

Preparation for Labour Day Golden Week

The Tourism Commission (TC) has co-ordinated work between government departments and the tourism industry in drawing up measures to prepare for the possible surge of Mainland visitors during the Labour Day Golden Week. These measures aim at enhancing the flow of visitors through various boundary control points, increasing the capacity of transportation facilities, and stepping up promotion and information dissemination to visitors on consumer protection.

The Commissioner for Tourism, Ms Eva Cheng, said Golden Week was the traditional peak travel period for Mainland tourists and Hong Kong had always been a popular destination for them. According to the Immigration Department's forecast, about 460,000 Mainland visitors will arrive between April 30 and May 9, similar to the arrivals during the Chinese New Year. It is estimated that more than half will be Individual Visitor Scheme visitors and about 12% will come in groups."

"The measures adopted for the previous Golden Weeks were effective and demonstrated our capability in receiving large volume of visitors," Ms Cheng said. "We will continue to adopt similar measures for the coming Golden Week. The departments are well prepared and will flexibly deploy resources according to the situation. We will also maintain close liaison with the Guangdong Provincial Tourism Administration to exchange information on visitor flow.

"We will make the best possible preparations to receive our visitors and enhance their travel experience in Hong Kong. We wish our visitors a most enjoyable Golden Week holiday in Hong Kong and in particular, we hope they will enjoy the new 'A Symphony of Lights' Show to be enhanced with pyrotechnics from May 1 to 8, 2005."

The measures cover the following areas –

(1) Arrangements for immigration clearance at Boundary Control Points.

- (2) Arrangement of facilities.
- (3) Information dissemination.
- (4) Visitors' information service.
- (5) Consumer protection.
- (6) Protection of visitors' health.
- (7) Co-ordination with Guangdong Province.

Details of the Golden Week measures are at Annex.

Tourism Commission
Economic Development and Labour Bureau
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