

# Hong Kong Off the Beaten Track

Paul Pacter  
Collier County Library

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## HK Off the Beaten Track Today's agenda (as time allows)

- HK Museum of History
- “Big Buddha” – Polin Monastery
- Tai O – Stilt Houses
- Political Activism in HK
- Teaware Museum
- Christianity in HK
- Synagogues in HK
- Museum of Chinese Medicine
- Dr Sun Yat Sen Museum

## CHURCHES

### CHRISTIANS IN HONG KONG:

#### HK Baptist University survey estimates:

- Protestants: 16% of population identify themselves as Protestants.
- Catholics: 7% of population identify themselves as Catholics.
- So combined, about 23% of HK people identify themselves as Christians.

#### Government estimates much lower:

- Buddhism, Taoism: 83%
- Protestant: 7%
- Catholic 6%
- Islam: 4%
- Hindu, Sikh: Under 1%

Government estimates are lower because they focus only on regular attenders for worship as opposed to how people identify themselves.

#### Many Christian Churches in HK:

##### Roman Catholic Churches:

- HK Island: 22
- Kowloon: 33
- New Territories: 39

##### Anglican Churches: 52

##### Other Protestant Denominations:

- My guess would be several hundred churches

#### Many Christian churches in HK.

##### Two of special interest to visitors:

- Catholic: Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception
- Protestant: Cathedral Church of Saint John the Evangelist (largest Anglican church in Asia)

Both on HK Island in Central.

#### St John's Cathedral (Anglican)

- Opened March 1849.
- Second oldest western building in HK.
- 1941-1945 Japanese converted the Cathedral into a club. Original fittings destroyed, including Victorian English stained glass.
- The only freehold land in Hong Kong (1930 Ordinance). All other land is leasehold (from government).





**St John's Cathedral (Anglican)  
1849**



**St John's Cathedral (Anglican)  
Central next to US Consulate and  
Peak Tram**



**St John's Cathedral (Anglican)  
1849**



**St John's Cathedral (Anglican)  
1849**

**Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception (Catholic)**

- English Gothic Revival style.
- Opened 1888.
- During WW2, Japanese treated the Cathedral as being under the sovereignty of the Kingdom of Italy, with whom they were not at war. Left the Cathedral alone.

**Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception (continued)**

- A lock of Pope John Paul II's hair is kept as a relic in Bishops' Crypt. He wanted to visit HK but never did due to tensions between China and Holy See.
- Hong Kong is only city on Chinese soil to house a relic of John Paul II.



**Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception  
Catholic, 1888  
Caine Road  
Midlevels**



**Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception**





Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception



Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception

**聖母無原罪主教座堂**  
CATHEDRAL OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

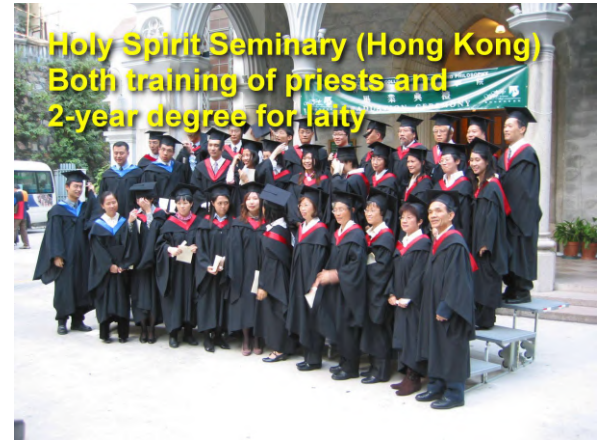
彌撒時間表 (Mass Timetable)

主日彌撒 (Sunday Mass)	8:00am (中文) 9:30am (English) 11:00am (中文) 6:00pm (中文)
拜五主日彌撒 (星期六) (Antiphonal Sunday Mass (Saturday) (In Cantonese))	6:00pm (中文)
平日彌撒 (Weekday Mass (In Cantonese))	7:00am (中文) 7:45am (中文) 6:00pm (中文)

聖堂開放時間：星期一至星期六 6:30am-7:30pm  
星期日 7:00am-7:30pm

聖堂地址：香港半山區堅道 16 號  
Address : 16 Caine Road, Hong Kong

電話 Tel : (852) 2122 8112 傳真 Fax : (852) 2522 7997  
網址 Homepage : <http://www.catholic.hk/catholic.org.hk>  
電郵 E-mail : [office@dioc.catholic.org.hk](mailto:office@dioc.catholic.org.hk)



