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CULTURE AND SPORT



Eastern and western cultures have co-existed in Macao for over 400 years. A wide variety of cultural traditions, languages, values, religious beliefs, and customs have all existed side by side and influenced one another. Out of this melting pot, a regional culture unique to Macao has gradually developed into its present richness. Macao's culture is thus a diverse mixture, with traditional Chinese culture as its heart, and it has assimilated Western, particularly Portuguese, cultural influences in perfect harmony.

Following its policy of promoting Chinese culture while preserving the unique pluralistic cultural heritage of Macao, the Government has hosted various cultural and artistic activities invited art troupes from mainland China and overseas, as well as Macao, to perform. These have created opportunities for audiences to learn more about the history, society, and culture of different regions, as well as enhancing cultural exchange and the quality of cultural life of Macao's residents.

Cultural Affairs Bureau

The Cultural Affairs Bureau is a Government department that sets out the Government's key objectives in cultural matters.

The bureau is responsible for protecting cultural heritage, giving guidance on aesthetic appreciation, supporting community organisations, nurturing talent in arts and culture, developing local cultural industries, as well as organising cultural entertainment programmes, such as concerts, exhibitions, seminars, music classes, dance, drama courses, Macao International Parade, Macao International Music Festival, Macao Arts Festival, Macao City Fringe Festival, China Cultural Heritage Day, Macao Youth Music Competition and Macao Annual Visual Arts Exhibition. It also provides subsidies for different cultural and art programmes as well as scholarships to support the publication of research and advanced studies about arts.

Cultural and Creative Industries

In 2010, the bureau established the Department for the Promotion of Cultural and Creative Industries, to proactively promote cultural and creative industries and so boost their development – including through promoting and exhibiting cultural and creative products; conducting studies of the cultural and creative industries; formulating a policy framework and measures for the development of the cultural and creative industries; and establishing a database on cultural and creative industries. At present, information in the database is used in business matching, and selecting cultural and creative institutions and companies to participate in local and overseas activities and fairs, to enhance the image of Macao's cultural and creative industries.

In 2017, the CinemathequePassion commenced operation. Also, the Cultural Affairs Bureau participated in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Film Working Meeting and the Guangdong Film Annual Meeting, and organised events such as the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Film Production Investment and Trade Fair. It also promoted cooperation between the film industries in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area, and joined hands with various departments to launch an open tender for the cultural and creative shops at Anim'Arte NAM VAN. In addition, the bureau organised the "Certificate in Visual Art Marketing and Management" programme together with the Institute for Tourism Studies to nurture visual arts marketing and management of talents.

Cultural Industry Fund

The Cultural Industry Fund was established according to Law No. 26/2013 of the MSAR, and is supervised by the Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture. The aim of the fund is to support cultural industry development projects in Macao and promote adequate economic diversification. The principle for funding approval is to aim for projects supported mainly by investments from enterprises, and supplemented by the fund.

The targets for the subsidy include commercial enterprises established according to law, and registered under the Financial Services Bureau subject to taxation; if the commercial entity is a natural person, then the person shall be a Macao resident; if the commercial entity is a legal person, more than 50 percent of capital of the legal person should be owned by a Macao resident.

The 28th Macao Arts Festival

The 28th Macao Arts Festival was held from 28 April to 31 May 2017, and featured 25 programmes with 120 performances and art activities, including a visual art exhibition. A total of 13,524 tickets were sold, representing a take-up of nearly 80 percent.

More than half of the programmes were locally produced. Non-local programmes were from the United States, mainland China, Iceland, Germany, Japan, Portugal, Belgium, the Netherlands and Spain, spanning drama, dance, Beijing opera, soundscape theatre, and outdoor immersive theatre. The programmes were staged in various venues in Macao.

The festival had the theme “Heterotopia”, and explored the diverse possibilities of space. It was kick-started by *Play and Play: An Evening of Movement and Music and A Letter to My Nephew* performed by the internationally acclaimed US modern dance troupe Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Company; while Anton Chekhov’s *The Seagull* brought the festival to a close.

Local productions included immersive theatre *Back to the Catastrophic Typhoon of 1874*, which was adapted from a novel that won an award in the Macao Literature Competition; physical theatre *Songs of Migrants*; drama *The Nether*; and children’s musical *Metamorphosis Under Starry Night*.

Moreover, traditional local programmes included Cantonese operas *The Tale of Lady General* and *The Butterfly Lovers*, and Macanese Patuá drama *Stormy Luck*.

A series of satellite events and free outdoor programmes were also offered in the community, attracting an audience of about 2,500 people.

The 31th Macao International Music Festival

The 31st Macao International Music Festival was held from 28 September to 30 October 2017, with a total of 17 programmes and 44 performances including satellite events. In all, 10,301 tickets were sold – a take-up rate of 97 percent. Performing groups from Italy, South Africa, Germany, Russia, the United States, Austria, Portugal, Korea, mainland China, Taiwan, Hong Kong and Macao, staged performances that formed a musical extravaganza of exceptional quality.

The festival began with *Andrea Chénier*, a four-act opera by Umberto Giordano produced by Teatro Regio Torino; and was concluded by a concert of the Vienna Philharmonic. Besides, the Macao International Music Festival and the Israeli Opera brought to life a whole new production of *Orfeo ed Euridice*, an outdoor opera in three acts by Christoph W. Gluck, at Mount Fortress. In addition, distinguished local playwright Lawrence Lei, composer Liu Chenchen and young poetess Un Sio San were invited to create the one-act opera *A Fragrant Dream*.

Other performances featured the Deutsche Kammerphilharmonie Breme, Novus String Quartet, pianist Lukas Geniusas, Soweto Gospel Choir, jazz singer Jazzmeia Horn, el fog (Masayoshi Fujita) and singer William So. To encourage local talents, the festival held two Bravo Macao concerts, in which local violinist Lo Cheng Io, pianist Suiong Wong, harpist Leong Cheok Wun and cellist Ho Chun showcased their talents.

The 16th Macao City Fringe Festival

The 16th Macao City Fringe Festival was held from 13 to 22 January 2017, and featured a total of 23 programmes with 70 performances. In all, 89 percent of the tickets were sold, for an audience of nearly 3,000 people. Six types of satellite events including workshop, seminar, art review and the very first sharing session on art festivals were also held.

The festival embraced local productions, incoming programmes, and those performances that were jointly produced by local and overseas artists. Overseas artists performing in the festival were from mainland China, Taiwan, Prague, Palestine, Portugal, Ireland, Belgium, Hong Kong and Japan. A wide range of performances including drama, dance, music theatre, physical theatre and live art were staged.

