

Bygone Days of Taipa Village



Strolling along the narrow streets and lanes of the lovely old district, you'll see a lot of historic buildings that offer you a glimpse of Macao's old time village life.

Attractions to explore:

1 | Leng Temple in Taipa

Built in the 26th year of Emperor Guangxu's reign (1900), I Leng Temple, also known as Ka Sin Tong, is adjacent to Kun lam Temple in Taipa and worships "I Leng" – the God of sacred doctors. The present idol in the Temple is the Emperor of Sacred Doctor, who is not confined to any ancient eminent physicians and pharmacists, but refers to general sacred doctors, including Hua Tuo, Sun Simiao, Bian Que, etc. While entering the Temple, you'll see an elegant wooden sliding door, which is rarely seen in Macao today.



2 Kun lam Temple in Taipa

The Temple was built around the 28th year of Emperor Guangxu's reign (1902), according to an engraved marble. In the Temple stands a tranquil and valuable Kun lam statue with burnished gold leaf. The statue has existed for over a century and was restored in 2004. Quoted from the *Buddhist Scriptures*, "Kun lam" literally means "let's listen to the miserable voice from this human world" and later becomes a popular doctrine of Chinese folk beliefs. Kun lam, also known as the Goddess of Mercy, is believed to have infinite wisdom and supernatural power that offer salvations for human suffering.



3 Museum of Taipa and Coloane History

Built in the late 19th century and formerly known as the Municipal Council of the Islands, the two-floor complex has passed through the governance of Municipal Commission of the Islands, the Municipal Council of the Islands and the Provisional Municipal Council of the Islands; and its role switched to preserving and promoting the history and culture of Taipa and Coloane in 2006. In this in-house exhibition, a collection of findings and relics uncovered from different archaeological excavations over the past years are displayed on the ground floor. You will sense the wisdom of the early inhabitants through the exhibits. After the visit, don't forget to taste authentic delicacies that local food stalls nearby offered and enjoy the picturesque view of this Museum in the backdrop of old Taipa village. Opening hours: 10:00 – 18:00, last admission until 17:30, closed on Mondays Admission: Free



4 Tin Hau Temple in Taipa

It's widely believed to be one of the oldest known temples on the island. There's no way to locate the exact year it was built, but should be no later than 1785. It is because of a historical trace found on the old bell of the temple, upon which the inscription "Made in the 50th year of Emperor Qianlong's reign (1785)" is crafted. The Temple is dedicated to Tin Hau (Heavenly Empress), popularly known as A-Ma, who can make prophecy in her mortal life and has the mythic power to save boats and drowning people from danger. It is apparent that the Goddess is much venerated by the fishing and trading population. It was originally a large and remarkable temple, where many precious relics such as old tablets, a bell and altars of incense were stored. In fact, only the Main Hall dedicating to Tin Hau remains in the temple today.



5 Pak Tai Temple in Taipa

As one of the remarkable temples in Taipa, Pak Tai Temple has a rich history stretching back to 160 years ago, according to a stele with carved inscription in the temple. A worship pavilion is set up for its followers to put tribute and offerings, which is rarely seen elsewhere on the island. In the old days, most of the population earned a living by fishing and thus they followed the precepts of Pak Tai, or literally known as the Northern Emperor, who is believed to have the divine power to withstand floods and fire, and hence the establishment of the temple. In celebration of Feast of Pak Tai on the 3rd day of the 3rd month in Lunar Calendar each year, performances of Chinese opera are usually held in a mat-shed in front of the Temple. Also you can rent a bike nearby and enjoy the tour in this old neighbourhood.