Holy Spirit Seminary (Hong Kong)  
Both training of priests and 2-year degree for laity

**Rift Between Vatican and Beijing**  
In China, since 1949, Catholics can only legally attend state-sanctioned churches not overseen by the Vatican, with bishops appointed by Beijing, not the Pope.  
It's different in Hong Kong and Macau, where the Catholic Church is loyal to the Vatican.  
**Estimated 12,000,000 Catholics in China.**

**Rift Between Vatican and Beijing (2)**  
Until just recently Beijing appointed bishops that Rome opposes, while an estimated 20 to 40 underground bishops appointed by Vatican operate without Chinese government approval. The Catholic Church has actually excommunicated some unauthorised bishops. Priests not approved by the government were sometimes arrested.

**Rift Between Vatican and Beijing (3)**  
But recently the Holy See struck a "deal" with the Chinese government.  
Under the deal in February 2018, the Holy See agreed to recognise bishops appointed by the Chinese government. Vatican agreed to ask some bishops it had appointed to step down to be replaced by people selected by the Chinese government.

**Rift Between Vatican and Beijing (4)**  
Retired Hong Cardinal Joseph Zen (86) flew to Rome January 2018 and met with the Pope to protest replacement of a Vatican-appointed bishop with a government-appointed one who had been excommunicated by the Vatican. Zen wrote in Facebook that the Pope was unaware of the forced replacement. But the Vatican publicly responded that the Pope was "fully informed."



**Rift Between Vatican and Beijing**  
**Financial Times**  
**Jan 30, 2018**  
**"Vatican accused of 'selling out' Catholic Church to China".**  
**Interview with HK Cardinal Joseph Zen.**

Vatican accused of 'selling out' Catholic Church to China

Former HK cardinal says Holy See ordered two bishops to make way for Beijing's choices



Cardinal Joseph Zen. Zen accuses the Vatican of selling out the Catholic Church in China. See @ AFP

Larry Henry in Beijing and James Pulte in Rome. JANUARY 30, 2018

One of Asia's most senior Catholic leaders has accused the Vatican of "selling out" the Church by pursuing a rapprochement with Beijing while the Chinese government cracks down on religious freedom.

Cardinal Joseph Zen, the outspoken 86-year-old former bishop of Hong Kong, hand-delivered protests from two Chinese bishops to Pope Francis earlier this month after a Vatican delegation ordered them to make way for replacements picked by Beijing.

**Rift Between Vatican and Beijing (6)**

The New York Times

Vatican, Eager for China Ties, Asks 'Underground' Bishops to Step Aside

By IAN JOHNSON JAN. 25, 2018

Vatican Finally Capitulates to Beijing, Demands Bishops Step Down for Communist-Appointed Replacements

Steve Slejce January 23, 2018 118 Comments

A new report out of China yesterday indicates that the Vatican has now, for a second time, asked a legitimate bishop to step down and give his episcopal see to a Communist government appointed bishop who was excommunicated in 2011 after being illicitly consecrated without a papal mandate.

**January 2018 headlines**

**Vatican chides Hong Kong cardinal over China disclosures**

BY NICOLE WINFIELD, ASSOCIATED PRESS

VATICAN CITY — Jan. 30, 2018, 1:24 PM ET

**DEMOCRACY  
 ACTIVISM**

**POLITICAL ACTIVISM IN HK**

**Four recent examples:**

- Annual pro-democracy candlelight vigil in Victoria Park.
- 2012 student protests against forced "national education" in schools.
- 2014 Umbrella Revolution about election of the Chief Executive.
- 2016 disqualifications of 6 elected HK Legislators.

**Annual June 4 Vigil in Victoria Park**  
**In 1989, several thousand students**  
**protested in Tiananmen Square Beijing:**

- Seeking democracy in China.
  - Supporting a market economy.
  - Opposing one-party rule.
- On June 4, 1989, China's army attacked.**
- China term: June Fourth Incident.
  - AKA: 1989 Democracy Movement.
  - AKA: Tiananmen Square Massacre.

**Army used troops with batons,**  
**automatic rifles, and tanks.**

- Estimated 250,000 troops in Beijing.
- Wikipedia: "The number of civilian deaths has been estimated variously from 180 to 10,454"**
- Chinese government was widely condemned internationally for the use of force against the protestors.

