

Ancient Hong Kong



Approximately 4¾ Hours



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Hong Kong was once a remote corner of the Chinese Empire, dominated by powerful clans and wealthy Mandarins. Today you'll head to the New Territories, which are not new at all—they became part of Hong Kong in 1898 and comprise 86% of its land mass. Here, you will visit the opulent **mansion** of an imperial scholar, and the lavishly decorated **ancestral hall of the Tang clan**. A lost world will come back to life before your eyes as you see the fortified villages of rural communities and step inside a temple dedicated to the gods of literature and war.

Notes:

Tour does not operate on Tuesdays or public holidays.

Beijing & Great Wall Overland Adventure (Double)



3 days/2 nights



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Day 1 (D)

You will transfer from the ship to the airport to connect with your **flight to Beijing**. Upon arrival in Beijing, check in at the hotel where **dinner** will be served.

Day 2 (B/ L/D)

Begin your day with a tour to the **Great Wall of China**. **Lunch** will be served at a local restaurant near the Great Wall, where you'll also have a half-hour to **shop** for local specialties.

Construction on the Wall began as early as the 8th century BC, reaching its height under the Ming Dynasty. Today, the wall extends some 3,600 miles. **Walk** with your guide along a restored section of the wall's battlements, which are wide enough to allow cavalry and chariots to pass. Drive back to the city of Beijing and continue to the famous **Forbidden City**—a huge collection of temples and Imperial buildings. It was originally built as a dwelling for the Ming and Qing Dynasties and covers an area of 250 acres. Emperors and (later) China's religious elite dwelled within, their lives ordered by a complex set of rules and taboos. Classical Chinese architecture and an overwhelming depth of cultural wealth are on display here. After a short photo stop at the **Tian'anmen Square**, the largest gathering spot in the world, enjoy a feast of traditional **Peking Duck** for **dinner**, followed by a visit to the **Peking Opera**. Then, head back to the hotel to get some rest for your early start tomorrow.

Day 3 (B/L)

After an early **breakfast** at the hotel, explore the **Temple of Heaven**. Built from 1406 to 1420 and known as the symbol of Beijing, the Temple of Heaven is the largest religious structure in the world. The temple used to be a special place of spirituality where Emperors of the Ming and Qing dynasties prayed for a good harvest. Today, it is a **UNESCO World Heritage Site**—considered a masterpiece of architecture and landscape design. After the visit, you will head to Beijing Capital International Airport for your **flight to Hong Kong**. A packed lunch (Subway or similar) will be served before you board your flight. Upon arrival in Hong Kong, transfer directly back to the ship.

Notes:

Due to this tour's popularity, exclusivity, and strict booking conditions, tour bookings must be confirmed 60 days prior to the actual call to Hong Kong with no cancellations allowed thereafter. **Important:** It is each guest's sole responsibility to obtain (before traveling) any visas, vaccinations and/or tourist cards that are required for participating in overland adventures or overnight tours, unless noted otherwise in the description. Please be aware that you may need a visa for any and/or all countries that you will depart from and travel through as part of your overland adventure or overnight tour, and for the country in which you will re-join the ship. This tour is available only to guests whose cruise does not begin or end in Hong Kong.

Beijing & Great Wall Overland Adventure (Single)



