Visit HKU

HKU Campus Tour by Green Gown Guides

The Green Gown is the official attire formerly worn by all undergraduates for formal occasions including High Tables and University’s ceremonies. Today, the Green Gown Guides will take you through the University’s most famous buildings and landmarks, share its history and traditions.

About HKU

The University of Hong Kong is territory’s oldest university. In 1911, HKU was incorporated by the University Ordinance. The first academic building at the University, the Main Building, was officially opened in 1912. The University initially has only three Faculties; namely, Medicine, Engineering and Arts. When the first congregation was held in December 1916, there were only 28 graduates.

Today, HKU is a comprehensive and research-led university with 10 Faculties, namely Architecture, Arts, Business and Economics, Dentistry, Education, Engineering, Law, Medicine, Science and Social Sciences. Its students’ population number over 22,000.

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Fung Ping Shan Building
Fung Ping Shan Building is located next to the University’s main entrance on Bonham Road. This three-storey red brick building was opened in 1932 and was originally used as the University’s Chinese books library. Today, the building constitutes the old wing of the University Museum and Art Gallery that houses over a thousand Chinese antiquities, notably bronzes, ceramics and paintings.

Hung Hing Ying Building
Hung Hing Ying Building sits squarely in front of the Main Building and characterised by a central dome. Its red brick façade matches that of the Main Building’s. This Edwardian-style building was opened in 1919 and was originally designed to house the University Union. The Building was declared a monument in 1995.

The Main Building
The Main Building is the oldest architectural structure on the HKU Main Campus. This Edwardian Baroque-style building was designed by Alfred Bryer of Messrs Leigh & Orange. Construction began in 1910 and was completed in 1912. The Building was declared a monument in 1984.

Lily Pond
The first incarnation of the Lily Pond appeared on campus in 1951, and was built with sediment from Deep Water Bay. From the 50s to the today, when you visit the Lily Pond in summer, you can find lotus flowers in bloom. You can also find a tall sweet gum tree, which is a champion tree in Hong Kong.

Dr Sun Yat-sen statue
Dr Sun Yat-sen Statue at the Lily Pond was unveiled in 2003. It shows Dr Sun Yat-sen as he looked when he visited HKU in 1923. As HKU alumnus and founding father of the democratic movement in China, Dr Sun made a public lecture in the Great Hall (now Loke Yew Hall); it was on this historic occasion that he remarked, “I feel as though I have returned home, because Hong Kong and The University of Hong Kong are my intellectual birthplace.”

Chong Yuet Ming Amenities Centre
Chong Yuet Ming Amenities Centre is easily accessible from across the campus. Its convenient location made it the natural location for student canteens, a bank and a supermarket. It is also a hub for students’ activities.

Eliot Hall and May Hall
Lugard, Eliot and May Halls were opened in 1913, 1914 and 1915 respectively. These three-storey red brick Edwardian-style buildings were originally used as independent student hostels. In 1992, the oldest hall, Lugard Hall, was demolished to give way to campus development. Eliot Hall and May Hall were converted into University offices.

Stephen Hui Geological Museum
The Museum is the first and only geological museum in Hong Kong. In this Museum, visitors can find the rock cycle model, a “Make Your Own Earthquake” display, and over a thousand fossils, mineral and rock specimens. It is open free to the public.

Lung Fu Shan Environmental Education Centre
The Lung Fu Shan Environmental Education Centre is located at the fringe of the HKU Main Campus. The Centre was opened in 2008. There you can find the garden and the eco-pond, which attract a diversity of bird and butterfly species. The Centre is open free to the public and it offers a not-to-be-missed opportunity for visitors to learn about Hong Kong’s natural environment in a verdant setting.

Tang Chi Nong Building
Tang Chi Nong Building is a three-storey flat-roofed building with Shanghai plaster surfacing. It was opened in 1931 and was originally used to house the School of Chinese. In 1995, the Building was declared a monument. It now houses the Hong Kong Institute for the Humanities and Social Sciences, incorporating the Centre of Asian Studies.