nileGUIDE
ALL YOU NEED TO PLAN YOUR PERFECT TRIP

Ed-meister

Top 10 Restaurants that will seal the business deal.

Hong Kong, 1 Day

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Guide Description

AUTHOR NOTE: On a business trip, attending a conference or visiting exhibitions and conventions? Real smart business people know where to take their clients out to lunch or dinner during their stay. After a hefty round of negotiation and presentations it is important in Hong Kong to take each other out to seal the deal over dinner. Real conversations happen outside the office and over dinner tables and drinks and seldom in the office. These 6 restaurants have just the right ambiance and amount of food for real conversations to start. Hong Kong has earned itself its well deserved title of 'Gourmet Paradise Heaven' so why not be tempted and taste some good food whilst you are here on a business trip.

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Itinerary Overview

things to do
restaurants
hotels
nightlife

Day 1 - Hong Kong

DAY NOTE: Hong Kong is a Gourmet Paradise not just because of local Chinese flavours but also because Western cuisine is equally celebrated and exemplary. It won't matter that you are unfamiliar with Hong Kong on your first day. Light Cantonese Lunch at Yung Kee with business clients will be a sure ice breaker and conversation starter. Sample great Chinese tea too. Situated right at the very centre of the business district in Hong Kong M at the Fringe Club in Central is a extremely convenient for lunch. Spring Moon will allow you to taste genuine Cantonese Seafood Dinners and signature little stir fry dishes. There isn't a better way see how Hong Kong gets its stereotype for dim sum heaven then to taste freshly steamed dim sum for yourself today. A very significant part of Chinese business etiquette involves the Chinese concept of 'face', you should not embarrass yourself and others in public. A dining experience at Felix restaurant is a gesture of having a lot of 'face' in Hong Kong. Japanese Culinary delights to end off a hard days work is always tempting. Hong Kong business dinners often require a fair amount of drinking and Japanese cocktails are often potently delicious so resist the temptation to order deliciously mild cocktails.

Yung Kee
Cantonese Dining and Famous Roast Goose

West Villa Restaurant
BBQ pork and stir fry dishes worthy of a Michellin Award

Zuma
Japanese fusion High Tea in the most prestigious Landmark.

Spring Moon
The art of Chinese Food

Domani
Italian fine dining by Michellin Star chefs in Pacific Place

Felix
Restaurant in The Peninsula famous for the men's toilet

Jimmy's Kitchen
Established English favourite

M at the Fringe
Arty boho chic crowd who come to the rooftop patio overlooking LKF

Lei Garden Restaurant
Gourmet Cantonese dishes

Inagiku Kowloon
Savour tempuras and teppanyakis

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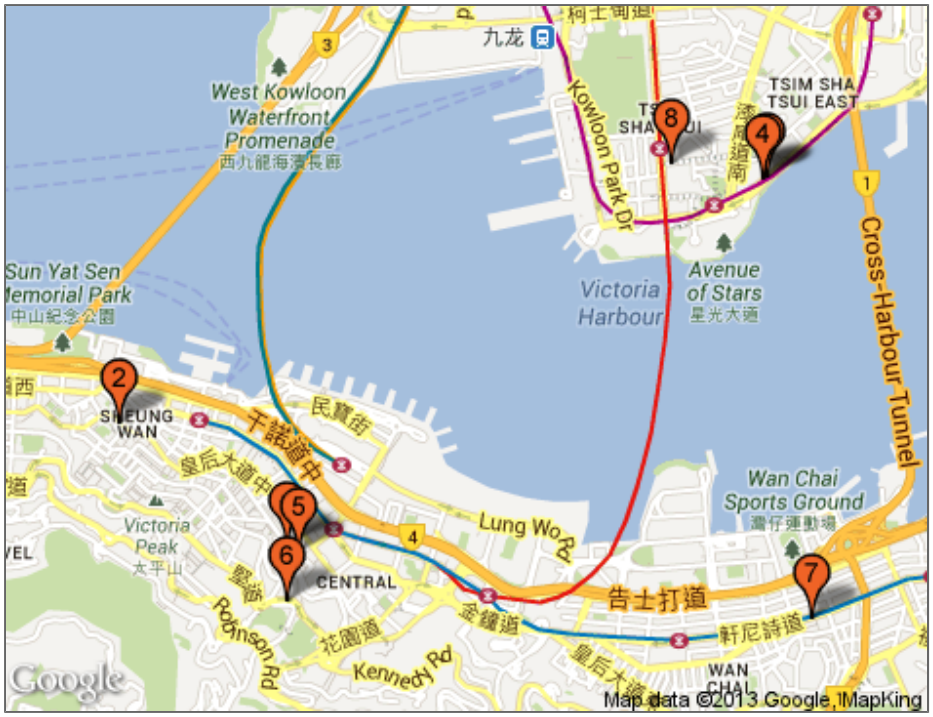
Day 1 - Hong Kong



