

# CITY IN TIME 城市景昔

Experience CITY IN TIME  
Time travel in Hong Kong

## Yau Ma Tei 油麻地

### Past and Present of the Community

A century of prosperity  
from a seaport to a fruit market

### City Walk

Community memories  
behind the screen

CITY IN TIME  
Feature

CITY IN  
城市景昔  
TIME





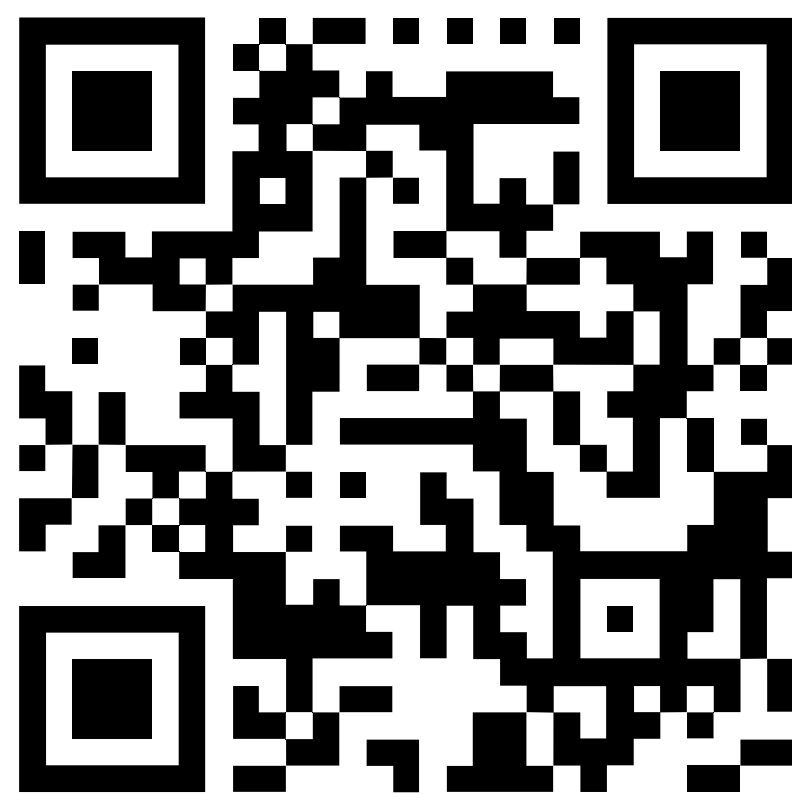
# Route

# Yau Ma Tei



Located in Kowloon, Yau Ma Tei commercial and cultural heritage. From its former docks serving mainland cargo ships to its present-day fruit market, this vibrant community blends tradition and modernity, creating a neighborhood that is both unique and distinctive.

Download the  
**CITY IN**  
城市景昔  
**TIME**  
mobile app



## CITY IN TIME AR



When visiting Yau Ma Tei, remember to download the "CITY IN TIME" mobile app to explore six AR clocks located at the fruit market, Tin Hau Temple, Nathan Road, Yau Ma Tei Police Station, Jordan Road, and Canton Road. Follow this guide to dive deeper into the stories of the Yau Ma Tei community.

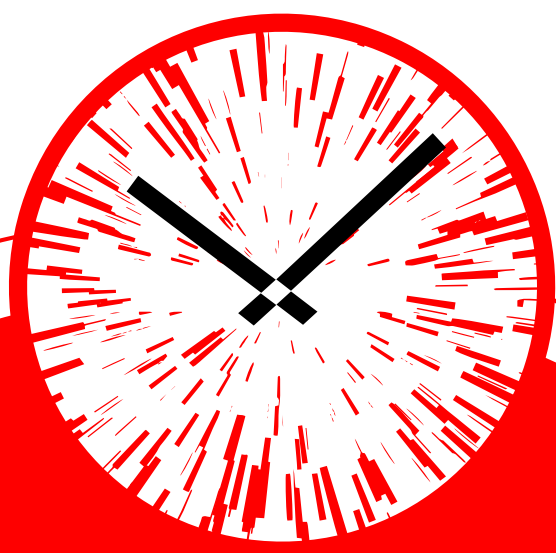


# Yau Ma Tei Map



- 1 Fruit Market
- 2 Tin Hau Temple
- 3 South Kowloon District Court
- 4 Yau Ma Tei Police Station
- 5 Temple Street
- 6 Canton Road

