

Unveiling Taiwan's Best-Kept Secrets: 5 Hidden Gems Await Your Discovery - Teaching Nomad

Jul 18, 2024 Ollie Gorman Blog, Taiwan If you're planning a trip to Taiwan (view our teach in Taiwan guide [here](#)), get ready to discover some lesser-known treasures that will truly elevate your experience. Taiwan is not only famous for its bustling cities and stunning natural landscapes but also for its hidden gems that often go unnoticed by travelers. As your guide in this exciting journey, I'm thrilled to share with you the top 5 hidden gems that you must visit in Taiwan. When visiting Taiwan, most people head straight to its beautiful coastline, but there's a hidden gem waiting to be explored at Shuinandong. The abandoned copper refinery is a photographer's paradise, with its industrial ruins contrasting against the azure sea. As one visitor described it, "This place feels like a forgotten world frozen in time. It's eerie, yet strangely beautiful." Nestled in the hills of northern Taiwan, Jiufen Old Street is a labyrinth of narrow alleyways, traditional teahouses, and charming souvenir shops. Our tip for this gem is to visit in the evening when the lantern-lit streets come alive with an enchanting atmosphere. One traveler raved, "Jiufen feels like walking into a Studio Ghibli film. It's magical and full of surprises." For nature enthusiasts, Wangyou Valley in northeastern Taiwan is a hidden paradise. This coastal trail offers breathtaking views of sea cliffs and rock formations, and if you're lucky, you might spot some wild dolphins frolicking in the waters. A happy traveler shared, "Wangyou Valley is a peaceful escape from the city. The views are absolutely worth the hike." Step into the past with a visit to Beipu, a quaint town known for its preserved historic architecture and rich Hakka heritage. Stroll through the traditional alleyways, visit ancient clan houses, and savor authentic Hakka cuisine. One visitor recounted, "Beipu feels like a living museum. It's a valuable glimpse into Taiwan's cultural roots." While night markets are a staple in Taiwan, Dongdamen Night Market in Hualien remains relatively undiscovered. This bustling market offers a unique blend of local delicacies, artisanal crafts, and live performances. As one traveler put it, "Dongdamen Night Market is a hidden gem for foodies and culture seekers. I was amazed by the variety and authenticity of the experiences there." As you plan your Taiwan adventure, keep in mind

that exploring hidden gems requires a spirit of curiosity and a willingness to venture off the beaten path. Whether you choose to visit the industrial ruins of Shuinandong or savor the flavors of Beipu, each hidden gem promises an unforgettable experience that adds depth to your Taiwan journey. At Teaching Nomad, we understand that navigating a new culture can be both exciting and daunting. That's why we're here to provide you with the guidance and support you need to make the most of your adventure teaching in Taiwan. Send us your email and we will send you instructions to reset your password [Login here](#) If you remember

your password Updated pop-up

Taipei Travel Guide: 30 Best Things To Do & Hidden Gems

Jun. 11, 2018 by Matt van Vuuren These are my carefully selected 30 secrets & best places in Taipei which I've visited twice and includes gems like the Snow King, Laotian Lu, Knife Massages, Snake Restaurant, Din Tai Fong, Taipei Night Markets and Taipei Nightlife tips. I went to Taiwan with no major expectations but let me tell you, the country, people, food and nature truly blew me away and now I understand why people consider it a hidden gem in Asia. I started my Taiwan adventure in Taipei, often called the food capital of Asia for its wide assortment of cuisines and uniquely themed restaurants like the toilet restaurant, snake restaurant and turtle restaurant. For a brief introduction to Taiwan, go watch my first episode! Most popular Taiwanese breakfast, deep fried bread, Taipei crepe and soy milk. Map From Taipei Main Station take the train to Jiufen, the most gorgeous mountain village in Taiwan. Map Exceptionally delicious chicken nuggets with basil, unmatched in the world! Map Controversial museum with 700,000 Chinese artifacts brought over from mainland China during the communist revolution. Map Bizarre restaurant where you can eat beef curry out of a mini toilet bowl. Map Another bizarre activity is fishing for prawns at an indoor pool, open 24 hours. Map The best way to start your Taipei adventure is with an epic Taiwanese breakfast at Fu Hang Soy Milk, the most popular breakfast joint in town but do come early, lineups can grow very large. I ordered the deep-fried bread stick, egg pancake and a delicious cold soy milk soup for 110 NT, roughly \$3.60 USD. There is a good reason why locals wait hours in line to get their hands on this stuff. Most insane dinner experience at the snake restaurant for snake venom, snake blood and snake skin salad. Map Cutest cafe in Taipei, order the adorable omelette with rice and a cute coffee. Map Most epic shaved ice shop in Taipei, my favorite being the almond shaved ice with red beans. Map Enjoy mesmerizing views of Taipei and the Taipei 101 tower but note; the hike is pretty steep. Map Beautiful views from the Taipei 101 observatory deck but do go on a clear day since tickets at 600 NT ~ \$20 USD. Map Best soup dumplings in Taiwan rated a Michelin Star, totally worth every penny! Map mesmerizing views of Taipei from Elephant mountain in Taiwan After your Taiwanese breakfast hike up the Elephant mountain for the best views of Taipei and the Taipei

101 building just make sure to take many breaks and drinks lots of water, especially on a hot summer day. If you are a Star Wars geek, you will have a blast at the Core Pacific Mall, a giant Death Star downtown Taipei. Map One of the best fish markets I've ever been too, salmon and tuna sashimi quality blew me away. Map A memorial for the founder of modern Taiwan: Chiang Kai-Shek who took the nationalist government from China to Taiwan. Map Often compared to Tokyo's Harajuku for its large youth culture and popular fashion shops. Map Popular street snack in Ximending, delicious thick broth with thin noodles and pig intestines. Map Unique duck store in Ximending for all your duck pleasures ranging from tongue, feet, liver, gizzards and duck hearts. Map You will be able to find one of world's largest Chinese art collections at the National Palace Museum having over 700,000 ancient artifacts on display, I do recommend bringing a bunch of Taiwanese fried chicken snacks from the Chicken Founding Headquarters to the nearby Zhishan garden. Bizarre ice cream shop for its Kaoliang ice cream at 58% alcohol percentage and sesame chicken ice cream. Map Unknown to most tourist, Dao Liao is an ancient knife massage and one of the best massages I've ever received. Map Gorgeous Chinese folk religious temple downtown Taipei with daily rituals and offerings to the gods. Map Another famous temple often visited by businessmen looking for good fortunes. Map Relax during a waterfront bike ride north of Taipei along the Keelung river, these bikes at 20 NT per hour (\$0.60 USD) Map Enjoy an epic Mulberry smoothie at the Moonlight Riverside Cafe for just 80 NT. Map almond shaved ice at the Ice Monster in Taipei Hilarious places for dinner include the prawn fishing restaurant where you'll be able to capture your own dinner but also the Modern Toilet Restaurant where you can eat beef curry out of a toilet bowl. For dessert, indulge yourself into a delicious shaved ice delight at Ice Monster, my favorite flavour, the almond shaved ice, red beans and almond soft tofu. Bizarre tea egg shop popular for its fermented duck egg which was surprisingly delicious. Map One of the tallest Chinese classical buildings in the world, a gorgeous hotel great for photography. Map Delicious rare goose meat was better than I expected, it is a meat that should be experienced in Taiwan. Map Taipei is famous for its many night markets namely; Shilin, Linjiang and Raohe night markets open daily from afternoon to midnight. Map Going out in Taipei blew me away, I had no idea the nightlife was this

incredible at clubs: Vibe, Pong, OMNI, Babe18 and Elektro. Map Unique hot springs hotel with your private hot springs bath and view of downtown Beitou. Map After your dessert, head over to the Rilakkuma Cafe. The cutest cafe in Taiwan, including the cute cookies hanging off my coffee cup. On a sunny day, consider a bike ride along the Tamsui river by renting a super cheap Ubike, found all over Taipei for just 20 NT ~ \$0.60 USD, that is a steal! As a Dutch person I found this cafe very unique since I've never seen mini Dutch pancakes outside of Holland. Map Historic military housing for the fled soldiers from mainland China during the communist revolution. Map Perhaps the best metro system in the world, it was super simple to get around town without language barriers. Map attend a knife massage in Taipei, one of my most favourite massages yet One of the most incredible experiences was getting a knife massage by knife massage practitioners who require to be vegetarian and meditate daily but don't worry the cleavers used are blunt, it is quite satisfying getting hammered by blunt metal to a point where I fell asleep from relaxation. For ancient temples, visit the breathtaking Longshan temple also known as the 'meeting place of the gods' where you can witness daily rituals, offerings and many locals praying to the many deities. century eggs and fermented duck eggs in Taipei, Taiwan One of the strangest foods I tried were the fermented duck eggs which were traditionally made by a mixture of lime, salt and ash turning the egg white base into a gelatin texture and the egg yolk green from fermentation, to my surprise, this was a delicious snack. Alternatively, there is a Dutch poffertjes cafe in downtown Taipei. Running into these mini Dutch pancakes on the other side of the planet was a great surprise. As a giant lover of seafood, the Addiction Aquatic Development fish market is the ultimate destination. A high-end fish market with some of the best sashimi, grilled eel and other fish products I have ever tasted, a great spot for lunch! ready to eat epic seafood! at the high-end Addiction Fish Market Another bizarre place is ice cream shop Snow King where you can enjoy the most bizarre flavours from Taiwan beer, Kaoliang (58%), Brandy (40%) to sesame chicken ice cream with real bits of chicken. I double dare you to try the Kaoliang ice cream, it is an experience you'll talk about for the rest of your life. In conclusion, Taipei left a lasting impression on me to such an extent that I returned to Taipei a second time in less than a month time to record even more incredible footage of this mesmerizing city. If you are

considering of visiting Asia, do not skip Taiwan. As for the Taipei Night Markets like Shilin and Linjiang, go watch my special episode on night markets but the best part of Taipei has to be the Taipei Nightlife, I had no idea Taipei has so many amazing bars and night clubs with lots of positive, energenic and kind locals, do not forget to watch my Taipei Nightlife episode either. If you want to make new friends in Taipei, you will eventually be asked to be added to WeChat. WeChat is 'the' chat app in Taiwan, so if you do not have DATA on your phone during your stay, make sure to rent a dirt cheap pocket Wifi station at the airport. You can take these pocket Wifi stations all over the country and connect all of your devices (laptop, tablet, phone). It even fits in your back pocket. Luckily, there is a 10% discount on a pocket 4G Wifi station on Klook (\$1.45 USD per day). I rent this device everytime I visit Taiwan to avoid any stressful situations. What's New? Singapore Nightlife Guide: TOP 30 Bars & Clubs + Pub Crawl3 months ago Honolulu Nightlife Guide: 15 Best Bars & Clubs in Hawaii6 months ago Busan Nightlife Guide: TOP 20 Bars & Clubs + Pub Crawl8 months ago Seoul Nightlife Guide: TOP 30 Bars & Clubs + Pub Crawl9 months ago Prague Nightlife Guide: TOP 30 Bars & Clubs + Pub Crawl10 months ago FREE Newsletter! Subscribe to the monthly newsletter and get updates on latest posts. Who is Matt? My name is Matt (Reformatt), the past 20 years, I've traveled to 200+ cities and my videos have been watched 35 million times, with episodes ranging from food reviews to YouTube's #1 travel guides & nightlife guides.

Best Hidden gems in Taipei

Log in for great & exciting features! Welcome to Taipei Taiwan! Say goodbye to selfies, I will be your personal photographer. Let me show you the beauty of Taipei, and capture the best of you! Check my IG for ideas: [mason.tpe.photographer](#) Get a complete overview of Taipei on a 3.5-hour private guided tour. See the best the city has to offer with a perfect combination of highlights, hidden gems, a local snack and storytelling. Wanna try local way to travel? Don't worry about the travel plan. Let me choose the iconic spots and hidden gems for you while capturing the best of you! Check my IG for ideas: [mason.tpe.photographer](#) Wanna find hidden gems in Taiwan? Don't worry about the travel plan. Let me choose the iconic spots for you while capturing the best of you! Check my IG for ideas: [mason.tpe.photographer](#) Immerse yourself in Taipei's historic prosperity. Visit iconic temples, explore a hidden district, uncover the secrets of Chinese medicine and local products, and enjoy the sunset with local beer. Experience Taipei to Sun Moon Lake & Alishan in 3 days! Scenic beauty, cultural exploration, personalized attention? your journey, your memories. Let's GO! Relax on a private trip from Taipei to explore the Kavalan Distillery, Zhang Mei Ama's Farm, and the National Center for Traditional Arts. Discover Northern Taiwan's best: Houtong Cat Village, release sky lanterns in Pingxi, explore Jiufen Old Street, and see Shifen Waterfall? all with easy hotel transfers! OR Login to create your guides for Taipei. Din Tai Fung is the world-famous Taiwanese Cuisine Restaurant. This experience allows you to enjoy high-end traditional Taiwanese food for an affordable price. Discover scenic Northern Taiwan on a private day tour from Taipei. Be amazed by the landscapes in Yehliu Geopark. Explore the beauty of historical Jiufen, which inspired Oscar-winning animations then make a wish with a sky lantern flying over Pingxi. Escape the city and explore the essence of tea on a guided tour from Taipei to Maokong and Pinglin. Experience Taiwanese tea culture from seed to cup on this tour that is ideal for tea enthusiasts. Witness unforgettable, panoramic views over Taipei city from the observation deck of the iconic Taipei 101. Enjoy skip-the-line access and avoid the long wait to enter this popular attraction. Relax and refresh before your flight with a premium lounge pass at Taiwan Taoyuan Airport. Enjoy unlimited

high-speed WiFi while you dine on delicious food and beverages for a dedicated duration. Witness unforgettable, panoramic views over Taipei from the observation deck of the iconic Taipei 101, once the world's tallest building. Travel up 89 floors for fantastic 360-degree views over Taipei City. Travel to northern Taiwan's most popular tourist attractions, such as Jiufen, Yehliu or Yangmingshan National Park with your own private driver. Soak in the tranquility of tea plantation scenery in Thousand Island Lake, away from bustling Taipei. Learn about rich tea culture and history at Pinglin Tea Museum. Taste tea at a local tea house. Travel to northern Taiwan with this group tour from Taipei. Marvel at rock formations in Yehliu Geopark, visit a mountain village in Jiufen, and launch a sky lantern in Pingxi. No need to worry if your plans change with free cancellation options available

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Highlights & Hidden Gems With Locals: Best of Taipei Private Tour - Taipei, Taiwan - TourMega

This was great Diane the tour guide loves her city and that was infectious. The tour has various sites from tempels to markets .

