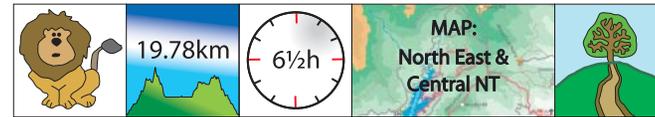


HIKE 5: Sha Tin Round Trip

summary:



starting point: 沙田站

Sha Tin MTR station

getting to start:

Go to Sha Tin MTR station on the East Rail Line.

description:

The hike starts at Sha Tin station and passes through Tin Liu village before climbing to a large cross with a dramatic view across Sha Tin and the hills in the background. We then pass through a calm church complex before beginning a long climb which ends at the MacLehose Trail. We now climb Needle Hill before descending and following the Shing Mun Jogging Trail for 5km. After this we follow a hidden path which contains an overgrown climb before walking along a peaceful, green contour trail. We then rejoin the MacLehose Trail briefly before walking back down to Sha Tin station.

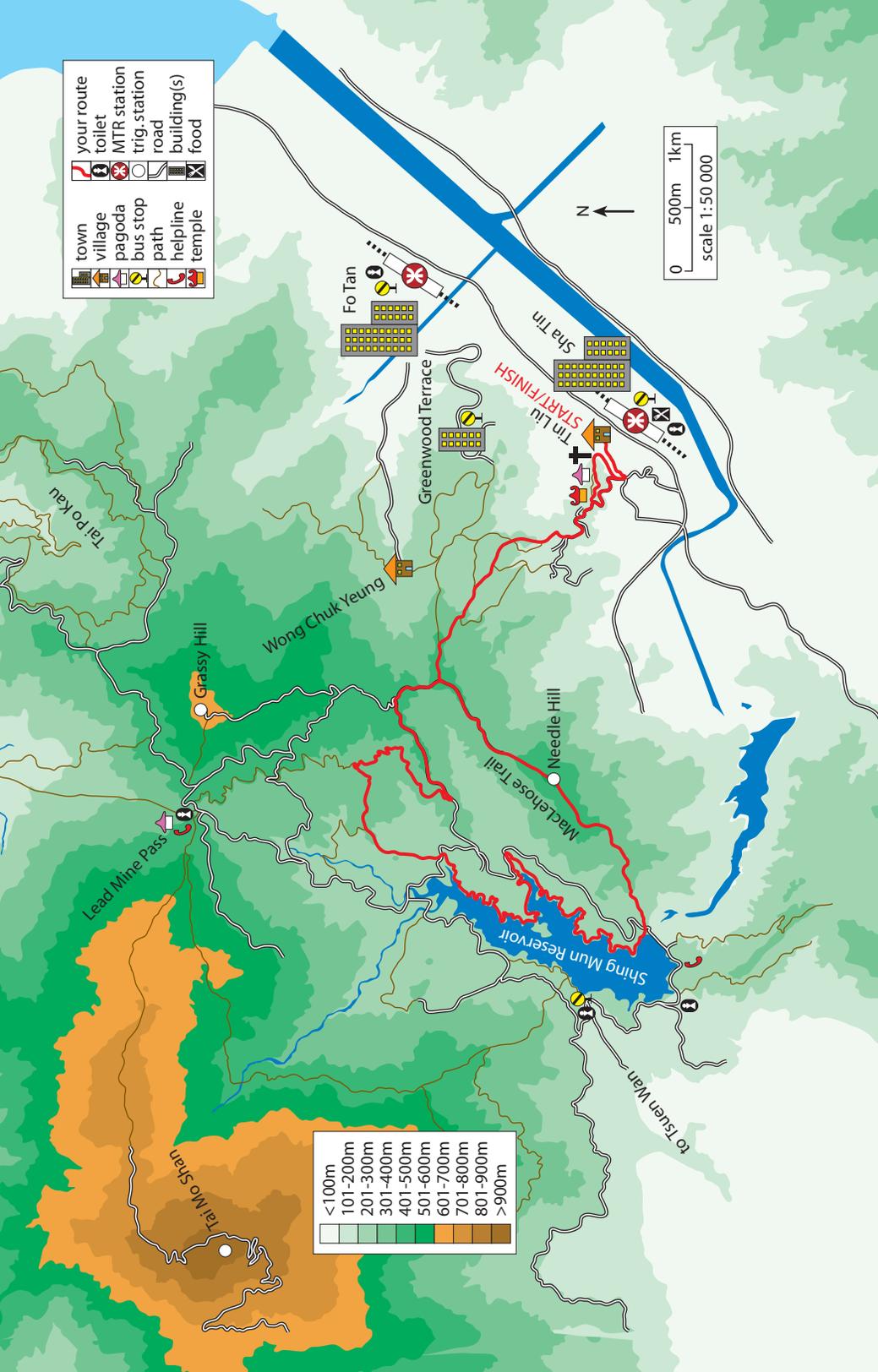
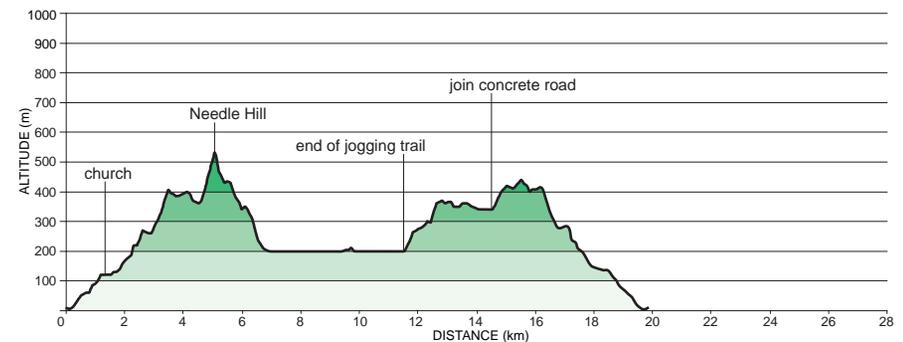
getting home:

