



# HONG KONG ORIENTATION GUIDE

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Accelerating success.





# Contents



Introduction .....	3
Fact File .....	5
Business & Finance .....	15
Health.....	17
Communications .....	18
Transportation .....	19
Shopping.....	23
Entertainment .....	27
Sports & Recreation.....	29
Law & Order .....	31



# Introduction



香  
港

Derived from two Chinese characters, **Heung** and **Gong**, Hong Kong's English name is directly translated as "Fragrant Harbour". Some historians suggest the name was inspired by the location's export of fragrant incense.

Today, however, Hong Kong, cannot be summed up in two words. The city is a wonderful collection of unique characteristics: Hong Kong is one of the busiest international business centres in the world; it operates one of the world's largest international airports, has the world's busiest container port, generates the largest horseracing betting turnover, and its population enjoys the highest life expectancy. Hong Kong is a colourful mix of nationalities, languages and customs that have turned a trading village into a dynamic, exciting international city. To experience more about Hong Kong, please visit, [www.discoverhongkong.com](http://www.discoverhongkong.com)



# History of Hong Kong

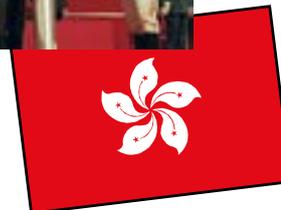


Southern China and Hong Kong's development in the early 19th century grew mainly through international trade relations when foreign nations lived in Canton and traded in tea, silk and spices. When the British introduced opium from India to the market, the drug quickly made traders wealthy and influential, while wreaking a devastating effect on the health of the local population. Fearing further escalation in public addiction to the drug, the Chinese Imperial Government tried to ban opium resulting in war with the British, commonly referred to as the Opium War of 1841. The Chinese army and navy were unable to defeat the British fleet and in 1842 peace was found in the signing of the Treaty of Nanking, granting Britain trading rights in Chinese ports and giving sovereignty of Hong Kong island to the British. The Chinese continued trading in Hong Kong, although relations remained hostile and war erupted again, resulting in 1860 with Britain gaining control of the Kowloon peninsula and Stonecutter's Island under the Convention of Peking. Wanting to consolidate its position of strength, Britain signed a 99-year lease in 1898 on land north of the Kowloon peninsula known as the New Territories. The entire area became the British Dependent Territory of Hong Kong, virtually self-governing. The colony was developed as a trading port and infrastructure benefited from the introduction of the Peak Tram, a new city tramway system and a railway to Canton. Thousands of refugees from China swarmed into Hong Kong during the first half of the century and

Hong Kong became a haven to those seeking relief from China's civil turbulence; although Hong Kong's stability was itself interrupted by four years of Japanese occupation during World War II.

After the war, Hong Kong's population increased from 600,000 to 1.8 million by 1947 with returning émigrés. By 1950 the population reached 2.2 million and since then it has continued to rise, now totaling around 6.9 million. Radical social programmes raised the standard of living far beyond that of other regional developing countries and the 1950's saw international trade flourish along with Hong Kong's development as a manufacturing and industrial centre. Hong Kong remains today one of the world's largest exporters although the financial service industries have been largely instrumental in the territory's growth since 1970. With China maintaining that all three land treaties giving control to the British were signed under duress and were therefore unjust, discussions

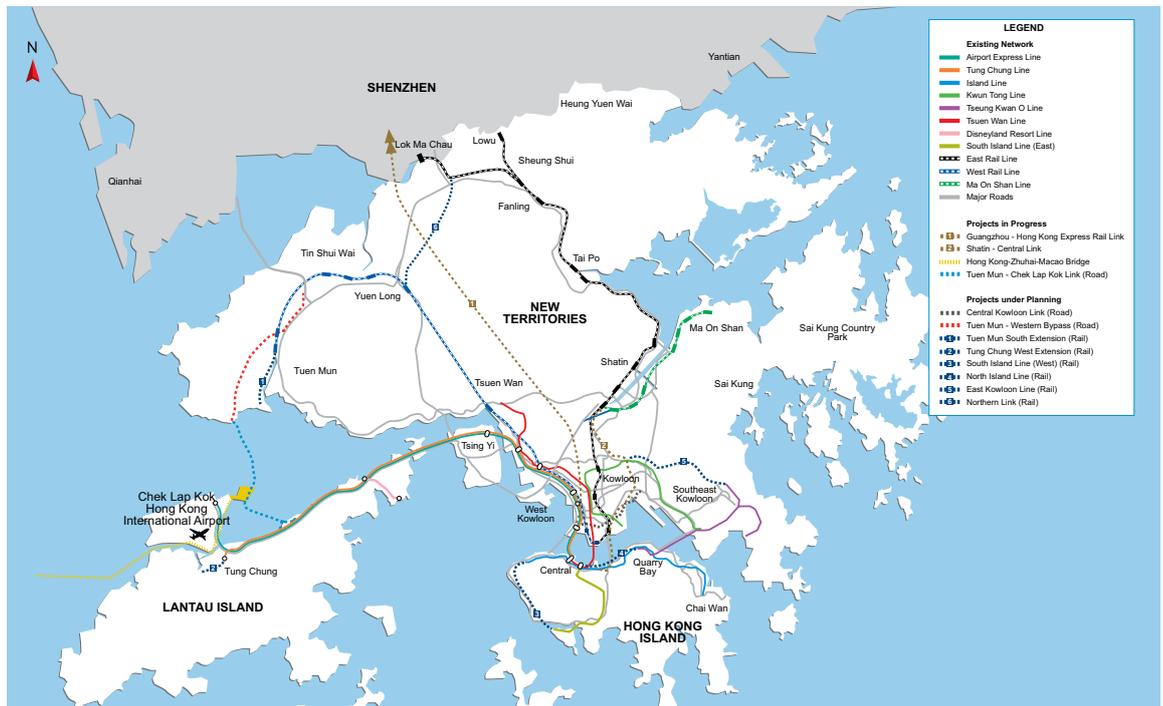
throughout the late 1970's and early 1980's led to the signing of the Sino-British Joint Declaration in 1984, agreeing that all Hong Kong territory would be returned to Chinese sovereignty on 1 July 1997, Deng Xiao Ping, then China's leader, promised the now famous "one country, two systems" political agenda. On 1 July 1997, Hong Kong became a Special



Administrative Region (SAR) within People's Republic of China with a high degree of autonomy. Its constitution, called the "Basic Law" was implemented to ensure that Hong Kong's territorial borders and immigration control remain separate from mainland China, that the Hong Kong and US Dollar peg will remain intact, and that the judicial system will continue largely unchanged for a further 50 years, until 2047. The border with China continues to be policed and visas are still required for Hong Kong residents wishing to visit China, and vice versa.



# Fact File



Of the 262 outlying islands, the largest, Lantau Island is home to the residential area, Discovery Bay, the International Airport and Hong Kong Disneyland. Most outlying islands remain uninhabited, although some such as Lamma, Cheung Chau and Peng Chau have seen the growth of small communities who commute to the city by ferry each day. For more details, please visit, [www.hkcitymap.com](http://www.hkcitymap.com).

## Hong Kong Island

**Central:** the financial and banking centre, government headquarters, transport hub, and exclusive shopping district.

**Wan Chai:** this vibrant district still offers an enticing nightlife, along with exceptional regional cuisine, the island's culture and arts centre and the exhibition centre.

**Causeway Bay:** Hong Kong Island's most popular shopping and fashion area which never seems to sleep.

**The Peak:** luxury residential area nestled amongst tranquil greenery and superb views overlooking the harbour from Victoria Peak.

**Mid-Levels:** a residential area with the convenience of corner shops, plenty of restaurants and easy access to Central by way of the Mid-Levels escalator.

**South Side:** the green and quiet side of the island features scenic beaches at Repulse Bay, Deep Water Bay, Big Wave Bay and Shek O, plus the market at Stanley.

