

Sea Freight from China to Cavite

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1. [Home](#)
2. [Destinations](#)
3. [Philippines](#)
4. [Cavite](#)
5. Sea Freight

□ Sea Freight

China → Cavite · via MNL air / MICT sea · clearance by Bureau of Customs (BOC)



Cargo handling on the China-Cavite lane.

Freight from China into Cavite clears through MNL air / MICT sea. Cavite is industrial estates and export processing zones south of Manila, and the inland leg is same-day, so the clearance date is effectively the delivery date.

Clearance itself is handled by Bureau of Customs (BOC), and typical dwell at the gateway runs 4–9 days.

What you will pay on arrival in Philippines

Imports into Philippines are cleared by Bureau of Customs (BOC). The headline position is: VAT 12%; duty 0–30%, with ACFTA preference available on a Form E. The de-minimis threshold is PHP 10,000.

Conformity is the part most first-time importers underestimate: BPS Import Commodity Clearance for regulated products; FDA license for food, cosmetics and devices; NTC for radio equipment. Getting this wrong is expensive because it usually cannot be fixed after the cargo has landed.

Restrictions and known friction points for Philippines: Consolidated 'balikbayan'-style mixed cargo attracts extra scrutiny. Used clothing is prohibited. Alert Orders and physical examination are common, so allow buffer days on any deadline-driven shipment.

How this lane actually runs

Manila port congestion is the defining risk on this lane — dwell can double during the Q4 retail build-up. Cebu and Davao are viable direct calls for Visayas and Mindanao consignees and often clear faster than Manila, so it is worth quoting the regional port rather than trucking from MICT.

Sea gateways used	Manila (MICT and South Harbor), Cebu, Davao
Sea transit, China to gateway	5-10 calendar days
Gateway serving Cavite	MNL air / MICT sea
Inland leg to Cavite	Same day from the gateway
Typical clearance / dwell	4-9 days
Peak season to plan around	Sep-Nov



Handling on the MNL air / MICT sea routing serving Cavite.

What to sort out before the cargo leaves China

- Book earlier than the transit time suggests during Sep–Nov, when space on this lane tightens.
- Compare gross weight against volumetric weight ($L \times W \times H \div 6000$) — the higher figure is what gets billed on air and express.
- Get the conformity paperwork moving early: BPS Import Commodity Clearance for regulated products; FDA license for food, cosmetics and devices; NTC for radio equipment.
- Ask for the HS code in writing from your supplier and verify the Philippines duty rate against it yourself.
- Confirm the consignee in Cavite can act as importer of record — Bureau of Customs (BOC) will not release cargo to an unregistered party.
- Check the de-minimis position (PHP 10,000) against your invoice value before you decide how to split the shipment.

Frequently asked questions

How long does shipping from China to Cavite take?

China to the Philippines gateway is 5–10 calendar days. On top of that, allow 4–9 days of clearance with Bureau of Customs (BOC) and a same-day inland leg to Cavite.

What duty and tax will I pay importing into Cavite?

Bureau of Customs (BOC) applies: VAT 12%; duty 0–30%, with ACFTA preference available on a Form E. The de-minimis position is PHP 10,000. Under a DDP arrangement these are pre-paid, so nothing is collected on arrival in Cavite.

Which port or airport does cargo for Cavite clear through?

Cargo for Cavite is routed via MNL air / MICT sea. Sea gateways for Philippines are Manila (MICT and South Harbor), Cebu, Davao; air gateways are MNL (Manila), CEB (Cebu), CRK (Clark). We pick whichever gives the shortest total door time for your address.

What certification do I need for Philippines?

For regulated goods, plan for: BPS Import Commodity Clearance for regulated products; FDA license for food, cosmetics and devices; NTC for radio equipment. 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.

How is the chargeable weight calculated for Cavite?

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.

Is sea freight cheaper than air freight into Cavite?

