



THE FRIED NOODLE

[CHINA HORIZONS NEWSLETTER]

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A group of teachers at the Big Buddah Temple



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Zaijian America



Out of either nervousness or excitement (but probably both) I didn't get any sleep the night before leaving for China. With little sleep I woke up to my last few hours in the US. I had been staying at my aunt's house in Utah for a week before leaving, so most of my goodbyes to family, friends, and home had

been said a week before. The only goodbyes I had left were to the US itself (goodbye toilet paper in public restrooms, goodbye freedom of speech, goodbye Dr. Pepper). The flight from Salt Lake to San Francisco was nice and short, but it left late so we knew we had to book it to our next gate when we landed. Thankfully there were enough of us making that connection that they held the plane for us and we made the flight.

Relieved to have made the flight, I settled in to what I imagined would eventually become a miserable 15 hours. I tried to keep myself busy. After two movies, a short nap, and numerous Sudoku puzzles it was disheartening to realize there were still ten more hours left. This process happened several more times. I would think a lot of time had passed, but there were still more hours left. Sleep was difficult, but I did eventually get some thanks to a handy neck pillow—could not have slept without it!

About half way through the plane ride I started questioning my sanity. At no point leading up to going to China had I second-guessed what I was about to do. I found it funny that I didn't think about how crazy it was to move to a country halfway around the world where you don't speak the language until I was halfway there. It was probably a good thing I didn't think about these things until it was too late to change my mind. I was on my way to China; this was really happening.

Finally the journey was over and the captain said we were landing in Hong Kong! This part was surreal. I couldn't believe I was in Asia, and I got there by being flung across the ocean in a huge metal thing with hundreds of other people. It just shouldn't be possible... but we made it to China!

-Lindsay Gough



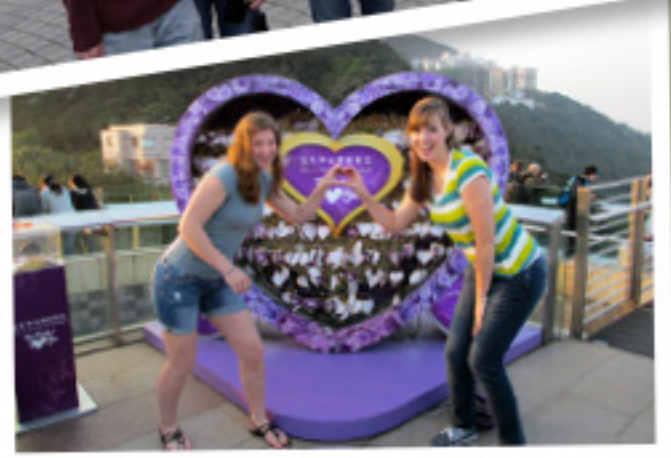


Victoria PEAK Rick Wilde



The first day in Hong Kong, after spending the morning at the temple, we headed to the Peak Tram, the brief trolley car ride that leads to the best view of the city, Victoria Peak. I had no idea what to expect, and when we got to the station, it was packed with people. A sign at the end of the line said the expected wait time would be two hours. That's the point where back home I would've thrown in the towel and found something else to do. But in a city with seven million people and a constant flow of tourists, that's to be expected. And as it turned out, waiting for the tram was a really good experience. Except for my wife, I didn't feel like I knew anyone in the program, but during that wait (which was more like one hour) I think we came together as a group and started to understand each other's personalities. Then, closer to the tram, we learned the concept of a Chinese line. Actually, it's more of a mass of people shoving their way to the best seats. On the tram, and at the peak, we discovered the distinctive beauty of Hong Kong – skyscrapers built right at the base of beautiful, verdant mountains and tall, impossibly thin apartment buildings everywhere you look. By the time we waited through the line again and got on the tram to go back to the station, it was dark and all the lights were on. The buildings seemed to be competing with each other to light up in different colors and patterns. I felt like the city was alive. I felt good going home that night because it seemed like the city itself had just welcomed us all to China.







the TEMPLE

Arriving in Hong Kong was exciting, but overwhelming. We were all tired from the 15-hour flight and nervous about being in a new country on the other side of the world. I, for one, was feeling a little lost and alone, even though I had Jacob as a guide and my husband for support. By the time we got to the temple housing, we were all so worn out that we collapsed on our beds, only to wake up 6 hours later to attend the temple. I wasn't looking forward to it; we were asked to do as many sessions and other ordinances as we could. I didn't feel like doing anything that morning, but I pushed myself to just go. As I stepped inside the temple doors, I knew I would feel better there. The spirit I felt was calm, peaceful, and very welcoming. It was familiar to me, though I expected it to be foreign. It helped me realize that no matter where I am in China, even though the church isn't there with me, I have the Lord with me, and He is proud of the work I am doing for my brothers and sisters in the world.

