

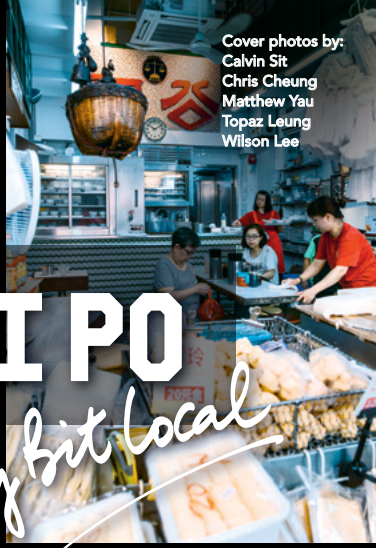
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HONG 香港 KONG

SHAM SHUI PO

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Going for local



SELF-GUIDED WALKS



CONTENTS



Sham Shui Po is a district of simple pleasures. As a historically blue-collar neighbourhood, this area just north of Boundary Street offers a lot of cheap but cheerful experiences that can't be found anywhere else in the city. Instead of glitzy, glass-panelled skyscrapers, here you'll find buildings that hide a rich history behind their humble façades. Don't come here for a fancy gourmet meal. Instead, come here if you want to try Michelin-recommended noodles and snacks that only cost HK\$50. And if you're planning to do a bit of shopping, be prepared to spend several hours here, sifting through all the eclectic wares at the open-air street markets.

If you want to experience Sham Shui Po to the fullest, this walking guide will show you the best things to see, eat, buy and do, from traditional temples built by early immigrants to concept stores and coffee shops that are bringing a new energy and attitude to this bustling district. Along the way, you'll discover all the simple pleasures that give Sham Shui Po its distinct charm.

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TimeOut
HONG KONG

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Shopping streets

In the 1950s and 1960s, the area of Sham Shui Po became known as the heart of Hong Kong's textiles manufacturing industry. Although the industry experienced a downturn in the 1980s, Sham Shui Po has remained popular with designers and craftsmen, thanks to the sheer variety and affordability of materials on offer. The best way to peruse these wares is by visiting the main shopping streets, where you'll find vendors specialising in different types of accessories or fabrics.



1 Yu Chau Street (Bead Street)

Yu Chau Street – also affectionately known as Bead Street – is where you can shop for all the beads and sewing supplies you'll ever need. The stores stock everything from wood and plastic to glass, which can be used for handmade jewellery, bedazzling smartphones and even decorating gel nails. If you're not sure where to start, try **Bead Box Limited** (Address: 221 Yu Chau Street, Sham Shui Po, Tel: +852 3106 5566) where you'll find all kinds of beads, from wooden ones and fake pearls to plastic and resin beads. Another recommended store is **Mee Ngai Wah** (Address: 289-291 Yu Chau Street, Sham Shui Po, Tel: +852 2386 9431), which specialises in costume jewellery, especially those made from sterling silver.





2 Ki Lung Street (Button Street)

Ki Lung Street is also known colloquially as Button Street due to the amount of wholesale vendors selling different types of garment fasteners. Aside from buttons, zippers and clasps, you'll find stores here that sell ready-to-wear pieces, as well as various textiles. In fact, Ki Lung Street is also home to a fabric market that's frequented by local designers. If you want to pick up some fabric, note that most stalls start selling from the early morning and are closed over the weekends.



3 Tai Nan Street (Leather Street)

During the peak of Hong Kong's manufacturing boom, Tai Nan Street was home to a lot of factories that produced leather, fabrics and accessories. Today, only a handful of vendors from that era remain, including **Luen Cheong Leather Hong Kong** (Address: 173 Tai Nan Street, Sham Shui Po, Tel: +852 2393 5926), which was established in 1948 and specialises in locally made vegetable tanned cow hides. In recent years, the street's welcomed a second wave of artisans, such as **Alri Star Leather Factory** (Address: 189 Tai Nan Street, Sham Shui Po, Tel: +852 3791 2217) and **The Lederer** (Address: 219 Tai Nan Street, Tel: +852 2566 8922), both of which offer quality hides and tools, as well as workshops that teach aspiring craftsmen how to make their very own leather goods.





4 Nam Cheong Street (Ribbon Street)

Nam Cheong Street was an integral part of Sham Shui Po's textiles and manufacturing industry in the 1950s and 1960s. Even now, it's one of the best places to find lace and ribbon in all sizes, shapes and colours. Mostly sold at wholesale prices, these ribbons and trimmings are great for DIY crafts or for brightening up any article of clothing.

6 Cheung Sha Wan Fashion Road

A great place to score a real fashion bargain, this long road boasts a wide array of shops selling fabrics, buttons, embellishments and ready-to-wear pieces – almost all at wholesale prices. Whether you're looking for new outfits or an accessory to brighten up a dress, you can easily spend hours here, sifting through the dizzying range of products on offer. Happy shopping!



5 Yen Chow Street Temporary Hawker Bazaar

With 40 odd years of history, this textiles market has a roof built with corrugated metal, plastic sheets and tarpaulins, and sells fabrics in various colours, patterns and materials.

Address: 373 Lai Chi Kok Road, Sham Shui Po



Traditional artisans

As Sham Shui Po became known as the textiles hub of Hong Kong, a lot of skilled craftsmen who worked in the fabrics industry found it the perfect place to start their businesses. While a lot of companies have moved on to using machines to mass-produce their products, there are still some dedicated artisans working in Sham Shui Po who preserve decades-old traditions by offering handcrafted goods or services.



7 Sun Cheong Sewing Machine Company

This humble little store is always filled with sewing machines. The owner, Peter Yu, has been fixing sewing machines for more than 40 years, having inherited the trade from his father. Affectionately dubbed 'Uncle Sewing Machine' by his customers, Yu also sells second-hand machines, from basic domestic devices to vintage models that date back to the late 1800s.

