

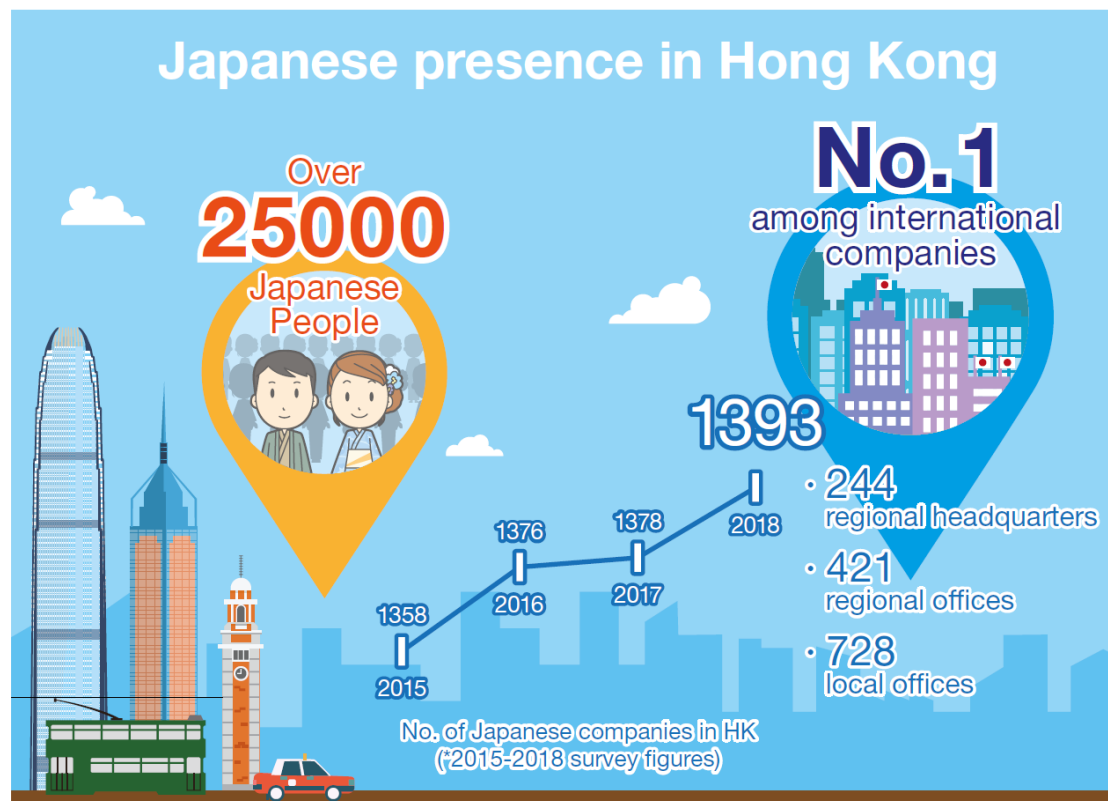
Hong Kong and Japan: cultivating closer connections

Hong Kong is staging a range of events in Tokyo from October 29 to November 11 to foster even closer connections with Japan.

The programme includes a major business symposium “Think Global, Think Hong Kong” and events highlighting Hong Kong’s tourist attractions, creativity, diversity and culture.

“Hong Kong Week” offers Japanese entrepreneurs and Hong Kong’s senior officials and business leaders with a valuable chance to deepen contacts and explore new opportunities.

For Japanese entrepreneurs and investors, in particular, it is a chance to learn more about the latest developments in Asia’s world city. They can also explore how to best deploy Hong Kong’s unique advantages as the world’s freest economy, the premier gateway to China and as a regional hub for business, financial services, innovation and technology, shipping and logistics as well as legal and professional services.



Strong economic links

Two of Asia's leading business and financial hubs, Hong Kong and Japan enjoy strong trade relations.

Last year, bilateral merchandise trade grew to US\$49 billion, up 5.1 per cent compared to 2016 (US\$46.8 billion). In 2017, Japan was Hong Kong's fourth-largest trading partner and 11th-largest market for domestic exports. Reciprocally, Hong Kong was Japan's eighth-largest trading partner globally.

Hong Kong's prime location, unrivalled connections with Mainland China, business friendly environment, low and simple tax regime and the rule of law are among the city's major draws for business.

Currently, 8,754 companies with parent companies outside Hong Kong operate in the city. They include 1,393 Japanese companies, making Japan the largest source of foreign companies doing business in Hong Kong.

Hong Kong is Japan's fifth-largest export market, reflecting the city's position as a trading and logistics hub and strong domestic demand for high-quality Japanese products, from mobile phones and electrical gadgets to home appliances, food, fashion and more.

For more than a decade, Hong Kong has been the largest destination for Japanese exports of agricultural, forestry and fishery products. Last year, Japan exported 187.7 billion yen (about US\$1.78 billion) worth of these products to Hong Kong (up 1.3% from the previous year), accounting for nearly a quarter of the country's total exports in this category.

Sharing an entrepreneurial spirit, Hong Kong and Japan can be each other's trusted partner to seize the opportunities arising from China's ambitious Belt and Road Initiative, in which Hong Kong will play a pivotal role as promoter and facilitator.

2017 Bilateral merchandise trade

US\$49 billion

↑ 5.1%
year-on-year

HONG KONG

8th

Japan's largest trading partner

JAPAN

4th

Hong Kong's largest trading partner



Hong Kong: Japan's 5th largest export market

Largest global market

for Japanese agricultural, forestry and fishery products for

more than 10 years



Worth about

187.7 billion yen

(about US\$1.78 billion) in 2017



Quality lifestyle

Asia's world city offers much more than business opportunities. It is also a great place to live. Companies, talent, students, food and festivals from around the world add to Hong Kong's cosmopolitan flair. In this creative, dynamic and secure place, innovation, arts and culture flourish.

In fact, Hong Kong is home to a large Japanese expatriate community of over 25,000 people.

Hong Kong has the largest cluster of international schools in Asia, including the Hong Kong Japanese School, established more than 50 years ago.

Magnificent country parks, interesting islands, a world heritage geopark make it easy to take a break from busy city life.

With a rich calendar of world-class cultural, sporting and leisure events, enchanting local festivals and an international food scene, residents and visitors are spoilt for choice in Asia's world city, where East and West meet to create a unique place.