  
"CITY IN TIME"  
AR Clock



**Duration 34 mins**  
**Distance 2.3 km**



# Fruit Market

Spot 1

The Fruit Market, originally named “Government Vegetables Market”, was founded in 1913. The stalls were initially thatched shacks, but were later replaced by bricks and concrete structures after the government approved the site for market use in the 1920s to 1930s. Founded in the 1950s, Ng Fung Hong not only expanded the market’s range of imported fruit from Mainland China, but also implemented standard regulations for the transportation and pricing of fresh food. As vegetable and seafood stalls were relocated to other markets, this market was officially renamed as “Yau Ma Tei Wholesale Fruit Market”. The number of fruit stalls grew from around 40 to approximately 300 at its peak, witnessing the unique culture of Hong Kong’s fruit wholesale industry.



Use the “CITY IN TIME” mobile app to scan the AR clock at the Fruit Market and travel back in time to Yau Ma Tei in 1947. Through a panoramic image created by artist Wai Wai, you can experience firsthand the daily busy life of porters, working at 7 a.m. to transport fruits and vegetables and taking a midday break at the nearby Kam Wah Theatre or Yau Ma Tei Theatre.



## Recommendations

# Red Brick Building



Built in 1895, the Red Brick Building adjacent to the Fruit Market once supplied water to 35,000 residents in Kowloon, making it one of the city’s oldest waterworks facilities. Designated as a Grade 1 historic building in 2000, the Neoclassical building was revitalized in 2009 as a venue for traditional Chinese opera performances, preserving the cultural heritage of Yau Ma Tei.

