

Sea Freight from China to Salalah

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□ Sea Freight

China → Salalah · via SLL air / Salalah sea · clearance by Directorate General of Customs, Royal Oman Police



Cargo handling on the China-Salalah lane.

For buyers shipping into Salalah, the practical question is not the ocean or flight time but what happens after arrival. Salalah is southern port directly on the Asia-Europe trunk route; cargo enters through SLL air / Salalah sea, and the inland leg is same-day, so the clearance date is effectively the delivery date.

The clearing authority is Directorate General of Customs, Royal Oman Police. Historical dwell on this gateway is around 2-5 days, and it lengthens in Sep-Nov.

What you will pay on arrival in Oman

Directorate General of Customs, Royal Oman Police assesses duty and tax on cargo arriving for Salalah consignees. Current regime: VAT 5%; GCC common tariff of 5% on most goods, with a de-minimis position of OMR 100 for personal consignments.

Conformity is the part most first-time importers underestimate: Omani conformity certificate for regulated goods; Arabic labeling for consumer products. Getting this wrong is expensive because it usually cannot be fixed after the cargo has landed.

Restrictions and known friction points for Oman: Alcohol and pork are restricted to licensed importers. Arabic labeling is required. Some industrial goods need ministry approval tied to the project.

How this lane actually runs

Salalah sits directly on the main Asia-Europe trunk route, which makes it one of the faster Gulf destinations from South China, and Sohar serves the industrial north. Oman is also a practical alternative gateway when Jebel Ali is congested, with road onward delivery into the UAE.

Sea gateways used	Sohar, Salalah, Duqm
Sea transit, China to gateway	14-20 calendar days
Gateway serving Salalah	SLL air / Salalah sea
Inland leg to Salalah	Same day from the gateway
Typical clearance / dwell	2-5 days
Peak season to plan around	Sep-Nov



Handling on the SLL air / Salalah sea routing serving Salalah.

Pre-shipment checklist for Salalah

- Put the Salalah delivery address, contact name and phone number on the invoice, not just the packing list.
- Budget for the inland leg: same-day delivery beyond gateway clearance to reach Salalah.
- Get the conformity paperwork moving early: Omani conformity certificate for regulated goods; Arabic labeling for consumer products.
- 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 Oman lane.
- 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 Salalah take?

China to the Oman gateway is 14–20 calendar days. On top of that, allow 2–5 days of clearance with Directorate General of Customs, Royal Oman Police and a same-day inland leg to Salalah.

What duty and tax will I pay importing into Salalah?

Directorate General of Customs, Royal Oman Police applies: VAT 5%; GCC common tariff of 5% on most goods. The de-minimis position is OMR 100 for personal consignments. Under a DDP arrangement these are pre-paid, so nothing is collected on arrival in Salalah.

Which port or airport does cargo for Salalah clear through?

Cargo for Salalah is routed via SLL air / Salalah sea. Sea gateways for Oman are Sohar, Salalah, Duqm; air gateways are MCT (Muscat), SLL (Salalah). We pick whichever gives the shortest total door time for your address.

When is the busiest time on the China–Oman 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.

What certification do I need for Oman?

For regulated goods, plan for: Omani conformity certificate for regulated goods; Arabic labeling for consumer products. 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.

Is sea freight cheaper than air freight into Salalah?

Per kilo, yes — usually by a wide margin. The trade-off is time: 14–20 calendar days by sea versus 3–5 business days by air to the Oman gateway, before clearance and the same-day inland leg. The crossover point is normally somewhere between 100 and 300 kg depending on the density of your cargo.

Other delivery cities in Oman

- [China to Muscat](#)
- [China to Sohar](#)
- [China to Duqm](#)
- [China to Nizwa](#)
- [China to Sur](#)

[All Oman freight information →](#)

References & official sources

Duty rates, thresholds and conformity requirements for Oman 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 Directorate General of Customs, Royal Oman Police or your broker before you ship.

- [Oman Customs — Royal Oman Police](#)
- [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.

- [Bicycle Parts Automotive & Vehicles](#)
- [Wall Panels Building Materials & Construction Products](#)
- [Corrugated Packaging Wood, Bamboo & Paper Products](#)
- [Glass Packaging Plastics, Rubber & Packaging](#)
- [Electronic Switches Electronic Components & Semiconductors](#)
- [IoT Devices Consumer Electronics & Smart Devices](#)
- [Furniture Furniture & Home Products](#)
- [Home Storage Products Furniture & Home Products](#)
- [Fashion Textiles, Apparel, Footwear & Leather](#)
- [Laboratory Equipment Medical, Laboratory & Precision Instruments](#)
- [Locks & Safes Fire, Safety & Traffic Products](#)
- [Salon Furniture Beauty, Personal Care & Wellness](#)

[All 139 industry guides →](#)

Checking the Oman duty position yourself

Duty and tax figures on this page are planning estimates. The binding assessment is made by Directorate General of Customs, Royal Oman Police 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.

Most landed-cost surprises trace back to classification rather than freight. [the WCO Harmonized System](#) defines the heading structure every customs administration builds on, and [ITC Market Access Map](#) will show you the duty a given heading attracts in this destination.

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.

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

Sea Freight Shipping Process for Beginners: Complete Factory-to-Door Guide (Every Step Explained) — Vixnk - English. 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 Salalah

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 Oman route page](#) →

Freight Rates to Oman

📦 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.

Salalah Sea Freight, Oman: Cost, Transit & Customs

Sea Freight to Salalah: 14–20 calendar days in transit, cleared by Directorate General of Customs, Royal Oman Police, 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 Salalah.

[WhatsApp Us Send Inquiry](#) →

Salalah by Mode

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

Other Cities in Oman

- [China to Muscat](#)
- [China to Sohar](#)
- [China to Duqm](#)
- [China to Nizwa](#)

- [China to Sur](#)

Other Middle East Destinations

- [Shipping to Bahrain](#)
- [Shipping to Iraq](#)
- [Shipping to Israel](#)
- [Shipping to Jordan](#)
- [Shipping to Kuwait](#)
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Route Page

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

Customs clearance in Oman

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

[Oman clearance requirements →](#)

Priced routes to Oman

- [Ningbo-Sohar Sea Freight: Container Rates and Schedule](#)
- [Shanghai to Sohar Container Shipping — 20GP Rates](#)
- [Ship Shanghai to Salalah — FCL Container Cost from China](#)
- [Shipping a Container from Ningbo to Salalah: Cost & Transit](#)