Informative and upbeat background stories on each location . Grand afternoon Jack offered a great and insightful tour of the area. He was very

knowledgeable and provided me a great morning full of sights,

knowledge and local culture. As online reviews were fantastic, we spontaneously decided to give

Withlocals a try and did not regret it! The booking process was quick and easy, and our guide Jack turned out to be the perfect choice for us. Time was flying as he had so many interesting places to

show and facts to tell us, so w...

Read more I have a wonderful time with Chia-Chien, she is out-going and speak excellent English and knowledge about the places we visited regard the

history so I learn many things about her country and she is a great

host. Had a wonderful tour in Taipei with Chia-Chien L from withlocals.com. She is knowledgeable

as well as friendly. I learned much on the History of Taipei, and we were just in time to see the

guards in the Presidential palace do their act. There followed a long, pleasant bicycle ride to the north-we...

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took us to the best sites in Taipei and explained her culture and history. She really brought Taipei to life fo...

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Finding the hidden gems in Taipei - 5 Speakeasy choices for your night out! | TourMeAway Nightlife Travel Blog

Cities have two faces, one for the day and one for the night. But to travel in the night time in a strange city is not always the first choice for the first-time travellers. Luckily, Taipei is one of the safest places on earth where one actually goes out for supper at 2am in the morning alone. There are some pick-pockets in the crowded places, but that is the top risk travellers certainly don't have to worry about going back to the hotels/hostels safely (taxis and uber work late as well!).

To explore Taipei in the nighttime is easy as most shopping area run until 10pm, and even after that there are night markets for a snack or bubble milk tea late into nights. However, if you like a drink or two, you are especially in the right place! Ever since the law lifted the restriction on brewing alcohol back in the 1990s, the industry blooms with numerous craft beer breweries, award-winning cocktail mixologists, and all vibes of bars! Taipei's nightlife now has become even more abundant with speakeasy scattered across the city. They are fun, they provide delicious cocktails, but finding them is a challenge! Fear not though, as we are about to bring to you a guide for speakeasy -- and how to get in! Le Kief????? Located on a street delightfully decorated with bars, Le Kief lies behind a tailor store. Inspired by the movie 'Kingsmen,' this speakeasy disguises itself as a suit store. Cooperating with STYDER, a customized suit tailor brand, one can actually purchase the shirts, ties, shoes, and suits in the store. To get to the drinking section, walk to the end of the store, pick up the antique phone and dial 09, and the hidden door will slide open on your left hand side, leading you into the bar. Once passed the tunnel from the glamorous tailor store, one will find themselves standing in a dimly lighted, run-down style space. To imitate the speakeasy in the 20s, the walls are bare and the bar is behind a wooden pallet. I personally love their cocktails match with foods. 'Between the sheets' mixes Apple Brandy with Rum, and topped with cinnamon and a piece of freshly baked bacon. Take a sip then a bite of the bacon, the smokey taste adding up with the thick brandy flavour could satisfy all hunger! Mozi???? Mozi is possibly my personal favourite

one, as they don't only provide wonderful and creative cocktails, but also amazing foods! From the outside this is a normal operating salon, but you only have to bravely walk past all stylists and their customers, and lightly push the bookshelf by the stairs, and you'll be welcomed in by the speakeasy. (Feel free to ask the stylists otherwise they might be acting normal!) I adore their tea based cocktails, and oftentimes there are fresh seasonal fruit to add some local touch, but if you want to something different to start the night with, try "Tea from Grandpa," which was based on the Earl Grey infused Gin and added with lime juice. Don't miss out on their Mushroom with Matsusaka pork, and if you are in the mood for some local delicacies, try the Mozi Luwei, which contains bean curds, intestines, and pork blood cakes braised in soy sauce. Enjoy your adventure! Ounce Ounce is a bar hidden behind a bar, and our suggestion is to take a beer from the outside bar, sit by the roadside and enjoy some night breeze before you press the button on the wall, push through to enter the cocktail part of your night. Ounce is one of the earliest speakeasy in Taipei, and many local's favourite with its classical flavours and cozy space. The cocktail style in Ounce is simple, strong, and dry, if you are still pondering over the menu, try their Daiquiri. If you are lucky enough, you might meet one of their guest mixologists -- they invite award-winning mixologists from around the world. Once Cafe&Bar Comparing to the others, Once is quieter especially on weekday nights, which can be a blessing on the hustle and bustle Ximen area. This is also one speakeasy that doesn't come with any special gadgets. Simply walk to the end of the cafe, and you'll find a narrow stairs to the basement. In this attached basement, there is a separate bar, some comfortable sofa space, and a pair of great stereo! Even more than that, Once has an amazing collection of gin, so try any of their gin and tonic, and pick a special gin to your choice!

Partner: Taiwan Youth Hostel Association,

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The Best Hidden Gems in Taipei | Updated December 2024

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Withlocals

Taipei: Private Tour With Locals ? Highlights & Hidden Gems | Travel Buddies

Explore the highlights and hidden gems of Taipei on a private guided tour designed for small groups. The 3.5-hour tour departs from Chiang Kai-Shek Memorial Hall station, led by a knowledgeable local guide. Discover iconic landmarks like Dalongdong Baoan Temple and Chiang Kai-Shek Statue, while immersing in the vibrant culture at Maji Market. Enjoy a complimentary local snack or drink, and benefit from flexible booking and free cancellation. With positive reviews and organized service, this tour offers excellent value. Learn more about discovering Taipei's hidden gems and local cultural experiences. It's also worth checking out some other tours and experiences nearby. Designed for small groups, this private guided tour of Taipei showcases the city's highlights and hidden gems over the course of 3.5 hours. It's limited to a maximum of 8 participants and conducted in English. The tour departs from the MRT Chiang Kai-Shek Memorial Hall station, Exit 5, allowing guests to conveniently access the tour's starting point. Throughout the experience, the knowledgeable guide provides insights into local culture and history, and participants enjoy a complimentary local snack or drink. This flexible booking option allows travelers to reserve their spot now and pay later, with free cancellation available up to 24 hours in advance. This private guided tour of Taipei showcases the city's highlights and hidden gems. Travelers will discover iconic landmarks like the Dalongdong Baoan Temple, a well-preserved example of traditional Taiwanese architecture, and the Chiang Kai-Shek Statue, a commanding monument honoring the former president. The tour also includes a visit to the bustling Maji Market, where visitors can enjoy the local culture and savor a complimentary local snack or drink. Throughout the experience, the knowledgeable guide provides valuable insights, ensuring an engaging and enriching exploration of Taipei's most fascinating sights and hidden treasures. Travelers can book this private tour of Taipei starting from K\$2,044 per person. The tour offers flexible booking, allowing customers to reserve now and pay later. On top of that, free cancellation is available up to 24 hours in advance for a full refund. The booking information for this tour is summarized in the table below: This tour provides

excellent value for money, with positive reviews highlighting the knowledgeable guide and organized service. The private tour of Taipei includes a knowledgeable local guide who'll lead the group through the city's highlights and hidden gems. The tour also includes a local drink or tasting to help travelers experience the local culture. Plus, the tour company offsets the CO2 emissions to make the experience more eco-friendly. Pickup or drop-off at the traveler's accommodation is provided as a convenient service. While the tour covers the major sights, any additional food or drink beyond the included item isn't part of the package. Reviewers have generally praised the Private Tour in Taipei, awarding it an overall rating of 4.5 out of 5 stars based on 11 reviews. Travelers have highlighted the tour's value for money, excellent service, and thorough organization. Many notable experiences were shared, including praise for a knowledgeable guide named Cola. However, a few reviewers reported instances where the tour guide was absent. On the Taipei Private Tour, participants have the opportunity to discover the city's most iconic landmarks and hidden gems. The tour takes visitors to the Dalongdong Baoan Temple, a stunning 200-year-old Taoist temple that showcases intricate woodcarvings and detailed murals. Next, guests marvel at the grand Chiang Kai-Shek Statue, a towering monument honoring the former Taiwanese president. The tour also includes a visit to the lively Maji Market, where travelers can enjoy the local culture and savor a traditional Taiwanese snack or drink. Throughout the experience, the knowledgeable guide provides insightful commentary, bringing the city's rich history and traditions to life. Alongside the exploration of Taipei's iconic landmarks, the Private Tour immerses participants in the city's vibrant local culture. Through the guidance of a knowledgeable local, travelers gain authentic insights into the daily lives and traditions of the Taipei people. This includes visiting bustling local markets, like the Maji Market, where visitors can sample regional snacks and interact with friendly vendors. The tour also incorporates a stop at the Dalongdong Baoan Temple, allowing guests to witness the rich religious and spiritual practices that are deeply rooted in Taiwanese society. One of the key advantages of the Private Tour in Taipei is its flexible and hassle-free booking process. Travelers can reserve their spot now and pay later, providing them with the flexibility to plan their trip without an immediate financial commitment. Plus, the tour offers free cancellation up to 24 hours in advance, allowing

participants to adjust their plans if needed. This level of booking convenience is further enhanced by the tour's [ARTICLE TITLE], as shown in the table below. Here's a few more nearby tours and experiences we think you'll like. The tour doesn't specify a minimum age requirement. However, it's a private guided tour, so the tour operator likely accommodates all ages. Travelers should consult with the tour provider for any age restrictions or recommendations. The tour can be customized to include specific interests. Travelers can discuss their preferences with the tour provider, who'll work to tailor the experience to their needs and ensure they get the most out of their time in Taipei. Unfortunately, the tour operator doesn't currently offer any discounts for students or seniors. However, the price is already competitively priced, and the tour provides excellent value with the private guide and included local drink or snack. The tour is not explicitly advertised as wheelchair accessible. It's best to contact the tour operator directly to inquire about accessibility accommodations and arrangements that can be made to ensure a comfortable experience. The meeting point can be changed if necessary, but this would need to be arranged with the tour operator in advance. They generally aim to accommodate reasonable requests from customers to ensure a smooth and enjoyable tour experience. Not for you? Here's more of our most recent tour reviews happening nearby This private tour of Taipei offers an immersive experience, showcasing the city's iconic landmarks and hidden gems. Led by a local guide, travelers can discover the rich cultural heritage, indulge in local snacks, and gain insider insights that enhance their understanding of Taipei's captivating essence. Whether a first-time visitor or a seasoned traveler, this personalized tour promises an unforgettable exploration of the vibrant capital. © 2024 Travel Buddies

3 Taipei hidden gems free to visit

| Taiwan News | Mar. 25, 2021 12:44

MORE Taiwan News © 2024 All Rights Reserved. / Calming, lesser-known historic locales around capital provide lessons, food Mar. 25, 2021 12:44 TAIPEI (Taiwan News) ? Three soul-soothing hidden spots in Taipei are free to visit. The Taipei City Government's Department of Culture Affairs on Wednesday (March 24) recommended three lesser-known historic spots around the capital to photoholics and foodies. The best part? Entry is free. The former dormitory for the director of Songshan Sanatorium, established in 1935 during the Japanese occupation (1939-1945), the Jing Hsin Yuan (???) in Nangang District, now serves as a cultural venue. Jing Hsin Yuan (Facebook photo) It was designated a historic site in 2006 and re-opened last May. The old house provides visitors with healthy food and desserts set to music composed by Canadian musician Matthew Lien, whose compositions are often inspired by nature. "Jing Hsin" (jingxin, ??) in Mandarin means to calm down. Visitors will be soothed by the site's wooden furniture, decorative windows, and a Japanese pond in the yard. Sin Hong Choon (Taipei City Government photo) Founded in 1934 and run by the powerful Wang family, the three-story tea shop Sin Hong Choon (?????) is located in the vibrant Dadaocheng area. After the tea business came to an end, the owner donated the building to the government, and it was classified as a historic site in 2009. Even after reconstruction, the former residential and commercial building still retains the red brick door frame, spring couplets, and other traditional details. The site also hosts tours and tea-themed exhibitions from time to time. Taipei Quin Hall (Taipei City Government photo) Last but not least is Taipei Qin Hall (?????), a former Japanese dormitory on Qidong Street in Zhongzheng District. The hall showcases a rich variety of culture, organizing calligraphy, martial arts, and tea lessons. Curator Yuan Cheng-ping (???) said it is important that people understand the beauty of playing the guqin instead of simply knowing how to play the traditional Chinese instrument. Taipei launches WMG2025 FunPass ahead of World Masters Games Sep. 6, 2024 15:12 Taipei-Hsinchu ranks 25th in top 100 tech clusters Aug. 29, 2024 09:46 Giant Taipei mascot plush bear on display Aug. 15, 2024 12:24 Yannick launches new

cake vending machines at Taipei MRT stations Aug. 2, 2024 18:15 Century-long data shows Taipei warmer than southern Taiwan Jul. 19, 2024 10:35 Taipei ranks 66th on Global Liveability Index Jun. 28, 2024 17:45 Taiwan receipt lottery unveils winning numbers for September-October Taiwan rejects dual citizenship petition Taiwan holds air defense drill as China's Joint Sword-2024C exercise looms North Taiwan to see temperatures below 10 C Taipei 7-Eleven customer buys NT\$35 coffee, wins NT\$10 million receipt lottery jackpot Tainan construction project halted after discovery of suspected ancient remains Taiwan boxer Lin Yu-ting withdraws from World Boxing event over confidentiality issues Pro-China propaganda spreads surreptitiously on news websites through PR firms Taiwan tech leaders debate whether overseas chipmaking will threaten security Taiwan crushes China 16-0 at U-12 Asian Baseball Championship Taiwan News, Staff Writer