# Fact File



## Kowloon

**Tsim Sha Tsui:** the apex of Kowloon is Hong Kong's tourist hub with affordable shopping, dining, hotels and entertainment lining the peninsula along Nathan Road.

**Mong Kok:** a fascinating area for newcomers to Hong Kong, especially for those who like to shop.

## New Territories

A haven for those wishing to retreat from the hustle and bustle of the City, the New Territories provides spectacular hiking trails, rural villages and beaches.

## Outlying Islands

A wide variety of outlying islands are accessible by ferry, including the large island of Lantau, home to the largest seated bronze buddha in Asia; Lamma island, which is famous for its seafood; Cheung Chau and Peng Chau are both charming and picturesque.



## CLIMATE

Hong Kong is just below the Tropic of Cancer and enjoys a largely sub-tropical climate. It also enjoys a temperate climate for much of the year and experiences four distinct seasons. The four seasons are in line with the Northern Hemisphere.

### Winter

**Late Nov to Feb, 10C (57F) to 20C (68F)**

Pleasant breezes, sunshine and comfortable temperatures. January and February are often cloudy and can be chilly with dry northerly winds. Nights can drop to around 10 although it often feels much colder as almost no buildings possess central heating.

### Spring

**March to Mid-May, 18C (64F) to 27C (80F)**

The Spring season is short and characterised by cloudy skies, periods of rain and is sometimes very foggy and humid.

### Summer

**May to Mid Sept, 27C (79F) to 33C (91 F)**

The summer months are hot and humid. There are occasional thunderstorms. Afternoon temperatures typically hover around 30C and remain around 26C at night with high humidity. Typhoons and black rainstorm warnings are not uncommon.

### Autumn

**Late Sept to early Nov, 18C (64F) to 28C (82F)**

Winds become more easterly in direction, clouds disperse and humidity decreases rapidly.

### Typhoon Signals

**T1** - If a typhoon is within 800km of Hong Kong.

**T3** - Strong wind is expected or blowing generally in Hong Kong near sea level, with a sustained speed of 41-62 km/h (kilometres per hour), and gusts which may exceed 110 km/h, and the wind condition is expected to persist. Winds are normally expected to become generally stronger in Hong Kong within 12 hours after the issue of this signal. Winds over offshore waters and on high ground may reach gale force.

# Fact File



**T8** - If a typhoon is either imminent or has already reached Hong Kong. In the event of a category 8 typhoon warning, all businesses and services close down. Sustained gale or storm force wind speeds will exceed 63km/h with gusts up to 180 km/h.

**T9** - Indicates either a direct hit or a very strong typhoon is in progress. T9 signals are rare.

**T10** - Hurricane force winds are in effect, sustained wind speeds of 118 km/h and gusts may exceed 220 km/h.

## Rainstorm Warnings

There are three Rainstorm Warnings to denote especially strong or hazardous rain.

**Amber** - heavy rain of 30 mm an hour or above is falling and is expected to continue.

**Red** - heavy rain of 50 mm an hour is falling and expected to continue.

**Black** - heavy rain of 70 mm or more is falling most likely resulting in flooding.

## CITY HOLIDAYS

GENERAL HOLIDAYS FOR 2018			
Every Sunday			Sunday
The first day of January	1 January		Monday
Lunar New Year's Day	16 February		Friday
The second day of Lunar New Year	17 February		Saturday
The fourth day of Lunar New Year	19 February		Monday
Good Friday	30 March		Friday
The day following Good Friday	31 March		Saturday
Easter Monday	2 April		Monday
Ching Ming Festival	5 April		Thursday
Labour Day	1 May		Tuesday
The Birthday of the Buddha	22 May		Tuesday
Tuen Ng Festival	18 June		Monday
The day following Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Establishment Day	2 July		Monday
The day following the Chinese Mid-Autumn Festival	25 September		Tuesday
National Day	1 October		Monday
Chung Yeung Festival	17 October		Wednesday
Christmas Day	25 December		Tuesday
The first weekday after Christmas Day	26 December		Wednesday

# Fact File



## LANGUAGE

Hong Kong's official language is Cantonese, the Chinese dialect of the Guangdong province.

The overall English level is good in Hong Kong and is spoken in the main tourist and business areas, hotels and restaurants. Most signage, including the major means of transportation, main stream shopping centres and dining areas are bilingual.

Mandarin (Putonghua) is well established as the third language and is being increasingly used. Corporate business meetings are usually conducted in English, however Mandarin is still essential when conducting business in China.

## VOLTAGE REQUIREMENTS

The local voltage in Hong Kong is 220V and 50Hz AC. The plug / socket system is a 3-rectangular-pin type. Most electronic goods sold in Hong Kong have a universal switch allowing you to adjust the voltage to your requirements. Inexpensive plug adapters are widely available in supermarkets.

## HOUSING

**Typical Apartments:** Typical Hong Kong apartments are one level with a combined living-dining room, kitchen, maid's room and washroom, utility or laundry area, two to four bedrooms, and one to three bathrooms. Older blocks sometimes have balconies. In some buildings the top floor apartment may have exclusive use of the roof area. Kitchen appliances

are usually, but not always, provided. The provision of stovetops, refrigerators and washing machines is fairly standard. Some apartments are equipped with ovens but it is uncommon to find dishwashers. Air-conditioning is essential in Hong Kong; modern buildings, in almost all cases, are equipped with central or individual systems. Take note to check all rooms when inspecting potential homes.

Modern buildings often provide communal recreational facilities which may include a playground, swimming pool, tennis courts and squash courts.

**Townhouses:** Hong Kong townhouses are often four or five levels due to land space restrictions, and size varies from 2,000 square feet to over 5,000 square feet. They are usually on small developments of up to 30 houses, with communal facilities such as a swimming pool, tennis courts or clubhouse. In some cases, a small private garden or a terrace is an added feature.

**Houses:** A private detached home is a real luxury in Hong Kong, and comes at a luxury price. There are a limited number of homes available at the top end of the market or in outlying areas, which are in high demand.

Popular residential areas: Midlevels, The Peak, Shouson Hill, Deep Water Bay, Repulse Bay, Chung Hom Kok, Stanley, TaiTam, Happy Valley, Jardine's Lookout, Tai Hang, Pokfulam, Sai Kung, Clearwater Bay and Discovery Bay.

# Fact File

## CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE

### The American Chamber of Commerce

1904 Bank of America Tower  
12 Harcourt Road Central  
For enquiries, please call 2530 6900 or  
visit [www.amcham.org.hk](http://www.amcham.org.hk)

### The Australian Chamber of Commerce

Room 301-301, 3/F, Lucky Building  
39 Wellington Street Central  
For enquiries, please call 2522 5054 or  
visit [www.austcham.com.hk](http://www.austcham.com.hk)

### The British Chamber of Commerce

Room 1201, Emperor Group Centre  
288 Hennessy Road, Wanchai  
For enquiries, please call 2824 2211 or  
visit [www.britcham.com](http://www.britcham.com)

### The Canadian Chamber of Commerce

Membership Department  
Unit 10B & C, China Overseas Building  
139 Hennessy Road  
Wan Chai, Hong Kong  
Ph: +852-2110-8700  
visit [www.cancham.org/](http://www.cancham.org/)

### Dutch Chamber of Commerce

Unit 2402 B, 24/F Great Eagle Centre  
23 Harbour Road, Wanchai  
For enquiries, please call 2815 2801 or  
fax: 2815 2173.  
visit [www.dutchchamber.hk](http://www.dutchchamber.hk)

### German Chamber of Commerce

Room 3601, Tower One, Lippo Centre  
89 Queensway, Hong Kong  
For enquiries, please call 2526 5481 or  
visit [www.hongkong.ahk.de](http://www.hongkong.ahk.de)



## SCHOOLS

It is advisable to have a close look at the schools that exist in Hong Kong to determine which schools cater to your specific nationality, religious aspirations or cultural background. There are more than 40 International Schools, 20 of which belong to the English Schools Foundation (ESF). Those that are not part of the ESF include, but are not limited to, the Australian, British, Canadian, French, German/Swiss, Japanese, Korean, Singaporean and U.S. system. Information pertaining to these schools may be found on their websites.