**Democracy Vigil in Victoria Park**  
**Annually on June 4 -- anniversary**  
**of Tiananmen Square Massacre**



**Democracy Vigil - Victoria Park**





## 2012 student protests against forced "national education" in schools:

### 10 day siege of government headquarters in HK:

- Against a new requirement urged by Beijing for all schools to teach "national education".
- Protesters said this was Communist brainwashing of Hong Kong students.

## Led by 15-year old high school student Joshua Wong

- 100,000 protestors.
- Demonstrations continued 10 days.
- After 10 days government made a "U-Turn" and withdrew the requirement to teach "national education".



## 2014 Umbrella Revolution Sept to Dec 2014.

### Led by 17-year-old Joshua Wong.

- Started because China government adopted a requirement that all candidates for chief executive must be approved by China.
- And still only about 1,200 people out of Hong Kong's 7 million would be eligible to vote anyway.

## Students argued that the "Basic Law" (Handover Agreement):

- Gives local government control over elections.
- Provides for universal suffrage.

- Student strike.
- "Occupy Central" – 100,000 protestors.
- Key areas in Central and elsewhere remained closed 77 days.
- Many police. Some violence, some injuries including journalists.
- Triads roughed up students.
- Lawsuits by taxi union, bus companies, others affected.







## So what was the outcome?

- Police used pepper spray.
  - Police used force to clear out protestors.
  - Protests ended December 2014.
- 3 student leaders and 19 other protestors were sentenced to six to 13 months' imprisonment for unlawful assembly and incitement.**

## Disqualification of elected LEGCO members 2016-2017

LEGCO is Hong Kong's Legislature.

**70 Members, including:**

- 35 from geographical areas.
- 35 from "functional constituencies" such as health, catering, insurance, real estate, agriculture, tourism, labour, accountancy, legal, textiles.

**Although this is an over-simplification:**

- Functional constituency members tend to be pro-Beijing.
- Some geographically elected members are pro-Beijing. Others are more pro-autonomy or pro-democracy.

**In 2017, 6 of the 70 members of the Legislative Council of HK were disqualified for not saying the right words in taking their oaths of office.**

**At the time of the oath-taking, another 9 elected legislators also changed the content of their oaths. They have not been disqualified.**

**All 15 are, in various ways, either pro-democracy advocates or support greater independence from China.**

- The disqualifications have been upheld by the Courts.

**That's the situation at the moment. More likely to come.**



## Joshua Wong got a 6-month sentence for his role in two demonstrations

As a result he has been declared ineligible to run in local elections for 5 years.

Joshua Wong seeks to change Hong Kong laws that ban former convicts from elections for five years

Under current law, a person is disqualified from being candidate for five years once he or she is sentenced to prison for longer than three months

PUBLISHED: Tuesday, 14 November 2017, 4:57pm  
UPDATED: Sunday, 14 November 2017, 11:05am



### *Follow-up:*

**4 of the 6 disqualified seats were up for special election 11 March 2018.**

- Democracy activists kept only 2 of the 4 seats.
- Pro-establishment candidates won the other 2.

***Regarded as a major defeat for the democracy movement.***

## HONG KONG HISTORY MUSEUM

Hong Kong Museum of History



### Hong Kong Museum of History

100 Chatham Road South  
Tsim Sha Tsui, Kowloon, Hong Kong  
(next to Hong Kong Science Museum)  
Daily except Tuesdays

Eight permanent galleries on two levels  
Plus special exhibition gallery

**Comment: their special exhibitions are consistently outstanding!**

### Hong Kong Museum of History Branch Museums:

- Museum of Coastal Defence
  - In Lei Yue Mun Fort, Shau Kei Wan
- Lei Cheng Uk Han Tomb Museum
  - Sham Shui Po
- Dr Sun Yat Sen Museum
  - Central (Mid-levels)
- Law Uk folk Museum – Chai Wan
- Fireboat Alexander Grantham
  - Quarry Bay

### Hong Kong Museum of History

Eight Permanent Galleries:

1. The Natural Environment
2. Prehistoric Hong Kong
3. The Dynasties: From Han to Qing
4. Folk Culture in HK
5. Opium Wars and the Cession of HK
6. Birth and Early Growth of the City
7. The Japanese Occupation
8. The Modern Metropolis and Return to China

