World66's guide to Hong Kong
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Hong Kong

Hong Kong (Xianggang) has the big city specials like smog, odour, 7 million elbows and an insane love of clatter. But it's also efficient, hushed and peaceful: the transport network is excellent, the shopping centres are sublime, the cuisine is legendary, and the temples and quiet corners of parks are contemplative oases.

The best thing about being in Hong Kong is getting flummoxed and fired by the confluences and contradictions of a Chinese city with multi-Asian and Western elements. It's about savouring new tastes, weaving through human gridlock and humming some dumb Cantopop tune while slurping your noodles.

From the vantage point of Victoria Peak, overlooking the world's busiest deepwater port, you can see a city geared not only to making money but feeling good about it. At night, it's like looking down into a volcano.

Despite its British colonial past, Hong Kong has always stuck to its roots, and the culture beneath the glitz is pure Chinese. That didn't stop locals from feeling apprehensive about being reunited with the motherland when the British handed the colony to the People's Republic of China in early 1997, but their unease has largely evaporated.

Hong Kong is divided into four main areas – Kowloon, Hong Kong Island, the New Territories and the Outlying Islands. Kowloon and the New Territories are on a peninsula of the Chinese mainland, on the northern side of Victoria Harbour; Hong Kong Island is on the southern side of the harbour facing Kowloon.

The city itself is centred around Victoria Harbour. The main business district is Central, on Hong Kong Island. East of Central lies the Admiralty commercial district; Wan Chai, known for restaurants and clubs; then Causeway Bay, a major shopping area. Towering above it all is the Peak, Hong Kong's premier scenic outlook and residential district, which happily has plenty of public green space. In Kowloon, Tsim Sha Tsui (on the southern tip), Jordan and Yau Ma Tei are busy hotel and shopping areas, while Mong Kok is a bustling residential and shopping area.

The Northern part, known as the New Territories, is the gateway to China for many travellers. Although many travellers just rush through NT to arrive at the border, it might be an idea to explore this area with its dualistic character. You will see small ancient rural villages alternated with modern towns.

Kowloon is the southern tip of the peninsula and faces Hong Kong island. This paradise of shops, bars and hotels is not only popular with tourists but also with inhabitants of Hong Kong island who can easily take the ferry to this melting-pot of everything relating to spending your money. Besides the important shopping areas, such as the shops and street markets around Nathan Road (better known as the Golden Mile) and Mong Kok, there is an abundance of bars and cafés. However, there is even more in Kowloon. Although they are not dipped in neon-lights, there are a few nice temples you can visit, such as the famous Wong Tai temple, and a couple of quite interesting museums.

Hong Kong Island, the busy commercial centre with its high skyscrapers, has a lot to offer of the same kind: shops, bars, headquarters from companies and, for those who feel like it, a handful of culture namely a few museums and some sights. Make sure you go to Victoria Peak where you can have astonishing views of the surroundings. One of the nicest beaches, despite its shark warnings, is definitely Repulse Bay and a lot of people make the effort to go over there for at least a day. For those who want to see a bit more of the Hong Kong Island, it might be a good idea to visit Aberdeen. This is partly a sort of floating city because over
20,000 people live on boats. Although a lot of people live on boats on Hong Kong Island, the sight of Aberdeen at night with most boats illuminated by little lights is definitely an unforgettable experience.

*The Outlying Islands* simply refers to any of the other 235 islands.

### Hong Kong – Getting Around

Hong Kong is small and crowded which makes public transport the only way to get around. Public transport is cheap, fast, it is widely used and generally efficient. The bus system is extensive and bewildering, but you will have to use it to explore the south side of Hong Kong Island and the New Territories. The north side of Hong Kong Island and most of Kowloon are well–served by Hong Kong’s ultra–modern Mass Transit Railway (MTR). Three tunnels link Hong Kong with Kowloon.

The Kowloon–Guangzhou (Canton) Railway (KCR) runs from Kowloon to the Chinese border at Lo Wu (Luohu). Light Rail Transit (fast modern air–con trams) run in the New Territories connecting the city of Tuen Mun with Yuen Long. Double–decker trams trundle along the northern side of Hong Kong Island. Hong Kong’s ferries are usually faster and cheaper than buses and trams. They are also fun and the harbour views are stunning if the weather cooperates. Hoverferries are about twice as fast as conventional boats.

Metered taxis are red with silver tops (green with white tops in the New Territories, blue on Lantau) will not pick up or drop passengers at bus stops. If you take a taxi to another section (like from New Territories to Lantau) you also have to pay a return fare. Cycling in Kowloon or Central would be suicidal but in quiet areas of the islands or the New Territories a bike can be quite a nice way of getting around.

### Hong Kong – Getting There

Below you can find the easiest ways to reach Hong Kong:

**all**

**At the Lo Wu (Luo Hu) Border from China**

In Hong Kong, there is a KCR that connects to Lo Wu and borders China. There is an immagration there and from China, you can meet up here.

### Hong Kong – Economy

**Economyoverview:** Hong Kong has a bustling free market economy highly dependent on international trade. Natural resources are limited and food and raw materials must be imported. Indeed imports and exports including reexports each exceed GDP in dollar value. Real GDP growth averaged a remarkable 8% in 1987–88 slowed to 3.0% in 1989–90 and picked up to 4.2% in 1991 5.0% in 1992 5.2% in 1993 5.5% in 1994 4.8% in 1995 4.7% in 1996 and an estimated 5.5% in 1997. A shortage of labor continues to put upward pressure on prices and the cost of living. Even before Hong Kong reverted to Chinese administration on 1 July 1997 it had extensive trade and investment ties with mainland China.
GDP: purchasing power parity $175.2 billion (1997 est.)

GDP real growth rate: 5.5% (1997 est.)

GDP per capita: purchasing power parity $26 800 (1997 est.)

GDP composition by sector:

agriculture: 0.1%

industry: 16.1%

services: 83.8% (1996 est.)

Inflation rate consumer price index: 5.1% (1997 est.)

Labor force:

total: 3.183 million (1997)

by occupation: wholesale and retail trade restaurants and hotels 32.4% social services 9.9% manufacturing 9.9% financing insurance and real estate 13.0% transport and communications 5.7% construction 2.6% other 26.5% (June 1997)

Unemployment rate: 3.1% (1996 est.)

Budget:

revenues: $19 billion

expenditures: $14.1 billion including capital expenditures of $289 million (FY95/96 est.)

Industries: textiles clothing tourism electronics plastics toys watches clocks

Industrial production growth rate: −3.2% (1997 est.)

