



Visitor Guide

Arrival

Please inform the receiving units of the arrival date and time. Please refer to “Airport” and “MTR East Rail” for information about how to get to CUHK if the receiving units do not meet you at the airport.

The regular office hours of CUHK are Monday-Thursday from 8:45 am to 5:30 pm, and Friday from 8:45 am to 5:45 pm. If receiving units are not able to arrange accommodation upon arrival, please reserve rooms at the hotels near our University. The rate of hotels near to the University is approximately HK\$1000 per night. Meals at a moderately priced restaurant should cost about HK\$200 per day.

Accommodation

On campus: Delegations and scholars should contact host departments at an early stage for advice on accommodation. For longer stays, there are a limited number of apartments set aside for visiting faculty and staff, which require early reservation by host departments.

Off campus: There are five hotels in Shatin: the [Hyatt Regency Shatin](#), the [Royal Park Hotel](#), the [Regal Riverside Hotel](#), the [Courtyard by Marriott Hong Kong Sha Tin](#) and the [Alva Hotel by Royal](#).

Transport at the Hong Kong International Airport

The [Hong Kong International Airport](#) is located in Chek Lap Kok, on Lantau Island. Visitors can travel to The Chinese University of Hong Kong by taxi, bus or train. Taxi is the best transport means for visitors who visit Hong Kong for the first time.

By Taxi:

The fare is about HK\$350 from the Airport to the University and the trip takes about 45 minutes. Most taxi drivers in Hong Kong know some English. The following text may help just in case.

香港中文大學

"The Chinese University of Hong Kong" in Chinese.

By Airport Bus and MTR East Rail :

Take the Airport Bus route A41 from the Airport to Shatin Station (fare: exactly HK\$23.40 payable on boarding the bus). The bus runs from 05:35 to 24:00 at 15-30 minute intervals. Details can be found [here](#). Shatin Station is not the terminal stop for the bus, so please ask the driver where to get off. The bus ride takes 50-70 minutes depending on traffic.

港鐵沙田站

"MTR Shatin Station" in Chinese.

From Shatin Station, take the trains towards Lo Wu, Lok Ma Chau, Tai Po Market or Sheung Shui and get off at University Station (the second stop from Shatin). The trains run every 5 to 10 minutes from 06:00 to 24:00. The train ride from the Shatin Station to University Station takes about 8 minutes (fare: HK\$4.5).

Transportation from Shenzhen

Visitors may arrive at Hong Kong via Shenzhen. After crossing the border at the Lo Wu or Lok Ma Chau Immigration Control Point, please take the train at the Lo Wu or Lok Ma Chau Station to University Station. The train ride takes about 20 minutes and it runs from 06:38 to 00:30 (fare: HK\$29.40).

Bank Accounts

[Hang Seng Bank](#) has a branch on the CUHK campus. Visitors will need to bring along their passport and visa to open a bank account. If their initial deposit is over HK\$5,000, there is no surcharge for opening the account. They can also apply for a "Bank-in-One" card (free of charge), which will provide access to the ATM machines. Banks in Hong Kong are generally open on Monday to Friday, between 09:00 and 17:00, Saturday 09:00 to 13:00.

Climate

There are four seasons in Hong Kong, namely Spring (March to April); Summer (May to August), Autumn (September to November) and Winter (December to February). The weather is fairly cold from January to February, with temperature dropping to below 10 °C. It is warm and humid from March to April. Most families in Hong Kong prepare dehumidifiers at home to keep fresh air and drying clothes. It is very hot from May to August with over 30 °C. Rain and occasional tropical cyclones are often experienced. The most pleasant months with plenty of sunshine and comfortable temperature are November and December. For more information, please visit [here](#).

Cost of Living

The cost of living is quite high in Hong Kong. The prices for services and goods, particularly anything imported from abroad, can equal or surpass those in any other major metropolitan areas of the world, but good buys are also available through careful shopping, plus a little bargaining in Cantonese. Some indicative prices are as follows.

Item	Expenditure (HK\$)
1. Train fare from CUHK to downtown Kowloon	7.8
2. Bus fare from CUHK to Hong Kong	25
3. A McDonald's Extra Value Meal	35
4. Movie ticket	60 - 120
5. Dinner at a moderately priced Chinese restaurant	150 - 250
6. Newspaper	10
7. An opera ticket	200 - 1200

Driver's License

Visitors will need to have an [international driving licence](#) to be eligible to drive in Hong Kong.

