



**Britannia**  
Movers

**China**

ALL THE RIGHT MOVES

# Importing Goods to China



## Importing Personal Effects

All shipments of appliances, furniture, bedding and other items are dutiable. Electrical items must be itemized with make, model and serial number. Video tapes/CDs will be held for additional scrutiny. The shipper must obtain a Chinese Residency card on arrival and then apply for an import permit for the effects. The shipment must arrive within 6 months of issue of permit. Various documentation is required for clearance, including a Baggage Declaration Form from customs, obtained at time of personal arrival. There are different requirements for returning Chinese Citizens, and News Agency personnel. Your local Britannia Member will provide you with further details on customs regulations and requirements.

If you're importing your belongings by shared load (groupage), all consignments will be bar coded before they are loaded into the shipping container. This will ensure that no items are left at origin and will allow Britannia to check the status of your goods in transit.

## Transit Times

Sole use containers take an average of 7 – 8 weeks. Crated consignments may take longer on average, between 8 and 10 weeks.

*\* Any transit times provided should be considered only as a guide and cannot be guaranteed. Shipping can be subject to delays which are beyond our control.*



## Documentation

Britannia will assist you to complete the customs formalities. To help us with this we will need a copy of your passport (and visa if applicable).

Our team members will supply the required documentation to you on arrival. To avoid additional charges, it is essential that documentation is completed and returned promptly.

## Prohibitions and Restrictions

The following items are prohibited or restricted and we strongly advise you not to include them in your consignment:

- Firearms, ammunition & weapons
- Inflammable goods & substances
- Plants, plant material & animal products
- Foodstuffs, perishables or otherwise
- Alcohol, tobacco & narcotics
- Dangerous goods
- Objectionable, indecent and offensive material



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[www.britannia-movers.co.uk](http://www.britannia-movers.co.uk)



# Welcome to Britannia in China

## Britannia in China

Britannia can offer you a door-to-door service to China and can either ship your effects by sole use container, or for smaller shipments in a wooden crate (LCL). In addition, we can offer a door-to-door airfreight service to most major destinations in China. Our agents in Shanghai will arrange customs clearance, deliver and unpack the effects, including removal of debris on day of delivery.

## Storage

Should you require storage prior to delivery this can be arranged. You should expect to pay a one-off storage handling fee plus a monthly storage charge. Please note that these charges are payable locally.

It is vitally important that you ensure that your marine insurance policy is extended for the period of the storage.

## Motor Vehicles

It is possible to import motor vehicles into China but there are a few restrictions you need to be aware of. Only cars suited for driving on the right-hand side, i.e. where the driver seat is on the left, are legal to drive on China's roads. To drive in China, you need to have a Chinese license which can only be obtained from the police.

## Additional Services

Britannia can provide a range of additional moving services when moving to China. We are authorised to provide comprehensive insurance, arrange international storage, help you with relocating your family pets, and can also recommend a convenient way to transfer your money. For further information about Britannia's partner companies please scan this QR code.



# Your Moving Guide Checklist

## Three Months Before

- Arrange for a pre-move survey with Britannia
- Have a clear idea what you would like to take with you
- Arrange for a quote for the transportation of your family pet

## Six Weeks Before

- Book move date and agree moving plan
- Make a list of any items to be moved which will need particular care
- Book pet transport carrier and confirm logistics
- Advise of new school addresses so that education records can be passed on quickly
- Doctor – de-register. If undergoing hospital treatment, notify a new doctor as soon as possible

## Four Weeks Before

- Advise schools/nurseries of movement and obtain records
- Cancel memberships including gym, library etc
- Arrange financial affairs: foreign exchange, pension transfers and bank accounts

## Three Weeks Before

- Confirm childcare arrangements for moving day
- Plan the best way to look after pets on moving day and confirm itinerary for transportation
- Clear out unwanted belongings
- Start using up food from the freezer

## Two Weeks Before

- Contact service providers to arrange final accounts and meter readings
- Telecoms/digital/cable TV provider
- Electricity supplier
- Gas/Oil supplier
- Water Rates
- Local Council Taxes
- Credit card/store card or credit card protection companies
- TV Licence
- Notify all hire purchase/lease/standing orders or loans companies

## Notify plans of movement:

- Dentist
- Optician
- Amend insurance cover on buildings, household contents, motor, life etc
- National Insurance
- Child Benefit
- Motor vehicle registration
- Driving Licence (DVLA)
- Pension company
- Redirection of mail via the Post Office (visit your local Post Office for details)
- Send out change of address cards to friends, relatives, clubs, and organisations
- Organise the disconnection and reconnection of domestic appliances: washing machine, cooker, dishwasher

## Two Days Before

- Defrost the fridge and freezer
- Cancel any regular deliveries (milk / newspapers)

## The Day Before

- Check drawers and trunks/chests for any fragile items
- Take down curtains and blinds
- Put together a pile of 'do not remove' essentials: passports, tickets, itineraries, coats, handbags, snacks, cleaning materials
- Pack small valuables separately and leave with essentials pile e.g. jewellery, watches, money, bonds, coins, stamps etc
- Separate your airfreight consignment from your sea freight if applicable

## The Big Day

- Confirm service meter readings and keep a spare copy of readings
- Switch off power and water supplies (if necessary)
- Lock all windows and doors
- Drop keys off with estate agent
- Confirm you have provided all required documentation for your sea freight/airfreight consignment

