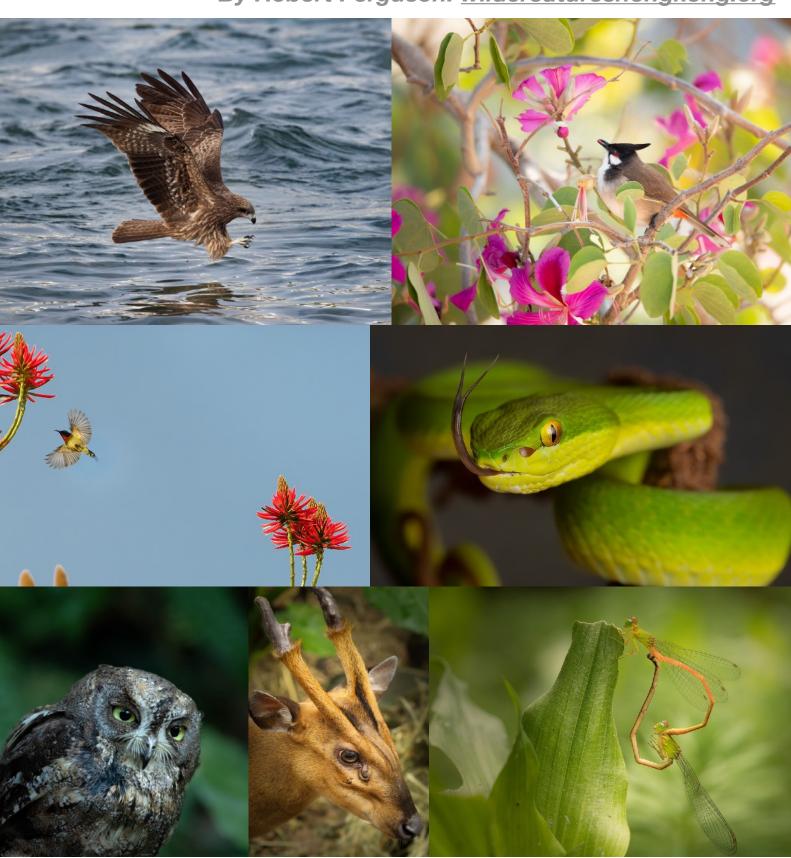
The Guide to Nature Guides of Hong Kong

Discover more about nature in Hong Kong

By Robert Ferguson. wildcreatureshongkong.org



Look, find, discover, learn, love protect

Hong Kong was once home to exotic mammals, including tigers, leopards, pangolin, and other large and wonderful creatures, and it provides the base for our nature walks, and our eternal hunt to find the best of Hong Kong's wildlife. There is still a way to go for wildlife education and promotion in Hong Kong, although there is a growing movement to protect the beauty of our natural environment and the animals that we live with. We want to be part of this ecological movement and celebrate Hong Kong's abundant natural world, and it seems natural that we should showcase the people and organisations who have a leading role in this.

TO GUIDE: A wildlife **guide** is a person who leads us, and will impart a deeper understanding of the local **wildlife** and its ecological needs, which may give visitors a more informed base on which to subsequently modify their behaviour. By looking and interacting more closely with nature we can learn more, and with that comes understanding and love, and a desire to protect our natural environment. "In the end we will conserve only what we love; we will love what we understand; and we will understand only what we are taught" (Baba Dioum, 1968)



Why a Guide?

My wildlife walks and experiences are always deeply enriched by having a guide with me, as they are key to the element of "discovery" which makes nature tourism so fulfilling, and leaves us so full of wonder. These experts can share awe inspiring tales, and fascinating facts about the creatures around us, and are at the forefront of protecting those without a voice; so I began to compile a list of individuals, organisations, and places that offer some of the best experiences that Hong Kong has to offer.

The Guide

I sent 9 questions to all the organisations and individuals I could find who qualify as nature orientated guides or organisations. If they replied I included this information. Where I have personal experience of the tour I have mentioned this; otherwise caveat emptor applies, and you should do your own research. Please do let me have feedback good, or bad, to be included in future updates.

This guide is free to download, share, and use; Please mention the guide when contacting any organisation listed here.

If you like the guide, and use it, please think of making a donation either by going to https://www.wildcreatureshongkong.info/donate or making an EPS transfer (contact me at info@wildcreatures.org) - or perhaps you/your company would like to sponsor future issues?

Wildcreatures Hong Kong (and some self promotion)

I have been writing a daily blog about wildlife and nature in Hong Kong since early 2018; You can follow this on Facebook, **Wildcreatures Hong Kong** or join the many growing subscribers who prefer a daily e-mail. Simply go to www.wildcreatureshongkong.org and sign up.

In early 2020 I published a 100 species ID guide to some of most common and interesting creatures that you are most likely to see on your hikes and walks.

WILDCREATURES IN HONG KONG BOOKLET.

A fun, 30page photo guide to many of the common wild creatures in Hong Kong. With over 100+ species identified, fun facts and observations, a great companion for your hikes and walks. Sections on birds, mammals, amphibians, reptiles, butterflies, dragonflies, and other insects and arthropods that we can see all around us.

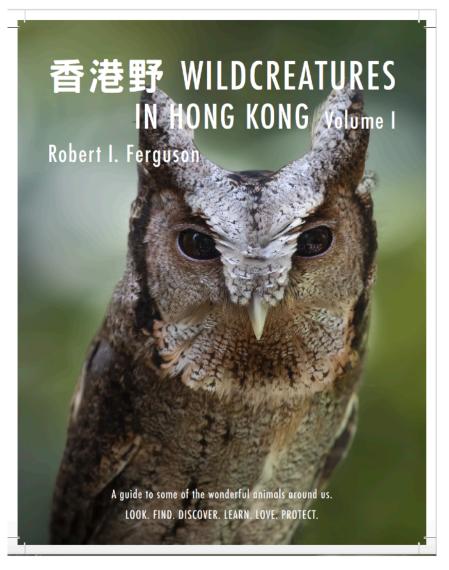
One copy, posted locally: HK\$95.00

For orders above this amount, please contact me directly, and sponsorships are available, with additional pages and separate print runs.

For payment and postal orders go to https://www.wildcreatureshongkong.info/donate

Select number of copies, and make payment via PayPal. Send a copy of payment along with your address to info@wildcreatures.org.

Other options, and any other questions please contact me, info@wildcreatures.org



Are you ready for a wildlife adventure in Hong Kong?

