

# *Wish list for the Asia's World City by anyone who is interested*

- A beautiful, traditional Chinese Gardens like those in Suzhou
- A better common sense on different things rather than just making money
- A big central park like in NYC
- A distinctive, recognizable and resonant visual identity in art, design, and fashion
- A good bagel shop
- A good mix of old and new architecture
- A good outdoor music festival
- A local art magazine with international perspective
- A local movie magazine with international perspective
- A more balanced governmental perspective not only focusing on economic growth but that can also see the value, which proactively supports a rich and diverse local cultural industry
- A museum culture that's really inspiring but not this bureaucracy-minded shove.
- A non-smoking city in Asia
- A platform for researching, studying and exhibiting Asian cultures
- A population reading good books, not just newspaper and magazines
- A proper visual arts university
- A public art gallery with a curatorial program to show the most cutting edge contemporary local and international work
- A real national park with rangers preventing people from harming wildlife
- A single, cohesive, simple-interface, bilingual listings website with all art/culture event information –plus easy-to-access maps, guides, forums, etc.
- A stop to car-centred urban planning
- A well equipped central library and laboratories for taking up research projects and lifelong education
- A town square where people will gather and enjoy outdoor activities
- Academic freedom
- Accountable politicians
- Active surrenderings (tribute to Jeanette Winterson)
- Aesthetic education
- Affordable housing for low-income people including artists, musicians, poets and martial artists, etc.
- All the past, the present and the future visible in the city
- An all female police force
- An efficient, cheap and environment-friendly transport system
- An end to civil servant run museums
- An end to trailer fishing
- An expressive environment
- An independent public-funded Visual Arts Academy.
- An interest in art
- An ocean that we can swim in and air we can breathe
- An opera house
- Artificial nature
- Artist in residency programs
- Ban on all Styrofoam lunch boxes
- Being a normal city
- Better harbour protection
- Better Mandarin language training
- Better welfare benefit
- Bicycle lanes in the city
- Big warehouse-type supermarkets

- Brands founded by Hongkongers
- Bureaucrats that do not kowtow to China (or what they think China wants)!
- Cancellation of the sycophantic Bauhinia Medal system
- Career opportunities not only for painters but artists of all art forms
- Cheaper Lychee Martinis
- Clean air and unpolluted bodies of water
- Clean and ecological toilet
- Close of the Urban Renewal Authority
- Colours and creativities
- Comprehensive social welfare system
- Compulsory architecture courses for all real estate developers
- Compulsory pay for plastic bags
- Compulsory recycling programmes, particularly for glass
- Conservation and preservation of historical sites, villages and farm fields
- Control and regulation of the carbon emission from the Pearl River Delta
- Cultural diversity
- Culture
- Curious minds
- De-bureaucratization
- Decent English bookshops
- Decent public sculpture
- Decolonization
- Democracy
- Easier connections including cheaper flights to West and South Asia (India)
- Easy access to the harbour which has to be enhanced
- Education that encourages creative thinking - throughout primary and secondary level
- English reinstated in schools as the common language of the world's business
- Fewer slogans
- Flea market
- Free from the Chinese Government's control
- Free of MSG and promotion of organic food
- Free university education
- Freedom
- Gardens on rooftops-- especially public ones
- Good bands
- Good Chinese newspaper
- Good literary skills
- Good museum bookshop
- Government-funded-cultural-led creative industries
- Grants for artist and curators from and to all over the world
- Great cartoon strips in the English newspapers e.g. Tumbleweeds and The Wizard of Id!!!
- Greater environmental consciousness
- Green parks and open public spaces for dogs and children
- Grit
- Hakka museum
- Heritage management model
- Hong Kong New New Wave Cinema
- Housing estates that have grass and trees
- Improvement in education system
- International art biennial
- International contemporary-only visual art fair
- Investment in capital projects that build the infrastructure for technology development instead of Disneyland, only a theme park of very low service industries.
- Jealousy free zones
- Keep our old urban areas old and let them organically develop
- Keeping the judicial system strong and just.
- Keeping the old tradition alive within the city
- Legislation on “fair trade”, sex education and human rights issues
- Less administrative-driven policies in different kinds and levels of institutions
- Less construction and less digging of cables on the streets
- Less gossip magazines
- Less inflated housing/rental cost.
- Less internet/media control and self-censorship
- Less mobile phone talk in public places

