

China to Mexico 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 Mexico

Sea Freight from China to Mexico 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

Mexico

Customs authority

the destination customs authority

Duty-free threshold

USD 50 for courier consignments

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 Mexico 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

Shanghai → Manzanillo Container Shipping

Shanghai to Manzanillo 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.

Port-to-port means exactly that: the rate ends at the Manzanillo terminal gate. Typical dwell at destination runs 4–10 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.

Rate by Container Type

- **40HQ** — USD 6,200 per container

We move sea freight cargo for Mexico through [Manzanillo](#), Lázaro Cárdenas and [Veracruz](#). The quoted rate covers the ocean leg to whichever of those the vessel calls at; the difference between them shows up in the trucking cost beyond the quay, which is why it pays to name the delivery city when you ask for a quote rather than just the country.

Inland coverage matters more than the port rate for most consignees. We deliver to [Altamira](#), [Puebla](#), [Veracruz](#), [Lazaro Cardenas](#) and [Leon](#) and beyond, and the guide for each sets out its arrival gateway, the inland days to add to the transit quoted here, and the documentation the local office actually asks for. You can browse [all Mexico destinations we cover](#), 13 destinations in total.



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Track your shipment

Enter your tracking number below

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

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'; 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 Mexico

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 Shanghai to Manzanillo. It covers ocean freight for one container and stops at the Manzanillo terminal gate. Everything either side of that — trucking to Shanghai, customs at both ends, duty and tax for Mexico, inland delivery — is quoted on request rather than bundled, which keeps the freight number comparable between carriers.

- Priced per box in USD for 40HQ, not per KG or per CBM — utilization is yours to optimize
- 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 Agencia Nacional de Aduanas de México (ANAM) and SAT; the consignee must be registered to import

- Destination conformity for Mexico: NOM standards compliance for regulated goods; the consignee must be listed on the Padrón de Importadores

The most expensive mistake on a Shanghai to Manzanillo booking is not the freight rate, it is free time. Demurrage and detention start counting at the Manzanillo 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 Mexico, 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

Duty and tax figures on this page are planning estimates. The binding assessment is made by Agencia Nacional de Aduanas de México (ANAM) and SAT 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 Mexico actually works — documentation norms, inspection behavior, the paperwork that tends to hold shipments — the [U.S. ITA guide to Mexico customs regulations](#) is a useful independent read alongside our own lane notes.

China to Mexico — Shipping Reference Data

Main sea gateways	Manzanillo, Lázaro Cárdenas, Veracruz
Destination customs authority	Agencia Nacional de Aduanas de México (ANAM) and SAT
De-minimis / duty-free threshold	USD 50 for courier consignments
Import tax & duty regime	IVA 16%; duty 0-35%, with additional temporary tariffs of up to 35% applied to textiles, footwear, steel and several other Chinese-origin categories
Local currency	MXN
Typical clearance / dwell time	4-10 days
Peak / busy season	Aug-Nov
Conformity & certification	NOM standards compliance for regulated goods; the consignee must be listed on the Padrón de Importadores

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 Mexico. Use the matching tool below to plan your cargo before requesting a quote.



3D Container Loading Planner

Wondering whether your cargo fills a 20GP or needs a 40HQ for this Mexico route? The 3D container planner simulates cartons, crates, pallets, and even mixed box sizes in one container.

[Open Container Planner →](#)

Mexico Sea Freight Checklist

- Confirm whether your Mexico rate is per CBM or per container before comparing quotes.
- Declare accurate gross weight — VGM misdeclaration delays vessels and triggers fines.
- Verify the receiver's customs import capability in Mexico for DDP terms before booking.
- Photograph the container number, seal, and loading process for insurance evidence.

Frequently Asked Questions

How long does Sea FCL Port-to-Port (Spot) from China to Mexico take?

Sea freight on this route runs about 25–45 calendar days door-to-door, plus roughly 4–10 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 Mexico?

Clearance is handled by Agencia Nacional de Aduanas de México (ANAM) and SAT. The regime is: IVA 16%; duty 0–35%, with additional temporary tariffs of up to 35% applied to textiles, footwear, steel and several other Chinese-origin categories, with a de-minimis position of USD 50 for courier consignments. Under DDP these are pre-paid, so nothing is collected on arrival.

What certification is needed to import into Mexico?

For regulated goods, plan for: NOM standards compliance for regulated goods; the consignee must be listed on the Padrón de Importadores. Missing conformity paperwork is the most common clearance hold with Agencia Nacional de Aduanas de México (ANAM) and SAT, so confirm requirements for your HS code before shipping.

When does capacity tighten on the China-Mexico lane?

Space and rates tighten around Aug–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.

In what currency is this route priced and paid?

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

What documents are required for customs clearance in Mexico?

Agencia Nacional de Aduanas de México (ANAM) and SAT typically requires a commercial invoice with HS codes, a packing list, the bill of lading/air waybill, a certificate of origin (may lower duty), and any product certification (NOM standards compliance for regulated goods; the consignee must be listed on the Padrón de Importadores). We file these under DDP.

Inland Delivery Coverage — Mexico

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.

- [Altamira TAM air / Altamira sea inland same day](#) Guide only — no rates
- [Lazaro Cardenas LZC air / Lazaro Cardenas sea inland +1 day](#) Guide only — no rates
- [Veracruz VER air / Veracruz sea inland same day](#) Guide only — no rates
- [Mexico City MEX air / Manzanillo sea inland +2 days](#) Guide only — no rates
- [Guadalajara GDL air / Manzanillo sea inland +1 day](#) Guide only — no rates
- [Monterrey MTY air / Altamira sea inland +2 days](#) Guide only — no rates

- [Puebla MEX air / Veracruz sea inland +1 day](#) Guide only — no rates
- [Queretaro QRO air / Manzanillo sea inland +2 days](#) Guide only — no rates
- [Tijuana TIJ air / Ensenada sea inland +1 day](#) Guide only — no rates
- [Merida MID air / Progreso sea inland +3 days](#) Guide only — no rates
- [Leon BJX air / Manzanillo sea inland +2 days](#) Guide only — no rates
- [Manzanillo GDL air / Manzanillo sea inland same day](#) Guide only — no rates

[All Mexico destination guides →](#)

Shipping Mexico 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.

- [Personal Protective Equipment Fire, Safety & Traffic Products](#)
- [Beauty Equipment Beauty, Personal Care & Wellness](#)
- [Inflatable Products Toys, Sports, Outdoor & Leisure](#)
- [Artificial Flowers Consumer Goods & Gifts](#)
- [Retail Products E-commerce & Retail Channels](#)
- [Sheet Metal Metal Products & Industrial Components](#)
- [Storage Tanks Metal Products & Industrial Components](#)
- [Electric Motors General Machinery & Industrial Equipment](#)
- [Agricultural Drones Agriculture & Livestock Equipment](#)
- [Wire & Cable New Energy, Power & Electrical](#)
- [Automotive Lighting Automotive & Vehicles](#)
- [Flooring Building Materials & Construction Products](#)

[All 139 industry guides →](#)

Shipping a Container from Shanghai to Manzanillo: 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

Shanghai → Manzanillo 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 Mexico

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

[Mexico clearance requirements →](#)

Destination guide

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

[Mexico destination guide →](#)