3 days/2 nights



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Best of Hong Kong



Approximately 8¼ Hours



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Set out to discover the best of Hong Kong with a visit to the **Bird Market**, where an amazing array of artistically crafted bamboo birdcages are on display, and the warbling competitions must be heard to be believed. **Walk** along **Flower Market Street**, with row upon row of shops and stalls selling cut flowers and potted plants from all over the world. The **Jade Market** is a great place to browse and pick up souvenirs. To the Chinese, jade is the most important stone, as it is said to have great spiritual value and to represent wealth, good fortune and power. A quick ride on the **Peak Tram funicular** brings you to the top of Victoria Peak to enjoy the panoramic view of Hong Kong and the Kowloon Peninsula spread out far below. **Lunch** is served at Café Deco—an art-inspired restaurant atop **Victoria Peak**. It commands spectacular views of Hong Kong Island and the Kowloon peninsula. Continue on a drive past Repulse Bay to the south side of the island. Take in panoramic views of one of Hong Kong’s most popular and beautiful beaches, along with the colonial hotel that has long been a landmark here. Proceed to **Aberdeen** where fishermen and their families live on thousands of junks and sampans. You’ll take a short **sampan ride**, and stop briefly at one of the city’s **jewelry workshops**. A 30-minute coach ride brings you to **Stanley**—one of Hong Kong’s oldest settlements. It is a fishing village nestled picturesquely on the sandbar of the Stanley Peninsula, on the southeast coast of Hong Kong Island. A century ago, it was notorious for pirates and their smuggling activities. Today, it is best known for its markets that specialize in sports shoes, clothing and Chinese handicrafts. It

offers brand name clothing as well as excellent faux brands, hand-painted porcelain and souvenir items that overflow from the shops in the bustling market's narrow lanes. **Shopping** in Stanley is always fun and there are many bargains to be found.

Notes:

Wear comfortable walking shoes. This tour is not exclusive to Holland America Line guests.

Cook Like a Local



Approximately 4 Hours



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Discover how to **eat** like a local—a natural progression from learning to **cook** like one! Indulge in **dim sum**—easily the city's favorite dining experience. *Dim sum* is a style of Cantonese food prepared in small, bite-sized portions. First, you'll **shop for ingredients** in a bustling food market; then, under the guidance of a professional chef, you will **prepare your very own Chinese meal**. As you prepare your food, your chef will share his/her personal cooking experiences and tips gained from traveling all over the world. When everything is ready, you'll sit down to enjoy a delicious meal of delicate flavors and textures.

Notes:

Minimum age is 13 years.

East Meets West



Approximately 3 Hours



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Experience the ancient art of *tai chi*—a popular method for maintaining fitness for people of all ages and cultures. Learn various breathing techniques and simple exercises under the gentle guidance of a *tai chi* master, with slow movements that are performed very deliberately to achieve a fluidity of motion and promote balance. Following this, you'll find refreshment and rich cultural heritage in a cup of tea, as you discover the intricate rituals and traditions of **tea drinking** in Chinese culture.

Notes:

Minimum age is 13 years.

Evening Harbor Cruise



Approximately 2¼ Hours



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Board a traditional-style **Chinese floating pagoda** to take in the dramatic views of Hong Kong Island from the water. You'll tour one of the world's most exotic ports on a narrated **cruise** around Victoria Harbour. At night, Hong Kong's spectacular skyline becomes a dazzling neon cityscape. Pristine skyscrapers are lit up against the night sky, including the Bank of China, the HSBC headquarters and the International Finance Centre—the tallest building in Hong Kong. Enjoy **unlimited drinks** from the bar as you watch the sights and the city lights.

Notes:

There is a short **walk** from the pier to board the vessel. Wear comfortable walking shoes. Tour operates weather-permitting. This tour is not exclusive to Holland America Line guests.

Explore Lantau Island & Monastery



Approximately 7½ Hours



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Discover out-of-the-way treasures, scenic beauty, spectacular bridges, mountains and historic sites as you travel to **Lantau Island**—Hong Kong's largest outlying island. You'll cross the mile-plus-long Tsing Ma Bridge—the world's longest road and rail suspension bridge. Stop at a viewing platform for photos of this bridge that links the new airport on Lantau Island to Kowloon Peninsula. At Tung Chung on Lantau Island, your first stop is at **Tai O fishing village**, built on stilts beside a river. This was the center of Hong Kong's saltpan industry for 100 years. Next, visit the **Po Lin (Precious Lotus) Monastery**, home to the largest bronze Buddha statue in the world. Enjoy a delicious vegetarian **lunch**; then, you'll have **free time** to explore the **Ngong Ping Themed Village**. Take a 25-minute **cable car** ride down to Tung Chung town and re-board your coach for the drive back to the ship.

