

Sham Shui Po – Themed Street Shopping

Sham Shui Po, Kowloon

Tel: 2508-1234 (Hong Kong Tourism Board)

Website (general information):

<http://www.discoverhongkong.com/eng/shop/where-to-shop/shopping-areas/sham-shui-po.jsp>

For area map: http://mtr.com.hk/en/customer/services/system_map.html

Dragon Centre Mall

37K Yen Chow Street, Sham Shui Po

Tel: 2360-0982 (general enquiry)

Website: <http://www.dragoncentre.com.hk> (most text is in Chinese)

Sky Rink (Ice Skating Rink)

8th Floor, Dragon Centre

Tel: 2307-9264 (for enquiries)

<http://www.skyrinkhk.com>

“Bead Street”, “Button Street”, “Ribbon Street” (crafts and more) – Yu Chau Street, Ki Lung Street and Nam Cheong Street

Many little girls and big girls too (read “women”) will think they must have died and gone to heaven when they see this place. This is a crafter’s paradise! Lining “Bead Street” are small shops, one after another, resembling old-fashioned candy stores, stocked with plastic jars from floor to ceiling filled with beads, beads and still more beads! The choices are as varied as they are plentiful. Maybe the most exciting part is how incredibly inexpensive the majority of stock is, which is due to the fact that these shops are primarily wholesale dealers. The area on Yu Chau Street which has the most bead shops is the 100-200 block. The same plethora of stock, but in buttons, can be found along Ki Lung Street; and Nam Cheong Street is full of ribbon rolls stacked row upon row, in every colour, shape and size imaginable. The largest craft shop in the area is located at 101 Cheung Sha Wan Road and is called **Tak Cheung Company** (located just off Nam Cheong Street). There are also many fabric sellers in the area, a large group of which are located on Wong Chuk Street (two blocks from Nam Cheong Street off Cheung Sha Wan Road passing Shek Kip Mei Street on the way).

“Fashion Street” – Cheung Sha Wan Road

In the heart of Sham Shui Po lies “Fashion Street,” a collection of wholesale fashion outlet stores, many of which also sell retail. Shop after shop of the trendiest clothing is on sale here and young girls in particular will be interested in the styles. Bear in mind though that these stores are mostly for grown-up women. However, older girls will find something to fit them in the smaller sizes. Most of the shops are located on Cheung Sha Wan Road between Yen Chow Street and Wong Chuk Street.

“Men’s Street” – Apliu Street Flea Market

This area of Sham Shui Po will appeal to the little boys and the big boys (read “men”) in your group. The flea market is all about electrical devices, both new and used. Everything from audio-visual gear, to mobile phones, to home electrical products is for sale here and the prices are very much negotiable. You might also be able to find a few treasures here such as old coins, antique watches and LPs (vinyl records). Look for the outdoor stalls set up between Yen Chow Street and Nam Cheong Street on Apliu Street.

“Toy Street” – Fuk Wing Street

This “street” is only one block long but it is a great place to buy toys and other fun kiddie items such as erasers, pens, notebooks, gift bags, stuffed toys, mini games, whistles, balls, stickers, etc. If you are a planning a kid’s birthday party, this makes for great one-stop shopping and it’s extremely inexpensive as well, especially if you are buying in bulk.

Golden Computer Arcade and Golden Shopping Centre

The kids are going to love this place! This arcade is filled with shops that specialize in the sale of software, hardware, and all manner of accessories related to computers. This is a hot spot for local ‘techie’s and the prices are very competitive. Bargaining is a must and make sure to check out all the goods you are considering buying to be sure that they are exactly the make you are looking for. Be aware – pirated software, though illegal in Hong Kong, is still sold in some stores. This shopping plaza is located at the crossroads of Fuk Wa Street and Kweilin Street.

Dragon Centre

Dragon Centre Mall, a local hangout, has eight floors of shops, stalls, arcades, restaurants and a small indoor ice skating rink.

