

Sea Freight from China to Samalaju

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☐ Sea Freight

China → Samalaju · via BTU air / Samalaju sea · clearance by Royal Malaysian Customs Department (JKDM)



Cargo handling on the China-Samalaju lane.

We move sea freight cargo from South China into Samalaju through BTU air / Samalaju sea. Samalaju is Sarawak heavy-industry park port, which shapes the kind of cargo that moves on this lane and how it should be packed.

The clearing authority is Royal Malaysian Customs Department (JKDM). Historical dwell on this gateway is around 2-4 days, and it lengthens in Sep-Nov.

Duty, tax and clearance into Samalaju

Imports into Malaysia are cleared by Royal Malaysian Customs Department (JKDM). The headline position is: Sales tax 5-10% plus 10% low-value-goods tax on online orders under MYR 500; duty 0-30%, largely 0% under ACFTA. The de-minimis threshold is MYR

500 (low-value goods sold online are taxed regardless).

Conformity is the part most first-time importers underestimate: SIRIM certification and MCMC label for electrical and radio products; halal certification for food ingredients. Getting this wrong is expensive because it usually cannot be fixed after the cargo has landed.

Restrictions and known friction points for Malaysia: Electrical goods without a SIRIM label are routinely detained. Alcohol, e-cigarettes and vape liquid are restricted. Direct-to-consumer parcels are subject to the low-value goods tax collected at the point of sale.

How this lane actually runs

Peninsular Malaysia is served through Port Klang and Tanjung Pelepas with very frequent South China sailings. East Malaysia (Sarawak and Sabah) is a separate customs territory in practice — cargo transships at Klang or Singapore and adds 5–8 days plus a second clearance step, so quote Kuching and Kota Kinabalu separately.

Sea gateways used	Port Klang, Tanjung Pelepas, Penang
Sea transit, China to gateway	5–9 calendar days
Gateway serving Samalaju	BTU air / Samalaju sea
Inland leg to Samalaju	+1 day from the gateway
Typical clearance / dwell	2–4 days
Peak season to plan around	Sep–Nov



Handling on the BTU air / Samalaju sea routing serving Samalaju.

Pre-shipment checklist for Samalaju

- Get the conformity paperwork moving early: SIRIM certification and MCMC label for electrical and radio products; halal certification for food ingredients.
- 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.
- Declare lithium batteries, magnets, liquids and powders up front — retro-declaring after booking usually means re-planning the whole shipment.
- Confirm the consignee in Samalaju can act as importer of record — Royal Malaysian Customs Department (JKDM) will not release cargo to an unregistered party.
- 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 Samalaju take?

China to the Malaysia gateway is 5–9 calendar days. On top of that, allow 2–4 days of clearance with Royal Malaysian Customs Department (JKDM) and a +1 day inland leg to Samalaju.

What duty and tax will I pay importing into Samalaju?

Royal Malaysian Customs Department (JKDM) applies: Sales tax 5–10% plus 10% low-value-goods tax on online orders under MYR 500; duty 0–30%, largely 0% under ACFTA. The de-minimis position is MYR 500 (low-value goods sold online are taxed regardless).

Under a DDP arrangement these are pre-paid, so nothing is collected on arrival in Samalaju.

What documents does Royal Malaysian Customs Department (JKDM) 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 (SIRIM certification and MCMC label for electrical and radio products; halal certification for food ingredients). We prepare and file these as part of the service.

Is sea freight cheaper than air freight into Samalaju?

Per kilo, yes — usually by a wide margin. The trade-off is time: 5-9 calendar days by sea versus 3-5 business days by air to the Malaysia gateway, before clearance and the +1 day inland leg. The crossover point is normally somewhere between 100 and 300 kg depending on the density of your cargo.

Can you ship batteries or sensitive cargo to Samalaju?

Yes. Battery cargo by sea moves under UN3480/UN3481 with an MSDS, and the dangerous-goods documentation is prepared as part of the booking into Port Klang, Tanjung Pelepas, Penang. Surcharges apply and space is more limited than for general cargo.

