

CITY IN TIME 城市景昔

Experience CITY IN TIME
Time travel in Hong Kong

The Peak 山頂

Past and Present of the Community

Explore the Characteristics of
the Peak Tram Through the Ages

City Walk

The transformation of the Victoria Harbour
from the Lion's Point View Pavilion

CITY IN TIME
Feature

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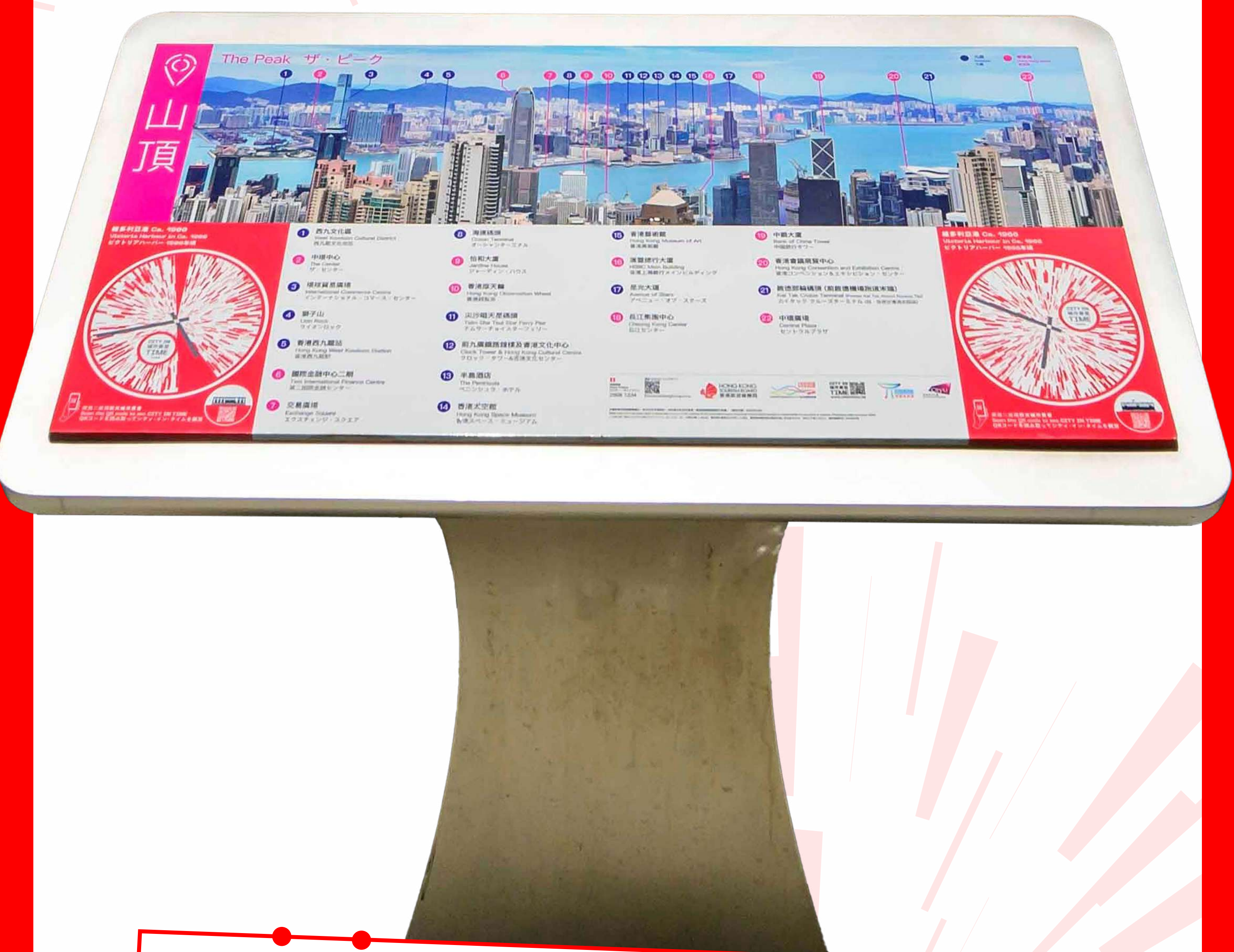


Route

•-----• The Peak

Ascending to the top of Victoria Peak and looking out over the surroundings, the skyline of Victoria Harbour comes into full view. The Peak offers the most beautiful vantage point to admire Hong Kong's beauty and is a must-visit attraction for visitors. To reach the Peak, taking the Peak Tram is always a good choice. Since its operation in 1888, as Asia's first cable funicular system, the Peak Tram has witnessed Hong Kong's development and transformation.

