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# Plot P seniors' rental housing inaugurated, tenants to move into flats from Oct 15

Tony Wong

Tenants are scheduled to move into their flats in the government's high-rise rental residential building for senior citizens on Plot P in Areia Preta district from October 15, after it was inaugurated by Chief Executive Ho Iat Seng yesterday.

The government said that as of yesterday afternoon, 920 flats have been chosen by successful applicants.

The housing estate, the first of its kind in the government's housing programme, aims to help senior citizens living in low-rise walk-ups improve their living quality.

Construction of the 37-storey building comprising 1,815 studio-style units got off the ground in December 2020 and was completed in January this year. The government ran its application period for renting a flat there between November 6 and December 31 last year, during which around 1,500 applications were submitted. The government started its process in early July for successful applicants to choose their flats. The flat-selection process is still ongoing.

An inauguration ceremony was held on the housing estate's second floor yesterday afternoon, which is used for clubhouse facilities,



Guests such as Chief Executive Ho Iat Seng (fourth from right), Central People's Government Liaison Office in Macau Director Zheng Xincong (fourth from left), Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture Elsie Ao Ieong U (third from right) and Secretary for Transport and Public Works Raimundo do Rosário (third from left) unveil the inaugural plaque of the Plot P seniors' rental housing estate yesterday. — Photo: IAS

where its inaugural plaque was jointly unveiled by Ho as well as Central People's Government Liaison Office in the Macau Special Administrative Region (MSAR) Director Zheng Xincong, Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture Elsie Ao Ieong U, Secretary for Transport and Public Works Raimundo do Rosário, Ao Ieong's chief-of-cabinet Ho Ioc San, Social Welfare Bureau (IAS) President Wilson Hon Wai, Public Works Bureau (DSOP) Director Lam Wai Hou, and Health

Bureau (SSM) Director Alvis Lo Iek Long.

Delivering a speech during the ceremony, Ao Ieong said that in addition to providing a comfortable environment, the Plot P seniors' rental housing estate is also equipped with barrier-free facilities as well as those featuring smart elderly care and smart homes.

The policy secretary also noted that the housing estate is equipped with various facilities such as a clubhouse and a health facility, also

with emergency support services to be provided.

According to an IAS statement yesterday, about 150 people attended yesterday's ceremony such as government officials, representatives from social service organisations and community associations, members of the government-appointed Senior Citizen Affairs Committee, and senior citizens organised by community associations.

After the ceremony, the chief executive, the liaison office



director, and other local government officials joined a tour of flats and various facilities in the housing estate. The Social Welfare Bureau (IAS), the public entity running the government's programme on the estate, also organised a tour for other guests and journalists.

The housing estate has four podium levels from the ground to third floors. The ground floor will be used for the operation of four shops, one of which will be a supermarket, while the first floor will be used for dining facilities comprising a Chinese restaurant, a "cha chaan teng" (traditional Hong Kong and Macau-style café), and a buffet area.

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Staff members transport giant panda An An at the Hong Kong International Airport after arriving from Chengdu yesterday. A pair of giant pandas gifted by the central government to the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) arrived at the airport yesterday morning. At around 1 p.m., the pandas were driven to Ocean Park Hong Kong witnessed by dozens of local fans waving panda-shaped balloons and cardboard cutouts. They will spend time in quarantine and adapt to the new environment before their scheduled public debut in December, probably at Christmas. The two pandas, named An An and Ke Ke, were both born in June 2019. They are the third pair of giant pandas the HKSAR has received as gifts from the central government. — Xinhua

## Group helping children in conflict wins HK prize

HONG KONG – One of the world's biggest education funds, run by a Tencent co-founder, awarded the 2024 Yidan Prize yesterday to a group helping children in conflict-hit countries like Lebanon and Ukraine.

The Yidan Prize is a Hong Kong-based philanthropic foundation that seeks to recognise "innovative work" in education globally.

