



Checking In!

CENTRAL TAIWAN

Tri-Mountain | Sun Moon Lake | Alishan

Food • Festivals • Handicrafts • Night Markets — Popular Experiences

Cover photo



① Sun Moon Lake • Lalu Island (Photo by Huang Chi-Feng)

② Alishan • 1314 Observation Deck (Photo by Li Cia-Fang)

③ Shih Bi Jhu Chuang Sen (Photo by Wang Shi-Hao)

④ Rixin Island (Photo by Li Cia-Fang)

⑤ Sun Moon Lake Cycling Trail (Photo by Wang Shi-Hao)

⑥ Xinpu • Wei Wei Jia Persimmons Tourist Farm (Photo by Li Cia-Fang)

Sustainable Tourism Benefits the Land

Central Taiwan is alive with variety—ever evolving urban lifestyles, friendly Hakka mountain towns, and serene, natural landscapes. Sip tea by the lake and feel a unique sense of place; ride a historic forest railway through the recent past; then experience local modern life and make friends across languages and cultures.

A joint effort of the Tri-Mountain, Sun Moon Lake, and Alishan National Scenic Areas, the new Central Taiwan Tourism Circle offers diverse, sustainable, and friendly travel experiences. This guide contains some of Central Taiwan's most captivating scenes and highlights sustainable ways to explore: eco-camping on a lake island, forest therapy in Alishan, a loop around Sun Moon Lake, and a Taichung city walk. Visitors can rely on low-carbon transportation, including walking, cycling, and train, to experience the region's beauty.

Each section of this guide is rooted in local culture, bringing together regional cuisine, hands-on experiences, and special products. Come savor local flavors and support small farmers for a trip that leaves a small ecological footprint and even benefits the land. Inside the guide, QR codes link to web pages with additional information on local attractions. Whether traveling independently or with a group, you'll find your rhythm and favorite scenes as Taiwan's culture, kindness, and mountain forests become your cherished memories.

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4 Days, 3 Nights, 6 Journeys

A Trip to Take Your Breath Away

The latest attractions, trending stores, and  Muslim-friendly shops
— in one unforgettable vacation

Fast Pass • Slow Feeling

Culture

- A Romantic Stroll Through Hakka Villages
- Alishan Forest Railway

City

- Taichung City Walk
- Wood City Chiayi

Nature

- Savoring Sun Moon Lake
- Xitou Nature Voyage



Photo credit:
Alishan Forest Railway and Cultural
Heritage Office · Photo by Wu Ming-Han

A Romantic Stroll Through Hakka Villages

Heartwarming Encounters in the Hills

From the deep indigo of traditional dyes to the soothing aroma of ground tea, the Hakka communities nestled in the hills of Hsinchu and Miaoli have long woven quiet beauty into the everyday life of Taiwan.

Begin your journey on historic Beipu Old Street, where you can visit Chiang A-Hsin Mansion, the setting of the acclaimed drama *Gold Leaf*. Then, taste the flavors of memory: a bowl of Muslim-friendly lei cha, a mugwort steamed buns, and a snow-white slice of dried persimmon.

To the south, visit Twin Peaks Tea House, where a bite of handmade dorayaki and a sip of honey black tea make the forest landscapes even sweeter. At Tongluo Tea Factory and Hobbit Valley, you'll find a peaceful tea farm and a whimsical world of fantasy. In Zhuolan, the hydrangeas at Flower Home bloom like drifting clouds, while LoFi Land invites you to walk barefoot through the soil and feel the poetry of farm life. This thoughtful journey through Taiwan's Hakka heartland offers a taste of the island's most sincere and generous spirit.





Photo credit: FlowerHome



Photo credit: FlowerHome



Flower Home 花露農場
No. 43-3, Xiping Village, Zhuolan Township,
Miaoli County, Taiwan
+886-4-25891589

FlowerHome 花露農場

Taiwan's Largest Hydrangea Garden

Located in the rolling hills of Zhuolan, Flower Home is Taiwan's largest flower farm, spanning 8 acres. From March to June, the landscape bursts into color as hydrangeas paint the fields in vibrant shades, drawing visitors from all over to witness their spectacular display. The farm also features Taiwan's first Essential Oil Museum, where rooms filled with fragrant blossoms invite you to lose yourself in this enchanting scents. Recent additions include the country's only hydrangea-themed mini train and a hydrangea carousel. Special hydrangea ice cream cones are available for you to enjoy while strolling through the farm's romantic scenes.



Photo credit: FlowerHome

LoFi Land 自然圈農場

Where Agriculture Meets Style

Once a filming location for a popular reality show, LoFi Land is built around the concept of natural agricultural learning, making it Taiwan's first fully circular, immersive eco-farm. Its striking white tents and cactus gardens are visual highlights, drawing design lovers and nature seekers alike. The park offers exciting exhibitions and hands-on workshops, so visitors can feel the rhythms of organic farming. Through planting, harvesting, and unforgettable experiences, fully savor the richness of the land.



LoFi Land Eco Farm 自然圈農場
No. 36-20, Xiping, Zhuolan Township, Miaoli
County, Taiwan
+886-4-23012668



Photo credit: LoFi Land



Photo credit: LoFi Land



Photo credit: LoFi Land



Twin Peaks Tea House 雙峰草堂

A Dessert Hideaway in the Woods

Nestled at the foot of the Shuangfeng Mountain, this charming teahouse feels like a secluded Kyoto retreat tucked away in a forest. Its serene atmosphere draws visitors from afar to try its signature dorayaki, hand-griddled to order and filled with seasonal flavors like Dajia taro, Nanzhuang longan, and red bean with matcha. Enjoy these handmade treats with a cup of chrysanthemum goji tea or lemon black tea, and savor the taste of Taiwan's local harvests.

Cute Stamped Dorayaki!



♥ Twin Peaks Tea House 雙峰草堂

No. 86-1, Shuangfeng Rd, Tongluo Township,
Miaoli County, Taiwan
+886-3-7987198

Hobbit Valley 哈比丘茶樹森林

A Real Life Hobbit Village

Step into a fantasy at Hobbit Valley, a scenic farm that produces Australian tea tree essential oil. Nestled among rolling hills, this enchanting destination features charming round cottages, lush tea tree trails, and a sky swing that overlooks a picturesque valley, recreating the magic of the Shire in Taiwan. Visitors can play with capybaras, Valais Blacknose sheep, sika deer, and kangaroos, or take flight on Taiwan's highest mountain valley sky swing.



♥ Hobbit Valley 哈比丘茶樹森林

No. 160, Shenglong 15th Neighborhood, Tongluo Township,
Miaoli County, Taiwan (Set GPS to "Chuhuangken")
+886-3-7971397



Tongluo Tea Factory 銅鑼茶廠

Hand-Picked Tea in a Natural Garden

Set high in the hills of Jiuhu Village, Tongluo Tea Factory was designed by a renowned architect. As visitors stroll along the 50-meter corridor, they're gently drawn to the naturally cultivated tea fields and surrounding landscape. Inside and around the tea factory, you will discover a curated collection of vintage tea-making tools and cultural objects. You can also book a tea-making workshop. Be sure to try the factory's famous oriental beauty tea.



♥ Tongluo Tea Factory 銅鑼茶廠

No. 132-16, Jiuhu Village, Tongluo Township,
Miaoli County, Taiwan
+886-3-7987358



Orange Forest 橙香森林

A Romantic Day in Taiwan's Most Beautiful Orange Forest

Bend low and step into a leafy tunnel of citrus trees at Orange Forest, a 30-year-old heirloom ponkan grove. With its romantic glass café and art installations, this destination is Taiwan's most picturesque orange grove. Alongside the stunning scenery, visitors can enjoy seasonal fruit picking, join hands-on DIY workshops, shop for local gifts, and savor a variety of orange-inspired treats.



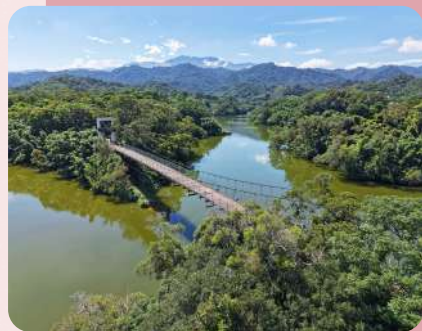
Orange Forest 橙香森林

No. 6, Mingde Rd, Touwu Township, Miaoli County, Taiwan
+886-3-7251496

Rixin Island 日新島

Discover a Hidden Paradise in the Heart of the Lake

Accessible only by a suspension bridge, Rixin Island is a secret getaway on the Mingde Reservoir. Once a shooting location for a popular movie, the island is now a relaxing retreat where visitors can walk with friendly animals and sip coffee. Don't miss the special stone-pipe installation by the water for a perfect photo. This summer, a brand-new eco-camping area has opened, featuring stylish camper vans, open-air baths, and stunning views of the lake and mountains—a perfect place to take in the beauty of the moment.



Rixin Island 日新島

No. 54-6, Mingde Road, Touwu Township, Miaoli County, Taiwan
+886-3-7255789



Beipu Old Street 北埔老街

Step into the Glorious Era of Gold Leaf

Beipu Old Street has the highest concentration of historic landmarks among all of Taiwan's heritage streets. Within just 200 meters, there are seven significant historical buildings, including the Jin Guang Fu Hall and the Chiang Family Tianshui Hall. Chiang A-Hsin Mansion, a highlight of the old street, features a striking blend of European and Hakka design and served as a filming location for the acclaimed TV drama *Gold Leaf*. The mansion preserves a wealth of period artifacts, making it a must-see for history lovers.



