



# BEST IN HONG KONG

A TRAVELLER'S GUIDE



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**Hong Kong's New Tourist Attraction — Harbour City “Ocean Terminal Deck” is Open to the Public**



Located in the heart of Hong Kong and next to Victoria Harbour, Harbour City is a leading shopping mall in Hong Kong housing over 450 shops of all kinds, 3 hotels, an art gallery and more than 70 food & beverage outlets including Michelin-recommended restaurants and over 20 harbour view restaurants, ensuring visitors from all over the world enjoy an incredible one-stop shopping, dining and entertainment experience.



Located on the rooftop of Ocean Terminal's new five-storey extension building, Ocean Terminal Deck is an observatory deck surrounded by the sea that offers a 270-degree panorama of Victoria Harbour as well as breathtaking views of Hong Kong Island and Kowloon. It is one of the best venues to enjoy Hong Kong's sunset and evening views. This extension building are mainly dining outlets, each with stunning harbour views and alfresco dining area enabling customers to enjoy the glamorous views of Victoria Harbour while savouring high-quality global cuisines, including Tsukada Nojo (Japanese), Xihe Yayuan (Beijing), Paper Moon (Italian), ANA Ten (Japanese), HEXA (Guangdong), A Nu Retrouvez-vous (French) and Fu Rong (Sichuan).

Tel : (852) 2118 8666 Website : [www.harbourcity.com.hk](http://www.harbourcity.com.hk)  
Address : 3-27, Canton Road, Tsim Sha Tsui, Kowloon

Access :  
10-minute walk from MTR Tsim Sha Tsui station (Exit A1) or East Tsim Sha Tsui station (Exit L5) to Harbour City  
7-minute ride from Central or Wan Chai Star Ferry Pier to Tsim Sha Tsui Pier



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Twitter : @hkharbourcity | Instagram : @harbourcity  
Sina Weibo : @香港海港城 | WeChat ID : hkharbourcity  
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**HARBOUR CITY**

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

# discover the best of Hong Kong

It's 8am on a fresh, autumn morning. In **Victoria Park**, spritely seniors perform **Tai Chi**, while eager bankers jog in skin-tight running gear en route to Central's soaring finance hub. Shopkeepers set out baskets of dried seafood, while a neighbouring art gallery adjusts its window display for an upcoming show. Early-rising tourists start posing for selfies as a colonial-era tram – sides emblazoned with software adverts – slowly clatters by.

This is **Hong Kong**, a dazzling fusion of cultures and contrasts, where Blade Runner-cityscapes sit comfortably against boundless lush-green backdrops. From barren rock to thriving Far Eastern outpost, 100 years of British colonial rule to two decades and counting as a **thriving modern metropolis**, it's a city that defies easy categorisation.

Most importantly, it's a world-class destination that rewards anyone who takes the time to explore its many layers. Whether you're seeking glimpses of **authentic Hong Kong heritage** or **shopping** for the latest **street fashions**, hungry for some **Michelin-starred feasting** or eager to **trek across mountains** to remote coves, there's plenty to keep you busy here.

Where should you start? Well, we believe that nothing beats a local's perspective. Read on to discover the travel experiences that our in-the-know editorial team and panel of **local experts** have picked out for you to try.

Enjoy reading and **happy exploring!**

**Rod Mackenzie**, Executive Content Director  
NewBase Content

## start with these must-try experiences...



### BAR DISTRICTS

Party the night away at Hong Kong's many bar districts. From **Lan Kwai Fong & SoHo's** party central to **Wan Chai's** rowdy crowds, **Knutsford Terrace's** chilled lounges to local favourite **Tung Choi Street** (p146-147).



### BIG BUDDHA

Watching over Hong Kong like a god incarnate, the **Tian Tan Buddha** is a stunning statue that stands 34 metres high. Ride the cable car to reach it, and stop for lunch at nearby **Po Lin Monastery** (p26).



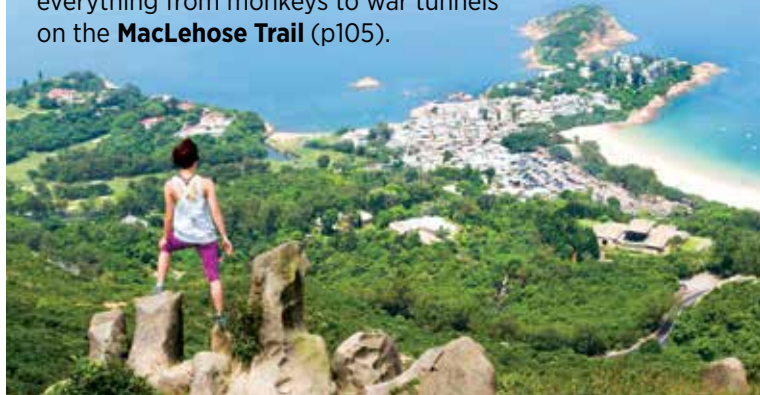
## DIM SUM

Dim sum: not only Hong Kong's breakfast staple, but a peek at our many societal rungs. Crack-of-dawn alongside the working classes at **Lin Heung Tea House** (p52); rubbing shoulders with all-day crowds at **Luk Yu Tea House** (p52), and then dishing out tycoon-style at **Lung King Heen** (p69).



## HIKING

Over 70 per cent of Hong Kong is green spaces, so strap on your boots and hit the trails. See stunning views on the **Dragon's Back** (p104), catch Lantau Island's greatest hits at the **Shek Pik Country Trail** (p105), and experience everything from monkeys to war tunnels on the **MacLehose Trail** (p105).



## HONG KONG'S HIGHEST INDOOR OBSERVATION DECK

A LANDMARK OF THE CITY



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HONG KONG



Present this page to enjoy **10% discount on sky100 Standard Ticket\***



Address: 100/F, International Commerce Centre (ICC), 1 Austin Road West, Kowloon, Hong Kong  
(MTR Kowloon Station Exit C, "sky100 Hong Kong Observation Deck" Entrance connecting ELEMENTS – Metal Zone 2/F)

Customer Hotline: +852 2613 3888 Website: www.sky100.com.hk

\* This offer cannot be used in conjunction with other ticket promotions or discounts, subject to terms and conditions.





## HORSE RACES

Go casual at the Wednesday evening races in **Happy Valley**, or don an Ascot for the weekend races in **Sha Tin** (p120). Horse racing is an essential part of Hong Kong culture, a pastime dating back 150 years.



## OLD TOWN CENTRAL

The perfect starting point for visitors, **Old Town Central** (p33) features five self-guided walks exploring the heart of one of Hong Kong's oldest neighbourhoods. History, arts, food and culture, it's all here.



## THE PEAK

Hong Kong Island's highest point, with stunning panoramic views of the city below, best seen at night. Ride the century-old **Peak Tram** (p27) to reach it, or go for a green approach following the stunning **Morning Trail**.




# satay inn

A TASTE OF SINGAPORE



### The Royal Pacific Hotel & Towers

Shop 3, Tower 1, Podium Level, China Hong Kong City, Tsimshatsui, Kowloon, Hong Kong

T: +852 2738 2368   [RoyalPacificHotel](#)

### City Garden Hotel

B/F, 9 City Garden Road, North Point, Hong Kong (Fortress Hill MTR station Exit B)

T: +852 2806 4938  [CityGardenHotelHK](#)  [citygardenhotelhongkong](#)


### Hong Kong Gold Coast Hotel

Lobby Level, 1 Castle Peak Road, Gold Coast, Hong Kong

T: +852 2452 8822   [GoldCoastHotel](#)

Please visit [www.iprestigerewards.com](http://www.iprestigerewards.com) / [www.sino-hotels.com](http://www.sino-hotels.com)

iPRESTIGE

 Sino Hotels





## THE SKYLINE

Our picture-postcard panorama, a striking mix of towering structures and shimmering lights. Catch dual-harbour views on the **Star Ferry** (p31), soak it in strolling on the **Tsim Sha Tsui Promenade** (p29), and then gaze out drink-in-hand from **Aqua** (p156).



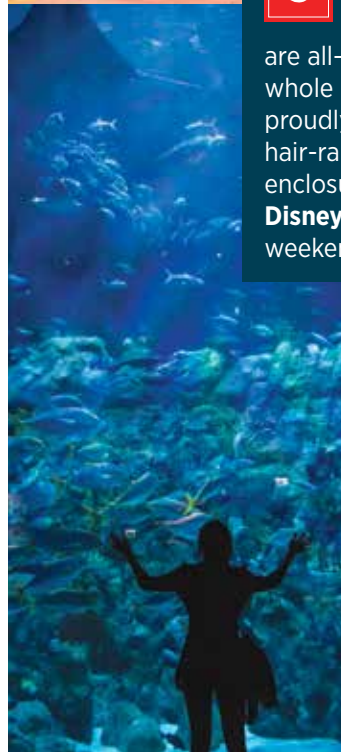
## STREET MARKETS

Hit the streets and shop at our many outdoor markets. **Cat Street** (p78) and **Temple Street** (p80) are antique and vintage favourites, while **Ladies' Market** (p79), **Stanley Market** (p80) and the **Central lanes** (p79) all sell everything from branded clothing to bric-a-brac.



## THEME PARKS

Hong Kong's theme parks are all-age playgrounds, fit for the whole clan. **Ocean Park** (p38) is proudly home-grown, balancing hair-raising rides with animal enclosures, while **Hong Kong Disneyland** (p36) is the ideal weekend family getaway.



**01**  
jan

**Hong Kong New Year Countdown Celebration**

As the clock strikes 12 and New Year comes a-calling, Victoria Harbour lights up in an epic display of music and fireworks. Watch it by the shore, head out to sea or zoom up a skyscraper to catch it in the clouds.

**Hong Kong Marathon**  
(p113)



**02**  
feb

**Hong Kong Chinese New Year** (p118)

**Hong Kong International Chinese New Year Night Parade** (p118)



**03**  
mar

**Hong Kong Arts Month**

Culture vultures come flying into town, as March signals Arts Month. From fine art to festivals, operatic events to outdoor live music shows, there's something for everyone.

**Hong Kong Arts Festival** (p135)

**Art Central**

**Art Basel** (p134)



**04**  
apr

**Hong Kong Sevens**  
(p114)



**05**  
may

**Birthday of Tin Hau**

**Cheung Chau Bun Festival**  
(p118)

**Birthday of Buddha**



**06**  
jun

**Hong Kong Dragon Boat Carnival** (p112)

**Dragon Boat Water Parade of Tai O** (p119)



**07**  
jul

**Hong Kong Summer Fun**

When the heat turns up, an array of showcases take place all across the city. Catch music festivals, sports tournaments, major fairs and other events, all set over summer.

**08**  
aug



**09** **Mid-Autumn Festival**  
(p119)

**sep**



**10** **Hong Kong Wine & Dine Festival**  
Food, drink and entertainment on Central's harbourfront.

**Hong Kong Cyclothon**  
Cyclothon sees amateurs and professionals riding through the city.

**Halloween**

**Hong Kong Tennis Open**  
(p114)



**11** **Hong Kong Great November Feast**  
The Great November Feast is a month filled with epicurean events, fairs and offers.

**nov**

**Hong Kong Great Outdoors**  
Take to the hills and explore the great outdoors, by seeking out hikes, beaches and islands.

**Clockenflap, Hong Kong's Music & Art Festival** (p135)

**Hong Kong Open**  
(p113)



All event dates are subject to change. Please visit [DiscoverHongKong.com](http://DiscoverHongKong.com) for details

**12** **Hong Kong WinterFest**  
The best of Christmas and New Year, in one month-long event.

**dec**

**Hong Kong Pulse Light Show**  
An audiovisual showcase that illuminates the Tsim Sha Tsui skyline.

**FIA Formula E Hong Kong E-Prix** (p112)



**KOWLOON HARBOURFRONT HOTEL**



**CULINARY EXPERIENCE**  
Indulge in a divine array of Asian and western cuisines, chill with a glass of fancy cocktail at our restaurants and bars.

**UNRIVALLED RECREATIONAL FACILITIES**  
Popular with family, leisure and business travellers, we offer a wide range of recreational facilities, such as outdoor swimming pool, Jacuzzi, sauna and well-equipped gymnasium.

**VERSATILE CONFERENCE ROOMS**  
Our versatile meeting and conference facilities make us the ideal place for your social events, seminars, and conferences.

**CONTEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION**  
Located in the heart of Hong Kong's Kowloon district and overlooking the spectacular Victoria Harbour, the guest rooms and suites are designed for guests who expect modern functionality and cozy ambience.

  
**HARBOUR PLAZA METROPOLIS**  
KOWLOON - HONG KONG  
Harbour Plaza Metropolis Limited  
(Incorporated in British Virgin Islands)

  
**KOWLOON HARBOURFRONT HOTEL**  
KOWLOON - HONG KONG  
Owned by Sino Oritia Enterprises Limited

**Harbour Plaza Metropolis**  
7 Metropolis Drive, Hungghom, Kowloon, Hong Kong  
(MTR Hungghom Station, Exit C2)  
Tel: 3160 6888 [www.harbour-plaza.com/hpme](http://www.harbour-plaza.com/hpme)

**Kowloon Harbourfront Hotel**  
8 Hung Luen Road, Hungghom Bay, Kowloon, Hong Kong  
(MTR Hungghom Station, Exit C2)  
Tel: 2186 9036 [www.harbour-plaza.com/khfh](http://www.harbour-plaza.com/khfh)

# useful information to help you get started



## HONG KONG BY NUMBERS

**Population:** Approximately 7.4 million

**GDP:** US\$320.9 billion (2016)

**Total Land Area:** 2,755 km<sup>2</sup>

**Districts:** 18

**Official Languages:**  
2 (English & Chinese)

**Calling Code:** +852

**Time Zone:** GMT+8 (all year round)

**Average Temperature:**

Spring (Mar–May) 17°C–26°C

Summer (Jun–Aug) 26°C–31°C

Autumn (Sep–Nov) 19°C–28°C

Winter (Dec–Feb) 12°C–20°C

Source: GovHK, World Bank,  
Hong Kong Observatory

## MONEY MATTERS

Currency exchange counters are available at the airport, as well as all over the city. Most ATMs accept international cards, while international credit cards are widely accepted. The Hong Kong dollar is pegged at HK\$7.8 to US\$1.

## KEEP CONNECTED

Prepaid SIM cards can be cheaply bought from any convenience store. Pick up a **Discover Hong Kong Tourist SIM Card**, special 5-day or 8-day passes loaded with minutes and data. Details: [DiscoverHongKong.com/TouristSIM](http://DiscoverHongKong.com/TouristSIM)

If you'd prefer to stay mostly unplugged, free Wi-Fi is available

at numerous points, including the airport, MTR stations and anywhere with a 'Wi-Fi.HK' logo.



## ONLINE RESOURCES

Dig deeper into the city with the **My Hong Kong Guide** mobile app, a comprehensive trip planning tool that presents thousands of attractions and activities, alongside dining, shopping and accommodation promotions. Also, make sure you visit **DiscoverHongKong.com**, Hong Kong's official destination website for a comprehensive guide to the city. And don't forget to hashtag your Facebook and Instagram posts with #DiscoverHongKong.

## GETTING AROUND

### Octopus

An **Octopus Card** is an essential



purchase, even if you're only here a couple days. The add-value card allows you to travel cash-free on all major transport systems, and can also be used at convenience stores and some shops. It costs HK\$150 at any MTR station (HK\$100 value, plus HK\$50 deposit refunded on return), and can be topped up easily.

### Airport

The Airport Express is the quickest way to get into the city, a 24-minute train journey that makes stops in **Tsing Yi, Tsim Sha Tsui and Central**. There are also buses that cover all major districts of the city.

### MTR

Hong Kong's clean and efficient subway system, the MTR covers nearly every part of the city. Buy tickets with cash at its machines, or use your Octopus Card. Make sure to check the signs to see which exit you want, as walkways can be long.



**Taxi**

Taxis are cheap and can be spotted nearly everywhere. Red taxis operate all across the city. Green ones are for **New Territories**. Blue are for **Lantau Island**. Red taxi flag-fall is HK\$24, and each piece of luggage carried costs HK\$6.

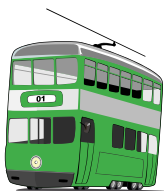


**Bus**

Buses operate all across Hong Kong. Double-decker buses are most frequent, and are hailed at designated stops. Minibuses are harder to navigate: green ones have set paths and stops, but red ones follow whatever route is quickest.

**Tram**

Street trams travel between the east and west points of Hong Kong Island. **The Peak Tram**, meanwhile, is really a funicular that scales up to the island's highest viewing point.



**Ferry**

Most ferries can be taken from **Central Pier**, including the Star Ferry to **Kowloon**, as well as **Outlying Island** ferries to **Cheung Chau**, **Lamma Island** and **Lantau Island**. Other piers include **Wan Chai**, **North Point**, **Aberdeen**, **Stanley**, **Hung Hom**, **Kowloon City** and **Sai Kung**.

**USEFUL NUMBERS**



<b>Emergency Services</b>	999
<b>Police Hotline</b>	+852 2527 7177
<b>Telephone Directory Enquiries</b>	1081
<b>Weather Information</b> (Hong Kong Observatory)	+852 1878 200
<b>Hong Kong Tourism Board Visitor Hotline</b>	+852 2508 1234
<b>Hong Kong Immigration Department</b>	+852 2824 6111
<b>Hong Kong International Airport</b>	+852 2181 8888

**CANTONESE PHRASES**

You'll have no problem only using English in Hong Kong – but trying out a bit of Cantonese will endear you with the locals. Here are some useful basic phrases to get started.

- Good morning: 早晨 (zou san)
- Hello: 你好 (nei hou)
- Thank you: 唔該 (ng goi)
- How are you?: 你好嗎? (nei hou maa)
- Excuse me: 唔好意思 (ng hou yi si)
- Marvellous!: 好犀利! (hou sai lei)
- Why?: 點解? (dim gaai)
- How much?: 幾多錢? (gei do cin)
- Delicious!: 好好味! (hou hou mei)
- The bill, please: 唔該埋單 (ng goi maai daan)



Serving sizzling steaks and time-honored grill favorites since 2004 at prominent locations in Hong Kong and Singapore.

**HONG KONG**

- Wooloomooloo Prime Tsim Sha Tsui
- Wooloomooloo Steakhouse Tsim Sha Tsui East, Wan Chai
- The Chop House Tsim Sha Tsui



www.wooloo-mooloo.com

# attractions



Soaring skyscrapers, villages built on stilts, top-of-the-town panoramas and homegrown theme parks. Variety is the spice of Hong Kong's attractions.

No other city in Asia offers such an amazingly varied array of attractions as Hong Kong. A rich assortment of sights stretching to the far reaches of the city, all packed into a small space.

From world-class museums, ornate temples and tranquil nature parks, to bustling markets, dazzling light shows and ear-splitting fireworks displays, choose the one-of-a-kind thrill that suits your mood. One moment you can be immersed in a state-of-the-art 3-D superhero adventure at a theme park, the next you're delving into history with a seat aboard a century-old tram tour or ferry, glimpsing up at one of the most spectacular modern skylines on the planet. A fascinating adventure beckons.



## THE BIG BUDDHA & PO LIN MONASTERY

Erected in 1993, the enormous Tian Tan Buddha is one of the symbols of Hong Kong, a 34-metre-high statue that took a dozen years to complete and now watches over the many people of our city. It's a must-see, and make sure to drop into nearby Po Lin Monastery, a sacred Buddhist sanctum. Alongside rich histories and gorgeous gardens, it has a delicious vegetarian restaurant open to the public.

**1** **Address:** The Big Buddha & Po Lin Monastery, Ngong Ping, Lantau Island (MTR Tung Chung Station, Exit B, then Ngong Ping Cable Car)



## DUKLING HARBOUR CRUISE

Hong Kong's harbour views are unrivalled, stunning skylines set against the surrounding waters. The best way to take it in is on a cruise, but instead of the standard tourist boat, book a ride aboard DukLing, an ancient Chinese fishing vessel complete with wooden decks and classic red sails. DukLing makes regular sailings throughout the day, but we recommend catching one of the sunset trips, or better yet, its special **Symphony of Lights** cruise, which is timed with the nightly show.

**2** **Website:** [dukling.com.hk](http://dukling.com.hk)



The Peak

## THE PEAK

The Peak is Hong Kong Island's highest point and a must-see site. The 360-views are stunning, with sweeping vistas of the entire city below. Here, you'll see visitors from around the world jostling for selfies from the anvil-shaped **Peak Tower**. Next door, **Peak Galleria** mall offers an array of shopping and dining options, plus a viewing terrace with free entry. Most summit-seekers hop on the century-old **Peak Tram**, scaling steep inclines from Central's base. But for a more green approach, snake your way from **Hatton Road** along the **Morning Trail**, an enjoyable hiking path.

**3** **Address:** The Peak, Mid-Levels, Hong Kong Island (MTR Central Station, Exit J2 to Peak Tram)

## SKYSCRAPERS

The defining image of Hong Kong that creates such a striking impression: our skyline, made up of its fascinating medley of skyscrapers. From **Central's** 88-storey **Two ifc** to Kowloon's 118-floor **International Commerce Centre**. From the retro-themed **Hopewell Centre**, once the city's tallest, to the I.M. Pei-designed **Bank of China Tower**. Each has its own distinct history, and all are best admired during the **Symphony of Lights**.

- 4** **Address:** a) **ifc mall**, 8 Finance Street, Central, Hong Kong Island (MTR Central Station, Exit A); b) **International Commerce Centre**, 1 Austin Road West, West Kowloon, Kowloon (MTR Kowloon Station, Exit B); c) **Hopewell Centre**, 183 Queen's Road East, Wan Chai, Hong Kong Island (MTR Wan Chai Station, Exit B2); d) **Bank of China Tower**, 1 Garden Road, Central, Hong Kong Island (MTR Central Station, Exit J2)  
**Websites:** ifc.com.hk; shkp-icc.com; hopewellcentre.com; bochk.com



## TAI O VILLAGE

A longstanding village that's survived mass development, Tai O is a like a time warp: a trip back to the lives of Tanka fisher-families, coupled with hints of colonial history. The Tanka village houses are set right on the water, interconnected fishing abodes built on stilts in ordered chaos. Just minutes away is the **Tai O Heritage Hotel**, a hundred-plus-year-old former police station converted into a retro-styled hotel.

- 5** **Address:** Tai O, Lantau Island (MTR Tung Chung Station, Exit B, then bus 11)



Tai O Village

## TSIM SHA TSUI PROMENADE

The stunning Hong Kong skyline, a symbol of our city. It's best appreciated strolling along the Tsim Sha Tsui promenade, just metres from the **Star Ferry Pier** and with numerous neighbouring sights to keep you occupied. Snap low-angle selfies under the **Clock Tower**, pose next to Bruce Lee's statue at the **Garden of Stars** and then take in some culture at one of the museums nearby, including the **Hong Kong Science Museum**.

