



Christmas Closures 2023/24

Please see below S.A.L.'s Christmas Closures for 2023/24. Please send all queries to cs@salglobal.au & operations@salglobal.au to ensure emails are answered in a timely manner.

Friday 22nd Dec - Closing at 12pm

Monday 25th Dec - Closed

Tuesday 26th Dec - Closed

Friday 29th - Closing at 12pm

Monday 1st Jan - Closed

Chinese New Year

Chinese New Year for 2024 is set to begin on the 10th of February. Given the existing space constraints, we kindly request that all new bookings be submitted to our team before the Christmas/New Year period to secure space as early as possible.



Biosecurity Updates - Christmas 2023/24

The Department of Agriculture, Fisheries, and Forestry has notified about limited staff availability during the Christmas period for conducting Biosecurity inspections and releases. Delays in processing booking requests for inspections and fumigations (such as tailgates, CCV, BMSB, etc.) are already evident across all states. These delays may potentially affect the release of cargo over the Christmas period. Our team will strive to provide updates on cargo undergoing inspections whenever possible.

China Rate Restoration

In January, we will see a surge in freight rates by approximately USD 300 per TEU. This increase is attributed to the ongoing Industrial Action, which has heightened demand due to increased cancellations and space constraints preceding the Christmas and New Year period, along with the buildup to Chinese New Year.

Shipping Line Schedule and Reliability

We're currently facing a surge in cancellations preceding the Christmas season, intensifying the demand for available space for January departures. Transit times are notably fluctuating, significantly prolonged by the DP World Industrial Strikes. Many vessels are adjusting their rotations and terminals to evade extended periods of waiting outside ports, which could last up to 2 weeks. Over the next fortnight, projections show the below delays and backlog.

Sydney: Delays approx 9 days, max 19. Backlog of 14,049 containers.

Melbourne: Delays approx 10 days, max 17. Backlog of 12,188 containers.

Fremantle: Delays approx 10 days, max 18. Backlog of 5,785 containers

Brisbane: Delays approx 8 days, max 14. Backlog of 12,697 containers.

We anticipate that these delays will escalate into January due to the Christmas and New Year closures, potentially causing issues until February. Weekly email broadcasts are being sent out to keep our clients informed about the evolving situation.

Lithium Ion Batteries

New restrictions are being introduced concerning air shipment of Lithium-Ion Batteries starting in 2025.

[Click here](#) to read more.

Rail Bookings

As the holiday season approaches, there has been a notable increase in rail bookings, intensifying the demands on transport and equipment providers responsible for rail shipments. To ensure timely movement of any urgently needed rail services, we kindly request that you provide us with as much advance notice as possible. Delays of up to 5 days have been observed, highlighting the significance of early communication for expedited handling. Further compounding these challenges is the ongoing industrial action at DP World, contributing to heightened demands for container movement.

EU Emissions Trading Systems (ETS)

Europe is leading the charge in its commitment to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050, initiating changes starting next month. Maritime transport holds a pivotal role in the EU economy, yet it stands as a substantial and expanding source of greenhouse gas emissions. Beginning January 1, 2024, all shipments to and from the EU will bear an additional EU Emission Trading System (ETS) surcharge. The ETS will undergo monthly reviews, and this adjustment will be reflected in both quotes and invoices.



Merry Christmas

May your Christmas be merry
and bright, and your New Year
be filled with delight

From the team at
S.A.L Global Logistics

