. "This decision was not made lightly, as it has a significant impact on both our customers and our employees. However, under the circumstances, we believe it is the correct course of action to ensure the health and wellbeing of our customers and employees. We empathise with the government's unenviable position with regards to balancing the health of the nation and the suffering economy.

"We also welcome the announcement of opening vaccine registration for the 35–49-year-old group from 15 July 2021. This is a crucial step towards ensuring the safety of our customers and our employees, as well as stimulating demand and the recovery of our economy and tourism industry. We anticipate the vaccine roll-out picking up pace in earnest and hope to see it reaching critical mass in the next month or two and look forward to welcoming our customers back on board."

Comair plans to resume scheduled operations on Wednesday, 1 September 2021.

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