

Dragon Boat Festival

The Dragon Boat Festival is a lunar holiday, occurring on the fifth day of the fifth lunar month. This festival is a significant holiday celebrated in China and the one with the longest history. The official name for this festival was the Upright Sun Festival but foreigners changed it in China referred to it as the Dragon Boat Festival, notably for the dragon boat races held, especially in the southern provinces where there are many rivers and lakes.

This regatta commemorates the death of Qu Yuan, a poet and minister who is said to have committed suicide by drowning himself in a river on the fifth day of the fifth lunar month in 277 B.C. Qu Yuan was an honest and loyal minister who was held in high esteem in the kingdom of Chu (situated in the present day Hunan and Hubei provinces). When a corrupt prince vilified Qu Yuan, he was disgraced and dismissed from his office. Realizing the kingdom was now in the hands of evil and corrupt officials, Qu Yuan jumped into a river. Nearby fishermen tried to save him and were unable to recover the body. Mourning the death of the poet, the people threw cooked rice so the fish would eat the rice rather than their hero. The spirit of Qu Yuan appeared in the river and said that a huge reptile in the river had stolen the rice offering and suggested that they wrap the rice in silk and bind it with threads before throwing it in the river. This later turned into the custom of eating "tzungtzu" (boiled glutinous rice wrapped in bamboo leaves) and rice dumplings to symbolize offerings to Qu Yuan.

The dragon boat races represent the attempts to rescue and recover the body of Qu Yuan.

The Chinese Dragon Boat Festival is also a time for protection from evil and disease for the rest of the year. It is done so by different practices such as hanging healthy herbs on the front door, drinking nutritious concoctions and displaying portraits of evil's nemesis, Chung Kuei. And if one manages to stand an egg on it's end at exactly 12.00 noon, the following year will be a lucky one!

The Dragon Boat festival will be celebrated in Sai Kung near the Kai Sau Chau Pier from 8am on 22nd June 2004.

Kennels

This is the time of year when we take long holidays home and may need to board our pets during that period. Following is a list of well-established kennels in the Sai Kung area where your pets (dogs, cats, birds, rabbits, hamsters, turtles!) can be on holiday too!

Ferndale Kennels & Cattery

Located just inside the Sai Kung Country Park, Ferndale is the only British owned and managed kennel in Hong Long. Some of the facilities and services they provide include air-conditioned units, grooming, pick up & delivery and import/export service. They also provide pet food deliveries.

Tel: 2792 4642 Fax: 2792 1047 Email: tucker@netivgator.com

Website: www.ferndalekennels.com

Open Mon thru Sat 9am to 5pm. Sundays & Public holidays 10am to 4.00pm
No pick up or delivery service on Sunday & Public holidays

Kennel Van Deigo

Founded in 1981 and now one of the largest boarding establishments in Hong Kong, Kennel Van Deigo is located in the Tai Mong Tsai area at the top of YanYee Road (nr Outward Bound). Some of the facilities and services they provide include air-conditioned units, grooming, and pick-up & delivery plus a new service of evening walks (for boarders only).

Tel: 2791 1558 or 2792 6889 Fax: 2792 1047 Email: kennelvd@biznetvigator.com

Website: www.kennekvandego.com

Open Mon thru Fri 9am to 5pm, Sat, Sun and Public Holidays 10am to 4pm
Closed Christmas Day, 1st January, and the first 2 days of Chinese New Year

Kan Kennels

Opened in 1993 this small kennel is run by Bruce Kan and his family. They are situated in the same location as Kennel Van Deigo. They do not offer some of the services as Ferndale or Kennel Van Deigo but the site is clean with plenty of exercise areas for their borders.

Tel: 2792 0587

Open Mon thru Sat 9am to 5pm and Sun 10am to 4pm
Closed Christmas Day, 1st January, and the first 2 days of Chinese New

You are welcome to visit any of these places during opening hours

The SPCA also have boarding but for members only

Tel: 2802 0501

KIDS SUMMER ACTIVITIES

Are you spending the summer in Sai Kung? There's plenty to do! The following companies will be offering some wonderful summer activities.

