

Press Release

Cultural Affairs Bureau promotes cultural activities in celebration of Chinese New Year

Under the auspices of the Cultural Affairs Bureau, the Macao Museum, the Mandarin's House, the Lou Kau Mansion, the Tap Seac Gallery, the Dom Pedro V Theatre, the Na Tcha Exhibition Room, the Kun Iam Ecumenical Centre, the Museum of Sacred Art and Crypt, the Guia Fortress Chapel and the Mount Fortress Corridor remain open during the Chinese New Year holiday, from 31 January to 2 February, offering an array of festive activities in celebration of the Spring Festival.

The Macao Museum is currently hosting a small exhibition on the development of the firecrackers industry in Macao, comprising items on loan from Mr. Lai Hong Kin, author of the recently launched book *Indústria de Panchões da Taipa*. The exhibition includes over forty items, namely documents regarding the industry, firecrackers, wrappers and production tools, among others, allowing visitors to get to know the several facets of this industry's development in Macau. From 31 January to 2 February, the Museum offers free admission to Macao ID and Macao Student Cards holders, upon presentation of the relevant document.

Also from 31 January to 2 February, the Mandarin's House organises calligraphy activities as well as jazz concerts and Lion Dance performances. During the same period, the Lou Kau Mansion hosts calligraphy activities, traditional Chinese music performances and offers visitors the opportunity to write their own New Year's couplets.

The Heritage Exhibition of a Traditional Pawnshop Business will be closed on 31 January, but normal operating hours will be resumed on 1 February. All branches of the Macao Central Library will be closed from 31 January to 2 February, resuming normal operating hours on 3 February. Ye Ting's House is temporarily closed for maintenance.

Nearly all of the above-mentioned activities, exhibitions and performances are free of charge. For more information on current activities and schedules, please call 8399 6699 during working hours or access the Cultural Affairs Bureau's website at www.icm.gov.mo.

Opening hours and cultural activities during Chinese New Year:

	Opening hours	Closed	Current Exhibitions and Activities
Macao Museum	10am to 6pm as usual (ticket office closes at 5:30pm)	Mondays	Exhibition on the development of the firecrackers industry in Macau in the Museum's lobby, until 16 February.
Mandarin's House	10am to 6pm as usual (doors close at 5:30pm)	Wednesdays	31 January to 2 February: calligraphy activities (lunch break from 1pm to 2pm), jazz concerts (two performances per day, at 11:30am and 3pm; afternoon session at 4pm on 1 February) and lion dance on 1 February at 3pm.
Lou Kao Mansion	10am to 6pm as usual (doors close at 5:30pm)	Mondays (except on 3 February, normal opening hours will be observed)	31 January to 2 February: calligraphy activities (lunch break from 1pm to 2pm), traditional Chinese music performances (two performances per day, at 11:30am and 3pm) and the making of new year's couplets from 2 to 16 February.
Tap Seac Gallery	10am to 7pm as usual	No closure	Exhibition <i>Traces of a Century of Epigraphy - The Art of the Masters of the Xiling Seal Society</i>