Company name: A-Team Edventures

Speciality: outdoor education, family camps, kayaking, surfing **Website:** ateamedventures.com **Facebook address:** https://

www.facebook.com/ ateamedventures/

Contact details: phone: 2560 8838

email: info@ateamedventures.com

What is your key focus: Nature ******. Wildlife ***. Walking/Hiking. Adventure *****

Do you cater for families/children? We cater largely to kids for outdoor education, university students for leadership camps, Kids and families for family camps, kids for surf camps. We run corporate programs for leadership training. Tourists, usually adults, come along for the kayak trips.

Is this English or Chinese language or both? English is the primary medium of instruction, we do have Chinese guides for family, surf or kids camps, and kayak trips.

Describe/promote your organisation in 100 words:

A-Team Edventures seeks to connect you to the natural world, using outdoor activity as the vehicle to get you into nature with hands-on immersive experiences. Whether surfing, kayaking, camping or seeking life in the intertidal zone, there is always something interesting going on at A-Team's camps and activities!

Best dates of the year and times of the day

The summer months are good for our outdoor adventure camps with kids, while spring and fall are great for our school outdoor education programs. Many people think that summer time is the best time for kayaking, but January is usually the ideal month to be on the water - the skies are blue, the weather is warm for exercising and the nights are great to spend by a campfire! Family camps can happen anytime the whole family is ready to get out into nature.

Typical and example pricing: Our kayak day trips and camps all start at HK\$900/person/day, with discounts for groups.

Are you Eco-Friendly? How? One sentence. We aim to lead by example and try to educate our participants about how they can effect change in their own lives.

Company name: Blue Sky Sports Club

Speciality: Come and join us for exciting water sports & activities in Sai Kung. **Facebook address:** Blue Sky sports club Contact details: phone: 2791 0806

Notes: No reply to email, but operational.

You can also go to the beach in Sai Kung where there are many canoes, kayaks, paddle boards

and windsurf boards to rent. Its a great day out to paddle to some of the closest islands offshore, with sand bars and lots of interesting sea creatures.





Company name: Adventure Tours

Website: https://www.adventuretours.hk/index.shtml Notes: Not currently operational, but watch this space.

Company name: Caritas Chan Chun Ha Field Studies Centre.

Website: https://caritasfsc.edu.hk/en/. info@caritasfsc.edu.hk. TEL+852 2981 1899 **Caritas Chan Chun Ha Field Studies** Centre was established by Hong Kong Caritas at 1996. It is a field-study center run as an aided secondary school. We provide appropriate opportunities and facilities for students to study field study techniques and have a better understanding about the environment. Our learning centre has a mission to promote the understanding of environment about teenagers and have an understating and actualization about sustainable development. **Notes:** No reply to email, but operational.

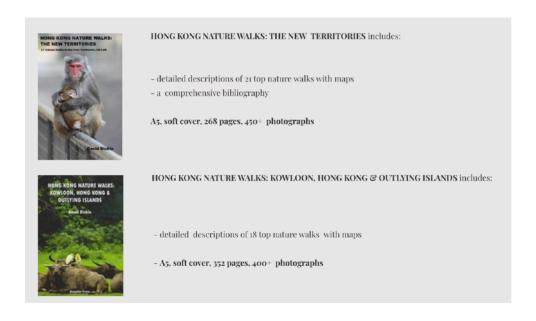
Company name: David Diskin

Speciality: Guided Birding tours in Hong Kong.

Facebook address: https://www.birdinghongkong.com/ and WWW.HKNATUREWALKS.COM

Contact details: dadiskin@netvigator.com

From David "I am an experienced bird guide and offer full day and half day tours to the key birding spots in the New Territories. Day tours usually take in Tai Po Kau or Shek Kong (forest birds), Mai Po (herons, waders & other water birds) & Long Valley (open-country & marshland birds), and perhaps one or two other sites en route between these locations. Half-day tours focus on either Tai Po Kau or Mai Po. Itineraries can be varied to cater for the specific interests of individual clients". Wildcreature Notes: I have gone on a guided tour with David, and managed to see and photograph so many birds that I named him the "bird whisperer". You can read about my trip with him at these links: TaiPoKau nature walk and birdwatching with David Diskin - Click here (Pt 1) Click here (Pt 2)



David has written two excellent must have nature walk books on Hong Kong. Order them here: https://www.birdinghongkong.com/hong-kong-nature-walks.html

Company name: Discover Hong Kong

Speciality: Tourism board website, with some useful and interesting information on hikes and places to see. Well worth a look, especially for the sections on Nature parks and City parks.

Great Outdoors Hong Kong 2019-2020

https://www.discoverhongkong.com/us/see-do/great-outdoors/great-outdoors-hong-kong.jsp for example check out the Lau Shui Heung to Fung Yuen hike.

https://www.discoverhongkong.com/us/see-do/great-outdoors/hikes/lau-shui-heung-to-fungyuen.jsp

Notes: No reply to email.

Company name: Encompass HK

Speciality: Bespoke eco-tours and biodiversity talks

Website and/or Facebook

address: www.encompasshk.com. Facebook: EncompassHKAsia

Contact details: Benita Chick Phone:

3686 0790

email: contact@encompasshk.com

Key focus: Nature 6 Wildlife 4 Walking/

Hiking 3. Adventure 2

Do vou cater for families/children? Yes I cater for families and children.

Is this English or Chinese language or both? Both

Describe/promote your organisation:

Encompass HK is a HK-based social enterprise promoting the Sustainable Development Goals. Other than our experiential-learning workshops such as sustainable coffee and biodynamic wine. we run bespoke eco-tours with our expert wildlife guides to promote SDG 14 Life Below Water, SDG 15 Life on Land, with locations ranging from Hoi Ha marine park, Nine Pin islands, Tung Ping Chau, Mui Wo, Yim Tin Tsai and Lai Chi Wo. Our bilingual tours have different elements including wildlife identification, Hakka dumpling lessons, farm-to-table experience, composting, snorkelling and cater for wide range of abilities and needs.

Best dates of the year and times of the day. Year round with weather permitting

Typical and example pricing A half day trip will be around \$200 and a full day trip \$400-\$500 including lunch

Are you Eco-Friendly? Yes. We do not allow single-use plastics in our trips.













