

Hong Kong Travel Guide book



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Known as the "Pearl of the Orient", Hong Kong is now a special administrative region of China since it was turned back to China in 1997. Originally a small fishing village, Hong Kong today is one of the most international metropolises in the world. As a city well-blended the oriental and western culture, Hong Kong is not only a bustling commercial city, but also a shopping paradise and gourmet paradise. English remains an official language in Hong Kong and the visa free policies for many nationals here had made it always being a popular destination worldwide. The best time to visit HK is from September to January.

Need to Know

City name: Hong Kong(香港)

Time zone: GMT +8

Location: Southern China

Climate: Marine subtropical monsoon climate

Annual mean temperature: 23.3°C

Best time to visit: spring and autumn

Districts: Hong Kong Island, Kowloon, New Territories, Lantau, Outlying Islands

Main train stations: Hung Hom Station, Hong Kong West Kowloon Railway Station

Main airports: Hong Kong International Airport (IATA: HKG, ICAO: VHHH)

Taxi: Hong Kong taxis are divided into different colors, the red ones drive on Hong Kong island and Kowloon, the green in the New Territories and the blue on Lantau.

Emergency contacts

Code Number: 00852

Fire, Police & First-aid: 999

Police enquiry: 25277177

Consumer council hotline: 29292222

Hong Kong Tourism Hotline: 25081234

Immigration Department Hotline: 28246111

1. Victoria Peak 太平顶

Victoria Peak, also known as the Peak by local residents, is the highest hill in Hong Kong Island, with an altitude of 554 meters. Located in the northwest of Hong Kong Island, Victoria Peak has been the landmark of HK for many years. It is one of the most famous tourist attractions in Hong Kong, as well as the most prestigious luxury housing area in the city with beautiful natural landscape. On the top of the Peak, there is a platform where you can overlook the attractive view of Hong Kong Island and Victoria Harbor, which is extremely beautiful, especially at night.

2. Victoria Harbor 维多利亚港

Victoria Harbor, famed as "Pearl of the Orient", is located between Hong Kong Island and the Kowloon Peninsula in Hong Kong. It is the largest seaport in Asia and the third largest in the world, behind San Francisco, USA and Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. It has worldwide reputation for its beautiful night view. Visitors can get free access to the island all year round. Taking the historic Star Ferry is the best way to appreciate the stunning scenery of Victoria Harbor and the iconic skyscraper.