Address: Shop 14, 1/F, Welland Plaza, 188 Nam Cheong Street, Sham Shui Po
Tel: +852 2720 2111



8 Yue Fung Loong

Founded in 1956, Yue Fung Loong first began as a rice shop, before it ventured into the textile industry in the 80s. Today, it's a fabric shop that provides drapery-seaming service. The shop offers over 20 types of fabrics, ranging from cotton cloths and curtains to wedding dress material. Historic fixtures can also be found at the shop, like its old-styled signboard and traditional mosaic tiles. Former apprentices at Yuen Fung Loon even return sometimes to help cut fabrics and make face masks during the pandemic.

Address: 96 Fuk Wa Street, Sham Shui Po
Tel: +852 6247 7098



9 Hip Yee Hing Embroidery

Hip Yee Hing's founder learned how to make pure cotton bedding by hand while working as an apprentice in Shanghai. He's since passed on the skills of this disappearing craft to his daughter, who now manages the store. The handwoven quilts aren't cheap, but they're exceptionally warm and sturdy and can last for decades. Aside from quilts, Hip Yee Hing also sells pillows, mattresses and bed covers.

Address: Shop 121, G/F, Block 20, Shek Kip Mei Estate, Nam Cheong Street, Sham Shui Po
Tel: +852 2779 1079



New sense of style

Sham Shui Po's legacy as the heart of Hong Kong's textiles and garments industry has inspired a new generation of designers and creative entrepreneurs to set up their businesses in this colourful neighbourhood in recent years. With this new creative energy, as well as plans for a new fashion and design centre to be built, Sham Shui Po is set to revive its reputation as the clothing hub of Hong Kong.

10 Doughnut

A rising local designer backpack label, Doughnut started as an online store before opening a boutique in Sham Shui Po in 2013. The brand has since expanded and now has several stores around Hong Kong. Its cute backpacks and hipster-esque luggage come in countless colours and sizes and are perfect for any outdoor adventure or fashion statement.

Address: 68 Fuk Wa Street, Sham Shui Po
Tel: +852 2386 3279
Website: www.doughnutofficial.com



11 Dude & Bestie

Founded in 2012, this homegrown Hong Kong brand designs chic and functional bags for both men and women. Although you can shop for items on Dude & Bestie's website, it is a pleasure to visit the brick-and-mortar shop in Sham Shui Po, which is fully stocked with the brand's latest goods, ranging from practical briefcases to waterproof and wear-resistant bags ideal for the outdoors. You can even personalise your purchase with the shop's vintage Kingsley hot foil stamping machine from the 1970s.

Address: 86 Fuk Wa Street, Sham Shui Po
Tel: +852 2766 1068
Website: www.dudebestie.com



SIMPLE
FLAVOURS

Humble pleasures

Sham Shui Po's history as an industrial hub has given it a dining scene renowned for simple pleasures that are cheap and cheerful, simple but satisfying. From traditional noodles to creative desserts, you can easily enjoy a great meal here without breaking the bank.



12 Kung Wo Beancurd Factory

Kung Wo Beancurd Factory has been in Sham Shui Po since 1960. The old-school store sells various soy products, which have remained popular throughout the years. The signature beancurd puddings are smooth as silk and boast a rich soybean flavour. The beancurd puffs, deep-fried tofu and homemade sugar-free soy milk are also worth trying.

Address: 118 Pei Ho Street, Sham Shui Po
Tel: +852 2386 6871



13 Tim Ho Wan

Not only is Tim Ho Wan considered one of the best dim sum spots in Hong Kong, this local neighbourhood gem offers one of the cheapest Michelin-starred dining experiences in the world. Its most famous dish? The baked barbecue pork buns are mouth-watering and addictive.

Address: 9-11 Fuk Wing Street, Sham Shui Po
Tel: +852 2788 1226
Website: www.timhowan.com.hk

14 Sun Hang Yuen

There's nowhere else in Hong Kong that does better beef and egg sandwiches than Sun Hang Yuen. Aside from its trademark sandwiches, this cha chaan teng (Hong Kong-style café) is also known for its pork knuckle noodles and milk tea, which can be ordered without sugar or with different milk ratios.

Address: 38 Kweilin Street, Sham Shui Po
Tel: +852 2386 2748





15 Wai Kee Noodle Cafe

This local cha chaan teng is known for its pig's liver noodles. It might not sound the most appealing, but locals and tourists alike make the journey to Sham Shui Po for this unique dish. If liver is not to your taste, you can also choose beef, ham, egg or sausage. If you fancy something sweeter, be sure to go for the kaya French toast.

Address: 62 & 66 Fuk Wing Street, Sham Shui Po
Tel: +852 2387 6515



16 Lau Sum Kee Noodle

Founded more than 60 years ago, this old-school restaurant still makes its noodles from scratch – a real rarity in Hong Kong. Third-generation owner, Lau Fat-cheong, carries on the family tradition of kneading dough with a heavy bamboo pole to create a firmer and more textured noodle. The restaurant's lo mein (dry noodles) are a must-try, and are famously served with a massive portion of dried shrimp roe to give them a huge umami punch.

Address: 48 Kweilin Street, Sham Shui Po
Tel: +852 2386 3533



17 Yuen Fong Dumpling Store

Yuen Fong has a loyal fan base, thanks to its deliciously plump, hand-wrapped dumplings. The leek and meat dumplings are a must-try. These can be ordered in soup or pan-fried to a crisp, golden brown. Aside from dumplings, Yuen Fong also offers noodles, congee and snacks – all under HK\$50.

Address: 104 Fuk Wa Street, Sham Shui Po
Tel: +852 2720 0855



18 Block 18 Doggie's Noodle

Don't worry – there's no dog meat in these 'dog noodles', which some claim to be named for their stubby, tail-like shape. These noodles were a popular street snack during the 1950s and early 1960s, thanks to their cheap but filling nature. At Block 18, they're topped with cost-effective yet flavourful ingredients such as mushrooms, dried shrimp, garlic and preserved vegetables. Aside from the noodles, we also recommend the umami mock shark's fin soup made with shredded duck.

