

Sea Freight from China to Kopavogur

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☐ Sea Freight

China → Kopavogur · via KEF air / Reykjavik sea · clearance by Iceland Revenue and Customs (Skatturinn)



Cargo handling on the China–Kopavogur lane.

For buyers shipping into Kopavogur, the practical question is not the ocean or flight time but what happens after arrival. Kopavogur is the second largest municipality and retail belt; cargo enters through KEF air / Reykjavik sea, and the inland leg is same-day, so the clearance date is effectively the delivery date.

The clearing authority is Iceland Revenue and Customs (Skatturinn). Historical dwell on this gateway is around 2–5 days, and it lengthens in Sep–Nov.

Routing and transit on this lane

Iceland is served by feeder services from Rotterdam, Hamburg or Aarhus rather than by direct Asian calls, so sea transit is long and sailing frequency, not vessel speed, is what determines the date. Air via Keflavík is disproportionately popular here for that reason.

Sea gateways used	Reykjavík, Reyðarfjörður
Sea transit, China to gateway	38–50 calendar days
Gateway serving Kopavogur	KEF air / Reykjavik sea
Inland leg to Kopavogur	Same day from the gateway
Typical clearance / dwell	2–5 days
Peak season to plan around	Sep–Nov

Import duty and tax position for Kopavogur

Iceland Revenue and Customs (Skatturinn) assesses duty and tax on cargo arriving for Kopavogur consignees. Current regime: VAT 24% standard, 11% reduced; customs duty 0% on most manufactured goods, with a de-minimis position of ISK 2,000 for duty; VAT applies from the first króna.

Conformity is the part most first-time importers underestimate: CE marking under EEA rules; Icelandic labeling for food. Getting this wrong is expensive because it usually cannot be fixed after the cargo has landed.

Restrictions and known friction points for Iceland: Feeder frequency drives the schedule — a missed connection can cost a full week. Most duty is zero but 24% VAT dominates landed cost.



Handling on the KEF air / Reykjavik sea routing serving Kopavogur.

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 Kopavogur delivery address, contact name and phone number on the invoice, not just the packing list.
- Check the de-minimis position (ISK 2,000 for duty; VAT applies from the first króna) against your invoice value before you decide how to split the shipment.
- Declare lithium batteries, magnets, liquids and powders up front — retro-declaring after booking usually means re-planning the whole shipment.
- Use ISPM-15 treated pallets. Untreated wood is the most common reason otherwise-clean cargo gets held.
- Ask for the HS code in writing from your supplier and verify the Iceland duty rate against it yourself.

Frequently asked questions

How long does shipping from China to Kopavogur take?

China to the Iceland gateway is 38-50 calendar days. On top of that, allow 2-5 days of clearance with Iceland Revenue and Customs (Skatturinn) and a same-day inland leg to Kopavogur.

What duty and tax will I pay importing into Kopavogur?

Iceland Revenue and Customs (Skatturinn) applies: VAT 24% standard, 11% reduced; customs duty 0% on most manufactured goods. The de-minimis position is ISK 2,000 for duty; VAT applies from the first króna. Under a DDP arrangement these are pre-paid, so nothing is collected on arrival in Kopavogur.

How is the chargeable weight calculated for Kopavogur?

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.

What certification do I need for Iceland?

For regulated goods, plan for: CE marking under EEA rules; Icelandic labeling 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.

When is the busiest time on the China-Iceland 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.

Which port or airport does cargo for Kopavogur clear through?

Cargo for Kopavogur is routed via KEF air / Reykjavik sea. Sea gateways for Iceland are Reykjavík, Reyðarfjörður; air gateways are KEF (Keflavík). We pick whichever gives the shortest total door time for your address.

Other delivery cities in Iceland

- [China to Reykjavik](#)
- [China to Hafnarfjordur](#)
- [China to Akureyri](#)
- [China to Reykjanesbaer](#)

[All Iceland freight information →](#)

References & official sources

Duty rates, thresholds and conformity requirements for Iceland 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 Iceland Revenue and Customs (Skatturinn) or your broker before you ship.

- [Iceland Revenue and Customs](#)
- [WTO — Tariff Profiles \(applied MFN duty by country\)](#)
- [ICC — Incoterms 2020 rules \(DDP, DAP, FOB definitions\)](#)
- [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.

- [Home Furniture Furniture & Home Products](#)
- [Garden Products Furniture & Home Products](#)
- [Footwear Textiles, Apparel, Footwear & Leather](#)
- [Medical Furniture Medical, Laboratory & Precision Instruments](#)
- [Display Stands Retail, Display & Commercial Fixtures](#)
- [Toys Toys, Sports, Outdoor & Leisure](#)
- [Baby Products Consumer Goods & Gifts](#)
- [Bathroom Accessories Consumer Goods & Gifts](#)
- [E-commerce Fulfilment E-commerce & Retail Channels](#)
- [Bearings Metal Products & Industrial Components](#)
- [Automation Equipment General Machinery & Industrial Equipment](#)
- [Electronics Manufacturing Equipment Specialised Production Machinery](#)

[All 139 industry guides →](#)

Checking the Iceland duty position yourself

Duty and tax figures on this page are planning estimates. The binding assessment is made by Iceland Revenue and Customs (Skatturinn) 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 Kopavogur. The video below covers the wider shipping process that sits around it.

Bills of Lading 101 - What Is a Bill of Lading — Flexport. 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 Kopavogur

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 Iceland

✚ 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.

Kopavogur Sea Freight, Iceland: Cost, Transit & Customs

Sea Freight to Kopavogur: 38-50 calendar days in transit, cleared by Iceland Revenue and Customs (Skatturinn), same 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 Kopavogur.

[WhatsApp Us Send Inquiry →](#)

Kopavogur by Mode

- [All modes — Kopavogur](#)
- [✈ Air Freight](#)

Other Cities in Iceland

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Other Europe Destinations

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- [Shipping to Montenegro](#)
- [Shipping to North Macedonia](#)
- [Shipping to Norway](#)

Customs clearance in Iceland

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

[Iceland clearance requirements →](#)