Take the train from Sha Tin MTR station on the East Rail Line.

WARNINGS:

There are many monkeys to be found around Shing Mun reservoir. If you see some please try not to interact with them - just watch. Do not carry any loose plastic bags containing food, for these will merely tempt the monkeys into being monkeys!!

hike Xsection:



****GETTING TO START**** Take the MTR to Sha Tin station.

0.00 **START**

From Sha Tin MTR station take the exit leading to the bus terminus and turn left. You pass the bus terminus to your right. If you take the exit into the shopping plaza, turn left and then left again at the bus terminus and you pass the aforementioned exit to your left after about 10m.

+50m Turn right and walk down the large concrete pedestrian walkway. This is signposted 'Grand Central Plaza', 'Shatin Government Offices' and 'Taxi Stand'.

+100m Turn sharp left at the bottom of the ramp, signposted 'To Fung Shan'. You pass directly in between the end of the ramp and the 'Sha Tin Country Trails' map. You pass a village square and a 'Pai Tau Village' sign to your right.

+50m Climb the concrete stairs going up the hill slightly to your right, signposted 'To Fung Shan' and 'Sha Tin Trail', (Figure 1). Ignore the steps leading to the private houses and the flat concrete path slightly to the left, signposted 'Pai Tau Village'.



Figure 1: Take the concrete stairs and walk up the hill through the village.

+60m Continue uphill along the right branch of the path. Ignore the left branch of the path which is flat.

Continue along the main path up the hill. Ignore the many other paths or steps that branch off to your left and right.

+440m Turn right at the large road with the roundabout, signposted 'To Fung Shan'. This road is 'To Fung Shan Road'.

+120m **ATTENTION** About 120m after the roundabout, just beyond house number 31, turn right up the concrete stairs, signposted 'Ascension House'. Do not continue along the road.

+70m Take the path to the right at the fork in the path, signposted 'Ascension House'. Ignore the narrow path climbing straight ahead of you which leads to a house and the path to the left.

+80m Continue up the stairs as you pass Ascension House to your

right. Ignore the small path to your left after about 10m.

+50m You reach a clearing with a large, white cross (see photo on page 49).

Turn left at the clearing with the cross, walk for about 30m and pass through the white gate with Chinese characters on it. Continue upwards along the concrete path.

+100m Turn left at the end of the concrete path, following the clear path which becomes paved after about 5m. Ignore the wide mud paths ahead of you and to your right. Continue along your flat path. Ignore steps or paths going down to your left.

+190m Climb the steps to your right leading into a complex with a large pagoda-like church directly in front of you.

+60m Turn left just in front of the large pagoda-like church, passing through a small round archway after about 10m, (Figure 2). Continue through the small garden with a mist fountain and through the second small round archway.



Figure 2: Pass through the small, round archway to your left.

+40m Turn left immediately after the second archway. You pass through a rock labyrinth after about 70m.

+120m Turn right at the road, which is 'To Fung Shan Road'. Continue along the road you are on. Ignore any smaller paths, roads and driveways. After about 200m you start passing the white buildings of the 'Lutheran Theological Seminary' and about 80m after this the road will climb quite steadily.

+530m **ATTENTION** Continue straight ahead up the hill, signposted 'to MacLehose Trail', walking through the wide gate (it should be open), (Figure 3). Do not continue along the road you are on which goes down to the left. The road you follow becomes a path after about 30m.