During the ten-day festival, a series of programmes were staged in various special venues in Macao. These included *In Good Hands* in a hair salon, *The Smooth Life* in Macau Ho's Clan Association, *The Other Side of the Sacred* in Nossa Senhora Village, *Funeral for the Living* in the Square of the Ruins of St. Paul's, *Seven's Up* in a karaoke lounge, *5 Women* in Macao Art Garden, and *Mobile Kitchen* in a primary school, the headquarters of the Scout Association of Macau, the courtyard of Albergue SCM and Casa Garden.

In addition, artistic and festive directors and curators from Singapore, Malaysia, Shenzhen, Hong Kong and Taipei were invited to introduce various arts festivals, to help local art groups reach beyond Macao.

2017 Macao International Parade

In 2017, the "Parade through Macao, Latin City" was renamed "2017 Macao International Parade", and there was a new parade route. The event was successfully held on 17 December. Participating groups from Macao and overseas passed through Rua de S. Paulo, Rua da Palha, Largo de S. Domingos, Largo do Senado, Travessa do Roquete, Rua da Se, Calçada de S. Joao, Avenida da Praia Grande, Avenida Panoramica do Lago Nam Van and Avenida Doutor Stanley Ho, and gathered in Sai Van Lake Square, where a festive celebration of Macao's handover was held. This year, 49 local art groups, 15 overseas art groups and about 1,300 artists took part in the parade, which attracted 200,000 viewers through support by the media.

Macao Orchestra

Established in 1983, The Macao Orchestra is a professional ensemble under the Cultural Affairs Bureau. It has become an outstanding orchestra in Asia that integrates the cultures of east and west, and performs classics from the past and present. The orchestra plays an important role in the cultural life of Macao citizens and overseas audiences.

In 2017, the Macao orchestra held 102 concerts locally and overseas, which were appreciated by audiences totalling around 29,000 persons. The orchestra performed a comprehensive and diversified range of music that covered both Chinese and Western traditional and modern classics; it also reached out to campuses, the community and the disadvantaged, so that audiences could closely experience the art of music.

Macao Chinese Orchestra

The Macao Chinese Orchestra is a professional Chinese orchestra under the Cultural Affairs Bureau. Established in 1987, it has always been dedicated to serving Macao by reaching the general public in communities, social groups and schools. It has a mission as a cultural ambassador of the Government of Macao, and spares no efforts in manifesting Macao's unique mix of Chinese and Western cultures.

In 2017, the Macao Chinese Orchestra was invited by the Bahrain Authority for Culture and Antiques to perform for the opening of Chinese Cultural Days in the Kingdom of Bahrain. It also performed at the Reception in Celebration of the 68th Anniversary of the Founding of the People's Republic of China organised by the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in the Kingdom of Bahrain. The trip strengthened the cultural development of Macao and the "Belt and Road" countries and promoted art exchanges between Macao and Bahrain, as well as fostered the development of the Macao Chinese Orchestra. During the year, the orchestra performed a total of 84 local and overseas concerts, for audiences totalling 17,087 persons.

The 35th Macao Youth Music Competition

The Macao Youth Music Competition aims to promote classical music development in Macao, provide a valuable performance platform and learning opportunities for young people, and raise their performance standards. It has become a tradition that piano competitions are held in odd-numbered years, while Chinese music, Western music and vocal music competitions are held in even-numbered years.

The 35th Macao Youth Music Competition was held in 2017, with piano competitions. In all, 719 young musicians participated in 16 competition categories. Music educators and performers from mainland China, Taiwan, Hong Kong and the United States were invited to join the panel of professional judges for the competitions, which were held from 22 to 30 July at the Macao Science Center and the Institute for Tourism Studies. The competitions were divided into elementary, intermediate, and advanced levels, with 16 competition categories and 23 sessions; there were 487 winners in total. A Special Prize Competition was held on 3 August at the Institute for Tourism Studies, in which four special awards were presented and one contestant received the Cultural Affairs Bureau Prize.

Celebration for Year of the Rooster

The “Celebration for Year of the Rooster” was held during the Lunar New Year from 27 to 30 January 2017. During the event, the Ethnic Art Troupe of Liannan Yao Autonomous Country of Guangdong Province staged seven performances in Tap Seac Square, Largo do Senado, the Mandarin’s House, Pak Tai Temple Square and Iao Hon Market Garden, attracting an audience of 8,000 people, who enjoyed the festive season in Liannan Yao style.

“HUSH!! Full Music” Beach Concert

To promote the development of pop music in Macao, the Cultural Affairs Bureau held the “HUSH!! Full Music” Beach Concert on Hac Sa Beach. The concert spanned two sessions, on 30 April and 1 May 2017, lasted 15 hours in total. Singers and bands from Macao, mainland China, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Japan, Korea and Singapore were invited to take audiences through non-stop music performances of different genres, including rock, metal, electronic, trance and pop, making it a major music event full of enthusiasm. With 15 local and ten foreign groups, there were a total of about 130 performers. The two-day concert attracted an audience of about 14,000 people.

Performance to Celebrate the 68th Anniversary of the National Day of the People’s Republic of China – Mulan

To celebrate the 68th Anniversary of the National Day of the People’s Republic of China, the Cultural Affairs Bureau and the Department of Culture and Education of the Liaison Office of the Central People’s Government in the Macao SAR organised, in cooperation with the Sports Bureau, the Performance to Celebrate the 68th Anniversary of the National Day of the People’s Republic of China, featuring the *Acrobatic Performance: Mulan* performed by the Chongqing Acrobatic Art Troupe. Two sessions of the performance were held at the Macao Forum on 30 September and 1 October 2016. In all, 87 percent of the tickets were sold, with an audience of 1,535 persons.

The 20th Lusofonia Festival

The 20th Lusofonia Festival, an event associated with the culture of the Macao Portuguese-speaking communities, was held from 19 to 22 October at the Taipa Houses-Museum for four consecutive days. It enabled participants to gain a better understanding of the cultures of various Portuguese-speaking countries and regions. A total of ten countries/regions participated in the activities, with more than 300 performers from 21 local and nine foreign performing groups, as well as 10 booths of Portuguese-speaking communities in Macao. Nearly 25,000 people participated in the event.

2017 New Year Countdown Celebrations

On 31 December, the Macau Countdown Concert 2017 and the Taipa Countdown Show 2017 were held in Sai Van Lake Plaza and Taipa Houses-Museum, respectively, featuring amazing performances to celebrate the New Year.

Veteran Danish band Michael Learns To Rock, popular Hong Kong band Dear Jane, Korean rapper Kisum and local singer Kane Ao Ieong were invited to give singing, music and dance performances and count down to the new year with the audience at the Macau Countdown Concert 2017. On the night, large screens were set up in Largo do Senado, and Nam Van Lake Nautical Centre; and TDM produced a live broadcast through its Chinese television and radio channels. The concert had a live audience of 40,000 persons.

