



Hong Kong

**Strategic Business Setup
Your Gateway to Asia**



OVERVIEW

Capital city

None, as Hong Kong is a Special Administrative Region of China

Other major cities

As above

Population ⁽¹⁾

7.5 million

Size

1,114.57 sq km

GDP ⁽²⁾

USD 54,107 per capita

Main languages

Chinese and English

Currency

Hong Kong Dollar (HKD)

Top Exports ⁽³⁾

Electrical machinery, machinery including computers, gems and precious metals, optical, technical and medical apparatus, clocks and watches including parts, plastics, and collector items

Top Imports ⁽⁴⁾

Electrical machinery, gems and precious metals, machinery including computers, optical, technical and medical apparatus, mineral fuels including oil, clocks and watches including parts

Time Zone

UTC +8

Typical Office Hours

09:00 to 18:00, Monday to Friday

Unemployment Rate ⁽⁵⁾

3,7%

Profits Tax ⁽⁶⁾

16.5% (15% for unincorporated businesses and a preferential rate of 8.25% for SMEs)

Dialing Code

+852

Emergency Numbers

999 (police, fire and ambulance)

Hong Kong: Asia's global city

Access to Asia ⁽⁷⁾

Hong Kong provides easy access to Asia, the world's largest continent which is home to more than half of the world's population.

A free economy

Hong Kong is widely regarded as one of the world's freest economies, underpinned by its business-friendly environment, sound regulatory regimes, effective protection of property rights and commitment to the rule of law.

Mainland China's global connector ⁽⁸⁾

From here you can plug into the fast-growing markets in mainland China. The territory is the most important source of investment for the Chinese mainland and vice versa. It's also at the mouth of the Pearl River Delta, one of mainland China's leading economic regions and a major manufacturing center.

(1) censtatd.gov.hk

(2) gov.hk

(6) ird.gov.hk

(7) investhk.gov.hk

(3) - (4) info.gov.hk

(8) news.gov.hk

(5) censtatd.gov.hk

Wealthy in its own right ⁽¹⁾

Hong Kong is increasingly becoming a focal point for global investors, particularly in the areas of financial services and corporate banking. The country's financial sector provides services such as asset management, corporate structuring, and investment funds, making it a popular destination for high-net-worth individuals and companies.

Its strong legal framework and investor-friendly policies enhance Seychelles' appeal as a secure environment for wealth management.

Global trading and finance hub ⁽²⁾

Strategically located for business in the Asia-Pacific, Hong Kong is the second largest trading partner with the Chinese mainland after the US. It is also one of the most important financial services centers in the Asia-Pacific.



Market profile

Hong Kong is one of the world's most competitive economies. It's a magnet for global business, with its own currency, legal framework and taxation system.

The autonomous territory is a long-standing bridge to mainland China and a rare blend of East and West, with large volumes of trade and investment flowing both ways.

Hong Kong is modern and international, with the broad protections of the rule of law. Hong Kong is considered to be a relatively easy place to do business. ⁽³⁾

With free trade at its core, Hong Kong is situated in a prime location at the centre of Asia and its economy is one of the most open in the world.

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Hong Kong has a three-fold appeal: it's economically energetic, it has strong growth prospects, and it's a major gateway to mainland China.

A good regional spot for expansion across the Asia-Pacific region, this multi-faceted city is also cosmopolitan, business-friendly and largely stable.

Read on to discover more about the dos and don'ts of doing business in Hong Kong. Also find out how trading in or with Hong Kong could help boost the future growth of your business.

(1) Forbes

(2) Hong Kong Trade Development Council

(3) Government of the Hong Kong SAR

5 *Reasons* to do business in Hong Kong

01

Made for business

Hong Kong is renowned as an easy place to do business due to the absence of capital controls, a low tax regime, a currency pegged to the US dollar and a Common Law legal system based on English law.

Home to small and medium enterprises

Hong Kong is home to over 350,000 SMEs, representing more than 98% of all enterprises and employing around 1.2 million people in the city's private sector

02

03

Home of the small and medium enterprise

Approximately 360,000 small and medium enterprises are currently based in Hong Kong, making up over 98% of all businesses and employing nearly half the city's private sector workforce.

Start-up ecosystem buzzing

Hong Kong continues to establish itself as Asia-Pacific's start-up hub. Between 2020 and 2024, the number of local start-ups grew from 3,360 in 2020 to 4,257 in 2024, an increase of 26.7%, with these businesses employing 16,453 people.

04

05

Support for new companies

Foreign and local companies compete on equal terms, as there's no protection of local businesses or trade barriers in Hong Kong. Overseas talent possessing specific skills, knowledge and experience can work here.