Can you deliver door-to-door in Samalaju?

Yes. Delivery to a Samalaju address is quoted as one figure covering freight, duty and tax owed to Royal Malaysian Customs Department (JKDM), and the +1 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.

Other delivery cities in Malaysia

- [China to Bintulu](#)
- [China to Lahad Datu](#)
- [China to Sibul](#)
- [China to Sandakan](#)
- [China to Tawau](#)
- [China to Kuala Lumpur](#)
- [China to Shah Alam](#)
- [China to Klang](#)
- [China to Johor Bahru](#)
- [China to Penang](#)
- [China to Ipoh](#)
- [China to Melaka](#)

[All Malaysia freight information →](#)

References & official sources

Duty rates, thresholds and conformity requirements for Malaysia 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

Malaysian Customs Department (JKDM) or your broker before you ship.

- [Royal Malaysian Customs Department](#)
- [SIRIM QAS International](#)
- [Port Klang Authority](#)
- [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 \(DDP, DAP, FOB definitions\)](#)

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.

- [Locks & Safes Fire, Safety & Traffic Products](#)
- [Salon Furniture Beauty, Personal Care & Wellness](#)
- [Pet Products Consumer Goods & Gifts](#)
- [Umbrellas Consumer Goods & Gifts](#)
- [Private Label Products E-commerce & Retail Channels](#)
- [Bolts Metal Products & Industrial Components](#)
- [CNC Machines General Machinery & Industrial Equipment](#)
- [Industrial Furnaces General Machinery & Industrial Equipment](#)
- [Solar Inverter New Energy, Power & Electrical](#)
- [Energy Storage System New Energy, Power & Electrical](#)
- [Building Materials Building Materials & Construction Products](#)
- [Construction Hardware Building Materials & Construction Products](#)

[All 139 industry guides →](#)

FCL Container Rates — China to Samalaju

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

Shekou → Samalaju

Container	Rate (USD)
20GP	1,350
40HQ	2,550

- Carrier: STIC

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

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

Price Trend — Samalaju

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

Get a rate for Samalaju

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 Malaysia route page →](#)

Freight Rates to Malaysia

Current published rates — USD

☐ SEA

Sea · FCL Port-to-Port (Spot)

20GP **USD 1,200.00**

40HQ **USD 2,250.00**

Updated 2026-08-14

☐☐ SEA

Sea · FCL Port-to-Port (Spot)

20GP **USD 1,250.00**

40HQ **USD 2,350.00**

Updated 2026-08-14

☐☐ SEA

Sea · FCL Port-to-Port (Spot)

20GP **USD 950.00**

40HQ **USD 1,750.00**

Updated 2026-08-14

☐☐ SEA

Sea · FCL Port-to-Port (Spot)

20GP **USD 1,250.00**

40HQ **USD 2,350.00**

Updated 2026-08-14

☐☐ SEA

Sea · FCL Port-to-Port (Spot)

20GP **USD 1,350.00**

40HQ **USD 2,550.00**

Updated 2026-08-14

☐☐ SEA

Sea · FCL Port-to-Port (Spot)

20GP **USD 1,500.00**

40HQ **USD 2,850.00**

Updated 2026-08-14

☐☐ SEA

Sea · FCL Port-to-Port (Spot)

20GP **USD 1,350.00**

40HQ **USD 2,550.00**

Updated 2026-08-14

☐☐ SEA

Sea · FCL Port-to-Port (Spot)

20GP **USD 1,500.00**

40HQ **USD 2,850.00**

Updated 2026-08-14

☐ SEA

Sea · FCL Port-to-Port (Spot)

20GP **USD 1,500.00**

40HQ **USD 2,850.00**

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☐ SEA

Sea · FCL Port-to-Port (Spot)

20GP **USD 1,500.00**

40HQ **USD 2,850.00**

Updated 2026-08-14

 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.