

# Shipping from China to Shkoder

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Europe

China → Shkoder · via TIA air / Durres sea · clearance by Albanian General Directorate of Customs



Cargo handling on the China-Shkoder lane.

Shkoder is northern regional city, and it is served through TIA air / Durres sea. That combination is what actually sets your delivery date on this lane — allow +1 day for the inland leg on top of clearance.

Clearance itself is handled by Albanian General Directorate of Customs, and typical dwell at the gateway runs 3–8 days.

## Duty, tax and clearance into Shkoder

Albanian General Directorate of Customs assesses duty and tax on cargo arriving for Shkoder consignees. Current regime: VAT 20%; customs duty 0–15%, with a de-minimis position of No practical de-minimis for commercial cargo.

Conformity is the part most first-time importers underestimate: Conformity requirements aligned to EU technical regulations for most goods. Getting this wrong is expensive because it usually cannot be fixed after the cargo has landed.

**Restrictions and known friction points for Albania:** Transshipment dependency means feeder frequency drives the schedule. Customs valuation reviews are common on consumer goods.

## How this lane actually runs

Durrës is Albania's main port and usually receives Asian cargo transshipped through Gioia Tauro, Piraeus or Trieste rather than on direct calls. Because the local market is small, LCL consolidation frequency out of South China is often the binding constraint on transit time.

|                               |                         |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Air gateways used             | TIA (Tirana)            |
| Air transit, China to gateway | 4-7 business days       |
| Sea gateways used             | Durrës, Vlorë           |
| Sea transit, China to gateway | 26-36 calendar days     |
| Gateway serving Shkoder       | TIA air / Durres sea    |
| Inland leg to Shkoder         | +1 day from the gateway |
| Typical clearance / dwell     | 3-8 days                |
| Peak season to plan around    | Sep-Nov                 |



Handling on the TIA air / Durres sea routing serving Shkoder.

## Before you book: Shkoder checklist

- Confirm the consignee in Shkoder can act as importer of record — Albanian General Directorate of Customs will not release cargo to an unregistered party.
- Ask for the HS code in writing from your supplier and verify the Albania duty rate against it yourself.
- Get the conformity paperwork moving early: Conformity requirements aligned to EU technical regulations for most goods.
- Declare lithium batteries, magnets, liquids and powders up front — retro-declaring after booking usually means re-planning the whole shipment.
- Book earlier than the transit time suggests during Sep-Nov, when space on this lane tightens.
- Check the de-minimis position (No practical de-minimis for commercial cargo) against your invoice value before you decide how to split the shipment.

## Air, sea or overland into Shkoder?

| Mode                 | Transit to gateway  | Best suited to                                           |
|----------------------|---------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| → <b>Air Freight</b> | 4-7 business days   | time-critical, high-value and low-volume cargo           |
| □ <b>Sea Freight</b> | 26-36 calendar days | volume cargo where cost per kilo matters more than speed |

Transit shown is China departure to the Albania gateway and excludes the +1 day inland leg to Shkoder and 3-8 days of clearance.

## Mode guides for Shkoder

- [➔ Air Freight to Shkoder](#)
- [🚢 Sea Freight to Shkoder](#)

## Frequently asked questions

How long does shipping from China to Shkoder take?

China to the Albania gateway is 4–7 business days by air, 26–36 calendar days by sea. On top of that, allow 3–8 days of clearance with Albanian General Directorate of Customs and a +1 day inland leg to Shkoder.

What duty and tax will I pay importing into Shkoder?

Albanian General Directorate of Customs applies: VAT 20%; customs duty 0–15%. The de-minimis position is No practical de-minimis for commercial cargo. Under a DDP arrangement these are pre-paid, so nothing is collected on arrival in Shkoder.

Can you ship batteries or sensitive cargo to Shkoder?

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

Can you deliver door-to-door in Shkoder?