Key Information for Hong Kong

Company Limited by Shares

Name rule

- ▶ A company may be registered with an English name, a Chinese name, or an English name and a Chinese name. A company name with a combination of English words/letters and Chinese characters is not allowed.
- ▶ An English Hong Kong company name must end with the word "Limited" and a Chinese company name must end with the characters "有限公司".
- ▶ A Chinese company name should contain traditional Chinese characters (繁體字) that can be found in the Kang Xi Dictionary (康熙字典) or Ci Hai Dictionary (辭海) AND also in the ISO 10646 international coding standard. Simplified Chinese characters will not be accepted.
- ▶ A company name may not be identical to that of an existing company. Prior to incorporation a company name search must be conducted to confirm the availability of a proposed name.



Share Capital

Standard Currency	HKD
Permitted Currencies	Any
Usual Minimum Issued Capital	1 HKD
Usual Authorized Capital	10,000 HKD

Director

Minimum Number	One, with at least 1 natural person
Local Requirement	No
Publicly Accessible Records	Yes
Location of Meetings	Anywhere

Shareholder

Minimum Number	One
Publicly Accessible Records	Yes
Location of Meetings	Anywhere

Company Secretary

Appointment Requirement	Yes
Qualified by Regulatory Authority	Yes

Legal and Compliance Requirements

Annual Requirements	
Annual Return Filing	Yes
Accounting & Auditing Report:	<p>Yes</p> <p>Companies incorporated in Hong Kong are required to maintain proper accounting records and, in most cases, prepare audited financial statements in accordance with Hong Kong regulations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Accounting records: Must be properly kept and retained for at least 7 years ▶ Audit report: Generally required and must be issued by a Hong Kong–practising CPA ▶ Audited accounts are usually submitted together with the Profits Tax Return
Company Accounting Record	Yes
Annual Renewal Company	Yes
Annual Renewal Deadline	Anniversary date
KYC Requirement	<p>Yes</p> <p>Valid KYC docs (passport + address proof) of all members, corporate shareholders</p>
Tax duties	Yes, must complete before renewal.
Re-Active	<p>There're 2 situations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ A company dissolved by deregistration may apply to the Court of First Instance for restoration → OneIBC still not support this. ▶ A company dissolved by striking off by the Registrar of Companies may apply for restoration by court order or by administrative restoration -> Contact us for a guidance.

Annual Tax Filing Requirements

All companies incorporated in Hong Kong must comply with annual tax filing obligations imposed by the Inland Revenue Department (IRD), regardless of whether the company is active or inactive.

Annual obligations include:

- ▶ Profit Tax Return (PTR): Mandatory annual filing, even if the company has no income or incurs losses.
- ▶ Audited Financial Statements: Generally required and must be submitted together with the PTR (except for qualifying dormant companies).
- ▶ Employer's Return (if applicable): Required if the company has employees or pays director remuneration.
- ▶ Tax Payment: Any assessed profits tax must be paid by the IRD deadline.
- ▶ Record Keeping: Accounting records must be retained for at least 7 years.

Non-compliance may result in penalties, additional tax, or enforcement action by the IRD.

Profit Tax Return Filing

Yes

In Hong Kong, companies are required to file a Profit Tax Return (PTR) annually with the Inland Revenue Department (IRD) to report their assessable profits (or losses) derived from or arising in Hong Kong.

Profit tax is levied on a territorial basis, meaning only profits sourced in Hong Kong are taxable, regardless of where the company is incorporated.

Employer's Return Filing

Yes

Employers must submit the Employer's Return within one month only if the IRD has issued the return, even if no employees were hired during the year.

Tax Policies

Profits Taxation

In Hong Kong, profits tax is charged on a territorial basis, meaning only profits arising in or derived from Hong Kong are taxable, regardless of where the company is incorporated.

- ▶ Tax rates:
 - 8.25% on the first HKD 2,000,000 of assessable profits
 - 16.5% on the remaining assessable profits
- ▶ Losses may be carried forward to offset future assessable profits.
- ▶ Profits tax is administered by the Inland Revenue Department (IRD).

Personal Income Tax

In Hong Kong, individuals who earn income from employment or office exercised in Hong Kong are subject to Salaries Tax, administered by the Inland Revenue Department (IRD).

- ▶ Tax is charged on a territorial basis (Hong Kong-sourced income only).
- ▶ Salaries Tax is calculated at progressive rates (up to 17%) or standard rate (15%), whichever is lower after allowances.
- ▶ Individuals must file a Tax Return – Individuals (BIR60) annually if issued by the IRD.

Property Tax

In Hong Kong, Property Tax is charged on the net assessable value of property income (mainly rental income) from land or buildings situated in Hong Kong, as administered by the Inland Revenue Department (IRD).