-Sarah Wilde





First Impressions of HONG KONG

Seeing sloped mountains layered with fog, hiking up the stairs to Big Buddha, and watching people pray and burn incense captured my first impression of the beautiful Chinese heritage.

-Kimberlee Owens

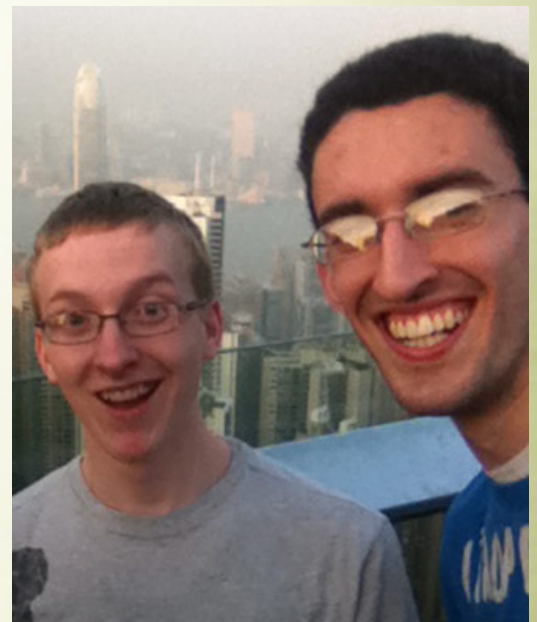


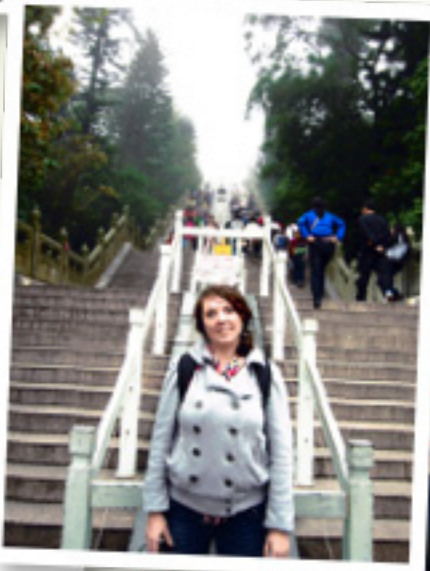
In Hong Kong my first thought was “Everyone lied! It’s not cold here!” When I got to my city, Yangzhong, my first thought was “It’s VERY cold here!”

-Arielle Green

From atop a double-decker bus we leave the airport late at night and I feel that we are traveling through a jungle of green and skyscrapers. It appears surreal.

-Benjamin Olsen





First Impressions of HONG KONG



Our first day in Hong Kong I remember feeling very overwhelmed by how many people there were and how big the city was. I noticed that everyone looked like they were in a fashion show - they were all so stylish! I also found it funny that they were wearing big puffy coats in 70

degree weather

-Joan Madsen

Grandiose, cheap and dirty. I love the people here; although there is no sense of personal space, its very entertaining. When it comes to transportation there is much pushing and squishing involved in order to make it on any metro or bus. Haha, I love it.

-Brian Austin







my favorite part of the **ARRIVAL TOUR WAS...**



The delight in congregating with colleagues, who I now vehemently consider dear friends, while observing the Hong Kong night skyline nearly transported theoretical tears of joy to mine own eyes.

-Chason Archuleta



Seeing the big Buddha was great because it was exactly what I expected China to look like: pagodas, monasteries, Buddhas, small gift shops and food stands. It was awesome!

-Sarah Wilde







CHINESE CORNER

NUMBERS



0 零 Líng	1 一 Yī	2 二 Èr	3 三 Sān	4 四 Sì	5 五 Wǔ	6 六 Liù
	7 七 Qī	8 八 Bā	9 九 Jiǔ	10 十 Shí	100 百 Bǎi	

For Teens

EXAMPLES

- shí sì (14)
十四
- shí yī (11)
十一
- shí qī (17)
十七

For 20, 30, etc.

EXAMPLES

- sān shí (30)
三十
- wǔ shí (50)
五十
- bā shí (80)
八十

For 100's

EXAMPLES

- yī bǎi (100)
一百
- sì bǎi (400)
四百
- liù bǎi (600)
六百