Electricity capacity: 11.3 million kW (1996)

Electricity production: 28 billion kWh (1996)

Electricity consumption per capita: 3 968 kWh (1995)

Agriculture products: fresh vegetables; poultry

Exports:

total value: $180.7 billion (including reexports; f.o.b. 1996)
commodities: clothing textiles yarn and fabric footwear electrical appliances watches and clocks toys

partners: Mainland China 34% US 21% Japan 7% Germany 4% UK 3% (1996)

Imports:

total value: $198.6 billion (c.i.f. 1996)

commodities: foodstuffs transport equipment raw materials semimanufactures petroleum; a large share is reexported

partners: China 37% Japan 14% Taiwan 8% US 8% Singapore 5% (1996)

Debtexternal: none (1996)

Economic aid: $NA

Currency: 1 Hong Kong dollar (HK$) = 100 cents


Fiscal year: 1 April 31 March

Hong Kong – Books

all

Frommer's Hong Kong

author: Beth Reiber, Arthur
isbn: 0028626052
subject: travel

East and West: China, Power, and the Future of Asia
Hong Kong Action Cinema

author: Bey Logan
isbn: 0879516631
subject: history

A Borrowed Place: The History of Hong Kong

author: Frank Welsh, Maya Rao (Editor)
isbn: 1568361343
subject: history

Fodor's Hong Kong '99

author: Fodor Travel Publications, Fodor's Travel
isbn: 0679001603
subject: travel

Fodor's Citypack Hong Kong '99

author: Fodor's, Sean Sheehan, Pat Levy
isbn: 0679002472
subject: travel
Hong Kong – Beaches

Although Hong Kong is not famous as a swim & tan destination, it does have quite a few good beaches.

**Deep Water Bay**

This attractive bay lies beyond Aberdeen along a scenic coastal road flanked by flame trees and imposing cliffside mansions. Its public beach, one of the most attractive in Hong Kong, is next to the Hong Kong Golf Club’s annex. A scenic pathway winds along the coast from here to Repulse Bay.

To get there, take bus no. 6, 6A, 6X, 61 or 260 from Exchange Square Bus Terminus in Central.

**Repulse Bay**
Repulse Bay is the most popular beach on Hong Kong Island. It is easily accessible by bus or taxi from Central Bus Terminus. Take bus nos. 6, 6A, 6X, 61 or 260. Candy Coates:

Shek O

Seen from the hill above, the popular seaside destination of Shek O looks great. The ambience is still traditional and rustic. Take the Metro to Shau Kei Wan MTR Station, exit A3. Then take bus no. 9 to Shek O.

Hong Kong – Internet Cafes

Sniper

This Sniper location (there is another one on Nathan Road) has numerous workstations for games, and also is available for e-mail purposes. There is a small cafe and beverages available. Best in the morning and afternoon, evenings and weekends these COMPAQ and Packard Bell, CPU INTEL Pentium 200Mz with MMX Technology, Memory 48 MB, and FULL multimedia options

We are Professional Service and Friendly Service. We have full-time service by System Engineer and more experience service team un.

tel: 2375 2828
hours: 24 hours a day
address: 3rd floor, Fashion Plaza, 1A–1J Tung Choi St.
url: sniper.com.hk

INETS Limited

Samsung monitors, 4 Dell 450Mhz PIII's with 21 Samsung monitors 3 iMacs with 333Mhz G3's 1 SGI320 Workstation with 17.3 1600SWTM flat panel monitor. Fully licenced bar Software education center. Operator of www.rozsakert.net Hungary's premier

price: Members Only
tel: 2891–2842
email: info@inets.hk.com
address: 2/F, 382 Lockhart Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong
Pacific Coffee Company

3 terminals available.
New Forest. The cafe was purpose designed and offers x 10 terminals via B.T.256k permanent net connection for super fast transfers. Hot and cold drinks and cold snacks. Free and friendly service from a family business.

tel: 2914 1128
eemail: espresso@pacificcoffee.com
hours: 6:30am – 10pm (Mon–Fri) 8am – 11pm (Sat) 8am – 10pm (Sun)
address: Discovery Bay
G/F, Block A, Discovery Bay Plaza, Lantau Island
url: www.pacificcoffee.com

Xyberia Interactive

China Bear
Mui Wo Center
3 Ngan Wan Road
address: Mui Wo, Lantau Island
Price: HK$40 per hour
Directions: Catch the Mui Wo (Silvermine Bay) Ferry from Central on Hong Kong Island. The café is half a minutes walk from the Mui Wo Ferry Pier on the<

Aztec Cyber
The hottest cyber–cafe in Hong Kong with the best PC config with P4 2.0G, 512 DDR ram, 80G harddisk, Gforce 4 display. You won't disappointed with the PC for any game at anytime.

price: From US 0.5 to 1.00
tel: 852 2155 – 0979
eemail: service@aztec–cyber.com.hk
hours: 24 hour round the clock
address: 19F Richmond Plaza, 496 Jaffee Road, Wan Chai
url: www.aztec–cyber.com.hk

Hong Kong – Accommodation

Ah Shan Hostel Hong Kong
One of the best cheap and budget hostels in Hong Kong with FREE internet connection in every room, over 15 years professional experience for tourists and businessmen....

We are professionally operating a reputable 26−room−sized hostel in Kowloon of Hong Kong with free internet access. Our location is exact at the centre of city – Mongkok. It takes you only 30 minutes to the airport, 15 minutes to Wanchai, 10 minutes to Tsim Sha Shui (Star Ferry).

In addition, over 1000 shop outlets, shopping malls nearby. And, we are also close to the KCRC station.

Our major guests come from worldwide such as USA, Australia, Singapore, UK, Taiwan.....Some of them are having them business trip in Hong Kong. Some of them are having their vacation. But, they have a same attitude towards our hostel – Enjoyable, Satisfaction and Happy.

In addition, all our rooms are equipped with airconditioner, FREE local telephone, 24hrs FREE internet connection, TV.... In our lobby, we also provide microwave oven, water, fax machine, computer etc...

zipcode: 852
doi: info@ahshanhostel.com
address: Room 1406, 14/F, Sincere House, 83 Arygle Street, Mongkok, Kowloon, Hong Kong
CostOfDoubleForANight: HK$200 up
doi: www.ahshanhostel.com
url: (852) 93436507
YMCA International House – Kowloon

The YMCA International House provides totally 400 luxurious and comfortable guest rooms out of which 29 are suites. Other facilities include Crystal room, Nine Dragon restaurant, Balcony lounge, indoor swimming pool, sauna, tennis court, squash courts, indoor gymnasium, travel & agent ticketing counter and chapel. The YMCA International House is a good choice because of its ideal location accessible to shopping arcades and commercial centres. The Mass Transit Railway (Yau Ma Tei station) is nearby. Located within a block or two of Nathan Road, famous for street shopping.

address: 23 Waterloo Road, Kowloon, Hong Kong
CostOfDoubleForANight: 537 HKD/$70 US (in May ’04)

Dragon Hostel Hong Kong

Dragon Hostel provides wide range traveler’s service in Hong Kong:

Accommodation, China and Vietnam Visa, Hong Kong Travel Information.

Free internet available in the hostel!

URL: www.dragonhostel.com
Email: dragonhostel@yahoo.com
Hong Kong – Bars and Cafes

Carnegies Bar

G/F 53–55 Lockhart Rd. Wan Chai Hong Kong Tel: 2866 6289

A great place for a night out. Good beer, great food and very drunk patrons dancing on the bar after 11pm (they put up a special brass frame so that they don't fall off!).

The staff are great, fun friendly and helpful. If you are going to be in HK for a while ask for a membership card and you'll get 10% off everything.

The bar stays open until 4 or 5 am most days. Happy "hour" from 11am until around 6pm. Themed nights (Monday, aircrew; Wednesday, ladies night, etc.) add to the fun. The kitchen closes at 11pm, but there is an all–night pizza place next door and they will deliver to your table, with the approval (even the help) of the bar staff.

