

# HKCONNECT

#COSMOPOLITAN

#DYNAMIC

#SECURE

#DIVERSE

#CONNECTED



vol.

24

25

# ASIA'S WORLD CITY

An aerial view of Hong Kong at sunset, showing the dense urban landscape, the harbor with several boats, and the surrounding mountains under a colorful sky.

**An international financial centre, Hong Kong takes pride in its business-friendly environment and cosmopolitan lifestyle.**

The international business hub provides unparalleled access to the Chinese economy and is a core city of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area – one of the world's most dynamic regional economies.

Besides mega sports, arts and cultural events throughout the year, Hong Kong is a nature lovers' delight where spectacular hiking trails, scenic coastal areas and outlying islands are all within easy reach of urban areas.

Take a glimpse of what makes **Asia's world city** one of the most desirable places to live, work, invest and study.

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# HONG KONG IS...

**#COSMOPOLITAN**

East Meets West |  
Arts & Culture |  
Regional Education & Training Hub

# #COSMOPOLITAN



From architecture and entertainment to food and festivals, Hong Kong is a fascinating blend of East and West.



## Global village

There are more than 120 foreign diplomatic representations and offices of international organisations such as International Monetary Fund in Hong Kong.

## Vibrant social scene

There are a host of international chambers of commerce, business associations and networking clubs, making it easy for expatriates to build business and social networks.



## International media hub

Freedom of the press is guaranteed by the Basic Law and the Hong Kong Bill of Rights.

- International media and broadcasters such as the Economist, Financial Times, New York Times, Wall Street Journal, CNBC, CNN International and BBC, etc., all have a presence in Hong Kong.



## Year-round celebrations

Hong Kong celebrates **Western and Eastern festivals** with equal enthusiasm. Chinese New Year, Christmas and the Mid-Autumn Festival are especially good times to see the city in its full splendour.



## Harbourfront delight

The iconic Victoria Harbour features waterfront promenades spanning around 27km along both sides of the harbour.

- > **Longest promenade** (about 9.5km): along the harbourfront areas on the northern shore of Hong Kong Island from Kennedy Town in the west to Fortress Hill in the east, roving thematic and festive pop-up art installations, and events of different types and scales provide new visiting experiences.
- > **Special features along the way:** with strong local flavour, different special features are added to each promenade section to create unique spaces for people to enjoy, such as East Coast Park Precinct, Water Sports and Recreation Precinct and Cha Kwo Ling Promenade.



## Cultural hub

The **West Kowloon Cultural District**, spanning 40 hectares, is **one of the largest cultural projects** in the world, helping strengthen Hong Kong's positioning as an East-meets-West centre for international cultural exchange.

- **M+**, Asia's first global museum of contemporary visual culture, showcases contemporary art with a new perspective.
- The **Hong Kong Palace Museum** displays priceless artefacts of Chinese art and culture from the collections of the Palace Museum, Beijing and precious objects from other leading cultural institutions worldwide.
- The **Xiqu Centre** is dedicated to preserving and promoting the art of Chinese traditional theatre.



## International events

- Since 2013, **Art Basel Hong Kong**, attracting more than 200 leading galleries from around the world every year, helps cement Hong Kong as the epicentre of Asia's international art scene.
- **Magnificent 7s**: from humble beginnings in 1976, the Hong Kong Sevens has grown to become a leading international rugby tournament, drawing thousands of fans from around the world.








## Top-notch universities

Hong Kong's 22 degree-awarding institutions offer internationally recognised qualifications, the chance to acquire an international perspective and promising career prospects.



- > In many scientific fields, such as medicine, biotech and AI, Hong Kong is at the forefront of innovation. Our foundation in basic research is strong, with 5 universities ranking among the top 100 globally (Quacquarelli Symonds World University Rankings 2025).

University	Ranking
 The University of Hong Kong	17
 The Chinese University of Hong Kong	36
 The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology	47
 The Hong Kong Polytechnic University	57
 City University of Hong Kong	62

## International schools

The **54 international schools** in Hong Kong provide more than 10 curricula, including those of Australia, Canada, France, Germany, Japan, Korea, Singapore, the United Kingdom and the United States, as well as the International Baccalaureate programme.





# HONG KONG IS...



## #DYNAMIC

Business & Economy I  
Talent Admission I  
International Innovation &  
Technology Hub I  
Sporting Achievements



A powerful combination of factors – prime location, rule of law, high-speed communications, free flow of information and capital, a low and simple tax system and a pro-business government – makes Hong Kong a leading international business and financial centre.