Notes:

Wear comfortable walking shoes. You may choose to climb the 300 steps to reach the Big Buddha. Those not wishing to climb the steps can ride to Big Buddha by coach. The exhibit is on two floors with no elevator.

Guangzhou Overnight Tour (Double)



16 Hours



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Day 1 (L)

Guangzhou, known historically as Canton, is the capital and largest city of Guangdong Province. It is located on the Pearl River, about 80 miles northwest of Hong Kong, and is a key national transportation hub and trading port. You will travel to **Guangzhou** by **train**—a two-hour ride in a first-class carriage. Upon arrival at the Guangzhou station, you'll meet your local guide and set off to explore. The **Chen Clan Academy** is an academic temple built during the Qing Dynasty by the 72 Chen clans. The juniors used the facility to prepare for imperial examinations in the late 1800s. Today, it houses the **Guangdong Folk Art Museum**. You will also visit the **Museum of the Nanyue Kings' Mausoleum**. With an area of 150,000 square feet, this tomb is a testament to more than 2,000 years of Guangzhou's history. It is best known for its well-preserved funerary antiques from the Han Dynasty, as well as elegant and grand architecture from the Lingnan area. Pause for **lunch** at a local restaurant. This afternoon involves **shopping** in the city's Shangxiaju pedestrian area, the Beijing Road shopping district, and the Haizhu Wholesale Market. You'll transfer to the **hotel** in the early evening for an overnight stay in Guangzhou. Dinner is not included but can be purchased at your own expense.

Day 2 (B)

Enjoy **breakfast** at your leisure at the hotel, with **free time** this morning. You'll check out before noon and transfer to the Guangzhou rail station. Your Hong Kong guide will escort you back to Hong Kong by first-class **train** and you will meet up with the ship at the pier.

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Guangzhou Overnight Tour (Single)



2 days/1 night



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Hong Kong City Tour: Hop-On, Hop-Off



Approximately 5¾ hours



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This might be perfect the introduction to Hong Kong. Enjoy sightseeing, museums, temples, shopping, markets, and restaurants as this fully narrated tour allows you to **hop on or off the bus** at more than 20 locations throughout the city. An **open-top, double-decker bus** provides fantastic views and a great atmosphere in which to explore.

Your tour ticket is valid for the entire day and includes return tickets for the Star Ferry, a Sampan ride, and choice of a Peak Tram Sky Pass or admission to the Sky100 Hong Kong Observation Deck.

There are three exciting tour loops routes to enjoy, including Hong Kong Island (Red Route), Kowloon (Blue Route), and Stanley Market (Green Route):

Hong Kong Island (Red Route): Frequency of buses is every 30 minutes and the total duration of the loop is 1½ hours. Highlights and stops include: Central Star Ferry Terminal, Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Center, Park Lane Hotel for access to Fashion Walk shopping area, Causeway Bay SOGO and Times Square shopping area, and the Wan Chai Computer Center for electronic goods. On the Peak Tram, you can enjoy a ride to the top of this historic funicular railway to enjoy stunning views of the city and beyond. Make your way to the Mid-Levels Escalator, the Man Mo Temple, and the Lan Kwai Fong and SOHO area, famous for its nightlife, dining and fringe clubs.

Kowloon (Blue Route): Frequency of buses is every 30 minutes and the total duration of the loop is 1¼ hours. Highlights and stops include: the Peninsula, Langham Place with easy access to the famous Ladies Market, Temple Street famous for its Jade Market and Night Market, Hankow Road, Mody Road, and Tsim Sha Tsui East with access to the Avenue of the Stars, museums and the Star Ferry.

Stanley Market (Green Route): Frequency of buses is every 30 minutes and the total duration of the loop is two hours. Highlights and stops include: Central Star Ferry Terminal, Peak Tram, Ocean Park, Repulse Bay and Tin Hau Temple, Stanley Market, and the fishing village of Aberdeen where you can enjoy a local sampan ride (included).

