



Part

General Information



General Information

Geography

Population: 23,452,387

Area: 36,192.8155 km²

Language: Mandarin, Taiwanese dialect



Others

- Drives on Right
- International calling code +886
- Electricity 110 volt
- Wall socket shown as picture
- Tap water isn't drinkable, boiled or bottled water is recommended.

Climate

Type:

Tropical monsoon

Raining season:

May – Early June (mold rain)

July – September (typhoon)

December – February (monsoon, in Northern Taiwan including Taipei)

Temperature:

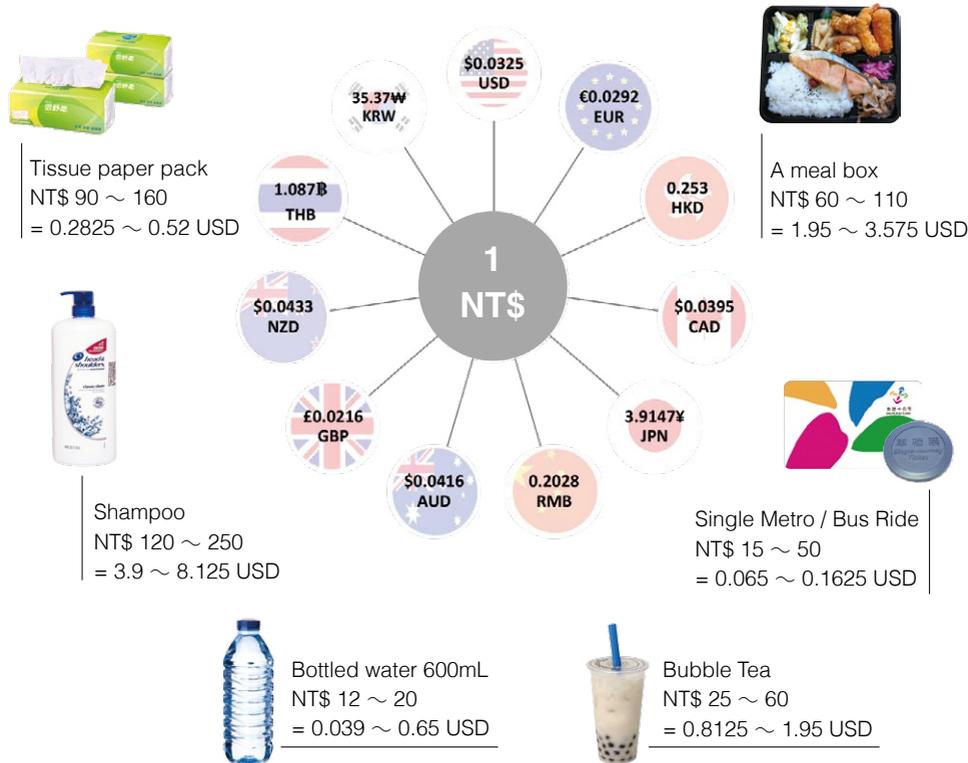
Average Summer

29 – 30°C / 84.2 – 86°F

Average winter

15 – 16°C / 59 – 60.8°F, can drop to 10°C / 50°F

Currency Exchange & Price Estimation of Daily Goods



Application Information for Alien Resident Certificate (ARC)

1. Foreigners holding resident visa or changing to resident visa should go to local immigration service center to apply for alien resident certificates within 15 days counted from the next day of arrival or the next day of receiving resident visa in Taiwan.
2. Application form can be found at <https://www.immigration.gov.tw/public/Data/09216474271.pdf>
More information on ARC application or extension can be found at <http://www.immigration.gov.tw/ct.asp?xitem=1090287&ctNode=30085&mp=2>

How to Get to TMU

Departure	Destination	Transportation	Route
Taiwan Taoyuan International Airport	TMU main campus	1. Taxi	Taxis operating by shifts are located at the west side of the Terminal 1's and Terminal 2's Arrivals Lobby at the Taiwan Taoyuan International Airport. For more information, please refer to https://www.taoyuan-airport.com/english/taxi
		2. Taoyuan Airport Metro → Taipei Metro	Take Taoyuan Airport MRT to Taipei Main Station (A1), and transfer to Taipei Metro Tamsui-Xinyi Line (Red Line) to Taipei 101/World Trade Center station (R03). For more information on Taoyuan Airport MRT, please see https://www.taoyuan-airport.com/english/taoyuan_metro
		2. CitiAir Bus 1960 → TMU free shuttle bus	Take CitiAir Bus 1960 at Terminal 1 or 2 at Taoyuan International Airport, and get off at MRT Taipei City Hall Station / City Hall Bus Station, then take TMU free shuttle bus (Taipei City Hall line). For TMU shuttle bus schedule, please refer to chapter 2 of this handbook.

Postal Services



If you want to send a postcard back home, you have to stick a NT\$13 stamp on the postcard then drop it in the red mailbox on the road.

Postage rates will vary depending on your destination. You can visit post office for further assistance.

Banking

Postal Banking Services

The post office system in Taiwan provides banking services as well. Applicant should present a valid residency permit and passport. Applicants without a valid permit are required to present a "Record of ID Number in the Republic of China."

More information can be inquired at

http://www.post.gov.tw/post/internet/U_english/index.jsp?ID=24030101

Inquiry hotline: 02-2388-9393 and 0800-024-111

Medical Insurance

National Health Insurance

Foreign nationals who are legal residents of Taiwan should enroll in the National Health Insurance program upon living in Taiwan for 6 months of continuous residence in Taiwan. Foreign students can apply to enroll in the program through their school.

Mobile services

Main network service providers in Taiwan include:

- **Chunghwa Telecom** <https://www.cht.com.tw/en/home/cht>
- **Far Eastone** https://www.fetnet.net/cs/Satellite/eCorporate/ecoPD1_1_1
- **Taiwan Mobile** <https://english.taiwanmobile.com/>
- **Asia Pacific Telecom** <http://ir.aptg.com.tw/en/index.htm>
- **T Star** <https://www.tstartel.com/static/twcard/en/index.htm>

Emergency Numbers

Universal Emergency Number	112
*Call when network service is unavailable	
Fire or Emergency Aid	119
Police Office	110
Phone Number Lookup	104

Woman Association Taxi

Woman Association Taxi
02-2766-2222
Fanya Taxi
02-8501-1122
Taiwan Taxi
55688
M Taxi
55178



Part

Campus Area Guide



Traffic Information



TMU hospital shuttle bus stop is at "ii. Hospital Entrance".

Shuttle Bus Schedule (Free)

TMUH ↔ MRT Taipei City Hall station

	TMUH	City Hall Station		TMUH	City Hall Station
* 1A	7:00	07:05 - 07:10	* 41A	13:40	13:35 - 13:40
* 2B	7:10	07:15 - 07:20	* 42B	13:50	13:45 - 13:50
* 3C	7:20	07:25 - 07:30	* 43C	14:00	13:55 - 14:00
* 4D	7:30	07:35 - 07:45	* 44D	14:10	14:05 - 14:10
* 5A	7:40	07:45 - 07:50	* 45A	14:20	14:15 - 14:20
* 6B	7:50	07:55 - 08:00	* 46B	14:30	14:25 - 14:30
* 7C	8:00	08:05 - 08:10	* 47C	14:40	14:35 - 14:40
* 8D	8:10	08:15 - 08:20	* 48D	14:50	14:45 - 14:50
* 9A	8:20	08:25 - 08:30	* 49A	15:00	14:55 - 15:00
* 10B	8:30	08:35 - 08:40	* 50B	15:10	15:05 - 15:10
* 11C	8:40	08:45 - 08:50	* 51C	15:20	15:15 - 15:20
* 12D	8:50	08:55 - 09:00	* 52D	15:30	15:25 - 15:30
* 13A	9:00	09:05 - 09:10	* 53A	15:40	15:35 - 15:40
* 14B	9:10	09:15 - 09:20	* 54B	15:50	15:45 - 15:50
* 15C	9:20	09:25 - 09:30	* 55C	16:00	15:55 - 16:00
* 16D	9:30	09:35 - 09:40	56D	16:10	16:05 - 16:10
* 17A	9:40	09:45 - 09:50	57B	16:20	16:15 - 16:20
* 18B	9:50	09:55 - 10:00	58C	16:30	16:25 - 16:30
* 19C	10:00	10:05 - 10:10	59D	16:40	16:35 - 16:40
* 20D	10:10	10:15 - 10:20	60A	16:50	16:45 - 16:50
* 21A	10:20	10:25 - 10:30	61C	17:00	16:55 - 17:00
* 22B	10:30	10:35 - 10:40	62D	17:10	17:05 - 17:10
* 23C	10:40	10:45 - 10:50	63A	17:20	17:15 - 17:20
* 24D	10:50	10:55 - 11:00	64B	17:30	17:25 - 17:30
* 25B	11:00	11:05 - 11:10	65D	17:40	17:35 - 17:40
* 26C	11:10	11:15 - 11:20	66A	17:50	17:45 - 17:50
* 27D	11:20	11:25 - 11:30	67B	18:00	17:55 - 18:00
* 28A	11:30	11:35 - 11:40	68C	18:10	18:05 - 18:10
* 29C	11:40	11:45 - 11:50	69A	18:20	18:15 - 18:20
* 30D	11:50	11:50 - 12:00	70B	18:30	18:25 - 18:30
* 31A	12:00	12:05 - 12:10	71C	18:40	18:35 - 18:40
* 32B	12:10	12:20 - 12:25	72D	18:50	18:45 - 18:50
* 33D	12:20	12:25 - 12:30	73A	19:00	18:55 - 19:00
* 34A	12:30	12:35 - 12:40	74B	19:10	19:05 - 19:10
* 35B	12:40	12:45 - 12:50	75C	19:20	19:15 - 19:20
* 36C	12:50	12:55 - 13:00	76D	19:30	19:25 - 19:30
* 37A	13:00	13:05 - 13:10	L	20:00	19:35 - 19:40
* 38B	13:10	13:15 - 13:20	L	20:30	20:35 - 20:40
* 39C	13:20	13:25 - 13:30	L	21:00	21:05 - 21:10
* 40D	13:30	13:35 - 13:40	L	21:30	21:35 - 21:40

