

Sea Freight from China to Kocaeli

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□ Sea Freight

China → Kocaeli · via IST air / Izmit sea · clearance by Ministry of Trade — Turkish Customs



Cargo handling on the China-Kocaeli lane.

Kocaeli is the densest industrial belt east of Istanbul, and it is served through IST air / Izmit sea. That combination is what actually sets your delivery date on this lane — the inland leg is same-day, so the clearance date is effectively the delivery date.

On the destination side, Ministry of Trade — Turkish Customs handles clearance; budget 3-8 days of dwell before the cargo is released.

What you will pay on arrival in Turkey

Ministry of Trade — Turkish Customs assesses duty and tax on cargo arriving for Kocaeli consignees. Current regime: VAT 20%; the EU-Turkey customs union tariff applies, plus additional and anti-dumping duties on many Chinese-origin textiles, footwear and

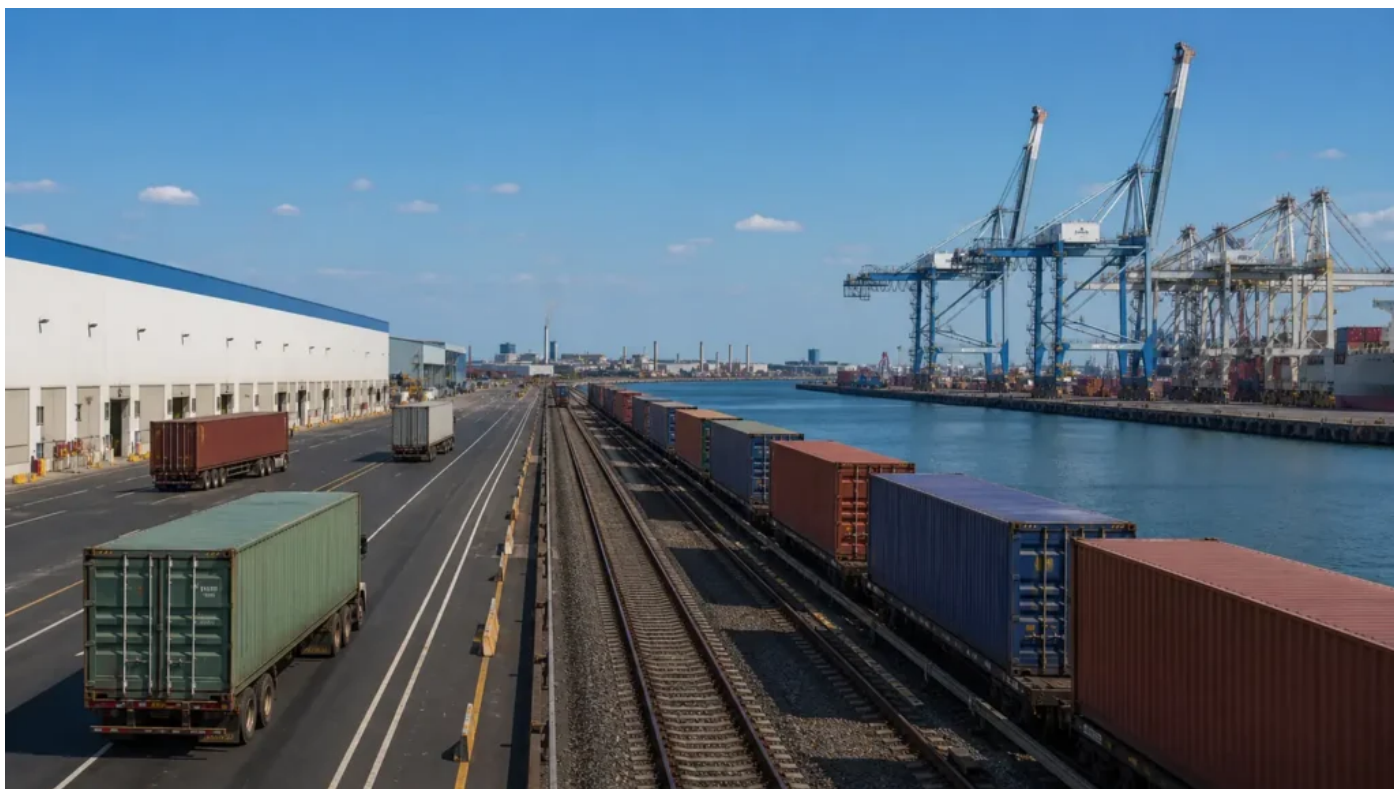
electronics, with a de-minimis position of EUR 30 on personal parcels, with a simplified flat rate applied to low-value consignments. Conformity is the part most first-time importers underestimate: CE marking under EU-aligned rules; TSE conformity and TAREKS import inspection for regulated goods. Getting this wrong is expensive because it usually cannot be fixed after the cargo has landed.

Restrictions and known friction points for Turkey: Additional and anti-dumping duties on Chinese-origin goods are common and can exceed the base tariff. TAREKS registration is required for controlled products. Verify the current additional duty rate for your HS code before quoting.

