

MACAO

WORLD HERITAGE





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At the 29th Session of the World Heritage Committee hosted by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), on 15th July 2005, **The Historic Centre of Macao** was successfully inscribed as a World Heritage Site, making it the 31st site in China to be granted this status.

The **Historic Centre of Macao** is an urban area within the old city of Macao spanning eight squares -Barra Square, Lilau Square, St. Augustine's Square, Senado Square, Cathedral Square, St. Dominic's Square, Company of Jesus Square and Camões Square and 22 historic buildings-A-Ma Temple (Barra Temple), the Headquarters Building of the Marine and Water Bureau (Former Moorish Barracks), Mandarin's House, St. Lawrence's Church and forecourt, St. Joseph's Seminary Church, forecourt and staircase, Dom Pedro V Theatre, Sir Robert Ho Tung Library Building, St. Augustine's Church, the Headquarters Building of the Municipal Affairs Bureau (Former Leal Senado Building), Sam Kai Vui Kun (Kuan Tai Temple), the Headquarters Building of the Holy House of Mercy of Macao, the Cathedral, Lou Kau Mansion, St. Dominic's Church, the Ruins of St. Paul's College (Former Mater Dei Church, forecourt and staircase), Na Tcha Temple (next to the Ruins of St. Paul's College), Old City Walls (Section at Calçada de S. Francisco Xavier), Mount Fortress, St. Anthony's Church and forecourt, the Headquarters Building of the Orient Foundation (Former Casa Garden of the Camões Grotto), the Protestant Cemetery, and Guia Fortress, Chapel of Our Lady of the Snows and Lighthouse. This list includes the archaeological remains of the first Western-style university in the Far East, the College of St. Paul, buildings that are still functioning according to their original purpose such as the first Western-style theatre and the first modern lighthouse in China, and examples of late Qing merchants' homes.



The **Historic Centre of Macao** is the product of cultural exchange between East and West spanning over 400 years, and is currently the oldest, the most complete and consolidated array of European architectural legacy standing intact on Chinese territory today.

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1 A-Ma Temple (Barra Temple)

A-Ma Temple is the oldest temple containing valuable historical artefacts today, and is also the longest surviving building in Macao. The temple includes the Gate Pavilion, the Hall of Benevolence, the Hall of Guanyin and Zhengjiao Chanlin (a Buddhist pavilion), etc. When the first Portuguese settlers arrived in the 16th century and asked for the name of the place, they were told "A-Ma Gau", the name of the temple instead. This was then transcribed by the settlers into the Portuguese "Macau".

Location: Largo da Barra **Opening hours:** 07:00~18:00







2 Barra Square

Barra Square lies in front of the A-Ma Temple. Facing the Inner Harbour, its front part is constructed from the famous Portuguese mosaic, with ochre and charcoal as the principal colours. The tiles are laid in a wavy pattern to mirror the flow of a nearby river. The overall effect is one of fluidity and gives a strong seaside flavour.

Location: In front of the A-Ma Temple



3 Headquarters Building of the Marine and Water Bureau (Former Moorish Barracks)

Built in 1874 by the Italian architect Cassuto, this was originally used to accommodate an Indian regiment from Goa but now serves as the offices of the Marine and Water Bureau of Macao SAR. The building shows Islamic influence in its design.

Location: Calçada da Barra

Opening hours: Verandah - 09:00~18:00



4 Mandarin's House



Built before 1869, this was the residence of the famous Chinese thinker Zheng Guanying. It was built mainly in the traditional Chinese style, as exemplified by the many different forms of windows, the roof, the house superstructure, building materials, etc. But some foreign elements were also incorporated, such as the use of grey bricks and the Indian-style ceiling, the archway over the door and window openings, etc.

Location: No. 10, Travessa de António da Silva

Opening hours: 10:00~18:00, no admittance after 17:30 (closed on Wednesdays, open on public holidays)



5 Lilau Square

Lilau in Portuguese means "mountain spring", and this used to be the principal source of water in Macao. Being close to the Inner Harbour, Lilau was one of the first areas to be inhabited by Portuguese settlers. There is a popular Portuguese phrase that goes: "One who drinks from Lilau never forgets Macao; one either makes it home or will return again", which expresses the local's attachment to the Square. The buildings around Lilau Square are mostly apartment blocks built and decorated in the Portuguese style, bringing a flavour of Southern Europe.