TMUH ↔ Songshan Train Station

TMUH	Songshan Station
	7:30
	7:40
8:20	9:00
9:05	9:45
9:40	10:20
10:20	11:00
11:05	11:45
11:40	12:20
12:20	13:00
13:05	13:45
13:40	14:20
14:20	15:00
15:05	15:45
15:40	16:20
16:20	17:00
17:20	18:00
17:40	18:20
18:40	19:20
19:05	19:45
20:05	20:45
20:25	

Shuttle Bus Schedule (Free)

**TMUH ↔
Liuzhangli Station**

TMUH	Liuzhangli MRT
8:00	8:10
8:15	8:25
8:30	8:40
8:45	8:55
9:00	9:10
9:15	9:25
9:30	9:40
9:45	9:55
10:00	10:10
10:15	10:25
10:30	10:40
10:45	10:55
11:00	11:10
11:15	11:25
11:45	11:55
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13:00	13:10
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15:30	15:40
16:00	16:10
16:15	16:25
16:30	16:40
16:45	16:55
17:00	17:10
17:15	17:25
17:30	17:40
17:45	17:55
18:00	18:10
18:30	18:40
19:00	19:10
19:30	19:40
20:00	20:10
20:30	20:40

**TMU Main Campus ↔
Daan Campus**

Monday — Friday		Saturday	
TMU	Daan Campus	TMU	Daan Campus
7:30	7:40	7:30	7:40
7:45	7:55	7:40	7:50
8:00	8:10	7:50	8:00
8:15	8:25	8:00	8:10
8:30	8:40	8:10	8:20
8:45	8:55	8:20	8:30
9:00	9:10	8:30	8:40
9:20	9:30	8:50	9:00
9:40	9:50	9:10	9:20
10:00	10:10	9:30	9:40
10:20	10:30	9:50	10:00
10:40	10:50	10:10	10:20
11:00	11:10	10:30	10:40
11:20	11:30	10:50	11:00
11:35	11:45	11:10	11:20
11:50	12:00	11:30	11:40
12:05	12:15	11:40	11:50
12:20	12:30	11:50	12:00
12:35	12:45	12:00	12:10
12:55	13:05		
13:15	13:25		
13:35	13:45		
13:55	14:05		
14:15	14:25		
14:35	14:45		
14:55	15:05		
15:15	15:25		
15:35	15:45		
15:55	16:05		
16:15	16:25		
16:35	16:45		
16:55	17:05		
17:15	17:25		
17:35	17:45		
17:55	18:05		
18:15	18:25		
18:35	18:45		
18:55	19:05		
19:15	19:25		
19:35	19:35		
19:55	20:05		

Transportation Around TMU Main Campus



This is the list of bus lines you may find at the bus stop that serves Taipei Medical University on Zhuang Jing Rd.

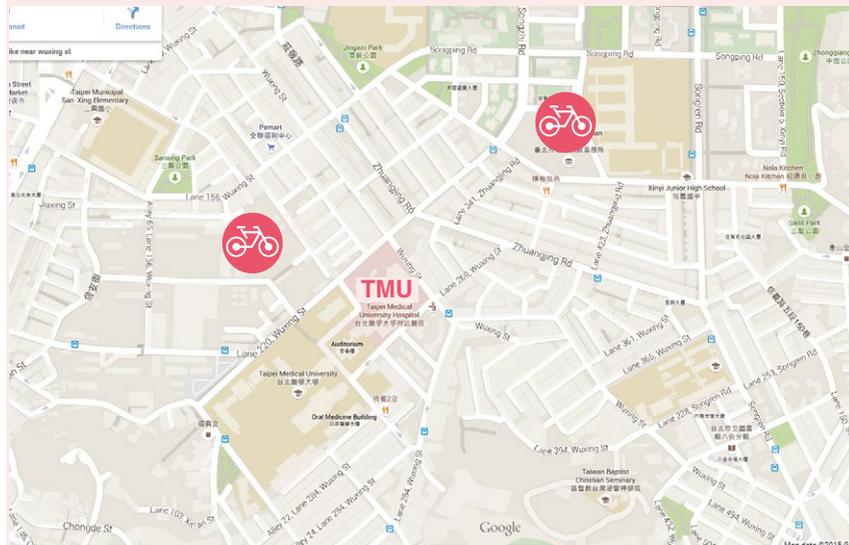
Bus Line	Origin	Destination	Bus Route
1	Wanhua	Songren Road	TMU → George Vocational High School(TMU Da' an Campus) → MRT Liuzhangli Station(BR07) → MRT Gongguan Station(G07) → MRT Taipower Building Station(G08) → MRT Guting Station(G09/O05) → MRT Longshan Temple Station(BL10)
22	Wuxing Street	Hengyang Road	TMU → MRT Xinyi Anhe Station(R04) → MRT Daan Station(R05/BR09) → MRT Daan Park Station(R06) → MRT Dongmen Station(R07/O06) → Taipei Main Station
33	Yongchun Senior High School	Miramar	TMU → MRT Xinyi Anhe Station(R04) → MRT Zhongxiao Dunhua(BL16) → Nanjing & Dunhua Intersection (Taipei Arena) → MRT Dazhi Station(BR14) → MRT Jiannan Rd. Station(BR15) → Miramar(Miramar Ferris wheel)
37	Songde Stop	MRT NTU Hospital Station	TMU → Sun Yat-Sen Memorial Hall → MRT National Taiwan University Hospital Station(R09) → Taipei Main Station
226	Sanchong	Wuxing Street	TMU → MRT Xinyi Anhe Station(R04) → MRT Daan Station(R05/BR09) → MRT Zhongxiao Xincheng Station(BL14/O07) → Guang Hua Digital Plaza → MRT Songjiang Nanjing Station(G15/O08) → MRT Xingtian Temple Station(O09) → MRT Zhongshan Elementary School Station(O10) → MRT Minquan West Rd. Station(O11/R13) → MRT Sanchong Elementary School Station(O50)
Chengde Metro Bus (266)	Xinbeitou	MRT Taipei City Hall Station	TMU → Sun Yat-Sen Memorial Hall → MRT Sun Yat-Sen Memorial Hall Station(BL17) → Nanjing & Dunhua Intersection (Taipei Arena) → MRT Nanjing Fuxing Station(G16/BR11) → MRT Songjiang Nanjing Station(G15/O08) → MRT Zhongshan Station(G14/R11) → MRT Jiantan Station(R15) → MRT Zhishan Station(R17)
288(Sub)	Taipei Children's Amusement Park	Wuxing Street	TMU → Sun Yat-Sen Memorial Hall → MRT Sun Yat-Sen Memorial Hall Station(BL17) → Nanjing & Dunhua Intersection (Taipei Arena) → MRT Nanjing Fuxing Station(G16/BR11) → MRT Songjiang Nanjing Station(G15/O08) → MRT Zhongshan Station(G14/R11) → MRT Daqiaotou Station(O12) → Taipei Children's Amusement Park
Blue 5	Wuxing Street	MRT Taipei City Hall Station	TMU → Taipei 101 → Taipei City Hall → MRT Taipei City Hall Station(BL18)
Citizen MiniBus M7	Linguang New Village	MRT Taipei City Hall Station	Taipei City Hall → MRT Taipei City Hall Station(BL18) → Taipei 101 → Taipei Medical University Hospital



Ubike

Ubike is a new lifestyle in Taipei. Rent bikes using your transit "EasyCard" and return them wherever you want to go. TMU's rental station with available Ubikes looks like this.

