

China to Vietnam Sea Freight

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☐ Sea Freight

Door-to-door transit 25-45 calendar days. Duty and final delivery are inside the published rate.



Sea freight — China to Vietnam

Sea Freight from China to Vietnam runs 25-45 calendar days door to door, clearing through the destination customs authority. Duty, customs handling and final delivery are inside the quoted rate. Send weight and dimensions for a firm figure on your cargo.

Transit time

25-45 calendar days

Destination

Vietnam

Customs authority

the destination customs authority

Duty-free threshold

VND 1,000,000 (roughly USD 40) on express parcels

Published channel rate for planning. The final quote depends on chargeable weight, cargo class and HS code.

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1. Loading...

Current Freight Rates

Price data updating. [Contact us](#) for current rates.

Trade Terms Explained — Who Pays for What

The rate above is quoted on one specific trade term. Change the term and you change how much of the journey to Vietnam is already inside the price. The table below maps the eleven common Incoterms® against the twelve cost stages of a door-to-door shipment, so you can see exactly where our responsibility ends and yours begins.

- **Seller** — Cost and arrangement sit with the seller / shipper.
- **Buyer** — Cost and arrangement sit with the buyer / consignee.
- **Negotiable** — Not fixed by the rule — agree it in the contract.

Responsibility for each shipment stage under each Incoterms rule

Term	1 Loading on truck	2 Export customs declaration	3 Carriage to port of export	4 Unloading at port of export	5 Loading on vessel / aircraft	6 Main carriage	7 Cargo insurance	8 Unloading at port of import	9 Loading on truck at import	10 Carriage to destination
EXW Ex Works	Buyer Buyer — Loading on truck	Buyer Buyer — Export customs declaration	Buyer Buyer — Carriage to port of export	Buyer Buyer — Unloading at port of export	Buyer Buyer — Loading on vessel / aircraft	Buyer Buyer — Main carriage	Buyer Buyer — Cargo insurance	Buyer Buyer — Unloading at port of import	Buyer Buyer — Loading on truck at import	Buyer Buyer — Carriage to destination
FCA Free Carrier	Seller Seller — Loading on truck	Seller Seller — Export customs declaration	Buyer Buyer — Carriage to port of export	Buyer Buyer — Unloading at port of export	Buyer Buyer — Loading on vessel / aircraft	Buyer Buyer — Main carriage	Buyer Buyer — Cargo insurance	Buyer Buyer — Unloading at port of import	Buyer Buyer — Loading on truck at import	Buyer Buyer — Carriage to destination
FAS Free Alongside Ship	Seller Seller — Loading on truck	Seller Seller — Export customs declaration	Seller Seller — Carriage to port of export	Seller Seller — Unloading at port of export	Buyer Buyer — Loading on vessel / aircraft	Buyer Buyer — Main carriage	Buyer Buyer — Cargo insurance	Buyer Buyer — Unloading at port of import	Buyer Buyer — Loading on truck at import	Buyer Buyer — Carriage to destination
FOB Free On Board	Seller Seller — Loading on truck	Seller Seller — Export customs declaration	Seller Seller — Carriage to port of export	Seller Seller — Unloading at port of export	Seller Seller — Loading on vessel / aircraft	Buyer Buyer — Main carriage	Buyer Buyer — Cargo insurance	Buyer Buyer — Unloading at port of import	Buyer Buyer — Loading on truck at import	Buyer Buyer — Carriage to destination
CFR Cost and Freight	Seller Seller — Loading on truck	Seller Seller — Export customs declaration	Seller Seller — Carriage to port of export	Seller Seller — Unloading at port of export	Seller Seller — Loading on vessel / aircraft	Seller Seller — Main carriage	Buyer Buyer — Cargo insurance	Buyer Buyer — Unloading at port of import	Buyer Buyer — Loading on truck at import	Buyer Buyer — Carriage to destination