Set up in 2016 by Chen Yidan – a mainland Chinese philanthropist who was a co-founder of internet giant Tencent – winners receive a HK\$30 million prize, half of which can be used to "support them in scaling their work". — AFP

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### Xi chairs CPC leadership meeting to analyze economic situation, arrange for economic work

The Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee held a meeting yesterday to analyze and study the current economic situation and make further arrangements for economic work.

— Story on p. 7

### Israel vows to keep fighting Hezbollah 'until victory'

Israel flatly rejected yesterday a push led by key backer the United States for a 21-day ceasefire in Lebanon, vowing to keep fighting Hezbollah militants "until victory".

— Story on p. 10

### NY mayor charged with bribery, fraud in bombshell indictment

New York's scandal-plagued mayor Eric Adams was federally charged yesterday with crimes including wire fraud, soliciting illegal foreign campaign donations and bribery conspiracy, a stunning indictment unsealed amid calls for him to resign.

— Story on p. 12

# Macau set to log 600,000 entries & exits over National Day Golden Week: PSP

Yuki Lei

The mainland's National Day Golden Week will take place between Tuesday and October 7, and Macau Government Tourism Office (MGTO) Director Maria Helena de Senna Fernandes said on Wednesday she expects a daily average of 100,000 visitor arrivals during the holiday period, while Public Security Police (PSP) spokesman Lei Tak Fai said yesterday that over 600,000 entries and exits at local border checkpoints are expected over the seven-day period, with October 5 (next Saturday) to be the peak day, via the Barrier Gate checkpoint in particular.

Macau's population stood at 687,000 at the end of June, according to the latest available demographics.

Lei, who heads the PSP Public Relations Division, said: "We estimate that the peak day for exits and entries will be on Saturday, October 5, which will be more crowded with tourists and residents; in addition, we estimate that the average number of exits and entries during the National Day holiday will be over 600,000, and the number of visitors entering Macau is forecast to be more than 100,000 per day on average. In terms of border checkpoints, the Barrier Gate checkpoint has always been the busiest entry and exit point for residents and tourists alike, but we have also noticed a huge pedestrian and vehicular traffic flow at the Qingmao, Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau Bridge (HZMB) and Hengqin checkpoints during the holiday period," urging all residents and visitors to pay close attention to the PSP Real-Time Information Platform for Border Checkpoints in advance to avoid crossing the respective border checkpoints during peak hours.

An inter-departmental press briefing was held yesterday morning at the Barrier Gate checkpoint, during which senior officers and officials from the Public Security Police and Macau Customs Service (SA), as well as of the Macau Government Tourism Office, Transport Bureau (DSAT), and the Macau Consumer Council (CC) briefed the media about their respective measures to be implemented during the mainland's



Officers and officials from several public entities including Lei Tak Fai (centre) from the Public Security Police (PSP), U Chin Keong (second from left) from the Macau Customs Service (SA), Liz Lam Tong Hou (second from right) from the Macau Government Tourism Office (MGTO), and Lau Nga Hong (left) from the Transport Bureau (DSAT) pose during yesterday's press briefing at the Barrier Gate checkpoint about the respective measures to tackle the expected huge increase in entries and exits during the National Day Golden Week which begins on Tuesday. — Photos: Yuki Lei

weeklong holiday. Lei made the remarks during the press briefing.

U Chin Keong, a senior officer from the Macau Customs Service, said during the press briefing that peak-hour vehicular traffic was expected between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. at the HZMB checkpoint two days ahead of the National Day holiday, with an average of about 500 vehicles per hour. "We estimate that the peak traffic flow will be between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m., with an average of 500 vehicles per hour. This is mainly due to the fact that apart from the 2,000 daily advance bookings for Macau cars going northward, and in addition to the dual-plate private cars and other vehicles under the cross-border vehicle management between Hong Kong and Macau, the peak-hour traffic will start two days before the National Day holiday". He added that the Macau Customs Service has drawn up a plan in conjunction with the Public Security Police and other relevant entities to coordinate the provision of additional lanes during peak periods of cross-border vehicular traffic and the arrangement of additional customs officers and other checkpoint staff members to enhance the efficiency of vehicular clearance.