Chiang A-Hsin Mansion 姜阿新洋樓

No. 10, Beipu St, Beipu Township, Hsinchu County, Taiwan
+886-3-5803586

Collectable Black Tea Tins



Must Try

Fun & Tasty

The Beauty of Hakka Stone-Ground Tea

Handmade Lei Cha

A Chinese Muslim Association certified Muslim-friendly restaurant, Puyu Hakka Leicha serves authentic Hakka-style ground tea, perfect for sharing. This traditional dish begins with a green tea base, blended with roasted sesame seeds, peanuts, pumpkin seeds, and a variety of grains. Using a wooden pestle and ceramic bowl, the ingredients are ground into a fine powder, then mixed with hot water to create a rich, smooth, and aromatic brew. A sprinkle of crispy puffed rice on top adds the final touch to the satisfying and nourishing lei cha.



📍 Puyu Hakka Leicha 璞鈺擂茶

No. 8, Miao Qian St, Beipu Township, Hsinchu County, Taiwan
+886-3-5802250



Vegetarian & Muslim-Friendly

Innovative Hakka Rice Cakes

Ban (板) —rice-based cakes—are a traditional delicacy not to be missed when visiting Hakka villages. At Tsu Chi Rice Cake, visitors can enjoy a modern, vegetarian version that's certified Muslim-friendly. The dough is infused with mugwort, a fragrant Taiwanese herb, giving the cakes a natural green color. Fillings range from savory shredded radish to sweet red bean and taro paste, offering a delightful balance of flavor, texture, and aroma that keeps customers coming back for more.



📍 Tsu Chi Rice Cake – Miao Qian Branch 鄒記菜包

No. 1, Miao Qian St, Beipu Township, Hsinchu County, Taiwan
+886-3-5803593



Photo credit: Zou Ji Rice Cake



Sun-Dried Condensed Sweetness

Dried Persimmons

Skilled in the art of preservation, Hakka communities dry persimmons into chewy, sun-dried cakes, a hallmark of Hakka culinary tradition. Located on Beipu Old Street, Jiang Taigong Persimmons is a time-honored shop selling dried persimmons of its own production, including stone persimmons, oxheart persimmons, and pencil persimmons. As they dry under the sun, a delicate layer of natural sugar forms on their orange-red skin, creating "persimmon frost," a sweet, snowy bloom that's as beautiful as it is flavorful.



📍 Jiang Taigong Persimmons 姜太公柿餅

No. 24, Miaoqian Street, Beipu Township, Hsinchu County, Taiwan
+886-3-5805270



Everyday Elegance

Handcrafted Indigo Apparel

At Zhuo Ye Cottage, traditional Taiwanese indigo-dyeing is reimagined with a modern sensibility. Blending heritage techniques with contemporary design, Zhuo Ye produces a line of beautifully dyed items, including scarves, clothing, and handbags, infusing daily wear with the rich, calming hues of natural indigo. More than souvenirs, these handcrafted pieces are wearable expressions of everyday aesthetics.



📍 Zhuo Ye Cottage 卓也小屋渡假園區

No.1-9, Benshanxia, Shuangtan Village, Sanyi Township, Miaoli County, Taiwan
+886-37-879198



Taichung City Walk

Explore Imaginative Architecture and Art Museums

Taichung is a city best seen on foot. Intriguing buildings and unique spaces hide within the city streets, sparking inspiration at every turn.

Begin in old town on Taiwan Connection 1908, Taichung's "greenway" built along the former railway line. You'll encounter local landmarks, like Miyahara and the Fourth Credit Union—historic structures transformed into charming dessert parlors.

Buildings designed by world-class architects await in the modern districts. Visit the National Taichung Theater and CMP Inspiration and with every step, you'll dance in harmony with sweeping curves and bold lines, a reimagining of what "space" can be. These are not just photo spots—they are design and culture in perfect balance.

For a taste of the unexpected, try a Michelin-rated creation at MINIMAL, where ice cream is taken to its creative limit. Or visit the Taiwan Agro-Fisheries Market and bring home flavors of Taichung's fertile land and rich waters.

Like a sketch book with each street a new page, Taichung invites you to step in and draw your own inspiration.



Taiwan Connection 1908 綠空鐵道

A Railway Transformed into Taiwan's Only Elevated Greenway

Taiwan Connection 1908 is Taiwan's only elevated greenway and links Taichung's past and present. Spanning about 1.6 kilometers, it preserves the 1908 railway and offers views of the Lyuchuan Canal and buildings including Miyahara. The new Tielu Avenue shopping complex, train car cafés and cultural-creative shops give the greenway an artistic flair and maintain its living history.



📍Taiwan Connection 1908 綠空鐵道

No. 1, Taiwan Blvd Sec. 1, Central District, Taichung City, Taiwan
+886-4-22289111 (Taichung City Tourism Bureau)



Taichung National Theater 台中國家歌劇院

An Artistic Hub Inside a Landmark of Modern Architecture

Designed by Japanese architect Toyo Ito, the Taichung National Theater features a flowing design evoking the curves of a culvert and was named "the world's ninth new landmark." The building is also home to VVG Village, a creative lifestyle bazaar, and Cher Aqua, a beautiful tea lounge and restaurant. More than a performing arts venue, the Taichung National Theater is a place for exploration and unexpected delights.



📍Taichung National Theater 台中國家歌劇院

No. 101, Huilai Rd Sec. 2, Xitun District, Taichung City, Taiwan
+886-4-22511777



Photo credit:
Taichung National Theater



Photo credit:
Taichung National Theater



Fourth Credit Union 第四信用合作社 Retro Ice Cream Parlor in a Historic Bank

Built in 1966 as the Taichung Fourth Credit Union Headquarters, this former bank retains its original reinforced concrete façade, vault door, and terrazzo flooring. These vintage features are paired with crystal chandeliers and an old service counter, creating a unique industrial-meets-retro style. The menu offers over 50 flavors of ice cream, shaved ice, waffles, and brunch plates. Frozen treats can be paired with cheesecake or local pineapple cakes, perfect for a relaxing afternoon tea.



New Banknote lunchbox!



📍Fourth Credit Union 第四信用合作社

No. 72, Zhongshan Road, Central District, Taichung City, Taiwan
+886-4-22271966



Photo credit: Taichung National Theater



CMP Inspiration 勤美術館

An Architectural Masterpiece by Kengo Kuma

The first museum in Taiwan designed by renowned Japanese architect Kengo Kuma, “lifting the earth” is the central concept to the design of CMP Inspiration. Built as a sunken landscape structure, its 410-ping (1,355 m²) curved form and green rooftop blend seamlessly with the surrounding urban greenery. Since opening, it has become one of the most striking structures on the Taichung Greenway. Visitors can wander through airy corridors, spiral staircases, and open courtyards, admiring exhibitions in a space that heightens the impact of each artistic encounter.



◆ CMP Inspiration 勤美術館

No. 79, Guanqian Rd, West District, Taichung City, Taiwan
+886-4-23285000



National Library of Public Information 國立公共資訊圖書館

An IFLA Library to See Before You Die

Designed by JJP Architects & Planners, the National Library of Public Information draws inspiration from the Möbius strip. Its white mosaic façade echoes the flowing shapes of Taichung’s riverscape, earning it the title of “Taichung’s Most Beautiful Public Library” and a place on the IFLA list of “1001 Libraries to Visit Before You Die.” As the largest library in central Taiwan, it holds over 1.64 million volumes and offers e-books, AR experiences, and even robot-assisted services—blending knowledge, design, and technology into one.



◆ National Library of Public Information 國立公共資訊圖書館

No. 100, Wuquan South Rd, South District, Taichung City, Taiwan
+886-4-22625100





MINIMAL

The World's First Michelin-Starred Gelato House

Chef Arvin Wan approaches gelato with the mindset of modern cuisine, treating it as a medium for culinary creativity. Using precise temperature control and incorporating local Taiwanese ingredients such as angelica, camellia oil, and Taiwanese teas, he crafts changing menus of distinctive flavors, boldly reimagining traditional frozen desserts. In 2024, MINIMAL was awarded one Michelin star, making it the first gelato house in the world to receive this honor.



MINIMAL

No. 16, Ln. 133, Meicun Rd Sec. 1, West District,
Taichung City, Taiwan
+886-4-23219080



Taiwan Agro-Fisheries Market 台灣農漁業物產館

One-Stop Shopping for Local Flavors

Located inside the Wufeng Farmer's Association Building, the newly designed products hall welcomes visitors with a lantern wall and stories of agricultural creativity in Taichung. All 13 of Taichung's farmers' and fishermen's associations sell their goods here, offering a complete selection of premium local agricultural and seafood products. Among the highlights is the brand Fengtian Xiaoding, which sells beautifully packaged honey that's a top pick for souvenirs. The hall also features an in-house café where you can taste the fresh, authentic flavors of Taiwan.

