



澳門特別行政區政府旅遊局
DIRECÇÃO DOS SERVIÇOS DE TURISMO
MACAO GOVERNMENT TOURISM OFFICE

Complimentary Tour

Highlight Tour of Macao Heritage September 13, 2017 (09:00-12:00)

Tour itinerary:

Mount Fortress → Ruins of St. Paul's → Na Tcha Temple → Travessa da Paixão → Rua dos Ervanarios →
Heritage Exhibition of a Traditional Pawnshop Business → Senado Square

Mount Fortress

Built in conjunction with the Jesuits from 1617 to 1626, this was the city's principal military defence structure. The fortress was equipped with cannons, military barracks, wells and an arsenal that held sufficient ammunition and supplies to endure a siege lasting up to two years. The fortress covers an area of 10,000 square metres, in the shape of a trapezoid. The four corners of the fortress protrude to form bulwarks.



Ruins of St. Paul's

The Ruins of St. Paul's refer to the facade of what was originally the Church of Mater Dei built in 1602-1640, destroyed by fire in 1835, and the ruins of St. Paul's College, which stood adjacent to the Church. As a whole, the old Church of Mater Dei, St. Paul's College and Mount Fortress were all Jesuit constructions and formed what can be perceived as the Macao's "acropolis". Close by, the archaeological remains of the old College of St. Paul stand witness to what was the first western-style university in the Far East, with an elaborate academic programme. Nowadays, the facade of the Ruins of St. Paul's functions symbolically as an altar to the city.



[Na Tcha Temple](#)

Built in 1888, this temple is dedicated to the worship of Na Tcha. This small traditional Chinese temple stands close to the remains of the principal Jesuit enterprise of the region, presenting a dialectic of western and Chinese ideals, as one of the best examples of Macao's multicultural identity and religious freedom.



[Travessa da Paixão](#)

This small little lane looks no different than many other lanes found in Macau but its specialty lies in its name, Travessa da Paixão. The Portuguese word “Paixão” means passion and love. Originally it expresses catholic passion to the God but due to the mistranslation, Travessa da Paixão becomes Love Lane. Nowadays, the lane becomes an ideal place for dating, wedding photo shooting, as well as scene of some TV series and films. In line with the plans of further development of film industry, the government plans to build a stylized art cinema nearby to boost its surrounding cultural atmosphere. Walking on this small and narrow cobblestone lane does not only bring you romantic moments but also an illusion of being in Europe.



[Rua dos Ervanários](#)

During the reign of Emperor Kangxi of Qing dynasty, a branch of the Maritime Customs Service of Guangdong province, known as “Guan Bo Hang Toi” (Customs Service Branch), was set up in Macao within the proximity of today's Rua dos Ervanários. The Chinese community by then called the street running in front of it as “Guan Chin Kai” (the street in front of the Customs office). In 1849, the Macao Portuguese government pulled down the “Guan Bo Hang Toi” and announced the official name of the street in front of it as “Rua dos Ervanários”. But its Chinese transliteration remains as “Guan Chin Kai”.



Heritage Exhibition of a Traditional Pawnshop Business

"Tak Seng On" [The Virtue and Success Pawnshop] was established in 1917, and belonged, initially, to Mr. Kou Ho Ning a wealthy Macao merchant. The architectural design and layout, interior decor and equipment of this establishment would have been very similar to pawnshops in Mainland China at the time.

Today, this kind of pawnshop has been relegated to the annals of history, but as part of its mission to preserve the cultural heritage of Macao, the Cultural Institute of the Macao S.A.R. Government has restored "Tak Seng On" to its original condition. By visiting this historic premise, locals and tourists can glimpse the heyday of the pawn business in Macao.



Senado Square

Senado Square has been Macao's urban centre for centuries, and is still the most popular venue for public events and celebrations today. Located close to the former Senate building, Sam Kai Vui Kun (Kuan Tai Temple) is also a reminder of the active participation of the local Chinese community in general civic affairs, providing a clear example of the multicultural dimension of the Macao community. The square is surrounded by pastel coloured neo-classical buildings, creating a consistent and harmonious Mediterranean atmosphere.