Company name: Eco Association

Speciality: Pink Dolphin Watching and Conservation

Website and/or Facebook address: https://www.eco.org.hk Facebook address: https://www.eco.org.hk. <a href="https://www.eco.org

What is your key focus Nature: 7 Wildlife: 7 Walking/Hiking: 1 Adventure:

Do you cater for families/children? Yes Is this English or Chinese language or both? Both Describe/promote your organisation in 100 words: Eco Association is a green non-profit organisation in Hong Kong. We are nature lovers, especially for dolphins and whales. Our goal is simple "experience nature". We often conduct Pink Dolphin Tours with Conservation for schools, children, families and corporates with a 98% high sighting rate. We have worked for more than 1,000 schools, organisations and companies for the past 20 years. Our mission is mainly in ecoeducation, outdoor activities and nature conservation. We also have different out-door activities and school field trips includes mangroves, wetlands, migratory birds, corals, geology, heritage travel. Our vision is to promote the diversification of the ecological environment. We believe that human and nature can be friendly to each other. Hong Kong can become a green modern city and we can live in harmony with nature. We hope participants in the process of inspection, observation and understanding the dolphins and to ignite the fire in your hearts to protect and

treasure the environment, and then infected with other people around, as part of environmental protection, and let the green spirit of the generations continues.

Best dates of the year and times of the day: Dolphin tours are good all year round

Typical and example pricing: \$250-\$400 (Depends the date and the type of vessel)

Are you Eco-Friendly? Yes, we promote bring your own water bottles and tableware.

Wildcreature Notes: I have been on a wonderful day trip with Thomas. See my report here: - <u>Click here</u>



Company name: **Ecobus**

Ecobus is a not-for-profit organization for environmental education. Our core philosophy is "Enjoy, Care & Share". Through feeling joyful from different outdoor and environmental education activities, we hope to build up the friendship between human and the nature. Our mission is to help younger generations to cultivate a positive attitude towards the environment.

Contact: (852) 51739558. Email: info@ecobus.org.hk. Website: http://ecobus.org.hk

Notes: No reply to email.

Company name: Fung Yuen Butterfly Reserve

Speciality: Fung Yuen is situated about 2 kilometers from Tai Po Town Centre, it is a renowned area for appreciating butterflies in Hong Kong and Asia. 150, Fung Yuen Road, Tai Po, N.T.

Website and/or Facebook address/Contact details: https://fungyuen.org/en/.

(852) 3111-7344. fungyuenbutterfly@gmail.com

Notes: No reply to email, but operational.



Company name: Green Hub

Speciality: Heritage site education centre demonstrating how we can live sustainably while respecting nature and each other.

TEL: +852 2996 2800. WEBSITE: greenhub.hk. 11 Wan Tau Kok Lane, Tai Po, NT

Notes: No reply to email, but operational.

Company name: Green Power

Speciality: Green Power Hike, and some guided tours. Shaluodong Guided Tour-Day and night guided tours- Target: School, group or company

Website and/or Facebook address: https://www.greenpower.org.hk/html5/eng/index.shtml

Is this English or Chinese: Mainly Chinese.

Notes: No reply to email, but operational.

Company name: Green Sense

Speciality: Urban Environmental Issues, Education & Ecotour

Website and/or Facebook address: http://greensense.org.hk/, https://www.facebook.com/

<u>hkgreensense</u>

Contact details: Mr. Jan Lai +852 8100 4877, info@greensense.org.hk

Nature ****. Wildlife ****. Walking/Hiking *****. Adventure *

Do you cater for families/children (only)? All are welcome

Is this English or Chinese language or both? Both Chinese and English.

Describe/promote your organisation in 100 words: Green Sense, established in 2004 and registered as Charitable Institutions in 2010. We aim to point out the non-environmental friendly practice in society through research and monitoring. We enhance the environmental consciousness by education and publicity, in order to ultimately achieve an environmental friendly society, for the sake of our next generation. Environmental education is our main focus in recent years, activities for schools, companies and the community can bring us together for greener living.

Best dates of the year and times of the day: November, depends on tidal schedule for coastal routes. Typical and example pricing \$2000 each tour for max. 20 people http://greensense.org.hk/ecotour (Chinese pages only)

Are you Eco-Friendly? Yes, our team bring our own containers for takeaway.

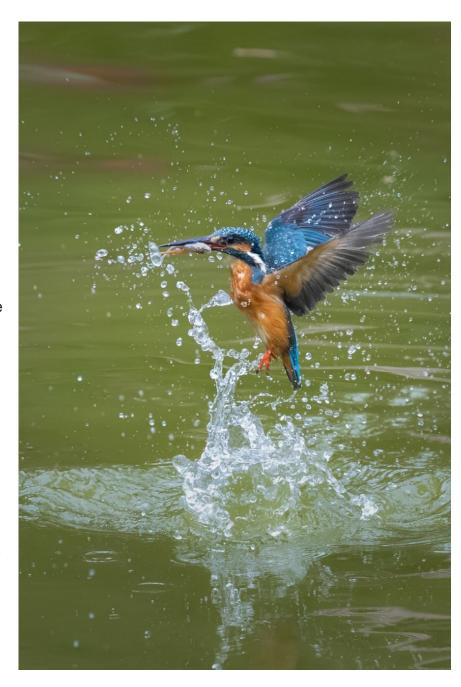
Company name: Hong

Kong Birdwatching Society

Speciality: The Hong Kong Bird Watching Society is committed to education, scientific research, habitat management and conservation policy initiatives, inspiring and encouraging the public to appreciate and protect wild birds and their habitats together.

Website and/or Facebook address: https://www.hkbws.org.hk/ Email: info@hkbws.org.hk. Phone: +852 2377 4387 7C, V Ga Building, 532 Castle Peak Road, Lai Chi Kok, Kowloon, Hong Kong.

Wildcreature Notes: This group does a huge amount of great work to help people with their birding passion, or for newbies who are looking for ID or other help. Do visit their website, and sign up to go on one of their birding introductory tours.



Company name: Hong Kong Children's

Discovery Museum

Speciality: Hands-on, interactive, educational playscape for families

Website and/or Facebook address. <u>www.childrensdiscoverymuseum.hk</u> <u>www.facebook.com/hkcdm.official www.instagram.com/hkcdm</u>

Contact details: Call or WhatsApp: 9845 5272 info@childrensdiscoverymuseum.hk

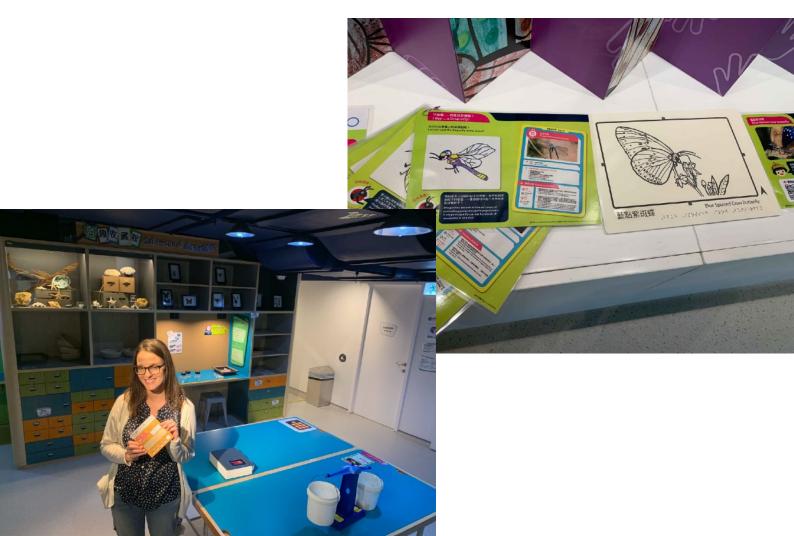
1/F, China United Centre, 28 Marble Road, North Point, Hong Kong