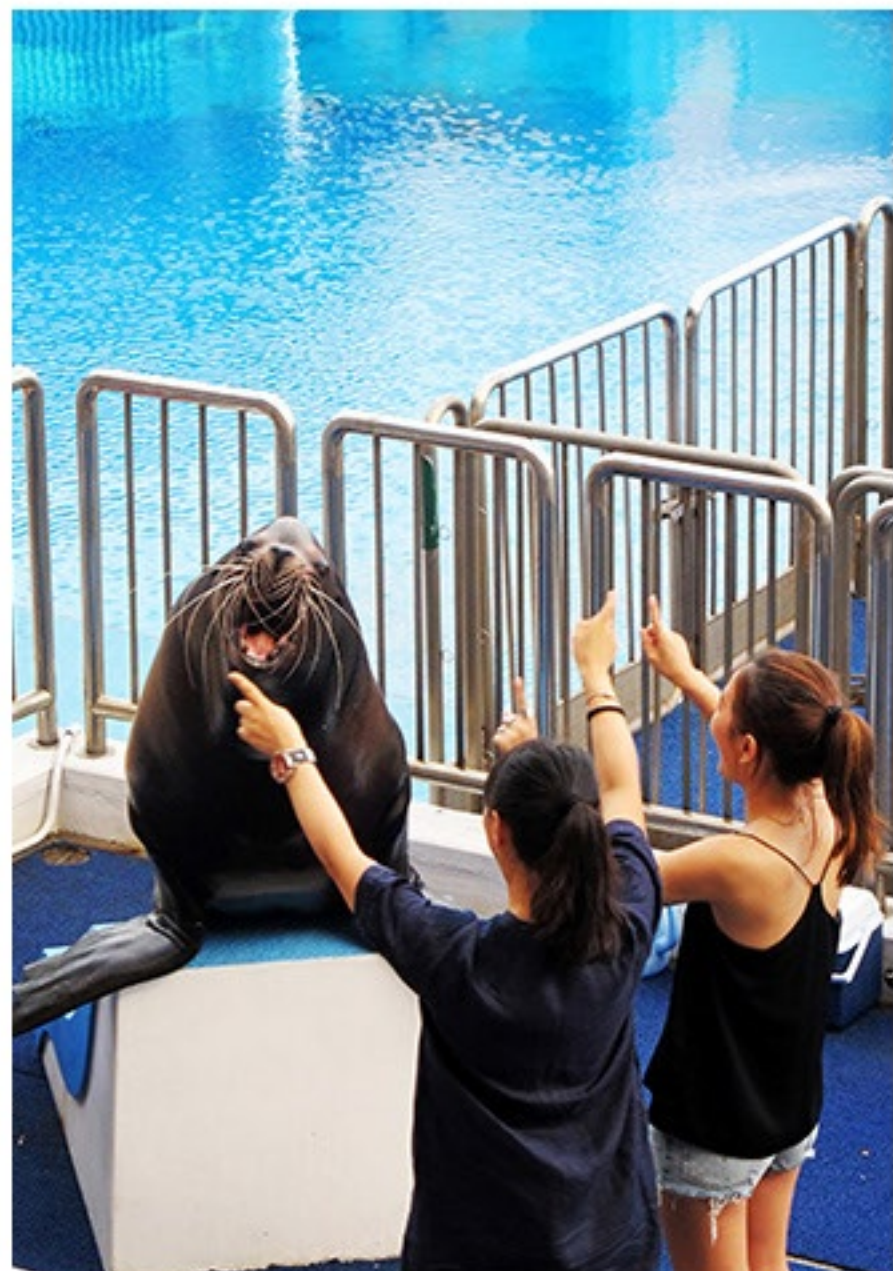




3.Avenue of Stars Hong Kong 香港星光大道

Avenue of Stars in Hong Kong is more like a milestone of Hong Kong movie industry than an attraction in Hong Kong. As a part of Tsim Sha Tsui Promenade, Avenue of Stars is a sign to show the Hong Kong movie position in the world. Till now more than 70 movies stars have left their hands or foots prints there. Based on the architectural style of Hollywood Avenue of Stars, it is a must-see attraction for movie fans. Taking a stroll along Avenue of Stars, tourists can also appreciate the harbor view of Hong Kong.

photo by ctrip.com



4. Hong Kong Ocean Park 香港海洋公园

The Ocean Park of Hong Kong is one of the world's largest oceanaria and comprises 170 hilly acres overlooking the sea. Opened in January, 1977, this very popular local theme park and amusement park is situated between Aberdeen and Repulse Bay of the Southern District of Hong Kong. The park has won several awards, including The World's Seventh Most Popular Amusement Park and 33rd Most Visited Tourist Attractions in the World by Forbes. The sheer variety of entertainment, education and conservation facilities will cater to the entire family and your experience will remain in your memory to love, enjoy and cherish for the rest of your life.



5. Hong Kong Disneyland 香港迪士尼乐园

Hong Kong Disneyland Park, located on reclaimed land in Penny's Bay, Lantau Island, is the first Disneyland Theme Park in China, the second in Asia and the fifth in the world. It covers an area of covering about 40 hectares, opened to visitors on 12 September 2005. The park was composed of 7 themed zones: Main Street U.S.A., Adventure Land, Fantasy Land, Tomorrow Land, Toy Story Land, Grizzly Gulch and Mystic Point. There are also many amusement facilities, entertainment performances, interactive experience activities, catering options and commodity shops.