The Taipa Countdown Show offered a series of family activities for the public. Ram Chiang, a famous Hong Kong actor, and a number of local artist groups were invited to perform in the show. Themed booths for seven regions – Australia, Korea, the Philippines, India, Indonesia, Myanmar and Thailand – were set up at the venue to demonstrate featured arts and skills, as well as unique cuisine of the cultures of foreigners and overseas Chinese residing in Macao. The event attracted 4,300 participants.

Visual Arts Exhibition

The Visual Arts Exhibition organised by the Cultural Affairs Bureau aims to showcase outstanding art from around the world, stimulate creativity among Macao artists, enable public appreciation of various types of visual artworks, and promote arts exchanges.

In 2017, 18 visual arts exhibitions were held in the Tap Seac Gallery, the Navy Yard No.1 – Contemporary Art Center, the Temporary Exhibition Gallery of the Civic and Municipal Affairs Bureau, Monte Fort Corridor and Chun Chou Tong Pavilion in Lou Lim Ieoc Garden.

Busking Programme

The Busking Programme allows street art performances by buskers, and so establishes more performance platforms for local arts and culture practitioners, while encouraging the public to appreciate and participate in cultural and arts activities. Three busking spots – the Anim'Arte NAM VAN, Taipa Houses-Museum and Mount Fortress Garden – are made available every Friday to Sunday and Public Holidays under the programme for busking performances. In 2017, over 180 busker cards were issued. Nearly 300 buskers performed at the busking spots, attracting an audience of nearly 17,000 people.

Cultural Information Platform

The website of the Cultural Affairs Bureau (www.icm.gov.mo) provides cultural services information regarding cultural activities, performances, exhibitions, heritage protection, promotion of arts education, and academic research. There are affiliated websites for cultural facilities including the Macao Central Library, Macao Archives, Macao Conservatory, Museum of Macau, and the Tap Seac Gallery. Also provided is detailed information on cultural events such as the Macao City Fringe Festival, the Macao Arts Festival, the Macao International Music Festival, and the Macao International Parade. In 2017, the website received 5,457,981 visits.

Furthermore, the Cultural Affairs Bureau has established the Cultural Heritage of Macao website (www.culturalheritage.mo) and Macau World Heritage website (www.wh.mo), as well as the Macao Cultural and Creative Industries Website (www.macaucci.gov.mo), which promotes

the exchange of information in the cultural and creative industries and deepens the understanding of other sectors regarding development of the cultural and creative industries. In 2017, the three websites received 299,728; 213,203; and 813,189 visits, respectively.

Culture Lectures

Culture Lectures is a series of cultural seminars on different disciplines, which aims at popularising culture and art education, and enhancing participants' creativity and aesthetics. The scheme's major target audience spans primary six to senior secondary school students, and is expanding to cover people in the community.

In 2017, in addition to small class interactive seminars on campus, Culture Lectures were held in different institutions and organisations, including the Public Administration and Civil Service Bureau, Macao Prison, the Youth Correctional Institution, the Rehabilitation Centre for the Blind, Smart Youth of the Christian New Life Fellowship and Praia de Manduco Community Centre. Public sessions were also held in the community, during which topics related to the art and cultural development of Macao, covering local history, music, drama and art administration, were introduced to the participating students and residents. In all, 219 seminars and guided tours were organised during the year, with over 5,800 participants.

Seeds of Art

The Seeds of Art project targets the teaching staff of primary and secondary schools in Macao. It offers art and cultural activities, and allows teachers to understand a diverse range of cultural issues. In 2017, Seeds of Art organised six activities including a seminar, a guided tour and a workshop on topics such as history, music and drama. The project helped teachers to enhance the interest and understanding of arts and culture among primary and secondary school students in Macao.

Macao Conservatory

As a subsidiary of the Cultural Affairs Bureau, the Macao Conservatory is a public educational institution with the mission of "Emphasising professionalism and popularisation; integrating arts and life". The school's motto is "Respect art; adore aesthetics; be learned; and be dedicated". It strives to nurture local performing arts talents, and promote cultivation of humanity values among the general public.

The conservatory comprises a School of Dance, School of Music, and School of Drama. It offers the public a range of systematic, regular, and continuous training courses of professional standards in performing arts disciplines, spanning junior secondary education, higher secondary level vocational education in dance, music and drama, and universal education. It regularly organises various dance performances, concerts and drama performances, giving its students the opportunity to display their skills and gain stage experience. At present, it has 2,300 students.

Protection of Cultural Heritage

Protecting the cultural heritage of Macao is a priority of the Government. Decree-Laws Nos.

56/84/M and 83/92/M, passed and gazetted in 1984 and 1992, respectively, specify that all buildings of cultural significance must be protected. In 2005, the Historic Centre of Macao was inscribed on the World Heritage List, further advancing heritage protection work in Macao. In 2006, through Executive Order No. 202/2006, the buffer zone of the heritage sites was further expanded. In 2013, the Cultural Heritage Protection Law was passed and promulgated. It came into effect on 1 March 2014, establishing a protection mechanism for tangible and intangible cultural heritage, including the mechanism for evaluations, the protection type and scope, and the reward and penalty system.

By the end of 2017, Macao had 137 such protected properties, which are classified into four categories: monuments; buildings of architectural and artistic interest, architectural complexes and sites, scattered across the Macao Peninsula, Taipa, and Coloane, while there are 15 items of intangible cultural heritage on the list. The Government formulates protection measures according to the value and characteristics of the heritage, to promote and pass on cultural traditions. The Government actively safeguards Macao and its cultural heritage, which is characterised by unique multicultural diversity and harmony.

Intangible Cultural Heritage of Macao

In recent years, the conservation of intangible cultural heritage has become a matter of concern. The Convention on Safeguarding Intangible Cultural Heritage passed by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization came into effect in Macao in September 2006. During the same year, Cantonese Opera and Herbal Tea Brewing were jointly nominated by Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao, and became the first batch of intangible cultural heritage inscribed on the National List of Intangible Cultural Heritage. (The Chinese name of the list was revised to “National List of Representative Items of Intangible Cultural Heritage” in 2014). In June 2008, “Wood carving – Macao’s religious figure carving” was among the second batch added to the National List of Intangible Cultural Heritage, representing the first successful independent application made by Macao for inscription on the national list.

In September 2009, Cantonese Opera was officially inscribed onto the UNESCO Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity as a result of a joint application by Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao.

In May 2011, “Cantonese Naamyam (Singing and Narrative Songs)”, “Macao Taoist Ritual Music” and “Festival of the Drunken Dragon”, applied for by Macao independently, were among the third batch inscribed on the National List of Intangible Cultural Heritage. In June 2012, Macao Mazu (A Ma) Belief and Customs, Macao Na Tcha Belief and Customs, Macanese Gastronomy, and Macanese Theatre (Theatre in Patuá) were added to the List of Macao Intangible Cultural Heritage.

