

TAI O HERITAGE HOTEL
H O N G K O N G

Press Release

Collectible First Day Cover for the First 110 Patrons to Commemorate the 110th Anniversary of Old Tai O Police Station and Tai O Heritage Hotel in Full Operations

Graded as a Grade II historic building by the Antiquities Advisory Board, the Old Tai O Police Station is revitalised and converted into Tai O Heritage Hotel through the Hong Kong SAR Government Development Bureau's Revitalising Historic Buildings Through Partnership Scheme, and it has commenced full operations since 21st March 2012.

To commemorate the 110th anniversary of the Old Tai O Police Station, Tai O Heritage Hotel collaborates with Hongkong Post to launch a representative First Day Cover, and invited Tai O native artist, Stanley Wong, to draw a painting to illustrate the hotel exterior, printed on the First Day Cover together with a photo capturing the tranquil environment of the charming fishing village. The First Day Cover signifies a collectible souvenir of Tai O Heritage Hotel for its first 110 room patrons, which speaks of its unique facet of a true depiction of the colonial architecture, in celebration of the timeless local cultural heritage. The First Day Cover is now available for sale at Tai O Heritage Hotel, its restaurant, Tai O Lookout, and will be sold worldwide subsequently on the Hotel website commencing 5th April 2012. A set with four Year of the Dragon stamps is priced at HK\$88, the Cover with one Year of the Dragon stamp is priced at HK\$58, while the Cover with one definitive stamp is sold at HK\$48. Other ten art pieces by Wong are now exhibited at Tai O Lookout, the glass-roofed restaurant situated on the first floor, which does not only offer memorable dining experiences to its guests, but also serves as a platform to showcase Hong Kong and Tai O artists' ingenious creations.

Tai O Heritage Hotel is now home to nine elegantly decorated rooms. Since its operation on 21st March, the occupancy rate has reached 93 percent, receiving both local and overseas visitors who are interested in Tai O's unique cultural tradition, heritage conservation, and the beauty of the natural environment.

Hong Kong Heritage Conservation Foundation joined hands with Community Project Workshop and Architectural Conservation Programme of Faculty of Architecture, The University of Hong Kong, in publishing the "Old Tai O Police Station: The Evolution of a Centenary Monument", priced at HK\$198. The book covers the studies on how and why Old Tai O Police Station was built over 100 years ago, the site's architecture, as well as the stories shared by the former marine police officers who stationed in Tai O Police Station. All proceeds of the souvenirs deducting cost of production will go to support heritage conservation of Tai O community.

Prior to its full operation, Tai O Heritage Hotel opened its door first to welcome the community for a 20-day Open House visit which in turn attracted 12,800 enthusiastic visitors both from Hong Kong and overseas. Tai O Heritage Hotel will continue to engage the public in the appreciation towards heritage conservation and to sustain the development of Tai O tourism through its commitment to offering daily free guided hotel tours as well as other choices of cultural and eco-tours.

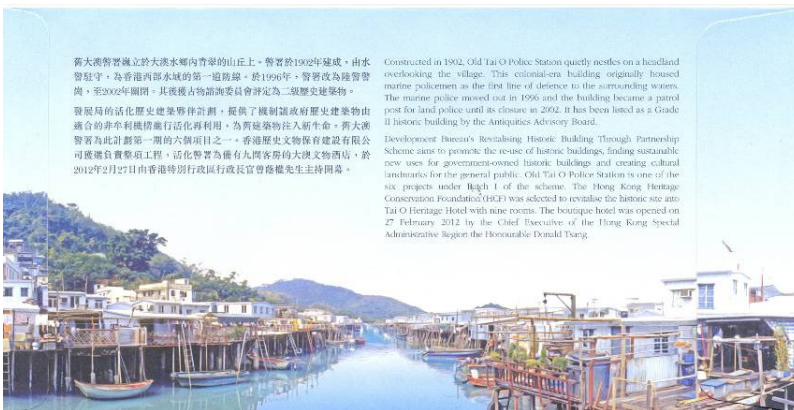
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Tai O Heritage Hotel with colonial-style architecture