6. Aberdeen 香港仔

Aberdeen is now a popular tourist attraction in Hong Kong that famous for its floating village and floating seafood restaurants. Originally, Aberdeen was only a small fishing village that located on the south shore of Hong Kong Island, has long prospered off of sea-based industries from the boom of the city's fishing industry in the early 20th century to its oil industry today. Riding the sampan is a popular way to explore the colorful and crowded Aberdeen harbor.



photo by ctrip.com

7. Repulse Bay 浅水湾

Located in the southern part of Hong Kong Island, Repulse Bay is an ideal resort and the most popular beach site for tourists to spend their leisure time. Shaped as a crescent, this bay enjoys long and gentle slope, broad and clean sandy beach and soft clear water, is great for sandy strolls and swimming and is a good place to take a stroll at sunset when all is at peace. As well as sun, sea and sand, there are plenty of diversions nearby. The former colonial style Repulse Bay Hotel and the ornate Life Guard Club built in traditional Chinese style are all there for you to explore. Repulse Bay enjoys the most convenient transportation.



8. Lantau Island 大屿岛

Lantau Island is the largest outlying island of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, with an area of 141.6 square kilometers, nearly twice of the size of Hong Kong Island doubled. The main peak of the island, Lantau Peak, has an altitude of 935 meters, being the second highest peak in Hong Kong. The Tiantan Giant Buddha on the island is the most famous landmark, which is one of the largest seated bronze Buddha statues in the world.



9. Madame Tussauds Hong Kong 香港杜莎夫人蜡像馆

Opened in 2000, Madame Tussauds Hong Kong is located in Lingxiao Pavilion on the top of Victoria Peak of Hong Kong, which is a special museum exhibiting celebrities' waxes. It exhibits celebrities and famous movie stars from all over the world, such as the wax figure of Jackie Chan, which is a must for domestic and foreign tourists. Asian figures in Madame Tussauds Hong Kong take up more than a third of the total. The wax figures are featured in a range of themed settings such as Hong Kong Glamour, Music Icons, Historical and National Heroes, The Champions and World Premiere.



1. Appreciate the best scenery of Victoria Harbour by Star Ferry

Star Ferry, with a long history of more than 100 years, is a famous cross-harbor transport connecting Kowloon and Hong Kong Island. It is considered the best choice to enjoy the beautiful scenery of Victoria Harbour, cheap and convenient, including lines between Tsim Sha Tsui and Central, between Tsim Sha Tsui and Wan Chai.

2. Have a Bird-eye view of Hong Kong on Victoria Peak

Victoria Peak, with an altitude of 554 meters, is the highest hill in Hong Kong Island. Being one of the landmarks in Hong Kong, Victoria Peak is no doubt the best place to have a bird-eye view of Hong Kong, including those skyscrapers, dense forests and also Victoria Harbour, don't miss the exceptional night view there. Meanwhile, riding the Tram will be a good choice for you to enjoy the spectacular sceneries.



3. Have fun in Hong Kong Disneyland

Hong Kong Disneyland, opened in 2005, is the first Disneyland Theme Park in China and the fifth in the world. There are four main parts in the park: Main Street U.S.A, Fantasy land, Tomorrow land and Adventure land. It's a great chance to have fun in Hong Kong, especially with your children and family.

4. Have a Sun-bathing on the beach of Hong Kong

Beaches in Hong Kong are everywhere and most people would like to have a small party during the weekend. Repulse Bay is the most famous beaches among Hong Kong. Having a sun-bathing in this sunny beach is fantastic during your summer days. Besides sun-bathing, you could enjoy a barbecue party and play a beach volleyball match.





5. Enjoy the Ultimate Hong Kong Experience aboard Aqua Luna

"Aqua Luna" is a tourist sailing boat for visitors to discover a side of Hong Kong that few people get to see. It used to be the most famous pirate ship in Hong Kong. Laying back on the comfort of the sofa bed, indulging in one of the Aqua Luna's hip cocktails and soaking in the fantastic views and skyline of Victoria Harbor of Hong Kong is a must do thing while you are traveling in this city.