6 St. Lawrence's Church and forecourt



Although it was originally built in the mid-1600s, and is one of the three oldest churches in Macao, St. Lawrence's Church in its present form dates from only 1846. The area surrounding the church used to be an affluent neighbourhood, thus explaining the building's grandeur. The church's exterior is in the neo-classical style, with hints of the Baroque.

Location: Rua de São Lourenço

Opening hours: Monday to Friday 07:00~18:00; Saturday and Sunday 07:00~21:00

7 St. Joseph's Seminary Church, forecourt and staircase



The seminary, constructed in 1728, produced many important figures in the field of missionary work in many areas of China and Southeast Asia. The church was built later in 1758, and has many similarities with St. Paul's Church. It was built in the Baroque style. For instance, the magnificent arc-shaped line on the lintel is rarely seen in Macao. The church also houses a relic of the first missionary to East Asia.

Location: Rua do Seminário

Opening hours: Church - 10:00~17:00; Seminary not open to the public



8 St. Augustine's Square

Although it is not large, this square offers a sense of tranquility. It brings together several notable monuments, including St. Augustine's Church, Dom Pedro V Theatre, St. Joseph's Seminary and Church, and Sir Robert Ho Tung Library Building. The cobblestone pavement reflects the traditional Portuguese streetscape.

9 St. Augustine's Church



The church was first constructed by a group of Spanish Augustinian priests as a seminary from wood in 1586, and later was moved to Santo Agostinho Square in 1591. In the past, the priests used Chinese fan palms to cover the church's roof whenever there was rain. The palm leaves blowing in the wind looked like the beard of a dragon. Hence the church's other name, "Long Song Miu" (Temple of the Long-whiskered Dragon). The façade of the church is divided into two levels and crowned by a pediment. Two granite columns flank the main entrance. The interior columns support the vaulted roof and divide the church into three sections that are simple and classical in appearance. The present church was the result of reconstruction in 1874 and was the first church that preached in English in Macao.

Location: No. 2, Largo de Santo Agostinho

Opening Hours: 10:00~ 18:00

Procession of The Passion of our Lord, Jesus Christ

According to Catholic tradition, every year at Easter, followers carry the Crucifix from St. Augustine's Church in a procession to the Cathedral, and then return it the following day. .





⑩ Dom Pedro V Theatre



This theatre was built by the Portuguese in 1860 to commemorate King Pedro V. At the time only the main part of the theatre was built, and it was not until 1873 that the neo-classical façade was added. It is the first Western-style theatre in China, and was originally used by the local Macanese community for important public events and celebrations. It is now a venue for staging plays and concerts.

Location: Largo de Santo Agostinho

Opening hours : 10:00~18:00 (closed on Tuesdays, open on public holidays)



⑪ Sir Robert Ho Tung Library

This building was constructed before 1894 and was originally the residence of Dona Carolina Cunha. It was purchased in 1918 by Sir Robert Ho Tung, a wealthy Hong Kong businessman, who used it as his summer villa. When Sir Robert passed away in 1955, the building was donated, according to his will, to the Macao Government for use as a public library. The library was officially opened to the public in 1958.