- 6** **Address:** a) **Tsim Sha Tsui Promenade**, Tsim Sha Tsui, Kowloon (MTR Tsim Sha Tsui Station, Exit E); b) **Clock Tower**, Star Ferry Pier, Tsim Sha Tsui, Kowloon (MTR Tsim Sha Tsui Station, Exit E); c) **Avenue of Stars**, Waterfront Podium Garden, Tsim Sha Tsui East, Kowloon (MTR Tsim Sha Tsui Station, Exit P1); d) **Science Museum**, 2 Science Museum Road, Tsim Sha Tsui, Kowloon (MTR Tsim Sha Tsui Station, Exit B2)  
**Website:** museums.gov.hk







## THE BLUE HOUSE

A bright shade of blue among **Wan Chai**'s bustle, The Blue House is an intriguing tenement building originally built in the 1920s and once famed for its kung fu studio run by a student of master Wong Fei-hung. Preserved today as a testament to the area's heritage, its four storeys are still occupied by city folk. A little museum here called **Hong Kong House of Stories** does a great job showcasing its history.

**7** **Address:** The Blue House, 72 Stone Nullah Lane, Wan Chai, Hong Kong Island (MTR Wan Chai Station, Exit A3)



## CHUNGKING MANSIONS

Known as the 'ghetto in the city', Chungking Mansions is where many of Hong Kong's minorities gather. If you can ignore the touts trying to flog fake watches and cheap suits, you're offered a truly immersive experience. Tuck in to the most affordable South Asian cuisine in town and treat yourself to a glass of Nepalese rum. Pick up a piece of Indian clothing, or just wander its corridors for bargains.

**8** **Address:** Chungking Mansions, 36-44 Nathan Road, Tsim Sha Tsui, Kowloon (MTR Tsim Sha Tsui Station, Exit G)



## STAR FERRY

For nearly a century, the Star Ferry was the only way to travel between Hong Kong Island and Kowloon. In operation since 1888, the harbour trip remains a wonder to behold. Most travellers ride upstairs for its air-conditioned deck, but we prefer the open-air down below. Also consider hopping aboard the **Harbour Tour**, an hour-long trip on an open-top ferry across the entire length of the waterfront.

**9** **Address:** Star Ferry Pier, Man Kwong Street, Central, Hong Kong Island (MTR Central Station, Exit A) & Star Ferry Pier, Tsim Sha Tsui, Kowloon (MTR Tsim Sha Tsui Station, Exit L6)

## STATUE SQUARE

A vestige of the city's colonial past, Statue Square and its neighbouring sights are a moment of calm reflection among **Central's** endless bustle. Built in 1896, the square was named after the bronzes it once held before they were confiscated by the Japanese during WWII and sent to Japan to be melted down. Nearby, **The Cenotaph** is a replica of London's own, paying tribute to fallen soldiers from the two world wars. The **Court of Final Appeal Building**, meanwhile, housed the **Supreme Court** for over 70 years.

**10** **Address:** Statue Square, Des Voeux Road Central, Central, Hong Kong Island (MTR Central Station, Exit C)



## TRAM

Hong Kong Island's double-decker tram has been in service for over a century, transporting commuters from one end to the other for the cheapest fare in town. Built in 1903, many trams still look like they're from that era, and summer travellers should remember they're often jam-packed and rarely air-conditioned. But if you can brave it, there's arguably no better way to see the city. For a true tourist experience, check out **TramOramic Tour**, a one-hour trip on an open-top tram.

**11** **Starting point:** Kennedy Town Terminus, Kennedy Town (MTR Kennedy Town Station, Exit C)  
**Website:** [hktramways.com/en/tramoramic](http://hktramways.com/en/tramoramic)



## OLD TOWN CENTRAL

Old Town Central is the perfect starting point for visitors, with five self-guided walks that explore the heart of one of Hong Kong's oldest neighbourhoods. History, arts, food and culture, it's all here, a contrasting trip through East and West, past and present, traditions and innovation. From Tasting Hong Kong to Time Traveller, Crazy for Art to Treasure Hunt, each walk allows you to witness the dramatic transformations that have characterised not only Central, but Hong Kong's colourful history. Check out one of the walks overleaf (p34-35). For more details, pick up an 'Old Town Central' guide at one of our Visitor Centres or visit **DiscoverHongKong.com**.

## SELF-GUIDED WALKING TOUR: HIGHLIGHTS TRIP

### 1 POSSESSION STREET

Possession Street marks the point where the British officially took possession of Hong Kong. Originally on the waterfront, it's now dotted with hip restaurants and boutiques.



### 2 POHO

Up Sheung Wan's steep streets, PoHo is a quiet bohemian community, featuring designer stores selling international goods, alongside galleries, studios and teahouses.

### 3 CHINESE YMCA, BRIDGES STREET CENTRE

Bridges Street Centre was once a major gathering spot for the local community. The building is a blend of Chicago School architecture and Chinese roofing techniques.

**Address:** 51 Bridges Street, Sheung Wan

### 4 MAN MO TEMPLE

Man Mo Temple was built between 1847 and 1862, and pays tribute to the Gods of Literature and War. It houses an ancient bronze bell, sedan chair and mural paintings, among other relics.

**Address:** 124-126 Hollywood Road, Sheung Wan

### 5 PMQ

Formerly the Police Married Quarters, PMQ now houses works by promising young artists and designers. You'll find creative studios, designer products, exhibitions and workshops.

**Address:** 35 Aberdeen Street, Central

### 6 GOUGH STREET

Flanked by stores selling home decorations, Gough Street is a unique hipster block with something for everyone, from boutique stores to cool cafés.



**PLOT YOUR ROUTE**  
Refer to p172 for a map of the route

### 10 TAI KWUN

Made up of the former Central Police Station, Central Magistracy and Victoria Prison, the revitalisation of Tai Kwun is now underway, and will soon function as a cultural and artistic space.

**Address:** 10 Hollywood Road, Central

### 9 HOLLYWOOD ROAD

One of Hong Kong's oldest streets, Hollywood Road is lined with galleries and antique shops selling Asian and Western works, both ancient and contemporary.

### 8 KUNG LEE HERBAL TEA SHOP

Founded in the 1940s, this herbal teahouse is loved by locals. The décor harks back to the mid-20th century, while its sugarcane juice is a bestseller.

**Address:** 60 Hollywood Road, Central

### 7 PAK TSZ LANE PARK

In 1892, 1 Pak Tsz Lane was the site of the founding of a group of revolutionaries, the Furen Society. In memory, the park features exhibitions and facilities tracing their activities.

**Address:** Pak Tsz Lane, Central



Man Mo Temple



Pak Tsz Lane Park

Pottinger Street



**WANT TO EXPLORE MORE?**

Visit [DiscoverHongKong.com](http://DiscoverHongKong.com) or scan the QR code to find out more about Old Town Central.



### 11 POTTINGER STREET

Pottinger Street, also known as 'Stone Slab Street', is lined with metal stalls selling handicrafts and household goods.





## BIRD GARDEN & FLOWER MARKET

Wake up early to take in **Yuen Po Street** (Bird Garden), a bustling street filled with all manner of winged creatures. Just as the sun rises, avian pet lovers holding wooden cages chat with fellow owners. On the next block is **Flower Market Road**, which is dedicated solely to flora. At 10am, the street erupts in an assortment of bright colours and beautiful smells.

**12** **Address:** Bird Garden, Yuen Po Street, Prince Edward, Kowloon (MTR Prince Edward Station, Exit B1); **Flower Market,** Flower Market Road, Prince Edward, Kowloon (MTR Prince Edward Station, Exit B1)



## HONG KONG DISNEYLAND

The house that the Mouse built, Hong Kong Disneyland is a place where dreams come true. From mystical manors to the futuristic Tomorrowland, classic fairy tale rides to Wild West thrills, the park offers something for everyone, and is now fully expanded with your favourite Marvel and Star Wars characters on board. Spend your day on rides galore, and then stay the night at its family-friendly resort.

**13** **Address:** Hong Kong Disneyland, Lantau Island (MTR Disneyland Resort Station)  
**Website:** hongkongdisneyland.com



## MADAME TUSSAUDS

See all your favourite stars recreated in wax at Madame Tussauds. Set high on **The Peak**, the museum features over 100 lifelike recreations of the world's greatest celebrities and icons, from the Queen of England to Michael Jackson. Whole sections are also dedicated to Asian names, including Bruce Lee and Jackie Chan, while its souvenir shop lets you take some frozen stardust home.

**14** **Address:** Madame Tussauds, Shop P101, The Peak Tower, 128 Peak Road, The Peak, Hong Kong Island (MTR Central Station, Exit J2 to Peak Tram)  
**Website:** madametussauds.com



## NGONG PING 360

Start your journey into **Lantau Island** at Ngong Ping 360. Hop aboard the **Crystal Cabin**, a glass-bottomed cable car that offers sweeping 360-views all across the island, from dense foliage through to its gorgeous surrounding waters. You then arrive at **Ngong Ping Village**, a retro-inspired tourist town with plenty of shopping and dining options. And from there, it's just a short five-minute walk to Lantau Island's best sights, including **The Big Buddha** and **Po Lin Monastery**.

**15** **Address:** Ngong Ping 360, Ngong Ping, Lantau Island (MTR Tung Chung Station, Exit B)  
**Website:** np360.com.hk

## NOAH'S ARK

Noah's Ark on **Ma Wan Island** recreates the biblical vessel that is said to have saved civilisation. The park is designed to appeal to all ages, with stunning **Tsing Ma Bridge** views from the replica ark, multimedia presentations in the expo, animal sculptures in the gardens and lessons among the many education halls and exhibition spaces.

**16** **Address:** Noah's Ark, 33 Pak Yan Road, Ma Wan, New Territories, 3411 8888 (Central Pier 2)  
**Website:** noahsark.com.hk

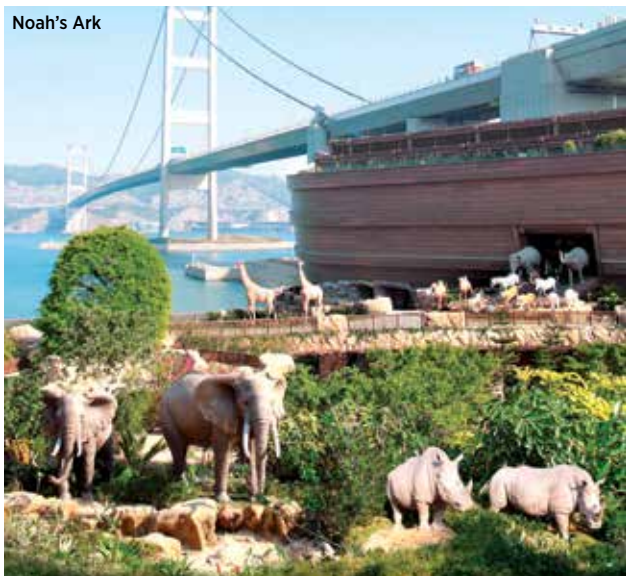
## OCEAN PARK HONG KONG

Ocean Park isn't just for the little ones, with plenty to enjoy for thrill seekers of all ages. Marvel at underwater oddities in the massive aquarium. See foxes, sea lions and pandas in its many enclosures. And let the adrenaline flow through thrilling rides all across the park, from raging rivers to rollercoasters. Weekends are often packed, so drop in on a school day to beat the queues.

**17** **Address:** Ocean Park Hong Kong, Wong Chuk Hang, Hong Kong Island, 3923 2323 (MTR Ocean Park Station, Exit B)  
**Website:** oceanpark.com.hk



sky100



Noah's Ark



Ocean Park Hong Kong

## SKY100

Hong Kong's tallest building, the 118-floor **International Commerce Centre** towers over the Kowloon skyline. One of the best ways to experience it is at sky100, an observation deck on the 100th floor with 360-degree vistas of the entire cityscape. Interactive exhibitions also dig into the history of Hong Kong, while a photo booth uses augmented reality to create cool backdrops.

**18** **Address:** sky100, 100/F International Commerce Centre, 1 Austin Road West, Kowloon, 2613 3888 (MTR Kowloon Station, Exits C1 and D1)  
**Website:** sky100.com.hk

# evolution of a skyline

## ICC

ICC is currently Hong Kong's tallest building. It's part of a bigger project, totalling 17 hectares of land coverage on top of **Kowloon Station**. The super tall office tower has a luxurious hotel and viewing platform on top. The **ICC Light and Music Show** is displayed twice every night, at 7:45pm and then at 9:00pm, and brings the city alive with dynamic lights and colours.

## JARDINE HOUSE

Formerly known as **Connaught Centre**, Jardine House was the city's tallest building when it was completed in 1972. It was the first skyscraper in Hong Kong. It's a unique building featuring a circular window design, allowing it to be structurally stronger than those with traditional rectangular windows.



As the architect behind such iconic structures as Central Plaza and the Convention and Exhibition Centre, **Dennis Lau** has played a large part in defining Hong Kong's skyline. Here, he gives us a panoramic rundown of some of the city's key skyscrapers, from still-standing '70s structures to contemporary super high-rises.

## HOPEWELL CENTRE

When completed in 1980, this 64-storey skyscraper surpassed **Connaught Centre** as the city's tallest building. It has Hong Kong's highest revolving restaurant on the top floor, which overlooks the harbour and buildings below.

## HONG KONG CONVENTION AND EXHIBITION CENTRE

This is a world-class facility, holding many international convention and exhibition events. It's consistently busy all year, and one of the few convention centres in the world to have hotels, offices and apartments all under one roof. Built in 1985, its foundation stone was laid by Queen Elizabeth II, and marks the last time she visited the city during the colonial era. Some people say it looks like a bird, others that it's a turtle. I'll leave it to you to decide.

## INTERNATIONAL FINANCE CENTRE

The ifc actually consists of two skyscrapers, Tower 1 and Tower 2, as well as a mall and a hotel. Tower 2 is Hong Kong Island's tallest building. Together with ICC across the harbour, the dual super high-rises on Hong Kong Island and Kowloon serve as gateways to the city. On the top of Tower 2 is a sculptural crown; when it's lit at night, it's visible from miles away, which is a welcoming gesture to the harbour.

## CENTRAL PLAZA

When it was completed in 1992, Central Plaza was the tallest building outside North America. Its unique triangular design means most rooms enjoy harbour views. A neon clock is set on its top, similar to a clock tower, but with its time indicated through different coloured displays at 15 minute intervals. The **Sky Lobby** on the 46th floor offers one of the best free views in the city, with a 360-degree panorama. And there's a sky lounge on the 75th floor that's used as a church sometimes.





Kat Hing Wai Walled Village



Kowloon Walled City Park

## KAT HING WAI WALLED VILLAGE

Hong Kong was once defined by its walled villages, and while the borders of the past have been largely removed, remnants still exist on the city's fringes. Kat Hing Wai is one of the last remaining, a 500-year-old walled village still inhabited by the descendants of its founders. An age-old guardhouse and moat welcome you within its walls, while narrow alleyways and ancient abodes offer up slices of the area's history.

**19** **Address:** Kat Hing Wai Walled Village, Kam Tin, Yuen Long, New Territories (MTR Kam Sheung Road Station, Exit B)



Man Mo Temple



### DISCOVER MORE

The Kowloon Walled City might be long gone, but you can still catch glimpses of it in such classic movies as Jean-Claude Van Damme's *Bloodsport* and Jackie Chan's *Crime Story*.



Man Mo Temple

## KOWLOON WALLED CITY PARK

Kowloon Walled City was once a China outpost that turned into a lawless town, a triad-run enclave of ever-increasing illegal settlements. Torn down in 1993, this gorgeous park pays tribute while acting as a contrast to its history, and you'd never tell it was once the city's most notorious area. Still standing are the 170-year-old **Yamen**, now converted into an exhibition space, alongside the old **South Gate** and numerous pavilions. Free guided tours are available to groups.

**20** **Address:** Kowloon Walled City Park, Tung Tsing Road, Kowloon City, Kowloon (MTR Lok Fu Station, Exit B)

## MAN MO TEMPLE

In one of Hong Kong's hippest areas sits Man Mo Temple, a stunning tribute to the Gods of Literature (Man) and War (Mo). Built in 1847, it was once a place of arbitration, but now stands as a striking worship hall – a smoky assortment of massive incense coils, red-and-gold thatched staircases, ancient sedan chairs, as well as altars to its Buddhist and Taoist deities.

**21** **Address:** Man Mo Temple, 124-126 Hollywood Road, Sheung Wan, Hong Kong Island (MTR Sheung Wan Station, Exit A2)

## PING SHAN HERITAGE TRAIL

Take a walk on the historic side, with the Ping Shan Heritage Trail. Grouping a number of Hong Kong's dynastic sites, the 1.6 km trail starts at the **Tsui Sing Lau pagoda**, a 600-year-old guard post, before winding through a 200-year-old walled village, **Sheung Cheung Wai**. You'll then come across the ancient temples of **Yeung Hau** and **Hung Shing**, before experiencing the stunning halls of **Tang, Yu Kiu** and **Kun Ting**. Finish up at a former colonial police station, converted into a gallery and visitor centre.

**22** **Address:** Ping Shan Heritage Trail, Ping Shan, Yuen Long, New Territories (MTR Tin Shui Wai Station, Exit E)



Wong Tai Sin Temple

## WONG TAI SIN TEMPLE

Known in full as the Sik Sik Yuen Wong Tai Sin Temple, this ancient house of worship is said to hold a sacred portrait of the namesake monk deity. It sees visitors come from far and wide for its promise to 'make every wish come true upon request'. But you don't have to be a true believer to appreciate its impressive display of *feng shui* in action, with the five elements spread across its pavilion, hall, fountain, wall and shrine.

**23** **Address:** Wong Tai Sin Temple, 2 Chuk Yuen Village, Wong Tai Sin, Kowloon (MTR Wong Tai Sin Station, Exit B2)



## FLAGSTAFF HOUSE MUSEUM OF TEA WARE

Explore the history of one of Hong Kong's great exports, tea, at Flagstaff House. Once the abode of Hong Kong's British forces commander, the residence was converted into its current museum setting in 1984, with a focus on the history and culture of tea. It's a rainy day favourite, with permanent exhibitions focusing on tea ware, while ever-revolving showcases dig deep into historic relics. There are also regular activities, including flower arranging, classical music performances and of course, tea tastings.

**24** **Address:** Flagstaff House, Hong Kong Park, 10 Cotton Tree Drive, Central, Hong Kong Island (MTR Admiralty Station, Exit C1)







## HERITAGE MUSEUM

Hong Kong's captivating sense of culture, a hodgepodge of British, Chinese and other traditions, is showcased at the Heritage Museum. Set far out in **Sha Tin**, the museum features permanent galleries dedicated to the city's art and opera, while a revolving series of exhibitions explores everything from martial arts to fashion. Most impressive is its long-running Bruce Lee retrospective, offering up 600 pieces of memorabilia of one of the city's greatest sons.

**25** **Address:** Heritage Museum, 1 Man Lam Road, Sha Tin, New Territories (MTR Che Kung Temple Station, Exit A)  
**Website:** heritagemuseum.gov.hk

## MUSEUM OF HISTORY

Trace millions of years of Hong Kong's varied past at the fascinating Museum of History. Detailed dioramas do much of the heavy lifting, from early cavemen dwellings through to our humble fishing village beginnings, from the city's colonial growth to its esteemed contemporary standing. It's all here, alongside fascinating archaeological finds, diverse multimedia showcases and special exhibitions on heritage topics.

**26** **Address:** Museum of History, 100 Chatham Road South, Tsim Sha Tsui East, Kowloon (MTR Tsim Sha Tsui Station, Exit B2)  
**Website:** hk.history.museum

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# dining

Cantonese tastes and Greater China flavours. High-end hotel fare, alongside greasy late-night favourites. Whatever your taste buds crave, Hong Kong's restaurants have it.

Dishing out on dim sum and then digging into Dover sole. A lunchbox heavy on the greasy roast goose followed by a luxurious dinner in a chic hotel. Dining out in Hong Kong is all about its many differences. Pair the high with the low, with a side of everything in between, to truly take in one of the world's best foodie destinations.

Pull up a plastic stool at a cooked food centre, before lording over a Chinese banquet at an elegant tycoon restaurant. Share mezze platters and humble pasta plates, and then see chefs push contemporary boundaries at award-winning international restaurants. It's an assortment of experiences – and with over 10,000 eateries in the city, you'll never be without a decent meal.

## DUNDAS STREET

For those seeking a range of tasty morsels at bargain prices, head to Dundas Street in **Mong Kok**, where tiny stalls dish out classic Hong Kong street snacks, including curry fish balls and *siu mai* (pork and fish dumplings), alongside a range of flavours from all across Asia. Deep-fried octopus balls from Japan? Fresh *bai wei* cold noodles and spicy sauce from Taiwan? It's all here.

**1** **Address:** Dundas Street, Mong Kok, Kowloon (MTR Mong Kok Station, Exit E2)

## KAM'S ROAST GOOSE

Roast goose is a Hong Kong staple, a gorgeously greasy dish that many places promise to make right, but few ever do. Kam's is arguably the best, the tiny one-Michelin-star spot seeing lines around the block at any time of the day. Beat the crowds and get a takeaway box. Chow down in nearby **Southern Playground**, and then do a taste-test at **Joy Hing**, another age-old roast goose takeaway favourite.

**2** **Address:** a) Kam's Roast Goose, Po Wah Commercial Centre, 226 Hennessy Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong Island, 2520 1110; b) Joy Hing, 265-267 Hennessy Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong, 2519 6639 (MTR Wan Chai Station, Exit A4)  
**Website:** krg.com.hk



Dundas Street



Kam's Roast Goose

## KWAN KEE BAMBOO NOODLE

Fresh noodle making is a real art and rare is the chef who uses the age-old bamboo technique these days. But head to Kwan Kee and you can catch the masters at work, before enjoying an incredibly fresh bowl. The signature noodles are paired with a variety of flavours, from standard shrimp and beef slices to such acquired tastes as cuttlefish and pig trotters. We particularly recommend the tasty shrimp wonton bowl (*wonton meen*, in Cantonese).

**3** **Address:** 1E Wing Lung Street, Cheung Sha Wan, Kowloon, 3484 9126 (MTR Cheung Sha Wan Station, Exit C)



Kwan Kee Bamboo Noodle



## LUK YU TEA HOUSE

Dishing out dim sum to the city's elite since 1933, this exclusive restaurant has plenty of old-world charm, and features long-forgotten dishes done just as well today as they were decades ago. All the standards are here, alongside jumbo chicken buns, fish maw and liver. It's not cheap, and those seeking a more working-class experience should head to **Lin Heung Tea House**, a frantic dim sum cart spot nearby.

