

The Overall Schedule for the 2012 IAIE World Conference & Estimate of total costs

		Time Zone		US	US	HK	HK	HK	HK	HK	HK	HK	HK	HK	HK	HK	US	US	US			
NOVEMBER, 2012		SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	
		4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
PRE-CONFERENCE EDUCATIONAL TOURS																				THANKSGIVING DAY		
1	Set off for Nanjing & Shanghai Trip																					
		USD\$280 (airfares & airport charges / taxes are excluded)																				
2	Reception / Registration & Hong Kong School Visits																					
		Free (room nights rate, 2 breakfasts, 1lunch & 1 dinner are excluded)																				
WORLD CONFERENCE																						
3	The 2012 IAIE World Conference																					
		USD\$295 (3 room nights rate, 2 dinners are excluded)																				
4	Hong Kong Night Tours																					
		USD\$100 (ground transport & dinner are included)																				
POST-CONFERENCE EDUCATIONAL TOURS																						
5	Foshan, Guangzhou, Mainland China Trip																					
		USD\$190 (ground transport, 3 room nights, meals are included)																				
6	Bangkok, Thailand Trip (airfares & airport charges / taxes, room nights rate are exclusive)																					
		USD\$235 The Excursion Program																				
		USD\$195 Educational Conference with keynotes																				

(HONG KONG) Some meals are included in the fee for conference & educational tours, please study carefully.

Breakfast	USD\$4.2up	You can enjoy the meal in the Fast Food Shops near YMCA (Starbuck Coffee, Pacific Café, McDonald, Deli France, Kentucky Fried Chicken), no service charges, except in restaurants & hotel
Lunch	USD\$8up	
Dinner	USD\$8up	

The rough estimate of total costs for conference and pre&post tours and expenses

Events	Cost	Breakfast	Lunch	Dinner	Room Nights	Tour Guide	Ground Transport	Sight-Seeing	Self-Arrangement	
Pre Conference Tour	USD\$280	4	3	4	4	Y	Y	Y		
Reception , School Visits in Hong Kong	Free	0	1	0	0	0	Y	N	2 Room Nights (exclude breakfast)	USD\$260
World Conference	USD\$295	3	3	N	0	Y	Y	N	3 Room Nights	USD\$390
Hong Kong Night Tour	USD\$100	0	0	2	0	Y	Y	Y		
Post-Conference Tour – Bangkok, Thailand The Excursion Program on 17 th – 18 th Nov.	USD\$235*	2	2	2	0	Y	Y	Y	2 Room Nights (with breakfast)	USD\$190
The educational conference with keynotes 19 th – 20 th Nov.	USD\$195*	0	1	1	0	Y	Y	Y	2 Room Nights (with breakfast)	USD\$190
Post-Conference Tour – Foshan, Guangzhou	USD\$190*	3	4	3	3	Y	Y	Y		

* Since these two Post-Conference Educational Tours are taking place at the same definite point of time (17th to 20th Nov.), participants are able either one only.

Accommodation *(no service charges, breakfast are exclusive, but participants will be provided breakfasts in the 3days conference)*

YMCA (Salisbury Rd., Hong Kong) offers a very special rate for our participants, a standard room for either single or double occupancy (i.e., you can share with your friend) only at HK\$1,000nett (USD\$130) per room night.

Airfares *(airport charges, taxes and oil surplus are exclusive)*

We are also very excited that Cathay Pacific Airways offers an educational roundtrip rate for your participants, too.