Best-Selling Longan Scented Tea



Taiwan Agro-Fisheries Market
台灣農漁業物產館

4F, No. 10, Side Rd, Wufeng District, Taichung City, Taiwan
+886-4-23393027

Cycling Culture Museum 自行車文化探索館

Discover a New Perspective in the World of Two Wheels

Created by Giant, one of the world's leading bicycle manufacturers, the Cycling Culture Museum uses interactive technology to showcase the history, culture, craftsmanship, and competitive spirit of cycling. In addition to exhibits of rare antique bicycles, the museum offers experiences including a VR road race and immersive films, inspiring visitors to fall in love with global cycling culture.



Cycling Culture Museum
自行車文化探索館

No. 997, Dongda Rd Sec. 1, Xitun District, Taichung
City, Taiwan
+886-4-24627979

Must Try

Fun & Tasty

A Presidential State Banquet Dessert

Little Taro Cakes

Don't be fooled by their appearance—these are masterfully crafted pastries, not small taros. Created with certified halal ingredients and rigorously selected betelnut-heart taro, the pastries are prepared with plant-based oil, which gives their crust a delicate, layered flakiness. These cakes, with a sweet filling and rich molten center, were once served at a presidential banquet.



Ah-Tsung-Shih Taro Culture Museum 阿聰師芋頭文化館

No. 168, Xing'an Rd, Da'an District, Taichung City, Taiwan
+886-4-26713077



A Classic Brand's Sweet New Twist

Old-Fashioned Sandwiches

A beloved Taichung bakery, Hung Rui Chen is famous for its old-fashioned sandwiches. The bakery's signature fruit jam sandwiches use soft, fluffy house-baked bread layered with unique toppings including salad dressing and cheese slices. Jam flavors include strawberry, citrus, and blueberry, which add a refreshing fruity sweetness to the savory base. Simple yet rich in flavor, these sandwiches are irresistibly addictive.



Hung Rui Chen 洪瑞珍

No. 125-2, Zhongshan Rd, Central District, Taichung City, Taiwan
+886-4-22268127



Picture-Perfect Travel Stop

Ice Cream

Founded by Taichung pastry brand Dawn Cake, Miyahara has become famous for its ice cream and baked goods. Offering over 60 flavors from rich chocolate and fresh fruit to fragrant tea, guests can mix and match their favorites. Toppings include pineapple cake and cheese-cake, allowing you to design a dessert that's both delicious and one-of-a-kind.



Miyahara 宮原眼科

No. 20, Zhongshan Rd, Central District, Taichung City, Taiwan
+886-4-22271927



Three-Star Gourmet Tea Drinks

King's Bubble Tea

Created with tea leaves awarded three stars by the International Taste Institute, CHICHA San Chen elevates handcrafted beverages to a new level. King Pearl Milk Tea combines Phoenix Eyebrow Black Tea with rich Royal Milk and large chewy pearls for the perfect balance of flavor and texture. The Creamy Lemon Tart combines gyokuro oolong, lime juice, and a silky mousse milk cap, capturing the essence of a lemon tart in a delicious beverage!



CHICHA San Chen Flagship Store 吃茶三千台灣概念店

No. 607, Daying St, Nantun District, Taichung City, Taiwan
+886-4-23285535



What's Fresh?



A New Kind of Retail Park

Central Taiwan is unveiling a wave of new destinations that blend shopping, entertainment, and culture. Step into ① Babbuza Dreamfactory to test your limits on design-forward extreme sports installations; then head to ② Lihpao Resort for outlet-mall finds, a theme park, and an international racing circuit all in one place. Whether you want here to unwind, shop, or seek thrills, these are your perfect playground.

① Babbuza Dreamfactory 半山夢工廠

No. 6, Gongye South Sixth Road, Nantou City,
Nantou County, Taiwan
+886-49-2009666



② Lihpao Land 麗寶樂園

No. 8, Furong Road, Houli District, Taichung
City, Taiwan
+886-4-25582459



Explore Central Taiwan's shopping and food paradises, from world-class malls to authentic night markets for nonstop surprises day and night.



Taiwan's Night-Market Culture

Night markets are a signature of Taiwanese culture, home to beloved street foods like fried chicken, oyster omelets, bubble tea, and stinky tofu, as well as shopping troves. From Taichung's youthful ③ Fengjia Night Market and Chiayi's ④ Wenhua Road Night Market (featured on Netflix's Street Food) to Nantou's ⑤ Caotun Night Market, each market has a distinctive personality and radiates the everyday warmth of urban life in Taiwan.

③ Fengjia Night Market 逢甲夜市

Wenhua Road, Xitun District, Taichung City,
Taiwan
+886-4-24515940



④ Wenhua Road Night Market 文化路夜市

Wenhua Road, West District, Chiayi City,
Taiwan
+886-5-2254321



⑤ Caotun Night Market 草鞋墩人文觀光夜市

No.1037, Zhongzheng Road, Caotun Town-
ship, Nantou County, Taiwan
+886-49-2301126



Savoring Sun Moon Lake

A Scenic Journey of Tea and Coffee

Journey through the rolling, misty mountains to Sun Moon Lake, the jewel of Nantou.

Facing the shimmering reflections on this iconic lake, slow down and fully experience the beauty of the land. At dawn, head out onto the lake with OneLife's stand-up paddleboard guides and enjoy a floating picnic as first light touches the water. Then enjoy a leisurely three-hour, 29-kilometer ride around the lake on a bike path once named the most beautiful in the world by CNN to see water and sky blend seamlessly into one.

In the afternoon, head to the Xiangshan Visitor Center and let your mind settle as you view the striking architecture and tranquil lake vistas. Then visit Taiwan's most beautiful shopping complex, Hizuki Town, and the enchanting world of Cona's Chococastle.

If you would like a quiet cup of tea or coffee, visit Lugao Cafe or Hohocha, where you can take in the healing landscapes. From sunrise to sunset, Sun Moon Lake invites you to slow your pace and savor every moment.





OneLife SUP Adventures 魚人立槳

Dance in the Morning Light and Picnic on the Water

Discover Sun Moon Lake from a new perspective with OneLife, the area's top stand-up paddleboarding (SUP) provider. With a team of professional guides, even first-timers and non-swimmers can try stand-up paddleboarding with confidence. Glide to the heart of the lake and explore hidden coves, fully taking in the sunrise or sunset. For an unforgettable experience, book the "floating picnic" and savor a peaceful meal right on the water captured in beautiful photos by OneLife's photographers.



OneLife SUP Adventures
魚人立槳

Crescent Bay, Yuchi Township, Nantou County,
Taiwan
+886-987-678494



Photo credit: OneLife SUP Adventures



Photo credit: OneLife SUP Adventures



Photo credit: OneLife SUP Adventures

Sun Moon Lake Cycling Trail 日月潭環潭自行車道

A Relaxing Ride Around the Lake Where Water Meets Sky

Voted one of the world's top ten cycling routes by CNNgo, this 29-kilometer trail winds past piers, lakeside villages, forest paths, and scenic boardwalks. The full ride takes about three hours and offers extensive views of Sun Moon Lake's diverse beauty. Visitors can also board the Sun Moon Lake cable car to take in sweeping panoramas from above.



Shuishe Commercial Complex
水社綜合商場

No. 163, Zhongshan Rd, Yuchi Township, Nantou
County, Taiwan
+886-49-2856851



Photo credit: OneLife SUP Adventures



Have a picnic in the middle of the lake!



Lugao Cafe 鹿篙咖啡莊園

Quietly Enjoy Tea and Coffee at a Hidden Retreat

Nestled in the rolling hills of Yuchi Township, Lugao Cafe offers a serene escape in its elegant, raised structure among the mountains. Floor-to-ceiling windows frame breathtaking views like living paintings. Visitors can walk garden paths to a viewing platform overlooking the estate's tea and coffee fields, then settle in against the shifting light and clouds with a pour-over coffee or cold brew tea. Nothing could be better.



📍 Lugao Cafe 鹿篙咖啡莊園

No. 31-6, Xiangcha Ln, Yuchi Township, Nantou County, Taiwan
+886-49-2895520

Xiangshan Visitor Center 向山遊客中心

An Award-Winning Work of Natural Architecture

Designed by renowned Japanese architect Norihiko Dan, the Xiangshan Visitor Center features sleek, curving lines and an infinity pool that reflects the surrounding landscape, creating stunning framed views and mirror-like illusions. A favorite photo spot for travelers walking and cycling trails connect to the visitor center and lead to the Xiangshan Skywalk—an elevated path offering sweeping views of Hanbi Peninsula and Lalu Island from 10 meters above the ground.



📍 Xiangshan Visitor Center 向山遊客中心

No. 599, Zhongshan Rd, Yuchi Township, Nantou County, Taiwan
+886-49-2341256





Hizuki Town 日月町複合式商場

Read Stories of Taiwan in Its Most Beautiful Rest Stop

Praised as Taiwan's most beautiful rest stop, the newly opened Sun Moon Town shopping complex blends elegant architecture with a curated mix of brands. Inside its sleek all-white structure, you'll find Japan's Tsutaya Bookstore, Wired Cafe, and a collection of food trucks serving locally inspired fare. With shopping, dining, and cultural experiences all in one, Hizuki Town is the perfect place to pause and recharge on your journey.



Hizuki Town 日月町複合式商場

No. 235-8, Sec. 4, Zhongshan Rd, Puli Township, Nantou County, Taiwan
+886-49-2009296



Cona's Chococastle 妮娜巧克力夢想城堡

A Fairytale Castle of Romance and World-Class Chocolate

Straight out of a storybook, Cona's Chocolate Castle captivates chocolate lovers with its enchanting design reminiscent of a European castle. Through large glass windows, you can watch skilled chocolatiers handcraft confections that have earned global acclaim. Be sure to try the signature Red Oolong Hazelnut Chocolate, a gold medal-winning creation that blends rich cocoa with the essence of Taiwanese tea.