九龍
深水埗
特色購物



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This is a great place to come for a bite to eat after you have wandered the many themed streets of Sham Shui Po. Choices include everything from local and international fast food chains to higher-end Asian restaurants. The ice skating rink is located on the eighth floor. Sky Rink, as it is called, has skate rentals and lockers are available for rent as well. The pricing here is very reasonable. The rink itself is not fancy, nor is it overly large, but the kids will still enjoy having a skate around. There are also two games arcades in the mall, one called Fantasia and the other Jumpin' Gym USA (a Hong Kong-based chain of amusement centres).

Seasons and Times

Sham Shui Po shops – Generally open during the week from late morning (times vary from shop to shop) until evening. Some wholesale shops are closed on weekends and public holidays.

Apliu Street Flea Market – Trading starts at around noon or before and goes until very late in the evening; some stalls stay open until 11:00pm or midnight.

Golden Computer Arcade and Golden Shopping Centre – 10:00am-10:00pm daily.

Dragon Centre – 10:00am-10:00pm daily.

Sky Rink – Mon-Tue: 9:00am-9:30pm, Weds: 9:00am-8:45pm, Thur: 9:00am-8:00pm, Fri: 9:00am-9:30pm, Sat: 10:30am-9:00pm, Sun: 10:00am-6:00pm.

Admission

Free

The Best Ways of Getting There

By MTR

- From Central or Admiralty to **Sham Shui Po** station, take the red line.
- ↔ Travel time: 15 mins (MTR)
- For “Bead Street” – Yu Chau Street: Exit “**A2**”. Walk directly ahead, cross **Apliu Street** (on Pei Ho Street), stay on **Pei Ho Street** one block until you cross **Yu Chau Street**. Make a left turn on Yu Chau Street. Both sides of the street are filled with bead shops.
- For “Button Street” – Ki Lung Street: Exit “**A2**”. Walk directly in front of you, cross **Apliu Street** (on Pei Ho Street), stay on **Pei Ho Street** two blocks. You cross Yu Chau and the next block will be **Ki Lung Street**.

- For “Ribbon Street” – Nam Cheong Street: Exit “**A2**”. Make a left (you are now on Apliu Street), walk one block and you will intersect **Nam Cheong Street**. Make a right on Nam Cheong and look for the shops on both sides of this large avenue.
- For “Fashion Street” – Cheung Sha Wan Road: Exit “**C1**” will put you right on **Cheung Sha Wan Road**. Both directions on this street have shops.
- For “Men’s Street” – Apliu Street Flea Market: Exit “**C2**” puts you right on **Apliu Street**. Look for the market on your left.
- For “Toy Street” – Fuk Wing Street: Exit “**B2**”. Walk straight ahead of you one block and then turn right looking for the sign that reads “**95A – 69B**” **Fuk Wing Street**.
- For Golden Computer Arcade and Golden Shopping Centre: Exit “**D2**.” You will be at the intersection of **Fuk Wa Street and Kweilin Street**. The arcade is straight ahead.
- For Dragon’s Centre: Exit “**C1**” marked “**Dragon Centre Mall**.” When you get to street level turn left. You will be on **Cheung Sha Wan Road** (a major road). Walk north one block and turn left when you reach **Yen Chow Street**. Dragon Centre will be on your right side about halfway down the block.

By Car

This is not an easy place to drive and I don’t recommend it; however if you want to brave it, here are the directions:

- From Central take the **Cross Harbour Tunnel**: Connaught Road → Harcourt Road → Gloucester Road → **Island Eastern Corridor**.
- In tunnel stay in right lane. Once through tollbooth (HK\$20) stay right and follow signs for **Ho Man Tin and Sha Tin**.
- Keep following the Ho Man Tin/Shu Tin route until you see signs for **Mongkok**. Do not get onto the overpass but instead follow signs for Mongkok which will take you off to your left and you will find yourself on **Argyle Street** (which runs parallel to the overpass on your right).
- Stay on Argyle Street until you get to **Waterloo Road** following the exit to your left. Take Waterloo Road until you see **Prince Edward Road West** and make a left onto it.
- Stay to your right and head for the overpass (around where you see Grand Century Place on your left and the flower market on your right). You are now on **Lai Chi Kok Road**.
- Go straight on this road and you will cross **Nam Cheong Street** and make the next left on **Pei Ho Street**. Cross Yee Kuk Street and make the next right onto Hai Tan Street and

you will cross **Kweilin Street** and make a right on **Yen Chow Street**.