The map shows Ubike rental & return places near TMU. Check if your destination provides Ubike renting and parking services at <http://taipei.youbike.com.tw/en/f11.php>

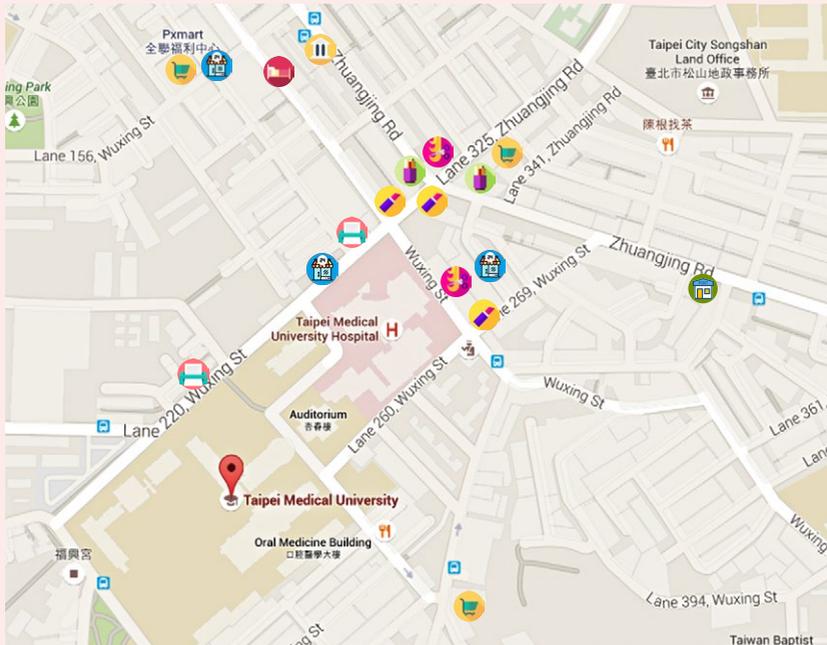


Metro / MRT (Mass Rapid Transit)

In Taipei, the MRT is the most convenient transportation, which provides access to many tourist attractions without worries about traffic delays. Below is the map of Taipei MRT lines.



Daily Essentials



-  → Supermarkets
-  → Books & Stationery
-  → Copies & Printing
-  → Hair Salons
-  → Cosmetics
-  → Banks
-  → Post Office
-  → Convenient store
-  → Bedding store

Taipei Xinyi Sports Center 信義運動中心

Address: No. 100, Songqin St, Xinyi District, Taipei City, 110

Opening Hours: 6 A.M.~10 P.M.

Phone Number: (02) 8786-1191

Cost: NT\$ 50/hr (Fitness Center)
NT\$ 110 (Swimming pool)



Other Places for sport & exercise

(1) TMU



- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 Outdoor Multi-purpose Court | 6 Mushan Dormitory |
| 2 Basketball Court | 7 Oral Medicine Building |
| 3 Volleyball Court | 8 Comprehensive Building (Back Building) |
| 4 Tennis Court | 9 Comprehensive Building (Front Building) |
| 5 Gym (Fitness Center/Swimming Pool/Indoor Multi-purpose Court) | |

(2) WuXing Elementary School

Address: 110 台北市信義區松仁路 226 號
(No. 226, Songren Rd, Xinyi District, Taipei City, 110)

(3) Xinyi Elementary School

Address: 110 台北市信義區松勤街 60 號
(No. 60, Songqin St, Xinyi District, Taipei City, 110)

TMU Information

Important Administrative Offices

1. Office of Global Engagement

Location: 4F, Comprehensive (Front) Building

Website: <http://oge.tmu.edu.tw/>

2. Office of Academic Affairs

Location: 4F, Comprehensive (Back) Building

Website: <http://aca.tmu.edu.tw/main.php> (Chinese site)

3. Office of Student Affairs

Location: 3F, Comprehensive (Front) Building

Website: <http://osa.tmu.edu.tw/bin/home.php> (Chinese site)

4. Office of Information Technology

Location: 16F, TMU Da'an Campus

Website: <http://oit.tmu.edu.tw/> (Chinese site)

TMU Prayer Room Location

1. B1, Comprehensive (back) building
2. 7F, Comprehensive (back) building
3. 13F, Health science building

TMU Housing

TMU provides several dormitory options, which include on-campus Mushan dorm and 5 off-campus International Student Dormitories.

[International Student Dormitory (Shared apartment)]

Dorm A and Dorm K are reserved for men; Dorm C, Dorm F and Dorm G are reserved for women. All are located near the TMU campus. The facilities and equipment include bathrooms, mattresses, desks, chairs, wardrobes, AC, Wi-Fi, and hot water. A residential assistant manager assists and deals with tenant needs in each dormitory.

[Mushan Dormitory]

For more on campus housing information, please refer to Student Affairs Office. <http://osa.tmu.edu.tw/files/11-1001-389.php>

For additional information, please refer to: <http://oge.tmu.edu.tw/degree-students/housing/>

Campus Map



Root and Streets

- A. 220 Lane, Wu Xing Street
- B. Wu Xing Street
- C. 248 Lane, Wu Xing Street
- D. 22 Alley, 284 Lane, Wu Xing Street

Entrances

- i. University entrance
- ii. Hospital entrance
- iii. Ambulance entrance

Building

1. Health Science Building
2. Auditorium
3. Comprehensive Building (Front)
4. Comprehensive Building (Back)
5. Oral Medicine Building
6. Instruction Building
7. Medical Laboratory Science and Biotechnology Building A.
8. Medical Laboratory Science and Biotechnology Building B.
9. Morphology Building
10. Gymnasium
11. Mu Shan Dormitory
12. First Building, Taipei Medical University Hospital
13. Second building, Taipei Medical University Hospital
14. Third building, Taipei Medical University Hospital

Instruction Building: Classroom 2101~2304 (No.6)

Health Science Building: Classroom 3001~3201 (No.1)

Auditorium: Classroom 6201~6204 (No.2)

Comprehensive Building (Back Building): Classroom 8001~8007 (No.4)

*The first number indicates the building

The second number represents the floor of the classroom

The third+fourth number is the number of the classroom

The library is at the 2F of the Comprehensive Building (Back Building) (4 in the above map)

There is a 7-11 in the Comprehensive Building (Front Building) (3), a food court at B1 of Comprehensive Building (Back Building) (4), a swimming pool in the B1 of the Gymnasium (10), and the Mu Shan dormitory(11)



Part

4

Taiwan
Introduction



Exploring the Amazing Taiwan

The most beautiful scenery in Taiwan is the kindness of our people

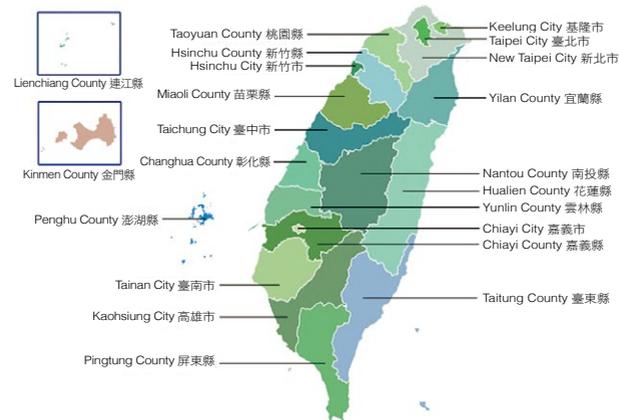
Geography&Climate

Holding the Best Position

Taiwan, officially the Republic of China, is about the size of 36,000 square kilometers (14,400 square miles), and the population is around 23 million indicating high density. It is shaped like a sweet potato that is narrow at both ends. It lies off the southeastern coast of China, across the Taiwan Strait, and plays a dominant role while sailing towards the Pacific Ocean. To the north is Japan and to the south lies the Philippines. The uniqueness of the position provides lots of endemic species with a wonderful territory.