Do you cater for families/children? Families, kindergarten, Primary School, NGOs Is this English or Chinese language or both? Both

Describe/promote your organisation: Hong Kong Children's Discovery Museum ("CDM") is the city's first museum dedicated to child-led learning through play. As a venue for families and school groups to explore, create, and express themselves together, CDM showcases over 40 hands-on interactive exhibits that uniquely reflect the city's people and culture. Exhibits incorporate content in the areas of language and literacy, S.T.E.A.M (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math), culture, and environmental awareness/stewardship. As a Section 88 charitable organization, everyone from 0 to 100 years old are encouraged to join in the play! **Best dates of the year and times of the day**: All year round!

Typical and example pricing: Admission pricing is charged per person to experience CDM for 1.5 hours. Please our website for the latest pricing.

Are you Eco-Friendly? We strive to be eco-friendly, by recycling our materials and always pushing ourselves to create new exhibits by using existing materials. Staff have also started a friendly competition to see who can use use the least amount of take out containers! **Wildcreatures note:** I was involved in providing photographs for one of their museum-wide special exhibit theme "AMAZING BUGS" which was simply fantastic. They even turned some of my photos into braille - had to be touched to be believed, just wonderful.



Company name: Hong Kong Dolphinwatch

Speciality: taking people on eco-boat tours to watch the wild, pink Chinese White Dolphins in Hong Kong. Ecological tours to see wild, native, Indo-Pacific humpback pink Chinese White Dolphins since 1995 with go-again guarantee

Website and/or Facebook address: https://www.facebook.com/Hong-Kong-Dolphinwatch-97790380763/ Contact details: TEL: +852 2984 1414 1528A Star House, 3 Salisbury Road, Tsim Sha Tsui, Kowloon. info@hkdolphinwatch.com

What is your key focus?- nature and wildlife



Do you cater for families/children? Our boat tours are suitable for people of all walks of life and ages. We have individuals, families, schools and groups joining us.

Is this English or Chinese language or both? Both, our colleagues are fluent in English, Cantonese, Putonghua and Japanese

Describe/promote your organisation: We run educational and fun boat tours on Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays throughout the year! Our colleagues are knowledgeable and passionate about the dolphins, they will give detailed presentation on the animals and we offer information package to everyone. Our sighting rate is about 97% of our trips, one of the world highest, if not the highest. And we offer free go-again if no sighting.

Hong Kong Dolphinwatch has been running trips to see the Chinese White Dolphins (Sousa chinensis) since 1995 with the aim of raising awareness about the pink dolphins in the wild in Hong Kong waters. The dolphins are threatened by the changes brought about by the rapid economic development in the Pearl River Delta region, and their future remains uncertain. We emphasise responsible ecotourism, and follow a code of conduct to minimise disturbance to the dolphins.

Company name: Hong Kong Firefly Museum

Hong Kong Firefly Museum. 23 Tai Lang Village, Sai Ma Wan Peninsula, Lantau Island, Hong Kong. Tel: 3488 6100 email: info@hongkongfirefly.org www.hongkongfirefly.org

Speciality: The Firefly Conservation Foundation is the first organization in Hong Kong to promote the conservation of fireflies and the implementation of firefly rehabilitation. We have set up the "Hongkong Firefly Pavilion" in South Lantau. Through exhibition boards, interactive games, microscopes, ecological boxes, lectures and work Fang, etc., let the public increase their understanding of fireflies and understand the importance and influence of fireflies on the environment.

Notes: No reply to email.

Company name: Hong Kong Explorer's

Initiative

Speciality: Watch this space.

Company name: HK Maritime Museum

https://www.hkmaritimemuseum.org/

Some great environmental exhibitions at the Hong Kong Maritime Museum described as "the perfect balance between educational and just straight up exciting".

Notes: No reply to email, but operational.

Company name: HK Outdoors aka Martin

Williams

Speciality: birds, hiking, photography

Website and/or Facebook address. www.drmartinwilliams.com

Contact details: key contact: Martin Williams, t 96201824 martin@drmartinwilliams.com

What is your key focus

Nature 5*. Wildlife 5*. Walking/Hiking 5*. Adventure

Do you cater for families/children? Yes

Describe/promote your organisation in 100 words: Writer and photographer, with long experience in leading birding and hiking tours in Hong Kong, also educational outings for school groups, talks in schools.

Best dates of the year and times of the day For birds, best from around September to May. Hiking is toughest in summer heat.

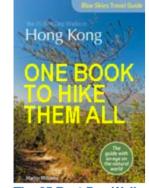
Typical and example pricing Around HK\$2800/day fee, plus transport etc.

Are you Eco-Friendly? I spend considerable time and effort advocating for nature conservation, don't have a car so tours usually via public transport.

Wildcreatures note: Martin is a tireless advocate for nature and wildlife in Hong Kong. You have probably read one of his excellent articles in the SCMP, and check out his books at the end. Hong Kong Outdoors was founded by writer, photographer and wildlife enthusiast Dr Martin Williams, to celebrate this many-splendoured place: as well as enjoying the city, you can discover rugged hills, hiking trails criss-crossing country parks, an internationally renowned wetland, waterfalls in secluded ravines, fine places to eat in gorgeous surroundings, islands set in the South China Sea. I have been on a bird watching day with Martin, and it was brilliant; highly recommended.read the story here - Click here



Martin has written a number of articles, and this great book about hiking in Hong Kong. Make sure you get a copy.



