



Dear FIRSTNAME

As we approach the Phase-AP conference this weekend, we wanted to write and give you a brief update and reassurance about the current situation in Hong Kong as we are sure you will have seen reporting on news media about the situation.

As conference organizers we wanted to reaffirm our belief that Hong Kong is still a safe destination and very much still open for tourism, sport and business. For example, last weekend saw 500 rowers from 28 countries competing in the FISA World Rowing Coastal Championships ([link](#)) which took place in Central Hong Kong on Victoria Harbour. It was an excellent event - especially as HK won the women's Gold Medal in the Coxed 4's!

Here are the key points you probably need to know as overseas visitors;

- 1.) The conference venue and the conference hotel are both well removed from where protest activities have taken place and in particular, any altercations with police.
- 2.) The airport is fully secured and cannot be entered without boarding passes, so there is little chance of any flights being delayed due to civil actions in Hong Kong.
- 3.) Buses are available from the conference hotel to and from the conference venue. The buses will also go direct to the conference hotel at the end of each day, as well as Central and the airport on Sunday at the close of the conference. If you are planning to taxi to the conference venue it is extremely unlikely the route to HKIS will be disrupted.
- 4.) We will provide updates as relevant by email as well as during the conference if there is information about planned protests that we can share.
- 5.) Generally speaking those being impacted by protests and altercations with police are those that want to be in the thick of the action and actively seek it out. It is unlikely that you would simply stumble upon protest activity, particularly travelling between the hotel and the conference. By and large day to day life goes on very much as normal in HK.
- 6.) Transport delays on public transport have been taking place and should be planned for. When in doubt we recommend taking taxis when you are travelling for non-conference activities.

Transport from Airport to Hotel

- The Harbour Plaza Hotel operates a bus service from the airport to the hotel. Go to counter B09 when you get to the arrivals hall. The cost of this service is excellent value for money at HK\$150 per person. The bus runs every 30 minutes.

- A taxi one way from the airport to the hotel will cost you approx \$350-\$400HKD, and Uber will cost approx \$500HKD. Grab does not work in Hong Kong
- You can pre-book a car which will cost around \$700HKD. You can contact the hotel directly to do this or download an app like Blacklane.
- The airport express runs from the airport to Central and the cost for a single trip is HK\$ 115 and a return trip is HK\$205. You would then need to take a taxi or bus from the station to the hotel. Note that Friday evening can be busy in Central. We recommend that you not take this option given the current situation in Hong Kong. If there are going to be delays or disruptions it will likely between airport express and the conference hotel.

Of course, it is a dynamic situation and ever evolving and you should be mindful of personal safety and be street-smart as you would be in major city such as London, Shanghai, or New York

Regards

21C Team