

Hong Kong Tourism Board Stages New International Sporting Event

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First-Ever Hong Kong Cyclothon in October

The first-ever "Sun Hung Kai Properties Hong Kong Cyclothon", a major cycling event, will take place on 10 and 11 October. Organised by the Hong Kong Tourism Board (HKTB), the event will consist of cycling races and activities, and a carnival.

Among the races are criterium races recognised by the Union Cycliste Internationale, which will be staged in Tsim Sha Tsui, with professional cyclists hailing from around the world taking part. There will also be races of different levels for cycling fans. These races will cover different parts of Hong Kong, including the 35 km Challenge Ride, which will see the iconic Tsing Ma Bridge opened for the first time for a cycling event and also allow participants to cycle around the magnificent International Commerce Centre (ICC), the tallest building in Hong Kong.

Dr Peter Lam, Chairman of the HKTB, said: "The sport of cycling has caught on in Hong Kong in recent years, with many cyclists from the city earning international recognition. By staging the large-scale Cyclothon, the HKTB wants to reinforce Hong Kong's standing as Asia's events capital and gain additional international exposure for the city. In the long run, we hope to expand the scale of the event so that it will become a major annual event in the Pearl River Delta region when the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge is completed."

The Hong Kong Cyclothon allows people to ride safely through major thoroughfares while appreciate the landmarks of the city, including the Hong Kong Cultural Centre, International Commerce Centre – the tallest building in Hong Kong – and Tsing Ma Bridge.

There are a total of eight cycling categories in the "Sun Hung Kai Properties Hong Kong Cyclothon", which will be conducted over a two-day period. On the first day (Saturday, 10 October), the following four criterium races will be held in East Tsim Sha Tsui in the evening. Members of the public are welcome to enjoy the races.

Race / activity	Participants
International Criterium Race	International professional cyclists
(invitational race)	invited by the organiser
Women's Open Race (race)	Professional cyclists meeting specific requirements (please refer to presentation)
Men's Open Race (race)	
CEO Charity Ride	Invited persons
Amateur cyclists and cycling fans can sign up for the following cycling activities, which will be held in the morning of Sunday, 11 October.	

Activity	Participants
35km Challenge Ride	Professional or serious amateur cyclists
10km Community Ride	Members of the public
Kids & Youth Rides	Children aged 6 to 15
Family Fun Ride?	Children and parents
?The enrolment method will be announced in due course.	

Enrolment for the cycling races and activities will begin on Saturday 25 July, from 10am (website: www.DiscoverHongKong.com/Cyclothon). Registration will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. To ensure the safety of participants, all applicants for the 35km Challenge Ride, 10km Community Ride and Kids & Youth Rides must pass a skill test arranged by the organiser, or provide proof of participation in other cycling races or activities recognised by the Cycling Association of Hong Kong, China Ltd.

Part of the enrolment fees for the cycling races and activities (HK\$100 for individual and HK\$18,000 for team), including all the enrolment fees for the CEO Charity Ride, will be donated to designated charitable organisations.

The "Sun Hung Kai Properties Hong Kong Cyclothon" includes not only two days of cycling races and activities, but also a carnival at the Hong Kong Cultural Centre Piazza, where there will be food and beverages, games and cycling-themed booths, and live music performances to create a festive atmosphere.

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