Address: 88 Fuk Wing Street, Sham Shui Po





19 Flying Eagle

Flying Eagle is one of the few old-school, Chinese-style steakhouses left in the city. Opened in 1977, the family-run eatery has retained much of its photo-worthy retro look, as well as its pan-European menu, which includes dishes such as borscht soup, German pork knuckle and various cuts of steak served theatrically on a sizzling iron plate.

Address: 256 Lai Chi Kok Road, Sham Shui Po
Tel: +852 2395 2576



20 Sun Luen Feng Noodles

Opened for more than 30 years, this humble neighbourhood gem is known for its down-to-earth but delicious noodles, including its wonton soup noodles and ja jeung meen (noodles with soybean paste). If you don't have time to sit down, you should still try the famed curry fishballs and octopus, which are sold outside the store.

Address: 143 Kweilin Street, Sham Shui Po
Tel: +852 2708 8318



21 So Kee

This dai pai dong is among the few traditional outdoor food stalls left in the city. Offering a quintessentially Hong Kong dining experience, So Kee serves classic local delicacies such as French toast, instant noodles topped with pork chop and a fried egg, and Hong Kong-style milk tea in a no-frills setting. The shop is open daily except for Mondays.

Address: 15-16 Yiu Tung Street, Sham Shui Po
Tel: +852 2779 1182

22 Man Kei Cart Noodles

Man Kei Cart Noodles is so popular that it boasts three outlets on the same block – all of which are constantly packed with diners. The eatery offers a diverse selection of noodle types, soup bases and ingredients that are all prepared fresh to order. Try the chu hou beef brisket and Swiss chicken wings, as well as the special chilli sauce, which is made in-house. These items are so tasty, they're recommended even in Michelin's street food guide.

Address: 109, 111-117E, 121 & 123C Fuk Wing Street, Sham Shui Po
Tel: +852 9059 5104



23 Luk Lam Dessert

Luk Lam has remained a neighbourhood favourite since opening its doors in Sham Shui Po more than 30 years ago. The shop specialises in traditional Chinese desserts such as sweet soups made from red bean, nuts or black sesame. If you want something more novel, Luk Lam also offers creative new sweets such as tofu pudding and durian pancake.

Address: 77-79 Un Chau Street, Sham Shui Po
Tel: +852 2361 4205



24 Pei Ho Counterparts

Pei Ho's owner Ming Gor is a true local hero. He came up with different ways to help the needy in Sham Shui Po, first by offering meal vouchers for his restaurant and eventually by handing out free lunchboxes. The restaurant serves cha chaan teng staples such as noodles and rice sets. These may be simple but they're also the sort of food that feeds the soul.

Address: 278 Tai Nan Street, Sham Shui Po
Website: www.peiho.hk



25 Kwan Kee Store

Locals come to this corner eatery for its homemade Chinese sweets. Recommended in Michelin's street food guide, the shop is most famous for its bowl puddings – aka put chai koh in Cantonese – which are made with white or brown sugar and studded with red beans. Other traditional treats include white sugar cakes and black sesame rolls.

Shop 10, G/F, Pei Ho Building Shopping Centre, 115-117 Fuk Wa Street, Sham Shui Po
Tel: +852 2360 0328

Something to snack on

Sham Shui Po is a great place to visit if you want to sample the local street food. Along the many busy streets in this neighbourhood, you'll find stalls selling everything from curry fishballs on a skewer to old-school baked goods. Stop by any of these street vendors for a quick and cheap snack to help you refuel as you explore the rest of Sham Shui Po.



26 Hop Yik Tai

Made fresh every day, the delicious cheong fun – or rice noodle roll – is incredibly smooth and pairs perfectly with the combination of sweet sauce, sesame sauce and soy sauce. This humble snack costs only a few dollars and is recommended even by the Michelin Guide. It's no wonder there are queues all the time.

Address: 121 Kweilin Street, Sham Shui Po
Tel: +852 2720 0239



28 King of Coconut

This street stall has multiple locations across the city, thanks to the popularity of its coconut beverage. The drink is prepared fresh to order and is made using the juice of Thai or Malaysian coconuts. Sweet and refreshing, it's the perfect accompaniment to Sham Shui Po's many street eats.

Address: 42-44 Kweilin Street, Sham Shui Po
Tel: +852 6623 9293



27 San Lung Cake Shop

This neighbourhood gem sells traditional Chinese sweets, from black sesame cakes to flaky pastries filled with whole century eggs. It's also one of the few places left in Hong Kong that handmakes and bakes its mooncakes fresh to order. A true labour of love, these pastries sell hundreds a day in the lead-up to the Mid-Autumn Festival.

Address: 68 Pei Ho Street, Sham Shui Po
Tel: +852 2360 1359



29 Hei Hei Snack Stall

Located at the juncture of Kweilin Street and Fuk Wing Street, this bustling food stall is one of the best spots to sample Hong Kong's local street snacks. What sets it apart from other places is the wide range of items it offers. You can order everything from the common curry fishball and egg waffles to deep-fried fish siu mai, pig's intestines and soy-braised cow offal.

Address: 125 Fuk Wing Street,
Sham Shui Po



A fresh new flavour

Sham Shui Po has no shortage of traditional eateries that have been around for decades. In recent years, however, the district has also seen an inflow of ambitious young entrepreneurs who are bringing a new flavour to Sham Shui Po. From cool cafés to casual burger joints, these new establishments have made the neighbourhood's dining scene as diverse and vibrant as the community it feeds.

30 Kakurega Ramen Factory

This hidden eatery attracts flocks of dedicated foodies. Some wait for more than an hour to try the famous tsukemen – a type of ramen that's served with a separate bowl of dipping broth. The menu is sparse, listing only three choices of pork bone bases (original, black garlic and spicy). Once you've decided on your broth, you can choose additional accompaniments such as soft-boiled egg and char siu pork.

