Cape Verde is a member of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS).

All 15 ECOWAS countries are part of the ECOWAS Free Trade Area and all, but Cape Verde, are in the process of implementing the ECOWAS Common External Tariff (CET). In 2017 Mauritania and ECOWAS signed an Association Agreement for the re-admission of Mauritania to the REC by 2019; Morocco’s application to join ECOWAS has been granted ‘in principle’, but is awaiting final approval and Tunisia has recently obtained ECOWAS observer status.

Intra-Africa trade and tariff profile

1% of Cape Verde's total exports are intra-Africa

- Preserved fish (79%)
- Leather (1%)

4% of Cape Verde's total imports are intra-Africa

- Meat flours/pellets (20%)
- Saddles-harnesses (0%)
- Petroleum Oils (40%)
- Automated equipment (7%)
- Cigars/Cigarettes (7%)
- Petroleum gas (6%)

Destination markets:
- Cameroon 9%
- Ghana 1%
- Rest of Africa 0%
- Côte d'Ivoire 11%
- Angola 79%

Source markets:
- Côte d'Ivoire 19%
- Morocco 19%
- Senegal 28%
- Togo 16%
- Egypt 5%
- Ghana 3%
- Rest of Africa 10%
The ECOWAS Trade Liberalisation Scheme (ETLS) allows for the duty-free, quota-free access of unprocessed, traditional handicraft and industrial products of ECOWAS origin traded by approved ECOWAS producers. Cape Verde prescribes to the ETLS; all qualifying goods sourced from approved producers are imported into Cape Verde duty-free. Goods imported from the rest of Africa are levied MFN applied duty since Cape Verde different to the ECOWAS CET since the country is not implementing the ECOWAS CET as yet. The ECOWAS CET has five tariff bands - 0%, 5%, 10%, 20% and 35%.

**High average applied duties include**
- Seats (50%)
- Furniture (50%)
- Fur (50%)
- Chocolate (50%)

**Duty free imports include**
- Coconuts; Brazil nuts; Cashew nuts
- Animal products n.e.s
- Citrus fruits
- Vegetable products n.e.s

50% ad valorem import duties
- Chocolate
- Mineral Water
- Artificial Fur
- Carpets
- Wigs, Human & synthetic Hair
- Furniture

40% ad valorem import duties
- Clothing & Textiles
- Motor vehicles
- Glassware
- Imitation Jewelry
- Video Games
- Festive/ carnival/ entertainment items

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Imports from Africa excluding ECOWAS countries</th>
<th>2017 (US$ 000)</th>
<th>%share</th>
<th>Simple average (MFN%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>HS code</strong></td>
<td><strong>All products</strong></td>
<td><strong>9 959</strong></td>
<td><strong>15%</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2710</td>
<td>Petroleum</td>
<td>1 619</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3302</td>
<td>Mixtures of odoriferous substances</td>
<td>1 131</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2711</td>
<td>Petroleum gas</td>
<td>731</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1701</td>
<td>Cane or beet sugar</td>
<td>690</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8704</td>
<td>Motor vehicles for the transport of goods</td>
<td>656</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9619</td>
<td>Sanitary towels (pads) and tampons</td>
<td>564</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0901</td>
<td>Coffee</td>
<td>470</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4407</td>
<td>Wood sawn or chipped lengthwise</td>
<td>470</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2505</td>
<td>Natural sands of all kinds</td>
<td>450</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7214</td>
<td>Bars and rods, of iron or non-alloy steel</td>
<td>415</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8418</td>
<td>Refrigerators, freezers</td>
<td>192</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Other</strong></td>
<td><strong>2 571</strong></td>
<td><strong>26%</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: UN ITC TradeMap; WTO Tariff Database

10% of Cape Verdes’s intra-Africa imports are from countries outside ECOWAS.

Of the top 10 import products only mixtures of odiferous substances are duty-free.

Average MFN rate applied is 15% on goods imported.

Highest average MFN tariff applied is 50% on value of goods imported.