QUICK NOTE

DAY NOTE: Hong Kong is a Gourmet Paradise not just because of local Chinese flavours but also because Western cuisine is equally celebrated and exemplary. It won't matter that you are unfamiliar with Hong Kong on your first day. Light Cantonese Lunch at Yung Kee with business clients will be a sure ice breaker and conversation starter. Sample great Chinese tea too. Situated right at the very centre of the business district in Hong Kong M at the Fringe Club in Central is a extremely convenient for lunch. Spring Moon will allow you to taste genuine Cantonese Seafood Dinners and signature little stir fry dishes. There isn't a better way see how Hong Kong gets its stereotype for dim sum heaven then to taste freshly steamed dim sum for yourself today. A very significant part of Chinese business etiquette involves the Chinese concept of 'face', you should not embarrass yourself and others in public. A dining experience at Felix restaurant is a gesture of having a lot of 'face' in Hong Kong. Japanese Culinary delights to end off a hard days work is always tempting. Hong Kong business dinners often require a fair amount of drinking and Japanese cocktails are often potently delicious so resist the temptation to order deliciously mild cocktails.

contact:
tel: 852 2522 1624
fax: 852 2840 0888
http://www.yungkee.com.hk/

location:
40 Wellington Street
Hong Kong

hours:
Mo to Su from 11:00 AM to 11:30 PM

1 Yung Kee

DESCRIPTION: Popular for decades, Yung Kee started out in 1942 as a small shop selling roast goose, which did so well that it soon expanded into a very successful Cantonese enterprise. Through the years, it has won numerous food awards and is the only restaurant in Hong Kong ever to be included in Fortune magazine's top 15 restaurants of the world (although, it must be added, the award was back in 1968). Its specialty is still roast goose with plum sauce, cooked to perfection with tender meat on the inside and crispy skin on the outside; a half bird, enough for five or six people, costs HK$210 (US$27/£14), while a smaller portion for two people costs HK$120 (US$16/£7.80; note that goose is pulled from the menu any time there's an avian flu scare). Other specialties include thousand-year-old

Photo courtesy of Yung Kee

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eggs and any of the fresh seafood, like braised garoupa tail. Dining is on one of the upper three floors, but if all you want is a bowl of congee or takeout, join the office workers who pour in for a quick meal on the informal ground floor. © Frommer's

MY NOTE: BBQ Goose is synonymous with Yung Kee. Its signature BBQ Goose dish is the brand of this restaurant and a must try. Cantonese flavours are subtle and mild, so try real Chinese Glass noodles in soup with a dish of BBQ Goose. Worth a note are the appetizers, pink pickled ginger and Chinese fermented Egg that come on every table. These dishes are acquired tastes so do try a tiny bit.

West Villa Restaurant

contact:
tel: 852 2882 2110

location:
Room 101-102, 1/F., Lee Garden Phase 2, 28 Yan Ping Road
Hong Kong

hours:
Daily 11:00a-11:30p

DESCRIPTION: Old Shanghai décor at West Villa welcomes you as you arrive at Lee Gardens in Causeway Bay, this restaurant has always been a canteen for local celebrities and amazing BBQ pork should be ordered as the pork is crispy on the outside whilst moist and juicy on the inside. Other than luxury dishes such as crabs roe bird nest, abalone and cantonese stir fries West Villa prepares excellent almond pastry buns that are best eaten hot out of the oven. Feast like celebrity at West Villa. © NileGuide