Term	1 Loading on truck	2 Export customs declaration	3 Carriage to port of export	4 Unloading at port of export	5 Loading on vessel / aircraft	6 Main carriage	7 Cargo insurance	8 Unloading at port of import	9 Loading on truck at import	10 Carriage to destination
CIF Cost, Insurance and Freight	Seller Seller — Loading on truck	Seller Seller — Export customs declaration	Seller Seller — Carriage to port of export	Seller Seller — Unloading at port of export	Seller Seller — Loading on vessel / aircraft	Seller Seller — Main carriage	Seller Seller — Cargo insurance	Buyer Buyer — Unloading at port of import	Buyer Buyer — Loading on truck at import	Buyer Buyer — Carriage to destination
CPT Carriage Paid To	Seller Seller — Loading on truck	Seller Seller — Export customs declaration	Seller Seller — Carriage to port of export	Seller Seller — Unloading at port of export	Seller Seller — Loading on vessel / aircraft	Seller Seller — Main carriage	Negotiable Negotiable — Cargo insurance	Seller Seller — Unloading at port of import	Seller Seller — Loading on truck at import	Seller Seller — Carriage to destination
CIP Carriage and Insurance Paid	Seller Seller — Loading on truck	Seller Seller — Export customs declaration	Seller Seller — Carriage to port of export	Seller Seller — Unloading at port of export	Seller Seller — Loading on vessel / aircraft	Seller Seller — Main carriage	Seller Seller — Cargo insurance	Seller Seller — Unloading at port of import	Seller Seller — Loading on truck at import	Seller Seller — Carriage to destination
DAT Delivered At Terminal (DPU)	Seller Seller — Loading on truck	Seller Seller — Export customs declaration	Seller Seller — Carriage to port of export	Seller Seller — Unloading at port of export	Seller Seller — Loading on vessel / aircraft	Seller Seller — Main carriage	Negotiable Negotiable — Cargo insurance	Seller Seller — Unloading at port of import	Buyer Buyer — Loading on truck at import	Buyer Buyer — Carriage to destination
DAP Delivered At Place	Seller Seller — Loading on truck	Seller Seller — Export customs declaration	Seller Seller — Carriage to port of export	Seller Seller — Unloading at port of export	Seller Seller — Loading on vessel / aircraft	Seller Seller — Main carriage	Negotiable Negotiable — Cargo insurance	Seller Seller — Unloading at port of import	Seller Seller — Loading on truck at import	Seller Seller — Carriage to destination

Term	1 Loading on truck	2 Export customs declaration	3 Carriage to port of export	4 Unloading at port of export	5 Loading on vessel / aircraft	6 Main carriage	7 Cargo insurance	8 Unloading at port of import	9 Loading on truck at import	10 Carriage to destination
DDP Delivered Duty Paid	Seller Seller — Loading on truck	Seller Seller — Export customs declaration	Seller Seller — Carriage to port of export	Seller Seller — Unloading at port of export	Seller Seller — Loading on vessel / aircraft	Seller Seller — Main carriage	Negotiable Negotiable — Cargo insurance	Seller Seller — Unloading at port of import	Seller Seller — Loading on truck at import	Seller Seller — Carriage to destination

EXW Ex Works

Buyer takes over at the seller's door and carries every cost from there. Lowest quoted price, highest buyer workload.

FCA Free Carrier

Seller clears the goods for export and hands them to the carrier the buyer nominated.

FAS Free Alongside Ship

Sea and inland waterway only. Seller delivers alongside the vessel; loading is on the buyer.

FOB Free On Board

Sea and inland waterway only. Risk passes once the goods are on board. The most common buying term.

CFR Cost and Freight

Seller pays the main carriage but carries no insurance obligation; risk still passes on loading.

CIF Cost, Insurance and Freight

As CFR, plus the seller must buy and pay for cargo insurance (minimum cover unless you agree more).

CPT Carriage Paid To

Any mode. Seller pays carriage through to the named destination; insurance is not obligatory.

CIP Carriage and Insurance Paid

As CPT, plus the seller must insure the cargo through to the named destination.

DAT Delivered At Terminal (DPU)

Seller delivers unloaded at the named terminal. Renamed DPU (Delivered at Place Unloaded) in Incoterms® 2020.

DAP Delivered At Place

Seller delivers to your address ready for unloading; import clearance and duty stay with the buyer.

DDP Delivered Duty Paid

Seller carries everything through to your door, duty and tax included. Highest quoted price, least buyer workload.

Two things worth flagging. Under CIF and CIP the seller is obliged to buy cargo insurance and pay the premium; under every other term insurance is optional, and we recommend buyers arrange their own cover so a loss or damage in transit is recoverable. And this table is a working summary for planning purposes — the binding definitions are the ones published by the International Chamber of Commerce in the Incoterms® rules, so confirm the exact term wording in your sales contract before you ship.