Perceiving Tropical Sunshine

Taiwan enjoys warm weather all year round. Weather conditions fluctuate during spring and winter, while in summer and autumn the weather is relatively stable. Taiwan is extremely suitable for traveling, as the annual average temperature is a comfortable 22 degrees Celsius with the lowest temperatures in the lowlands generally ranging from 12 to 17 degrees Celsius (54-63 Fahrenheit). With the exception of a few mountain areas, no snow can be seen in Taiwan. When visiting Taiwan during the "plum rains" season of daily downpours, remember to carry an umbrella. Although it might seem romantic to have a stroll in the rain, it is mood-ruining to travel when you're soaking wet. During the summer (June to August), typhoons sometimes hit the country.



We suggest you to keep an eye on weather reports because weather conditions are often unpredictable, especially when typhoons hit Taiwan. In addition, the roaring waves along the coast are not to be regarded as one of Taiwan's tourist scenes. During autumn (September to October), you can enjoy the cool and comfortable weather, while Taiwan's winters are relatively warm and short (November to February). The sporadic cold fronts that reach Taiwan are greatly welcomed by the island's hot-spring lovers. In short, Taiwan, where it always seems to be spring, is a perfect travel destination!

History

Multicultural + Multiracial + Multilingual = Beauty of Taiwan

The first time Taiwan was recognized during 16th century when the Portugueses sailed by, as soon as they took a glance this emerald-green island, they blurted out: "Formosa!", which means gorgeous in Portuguese.

Half of the 17th Century, the Dutch and the Spanish occupied Taiwan and the former established a presence at Anping (in modern-day Tainan city) while the latter held Tamsui and built Fort San Domingo, a renowned historical site. Not only conducting missionary activities, but in severe competition for commercial trade, during this period, the Europeans casted greedy eyes on Taiwanese natural resources and fertility. They also recruited Han Chinese immigrants from the Chinacoast, leading to the multicultural history of Taiwan. The short-lived Cheng (Koxinga) regime overthrew the Dutch and laid the firm foundation of Han culture in Taiwan.

In the late 19th century, further imperialism touched the shores of Taiwan. Japan invaded Taiwan and Taiwan remained under Japanese rule for 50 years. During that time Taiwan began to modernize, for the Japanese introducing novel weapon, agricultural technology and sanitary system. Taiwan was released from being colony after Japan lost the World War I I . Economy in Taiwan experienced rapid growth and industrialization, the economic miracle, and the island embarked on a direct vote for the president, showing the mature of Taiwanese political democratization. Today, Taiwan is proud of its excellent infrastructure, convenient transportation system, and high-quality communication services by virtue of the perseverance and resilient efforts of its people.

Religion

For the most part, the traditional religions practiced in Taiwan are Buddhism, Taoism, and folk religions. Except for a small number of purely Buddhist temples, however, most of the island's traditional places of worship combine all three traditions. Confucianism is another important aspect of religion in Taiwan.

Language

The official language in Taiwan is Mandarin Chinese but because many Taiwanese are of southern Fujian descent, Hokkienese (Minnanyu, which is known as Taiwanese by locals) is widely spoken, especially in the southern part of Taiwan. Other groups including Hakka Chinese and indigenous tribes have also preserved their languages. Many elderly people can also speak some Japanese, for they were under Japanese occupation before 1945.

The most popular foreign language in Taiwan is English, which is part of the regular school curriculum. However, for your own convenience, when taking a taxi in Taiwan, it is advisable to prepare a note with your destination written in Chinese to show the taxi driver.

Festivals and Events (In chronological order of a year)

Chinese New Year **The BEST thing ever!**

Chinese New Year is the biggest traditional and most meaningful festival, which lasts for about a week. There are different customs on each day of the week, and one of the most significant is New Year's Eve dinner. It's a happy reunion time for all family members, and there are some must-eat special dishes. For example, fish represent harvest and "prosperity through the year"; rice cakes mean to encourage advancement in the coming year. After enjoying the feast, people will stay up all night to welcome the beginning of New Year.



On the first day of New Year, people wear new clothes and give New Year's greetings. We say "Gong Xi Fa Tsai", as saying "congratulations and wealth". Children receive red envelopes with cash from their elder relatives, which means receiving bless. We also worship ancestors and gods today to express thankfulness.

There are various interesting customs of Chinese New Year to celebrate and to pray for the upcoming promising year. One can experience the abundance of Chinese culture in it.

Lantern Festival **Light, warm & reunion**

The Lantern Festival is on the fifteenth day of the first month. The first month in lunar calendar is called "Yuan Yue" In Chinese. Lanterns represents hope and peace, and in honor of gods. We go on streets carrying paper lanterns with various sizes and shapes, watching the lantern fair, and competing to solve the riddles on the lanterns of temples for prizes.

People eat "Tang Yuan"(glutinous rice ball), as a symbol of harmony, happiness and reunion of their family.

In Ping-xi, special events for the Lantern Festival are held. There is a grand Sky Lantern festival.

People write down their wishes on the sky-lanterns and release them into the sky. When thousands of sky-lanterns fly in the sky, it is be an unforgettable breath-taking scene.



While in Tainan the Yan-shui Beehive fireworks is really famous. Legend has it that being attack by firerockets can get rid of bad luck. Firerockets are just like angry bees, explode everywhere, and people enjoy the thrilling feeling a lot. It was even once chosen as one of the global top ten popular festivals.

Dragon Boat Festival



Legend has it that once upon a time in ancient China, there was a man loyal to his own country called Qu Yuan. However, he was maliciously accused of treason by other courtiers and the king sentenced him to deportation. During days of exile, Qu Yuan composed series of great poems,

expressing his indignation. On May fifth of the lunar calendar, he committed suicide by drowning himself in the Miluo River out of desperation. For saving Qu Yuan, local people rushed to row boats, and at the same time threw balls of sticky rice into the river so that the fish wouldn't eat Qu Yuan's body. These actions evolved into the tradition of dragon boat races and eating zhong-zi (glutinous rice dumpling) on May fifth of the lunar calendar. And in memory of Qu Yuan, it's also called "Poets Day."

During Dragon Boat Festival, everyone takes a day off in Taiwan and dragon boat races are held nationwide. Multiple activities are practiced such as eating zhong-zi, wearing sachets, hanging fragrant herbs like mugworts and calami on the door to drive evil spirits away and egg standing at high noon.



Mid-Autumn Festival

The Mid-Autumn Festival, also called the Moon Festival, is the holiday with the most romantic atmosphere. Because this holiday occurs during the autumn, when the harvest season is over, people in earlier days chose this day to make offerings and thank the gods for the bountiful harvest. The celebration has become a time for families to get together. The most notable myth concerning this festival is that Chang-e flying to the moon after secretly drinking her husband's elixir of life. Aside from this, there are also tales of the Jade Rabbit and of "Wu Gang chopping down the cassia tree." Because most of the activities held on this holiday are related to the moon, it has come to be known as "Moon Day." Important activities at this time include eating moon cakes, which symbolize unity and camaraderie; strolling under the full moon; and eating pomelos, since the Chinese term for pomelo sounds like "care and protection." Originating in Taiwan, the new custom of barbecuing has been gaining popularity in recent years.

Teacher's Day. **Appreciation**

September 28th is the birthday of the most influential person in Chinese culture. It's Confucius birthday. As the first and greatest teacher, we now celebrate his birthday to show our gratitude towards the teachers and professors. Also, some local rituals worship the Confucius on that day.

National Day



The national day of the Republic of China is also called The Double Tenth day in Taiwan. It stands the start of the Wuchang Uprising of October 10, 1911, which leads to the collapse of the Qing Dynasty and establishment of the Republic of China on January 1, 1912. Every year, there is a series of performance held in front of the presidential palace. The military parade is the must-see celebration ceremony and we marvel at their tidy pace. In the evening, the fireworks featured of Double Tenth day is marvelous and represent the end of the national day.



