

Air Freight from China to Muara

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→ Air Freight

China → Muara · via BWN air / Muara sea · clearance by Royal Customs and Excise Department



Cargo handling on the China-Muara lane.

Freight from China into Muara clears through BWN air / Muara sea. Muara is Brunei's only deep-water container port, and the inland leg is same-day, so the clearance date is effectively the delivery date.

The clearing authority is Royal Customs and Excise Department. Historical dwell on this gateway is around 2–5 days, and it lengthens in Sep–Nov.

Duty, tax and clearance into Muara

Imports into Brunei are cleared by Royal Customs and Excise Department. The headline position is: No VAT or GST; duty 0–20% depending on commodity; excise on selected goods. The de-minimis threshold is BND 400 on personal consignments.

Conformity is the part most first-time importers underestimate: Halal certification for food; AITI approval for radio equipment. Getting this wrong is expensive because it usually cannot be fixed after the cargo has landed.

Restrictions and known friction points for Brunei: Alcohol imports are prohibited for Muslim consignees and tightly controlled generally. Halal rules apply to a wide range of food and ingredient imports.

What the routing looks like in practice

Brunei is a small-volume market usually served by transshipment through Singapore, Kota Kinabalu or Muara feeder services. Direct China calls are rare, so realistic transit planning should assume one transshipment and a feeder window.

Air gateways used	BWN (Bandar Seri Begawan)
Air transit, China to gateway	4-6 business days
Gateway serving Muara	BWN air / Muara sea
Inland leg to Muara	Same day from the gateway
Typical clearance / dwell	2-5 days
Peak season to plan around	Sep-Nov



Handling on the BWN air / Muara sea routing serving Muara.

Before you book: Muara checklist

- Book earlier than the transit time suggests during Sep-Nov, when space on this lane tightens.
- Get the conformity paperwork moving early: Halal certification for food; AITI approval for radio equipment.
- Use ISPM-15 treated pallets. Untreated wood is the most common reason otherwise-clean cargo gets held.
- Put the Muara delivery address, contact name and phone number on the invoice, not just the packing list.
- Ask for the HS code in writing from your supplier and verify the Brunei duty rate against it yourself.
- Photograph carton markings and seal numbers before departure — it makes any claim far easier to settle.

Frequently asked questions

How long does shipping from China to Muara take?

China to the Brunei gateway is 4-6 business days. On top of that, allow 2-5 days of clearance with Royal Customs and Excise Department and a same-day inland leg to Muara.

What duty and tax will I pay importing into Muara?

Royal Customs and Excise Department applies: No VAT or GST; duty 0-20% depending on commodity; excise on selected goods. The de-minimis position is BND 400 on personal consignments. Under a DDP arrangement these are pre-paid, so nothing is collected on arrival in Muara.

Which port or airport does cargo for Muara clear through?

Cargo for Muara is routed via BWN air / Muara sea. Sea gateways for Brunei are Muara Port; air gateways are BWN (Bandar Seri Begawan). We pick whichever gives the shortest total door time for your address.

What certification do I need for Brunei?

For regulated goods, plan for: Halal certification for food; AITI approval for radio equipment. Missing conformity paperwork is the single most common cause of a hold, and in most cases it cannot be remedied once the cargo has arrived.

Can you ship batteries or sensitive cargo to Muara?

Yes. Battery cargo by air follows IATA PI 965-970 depending on how the cells are packed, and moves on certified channels via BWN (Bandar Seri Begawan). Surcharges apply and the declaration has to be made before booking.

What documents does Royal Customs and Excise Department require?

A commercial invoice with HS codes, a packing list, the bill of lading or air waybill, a certificate of origin where it lowers duty, and any product certification (Halal certification for food; AITI approval for radio equipment). We prepare and file these as part of the service.

Other delivery cities in Brunei

- [China to Bandar Seri Begawan](#)
- [China to Kuala Belait](#)

- [China to Seria](#)
- [China to Tutong](#)

[All Brunei freight information →](#)

References & official sources

Duty rates, thresholds and conformity requirements for Brunei change by ministerial decision, sometimes mid-year. The figures on this page are buyer-planning references, not a customs ruling — confirm the current position for your own HS code with Royal Customs and Excise Department or your broker before you ship.

- [Royal Customs and Excise Department](#)
- [WTO — Tariff Profiles \(applied MFN duty by country\)](#)
- [IATA — Lithium battery shipping guidance \(PI 965–970\)](#)
- [World Bank — Logistics Performance Index](#)
- [ICC — Incoterms 2020 rules \(DDP, DAP, FOB definitions\)](#)
- [IPPC — ISPM 15 wood packaging standard](#)

Page data last reviewed: August 2026.

Shipping by industry

This page covers the route and clearance picture for the destination. Packing, classification and the compliance step that actually holds a shipment depend on what you are sending — these guides cover that by commodity.

- [Luggage Textiles, Apparel, Footwear & Leather](#)
- [Fire Protection Equipment Fire, Safety & Traffic Products](#)
- [Illuminated Signs Retail, Display & Commercial Fixtures](#)
- [Outdoor Products Toys, Sports, Outdoor & Leisure](#)
- [Office Supplies Consumer Goods & Gifts](#)
- [Cross-border E-commerce E-commerce & Retail Channels](#)
- [Metal Products Metal Products & Industrial Components](#)
- [Architectural Hardware Metal Products & Industrial Components](#)
- [Production Line Equipment General Machinery & Industrial Equipment](#)
- [Aerial Work Platform Construction, Mining & Material Handling](#)
- [Switchgear New Energy, Power & Electrical](#)
- [Automotive Electronics Automotive & Vehicles](#)

[All 139 industry guides →](#)

FCL Container Rates — China to Muara

Live port-to-port ocean freight for a full container into Muara, by origin port. Ocean freight only — origin haulage, customs clearance and destination delivery are quoted separately.

Shekou → Muara

Container	Rate (USD)
20GP	1,100
40HQ	2,050

- Carrier: STIC

[Full route page — Shekou to Muara →](#)

Spot allocations move week to week — reconfirm the rate against the current sailing before booking.

Price Trend — Muara

Live rate for the linked route page, shown here for a quick read before you click through.

Get a rate for Muara

This lane is quoted per shipment rather than from a published rate card, because the landed cost depends on the commodity, its density, the conformity requirements above and the delivery point. Send the cargo details and we will come back with a full DDP figure.

[Request a quote → See the Brunei route page →](#)

Freight Rates to Brunei

Current published rates — USD

☐ SEA

Sea · FCL Port-to-Port (Spot)

20GP **USD 1,100.00**

40HQ **USD 2,050.00**

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☐ Cargo Weight (KG)

☐ Enter the actual gross weight of your shipment in kilograms. If you're unsure, fill in the volume fields below and we'll calculate it for you.

☐ Or enter volume (cm) — volumetric weight ÷ 6000

× ×

Non-integers rounded up. Larger of actual vs volumetric is used.

☐ Number of Boxes

Total chargeable weight = weight per box × number of boxes.

△ When you have not filled in the volume information, our prices may be inaccurate.