

TARGET

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Travelling with TARGET

Staycationing At The Four Seasons, Hongkong

The term, 'staycation' is, not exactly, a novel or new term.

Oddly enough, 'staycation' has its roots, going back to the 1940s.

However, for most of the human population of the **Hongkong Special Administration Region (HKSAR)** of the **People's Republic of China (PRC)**, now numbering about 7.57 million men, women, and children, and, of course, for most of the 1.30 billion human inhabitants of the PRC, proper, being separate and distinct of the HKSAR, up until 2019, a 'staycation' was only a term, the meaning of which was questionable.

The term was 'invented' in The United States of America in the late 1940s, just after the cessation of World War II, being the contraction of 'stay' and 'vacation', defined as being a holiday spent in one's home country/territory rather than abroad.

In the HKSAR, 'staycation' only became a rather popular term due to the advent of the pandemic, COVID-19, a disease that swept through the world with lightning speed – and continues to take its toll of those victims, unfortunate enough to be struck down by it.

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As a direct result of the fast-spreading pandemic, internationally, many countries have closed their doors to foreigners, mostly out of abject fear as the death toll continues to rise, in many cases, on a daily basis.

Management of **TARGET** (泰達財經), as with many residents of the HKSAR, found itself unable to travel outside the 416 square miles of the territory, and so, in the first week of August, this medium booked a suite in the Four Seasons Hotel Hongkong, for three days and two nights.

The reason for selecting Four Seasons Hotel Hongkong was, amongst other things, numerous reports, published in English-language and Chinese-language newspapers, as well as numerous other (questionable) media, with regard to some HKSAR hotels, offering staycation packages at seemingly rock-bottom prices, but, in return, giving very poor service, not cleaning rooms on a daily basis, and serving food that was considered as being partially inedible.

And so, on Friday, August 6, 2021, **TARGET**'s team of four individuals checked into Four Seasons Hotel Hongkong, having booked the Grand Harbour View Suite, measuring 732 square feet, and an adjoining Deluxe Harbour View Room, measuring 484 square feet, located on the 18th Floor of the hotel.

At the total cost of \$HK25,107, the above accommodation included a full breakfast, afternoon tea, and evening (alcoholic) drinks, along with hors d'oeuvres, all served in the Executive Lounge, located at the 45th Floor of the hotel.

This hotel, as this medium discovered, has a number of excellent amenities for the express use of its guests, including, amongst other things, an excellent gymnasium, two swimming pools, and four food outlets.

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The food outlets serve poolside titbits and soft drinks, while comprehensive menus at the three other locations have notable fares with people with large appetites.

But, the most-striking feature of the hotel, as **TARGET** discovered on most occasions, aside its pleasant and efficient accommodation, was the hotels obviously well-trained, very pleasant, and amenable staff.

Case in point, on a very limited number of occasions, **TARGET** made requests, via the telephone, for a few more towels to be placed in the rooms along with the replacements of slippers, etc: The requested items arrived within minutes, with the lady, having received the request, personally, carrying the items.

In the opinion of this medium, only Hotel Adlon Berlin, an historic hotel, facing the Brandenburg Gate, could rank as a potential equal to Four Seasons Hotel Hongkong – and that is stating an accolade well deserved.

Ranking Four Seasons Hotel Hongkong with most other (so called) five-star hotels, presently operating in the 416 square miles that constitute the HKSAR, they are, for the most part, laggards in comparison, taking into consideration all factors that have gone into the production and management of this fine edifice that, by the way, is the tallest on Hongkong Island.

This medium has, purposely, omitted to include a great deal in respect of the quality of the food outlets at Four Seasons Hotel Hongkong, because, inter alia, this report has been zeroing in on the HKSAR concept of that which must be one of best – if not the best – staycation.

One might be tempted to state, at this point, that \$HK25,107 is a bit steep for a stay of two nights and three days for four people, but, if one is desirous of kicking up one's heels and shaking off the burdens and pressures of business, this hotel will go a long way in revolutionising and reviving one's spirits.

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