



7 DAY UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARK TOUR

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Hong Kong is blessed with some magnificent coastal scenery - in fact the United Nations has recognised that a large part of our NE coastline is globally unique and have declared it a UNESCO Global Geopark due to its very specific volcanic features.

These features include vertical cliffs, deep inlets and bays, columns of volcanic rocks, sea caves and sea arches. There are even natural tunnels through islands, that if the conditions are perfect, can be kayaked through.

Our 7 day sea kayak tour takes us through the entire Geopark with it's many incredible islands, beaches and geological features.

BASIC ITINERARY

All kayaking times are approximate and can be subject to change due to weather and sea conditions.

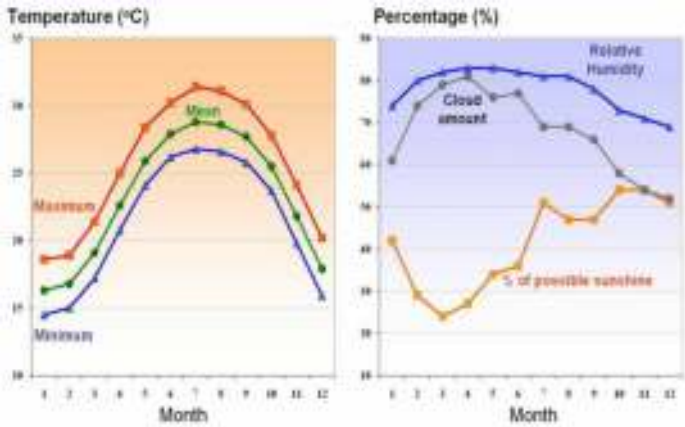
- Day 1: Shelter Bay, Sai Kung - O/N Shelter Bay**
- Day 2: Shelter Bay - Tai Long Wan - O/N Tai Long Wan.**
- Day 3: Tai Long Wan - Grass Island - O/N Grass Island**
- Day 4: Grass Island - Double Haven Lagoon - O/N Double Haven (DH)**
- Day 5: Double Haven Lagoon - O/N DH**
- Day 6: Double Haven to Lai Chi Wan - O/N LCW**
- Day 7: Lai Chi Wan - 3 Fathoms Cove**

Meeting place: Sai Kung (details to follow)
Ending place: Sai Kung.

TOUR FEATURES

- UNESCO Global Geopark
- Remote, uninhabited islands
- Snorkelling on coral reef
- Beach camping
- Mostly sheltered waters





The climate:

Hong Kong is hot and humid 6 months of the year (Apr-Nov) with the winds coming from the warm tropical oceans to the south.