## A magnet for non-local firms

Overseas and Mainland companies in Hong Kong (2024):

Total number of operations  
**9,960**



Regional headquarters  
**1,410**

Regional offices  
**2,410**

Local offices  
**6,140**

Staff engaged  
**493,000**

- > Major sources of parent companies: Mainland China, Japan, US, UK, Singapore

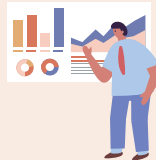
## Start-up hub

- > Hong Kong's start-up ecosystem is supported by a strong network of incubators and accelerators, a pool of experienced angels and venture capitalists, a host of government-backed programmes and a welcoming community of start-ups.
- > The city hosted **4,694 start-ups in 2024, employing 17,651 staff.**



## Leading capital market

- > **Asia's largest hedge fund hub** (August 2024) and **Asia's 2nd largest private equity fund centre** (June 2024).
- > **World No.6 for Initial Public Offering (IPO)** funds raised in 2023, continuing to be a major global listing platform for companies from different jurisdictions.
- > **No.1 in the region for arranging Asian international bond issuances** in 2023 for the 16th consecutive year.
- > **One of the world's leading fundraising hub for biotech companies** – 102 companies listed under the new listing regime in Hong Kong since its introduction in 2018 and the listing regime for specialist technology companies since March 2023, 67 of which are biotech companies. These 102 companies account for about 40% of total IPO funds raised in the period, with a total market capitalisation of over US\$970 billion (October 2024).



## Premier international banking centre

- > **72 of the world's 100 top banks** operate in Hong Kong (October 2024).
- > Hong Kong is **Asia's 2nd largest banking hub** for Chinese and international banks in terms of external positions (March 2024).



## Leading offshore RMB centre

Hong Kong is the **world's largest offshore RMB business centre**.

- > **World's largest offshore pool of RMB funds** – RMB deposits and certificates of deposit totalling RMB1,185.6 billion (US\$164 billion, July 2024).





## Strong Hong Kong-Mainland financial connections

- > **Shanghai-Hong Kong Stock Connect** (from November 2014) and **Shenzhen-Hong Kong Stock Connect** (from December 2016) allow investors in Hong Kong and Mainland China to trade securities in each other's markets through the trading and clearing facilities of the domestic exchange.
- > Exchange-traded Funds (ETFs) and overseas enterprises primary listed in Hong Kong were included under Stock Connect in July 2022 and March 2023 respectively, deepening integration of the 2 capital markets and facilitating Mainland and international investors to diversify their global asset allocations.
- > **Bond Connect**: allows investors from the Mainland and overseas to trade in each other's bond markets through mutual access arrangements between the financial infrastructure institutions in Hong Kong and the Mainland. Northbound trading and Southbound trading commenced in July 2017 and September 2021 respectively.
- > The **Cross-boundary Wealth Management Connect** in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (GBA) enables residents in Hong Kong, Macao and 9 cities in Guangdong Province to engage in cross-boundary investment in wealth management products distributed by eligible financial institutions (banks and/or securities firms) in the GBA.

- > **Swap Connect**: Northbound Trading was launched in May 2023, allowing Hong Kong and overseas investors to participate in the Mainland's interbank derivatives market through mutual access arrangements between institutions in Hong Kong and the Mainland. A series of enhancement measures were implemented in May 2024 to expand the choice of products under Swap Connect, enhance the efficiency of the mechanism and reduce participation costs.

## Green finance hub

- > **Premier financing platform** for international and Mainland green enterprises / projects.
- > A total of around US\$28 billion worth of green bonds (September 2024) under the **Government Sustainable Bond Programme** (previously known as the Government Green Bond Programme) covering multiple currencies and different tenors was issued. The issuances achieved breakthroughs in 8 aspects:
  - 2021:
    - > The world's first "Global Medium Term Note Programme" dedicated to green bond issuances by a government
    - > The world's largest US dollar-denominated government green bond deal
    - > The longest tenor US dollar-denominated government green bond ever in Asia
    - > The longest tenor Euro-denominated government green bond ever in Asia
  - 2022:
    - > The world's largest retail green bond issuance
  - 2023:
    - > The largest ESG bond issuance ever in Asia
    - > The world's first government tokenised green bond issuance
  - 2024:
    - > The world's first multi-currency digitally native tokenised bond



## Hong Kong welcomes talent

- Hong Kong ranked among the top 10 in the World Talent Ranking 2024.
- With a dual role as an international talent hub and the country's talent gateway, Hong Kong welcomes global talents via various talent admission schemes. As of end August 2024, over 150,000 talents arrived in Hong Kong.
- Established the **Hong Kong Talent Engage** to develop strategic plans to engage global talents, and provide comprehensive one-stop support services through a variety of online and offline activities in collaboration with partners to help incoming talents settle down in Hong Kong.
- Organised the first Global Talent Summit · Hong Kong in May 2024.
- Snooker superstars Ronnie O'Sullivan and Judd Trump are among the latest high-profile talents to become Hong Kong residents under the city's Quality Migrant Admission Scheme, which facilitates top quality professionals from various fields to live and work in Hong Kong.