Cona's Chococastle 妮娜巧克力夢想城堡

No. 32, Taomi Rd, Puli Township, Nantou County, Taiwan
+886-49-2919528



Hohocha 喝喝茶

Discover Craft Black Tea Culture in a Glass Teahouse

Blending Zen-inspired architecture with hands-on tea experiences, Hohocha offers a special glimpse into Taiwan's black tea production. Through a special glass floor, visitors can see the bustling tea factory below and watch the tea-making process unfold in real time. The teahouse also offers guided tastings and fun activities like black tea pizza-making. An ice cream cup topped with sun and moon cookies is a popular finale to this immersive tea experience.



Hohocha 喝喝茶

No. 443-36, Yuchi St, Yuchi Township, Nantou County, Taiwan
+886-49-2895899



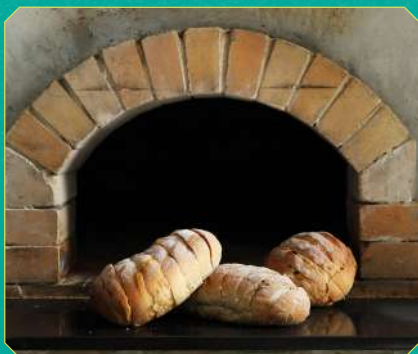
Must Try

Fun & Tasty

Simple, Wholesome, and Full of Flavor

Wood-Baked Bread

At Onelife Eats, every loaf is made with a commitment to clean, healthy ingredients: no eggs, no oil, low sugar, and minimal salt. The dough is slowly risen with a natural French sourdough starter, then mixed with ingredients like nuts, dried fruits, herbs, and Assam black tea grown near Sun Moon Lake. Baked to perfection in a traditional wood-fired oven, the breads have a soft, springy texture that gets better with every bite.



Onelife Eats 魚光窯烤麵包

No. 458-1, Yuchi St, Yuchi Township, Nantou County, Taiwan
+886-906-826272



Expanding the Sense of Taste

Sun Moon Lake Black Tea

Located in Nantou, one of Taiwan's most important tea-growing regions, Yuchi Township is especially renowned for its black tea. At Hugosum, visitors can explore the depth of local flavors with a tasting set of three distinct teas, each brewed using cupping methods from professional tea competitions.

Hugosum's signature paw-shaped black tea cakes add a playful and delicious touch.



Hugosum 和菓森林紅茶莊園

No. 5, Xiangcha Ln, Yuchi Township, Nantou County, Taiwan
+886-49-2897238



Recognized by 500 Bowls

Sticky Fortune Mochi

In Caotun, mochi isn't just a treat, it's a symbol of prosperity. Shaped like gold bars, this local specialty is soft and chewy, filled with fragrant black sesame paste and generously coated in peanut powder—a delightful trio of textures and tastes. Other popular flavors include taro mochi dusted with coconut flakes and savory mochi, featuring a blend of mushrooms and preserved radish. Exclusive to the Caishen Branch, mini mochi served with Italian gelato is another a customer favorite.



Joy-Way Mochi - Caotun Caishen Branch 久味大姐

No. 200, Zhongxiao St, Caotun Township, Nantou County, Taiwan
+886-49-2318123



Sweetness That Stays

Premium Chocolate

Visit Nantou's renowned chocolate atelier Feeling18 for delicious 88% Ex Plus Thin Chocolate or signature ganache gift box. The newly launched French Strawberry Ganache combines strawberry powder, purée, and pieces with silky white chocolate. Its sweet and tart layers will captivate your taste buds.



Photo credit: Feeling 18

Feeling 18

No. 20, Cien St, Puli Township, Nantou County, Taiwan
+886-49-2984863



Xitou Nature Voyage

A Slow Journey Linking Time and Place

Embarking from Xitou, poetry begins in the forest. Follow a bamboo-lined trail, breathe deeply, and let nature's rhythm realign your senses, restoring both body and mind.

Continue along the Jiji Railway Line to the nostalgic village of Checheng, where wooden platforms and a shimmering log pond tell stories of forestry in Taiwan. Book a carpentry workshop and create your own forest keepsake.

The journey continues. Stop in Caotun at the Taiwan Craft Cultural Park, where bamboo weaving, woodwork, and carving showcase the artistry of touch. You can even take a hands-on workshop and converse with master craftspeople. In Zhongxing New Village, pedal a tandem bike through tree-lined boulevards and the streets of the military dependent village. Trace the urban history of Taiwan's provincial capital and bring a new order to life and memory.

This trip is not about check-ins or rushing from place to place—it's about stepping into the soft afternoon light and letting time slow down.



Xitou Nature Education Area 溪頭自然教育園區

Enter a Poetic World of Bamboo Shade

One of the seven experimental forests managed by National Taiwan University's College of Agriculture, the entire park is a wild living classroom. Stroll through vast groves of emerald-green mōsō bamboo or cross the curved bamboo bridge, and you might feel like you have stepped into a scene from *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon*. Each season creates its own verse—cherry blossoms in spring, fireflies on summer nights, and golden ginkgos in autumn and winter. Join a forest therapy session, where both children and adults can find a personal way to connect with the forest.



Xitou Nature Education Area 溪頭自然教育園區

No. 9, Senlin Ln., Lugu Township, Nantou County,
Taiwan
+886-49-2612210



Sun-Link-Sea Forest and Nature Resort 杉林溪森林生態渡假園區

Highland Hiking in a Place of Mist and Magic

Nestled at 1,600 meters above sea level and spanning 40 hectares, Sun-Link-Sea offers scenic hiking trails framed by seasonal displays of cherry blossoms, phonitias, orchids, and maple leaves. Highlights include Songlong Rock Waterfall, Shijing Creek, and Qinglong Waterfall. The park is also a botanical treasure trove, home to hundreds of medicinal plants organized into areas including the Chinese Zodiac Garden, Healthy Tea Garden, Wild Edible Plants Garden, and Medicinal Plants Garden.



Photo by Huang Chi-Feng



Sun-Link-Sea Forest and Nature Resort 杉林溪森林生態渡假園區

No. 6, Xishan Road, Zhushan Township, Nantou County
+886-49-2611217



Jiji Green Tunnel 集集綠色隧道

Stories of Jiji Beneath the Camphor Trees

This 4.5-kilometer stretch of straight road planted with hundreds of camphor trees in the 1940s forms the celebrated Jiji Green Tunnel. As you walk beneath the leafy canopy, the rustle of the wind mingles with glimpses of historic ruins from the Qing dynasty and the Japanese period. The nearby Jiji Railway Station, one of the few wooden stations in Taiwan, is ringed by stalls selling local banana ice cream and treats—a sweet spot you won't want to miss.



Jiji Green Tunnel 集集綠色隧道

Cooling Lane, Provincial Highway 152, Jiji Township,
Nantou County





JOJOZOO Park 九九峰動物樂園

A Joyful Return to the Jurassic

Taiwan's largest bird zoo, JOJOZOO Park features five massive walk-in aviaries housing over 40 bird species. Visitors can step inside for an up-close view of the star resident, the graceful grey-crowned crane. On the hillside, towering dinosaur replicas and a winding miniature train recreate scenes from Jurassic Park, sparking delight and imagination for both children and adults.



JOJOZOO Park 九九峰動物樂園

No. 99, Lane 726, Section 1, Fuding Road, Caotun Township, Nantou County
+886-49-2565107



Adorable Embroidered Animal Patches



Checheng Wood Museum 車埕木業展示館

Timber Heritage at the End of the Line

At the final stop of the Jiji Railway Branch Line lies Checheng, a mountain village shaped by the timber industry. Step out of the charming old station and wander through streets lined railway relics, passing former workshops, a bridge crane, and a log pond. You can also book a woodworking session to craft a meaningful keepsake with your own hands.



Checheng Wood Museum 車埕木業展示館

No. 110-2, Minquan Lane, Shuili Township, Nantou County
+886-49-2775669



Photo credit: JOJOZOO Park



Photo credit: Taiwan Craft Research and Development Institute



Photo credit: Taiwan Craft Research and Development Institute



Taiwan Craft Research and Development Institute
臺灣工藝文化園區

No. 573, Zhongzheng Road, Caotun Township,
Nantou County
+886-49-2334141

Taiwan Craft Research and Development Institute
臺灣工藝文化園區

Witness the Poetic Daily Life of Artisans

With exterior architecture that integrates weaving motifs, this cultural park embodies the spirit of Taiwanese craftsmanship. The Craft Research and Development Institute—designed by renowned sculptor Yang Ying-feng—is also Caotun's youngest historic site. Multiple indoor galleries showcase masterpieces from various eras, including woven bamboo crafts, products of carpentry, carvings, and Buddhist art. Visitors can join hands-on workshops to experience the joy of making crafts firsthand.

Zhongxing New Village 中興新村

Ride a Vintage Tandem Bike through a Military Settlement

Taiwan's second planned township developed from the 1950s, Zhongxing New Village invites visitors to relive the charm of old military dependents' settlements. The local group Provincial Capital Strolls offers experiences including tandem bike tours, weekend markets, and hands-on craft workshops. Many old houses have been transformed into stylish small shops, including the enchanting dessert and tea house Hilltea, where Taiwanese teas pair beautifully with handmade cakes, perfect for slowing down and savoring the local flavor.