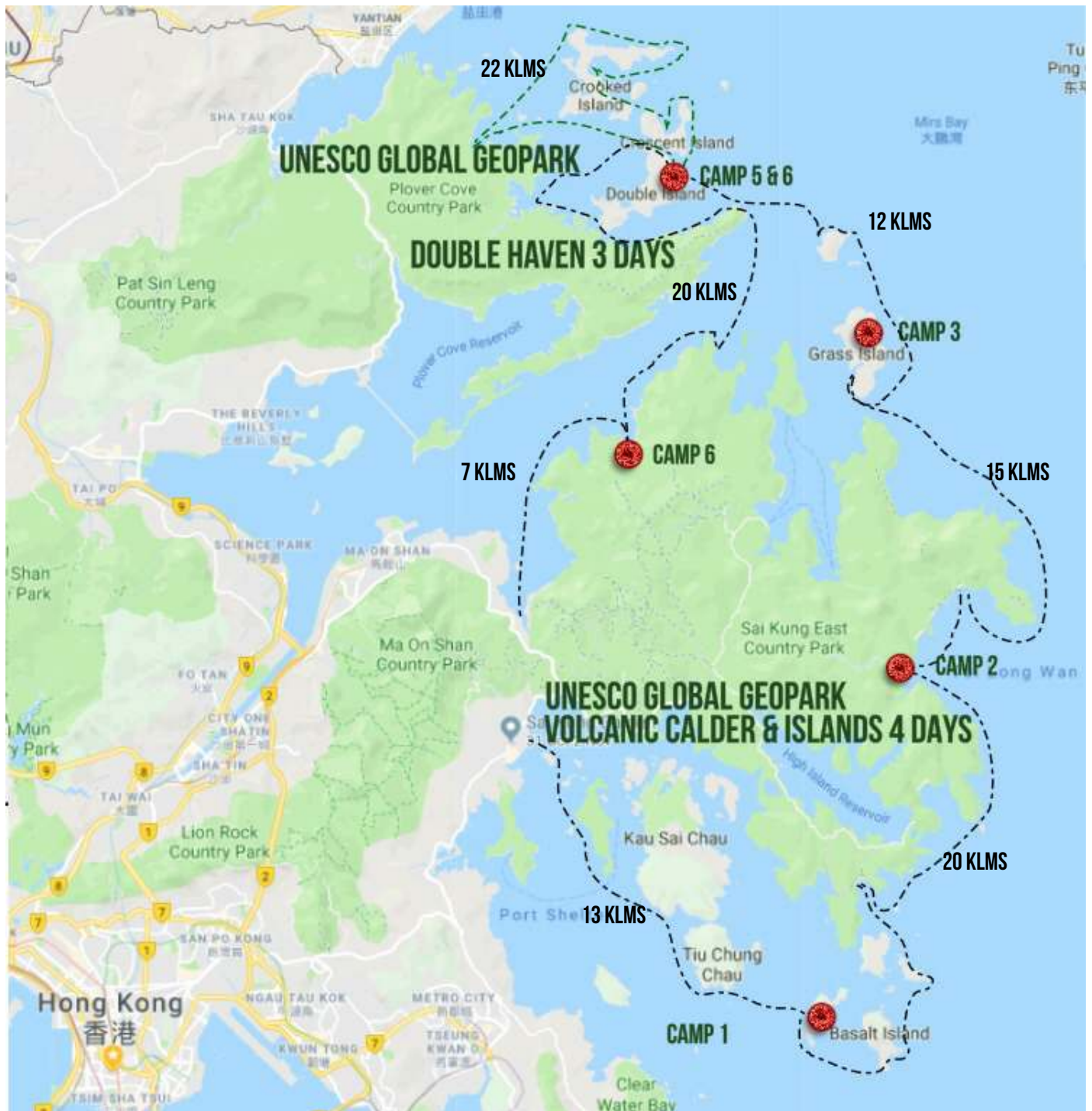
October and November are the best sea kayaking months due to the lower temperatures and the clearer skies (more sunshine).

The winds tend to still be from the south but are changing to the north east and not nearly as strong as during the winter period.

Monthly means of daily maximum, mean and minimum temperature (left), relative humidity, cloud amount recorded at the Hong Kong Observatory and percentage of possible sunshine at King's Park (right) between 1961-2010



7-DAY SAI KUNG GEOPARK TOUR



ITINERARY - DAY 1 Shelter Bay, Sai Kung

We meet at the McDonalds Restaurant in Sai Kung at 10:00 am. This location is easy to find and has plenty of space in the front to accumulate large groups.

From here it is a 10 minute walk to the waterfront and our waiting sea kayaks.

It shouldn't take more than an hour to pack the kayaks and depart from the beach. There are many routes for us to take on our first day. The choice will be determined by the wind and weather conditions.

Shelter Bay has inner and outer island groups, all formed by the flooding of the collapsed super volcano 140 million years ago. There are also a myriad of sand coral islands that have been created by the ocean current over the millennia.

We will most likely visit Sharp Island (the caldera edge) for a swim or possibly our first lunch place. Today we will need to paddle about 15 klms before camping. Its best to head to the outer islands as soon as possible to set up the camp for the night. The first night setup is always the slowest.

Our first of many beach campfires to close the day.



ITINERARY - DAY 2 Shelter Bay to Tai Long Wan

After a quick breakfast we head out into the ocean swells. These swells have carved the dramatic landscape created by the cooling of the molten volcanic ash into vertical columns, then the relentless pounding of the fractures and weak spots.