### History Museum Theatre Presentations

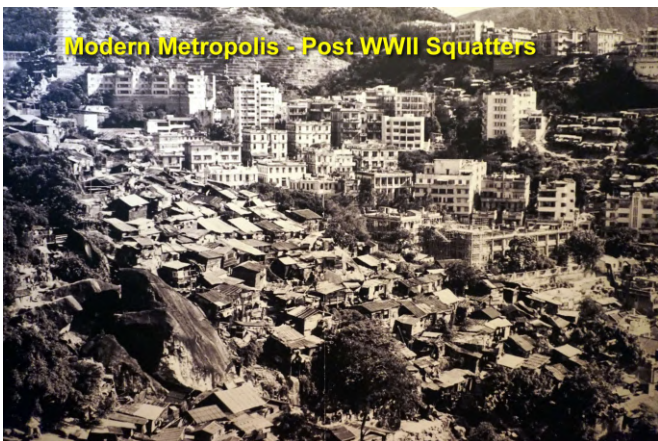
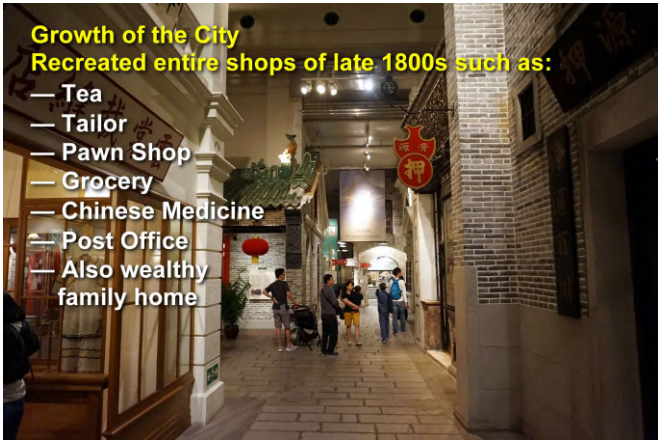
- Evolution of HK Landscape
- Folk Culture
- The Opium Wars
- The Japanese Occupation
- Natural Disasters
- Transportation
- Leisure and Entertainment
- Handover 1997

**No charge. Multi-lingual. Sit and watch.**













# PO LIN MONASTERY

**BIG BUDDHA**

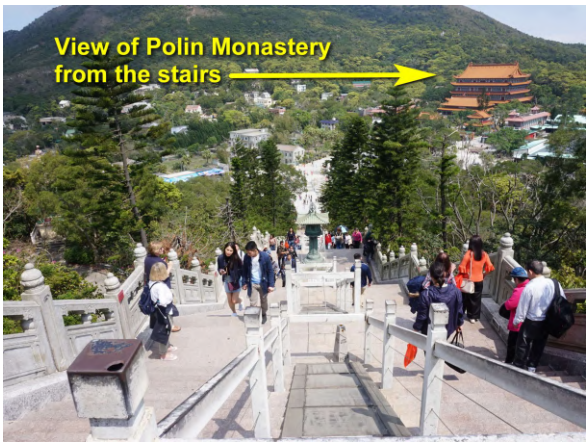
- Mountaintop on Lantau Island called Ngong Ping.
- Monastery at Big Buddha called Polin.
- Statue called Tian Tan.

**Three ways to get there:**

- MTR to Tung Chung. Then cable car (called Ngong Ping 360).
- Ferry from Central Pier #6 to Mui Wo. Then bus #2 to Ngong Ping. Or taxi.
- MTR to Tung Chung. Then bus #23 to Ngong Ping.







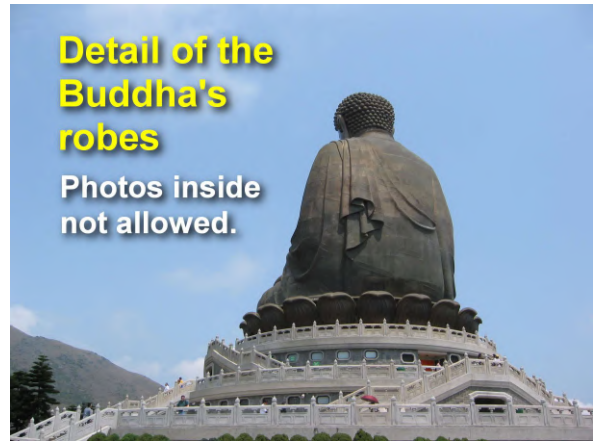


**Inside the Buddha, climb stairs to his head, where there is a Buddha Relic (cremation ash).**

- Small donation required.
- Relic is tiny and under a glass, so be trusting.

**Detail of the Buddha's robes**

Photos inside not allowed.



