

Insider's Top Picks

E/ Maggie Hiufu Wong is a Hong Kong lifestyle and culture writer born and raised in the city. Here are some recommendations—to explore Hong Kong like a local—as she explained to the reporter/writer Randy Mulyanto.

Eat Your Heart Out: From Markets to Restaurants

"People should explore the wet markets and cooked food centres of Hong Kong. Queen Street Cooked Food Market in Sheung Wan and—a short distance from city centre—Tai Po Cooked Food Centre are both amazing," Wong says.

For breakfast, Wong's go to place is Caffè Parabolica in Repulse Bay. "It's a perfect spot for breakfast or brunch because it's in a resort like area, where there's a beach in front of the arcade," she says. "They'll bring you hot sweet corn soup as a welcome, then all their breakfast and lunch set options are Japanese-inspired."

For lunch, Wong recommends Flower Drum for "solid Cantonese cuisine," where you can have "a lot of traditional dishes that you may not find in other restaurants."

"I usually go there for lunch because they have a very good value set lunch. It's said to have the city's best baked chop rice (non-halal), which is a popular dish in Hong Kong," she says.

Visit Hong Kong Museum of Art for Local Creativity

"It is a landmark already, but I still think more people should go because it has a great view of (Victoria) Harbour right next to you, on the Avenue of Stars," Wong says.

"And then it has a lot of interesting educational art exhibitions going on that teach you about modern art, especially local art. So if you're an art lover, you should definitely go," she adds.

Independent Shops

Wong enjoys walking around Starstreet Precinct in Wan Chai, a commercial area in downtown Hong Kong, to check out the various fashion brands and



merchandise. At nearby Sun Street, Kapok has numerous accessories, fashion items, homewares and gadgets from a wide range of local brands.

Another favourite of hers is B'IN SELECT; check out one of its stores at PMQ arts and design hub in Central. "The founder has a lot of knowledge in terms of local and Japanese cultural stuff, so they have a lot of cool homeware and accessories from both places," she says.

I/ Maggie Hiufu Wong adalah seorang penulis gaya hidup dan budaya yang lahir dan besar di Hong Kong. Berikut adalah beberapa rekomendasi untuk menjelajahi Hong Kong layaknya penduduk lokal, sebagaimana disampaikan kepada reporter/penulis Randy Mulyanto.

Menikmati Kuliner: dari Pasar hingga Restoran

"Orang-orang harus menjelajahi pasar basah dan pusat makanan matang di Hong Kong. Queen Street Cooked Food Market di Sheung Wan dan—sedikit jauh dari pusat kota—Tai Po Cooked Food Centre, keduanya luar biasa," kata Wong.

Untuk sarapan, tempat favorit Wong adalah Caffè Parabolica di Repulse Bay. "Ini adalah tempat yang sempurna untuk sarapan atau *brunch* karena berada di area yang terasa seperti resor, dengan pantai di depan *arcade*," katanya. "Mereka akan menyajikan sup jagung manis hangat sebagai minuman pembuka ketika Anda duduk, lalu semua opsi sarapan dan makan siang memiliki sentuhan Jepang."

Untuk makan siang, Wong merekomendasikan Flower Drum untuk "masakan Kanton yang autentik,"

Anda bisa menikmati "banyak hidangan tradisional yang mungkin tidak ditemukan di restoran lain."

"Saya biasanya datang untuk makan siang karena mereka memiliki set makan siang yang sangat sepadan. Tempat ini katanya menyajikan nasi daging panggang [nonhalal] terbaik di kota, yang merupakan hidangan populer di Hong Kong," ujarnya.

Kunjungi Hong Kong Museum of Art untuk Kreativitas Lokal

"[Museum ini] sudah menjadi *landmark*, tetapi saya masih merasa lebih banyak orang harus mengunjunginya karena memiliki pemandangan [Victoria] Harbour yang indah tepat di sampingnya, di Avenue of Stars," kata Wong.

"Ada banyak pameran seni edukatif menarik yang mengajarkan seni modern, terutama seni lokal. Jadi, jika Anda pencinta seni, Anda harus ke sini," ia menambahkan.

Toko-toko Independen

Wong suka berjalan-jalan di Starstreet Precinct, Wan Chai—area komersial di pusat kota Hong Kong—untuk melihat berbagai merek fesyen dan barang dagangan. Di Sun Street dekat sana, Kapok memiliki berbagai aksesoris, fesyen, perabotan rumah, dan *gadget* dari berbagai merek lokal.

Salah satu favoritnya adalah B'IN SELECT; kunjungi salah satu tokonya di pusat kesenian dan desain PMQ di Central. "Pendiri toko ini memiliki banyak pengetahuan tentang budaya lokal dan Jepang, jadi mereka memiliki banyak barang rumah tangga dan aksesoris keren dari kedua tempat tersebut," katanya.