Today's coastline is vertical, indented cliffs with numerous sea caves, sea arches and columns.

We will stop for lunch at a remote beach somewhere on this coast and as always, have a swim.

Our intention is to arrive at Tai Long Wan (Big Wave Bay) early so we have chance to explore the amazing waterfall creek that cascades down the towering mountains surrounding the bay.

Tonight we can supplement our dinner with ice cold beer from a local village shop. Heaven.



ITINERARY - DAY 3 Tai Long Wan to Grass Island

Today we have a different day. An early morning breakfast followed by a short paddle brings us to a remote beach overlooked by Sharp Peak - our next destination.

This is a steep climb and on rainy days, can become very slippery but the views from the top are amazing.

After 2 hours we are back at the beach for a refreshing swim before leaving Tai Long Wan for the open ocean again.

Once more we are passing stunning sea cliffs, caves and 'organ pipes' of vertical hexagonal columns.

Sharp Peak (the peak we have just climbed) dominates our skyline to the south. Mainland China is now the coastline to our north.

Grass Island appears in the distance. A low lying island in complete contrast to the towering volcanic peaks and sheer cliffs of the past 3 days. We are now nearing Double Haven Lagoon. A transition to serenity and calm.

Our campsite is on a grassy embankment overlooking the ocean - ready for a beautiful sunrise.



ITINERARY - DAY 4 Grass Island to Double Haven Lagoon

Waking up on Grass Island is always a pleasure. The view over the ocean makes the day start as a day should.

This morning we are heading into a completely new section of the Geopark. Our first stop at port Island highlights how different the 2 sections are - we are now entering sedimentary country. The volcano has been left far behind.

Port Island is named because of it's red coloured rocks. There even is a red beach with a cascading waterfall to refresh yourself under. There is a new coral reef being monitored here. Our chance to snorkel again.

Crossing Tolo Channel we make the transition from volcanic to sedimentary rocks. From wild open ocean to peaceful lagoon.

Depending on the prevailing winds we have a couple of choices to camp. Both are on isolated beaches . The transition is complete.

Early camp makes this a relaxed day after the previous 4.



ITINERARY - DAY 5 Double Haven Lagoon

Today we don't have to pack up camp. Being in Double Haven Lagoon means we are inaccessible by road or track so we can safely leave our campsite erected and explore the islands of the lagoon.

The atmosphere in the lagoon is the absolute opposite of the previous 4 days. We are totally surrounded by interlocking islands so there is no swell at all. As such the ocean has taken on completely different characteristics.

The erosion is smooth and gentle. The islands are made of sandstone and mudstone with some volcanic intrusions and metamorphic combinations, but in general the land is low lying and well vegetated.

The Chinese villages on the shores have long since been deserted with the exception of a fishing village where we can get a top up for our water supplies. We will see the odd fishing boat and some people fishing from the rocks.

We spend the day exploring these remote islands and bays with a short hike to an incredible abandoned Chinese village. A beach fire tonight.



ITINERARY - DAY 6 Double Haven Lagoon to Lai Chi Wo.

Time to pack camp for the journey down the Tolo Channel. In keeping with our last couple of days, we depart soon after breakfast heading back out into the ocean swells.

Turning into the Tolo Channel it becomes very obvious from the straight line of the channel itself that this is a flooded fault line from a massive earthquake millions of years before.

We cross the channel into Hoi Ha Wan, Hong Kong's coral gardens. Here there are over 60 species of hard corals and associated fish life. It is a protected area. Our lunch here is on the beach on the edge of fringing reefs so we can snorkel and swim during our break from paddling.

Heading west now we pass through the Police Barricade, established in the late 1970's to stop the active smuggling trade between Hong Kong and China.

Our last night's camp is in our final visit to the Geopark at Lai Chi Wan.



TOUR DETAILS



7-DAY SAI KUNG GEOPARK TOUR

ITINERARY - DAY 7 Lai Chi Wan to 3 Fathoms Cove
After so many long days we have an easy one. We don't need to rise early because we are only 10 klms from our exit point at 3 Fathoms Cove.

