



# The Best Trip in the World

## Discover 50 Interesting Travel Itineraries for Taiwan

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交通部觀光局  
Taiwan Tourism Bureau

<http://taiwan.net.tw>



旅行台灣 感動100

## A Word from the Director General



### Welcome to Taiwan!

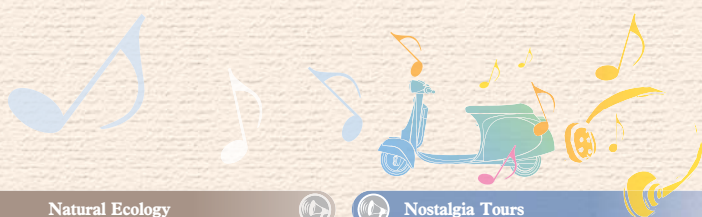
Taiwan is famous for its beauty, diverse natural landscape, and friendly people. We organized The Best Trip in the World contest in 2009, which have helped to make Taiwan's rich tourism resources and culture known globally. Experienced travelers worldwide were invited to submit money-saving yet creative itineraries for a trip in Taiwan, share their personal stories after the tour in audio/visual blog posts, and let people around the world see this island nation through their eyes. Fifty teams from 18 countries were selected to fulfill their proposed 4-day trip itineraries, exploring different parts of Taiwan and sharing their experiences through words, videos, and blogs. Members were impressed with the friendliness and generosity of Taiwan's people as well as its diversity.

In keeping with the Tourism Bureau's "Project Vanguard for Excellence in Tourism" for the promotion of local tourism, the bureau has also organized many other innovative, multi-dimensional campaigns and marketing promotions. We welcome visitors from around the world to come discover Taiwan, perhaps experiencing it through the creative itineraries of The Best Trip in the World travelers.

Director-General, Tourism Bureau, Ministry of  
Transportation and Communications

賴瑟珍

Janice Seh-Jen Lai



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※ Please go to [www.taiwanbesttrip.net](http://www.taiwanbesttrip.net) to see the interesting travel blogs and videos.





## Natural Ecology

Taiwan, surrounded by the sea, is located off the southeast corner of the Asia continental mass, at the interchange point of Asia's tropical and subtropical zones along the Tropic of Cancer. It is a young land, yet many ancient living organisms exist and thrive here.

The island is covered in mountains and sliced by river valleys, with great variation in altitude. There is a wide range in natural ecology between the tropical, subtropical, and higher-altitude temperate zones, giving rise to rich flora and fauna and numerous precious rare species, one of the most fecund ecological systems in the northern hemisphere and a natural treasure both unique and unmatched.

The colorful tapestry of this island includes high mountains, forests, wetlands, sea and coast, hills, plateaus, and basins, home to a rich trove of plants and animals — a truly marvelous and beautiful land.



**Theme of tour : An Adventure for Older Bikers and Hikers**

**Team name : The Senior Australians**

**Team leader : Arthur Gilks(Australia)**

**Team members : Beth Gilks (Australia)**

## Team's Recommendation

### Cycling and mountain-hiking touring for seniors

#### Lala Mountain Natural Conservation Area - Taoyuan

Lala Mountain, on the Northern Cross-Island Highway, is also called Dagan Mountain, meaning Beautiful Mountain in the language of the Atayal Tribe, which inhabits this area. The conservation area has the island's largest group of giant Formosa Red Cypress. Amongst these, there are "divine trees" that are 3,000 years old. This area features a combination of coniferous and broad-leaf forest, the rich array of flora and fauna making for splendid trekking routes.



#### Bafu Ancient Trail - Taoyuan

The Bafu Ancient Trail starts at Baling in Fuxing Township, Taoyuan County and goes to Fushan in Taipei County's Wulai Township. Opened in 1916, the trail was not long in use, and afterwards became famous due to its Formosa Red Cypress Divine Trees. The trail is a challenging mountain hike that offers beautiful scenery. Midway along its length one has to cross over a steel line which is 1,738 meters above sea level, and along the way hikers can appreciate tall, large specimens of Taiwan Cypress and Formosa Red Cypress, as well as hurtling streams and waterfalls.



#### Touring Kaohsiung City on Bicycle - Kaohsiung

Kaohsiung City has a fine network of bicycle trails, and renting a bicycle is easy for tourists. In good weather, self-touring is a breeze, taking in such scenic spots as Lotus Lake and Love River. Easy-to-find bike-rental facilities are found at Zuoying Station on the Kaohsiung MRT system and in San Duo Commercial District. The traveler only needs to pay NT\$300 for unlimited access to the MRT system and bicycling to the city's various scenic spots. Riders can also rent a bicycle in one place and return it at another place.



#### Keelung Mountain - Taipei

Keelung Mountain, a picturesque extinct volcano, has an altitude of 558 meters above sea level. Tourist can access the peak via a pathway



from the adjoining mountain-ridge line; there are stone stairs the entire length. From the peak, one can view the magnificent scenery of the northeast coast or the tourist-oriented mining-town scenery of Jinguashi directly below.

#### Wulai Atayal Museum - Taipei

The township of Wulai in Taipei County is renowned for its indigenous culture and hot springs. One should first have a look at the Wulai Atayal



Museum, located at the entrance to the main commercial area, to gain a better understanding of the history, religion, and traditional culture of the region's Atayal tribe. Then take a stroll through the commercial district and choose one of the well-appointed hot-spring hotels to enjoy a soothing mineral bath. March is the pretty cherry-blossom season here, and April and June is the peak season for tasty bamboo shoots.



## Itinerary

### DAY-1

Kaohsiung

→Lotus Lake

→Liuhue Night Market

→Love River



### DAY-2

Kaohsiung

→Lala Mountain in

Taoyuan

→Baling



### DAY-3

Lala Mountain

→Bafu Ancient Trail

→Fushan (18 kilometers)

→Wulai



### DAY-4

Wulai

→Jiufen and Keelung

Mountain

→Wulai

## Travel information

- ★ Kaohsiung Friendly Bicycle City Website : [bike.kcg.gov.tw](http://bike.kcg.gov.tw)
- ★ Blue Skies Adventures Travel Company website (customized itineraries for overseas tourists) : [www.blueskiesadventures.com.tw](http://www.blueskiesadventures.com.tw)
- ★ Lala Mountain Natural Conservation Area Tourist Service Center : 03-391-2761
- ★ Wulai Atayal Museum : 02-2661-8162
- ★ Wulai Cable Car : [www.yun-hsien.com.tw](http://www.yun-hsien.com.tw)



Theme of tour : Outdoor Adventure

Team name : Taiwana Have Fun!

Team leader : Theresa (Taiwan)

Team members : Shane Rothery (Australia)

## Team's Recommendation

### Testing one's physical conditioning with outdoor activities

#### Bicycle Riding and Swimming in Pinglin - Taipei

Pinglin is famous for its tea - Baozhong Tea abounds on the slopes here, on beautiful tea farms. Inside the Pinglin Tea Museum, a comprehensive introduction to tea is provided. Within the tea-growing area there is a 20-kilometer bicycle trail that passes along the Jigualiao or Beishi River, offering up idyllic tea-farm scenery. One can also enjoy swimming in sections of the river with a calm current.



#### Rock Climbing in Zhubei, Beipu Cold Spring Bath - Hsinchu

The iClimb indoor rock-climbing center in Zhubei is home to the highest rock-climbing facility in Taiwan, providing different rock-climbing courses. Rock climbing may appear to be easy, but precision technique is required. Beipu Cold Spring is actually a stream. The spring waters that seep out from underground are slightly salty. Visitors enjoy playing and soaking under the man-made falls.



#### Shitou Mountain Hiking - Hsinchu

There are many mountain hiking trails on Shitou (Lion's Head) Mountain. Inside this scenic area is dense green forest, mountain lakes, and giant rockfall areas featuring rich flora and fauna. There are also many old temples. Climbing Vine Ecology Park is entered from the right side of the Lion's Head Mountain Visitor Center. Along the trail here are many species of climbing vine. This trail was originally a private tea-farm trail, but has been developed by the Shitou Mountain National Scenic Area Management Office as a self-guided educational path.



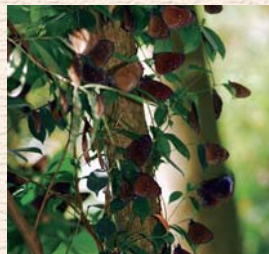
#### White-Water Rafting on the Laonong River - Kaohsiung

The Laonong River is the second-largest river in Taiwan. In the rafting section are many places featuring challenging rapids, even more exciting and with an even more magnificent landscape than the well-known Xiuguluan River on the east coast. The rafting is between Baolai Bridge No. 2 and Hexinfa Bridge in Liugui Township, stretching 12.5 kilometers and taking about three hours. The best season for rafting is from May to December every year.



#### Butterfly Appreciation in Maolin / Hiking in the Duona Gorge - Kaohsiung

Maolin Township is the best place in Taiwan to appreciate milkweed butterflies. During good weather from November to March one can enjoy the wondrous scene of these butterflies dancing in great number before 11:00 am each day. In Duona, apart from developed hot springs there is also a high and picturesque suspension bridge. Inside the gorge, hikers will come to a beautiful deep pond and magnificent waterfall. The peculiar topography here is unique.



## Itinerary

### DAY-1

Bicycle riding in Pinglin  
→ Taipei  
→ Huaxi Street Night Market



### DAY-2

Miaoli Nanzhuang Old Street  
→ Xiangtian Lake  
→ Shitou Mountain  
→ Beipu Cold Spring  
→ Rock Climbing  
→ Tea Processing



### DAY-3

Hsinchu  
→ Kaohsiung  
→ Liugui Township / Laonong River Rafting  
→ Paintball  
→ Maolin Township



### DAY-4

Maolin Township / Duona  
→ Kaohsiung Xizi Bay and Liuhe Night Market

## Travel information

- ★ Pinglin bicycle rental NT\$250/day
- ★ iClimb rock-climbing facility : [www.iclimb.com.tw](http://www.iclimb.com.tw)
- ★ Free entrance to Beipu Cold Spring, but pay attention to safety
- ★ For the latest information on Kaohsiung and Pingtung counties' scenic spots, visit the Maolin National Scenic Area website : [www.maolin-tsa.gov.tw](http://www.maolin-tsa.gov.tw)
- ★ Laonong River rafting fee -- NT\$800 including transportation and lunch



## 01 Natural Ecology



Theme of tour : Sports & Indigenous Culture

Team name : Formosa Adventurers

Team leader : Phil Dawson (United Kingdom)

Team members : Stu Dawson, Ross Tweedie (United Kingdom), Neil Wade (USA)

### Team's Recommendation

#### East Hualien wilderness adventure

##### Shapodang River and River Tracing - Hualien

The Shapodang River is located in Xiulun Township of Hualien County and is the water-supply source for Hualien City. It runs between many large mountains reaching more than 2,000 meters in height, through a beautiful gorge. The river has a unique bluish-green color. In the upstream section, there is a deep pool and a waterfall. The pool is a good place for swimming. The river's current is rapid, and both a professional guide and specialist river-tracing gear are required.



##### White-Water Rafting in Ruisui - Hualien

Rafting on the Xiuguluan River in Ruisui Township is a stimulating experience, especially during the hot summer months. The section for rafting is 24 kilometers, from Ruisui Bridge to Changhong Bridge. There are over 20 large and small rapids, and it takes 3 to 4 hours to run the full course, with a rest stop at the midway point. The rafting is conducted year-round, but the peak season is from May to October.



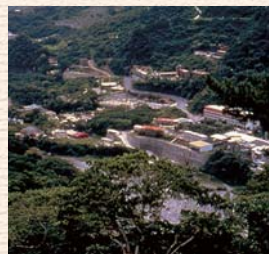
##### Luye Plateau Paragliding - Hualien

The Gaotai (Plateau) Paragliding Base in Luye Township is about 350 meters above sea level. Summer and autumn are the most suitable seasons for paragliding, but a southerly wind is required. Under the guidance of a qualified instructor, one can experience the joy of paragliding and can view the pastoral local scenery from the sky. After this exercise, tourists can go to see the Bunun Tribe Cultural Park nearby.



##### Hiking in the Zhiben Forest Recreation Area - Taitung

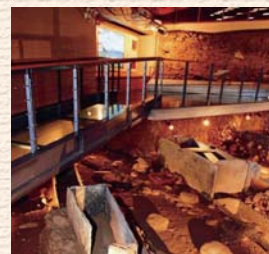
The Zhiben National Forest Recreation Area is a place of dense green forest, many trails, and rich animal and plant ecology. The Hao Han (Tough Man)



Slope, with 901 steps, is strongly recommended as a way to test your stamina. From the pavilion at the end-point of this trail are wide vistas, of both the Zhiben Hot Springs resort below and clusters of mountain peaks in the distance.

##### National Museum of Prehistory - Taitung

The National Museum of Prehistory is located to the south of Kangle Railway Station in Taitung City. It houses items from archeological digs at the most complete prehistoric tribal settlement in Taiwan, and is the site of the biggest slab-coffin burial site in Southeast Asia and the Pacific. This site lies within Beinan Cultural Park, at the border of Luye and Yanping townships, where there is also an art center, tribal theater, weaving workshop, coffee shop, and restaurant. Musical performances by members of the Bunun Tribe are staged at the park.



### Itinerary

#### DAY-1

Taipei  
→Hualien  
→Shapodang Stream and Xiuguluan River  
→Amis Tribe Harvest Festival Ceremony  
→Nanbin Night Market



#### DAY-2

Hualien  
→Rafting in Ruisui  
→Taitung



#### DAY-3

Luye Plateau  
→Beinan Cultural Park  
→National Museum of Prehistory



#### DAY-4

Taitung  
→Chilun Stream Hot Spring  
→Zhiben National Forest Recreation Area  
→Taipei

### Travel information

- ★ East Coast National Scenic Area website : [www.eastcoast-nsa.gov.tw](http://www.eastcoast-nsa.gov.tw)
- ★ Zhiben National Forest Recreation Area website : [taitung.forest.gov.tw/taitung/zhiben/main.htm](http://taitung.forest.gov.tw/taitung/zhiben/main.htm)
- ★ Beinan Cultural Park : 089-561-183
- ★ National Museum of Prehistory website : [www.nmp.gov.tw](http://www.nmp.gov.tw)
- ★ The Amigos Hostel can arrange river-tracing outings (tel : 03-836-3756)





Theme of tour : Adventure in the Mountains and on the Sea

Team name : Above and Below

Team leader : Nigel Pal Anderson (Canada)

Team members : Dennis Wong (Canada)

## Team's Recommendation

### Taiwan's mountain and sea adventure

#### Kending Water Activity - Pingtung

Kending National Park has rich ocean resources, and offers various water sports such as surfing, scuba diving, pleasure boating, sailing, jet-skiing, banana boating, kite surfing, and parasailing. People can also swim at Nanwan, Xiaowan, Sail Rock, Baishawan, the Shiniu Stream entrance, Manzhou, Jiupeng, Houbihu, and other locations.



#### Checheng and Museum of Marine Biology - Pingtung

Visitors can take a Taiwan Tour Bus excursion to the National Museum of Marine Biology and Aquarium in Checheng Township. This is the largest marine-biology museum in Taiwan. Inside one can gaze at all kinds of marine life, such as whale sharks of enormous size, sharks, stingrays, skipjacks, and sea eels, and enjoy close encounters with the cute belugas. In addition, via computerized digital display, one can check out the difference in characteristics between various water-world environments.



#### Little Liugu Island - Pingtung

Tourists can reach Little Liugu Island by ferry from the port of Donggang, and tour around the island by rented scooters. Little Liugu Island has fascinating coral reefs and fine white-sand beaches where one can swim or scuba dive. The Black Ghost Cave scenic area and Beautiful Maiden Cave, with its strange rock formations, are good spots for sightseeing. Biyun Temple is a renowned religious spot, and the center of religious worship on the island. To enjoy the splendid sunrises here, go to Flower Vase Rock early in the morning.



#### Shoushan - Kaohsiung

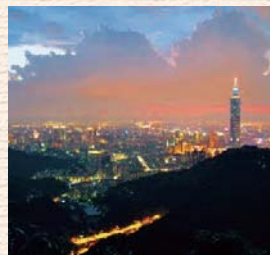
Shoushan is located in the Gushan District of Kaohsiung City, known for its attractive mountain forest. It is often referred to as the



"back garden" for local citizens and is a popular and easily accessible spot for exercising and walking. Adding to the attractions of the forest are the many Formosan Rock Monkeys. Looking down at Kaohsiung Port from the peak, one can see the bustling movement of ships in great number.

#### Elephant Mountain - Taipei

Elephant Mountain is located in the Xinyi District of Taipei, one of four gentle, interconnected peaks jointly called Four Animals Mountain.



The others are Tiger, Panther, and Lion mountains. Though not very high, the natural environment here offers surprising diversity. This is one of the best local spots to view the Taipei Basin and to enjoy the spectacular annual New Year's Eve fireworks show centered on the Taipei 101 building, located directly ahead. In the urban area below the mountain are department stores, boutiques, restaurants and eateries, cinemas, and bars - perfect for an enjoyable day of shopping or an evening of entertainment.



## Itinerary

### DAY-1

Kending

→Jeep adventure and jet-skiing

→Nanwan and Xiaowan



### DAY-2

Kending

→Marine Biology Museum

→Little Liugu



### DAY-3

Sunrise viewing at

Flower Vase Rock on Little Liugu

→Donggang Fish Market

→Zuoying, Lotus Lake

→Night views from Shoushan and Liuhe

Night Market in Kaohsiung

→Taipei



### DAY-4

Taipei

→Wulai

→Bitan

→Elephant Mountain and Muzha

→Xinyi District nightspots

## Travel information

- ★ Taiwan Tour Bus : [www.taiwantourbus.com.tw](http://www.taiwantourbus.com.tw)
- ★ Dapeng Bay National Scenic Area : [www.tbnsa.gov.tw](http://www.tbnsa.gov.tw)
- ★ National Marine Biology Museum and Aquarium : [www.nmmba.gov.tw](http://www.nmmba.gov.tw)
- ★ Taiwan High Speed Rail : [www.thsrc.com.tw](http://www.thsrc.com.tw)
- ★ Water-activity options at Kending National Park are numerous. Most tour companies will introduce five options in one set itinerary: jet-skiing, banana boating, "Popeye the Sailor" tows, donut rides, and mambo rides, for a fee of about NT\$1,000 per person.



**Theme of tour : Student Travel from South to North**

Team name : Koube Artistic Industry College Girl x 4

Team leader : Tsai Pei-jung (Taiwan)

Team members : Tsubasaki Mio (Japan), Nakatsu Reshichi (Japan), Inui Yuki (Japan)

## Team's Recommendation

### Four female students travel around Taiwan

#### Manzhou Peak 168 - Pingtung

The latest travel plan is designed by the Manzhou Township Office. In the 168 hectares of forest explored by jeep, there are a total of 16 exciting destinations, with each providing a thrilling challenge. After passing the various outposts, one can visit the home of Grandma Youzi and Maobo, which was featured in the hit Taiwan film "Cape No. 7."



#### Chuhuo and Spotted Deer - Pingtung

Chuhuo (lit. Fire Coming Out) is on the left side of the main highway leading towards Jialeshui from the East Gate of the town of Hengchun, and is reachable by car in two minutes. Chuhuo is located on a mudstone formation, with natural gas escaping through a fissure in the rock. The effect is more obvious at night. In the vicinity of Chuhuo and Chungma Garden, one can see spotted deer that have been released into the wild.



#### Sand Island and Longpan Prairie - Pingtung

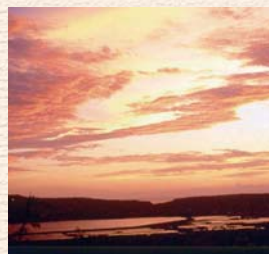
Shadao or Sand Island is located beside Taiwan Highway No. 26 between Eluanbi and Banana Bay in Kending National Park, and is a small bay with a fine sandy beach. The sand in this ecological conservation area is more than 90% shell sand. The Kending National Park Administration has set up the Sand Island Shell Beach Exhibition Hall behind the beach. Longpan Prairie is a magnificent grassland landscape, with an endless ocean view.



#### Shuhai Prairie - Pingtung

The prairie is located in the mountain area around Shuhai Village in Mudan Township, a place of broad grassland and shrubs. Facilities

include a travel information center, car park, grassland trail, and viewing pavilion. There are majestic views of Mudan and the Pacific, and the location is also a popular spot to see the sunrise.



#### Taichung Street Shopping - Taichung

The Yizhong Commercial District in Taichung is a hotspot for young people. Apart from specialty snacks and economical restaurants, it is also a paradise for clothing targeted at young girls, with all sorts of designs and accessories. This is also a popular draw for the general public, who come to enjoy the delicious food and inexpensive shopping.



## Itinerary

### DAY-1

Taoyuan

→Shilin Night Market



### DAY-2

Taoyuan

→Taichung

→Dingwang Spicy Hot Pot

→Yizhong Street

→Fengjia Night Market



### DAY-3

Taichung

→Kaohsiung

→Kending

→Jeep ride and stream-side water play

→Viewing spotted deer



### DAY-4

Kending

→Shell Beach Museum

→Longyan Prairie

→Manzhou Beach

→Shuhai Prairie

→Taoyuan

## Travel information

- ★ Kenting 168 jeep agency : [www.168bigcar.com/index.htm](http://www.168bigcar.com/index.htm)
- ★ Kending National Park : [www.ktnp.gov.tw](http://www.ktnp.gov.tw)
- ★ Ho-Hsin Bus Co. (Taichung—Kaohsiung, original ticket price NT\$380, NT\$250 during discount period) : [www.ebus.com.tw](http://www.ebus.com.tw)
- ★ Manzhou Township Travel Net : [www.manzhou.url.tw](http://www.manzhou.url.tw)
- ★ Mudan Township Office : [www.ptng.gov.tw/TownMdt/index.aspx](http://www.ptng.gov.tw/TownMdt/index.aspx)



## Family Leisure

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Although Taiwan is not big, its natural resources and cultural tapestry seem almost boundless. Apart from enjoying the natural scenery of the island and the rich culture and history, other attractions suited for the entire family are the gourmet food, organic foods, exercise and leisure activities, and health-care and medical services.

The diversity of the gourmet food, the fine weather through most seasons, the friendliness of the people, the good environment and social order, and advanced public facilities and transportation network ensure pleasant and convenient travel, with city leisure travel, forest tours, offshore-island vacations, and theme-park visits among your many options.

In recent years, the Tourism Bureau has combined its Taiwan Tour Bus Tour program with the Taiwan railway network. There are close to 100 tour routes on offer, with full-service travel fun starting the moment you step on the bus or train. Guide services are available in Chinese and a number of foreign languages, ensuring your Taiwan travel experience is a smooth one.



**Theme of tour :** Taiwan, reveal your senses

**Team name :** Taiwaninside

**Team leader :** Raphael Guillet (France)

**Team members :** Alicia Guillet (Taiwan)

## Team's Recommendation

### Family touring in Taiwan

#### Sun Moon Lake - Nantou

First rent an electric bicycle, then go to Wenwu Temple, which has grand views of the Sun Moon Lake scenery. Within the temple, you can see people worshipping Guan Gong (the God of War) and Confucius. Then head back to the lakeside tourist center to return your bicycle and take a boat tour of the lake, visiting such scenic spots as Lalu Island, the resting place of the ancestral souls of the Shao Tribe, Xuan Guang Temple, and Ita Shao village.



#### Taipei 101 - Taipei

The Taipei 101 building is 509 meters high. High-speed elevators take visitors to observatories on the 89th and 91st floors, with terrific views of the surrounding green mountains and the high and low buildings of the sprawling city. Page One bookstore on the 5th floor of the Taipei 101 Mall has an abundance of books and magazines, with a wide selection of foreign-language titles. Also inside the mall are brand-name boutiques, gourmet snack outlets, and high-class restaurants.



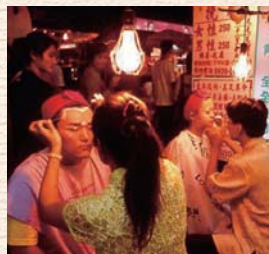
#### Tainan Confucius Temple - Tainan

Tainan is an ancient city, dotted with heritage sites over 300 years old. The city's Confucius Temple was built in 1665. September 28 is the official birthday of Confucius, and visitors come from far and wide to see the grand ceremonies. Among the city's other most important sightseeing spots are the Chikan Tower (Fort Provintia), Anping Fort (Fort Zeelandia), Eternal Fortress, and Great Queen of Heaven Temple. It is highly recommended that visitors take a leisurely walk around the old section of the city to experience the life of the local people.



