HONG KONG

The Hong Kong Jewish community is very strong and represents a diverse collective spread between two areas: Mid-Level and Kowloon. There is a Chabad, a Progressive (Reform) community (UJC), and two Orthodox communities in Mid-Level, as well as several communities and a Chabad in Kowloon. All of the communities host various young adult programming, which is open to study abroad students. Despite the community's strength and size, there are few options for Kosher food. There are, however, many opportunities for students to take leadership roles in the community, and the JCC provides KAHAL students with a special reduced membership rate. Connect with KAHAL to find your Jewish home in Hong Kong!

OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE

- Shabbat and holiday experiences
- Host families and housing
- Jewish Women’s Association
- Annual Jewish Film Festival
- Volunteer opportunities
- Jewish beer drinkers club, Jewish book club, and other groups
- One Kosher restaurant and store

www.KahalAbroad.org
SHABBAT AND HOLIDAYS

Chabad of Hong Kong: An Orthodox organization that welcomes Jews of all backgrounds. They hold daily, as well as Friday night, Saturday morning and Holiday services, and have free meals for students nearly every week—though they do charge for larger, more elaborate meals and social events. Chabad of Hong Kong has three locations around the city in Mid-Levels, Kowloon, and Lantau Island, each run by a different respective Rabbi and couple.

Ohel Leah Synagogue: An Orthodox community which holds daily, as well as Friday night, Saturday morning and Holiday services. An open and welcoming expat community, Ohel Leah is located in Mid Levels next adjacent to the JCC in the historic Ohel Leah synagogue. Ohel Leah hosts Friday night dinners every couple months for young professionals, which always feature an interesting speaker and gourmet food and are a favorite among KAHAL students. Each week, Ohel Leah hosts a free Shabbat kiddush/lunch, which is a great place to meet hundreds of local community members and young professionals. This warm, welcoming community also hosts many social, cultural, and tikkun olam events and activities and welcomes study abroad students’ participation.

Home Hospitality: There are many families that love hosting study abroad students in their home for Shabbat and Holiday meals. Contact KAHAL staff to be set up with a local family.
SHABBAT AND HOLIDAYS

**Shuva Israel:** An Orthodox-Sephardic community which holds daily, as well as Friday night and Holiday services. Shuva also occasionally will host communal meals, which are open to study abroad students and young professionals. Shuva is also unique in that they offer subsidized housing opportunities for those willing to learn Jewish texts with them for a specified number of hours per week—ask KAHAL for more information. Shuva’s Rabbi, Nathaniel, is also happy to learn Jewish texts with any students interested.

**UJC-Hong Kong:** A Progressive (Reform) community that holds weekly Friday night and Shabbat day services. The community also holds services and communal meals for High Holidays, as well as frequent social, cultural, and tikkun olam events and activities. The Rabbis are both American expats and love welcoming international students! UJC is located in Mid-Levels on Hong Kong Island.

"I spent my first Passover outside of the United States at Ohel Leah synagogue with 20 other students studying abroad in Hong Kong. Despite the fact that I was away from my family, I found a warm and fun family in the people I shared a seder with that night.

Ashley Grund
George Washington University
CULTURAL, SOCIAL, VOLUNTEER, AND MORE

Chabad of Hong Kong: An Orthodox organization that welcomes Jews of all backgrounds. They hold daily, as well as Friday night, Saturday morning and Holiday services, and have free meals for students nearly every week—though they do charge for larger, more elaborate meals and social events. Chabad has been known to host 2-3 social events for students and young professionals each semester, ranging from large Simchat Torah or Purim parties to mid-week dinners and classes. Chabad of Hong Kong has three locations around the city in Mid-Levels, Kowloon, and Lantau Island.

Hong Kong Holocaust and Tolerance Center: One of Hong Kong’s only official advocacy and social action organizations, the HKHTC works to bring awareness of the holocaust and other human rights issues to Hong Kong. The HKHTC invites many esteemed speakers to Hong Kong and holds official commemoration events across the year. Students interested in advocacy and human rights can intern or volunteer with the center, which is always looking for additional help.