Taipei's Most Hidden Gem | Story | Hero Traveler

Thousand Island Lake is one of those places where people ask me where is this. Thousand Island Lake is approximately a 35-minute bus ride from the end of the green line MRT, Xindian ???. It is a huge lake with many trails to walk along. Thousand Island Lake also holds a tea plantation where people can get a tour and learn about Taiwanese delicacies, history and much more. The first time I went to Thousand Island Lake was in November. It rained the night before so it was hard to see the mountains. The clouds touched the top of the mountains. I went with my friend, who I worked with at the time. We walked along the road to see multiple views of the lake and up the hill. I went back a second time at the end of March. This time I went was much more of a success for numerous reasons. I took my friend's friend who was visiting her to Thousand Island Lake. It was 28 degrees Celcius that day and clear. Second, we discovered that there was a shuttle that takes you all the way back up the hill and to the bus stop going back to Taipei for \$100 TWD a person. This is one of those hidden gems outside of Taipei. Every local I knew, said they never heard of the place, even when I said the name in Chinese. I felt proud of going somewhere the locals don't know. Both times I went, there were not many people walking along the trail, which I find surprising. It looks like a mini Ha Long Bay! Have you ever been to a place that was so beautiful yet, not touristy? Tell me in the comments below! I want to know! Asia, Off Grid, Wellness To get to Thousand Island Lake, you will take the green MRT line heading to Xindian. Once you exit the MRT, you will wait in line for bus G12. The bus is about 35 minutes long. You will get off at the Shisangu ??? stop.

Download the app, Bus Tracker Taipei. You can get post notifications to get on and off the bus. This will help you plan and have the shuttle bus take you back to the stop.

Bring snacks with you because there is a lot of walking. There are small restaurants with vegetarian options.

The bus ride from the Green Line MRT Xindian costs 15 NTD there and 15 NTD back for less than \$1 USD.

?Road Trip?How to Discover Taiwan's Hidden Gems by Road Trip

Travel the World with Trip.com Catalogue Show More? As a renowned tourist destination in Asia, Taiwan is filled with the mysterious charm of Eastern culture and stunning natural landscapes. Known as the "Treasure Island," Taiwan truly lives up to its name, with breathtaking scenery between its endless coastlines and lush mountains, such as Ali Mountain, Moon Lake, Qingjing Farm, and Chingshui Cliff, attracting travelers worldwide. Taiwan is also rich in historical sites, with ancient temples, century-old streets, and the palace museum silently narrating the stories of its past. With vibrant neon lights, crashing waves, and unlimited scenic beauty, grab your self-drive guide and head to Taiwan! One of China's two island provinces, Taiwan is located on the continental shelf off the southeast coast of China, including Taiwan Island and its affiliated islands and the Pescadores Islands. Taiwan Island is China's largest island and the world's 38th largest, stretching about 395 kilometers from north to south and up to 145 kilometers wide from east to west. It is a crucial maritime hub for China and the Asia-Pacific region. Surrounded by the sea, Taiwan Island boasts diverse coastal landscapes, making it become a varied and unique coastal region in China. Shaped like a banana leaf, the island is divided into five major terrains: mountains, hills, basins, plains, and plateaus. Over half of the area is mountainous, with the central mountain range dividing the island into asymmetrical eastern and western parts. Taiwan is a dazzling gem on the world map. Its 1,200-kilometer coastal line features towering cliffs and crashing waves on the east, while the west showcases colorful rock formations and mysterious caves. Magnificent temples and historic streets immerse visitors in the traditional culture world. Bustling night markets and food courts are perfect for tasting Taiwanese delicacies. Whether it's natural beauty or cultural heritage, Taiwan is a captivating place that leaves a lasting impression. Ethnic Minorities: Taiwan's indigenous peoples, such as the Amis with their lively dances, the Bunun with their ancient harmonies, and the Tao with their unique island culture, offer a colorful cultural tapestry. Language: Minnan is the primary dialect in Taiwan, closely related to the dialects of Xiamen and Zhangzhou in Fujian. 1. Car Rental Documents ? Original passport of the driver; ? An international driving permit is required for driving

in Taiwan. Mainland Chinese licenses need to be converted to a third-party license (e.g., Hong Kong, USA) to obtain an international permit. ? An international credit card with embossed numbers and a chip under the main driver's name, with a limit covering the deposit; ? A car rental voucher provided by Ctrip upon order confirmation.

2. Recommended Apps Google Maps: The common used navigation app, providing excellent route planning for both driving and public transport. It also offers detailed restaurant ratings and reviews.

3. Essential Items (1) Car Phone Holder: Taiwan's traffic rules prohibit using handheld phones while driving, so a phone holder is necessary. (2) Child Seat: Required for children under four years or 18 kilograms, with hefty fines for non-compliance. Available as an "accessory product" on Ctrip's car rental page.

1. Traffic Rules Driving in Taiwan is not difficult for those familiar with driving in mainland China. Understanding Taiwan's traffic rules and signs is essential for a smooth driving experience. Here are some key rules:

(1) Seat Belts: All passengers must wear seat belts, including those in the back. (2) Drive on the Right: Vehicles drive on the right, similar to mainland China. (3) Yield to Pedestrians: Pedestrians have the right of way. (4) Right of Way: Straight vehicles and larger vehicles have priority. (5) Speed Limits: Follow posted signs, with city limits of 40-50 km/h and highways at 100-110 km/h.

2. Common Signs (1) STOP Sign: Must stop for 3 seconds. (2) YIELD Sign: Slow down and prepare to stop, allowing other vehicles to pass. (3) NO PASSING ZONE: No overtaking allowed.

3. Highway Fees (1) Toll: Taiwan's highways mostly use ETC (Electronic Toll Collection). (2) Payment: Fees are settled after returning the car, along with any fines.

4. Refueling and Parking (1) Refueling: Gas stations operate during regular hours, with some open 24/7. Staff usually assist with refueling, but self-service is available. Follow the car's fuel type or ask for assistance. (2) Fuel Prices: Similar to mainland China, with diesel 10-15% cheaper than gasoline. (3) Parking: Special spaces like disabled and maternity spots are off-limits; red-lined areas are no-parking zones; yellow-lined areas allow parking for up to three minutes. White boxes at intersections are for motorcycles only. (4) Payment: City parking costs 20-30 NTD/hour. Roadside parking requires a timed ticket from staff, payable at convenience stores like 7-11. Night parking is free from 10:00 PM to 8:00 AM.

5. Recommended Vehicle Due to Taiwan's complex terrain, a powerful vehicle is recommended.

6. Car Rental Tips Check if the

supplier supports free one-way rentals, as some may charge for this service.

1. Taiwan Island Loop

With its endless coastlines, the 1,200-kilometer island loop offers stunning views and famous attractions like Ali Mountain, Moon Lake, and Kenting Park. If time allows, don't miss this loop, starting from Taipei and circling back, allowing you to enjoy the island's beauty at your own pace.

(1) Itinerary: Taipei ? Ilan ? Taitung ? Pingtung ? Kaohsiung ? Tainan ? Chiayi ? Taichung ? Jiufen ? Taipei

DAY1: Presidential Palace?Chiang Kai-shek Memorial Hall?Shilin Official Residence?the palace museum?101 Building

DAY2: Ilan?Toucheng old street?Yilan Station?Jiaoxi Hot Springs Park?Happiness Transfer Station?Luodong Night Market

DAY3: Taitung?Chishang rice lunch box?Brown's Road?Dapo chi

DAY4: Ping tung?Dragon plate park?Eluanbi Park?Eluanbi Light house?White Sand Shore?Longluan Lake

DAY5: Kaohsiung?E-DA World?85 Sky Tower?Hsitzuwan?liuhenightmarket

DAY6: Tainan?Anping Old Street?Sitsao Wetland?Taijiang National Park?JingzijiaoWapanSaltFields

DAY7: Chiayi?Fenchihu?Ali Mountain?Eryan Ping Trail

DAY8: Tai chung?Rainbow Village?Qingjing Farm?Moon Lake

DAY9: Jiufen Old Street?shifen waterfall?Ten Heavenly Lanterns?Tai pei

(2) Driving Distance: 1,000 kilometers

(3) Suggested Duration: 9 days

(4) Suitable for: General public

(5) Must-Visit Attractions

101 Building: Located in Taipei's Xinyi District, this iconic skyscraper combines offices, an observatory, and a shopping center. The 89th-floor observatory offers great views, photography services, audio guides, an ice cream shop, and a souvenir store.

85 Sky Tower: Also known as TC Tower, this famous skyscraper in Kaohsiung features a unique design by architect Li Zuyuan. The tower merges into a single structure above the 35th floor, reaching up to 85 floors. It houses a department store, a magical world, and an open observatory with stunning views on clear days.

Moon Lake: Synonymous with Taiwan's scenic beauty, MoonLake is surrounded by mountains and lush forests, with crystal-clear waters. The small island in the lake creates a picturesque scene, with the northern half resembling a sun and the southern half a crescent moon, giving the lake its name.

Rainbow Village: Near Ling Tung University in Taichung, this old military dependents' village was transformed by retired soldier Huang Yung-Fu, who painted vibrant rainbows and cute animals on the streets. Known as "Rainbow Village," it attracts photographers and art lovers, with Huang affectionately called "Rainbow

Grandpa." Ali Mountain: Located in Chiayi County, Ali Mountain is known for its mild climate and is a popular summer retreat. Famous for its sunrise, sea of clouds, sunset, and forests, it offers breathtaking views with towering peaks and lush greenery.

2. Taitung Mini Loop For those with limited time or budget, this shorter loop captures the essence of Taiwan's beauty, including lakes, mountains, sea views, farms, and wetlands. It also features cultural sites like the thepalacemuseum, RainbowVillage, and FormosanAboriginalCultureVillage, along with local night markets for a taste of Taiwanese cuisine.

(1) Itinerary: Taipei ? Hualien ? Nantou ? Taichung ? Taipei

DAY1: Taipei?Chiang Kai-shek Memorial Hall?the palace museum?Eslite?101 Building?Ningxia Road Night Market

DAY2: Hualien?Chihsingtan Beach?Taroko?Chingshui Cliff?Farglory Ocean Park

DAY3: Nantou?Qingjing Farm?Moon Lake?Sky bridge?Formosan Aboriginal Culture Village

DAY4: Taichung?Gaomei Wetland?Miyahara?Rainbow Village

DAY5: Taipei?Yangming Mountain?YinYang Sea?Jiufen Old Street?Ten Heavenly Lanterns

(2) Driving Distance: 560 kilometers

(3) Suggested Duration: 5 days

(4) Suitable for: General public

(5) Must-Visit Attractions

Chihsingtan Beach: A crescent-shaped beach perfect for sunrise, stargazing, and moon watching. In summer, the sunrise at 5 AM is a spectacular sight, while stargazing on moonless nights offers a clear view of the Milky Way.

the palace museum: Located in Taipei's Shilin District, this museum houses a vast collection of Chinese artifacts, with around 650,000 pieces. Known for its exhibits, the museum changes displays every three months and hosts special exhibitions.

Qingjing Farm: Situated in Nantou County, this 760-hectare farm offers stunning views of lush hillsides. Each season brings unique beauty, from spring blossoms to summer greenery, autumn wildflowers, and winter snow-capped peaks.

Gaomei Wetland: Located in Taichung, this wetland features diverse habitats and is a haven for migratory birds in winter. The sight of wind turbines against a colorful sunset is a breathtaking experience.

Taiwan East Coast Drive Kenting's beaches are a perfect blend of blue waters and white sands, unmatched by other "Little Kentings." For an authentic Taiwanese seaside experience, head to Kenting, a favorite vacation spot for locals. This route starts in Taipei and heads south to the island's southern tip, offering sunshine, warm breezes, and the romantic vibes of Taiwanese dramas.