Notes:
Hong Kong Island

Hong Kong Island is the glitzy big brother of Kowloon – a tightly packed, towering paean to market capitalism that hasn't been dented one jot by Chinese rule. The bustle of people living and working is the biggest attraction on the island, although many visitors head around to Aberdeen, on the southern side of the island, where 6000 people live or work on junks anchored in the harbour. Sampan tours of the Aberdeen Harbour are definitely worth the expense. The other major draw is the floating restaurants.

The most popular beach is Repulse Bay, also on the southern side of the island, but it gets extremely crowded on weekends. Stanley, with its laid−back atmosphere, is another good spot for escaping Hong Kong’s hustle and bustle, although it is the hustle and bustle that brings people here in the first place – if you want real solitude, you've come to the wrong place. City attractions include the Central Market, which visitors will have no trouble finding (just sniff the air), the old Man Mo Temple and the Zoological & Botanic Gardens. Hong Kong Island is steep, so if you're heading away from the harbour, do as the locals do and ride the 800m outdoor escalator.

If you're in the Hong Kong Island, you'd be mad to miss a trip to the top of Victoria Peak, 552m above sea level. The views are giddyingly beautiful in every direction, with the vista of the business district, Victoria Harbour and Kowloon especially grand. In true Hong Kong style the main viewing deck is on the roof of a large shopping mall.

Join the throng of snap−happy tourists – you won't be disappointed. If you have time, it's worth making the trip to the top both in daylight (ideal to get your bearings) and at night, when the mass of lights around the harbour will take your breath away and make you wish you had a better camera. The actual peak is a ten−minute walk west and up.

Hong Kong Island – Nightlife and Entertainment

all

Goldlion Shing Tao Night Club

address: State Theatre Bldg

Galaxy Night Club

address: Wan Chai Coml Centr
tel: 2836 3833

Soho Disco

address: London Plaza
tel: 2375 5877

Queens

address: World Wise Hse
Phone numbers:

2522 7773
2529 2113
2537 8083
2877 1610
2827 7638
2591 6293
2861 3450
2527 2077
2572 2162
2893 5160
2586 1421
The Jungle

address: Hang Shun Mans
tel: 2529 1828

Hardys Folk Club

tel: 2526 7184

Club Cherry

,address=Lochkarst Lse
tel: 2838 0532

Today's World

address: Elisabeth Hse

Wild Cat Night Club

address: King Tao Bldg
tel: 2527 9606

Crazy Horse

address: Golden Star Bldg

Happy Valley

address: King Tao Bldg
tel: 2528 0831

Hong Kong Island – Internet Cafes

–end of Cybercafes section

all

Pacific Coffee Company

address: G/F Bank of American Tower

Cyber Café Club

address: 3rd Floor Luen On House, 6 Wo On Lane

Pacific Coffee Company, central Waterfront

address: Shop 1022, Level One, Southern Retail Podium, International Finance Centre, Harbour View Street

Pacific Coffee Company, Citibank Plaza

World66’s guide to Hong Kong
Hong Kong Island – Accommodation

Hong Kong Island can most certainly compete with its sister Kowloon when it comes down to accommodation. The city centre is packed with hotels, not in the least to house all the businessmen. This is also one of the reasons why you won't find a lot of cheap hotels. However, there are a lot of options before you have to take refuge in one of Hong Kong Island's most expensive hotels.

All

Beverly Hotel

address: Capital Bldg
tel: 2507 2013

Associated International Hotels

address: Euro Trade Centre
tel: 2523 6047

The Hotel Excelsior

address: Gloucester Road 281
tel: 2894 8888

Far East Hotels

address: Great Eagle Centre
tel: 2744 9110

Emperor Byron

address: Wang Tak St 1A
tel: 2893 3693

Century Harbour Hotel

address: Queens Road 506
tel: 2974 1234

Alison Guest House

address: Hoi Toi Court 3
tel: 2574 8068

Esun Holdings

address: Connaught Rd
tel: 2541 6778
Bishop Lei International

address: Robinson Road 4
tel: 2868 0828

Furama Hotel

address: Connaughts Street 1
tel: 2525 5111

Glory Fedelity

address: Cleveland St 9−11
tel: (852) 2915 0168

Ma Wui Hall

address: Davis Path, Kennedy Town
tel: (852) 2817 5715

Hong Kong Island – Sights

Hong Kong Island is for many people either the place where they take the ferry to Kowloon or where they have to do some serious business. Although it does not have that many hotspots to visit, there are a few cultural options that you might want to try. The Wong Tai Sin temple, for example, is one of the most impressive Buddhist complexes in Hong Kong. Besides that, there are a couple of quite good museums. Especially the museum of Art and the Flagstaff House are worth a visit. The latter is one of the oldest preserved colonial buildings with an impressive collection of all sorts of tea ware. An absolute must is to visit 'Victoria's Peak'. At the highest point of the island, you'll have a spectacular view of the surroundings. At night, you can see the sparkling lights of Kowloon trying to tempt you to come over to the other side.

Old Man Mo Temple

The famous film The World of Suzie Wong was party shot in this temple dedicated to the God of both literature and war.

address: Hollywood Road

Wong Tai Sin Temple

Taoist Temple in Hong Kong

Ocean Park

The world's largest aquarium is located nearby Aberdeen. Quite expensive, quite an experience.

Flagstaff House Museum of Tea Ware

address: Hong Kong Park, Cotton Tree Drive 10
World66’s guide to Hong Kong

tel: (852) 2869 0690

Hong Kong Museum of Art

address: Salisbury Road 10
tel: (852) 2734 2167

Museum of Chinese Historical Relics

Police Museum

address: Coombe Road 27
tel: (852) 2849 7019

Hong Kong Museum of Coastal Defence

address: Tung Hei Road 175
tel: (852) 2569 1500

University Museum and Art Gallery the university of Hong Kong

address: University of Hong Kong, Bonham Road 94
tel: (852) 2975 5600

Fringe Club

The Fringe Club is housed in a brick and stucco colonial−style low−rise structure built in 1913

address: Queen’ Road

Former French Mission Building

Located in the heart of Central district, this red−brick French Mission Building, which is over 150 years old, has green shutters, black wrought−iron details and a chapel added by French Catholic missionaries who gave the building its name.

address: Garden Road

Statue Square

Near the garden of Statue Square in Central district is the Cenotaph and a statue of a Sir Thomas Jackson.

address: Statue Square

Aberdeen Country Park

Built around reservoirs on Hong Kong Island, this park's splendid trails provide leisurely and attractive walks. The Park is readily accessible from many directions because of its closeness to urban areas.

Hong Kong Park

An oasis of green amid the urban landscape. More than 150 species of birds live in this carefully designed tropical "rainforest". The park is a 2 minute walk from the MTR Admiralty Staion (via Pacific Place).

Hong Kong Zoological & Botanical Garden
Laid out in 1864 to the design of a nature–loving governor. They are open every day and are a popular place to join in the early morning tai chi exercises.

**Aw Boon Gardens**

A feast for the eye, this overload of pagodas, caves and statues. Oldest colonial–style building where you can visit an exhibition of all sorts of tea ware.

