Hong Kong is one of the leading financial centers in the world. This special administrative region of the People’s Republic of China is characterized by having a significantly open economy, simple tax system, and a strategic location providing companies a gateway into mainland China and the Asia-Pacific region.

**FUNDS**
Hong Kong is often described as the center of the funds industry in Asia. Due to the city’s regulatory framework, there is a degree of transparency and stability it provides that few other places, especially in Asia, can match. Additionally, the city’s free flow of capital, its links to mainland China and a pool of highly qualified local talent, makes Hong Kong attractive to investors.

**HONG KONG REGISTERED COMPANIES**
At the end of 2018, there were over 1.4 million companies registered in Hong Kong. The easy and minimal time it takes to set up a company, the excellent infrastructure and intellectual property protections, draws investors to this city.

**INTERNATIONAL BANKING**
Hong Kong is the third largest banking center in the world, behind London and New York. The city’s government works to maintain a stable and business-friendly environment with minimal barriers for businesses and no restrictions on capital flows.

**CAPITAL MARKETS**
The recent U.S./China trade disagreements and the possible passage of an unpopular extradition law, could lead many companies to choose other jurisdictions in the region and affect the city’s ability to raise capital.

**TRADE AND LOGISTICS**
Trade and logistics is the largest industry among the four economic pillars in Hong Kong. The city’s strategic location and world-class infrastructure, continuously rank Hong Kong in the top for world trade.

**LOCATION**
Hong Kong is located on the south-eastern tip of mainland China. Its territory covers Hong Kong Island, Lantu Island, the Kowloon Peninsula and 250+ outlying islands.

Area: 1,106 sq. km

Time zone: Hong Kong Standard Time (GMT+8)

**POPULATION**
7.39 Million

**LANGUAGE(S)**
Chinese and English

**ECONOMY**
Financial services, tourism, trading & logistics, and professional and producer services

**CURRENCY**
Hong Kong Dollar (HKD)

**POLITICAL STRUCTURE**
Stable

**LEGAL SYSTEM**
Based on English Common Law. Autonomous Special Administrative Region of the People’s Republic of China.

This information is not intended to provide legal advice or serve as a substitute for legal research to address specific situations.
## Main Types of Legal Entities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Share capital</th>
<th>HK PRIVATE LIMITED COMPANY (PLC)</th>
<th>LIMITED PARTNERSHIPS</th>
<th>REPRESENTATIVE OFFICE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Minimum paid-up</td>
<td>No minimum</td>
<td>Not required</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maximum authorized</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Usual currency</td>
<td>HKD</td>
<td>HKD</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permitted currencies</td>
<td>No restrictions</td>
<td>No restrictions</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Domiciliation

| Registered address | Local registered office required | Local registered office required | Local registered address required |

### Directors

| Minimum number | One | Two or more | A local representative must be appointed. |
| Minimum local | Not required | Not required | N/A |
| Corporate directors | Not allowed | N/A | N/A |

### Statutory

#### Annual filing

| Annual returns | Annual return | N/A |

| Annual general meeting (AGM) | Not a required | Required | N/A |

| Beneficial owner reporting | Required. Shareholders and directors can appoint a nominee shareholder/director to act on their behalf. | Required | Not required |

| Re-domiciliation | Not allowed | Not allowed | The foreign entity is not allowed to re-domicile. |

### Financial administration

| Not required | N/A | N/A |

#### Audit required

Companies must file audited financial statements.

#### Filing of Annual Return

Annual tax returns are filed with the Inland Revenue Department (IRD).

#### Tax

| 16.5% corporate rate | 15% corporate rate | N/A |

| 0% | 0% | N/A |

| Negotiated with 30+ countries | Negotiated with 30+ countries | N/A |

### Government fees

#### Registry fee

HK$105 paid annually to Hong Kong Companies Registry

HK$340 paid annually, plus an additional fee for every HK$1000 contributed by each partner

#### License fee

HK$2,250 paid annually for Business Registration Certificate

HK$2,000 paid annually for Business Registration Certificate

### Incorporation process

#### Summary

- Incorporation Form (Form NNC1 for company limited by shares)
- A copy of the company’s Articles of Association
- A Notice to Business Registration Office (IRBR1)
- Establish a place of business.
- Apply for a Business Registration Certificate.
- Establish a place of business.
- Apply for a Business Registration Certificate.

| Time | One week | One week | 1-2 days |

### Other

| Are shelf corporations available? | Yes | N/A | N/A |
CT Service Offerings – Hong Kong

**Global Transactional Services**
- Due diligence searches
  - Certificate of Good Standing (or equivalent)
  - Health check services
  - Liens/Charges
  - Litigation
  - Bankruptcy
- Document retrieval
  - Articles of Incorporation
  - Memorandum of Association
  - Chamber of Commerce Extract
- Authentications and legalizations
- Board changes
- Company searches
- Incorporations
- Liquidation of entities
- Process agent appointments
- Translation services

**Global Entity Management**
- Corporate Secretarial Services
- Annual Compliance
  - Statutory filings
  - Annual board resolution drafting
  - Corporate minute book management
- Domiciliation/Registered Address
- Director Services and Legal Representation

To learn more about how CT can help you better manage your **global compliance needs**, contact a CT representative at 855.444.5358 (toll-free U.S.).

ctcorporation.com/global-corporate-services