

Fact Sheet – Special Stamps Issuing Programme for 2014

Hongkong Post's Special Stamp Issuing Programme for 2014 (the 2014 Programme) boasts a colourful diversity of stamp themes and designs that highlight local and international themes and natural and historical phenomena in a vivid kaleidoscope that mirrors the world we live in today.

The "2014 Hong Kong Definitive Stamps" featuring the picturesque landscapes of Hong Kong Global Geopark of China is undoubtedly one of the highlights of the year. The "Chinese Dinosaurs" stamps will take us back to the era when giants trod Chinese soil, whereas the "Weather Phenomena" stamps will focus on the way that weather conditions continue to make their mark. The issue on "Hong Kong Museums Collection – Paintings by Mr. WU Guanzhong" presents the masterpieces of Mr. WU which fuse Western artistic concepts with oriental aesthetics while exquisite costumes of the indigenous performing art are showcased in the "Cantonese Opera Costumes" issue. As collectors' favourites, the "Year of the Horse" and "China Danxia", representing the third stamp issue for the latest "Lunar New Year Animal Series" and the "World Heritage in China Series" respectively, are long-awaited treasures. With novel designs and clever use of holographic foil effect, "Heartwarming" will surely melt your heart while "International Day of Families" and "Christmas Stamps III" inspire and hold special appeal for our young aspiring philatelists. The joint issue of "Hong Kong, China – Malaysia Joint Issue on Local Food" celebrates the distinctive culinary cultures of these Asian neighbors.

With stamp themes introducing Hong Kong's unique cityscape and way of life, the 2014 special stamps form a prized collection for philatelists, and make an ideal gift for family, friends and business associates.

Further information about the special stamp issues and related products can be obtained now from any post office and from the Hongkong Post website at www.hongkongpost.hk, or by calling the Hongkong Post Philatelic Bureau hotline at 2785 5711. More details on each individual special stamp issue will be available prior to the release date.

Appendix 1 - 2014 Stamp Issues Preview

Date of Issue	Description
11 Jan 2014	<p>1. Year of the Horse</p> <p>“Year of the Horse” is the third Lunar New Year special stamp issue in the fourth series. This set of stamps delineates the ethereal beauty of horses in four different artistic mediums, namely fabric art, wood carving, metal sculpture and lacquer. The stamp sheetlet and silk stamp sheetlet give a note of festivity of the Chinese New Year.</p>
11 Jan 2014	<p>1a. Gold and Silver Stamp Sheetlet on Lunar New Year Animals – Snake/Horse</p> <p>While the Year of the Snake draws to a close and the Horse comes in like a bolt of lightning, it is a good idea to capture and celebrate the Lunar New Year with this special stamp issue. This stamp sheetlet with 22K gold-plated horse stamp and silver hot-foiled snake stamp is perfect for gift or collection.</p>
23 Jan 2014	<p>2. Heartwarming</p> <p>The fifth issue of Heartwarming stamps by Hongkong Post is unique in design with holographic foil effect. The six stamps cover themes like “Love & Care”, “Celebrations”, as well as the new theme of “Birthday / Newborn”. Whatever special occasions you are congratulating, be it a wedding, anniversary, festival, celebration or birthday, Heartwarming stamps will surely melt the recipient’s heart!</p>
20 Feb 2014	<p>3. Chinese Dinosaurs</p> <p>China has as many as 140 recorded dinosaur species, representing one-sixth of the world’s total, and is recognised as a major dinosaur region. This stamp issue features six Chinese dinosaurs: Daxiatitan binglingi, Microraptor gui, Lufengosaurus magnus, Tuojiangosaurus multispinus, Protoceratops andrewsi and Yangchuanosaurus shangyouensis, which leads you to the Mesozoic Era when these giants trod Chinese soil to get a close-up of these legendary creatures!</p>

