

# Opening ceremony for Countryside Harvest Festival: Kuk Po "Sound, Sight, Taste Fusion" Tour held today (with photos)

The Countryside Conservation Office (CCO) under the Environment and Ecology Bureau held the opening ceremony for the Countryside Harvest Festival: Kuk Po "Sound, Sight, Taste Fusion" Tour today (January 18) at Kuk Po in Sha Tau Kok.

Delivering his speech at the ceremony, the Secretary for Environment and Ecology, Mr Tse Chin-wan, emphasised the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government's commitment to promoting countryside conservation with a view to revitalising villages and conserving ecological and cultural resources. Based on the achievements of countryside conservation in the past, the Countryside Harvest Festival combines the three major elements of "Sound, Sight and Fusion" for the first time, using music, art and traditional cuisine as the media to connect natural ecology, historical buildings and countryside culture. He hopes that the event can promote a new in-depth eco-tour experience, enhance public awareness of nature conservation, foster urban-rural symbiosis, invigorate the local economy, and build a sustainable future.

Kuk Po, located in the northeastern New Territories in Sha Tau Kok, is a Hakka village with over 300 years of history, known for its picturesque scenery and rich biodiversity. The Countryside Harvest Festival: Kuk Po "Sound, Sight, Taste Fusion" Tour is the first event in Kuk Po to combine village cultural elements, music performances, art exhibitions, and traditional cuisine. Collaborating with local and international artists, the festival features art installations, photography exhibitions, music performances, the Good Day market, and a variety of countryside experiences, providing participants with a unique and in-depth urban-rural travel experience.

Other officiating guests at the opening ceremony included the Chairman of the Legislative Council (LegCo) Panel on Environmental Affairs, Mr Lau Kwok-fan; LegCo Member Mr Yiu Pak-leung; North District Council member Mr Ko Wai-kei; the Chairman of Sha Tau Kok Rural Committee, Mr Lee Koon-hung; Assistant Commissioner for Tourism Mr Henry Lai, and the District Officer (North), Mr Derek Lai.

The event will be held over two weekends, today and tomorrow (January 18 and 19) and January 25 and 26, with activities running from noon to 7pm. Admission is free. On these dates with activities, the CCO will provide complimentary ferry services at scheduled times to transport visitors between Sha Tau Kok and Kuk Po, with limited seats available on a first-come, first-

served basis. Additionally, the art exhibitions will run from today until February 16. For more details about the event, please visit the official website at [kukpofestival.hk](http://kukpofestival.hk).