(1) Itinerary: Taipei ? Hualien ? Taitung ? Kenting ? Kaohsiung

DAY1:

Taipei?Hsimenting?Yangming Mountain?YinYang Sea?Jiufen Old Street?TenHeavenlyLanterns
DAY2: Hualien?Chihsingtan Beach?Taroko?Chingshui Cliff?Farglory Ocean Park DAY3:
Taitung?Chishangrice lunch box?Brown's Road?Dapo chi DAY4: Kenting?Dragon plate
park?Eluanbi Park?Eluanbi Light house?White Sand Shore?Longluan Lake DAY5: Formosa
Boulevard?Hsitzuwan?Qijin Shell Museum?Qijin Rainbow Church?liuhe night market (2) Driving
Distance: 550 kilometers (3) Suggested Duration: 5 days (4) Suitable for: General public (5)
Must-Visit Attractions Taroko: Located in eastern Taiwan, Taroko offers majestic gorges, waterfalls,
and the heritage of the Taroko people. The national park spans 92,000 hectares, with famous sites
like Shakadang Trail, Eternal Spring Shrine, Swallow Grotto, and the Taroko Gorge. Qijin Shell
Museum: One of the largest shell museum in Southeast Asia, located in Qijin Coastal Park's visitor
center. It features nearly 2,000 shell species, donated by Mr. Huang Ge-liang, with free guided
tours. Longluan Lake: Located on the Hengchun Peninsula, the park is named after a coral reef
resembling a crouching cat. The area features unique geological formations and is ideal for viewing
the Taiwan Strait coastline. Chihsingtan Beach: A crescent-shaped beach perfect for sunrise,
stargazing, and moon-watching. In summer, the sunrise at 5 AM is a spectacular sight, while
stargazing on moonless nights offers a clear view of the Milky Way. Beef Noodles: A Chinese
national favorite, with vendors striving for the perfect combination of tender beef and rich broth.
Varieties include braised and clear broth, often served with stewed beef and tendons. Braised Pork
Rice: A popular dish made with rice, pork belly, shallots, and spices. The key is the flavorful meat
sauce, with variations in Tainan, Taichung, and Taipei. Mianxian: A common Taiwanese dish, with
variations like longevity noodles, pig's trotter noodles, and sesame oil noodles. Oyster noodles,
made with oysters and noodles, are a must-try, often paired with chili sauce, vinegar, garlic, and
cilantro. Oyster Omelette: Crispy on the outside, with a chewy texture from sweet potato and
cornstarch batter, topped with a sweet and spicy sauce. Fresh oysters and vegetables add a burst
of flavor, making it a night market favorite. Pineapple Cake: A sweet treat with a crumbly crust and a
sweet, tangy filling, perfect for those with a sweet tooth. >>>?Chinese Islands?The Complete Guide
to Chinese Island Tourism: Taiwan Islands >>>10 Fantastic Things to Do in Taipei

?Taiwan Tour?Hidden Gems of Taiwan: Unexplored Destinations ?

Justaiwantour Blog

Are you looking for off-the-beaten-path destination? When you think of Taiwan, bustling cities like Taipei, stunning landmarks like Taipei 101, and famous attractions like Taroko Gorge might come to mind. However, beyond these well-trodden paths lies a treasure trove of hidden gems waiting to be discovered. For the adventurous traveler, Taiwan offers a plethora of lesser-known destinations that promise unique experiences, untouched beauty, and unforgettable memories. Join us as we uncover some of Taiwan's best-kept secrets, perfect for those eager to explore off the beaten path.

Jiaoxi Hot Springs, Yilan Tired of the crowds at Beitou Hot Springs? Dive into the serene embrace of Jiaoxi Hot Springs, Yilan's best-kept secret! Picture yourself soaking in luxurious hot spring hotels while munching on delicious scallion pancakes?because nothing says relaxation like hot water and crispy carbs. Pro tip: Visit during weekdays to avoid the weekend rush and soak in peace. Getting there is a breeze with our Yilan 1-Day Private Charter from Taipei. Trust us, your body and taste buds will thank you!

Qimei Island, Penghu Discover Qimei Island in Penghu, where pristine beaches meet charming fishing villages and the famous Twin Hearts Stone Weir steals the show. Dive into adventures like snorkeling in crystal-clear waters, cycling around the island with the breeze in your hair, and uncovering quirky historical sites. It's the perfect getaway for those who love nature, culture, and a good dose of island humor. You might also want to read more?

Sun Moon Lake Day Tour?Private 1 Day Sun Moon Lake Escape Tour from Taipei Lalashan, Taoyuan Nestled in the heart of Taoyuan, Lalashan is like nature's VIP lounge, where ancient divine trees reign supreme and lush forests roll out the green carpet just for you. Imagine hiking trails that make you feel like you're strolling through an enchanted forest, complete with a serenade from chirping birds and the whisper of leaves. By the way, also explore Yangmingshan's beautiful scenery via hiking adventure. When you're done hugging trees, dive into nearby attractions and feast on local delicacies that will have your taste buds dancing. Lalashan: where even Mother Nature kicks back and relaxes!

Caoling Historic Trail, New Taipei City Discover the Caoling Historic Trail in New Taipei City, a stunning

hiking path where history meets hilarity! This trail offers jaw-dropping scenic views and ancient inscriptions that whisper secrets from centuries past. Marvel at the diverse flora and fauna, but watch out for mischievous monkeys—they love a good prank! Suitable for intermediate hikers, the trail takes about 4-5 hours. Pack snacks, water, and your sense of adventure, and get ready for a hike that's as entertaining as it is enlightening! [Read more?](#)[Taiwan Hiking Tour?](#)[Taiwan's Top 10 Mountains to Climb.](#)

Sandimen, Pingtung Sandimen, located in Pingtung, is a vibrant village celebrated for its rich indigenous culture and arts. You can immerse yourself in the colorful world of the Paiwan and Rukai tribes through traditional performances, intricate arts and crafts, and hands-on cultural tours and workshops. This enchanting destination offers a unique opportunity to learn about and experience the authentic traditions and artistic expressions of Taiwan's indigenous communities. [Read more?](#)[About Taiwan?](#)[Understanding Taiwan's Indigenous Cultures.](#)

Zhushan Sky Ladder, Nantou It is a thrilling suspension bridge that offers breathtaking views of the surrounding mountains. The journey to the Sky Ladder is an adventure in itself, with winding paths and lush landscapes. Visit early in the morning for stunning sunrises that illuminate the entire valley. Nearby attractions include Sun Moon Lake and the picturesque Cingjing Farm, making it a perfect destination for nature lovers and adventure seekers alike.

Shuangliu Forest Recreation Area, Taitung Shuangliu Forest Recreation Area in Taitung is a hidden paradise for nature lovers. This serene oasis features cascading waterfalls, lush forest trails, and tranquil camping spots perfect for unwinding. To reach this secluded gem, head towards Taitung's rural outskirts and follow signs to the recreation area. Expect to be enchanted by the pristine natural beauty, abundant wildlife, and the peaceful ambiance that makes it an ideal retreat for hiking and camping enthusiasts. Also check out [Alishan Travel Guide?](#)[Discover Wellness and Renewal in Alishan: Your Perfect New Year Escape.](#)

In conclusion, exploring Taiwan's hidden gems offers a unique and enriching experience beyond the usual tourist spots. Stepping off the beaten path reveals the island's true beauty and charm, perfect for adventurous souls seeking unforgettable memories. As you venture into these lesser-known destinations, remember to respect local customs and preserve the natural environment, ensuring these treasures remain unspoiled for future explorers. Discover the

extraordinary side of Taiwan and embark on a journey like no other. You might want to read?Taiwan Tour?Photogenic Taiwan: Best Spots for Instagram-Worthy Photos. And that?s the tea. Follow our YouTube & Instagram & Facebook for more amazing Taiwan. #Discover #ExploreTaiwan Justaiwantour can also customize a private tour for you based on your preference. So don?t hesitate to contact us for a customized tour! We are Justaiwantour, a locally based travel resource provider and travel agency helping introduce Taiwan to the world !

Taipei Private Tours: Discover Highlights and Hidden Gems with a Local: Book Tours & Activities at Peek.com

Experience the best of Taipei with a local guide who will show you both the famous attractions and hidden gems. Explore the city's highlights or venture into off-the-beaten-path neighborhoods. Experience the best of Taipei with a local guide who will show you both the famous attractions and hidden gems. Explore the city's highlights or venture into off-the-beaten-path neighborhoods. With a local Taipei guide, you can explore this lively, colorful city together. Share your interests, and enjoy the journey.

Liberty Square - Start your day with a traditional Taiwanese breakfast before heading to Liberty Square. From here, you can access many famous attractions and explore the surrounding temples and buildings for a dose of history and Instagram-worthy moments.

Chiang Kai-Shek Memorial Hall - This is a must-see! Ask your guide about its political significance.

Bopiliao Ancient Street - Step back in time on Bopiliao Old Street, a relic from the Qing Dynasty.

Tamsui Fisherman's Wharf - Catch a stunning tangerine sunset at Tamsui Fisherman's Wharf.

Shilin Night Market - Try beef noodles, pepper buns, flame-torched sausages, and soup dumplings. Are you daring enough to try stinky tofu? We think you are.

Ximending - Depending on the timing of your visit, you might want to explore the Shilin and Raohe night markets, hike Elephant Mountain for amazing city views, shop in trendy Ximending, or enjoy nature in Yangmingshan National Park.

Raohe Street Night Market - Discover ingredients you never knew existed and dive into this world of culinary brilliance. Some modern apartments don't have kitchens because the nation's kitchen is on the streets. Now that's confidence in their street food scene. Street food is such a vital part of life here that some apartments are built without kitchens. Try pork belly buns and bubble tea to see why this makes perfect sense! Discover Taipei as you would if you were staying with a friend who lived there, on this personalized experience with a Local Host. In just half a day you'll experience the authentic side of Taipei as you visit famous attractions and discover hidden gems with a Local Host who knows and loves the city. Explore vibrant Taipei's highlights or discover an?

Discover Taipei as you would if you were staying with a friend who lived there, on this personalized experience with a

Local Host. In just half a day you'll experience the authentic side of Taipei as you visit famous attractions and discover hidden gems with a Local Host who knows and loves the city. Explore vibrant Taipei's highlights or discover an off-the-beaten-path neighborhood, get oriented and immerse yourself in Taipei's unique culture with a Local Host by your side to navigate on your personalized route that's been created just for you! For a full refund, cancel at least 24 hours before the scheduled departure time. For a full refund, cancel at least 24 hours before the scheduled departure time.

10 Must-Visit Hidden Gems in Taiwan

Taiwan Travel Consulting Home Blog About More When it comes to travel, sometimes the best experiences are found off the beaten path. In Taiwan, there are countless hidden gems waiting to be discovered. From serene mountain landscapes to cascading waterfalls and picturesque temples, these hidden gems offer a glimpse into the rich natural beauty of Taiwan. Here are 10 must-visit hidden gems in Taiwan that will take your breath away.

1. Alishan: Located in the heart of Taiwan, Alishan is a mountainous region known for its stunning sunrise views. Take a scenic train ride through the misty forests and witness the beauty of nature unfold before your eyes.
2. Taroko Gorge: This marble-walled canyon is a true marvel of nature. Hike along the trails and be awed by the sheer grandeur of the towering cliffs and turquoise waters.
3. Sun Moon Lake: Nestled in the mountains of Nantou County, Sun Moon Lake is a tranquil oasis surrounded by lush greenery. Take a boat ride on the lake and soak in the serenity of this hidden gem.
4. Jiufen: Step back in time as you wander through the narrow streets of Jiufen. This charming old mining town is famous for its tea houses, street food, and stunning views of the coastline.
5. Kenting National Park: Located in the southernmost part of Taiwan, Kenting National Park is a paradise for nature lovers. Explore the diverse ecosystems, relax on the pristine beaches, and snorkel in the crystal-clear waters.
6. Shifen Waterfall: Known as the "Little Niagara of Taiwan," Shifen Waterfall is a majestic sight to

behold. Stand on the suspension bridge and feel the mist on your face as the water cascades down.

7. Yehliu Geopark: This unique geological wonder is home to a collection of fascinating rock formations. Marvel at the "Queen's Head" and other bizarre shapes carved by wind and water over millions of years.

8. Wulai: Just a short drive from Taipei, Wulai is a mountain village famous for its hot springs. Soak in the healing waters and enjoy the peaceful atmosphere of this hidden gem.

9. Green Island: Located off the eastern coast of Taiwan, Green Island is a paradise for divers and snorkelers. Explore the vibrant coral reefs and swim with tropical fish in the crystal-clear waters.

10. Tainan: Known as the cultural capital of Taiwan, Tainan is a city steeped in history and tradition. Visit ancient temples, stroll through historic streets, and indulge in delicious local cuisine.