In December 2014, Macao Mazu (A Ma) Belief and Customs, and Macao Na Tcha Belief and Customs were inscribed on the fourth batch of the National List of Intangible Cultural Heritage.

In September 2017, the Cultural Affairs Bureau announced the first batch to be inscribed onto the Inventory of Macao’s Intangible Cultural Heritage, which included 15 items: Yueju Opera (Cantonese Opera), Herbal Tea Brewing, Woodwork – Religious Figure Carving, Cantonese Naamyam (Narrative Songs), Taoist Ritual Music, Festival of the Drunken Dragon, Belief and Customs of A-Ma, Belief and Customs of Na Tcha, Macanese Gastronomy, Patua Theatre, Belief

and Customs of Tou Tei, Belief and Customs of Chu Tai Sin, Craft of Bamboo Scaffolding, Procession of the Passion of Our Lord, the God Jesus and Procession of Our Lady of Fatima.

Academic Research Scholarships

The new Academic Research Scholarship aims to encourage original research on Macao culture and exchanges between Macao, mainland China and other countries. The scholarship value was 280,000 or 250,000 patacas. Five persons were awarded scholarships in 2017.

Macao Public Library

Founded in 1895, the Macao Public Library is under the Cultural Affairs Bureau. It comprises the Macao Central Library, Sir Robert Ho Tung Library, Library of the Civic and Municipal Affairs Bureau Building, Ilha Verde Library, Mong Ha Library, Red Market Library, Taipa Library, Coloane Library, Wong leng Kuan Library in Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Municipal Park, Wong leng Kuan Library in Luis de Camoes Garden, Wong leng Kuan Library in Areia Preta Urban Park, Wong leng Kuan Children's Library in Areia Preta Urban Park, Wong leng Kuan Library in Taipa, Library in Ho Yin Garden, .S. Lourenço Library, Patane Library, and mobile libraries. Currently the largest public library network in Macao, it houses a collection of 998,000 books and multimedia items, including 927,000 books, 56,000 multimedia items, 15,000 electronic books in 11,000 categories, about 1,000 items of 848 types in the microfilm section, about 5,000 latest journal articles of 950 types, about 4,000 magazines of 854 types, and about 1,000 newspapers of 96 types. There are 24 databases for electronic resources. It is the largest public library network in Macao. In 2017, a total of 2,543,000 visitors were received. The lending volume was 484,000 books/items, and electronic resources received about 1,100,000 clicks.

Services provided by the Macao Public Library include the lending of library materials, browsing of current and past newspapers and magazines, references of Macao information, processing of reader's cards, broadband internet and microfilms, browsing of online electronic resources databases, printing and photocopying of information, processing applications for ISBN, ISSN, and ISRC, as well as providing an additional collection point for Legal Deposit according to the Legal Deposit system.

In 2017, there were 637 applications for ISBN, 21 applications for ISSN and seven applications for ISRC.

In 2017, more self-service equipment was installed in the Macao Public Library to facilitate easy access to library services for readers, including self-service check-in and check-out terminals, 24-hour book drops, and self-service photocopying machines. Every year, the Macao Public Library hosts a range of activities to encourage reading and recommend library services. It also receives group visits from schools and different groups.

In 2017, the Macao Public Library organised 644 reading promotion activities, attracting 17,000 participants.

Macao has many other smaller libraries, including the well known octagonal Chinese Library. In addition, various Government departments and tertiary educational institutions have their own libraries. Each contributes to the ever-expanding supply of books and knowledge available to

the people of Macao.

Macao Archives

The Macao Archives is the master archive in Macao. The archive is mainly responsible for collecting, organising, safekeeping and protecting Macao documents of historical value and providing access to them for the general public. The archive currently houses more than 50,000 archive files, 70,000 images, 10,000 books and journals. The media are mostly in paper format. Other formats include photographs, slides, sound tapes, discs, and objects. The main language of the files is Portuguese. The earliest file can be traced back to the year 1630.

Tap Seac Gallery

Built in the 1920s, the Tap Seac Gallery is divided into two blocks, this two-storey building was originally a typical residence of one of Macao's elite families. The two blocks were combined into one after reconstruction. The ground floor is currently the 400-square-metre Tap Seac exhibition hall, which is mainly used for holding visual arts exhibitions and a variety of cultural activities.

The gallery and its peripheral buildings were all constructed during the same period. Together, they form a unique cluster of historic monuments in the Tap Seac area, one of Macao's designated heritage sites. The Cultural Affairs Bureau uses the gallery as a venue for visual arts exhibitions and other cultural activities. In 2017, the gallery received 24,837 visitors.

Old Courthouse

The Old Courthouse currently has a temporary space for exhibitions and performances. The ground floor is an exhibition hall designed for exhibitions and various kinds of arts and cultural events. The black box theatre on the first floor is designed for small-scale drama and dance performances. With basic stage equipment, it can be used with great flexibility, as the seating and stage area can be arranged into various setups to realise creators' ideas. It can accommodate an audience of 50 to 120 persons.

In 2017, a total of 143 performances under 38 programmes and 12 exhibitions and arts and cultural events were held in the Old Courthouse, with 17,500 audience members and visitors.

Dom Pedro V Theatre

Built in 1860, the Dom Pedro V Theatre was the first Western-style theatre in China. It houses a vestibule and a performance hall, with a capacity of 276 seats arranged in curved rows in the shape of a shell. Having operated for more than 150 years, it remains a popular performance venue in Macao. In 2017, more than 146 performances and activities were held in the theatre; most were musical performances. As this is a UNESCO World Heritage Site, it received nearly 96,000 visitors in 2017.

Navy Yard No.1 - Contemporary Art Center

Situated in Zona da Barra, the Navy Yard No.1 – Contemporary Art Center (formerly

known as D. Carlos I dock mechanical room) is the former mechanical room of the Government Dockyard, and therefore is of great historical significance. It regularly invites outstanding artists from different places to exhibit their works. In addition, it cooperates with various performing arts groups to hold experimental performing arts programmes. The combination of visual arts and performing arts allows it to demonstrate Macao's cultural creativity in its modernised setting, while promoting the development of local arts and culture. In 2017, it received 12,327 visitors.

Museums and Exhibition Halls

Handover Gifts Museum of Macau

The Handover Gifts Museum of Macau is situated next to the Macao Museum of Art, on Xian Xing Hai Avenue in the Outer Harbour Reclamation Area (NAPE). This was the site of the temporary venue where the Macao Handover Ceremony was conducted by the Chinese and Portuguese governments on 20 December 1999. The structure was dismantled afterwards, and its location became the construction site of the Handover Gifts Museum of Macau, in commemoration of the momentous occasion of Macao's return to the motherland.