P To park, look for the large **Dragon Centre Shopping Plaza** on your left and make a left turn into the car park there.

(Tip: Apliu Street and Yu Chau Street are located directly across Yen Chow Street.)

By Taxi

A taxi from Central will cost HK\$110-\$130 and should take 30-35 mins.

Getting a Bite

Dragon Centre shopping plaza is the best place to get a snack or meal in the area. This is just a short walk from the themed shopping streets. There are some good restaurant options here for kids including two food courts, one with Asian fare, the other with more international options including **McDonald's** and **Kentucky Fried Chicken**. There are also candy shops and bakeries for snacks. Several of the more formal restaurants serve up tasty local food at reasonable prices.

What's Close?

Yuen Po Street Bird Garden, The Flower Market, Fa Yuen Shopping Street.

Comments

- Best suited for ages five and above (or younger if they don't mind shopping).
- Plan to spend a minimum of one hour here.
- This is a very crowded area generally, as many Hong Kongers live in this neighbourhood. But the crowds are part of the ambience in this case.
- The best toilets are at the Dragon Centre Shopping Plaza.
- There are no baby-changing stations.
- You can push a stroller here on the streets but once inside the shops it will be hard to manoeuvre with one. A baby carrier or baby backpack would be a better choice.

Word of Mouth

Yu Chau Street and the surrounding area is a great place to get supplies for birthday parties, particularly for little girls. Jewellery making materials, crafts, even costume making supplies are all very easily acquired at reasonable prices. Don't forget to get the 'goodie' bag contents on Fuk Wing Street.

Temple Street Night Market

Temple Street

from Jordan to Yaumatei, Kowloon

Tel: 2508-1234 (Hong Kong Tourism Board)

Website: <http://www.discoverhongkong.com/eng/shop/where-to-shop/street-markets-and-shopping-streets/index.jsp>

<http://www.temple-street-night-market.hk>

For area map: http://mtr.com.hk/en/customer/services/system_map.html

This market is on many travellers' top ten lists of Hong Kong's must-see places. A great spot for a fun night-time outing, this long street bazaar runs from one colourful and interesting Kowloon neighbourhood to another and is a great solution to what you can do with jet-lagged kids or night owls.

The Temple Street Night Market is different from other markets because it combines shopping with some interesting street entertainment in traditional Hong Kong style. The market runs from one end of Temple Street in Yaumatei to the other end in Jordan. If you start your stroll at the Yaumatei end of the market, you will more quickly come to the 'cultural' side of this experience.

The first part of the market (near the Yaumatei MTR) is what you might expect – stalls selling good tourist loot such as T-shirts, jewellery, souvenirs, clothing (for kids and adults), handbags, watches and traditional Chinese 'artifacts'. Once you pass Public Square Street, things start to get more interesting. Here you will find an area lined with fortune tellers where for a small fee you can hear your future told by palm readers or physiognomists (people who study the science of face reading). Even if you aren't keen on commissioning these 'seers' for a look into the future, this area is intriguing and visually interesting with charts of palms and faces posted everywhere that attempt to explain these special skills.

Once past the first line of fortune tellers, you will soon hear and then see the area of the market where impromptu Cantonese Opera is performed. Though the performers are not wearing operatic costumes or face make-up, they are trained specialists and their street theatre is free of charge. If you decide you want to do more than just walk by and have a quick listen, there are

廟九
街龍

廟佐
街敦
夜至
市油
麻地



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