Electricity

The voltage is 220 V in Hong Kong. The shape of the socket is:



Emergencies

In case of a major emergency, dial 999 and ask for police, ambulance, fire brigade or poison information.

Groceries

The major food store chains are [Park'n Shop](#), [Wellcome](#), [Circle K](#) and [Seven Eleven](#). There are also a number of specialist stores, e.g. [Watson's](#), [Mannings](#) (for health and skin care), [Pricerite](#), [IKEA](#) (for furniture, beddings, etc.), [Japan Home Centre](#) (for cheap groceries).

Identity Card

Every person aged 11 and above who enters and is permitted to stay in Hong Kong for more than 180 days must apply to register for an identity card within 30 days of arrival.

Visitors can go to the Registration of Persons Office on the 8th Floor of the Immigration Tower, 7 Gloucester Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong or at its branch office; the nearest one is the Immigration – Fotan Office.

To save time waiting, applicants are encouraged to make an appointment by phone: 2653 3116 (Immigration – Fotan Office).

To obtain your HKID card, you need to bring along *your passport*. *The first HKID card is free*.

Carry your HKID card if you have one, or a photocopy of your passport all the times. Police make occasional checks and failure to produce the above documents may result in a fine of HK\$1,000. For details, please click [here](#) to visit the Immigration Department website.

Language Courses

The [Yale-China Chinese Language Centre](#) offers small group, intensive Putonghua/Cantonese training at six levels throughout the year. There is also a three-month special course for University staff and staff spouses held in the evening.

Health Insurance

Visitors are encouraged to carry valid accident and health insurance (including hospitalisation) coverage with provisions for emergency evacuation/rescuer's expenses and repatriation for the duration of their visit to Hong Kong. Visitors can **contact us** for advice on joining private insurance schemes.

In case hospitalisation is required, visiting researchers or faculty who have HKID cards are eligible for treatment in general wards at Hong Kong public hospitals and to receive medical treatment. Semi-private and private rooms are considerably more expensive, as are the corresponding charges for medical treatment and operations. If coverage for semi-private and private hospital accommodation in Hong Kong is needed, please arrange for private insurance protection.

Medical Advice/Treatment

The [University Health Service \(UHS\)](#) provides outpatient service for visiting scholars. The minimum charge is HK\$200, including 3 days of medication. The office hours are Monday to Thursday: 08:00-17:30 and Friday 08:45 -17:45. The UHS is closed on Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays. Please make appointments by telephoning 2609 6439.

As the UHS is not equipped fully for serious accidents and emergencies, all **SERIOUS ILLNESS/INJURY** or **EMERGENCY** cases must seek attention and treatment from the Accident and Emergency Department of a hospital (the closest hospital is the [Prince of Wales Hospital](#)).

Newspapers

The two English daily newspapers are the South China Morning Post and the Standard. Major Chinese newspapers include the Oriental the Daily News, Mingpao and Hong Kong Economic Journal. Foreign newspapers are available in the [University Main Library](#), and can be bought from some newspaper kiosks.

Post Offices

There is a Post Office on the CUHK campus. [Hongkong Post](#) are generally open from Monday to Friday 09.00-17.00 and on Saturday 09.00-13.00.

General Public Holidays

Please refer to this [website](#).

Schools for Accompanying Children

For further information on schools for non-Chinese speaking children, please refer to the [Education Bureau](#) website.

Telephone

Housing a population that is one of the world's highest per capita users of cellular phones and radio pagers, Hong Kong thrives on efficient telecommunications. Local calls from public coin phones cost HK\$1 for five minutes. Cellular phone and IDD cards are available at convenience stores and telecommunication shops.

Useful Numbers

Phone Directory Enquiries: 1081

Time and Weather: 18501

Overseas IDD and Cardphone Enquiries: 10013

Emergency Service (Police, Fire, Ambulance): 999

Hong Kong Tourism Board Visitor Hotline: 2508 1234

To have a telephone installed, please contact one of the fixed telecommunications network service providers. The cost of the first line is about HK\$500. Another alternative is to buy a new or used mobile phone and a pre-paid card.

TV/Radio

Hong Kong's television viewers have access to over 100 domestic and non-domestic television programme service channels in various languages. These include 5 free-to-air terrestrial TV channels, over 30 pay TV channels and a variety of free-to-air satellite channels.