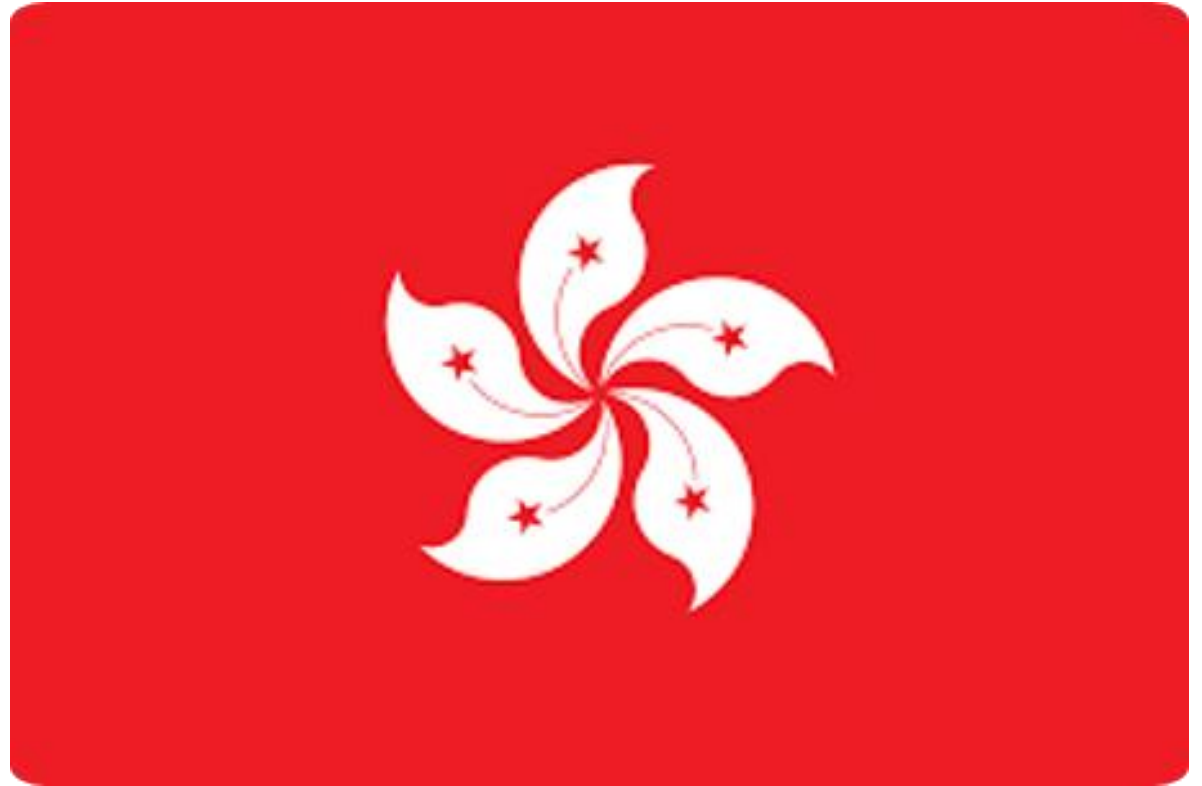
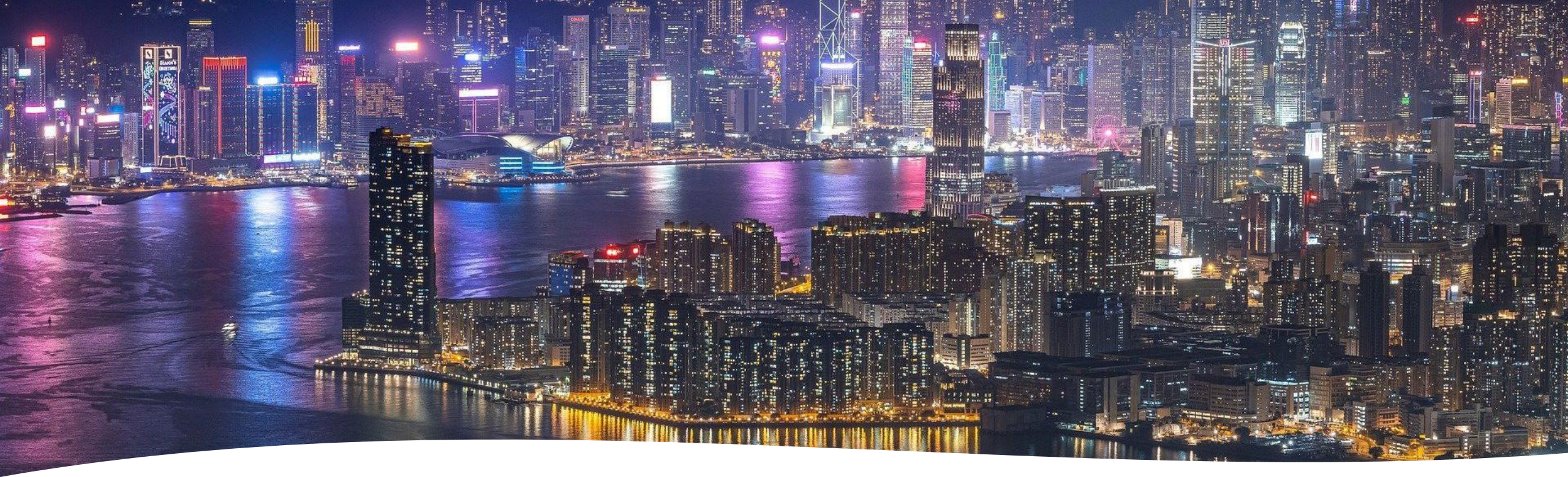


