

Air Freight from China to Prilep

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➔ Air Freight

China → Prilep · via SKP air / Thessaloniki transit · clearance by Customs Administration of North Macedonia



Cargo handling on the China-Prilep lane.

For buyers shipping into Prilep, the practical question is not the ocean or flight time but what happens after arrival. Prilep is central manufacturing center; cargo enters through SKP air / Thessaloniki transit, and allow +1 day for the inland leg on top of clearance.

The clearing authority is Customs Administration of North Macedonia. Historical dwell on this gateway is around 3-8 days, and it lengthens in Sep-Nov.

Import duty and tax position for Prilep

Customs Administration of North Macedonia assesses duty and tax on cargo arriving for Prilep consignees. Current regime: VAT 18%; customs duty 0-20%, with a de-minimis position of EUR 45 for personal consignments.

Conformity is the part most first-time importers underestimate: Technical regulations aligned to EU rules for most product groups. Getting this wrong is expensive because it usually cannot be fixed after the cargo has landed.

Restrictions and known friction points for North Macedonia: Greek or Albanian transit documentation is required. Free economic zones near Skopje offer duty relief for qualifying manufacturing inputs.

Routing and transit on this lane

Thessaloniki is the shortest sea gateway — roughly a half-day road leg to Skopje — which makes North Macedonia one of the easier landlocked Balkan markets to serve. Durrës in Albania is the alternative when Greek capacity tightens.

Air gateways used	SKP (Skopje)
Air transit, China to gateway	4-7 business days
Gateway serving Prilep	SKP air / Thessaloniki transit
Inland leg to Prilep	+1 day from the gateway
Typical clearance / dwell	3-8 days
Peak season to plan around	Sep-Nov



Handling on the SKP air / Thessaloniki transit routing serving Prilep.

Pre-shipment checklist for Prilep

- Confirm the consignee in Prilep can act as importer of record — Customs Administration of North Macedonia will not release cargo to an unregistered party.
- Compare gross weight against volumetric weight ($L \times W \times H \div 6000$) — the higher figure is what gets billed on air and express.
- Book earlier than the transit time suggests during Sep–Nov, when space on this lane tightens.
- Put the Prilep 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.
- Declare lithium batteries, magnets, liquids and powders up front — retro-declaring after booking usually means re-planning the whole shipment.

Frequently asked questions

How long does shipping from China to Prilep take?

China to the North Macedonia gateway is 4–7 business days. On top of that, allow 3–8 days of clearance with Customs Administration of North Macedonia and a +1 day inland leg to Prilep.

What duty and tax will I pay importing into Prilep?

Customs Administration of North Macedonia applies: VAT 18%; customs duty 0–20%. The de-minimis position is EUR 45 for personal consignments. Under a DDP arrangement these are pre-paid, so nothing is collected on arrival in Prilep.

Can you ship batteries or sensitive cargo to Prilep?

Yes. Battery cargo by air follows IATA PI 965–970 depending on how the cells are packed, and moves on certified channels via SKP (Skopje). Surcharges apply and the declaration has to be made before booking.

When is the busiest time on the China–North Macedonia 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 Prilep clear through?

Cargo for Prilep is routed via SKP air / Thessaloniki transit. Sea gateways for North Macedonia are Landlocked — via Thessaloniki (Greece) or Durrës (Albania); air gateways are SKP (Skopje). We pick whichever gives the shortest total door time for your address.

What documents does Customs Administration of North Macedonia 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 regulations aligned to EU rules for most product groups). We prepare and file these as part of the service.

Other delivery cities in North Macedonia

- [China to Skopje](#)

- [China to Bitola](#)
- [China to Kumanovo](#)
- [China to Tetovo](#)

[All North Macedonia freight information →](#)

References & official sources

Duty rates, thresholds and conformity requirements for North Macedonia 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 Customs Administration of North Macedonia or your broker before you ship.

- [Customs Administration of North Macedonia](#)
- [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 Appliances Home Appliances, HVAC & Commercial](#)
- [Laboratory Furniture Furniture & Home Products](#)
- [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](#)

[All 139 industry guides →](#)

Checking the North Macedonia duty position yourself

Duty and tax figures on this page are planning estimates. The binding assessment is made by Customs Administration of North Macedonia 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.

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.

Watch: the process behind this route

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

4 Key Stages to US Customs Clearance — USA Customs Clearance. 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 Prilep

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 North Macedonia

✚ 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.

Prilep Air Freight, North Macedonia: Cost, Transit & Customs

Air Freight to Prilep: 4–7 business days in transit, cleared by Customs Administration of North Macedonia, +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 Prilep.

[WhatsApp Us Send Inquiry →](#)

Prilep by Mode

- [All modes — Prilep](#)
- [Sea Freight](#)

Other Cities in North Macedonia

- [China to Skopje](#)
- [China to Bitola](#)
- [China to Kumanovo](#)
- [China to Tetovo](#)

Other Europe Destinations

- [Shipping to Albania](#)
- [Shipping to Bosnia and Herzegovina](#)
- [Shipping to Cyprus](#)
- [Shipping to Iceland](#)
- [Shipping to Malta](#)
- [Shipping to Moldova](#)
- [Shipping to Montenegro](#)
- [Shipping to Norway](#)

Customs clearance in North Macedonia

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

[North Macedonia clearance requirements →](#)