**Then head down the stairs to Polin Monastery. Cafe and restaurant are there as well.**



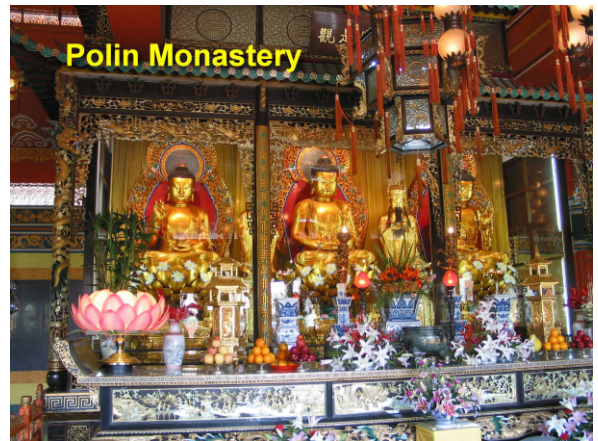
**Polin Monastery**



**Polin Monastery**



**Polin Monastery**

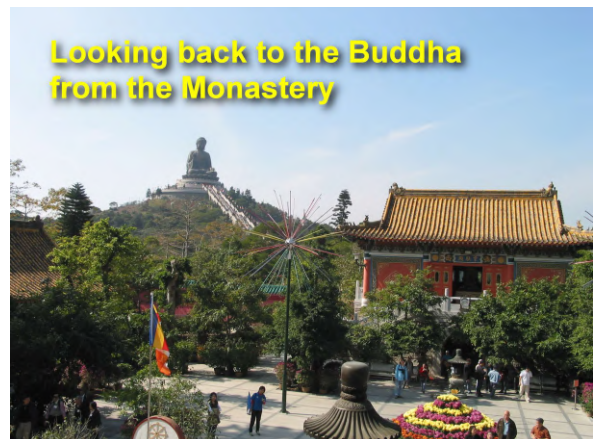


**Polin Monastery Courtyard**

**Food area**



**Looking back to the Buddha from the Monastery**





**Suggestion: Take Bus #21 from Ngong Ping to Tai O. Spend several hours exploring Tai O. Then either:**

- Take Bus #1 to Mui Wo, where you get ferry to Central HK.
- Take Bus #11 Tai O to Tung Chung, then train to Central HK.

## SUN YAT SEN MUSEUM

### DR SUN YAT-SEN MUSEUM

Kom Tong Hall,  
7 Castle Rd, Mid-Levels, Central  
Open daily except Thursdays  
Free admission

#### Permanent Exhibitions

- "Dr Sun Yat-sen and Modern China"
- "Hong Kong in Dr Sun Yat-sen's Time"



### Kom Tong Hall

Built 1914 by HK Businessman Ho Kom Tong.

- Remained the Ho family residence until 1960.
- Then became HQ for the Mormon Church in HK.
- 2004 turned into a museum.

**Building has been comprehensively restored to its original decorations.**

### Sun Yat Sen - 1866 to 1925

- 1879 sailed to Hawaii (then not US). Join brother. Get western education.
- 1882 graduated high school in Hawaii. Back to China (parents).
- 1883 fled to Hong Kong, converted to Christianity, studied further.
- 1888 Entered what is now Univ of Hong Kong Medical School.

- At med school he met other students who, like Sun, were troubled by how backward China was becoming.
- Sun and his friends preached the overthrow of the Qing Dynasty in China.
- Replace it with a democratic republic.
- Sun and his 3 closest friends were called the "four desperados".

### "The Four Desperados" in 1891 Sun Yat-sen





- 1892 Graduated from medical school.
- 1894 founded the Revive China Society.
- 1895 Organised first Guangzhou Uprising against Qing.
- Next 15 years Sun continued various revolutionary activities to overthrow Qing Dynasty and create democracy in China. In 1911 he formed the Kuo Min Tang (KMT) political party.

- 1911 Wuchang Uprising. Qing fell.
- Jan 1912 Revolutionaries proclaim Republic of China. Sun as President.
- March 1912 Sun stepped down as President: no army and no money.
- Warlord Yuan Shukai becomes President.
- April 1913 Sun and 80,000 followers tried to overthrow Yuan by force, but failed. Sun fled to Japan.

**Sun Yat-sen as President of the new Republic of China in 1912.**



- 1915 Warlord Yuan forms Empire of China with himself as Emperor.
- 1915 to 1921 many warring factions in China. No clear government.
- 1921 Sun set up a Military Government in Guangzhou with himself as Grand Marshal.
- Meanwhile the Communists, led by Mao Zedong were fighting those who wanted democracy.