The Handover Gifts Museum of Macao is managed by the Macao Museum of Art. Permanent exhibitions include Handover Gifts Exhibition and Lau Sin Peng Macao Handover Historical Documents Exhibition. In the museum, there are special exhibition rooms for organising various kinds of exhibitions. The museum received a total of 294,344 visitors in 2017.

Museum of Macau

The Museum of Macau is situated on the Mount Fortress heritage site, which is part of the Historic Centre of Macao, while to its immediate west is the Ruins of St Paul's.

The Museum of Macau houses a rich display of Macao's history and diverse culture. With a collection of deep historical and cultural value, the museum highlights the changes to Macao over several hundred years, and tells the story of people from different countries and cultural backgrounds settling in Macao and living in harmony. The Museum of Macau was opened on 18 April 1998.

In 2017, the Museum of Macau held two special exhibitions. During the year, it received 454,677 visitors, and provided 1,534 guided tours to 17,877 people. It also held 146 activities, which attracted 3,295 participants.

Monte Fort Corridor

Located at the foot of Mount Fortress's east, Monte Fort Corridor is a passageway linking the S. Lazaro Area pedestrian zone to Mount Fortress. Thus, it facilitates the robust development of the city's entire historical centre. The public space of the corridor has been fully utilised as it has often been chosen as the venue for various arts exhibitions. In 2017, it received 232,216 visitors.

Maritime Museum

One of the oldest museums in Macao, the Maritime Museum was founded in 1987. The museum reflects the vital role of the sea in Macao's history, systematically portraying the remarkable achievements of China and Portugal in maritime history, and explains the importance of the sea to human culture.

Wine Museum

The Wine Museum was opened in 1995. It introduces the history of wine production from its origin in the Caucasus around 10,000 BC up to the present day, with a special focus on Portuguese winemaking.

(The Wine Museum has been closed from 1 July 2017 until further notice, due to the Grand Prix Museum expansion project.)

Grand Prix Museum

The Grand Prix Museum was inaugurated in November 1993. Various Government departments and private institutions have donated exhibits, such as racing cars driven on the Guia Circuit over the years, including by the late celebrated Ayrton Senna and motor racing champion Michael Schumacher. Valuable pictures and trophies are also exhibited.

(The Grand Prix Museum has been closed from 1 July 2017 until further notice, due to an expansion project.)

Macao Museum of Art

The Macao Museum of Art is the only museum in Macao dedicated to art and cultural heritage. With an exhibition area of more than 4,000 square metres, it is also the largest visual arts museum in Macao. In 2017, the Macao Museum of Art held 23 exhibitions and conducted more 545 guided tours, which attracted 15,588 participants. In addition, it organised 187 activities including art courses, lectures, workshops, demonstrations, parades and concerts, and two games with prizes, which attracted 29,432 participants. The museum received a total of 237,434 visitors in 2017.

Pawnshop Museum

In partnership with a non-governmental organisation, the Government has established the first museum dedicated to the pawnshop industry. The opening of the Pawnshop Museum in March 2003 marked the success of a new mode of heritage protection. Built in 1917 as the Tak Seng On Pawnshop, the museum building consists of a pawnshop and a storage tower. The three-storey pawnshop and its relics offer visitors a clear picture of the pawnshop's layout and operation in its heyday.

In September 2004, the Tak Seng On restoration project was awarded an Honourable Mention in the UNESCO Asia-Pacific Heritage Awards for Culture Heritage Conservation. The project was awarded the title of Urban Best Practices Area (UBPA) of World Expo Shanghai 2010,

demonstrating to the world Macao's fruitful efforts in conserving and recycling historic buildings. The museum received 31,058 visitors during 2017.

Treasury of Sacred Art of St Joseph's Seminary

St Joseph's Seminary was established by the Jesuits in 1728. For nearly three centuries, it has not only made a significant contribution to nurturing prominent Catholic clergymen, but has also been closely related to Macao's social development. It has also actively contributed to local culture, education, arts and charity.

St Joseph's Seminary is home to collections of religious relics, such as ancient books, oil paintings, statues and ritual supplies. In order to allow the public to appreciate these valuable historical collections, the Cultural Affairs Bureau has worked with the St Joseph's Seminary and the Diocese de Macau to establish the "Treasury of Sacred Art of St Joseph's Seminary", which was officially opened in October 2016. In 2017, it received 15,997 visitors.

Crypt and Museum of Sacred Art

Between 1990 and 1995, the former Portuguese administration conducted archaeological excavation and repaired the Ruins of St Paul's (the Church of Mother of God or Mater Dei), and built the Museum of Sacred Art and Crypt on the site of the grave of Father Alexandre Valignano, the founder of St Paul's College, according to the research findings.

Dr Sun Yat Sen Memorial House

Originally built by Dr Sun Yat Sen as a home for his family in the years after 1918, this Islamic style residence was opened as Dr Sun Yat Sen Memorial House in 1958.

Lin Zexu Museum

The Lin Zexu Museum in Lin Fong Temple was completed in November 1997, in memory of Imperial Commissioner Lin Zexu, who defied the powerful and the mighty to institute a ban on opium and the opium trade. On 3 September 1839, Lin Zexu, who was then in charge in Guangdong, and Deng Tingzheng, the Governor of Guangdong and Guangxi, met the Consul of the former Portuguese administration to proclaim the prohibition of opium and China's sovereignty over Macao.

Fire Service Museum

Founded in December 1999, the Fire Service Museum is located inside the central operational fire station on Repouso Road. It is open to the public, and received 49,190 visitors in 2017.

Museum of Nature and Agriculture

The first museum to be built on Coloane island, the Museum of Nature and Agriculture, under the Civic and Municipal Affairs Bureau, is within the Seac Pai Van Country Park. Built by the

then Municipal Council of the Islands, the museum was opened on 21 March 1997. It is a cultural amenity with an educational purpose. The museum's five thematic exhibitions are devoted to the Geography of Macao, Farming Tools of the Islands in Olden Days, Specimens of Animals, Specimens of Plants, and a Simulated Mangrove Swamp.

Taipa Houses-Museum

The Taipa Houses-Museum is a collection of residential buildings that form one of Macao's eight most famous landmarks. Constructed in 1921, these five European-style buildings were the official residences of the island's officers and the homes of Macanese families. The former Portuguese administration's Tourist Department bought and redecorated them in the 1980s. In 1992, they were collectively classified as an architecturally important monument. The administration thoroughly refurbished and reconstructed them, and the buildings were officially opened to the public in December 1999. In 2016, the Government joined hands with foreign consulates in Macao in launching the comprehensive Taipa Houses-Museum leisure project, to optimise the Taipa Houses-Museum by maintaining its beautiful and tranquil environment, and demonstrating its unique Portuguese features.

