

Sea Freight from China to Tunis

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□ Sea Freight

China → Tunis · via TUN air / Rades sea · clearance by Douane Tunisienne



Cargo handling on the China-Tunis lane.

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

On the destination side, Douane Tunisienne handles clearance; budget 5-12 days of dwell before the cargo is released.

What you will pay on arrival in Tunisia

Douane Tunisienne assesses duty and tax on cargo arriving for Tunis consignees. Current regime: VAT 19%; duty 0-36%, plus consumption tax on selected goods, with a de-minimis position of No practical de-minimis for commercial cargo.

Conformity is the part most first-time importers underestimate: Technical control certificate for regulated goods; import authorisation for controlled categories. Getting this wrong is expensive because it usually cannot be fixed after the cargo has landed.

Restrictions and known friction points for Tunisia: Offshore versus onshore company status changes duty treatment entirely. Foreign-exchange authorisation can delay settlement. Technical control applies to electrical and consumer goods.

How this lane actually runs

Radès handles most container volume, generally with Asian cargo transshipped through Malta, Gioia Tauro or Marsaxlokk. Tunisia's offshore manufacturing regime, used heavily by textile and automotive suppliers, gives duty relief on inputs that are re-exported — confirm which regime the consignee is operating under before quoting.

Sea gateways used	Radès, Sfax, Bizerte
Sea transit, China to gateway	24-32 calendar days
Gateway serving Tunis	TUN air / Rades sea
Inland leg to Tunis	Same day from the gateway
Typical clearance / dwell	5-12 days
Peak season to plan around	Sep-Nov



Handling on the TUN air / Rades sea routing serving Tunis.

Before you book: Tunis checklist

- Ask for the HS code in writing from your supplier and verify the Tunisia duty rate against it yourself.
- Compare gross weight against volumetric weight ($L \times W \times H \div 6000$) — the higher figure is what gets billed on air and express.
- Confirm the consignee in Tunis can act as importer of record — Douane Tunisienne will not release cargo to an unregistered party.
- Book earlier than the transit time suggests during Sep–Nov, when space on this lane tightens.
- Put the Tunis 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 Tunisia lane.

Frequently asked questions

How long does shipping from China to Tunis take?

China to the Tunisia gateway is 24–32 calendar days. On top of that, allow 5–12 days of clearance with Douane Tunisienne and a same-day inland leg to Tunis.

What duty and tax will I pay importing into Tunis?

Douane Tunisienne applies: VAT 19%; duty 0–36%, plus consumption tax on selected goods. 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 Tunis.

Which port or airport does cargo for Tunis clear through?

Cargo for Tunis is routed via TUN air / Rades sea. Sea gateways for Tunisia are Radès, Sfax, Bizerte; air gateways are TUN (Tunis Carthage), MIR (Monastir). We pick whichever gives the shortest total door time for your address.

What certification do I need for Tunisia?

For regulated goods, plan for: Technical control certificate for regulated goods; import authorisation for controlled categories. 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 Douane Tunisienne 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 control certificate for regulated goods; import authorisation for controlled categories). We prepare and file these as part of the service.

Can you deliver door-to-door in Tunis?

Yes. Delivery to a Tunis address is quoted as one figure covering freight, duty and tax owed to Douane Tunisienne, 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.

Other delivery cities in Tunisia

- [China to Sfax](#)
- [China to Sousse](#)
- [China to Bizerte](#)
- [China to Kairouan](#)
- [China to Gabes](#)

[All Tunisia freight information →](#)

References & official sources

Duty rates, thresholds and conformity requirements for Tunisia 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 Douane Tunisienne or your broker before you ship.

- [Douane Tunisienne](#)
- [WTO — Tariff Profiles \(applied MFN duty by country\)](#)
- [IATA — Lithium battery shipping guidance \(PI 965-970\)](#)
- [World Bank — Logistics Performance Index](#)
- [ICC — Incoterms 2020 rules \(DDP, DAP, FOB definitions\)](#)
- [IPPC — ISPM 15 wood packaging standard](#)

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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.

- [Data Center Equipment Telecom, Computing & Data Centre](#)
- [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](#)

[All 139 industry guides →](#)

Checking the Tunisia duty position yourself

Duty and tax figures on this page are planning estimates. The binding assessment is made by Douane Tunisienne 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.

Watch: the process behind this route

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

Sea Freight from China: How to import from China to your country via Ocean Shipping — SINO Shipping. 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 Tunis

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 Tunisia

⚖ 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 Tunis Sea Freight: Rates, Transit and Clearance

Moving cargo to Tunis by sea freight — 24–32 calendar days transit, 5–12 days port dwell, duty assessed by Douane Tunisienne.

Get a Quote

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

[WhatsApp Us Send Inquiry →](#)

Tunis by Mode

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

Other Cities in Tunisia

- [China to Sfax](#)
- [China to Sousse](#)
- [China to Bizerte](#)
- [China to Kairouan](#)
- [China to Gabes](#)

Other Africa Destinations

- [Shipping to Algeria](#)
- [Shipping to Burundi](#)
- [Shipping to Cape Verde](#)
- [Shipping to Comoros](#)
- [Shipping to Congo \(Brazzaville\)](#)
- [Shipping to Djibouti](#)
- [Shipping to Egypt](#)
- [Shipping to Eswatini](#)

Customs clearance in Tunisia

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

[Tunisia clearance requirements →](#)