- ▶ Tax rate: 15% on net assessable value (after statutory deductions).
- ▶ Applies to property owners, not tenants.
- ▶ Owners may apply for exemption if the rental income is included in Profits Tax.

Tax on Dividends Paid

In Hong Kong, dividends paid by Hong Kong companies are not subject to withholding tax and are not taxable in the hands of the recipients, whether they are individuals or corporations.

- ▶ No withholding tax on dividends
- ▶ No tax on dividend income received
- ▶ Administered under the territorial tax system by the Inland Revenue Department (IRD)

This makes Hong Kong a tax-efficient jurisdiction for profit distribution.

Double Taxation Treaty Access

Companies and individuals in Hong Kong may access benefits under Hong Kong's Comprehensive Double Taxation Agreements (CDTAs) with multiple jurisdictions, subject to meeting the relevant conditions.

- ▶ Treaty benefits may include reduced withholding tax rates and relief from double taxation
- ▶ Access generally requires Hong Kong tax residency and a Certificate of Resident Status (CoR) issued by the Inland Revenue Department (IRD)



Fee Structure

Fee Structure of Company Limited by Shares

Fee Structure	Service Fee	Government Fee
Incorporation Fee	USD 1,039	USD 529
Renewal Fee	USD 779	USD 529

Note: Fees may vary based on the company's structure and compliance status at the time of renewal. The fees exclude government taxes, statutory duties, and any changes to the company structure or member information. The number of authorized shares may affect the applicable government fees.

Accompanying Services



Company Formation

We provide comprehensive company incorporation services to establish a legally compliant entity in the jurisdiction that fits your goals. You need a structure that aligns with regulatory requirements and supports your business objectives - we handle the entire setup for you.



Nominee Services

We provide nominee directors and shareholders where required by local regulations or privacy needs. You need to maintain compliance while protecting your identity - we take on the nominee role while you retain full control.



Change Agent

We facilitate the change of your Registered Agent or Secretary. You provide your current company documents and the required resolution; we prepare the paperwork and update the new agent or secretary with the government registry within 1 - 3 business days.



Company Renewal

We take care of all mandatory annual renewal procedures. You need your company to remain legally valid, compliant, and fully operational - we ensure timely renewal every year.



Business Bank Account Opening Support

We provide tailored advisory for opening a business bank account. You need a banking strategy suited to your industry, well-structured KYC/AML documents, and support throughout the application - we guide you from preparation to onboarding.



Tax – Accounting & Auditing

We deliver accounting and auditing services that meet regulatory and financial reporting standards. You need accurate books, compliant statements, and reports required by authorities or financial institutions - we support every step.



Shelf Company

We offer pre-registered Shelf Companies ready for immediate use. You need a company that can start operating without delays - we review, update, and transfer the entity to you in full compliance.



Serviced Office

We provide compliant registered office addresses for company formation, bank account opening, and ongoing legal needs. You need a reliable corporate address - we supply a fully compliant solution.



Trademark Registration

We assist in registering and protecting trademarks across key jurisdictions. You need to secure your brand and intellectual property - we ensure legal protection and commercial safety.



Trust & Foundation Services

We set up trust and foundation structures for asset protection and complex ownership requirements. You need secure and strategic asset management - we create the right structure for you.



Company Strike-Off

We assist in legally striking off companies that are no longer active. You need a clean, compliant exit - we manage the formal closure process.



Certificates

We obtain corporate certificates required for banking, licensing, audits, and international transactions. You need valid documents quickly - we deliver them efficiently.



Certify / Notarize / Apostille

We provide full certification, notarization, apostille, and legalization services. You need documents accepted by banks, authorities, and global partners - we ensure international legal validity.



Other Filings

We handle all post-incorporation regulatory filings, including economic substance and tax compliance requirements. You need your company to remain compliant and operational - we manage the filings for you.

We know you have many choices

Thank you for considering One IBC® as your trusted partner in cross-border corporate services.

We are deeply grateful for the opportunity to support your international ambitions. Our commitment is to deliver tailored solutions with transparency, precision, and care—because your success is our purpose.

A Few Highlights

10k+

Clients Worldwide

Trusted by 10,000+ clients worldwide, our proven track record ensures USA businesses receive services that meet the highest federal and state standards.

50+

Professional Consultants

Serving 1,500+ new clients annually across various sectors—from startups to multinational corporations—delivering tailored, lawful solutions.

32+

Branches Representative Offices

Supported by 32+ representative offices and partners globally, we serve a diverse range of industries, offering unparalleled insights for USA businesses.

10+

Years Experience

With over 10 years of global experience, we've guided businesses worldwide, bringing seasoned expertise to ensure legal compliance in the USA with IRS and SBA standards.

Scan to Request a Free Consultation with Our Experts



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Thank you!