

# COUNTRY INFORMATION SHEET: CHINA



## Why Select the China Market?

- China's 1.41 billion people make 18.3% of world population. They purchased £20.7 billion of British goods during 2018, which was an increase of 25% compared to the previous year.
- 800 million people in China (or 20% of the world's internet users compared to the UK's 2%) have internet access.
- Gross domestic product (GDP) growth dropped to 6.6% in 2018, continuing a trend of slightly slower growth. Despite it being the lowest for 20 years, it compares favourably with developed markets. GDP per person in 2016 was US\$16,700 (purchasing power parity basis, which measures comparative spending power).

## Summary

The People's Republic of China is a republic in the Far East.

**Capital:** Beijing

### Principal Ports

Dalian, Fuzhou, Guangzhou, Haikou, Huangpu, Lianyungang, Nanjing, Nantong, Ningbo, Qingdao, Qinhuangdao, Shanghai, Shantou, Tianjin, Xiamen, Xingang, Yantai, Zhanjiang

### Population

1.41 billion

### International Country Code

CN

### Language(s)

Mandarin, Cantonese, Min, Wu

## Main Industries

World leader in gross value of industrial output; mining and ore processing, iron, steel, aluminium, and other metals, coal; machine building; armaments; textiles and apparel; petroleum; cement; chemicals; fertilisers; consumer products, including footwear, toys, and electronics; food processing; transportation equipment, including automobiles, rail cars and locomotives, ships, and aircraft; telecommunications equipment, commercial space launch vehicles and satellites.

## Main Products Exported

Machinery, electrical products, data processing equipment, apparel, textiles, radio telephone handsets, integrated circuits

For more in-country support and advice

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British Chamber of Commerce in China  
中国英国商会

## DOCUMENTATION GUIDE

### CERTIFICATE OF ORIGIN

Certificates of Origin (COs) are no longer mandatory for EU shipments into China, but a statement of origin must be clear on the invoice.

A CO may still be specifically requested in the contract or under the terms of a letter of credit.

### COMMERCIAL INVOICE

Invoices are to be issued in one original and one copy, each bearing an original signature. Invoices must include a full and accurate description of goods; first six digits of the commodity code (HS code); transport details; full packing information including weights and dimensions; value and currency of the supply including separate indication of additional costs such as freight and insurance; the shipping term (the Incoterms® 2010 rule); country of origin; method of payment and the full addresses of all parties concerned. It is advisable to ensure invoices for shipments to China quote the Chinese Consignee's Customs Registration (CR) number.

Note: The correct designation of the country as stated at the top of the page should always be used on commercial invoices and other documents.

The Chinese authorities have stated that all supporting documentation must be legalised by the Chinese Embassy in the country of export and certified by either a Chamber of Commerce (or by a notary, depending on the nature of the particular documents). This requirement appears to vary depending on the country of origin so seek clarification from the customer in China before obtaining legalisation of documents.

### OTHER DOCUMENTS

A packing list is required for customs clearance. It should be prepared in Chinese or English and needs to contain all relevant details relating to the shipment including marks, weights and dimensions, and content details.