Explore all way to trip
省府日常散步

No. 124, Guangming 2nd Road, Nantou City,
Nantou County
+886-49-2312476



Lucky Heart Cake with Tapioca Pearls

Taxation Branch Office 稅務出張所

Step Back a Century in a Qipao

The first Taxation Branch Office established in Taichung Prefecture during the Japanese era, this century-old building has been reborn as a retro café under the care of Furuitang. Rent a qipao, settle into a book-lined corner reminiscent of 1950s Shanghai, and enjoy afternoon tea featuring Lucky Heart Cakes topped with tapioca pearls. You'll feel as if you were transported back to a glamorous era through the tapestry of time.



Taxation Branch Office
稅務出張所 (福瑞堂)

No. 260, Zhongshan Street, Nantou City, Nantou County
+886-49-2231598



Must Try

Fun & Tasty

Tea-Infused Nantou Free-Range Chicken

Oolong Tea Smoked Chicken

This dish captures the essence of Nantou's local flavors, featuring premium free-range chicken from Zhushan. The meat is delicately smoked for over 120 minutes using high-altitude oolong tea from Shanlinxi produced by Tea Master Fong, a Lugu tea brand recognized in Taiwan's Top 100 Young Farmers. Slow smoking seals in the succulent juices and imparts a fresh, fragrant oolong aroma for tender, flavorful meat.



Tian Mama's Half Sky Bistro 田媽媽小半天風味餐坊

No. 3-5, Zhonghu Lane, Lugu Township, Nantou County
+886-966-111362



Luscious and Lustrous Blocks of Gold

Wu Wu Cheese Cake

55 Bakery is a youthful new brand from Shiyi Tang devoted to creating baked treats that surprise and delight. Packaged in lustrous wrapping, its star cheesecake looks like a block of gold. Made with premium Luxe Hokkaido Cream Cheese and chilled for an ice cream-like texture, it has a rich, velvety aroma and melts on the tongue, setting off a sumptuous whirlwind of flavor.



55 Bakery 55號烘焙室

No. 55, Guangming 1st Rd., Nantou City, Nantou County
+886-49-2370099



Mountain Banana Italian Confections

Banana Nougat

Taiwan was once known as the Banana Kingdom. A special variety of this fruit, the mountain banana, can be found in the central mountain village of Jiji. Step into this world of bananas and see over a hundred varieties of Taiwan's namesake fruit. Jijibanana also creates a range of delicious mountain banana snacks, including Italian-style nougat infused with chewy dried banana and crunchy nuts. Sweet and irresistibly sticky, its flavor is like a blessing and an embrace from the mountains.



Jijibanana 集水果觀光工廠

No. 38, Daping Lane, Jiji Township, Nantou County
+886-49-2764562



Making Bamboo Adventures

Mini Outdoor Cups

Founded in Zhushan, Taiwan's center of bamboo processing, Yuantai Bamboo Workshop is devoted to innovating with bamboo and producing eco-friendly products. The Mini Outdoor Cup is fashioned from nodes of giant timber bamboo matured for over three years with attached paracord straps and a pouch designed from fabric made entirely of recycled bottles. Together, these elements transform natural and re-claimed materials into a stylish companion for outdoor life.



Yuantai Bamboo Workshop 元泰竹藝社

No. 1-1, Dingheng Street, Zhushan Township, Nantou County
+886-49-2658681



What's Happening?



A Pinnacle of Bamboo

Amid Central Taiwan's grand forests, ❶ Shih Bi Jhu Chuang Sen in Caoling, Yunlin, rests upon a 516-hectare moso bamboo forest and features cutting-edge bamboo architecture, home to Taiwan's only World Bamboo Landmark. Every year, October to December is forest therapy season, perfect for group trips, individual travel, and cultural journeys.

❶ Shih Bi Jhu Chuang Sen 草嶺石壁森林療癒基地

Gukeng Township, Yunlin County, Taiwan
+886-921-785157 (Yunlin County Shibi Leisure Agriculture Development Association)



Explore Yunlin's World Bamboo Landmark and the Southern Branch of the National Palace Museum. Find spiritual belonging where nature meets art, and experience Taiwan's most cherished natural and cultural treasures.



National Treasures on View

❷ The Southern Branch of the National Palace Museum presents masterpieces from around Asia. Permanent themes include Buddhist art, Asian textiles, tea culture, calligraphy, and the history and culture of Chiayi. Architecturally, three interweaving curved structures—drawing on the aesthetics of Chinese ink painting—are clad in over 36,000 cast-aluminum discs symbolizing clouds and dragon scales, forming one of southern Taiwan's most emblematic artistic landmarks.

❷ Southern Branch of the National Palace Museum
國立故宮博物院南部院區

No. 888, Gugong Boulevard, Taibao City, Chiayi County, Taiwan
+886-5-3620777



Wood City Chiayi

A Cultural and Creative Tour of Chiayi Historic Buildings

Nestled at the foot of Alishan, the Japanese period logging industry caused Chiayi to flourish, earning it the nickname “Wood City.” Shaped by its forestry heritage, Chiayi has unique historic homes and a tradition of fine craftsmanship.

Begin at Beimen Station, a century-old railway stop, and explore Hinoki Village, the Chiayi Sawmill, and the Railway Garage Park, where traces of the city’s old industry remain vivid, each stop another page in Chiayi’s story. In the market district, a century-old police station has been transformed into a literature museum. Or visit the art museum housed in the former Public Monopoly Bureau Building near the train station.

These spaces, blending old and new, spark creativity, filling the city with stylish boutiques and inviting cafés. In Chiayi, travel isn’t just sightseeing, it’s an immersive cultural experience.





Beimen Station 北門驛

Wood City's Century-Old Train Station

Built in 1910, Beimen Station was originally the starting point of the Alishan Forest Railway. Retaining its traditional Japanese architectural style, every beam and pillar is made from prized Alishan red cypress, a living testament to the golden age of the Taiwanese timber industry. Designated a municipal historic site, strolling through the old station feels like traveling back a century to witness the city's history.



♥ Beimen Station 北門驛
No. 128, Gonghe Rd, East District, Chiayi City, Taiwan
+886-5-2768094



Hinoki Village 檜意森活村

Creative Shops in a Historic Forestry Settlement

With an atmosphere like a Little Kyoto, Hinoki Village is a preserved Japanese era forestry settlement. 29 historic buildings and the municipally designated historic site Yinglin Club make it the largest cluster of Japanese-style forestry dormitories in Taiwan. Today, these old spaces are home to a variety of creative shops like Shell-Ginger Story House and San Coffee. Hinoki Village is perfect for travelers who enjoy experiencing Japanese aesthetics with time to pause and savor.



♥ Hinoki Village 檜意森活村
No. 370, Gonghe Rd, East District, Chiayi City, Taiwan
+886-5-2761601



Photo credit: Alishan Forest Railway and Cultural Heritage Office · Photo by Wu Ming-Han

Chiayi Garage Park and Sawmill 嘉義車庫園區 & 製材所

A Sight Every Railfan Should See

Once the repair workshop for Alishan Forestry Railway, the Chiayi Garage Park sits alongside the Chiayi Sawmill, once hailed as the finest sawmill in the East. In the past, mountain trains brought logs here from Alishan to be processed. Today, many original machines and equipment are still preserved on the grounds, offering rare, up close views of vintage locomotives. Come to experience the awe of Taiwan's logging industry as it was a century ago.



♥ Chiayi Garage Park and Sawmill 嘉義車庫園區 & 製材所
No. 2 & 4, Linsen W. Rd, East District, Chiayi City, Taiwan
+886-5-2779843



Chiayi Art Museum 嘉義市立美術館 An Architectural Masterpiece Where History Meets Art

Converted from the 1936 Chiayi Branch of the Tobacco and Liquor Monopoly Bureau, the Chiayi Art Museum preserves the building's original red-brick façade and octagonal columns, while linking old and new structures with timber, glass, and curtain walls. This award-winning design earned first prize at the Taiwan Architecture Awards. Centered on the theme of "Chiayi, a City of Painting," the museum regularly showcases local art and features an Eslite bookstore on site. It is a vibrant public space where history and culture meet in inspiring harmony.



Chiayi Art Museum
嘉義市立美術館

No. 101, Guangning St, West District, Chiayi City, Taiwan
+886-5-2270016



Museum of Old Taiwan Tiles 台灣花磚博物館

4,000 Vintage Tiles in Exquisite Display

Once a lumber shop, this building has been transformed into a museum housing over 4,000 Majolica tiles. On the first floor, a grand wall covered entirely in ornate tiles is the perfect spot for a photo. The second floor recreates historic scenes of daily life in its presentations of vintage tiles and antique furniture. The museum also offers reproductions and tile-themed merchandise for sale. Each piece carries its own symbolism and history, making them treasures worth cherishing.



