

25th Anniversary of the Establishment of the Macao Special Administrative Region

Silver jubilee in splendour, golden lotus in bloom

After experiencing a quarter-century of development, the Macao Special Administrative Region (Macao SAR) marks the significant milestone of its 25th anniversary on 20th December 2024. This occasion is especially joyful as it coincides with the 75th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China. In this context, Macao Post and Telecommunications Bureau specially issues a set of twelve exquisitely designed stamps and introduces two distinctive souvenir sheets, adding vibrancy to this year of duo celebrations.

The stamps and souvenir sheets feature the elegant and refined lotus flower. As Macao's original terrain resembles a lotus flower, with the warm and humid climate that is ideal for lotus growth, this flower has formed an enduring bond with the small city. In Chinese culture and Buddhist traditions, the lotus flower is imbued with rich cultural significance. Being the floral emblem of the Macao SAR and an important spiritual symbol, the flourishing lotus, with its full bloom and lush leaves, symbolises auspiciousness, peace and goodness, representing the harmony and stability of Macao after its return to China, as well as the prosperity and thriving of society, and embodying steadfast confidence and heartfelt wishes for Macao's development prospects.

The twelve stamps and one of the souvenir sheets utilise finger painting to depict the various forms of the lotus flower. By applying fingers to paint, it is easier to render a natural, free-flowing, and rustic yet profound artistic ambiance. Through one of the distinctive expressive forms of Chinese painting, these lotus-themed stamps are imbued with a unique charm and meaning. The depth of the ink undulates and shifts with the poetic layout, blending water and ink seamlessly to create a harmonious effect, as if it were a work of nature, showcasing a scene of peace, auspiciousness, and vibrant vitality. Each lotus flower on the stamps has its own unique beauty, exuding effortless grace and elegance, leaving the viewer mesmerised.

Another souvenir sheet features the green colour of the regional flag of the Macao SAR as its dominant hue. The golden lotus flower blooms splendidly, ascending gradually in the sky of Macao like the rising sun in the east, its radiance illuminating the lotus land. The flower emits radiant splendour, captivating the people with its resplendent beauty, which symbolises the vibrant development of Macao. Under its shining glow, the enchanting scenery of the Macao Peninsula comes into view. The Macau Tower stands tall, while the bridges connect the island, facilitating smooth connectivity. Buildings blending Eastern and Western styles complement each other, eliciting a scene of prosperity and harmony, full of dynamic vigour.

Twenty-five years of diligent effort and fruitful results, twenty-five years of perseverance and progress. Since its reunification with China, Macao has fully leveraged the advantages of the principle of "one country, two systems". Relying on the Motherland while connecting with the world, Macao has been actively advancing the construction of the World Centre of Tourism and Leisure, polishing further the "golden business card" of Macao as an international metropolis. Through the issuance of the "25th Anniversary of the Establishment of the Macao Special Administrative Region" commemorative stamps, we wish for Macao's continued prosperous development, the well-being of its residents, unity and progress among the people of Macao, and a collective effort to create an even more brilliant and glorious golden jubilee year!