- Mao's group wanted a socialist-communist state.
- Amid all this chaos, Sun developed liver cancer.
- Sun died in Beijing in March 1925 age 58.
- His protégé Chiang Kai Shek took over as head of KMT. Eventually driven to Taiwan by Communists.

**Sun Yat-sen is universally revered today across all of China:**

- "Father of the Nation" in the Republic of China (Taiwan)
- "Forerunner of Democratic Revolution" in the People's Republic of China.
- "Champion of Democracy" in Hong Kong.

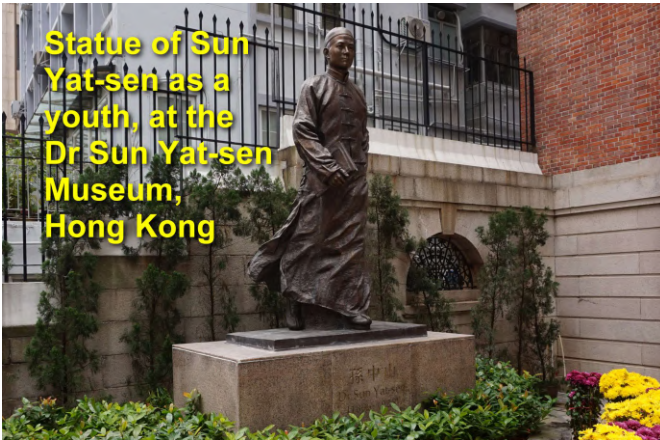
**Dr Sun Yat-sen Museum, Hong Kong**



**Dr Sun Yat-sen Museum, Hong Kong**







**There are Sun Yat Sen museums in -- at least:**

Hong Kong	Macau
Singapore	Zhongshan
Penang (ML)	Nanjing
Chicago	Guangzhou
Taipei	Shanghai

**Hard to think of any other person who has ten museums devoted solely to that person.**

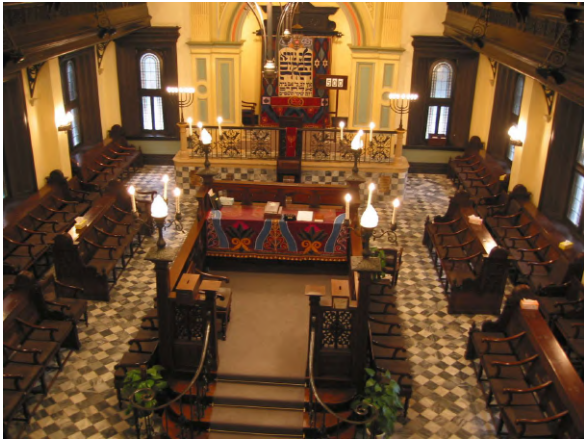
**SYNAGOGUES**

**SYNAGOGUES – JEWS IN HK**  
**Jews arrived in HK in 1850s**  
 — First synagogue 1870.  
 — Ohel Leah Synagogue 1881.  
**Today about 5,000 Jews in HK.**  
**But many are transient because of work.**

**Four congregations today**  
 — Ohel Leah - Orthodox.  
 — Chabad - Lubavitch.  
 — United Jewish Congregation - Progressive.  
 — Shuva Israel - Conservative.  
**Jewish Community Centre.**  
**Carmel Jewish School – nursery and K-12.**

**OHEL LEAH SYNAGOGUE**  
**70 Robinson Road**  
**Mid-Levels, Hong Kong**  
 — Oldest congregation in Hong Kong.  
 — Next door there is a kosher market and kosher meat and dairy restaurants.  
**Phone in advance to visit.**  
**Orthodox.**





**Tai O Harbour - where you get off the bus**

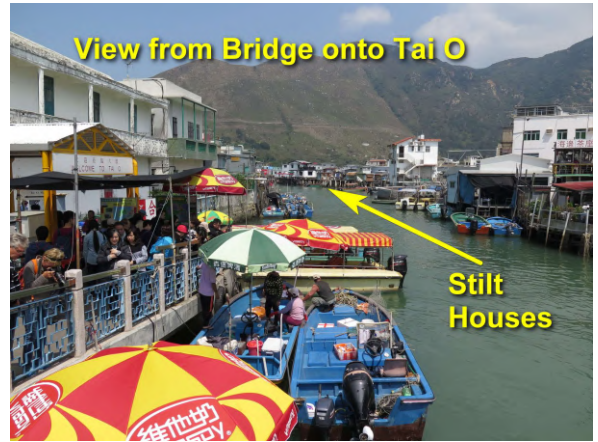
- Bus 1 from Mui Wo Ferry.
- Bus 21 from Big Buddha.
- Bus 11 from Tung Chung MTR.