Unique Patterns and Images



Museum of Old Taiwan Tiles
台灣花磚博物館

No. 282, Linsen W. Rd, West District, Chiayi City, Taiwan
+886-905-012390





Chiayi Literature Museum: Dongmen Neighborhood 1923 東門町

Stories Reborn in a Century-Old Station

Hidden within the city's backstreets, Dongmen Neighborhood 1923 was built in 1923 as Dongmen Neighborhood Police Station. Restored with traditional mortise-and-tenon joinery and reclaimed materials, the delicate details of the building's Japanese-style architecture have been preserved. Now, the century-old police station has been reborn as the Chiayi Literature Museum. With interesting interactive exhibitions, the museum is a quiet, contemplative space for a gentle conversation with literature away from the bustle of the city.



Chiayi Literature Museum: Dongmen Neighborhood 1923 東門町

No. 236, Gongming Rd, East District, Chiayi City, Taiwan
+886-5-2275560



Mokusho Cafe 木商珈琲

Wabi-Sabi Coffee in a Historic House

Step into Chiayi's old East Market, where a 60-year-old wooden house once used for selling firewood has been transformed by local young creatives into a base for wabi-sabi coffee. The interior is decorated with vintage objects and antique furniture, creating a quiet, warm atmosphere. Here, you can enjoy a refreshing iced coffee or a freshly cooked Liège waffle while gazing out the window at the vibrant daily life of the city.



Mokusho Cafe 木商珈琲

No. 78, Lanjing St, East District, Chiayi City, Taiwan



Must Try

Fun & Tasty

Savor Flavors from Netflix's Street Food

Fish Floss Cake

The square-shaped cakes are a traditional Chiayi pastry. The 50-year-old heritage brand T.K. Food has teamed up with Smart Fish, featured on Netflix's Street Food, to create the Smart Fish Shacha Tuna Floss Cake. Enriched with tuna fish floss, these crisp, flaky cakes offer a savory-sweet balance with layers of taste—an irresistible reinvention of a classic pastry.



Photo credit: T.K. Square City

T.K. Square City 老楊方城市

No. 3, Dapumeiyuanqu 5th Rd., Dalin Township, Chiayi County
+886-05-2950520



A Delicious Fusion of Rice and Fruit

Golden Rice Cracker

Chiayi-based brand FenchiFu has reimagined traditional puffed rice snacks in its award-winning Golden Rice Cracker, which earned the Superior Taste Award at Belgium's 2019 International Taste & Quality Institute competition. Its signature Dragon Fruit Rice Cracker uses locally grown rice and dragon fruit, giving the pure white rice a natural pink hue. The crackers are vibrantly colorful and full of flavor.



Photo credit: FenchiFu



Photo credit: FenchiFu

FenchiFu 奮起福

No. 153, Siwei Rd, West District, Chiayi City, Taiwan
+886-800-871888



A Delight Etched in History

Sacred Tree Yōkan

Sacred Tree Yōkan evoke the flavors and memories of 1930s Chiayi, when the city was under Japanese rule. Traditional wagashi techniques are used to create inventive flavors such as plum, chestnut, jasmine, and brown sugar. These confections were awarded the 2022 International Taste Institute's Superior Taste Award, making them a timeless and exceptional gift.



New Taiwan Bakery

新台灣餅舖

No. 294, Zhongshan Rd, West District, Chiayi City, Taiwan
+886-5-2222154



Premium Flavor Sets PCA Record Price

Alishan Coffee

Coffee lovers, don't miss this! In 2021, Alishan coffee fetched a record price at the Private Collection Auction, cementing Taiwan's status as an emerging place of origin for premium estate coffee. Visit Reshock Coffee, where the thoughtfully designed gift boxes allow you to mix and match beans from different estates so you can bring home the distinctive tastes of Alishan in a single box.



Reshock Coffee 里響咖啡

No. 355, Zhongzheng Rd, East District, Chiayi City, Taiwan
+886-5-2220010



Alishan Forest Railway

Ride Into a Cedar Forest Filled with Stories

Alishan is more than a natural landmark—it's a journey where culture and human connection intertwine. Begin by ascending the century-old tracks in the Fusen Sightseeing Train, its cedarwood carriages gliding through the mountains like a moving gallery. Take in sweeping mountain views, discover vibrant local culture, and discover one hundred years of forestry heritage along the way.

Stroll the Shuishan Trail beneath towering ancient trees, explore the nostalgic lanes of Fenghu Old Street to experience the rich culture of an old mountain rail town, or step into the historic locomotive shed to relive the golden age of steam. You can also visit Indigenous cultural spaces, where immersive experiences, featuring theater, music, cuisine, and crafts, bring the mountain's layered stories of culture and nature to life.

Alishan is the essence of Taiwan's mountain life—a place to walk slowly, experience deeply, and savor with intention.



Alishan Forest Railway 阿里山林業鐵路

Discover a Living Mountain Gallery

Built in the early 20th century and now designated a national cultural asset, the Alishan Forest Railway is a treasured remnant of Taiwan's logging era. In 2024, the full line was restored and reopened, offering visitors the chance to board the brand-new Formosensis Sightseeing Train and journey back in time through historic forestry settlements in the mountains. Outfitted with aromatic hinoki cypress interiors and picture-frame windows, the Formosensis Sightseeing Train feels like a moving art gallery, where each window displays moving landscapes of mountains and forests.



📍 Alishan Forest Railway 阿里山林業鐵路

No. 528, Zhongshan Rd, East District, Chiayi City, Taiwan
+886-5-2256918

Photo credit: Alishan Forest Railway and Cultural Heritage Office · Photo by Wu Ming-Han



A fragrant train accompanies your journey

Alishan National Forest Recreation Area 阿里山國家森林遊樂區

Feel the Healing Power of an Ancient Forest

Tracing its roots back to the late 19th century, this national scenic area was once a major logging site and is now one of Taiwan's oldest and most iconic forest recreation destinations. Alishan is famous for its "Five Wonders"—the forest railway, towering woodlands, the sea of clouds, sunrises, and the sunset glow. The newly designed Shuishan Healing Trail follows retired railway tracks and winds through groves of ancient trees. A smartphone app leads visitors through the forest, inviting them to slow down and take a journey of personal healing.



📍 Alishan National Forest Recreation Area 阿里山國家森林遊樂區

No. 59, Zhongzheng Village, Alishan Township, Chiayi County, Taiwan
+886-5-2679917

Eryanping Trail 二延平步道

A Hidden Sea of Green Among Alishan's Tea Fields

Follow in the footsteps of mountain villagers to reach Eryanping Trail, a peaceful path that winds through lush, undulating tea fields. The neatly arranged tea bushes create mesmerizing patterns, forming a landscape unique to Alishan. From the mountaintop viewing platform, take in sweeping views of the Chiayi-Tainan Plain. On clear winter days, dramatic seas of clouds and fiery sunsets draw photographers in search of the perfect shot.



📍 Eryanping Trail 二延平步道

At the 52.8K mark on Provincial Highway 18, Gung-tian Village, Fanlu Township, Chiayi County, Taiwan
+886-5-2593900



Photo credit: Alishan Forest Railway and Cultural Heritage Office · Photo by Wu Ming-Han

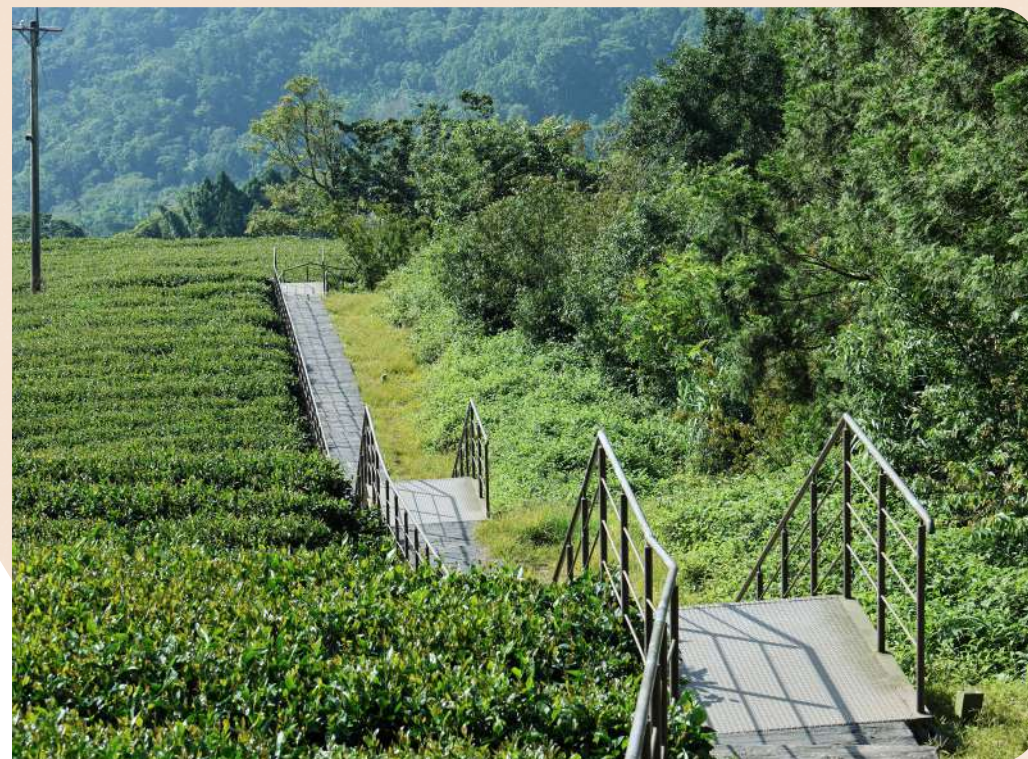




Photo credit: YuYuPas Tsou Cultural Park

Performances in Traditional Costume



YuYuPas Tsou Cultural Park 優遊吧斯鄒族文化部落

Embracing Tsou Life in the Tea Fields

At 1,300 meters above sea level, YuYuPas is nestled among tea plantations, coffee groves, and drifting mountain mist. This Indigenous cultural village offers a window into the daily life of the Alishan Tsou people. Thatched-roof houses dot the landscape, where women in traditional dress warmly welcome visitors with locally grown tea and coffee. At the Matano Theater, live performances invite the audience to sing and dance alongside the cast, offering an immersive, joyful experience of Tsou culture.