Yes. Delivery to a Shkoder address is quoted as one figure covering freight, duty and tax owed to Albanian General Directorate of Customs, and the +1 day inland leg. Confirm whether your consignee wants the goods at a warehouse, a marketplace fulfillment center or a shop front, because the last-mile requirement differs.

What certification do I need for Albania?

For regulated goods, plan for: Conformity requirements aligned to EU technical regulations for most goods. 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.

What documents does Albanian General Directorate of Customs 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 (Conformity requirements aligned to EU technical regulations for most goods). We prepare and file these as part of the service.

## Other delivery cities in Albania

- [China to Tirana](#)
- [China to Durres](#)
- [China to Vlore](#)
- [China to Elbasan](#)

[All Albania freight information →](#)

## References & official sources

Duty rates, thresholds and conformity requirements for Albania 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 Albanian General Directorate of Customs or your broker before you ship.

- [Albanian General Directorate of Customs](#)
- [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](#)

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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.

- [Direct to Consumer E-commerce & Retail Channels](#)
- [Fasteners Metal Products & Industrial Components](#)
- [Pressure Vessels Metal Products & Industrial Components](#)
- [Industrial Boilers General Machinery & Industrial Equipment](#)
- [Solar Panel New Energy, Power & Electrical](#)
- [Lithium Battery New Energy, Power & Electrical](#)
- [Bicycle Parts Automotive & Vehicles](#)
- [Wall Panels Building Materials & Construction Products](#)
- [Corrugated Packaging Wood, Bamboo & Paper Products](#)
- [Glass Packaging Plastics, Rubber & Packaging](#)
- [Electronic Switches Electronic Components & Semiconductors](#)
- [IoT Devices Consumer Electronics & Smart Devices](#)

[All 139 industry guides →](#)

## Checking the Albania duty position yourself

Duty and tax figures on this page are planning estimates. The binding assessment is made by Albanian General Directorate of Customs against your declared HS code at the time of entry; where the amount is material, verify the current rate through [ITC Market Access Map](#) before committing to an order.

Classification drives everything downstream: the same carton can attract very different duty depending on the heading it lands in, and the structure those headings come from is [the World Customs Organization Harmonized System](#). If your product sits near a boundary between two headings, resolve it before shipping rather than at the border.

For ocean cargo, restricted commodities move under [the IMO's IMDG Code](#), and the container has to be declared and stowed accordingly. Batteries, flammables and corrosives all have a compliant ocean path; what causes rolled bookings is finding out about them after the container is packed.

## Watch: the process behind this route

This guide covers routing and clearance for Shkoder. The video below covers the wider shipping process that sits around it.

Marine Insurance Explained - Understand the Cargo Insurance You're Getting — ABTS®. Published on YouTube by a third party; we link it because it explains the process well, not because we produced it or endorse the provider.

## Get a rate for Shkoder

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 →](#)

## Freight Rates to Albania

☞ 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.

Shipping from China to Shkoder, Albania: Cost & Transit

Shipping to Shkoder: gateway TIA air / Durres sea, +1 day inland after release, duty assessed by Albanian General Directorate of Customs. Transit, documents and restrictions.

## Get a Quote

Send the cargo details and we respond within one business day with a full DDP figure for Shkoder.

[WhatsApp Us Send Inquiry →](#)

## Shkoder by Mode

- [All modes — Shkoder](#)
- [✈ Air Freight](#)
- [🚢 Sea Freight](#)

## Other Cities in Albania

- [China to Tirana](#)
- [China to Durres](#)
- [China to Vlore](#)
- [China to Elbasan](#)

## Other Europe Destinations

- [Shipping to Bosnia and Herzegovina](#)
- [Shipping to Cyprus](#)
- [Shipping to Iceland](#)
- [Shipping to Malta](#)
- [Shipping to Moldova](#)
- [Shipping to Montenegro](#)
- [Shipping to North Macedonia](#)
- [Shipping to Norway](#)

## Customs clearance in Albania

Duty and tax position, certification, typical port dwell and what actually holds shipments at this border — plus who files the entry.

[Albania clearance requirements →](#)