The 25 Best Day Walks in Hong Kong by HK Outdoors founder Martin Williams



Company name: Hong Kong Snakes Safari

Speciality: Unique wildlife night tours

Website and/or Facebook address: Hong Kong Snakes

Contact details: williamsargent@moontrekker.com

What is your key focus

Nature: ****. Wildlife *****. Walking/Hiking: ** Adventure: ***

Do you cater for families/children ? Children above 8 **Is this English or Chinese language or both**? (both)

Describe/promote your organisation:

Hong Kong's only snake focused wildlife hiking tours. Often overlooked, Hong Kong has an amazing diversity of wildlife, including over 40 different species of snakes. We host small groups for night safaris into country parks to search out snakes in their natural habitat – a fun, safe and



totally unique wildlife experience. Set up by William Sargent, a long-term Hong Kong resident with over 30 years of snake handling experience in Hong Kong, wildlife enthusiast and snake catcher for the for the Hong Kong Police. Suitable for anyone interested local wildlife and can comfortably slow hike 2-3km at night. Group size is limited to under 10.

Best dates of the year and times of the day - May to September

Typical and example pricing - 380per adult/200 per child

Are you Eco-Friendly? How? One sentence. - We aim to educate folks and dispel many of the negative myths surrounding these fascinating creatures.

Wildcreatures Note: William is a first rate educator and communicator and his tours are brilliant; expect excited squeals, laughter and delight, and I keep telling him to put his prices up. You can read about my tour with William - <u>Click here</u>

PS: Watch this space for Wildcreatures teaming up with Snakes Safari for photo days!

Company name: **HKTraveler**

Website and/or Facebook address: www.hktraveler.com

Contact details: Miss Lorraine Lee, 2116 0641, lorraine@hktraveler.com

What is your key focus

5 Nature 4 Wildlife 4 Walking/Hiking. 3 Adventure

Do you cater for families/children? Yes

Is this English or Chinese language or both? Mainly Cantonese

Describe/promote your organisation in 100 words:

HKTraveler was established as a hiking website in 2000, and has gradually developed its business as comprehensive nature education programmes and local eco-tours to students, teachers, communities, cooperates, public,

HKSAR government and all. Hong Kong Ecotourism & Travels Professional Training Centre is subsidiary to HKTraveler. It is believed that appreciation and knowledge in nature could bring attitude and behavioural change in humans, to achieve the goal of preserving nature.

The range of services diversifies from themes of ecology, geology, organic farming, indigenous cultural practices, and rural revitalization etc. Collaborations on customised programs are welcome.

Best dates of the year and times of the day Variable.

Typical and example pricing Variable.

Are you Eco-Friendly? With the motto of "Enjoy the nature, return to the nature" 樂在自然,回饋自然, we respect the nature by providing education services and implement daily practices.

Company name: Hong Kong Wetland Park

https://www.wetlandpark.gov.hk/en. Out at Tin Shui Wai, this is a great place to visit, and I have been many times. You can get close to a great array of dragonflies and butterflies, and some birds too. It is great for kids, and is the home of Pui Pui the crocodile.

This is a government run "nature" facility, and is perhaps a view as to what could happen in Long Valley. From their website "The mission of the Hong Kong Wetland Park is to foster public awareness, knowledge and understanding of the inherent values of wetlands throughout the East Asian region and beyond, and to marshal public support and action for wetland conservation. The Hong Kong Wetland Park will also be a world-class ecotourism facility to serve both local residents and overseas tourists".

Notes: No reply to email, but operational.

Company name: Jurassic Garage aka Goateetoni

Specialty: Hands-on education for schools, kid's parties, and corp events

Website: www.jurassicgarage.hk. Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/jurassicgarage.hk/. Instagram: https://www.facebook.com/jurassicgarage.hk/.

Contact details: Phone: 90428438 (Whatsapp/sms only). Email: snake@jurassicgarage.hk

Key focus: Wildlife education, Conservation, Overseas tours, Hands-on experiences

We cater all ages from families, young kids, teens to adults.

In English. Can do in Chinese (both Mandarin and Cantonese) upon request.

Describe your organisation: Professional presentations specialised in building quality interactions between humans and animals.

From Toni's site: "Goatee" Toni Kingston is a naturalist, wildlife conservationist, presenter, and photographer, devoted to the discovery and conservation of wild animals around the world. After decades of experiences in the wild, Toni realises that to achieve conservation goals we must get the majority of the world (city people) involved. So in 2004, he founded **Jurassic Garage** – an educational animal experience that lets people learn about animals through hands-on encounters with real animals.

Best date of the year and times of the day: All year round. By appointment.

Is it Eco friendly? Yes. We collect organic human food leftover for feeding the feeder insects we breed. (Now that is brilliant! Ed.)



Company name: Kadoorie Farm and Botanic Gardens.

Speciality: Nature Conservation, Holistic Education, Sustainable Living

Website and/or Facebook address: www.kfbg.org. https://www.facebook.com/

KadoorieFarmAndBotanicGarden Contact details: info@kfbg.org. (852) 2483 7200

What is your key focus? Nature: The KFBG site is one of Hong Kong's little known jewels. Nine kilometres of road wind their way up around organic farming terraces, theme gardens and native forest to the summit of the mountain, Kwun Yum Shan, at over 1800ft above sea level. Wildlife: Fauna and Flora Conversation Walking/Hiking: Suggested walking routes: https://bit.ly/372DKO3 Adventure: Visitors can discover much native wildlife along the walking trails winding around the mountain. Many on-site courses, workshops and special events have been developed for the education and upliftment of visitors.

Do you cater for families/children? Yes for both.

Is this English or Chinese language or both? Available in both English and Chinese.

Describe/promote your organisation: In a time of severe global crisis - including the interrelated issues of widespread disconnection from nature, each other and self; the ever-increasing exploitation of and unwise reliance on the world's dwindling resources to support unsustainable lifestyles; climate change; shrinking of natural habitats and species loss - KFBG raises awareness, undertakes rigorous science-based species conservation and ecosystem restoration, and offers new ways of thinking and living to respond to the world's problems.

Best dates of the year and times of the day: KFBG is open Monday through Sunday, from 09:30 - 17:00. It is HK\$30 for adults and half price for kids under 12.

Are you Eco-Friendly? KFBG has been working to harmonise our relationship with the environment by reducing the ecological footprint of our operations.

We hope to bring nature closer to visitors, increase general awareness related to wildlife conservation and illegal wildlife trade, and inspire respect and appreciation of animals. We are hoping that through our event, visitors are empowered to make informed conservation choices and live a greener lifestyle.

Wildcreatures note: One of my fave, fave places in Hong Kong. Spectacular views, and such amazing biodiversity, and great education programmes, as well as their animal rescue and rehabilitation programmes. Full disclosure: I have worked under contract with Kadoorie to supply photographs.

Top tip: take the bus up and walk down. It is very, very, very steep.

Top tip 2: On the first, second and third Sunday of every month, there is a not to be missed "Animal Encounter" activity and a "Discovery Table" to give visitors a close experience with animals. Get there early to register and make sure you reserve your place.