These hidden gems in Taiwan offer a unique and unforgettable travel experience. Whether you're a nature lover, history buff, or simply seeking tranquility, Taiwan has something for everyone. So, step off the beaten path and discover the beauty of these hidden gems for yourself. Taiwan Travel Consulting is here to help you plan your trip and make the most of your time in this incredible country. Contact us today and let us create a personalized itinerary that includes these must-visit hidden gems in Taiwan. Exploring the Hidden Gems of Taipei: A Traveler's Guide Taiwanese Identity and Views on China: Insights from Pew Research BBC | Kinmen: The Taiwanese islands next to China ©2035 by Urban Nomad Adventures. Powered and secured by Wix

Best Hidden Gems in Taipei | cityseeker

This historic home was constructed by the Lin Family who moved to Taiwan in the 18th Century. With its sloping roofs and central courtyard, this house is one of the region's oldest, and is a rare example of a traditional Chinese home. A crescent pool guards the gate, while inside, a treasure trove of carvings and other architectural details tell the tale of the family that once resided here. Interestingly, the Lin An Tai home was actually built in a different part of Taipei City in 1783 and was relocated to its current location nearly 200 years later to prevent its demolition and make way for development. One of the few remaining buildings in Taiwan with such an extensive history, Fort San Domingo has withstood over four centuries of change. The fort was originally established by the Spanish as a wooden structure in the 17th Century and later rebuilt by the Dutch in stone. Over the years, the fort has been variously controlled by the Chinese, Americans, Australians, Japanese, and was even a British consulate for a period of time. Each added something to the structure, transforming the very fort itself into an architectural medley that chronicles the island's colorful history. Fort San Domingo is now open to the public and continues to stand tall over Tamsui River like a storied gift from the past. Previously known as the Yuanshan Mansion, the Taipei Story House dates back to 1913 when it was built by a Japanese tea merchant. This unusual house was originally built as a residence for visiting merchants and dignitaries, and the architecture of the house reflects a regal, more Western air. Tudor-style beams dominate most part of the ground floor, while it also has fleeting elements of classical architecture. There is also a beautiful European garden surrounding the house. The Ping Hsi Branch Line serves an area of Taiwan in decline - a former coal-mining district to the southeast of Taipei. Starting from Jui Fang, the line climbs through depressed villages consisting of tar paper-roofed houses, small temples, and the elderly. Many passengers disembark near Shi Fen to see two impressive waterfalls. The train passes through several tunnels and over bridges. The scenery is green, craggy and very typical of rural north Taiwan. The final stop is Ching Tung, a sleepy village linked to Taipei by bus. Observe Taipei in the most unexpected way possible, through Taxi Diary Taipei. This unique concept allows you to catch

fleeting city views of the city, whilst interacting with the denizens in a mundane, yet natural setting. Once you hail a cab registered with this service, you will be carted around to the destinations of local passengers who hail the same cab. This gives you a chance to interact with the city's inhabitants, get acquainted with life in the city, and at the same time, visit corners of the city you may never go to, otherwise. The best part about Taxi Diary Taipei is its element of surprise. The entire ride lasts for a total of three hours. Pick-ups are typically scheduled from the YuanShan MRT Station, Exit 1. One of the best-kept secrets in the city, the Neihu district is home to Taipei's IT industry, although attracts several tourists owing to its outdoorsy offerings. The district is home to the sprawling Dahu Park, an enormous lake with an adjacent swimming area where visitors can indulge in facilities such as Jacuzzi, steam room and sauna during the summers. Neihu's geographic location also makes it a popular spot for hiking, especially in its northern part where trailheads starting from the famous Bishan Temple offer panoramic vistas of the city. The mountainous trails also attract serious cyclists. Famous as one of the most flourishing tea estates of Taipei, Maokong is a picturesque suburb of the city. The scenic village lies at the peak of a small mountain and affords some spectacular vistas of the city. Home to a number of tea houses, it is much frequented by tea lovers, honeymooners and tourists alike. The Maokong Gondola is probably one of the best ways to get to this spot.

How To Explore Taiwan's Off The Beaten Tracks

Select Page Posted by Carolyn Boston | Jul 11, 2020 | Asia One of the few things that I hate about travelling is standing in a long queue while trying to get inside a popular attraction and squeezing through throngs of tourists who are trying to take perfect selfies. This is why on my recent trip to Taiwan, I decided to venture into the less touristy areas and explored Taiwan's off the beaten tracks. Taiwan is slowly becoming one of Asia's most popular tourist destinations, so it's not surprising to find plenty of tourist guides online that will point you out to the most popular destinations in the country. There's nothing wrong with visiting these popular attractions, but if you want to experience and enjoy the country like the locals would, why don't you stray off the usual tourist routes and visit something else? Read on as I share with you some tips on how to explore Taiwan's off the beaten tracks. Taiwan consists of four major cities Taipei, Tainan, Taitung, and Taichung. And while most tourists would head to Taipei and Tainan, Taichung is often overlooked. Having a population of almost 3 million, Taichung is a large city with bustling night markets and emerald green hills where you can take part in some hiking activities. Taichung Temple On my first day in Taichung, I visited the Second Market, a market lined with several market stalls selling everything you can think of! The market was remarkably built in a perfect hexagon-shaped and serves as the very centre of Taichung. Aside from admiring its remarkable architecture, I spent the day devouring authentic local foods. I cannot even give a recommendation on which food to try since all of the foods I've tasted are just so delicious! From the market, I went to Chun Shui Tang to have a taste of the authentic Taiwanese bubble tea. You'll find bubble teas almost everywhere in Taiwan, but Chun Shui Tang is said to be the birthplace of bubble tea and where the bubble tea craze has started. On the following day, I was craving for some outdoor adventure so I went to Dakeng. Located on the eastern side of Taichung, the city boasts a beautiful view of emerald green hills. The hills have trails that are built entirely from logs and there are plenty of trails to choose from for your hike. I took trails 1 to 4, and although the climb is a bit challenging, when I get to the top and saw the most beautiful sunset views, I must say that it's really worth it! From Taichung, I went to the

Sun Moon Lake to visit the Ci?En Pagoda. Although Sun Moon Lake is a popular tourist destination, there are actually some places in the area that are unreachable by tourist buses and one of these is the Ci?En Pagoda. I hired a personal driver to drive me up and down the hills near the Sun Moon Lake. After the fun drive, I had to walk for about 20 minutes passing through a tropical forest until I reach the Ci?En Pagoda. This remarkable structure was built by Chiang Kai-Shek in honor of his mother. Having a height of 46 meters, climbing all the way to the top is truly a one of a kind adventure! Yet, when you get to the top, you will be rewarded with a magical view of the Sun Moon Lake. The Kenting National Park in the southern area of Taiwan is a great place for relaxation and exciting adventure. However, I was looking for a place that is not too crowded, which is why I avoided the main spots of Kenting, and instead, I hired a local guide who took me to Jialeshui on a motorbike. Jialeshui is a small coastal town in the eastern part of Kenting and a favourite destination for local surfers. I?ve always wanted to learn how to surf and in fact, it has long been on my bucket list so I decided to enrol in a surfing lesson while in Jialeshu. Jialeshui Photo Credit: Taiwanese Secrets

The train ride from Kaohsiung to Taitung is no doubt one of the most scenic train rides I ever get to experience in my entire life! I spent most of the journey gazing at the window, admiring the magical views of the mountains, rice fields, and beaches. Passing through Kaohsiung?s central mountain range, you get to enjoy the magical views of lush green hills amidst the glistening river beds. When the train reaches the East Coast, you?ll be treated to the beautiful coastal views of turquoise water and sandy beaches. Just before you reach Taitung, you?ll be passing through a long stretch of Taiwan?s most beautiful rice fields. My surfing teacher in Jialeshui recommended that I should visit Dulan to enjoy its artistic vibe. So after arriving at the train station of Taitung, I hopped on a bus that took me to Dulan, a tiny coastal village off the east coast of Taitung. With only less than 1,000 inhabitants, I was expecting Dulan to be a quiet and peaceful community, yet I was taken aback by its lively atmosphere! Upon arriving in Dulan, I visited the Old Sugar Factory, a cultural park that?s home to independent local artists and designers. I spent the rest of the day admiring the interesting art installations and structures scattered at the park. On the following day, I went to a ?secret beach? upon the advice of a local. I walked for ten minutes until I reach a place

that locals call the "water running up". From here, I walked into a small road that led me to an empty beach. It's just stunning although I would recommend that you visit it with some friends because it's a bit creepy to go there alone. In the evening, my local host invited me to a bar named Highway 11, famous for its homemade craft beers. I enjoyed an interesting conversation with the owner and some foreign artists who considered Dulan their home. Luckily, I happen to be at the place on a weekend, where local live bands can be heard performing in the background, which adds up to the lively scene. After Dulan, I headed to Taiwan's capital and discovered its hidden gems. Sure, there are plenty of interesting things to see and discover in Taipei, but most of the locals I've met told me that there are actually several hidden gems tucked into the little alleys of this vibrant capital city. So after my adventure in Taitung, I head straight to Taipei and explore its hidden gems. Here are some of them: Beitou hot spring ? after all the adventures I did in Taichung, soaking in a hot spring sounds like a good idea. So I went to Beitou, a place dotted with Japanese style bathhouses, to enjoy a relaxing bath at a thermal hot spring. Another town known for its hot springs is Wulai, a charming sleepy town about 30 minutes away from Taipei. Beitou hot spring Tamsui River Mangrove ? there are plenty of cycling trails all over Taipei, but my personal favourite is the path that's between Hongshulin and Tamsui MRT, which runs through the Hongshulin mangrove wetland, a protected nature reserve. I rented a bike at the Hongshulin MRT and cycled my way past the wetland all the way to the Tamsui MRT, where I returned my bike and took the MRT back to the city centre. Hidden alleys near Zhongshan MRT ? I love the lively atmosphere at the various night markets of Taipei, but if you want a quieter and less crowded place to shop, check out those hidden alleyways near the Zhongshan MRT Station. The place is dotted with several shops selling different kinds of things. There are also plenty of food stalls and quirky cafes along the street, serving delicious Taiwanese treats. Zhongshan Taipei Huashan 1914 Creative Park ? this park is among the few open green spaces that are within the Taipei city centre and a great place to shop for vintage art pieces, including local handicrafts and other interesting products. Unlike the other parks in Taipei, this park is less crowded and a perfect place to stroll around while admiring the interesting art installations at the park. As you see, there are so many places to discover in Taiwan which no travel

guidebook can tell you about. I was even amazed at how much there is to discover in this thriving Asian country. There is nothing wrong with sticking to tourist spots when travelling to Taiwan, but if you're like me who wanted to stray off the well-trodden track, this guide should help you in creating your own travel itinerary and enjoy Taiwan as no other tourists can. Share: "I'm an avid traveller who has been travelling the world on a budget for several years now. Recently, I quit my 9 to 5 job so I can discover more of the world without having to worry about limited vacation leaves! November 25, 2017 January 4, 2024 July 13, 2019 September 19, 2020 Designed by Elegant Themes | Powered by WordPress

Taipei: A Cultural Tapestry - Discover Hidden Gems and Must-See Attractions ? ENSG Travel and Tour

Taipei, a vibrant metropolis nestled in the heart of Taiwan, offers a unique blend of ancient traditions and modern amenities. Discover a city that seamlessly merges the past and present, offering a captivating experience for every traveler. The National Palace Museum is a must-visit for history and art enthusiasts. This world-renowned institution houses an extensive collection of Chinese artifacts, spanning centuries and dynasties. Marvel at the intricate jade carvings, delicate porcelain, and ancient paintings that showcase the rich cultural heritage of China. Highlights: The Jadeite Cabbage, the Jadeite Cucumber, and the Bronze Age oracle bones. Tips: Allow at least half a day to explore the museum's vast collection. Consider taking a guided tour for a deeper understanding of the artifacts. Accessibility: The museum is wheelchair accessible, and audio guides are available in multiple languages. Escape the city's hustle and bustle and immerse yourself in the nostalgic charm of Jiufen Old Street. This historic village, once a bustling gold mining town, now offers a picturesque setting with traditional teahouses, quaint shops, and breathtaking views. Wander through the narrow alleyways, savor delicious local delicacies, and experience the unique ambiance. Highlights: Teahouses with panoramic views, traditional snacks like taro balls and stinky tofu, and the filming location for the movie "Spirited Away." Tips: Visit Jiufen in the late afternoon or early evening to enjoy the beautiful sunset. Be prepared for crowds, especially on weekends and holidays. Accessibility: The village is accessible on foot, but some areas may have stairs or uneven surfaces. Experience a magical and unforgettable moment at Shifen Old Street, where you can release sky lanterns into the sky and make a wish. This picturesque village offers a unique and romantic atmosphere, perfect for couples and families. Enjoy the local delicacies, shop for souvenirs, and create lasting memories. Highlights: Releasing sky lanterns, exploring the waterfall, and enjoying local street food. Tips: Visit Shifen on a weekday to avoid crowds. Bring cash as many vendors may not accept credit cards. Accessibility: The village is accessible on foot, but there are some stairs leading to the sky lantern release area. Taipei 101, once the tallest building in the world,

is a symbol of Taipei's modern skyline. Take a ride to the observation deck and enjoy panoramic views of the city and surrounding mountains. Experience the thrill of the world's fastest elevator and learn about the building's innovative design. Highlights: Panoramic views of Taipei, the world's fastest elevator, and the building's unique design. Tips: Purchase tickets online in advance to avoid long queues. Visit on a clear day for the best views. Accessibility: The building is wheelchair accessible, and elevators are available to reach the observation deck. Immerse yourself in the vibrant energy of Shilin Night Market, one of Taipei's most popular and bustling night markets. Explore the narrow alleyways lined with countless food stalls, offering a diverse range of delicious street food. From savory snacks like stinky tofu and oyster omelets to sweet treats like bubble tea and shaved ice, there's something to satisfy every craving. Highlights: Stinky tofu, oyster omelet, bubble tea, shaved ice, and grilled squid. Tips: Arrive early to avoid crowds and long queues. Be prepared to bargain with vendors. Accessibility: The night market is accessible on foot, but some areas may be crowded. What is the best time to visit Taipei? The best time to visit Taipei is during the spring (March-May) or fall (September-November) when the weather is pleasant and there are fewer crowds. How can I get around Taipei? Taipei has an efficient public transportation system, including buses, metro trains, and taxis. You can also rent a bicycle to explore the city at your own pace. Taipei just so happens to be included in our special 10 Days Seoul to Taipei travel package! Let us help you plan your dream trip to Taipei. Contact us today for personalized travel itineraries, accommodation bookings, and expert advice. Sign up with your email address to receive the latest deals on travel straight to your inbox. emma@mangotours.com (415)-690-0869

