Business Internships in Hong Kong

PARTICIPANT FEEDBACK

Planning Resources
Google, Google calendar, CGI & LAC websites.

Arrival/Orientation
GAV will have a pick up service at the airport and orientation the following morning.

Visas
Visa is required, GAV will submit application once information is provided. The cost is included in program fee.

Advising
The GAV team helped when students got sick and sends out safety notifications and kept students updated.

Language Learning
Cantonese is not necessary in the office as English is commonly spoken. However, it is less common in town and it is recommended to know a few basic phrases although you can get by with just English.

Housing
Included in program cost. Hotel-style and shared with a roommate. The commute depends on the business they were interning with (some said it was very convenient while others said it was far away). Suggested to bring more hangers to hang up your clothes.

Meals
Ate lunch with coworkers and had dinner near the housing. There is a wide range of options. Spent less than $1000 on food for the entire program. Most people ate out (ranged from 40-300 HKD per meal). Hotel rooms had a mini fridge and an electric kettle.

Transportation
Excellent public transportation. MTR is accessible and easy to navigate. Bus system is also great and there are many apps to help navigate that. The commute ranged from less than 30 minutes to around 3 hours.

Cultural Adjustment
Very crowded, hot, humid, and rains a lot so bring an umbrella. Very fast-paced and diverse.

Culture Recommendations
Try local food, always bring an umbrella. Explore Kowloon and surrounding island. Take advantage of the location and explore other countries. Keep an open attitude and use observations instead of interpretations.

Integration with Local Students
Other students were very friendly and curious about the United States. Students will need to put in an effort to meet them, of course.
Recommended Activities

Horse races, LKF (Lan Kwai Fong, Ng Tung Chai Waterfall Hike, Dragon Back Hike, Sharp Island Hike, China (15 minute train ride), Lantau Island (Big Buddha, Tai O), Lamma Island, temples, Kowloon Walled City Park, Hong Kong wetlands park, Start Ferry, Thai food, PMQ, Sai Wan Swimming Shed

Budgeting

Go to noodle shops/other cheap restaurants to save money. Some companies will take employees out for food a lot.

Scholarships

CGI, LAC, and the China Center.

Packing

Keep in mind that it is very hot so don’t pack long sleeves aside from work shirts. Look into the company dress code before packing to know what you’ll need to wear. You’ll wear less than you’d expect. Bring versatile outfits and limit the number of shoes you bring.

Program Fit

Students who are curious about diversity and who are willing to step out of their comfort zone. Students who are independent and comfortable with a relatively unstructured program schedule.

Advice

Have fun, do the homework beforehand, don’t be afraid to try new things and explore new areas as much as possible.