Hong Kong Jewish Film Festival: An annual event which draws thousands of Jewish and non-Jewish participants from across the city, the HKJFF is one of the most popular Jewish film festivals in the world. Taking place in the fall, students can take part in the celebrations by attending films, participating in discussions, or volunteering with the festival organizers.
Hong Kong Jewish Women’s Association: A thriving group of female professionals in Hong Kong, the JWA offers mentorship, networking, and community building opportunities for students throughout the year. Additionally, the JWA is extremely involved in service and philanthropy, sponsoring the annual JWA Bazaar, which raises tens of thousands of dollars each year for charity.

Jewish Community Center of Hong Kong: At the heart of Hong Kong’s Jewish community is its sprawling, 8-story JCC. The JCC plays host to dozens of events each week, including cultural, social, and religious opportunities. Additionally, the JCC has recently begun offering study abroad students heavily discounted membership rates, giving students access to the kosher market, a gym, and other amenities for a low, fixed price per semester.

Ohel Leah Synagogue: An Orthodox community which holds daily, as well as Friday night, Saturday morning and Holiday services. An open and welcoming expat community, Ohel Leah is located in Mid Levels next adjacent to the JCC in the historic Ohel Leah synagogue. Ohel Leah’s young professional group hosts at least one Shabbat dinner per month, in addition to several social and cultural events each semester—ranging from discussion groups to local volunteering. Their events are posted in a private Facebook group—ask KAHAL staff to be added!

I was able to be Jewish my way, with people my own age and also enjoy the uniqueness of living in Hong Kong.”

Leo Brosh
University of Nottingham
CULTURAL, SOCIAL, VOLUNTEER, AND MORE

UJC-Hong Kong: A Progressive (Reform) community that holds weekly Friday night and Shabbat day services. The community also holds services and communal meals for High Holidays, as well as frequent social, cultural, and tikkun olam events and activities. Led by a young professional liaison (aka the Cantor), UJC is host to groups such as the Jewish Beer Drinkers Club, Jewish book clubs, social action clubs, and more! The Rabbis are both American expats and love welcoming international students! UJC is located in Mid-Levels on Hong Kong Island. Their events are posted in a private Facebook group—ask KAHAL staff to be added!

DIY Experience: KAHAL micro-grants are available to any Jewish student studying abroad to help facilitate your Jewish experience. Grants can be used to host your own Shabbat or Holiday meal, organize an event, attend a seminar or conference, or in some cases, as travel subsidies. Grants will be made in USD up to $250 through www.KahalAbroad.org/grantapp. Contact Becca@KahalAbroad.org with any questions or inquiries.

City Must Sees... LKF—Lan Kwai Fong is one of the most popular, and trendy nightlife districts in the world. Don’t leave HK without spending a few weekend nights there. Also, 70% of Hong Kong is covered in national parks—walk around and explore, you never know what you might find (but watch out for rogue animals). Finally, don’t miss the Tim Tau (Big) Bhudda, the Mon Kok Markets, or the famous ICC viewing platform!
KOSHER IN HONG KONG

Sabra Restaurant: (One Robinson Place, 70 Robinson Rd, Mid-level, Hong Kong): A kosher, meat restaurant in the Jewish Community Center building.

SevenZero: (One Robinson Place, 70 Robinson Rd, Mid-level, Hong Kong): A kosher, dairy restaurant in the Jewish Community Center building.

KosherMart (One Robinson Place, 70 Robinson Rd, Mid-level, Hong Kong): The JCC’s kosher market is a one-stop-shop for kosher meats, cheeses, wines, and more. KosherMart perfect place to get your favorite kosher treats from the US, Europe or Israel. Is fully stocked around Passover time, as well.

Mul Hayam (Wing On Plaza, 62 Mody Rd, Tsim Sha Tsui East, Hong Kong): A kosher, meat restaurant located in Kowloon Bay. A fusion of Israeli and Chinese cuisine, Mul Hayam is a favorite among locals and tourists alike.

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