Location: No.3, Largo de Santo Agostinho

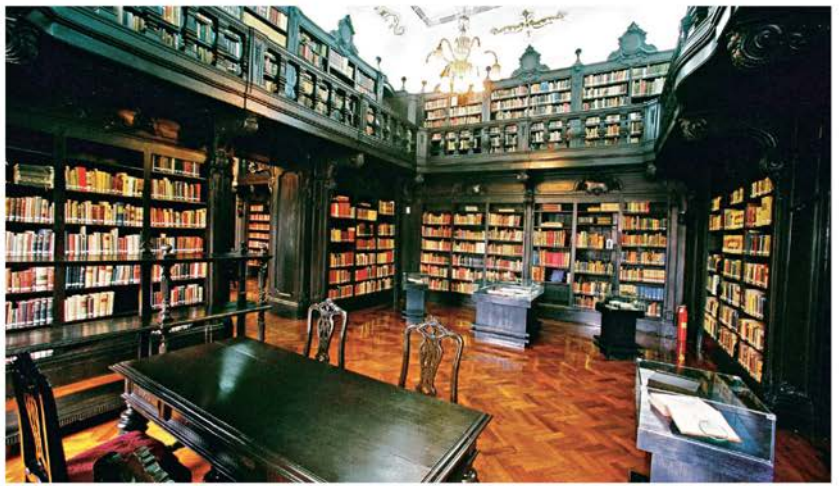
Opening hours: Monday 14:00~20:00;
Tuesday to Sunday 08:00~20:00

⑫ Headquarters Building of the Municipal Affairs Bureau (Former Leal Senado Building)

Originally built in 1784 as Macao's municipal office, this building has undergone many facelifts. The building today dates from a reconstruction in 1874, and possesses a distinct Southern European architectural style. The library on the 1st floor, opened in 1929, takes the Biblioteca do Convento de Mafra as its model and is furnished with many vintage pieces. It holds a collection of foreign texts from the 17th century through to the 1950s, especially those documenting Portugal's role in Africa and the Far East. The library also holds China's first Portuguese copy of "A Abelha da China".

Location: No. 163 Avenida de Almeida Ribeiro

Opening hours: Building - 09:00~21:00; Gallery - 09:00~21:00 (open to the public when there is an exhibition)







⑬ Senado Square

Senado Square has been the centre of Macao since the 16th century, and plays host to many public events and festivities. The buildings on either side of the Square were built in the 19th and 20th centuries. In 1993, the front of the Square was paved with black and white cobbles in a wavy pattern to help bring out the bright colours of the surrounding buildings and enhance the Mediterranean atmosphere.

Location: Opposite "Leal Senado" Building



⑭ Sam Kai Vui Kun (Kuan Tai Temple)

The temple is situated on the site of the old Macao bazaar, whose sign still exists. Originally, it was a meeting place for merchants and was very important to the local Chinese community. Prior to the establishment of the Chinese Chamber of Commerce in Macao in 1912, the area surrounding the temple was the centre of Chinese trading in Macao. After the decline of the bazaar, the temple rose to importance in this area.

Location: Rua Sul do Mercado de São Domingos

Opening hours: 09:00~18:00

⑮ Headquarters Building of the Holy House of Mercy of Macao

Built to undertake charitable work, this establishment was founded by the first bishop of Macao in 1569. It set up the first ever Western-style hospital in China, and also included a nursery and orphanage. The main building was built in the mid-18th century, but the neo-classical structure that we see today dates from 1905. From the side entrance one can reach the in-house museum. It contains, among other treasures, implements given to the Chinese to aid the work of missionaries, and is a good way of understanding how Catholicism was established in Macao.

Location: Largo do Senado

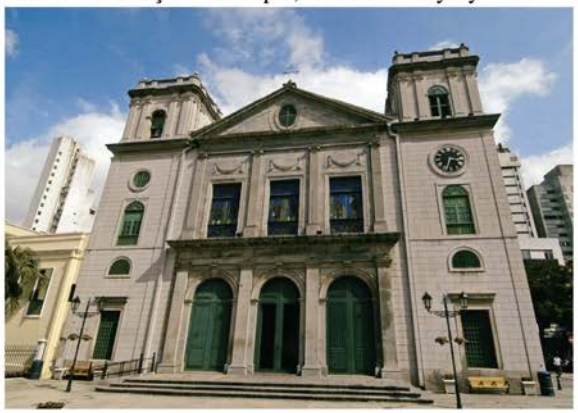
Opening hours: Museum - 10:00~ 13:00; 14:30~17:30 (closed on Mondays and public holidays)





⑯ Cathedral

This is a Catholic church dedicated to the Virgin Mary and built in 1622. It is one of the most important Catholic churches in Macao. The façade is simple, decorated only by stained glass windows. Underneath the altar inside the church are buried relics of bishops from the 16th and 17th centuries. Before the handover of Macao's sovereignty to China, every new Governor of Macao would traditionally come to the Cathedral and place his sceptre next to the image of the Virgin Mary.