ARTS & CRAFTS

Early Learning Centre,

Located at Silverstrand, courses being offered in Drama, Arts & Craft, English, Project Base and Games. Ring Jennifer on 2719 2420

Giggle Studio Tuition

Offering classes in Art & Craft/English Tuition/Guitar

Location: 1st Floor Tui Min Hoi Village, Sai Kung
Ring Helen on 2792 233 or 9577 6457

Inspiration

Offering Mother & Baby Playgroup/English & Mandarin tuition.

Location: 1st Floor Man Nin St. Sai Kung above Golden Chariot Bakery (nr Watson's), entrance between Uncle Kans Restaurant and the alteration shop.
Ring Gemma King on 2792 5888 or Fax 2792 5886

One World

Offering courses in English and Mandarin. Tel: 2711 3883

Smart Learning Centre

Located at Marina Cove. Playgroups, Piano and Guitar lessons, Mandarin & English courses, Computer fun. Tel: 2335 1261

Tina's Dance Studio

Courses will run for two weeks beginning July 5 comprising 6, one-hour lessons on Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays from ages 3 to 7+. Course fee is \$600. For location and more detail ring Tina on 2328 2250 or email tlcrodrigues@netvigator.com

Faust Summer Theatre

Weeklong drama workshops and exciting Creative Writing programmes. Ring Gaby, Matthew, Clare or Katy on 2547 9114

HK Institute of Languages

Overseas Summer Camps in France/Canada/England/China!
Ring 2877 6160 or visit their Website: www.hklanguages.com

SPORTS

Premier Sports/Splash

Swimming courses at Sai Kung pool and CWB Golf & Country Club. Gymnastics at The Studio on Fridays for ages 2-6. Cricket on Thursday's at 4 – 5pm at Pak Kong Football Pitch for ages 7 – 14. PADI Open Water courses as a day camp for kid's aged 10 – 18 at the CWB Golf & Country Club. Also offering weekly day or night camps for ages 5-14.

Both Splash and PLS offer First Aid and CPR courses. For more details ring Nicole or Damon on 9278 2774 or look on their website: www.premiersport.biz

Football HK Academy

Offering 8 sessions Monday to Friday starting 5 July to 27 August.

9.30 am – 4.30 pm for 5 – 15 year olds. 5-day block session's costs \$1780

Ring Joanne on 2866 7931

Golf

Kau Sai Chau Public Golf Course	Kau Sai Chau	2791 2774
Garden Farm Golf Centre	Shap Sze Hung	2791 9098
Ho Chung Golf Driving Range	Sai Kung	2243 6222

Horse Riding:

Tuen Mun	2461 3338
Lo Wu Saddle Club	2673 0066

Ice Skating

Festival Walk	2265 8888
---------------	-----------

Lions Nature Park

Sai Kung	2792 2234
----------	-----------

Outward Bound

Sai Kung	2792 4333
----------	-----------

Public courses offered throughout the summer. For information visit their web-site: www.outwardbound.org.hk

Rock Climbing

YMCA, Kowloon	2268 7099
---------------	-----------

Sai Kung Library

5 th Flr SK District Offices	2792 3669
---	-----------

ESF Summer Holiday Camps

	2711 1280
--	-----------

The Studio

Tumble Tots Fridays: Mornings 11–11.30am for 3+, 11.30-12noon for ages 2-3. Afternoons 2.30 to 3pm for 3yrs. Cost per session \$70. For ages 4–5 classes are held at 3pm to 3.40pm. Cost for this session \$80.

