

= Madame Tussauds Hong Kong =

Madame Tussauds Hong Kong , part of the renowned chain of wax museums founded by Marie Tussaud of France , is located at the Peak Tower on Hong Kong Island in Hong Kong . It is the first Madame Tussauds museums in Asia , the other being the Shanghai branch , which opened in 2006 and the third branch at Singapore which opened in 2014 . The Hong Kong branch houses nearly 100 wax figures of internationally known personalities , with Asian figures taking up more than a third of the total , of which sixteen were Hong Kongers . The wax figures are featured in a range of themed settings such as Hong Kong Glamour , Music Icons , Historical and National Heroes , The Champions and World Premiere .

= = History = =

In the late 1990s , Madame Tussauds had outlets spanning worldwide in major cities such as London , Amsterdam and Las Vegas , but none was in the Asia @-@ Pacific region . When the " Madame Tussaud 's Touring Attraction " ran in Asian cities of Singapore and Australia , proving to be highly popular , the Tussauds Group decided to open a permanent outlet in Asia to cater to such demand , and Hong Kong was chosen for its proximity to the Asian markets .

Madame Tussauds Hong Kong opens at The Peak in 2000 , and features nearly 100 wax figures of internationally known personalities and local celebrities to date ? with Asian figures taking up more than a third of the total , of which sixteen were Hong Kongers . Asian celebrities and superstars have often graced the unveiling of their wax likenesses with sizeable groups of their fans tagging along . In September 2005 , it began its renovation in its effort to bring an interactive and immersive entertainment experience to visitors . It re @-@ opened at a cost of HK \$ 20 million (US \$ 2 @. @ 6 million) on 18 May 2006 , adding a further 700 square metres (7 @, @ 500 sq ft) of exhibition space on three floors and five themed areas . Visitors can journey through the attraction , stopping to mingle with the ' stars ' in a range of themed settings including Hong Kong Glamour , Music Icons , Historical and National Heroes , The Champions and World Premiere .

As of 2008 , the museum is headed by Bret Pidgeon , who is currently the general manager of Madame Tussauds Hong Kong and Shanghai . He has worked for eight years for Madame Tussauds in New York previously . The museum is accessible from Central via minibus , taxi or Peak Tram and opens all year round from 10 am to 10 pm daily . Admission fee is HK \$ 140 (US \$ 18) for adults and HK \$ 70 for children aged between 3 and 11 years old .

= = Wax figure making process = =

In over one or more sittings , a highly skilled sculptor from Madame Tussauds Studios who is given direct access to the celebrity will record the colours of the hair and eyes , and over 500 precise body measurements are referenced . Most important is to capture the look of the celebrity to reflect the personality of each unique individual . The next task is to make a clay model of the head and body which is used to create a mould . Wax cast of the head and hands are made from the mould , and the eyes are inserted . Each eye is hand @-@ painted to achieve a perfect match of the original . Real human hair is then inserted painstakingly strand by strand .

The head and hands are coloured using a blend of oil , water and acrylic colour . From the mould , the body is cast in fibreglass , and the head and hands are fitted to the fiberglass body and dressed in clothes that are often donated by the celebrity . The pose , clothes and expression on the face all contribute to making the figure as realistic as possible . The whole process usually takes up to six months by a team of 20 people to create and cost about HK \$ 1 million each .

= = Unique figures = =

The figure of Miriam Yeung , unveiled on November 2006 , is the first in the world designed to giggle via in @-@ built sensors . Miriam is well known for her fun @-@ loving and bubbly

personality , and Madame Tussauds want to capture that essence in her figure .

The figure of Connie Chan , unveiled on August 2006 , was the first figure to appear in full Chinese regalia . The model 's costume was inspired by the musical Only You , set in the Yuan Dynasty , in which Chan formerly starred .

The figure of Bae Yong @-@ joon , unveiled on May 2006 , is the first Korean star to be included in a Madame Tussauds exhibition .

The figure of Andy Lau , unveiled on April 2005 , was the outlet first animatronic model that was crafted out of silicone rather than wax . Lau 's animatronic heartbeat was modelled on a similar system installed in a replica of Brad Pitt at Madame Tussauds Amsterdam .

= = Featured personalities = =

The list of featured celebrities sorted according to on @-@ site themes are :

= = Madame Tussauds Shanghai = =

The second Asian outlet is located in the Chinese city of Shanghai . Attracted by Shanghai 's growing reputation and tourism volume in East Asia , the Tussauds Group approached Shanghai authorities to discuss the possibility of opening its second Asian location in early 2004 . The Shanghai authorities agreed with the proposal and Madame Tussauds Shanghai (?????????) was opened on 1 May 2006 on the 10th floor of the New World Department Store at West Nanjing Road .

The Shanghai outlet houses nearly 75 wax figures of local and internationally known celebrities to date , and will add more in its second and third phases . The museum opens all year round from 10 am to 10 pm daily and it is divided up into seven themed sections : Glamour , Behind the Scenes , History and Heroes , Music , Film , Speed and Sport . Admission fee is RMB 135 (US \$ 20) for adults and RMB 100 for students . Madame Tussauds Shanghai is the Tussauds Group 's sixth waxwork museum after London , Amsterdam , Las Vegas , New York City and Hong Kong .