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CULTURE AND SPORT



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, "Parade through Macao, Latin City", Macao International Music Festival, Macao Arts 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 collecting information on local 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 foster Macao's culture and creativity.

In 2016, the Cultural Affairs Bureau continued publishing *C2* magazine, the *Macao Cultural and Creative Map* (CCM Map) and its mobile application. It also held the 2016 Subsidy Programme for Sample Making in Fashion Design, 2016 Subsidy Programme for the Production of Original Songs, 2016 Support Programme for Film Production, 2016 Subsidy Programme for the Production of Original Animated Short Films, and an experimental activity series – "Cinematheque · Passion". The

bureau also organised the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Film-Making Investment and Exchange Conference 2016, and the Tap Seac Art Fair.

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 27th Macao Arts Festival

The 27th Macao Arts Festival was held from 30 April to 29 May 2016, and featured 27 programmes with 116 performances and art activities, including two visual art exhibitions. More than 15,335 tickets were sold, representing a take-up of 87 percent.

More than half of the programmes were locally produced. Incoming programmes were from mainland China, Hong Kong, Japan, Portugal, the United Kingdom, the United States, Canada, South Africa, Spain and Switzerland, spanning drama, contemporary dance, Yue opera, multimedia production, and ice dancing. The programmes were staged in various venues in Macao.

The festival's programmes were divided into seven categories, including Thematic Highlights, Groundbreakers, Cross-disciplinary Creations, Family Entertainment, Quintessence of Tradition, Concerts and Exhibitions. This year marked the 400th Anniversary of the deaths of William Shakespeare and Tang Xianzu. In tribute to the two literary giants, the festival began with the classic romantic comedy, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* performed by the Shakespeare Theatre Company from the United States. *Macbeth*, one of Shakespeare's four tragedies, performed by Third World Bunfight from South Africa in the form of opera, brought the festival to a close. Local productions included dance theatre *Shelf Life*, *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare* (Abridged), multimedia production the *Fairy Tales from the World of Chaos*, and *Journey to the Last Frontier* concert, featuring diverse and innovative forms of expression.

Traditional local programmes included Cantonese opera *Purple Hairpin*, an example of intangible cultural heritage, and Macanese Patuá drama *A Tea For a Dream*. Free outdoor programmes were offered in the community. Among them, Glide (Canadian ice dance), Micro-Shakespeare (interactive drama) and the Outdoor Performing Arts Showcase attracted an audience of over 2,500 people.

The 30th Macao International Music Festival

The 30th Macao International Music Festival was held from 1 to 30 October 2016, with a total of

20 programmes and 49 performances including extension activities. In all, 11,121 tickets were sold – 93 percent of the total available. Performing groups from mainland China, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Macao, the United States, the United Kingdom, Italy, France, and Portugal staged performances that formed a musical extravaganza of exceptional quality.

The festival invited renowned stage director Giancarlo del Monaco and set and costume designer William Orlandi to present the opera *Turandot*. Local artistic and cultural professionals, including playwright Lawrence Lei, composer Liu Chenchen and young poet Un Sio San, joined hands to create *A Dream of Fragrancy*, Macao’s first local chamber opera. Other performances featured Valery Gergiev and Mariinsky Theatre Orchestra; Xu Ke and Berlin Philharmonic String Quintet; percussion ensemble Colin Currie Group; violinist Ray Chen; jazz musicians Roy Hargrove, Lawrence Ku, Eugene Pao, Minyen Hsieh, and Hon Chong Chan; and fado singer Carminho. To encourage local talents, the festival held two Bravo Macao concerts, in which local musicians showcased their talents.

As 2016 marked the 30th anniversary of the Macao International Music Festival, the organiser held the Macao International Music Festival Forum, and published a commemorative booklet and a documentary for the anniversary.

Parade Through Macao, Latin City

In 2011, the Cultural Affairs Bureau started organising the Parade Through Macao, Latin City, to celebrate the anniversary of Macao’s Handover and showcase the unique charm of Macao’s World Heritage sites, particularly the Latin city district. The parade aims to promote the image of Macao as an international tourism city, and help create a world tourism and leisure centre. The parade has become a branded festivity in Macao, annually attracting participation by local citizens, tourists and artists.

