

Sea Freight from China to Assomada

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☐ Sea Freight

China → Assomada · via RAI air / Praia sea · clearance by Direcção Geral das Alfândegas de Cabo Verde



Cargo handling on the China-Assomada lane.

We move sea freight cargo from South China into Assomada through RAI air / Praia sea. Assomada is interior town on Santiago, which shapes the kind of cargo that moves on this lane and how it should be packed.

On the destination side, Direcção Geral das Alfândegas de Cabo Verde handles clearance; budget 4–10 days of dwell before the cargo is released.

Import duty and tax position for Assomada

Imports into Cape Verde are cleared by Direcção Geral das Alfândegas de Cabo Verde. The headline position is: VAT 15%; duty 0–50% depending on commodity. The de-minimis threshold is No practical de-minimis for commercial cargo.

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

Restrictions and known friction points for Cape Verde: Inter-island distribution is a separate cost and schedule element. Transshipment through European or Canary Island hubs is the norm. Confirm which island is the actual delivery point.

What the routing looks like in practice

Cape Verde is an archipelago, so cargo lands at Praia or Mindelo and then moves between islands by coastal vessel — a leg that is easy to underestimate. Asian cargo transships through Las Palmas, Lisbon or Algeciras. Tourism drives the demand pattern, with the build-up ahead of the European winter season.

Sea gateways used	Praia, Mindelo (Porto Grande)
Sea transit, China to gateway	26–36 calendar days
Gateway serving Assomada	RAI air / Praia sea
Inland leg to Assomada	+1 day from the gateway
Typical clearance / dwell	4–10 days
Peak season to plan around	Sep–Nov



Handling on the RAI air / Praia sea routing serving Assomada.

Pre-shipment checklist for Assomada

- Book earlier than the transit time suggests during Sep–Nov, when space on this lane tightens.
- Use ISPM-15 treated pallets. Untreated wood is the most common reason otherwise-clean cargo gets held.
- Confirm the consignee in Assomada can act as importer of record — Direcção Geral das Alfândegas de Cabo Verde will not release cargo to an unregistered party.
- Budget for the inland leg: +1 day beyond gateway clearance to reach Assomada.
- Get the conformity paperwork moving early: Conformity requirements for regulated goods; health registration for food.
- 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 Assomada take?

China to the Cape Verde gateway is 26–36 calendar days. On top of that, allow 4–10 days of clearance with Direcção Geral das Alfândegas de Cabo Verde and a +1 day inland leg to Assomada.

What duty and tax will I pay importing into Assomada?

Direcção Geral das Alfândegas de Cabo Verde applies: VAT 15%; duty 0–50% depending on commodity. 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 Assomada.

What certification do I need for Cape Verde?

For regulated goods, plan for: Conformity requirements for regulated goods; health registration for food. 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 Assomada?

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 Praia, Mindelo (Porto Grande). Surcharges apply and space is more limited than for general cargo.

Which port or airport does cargo for Assomada clear through?

Cargo for Assomada is routed via RAI air / Praia sea. Sea gateways for Cape Verde are Praia, Mindelo (Porto Grande); air gateways are RAI (Praia), SID (Sal). We pick whichever gives the shortest total door time for your address.

How is the chargeable weight calculated for Assomada?

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.

Other delivery cities in Cape Verde

- [China to Praia](#)
- [China to Mindelo](#)

- [China to Espargos](#)

[All Cape Verde freight information →](#)

References & official sources

Duty rates, thresholds and conformity requirements for Cape Verde 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 Direcção Geral das Alfândegas de Cabo Verde or your broker before you ship.

- [Direcção Geral das Alfândegas](#)
- [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 \(PI 965–970\)](#)

Page data last reviewed: 8 , 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.

- [Consumer Electronics Consumer Electronics & Smart Devices](#)
- [Air Conditioning Equipment Home Appliances, HVAC & Commercial](#)
- [Kitchenware Furniture & Home Products](#)
- [Home Textiles Textiles, Apparel, Footwear & Leather](#)
- [Medical Device Medical, Laboratory & Precision Instruments](#)
- [Personal Protective Equipment Fire, Safety & Traffic Products](#)
- [Beauty Equipment Beauty, Personal Care & Wellness](#)
- [Inflatable Products Toys, Sports, Outdoor & Leisure](#)
- [Artificial Flowers Consumer Goods & Gifts](#)
- [Retail Products E-commerce & Retail Channels](#)
- [Sheet Metal Metal Products & Industrial Components](#)
- [Storage Tanks Metal Products & Industrial Components](#)

[All 139 industry guides →](#)

Checking the Cape Verde duty position yourself

Duty and tax figures on this page are planning estimates. The binding assessment is made by Direcção Geral das Alfândegas de Cabo Verde 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 Assomada. The video below covers the wider shipping process that sits around it.

What Is CBM? Sea Freight Volume Explained (Calculate Shipping Cost Fast!) — DDPCHAIN. 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 Assomada

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 Cape Verde

✚ 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.

Sea Freight to Assomada, Cape Verde: Transit Time, Duty & Clearance

Sea Freight from China to Assomada, Cape Verde. Transit 26–36 calendar days to the gateway, 4–10 days dwell, +1 day inland.

Duty, documents and packing.

Get a Quote

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

[WhatsApp Us Send Inquiry →](#)

Assomada by Mode

- [All modes — Assomada](#)
- [→ Air Freight](#)

Other Cities in Cape Verde

- [China to Praia](#)
- [China to Mindelo](#)
- [China to Espargos](#)

Other Africa Destinations

- [Shipping to Algeria](#)
- [Shipping to Burundi](#)
- [Shipping to Comoros](#)
- [Shipping to Congo \(Brazzaville\)](#)
- [Shipping to Djibouti](#)
- [Shipping to Egypt](#)
- [Shipping to Eswatini](#)
- [Shipping to Ethiopia](#)

Customs clearance in Cape Verde

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

[Cape Verde clearance requirements →](#)