First Day Cover is now available for sale at Tai O Heritage Hotel, its restaurant, Tai O Lookout, and will be sold worldwide subsequently on the Hotel website commencing 5th April 2012. Priced at HK\$88 (includes a set of four 'Year of the Dragon' stamps), HK\$58 (include one 'Year of the Dragon' stamp), and HK\$48 (include one definitive stamp)



新大澳警署矗立於天淡水壩內青翠的山丘上，營署於1902年建成，由水警駐守，為香港西部水城的第一道防線。於1996年，營署改為陸警營崗，至2002年關閉，其後獲古物諮詢委員會評定為二級歷史建築物。發展局的活化歷史建築夥伴計劃，提供了規劃讓政府歷史建築物由適合的非牟利機構進行活化再利用，為青洲強物注入新生命，將大澳警署為此計劃第一期的六個項目之一。香港歷史文物保育建設有限公司獲選負責整頓工程，活化營署為備有九間客房的大澳文物酒店，於2012年2月27日由香港特別行政區行政長官曾德健先生主持開幕。

Constructed in 1902, Old Tai O Police Station quietly nestles on a headland overlooking the village. This colonial-era building originally housed marine policemen as the first line of defence to the surrounding waters. The marine police moved out in 1996 and the building became a patrol post for land police until its closure in 2002. It has been listed as a Grade II historic building by the Antiquities Advisory Board.

Development Bureau's Revitalising Historic Building Through Partnership Scheme aims to promote the reuse of historic buildings, finding sustainable new uses for government-owned historic buildings and creating cultural landmarks for the general public. Old Tai O Police Station is one of the six projects under High I of the scheme. The Hong Kong Heritage Conservation Foundation (HKCF) was selected to revitalise the historic site into Tai O Heritage Hotel with nine rooms. The boutique hotel was opened on 27 February 2012 by the Chief Executive of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region the Honourable Donald Tsang.



Hong Kong Heritage Conservation Foundation collaborates with Community Project Workshop and Architectural Conservation Programme of Faculty of Architecture, The University of Hong Kong, to publish the "Old Tai O Police Station: The Evolution of a Centenary Monument", priced at HK\$198



Representatives from Tai O Heritage Hotel presented the First Day Cover to the first couple, Mr and Mrs Tang, sending them the warmest blessings on their 32nd anniversary

About Hong Kong Heritage Conservation Foundation (www.hkheritage.org)

The Hong Kong Heritage Conservation Foundation is a non-profit organisation set up by the Ng Teng Fong family in March 2008. The primary objectives of the company are to revitalise and maintain heritage buildings, as well as to promote the conservation and appreciation of heritage and historic places and their importance in the life of the community. The management team of the organisation has solid experience in heritage revitalisation and participated in a number of heritage projects in Singapore, including The Fullerton Hotel, The Fullerton Waterboat House, Clifford Pier and Far East Square.

About Tai O Heritage Hotel (www.taioheritagehotel.com)

Tai O Heritage Hotel, graded as a Grade II historic building by the Antiquities Advisory Board, formerly as the Tai O Police Station constructed in 1902, is now home to nine elegantly decorated rooms, Heritage Interpretation Centre and a glass-roofed open view restaurant. Running as a non-profit social enterprise, Tai O Heritage Hotel commits to engage the public in bolstering Tai O's economy, to achieve synergy with other local facilities and to promote heritage conservation, tourism and green living.

About Stanley Wong

Born and bred in a Tai O fisherman's family, Wong spent his childhood in a stilt house. His strokes and colours depicted the Tai O lives and expressed his feelings for the people and things there. Wong graduated from Hong Kong Chingying Institute of Visual Arts. He spent years travelling and sketching in Europe, the Middle East and Asia to experience different cultures. He won the first prized (Outlying Island) of the HKSAR 10th anniversary flag design competition in 2007.

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