

Air Freight from China to Luganville

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→ Air Freight

China → Luganville · via VLI air / Luganville sea · clearance by Department of Customs and Inland Revenue, Vanuatu



Cargo handling on the China-Luganville lane.

For buyers shipping into Luganville, the practical question is not the ocean or flight time but what happens after arrival. Luganville is the second town on Espiritu Santo; cargo enters through VLI air / Luganville sea, and allow +2 days for the inland leg on top of clearance.

On the destination side, Department of Customs and Inland Revenue, Vanuatu handles clearance; budget 4–10 days of dwell before the cargo is released.

Routing and transit on this lane

Vanuatu is served by feeder from Fiji, Auckland or Brisbane, so the sailing schedule rather than the distance sets the transit time. Cyclone season between November and April can disrupt both port operations and inter-island distribution, and it is worth building that into any Q4 or Q1 commitment.

Air gateways used	VLI (Port Vila Bauerfield)
Air transit, China to gateway	6-9 business days
Gateway serving Luganville	VLI air / Luganville sea
Inland leg to Luganville	+2 days from the gateway
Typical clearance / dwell	4-10 days
Peak season to plan around	Sep-Nov

Duty, tax and clearance into Luganville

Department of Customs and Inland Revenue, Vanuatu assesses duty and tax on cargo arriving for Luganville consignees. Current regime: VAT 15%; duty 0-35% 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 Vanuatu 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 Vanuatu: Cyclone season affects reliability from November to April. Biosecurity clearance required for wood packaging. Feeder frequency is the main scheduling constraint.



Handling on the VLI air / Luganville sea routing serving Luganville.

What to sort out before the cargo leaves China

- Check the de-minimis position (No practical de-minimis for commercial cargo) against your invoice value before you decide how to split the shipment.
- Budget for the inland leg: +2 days beyond gateway clearance to reach Luganville.
- Get the conformity paperwork moving early: Biosecurity Vanuatu clearance; import permits for controlled goods.
- Use ISPM-15 treated pallets. Untreated wood is the most common reason otherwise-clean cargo gets held.
- Book earlier than the transit time suggests during Sep–Nov, when space on this lane tightens.
- Declare lithium batteries, magnets, liquids and powders up front — retro-declaring after booking usually means re-planning the whole shipment.

Frequently asked questions

How long does shipping from China to Luganville take?

China to the Vanuatu gateway is 6–9 business days. On top of that, allow 4–10 days of clearance with Department of Customs and Inland Revenue, Vanuatu and a +2 days inland leg to Luganville.

What duty and tax will I pay importing into Luganville?

Department of Customs and Inland Revenue, Vanuatu applies: VAT 15%; duty 0–35% 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 Luganville.

Can you deliver door-to-door in Luganville?

Yes. Delivery to a Luganville address is quoted as one figure covering freight, duty and tax owed to Department of Customs and Inland Revenue, Vanuatu, and the +2 days 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.

How is the chargeable weight calculated for Luganville?

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.

When is the busiest time on the China–Vanuatu 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.

Which port or airport does cargo for Luganville clear through?

Cargo for Luganville is routed via VLI air / Luganville sea. Sea gateways for Vanuatu are Port Vila, Luganville; air gateways are VLI (Port Vila Bauerfield). We pick whichever gives the shortest total door time for your address.

Other delivery cities in Vanuatu

- [China to Port Vila](#)
- [China to Santo](#)
- [China to Tanna](#)

[All Vanuatu freight information →](#)

References & official sources

Duty rates, thresholds and conformity requirements for Vanuatu 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 Department of Customs and Inland Revenue, Vanuatu or your broker before you ship.

- [Department of Customs and Inland Revenue](#)
- [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 \(DDP, DAP, FOB definitions\)](#)

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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.

- [Direct to Consumer E-commerce & Retail Channels](#)
- [Fasteners Metal Products & Industrial Components](#)
- [Pressure Vessels Metal Products & Industrial Components](#)
- [Industrial Boilers General Machinery & Industrial Equipment](#)
- [Solar Panel New Energy, Power & Electrical](#)
- [Lithium Battery New Energy, Power & Electrical](#)
- [Bicycle Parts Automotive & Vehicles](#)
- [Wall Panels Building Materials & Construction Products](#)
- [Corrugated Packaging Wood, Bamboo & Paper Products](#)
- [Glass Packaging Plastics, Rubber & Packaging](#)
- [Electronic Switches Electronic Components & Semiconductors](#)
- [IoT Devices Consumer Electronics & Smart Devices](#)

[All 139 industry guides →](#)

Checking the Vanuatu duty position yourself

Duty and tax figures on this page are planning estimates. The binding assessment is made by Department of Customs and Inland Revenue, Vanuatu 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 Luganville. The video below covers the wider shipping process that sits around it.

What Is Chargeable Weight in Air Freight? — Smart Logistics Network. 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 Luganville

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 Vanuatu

⚖ 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 Luganville Air Freight: Rates, Transit and Clearance

Moving cargo to Luganville by air freight — 6–9 business days transit, 4–10 days port dwell, duty assessed by Department of Customs and Inland Revenue, Vanuatu.

Get a Quote

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

[WhatsApp Us Send Inquiry →](#)

Luganville by Mode

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

Other Cities in Vanuatu

- [China to Port Vila](#)
- [China to Santo](#)
- [China to Tanna](#)

Other Oceania Destinations

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

Customs clearance in Vanuatu

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

[Vanuatu clearance requirements →](#)