

Tobacco Control Legislation (Amendment) Ordinance 2025

Guidelines on Expansion of No Smoking Areas and Ban on Smoking while Queuing



衛生署控煙酒辦公室

Tobacco and Alcohol Control Office
Department of Health



2025 Edition

1. Background

To further protect the public from the hazards of second-hand smoke, the Government has made amendments to the Smoking (Public Health) Ordinance (Cap. 371) (the Ordinance) to expand no smoking areas (NSAs) and to prohibit smoking while queuing.

2. Purpose of this Guideline

This Guideline explains the implementation of the expansion of NSAs and the ban on smoking while queuing under the Ordinance, which comes into effect on 1 January 2026.

3. Expansion of No Smoking Areas

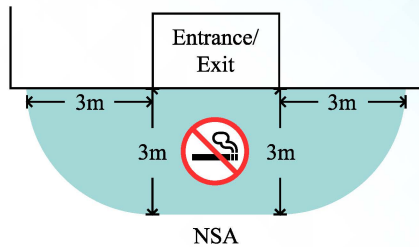
NSAs are expanded to the public places that lie within 3 metres from the outer edge of a doorway, gateway, or any other similar opening for access, that is exclusively used for access to or from premises described in Division 2 of Part 1 of Schedule 2:

- Any child care centre
- Any hospital
- Any residential care home
- Any school
- Any specified clinic or health centre
 - ↳ a clinic or health centre that is managed or controlled, whether wholly or partly, by the Government, the Hospital Authority or the Board of Governors of The Prince Philip Dental Hospital; and
 - ↳ a clinic or health centre specified by the Director of Health by notice published in the Gazette

Below is a pictorial example:



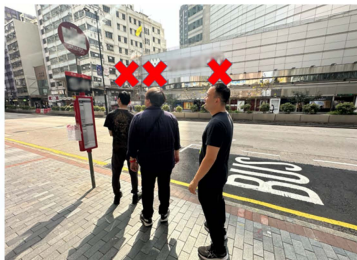
Within 3m from the outer edge of any entrance/exit of specified premises



4. Ban on Smoking while Queuing

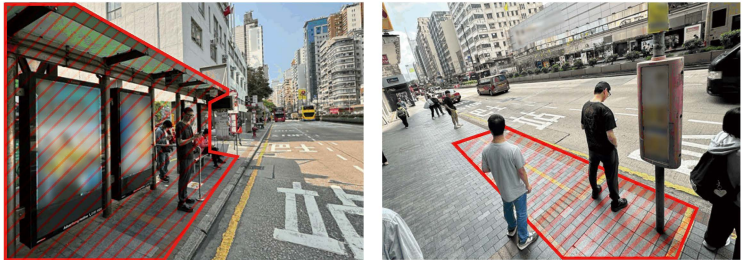
Smoking is prohibited in the following situations:

- a) Queuing to board public transport carriers
 - No smoking while queuing in a line of 2 or more persons to board a public transport carrier (such as queuing for buses, minibuses, taxis and trams) at a designated boarding location. Below is a pictorial example:



Waiting in a queue of 2 or more people to board public transport

- No smoking while staying in the delineated area for a designated boarding location (such as areas underneath bus shelters, inside areas where queuing positions are clearly indicated at ground level or areas with queue railings), irrespective of whether the person is waiting to board a public transport carrier and whether there is another person in the area. Below are some pictorial examples:



Staying in the delineated area for a designated boarding location

- b) Queuing in a line of 2 or more persons to enter certain places or within such places
- Certain places are described in Schedule 9 of the Ordinance (see page 5) e.g. museums, public swimming pools, stadiums, specified clinics etc. Below is a pictorial example:



5. Offences

The fixed penalty for smoking in NSAs or smoking while queuing is \$3,000, with effect from 1 January 2026.

6. Advice to venue managers

- To identify entrances / exits exclusively used for the premises and display appropriate signage in a conspicuous place to facilitate the public in recognising that smoking is prohibited.
- Managers can contact the Tobacco and Alcohol Control Office of the Department of Health (email: tobaccocontrol@dh.gov.hk) to obtain relevant signage, leaflet, etc.
- If a manager finds any person who is smoking in an NSA or while queuing, the manager can ask the person to stop smoking. If the person fails to comply, the manager may request police assistance.

Contact Us

Enquiry and Complaint Hotline : 2961 8823

Quitline : 1833 183

Address : Room 1801-1803, 18/F, Wing On Kowloon Centre,
345 Nathan Road, Kowloon

Fax : 2575 8944

Email : tobaccocontrol@dh.gov.hk

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Smoking (Public Health) Ordinance (Cap. 371)

Schedule 9

Places Described for Purposes of Section 4B

1. Any arts and cultural facilities as defined by section 2 of the West Kowloon Cultural District Authority Ordinance (Cap. 601).
2. Any cinema, theatre or concert hall.
3. Any civic centre as defined by section 2(1) of the Public Health and Municipal Services Ordinance (Cap. 132).
4. Any community hall, community centre, activity centre or other community facility managed by the Home Affairs Department.
5. Any hospital.
6. Any museum as defined by section 2(1) of the Public Health and Municipal Services Ordinance (Cap. 132).
7. Any public pleasure ground.
8. Any public swimming pool.

9. Any specified clinic or health centre.
10. Any stadium.
11. Kai Tak Arena, located at 38-39 Shing Kai Road, Kowloon.
12. AsiaWorld-Expo, located at the Hong Kong International Airport, Lantau Island, New Territories.
13. Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre, located at 1 Expo Drive, Wan Chai, Hong Kong.
14. Hong Kong Disneyland Park, located at Hong Kong Disneyland, Lantau Island, New Territories.
15. Ocean Park as defined by section 2 of the Ocean Park Corporation Ordinance (Cap. 388).
16. Water World Ocean Park Hong Kong, located at 33 Ocean Drive, Aberdeen, Hong Kong.
17. The Hong Kong Observation Wheel, located at 33 Man Kwong Street, Central, Hong Kong.
18. The Hong Kong Wetland Park designated under section 24(1) of the Country Parks Ordinance (Cap. 208).



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