

Hong Kong Island: Aberdeen & the South

ABERDEEN | POK FU LAM | DEEP WATER BAY | REPULSE BAY | STANLEY | SHEK O

Aberdeen & the South Top Five

- ① Lounging on the golden sands of the laid-back beach village of **Shek O** (p134).
- ② Having hair-raising fun in **Ocean Park** (p132) and befriending the resident pandas.
- ③ Downing a pint or two at the British-style pubs in the seaside colonial town of **Stanley** (p136).
- ④ Catching a glimpse into the lives of seafarers by hopping on a **sampan** (p137) at Aberdeen.
- ⑤ Shopping till you drop at Hong Kong's **largest outlet mall** (p137) in Ap Lei Chau.



For more detail of this area see Map p376 and p377 ➔

Explore: Aberdeen & the South

The long coastline along the south of the island means you'll need a half to a full day to explore each of the areas listed below. Beach hopping is doable.

Aberdeen's theme park, Ocean Park, is a store of fun for kids and adults alike. Expect a full day there. More sedentary travellers can opt for a boozy brunch or a hearty seafood lunch in Aberdeen. Treasure hunters can find designer bargains in Ap Lei Chau in Aberdeen.

A posh beach suburb, Repulse Bay has Hong Kong's most famous beach and some of its richest residents. The hills around the beach are strewn with luxury apartment blocks, the iconic Repulse Bay being the most famous.

Stanley, with a lively market and friendly beaches, plus a fascinating mix of museums and heritage sites, certainly deserves another full day of exploration.

On Hong Kong Island's far southeast, Shek O is a laid-back village that still oozes an old-world charm and has one of the best (and quietest) beaches on the island. Shek O has enough activities to keep you amused plus several passable dining and drinking options.

Local Life

- ➔ **Shopping** When shopping in the mammoth Horizon Plaza (p137), wear sensible shoes like the locals, and have a taxi call-centre number ready (☎2368 1318).
- ➔ **Seafood** It's common for foodies to buy their own seafood in a wet market and have it cooked in a *dai pai dong* (food stall) of their choice. Ap Lei Chau Market and its associated Cooked Food Centre (p134) offer seafood lovers that winning formula.

Getting There & Away

For Shek O, take bus 9 from Shau Kei Wan MTR station (exit A3). For Stanley from Shau Kei Wan, take bus 14 from Shau Kei Wan Rd, a short walk from the MTR station (exit A3). Buses 6, 6A, 6X, 66 and 260 come here via Repulse Bay. These routes all begin in Central, below Exchange Sq. For Aberdeen, Buses 73 and 973 from Stanley call at Repulse Bay and Aberdeen Main St. Green minibus 40 runs from Tang Lung St in Causeway Bay to Stanley via Ocean Park. Buses 40 and 40M leave for Pok Fu Lam from Wan Chai Ferry Pier via Admiralty. Buses 7, 90B and 91 link Pok Fu Lam with Aberdeen Praya Rd in Aberdeen. To get to Repulse Bay from Central, below Exchange Sq, take bus 6, 6A, 6X, 66 or 260. To get here from Aberdeen take bus 73 or 973 – both stop on Aberdeen Main Rd. To get to Deep Water Bay from Central, below Exchange Sq, take bus 6A, 6X or 260. To get here from Aberdeen take bus 73 or 973.

Lonely Planet's Top Tip

The beaches on the south side of Hong Kong are best enjoyed on weekdays when you can have them to yourself. The discreet **St Stephen's Beach** (p134) boasts fine water quality and near-perfect sunset views.

Best Places to Eat

- ➔ Verandah (p136)
- ➔ Happy Garden (p136)
- ➔ Saffron Bakery Café (p135)

For reviews, see p134 ➔

Best Beaches to Visit

- ➔ Shek O (p134)
- ➔ Repulse Bay (p133)
- ➔ St Stephen's (p134)

For reviews, see p132 ➔

Best Places to Shop

- ➔ Horizon Plaza (p137)
- ➔ G.O.D. (p137)

For reviews, see p137 ➔