

Air Freight from China to Sulaymaniyah

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China → Sulaymaniyah · via ISU air / Umm Qasr sea · clearance by General Commission of Customs, Iraq



Cargo handling on the China-Sulaymaniyah lane.

Sulaymaniyah is second Kurdistan Region commercial center, and it is served through ISU air / Umm Qasr sea. That combination is what actually sets your delivery date on this lane — allow +3 days for the inland leg on top of clearance.

Clearance itself is handled by General Commission of Customs, Iraq, and typical dwell at the gateway runs 7-15 days.

What the routing looks like in practice

Umm Qasr is the sea gateway for federal Iraq, while the Kurdistan Region is more often served by air into Erbil or overland from Turkey and Iran. The two administrations apply customs differently, so the destination city changes the process — not just the

trucking leg. A pre-shipment Certificate of Conformity is the single most important document on this lane.

Air gateways used	BGW (Baghdad), EBL (Erbil), BSR (Basra)
Air transit, China to gateway	4-7 business days
Gateway serving Sulaymaniyah	ISU air / Umm Qasr sea
Inland leg to Sulaymaniyah	+3 days from the gateway
Typical clearance / dwell	7-15 days
Peak season to plan around	Sep-Nov

Import duty and tax position for Sulaymaniyah

General Commission of Customs, Iraq assesses duty and tax on cargo arriving for Sulaymaniyah consignees. Current regime: Customs duty 0.5-30% plus a reconstruction levy; regional variations apply in the Kurdistan Region, with a de-minimis position of No practical de-minimis.

Conformity is the part most first-time importers underestimate: Certificate of Conformity (COC) issued pre-shipment under the Iraqi conformity program is mandatory for most goods. Getting this wrong is expensive because it usually cannot be fixed after the cargo has landed.

Restrictions and known friction points for Iraq: A pre-shipment COC is mandatory for most commercial goods; cargo arriving without it faces heavy penalties. Security and route conditions affect inland delivery. Confirm which customs administration applies to the final destination.



Handling on the ISU air / Umm Qasr sea routing serving Sulaymaniyah.

Pre-shipment checklist for Sulaymaniyah

- Ask for the HS code in writing from your supplier and verify the Iraq duty rate against it yourself.
- 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: +3 days beyond gateway clearance to reach Sulaymaniyah.
- Photograph carton markings and seal numbers before departure — it makes any claim far easier to settle.
- Check the de-minimis position (No practical de-minimis) against your invoice value before you decide how to split the shipment.
- Get the conformity paperwork moving early: Certificate of Conformity (COC) issued pre-shipment under the Iraqi conformity program is mandatory for most goods.

Frequently asked questions

How long does shipping from China to Sulaymaniyah take?

China to the Iraq gateway is 4–7 business days. On top of that, allow 7–15 days of clearance with General Commission of Customs, Iraq and a +3 days inland leg to Sulaymaniyah.

What duty and tax will I pay importing into Sulaymaniyah?

General Commission of Customs, Iraq applies: Customs duty 0.5–30% plus a reconstruction levy; regional variations apply in the Kurdistan Region. The de-minimis position is No practical de-minimis. Under a DDP arrangement these are pre-paid, so nothing is collected on arrival in Sulaymaniyah.

What certification do I need for Iraq?

For regulated goods, plan for: Certificate of Conformity (COC) issued pre-shipment under the Iraqi conformity program is mandatory for most goods. 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-Iraq 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.

How is the chargeable weight calculated for Sulaymaniyah?

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.

Which port or airport does cargo for Sulaymaniyah clear through?

Cargo for Sulaymaniyah is routed via ISU air / Umm Qasr sea. Sea gateways for Iraq are Umm Qasr; air gateways are BGW (Baghdad), EBL (Erbil), BSR (Basra). We pick whichever gives the shortest total door time for your address.

Other delivery cities in Iraq

- [China to Umm Qasr](#)
- [China to Baghdad](#)
- [China to Basra](#)
- [China to Erbil](#)
- [China to Mosul](#)
- [China to Najaf](#)

[All Iraq freight information →](#)

References & official sources

Duty rates, thresholds and conformity requirements for Iraq 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 General Commission of Customs, Iraq or your broker before you ship.

- [General Commission of Customs](#)
- [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.

- [Headphones Consumer Electronics & Smart Devices](#)
- [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](#)

[All 139 industry guides →](#)

Checking the Iraq duty position yourself

Duty and tax figures on this page are planning estimates. The binding assessment is made by General Commission of Customs, Iraq 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.

On the air side, anything with a cell or a battery in it, plus liquids, powders, magnets and aerosols, is governed by [the IATA Dangerous Goods Regulations](#). Those articles are not refused outright, but they need to be declared at booking so the shipment is built correctly — declaring them late is the single most common cause of an air consignment being offloaded.

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.

If this is your first shipment into Iraq, the [Iraq Country Commercial Guide](#) covers the practical import environment in more depth than a rate page reasonably can, and it is written by a party with no stake in your booking.

Watch: the process behind this route

This guide covers routing and clearance for Sulaymaniyah. The video below covers the wider shipping process that sits around it.

How to find HS Codes and Calculate Import Duty - 5 tips to save on Duties and Tariffs — Sourcing with Kian. 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 Sulaymaniyah

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 Iraq route page](#) →

Freight Rates to Iraq

📦 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.

Air Freight to Sulaymaniyah, Iraq: Transit Time, Duty & Clearance

Air Freight from China to Sulaymaniyah, Iraq. Transit 4–7 business days to the gateway, 7–15 days dwell, +3 days 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 Sulaymaniyah.

[WhatsApp Us Send Inquiry](#) →

Sulaymaniyah by Mode

- [All modes — Sulaymaniyah](#)
- ☐ [Sea Freight](#)

Other Cities in Iraq

- [China to Umm Qasr](#)
- [China to Baghdad](#)
- [China to Basra](#)
- [China to Erbil](#)

- [China to Mosul](#)
- [China to Najaf](#)

Other Middle East Destinations

- [Shipping to Bahrain](#)
- [Shipping to Israel](#)
- [Shipping to Jordan](#)
- [Shipping to Kuwait](#)
- [Shipping to Lebanon](#)
- [Shipping to Oman](#)
- [Shipping to Qatar](#)
- [Shipping to Turkey](#)

Route Page

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

Customs clearance in Iraq

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

[Iraq clearance requirements →](#)

Priced routes to Iraq

- [Shipping a Container from Ningbo to Umm Qasr: Cost & Transit](#)
- [Shipping a Container from Shanghai to Umm Qasr: Cost & Transit](#)