For example: Chicago (ORD) > Nanjing / Pu Dong (NKG / PVG) > Hong Kong (HKG) > Chicago (ORD) only costs about USD\$954 (non-weekdays) USD\$909 << Economy Class

If you join the Thailand Trip, the additional fare is USD\$250. Totally, the airfares is about USD\$1,200 *(airport charges, taxes and oil surplus are exclusive)*

**** As we are told Cathay Pacific Airways will offer a better price for some flight if you place the reservation order before the mid of March.**

Pre-Conference Educational Tours			
A	Nanjing & Shanghai (4 days) 8 th – 12 th Nov., 2012	The trip included hotel, meals, ground transport, tour guide	USD\$280
		Airfares for Round-trip (exclude all taxes, and airport charges)	USD\$954>>>
	Reception & Registration 12 th Nov., 2012	NIL	Free
	Hong Kong School Visits 13 th Nov., 2012	Lunch & ground transport is free. Breakfast paid by participants themselves	Free
World Conference in Hong Kong			
B	Conference Fee 14 th – 16 th Nov., 2012	The fee included breakfast, lunch, ground transport	USD\$295
C	Hong Kong Night Tours 13 th & 15 th Nov., 2012	The fee included dinner, ground transport	USD\$100
D	Accommodation (Hotel) 12 th – 16 th Nov., 2012	No service charges on room rental	USD\$650
Post-Conference Educational Tour (participants can choose either one only, can't take both at the same time)			
E	Bangkok, Thailand - Excursion Programme 17 th – 18 th Nov., 2012	The fee included lunch, dinner, ground transport	USD\$235
F	Bangkok, Thailand - Educational Conference 19 th – 20 th Nov., 2012	The fee included lunch, dinner, ground transport	USD\$195
G		Roundtrip Airfares (exclude all taxes, and airport charges) Additional airfare for Thailand < > Hong Kong Trip	USD\$250
H	Accommodation (Hotel) 17 th – 20 th Nov., 2012	The fee included breakfast	USD\$380

Take New York Round-trip airfares as example

If you choose *Bangkok as the last stop* **A+B+C+D+E+F+G+H**
Total **USD\$3,339 +**

Or

K	Foshan, Guangzhou (4 days) 17 th – 20 th Nov., 2012	The trip included hotel, meals, ground transport, tour guide	USD\$190	If you choose <i>Foshan, Guangzhou as the last stop</i> A+B+C+D+K Total USD\$2,469 +
----------	--	--	----------	---

Since our trip consists of multiple stops / stays, Cathay Pacific Airways will send us some advice ASAP. At present, the participants who join the World Conference only can do the reservation booking online. Participants who are intending to join the Pre/Post or either have to wait for further information. Sorry for any inconvenience caused.

The estimate costs of different combinations

Pre Conference Educational Tours		IAIE World Conference	Post Conference Educational Tours			Estimated Total Cost USD\$	Remark
Nanjing & Shanghai	School Visits & Night Tour		Bangkok,Thailand		Foshan, Guangzhou,		
			Excursion Program	Educational Conference	Mainland China		
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		3,339+	<input type="checkbox"/>
✓	✓	✓	✓			2,954+	<input type="checkbox"/>
✓	✓	✓			✓	2,469+	<input type="checkbox"/>
	✓	✓	✓	✓		2,964+	<input type="checkbox"/>
	✓	✓	✓			2,579+	<input type="checkbox"/>
	✓	✓			✓	2,094+	<input type="checkbox"/>
	✓	✓				1,904+	<input type="checkbox"/>

** including airfares, hotel, some meals, ground transport, etc..

TRAVEL DOCUMENT

China

<http://www.chinahighlights.com/travelguide/visa-application/>

All visitors traveling to mainland China whether for business or pleasure, require a China visa. Your passport must be valid for at least 6 months after the duration of your intended stay. Visas are issued through Chinese embassies and consulates overseas. It's very difficult to obtain a China visa at the Chinese border entry points.

Thailand

<http://wikitravel.org/en/Thailand>

Ordinary passport holders of many Western and Asian countries, including most ASEAN countries, Australia, Canada, most European Union countries, Hong Kong, Japan, Russia and the United States do not need a visa if their purpose of visit is tourism. Visitors arriving by air receive 30-day permits (except for citizens of Korea, Brazil, Chile and Peru who get 90 days

Proof of onward transit, long happily ignored by Thai immigration, has been known to be strictly applied in some instances. (Airlines, who have to pay for your return flight if immigration doesn't let you in, also check this.) A print-out of an e-ticket on a budget airline is sufficient to convince the enforcers, but those planning on continuing by land may have to get a little creative. Buying a fully refundable ticket and getting it refunded once in Thailand is also an option. Land crossings, on the other hand, are a very straightforward process and no proof of onward journey required (unless the border officials decide otherwise).