2 Zuma

contact:
tel: 852 3657 6388
fax: 852 3657 6399
http://www.zumarestaurant.com/

location:
5/F, The Landmark, 16 Des Voeux Road Central
Hong Kong

hours:
Lunch: M-Sa 12:00p-3p,
Dinner: M-Sa 6:00p-11p

DESCRIPTION: A Sunday favourite, this Japanese Sunday brunch includes starters and a choice of main with unlimited champagne or sake (lethal) and a dessert platter to share at the end of the meal.
Meeting an old friend in Hong Kong and catching up is what ladies do on a Sunday afternoon brunch, Zuma has great sake to wash down all the five different kinds of fish, softshell crab sushi and tofu. The service is impeccable and the waiters speak fluent English. Grilled veggie skewers and the homemade desserts are a real treat.
© NileGuide

Photo courtesy of Zuma

3 Spring Moon

contact:
tel: 852 2920 2888
fax: 852 2722 4170
http://www.peninsula.com/hong_kong/en/default.aspx#/hong_kong/en/Dining/Spring_Moon/

location:
Salisbury Road
Hong Kong

hours:

DESCRIPTION: As you'd expect from a restaurant in The Peninsula, this is a very refined and civilized place for the humble dim sum, with an English menu that lists more than a dozen mouthwatering choices that change with the seasons. Dim sum connoisseurs believe the morsels served here are among the best in town, with past examples including steamed pork dumpling with shark's fin, and pan-fried minced beef and onion cakes. Spring Moon is also famous for its more than two dozen varieties of Chinese teas and even employs professionally trained tea masters. The restaurant is decorated in an Art Deco style reminiscent of how the restaurant would have looked in 1928, the year The Peninsula opened, with

Photo courtesy of Spring Moon

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Lunch:11:30a-3p, Dinner: 6p-1p

stained glass, wood paneling, and Frank Lloyd Wright-inspired highlights. © Frommer's

MY NOTE: Chinese Menus with photos makes it easier to order, but because the manager knows English, ordering delicious seafood, Peking Duck wraps will not a problem.

contact:
tel: 852 2111 1197

location:
Level 4, Pacific Place, 88 Queensway
Hong Kong

hours:
Daily noon - 12a

Domani

OUR LOCAL EXPERT SAYS:
Don't miss Domani if you miss the feeling of getting off the train on the way to Roma.

DESCRIPTION: Domani has an very interesting, innovative Italian menu using traditional seasonal local and italian ingredients. The menu is prepared by Michelin starred chef Mauro Uliassi. People love the Sardinian gnochetti with lamb ragout, Marche style fruit of the sea, simmered and served in an albanella jar, The black hole prawns, potato fondant and black truffle.
Diners can feast on Italian classics like vedure e chantilly al limone a succulent combination of turbot, Jerusalem artichoke, vegetables and lemon chantilly or the filetto di manzo a succueltn beef tenderloin with red wine and garlic sauce, topped with roasted potatoes, taggiasche olives and red bell peppers. The ambience is lively with a fun bustling open kitchen and lots and lots of glass windows designed by Thomas Heatherwick. At the same time, the best thing is that the tables outside are more fun in nice HK winter weather.
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contact:
tel: 852 2315 3188
fax: 852 2315 3140 / 852 2722 4170 (Hotel)
http://hongkong.peninsula.com/phk/restaurants_02.html

location:
28th Floor, Salisbury Road
Hong Kong

hours:
Daily Dinner: 6p-11p, Snacks: 10:30p-1a, Drinks: 6p-2a

4 Felix

OUR LOCAL EXPERT SAYS:
Dress up because shorts and flip flops won't cut the mustard

DESCRIPTION: Occupying the top two floors of The Peninsula, the Philippe Starcke- designed interior of this exclusive restaurant is beautiful, with luxuriously thick carpets and striking views of the city. Enjoy your champagne, elegant cocktails and contemporary cuisine although the view alone urges a visit. Specializing in Pacific Rim fusion cuisine, you can try some great dishes on the set lunch or dinner menu. Sounds expensive? Well, yes, but what else would you expect from Philippe Starck? This is one spot you cannot miss if you are in Hong Kong for a few days. The impeccably understated service lives up the posh surroundings and fine food. The crowd includes models, promoters and assorted travelers.
© wcities.com

MY NOTE: The Peninsula is the cherry of top of icing for all hotels in Hong Kong. The quiet Ambience of Felix is great when you need a conference room style dinning experience. Excellent a la carte menu and posh service.

