

Shipping from China to Muara

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Asia Pacific

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.

On the destination side, Royal Customs and Excise Department handles clearance; budget 2-5 days of dwell before the cargo is released.

Routing and transit on this lane

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
Sea gateways used	Muara Port
Sea transit, China to gateway	7-12 calendar 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

What you will pay on arrival in Brunei

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.



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

Air, sea or overland into Muara?

Mode	Transit to gateway	Best suited to
→ Air Freight	4-6 business days	time-critical, high-value and low-volume cargo
☐ Sea Freight	7-12 calendar days	volume cargo where cost per kilo matters more than speed

Transit shown is China departure to the Brunei gateway and excludes the same-day inland leg to Muara and 2-5 days of clearance.

Pre-shipment checklist for Muara

- Check the de-minimis position (BND 400 on personal consignments) against your invoice value before you decide how to split the shipment.
- Confirm the consignee in Muara can act as importer of record — Royal Customs and Excise Department will not release cargo to an unregistered party.
- Book earlier than the transit time suggests during Sep-Nov, when space on this lane tightens.
- Budget for the inland leg: same-day delivery beyond gateway clearance to reach Muara.
- Photograph carton markings and seal numbers before departure — it makes any claim far easier to settle.
- Declare lithium batteries, magnets, liquids and powders up front — retro-declaring after booking usually means re-planning the whole shipment.

Mode guides for Muara

- → [Air Freight to Muara](#)
- ☐ [Sea Freight to Muara](#)

Frequently asked questions

How long does shipping from China to Muara take?

China to the Brunei gateway is 4-6 business days by air, 7-12 calendar days by sea. 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.

Can you deliver door-to-door in Muara?

Yes. Delivery to a Muara address is quoted as one figure covering freight, duty and tax owed to Royal Customs and Excise Department, and the same-day inland leg. Confirm whether your consignee wants the goods at a warehouse, a marketplace fulfilment centre or a shop front, because the last-mile requirement differs.

When is the busiest time on the China–Brunei lane?

Space and rates tighten around Sep–Nov, plus the China-side windows of Chinese New Year in January or February and Golden Week in early October. Book one to two weeks earlier in those periods.

How is the chargeable weight calculated for Muara?

We compare actual gross weight against volumetric weight — length × width × height in centimetres divided by 6000 for air — and bill the greater of the two, rounded up to the next kilogram. Light, bulky cargo is almost always billed on volume.

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.

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](#)

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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.

- [5G Equipment Telecom, Computing & Data Centre](#)
- [Headphones Consumer Electronics & Smart Devices](#)
- [Home Furniture Furniture & Home Products](#)
- [Garden Products Furniture & Home Products](#)
- [Footwear Textiles, Apparel, Footwear & Leather](#)
- [Medical Furniture Medical, Laboratory & Precision Instruments](#)
- [Display Stands Retail, Display & Commercial Fixtures](#)
- [Toys Toys, Sports, Outdoor & Leisure](#)
- [Baby Products Consumer Goods & Gifts](#)
- [Bathroom Accessories Consumer Goods & Gifts](#)
- [E-commerce Fulfilment E-commerce & Retail Channels](#)
- [Bearings Metal Products & Industrial Components](#)

[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.