

# Grading of beach water quality released

The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) today (July 9) released the latest grading of water quality for 39 gazetted beaches (see Note 1) and one non-gazetted beach (i.e. Discovery Bay, see Note 2).

Eighteen beaches were rated as Good (Grade 1), 19 as Fair (Grade 2) and three as Poor (Grade 3).

Grade 1 beaches are:

Cafeteria Old Beach	Repulse Bay Beach*
Cheung Chau Tung Wan Beach*	Shek O Beach*
Chung Hom Kok Beach	South Bay Beach
Clear Water Bay First Beach	Stanley Main Beach*
Hap Mun Bay Beach*	St Stephen's Beach
Hung Shing Yeh Beach*	Tai Po Lung Mei Beach*
Kiu Tsui Beach	Trio Beach
Kwun Yam Beach	Turtle Cove Beach
Lo So Shing Beach	Upper Cheung Sha Beach

Grade 2 beaches are:

Anglers' Beach	Hoi Mei Wan Beach
Big Wave Bay Beach*	Kadoorie Beach
Butterfly Beach*	Lido Beach*
Cafeteria New Beach	Lower Cheung Sha Beach
Casam Beach*	Ma Wan Tung Wan Beach*
Castle Peak Beach	Middle Bay Beach
Clear Water Bay Second Beach*	Pui O Beach
Deep Water Bay Beach*	Silverstrand Beach*
Discovery Bay	Tong Fuk Beach
Golden Beach*	

Grade 3 beaches are:

Approach Beach	Ting Kau Beach
Silver Mine Bay Beach*	

Compared with the grading released last week, Castle Peak Beach and Hoi Mei Wan Beach have been upgraded from Grade 3 to Grade 2. Butterfly Beach,

Clear Water Bay Second Beach, Golden Beach and Kadoorie Beach have been changed from Grade 1 to Grade 2, and Approach Beach from Grade 2 to Grade 3.

"The changes are generally within the normal range of fluctuation of the bacteriological water quality of the beaches," an EPD spokesman said.

Under the present grading system, beaches are classified into four grades, namely Good (Grade 1), Fair (Grade 2), Poor (Grade 3) and Very Poor (Grade 4), according to the level of E. coli in the water. Grades are calculated on the basis of the geometric mean of the E. coli counts on the five most recent sampling occasions.

A summary of beach grades is published weekly before the weekend. The latest beach grades based on the most current data may be obtained from the EPD's website on Beach Water Quality ([www.epd.gov.hk/epd/beach](http://www.epd.gov.hk/epd/beach)) or the beach hotline, 2511 6666.

Note 1: Lifeguard services are provided by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department at 17 gazetted beaches, marked with an asterisk above, from June 23.

Note 2: Discovery Bay is a non-gazetted beach without lifeguard service.