Hong Kong has world-class capability in scientific research. With 5 top-100 universities in the world and comprehensive technology infrastructure, such as the 2 innovation and technology (I&T) flagships, Cyberport and Hong Kong Science Park, the city has established itself as a prominent international research and development hub in the region. With the country's unwavering support, the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government is committed to developing Hong Kong into an international I&T centre, fostering an increasingly vibrant I&T ecosystem that attracts talent from around the world.

## Innovation and technology

- The World Digital Competitiveness Ranking 2024 issued by Switzerland's International Institute for Management Development (IMD) placed Hong Kong **3rd worldwide** for the "Technology" factor, as well as **3rd in Asia-Pacific** and **7th in the world** for overall digital competitiveness.
- The **InnoHK Research Clusters** at Hong Kong Science Park have pooled together 30 research laboratories, involving 7 local universities and research institutions as well as over 30 institutions from 12 economies.



The tenacity and perseverance of Hong Kong's athletes exemplify the city's "can-do" spirit.

## Sports stars

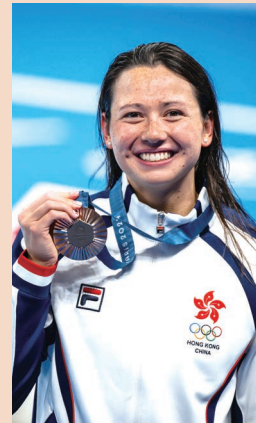
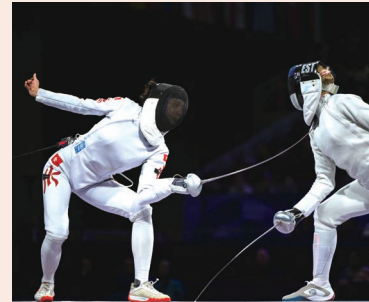
The Hong Kong, China Delegation scaled new heights at the 2024 Paris Olympics, clinching **2 gold** and **2 bronze** medals.



- **Fencer Cheung Ka-long** successfully defended his title in the Men's Foil Individual event. He became the first Hong Kong, China athlete to win back-to-back Olympic gold medals following his victory at the Tokyo Olympics and the first man in 68 years to defend his Olympic foil title.



- **Fencer Vivian Kong** won the gold medal in the Women's Épée Individual event, clinching Hong Kong's first ever Olympic gold medal in the competition.



- **Swimmer Siobhan Haughey** won 2 bronze medals in the Women's 100m and 200m Freestyle events, becoming the only Hong Kong athlete to win 2 medals in consecutive Olympic Games, after her winning of 2 silver medals at the Tokyo Olympics.



Photos courtesy of the Sports Federation & Olympic Committee of Hong Kong, China

The Hong Kong, China Delegation also achieved excellent performances at the 2024 Paris Paralympic Games, bagging **3 gold**, **4 silver** and **1 bronze** medals, attaining the best result since the 2012 London Paralympic Games.

- > **Boccia athlete John Loung** clinched the first gold medal for Hong Kong at the Games in the Men's Individual BC1 event.



- > **Boccia athlete Ho Yuen-kei** won 2 gold medals, one in the Women's Individual BC3 event and another with **Tse Tak-wah** in the Mixed Pairs BC3 event.



- > **Swimmer Chan Yui-lam** won the silver medal in the Women's 100m Butterfly S14 event.



- > **Badminton athlete Chan Ho-yuen** bagged silver in the Men's Singles WH2 event, achieving his goal of surpassing previous bronze medal at the Tokyo Paralympic Games.



Photos courtesy of China Hong Kong Paralympic Committee

- > **Boccia athletes Leung Yuk-wing** and **Cheung Yuen** took silver in the Mixed Pairs BC4 event, while Cheung won another silver in the Women's Individual BC4 event.



