

## Evolution of a Fishing Village

# Shau Kei Wan

*In olden times, Shau Kei Wan (Shau Kei means pail and Wan means bay) provided a haven for ships and served as a typhoon shelter for fishermen. Down through the years, the area became a centre for shipbuilding and a number of temples dedicated to popular fisherfolk deities such as Tin Hau and Tam Kung sprang up. You can still visit them today and they provide great colour at festival time.*

*In 1860, in a move to eradicate the area of pirates, Governor Macdonnell created a waterfront road, now called Shau Kei Wan Main Street East, that you can walk along today. Wharfs were established with stores and houses built along the street, allowing the fisherfolk to start moving onto the land from their boats.*

*After WWII, Shau Kei Wan developed into a major fish-trading centre, which you can still see today. By the 1960s, many multi-storey buildings had been built on reclaimed land and now the area has become a densely populated residential district.*



# Shau Kei Wan Walking Map



5 香港海防博物館  
Hong Kong  
Museum of  
Coastal Defence

6 譚公仙聖廟  
Tam Kung  
Temple

4 玉皇殿  
Yuk Wong  
Temple

3 巴色差會  
崇真堂  
Tsung Tsin  
Church


2 天后廟  
Tin Hau  
Temple

1 城隍廟  
Shing Wong  
Temple

**圖例 Legend**

-  路線起點  
Start of Walk
-  路線  
Route
-  港鐵站出入口  
MTR Station Entrance
-  電車路線  
Tramline

地圖並非按比例繪製  
Map not drawn to scale


 → MTR Shau Kei Wan Station Exit C, walk along Mong Lung Street and turn left into Kam Wa Street to tram terminus. Shing Wong Temple is adjacent to it. Or take tram to the Shau Kei Wan Terminus and Shing Wong Temple is right nearby.

## 1 Shing Wong Temple 城隍廟



The temple was built in 1877 and was originally called Fook Tak Tsz. In 1974, a new front gate was added giving the impression of "a temple within a temple". The temple was renamed Shing Wong. It is quite popular with local residents, being situated very near the Shau Kei Wan Tram Terminus. Opening hours: 8am – 5pm.



 → Walk along Shau Kei Wan Main Street East to Sai Yun Lane. Turn right to Tin Hau Temple.

## 2 Tin Hau Temple 天后廟



This small Tin Hau Temple dedicated to the Goddess of the Sea and a number of lesser deities dates back to 1876. There is a pair of stone lions outside the temple and inside you'll find a collection of well preserved murals, woodcarvings and Shek Wan pottery. Opening hours: 8am – 5pm.



Did you know...

### Shau Kei Wan Main Street East

This is one of the most important streets in Shau Kei Wan district. In the 19th century, the street was the waterfront. In the 1860s, to crack down on pirates hiding here, the Hong Kong Government decided to clean up the area by building houses and stores on the two sides of the road. While the old houses have been replaced by modern high-rises, there are still a few old restaurants and stores on the street.



→ Walk along Shau Kei Wan Main Street East, turn right to Basel Road and Tsung Tsin Church.

## 3 Tsung Tsin Church 巴色差會崇真堂



This church was built in 1862 by local Hakkas with the help of priests from the Swiss Basel Church. When the Japanese invaded in 1941, it served as the temporary headquarters of the Japanese military police. After the war, the church was rebuilt, a school was added in 1958 and the church proper was further expanded in 1990.



Did you know...

### Shau Kei Wan Tram Terminus

Located at the junction of Shau Kei Wan Main Street East and Kam Wa Street, this is the eastern end of the line built in 1904 that runs to Kennedy Town in the west.

→ Continue along Shau Kei Wan Main Street East to A Kung Ngam Village Road. Follow the directional signs to Yuk Wong Temple.

#### 4 Yuk Wong Temple 玉皇殿



Yuk Wong is credited with solving flooding problems and saving people's lives. This temple was originally a shrine built in the mid-19th century by people from Mainland China who worked in a nearby stone quarry. In the early 1900s, the shrine was expanded into a small temple. Opening hours: 8am – 5pm.



→ Follow the directional signs, cross Tung Hei Road. Turn right and you will see the Hong Kong Museum of Coastal Defence in front of you.

#### 5 Hong Kong Museum of Coastal Defence 香港海防博物館



The Lei Yue Mun Fort built by the British in 1887 to defend Hong Kong against invasion by sea is home to an intriguing exhibition of military memorabilia covering the 600 years from the Ming and Qing periods. It sits perched on the heights overlooking the narrow strip of water at Lei Yue Mun, now famous for its seafood restaurants. The 34,200-square-metre Museum of Coastal Defence features a Reception Area, Redoubt and Historical Trail that paint a vivid picture of Britain's readiness to defend Hong Kong against any aggressors. Opening hours: 10am – 5pm (closed on Thursdays and first two days of Chinese New Year). Free admission on Wednesdays. Enquiry: 2569 1500.



→ Walk back along the Tam Kung Temple Road, and follow the directional signs to Tam Kung Temple.

#### 6 Tam Kung Temple 譚公仙聖廟



One of the few deities known only to Hong Kong, Tam Kung is also a patron of fishermen. This temple is over 100 years old and was renovated in 2002, with the original design being preserved. Besides the statue of Tam Kung, there is a small wooden junk and a dragon boat inside the temple. Opening hours: 8am – 5pm.



#### Did you know... Birthday of Tam Kung

The birthday of Tam Kung falls on the 8th day of the 4th Lunar month. For many years, locals held an annual procession to commemorate the time when many people were saved from a plague. Discontinued in the face of urbanisation, it has now been revived with all the colour and pageantry of its origins, including lion and dragon dancers parading along the main street.

For information about Hong Kong Mobile Host audio commentaries, please refer to page 1.