Liz Lam Tong Hou, who heads the MGTO Public Relations Division, said she believed that there will be an increase in visitor arrivals and the hotel occupancy rate during the National Day

Golden Week, thanks to a raft of various celebratory events to be hosted by various government agencies, the tourism sector and community groups, urging visitors to make good use of the MGTO Smart Application for Visitor Flows to check the crowd conditions of Macau's 114 tourist attractions so as to make appropriate arrangements for their trips.

MGTO has held meetings with relevant public entities and the travel trade to remind them to ensure an enjoyable experience to Macau's visitors with friendly service quality, according to Lam, who told the media that MGTO has so far not received any complaints or reports involving non-compliance by tour groups, pledging that MGTO would make every effort to improve its work and safeguard the quality of Macau's tourism services.

Lau Nga Hong, who heads the DSAT Transport Management Division, once again reminded members of the public that some public bus routes will have their temporary stops changed between October 1-7, with special bus routes to be operated at designated time slots.

## Firework displays Oct 1 & 6

This year marks the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China (PRC) on October 1 and the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Macau's return to the



This photo taken yesterday shows border crossers queuing for immigration clearance.

motherland on December 20, and as part of the "double happiness" events, the 32<sup>nd</sup> Macau International Fireworks Display Contest will be held close to Macau Tower next Tuesday, coinciding with National Day, and on Sunday, October 6, with two firework displays at 9 p.m. and 9:40 p.m. per night by pyrotechnic companies from mainland China and Italy, as well as from Japan and Portugal respectively, lasting about 18 minutes each, according to Lam. She noted that the "Fireworks Carnival", which combines street food, performances and games, will be held on the waterfront of the Macau Science Centre in Nape from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m. on each day of the pyrotechnic contest, with the aim of boosting Macau's night economy.

Lei underlined that police officers will be stationed at the main vantage points to watch the firework displays to divert both the foot and vehicular traffic there.

## 'Macao Bridge's operation schedule to be announced in due course': DSAT

Meanwhile, according to the Chinese-language media *Macau Daily News* and public broadcaster TDM, the local government has recently issued an invitation letter to representatives from various sectors of the community, announcing that the "Inauguration Ceremony of the Macao Bridge" will be held at 11 a.m. on October 1 at the open space

next to the PSP headquarters in Pac On.

The city's 4<sup>th</sup> Macau-Taipa bridge, the construction project of which started early in 2020, is Macau's first two-way, eight-lane cross-sea bridge, with a total length of 3.085 kilometres and a main span of 280 metres. The main structure of the bridge is made of high-performance bridge steel, which provides a tight structural integrity, short force transmission paths, high structural efficiency, is lightweight, and has a structural design service life of 100 years, aiming to serve as an important link between the HZMB, the Zone A land reclamation area and Taipa, the Public Works Bureau (DSOP) said during a ceremony celebrating the joining of the two sections of the Macao Bridge in March this year.

When asked by the media yesterday, Lau said that the bridge was now in the process of commissioning, final inspection and project handover, adding that the bridge operation schedule will be announced in due course, while Lei said that the police have already carried out safety drills on the bridge and are confident that vehicular traffic access to the bridge will be smooth.

According to a media invitation by the Transport Bureau yesterday evening, a press conference on the arrangements for the commissioning of the Macao Bridge will be held at 4 p.m. today. ■

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**FINE APART FROM CLOUDY PERIODS.**  
**ONE OR TWO SHOWERS LATER.**  
**FORCE 2 TO 3 SOUTHWESTERLY WINDS.**  
**RELATIVE HUMIDITY WILL RANGE BETWEEN 65% AND 95%.**



26°C~33°C

Source: SMG

## Hotel guests in Aug drop 3.8 pct to 1.26 million

Staff Reporter

Macau's 144 hotels recorded 1.26 million guests last month, a year-on-year decline of 3.8 percent, the Statistics and Census Bureau (DSEC) announced yesterday.