- > **Swimmer Ng Cheuk-yan** took bronze in the Women's 100m Breaststroke SB6 event. She became the youngest Hong Kong, China athlete to win a medal at the Paralympic Games.



Photos courtesy of China Hong Kong Paralympic Committee

## Kai Tak Sports Park

- > Kai Tak Sports Park will provide modern and multi-purpose sports and recreation facilities, including a 50,000-seat Main Stadium, a 10,000-seat Indoor Sports Centre, a 5,000-seat Public Sports Ground and about 14 hectares of landscaped open space and other ancillary facilities. Upon its opening in early 2025, Kai Tak Sports Park will become one of the major venues for hosting mega sports and entertainment events in Hong Kong, including some of the events of the 15th National Games in 2025.



Photos courtesy of the Kai Tak Sports Park Limited



# HONG KONG IS...

**#SECURE**

Governance & Law |  
Safety & Security



# #SECURE

The rule of law, a clean government, a level playing field for business and disciplinary forces reputed to be among Asia's finest combine to create a stable and safe environment for people to live, work and enjoy life.

- > Hong Kong, using the name "Hong Kong, China", participates as a separate member in various international organisations, conferences and events, such as:
  - World Trade Organization
  - Asia-Pacific Economic Co-operation
  - World Customs Organization
  - International sports events such as the Olympics



## The Basic Law - The constitutional document of Hong Kong

Enacted in accordance with the Constitution of the People's Republic of China (PRC), the Basic Law prescribes the systems to be practised in the HKSAR, to ensure the implementation of the basic policies of the PRC regarding Hong Kong, and safeguards the fundamental rights and freedoms of residents.

## A Special Administrative Region under "one country, two systems"

- > Hong Kong exercises a high degree of autonomy and enjoys executive, legislative and independent judicial power, including that of final adjudication.
- > Capitalist system and way of life shall remain unchanged.
- > Laws previously in force shall be maintained, except for any that contravene the Basic Law.



## Laws on safeguarding national security in Hong Kong - The Law of the People's Republic of China on Safeguarding National Security in the HKSAR (NSL) and the Safeguarding National Security Ordinance (SNSO)

The NSL and the SNSO are historical steps to improve the system for Hong Kong to safeguard our country's sovereignty, unity, territorial integrity, security and development interests. It sets out a clear direction for the principle of "one country, two systems" to maintain the stability and prosperity of Hong Kong.

The laws on safeguarding national security in Hong Kong aim to prevent, suppress and impose punishment for acts and activities endangering national security.

The NSL stipulates the following offences:

- Secession
- Subversion
- Organisation and perpetration of terrorist activities
- Collusion with a foreign country or with external elements to endanger national security

The SNSO stipulates the following offences:

- Treason
- Insurrection, Incitement to Mutiny and Disaffection, and Acts with Seditious Intention
- Offences in connection with State Secrets and Espionage
- Sabotage Endangering National Security
- External Interference Endangering National Security and Organizations Engaging in Activities Endangering National Security

The NSL and the SNSO protect the rights and freedoms enjoyed by Hong Kong residents under the Basic Law and the provisions of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.



## The Rule of Law – Hong Kong’s core value

- > Hong Kong’s commitment to the rule of law and independent judicial power is key to its prosperity and stability. Under the Basic Law, the HKSAR is vested with independent judicial power, including final adjudication, and the courts shall exercise such power free from any interference.
- > All judges are appointed by the Chief Executive based on recommendations from an independent commission of local judges, legal professionals and eminent persons from other sectors. Judges are chosen on the basis of their judicial and professional qualities and may be recruited from other common law jurisdictions. The Court of Final Appeal may call on esteemed judges from other common law jurisdictions to hear final appeals.
- > In exercising their judicial powers, all judges are constitutionally required to handle cases strictly in accordance with the law and legal principles.



## Global legal hub

- > Hong Kong is an internationally respected **legal and dispute resolution services centre**.
- > Effective **protection of property rights**, including intellectual property rights.
- > **Arbitral awards** made in Hong Kong enforceable in over 170 Contracting States to the New York Convention, Mainland China and Macao under reciprocal enforcement arrangements.
- > Hong Kong ranks the **3rd most preferred seat for arbitration globally** according to the 2021 International Arbitration Survey by Queen Mary University of London.