Part

Hot spots in Taipei



1

Wenhu Line
文湖線

1. Taipei Zoo 台北市立動物園

Taipei Zoo is one of the top 10 city zoos in the world and the largest in Southeast Asia. You only need to take MRT Wenhu Line and get off at MRT Taipei Zoo Station to reach the zoo. Next, you can visit the super popular Koala House and Penguin House, and see the pandas Tuantuan and Yuan Yuan, as well as the new panda baby Yuan Zai born in 2013. (Yuan Zai was really cute and left everyone a deep impression at that time.) There are eight outdoor exhibition areas based on geographic regions that serve exhibition and environmental education functions in the zoo. Among these, Formosan black bears, Formosan Rock macaques, and Swinhoe's pheasants in the Formosan Animal Area are animals that only exist in Taiwan, so you wouldn't want to miss them!



2. XUE XUE INSTITUTE 學學文創志業

Transportation:

Alight at Xihu Station, travel through Exit 2 and turn right at the traffic light into Lane 288, Sec. 1, Neihu Rd., walk ahead until you hit Lane 583, Ruiguang Rd., turn into Lane 548, Ruiguang Rd., turn left onto Tiding Blvd., and you will see the main entrance (an approx. 10-minute walk).

The Neihu-based XUE XUE INSTITUTE regularly offers an array of lectures on arts, culture, and lifestyle from hands-on programs to related conceptual projects. In the modernist spatial design of Xue Xue Stage on the ground floor, you can see performances and exhibits are curated according to three core concepts: creativity, culture and aesthetics. The second floor provides meals at the riverside-park-facing ECOH ECOH XUE Kitchen Lab, where the cozy wooden furniture offers a dose of tranquility in busy downtown Taipei. So next time you want to escape from the hustle and bustle, why not spend a leisure afternoon here and experience a creative combination of current trends, lifestyle, arts, music and exhibitions?



3.Dahu Park 大湖公園

Dahu Park is best known for its large scenic lake. When looking at the 13-hectare lake, the beautiful arch bridge, along with Chinese style lake pavilion at sunrise or sunset, it is sure to leave you an unforgettable picturesque scenery. No wonder Jindai Bridge in the park is ranked as the most beautiful bridge in the world according to an online survey by tourist website "bored panda"! The park is also a popular spot for weekend fishing, picnics, and strolls in the scenic setting. Walking along the lake, you can enjoy the rippling light on the lakes and get a release of pressure for a while. Apart from the greenery and trails, there is a heated swimming pool, steam room, sauna, water slide, and other recreational facilities for you to enjoy.



2

Zhonghe-Xinlu Line
中和新蘆線

1.Taipei Grand Mosque 台北清真寺

The Taipei Grand Mosque is a center of worship for Taipei's Muslims community. Designed by the renowned architect C.C. Yang, the mosque was built in 1960 with funds donated from Taiwan and Saudi Arabia. The main distinguishing feature of the mosque is its enormous domed roof. The dome is 15 meters high, 15 meters in diameter and is supported entirely without beams. The mosque is adorned with handmade Persian rugs and chandeliers presented by kings of countries allied with Taiwan. The mosque also has two minarets that rise impressively to over 20 meters. When visiting Taipei Grand Mosque, please be sure to follow the mosque rules. Only Muslims are allowed to enter the main prayer hall and second-floor prayer hall for.



2. Huashan 1914 Creative Park 華山 1914 創意園區

Originally a winery, the Huashan 1914 Creative Park is now an important events venue. As a new cultural events platform, many large-scale exhibitions, installations, theater productions and performances now take place here.

Location (phone) : No. 1, Sec. 1, Bade Rd., Taipei (886-2-2358-1914)



3. Xingtian Temple 行天宮



Xingtian Temple is the most visited temple in northern Taiwan, attracting upwards of 10,000 people a day. Situated in the heart of Taipei, the temple is unique in that it does not allow worshippers to burn "paper money" or make offerings. There are also no donation boxes or opera performances, and no commercial activity is allowed.

4. Old storefront buildings on Dihua St. 迪化街

Stores selling goods from China mushroomed along Dihua Street, which is situated behind the riverfront-facing Guide Street. Overnight, wealth prompted the Dihua Street-based businessmen to erect opulent houses with arcades adapted to the rainy climate. In addition to the intriguing eclectic facades that are decorated in Western style, these old storefront houses are best known for being extremely narrow and deep. Behind each storefront is a factory or a warehouse, lending an air of distinction to this cluster of old-fashioned housing complex.



3

Songshan-Xindian Line
松山新店線Raohe Street Night Market
饒河街觀光夜市

A famous night market in Taiwan where people can go grab a bite and have fun.

 Traffic information

The night market is right out of the **MRT Songshan Station**.



Taipei Arena 台北小巨蛋

The most important arena in Taipei which many sports event and concerts will be held here. It also has an ice-skating rink that people can go ice skating.

 Traffic information

The arena is right out of the **MRT Taipei Arena Station**.

Ximending 西門町

A very popular business district where young people will go for all kinds of activities.

 Traffic information

This district is right out of the **Ximen station**.



Shi Da Nightmarket 師大夜市

Place to go shopping and eat delicious food.

 Traffic information

Walk to Taipei Medical University bus stop
Take bus 1
Get off the bus at Roosevelt and Kimen St. Intersection.
Walk for about ten minutes.

Small Bitan 小碧潭 (=Xiaobitan)

Place to go sight-seeing.

 Traffic information

Take **bus M7** to **Taipei City Hall metro station**
Transport to **MRT Xiaobitan Station**.



4

Tamsui-Xinyi Line
淡水信義線

1. Fisherman's Wharf 漁人碼頭

A romantic place with good view beside Tamsui river bank. (Page.39)

 Traffic information

Take the **MRT** to **Tamsui station**.
Then take bus **R26** or **880** or **R23**
to Fisherman's Wharf.



2. Fort San Domingo 紅毛城

Historic building built by Spaniards.

 Traffic information

Take the **MRT** to **Tamsui station**.
Then take bus **880** to Hongmao
Castle (Aletheia University).

3. Tamsui Old Street 淡水老街

Place with lots of traditional food.

 Traffic information

Take the **MRT** to **Tamsui station**.



Guandu Nature Park 關渡自然公園

A natural reserve for birdwatching.
(Page.40)

 Traffic information

Take the **MRT** to **Guandu station**.
Then take bus **R35** or **S23** or walk
10 minutes to Guandu Nature
Park

Beitou Hot Spring Museum
北投溫泉博物館

A place to learn more about
hot spring (and to experience
hot spring)

 Traffic information

Take the **MRT** to **Xeibeitou
station**. Then walk about fifteen
minutes.



Shilin Night Market 士林夜市

The most famous night market
in Taiwan. (Page.42)

 Traffic information

Take the **MRT** to **Jiantan station**.



National Palace Museum 國立故宮博物院

A museum with collection of Chinese ancient artifacts. (Page.40)

Traffic information

Then take **bus 255** or **304** to Nation Palace Museum.



Taipei Expo Park 花博公園

An exhibition of all kinds of flowers and plants.

Traffic information

Take the **MRT** to **Yuanshan station**.



Taipei Fine Arts Museum 臺北市立美術館

A museum that displays Taiwan cultural artworks and exhibitions.

Traffic information

Take the **MRT** to **Yuanshan station** (exit 1)
Walk through Taipei Expo Park, then turn left on Zhongshan Road.

Ning Xia Night market 寧夏夜市

A place to have a taste of Taiwan's local cuisine

Traffic information

- I. Going out of the **Shuanglian station**.
- II. Walk along the **Minsheng W. Rd** for about 15 minutes.
- III. Turn left when meeting the **Ning Xia Road**.



Office of the President 總統府

The office of president.

Traffic information

- I. Going out of the **NTU Hospital station**.
- II. Walk along the **Gongyuan Rd**.
- III. Turn right when meeting the **Kaidagelan Avenue**.

Chiang Kai-shek Memorial Hall 中正紀念堂

A memorial hall to honor the first ROC president, Chiang Kai-shek. There is a square at the center of it where people can enjoy lots of activities.

Traffic information

The hall is right out of the **Chiang Kai-shek Memorial Hall station**.





Yongkang Street 永康街

A street where many people will come here for distinctive delicacies.

Traffic information

The district is right out of the Dongmen station

Daan Park 大安森林公園

A getaway in Taipei city to take a walk with friends and exercise.

Traffic information

The park is right out of the Daan Park station.



Xiangshan (Mt. Elephant) Hiking Trail 象山

A mountain where you can get a panoramic view of Taipei.

Traffic information

- I. Turn right when meeting the McDonald.
- II. Walk along Zhuangjing Rd.

5

板南線 Bannan Line

WuFenPu 五分埔

A place to go shopping.