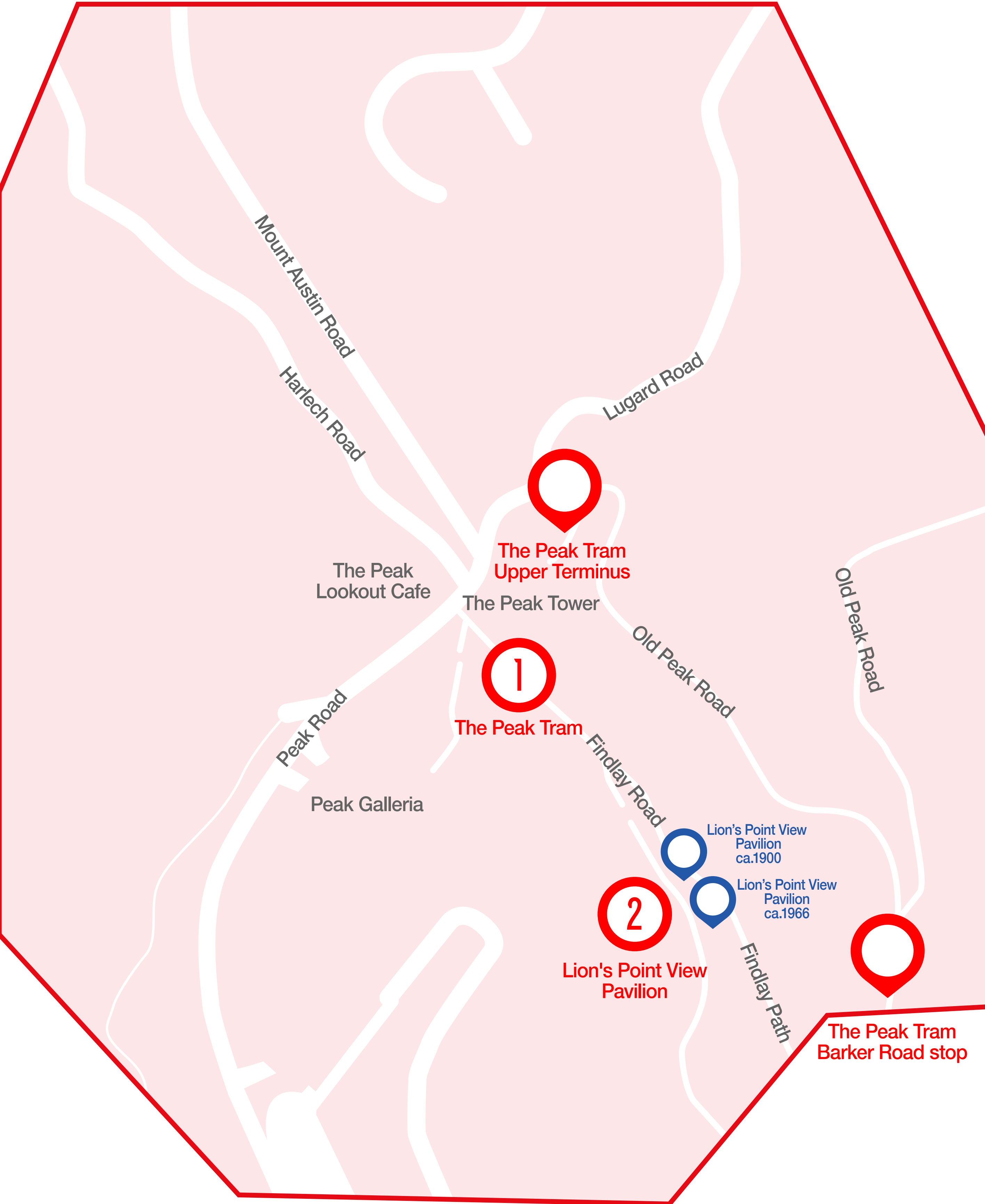
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mobile app



CITY IN TIME AR

“CITY IN TIME” has installed two AR clocks on the visitor signboard in front of the Lion's Point View Pavilion. Follow this guide to explore the Peak, and by using the “CITY IN TIME” mobile app to scan the clocks, you can see the Peak's landscapes from different eras: the changing coastline of Victoria Harbour in the past and the evolution of the Peak Tram.

