

Air Freight from China to Honiara

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➔ Air Freight

China → Honiara · via HIR air / Honiara sea · clearance by Solomon Islands Customs and Excise Division



Cargo handling on the China-Honiara lane.

For buyers shipping into Honiara, the practical question is not the ocean or flight time but what happens after arrival. Honiara is capital and the main port; cargo enters through HIR air / Honiara sea, and the inland leg is same-day, so the clearance date is effectively the delivery date.

On the destination side, Solomon Islands Customs and Excise Division handles clearance; budget 5-12 days of dwell before the cargo is released.

Import duty and tax position for Honiara

Solomon Islands Customs and Excise Division assesses duty and tax on cargo arriving for Honiara consignees. Current regime: GST 15%; duty 0-20% depending on commodity, with a de-minimis position of No practical de-minimis for commercial cargo.

Conformity is the part most first-time importers underestimate: Biosecurity clearance; import permits for controlled goods. Getting this wrong is expensive because it usually cannot be fixed after the cargo has landed.

Restrictions and known friction points for Solomon Islands: Limited port capacity and berth congestion affect schedules. Inter-island delivery beyond Honiara is a separate arrangement. Biosecurity clearance required.

Routing and transit on this lane

Honiara is served by feeder from Brisbane, Port Moresby or Singapore. Port handling capacity is limited and berth availability, rather than sailing time, is often what delays cargo. Inter-island distribution beyond Honiara requires local coastal shipping and should be quoted separately.

Air gateways used	HIR (Honiara Henderson)
Air transit, China to gateway	6-10 business days
Gateway serving Honiara	HIR air / Honiara sea
Inland leg to Honiara	Same day from the gateway
Typical clearance / dwell	5-12 days
Peak season to plan around	Sep-Nov



Handling on the HIR air / Honiara sea routing serving Honiara.

What to sort out before the cargo leaves China

- Get the conformity paperwork moving early: Biosecurity clearance; import permits for controlled goods.
- Check the de-minimis position (No practical de-minimis for commercial cargo) against your invoice value before you decide how to split the shipment.
- Put the Honiara delivery address, contact name and phone number on the invoice, not just the packing list.
- 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.
- Ask for the HS code in writing from your supplier and verify the Solomon Islands duty rate against it yourself.

Frequently asked questions

How long does shipping from China to Honiara take?

China to the Solomon Islands gateway is 6–10 business days. On top of that, allow 5–12 days of clearance with Solomon Islands Customs and Excise Division and a same-day inland leg to Honiara.

What duty and tax will I pay importing into Honiara?

Solomon Islands Customs and Excise Division applies: GST 15%; duty 0–20% depending on commodity. The de-minimis position is No practical de-minimis for commercial cargo. Under a DDP arrangement these are pre-paid, so nothing is collected on arrival in Honiara.

What certification do I need for Solomon Islands?

For regulated goods, plan for: Biosecurity clearance; import permits for controlled 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.

Can you deliver door-to-door in Honiara?

Yes. Delivery to a Honiara address is quoted as one figure covering freight, duty and tax owed to Solomon Islands Customs and Excise Division, and the same-day inland leg. Confirm whether your consignee wants the goods at a warehouse, a marketplace fulfillment center or a shop front, because the last-mile requirement differs.

Can you ship batteries or sensitive cargo to Honiara?

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

Is sea freight cheaper than air freight into Honiara?

Per kilo, yes — usually by a wide margin. The trade-off is time: 20–30 calendar days by sea versus 6–10 business days by air to the Solomon Islands 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 Solomon Islands

- [China to Auki](#)
- [China to Gizo](#)
- [China to Noro](#)

[All Solomon Islands freight information →](#)

References & official sources

Duty rates, thresholds and conformity requirements for Solomon Islands 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 Solomon Islands Customs and Excise Division or your broker before you ship.

- [Customs and Excise Division](#)
- [WTO — Tariff Profiles \(applied MFN duty by country\)](#)
- [IMO — IMDG Code for dangerous goods by sea](#)
- [IATA — Lithium battery shipping guidance \(PI 965–970\)](#)
- [World Bank — Logistics Performance Index](#)

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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.

- Restaurant Furniture Retail, Display & Commercial Fixtures
- Amusement Equipment Toys, Sports, Outdoor & Leisure
- Gifts Consumer Goods & Gifts
- Amazon FBA E-commerce & Retail Channels
- Metal Fabrication Metal Products & Industrial Components
- Cutting Tools Metal Products & Industrial Components
- Compressors General Machinery & Industrial Equipment
- Automated Storage Equipment Construction, Mining & Material Handling
- Electrical Cabinets New Energy, Power & Electrical
- Automotive Glass Automotive & Vehicles
- Doors & Windows Building Materials & Construction Products
- Paper Packaging Wood, Bamboo & Paper Products

[All 139 industry guides →](#)

Checking the Solomon Islands duty position yourself

Duty and tax figures on this page are planning estimates. The binding assessment is made by Solomon Islands Customs and Excise Division 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.

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 Honiara. 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 Honiara

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 Solomon Islands

⚖ 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.

China to Honiara Air Freight: Rates, Transit and Clearance

Moving cargo to Honiara by air freight — 6–10 business days transit, 5–12 days port dwell, duty assessed by Solomon Islands Customs and Excise Division.

Get a Quote

Send the cargo details and we respond within one business day with a full DDP figure for Honiara.

[WhatsApp Us Send Inquiry →](#)

Honiara by Mode

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

Other Cities in Solomon Islands

- [China to Auki](#)
- [China to Gizo](#)
- [China to Noro](#)

Other Oceania Destinations

- [Shipping to Fiji](#)
- [Shipping to New Zealand](#)
- [Shipping to Papua New Guinea](#)
- [Shipping to Samoa](#)
- [Shipping to Vanuatu](#)

Customs clearance in Solomon Islands

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

[Solomon Islands clearance requirements](#) →