Service Details

Nansha → Cai Mep Container Shipping

Nansha to Cai Mep container shipping, priced per box rather than per CBM. This is the lane to book when the cargo fills a container or when it should not share one: machinery, stone, steel, building materials and project pieces all move better as FCL because nothing else is loaded around them. Plan on 4–9 days port to port port to port.

Port-to-port means exactly that: the rate ends at the Cai Mep terminal gate. Typical dwell at destination runs 2–5 days before the box is available for collection, and that window sits outside the transit figure above. Origin haulage, export declaration, destination clearance, duty and delivery beyond the terminal are all quoted separately, so ask for a door figure if that is what you are comparing against.

Indicative rate. The figures below are benchmarked against current bookings on this lane group. They are a planning reference, not a firm offer — the booking rate is confirmed against the specific sailing when you enquire.

Rate by Container Type

- **20GP** — USD 145 per container
- **40HQ** — USD 200 per container

Discharge for Vietnam on this service is at [Hai Phong](#), [Cat Lai \(Ho Chi Minh City\)](#) and Cai Mep–Thi Vai. Transit time in the rate table is measured to the port, not to the door: the inland days on top depend on which gateway the box clears through and how far inland the delivery address sits.

If your delivery address is inland rather than at the port, the destination guides are the useful read: [Can Tho](#), [Hai Phong](#), [Ho Chi Minh City](#), [Da Nang](#) and [Hanoi](#) each document their clearing gateway, typical inland transit and local customs behavior, none of which is visible in a rate table. See [all Vietnam destinations we cover](#) for the other 9.



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Track your shipment

Enter your tracking number below

Powered by 17TRACK — supports 2,000+ carriers worldwide

```

'; return; } var pretty = res.num.substring(0,4) + ' ' + res.num.substring(4,10) + ' ' + res.num.substring(10); var who, target; if
(res.carrier) { who = 'The ' + esc(res.prefix) + ' prefix belongs to ' + esc(res.carrier.name) + ', so this box is theirs. Their
tracking page is the authoritative source for it.'; target = res.carrier; } else if (res.lessor) { who = 'The ' + esc(res.prefix) + '
prefix belongs to ' + esc(res.lessor) + ', a container leasing company rather than a shipping line. A leased box can sail with any
carrier, ' + 'so the number alone does not say who is moving it — use the universal lookup below, or check your bill of lading for the
line.'; target = FALLBACK; } else { who = 'We do not have ' + esc(res.prefix) + ' in our prefix list. The number itself is valid, ' +
'so the universal lookup below will route it to the right line.'; target = FALLBACK; } /* Always offer the universal lookups as well as
the carrier. A carrier site can be down, or simply not show a box that has not reached its network yet, and a dead end at that point
is what generates a support email. */ var alts = ''; for (var i = 0; i < FALLBACKS.length; i++) { var f = FALLBACKS[i]; if (target !==
FALLBACK && i === 0) { /* keep order, still show */ } if (f.url === target.url) { continue; } alts += '

```

- ' + esc(f.name) + ' — ' + esc(f.note) + '

```

'; } box.innerHTML = '

```

```

' + '

```

```

' + esc(pretty) + '

```

```

' + '

```

```

Check digit valid. ' + who + '

```

```

' + '

```

```

' + 'Track on ' + esc(target.name) + " " + '

```

```

' + '

```

```

' + (alts ? '

```

No result there? These free lookups cover the same box from different data sources:

```
' + alts + '
': ') + '
'; /* Copy the number so the carrier's own search box is one paste away. Deliberately not a deep link: these carrier sites are SPAs
whose query parameters change without notice, and a link that quietly stops prefilling looks like a broken tracker. */ var note =
box.querySelector('[data-copy]'); if (navigator.clipboard && navigator.clipboard.writeText) {
navigator.clipboard.writeText(res.num).then(function () { note.textContent = res.num + ' copied — paste it into the tracking box
that opens.'; }, function () { note.textContent = 'Copy ' + res.num + ' and paste it into the tracking box that opens.'; }); } else {
note.textContent = 'Copy ' + res.num + ' and paste it into the tracking box that opens.'; } } function wire(root) { var input =
root.querySelector('.cof-ot-input'); var btn = root.querySelector('.cof-ot-btn'); var box = root.querySelector('.cof-ot-out'); if (!input ||
!btn || !box) return; function go() { var num = normalize(input.value); if (!num) { input.focus(); return; } render(box,
analyze(num)); } btn.addEventListener('click', go); input.addEventListener('keydown', function (e) { if (e.key === 'Enter') {
e.preventDefault(); go(); } }); } function init() { var nodes = document.querySelectorAll('.cof-ot'); for (var i = 0; i < nodes.length;
i++) { wire(nodes[i]); } } if (document.readyState === 'loading') { document.addEventListener('DOMContentLoaded', init); } else
{ init(); } }());
```

Track your container to Vietnam

Ocean cargo is tracked by container number, not by a parcel barcode. Enter yours below: we check it is a valid number, identify the line that owns it, and take you straight to that line's tracking page for this ocean service.

