

ORIENTATION

Due to the bargain prices and tremendous selection of goods, some visitors do spend all their time shopping and depart with idea that Hong Kong is only a city. It is more! Be sure to allocate the time to sightsee about the N.T. as well as H.K. Island, and do also take a Watertour cruise around the harbour and explore the beautiful Outlying Islands.

HONG KONG: The whole "Territory" is called "Hong Kong" and it consists of over 1,000 square kilometers (over 400 sq. miles) with 235 islands plus a peninsula in an area measuring about 70-kilometers east-west by 40-kilometers north-south (44 by 25-miles). **COLONY:** Hong Kong was established 1842 as a British Crown Colony, This legal status has not been officially changed (by Britain!) but the term "colony" is out-of-favour and, during 1970's, phased out of use, replaced by using: "British Administered Territory". GG VICTORIA: Acquired when Queen Victoria reigned (1837 till 1901), many places were named after her: Victoria Harbour, Victoria Park, Victoria Peak (550-meters=1,800 feet). Even early settlement was called Victoria.

> HONG KONG ISLAND: In 1839 the China government, in an effort to curtail the opium trade, forced British traders to leave Canton. They took refuge for several years in Macau (Portuguese since 1557) and later on board warships, anchoring in Hong Kong Harbour. This was period of the Opium War, ending after seizure of H.K. Island by Britain 1841 and formal cession 1842 Treaty of Nanking. KOWLOON: The Kowloon Peninsula (plus Stonecutter's Island) acquired in perpetuity by treaty in 1860, 19-years after H.K. Island. NEW TERRITORIES: Abbreviated "NT" it is all land north of Boundary Street (PP/00) but Kowloon's urban sprawl over boundary ensures fate of all Hong Kong will be decided when the 99-year lease expires 1-July-1997, ISLANDS: In addition to N.T. & Kowloon Peninsula, Hong Kong is comprised of over two-hundred islands, including H.K. Island, with others most interesting to visit being Lantau Is, and Cheung Chau, (Chau=Island)

> TSIM-SHA-TSUI is the district at southern tip of Kowloon Peninsula and has a massive concentration of tourist hotels and shops which stay open late, plus a profusion of restaurants and bars and night-clubs, etc., etc. TSIM-SHA-TSUI EAST is the "new" part of Tsim-Sha-Tsui built upon reclaimed land with new (1980s) streets, buildings, hotels. Traditional Tsim-Sha-Tsui is Nathan Road and its adjacent streets, bordered on west by Ocean Terminal. Ocean Centre, Harbour City. **CENTRAL DISTRICT** is the main financial and commercial centre, with elegant shops and restaurants, and three major hotels. A few colonial style buildings remain, but most have been replaced by modern edifices connected by elevated walkways above roads. WANCHAI developed after World War II as night-life bar area catering mainly to sailors, It became famous by Richard Mason's 1957 novel "The World of Suzie Wong" and some of the old atmosphere still prevails, but the quality of bars has improved since the end of the Vietnam War and many new commercial office buildings are changing the character. CAUSEWAY BAY is becoming increasingly. popular with visitors since shops stay open just as late as in Tsim-Sha-Tsui, and there is a concentration of restaurants and theatres. It is favoured night-life area by local Chinese. ABERDEEN is main fisherman anchorage, home of floating restaurants, and there is nearby Ocean Park, the largest Oceanarium in Asia, with a Suspension Cable Car up to Wave Tank & Ocean Theatre & Atoll Reef.

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