Photo courtesy of Felix

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contact:
tel: 852 2526 5293
fax: 852 2801 5006
http://www.jimmys.com/content-jimmys.html

location:
1-3 Wyndham Street, G/F,
South China Building
Hong Kong

hours:
Daily 11:30a-3p, 6p-11:30p.
Happy hour: daily 5p-7:30p

5 Jimmy's Kitchen

Photo courtesy of jimmys

DESCRIPTION: An old favorite with expatriates, especially the British, Jimmy's has been established for more than 70 years. The wider choice of Asian dishes has been attracting a more cosmopolitan crowd over recent years. Comfortable and private, the booths provide seclusion without destroying the slightly old fashioned atmosphere. Just about everything on the menu works, from the heavy European fare, such as borscht, roasts, goulash and bangers and mash, to the more esoteric Asian dishes. Meatless options mean vegetarians will not go hungry and the children's menu is extensive. © wcities.com

MY NOTE: Depending on your schedule, you may want to eat at Jimmy's Kitchen for dinner. Lunch tables always require reservations but dinners are often less fully packed. British Menus are a heritage of Hong Kong's colonial past at Jimmy's Kitchen and there is a small pub at the entrance of Jimmy's Kitchen for you to unwind. Even if you decide to change your mind about Jimmy's Kitchen when you arrive because you just saw myriads of other restaurants on the same street you'll be sure that any other choice will be just good.

contact:
tel: 852 2877 4000
fax: 852 2877 0135
http://www.m-restaurantgroup.com/

location:
2 Lower Albert Road
Hong Kong

hours:
Lunch: M–F noon – 2.30p ,
Dinner: Daily 7p–10.30 p ,
Just Desserts: Daily after 10p

6 M at the Fringe

Photo courtesy of M at the Fringe

DESCRIPTION: This is definitely the most original restaurant in Hong Kong in terms of decor, menu and style. Located above the Fringe Club, M at the Fringe is worth visiting, even if you can only afford the dessert platter! The spacious roof garden can accommodate about 120 folks. The extensive menu offers a great choice for vegetarians, as well as meat and fish dishes. The bar food consists of Tapas, fish cakes, tortilla chips and dips. The pastry tart and the Mandarin Beluga Caviar are great ways to start. The dinner menu of haute cuisine features the likes of Suckling Pig and salt encased lamb. © wcities.com

MY NOTE: Great Buffet Lunch Menus allow you to sample a great deal of fusion Chinese appetizers as well as main courses. The charm little rooftop terrace overlooking Soho isn't something that you'll find in Hong Kong easily. So enjoy!

contact:
tel: 852 2892 0333
http://www.leigardenrestaurant.com/

location:
338 Hennessy Road
Hong Kong

hours:
Lunch: 11:30a-3p M-Su,
Dinner: 6p-11.30p M-Su

7 Lei Garden Restaurant

Lei Garden Restaurant

DESCRIPTION: This is one of those restaurants that concentrates on doing what it does best: cooking. Surprisingly, such affordable excellence is also extended to the food and service, which is superb. Dim sum, seafood and a wide variety of other Cantonese favourites are all available, and the prices will not scare you away. © wcities.com

MY NOTE: What is a trip to Hong Kong without going 'yum cha' or 'dim sum'. Lei Garden Restaurant serves excellent dim sum.

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'Har Gao','Siu Mai' and 'Cha Siu Bao' are guaranteed to please those who have never tried dim sum.

contact:
tel: 852 2733 2933
fax: +852 2369 9976
http://www.fourseasons.com/hongkong/dining/inagiku.html

location:
1/F, 69 Mody Road
Hong Kong

hours:
Noon-3p, 6p-11p M-Su

8 Inagiku Kowloon

DESCRIPTION: in a more than a century-old Japanese restaurant, and there will never come a time for sayonaras. Simple décor and traditional style - a match made in good old Hongkong. Kimono cult is in. © wcities.com

MY NOTE: Beef Teppanyaki is the signature at Inagiku Kowloon. Soba Noodles and Udon Noodles are just as good as they can be. The atmosphere allows for a great amount of small talk amongst clients. Relax here when there is no more need to talk business.

