



Chapter 25: *Helpful Chinese Place Names and Cantonese Phrases*

Not all Chinese people speak English well and this sometimes makes communication difficult. The idea of this chapter is to take the hassle out of asking for directions, shopping and just getting around.

Chinese place names

This list of place names will be helpful in general but if you are taking public transport it is simpler to show the driver your destination, which he / she will immediately know from the Chinese characters.

Hospital

Alice Ho Miu Ling Nethersole Hospital	雅麗氏何妙齡那打素醫院
Caritas Medical Centre	明愛醫院
Kwong Wah Hospital	廣華醫院
North District Hospital	北區醫院
North Lantau Hospital	北大嶼山醫院
Pamela Youde Nethersole Eastern Hospital	東區尤德夫人醫院
Pok Oi Hospital	博愛醫院
Prince of Wales Hospital	威爾斯親王醫院
Princess Margaret Hospital	瑪嘉烈醫院
Queen Elizabeth Hospital	伊利沙伯醫院
Queen Mary Hospital	瑪麗醫院
Ruttonjee Hospital	律敦治醫院
St. John Hospital	長洲醫院
Tseung Kwan O Hospital	將軍澳醫院
Tuen Mun Hospital	屯門醫院
United Christian Hospital	基督教聯合醫院
Yan Chai Hospital	仁濟醫院

Police Stations

Hong Kong Island	香港島
Central Police Station	中區警署

Peak Police Station
Western Police Station
Aberdeen Police Station
Stanley Police Station
Wan Chai Police Station
Happy Valley Police Station
North Point Police Station
Chai Wan Police Station

Kowloon

Yau Ma Tei Police Station
Tsim Sha Tsui Police Station
Mong Kok Police Station
Sham Shui Po Police Station
Cheung Sha Wan Police Station
Kowloon City Police Station
Hung Hom Police Station
Wong Tai Sin Police Station
Sai Kung Police Station
Kwun Tong Police Station
Tseung Kwan O Police Station
Sau Mau Ping Police Station
Ngau Tau Kok Police Station

New Territories

Tsuen Wan Police Station
Kwai Chung Police Station
Tsing Yi Police Station
Sha Tin Police Station
Tin Sum Police Station
Ma On Shan Police Station
Lantau North Police Station
Mui Wo Police Station
Airport District Police Station
Sha Tau Kok Police Station
Ta Kwu Ling Police Station
Lok Ma Chau Police Station
Yuen Long Police Station
Tin Shui Wai Police Station
Pat Heung Police Station

山頂警署
西區警署
香港仔警署
赤柱警署
灣仔警署
跑馬地警署
北角警署
柴灣警署

九龍

油麻地警署
尖沙咀警署
旺角警署
深水埗警署
長沙灣警署
九龍城警署
紅磡警署
黃大仙警署
西貢警署
觀塘警署
將軍澳警署
秀茂坪警署
牛頭角警署

新界

荃灣警署
葵涌警署
青衣警署
沙田警署
田心警署
馬鞍山警署
大嶼山北警署
梅窩警署
機場區警署
沙頭角警署
打鼓嶺警署
落馬洲警署
元朗警署
天水圍警署
八鄉警署

Tai Po Police Station
Sheung Shui Police Station
Tuen Mun Police Station
Castle Peak Police Station

大埔警署
上水警署
屯門警署
青山警署

Places of Interest

Hong Kong Island

Aberdeen Typhoon Shelter
Cat Street
City Hall
Flagstaff House Museum of Tea Ware
Happy Valley Race Course
Hong Kong Arts Centre
Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre
Hong Kong Museum of Coastal Defence
Hong Kong Museum of Medical Sciences
Hong Kong Park
Hong Kong Racing Museum
Hong Kong Stadium
Hong Kong Zoological and Botanical Gardens
Lan Kwai Fong
Man Mo Temple
Ocean Park
Police Museum
Queen Elizabeth Stadium
Repulse Bay
St. John's Cathedral
Stanley Market
Staunton Street
Victoria Park
Victoria Peak
Western Market