In September 2016, the Taipa Houses-Museum reopened after renovation. The five houses are the Macanese Living Museum, Exhibitions Gallery, Creative Casa, Nostalgic House and House for Receptions from west to east, respectively. The first three are exhibition halls, while the remaining two are leisure facilities. With a combination of featured exhibitions, outdoor performances and festive activities, the Taipa Houses-Museum has become a showcase of the culture of Portuguese-speaking countries and a stage for international exchange. It received 468,784 visitors in 2017.

Communications Museum of Macao

The Communications Museum, under the Macao Post and Telecommunications Bureau (CTT), is an interactive museum that features cultural, scientific and technological elements. In order to encourage more local residents to visit the museum during their leisure time, starting from 1 July 2017, visitors can enjoy free entrance upon presentation of their Macao ID, Teacher's Card (international or local), Tour Guide Card and Tour Guide Trainee Card of Macao, ICOM Membership Card, Senior Citizen's Card or Disability Assessment Registration Card issued by the Social Welfare Bureau. Individual tickets for tourists or persons not showing any identification cost ten patacas; tickets for a group of 15 persons or above cost seven patacas per person; and tickets for student card holders (international or local) cost five patacas. Entrance is free for all local student groups and children under three years old.

Macao Science Center

The Macao Science Center was inaugurated in December 2009, and opened to the public in January 2010. Designed by Ieoh Ming Pei, the Macao Science Center is a public cultural facility with an educational mission that comprises an exhibition centre and a planetarium. Its exhibits focus on public participation and fun.

Macao Tea Culture House

The Macao Tea Culture House, which is managed by the Civic and Municipal Affairs Bureau, is the first exhibition gallery in Macao devoted to displaying tea-related artefacts. It was opened to the public on 1 June 2005. Through short-term and long-term exhibitions of various formats, as well as various tea culture activities, it is dedicated to demonstrating Macao's tea culture and everything about tea in China and the West. It also hopes to promote worldwide tea culture, knowledge and studies. There were 35,134 visitors in 2017.

Museum of Taipa and Coloane History

Opened on 7 May 2006, the Museum of Taipa and Coloane History consists of nine exhibition rooms and a souvenir shop. Built in 1920, the 638-square-metre, two-storey museum building was formerly the building of the former Island Municipal Council of Taipa. On the first floor are relics unearthed in Coloane, stone architectural remains of the basement, religious and cultural documents and relics from the transformations of the villages on the two islands. These items provide visitors with an overview of the early history and culture of Coloane and Taipa. The exhibition rooms on the second floor have various themes, including the history of the former Municipal Council of the Islands, a look back at agriculture and handicrafts in the old days, the architectural features of buildings on Coloane and Taipa and the recent development of the two islands. There were 75,602 visitors in 2017.

Iong Sam Tong Pavilion in Lou Lim Ieoc Garden

Iong Sam Tong Pavilion was built in the early 20th century as part of Yu Yuen (the former name of Lou Lim Ieoc Garden). The renovation of Iong Sam Tong Pavilion was completed in 2011, and it was reopened in May that year. It showcases 50 historical items of the Lou family, including photographs, letters, biographical materials, handwritten drafts and recordings. There were 13,385 visitors in 2017.

Chun Chou Tong Pavilion in Lou Lim Ieoc Garden

Constructed in the early 20th century, this pavilion at the edge of a lake is the main structure of the garden. When Dr. Sun Yat-Sen came to Macao in May 1912, he was invited to stay here, where he met prominent Chinese and Portuguese figures in Macao. Chun Chou Tong is now a venue for visual arts exhibitions. It received 61,245 visitors in 2017.

Lou Kau Mansion

Completed in 1889, Lou Kau Mansion was formerly the residence of the prominent Macao merchant Lou Kau and his family. It is among the few intact mansions of the wealthy in Macao that dates back to the late Qing Dynasty. Inside, it retains a large number of exquisite carvings in wood, stone and brick; plaster mouldings; pottery decorations; murals; and garden designs, which are typical of the architectural style of traditional Lingnan dwellings. It received 300,666 visitors in 2017.

Mandarin's House

The Mandarin's House is the ancestral family residence of the modern Chinese master Zheng Guanying. Zheng's world-famous book *Shengshi Weiyang* (Words of Warning in Times

of Prosperity) was completed here. The construction of the Mandarin's House was initiated by Zheng Wenrui, the father of Zheng Guanying, and the Zheng brothers expanded it. The house was probably built before 1869. In February 2010, the Mandarin's House was opened to the public. During 2017, it received 115,356 visitors.

Former Residence of General Ye Ting

A two-storey western style building, the Former Residence of General Ye Ting is the former residence of General Ye Ting, the founder of the Chinese People's Liberation Army and distinguished militarist, and his family. The site has retained more than a dozen invaluable items of furniture of the former residence, along with objects of daily life and home decorations, such as wooden cupboards, a pendulum clock, and a wooden bed. The site opened to the public in May 2014, and received 20,171 visitors during 2017.

Kun Iam Statue

The Kun Iam Statue is a 32-metre-tall structure on an artificial island in NAPE, which is connected to the land by a 60-metre bridge. Comprising the statue and lotus flower base, the Kun Iam Statue was completed in March 1999. It received 82,501 visitors in 2017.

Jao Tsung-I Academy

Professor Jao Tsung-I, widely honoured as “master of Sinology”, has earned worldwide reputation. With remarkable achievements and outstanding contributions in literature, arts, academics, Professor Jao is a rare giant of the century. The connection between Professor Jao and Macao is profound. He has always cared for and supported the local cultural industry. He has donated his painting and calligraphy works to collections in cultural institutions and museums in Macao. The Jao Tsung-I Academy was established by the Government, and opened to the public on 11 August 2015.

The academy's premises were formerly a residence built in 1921. The building was inscribed on the list of protected heritage sites in 1984. The academy mainly introduces the public to the academic achievements of Professor Jao, and promotes Chinese culture and arts. Exhibitions it has held include “Paintings and Calligraphies Donated by Jao Tsung-I” and “Affection for Lotus – Exhibition of Painting and Calligraphy for the 100th Birthday of Jao Tsung-I”. It received 13,494 visitors in 2017.

Information Centre at Guia Fortress

To further promote the cultural value of Guia Fortress (including Guia Chapel and Lighthouse), the Information Centre at Guia Fortress opened to the public on 30 June 2015. The centre offers enquiry services on culture and tourism. It also houses an architectural model of the Guia Fortress, an introductory exhibition on the fortress, and an exhibition reviewing the restoration of the mural on Capela de Nossa Senhora da Guia. There is a tourist leisure centre, offering a comfortable environment for many tourists to relax.

Lo Pan Wood Craft Gallery

The gallery is in the Carpentry Guildhall on Rua de Camilo Pessanha. This was among the earliest guildhalls as Macao began developing, and was established in 1840, during the Qing Dynasty. It currently accommodates the Carpentry Guildhall.

