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Hong Kong Staycations: Eat, Pray, Shop in Yau Ma Tei

To lazy island-dwellers, Yau Ma Tei may look to be a long journey up the Red Line. But those looking to get a taste of historic eateries, temples and shops are in for a treat.

By **Katie Kenny** | Apr 16, 2015

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Yau Ma Tei (for) life

Check in: Tribute Hotel

In the heart of Yau Ma Tei's historical landmarks, shopping areas and legendary eateries is Hong Kong's brand new **Tribute Hotel**. The back-to-basics boutique hotel from the design- and community- focused team at District 15 hopes to showcase the neighborhood's many historical sites and local artistry and design.



Pay Tribute to yourself

The **Tribute Hotel** is the love child of all things SAR: from the dim sum trolley snack carts in the lobby to the cha chaan teng tiles in each guest room bathroom to the hotel's very own ceramic collection, created by Hong Kong-based Latitude 22N. As soon as you walk in there is a sense of—well, tribute—to the city we live in, as well as clear influences from world class (but locally based) designers, architects, restaurateurs and clothing brands. Guests are provided with white robes with black trimming from Edit on Hollywood Road, bath soaps from So... Soap!, coffee from Common Grounds, tea from Teakha and delicious craft brews from Young Master Ales.

Rooms from \$1,200. 4 Tung Fong St., Yau Ma Tei, 2858-0788, www.tributehotels.com.

Do This:



Chop to it at Man Kee

Yau Ma Tei's **Stanley Street** is the place to go for kitchen goods in Hong Kong. Sure, they have rice cookers for \$1,400 that are large enough to feed lunch crowds, but tucked between the restaurant-size implements you'll discover reliable countertop ovens for \$368 and every baking tool under the sun at **I Love Cake** (338 Stanley St., 2671-2671), and amazing wooden chopping boards, mooncake pattern molds and stone, wood, marble and metal mortars and pestles from \$170 at **Man Kee Chopping Board** (340-343 Shanghai St.).



Time to brick it

For a bit of culture stop by the **Red Brick House** (344 Stanley St.) aka the "Engineer's Office of the Former Pumping Station," which dates back to 1895. There's also the century-old **Tin Hau Temple** (corner of Temple Street and Public Square street), which once stood on the Yau Ma Tei waterfront. It's the perfect spot to take a break with its spacious square area hidden beneath trees and old street lamps.

Feeling a bit peckish after all that shopping and sight-seeing? Either head over to **Sun Sin** (37 Portland St.)—an unfussy Michelin-praised beef brisket eatery—or to the hipsteric **Kubrick Café & Bookstore** (H2, 3 Public Square St., Prosperous Garden)—a coffee shop-slash-bookstore-slash-record shop, backing on to the city's best art house cinema. If you want dim sum then look no further than **Hei Wan Dim Sum Specialist** (65 Portland St.). Between 8am and noon this yum cha hero offers all of the usual suspects and local favorites—stuff yourself into a coma and walk away paying less than \$100 per person.

Tip: Up for a little history lesson? Set up a bespoke tour through the hotel with **Walk In Hong Kong** (www.walkin.hk).

Check out more of Hong Kong's best staycations!

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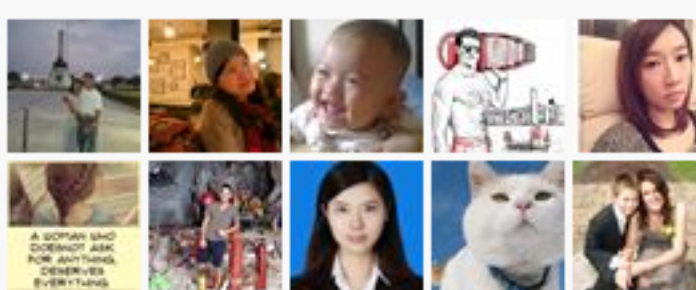


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