



Absolute Beginner S1 Ways to Get Around Hong Kong

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Traditional Chinese

我地點去啊？
搭巴士。
不如搭地鐵？
都得。

Jyutping

ngo5 dei6 dim2 heoi3 aa3 ?
daap3 baa1 si2。
bat1 jyu4 daap3 dei6 tit3 ?
dou1 dak1。

English

How do we get there?
Let's take the bus.
How about the subway?
That'll also work.

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Vocabulary

Traditional	Jyutping	English
搭	daap3	to take (a transport)
的士	dik1 si2	taxi
車	ce1	car
巴士	baa1 si2	bus
地鐵	dei6 tit3	subway
飛機	fei1 gei1	airplane
不如	bat1 jyu4	how about
都得	dou1 dak1	They're both okay.

Vocabulary Sample Sentences

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搭車搭船都可以去。	daap3 ce1 daap3 syun4 dou1 ho2 ji5 heoi3。	We can go there by car or by boat.
唔好叫人地的士佬。	m4 hou2 giu3 jan4 dei6 dik1 si2 lou2。	Don't call people "taxi guy."
我想買部二手車。	ngo5 soeng2 maai5 bou6 ji6 sau2 ce1。	I want to buy a second-hand car.
搭巴士過去都好方便。	daap3 baa1 si2 gwo3 heoi3 dou1 hou2 fong1 bin6。	Taking a bus there is very convenient too.
佢屋企喺地鐵站附近。	keoi5 uk1 kei2 hai2 dei6 tit3 zaam6 fu6 gan6。	His house is close to the subway station.
而家飛機票唔貴。	ji4 gaa1 fei1 gei1 piu3 m4 gwai3。	Plane tickets now are not expensive.
不如我地去吃晚飯？	bat1 jyu4 ngo5 dei6 heoi3 hek3 maan5 faan6?	How about we go to dinner?
點都得。	dim2 dou1 dak1。	Any way works.

Grammar Points

The Focus of This Lesson is Making Suggestions

不如搭地鐵？

bat1 jyu4 daap3 dei6 tit3 ?

"How about the subway?"

Making suggestions in Cantonese is simple. By using 不如 (bat1 jyu4), you can imply that one idea is better than another proposed idea and has the meaning of "How about..." When using 不如, you do not need to include the pronoun 我哋 ("we") because it is implied. The suggestion following 不如 can be a verb, a noun, or a sentence.

Cantonese	Jyutping	English
不如去食嘢？	bat1 jyu4 heoi3 sik6 je5	"How about we go eat something?"
不如搭飛機？	bat1 jyu4 daap3 fei1 gei1	"How about we take an airplane?"
不如搭的士？	bat1 jyu4 daap3 dik1 si2	"How about we take a taxi?"
不如我哋一齊食嘢？	bat1 jyu4 ngo5 dei6 jat1 cai4 sik6 je5	"How about eating together?"
不如蝦餃？	bat1 jyu4 haa1 gaau2	"How about shrimp dumplings?"

Cultural Insight

Getting around in Hong Kong

Traveling within Hong Kong is convenient and fun. The layout of the Hong Kong territory is basically divided into two sections. To the south, you have the main Hong Kong Island along with other minor outlying islands, and to the north, you have the mainland territories of Kowloon. Hong Kong has an extensive network of subways that connects all parts of the city to each other. If you'd prefer to travel above ground, it is very easy to hail a taxi and get to where you need to go. The taxis drive on the left side of the road, so make sure you look right and then left before crossing the street.

One of the best ways of getting around, however, is by ferry. There are plenty of ferries that haul people from the main island and other small surrounding islands. The trip across the strait only takes around twenty minutes, which is plenty of time to take in all the sights. If you want to head up to Victoria Peak, you can take a bus up the winding mountain, take in the mountaintop scenery, and then hop on the tram that takes you back down to sea level.