

Shipping from China to Buenaventura

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Americas

China → Buenaventura · via BOG air / Buenaventura sea · clearance by DIAN — Dirección de Impuestos y Aduanas Nacionales



Cargo handling on the China-Buenaventura lane.

Buenaventura is the Pacific port that handles most Asian container volume, and it is served through BOG air / Buenaventura sea. That combination is what actually sets your delivery date on this lane — allow +1 day for the inland leg on top of clearance.

On the destination side, DIAN — Dirección de Impuestos y Aduanas Nacionales handles clearance; budget 4–10 days of dwell before the cargo is released.

What you will pay on arrival in Colombia

DIAN — Dirección de Impuestos y Aduanas Nacionales assesses duty and tax on cargo arriving for Buenaventura consignees. Current regime: IVA 19%; duty 0–20%, with a 10–40% tariff applied to some textile and footwear imports, with a de-minimis position of USD 200 for courier consignments.

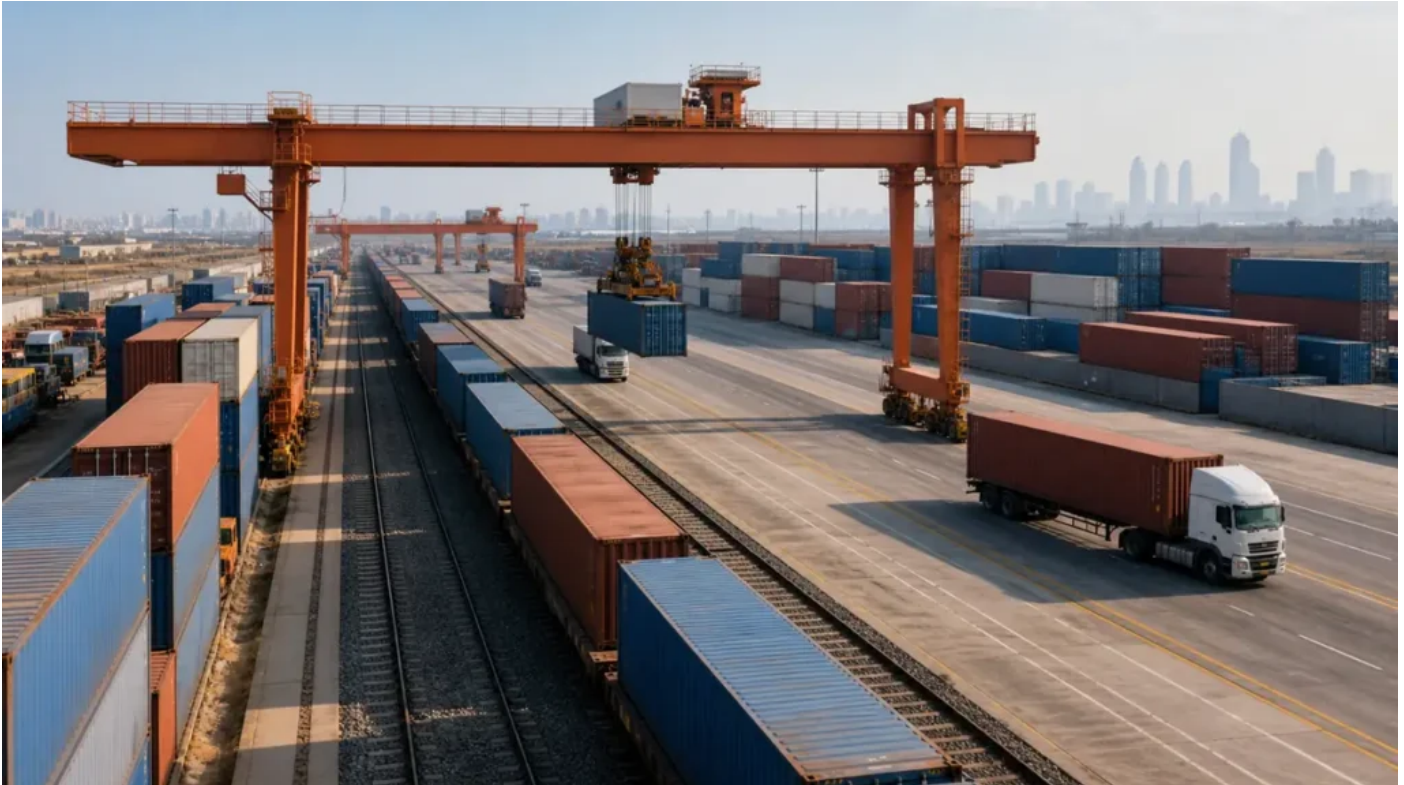
Conformity is the part most first-time importers underestimate: INVIMA registration for food, cosmetics and medical devices; conformity certificates for regulated electricals. Getting this wrong is expensive because it usually cannot be fixed after the cargo has landed.

Restrictions and known friction points for Colombia: Textile and footwear tariffs are set to discourage undervaluation — customs valuation challenges are common. INVIMA registration must be held by the consignee before arrival for regulated goods.

What the routing looks like in practice

Cartagena on the Caribbean coast is the fastest and best-connected gateway, and it is the natural choice for Bogotá and Medellín despite the inland trucking. Buenaventura on the Pacific is closer to Cali but has a heavier congestion history. Textile and footwear imports carry protective tariffs designed to slow low-priced Asian goods, so classify these carefully.

Air gateways used	BOG (Bogotá), MDE (Medellín), CLO (Cali)
Air transit, China to gateway	4-6 business days
Sea gateways used	Cartagena, Buenaventura, Barranquilla
Sea transit, China to gateway	26-34 calendar days
Gateway serving Buenaventura	BOG air / Buenaventura sea
Inland leg to Buenaventura	+1 day from the gateway
Typical clearance / dwell	4-10 days
Peak season to plan around	Sep-Nov



Handling on the BOG air / Buenaventura sea routing serving Buenaventura.

