

Sea Freight from China to San Pedro Sula

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□ Sea Freight

China → San Pedro Sula · via SAP air / Puerto Cortes sea · clearance by Administración Aduanera de Honduras



Cargo handling on the China-San Pedro Sula lane.

Freight from China into San Pedro Sula clears through SAP air / Puerto Cortes sea. San Pedro Sula is the industrial capital and main distribution base, and the inland leg is same-day, so the clearance date is effectively the delivery date.

On the destination side, Administración Aduanera de Honduras handles clearance; budget 4–10 days of dwell before the cargo is released.

Import duty and tax position for San Pedro Sula

Imports into Honduras are cleared by Administración Aduanera de Honduras. The headline position is: ISV 15%; Central American common tariff 0–15%. The de-minimis threshold is USD 100 for courier consignments.

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

Restrictions and known friction points for Honduras: Transshipment dependency means feeder timing drives the schedule. Free-zone regimes for the apparel sector have separate duty treatment.

How this lane actually runs

Puerto Cortés is the deepest and best-equipped port in Central America and clears a large share of the region's Atlantic-side volume. San Pedro Sula is the commercial center and the natural distribution base, with Tegucigalpa served by road. Asian cargo normally transships at Panama, Cartagena or Kingston.

Sea gateways used	Puerto Cortés, Henecán (San Lorenzo)
Sea transit, China to gateway	26-34 calendar days
Gateway serving San Pedro Sula	SAP air / Puerto Cortes sea
Inland leg to San Pedro Sula	Same day from the gateway
Typical clearance / dwell	4-10 days
Peak season to plan around	Sep-Nov



Handling on the SAP air / Puerto Cortes sea routing serving San Pedro Sula.

What to sort out before the cargo leaves China

- Photograph carton markings and seal numbers before departure — it makes any claim far easier to settle.
- Put the San Pedro Sula delivery address, contact name and phone number on the invoice, not just the packing list.
- Check the de-minimis position (USD 100 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.
- Plan around the China-side windows too: Chinese New Year and Golden Week both compress capacity on the Honduras lane.
- Use ISPM-15 treated pallets. Untreated wood is the most common reason otherwise-clean cargo gets held.

Frequently asked questions

How long does shipping from China to San Pedro Sula take?

China to the Honduras gateway is 26–34 calendar days. On top of that, allow 4–10 days of clearance with Administración Aduanera de Honduras and a same-day inland leg to San Pedro Sula.

What duty and tax will I pay importing into San Pedro Sula?

Administración Aduanera de Honduras applies: ISV 15%; Central American common tariff 0–15%. The de-minimis position is USD 100 for courier consignments. Under a DDP arrangement these are pre-paid, so nothing is collected on arrival in San Pedro Sula.

Which port or airport does cargo for San Pedro Sula clear through?

Cargo for San Pedro Sula is routed via SAP air / Puerto Cortes sea. Sea gateways for Honduras are Puerto Cortés, Henecán (San Lorenzo); air gateways are SAP (San Pedro Sula), TGU (Tegucigalpa). We pick whichever gives the shortest total door time for your address.

Can you ship batteries or sensitive cargo to San Pedro Sula?

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 Puerto Cortés, Henecán (San Lorenzo). Surcharges apply and space is more limited than for general cargo.

Can you deliver door-to-door in San Pedro Sula?

Yes. Delivery to a San Pedro Sula address is quoted as one figure covering freight, duty and tax owed to Administración Aduanera de Honduras, and the same-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.

When is the busiest time on the China–Honduras 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.

Other delivery cities in Honduras

- [China to Tegucigalpa](#)

- [China to Choloma](#)
- [China to La Ceiba](#)
- [China to Puerto Cortes](#)

[All Honduras freight information →](#)

References & official sources

Duty rates, thresholds and conformity requirements for Honduras 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 Administración Aduanera de Honduras or your broker before you ship.

- [Administración Aduanera de Honduras](#)
- [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.

- [Bolts Metal Products & Industrial Components](#)
- [CNC Machines General Machinery & Industrial Equipment](#)
- [Industrial Furnaces General Machinery & Industrial Equipment](#)
- [Solar Inverter New Energy, Power & Electrical](#)
- [Energy Storage System New Energy, Power & Electrical](#)
- [Building Materials Building Materials & Construction Products](#)
- [Construction Hardware Building Materials & Construction Products](#)
- [Plastic Products Plastics, Rubber & Packaging](#)
- [Ceramic Tableware Glass & Ceramic Products](#)
- [5G Equipment Telecom, Computing & Data Centre](#)
- [Headphones Consumer Electronics & Smart Devices](#)
- [Home Furniture Furniture & Home Products](#)

[All 139 industry guides →](#)

Checking the Honduras duty position yourself

Duty and tax figures on this page are planning estimates. The binding assessment is made by Administración Aduanera de Honduras 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.

If you want to sanity-check a duty figure yourself, start from the heading rather than the product name — [the WCO Harmonized System](#) is the underlying nomenclature, and [the WTO Tariff & Trade Data portal](#) holds the applied rates by country pair.

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.

On the origin side, export declaration and any commodity inspection requirement fall under [China Customs \(GACC\)](#); we handle that filing as part of the service, but the requirement is theirs, not ours.

For a wider view of how importing into Honduras actually works — documentation norms, inspection behavior, the paperwork that tends to hold shipments — the [U.S. ITA guide to Honduras 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 San Pedro Sula. The video below covers the wider shipping process that sits around it.

LCL vs FCL | Difference Between Full Container Load & Less than Container Load | Which is better ? — 10 Min For Supply Chain.

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 San Pedro Sula

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 Honduras route page](#) →

Freight Rates to Honduras

⚖ 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 San Pedro Sula, Honduras: Transit Time, Duty & Clearance

Sea Freight from China to San Pedro Sula, Honduras. Transit 26–34 calendar days to the gateway, 4–10 days dwell, same 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 San Pedro Sula.

[WhatsApp Us Send Inquiry →](#)

San Pedro Sula by Mode

- [All modes — San Pedro Sula](#)
- [→ Air Freight](#)

Other Cities in Honduras

- [China to Tegucigalpa](#)
- [China to Choloma](#)
- [China to La Ceiba](#)
- [China to Puerto Cortes](#)

Other Americas Destinations

- [Shipping to Argentina](#)
- [Shipping to Bolivia](#)
- [Shipping to Brazil](#)
- [Shipping to Chile](#)
- [Shipping to Colombia](#)
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- [Shipping to Dominican Republic](#)
- [Shipping to Ecuador](#)

Route Page

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

Customs clearance in Honduras

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

[Honduras clearance requirements →](#)

Priced routes to Honduras

- [Ship Yantian to Puerto Cortes — FCL Container Cost from China](#)
- [Shipping a Container from Ningbo to Puerto Cortes: Cost & Transit](#)
- [Shipping a Container from Shanghai to Puerto Cortes: Cost & Transit](#)