YuYuPas Tsou Cultural Park
優遊吧斯鄒族文化部落
No. 127-2, Leye Village, Alishan Township, Chiayi County, Taiwan
+886-5-2562788



Tsou Veoveoana Cultural and Creative Park 鄒族逐鹿文創園區

A Vibrant Stage for Tsou Myth and Dance

Step into a new Indigenous cultural park in Alishan, built on the site of a historic sika deer hunting ground. This thoughtfully designed attraction brings the traditional world of the Tsou people to life, from black bears and ancestral houses to lookout towers and hands-on experiences that tell stories of daily life. At the heart of the park is the Yokeoasu Theatre, where bilingual performances blend modern dance with Tsou songs and legends. Told with creativity and romance, these mythic stories are not to be missed. Reservations are recommended.



Tsou Veoveoana Cultural and Creative Park 鄒族逐鹿文創園區
No. 1-1, Meihua 1st Rd, Chukou Village, Fanlu Township, Chiayi County, Taiwan
+886-5-2590089



Moon Block Blessings





Fenqihu Station and Locomotive Shed 奮起湖車站 & 機關車庫

A New Twist on the Spirit of the Steam Era

Once an important refueling stop on the Alishan Forest Railway, Fenqihu Station served as a key midway point where steam trains paused to take on water and coal before climbing deeper into the mountains. Next to the station stands the historic 1912 Loco Shed, now a Chiayi County-designated heritage site. Inside, vintage locomotives, tools, and hinoki-wood train cars bring to life the stories of rail workers and mountain routes. The old depot has been transformed into a cozy café and ice cream shop. Don't miss their sakura, oolong, and wasabi ice cream, a sweet and unexpected finale to your Alishan adventure.

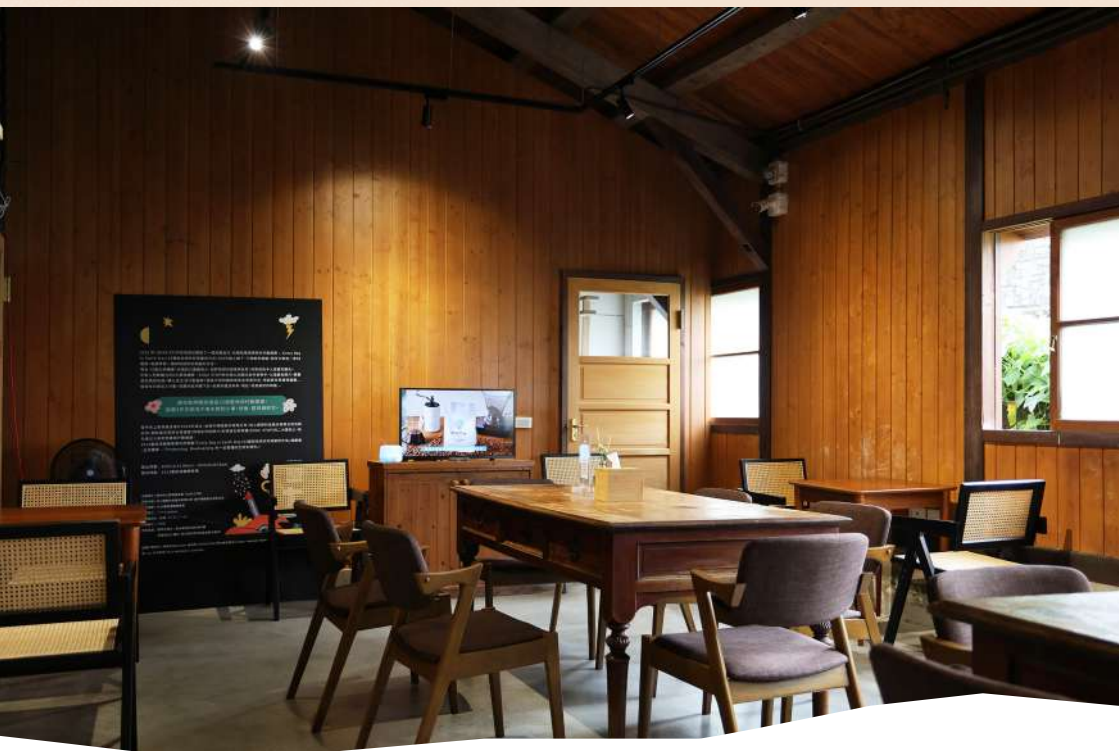


Special Wasabi Ice Cream



Fenqihu Station and Loco Shed 奮起湖車站 & 機關車庫

No. 166, Fenqihu, Zhonghe Village, Zhuqi Township, Chiayi County, Taiwan



Fenqihu Old Street 奮起湖老街

An Old Street that Meets the Sky

Fenqihu is the highest-altitude old street in Taiwan, nestled in a mountain village that blends historic charm with natural beauty. Surrounded by cedar forests, tea farms, and wooden architecture, this hillside town flourished with the rise of the forest railway. Today, its old houses have been transformed into vibrant shops offering a wide variety of local specialties like wasabi, aiyu jelly, and donuts. The friendly voices of shopkeepers calling out to visitors fill the air, a warm welcome to Alishan's mountain hospitality.



Fenqihu Old Street 奮起湖老街

Fenqihu, Zhonghe Village, Zhuqi Township, Chiayi County, Taiwan



Must Try

Fun & Tasty

Crafting Romance in the Mountains

Become a Tea Artisan

Step into the heart of Alishan's high-mountain tea region and dress as a tea farmer. At 1,250 meters above sea level, you'll be guided by expert tea artisans through the secrets of Alishan's prized teas. From hand-picking fresh tea leaves to pan-firing, rolling, and drying, you'll experience the full traditional process and craft your very own package of Alishan high mountain green tea—a flavorful keepsake steeped in memory and the beauty of the mountains.



Sheng Li Farm 生力農場

No. 9-5, Xiding, Gungtian Village, Fanlu Township, Chiayi County, Taiwan
+886-5-2586785

Note: Minimum two participants. Reservation required.



Savoring Time in a Century-Old Home

Tea Tasting Experience

Step into a family-run tea estate passed down through generations. Stroll along stone-paved terraces as you feel the stories behind the tea gardens, then pause at an elegant tea table set in a century-old traditional home. Surrounded by mountain mists, enjoy a serene afternoon sampling Jin Xuan, Oolong, and Honey Scented Black teas paired with delicate local treats—a quiet moment where time and tea blend together in harmony.



Linyuan Tea 林園製茶

No. 19-57, Shizhao, Zhonghe Village, Zhuqi Township, Chiayi County, Taiwan
+886-5-2561523

Note: Minimum four participants. Reservation required.



A Rich Brew of Tsou Culture

An Unplugged Coffee Experience

In the Tsou people's ancestral homeland of Suwana, meaning a rich land with animals and springs, a small cafe run by locals offers a rare, unplugged coffee ritual. The beans are first roasted over an open flame using a hand-held mesh roaster then ground with a wooden mortar and pestle. Experience the purest way to savor the aroma and culture of Alishan coffee.



Sawana Cafe 宿瓦納咖啡屋

No. 301-8, Leye Village, Alishan Township, Chiayi County, Taiwan
+886-963-163286

Note: Advance booking required for groups of four or more



A Taste of Summer in Taiwan

Washing Aiyu

A beloved summer treat in Taiwan, aiyu jelly is made from the seeds of a native creeping fig found in the mountains—and Alishan is one of its most important growing regions. At YuYuPas, you can book a hands-on experience to prepare aiyu yourself. Watch as the fuzzy seeds transform into a shimmering jelly—a surprisingly magical and soothing process.



YuYuPas Tsou Cultural Park 優遊吧斯鄒族文化部落

No. 127-2, Leye Village, Alishan Township, Chiayi County, Taiwan
+886-5-2562788

Note: Advance booking required for groups of two or more



A Culinary Journey of Flavor, Aroma, and Color

Experience Taiwan in a gastronomic adventure. From charcoal fired hotpot to traditional desserts like douhua and grass jelly, the ten classic dishes described are a mouthwatering fusion of cultures, creating a culinary journey full of flavor, aroma, and color.

Savory Delights

1 Beef Noodles



A dish unique springing from Taiwan's multicultural roots, every place and every restaurant has its own take on beef noodles. The two main styles of beef noodles are *hong shao* (spiced soy broth) and *qing dun* (clear broth). At **Ningbo Food** in Taichung, the clear broth beef noodles boast tender beef and soup seasoned with ginger for a fresh and flavorful mixture of meat and vegetables.