Many International schools have waiting lists to gain admission. Making early contact may prove helpful in securing a place. Ideally, it would be best to visit the school you wish to apply to, preferably with your child, while it is in session. In doing so, you will get a feel for the school by its appearance, the behavior of its students and by the attitude of the teachers and administrative staff.

### American International School Hong Kong 125 Waterloo Road, Kowloon Tong

Established in 1986 to serve families from Hong Kong's local and expatriate communities. It is a private, fully accredited co-educational school for students from Early Childhood through to Grade 12.  
For enquiries, please call 2336 3812 or  
visit <http://www.ais.edu.hk/>

# Fact File

## **Australian International School Hong Kong** **3A, Norfolk Road, Kowloon Tong**

Established in 1995 to provide an education for children of Australians living in Hong Kong and those seeking an Australian education. It is split into:

- Primary (Infant and Upper Primary)
- Secondary

For enquiries, please call 2304 6078 or visit [www.aishk.edu.hk](http://www.aishk.edu.hk)

## **Canadian International School of Hong Kong** **36 Nam Long Shan Road, Aberdeen**

Established in 1991 by the Canadian community at the request of the Hong Kong Government it provides an international education from levels of primary, middle, and secondary school following the Canadian curriculum. For enquiries, please call 2525 7088 or visit [www.cdnis.edu.hk](http://www.cdnis.edu.hk)

## **English Schools Foundation (ESF)**

Established in 1967, it has 22 Schools - 5 kindergartens, 9 primary, 5 secondary, 2 private independent schools, and 1 special needs school. Admission to the school is based upon the area of residence. For enquiries, please call 2574 2351 or visit [www.esf.edu.hk](http://www.esf.edu.hk)

## **French International School**

- 165 Blue Pool Rd, Happy Valley, Hong Kong
- 34 Price Road, Jardine's Lookout, Hong Kong
- 1 Cheung Man Road, Chai Wan, Hong Kong
- 68 Gillies Avenue South, Hung Hom, Hong Kong (Closure planned for July 2018)
- 28 Tong Yin Street, Tseung Kwan O, Hong Kong (Opening in Aug 2018)

Is a private school in Hong Kong linked with the French Government Agency for French Teaching Abroad (A.E.F.E.) which was founded in 1964 providing kindergarten, primary and secondary classes (international stream and French stream). The two year International Baccalaureate Diploma Course is followed in the Sixth Form. For enquiries, please call 2577 6217 or visit [www.fis.edu.hk](http://www.fis.edu.hk)

## **German Swiss International School**

- 11 Guildford Road, The Peak
- 162 Pok Fu Lam Road, Pok Fu Lam
- 30 Oi Kwan Road, Wan Chai Campus

Established more than 30 years ago with the aim of delivering a unique bilingual and international educational experience. The school provides a progressive and supportive community, from kindergarten through to secondary, in two parallel streams - based on the British and German education systems. For enquiries, please call 2849 6216 or visit [www.gsis.edu.hk](http://www.gsis.edu.hk)

## **Hong Kong International School**

- Lower Primary, 23 South Bay Close, Repulse Bay, Hong Kong
- Upper Primary, 6 South Bay Close, Repulse Bay, Hong Kong
- Middle School, 700 Tai Tam Reservoir Road, Tai Tam, Hong Kong
- High School, 1 Red Hill Road, Tai Tam Hong Kong

Founded in 1966, offering an American-style curriculum with an international setting from primary to high school. HKIS thrives on its culturally diverse community with more than 40 nationalities represented among its 2,600 students, 480 faculty and staff occupy the two separate campuses of the Hong Kong International School. For enquiries, please call 2812 5000 or visit [www.hkis.edu.hk](http://www.hkis.edu.hk)

# Fact File



## **Hong Kong Academy**

### **33 Wai Man Road, Sai Kung, New Territories**

Opened in 2000, Hong Kong Academy is an inquiry-based, child-centred school for children from preschool (age 3) through to high school. The school follows the International Baccalaureate framework in the Primary Years, Middle Years and Diploma Programmes. HKA is a community school that brings together students, teachers and parents around a commitment to learning at all levels. In August 2013, Hong Kong Academy opened a world-class 20,000 sq m facility in Sai Kung.

## **Chinese International School**

### **1 Hau Yuen Path, Braemar Hill, Hong Kong**

Established in 1983, the Chinese International School offers an international curriculum taught in English and Putonghua. It admits children aged 4 – 18 and enjoys an outstanding reputation academically.

For enquiries, please call 2510 7288 or visit [www.cis.edu.hk](http://www.cis.edu.hk)

## **Kellett School**

- 7 Lam Hing Street, Kowloon Bay
- 2 Wah Lok Path, Wah Fu, Hong Kong

Founded more than 30 years ago, Kellett offers a quality British-style education to children aged 3 years and 8 months to 13 years old. Kellett is renowned for its high standards and is inspected regularly by the Office of Standards in Education (OFSTED), England. For enquiries, please call 2551 8234 or visit [www.kellettschool.com](http://www.kellettschool.com)

# Fact File



## RELIGION

Religion in Hong Kong is not as pronounced as in other Asian countries. Dominant religions include Buddhism and Taoism. Confucianism, a set of moral codes, has been absorbed into traditional Chinese values. Buddhist and Taoist deities are present in the form of about 600 Chinese temples throughout Hong Kong. Christian, Islamic, Hindu, Sikh and Jewish faiths are well established, and there are many Catholic and Protestant churches and places of worship throughout the territory.

The main Islamic mosque is on Nathan Road in Tsim Sha Tsui; the Hindu Temple is in Happy Valley; the Sikh Temple is in Wanchai; and the Ohel Leah Synagogue is along Robinson Road.

Religious services are listed every Saturday in the South China Morning Post Newspaper. Alternatively, check the “Church organizations” and “Religious organizations” listings in the Yellow Pages.

For details, please visit <http://www.yp.com.hk/home/en>

## GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS & BRANCHES

The Civil Service in Hong Kong is efficient and helpful. Queues in government offices are long and telephone help lines may need some patience, but ultimately, the service proves to be effective. There is English speaking staff on duty at all Government offices. For enquiries, please visit [www.info.gov.hk](http://www.info.gov.hk)

Airport Authority .....	2181 8888
Arts Development Council .....	2827 8786
Buildings Department.....	1823
Census & Statistics .....	2582 4807
Companies Registry .....	2867 2600
Consumer Council .....	2929 2222
Customs & Excise .....	2815 7711
Education Bureau.....	2891 0088
Environmental Protection .....	2838 3111
Fire Services .....	2723 8787
Food & Environment Hygiene.....	2868 0000
Department of Health.....	2961 8989
Highways .....	2926 4111
Home Affairs.....	2835 2500
Hospital Authority.....	2300 6555
Housing.....	2712 2712
Immigration.....	2824 6111
Independent Commission	
Against Corruption (ICAC).....	2526 6366
Inland Revenue / tax enquiries.....	187 8088
Labour .....	2717 1771
Legal Aid .....	2537 7677
Leisure & Culture .....	2414 5555
Marriage Registration & Record office .....	2867 2787
Police.....	2527 7177
Post Office (GPO).....	2921 2222
Radio Television HK.....	2272 0000
Social Welfare.....	2343 2255
Tourism Board .....	2807 6543
Water Supplies.....	2824 5000



# Fact File

## IMMIGRATION

Anyone entering Hong Kong must carry a recognised passport, with at least 6 months' validity remaining after the date of entry. By law, any visitor planning to stay in Hong Kong for more than 180 days must register for an Identity Card through the Immigration Department within 30 days of arriving.