To celebrate the contributions of Lo Pan and promote the understanding of traditional carpentry and guildhalls among the general public, the Cultural Affairs Bureau collaborated with the Carpentry Guildhall to restore the architecture of the site, and established the Lo Pan Wood Craft Gallery. The gallery introduces the legend and inventions of Lo Pan, and showcases over 80 carpentry instruments and architectural components made using traditional carpentry. It opened to the public in July 2015.

Patane Night Watch House

To retell the history of the profession of night watch in Macao, and to promote the traditional values of giving mutual support and serving the community, the Cultural Affairs Bureau and the Tou Tei Mio Patane Mercy and Charity Association collaborated in revitalising the Patane Night Watch House at No. 52-54 Rua da Palmeira, by restoring the facade, interior frescos, and exterior decorations. It opened to the public on 18 December 2015.

The exhibition hall showcases items related to nighttime guard duties, such as water guns, receipts for night watch, and silver whistles. It also displays several night watch paintings created by Macao artists, adding interest to the exhibition. The multimedia room features invaluable oral history interviews about the Patane Night Watch House and the Tai Ping Museum in Taipa.

Temporary Exhibition Gallery of the Civic and Municipal Affairs Bureau

Situated at Largo do Senado, the Leal Senado Building is the signature building in the area. Built in 1784, it was Macao's original municipal chamber. It had been reconstructed several times before it reached the current scale in 1874, when it underwent the last reconstruction. In the side lobby is an area that in 1985 became the Temporary Exhibition Gallery of the Civic and Municipal Affairs Bureau; prior to which this was used as an office building. The gallery frequently holds Chinese and Western traditional and contemporary art exhibitions. In 2017, it received 186,942 visitors.

Macao Cultural Centre

The Macao Cultural Centre is situated on Xian Xing Hai Avenue in NAPE. Completed and opened in March 1999, the complex comprises the Auditoria Building, the Macao Museum of Art Building, Macao Cultural Centre Square and the Handover Gifts Museum of Macao.

The Auditoria Building contains two performance venues. One is a 1,076-seat multipurpose complex theatre, while the other is a 389-seat mini-theatre.

During 2017, the Macao Cultural Centre organised spectacular performances that included dance, music, drama and multimedia. There were 53 programmes with a total of 577 performances or activities. The centre also continued to offer cultural facilities and professional services to various local groups and organisations. During the year, 204 programmes and 1,049 performances or activities were organised by the centre and its tenants, receiving 154,095 visitors.

Cultural and Recreational Activities

The Government is committed to promoting sport for all, encouraging citizens to participate in all kinds of sport and recreational activities as a way to promote good health. Upholding the values of sport-for-all and life-long fitness spelled out in public slogans, the Government has led citizens towards building healthy lives by enjoying everyday sport. At the same time, the Government emphasises enhancing the standards of sport at the local level, and fully supports and encourages local sports institutions with organising and participating in tournaments in Macao and overseas.

The coordinated development of popular sport and athletics can only be realised through the provision of comprehensive modern sport facilities and sport medicine, thereby allowing citizens to exercise conveniently and scientifically, ultimately enhancing their quality of life.

Sports Bureau

The Sports Bureau is responsible for instructing, encouraging, assisting and promoting sports events, establishing the requisite conditions for the development of sports, and coordinating between sports associations and entities.

Major Sports Events

Major sports events in Macao include the Macao International Dragon Boat Races, FIVB Volleyball World Grand Prix Macau, Wushu Masters Challenge, Macao (Golf) Open, Macao Grand Prix, and Macao International Marathon. These events are organised to jointly promote sports, culture, creative industries and tourism in Macao.

A total of 167 local and foreign teams participated in the Macao International Dragon Boat Races 2017.

Four top class volleyball team – China, the United States, Italy and Turkey, were invited to compete in the FIVB Volleyball World Grand Prix Macau.

About 1,500 famous martial artists, athletes and enthusiasts from 26 countries and regions worldwide (including Macao), participated in the Wushu Masters Challenge.

The Macao (Golf) Open attracted participation by 144 top golfers from around the world.

A total of 165 race drivers from 31 countries and regions participated in the 64th Macao Grand Prix, and 1,186 reporters and 33 TV stations produced a live broadcast or relayed the broadcast of the race. This year, the Grand Prix had authorisation from the International Automobile Federation to simultaneously hold other major car races including the FIA F3 World Cup, the FIA GT World Cup and the FIA World Touring Car Championship.

The 36th Macao International Marathon attracted participation by a total of 12,000 athletes from 53 countries and regions.

Sport for All

In 2017, a total of 388,352 people took part in the 21 activities organised by the Sports Bureau, with 66,917 of them participating in the 2,778 Sport for All Fitness and Recreational Classes. In 2017, the annual summer activities accommodated a total of 53,178 people, with 25,241 places for sport activities. In all, 131 activities and 842 classes were arranged.

Competitive Sport

During 2017, the Sports Bureau sponsored the organisation of and participation in 392 competitions, 131 training programmes, and 63 international conferences.

In 2017, a total of 80 athletes, coaches, coaches for youth training, and technical support crew in 10 sports were awarded cash prizes for their outstanding performances in 15 events, while 181 athletes, coaches and technical support crew from 17 sports associations were awarded certificates of merit.

Sports Medicine

In 2017, the Sports Medical Centre provided medical services to 6,395 people. It provided medical assistance to 43 competitions and activities and offered medical services to 307 people.

In 2017, the centre provided physical fitness testing services to 2,016 people; and 9,386 people participated in the fitness test at the sports health information centre.

Furthermore, 3,924 people participated in the Anti-doping Outreach Education Campaign co-organised by the Sports Bureau and the China Anti-doping Agency (CHINADA); and 486 people took part in training and seminars held by the centre.

Sports and Recreation Venues

In response to the ever-changing demands of users and to meet the needs of different sports, the Sports Bureau constantly improves and diversifies the venues under its jurisdiction. These facilities are conveniently located for Macao residents, and the Sport Development Board intends to eventually establish a sports complex in every district.

At present, major sports facilities in Macao include Tap Seac Multisport Pavilion, Victory Sports Centre, Artur Tamagnini Barbosa Sports Centre, Bosco Sports Complex, Lin Fong Sports Centre, Nam Van Lake Nautical Centre, Macao Forum, water biking at Anim'Arte NAM VAN, Sports Ground on Avenida do Comendador Ho Yin, Sports Ground on Estrada do Canal dos Patos, Sports Ground on Rua Central da Areia Preta, Sports Ground on Rua Central da Areia Preta, Sports Ground on Av. Do Almirante Magalhaes Correia, Sports Ground at Veng Neng, Sports Ground at Cheng Choi, Sports Ground at Sai Van, Dr. Sun Yat Sen Swimming Pool, and Estoril Swimming Pool.