General Information about Hong Kong

For more information on Hong Kong, visit:

<http://www.discoverhongkong.com/eng/index.jsp>

Weather

7-day weather forecast:

<http://www.discoverhongkong.com/eng/trip-planner/hongkongweather.html>.

It can be rainy so please along a small umbrella if possible.

Exchange Rate

The exchange rate fluctuates. Do refer to website <http://www.oanda.com/convert/classic> Money can be exchanged at the airport, banks and major hotels. ATMs are widely available. Most big cities have ATMs which accept Visa, MasterCard and American Express.

Tipping

10% service charge is usually included in the bill. In such cases tipping is not necessary. Tipping of taxi drivers is not customary but they do round up the fares to the nearest dollar.

Language

Hong Kong's official languages are English and Chinese. The most commonly spoken Chinese dialect is Cantonese, but Mandarin - the official language of China, known in Hong Kong as Putonghua - is gaining in popularity.

In hotels, major restaurants, stores, and tourist centres, almost everyone speaks English. This is not always the case, however, with taxi drivers, bus drivers, and workers in small shops, cafes, and market stalls. Please get a hotel card from the concierge so you can show it to the taxi driver every time you want to return to your hotel.

Local Food & Drink

Hong Kong is known for its “dim sum”, delicately prepared morsels of Cantonese cuisine served from a never-ending procession of carts and eaten with tea. Dim sum is usually eaten for breakfast or lunch and is often the focus of family get-togethers on Sundays.

A uniquely Hong Kong-style eatery is the cha chaan teng (literally "tea cafe"), but offering fusion fast food that happily mixes Western and Eastern fare with a wide selection of drinks including the popular tea-and-coffee mix “yuanyang”, and perhaps more oddities (to the Western palate) like boiled Coke with ginger or iced coffee with lemon.

For those who wish to eat Hong Kong's famous seafood, there are different locations in Hong Kong's coastal areas where freshly caught seafood is cooked and served. Places like Sai Kung, Po Doi O, Lei Yu Mun, Lau Fau Shan are good places to find restaurants specialized in seafood. These restaurants have different tanks to keep the seafood alive and will present live seafood specimens to their patrons for them to choose before cooking.

The traditional hotspot for both eating and drinking with westerners is Lan Kwai Fong in Central (Hong Kong Island). Wan Chai is also fun, if slightly sleazier with numerous girly bars along Lockhart Road, while Causeway Bay and Eastern Soho out beyond Quarry Bay offer a less touristy experience.

Shopping

As a generalisation, the Hong Kong Island has the fancy name-brand air-con shopping malls (particularly near Causeway Bay), while Kowloon is the place to go for cheap open markets. Kowloon also has Nathan Road with many shops selling electronics, cameras and gadgets, mainly to tourists.

Below are a few of the many Shopping Centres:-

- 1) Harbour City - Huge Shopping Centre in Tsim Sha Tsui on Canton Road
- 2) APM - All new 24Hr Shopping Centre in Kwun Tong. Take the MTR to the Kwun Tong station.
- 3) Citygate Outlet - Located right next to Tung Chung MTR Station, the Citygate is a rare outlet mall with tonnes of mid-priced brands, some of them being Adidas, Esprit, Giordano, Levi's, Nike, Quiksilver and Timberland.

Hong Kong has a lot of street markets. Below are a few more interesting ones:-

- 1) Ladies Market - Find fake brand label goods or illegal imports here. Make sure to bargain here! (Nearest MTR: Mongkok)
- 2) Temple Street - Situated in the middle of the yellow district, this is a place that sells anything from the Little Red Book to adult toys. (Nearest MTR: Yau Ma Tei)

Sightseeing

Hong Kong has enough towering urbanity, electric streetscapes, enigmatic temples, commercial fervour and cultural idiosyncrasies to utterly swamp the senses of a visitor.

