

Shipping from China to Bucaramanga

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Americas

China → Bucaramanga · via BGA air / Cartagena sea · clearance by DIAN — Dirección de Impuestos y Aduanas Nacionales



Cargo handling on the China-Bucaramanga lane.

Freight from China into Bucaramanga clears through BGA air / Cartagena sea. Bucaramanga is north-eastern regional center, and allow +2 days 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.

Import duty and tax position for Bucaramanga

Imports into Colombia are cleared by DIAN — Dirección de Impuestos y Aduanas Nacionales. The headline position is: IVA 19%; duty 0–20%, with a 10–40% tariff applied to some textile and footwear imports. The de-minimis threshold is 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.

Routing and transit on this lane

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 Bucaramanga	BGA air / Cartagena sea
Inland leg to Bucaramanga	+2 days from the gateway
Typical clearance / dwell	4-10 days
Peak season to plan around	Sep-Nov



Handling on the BGA air / Cartagena sea routing serving Bucaramanga.

Pre-shipment checklist for Bucaramanga

- Confirm the consignee in Bucaramanga can act as importer of record — DIAN — Dirección de Impuestos y Aduanas Nacionales will not release cargo to an unregistered party.
- Put the Bucaramanga delivery address, contact name and phone number on the invoice, not just the packing list.
- Photograph carton markings and seal numbers before departure — it makes any claim far easier to settle.
- Check the de-minimis position (USD 200 for courier consignments) against your invoice value before you decide how to split the shipment.
- 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.

Air, sea or overland into Bucaramanga?

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 +2 days inland leg to Bucaramanga and 4-10 days of clearance.

Mode guides for Bucaramanga

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

Frequently asked questions

How long does shipping from China to Bucaramanga 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 +2 days inland leg to Bucaramanga.

What duty and tax will I pay importing into Bucaramanga?

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 Bucaramanga.

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.

When is the busiest time on the China–Colombia lane?

Space and rates tighten around Sep–Nov, plus the China-side windows of Chinese New Year in January or February and Golden Week in early October. Book one to two weeks earlier in those periods.

What documents does DIAN — Dirección de Impuestos y Aduanas Nacionales 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 (INVIMA registration for food, cosmetics and medical devices; conformity certificates for regulated electricals). We prepare and file these as part of the service.

Can you ship batteries or sensitive cargo to Bucaramanga?

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

- [China to Cartagena](#)
- [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](#)

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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.

- [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](#)
- [Electric Motors General Machinery & Industrial Equipment](#)
- [Agricultural Drones Agriculture & Livestock Equipment](#)

[All 139 industry guides →](#)

Checking the Colombia duty position yourself

Duty and tax figures on this page are planning estimates. The binding assessment is made by DIAN — Dirección de Impuestos y Aduanas Nacionales 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.

Most landed-cost surprises trace back to classification rather than freight. [the WCO Harmonized System](#) defines the heading structure every customs administration builds on, and [ITC Market Access Map](#) will show you the duty a given heading attracts in this destination.

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 Colombia actually works — documentation norms, inspection behavior, the paperwork that tends to hold shipments — the [U.S. ITA guide to Colombia 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 Bucaramanga. 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 Bucaramanga

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

☞ 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.

Bucaramanga, Colombia Import Freight: Gateway, Duty & Time

What it takes to land cargo in Bucaramanga, Colombia — BGA air / Cartagena sea gateway, DIAN — Dirección de Impuestos y Aduanas Nacionales clearance, +2 days onward. Sea and air both covered.

Get a Quote

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

[WhatsApp Us Send Inquiry →](#)

Bucaramanga by Mode

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

Other Cities in Colombia

- [China to Buenaventura](#)
- [China to Bogota](#)
- [China to Medellin](#)
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Other Americas Destinations

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- [Shipping to Bolivia](#)
- [Shipping to Brazil](#)
- [Shipping to Chile](#)
- [Shipping to Costa Rica](#)
- [Shipping to Dominican Republic](#)
- [Shipping to Ecuador](#)
- [Shipping to El Salvador](#)

Route Page

- [Colombia DDP route details →](#)

- [All freight destinations →](#)

Customs clearance in Colombia

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

[Colombia clearance requirements →](#)

Priced routes to Colombia

- [Ningbo to Barranquilla Container Shipping — 40NOR Rates](#)
- [Qingdao-Buenaventura Sea Freight: Container Rates and Schedule](#)
- [Shanghai to Barranquilla Container Shipping — 40NOR Rates](#)
- [Shanghai to Cartagena Container Shipping — 40NOR Rates](#)
- [Ship Yantian to Buenaventura — FCL Container Cost from China](#)
- [Shipping a Container from Ningbo to Buenaventura: Cost & Transit](#)