**Address: 344 Shanghai Street, Yau Ma Tei**  
**Year of Establishment: 1895**

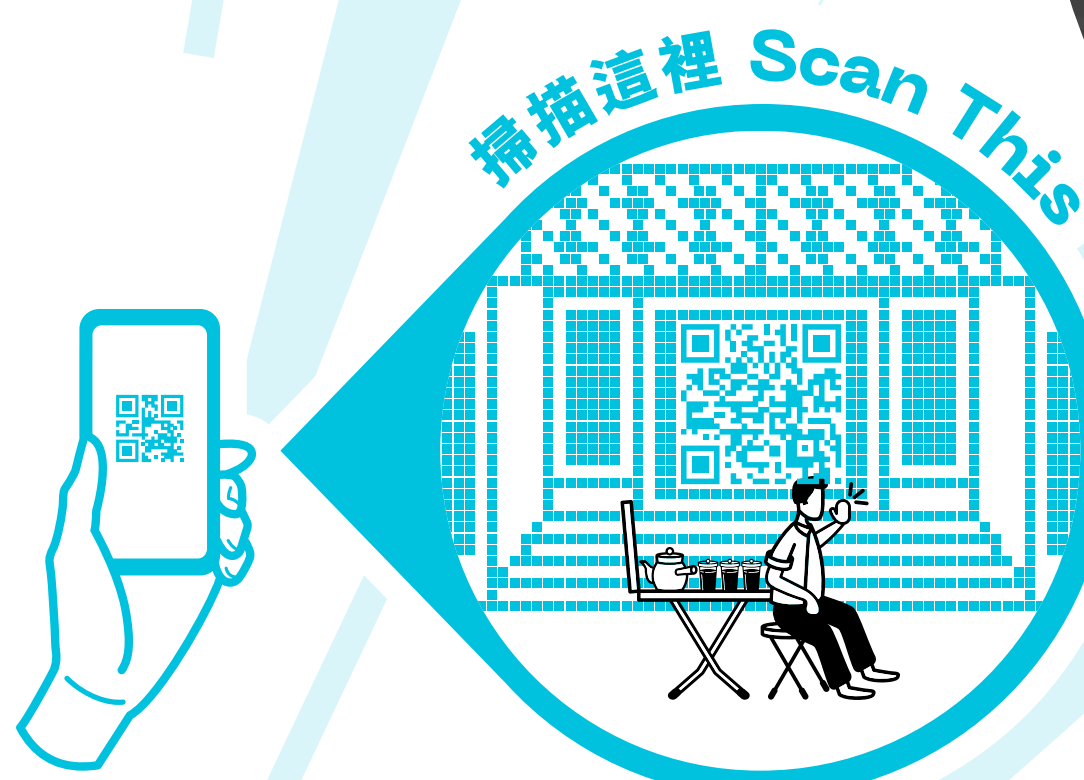


Spot 2

# Tin Hau Temple

The Tin Hau Temple Compound in Yau Ma Tei is the largest existing Tin Hau Temple complexes in Kowloon, housing precious artifacts such as a stone lion and a copper bell from the Qing Dynasty. In 2020, the Tin Hau Temple complex was declared a monument in Hong Kong. More than a religious venue, Tin Hau Temple was also a locale for people to worship, arbitrate disputes, and provide schooling in the community. In the late 1950s, more than 10 timber cabins for fortune-telling and divine guidance were set up in front of the temple, fostering the preservation of traditional divination practices in the Yau Ma Tei area.

Use the “CITY IN TIME” mobile app to scan the AR clock at Tin Hau Temple and travel back to Yau Ma Tei in 1955. Through a panoramic image created by artist Pen So, you can recreate the itinerant hawkers near “Yung Shue Tau” (Banyan Tree Head) and experience the bustling atmosphere of Tin Hau Temple in the past.



## Recommendations Yau Ma Tei Community Centre Rest Garden (formerly Yung Shue Tau)

In the yard across from the Tin Hau Temple, we can find several lush and interweaving banyan trees which are called “Yung Shue Tau” (Banyan Tree Head) by the local people. In the old days, this place was once bustling with hawkers, food stalls, and the locals chatted and played chess here. In the evening, there were performances such as juggling, magic, and storytelling, creating a lively atmosphere. This area was once the filming location for films like “The Prince of Temple Street.” Now, it has been transformed into the Yau Ma Tei Community Centre’s rest garden, still serving as a popular spot for locals to relax and gather.