Traffic information

Walk to Wuxing St. Entrance bus station.
Take **bus 284** to Wufenpu Shopping Area



Songshan Cultural and Creative Park 松山文化創意園區

A place to see exhibitions and to buy creative-designed products.

Traffic information

Walk to **Taipei Medical University bus station** and take **bus 266**
Get off the bus at **Sun Yat-sen Memorial Hall**

Sun Yat-sen Memorial 國父紀念館

A place to see historical architectures.

Traffic information

Take **bus M7** to **Taipei City Hall metro station**
Transport to **Sun Yat-sen Memorial Hall metro station**





Huashang Cultural and Creative Park 松山文化創意園區

A place to see exhibitions and to buy creative-designed products.

 **Traffic information**

Walk to **Taipei Medical University bus station** and take **bus 226**
Get off the bus at **Zhongxiao Xincheng metro station**.

Eastern District of Taipei 東區

A place to go shopping and to enjoy afternoon tea.

 **Traffic information**

Walk to **Taipei Medical University bus station** and take **bus 226**
Get off the bus at **Zhongxiao Xincheng metro station**.



Taipei Main Station 台北車站

The old city centre of Taipei, now a major traffic junction.

 **Traffic information**

Walk to **Taipei Medical University bus station** and take **bus 22**



Part 6 Food & Entertainment





Shilin Night Market (士林夜市)

The Shilin Night Market is one of the well-organized and most popular night markets. It is separated into two major sections. One section covers the streets surrounding the traditional Yangming Theatre and stretches to the Chicheng Temple on Danan Rd. The other section is a centralized food court serving a wide variety of snacks that attract large crowds. At the Shilin Night Market, visitors can shop from store to store and have a large selection of clothes and accessories that they can bargain for reasonable prices.

Also a lot of the food vendors from Shilin Night Market are famous for their local flavors and are only available at the Shilin Night Market. Visitors are able to enjoy a wide range of local food, including Sausage Wrapped in Glutinous Rice, Stir-fried Squids, Oyster Omelets, Shilin Super-Size Sausages, Stew Ribs with Chinese Herbs, Shanghai Bun, Jelly Tapioca Pearls, Scallion Pancakes, Bubble Ice, Large Fried Chicken, and many more.



Din Tai Fung (鼎泰豐)

Din Tai Fung is well-known for its delicacies; especially dishes like Steamed Pork Dumplings, Steamed Chicken Soup, and Fried Rice with Eggs and Shrimps are classic cuisines with high recommendations. The new developed dishes, "Shrimp-and-Pork Wontons in Red Chili Oil" and "Pork-and-Vegetable Wontons in Red Chili Oil", are spicy, delicious, and most important of all, contain hints of Chinese herbal medicine. In recent years, Din Tai Fung keeps computerizing operations to improve their services and efficiency which win them a good reputation in the restaurants industry.

Yongkang Beef Noodle Soup Restaurant (永康牛肉麵館)

If you are entertaining someone hard to please, Yongkang Beef Noodle Soup Restaurant, the favorite of Taipei residents, is the place to go. Its Sichuan-style hot and spicy soup with huge chunks of beef—cooked just to perfection—leaves everyone satisfied. Besides having a large variety of side dishes, the restaurant also serves steamed spare ribs and steamed intestines—another must try!



Starch Ball Desserts (東區粉圓)

Located next to the ATT and Ming Yao department stores, this shop has been serving up traditional handmade starch ball desserts for over 20 years. Sinfully sweet and generously portioned, these treats are made with the best ingredients and no artificial flavoring. As a testimony to its uncompromising attitude to quality, the shop won the "ROC Consumers Association Golden Award" and "Customer Satisfaction Gold Award."

Yong Kang Street (永康街商圈)

Taiwanese cuisine's mecca and home to the original (and world-renowned) Din Tai Fung restaurant (located along Xinyi Road), Yong Kang Street is a must visit destination for all travelers to Taipei City. Housing restaurants and cafés that cater to all budgets, Yongkang Street and its neighboring lanes and alleys are home to more than 30 operations, not including night market carts and independent merchants that line the streets selling all types of food, including pan-Chinese cuisine, Korean, Japanese, Western, and unique fusion dishes unique to Yong Kang.



Eastern District of Taipei (東區)

The Eastern District of Taipei refers to the newly developed area in eastern Taipei, Taiwan. In its broadest sense, the Eastern District of Taipei is the whole region east of Fuxing South Road. In general, however, the Eastern District refers to the area between Civic Boulevard and Xinyi Road, including most part of Daan District, Xinyi District and Songshan District, the administrative districts in eastern Taipei. With a plethora of business buildings, department stores and shopping districts, the Eastern District has now become one of the most cosmopolitan parts of Taipei. Taipei City Hall, Taipei City Council and Taipei 101 are all located in this district.



Ximending (西門町)

Ximending has been called the "Harajuku of Taipei" and the "Shibuya of Taipei". Ximending is the source of Taiwan's fashion, subculture, and Japanese culture. Ximending has a host of many clubs and pubs surrounding the area.

This area is in the northeastern part of Wanhua District in Taipei and it is also the most important consumer district in the Western District of Taipei. The well-known Ximending Pedestrian Area was the first pedestrian area built in Taipei and is the largest in Taiwan.

Wufenpu (五分埔)

Wufenpu is an area, best known for wholesale garment market, located in the Xinyi District of Taipei, Taiwan. It is located at the foothill of Sishou Mountain and includes all five neighborhoods in Section 5 of Zhongxiao East Road, east to Songren Road, and Zhongpo North Road. It is the largest clothing market in Taipei. The area is nearby both the TRA Songshan Station and the Taipei Metro Houshanpi Station.



Part

Trips
One-Day



Day Trip: YangMing Mountain (陽明山)

Metro: Take Red (Danshui) Line to Beitou Station

Bus: Take minibus 9 just outside of MRT Beitou station (05:25-22:55, comes every 35 mins) to YangMingShan Bus Stop. From there, take 108 Bus to get around the national park

Recommended Sites

YangMing ShuWu (陽明書屋)

Built in 1969, Yangming ShuWu was once a summer home where VIPs were received. Today, it is one of the most important cultural and historical sites of Yangmingshan National Park, featuring both natural and human history. It is both an intellectual and sentimental recreational site.



- **Where:** Bus 108 YangMing ShuWu (陽明書屋) bus stop
- **Opening hours:** 09:00-16:30
- **Tours in English must be booked in advance**



ZhuZiHu (竹子湖)

Blessed by its geographical location and cool climate, ZhuZiHu is renowned for its calla lily blooming season from March to May. In addition, hydrangea and sunflowers blossom at the height of summer, and silver pampas grass graces Datun Mountain in autumn!

- **Where:** Bus 108 ZhuZiHu (竹子湖) Bus Stop

XiaoYouKeng (小油坑)

Highly recommended to those who enjoy natural scenery. The viewing platform here offers views of the volcanic cones of Mt. Zhuzi, Mt. Datun, Mt. Qixing and Mt. Xiaoguan Yin, and also allows peeks of the Jinshan coastline. The Arrow Bamboo Trail nearby displays other plants that flourish in volcanic areas.



- **Where:** Bus 108 XiaoYouKeng (小油坑) Bus Stop

LengShuiKeng (冷水坑)

A low-lying depression which was created when the lava from various mountains formed a barrage. The water temperature of the hot springs in this area only reaches 40°C (104°F), far below that of other springs in other areas, hence its name Lengshuikeng, which means "cold water pit."

- **Bus 108 LengShuiKeng (冷水坑) Bus Stop**



QinTianGang (擎天崗)

A ranch was established and the area was used as a pasture for grazing cattle during the Japanese occupation. A great getaway away from the hustle and bustle of the city, as well as the summer heat!

- **Where:** It can be reached foot via a trek from LengShuiKeng, or Bus 108 QinTianGang (擎天崗) Bus Stop
- **Opening Hours:** 09:00-16:30
- **Take 108 back to YangMingShan Station, then take minibus 9 back to MRT Beitou Station**

Eating Options

It is best to eat breakfast around TMU because there are few breakfast stands en route. For more information, please refer to your guide to TMU surroundings.



As for lunch, various delicacies such as free-range chicken, gingered sweet-potato soup and rice-noodle soup are the specialties. Around ZhuZiHu area, there are many choices to choose from. However, each portion is quite large hence unsuited for those traveling alone, so bringing a sandwich along and having a picnic is another option.

Veggie Garden: QingTsaiYuan (青菜園)



This is the most famous garden restaurant in the area. However, like all other restaurants in the area, it can only be reached by foot, so if you're up for a little adventure, this is for you!