It is surreal to paddle into view of high rise (typical Hong Kong) as we round the final bend in Tolo Channel. Hard to describe the difference from the previous 6 days.

We unpack our kayaks for the last time before driving back into Sai Kung for farewell drinks and stories.

An incredible 7 day experience.



MEETING PLACE & TIME

In front of the McDonalds Restaurant - Sai Kung - 10:00 AM



HOW TO GET TO SAI KUNG FROM HONG KONG CITY.

Public Transport:

1. There is a Red Express Mini-Bus from Mong Kok to Sai Kung - it takes approx 45 minutes. Cost Approx HK\$24

TO GET TO THE EXPRESS BUS STATION.

1. Take the MTR to Yau Ma Tei.
2. Take the A2 EXIT.
3. Cross the road (Pitt St) to the entrance of the alley. This leads directly to Dundas St.
4. Follow the alley until it ends at Dundas Street.
5. Turn RIGHT into Dundas Street.
6. Walk along Dundas St for approx 300m. The bus is directly in front of you.



YAU MA TEI MTR

HOW TO GET TO SAI KUNG FROM HONG KONG CITY. (continued)

By Taxi

A taxi from Central to Sai Kung bus terminal will take approximately 35 to 45 minutes.

Cost HK\$150. + \$5 for every bag in the trunk.
Capacity: A taxi can carry 4 or 5 passengers.

HOW TO GET TO THE McDONALDS ONCE YOU ARE IN SAI KUNG

Its a short (5 minute) walk from the taxi rank or the mini-bus terminus once you arrive in Sai Kung. See map below.

MEETING PLACE & TIME

In front of the McDonalds Restaurant - Sai Kung - 10:00 AM



SAI KUNG MINI-BUS STOP, SAI KUNG

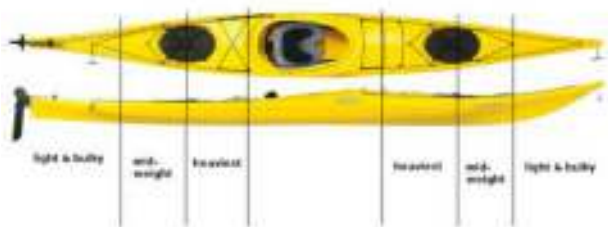


Trip & Packing List - Sea Kayak Expeditions 7 day

There are baggage limits, just like the airlines

The hatch openings you'll be packing into are 25 cm and 20 cm across so don't bring excess gear.

Remember that all the food, personal and clothing need to fit in these hatches and the kayaks.



Paddling Stuff

- 1.5 litre water bottle
- Sunscreen and lip protection
- Sunglasses with strap
- Strap for regular glasses
- Hat for sun

- Long-sleeve shirt for paddling (preferably cotton)
- Quick-dry shorts/pants
- Water shoes or sandals with heel strap
- Bathing suit

Personal Stuff

- Toothpaste & tooth brush
- Shampoo, soap
- Camera (in waterproof case or bag)
- Spare batteries for everything
- Medications (if required)
- Sense of adventure!

Camping Stuff

- Towel
- Camp T-shirt (s)
- Windbreaker jacket
- Long pants (light)
- Socks & shoes or sandals
- Underwear
- Head lamp
- Sleeping bag (in compression sack)
- Plastic bag for wet stuff



CONFIRMATION PAYMENT DETAILS

To confirm your booking please make payment by either:

Bank Transfer

Name of Bank: THE BANK OF EAST ASIA
Bank code: 015 Bank address: 162-164 Aberdeen Main Road, Aberdeen, Hong Kong
Account name: Sea Kayak Hong Kong
Account number: 519-68-00245-2
SWIFT CODE: BEASHKHH

PLEASE NOTE:- Any bank fees are payable by you.

PayPal Payment:

Account name: bookings@seakayakhongkong.com

(NB you do NOT need a PayPal account to make a payment. Go to

<https://www.paypal.com/hk/webapps/mpp/send-payments-online>



SEA KAYAK HONG KONG

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Please note: A medical questionnaire and kayak experience booking form will be required to be completed once your booking is confirmed.