

Asia's world city

Hong Kong's high degree of connectivity, globally and with the Chinese Mainland, helps people and businesses achieve excellence in their chosen fields. With sound fundamentals, a strategic location, advanced soft and hard infrastructure and world-class talent, Hong Kong is Asia's world city – a place where people and businesses from around the world can connect with opportunities throughout the region.

Unique opportunities

Under "one country, two systems", Hong Kong is a free port and open economy in the heart of Asia offering convenient access to vast markets on the Chinese Mainland and in ASEAN.

- Hong Kong is the pre-eminent bridge between China and the world, and vice-versa. No other city offers the same level and sophistication of connectivity with the Chinese Mainland and global markets.
- Hong Kong is playing a pivotal role in national development strategies including the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area and far-reaching Belt and Road (B&R) Initiative.
- Mega-infrastructure projects such as the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge (HZMB) and the Hong Kong Section of the Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link (XRL) significantly enhance the efficient movement of people and goods within the Greater Bay Area and open up new opportunities in a market of more than 87 million people.
- The free trade agreement with the Chinese Mainland, the Mainland and Hong Kong Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement (CEPA), provides the preference of zero tariff for products made in Hong Kong and meeting the CEPA rules of origin upon importation into the Chinese Mainland, and preferential treatment for Hong Kong service suppliers (including enterprises incorporated in Hong Kong by investors from outside Hong Kong) when entering the Chinese Mainland market.
- Hong Kong is the global leader in Renminbi business and the prime node of connectivity between the financial markets of the Chinese Mainland and the rest of the world.
- As a free and open economy and a welcoming, pluralistic society, Hong Kong is the perfect testing ground for businesses and start-ups to explore new opportunities on the Chinese Mainland, and for Chinese Mainland companies to expand their reach to new global markets.
- Enhancing Hong Kong's status as an international trade centre, tapping the opportunities in the eastward shift of global economic gravity and the high-quality development of our country.
- Boosting Hong Kong's mega events economy by promoting Hong Kong as a mega events hub globally.
- Kai Tak Sports Park, the largest-ever sports infrastructure in Hong Kong featuring a 50 000-seat Stadium, was opened in March 2025, enhancing Hong Kong's capacity to host world-class sports and entertainment events.

Trusted partners and systems

With the rule of law, a tried and trusted common law system and independent judicial power, Hong Kong offers security and peace of mind to people and business.

- The Basic Law preserves Hong Kong's common law system separate to the civil law-based system practised on the Chinese Mainland.
- Independent judicial power is protected. The power of final adjudication rests with Hong Kong courts.

- The Government is clean, efficient and transparent.
- Global communications hub, with the free flow of news and information protected by law.
- Strong legal protection of property rights, intellectual property and data.
- Highly regarded law-enforcement agencies and a globally recognised anti-corruption commission.
- Low crime rate, one of the world's safest large cities.

World-class professionals and talent

Hong Kong is among the world's most services-oriented economies, with services contributing over 90% of gross domestic product (GDP).