This is a map from ZhuZiHu Station to Veggie Garden. According to Google Maps it would take around 10 minutes by foot. If you think it's too much of a hassle, there are several other restaurants serving the same kind of cuisine on the way, feel free to walk in and try!



Big Steak House: DaQuaiNiuPai (大塊牛排)

Dinner also can be eaten at the night market near MRT Beitou Station. A cheap Taiwanese-style steakhouse is recommended, because for under NT\$200 you can get a filling piece of steak with a sauce of your choice, served with an egg sunny side up and pasta.



Day Trip: Jiufen (九份)

Transportation

Step1: Tapei Medical University → MRT Taipei City Hall station
Shuttle bus stop at the Third Medical Building

Fee: free

Time: 10 minutes

Service Interval:

(Mon-Fri) 07:00-21:30 (Sat) 07:00-16:00

Every 15 minutes

Step2: MRT City Hall station → Zhongxiao Fuxing station ex1.
Line 5 (Bannba Line; blue line)

Fee: NT\$16 (Easycard); NT\$ 20 (one-way ticket)

Time: 7 minutes

Service Interval:

From Taipei: (weekdays) 06:01-00:50

Every 3-4 minutes

Step3: Zhongxiao Fuxing station exit 1. → bus stop → Walk (black line)



Step4: Zhongxiao Fuxing bus stop → Jiufen

Bus #1062

Fee: NT\$ 90 (Easycard); NT\$ 95 (one-way ticket)

Time: 1.5-2 hours

Service Interval:

From Taipei: (weekdays) 07:10-21:10 (weekends) 07:10-20:40

From Jiufen: (weekdays) 05:55-21:30 (weekends) 06:30-21:30

Every 20 minutes



Recommended Sites

Jishan Old Street (基山老街)

Stepping into Jiufen's most bustling Jishan Street, you'll find countless shops and restaurants overflowing with rich, fragrant smells. The diverse array of handicraft stalls and old-style grocery stores and teahouses are filled with an air of nostalgia festive atmosphere.

- **Jishan St., Ruifang Dist., New Taipei City 224, Taiwan**
- **Hours: 08:00-18:30**



Jiufen Elementary School (九份國小)

Standing atop the podium of the field lends a perfect view of Keelung Islet, so perfect, that it seems as if it is right in front of your eyes. The deep blue sea reflected by the light blue sky and puffy white clouds is so mesmerizing that one almost forgets that he/she is actually inside a school.

- **No.145 Lunding Rd., Ruifang Dist., New Taipei City 224, Taiwan**
- **Hours: 09:00-17:00**

Shengping Theater (昇平戲院)

During the golden era of the mountain city, Shengping Theater can be the representative of the luxurious and opulent lifestyle of Jiufen. The theater's interior was decorated to imitate the style of Baroque architecture and houses over 600 seats. Many movies such as "A Borrowed Life", "City of Sadness" or "Blue Mountain Coffee" have used the theater as a backdrop for their movies and were able to capture numerous classic images.

After extensive repair in 2011, the theater's former elegance and glamour has been reproduced. Aside from periodical showing of old movies, the theater also holds special exhibits and art seminars.

- **Shuqi Rd., Ruifang Dist., New Taipei City 224, Taiwan**



Shuqi Road (豎崎路)

The next spot to visit is Shuqi Road where the entire street is made up of various flights of stone stairs that ascended directly upwards. The slightly rugged trail is a path that must be taken if you come to Jiufen or else your visit would not count.

You can find a teahouse for your legs to get a well-deserved rest. "Ah Mei Tea House (阿妹茶樓)" is one of the most popular of places to visit for visitors. A few scenes from "Spirited Away", written by Hayao Miyazaki, are similar to Jiufen Old Street. Rumor has it that Miyazaki's source of inspiration came from Ah Mei's Tea House. For this reason, many Japanese tourists come to Jiufen in search of the scenes in the animation and a mask that resembles "Yubaba", the bathhouse witch.

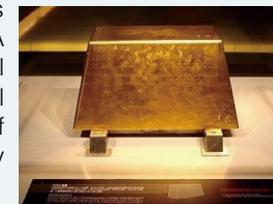
- **Shuqi Rd., Ruifang Dist., New Taipei City 224, Taiwan**
- **Hours: 08:00-18:30**

Jiufen Gold Museum (金瓜石黃金博物館)

Finally, follow Chicher Road and walk for 15 minutes before reaching Jiufen Museum of Gold Mine. A provincial exhibition center operated by former local miners exhibits Jiufen's mining history, alchemical equipment and dozens of raw mineral stones, all of which have been collected across three decades by the curator with a mining background.

Aside from mineral stones, the center also displays an array of old pictures that evoke fond memories of the past. Those interested in fulfilling the dream of mining can surely find it come true here!

- **No.66 Shipi Ln., Ruifang Dist., New Taipei City 224, Taiwan**
- **(Mon~Fri) 09:30-17:00 ; (Sat-Sun) 09:30-18:00**



Day Trip: Yehliu (野柳)

 Bus: take bus M7 at TMU station (right opposite of TMUH ER) to MRT Taipei City Hall Station (MRT and Bus station share the same building)

 Bus: take KuoKuang 1815 at terminal 8 of Taipei City Hall Bus Station to Jinshan District Office Station (金山區公所) (06:00-23:00, comes every 10-20 minutes)

 Shuttle Bus: catch the free shuttle to JuMing Museum at Jinshan District Office Station (金山區公所)

Museum Shuttle Van:

Tue – Fri:

Departure from Jinshan District Office:

10:30 & 14:00 Departure from the Juming Museum: 13:40 & 17:00

Weekends & National Holidays

Departure from Jinshan District Office:

10:30, 12:30 & 14:00 Departure from the Juming Museum: 13:40, 15:40 & 17:00



Recommended Sites

JuMing Museum (朱銘美術館)

Juming is a Taiwanese art master renowned for his sculptures; the museum is where his masterpieces are displayed. Surrounded by lush forests, ample space and infinite views, it is the largest outdoor art museum in Taiwan. Juming himself participated in locating, designing and constructing this museum.



- **Hours: Tues-Sun 10:00-18:00**
- **Admission Fee: NT\$ 220 for student**

JinShan Old Street (金山老街)

Also known as JinBaoLi, it is an old market place that is not to be missed! The duck noodle stall in front of Guang An Temple is a must-try. Packed with sumptuous Taiwanese delicacies, this is the place for curious foodies. Other delicious snacks include various traditional Taiwanese pastries sold by Shuangxing Bakery.

- **Where: Take free shuttle bus from JuMing Museum to JinShan (金山) Station**
- **Where: take Bus 790 from JinShan Station to Yehliu Station**
- **Hours: 07:30-18:00 daily**
- **Admission Fee: NT\$ 80**
- **Free tour at 10:00, 10:30, 14:00, 14:30**

Yehliu GeoPark (野柳地質公園)

It is a park of natural wonders, with rocks carved by wave-cutting and weathering over decades were formed into shapes resembling figures. The most famous is undoubtedly the Queen's Head. Among other "statues", there are: the Fairy's Shoe, the Mushroom Rocks, the Tofu Rocks, and the Elephant Rocks, along with interesting potholes.



- **Where: take Bus 790 from JinShan Station to Yehliu Station**
- **Hours: 07:30-18:00 daily**
- **Admission Fee: NT\$ 80**
- **Free tour at 10:00, 10:30, 14:00, 14:30**



Yehliu Ocean Park (野柳海洋世界)

is the first ocean world in Taiwan. With various marine animals, there is a show with dolphins and sea lions. There is also an aquarium which contains many exotic sea creatures.

- **Hours: 09:00-17:00**
- **Admission Fee: NT\$ 330**
- **Dolphin/Sea lion show at 10:30, 13:30, 15:30**

Keelung Night Market (基隆夜市)

is just a 7 minute walk from the Keelung train station. It is arguably one of the most famous and best night markets in the country. It is centered on a temple, and sometimes called the "Temple Entrance Night Market." There are dozens of local delicacies for you to discover!



- **Where: take Bus 790 from Yehliu station to Keelung train station**

Eating options

Basically, breakfast is best eaten around TMU because there are seldom breakfast stands en route. For more information, please refer to your guide of TMU surroundings!

For lunch, it is recommended that you dine at JinShan Old Street, after you visit JuMing Museum.

JinBaoLi Duck Meat (金包里鴨肉)



A must eat in the JinShan Old Street. Its signature dish is the duck meat platter, you can also order some stir-fried noodles and assorted deep fried dishes to go with your meal.