**Victoria Peak**

Go here when you want to experience some fabulous views of both the city and of some special birds and trees.

address: Nearby Lugard Road

**Hong Kong Island – Eating Out**

all

**Caledonia**

Hong Kong's only authentic Scottish restaurant and bar, Caledonia is home to Asia's largest selection of single malt whisky. From its amazing 'Wall of Whisky' in The Whisky Bar, through its Scottish and house ales in the relaxing Lounge Bar, to its fine a la carte seafood restaurant, The Argyll Room, Caledonia is a taste of traditional Scotland in the heart of the Central business district. Honouring the Scots who have contributed so much to Scotland, and who were behind many of the big name companies that have shaped the face of Hong Kong, Caledonia presents an interesting insight into the history of the territory.

address: G/f Hutchison House, 10 Harcourt Road, Central
openinghours: daily from mid morning until 2am
tel: 852 2524 1314
zipcode: www.thecaley.com

**Hai Kung Lai**

address: Kin Shin Lane 6
tel: 2744 5810

**Shanghai Restaurant**

address: Chung On St 93
tel: 2498 7673

**Café 128**

address: Victory Mans
tel: 2712 6028

**Tables 88**
address: Tanley Village 88
tel: 2813 6262
Vegetarian Club

address: Lock Road 9
tel: 2366 8171
Sun Wah Nam

address: Shanghai St 653
tel: 3294 1765
Fook Lam Noon

address: Johnston Rd 35
tel: 2866 8171
Hai Mon Loi Wai Siu

address: Bonham Road 49
tel: 2549 7370
Tai Cheong

address: Tai Hong St 35
tel: 2886 1803
Baci

There are 5 Baci’s in Hong Kong. With an opening chef Mario Carlino, from Southern Italy by way of New York, Baci has quickly become home to Hong Kong’s most innovative Italian kitchen. This innovation is maintained by chef Aldo Volpi, also from Sicily

address: 2/F No.1 Lan Kwai Fong
Cammino

Cammino does great pizza’s. It's closed between 2:30 and 6:00 pm.

address: Address 1/F, The Excelsior Hotel 281 Gloucester Road
Grappa's Ristorante

Happy hour in the weekend between 17:00 and 19:00.

address: Shop 132, Level 1, Pacific Place 88 Queensway
tel: 2868 0086
Clipper Lounge

For a great High Tea, head for the Clipper Lounge in the Mandarin Oriental, between 3pm and 6pm.
Hong Kong Island – Shopping

You can shop till you drop. But where to start? Here are a few hints.

all

Stanley Market

Stanley Market is the perfect place to pick up a present for the people back home. The market closes at 18:00 hours.

Cityplaza Shopping Centre

On 111 King's Road, this is a big shopping centre.

Island Beverley

On Great George Street in Causeway Bay this is a big place.

Pacific Place

Pacific Place, one of Hong Kong's most popular malls, is the ideal place to go in this area. You'll find perfect gift ideas within its 130–plus outlets, including Marks & Spencer, Lane Crawford, Seibu and top designer labels. Pacific Place is connected to the Admiralty MTR Station.

World66 is Open Content. All content is free for everybody to use, but we're also dependent on travelers for updating our contents. Please use the space below for notes and when you get back home, please take the time to add your notes to World66 so everybody can profit.

Notes:
**Kowloon**

Kowloon is one of the four parts that makes the Hong Kong territory these days. The tip of the peninsula, which faces Hong Kong island, is probably the best known part of Kowloon. It is one big melting pot of streets crawled with shops and tourists, covered up under a spell of neon at night. In this sense, the 'nine dragons' (the literal translation of 'Kowloon') beat the touristy tiger of the neighbouring Hong Kong island!

Although it might appear as if money is the only ruling factor here, the current 'Hong Kong Cultural Centre' tries to prove the opposite. Most museums are located in this centre and it offers a good alternative when you have had it with the jade shops, bird markets and fortune-teller stands in the shopping areas of 'Tsim Sha Tsui' and 'Nathan Road'.

Tsim Sha Tsui, at the tip of the Kowloon Peninsula, is the territory's tourist ghetto. It consists of one sq km of shops, restaurants, pubs, topless bars and camera stores. However, Kowloon is also home to the Hong Kong Cultural Centre, the Space Museum, the famous Peninsula Hotel and the Museum of History.

The Promenade, in East Tsim Sha Tsui, is a great place for a stroll, and has wonderful views of Victoria Harbour, particularly at night. The liveliest night market in the territory is on Temple St in Yau Ma Tei.

**Kowloon – Shopping**

Kowloon sure knows how to swallow your money. The place is a shopping and night-life paradise and many people come over to spend money—or simply watch others spending it. Besides several jade, bird and night markets (check out the one on Shanghai street), there are two main shopping areas, 'Tsim Sha Tsui East' and 'Nathan Road'. Nathan Road or 'the Golden Mile', is a mixture of shops and guesthouses covered up under the spell of neon when the sun sets. Adjacent to Nathan Road is 'Yau Ma Tei' where you will find innumerable jade and ivory shops selling mahjong sets. Chungking Mansions (most of its residents being from India, Pakistan and Africa) is also a nice area to stroll around. It features a labyrinth of guesthouses, food stalls and sari stores. Mong Kok is a densely populated and crowded area which is better known as 'a sanctuary for triad gangs, illegal gambling dens, and assorted sleaze'. However, it also has some interesting shops that sell rare and strange items.

**all**

**Harbour City**

Harbour City is the area's largest and most famous mall. Its large shopping and entertainment complex, which includes Ocean Terminal.

**Ocean Terminal**

Ocean Terminal is a popular shopping centre with an open rooftop with a good view of the harbour.

**Yuen Po Street Bird Garden**

The market provides bird–owners with all manner of creature comforts, from intricately crafted cages to nutritious grasshoppers.
Flower Market

The colourful flower market in Mong Kok is great for its scents and colours.

Kowloon – Accommodation

all

Royal Plaza Hotel

Royal Plaza Hotel is the newest 5−star hotel in central Kowloon. The hotel is strategically located next to the Kowloon Canton Railway (KCR) Mongkok Station and 5 minutes away from the MTR Station. This luxurious 19−storey hotel offers spacious accommodation and comprehensive recreational facilities including swimming pool, gymnasium, sauna and steam facilities, jacuzzi, massage services

Book this hotel

BOOKINGS

Great Eagle Hotel

Great Eagle Hotel is situated in the heart of Kowloon's most popular area, Tsimshatsui. There is a vast array of shopping and entertainment adjacent to the hotel. The hotel is one of the nearest to the Hong Kong International Airport as being only a few minutes to the Star Ferry and Mass Transit Railway

Book this hotel

BOOKINGS

Caritas Bianchi Lodge

Caritas Bianchi Lodge is one of the Service Units of Caritas Community & Hospitality Services which is managed by Caritas−Hong Kong, the Official Social Welfare Bureau of the Roman Catholic Church in Hong Kong. Caritas Bianchi Lodge was opened in April, 1980

Book this hotel

BOOKINGS

Anne Black Guest House (YWCA)

The Anne Black Guest House offers comfortable, clean and safe accommodation with friendly and efficient service at a reasonable rate to travellers. The guest house, housing 169 rooms, on Man Fuk Road in downtown Kowloon, is conveniently close located to shopping areas and Tsimshatsui. (More hotel pictures and information at the bottom of this page.)