- Broad and deep pool of world-class professional and business services in finance, insurance, asset management, tourism, food and beverage, trade and logistics, architecture, design, marketing, healthcare, legal and dispute resolution, creative and cultural industries.
- Extensive legal services – About 11,900 practising solicitors, 1,700 practising barristers and about 80 registered foreign law firms in Hong Kong under a common law jurisdiction. It is a highly effective and trusted place of arbitration and dispute resolution services centre. Hong Kong was ranked the second most preferred seat for arbitration worldwide in the latest 2025 International Arbitration Survey by the Queen Mary University of London. In terms of mediation, the Hong Kong Mediation Accreditation Association Limited (HKMAAL) has 2,389 general mediators, 360 family mediators and 70 family mediation supervisors as at March 17, 2026. Further, the Investment Agreement signed under the framework of CEPA provides a Mediation Mechanism for Investment Disputes. At present, Hong Kong has 2 designated mediation institutions mutually agreed by the Chinese Mainland and Hong Kong, and 19 mutually agreed designated mediators.
- Global node for highly specialised commercial and shipping contract work.
- Vibrant start-up and tech scene.
- 5 universities in World Top 100 for 4 consecutive years: Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2026/ Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) World University Rankings 2027: HKU (33rd/11th), CUHK (41st/18th), HKUST (58th/33rd), CityU (73rd/52nd) and PolyU (80th/50th).
- 3 EMBA programmes in World Top 25: Financial Times EMBA Ranking 2025: Kellogg-HKUST EMBA programme (4th); HKU/Fudan MBA (International) programme (19th); CUHK Business School EMBA programme (22nd). QS EMBA Rankings 2026 (Joint Programmes): Kellogg-HKUST EMBA programme (No.5); HKU /Fudan IMBA programme (No.18).
- World No.1 for 4 subjects: Hospitality and Tourism Management (PolyU), Management (PolyU) and Transportation Science & Technology (PolyU) (ShanghaiRanking's Global Ranking of Academic Subjects 2025); Education and Educational Research (CUHK) (US News and World Report: Best Global Universities Rankings by Subjects 2026-2027)
- World Top 10 subjects: Dentistry (HKU, 2nd), Education & Training (HKU, 5th / EdUHK, 7th), Nursing (CUHK, 6th) and Performing Arts (HKAPA, 10th) (QS World University Rankings by Subject 2026)
- Asia No.1 subjects: Arts and Humanities (CUHK), Clinical Medicine (CUHK), Endocrinology and Metabolism (CUHK), Gastroenterology and Hepatology (CUHK), Immunology (HKU), Infectious Diseases (HKU) and Microbiology (HKU) (US News and World Report: Best Global Universities Rankings by Subjects 2026-2027); Dentistry (HKU), Education & Training (HKU), Nursing (CUHK) and Performing Arts (HKAPA) (QS World University Rankings by Subject 2026)
- InnoHK research clusters established at the Hong Kong Science Park have attracted over 30 world-renowned universities and research institutes from 12 economies to collaborate with local partners in

setting up over 30 research laboratories.

- Range of schemes to facilitate overseas and the Chinese Mainland talent to work and live in Hong Kong, including a Top Talent Pass Scheme, New Capital Investment Entrant Scheme, Technology Talent Admission Scheme, the Pilot Scheme on Facilitation for Persons Participating in Arbitral Proceedings in Hong Kong and a Talent List to support the development of a high value-added and diversified economy.

Transport and information hub

Hong Kong is a global transport and information hub completely plugged into global markets and networks.

- World No.1 public transit system (Time Out magazine index survey in 2025) and Asia No.1 sustainable mobility system (Oliver Wyman Forum in partnership with University of California, Berkeley: Urban Mobility Readiness Index 2024).
- Hong Kong is within a four-hour flight of major Asian cities and a five-hour flight from half the world's population.
- Extensive cross-boundary links with the Chinese Mainland – road, rail, air and sea.
- Hong Kong International Airport (HKIA) is one of the world's busiest airports for air cargo and passengers. In December 2025, the HKIA connects to nearly 220 destinations by around 140 airlines. For the whole year 2025, HKIA handled 61 million passengers and 5.07 million tonnes of air cargo.
- Hong Kong Port is among the busiest and most efficient container ports in the world, handling about 13.0 million TEUs in 2025. The average length of stay of container vessels in the Hong Kong Port in 2025 is 1.03 days, about half the average of 1.99 days for the world's top 20 container ports.
- Hong Kong has sophisticated ICT infrastructure, including 12 submarine cable systems and 10 satellites for communications. Several submarine cable systems will be ready in the coming years, enhancing the city's connectivity with other parts of the world.
- XRL connects Hong Kong to 110 short- and long-haul destinations on the Chinese Mainland's high-speed rail network.
- HZMB is the world's longest bridge-tunnel sea crossing, spanning 55-km across the Pearl River Estuary, opening up new opportunities in the western Pearl River Delta region.
- There are currently 8 land crossings serving cross-boundary passengers between Hong Kong and the Chinese Mainland, enhancing connectivity and facilitating the flow of people and business between Hong Kong and Guangdong.
- Easy Internet access: approximately 81,000 public Wi-Fi access points in the territory; mobile subscriber penetration rate of over 442%; household broadband penetration rate of over 100.3%.

International finance and business hub

Hong Kong is a leading global financial centre with deep and liquid capital markets, a fully convertible currency (HK\$) and free flows of capital, goods and information.

