

Sea Freight from China to Honiara

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



Cargo handling on the China-Honiara lane.

Freight from China into Honiara clears through HIR air / Honiara sea. Honiara is capital and the main port, 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.

Duty, tax and clearance into Honiara

Imports into Solomon Islands are cleared by Solomon Islands Customs and Excise Division. The headline position is: GST 15%; duty 0–20% depending on commodity. The de-minimis threshold is 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.

What the routing looks like in practice

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.

Sea gateways used	Honiara, Noro
Sea transit, China to gateway	20-30 calendar 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

- Confirm the consignee in Honiara can act as importer of record — Solomon Islands Customs and Excise Division will not release cargo to an unregistered party.
- Get the conformity paperwork moving early: Biosecurity clearance; import permits for controlled goods.
- Put the Honiara delivery address, contact name and phone number on the invoice, not just the packing list.
- Plan around the China-side windows too: Chinese New Year and Golden Week both compress capacity on the Solomon Islands lane.
- Book earlier than the transit time suggests during Sep–Nov, when space on this lane tightens.
- Photograph carton markings and seal numbers before departure — it makes any claim far easier to settle.

Frequently asked questions

How long does shipping from China to Honiara take?

China to the Solomon Islands gateway is 20–30 calendar 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.

Which port or airport does cargo for Honiara clear through?

Cargo for Honiara is routed via HIR air / Honiara sea. Sea gateways for Solomon Islands are Honiara, Noro; air gateways are HIR (Honiara Henderson). We pick whichever gives the shortest total door time for your address.

How is the chargeable weight calculated for Honiara?

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.

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.

What documents does Solomon Islands Customs and Excise Division 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 (Biosecurity clearance; import permits for controlled goods). We prepare and file these as part of the service.

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.

- [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 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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

LCL vs FCL | Difference Between Full Container Load & Less than Container Load | Which is better ? — 10 Min For Supply Chain.

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.

Sea Freight to Honiara, Solomon Islands: Transit Time, Duty & Clearance

Sea Freight from China to Honiara, Solomon Islands. Transit 20–30 calendar days to the gateway, 5–12 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 Honiara.

[WhatsApp Us Send Inquiry →](#)

Honiara by Mode

- [All modes — Honiara](#)
- [→ Air 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 →](#)