



# HSBC Rural Sustainability

Lai Chi Wo  
Self-guided Tour Map

Initiated by:



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## Visit Lai Chi Wo



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**Option 1: By Ferry (Ma Liu Shui - Lai Chi Wo)**  
Schedule: Sundays & Public Holidays  
Time : 09:00 (Outbound), 15:30 (Return)  
Enquiries: 2555-9269

**Option 2: By Hiking**  
(A) From Wu Kau Tang, via Fan Shui Au  
Difficulty: Medium  
Duration: around 1.5 hours  
(B) From Wu Kau Tang, via Kau Tam Tso  
Difficulty: Easy  
Duration: around 2.5 hours  
(C) From Luk Keng, via Fan Shui Au  
Difficulty: Easy  
Duration: around 2 hours

Contact Us



Tel : 3917-4767  
Fax : 2857-2521  
Email : ruralsd@hku.hk  
Website : <http://www.socsc.hku.hk/psl/laichiwo>

## HSBC Rural Sustainability



Rural Sustainability  
永續鄉郊計劃

The Policy for Sustainability Lab of the Faculty of Social Sciences at The University of Hong Kong launched a revitalization programme in Lai Chi Wo in 2013 in collaboration with the local villagers, nonprofits, experts and volunteers.

A new phase of the programme titled "HSBC Rural Sustainability" commenced in 2017; to tie in with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, the new phase strives to attain three objectives:

- To incubate diverse and eco-friendly socio-economic models for rural communities
- To foster collaborative and innovative actions among stakeholders to conserve the rural environment and culture
- To strengthen rural-urban partnerships for the sustainability of Hong Kong

## Lai Chi Wo Village

The Hakka village of Lai Chi Wo located in a remote valley in the north-eastern New Territories was founded over 300 years ago by two Hakka clans the Tsang's and the Wong's. Villagers in the past cut the hilly slopes into terraces for paddy farming and led an environmentally friendly lifestyle. The village is surrounded by the Plover Cove Country Park and the Yan Chau Tong Marine Park and designated as part of the Hong Kong UNESCO Global Geopark.

The village is endowed with diverse habitats, including Feng Shui Woods, agricultural lands, streams and mangroves, as well as many precious species, such as Coastal Heritiera (*Heritiera littoralis*), White-flowered Derris (*Derris alborubra*) and Dwarf Eel Grass (*Zostera japonica*).

Since the 1950's, villagers began to move out to the urban areas of Hong Kong or overseas for a better living, leaving the village largely desolated. The revitalization programme implemented since 2013 has seen villagers gradually moving back. With the intact village layout and the reinvigorated community, Lai Chi Wo has become an exemplar of local rural revitalization.

## Strategy 1: Incubate Socio-economic Models for Rural Communities

Lai Chi Wo and other villages in Sha Tau Kok will be the pilot sites in the programme to incubate diverse socio-economic models for the revival of rural villages:



### Eco-agriculture

Connect farmers and landowners with ecologists and farming experts to develop eco-friendly agricultural approaches (such as agroforestry) for enhancing economic and conservation values of idle farmland.



### Co-kitchen

Gather farmers, producers and suppliers to co-develop a local food supply chain to enhance the diversity and branding value of local agriculture products



### Co-creation of the community

Reinvigorate the rural communities and promote LOHAS through art, craftsmanship, technology and other innovative approaches.



## What to Do in Lai Chi Wo

### Culture and Ecology Guided Tour

Follow the locals, and learn the historical stories and environmental features of the village in-depth.

Language : Cantonese  
Time : 11:00 - 12:00 on Sundays and Public Holidays  
How to join: Contact Lai Chi Wo social enterprise: 'HakkaHome-LCW'  
Tel: 9558-7787 Email: [hakkahomelcw@gmail.com](mailto:hakkahomelcw@gmail.com)



### Lai Chi Wo Farmers' Market

The farmers and their produce are within reach - Meet the local farmers every first Sunday of each month, and bring home environmentally friendly produce freshly collected from the farms.

Venue: Outside Lai Chi Wo East Gate



Lai Chi Wo Farmers' Market



## Strategy 2: Set up the Academy for Sustainable Communities

The Academy for Sustainable Communities (the Academy) is established as a first-of-its-kind regional knowledge exchange platform to incubate change agents for sustainability in the new generation. The Academy offers training courses, seminars and workshops, covering topics such as rural resource management, social innovation, appropriate technology, and cultural landscape.

The Academy will also organize Sustainability Hackathons and Rural in Action Start-up Schemes to help students and graduates solicit resources and establish networks for realising their proposals and initiatives.



## Strategy 3: Formulate a Sustainability Assessment Framework

Research and formulation of a sustainability assessment framework is underway in order to develop a comprehensive assessment tool for sustainability projects to measure, document and evaluate the effectiveness and impact on both the community and the society.



## Travel Tips and Advice



Keep your voice down and enjoy the tranquillity of the village.

Some areas in the village are private areas. Respect the locals.



Do not trespass farmlands or collect farmers' crops and plants.



Watch out while walking in the village. Avoid dilapidated houses.

Adopt a green lifestyle: Bring your own bags.



Village dogs keep the villagers good company and are friendly to tourists. But they are also territorial and sensitive to visiting pets. Visitors with pets please beware: Do not unleash your dog. Hold it if necessary.



# Lai Chi Wo Self-guided Tour Map

To Mui Tsz Lam and Kop Tong

To Wu Kau Tang and Luk Keng

To Sam A and Kau Tam Tso

To the pier and So Lo Pun



## Lai Chi Wo Self-guided Tour Map

- |   |   |                                   |
|---|---|-----------------------------------|
| ① Memorial Gateway                        | ⑥ Coastal Heritiera & mangrove            | ⑫ Autumn Maple and Chinese Banyan |
| ② Hing Chun Yeuk Siu Ying School          | ⑦ Earth God altar at the village entrance | ⑬ Feng Shui woodland              |
| ③ Hip Tin Temple & Hok Shan Monastery     | ⑧ Lai Chi Wo East Gate                    | ⑭ Five-fingered Camphor           |
| ④ Earth God altar at the bridge           | ⑨ Lai Chi Wo Cultural Hub                 | ⑮ Revitalized farmland            |
| ⑤ White-flowered Derris & Earth God altar | ⑩ Lai Chi Wo Geoheritage Centre           | ⑯ Community farms incubation zone |
|   | ⑪ Hollow Tree                             |                                   |

## Food and Souvenirs

- |  |   |   |   |
|--|---|---|---|
| <b>A</b> Uncle Yi's Store<br>Homemade drinks, Hakka snacks and teacakes<br>Opening hours: 09:00 – 17:00, weekends and public holidays      | <b>C</b> Natural Space at Lai Chi Wo<br>Farm products<br>Opening hours: Usually open        | <b>E</b> Ying Kee Tea House<br>Hakka specialities, farm products<br>Opening hours: Reservation required                     | <b>G</b> Ming's Tea House<br>Hakka specialities, soft drinks, farm products<br>Opening hours: 11:00 – 15:30, weekends and public holidays |
| <b>B</b> FOO's Café<br>Local specialities, farm products<br>Opening hours: 10:00 – 15:00, Sundays and public holidays in Autumn and Winter | <b>D</b> Farm Side Art Research Lab<br>Art workshops<br>Opening hours: Reservation required | <b>F</b> PermAmigo<br>Homemade drinks, farm experience, farm products<br>Opening hours: 10:00 – 16:00, Sundays to Thursdays |   |