Inagiku Kowloon

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Hong Kong Snapshot

Local Info

Cosmopolitan, international and a vivid city of the future, boasting an astonishing blend ofbeautiful mountain parks and vibrant modern architecture. Crowded, chaotic, but always charismatic, Hong Kong remains the gateway to China, and remains reknowned as the'Pearl of the Orient'.

Which country is Hong Kong in? Is Hong Kong part of China?

The handover of Hong Kong took place in 1997 and since then Hong Kong has been a Special Administrative Region belonging to China but its colonial roots and British influence on all walks of life can still be seen easily. Under the'One country two systems' slogan, Hong Kongers have gotten used to the laissez faire attitude of the Hong Kong Government in juxaposition to China. As one of the freest economies in the world, nearly seven million people are crammed and make a living from the mere 1,100 square kilometres that make up the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region(SAR). Hong Kong is second to Tokyo in terms of population density. The pace of life is quick and Hong Kong is renowned for its efficiency and rush hour traffic.

What doesHong Kong mean?

The official language in Hong Kong is Cantonese rather than mandarin but English is commonly spoken as all. In Cantonese, which is a different dialect from Mandarin,'Hong Kong' mirrors the Cantonese pronunciation'Heung Gong' meaning fragrant harbour. The name stems from the fact that Hong Kong's harbour used to be a humid sleepy fishing village with plenty of boats parked around the harbour.

The skyline of Hong Kong is one of the most awe inspiring and panoramic in the world. Some of Hong Kong's favourite skyscrapers include but are not limited to theHSBC building,Bank of China Tower,IFC andCentral Plaza complimented by numerous high rise residential apartments. Not just a city of skyscrapers, there is also lush countryside inSai Kung,Tai Mo Shan andsmall rural communities inPeng Chau,Cheung Chau as well asLamma Island.

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Restaurants Insights

Hong Kong is dubbed as a culinary heaven not for no good reason, the food is a paradise, tantalizingly diverse and innovative. From sophisticated fine dining in Eastern, Western, Fusion as well as international buffets to street food outlets serving local delicacies, there is something for everyone and every budget and food is available everywhere you go at every corner and at all hours. If you want to spring for a dream meal you can do that too. The vast majority of Hong Kong's 10,000 odd restaurants serve Cantonese food, of course. Cantonese is by far the most popular Chinese cuisine in Hong Kong, but Chiu Chow, Shanghainese, Sichuanese and Northern are also widely available. Because of Hong Kong's close proximity to China, Hong Kong Restaurants are incredibly blessed with an army of incredible and artistic culinary Chinese chefs who pride themselves in their innovative and artistic culinary skills, serving up signature dishes from around China.

For a real dining experience in Hong Kong, eating out in the street cafes and stalls is a must. At these informal outlets, andTemple street night market is especially worth a mention where you can experience local dai pai dong food in the surrounding streets. Famous throughout Hong Kong and beyond, the'greasy goose' restaurants at Yue Kee Sham Tseng have been popular for many years. The famousSham Tseng Roast goose is specially air dried for some hours after initial basting with honey, oil and spices. This process, apparently, helps to crisp the skin and makes the flesh moist and tender.Sham Tseng siu ngor(roast goose) is renowned all over Hong Kong and weekend evenings are especially popular times to visit Sham Tseng, and the goose restaurants are one of those perennial local favourites that too many visitors to Hong Kong never see or experience. Well worth trying!

One of Tsim Sha Tsui's most popular venues for late nighttong shui(Chinese sweet soups),Honeymoon Dessert has been around for years and packs in the crowds, especially on weekends when he queue for a table can easily stretch out into the street. Yet another popular one isTong Pak Fu Like many culinary phenomena that newcomers either love or loathe, Chinesetong shui must be tried at least a few times betfore a firm like it or not decision can be reached.

In fact, all the flavours of the world are showcased here. Japanese food is the most popular Asian food after Chinese, and a plethora of Japanese restaurants with famous international brand names such asNobu andZuma have opened their doors here to the well heeled crowds. In contract, there are inexpensive Japanese cafes and small outlets likeYoshinoya andGenryoku Sushi serving an array of Japanese street food Japanese style.

Authentic thai tastes can be surprisingly difficult to find, and many enthusiasts find a culinary pilgramage toOrchid Thai Food every so often is well worth the journey. is unsurprisingly most patronized by expat Thais and those Hong Kong Chinese who appreciate the authenticity on offer here.