- Each dish priced around NT\$200-400

Ah-Yu Malao (阿玉麻薯)

Packaging is printed with the cute portrait of Grandma Ah-Yu. Grandma Ah Yu's sincere demeanor coupled with the crispy and chewy texture of the malao (crispy fried sesame balls) makes it hard to resist to have just one, also, free tasting is available!

- NT\$100 per pack



Candied Sweet Potato (拔絲地瓜)

As one of the main area for sweet potato cultivation, it is not surprising that this all-time favourite snack is a local must-eat. After all, who can resist sweet potato covered in caramel, sprinkled with sesame?

Keelung Night Market (基隆夜市)

Keelung Night Market is a nice ending for this day trip. One can stroll down the street with food stalls packed at each side. Just in case you are overwhelmed by the choices, we have some personal favourites to share:



Chen's Bubble Ice (陳記泡泡冰)

After a long day under the sun, why not get a cup of refreshing shaved ice? There are many flavours to choose from, each costing only NT\$40. Peanut flavor is recommended as it is the most popular, plus it is a flavor unique to Taiwan.



Taiwanese Tempura (天婦羅)

With many stalls selling this item, it is probably what most people relate with Keelung Night Market. Simple deep-fried fish cake served with sweet savoury sauce and pickled cucumber at the side. Tempura is a popular side dish commonly found all around Taiwan, be sure to try!

Crab Stew and Sticky Rice (螃蟹羹 + 油飯)

Still not full? Don't worry; this combination will fill you up. As Keelung is a port, seafood is abundant, and for this dish, fresh crab meat is added to traditional Taiwanese stew. Sticky rice is also a common rice dish eaten by the locals, it goes exceptionally well with the stew. Flavoured by soy sauce, it is where it got its brown colour.

- Walk back to Keelung Station and take Bus 1815 to MRT ZhongXiao DunHua Station and take the metro. Take the direction heading to NanGang Exhibition Centre, get off at MRT Taipei City Hall Station and take Bus M7 back to TMU just outside exit 2.

Day Trip: Ping Xi (平溪)

According to the Taiwan Railway Administration, the Pingxi Line is one of the most popular among the eight branch railway lines. The Pingxi Line was used for coal transportation during a prosperous era when coal-mining towns sprang up all over the northeastern part of Taiwan. After the mining industry's decline, the line no longer served its original purpose and was transformed into a tourist railway. Towns along the Pingxi Line have retained much of their personality while maintaining a more peaceful and slower pace of life. Through these picturesque villages, you will find thrilling hikes, magnificent waterfalls, a cat town, and the remains of what was once a thriving coal industry.

At the Shifen Scenic Administration Office, near Shifen station, you can pick up English-language brochures and refer to the large maps on the 1st floor.

Transportation

Train: From Taipei Main Station, take a northbound train (except Keelung bound train) towards Ruifang Station. First, purchase a One Day ticket (NT\$64) for Pingxi Line in Ruifang Station and transfer to Pingxi Line. (the time interval of Pingxi Line is about an hour)

MRT + Bus: take the MRT Line 1 (Brown Line) to Muzha Station, and take bus 1076 or 795 towards Pingxi.

MRT + Taiwan Tourist Shuttle Bus: take the MRT Line 1 (Brown Line) to Muzha Station, and take the Taiwan Tourist Shuttle Bus (charge by section, NT\$15 per section, one-way ticket NT\$45) (EasyCard payment acceptable) towards Shifen tourist center. (you can also buy a one-day ticket for Taiwan Tourist Shuttle Bus in 7-11 for NT\$100)



Recommended Sites

Pingxi Line is a branch line located in the northeastern part of Taiwan. There are seven stations on Pingxi Line, but Houtong is an additional stop if you start your trip from Ruifang. Start from Ruifang, you will pass the stops in this order, first Houtong, and then Dahua, Shifen, Wanggu, Lingjiao, Pingxi, and lastly, Jingtong. Among the stations mentioned above, Houtong, Shifen, Pingxi, and Jingtong are the most worthy of visit.

Houtong (猴硜)

Houtong is a small mining town located in Ruifang district in New Taipei City. During its most prosperous age, Houtong was one of Taiwan's biggest coal-mining sites up until the 70s.



It was said that around 2008, a team of cat lovers volunteered to take care of neighbors abandoned kitties. They posted the cats' pictures onto the web and got an overwhelming response from other cat lovers. Soon, people started to flood this area to photograph the cats and Houtong, a dilapidated mining town, surprisingly turned into a hotbed for felines.

Most of the Houtong residents now live on this "cat industry" by selling cat-related souvenirs and cat-shaped pineapple cake. They even remodeled the footbridge leading from the station's exit across the tracks to the hillside cat village into a "cat-look" with ears at one end and a tail at the other.

• Basic Info:

- Houtong is the first stop from Ruifang.
- Bringing dogs to Houtong is prohibited.
- For the health of the cats and the environment of Houtong, please try not to feed the cats.

Shifen (十分)

Shifen is the most famous stop along Pingxi Branch Line. One may notice that Shifen Railway Station is larger than other stations on Pingxi Line as it has dual tracks that allow trains to intersect here.

Shifen Old Street lies on the both sides of the railway. This results in a very interesting scene: upon hearing the sound of the train, sky lantern vendors will start to yell at each other and to tourists, signaling that the train is coming and that everyone should clear the railway. The train runs so close to you that you can literally feel the wind due to its speed. Shifen Old Street is filled mainly with sky lanterns and souvenir shops and food stands.



Shifen Old Street is full of savory traditional Taiwanese food. The picture above is one of the most famous restaurants. It is a century-old restaurant and was originally a little food stand. The name 榕樹下米粉湯 means selling rice noodles soup under a banyan tree, and there are literally two banyan trees beside the restaurant. According to its name, of course the rice noodles soup is its best seller.

This stand is located right next to the train station. It only sells barbecue chicken wings with fried rice filled in it. During weekends, there are usually long lines in front of this stand. Due to its unique flavor, it is very popular and sells out quickly.

The name sky lantern is the translation of the Chinese name Tian-deng. Sky lanterns were first used as signals. People in Pingxi were once terribly harassed by bandits. Most of the villagers went up mountains seeking for shelter while they left some strong men in the village as defense. After the bandits were gone, those men would set off sky lanterns to signal the villagers that it is safe enough to come back to the village. This tradition has now become a unique way of making



wishes. People write their wishes on sky lanterns and release them, as if those wishes will float up high into the sky and also into the gods' ears.

- **Basic Info:**
- Sky lanterns are about NT\$100-200 each

Another 15-20 minutes walk will take you to the famous Shifen Waterfall. The waterfall is Taiwan's broadest waterfall. The round trip to and from Shifen Waterfall is about a 45-60 minute walk, it is unlikely that you can catch the next train immediately after the one you arrive on.

- **Basic Info:**
- No admission fee to Shifen Waterfall
- Hours: 09:00-16:30

Pingxi (平溪)

Although Pingxi station got the name Pingxi, it is actually not the most bustling town along the Pingxi Line. However, there is also an old street in Pingxi where you can get some traditional Taiwanese foods such as soybean pudding, rice noodles, and Taiwanese sausage with sticky rice. Pingxi is another place to set off sky lanterns besides Shifen.



Jingong (菁桐)

With 80 years of history, the wooden houses and the slightly leaning old dormitory on Jingong Old Street give an elegant and nostalgic feeling that attracts tourists to this very last station on Pingxi Line. It was once a coal-mining town too. But with the decline of coal mining industry, the bustling atmosphere has disappeared and only the traces of the settlement remain.

Located along the railway, Jingong coalmine museum was originally the dormitory of Taiwan Railway Administration. The building was abandoned after the mining industry was no more. However, it was chosen by the Council of the Cultural Affairs as a local cultural museum and was officially renamed "Jingong coalmine museum".



Once you arrived at Jingong, you might be overwhelmed by numerous bamboo tubes hanging on the fences of the railway. This is a very special scene that you will probably see only in Jingong. People buy bamboo tubes and write their wishes such as being in good health or doing well on the upcoming test onto the tubes. Then those bamboo tubes were hang on the fence or the scaffold next to the train station.

Jingong Railway story house, on Jingong Old Street, is owned by a railway fanatic. He negotiated with Taiwan Railway Company and decided to open a shop that not only displays train-related designs and figures, but also sells souvenirs of the railway history of Taiwan.