#### Raohe Street Tourist Night Market - Taipei

An ancient-style monumental archway leads visitors into this, one of the most famous night markets in Taipei, where such delicious traditional snacks as pepper prawns and oyster noodles are on offer. Also recommended are the traditional-style facial treatment, fingernail painting, and foot massage.



#### Tainan Snacks - Tainan

Tainan is renowned as a grand bazaar for traditional snacks, with the local ingredients that are used fresh and delicious. Famous



Tainan snacks include "passing the slack season" noodles, shrimp rolls, oyster omelets, and meat dumplings. In recent years, some of these snacks have become featured dishes at official state banquets. Any trip to Taiwan should include an exploration of the world of Tainan snacking.



## Itinerary

### DAY-1

Taichung

→Sun Moon Lake

→Taipei



### DAY-2

Taipei 101

→Din Tai Fung

restaurant

→Songshan District

and Raohe Street

Tourist Night Market



### DAY-3

Taipei

→Confucius Temple in

Tainan



### DAY-4

Tainan Heritage Tour

→Taichung

## Travel information

- ★ High Speed Rail website: [irs.thsrc.co.tw/IMINT](http://irs.thsrc.co.tw/IMINT)
- ★ Taiwan Railway Jiji Branch Line: Starting in the town of Ershui, Changhua County; destination Checheng. Taiwan Railways Administration: [www.railway.gov.tw/onmdex/index.aspx](http://www.railway.gov.tw/onmdex/index.aspx)
- ★ Sun Moon Lake electric bicycle rental rate: NT\$150/hour
- ★ Tainan Sightseeing Passport NT\$999, bringing meal and entertainment discounts
- ★ Taiwan Sightseeing Association website: [www.tnta.tw](http://www.tnta.tw)
- ★ Taipei 101 Observation Deck: Full ticket NT\$400 (opening hours 10:00-22:00)



**Theme of tour : Family Tour in Taiwan**

**Team name : Taiwan Footprint**

**Team leader : Hsu Min-hsiu (Malaysia)**

**Team members : Ing Poh Hii, Bong Jun Kim, Zeng Xing (Malaysia)**

## Team's Recommendation

### Family touring in Taiwan

#### Bitan - Taipei

Bitan, in the Taipei satellite city of Xindian, is a classic Taiwan scenic spot, with the Bitan Suspension Bridge long a local landmark. After extensive refurbishment, it is now wider, and from the bridge scenic views of pretty Bitan Lake, boats gliding along the lake's surface, and the surrounding mountains can be taken in. In the evening visitors can enjoy the night view of the bridge or take a stroll through the Old Street shopping area.



#### Taipei City Mall and Taiwan Storyland - Taipei

During the hot summer, the best way to keep your children happy and cool is to take them to indoor leisure and recreation spaces. Taiwan Storyland, located across from the Taipei Railway Station, is an expansive display of everyday articles and the streets and shops of the Taiwan of yesteryear. The underground Taipei City Mall, interconnected with the MRT system, has air-conditioning and is suitable for grandparents, parents, and children to stroll and browse.



#### Danshui - Taipei

The plaza outside the MRT Danshui Station has a lively atmosphere. Street artists paint people's portraits, musicians entertain the crowds, and children play on the grassy open area. The adjoining Old Street is chock-a-bloc with shops and vendor stands hawking everything from traditional handicrafts to old-time favorite snack foods such as shrimp cakes and fried squid. Visitors can also hop on a shuttle bus here for the short ride to Fisherman's Wharf, where a pleasant stroll along the boardwalk awaits, along with views of the local fishing harbor and market and panoramic tours offshore in small yachts. If time permits, take the short ferry ride across the Danshui River to the town of Bali, which is popular with day-trippers.



#### Qing Jing Farm - Nantou

Qing Jing Farm, located at an altitude of 2,000 meters above sea level, is a splendid place to spend some of your summer



days. In the summertime, Qing Jing Farm has a series of festival-type activities, including a windmill festival. Inside the Small Swiss Garden are neat, exquisitely colorful flower beds and an attractive fountain. The Evergreen Grassland is a broad green expanse suitable for children's play and taking pictures. During the summer holidays, there is a series of festival activities in this district, such as a windmill festival, drawing many visitors.

#### Puli Guang Xing Paper Mill - Nantou

Puli is the Taiwan hometown for hand-made paper, and is also an important place for making paper for painting. In the Guang Xing Paper Mill, special guides explain traditional paper-making technology, and the visitor can also engage in DIY paper-making. In addition, inside the area's Rich Year Farm there are many species of mushroom that tourists can examine and also taste-test.



## Itinerary

### DAY-1

Taipei

→Wulai

→Bitan in Xindian



### DAY-2

Taiwan Storyland

→Taipei City Mall

→Danshui Old Street



### DAY-3

Taipei

→Taichung

→Sun Moon Lake

→Puli Guang Xing

Paper Mill

→Qing Jing Farm



### DAY-4

Qing Jing Green Green

Grasslands

→Puli Fung Nien Glossy

Ganoderma Farm

→High Speed Rail

Taichung Station

→Taipei

## Travel information

- ★ Taipei MRT website : [www.trtc.com.tw](http://www.trtc.com.tw)
- ★ Taiwan Storyland ticket NT\$200
- ★ Wulai : Take the public bus from Xindian; the fare is NT\$40 for a single journey.
- ★ Wulai Taiwan Railway NT\$50, Yun Hsien Holiday Resort + Cable Car ticket NT\$220
- ★ Qing Jing Farm : Tickets to the Small Swiss Garden cost NT\$120 each. Tickets to the Evergreen Grassland costs NT\$100 each, and includes a sheep-shearing show on weekends/holidays.
- ★ Wulaokun Scenic Area : No. 75, Wulaokun Road, Xin Cheng Li, Suao Township, 03-995-2852



**Theme of tour : Discovering Taiwan for Kids**

**Team name : Taiwan for Kids**

**Team leader : Alexander Liu (USA)**

**Team members : Michelle Chen, Nathan Chen, Margaret Liu, Katherine Chen, Kristine Chen, Christine Chen (USA)**

## Team's Recommendation

### Children-oriented touring in southern Taiwan

#### Qijin Island - Kaohsiung

It only takes a few minutes to get to Qijin Island from Kaohsiung's Gushan Ferry Pier. The long and narrow island, made of sandy silt, has beaches, temples, heritage sites, parks, and bicycle trails, plus restaurants, seafood shops, and craft shops. Specially recommended is the sweet taste of the traditional shaved-ice desserts. The swimming area, natural ecology area, and sea-view footpath are worthwhile attractions in the Qijin Coastal Park.



#### Kenting Youth Activity Center - Pingtung

The south Fujian-style architecture of the Kenting Youth Activity Center is unusual and visually compelling, and nearby are Frog Rock Seashore Park and Xiaowan (Small Bay) for swimming. The children's plaza offers different treats for children, such as cotton candy, walking on stilts, spinning large traditional tops, and more. In the evening, there are game competitions, magic shows, dancing, and other draws.



#### Xiaowan, Baisha Beach - Pingtung

Xiaowan or Small Bay is located across from the Caesar Park Hotel Kenting, a very popular resort hotel by the beach, offering different types of water activities such as jet-skiing, banana boating, donut rides, etc. Baisha or White Sand Beach is quieter, a place where children can play in the sand, digging, building sand castles, or swimming. The bright blue sea water, green tree foliage, and sparkling white sand create a beautiful picture.



#### Maobitou Park - Pingtung

Maobitou is located on the southwest corner of the peninsula on which Kending National Park sits, and is the demarcation point for the Taiwan

Strait and Bashi Channel. Inside this scenic area are footpaths, an observation tower and tourist center, and other facilities. Kending's distinctive coastal topography can be viewed from the observation tower, and the easy walk along the coast-side footpath is a refreshing and enjoyable experience.



#### Taiwan Indigenous Peoples Culture Park -

Pingtung

The Taiwan Indigenous Peoples Culture Park is located at the intersection of Majia and Sandimen townships. The park displays the cultural

articles, farming and hunting methods, traditional architecture, and carving techniques of Taiwan's 14 officially recognized indigenous tribes. There are also song-and-dance performances staged by members of the various tribes. In the handicrafts classroom, tourists can learn how to make traditional bead necklaces, which are laden with symbolism. There is also a hunter-experience camp conducted irregularly. A park visit is a great way to gain better understanding of the traditional lifestyles of Taiwan's tribes which have inhabited this land thousands of years before other groups, including the majority Han Chinese, arrived.



## Itinerary

### DAY-1

Taipei

→Qijin Island, Dream Mall, and Love River in Kaohsiung



### DAY-2

Kaohsiung

→National Museum of Marine Biology and Aquarium  
→Kenting Youth Activity Center  
→Xiaowan and White Sand Beach in Kending



### DAY-3

Maobitou Park

→Hengchun  
→Jialeshui  
→Eluanbi Lighthouse  
→Sand Island  
→Xiaowan



### DAY-4

Kending

→ Taiwan Indigenous Peoples Culture Park  
→Taipei

## Travel information

- ★ Qijin : [www.kcg.gov.tw/English/jsf/qijin.jsf](http://www.kcg.gov.tw/English/jsf/qijin.jsf)
- ★ National Museum of Marine Biology and Aquarium: Full ticket NT\$450, preferential ticket NT\$250, seniors NT\$225; telephone: 08-882-5001; website: [www.nmmba.gov.tw/index.aspx](http://www.nmmba.gov.tw/index.aspx)
- ★ Kenting Youth Activity Center : [kenting.cyh.org.tw](http://kenting.cyh.org.tw). Telephone : 08-886-1221
- ★ Taiwan Indigenous Peoples Culture Park : [www.tacp.gov.tw/home01.aspx?ID=1](http://www.tacp.gov.tw/home01.aspx?ID=1)
- ★ Maobitou Park: Large vehicle NT\$60, small vehicle NT\$40, motorcycle NT\$10



## Big Cities & Small Towns

Taiwan is a long, narrow island running north-south with an area of about 36,000 sq. km (14,400 sq. miles). It has a diversified topography featuring high mountains, plateaus, basins, valleys, and seacoast, along with numerous offshore islands.

Local society features a blend of the cultural characteristics of different ethnic groups, with each district, on the main island and the offshore islands home to a unique mix. There is a harmonious diversity of religious beliefs, architectural styles, languages and dialects, living habits, and cuisines.

All locales proudly proclaim their representative delicious food dishes as well as their distinctive traditional snacks and local specialties, the whole a rich and delicious culinary mosaic. Each big city and each small town serves up a one-of-a-kind trove of fun and surprises.



**Theme of tour : Temples + Five-Star Money-Saving Delicacies**

**Team name : Tour Formosa**

**Team leader : Chris (Taiwan)**

**Team members : Jennifer (South Africa)**

## Team's Recommendation

### Money-saving tour around Nantou and Taichung counties

#### Zhongtai Temple - Nantou

Zhongtai Temple in Puli combines the architectural and cultural elements of east and west. This temple can accommodate 2,000 monks and 1,000 believers. The interior design is exquisite, notably the artistry of the stone carvings. There is a rich collection of Buddha statuary, wall paintings, carvings, and calligraphic works, and of special note is a 100-year-old Bodhi Tree with dense layers of foliage.



#### Jiji Branch Railway / Green Tunnel - Nantou

Nantou's famed Jiji railway line is a ride into nostalgia. The train station, in Japanese colonial-era style, has more than 70 years of history. The fresh and peaceful local environment and the green tunnel stretching alongside the railway are great for bicycle outings. Camphor trees are planted on the two sides of Route 152 between Longquan and Jiji.



#### Taomi Eco-Village - Nantou

The Taomi Community of Puli is located on the Zhongtan Highway. This small community was severely damaged during the massive 921 Earthquake in 1999, but now stands once again. Ecological conservation is the theme here, with wetlands, riverside trails, waterfalls, and a paper church transported from Japan symbolizing hope and rebirth. The tourist center in the village can arrange guided eco-tours.



#### Dakeng and Xinshe Leisure Farms -

Taichung

The Takeng and Xinshe areas are the back gardens of the city of Taichung, dotted with tourist-oriented farmsteads and gourmet restaurants in European style. From the Dakeng scenic area, one can enjoy a bird's-eye view of Taichung. Xinshe's main agricultural product is mushrooms, and on Xiezhong Street are shops specializing in mushroom-based cuisine.



#### Fengjia Night Market - Taichung

Taichung is often called "University City." In the vicinity of the university district are a number of commercial areas, the most famous being Fengjia Night Market, where over 100 varieties of delicious snacks are on sale, all at affordable prices. Great bargains are also found on fashionable clothing for young people. Special recommendations are : "lazy man" shrimp, mashed potato, rock sugar candy, salty water chicken, egg cakes, and "ice and fire" crumb-top bread.



## Itinerary

### DAY-1

Puli Zhongtai Temple

→Paper Church

→Sun Moon Lake

→Shuili

→Jiji



### DAY-2

Taichung Fengle Park

→I Zhong Fung Jen Ico

→Dakeng and Xinshe

→Fengjia Night Market



### DAY-3

Dajia Zhennan Temple

→Houfeng bicycle tour

→Fengyuan Temple

→Qingshui Rest Station

→Wuri



### DAY-4

Taichung souvenir shopping tour : Tong

Le Xiao, Sunrise

Pineapple Cake, Purple

Taro Cake, Nugget, and

Chang Chi Honey Cake

## Travel information

- ★ Sun Moon Lake National Scenic Area : [www.sunmoonlake.gov.tw](http://www.sunmoonlake.gov.tw)
- ★ Zhongtai Temple : 049-293-0215, Zhennan Temple : 04-2676-3522, Taomi Eco-Village : 049-242-2003
- ★ Bicycle rental : Jiji and Houli starting from NT\$100/bicycle
- ★ Gifts : Tong Le Xiao (No. 476, Defang South Road, Dali, Taichung County), Sunrise Pineapple Cake (No. 43, Wugian Xi 3rd Street, West District, Taichung), Purple Taro Cake (No. 122-6, Zhonggang Road, Sec. 2, Taichung), Nugget (No. 220 Lingxia Road, Xitun District, Taichung)



**Theme of tour : Food & Entertainment in Taipei**

**Team name :** gogotaiwan

**Team leader :** Yoon-ju Cho (South Korea)

**Team members :** Hyun-hee Kang (South Korea)

## Team's Recommendation

### Food and entertainment in Taipei

#### Yongkang Street, Gongguan - Taipei

Yongkang Commercial District encompasses Lishui Street, Jinhua Street, and Xinyi Road, Sec. 2. Scores of restaurants, coffeeshops, and snack shops fill a space of just a few hundred square meters. The famous restaurant Din Tai Fung is the hub of this district. There are also quite a number of Japanese and Korean restaurants and boutiques.



#### Bali - Taipei

From the port of Danshui, by the mouth of the Danshui River, one can take a ferry across to the town of Bali to experience the calm and comfortable atmosphere. People can take a stroll along Left Bank Park, have a cup of coffee, play in the water at the public beach area, or visit the Shihsanhang Museum of Archaeology to understand the life of the area's early inhabitants. Tourists also can ride a bicycle along the Bali Left Bank Bike Trail to enjoy the scenery and the mangrove-swamp ecology at the mouth of the Danshui River.



#### Jiufen - Taipei

In the past, the old hillside town of Jiufen also had the names Little Shanghai and Little Hong Kong. Today, handicraft shops line both sides of Old Street. Sweet snacks are popular here, and Shengping Cinema and Wu Fan Keng are places filled with nostalgic sentiment. Red lanterns light up the evenings, and at the teahouses one can appreciate the charming night views. If you want to fully experience the beauty and simplicity of Jiufen, however, spend a night at a local homestay.



#### Xinyi Commercial District - Taipei

The city's largest and most luxurious department stores are located in this district. Here one can explore IKEA for furniture -

there are none in Korea, the home country of the gogotaiwan team, and visit the Eslite Bookstore flagship outlet, which has many English, Japanese and, yes, Korean titles.



#### Shilin Night Market - Taipei

Shilin Night Market, the largest night market in Taipei, is centered on Cicheng Temple and the Yangming Theater.

Apart from fashionable clothing and shoe stores, there are many stalls selling delicious foods and snacks. This is a very crowded area, and one can see people strolling about carrying large and small shopping bags while munching delicious food treats. You'll find that Keelung Night Market has an ambiance quite different from Shilin Night Market; among the many snack choices not to be missed, try the bubble ice, shrimp and meat dumplings, fried dumplings, and goose meat.



## Itinerary

### DAY-1

Taipei

→Yongkang Street



### DAY-2

Jiufen

→Keelung Night Market



### DAY-3

Danshui

→Bali

→Shilin Night Market



### DAY-4

228 Memorial Peace

Park

→IKEA

→Eslite Bookstore

→Rainbow Riverside

Park

## Travel information

- ★ Taipei Sightseeing Passport one-day coupon NT\$180, three-day coupon NT\$440, five-day coupon NT\$700, unlimited rides within the stated period on the MRT and public-bus systems
- ★ National Taiwan Museum: No. 2 Xiangyang Road, Taipei, Tel: 02-2382-2699. Full ticket NT\$20, preferential ticket NT\$10
- ★ A ferry ride from Danshui Pier to Bali takes about 10 minutes. Full fare NT\$20
- ★ Taipei Travel Net website: [www.taipeitravel.net](http://www.taipeitravel.net)
- ★ Taipei County tourism website: <http://tour.tpc.gov.tw>



**Theme of tour : Looking for Fine Teas in Taiwan**

**Team name : West Meets East**

**Team leader : Ching-Yu Lin (Taiwan)**

**Team members : Benjamin van Boxtel (USA)**

## Team's Recommendation

### Tea-exploration fun in Taiwan

#### Muzha Tourist Tea Plantations (Iron Goddess) vs. Wenshan Plantations (Baozhong Tea) - Taipei

Tie Guanyin or Iron Goddess tea is produced in Muzha, Taipei. Tourists can take the Maokong Gondola to the area for a stroll through the plantations and go to Yuan Xu Yuan Teahouse to drink tea and/or enjoy the local tea cuisine. Tea farms from Xindian to Pinglin produce Wenshan Baozhong Tea. One can make an appointment with the farm to experience first-hand how to pick tea leaves, and savor an exquisite tea-cuisine meal at He Huan Restaurant in Pinglin.



#### Oriental Beauty Tea and Lei Tea - Hsinchu

Hsinchu County's Beipu and Emei districts produce Oriental Beauty Tea. The tea gets its distinct flavor from the little green leaf cicada, which sucks on the leaf, its residual saliva changing the quality of the tea leaf naturally and generating the special ripe-fruit aroma. Lei Tea is a traditional must-drink tea in Hakka communities, made by grinding tea leaves, pumpkin seeds, peanuts, and sesame.



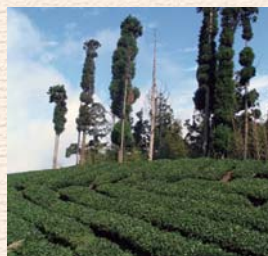
#### Sun Moon Lake Black Tea vs. Dong Ding Oolong Tea - Nantou

Yuchi Township, in which Sun Moon Lake sits, is famed for its Assam Black Tea. One can pay a visit to a local tea farm to better understand the cultivation process and special qualities of the area's black tea. When in Lugu, the hometown of Dong Ding (Frozen Peak) Oolong Tea, one can visit the Tea Industry Museum set up by the local Farmers' Association to understand the production of the local variety of Oolong tea.



#### Alishan High Mountain Tea - Chiayi

Alishan's Gaoshan or High Mountain Tea is fresh, aromatic, and sweet. The Mt. Ali region offers "forest entertainment" in the form



of hiking, and here one can also visit high-mountain tea farms, stroll through green bamboo groves, gaze upon amazing waterfalls and gorges, and enjoy the nighttime firefly shows. The travel options here are, as one can see, quite rich.

#### Yingge Tea Utensils - Taipei

To drink tea, a proper tea set is a must. Yingge is the key center for production of ceramics and tea utensils in Taiwan, with two major categories



of tea utensils developed and perfected since the 1960s. One can browse tea-items in tremendous variety on the town's Old Street. Some shops offer lessons in ceramics production. Although the ceramics outlets are concentrated on just two streets, the variety will amaze you.



## Itinerary

### DAY-1

Pinglin

→Muzha Tourist Tea

Plantations

→Maokong

→Shida Night Market



### DAY-2

Taipei

→Yingge

→Beipu, Hsinchu

County

→Sun Moon Lake



### DAY-3

Sun Moon Lake

→Lugu

→Alishan



### DAY-4

Alishan National Scenic

Area

→Taichung

## Travel information

- ★ Taipei County Farmers' Association Wenshan Tea Promotion Center : 02-2912-7176
- ★ Wenshan Farm : 02-2666-4622
- ★ Taipei Muzha Farmers' Association Promotion Section : 02-2939-8021
- ★ Beipu Farmers' Association : 03-580-3448; Yuchi Township Farmers' Association : 049-289-5505
- ★ Lugu Farmers' Association : 049-275-1962; Alishan Farmers' Association : 05-256-2332
- ★ Maokong Gondola : NT\$50 single journey full fare (3 stations)



Theme of tour : Small Town Stories

Team name : kampungboycitygal

Team leader : Lim Dao Feng (Malaysia)

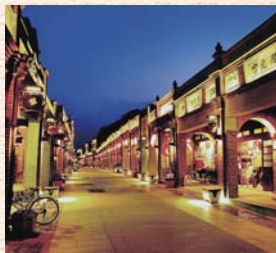
Team members : Chin Wei Zhyi (Malaysia)

## Team's Recommendation

### Train rides to mountain towns

#### Sanxia Old Street - Taipei

Sanxia is a 15-minute drive from Yingge. The Qingshui Zushi (Divine Ancestor) Temple is renowned for its elaborate wood carvings. Old Street, a section of Minquan St., was built during the Japanese occupation period (1895-1945), and features heritage architecture with such flourishes as Baroque entrances and red-tile corridors, capturing the ambiance of the bustling business scene of the old days.



#### Pingxi and Shifen - Taipei

Every year at the Lantern Festival, one of the Taiwan's most important traditional festivals, what are called "heavenly lanterns" are released in the town of Pingxi. Pingxi Branch Railway Line trains pass by Old Street in the town of Shifen, recreating a familiar tableau from yesteryear as the train passes by the local residences, and shops everywhere are busy with lantern sales. In the Taiwan Coal Mine Museum one can get a glimpse of the processes involved in the washing and hauling of coal.



#### Jinguashi - Taipei

The mines of Jinguashi once produced gold in quantity, and this area today remains rich in facilities and heritage architecture related to the gold-mining industry. In the Gold Ecological Park are numerous attractions, including the Museum of Gold, a mine-visit experience, the Japanese-style Crown Prince Chalet, the Shinto Shrine, Teapot Mountain, a "golden" waterfall, Gold Refining Building, and old Japanese dormitory facilities.



#### Neiwan - Hsinchu

The mountain end-point of the Neiwan Branch Railway Line, Neiwan, is a Hakka enclave. The train station here was built



during the Japanese occupation period. Outside the station is the bustling Zhongzheng Road Old Street business district, home to many a snack shop and eatery. A noted local attraction is the sculptures of such well-known Taiwanese cartoon characters as Brother A-san and Big Auntie; another is the suspension bridge, a good spot to view the natural scenery.

#### Yingge Ceramics Museum - Taipei

The Taipei County Yingge Ceramics Museum has a sleek, modernistic exterior. Inside one can explore the history of the ceramics industry, with interesting demonstrations of the manufacturing process. Behind the facility, Ceramics Park is a place where children can play in a pool and sandboxes. The ceramic works displayed here blend wonderfully with the natural environment.



## Itinerary

### DAY-1

Taoyuan  
→Ruifang  
→Jingtong  
→Pingxi  
→Shifen

### DAY-2

Jiufen  
→Jinguashi



### DAY-3

Taipei  
→Hsinchu  
→Zhudong  
→Neiwan  
→Taipei



### DAY-4

Taipei  
→Yingge  
→Sanxia

## Travel information

- ★ Tickets for the Pingxi Branch Railway Line can be purchased at the Ruifang Train Station - a day ticket costs NT\$54, with unlimited on/off access that day
- ★ Take the bus to Pingxi from the MRT Muzha Station in Taipei. A single journey ticket costs NT\$45.
- ★ Neiwan Branch Railway Line - A day ticket costs NT\$74, with unlimited on/off access that day.
- ★ Jinguashi Gold Ecological Park: No. 8, Jinguang Road, Jinguashi, Ruifang Township, Taipei County; Tel: 02-2496-2800





**Theme of tour : Experience Zen in a Tea Garden**

**Team name : Journey at the Edge of the World**

**Team leader : Li Yu (Taiwan)**

**Team members : Olivier (France), Claude (France)**

## Team's Recommendation

### Mountain and tea village tour

#### Qingquan Scenic Area - Hsinchu

The Qingquan Scenic Area is located in Taoshan Village, Wufeng Township. Surrounded by beautiful mountain scenery, the main attractions are trails and three suspension bridges built during the Japanese occupation period. There are also well-known hot springs here, and a former residence of a key figure in modern Chinese history, the Manchurian warlord Chang Hsue-liang.