Figure 3: Walk through the large open gate and continue along the path.

+260m Turn right, signposted 'to MacLehose Trail', climbing the stairs up the hill. Do not continue along the flat mud path you are on which bends to the left.

+140m Continue straight ahead through the clearing at the top of the hill, signposted 'to MacLehose Trail'.

+100m Continue straight ahead, climbing the stairs steeply uphill. There is a wooden post at this junction. Ignore the flattish mud paths to the left and right. You pass through a small clearing after about 140m.

+450m Continue straight ahead at the two pylons, passing the pylons to your right. Ignore the smaller right branch of the path. You will start climbing again after about 100m.

+630m Turn left at the top of the hill, signposted 'to MacLehose Trail'. Ignore the path to the right, signposted 'to Greenwood Terrace'.

+320m Turn left at the concrete road, signposted 'Needle Hill'. Do not go right, signposted 'Lead Mine Pass'. You are on the MacLehose Trail and pass mileage post M131 on your left after about 130m.

+820m Continue straight ahead when the road ends, walking along the path and beginning the steep climb up Needle Hill.

+480m ****TRIG. STATION**** Continue straight ahead at the top of Needle Hill, beginning your descent. You pass mileage post M128 on your left after about 480m.

+1660m Turn left at the road just after passing through the 'Welcome to Shing Mun Country Park' arch. The road bends sharply to the right after about 20m and you reach Shing Mun Reservoir main dam about 40m after this.

+70m ****ATTENTION**** Continue straight ahead along the small concrete path, signposted 'Wilson Trail' and 'Shing Mun Jogging Trail', walking with the reservoir to your left, (Figure 4). Do not turn left across the main dam. Your path becomes a mud path after about 130m and you pass mileage post W070 about 60m after this.



Figure 4: Continue along the jogging trail at the main dam.

Continue along the jogging trail for the next 5km. Ignore any

paths which lead off to your left or right.

+5000m ****ATTENTION**** Turn right at the road, walk about 10m and then turn left. Immediately on your left follow the 9 small concrete stairs twisting up the side of the hill, (Figure 5). There is a sign here labelled 'Shing Mun Forest Track - Reservoir Section'. Your Location: KK 071793'. Your path soon becomes a broad mud path. Do not walk along the road in either direction, signposted 'Reservoir Walk'.



Figure 5: Follow the concrete stairs up the side of the hill.

+720m ****ATTENTION**** At the very small junction walk straight ahead slightly to the right along the small, overgrown path which climbs steeply, (Figure 6). Do not continue along the main path which goes down towards your left and ignore the very small path going down to your right. The path you are on climbs steadily and then bends to the right and flattens out after about 230m. It may be slightly overgrown but is always possible to follow.



Figure 6: Take the central path steeply up the hill at the minor junction.

+650m Turn sharp right, walking down the steep hill at the clear intersection with a wider mud path. Do not turn left along the flatter path. Your path becomes a flattish contour trail after about 100m.

+1490m Turn left at the concrete road, walking up the hill. You are next to a sign labelled 'Shing Mun Forest Track - Needle Hill Section'. Your Location: KK 075792'.

+1010m Continue straight ahead along the road, signposted 'Needle Hill'. Ignore the road climbing to your left, signposted 'Grassy Hill / Lead Mine Pass'.

+430m ****ATTENTION**** Turn left at the clearing with benches. There is a sign here labelled 'Shing Mun Forest Track - Needle Hill Section'. Your Location: KK 084793'. Pass through the large arch labelled 'To Sha Tin Town' and follow the narrow path. Do not continue straight ahead along the road, signposted 'Needle Hill'.

You now follow the same path you took this morning all the way down to the road near the Lutheran Theological Seminary.

+290m Turn right, signposted 'to Sha Tin MTR Station', and follow the stairs down the hill, (Figure 7). Ignore the path straight ahead of you, signposted 'to Greenwood Terrace'.



Figure 7: Turn right, following the stairs down the hill.

+560m Continue straight ahead along the flat path you are on. Ignore the eroded path to your left leading uphill towards two pylons. You pass two further pylons directly to your left after about 70m.

+530m Continue straight ahead up the hill at the junction next to the old wooden post. Ignore the flattish mud paths to your left and right. You pass through a clearing after about 70m and pass a sign labelled 'to Theological Seminary' before heading downhill.

+240m Turn left at the bottom of the stairs, signposted 'to Theological Seminary'. Ignore the path to your right.

+260m Continue straight ahead at the road, signposted 'to Theological Seminary'. Ignore the road going downhill to your right. You start passing the white buildings of the Theological Seminary.