For more details: https://www.kfbg.org/eng/events/animal-encounters.aspx







Company name: Lung fu shan environmental education centre. 龍虎山環境教育中心

Specialty: Wildlife, Urban Ecology, History, Exhibitions, Eco-tours, Workshops

Website: https://lungfushan.hku.hk/en Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/lfseec.hk/

Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/lungfushan/ Contact details: Tel: 2975 9031. Email: lfseec@hku.hk

Key focus: Nature ****** Wildlife *****. Walking/Hiking *** Adventure *

We cater all ages Apart from families and children, we welcome people of all backgrounds including visually impaired people and Wheelchair-users. Bilingual (Cantonese and English) Describe your organisation: Jointly established in 2008 by the Environmental Protection Department and The University of Hong Kong, our revitalised historic centre supports nature exploration through exhibitions, ecological tours and green workshops. Through partnerships with universities, government and the wider community, we provide public experiential environmental education to build a community living sustainably and harmoniously with nature. Best date of the year and times of the day: All year round. The Centre is opened to the public free-of-charge. For group activities, most of them are free for local schools and charities. For participants from private sectors, prices range from \$80-150 per person.

Is it Eco friendly? Yes, we provide public experiential environmental education to promote nature conservation and sustainable living.

Wildcreatures note: Another of my fave places in Hong Kong, as I used to walk this area and up to the Peak, always finding an amazing diversity of flora and fauna. They have some great education programmes, as well as night walks, and do check out their wonderful colonial building. Full disclosure: I have worked under contract with LFS to supply photographs.



Company name: Island club

Specialty: Outdoor activities, hiking, casual dining, camping and accommodation on a private beach +852 2989 2315. www.islandclub.hk G/F, 23 Tai Long Village, Lantau Island Notes: No reply to email.

Company name: Lake Egret Nature Park

Lake Egret Nature Park - closed until further notice.

Specialty: Educational leisure activities in 23 acres of undeveloped diverse natural habitats with abundant wildlife. TEL: +852 2657 6657. https://en.leaphk.com/info

2 Hung Lam Drive, Tai Po Kau Village, Tai Po, NT

Notes: No reply to email.



Specialty: Casual camping experience with support set-up, food

preparation and cooking skills; green news, individual and group packages and regular public

activities

<u>naturefun.net</u> Chinese language only. TEL: +852 6446 9496. HOURS: Mon-Fri

9am-5pm. NatureFun: also run an exhibition. Watch this space.

Notes: No reply to email.

Company name: Noah's Ark

Specialty: Organizing events and hosting programs to build positive social values and spread the love of nature

TEL: +852 3411 8888. 33 Pak Yan Road, Ma Wan, New Territories, Hong Kong | General Hotline: (852) 3411 8888 | Email: info@noahsark.com.hk. https://www.noahsark.com.hk/eng/index.jsp

Notes: No reply to email.

Company name: Ocean Park

Specialty: Losing money...ooooooh, ok, just kidding, er, theme park with rides and animal exhibits. TEL: +852 3411 8888. https://www.oceanpark.com.hk/en

The Emerald Trail. Stroll through a verdant garden filled with the trills of birdsong, while admiring flowers in bloom. The picturesque Emerald Trail is the perfect place to relax and take in nature with your family while delighting in the sunlight shimmering across the pond or staring at the dappled leaves high above. Meet seals; penguins; walrus

Notes: No reply to email. From their website - and their foundation does some brilliant work. "Conservation Matters. We Love Nature

Nature blesses us with a supply of resources and natural processes. It provides water, food and air. It cycles nutrients and controls the climate. Nature enriches and enlightens us with its beauty and vigour. We enjoy its vibrant colours, striking shapes, spirited sounds, refreshing fragrance, delicious tastes and pleasant textures. Product designs and

cultural works borrow imagery from animals, plants and natural landscapes. We have fun visiting and share memories of mountains, beaches and seas. As a part of nature, humans share all these blessings with other living things.

It is nature that nurtures us. It delights us with awe and wonder. We need it and we love it, but are we showing it our respect?" Is that a rhetorical question?





Company name: Outdoor Wildlife Learning

Hong Kong

Specialty: objectives: To promote the use of diverse, interactive and high-effectiveness outdoor education approaches in environmental education; · To establish a holistic understanding of Hong Kong ecology and biodiversity among public; · To promote love for nature and encourage public participation in environmental protection; and · To advance and integrate local ecological research and environmental education.

On Facebook: Outdoor Wildlife Learning Hong Kong. info@owlhk.org In particular they have The Environmental Fund Lantau Natural Ecology Exploration Project https://exploringwildlantau.owlhk.org/programme

Notes: No reply to email.

Company name: Sam Yue

Specialty: Ecotours, wildlife tours, night safaris **IG/Facebook address:** IG/FB @samyuephoto **Contact details:** Welcome to message me on IG/FB @samyuephoto

What is your key focus

Nature **
Wildlife ***
Walking/Hiking **
Adventure **

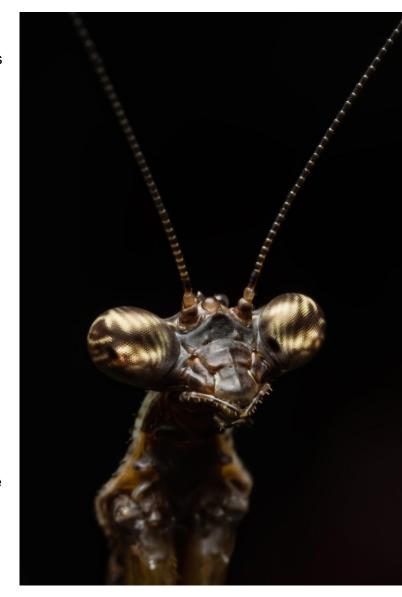
Do you cater for families/children? Yes, age range is 6-70.

Is this English or Chinese language? Both Describe/promote your organisation:

Freelance nature guide and award-winning photographer. I provide custom bespoke wildlife tours and photography workshops in HK and abroad.

Hong Kong has an amazing diversity of animals, but most people aren't aware of them, because most only come out at night. This private tour will take you into HK's nocturnal world, with a chance of seeing fireflies, snakes, frogs, porcupines, owls, civets, and much more. Come experience the real nightlife of Hong Kong!

Best dates of the year and times of the day: All year, depending on what you would like to see. Summer and autumn are best for snakes, frogs, insects. Winter for birds. Medicinal plants can be found year round.



Typical and example pricing: Variable, as I offer custom, bespoke tours, but it's typically 1000-3000 HKD per day.

Are you Eco-Friendly? Yes, my tours comply with the highest animal welfare standards - absolutely no baiting, touching, stressing out wildlife, or excessive flash.