- 4** **Address:** a) Luk Yu Tea House, 24-26 Stanley Street, Central, Hong Kong Island, 2523 1970; b) Lin Heung Tea House, 162 Wellington Street, Sheung Wan, Hong Kong Island, 2544 4556 (MTR Central Station, Exit D2)  
**Website:** lukyuteahouse.com; linheung.com.hk

## MIDO CAFÉ

Just above **Temple Street** sits this humble *cha chaan teng* (Hong Kong-style diner), famed not so much for its food as its atmosphere, a time warp setting that feels like something out of a vintage Hong Kong movie. The dishes aren't particularly special, simple egg sandwiches and noodle bowls, but on a hot summer's day, as a stop-in for a quick snack and a glass of iced *yuenyeung* (coffee mixed with tea), you can't beat it.

- 5** **Address:** 63 Temple Street, Yau Ma Tei, Kowloon, 2384 6402 (MTR Yau Ma Tei Station, Exit B2)

## SHUN KEE TYPHOON SHELTER

In the good old days, typhoon shelters were popular dining spots: moored kitchen-boats serving all manner of local cuisine, while patrons riding motorboats chose dishes by darting in and out, before parking for dinner. The experience is long gone, but you can relive a bit of those glory days at Shun Kee. The floating 'restaurant' is actually a set of *sampans* (wooden boats) linked together, and dishes are classic typhoon shelter-style: think lots of garlic-heavy seafood. Reservations essential.

- 6** **Address:** Causeway Bay Typhoon Shelter, Causeway Bay, Hong Kong Island, 8112 0075 (MTR Causeway Bay Station, Exit D2)  
**Website:** shunkeeseafood.com



### DISCOVER MORE

Cooked food centres came about in the 1970s, when the government moved food sellers off the streets. There's one in nearly every district, and each offers quality, affordable Asian cuisine.

Sing Kee



## SING KEE

The humble Hong Kong *dai pai dong* (outdoor restaurant) is largely a thing of the past, with the government moving the majority of them into cooked food centres back in the '70s. But the street-side vendors on **Stanley Street** survived, and Sing Kee is a greasy-spoon favourite, perfect for an early morning snack or late-night nosh. Popular choices include salt & pepper squid, sweet & sour pork and such acquired tastes as liver.

**7** **Address:** 82 Stanley Street, Central, Hong Kong Island, 2541 5678 (MTR Hong Kong Station, Exit C)

## SING KEE SEAFOOD

The seafood restaurants lining along the **Sai Kung** harbour are a sight to see: dozens of eateries, each with their own fish tanks, allowing diners to pick and choose their grilled and garlic-flavoured choices. Sing Kee is a favourite among regulars, a one-Michelin-star spot that not only dishes out incredible from-the-deep delights right on the waterfront (order the steamed scallops), but is just as famous for its crispy chicken. Reservations recommended.

**8** **Address:** 33 Sai Kung Tai Street, Sai Kung, New Territories, 2791 9887 (MTR Choi Hung Station, Exit C2, then minibus 1A)

## TUNG PO

Immortalised in Anthony Bourdain's TV show, and incredibly popular with tourists because of it, Tung Po is nevertheless still an experience – a massive cooked food centre restaurant, where the music blares Michael Jackson, the servers are all kooky, beers are poured into bowls, and dishes are as comforting as they come. Fried garlic chicken, giant mantis shrimp, shrimp deep-fried in duck yolk, and best of all, squid ink pasta with cuttlefish. Reservations are essential.

**9** **Address:** 2/F Java Road Municipal Services Building, 99 Java Road, North Point, Hong Kong Island, 2880 5224 (MTR North Point Station, Exit A1)

## UNDER BRIDGE SPICY CRAB

The name isn't metaphorical: it's literally located under a bridge, a popular spot for its delicious crab smothered in heaps of spicy peppers. It's best visited on a rowdy weekend, with endless orders of Tsing Tao beers to chase away the fiery flavours. There are actually three restaurants, each bearing the same name and all in the same vicinity, but each of them is of a similar standard.

**10** **Address:** Various locations, including 421 Lockhart Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong Island, 2834 6268 (MTR Causeway Bay Station, Exit C)  
**Website:** [underspicycrab.com](http://underspicycrab.com)

## ABC KITCHEN

ABC Kitchen didn't open till long after the handover, but its colonial ties are stronger than most. Both its chef and head waiter are formerly of M at the Fringe, a restaurant steeped in Hong Kong's British history. When it closed in 2009, the pair decided to recreate all that culinary glory in a cooked food centre. The fluorescent-lit shabby surroundings provide a wonderful contrast to ABC's menu: high-end cuisine in a low-rent setting. The menu is affordable and ever-changing, but a staple is their famed roast suckling pig.



ABC Kitchen

- 11** **Address:** Shop CF7, Food Market, 1 Queen Street, Sheung Wan, Hong Kong Island, 9278 8227 (MTR Sai Ying Pun Station, Exit A2)  
**Website:** abckitchen.com.hk

## CHINA TANG

The late Sir David Tang's impact on modern Hong Kong culture isn't to be underestimated, the esteemed entrepreneur influencing everything from the city's architecture to fashion. But his greatest contribution might be to Hong Kong food, and nowhere is that better exemplified than at his China Tang restaurants. Exclusive old-world settings, a British-influenced mix of Cantonese and regional cuisine, and a hefty price tag that's worth it for the exceptional experience. It's not classic Chinese, it's not quite colonial. Like Tang himself, it's distinctly in between.

- 12** **Address:** **a)** Landmark Atrium, Shop 411-413, 4/F, 15 Queen's Road Central, Central, Hong Kong Island, 2522 2148 (MTR Central Station, Exit G); **b)** Gateway Arcade, Shop 4101, 4/F, Harbour City, 17 Canton Road, Tsim Sha Tsui, Kowloon, 2157 3148 (MTR Tsim Sha Tsui Station, Exit L5)  
**Website:** chinatang.hk



### DISCOVER MORE

Late-night Tsim Sha Tsui is one of the best places to grab food. Alongside fried chicken, you'll find Cantonese roast meat, Korean stone pot and of course, dim sum.



The Chinnery

## THE CHINNERY

An age-old hotel, a tucked-away location, limited tables and a warm whisky bar. Everything about The Chinnery screams old-fashioned member's club, but this one's open to the public – if you have a reservation. Sink into its upholstered chairs, order up a tankard of ale or a nicely aged Scotch, and take in its particular brand of classic British cuisine. Scotch eggs, calf's liver, Dover sole, and a very healthy helping of sauce-heavy Indian dishes.

- 13** **Address:** 1/F, Mandarin Oriental Hong Kong, 5 Connaught Road Central, Central, Hong Kong Island, 2825 4009 (MTR Central Station, Exit H)  
**Website:** mandarinoriental.com



China Tang



Tai Ping Koon

## JIMMY'S KITCHEN

Hong Kong's oldest Western restaurant and a perennial favourite for colonial fare, Jimmy's has been serving its distinctive brand of East-West flavours since 1928. The menu's changed little since, and alongside such British standards as bangers & mash and shepherd's pie, expect to find long-forgotten dishes such as Steak Diane, Beef Wellington and the famed Baked Alaska, an ice-cream sponge that's ceremoniously flambéed tableside. For nostalgia-filled visitors, Jimmy's is a must.

- 14** **Address:** South China Building, 1 Wyndham Street, Central, Hong Kong Island, 2526 5293 (MTR Central Station, Exit D2)  
**Website:** jimmys.com

## TAI PING KOON

'Soy-sauce Western' – it's what we call a particular brand of Hong Kong cuisine, one that slightly resembles colonial, but has been modified to suit Chinese palates. Tai Ping Koon was arguably the originator, a restaurant dating back to 1860. Here, among bow-tied waiters and snug brown leather booths, you'll find such dishes as baked escargot, roast pigeon and the renowned 'Swiss-style' chicken wings – named not for the country, but a mispronunciation of 'sweet'.

- 15** **Address:** Various locations, including 60 Stanley Street, Central, Hong Kong Island, 2899 2780 (MTR Central Station, Exit D2)  
**Website:** taipingkoon.com



Hong Kong Typhoon Shelter in Aberdeen was originally a safe haven for fishermen. Based on everyday life experiences, the local fishermen established unique recipes, which have become some of the best-loved traditional dishes in Hong Kong and are now known as the Typhoon Shelter cuisine.



**Hee Kee Fried Crab Expert**  
**First Restaurant:**  
Shop 1-4, Ground Floor,  
379-389 Jaffe Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong  
Opening Hours: 12:00pm – 04:30am  
MTR Causeway Bay Station: Exit C  
Tel: (852) 2893 7565  
[www.heekee.hk](http://www.heekee.hk)

**Hee Kee Fried Crab Expert**  
**New Branch:**  
Shop E, Ground Floor, Po Wing Bldg.,  
73 Lee Garden Road, Causeway Bay, Hong Kong  
Opening Hours: 11:00am–12:00am  
MTR Causeway Bay station: Exit F1  
Tel: (852) 2488 6665 or 2488 8465  
Fax: (852) 2488 6165

# dishing out on dim sum



Dim sum is a staple of Hong Kong's diet, and nobody knows it better than chef **Chan Yan-tak**. As the world's first three-Michelin-star Chinese chef, the Lung King Heen maestro has been serving it up since the early '50s. Here, he dishes out on traditional methods used to make the morsels, and how they've changed as the city has evolved.

# 1

## VEGETABLE DUMPLINGS

Traditionally, it's a thin-skin wrapping, surrounding all sorts of vegetables and fungus. We mix it up, though: we shape them as triangles, we sometimes use carrot or spinach juice to add colour to the skin.

# 2

## HAR GOW

When I started out in the 1950s, there weren't many dim sum choices. It was all very traditional, just the standards. *Har gow* is one of the oldest, a simple blend of shrimp in thin-skin wrapping. But it's what you put inside that matters, and I use different combinations: goji berries, crab meat, dried scallops.

# 3

## SIU MAI

*Siu mai* is also very traditional, it's a pork and shrimp dumpling, and is often seen as a very 'working class' type of dim sum. Because of that, it can sometimes be quite basic. At my restaurant, I change it up, sometimes adding caviar or maybe some Yunnan ham.

# 5

## CHAR SIU BAO

*Char siu bao* (barbecue pork bun) is old-school favourite. Traditionally, it's roast pork in a fluffy bun – but I came up with the idea to blend it with the classic pineapple bun, so the outer crust is crunchy and sweet, and the inner is soft and juicy. A lot of restaurants do it that way now, too.

# 4

## XIAO LONG BAO

*Xiao long bao* are pork dumplings filled with soup. They're very thin-skinned, and are difficult to eat because they often burst when picked up with chopsticks. So I created individual mini-bamboo baskets, so that they're easier to handle. And since they're originally from Shanghai, I give them a Hong Kong touch, by adding some scallops or crab meat.





## AMERICAN RESTAURANT

The name's a misleading one, but there's history behind it, its moniker an attempt to lure World War II-stationed G.I.'s into its establishment. American Restaurant actually serves Beijing cuisine, and has done so for over 70 years. It's a rowdy, affordable affair where Peking duck is served tableside and everything on the menu is decent. It's not the best of its kind, and true Peking Duck connoisseurs should instead visit **Spring Deer**, an age-old Kowloon favourite.

**16** **Address:** a) American Restaurant, 20 Lockhart Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong Island, 2527 1000 (MTR Wan Chai Station, Exit C); b) **Spring Deer**, 42 Mody Road, Tsim Sha Tsui, Kowloon, 2366 4012 (MTR Tsim Sha Tsui Station, Exit P1)



## DIN TAI FUNG

*Xiao long bao* – those wonderful dumplings from Shanghai, delicate and thin-skinned, but filled to the brim with soupy goodness. Making them is a real art and despite originally being from Taiwan, the Din Tai Fung chain has all but mastered it. Order a basket per person as soon as you enter (yes, they're that good) and make sure to match it with their many other specialities: green beans with pork, sautéed shrimp and hot & sour soup, among them.

**17** **Address:** Various locations, including G3-11, 68 Yee Wo Street, Causeway Bay, Hong Kong Island, 3160 8998 (MTR Causeway Bay Station, Exit F1) **Website:** [dintai fung.com.hk](http://dintai fung.com.hk)



Zhejiang Heen

## YU

Sichuan's spices are some of the hottest in the world, and those with a taste for them should head down to Yu, a tiny spot in **Causeway Bay**. Dare your mouth with fiery dishes such as spicy chicken, pork dumplings and a range of pickled vegetables. Most popular is the dandanmian, homemade noodles with minced pork in a mouth-numbing sauce – it comes in different levels of heat, so even the weakest palate will be able to appreciate it. Pair it with a cucumber soy milk and your tongue will thank you.

**18** **Address:** 4 Yiu Wa Street, Causeway Bay, Hong Kong Island, 2838 8198 (MTR Causeway Bay Station, Exit A)

## ZHEJIANG HEEN

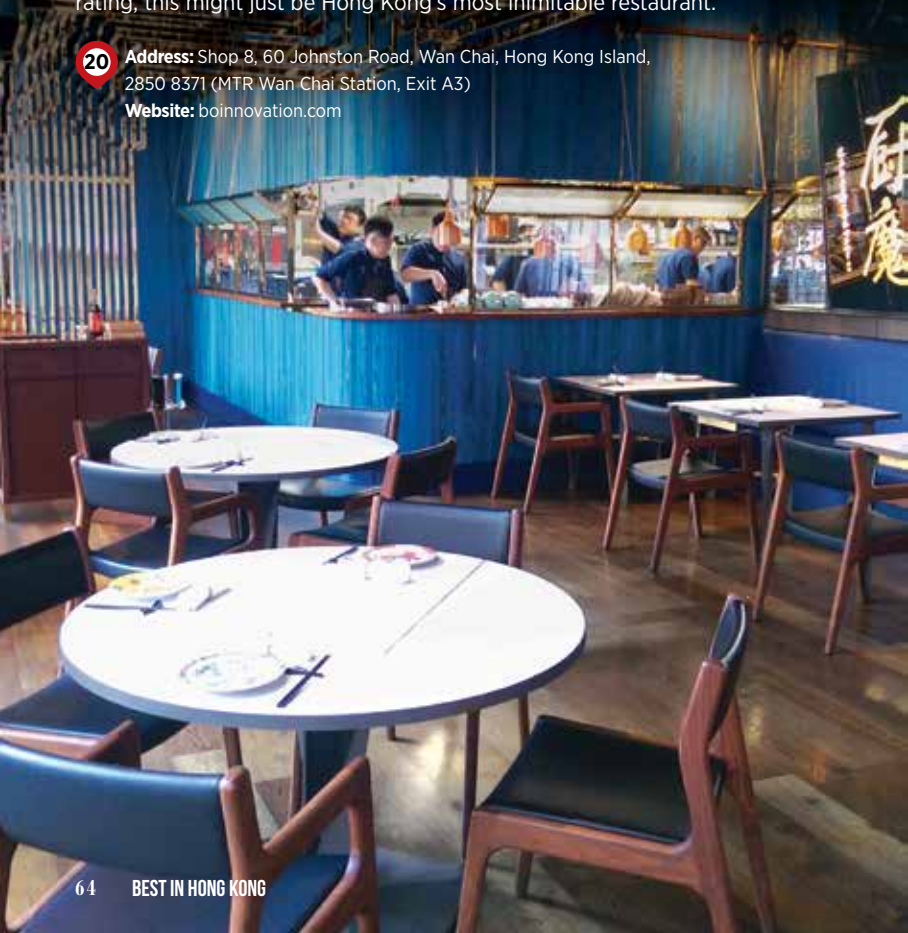
There once was a time, when if you wanted great Zhejiang cuisine, you had to tag along with a connected friend to one of the members-only restaurants in town. Zhejiang Heen changed that though, its relaxed **Wan Chai** setting, affordable prices and authentic tastes making it a more than worthy alternative. Experience the comforting flavours of eastern China, including golden prawn balls, deep-fried chicken, fried eel and the wonderful fish head cooked two ways.

**19** **Address:** 2/F & 3/F, Kiu Fu Commercial Building, 300-306 Lockhart Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong Island, 2877 9011 (MTR Wan Chai Station, Exit A1) **Website:** [zhejiangheen.com](http://zhejiangheen.com)

## BO INNOVATION

Alvin Leung's devilish practice of ripping apart classic Chinese dishes and piecing them together in extreme new ways helps to explain why they call him the 'demon chef'. It's also what keeps Bo Innovation high on the list of Hong Kong's hottest restaurants. Sometimes it's molecular-inspired, sometimes it's old-school favourites brought back into the fold. But whatever he's serving, it's always according to the season. With a three-Michelin-star rating, this might just be Hong Kong's most inimitable restaurant.

**20** **Address:** Shop 8, 60 Johnston Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong Island, 2850 8371 (MTR Wan Chai Station, Exit A3)  
**Website:** boinnovation.com



Ho Lee Fook



## FA ZU JIE

Down a dark alley, among the endless bustle of **Lan Kwai Fong's** bar district, lies one of the best private kitchens in the city. Featuring only a handful of tables, Fa Zu Jie presents an impressive fusion of Chinese and French cuisines. It's a prix-fixe menu that's constantly changing according to the season, but expect such favourites as drunken quail, scallops in shrimp roe and Shanghai duck confit. Reservations absolutely essential.

**21** **Address:** 1/F, 20A D'Aguilar Street, Lan Kwai Fong, Central, Hong Kong Island, 3487 1715 (MTR Central Station, Exit D2)

## HO LEE FOOK

A cheeky name for a cheeky take on classic Cantonese cooking, chef Jowett Yu's modern spin on diner cuisine is all about simplicity. Dishes are refined and contemporary: clean takes on barbecued meats, drunken clams tossed with fresh herbs, and alcohol-infused bubble tea. It's a little bit retro, a little bit home-style, but always to a high standard. The no-reservation policy coupled with its **SoHo** location means it's constantly busy. Drop in early on a weekday to secure a table.

**22** **Address:** 1 Elgin Street, Central, Hong Kong Island, 2810 0860 (MTR Central Station, Exit D2)  
**Website:** holeefookhk.tumblr.com

Amber



## AMBER

Two-Michelin-starred Amber is easily one of Hong Kong's finest. The restaurant is a veritable showcase for esteemed chef Richard Ekkebus, and he uses it to play around with his particular brand of high-end contemporary cuisine. Each dish is an artfully plated little masterpiece, using only the finest ingredients: abalone, blue lobster, Wagyu beef. Even a minor meal will set you back a pretty penny, and reservations are an absolute must.

**23** **Address:** 7/F, The Landmark, Mandarin Oriental, 15 Queen's Road Central, Central, Hong Kong Island, 2132 0066 (MTR Central Station, Exit G)  
**Website:** amberhongkong.com

## THE CHAIRMAN

Despite the many restaurants serving greasy meat and heavy dim sum, true Cantonese cuisine can be quite subtle: a refined selection of delicately cooked dishes, often served unadorned. Fried whole fish, baked chicken, fresh flowery crab. For a taste of what it's like, visit The Chairman, a striking restaurant that many consider the best-in-show for real Cantonese food. It's a special-occasion spot, the kind of place where you'll probably see a local celebrity or politician.

**24** **Address:** 18 Kau U Fong, Central, Hong Kong Island, 2555 2202 (MTR Sheung Wan Station, Exit E2)  
**Website:** thechairmangroup.com



Gaddi's

## GADDI'S

Belle Époque-inspired Gaddi's first opened its doors in the 1950s. It serves classic French fare, such as foie gras with coulis, pigeon stuffed with liver, chocolate fondant covered in cream. Heavy on the sauces, but hey, you only live once. **The Peninsula** has two other great restaurants: top-floor spot **Felix**, and chalet-like restaurant **Chesa**. Reservations recommended.

**25** **Address:** All restaurants: The Peninsula Hong Kong, Salisbury Road, Tsim Sha Tsui, Kowloon, 2696 6763 (MTR Tsim Sha Tsui Station, Exit E)  
**Website:** hongkong.peninsula.com



Gaddi's



L'Atelier de Joël Robuchon



#### DISCOVER MORE

The Michelin Guide has been in Hong Kong since 2008, dishing out stars to some of our best restaurants. Check out its Bib Gourmand section for good, cheap eats



Lung King Heen



## L'ATELIER DE JOËL ROBUCHON

It's on the World's 50 Best Restaurants list and holds three Michelin stars. At Robuchon, it's all about your preferences: relaxed in the Atelier restaurant or sushi-style on the Le Jardin counter, traditional French favourites or innovative contemporary choices, à la carte or prix-fixe. And with **Le Salon de Thé** and **Le Café** downstairs, the assortment is near endless.

**26** **Address:** Shop 315 & 401, The Landmark, Central, Hong Kong Island, 2166 9000 (MTR Central Station, Exit G)  
**Website:** [www.robuchon.hk](http://www.robuchon.hk)

## LUNG KING HEEN

As you'd expect from the **Four Seasons'** premier Chinese restaurant, Lung King Heen is very fancy, an upscale take on traditional Chinese flavours, often awarded three Michelin stars. Dim sum, barbecued meats and wok-fried dishes are raised to stellar heights by Executive Chef Chan Yan Tak and team. Keep in mind, you'll pay for the privilege. Book well in advance.

**27** **Address:** Podium 4, Four Seasons Hotel Hong Kong, 8 Finance Street, Central, Hong Kong Island, 3196 8888 (MTR Hong Kong Station, Exit F)  
**Website:** [fourseasons.com/hongkong](http://fourseasons.com/hongkong)



Amporn Thai

## AMPORN THAI

**Kowloon City** is often called Little Thailand, and for good reason, with large sections of the country's immigrants living in the area. For foodies, that means plenty of authentic Thai restaurants, including Amporn, a popular cooked food centre spot. It's all about heaping plates of Thai favourites at affordable prices: pungent curries, steamed fish, and their ever-popular shrimp sashimi. Amporn is cheap as chips, making the trek out here more than worth it.

**28 Address:** Shop 9, 3/F, 48 Hau Wong Road, Kowloon City, Kowloon, 2382 4622 (Bus 115)



Chicken HOF & SOJU

## CHICKEN HOF & SOJU

Long before it was a hot hipster trend, the folks at HOF & SOJU were serving up some of the city's finest Korean fried chicken. The restaurant chain is a late-night favourite, with lines stretching around the block on any given weekend. Slip into a cosy wooden booth, order up one of their delicious plates of crispy chicken and pair it all with some quenching lager, while K-Pop blares in the background.

**29 Address:** Various locations, including 82-84 Kimberley Road, Tsim Sha Tsui, Kowloon, 2375 8080 (MTR Jordan Station, Exit D)



Il Moro

## IL MORO

No menu, no staff. Just Joseph, an Italian chef-owner who serves up incredible trattoria staples. Check your ego at the door and leave it all in his more-than-capable hands, as he serves up a true Italiano feast: multiple courses of immense flavour, from olive oil-soaked roast veg, to fresh pasta with even fresher sauces. Massive mains of osso bucco and red snapper, finished off with home-made Amalfi lemon tart. Not for small stomachs, and it's all best paired with wines from Joseph's family vineyard.