For those who have decided to work in Hong Kong an Employment visa must be applied for from the Hong Kong Immigration Department before arrival. Dependent visa applications for family members should be submitted together with the employment visa application. The most efficient method is to make an appointment. Ring the automated booking service of the Registration of Persons Office on 2598 0888 and be ready to quote your passport number.

Visitors and residents of Hong Kong (with some exceptions, including consular staff and children under the age of 11) are required by law to carry a passport or Hong Kong ID card with them at all times. A fine may be levied if you do not carry it.

## DOMESTIC HELPER

Most expatriate families in Hong Kong employ a live-in domestic helper. The duties for a live-in helper over a six-day week include cleaning, washing, ironing, cooking and helping with the children.

Since you are responsible for your domestic helpers health care it is important that you ask them to undergo a pre-hire medical check-up.

The standard employment term in Hong Kong is two years. Employers are expected to pay the round-trip airfare from the home country, passport and visa fees, food, housing, and medical expenses. A health insurance policy paid by employers is required by law. The Immigration Department issues all necessary documents. You should pay a foreign domestic helper a salary that is no less than the Minimum Allowable Wage (MAW) announced by the Government and prevailing at the date of signing the employment contract for employing the foreign domestic helper. The MAW is

currently set at HK\$4,410 per month. Visit <http://www.immd.gov.hk/eng/forms/hk-visas/foreign-domestic-helpers.html> for more details.

In theory, domestic helpers are not supposed to work part-time in a second household, although many do - they advertise on notice boards at supermarkets and clubs.

If you want to employ a maid from their home country, you need to fill in ID407, ID407E, ID407F, ID934, ID934A, ID988A/B. For details, please visit <http://www.immd.gov.hk/eng/forms/hk-visas/foreign-domestic-helpers.html>

If you want to employ a maid who is currently in Hong Kong, you need to fill in ID407, ID407L, ID91, and ID(E)936. For details, please visit <http://www.immd.gov.hk/eng/forms/hk-visas/foreign-domestic-helpers.html>

## THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT

**2/F Immigration Tower, 7 Gloucester Road, Wanchai**

<http://www.immd.gov.hk>

General enquiries .....2824 6111

The Immigration Department's office hours are:

8.45 am - 4.30 pm ..... Monday - Friday

9.00 am - 11.30 am ..... Saturday

## LABOUR DEPARTMENT

**16/F Harbour Building, 38 Pier Road, Central**

<http://www.labour.gov.hk>

General enquiries .....2717 1771

## POSSIBLE AGENTS

You may wish to use the services of an agency to recruit a domestic helper - they will handle all the paperwork for you. You might wish to check out on Yellow Pages at <http://www.yp.com.hk>

# Business & Finance



## CURRENCY

The Hong Kong legal tender is the Hong Kong dollar (HK\$) with 100 cents in a dollar. The Hong Kong dollar is an internationally recognised currency, clearly separate from China's own currency.

Unlike most other economies where the currency is issued by the central government, three local banks are authorised to issue the Hong Kong bills – Standard Chartered Bank, the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited and the Bank of China.

Major notes (\$100, \$500 and \$1000) are issued in the same colour (red, brown and gold respectively) but with different designs. Lesser notes (\$10, \$20 and \$50) are issued in differing colours. \$1000 bills are a bit of a handicap in the wallet, not accepted in smaller outlets and only reluctantly accepted in some of the larger ones. A taxi driver would react with incredulity if confronted with one. You are better off carrying \$500 notes generally.

Coins issued by the government include the bronze coloured 10 cents, 20 cents and 50 cents; silver \$1, \$2 and \$5 and silver-and-bronze \$10 coin. The value of Hong Kong dollar has been pegged by the government at roughly HK\$7.8 to US\$1 with only minor variations over the last 20 years.

## BANKS

Hong Kong has been rated as the world's freest economy with currently 157 licensed banks, 24 restricted licence banks and 18 deposit-taking companies in business.

In addition, there are 66 local representative offices of foreign banks in Hong Kong.

(<http://www.hkma.gov.hk/eng/key-functions/banking-stability/banking-policy-and-supervision/three-tier-banking-system.shtml#restricted>).

Major banks operate from Monday to Friday from 9.00am to 4.30pm, Saturday from 9.00am to 12.30pm and are closed on Sunday and public holidays. Some banks and branches extend their business hours slightly, and it is important to note that some banking services stop half-an-hour before closing.

To open a bank account you will need to show your passport or Hong Kong Identification Card (commonly known as HKID) in person. For some types of accounts you will require an introduction from an existing account holder, or a minimum deposit and proof of address.

Automated teller machines (ATMs) can be found almost everywhere, and most international banks have machines that provide 24-hour cash withdrawal facilities for Visa and MasterCard holders. American Express cardholders can withdraw local currency and travellers' cheques at the Express Cash ATMs in Central and use Jetco ATMs (linked to Standard Chartered Bank) to withdraw throughout Hong Kong.

### **The Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited (HSBC)**

[www.hsbc.com.hk](http://www.hsbc.com.hk)

### **Standard Chartered Bank Hong Kong**

<http://www.standardchartered.com.hk/>

### **Citibank N.A. Hong Kong**

<http://www.citibank.com.hk>

# Business & Finance

## BUSINESS HOURS

Office hours are Monday to Friday from 9.00 am to 6.00 pm and Saturday mornings 9.00 am - 1.00 pm. Lunch hour is typically from 1.00 pm to 2.00 pm. Most of the governmental organisations have adopted a 5-day week initiative, however most shopping malls and shops are open 7 days a week until 10 pm.

## BUSINESS PRACTICES

Conducting business in Hong Kong is reasonably uncomplicated as Hong Kong's success is largely based on solid business foundations. The economic policy in Hong Kong of free trade and the absence of strict government controls lends itself easily to a well developed, no nonsense business environment. Communication networks and financial systems are sophisticated, and the territory's location acts as a springboard for the wider region and the gateway to Southern China. English is an-accepted business language in Hong Kong, however you will need a translator who speaks Cantonese if you are going to do business in Southern China, and when conducting business north of Guangdong a Mandarin-speaking translator is a prerequisite.

In Hong Kong Feng Shui is widely practiced. Many people believe it is helpful in living a prosperous and healthy life. Feng Shui masters are called upon by all major businesses to determine the harmonies within home or office and they have such power that their visits could have you knocking down walls or blocking up doorways as instructed. The position of a chair or doorway would be taken very seriously in the office



layout. Numbers often have specific associations, and unlucky numbers are avoided like the plague. The number 4 is considered especially bad as it sounds like the word "death" in Chinese. 13 has been adopted as an unlucky number. Therefore many buildings will not have a 4th, 13th, 14th or 24th floor! This can affect the value of a property. Business cards are best printed with the translation of your name in Chinese, as well as the particulars of your company at the back. When you present your card to a new acquaintance, hold it with two hands with the Chinese side up, and bow your head slightly as if it were a gift. The card will be accepted with two hands. You should also receive a business card with both hands and take a moment to noticeably read it before keeping it. If seated for a business meeting you should place the card given to you on the table where you are seated for the duration of the meeting. Chinese people put their family name first followed by the given name, then the middle name. Therefore Chan Tsui Ling is Ms. Chan. She may also be referred to as T.L. Chan, or Sarah Chan, since it is common in Hong Kong for people to take a Western first name, which is often chosen by themselves.

Gifts to business associates are not expected and there are strict government regulations regarding corruption with most companies issuing in-house guidelines regarding the acceptance of such presents. It is wise to take advice from local colleagues, and avoid choosing gifts with bad feng shui such as clocks, sharp objects or again anything bearing the number 4. Entertaining is central to Hong Kong business. The host orders at a Chinese meal and will serve the guest throughout the meal. Courses will be served one after another. The final course may be fried rice or noodles. Unlike in the west it is best not to eat too much of the last course, as it will show that you are still hungry. For more information about doing business in Hong Kong, contact the Hong Kong Trade Development Council (HKTDC), telephone 183 0668, please visit, <http://www.tdctrade.com>

# Health

## HEALTH ADVISORIES

The water supply satisfies WHO standards and is safe to drink; though many residents choose to buy bottled or filtered water and boil tap water. Eating in licensed restaurants is considered safe, however caution is advised when eating from street stalls. There are no special vaccinations required for admittance to Hong Kong. It is generally free of epidemics. However, during the winter it is wise to discuss Hepatitis A and B, tetanus and influenza vaccinations with your doctor.

