

# **“Traversing the Forbidden City – Architecture and Craftsmanship” exhibition to showcase historical culture of Forbidden City**

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) will hold the exhibition "Traversing the Forbidden City – Architecture and Craftsmanship" from tomorrow (January 11) at the Hong Kong Heritage Discovery Centre. The exhibition will feature 18 sets of exhibits, including architectural models, models of dougong (bracket sets) and replicas of ornaments on roof ridges and polychrome paintings, enabling visitors to learn about the rich cultural heritage and remarkable architectural concept of the Forbidden City.

Focusing on the architecture and craftsmanship of the Forbidden City, the exhibition will introduce the origin, planning and architectural features of this palace, as well as highlight the most exceptional building in the palace – the Hall of Supreme Harmony.

Highlight exhibits include a model of a seven-tier liujing dougong (lever bracket set) from the Ming dynasty; a model of a one-petal arm, one-cantilever and five-tier pingshenke dougong (bracket set between columns) from the Qing dynasty; "gold tile" (modern work), a type of square floor tile in the Forbidden City; and replicas of the polychrome painting bearing patterns of dragons on the ceiling of the Gate of Heavenly Purity and the ornaments on the roof ridge of the Hall of Supreme Harmony.

The Forbidden City was the residence and court of 24 emperors during the Ming and Qing dynasties. Located on the central axis of Beijing, this imperial palace has been witnessing the changes of time across almost six centuries. It is the world's largest and most well-preserved wooden palace complex.

In addition, the exhibition will also feature the style and characteristics of Chinese buildings in Hong Kong, including the Tang Ancestral Hall at Ping Shan in Yuen Long, Tai Fu Tai and King Yin Lei, to help visitors understand the importance of conserving historic buildings.

The Hong Kong Heritage Discovery Centre is located in Kowloon Park, Haiphong Road, Tsim Sha Tsui. Admission is free and the exhibition will run until April 7. The exhibition is jointly presented by the LCSD and the Palace Museum. For details of the exhibition, please visit the website at [www.amo.gov.hk/en/whatsnew\\_20190108.php](http://www.amo.gov.hk/en/whatsnew_20190108.php), or call 2601 7368.