Best Things to do in Taipei in 2024 - Withlocals

Private & personalized tours - just for you! Whether you're a foodie, history lover, urban explorer or a traveling family. Enjoy Taipei to the max with the best things to do in Taipei with a local expert. The best thing? It's private & personalized - just for you! Whether you're a foodie, history lover, urban explorer or a traveling family. Enjoy Taipei to the max with the best things to do in Taipei with a local expert. The best thing? It's private & personalized - just for you! No strangers on your tour. It's just you and your local host. Let your local host tailor the tour completely to your wishes. Our tours are designed with people, places & the planet in mind. Make your stay in Taipei complete with these things to do. What other guests say about our tours and locals: "Kate is very competent and friendly. She takes the customers' wishes into account and also explains the background. We tried real Taiwanese delicacies and I was more than full at the end." "Garen was a very engaging and knowledgeable local food and culture guide. Our group was larger and consisted of various age levels and tastes. She communicated and worked attentively online with me to ensure that our tour would be appealing and meaningful to my group. In addition to taking us to delicious and unique food vendors, we learned a lot about Taiwanese history and culture. Her personality was energetic, passionate and thoughtful. We would highly recommend her to anyone. " "We had a great time wandering around the neighborhood near Dongmen station with Cola, trying out local food items and chatting. Thank you Cola for a fun introduction to the city!" "Daphne was very helpful in all aspects of our trip. She was attentive to make sure we maximized our experience, helping us see what we wanted and providing great information. Daphne even helped us plan other parts of our trip and gave us great advice." "The food was great, but our favorite part was the cultural context June brought and the connection to the people of her community that she showcases. June is a super smart, empathetic, well spoken guide who went out of her way to show us things beyond just the basic dishes. Would recommend a tour with June to anyone. " "Garen was an incredible guide who truly brought Taiwan's culture and history to life for us. Her deep knowledge and passion for the country made us appreciate every moment of the tour. She took us to amazing places and shared

insightful recommendations that we wouldn't have discovered on our own. Time flew by as she shared so many fascinating details and stories ? we were completely immersed! Garen's warmth and expertise made the day both enriching and enjoyable. Highly recommend her for anyone wanting an authentic and unforgettable experience in Taiwan!" "Our experience with Cola as our tour guide was fantastic! Despite meeting us in the rain, she went above and beyond to ensure we had an unforgettable tour. Cola found the best photo spots, even with the weather, and her knowledge of the city's history and hidden gems made the experience truly memorable. She shared fascinating facts about the area, took us to some incredible food spots, and maintained a warm, upbeat attitude throughout. Cola's expertise and enthusiasm turned a rainy day into an adventure ? highly recommended for anyone looking to explore the city in depth!" "Our day with Garen was great. With my wife being pregnant Garen was able to tailor the tour to accommodate her the whole time which i am extremely grateful for. Not only this but the best food that we had in the city was thanks to Garen introducing us to it. I without a doubt would recommend you take a tour from her and if i come back i intend to take another tour with her as we loved her company so much. "

"Despite initial difficulties due to a typhoon, our 3-hour food tour with Cola became an absolute highlight of our trip!

Cola informed us in a timely manner about the postponement and thus enabled us to still enjoy this unique experience. The tour flew by, because Cola took care of us with a lot of passion and commitment.

We were particularly impressed that she took extra time to get us a great picture and let us try the most delicious delicacies of the night market. Also the visit to the temple and Cola's interesting explanations were simply fantastic.

Thank you, Cola, for this unforgettable experience! We can highly recommend this tour with you!"

"Garen is a fantastic guide - she went above and beyond to make the tour a great experience. My expectations were absolutely surpassed. Garen even bought some local fruit for me, because I had informed her beforehand that I liked fruit a lot.

The food was overall fantastic, and I never would have found these places on my own.

I really recommend booking a tour with Garen :)" Learn about their personal stories and find out how you can explore Taipei with locals Our locals will give you the best experiences that Taipei has to offer Discover experiences based on your interest If you love food, culture and history, Taipei is the best place to be. From towering buildings, beautiful temples, unique shopping experiences and crazy variety of street foods, you will definitely not run out of interesting things to do in Taipei. In fact, you will love the city even more once you get to experience it with a local guide by your side. If you love food, then Taipei is here to introduce you to tasty local dishes. The city is known for its abundance of night markets selling delicious food. In fact, Taipei should be on the bucket list of every food lover out there. You can start your day with a delicious breakfast at Fu Hang, a restaurant famous with the locals for its freshly baked sesame flat bread. In fact, people start queuing at this restaurant as early as 5 AM! You can then head over at Hang Zhou, where you can sample the popular soup dumplings of Taiwan. End your day feasting at the crazy street food varieties at Shilin or Raohe Street Night Market. Have a taste at some of the local favorites, such as the oyster omelet, pineapple cake, flaky scallion pancakes, and many more. Visiting these night markets should be on top of your list of things to do in Taipei. Shifen is truly one of the most romantic places to visit in Taipei. If you want a place that invokes a feel of romance, you will surely love Shifen Old Street. The street is filled with both tourists and locals. You'll find lovers with high hopes and dreams, releasing sky lanterns with their wishes, towards the clear blue sky. And to make this experience even better, your local host can arrange for a lantern that you can release for a more personalized experience. After this, explore the streets and observe how the locals go about their daily life. The narrow street opens into a railway track with shopkeepers selling local produce. You will be amazed at how quickly the shopkeepers would make way for an incoming train! CKS or the Chiang Kai-Shek Memorial Hall is a popular tourist destination and should be included on your list of things to do in Taipei. With the help of your local guide, you will not only learn about Taiwan's culture and history but also find the hidden gems surrounding this main attraction. What a lot of tourists often miss is the changing of the guard. Your local guide will make sure that you get to witness this impressive ceremony. There are two guards on both sides of the hall and are changed

every hour from 9AM until 5PM. The performance is truly exciting and something that you should not miss when you're in Taipei. If you are fond of Starbucks, then you should not miss visiting the Starbucks at Taipei 101. Considered the highest Starbucks in the world, the coffee shop is located at the 35th floor. But unlike other Starbucks where you can simply walk-in and order your cup of coffee, getting into this branch is an adventure in itself. There are no signboards available and you cannot find any information from any travel guidebook. Because of the popularity of the coffee shop, a reservation is needed in advance. Your local guide can arrange to reserve a seat for you so you can experience having a cup of coffee with the best views of Taipei. Exploring Jiufen is one of the most interesting things to do in Taipei. It's a bustling district just outside of Taipei, known for its picturesque mountain views and beautiful old buildings decorated with red lanterns. But aside from these magnificent views, there are several other interesting things to do in Jiufen that a lot of people often miss when visiting this lovely town. When in Jiufen, your local guide will take you to Grandma Lai's Taro Ball shop, where you can sample the delightfully chewy taro ball. You will then drop by at a less touristy coffee shop that serves the most delicious filtered coffee, which locals absolutely love. And if you're a fan of Bubble tea, your guide will take you to Hanlin Tea house, which is the founder of the Bubble Teas. Immerse yourself in the local culture of Taiwan by staying at one of the local homestays in Taipei. This is also a great way to eat authentic Taiwanese dishes prepared by your lovely hosts right at their own kitchen. In fact, others would be happy to teach you a recipe or two. Known as minsu (homestay), the trademark Taiwanese hospitality is not like any other. There are thousands of wonderful locals all over the island who are just waiting to welcome you into their cozy abode. The best part of all is that staying at these homestays is a lot cheaper than some of the best hotels in Taipei. And let's not forget about the incredible food you'll get to taste! Taipei is known for having an abundant of teahouses and drinking locally grown teas is one of the most popular things to do in Taipei. But if you want to enjoy a beautiful sunset while sipping delicious locally grown teas, then head over to Mao Kong Shan. Tea fanatics will surely love this place for the wide selection of teahouses. Most teahouses have beautiful scenic mountain views as the backdrop and they serve different varieties of local teas. What's more, you have the option to ride a glass-bottomed cable car

on your way up there. Known as the Maokong Gondola, the cable car provides more viewing angles of the sunset. This is a great opportunity to fully immerse your self in the natural setting while it travels 4 km up into the mountain. And with a local guide by your side, the experience will be even more authentic. Fujin Street is a lesser-known lifestyle destination in Taipei and very popular with the locals. There are lots of interesting things to be seen in this lovely tree-lined street. Situated away from Taipei's bustling city center, the street is lined with stylish boutiques owned by independent local designers. Aside from the stylish boutiques, Fujin Street is also famous for its wide array of trendy coffee shops. This is a perfect place to hang out after a long walk in the city. After you finish your cup of coffee, you can take a stroll with your local host where you can check out the various multi-concept boutiques and several other trendy cafes. The experience can be made even more enjoyable with a local guide who is familiar with this laid back neighborhood. Of the various temples in Taipei, Long Shan is probably the least mainstream and a hidden gem. However, this is the perfect place to catch a glimpse of the daily religious life of the locals. The temple is a fusion of modernity and tradition. It was built during the 5th Year of the Qing Dynasty, and thus, it's the perfect place to relive the ancient history. But one of the most interesting things to do at the temple is to have a bird tell your fortune. You'll see birds hopping along the tables choosing from the various picture cards that will indicate one's luck. You can also give it a try if you want to experience something different from the usual things to do in Taipei. Getting a bird to tell your fortune is a popular tradition in Taiwan and your local guide can share more interesting facts and stories about this unusual tradition. Taiwan has one of the most delicious cuisines in the world. The best way to learn more about the country's food culture is to take part in one of the cooking lessons offered by the best cooks in Taipei. Most of these cooking lessons include a free tour at the local fresh produce market. During the tour, your local guide will introduce you to the various local produce of Taiwan and some other seasonal foods. After the market tour, the hands-on cooking lesson will start, which will normally take place at the kitchen of one of the locals. Depending on the cooking classes that you will book, you are free to choose the recipe that you want to learn. The classes will require visiting the house of a local, which makes for a fun and more authentic experience. Travel like a true

local! From devouring crunchy street food to strolling through spiritual temples, your local host will help you find the most amazing things to do in Taipei. With so many unique activities, you'll be spoiled for choice when looking for things to do in Taipei. History buffs can discover the story of Taiwan in Old Taipei, visit 300-year old temples and stroll through the perfectly preserved Bopiliao Area. Foodies will love the local pastries as you explore the delicious street food, visit the wet market or join your local host for a private dinner in their home. With so many things to see, you'll discover your local host knows just where to go on your personalized tour in Taipei! Exploring Taipei with a local who is familiar with the hidden gems and secret hangouts is the best way to discover the most exciting things to do in Taipei. Whether you prefer to soak up the atmosphere in the local markets or take a day trip to Pingxi, Shifen & Jiufen, your local host will personalize your private tour to show you your favorite things to see in Taipei. With your local host by your side, you'll know just where to go to feel like a true Taipei local! If you're looking for the best activities in Taipei, a Withlocals 100% private tour that is fully customizable is the perfect way discover the best things to do in Taipei. Simply let your local host know the things you would most like to see, and they'll be able to sort it all out locally for you! You might be interested in these

Taipei: Private Tour With Locals ? Highlights & Hidden Gems

Exploring the vibrant city of Taipei with a private tour led by knowledgeable locals is an exceptional way to take in the rich culture and history of this captivating destination. Over the course of 3.5 hours, visitors will have the opportunity to discover highlights such as the intricate Dalongdong Baoan Temple, the iconic Chiang Kai-shek Statue, and the bustling Maji Market, all while indulging in delectable local snacks. With a maximum group size of eight, this eco-friendly tour promises personalized attention and unique insights that will leave you eager to uncover more of Taipei's hidden gems. More tours and experiences nearby. The private guided tour of Taipei offers a comprehensive 3.5-hour experience, with prices starting from \$89.79 per person. The tour is limited to a maximum of 8 participants, ensuring personalized attention from the live English-speaking guide. Cancellation is free up to 24 hours in advance, and the tour's CO2 emissions are offset, making it an eco-friendly choice. Travelers can expect to discover the city's highlights and hidden gems, including landmarks like Dalongdong Baoan Temple, Chiang Kai-shek Statue, and Maji Market. The tour also includes a complimentary local snack or drink, providing an authentic taste of Taipei. Booking is easy, with the option to reserve now and pay later, and the tour meeting point is at the MRT Chiang Kai-shek Memorial Hall station, Exit 5. Travelers can look forward to uncovering Taipei's standout sights and lesser-known gems on this private guided tour. From the historic Dalongdong Baoan Temple to the iconic Chiang Kai-shek Statue, the tour promises an immersive experience. Guests will also visit the vibrant Maji Market, where they can sample local snacks and drinks. Exploring the city with a knowledgeable local guide provides unique insights into Taipei's rich culture and history. Prospective guests can reserve their spot on this private Taipei tour and pay later to secure their place. The tour operates at various start times throughout the day, so guests can choose a timeslot that fits their schedule. Simply check the availability calendar to see which spots are open. The meeting point is the MRT Chiang Kai-shek Memorial Hall station, Exit 5, which is easy to access via public transportation. With a maximum group size of 8 participants, the tour ensures an intimate and personalized experience. Plus, guests can benefit from the tour's flexible