#### Bailan Tribal Village, Bagun Farm - Hsinchu

The Bailan tribal settlement is located in Taoshan Village, Wufeng Township. The native people here earn their living by growing fruits and vegetables. Their homes are not luxurious, but their life is simple and largely in harmony with nature. Bagun Farm is located high on a mountain slope, giving grand views of a "sea of clouds" down below.



#### Lugu Tea Farms - Nantou

The township of Lugu is located in Nantou County, an important place for the cultivation of tea and bamboo shoots. The varied and dramatic topography makes for lovely scenery; to the east is the Central Mountain Range, to the south the Beishi River, and to the west the Qingshui River.



#### Shibi Village - Miaoli

The Shibi settlement is located on the side of Jiali Mountain. There is a magnificent cliff that extends for several kilometers here, which the Atayal Tribe simply calls "Raisinay" or "the cliff." Nearby Xiangtian Lake, which locals also call Yangtian Lake, is a traditional gathering place for the Saisiyat Tribe, where every two years the unique Sacrifice to the Short Spirits is held, attracting many tourists.



#### Quanhua Temple - Miaoli

Quanhua Temple, a large facility, is located at the front slope of Shitou (Lion's Head) Mountain. The two sides of the temple front feature simple yet elegant carved octagonal stone windows. Windows in the rooms are octagonal cast-iron, and the floor carvings are of that classic Chinese temple art motif, the dragon. The Ziyang Gate entrance to Shitou Mountain is an important historical relic.



## Itinerary

### DAY-1

Qingquan Scenic Area

→Hot springs, suspension bridge, and former residence of

Chang Hsueh-liang

→Niaozi Mountain

→Bailan Tribal Village

→Bagun Farm



### DAY-2

Bailan Tribal Village

→Lugu Tea Farms



### DAY-3

Lugu Tea Farms

→Xitou Forest

Recreation Area



### DAY-4

Shibi

→Quanhua Temple

→Taipei

## Travel information

- ★ Hsinchu County tourism : [www.hsinchu.gov.tw/travel](http://www.hsinchu.gov.tw/travel)
- ★ Qingquan Hot Spring : [www.hcchotspring.com.tw](http://www.hcchotspring.com.tw)
- ★ Former Residence of Chang Hsueh-liang : 03-5856613; Opening hours : 9:00-17:00
- ★ Bagun Farm : 03-585-6351
- ★ Lugu tourism : [www.lugu.com.tw](http://www.lugu.com.tw)
- ★ Shitou Mountain Quanhua Temple : [www.lion.org.tw](http://www.lion.org.tw)



**Theme of tour : Seeking the Extreme Taipei**

**Team name : The Dumpling Inspectors**

**Team leader : Philipp Martin (Germany)**

**Team members : Marisa Pohl (Germany)**

## Team's Recommendation

### Comprehensive review of Taipei's fine scenery

#### Zhishan Cultural and Ecological Garden - Taipei

The Zhishan Cultural and Ecological Garden occupies an area of four hectares. In the past this was a restricted military site; today it is a Class 2 heritage site. The garden is home to a rich trove of historical, cultural, landscape, and ecological treasures. It is the only archeological dig site in Taipei with seven separate cultures uncovered, and the only one with a layer revealing the "Taiwan Zhishan Stone Culture."



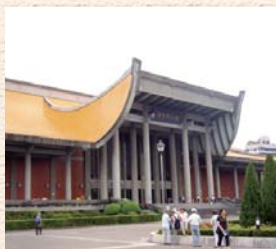
#### Huiji Temple - Taipei

Huiji Temple, located on the small 50-meter-high Zhishanyan "mountain," was completed in 1764. The temple has been rebuilt many times, and today features seven doorways, two halls, two arcades, and two guardian dragons. On the sides of the temple are, respectively, a clock and a run tower, each two stories high, built in 1957 and today listed as Class 3 historical relics.



#### Sun Yat-Sen Memorial Hall - Taipei

The Sun Yat-Sen Memorial Hall was built to commemorate the hundredth birthday of the "national father" of the Republic of China, and was designed by famous architect Wang Da-hong in the Tang Dynasty style, combining both traditional and modern elements. It won a "Best Architecture Award" from the U.S. Dept. of Education. The hall takes up an area of 2,800 sq. meters, and within is the city's largest auditorium. The grounds are meticulously landscaped, featuring gardens and spaces for exercise, leisure, and arts and cultural activities.



#### 228 Peace Park - Taipei

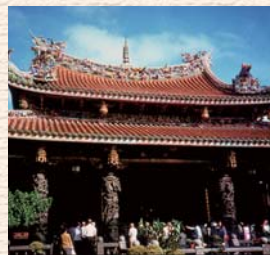
The original name of this park was Taipei New Park. Designed in the European style, it features a fountain, pavilion, lotus pond,



arch bridge, outdoor auditorium, monumental archway, and the 228 Memorial Museum, which teaches people about the 228 Incident, an anti-government uprising in 1947 that was violently suppressed at a time when Taiwan was not yet a democracy. The park and museum were established to commemorate the victims. To the right of the main entrance are two of the early steam locomotives used on the island's railways, each over a century old.

#### Longshan Temple - Taipei

Longshan Temple, built in 1738, is a classic example of traditional Chinese-temple architecture. The main god worshipped here is



Guanyin, the Goddess of Mercy. The temple suffered extensive damage during the Second World War, afterwards undergoing thorough repair and rebuilding, and today is a National Class 2 Historical Relic. The architecture features stylistic elements from both the Qing Dynasty and Japanese Occupation period.



## Itinerary

### DAY-1

Zhishan Cultural and Ecological Garden

→Huiji Temple

→Sun Yat-sen Memorial Hall

→Chiang Kai-shek

Memorial Hall (National Taiwan Democracy Memorial Hall)

→Ximending

→Shilin Night Market



### DAY-2

228 Memorial Peace Park

→Taipei 101

→Shida Night Market



### DAY-3

Yangmingshan National Park



### DAY-4

Longshan Temple

→Beitou Hot Spring Museum

## Travel information

- ★ Zhishan Cultural and Ecological Garden : [zcegarden.org.tw](http://zcegarden.org.tw)
- ★ Huiji Temple : 02-2831-5656
- ★ National Sun Yat-Sen Memorial Hall : [www.yatsen.gov.tw](http://www.yatsen.gov.tw)
- ★ Yangmingshan National Park : [www.ymsnp.gov.tw](http://www.ymsnp.gov.tw)
- ★ Longshan Temple : [www.lungshan.org.tw](http://www.lungshan.org.tw)
- ★ Beitou Hot Spring Museum : [peitoumuseum.culture.gov.tw](http://peitoumuseum.culture.gov.tw)



## Rail and Bike Tours

Rail and bicycle touring (with more and more people now motorcycling as well), a novel way of travel, has become extremely popular in Taiwan in recent years. The slow and leisurely style is a form of environmental protection, and is perfectly suited for any traveler who loves to explore local scenery and local customs.

Travelers can ride trains on the island's picturesque small-gauge railways to head up into the mountains and cross through dense forest to see the sunrise and sea of clouds in Alishan, ride a bicycle through dramatic Taroko Gorge, or take a rail and bicycle tour to and around Kending National Park in the far south of Taiwan and Sun Moon Lake in central Taiwan. During these relaxed-pace excursions, travelers will experience the richness of the local natural landscapes, the special characteristic of each locale, including the local culture and historical relics. This type of travel is markedly different from other kinds, and is perhaps the best of all choices.

## 04 Rail and Bike Tours



**Theme of tour : Rediscover Alangyi Ancient Trail**

**Team name : Indi Amei**

**Team leader : Tie Yun (Switzerland)**

**Team members : Lin Yi-hua (Taiwan)**

### Team's Recommendation

#### Traversing the Alangyi Ancient Trail by bike

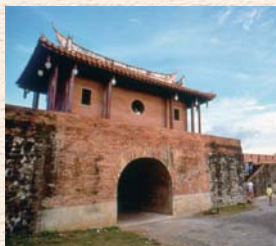
##### Alangyi Historic Trail - Pingtung

The Alangyi Historic Trail is located on Taiwan maps exactly where a dotted line is indicated, showing where the future Taiwan Highway No. 26 from Shuhai in Pingtung to the Nantien section of Taitung County will be built, completing the round-island highway network. This area is still epitomized by pristine, untouched coastal landscape and ecology. The old trail stretches from coast to high mountain, and along the way are ropes to assist climbs where travelers must carry their bikes to cross hill sections before moving back down to the shore.



##### Hengchun - Pingtung

The Taiwan hit movie "Cape No. 7" has greatly increased the popularity of this destination. Signboards on the streets indicate the film's shooting locations, leading tourists to the home of the main character A-ja and the site where the members of the musical band depicted were selected. Visitors are especially enamored with the breakfast prepared at the old house, where the old grandma proprietors sell rice dumplings, and the Qing Dynasty herbal-medicine cabinets in the old-style Chinese pharmacies.



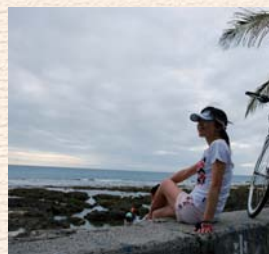
##### Manzhou - Pingtung

Manzhou Township is on the southeast side of Pingtung, facing the Pacific Ocean, an area of traditional residences, verdant farms, high sand dunes, and sweeping slopes. Perhaps the best-known scenic sites here are the Jiupeng Desert and Jialeshui Scenic Area. Every October, the nationally celebrated grey-faced buzzard migrates through this area. Other popular attractions are Menmalo Mountain, Gangkou Suspension Bridge, Qikong Waterfall, and Nanren Lake.



##### Eluanbi - Pingtung

Bike-route planning in Kending National Park is a breeze, with many options suitable for riders of different skill levels. On excursions



from the town of Kending to Eluanbi, one rides beside the Pacific Ocean, and as you move along the highway, the scenery becomes more primordial. Inside Eluanbi Park, defined by its famous lighthouse, is upraised coral limestone, with strange rock formations, huge reefs, and caves.

##### Donglong Temple in Dongkang - Pingtung

Donglong Temple has a history spanning 300 years. The main god worshipped here is Wang Yeh Wen, a guardian of seafarers. The local Burning of the Wang Yeh's Boat, carried out once every three years, and attracts many tourists. Donglong Temple was built in 1705, and after several renovations it remains today a place of visual majesty, with its most eye-catching architectural element the golden ceremonial archway.



### Itinerary

#### DAY-1

Kaohsiung  
→Donggang  
→Fangliao  
→Checheng  
→Hengchun, riding  
distance 110 kilometers



#### DAY-2

Hengchun→Nanwan  
→Kending→Eluanbi  
→Jiale Highway  
→Taiwan Highway No. 200  
→Shuhai, riding  
distance 74 kilometers



#### DAY-3

Shuhai Village-- :  
Alangyi Historic Trail  
→Zhongyang Ranch  
(camping), riding  
distance 10 kilometers



#### DAY-4

Guanyinbi climb-start  
point  
→carry bicycle  
→Tawa River mouth  
→Descent to Nantian  
→Nantian tribal village  
→Daren and Dawu  
(South Link Railway)  
→Kaohsiung, travel  
distance 16 kilometers

### Travel information

- ★ South Link Railway from Dawu to Kaohsiung : the fare for the Ziqiang train is NT\$241; the fare for the Juguang train is NT\$186.
- ★ Pingtung County Government : [www.ptgp.gov.tw](http://www.ptgp.gov.tw)
- ★ Kending National Park : [www.ktnp.gov.tw](http://www.ktnp.gov.tw)
- ★ Manzhou Township tourism : [www.manzhou.url.tw](http://www.manzhou.url.tw)
- ★ Eluanbi Park entrance : large vehicle NT\$60, small vehicle NT\$40, motorcycle NT\$10, full fare NT\$40, preferential fare NT\$20

## 04 Rail and Bike Tours



**Theme of tour : Travel Lightly with Bikes and Vege Bites**

**Team name : Theme Is Green**

**Team leader : Edwin Tucker (Australia)**

**Team members : Cheng Ju-Yueh (Taiwan)**

### Team's Recommendation

#### Eco-friendly bike touring in Yilan and Hualien

##### Taroko Gorge and Buluowan - Hualien

Taroko National Park is a broad expanse of high mountains, deep valleys, soaring cliffs, and rushing rivers—topography that is unseen anywhere else in the world. While riding a bike through Taroko Gorge, one is regaled with dazzling scenery, and Buluowan is a place rich with the style and traditions of the local indigenous people. The vegetarian set meal at Buluowan's Leader Village Taroko resort is delicious, served up with the bonus of indigenous dancing and singing by the staff, who are local indigenous people.



##### Qixingtan Cycling Trail - Hualien

Qixingtan, which literally means "Seven Star Lake," is in fact an arc-shaped ocean bay. Linked bike paths stretching about 15 kilometers from the city of Hualien to the north bring you to the Qixingtan bikeway. In some sections, extra effort is needed to tackle slopes, but the majority of the route is flat and suitable for children. A highlight of a visit here is the Qixingtan Katsuo Museum, where you are introduced to the Japanese art of producing the dried-fish snack known as katsuo.



##### County Highway No. 193 - Hualien

Stretching 110.5 km through Hualien from the town of Sanzhan in Xincheng Township in the north to Lehe in Yuli Township in the south, this is the longest county route in Taiwan. The road is narrow and has comparatively steep rises and falls in some sections, meaning riders will need some strength and endurance. Along the way one sees farming villages and beautiful pastoral tableaux on what is a great route for viewing natural ecology and vivid pictures of seas of flowers swaying in pretty valleys.



##### Restored Mataian Wetland - Hualien

The Mataian Wetland features clear and winding streams and natural springs, ideal habitat for a wide variety of plants, aquatic algae, and insect



life. Many different bird species, including egrets, moorhens, and white-breasted waterhens, are attracted here to feed. The lotus ponds and distant mountain peaks create vivid pictures.

##### National Center for Traditional Arts -

Yilan

The National Center for Traditional Arts is located in Yilan's Wujie Township. Performances of traditional Chinese opera and folk arts are staged here, along with displays of cultural artifacts. The architecture along Folk Arts Boulevard is an imitation of early 20th-century red-brick shophouses and the style of the Japanese Occupation period. Inside the shops here, one finds many interesting traditional toys and snacks, and regardless of your age and nationality, everybody who visits goes on a pleasant stroll down memory lane.



### Itinerary

#### DAY-1

Luodong, Yilan  
→Taroko Gorge, Hualien  
→Lushui-Heliu Trail  
→Buluowan (Village Taroko/Leader Hotel)



#### DAY-2

Buluowan (Leader Village Taroko Hotel)  
→Ciji Jingsi Vihara  
→MoonLight Ocean Homestay  
→Taroko Tribal Music Festival



#### DAY-3

Hualien  
→Qixingtan Bicycle Trail  
→County Highway No. 193  
→Mataian  
→Guangfu Sugar Refinery  
→Ma Tai An Posthouse Homestay



#### DAY-4

Mataian, Guangfu  
→Take train to Luodong  
→ National Center for Traditional Arts  
→Yilan

### Travel information

- ★ Leader Village Taroko Hotel : 03-861-0111, [www.leaderhotel.com/blw/leadervillage/index.htm](http://www.leaderhotel.com/blw/leadervillage/index.htm)
- ★ Red Cottage : 03-870-4601; serves creative indigenous meals
- ★ Qixingtan bicycle rental NT\$100/outing
- ★ National Center for Traditional Arts : [www.ncfta.gov.tw](http://www.ncfta.gov.tw)

## 04 Rail and Bike Tours



**Theme of tour : Touring Taiwan by Bicycle**

**Team name : FrenTainese**

**Team leader : Sandro Lacarbona (France)**

**Team members : Ting-Ching Huang (Taiwan)**

### Team's Recommendation

#### Touring Taiwan on a bicycle

##### Luodong - Yilan

The soybean milk and preserved eggs produced by members of the Luodong Farmers' Association are key parts of fond memories of childhood for many local people. Inside the association's tourist-friendly factory facility, visitors can gain an understanding of the production process for soybean milk and engage in DIY activities focused on beancurd, soybean drinks, etc. The Luodong Night Market offers a variety of popular snacks, including rice cakes, stinky beancurd, and shaved-ice desserts.



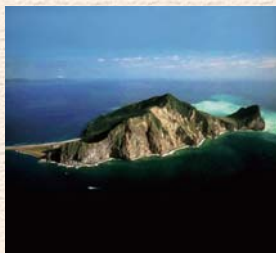
##### Jiaoxi Hot Springs - Yilan

The Jiaoxi Hot Springs are in a flatland area, a rare occurrence in Taiwan. The hot springs are alkaline, clear, and odorless, and contain numerous different minerals. Inside the hot-spring resort area are free foot-soak baths and many public bathhouses. The landscaping here ingeniously combines the natural green foliage of the local environment with the flowing hot-spring waters.



##### Guishan Island Dolphin Tour - Yilan

Dolphin-sighting trips start from the port of Wushi, and circumnavigate Guishan Island. Rare ocean-bottom hot springs are found in the shallow sea here, at a depth of about 10 meters, changing the original blue of the sea water to a creamy-blue hue and creating a whirlpool-like image from a distance. Chances of seeing a performance by jumping dolphins are good here. Back in port, enjoy some fine seafood and take-home purchases at the direct sales center.



##### Wujie - Yilan

The 60-year-old Jade Rabbit Pencil Factory is located in Yilan's Wujie Township. In the Jade Rabbit Pencil School, tourists learn about the manufacturing process and the history of the factory. The school also offers DIY pencil souvenirs.



##### Emerald Bay and Yeliu - Taipei

Feicuiwan or Emerald Bay is a great spot for paragliding due to the local topography and stable air currents, suitable for outings all year round. During a bicycle tour along the 70 kilometers of north coast, highway riders will encounter widely differing topography. The section from the towns of Wanli to Jinshan is popular for wedding-photo shoots, with many scenic spots to choose from. At Yeliu there are many unusual rock formations caused by wind and sand erosion, the most famous being the Queen's Head. One can also take a stroll along Jinshan's colorful Old Street to try the many snacks on offer.



### Itinerary

#### DAY-1

Luodong, Yilan  
→National Center for Traditional Arts  
→Luodong Night Market



#### DAY-2

Luodong  
→Suao  
→Nanfengao



→Streets of Jiaoxi Hot Springs Resort  
→Traditional Foot Massage



#### DAY-3

Jiaoxi  
→Wushi Port  
→Toucheng  
→Waiao Ocean Recreation Area  
→Keelung Port  
→Keelung Miaokou Night Market



#### DAY-4

Keelung  
→Wanli, Emerald Bay  
→Yeliu  
→Jinshan Old Street  
→Taipei  
→Shilin Night Market

### Travel information

- ★ Jade Rabbit Pencil School : 03-965-3670 (advance booking required)
- ★ Luodong Farmers' Association Sightseeing Factory : 03-957-4525
- ★ Luodong Rougengfan restaurant : 03-954-0262
- ★ Wushi Harbor Tourist Service Center : information on dolphin-watch excursions and Guishan Island 03-978-9078
- ★ Yeliu Geopark : [www.ylgeopark.org.tw](http://www.ylgeopark.org.tw)

## 04 Rail and Bike Tours



**Theme of tour : Hsinchu and Miaoli - Dialogue between Mountain and Sea**

**Team name : Mountain and Sea, You and Me**

**Team leader : Kurt (Macao)**

**Team members : Ivy (Taiwan), Lion (Taiwan)**

### Team's Recommendation

#### Hsinchu and Miaoli motorcycle touring

##### Beipu Old Street - Hsinchu

On the simple old streets of Beipu, Hsinchu County, one can taste delicious Hakka rice noodles and Hakka Lei tea. Chitian Temple is the local center of worship. The roads here are built with slabs of stone that make an intriguing tapping sound as you walk on them.



##### Nanzhuang - Miaoli

A stroll along the town of Nanzhuang's Old Street, Xishankeng (old clothes-washing irrigation ditch), Guihua (Osmanthus) Lane, and the Old Post Office are scenic sites that one should not miss. The nearby Fairy Valley Waterfall is a splendid sight, and Xiangtian Lake is a key ceremony site for the Saisiyat Tribe. Beside the lake is the Saisiyat Culture Hall, a bee farm, and a mushroom farm.



##### Sanyi - Miaoli

Shengxing Train Station in Sanyi is a heritage wooden structure. The ruins of Longteng "Broken" Bridge, having suffered two large earthquakes, has a simplicity that attracts many tourists; the iron structure is being enveloped by green grass in a scene unusual and compelling. The "woodcarving street" in the town of Sanyi is filled with the aroma of camphor and cypress; a visit to the Sanyi Wood Sculpture Museum brings appreciation for the skills of the area's woodcarving masters.



##### Tongxiao - Miaoli

Walking on the path in front of the Tongxiao Shrine, a visitor feels that he/she is in Japan. Beyond some minor modifications, the preservation



of this Japanese Occupation period work of architecture is complete. In front of the shrine there are a number of abandoned buildings built by the Japanese. From the top of the observation tower on nearby Futou (Tiger Head) Mountain, one can see the entire township of Tongxiao and the Taiwan Strait beyond.

##### 17 Kilometer Hsinchu Coast Bike Path -

Hsinchu

The coastal area around the city of Hsinchu has been made a sightseeing zone by the city government, with a 17-km bicycle route running through it. Along the route are many scenic spots like Hongshulin (Mangrove) Park, Haishan Fishing Port, and the Haishan Fishing Port Observation Tower. Tourists can also go to Xiangshan Wetland and Jincheng Lake to watch birds.



### Itinerary

#### DAY-1

Beipu Cold Spring  
→Beipu Old Street  
→Folk Singing and Lei Tea  
→Emei Lake and Fuxing Old Street  
→Nanzhuang Old Street  
→Lanting Homestay

#### DAY-2

Lanting Homestay  
→Fairy Valley  
→Xiangtian Lake  
→Xiancao (Handmade Herbal Jelly) in Shitan and Xianshan  
→Dahu Strawberry Cultural Hall  
→Sunset at Jiangma (Wild Ginger) Garden Recreation Area  
→Juyuan Homestay

#### DAY-3

Sunrise and Sea of Clouds  
→Sanyi Train Station  
→Longteng Bridge  
→Sky City  
→Sanyi Wood Sculpture Museum  
→Miaoli Township Road 51 Green Tunnel  
→Tongxiao Homestay

#### DAY-4

Tongxiao Shrine  
→Hutou Mountain Observation Platform  
→Xinpu Train Station  
→Houlong Cape of Good Hope  
→Houlong Temple Snacks  
→Hsinchu City God Temple Tour  
→Zhunan Holiday Forest

### Travel information

- ★ Hsinchu Railway Station vehicle rental : Motorcycles can be rented for NT\$400/day
- ★ Hsinchu County tourism : [www.hsinchu.gov.tw/travel](http://www.hsinchu.gov.tw/travel)
- ★ Miaoli County culture and tourism : [miaolitravel.net](http://miaolitravel.net)
- ★ Taiwan Railways Administration : [www.railway.gov.tw/index.aspx](http://www.railway.gov.tw/index.aspx)

## 04 Rail and Bike Tours



**Theme of tour : The Three Travelers to Appreciate Taiwan**

**Team name : Three People, Three Directions**

**Team leader : Miru (Taiwan)**

**Team members : Nathan (United Kingdom),  
Ginnie (Tainan)**

### Team's Recommendation

**West coast small towns and east coast villages,  
offshore island light travel**

#### Fengshu Community in Nantun - Taichung

Fengshu (Maple) Community is a small village-type area in a suburb of Taichung. Tourists are attracted by its friendliness and the bucolic farming fields and simple homes. On the Old Street is the Fengshu Ceramic Workshops and Sincere Shop, and visitors can stop for coffee at the Feng 13 Workshop, have popcorn on the street, and transplant rice seedlings, soaking up the relaxed Fengshu Community approach to living.