Container number

A container number is four letters and seven digits, for example MSKU6090510. The last digit is a check digit, so a typo can be caught here rather than by an empty result on the carrier's site. We validate it in your browser — the number is not sent to us or to anyone else.

Additional Information

Scope, Exclusions and What to Check Before Booking

This is a port-to-port FCL rate for Nansha to Cai Mep. It covers ocean freight for one container and stops at the Cai Mep terminal gate. Everything either side of that — trucking to Nansha, customs at both ends, duty and tax for Vietnam, inland delivery — is quoted on request rather than bundled, which keeps the freight number comparable between carriers.

- Priced per box in USD for 20GP and 40HQ, not per KG or per CBM — utilization is yours to optimize
- Transit 4–9 days port to port on Nansha to Cai Mep, subject to the sailing booked
- Heavy and out-of-gauge cargo is core traffic here: machinery, steel, stone, building materials, project pieces
- Cut-off and free time attach to the specific sailing; demurrage begins the day free time expires
- Reefer, dangerous goods and out-of-gauge are priced case by case rather than from the card

- Clearance at destination is handled by General Department of Vietnam Customs (Tổng cục Hải quan); the consignee must be registered to import
- Destination conformity for Vietnam: Form E certificate of origin to claim ACFTA duty relief; MIC/Circular 04 type approval for radio equipment; energy-efficiency labeling for appliances

The most expensive mistake on a Nansha to Cai Mep booking is not the freight rate, it is free time. Demurrage and detention start counting at the Cai Mep terminal whether or not your consignee is ready, and on a bad week they can exceed the ocean freight itself. Confirm how many free days the booking carries before you fix a collection date.

Before you book, confirm two things with your consignee: that they are registered to import into Vietnam, and that whoever is named as importer of record accepts the duty liability. Those are dull questions and they are also the two that most often surface only after the cargo has already sailed.

Where these numbers come from

We publish these figures so you can budget, but the assessment that binds is the one [General Department of Vietnam Customs](#) makes on your declaration. Where a shipment is large enough that a percentage point matters, check their current tariff guidance rather than ours.

Classification drives everything downstream: the same carton can attract very different duty depending on the heading it lands in, and the structure those headings come from is [the World Customs Organization Harmonized System](#). If your product sits near a boundary between two headings, resolve it before shipping rather than at the border.

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.

If this is your first shipment into Vietnam, the [Vietnam Country Commercial Guide](#) covers the practical import environment in more depth than a rate page reasonably can, and it is written by a party with no stake in your booking.

China to Vietnam — Shipping Reference Data

Main sea gateways	Hai Phong, Cat Lai (Ho Chi Minh City), Cai Mep-Thi Vai
Destination customs authority	General Department of Vietnam Customs (Tổng cục Hải quan)
De-minimis / duty-free threshold	VND 1,000,000 (roughly USD 40) on express parcels
Import tax & duty regime	VAT 8–10%; duty 0–35%, with 0% available on most tariff lines under ACFTA/RCEP with a valid Form E
Local currency	VND
Typical clearance / dwell time	2–5 days
Peak / busy season	Sep–Nov
Conformity & certification	Form E certificate of origin to claim ACFTA duty relief; MIC/Circular 04 type approval for radio equipment; energy-efficiency labeling for appliances

Thresholds and duty bands are buyer-planning references, not formal customs rulings — confirm the exact HS-code rate for your goods before shipping.

Free 3D Loading Tools for This Sea Route

This page covers a Sea freight service from China to Vietnam. Use the matching tool below to plan your cargo before requesting a quote.



3D Container Loading Planner

Maximize every CBM on this route: load your carton list into the 3D container planner, check space and payload utilization, and download the loading plan for your forwarder.

[Open Container Planner →](#)

Vietnam Sea Freight Checklist

- Ask whether the quote includes destination port charges in Vietnam or only ocean freight.
- Check pallet vs floor-loading: floor loading typically fits 8-12% more cartons per container.
- Reserve loading space 5-7 days before the sailing cut-off for this route during peak season.
- Confirm whether your Vietnam rate is per CBM or per container before comparing quotes.