The Peak Map



“CITY IN TIME”
AR Clock

1 The Peak Tram

2 Lion’s Point View Pavilion



Duration 25 mins
Distance 2.2 km

The Peak Tram

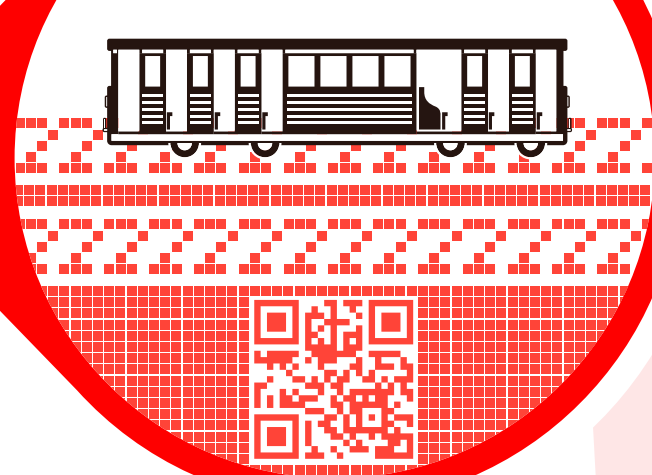
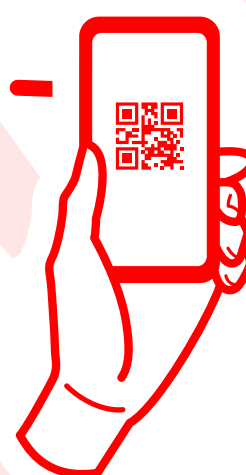
Spot 1

In 1881, Mr. Alexander Findlay Smith from Scotland proposed the idea of connecting Murray Barracks with Victoria Gap via a cable tram. This proposal was approved by the government the following year, and the Hong Kong High Level Tramways Company was established accordingly. On May 30, 1888, the Peak Tram officially commenced its operation, becoming the first cable funicular system in Asia. The railway track was constructed along the hillside, stretching 1,350 metres, and rising from 28 metres to 396 metres above sea level.



Open the “CITY IN TIME” app and scan the AR clock in front of the Lion’s Point View Pavilion at the Peak, and the grand scene of its opening day will come to life before your eyes. It served over 150,000 passengers in its first year, which represented almost 80% of Hong Kong’s population at the time. With its distinctive wooden carriages and coal-fired steam propulsion, it became an iconic mode of transportation between Central and the Peak.

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Recommended Highlight City of Victoria

In 1903, the limits of the City of Victoria were stipulated in “The Hong Kong Gazette”, and six boundary granite stones engraved with “CITY BOUNDARY 1903” were installed as markers. At that time, the City of Victoria was alternatively called “four wans and nine yeuks” (four rings and nine districts) by the local Chinese. The “four wans” referred to Ha Wan (now Wan Chai), Central, Sheung Wan, and Sai Wan (Western District), while “yeuk” denoted a district sub-divided within the area of each “wan.”

In the City of Victoria, Central served as the political and commercial core district, predominantly featuring European-style architecture. Sheung Wan and Sai Wan were densely populated with Tong Lau, the traditional tenement buildings for local Chinese communities. Meanwhile, the coastal strip of Ha Wan was developed with upper-class housing for European residents. As urban development progressed, the administrative boundaries of that era have since blended into the everyday streetscape, with most of the boundary stones still standing in their original locations today.

By using the “CITY IN TIME” app to scan the AR clock, you can instantly travel back to the Peak over hundred years ago, overlooking the former City of Victoria and comparing it with the prosperous urban landscape of the present day.



Lion's Point View Pavilion

Spot 2

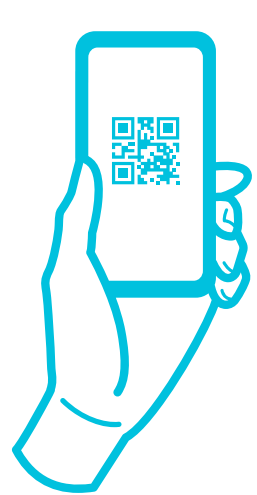


From the Lion's Point View Pavilion at the Peak, you can overlook the urban landscape on both sides of Victoria Harbour. Since the initiation of the Bonham Strand reclamation project in the 1850s, the shoreline has been continuously transformed. The land reclaimed from Victoria Harbour served various purposes: the site of Causeway Bay Typhoon Shelter was reclaimed to provide land for the Victoria Park; the site at Wan Chai for Waterfront commercial and governmental buildings; Kai Tak Airport expanded through reclamation, while the stretch from Tsim Sha Tsui East to Hung Hom was developed with buildings for diverse purposes.

Open the "CITY IN TIME" app and scan the AR clock in front of the Lion's Point View Pavilion at the Peak, and you can see the fourth-generation all-aluminum tramcar that entered service in 1959. With a capacity of 72 passengers, this tramcar featured an innovative design that allowed passengers to comfortably enjoy the scenic views along the route in any weather. This model served until 1989. Back in the 1950s, Hong Kong has since promoted riding the tram to the Peak as a tourist attraction. To this day, visiting the Peak by tram is still a popular travel activity among tourists.



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