

GUIDE TO HONG KONG



Welcome to Hong Kong!



GENERAL DATA

- Currency| Hong Kong Dollars (HKD)
- Language| Cantonese & English
- Electricity| 220V AC
- International Telephone Suffix| +852
- Time Zone| GMT+8

For more information, please visit the Hong Kong Tourism Board's website at:
<http://www.discoverhongkong.com>

ABOUT HONG KONG

Hong Kong's 1,104-square-kilometer area comprises Hong Kong Island, which lies to the south of the harbour, the Kowloon Peninsula, which forms its northern shores, the New Territories to the north of Kowloon, which stretch all the way to Mainland China, and more than 200 outlying islands, including Lantau Island, where Hong Kong International Airport is located.

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USEFUL INFORMATION

Money in Hong Kong

The legal tender in Hong Kong is the Hong Kong dollar (HKD), which is pegged to the US dollar at a rate of about 7.80 HKD to 1 USD, although exchange rates may fluctuate slightly. While coins are issued by the Government, interestingly, the issue of Hong Kong banknotes are shared between three commercial banks: HSBC, Standard Chartered Bank and Bank of China. These notes vary in design and colour according to denomination.

Banknotes used in Hong Kong includes the following: \$10 - green or purple (the purple note is issued by the Government); \$20 - dark blue or light blue; \$50 - purple or green; \$100 - red; \$500 - brown; \$1,000 - yellow

Coins used in Hong Kong includes the following: 10c - in small bronze, circular shape; 20c - in small bronze, circular shape with wavy edges, 50c - in medium bronze circular shape; \$1 - in large thin silver circular shape; \$2 - in large silver, circular shape with wavy edges; \$5 - in large thick silver, circular shape; \$10 - in medium bronze and silver, circular shape

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Electricity & Water

The standard electrical voltage in Hong Kong is 220 volts AC, 50Hz. The majority of electrical outlets in Hong Kong take a three-pronged UK-style plug.

Hong Kong tap water is soft in character and conforms to the World Health Organisation's recommended guidelines for drinking-water quality. Mineral water, including major imported brands, is readily available from supermarkets and convenience stores.

Emergency

In emergency situations, you can contact the local police, ambulance service, fire department and other emergency services by calling **999**.

If you lose your passport, make a 'lost report' at the nearest police station (call the Police Hotline 2527 7177 for locations). Then contact your consulate to have your passport replaced.

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GETTING AROUND HONG KONG

Taxi

With the exception of some very remote areas, taxis are plentiful throughout Hong Kong. They can usually be hailed on the street (except in restricted areas) or summoned by phone. All are metered and air-conditioned. Taxi in Hong Kong only accepts payment in cash in Hong Kong dollars.

Drivers are required to use the taximeter and passengers are required to pay the exact fare as recorded by the taximeter. You can ask for a machine-printed receipt. If the machine is not functioning, the taxi driver is obliged to provide a hand-written receipt. All taxis are regulated and taxi drivers are required to display their taxi driver identity cards on their dashboards. Taxi fare information will be listed on the inside of the taxi.

MTR

You can get around Hong Kong with the Mass Transit Railway (MTR) system. This covers all major districts in the territory, including stops at the boundary with Mainland China (Lo Wu Station and Lok Ma Chau Station).

The MTR consists of eleven rail lines, including Island, South Island, Tsuen Wan, Kwun Tong, Tseung Kwan O, Tung Chung, West Rail, East Rail, Ma On Shan, Disneyland Resort and the Airport Express. The MTR also operates a light rail system that runs between Yuen Long and Tuen Mun in the New Territories, plus an inter-city train service to Mainland China.

The Conference venue, the Chinese University of Hong Kong, can be reached at the University Station along the East Rail Line.

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GETTING TO & FROM AIRPORT

Taxi

Taxis are readily available from the taxi pick-up area in front of the airport's Arrivals Hall. All taxis in Hong Kong are able to take passengers to and from the airport. Fares are metered and detailed information about charges are clearly displayed inside each cab.

If you will be staying at the recommended accommodation, we would recommend taking a taxi as it is the direct way to reach the hotels.

MTR

The MTR's high-speed Airport Express train is the fastest transport link to the airport and takes approximately 24 minutes to reach Hong Kong Island. Both Kowloon Station and Hong Kong Station provide free in-town check-in services for major airlines when you're returning to the airport. Please contact your airline for further information.

Bus

There are 12 convenient Airbus 'A' routes that can take you from the airport to key locations on Hong Kong Island, Kowloon and in the New Territories (including Lantau Island) with fewer stops than an ordinary city bus. When you exit the Arrivals Hall, turn right to find Airbuses and city buses.

For the routes of Airbus, you may refer to: http://www.hongkongairport.com/eng/transport/to-from-airport/bus_from_hkia.html

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GETTING TO THE VENUE

The Conference will be held at Cho Yiu Conference Hall (for opening & closing ceremonies and keynote speeches) and Lady Shaw Building (for parallel sessions). Both venues are located at the Central Campus of the Chinese University of Hong Kong.

From University MTR Station

Near Exit A of the University Station, you can take a free campus shuttle bus (Route 1A/1B). The Conference Venue is near to the stop at Sir Run Run Shaw Hall.

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GETTING TO THE VENUE

From the Recommended Accommodation

Hyatt Regency Hong Kong, Shatin

Situated next to the University MTR Station, the campus shuttle bus stop is at 5-minute walking distance. You can take a campus shuttle bus (Routh 1A/1B) to Sir Run Run Shaw Hall stop and the Conference Venue is nearby.

Royal Park Hotel

The hotel is close to the Shatin MTR Station. You can take the MTR East Rail Line (towards Lo Wu/Sheung Shui) and get off at the University Station. The campus shuttle bus stop is at Exit A. You can then take a campus shuttle bus (Routh 1A/1B) to Sir Run Run Shaw Hall stop and the Conference Venue is nearby.

Alternatively, you can also take a taxi to reach the Conference venue which will take about 20 minutes. You may ask the taxi driver to drop off at the University Library and the Conference venue is nearby.

Courtyard Marriott – Hong Kong Sha Tin

The hotel will offer a complimentary daily round trip shuttle bus service for the conference participants. Details of the shuttle bus will be announced soon.

The hotel is at 10-minute walking distance to the Shek Mun MTR Station (Ma On Shan Line). You can take the MTR to Tai Wai Station and change to the East Rail Line (towards Lo Wu/Sheung Shui) and get off at the University Station. **Alternatively**, you can also take a taxi to reach the Conference venue which will take about 20 minutes. You may drop off at the University Library which is next to the Conference venue.