Location: No. 1, Largo da Sé
Opening hours: 07:30~20:00

⑰ Cathedral Square

Whether it is from a religious or a historic point of view, the Cathedral and the other buildings surrounding the Square are highly valued monuments.





⑱ Lou Kau Mansion

Believed to be built in 1889, the mansion used to be the residence of the family of Lou Kau, a prominent Chinese businessman. It is a two-storey building constructed using grey-green brick in the Chinese style, and is a typical example of the "Xiguan" architectural style of the late Qing Dynasty. The interior of the mansion is a mixture of Eastern and Western styles, and was designed in accordance with *feng shui*.

For instance, a screen is placed at the entrance, which is believed to create a harmonious atmosphere in the house. There are also particular brick carvings, Manchurian-style windows, and Portuguese blinds.

Location: No.7, Travessa da Sé
Opening hours: 10:00~18:00, no admittance after 17:30 (closed on Mondays, open on public holidays)

⑲ St. Dominic's Square

The Square lies in front of St. Dorninic's Church. It not only offers places to rest one's weary feet, but also has vendors on either side of the Square selling food, clothing and cosmetics amongst other things.



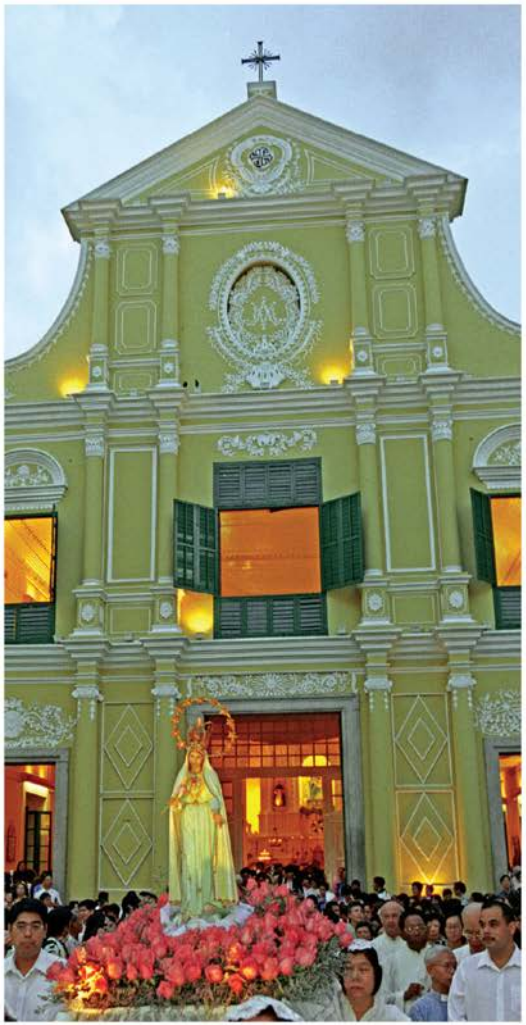
⑳ St. Dominic's Church

Built by Dominican priests in 1587, this was the first church to be built in China, and was originally constructed from wooden slats. The design of the church is sumptuous, with the Baroque altar being particularly magnificent. A small museum to the side of the church holds a collection of over 300 Macanese Catholic artifacts.

Location: Largo de S. Domingos

Opening hours: Church - 10:00~18:00; Treasure of Sacred Art - 10:00~15:00 (closed on Thursdays and Sundays)





The Procession of Our Lady of Fátima

Held on the afternoon of the 13th of May each year, a group of catholic women clad all in white carry the image of Our Lady of Fátima from St. Dominic's Church to the Chapel of Our Lady of Penha.



㉑ Ruins of St. Paul's College (Former Mater Dei Church, forecourt and staircase)



The Ruins of St. Paul's refer to the façade of what remains of the Church of Mater Dei that was built in 1602-1640.