The “Parade through Macao, Latin City” was held on 4 December 2016, and attracted participation by nearly 1,200 international and local artists, and about 400 VIVA Ambassadors from Macao. The organiser arranged for the parade to be broadcast on a Hong Kong television channel, to further boost its popularity. TDM produced a live broadcast of the entire parade, with big screens set up to show the live broadcasts in several communities, including Largo do Senado, Rotunda de Carlos da Maia, Jardim Areia Preta and Rua de D. Belchior Carneiro. Over 120,000 viewers watched the parade in person, through live television broadcasts and the live broadcasts on the big screens in the communities – promoting community integration, urban tourism, and Macao’s cultural image. The bureau invited local illustrators to work with the parade, and launched new projects such as the Cultural and Creative Dolls Adoption Scheme.

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 2016, the Macao orchestra held nearly 100 concerts locally and overseas, which were appreciated by audiences totalling around 26,000 persons. The orchestra not only works with distinguished musicians, but also strives to expand the scope and forms of performance by introducing popular large-scale music productions, including multimedia movie concerts, into Macao, thereby bringing extraordinary music performances to audiences.

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 2016, the Macao Chinese Orchestra was invited to participate in the 11th China Art Festival in Xi'an, which was co-organised by the Ministry of Culture and the People's Government of Shanxi, and held by Shanxi Provincial Department of Culture. The orchestra performed for the local audience in the Joint Concert of Macao and Xi'an. During the year, it performed a total of 81 local and overseas concerts, for audiences totalling 16,239 persons.

The 34th 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 34th Macao Youth Music Competition was held in 2016, with Chinese music, Western music and vocal music competitions. There were 506 applications, and 635 young musicians participated in the competitions. Music educators and performers from Beijing, Shanghai, Shenzhen, Taiwan and Hong Kong were invited to join the panel of professional judges for the competitions. There were a total of 35 competitions, which were held from 27 July to 5 August at the Dom Pedro V Theatre and the Institute for Tourism Studies. The competitions were divided into elementary, intermediate, and advanced levels, with 43 competition categories and 35 sessions; there were 483 winners in total. A Special Prize Competition was held on 7 August at the Dom Pedro V Theatre, in which 10 awards were presented.

Old Courthouse Black Box Theatre

The Old Courthouse currently has a temporary space for exhibitions and performances. The ground floor is an exhibition hall, in which seven exhibitions and arts and cultural events were held in 2016, receiving 9,661 visitors. The black box theatre on the first floor is designed for small-scale drama and dance performances, and can accommodate an audience of 90 to 120 persons. The black box theatre can be used with great flexibility, as the seating and stage area can be arranged into various

setups to realise creators' ideas. In 2016, a total of 124 performances under 22 programmes were held in the Old Courthouse's black box theatre.

Busking Programme

The Busking Programme was launched in November 2016 to allow street art performances by buskers, and so establish 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 under the programme for busking performances. From November to December, the Cultural Affairs Bureau issued 116 busker cards. More than 100 buskers performed at the busking spots, attracting an audience of nearly 4,000 people.

Celebration for Year of Monkey

The New Year event “Celebration for Year of Monkey” was held during the Lunar New Year from 7 to 10 February 2016. During the event, 11 members of the Shanghai Ethnic Art Troupe held seven performances in Tap Seac Square, Largo do Senado, Taipa Largo dos Bombeiros and Iao Hon Market Garden, attracting an audience of 10,000 people. On 22 February, a lantern festival was held in Lou Lim Ieoc Garden to celebrate the Year of the Monkey. Besides lantern riddles, there were several cultural and arts performances staged by about 50 local performers, attracting about 500 residents and tourists to appreciate the spectacular lighting and enjoy the festive season.

“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 lasted 15 hours for two consecutive days, 30 April and 1 May 2016 (Labour Day). Renowned local and foreign bands were invited to perform a wide range of music at the concert, with 19 local and nine foreign groups and a total of about 150 performers. Singers and bands from Ecuador, Thailand, mainland China, Taiwan and Hong Kong were invited to perform music of genres including rock, jazz, blues, pop, country, folk, Latin and international music. The concert provided a better stage and opportunities for local bands to perform and exchange creative ideas with their foreign counterparts. The two-day concert attracted an audience of about 15,000 people.

Evening Concert

The Cultural Affairs Bureau held Evening Concerts in the Amphitheater of the Taipa Houses-Museum during the second weekend of every month from June to October 2016, with five concerts held in total. Thirty three performers from 11 local and four foreign groups, including musicians and bands from the United States, Taiwan and Macao, were invited to the concerts. Genres of music performed included traditional Portuguese and Macanese music, original pop, jazz, rock, folk songs and ballads. The concerts attracted a total audience of about 1,450.