- Hong Kong ranks as the world's freest economy in the Canada-based Fraser Institute's *Economic Freedom of the World 2025 Annual Report*.
- Hong Kong ranked World No.3 and Asia-Pacific No.1 in the *Global Financial Centres Index* issued by UK-based Z/Yen and China Development Institute from Shenzhen in March 2026.
- Consistently ranked among world leaders in terms of stock market capitalisation, IPO fund-raising, asset management, banking and insurance.
- Fully plugged into global markets and trading cycles.
- World's largest centre for offshore Renminbi business, providing services including RMB trade

settlement, banking, bond issuance and product development.

- One of the world's most open insurance centres, with 6 of the top 10 insurers in the world authorised to conduct business in Hong Kong. Insurance penetration ranked first in the world.
- Stock Connect links the stock markets of Hong Kong, Shenzhen and Shanghai; Bond Connect further improves financial connectivity between market infrastructures in Hong Kong and the Chinese Mainland; Cross-boundary Wealth Management Connect Scheme in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area enables residents in Hong Kong, Macao and 9 cities in Guangdong Province to carry out cross-boundary investment in wealth management products in the area.
- World's largest offshore listing venue for Chinese Mainland issuers, with over HK\$9 trillion raised by Mainland enterprises since the first H-share listed in 1993.
- Hong Kong originates and intermediates two-thirds of the Chinese Mainland's inward foreign direct investment (FDI) and outward direct investment (ODI).
- Low and simple tax system. Profits tax of 8.25% on first HK\$2 million of profits of corporations and 16.5% thereafter; salaries tax of 15% on first HK\$5 million of net income and 16% thereafter. No inheritance tax, no capital gains tax, no GST or VAT.
- Actively promoting the development of fintech.
- Redoubling efforts to attract enterprises, particularly those related to Hong Kong's development as the "eight centres", including key enterprises in advanced technology, innovation and strategic industries.
- Developing a "headquarters economy" to attract enterprises from outside Hong Kong to set up headquarters and/or corporate divisions in Hong Kong, bringing in quality enterprises to explore the immense opportunities brought about by national and international dual circulation.
- Introduced a mechanism to facilitate companies domiciled overseas, in particular those with a business focus in the Asia-Pacific region, to re-domicile in Hong Kong.
- Expanding Hong Kong's global economic and trade networks to B&R markets, including ASEAN, the Middle East, Central Asia and Africa, and promoting regional co-operation, while keeping close ties with European and American markets.

Safe, cosmopolitan and caring city

Hong Kong, Asia's world city, is an open, cosmopolitan and pluralistic society that seamlessly blends east-and-west, new-and-old.

- A fair, safe and stable society with a welcoming environment.
- English is an official language and widely used in government, business, and law.
- Year-round calendar of world-class arts, cultural and sporting events and home to some of the world's largest trade fairs.
- Green and healthy: About 40% of Hong Kong is protected countryside with rich biodiversity. Abundant opportunities for family outdoor activities and leisure in country parks, urban gardens and surrounding waters.
- More than 50 international schools offering curricula from countries including those of Australia, Canada, France, Germany, Japan, Korea, Singapore, the United Kingdom and the United States, as well as the International Baccalaureate programme.
- More than 130 initiatives in the Smart City Blueprint for Hong Kong 2.0 focusing on "Smart Mobility", "Smart Living", "Smart Environment", "Smart People", "Smart Government", "Smart Economy", "Use of I&T in Combating COVID-19" and "Smart Village Pilots".

- Hong Kong is a **caring member of the global society**, responding swiftly to international appeals for **humanitarian aid** in relief of disasters that occur outside Hong Kong. Under the Disaster Relief Fund (established in 1993), grants totalling HK\$2,474 million have been made to relief organisations/governments/authorities around the world, up to end-March 2025.
- In February 2023, Hong Kong sent a 59-strong search and rescue team to Türkiye's earthquake-hit Hatay Province. The team rescued 4 survivors and found 6 bodies under the debris.
- In March 2025, Hong Kong sent a 51-strong search and rescue team to Myanmar's earthquake-hit Mandalay. The team and the China Search and Rescue Team rescued a survivor.

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