Tel: 2791 9705 or 9278 2774

Global Sports/Judo

Judo for ages 5 to 12 every Friday at 5.30 – 7.00pm. Fee \$50 per session

Ring Shirley on 90103091

Tennis at Marina Cove

Beginner, Intermediate and Advanced 5 day courses Monday to Friday beginning July 12th to August 27th. Fee: members \$875, non-members \$962. Ring Andy Gamo on 9040 9207 for more details

SUMMER PLAYGROUPS

Leapfrog PPA (Located just inside Sai Kung Country Park)

2 playgroup sessions for kids aged 3 – 5. Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9.30am to 12.30pm. First session: 12–30 July, Second session: 2–20 August. COST: \$1,350

(payable in advance), limited to 15 children so enrol early. Also offering Summer Paint n Play for children up to 7yrs, starting Monday 12 July thru to Friday 20 August. Drop-ins every Monday, Wednesday & Friday mornings from 9.30 to 11.30am. Cost \$60 per child or \$100 per family (all children must be accompanied by a parent or helper)
Ring Josephine on 2791 1540

Sai Kung PPA (Located at Shelter Cove)

Offering Paint N Play sessions for children 1-5 yrs old Monday to Friday mornings from 9.30 to 11.30am starting 5 July to 27 August. COST: \$80 per session. Need to book as these sessions get full (children must be accompanied by a parent or helper). Ring Doris on 2791 7354

New Song (Located at Flora Villa, Tai Mong Tsai)

Paint n Play for children aged 2 yrs 8months to 6 yrs on 5th to 9th July and 12th to 16th July. COST: \$300 per week. Book early! Ring Christine on 2791 2472

WATER SPORTS

Multi-Sport

Summer Swimming programme at Marina Cove for Parent & Babies to Advanced Beginners. Courses available from July 6th to August 27th. For more details ring Evan on 2540 1257 or email: admin@multi-sport.com.hk

Hebe Haven Yacht

Sailing courses for Youth Beginners HKYA levels 1, 2 and 3; Junior Sailing courses and the Race Practice & Supervised sailing course. Spaces are limited so booking is essential. Ring Rob on 2719 0926

<u>Water Sports Centre</u>	Wong Shek Pier	23282311
<u>Chong Hing Water Sports</u>	Pak Tam Chung	2792 6810
<u>Windsurfing Centre HK</u> Offers one-day courses for ages 10 + (minimum of 3) COST \$340per day, per person	Sai Kung	2792 5605
<u>Ma On Shan Swimming Pool</u>	Ma On Shan	2641 0815
<u>Sai Kung Swimming Pool</u>	Sai Kung	2792 6459
<u>TKO Swimming Pool</u>	Tsueng Kwan O	2706 7616

ENTERTAINMENT

Jumpin 4 Joy

Bouncy castles, Helium Balloons, Novelty Cakes. Ring Keiron on 9467 4545 or visit their Website:www.jumpin-4-joy.com

Rice Girls & Rachel's Fun House

For more information ring 2792 1124 or visit their Website on
www.rachael@funhousehk.com

Jan the Juggler

2984 9224

Jewellery Birthday Parties

2358 1452

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON CHILDRENS ACTIVITIES IN HONG KONG VISIT
www.kidsfirststep.com

BOAT SUPPLIES, REPAIRS, BUYING & SELLING (new or used), HIRE

Eton Marine Supplies Co Ltd (also runs an insurance service)

Next to Pousada. Opening hrs: Mon to Sat - 9am-5pm. Closed 12-1pm and Sundays

Tel: 2719 6007 Fax: 2358 1400, Contact name: Yuen Chi Ming

Harry Lo Co Ltd

Next to Regatta. Opening hrs: All day Mon to Sat 9am-6pm, Sun 9am-5pm

Tel: 2719 9417 Fax: 2358 0616

Harry's also sells a wide range of water sport equipment and pool toys.

Hong Kong Marina

Near Pousada – look for colored steps leading to shop

Opening hrs: Mon to Sat 9am-6pm (closed 1-2pm), Sun 9am-1pm

Tel: 2792 1483 Fax: 2792 0201 Email: hkmarine@netvigator.com Contact name: Eva

Mustang Marine Co. (authorized dealer for Johnson & Evinrude engines, Signature & Glaston boats)

G/F 146 Pak Sha Wan Pier (behind Chinese dai pai dong next to old PnS)

Opening hrs: Mon to Sat 9am-5pm. Closed 12-1pm and Sundays

Tel: 2719 4313 Fax: 2358 3895. Contact name: Skipper (mobile: 9487 0976)

Manta Engineering Co. (authorized dealer for Honda engines)

Tui Hoi Tsuen at the end of Chui Tong Road (Star Plaza) on Sai Kung harbor

Opening hrs: Mon to Sat 8am-6pm (closed 12-1pm) Sun 9am to 6pm

Tel: 2792 2791 Fax: 2791 2370 Email: manta@so-net.com.hk

Contact name: Alan Ng (91449434)

This shipyard is located on the waterfront near old Sai Kung Town. Among its many services they have dry berths, and boat storage for speedboats.