Company name: Tai Tong Eco Park

Specialty: Promoting environmental awareness and to enhance the general physical and mental wellbeing; creative workshops and strawberry picking and horse riding

生態園 | TAI TONG ORGANIC ECOPARK

Tel: +852 24702201 General Information: info@ttlv.hk No.11, Tai Tong Shan Road, Yuen Long, N.T. Hong Kong



Company name: The Nature Conservancy Hong Kong Foundation Limited.

Specialty: Environmental conservation

Website and/or Facebook address tnc.org.hk and facebook.com/TNCHongKong/

Contact details: https://www.tnc.org.hk/en-hk/about-us/contact-us/

Is this English or Chinese language or both? Both

Describe/promote your organisation: TNC's vision is a world where people and nature thrive together. To achieve this positive vision of the future, we need to recognise the unprecedented challenges that affect global communities, and work together to find new ways to help nature thrive while securing a more prosperous future for people. TNC is committed to protecting land and water at unparalleled scales, tackling climate change, providing food and water sustainably for a growing population, building healthy cities, and connecting people and nature.

Best dates of the year and times of the day: We offer volunteer activities for the public and the next opportunities will be this summer.

Typical and example pricing: Volunteering is free.

Are you Eco-Friendly? The mission of The Nature Conservancy (TNC) is to conserve the lands and waters on which all life depends.





Company name: Trailwatch

Speciality: Hiking app; nature-based activities

Website and/or Facebook address: trailwatch.hk. Contact details: info@trailwatch.hk

What is your key focus: Nature Wildlife / Biodiversity walking / Hiking Route recommendations

Tracking and planning Hiking etiquette Hiking safety

Do you cater for families/children? No

Is this English or Chinese language or both? Both Describe/promote your organisation in 100 words:

TrailWatch promotes the enjoyment of nature trails and protection of Hong Kong's environment. Our programmes inform and educate the public about Hong Kong's natural environment, our outings promote sustainable and inclusive hiking, and our mobile app facilitates users to plan, track and share their hiking experiences, create group events, and report incidents.

Are you Eco-Friendly? We strongly emphasise principles such as Leave No Trace, advocate being plastic-free and organise clean-ups.

Company name: V'air

Speciality: Local Low-carbon Eco Tour

Website and/or Facebook address: https://www.vairhk.com/ / Facebook: @vairhk

Contact details: hello@vairhk.com

What is your key focus

Nature * * * * * * * . Wildlife * * * Walking/Hiking * * * Adventure *

Do you cater for families/children? Yes, we do.

Is this English or Chinese language or both? Our website for now is only available in Chinese, but our tours, workshops and talks are available in both languages.

Describe/promote your organisation in 100 words:

V'air Hong Kong is an environmental education social enterprise with the aim of promoting low-carbon local tourism. V'air was established in 2015, when our team captured the championship at the 2015 United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP21), Hong Kong Tertiary Schools COP21 Challenge. We see the serious impact of air travel on people's carbon footprint. Thus, we encourage Hong Kong people travel locally, with the aim of reducing carbon footprint per capita. We take the role of exploring local attractions, organizing local tours and education workshops.

Best dates of the year and times of the day: weekends

Typical and example pricing: around \$100 per person for a 4 hour tour, with minimum 20 people per tour.

Are you Eco-Friendly? Yes, we promote "leave no trace principles" in all our outdoor activities, protecting the beautiful nature in Hong Kong.

Further notes: Local & travel website · Environmental conservation organisation

It was a website conceived by locals by encouraging local tourism to reduce carbon emissions. "V'air" is



actually the near-figures of the green "Vert" in French; the integration of green elements into aviation means that we hope to bring the low-carbon local travel experience similar to outbound travel to Hong Kong people through environmental protection.

Our department is a group of college students who love to play around and love nature. We hope that everyone can learn about the relationship between Hong Kong and nature and relax the distance between the city and low-carbon life while enjoying Hong Kong. If everyone in our place can change their living habits a little, and start to appreciate everything around them; they will live happier, and the world will become better and better!

Company name: Wild Hong Kong

Speciality: Hiking, cycling & kayaking tours

Website and/or Facebook address: http://www.wildhongkong.com/

- https://www.facebook.com/wildhongkongtours/

Contact details: Rory - contact@wildhongkong.com -

+852 60871439

What is your key focus (you can award 15 stars across the

following)

Nature $\star\star\star\star$. Wildlife $\star\star$. Walking/Hiking $\star\star\star\star$.

Adventure ★★★★★

Do you cater for families/children?Is this English or Chinese language or both? We cater to all age ranges and tours are primarily in English.

Describe/promote your organisation in 100 words: We are one of Hong Kong's premier adventure & eco tour operators.

Our aim is to share this beautiful back yard with you and show you many of Hong Kong's hidden gems. From remote hilltop vistas down to secluded waterfalls and golden beaches. Wild Hong Kong will take you on an adventure to remember! We focus on leading hiking, cycling and kayaking adventures around various parts of rural Hong Kong, exploring individual or multiple environments. Half and full day routes are available. However, we can also work with you on a customised package to create an adventure to suit your needs.

Best dates of the year and times of the day: All year round Typical and example pricing: Please refer to our website Are you Eco-Friendly? How? Yes; what we do is earth-friendly or not harmful to the environment. Raises awareness of environmental challenges amongst the local HK and international community that visit.

Company name: Walk Hong Kong

Speciality: Licensed HK tour operator offering walking and hiking tours sharing the beauty of coasts, hillsides, remote villages and historical development

Walk Hong Kong has been offering guided walks and hikes in Hong Kong since 2003. The company is run by Gabi Baumgartner, who oversees the day to day planning and will do her best to match the perfect tour and guide with your individual interests.

Website and/or Facebook address: https://www.walkhongkong.com/

Room 1-2, 18/F Commercial Building, 280 Portland Street, Mong Kok, Kowloon

Notes: No reply to email. I am not sure if they are currently operational.

Wildcreatures note: you can book some excellent local guides through this site, including Mathew Kwan, David Diskin, and Martin Williams, all of whom I would highly recommend.





Company name: WWF

Speciality: Through outdoor experiential learning at our WWF learning centres, children learn about the link between humans and nature, nurturing a positive attitude towards our natural environment. Explore our incredible natural environment

Learn about nature at Mai Po Nature Reserve, Hoi Ha Wan Marine Park and Hoi Ha Marine Life Centre, Tai Po natural coastline & Island House Conservation Studies Centre WWF local. www.wwf.org.hk/eng/index.php

Notes: No reply to email.