**30 Address:** Shop D, G/F, 8 Po Hing Fong, Sheung Wan, Hong Kong Island, 2547 2898 (MTR Sai Ying Pun Station, Exit C)

## LE BISTRO WINEBEAST

With a name stemming from its sister wine store, Winebeast is run by a husband-and-wife team, a pair that adore French cuisine and want to share it with Hong Kong. Menus are seasonal, but expect staples, including duck confit, veal mignon, and a wonderful selection of cheeses. Wine is priced similar to the store, and dishes are affordable considering the quality.

**31** **Address:** G/F & 1/F Tai Yip Building, 141 Thomson Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong Island, 2782 6689 (MTR Wan Chai Station, Exit A5)  
**Website:** wine-beast.com



## MAISON LIBANAISE

Hip Lebanese cuisine, in an expat-centric area, with rooftop views of locals going about their evenings – the kind of contrast you’d only ever find in Hong Kong. Maison Libanaise has made its mark through excellent mezze-style plates and clever cocktail concoctions, at affordable prices compared to its **SoHo** neighbours. No reservations, so be prepared to queue. If you can’t stand the wait, they also do a great selection of takeaway dishes.

**32** **Address:** 10 Shelley Street, Central, Hong Kong Island, 2111 2284 (MTR Central Station, Exit D2)  
**Website:** maisonlibanaise.com.hk



## NEIGHBORHOOD

Hong Kong chef David Lai is a local treasure, a man who effortlessly moves between Chinese, French and Italian cuisines, to create his own unique contemporary class of gastronomy. Neighborhood is where he lets his hair down, a private little spot facing a small park that’s ideal for experimentation. The menu changes every week and it celebrates nose-to-tail dining, so the squeamish should look elsewhere. Pig’s feet, tripe and sweetbreads sit comfortably next to raw mackerel and fresh pasta. Reservations recommended.

**33** **Address:** G/F, 61-63 Hollywood Road, Central, Hong Kong Island, 2617 0891 (MTR Central Station, Exit D2)



## SERGE ET LE PHOQUE

High-end French food in the middle of **Wan Chai's** wet market, Serge all but defines Hong Kong's fascinating cuisine contrasts. It helps, of course, that the food here is very good, a contemporary take on classic Gallic dishes, all served in a retro-modern setting. The menu's ever-changing, but expect such fascinating flavours as oyster ceviche and butterflied quail. Paired with its impressive selection of biodynamic wines, it's a little slice of modern Paris among hectic Hong Kong.

**34** **Address:** Shop B2, G/F, Tower 1, The Zenith, 3 Wan Chai Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong Island, 5465 2000 (MTR Wan Chai Station, Exit A3)



## SUSHI MORI

This pair of tucked away restaurants are located in bustling **Causeway Bay**, each holding a dozen or so seats. They serve sushi the old-fashioned way: one piece at a time. Indulge in an omakase journey, where the freshest fish is served for your tasting pleasure. Dinner can be pricey, so drop in at lunchtime for a great deal. Keep in mind, the experience takes about two hours.

**35** **Address:** a) Circle Tower, 16/F, 28 Tang Lung Street, Causeway Bay, Hong Kong Island, 2898 3399 (MTR Causeway Bay Station, Exit A); b) 1 Caroline Hill Road, Shop 18-19, G/F, Causeway Bay, Hong Kong Island, 3462 2728 (MTR Causeway Bay Station, Exit F1)



Hong Kong Gold Coast Hotel

## CLASSIC CANTONESE CUISINE WITH A MODERN TWIST



City Garden Hotel



City Garden Hotel



Hong Kong Gold Coast Hotel

### City Garden Hotel

1/F, 9 City Garden Road,  
North Point, Hong Kong  
(Fortress Hill MTR station Exit B)  
T: +852 2806 4918

 CityGardenHotelHK  
 citygardenhotelhongkong

### Hong Kong Gold Coast Hotel

Lower Ground Level,  
1 Castle Peak Road  
Gold Coast, Hong Kong  
T: +852 2452 8668

  GoldCoastHotel

Please visit [www.iprestigerewards.com](http://www.iprestigerewards.com) / [www.sino-hotels.com](http://www.sino-hotels.com)



# shopping

Daytime markets and late-night bazaars. Hip districts full of indie stores and massive malls with hundreds of outlets. Shopping in Hong Kong defies definition.

Shopping is almost a national pastime in Hong Kong, a place where anything can be had if you look hard enough. Whether you've come prepared with extra luggage space or just browsing with your carry-on, our all-day markets, massive malls, chic precincts and high-end stores offer shopping prospects where the experience is as important as the things on offer.

Sift through Cat Street's antiques by day, and then cross the harbour to its nocturnal counterpart in Temple Street. Browse hipster stores in Wan Chai, and then make your way through Causeway Bay's frantic mini-malls. Rummage for hidden finds in piled-up vintage stores, and then get fitted for a classic suit at a refined tailor. Whatever you desire, it's here.





## CAT STREET

Just below the art galleries and restaurants of **Hollywood Road**, Cat Street is a longstanding antiques market that stocks items from as far back as the Ming dynasty. Sift through ramshackle stalls and stroll into well-maintained stores to find relics from the Cultural Revolution, vestiges from colonial times, ancient jade jewellery and an assortment of quirky items from Hong Kong's past. Keep in mind, some pieces are reproductions, and make sure to bargain.

- 1** **Address:** Upper Lascar Row, Central, Hong Kong Island (MTR Central Station, Exit D2)

## LADIES' MARKET

Everything and anything – that's pretty much what you'll find at Ladies' Market, Hong Kong's most diverse outdoor market, selling everything from souvenir trinkets to whole bedroom setups. Grab an 'I Love HK' t-shirt, deck yourself out in a classic Chinese getup, or pick up something ornamental for your home. Quality ranges from fairly high to incredibly low, and knock-offs are everywhere. Check each item individually and make sure to bargain hard.

- 2** **Address:** Tung Choi Street, Mong Kok, Kowloon (MTR Mong Kok Station, Exit E2)

## LI YUEN STREET EAST & WEST

Among the endless bustle of Hong Kong's swankiest area, the twin Li Yuen Streets (often simply called the 'Central lanes') are like mini-versions of our larger street markets. Dedicated stalls sell traditional Chinese get-ups, including cheongsams and changshans, while their many neighbours vend watches, handbags and a variety of Hong Kong-focused souvenirs. It's a fascinating street market diversion within our financial district.

- 3** **Address:** Li Yuen Street East & West, Central, Hong Kong Island (MTR Central Station, Exit D2)



Ladies' Market

## STANLEY MARKET

Out in idyllic **Stanley**, a tranquil waterfront town of low-rise homes and independent restaurants, lies this street market. It's a veritable cornucopia of goods and souvenirs, with clothes, artwork, luggage and everything in between for sale. The market is a daytime affair, perfect for a gentle morning's saunter among the back alleys. Locals shop here, but there's definitely a strong expat focus, one that's obvious in the large-sized clothing and reproduction western paintings.

**4** **Address:** Stanley Market Road, Stanley, Hong Kong Island (Bus 6, 6A, 6X, 66 or 260)

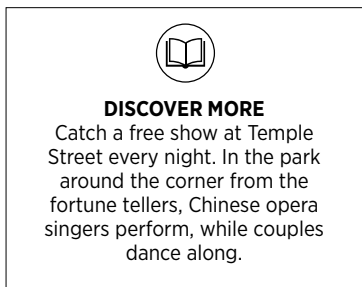


Stanley Market

## TEMPLE STREET

Temple Street is like a night-time shopping excursion through Hong Kong's past. Unlike neighbouring **Ladies Market**, the focus is strongly on vintage trinkets and such goods. Expect to see age-old statues, paintings of our city landscapes, whole stalls dedicated to jade, as well as a number of palm readers willing to tell your future. After your retail therapy, stop by for a beer and a snack at one of its many outdoor food stalls.

**5** **Address:** Temple Street, Yau Ma Tei, Kowloon (MTR Yau Ma Tei Station, Exit C)



Temple Street



## ISLAND BEVERLEY

Island Beverley is where Hong Kong's young and fashionable spend their weekends shopping, a frenzied mall in the middle of bustling **Causeway Bay**, with dozens of stores stocking regional fashion. Items are either locally made, or imported from stores around the region (Japan, Korea, Taiwan), with a definite focus on what's currently in vogue. Meanwhile, across the harbour, **Allied Plaza** is a mall where Kowloon's stylish shop.

- 6** **Address:** a) **Island Beverley**, 1 Great George Street, Causeway Bay, Hong Kong Island, 2890 6823 (MTR Causeway Bay Station, Exit E); b) **Allied Plaza**, 760 Nathan Road, Prince Edward, Kowloon (MTR Prince Edward Station, Exit B2)

## KAPOK

It's hipster heaven at Kapok, stocking clothes, bags, shoes, watches and a range of homeware and accessories. Pick up a plaid shirt, slap on some oversized sunglasses, pair it all with sandals and socks, and grab a man-purse while you're at it. They have a few stores around town, but the best is in **Starstreet Precinct**, a cool area with fellow chic stores Japanese brand **45R** and design-focused **Eclectic Cool**.

- 7** **Address:** a) **Kapok**, various locations including 5 St Francis Yard, Wan Chai, Hong Kong Island, 2549 9254; b) **45R**, 7 Star Street, Wan Chai, Hong Kong Island, 2861 1145; c) **Eclectic Cool**, 5 Sun Street, Wan Chai, Hong Kong Island, 5699 6882 (MTR Admiralty Station, Exit F)  
**Websites:** ka-pok.com; 45rpm.jp; eclectic-cool.com

## LOK MAN RARE BOOKS

You wouldn't immediately associate Hong Kong with rare books, but our varied history has resulted in a slew of polished stores selling hard-to-find tomes. Lok Man is one of the best, with first editions, signed copies, complete sets and a whole section dedicated to Hong Kong itself, ranging from ancient China to our colonial ties. Other rare booksellers include **Bondi Books** and **Indosiam Bookstore**.

- 8** **Address:** a) **Lok Man Rare Books**, 6 Chancery Lane, Central, Hong Kong Island, 2868 1056 (MTR Central Station, Exit D2); b) **Bondi Books**, Unit 2, 13/F, Chai Wan Industrial City, Phase 1, 60 Wing Tai Road, Chai Wan, Hong Kong Island, 2897 0066 (MTR Chai Wan Station, Exit C)  
**Website:** lokmanbooks.com

## ME & GEORGE

How do you get a truly unique look? Vintage of course, and there's no better place to rummage through racks of long-gone styles than at Me & George. The biggest vintage fashion chain in Hong Kong, it has stores all over the city. They're often ramshackle looking places, but don't let that put you off: here you'll find high-end brands alongside low-grade fast-fashion, oddball pieces from Japan alongside retro-Italian couture. It's worth the search.

- 9** **Address:** Various locations, including 64 Tung Choi Street, Mong Kok, Kowloon (MTR Mong Kok Station, Exit E2)





## POHO

A cool, quiet area located above the bustle of **Sheung Wan's Hollywood Road**, PoHo and its many side streets are where some of the city's most unique designers gather. Shop for vintage at **InBetween**, before picking up camera bits at the **Lomography Gallery**, then peek at Swedish-designed watches at **squarestreet**. Finish it all off with bottled craft beer at **Craftissimo**.

**10** Address: a) **InBetween**, 6B Tai Ping Shan Street, Sheung Wan, Hong Kong Island, 6097 1817; b) **Lomography Gallery**, 2 Po Yan Street, Sheung Wan, Hong Kong Island, 2915 2205; c) **squarestreet**, 15 Square Street, Sheung Wan, Hong Kong Island, 2362 1086; d) **Craftissimo**, 22-24A Tai Ping Shan Street, Sheung Wan, Hong Kong Island, 6274 3130 (MTR Sheung Wan Station, Exit A2)  
**Websites:** inbetweenshop.com; lomography.hk; www.squarestreet.se; craftissimo.hk

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# artisan shopping



LaLa Curio

## HOME SWEET HOME

**LaLa Curio** (32-33 *Sam Wa Fong*) is the place for those who love home décor, with playfully handcrafted furnishings, decorative objects and hand-painted wallpapers. For food lovers, wander along **Shanghai Street** to pick up some kitchenware and ceramics for your home. You can even get traditional steam dim sum baskets and egg waffle machines for some experimental cooking.



## DESIGN INSPIRATION

Definitely **Sham Shui Po** for arts & craft-related items. My favourite shop for beads is **Luen Fung Beads Co.** (216 *Tai Nan Street*); this is where I source a lot of the beads I use when designing. There's also **Moon Yue Piece Goods** (27 *Yu Chau Street*), a great place to buy end-roll fabrics. It's perfect for those who like to design their own unique piece, and if you dig around enough, you might even find some fancy European fabrics.



Hong Kong's stature as a global fashion hub is growing fast, and leading the charge are a number of homegrown designers. One of them is **Melissa Bui**, an up-and-coming name who's making waves at fashion circuits all over the world. Her collections are inspired by the city around her, and here she gives us the low-down on where she shops.

## NATURAL BEAUTY

I personally love flowers, so I try to head over to Flower Market Road, Hong Kong's biggest flower market, to get a dose of weekly inspiration, while picking up new blooms for the atelier, of course. While here, definitely check out **Hay Fever Floral & Gifts** (No. 62-64) – there's a really cute café inside.



Hay Fever Floral &amp; Gifts



Stylekiki

## OLD IS NEW

I draw a lot of inspiration from vintage clothing. My favourite luxe shop is **Once Style HK** (8 *On Wo Lane*), for those who love a good vintage Chanel or Hermès. I'm also inspired by **Stylekiki** (IG: @stylekiki) for luxe vintage shopping. And while it's not technically 'vintage', I also love **Sindart 1958** (Shop 16-17, 1/F, *Bowring Centre*, 150-164 *Woo Sung Street*), one of the oldest slipper stores in Hong Kong, known for their beautiful Chinese traditional embroidered slippers and shoes.



## THE ARMOURY

Tailors are everywhere in Hong Kong, but finding one that meets your niche desires isn't easy. Enter The Armoury, a store that truly understands what you're after, and is willing to advise on what you need. Their traditional store is similar to what you might find in Milan or Paris, with classic and contemporary looks given equal ground. They also stock casualwear and accessories, from jeans and hats to umbrellas.

- 11** **Address:** Various locations, including B47, Landmark, 15 Queen's Road Central, Hong Kong Island, 2810 4990 (MTR Central Station, Exit G)  
**Website:** thearmoury.com



The Armoury

## G.O.D.

If 'I Heart HK' t-shirts and fridge magnets aren't your sort of souvenir, drop into this chain of locally founded stores. Short for 'Goods of Desire', they put quirky spins on vintage Hong Kong aesthetics: old posters turned into cushion covers, letterbox-print boxer shorts, strings of red lantern fairy lights, and contemporary takes on classic Chinese fashion.

- 12** **Address:** Various locations, including 48 Hollywood Road, Central, Hong Kong Island, 2805 1876 (MTR Central Station, Exit D2)  
**Website:** god.com.hk



G.O.D.



### DISCOVER MORE

G.O.D.'s tagline is 'Delay No More', a cheeky English homophonic translation of a popular Cantonese profanity – but we can't tell you what it means!

## GRANA

Fast fashion's low prices make it appealing to most shoppers, but quality can be an issue. Grana is changing that, utilising digital methods to cut out the middle man and deliver high-quality pieces at bargain prices. The local brand focuses on basics – T-shirts, polos, jeans – using the finest fabrics from Italy, Japan, Peru and Mongolia. Try items in store, then order online and have them delivered within two days to your address, including hotels.

- 13** **Address:** 108 Hollywood Road, Sheung Wan, Hong Kong Island, 6013 2118 (MTR Sheung Wan Station, Exit A2)  
**Website:** grana.com



Grana



## I.T

I.T is the little Hong Kong brand that could. What started as a small store in the late '80s has blossomed into one of the city's biggest fashion successes, with the publicly listed company managing over 600 I.T shops worldwide. Their Hong Kong-based stores are a mix of in-house brands and hip names from abroad, with a focus mostly on chic casualwear. Major names on their racks include **A Bathing Ape**, **French Connection**, **Kurt Geiger** and **izzue**.

**14** **Address:** Various locations, including 1 Hysan Avenue, Causeway Bay, Hong Kong Island, 2890 7012 (MTR Causeway Bay Station, Exit F2)

## JOYCE

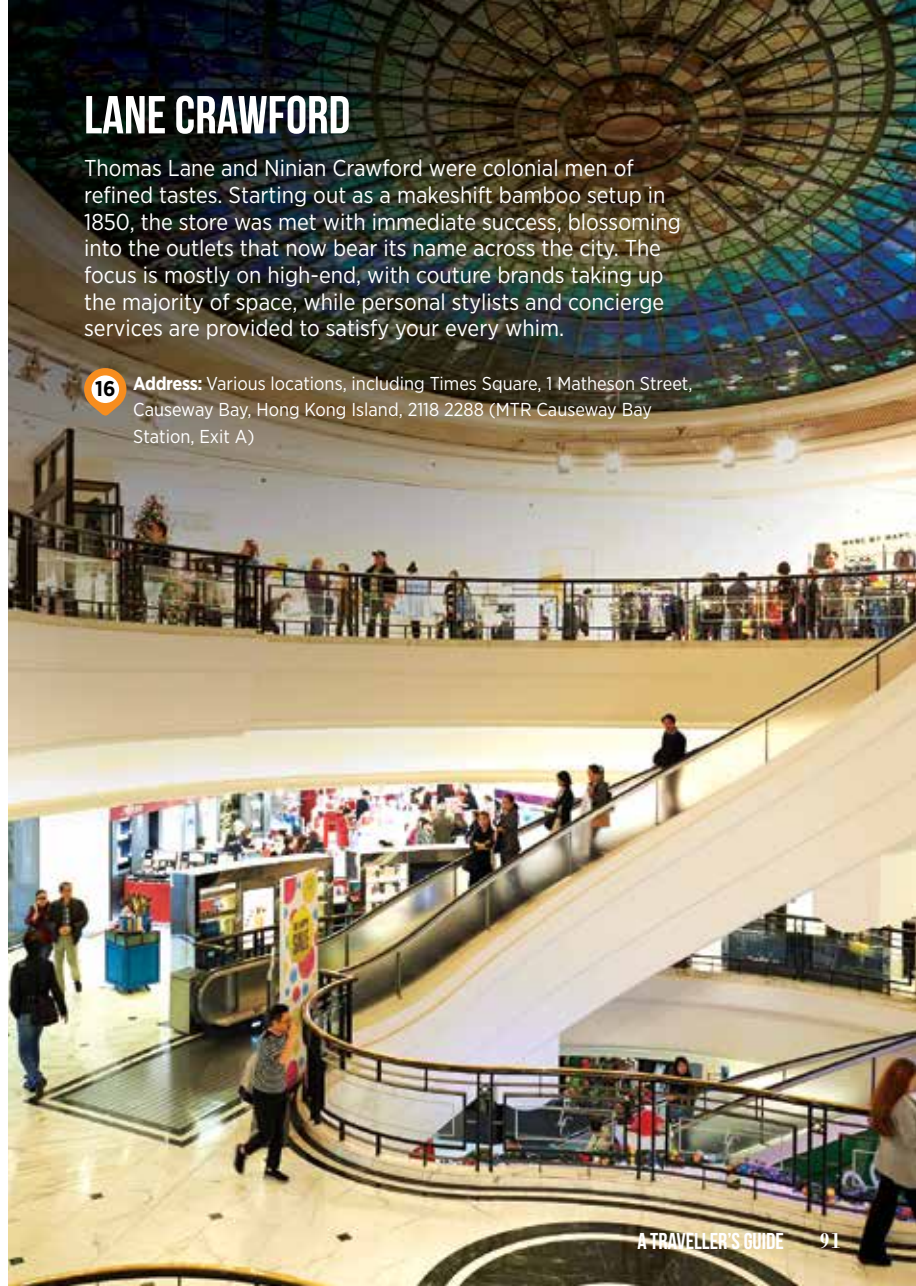
Joyce is a Hong Kong-born chain where the focus is constantly shifting. Department stores, couture boutiques, beauty outlets, men's grooming salons, even art galleries, JOYCE's many diverse outlets target every interest within the fashion world. Their flagship boutiques, on both Hong Kong Island and Kowloon, are worth extended wanders, stocking both local and international high-end brands.

**15** **Address:** Various locations, including 16-18 Queen's Road Central, Central, Hong Kong Island, 2810 1120 (MTR Central Station, Exit G)

## LANE CRAWFORD

Thomas Lane and Ninian Crawford were colonial men of refined tastes. Starting out as a makeshift bamboo setup in 1850, the store was met with immediate success, blossoming into the outlets that now bear its name across the city. The focus is mostly on high-end, with couture brands taking up the majority of space, while personal stylists and concierge services are provided to satisfy your every whim.

**16** **Address:** Various locations, including Times Square, 1 Matheson Street, Causeway Bay, Hong Kong Island, 2118 2288 (MTR Causeway Bay Station, Exit A)



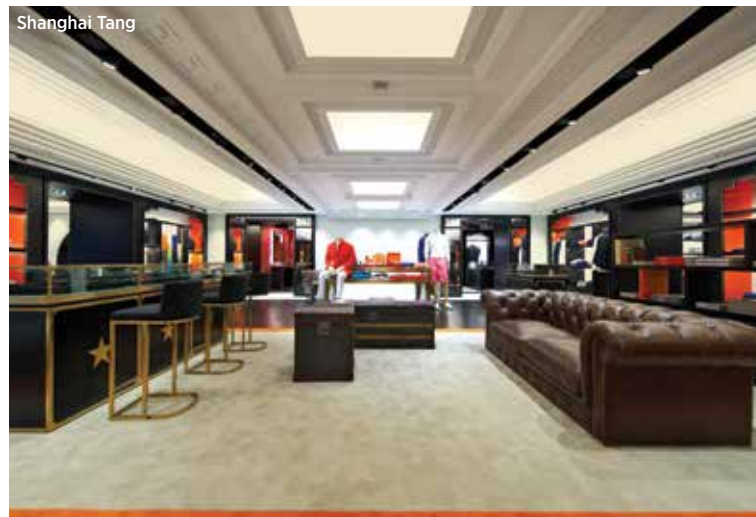


## SAM'S TAILOR

Prince Charles, Nelson Mandela, Angela Merkel, David Bowie, Elton John – the list goes on. They've all been patrons of Sam's, arguably the most popular tailor in Hong Kong. Drop by and experience suit-making of the highest order, all for surprisingly affordable prices, and backed by Sam's 24-hour delivery guarantee. If Sam's doesn't suit, there are hundreds of others within **Tsim Sha Tsui**: **Simpson Sin**, **William Cheng & Son** and **Raja Fashions** are all favourites.

