

**Love Y'all.  
Avis (The Great Big Traveler)**



It doesn't look like a lot of people on the streets only because I went out at 6 a.m. to take these pictures. Normally, the crowds are amazing... And there are literally hundreds of street shops selling watches, jewelry, and gold-plated Buddas, rabbits, and I can only guess what else!



It is 4 a.m. here, and I still can't sleep the entire night through (jet lag), but it is 4 p.m. back on the east coast of the good ole U.S. of A. So I guess you guys are up and running. I'll send another blog later.... I went to Taipa today, which is an island connected to Macau by huge bridges. I'll blog about that tomorrow.



That's the fab golden Sands Hotel and Casino in the background (with a big screen outside...one of a dozen fab casinos within a 3 mile radius of the apartment! This one is right behind my apartment building.

There are loads of green parks, outrageously tall apartment and office buildings, and quaint little old winding side streets and alleys everywhere.



Everywhere is a shop...on every street, around every corner, selling everything under the sun. The food is amazing. The Portuguese influence is everywhere...in the delicious food, the street designs, the houses.



It's right near a nice little square with a big golden lotus blossom that's a big hit with the bus loads of tourists from mainland China, who come there constantly to take family pictures (go figure).



## China Blog #1

Well. I am here. In Macau, China. And guess what? I AM LOVING IT! (Sorry about the grammar....) Let me just say right off, these people here are some of the nicest people that I have ever met. Everyone that I have met has been SUPER FRIENDLY and helpful. And Macau is a fascinating place - full of life and energy. I live in a tall apartment building on a busy down-town street. This is my neighborhood (not Mr. Rogers').

