

“Home in Hong Kong”

Hi Mom!

How are you? I miss you a lot, but I have to say that I’m loving travelling. Can you guess where I’m writing you from? I’ll give you a hint— it’s also known as the Pearl of the Orient.

That’s right! I’m in Hong Kong now. Can you believe it? Do you remember the date of the last time we all were in Hong Kong? I was trying to figure it out. I thought it was before my graduation, but the *dates* weren’t really matching up! It feels like all my memories are scrambled between the two trips we’ve gone to Hong Kong! Also, mom, you can stop telling me my Cantonese is bad. I’ve actually learned so much Cantonese so far, like how it has -9 (minus) tones!

Anyways, I have so much to tell you about my trip! I’ve been learning so much about Hong Kong history— it’s crazy. I had no clue about any of the history like the Treaty of Nanking during the First Opium War or Black Christmas during the Japanese occupation era.

Last Friday, I went to visit the Kowloon Walled City Park. The history of the Kowloon Walled City is pretty wild! Can you believe how people felt on the date when the British and Chinese government declared they were going to tear it down? I feel like it’s such a shame— there’s so much history behind the Walled City.

I’ve also been watching a lot of Hong Kong films, like *Ip Man 4*, *The Child’s Eye*, and *Cook Up A Storm*. I wanted to watch older Hong Kong films, but I think the release dates of all those movies are pretty recent.

My Cantonese has improved so much. I don’t use subtitles watching movies anymore! I’ve been listening to a lot of Cantonese music too. One of my favorite’s is Raymond Lam’s *Self-Portrait* album. You should listen to it! I can’t remember when the release date was, but I think it was a while ago.

I’ll be home soon! Maybe I’ll come surprise you at home. I’ll give you a hint on when I’ll be back: the month and the year doesn’t matter, but the date does. Can’t wait to see you again!

With love,
Natalie