Address: Shop 7083, 7/F, Dragon Centre, 37 Yen Chow Street,
Sham Shui Po
Tel: +852 3487 0989



31 Kedai Kopi Semua Semua

Kedai Kopi Semua Semua serves delicious Malaysian dishes such as chicken curry, silver needle noodles and otak otak. The puntastic names on the menu such as 辣死你媽 (pronounced lat sei nei ma, meaning “so spicy it kills your mum”) for nasi lemak adds extra character to the already-flavourful restaurant.



Address: 251 Ki Lung Street, Sham Shui Po
Tel: +852 2447 3188 / +852 2447 9188



32 Coffee Matters

Occupying a refurbished leather wholesale shop, this hip café has preserved a slice of the 1950s by retaining much of the shop's original touches, including the green-and-white floor tiling. Minimalism is the name of the game here – the space is decked out in simple, wooden furniture complete with a no-fuss menu that offers a variety of hand drip coffee, tea and light bites. The café adheres to a sustainable ethos, too. All iced beverages are served without plastic straws.

Address: 170 Ki Lung Street, Sham Shui Po
Tel: +852 6496 2609



33 Café Sausalito

Café Sausalito was the first café that opened on Tai Nan Street. Since its opening in 2014, the charming café has become a mecca for javaholics across the city with its brilliant brews. Aside from lattes and cappuccinos, they also offer pour-over coffees. Stop by during weekends for some awesome live jamming sessions.

Address: 201 Tai Nan Street, Sham Shui Po
Tel: +852 3689 3292
Website: www.cafesausalitohk.com



35 Triple Steak

Affordable and innovative, this Japanese-style self-service restaurant only offers three types of beef – tenderloin, sirloin and the signature triple steak – with soup, rice and salad. Customers can place their orders at one of the digital vending machines and grab a seat at the counter while waiting for their food to arrive. Carnivores will be thrilled at the sight of thick steaks that come served on sizzling hot plates.

Address: 52-54 Yen Chow Street,
Sham Shui Po
Tel: +852 2811 8606

34 Burgerman

Inspired by the blue-collar American ethos, Burgerman's mission is to serve quality food at affordable prices. Keeping to this promise, the patties here are made with 100% prime ground beef and the portions are also incredibly generous. Order the signature double-patty Trucker Burger and you'll see what we mean.

Address: 65-71 Yen Chow Street, Sham Shui Po
Tel: +852 2374 6007



LIVE, WORK
AND PRAY

Building a community

One of the oldest districts in Hong Kong, Sham Shui Po has played a huge role in shaping the local way of living. The district's East-meets-West character has influenced the architectural style of the residential buildings and landmarks in the area. In the 1950s, Sham Shui Po also saw the birth of the first public housing estates in the city, marking the beginning of the government-funded housing project which still provides homes for more than two million Hong Kong residents today.



36 YHA Mei Ho House Youth Hostel

Originally part of the Shek Kip Mei Estate that was constructed after a massive fire left nearly 58,000 homeless in 1953, Mei Ho House is a physical symbol of the beginning of Hong Kong's public housing policies. The building has been awarded an honourable mention by the UNESCO Asia-Pacific Heritage Awards for Cultural Heritage Conservation and now serves as a popular youth hostel. To celebrate the history of Sham Shui Po, the building also houses the Heritage of Mei Ho House museum, which documents the development of public housing and living conditions in Hong Kong from the 1950s to the 1970s. The "Memories of Our Days" exhibition also presents two thematic zones that bring scenes of the grassroots lifestyles in the 1950x and 1960s back to life.

Address: Block 41, Shek Kip Mei Estate, 70 Berwick Street, Sham Shui Po
Tel: +852 3728 3500
Website: www.yha.org.hk/mhh



37 Precious Blood Convent

The Precious Blood Convent played an important role in the welfare of the community when it opened its doors in 1929. Not only did it provide shelter and free medical care to the poor, it was also an orphanage for abandoned babies. Today, the neoclassical building is not open to the public, but it can still be admired from the street, where it stands as a symbol of charity and commitment to those who are in need.

Address: 86 Un Chau Street, Sham Shui Po

38 170 Yee Kuk Street

A Grade II historic building, 170 Yee Kuk Street is what is known as a tong lau – a type of tenement building that was prevalent in South China in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Built in the 1920s, the ground floor formerly acted as a shop for a frame-maker, while the floors above served a residential function. Business has long ceased but the building's windows – distinctive of old tong lau across Hong Kong – and the calligraphic signs advertising the old framing business remain local icons.

Address: 170 Yee Kuk Street, Sham Shui Po





39 Sham Shui Po Chinese Public Dispensary

This medical centre gave Yee Kuk Street its name ('yee kuk' means clinic in Cantonese). A Grade II historic building, this construction was built in the 1930s after its former site, also on Yee Kuk Street, was deemed insufficient to meet the medical needs of local residents. The building is no longer open to the public, but you can still admire the stunning art deco architecture from the outside; the building's pillars are adorned with Western classical motifs while the balcony railings feature bamboo-shaped Chinese ceramic tiles – a beautiful example of Hong Kong's East-meets-West ethos.

Address: 137 Yee Kuk Street, Sham Shui Po

40 Lei Cheng Uk Han Tomb Museum

This four-chambered tomb was discovered in 1955 when a hill was being levelled in preparation for the construction of resettlement buildings. Inscriptions found within suggest that it dates back to the Eastern Han dynasty (AD 25-220). Although the tomb is closed to the public for conservation reasons, visitors can still get a glimpse of this remarkable relic from behind a glass panel, and can also learn more about the tomb's history by looking at pottery and bronze pieces that were excavated from the site. The historic landmark is easily accessible with a 10-minute walk from MTR Cheung Sha Wan Station.