The church was part of St. Paul's College, which was the first Western-style university in the Far East. In the fire that happened in 1835, the College and church were also burnt, leaving only the façade, most of the foundations and the front steps.

The façade displays a special mix of Eastern and Western styles, and functions symbolically as an altar to the city.

Location: In front of Company of Jesus Square

Opening hours: Museum of Sacred Art and Crypt - 09:00~18:00, no admittance after 17:30 (09:00~14:00 on Tuesdays, open on public holidays)



22 Company of Jesus Square

The buildings surrounding the square were constructed between 1920 and 1930, apart from two neo-classical buildings that date from the 19th century.





23 Old City Walls (Section at Calçada de S. Francisco Xavier)

The Portuguese began building a city wall around Macao as early as 1569. Early maps show that apart from the Inner Harbour in the west, all of the rest of the city was surrounded by this wall. Fortresses were also built, making Macao a heavily-defended fort. What remains now is only a fraction of the original city wall, located near the Ruins of St. Paul's.

Location: Beside the Ruins of St. Paul's



24 Na Tcha Temple (next to the Ruins of St. Paul's College)

This temple was built in 1888 and dedicated to Na Tcha in an attempt to halt the plague rampaging at the time. In contrast to buildings such as the Ruins of St. Paul's around it, the Na Tcha Temple is only a small structure, built with simple materials, but the use of a mixture of reality and illusion in its design manages to successfully create a sense of delicacy and exquisiteness.

Location: Beside the Ruins of St. Paul's
Opening hours: Na Tcha Temple - 08:00~17:00; Na Tcha Exhibition Room - 10:00~18:00, no admittance after 17:30 (closed on Wednesdays, open on public holidays)



25 Mount Fortress

Built between 1617 and 1626, the fortress occupies an area of around 10,000 square metres in the shape of a trapezium, and was the heart of the Macanese defence network. Originally the mount was used for over 300 years as an altar, but was converted into a fortress by the Portuguese. The fortress later became the official residence of the Governor of Macao, and then army barracks, a prison and an observatory. It now functions as the Macao Museum. This is a great place to come for panoramic views of the Ruins of St. Paul's and the whole of Macao.

Location: Praceta do Museu de Macau

Opening hours: Macao Museum - 10:00~18:00, no admittance after 17:30 (closed on Mondays, open on public holidays); Fortress and Garden - 07:00~19:00





26 Camões Square

The Square is located near Camões Garden, St. Anthony's Church and the Protestant Cemetery. The garden has much greenery and benches, and is a popular spot for locals seeking a breather.

27 Headquarters Building of the Orient Foundation (Former Casa Garden of the Camões Grotto)

Built in 1770 as the summer residence of the Portuguese aristocracy, politicians, and a wealthy merchant called Manuel Pereira consecutively, this house could be said to be the finest villa in Macao. It was later rented out to the English East India Company, and then converted to museum in the 1960s. It is now headquarters of the Oriental Foundation.

Location: Beside Camões Square

Opening hours: 10:00~19:00 (closed on Mondays)





28 Protestant Cemetery

Originally named the East India Company Cemetery, it was Macao's first protestant cemetery. Together with the site, a chapel was built in 1821. Hundreds are buried here, including officials from Britain, USA, Germany and the Netherlands. Perhaps the most famous inhabitant is the British artist, George Chinnery. It was renovated in 1922.



Location: Beside Casa Garden
Opening hours: 08:30~17:30

29 St. Anthony's Church

Built between 1558 and 1560, it is one of the three oldest churches in Macao. The church we see today is a 1930s reconstruction of the original, which was burnt down on the 22nd September 1874. Every year on that date, citizens process along the streets of Macao, carrying the image of St. Anthony, to commemorate this event. In the past, many Portuguese weddings were conducted at this church, giving rise to the Chinese name of Fa Vong Tong (Church of Flowers).