#### Qingshui - Taichung

The small, secluded township of Qingshui is home to the well-known Qingshui Railway Station, built 90 years ago, which once placed second in national awards for historical architecture. Qingshui Primary School was the country's first school campus to be designated an official heritage site. The Wufuzun Bicycle Trail runs through the township, rolling by charming scenes of well-tended small farms and the coastal railway. Another attraction is the 300-year-old Ziyun (Purple Cloud) Temple.



#### Chulu Ranch - Taitung

The Chulu Ranch in Luye Township, Taitung County is an expansive facility of rolling green pasture. Tourist can feed the calves and take walks on the forest trail, which offers scenery that brings a bit of the feel of hilly Europe. In summer, there are water-dance performances at the fountain plaza. The ranch sells the rich and aromatic milk produced here, along with fresh milk dumplings, ice-cream, and other milk-theme treats.



#### Yuan Sen Applied Botanical Garden -

Taitung

The Yuan Sen Applied Botanical Garden is near Chulu Ranch. It has an area of five hectares, and is planted with over 200



of Taitung's precious plant species. Tourists can carefully observe the ecology of various kinds of plant life, or have some fun water play at the Fountain Plaza. In the ranch area, visitors can make friends with lambs, calves, turkeys, and ostriches.

#### Central Cross-Island Road - Lanyu (Orchid Island)

The island's central cross-island route is about four kilometers, stretching from Hongtuo Village to Yeyin Village. Note that the grades can be challenging at times. Take the branch road that goes to Lanyu Weather Station, built in 1940 during the Japanese Occupation period. Sit down at the stone table and chairs placed in front of the station and soak up the grand views of the Pacific Ocean, Dongqing Bay, and Badai Bay.



### Itinerary

#### DAY-1

Taichung, Fengshu

Community

→Taipei



#### DAY-2

Taipei

→Taitung

→Chulu Ranch

→Luye Plateau

→Taitung



#### DAY-3

Taitung Airport

→Tianchi and Seaside

Swimming in Lanyu



#### DAY-4

Taipei

→Qingshui Temple and

Zhenlan Temple

→Wufuzun Bicycle Trail

### Travel information

- ★ Fengshu Community : [maple.taocity.com.tw](http://maple.taocity.com.tw)
- ★ Qingshui Town Office : [www.chinshu.gov.tw](http://www.chinshu.gov.tw)
- ★ Luye Tourist Center : 089-550-843
- ★ Chulu Ranch : 089-571-002, full fare : NT\$100, preferential fare : NT\$50
- ★ Yuan Sen Applied Botanical Garden : 089-570-011, full fare : NT\$200, preferential fare : NT\$100
- ★ Daily Air offers six flights daily between Taitung and Lanyu; 089-362-675



## 04 Rail and Bike Tours



**Theme of tour : Easy Motorcycle Riding in Taiwan**

**Team name : Team Taiwan Naruwan**

**Team leader : Daiki Tanaka (Japan)**

**Team members : Miwako Tanaka (Japan)**

### Team's Recommendation

**Taste the mountain and sea scenery in Hualien and Taitung counties**

#### Fengtian Immigrant Village - Hualien

During the Japanese Occupation period (1895-1945), the Taiwan colonial authority built more than ten large-scale immigrant villages in Hualien and Taitung counties. The residents were Japanese, from farming villages in Hokkaido, Shikoku, and other areas. Fengtian Village, located in Shoufeng Township, has been well preserved; the Japanese police station has been renovated and now houses the Shoufeng Township Cultural and Historical Museum, displaying old photos of Fengtian Immigration Village and the local community.



#### Shin Kong Chao Feng Ranch and Resort - Hualien

This facility, which occupies 726 hectares, is the largest tourist farm in the Hualien/Taitung region. The luxurious gardens and associated architecture are in European palace style, and surrounding this main area are many different theme areas, including a forest recreation area, farm experience area, animal viewing area, aquatic-plant ecology area, and hot-spring spa area.



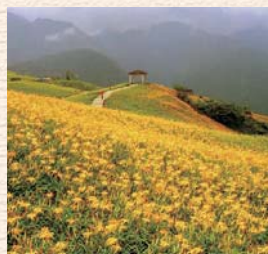
#### Hualien Sugar Factory - Hualien

Located in Guangfu Township, also often called Guangfu Sugar Factory, this tourist-oriented facility was once the center for sugar production on Taiwan's east coast. Inside the factory grounds there is also a row of employee dormitories constructed during the Japanese Occupation period. Now dedicated to the tourism industry, the original equipment is today used as a unique backdrop during guided tours.



#### Sixty Stone Mountain - Hualien

The slopes of Sixty Stone Mountain and nearby Chike Mountain are home to two large day-lily cultivation areas that take up a total of 300 hectares.



August to September is the blossom period, attracting visitors in great number. Ten viewing pavilions have been built, each in a different style, so that tourist can get wide-vista views of ocean and mountain range, beautified even further with the addition of fields of colorful, swaying flowers.

#### Sanxiantai - Taitung

Sanxiantai, or the Platform of the Three Immortals, is in the north of Taitung's Chenggong Township. This was originally a cape,



becoming an island due to wind and water erosion. There are three huge coral outcrops on the island, and legend has it that three immortals once visited here and changed form. The effects of the powerful local forces are evident everywhere in this place of unusual topography and ecology. The island, an iconic east coast landmark, is reached on foot via an eight-arch bridge that resembles a writhing dragon.



### Itinerary

#### DAY-1

Taiwan Taoyuan Int'l Airport  
→Taipei Train Station  
→Hualien



#### DAY-2

Fengtian Immigrant Village  
→Shin Kong Chao Feng Ranch and Resort  
→Hualien Sugar Factory  
→Antong Hot Spring  
→Sixty Stone Mountain



#### DAY-3

Sanxiantai  
→Shitiping  
→Jiji→Taipei  
→Beitou Hot Springs

Area



#### DAY-4

Shopping on Dihua Street  
→Taiwan Taoyuan Int'l Airport

### Travel information

- ★ East Rift Valley National Scenic Area : [www.erv-nsa.gov.tw](http://www.erv-nsa.gov.tw)
- ★ Fengtian Immigrant Village; go south from Hualien City on Provincial Highway No. 11 to Renhe, then connect to Highway 11C and turn right at the 13-km mark; the village can be reached immediately..
- ★ Shin Kong Chao Feng Ranch and Resort : [www.skcf-com.tw](http://www.skcf-com.tw)
- ★ Hualien (Guangfu) Sugar Factory : [www.tsclseisure.com.tw/resort/hualien](http://www.tsclseisure.com.tw/resort/hualien)
- ★ Sixty Stone Mountain : [60stones.csd.org.tw](http://60stones.csd.org.tw)
- ★ Antong Hot Spring : Provincial Highway No. 9 to Antong Railway Station, then keep to the east at the fork in the road and go for about 2.2 kilometers.



## Indigenous Villages

Taiwan sits on the northern perimeter of the far-flung Austronesian diaspora, and is home to numerous different Austronesian tribal groups. The indigenous population is today about 490,000, and there are currently 14 officially recognized tribes.

The traditional lifestyle of the Taiwan indigenous peoples is defined by intimate contact with Mother Nature. Each of these ethnic groups has its own distinctive culture, language, customs, and social structure, and ritual ceremonies. Respect is shown to the gods through such ceremonies and rituals, as well as dance and skills competitions.

The histories, cultures, and architecture of Taiwan's indigenous peoples are unique treasures. This rich and blessed inheritance is open to others through tourism development, allowing a precious glimpse into the world view of the Austronesian peoples.

## 05 Indigenous Villages



**Theme of tour : Taiwan In-Depth Village Tour**

**Team name : Lanyu - The Incredibles**

**Team leader : Lin I-Ting (Taiwan)**

**Team members : Hsu Pao-Chun, Chen Yu-Chiao (Taiwan), Danny Danly Ramirez, Elodie Ramirez, Hector Quiros Vazques (Costa Rica)**

### Team's Recommendation

#### In-depth tour of Lanyu (Orchid Island)

##### Lovers' Cave - Lanyu

Lovers' Cave, near Dongqing Bay, and is a natural cave formed by sea-water erosion. Wave action over eons has formed a stone-arch entrance, and the surrounding rocks frame a deep pond. Outside the cave the waves are strong; the sound of the pounding and crashing quite thrilling, but inside the cave all is serene and peaceful. The pool's saltwater is cool, perfect for a swim on a hot summer's day.



##### Traditional Semi-Subterranean Dwellings - Lanyu

Some inhabitants of Lanyu still live in traditional dwellings that reflect the intelligence of their ancestors, designed to handle the island's weather patterns. These dwellings include a semi-subterranean living area and workshop that comes up to ground level, with a covered platform beside this that is raised about 60-90 cm above the ground. The main house is for sleeping, cooking, and storage, and the workshop can be used for sleeping in the summer, for handicraft work, and for entertaining guests. The platform is exposed to cool breezes off the ocean. It is a place for chatting and afternoon naps.



##### Eco-Explorations - Lanyu

Lanyu is surrounded by clear blue sea, and there is great scuba diving in the area of Hen Rock, with crystal-clear views of the world below the ocean's surface, teeming with colorful tropical fish and flourishing coral reefs. The ecology of Lanyu is unusually rich; during the day one can go swimming, inspect the local devil trees, and observe the bird-wing butterflies, and at night, under the lead of an experienced guide, one can see the unusual Lanyu Scops owl and get close-up views of green sea turtles on the beach.



##### Traditional Meals - Lanyu

Sweet potato, taro, dried flying fish, and crabs are the staple foods of the Lanyu people. Wue Buzuo ("Not Hungry, No Seat") Restaurant was built



and decorated by a husband and wife team, the husband a tribe member and the wife from Taiwan proper. The wall is covered with images of the island's traditional canoes and of other elements of the local culture. Here you can savor creative traditional Lanyu fare with creative embellishments. Another option is the 262 Traditional Guest House, where you can feast on crab, fresh fish, sweet potato soup, and other local favorites.

##### Canoe - Lanyu

Every year after their Flying Fish Festival, the Tao people of Lanyu, who are also called the Yami, launch themselves into canoe building. An owner will go into the hills to chop suitable wood. These canoes, built using age-old techniques, are separated into small and large versions, each made by piecing together 15-27 wooden pieces, without a single nail used. The canoe competition in Yeyin Village is a wonderful manifestation of this living heritage, with all the people of the village joining in enthusiastically.



### Itinerary

#### DAY-1

Take train from Taipei  
→Taitung  
→Take ferry from Fugang Harbor  
→Lanyu (Island-Loop Highway, Green Grasslands)



#### DAY-2

Sunrise Viewing  
→Yeyin Cold Spring  
→Ghost Cave, Lovers' Cave  
→One Line Sky



#### DAY-3

Green Turtle Ecology Introduction  
→Hen Rock scuba diving  
→Nighttime owl viewing, Tidal Zone visit



#### DAY-4

Yeyin Village Semi-Subterranean Dwellings  
→Nuclear Waste Disposal Facility  
→Traditional canoe building  
→Plane back to Taitung  
→Train back to Taipei

### Travel information

- ★ Transportation to Lanyu: Star of Green Island ferry from Fugang Harbor near Taitung, 2.5-3 hours, Tel: 089-280-226. Or take Daily Air plane, reservations: 089-362-489.
- ★ Motorcycle rental: NTS\$500/day
- ★ 262 Traditional Guest House: 089-732-091
- ★ Moni's Home homestay: 089-732-540
- ★ Wue Buzuo: 089-731-623

## 05 Indigenous Villages



**Theme of tour : Amazing Eco Travel on the East Coast of Taiwan**

**Team name : The Swiss on the East Coast of Taiwan**

**Team leader : Augustin Buchel (Switzerland)**

**Team members : Fang Chun-Yu, Liu Tzu-Hou (Taiwan)**

### Team's Recommendation

**Following in the footsteps of missionaries to the native villages of east Taiwan**

#### Old Man Rock - Lanyu (Orchid Island)

Old Man Rock is formed of coral, with an appearance like an old man who has experienced a hard life standing on the sea. Travelers can reach Old Man Rock by crossing the Green Grassland and then climbing to the edge of a high seaside cliff. The precious Lohan Pine is preserved atop the Old Man, whose features are bare rock on all sides with a head of green-plant "hair" on his crown. This spot is also a great place to watch the sunrise.



#### Chishang - Taitung

The township of Chishang is known throughout Taiwan for its expanse of glistening rice paddies. The local terrain, water quality, and weather come together in perfect combination for the production of rice of superior quality. Tourists come to see the rice swaying in the wind, and the fields of brilliant-yellow rape flowers in the winter. One of the best ways to savor the idyllic scenery of the farming villages of this district is to take a bicycle ride on the dedicated path along Dapo Pond, Chishang Canal, and Brown Avenue.



#### Mountain Hiking and Hot Springs - Taitung

In the region of Xiangyang and Yakou along the Southern Cross Island Highway, the mountain scenery is said to resemble that of Switzerland, especially along the Guanshanling Trail on Guanshanling Mountain, which rises to a height of 3,176 meters above sea level, with climate and plant life a world away from what is seen on the plains far below. The Lisong Hot Springs, in a Bunun Tribe area, is hidden in a river valley, the spring waters flowing out from fissures in the mountain rock. Here, true hot-spring soaking is to be enjoyed, in the most natural and unspoiled of spa settings.



#### Donghe and Dulan - Taitung

A suggested route for bicycling along the Yuchang Highway is to go from west to east. On emerging from tunnel sections you are regaled

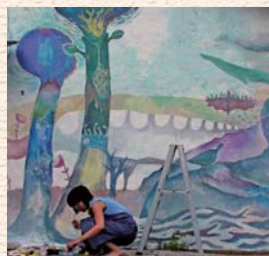
with grand, broad views of the lovely Pacific coastline. The Donghe Old Mining Area in Dulan Valley was a sapphire-mining area established during the Japanese colonial period, and a sacred site for the Amis Tribe for much longer than this. If this is your lucky day, you might find a sapphire and piece of white jade in the riverbed here, flushed down from the mountains.



#### Dulan Artist Village - Taitung

Dulan Artist Village is the former Dulan Xindong Sugar Refinery. Various artists have been invited to take up residence here, and the

public can visit their workshops. When the weather is good, visitors can see all the way to Green Island across the blue Pacific waters. Visitors can also explore the Dulan Catholic Church, which features a distinctive architectural design, and ease into the open-concept space of Dulan Coffee House, where live musical performances are staged by singers and bands.



### Itinerary

#### DAY-1

Taitung

→Lanyu, Experience Tao (Yami) Culture, Night Eco Tour



#### DAY-2

Lanyu, Datian Pond Hike

(about 2 hours)

→Yeyin Cold Spring

→Taitung City

→Chishang



#### DAY-3

Chishang

→Southern Cross-Island Highway

→Guanshanling Hiking (1.5~2 hours)

→Lisong Hot Springs (1~1.5 hours)

→Yuli



#### DAY-4

Yuli

→Yuchang Highway

→Taitung Seacoast

→Chengqiao Stream River

Tracing in Donghe area (treasure hunting in Dulan Valley)

→Dulan Village

### Travel information

- ★ Fugang Harbor—Lanyu : Star of Green Island ferry, fare NT\$1,000
- ★ Lanyu traditional canoe-building experience : Zhong Quan-Zhi 0925-503753
- ★ Lanyu nighttime ecology introduction : Hai Ren Workshop (Mulita) 089-731671
- ★ Dulan Artist Village : 089-531-212
- ★ Chishang Township Bicycle Path : section of County Road No. 197 from Xinxing Village to Jinyuan recommended

## 05 Indigenous Villages



**Theme of tour : The Search of Aboriginal Melody**

**Team name : Spare Rib Tea**

**Team leader : Ng Boon Ming (Malaysia)**

**Team members : Liew Kai Yit (Malaysia)**

### Team's Recommendation

#### Exploring the special character of Hualien-Taitung indigenous settlements

##### Qingshui Cliff and Tianxiang - Hualien

Taroko National Park is characterized by soaring cliffs, even higher mountains, and deep gorges. Nearby along the rugged coast, Qingshui Cliff, on the Suhua Highway between Heren and Chongde, is five kilometers long and offers breathtaking scenery. In the area surrounding the settlement of Tianxiang at the west end of Taroko Gorge, around Swallow Grotto, travelers can savor the gorge's magnificence, the churning waters at its bottom, the kettle holes created, and other iconic sights. Always, however, be aware of the possibility of falling rocks.



##### Zhuilu Historic Trail - Hualien

Zhuilu Historic Trail was opened by the Japanese army as part of their push to pacify the Taroko Tribe. On the way one can see the site of a cannon foundation. The trail is 10.3 km, and along the way hikers pass by the ruins of the old Badagang tribal village, Badagang No. 2 Bridge, and Liyuan Slope before coming to the most exciting and splendid section, Zhuilu Cliff, which soars 855 meters above sea level. Along the way, the special plants and animals that make the Taroko area their home can be viewed.



##### Mataian Village - Hualien

Mataian Village, in Hualien's Guangfu Township, is an Amis Tribe settlement. A visit to the Mataian Old House, the 66th-generation home of the village chief, is a must, and the visitor is also given demonstrations of traditional rattan-weaving skills and the unique fish-raising methods. You'll also be able to see how the ingenious traditional stone-steamed fish is prepared, with an extremely hot black stone placed in a bamboo container with fish and vegetables that are cooked with the high heat.



##### Taibalang Village - Hualien

In the Amis language, Taibalang means "crab." The name was chosen for this Guangfu Township settlement because there are many



crabs in the stream here. Taibalang landmarks include the Wang Clan Residence, Taibalang Place of Origin Memorial Stele, and Taibalang Culture Center. In recent years, great effort has been expended in rebuilding and improving the village's appearance. For example, the village school facility has been done over with traditional materials such as wood, bamboo, and thatch.

##### Taromak Settlement - Taitung

The Taromak Settlement, inhabited by members of the Rukai Tribe, sits within Dongxing Village in Beinan Township. There are



two sections, the old and the new. The new village is located at the foothill but they keep the guardian angel and fire memorial monument. In the old village area, there are a few stone slab houses with the characteristic of the Rukai Tribe. Every year, they hold the harvest ceremony and traditional swing activity.



### Itinerary

#### DAY-1

Taipei  
→Hualien  
→Taroko National Park  
→Zhuilu Historic Trail  
→Swallow Grotto  
→Qingshui Cliff  
→Nanbin Night Market

#### DAY-2

Hualien City  
→Guangfu Township  
→Mataian Village  
→Taibalang Village  
→Mataian Wetland Cultural Park  
→Harvest Ceremony Evening Party

#### DAY-3

Guangfu Township  
→Taitung  
→Taromak Settlement  
→Old Village Relics  
→Zhongshu Street  
→Naruwan Hotel

#### DAY-4

Taitung  
→Kaohsiung  
→Kaohsiung 85 Building Observation Tower  
→Taipei

### Travel information

- ★ Taroko National Park : [www.taroko.gov.tw/](http://www.taroko.gov.tw/)
- ★ Taiwan Rail Pass : 5-day TR Pass NT\$599, allows unlimited trips on Juguang trains
- ★ Zhuilu Ancient Trail : mountain-entry permit must be applied for, and professional guide is required; Contact the Hualien Mountain and Sea Travel Workshop at <http://blog.udn.com/shepa>
- ★ Taitung Daklumake Youth Travel Website : [tour.youthtravel.tw/grandtour/son03/index.php?id=30](http://tour.youthtravel.tw/grandtour/son03/index.php?id=30)

## 05 Indigenous Villages



**Theme of tour : Mountain and Sea Ecology Photography / Indigenous Village Experience**

**Team name : Taiwan Turnaround Tour**

**Team leader : Lu Cheng-Sheng (Taiwan)**

**Team members : Liang Tzu-Yin, Tang Chun-Jung, Liu Shu-Chuang (Hong Kong)**

## Team's Recommendation

### East coast exploration of indigenous culture

#### Pine Garden Villa - Hualien

The Pine Garden Villa was built from 1942-1943, and is formerly an office of the Japanese armed forces. This is the one of the few remaining forms of military architecture built during the Japanese occupation still intact. It's part of a complex incorporating the nearby Coast Radio Station and Fresh Water Site and one of the key heritage sites of Meilun Mountain. From here one can view the sea entrance of Meilun River, Hualien Harbor and the Pacific.



#### Xibao Primary School - Hualien

The Xibao Primary School, inside the deep forest of Taroko, was the first government-administered forest primary school in Taiwan. The campus architecture is fully adapted to the local culture and environment, with ceramic artistry everywhere on display. This site has won an award for best architecture from Architect magazine, and has once been selected as the most beautiful primary school in the country.



#### Nanbin Night Market - Hualien

Nanbin Night Market is located inside Nanbin Park, and is the largest and most popular night market in Hualien County. Here you'll find low-priced steak, hot pot, peanut ice-cream, and many other delicious culinary treats. There are also many other entertainment options, such as darts and gold-fish picking. Tourists can also take a stroll along the seaside embankment here to enjoy the sea breezes.



#### Baqi Observation Tower - Hualien

The East Coast National Scenic Area administration has built the Baqi Observation Tower at the 31-km mark of Provincial Highway No. 11 in Fengbin

Township of Hualien to give tourists a premium rest stop and premium views. The tower is a rare high point along the coastal highway, and is one of the best spots along this route to view the Pacific.



#### Shenghuo Workshop - Hualien

Shenghuo Workshop is located in the area of Shitiping, and is operated by members of the Amis Tribe. The workshop displays

handicraft and woodcarving technique, and gives space for artists to display their works. The owner's own woodcarving works have driftwood as the primary material; his chair series is the most popular. Shenghuo also hosts DIY bead-work classes, and its barbecue flying-fish feasts are very popular.



## Itinerary

### DAY-1

Taroko National Park

→Shakadang Trail

→Buluowan



### DAY-2

Swallow Grotto Trail

→Xibao Primary School

→Pine Garden Hotel

→Mambo Fish Meal

→Nanbin Night Market



### DAY-3

Baqi Observation Tower

→Shenghuo Workshop

→Blue Coral Reef

Homestay



### DAY-4

Taibalang Village

→Mataian Wetland

Ecological Park

→Fuxing Drum Harvest

Ceremony

→Jian Monastery

## Travel information

- ★ Taroko National Park : [old.taroko.gov.tw/Mainpages/welcome](http://old.taroko.gov.tw/Mainpages/welcome)
- ★ East Coast National Scenic Area : [www.eastcoast-nsa.gov.tw](http://www.eastcoast-nsa.gov.tw)
- ★ Leader Village Taroko : [www.leaderhotel.com/blw/leadervillage](http://www.leaderhotel.com/blw/leadervillage)
- ★ Pine Garden Villa : [pinegarden9.myweb.hinet.net](http://pinegarden9.myweb.hinet.net)
- ★ Baqi Observation Tower : Provincial Highway No. 9 to Jian Township, change to Provincial Highway No. 11, pass Fanshuliao
- ★ Shenghuo Workshop : 038-781-437

## 05 Indigenous Villages



### Theme of tour : Indigenous Village Harvest Festival Experience

Team name : Run and Jump Formosa

Team leader : Ko Yu-ling (Taiwan)

Team members : Fung Chi-Hsin (Hong Kong)

## Team's Recommendation

### Discover the beauty of Taiwan's native settlements

#### Mataian Harvest Festival - Hualien

In mid to late August, the Amis Tribe settlement of Mataian conducts a three-day harvest festival. Dancing and singing are the main activities, and there are also activities focused on ceremonial offerings, education, politics, military affairs, and entertainment. The singing and dancing are prayers offered in communication with the gods, with body language used to express praise and gratitude to the immortals.



#### Taibalang Harvest Festival - Hualien

The Taibalang Harvest Festival is held August 21-25, a key ceremony for the Amis Tribe to celebrate the annual harvest and honor the contribution of their ancestors in the tribe's success. The festival includes a series of activities, imbued with solemnity and a sense of the holy that embraces traditional concepts such as training for entrance into social stratum, greeting of the immortals, ancestral sacrifice offerings, inheritance of the cultural heritage, traditional competitive skills and competitions, singing and dancing, and ceremonial feasting.



#### Mataian Wetland Ecological Park - Hualien

In the foothills of Maxi Mountain, Guangfu Township, is a natural wetland landscape that occupies 12 hectares, a traditional source of resources for the Amis of Mataian Village. The habitat here is unusually fecund, and the county government has established the Mataian Wetland Ecological Park to display the beauty of the wetland ecology through models and interactive touch-screen displays.



#### Moon Cave - Hualien

Moon Cave is located in Fengbin Township, a stalactite cave divided into two sections. Inside, the visitor comes across stalactites, fish fossils,



bird's-nest fossil, bats, etc. The temperature in the cave is about 20 degrees Celsius, and a natural pond has formed that rises and falls with the ocean tide. Access to the cave is only possible via designated boat-operation personnel.