Protech Engineering Co (Sole agent for Suzuki engines)

Hiram's Highway next to Pousada restaurant, Pak Sha Wan

Opening hrs: Mon to Fri 9am-5pm, Sat – 9am- 4pm (closed lunchtime 12.30-1.30)

Closed Sundays. Tel: 2719 0074 Fax: 2358 2202 Email: proteng@hkstar.com

Contact name: Rino Lau

Regatta Yachts Ltd

Hiram's Highway Pak Sa Wan (across from Pousada)

Opening hrs: Mon to Sat – 9am-5pm (closed lunchtime 12-1pm)

Closed Sundays. Tel: 2719 8875 Fax: 2358 0621 Mobile: 9483 3828

Contact name: Eddie Lau

Smart Concept Craft Ltd (sole agents for Dyno, Monte Fino & Norvatec yachts)

Unit B5 Marina Cove

Opening hrs: Mon to Sat - 9.30am-6pm. Closed Sundays

Tel: 2719 0831 Fax: 2719 6397 Email: smartcon@netvigator.com

Sells new and used yachts, provide comprehensive after sales service including maintenance and financial & insurance arrangements.

Contact name: Matthew

Universal Boats (agents for Nissan)

Hirams Highway across from Che Keng Tuk Road

Opening hrs. Mon-Sat - 9.30am-6pm

Closed Sundays. Tel: 2803 2266 Email: boats@netvigator.com

Website: www.universalboats.com.hk

Buys second hand boats and offers free boat storage.

BOATING & WATER SPORTS CENTERS

A number of water sports clubs are listed on the Government website under Leisure & Cultural Services Department – click on water sport activities - www.lcsd.gov.hk

SeaDynamics Yacht Club

Pak Sha Wan

Tel: 2719 0197 or 604 4747/4261 Fax: 2604 4073 Website: www.seadynamics.com

Contact name: Tommy Yu

For a small membership fee and monthly subscriptions SeaDynamics offer the use of a pleasure boat or yacht without the expense of mooring and maintenance. They also run courses in both English & Chinese for boating licenses for Master Grade I & II, Engineering Grade I & II licenses and Pleasure Vessel Seamanship (practical). Courses for water skiing, wake board training and PADI diving are also available.

Blue Surround Ocean Power & Sail, Junk Packages

Tel: 9880 8857 Email: bluesurround@hotmail.com Website: www.bluesurround.com

Contact name: David Lewis

In Hong Kong & Asia since 1995 with worldwide experience and contacts from UK, Australia & US/Caribbean. Tailor made to your needs for training, corporate events, charters, brokerage, adventure dives.

Wong Shek Water Sports Centre

Sai Kung Country Park

Tel: 2328 2311 Fax: 2328 2172

Contact name: Bella

Courses for kayaking and sailing are run monthly. English instruction available.

Splash Hong Kong

Tel: 9047 9603 Email: info@splashhk.com Website: www.splashhk.com

Contact name: Damon Rose

PADI diving courses and outings

Kayaking in Sai Kung

Tel: 2486 2112 or 93005197

www.kayak-and-hire.com

Contact name: Paul Etherington

Jaspas Party Junk

Tel: 2869 0733

Contact name: Malcolm

Fully catered junk available 7 days a week for grown-up to children's parties. Can be hired from \$500 per person per day (min. \$6000). Price includes 8 hrs boat hire & crew,

unlimited beer, wine & soft drinks. Food prepared and served by on board catering staff.
Junk can be hired from Sai Kung or Central.