

# GUIDE FOR VISITORS



## Welcome to Government House

### Open Day

Government House is a monument declared under the Antiquities and Monuments Ordinance. Since 1968, Government House Open Day has been giving the public an opportunity to view the flowers in the garden and enjoy the ambience of the dignified building, with its unique blend of Eastern and Western design.

### Opening Hours and Routing

Government House Open Day will be held on 17 March 2019 (Sunday) from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Visitors should enter Government House through the east gate at Upper Albert Road. The visitors' routing

is one-way only. Special passage is available for wheelchair users. Please seek assistance from staff of Government House if necessary.

### Transportation

1. Take one of the following bus routes, alight at Caine Road (near Caritas Centre) and take a 10-minute walk:

- NWFB 13 or 23
- CityBus 12, 12M, 40, 40M or 103 (Cross Harbour Tunnel Route)

2. Take minibus route 10 or 31, alight at the Hong Kong Zoological and Botanical Gardens and take a 5-minute walk.

3. Take MTR, alight at Central Station, head for exit K, pass through HSBC Main Building, cross Queen's Road Central and walk up along Garden Road for about 15 minutes.

### Flowers and Trees

Visitors can view the flowers and trees in the garden and the landscaped area. Government House has over 30 species of flowers and trees including *Camellia azalea*, *Tibouchina semidecandra*, *Rhododendron pulchrum* sweet, *Hibiscus rosa-sinensis* var., *Malva sinensis* Cavan, *Cytisus racemosus*, *Phalaenopsis hybrid*, *Pericallis hybrid*, *Antirrhinum majus*, *Cosmos bipinuta*,



Government House Foyer



Enter Government House through the east gate at Upper Albert Road



Visitors can view the blossoming flowers and other plants in the garden and know more about the history of Government House through docent services.

Hydrangea macrophylla, etc. There is also a rare species of tree, Rose of Venezuela, which is listed in the Register of Old and Valuable Trees.

### Docent Services\*

Docent services (near the fountain at the Back Garden) will be provided on the Open Day to enhance visitors' knowledge about the rich history of Government House. Each session will last for about 30 minutes. Please refer to the notices at the spot.

Apart from docent services, 2D Barcodes# will be set up along the visitors' route in Government House to provide visitors with a

richer understanding about this declared monument.

### Music Performances and Puppet Shows\*

There will be music performances by the Hong Kong Police Band and student ensembles as well as puppet shows for visitors' enjoyment while strolling in the garden.

### Stamps Collection and Photo Corner\*

Souvenir stamps themed on the architectural features of Government House and the flowers in Government House will be available at specific locations along the visitors' route. Visitors may bring along paper for stamping. Photo props will also be provided at two specific locations for photo shoots.

### House Rules

To maintain public order and ensure visitors' safety and enjoyment on the Open Day, all visitors are required to comply with these House Rules and follow the instructions of the staff of Government House.

If any visitor violates any of these House Rules or does not follow instructions, the staff of Government House have the authority to refuse admission of the visitor concerned; and terminate his/her visit and request him/her to leave immediately.

Visitors who have been refused entry or have had their visit terminated will not be admitted to Government House during the remaining hours of the Open Day.

### Admission

To safeguard visitors' safety, the staff of Government House have the authority to inspect any belongings brought with visitors. Visitors who decline to have their belongings inspected will not be admitted to Government House.

Any item<sup>[Note]</sup> which may disturb public order or cause a nuisance to other people will not be permitted in Government House.

[Note] Items not permitted in Government House include, but not limited to sound/light amplification devices, banners, flags, petition-related items, bulky objects, edged/pointed tools (e.g. knives, scissors), digging implements, alcoholic beverages, pets, explosive or flammable substances, chemical and hazardous substances, and other substances/items that may cause injury to other people, damage to structures or government property or disturbance to public order.

Visitors who insist on carrying any of the above items will not be admitted to Government House. Government House will not provide any baggage deposit service.

### Order and Behaviour in Government House

The following are prohibited in Government House: (i) smoking; (ii) damaging, defacing or altering any structure, government property, sign or equipment; (iii) plucking flowers or leaves, digging, climbing trees or carrying out other activities that may cause damage to the gardens; (iv) shouting, chanting or producing noise; (v) displaying any flag or banner or throwing any object; and (vi) any behaviour that may disturb public order, obstruct passages or cause a nuisance to other visitors.

### Visitor Flow Management

The Government House Open Day will close at 5:00 p.m. When there are a large number of visitors waiting for admission, the staff of Government House may take measures to regulate visitor flow, including cutting off the queue before 5:00 p.m. to ensure that all visitors waiting will be able to enter and visit Government House within the opening hours.

\* Docent services, music performances, puppet shows and the photo props at specific locations may be adjusted according to special circumstances like overcrowding and weather conditions. Please pay attention to the relevant notices.

# Visitors may use their smartphones or other mobile devices with suitable software for browsing information about Government House.

### Other Facilities & Services

- Display panels depicting the history of Government House are set up at the Main Entrance of the Main Building.
- Special passage is available for wheelchair users. Please seek assistance from staff of Government House if necessary.
- Helpers from St. John Ambulance will stand by throughout the Open Day to provide first aid services.
- Water dispensers and mobile toilets will be available for visitors at the venue. To care for the environment, no disposable cups will be provided. Visitors are welcome to bring their own bottles.

Website: <http://www.ceo.gov.hk/gh/eng/>