- 17** **Address:** a) **Sam's Tailor**, K1, Burlington Arcade, 90-94C Nathan Road, Tsim Sha Tsui, Kowloon, 2367 9423; b) **Simpson Sin**, Block B, 1/F, Lip Seng Mansion, 15-19 Carnarvon Road, Tsim Sha Tsui, Kowloon, 2723 9228; c) **William Cheng & Son**, 8/F, Han Hing Mansion, 38-40 Hankow Road, Tsim Sha Tsui, Kowloon, 2739 7888; d) **Raja Fashions**, 34 Cameron Road, Tsim Sha Tsui, Kowloon, 2366 7624 (MTR Tsim Sha Tsui Station, Exit C)  
**Websites:** samstailor.com; simpsonsintailor.com.hk; www.williamcheng-son.com; raja-fashions.com

Shanghai Tang



## SHANGHAI TANG

Classic Chinese fashion with a chic contemporary edge. That's the charm of Shanghai Tang, a now-international brand that had its beginnings in Hong Kong. Low-cut cheongsams and changshans that look like modern suits, the brand is an innovator in taking China's traditional tailoring and giving it a modern spin. Prices are at the higher end – but if you're after a local look to be used at any occasion, there's no better place.

- 18** **Address:** Various locations, including 1 Duddell Street, Central, Hong Kong Island, 2525 7333 (MTR Central Station, Exit G)  
**Website:** shanghaiatang.com

## YUE HWA CHINESE PRODUCTS EMPORIUM

The best of Greater China, all within our little city. Yue Hwa is one of the last old-school department stores in the city. You'll find everything China-related here, from cheap chopsticks and ceramics to expensive embroidery and elegant dresses. There's a few of them around the city, but the biggest is on **Nathan Road** in Kowloon, a five-storey building with entire floors dedicated to food, fashion and tea.

- 19** **Address:** Various locations, including 301-309 Nathan Road, Jordan, Kowloon, 3511 2222 (MTR Jordan Station, Exit A)  
**Website:** yuehwa.com





## CITYGATE OUTLETS

For high-end fashion at low prices, head out to Citygate Outlets near the airport. The outlet mall has discount versions of some of the world's biggest fashion stores – **Armani, DVF, Burberry** – alongside a host of casual, sporting and accessories brands, including **Puma, Coach** and **Evisu**. Another outlet mall to try is **Horizon Plaza**.

- 20** **Address:** a) Citygate Outlets, 20 Tat Tung Road, Lantau Island, New Territories, 2109 2933 (MTR Tung Chung Station, Exit C); b) **Horizon Plaza**, 2 Lee Wing Street, Ap Lei Chau, Hong Kong Island, 2554 9089 (MTR South Horizons Station, Exit C)  
**Websites:** citygateoutlets.com.hk; horizonplazahk.com



## HARBOUR CITY

Set right next to the **Tsim Sha Tsui Pier**, Harbour City is a massive shopping experience, comprising three different malls, a series of office blocks and a hotel, all interconnected. Over 450 shops are represented, alongside 50 restaurants and two cinemas. The nautical-themed 'city' is the launching point for a number of major cruise lines, while inside, every type of store is featured, ranging from high-end brands **Prada** and **Louis Vuitton** all the way through to **Uniqlo** and **Zara**.

- 21** **Address:** 3-27 Canton Road, Tsim Sha Tsui, Kowloon, 2118 8666 (MTR Tsim Sha Tsui Station, Exit A1)  
**Website:** harbourcity.com.hk



## IFC MALL

If you arrived via Airport Express into **Central**, this was your first stop. **One ifc** is where the trains come in, with **ifc mall** conveniently located right above the station. Every manner of shop is available, from fast-fashion to high-end, with bars, restaurants and a five-screen, state-of-the-art cinema too. The mall is part of the International Financial Centre, a vast waterfront commercial development topped off with a striking 88-floor skyscraper called **Two ifc**.

- 22** **Address:** 8 Finance Street, Central, Hong Kong Island, 2295 3308 (MTR Central Station, Exit A)  
**Website:** ifc.com.hk

## LANGHAM PLACE

Among **Mong Kok's** late-night bazaars and tucked-away mini-malls, this massive ode to consumerism is a sight to see. It's the district's biggest shopping mall by far, with over 200 stores, dozens of restaurants and bars, and a multiscreen cinema. Everything's here, from beauty to fashion, jewellery for her and toys for him. Live performances and art installations are also regularly on offer, while its futuristic design scheme and 83m multi-floor escalator make it worth seeking out.

- 23** **Address:** 8 Argyle Street, Mong Kok, Kowloon, 3520 2800 (MTR Mong Kok Station, Exit E1)  
**Website:** langhamplace.com.hk

Times Square



## TIMES SQUARE

Times Square is **Causeway Bay's** main mall, over 12 floors stocking fashion to homeware, electronics to lifestyle goods. The basement features a massive supermarket and food court, alongside a **Lane Crawford** department store. Lower floors are dedicated to shops, ranging from high-end couture to affordable fast-fashion. Upper levels include a range of restaurants and a cinema. And like its New York namesake, it's also where one of the city's biggest New Year's Eve countdowns takes place.

**24** **Address:** 1 Matheson Street, Causeway Bay, Hong Kong Island, 2118 8900 (MTR Causeway Bay Station, Exit A) **Website:** [timesquare.com.hk](http://timesquare.com.hk)

## WAN CHAI COMPUTER CENTRE

Dig deep into geeky delights at Wan Chai Computer Centre, one of the city's greatest hubs of electronics. Here you'll find computers, laptops, phones, cameras and pretty much every gadget imaginable. Across the harbour, **Mong Kok Computer Centre** serves a similar function.

**25** **Address:** a) Wan Chai Computer Centre, 130 Hennessy Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong Island, 2834 7685 (MTR Wan Chai Station, Exit A4); b) **Mong Kok Computer Centre**, 8-8A Nelson Street, Mong Kok, Kowloon, 2781 0706 (MTR Mong Kok Station, Exit E2) **Website:** [www.mongkokkcc.com](http://www.mongkokkcc.com)



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# sports & outdoors

A city teeming with open-air adventures. A calendar packed with colourful sporting events. Escape the urban hustle and take a walk on Hong Kong's wild side.

Hong Kong's sports & outdoors are often defined by their array of experiences – by intense athletic spectacles and immersive adventure sports, set against calming nature walks and endless exploration across outlying islands.

Whether you prefer paragliding over rural hills or reclining on a pristine beach, hiking over mountains for spellbinding views or taking in the thrills of a major sporting event, there's something for everyone. Break out from your city-based tourist routine, and explore the open-air pleasures that make Hong Kong such a fascinating fusion of encounters and experiences.

## ADVENTURE SPORTS

Get your adrenaline flowing with spectacular adventure sports set as high as the city's skies. **Rock climb** some of Hong Kong's peaks, including **Lion Rock** or along the **Dragon's Back**. Take to the hills, with **paragliding** on offer at such far-flung destinations as **Lantau Island** and **Shek O**. And get even higher, by **skydiving** out of a plane on the fringes of the city.

- 1** **Address:** a) **Rock Climbing**, various locations, for info: rockclimbing.com.hk; b) **Paragliding**, various locations, hkpa.net; c) **Skydiving**, various locations, skydive.hk



## BEACHES

From quick city escapes to white sand hideaways, Hong Kong's beaches are a contrast in themselves. Famed **Repulse Bay** is a historic seaside spot surrounded by towering residences – if the crowds get a bit much, walk west to **South Bay**, a serene little strip with its own bar. Locals spend weekends south in **Shek O**, a village with two beaches, while white sand campers hike to **Tai Long Wan**, a gorgeous shore some 16km from **Sai Kung town**.

- 2** **Address:** a) **Repulse Bay**, Beach Road, Hong Kong Island (Bus 6, 6A, 6X, 66 or 260); b) **South Bay Beach**, South Bay Road, Hong Kong Island (Bus 6, 6A, 6X, 66 or 260); c) **Shek O**, Hong Kong Island (MTR Shau Kei Wan Station, Exit A3, followed by bus 9); d) **Tai Long Wan**, Sai Kung, New Territories (MTR Choi Hung Station, Exit C, followed by minibus 1A. From Sai Kung Town, taxi to Sai Wan Pavilion and follow the trail to the beach)

## CITY PARKS

If Hong Kong's hectic streets are getting a little much, enjoy welcome respite at one of our many city parks. **Victoria Park** is the most popular, that alongside tennis, basketball and football courts, plays host to numerous fairs. Across the harbour, **Kowloon Park** is a former army barracks converted into a huge garden with museums. And out in the New Territories, **Tai Po Waterfront Park** is the city's largest and has stunning views.

- 3** **Address:** a) **Victoria Park**, 1 Hing Fat Street, Causeway Bay, Hong Kong Island (MTR Causeway Bay Station, Exit E); b) **Kowloon Park**, Tsim Sha Tsui, Kowloon (MTR Tsim Sha Tsui Station, Exit A1); c) **Tai Po Waterfront Park**, Dai Fat Street, Tai Po, New Territories (MTR Tai Po Market Station, Exit A3, followed by shuttle bus K17)





## CYCLING

Far from Hong Kong's bustle, cycling paths exist for all levels of enthusiasts. **Mui Wo** is a lazy day favourite; pick up a bike near the pier and get lost among its sleepy villages. **Tolo Harbour**, stretching from Tai Wai to Tai Mei Tuk, lets you build up a sweat while taking in gorgeous waterfront views – hire a bike in nearby Sha Tin Park. And if you have your own bike, sturdier legs can journey into our multi-terrain country parks: **Tai Lam** and **Shek O** offer flat, shaded terrain, while **Lantau South** gets a little rockier.

- 4** **Address:** a) **Mui Wo**, Lantau Island (Central Ferry Pier 6); b) **Tolo Harbour**, Tai Wai, New Territories (MTR Tai Wai Station, Exit A); c) **Tai Lam Country Park**, Tai Lam, New Territories (MTR Tuen Mun Station, Exit B1, followed by minibus 43); d) **Shek O**, Hong Kong Island (MTR Shau Kei Wan Station, Exit A3, followed by bus 9)



## JUNK TRIPS

A summer favourite and a classic weekend excursion, 'junks' are medium-sized boats hired for a full day out on Hong Kong's gorgeous waters. Set sail from the **Central** pier and get one loaded up with food and drink for all your friends. Along with stunning waterfront views, ask your captain to set a course for the city's most remote swimming spots and beaches.

- 5** **Address:** Depart from Central Ferry Pier 9.  
**Website:** Visit [www.junks.hk](http://www.junks.hk) to compare prices and book a junk.

## WATERSPORTS

Hong Kong's many isles make it more than ideal for water-based sports. Get your wetsuit on and hit the waves. Grab a board and surf the appropriately named **Big Wave Bay** in **Shek O**, or windsurf across the shores of **Cheung Chau**. Snorkel along the surface and dive the depths of **Sharp Island**. Whatever your watery pleasure, the city has it.

- 6** **Address:** a) **Big Wave Bay**, Shek O, Hong Kong Island (MTR Shau Kei Wan Station, Exit A3, followed by bus 9); b) **Cheung Chau** (Central Ferry Pier 5); c) **Sharp Island** (Sai Kung Public Pier)



### DISCOVER MORE

In summer, swells from the south mean Lantau Island gets gnarly waves. Check out Pui O or Cheung Sha beaches. Their white sands make them very appealing to non-surfers too.

## HONG KONG TRAIL

Stretching 50km from **The Peak** to the very south of the island, the Hong Kong Trail is appropriately named, winding its way all across Hong Kong Island and through its finest highlights. Stage 8 is particularly renowned, an 8km hike recognised as one of the city's best and colloquially known as the **Dragon's Back**. The name derives from its swirling, rocky paths, which offer stunning coastal views.

**7** **Address:** Dragon's Back (Stage 8), Southern District, Hong Kong Island (MTR Shau Kei Wan Station, Exit A, followed by bus 9)

## MACLEHOSE TRAIL

Easily Hong Kong's most demanding, the MacLehose Trail stretches over 100km, through eight country parks totalling 20,000 hectares. It'll take you a solid week to conquer, so instead, focus on picturesque Stage 5 in **Lion Rock Country Park**. Taking in Lion Rock overlooking Kowloon Peninsula, the **Kai Tak Cruise Terminal**, numerous World War II tunnels, as well as an array of wild monkeys, it's a 10km trek that's fit for all ages.

**8** **Address:** MacLehose Trail Stage 5, Lion Rock Country Park, Sha Tin, New Territories (bus 72)

## SHEK PIK COUNTRY TRAIL

It's impossible to see all of Lantau Island's sights in a single day, but **Shek Pik Country Trail** ticks most boxes: start hiking from the **Big Buddha** and wind your way into **Lantau South Country Park**. Here you'll join the trail, twisting through ancient villages, abandoned forts, expansive valleys and natural pools. It's an all-day affair, so pack accordingly.

**9** **Address:** Shek Pik Country Trail (MTR Tung Chung Station, Exit B, followed by bus 23)



### WANT TO EXPLORE MORE?

Visit [DiscoverHongKong.com](https://www.discoverhongkong.com) or scan the QR code to find out more about hiking in Hong Kong.



MacLehose Trail

# natural wonders

## LONG KE

Particularly serene, Long Ke is a pristine beach with amazing views. Located about half an hour beyond **High Island** (see opposite), there's also a campsite here, making it a great spot to go for stargazing.



Kuk Po

## KUK PO

Every January and February, the village of Kuk Po gets covered with golden reeds. It's a stunning view. There are also some old houses around, letting you experience a glimpse of bygone Hong Kong while trying out local delicacies, including tofu pudding and Hakka steamed glutinous rice cakes. Take a minibus from **Fanling** to **Luk Keng**, and another hour's walk will take you to Kuk Po.



To most, Hong Kong is just another city, a hectic metropolis of commerce and skyscrapers. But to those exploring the fringes, it's a place unlike any other, one where ancient villages, stunning summits and pristine beaches all add up to landscapes that feel otherworldly. Here, Instagram photographer **Francis So** gives us a tour of his favourite spots.

## SUNSET PEAK

The Sunset Peak is best in autumn, when the whole area is covered with shimmering Chinese silver grass. It takes about one and a half hours to walk to the peak, and I'd recommend going before 3pm, as the scenery is best during sunset. It's beautiful in spring and summer, often with a sea of clouds overhead.



## Tai Mo Shan

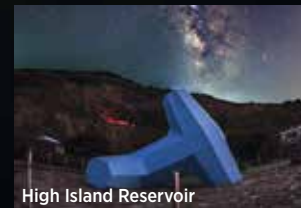


## TAI MO SHAN

Tai Mo Shan is the highest mountain in Hong Kong, it's even higher than **The Peak**, and you're able to see more of Hong Kong from its summit. The top is a restricted area, but even so, the highest point on the road offers a stunning view of the city. If the weather is good enough, you can see **Victoria Harbour**, the peaks in the **Kowloon Peninsula** and **Lantau Island**. It takes about an hour to walk from the **Rotary Park Campsite** to the highest point of the road to Tai Mo Shan.

## HIGH ISLAND RESERVOIR

In summer, stage one of the MacLehose Trail is one of the best places to view the sunset at dusk as well as the starry sky at night. **East Dam** is part of **Hong Kong Global Geopark** and it's reachable on foot. The hexagonal rock columns are fascinating for those interested in geology. Under the **West Dam** is **Astropark**, featuring astronomical instruments and benches, where you can comfortably lie back and stargaze.



High Island Reservoir

## CHEUNG CHAU

One of the most inhabited of Hong Kong's many outlying islands, Cheung Chau's serene seaside town vibe and abundance of alfresco seafood spots make it the ideal escape from the thronging masses. Cars are banned, so hire a bike and cycle your way to numerous temples and rocky beaches. Take a break alongside the island's locals sitting at one of the many independent cafés and bars, before enjoying from-the-deep delights at a seafood restaurant.

**10** Address: Cheung Chau  
(Central Ferry Pier 5)



Cheung Chau

## LAMMA ISLAND

For a Hong Kong contrast unlike any other, wade your way through Central's bustle, hop on a half-hour ferry and set course for Lamma Island: a car-free haven where independent waterfront restaurants dish out fresh seafood, mom-and-pop businesses thrive and everyone just seems a little more relaxed. Hike along the appropriately named **Family Trail**, chill on the beach facing its gargantuan power station, or just soak in the vibe at one of the many village cafés.

**11** Address: Lamma Island  
(Central Ferry Pier 4)



Lamma Island

Lantau Island



## LANTAU ISLAND

From heritage hotels to beachside surf bars, water buffaloes to Mickey Mouse, Lantau Island has it all. It's a place where age-old fishing villages and ancient monasteries sit comfortably next to cable-car towns and luxury residential bays. Grab the ferry to sleepy **Mui Wo** or cab it across **Tsing Yi bridge**, before making your choice. Hike through country park marshes? Family trips to **Disneyland**? Or just a leisurely weekend with locals on the white sands of **Pui O** beach.

**12** Address: Lantau Island  
(Central Ferry Pier 6)



### DISCOVER MORE

Water buffalo were first brought to Hong Kong in the mid-1900s, and are now essential to the biodiversity of Lantau Island. Although measures are being taken to save them, construction and illegal dumping are seeing their numbers dwindle.



## HONG KONG WETLAND PARK

Nature lovers will get a kick out of Hong Kong Wetland Park, a fascinating ecotourism park that explores Hong Kong's varied flora and fauna. Its 60-hectare reserve showcases some of the city's wonderful wildlife, from birds and butterflies to fish and amphibians, while a number of walks and gardens let you get up close. Interactive educational experiences are also offered, with galleries, a theatre, a cinema and various play areas, making the faraway park fit for the whole family.

**13** **Address:** Wetland Park Road, Tin Shui Wai, New Territories, 3152 2666  
(MTR Tin Shui Wai Station, then Light Rail 705 or 706)

**Website:** wetlandpark.gov.hk



## MAI PO NATURE RESERVE

You wouldn't think it from our towering buildings and crowded city, but Hong Kong is home to some of the world's most unique bird varieties. They're best seen out at the Mai Po Nature Reserve, a 380-hectare site with up to 90,000 migratory birds making the journey here every year. Catch everything from black-faced spoonbills to Saunder's gulls, alongside otters, butterflies, crabs and reptiles. Conservation is high on the agenda, so access is often limited, but visitors can join group tours at weekends into the reserve.

**14** **Address:** Mai Po, Yuen Long, New Territories, 2526 1011 (MTR Sheung Shui Station, Exit C, then bus 76K)  
**Website:** wwf.org.hk

## UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARK

Spread out over 5,000 hectares of the city's northeast coastline, the geopark is a world-class site that encompasses islands, caves, cliffs, rocks, channels and more, all to showcase the unique local land formations. See rocks dating from the days of the dinosaurs, hike along trails to take in arresting views, go island hopping or take a tour of an ecological village. The best place to start your explorations is at the **Volcano Discovery Centre**.

**15** **Address:** Sai Kung Waterfront Park, Wai Man Road, Sai Kung, New Territories, 2394 1538 (From MTR Diamond Hill Station, Exit C2, then bus 92)  
**Website:** volcanodiscoverycentre.hk



## DRAGON BOAT RACES

Dragon boat races, a Hong Kong spectacle, where brawny rowers battle it out in dragon-shaped vessels while the crowds cheer on from the side. Events take place all over the city, but the two biggest are the championships in Stanley at end of May, and the carnival over three days in June on the harbourfront. Catch them both if you can.

- 16** **Address:** a) **Dragon Boat Championships**, Stanley Main Beach, Stanley, Hong Kong Island (Bus 6, 6A, 6X, 66 or 260); b) **Dragon Boat Carnival**, Central harbourfront, Hong Kong Island (MTR Central Station, Exit A)



## HONG KONG E-PRIX

Revvng up for its very first time in 2016, the Hong Kong E-Prix is the newest sporting event on the scene. Every winter, the event shuts down a chunk of the city for a race unlike any other. Environmentally friendly Formula E cars speed their way through a late-night track right in the middle of **Central**'s busy streets. It's fast paced, as well as a little furious, and spectators can catch the energy-filled thrills from the heady sidelines.

- 17** **Address:** Central harbourfront, Hong Kong Island (MTR Central Station, Exit A)  
**Website:** [hkformulae.com](http://hkformulae.com)



## HONG KONG MARATHON

Strap a number to your chest and hit the streets, as long-distance runners take part in the city's biggest marathon. The Hong Kong Marathon has been on-the-run since 1997, the annual event seeing up to 60,000 people compete at the beginning of every year. While the full marathon distance covers over 40km, there are also half-marathon and 10km races too.

- 18** **Address:** Victoria Park, 1 Hing Fat Street, Causeway Bay, Hong Kong Island (MTR Causeway Bay Station, Exit E)  
**Website:** [hkmarathon.com](http://hkmarathon.com)



## HONG KONG OPEN

Get in the swing of things at the Hong Kong Open, the city's oldest professional sporting event and a tournament where the world's best golfers gather. Set in **Sheung Shui** as the weather starts to cool in December, it regularly awards a US\$2 million prize, with previous winners including Rory McIlroy and Justin Rose. Admission is free on the first two days, and ticketed for the main event over the weekend.

- 19** **Address:** Hong Kong Golf Club, 1 Fan Kam Road, Sheung Shui, New Territories (MTR Sheung Shui Station, Exit C, followed by taxi)  
**Website:** [ubshkopen.com](http://ubshkopen.com)



## HONG KONG SEVENS

Started in the 1970s as a local club affair, the Sevens has blossomed into Hong Kong's biggest sporting showcase. Tickets are nigh-impossible to procure, but those that gain entrance are treated to a true spectacle. The world's finest athletes battle in rapid-fire games for three days, while local legions watch on, most infamously from the South Stand. If you can't gain entrance, neighbouring **Sevens Village** makes an entertaining substitute.

**20** **Address:** Hong Kong Stadium, 55 Eastern Hospital Road, So Kon Po, Hong Kong Island (MTR Causeway Bay Station, Exit F)  
**Website:** hksevns.com



## TENNIS OPEN

With names like Venus Williams, Jelena Jankovic and Johanna Konta regularly gracing our hard courts, the Hong Kong Tennis Open is quickly becoming a major sporting spectacle. Set every October in **Victoria Park's** outdoor stadium, catch the world's best women's players for a weekend of singles and doubles matches. And if you're lucky enough to be here during the first few days, the qualifying stages are free entry on a first-come basis.

**21** **Address:** Victoria Park Tennis Stadium, 1 Hing Fat Street, Causeway Bay, Hong Kong Island (MTR Causeway Bay Station, Exit E)  
**Website:** hktennisopen.hk

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### Fashion Walk

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T : +852 2352 0198

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# living culture

Chinese traditions and colonial pastimes. Ancient rituals and city-wide festivals. Culture can be found everywhere in Hong Kong.

