

Grading of beach water quality released

The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) today (May 4) released the latest grading of water quality for 38 gazetted beaches (see Note 1 and Note 2) and one non-gazetted beach (i.e. Discovery Bay, see Note 3).

Thirty-one beaches were rated as Good (Grade 1), six as Fair (Grade 2) and two as Poor (Grade 3).

Grade 1 beaches are:

Big Wave Bay Beach	Lower Cheung Sha Beach
Butterfly Beach*	Middle Bay Beach
Cafeteria New Beach	Pui O Beach*
Cafeteria Old Beach	Repulse Bay Beach*
Castle Peak Beach	Shek O Beach*
Cheung Chau Tung Wan Beach	Silver Mine Bay Beach*
Chung Hom Kok Beach	Silverstrand Beach*
Clear Water Bay Second Beach*	South Bay Beach
Deep Water Bay Beach*	St. Stephen's Beach
Golden Beach*	Stanley Main Beach
Hap Mun Bay Beach*	Tai Po Lung Mei Beach*
Hung Shing Yeh Beach*	Tong Fuk Beach
Kadoorie Beach	Trio Beach
Kiu Tsui Beach	Turtle Cove Beach
Kwun Yam Beach	Upper Cheung Sha Beach
Lo So Shing Beach	

Grade 2 beaches are:

Approach Beach	Discovery Bay
Casam Beach*	Hoi Mei Wan Beach
Clear Water Bay First Beach	Ting Kau Beach

Grade 3 beaches are:

Lido Beach*	Ma Wan Tung Wan Beach*
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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) or the beach hotline, 2511 6666.

Note 1: In view of the relaxation of some social distancing measures, the Leisure and Cultural Services Department announced on May 3 that 15 gazetted beaches, marked with an asterisk above, will reopen on May 5 with lifeguard services to be provided.

Note 2: The Stonecutters Island Sewage Treatment Works, which was affected by the unstable supply of chemicals earlier on, has resumed normal dosage of sodium hypochlorite solution (referred to as bleach) in the disinfection system, and met the discharge standard for bacteriological water quality. The routine water quality monitoring conducted by the EPD at Tsuen Wan beaches confirmed that their water quality has returned to normal level, suitable for swimming.

Note 3: Discovery Bay is a non-gazetted beach without lifeguard service.