If you are having a bad noodle day, don't despair: you've in fact come to the right place- Hong Kong is where East eats West and you'll find bangers and mash at theStag's Head, lasagne atFat Angelo's as well as Curry Chicken atGaylord's before you can say'beef congee'. Central is the best pick for Western Restaurants, especiallySoho, though you'll find a fair few offering alfresco dining in Tsim Sha Tsui'sKnutsford Terrace.

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Nightlife Insights

Soho is the place to be for the lively atmosphere of Hong Kong nightlife. Chic restaurants, upbeat bars and cafes, make a beeline for South ofHollywood Road, or Soho for short. The area consists ofStaunton's Wine bar and Cafe,Drop,Prive as well as theFringe Club.

While Soho has its appeal to a younger expat crowd by day and night,Lan Kwai Fong by D'Arguilar Street inCentral is the place to be when the lights are low and you are in the party mood. The place is buzzing with clubs, funky bars, pubs and restaurants that swell up with crowds of merrymakers and drinkers partying till the

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crack of dawn. It is party central for the'in crowds and night owls'.

AlthoughWanchai had a reputation during the Vietnam War as an anything goes red light district, today its mainly a centre for shopping, business and more upmarket entertainment. If you want to see how farWanchai has come, check outKlong Bar ang grill andLa Bamba,Royal Arms retains some of its old character with hostess bars along Lockhart Road, and part upbeat fun with lots of zippy club action and late night cover band venues at the western ends of Jaffe and Lockhart Road.

Yau Ma Tei is well known for all manner of cheap and cheerful items, from inexpensive clothing to copy watches to plastic toys and gadgets,Temple Street is still a lot of fun to wander around if you want to see the local Hong Kong nightlife and is as popular with locals out for a low cost nightlife in Kowloon as tourists. To the right of Temple Street are complexes which house a plethora of English speaking, tourist friendly fortune tellers. The temple has a curious arrangement whereby the individual worshiper draws the lost but not the slip of paper explaining what the lot means. This is where fortune tellers come in to give you a vague interpretation.

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Things to Do Insights

Hong Kong culture:

What to do in Hong Kong?

All right, so you have settled into your hotel, you have ordered room service, you are all set for your big meeting tomorrow and you are bored. What to do? Never fear, the answer is here! Movies, dance, music, museums or horse racing, one thing is for sure: Hong Kong will not disappoint.

Hong Kong traditions:

Cantonese Opera: Shrill Pleasure In a style that critics describe as"the sound of cats mating to music," the proud tradition of Cantonese Opera is alive and well in Hong Kong. Actually, learning a little about this art form beforehand, and getting a synopsis of the plot, can make watching Cantonese Opera very rewarding. The costumes and stylised gestures, along with the often acrobatic dancing and high-pitched singing, make for a unique entertainment experience.

There are several varieties of Chinese Opera, but the Cantonese style tends to have the most outstanding physical choreography. The form is now taught in a special program at the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts, and performances can be seen at many venues around town. Civic Theatres such as the Shatin Town Hall, or the North District Town Hall will happily provide more information. In addition, there is often a major opera company performing at the annual Hong Kong Arts Festival in February and March.

Canto Pop: What It Is, and How to Avoid It Canto Pop is the term used to describe Hong Kong's particular brand of pop music. Think Celine Dion meets Karaoke. Sugary, and generally composed of bland tunes that rip off mid-70s hits by the Eagles, it is definitely an acquired taste! However, if a good, clean melodic puppy-love tune is the order of the day, then Canto Pop is the answer.

The best way to hear Canto Pop is to ride the local buses, on which loudspeakers pipe in local radio broadcasts. For anyone hankering after a live performance, there are the occasional concerts at the Hong Kong Coliseum or the Queen Elizabeth Stadium by huge stars like Faye Wong, Andy Lau or Leon Lai.

Dance: Something for Everyone Most of the city's arts festivals feature dance as a major component. Whether it be ballet, modern dance or the traditional Chinese Lion Dance, there is usually lots of movement to be found at venues such as the Hong Kong Arts Centre, Shatin Town Hall, Kwai Tsing Theatre, and Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts.