## MEDICAL SERVICES

There are many government and private hospitals offering both in-patient and 24-hour emergency and outpatient departments.

Hong Kong's medical facilities are excellent, and many of the territory's registered doctors and dentists were trained or have undergone postgraduate training overseas.

Pharmacists are also registered and their dispensing hours are usually 9.00 am to 6.00 pm or 8.00 pm. Hong Kong does not have a universal healthcare insurance scheme. Medical treatment in public hospitals is inexpensive - an in-patient charge of about HK\$100 per day would include accommodation, meals and all medical care. Most doctors are Western-trained and speak English, although other hospital staff may not speak fluent English.

The Western population in Hong Kong tends to use private care available at the Matilda (The Peak), Adventist (Stubbs Road) and Canossa (Old Peak Road) Hospitals. Private care can be very expensive, so medical insurance is advisable, and is often provided through the employer.



### **Matilda Hospital**

**41 Mount Kellett Road, The Peak, Hong Kong**

For enquiries, please call 2849 0111 or visit <http://www.matilda.org>

### **Hong Kong Adventist Hospital**

**40 Stubbs Road, Hong Kong**

For enquiries, please call 3651 8888 or visit <http://www.hkah.org.hk>

### **Canossa Hospital**

**1 Old Peak Road, Hong Kong**

For enquiries, please call 2522 2181 or visit <http://www.canossahospital.org.hk>

### **Hong Kong Sanatorium & Hospital**

**2 Village Road, Happy Valley, Hong Kong**

For enquiries, please call 2572 0211 or visit <http://www.hksh-hospital.com/en>

# Communications

## POSTAL SERVICES

Hong Kong's postal system is efficient and reliable. Hong Kong Island's General Post Office is located 2 Connaught Place in Central. In Kowloon, a major post office is located G/F-1/F Hermes House, 10 Middle Road, Tsim Sha Tsui. Post offices are open Monday to Friday from 9.30 am to 5.00 pm, Saturday from 9.30 am- 1.00 pm and are closed on Sundays and public holidays.

The cost of a local stamp is currently HK\$2.0, and an overseas airmail letter requires a HK\$3.4 - HK\$5.0 stamp for the first 20 grams. Postal rates are outlined in a leaflet called Postage - Rates and Services available from Post Offices. Local stamps are also sold at 7-Eleven store.

For enquiries, please call 2921 2222, or visit [www.hongkongpost.com](http://www.hongkongpost.com).

## TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Hong Kong's telecommunications infrastructure is world class and it is connected via all developed technologies to almost every location in the world.

Local calls from public telephones cost HK\$1 per five minutes and calls can be paid by phone card or coins. Payphones normally accept HK\$2 coins but do not give change, though you do have the option of making a second call by pressing the FC (Follow-up Call) button before hanging up. Stored value telephone cards are available from retail stores of telephone companies and convenience stores. The cards usually have values of HK\$50, and HK\$100. For directory enquiries, please call 1081 (English) or 1083 (Chinese).

Long distance calls are inexpensive using International Direct Dialing (IDD). There are a number of long distance providers in Hong Kong offering highly competitive rates for customers. Shop around for the provider that offers the best deal for your requirements.

The international dialing code for Hong Kong is 852. To make a long distance call from Hong Kong using Hong Kong Telecom IDD, dial 001, then press the country code, follow by the phone number. For international telephone codes, fax and directory enquires, dial 002, followed by the country code.

Country Codes & World Time Inquiries..... 10013  
International directory inquiries ..... 10015  
Local directory assistance in English .....1081  
or visit [www.pccw.com](http://www.pccw.com)

# Transportation



Source: MTR Corporation

## TRANSPORT

Hong Kong's transportation system is excellent. Transportation is generally quick and easy. However, like all major cities, it's best to avoid rush hours (8.00 am- 10.00 am and 5.00 pm-7.00 pm) where possible.

Those who frequently use public transportation will find the Octopus card, a hi-tech debit card, very useful. It can be used to travel on virtually all modes of transport. Simply scan the Octopus card using the fare deducting processor and the fare will automatically be charged. Cards can be purchased from MTR Customer Service Centres and at the Star Ferry pier. The fares for Octopus users are slightly lower than for regular ticket holders. A refundable deposit is included in the cost and the card can be reloaded through ADD ON machines located in the stations. For enquiries, please call 2266 2222 or visit <http://www.octopuscards.com/enindex.jsp>.

## The MTR

The Mass Transit Railway (MTR) is a superb modern subway rail system. In December 2007, the operations of MTR and Kowloon-Canton Railway Corporation was merged. The expanded system extends all the way from the heart of Central and Causeway Bay to the New Territories and Lantau Island, covering 80 stations on the Kwun Tong, Tsuen Wan, Island, Tung Chung, Tseung Kwan O, East Rail, West Rail, Ma On Shan and Disneyland Resort lines.

The MTR also operates a 35.2km Airport Express and 36.2km Light Rail networks which can take you to Hong Kong Airport and 68 stops in the North West New Territories.

Trains run every two to four minutes from 6.00 am to 1.00 am daily and fares range from HK\$4.50 to HK\$59.50 Everything is automated from ticket vending machines to turnstiles. Once you pass through the turnstile you have 90 minutes to complete your journey before the ticket becomes void. You will know you are near an MTR station when you see the red MTR symbol. For MTR enquires, please call 2881 8888 or visit [www.mtr.com.hk](http://www.mtr.com.hk)

# Transportation

## The LRT

The Light Rail Transit (LRT) connects the New Territories towns of Tuen Mun and Yuen Long. It is a modern air-conditioned version of the tram, following the roads, and operates from 5:40am - 12:30am daily. Fares range from HK\$4.50 to HK\$6.00. For enquires call 2881 8888.

## The Airport Express

The Airport Express train runs from the Central on Hong Kong Island to the Airport, taking only 24 minutes with 3 stops. You can check-in for your flights at any Airport Express station. The Services runs every 10 minutes.

## Taxis

All taxis are regulated and drivers are required to clearly display their names and car numbers on the dashboard. Having your destination written in Chinese characters can make communication easier. The drivers are also required by law to hand over lost property to the police station as soon as possible in under six hours. Should you misplace anything during your trip, contact the police. Taxis come in different colours, depending on the area that they are allowed to service; red taxis operate in urban areas such as Hong Kong Island and Kowloon; green taxis in the New Territories and blue taxis on Lantau Island.



## Buses & Minibuses

Hong Kong has an extensive bus and minibus system that will take you nearly anywhere in Hong Kong. Double-decker and regular buses have their final destinations marked in English and Chinese on the front panel. Fares range from HK\$3.40 to HK\$48.00 depending on the distance. Exact change is required or you can use the Octopus Card. You cannot buy tickets in advance and no paper ticket is given, simply pay when boarding. Drivers generally do not speak English. Most buses run 6.00 am - midnight. In Central, the bus terminal is on the ground floor, under Exchange Square. In Kowloon, the Star Ferry Bus Terminal is the starting point of most destinations.