Location: Largo de Santo António
Opening hours: 06:30~18:00





30 Guia Fortress, Chapel of Our Lady of the Snows and Lighthouse

Guia Fortress was built in 1622 and is the highest point in Macao, with views of the whole peninsula. The fortress also contains Guia Lighthouse and the Chapel of Our Lady of the Snows. Built in 1622, this chapel contains colourful murals painted using a mixture of Chinese and Western techniques, and is unique amongst churches in the area.

Location: Top on Guia Hill
Opening hours: Chapel of Our Lady of the Snows - 10:00~17:00 (no photos);
Guia Fortress - 09:00~18:00, no admission after 17:30
Guia Lighthouse not open to the publc





The Historic Centre of Macao (Bus Schedule)

A-Ma Temple (Barra Temple)*, Barra Square	1,2,5,6B,10,11,16S,18,21A,26, 28B,55,60,61,65,71S,MT4,N3
Headquarters Building of the Marine and Water Bureau (Former Moorish Barracks)	18, 28B
Lilau Square, Mandarin's House	9, 16, 18, 28B
St. Lawrence's Church and forecourt*	9, 16,18, 28B
St. Joseph's Seminary Church, forecourt and staircase*	
St. Augustine's Square, Dom Pedro V Theatre	
St. Augustine's Church*	
Sir Robert Ho Tung Library Building	
Headquarters Building of the Municipal Affairs Bureau (Former Leal Senado Building)	
Senado Square	2, 3, 3A, 3X, 4, 5, 6A, 8A, 10, 10B, 11,
Sam Kai Vui Kun (Kuan Tai Temple)*	18, 18A, 19, 21A, 26A, 33, 101, N1A,
Headquarters Building of the Holy House of Mercy of Macao	N1B, N3
St. Dominic's Square	
St. Dominic's Church*	
Cathedral*, Cathedral Square	
Lou Kau Mansion	
Ruins of St. Paul's College (Former Mater Dei Church, forecourt and staircase)*	
Company of Jesus Square	
Old City Walls (Section at Calçada de S. Francisco Xavier)	
Na Tcha Temple (next to the Ruins of St. Paul's College)*	
Mount Fortress	
Camões Square	
Headquarters Building of the Orient Foundation (Former Casa Garden of the Camões Grotto)	8A, 17, 18, 18A, 18B, 19, 26
Protestant Cemetery*	
St. Anthony's Church and forecourt*	
Guia Fortress, Chapel of Our Lady of the Snows* and Lighthouse	2,2A,6A,12,17,18,18A,18B,19, 22,23,25,25B,32,56,H2

Recommended walking tours of the Historic Centre of Macao

Day 1:

Barra Square→A-Ma Temple (Barra Temple)→Headquarters Building of the Marine and Water Bureau (Former Moorish Barracks)→Lilau Square→Mandarin's House→St. Lawrence's Church and forecourt→St. Augustine's Square→Dom Pedro V Theatre→St. Joseph's Seminary Church, forecourt and staircase→Sir Robert Ho Tung Library Building→St. Augustine's Church

Day 2:

Headquarters Building of the Municipal Affairs Bureau (Former Leal Senado Building)→Sam Kai Vui Kun (Kuan Tai Temple)→Senado Square→Headquarters Building of the Holy House of Mercy of Macao→St. Dominic's Square→Cathedral→Cathedral Square→Lou Kau Mansion→St. Dominic's Church→Company of Jesus Square→Ruins of St. Paul's College (Former Mater Dei Church, forecourt and staircase)→Mount Fortress→Na Tcha Temple (next to the Ruins of St. Paul's College)→Old City Walls (Section at Calçada de S. Francisco Xavier)

Day 3:

St. Anthony's Church and forecourt→Camões Square→Headquarters Building of the Orient Foundation (Former Casa Garden of the Camões Grotto)→Protestant Cemetery→Guia Fortress, Chapel of Our Lady of the Snows and Lighthouse

Please note that all monuments marked* are places of religious worship.Your respect is appreciated.
Visitors ate requested to refrain from eating or drinking inside monument buildings.

For more details, please visit the website: www.wh.mo

Macao Government Tourism Office
www.macaotourism.gov.mo

Not for sale

All information is correct at the time of printing