Address: 41 Tonkin Street, Sham Shui Po
Tel: +852 2386 2863



41 Sham Shui Po Park

This memorial park is located on an important historical site. Formerly the Sham Shui Po Barracks in the 1920s, this piece of land became the main POW camp during the Japanese Occupation of Hong Kong. Here you'll find two plaques erected in 1989 and 1991 to commemorate those who perished in the POW camp.

Address: 733 Lai Chi Kok Road, Sham Shui Po



42 Jao Tsung-I Academy

Sitting on a lush hillside in Lai Chi Kok (and just a few minutes' walk away from MTR Mei Foo Station), is a shining example of Hong Kong's revitalisation efforts done right: the Jao Tsung-I Academy. This large-scale, century-old compound boasts a colourful history. First built as a customs station during the Qing dynasty (1644-1911), it later became labourers' quarters, a quarantine station, prison, hospital for infectious diseases, and after that, a psychiatric rehabilitation centre. Now, the site serves as a cultural landmark that hosts thematic exhibitions, workshops, seminars, festive events and educational programmes etc within its tranquil grounds. Enjoy the available food, buy souvenirs and stay overnight at this historic site at The Heritage Lodge, which houses 89 guest rooms.

Address: 800 Castle Peak Road, Sham Shui Po
Tel: +852 2100 2828
Website: www.jtia.hk/en

A centre of industry is born

Sham Shui Po was an important hub for Hong Kong's manufacturing boom during the middle part of the 20th century. This development had a lot to do with the district's position on the boundary of New Kowloon. The pier at the junction of Tung Chau Street and Pei Ho Street allowed workers – many from Guangdong and Shanghai – to bring their skills to Hong Kong. At the same time, manufactured goods could be easily shipped, which in turn fuelled factory production. Nowadays, the mass manufacturing industry may not be as prominent as it once was, but the proud working-class ethos remains strong in this district.



43 Jockey Club Creative Arts Centre (JCCAC)

The JCCAC building was once a factory estate that housed the city's cottage industries. It was given a facelift and a new lease on life when it reopened in 2008 as a bustling creative hub, providing venues for burgeoning and established artists alike to display their creations. The space also houses a theatre, craft shops and the **Heritage Tea House**, where visitors can enjoy a traditional brew while they explore this nine-storey building.

Address: 30 Pak Tin Street, Sham Shui Po
Tel: +852 2353 1311
Website: www.jccac.org.hk

44 Nam Cheong Pawn Shop

Hong Kong's pawnbroking industry exploded after the government legalised it in 1926. Built during that decade, the Nam Cheong Pawn Shop is a reminder of this once-flourishing business that helped fuel the city's economy. Today, the Grade III historic building still boasts many traditional features, including the saloon doors at the entrance and the iconic pawnshop sign featuring the auspicious symbol of an upside-down bat holding a coin.

Address: 117 Nam Cheong Street,
Sham Shui Po
Tel: +852 2386 8990



45 Ho Chung Kee

Tucked away in an alley, this tiny store has been making galvanised iron products for more than half a century. Although now a rare sight, these items were once a mainstay in homes and businesses before they were displaced by plastic and stainless steel. The wares sold here are all hand-moulded by owner Mr Ho, one of the few remaining artisans in this trade.

Address: 151 Cheung Sha Wan
Road, Sham Shui Po
Tel: +852 2380 3943



Places of worship

Many of the temples in Sham Shui Po were built by early immigrants from Mainland China who wanted to honour the deities that they worshipped back home. Aside from allowing immigrants to hold on to their beliefs and traditions, these religious establishments also became sites for the neighbourhood's residents to come together as a community, especially during big festivals and ceremonies.



46 Kwan Tai Temple

Constructed in 1891, Kwan Tai Temple is the only place of worship in Kowloon dedicated to the god of war and righteousness. This Grade II historic building is a great example of traditional Lingnan architecture and includes many stunning features, including a giant bronze bell and crescent blade. The temple is open to the public on most days but it becomes a real spectacle on the 24th day of the sixth lunar month, when crowds arrive in droves to celebrate Kwan Tai's birthday.

Address: 158 Hai Tan Street, Sham Shui Po



47 Sam Tai Tsz & Pak Tai Temple

Two temples in one complex, Sam Tai Tsz Temple is a Grade II historic building originally built in 1898 by Hakka immigrants to honour their patron deity, Sam Tai Tsz, after a particularly deadly plague swept through Sham Shui Po. Full of fascinating details, the temple houses cultural relics that date back to the late Qing dynasty (1644-1911). After exploring this fascinating site, head next door to Pak Tai Temple – a Grade III historic building built by local fishermen in 1920 to honour the Emperor of the North, the eponymous Pak Tai.

Address: 196-198 Yu Chau Street, Sham Shui Po



48 Lung Hing Tong

A popular spot with Instagrammers, this building is unlike anything else in Sham Shui Po. It's home to Lung Hing Tong, an institution established in 1931 that offers a range of services from the medical to the spiritual and religious. Its colourful green tiling is in stark contrast to the neutral blocks sitting on either side, and its eye-catching design is topped by a 3D dragon, cranes and deer emerging out of the frescos on the roof.

Address: 92-94 Ki Lung Street, Sham Shui Po
Tel: +852 2381 6067
Website: www.lunghingtong.org (Chinese only)

UNCOVERING
HIDDEN GEMS

Street markets

Sham Shui Po's open-air street markets are a fantastic way to experience the lively local culture. Aside from vendors specialising in textiles and clothing materials, there are stalls that peddle everything from electronics and accessories, to fruits and vegetables. Most items are reasonably priced and you can always try haggling your way to an even lower cost.