Notes:

This fully narrated audio tour is available in ten languages, including English, Mandarin, Cantonese, French, German, Spanish, Italian, Russian, Korean and Japanese. This fully narrated audio tour is available in ten languages, including English, Mandarin, Cantonese, French, German, Spanish, Italian, Russian, Korean and Japanese.

Hong Kong Highlights



Approximately 5¼ Hours



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Enjoyed it?



4.5 out of 5

Value



4.5 out of 5

2 out of 2(100%) reviewers would recommend this product to a friend.

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Depart the pier for **Hong Kong Island** and cross under Victoria Harbour by tunnel. Head up to **Victoria Peak** by **funicular tram** for a breathtaking view of the harbor and Kowloon. You'll drive past Repulse Bay to the southern side of the island, with panoramic views of one of Hong Kong's most popular and beautiful beaches, along with the beautiful hotel that has long been a landmark here. Next, you will continue to **Aberdeen** where fishermen and their families live on thousands of junks and sampans. Enjoy a short **sampan ride** here, and a brief stop at one of the city's **jewelry workshops** for you to see the wonderful craftsmanship of the goods. **Refreshments** are offered in the exclusive showroom. Continue to the small village of

Stanley and Stanley Market, famous for its clothes, furniture, souvenirs and great, inexpensive knock-offs of designer goods.

Hong Kong Island Sightseeing with Airport Transfer



Approximately 4½ Hours



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Enjoyed it?



4 out of 5

Value



4 out of 5

1 out of 1(100%)reviewers would recommend this product to a friend.

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Cross under Victoria Harbour by way of the vehicle tunnel for a drive to the south side of **Hong Kong Island**. You'll pass lovely Repulse Bay with panoramic views of one of Hong Kong's most popular and beautiful beach, along with the colonial-style hotel that has long been a landmark here. Explore **Aberdeen**, where fishermen and their families live on junks and sampans. During a brief stop at one of the city's **jewelry workshops**, you'll see the wonderful craftsmanship of the goods and enjoy a refreshment in the exclusive showroom. Finally, you will head up to **Victoria Peak** by **funicular tram** for a breathtaking view of the harbor and Kowloon on China's mainland. Transfer to **Hong Kong Airport** after your tour.

Notes:

Optional sampan ride is not included in the tour cost. This tour is only available to guests whose flight is at 5pm or later. If you have already purchased an airport transfer with your cruise booking, you will be refunded onboard, as this excursion already includes a transfer.

Hong Kong Night View by Tram



Approximately 3¼ Hours



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Depart the pier and head for **Hong Kong Island** traveling under Victoria Harbour by tunnel. Your destination is the **Peak Tram Station**. You'll ride the **funicular** railway to the top of Victoria Peak to enjoy a panoramic nighttime view of Hong Kong Island, Victoria Harbour and the Kowloon Peninsula spread out far below. The Peak sits at 1,805 feet above sea level. Driving back down by coach, stop at a local tram station and board a **double-decker tram** for an evening tour of Hong Kong's hottest nightspots. Hong Kong residents love these unique double-decker trams, which slowly wind their way through the busy streets of the island. The tram is the ideal way to explore the exciting and bustling city life in Hong Kong. Sit upstairs or downstairs and enjoy the ever-changing scenery as the tram returns to Central. After your tour, re-board the coach for the drive back to the pier and the ship.

Notes:

The double-decker tram is not wheelchair accessible. Not advisable for guests with mobility limitations. Tour operates by double-decker tram and is not exclusive to Holland America Line guests.

Lantau by Skyrail



Approximately 4 Hours



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Visit the stunning **monastery** on the nearby island of **Lantau**. You'll travel to the top of the **Ngong Ping 360**—a spectacular four-mile **cable car journey** brings you to the Big Buddha, where Chinese devoutly worship and visitors are amazed by the immense statue and vast views. Combine this visit with a stop at the exciting themed village, to add a cultural and spiritual dimension to Hong Kong's visitor offerings.

