



Local Currency The unit of currency in Hong Kong is called the Hong Kong Dollar (HK\$). The Hong Kong Dollar is divided into 100 cents. Notes are available in the following denominations: 10, 20, 50, 100, 500 and 1,000. Coins are minted in denominations of: \$.10, \$.20, \$.50, \$1, \$2, \$5 and \$10.

Office/Telephone Facilities The General Post Office in Kowloon is located at 10 Middle Road, east of the Ambassador Hotel and Nathan Road. On Hong Kong Island, the GPO is on your right as you leave the Star Ferry. Both offices are open Monday through Saturday, 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. In Kowloon the local Telecom Office can be found at Hermes House, 10 Middle Road, Tsimshatsui (same location as the Post Office). This office is open 24 hours daily.

AT&T: 800-1111 / MCI: 800-1121 / SPRINT: 800-1877

Tourist Information The Hong Kong Tourist Association Office is located at the Star Ferry Terminal **2** in Kowloon.

Transportation Taxis are available everywhere in Hong Kong. They will stop for you by raising your arm except in restricted busy areas. Credit cards are not accepted by drivers; U.S. Dollars may be accepted at a lower exchange rate.

Hong Kong's extensive bus system will take you almost anywhere you want to go. In Central (Hong Kong Island), the bus terminal is on the ground floor of the Exchange Square. In Kowloon, the Star Ferry Bus Terminal **2** is the most convenient.

Hong Kong boasts one of the world's most modern metro systems, the Mass Transit Railway (MTR). This underground system is clean, fast and safe. Trains run every two to four minutes from 6:00 a.m. – 1:00 a.m. daily on three lines. Riding the line is easy, everything is automated – just follow the signage.

One of the most scenic ways of getting from Kowloon to Central on Hong Kong Island is via the Star Ferry **2**. The trip takes 7 minutes and offers fantastic photo opportunities. The upper deck costs HK\$2.00 and the lower deck HK\$1.20. The coin operated turnstiles do not give change. If riding the upper deck, you may get change from the ticket window.

Useful Words
 Good morning – Chao sun
 How much? – Dor siu chin?
 Thank you – Dor tse You're welcome – Foon ying lei
 I'm sorry/excuse me – Deuimjyu I don't understand – Ngo m meng ba
 Where is the toilet? – Ching mun bin dao yau chi sor?

Cantonese is the main language of Hong Kong although Mandarin has become more necessary since the British handover of Hong Kong to China in 1997. *English is spoken in all tourist areas, hotels and restaurants.*

This information has been compiled for the convenience of the passengers of Royal Caribbean Cruise Line and is intended solely for that purpose. While every effort has been made to ensure that the information contained herein is correct, RCCL cannot accept responsibility for any changes that may have taken place since printing.
 © Royal Caribbean Cruises Ltd. 2008. All rights reserved.

