Hong Kong

“All you’ve got to do is decide to go and the hardest part is over.

So go!”

TONY WHEELER, COFOUNDER – LONELY PLANET

THIS EDITION WRITTEN AND RESEARCHED BY

Emily Matchar,
Piera Chen
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(left) Golden pagoda at Nan Lian Garden (p134)

(above) Fishmonger, Bowrington Road Market (p111)

(right) Figurines for sale, Cat Street (p83)
Top Itineraries

Day One

The Peak & the Northwest (p79)

Catch the legendary Peak Tram up to **Victoria Peak** for stunning views of the city. Then descend and walk to **Sheung Wan**, checking out the shopping options along the way. Stop at **Man Mo Temple** for a taste of history and explore the burgeoning community on **Tai Ping Shan St**.

**Lunch** Elegant Luk Yu Tea House (p89) serves great dim sum.

Kowloon (p128)

Take the **Star Ferry** to Kowloon. Enjoy the views along **Tsim Sha Tsui East Promenade** and savour your stroll to the **Museum of History** where you'll get some context on your day’s impressions.

**Dinner** Dunk and dip Hong Kong–style at **Woo Cow** (p142).

The Peak & the Northwest (p79)

Take the tram to **Soho** for drinks, dancing and live music. If there’s an indie gig on at **Hidden Agenda**, head over there by MTR, grab a few beers from a nearby convenience store, and hang with the hipsters.

Day Two

Wan Chai & the Northeast (p99)

Embrace (manufactured) nature at lovely **Hong Kong Park**, not forgetting to check out the **Museum of Teaware**, then head over to **Queen’s Rd East** to explore the sights and streets of this older part of Wan Chai. Then take the tram to **Causeway Bay** for some shopping. Don’t miss the speciality shops of **Caroline Haven**.

**Lunch** Fortune Kitchen (p111) serves delicious Cantonese homecooking.

Kowloon (p128)

Take a peek inside **Chungking Mansions**. Then relax and people-watch at the **Tsim Sha Tsui East Promenade** if construction has finished, or the **Middle Road Children’s Playground** if you have a child, before taking afternoon tea in style at the **Peninsula**. If the queue is too long, the **InterContinental Lobby Lounge** serves tea too, with excellent harbour views. After that bus it north to **Yau Ma Tei**, where you can check out **Tin Hau Temple**, the **Jade Market** and traditional shops along **Shanghai Street**.

**Dinner** Temple Street Night Market (p132) for cheap food under the stars.

Kowloon (p128)

Have your fortune told and catch some Cantonese opera at **Temple Street Night Market**. Then it’s on to atmospheric **Butler** for a crafted Japanese cocktail or two.
Day Three

**Aberdeen & the South (p120)**

Take the bus to Aberdeen for a cruise on the lovely **Aberdeen Harbour**. Follow with shopping (for bargain designer furniture and clothing) at Horizon Plaza on the island of **Ap Lei Chau**. Coffee and cakes are available at several of the furniture shops here. If it’s a Saturday, take a boozy tour of Hong Kong’s own brewery, **Young Master Ale**.

**New Territories (p153)**

Make your way from Aberdeen to **Sai Kung** after lunch. Check out Sai Kung Town or hop on a ferry at the waterfront to a nearby **beach** for a late afternoon dip.

**Kowloon (p128)**

If it’s a clear night, hit the Ritz Carlton for stellar drinks at **Ozone**, the world’s highest bar. If it’s cloudy, **Aqua** in Tsim Sha Tsui is a fabulous alternative. After a few drinks, late-night dim sum at **One Dim Sum** may be music to your ears.

Day Four

**Macau (p192)**

Hop on an early boat to Macau. When you arrive, take a bus or a cab to the legendary **Long Wa Teahouse**. Have dim sum for breakfast. Buy some tea leaves from them before you go and explore the bustling **Red Market** next door. Have a leisurely stroll to the cultural parts of **Northern Macau Peninsula** to work off your breakfast. Check out the designer shops and the cobbled streets of the atmospheric **St Lazarus District**, and buy a few souvenirs.

**Macau (p192)**

Explore the sights around the **Largo do Senado**. Walk along Rua Central through much of the Unesco-listed **Historic Centre of Macau**, including the ruins of the **Church of St Paul**. Nibble on Portuguese egg tarts and almond cookies as you do so. Then head to lovely **Taipa Village** for a look.

**Macau (p192)**

Check out the brand-new **Studio City** casino complex. Try your hand at the tables or just have a drink at the bar. Then head back to Macau Peninsula to catch the ferry back to Hong Kong.
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Our Story

A beat-up old car, a few dollars in the pocket and a sense of adventure. In 1972 that’s all Tony and Maureen Wheeler needed for the trip of a lifetime – across Europe and Asia overland to Australia. It took several months, and at the end – broke but inspired – they sat at their kitchen table writing and stapling together their first travel guide, *Across Asia on the Cheap*. Within a week they’d sold 1500 copies. Lonely Planet was born. Today, Lonely Planet has offices in Franklin, London, Melbourne, Oakland, Dublin, Beijing and Delhi, with more than 600 staff and writers. We share Tony’s belief that ‘a great guidebook should do three things: inform, educate and amuse’.

Our Writers

Emily Matchar

**Central, The Peak & the Northwest, Kowloon, Outlying Islands, Macau**

A native of Chapel Hill, North Carolina, Emily first caught Relapsing Travel Fever during a high-school semester abroad in Argentina. To date, Emily has contributed to some two dozen Lonely Planet guides. She also writes about culture, travel, politics and food for the *New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *The New Republic*, *The Atlantic*, *Men’s Journal*, *Outside*, *Gourmet* and many more.

When she’s not busy rating Memphis barbecue joints, wandering around night markets in Laos, or tramping in New Zealand, she can be found chowing down on dumplings in her adopted city of Hong Kong.

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Piera Chen

**Plan Your Trip, Wan Chai & the Northeast, Aberdeen & the South, New Territories, Understand Hong Kong, Survival Guide**

When not on the road, Piera divides her time between hometown Hong Kong, Taiwan and Vancouver. She has authored more than a dozen travel guides and contributed to as many travel-related titles. Piera has a BA in Literature from Pomona College. Her early life was peppered with trips to Taiwan, China and Southeast Asia, but it was during her first trip to Europe that dawn broke. She remembers being fresh off a flight, looking around her in Rome, thinking, ‘I want to be doing this everyday.’ And she has.

Read more about Piera at:
http://auth.lonelyplanet.com/profiles/pierachen