#### Shitiping Kettle Holes - Hualien

Shitiping is located near Shimen, the rock here forming what appears to be a staircase rising out to sea. This is a good location for fishing and



scuba diving, and the area's unusual raised-coral formations and kettle holes are a well-known Taiwan attraction, rivaling the splendid scenery of Yeliu on the north coast. The unusual ecology here features such Oceanside-adapted plants as screw pine, cactus, and morning glory. A car park and camping site are provided as part of the encompassing scenic area.



## Itinerary

### DAY-1

Taipei

→Hualien

→Mataian Harvest Festival

→Ruihui Hot Springs



### DAY-2

Taibalang Harvest Festival

→Mataian Wetland Ecological Park



### DAY-3

Changhong Bridge

→Moon Cave



→Shitiping

→JOKI Art Studio and Cafe

Cafe



### DAY-4

Qixingtan

→Taipei

## Travel information

- ★ Mataian Wetland Ecological Park : 03-870-1861; Opening hours : 8:00-17:00
- ★ Hualien County tourism : [tour-hualien.hl.gov.tw](http://tour-hualien.hl.gov.tw)
- ★ Qixingtan Scenic Area : [cixingtan.hlplay.com](http://cixingtan.hlplay.com)
- ★ JOKI art studio/cafe : [www.joki.com.tw](http://www.joki.com.tw), 03-878-1616



## Nostalgia Tours

The island's special history, encompassing pre-historic cultures, modern indigenous cultures, and the impact of the Dutch, Spanish, Japanese, and Han Chinese, has created a rich trove of unique historical sites and relics, the treasures of today's profound cross-cultural mosaic.

When traveling in Taiwan you can deeply feel the confrontation, compromise, and rebirth experienced by the diversity of ethnic groups that have played a role in this land's historical development. These cultural assets, the traditional architecture, the historical relics, and the artistic and handcraft skills handed down from generation to generation add up to today's multi-faceted culture—the very definition of "Taiwan."

## 06 Nostalgia Tours



Theme of tour : Modern City, Old School

Team name : Let's Hit the Road

Team leader : Hsu Chia-Kai (Taiwan)

Team members : Huang Min (Taiwan), Nogisyoko Syouko, Oland Mayu (Japan)

### Team's Recommendation

#### A nostalgia tour with high schools as a starting point

##### Chenggong Senior High School and Surroundings - Taipei

Chenggong Senior High School is located in downtown Taipei, in an area filled with sellers of many delicious foods which has also long been an area that has grown many persons of talent. The Taipei section of this tour uses Chenggong Senior High School as axis in an exploration of yesteryear. Among the many points of interest is the Taipei Mayor's Residence Arts Salon, where a cup of fine coffee in the cafe can be savored, and the inexpensive food vendors around the school, where a delicious serving of rice-noodle soup can be enjoyed.



##### World Sports Tournament - Kaohsiung

In 2009 the city of Kaohsiung held the World Games, which were a great success. The World Games Station was specially built for the event. The main stadium is on the west side of the Kaohsiung MRT World Games Station, on the KMRT Red Line, and occupies 19 hectares of land. In addition to the competition facilities, around the stadium, you can take advantage of wide walking trails, bicycle trails, and two ecology ponds.



##### Meinong Bicycle Experience - Pingtung

There are seven bicycle routes in the township of Meinong. The yellow route (Water Tour), for example, circles Zhongzheng Lake. The red route (Heritage Tour) passes numerous historical sites and relics. The green route is the Literature Tour, the purple is the Native Soil Tour, the indigo is the Religion Tour, the blue route is Rivers Tour, and the orange is the Folk Customs Tour.



##### Tainan Girls' Senior High School and Surroundings - Tainan

The architecture of the Tainan Girls' Senior High School is filled with the telltale design approaches of the Japanese colonial period, and



in the school's history room one can see the many different uniforms worn over the years. The nearby Narrow Door Cafe, a popular local leisure spot, does indeed have an extremely narrow portal, just 38 cm wide. On a hot summer's day, a cool place to spend some time is the National Museum of Taiwan Literature.

##### National Museum of Taiwan Literature - Tainan

The National Museum of Taiwan Literature building, built during the Japanese Occupation period, once served at Tainan City Hall. The



Baroque-style complex has classical elegance, and is a popular backdrop for wedding photos. The museum is the first dedicated to literature in the country, and houses a literature library and a children's library, making this a good place for families to spend an afternoon.



### Itinerary

#### DAY-1

Huashan 1914 Creative Park  
→Chenggong Senior High School  
→Taipei Mayor's Residence Arts Salon  
→Chiang Kai-shek Memorial Hall  
→Taiwan Storyland  
→Kaohsiung



#### DAY-2

Kaohsiung MRT  
→Former British Consulate  
→Qijin Island



#### DAY-3

Kaohsiung  
→Meinong, Zhongzheng Lake  
→Heritage Bicycle Tour  
→Guangshan Temple  
→Tainan



#### DAY-4

Yanping Junwang Temple (Koxinga Shrine)  
→Tainan Senior Girls' High School  
→Taiwan Literature Museum, Confucius Temple  
→Chikan Tower, Wu Temple, Anping Fort  
→Guohua Street Snacks

### Travel information

- ★ High Speed Rail : [www.thsrc.com.tw](http://www.thsrc.com.tw)
- ★ Tainan City Government Historic Site Bicycle Rental : For convenience, rentals from one point can be returned at any other point; fee is NT\$50/4 hours.
- ★ Meinong Zhongzheng Lake Bicycle Rental Center : NT\$100/3 hours
- ★ Guangshan Temple homestay : 07-681-2124
- ★ National Museum of Taiwan Literature : No. 1, Zhongzheng Road, Tainan; Tel : 06-221-7201, free entry

## 06 Nostalgia Tours



Theme of tour : Sunshine, Fishing Villages, Photography

Team name : Fulong Port

Team leader : Tiun Kian Seng (Jeff) (Malaysia)

Team members : Chan Sook Yee (Suki), Eugene Teo Hock Chuan (Malaysia)

### Team's Recommendation

#### Adventure on the north coast

##### Sandiaoijiao Lighthouse - Taipei

The Sandiaoijiao Lighthouse is located between Fulong Beach and the town of Toucheng in Yilan County. Built by the Japanese in 1935, it has a height of 16.5 meters and is the most easterly lighthouse in Taiwan, given the informal name "Eye of Taiwan." Inside is a display room with the country's lighthouse distribution charted, lighthouse stamps, different lighthouse parts and models, and other items of interest.



##### Magang Tidal Flat - Taipei

Magang is the most easterly fishing village in Taiwan. Nearby, the powerful Kuroshio Current collides with the mainland coastal current, creating an eco-habitat of unusual abundance. On the north side of the fishing port is a large sea-eroded natural platform within which there is a tidal flat more than 100 meters wide, with many forms of water shield and green algae. In the tidal pools and channels are such living organisms as sea anemones, coronate moon turbans, hermit crabs, and other types of crab.



##### Maoao Old Stone Residences - Taipei

These stone structures, all a century or more old, are a Maoao Fishing Village landmark. The materials used were sandstone, bamboo from the hill behind, and local wild grass for thatch. Each residence was built differently, some done in rough fashion with the stones seemingly without order, some with walls simple and tidy piled up horizontally, and some with stone slanted 45 degrees. Each has its own character, and each makes for an interesting picture.



##### Gongliao International Ho-Hai-Yan Rock Festival - Taipei

This festival is a large-scale party that lasts for days, first staged in the year 2000. The venue is Gongliao Township's Fulong Beach. This



is a grand music-fest that features a Chinese-language environment. In addition to well-known singers and groups, many underground indie bands also hot the stage. Audiences are very large and very enthusiastic; entrance is free.

##### Jinshan Old Street - Taipei

Jinshan Old Street is over 300 years old, and is the only remaining street from the Qing Dynasty in the north coast area. Most of the buildings in the Old Street have been renovated, and only a few have the original appearance of the old-time shophouses in the southern Fujian style, which are combined business and residences, and the facades of structures built during the Japanese occupation period. Apart from the hundred-year-old rice shop, Chinese medicine shop, and sundry goods shop, the most famous shop here is the Jinshan Goose Meat in front of Guangan Temple.



### Itinerary

#### DAY-1

Fulong Station  
→Sandiaoijiao

Lighthouse

→Magang Tidal Flat

→Maoao Old Stone

Residences

→Maoao Fishing Village



#### DAY-2

Jinsha Bay—Hemei  
Village

→Yanliao

→Fulong Beach

(Gongliao International  
Ho-Hai-Yan Rock  
Festival)



#### DAY-3

Jiufen

→Bitoujiao Geological  
Park

→Keelung, Miaokou  
Night Market



#### DAY-4

Yeliu

→Jinshan Old Street

→Bisha Fishing Port

→Keelung City Tour

### Travel information

- ★ Taipei County tourism : [tour.tpc.gov.tw](http://tour.tpc.gov.tw)
- ★ Northeast and Yilan Coast National Scenic Area : [www.necoast-nsa.gov.tw](http://www.necoast-nsa.gov.tw)
- ★ Sandiaoijiao Lighthouse : 02-2499-1300, 9:00-16:00, closed Monday
- ★ Magang Tidal Flat : Be aware of tide times, and wear proper shoes.
- ★ Fulong Beach : 8:00-18:00, entry NT\$90
- ★ Jinshan Duck Meat : 02-2498-1656

## 06 Nostalgia Tours



Theme of tour : In Search of Dutch Roots

Team name : Ho Tai

Team leader : Chou Yu-Hsueh (Taiwan)

Team members : Marc de Wit (Holland)

### Team's Recommendation

#### Song of the Penghu past

##### Tongliang Old Banyan - Penghu

The Tongliang Old Banyan is located in Tongliang Vilage, at the western tip of Baisha (White Sand) Island. The 300-year-old banyan stands in the courtyard before Baoan Temple. The foliage is dense, the green-shade area as much as 660 sq. meters. Stone tables and chairs are set up under the tree. In order to protect the very long branches, specially built posts have been set up for support.



##### Snake Head Mountain - Penghu

Snake Head Mountain is located near Fenggui. This is a key strategic location; the Dutch built a fortification here in 1622, and during the Second World War a Japanese fleet was stationed for some time at this point.. Today there are hiking trails up the hill, a breezy pavilion and stone chairs, a monument to French soldiers who died here during a French occupation of Penghu in the 1880s, and a monument to a Japanese warship, the Matsushima, that was sunk here.



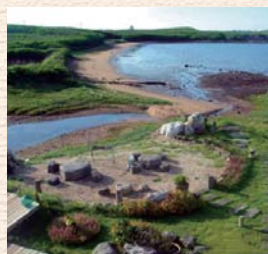
##### Yuwend Island Lighthouse - Penghu

Yuwend Island Lighthouse is located on high ground, affording broad vistas. According to local belief, the name "Yuwend" has Dutch roots. During the Dutch occupation of the 1600s, the fishermen of today's Xiyu Township helped the Hollanders, whose commander then ordered his soldiers not to make any trouble for the locals. The Yuwend Island Lighthouse is the oldest in Taiwan, its gleaming white facade very eye-catching. The lighthouse, which has observation rooms beside it, is still in operation.



##### Yimen Beach and Intertidal Zone - Penghu

Yimen Beach in Yimen Village, Xiyu Township, has a fine white-shell beach where people can take banana-boat rides and jet ski. The nearby



intertidal zone is a study in ecology contrasts, a rich habitat where, especially during major tidal outflows on the first and fifteenth days of every month, people can find starfish, sea urchins, shellfish, and oysters in abundance.

##### Tianhou Temple - Penghu

Tianhou Temple in Penghu is the oldest temple in Taiwan, and is a National Class 1 Historical Relic. Not one nail



was used in its construction, which used the traditional mortise and tenon temple-building method. On the right wall of the Qingfeng Pavilion here is an inscription that clearly shows the presence of the Dutch in days gone by. The stone carvings on the columns inside the complex are elaborate, created by famous masters of this traditional art form. There is also a display room filled with intriguing cultural articles related to Tianhou Temple.



### Itinerary

#### DAY-1

Taipei

→Tainan

→Penghu

→Shanshui Beach

→Snake Head Mountain

→Fenggui



#### DAY-2

Penghu Aquarium

→Tongliang Old Banyan

→Yuwend Lighthouse

→Tianhou Temple



#### DAY-3

Penghu

→Yimen Beach

→Intertidal Zone



#### DAY-4

Penghu

→Tainan, Chikan Tower, Anping Fort

### Travel information

- ★ Migrator Intertidal Homestay : 06-993-2511; [www.megatrade.com.tw](http://www.megatrade.com.tw)
- ★ Raid Garden : 06-921-5000; [www.raid-garden.com](http://www.raid-garden.com)
- ★ Penghu Intertidal Zones : [www.tidal.phhcc.gov.tw/home.asp](http://www.tidal.phhcc.gov.tw/home.asp)
- ★ Tainan City Government Culture and Tourism Office : [newculture.tncc.gov.tw](http://newculture.tncc.gov.tw)
- ★ Penghu National Scenic Area : [www.penghu-nsa.gov.tw](http://www.penghu-nsa.gov.tw)

## 06 Nostalgia Tours



Theme of tour : Touring Taiwan by Train

Team name : GMDC

Team leader : G.M. Aranzaso (Philippines)

Team members : Clarisse Aranzaso (Philippines)

### Team's Recommendation

#### Nostalgia touring on Taiwan's rails

##### Sandiaoling Station - Taipei

The small town of Sandiaoling is the intersection point for the Pingxi Branch Railway and the main coastal line that heads down to Yilan County. As the valley here is extremely narrow, the official launch points for the Pingxi line are at the towns of Houtong and Ruifang. The lower part of the Sandiaoling station is situated in the deep, picturesque Keelung River gorge; station and area are frequently clouded by smoky mist and rain, creating a vivid canvas. Sandiaoling peak, on the station's north, rises 554 meters above sea level, and is traversed by a section of the old Danshui-Yilan trail.



##### Jingtong Railway Station - Taipei

The 80-year-old Jingtong Railway Station is made of wood, and still retains its original appearance. The Railway Story House beside the station has many nostalgic articles, and shops such as Yang's Chicken Roll on the old street, which also sells tasty noodles and tea, are well worth visiting. The Jingtong Mining Industry Museum, housed in refurbished dormitory facilities, displays coal-mining and railroad equipment and gives background on kettle holes and other topics. The Japanese-style dormitories that still stand in good shape are filled with historical character.



##### Miaoli Railway Museum - Miaoli

To the rear of the Miaoli Railway Station is the Miaoli Railway Museum. On display in this museum are such heritage items as steam locomotives used in the 1910s to transport cargo, timber, and sugar. There are also numerous diesel locomotives from various eras, and one of the prime prizes - a 1969 Model 400. This unique museum also has a wealth of precious information on the island's railway history, and has become a big draw with railway buffs.



##### Taichung Railway Station - Taichung

The Taichung Railway Station, built in 1917, is a red-brick structure from the Japanese colonial period (1895-1945) built in the Renaissance style. A Class 2 Historical Relic, station's lobby is airy and high-ceilinged, and the atrium and columns display fine carving. The station's most visually iconic element is the tall, sharp-pointed clock tower, which adds to the artistic atmosphere.



##### Taichung Park - Taichung

Taichung Park, over a century old, was once part of a list of "Taiwan's eight scenic wonders". This is the only garden in Taichung built during the Japanese Occupation period, and though the park as a whole no longer has its original appearance, the quaint Pavilion in the Lake, built in 1908, has not been altered. The park is home to a number of important local historical relics, and is a favorite "backyard garden" for Taichung locals on their days off.



### Itinerary

#### DAY-1

Sandiaoling Railway Station  
→Shifen Railway Station  
→Pingxi Railway Station  
→Pingxi Old Street  
→Jingtong Railway Station  
→Jingtong Old Street



#### DAY-2

Ershui Railway Station  
→Jiji Railway Station  
→Checheng Railway Station  
→Shuili Railway Station  
→Sun Moon Lake  
→Shuishe Wharf  
→Ita Shao Wharf



#### DAY-3

Chang Kai-shek Memorial Hall  
→National Taiwan Museum  
→228 Memorial Peace Park  
→Danshui Old Street  
→Shilin Night Market



#### DAY-4

Miaoli Railway Station  
→Miaoli Railway Museum  
→Taichung Railway Station  
→Taichung Park

### Travel information

- ★ Taiwan Railways Administration : [www.railway.gov.tw](http://www.railway.gov.tw)
- ★ Sun Moon Lake National Scenic Area : [www.sunmoonlake.gov.tw](http://www.sunmoonlake.gov.tw)
- ★ National Taiwan Museum : [www.ntm.gov.tw](http://www.ntm.gov.tw)
- ★ Miaoli Railway Museum : 037-320157, opening hours 8:00-17:00, closed Sat/Sun



## Offshore Islands

Taiwan lies at the intersection of the Eurasian Plate and Philippine Plate, giving rise to highly varied topography and ecological environments and surrounding the main island with numerous offshore islands.

The main offshore-island sightseeing destinations are Penghu, Green Island, Orchid Island, Kinmen, Matsu, Guishan Island, and Little Liuqiu. Their different locations, geological origins, and human activity in turn mean high variance in travel experiences.

The theme one chooses in exploring the character of each island is also crucial in defining how they are understood. Options include exploration of the natural ecology, geology, history and culture, scuba diving, leisure fishing, etc. Whichever is chosen, alone or in combination, the charisma of each locale will shine forth.



**Theme of tour : Carefree "Iron Horse" Touring in Kinmen**

**Team name : Iron Rider Squad**

**Team leader : Grace (Hong Kong)**

**Team members : Hei (Hong Kong)**

## Team's Recommendation

### Touring Kinmen on bicycle

#### Zhaishan Tunnel - Kinmen

Kinmen was once a battleground between Communist and Nationalist forces, and on this island there are numerous military facilities, this underground tunnel being a key attraction. Chiseled out of granite, it is an A-shaped waterway leading to the sea that can accommodate 42 small supply boats. In the entrance area are seven soldier barracks, featuring spartan partitions. The grand appearance of the tunnel facility is awe-inspiring, and visitors can well imagine the hardships suffered by troops during the digging.



#### Little Kinmen - Kinmen

Little Kinmen is also called Lieyu. It has a length of about 18.5 kilometers, and takes about 4.5 hours to circumnavigate by bike. A suggested itinerary is Jiugong Pier →General's Fort →Tiger Fort →Maogong Rock →Hujingtou Battle Museum →Shuangkou →Xihu →General Li Guang-qian Temple →Lingshui Lake →Lienu Temple →Qingchi →Nanshantou → Donggang →Luocu Yucu. Along the way, the bike-rider is embraced by green shade and cool breezes. Make sure to stop at Xihu to appreciate the many resident and visiting birds.



#### Shuangli Wetlands Nature Center - Kinmen

Kinmen is on a major migratory bird route, and every year many species of bird come to breed and pass the winter here. The Shuangli Wetlands are a prime area for cormorants. The Nature Center has displays on bird life in Kinmen, with a special treat being the broadcast of different bird calls with explanations of their source and meaning. The basement level has a fine display on the Kinmen intertidal zone and its ecology. If visiting during the prime bird-watching seasons, don't forget to pack your binoculars!



#### Guningtou Battlefield History Museum -

Kinmen

At the entrance of this museum is a bronze statue of fighters with their weaponry, and on the two sides are military vehicles used



in the Guningtou Battle fiercely fought between the Nationalists and Communists. Inside the facility are displays on weapons and battle documentation, and there are large murals and a multi-media presentation explaining the particulars of the battle and its historical significance.

#### Homestay in Old Houses - Kinmen

There are many fine old residences in Kinmen, and in recent years the management of Kinmen National Park has initiated the refurbishment of many of these old houses for use as lodgings for tourists. These heritage residences are mainly traditional four-section courtyard compounds. An unusually large cluster of these residences can be found at Shanhou Folk Culture Village, which features large houses built during the Qing Dynasty, all neatly arranged and detailed with exquisite stone carvings and swallow-tail roofs. The scenes are as though right out of a beautiful period painting.



## Itinerary

### DAY-1

Taipei

→Gongguan

→Drinking Water

Museum



### DAY-2

Night Market and

Songshan Airport

→Kinmen

→Zhaishan Tunnel

→Tour Jinsha Township

on Bicycle



### DAY-3

Bike from Qionglin to

Shuitou Pier,

about 12 km

→Kinmen



### DAY-4

Qionglin

→Jinning, Jincheng

→Taipei, Shilin Night

Market

## Travel information

- ★ Kinmen County Government : [www.kinmen.gov.tw](http://www.kinmen.gov.tw)
- ★ Bicycle rental kiosks (free) : Jincheng Town Office, Jincheng Tunnel, Jincheng Station, Shuangli Wetlands, Juguang Tower, Forestry Office, Dishan Tunnel, Shuitou Jinshui School, Lieyu Tourist Center, Shanwai Station
- ★ Kinmen, Qionglin homestays : [www.keepon.com.tw](http://www.keepon.com.tw)
- ★ Taipei, Regal Suites : 02-2713-8600, [www.sweethotel.com.tw](http://www.sweethotel.com.tw)
- ★ Taipei, Grandee Hotel : 02-2880-5599, [www.grandeehotel.com.tw](http://www.grandeehotel.com.tw)



**Theme of tour : The Great West Coast Adventure**

**Team name : Prince of the Sea**

**Team leader : Amon Lee (Taiwan)**

**Team members : Jake (United Kingdom)**

## Team's Recommendation

### Touring Taichung, Penghu, and the sea

#### Gaomei Wetlands - Taichung

The Gaomei Wetlands, located at the northwest end of Qingshui Township, are renowned for their rich ecological resources. Here one can observe the ecology of the mudskipper, crabs, and birds. It's a great place to spend some free time with the broad vistas and unique topography. Other attractions here are the Gaomei Bicycle Trail, beefwood windbreak forest, and Gaomei Lighthouse.



#### Penghu Night Fishing - Penghu

The harvest season for squid here is from June to September, and nighttime fishing is a very popular activity. Boat owners will ride out at dusk, the experience heightened for visitors by the wonderful sunset scenery. Once the boat arrives at the fishing site, personnel will issue your fishing gear and teach you the basics. A favorite method of preparation used for the squid caught is to make it into sashimi.



#### South Sea Excursion - Penghu

Among the better-known small islands in the south area of the Penghu archipelago are Dongpan, Hujung, Wangan, and Qimei. On Qimei, you can rent a motorcycle to tour the distinctive local fish-catching traps and the various popular scenic spots. Wangan offers a 300-year-old old house and a green turtle conservation center. Dongpan is renowned for its peculiar basalt mesa landform, which can be explored by trail.



#### Scuba Diving - Penghu

The Penghu Sea has beautiful coral reefs and tropical fish, with many places suitable for scuba diving, notably Shanshui, Xiyu, the



North Sea islands, the East Sea sub-group of islands, Qimei, and Wangan. Qualified scuba-diving outfits will supply all diving gear—protective insulated apparel, goggles, fins, and respiratory apparatus—with trained instructors guiding groups out into the shallow sea to enjoy the magnificently colorful tropical reef habitat.

#### Dongshi, Budai - Chiayi

Dongshi Fisherman's Wharf is famous for its fresh seafood and sparkling sunsets. In the wharf area is a picturesque Dutch-style



windmill, Marine Ecology Hall, beach, oyster shells, driftwood scenery, and other attractions. At dusk, take a stroll along the tree-shaded embankment to soak in the sunset and saltwater ambiance. Nearby Budai is also a fishing village, home to a popular market where tourists can buy fresh fish and crab being auctioned. Both Dongshi and Budai are well-known for oyster farming, and oysters naturally figure prominently on local restaurant menus.



