



Glorious Summer in Macao



With summer just around the corner, Macao has set in motion a seasonal program of exhilarating events. Come share the excitement of sports competitions and celebrate colorful festivals with gusto!

Racing dragons

The Dragon Boat Festival (on the 5th day of the 5th month in the Chinese lunar calendar) commemorates the ancient patriotic Chinese poet Qu Yuan, who drowned himself in protest of government corruption. Today, the celebrations revolve around the much-anticipated large-scale annual Macao International Dragon Boat Races, which have enjoyed strong support from locals and visitors alike since 1979.

Dragon boat teams from a host of countries and regions, including China, Hong Kong, Japan, Korea, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, as well as from as far away as Australia, Europe, and the US, will assemble in Macao for this carnival event which promises not only a lot of muscle power in the very keen competition, but also plenty of fun and good cheer.

In the past, the races took place primarily on Nam Van and Sai Van Lakes. But since the establishment of the Nam Van Lake Nautical Centre on the historic Praia Grande shorefront, the venue has provided the ideal setting and amenities for the international competition.

Jointly organized by the Sports Bureau of Macao SAR Government and Dragon Boat Association of Macao, China, the Race is not only a widely popular and significant sports event, but also one of the favorite outdoor parties in the territory, with arts and crafts booths, as well as food stalls.

Since 2001, the International University Student Dragon Boat Races for men and women have been incorporated in the programme, bringing even more vibrant actions and festive cheers.



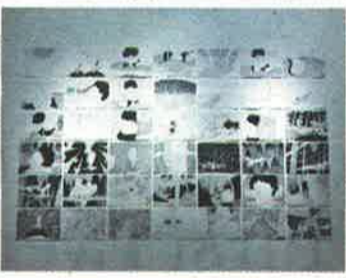
Macao International Dragon Boat Races

Date: May 27, 28 & 30, 2017
Venue: Nam Van Lake Nautical Centre

Finding beauty in simple things

Good news for art lovers! Local artist Fan Sai Hong holds his first solo exhibition in **Taipa Village Art Space**, with his unique collection of sketchbook drawings that document his life experiences over a decade. The variety of media, artistic expressions and drawing styles reflect Hong's moods at specific periods and circumstances.

The exhibition also debuts Hong's comic book series from 2016, featuring 40 drawings that collectively tell the story of a little boy who embarks on a lonely journey through the wilderness, to make the spiritual transition into manhood. The storyboard reveals Hong's belief in the ideal relationship between man and nature, where the simple things in life prevail in their purest state.



Simple Things - Sketchbook Drawings by Fan Sai Hong

Date: April 26-June 30, 2017
Address: No. 10, Rua dos Clerigos, Taipa
Opening hours: 12pm-8pm (closed on Mon)

Spreading the volleyball fever

The Federation Internationale de Volleyball (FIVB) World Grand Prix is an annual world-class volleyball challenge for female players. For almost two decades, Macao Forum has been the annual host to a leg of the hotly-contested game, which always guarantees superb athleticism for hundreds of thousands of local and international spectators.

This sports event not only provides a platform for volleyball stars to showcase their physique and skills, but also arouses public interest in the sport. It is a golden opportunity for volleyball fans to cheer for their heroines, seeing them up close and personal.



The FIVB World Grand Prix 2017 will feature teams from China, Italy, Turkey and the USA.



FIVB Volleyball World Grand Prix™ Macao 2017

Date: July 14-16, 2017
Venue: Macao Forum

Blessing rituals

To celebrate the birthday of deity Na Tcha, a festivity will take place at the World Heritage-listed Na Tcha Temple near the Ruins of St. Paul's. Look out for the vibrant parade of lion and dragon dances!

The Na Tcha Ancient Temple at Calçada das Verdades will also stage a similar ceremony and parade for the occasion.



Feast of Na Tcha

Date: June 12, 2017



Grass sliding

Summer can provide the idyllic condition for some breezy outdoor adventures - grab a toboggan and zoom down the hill! Located on Taipa Grand Hill to the east of Taipa Island, the Taipa Grande Nature Park features a 20-meter fast and furious grass-skiing slope that is a lot of adrenaline-pumping fun for all ages!

And if that's not enough, there is a whole range of other leisure amenities like the sculpture park of the Chinese ethnics, a barbecue zone, children's playground, a miradouro, and a hiking trail encircling the hill, with panoramic views of the Cotai skyline. Or you can just sit back for some airplane spotting, and bathe in the warm glow of a spectacular sunset.



Taipa Grande Nature Park

Address: Rampa do Observatório, Taipa
Grass slope opening hours:
Tue to Fri (2.30pm-5.30pm);
Sat, Sun & public holidays (10.30am-5.30pm)