

# Heritage of Tai O

Tai O Heritage Hotel Hong Kong is an iconic attraction that promotes sustainable tourism, as well as unique heritage conservation, writes Bonnie Choi



## HERITAGE CONSERVATION

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You awoke early one morning to find the sun streaming through the blinds. Staying in a colonial-style guest room, you were wondering about where you were. You sprang out of bed and explored around. Walking through the corridor, you could see the Armoury Room and Sub Division Inspector's Office. Then you were extremely amazed when you saw historical canons, searchlight and guard towers, and finally you realized that the place was Tai O Heritage Hotel Hong Kong.

It is now never a dream to witness the vivid heritage in Tai O, which was originally the Old Tai O Police Station built in 1902, but now it has been revitalized into Tai O Heritage Hotel. Not only can the Hotel be a cultural and educational destination for visitors, but also a miraculous and outstanding heritage which manifests past history at present in the captivating fishing village in Tai O.

The Old Tai O Police Station had essential functions of guarding the border between China and Hong Kong to detect any illegal immigrants. The Old Tai O Police Station, which was graded as a Grade II historic building, it remained remarkable colonial features. This unique and phenomenal architecture with impressive history is worth preserving to pass to future generations.

**"I'm glad to share the traditional culture of Tai O to everyone every day."**

KARL LAW, THE MANAGER OF TAI O HERITAGE HOTEL

Karl Law, an operation manager of Tai O Heritage Hotel, originally worked in a hotel in the urban city but then resolutely worked in Tai O two years ago. “Unlike the detached relationship with tourists in urban cities, I found it is more meaningful to tell the past story of Tai O Police Station and culture-rich Tai O to both local and overseas visitors through face-to-face communication. I feel that I really connect with them. Despite of remote working location, my high sense of accomplishment has driven me to work here.” Law explained without hesitation. “I have forged a strong bond with benevolent Tai O residents. It is an unforgettable working experience.”

Tai O Heritage Hotel has favourably captured the essence of revitalization of historical buildings, sustainable tourism and local community engagement. The appropriate allocation of capital in conservation projects can bring far-reaching impacts on society. To build a sustainable city, we can never ignore the cultural values, which are the collective memory of Hong Kong citizens. Therefore, Tai O Heritage Hotel is a convincing and conspicuous case in point that manifests the significance of revitalization on the territory and overseas countries, and to give Hong Kong the vitality to press forward afresh.

My dear friends, it would be exceedingly fabulous for you to go for a short trip to Tai O. You may steal a moment of serenity and tranquility in Tai O Heritage Hotel, as well as appreciate the memorable history of Tai O. Last but certainly not least, try to grab a valuable chance to taste one and only Tai O local speciality – “Shrimp Paste”!



The charming fishing village makes you feel calm and embrace the natural beauty of Tai O.



“Shrimp Paste” is a renowned must-buy speciality. It is used in cooking in the Hotel to enhance the special taste of local food.