6 Rua do Cunha

It is a narrow but bustling pedestrian street in the heart of Taipa village. Walking on the street, you will see the original community of the Island and find countless famed old restaurants that offer plenty of traditional cuisines. This small maze of narrow lanes and alleys is always packed with tourists. The Street was turned into the first pedestrian zone in Macao in 1983. Since then, it becomes a popular place for shops selling desserts, almond biscuits, egg rolls, coconut flakes and peanut candies, some of which you can buy as souvenirs. Built in the early 19th century, the Old Market is now reincarnated as a local cultural hub that adds vibrancy to this neighbourhood – the interesting Taipa Flea Market sets up stalls every Sunday in the square, where you can find many pretty hand-made items. It's definitely an attraction that you can't afford missing.



7 Carmo Hall

Along the way up, you'll see many colonial houses painted in hues of yellow, blue, and green that tell you old stories of this neighbourhood – cultural home of Macanese. These beautiful two-storey buildings scatter throughout this vicinity. Formerly known as the General Electric Bureau of the Island, Carmo Hall was once the only public power plant to generate electricity for residents in Taipa. In 2007, it was converted to a multi-functional activity centre where cultural performances, recreational events, key-theme talks now occur on a regular basis.



8 Our Lady of Carmo Church

As a peaceful venue where Catholics can proceed with religious activities or put forward the mission of preaching, the Church stands on a hill overlooking scenic Taipa Village. It was first proposed by the commander and approved by Bishop D. Manuel Bernardo de Sousa Enes. Wrapped up in light-yellow stucco walls, this unique three-storey house came to a completion in 1885, becoming the sole Catholic Church in Taipa at that time. Romance always blossoms when one visits in this vicinity. Opposite to the official department for marriage registration, the Church has beyond doubt turned into an ideal backdrop for wedding photo shooting. Also its neighbouring lovely garden and some pavilions make it a perfect place for you to hang out.

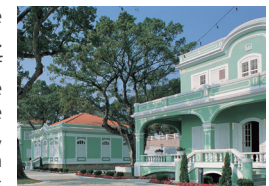


9 Taipa Houses

Taipa Houses were built in 1921 and once served as the residences of senior civil servants. Acclaimed as one of the top eight sites of Macao, it represents the charming Portuguese architectural style in Taipa, which consists of the Portuguese residences along Avenida da Praia, Our Lady of Carmo Church and the garden. In 1992, these five houses were acknowledged as a building complex of architectural value. Later, the government revamped the houses as a museum site and opened to the public since the end of 1999. In 2016, the buildings were re-capitalised and transformed into the "Macanese Living Museum", "Exhibitions Gallery", "Creative Casa", "Nostalgic House" and "House for Receptions" from west to east respectively. This makes Taipa Houses a leisure, culture and creativity landmark with the combination of featured exhibitions, outdoor performances and festive activities elements.

Opening hours: 10:00 – 19:00, last admission until 18:30, closed on Mondays
Admission: Free

* Opening hours of "Creative Casa": 10:00 – 19:00; "House for Receptions" is not open to public.





Restaurants and Eateries	
1. CRYSTAL PALACE SEAFOOD HOT POT	19. PANDA 金環美食
2. SERRDURA	20. 金環美食
3. CAFE FAT SIU LAU 3	21. PORTAL
4. HAAGEN DAZS	22. VING KEI
5. IPPINNIHONRYOURI	23. EL GAUCHO
6. MODERN THAI	24. GALO (KONG KAI)
7. CAFÉ LEON	25. STARBUCKS COFFEE
8. CAFÉ CHERI	26. KAFELAKU COFFEE
9. TAM CHAI YU CHUN	27. PORTUGUESA O SANTOS
10. TAI LEI LOI KEI	28. SEONG HOI CHAN CHAN CHOI KUN
11. A-TASCA DO LUÍS	29. SENG CHEONG
12. IN	30. FOK LAM KOI
13. ANTÓNIO	31. PUI KEI
14. CASA DE TAPAS	32. BITTER SWEET
15. SAN TOU TOU	33. CAFÉ CHONG SAM
16. SENG HENG TAM KAH	34. COZINHA PINÓCCHIO
17. CAFÉ NOVA KOKORO	35. MCDONALD'S
18. PASSIONE CAFÉ	