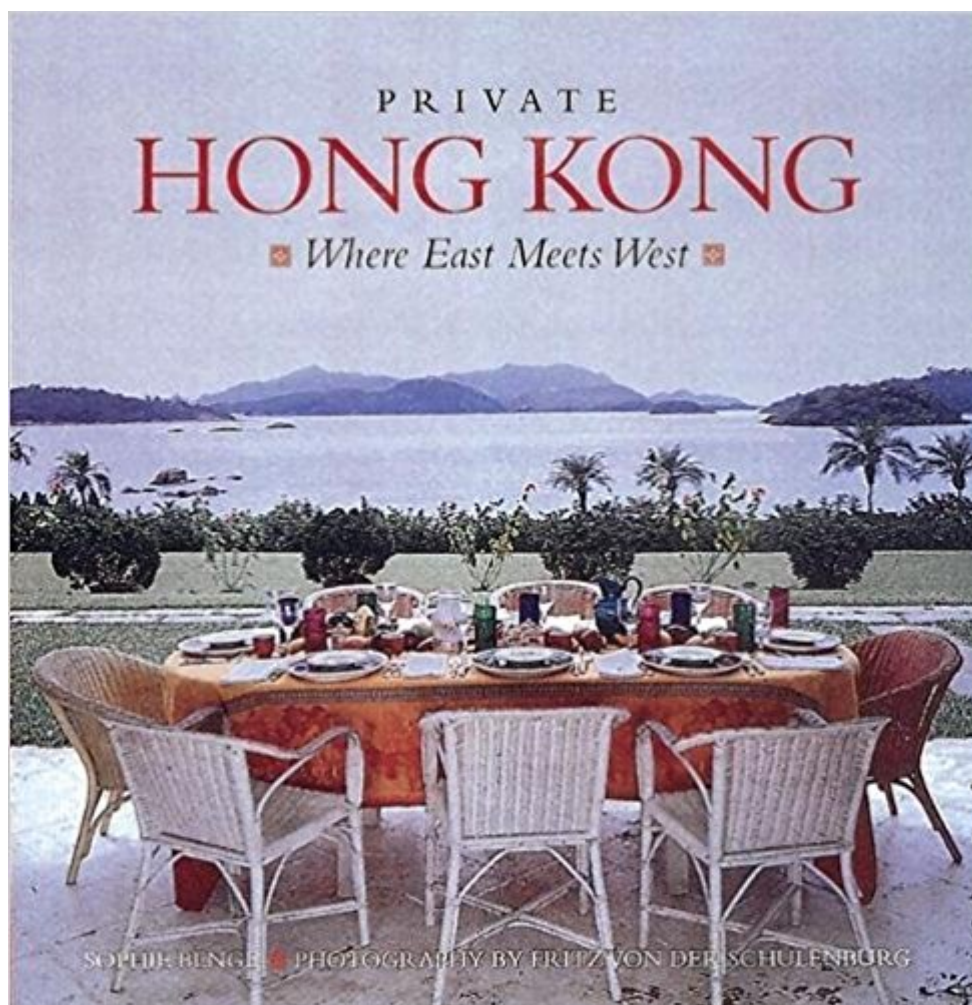


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Private Hong Kong: Where East Meets West



Synopsis

An exclusive look behind the closed doors of Hong Kong's most extravagant and unusual homes, this elegant book, featuring 300 full-color photographs, reveals the interior style that has given the island its reputation for excess, exoticism, and masterly application of East-meets-West aesthetics. Few places on earth match the island of Hong Kong for visual drama. Its setting is stunning, and its architecture of contrasts is irresistible—a melding of authentic Chinese elements, colonial charm, and tiger economy. Nowhere is this stylistic mix more evident than in the homes of Hong Kong's most influential and colorful personalities. Private Hong Kong invites you into the secluded country residence of entrepreneur David Tang, the golden fantasy palace of leading socialites Kai Bong and Brenda Chau, the stately governor's mansion, and a luxurious Chinese junk complete with marble bathroom and Renoir painting. In addition to these and many other homes, the book includes a Visitor's Guide, listing the places to see and be seen in while staying in the city, and a Chinese Decorative Arts chapter that will inspire even the most informed collectors.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

With its reputation for excess and exoticism, it's not surprising that Hong Kong boasts lushly extravagant interiors filled with a combination of authentic Chinese elements and opulent Western decor. Short on text but strong on vivid photographs, Private Hong Kong showcases 25 extraordinary residences, including the secluded country estate of an entrepreneur, an architect's sophisticated minimalist loft, the superbly outfitted yacht of a marble dealer (complete with marble

vanities, of course), and the island's largest home, the palatial governor's mansion. Few who peruse this book will have the means to approach anything close to this scale of decorating, and many of these interiors are extravagantly overdone, but the confluence of Eastern artifacts overlaid with Western opulence makes for a visual treat. --Amy Handy --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

These two books take different approaches to viewing Asian interior design. Tettoni presents a visual sourcebook to residential design in southeast Asia showing traditional as well as contemporary design in such countries as Bali, Malaysia, Sumatra, and the Philippines. Beginning with a review of the traditional, native dwellings in this area, he devotes the majority of this lavishly illustrated book to the contemporary interpretation of traditional and colonial living both in interiors and in landscaping. At the end he looks at various furniture and accessories?such as Indonesian furniture and lacquerware?that define the traditional decorating styles. Bengé visits the homes of affluent Hong Kong residents?from Chris Patten, the last governor of Hong Kong, to socialites Kai Bong and Brenda Chau?giving a glimpse at the Hong Kong lifestyle just before the city's turnover to the Chinese. Yachts, gardens, and nightclubs are also photographed, with most showing a definite modern design style with a just dash of Asian detail. Tettoni's book is the better choice for those patrons seeking examples of affordable, Asian-influenced style. Copyright 1998 Reed Business Information, Inc.

One can learn a lot about a person by how he or she lives. I always learn more about people by spending 15 minutes in their houses than by spending countless hours talking to them. Why? Because what each of us chooses to live with reveals a lot about what is important to us. Hence, my year long fascination with this beautiful book! If you are only expecting to see interiors filled with nothing but Chinese art and furniture, what a surprise you will get!! It is a felicitous blend of both Eastern and Western artistic traditions. The residences range from a luxurious junk owned by a Persian marble dealer, to an art-deco-style house owned by a former model and her husband. Though I never saw a picture of the owners, I developed a clearer, more vivid idea of who they are in my head. I learned about Kai-Yin Lo, and her fabulous collection of Ming Dynasty furniture, and David Tang's love of gardens, and classical piano. I also promised myself that someday I would go to Hong Kong and see this beautiful city. Sophie Bengé has done a great job with the text and Fritz Von Der Schulenburg's photographs are beautiful. After seeing this book, you may just find yourself at the airport, bag and passport in hand ready to go!

Have you ever been curious about how Really Rich people live? This is your chance to take a peek at private, luxurious homes belonging to some of the wealthiest people in Hong Kong. Clear, detailed photography, and insightful text annotate an exclusive tour of remarkable decor and priceless artifacts and personalized treasures. If you were hoping that this book would substitute for actually visiting these places, you'll find that after reading the book, you'll now want to travel even more...

The book though lavish in its pictures,,,is a study in bad taste.

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