香港島

香港仔避風塘
摩囉街
大會堂
茶具文物館
快活谷馬場
香港藝術中心
香港會議展覽中心
香港海防博物館
香港醫學博物館
香港公園
香港賽馬博物館
香港大球場
香港動植物公園
蘭桂坊
文武廟
海洋公園
警察博物館
伊利沙伯體育館
淺水灣
聖約翰大教堂
赤柱市場
士丹頓街
維多利亞公園
山頂
西港城

Kowloon

Clock Tower
Hong Kong Coliseum
Hong Kong Cultural Centre
Hong Kong Museum of Art
Hong Kong Museum of History
Hong Kong Science Museum

九龍

鐘樓
香港體育館
香港文化中心
香港藝術館
香港歷史博物館
香港科學館

Hong Kong Space Museum
Jade Market
Knutsford Terrace
Kowloon Park
Kowloon Walled City Park
Ladies' Market (Tung Choi Street)
Lei Cheng Uk Han Tomb Museum
Temple Street
Wong Tai Sin Temple
Yuen Po Street Bird Garden

New Territories

Che Kung Temple
Ching Chung Koon
Fung Ying Sin Koon
Hong Kong Disneyland
Hong Kong Heritage Museum
Hong Kong Railway Museum
Kat Hing Wai (Kam Tin Walled Village)
Lok Ma Chau Lookout Point
Penfold Park
Po Lin Monastery's Giant Buddha
Sai Kung Sheung Yiu Folk Museum
Sam Tung Uk Museum
Sha Tin Race Course
Tai Fu Tai
Ten Thousand Buddhas Monastery
Tsang Tai Uk
Yuen Yuen Institute

Transportation

Ferry Pier to Outlying Islands
Hong Kong China Ferry Terminal
Hong Kong International Airport
Hong Kong-Macau Ferry Pier
Hung Hom Railway Station
Peak Tram Lower Station
Peak Tram Upper Station
Star Ferry Pier

香港太空館
玉器市場
諾士佛台
九龍公園
九龍寨城公園
女人街(通菜街)
李鄭屋漢墓博物館
廟街
黃大仙廟
園圃街雀鳥花園

新界

車公廟
青松觀
蓬瀛仙館
香港迪士尼樂園
香港文化博物館
香港鐵路博物館
錦田古慶園
落馬洲
彭福公園
寶蓮寺天壇大佛
西貢上窰民俗文物館
三棟屋博物館
沙田馬場
大夫第
萬佛寺
曾大屋
圓玄學院

港外線碼頭
中港客輪碼頭
香港國際機場
港澳碼頭大樓
紅磡火車站
花園道纜車總站
山頂纜車總站
天星碼頭

Major Buildings

Hong Kong Island

Admiralty Centre
Bank of America Tower
Bank of China Tower
Central Plaza
China Resources Building
Citibank Plaza
Citibank Tower
CTS House
Exchange Square
Fairmont House
Hongkong Bank Headquarters Building
Hopewell Centre
Jardine House
Landmark
Lippo Centre
Pacific Place
Shun Tak Centre
Times Square
United Centre
World Trade Centre
World Wide House

香港島

海富中心
美國銀行中心
中銀大廈
中環廣場
華潤大廈
萬國寶通廣場
花旗銀行大廈
中旅集團大廈
交易廣場
東昌大廈
匯豐銀行總部大廈
合和中心
怡和大廈
置地廣場
力寶中心
太古廣場
信德中心
時代廣場
統一中心
世界貿易中心
環球大廈

Kowloon

Argyle Centre
Bank Centre
Cameron Plaza
Carnarvon Plaza
Cheung Sha Wan Plaza
China Hong Kong City
Chinachem Tower
Chungking Mansions
Festival Walk
Grand Century Place
Harbour City
Hollywood Plaza
New World Centre

九龍

旺角中心
銀行中心
金馬倫廣場
加拿芬廣場
長沙灣廣場
中港城
華懋大廈
重慶大廈
又一城
新世紀廣場
海港城
荷里活廣場
新世界中心

Ocean Centre
Ocean Terminal
The Palace Mall
Park Lane Shopper's Boulevard
Silvercord
Sino Centre