Frequently Asked Questions

How long does Sea FCL Port-to-Port from China to Vietnam take?

Sea freight on this route runs about 25–45 calendar days door-to-door, plus roughly 2–5 days of clearance/dwell once it reaches the gateway. All times include customs clearance under DDP terms.

What duties and taxes apply when importing into Vietnam?

Clearance is handled by General Department of Vietnam Customs (Tổng cục Hải quan). The regime is: VAT 8–10%; duty 0–35%, with 0% available on most tariff lines under ACFTA/RCEP with a valid Form E, with a de-minimis position of VND 1,000,000 (roughly USD 40) on express parcels. Under DDP these are pre-paid, so nothing is collected on arrival.

Can you ship special cargo (batteries, branded goods) to Vietnam?

Yes — battery goods by sea follow UN3480/UN3481 rules with an MSDS; we prepare the dangerous-goods paperwork as part of DDP into Hai Phong, Cat Lai (Ho Chi Minh City), Cai Mep–Thi Vai. Surcharges apply.

In what currency is this route priced and paid?

Freight is quoted and invoiced in USD; the destination-side currency is VND. Payment is typically due before departure, and DDP means you settle the full landed cost once.

When does capacity tighten on the China–Vietnam lane?

Space and rates tighten around Sep–Nov, plus the China-side windows of Chinese New Year (Jan/Feb) and Golden Week (early Oct). Book 1–2 weeks earlier in these periods.

How is the shipping cost on this route calculated?

We compare actual gross weight against volumetric weight ($L \times W \times H \div 6000$) and charge the greater, rounded up to the next kilogram, then apply the per-KG rate shown in the table above.

Inland Delivery Coverage — Vietnam

We deliver beyond the arrival gateway. Each city below has its own destination guide covering the gateway it clears through, typical inland transit time and the local customs picture.

Note — these are reference guides, not quotes. The city pages describe routing, gateways and clearance for each destination. They do not carry rate tables. For pricing to any city listed here, use the rate table on this page or ask us for a quote.

- [Cai Mep SGN air / Cai Mep sea inland same day](#) Guide only — no rates
- [Qui Nhon UIH air / Qui Nhon sea inland +1 day](#) Guide only — no rates
- [Ho Chi Minh City SGN air / Cat Lai sea inland same day](#) Guide only — no rates
- [Hanoi HAN air / Hai Phong sea inland +1 day](#) Guide only — no rates
- [Hai Phong HAN air / Hai Phong sea inland same day](#) Guide only — no rates
- [Da Nang DAD air / Da Nang sea inland same day](#) Guide only — no rates
- [Binh Duong SGN air / Cat Lai sea inland same day](#) Guide only — no rates
- [Dong Nai SGN air / Cai Mep sea inland same day](#) Guide only — no rates

- [Bac Ninh HAN air / Hai Phong sea inland +1 day](#) Guide only — no rates
- [Bac Giang HAN air / Hai Phong sea inland +1 day](#) Guide only — no rates
- [Can Tho SGN air / Cat Lai sea inland +1 day](#) Guide only — no rates
- [Nha Trang CXR air / Cam Ranh sea inland +1 day](#) Guide only — no rates

[All Vietnam destination guides →](#)

Shipping Vietnam cargo by industry

This rate is for the lane. What decides whether the cargo arrives intact is the commodity — how it prices, how it must be packed and loaded, and which compliance step holds it at the border. These guides cover that per industry.

- [Artificial Plants Consumer Goods & Gifts](#)
- [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](#)

[All 139 industry guides →](#)

Shipping a Container from Nansha to Cai Mep: Cost & Transit

Contact Us

Ready to ship? Our team responds within one business day. We also handle sourcing and purchasing.

Direct Contact

sales@chinaoceanfreight.com

Nansha → Cai Mep desk

Our Services

- ✈ Air freight — EXW, FCA, CIP or duty-paid
- 🚢 Sea freight FCL / LCL — FOB, CIF or duty-paid

- ☐ Rail freight — door-to-door or terminal handover
- China sourcing & purchasing
- Warehouse & consolidation

Customs clearance in Vietnam

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

[Vietnam clearance requirements →](#)

Destination guide

Gateways, inland legs and clearance context for Vietnam — background rather than pricing.

[Vietnam destination guide →](#)