27 March 2014	<p>4. Weather Phenomena</p> <p>Look around you and you can easily observe all sorts of weather phenomena that have bearings on our daily lives. This stamp issue introduces seven common weather phenomena ranging from rainbow, frost, cloud, lightning, fog, rain to typhoon, to enhance the public's awareness of these weather conditions in Hong Kong.</p>
15 May 2014	<p>5. International Day of Families</p> <p>The United Nations has made 15 May the annual International Day of Families to enhance awareness of the family around the world. Family is the cornerstone of the society. Therefore happy families are the keys to building a harmonious society. This stamp issue conveys the four core values of family – filial piety, love, harmony and care – through interactive hand signs, and underscores the significance of the family.</p>
17 June 2014	<p>6. Hong Kong Museums Collection – Paintings by Mr. WU Guanzhong</p> <p>Wu Guanzhong is one of the most influential artists in art history. His works have fused western art concepts with oriental aesthetics, and have opened up new creative vistas for the 20th century Chinese artists. Wu donated to Hong Kong his masterpieces such as the “Two Swallows” and his last works. This set of seven stamps featuring his paintings helps disseminate his selfless artistic beliefs to all people in Hong Kong and abroad.</p>
Jul 2014 (TBC)	<p>7. 2014 Hong Kong Definitive Stamps</p> <p>The unique, picturesque and awe-inspiring landscapes of Hong Kong Global Geopark of China are adopted as the theme of the 2014 Hong Kong Definitive Stamps. The Geopark consists of two Regions and eight Geo-Areas. At this scientifically significant Geopark, you can get close to breathtaking geological wonders at the tip of South China. Through this set of definitive stamps, Hongkong Post wishes to promote earth science and raise public awareness of the natural environment.</p>

21 Aug 2014	<p>8. Cantonese Opera Costumes</p> <p>Cantonese Opera is the indigenous performing art form of Guangdong region. Dating back to some four centuries ago, the genre has a unique style built upon narration and Cantonese folk music and singing. Cantonese opera costumes are mostly embroidered and classified by the roles, gender and scenes. This exquisite stamp issue presents seven costumes including the Great Han Costume, Gown with Sloping Collar, Dress for Young Ladies, Military Uniform for Soldiers, Python Ceremonial Robe, Gown with a Vertical Collar and Grand Armor in meticulous details.</p>
9 Oct 2014	<p>9. Hong Kong, China – Malaysia Joint Issue on Local Food</p> <p>Hong Kong is a renowned international food capital, whereas Malaysia is a popular destination for foodies as a multicultural gourmet hub. Tourists are drawn to both places for their unique gastronomical landscapes. This joint issue features authentic local food of Malaysia and Hong Kong and celebrates the distinctive culinary cultures of these Asian neighbours.</p>
4 Nov 2014	<p>10. Christmas Stamps III</p> <p>Christmas is a time to share joy with and send good wishes to your loved ones. Why not give your customary Christmas cards a delightful twist by accompanying them with specially designed festive stamps? Hongkong Post's Christmas Stamps III creatively blend local scenes of life into well-known Christmas settings to deliver merry sentiments to every corner of the city.</p>
4 Dec 2014	<p>11. World Heritage in China Series No. 3: China Danxia</p> <p>China Danxia is highlighted in this instalment of the World Heritage in China Series. 'Danxia' refers to an impressive and rugged landscape shaped by weathering and erosion on continental red sandstone sedimentary beds. The site comprises six areas in China's southern provinces, namely Chishui from Guizhou, Taining from Fujian, Liangshan from Hunan, Danxiashan from Guangdong, Longhushan from Jiangxi and Jianglangshan from Zhejiang. The poetic and panoramic beauty of the cliffs, gorges, waters and trees in Danxia is fully depicted in this stamp issue.</p>

Note: All images are for reference only. The actual issue date of the special stamp issue, its range of products, prices and the stamp designs are subject to change and will be announced closer to release.