

Shipping from China to Muharraq

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1. [Home](#)
2. [Destinations](#)
3. [Bahrain](#)
4. Muharraq

Middle East

China → Muharraq · via BAH air / Khalifa Bin Salman sea · clearance by Bahrain Customs Affairs



Cargo handling on the China-Muharraq lane.

Muharraq is airport island and logistics district, and it is served through BAH air / Khalifa Bin Salman sea. That combination is what actually sets your delivery date on this lane — the inland leg is same-day, so the clearance date is effectively the delivery date.

On the destination side, Bahrain Customs Affairs handles clearance; budget 2-5 days of dwell before the cargo is released.

What you will pay on arrival in Bahrain

Bahrain Customs Affairs assesses duty and tax on cargo arriving for Muharraq consignees. Current regime: VAT 10%; GCC common tariff of 5% on most goods, with a de-minimis position of BHD 300 for personal consignments.

Conformity is the part most first-time importers underestimate: Bahrain conformity requirements for regulated goods; Arabic labeling. Getting this wrong is expensive because it usually cannot be fixed after the cargo has landed.

Restrictions and known friction points for Bahrain: Alcohol and pork are restricted to licensed importers. Onward road movement into Saudi Arabia is a separate customs event across the causeway.

How this lane actually runs

Bahrain is usually served by feeder from Jebel Ali or direct calls at Khalifa Bin Salman, and the King Fahd Causeway makes it a viable entry point for eastern Saudi Arabia. Volumes are small, so LCL consolidation via Dubai is often the economic choice over waiting for a direct sailing.

Air gateways used	BAH (Bahrain International)
Air transit, China to gateway	3-5 business days
Sea gateways used	Khalifa Bin Salman Port
Sea transit, China to gateway	18-26 calendar days
Gateway serving Muharraq	BAH air / Khalifa Bin Salman sea
Inland leg to Muharraq	Same day from the gateway
Typical clearance / dwell	2-5 days
Peak season to plan around	Sep-Nov



Handling on the BAH air / Khalifa Bin Salman sea routing serving Muharraq.

Before you book: Muharraq checklist

- Get the conformity paperwork moving early: Bahrain conformity requirements for regulated goods; Arabic labeling.
- Ask for the HS code in writing from your supplier and verify the Bahrain duty rate against it yourself.
- Put the Muharraq delivery address, contact name and phone number on the invoice, not just the packing list.
- Plan around the China-side windows too: Chinese New Year and Golden Week both compress capacity on the Bahrain lane.
- Photograph carton markings and seal numbers before departure — it makes any claim far easier to settle.
- Compare gross weight against volumetric weight (L×W×H ÷ 6000) — the higher figure is what gets billed on air and express.

Air, sea or overland into Muharraq?

Mode	Transit to gateway	Best suited to
→ Air Freight	3-5 business days	time-critical, high-value and low-volume cargo
☐ Sea Freight	18-26 calendar days	volume cargo where cost per kilo matters more than speed

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

Mode guides for Muharraq

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

Frequently asked questions

How long does shipping from China to Muharraq take?

China to the Bahrain gateway is 3–5 business days by air, 18–26 calendar days by sea. On top of that, allow 2–5 days of clearance with Bahrain Customs Affairs and a same-day inland leg to Muharraq.

What duty and tax will I pay importing into Muharraq?

Bahrain Customs Affairs applies: VAT 10%; GCC common tariff of 5% on most goods. The de-minimis position is BHD 300 for personal consignments. Under a DDP arrangement these are pre-paid, so nothing is collected on arrival in Muharraq.

What certification do I need for Bahrain?

For regulated goods, plan for: Bahrain conformity requirements for regulated goods; Arabic labeling. 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.

How is the chargeable weight calculated for Muharraq?

We compare actual gross weight against volumetric weight — length × width × height in centimeters 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.

Can you ship batteries or sensitive cargo to Muharraq?

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

Is sea freight cheaper than air freight into Muharraq?

Per kilo, yes — usually by a wide margin. The trade-off is time: 18–26 calendar days by sea versus 3–5 business days by air to the Bahrain gateway, before clearance and the same-day inland leg. The crossover point is normally somewhere between 100 and 300 kg depending on the density of your cargo.

Other delivery cities in Bahrain

- [China to Khalifa Bin Salman](#)
- [China to Manama](#)
- [China to Riffa](#)
- [China to Hidd](#)
- [China to Isa Town](#)

[All Bahrain freight information →](#)

References & official sources

Duty rates, thresholds and conformity requirements for Bahrain 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 Bahrain Customs Affairs or your broker before you ship.

- [Bahrain Customs Affairs](#)
- [WTO — Tariff Profiles \(applied MFN duty by country\)](#)
- [WCO — Harmonized System nomenclature](#)
- [IMO — IMDG Code for dangerous goods by sea](#)
- [IATA — Lithium battery shipping guidance \(PI 965–970\)](#)

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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.

- [Storage Tanks Metal Products & Industrial Components](#)
- [Electric Motors General Machinery & Industrial Equipment](#)
- [Agricultural Drones Agriculture & Livestock Equipment](#)
- [Wire & Cable New Energy, Power & Electrical](#)
- [Automotive Lighting Automotive & Vehicles](#)
- [Flooring Building Materials & Construction Products](#)
- [Cartons Wood, Bamboo & Paper Products](#)
- [Flexible Packaging Plastics, Rubber & Packaging](#)
- [Capacitors Electronic Components & Semiconductors](#)
- [Smart Home Products Consumer Electronics & Smart Devices](#)
- [Refrigeration Equipment Home Appliances, HVAC & Commercial](#)
- [Tableware Furniture & Home Products](#)

[All 139 industry guides →](#)

Checking the Bahrain duty position yourself

Duty and tax figures on this page are planning estimates. The binding assessment is made by Bahrain Customs Affairs 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.

For a wider view of how importing into Bahrain actually works — documentation norms, inspection behavior, the paperwork that tends to hold shipments — the [U.S. ITA guide to Bahrain customs regulations](#) is a useful independent read alongside our own lane notes.

Watch: the process behind this route

This guide covers routing and clearance for Muharraq. 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 Muharraq

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 Bahrain route page](#) →

Freight Rates to Bahrain

📦 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.

Muharraq, Bahrain Freight from China: Transit & Customs

Cargo from China to Muharraq, Bahrain clears through BAH air / Khalifa Bin Salman sea. Bahrain Customs Affairs assesses duty and tax; the inland leg adds same day.

Get a Quote

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

[WhatsApp Us Send Inquiry →](#)

Muharraq by Mode

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

Other Cities in Bahrain

- [China to Khalifa Bin Salman](#)
- [China to Manama](#)
- [China to Riffa](#)
- [China to Hidd](#)
- [China to Isa Town](#)

Other Middle East Destinations

- [Shipping to Iraq](#)
- [Shipping to Israel](#)
- [Shipping to Jordan](#)
- [Shipping to Kuwait](#)
- [Shipping to Lebanon](#)
- [Shipping to Oman](#)
- [Shipping to Qatar](#)
- [Shipping to Turkey](#)

Route Page

- [Bahrain DDP route details →](#)
- [All freight destinations →](#)

Customs clearance in Bahrain

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

[Bahrain clearance requirements →](#)

Priced routes to Bahrain

- [Ningbo to Khalifa Bin Salman FCL Ocean Freight Rates | 20GP & 40HQ](#)
- [Shanghai to Khalifa Bin Salman Container Shipping — 20GP Rates](#)