Wildcreature notes: Check out their wonderful calendar and other resources at https:// connectwithnature.hk/

OTHER RESOURCES - in no particular order.

If you have any questions about this booklet, if you would like your organisation to be included, or good or bad feedback about any organisation include here, or anything else, simply e-mail me at info@wildcreatures.org

1. First on the list is of course our very own daily blog about nature and animals and related stuff in Hong Kong. Get it by email every day, or see it on Facebook in English or Chinese. www.wildcreatureshongkong.org

Facebook: English: Wildcreatures Hong Kong. Chinese: 香港野 Hong Kong WildCreatures

2. Also our own ID website, with lots of local creatures, and links to more information and fun facts.





A Guide to common wildlife in Hong Kong

3. Our sister site, of which I am very proud to be a co-author along with Adam Francis, who actually does most of the work.

See this collection of great photos and facts and videos. www.hongkongsnakeid.com



FACEBOOK

4. THE most amazing and fun page about snakes and Not A Snake But posts, so really it covers all creatures, but really, mostly snakes in Hong Kong. Great fun.



5. If you want info about arthropods, insects, and smaller critters including bugs then go to this page.



6. And due to the tireless devotion of Mr. Moth (aka Roger K) we have a brilliant record of the moths recorded in Hong Kong, with almost 2,000 species recorded. https://www.inaturalist.org/projects/hong-kong-moths? fbclid=lwAR3-6gZZc2grl9n9o7YzHB3kUMb9 Zo7sEZweZ-SRMiBttkOpWXgvRlkVKg

7. AFCD the govt's own resource....from AFCD, with its

own biodiversity database,

ALL HERE: hkbiodiversity.html

And the not to be missed: Hong Kong Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (2016-21) https://www.afcd.gov.hk/english/conservation/Con_hkbsap/con_hkbsap.html

- 8. Aquameridian Conservation & Education. Changing cultural habits that can wipe out endangered species and destroy natural habitats. Look out for beach clean ups and educational programmes.
- 9. Hong Kong Lepidopterists' Society. <u>www.hkls.org/</u>
- 10. Welcome to *Birding Hong Kong*, a website about all things to do with birds and birding in the Hong Kong SAR. https://www.birdinghongkong.com/
- 11. **iNaturalist**. Reviewing nature and guides in Hong Kong would not be complete without a mention and review of the amazing, brilliant (you can tell I like it?) iNaturalist App.

 Find out more about it here https://www.inaturalist.org/.



I use this App ALL THE TIME when out and about, to ID and to record species. It has a very clever AI which helps ID species, and there are experts who can follow up later and confirm what it was you saw. It also all goes into the Citizen Science database, helping us record and understand more about our natural

Every year there is an international bio-blitz challenge; for more info Contact Sean at

s1martinhk@gmail.com

world.



Other Environmental NGOs that are worth joining and learning more about:

FRIENDS OF THE EARTH

https://www.foe.org.hk/

WildAid is Working to End the Illegal Wildlife Trade in our Lifetime. http://www.wildaid.org.hk/

GREENPEACE

https://www.greenpeace.org/hongkong/

GREEN PENG CHAU

Green Peng Chau Association is a non-profit organization founded in 1991 by a group of islanders and young people, who love and care about the nature and Peng Chau. http://greenpengchau.org.hk/theme.php?page_id=Aim&lang=e

GREEN SENSE

http://greensense.org.hk/en/about/

We aim to point out the non-environmental friendly practice in society through research and monitoring. We enhance the environmental consciousness by education and publicity, in order to ultimately achieve an environmental friendly society, for the sake of our next generation.

The following is a list of my most visited and frequented places, excellent for hikes and wildlife watching.

NEW TERRITORIES

Tai Po Kau Nature Reserve Shing Mun reservoir Ng Tung Chai Tai Mo Shan; Kadoorie Farm. Mai Po Nature reserve Long Valley

KOWLOON

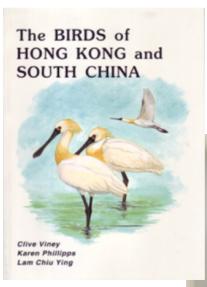
Kowloon Park.

HONG KONG ISLAND

Hong Kong Park Lung Fu Shan Aberdeen Reservoirs The Peak Mount Davis



To be updated: A list of other books and resources that I use on my walks, hikes, and for ID purposes.





FAQs

Who put this together?

Robert Ferguson is an award winning photographer, with images appearing in international and local magazines, books, and online media.



He currently runs his own daily wildlife blog at www.wildcreatureshongkong.org, (on facebook, in English

wildcreatureshongkong and Chinese 香港野 Hong Kong WildCreatures), and works on content and wildlife photography with different local conservation groups. These have included: Kadoorie Farm and Botanical Gardens, Lung Fu Shan Environmental Education Centre, Aquameridien, The Children's Discovery Museum, and AFCD.

He is also the co-author of www.hongkongsnakeid.com the complete information and ID website about snakes in Hong Kong.

Robert has lived with his family in Hong Kong for the last 25 years. working in Media, most recently for The Economist and Reuters. He left full time employment in mid 2018 and now volunteers part time with a foodbank NGO, Feedinghongkong.

Why did I do this?

This was born as part of larger media idea to promote responsible, sustainable wildlife tourism, and to inspire people to connect more with

nature, as part of a process of: Look, find, discover, learn, love, protect.

Is it free?

This guide is free to download, share, and use; Please mention the guide when contacting any organisation listed here. If you like the guide, and use it, please think of making a donation either by going to https://www.wildcreatureshongkong.info/donate or by EPS transfer (contact me at <u>info@wildcreatures.org</u>) - or perhaps you/your company would like to sponsor future issues?

Can I share it?

Yes! Please do, the more people who use it to book guides the better.

Can I print it?

Sure....just a personal copy though.

What if I find something wrong?

Please do let me know on info@wildcreatures.org, and I apologise in advance for any errors that may have crept in. They will be updated as soon as they come to my attention.

What if I want to add my company or service?

Please simply let me know on info@wildcreatures.org. It would help if you could include your answers to the following questions:

Company name:

Speciality: (max 6 words)

Website and/or Facebook address

Contact details: key contact: phone; email; other

What is your key focus (you can award 15 stars across the following)

Wildlife. Walking/Hiking. Adventure

Do you cater for families/children (only)? Is this English or Chinese language or both?

Describe/promote your organisation in 100 words:

Best dates of the year and times of the day

Typical and example pricing

Are you Eco-Friendly? How? One sentence.

How can I contact you for any reason, like buying prints; sponsored publications; private tours; photography lessons?

Simply send an e-mail to info@wildcreatures.org. Thank you.