

FarmFest 2025 opens at Fa Hui Park in Mong Kok (with photos)

FarmFest 2025 runs for three consecutive days from today (January 3) to January 5 at Fa Hui Park in Mong Kok to showcase a variety of local agricultural and fisheries products and other goods.

Jointly organised by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD), the Vegetable Marketing Organization and the Fish Marketing Organization (FMO), FarmFest is the largest outdoor farmers' market in Hong Kong, where local producers can directly sell their products to consumers. FarmFest houses some 420 stalls, among which more than 220 offer local produce for sale. There are also stalls selling local delicacies, organic and healthy food, and household goods.

An array of specialty agricultural and fisheries products is on sale during FarmFest, featuring premium agricultural products produced by local organic, hydroponic and accredited farms, including cherry tomatoes, cabbages, sweet potatoes and hydroponic microgreens. Local fresh fisheries products cultured by local accredited fish farms, such as spiny lobsters, grey mullets, tilapia and speckled blue groupers are also available. Additionally, ready-to-cook food products (including cherry wood smoked cobia fillet, four different flavours of collagen jelly and Shanghai smoked fish) developed through co-operation and research between the industry, academia, the AFCD and the FMO, will also be available for sale at the carnival. These dishes are easy to heat up and serve, convenient and tasty.

The AFCD has been proactively promoting sustainable development of the agricultural and fisheries industries. To enable consumers to learn more about the latest developments in the industries, an agricultural zone and a fisheries zone are set up at FarmFest to demonstrate how the industries can make good use of the relevant technologies to enhance productivity and improve the quality of local produce.

The agricultural zone introduces modern farming machinery and various cultivation technologies to enable the public to understand how modern technology can save manpower, time and manual labour, thereby enhancing farming efficiency. In respect of hydroponic cultivation technology, the Smart Illumination System for Cultivation on display can allow optimal use of space and provide the most suitable lighting for crop growth by automatically adjusting the distance between the light source and the crops according to the intensity of the light source and the height of the crops. A smart greenhouse has also been set up in the zone to demonstrate to the visitors how to monitor and control real-time environmental conditions of the greenhouse through Internet of Things (IoT) technology, which can enhance the greenhouse's operational efficiency. The AFCD staff will also demonstrate modern farm machinery and guide visitors to try operating the irrigation system of the smart greenhouse on-site. Furthermore, the agricultural zone will feature a photo-taking area with an agriculture-related three

dimensional (3D) backdrop, a variety of seasonal local produce and two Agriculture Hall mascots of "The Family" – Ricey and Beany – for the public to take photos.

The fisheries zone exhibits new aquaculture technologies which drive fisheries into modernised and sustainable development. For example, visitors can experience the modern mariculture demonstration farm established by the AFCD at Tung Lung Chau via Virtual Reality (VR) technology, understanding the advantages of semi-submersible steel truss deep sea cages over traditional wooden fish rafts. The small-scale recirculating aquaculture system carrying local aquaculture species features the system's workflow and its functions. The public can also try to operate a drone to experience modern methods of collecting water samples and try to detect plankton in water samples using a microscope. The mascots of the Accredited Fish Farm Scheme are also at Farmfest to meet the public. The public can take photos with the inflatable props of the mascots at the photo zone in the fisheries zone.

In addition, FarmFest offers a variety of entertaining performances, including music and cultural performances and cooking demonstrations, as well as photo backdrops featuring local agricultural and fisheries industries, which are suitable for families. Admission is free. The event is open from 10am to 8pm, and a free shuttle bus service is available to and from Shek Kip Mei MTR Station Exit C.

The AFCD, in collaboration with Radio Television Hong Kong, has produced a series of short videos featuring local agricultural and fisheries products. The videos and details of FarmFest can be viewed at www.farmfest.hk (Chinese version only) or the FarmFest Facebook page at www.facebook.com/farmfesthk.