Continue along the main road, which is 'To Fung Road'. Ignore any smaller roads or driveways leading to buildings.

+950m Turn left at the roundabout, signposted 'Sha Tin Station'. Follow the concrete path with green railings all the way down the hill. Ignore any other paths to the left or right.

+460m Continue straight ahead, signposted 'Sha Tin Station'. You pass Pai Tau village square on your left.

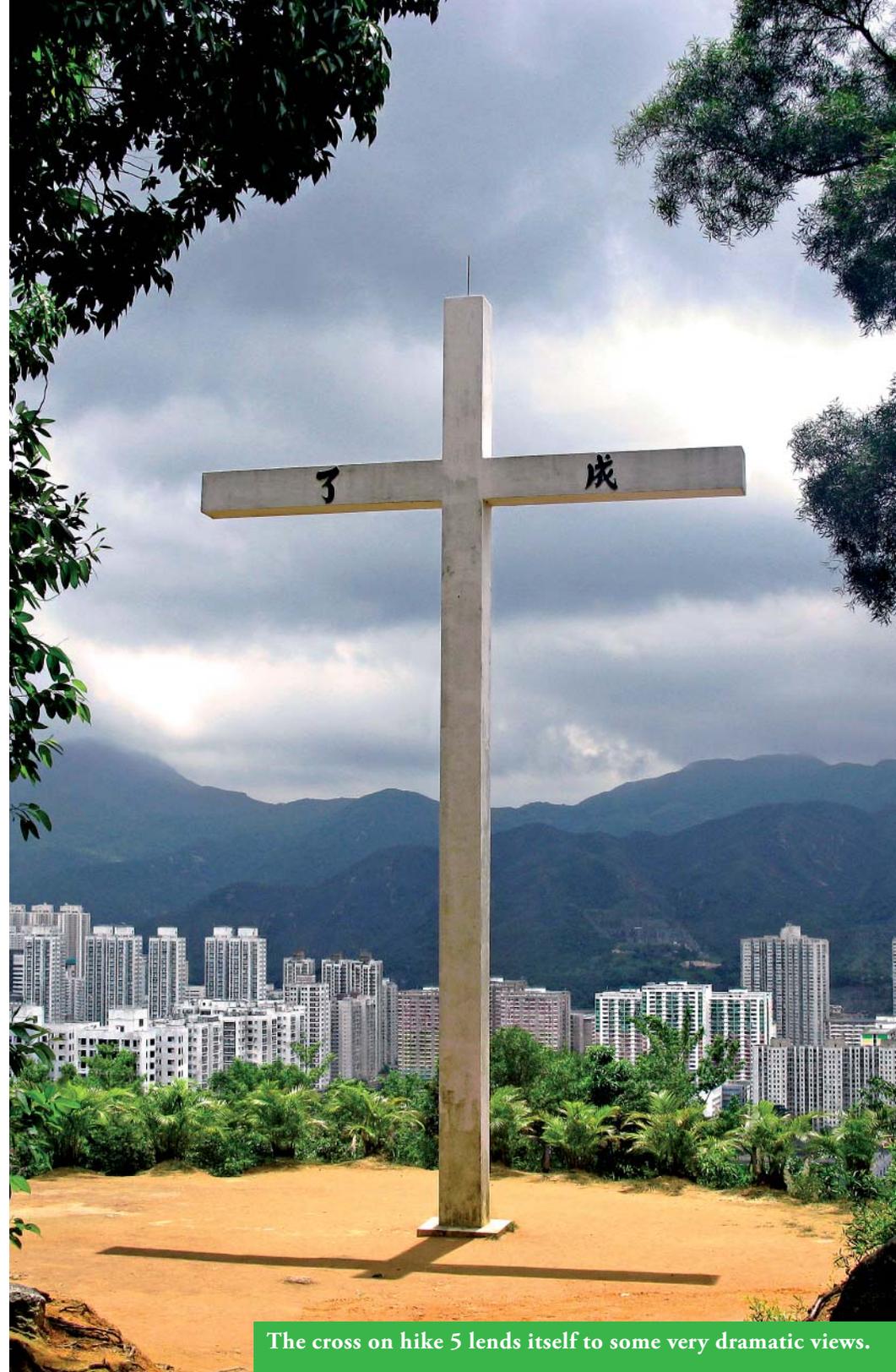
+50m Turn sharp right just in front of the bus terminus and walk up the concrete pedestrian walkway, signposted 'Sha Tin Station'.

+100m Turn left at the top of the walkway.

+50m Sha Tin MTR station is on your right.

****FINISH****

****GETTING HOME**** Take the MTR from Sha Tin station.



The cross on hike 5 lends itself to some very dramatic views.