Extra charges for tunnel tolls, driver's return toll and luggage handling apply:

Baggage per piece	HK\$5	
Cross Harbour Tunnel	Toll paid by driver + \$10*(return toll)	
Eastern Harbour Tunnel	Toll paid by driver + \$15*(return toll)	
Western Harbour Tunnel	Toll paid by driver + \$15*(return toll)	
* The return toll is not payable if - The hiring begins from a cross-harbour taxi stand; or The final destination is not on the opposite side of the harbour		
Lantau Link	HK\$30	
Other toll tunnels and toll roads	Amount of toll paid by driver	
	Basic flagfall rate (1st two km)	Every additional 200 metres
Hong Kong & Kowloon	HK\$24.00	HK\$1.70
The New Territories	HK\$20.50	HK\$1.50
Lantau Island	HK\$19.00	HK\$1.50

# Transportation

## Citybus

For enquiries, please call 2873 0818 or visit <http://www.citybus.com.hk/eng/main.asp>

## Kowloon Motor Bus

or enquiries, please call 2745 4466 or visit <http://www.kmb.hk/en/>

## New World First Bus

For enquiries, please call 2136 8888 or visit <http://www.nwfb.com.hk/chi/index.htm>

## Long Win Bus (Airport)

For enquiries, please call 2261 2791 or visit <http://www.lwb.hk/en/>

Minibuses come in two forms - yellow with green roofs (government run) - and yellow with red roofs (private). They can seat up to 16 people. The private ones can be fast and convenient. The destination placed on the front is usually written in Chinese characters and drivers rarely speak English so some familiarity with the route and Cantonese are required. Routes are not always fixed and passengers may get on or off anywhere. You must call out in Cantonese your alighting point as you approach. Pay the driver as you get off, small change is sometimes provided. Fares range between HK\$4 to HK\$20.

The yellow and green minibuses have specific routes with fixed prices. Drop your coins in the box as you get on or pay with your Octopus. Fares are between HK\$2.90 to HK\$20.00. Again, you must call out when you wish to alight.

## Ferries

The Star Ferry is Hong Kong's most scenic and inexpensive mode of travel across Victoria Harbour. It is an eight-minute ride between Central and Tsim Sha Tsui; Star Ferries also run to Wanchai and Hung Hom. Other ferry services are available to outlying islands such as Lantau, Lamma, Cheung Chau and Peng Chau. The ride between Central or Wanchai and Tsim Sha Tsui costs only HK\$2.50 or up for the upper deck. Monthly tickets are available at the ticket offices. Detailed ferry schedules and destinations can be found in the HKTA Information and Gift Centres, or you can call the Star Ferry Co at 2367 7065 or visit [www.starferry.com.hk](http://www.starferry.com.hk), or the Hong Kong & First Ferry Services Limited at 2131 8181 or visit [www.nwff.com.hk](http://www.nwff.com.hk)

## Trams

Trundling the streets of Hong Kong since 1904, iconic trams run slowly from east and west along Hong Kong island for a flat fare of HK\$2.3. Trams operate from 6.00 am to 1.00 am daily.

For enquiries, please call 2548 7102 or visit <https://www.hktramways.com/>



# Transportation



## Driving License

For overseas driving license holders who wish to drive in Hong Kong, they may do so through one of the following means:

1. Apply for a full driving license by direct issue without a test
2. Apply for a temporary driving license
3. Driving on strength of their overseas driving license or international driving permit if they are visitors to Hong Kong (meaning that they do not plan to reside in Hong Kong for more than 12 months.)

Relevant application forms could be downloaded from the Transport Department at <http://www.td.gov.hk> or could be obtained from the enquiry counter of any of the Licensing Office of the Transport Department, the Home Affairs Department Public Enquiry Service Centers and Post Offices.

After you have completed the application form, forward it, together with relevant supporting documents and the appropriate fee, either in person or by registered post, to the licensing offices concerned.

For enquiries, please call 2804 2600  
or visit [www.td.gov.hk](http://www.td.gov.hk)

**Transport Department**  
**3/F, United Centre, 95 Queensway, Admiralty, Hong Kong**

For further enquiries, please call 2804 2600 or visit <http://www.td.gov.hk>



# Shopping



## SHOPPING COMPLEXES

Harbour City in Tsim Sha Tsui is the largest shopping complex in Hong Kong, housing a wide array of brand name shops, restaurants, and the largest City Super supermarket. Other Hong Kong shopping complexes include the Ocean Terminal and Ocean Centre also in Tsim Sha Tsui, Festival Walk in Kowloon Tong, Pacific Place in Admiralty, IFC Mall in Central, Elements above Kowloon Station (MTR) and Times Square in Causeway Bay. Hong Kong stores generally operate seven days a week. Smaller stores often remain in business until late in the evening. Major stores opening hours are as follows:

### Hong Kong Island

Central and Western..... 10.00 am - 7.00 pm  
 Wanchai and Causeway Bay.....10.00 am - 9.30 pm

### Kowloon

Kowloon Tsim Sha Tsui East.....10.00 am - 7.30 pm  
 Tsim Sha Tsui, Yau Ma Tei ..... 10.00 am - 9.00 pm  
 Mong Kok ..... 10.00 am - 10.00 pm

## SUPERMARKETS

Hong Kong has two major supermarket chains and a growing number of specialty food stores and shops. The two major chains are “Wellcome” and “Park’n Shop”. Wellcome is easily identified by its red and yellow livery, whilst Park’n Shop has stores fitted out with a blue interior.

Both of them offer a wide variety of daily groceries, bread and fresh produce. They also have a growing section of international wine, beer and spirits. They are located throughout the territory and the larger stores with a wider variety of goods are generally found in the expatriate suburbs of Mid-Levels, South Side and The Peak.

There are a growing number of specialty stores, featuring large delicatessens and a wide range of European and US brands. They are “City Super”, “Jasons” & “Olivers” and the independent stores. Again these are located in many of the major expatriate suburbs and shopping areas. For more information on product availability and home delivery, see below.

**Wellcome:** <http://www.wellcome.com.hk/>

**Park ‘n’ Shop:** <http://www.parknshop.com>

**City Super:** [www.citysuper.com.hk](http://www.citysuper.com.hk)

**Yata Supermarket:** <http://www.yata.hk/eng/default.aspx>



# Shopping

## DEPARTMENT STORES

World-class department stores from many countries have set up shops in Hong Kong. Most notable are UK's Marks & Spencer and Japan's Seibu. Dominating the central business district are Hong Kong favourites, Wing On and Lane Crawford.

## SECOND-HAND SHOPPING

Expatriates leaving Hong Kong usually have a variety of household items, from living room furniture to dehumidifiers, which they wish to dispose of prior to their departure. The Sunday edition of the South China Morning Post Newspaper has a comprehensive section devoted to items for sale. Goods for sale are usually only a year, or less than a year old.

## STREET STALLS, LANES AND MARKETS

### Hong Kong Island

Li Yuen Street East and Li Yuen Street West are located directly across from Lane Crawford on Queen's Road Central. There are numerous stalls selling everything from inexpensive clothing, watches and costume jewelry to luggage and shoes. Open from 10.00 am to 7.00 pm daily.

Near Theatre Lane you can find cobblers, printers, locksmiths, and engravers. Just off Hollywood Road, Pottinger Street is the place to find buttons, sequins, braids and bows.

In Causeway Bay, bargain clothing, fashion accessories and household goods can be found at Jardine's Crescent. Nearby, Jardine's Bazaar sells traditional dried foods, bean curd and rice.

Stanley Market (Stanley Market Road, Stanley) is one of Hong Kong's most popular tourist attractions. Stanley Market is jam-packed with vendors selling Chinese artwork, silk collectibles and curios.

Western Market (Connaught Road Central and Morrison Street) is a restored turn-of-the-century wet market now selling a wide range of fabrics, handicrafts and souvenirs.

### Kowloon

Goldfish Market (Tung Choi Street, Mong Kok). Popular among the Chinese, who believe aquariums bring luck and natural beauty to many living rooms, this market is a favourite source of supply.

Flower Market (Flower Market Road, Mong Kok). Everything from exotic blossoms to fortune bringing houseplants can be found at this colourful specialist street market.

Jade Market (At the junction of Kansu and Battery Streets, Yau Ma Tei). Everything from rare and valuable jade carvings to small, inexpensive trinkets can be found here. There is something for every budget.