World Music Day

The Cultural Affairs Bureau held the World Music Day – Music Fiesta in Largo do Senado on 19 June 2016. Twenty local units performed in the 10-hour non-stop music fiesta, with guest performer Charles Baptiste, a singer-songwriter from France, performing in the grand finale. There were 113 performers and an audience of 10,000 persons. An extension activity known as “Music in Youtube (300 seconds)” was organised, to allow both professional and amateur musicians to share their music videos on YouTube. The contest received 24 video entries.

Haojiang Moonlight Night – Silk Road

The large-scale original dance drama Haojiang Moonlight Night – Silk Road, which was co-organised by Hong Kong, Macao, and Taiwan Affairs Office of the Ministry of Culture of China and the Cultural Affairs Bureau, and supported by the Ministry of Culture of China and the Secretariat for Social Affairs and Culture, was held on 16 and 17 September 2016, at the Macao Cultural Centre Grand Auditorium. About 55.7 percent of the tickets for the two sessions were sold, with an audience of 910 persons.

Performance to Celebrate the 67th Anniversary of the National Day of the People’s Republic of China – the Legendary Swordsman

To celebrate the 67th 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 co-organised the Performance to Celebrate the 67th Anniversary of the National Day of the People’s Republic of China, featuring the Acrobatic Performance: The Legendary Swordsman. Three sessions of the performance were held at the Macao Forum on 30 September and 1 October 2016. All of the tickets were sold, with an audience of 2,559 persons.

The 19th Lusofonia Festival

The 19th Lusofonia Festival, an annual event associated with the culture of the Macao Portuguese-speaking communities, was held from 28 to 30 October at the Taipa Houses-Museum for three consecutive days. It facilitates interaction and mutual understanding between the Macao Portuguese-speaking communities and local residents, and promotes local tourism development. A total of nine countries/regions participated in the activities, with more than 300 performers from 20 local and six foreign performing groups, as well as 10 booths of Portuguese-speaking communities in Macao. Nearly 20,000 people participated in the event.

2016 New Year Countdown Celebrations

On 31 December, the Macau Countdown Concert 2016 and the Taipa Countdown Show 2016 were held in Sai Van Lake Plaza and Taipa Houses-Museum, respectively, featuring amazing performances to celebrate the New Year.

Veteran singers including Hins Cheung, Della Ding, JW and seven groups of local musicians, totalling about 70 performers, were invited to give distinctive music and dance performances at the Macau Countdown Concert 2016. On the night, large screens were set up in Largo do Senado, Nam Van Lake Nautical Centre and Dr Stanley Ho Avenue; and TDM, which was one of the co-organisers, produced a live broadcast through its Chinese television and radio channels, attracting more than 150,000 viewers. The concert attracted a live audience of 40,000 persons.

In the Taipa Countdown Show 2016, Maria Cordero, a famous Hong Kong singer, was invited as the guest performer for the grand finale. A total of about 100 performers from 11 local artist groups performed in the show. Themed booths for eight regions – Australia, the Philippines, France, India, Indonesia, Japan, 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 4,500 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.

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 Parade Through Macao, Latin City. In 2016, the website received 4,408,530 visits.

Furthermore, the Cultural Affairs Bureau has established the Cultural Heritage of Macao website (www.culturalheritage.mo) and Macao Art Net (www.macauart.net), as well as the Macao Cultural and Creative Industries Website (www.macaucci.com), 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 2016, the three websites received 249,054; 366,732; and 661,868 visits, respectively.

Culture Lectures

Culture Lectures is a series of cultural seminars on different disciplines, promoting culture, art and education among Macao students, enhancing creativity and aesthetics. The scheme's target audience spans primary six to senior secondary school students. In 2016, Culture Lectures organised 127 lectures for 16 schools, with over 3,500 participating teachers and students.

In addition, Culture Lectures was invited by the City University of Macau to hold lectures including "City Fortification", "Naamyam One-man Band" and "Theatre Aesthetic Imagination",

recounting the history of fortresses in Macao, Naamyam and theatre stage design, and exploring the development of local history and theatre design.