The Hong Kong Ballet performs strong renditions of classical ballets, while the City Contemporary Dance Company creates modern, innovative pieces. The colourful Lion Dance is usually performed at the opening of new businesses, at weddings or at other events where the organizers want to ward off evil spirits. Chinese New Year is a great time to see a lion dance on the street or near a temple.

Theatre: What a Buzz Aside from the many major international touring productions that stop off in Hong Kong, there is lots going on in the local theatre scene, both in Cantonese and English. The Fringe Club is the hub of theatre activity in town. It also puts on the annual City Festival, a multi-disciplinary festival that features a blend of up-and-coming theatre artists with more well-known performers. In addition, the Kwai Tsing Theatre lines up a challenging season of new commissioned works as well as classics.

Movies: Everybody was Kung-fu Fighting Most people think Hong Kong cinema is all about violence and martial arts and they are right, for the most part. Heroes such as Bruce Lee and Jackie Chan have spawned a whole slew of violent martial arts films with overblown tragic plots and fast action.

Aside from seeing the latest films, sitting in a big, comfy, air-conditioned theatre, such as the AMC Festival Walk, can also be a great way to escape the heat of summer.

As well as all the usual cinematic offerings, there is a strong indie film scene, mainly featured at the Hong Kong International Film Festival, while art house and foreign films can be found at venues such as the Goethe-Institut(mainly German films) and the Broadway Cinemateque.

Museums and Galleries: So Much to Do, So Little Time From the scientific rigours of the Space Museum to the modern art installations in the galleries at the Fringe Club, from the informative and unique Law Uk Folk Museum to the bizarre(and definitely worth a visit) Police Museum, there is no shortage of cultural venues in Hong Kong. Of course, there is also the Hong Kong Cultural Centre, and the fantastic Marine Land at Ocean Park, and a quick stroll through Central will reveal many intriguing little antique stores and galleries, so take your pick! Those who dismissively suggest that modern Hong Kong gives no attention to its own past should visit the Hong Kong History Musuem. The Hong Kong Story is justifiably one of the musuem's most popular permanent exhibits, and remains one of the best ways to gain a broad overview of Hong Kong's past. Well-curated thematic galleries take the visitor through various stages of Hong Kong's development.

Horse Races To experience the complete insanity of a crowd in Hong Kong, a visit to one of the city's horse-racing tracks—the Happy Valley Racecourse or the Shatin Racecourse—is a must. Intense gambling

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and socializing mixed with the excitement of first-rate horse racing; who knows who will be the winner. No group of people enjoys a flutter as much as Hong Kong, and horse racing worth more than$1 billion annually, remains the most popular form of gambling in Hong Kong. Be prepared for a lot of noise at the races. If you are in Hong Kong for less than 21 days and are over 18 years old, its best to buy a tourist ticket, which allows you to jump the queue, sit in the members enclosure and walk around next to the finish area.

Essential Booking Information Cityline: (+852) 2314 4228 URBTIX:(+852) 2734 9009 Hong Kong Tourist Association:(+852) 2508 1234
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Travel Tips

Getting There:

By Air:

Hong Kong International Airport has, since its inception, been awarded the World's best airport year after year and the Hong Kong Chek Lap Kok airport second to Chicago's O' Hare airport in terms of passenger traffic and the amount of cargo it handles. Offering 14 hour service on numerous airlines to destinations around the globe. Because of Hong Kong's geographical location as the gateway to China, plenty choose to stopover in Hong Kong and spend a few days tourin the city when transferring flights.

There are a number of transit services that provide transportation from Hong Kong International Airport to destinations in and around urban Hong Kong. From the airport, there are MTR Airport Express trains(+852 2881 8888/http://www.mtr.com.hk/prehome/index.html), as well as a number of Cityflyer buses that are bound to cover the location that you want to get to. Limousines are definately abundant and of course taxis will get you to the city in less than an hour.

Hong Kong MTR:

The MTR train comes every 2 minutes so there is no such thing as missing the train in Hong Kong. Getting around Hong Kong and visiting any point of interest couldn't be easier with the quick, clean and efficient MTR. Burgoening demand has led to the steady increase of MTR lines and currently the MTR consists of ten lines. The three major lines are the blue Island line, the red Tsuen Wan line and the green Kwun Tong line. Rail service to and from the New Territories is provided by East Rail as well as the Ma On Shan line, West rail and the Light Rail Transit System.