What the routing looks like in practice

Turkey applies the EU common external tariff through its customs union with the EU, and then layers additional duties on a long list of Chinese-origin goods — textiles, footwear, small electronics and some machinery. Those extras, not the base tariff, are what break landed-cost models. Turkey is also served by China-Europe rail via the Middle Corridor into Kars, which sits between air and sea on both cost and transit.

Sea gateways used	Ambarlı (Istanbul), Mersin, Izmir (Aliağa)
Sea transit, China to gateway	22-30 calendar days
Gateway serving Kocaeli	IST air / Izmit sea
Inland leg to Kocaeli	Same day from the gateway
Typical clearance / dwell	3-8 days
Peak season to plan around	Sep-Nov



Handling on the IST air / Izmit sea routing serving Kocaeli.

Pre-shipment checklist for Kocaeli

- Get the conformity paperwork moving early: CE marking under EU-aligned rules; TSE conformity and TAREKS import inspection for regulated goods.
- 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 Kocaeli can act as importer of record — Ministry of Trade — Turkish Customs will not release cargo to an unregistered party.
- Ask for the HS code in writing from your supplier and verify the Turkey duty rate against it yourself.
- 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 Kocaeli take?

China to the Turkey gateway is 22–30 calendar days. On top of that, allow 3–8 days of clearance with Ministry of Trade — Turkish Customs and a same-day inland leg to Kocaeli.

What duty and tax will I pay importing into Kocaeli?

Ministry of Trade — Turkish Customs applies: VAT 20%; the EU-Turkey customs union tariff applies, plus additional and anti-dumping duties on many Chinese-origin textiles, footwear and electronics. The de-minimis position is EUR 30 on personal parcels, with a simplified flat rate applied to low-value consignments. Under a DDP arrangement these are pre-paid, so nothing is collected

on arrival in Kocaeli.

Can you ship batteries or sensitive cargo to Kocaeli?

Yes. Battery cargo by sea moves under UN3480/UN3481 with an MSDS, and the dangerous-goods documentation is prepared as part of the booking into Ambarlı (Istanbul), Mersin, Izmir (Aliğa). Surcharges apply and space is more limited than for general cargo.

When is the busiest time on the China–Turkey 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 documents does Ministry of Trade — Turkish Customs 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 (CE marking under EU-aligned rules; TSE conformity and TAREKS import inspection for regulated goods). We prepare and file these as part of the service.

Is sea freight cheaper than air freight into Kocaeli?

Per kilo, yes — usually by a wide margin. The trade-off is time: 22–30 calendar days by sea versus 3–5 business days by air to the Turkey 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 Turkey

- [China to Istanbul](#)
- [China to Ankara](#)
- [China to Izmir](#)
- [China to Bursa](#)
- [China to Gaziantep](#)
- [China to Mersin](#)
- [China to Antalya](#)
- [China to Konya](#)
- [China to Adana](#)

[All Turkey freight information →](#)

References & official sources

Duty rates, thresholds and conformity requirements for Turkey 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 Ministry of Trade — Turkish Customs or your broker before you ship.

- [Ministry of Trade — Customs](#)

- [Turkish Standards Institution \(TSE\)](#)
- [WTO — Tariff Profiles \(applied MFN duty by country\)](#)
- [ICC — Incoterms 2020 rules \(DDP, DAP, FOB definitions\)](#)
- [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.

- [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](#)
- [Engineering Plastics Plastics, Rubber & Packaging](#)
- [Ceramic Components Glass & Ceramic Products](#)
- [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](#)

[All 139 industry guides →](#)

Checking the Turkey duty position yourself

Duty and tax figures on this page are planning estimates. The binding assessment is made by Ministry of Trade — Turkish Customs 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.

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

Bills of Lading 101 - What Is a Bill of Lading — Flexport. 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 Kocaeli

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 Turkey route page](#) →

Freight Rates to Turkey

☞ 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 Kocaeli Sea Freight: Rates, Transit and Clearance

Moving cargo to Kocaeli by sea freight — 22-30 calendar days transit, 3-8 days port dwell, duty assessed by Ministry of Trade — Turkish Customs.

Get a Quote

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

[WhatsApp Us Send Inquiry](#) →

Kocaeli by Mode

- [All modes — Kocaeli](#)
- [✈ Air Freight](#)
- [🚂 Rail Freight](#)

Other Cities in Turkey

- [China to Istanbul](#)
- [China to Ankara](#)
- [China to Izmir](#)
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- [China to Gaziantep](#)
- [China to Mersin](#)
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- [China to Konya](#)

Other Middle East Destinations

- [Shipping to Bahrain](#)
- [Shipping to Iraq](#)
- [Shipping to Israel](#)
- [Shipping to Jordan](#)
- [Shipping to Kuwait](#)
- [Shipping to Lebanon](#)
- [Shipping to Oman](#)
- [Shipping to Qatar](#)

Route Page

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

Customs clearance in Turkey

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

[Turkey clearance requirements →](#)

Priced routes to Turkey

- [Ningbo-Mersin Sea Freight: Container Rates and Schedule](#)
- [Ship Ningbo to Istanbul — FCL Container Cost from China](#)
- [Ship Shanghai to Istanbul — FCL Container Cost from China](#)
- [Ship Shanghai to Mersin — FCL Container Cost from China](#)