海洋中心
海運大廈
名店城
柏麗購物大道
新港中心
信和中心

New Territories

Kwai Chung Plaza
Landmark North
Luk Yeung Galleria
Maintown Plaza
Maritime Square
Metroplaza
New Town Plaza
Park Central
Sunshine City Plaza
Tai Wo Shopping Centre
Tsuen Wan Plaza
Uptown Plaza
YOHO MALL

新界
葵涌廣場
上水廣場
綠楊坊
名都廣場
青衣城
新都會廣場
新城市廣場
將軍澳中心
新港城中心
太和廣場
荃灣廣場
新達廣場
形點

Handy phrases in Cantonese

These handy phrases, with a pronunciation guide cover the basics, will help you to communicate in Cantonese. The main thing to remember is that Cantonese is a “tonal” language. A word can have different meanings depending on how high or low it is pronounced. However, with practice, you’ll eventually get it right.

We have also put in the Chinese characters so that if the person you are speaking to does not understand, you can just point to the Chinese text. The Chinese text will also help if you want to ask your Chinese friends to teach you the exact pronunciation.

Basics

English	Pronunciation	Chinese
I	Ngoh (“ng” sounds like the “ng” in “sing”)	我
You	Nei (“n” is sometimes pronounced like “l” as in “lei”)	你
He / she / it	Kui	佢
We	Ngoh dei	我哋
You (plural)	Nei dei	你哋
They	Kui dei	佢哋
0	Ling	零
1	Yat	一 (壹)
2	Yi / leung	二 / 兩
3	Saam	三
4	Sei	四
5	Ng	五
6	Luk	六
7	Chat	七
8	Baat	八
9	Gau	九
10	Sap	十
11	Sap yat	十一
12	Sap yi	十二
20	Yi sap	二十
30	Saam sap	三十
100	Yat baak	一百
1,000	Yat chin	一千
10,000	Yat maan	一萬

Hellos and how-are-you

Hello / How are you	Nei ho	你好
Good morning	Jo san	早晨
Goodbye	Joi gin (but often just “bye-bye”)	再見 (拜拜)

Thank you	M goi (when someone helps you)	唔該
	Doh je (when someone gives you something)	多謝
You're welcome	M sai m goi / M sai haak hei	唔駛唔該 / 唔駛客氣
I'm sorry	Dui m jue	對唔住

At home

Mother	Ma ma A ma Mummy	媽媽 阿媽 媽咪
Father	Ba ba A ba Daddy	爸爸 阿爸 爹哋
Uncle	Baak baak (A baak) Suk suk (A suk)	伯伯 (阿伯) 叔叔 (阿叔)
Aunt	A yi / Kaau mo	阿姨 / 舅母
Son	Jai jai (A jai)	仔仔 (阿仔)
Daughter	Nui nui (A nui)	女女 (阿女)
Kitchen	Chue fong	廚房
Bathroom	Chung leung fong	沖涼房
Bedroom	Sui fong	睡房
Living room	Haak teng	客廳
Dining room	Faan teng	飯廳
Table	Toi	枱
Chair	Dang	櫈
Dishes	Dip	碟
Carpet	Dei jin	地毯
Sofa	Soh fa	梳化
Lamp	Dang	燈
Laundry	Sai saam	洗衫
Cleaning / Washing	Maat / Sai	抹 / 洗

Getting around

Taxi	Dik si	的士
Bus	Ba si	巴士
Mini-bus	Siu ba	小巴
MTR station	Dei tit jaam	地鐵站
LRT station	Hing tit jaam	輕鐵站
Star Ferry pier	Tin sing ma tau	天星碼頭
New ferry terminal	San ma tau	新碼頭
Ticket	Fei	飛
Turn left	Juen joh	轉左
Turn right	Juen yau	轉右
Turn around	Juen goh wan	轉個彎
Stop here	Ting	停
Keep going	Gai yuk	繼續
How much	Gei chin a	幾錢呀
Which way is ...	Dim hui	點去
I want to go to ...	Ngoh seung hui ...	我想去.....
I'm lost	Ngoh dong saat lo / Ngoh m sik lo	我盪失路 / 我唔識路