6. Start a discovery trip on Lantau Island

Lantau Island is the largest island in Hong Kong, where you could enjoy the beautiful natural sceneries and discover historical culture. The Tiantan Giant Buddha on the island is the most famous landmark, which is one of the largest seated bronze Buddha statues in the world. Except for the big Buddha, you can also experience an amazing view by the cable car of Ngong Ping 360 and explore the Buddhism culture in Po Lin Monastery.



7. Relax yourself along Tsim Sha Tsui Promenade

Tsim Sha Tsui Promenade is a seaside park along Victoria Harbour where you could take the Star Ferry. Take a stroll along the promenade is one of the best ways to get the beautiful scenery of the Victoria Harbour. You will pass by many ancient buildings along the way, such as the Clock Tower, Hong Kong Space Museum, Hong Kong Museum of Art and the Avenue of Stars.



8. Go around Hong Kong by Ding-ding Tram

Ding-ding Tram, the iconic symbol of Hong Kong, is the main transportation in Hong Kong, passing the busiest commercial areas. The old-fashioned tram runs slowly with a low price, you could easily get close to the local life in Hong Kong among the buildings along the road.



9. Don't miss Dim Sim in Hong Kong

Dim Sum, Dianxin in Chinese, is no wonder to be the top one thing come to your mind when mention food in Hong Kong, tasting Dim Sim may be one of your must-do things on your list. Usually served in bamboo steamers, there are a variety of dishes steamed inside each steamer, Shrimp Dumpling, Spring Rolls and Pork Dumplings are highly recommended.



Nightlife in Hong Kong

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1. Enjoy a party in Lan Kwai Fong

Lan Kwai Fong, with kinds of characteristic restaurants and bars, is the most popular place of nightlife in Hong Kong, especially among young generation, it is also the most famous bar street in Hong Kong. Enjoy a party in Lan Kwai Fong will one of the best things to do at night during your Hong Kong trip.

2. Watch a Symphony of Lights Show

"A Symphony of Lights" has been awarded the world's "Largest Permanent Light and Sound Show" by Guinness World Records. A Symphony of Lights is staged every night at 8:00 p.m. on both sides of the Victoria Harbor and lasts for about 13 minutes each time. The best viewing locations of this nightly spectacle are the Tsim Sha Tsui waterfront outside the Hong Kong Cultural Centre, the promenade at Golden Bauhinia Square in Wanchai, and from sightseeing ferries in the Victoria Harbour.

3. Enjoy a concert in Hong Kong Coliseum

The HK Coliseum has always been an ideal place for large-scale sports events and popular music concerts in Hong Kong. You can buy a ticket to enjoy a concert at night in Hong Kong Coliseum. The music scene is brimming over with activity offering fans of every stripe the musical moments they will cherish forever.

4. Watch the Horse Racing Match

When referring the favorite sport in Hong Kong, horse racing will be the top one among locals. If you want to go see horse-racing at night in Hong Kong, you'd better go to Happy Valley Racecourse. Horse racing at Happy Valley Racecourse is held every Wednesday night. The horse racing season is from every September to June and early July in the following year.

5. Experience local lifestyle in the Temple Street Night Market

Take a stroll around the Temple Street Night Market, it is an ideal place for you to have a best experience of the local life in Hong Kong. Known as a popular street bazaar, you can taste different delicious food here, you can also do some shopping for clothes, watches and souvenirs.

1. Dim Sum 点心

Hong Kong Dim Sum is the most famous gourmet by the local people. If you are on a tour of Hong Kong, never fail to bite into Dim Sum, the tastiest collection of delicacies served in bamboo steamers. The top recommended foods include shrimp dumpling, baked bun with pork, pan-fried turnip cake, braised chicken feet, are the classic selections for many years. Tasting Dim Sum is one of your must-do things on your Hong Kong tour list.

Recommended places to eat:

Tim Ho Wan: G/F, No. 9-11, Fuk Wing Street, Sham Shui Po

Lung King Heen: Four Seasons Hotel Hong Kong, Podium 4, 8 Finance Street, Central

2. Chinese Barbecue 中式烧腊

Chinese Barbecue, known as Siu Mei, is a food you can't miss in Hong Kong. The highly seasoned meats are roasted on spits over an open fire or in a rotisserie oven, they are hung inside the restaurant and visible from the street. Char Siu is barbecued boneless pork with honey, spices, fermented tofu and rice wine. Roasted Goose, golden and bright in appearance, is tasty, tender, and fragrant, with fat meat but not greasy at all. You can eat Siu Mei in fast-food chains, high-end restaurants and supermarkets.