**Bridge onto Tai O Island**

**Selling fresh fish**









Dried fish and shrimps (for soup)



Dried sea cucumbers  
Soak 1-2 days, then boil



Dried Scallops



Dried Fish



Dried Fish



Crabs



Orange Cuttlefish Snacks



Fresh Fish for Sale





Fresh Seafood



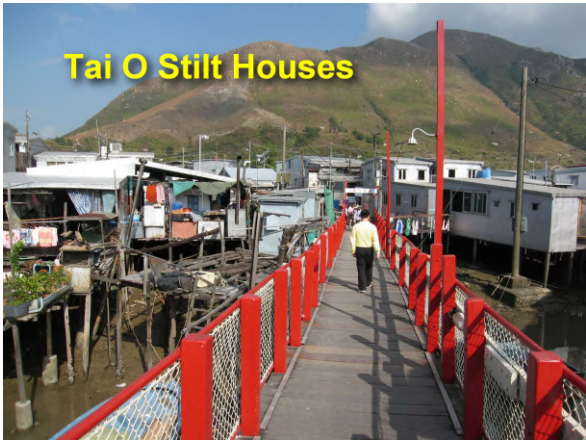
Blowfish (Pufferfish) -- TOXIC



Fish Roe



Tai O Stilt Houses



Tai O Stilt Houses



Tai O Population About 1,200

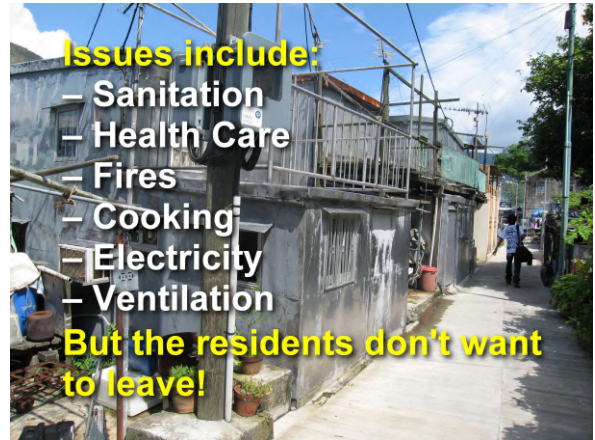


Tai O Stilt Houses



Tai O Stilt Houses









**Kwan Tai Temple, Built 1741  
Dedicated to God of War**



**Kwan Tai Temple, Tai O, Built 1741**

**Coiled incense**



**Kwan Tai Temple, Built 1741**



**"Town Hall"  
Rural Committee Office**



**Tai O Laundry**

**Squatter Huts**  
地盤上非法搭建寮屋  
**Structures illegally built** LANDS DEPARTMENT NOTICE

切勿非法蓋搭或購買寮屋 \* DO NOT BUILD OR PURCHASE SQUATTER HUTS \*

自一九八二年六月起已存在的寮屋及其用途，政府均會進行調查及登記在案。  
Squatter structures existed before June 1982, as well as their uses, were surveyed and recorded by the Government.

如屬現時改變用途或非法搭建，本署將請有關發展商，  
Change in the use or unauthorised extensions will lead to demolition of the squatter structures concerned.

III 新搭建的寮屋會即時被拆除，有關人士會被捕檢控。  
New erections of squatter structures will be demolished and offenders may be prosecuted.

IV 居民如欲修葺寮屋，宜事先與有關地區的寮屋管制辦事處接洽，以確保施工符合規定。  
Residents are advised to contact their respective Squatter Control Offices for appropriate advice on any repairs before commencement of work to ensure that the works accord with the requirements.

V 政府已於一九八四年八月推展全港寮屋居民進行登記，當進行登記時，已登記的寮屋會用作廉租屋或新發展人士是符合發展商在公共房屋內的其中一項選擇。登記須由登記表填明予住戶人，以取得政府土庫的權利。  
A territory-wide squatter occupancy survey was conducted by the Government in 1984/85 whereby the squatters were registered. Coverage by this survey is one of the eligibility criteria for public rental housing when squatters are affected by clearances. However, the survey does not confer any right to anybody for the occupation of Government land.