Address: 60 Public Square Street, Yau Ma Tei

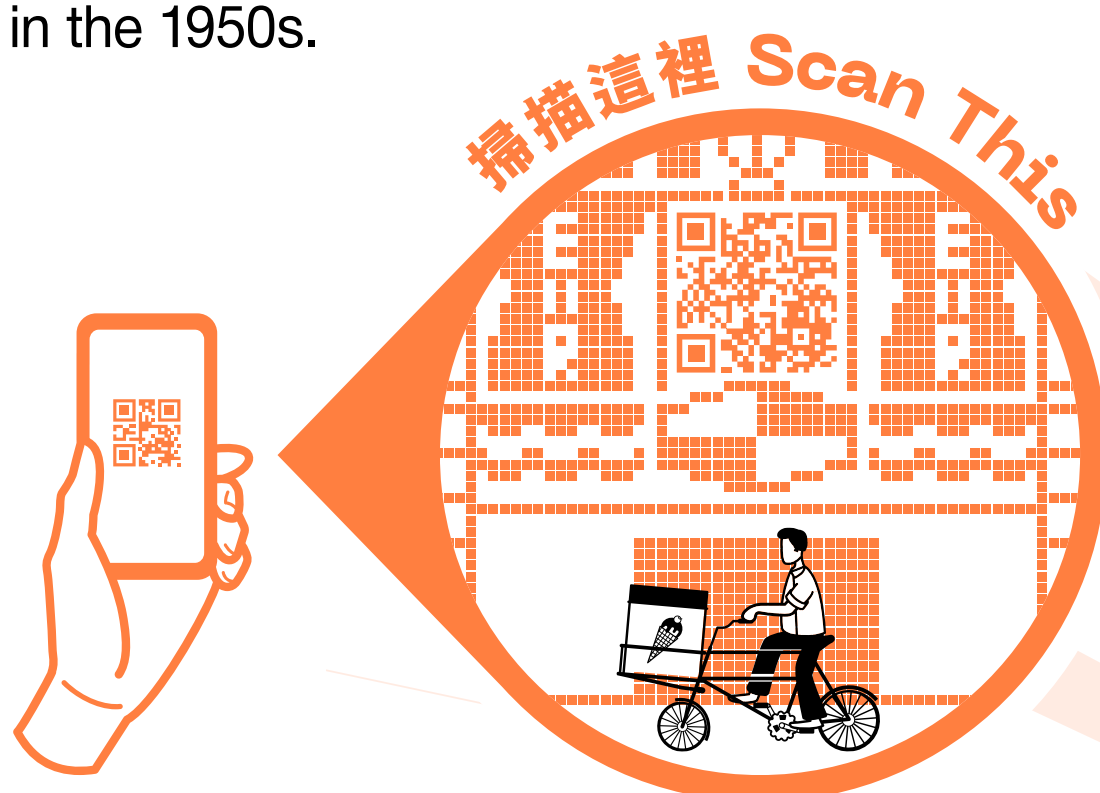


# South Kowloon District Court

Built in 1936, the South Kowloon District Court was initially named “Kowloon Magistracy”, specifically responsible for minor criminal cases. The building reflected the style of classical revival with its majestic and solemn architectural design. The base of the front side of Gascoigne Road was composed of granite rock, and there was a corridor sided with Ionic granite pillars above this solid foundation, which looked grand and solemn. The Magistracy was declared a Grade I historic building in 2009. During the Japanese occupation, the Magistracy building was confiscated and used as a Japanese army office. And in 1961, it was renamed as “South Kowloon District Court”.

Use the “CITY IN TIME” mobile app to scan the AR clock on Nathan Road and travel back in time to see the architecture of the Magistracy in the 1950s.

Spot 3



## Recommendations Alhambra Building

The nearby Alhambra Building was formerly the Alhambra Theatre, which opened in 1934. The theater emphasised on modern minimalism, as the windows' patterns and streamers were featured with Art Deco design. At the entrance, there was a neon light billboard. Rebuilt into the Alhambra Building in 1960, it remains a must-see for vintage photography enthusiasts.



**Address: 385 Nathan Road, Yau Ma Tei**  
**Year of Establishment: 1960**



Spot 4

# Yau Ma Tei Police Station

Completed in 1922, Yau Ma Tei Police Station is among the oldest surviving police stations on the Kowloon Peninsula. The neoclassical three-story building with a V-shaped layout was designated a Grade II historic building in 2009. The Police Station is a popular filming location for classic Hong Kong crime dramas, including “Infernal Affairs” and “PTU”.

Scan the AR clock at Yau Ma Tei Police Station by using the “CITY IN TIME” mobile app to experience its appearance in the 1960s, when it was located near the seaside adjacent to a government pier, fruit markets, and warehouses. Through panoramic images, you can vividly watch the scene of transport workers handling goods.



掃描這裡 Scan This



## Film Hotspot Crime Film Pilgrimage Site

Movie buffs should not miss this attraction; scenes with Tony Leung and Andy Lau in “Infernal Affairs” and Simon Yam’s patrols in “PTU” were filmed here. In 2016, most police services relocated, and the original reporting centre became the Cyber Security and Technology Crime Bureau, continuing its law enforcement legacy.