## Itinerary

### DAY-1

Taipei

→Dajia

→Gaomei Wetlands

→Taichung



### DAY-2

Taichung

→Chiayi, Budai

→Penghu, Night fishing

→Penghu south sea

excursion

→Qimei Island



### DAY-3

Wangan Island

→Seafood meal



### DAY-4

Penghu, Scuba diving

→Magong City tour

→Taiwan main island

## Travel information

- ★ Youth Travel, Executive Yuan : [www.youthtravel.tw/youthtravel](http://www.youthtravel.tw/youthtravel)
- ★ Gaomei Wetlands : [www.gaomei.com.tw](http://www.gaomei.com.tw)
- ★ Dongshi Township Office : [dongshih.cyhg.gov.tw](http://dongshih.cyhg.gov.tw)
- ★ Penghu Sea travel : [www.phsea.com.tw](http://www.phsea.com.tw)
- ★ Magong City heritage walk : [tour.penghu.gov.tw/walking](http://tour.penghu.gov.tw/walking)
- ★ Penghu National Scenic Area : [www.penghu-nsa.gov.tw](http://www.penghu-nsa.gov.tw)
- ★ Ferry from Budai to Magong : single-journey fare NT\$1,000



Theme of tour : Romantic Penghu

Team name : Team JR

Team leader : Jason Ho (Canada)

Team members : Rebecca Simms (Canada)

## Team's Recommendation

### Romance in Penghu

#### Qimei - Penghu

Qimei, one of the many pretty islands of the Penghu archipelago, has won the heart of many a tourist with its blue skies, green sea, green slope grasslands, flocks of sheep, and old stone houses. The most famous scenic spot on the islet is Twin Hearts Stone Weir; other scenic attractions are Little Taiwan, Yueli Bay, Tomb of the Seven Beauties, and Qimei Stone Tower. Tourists can rent scooters to zoom around the island.



#### Shanshui Beach - Penghu

Shanshui Beach is located at the south tip of the main island, Penghu Island, and features a long and wide shell-sand beach. The base of the cliffs on its left and right have been eroded by seawater, with many caves formed. There are no noisy motorcycles or scooters around this quiet beach, adding to the quality of the visitor's swimming and surfing experience. In the vicinity are also numerous homestays.



#### Baisha - Penghu

The Penghu Aquarium, which stands by the sea in Baisha Township, has an expansive collection of ocean life from the Penghu Sea. A favorite with tourists are the many types of fish and turtle in the facility's transparent sea-bottom tunnel. Another of the township's attractions is its giant German-built wind turbines, a favorite backdrop for photos. The Cross-Sea Bridge, which connects Baisha and Xiyu townships, was once the longest trans-oceanic bridge in the Far East. A recommended snack specialty served up in this area is "cactus ice", a shaved-ice sweet treat made of cactus fruit.



#### Xiyu - Penghu

Yuwengdao (Fisherman Island) Lighthouse on Xiyu is the oldest lighthouse in Taiwan. Inside is an exhibition room



displaying the history of the facility. Nearby Xitai Fortress was built during the Qing Dynasty after the Sino-French War of the 1880s; this is a great spot to view the sunset. Erkan Village, filled with three-sided courtyard residences in the traditional southern Fujian style, was the first settlement in the country to be designated for preservation.

#### Guoye Sunrise - Penghu

Guoye Village in Huxi Township is in the far eastern section of the Penghu archipelago; in recent years it has become a popular



spot to view the sunrise, rivaling Luoxia in Xiyu. "Guoye" is the name of a plant, an important tree species that provides shelter against wind and tide; legend has it that during the Ming Dynasty there was a great expanse of this plant here. The small hill on the northeast side of the village is the best spot to watch the sunrise, and you can also go to the Guoye Sunrise Observatory beside the fishing harbor or just stand anywhere on the embankment or beach here to watch the coruscating color changes leading up to and during the sunrise.



## Itinerary

### DAY-1

Kaohsiung

→Qimei



### DAY-2

Qimei

→Magong



### DAY-3

Magong

→Baisha



→Xiyu



### DAY-4

Baisha

→Magong

→Taiwan

## Travel information

- ★ Daily Air flies from Xiaogang Airport in Kaohsiung to Qimei : [www.dailyair.com.tw](http://www.dailyair.com.tw).
- ★ Domestic airlines fly from Magong to Taipei and other large cities on Taiwan proper.
- ★ Greek Frontier Villa : 06-9951926; [greek-frontier.com](http://greek-frontier.com)
- ★ Penghu National Scenic Area : [www.penghu-nsa.gov.tw](http://www.penghu-nsa.gov.tw)



**Theme of tour : Lanyu Flying Fish Homeland**

**Team name : Ocean Tracers**

**Team leader : Cheng-yu Teng (Taiwan)**

**Team members : Philip Kuon-yu Ko (USA), Hsu-hu Yuan (Taiwan)**

## Team's Recommendation

### Leisure swimming in Lanyu (Orchid Island)

#### Hen Rock Scuba Diving - Lanyu

Hen Rock is a famous local diving point in Lanyu, with visibility more than 30 meters. Here one can see large schools of colorful clown fish swimming among the extremely colorful and busy coral reefs. The beautiful undersea world of Lanyu is breathtaking; there are many qualified scuba-diving shops to help you out, providing all necessary gear and instructors to take tourists to diving spots.



#### Dongqing Bay - Lanyu

Dongqing Bay has a gravel beach, and is a natural bay that is a good spot for swimming. This is also an important fishing area. Outside of the flying fish season, Lanyu's unique canoes, assembled without any nails, can be found all along the shore. At Dongqing Primary School an example of the traditional semi-subterranean dwelling of the island's Dawu (also called Yami) people is on display.



#### Yeyou Village and Mantou Rock - Lanyu

Yeyou (lit. Coconut Oil) Village is the administration center of Lanyu, with township offices and schools, and is the largest village on the island. There are sharks in the local waters, called "yoyoa" in the local language; this is the origin of the name "Yeyou," which has been transliterated into Mandarin Chinese. Mantou Rock, which looms a hundred meters above the shore, is a Yeyou Village landmark, looking much like the steamed buns called "mantou." Beside this high ground is a Dawu burial ground, so visitors should keep a respectful distance.



#### Yunu Rock - Lanyu

Yunu Rock (lit. Jade Maiden Rock) is a tall 20-meter volcanic rock with a middle that is hollowed out in a smooth pillar shape. Dawu



legend has it that Yulu Rock was originally a very obedient child who stood firm and steadfast between her quarreling parents in an attempt to bring peace. The poor child, standing beside the road here, could only cry incessantly, and was eventually transformed into stone.

#### Flying Fish Festival - Lanyu

Every year from March to June is the season for the flying fish catch. Before heading off to fish the Dawu conduct special ceremonies,



hoping for a good catch. The tribe's canoes are gathered on the beach, and the local leader conducts a solemn ceremony seeking to attract the fish and ensure the fishermen's safety. After the fishing season is over rituals are held to formally bring the season to a close, but the catching of other fish is allowed. This is done to ensure the sustainability of the flying fish harvest, part of the priceless trove of wisdom about the natural world and their place in it that has been developed by the Dawu people.



## Itinerary

### DAY-1

Kending

→Lanyu



### DAY-2

Dongqing Bay Sunrise

Observation

→Scuba Diving

→Mermaid and Cats

Homestay

→Moon Appreciation

on the Beach

→Stargazing



### DAY-3

Hen Rock Scuba Diving



### DAY-4

Round-Island Tour

→Taitung

## Travel information

- ★ Golden Star ferry travels between Houbihu in Kenting National Park and Lanyu : 089-281-477
- ★ Dongqing Community Association : iranmeylek.myweb.hinet.net
- ★ Mermaid and Cats cafe and homestay : 89-732-943
- ★ Daily Air offers frequent flights between Lanyu and Taitung : 089-362-675



**Theme of tour :** The Great Lab to Lanyu Escape

**Team name :** Lab Tour in Taiwan

**Team leader :** Dale Kim (USA)

**Team members :** Kiwi, Conan, Dusk (Taiwan)

## Team's Recommendation

### The closest place to heaven

#### Datian Lake - Lanyu

Datian Lake is one of the best-known scenic spots on Lanyu. Like Xiaotian Lake it is an extinct volcano crater that has filled with rainwater. The forest surrounding the lake teems with interesting insect and bird life. The route to Datian Lake is not difficult, but note that on rainy days it can become very slippery. It is best to travel through the area only with a local guide.



#### Wue Buzuo - Lanyu

The Lanyu experience is one of comfort, leisure, music, delicious food, and good wine. The Wue Buzuo restaurant was a shooting location for the Taiwan movie "Fishing Luck," and is a fine place to sit back, listen to good music, and taste the culinary delicacies of the island. During the flying-fish season try the flying-fish set meal, available only in Lanyu.



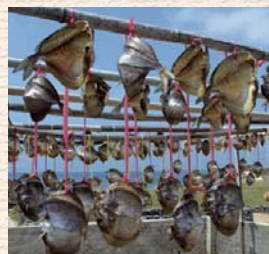
#### Yeyin Cold Spring - Lanyu

About half a mile from Yeyin Village along the Lanyu Cross-island highway is the entrance to a short trail sprinkled with sea-shell sand that leads you to a rare place, a seaside cold spring, the Yeyin Cold Spring. This is a must-visit site for travelers, a place of compelling natural beauty, the water flowing between the reef rocks so clear that you can see the bottom.



#### Dawu Tribe Traditional Semi-Subterranean Houses - Lanyu

The traditional house of the Dawu or Yami Tribe of Lanyu are almost cave-like in appearance, dug along slopes with hill behind



and sea before, with a pit dug down 1-2 meters in which the structure containing the main living quarters is built. A workshop and breezy covered platform is built beside this. Yeyin Village features the largest number of these unique architectures on the island.

#### Green Grasslands - Lanyu

The Green Grasslands is a wide expanse at the south end of Lanyu, atop upraised coral reef, an ideal place to watch the sunrise and sunset and presenting a strikingly different ambience in different seasons. In late spring and early summer, white lily blossoms are mixed with wild chrysanthemums in a beautiful canvas. The lower part of the grassland is the site of Whale Cave, the opening said to have the shape of a whale, created by powerful seasonal winds and the strong waters of the Kuroshio Current.



## Itinerary

### DAY-1

Taitung Black Forest Park  
→Fugang Harbor  
→Lanyu  
→Tianchi  
→Lanyu Cross-Island Highway  
→Yeyin Cold Spring  
→Flying Fish Spotting



### DAY-2

Wue Buzuo, shooting location for movie "Fishing Luck"



### DAY-3

Weather Observation Station  
→Dongqing Bay Scuba Diving  
→Dawu Tribe Traditional Semi-Subterranean Houses



### DAY-4

Dongqing Bay Sunrise  
→Green Grasslands

## Travel information

- ★ Taitung County tourism : [tour.taitung.gov.tw](http://tour.taitung.gov.tw)
- ★ Lanyu information : [lanyu.taitung.gov.tw](http://lanyu.taitung.gov.tw)
- ★ Taitung Black Forest Park : From outer lane of Guangfu Road, entrance to park can be seen at side of Taitung Seaside Park
- ★ Fugang Harbor : Head north on Highway No. 11 from Taitung City to about the 163.5 km mark, then turn onto Fugang Street to enter harbor
- ★ Wue Buzuo : 089-731-623



**Theme of tour : Brilliant East Coast Gems**

**Team name :** The Smoking Dogs

**Team leader :** Dephine Beyrend-Dur (France)

**Team members :** Gael Dur, Alexandre Squalle (France)

## Team's Recommendation

### Taitung and Lanyu touring

#### Zhiben Waterfall - Taitung

Heading along Leshan Industrial Road, which starts near Hotel Royal Chihpen, follow the signs to reach the Baiyu (White Jade) Waterfall, which has a height of about 50 meters. There are support handrails along the mountain trail here, and walkers can appreciate the many types of trees and birds along the way. At the end of the trail is the best spot to see the downpour of white water, like white-jade threads, making the origin of the name "White Jade" clear.



#### Taitung Fruit Street - Taitung

Zhengqi Road in Taitung City is also referred to as "Fruit Street," filled with vendors selling colorful seasonal fruit that attract people from near and far. In summer there is pineapple, mango, papaya, and many other sweet and aromatic choices. The area from the nearby intersection with Fujian Road to Taitung Commercial School is a locally famous snack street.



#### Twin Lions Rock - Lanyu

Twin Lions Rock is located on the coast between the villages of Dongqing and Langdao. From a distance it does indeed look as though two lions of vivid expression are lying face to face with each other. This geological feature is made of volcanic rock, one of many such strange Lanyu Island coastal formations.



#### Lanyu Museum - Lanyu

Lanyu Cultural Articles Hall is located in Hongtoui Village, a place for the island's artists and cultural historian to display and sell their works. Tourist also can rent the traditional costumes of the Dawu/Yami Tribe to take pictures. Guides explain the many intriguing elements of Dawu society and culture, including the importance of the flying fish and the tribe's traditional means of livelihood.



#### Yuren Village - Lanyu

Yuren, or Fisherman Village, a small, quiet settlement, has in recent years become somewhat busier with the opening of popular homestays that have brought in more tourists. In front of Mermaid and Cats Cafe and Homestay is an M-shaped coral rock that has a cold spring beside it; the Fisherman Cold Spring is a trough that has the form of a natural swimming pool. When the tide is in, soakers can enjoy the warm seawater coming in from the front and the cold-spring waters oozing in from the back--a natural and very picturesque sauna.



## Itinerary

### DAY-1

Keelung

→Zhiben Hot Springs, Zhiben Forest Recreation Area  
→Taitung Fruit Street



### DAY-2

Taitung

→Fugang Harbor  
→Lanyu, Rent Bicycle for Hill Touring  
→Old Man Rock, Watch

Sunset



### DAY-3

Lanyu Museum  
→Scuba Diving  
→Yeyin Village



### DAY-4

Seaside Water Fun and Swimming  
→Seeing Traditional Canoe Building, Drying of Flying Fish, Traditional Elevated Roofed Platform  
→Taitung  
→Keelung

## Travel information

- ★ Taiwan Railways Ticket Booking Portal : [www.railway.gov.tw/index/index.aspx](http://www.railway.gov.tw/index/index.aspx)
- ★ Zhiben Forest Recreation Area : [taitung.forest.gov.tw/taitung/zhiben/main.htm](http://taitung.forest.gov.tw/taitung/zhiben/main.htm)
- ★ Ferries serving Lanyu-Fugang Route (Taitung) route : Triumph Vessel 089-281-047, Golden Star Vessel 089-281477; Daily Air offers flights between Taitung and Lanyu : 089-362-675
- ★ East Coast National Scenic Area Administration : [www.eastcoast-nsa.gov.tw](http://www.eastcoast-nsa.gov.tw)
- ★ Taitung County Tourism Website : [tour.taitung.gov.tw/ch/index.aspx](http://tour.taitung.gov.tw/ch/index.aspx)



## Hot Springs

Due to the special geological structure of Taiwan, surface sources of subterranean heat dot the island, giving Taiwan a unique and unusually abundant supply of hot-spring resources. These springs have widely varying characteristics, their quality and quality among the best on the planet. Quality hot springs are found everywhere except the counties of Yunlin, Changhua, and Penghu.

More than 100 hot-spring sites have been discovered, the majority in dramatically picturesque mountain areas. Due to different mineral mixes and varying water density and temperature, soaking options are many. A visit to hot-spring baths brings you the double benefit of relaxing leisure time and enhanced health.

## 08 Hot Springs



Theme of tour : Hot-Spring Enjoyment and Outdoor Adventure Challenges

Team name : We ♥ Jingmei Night market

Team leader : Watanabe Shunsuke (Japan)

Team members : Hiraoka Misako (Japan)

### Team's Recommendation

#### East Taiwan tour of natural hot springs

##### Suao Cold Springs and Nanfangao Seafood - Yilan

The Suao Cold Springs are carbonate, with a temperature under 22 degrees Celsius, and the fizzy waters are drinkable. Bathers at first feel a little cold, but after a while the body will be heated up. The Suao Township Office has established a cold-spring park with bathhouses and pools for soaking your feet. The nearby Nangangao Fish Market is popular with tourists, with seafood of high quality and economical prices.



##### Erzi Mountain Hot Springs - Hualien

The Erzi Mountain Hot Springs are located in a gorge at the 11-kilometer mark on the upper section of Shoufeng Stream in Xiulin Township. The springs have not been developed, but the stream bed has natural water pits of different sizes within which visitors can enjoy a sauna-like soak. A Class A Mountain Permit is required for entry into this high-mountain area; tourists can join a package tour provided by a local travel agency.



##### Wuhe Tourist Tea Plantation - Hualien

Wuhe Tea comes from the Wuhe Village area of Ruisui Township in Hualien, which boasts ideal soil and climate conditions for production of the leaf. The pastoral plantation landscape here is truly a sight to behold, with several dozen tea farmers operating in the district. Wuhe's best-known teas are Qing Xin Oolong, Jade Baozhong Tea, and Honey Peach Black Tea.



##### Zhiben Hot Springs - Taitung

The Zhiben Hot Springs area, located along Zhiben Stream, offers refreshing scenery and a diversity of hot-spring hotels. The springs here are sodium bicarbonate, colorless and odorless, containing numerous health-enhancing minerals. The accommodations in the area run from simple and rustic to high-end resorts, with prices to match.



##### Luming Hot Springs - Taitung

The Luming Hot Springs and the more famous Hongye Hot Springs both come from the same source in the riverbed of Hongye Valley, and feature waters that are weakly alkaline, sodium-hydrogen carbonate, colorless and odorless, and can be drunk. In the area is a selection of hotels and homestays, and a stay in the area can be combined with visits to tea farms, paragliding, grass skiing, and other activities. The green tea brewed using the hot-spring water in Luming has a delicious taste enhanced by the water's natural sweetness.



### Itinerary

#### DAY-1

Taipei

- Take Coach to Luodng
- Suao, Cold Spring Bathing
- Paotai Mountain, Nantian Temple
- Nanfangao



#### DAY-2

Suao

- Rent Scooter in Hualien
- Taroko Gorge, Tianxiang
- Qixingtian
- Hualien City Tour
- Ruisui Hot Springs



#### DAY-3

- Ruisui Whitewater Rafting
- Ruisui Ranch
- Wuhe Tourist Tea Plantation
- Taitung, Zhiben Hot Springs



#### DAY-4

- Gaotai for Paragliding
- Luye Tourist Tea Plantation
- Taitung City, Traditional Snacks

### Travel information

- ★ Kamalan Bus : [www.kamalan.com.tw/index.php](http://www.kamalan.com.tw/index.php)
- ★ Taroko National Park : [www.taroko.gov.tw](http://www.taroko.gov.tw)
- ★ East Rift Valley National Scenic Area : [www.erv-nsa.gov.tw](http://www.erv-nsa.gov.tw)
- ★ Class A Mountain Permit : fill in mountain-hiking plan, attach photocopy of identification, and submit to National Police Agency, Ministry of the Interior seven days before entering mountains; online application also possible : <http://eli.npa.gov.tw/ETWebO/index02.jsp>



**Theme of tour : Soul-Warming Hot Springs Travel**

**Team name : KiZuNa**

**Team leader : Yazu (Japan)**

**Team members : Yoshiyu (Japan)**

## Team's Recommendation

### Two people together in blissful travel

#### Zhongshan North Road Wedding Salon Street - Taipei

The section of Zhongshan North Road, Sec. 2, at its intersection with Minsheng East Road, to Sec. 3 at its intersection with Minzu East Road is Taipei's renowned Wedding Salon Street, lined with full-service salons that provide wedding photos, gowns, and other related services, and with premium hotels and boutiques. Other notable spots in the area are Tatung University, the Taipei Fine Arts Museum, and riverside parks along the Keelung, all hotspots for photo shoots.



#### Carp Lake - Hualien

The waters of Carp Lake, located in Shoufeng Township, are from an underground hot spring. As the side of the lakeside mountain looks like a carp, both mountain and lake have been named after the fish. This is the largest lake in eastern Taiwan, and features camping sites, biking, boating, forest trails, and a host of other leisure and recreation facilities. From April to June the mountains come alive with fireflies.



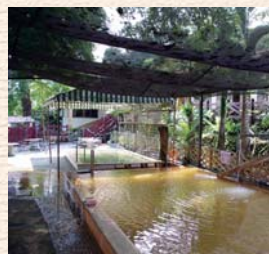
#### Hongye Hot Springs - Hualien

The valley springs here, developed during the Japanese occupation period (1895-1945), are also called the Inner Hot Springs. The waters are clear, colorless, and odorless, and are drinkable. About five kilometers from nearby Ruisui Railway Station is a Japanese-built work of architecture used as a public bathhouse during the Japanese occupation period and today is the Hongye (Red Leaf) Hot Spring Villa.



#### Ruisui Hot Springs - Hualien

Developed by the Japanese in 1919, these springs are close to the Hongye Hot Springs and also called the Outer Hot Springs. The waters are iron-rich, tend to be yellow and turbid, and have a rusty smell. These are the only chloride-carbonate springs in Taiwan. Medical research seems to indicate that couples frequently bathing in low-alkaline springs such as these have a better chance at giving birth to a son, giving rise to the unofficial name "Give Birth to a Son Springs."



#### Dihua Street - Taipei

Dihua Street is famous for its traditional Chinese goods, and becomes especially busy in the shopping season leading up to Chinese New Year. This was the first market street in the Dadaocheng neighborhood and one of the earliest in what is today Taipei metropolis, with shops in place here since the Qing Dynasty. Today Dihua Street remains an important emporium for sundries, tea leaves, Chinese medicines, fabrics with traditional designs, and other traditional items. The Baroque-style shophouse-facade architecture of this and surrounding streets has been preserved, and Dihua is the most intact old street in the entire city.



## Itinerary

### DAY-1

Zhongshan North Road  
Wedding Salon Street  
→Hualien City,  
Delicious Street Foods  
on Gongzheng St.  
→Carp Lake, Hualien  
Water Dance



### DAY-2

Whitewater Rafting on  
Xiugulan River  
→Yuanxiang Hot Spring  
Villa  
→Hongye Hot Springs



### DAY-3

Ruisui Hot Spring Villa  
→Taipei, Maokong  
→Gongguan Night  
Market



### DAY-4

Dihua Street (Deji Tea  
Shop, Wang Rui Zhen  
Tea Shop)  
→Siping Street

## Travel information

- ★ Hualien Water Dance : Held at Carp Lake, Hualien County, mid-June to end-August; tel : 03-853-1687
- ★ Hualien County tourism : tour-hualien.hl.gov.tw
- ★ Xiugulan River Rafting Center : 03-887-5400
- ★ Hongye Hot Spring Villa : 03-887-2176; Ruisui Hot Spring Villa : 03-887-2170
- ★ Wang Rui Zhen Tea Shop : 02-2557-5338; Deji Tea Shop : 02-2553-7611

## 08 Hot Springs



Theme of tour : Kending Coast and Hengchun Hot Springs

Team name : Flying Fish Walking Team

Team leader : Takagi Masako (Japan)

Team members : Arinkawa Mayumi (Japan)

### Team's Recommendation

#### Touring the hot springs and oceanside of south Taiwan

##### Nanwan - Pingtung

Nanwan (South Bay) is located between Maobitou and Eluanbi peninsulas. Long ago called "Dabanfu," during the Japanese occupation period this was used as a whale-hunting station. Vacationers come in droves in the summertime to enjoy its 600-meter sandy beach and clear sea water. The area features many species of coral reef, and the rich eco-habitat ecology makes this a popular location for diving.



##### Fu'an Temple - Pingtung

Fu'an Temple, located in Checheng Township, is a magnificent building. It is the largest temple dedicated to the Earth God in Taiwan, and is a center of religious worship in Hengchun. Perhaps the most special part of the temple is the octagonal furnace, which whisks paper spirit money into the fire from a golden censer automatically by using the wind from the chimney and windows, bringing it the nickname "heavenly cash-counting machine."



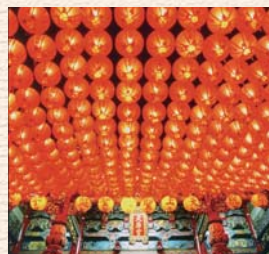
##### Sichongxi Hot Springs - Pingtung

This is one of the four largest hot springs in Taiwan. Its waters are alkaline carbonate, the rich carbonation making it a pleasant drink. Soaking in these springs is said to be especially good for one's blood circulation and also good for skin, joints, and nervous system. In the hot-spring area there is also a hot-spring park with a ring-shaped trail that is a fine choice for recreational hiking.



##### Qijin Tianhou Temple - Qijin Island

Qijin Tianhou Temple, a Grade 3 historic site, is 300 years old. The main deity worshipped here is Mazu, the Goddess of the Sea, her powers



clearly in evidence from the great numbers of visiting devotees. Inside one is regaled with the beauty of exquisite traditional carvings, painting, and pillar and beam work. While strolling down the corridors, apart from appreciating the appealing artistry the visitor can also gain an understanding of how the people of Qijin have over the years opened and developed the land here, and faced war and reconstruction.

##### Kending Night Market - Pingtung

Located in the town of Kending, the hub of Kenting National Park, this is a place where during the day you are spoiled with the wonderful mountain and sea scenery and the many water activities, and at night join the happy throngs for a stroll through the bright, pulsating night market. The market is about one kilometer long and lined choc-a-bloc with shops, pubs, and games and souvenir stands. There is a variety of delicious foods on offer, including Southeast Asian snacks, seafood, pizza, Mexican and French cuisine, and even indigenous-style mountain boar meat and sausages.