Per kilo, yes — usually by a wide margin. The trade-off is time: 5–10 calendar days by sea versus 3–5 business days by air to the Philippines 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 Philippines

- [China to Subic Bay](#)
- [China to Manila](#)
- [China to Quezon City](#)
- [China to Laguna](#)
- [China to Cebu](#)
- [China to Davao](#)
- [China to Iloilo](#)
- [China to Bulacan](#)
- [China to Batangas](#)
- [China to Cagayan de Oro](#)
- [China to Pampanga](#)
- [China to Baguio](#)

[All Philippines freight information →](#)

References & official sources

Duty rates, thresholds and conformity requirements for Philippines 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 Bureau of Customs (BOC) or your broker before you ship.

- [Bureau of Customs](#)
- [Bureau of Product Standards](#)
- [WTO — Tariff Profiles \(applied MFN duty by country\)](#)
- [World Bank — Logistics Performance Index](#)
- [ICC — Incoterms 2020 rules \(DDP, DAP, FOB definitions\)](#)
- [IPPC — ISPM 15 wood packaging standard](#)
- [WCO — Harmonized System nomenclature](#)

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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.

- [Exhibition Display Equipment Retail, Display & Commercial Fixtures](#)

- Educational Toys Toys, Sports, Outdoor & Leisure
- Stationery Consumer Goods & Gifts
- E-commerce E-commerce & Retail Channels
- Aluminum Coils Steel & Metal Materials
- Pipe Fittings Metal Products & Industrial Components
- Assembly Line Equipment General Machinery & Industrial Equipment
- Semiconductor Equipment Specialised Production Machinery
- Transformers New Energy, Power & Electrical
- Brake Parts Automotive & Vehicles
- Ceramic Tiles Building Materials & Construction Products
- Bathroom Products Building Materials & Construction Products

[All 139 industry guides →](#)

Checking the Philippines duty position yourself

We publish these figures so you can budget, but the assessment that binds is the one [Philippine Bureau of Customs](#) makes on your declaration. Where a shipment is large enough that a percentage point matters, check their current tariff guidance rather than ours.

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.

For a wider view of how importing into Philippines actually works — documentation norms, inspection behavior, the paperwork that tends to hold shipments — the [U.S. ITA guide to Philippines 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 Cavite. 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 Cavite

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 Philippines route page](#) →

Freight Rates to Philippines

✚ 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 Cavite, Philippines: Transit Time, Duty & Clearance

Sea Freight from China to Cavite, Philippines. Transit 5–10 calendar days to the gateway, 4–9 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 Cavite.

[WhatsApp Us Send Inquiry](#) →

Cavite by Mode

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

Other Cities in Philippines

- [China to Subic Bay](#)
- [China to Manila](#)
- [China to Quezon City](#)
- [China to Laguna](#)
- [China to Cebu](#)
- [China to Davao](#)

- [China to Iloilo](#)
- [China to Bulacan](#)

Other Asia Pacific Destinations

- [Shipping to Brunei](#)
- [Shipping to Cambodia](#)
- [Shipping to Hong Kong](#)
- [Shipping to Indonesia](#)
- [Shipping to Japan](#)
- [Shipping to Laos](#)
- [Shipping to Malaysia](#)
- [Shipping to Mongolia](#)

Route Page

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

Customs clearance in Philippines

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

[Philippines clearance requirements →](#)

Priced routes to Philippines

- [Shipping a Container from Shekou to Manila South: Cost & Transit](#)
- [Nansha to Cebu FCL Ocean Freight Rates | 20GP & 40HQ](#)
- [Xiamen to Cagayan de Oro Container Shipping — 20GP Rates](#)
- [Nansha to Davao FCL Ocean Freight Rates | 20GP & 40HQ](#)
- [Xiamen to Davao FCL Ocean Freight Rates | 20GP & 40HQ](#)
- [Nansha to Manila North Container Shipping — 20GP Rates](#)