## International dispute resolution centre

- > The Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre handled a total of 500 **new dispute resolution cases** in 2023. The total amount in dispute in all arbitration cases was **US\$12.5 billion**.
- > Since the Arrangement Concerning Mutual Assistance in Court-ordered Interim Measures in Aid of Arbitral Proceedings by the Courts of the Mainland and the HKSAR came into force in October 2019, the PRC courts have made orders preserving assets totalling over **RMB15.8 billion (approximately US\$2.2 billion)** as of the end of 2023.
- > Mediation mechanism established under the Mainland and Hong Kong Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement (CEPA) to resolve investment disputes between the two places. Hong Kong and the Mainland respectively designate their own mediation institutions and mediators for the resolution of investment disputes and publish the list of mediation institutions and mediators mutually agreed by both sides.

- > **Greater Bay Area (GBA) Mediation Platform in Hong Kong, Macao and Guangdong** promulgating unified accreditation standards and code of conduct best practice for GBA mediators, as well as the GBA Cross-boundary Disputes Mediation Model Rules. The Working Group on the GBA Mediation Platform further promulgated the local accreditation rules for accreditation of GBA mediators of the 3 places in March 2024.
- > The negotiations of the Convention on the Establishment of the **International Organization for Mediation (IOMed)** concluded in Hong Kong in October 2024. IOMed will be the world's first intergovernmental international organisation dedicated to resolving international disputes through mediation by providing friendly, flexible, economical and efficient mediation services. The signing ceremony of the Convention will be held in Hong Kong in 2025, and upon its entry into force the IOMed Headquarters will be set up in Hong Kong, thereby building the city as the capital for international mediation.

## Deep pool of legal talents

Hong Kong's strong legal infrastructure is supported by a deep pool of local and international legal talents with expertise in a wide variety of legal areas and jurisdictions around the world. There are:

About **11,630**  
practising solicitors



**1,454** registered  
foreign lawyers  
from 32 jurisdictions



About **1,700**  
practising barristers



**77** registered  
foreign law firms



Note: Figures as at September, 2024

## Safe city

Hong Kong has one of the world's lowest overall crime rates.

- > 2023 overall crime rate (crimes per 100,000 population) – 1,198
- > **World No.9** for **order and security** (World Justice Project: The Rule of Law Index 2024)



## Least corrupt

International surveys consistently rate Hong Kong as one of the “least corrupt” places in the world.

- > **World No.10** for **absence of corruption** (World Justice Project: The Rule of Law Index 2024).
- > **The 4th globally and the 1st in Asia-Pacific region** for the criteria “**Bribery and corruption do not exist**” under the factor “Government Efficiency” (International Institute for Management Development: World Competitiveness Yearbook 2024).

# HONG KONG IS...



## #DIVERSE

Multicultural Society |  
Urban Architecture & Heritage |  
Nature

# #DIVERSE



## Social harmony

Hong Kong society is characterised by cultural diversity. Ethnic minorities live in harmony in Hong Kong. Government policies facilitate their integration into the community while helping preserve their cultures.

## Culinary paradise

An exotic fusion of Eastern and Western flavours, Hong Kong's cuisine features a variety of creative culinary delights with local flavours.

- > **79 Hong Kong restaurants with Michelin stars** comprise high-end restaurants and inexpensive street food stalls (2024 edition of Michelin Guide Hong Kong and Macao).



## Theme parks

- > **Ocean Park Hong Kong (Ocean Park)**, situated on the southern side of Hong Kong Island, is a tourist attraction encompassing recreation, education and conservation. Ocean Park is home to 6 giant pandas as well as other precious terrestrial and marine animals, and its offerings also include thrill rides, shows and an indoor and outdoor Water World, etc. Together with the Hong Kong Ocean Park Marriott Hotel and the Fullerton Ocean Park Hotel, Ocean Park is an iconic resort and leisure destination in Hong Kong.



Photos courtesy of Ocean Park

- > **Hong Kong Disneyland Resort**, located at the north-eastern part of the enchanting island of Lantau, comprises Disneyland and 3 distinctive resort hotels. Billed as one of the finest Disney theme parks in Asia since its opening in 2005, Hong Kong Disneyland unveiled the world's first and largest World of Frozen in November 2023.



## “Ding-Ding”

Founded in 1904, the electric double deck trams, affectionately called “ding-ding”, run on 13km of double track along the northern shore of Hong Kong Island, and about 3km of single track around Happy Valley. Passengers take in all the views along the way, which reflect how new and old urban developments co-exist, in a much slower pace.



## Peak Tram

In service **since 1888**, it is one of the most famous funicular railways in the world. Running from Central up to Victoria Peak, the highest spot on Hong Kong Island, from where you can enjoy a beautiful vista of the city on both sides of Victoria Harbour.