Book this hotel

BOOKINGS
Guangdong Tours Hotel

Book this hotel

Hotel Concourse

Book this hotel

Newton Hotel Kowloon

Surrounded by greenery yet situated in the vicinity of both the Nathan Road business district and the popular Mongkok shopping area, the Newton Kowloon offers easy access to Hong Kong International Airport and Prince Edward MTR subway station, which is the junction for lines to Central, Kwun Tong and Tsuen Wan.

Book this hotel

Guangdong Hotel

Located in the heart of Tsimshatsui, Guangdong Hotel is a gateway to the most spectacular shopping, entertainment and business activities. The proximity to Mass Transit Railway brings you the convenience of access to both business and tourist sites of the city. Guangdong Hotel has 245 rooms. The suites are designed with comfort and elegance in mind

Book this hotel

Ramada Hotel Kowloon

A Ramada International Hotel, located at a tree-lined boulevard, in the very heart of Kowloon's bustling business district, with its colourful night life and fabulous shopping. The Mass Transit Railway station with connections to major industrial and commercial districts and the Kowloon Railway Station with direct train to China are only minutes away

Book this hotel

Nathan Hotel

Nathan Hotel's superb location is attributable to its sound traffic network. MTR Jordan Station is easily accessible. Airport Express Station, China Hong Kong City and Kowloon Railway Station are in close proximity too. Our hotel offers 185 exquisitely decorated guestrooms, ranging from Standard Room, Superior Twin Room, Triple Room and Suite
Pearl Seaview Hotel

Pearl Seaview Hotel is ideally located at Yaumatei district Kowloon, next to the Temple Street Bazaar and night market. The hotel is convenient to the MTR (subway) of Yaumatei. The hotel has 257 well decorated guest rooms and suites, one lounge on the hotel's top floor and one Coffee Shop at the basement providing international cuisine.

Pearl Garden Hotel

Stanford Hotel Hong Kong

Stanford Hotel Hong Kong is located in Kowloon, one of the most colourful and vibrant areas. The hotel offers 194 tastefully appointed rooms in cheerful colour schemes. Bright rooms with a large window that runs down from ceiling to floor. All rooms feature ensuite bathroom/shower, minibar, refrigerator, alarm clock, hairdryer, coffee and tea making facilities, colour TV, in–house movie and satellite TV channels, IDD phone and central air−conditioning. The hotel offers one western and one Chinese restaurant and a cosy bar and lounge.

Stanford Hillview Hotel Hong Kong

Stanford Hillview Hotel Hong Kong is located in a quiet niche of the ever−bustling Tsimshatsui. The hotel offers 163 elegantly furnished rooms and suites. All rooms feature ensuite bathroom and shower, mini−bar, refrigerator, hairdryer, coffee and tea making facilities, colour TV, cable TV and in−house movie channels, IDD phone and central air−conditioning.

Windsor Hotel

Windsor Hotel is located in downtown Kowloon peninsula and in the heart of the premier shopping and entertainment district. The hotel is within walking distance to major tourist attractions, museums and the star ferry. Convenient transportation facilities are nearby. The hotel is situated only 5 minutes from the MTR subway station and 5 minutes drive to the railway station, which is the passage to China.
The Kowloon Hotel

The Kowloon Hotel, The Peninsula Group's four star business class property, located in Tsimshatsui's most popular shopping, entertainment and business district. All 736 guest rooms are modernly designed complimentary internet e-mail access, fax machine and computer set up which provide wide range of information for businessmen and tourists.

The Holiday Inn Golden Mile

The Holiday Inn Golden Mile is strategically located in the heart of Kowloon's shopping and business district. The MTR underground railway is adjacent to the hotel and the famous Star Ferry pier is a mere 5 minutes walk away. 600 guest rooms feature two double beds or a king size bed, voicemail, personal safe and more.

The Hongkong Hotel

Situated by the waterfront, the Hongkong Hotel overlooks Victoria harbour on the doorstep of Star Ferry. Located in the heart of the commercial, shopping and entertainment district of Hong Kong. The hotel is only 15 minutes away from Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre and offers convenient access to the Hong Kong International Airport at Chek Lap Kok via the Airport Express.

The Marco Polo Hong Kong

Situated in one of Hong Kong's largest shopping, entertainment and commercial complexes – Harbour City, in the Tsimshatsui district of Kowloon peninsula. A mere stroll away from the Mass Transit Railway (MTR) station, Star Ferry and bus terminal. Convenient access to the Hong Kong International Airport at Chep Lap Kok via the Airport Express.

The Prince Hong Kong

Situated in Harbour City, one of the largest shopping and commercial complexes in downtown Tsimshatsui. Just steps away from Star Ferry and the Mass Transit Railway (MTR) station. Conveniently access to the
Hong Kong International Airport at Chek Lap Kok via the Airport Express.

**Grand Tower Hotel Hong Kong**

Well sited on the premier location of Nathan Road, with all means of transportation including the underground railway (MTR) at the doorsteps. Prompt access to the airport and commercial area in Tsimshatsui while convenient shopping is just within the same complex and around the corner.

**Hotel Miramar Hong Kong**

Hotel Miramar is centrally located in the heart of Hong Kong's tourist and shopping centre, Tsimshatsui. The hotel is just a step away from the Star Ferry and the underground Mass Transit Railway Station allowing you access to most parts of the territory easily.

**Pruton Prudential Hotel**

Opened in 1991, the 434−room Pruton Prudential Hotel is conveniently located right above the Jordan MTR Station, comprising two superb food and beverages outlets with a spectacular view overlooking the glittering Nathan Road and a 6−storey shopping arcade of over 100 shops for leisure travellers. The 17−storey hotel also hosts the genuine executive floors in the neighbourhood for business travellers alike.

**The Royal Pacific Hotel & Towers**

Poised loftily in the heart of Tsimshatui, Hong Kong's most vibrant shopping, business and entertainment district, The Royal Pacific Hotel & Towers comprises 673 tastefully decorated guestrooms and unrivalled suites, affording breathtaking views of Victoria harbour and Kowloon park. With its central location atop China Hong Hong City complex, the hotel is in close proximity to the MTR station and legendary Star Ferry with the China Macau ferry terminal only an elevator ride−away.
New World Renaissance Hotel is superbly located right in the heart of Tsimshatsui's shopping, dining and entertainment heartland, with easy access to trains, buses, ferries and MTR, also cross–harbour tunnel

Book this hotel

New Astor Hotel

The New Astor Hotel is ideally located in the premier and bustling heart of Tsimshatsui – the vibrant entertainment, shopping and commercial district. The hotel provides you the most convenient and prompt access to the major points of interest. The MTR (underground railway) is just at the doorsteps. It only takes you 10 minutes from the Kowloon station (Airport Express Line) and the KCR station (railway to mainland China).

Book this hotel

The Imperial Hotel

The Imperial Hotel is perfectly located amidst the bustle of the tourist area of Tsimshatsui, surrounded by many tourist attractions, shopping arcades, fine restaurants & other fabulous night entertainments. We are only a minute's walk to the Tsimshatsui MTR station, linking us with the most parts of the Kowloon peninsula and Hong Kong Island.

Book this hotel

YMCA International House

The YMCA International House provides totally 400 luxurious and comfortable guest rooms out of which 29 are suites. Other facilities include Crystal room, Nine Dragon restaurant, Balcony lounge, indoor swimming pool, sauna, tennis court, squash courts, indoor gymnasium, travel & agent ticketing counter and chapel. The YMCA International House is a good choice because of its ideal location accessible to shopping arcades and commercial centres.