For a modern city forever pushing forward at breakneck speeds, the rich contrast of living culture in Hong Kong is extraordinary. A fascinating blend of East and West, Chinese and colonial, the customs, rituals, traditions and practices are a wonderful mishmash.

Journey out to the city's fringes and catch ancient Chinese processions, before watching thoroughbreds race along a colonial-era track. Sip classic English afternoon tea at a venerated hotel, followed by a palm reading at a street-stall fortune teller. Join an early morning tai chi class, and then stroll down to the water to watch a British cannon fired off. Among the endless development, Hong Kong's living culture thrives.



## CHEUNG CHAU BUN FESTIVAL

The mad clamber to the top, the grabbing of buns, the cheer of the crowd as the winners make their descent. This festival is a rare spectacle, not only of athleticism during its bun tower climbing competition, but of camaraderie and good cheer. Falling just before the summer (19-23 May 2018), its history is based on offerings to fend off an ancient plague. The event also includes ceremonies, parades and lion dances. Be warned though, it can get very busy.

**1** **Address:** Cheung Chau (Central Ferry Pier 5)



## CHINESE NEW YEAR

Hong Kong's biggest festival, and one that sweeps over the entire city. Red lanterns are hung all across town, lion dances are performed on the streets, and crowds head down to their local temple to pray for good fortune. Chinese New Year (16-18 Feb 2018) is a celebration that Hong Kong adores. Take a wander through the many makeshift markets selling all manner of festive items, stop in to see floats in the **Night Parade**, and then catch the stunning firework display that lights up **Victoria Harbour**.



## DRAGON BOAT WATER PARADE OF TAI O

Unlike the boisterous races that take place in the summer, the Dragon Boat Water Parade of Tai O is a sedate, religious procession, one that's organised annually (18 Jun 2018) to appease the many water ghosts of ancient stilt village, **Tai O**. It's a long-established ritual, where the village's elders parade deity statues in their sacred boats, while devotees on the sides fill the waters with paper offerings. Come early in the morning for the best views.

**2** **Address:** Tai O, Lantau Island (MTR Tung Chung Station, Exit B, then bus 11)



## MID-AUTUMN FESTIVAL

Mid-Autumn was once celebrated to welcome the harvest and is now an enduring custom that takes over the city. Mooncakes are sold everywhere, fruit and wine offerings are made to the gods, and lanterns are lit to emulate the full moon (25 Sep 2018). In **Victoria Park**, kids carry mini-lanterns, while games, shows and performances take place. And down the road in **Tai Hang**, the **Fire Dragon Dance** is a spectacle where an incensed-studded beast dances through the streets.

**3** **Address:** a) **Victoria Park**, Causeway Bay, Hong Kong Island (MTR Causeway Bay, Exit E); b) **Tai Hang**, Hong Kong Island (MTR Tin Hau Station, Exit B)

## AFTERNOON TEA

Afternoon tea is a long-esteemed colonial tradition, an upper-crust affair where layered trays filled with sandwiches, scones and other treats are paired with a pot of your favourite brew. It's still served at numerous hotels and restaurants around the city, but your best bet is at a place of history. **The Peninsula** is the most iconic, but other favourites include **Mandarin Oriental Hotel** and Repulse Bay's **The Verandah**.

- 4** **Address:** a) **The Lobby**, The Peninsula, Salisbury Road, Tsim Sha Tsui, Kowloon, 2696 6772 (MTR Tsim Sha Tsui Station, Exit E); b) **Clipper Lounge**, Mandarin Oriental Hotel, 5 Connaught Road Central, Hong Kong Island, 2825 4007 (MTR Central Station, Exit F); c) **The Verandah**, 109 Repulse Bay Road, Repulse Bay, Hong Kong Island, 2292 2822 (bus 6, 6A, 6X, 66 or 260)  
**Websites:** hongkong.peninsula.com; mandarinoriental.com; therepulsebay.com



## HORSE RACING

A colonial-era tradition and one that's been going strong since the 1800s, horse racing is a must, be it on a Wednesday in **Happy Valley** or on a weekend in **Sha Tin**. Take in the sight of racecourses surrounded by residences, smells of grassy fields and thoroughbreds, and the sound of fast-paced hooves racing along muddy tracks. Bets start at HK\$10, drinks are served alfresco, and a Tourist Badge gets you into a Member's Enclosure.

- 5** **Address:** a) **Happy Valley Racecourse**, Happy Valley, Hong Kong Island (MTR Causeway Bay Station, Exit A); b) **Sha Tin Racecourse**, Sha Tin, New Territories (MTR Racecourse Station)  
**Website:** entertainment.hkjc.com



## NOON DAY GUN

A long-standing ritual, the Noon Day Gun has a funny old folklore history, and what apparently started as a bit of a mistake has since become a Hong Kong tradition. The salute was once reserved for visiting colonial officers, but local company Jardine's often used it for its own civilian officials. As punishment, they were ordered to fire off a shot every day in perpetuity. And as its name suggests, come by just before midday to see it in action.

- 6** **Address:** Gloucester Road, Causeway Bay, Hong Kong Island (MTR Causeway Bay Station, Exit D1)

# 24 hours in the market



**Paul Chan** takes his love of Hong Kong right to the streets. As the founder of Walk in Hong Kong, a local company offering off-the-beaten-path explorations of the city's various sides, his tours bring in both tourists and locals alike. Here, he gives us a 24-hour breakdown of one of his favourite city spots, the Yau Ma Tei Fruit Market.

## 6PM TO MIDNIGHT

I'm often asked by tourists where they can buy the best quality fruit in Hong Kong. I always say Yau Ma Tei Fruit Market. It's a wholesale market that turns retail during the day. The wholesale part starts around sunset, with the market opening up around 8pm. Workers start delivering boxes of fresh fruit on hand-pushed and electric carts, and by midnight, things get really busy.

## MIDNIGHT TO 6AM

As morning starts to creep in, the bidding starts. Shopkeepers and restaurant owners come from far and wide to source the best quality fruit. The person offering the highest price gets the best fruit, but bidders try not to disclose how much they're offering, except to the wholesaler. Sometimes, you can still see stall owners rounding up their numbers with an abacus instead of an electronic calculator.

## 6AM TO 12PM

By early morning, all transactions are done. It only really comes to life again when regular work hours start, as the wholesale market becomes a retail market. The retail side is pretty recent and was only introduced a few years ago. The shops only sell the highest quality fruit, including **Japanese Kyoho Grapes**, **Japanese strawberries** and **yellow pitaya**. But the shopkeepers are very friendly and are happy to share their knowledge.

## 12PM TO 6PM

During the afternoon, the market is also a great place to see remnants of old Hong Kong. Back in the '50s, Yau Ma Tei Fruit Market was a hotbed of crime, but these days, everyone walks freely along its paths. It's a place almost frozen in time: stone stalls covered with terrazzo, banyan trees growing between houses. Throw yourself into the market and enjoy getting lost among its little lanes.



## CHINESE TEA & MEDICINE

For thousands of years, ancient Chinese remedies were known to alleviate and treat numerous ailments. To this day, herbal concoctions are to be found all over Hong Kong, and a peek inside the medicine stores along **Ko Shing Street** offers a glimpse into the ways the tradition is kept alive. And for something a little more appetising, look into Chinese tea and its soothing properties, particularly at **Flagstaff House**.

**7** **Address:** a) **Ko Shing Street**, Sheung Wan, Hong Kong Island (MTR Sheung Wan Station, Exit A2); b) **Flagstaff House**, Hong Kong Park, 10 Cotton Tree Drive, Central, Hong Kong Island (MTR Admiralty Station, Exit C1)



## FENG SHUI & PALM READING

Hong Kong's faith in forces are on display across town. *Feng shui* is the ancient practice of finding balance with nature. To see it in action one only needs to look up – our skyscrapers are harmoniously set, some with 'gateways' to allow the dragon to pass. Fortune tellers are popular in the city, and near **Temple Street** a row of them await to read your future in English or Chinese. Find out more about *feng shui* on a special tour: [skybird.com.hk](http://skybird.com.hk).

**8** **Address:** Temple Street, Yau Ma Tei, Kowloon (MTR Yau Ma Tei Station, Exit C)



## LAM TSUEN WISHING TREES

Lam Tsuen has been inhabited for almost 800 years, dating back to the Song Dynasty, and the wishing trees once saw villagers tossing wish-filled paper onto its branches. The higher up they reached, the more likely, it was believed, their wishes would come true. Today, preservation means your wishes are tied to nearby railings, but it's still an impressive sight, especially around festival time, when crowds from all across the city gather to have their wishes fulfilled.

**9** **Address:** Lam Tsuen, Tai Po, New Territories (MTR Tai Po Market Station, then bus 64K or 64P)



## PETTY PERSON BEATING

At a busy intersection between **Wan Chai** and **Causeway Bay** a woman sits bashing a sheet of paper with an old shoe, chanting Cantonese curses while people look on. The paper, cut into the shape of a tiger, had been handed to her with a petty person's name written upon it. This ancient practice is believed to be able to dispel a troublesome individual in your life. Watch the regular stream of believers from afar. Or throw down your own paper tiger to get rid of a person making your life difficult.

**10** **Address:** Junction of Hennessy Road and Canal Road, Causeway Bay, Hong Kong Island (MTR Causeway Bay Station, Exit A)





## TAI CHI

Slow, graceful movements to find balance between the body's natural *yin* and *yang* – that's tai chi in a nutshell, an ancient ritual practised by old and young alike all throughout the city. You might see people performing break of dawn around town – but the best place to catch a glimpse of it is in the city's parks, particularly **Victoria Park**, where crowds meet to practise every day. Don't be shy, many are happy to teach newcomers.

**11** **Address:** Victoria Park, Causeway Bay, Hong Kong Island (MTR Causeway Bay, Exit E)

## TEMPLE WORSHIP

On any given day of the week, at nearly any hour, you'll find a believer making an offering to the gods at one of our city's many temples. They're impressive places of worship: smoky, atmospheric and filled with ancient relics of Hong Kong's long history. Drop in and have a peek around, they're open to all. Or, if you're feeling generous, make a small donation and pay your respects by lighting incense. Some of the best temples can be found listed in the Attractions section of this guide.

## CAFE LANDMARK

### To See and Be Seen

Shop 107-108, 1/F, LANDMARK, 15 Queen's Road Central, Central, Hong Kong  
(852) 2526 4200 Mon-Sat 8:00-21:00 Sun & PH 9:00-21:00

Hong Kong

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Lawry'sHK  
Lawrys.com.hk

A woman in a light pink, flowing dress is captured in a dynamic dance pose, mid-air with one leg extended and arms outstretched. She is positioned in front of a wall covered in vibrant, multi-colored Chinese calligraphy. The background features large characters in yellow, blue, and red, including '老馮' (Lao Feng), '麻甩' (Ma Uai), '藝' (Art), '仔' (Zi), '空' (Kong), and '橋' (Qiao). The overall scene is a blend of traditional art and modern performance.

# arts & entertainment

Centres of culture where local and international companies perform. Festivals dedicated to everything from fine art to modern music. Let Hong Kong's many artistic showcases entertain you.

Culture is in a class of its own in Hong Kong, a city where international theatre companies share the stage with traditional Chinese opera performers. Here, you'll find a museum dedicated to comic books, arts festivals spread out over entire months, and a rich cinematic heritage that's prevalent throughout the city.

Take a stroll down a street lined with contemporary galleries, or walk through the halls of Asia's biggest art fair. Share a drink with local artists at a creative hub, or head down to the harbourfront to catch international acts illuminated by the skyline. The artistic possibilities are entertainingly endless.



Fringe Club

## ARTS CENTRE

First opened in 1977, the Hong Kong Arts Centre stands as one of the city's major culture hubs, a series of galleries and theatre spaces spread across multiple floors. Catch retro-screenings of classic films in its cinemas, see post-modern performances on its stages, and meet some of the city's creative folks around its many halls. Down the road, the **Academy for Performing Arts** is a major theatre venue, hosting local and international companies.

- 1** **Address:** a) **Arts Centre**, 2 Harbour Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong Island, 2582 0200; b) **Academy for Performing Arts**, 1 Gloucester Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong Island, 2584 8500 (MTR Wan Chai Station, Exit C)  
**Websites:** hkac.org.hk; hkapa.edu

## FRINGE CLUB

Fringe Club has long been a popular hangout for the city's artistic types, with studio spaces and exhibition halls set alongside an affordable restaurant and a couple of chilled-out bars. It's a great place to escape **Central's** masses, either for a show or a drink. Next door is the **Foreign Correspondent's Club**, a members-only journalist haunt – if a friend can get you in, it's worth a visit for the colonial-inspired setting and British comfort food.

- 2** **Address:** **Fringe Club**, 2 Lower Albert Road, Central, Hong Kong Island, 2521 7251; **Foreign Correspondent's Club**, 2 Lower Albert Road, Central, 2521 1511 (MTR Central Station, Exit D1)  
**Website:** hkfringeclub.com; fcchk.org

## HONG KONG CULTURAL CENTRE

Set right on Kowloon's waterfront, the Hong Kong Cultural Centre is the city's leading entertainment venue, an immense space with major theatres, halls and gallery spaces dedicated to the various arts. From classical concerts to modern drama, movie premieres to major conventions, it's here where local and international artists gather. The Cultural Centre is also home to such companies as the **Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra**, **Hong Kong Chinese Orchestra** and **Hong Kong Ballet**.

- 3** **Address:** 10 Salisbury Road, Tsim Sha Tsui, Kowloon, 2734 2009 (MTR Tsim Sha Tsui Station, Exit E)  
**Website:** lcsd.gov.hk/hkcc





Hong Kong Film Archive

## HONG KONG FILM ARCHIVE

Hong Kong's fascinating cinematic history is presented at this building, its four floors featuring a museum, exhibition galleries and screening rooms. Catch a classic movie or long-forgotten film in one of its cinemas, and then dive straight into its history at the **Resource Centre**, with hundreds of books and magazines dedicated to film culture. For more on Hong Kong cinema, visit art-house cinema and library, **Broadway Cinematheque**, and try to catch the **International Film Festival** in April.

- 4** **Address:** a) Film Archive, 50 Lei King Road, Aldrich Bay, Hong Kong Island, 2739 2139 (MTR Sai Wan Ho Station, Exit A); b) Broadway Cinematheque, 3 Public Square Street, Yau Ma Tei, Kowloon, 2388 0002  
**Websites:** www.filmarchive.gov.hk; cinema.com.hk; hkiff.org.hk

## LIANG YI MUSEUM

Hong Kong's largest private museum, Liang Yi is an imposing space on **Hollywood Road** that features antique furniture from Hong Kong and Mainland China. Founded by corporate tycoon Peter Fung, visits are open to the public, but by appointment only and include a guided tour. Also on the private museum itinerary are **Sun Museum for Chinese art** and **Imperial Museum**, which preserves various relics.

- 5** **Address:** a) Liang Yi Museum, 181-199 Hollywood Road, Sheung Wan, Hong Kong Island, 2806 8280 (MTR Sheung Wan Station, Exit A2); b) Imperial Museum, St. John's Building, 33 Garden Road, Central, Hong Kong Island, 2810 9595 (MTR Central Station, Exit J2); c) Sun Museum, 4/F, 165 Hoi Bun Road, Kwun Tong, Kowloon (MTR Kwun Tong Station, Exit B3)  
**Websites:** liangyimuseum.com; www.imperial-museum.org; sunmuseum.org



Sunbeam Theatre



Liang Yi Museum

## SUNBEAM THEATRE

Sunbeam Theatre stands as a major point of pride in **North Point**, an age-old Cantonese opera house that still presents performances of Hong Kong's home-grown theatre. First opened back in 1972, the venue has seen few renovations in the years since, and still retains a strong vintage aesthetic. Regular performances take place on afternoons and evenings.

- 6** **Address:** 413-423 King's Road, North Point, Hong Kong Island, 2563 2959 (MTR North Point Station, Exit B1)



Art Basel



Arts Festival

## ARTS FESTIVAL

An annual event for over 45 years, the Arts Festival is unrivalled on Hong Kong's cultural calendar, with dozens of international acts and performing troupes descending into Hong Kong's many spaces. Catch classical shows, post-modern performances, premier music events and innumerable creative acts over its month-long showcase. Previous years have seen such names as Kevin Spacey, Philip Glass, Bobby McFerrin and the Royal Shakespeare Company.

**8** Website: [hk.artsfestival.org](http://hk.artsfestival.org)

## ART BASEL

Asia's biggest art fair, Art Basel has stretched far beyond its convention centre base, expanding into an assortment of parallel events all across town. The main event is an open-to-the-public weeklong affair at the convention centre in March, with hundreds of international galleries flying in to display their most important works. Walk its vast halls and meet many of the artists in person, before hitting the town for events and parties that celebrate Hong Kong's cultural cornerstone.

**7** Address: Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre, 1 Expo Drive, Wan Chai, Hong Kong Island (MTR Wan Chai Station, Exit A5)  
Website: [artbasel.com](http://artbasel.com)



Clockenflap

## CLOCKENFLAP

Hong Kong's biggest music festival, Clockenflap is an electrifying weekend of great tunes and captivating multimedia. Featuring local, regional and international acts, alongside film and art installations, it's often set outdoors in November, just as the weather cools. Attracting crowds of up to 50,000 people, including entire families, the festival features numerous food and drinks vendors, alongside a dedicated kids' zone. Previous years have seen headliners The Chemical Brothers, New Order, The Flaming Lips and Flying Lotus.

**9** Website: [clockenflap.com](http://clockenflap.com)

# the city through cinema



**Christopher Doyle** is one of our greatest film treasures. The cinematographer behind Wong Kar-wai's major works, his visual style all but defined Hong Kong's look. Here, he talks about reliving his movies in modern Hong Kong.

1

## CHUNGKING EXPRESS (1994)

The Central escalator was built when we started the movie, and nearly everything was filmed within one kilometre of it. It's a metaphor for aspiration and hope, it divided the expat area from the local community. If you wander around, it's a microcosm of the city. **Graham Street Market**, Chinese medicine stores, and the escalator, from finance to where people dream of living, out of money and into hope. That's what defined *Chungking Express*.



4

## INFERNAL AFFAIRS (2002)

The most famous shot is on the rooftop, and I'm afraid of heights. And I couldn't do anything but celebrate this astonishing skyline we've created. That was the most important part of the film: this steel-and-glass world actually has beauty. The building is a mirror; it's a metaphor for the questions of how we live in Hong Kong.

2

## FALLEN ANGELS (1995)

We filmed more of *Chungking Mansions* in *Fallen Angels* than we did *Chungking Express*, and again, the building acted as a metaphor for the film. It's wondrous, it has no answer, they don't even know what's going on there. It's a melange of different cultures, it's a collage of people who aren't very rich trying to work out how to live in Hong Kong. There's no city in the world where you can see such a variety of visceral, essential and personal experiences.



3

## IN THE MOOD FOR LOVE (2000)

With *In the Mood for Love*, we tried to celebrate Hong Kong's simple values. The 1960s for Hong Kong people was transitional. It's nostalgia, for the values that we now may think we may lose. Most people from that time were immigrants, and it was a society looking for itself, which is what we're doing again now. Art's function is to remind you of how beautiful your life could be, and how beautiful it is.

5

## HONG KONG TRILOGY (2016)

'Who are we and why are we here?' – that's what we were addressing with *Hong Kong Trilogy*. It was about changes since the handover, and hopefully that initiated some kind of response. But it's not just about Instagram, it's about what this city suggests to you. It comes down to movie-making to make your point. We need to reach out, and hopefully films do it better than politics. We have to have a voice.



## COMIX HOME BASE

While Hong Kong's output might not be as well known as that of the US or Europe, comic books have long been an important part of the city's culture. The often undervalued art form is given due respect at this contemporary space, an airy affair with various floors presenting its history in Hong Kong, dating from the funny pages of *Old Master Q* through to contemporary books. There's also a reading room and lending library, as well as a branch of **Queen's Café**, an old-fashioned restaurant serving East-West dishes.

**10** **Address:** 7 Mallory Street, Wan Chai, Hong Kong Island, 2824 5303 (MTR Wan Chai Station, Exit A4)  
**Website:** comixhomebase.com.hk



Comix Home Base

## HOLLYWOOD ROAD

Hollywood Road is one of Hong Kong's main creative arteries, an essential thoroughfare running right through the middle of **Central** and **Sheung Wan**. With an equal share of contemporary galleries and classic antique stores lining its sidewalks and side streets, alongside a unique museum, it's ideal for a cultured stroll on a lazy afternoon. Art galleries worth dropping in on include **Whitestone**, **Connoisseur** and **Kumquat**.

**11** **Address:** a) **Whitestone Gallery**, 57-59 Hollywood Road, Central, Hong Kong Island, 2523 8001; b) **Connoisseur Gallery**, 1 Hollywood Road, Central, Hong Kong Island, 2868 5358; c) **Kumquat Gallery**, 75A Hollywood Road, Central, Hong Kong Island, 2549 9965 (MTR Sheung Wan Station, Exit A2)  
**Websites:** whitestone.hk; connoisseur-art.com; kg75.com



Hollywood Road



Jockey Club Creative Arts Centre

## JOCKEY CLUB CREATIVE ARTS CENTRE

From factory building to artistic hub, the JCCAC gives over 100 artists and organisations affordable space to explore creative possibilities. Visitors are allowed to peek into the many studios, while regular events on its open rooftop and in the airy courtyard offer an alternate look at contemporary culture. Annual events include an arts festival, arts and crafts fair, cultural tours and numerous workshops.

**12** **Address:** 30 Pak Tin Street, Shek Kip Mei, Kowloon (MTR Shek Kip Mei Station, Exit C)  
**Website:** jccac.org.hk

## K11

The city (and possibly, the world's) first ever art mall, K11 allows you to simultaneously balance the dual thrills of shopping and culture. It's far from some consumerist gimmick though, and K11's many exhibitions are strikingly impressive, an even mix of local and international artists displaying works among the mall's gallery spaces. Regular workshops and events allow the public to engage in the community, while the **Artist Klub** gives budding creatives a chance to get involved.

- 13** **Address:** 18 Hanoi Road, Tsim Sha Tsui, Kowloon, 3118 8070 (MTR Tsim Sha Tsui Station, Exit N4)  
**Website:** [hk.k11.com](http://hk.k11.com)



## PARA SITE

Hong Kong's first non-profit gallery, and still a major name in the contemporary art world, Para Site is an important hub for local artists, a place where the city's most avant-garde gather to display unique works. With regular exhibitions exploring the various sides of Hong Kong, alongside conferences and programmes that enlighten and engage, it's the ideal launch pad to explore other independent spaces, including **Mur Nomade** and **Above Second**.