The hotel industry's number of available rooms remained unchanged at 45,000 in August.

A DSEC statement pointed out

that last month's number of guests reached 99.7 percent of the figure recorded in the same month of pre-pandemic 2019.

Foreign guests rose by 21.0 percent to 73,000, among whom those from South Korea (26,000) grew by 40.3 percent year on year. Foreign nationals accounted for 5.8 percent of all hotel guests.

Guests' average length of stay remained unchanged at 1.6 nights, an increase of 0.1 night compared to August 2019.

In the first eight months, the number of guests grew by 12.9 percent to 9.77 million. Hotels' average occupancy rates increased by 4.6 percentage points to 85.5 percent. ■

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## Plot P seniors' rental housing inaugurated, tenants to move into flats from Oct 15

*Continued from p.1*

The podium's second floor will be used for a clubhouse and a health facility, while the third floor will be used for an outdoor podium garden and indoor sport facilities.

As seen by the *Post* during yesterday's media tour, the second floor's clubhouse facilities include two karaoke rooms, a gym, a reading room, and a hall for Cantonese opera.

As seen during the tour, the third floor's indoor sports activity area includes three table tennis tables and two snooker tables.

Yesterday's IAS statement said that the housing estate's various podium facilities are scheduled to come into operation on October 15, when the bureau will start arranging for the first batch of tenants to move into their flats.

According to yesterday's media tour, the "cha chaan teng" will start its trial operation on Saturday next week.

The housing estate's health facility on the second floor, to be run by the Health Bureau (SSM), will primarily provide seniors living there with health

consultation and education with the aim of encouraging them to stay in good health.

Yesterday's IAS statement said that the health facility, which is still being decorated, is scheduled to open at the end of November.

According to yesterday's media tour, an area of the clubhouse will first be used for the Health Bureau's health facility on a temporary basis after the estate's operational start at the middle of next month. The health facility will be relocated to its permanent area on the same floor after its decoration is completed. ■



Seniors joining yesterday's tour play table tennis in the estate's indoor sports activity area. — Photo: Tony Wong

## Ají at MGM COTAI unveils new 'Asian Bistronomy' experience

**Rui Pastorin**

Integrated resort (IR) operator MGM has announced that Ají, a restaurant at MGM COTAI that overlooks the Spectacle, has recently unveiled a new "Asian Bistronomy" dining experience and refreshed menu.

A statement by MGM said that "bistronomy" refers to a culinary style that combines casual bistro style with gastronomic menu offerings. "Asian Bistronomy" has "a contemporary take on authentic Asian flavours with a touch of Western culinary technique", according to the statement.

The restaurant's refreshed concept redefines a modern bistro through a series of dishes that are a testament to Chef

de Cuisine Pan Sihui's extensive global culinary expertise, the statement noted.

The statement added that the chef, who is from Singapore, has "a deep understanding" of ingredients and flavours indigenous to Southeast Asian cultures. He is a graduate of the Culinary Institute of America and has accolades such as recognitions from the Global Delicacy – Excellent Chef Cooking Contest, three consecutive years from Black Pearl Restaurants, and being named one of the only chefs with the greatest contributions to the industry by MINGCHU China, the statement pointed out.

Among the signature dishes on the menu are Smoked Salmon with pickled beet and

mango turmeric, the Ají Lobster Thermidor with salted egg and sudachi comté cheese; Foie Gras with five-spice caramel; and the A4 Wagyu with hand-pulled refreshing yuzu somen noodles, infused with grilled maitake mushrooms.

"Chef Pan's culinary creations reflect his deep respect for the natural properties of ingredients, using his exceptional culinary techniques to bring out the authentic essence of each dish, embodying a seamless fusion of East meets West", according to the statement.

Enquiries and reservations can be made by contacting 8806 2308 or visiting MGM's website. ■



This undated handout photo recently provided by integrated resort (IR) operator MGM shows a signature dish in Ají's Menu.

