

Sea Freight from China to Rustavi

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□ Sea Freight

China → Rustavi · via TBS air / Poti sea · clearance by Georgian Revenue Service



Cargo handling on the China–Rustavi lane.

Rustavi is metallurgy and manufacturing center, and it is served through TBS air / Poti sea. That combination is what actually sets your delivery date on this lane — allow +1 day for the inland leg on top of clearance.

On the destination side, Georgian Revenue Service handles clearance; budget 2–6 days of dwell before the cargo is released.

What the routing looks like in practice

Georgia has had a free trade agreement with China since 2018 — the only one in the Caucasus — so most goods enter duty-free with a valid certificate of origin, leaving only 18% VAT. Poti and Batumi also serve as the Black Sea end of the Middle Corridor for

cargo continuing to Armenia, Azerbaijan and Central Asia.

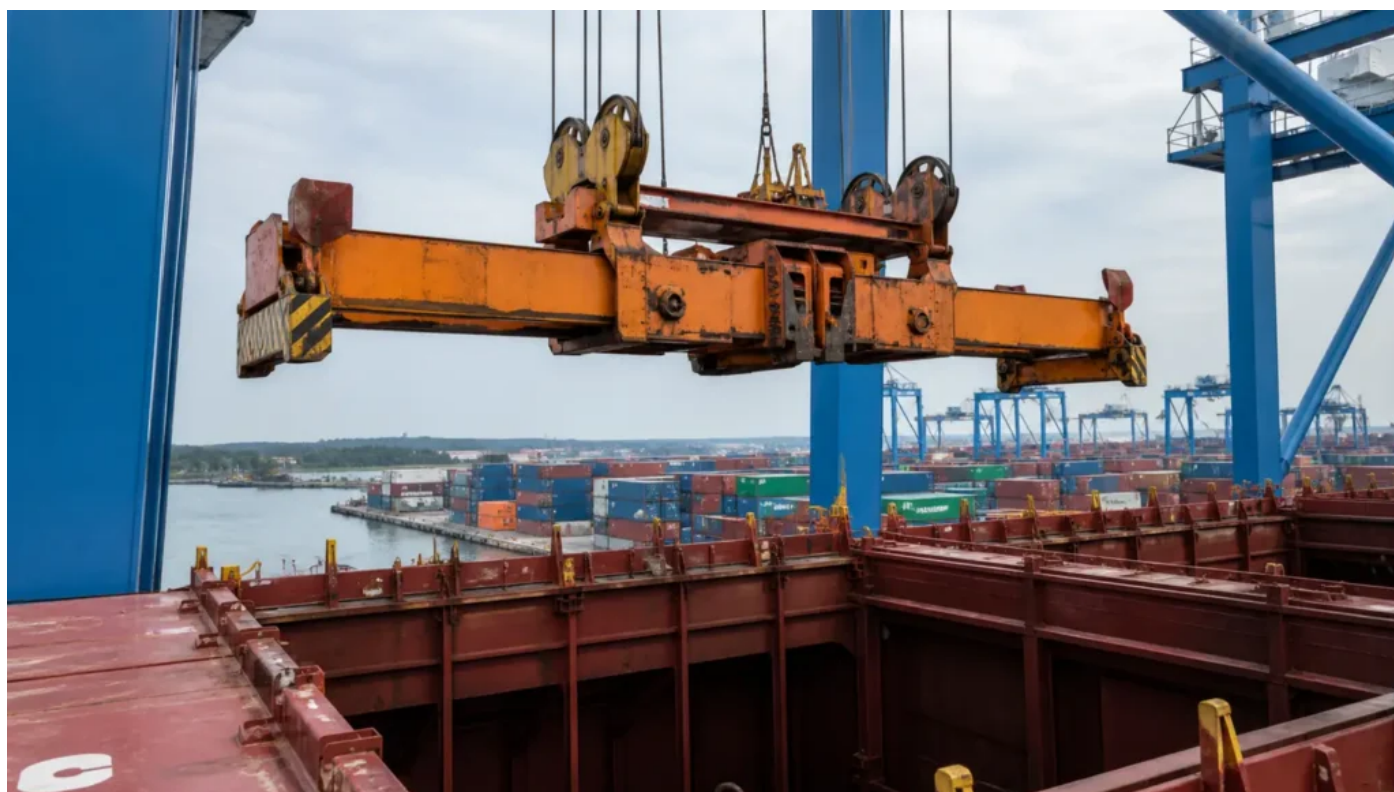
Sea gateways used	Poti, Batumi, Anaklia (under development)
Sea transit, China to gateway	25–35 calendar days via Suez to the Black Sea
Gateway serving Rustavi	TBS air / Poti sea
Inland leg to Rustavi	+1 day from the gateway
Typical clearance / dwell	2–6 days
Peak season to plan around	Sep–Nov

Duty, tax and clearance into Rustavi

Georgian Revenue Service assesses duty and tax on cargo arriving for Rustavi consignees. Current regime: VAT 18%; customs duty of 0%, 5% or 12% only — and 0% on most goods under the China–Georgia free trade agreement, with a de-minimis position of GEL 300 for personal parcels.