### Itinerary

#### DAY-1

Taiwan Taoyuan Int'l Airport  
→Kaohsiung, Liuhe Night Market



#### DAY-2

Kenting National Park  
→Nanwan  
→Eluanbi Park

→Kending Night Market



#### DAY-3

Fu'an Temple  
→Sichongxi Hot Springs  
→Sichongxi Old Street  
→Hengchun Old City



#### DAY-4

Mudan  
→Xuhai Hot Springs  
→Kaohsiung, Qijin Ferry  
→Qijin Tianhou Temple  
→Qijin Seaside Park

### Travel information

- ★ Pingtung County tourism : [travel.ptng.gov.tw](http://travel.ptng.gov.tw)
- ★ Kenting National Park : [www.ktnp.gov.tw](http://www.ktnp.gov.tw)
- ★ Fu'an Temple : 08-882-1345 Qijin Tianhou Temple : [www.qijinmazu.org.tw](http://www.qijinmazu.org.tw)
- ★ Sichongxi Hot Springs : Drive south on National Freeway No. 1 to Fenggang, then follow Highway No. 26 to Checheng, and finally take County Highway No. 199 towards Mudan
- ★ Xuhai Hot Springs : County Highway No. 199 from Checheng, connect to No. 199A
- ★ Qijin Ferry : 6:00-24:00, departures about every 10 minutes, NT\$15 per person



## Food & Shopping

The color, aroma, taste, texture, and even shape that adds up to Chinese food have made it a favorite culinary choice around the world. Its particular historical influences have meant that Taiwan gathers the essence of the culinary arts from China's various regions and still preserves a distinctively local cuisine. Innovation from traditional kitchens attracts many tourists to Taiwan, especially those with a fondness for Chinese food.

The main types of culinary arts practiced in Taiwan are Taiwanese, Fujianese, Cantonese, Jiangzhe, Shanghainese, Hunanese, Szechuanese, Beijing, and Hakka.

In addition, Taiwan's traditional snacks, which can be found literally everywhere, are so distinctive they have given rise to what is called a "snacking culture," focused on great taste at the most reasonable prices. Local night markets are snacking emporiums, bustling places that make for many wonderful memories of a trip.



**Theme of tour : Night Market Shopping and Feasting**

**Team name : Bargain Queens**

**Team leader : Wei Yee (Singapore)**

**Team members : Poh Wan Wen Ice (Singapore)**

## Team's Recommendation

### Money-saving shopping tour

#### Houyi Commercial District - Kaohsiung

In the city of Kaohsiung, if one wants to buy fashionable and trendy clothing but at lower prices the answer is Anning Clothing Street in Houyi Commercial District. This is primarily a wholesale area, but individuals are welcome, enabling you to buy fashionable clothing and accessories at the most favorable price. You will get a better discount if you can find a few friends to join you.



#### Wufenpu - Taipei

Wufenpu, has become Taipei City's largest garment wholesale market, with more than 1,000 outlets. This is a favorite place for hawkers to source new goods. There are many styles on display here, fashionable and trendy yet startlingly inexpensive, including full outfits, pants, skirts, leather belts, shoes, handbags, and much, much more. Even local movie and TV stars come here to fill out their wardrobes with the latest and the hottest.



#### LEECO and Working House - Taipei

The LEECO Outlet, in Taipei's Neihu District, is a Taiwan trend-setter in outlet sales for top-quality goods at good discounts. Many famous brands are available here, all at very reasonable prices, making this among the smartest of choices for spending your hard-earned money. Not far away is Working House, which sells home-use articles of its own design. There is also a regular turnover of seasonal goods, and regular small-scale sales promotions such as "Comfortable Shopping on Two-Day Weekends" and "Lowest Daily Prices."



#### Huayin Street Commercial District - Taipei

This commercial district includes Huayin Street at the back of Taipei Railway Station and Chengzhou Road, Sec. 1.



The district mainly sells accessories such as necklaces, rings, bags, shoes, and DIY articles. Although it is a wholesale market, visitors can also buy single pieces here. Most importantly, prices start off very low, and you can still bargain.

#### Beacon Sun Plaza and Jingming 1st Street - Taichung

Beacon Sun Plaza was opened in May 2008, and is the largest shopping mall in Taiwan. It is located beside Taichung Park and



mainly sells high-end items, with a limited array of lower-priced leisure articles. Jingming 1st Street is a pedestrian-only street that has outdoor tables and chairs and is lined with clothing stores, tea shops, cafes, international restaurants, and art galleries. Concerts and other types of art performances are held on non-working days.



## Itinerary

### DAY-1

- Kaohsiung
- Houyi Commercial District
- Wufu Road
- Qijin Island
- Liuhe Night Market
- Xin Jue Jiang

### DAY-2

- Taichung
- Jingming 1st Street
- Beacon Sun Plaza
- Ziyou Road (Sun Cake Street)
- Fengjia Night Market

### DAY-3

- Taipei
- Ximending
- Presidential Office Building
- Huayin Street Commercial District
- LEECO Outlet
- Shilin Night Market
- Yongkang Street

### DAY-4

- Taipei
- Wufenpu (Jinxian Lunch Box, Kending Egg Milk)

## Travel information

- ★ Kaohsiung one-day EasyCard : NT\$200, with unlimited use of MRT, city bus, and ferry services. Kaohsiung MRT : [www.krco.com.tw](http://www.krco.com.tw)
- ★ Taipei Tourist Passport : one-day passport NT\$180, two-day passport NT\$310, allows unlimited MRT and bus use. Taipei EasyCard Company : [www.easycard.com.tw](http://www.easycard.com.tw)
- ★ Houyi Commercial District : Behind Kaohsiung Railway Station on west side, near Houyi Station (R12) of Kaohsiung MRT system
- ★ Sun Plaza : No. 94, Ziyou Road, Sec. 2, Taichung



**Theme of tour : Taiwan History on a Full Stomach**

**Team name : 8+1**

**Team leader : Yu Mei-yao (Taiwan)**

**Team members : Lemura Caisato, Asiano Sinzi, Yama Yoko, Inauchi Kouyo, Nagase Hanno, Watase Yasuki, Dannu Mayu (Japan)**

## Team's Recommendation

### Finding delicious food while exploring fine scenic sites

#### Formosan Aboriginal Culture Village - Nantou

Riding on a cable car is the latest form of recreational play in the Sun Moon Lake area. It is a seven-minute ride from the lake's Ita Thao settlement to Formosan Aboriginal Culture Village, bringing tremendous views of Sun Moon Lake, Maolan Mountain, Puli Basin, National Highway No. 6, and other sights. The Crystal Restaurant at the Sun Moon Lake Cable Car Station serves top-flight Western food and afternoon tea; here, tourists can enjoy a delicious meal while taking in the beautiful lakeside scenery.



#### Tait and Co. Merchant House, Anping Tree House - Tainan

Tait and Co. Merchant House in Anping is a two-floor building with white stucco walls and green fencing. At present it is home of the Taiwan Development Wax Museum. Outside, the green lawn is neatly maintained, the landscaping exquisite. Anping Tree House was once one of the warehouses of Tait and Co.; inside and outside of the structure are the roots of hundred-year-old banyan trees, creating a novel form of artwork.



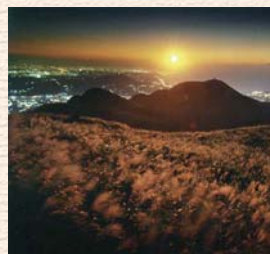
#### Ximending - Taipei

Ximending is one of Taipei's most important commercial and entertainment place, a mecca for youth fashion. A number of streets are pedestrian-only here, and the district is characterized by an unusual number of cinemas. The Red House, Japanese-built and home of Taiwan's first modern supermarket, today is a space for creative performance and artist booths. Even the Eslite bookstore chain is in on the act, establishing three outlets here. There are also famous snack shops here, including Laotianlu and its soy-stewed meats, along with purveyors of delicious rice noodles, tempura, shaved-ice desserts, and much else too.



#### Yangmingshan Night Scenery - Taipei

By going up Yangmingshan along wide and winding Yangde Boulevard one can reach some of the best spots in the area for enjoying night views of the city and its environs, among them White Cloud Villa restaurant, Zhuzihu, and the peak of Datun Mountain. The coruscating views of Taipei far below are brilliant.



#### Presidential Office Building - Taipei

The Presidential Office Building was built by the Japanese during the Japanese occupation period (1895-1945). The building is in a baroque style that is solemn and majestic. Guided public tours of the building are held Monday to Friday in the morning, with visits to a first-floor exhibition room and art gallery of the Presidential House. On weekends and holidays visitors can also view the front entrance, side rooms, auditorium, Taiwan Red Room, Taiwan Blue Room, and other facilities.



## Itinerary

### DAY-1

Taiwan Taoyuan Int'l

Airport

→ Formosan Aboriginal

Culture Village

→ Sun Moon Lake



### DAY-2

Taichung

→ Tainan

→ Heritage & Snacks



### DAY-3

Tainan

→ Taipei 101

→ Ximending

→ Shilin Night Market

→ Yangmingshan Night

Scenery



### DAY-4

Taipei

→ Jiufen

→ Jinguashi

## Travel information

- ★ Sun Moon Lake Cable Car: Full fare NT\$300, discount fare NT\$250, hours of operation 10:30-16:00
- ★ Tainan Sightseeing Passport: NT\$999; inquire with Tainan City Tour Association: [www.tnta.tw](http://www.tnta.tw)
- ★ Tainan City Tourist Bus (free): Route 88 (Anping Route) and Route 99 (Taijiang Route) go to various important heritage sites, scenic spots, and department stores/commercial areas
- ★ Tait and Company Merchant House: Full admission NT\$50, discount admission NT\$25; includes admission to Anping Tree House.
- ★ Presidential Office Building Opening Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00-12:00, and ticket booth closed at 11:30.



**Theme of tour : A Cultural Exploration of Fine Foods, Shopping, and Nightlife**

**Team name : The BFF**

**Team leader : Chan Em Loy (Malaysia)**

**Team members : Tan Wee Yong (Malaysia)**

## Team's Recommendation

### Super-value tour of Taiwan south and north

#### Souvenirs at Taipei Zoo - Taipei

The Taipei Zoo is an expansive facility. After waiting patiently in line at the popular Panda House, spend NT\$5 to take the zoo's train to the bird park at the top of the grounds, then slowly amble through the bird garden, penguin house, and African animal area. The biggest stars at the zoo are the pandas, emperor penguins, and koalas, and the most popular souvenirs are the stuffed pandas, panda caps, penguin toys, T-shirts, and stationery available at Penguin House.



#### Wanhua Snacks - Taipei

Wanhua's Longshan Temple is a bustling place of worship, with devotees constantly flowing in and out. In its surrounding streets, notably Guangzhou Street and Huaxi Street, are many long-established restaurants selling delicious traditional food treats, with special recommendations for "Zhou Family Congee" opposite Bopiliao Historic Block, "Double Happiness Cuttlefish Soup" and "Mengjia Hsinchu Meatballs" on Guangzhou Street, and "Hokkaido Cuttlefish" in the Huaxi Street Night Market.



#### National Palace Museum - Taipei

The National Palace Museum is a world-class facility with over 650,000 priceless items in its collection, including works of calligraphy, painting, bronze, jade, and ceramic. The articles cover 5,000 years of the history of Chinese culture. The most popular souvenir item on sale here is the Jade Cabbage mobile phone ornament (NT\$100). Other popular choices are miniature replicas of the famous Jade Cabbage and the Jade Cabbage as chopstick rests, all items that will look very good in your home.



#### Love River Night Scenery - Kaohsiung

After undergoing extensive improvements, the east and west sides of the Love River are both inviting places, and each sports its own



unique character. The main attractions are coffee shops, delicious foods, and musical performances. The atmosphere has an international feel here, and at night the mood becomes even more romantic. One can take a ride on a Love Boat (NT\$80) to view the sparkling scenery along the two boardwalked banks while listening to the story of the Love River as told by the boat's staff.

#### Lily Fruit Shop Shaved Ice and Dadong Night Market - Tainan

Lily Fruit Shop Shaved Ice is across from the Confucius Temple Cultural Park in Tainan. Opened in 1947, its quality attested to



by the constant stream of customers. Signature shaved-ice dessert products include fruit ice and mango milk ice, and many come here simply to buy the fresh fruits on sale. Dadong Night Market is open on Monday, Tuesday, and Friday, always stuffed to the rafters with gourmands on the hunt for some of the island's most delicious traditional snacks.



## Itinerary

### DAY-1

Taipei

→Taipei Zoo

→Sun Yat-sen Memorial Hall, Wufenpu, Taipei  
101, Ximending



### DAY-2

Taipei

→Kaohsiung, Dream Mall, Love River, Liuhe Night Market



### DAY-3

Kaohsiung

→Tainan, Chikan

Towers (Fort Proventia), Confucius Temple, Lily Fruit Shop Shaved Ice, Dadong Night Market



### DAY-4

Tainan

→Taipei, Longshan

Temple, Chiang Kai-shek Memorial Hall, National Palace Museum, Shilin Night Market

## Travel information

- ★ Zhou Family Congee : No. 104 Guangzhou Street. Double Happiness Cuttlefish Soup : No. 245 Guangzhou Street. Mengjia Hsinchu Meatballs : No. 165 Guangzhou Street. Longdu Fruit Ice : No. 168 Guangzhou Street. Hokkaido Cuttlefish : No. 24 Huaxi Street. Dadong Night Market : Corner of Linsen Road and Chongde Road. Lily Fruit Shop Shaved Ice : No. 199 Fujian Road, Sec. 1
- ★ Taipei Zoo : Daily 9:00-17:00, full admission NT\$60, discount admission NT\$30
- ★ National Palace Museum : Daily 9:00-18:00, full admission NT\$160, discount admission NT\$80
- ★ Saturday 17:00-20:30 extended hours/free entry.



**Theme of tour : Famous Local Foods and Products, Farmer Ecology**

**Team name : Enjoy My Life Club - TW**

**Team leader : Wu Chun-Hsien (Taiwan)**

**Team members : Chen Kuo-Liang, Wang Tzu-Ping (Taiwan), Heen Chiu (Australia)**

## Team's Recommendation

### Tour of delicious foods in Nantou and Chiayi

#### Dongpu Suspension Bridge - Nantou

One of the most important and most iconic sights along Provincial Highway No. 21, the New Central Cross-Island Highway, is Dongpu Suspension Bridge, traversed on the way to Xinyi Township in the Dongpu Hot Springs area. The sound of the blowing mountain winds reminds many of a flute continually played. The Cupid's arrow in front of Dongpu Primary School is a favorite spot for couples to take pictures.



#### Yushan and Alishan - Nantou and Chiayi

The Haowangjiao viewing platform, located on Provincial Highway No. 21, the New Central Cross-Island Highway, is a great place to see the Yushan sunrise and the area's "sea of clouds." Among the many other attractions along this route are Tataka Park and the Husband and Wife Trees. During a tour of the Alishan National Scenic Area, one should not miss the Sisters Pond, the Three Brothers and Four Sisters groups of giant cypress, Shouzhen Temple, sacred trees, and the Three Generations Tree.



There are also specialty snacks in the village of Fengqihu.

#### Xingang and Liujiao - Chiayi

In the Xingang Incense Arts and Culture Park you gain understanding of the craft of making the incense used in local prayer and sacrificial offerings, with DIY opportunities presented. During the visit to the Bantaoyao Crafts Studio of Jiao-Zhi Pottery you learn about the production process for the region's exquisitely colorful koji (chochin) pottery and its role in the construction of temples. In Liujiao Township's Chiayi Garlic and Sugar Factory you can enjoy the brown-sugar stewed pork with rice and brown-sugar winter melon tea.



#### Local Delicacies - Chiayi

In Chiayi City, the Gymnasium Sushi Restaurant on Mituo Road offers low-priced foods that are delicious. Smile Chicken



Rice on Wenhua Road and, on Heping Road, Ali Chicken Rice and Dongmen Chicken Rice are all famous local names. At the Soy Milk Stand on Wenhua Road soy milk and black tea are mixed together, and on Chengren Street the signature dish at Green Onion Cake is well worth the trip.

#### Baihe and Houbi - Tainan

Baihe Township is a place devoted to lotus cultivation and appreciation, and at the Lotus Culture Information Hall visitors



can obtain a wealth of information on lotus ecology and the lotus industry. If staying at a local homestay in the summer the owner will almost surely be willing to take you on an early-morning tour of the fields to enjoy the beauty of these blossoming flowers. The Taiwan Orchid Plantation in Houbi Township is famous for its rich orchid displays; there is also a narrow-gauge railway for tourists, an insect hall, museum, and places to buy many delicious snacks.



## Itinerary

### DAY-1

Taichung & Nantou County  
→Bamboo Culture Park  
→Dongpu Suspension Bridge, Dongpu Hot Springs Township



### DAY-2

Nantou & Chiayi Counties  
→Yushan, Alishan  
→Fengqihu, Yuantan



### DAY-3

Chiayi  
→ Xingang Incense Arts and Culture Park, Bantaoyao Crafts Studio of Jiao-Zhi Pottery  
→ Garlic and Sugar Factory, Fengtian Temple



### DAY-4

Tainan  
→Baihe Township Lotus Appreciation  
→Dongshan Old Street, Wushuiin

## Travel information

- ★ Alishan Forest Highway: Check with the Alishan National Scenic Area Administration ([www.ali-nsa.gov.tw](http://www.ali-nsa.gov.tw)) on railway service; the line is sometimes closed for repair after major weather events. The other major access route is Provincial Highway No. 18.
- ★ Dongpu, Zhenheyuan Hot Spring Cottage: 049-270-1588
- ★ Xingang, Famous Incense homestay: 05-374-7899
- ★ Beihe, Home of Third Uncle homestay: 06-685-5202



**Theme of tour : Delicious Tastes of West Taiwan**

**Team name : Satsuo-ne**

**Team leader : Yamamoto Yasue (Japan)**

**Team members : Imanishi Takhe, Iwaskao Hiromi (Japan)**

## Team's Recommendation

### Eating one's way through north, central, and south Taiwan

#### Chenghuang Temple and Snacks - Hsinchu

The Hsinchu City God Temple, completed in 1748 during the reign of the Qianlong emperor in the Qing Dynasty, is the center of religious practice for Hsinchu's people, bustling with sacrificial offerings and other activity for over 260 years. The snack-selling area in front of the temple is known throughout Taiwan, a place of many famous Hsinchu food specialties, notably Hsinchu meatballs, rice noodles, thick cuttlefish soup, and Zhuqian biscuits (Zhuqian is Hsinchu's original name). Some of the shops here have been in place more than 50 years.



#### Taiwan Beer Factory - Taichung

The Taiwan Beer Factory in Wuri has a history of 42 years, producing the famous Taiwan Beer, with its new Gold Medal beer winning praise since its 2003 introduction. Inside the brewery is a sales area where one can buy all sorts of beer and wine, including Taiwan Beer selections, Fruit Wine Vinegar, Red Grape Wine Vinegar, Special Class Kaoliang (a sorghum-based spirit), and commemorative wines. There is also an introduction to beer production and delicious snacks on sale, such as barbecue sausage prepared with the factory's products and Shaohsing Wine eggs.



#### Puli Brewery - Nantou

The quality of the water in the town of Puli is believed to be superior, and the Puli Brewery's Shaohsing Wine, made from rice, is one of Taiwan's iconic spirits. Its white distilled spirits and sakes are also very popular. In recent years Puli Winery has also introduced a range of new choices, notably Ailan Wine, established the Wine Culture Hall, and conducted wine-culture promotional activities to attract even more sightseers.



#### Shuangcheng Street - Taipei

Shuangcheng Street and its immediate environs has over 100 food stands operating daytime through nighttime, the booths neatly



arranged. Feast on famous traditional snacks such as goose meat, meat dumplings, three kinds of fried meat, and pig's knuckle noodles. Among the must-try vendors are "Ah-Hong's Black Bone Chicken," which has won first prize in a sesame chicken competition, and "A-Fu's Seafood Congee," declared champion in an Internet popularity contest.

#### Yujing Fruit Market - Tainan

Yujing Township, once the location of an indigenous settlement, has long been known for its cultivation of mangoes and enjoys the nickname "homeland of mangoes" as a result. The major types produced are native mango, Aiwon, and Jin Huang. In recent years systematic quality upgrading has been undertaken and new premium-quality varieties introduced. Fresh and tasty mangoes can be found at the Yujing Fruit Market, with the added bonus of very low prices.



## Itinerary

### DAY-1

Taiwan Taoyuan Int'l Airport  
→Hsinchu City God Temple  
→Taichung, Taiwan Beer Factory  
→Zhonghua Road Night Market



### DAY-2

Taichung, Chun Shui Tang (Bubble Tea), Tai Yang Tang (Sun Cakes)  
→Puli Brewery  
→Kaohsiung Milk King  
→Tainan, Tainan Snacks



### DAY-3

Tainan, Yujing Township  
→Yujing Fruit Market  
→Changhua, Food Treats  
→Taipei, Yongkang Street  
→Shuangcheng Street Food Stalls



### DAY-4

Taipei  
→Danshiu Old Street

## Travel information

- ★ Taiwan Beer Factory : [event.ttl-eshop.com.tw/wz](http://event.ttl-eshop.com.tw/wz)
- ★ Chun Shui Tang : [www.icetea.com.tw](http://www.icetea.com.tw)
- ★ Tai Yang Tang : 04-2222-2662
- ★ Puli Brewery : [event.ttl-eshop.com.tw/pl/index.aspx](http://event.ttl-eshop.com.tw/pl/index.aspx)
- ★ Kaohsiung Milk King : 07-561-5656; Yujing Farmers' Association : [www.ycta.org.tw](http://www.ycta.org.tw)
- ★ Shuangcheng Street : Head north along Zhongshan North Road in Taipei in the direction of Shilin District and turn right at Nongan Street; Shuangcheng is just one block away



## Movies and Art

Taiwan has a rich and diversified artistic environment combining the inheritance of 5,000 years of Chinese artistic cultural expression with the traditional cultural arts of Taiwanese society. This creative ferment is in evidence in everything you look at and everything you experience: folk festivals, religious practices, traditional handicraft skills... Forms of expression such as puppet shows, kneading of dough figurines, calligraphy and painting, Chinese knotwork, blowing candy, dragon-boat racing, and the releasing of "heavenly lanterns" each has its own unique style though emerging from a timeless cultural core. This is the source of "Taiwan charisma."

Taiwan is a key source in the Chinese-speaking world for new fashions and trends, and the leader in popular Chinese music. The Executive Yuan set up the Cultural Creativity Industry Development Plan to maintain and augment Taiwan's position as a cultural-industry center in Asia, and in recent years an innovative style of touring the country has emerged that combines sightseeing travel with the hunt for performance-industry idols and visits to movie and television shooting locations.

## 10 Movies and Art



**Theme of tour : On the Hunt for Soap Opera and MV Scenic Locations**

**Team name : Black and White in Kenting, Wayward Kenting**

**Team leader : Shen Ying-Shu (South Korea)**

**Team members : Lee Yu-Ching (South Korea)**

### Team's Recommendation

#### Collecting scenic shooting locations from popular dramas

##### Lotus Lake and Dream Mall - Kaohsiung

Lotus Lake was developed in 1976 and it is a must-see scenic spot in Kaohsiung. At the Dragon and Tiger Pagodas, one must enter from the mouth of the dragon and exit from the mouth of the tiger, which guarantees good luck. Scenes from the TV and film drama "Black and White" were shot at the Dream Mall, a large-scale shopping center. The Kaohsiung Eye ferris wheel atop the complex, with a height of 102 meters, is a romantic dating place.



##### Rose Basilica and True Love Ferry Pier - Kaohsiung

Scenes from the Taiwan television drama "Wish to See You Again" were shot at Rose Basilica and True Love Ferry Pier. Rose Basilica was the first Catholic church built in Taiwan. Its beautiful stained-glass windows are a popular backdrop for wedding photos. The True Love Ferry Pier, where the Love River empties into Kaohsiung Harbor, is marked by two large white sails emerging from a bed of flowers, attracting many tourists. Standing at the pier, one can appreciate the high-rise buildings and the excitement of seeing large oceangoing ships slowly squeezing into the harbor.



##### National Museum of Fine Arts - Taichung

Taichung's National Museum of Fine Arts was a shooting location for "The Hospital" television series. Many superb carvings are displayed in the plaza outside the museum, which is dedicated to collection and research on modern and contemporary art; it also presents regular exhibits and a constant stream of new shows. Nearby courtyard restaurants, set in a forest grove-type environment, are of distinctive characteristic, their atmosphere most charming at sunset.