Book this hotel

The Salisbury – YMCA of Hong Kong

The Salisbury is located in the centre of the business and shopping district alongside the Victoria Harbour front. You have easy access to all destinations including the Hong Kong Convention & Exhibition Centre by MTR (subway) or ferry.

Book this hotel
**BOOKINGS**

**Dragon Hostel Hong Kong**

Dragon Hostel provides hostel accommodation in Hong Kong. The hostel is located at Mongkok – the well-known area of shopping, entertainment and dining.

Dragon Hostel is a government licensed tourist hostel. All rooms are furnished, clean and comfortable. They also provide China and Vietnam visa services.

**email:** 707@dragonhostel.com  
**address:** Room 707, 7/Floor, Sincere House, 83 Argyle St., MongKok, Kowloon, Hong Kong  
**CostOfDoubleForANight:** US$33.00  
**tel:** 852–9347–4767  
**costofdoubleforanight:** US$33.00  
**url:** www.dragonhostel.com

**Kowloon – Internet Cafes**

**all**

**Cyber–X Multimedia Fun Pub Cafe**

.tel=852–23672399

**address:** Empres Plaza, Chatham 17–19

**Kowloon – Sights**

Maybe you get the impression Kowloon has nothing but shops. There are indeed a lot of them but there are also a few others places that are worth a visit. Kowloon has several markets and a hand full of museums and temples, such as the colorful Wong Tai Sin Temple. A nice place to take a rest is the 'Kowloon Park'. You will find Chinese gardens, sculptures, waterfalls and rare trees. It also houses the 'Hong Kong Museum of History' and the 'Kowloon Mosque'. This place used to house the Qing fortress, the only area in Hong Kong not ruled by the British.

**all**

**Man Mo Temple**

Hong Kong Island's oldest and most important temple was built in the 1840s and is named after its two principal deities: Man, the god of literature, who is dressed in red and holds a calligraphy brush; and Mo, the god of war, wearing a green robe and holding a sword. Ironically, Mo finds patronage from both the police force (shrines in his honor can be found in all Hong Kong police stations) and triad secret societies. Two ornately carved sedan chairs in the temple were once used during festivals to carry the statues of the gods.
around the neighborhood. But what makes the temple particularly memorable are the giant incense coils hanging from the ceiling, imparting a fragrant, smoky haze. They are purchased by patrons seeking fulfillment of their wishes, such as good health or a successful business deal, and burn as long as 3 weeks.

opening hours: Daily 8am−6pm

**Wong Tai Sin**

Wong Tai Sin takes its name, in fact, from a legendary shepherd who learned the art of healing. In short, a visit to this temple, surrounded by vast, government housing estates, provides insight into Chinese religious practices and is well worth a stop despite its out−of−the−way location. Wong Tai Sin is Hong Kong's most popular Taoist temple, visited by more than 3 million worshipers. Although the temple itself dates only from 1973, it adheres to traditional Chinese architectural principles with its red pillars, two−tiered golden roof, blue friezes, yellow latticework, and multicolored carvings. What makes the temple so popular, however, is that everyone who comes here is seeking information about their fortune—from advice about business or horse racing to determining which day is most auspicious for a wedding. Most worshipers make use of a bamboo container holding numbered sticks. After lighting a joss stick and kneeling before the main altar, the worshiper gently shakes the container until one of the sticks falls out. The number corresponds to a certain fortune, which is then interpreted by a soothsayer at the temple. You can wander around the temple grounds, on which can be found halls dedicated to the Buddhist Goddess of Mercy and Confucius; the Nine Dragon Garden, a Chinese garden with a pond, waterfall, and a replica of the famous Nine Dragons mural (the original is in Beijing's Imperial Palace); the Good Wish Garden, a replica of the Yi He Garden in Beijing with circular, square, octagonal, and fan−shaped pavilions, ponds, an artificial waterfall, and rocks and concrete fashioned to resemble animals; and a clinic with both Western medical services and traditional Chinese herbal treatments.

address: Wong Tai Sin Estate
opening hours: daily 7am−5:30pm

**Hong Kong Museum of History**

More than 500 exhibits cover four floors, with sections devoted to the life sciences; light, sound and motion; virtual reality; meteorology and geography; electricity and magnetism; computer and robotics; construction; and transportation and communication. Visitors can play with different optical illusions, enter a rotating room to learn physics in a noninertial frame, "freeze" their shadow on a wall, and pick up remote voices with a large parabolic disc. There are exhibits designed to test a visitor's fitness, such as lung capacity, endurance, and blood pressure.

address: Kowloon Park, Haiphong Road, Tsim Sha Tsui

**Lei Cheng Uk Han Tomb Museum**

address: Tonkin St 41, Sham Shui Po

**Navigator Nissi Culture Centre**

address: Manning Theatre Bldg, Tsz Wan Shan
tel: 2.3286427

**Hong Kong Science Museum**

Kowloon − Sights
Hong Kong Museum of Art

If you visit only one museum in Hong Kong, this should be it. Located on the Tsim Sha Tsui waterfront between the Cultural Centre and Space Museum and just a 2-minute walk from the Star Ferry terminus, this museum has a vast collection of Chinese antiquities and fine art, including ceramics, bronzes, jade, cloisonné, lacquerware, bamboo carvings, women's costumes (look for the first-sized shoes for bound feet), and textiles, as well as paintings, wall hangings, scrolls, and calligraphy dating from the 16th century to the present. The works are arranged in five permanent galleries on three floors of exhibit space, plus two galleries devoted to changing exhibits. The Historical Pictures Gallery is especially insightful, with 1,000 works in oils, watercolors, pencil drawings, and prints that provide a visual account of life in Hong Kong, Macau, and Guangzhou (Canton) in the late 18th and 19th centuries. Another gallery displays contemporary Hong Kong works by local artists. A bonus is the beautiful backdrop of Victoria Harbour.

Hong Kong Space Museum

The Space Museum is easy to spot with its white-domed planetarium. It's divided into two parts: the Exhibition Halls with its Hall of Space Science and the Hall of Astronomy; and the Space Theatre. The Hall of Space Science explores the human journey to space, with exhibits on ancient astronomical history, science fiction, early rockets, manned spaceflights, and future space programs. There are also several interactive rides and exhibits, including a ride on a virtual paraglider, a harness that holds occupants aloft with the same approximate gravity they'd experience walking on the moon, and a multi-axis chair developed for astronaut training that gives the sensation of tumbling through space. The Hall of Astronomy presents information on the solar system, solar science, the stars, and the universe.

Kowloon Park

With a games hall, swimming pool and an open-air Sculpture Walk, Kowloon Park is a tranquil oasis one of the busiest shopping and dining areas.

Kam Shan Country Park, Kowloon

Kam Shan is situated to the north of Kowloon. From the slopes of Golden Hill and along the western ridge of the park, visitors can enjoy magnificent views of Tai Mo Shan, Needle Hill, Lion Rock and Beacon Hill.

Kowloon Walled City Park

This park seeks to preserve the heritage of Kowloon's fabled Walled City. Among its attractions are a courtyard, the Old South Gate of the Walled City, sculptures, pavilions, flowers and tree-lined pathways.
Take bus no. 1 or 1A from Tsim Sha Tsui Star Ferry. Or Take minibus no. 39M from Lok Fu MTR Station.