In the market

Rice	Faan	飯
Bok choy	Baak choi	白菜
Choy sum	Choi sam	菜心
Broccoli	Gaaai laan	芥蘭
Carrot	Loh baak	蘿蔔
Green onion	Chung	蔥
Onion	Yeung chung	洋蔥
Ginger	Geung	薑
Garlic	Suen tau	蒜頭
Bamboo shoot	Sun	筍
Mushrooms	Gwoo	菇
	Dung gwoo	冬菇
	Moh gwoo	磨菇
Chicken	Gai	雞
Fish	Yue	魚
Shrimp	Ha	蝦
Pork	Chu yuk	豬肉

Beef
Catty
Half
Quarter
How much is it
That's too expensive

Ngau yuk
Gan
Yat boon
Sei fan yat
Gei doh chin
Taai gwai / Ho gwai

牛肉
斤
一半
四分之一
幾多錢
太貴 / 好貴

What's cooking?

Breakfast
Lunch
Dinner
Snack
Are you hungry
I'm full
Soup
That's delicious
It's not delicious
Salt
Pepper
Water
Would you like
 some more
Yes
No
Big
Small
Too big
Too small
Too much

Jo chaan
Ngan jau
Maan chaan
Ling sik
To ngoh mei a
Ngoh ho baau
Tong
Ho mei do / Ho sik
M ho mei / M ho sik
Yim
Woo jiu fan
Sui
Yiu m yiu doh di /
Jung yiu m yiu di
Hai / Ho / Dak
M hai / M ho / M dak
Daai
Sai
Taai daai
Taai sai
Taai doh

早餐
晏晝
晚餐
零食
肚餓未呀
我好飽
湯
好味道 / 好食
唔好味 / 唔好食
鹽
胡椒粉
水
要唔要多啲 /
仲要唔要啲
係 / 好 / 得
唔係 / 唔好 / 唔得
大
細
太大
太細
太多

Useful words and phrases

Wait a moment
I don't understand

I want ...

Dang (yat) jan
Ngoh m ming /
Ngoh m sik
Ngoh yiu /
Ngoh oi

等 (一) 陣
我唔明 /
我唔識
我要 /
我愛

Do you have
Yes, we have
No, we don't have

Nei yau mo
(ngoh) yau
(ngoh) mo

你有無
(我)有
(我)無

Daily necessities

Soap
Toilet paper
Tissue / napkin
Sanitary pads
Tampons
Toothpaste
Comb
Brush
Writing paper
Pen
Envelope
Stamps

Faan gaan
Chi ji
Ji gan / "tissue"
Wai sang gan
Wai sang min tiu
Nga go
Soh
Soh / Chaat
Ji
Bat
Sun fung
Yau piu

番梘
廁紙
紙巾
衛生巾
衛生棉條
牙膏
梳
梳 / 刷
紙
筆
信封
郵票

Symptoms

Headache
Stomach ache
Toothache
Sore throat
Runny nose
Influenza
Fever
Dizzy
Diarrhoea
Insomnia
Allergy
Cramping
Itching
Sprain
Asthma

Tau tung
Wai tung
Nga tung
Hau lung tung
Lau bei sui
Gam Mo
Faat siu
Tau wan
To se
Sat min
Man gam
Chau gan
Han yeung
Nau seung
Haau chuen

頭痛
胃痛
牙痛
喉嚨痛
流鼻水
感冒
發燒
頭暈
肚瀉
失眠
敏感
抽筋
痕癢
扭傷
哮喘

Emergencies

I feel sick	Ngoh being joh	我病咗
I am injured	Ngoh seung joh /	我傷咗 /
	Ngoh sau seung	我受傷
Hospital	Yi yuen	醫院
Fire	Fok yuk	火燭
Police	Ging chaat	警察
Help	Gau meng	救命
Thief	Yau chaak a /	有賊呀
	Chaak a	賊呀
Rapist	Keung gaan a	強姦呀

Remember:

- The ‘a’ sound is like the ‘u’ in ‘cut’ or the ‘o’ in ‘mother’- not like the ‘a’ in ‘bang’
- The ‘ei’ sound is like ‘ay’ in ‘day’
- The ‘eu’ is like ‘er’ in ‘were’ but there is no ‘r’ sound
- The letter ‘i’ is pronounced ‘ee’ and so ‘yi’ sounds like ‘yee’
- ‘leung’ is like ‘lerng’ but without the ‘r’ sound

