

# Grading of beach water quality released

The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) today (August 20) 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), 17 as Fair (Grade 2) and five as Poor (Grade 3).

Grade 1 beaches are:

Cafeteria New Beach	Repulse Bay Beach*
Chung Hom Kok Beach	Shek O Beach*
Clear Water Bay First Beach	South Bay Beach
Discovery Bay	St Stephen's Beach
Golden Beach*	Stanley Main Beach*
Hap Mun Bay Beach*	Tong Fuk Beach
Hung Shing Yeh Beach*	Trio Beach
Lo So Shing Beach	Turtle Cove Beach
Middle Bay Beach	Upper Cheung Sha Beach

Grade 2 beaches are:

Anglers' Beach	Kiu Tsui Beach
Approach Beach	Kwun Yam Beach
Cafeteria Old Beach	Lido Beach*
Castle Peak Beach	Lower Cheung Sha Beach
Cheung Chau Tung Wan Beach*	Ma Wan Tung Wan Beach*
Clear Water Bay Second Beach*	Pui O Beach *
Deep Water Bay Beach*	Silverstrand Beach*
Hoi Mei Wan Beach	Tai Po Lung Mei Beach*
Kadoorie Beach	

Grade 3 beaches are:

Big Wave Bay Beach*	Silver Mine Bay Beach*
Butterfly Beach*	Ting Kau Beach
Casam Beach*	

Compared with the grading released last week, Middle Bay Beach has been upgraded from Grade 2 to Grade 1. Kiu Tsui Beach and Silverstrand Beach have

been changed from Grade 1 to Grade 2; Big Wave Bay Beach, Butterfly Beach, Casam Beach and Silver Mine Bay 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 18 gazetted beaches, marked with an asterisk above, from July 17.

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