cancellation policy, allowing them to receive a full refund if they cancel up to 24 hours in advance. Reviews for this private Taipei tour speak to its strong value proposition. Based on 10 reviews, the tour boasts an impressive 4.5/5 overall rating. Customers praise the excellent value for money, exceptional service, and seamless organization. One reviewer lauded the insightful local expertise, saying the guide provided fascinating insights into Taipei's history and culture. However, a few reviewers reported instances where the tour guide didn't show up, a concerning issue that the tour operator should address. Is this private Taipei tour suitable for all travelers? Not entirely. The tour isn't recommended for individuals with mobility impairments or wheelchair users. The walking involved may be challenging for some. However, the tour provider advises wearing comfortable shoes to ensure an enjoyable experience. This is a good option for travelers who can comfortably walk for extended periods. The tour covers various landmarks and hidden gems, so participants should be prepared for a moderate level of physical activity. Located in the historic Datong District, Dalongdong Baoan Temple stands as a renowned Taoist temple that captivates visitors with its intricate architectural design and rich cultural heritage. Dating back to the late 17th century, the temple showcases exquisite carvings, vibrant paintings, and an impressive array of deities. Visitors can marvel at the temple's ornate altars, ornamental roof tiles, and the towering main hall. The temple's significance extends beyond its architectural marvels, as it serves as a hub for traditional religious practices and community gatherings. Exploring Dalongdong Baoan Temple provides an immersive glimpse into Taiwan's deep-rooted Taoist traditions and the country's captivating cultural tapestry. Towering over the heart of Taipei, the Chiang Kai-shek Memorial Hall stands as a striking tribute to the former president of the Republic of China. Visitors can admire the grand, symmetrical architecture and the imposing bronze statue of Chiang Kai-shek at the center. The surrounding gardens and plazas offer a peaceful respite from the bustling city. Ascending the stairs, guests can explore the museum showcasing Chiang's life and legacy. The Changing of the Guards ceremony is a popular spectacle, where disciplined soldiers maintain a stoic vigil. This iconic landmark provides insights into Taiwan's history and the enduring legacy of one of its most influential leaders. At the heart of Taipei's vibrant food scene, Maji Market captivates visitors with its

bustling atmosphere and diverse array of local delicacies. This indoor market is a haven for foodies, offering a glimpse into the city's culinary traditions. Stroll through the maze of stalls, where vendors peddle everything from freshly-prepared street food to handcrafted artisanal products. Indulge in mouthwatering xiaolongbao, sip on fragrant bubble tea, and sample an array of Taiwanese specialties. The market's lively energy and the opportunity to interact with local purveyors make it a must-visit destination on any Taipei tour. Enjoy the vibrant sights, sounds, and flavors that define Maji Market, a true reflection of Taipei's rich food culture. Here's a few more nearby tours and experiences we think you'll like. Yes, participants can take photos during the tour. The tour overview indicates that it's a private guided tour, allowing visitors to capture the highlights and hidden gems of Taipei at their own pace. The tour includes a restroom break, allowing participants to use facilities at various stops along the way. The guide will ensure there are opportunities to take care of any personal needs during the 3.5-hour excursion. The tour offers various payment options. Guests can pay in the local currency or by credit card. Payments can be made when reserving the tour or directly with the guide on the day of the experience. The tour does not include transportation from the hotel. Participants are responsible for making their own way to the meeting point at the MRT Chiang Kai-shek Memorial Hall station, Exit 5. The tour provides a live guided experience within Taipei. The tour guides for this 3.5-hour private guided tour of Taipei speak English. The tour description doesn't mention any additional languages being offered, so English appears to be the sole language used by the guides. Not for you? Here's more of our most recent tour reviews happening nearby This private tour of Taipei's highlights and hidden gems offers an immersive cultural experience led by knowledgeable local guides. Visitors will explore iconic landmarks, vibrant markets, and traditional temples, while enjoying personalized attention and unique insights. With a focus on sustainability and engagement, this tour provides an unforgettable adventure through Taipei's rich history and contemporary vibrancy. © 2024 Power Traveller

Taiwan Travel Guide: Unveiling Hidden Gems and Must-Visit Attractions

[ez-toc] Foreign nationals from various countries can enjoy visa-exempt entry to Taiwan with different durations of stay. Nationals of countries like the United States, Australia, Canada, the United Kingdom, and many European nations can stay for up to 90 days. Nationals of countries including Malaysia and Singapore can stay for up to 30 days. It's important to note that certain restrictions apply to travellers from specific countries or with specific passport details. Requirements for visa-exempt entry for Taiwan travel include a passport with at least six months of validity, a confirmed return ticket, and proof of accommodation. The duration of stay is not extendable, except in exceptional circumstances. Please make sure to click on Visa-Exempt Entry for verification and additional requirements. Travellers from foreign nations who are not eligible for Visa-Exempt Entry must apply for Visitor Visa for Tourism Purpose. Documents needed:

1. Completed & signed application form
2. Two passport-size photos in color within 6 months (45 mm by 35 mm)
3. Passport valid for 6 months with blank pages (original & photocopy)
4. Evidence of funds (bank statement)
5. Travel Itinerary
6. Return Ticket (Ticket?electronic ticket or proof of a travel agency)
7. Other additional documents may be required during processing

Taiwan offers a diverse range of experiences that transform with the changing seasons. From vibrant cherry blossoms in spring to soothing hot springs in winter, each season brings its own unique charm to Taiwan.

Travel Documents and Cash: Ensure you have your passport, travel insurance, and any necessary visas. It's strongly recommended to carry a mix of cash and credit cards, as while card payments are widely accepted, lots of vendors only accept cash.

Suitable Clothing: Travel Adapter: Taiwan uses Type A and Type B electrical outlets with a voltage of 110V. If you're traveling from a country with different plug types or voltage, be sure to pack a universal travel adapter.

Sunscreen: Taiwan is located in a subtropical region, and UV levels can be relatively high, especially during the summer months. It's advisable to pack sunscreen with a high SPF and sunglasses to protect your skin.

Comfortable Walking Shoes: Exploring Taiwan often involves a fair amount of walking, be sure to

pack a pair of comfortable walking shoes. Here are some options for the currency exchange methods:

Go to your local bank: Before your trip, you can visit your local bank in your home country and inquire about currency exchange services if you prefer to have local currency in hand before your trip.

Exchange at the airport: Another option is to exchange your currency at the airport either in your home country or upon arrival in Taiwan. It is advisable to compare the exchange rates and fees at different counters to ensure you get the best deal.

Department Stores in Taiwan: Some department stores such as Taipei 101 and Shin Kong Mitsukoshi offer currency exchange services. However, it's important to note that the options for currency conversion may be more limited, both in terms of the amount you can exchange and the range of currencies accepted. You can book the portable wifi device or SIM card/ eSIM online and pickup at the airport depending on your destination in Taiwan.

Here are some suggestions for a one-day tour in Taipei.

Yangmingshan National Park It is known for its lush greenery, hot springs, and volcanic landscapes. Explore the park's scenic trails, visit the Qingtiangang Grassland for breathtaking views, and Bamboo Lake for to experience the joy of picking calla lily.

Bamboo Lake Parking Lot Address: Zhuzihu Road Parking Lot, Beitou District, Taipei City, Taiwan

Qingtiangang Parking Lot Address: No. 246, Lane 101, Jingshan Road, Shilin District, Taipei City, Taiwan

Dadaocheng Explore the narrow streets lined with traditional shophouses and tea houses. Visit the Dihua Street Market, known for its vibrant atmosphere and a wide variety of traditional goods, including herbs, teas, fabrics, and snacks. Take your time to immerse yourself in the rich cultural heritage of this area.

Parking Lot Address: Da Dao Cheng Park Underground Parking Lot, No. 243, Guisui Street, Datong District, Taipei City, Taiwan.

Beitou district Relax and rejuvenate at one of the public hot spring bathhouses like Millennium Hot Spring. If you prefer a more private experience, there are many resorts and hotels in the area with hot spring facilities.

Parking Lot Address: B1, No. 145, Daxing Street, Beitou District, Taipei City

112 Jiufen known for its narrow streets, tea houses, and stunning views of the coastline. Wander through the atmospheric Old Street filled with shops selling local snacks, handicrafts, and souvenirs. Don't miss the opportunity to try traditional snacks like taro balls, fish balls, and tea-flavored ice cream.

Parking Lot Address: No. 11, Qiqi Road, Ruifang District, New Taipei City

224 Here are some

suggestions for a one-day tour in Taichung. Rainbow Village This vibrant and whimsical village was transformed by a retired veteran into a colorful art installation. Take a stroll through the narrow streets and capture instagram-worthy photos. Parking Lot Address: No. 25, Lane 56, Chunan Road, Nantun District, Taichung City 408 Gaomei Wetland This ecological treasure offers a unique landscape with mudflats, windmills, and stunning sunsets. Take a leisurely walk along the wooden boardwalks, observe migratory birds, and feel the refreshing sea breeze. Parking Lot Address: No. 1, Lane 726, Gaomei Road, Qingshui District, Taichung City 436 Shengqi New Village This former military dependents' village has been transformed into an artsy neighborhood with art installations, creative spaces, and vendors selling handmade crafts. Parking Lot Address: No. 300, Section 1, Meicun Road, West District, Taichung City 403 Fengjia Night Market one of Taiwan's largest and most lively night markets. Sample a variety of local street food, shop for trendy fashion, and enjoy the vibrant atmosphere. Be sure to try the famous grilled squid, stinky tofu, and bubble tea. Parking Lot Address: No. 258, Section 2, Xitun Road, Xitun District, Taichung City 407

Here are some suggestions for a one-day tour in Kaohsiung. Pier-2 Art Center This vibrant art district is filled with colorful street art, creative installations, and contemporary art exhibitions. Explore the various galleries, shops, and cafes housed in repurposed warehouses. Address: No. 10, Penglai Road, Gushan District, Kaohsiung City, Taiwan Fo Guang Shan Buddha Museum This grand Buddhist temple complex is home to one of the tallest statues of Buddha in the world. Explore the museum, learn about Buddhist culture, and enjoy the serene surroundings. Parking Lot Address: Xingtian Road, Dashu District, Kaohsiung City 84049 Qijin Take a ferry from Gushan Ferry Pier to Qijin. This small island off the coast of Kaohsiung is known for its laid-back atmosphere, sandy beaches, and fresh seafood. Enjoy a leisurely stroll along the coast, visit the Qijin Lighthouse, and indulge in some local seafood delicacies. Gushan Ferry Pier Parking Lot Address: No. 25, Binhai 1st Road, Gushan District, Kaohsiung City 804 Weiwuying This magnificent performing arts center is known for its impressive architecture and world-class performances. Take a guided tour to admire the grandeur of the venue or check the schedule for any performances or exhibitions taking place during your visit. Address: No.1, Sanduo 1st Rd., Fengshan Dist., Kaohsiung City 830043, Taiwan Li Song Hot

Spring Lishong River Hot Springs is known for its clear stream and warm waters. The graceful formation of calcium carbonate along the mountain cliffs, complemented by thriving algae in the warm spring waters, creates a captivating sight akin to a fairytale scene. This remarkable fusion generates a mesmerizing emerald green hue. Immersing oneself in this enchanting setting not only provides warmth to the body but also nourishes the soul. It is no wonder that this extraordinary destination has rightfully earned the title of Taiwan's most exquisite hot spring.

Galaxy Stargazing Feast Specially arranged on a summer night, set against a gentle breeze on the beach, this event offers not only exquisite culinary delights but also a unique stargazing experience exclusive to the summer season. Guided tours of the starry sky allow guests to immerse themselves in the dazzling galaxy, while discovering romantic and fascinating constellation stories. It's an opportunity to experience the distinct Hualien Galaxy Stargazing Feast, set against the backdrop of a captivating beach ambiance.

Forest Campfire Dinner The outdoor picnic event takes place amidst the serene forests of Yanshui Coast in Hualien. With the moonlight casting a subtle glow, the event features a setup equipped with cooking and barbecue facilities, as well as a cozy campfire. On-site, a selection of creative signature dishes and beverages is prepared, utilizing fresh ingredients sourced locally from Hualien. Amidst the gentle forest breeze, guests can enjoy a delightful dinner by the warm campfire, savoring the exquisite flavors of the carefully crafted delicacies. When it comes to Taiwanese breakfast, it's always a topic that sparks lively discussions. This is because it holds a collective memory for everyone, whether they are students or business people. The flavors of the iconic Taiwanese breakfast, such as Chinese omelet, scallion cake, club sandwiches, iron plate noodles, iced milk tea, etc are familiar to all. Taiwanese salt crispy chicken It's a must-try street food delight that offers a crunchy and flavorful experience. Plus, you can also find a variety of other delicious options like tofu, sweet potato, mushroom, cucumber, etc, to be fried to perfection.

Braised pork rice The flavors of braised pork rice can differ from one store to another because each place has its own special recipe. So, why not give them a try and discover the unique twists and tastes?