Sports facilities in Taipa include the Olympic Complex, Carmo Swimming Pool, football pitch/athletics ground of the Macao University of Science and Technology (MUST), University of Macau Stadium (N9), Sports Training Centre, Northeast Taipa Sports Centre, Sports Ground in Lake Building, Sports Ground in Taipa Central Park, and Taipa Central Park Swimming Pool.

Sports facilities in Cotai comprise the Macao East Asian Games Dome, International Shooting Range, Bowling Centre, Tennis Academy, Cheoc Van Nautical Club, Hac-Sa Nautical Centre, Coloane Karting Track, Hac Sa Park Swimming Pool, Sports Ground at Hac-Sa Beach, Sports Ground at Hac-Sa Village, and Cheoc Van Swimming Pool. All these facilities are managed by the Sports Bureau.

There are also many other sports venues owned by associations, institutions and individuals, such as the Workers' Soccer Pitch and other golf courses.

Public Swimming Pools and Beaches

Swimming is one of the most popular recreational activities among Macao residents. The public swimming pools in Macao include the Estoril Swimming Pool, Dr Sun Yat Sen Swimming Pool, Cheoc Van Swimming Pool, Hac Sa Park Swimming Pool, Taipa Central Park Swimming Pool, Bosco Sports Complex Swimming Pool, Artur Tamagnini Barbosa Sports Centre Swimming Pool, Olympic Sports Centre – Aquatic Centre Carmo Swimming Pool and the Swimming Pool at UM Sports Complex.

In addition, Hac Sa Beach and Cheoc Van Beach are available for public use. They are managed by the Marine and Water Bureau.

Trails

Topographically, Macao has a lower elevation in the north and a higher elevation in the south. Thirteen trails covering a total length of 33 kilometres are located on Taipa and Coloane islands. These provide access to replanted forest areas where saplings still require care, and serve as firebreaks and access routes for fire fighters. For the vast majority of Macao's residents and visitors, however, the primary function of the trails is to facilitate exploration and enjoyment of the islands' natural attractions.

The 13 trails are Ka Ho Reservoir Trail (1,550 metres), Coloane Fitness Trail (1,225 metres), Taipa Grande Trail (4,000 metres), Taipa Pequena Trail 2000 (2,300 metres), Coloane Trail (8,100 metres), Coloane Northeast Trail (4,290 metres), Hac Sa Reservoir Circuit (2,650 metres), Hac Sa Reservoir Fitness Circuit (1,505 metres), Hac Sa Long Chao Kok Circuit (2,150 metres), Ka Ho Height Circuit (1,490 metres), Seac Pai Van Park Trail (1,680 metres), Coloane Stone Washbasin Ancient Route (about 1,500 metres), and Long Chao Kok Coastal Trail in Hac Sa (1,200 metres).

Gardens and Parks

Though small in area, Macao is renowned for its many gardens in a variety of scenery and styles, offering a host of attractions. These form one of Macao's unique features as a tourist destination. The gardens are not only tourist attractions, but are also popular spots where local residents relax and exercise.

Guia Hill Municipal Park

Guia Hill Municipal Park is among Macao's major venues to enjoy fresh air. This tourist

attraction boasts extensive natural resources. Of all the parks in Macao, it ranks first as a site for Chinese red pines, both in terms of their quantity and age.

Luis de Camoes Garden

Luis de Camoes Garden is one of the oldest gardens in Macao. It was the residence of a rich Portuguese merchant named Lourenco Marques. He loved to feed the pigeons and hundreds of birds nested around his home, creating a spectacular view. From a distance, the garden looked like a giant bird's nest, and the name has been used ever since.

Ho Yin Garden

Ho Yin Garden is situated to the north of Amizade Avenue. It was built to commemorate the late Chinese community leader, Ho Yin, and was opened to the public in 1993.

Carlos d'Assumpcao Park

Carlos d'Assumpcao Park is situated to the south of Amizade Avenue. It commemorates the Macanese community leader and former president of the Legislative Assembly, Carlos d'Assumpcao, and was opened to the public in 1996.

Flora Garden

Flora Garden is located at the foot of Guia hill. At the end of the 19th century, it was bought by the former Portuguese administration to serve as the Governor's summer residence. Sir Robert Ho Tung, a philanthropist, later bought it, but afterwards returned it as a gift to the former Portuguese administration. For this reason, the garden is still called "Ho Tung Garden" in Chinese. It is also known as "I Long Hau Fa Yun", as it is close to a spring.

A cable car was completed and went into service in 1997. The station for the uphill cable car is at the garden entrance. The cable cars can reach Guia Hill, allowing tourists to conveniently travel between the garden and Guia Hill.

Lou Lim Ieoc Garden

Lou Lim Ieoc Garden is the only garden in Macao with the classic ambiance of those found in Suzhou. It features pavilions, terraces, lakes, zigzag bridges, rocks and cascades, all of which reflect the beautiful scenery of the Jiangnan area on the southern, lower reaches of the Changjiang River.

Dr Sun Yat Sen Municipal Park

Dr Sun Yat Sen Municipal Park is located at Ilha Verde in northern Macao near the Border Gate. At the centre of the park is a 500-metre-long cloister, the longest of any in Macao's parks, linking most of the scenic spots of the park. Other facilities include an open-air theatre, a sport court, other sports facilities, a swimming pool, and a public library.

There are many other gardens and parks in Macao, including Mong Ha Hill Municipal Park, Russa Hill Park, St Francis Garden, Victory Garden, Vasco da Gama Garden and Areia Preta Seaside Park, Iao Hon Market Garden, Art Garden, and Areia Preta Urban Park on the Macao peninsula; Taipa Grande Nature Park, Taipa Central Park, Lakeside Garden, Flower City Garden, Monument Garden, Laurinda Marques Esparteiro Garden and Pier Garden on Taipa island; and Seac Pai Van Park, Hac Sa Sports and Recreation Park, Hac Sa Arboretum and Coloane Height Park on Coloane island.



RIDING ON THE WIND





Windsurfing is a very challenging water sport, and Hac Sa Beach is an ideal place for windsurfing. Many residents, especially young people, enjoy this sport.

A windsurfer comprises a board with a fin underneath, a mast with a universal joint, a sail and a boom. With the help of natural wind, an athlete standing on the board surfs on water by controlling the sail through the boom, which enables speed. By changing the angle of the sail and shifting weight to different sides of the board, the athlete can also control the direction the windsurfer is heading.

Windsurfing lovers find the exciting and challenging experience rewarding, “Windsurfing helps us to understand that although there are ups and downs in life, what you have to do is simply go ahead with courage, and you will pass through the stormy sea.”