## Ngong Ping 360

As Asia’s longest bi-cable aerial ride - a **5.7km** journey, it takes passengers from Tung Chung to Ngong Ping Village on the highlands of Lantau where the **Big Buddha** sits serenely, taking in stunning views of Hong Kong’s largest island (Lantau Island) and the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge.



## Star Ferry

In service **since 1880**, the fleet ranks first in a poll of the world’s “most exciting and scenic” ferry rides by the Society of American Travel Writers.



There are 136 declared monuments in Hong Kong (October 2024). Many heritage trails offer a glimpse into Hong Kong’s unique past. The city has received 22 UNESCO Asia-Pacific Awards for Cultural Heritage Conservation.

## Monuments in Central District

- > **The Exterior of the Old Supreme Court** (built in 1912) – now Court of Final Appeal Building
- > **St John’s Cathedral** (built in 1847-1849)
- > **Flagstaff House** (built in 1844-1846) – now Flagstaff House Museum of Tea Ware
- > **The Cenotaph** (built in 1923) – a memorial for those who served and died in the two World Wars
- > **Jamia Mosque** (built in 1915-1916) (pictured)



## Tai Kwun in Central

- > The **revitalised Central Police Station compound**, Tai Kwun – Centre for Heritage and Arts, has become a cultural hub on Hong Kong Island.
- > The 13,600m<sup>2</sup> complex, built in the mid-19th century, has 16 heritage buildings, including the former Central Police Station, Central Magistracy and Victoria Prison.
- > Won the **top Award of Excellence** in the **UNESCO Asia-Pacific Awards for Cultural Heritage Conservation (2019)**.





Hong Kong is packed with astonishing diversity of nature – mountains, wetlands, beaches, spectacular rock formations, scenic country parks, rural villages, farming areas, and marshlands rich in flora and fauna.

## Country and marine parks

- About 40% of the land area of Hong Kong is designated as country parks and special areas.
- **25 country parks** and **22 special areas** dedicated to conservation, education and recreation.
- **8 marine parks** and **1 marine reserve**.
- The 25th country park, Robin's Nest Country Park was established on March 1, 2024.
- The 8th marine park, North Lantau Marine Park, was established on November 1, 2024.



## Amazing geopark

- **Hong Kong UNESCO Global Geopark** features world-class hexagonal rock columns and diverse spectacular landforms.
- Visitors can explore the fascinating story of our planet, from the **Devonian Period 400 million years ago**, traversing the **Jurassic and Cretaceous Periods** when dinosaurs roamed the earth, to the Ice Age and the era when the climate turned warm.



## Rich biodiversity and rare species

- Hong Kong provides important habitats for rare species, such as Spoon-billed Sandpiper and the endemic Bogadek's Burrowing Lizard.
- Species first discovered here and named after the city include the Hong Kong Camellia, Hong Kong Balsam and Hong Kong Newt.
- Globally threatened species found here include Romer's Tree Frog, Three-banded Box Turtle, Chinese Pangolin, Chinese White Dolphin and Indo-Pacific Finless Porpoise.



*Photos courtesy of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department*

## The great outdoors

- **The MacLehose Trail** – 100km trail running east-west across mountains, valleys and beaches in the New Territories (Listed on National Geographic's "World's Best Hikes: 20 Dream Trails").
- **Dragon's Back** on Hong Kong Island – voted Asia's "Best Urban Hike" by Time (Asia) magazine.



# HONG KONG IS...

## #CONNECTED

Infrastructure & Transport |  
Air, Sea & Land Traffic Hub |  
Gateway to Mainland China |  
Caring for Global Citizens



# #CONNECTED



Strategically located in the Asia-Pacific region, Hong Kong is well-connected to the rest of the world. Within a four-hour flight from Asia's key markets and a five-hour flight from half the world's population, the city is an international centre for finance, trade, shipping and aviation.

## Hong Kong International Airport (HKIA)

The Three-Runway System at the Hong Kong International Airport commenced operation in November 2024, which will raise HKIA's passenger and cargo handling capacities significantly. The development, together with development projects on the Airport Island, the Hong Kong Port Island of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge and the adjacent waterbodies, will transform HKIA into a world-leading Airport City.



## Regional hub port

- > One of the world's busiest and most efficient container ports.
- > Hong Kong Shipping Register ranks **No.4** in the world in terms of gross tonnage.
- > Ranked **No.4** globally in Xinhua-Baltic International Shipping Centre Development Index for 5 consecutive years from 2020 to 2024.
- > Over 300 international container liner services per week connecting to nearly 500 destinations worldwide (2023).
- > Marine cargo movements with some 100 countries under the Belt and Road Initiative.
- > **Over 14.4 million TEUs** handled in 2023.