Hong Kong

Port Explorer

General Information

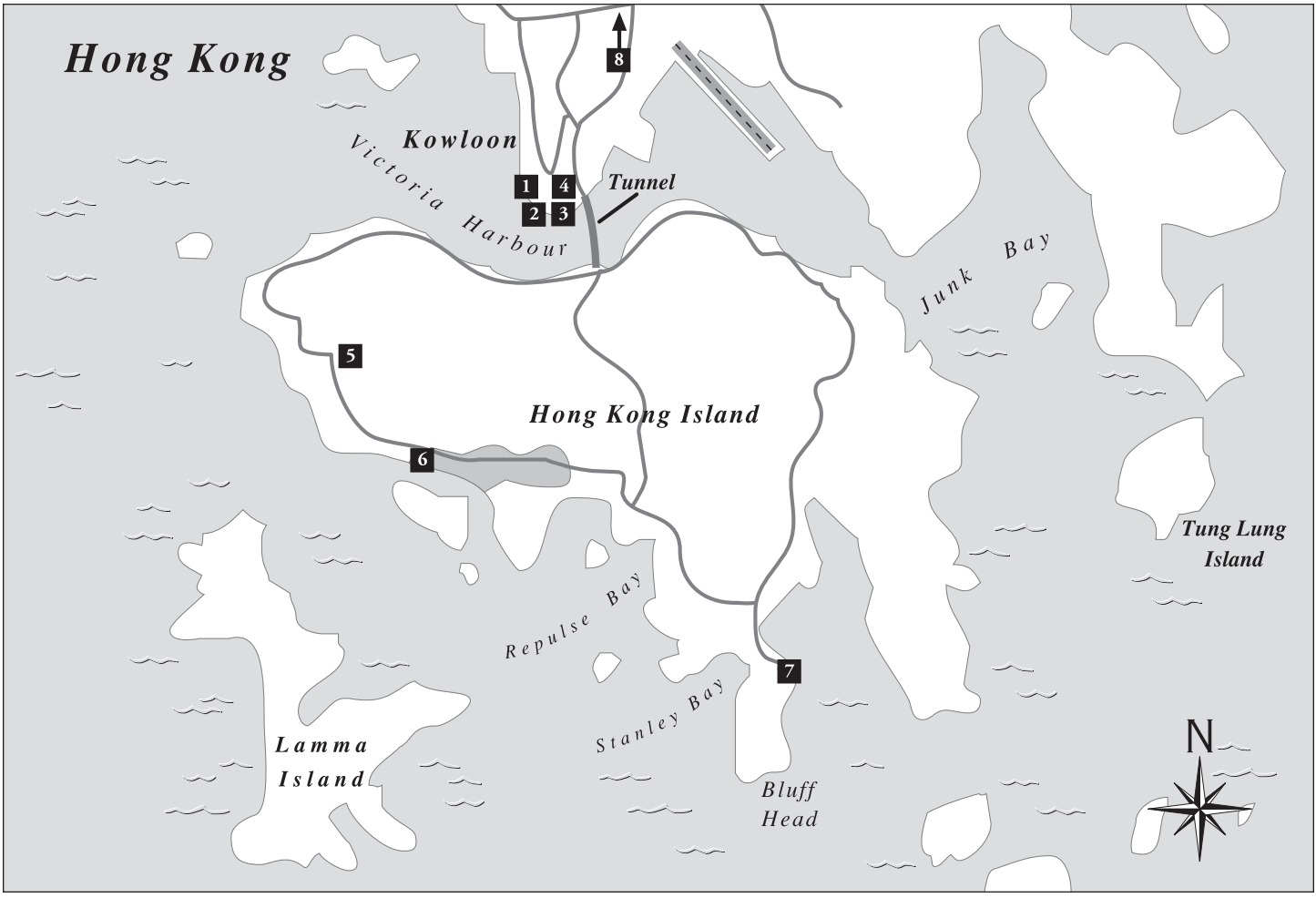
Hong Kong is more than just a shopping mecca. Its bustling harbor, towering skyscrapers and row upon row of shops may be its most familiar images, but Buddhist monasteries, terraced rice paddies and a 17th century walled village are equally important to its identity. In fact, most of Hong Kong's land is in the "New Territories," which are rural in character, and in addition, Hong Kong administers more than a dozen islands that provide a pleasant contrast to what's found in the densely populated urban areas.



In Cantonese, Hong Kong means "Fragrant Harbor." Hong Kong's 413 square miles (1,070 sq km) is divided into four main areas: Kowloon, Hong Kong Island, New Territories and the Outlying Islands. It is located off the southeast coast of China, just to the south of the Tropic of Cancer. In spite of its location, Hong Kong is not tropical. Summers are usually hot and humid, while winters are quite chilly.

At present, Hong Kong has a population of approximately 5.8 million. This interesting city reverted back to Chinese rule at midnight on 30 June 1997. A vibrant mix of East and West, old and new, Hong Kong offers excellent shopping, restaurants and nightlife.

Places of Interest



Ocean Terminal 1 is a long wharf/building which juts out into Victoria Harbour and is the location of the ship's berth. Within this complex you will find Ocean Centre, an upscale shopping mall. Along the waterfront is a small park which has benches and good views of the water.

Star House 2 is a shopping "mall" located across from the **Star Ferry Terminal**. The Chinese Arts & Crafts store is located here. Many fast food outlets are to be found in this area.

Hong Kong Cultural Centre 3 is adjacent to the Star Ferry Pier and is one of Hong Kong's landmarks. The complex contains a concert hall, a theater, an arts library, a garden and two restaurants.

The **Hong Kong Museum of Art 3** is now incorporated into the Cultural Centre and houses a collection of paintings, calligraphy, rubbings, lacquerware, embroidery and jade. Admission charge.