##### Surfing - Kenting National Park

The television drama series "Wayward Kenting" was shot here, taking advantage of Kenting's blue skies and sea, the ideal holiday



(and film/TV shooting) location. In the daytime one go swimming and engage in fun watersports, and in the evening take a stroll along Kenting Road in the national park's main town, Kenting, which is filled with the sights, sounds, and aromas of Southeast Asia. The next day, go to Taiwan's southernmost point, Eluanbi, to visit its famous lighthouse or go surfing. In the evening enjoy a barbecue dinner under the palm trees while fanned by gentle sea breezes.

##### Sun Moon Lake Trails - Nantou

Scenes from the Korean drama "On Air" were shot at Sun Moon Lake. To get to the lake, situated in the Taiwan's high central mountains,



take a Nantou Bus Co. bus from the High Speed Rail station in Taichung. There are 14 different walking trails around Sun Moon Lake, giving intimate access to a variety of plant, animal, and insect habitats. One of the longer walks will take you to a Tea Improvement Station and the Sun Moon Lake Weather Station.



### Itinerary

#### DAY-1

Kaohsiung

→Lotus Lake

→Dream Mall

→Rose Basilica

→Love Boat

→True Love Ferry Pier



#### DAY-2

Zuoying

→Taichung, National

Taiwan Museum of Fine

Arts

→Sun Moon Lake



#### DAY-3

Sun Moon Lake

→Taiwan High Speed

Rail Taichung Station

→Zuoying Station,

Kaohsiung



#### DAY-4

Nanwan

→Eluanbi

### Travel information

- ★ Dream Mall Free Shuttle Bus: runs between KMRT Kaisyuan Station (R6) and Dream Mall, every 5-10 minutes
- ★ High Speed Rail Taichung Station Shuttle Bus Information: [www.thrsc.com.tw/to/travel/travel-station-taichung.asp](http://www.thrsc.com.tw/to/travel/travel-station-taichung.asp)
- ★ Weather Bureau Website: Gives detail on sunset times in Nantou
- ★ Kending Youth Activity Center: Entrance NT\$50, opening hours 6:30-17:00
- ★ Eluanbi Park: Entrance NT\$40, opening hours 6:30-18:00





Theme of tour : Taiwan Music Tour

Team name : Wafton

Team leader : Winnie Tsai (Taiwan)

Team members : Jon Renzelia (USA)

## Team's Recommendation

### Getting up close and intimate with Taiwan music

#### Indigenous Music - Nantou

Fourteen officially recognized indigenous tribes are spread across Taiwan. One of the best places to view the widest possible selection of the traditional songs and dances of these groups is the Formosan Aboriginal Culture Village, near Sun Moon Lake.

At the Naruwan Theater talented tribal members give enthusiastic demonstration of traditional sacrificial-offering music and dances, musical instruments, and costumes. Traditional millet wine is offered for taste-testing, and volunteers are brought up to join the performance. These large-scale shows invariably leave the audience with fond memories.



#### Techno Prince Battle Array - Taichung

The Third Prince Battle Array was originally a commonly seen performance at Taiwan temple festivals, the Third Prince a child divinity known as Nacha. In recent times it has been combined with electronic music, this new form quickly becoming especially popular in southern Taiwan and performed around the world. To see a performance, your best option is to attend a large-scale temple festival such as the annual Dajia Mazu Pilgrimage.



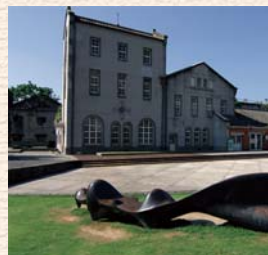
#### U Theatre and Performing Arts School 36 - Taipei

U Theater is one of Taiwan's most celebrated performance groups, its work known around the world. The troupe's facilities are on Laoquan Mountain in the city's south, where irregular performances are staged. Audiences thrill to the power of the drum performance in the natural mountain-forest setting. Performing Arts School 36, down off the mountain on Muxin Road, is a site for the study and staging of performing arts operated by U Theatre.



#### Huashan 1914 Creative Park - Taipei

The long-idle Taipei Brewery, once Taiwan's largest, has in recent times been renovated and reopened as the Huashan 1914 Creative



Park, featuring garden areas, green lawns, creative-design workshops, and a creative artist display center. Large-scale art and performance activities are often held here, including the Jump! and Simple Life music festivals, with many mainstream and indie performers taking the stage, complemented by creativity markets, movie showings, and other attractions.

#### Riverside Live House - Taipei

Riverside Live House, located in The Red House arts and culture complex in Taipei's youth-chic Ximending area, is a performance venue hosting well-known singers and rock-and-roll bands. Although the venue is not an expansive one, tickets are not expensive and audiences value the intimacy—even those sitting at the back tables have the feeling of being up close to the performers.



## Itinerary

### DAY-1

Taipei

→Muzha, Laoquan

Mountain

→U Theater



### DAY-2

Ximending

→Huashan 1914

Creative Park, Music

Festival



### DAY-3

Taipei

→Taichung

→Dajia Township,

Zhenlan Temple

→Nantou, Zhongliao

Township, Electronic

Music Three Princes

Battle Array



### DAY-4

Taichung

→Formosan Aboriginal

Culture Village, Sun

Moon Lake

## Travel information

- ★ Maokong : Take Maokong Gondola from Taipei Zoo, accessed via the Taipei MRT Wenhua Line
- ★ U Theatre : Mountain Theater has irregular performances; for details : <http://www.wretch/blog/utheatre>
- ★ Huashan 1914 Creative Park : No. 1, Bade Road, Sec. 1, Taipei; take the MRT Bannan Line (Blue Line), go to Exit No. 1 at Zhongxiao-Xinsheng Station, walk about three minutes
- ★ Riverside Live House : No. 177, Xining South Rd., Taipei; ticket prices NT\$250-NT\$500

## 10 Movies and Art



**Theme of tour : Looking for the Image of Formosa**

**Team name : Formosa in Images, Two-Person Summer Travel**

**Team leader : 502 (Hong Kong)**

**Team members : Fiona Au (Hong Kong)**

### Team's Recommendation

#### Action! Searching out Taiwan movie locations

##### Jiupeng Desert - Pingtung

The South American desert island scenes of the Taiwan movie "Amour Legendé" were in fact filmed in the Jiupeng Desert in Pingtung County. Imbued with the atmosphere of a farway foreign land, visitors soon forget that actually this is actually Taiwan. Although the temperatures are high here the winds are cool. A favorite tourist activity is to rent jeeps and race over the dunes.



##### "Black and White" Exclusive Half-Day Tour - Kaohsiung

This trip takes visitors on a grand tour of filming locations for Taiwan film and TV dramas. The tour starts at the bike-rental kiosk at Kaohsiung MRT Kaohsiung Arena Station. After renting your bicycle you head to the Kaohsiung Original Botanical Garden, riding along the trails and enjoying the many different plant species on display. Following this is a visit to the World Games Stadium, designed by Japanese architect Toyo Ito, followed by a jaunt to Lotus Lake to visit the famed Dragon and Tiger Pagodas before returning to Kaohsiung Arena. For those looking for more film background, the Kaohsiung Municipal Film Library has a good collection of Taiwanese movie information.



##### Kaohsiung Municipal Film Library - Kaohsiung

The scene in the movie "Sumimasen, Love" where the lead-role male and female meet was filmed at Kaohsiung Municipal Film Library. This is the first site for the promotion of video-art culture in southern Taiwan. The library operates as a "citizens cinema," with art-house films irregularly shown (free), exhibits on the film industry, and a wealth of materials on Taiwan film. Movies are constantly being screened during the library's hours of operation.



##### Madou and Tainan - Tainan

Madou Theatre is an old Baroque-style building built during the Japanese colonial period (1895-1945), and featured



prominently in a short film by well-known Taiwan director Hou Hsiao-hsien. Among the many well-known snack sellers in Tainan are Zhou Family Shrimp Rolls and Anping Douhua (Soybean Curd), and in the boisterous Huayuan (Flower Garden) Night market are lots of snacks, cold drinks, clothing, games to play, etc.

##### Winds of September - Hsinchu

Hsinchu was the main shooting location for the Taiwan movie "Winds of September." Among other things, at the city's Image Museum you will find many movie posters from works filmed in Hsinchu, information on movie-industry personalities who hailed from the city and area, and nostalgia-inducing equipment and other items from the industry. The facility was built in 1933 as the Yule Theater, the first air-conditioned theater in Taiwan. The mission of today's museum is to collect movie-related cultural articles and engage in education and promotion. In the nearby town of Zhudong, on the left side of Zhudong Railway Station is a large banyan tree that was another filming site for "Winds of September." Zhudong Senior High School was also used.



### Itinerary

#### DAY-1

Kenting National Park

→ Jiupeng Desert

→ Hengchun

→ Kaohsiung



#### DAY-2

"Black and White" Tour

→ Kaohsiung Municipal

Film Library

→ Tainan,

Madou Theatre

→ Tainan, Huayuan

Night Market

→ Kaohsiung



#### DAY-3

Kaohsiung

→ Hsinchu

→ Image Museum

→ Zhudong Senior High

School

→ City God Temple

→ Taipei



#### DAY-4

Taipei

→ Ruifang

→ Jingtung

→ Keelung, Miaokou

Night Market

→ Ximending

### Travel information

- ★ Southern Taiwan Tourist Passport: Issued at regular periods every year, bringing discounts on lodgings, meals, and entertainment in various counties and cities in southern Taiwan; for details, inquire with the Southern Taiwan Joint Service Centers (Executive Yuan): [www.sysc.ey.gov.tw](http://www.sysc.ey.gov.tw)
- ★ Car rental, Kending to Jiupeng: NT\$1500
- ★ Kaohsiung public bicycle rental stations: [bike.kog.gov.tw/index.aspx](http://bike.kog.gov.tw/index.aspx)
- ★ Kaohsiung Municipal Film Library: No. 19, Hexi Road, Yancheng, Kaohsiung; telephone 07-551-1211



Theme of tour : Exploring Rock and Roll in Taiwan

Team name : itamiya.net.asia

Team leader : Tetsui Watanabe (Japan)

Team members : Ryosuke Itamiya (Japan)

## Team's Recommendation

### Touring the palaces of rock and roll

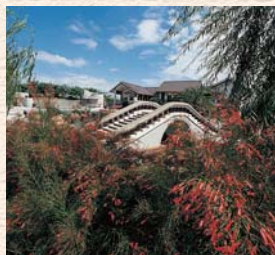
#### Taipei Live Houses - Taipei

A "live house" is a small music-performance venue that provides artists with an intimate performance stage. In Taipei there are many large and small live houses, and you'll find shows on every night of the week, each live house featuring a wholly different style. Among Taipei's best-known names are Nantai Gallery, Witch House, Underworld, The Wall, Legacy Taipei, Riverside Live House, and EZ5.



#### Sound Live House - Taichung

Sound Live House is a performance venue dedicated to art, culture, and music. It is divided into three areas. At the entrance is an arts and culture corridor, Left Art Exhibition Space. The second area is for lectures and other presentations on culture, art, and music, and the screening of independent films. The third area is a dynamic performance area with a large stage, the largest live house in Taichung.



#### Formosa Boulevard Station - Kaohsiung

Formosa Boulevard Station is the intersection point of the Red and Orange lines of Kaohsiung's mass rapid transit (KMRT) system, often called its "heart." Nearby are such well-known attractions as Zhongshan Road Wedding Salon Street, Zhongzheng Road Wedding Cake Street, Liuhe Night Market, and Nanhua Night Market. The entrance of the KMRT station is in the shape of a shell, evocative of "prayer." The large work of glass art here, the "Dome of Light," is the largest such work in the world, designed by Italian master Narcissus Quagliata.



#### Central Park - Kaohsiung

The city's Central Park occupies an area of 12 hectares, its boundaries defined by Zhongshan Road, Wufu Road, Zhonghua Road, and Minsheng Road. Originally called Rotary Park and Zhongshan Sports Park, the area has undergone a thorough makeover in recent years. Inside one can find tennis courts, basketball courts, a swimming pool, library, and a host of other facilities, including many small trails and an eco-pond.



#### Datong and Xin Jue Jiang Commercial Districts - Kaohsiung

Datong Commercial District was long one of the city's most popular shopping districts, but after a serious fire it went into a progressive decline. Today, however, with the KMRT system now in operation, hawkers and large department stores have located here, the crowds have returned, and there has been an attractive renaissance. The Xin Jue Jiang Commercial District is home to many fashionable shops and boutiques targeting the youth crowd, joined by myriad sellers of traditional snacks and trendy cinemas.



## Itinerary

### DAY-1

Taiwan Taoyuan Int'l

Airport

→Ximengs Record

Shops



### DAY-2

Taichung

→Sound Live House



### DAY-3

Kaohsiung

→Formosa Boulevard

Station

→Central Park

→Datong Commercial

District, Xin Jue Jiang

Commercial District

→JOIN Us Live House



### DAY-4

Ximending

→Huashan 1914

Creative Park

## Travel information

- ★ Sound Live House : [www.soundlivehouse.com](http://www.soundlivehouse.com)
- ★ JOIN Us : [join-us-live.blogspot.com](http://join-us-live.blogspot.com)
- ★ Kaohsiung Travel Online : [khh.travel/tw](http://khh.travel/tw)
- ★ Huashan 1914 Creative Park : [www.huashan1914.com](http://www.huashan1914.com)



**Theme of tour : Music and Dance Culture**

**Team name : Sound of Taiwan**

**Team leader : Yi Chen (Australia)**

**Team members : Emma Yue Zhao (Australia)**

## Team's Recommendation

### Experiencing the beauty of Taiwan art

#### Hot Spring Fish Experience - Taipei

"Hot spring fish" also have other attractive names—"spa fish" and "doctor fish"—because they eat dead skin and bacteria on the body of bathers, which is believed in various quarters to be a good treatment for skin diseases and scars. This type of gentle treatment has progressively become more popular, and many hot-spring resorts have brought in this kind of fish hoping to solicit more customers. If you are interested in this unique type of massage for the feet, head to the Wulai hot-spring area in Taipei County.



#### Wulai Cable Car - Taipei

The Wulai Cable Car has been in operation since 1967, and was the first cable car in Taiwan. It is one of the main modes of transportation to Yun Hsien Holiday Resort. The cable car crosses over the Nanshi River Valley; its total length 320 meters, and its maximum height is 165 meters. From the cable car you get stunning views of the tall Wulai Falls and Yunlong Falls.



#### Taipei Artist Village - Taipei

Taipei Artist Village is located on Beiping East Road in a building erected in 1953. In former days the facility was used by the Taipei City Government's Maintenance Engineering Public Works Bureau and the Taipei Rapid Transit Corporation. In 2001 the city's Cultural Affairs Bureau took over the building, planning an international artists' village following models in New York, Paris, and London. Open to visitors, at present the village has 13 artists' studios, and also provides space for dance practice, piano practice, and exhibits.



#### Yun Hsien Holiday Resort - Taipei

Yun Hsien Holiday Resort is 500 meters above sea level, set amidst a lush world of forests, streams, and rich animal and plant habitat. It



is perched right at the top of Wulai Falls and is reached by the Wulai Cable Car; the cable car brushes past the falls, a place of great scenic beauty. The resort features Yun Hsien Lake, the forest-area Yun Hsien Physical Training Ground, Flowing Stream area, Youth Activity Center, Yunging Lake, Forest Bath area, and Yun Hsien Hotel and Villa area. This is a wonderful getaway spot for relaxation of body, mind, and soul.

#### MOCA Taipei - Taipei

The Museum of Contemporary Art Taipei is housed in an official heritage site that was built in 1921. The building was first home to the Jiancheng Elementary School during the Japanese occupation period, and later served as Taipei City Hall for many years. In 2001 it became an art exhibit venue dedicated to multimedia contemporary arts, displaying photography, video installations, architectural works, and graphic design. Speeches and talks are held here on an irregular basis, as well as guided art tours, seminars, and other activities.



## Itinerary

### DAY-1

Taipei

→Wulai Hot Spring

Fish Experience (Cloud Bath)

→Wulai Cable Car

→Yun Hsien Holiday Resort

→Wulai Aboriginal Village



### DAY-2

Taipei

→Taichung

→Fengjia Night Market



### DAY-3

Taipei Artist Village

→Museum of Contemporary Art

Taipei

→Roxy Roots



### DAY-4

Taipei 101

→Ximending

## Travel information

- ★ Cloud Bath : 02-2661-6095
- ★ Yun Hsien Holiday Resort : 8:30-17:00, full admission NT\$220 (including cable car)
- ★ Wulai Cable Car : 7:00-22:00, one run every 10 minutes
- ★ Wulai Aboriginal Village : 02-2651-6551
- ★ Taipei Artist Village : [www.artistvillage.org](http://www.artistvillage.org)
- ★ Museum of Contemporary Art Taipei : [www.mocataipei.org.tw](http://www.mocataipei.org.tw)
- ★ Roxy Roots : [www.roxy.com.tw/xh/home/roxy-roots](http://www.roxy.com.tw/xh/home/roxy-roots)

## 10 Movies and Art



Theme of tour : Taiwan Movie Location Tour

Team name : Taiwan Explore

Team leader : Nobuhiro Awata (Japan)

Team members : Yoshiro Osaka (Japan)

## Team's Recommendation

### Looking for Taiwan to touch one's heart

#### Erkan Village - Penghu

Erkan Village in Xiyu Township is a site where traditional architecture has been retained. Apart from being proclaimed one of Penghu's top 10 historic architecture sites, it is among Taiwan's top 100. By design, most of the structures in the village are higher than Erxing Temple, the only temple here. The most famous scenic spot is the Chen Family Historical House, which is rich in well-crafted stone and wood carvings, books and paintings, and other elements of an earlier age, and is listed as a Grade 3 Historic Site.



#### SPOT-Taipei Film House - Taipei

SPOT Taipei, located on Zhongshan North Road, was in an earlier role the US Embassy. A two-story white-stucco residence in the US antebellum style, after thorough renovation it has become an art space devoted mainly to movie culture. There is a small cinema for the screening of arthouse films, a popular cafe with outdoor and indoor areas, an Eslite Bookstore, corridor display area, and multi-functional arts and culture events hall.



#### Magong - Penghu

The small city of Magong was once a walled city, walls and gates erected in 1887 during the Qing Dynasty to improve the defensive capabilities of the Penghus. This was the earliest settlement of the Han Chinese in what is today the territory of Taiwan. Magong is the seat of the Penghu County government, and most schools and hotels are concentrated here. There are many well-known historical, cultural, and natural scenic spots in the city, and the waterfront is site of the popular annual Penghu Fireworks Festival, which attracts many tourists each summer.



#### Scenes from "The Boys from Fenggui" at Fenggui - Penghu

Fenggui is located at the end of a peninsula that bears the same name. The natural blowholes here are collectively called "fenggui" or "wind cabinet," reference to a type of Chinese organ. The location is known for the sound of its waves, the blowholes on the shore, and the whistling sound that is produced when the waves recede from the blowholes and suck air down through them. The fame of this place rose greatly after the release of a movie by well-known Taiwan director Hou Hsiao-hsien, "The Boys from Fenggui," in 1983. In the vicinity is the Lingde King Wen Temple, a plague god temple that is more than 200 years old and said to be highly efficacious. Check out the unusual "plague god boat" housed within.



#### Wangan - Penghu

Wangan Island is located in the southern area of the Penghu Islands, part of a cluster of 18 islands of which only six, including Wangan, are inhabited. There is a long strip of white-sand beach here that attracts many visitors. On summer nights green turtles come ashore here to lay eggs. In the vicinity of Tanmen Harbor is the Green Turtle Tourism and Conservation Center, the building itself in the shape of a giant sea turtle.



## Itinerary

### DAY-1

Beitou

→SPOT Taipei Film

House

→Zhongshan North

Road



### DAY-2

Taipei Songshan Airport

→Magong City



### DAY-3

Magong

→Fenggui

→Wangan

→Erkan



### DAY-4

Magong

→Taipei Songshan

Airport

→Shilin Night Market

## Travel information

- ★ SPOT Taipei Film House : [www.spot.org.tw](http://www.spot.org.tw)
- ★ Penghu County Tourism Bureau : [www.penghu.gov.tw/11tourism](http://www.penghu.gov.tw/11tourism)
- ★ Penghu National Scenic Area : [www.penghu-nsa.gov.tw](http://www.penghu-nsa.gov.tw)
- ★ Wangan Island: The Hengan and Guangzheng vessels sail between Magong and Wangan; Hengan 06-927-0334, Guangzheng 06-999-1201
- ★ Beitou Hot Springs: Take MRT to Xinbeitou Station; the Beitou Hot Springs area is just beyond

## 10 Movies and Art



Theme of tour : Taiwan Contemporary Art Trends

Team name : Inspired Artists

Team leader : Derek Murphy(USA)

Team members : Yang Zhe Lan (Taiwan)

### Team's Recommendation

#### Heritage architecture and the beauty of art

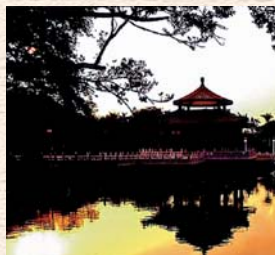
##### Confucius Temple - Tainan

The Tainan Confucius Temple, also called Wen (Literature) Temple, was built in 1661. This is the oldest temple in Taiwan and is a Grade 1 historic site. The layout of the temple is a three-court complex. During the birthday of Confucius on September 28 every year, a grand ceremony is held in which the ancient rituals are followed, attracting many tourists both local and foreign.



##### Tainan Park - Tainan

Tainan Park, formerly named Zhongshan Park, was originally the site of a Japanese-established tropical-flora research station. This was the first green space in Tainan laid out in keeping with modern park-design concepts. At the side of Swallow Pond is the Zhongdao Wenfang Archway, a stone archway built in the Qing Dynasty and today a National Grade 3 historic site. In recent years the city government has planted a great many flowers of different species here, with boisterous blooms adding to the colorful park ambience during the various flower seasons.



##### Chikan Towers - Tainan

The site today occupied by Chikan Towers, where one can examine the ruins of Fort Provintia, which was built by the Dutch in 1653, underwent many changes during the Ming Dynasty, Qing Dynasty, and Japanese occupation period. The site is very beautiful, the grounds featuring stone animals and nine imperial tablets with calligraphy in the Manchu script. When the lights come on at night this site becomes especially charming.



##### Anping Fort and Yanping Old Street -

Tainan

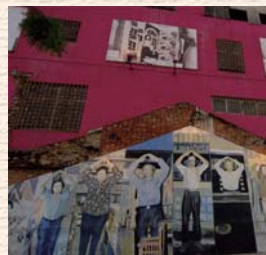
Anping Fort is the site of the ruins of the Dutch-built Fort Zeelandia, started in 1624, called Fort of the Red-haired Barbarians by the locals.

This was the first fort built in Taiwan, and is today a Grade 1 historic site. Yanping Old Street, said to be the first street of Taiwan, is beside Anping Fort, with numerous vendors selling old-style snacks and toys. This area is especially crowded with people during holiday periods.



##### Haian Road Art Street - Tainan

Haian Road already existed during the Japanese occupation period, when it was a busy thoroughfare. Afterwards, due to underground construction that caused damage to cultural relics and the urban landscape, the area went into decline. A renaissance has occurred in recent years, however, and today this street has a new appearance, with installation artists, landscape artists, painters, photographers, and architects setting up shop here and with cafes and other chic places also opening, bringing a decidedly international flair.



### Itinerary

#### DAY-1

Cheng Kung University

→Beimen Road

→Tainan Park

→Confucius Temple

→ Zhongzheng Road

Commercial District



#### DAY-2

Chikan Towers

→Anping Fort

→Yanping Old Street

→Haian Road Art Street



#### DAY-3

Taipei

→Art Taipei (Taipei

World Trade Center)



#### DAY-4

Ximending

→Tianmu

### Travel information

- ★ Tainan Tourism : [map.tncc.gov.tw](http://map.tncc.gov.tw)
- ★ Tainan Park : Beimen Road and Gongyuan Road
- ★ Tainan Confucius Temple : No. 1, Lane 5, Zhongzheng Road
- ★ Chikan Towers : opening hours 8:30-21:30; entrance NT\$30
- ★ Anping Fort : opening hours 8:30-21:30; entrance NT\$40
- ★ Art Taipei : [www.art-taipei.com](http://www.art-taipei.com)



## The Best Trip in the World - Discover 50 Interesting Travel Itineraries

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