Conformity is the part most first-time importers underestimate: Technical regulation conformity for regulated goods; certificate of origin to claim FTA preference. Getting this wrong is expensive because it usually cannot be fixed after the cargo has landed.

Restrictions and known friction points for Georgia: The FTA preference requires a correctly issued certificate of origin; without it the standard 0/5/12% tariff applies. Black Sea sailing schedules can be affected by regional shipping conditions.



Handling on the TBS air / Poti sea routing serving Rustavi.

Before you book: Rustavi checklist

- Check the de-minimis position (GEL 300 for personal parcels) 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.
- Ask for the HS code in writing from your supplier and verify the Georgia duty rate against it yourself.
- Declare lithium batteries, magnets, liquids and powders up front — retro-declaring after booking usually means re-planning the whole shipment.
- Compare gross weight against volumetric weight ($L \times W \times H \div 6000$) — the higher figure is what gets billed on air and express.
- Budget for the inland leg: +1 day beyond gateway clearance to reach Rustavi.

Frequently asked questions

How long does shipping from China to Rustavi take?

China to the Georgia gateway is 25–35 calendar days via Suez to the Black Sea. On top of that, allow 2–6 days of clearance with Georgian Revenue Service and a +1 day inland leg to Rustavi.

What duty and tax will I pay importing into Rustavi?

Georgian Revenue Service applies: VAT 18%; customs duty of 0%, 5% or 12% only — and 0% on most goods under the China-Georgia free trade agreement. The de-minimis position is GEL 300 for personal parcels. Under a DDP arrangement these are pre-paid, so nothing is collected on arrival in Rustavi.

What documents does Georgian Revenue Service 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 (Technical regulation conformity for regulated goods; certificate of origin to claim FTA preference). We prepare and file these as part of the service.

Which port or airport does cargo for Rustavi clear through?

Cargo for Rustavi is routed via TBS air / Poti sea. Sea gateways for Georgia are Poti, Batumi, Anaklia (under development); air gateways are TBS (Tbilisi), BUS (Batumi). We pick whichever gives the shortest total door time for your address.

Can you deliver door-to-door in Rustavi?

Yes. Delivery to a Rustavi address is quoted as one figure covering freight, duty and tax owed to Georgian Revenue Service, 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.

How is the chargeable weight calculated for Rustavi?

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 Georgia

- [China to Tbilisi](#)
- [China to Batumi](#)
- [China to Poti](#)
- [China to Kutaisi](#)

[All Georgia freight information →](#)

References & official sources

Duty rates, thresholds and conformity requirements for Georgia 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 Georgian Revenue Service or your broker before you ship.

- [Georgian Revenue Service](#)
- [WTO — Tariff Profiles \(applied MFN duty by country\)](#)
- [IPPC — ISPM 15 wood packaging standard](#)
- [WCO — Harmonized System nomenclature](#)
- [IMO — IMDG Code for dangerous goods by sea](#)

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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.

- [Fabric Textiles, Apparel, Footwear & Leather](#)
- [Luggage Textiles, Apparel, Footwear & Leather](#)
- [Fire Protection Equipment Fire, Safety & Traffic Products](#)
- [Illuminated Signs Retail, Display & Commercial Fixtures](#)
- [Outdoor Products Toys, Sports, Outdoor & Leisure](#)
- [Office Supplies Consumer Goods & Gifts](#)
- [Cross-border E-commerce E-commerce & Retail Channels](#)
- [Metal Products Metal Products & Industrial Components](#)
- [Architectural Hardware Metal Products & Industrial Components](#)
- [Production Line Equipment General Machinery & Industrial Equipment](#)
- [Aerial Work Platform Construction, Mining & Material Handling](#)

- [Switchgear New Energy, Power & Electrical](#)

[All 139 industry guides →](#)

Checking the Georgia duty position yourself

Duty and tax figures on this page are planning estimates. The binding assessment is made by Georgian Revenue Service 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 Rustavi. 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 Rustavi

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 Georgia

⚙️ 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.

Rustavi Sea Freight, Georgia: Cost, Transit & Customs

Sea Freight to Rustavi: 25–35 calendar days via Suez to the Black Sea in transit, cleared by Georgian Revenue Service, +1 day to the door. What the rate covers and what it does not.

Get a Quote

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

[WhatsApp Us Send Inquiry →](#)

Rustavi by Mode

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

Other Cities in Georgia

- [China to Tbilisi](#)
- [China to Batumi](#)
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Other Central Asia Destinations

- [Shipping to Armenia](#)
- [Shipping to Azerbaijan](#)
- [Shipping to Kazakhstan](#)
- [Shipping to Kyrgyzstan](#)
- [Shipping to Tajikistan](#)
- [Shipping to Turkmenistan](#)
- [Shipping to Uzbekistan](#)

Customs clearance in Georgia

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

[Georgia clearance requirements →](#)