# Hong Kong

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# Vocabulary

**Akin:** having some of the same qualities.

**Marauding:** going from one place to another killing or using violence, stealing, and destroying.

**Sweeping:** affecting many things or people; large.

**Mainstream:** considered normal, and having or using ideas, beliefs, etc. that are accepted by most people.

**Ceded:** to allow someone else to have or own something, especially unwillingly or because you are forced to do so.

**Bolstered:** to support or improve something or make it stronger.

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# Introduction

Hong Kong became a colony of the British Empire after Qing China ceded Hong Kong Island at the end of the First Opium War in 1842.

Originally a sparsely populated area of farming and fishing villages, the territory has become one of the world's most significant financial centres and commercial ports.

Today it is the world's seventh-largest trading entity, and its legal tender the Hong Kong dollar is the world's 13th-most-traded currency.

The territory has the largest number of skyscrapers in the world, most surrounding Victoria Harbour.

The language spoken by most locals include Cantonese, Mandarin and English.

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