Hong Kong's prime location at the estuary of the Pearl River Delta makes it the natural gateway to Mainland China. The city's connections extend beyond infrastructure to language, culture and information. Hong Kong is an ideal gateway for companies seeking to access Mainland China markets and for Mainland companies reaching out to the world.

## Belt and Road Initiative (B&RI)

The B&RI promotes co-operation in multiple fields among more than 150 countries and regions by orienting towards "hard connectivity" in infrastructure, bolstering "soft connectivity" through harmonised rules and standards, and strengthening people-to-people bonds.



## Key Fields



Hong Kong plays a unique role as the functional platform and a key link for the B&R, leveraging our distinct advantages to provide **two-way connections** to the Mainland and B&R regions, including international project financing, professional services support, economic and trade co-operation, and cultural exchange.

## Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (GBA)

- > 9 cities in Guangdong Province plus the 2 Special Administrative Regions of Hong Kong and Macao
- > Population: about 87 million
- > GDP: about US\$2 trillion (2023)



Hong Kong can help companies capture the opportunities in the GBA:

- > Unique dual advantages under "**one country, two systems**".
- > An **international gateway** helping Mainland enterprises expand their reach to overseas markets and bringing in foreign investment.
- > Strong policy support for **start-ups** and **talents**.

## The National 14th Five-Year Plan

The National 14th Five-Year Plan sets out the blueprint and action agenda for national development from 2021 to 2025 and establishes a clear positioning and direction for Hong Kong's economic development, including support for Hong Kong to enhance, consolidate and develop its "centre" status in 8 traditional and emerging sectors:

- > Consolidate Hong Kong's competitive edge by enhancing **4 "traditional centres"** – international finance, transportation, trade, and legal and dispute resolution services in the Asia-Pacific region.
- > Develop new advantages for Hong Kong by establishing **4 "emerging centres"** – international aviation, international innovation and technology, regional intellectual property trading, and East-meets-West centre for international cultural exchange.



## Disaster Relief Aid Outside Hong Kong

Caring for global citizens - Responding swiftly to international appeals for humanitarian aid in relief of disasters, the Hong Kong Disaster Relief Fund, since setting up in 1993, has made grants totalling of HK\$2,453 million (US\$313.3 million) for relief organisations and governments/authorities across various regions in Asia, Africa, Europe, Latin America and Oceania (as at September 2024). A fast-track mechanism has also been in place for funding projects that provide immediate food and water supplies to victims at the initial stage of a disaster.





**LEGEND**

- Railway
- Major Road
- Hiking Trail
- Geopark Attraction
- Geopark Visitor Centre
- Hong Kong UNESCO Global Geopark
- Country Parks & Special Areas



SOUTH CHINA SEA

## Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government

www.gov.hk

- Information Services Department  
Tel.: (852) 2842 8777  
E-mail: internet@isd.gov.hk  
www.isd.gov.hk
- Brand Hong Kong Management Unit  
Tel.: (852) 2842 8849  
E-mail: brandhk@isd.gov.hk  
www.brandhk.gov.hk

## Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices (HKETOs)

### Mainland

- Chengdu  
Tel.: (86 28) 8208 6660  
E-mail: general@cdeto.gov.hk  
www.cdeto.gov.hk
- Guangdong  
Tel.: (86 20) 3891 1220  
E-mail: general@gdeto.gov.hk  
www.gdeto.gov.hk
- Shanghai  
Tel.: (86 21) 6351 2233  
E-mail: enquiry@sheto.gov.hk  
www.sheto.gov.hk
- Wuhan  
Tel.: (86 27) 6560 7300  
E-mail: enquiry@wheto.gov.hk  
www.wheto.gov.hk

### Asia Pacific

- Bangkok  
Tel.: (66) 2059 4660  
E-mail: general@hketobangkok.gov.hk  
www.hketobangkok.gov.hk
- Jakarta  
Tel.: (62) 21 8086 9730  
E-mail: hketto\_jkt@hketojakarta.gov.hk  
www.hketojakarta.gov.hk
- Singapore  
Tel.: (65) 6338 1771  
E-mail: hketto\_sin@hketosin.gov.hk  
www.hketosin.gov.hk
- Sydney  
Tel.: (61) 2 9283 3222  
E-mail: enquiry@hketosydney.gov.hk  
www.hketosydney.gov.hk
- Tokyo  
Tel.: (81) 3 3556 8980  
E-mail: tokyo\_enquiry@hketotyo.gov.hk  
www.hketotyo.gov.hk