## SJM hosts professional culinary workshops for ARTM members



This handout photo taken last Monday and provided yesterday shows Mesa by José Avillez Head Chef Herlander Fernandes (left) giving a cooking demonstration to a workshop participant (right) at the ARTM Integrated Service Centre.

**Rui Pastorin**

An exclusive culinary workshop was held by SJM Resorts last Monday for ARTM Integrated Service Centre members last Monday, which focused on teaching cooking skills to help participants improve their vocational abilities, according to a statement from the integrated resort (IR) operator on Wednesday.

ARTM is the Association of Rehabilitation of Drug Abusers of Macau.

The workshop's focus aimed to help enable participants to "return to the workforce with greater confidence and realise their full potential", the statement noted.

The statement said that Mesa by José Avillez Head Chef Herlander Fernandes delivered a demonstration of the preparation of the signature dish Grilled Octopus with Potatoes and Red Pepper Nut Sauce during the workshop at the ARTM Integrated Service Centre.

Mesa by José Avillez is located at THE KARL LAGERFELD MACAU in Cotai

Head Chef Fernandes patiently guided the seven participants through each step, sharing professional tips and techniques, according to the statement. The participants then attempted to prepare the dish themselves under Head Chef Fernandes' guidance.

The statement said that the participants pointed out that the opportunity taught them new vocational skills and gave them "more courage to tackle future challenges they will encounter in their lives".

The initiative was part of the IR's efforts to support the reintegration of disadvantaged people into society, the statement said.

"By fostering collaboration and social cohesion, SJM is dedicated to contributing to the continued development of a harmonious society in Macau", the statement said. ■

## Conrad to launch annual 'Pink Inspired' campaign

**Rui Pastorin**

The month-long breast cancer awareness Pink Inspired campaign by Conrad Macao will make its return in October, the hotel operator said in a statement earlier this week.

The statement said that the campaign supports the Hong Kong Cancer Fund's breast awareness campaign and marks the 10<sup>th</sup> year of support, with a portion of the proceeds raised to be donated to support breast cancer awareness and research.

Pink treats, spa treatments and collectibles are among the campaign's features.

Churchill's Table will present the PINK afternoon tea set from October 8 to 31, available from Monday to Thursday. It is priced at 358 patacas and includes a donation of 50 patacas per set, the statement said.

The statement added that Michelin Selected Thai restaurant The Mews, new to this year's campaign, will offer pink elements from October 1 to 31 as part of its seven-course Signature Tasting Experience, priced at 1,288 patacas with a 20 pataca donation.

Guests can also buy the pink-themed cake "Triumph" at Churchill's Table Boutique, the statement said, which is available from October 1 to 31, with a small one priced at 60 patacas with a five pataca donation or 398 patacas for a large cake with a 30 pataca donation, the statement said.

Bodhi Spa's "Lapidem Pink Inspired" ritual is available throughout October at 1,760 patacas and includes a 160 pataca donation.

The statement added that the limited-edition Conrad bear and duck, priced at 128 patacas each, are also available at Londoner Gifts at The Londoner Macao and Conrad Macao's lobby, along with a Conrad bear gift box at 2,888 patacas.

Floral displays will also be at Conrad Macao and The Londoner Hotel Lobby, along with a pink ribbon floral display at Londoner Magical Alley. Moreover, the Elisabeth Tower (Big Ben) and The Parisian Macao's Eiffel Tower will glow pink in the evenings.

The Londoner Macao & Conrad Macao Hotel Operations Vice President Gonçalo Monteiro was quoted by the statement as saying: "Conrad Macao is proud to be a Hong Kong Cancer Fund Gold Sponsor". He added: "We also take this time to support Associação de Feliz Paraíso, an organisation that provides aid to cancer patients in Macau, with a donation from part of the proceeds. Conrad Macao also hopes to highlight the importance of breast cancer awareness education and care services through the campaign."