Hong Kong





Introduction

- Hong Kong is a Special Administrative Region of China which means that we have our own government, laws, and currency (HKD).
- The population of Hong Kong is around 7.5 million people.
- Hong Kong land area is only about 70% of the size of London.
- Hong Kong is ranked #1 as having the most expensive housing prices in the world due to our limited land area with high density population.
- It is considered the 7th richest city in the world



My experience in Hong Kong

- Hong Kong is separated into 3 parts: Hong Kong Island, Kowloon and the New Territories.
- I lived in Ma On Shan, Sha Tin which is in the New Territories
- I was born and raised in Hong Kong for around 11 years and I went primary school there.



Our language

- In Hong Kong, Cantonese is the most spoken language following with Mandarin and English.
- Cantonese and Mandarin characters may look similar but are pronounced differently. We're both tonal language which means that the meaning of the word depends on the pitch when you say it, but mandarin has only 4 tones and Cantonese has 6 tones.
- Cantonese is written in traditional Chinese and mandarin is written in simplified Chinese. For example, the word 'joy' would be written in Cantonese as 樂(lok6), 乐(lè) in Mandarin.
- Cantonese is also really similar to Vietnamese, Korean and Japanese as we have a lot of shared vocabularies (cognates). Here are examples provided by Chat GPT :

Cantonese	Vietnamese	Japanese (Kanji)	Korean (Hanja)
Student	Học sinh	Student (<i>gakusei</i>)	Korean (<i>haksaeng</i>)
School (<i>hohk haauh</i>)	Học hiệu	school (<i>gakkō</i>)	학교(<i>hakgyo</i>)
Study (<i>hohk</i>)	Học	Gaku	학(<i>hak</i>)
University	Đại học	University (<i>daigaku</i>)	대학(<i>daehak</i>)

Key phrases in Cantonese

- How are you? - 你最近點呀? (nei5 zeoi3 gan6 dim2 aa3)
- Excuse me - 唔好意思 (m4 hou2 ji3 si1)
- Sorry - 對唔住 (deoi3 m4 zyu6)
- You're welcome - 唔使客氣 (m4 sai2 haak3 hei3)
- Thank you (for help) - 唔該 (m4 goi1)
- Thank you (for gifts) - 多謝 (do1 ze6)
- My name is... - 我叫... (ngo5 giu3 ...)



Traditional clothing

- Qipao was first worn in China the 1800s, but the modernized qipao in Hong Kong was developed in the 1900s, influenced by Shanghai fashion.
- Tang suit is traditional Chinese jacket. In Hong Kong, it is often worn during festivals, weddings, and formal occasions. My parents used to always make me wear them during Chinese new year.



Festivals

- Chinese New Year - the biggest festival in Hong Kong, celebrated with fireworks, lion dances, red envelopes, and family gatherings to welcome the new year.
- Mid-autumn festival - celebrating the full moon with mooncakes, lanterns, and family gatherings.
- Dragon boat festival - celebrate and honor the ancient Chinese poet Qu Yuan by holding dragon boat races and eating sticky rice dumplings. I hated this festival as my parents would always wake me up early on that day just to go watch some random races.



Food

- Dim sum - small, bite-sized dishes including dumplings, buns,
- Curry fish ball - fish balls in spicy curry sauce, a popular snack in Hong Kong. I used to have them a lot from my primary school canteen.
- Egg waffles - waffle shaped like a honeycomb, they're often serve with toppings.
- Pineapple bun - sweet, soft bun with a crunchy top, looks like a pineapple but doesn't taste like pineapple. This is my personal favourite dessert.



Places to visit

- Big Buddha – 34 meters tall statue of Buddha on Lantau Island, Hong Kong. It is one of Hong Kong's most famous spiritual and tourist landmarks
- Hong Kong Disneyland - It includes blending classic Disney attractions with unique Hong Kong cultural elements. It's the smallest Disneyland in the world but it's still really fun. I celebrated most of my birthdays as a child by going to Disneyland.
- Sky 100 - an indoor observation deck on the 100th floor of the ICC building, where you can enjoy the views of Hong Kong's skyline and Victoria Harbour