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 2016, Seeds of Art organised five seminars and three activities. The seminars were about movies, culture and creativity, as well as education. An empowerment workshop for instructors of Culture Lectures was organised in August. 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”. It strives to discover and 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 continuing education in performing arts. It regularly organises various dance performances, concerts and drama performances, giving its students the opportunity to display their skills and gain stage experience. In the 2015-2016 academic year, it had over 2,233 students and 150 teachers.

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.

In 2016, Macao had 128 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 ten intangible cultural heritages 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 Chinese herbal tea 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. 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.

By the end of 2014, a total of 10 items from Macao had been included in the List of Macao Intangible Cultural Heritage, eight of which are listed in the National List of Intangible Cultural Heritage, and one in the UNESCO Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.

Academic Research Scholarships

Upon the approval of Executive Order No. 13/2015 by the Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture, the new Academic Research Scholarship Regulations came into effect on 1 February 2015. The scholarships aim 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. It was announced in October 2016 that three persons were awarded scholarships during the year.

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 Ieng Kuan Library in Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Municipal Park, Wong Ieng Kuan Library in Luís de Camões Garden, Wong Ieng Kuan Library in Areia Preta Urban Park, Wong Ieng Kuan Children’s Library in Areia Preta Urban Park, Wong Ieng 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 1,034,673 books and multimedia items, including 965,011 books, 54,891 multimedia items, 14,771 electronic books in more than 10,687 categories, 825 items in the microfilm section, 4,558 latest journal articles of 991 types, 3,622 magazines of 901 types, and 936 newspapers of 90 types. There are 22 databases for electronic resources. It is the largest public library network in Macao. In 2016, a total of 2,516,163 visitors were received. The lending volume was 468,716 books/items, and electronic resources received 921,784 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 collecting reading materials as stipulated by law. In 2016, 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 2016, the Macao Public Library organised 747 reading promotion activities, attracting 28,039 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 2016, the gallery received 22,596 visitors.

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 Macau 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 223,522 visitors in 2016.

Museums

Centuries of East-West cultural interaction have endowed Macao with many unique museums. They range from the Museum of Macau, Museum of Sacred Art and Maritime Museum, to the Grand Prix Museum, Wine Museum and Fire Service Museum.

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 2016, the Museum of Macau received 404,515 visitors, and provided over 1,535 guided tours to 18,007 people. It also held 22 activities, which attracted 1,600 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. A public space not to be ignored, the corridor has often been chosen as the venue for various arts exhibitions.

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.

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.

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 2016, the Macao Museum of Art held more than 27 exhibitions and conducted more than 592 activities, including academic seminars, lectures, art courses, public workshops, tours, and docent training. The museum received a total of 186,279 visitors in 2016.

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 59,246 visitors during 2016.

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 training 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.

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 50,570 visitors in 2016.

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 310,004 visitors in 2016.

Communications Museum of Macao

Inaugurated in 2006, the Communications Museum of Macao houses two permanent exhibitions on postal services, philately, and telecommunications. It arranges various leisure activities, to raise the awareness of local students, the general public and tourists on the importance of popular science. It also promotes philately and allows visitors to appreciate stamps from a different perspective, and to understand science in our everyday life.

As for exhibitions about postal services, philately and telecommunications, there were 29 featured guided tours, seven science demonstration sessions, 24 workshops and nine electronic courses available for appointment in 2016. The museum received a total of 31,925 visitors in 2016, mainly during the 604 visits made by appointments for schools and other groups. Among these 604 visits, 90.9 percent were guided tours, workshops, or electronic courses, and 9.1 percent were outdoor visits or school visits.

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 43,461 visitors in 2016.

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 54,950 visitors in 2016.

Long Sam Tong Pavilion

Long 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 Long 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 14,949 visitors in 2016.

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 261,552 visitors in 2016.

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 Weiyao* (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 2016, it received 134,791 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 18,794 visitors during 2016.

Dom Pedro V Theatre

Built in 1860, the Dom Pedro V Theatre was the first Western-style theatre in China. It was an important venue for the gatherings of Portuguese in Macao. 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 2016, more than 69 performances and activities were held in the theatre; most were musical performances. As this is a UNESCO World Heritage Site, it received nearly 86,000 visitors in 2016.

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 123,369 visitors in 2016.

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. This project is consistent with the preservation principle of the MSAR Government, which is committed to utilising heritage architecture for cultural facilities. The academy introduces the public to the academic achievements of Professor Jao, and promotes Chinese culture and arts. It holds the exhibition “Paintings and Calligraphy Donated by Jao Tsung-I”. It received 12,205 visitors in 2016.

