

Hong Kong Island: The Peak & the Northwest

LAN KWAI FONG & SOHO | SHEUNG WAN | MID-LEVELS & THE PEAK | WESTERN DISTRICT

Neighbourhood Top Five

- 1 Victoria Peak** (p81)
Taking the white-knuckle ascent to Victoria Peak on the Peak Tram for night views from the summit.
- 2 Sheung Wan** (p86)
Strolling the streets of Sheung Wan to uncover the fascinating history of 19th-century Hong Kong.
- 3 Lan Kwai Fong** (p92)
Bar-hopping your way over the inviting slopes of 'LKF', as it's known to local party animals, the centre of Hong Kong Island's bar scene.
- 4 Luk Yu Tea House** (p89)
Enjoying delicious food under ceiling fans and stained-glass windows at this 1933 Hong Kong staple.
- 5 Soho** (p83)
Trawling through the galleries and boutiques of Soho, the centre of the city's gallery world.



For more detail of this area see Map p302 and p304 →

Lonely Planet's Top Tip

Besides partying in Lan Kwai Fong and Soho, don't miss the neighbourhood around Tai Ping Shan St in Sheung Wan. The area is a burgeoning boho haven, with cafes, galleries and boutiques – all quite low-key and tasteful – mushrooming alongside weather-beaten shrines.

Best Places to Eat

- Luk Yu Tea House (p89)
- Chachawan (p89)
- Dumpling Yuan (p87)
- The Boss (p89)

For reviews, see p87 ➡

Best Places to Drink

- Club 71 (p92)
- Ping Pong Gintoneria (p95)
- Angel's Share Whisky Bar (p92)

For reviews, see p92 ➡

Best Places to Shop

- Grotto Fine Art (p96)
- PMQ (p83)
- Gallery of the Pottery Workshop (p96)
- Goods of Desire (p95)

For reviews, see p95 ➡

Explore: the Peak & the Northwest

Begin by exploring Sheung Wan's old neighbourhoods in the morning when the temples and the dried seafood shops get into full swing. Sample some local fare in the area before heading to Hollywood Rd to browse the antique shops and art galleries. If time allows, trek up to the Mid-Levels to check out the museums and religious monuments. Take the Peak Tram in Central to Victoria Peak; wait to see the lights come on in the city. Descend and return to Sheung Wan for dinner, followed by pub crawling in Lan Kwai Fong and Soho.

Local Life

➤ **Hang-outs** For intellectual banter and a bohemian vibe, head to Club 71 (p92), the haunt of activist-artist types.

➤ **Shopping** Li Yuen St East and West, two alleyways that link Des Voeux Rd Central with Queen's Rd Central, have a jumble of inexpensive clothing, handbags and jewellery.

➤ **Old Chinese Quarter** The area around Tai Ping Shan St is where the old Chinese quarter used to be in the 19th century; you'll see temples and shops specialising in funeral-related services.

Getting There & Away

➤ **Escalator** Caine Rd and Robinson Rd (Mid-Levels) via Central-Mid-Levels Escalator (p84).

➤ **Bus** Lan Kwai Fong and Soho bus 26 along Hollywood Rd links Sheung Wan with Central, Admiralty and Wan Chai; Western District bus 3B from Jardine House in Central and buses 23, 40 and 40M from Admiralty stop along Bonham Rd; the Peak bus 15 from the terminus below Exchange Sq runs along Queen's Rd East and terminates below the Peak Galleria.

➤ **Minibus** Green minibuses 8 and 22 from Central pass Caine Rd (Mid-Levels).

➤ **MTR** Central station on the Island and Tsuen Wan MTR lines. Sheung Wan, Sai Ying Pun, HKU and KennedyTown stations on the Island line.

➤ **Tram** Runs along Des Voeux Rd Central and Des Voeux Rd West. The Peak Tram (p265) runs from the lower terminus on Garden Rd to the Peak Tower.