Ladies Market (Tung Choi Street, Mong Kok) is Kowloon's most popular all-day street market that offers bargain-priced clothing, cosmetics and household knick-knacks.

Temple Street Night Market (Temple Street, Yau Ma Tei) is Hong Kong's most famous open-air market open from 4.00 pm till 11: 00pm. You will find an array of watches, leatherwear, clothing and souvenirs. Side-attractions include Cantonese opera singers and fortune-tellers.



# Shopping

## BUYING FURNITURE

A wide selection of furniture stores offering a range of quality furnishing include:

### Indigo Living Hong Kong stores

**Horizon Plaza - Living & Kids Flagship Store**  
6/F Horizon Plaza, 2 Lee Wing Street,  
Ap Lei Chau

For enquiries, please call 2555 0540

fax: (852) 2518 3512

email: alc@indigo-living.com

### Mid-Levels - Living & Kids Store

Shop B2, G/F, 63-69 Caine Road, Mid-Levels

Tel: (852) 2317 0368 Fax: (852) 2317 0678

email: cr@indigo-living.com

### Indigo Discount Outlet

Unit 1004 - 1005, 10/F Horizon Plaza, 2 Lee Wing Street,  
Ap Lei Chau

Tel: (852) 2580 6003 Fax: (852) 2518 3003

Email: hd@indigo-living.com

### Central - Living Store

221-224 Landmark Prince's, 10 Chater Road

For enquiries, please call 2801 5512

fax: (852) 2801 5513

email: atelier@indigo-living.com

### Repulse Bay - Living & Kids Store

G111-112, The Repulse Bay,

109 Repulse Bay Road

For enquiries, please call 2592 8721

fax: (852) 2592 8735

email: rb@indigo-living.com

### Shatin - Living & Kids Store

Shop 206-207, Level 2, HomeSquare,

138 Shatin Rural Committee Road,

New Territories

For enquiries, please call 2634 1618

fax: (852) 2634 1629

email: st@indigo-living.com



### Cyberport - Living & Kids Store

Shop 316, Level 3, The Arcade,  
100 Cyberport Road

For enquiries, please call 2989 6557

fax: (852) 2989 6037

email: cl@indigo-living.com

### IKEA – Causeway Bay

Basement, Park Lane Hotel, 310 Gloucester  
Road, Causeway Bay, Hong Kong

For enquiries, please call 3125 0888 or

visit <http://www.ikea.com.hk/main.html>

### IKEA – Kowloon Bay

L4, MegaBox, 38 Wang Chiu Road, Kowloon  
Bay

For enquiries, please call 3125 0888 or

visit <http://www.ikea.com.hk/main.html>

### IKEA – Shatin

L3 & L5, Grand Central Plaza, 138 Sha Tin  
Rural Committee Road, Shatin, N.T.

For enquiries, please call 3125 0888 or

visit <http://www.ikea.com.hk/main.html>

### IKEA – Tsuen Wan

Level 3, 8 1/2, 388 Castle Peak Road, Tsuen  
Wan, N.T.

For enquiries, please call 3125 0888 or

visit <http://www.ikea.com.hk/main.html>



宜家傢俬

# Shopping

## CONSUMER AWARENESS

Particularly in the tourist districts, it's a good idea to check prices in several shops before making a purchase. Check that all the components of your purchase are included.

Also be alert of any sign of wear or tear as you may end up having a second-hand item at brand new prices. When purchasing electronics (cameras, watches, phones, etc), check that your guarantee includes a complete description of your purchased item including the model and serial number, the date of purchase, the shop name and address. If the shop cannot give you a complete warranty, you're better off looking for a shop that does.

The HKTA publishes the Official Shopping Guide that lists Hong Kong's sole agents and distributors. Watch out for counterfeit brand goods. Watches, CDs, designer bags, and jewellery are the most common. If you feel you have been defrauded, you can contact the Hong Kong Consumer Council's complaints hotline on 2929 2222 or visit, [www.consumer.org.hk](http://www.consumer.org.hk)

Refunds are almost never given in Hong Kong, but most stores give credit towards another purchase. Exchanges are granted by most stores outside sale periods; just be sure to keep the receipt and return as soon as possible.

## SALES TAX

There is no sales tax in Hong Kong.

## TIPPING

Most restaurants add a 10% service charge automatically, but service staff will be grateful if you leave some small changes.



# Entertainment



## NIGHT SPOTS

**Lan Kwai Fong/Soho:** Side streets of a variety of upmarket restaurants and bars and the expatriate entertainment ground. For more details, please visit, [www.lankwaifong.com](http://www.lankwaifong.com)

**Wanchai:** A mix of bars, restaurants, clubs and adult entertainment venues.

**Tsim Sha Tsui:** A wide variety of clubs, restaurants and night-clubs are targeted at either big spending expatriates or the younger, local and trendy crowd.

A useful weekly guide to Hong Kong entertainment and nightlife is the HK Magazine; available free in selected bars and restaurants throughout Central and Wanchai. Also worth reading is the monthly publication BC Magazine or visit, [www.bcmagazine.net](http://www.bcmagazine.net), another free entertainment guide available at numerous venues.

## RECOMMENDED RESTAURANTS

With over 10,000 restaurants in HK that change frequently it would be impossible to list even a nominal amount, For referencing, you may refer to **Good Eating** - a quarterly food and wine magazine published by SCMP, featuring all the latest restaurants and dining trends in Hong Kong. <http://www.scmp.com/topics/good-eating>

## NEWSPAPERS & MAGAZINES

There are two local English newspapers: South China Morning Post (SCMP) and the Hong Kong Standard.

There are four international newspapers printed in Hong Kong, with Asian editions. They are the Asian Wall Street Journal, Financial Times, USA Today, and the International Herald Tribune. Other available international papers are The Daily Telegraph, The Times, The Sydney Morning Herald and Le Monde. At both the Tsim Sha Tsui and Central Star Ferry, there are news-stands that carry a wide selection of international newspapers. Local and international newspapers are also available at major hotels, bookstores and at several local newspaper stalls in central areas frequented by foreigners.

## CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

A wide variety of sports programs and activities for children of all ages are offered by the following organisations:-

ESF Educational Services .....	2711 1280
<a href="http://www.esf.org.hk">http://www.esf.org.hk</a>	
Sportathlon .....	2805 5802
Multi-Sport .....	2540 1257

Parks and playgrounds supervised by the Regional Urban Councils, and the beaches and hiking trails of Hong Kong can also be a fun day's outing.

# Entertainment



Ocean Park, near Aberdeen on the south side of Hong Kong Island stages dolphin shows and has a number of amusement rides and an aquarium that includes a walkway through a shark tank. For enquiries, please visit, [www.oceanpark.com.hk](http://www.oceanpark.com.hk)

Hong Kong Park, in Central, has an aviary and a nearby playground. Opposite to the park is the Hong Kong Zoological & Botanical Gardens, home to a variety of animals. The Wanchai Gap Playground and Governor's Walk and Mount Austin are other popular areas where children can run around.

The Peak Tower features the Sky Terrace, the highest viewing terrace in Hong Kong, offering a stunning 360 degree panoramic view across Hong Kong. The Peak Tower also features Madam Tussauds, home to over 100 local and international celebrity wax figures with audio visual effects and interactive experiences. The Mount Austin nature walk, close to the Peak Tower, offers an unforgettable natural experience as it winds its way through lush tropical forests where you will be greeted by the amazing birdlife and stunning vistas.

On the Kowloon side, the Hong Kong Space Museum in Tsim Sha Tsui and Hong Kong Science Museum at Tsim Sha Tsui East are worth a visit with their mix of exhibits and shows. The Hong Kong Museum of History, which houses life-size models of a Chinese fishing boat and 19th century Hong Kong street, is located in Kowloon Park. The park also has a complex of indoor and outdoor swimming pools. For enquiries, please visit, [www.lcsd.gov.hk](http://www.lcsd.gov.hk)

Located on Lantau Island, conveniently located 20 minutes from Hong Kong International Airport is Hong Kong Disneyland. There are four theme parks within Disneyland, namely Main Street U.S.A., Fantasyland, Adventureland and Tomorrowland, each offering a wide range of quality family entertainment.