For details, visit Conrad's Macao's Facebook and Instagram, or on <https://www.londonermacao.com/offers/conrad-macao/pink-inspired-2024.html> ■



This undated handout photo provided by Conrad Macao earlier this week shows the PINK afternoon tea set at Churchill's Table at The Londoner Macao in Cotai.

## Drones banned around Forum Macao Complex tomorrow & Oct 13: AACM

Rui Pastorin

All unmanned aircraft activities, or the flying of drones, will be banned within 500 metres of the Complex of Commerce and Trade Cooperation Platform for China and Portuguese-speaking Countries (PSCs), aka Forum Macao Complex, on Saturday and October 13, the Civil Aviation Authority (AACM) said in a statement yesterday.

The announcement on the temporary ban comes to ensure that Macau SAR Government events can be held smoothly, the statement noted. Though the statement did not specify the events, the ban tomorrow is due to the Presentation and Q&A Session on the Political Platform of the Candidate of the 2024 Chief Executive Election Sam Hou Fai in the morning, as well as his press conference there in the afternoon. The ban does not apply to drones operated by the local government.

The chief executive election will be held at the Forum Macao Complex on Sunday, October 13.

The statement pointed out that those violating the ban will be subject to a fine by Macau's civil aviation regulator, ranging from 2,000 patacas to 20,000 patacas. ■

## MTel inks cooperation deal with 2 digital solutions firms

Yuki Lei

Macau-based MTel Telecommunication Company Limited inked yesterday separate cooperation agreements with Shenzhen-based H3C Technologies Co. Limited and Singapore-based Lark Technologies Pte. Ltd., and the local telecom operator said it hoped that the mutually beneficial cooperation between Macau and the mainland in the fields of telecommunication and technological innovation could be further promoted, thereby fostering the high-quality development of Macau's economy and civil society, and further integrating into the overall situation of the nation's development, based on the linkage of digital technology.

MTel held a "Seminar on Digital Intelligence for Technological Innovation and Transformation" at L'Arc Hotel in Zape yesterday afternoon, during which MTel representative Alex Choi Chin Chong said in a speech that the one-day seminar not only marked the beginning of his company's in-depth cooperation with both H3C and Lark, but also was an important milestone in their joint efforts to promote the mutually beneficial cooperation between Macau and the mainland in the



Local MTel Telecommunication Company Limited representative Alex Choi Chin Chong (left) and a representative from Singapore-based Lark Technologies Pte. Ltd. shake hands after signing the two companies' cooperation agreement during yesterday's "Seminar on Digital Intelligence for Technological Innovation and Transformation" at L'Arc Hotel in Zape. — Photo: Yuki Lei

fields of telecommunication and technological innovation. He also said that since the establishment of MTel in 2011, the company has always been committed to promoting the development of Macau's digitalisation and artificial intelligence (AI), adding he expected the cooperation agreement between MTel and the two digital solutions enterprises in exploring new technologies and modes to contribute to the digitalisation of Macau and even the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macau Greater Bay

Area (GBA) as a whole.

Choi told the media on the sidelines of the seminar that cooperation between MTel and the two enterprises covers telecommunications industry innovation and transformation, cloud computing, big data and AI exchanges: "With the support of H3C, MTel has established a new fibre optic network to serve Macau's society, small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), public entities, and financial institutions. In the

future, the two sides will further explore technologies such as cybersecurity and AI, in the hope of achieving breakthroughs and transformation for the government in relevant aspects. As for the cooperation agreement with Lark, we hope to help SMEs transform with Lark's AI platform.

Wang Yueyi, vice president of H3C, said that with his company's technological background and MTel's deep understanding of the Macau market, he believed that the collaboration deal with MTel would be beneficial to the digital transformation and upgrading of Macau enterprises in various sectors, including services, schools, and SMEs.