49 Apliu Street

This busy street is lined with shops and stalls selling all sorts of electronic gadgets. You'll never know what bargain you might find here, from the latest mobile phone accessories to vintage typewriters and home appliances. While you're here, be sure to check out **Audio Space** (Address: 1/F, 151 Apliu Street, Sham Shui Po, Tel: +852 2729 7271/2781 1687). Not only is this store known for its high-quality audio products, it was also featured in the iconic 2002 Hong Kong crime-thriller, *Infernal Affairs*, starring Andy Lau and Tony Leung.



50 Fuk Wing Street (Toy Street)

Also known as Toy Street, this spot is a go-to for those looking for children's toys, affordable stationery, knock-offs and party accessories. With more than 30 stores, kids and grown-ups alike can experience the joys of discovering hidden gems at any one of these treasure troves.



51 Pei Ho Street

This bustling wet market is the perfect place to experience Sham Shui Po like a local. The street is lined with stores and stalls that sell fresh fruits and vegetables, meats and all sorts of daily necessities. The street also houses numerous snack stalls, so you can grab a quick bite to eat while you browse through all the goods on offer.

Places of discovery

There's plenty to explore in Sham Shui Po. If you're in the mood for treasure hunting, check out one of the maze-like shopping complexes or hidden stores in the area. And once you've strolled through the neighbourhood, consider taking a short and easy hike, which will give you a whole new view of Sham Shui Po.



52 Dragon Centre

The only established mall in Sham Shui Po, Dragon Centre is especially popular with local teenagers as well as families with kids. The labyrinthine complex boasts a lot of tiny boutiques, eateries and snack stores selling fun and quirky items. Aside from shopping and eating, Dragon Centre also boasts an ice-skating rink if you fancy a cool spin. There's also an indoor rollercoaster which, although no longer in operation, is still a sight to behold.

Address: 37K Yen Chow Street, Sham Shui Po
Tel: +852 2360 0982
Website: www.dragoncentre.com.hk

53 Sun Nga Shing Umbrella Store

Established in 1842, Sun Nga Shing is one of the last stores in Hong Kong that still offers umbrella repair services. Aside from getting your umbrella fixed, you can also admire the numerous handcrafted umbrellas that fifth-generation owner Yau Yiu-wai has made himself (although they're unfortunately not for sale). Incredibly friendly, Mr Yau is always happy to have a chat about the art of making umbrellas and how best to maintain them.

Address: Shop B1, 314 Lai Chi Kok Road, Sham Shui Po
Tel: +852 9248 5748



54 Vinyl Hero

Tucked away in a residential building on busy Cheung Sha Wan Road is the treasure trove that is Paul's record collection. In a small, cosy space, owner Paul has boxes upon boxes of vinyl records from the 1960s to 1980s. The prices are low and the records span all genres, making it a must-visit for music fans. Be sure to call ahead to make sure Paul is around to let you in.

Address: Flat D, 5/F, Wai Hong Building, 239 Cheung Sha Wan Road, Sham Shui Po
Tel: +852 9841 7136



55 Golden Computer Centre and Arcade

Originally dedicated to fashion wholesale in the 1970s, the mall eventually morphed into the mecca for gamers that it is today. Occupying the first floor and basement, Golden Computer Centre and Arcade is a maze of tightly packed stores that stocks the latest gear, games and gadgets. Prices vary from store to store, so be sure to visit multiple shops and compare prices before you make a purchase.

Address: 146-152 Fuk Wing Street, Sham Shui Po (Arcade) / 94A Yen Chow Street, Sham Shui Po (Centre)

56 Bo Wah Effigies

Bo Wah specialises in paper effigies that are burned in traditional Chinese rituals as offerings to honour the deceased. Aside from market-standard effigies such as clothes and houses, this museum-like store also offers more modern items and custom-made products such as smartphones, electric guitars and even a Darth Vader helmet inspired by the *Star Wars* films.

Address: 2D Fuk Wing Street, Sham Shui Po
Tel: +852 2776 9171



57 Wah Ngai Canvas

Opened in 1954, Wah Ngai is best known as the birthplace of the red, white and blue bag. The founder Lee Wah started hand-making these nylon carryalls in the 1960s. Cheap but durable, these bags became extremely popular, especially with those who wanted to bring gifts back to relatives in Mainland China. Still widely seen throughout the city, these bags have gone on to become an icon of Hong Kong culture. Today, you can pick up this classic bag at Wah Ngai Canvas, **Tsuen Kee Canvas** (Address: 219 Yee Kuk Street, Tel: +852 2729 1054) or **Sun Kee Canvas** (Address: 37 Yen Chow Street, Tel: +852 2393 5073).

Address: 22B Yen Chow Street, Sham Shui Po
Tel: +852 2748 7311



58 Garden Hill

Get a completely different perspective of Sham Shui Po from the summit of Garden Hill. A quiet escape from the hustle and bustle of the densely packed neighbourhood, this short urban hike also affords great views of the district below, especially during sunset and evening hours. To access, simply walk up the foot of the hill, which is the slope right by the YHA Mei Ho House Youth Hostel on Berwick Street.



New wave of creativity

Sham Shui Po is home to a lot of time-honoured stores and attractions, but thanks to its down-to-earth, community-driven atmosphere, the neighbourhood has also become a hub for a lot of hip and happening start-ups that are well worth visiting. These range from independent boutiques to cutting-edge art projects, all of which have given this historical neighbourhood a breath of fresh air.



69 Toolss

Toolss is a lifestyle space that is part café and part stationery shop. Grab a seat inside, where you can browse through magazines or jot down your thoughts using the beautiful writing materials sold at the store. There are also a few stools by the open window, where you can unwind over a cup of freshly brewed coffee and watch the world go by.

Address: Shop 2-3 & 37, G/F, Fook Tin Building, 38 Wai Chi Street, Sham Shui Po
Tel: +852 3954 5135



60 Midway Shop

This charming concept store is inspired by the people and stories that the owners have come across during their travels. The boutique stocks products and trinkets from all corners of the world. Feel free to browse through all the products on offer, and ask about the stories behind each of them. Note that Midway Shop is closed on Mondays and Tuesdays.