What to sort out before the cargo leaves China

- Confirm the consignee in Buenaventura can act as importer of record — DIAN — Dirección de Impuestos y Aduanas Nacionales will not release cargo to an unregistered party.
- Compare gross weight against volumetric weight ($L \times W \times H \div 6000$) — the higher figure is what gets billed on air and express.
- Book earlier than the transit time suggests during Sep–Nov, when space on this lane tightens.
- Put the Buenaventura delivery address, contact name and phone number on the invoice, not just the packing list.
- Get the conformity paperwork moving early: INVIMA registration for food, cosmetics and medical devices; conformity certificates for regulated electricals.
- Ask for the HS code in writing from your supplier and verify the Colombia duty rate against it yourself.

Air, sea or overland into Buenaventura?

Mode	Transit to gateway	Best suited to
→ Air Freight	4–6 business days	time-critical, high-value and low-volume cargo
☐ Sea Freight	26–34 calendar days	volume cargo where cost per kilo matters more than speed

Transit shown is China departure to the Colombia gateway and excludes the +1 day inland leg to Buenaventura and 4–10 days of clearance.

Mode guides for Buenaventura

- [✈ Air Freight to Buenaventura](#)
- [🚢 Sea Freight to Buenaventura](#)

Frequently asked questions

How long does shipping from China to Buenaventura take?

China to the Colombia gateway is 4-6 business days by air, 26-34 calendar days by sea. On top of that, allow 4-10 days of clearance with DIAN — Dirección de Impuestos y Aduanas Nacionales and a +1 day inland leg to Buenaventura.

What duty and tax will I pay importing into Buenaventura?

DIAN — Dirección de Impuestos y Aduanas Nacionales applies: IVA 19%; duty 0-20%, with a 10-40% tariff applied to some textile and footwear imports. The de-minimis position is USD 200 for courier consignments. Under a DDP arrangement these are pre-paid, so nothing is collected on arrival in Buenaventura.

Which port or airport does cargo for Buenaventura clear through?

Cargo for Buenaventura is routed via BOG air / Buenaventura sea. Sea gateways for Colombia are Cartagena, Buenaventura, Barranquilla; air gateways are BOG (Bogotá), MDE (Medellín), CLO (Cali). We pick whichever gives the shortest total door time for your address.

How is the chargeable weight calculated for Buenaventura?

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 Colombia?

For regulated goods, plan for: INVIMA registration for food, cosmetics and medical devices; conformity certificates for regulated electricals. 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 Buenaventura?

Yes. Battery cargo by air follows IATA PI 965-970 depending on how the cells are packed, and moves on certified channels via BOG (Bogotá), MDE (Medellín), CLO (Cali). Surcharges apply and the declaration has to be made before booking.

Other delivery cities in Colombia

- [China to Bogota](#)
- [China to Medellin](#)
- [China to Cali](#)
- [China to Barranquilla](#)
- [China to Cartagena](#)

- [China to Bucaramanga](#)
- [China to Pereira](#)

[All Colombia freight information →](#)

References & official sources

Duty rates, thresholds and conformity requirements for Colombia 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 DIAN — Dirección de Impuestos y Aduanas Nacionales or your broker before you ship.

- [DIAN](#)
- [WTO — Tariff Profiles \(applied MFN duty by country\)](#)
- [IMO — IMDG Code for dangerous goods by sea](#)
- [IATA — Lithium battery shipping guidance \(PI 965-970\)](#)
- [World Bank — Logistics Performance Index](#)

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.

- [Metal Fabrication Metal Products & Industrial Components](#)
- [Cutting Tools Metal Products & Industrial Components](#)
- [Compressors General Machinery & Industrial Equipment](#)
- [Automated Storage Equipment Construction, Mining & Material Handling](#)
- [Electrical Cabinets New Energy, Power & Electrical](#)
- [Automotive Glass Automotive & Vehicles](#)
- [Doors & Windows Building Materials & Construction Products](#)
- [Paper Packaging Wood, Bamboo & Paper Products](#)
- [Packaging Materials Plastics, Rubber & Packaging](#)
- [Connectors Electronic Components & Semiconductors](#)
- [Consumer Electronics Consumer Electronics & Smart Devices](#)
- [Air Conditioning Equipment Home Appliances, HVAC & Commercial](#)

[All 139 industry guides →](#)

FCL Container Rates — China to Buenaventura

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

Ningbo → Buenaventura

Container	Rate (USD)
40HQ	6,387

- ETD: 2026-08-25, 2026-08-29
- Carrier: MSK

[Full route page — Ningbo to Buenaventura →](#)

Qingdao → Buenaventura

Container	Rate (USD)
40HQ	5,900

- ETD: 2026-08-22
- Carrier: MSK

[Full route page — Qingdao to Buenaventura →](#)

Tianjin → Buenaventura

Container	Rate (USD)
40HQ	On request

- ETD: 2026-08-30

[Full route page — Tianjin to Buenaventura →](#)

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

Price Trend — Buenaventura

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

Get a rate for Buenaventura

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 Colombia route page](#) →

Freight Rates to Colombia

Current published rates — USD

☐ SEA

Sea · FCL Port-to-Port (Spot)

40HQ USD 6,387.02

Updated 2026-08-17

☐ SEA

Sea · FCL Port-to-Port (Spot)

40HQ USD 5,900.02

Updated 2026-08-17

☐ SEA

Sea · FCL Port-to-Port (Spot)

40HQ *On Request*

Updated 2026-08-17

☐ 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.