For enquiries, please visit, [www.hongkongdisneyland.com/](http://www.hongkongdisneyland.com/)

## RADIO & TELEVISION

### English language radio stations

There are 7 radio channels, offering everything from Cantonese pop music to English news programmes. Radio hotline - 2339 6300 or visit, [www.rthk.hk](http://www.rthk.hk)

#### Radio 3 (AM 567 kHz)

A mix of news, documentaries & entertainment

#### Radio 4 (FM 97.6 to 98.9 MHz)

Classical music in a bilingual format

#### Radio 6 (AM675 kHz)

BBC World Service

You can download rthk apps for listening.

### Television Stations

There are four active free-to-air television networks: Television Broadcasts Limited (TVB), Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK), HK Television Entertainment (HKTVE) and Fantastic Television Limited (FTV). TVB and HKTVE operate English language channels.

Subscription TV services are also available in Hong Kong provided by NOW Broadband TV. For enquiries, please visit, <http://www.nowtv.now.com> or Cable TV service provided by i-Cable. For enquiries, please visit, <http://www.cabletv.com.hk/en/>

Regional broadcasters based in Hong Kong include STAR TV, NBC, TBS and ESPN.

# Sports & Recreation

## ASSOCIATIONS

From archery to yachting, just about every sport is available in Hong Kong. The Leisure and Cultural Services Department manages many indoor and outdoor sports facilities: Call the hotline on 2603 4567 for details, or visit, [www.lcsd.gov.hk](http://www.lcsd.gov.hk)

HK Archery Association.....	2504 8148
HK Aviation Club.....	2713 5171
HK Badminton Association .....	2504 8318
HK Canoe Union .....	2504 8186
HK Chinese Martial Arts Association .....	2504 8164
HK Cricket Association.....	2504 8101
HK Cycling Association .....	2504 8176
HK Fencing Association .....	2504 8106
Amateur Fishing Society.....	2730 0442
HK Football Association (Rugby).....	2712 9122
HK Football Club.....	2830 9500
HK Golf Association.....	2522 8804
Amateur Gymnastic Association .....	2504 8232
HK Amateur Handball Association .....	2504 8119
HK Hockey Association .....	2782 4932
Ice Skating Association.....	2560 6302
HK Mountaineering Union Ltd.....	2504 8124
HK Netball Association.....	2504 8208
HK Orienteering Association .....	2504 8112
HK Paragliding Association.....	9669 4133
HK Amateur Rowing Association .....	2608 0302
HK Rugby Football Union .....	2504 8311
HK Softball Association.....	2711 1167
HK Sports Institute, Shatin .....	2681 6888
HK Squash .....	2869 0229
H K Tai Chi Association.....	2395 4884
H K Tennis Association .....	2504 8266
HK Underwater Association .....	2504 8154
HK Volleyball Association.....	2771 0293
HK Wind-surfing Association.....	2504 8255
HK Yachting Association .....	2504 8158
Royal HK Yacht Club.....	2832 2817

## HORSE RACES

Horsereading is a popular spectator sport in Hong Kong. The racing season is from September to June. If you cannot make it to the track, local television will also broadcast the races live. The Happy Valley Race Course is located at Sports Road, Happy Valley, Hong Kong Island. Races are usually held on Saturday, Sunday or Wednesday evening. For enquiries, contact the Hong Kong Jockey Club on 1817, or visit, <http://www.hkjc.com/english/hrc/hindex.asp>

Shatin Race Course is located at Shatin, the New Territories. It is easily accessible by the MTR, stopping at Racecourse Station. Races are held every weekend on Saturday or Sunday alternating each week. For enquiries, please call 1817 or visit, [http://www.hkjc.com/english/come\\_racing/shatin\\_index.asp](http://www.hkjc.com/english/come_racing/shatin_index.asp)



# Sports & Recreation

## TRADE & SOCIAL CLUBS, BUSINESS ORGANISATIONS

Your new home in Hong Kong may be much smaller than you are used to, so you may not wish to entertain friends and colleagues at home, and you and your family may want to find somewhere friendly to eat and play. Hong Kong's many private clubs provide the answer.

They offer a wide range of recreational and dining facilities (at a wide range of prices). Some are simply dining clubs for business people; others are sports and recreation clubs that welcome families with children. Membership criteria vary, and you may need to wait to be invited to join.

## RECREATIONAL CLUBS

Aberdeen Boat Club .....	2552 8182
Aberdeen Marina Club.....	2555 8321
The American Club.....	2842 7400
Clearwater Bay golf & Country Club .....	2719 1595
Craigengower Cricket Club .....	2577 8331
Club de Recreio .....	2388 8194
Discovery Bay Golf Club.....	2987 7273
Discovery Bay Marina Club.....	2987 9591
Discovery Bay Residents' Club .....	2987 7381
The Dynasty Club .....	2824 1122
Hebe Haven Yacht Club.....	2719 9682
The Helena May.....	2522 6766
(only women can be full members; men can be associate members)	
Hilltop Country Club .....	2412 0201
Hong Kong Country Club.....	2552 4165
Hong Kong Cricket Club .....	3511 8668
Hong Kong Football Club.....	2830 9500
Kowloon Bowling Green Club .....	2368 7733
Kowloon Cricket Club .....	2367 4141
Kowloon Tong Club.....	2337 0141
Ladies' Recreation Club .....	3199 3500
(men can be members too!)	
Hong Kong Golf Club .....	2670 1211
Hong Kong Jockey Club .....	1818

Royal Hong Kong Yacht Club.....	2832 2817
Shek O Country Club.....	2809 4458

## BUSINESS/DINING CLUBS

(no facilities or activities for children)

The China Club .....	2521 8888
The Foreign Correspondents' Club.....	2521 1511
(limited activities for children on Saturdays only)	
The Hong Kong Club .....	2525 8251
World Trade Centre Club.....	2577 9528

## LIBRARIES

Hong Kong has an extensive system of public libraries. The main library is located in Causeway Bay at 66 Causeway Road - Hong Kong Central Library.

### Operating hours

Mon, Tue, Thur, Fri, Sat & Sun 10:00 am - 9:00 pm  
Wed 1:00 pm - 9:00 pm  
Public Holiday\* 10:00 am - 7:00 pm

Please visit, [www.hkpl.gov.hk](http://www.hkpl.gov.hk) for more information.

Various cultural centres including Alliance Francaise, The British Council and the Goethe Institute all maintain their own libraries.

# Law & Order

## POLICE

Hong Kong is generally considered a very safe city both at night and during the day. As everywhere, however, protect yourself from pickpockets and carry as little cash and as few valuables as possible especially in crowded areas such as Causeway Bay, around the Star Ferry terminus in Tsim Sha Tsui and along Nathan Road.

The Hong Kong Police Force (HKPF) has stations and reporting centres throughout the territory. The phone number of the Police Crime Hotline is 2527 7177. For general enquiries, contact public relations on 2860 6144, or visit, [www.info.gov.hk/police](http://www.info.gov.hk/police).

Hong Kong law requires that everyone must carry some proof of identity. Tourists must carry a travel document with a photograph. As a resident, you are required to carry a Hong Kong identity card at all times.



## Further Information

For further information about Hong Kong, you can always contact

Colliers International Residential Services on

**2822 0777**

**[www.colliersresidential.hk](http://www.colliersresidential.hk)**

### CONTACT DETAILS

Colliers International Agency Limited

Suite 5701 Central Plaza

18 Harbour Road

Wanchai, Hong Kong

Company Licence No: C-006069

[www.colliers.com/hongkong](http://www.colliers.com/hongkong)