Recommended places to eat:

Joy Hing Roasted Meat: Chong Hing Building, No.265-267, Hennessy Rd, Wan Chai, Hong Kong

Chan Kee Roasted Goose: No. 427A, 427 Reclamation St, Mong Kok, Hong Kong

Tai Hing Roast Restaurant: F1, New Kowloon Plaza, No. 38 Tai Kok Tsui Rd, Tai Kok Tsui, Hong Kong

3. Congee & noodles 粥和面

Rice porridge, fish ball rice noodles and wonton noodles are one of the most popular late-night snacks in Hong Kong. Congee is a staple food in Hong Kong that many people eat as a simple breakfast. Stir-fried Noodles with Beef is a famous Cantonese cuisine, which is essential dish in Hong Kong tea restaurants. Originated in 1950s, Cart noodles is a representative street hawker meal. Wonton Noodles is made with shrimp held together by a delicate flour wrapper and served with chewy egg noodles in a savory broth.

Recommended Restaurant:

Sang Kee Congee Shop: 7 Burd Street, Sheung Wan, Hong Kong

Fu Kei Congee: 104 Fa Yuen St, Mong Kok, Hong Kong

Law Fu Kee: 140 Des Voeux Rd Central, Central, Hong Kong



4. Hong Kong-style Milk Tea 丝袜奶茶

Hong Kong-style milk tea is a kind of drink originated in Hong Kong, which is made from black tea and milk (usually evaporated milk or condensed milk). It is also known as "silk stocking tea" because it is often brewed in a large tea sock that resembles pantyhose. It has a smooth, creamy texture thanks to the evaporated milk. The sleek Hong Kong-style milk tea is probably the most representative of Hong Kong's specialty drinks.

Recommended places to eat:

Lan Fong Yuen: 2 Ka Chi Street, Central, Hong Kong Island



5. Pineapple Bread 菠萝包

Pineapple Bread, known as Bo Lo Bao in Chinese, is a kind of sweet bun quite popular in Hong Kong and Macau. It is a pillowy soft bread with a crunchy and sugary top crust which looks like a pineapple, hence the name. Typically, the bun would be brought hot from the oven to the diner's table, and served halved with a large slab of butter in between the halves.

Recommended places to eat:

Kam Wah Café: G/f, 47, Bute street, Mong Kok, Kowloon.

Kam Fung Café: 41 Spring Garden Lane, Wan Chai, Hong Kong

6. Egg Waffle 鸡蛋仔

Egg Waffle, also known as Eggette or Gai Daan Jai, is a unique egg-based waffle popular in Hong Kong and Macao area. It is ranked as one of the most popular "street snacks" in the city. Egg Waffles are made from eggs, sugar, flour and evaporated milk. Egg Waffle looks in golden color with flavor of cake.

Recommended places to eat:

Lee Keung Kee North Point Egg Waffles: 2 O'brien Rd, Wan Chai, Hong Kong

Hung Kee Top Quality Egg Waffles: Shop A34C, The 2nd Path, Tai On Lau, 57-87 Sau Kei Wan Road, Sai Wan Ho, Sai Wan Ho, Hong Kong



7. Sweets 甜品

The dessert shops open all over the streets, as Hongkongers love to drink sweet soup, eat desserts, and love to chat with friends in the dessert shop after dinner. Chilled Mango Sago Cream with Pomelo is a must-try dessert consisting of mango, pomelo, sago, coconut milk, cream and sugar. White Fungus and Pear Soup is a warming and wholesome dessert popular in winter. Durian creations are especially popular desserts including durian ice-cream, durian sorbet and durian slush drinks.