Meanwhile, according to Choi, MTel network has basically achieved full coverage in Macau's residential buildings, but some buildings in old quarters still cannot be retrofitted with equipment and facilities due to various reasons such as the absence of property management committees. He said: "I hope [the government] can make reference to our neighbouring regions, such as Hong Kong, where there is a law that allows public corporations to carry out work in residential buildings." ■



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## CTA Tour finals to be held in Nov



This undated handout photo provided by the Sports Bureau (ID) shows SJM Resorts Managing Director Daisy Ho Chiu Fung (fourth from right) and ID Director Luis Gomes (fifth from right) posing with attendees of yesterday's press conference at Grand Lisboa Palace (GLP) in Cotai.

### Rui Pastorin

The 2024 CTA Tour SJM Professional Finals (Macau) and National Tennis Championships is slated to be held from November 18 to 24, with the event to be held at the Macau Tennis Academy and set to feature elite tennis players from the mainland, the Sports Bureau (ID) said in a statement last night.

CTA is the official acronym of the Chinese Tennis Association.

SJM Resorts is again the event's title sponsor, marking its fourth year, the statement said. This upcoming year-end tournament assumes "even greater significance" with this year marking the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China (PRC) and the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of the Macau Special Administrative Region (SAR).

The statement said that the tournament will comprise men's singles, women's singles, men's doubles, and women's doubles matches. The competition is divided into a round-robin group stage and a knockout stage, with players competing "for the highest honours of the year". Moreover, a historical and cultural exhibition about tennis will be held in Macau.

In a speech during yesterday's press conference at Grand Lisboa Palace (GLP), ID President Luis Gomes said that the event has received "strong support" from members of the public over the past three years.

He added: "This year, the organisers will break away from the traditional event model by recruiting young participants from the Greater Bay Area to experience the sport

before the tournament. Additionally, the event will feature extended activities, inviting more tennis enthusiasts to Macau for both the tournament and leisure activities".

SJM Resorts Managing Director Daisy Ho Chiu Fung was also quoted as saying: "the event fosters mutual exchanges in the sports sector, helping the flourishing of Macau's sports industry, cultivating a new generation of sports talent, and contributing to the country's overall development. This also injects fresh momentum into the synergistic development of 'Sports + Tourism', and provides valuable experience for the upcoming 2025 National Games, co-hosted by Guangdong, Hong Kong, and Macau."

More information can be found on the official CTA TOUR WeChat account. ■

## Police nab 2 men for drunk driving

### Ginnie Liang

The Public Security Police (PSP) busted two drunk-driving cases early Wednesday morning, a Public Security Police (PSP) spokesperson said during a regular press conference yesterday.

PSP officers identified the two suspects as a local male surnamed U, who is in his thirties and works as a casino dealer, and a local man also in his thirties surnamed Choi, who told police that he is a businessman.

In the first case, PSP officers received a report on Wednesday at around 4:40 a.m. about a traffic accident on Estrada Almirante Magalhães Correia.

Upon arrival, PSP officers discovered that a lamppost, three iron

pillars, and a 20-metre-long section of the kerb had been damaged, while U's car had a damaged front end, and he himself exhibited signs of heavy intoxication, with his breathalyser test revealing an alcohol concentration of 1.67 grams per litre.

In the second case, PSP officers stopped Choi at 1:15 a.m. on Wednesday at a road block in Fai Chi Kei district. Choi too was found reeking of alcohol, and a breathalyser test confirmed an alcohol level of 1.83 grams per litre.

The two suspects have been transferred to the Public Prosecutions Office (MP), facing drunk-driving charges, the spokesperson said. ■



This handout photo provided by the Public Security Police (PSP) yesterday shows one of the two local drunken drivers caught on Wednesday being escorted by a PSP officer to the Traffic Police Department later that day.

## Package tour visitors in Aug rise 68.8 pct to 224,000

### Staff Reporter

Macau's number of package tour visitors surged by 68.8 percent year-on-year to 224,000 last month, with those from mainland China soaring by 70.7 percent to 211,000, the Statistics and Census Bureau (DSEC) announced yesterday.