Clock Tower

The Clock Tower was part of the former Kowloon–Canton Railway Terminus. It was built in 1915.

address: Waterfront Promenade

British School

The former Kowloon British School was completed in 1902. It is the oldest surviving school building constructed for foreign residents in Hong Kong. The architecture is typical of many English schools of the Victorian era. The building is now used as the Exhibition Gallery of the Antiquities and Monuments Office.

Observatory

Built in 1883, the Observatory stands on a small hill in Tsim Sha Tsui. It was declared a monument in 1984 and continues to monitor Hong Kong's weather. (Group visits by arrangement only).

Yau Ma Tei Yau Ma Tei & Mong Kok

Just north of Tsim Sha Tsui is lively Yau Ma Tei, which means "place of sesame plants" in Chinese and reflects the area's rural heritage. A few blocks north, Mong Kok has long held the distinction of being one of the world's most densely populated urban areas. Although parts of the district have been modernised, it remains a cheerfully crowded community and a hive of shopping activity. Lively open-air Temple Street Night Market is the most popular haunt for bargains. Though it opens at 2:00pm, the market really comes to life at dusk. Its stallholders specialise in inexpensive men's clothing, novelty items, luggage, watches and much more. Fortune-tellers and palm readers, and sometimes Chinese opera singers, make the market a fascinating street theatre. The centre of the market makes way for the Tin Hau Temple, the communal heart of Yau Ma Tei. The public square in front is the preferred gathering place for chess players. 

cvc:

Kowloon – Getting Around

There is no tram like on Hong Kong Island to get you around town. Kowloon’s town centre, however, can be explored easily by foot. The train station, where the trains for China and the New Territories depart, is located at Canton Road. West of this train station is the Cross–Harbour Tunnel that links Kowloon to Hong Kong island. Nearby is also the Hung Hom Ferry Pier, which offers services to Central, Wan Chai, and North Point.

Kowloon – Nightlife and Entertainment

Harbour Plaza Hong Kong

Harbour Plaza Hong Kong is located along Kowloon Whampoa waterfront with 416 spacious guestrooms, 101 serviced suites, 2 Harbour Club Floors and 8 distinct restaurants. Other facilities include a fully equipped fitness centre and extensive function rooms.
Book this hotel

Pak Yong Woong
address: Tsim Sha Tsui
tel: 2.7143973

Ned Kelly's Last Stand
address: Ashley Road 11, Tsim Sha Tsui East
tel: 2.3760562

Walk in Bar & Cafe
address: Hillwood Road 34, Tsim Sha Tsui East
tel: 2.3140297

Chasers
address: Knutsford Terrace 1–3, Tsim Sha Tsui
tel: 2.3679487

Hippo Bar
address: Shun Fai Bldg, Tsim Sha Tsui
tel: 2.3140933

Mercury Pub
address: Wing Lee Bldg, Tsim Sha Tsui
tel: 2.72322814

Tam Ying Hei
address: Dolfords Mans 3, Tsim Sha Tsui
tel: 2.72243715

Tequila Inn
address: King Fuk St 75, San Po Kong
tel: 2.3214223

Rick's Cafe
address: Enterprise Centre, Tsim Sha Tsui
tel: 2.3672939

The Jouster Ltd
address: Kency Tower, Tsim Sha Tsui
De HK
address: Tsim Sha Tsui Centre, Tsim Sha Tsui East
tel: 2 721 7788

Alice Nightclub
address: Tak Cheung Bldg, Mong Kok
tel: 2 392 1182

Bauhina Night Club
address: Far East Bank Mongkok Bldg, Mong Kok
tel: 2 390 9577

Jukebox Disco
address: Howard Bldg, Tsim Sha Tsui
tel: 2 368 5262

Happy Angel Night Club
address: Pollock Bldg, Yau Ma Tei
tel: 2 376 2296

Jazz Night Club
address: Dundas St 37, Mong Kok
tel: 2 771 6768

New Paris Night Club
address: Hilton Tower, Tsim Sha Tsui East
tel: 2 368 0628

China City Night Club Ltd
address: Peninsula Centre, Tsim Sha Tsui East
tel: 2 723 0388

Lai Sing
address: Sang Fat Mans, Mong Kok
tel: 2.3940053

Asakusa Studio
address: Tung Fat Hse, Mong Kok
tel: 2.7871783

Austin
address: Nathan Rd 473, Yau Ma Tei
tel: 2.7802090
Better Fort Ltd

*D: Big Echo Club Karaoke Box

address: Energy Plaza, Tsim Sha Tsui East
tel: 2.7322000
California Red Karaoke Box

*D: Keung Yuen Leung Ricky

address: Pollock Bldg, Yau Ma Tei
tel: 2.3149101
Lee Sai Man

address: Kent Bldg, Yau Ma Tei
tel: 2.3857292
Chau Tat Hung

address= Rammon Hse, Mong Kok
tel: 2.7892070
Jangle King

address: Silvercord Shopping Centre, Tsim Sha Tsui
tel: 2.3752828

Kowloon – Eating Out

Kowloon has everything to offer when it comes down to food. Traditional local dishes, international cuisines and fastfood,...for both the million and the millionaire (and you can see many of them).

all

Fa Hoi Noodle

address: Tit Shu St 64, Tai Kok Tsini
tel: 2.3951076
Pak Bo Vegetarian Restaurant

tel: 2.3802681
Ah Yee Leng Tong Restaurants Ltd.
tel: 2.3176082
Sai Sha Cafe Ltd

address: Nai Chung 10
tel: 2.4618029
Chau's Restaurant

Tel=2.7227880

address: Humphreys Avenue 12–16, Tsim Sha Tsui

Chui Chow Restaurant

address: Granville Road 98, Tsim Sha Tsui East
tel: 2.7236226
Banana Leaf Curry House

address: Nathan Road 601, Mong Kok
tel: 2.3322525
Daewongak

address: Lai Chi Kok Road 22, Mong Kok
tel: 2.3976683
Dai Pai Dong

address: Tat Chee Avenue 80, Kowloon Tong
tel: 2.2658022
Fook Lam Moon Restaurant

address: Kimberley Road 53–59, Tsim Sha Tsui
tel: 2.3660286
Fishing Point Seafood Restaurants

address: Mody Road 67, Tsim Sha Tsui East
tel: 2.3696133
Spring Moon

Traditional Chinese Tea house and shop. Opening Hours Mon – Sat: 11:30am – 10:30pm Sun & PH: 11am – 10:30pm

address: 1/F, The Peninsula Hong Kong Salisbury Road
tel: 2315 3160
The Peninsula
For a great High Tea, head for the Peninsula on Salisbury Road. Opening Hours: (Verandah) Daily: 7am – 10:30pm (Lobby Lounge) 7am – 1am High Tea Hour: (Verandah) Fri – Sun & PH: 3pm – 5pm (Lobby Lounge) Daily: 2pm – 7pm

address: Salisbury Road
tel: 2920 2888

**Hsien Chi Yen**

Hsien Chi Yen in Mong Kok, specializes in Taiwan style tea ceremonies. Stays open until midnight!