Recommended places to eat:

Lucky Dessert: 2 Prat Ave, Tsim Sha Tsui, Hong Kong

Hui Lau Shan: 49 Carnarvon Rd, Tsim Sha Tsui, Hong Kong

Yuen Kee Dessert: 32 Centre St, Sai Wan, Hong Kong



8. Hawker Food 街头小吃

If you want to eat the most local snacks of Hong Kong, you should not miss the hawker foods along the street. Egg tart is a pastry-crust filled with egg custard and baked. Faux Shark's Fin Soup is one of the common street snacks in Hong Kong, which is made of mushrooms, black fungus, pork meat, noodles and seasonings. Wife Cake is a kind of bun filled with sweet winter melon paste. Fish balls are made with freshly ground fish paste, taste bouncy and chewy.

Recommended places to eat:

Tai Cheong Bakery: No. 35, Lyndhurst Terrace, Central, Hong Kong



9. 凉茶

Herbal tea is a popular drink in Hong Kong and Macao area with the folks. It is cooked by traditional herbs. A variety of herbal tea shop along the streets has been a symbol of Hong Kong. Tortoise jelly, twenty-four flavors tea, Plum soup, etc. are the most popular kinds of herbal tea in HK.

Recommended places to eat:

Sam Bat Mai Kudzu: G/F, Wah Yuen Court, 18 Fa Yuen Street, Mong Kuk, Hong Kong

Kung Wo Tong: Kam Yin Mansion, 15-17 Woosung St, Yau Ma Tei, Hong Kong



Shopping in Hong Kong

Where to shop

Hong Kong is regarded as one of the top shopping paradises in the world. Harbor City, IFC Mall, Pacific Place, Times Square, Elements and Lee Garden are the best choice for buying luxuries goods. Best places to buy cheap clothing, souvenirs and handcrafts in Hong Kong include Ladies Street, Stanley Market, and Temple Street, but you have to bargain a lot to get a cheaper price. Cosmetics stores like SaSa, Bonjour, Colormix, Watsons, Lung Shing Pharmacy, Aster Cosmetic Center, etc, often offer you lots of great discounted cosmetics or perfume. Places like Mong Kok Computer Centre, Golden Computer Centre, Wan Chai Computer Centre, Sin Tat Plaza, Broadway Electric City, and Fortress City are recommended places to buy digital products in Hong Kong.

What to buy

Almost all the international brands of designer clothing, shoes and bags, such as Louis Vuitton, Prada, Hermes, Gucci and Valentino, can be found in Hong Kong. Besides brand-name goods, Hong Kong is an excellent place to buy made-to-measure clothing. Makeups and perfume are always the best loves for girls or a good gift for your girlfriend. Hong Kong is one of the world's leading markets for jewelry. Because of the lack of sales tax, you can buy high-end brands watches like Rolex, Cartier, Patek Philippe at a cheap price. You can also find the latest fashions, cutting edge, electronic products like mobiles, computers, cameras and more.



How to get to Hong Kong

Air: Hong Kong International Airport is one of the busiest cargo hubs in the world and one of the top 10 busiest passenger airports in the world, providing more than 1,100 flights a day to approximately 220 destinations around the world such as London, Paris, New York, Vancouver, Singapore, etc, as well as 50 mainland cities. Hong Kong International Airport is located in Chek Lap Kok, Lantau Island, about 35 km from the city. It has two terminals, namely T1 and T2.

Train: Hong Kong has 2 railway stations for passenger service: Hong Kong Hung Hom Station and Hong Kong West Kowloon Railway Station. West Kowloon Railway Station is the terminus of cross-border services with destinations to major cities in China mainland including Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou, Shenzhen, Guilin, Changsha and Xiamen.

Trains from Shanghai to

High speed trains from Shanghai Hongqiao to			
Destination	Duration	Price CNY for a 2 nd Class Seat	Frequency
Guangzhou South	1h	215	34
Guilin West	3.5h	379	2
Changsha South	3.5h	529	4
Chongqing West	7.5h	660gz	1
Shanghai Hongqiao	8.5h	1008	1
Beijing West	9h	1077	1

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