Mainlanders accounted for 94.2 percent of all inbound package tour visitors.

In addition, foreign tour visitors increased by 44.3 percent to 11,000, and those from South Korea (5,000) and India (2,000) rose by 61.4 percent and 337.5 percent respectively.

In the first eight months, a total of 1,388,000 package tour visitors were recorded, an increase of 127.6 percent year-on-year. Package tour visitors from mainland China surged by 115.5 percent to 1,240,000. Foreign

package tour visitors grew by 352.2 percent to 128,000, with those coming from South Korea (51,000) and India (18,000) leaping by 587.9 percent and 1,165.9 percent respectively.

Last month, 22,000 Macau residents bought outbound package tours through travel agencies, up by 102.9 percent year on year, with 20,000 of them visiting the mainland, the bureau said.

## IAM urges public to stop eating certain batches of Maruto brand Castella cakes

### Ginnie Liang

The Municipal Affairs Bureau (IAM) has been informed by the Japanese Consumer Affairs Agency recently that the packaging of two batches of Maruto brand Castella cakes may be bloated or swollen due to fermentation, according to an IAM statement yesterday.

The problematic products, the "6-piece Nagasaki Castella" and "1-piece Nagasaki Castella (Flat)", with the product barcodes of 4978498003000 and 4978498003017, as well as best-before-date of October 17, 2024, are being recalled due to the quality issue.

The bureau said in a statement yesterday that it has issued a food alert to warn local retailers about the product, adding the bureau is also dispatching IAM officials to look out for the product.

Castella cake, or "Kasutera," is a traditional Japanese sponge cake.

### Listeria bacteria found in takeaway

In addition, the bureau said in a separate statement yesterday that during its regular food sampling inspection, an excessive amount of Listeria monocytogenes has been detected in a sample of a salad product branded "Quiche", a kind of savoury French tart, in a takeaway eatery.

The problematic tart was sampled from the "春田花花" takeaway shop located on Rua da Mitra, the statement said, adding that on-site investigations



6個入 長崎かすていら

This undated handout photo provided by the Municipal Affairs Bureau (IAM) yesterday shows one of the problematic Maruto brand Castella cakes.

revealed that the food storage and operational conditions at the eatery were subpar, posing a risk of cross-contamination.

The statement said that the bureau immediately ordered the takeaway to stop selling the product, while requiring the shop to deep-clean and disinfect the storage areas, cooking appliances and utensils.

According to the statement, people who eat Listeria monocytogenes-contaminated products could develop symptoms such as fever, muscle pain, headache, nausea, vomiting, and diarrhoea. The statement underlined that newborns, senior citizens and people with weak immune systems could suffer from serious complications or even die.

The statement noted that Listeria monocytogenes can survive and multiply in cold temperatures, but can be destroyed by "thorough heating". ■

## Mainlander nabbed for stealing lost phone

### Ginnie Liang

A male mainland non-resident worker (NRW) was arrested on Tuesday for stealing a lost mobile phone worth 5,000 patacas, Public Security Police (PSP) spokesperson said at a regular press conference yesterday.

The suspect surnamed Ma, who is in his forties is a chef. The female victim is a young local woman.

According to the spokesperson, the Public Security Police received a report from the victim on Monday that her phone had accidentally fallen from her bag while she was walking along Avenida da Concórdia in Fai Chi Kei district and, upon returning to look for it, she couldn't find it.

Following an investigation, police apprehended the suspect the next day at a restaurant on Rua da Bacia Sul. During the search, officers located the missing phone in the kitchen of the eatery where they arrested Ma.

Ma denied that he stole the phone, claiming he intended to



This photo provided by the Public Security Police (PSP) yesterday shows a PSP officer escorting the mainland theft-by-finding suspect to a police station on Tuesday.

take the phone to a police station when he had the time.

Ma has been transferred to the Public Prosecutions Office (MP), facing theft-by-finding charges, the spokesperson said, adding that the victim reported that her phone was worth 5,000 patacas. ■