

...international  
expertise in  
Hong Kong

with... more information



## Who we are . . .

Withers' origins as a law firm date to 1896. In the early days, our principal focus was assisting successful English families and the great landed estates, the precursor to the family office concept increasingly in vogue for many wealthy families around the world. More recently, we have focused our practice on representing "globally wealthy" clients with business and personal interests in multiple countries across the globe.

Through a strategic merger with the US firm of Bergman, Horowitz and Reynolds in 2002, we strengthened our ability to provide integrated US advice in addition to advice in the other jurisdictions in which our lawyers are qualified.

## What makes us different . . .

We are the world's only law firm dedicated to providing fully integrated cross-border advice in relation to the business and personal interests of successful people, their families, their businesses and their advisors. Our practice encompasses a wide range of legal services required to help our clients manage their business and personal affairs.

From structuring hedge and private equity funds and advice on M&A and capital markets to advising on tax and estate planning, to handling complex divorce or adoption cases, we have over 650 people in offices around the world working seamlessly together to deliver a highly integrated service. Our focus on this client group and the integrated approach of our people to the diverse business and personal legal needs of such clients set us apart.

### Why Hong Kong . . .

The Hong Kong office is further evidence of our commitment to the continued globalization of our clients and reflects both the growth of our Asian client base and the strength of the Asian economies. The current rate at which entrepreneurs throughout Asia are creating new fortunes already exceeds the rate in Europe and matches that of the US. This trend shows no sign of waning. On the doorstep of mainland China and sitting in the heart of Asia, Hong Kong provides a convenient base for us to service these successful people and their advisors.

### Our expertise . . .

Our Hong Kong team advises on UK and US tax, family office structuring and operations, wealth structuring including the creation and operation of trusts, wills and succession, investment structures, commercial transactions, M&A, capital raising, funds creation and philanthropy.

In addition, by working closely with our colleagues across the globe, our Hong Kong team is able to coordinate advice in a myriad of other areas including UK and US commercial and residential real estate, international probate, commercial litigation, employment law, trust and estate litigation, intellectual property, luxury brands, reputation management, divorce and art law.

Collectively, our Hong Kong team is fluent in Cantonese, English, French, Hindi, Italian, Mandarin, Punjabi and Shanghainese.

## Our clients . . .

We represent a significant number of the wealthiest individuals and families in Asia, Europe and the US. In the UK alone, we act for nearly a quarter of the Sunday Times Rich List.

Our client base also includes a number of trustees, family offices and multi-family offices around the world.

As many of our clients maintain management positions in the businesses they created, we routinely find ourselves representing large public and private companies in commercial transactions, M&A, capital raising, employment, commercial litigation and general corporate matters. Because we understand how activities within the respective business entity impact the family members from a worldwide tax and personal perspective, we are able to provide our clients with a holistic approach to legal advice.

## How we work with clients . . .

We offer our clients one point of contact to coordinate the highest levels of service delivery across jurisdictions and fields of legal practice. When clients require local legal advice in jurisdictions where our lawyers are not qualified, or have other trusted advisers, we frequently work as part of an integrated team with other advisers. In such a case we place great emphasis on the importance of effective coordination of the team to achieve the client's objectives. This approach frees our clients to focus on making the well-informed decisions that impact their professional and personal lives, rather than devoting their time and effort to coordinating professional advice with multiple law firms in numerous countries around the world.

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