Notes:

Cable car service operates weather dependent. In case of closure, alternative transportation will be substituted.

Magnificent Macau



Approximately 9¾ Hours



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Enjoyed it?



4 out of 5

Value



3 out of 5

1 out of 1 (100%) reviewers would recommend this product to a friend.

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Macau is just 60 minutes from Hong Kong by fast ferry, and is an ideal destination for those who have previously visited Hong Kong. The island was colonized by Portugal for 400 years, but reverted to Chinese rule in 1999. It is known as the Monte Carlo of the Far East for its annual Formula 3 Grand Prix race through the narrow streets. The territory is an intriguing blend of cultures—unmistakably Asian, but nonetheless draped in a Portuguese cloak, embroidered with senescent European charm. Your visit today will include old and new Macau. You will stop at a **Buddhist temple**, and see the Porto do Cerco Gate, which marks the old border between Portugal and China. You'll visit the ruins of **St Paul's**—a 16th-century church built by Italian and Japanese Jesuit priests—and the **Macau Tower**. This is the tenth-tallest freestanding tower in the world. A buffet **lunch** is served at the Macau Tower.

Notes:

Bring your passport. Transfers, ferry tickets, lunch and port tax is included. An additional charge for a visa may be required depending upon your country of origin. Immigration in either direction can take up to an hour.

Off the Beaten Track: A Day in the Life of Hong Kong



Approximately 4 Hours



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Enjoyed it?



5 out of 5

Value



5 out of 5

1 out of 1(100%)reviewers would recommend this product to a friend.

[Read 1 review](#)

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This cultural tour offers a close-up look at **everyday life in Hong Kong**—a great option for returning visitors. Through historical photographs, documents and models, the **Hong Kong Museum of History** traces Hong Kong’s evolution from sleepy fishing island to world-stage metropolis. Visit one of Hong Kong’s largest **Taoist temples**, the Wong Tai Sin Temple, and enjoy a rare opportunity to observe the daily rituals here. Taoism and Buddhism are the dominant religions of Hong Kong. Kowloon’s **Walled City Park** was once a refuge for criminals, but is now a superb **Chinese garden**. Some of its displays depict the garden’s notorious history.

Notes:
Tour does not operate on Tuesdays.

Xi'an & the Terra Cotta Warriors Overland Adventure (Double)



3 days/2 nights



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Day 1 (D)

Transfer from the ship in Hong Kong to the airport and connect with your **flight to Xian**. Upon arrival in Xian, check in at the hotel, where **dinner** will be served.

Day 2 (B/L/D)

After **breakfast**, leave the hotel for a visit to the **Big Wild Goose Pagoda**—a temple built to house Buddhist scriptures brought back from India by traveling monk Xuan Zang. Next, stop at the **Jade Factory** to browse among the thousands of products made and sold here, perhaps picking up some souvenirs. Enjoy **lunch** at a local restaurant before visiting the **Terra Cotta Warriors Museum**. In 1974, archaeologists unearthed an unbelievable collection of thousands of life-size terra cotta warriors and their horses. This legion was created at the command of unified China's first emperor, Qin Shihuang. He was terrified that his enemies would pursue him even after death, and so he commissioned this "army" to protect his burial site. As you **walk** through the vaults where these and other treasures have been found, you'll discover that each warrior is different. Marvel at the sheer numbers and the incredible detail in each and every figure. Dinner is served at the **Tang Dynasty Restaurant**, accompanied by a cultural program including colorful dances and a concert played on Tang Dynasty musical instruments.

Day 3 (B/L)

After an early breakfast at the hotel you will explore the Ancient City Wall. Then you will transfer to Xian Airport for your **flight to Hong Kong**. A packed lunch (Subway or similar) will be served before you board your flight. Upon arrival in Hong Kong, transfer directly back to the ship.

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