- 14** **Address:** a) Para Site, 22/F, 677 King's Road, Quarry Bay, Hong Kong Island, 2517 4620 (MTR Quarry Bay, Exit C); b) **Mur Nomade**, 1606, 7 Tin Wan Praya Road, Aberdeen, Hong Kong Island, 2580 5923 (MTR South Horizons, Exit C); c) **Above Second**, 9 First Street, Sai Ying Pun, Hong Kong Island, 6330 7759 (MTR Sai Ying Pun, Exit B1)  
**Websites:** [para-site.org.hk](http://para-site.org.hk); [murnomade.com](http://murnomade.com); [above-second.com](http://above-second.com)

## PEDDER BUILDING

The last surviving pre-World War II building on **Pedder Street**, one of **Central's** main thoroughfares, this shophouse-like structure is a contrast to the many skyscrapers that surround it, and hosts some of the city's most innovative art galleries. Eminent international gallery **Gagosian** has a branch here, while a number of local spaces give prime placement to home-grown and regional artists. Galleries worth visiting include **Pearl Lam**, **Hanart TZ**, and **Lehman Maupin**.

- 15** **Address:** a) **Gagosian Gallery**, 7/F, 12 Pedder Street, Central, Hong Kong Island, 2151 0555; b) **Pearl Lam Galleries**, 601-605, 12 Pedder Street, Central, Hong Kong Island, 2522 1428; c) **Hanart TZ Gallery**, 401, 12 Pedder Street, Central, Hong Kong Island, 2526 9019; d) **Lehman Maupin**, 407, 12 Pedder Street, Central, Hong Kong Island, 2530 0025 (MTR Central Station, Exit D2)  
**Websites:** [gagosian.com](http://gagosian.com); [pearllam.com](http://pearllam.com); [hanart.com](http://hanart.com); [lehmannmaupin.com](http://lehmannmaupin.com)



### DISCOVER MORE

Heritage conservation is high on the city's agenda, and historic buildings work on a graded system. Pedder Building is Grade II, which gives it 'special merit'.



## PMQ

A sleek artistic space on the border of **Central**, PMQ is the former police married quarters turned Hong Kong creative hub. Independent restaurants and shops dominate the lower levels, while the upper floors are made up of various artistic studios, with the public offered a rare glimpse inside their inventive lives. Snake your way through its many floors, before dropping in for a drink and a snack at famed chef Jason Atherton's **Aberdeen Street Social**.

- 16** **Address:** PMQ, 35 Aberdeen Street, Central, Hong Kong Island, 2870 2335; **Aberdeen Street Social**, G/F, PMQ, 35 Aberdeen Street, Central, Hong Kong Island, 2866 0300 (MTR Sheung Wan Station, Exit E1)  
**Websites:** pmq.org.hk; aberdeenstreetsocial.hk



## SOUTH ISLAND CULTURAL DISTRICT

South Island Cultural District was founded in 2013, with an aim to offer Hong Kong an alternative art-centric area to explore. Over 20 contemporary galleries, studios and art spaces are lined up along **Wong Chuk Hang** and **Aberdeen**, each presenting ever-changing exhibitions. Annual open days, including Art Day, Art Night and Art Brunch, allow culture novices to explore the many spaces while engaging with the community.

- 17** **Address:** Wong Chuk Hang Road, Wong Chuk Hang, Hong Kong Island (MTR Wong Chuk Hang Station, Exit A)  
**Website:** sicc.com.hk



# nightlife

Neon-lit streets and hidden-away bars. Pumping clubs and break-of-dawn crowds. Hong Kong is a city that comes alive at night.

By day, Hong Kong deftly balances business and pleasure, where suited executives jostle about town while eager tourists take in our many sights. But as the lights go down and night creeps in, everyone comes together. It's almost a different city, one of bustling bar districts, upstairs clubs, chilled-out lounges and retro-styled salons.

Take to the streets beer-in-hand and rub shoulders with locals and expats alike. Settle into a quiet cocktail at a colonial classic, or strap on your weekend best to hit our many dancefloors. Knock on inconspicuous doors to uncover hidden bars, and then ascend skyscrapers for a vertical booze crawl. Chilled pub-goer or partying clubber, our neon-lit streets really do have something for everyone.



## KNUTSFORD TERRACE

An across-the-harbour counter to **Central's Lan Kwai Fong**, Knutsford Terrace in **Tsim Sha Tsui** is a decidedly more sedate affair, with a long line of bustling restaurants that transform into late-night watering holes. The area features an even mix of ground-level alfresco spots and upstairs bars, as well as a small smattering of after-hours clubs. Popular choices include **The China Bar** for live music, and **Assembly** for snacks and cocktails.

- 1** **Address:** a) **The China Bar**, 10-11 Knutsford Terrace, Tsim Sha Tsui, Kowloon, 2367 1011; b) **Assembly**, 6 Knutsford Terrace, Tsim Sha Tsui, Kowloon, 2723 6588 (MTR Tsim Sha Tsui Station, Exit B1)  
**Websites:** thechinabar.com.hk; assembly.knutsfordbyprivegroup.hk

## LAN KWAI FONG & SOHO

The beating heart of Hong Kong's nightlife scene, **Lan Kwai Fong** and **SoHo** are the city's most popular boozing districts, two neighbouring areas in **Central** filled with bars, pubs, clubs and all manner of watering holes. LKF is the busier of the two, with rowdy crowds spilling out of its blaring bars and onto the streets on any given weekend. A popular spot is **Stormies**. SoHo, meanwhile, is a more relaxed affair, contrasted by quiet lounges and tucked-away boozers. One of our favourites is **Stazione Novella**.

- 2** **Address:** a) **Stormies**, 46 D'Aguilar Street, Central, Hong Kong Island, 2845 5533; b) **Stazione Novella**, 52-56 Staunton Street, Central, Hong Kong Island, 2559 0559 (MTR Central Station, Exit D2)  
**Websites:** cafedecogroup.com; stazionenovella.com

## TUNG CHOI STREET

A few streets north of **Mong Kok's Ladies' Market**, Tung Choi Street is a local hangout, a stretch of Chinese-style pubs where bottled beers are served in buckets, dartboards are everywhere, and dice games are constantly being played. But don't feel overwhelmed: the bars are more than welcoming to tourists, and it's a great way to rub shoulders with friendly local faces while enjoying some of the best-priced drinks in town. Best bets include **Quarter Bar**, **Future Lounge** and the cheekily named **Piss Bar II**.

- 3** **Address:** a) **Quarter Bar**, 248-250 Tung Choi Street, Mong Kok, Kowloon, 2381 8668; b) **Future Lounge**, 240 Tung Choi Street, Mong Kok, Kowloon, 2381 5111; c) **Piss Bar II**, 214 Tung Choi Street, Mong Kok, Kowloon (MTR Prince Edward Station, Exit B1)

## WAN CHAI BAR DISTRICT

Once famed for its Suzie Wong-style gentlemen's venues, Wan Chai has cleaned up its act, and now features a wide variety of colonial-style pubs, sports bars and live music clubs. Watch football and rugby on huge projector screens, down a couple pints of real British ale, catch cover bands playing your favourite hair-metal tunes, and then dance the night away on a booze-soaked bar top. Long-standing favourites include Scottish pub **The Canny Man** and music venue **The Wanch**.

- 4** **Address:** a) **The Canny Man**, B/F, Wharney Guangdong Hotel, 57-73 Lockhart Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong Island, 2861 1935; b) **The Wanch**, 54 Jaffe Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong Island, 2861 1621 (MTR Wan Chai Station, Exit A1)  
**Websites:** thecannyman.com; thewanch.hk



## CAPTAIN'S BAR

The **Mandarin Oriental** is a Hong Kong institution, a city landmark, and while the hotel has seen a number of changes over the decades, one thing has stayed the same: the Captain's Bar, a 50-plus-year-old pub that's become a regular post-work watering hole for **Central**'s suited types. Beers are famously served in silver tankards, including a craft beer made exclusively for the bar, and cocktails are perfectly mixed by bow-tied bartenders. On weekends, drop in to catch a crooning live jazz lounge act.

**5** **Address:** G/F, Mandarin Oriental Hotel, 5 Connaught Road Central, Hong Kong Island, 2825 4006 (MTR Central Station, Exit F)  
**Website:** mandarinoriental.com

## THE GLOBE

The Globe is an expat favourite that still retains a strong colonial charm. Stodgy dishes, from homemade pies to towering burgers, are served on stark wooden tables, while comfy booths and a full-square bar allow you to nurse your pint in peace. The Globe is also one of the few places to fully embrace Hong Kong's craft beer scene, with ever-revolving local brews on draft, regular tasting events and even a proper hand-pumped cask tap.

**6** **Address:** 45-53A, Garley Building, Graham Street, Central, Hong Kong Island, 2543 1941 (MTR Central Station, Exit D2)  
**Website:** theglobe.com.hk

## NED KELLY'S LAST STAND

It's debatable whether Ned Kelly's is really 'Hong Kong's oldest bar', but there's no doubting the long-standing Australian pub has been around for a good long while, first opening its doors in the early '70s and seeing a steady stream of regular clientele ever since. Forever packed, its vintage aesthetic hosts a raucous live jazz band seven nights a week, alongside ice-cold beers served tableside at a price cheaper than most.

**7** **Address:** 11A Ashley Road, Tsim Sha Tsui, Kowloon, 2376 0562 (MTR Tsim Sha Tsui East Station, Exit L5)



The Globe



### DISCOVER MORE

Craft beer is a growing trend in Hong Kong. Local brewers worth seeking out include Young Master, Gweilo, Black Kite, Moonzen and Lion Rock.

## LINQ

On a sloping street near **Lan Kwai Fong**, this LGBT bar is raucous, blasting danceable tunes while its many patrons spill out on the sidewalk. Its daily all-night promotions make it a popular choice all week, ranging from happy hour prices to 2-for-1. Nothing beats 'Bubbly Thursdays' with free champagne for all – possibly the only bar in town to serve up free drinks to both sexes.

**8** **Address:** 35 Pottinger Street, Central, Hong Kong Island, 2855 7522 (MTR Central Station, Exit D2)

## SENSE 99

Down the street from **Central**, Sense 99 is a serene slice of hipster cool in an old colonial building. Everything about this two-floor bar has a bit of artistic charm: furniture is a second-hand mishmash, surreal artwork is dotted all around the walls, and the toilet is full of graffiti. Rub shoulders over bargain drinks on its airy terraces, and then head up to its jam spot, where anyone with a bit of musical skill can join the band for the night.

**10** **Address:** 2/F, 99F Wellington Street, Central, Hong Kong Island, 9466 4695 (MTR Sheung Wan Station, Exit A2)  
**Website:** sense99.com



Tai Lung Fung

## SECOND DRAFT

Hong Kong's craft beer scene is the hottest nightlife trend in town, and there's no better place to get a taste for it than at Second Draft. Nearly all of the city's brewers are represented here, and kegs are changed every few hours, guaranteeing you a fresh new tippie each time you visit. Sample beers infused with chrysanthemum and Sichuan peppercorn, before snacking on contemporary takes on local diner dishes, including French toast with foie gras and Mapo tofu burrata.

**9** **Address:** 98 Tung Lo Wan Road, Tai Hang, Hong Kong Island, 2656 0232 (MTR Tin Hau Station, Exit B)



Second Draft

## TAI LUNG FUNG

Tai Lung Fung is a nostalgic dream of Hong Kong, a place where neon signs and vintage posters place you into a scene straight out of a Wong Kar-wai movie. It's the kind of cocktail bar you'd only find in our city, made all the better by local twists on classic drinks, including lemongrass martinis and plum wine cocktails. Its location is perfect, just round the corner from **The Blue House**, a 1920s Wan Chai tenement building.

**11** **Address:** 5 Hing Wan Street, Wan Chai, Hong Kong Island, 2572 0055 (MTR Wan Chai Station, Exit A3)

## CLUB LEGEND

If Hong Kong's Western-tinged nightclubs just aren't cutting it for you, head out to Club Legend, an immense spot popular among local millennials. This **Mong Kok** dive is absolutely packed on weekends with massive dance floors, multiple DJ booths, chilled-out lounge areas and numerous darts machines. And for those who can put it away, their assortment of all-you-can-drink deals is unrivalled in Hong Kong.

**12** **Address:** 19/F, 601 Nathan Road, Mong Kok, Kowloon, 2264 8010 (MTR Mong Kok Station, Exit E1)



Neway Karaoke

## NEWAY KARAOKE

Throw a rock in **Causeway Bay**, **Mong Kok** or any populated area of the city, and you're bound to hit a karaoke bar. It's a Hong Kong pastime and a late-night weekend favourite, where large groups blare out tunes while downing whisky and green tea. If you're up for the singing challenge, Neway is one of the city's most famous chains, with private VIP rooms, food and drinks packages, and plenty of international songs to choose from.

**14** **Address:** Various locations, including 2-3/F, 19-31 Yee Wo Street, Causeway Bay, Hong Kong Island, 2137 9777 (MTR Causeway Bay Station, Exit F1)  
**Website:** newaykb.com



Club Legend

## FOREVER LOUNGE

Among the ever-changing tastes and popular sports bars of **Tin Hau**, this Chinese pub has been keeping it local for as long as we can remember. You can tell from hundreds of yards away, its blindingly bright '80s neon sign and jukebox blaring hair-metal makes it a far cry from others in the area. There's no better place to get a true Hong Kong experience, the 'lounge' serving up ice-cold beer buckets, alongside its darts boards and dice games.

**13** **Address:** 176-178 Causeway Road, Causeway Bay, Hong Kong Island, 2887 6543 (MTR Tin Hau Station, Exit B)

## VIRUS

For almost 20 years, Virus has been embracing the city's lesbian community. Its location has changed over the decades, but the cosy atmosphere has stayed the same: a warm, vintage aesthetic that feels like a home away from home. Settle into a couch with a drink, or have a go on its karaoke machine, before digging into one of their famed late-night snacks.

**15** **Address:** 21/F, Chung Wai Commercial Building, 447-449 Lockhart Road, Causeway Bay, Hong Kong Island (MTR Causeway Bay Station, Exit D2)

# sound of the city



**Justin Sweeting** may be the main music producer behind **Clockenflap**, Hong Kong's biggest music festival, but the born-and-bred Hong Konger started out by building a musical following across smaller venues. Here, he gives us a rundown of some of his favourite spots.

## GRAPPA'S CELLAR

When I first started promoting shows, this Italian restaurant in the basement of **Jardine House** ([facebook.com/GrappasCellar](https://www.facebook.com/GrappasCellar)) was my go-to venue of choice. Its two-level set up and wide steps make for great sight and sound lines across the room, meaning it's both wonderfully cosy, whilst not ever feeling too cramped that you can't see the action. Memorable shows with Jose Gonzalez, Andrew Bird, Ratatat, British Sea Power, OK Go and others make this a venue filled with many happy memories for me.

## KITEC

KITEC has a few venue spaces across various sizes, which we use depending on the profile and pull of the artist in question. So from working with the likes of Grimes, Rodrigo y Gabriela & Hyukoh in the 600 cap MusicZone, to Elbow and Two Door Cinema Club in their 1500 cap Rotundas, through to their largest room, Star Hall, where the likes of Ellie Goulding, Justice, Bastille and M83 all made for gloriously memorable shows.

## THE WANCH

The Wanch ([thewanch.hk](http://thewanch.hk)) has been a local music institution for 30 years now. Featuring live programming every night of the week with no cover charge, including their ever popular open-mic night, The Wanch is as much a gathering spot for like-minded souls to meet over drinks and shared love of music, and the action often spills out on to the street.

## MACPHERSON STADIUM

Macpherson Stadium ([macstadium.hkpa.hk](http://macstadium.hkpa.hk)) is a multi-purpose sports venue in **Mong Kok**, and in recent years has also proved itself as the best mid-scale venue in Hong Kong, in my humble opinion. We've put on artists including Morrissey, Bon Iver, Tame Impala and many others in there, and being able to fully control the sound and production, plus fully license a bar inside, all adds up to creating great gig-going experiences. Simple pleasures.

## VISAGE ONE

A gentleman's hair salon by day, owner Benky Chan sporadically transforms his studio into Visage One (2523 8988) – the most intimate and inspired jazz and blues bar in town. With a covert, speakeasy feel, musicians don't play on any stage, making for a beautifully connected show with no separation between performers and audience. A special setting indeed.



## AQUA

Views are front and centre at Aqua, literally, with its entire harbour-facing side made up of floor-to-ceiling windows to showcase Hong Kong Island's stunning skyline. The bar itself is also pretty impressive, an upscale affair with comfy leather booths for romantic couples and shared tables ideal for showing off our city. Drinks are ever changing, with Asian twists on classic cocktails, while its snack selection is a mix of Japanese and Italian.

**16** **Address:** 29-30/F, 1 Peking Road, Tsim Sha Tsui, Kowloon, 3427 2288 (MTR Tsim Sha Tsui Station, Exit L5)  
**Website:** aqua.com.hk



## CÉ LA VI

CÉ LA VI is all about the views, a spacious deckhouse-like rooftop bar in **Central** where you're right in the middle of the skyscraper mix. On your left, **Bank of China Tower**; on your right, **Central Plaza**; and far off in the distance, **the ICC**, Hong Kong's tallest building. It's a grand 360-degree showcase of the sweeping skyline, paired with cool cocktails, tasty fusion snacks and an impressive wine list.

**17** **Address:** 25/F, California Tower, 30 D'Aguilar Street, Central, Hong Kong Island, 3700 2300 (MTR Central Station, Exit D2)  
**Website:** hk.celavi.com



Pier 3 Bar



## PIER 3 BAR

Desperately seeking a stunning view of the skyline, but can't afford the standard high prices? Head over to Pier 3 Bar, just above its namesake pier in **Central**. It's a local alfresco bar that's staked claim to one of the most coveted vistas in town, a sweeping panorama of **Victoria Harbour** and the Kowloon skyline. Beers are cheap as chips, snacks are greasy and decent, and the sound of the many ferries coming and going is surprisingly soothing.

**18** **Address:** Central Pier 3, Podium Level, Central, Hong Kong Island (MTR Hong Kong Station, Exit F)

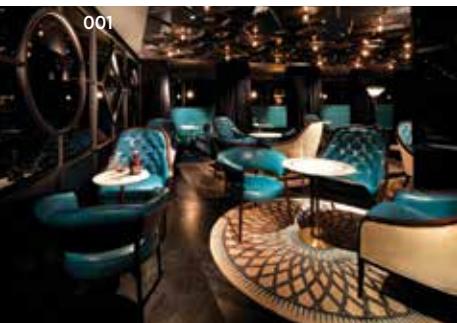
## OZONE

The highest bar in the world at 118 floors, Ozone is a see-and-be-seen kind of place, and possibly the only spot where you can induce vertigo over a drink. Head out to its terrace, where winds howl and the fog sweeps in overhead. The views are striking, its floor-to-ceiling windows meaning you can get up close to the city below. Be warned though, drinks are far from cheap, with a cocktail starting at HK\$200.

**19** **Address:** 118/F, The Ritz-Carlton Hong Kong, International Commerce Centre, 1 Austin Road West, Tsim Sha Tsui, Kowloon, 2263 2270 (MTR Kowloon Station, Exit C1)  
**Website:** ritzcarlton.com

Ozone





001



Flat 61



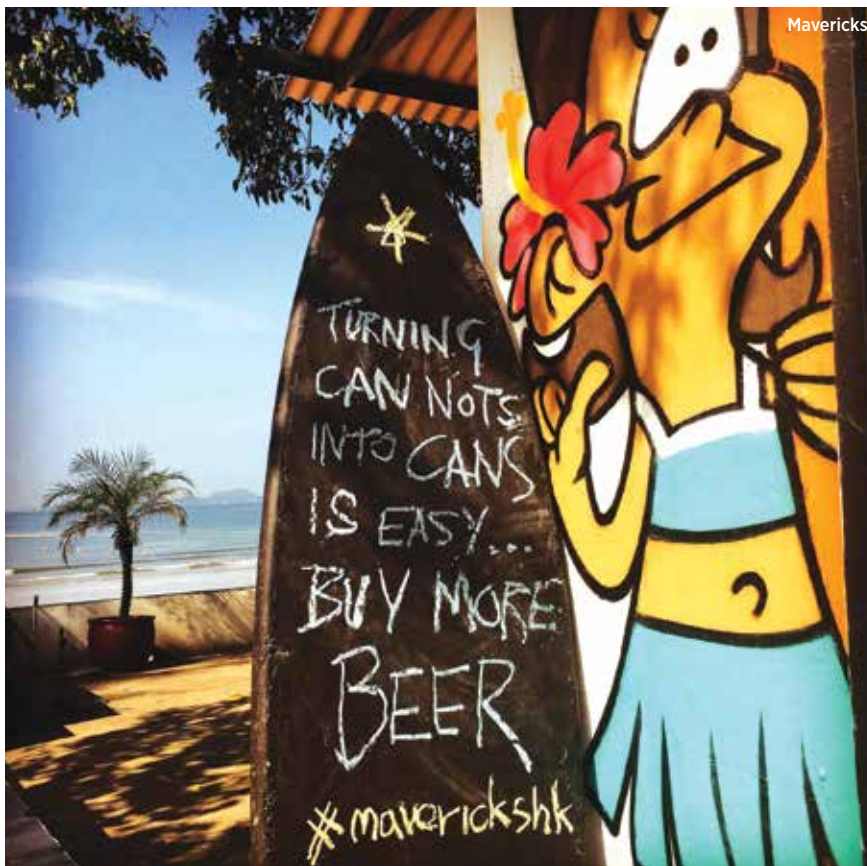
**DISCOVER MORE**

Every outlying island has at least one beach bar. Cheung Chau's is on Kwun Yum Beach, while Lamma Island has a few located along Yung Shue Wan.

**001**

The innovator for Hong Kong's 'hidden bar' trend, 001 is possibly the worst kept secret in the city, with everyone and their mother knowing about its charms. Take a late-night stroll near the **Graham Street Market**, find its unassuming black door and ring the bell, before gaining entrance into its vintage speakeasy bar. Other speakeasy bars around town include **Foxglove**, **Ophelia** and **Ping Pong 129** – but we're keeping mum about their hidden entrances.

- 20** **Address:** a) **001**, 97 Wellington Street, Central, Hong Kong Island, 2810 6969 (MTR Sheung Wan Station, Exit E2); b) **Foxglove**, 2/F, 6 Duddell Street, Central, Hong Kong Island, 2116 8949 (MTR Central Station, Exit D2); c) **Ophelia**, 1/F The Avenue, 200 Queen's Road East, Wan Chai, Hong Kong Island, 2520 1117 (MTR Wan Chai Station, Exit A3). d) **Ping Pong 129**, 129 Second Street, Sai Ying Pun, Hong Kong Island, 9835 5061 (MTR Sai Ying Pun Station, Exit B2)



Mavericks

**FLAT 61**

'Vertical crawls' are a popular **Causeway Bay** weekend pastime, a way of hitting as many of the area's many upstairs bars as possible. One of the best for a longer stop-in is Flat 61, a cool little spot located high above a busy junction. Great views of the bustle below, warm booths coupled with cool cocktails, and a free pool table, all combine to create the ideal Causeway getaway.