VI 購買寮屋並無任何法律保障，在該等寮屋者亦不會享有任何權益。因此，切勿購買寮屋。  
Purchase of squatter structures is not protected by the law nor confers any right to their occupants upon clearance. Therefore, DO NOT purchase any squatter structures.

VII 任何人士非法佔用已由政府收回的寮屋，會遭檢控及驅逐。  
Unauthorized occupation of squatter structures recovered by the Government is liable to prosecution and eviction.

VIII 如有查詢，可向有關地區的寮屋管制辦事處查詢。  
If in doubt, please contact the District Squatter Control Office.



**Yeung Hau Temple  
Built 1699 or Earlier**



**Yeung Hau Temple, 1699  
Dedicated to a deified courageous Song  
Dynasty General**



**Yeung Hau Temple**



**Song Dynasty General Hau Wong**



**Looking from Tai O to Lantau Island**



**Sea Stars Drying**



**Tai O**



**A Small Shrine in Tai O**







**From Tai O to Central Hong Kong:**

1. Bus 1 to Mui Wo, then ferry.
2. Bus 11 to Tung Chung, then train.

**Notice:**

- Different bus fare weekday and Sunday.
- Different bus fare con or not.

# HONG KONG MUSEUM OF TEA WARE

**Hong Kong Museum of Tea Ware**  
**In Flagstaff House**  
**Hong Kong Park**  
**Daily except Tuesdays 10am to 6pm**  
**Admission Free**

The first museum in the world devoted to the collection, study and display of tea ware.

**Tea:** Beverage prepared by pouring hot or boiling water over cured leaves of the *Camellia sinensis* -- evergreen bush native to Asia.

- After water, it is the most widely consumed drink in the world.
- Originated in Southwest China.
- Became popular during Chinese Tang dynasty (600s to 900s).
- Portuguese merchants brought it to Europe during the 16th century.

- During the 17th century, drinking tea became fashionable among Britons. They began commercial production in India to bypass the Chinese monopoly.

**Scented tea:** *Camellia sinensis* with flower aroma added: eg Jasmine.

**Herbal tea:** A steeped drink not made from *Camellia sinensis*: eg rosehip, chamomile, or rooibos. These are not teas. Illegal in Europe to label them tea.



## The Six Types of Tea

Scented tea (jasmine, osmanthus, etc) is not a type of tea. Any of 6 types can be scented.

White Yellow Green Oolong Black Pu'er



## Fermentation

Exposing tea leaves to humidity and oxygen from several months to many years. This causes oxidation.

- White tea and green tea not fermented.
- Yellow tea slightly fermented.
- Oolong tea partially fermented.
- Black tea and pu'er heavily fermented.

So the type of tea plant does not determine the type of tea. The manufacturing process does.

## White Tea

Made from young tea buds that are slowly dried usually in the sun but sometimes by machine. No other processing such as stirring or rolling.



## Yellow tea

Most Yellow Teas are made by covering lightly withered teas with mats to allow a small amount of oxidation to occur – usually for only three days. This leads to yellow leaves and yellow liquids after brewing. Sweeter and softer than green tea.



## Green tea

Green tea is made from cooking young tea leaves at high temperatures either in an oven or a specially made wok known as Ding. In Japan it is steamed. #1 tea produced in the world.



## Oolong Tea

Partially fermented. Leaves become red at the edges, green in the middle.

The processing method of oolong tea is most complicated compared with other five types, and the brewing method is also most exquisite.



## Black Tea

Tea liquid and tea leaves are reddish black. (Black tea is sometimes called red tea.) It is completely fermented tea.

Most black tea comes from India, Sri Lanka, and Africa, where the fermentation process is rushed by machine.



## Pu'er (Dark) Tea

Uses rough and unfresh raw material. Long time processing of piling and fermentation makes leaves dark brown.

Piling means compressing. Pu'er is made from tea varieties grown and processed only in the Mekong River area of Yunnan province, China.





**Flagstaff House  
Built 1846.  
Greek Revival.  
Oldest example of  
Western architecture  
remaining in HK.**



- Residence of British Commander.
- Occupied by Japan 1941-1945.
- Became Tea Ware Museum in 1984.



**17th Century  
Teaware**



**Teaware  
Circa 1700**



**Teaware Museum offers many videos**

沿着壺口注入沸水



**18th Century Teaware**

**Hong Kong  
Off the Beaten Track  
THE END**

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