## The Office of the HKSAR Government in Beijing

Tel.: (86 10) 6657 2880  
E-mail: bjohksar@bjo-hksarg.org.cn  
www.bjo.gov.hk

### Europe

- Berlin  
Tel.: 49 (0) 30 22 66 77 228  
E-mail: general@hketoberlin.gov.hk  
www.hketoberlin.gov.hk
- Brussels  
Tel.: (32) 2 775 0088  
E-mail: general@hongkong-eu.org  
www.hongkong-eu.org
- Geneva  
Tel.: (41) 22 730 1300  
E-mail: hketto@hketogeneva.gov.hk  
www.hketogeneva.gov.hk
- London  
Tel.: (44) 20 7499 9821  
E-mail: general@hketolondon.gov.hk  
www.hketolondon.gov.hk

### Middle East

- Dubai  
Tel.: (971) 4 453 3800  
E-mail: enquiry@hketodubai.gov.hk  
www.hketodubai.gov.hk

### North America

- New York  
Tel.: (1) 212 752 3320  
E-mail: hketony@hketony.gov.hk  
www.hketony.gov.hk
- San Francisco  
Tel.: (1) 415 835 9300  
E-mail: hketosf@hketosf.gov.hk  
www.hketosf.gov.hk
- Washington  
Tel.: (1) 202 331 8947  
E-mail: hketow@hketowashington.gov.hk  
www.hketowashington.gov.hk
- Toronto  
Tel.: (1) 416 924 5544  
E-mail: info@hketotoronto.gov.hk  
www.hketotoronto.gov.hk

## Hong Kong Economic, Trade and Cultural Office (Taiwan)

**(Temporary suspension of operations)**

# HONG KONG

## Facts and Figures 2023

### Population

Total: 7.54 million  
Median age: 47.4

Gender ratio:  
838 males per 1,000 females

Life expectancy:  
Men 82.5 years    Women 88.1 years



### Weather

Coldest month: January  
(mean temperature 17.0 °C)

Hottest month: July  
(mean temperature 30.1 °C)

Annual total rainfall: 2,774.5mm



### Electricity supply

AC 220V

Plug type: British three-pin



### Useful telephone numbers

Emergency: 999

Directory enquiries (Chinese): 1083

Directory enquiries (English): 1081



### Economy

GDP  
(at current market prices):  
US\$380.8 billion

GDP per capita  
(at current market prices): US\$50,535

Exchange rate:  
US\$1 = HK\$7.829 (average in 2023)



### Time zone

GMT + 8 hours



### Important dates

National Day: October 1

Hong Kong SAR

Establishment Day: July 1



### Land area

Total: 1,114.57 km<sup>2</sup>

Total urban or built-up area:  
about 26%

Country parks and special areas:  
about 40%



### Religions

Buddhism, Catholicism,  
Christianity, Confucianism,  
Hinduism, Islam, Judaism,  
Sikhism, and Taoism etc.



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### Related Organisations:

Invest Hong Kong

Tel: (852) 3107 1000

E-mail: [enq@investhk.gov.hk](mailto:enq@investhk.gov.hk)  
[www.investhk.gov.hk](http://www.investhk.gov.hk)

Hong Kong Talent Engage

Tel: (852) 2810 2300

E-mail: [enquiry@hkengage.gov.hk](mailto:enquiry@hkengage.gov.hk)  
[www.hkengage.gov.hk](http://www.hkengage.gov.hk)

Office for Attracting Strategic Enterprises

Tel: (852) 3870 2400

E-mail: [enq@oases.gov.hk](mailto:enq@oases.gov.hk)  
[www.oases.gov.hk](http://www.oases.gov.hk)

Hong Kong Tourism Board

Tel: (852) 2508 1234

E-mail: [info@hktb.com](mailto:info@hktb.com)  
[www.discoverhongkong.com](http://www.discoverhongkong.com)

Hong Kong Trade Development Council

Tel: (852) 1830 668

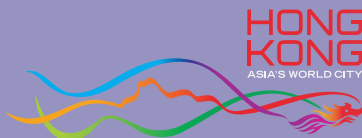
E-mail: [hktdc@hktdc.org](mailto:hktdc@hktdc.org)  
[www.hktdc.com](http://www.hktdc.com)

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