- Less nationalistic doctrine
- Less public relation
- Lively street cultures
- Local collectors for Hong Kong art
- Lots and lots of benches, everywhere, without partitions
- Low costs round trip flights to and from Hong Kong
- Maintaining low crime rate with better-paid policemen who are not prone to corruption
- Mature and intelligent public administrators/politicians
- Media of better quality
- Minimalist government (just doing what essential)
- Minimum wage
- Mobile hot dog booths
- More arts-and-culture links with Southeast Asia (Thailand, Vietnam, Cambodia, Indonesia)
- More cinemas showing art house films
- More curators
- More diverse economic development rather than stock market game
- More education on not dumping clothes every season
- More English: a Master of Fine Arts program in Writing at the universities
- More funds for liberal arts education
- More independent artspaces in neighbourhoods
- More innocent mischief
- More international news in local newspapers
- More local contemporary artists' works shown
- More local history education
- More love
- More Mexican restaurants
- More mix of immigrants from all over the world
- More of a place where is adequate time for history and memory, rather than a site for transients.
- More pedestrian-only areas
- More professional and international standard film stars and singers
- More programs for students to travel abroad to widen their horizons
- More progressive experimental art making than profit-driven art practice
- More public spaces
- More respect for others' privacy
- More salads & community gardens
- More schools that promote creative and lateral thinking
- More statistic and research for arts/social aspects
- More teenage rebels in terms of ideas and creativity, not just fashion
- More types of curators
- More vegetarian restaurants (for Buddhism and Hinduism are major philosophical /religious traditions in Asia).
- Muffled but glowing mornings
- Multiculturalism that can transcend racism
- Museum of contemporary art
- No air conditioner in winter, and reduced use in summer
- No calling ourselves 'cultural wasteland'
- No discrimination against people from South East Asia or anyone whose complexion is darker than Chinese
- No earning money for earning more money
- No gossips and rumors that some simply use as a sport to discredit honorable individuals
- No more art with stupid Chinese laughing faces
- No more big white elephants
- No more East-meet-West cliché
- No more gender, racial and sexual discrimination
- No more high rises especially in already congested areas
- No more highways and shopping malls
- No more signs telling us what to do such as "this park is NON SMOKING!"
- No more TV soap operas
- No nationality as majority
- No one pushing each other while walking on the street
- No unemployment
- Not only functional but stylish public facilities
- Open and free minds

- Parks that have grass
- Pensions for the elderly to really live on
- People-first urban planning
- Permanent and lively Stanley market
- Places to sit in public
- Polite taxi drivers
- Political action on environmental protection
- Pride in Cantonese language and culture (plus better support system for foreigners learning Cantonese)
- Promoting a culture of philanthropy especially to support the arts
- Proper waste disposal into our waters to save our marine life
- Public space that really allows people to interact
- Quality art exhibitions
- Quality gigs on the streets
- Quality healthcare for all and paying government medical practitioners competitive salaries so they remain to serve the public
- Quality museums
- Rational debate
- Real home-ownership
- Real lawn for people to sit on
- Rebuilding old architectures just like the ones in the good old days
- Reclaiming our public space
- Recycling construction materials
- Reduce school children's homework
- Requiring planting more trees in all new property developments and their surrounding
- Respect and space for animals and plants
- Respect for the poor, marginal and minority groups
- Revolutionists (in different aspects)
- Rich arts and culture
- Save the street markets, and enhance with sidewalk cha-chantengs, fusing the Parisian arcade with HK market culture!
- Saving electricity at night
- Self-criticism
- Self-discipline
- Sidewalk cafes
- Simpler admission procedures for would-be migrants
- Slow living
- Smart and attractive architectural and urban design, particularly on waterfronts
- Snow
- Social and personal responsibilities to the elderly and children
- Space for Eros and diverse desire
- Speaking foreign languages
- Stability and prosperous growth of economy
- Stop tall buildings blocking the view to Lion Rock
- Street hawkers
- Stronger protests
- Sunsets in the east
- Sustained funding of cultural bodies
- Taxi drivers able to understand tourists in English
- The Clock Tower
- The pedestrian crossing in front of Peninsula Hotel restored so the public is not treated like rats that must go underground to get to the other side of the road and the Harbourfront!
- True blue sky
- Universal suffrage
- University admittance for all pass grades
- Values that are less money-oriented
- Wet markets permanent in Central
- Working hard playing hard
- World renowned home-grown Hong Kong-based fashion designer
- World-class galleries
- Yin-Yan' instead of 'Starbuck'

*In February 2008, sixty-six people responded by email to the call for making wishes for the Asia's World City. They were compiled as you see here and among them twelve were selected as “unaccomplished wishes” appearing on the Asia's World City banners along Hollywood Road. Make your wish and comment at <http://www.studiobbq.blogspot.com/>*