Address: 132B Ki Lung Street, Sham Shui Po
Tel: +852 3188 1951
Website: www.midway.voyage

61 Savon Workshop

This fragrant shop is a great spot to visit if you want a momentary escape from the hustle and bustle of the rest of Sham Shui Po. The store sells handmade bars of soap crafted from a range of all-natural ingredients such as lavender, rose and coffee. If you have some extra time, consider signing up for one of the classes or private workshops, where you can learn how to make your own bars of soap at home. Classes are available in Cantonese, Mandarin and English.

Address: 191-193 Tai Nan Street, Sham Shui Po
Tel: +852 2677 8173
Website: www.savonworkshop.com





62 Form Society

Artist Wong Tin-yan founded Form Society with the hopes of bringing the community closer together. The 1,300 sq ft space is split into five main areas, including a collaboration space and a multipurpose exhibition area. This creative space also hosts regular guest speaker sessions, workshops and pop-up events – all open to the public – so be sure to check ahead to see what they have coming up.

Address: 186 Tai Nan Street, Sham Shui Po
Tel: +852 9751 7157



63 Siugreat Stationery

Fans of stationery, especially the Japanese-made variety, will surely be delighted by the remarkable selection offered at this hidden fifth-floor store. Aside from the standard supply of pens and paper, Siugreat stocks an array of lesser-seen Japanese fountain pens and more than 100 types of ink imported from Japan and Europe. Note that the shop only opens on weekends.

Address: Room 504, 5/F, Wing Yip Commercial Building, 65-71 Yen Chow Street, Sham Shui Po



64 Openground

The two-storey Openground is a café, bookstore and atelier all in one. Visitors can enjoy a smooth cup of coffee while getting acquainted with artists who are making waves in the local art scene, such as Little Thunder and Kong Kee. The concept store also hosts intimate talks and workshops with master artists in Hong Kong.

Address: 198 Tai Nan Street, Sham Shui Po
Tel: +852 3974 5098



65 Parallel Space

Founded and curated by Kim Lam, Parallel Space is an independent art gallery-slash-exhibition venue that curates and organises all sorts of 'art-ivities', including cultural workshops and artist talks. Past events include a pop-up show featuring only live plants and an Instagram photo exhibition curated by renowned photographer Wing Shya. There is simply no limit to what the gallery presents.

Address: 202 Tai Nan Street, Sham Shui Po
Website: www.facebook.com/parallelspacehk

66 D2 Place

D2 Place is more than just another shopping mall in Hong Kong. Instead of massive chain stores and cookie-cutter retail shops, it houses stylish boutiques and pop-up stores from indie local and regional brands. The popular weekend markets also shine a spotlight on local culture and businesses, offering shopaholics a more meaningful shopping experience than what they would otherwise find at mega malls. A world of retail therapy awaits from MTR Lai Chi Kok Station Exit D2.

Address: 9 & 15 Cheung Yee Street, Sham Shui Po
Tel: +852 3620 3098 (D2 Place One)
+852 2557 7988 (D2 Place Two)



Sham Shui Po Movies

William Chang Suk-ping Interwoven Creativity

In the 2013 film, *The Grandmaster*, Sham Shui Po is portrayed as a gathering place for many martial arts experts. Aside from appearing in front of the camera, the district also plays an important behind-the-scenes role, acting as a source of creative material and inspiration for art director and costume designer, William Chang Suk-ping.

A renowned name in the creative field, Chang has been a long-time visitor of Sham Shui Po's fabric suppliers, including Moon Yue and Wa Fat. While he's visited textiles bazaars around the world, he still counts Sham Shui Po as

being among the best and returns at least once or twice a month to find fabrics for his costumes.

"In Sham Shui Po, the fabric selection is very comprehensive and everything is organised by category so it's easy to find what you need. There are also suppliers that sell everything from accessories and ribbons to crystals and beads. Whatever you need, you can find it here," Chang explains, adding that it's this variety and accessibility of products that draws even overseas designers to this fabric mecca.

Another thing that sets Sham Shui Po apart, says Chang, is its tight-knit community. Some vendors are willing to tailor-make textiles so a designer's vision can become a reality. As Chang puts it, Sham Shui Po is the perfect place to find the materials – and the inspiration – to create something that's truly special.



SHAM SHUI PO IN THE MOVIES

Sham Shui Po has played a starring role in a number of high-profile films. As you stroll through this vibrant neighbourhood, see if you can recognise the spots where the below movies were shot.



2001 • **Rush Hour 2**

Location: Tai Nan Street (p.5), Un Chau Street

2002

Starring Jackie Chan and Chris Tucker, this cop comedy features scenes of busy Sham Shui Po, with shots of Tai Nan Street and traditional shop houses along Un Chau Street.

Infernal Affairs

Location: Apliu Street, Audio Space (p.30)

This crime-thriller opens with its leads Andy Lau and Tony Leung listening to an old music recording at the Audio Space store above bustling Apliu Street.

2011



A Simple Life

Location: Ki Lung Street (p.4), Tong Chau Street

2014



Transformers: Age of Extinction

Location: Tai Nan Street (p.5), Nam Cheong Street (p.6)

This blockbuster literally stopped traffic while it was being filmed in Hong Kong. The movie features scenes with car-shaped Autobots and Decepticons weaving through the streets of Sham Shui Po, flanked by panicked onlookers.

2017

Ghost in the Shell

Location: Tai Nan Street (p.5)

Hong Kong features significantly in this stunning sci-fi spectacle, which stars Scarlett Johansson as a cyber-enhanced human soldier. Look out for the neon shop signs in the background, which are from Sham Shui Po.