address: 61A Shan Tung Street
tel: 2782 1438

**Dai Pai Dong**

For a tea house and bistro that keeps pouring drinks until after midnight, Dai Pai Dong on Canton Road is your best bet.

address: G/F, Hanley House 70 Canton Road
tel: 2317 7728

**Amaroni’s Little Italy**

Amaroni’s is one of the best Italian places in town. Open until midnight.

address: LG 132 Festival Walk
tel: 2265 8818

**Sabatini Ristorante Italiano**

Sabatini on Mody Road does good pasta dishes.

address: 3/F, The Royal Garden 69 Mody Road
tel: 2733 2000

**Valentino Ristorante Italiano**

One of the better Italian restaurants.

address: G/F, Ocean View Court 27A Chatham Road South
tel: 2721 6449

**Pit Shop**

If you are into fast cars & feeling hungry, make a Pit stop in the Pit Shop. It's open until after midnight.

address: G/F, One Harbourfront 20 Tak Fung Street
tel: 2996 8455

**Rainforest Cafe**
Save the rainforest while eating in this cafe on Tat Chee Avenue!

address: LG2–30, Festival Walk 80 Tat Chee Avenue
tel: 2777 3222

Planet Hollywood

Yes there is a Planet Hollywood in HK. So if you miss Arnold Schwarzenegger, head for Canton Road. Open until 2 am.

address: 3 Canton Road
tel: 2377 7888

Cafe Aladdin

Aladdin and his magic lamp are the key figures here. Closes at 10 pm (but most children go to bed earlier anyway).

address: Basement 2, Treasure World, Site 11 Whampoa Garden
tel: 2363 8368

Hello Kitty

Who is Kitty? If you don't know your kids might. There is alos a Hello Kitto on Telford Plaza. Both of them close at 10 pm.

address: Shop 553, Level 5 Grand Century Plaza
tel: 2396 6569

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Notes:
Lantau

Lantau Island is twice as big as Hong Kong Island but far less densely populated. The government decided that it was time to enliven Lantau and made plans for a major airport that was finished in 1998. These days, it is very easily accessible by both ferry (nice trip!) and plane. The airport was only the beginning of the island’s metamorphosis. The old monastery and the enormous Buddha (the largest outdoor Buddha in the world) amidst tea plantations have to compete with modern inventions, such as Waterworld, Science City and the theme park dedicated to Chinese customs. When everything goes according plan, Mickey Mouse and Donald Duck (and many of their relatives) will come to live on Lantau in 2005.

Lantau – Sights

all

Po Lin Monastery & The Big Buddha

One of Hong Kong’s major Buddhist centres, Po Lin Monastery is Lantau’s most popular tourist attraction. Set amid spectacular mountain scenery, the monastery shares Ngong Ping Plateau with the famous Big Buddha, the world’s largest, seated, outdoor, bronze Buddha statue. Visitors can walk up the 268 steps to visit the 26–metre–high, 202–tonne wonder. More ambitious hikers can climb nearby Lantau Peak. At 934 metres, it is Hong Kong’s second highest peak bhj ghy bhi: very good

Tung Chung

The last of the Sung Dynasty emperors and their 'travelling palace' stayed for a while in the valley behind this ancient fishing village, which is a pleasant 90–minute downhill walk from Po Lin Monastery. Be sure to visit Hau Wong Temple, a lovely tiered–roof structure from the 18th Century, as well as the harbourside Qing Dynasty fort. This cannon–decked early 19th Century battery was built to repel pirates and invaders.

Tai O Fishing Village

One hour by bus from Mui Wo, brings you to the fishing village of Tai O. Many of the Tank who live here, have built their homes built on stilts above the tidal waters. Their enchanting world is an amateur photographer's delight.

Lantau – Getting Around

The simplest way for a traveler to get around Lantau and see the sights is to take a guided tour. They are very informative and usually relatively inexpensive. The ferry service to Hong Kong Island is very fast and is fairly regular.

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New Territories

The mainland north of Kowloon, including some small islands, is known as the New Territories.

Although a third of Hong Kong's population lives in new towns constructed in the New Territories, the area has some scenic escapes, including the Sai Kung Peninsula, in the east, which is an unspoilt playground for hikers, campers, swimmers and boaters. Bird-watchers head to the Mai Po Marsh; cyclists and walkers head to Plover Cove Reservoir; hiking enthusiasts set out on the 100km-long MacLehose Trail which spans the New Territories from Tuen Mun in the west to Pak Tam Chung in the east.

The Kam Tim walled villages are quite touristy but at the same time offer a good insight into how life used to be in the 16th century. The China viewpoint is not far from these villages. However, less people make the effort to climb to the top to catch a glimpse of China, since it became more easily accessible recently. It would be a shame to rush through the NT in order to arrive in China as quickly as possible. Not in the least because the NT area offers some excellent hiking possibilities.

New Territories – Sights

Ten Thousand Buddhas Monastery

The Ten Thousand Buddhas Monastery is a major attraction here. More than 400 steps lead up the hillside to the temple, so strong legs and lungs are essential. Over 10,000 Buddha statues are stacked on shelves filling the walls of the main temple. Actually, there are now close to 13,000 images, all of a similar height but rendered in slightly different poses.

Tsang Tai Uk

Tsang Tai Uk is an outstanding example of a fortified village. Built in the 1840s, it is a large, rectangular grey-brick compound originally designed as the home for a rich quarry-master's clan.

Racing Track

The main draw in the area is undoubtedly Sha Tin Racecourse. One of the world's finest racetracks, with huge computer-controlled display panels for its totalisator system, this stadium can seat 85,000 spectators.

Che Kung Temple

Renovated in late 1993, Che Kung Temple is another major attraction. The ancient Taoist temple is dedicated to a deified general credited with saving the area from a plague.

New Territories – Things to do

MacLehose Trail
Serious hikers can trek at least part of this 100–kilometre trail, which soars through the highlands of the New Territories from the Sai Kung peninsula to the Tai Lam mountain range. The trail is divided into 10 stages and takes about 35 hours to complete. It is named after former governor, Sir Murray MacLehose.

**Lion Rock Country Park**

This park covers more than 500 hectares, of which about two-thirds are covered by forest. Highlights include Lion Rock, Mong Fu Shek (Amah Rock) and the surrounding scenic hillsides. The park is a favourite destination for picnickers, hikers and lovers of the great outdoors.

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Outlying Islands

There are 235 outlying islands, many of them little more than uninhabited rocks. However, Cheung Chau (Long Island) (2.5 sq km) has 22,000 residents and is fast developing into a mini Honolulu, although there is no big motorised traffic. People usually get around by walking or with bikes.

Lantau, the largest of the islands (142 sq km/55 sq mi) has a population of 45,000, a 933m (3060ft) peak, and a 70km (43mi) walking trail, but has avoided many of the development excesses of other islands. It is home to several important monasteries, including Po Lin Monastery with its enormous bronze Buddha. Thanks to the newish airport development, Lantau is now connected by bridge to the mainland.

One of the smaller islands is Peng Chau which has a really old style feel to it and is so removed from the rest of the high speed Hong Kong lifestyle. Its authentic fishing village, pleasant walks and views from Finger Hill are amongst the attractions in this chilled out day trip.

Other islands worth visiting include Lamma, Peng Chau, Poi Toi and the uninhabited Tung Lung Chau.

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