Below are a few highlights:-

Victoria Peak: The views are giddy beautiful in every direction, with the vista of the business district, Victoria Harbour and Kowloon especially grand. In true Hong Kong style the main viewing deck is on the roof of a large shopping mall. <http://www.thepeak.com.hk>

Museums: There are a variety of museums in Hong Kong, particularly in Tsimshatsui:

Hong Kong Museum of Art (<http://www.lcsd.gov.hk/hkma>),

Hong Kong Museum of History (<http://www.hk.history.museum>),

Hong Kong Science Museum (<http://www.lcsd.gov.hk/CE/Museum/Science>) and

Hong Kong Space Museum (<http://www.lcsd.gov.hk/CE/Museum/Space/index.htm>).

For more information on sightseeing options in Hong Kong, please visit

<http://www.discoverhongkong.com/eng/index.jsp>

Optimism: Hong Kong or Bust in 2012 by Allyson

Hong Kong, China. November 14, 2012. The IAIE World Conference opens for another year. Imagine, YOU are actually there. In fact, you already have taken a pre-conference trip to mainland China. You've seen the latest schools to join the IAIE network, schools where students speak Mandarin Chinese, the language spoken by 13% of the world's 7 billion people. (Only 5% of the world's people speak English). These schools, their teachers and their students make an indelible impression you will remember the rest of your life.

As the conference opens in Hong Kong, you are swept into a world of difference where East meets West. Many business signs appear in both Cantonese and English. When you need help, it's easy to find an English speaker. And you are staying at the YMCA. The name sounded suspect, but it's a terrific hotel next to Victoria Harbor (Google it!) Yours is one of over 350 rooms housing World Conference guests and many other internationals in Hong Kong for work and pleasure. The YMCA's dining room, cafe, gift shop, lobby and currency exchange agents identify this as a fine hotel. In the evening, you step outside to see the world's most spectacular sound and light show playing amidst the tall buildings surrounding Victoria Harbor. (Google it!)

Feeling hungry mid-afternoon? Hong Kong has the widest range of cuisines in the world, including Thai, European, Indian, Mexican and of course, the immensely popular golden arches of McDonalds. On your first day, you stopped for a Big Mac, Coke and apple pie at 'Mak dong lou,' as it is pronounced in Cantonese. Now you feel more adventurous. You're ready to try the local fare at a tea house or a noodle shop. But you don't eat too much when you are snacking, because dinner will be memorable: Peking duck, roast pork, stuffed chicken baked in clay, fresh seafood, steamed dumplings (dim sum), century egg, Buddha's vegetarian delight, wife's cake or moon cake. It's a good thing you brought your appetite with you to Hong Kong.

The school visits in Hong Kong are different from those on the mainland, but equally amazing. You see how Invitational Theory and Practices keep improving these Hong Kong schools. Teachers, principals, students, buildings and grounds are full of surprises. The emphasis on 'green' projects in the middle of the city is unexpected. The students demonstrate care and respect for their school and peers by cleaning their own classrooms and serving lunch to each other.

There's still so much to see before returning home. A tram ride to The Peak gives a spectacular view as it rises 1200 feet above the city (Google it!) For another breathtaking view, The Giant Buddha statue seated on Lantau Island looks out over a panorama of mountain scenery (Google it, too!) And there must be time to bargain for souvenirs at the Ladies Market or Temple Street. So much to do. So much to learn. So much to experience.

Traveling to China for professional development seemed to some back home like you had champagne taste and a beer budget. But even when money was tight, you found creative ways to finance your trip. Selling doughnuts every morning paid off well and so did that school wide yard sale. Were the wait and the work worthwhile? Absolutely. Coming to the IAIE World Conference in Hong Kong was the opportunity of a lifetime and you made it happen.

Can you dream it? Don't just Google it. Get your passport ready and GO.