Recommended Routes

Historical discoveries:
monuments that speak to the
neighbourhood's storied past



Joseph Ting

Pre-eminent historian of Hong Kong

A pre-eminent scholar of Hong Kong history, Professor Joseph Ting sees Sham Shui Po as a district with a rich cultural heritage and a lot of sites and attractions that speak to the city's East-meets-West past. Just take a stroll down Yen Chow Street, for example, and you'll see neoclassical monuments sitting side by side with Chinese-style tenement buildings known as tong lau. For those who are interested in the more recent history of Hong Kong, Professor Ting recommends visiting the Heritage of Mei Ho House museum, which features a fascinating exhibition on living and social conditions in Hong Kong since the 1950s.



- 1
YHA Mei Ho House Youth Hostel
 p.22
-
- 2
Precious Blood Convent
 p.23
-
- 3
Yen Chow Street
 →
- 4
Sham Shui Po Park
 p.25
-
- 5
Kweilin Street
 →
- 6
Sham Shui Po Chinese Public Dispensary
 p.24
-
- 7
Kwan Tai Temple
 p.29
-
- 8
Sam Tai Tsz & Pak Tai Temple
 p.29
-
- 9
Apliu Street
 p.30

Communal dining: eateries and sites loved by locals



Renee So
Owner of Kung Wo Beancurd Factory

Renee So has spent most of her life in Sham Shui Po. Growing up, her family operated a fruit and vegetable hawker stall right opposite Kung Wo Beancurd Factory. "I was still young back then and we had to move a lot of heavy goods. It was really tough work. Thankfully, the neighbours in the area always helped out," Ms So says, adding that this human kindness is what defines Sham Shui Po. Ms So's family became the owners of Kung Wo in 1997. After graduation, So worked in investment banking but in 2012 decided to leave that career to return to the neighbourhood she grew up in. "In Sham Shui Po, the local eateries and cafés are gathering places for those who live here," she explains. Kung Wo is among the eateries frequented by locals, but Ms So also has other favourites in the area. "We know all the restaurant owners around us and we support one another," she says. "There's a really strong sense of community here."



- 1
San Lung Cake Shop
 p.18
- 2
Kung Wo Beancurd Factory
 p.10
- 3
Wai Kee Noodle Cafe
 p.12
- 4
Heritage Tea House (JCCAC)
 p.26
- 5
Garden Hill
 p.35
- 6
Lau Sum Kee Noodle
 p.12
- 7
Luk Lam Dessert
 p.15

Walks of life: the vibrancy of Sham Shui Po experienced on foot



Au-yeung Ping-chi
Owner of Bo Wah Effigies

A former design student, Au-yeung Ping-chi started helping out at his father's paper effigies store after graduating from school. Although he currently lives in Yuen Long in the New Territories, Mr Au-yeung travels to Sham Shui Po almost every day and can often be found at Bo Wah, making paper offerings in the shape of modern-day consumer goods. "Even though this neighbourhood appears old and unglamorous, there's a lot to see and do here," he says. For visitors, he recommends Sham Shui Po's many shopping streets, including the always bustling Pei Ho Street. Those with a creative streak will also enjoy strolling down Yu Chau Street, Ki Lung Street and Nam Cheong Street, where they can shop for all sorts of materials for fun DIY projects.



- 1 **Ho Chung Kee** p.27 →
- 2 **Nam Cheong Street (Ribbon Street)** p.6 →
- 3 **Pei Ho Street** p.31 →
- 4 **Ki Lung Street (Button Street)** p.4 →
- 5 **Yu Chau Street (Bead Street)** p.3 →
- 6 **Tim Ho Wan** p.11 →
- 7 **Bo Wah Effigies** p.34 →
- 8 **Golden Computer Centre and Arcade** p.34 →
- 9 **Kwan Kee Store** p.17

**Creative calling:
establishments owned and
loved by the new generation**



Rex Yam
Co-founder of Doughnut

Rex Yam founded local backpack brand, Doughnut, with his business partner, Stephen Cheng in 2010. The pair started with an online store before moving into a brick-and-mortar shop in Sham Shui Po in 2013. "Some people think of Sham Shui Po as a poor and shabby neighbourhood but actually, a lot of young people come here especially to buy fabric, or to eat Wai Kee's pig liver noodles, or to shop around Golden Computer Centre... It's a very fun place," says Mr Yam. He's witnessed how the neighbourhood's evolved over the last few years. "We were probably the first young designer brand to open in this area. Nowadays, there are a lot of interesting cafés and shops, such as Form Society or the stores on Tai Nan Street," he says, adding, "we try to collaborate with the owners of these businesses. It's really revitalised this neighbourhood."



Hop Yik Tai
p.17

**Man Kei
Cart Noodles**
p.15

Fuk Wing Street
p.31

Doughnut
p.9

**The Lederer
(Tai Nan Street)**
p.5

Café Sausalito
p.21

**Alri Star
Leather Factory
(Tai Nan Street)**
p.5

Form Society
p.38



Star attractions: the very best of Sham Shui Po

Sham Shui Po is a colourful district with plenty of things to eat, see, buy and do. If you're short on time, check out this highlight route, which is designed to show off the best that this district has to offer, all in one single day. Recommended by locals who love and know this neighbourhood best, this easy walking tour allows you to experience the many facets of Sham Shui Po, from historical landmarks and creative new design stores to bustling shopping streets and beloved eateries. Happy exploring!


WALKING TOUR


- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>1
Kung Wo
Beancurd Factory
p.10</p> <p>↓</p> <p>2
Fuk Wing Street
p.31</p> <p>↓</p> <p>3
Doughnut
p.9</p> <p>↓</p> <p>4
Kwan Kee
Store
p.17</p> <p>↓</p> <p>5
Apliu Street
p.30</p> <p>↓</p> <p>6
Sam Tai Tsz &
Pak Tai Temple
p.29</p> | <p>12
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Computer Centre
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Pei Ho Street
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The Lederer
(Tai Nan Street)
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Ki Lung Street
(Button Street)
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Yu Chau Street
(Bead Street)
p.3</p> |
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