Taxis:

Red taxis are serve urban Hong Kong Island and Kowloon, while the New Territories ones are green and the Lantau taxis are only allowed to travel on Lantau Island and nowhere else. Taxi flags start at HKD 18 and crossing there are cross harbour tolls.

By Bus:

Double decker buses that are found throughoutLondon are ubiquitous in Hong Kong. Hong Kong bus service is reliable and so interconnected that it is impossible to find a place that isn't serviced by a bus or mini bus of some kind. Single as well as double decker buses are operated by KMB(Kowloon Motor Bus), New World First Bus, and Citybus. The quickest if not the best way to see which bus you want to take by asking anyone waiting at the bus stop and they will be sure to point you to the right bus.

By Mini bus:

Green mini buses cover Hong Kong, Kowloon and the New Territories and are by far one of the most local Hong Kong way of getting to places. Hong Kong is all about speed and when people find that buses take too long or stops too frequently along the line, there will then be a minibus route that most people want to get to but are not patient enough to wait for the bus. It is the unspoken and unwritten rule that when you want to get off the mini buses you must yell out to the driver that you want to get off before the stop.

Red Mini buses are alot more flexible in their routes and the driver is free to choose and operate 24 hours, they also cover both Hong Kong Island, Kowloon and the New Territories.

By Ferry:

The Star Ferry used to be the only form of transport if you wanted to travel between the Kowloon Peninsula and Hong Kong Island but not its role is slowly reduced to a popular sightseeing trip for families and tourists alike. Named one of the fifty things to do in a lifetime by the National Geographic Magazine, the Star Ferry takes you to and from Tsim Sha Tsui to Wanchai and Central and vice versa. There are also Hung Hom to Central and Hung Hom to Wanchai routes which serve locals as well as tourists. The two most frequented lines are the Tsim Sha Tsui to Central and Tsim Sha Tsui to Wanchai ferry lines. Star Ferry tours of the harbour are also recommended.

Getting Around:

An Octopus card is all that you need, a stored value ticket which is found in every single Hong Konger's wallet. With its growing functionality as instant cash at various supermarkets and convenience stores, it primarily enables you to save the hassle of rummaging for exact change and waiting for the person in front of you to get their change as you board all transport. Octopus cards can be used on all forms of public transport in Hong Kong and the one and only exception is taxis.

Second only to Tokyo in terms of interconnectness, the Hong Kong transportation system is a marvel for it allows over seven million people to get to places in under an hour's time in orderly fashion. The MTR is the easiest way of getting around Hong Kong and a map of the Hong Kong rail system is all you need. Otherwise buses and mini buses are the perfect way to accessing areas that are not covered by the MTR and there are always taxis.

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Fun Facts

1. Fun Fact: The household size has decreased from 4.3 to 3 over the past three decades.

2. Interesting Fact: To many Hong Kong people, their dreams are to own a home.

3. Public transport fun fact: 7 in 10 people take buses and 35% take taxis everyweek.

4. Fun fact about travel: the number of people taking an air trip outside Hong Kong has leapfrogged 7 times in 30 years from 4% in 1975 to 30% in 2009.

5. Random Fact about shopping:Jusco andSogo are among the top 3 department stores visited.

6. True fact or False fact? Hong Konger's personal income increased 16 times in 30 years.

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7. Interesting fact: Cha Charn Teng(Hong Kong styled cafe) unique in Hong Kong are visited by half of people in Hong Kong on a weekly basis.

8. Another Interesting fact about Hong Kong dining habits: More and more people frequently visit fast food restaurants, outpacing their visits to other types of restaurant.

9. Weird fact: The first McDonalds offered customers the very first American Big Mac in Hong Kong was located at Paterson Street,Causeway Bay in 1975.

10. Fun fact: Theworld's longest outdoor covered escalator system leading fromCentral to theMid-Levels was up and running in 1993.

11. Interesting fact: TheBig Buddha onLantau Island, the world's tallest outdoor seated bronze statue was unveiled in 1993.

12. Random Fact: Hong Kongers are renowned for being hard working, fast, flexible and energetic. Hong Konger's have among the world's highestcinema attendance per ca pita.

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