

The first ever Hong Kong Week in Burgundy, France, organised by the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Brussels with the support of the Burgundy Regional Council, the Regional Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Burgundy and the Burgundy Wine Board, started on November 26 to showcase Hong Kong's booming wine trade and related businesses.

The activities include a photo exhibition titled "Hong Kong as Asia's world city" in Dijon; a wine business seminar in Beaune; a gala dinner for local political and business leaders in the prestigious Chateau du Clos de Vougeot, with Chinese cuisine prepared by chefs and students of Hong Kong's Chinese Cuisine Training Institute; and a concert at the Dijon Grand Theatre by the RTHK Quartet and renowned sheng player Loo Sze-wang, as well as the Manfred Quartet from Burgundy.

The Hong Kong Week in Burgundy aims to strengthen ties between the two places and follows on from the signing of an agreement on co-operation in wine related businesses in 2010. It also reciprocates events staged by Burgundy in Hong Kong in 2011 and 2012.

The Commissioner for Tourism, Mr Philip Yung, will officiate at some of the events on behalf of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government.

Mr Yung will also meet the President of Burgundy Regional Council, Mr Francois Patriat. He will brief Mr Patriat on developments in Hong Kong's wine businesses and other areas. He will also visit facilities relating to wine tourism and the food industry before leaving Burgundy on December 1.

Joining the visit to Burgundy are representatives from Hong Kong's wine industry and the Hong Kong Quality Assurance Agency, which runs the world's first accreditation scheme for wine-storage facilities, as well as from the Vocational Training Council, which intends to explore co-operation opportunities with local institutions.

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