**Address: 627 Canton Road, Yau Ma Tei**  
**Year of Establishment: 1922**



# Temple Street

Spot 5

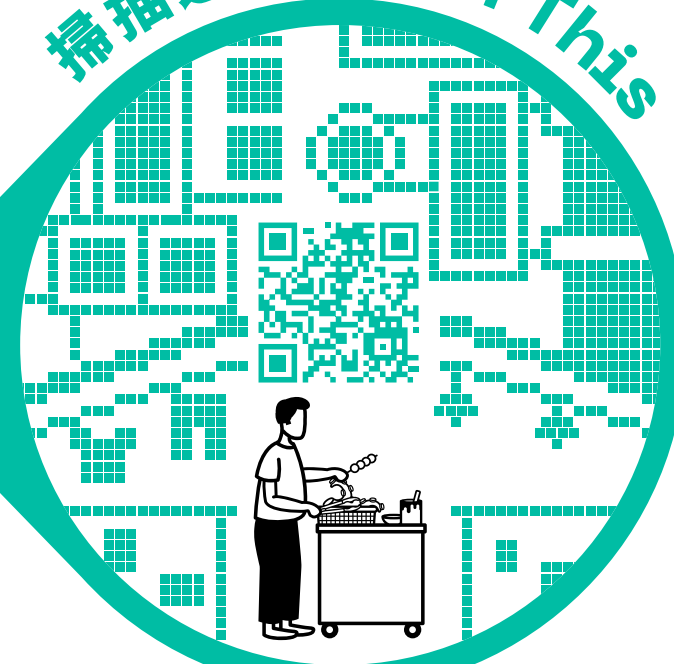
Temple Street takes its name from the nearby Tin Hau Temple, once separating “North Temple Street” and “South Temple Street.” Nightfall brought a lively market along Temple Street, with men’s accessories, mahjong houses, fortune-tellers, performers, singers, and more – leading its reputation as “The Commoners’ Nightclub”. From the 1950s to 1960s, the section between Nanking Street and Jordan Road was also part of the night market, where hawkers sold a wide variety of goods, recalling vintage Hong Kong.



Scan the AR Clock on Temple Street with the “CITY IN TIME” mobile app to relive the bustling 1960s “Commoners’ Nightclub” scene through panoramic images created by artist Wai Wai which showcase the vibrant atmosphere of Temple Street’s past, with its street performers and street vendors.



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## Film Hotspot “Anita”, “C’est la vie, mon chéri (Endless Love)”

Temple Street has been the filming location for many classic films, including “Anita” and “C’est la vie, mon chéri (Endless Love)”. When you visit Temple Street, scan the AR clock to relive classic Hong Kong film scenes.





Spot 6

# Canton Road

Canton Road witnessed the transformation of Yau Ma Tei. The eight buildings of Man Wah Sun Chuen (Eight Man Buildings) at Ferry Point were built between 1964 and 1970, making it one of early Hong Kong's largest private housing estates. Jordan Road Pier began its operations in 1933. In addition to offering passenger ferry services, it was also the first vehicular ferry pier for cars in Kowloon. When the pier reached its peak usage from 1970 to 1971, cars were transported for over 6 million times across the harbour during the period. After the Cross Harbour Tunnel opened, the pier's usage declined, and it was demolished in 1996 for the West Kowloon Reclamation Project.

掃描這裡 Scan This

Use the "CITY IN TIME" mobile app to scan the AR clock on Canton Road to recreate scenes of the busy vehicular ferry traffic of the 1970s through panoramic images created by artist Frank Tang.

## Recommendations WestK

The site of the former pier is now WestK, which combines museums, theaters, historical artifacts, and performing arts programs, blending Eastern and Western cultures to showcase traditional and contemporary arts.

**Address: 88 Austin Road West, Tsim Sha Tsui**  
**Year of Establishment: 2018**

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