Ningbo Food 寧波小館
No. 146, Xueshi Rd., North District,
Taichung City
+886-4-2236-0959

2 Beef Hotpot



An institution with 60 years of history, Taichung's signature beef hotpot is bold and heartwarming. The traditional charcoal hotpot, placed directly on the dining table, brims with handmade beef balls, frozen tofu, napa cabbage, and slow-simmered halal beef shank. This delicious soup overflows with flavor.



**Halal Ende Yuan
Dumpling House
清真恩德元餃子館**
No. 200, Sec. 1, Wenxin Rd., Nantun
District, Taichung City
+886-4-24717240



3 Spicy Mala Hotpot

An authentic homestyle dish prepared by a Turkish chef, a meal of Testi Kebab begins by breaking the crust that seals the stew pot. Inside is a mixture of tender lamb, chickpeas, tomatoes, and onions bathed in aromatic spices. Soft braised meat paired with the rustic pastry is a cross-cultural harmony of texture and taste.



**Wu Si Da Turkish
Restaurant 烏司答**
No. 25, Ln. 858, Sec. 1, Daya Rd., East
District, Chiayi City
+886-5-2765985



4 Testi Kebab



Infused with Sichuan peppercorns and chili peppers, the fiery red broth of spicy mala hotpot is as addictive as it is bold. At **Ju Cui Shi Yan**, a vegetarian restaurant awarded two stars by Taiwan's Pure Green Veg Food Guide, the hotpot soup is made entirely from vegetables and spices. Their halal-certified vegan mala hotpot is a creative interpretation of this beloved dish.



**Ju Cui Shi Yan
掬翠拾煙**
No. 10, Jinsheng Ln., Lukang Township,
Changhua County
+886-4-7789112



5 Kiln-Roasted Chicken

Free-range chicken is a cornerstone of Taiwanese mountain cuisine. At **Halal Eastern Chinese Restaurant**, chicken is marinated in a complex blend of spices and roasted until the skin is crisp and the meat is juicy. Served with pickled fruits and vegetables and house-made sauces, this "Futian Chicken" showcases a distinctly Taiwanese approach to grilled poultry.



**Halal Eastern Chinese
Restaurant 蔡記東華食府**
No. 1060-1, Xinyi Rd., Puli Township,
Nantou County
+886-49-2918866

A Culinary Journey of Flavor, Aroma, and Color

Sweet Treats



1 Niu Wo Wo

This creative dessert is inspired by the traditional Hakka sweet *ngiu vun sui*. It features three types of hot mochi served with creamy milk pudding, crushed peanuts, and a scoop of refreshing brown sugar shaved ice. The contrast between the hot and cold ingredients makes this dish surprisingly delightful.



Taiwan Hakka Hand Gift Shop 桂花品
No. 45, Zhongzheng Rd., Nanzhuang Township, Miaoli County
+886-3-7683411



2 Grass Jelly Desserts

A staple of Taiwanese summer desserts, mesona (*xiancao*) is a mildly bitter medicinal plant containing natural gelatin. Mesona is typically made into a dark jelly, commonly known as "grass jelly," and paired with sweet red bean paste for a delicious and healthy dessert reminiscent of *bubur cha cha*.



Guanxi Grass Jelly Alley 關西仙草巷
5F, No. 14, Zhongxing Rd., Guanxi Township, Hsinchu County
+886-3-5874090



3 Rose Oolong Tea

Enjoy tea in a whole new way. Try a St-Honoré cake filled with honeyed black tea cream and tea jelly, or a Joconde sponge imbued with the roasted depth of Tieguanyin oolong. These French pastries fused with Taiwanese tea are a romantic combination of East and West.



Zengin Cafe 然井茗露
No. 123-18, Leye Village, Alishan Township, Chiayi County
+886-5-256-2257



4 Tea-Infused French Desserts



5 Douhua with Soy Milk

Douhua, a classic Taiwanese dessert made from soy milk, is usually served in a brown sugar infusion. In Chiayi, however, *douhua* is often paired with warm soy milk, doubling the fresh flavor of rich soy. At **AE Douhua**, you can pair soy milk *douhua* with crispy *youtiao* (fried dough), a special local twist on a classic dessert.



AE Douhua 阿娥豆漿豆花
No. 233, Yanping St., East District, Chiayi City
+886-5-2243016



Alishan Win 飲山郁茶館
No. 7-18, Xiding, Gongtian Village, Fanlu Township, Chiayi County
+886-5-258-6927



This symbol marks Halal-friendly dining.

Central Taiwan's Festival Calendar

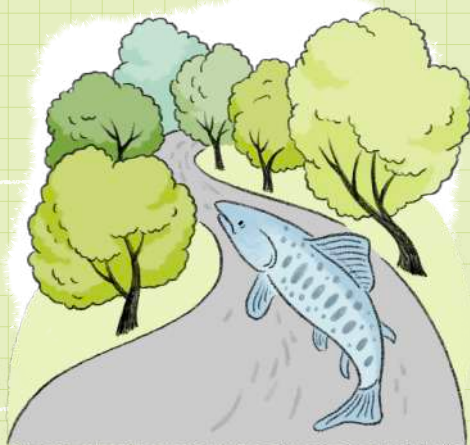
Spring and Summer

With its diverse terrains and climates, Taiwan is home to a wide array of seasonal events. From Alishan cherry blossom and firefly viewing to Hakka tung flowers season and the Nantou International Tea Expo, the events described here beautifully demonstrate the confluence of nature and culture in Taiwan.

February

📍 Taichung Wuling Farm Cherry Blossom Festival

Often called a “cherry blossoms museum,” Wuling Farm features a 3-kilometer trail lined with 20,000 cherry trees. Kwanzan, Showa, and Taiwan cherry trees blanket the hillsides in a dazzling wash of pink blossoms each spring.



March April

📍 Chiayi Alishan Cherry and Wisteria Blossom Season

Alishan is a land of cherry blossom and home to the famous “Cherry King,” a century-old Yoshino cherry brought from Japan in 1918. During cherry blossom season, wisteria also bursts into bloom with plush purple flowers cascading like waterfalls, perfect for taking photos.



April May

📍 Island-wide Hakka Tung Blossom Festival

White tung blossoms drifting like May snow are an iconic sight in Hakka villages. Trails allow hikers to explore ecology, history, and local markets, while hands-on activities fully immerse visitors in the charm of Hakka culture.



April May

📍 Changhua Hushan Temple Daylily Blossom Season

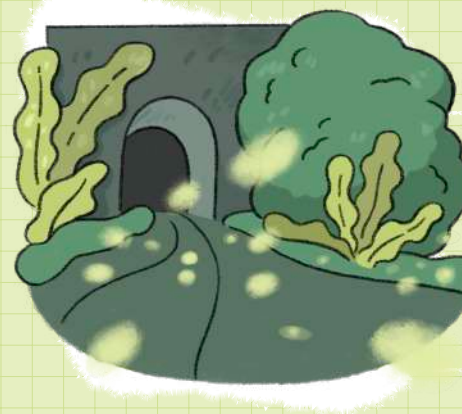
Behind the historic Hushan Temple, founded in 1747, nearly 80,000 daylilies cover the slopes. The daylilies begin to bloom in mid-April and reach their peak in May. Their brilliant yellow flowers turn rolling hills into a golden sea.



April June

📍 Chiayi Alishan Firefly Season

Thanks to its ideal ecological conditions, Alishan is a top spot for firefly viewing in southern Taiwan. From April to June, thousands of *Luciola cerata* and *Luciola ancenyi* fireflies light up the night like stars in the sky, transforming the forest railway into a serene and enchanting Milky Way rail line.



Autumn
and winter

September November

📍 Nantou
Sun Moon
Lake
Fireworks
and Music
Carnival

Named one of CNN's top 10 cycling routes, Sun Moon Lake shines brightest in autumn. During this open-air music and fireworks festival, colorful bursts are reflected on the lake, creating a spectacular double display across the water and the sky.



September December

📍 Chiayi
Alishan
Tsou Annual
Festivals

The Alishan Tsou annual festivals kick off every autumn. They include Muni Music Festival, Life Bean Festival, Shovel-Jaw Carp Festival, Thanksgiving Festival, and Hufu Gazebo Festival. In these immersive local events, visitors can experience Tsou song, dance, and harvest culture.



October

📍 Nantou
Nantou
Global Tea
Expo

This celebration of tea, combining judging and tourism, draws thousands of visitors each year. Attendees can sample, shop, and experience the aesthetics of Taiwanese tea in the largest tea event on the island.



November December

📍 Taichung
Taichung
International
Flower Carpet
Festival Festival

Central Taiwan's biggest flower event brings together top designers to create dreamy, themed gardens with dazzling oceans of flowers and floral art installations. The festival transforms a humble mountain into a colorful seasonal paradise.



December January

📍 Taichung
Valley Light
Festival

Between Christmas and New Year, Lishan and Guguan transform into alpine holiday villages. Towering mountain cedars become Taiwan's highest-altitude Christmas trees. Visitors can stroll the streets and paths of early settlers to experience a special festive spirit.



Checking In! Central Taiwan

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Rixin Island (Photo by Li Cia-Fang)



Alishan • YuYuPas Tsou Cultural Park
(Photo credit: YuYuPas Tsou Cultural Park)



Sun Moon Lake • Picture of Siang Shan Bikeway
(Photo by Wang Shi-Hao)



Capture
Stunning Scenery



Discover
Local Charm



Experience
a Healing Lifestyle

Cek Lok 打木



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