- 21** **Address:** 13/F, Ying Kong Mansion, 2-6 Yee Wo Street, Causeway Bay, Hong Kong Island, 2504 0433 (MTR Causeway Bay Station, Exit F1)

**MAVERICKS**

Named after California's renowned big-wave surf spot, Mavericks is a world unto its own – the city's first true beach bar, and the ideal way to laze away a warm summer's day. Ditch the concrete jungle masses, head for **Lantau Island** and experience an escape that feels far removed from Hong Kong's hectic side. Here, among chilled tunes, ice-cold beers and generous American dishes, the waves lap against the shore, the sands are soft and white, and the laid-back people are always smiling.

- 22** **Address:** Pui O Beach, Lantau Island, 5662 8552 (Central Pier 6, then Lantau Bus 3M)  
**Website:** mavericks.hk

## CASSIO

Cassio starts off its evenings as your standard Spanish restaurant, the kind you'd find anywhere in the world. But once the late hours creep in and the DJ hits the decks, it's transformed into that rare type of club, the kind that scratches a necessary retro-pop tunes itch. Stevie Wonder, David Bowie, Prince, Michael Jackson – they're all given their due, and with its outdoor terrace-turned-dancefloor, it's a club where you can truly let your hair down while soaking in the city.

- 23** **Address:** 2/F, LKF Tower, 33 Wyndham Street, Central, Hong Kong Island, 3792 0129 (MTR Central Station, Exit D2)  
**Website:** [cassio.com.hk](http://cassio.com.hk)



Cassio

## FLM

Spread out over two floors and packed most nights of the week, FLM is one of Hong Kong's biggest gay clubs, a place where the LGBT community comes to unwind and dance the night away. Downstairs, the epic dancefloor sees the crowds going till all hours. Upstairs, it's a little more relaxed, the kind of place where you can stop in for a drink and a bit of a chat. Either way, you're right in the middle of the mix.

- 24** **Address:** 62 Jervois Street, Sheung Wan, Hong Kong Island, 2799 2883 (MTR Sheung Wan Station, Exit A2)

## FLY

Just a few doors down from the age-old **Fringe Club**, Fly plays a similarly alternative role within the nightlife spectrum. It's a sizeable space, a down-and-dirty club where the crowds are always dancing, the bartenders pour stiff drinks and the music pumps out the best alt-tunes around. The club is a particular hotspot for international DJs coming through Hong Kong, while the music spans electro to dubstep, hip-hop to mashup.

- 25** **Address:** 24-30 Ice House Street, Central, Hong Kong Island, 2810 9902 (MTR Central Station, Exit D2)





## VOLAR

Smack dab in the middle of **Lan Kwai Fong**, Volar is one of Hong Kong's most popular clubs, a cavernous place where the bouncers are firm and the crowd is consistently beautiful. Get past the doormen, and you're treated to a place where dark aesthetics contrast against the many blue lights. Expect more mainstream tunes compared to other clubs in the city, including a heavy emphasis on house and techno, with the occasional hip-hop night.

**26** **Address:** 44 D'Aguilar Street, Central, Hong Kong Island, 2810 1510 (MTR Central Station, Exit D2)  
**Website:** volar.com.hk

## XXX GALLERY

A slice of underground Berlin in hectic Hong Kong, this hidden-away 'gallery' is one of the city's hottest clubs, a stark space located in a far-off factory building where some of the city's coolest creatives gather. Owned and run by working DJs, it features a regularly rotating series of alternative nights, from drum 'n bass to Jamaican dancehall, techno to retro-pop. It's all here, alongside movie screenings, ping pong nights and the occasional live performance.

**27** **Address:** 89-91 Larch Street, Tai Kok Tsui, Kowloon (MTR Prince Edward Station, Exit C2)  
**Website:** xxxgallery.hk

  
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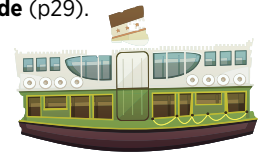
## how to plan your visit...

### A 12-HOUR LAYOVER

**9AM** Fly in, drop your bags at luggage storage and hop on the Airport Express to **Central** - you'll be there in less than 30 minutes



**3:30PM** Ride the **Star Ferry** (p31) for skyline views. Disembark at **Kowloon**, and stroll down the **Tsim Sha Tsui Promenade** (p29).



**9:30AM** Dim sum breakfast.

**Luk Yu Tea House** for old-world charm, or **Lin Heung Tea House** for a working-class experience (p52).



**5PM** Visit the **Museum of History** (p46) to explore Hong Kong's past.

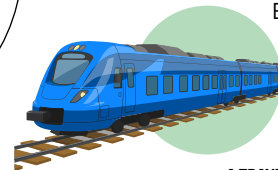
**6:30PM** Head to **Yau Ma Tei**, where **Temple Street** (p80) and **Ladies' Market** (p79) sell every kind of souvenir.

**11AM** Time to explore the city. Walk to **Central's Peak Tram** terminus and take in stunning views at **The Peak** (p27).



**8:30PM** A quick dinner: street snacks at **Dundas Street** (p50) or a simple dish at **Mido Café** (p52).

**2PM** Lunch at **Jimmy's Kitchen** (p58), or **Sing Kee dai pai dong** (p54).



**9PM** Connect from the MTR to the Airport Express, and arrive back at the airport for your flight home.

# THE ULTIMATE LONG WEEKEND

## FRIDAY: CITY DAY

**9AM** Ride the Airport Express into **Central**.



**11AM** Walk to **Central's Peak Tram** terminus and take in stunning views at **The Peak** (p27).

**2PM** Back to Central. Lunch at **Jimmy's Kitchen** (p58), or **Sing Kee dai pai dong** (p54).



**3:30PM** Ride the **Star Ferry** (p31) for skyline views. Disembark at **Kowloon**, stroll the **Tsim Sha Tsui Promenade** (p29).

**7PM** Taxi to the **ICC Building** (p39). Have a drink at **Ozone bar** (p158).

**8:30PM** Dinner time. Tuck into classic Peking duck at **Spring Deer** (p62) or fusion flavours at **China Tang** (p56).



**10:30PM** Party on **Knutsford Terrace** or **Tung Choi Street** (p146).

## SATURDAY: LANTAU DAY

**9AM** Hop on the MTR to **Tung Chung** and ride the cable car to **Ngong Ping** (p37).



**11AM** Shop at Ngong Ping village, before walking to **The Big Buddha** (p26).

**1PM** A healthy lunch at **Po Lin Monastery** (p26).

**3PM** Taxi to **Mui Wo Pier**, hire a bicycle (p102) and explore surrounding villages.



**6PM** Cycle to **Pui O**. Have dinner and watch the sunset at **Mavericks** (p161).



**8PM** Ferry back to **Central**. Take in bustling **Lan Kwai Fong & SoHo** on a Saturday night (p146).



## SUNDAY: OUTDOOR DAY

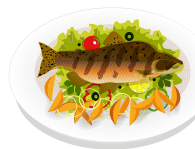
**9AM** Sunday dim sum. **Luk Yu Tea House** for old-world charm, or **Lin Heung Tea House** for a working-class experience (p52).



**10AM** Pack a lunch and head to **Sha Tin**. Find Stage 5 of the **MacLehose Trail**; hike through unique sights (p105).



**3PM** Taxi to **Sha Tin Racecourse** for last few Sunday races (p120).



**6PM** Taxi to **Sai Kung**. Enjoy a waterfront dinner at **Sing Kee** (p54).

**9PM** Grab a nightcap at alfresco bars **Cé La Vi** (p157) or **Pier 3 Bar** (p158).



## MONDAY: SHOPPING DAY

**10AM** Start on **Cat Street** (p78) for age-old antiques. Sift through **PoHo's** independent stores (p84).



**1PM** Lunch in **Wan Chai** at **Kam's Roast Goose** (p50) or **Under Bridge Spicy Crab** (p55).

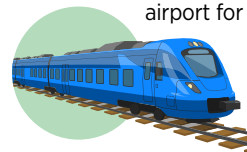
**2:30PM** Shop for gadgets at **Wan Chai Computer Centre** (p96).

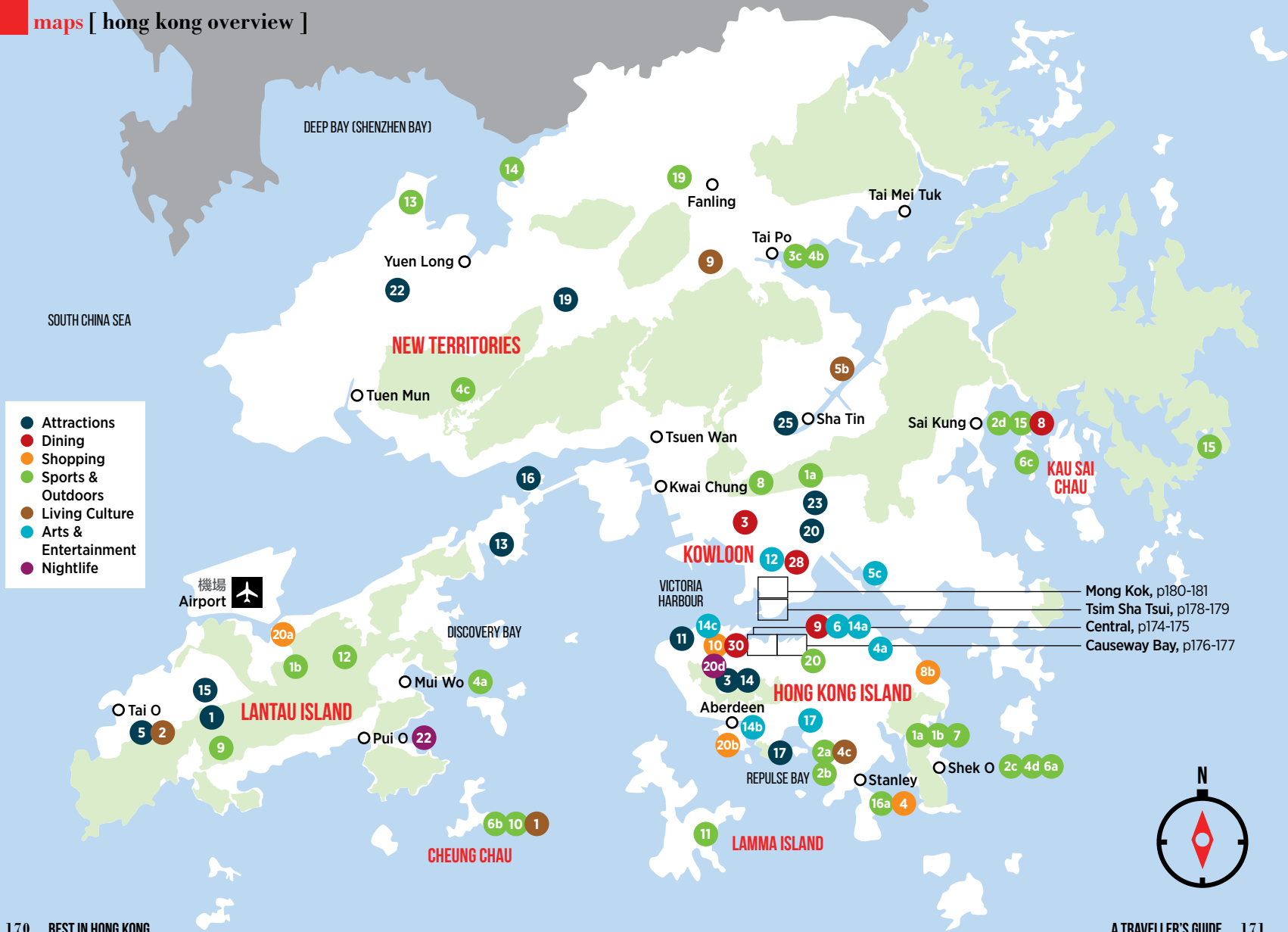


**5PM** Head to **Yau Ma Tei**, where **Temple Street** (p80) and **Ladies' Market** (p79) offer many souvenirs.

**8PM** A quick dinner: street snacks at **Dundas Street** (p50) or a simple dish at **Mido Café** (p52).

**9PM** Connect from the MTR to the Airport Express, and arrive back at the airport for your flight home.







Sheung Wan



### HIGHLIGHTS

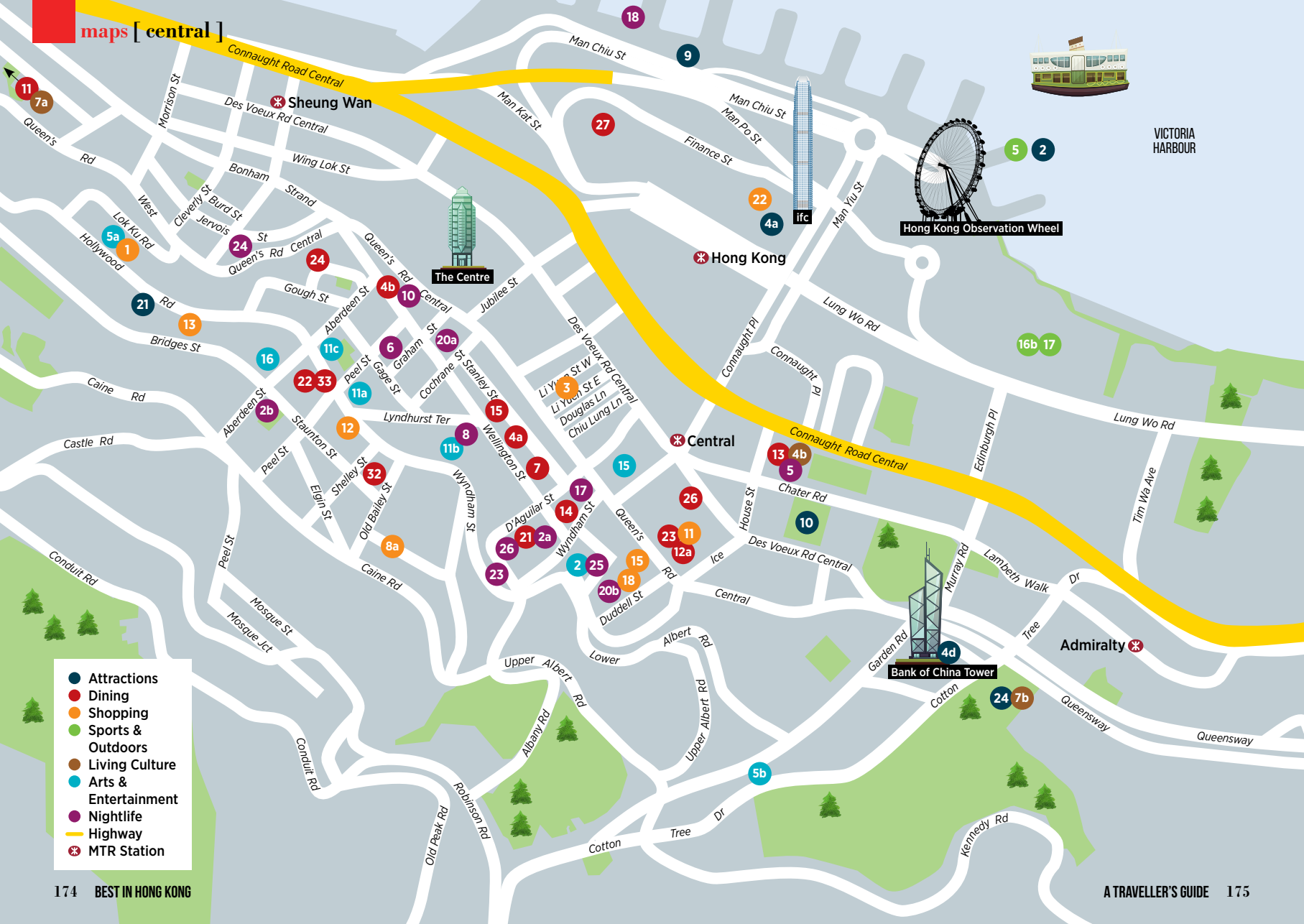
1. Possession Street
2. PoHo
3. Chinese YMCA of Hong Kong, Bridges Street Centre
4. Man Mo Temple
5. PMQ
6. Gough Street
7. Park Tsz Lane Park
8. Kung Lee Herbal Tea Shop
9. Art Galleries on Hollywood Road
10. Tai Kwun
11. Pottinger Street

### DISCOVER MORE

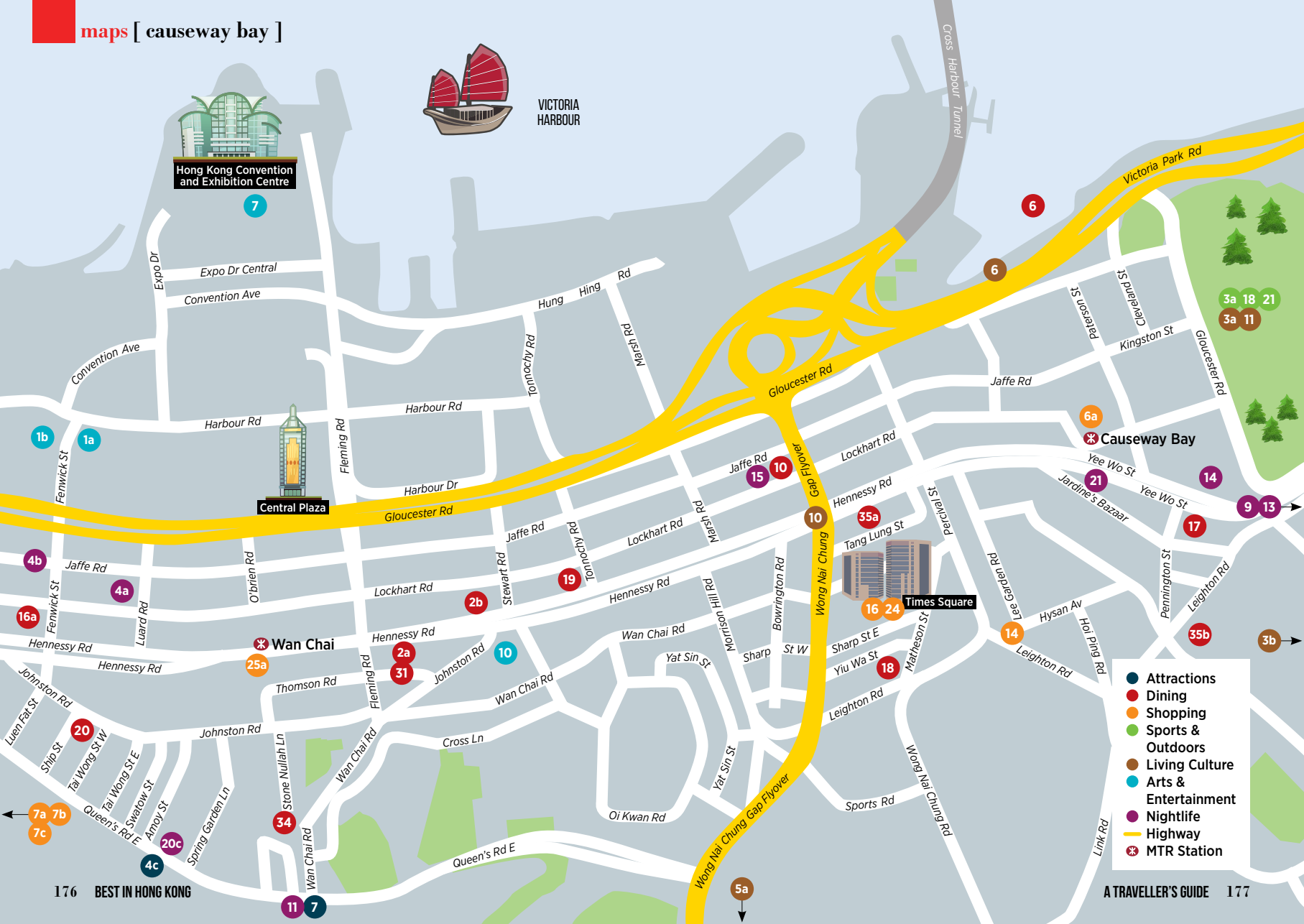
Refer to p34 for details about Old Town Central

Highlights Trip  
 MTR Station





- Attractions
- Dining
- Shopping
- Sports & Outdoors
- Living Culture
- Arts & Entertainment
- Nightlife
- Highway
- ✱ MTR Station



Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre

7

Central Plaza

Times Square

Causeway Bay

VICTORIA HARBOUR

- Attractions
- Dining
- Shopping
- Sports & Outdoors
- Living Culture
- Arts & Entertainment
- Nightlife
- Highway
- ⊗ MTR Station



- Attractions
- Dining
- Shopping
- Sports & Outdoors
- Living Culture
- Arts & Entertainment
- Nightlife
- Highway
- ✕ MTR Station





- Attractions
- Dining
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- ✕ MTR Station



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**Cover:** Daniel Peckham; Mikemikecat Photography; Omar Z Robles; PingPong129; Topaz Leung; Will Cho  
**Inside pages:** Ann-Kathrin Koch (p151); The Armoury (p88); Aqua (p156-57); Billy Clarke (p36; p50-51; p53; p54; p56-57; p62; p70-71; p86-87; p122-123; p152-153); Callaghan Walsh (p78); CÉ LA VI (p157); Clockenflap (p135); Francis So (p106-107); Hedonisthk (p162); HKRU (p17, 114); Hong Kong Arts Festival (p135); The Hong Kong Ballet (p131); Hong Kong Film Archive (p132); K11 (p140); Jacques Dumont (p32); Kelvin Yuen (p18); Kevin Li (p72); Koon Ming Tang, Four Seasons Hong Kong (p69); The Landmark Mandarin Oriental (p66); L'Atelier de Joël Robuchon (p68-69); Lok Man Rare Books (p83); Mandarin Oriental (p148); Markus Gortz, Four Seasons Hong Kong (p68); Mavericks (p161); Omar Z Robles (p1, p128-129); Para Site (p141); The Peninsula Hong Kong (p67; p120); The Ritz-Carlton Hong Kong (p159); Shanghai Tang (p93); Swiss Tiara S (p55); Topaz Leung (p11, p33, p130); Getty Images (p10; p12; p14; p26; p27; p28; p29; p31; p39; p40-41; p45; p60-61; p74; p79; p80; p92; p95; p98-99; p100; p103; p110-111; p113; p114; p118; p120; p124; p126; p134; p136-137; p138-139; p142-143)

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Established since 1938, Kee Wah Bakery has been best-known for its bridal cakes and mooncakes, as well as its traditional seasonal products and other Chinese local favourites. Today Kee Wah is a world-renowned brand of traditional Chinese bakery, and also an excellent souvenir of choice for Hong Kong.



Mooncakes



Wife Cakes



Bridal Cakes

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