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. It received 127,738 visitors in 2016.

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. It received 25,657 visitors in 2016.

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. It received 8,581 visitors in 2016.

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 2016, the Macao Cultural Centre organised spectacular performances that included dance, music, drama and multimedia. There were 54 programmes with a total of 676 performances or activities. The centre also continued to offer cultural facilities and professional services to various local groups and organisations. During the year, 216 programmes and 1,112 performances or activities were organised by the centre and its tenants, receiving 166,329 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.

To support sports development of the MSAR and optimise the functions of public administration bodies – particularly given the transfer of the leisure and cultural functions of the Civic and Municipal Affairs Bureau and the Macau Grand Prix Committee to the Sports Bureau – the Government restructured the Sports Bureau in 2016.

Major Sports Events

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

A total of 168 local and foreign teams participated in the Macao International Dragon Boat Races 2016.

Four top class volleyball team – China, Brazil, Belgium and Serbia, were invited to compete in the FIVB Volleyball World Grand Prix Macau.

About 1,600 famous martial artists, athletes and enthusiasts from 16 countries and regions worldwide (including Macao), participated in the Wushu Masters Challenge.

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

A total of 200 race drivers from 34 countries and regions participated in the 63rd Macau Grand Prix. This was the first time the Grand Prix had authorisation from the International Automobile Federation to simultaneously hold two world cup races – the FIA F3 World Cup and FIA GT World Cup.

The Macao International Marathon attracted participation by a total of 10,000 athletes from 46 countries and regions.

Sport for All

In 2016, a total of 406,179 people took part in the 22 activities organised by the Sports Bureau,

with 69,625 of them participating in the 2,843 Sport for All Fitness and Recreational Classes. In 2016, the annual summer activities accommodated a total of 53,586 people, with 25,060 places for sport activities. In all, 129 activities and 851 classes were arranged.

Competitive Sport

During 2016, the Sports Bureau sponsored the organisation of and participation in 390 competitions, 138 training programmes, and 66 international conferences. In 2016, a total of 99 athletes, coaches, coaches for youth training, and technical support crew in 10 sports were awarded cash prizes for their outstanding performances in 11 events, while 253 athletes, coaches and technical support crew from 21 sports associations were awarded certificates of merit.

Sports Medicine

In 2016, the Sports Medical Centre provided medical services to 7,665 people. It provided medical assistance to 53 competitions and activities and offered medical services to 283 people.

In 2016, the centre provided physical fitness testing services to 1,702 people; and 11,199 people participated in the fitness test at the sports health information centre.

Furthermore, 6,200 people participated in the Anti-doping Outreach Education Campaign co-organised by the Sports Bureau and the China Anti-doping Agency (CHINADA); and 700 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 Magalhães 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 Hác-Sá Village, Sports Ground at Vila De Coloane, 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.

Macao Forum

The Macao Forum is one of the most popular venues in Macao for entertainment and sporting events. Opened on 27 May 1985, Macao Forum is divided into two sections. Forum I has a seating capacity of 4,062 and an area of 7,280 square metres. It houses a lobby and an exhibition gallery, which can accommodate displays and exhibitions.

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 Municipal Swimming Pool, Dr Sun Yat Sen Municipal Park Swimming Pool, Cheoc Van Swimming Pool, Hac Sa Park Swimming Pool, and Taipa Central Park Swimming Pool, Lin Fong Sports Centre Swimming Pool, Bosco Sports Complex Swimming Pool, Artur Tamagnini Barbosa Sports Centre Swimming Pool, Olympic Sports Centre and Carmo Swimming Pool.

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.



Wushu Masters Challenge





The Wushu Masters Challenge was held from 11 to 14 August. There were a wide range of activities, including traditional martial arts performances, demonstrations and lessons; a dragon and lion dance demonstration and experiencing session; a martial arts forum; joint performances by prominent local and foreign martial artists; and a martial arts skills and techniques competition.

Major activities of the event included a free fighting (Sanda) competition for local and foreign fighters, a dragon and lion dance contest, and a martial arts parade with lion, dragon and auspicious animals. The series of spectacular activities, held at Tap Seac Square, Tap Seac Multisport Pavilion, Largo do Senado, Praca da Amizade, and lao Hon Park, comprised a carnival with elements of sport, tourism and culture.