Picture a towering mound of fluffy shaved ice topped with fresh fruits, chewy boba pearls, sweet syrups, and a variety of toppings. Whether you choose the classic mango shaved ice or opt for

unique flavors like matcha or taro, each spoonful will bring a refreshing burst of flavors and textures. Here are some popular brands in Taiwan: Wootea(???)KEBUKE Tea Company(????Dejeng(???Milksha(???? These chewy and gooey rice cakes bursting with flavors like sweet red bean, nutty peanut, and aromatic sesame. Recommended Store: Tzen's Mochi|????Address(one of the 11 stores): No. 81, Suxin Road, Suao Town, Yilan County Recommended Store: hiwalk | ?????Address(one of the 17 stores): No. 6, Lane 37, Gongming Street, Tamsui District, New Taipei City Recommended Store: YOSHI BAKERY | ???-????Address: No. 51, Lane 244, Dunhua North Road, Songshan District, Taipei City 105 Recommended Store: Sunnyhills | ?????Address: 1F, No. 1, Lane 4, Lane 36, Section 5, Minsheng East Road, Songshan District, Taipei City 105

In general, Taiwan does not have tipping culture like some other countries. Unlike places where tipping is customary, such as the United States, it is not expected to leave a tip for most services in Taiwan. When dining at restaurants, you may notice a 10% service fee added to the bill. This fee is already included in the total price and is meant to cover the service provided by the staff. Therefore, it is not necessary to leave an additional tip on top of the service fee. It's important to note that while the service fee is common in restaurants, it may not be present in all establishments. In smaller local eateries or street food stalls, for example, you won't typically find a service fee. In these cases, it is also not expected to leave a tip. The prices displayed for goods and services usually include taxes. This means that the price you see on the price tag or menu is the final amount you need to pay, and there are no additional taxes added at the checkout. The currency used in Taiwan is the New Taiwan Dollar (TWD). While the official currency is the New Taiwan Dollar, US dollars are not accepted for day-to-day transactions. It is recommended to exchange your US dollars for Taiwanese currency at banks, currency exchange counters, or ATMs. Major credit cards are commonly accepted in hotels, upscale establishments, and larger retail stores. However, it is advisable to carry local currency for smaller businesses, street markets, and public transportation. While Mandarin is the official language of Taiwan, English is commonly spoken in major tourist areas, hotels, and larger establishments. Many Taiwanese people, especially younger generations, have a basic understanding of English. However, outside of these areas,

[illegible]

8 Unforgettable Day Trips from Taipei: Explore Taiwan's Hidden Gems » Agoda: See The World For Less

Taipei is a vibrant city teeming with history, culture, and modern sights, but sometimes, the most enchanting experiences lie just beyond the city limits. If you're planning a trip to Taipei, don't miss the chance to explore some incredible destinations on these unforgettable day trips. From stunning natural landscapes to cultural hot spots, here are ten spectacular day trips from Taipei that you simply must experience. Jiufen Village, perched on the mountainside overlooking the Pacific Ocean, is one of Taiwan's most enchanting day trips. Known for its narrow streets and teahouses that inspired scenes from the movie "Spirited Away," Jiufen offers a nostalgic glimpse into Taiwan's gold mining history. Wander through the quaint shops, savor local snacks like taro balls, and enjoy panoramic views from the comfort of a traditional teahouse. Yehliu Geopark is an otherworldly landscape sculpted by thousands of years of natural wind and sea erosion. Known for its unique rock formations, such as the famous "Queen's Head," this coastal park is a geological wonder. Walking through Yehliu will make you feel like you're on another planet, with each step revealing new and fascinating rock forms. Don't forget your camera as the park offers endless photo opportunities. Located in the Pingxi District, Shifen Waterfall is the broadest waterfall in Taiwan and an absolute must-see. The picturesque cascading water and verdant surroundings provide a perfect backdrop for a leisurely hike. The trail leading to the waterfall is well-marked and offers several vantage points for photos. Nearby, the Shifen Old Street bustles with food stalls and shops selling traditional crafts, providing a slice of local life. For a relaxing escape, head to Beitou, home to Taiwan's most famous hot spring resorts. Located just a short metro ride from Taipei, Beitou offers a serene retreat with its lush green parks, hot spring hotels, and the Beitou Hot Springs Museum. Soak in the therapeutic, mineral-rich waters, visit the historic thermal valley, and enjoy the peaceful atmosphere. Beitou provides an ideal way to unwind from the hustle and bustle of city life. Wulai, a small town in New Taipei City, is a paradise for nature lovers and those interested in indigenous culture. The area is known for its stunning Wulai Waterfall, which can be viewed from a scenic

observation deck or via a short cable car ride. Wulai Old Street is filled with shops and street vendors selling traditional Atayal handicrafts and snacks. Don't miss the opportunity to relax in one of the town's hot spring resorts. The Maokong Gondola offers an exhilarating ride over the rolling hills and lush tea plantations on the outskirts of Taipei. This cable car system takes you to Maokong, a popular spot for tea lovers and hikers. At the terminals, you'll find numerous tea houses where you can sample Taiwanese tea while enjoying panoramic views of the city below. The Maokong Gondola is also a great way to access various hiking trails in the area. Tamsui Fisherman's Wharf, located along the Tamsui River, is a favorite destination for both locals and tourists. Known for its iconic 'Love's Bridge,' Tamsui offers stunning sunset views over the water. You can enjoy fresh seafood at the local restaurants, take romantic strolls along the wharf, or catch a ferry ride. Additionally, the Tamsui Old Street offers a delightful mix of traditional and modern shops, ideal for a leisurely afternoon. Yangmingshan National Park is a vast and diverse natural haven conveniently located near Taipei. The park is famous for its hot springs, hiking trails, and beautiful flower displays, particularly during the annual flower festival. You can hike up to Qixing Mountain, Taiwan's tallest extinct volcano, or explore the serene flower parks and grasslands. The park is also home to cherry blossoms in spring and vibrant butterfly populations in summer. Taipei's strategic location makes it an excellent base for exploring some of Taiwan's most beautiful and interesting destinations. Whether you're looking for cultural experiences, outdoor adventures, or relaxing retreats, these day trips offer something for every traveler. Plan your next adventure from Taipei and uncover the rich diversity that Taiwan has to offer. You may also like

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10 Secret Night Markets in Taipei You Must Visit

Shopping & Markets, Taipei, Taiwan May 11, 2024 When it comes to nightlife, Taipei is famous for its bustling night markets, but beyond the well-known spots lie hidden gems that offer a more authentic experience. These secret night markets encapsulate the vibrant culture and culinary delights of the city, providing an opportunity to interact with locals and savor unique dishes. From tucked-away stalls serving up delicious street food to charming boutiques showcasing handmade crafts, these hidden markets reveal an entirely different side of Taipei's night scene. Join us as we explore 10 secret night markets in Taipei that are sure to tantalize your taste buds and provide unforgettable memories.

Shilin Night Market is undoubtedly one of the most famous secret night markets in Taipei. This bustling market attracts both locals and tourists alike. Visitors will find a vibrant atmosphere filled with an array of street food stalls, shops, and entertainment options. Deep-fried delicacies, such as stinky tofu and fried chicken, are must-tries! While exploring, don't miss out on the numerous games and activities. For instance, playing a few rounds of ring toss is a popular choice. Moreover, the market is conveniently located near the Shilin Metro Station, making it easily accessible.

Raohe Street Night Market is often regarded as a hidden gem among the secret night markets in Taipei. It is smaller than Shilin, which gives it a more intimate feel. Here, you can wander through stalls showcasing authentic Taiwanese snacks. Be sure to try the famous pepper buns! These pastries are packed with juicy pork and cooked in a tandoor oven, offering a unique flavor. Additionally, the market is home to various shops selling local handicrafts. Thus, it provides the perfect opportunity to pick up some souvenirs. The vibrant atmosphere blends local culture with street food in a delightful way.

Ningxia Night Market is another gem that showcases the secret night markets in Taipei theme. This lively market is celebrated for its traditional Taiwanese flavors. As you stroll through, the smell of grilled squid and sweet potato balls fills the air, enticing your taste buds. Moreover, Ningxia is known for its focus on local cuisine. For instance, many vendors offer traditional Taiwanese desserts like mochi and peanut candy. It's the ideal spot for anyone looking to indulge in authentic flavors while absorbing the lively atmosphere.

The Liuhe Night Market is a

must-visit destination for food lovers exploring the secret night markets in Taipei. Located in Kaohsiung, this market is a culinary hotspot that showcases the best of Taiwanese street food. As you stroll through the vibrant stalls, the tantalizing aromas of grilled seafood and stinky tofu fill the air, inviting you to try everything. Moreover, you cannot miss the famous papaya milk and the fried octopus that have made Liuhe so popular. Often bustling with locals, the market exudes an authentic vibe, especially at night when the lights and sounds create a festive atmosphere. In addition, the friendly vendors are always ready to share recommendations, enhancing your experience. Nestled along the waterfront, the Tamsui Night Market offers breathtaking views and delectable snacks, making it one of the secret night markets in Taipei worth exploring. As you wander through the market, you'll encounter an array of tasty treats such as Tamsui's famous fish ball soup and iron eggs. These unique local dishes are a must-try! Not only is the food remarkable, but the picturesque scenery adds to the charm. You can also enjoy a peaceful stroll along the Tamsui riverside after your meal. Overall, this night market is an excellent blend of good food, fun activities, and mesmerizing views, ensuring an unforgettable evening.

Huaxi Street Night Market, also known as the Snake Alley, is one of the most interesting secret night markets in Taipei. This market is famous not only for its tasty delicacies but also for its rich cultural heritage. As you walk through, you will encounter vendors that offer a variety of local delights, including the unique snake soup and a selection of exotic snacks. Furthermore, the atmosphere is vibrant, filled with both locals and tourists eager to experience this one-of-a-kind market. The many shops lining the streets showcase traditional Chinese medicine, crafted items, and souvenirs. Therefore, visiting Huaxi Street Night Market is a perfect opportunity to soak up culture while satisfying your tastebuds.

Ximending Night Market is the heart of youth culture in Taipei. Known for its vibrant atmosphere, this market attracts both locals and tourists with its eclectic mix of shops and entertainment options. As I strolled through the bustling streets, I noticed the energy was contagious, filled with laughter and music. Here, you will find trendy boutiques, street performers, and various food stalls offering delicious snacks, including the famous stinky tofu. In addition, Ximending is a hotspot for pop culture, evident in the art murals and themed cafes. If you're looking for the latest fashion or unique

souvenirs, this is the place to be. Don't forget to snap a few photos at the iconic Red House, a cultural landmark in the area. If you're in the mood for breakfast at odd hours, Yonghe Night Market is a must-visit spot. It may be a night market, but it's famous for serving traditional Taiwanese breakfast dishes late into the night. I indulged in their renowned soy milk and fried dough sticks, which were absolutely delicious. This market is less crowded than others, which makes it a great spot to have a more relaxed dining experience. Moreover, while visiting, you can explore numerous food stalls offering various local delights. Transitioning from sweet to savory dishes, you'll discover flavors that are both comforting and delightful. Jilin Night Market is a lesser-known gem in Taipei, showcasing authentic local flavors. This market attracts food enthusiasts looking for traditional snacks and dishes. While exploring, I discovered a variety of Taiwanese delights, such as unique snack platters, cold noodle, and delicious grilled seafood. What makes Jilin special is its community vibe. Locals often gather here, which adds to its charm. I found it delightful to see families sharing meals and friends catching up over bowls of beef noodle soup. So, if you wish to experience Taipei like a local, visiting Jilin Night Market is essential! Dihua Street is one of the most charming secret night markets in Taipei, offering visitors a genuine taste of Taiwanese culture. Located in the historic Dadaocheng district, this market comes alive as the sun sets, showcasing an eclectic mix of old and new. Here, you can find traditional medicine shops, tea houses, and countless food stalls that whip up delicious local delicacies. One must-try food item is the Ah-Zhong Mian Xian, a savory noodle dish that warms the belly. Additionally, as you stroll through the bustling lanes, you'll encounter seasonal treats that reflect local traditions. Don't forget to sample the sweet potato balls, which are a favorite among both locals and tourists. Overall, Dihua Street not only piques your taste buds but also invites you to explore its rich history through beautifully preserved architecture. It's a perfect spot for souvenir shopping, as you'll find unique handcrafted items that tell a story. Exploring Taipei's secret night markets offers an extraordinary blend of culinary delights and vibrant culture that many tourists often miss. From tantalizing street food to unique handmade crafts, these hidden spots capture the essence of local life in Taipei. Have you stumbled upon any secret night markets during your travels? Share your experiences and let's uncover more hidden treasures together in

this captivating city! Comment Save my name, email, and website in this browser for the next time I comment. At Secret Attractions, our team of passionate explorers and travel writers are dedicated to uncovering the world's best-kept secrets. From hidden gems to off-the-beaten-path destinations, each author brings unique expertise and insider knowledge to help you discover the magic of lesser-known travel experiences. Whether you're looking for secret spots in bustling cities or serene hideaways in remote corners, our authors provide carefully curated guides, practical tips, and inspiring stories to make your journey unforgettable. November 30, 2024 November 29, 2024 November 28, 2024 November 27, 2024 November 26, 2024 November 25, 2024 November 24, 2024 November 23, 2024 November 22, 2024 October 15, 2024 © SecretAttractions.com

Discovering Taipei's hidden gems - Pampanga News Now

Embark on a captivating journey to Taipei, the vibrant capital city of Taiwan. Nestled between lush mountains and the sparkling Taiwan Strait, Taipei effortlessly blends ancient traditions with modern innovation. As you step foot in this bustling metropolis, prepare to be enveloped by a tapestry of sights, sounds, and flavors, from the iconic landmarks of Taipei 101 to the unparalleled sand-sculpted Disney themed park in Fulong Beach. Not to mention, the fascinating geological rock formations of Yehliu Geopark, and the charming streets of Jiufen known for its "Spirited Away" like traditional teahouses. For summertime, Taipei also features the Dadaocheng Wharf Fireworks Display and the making of the DIY Cake, a unique experience offered by Vigor Kobo Pineapple Cake Factory, along with the bustling night markets of Ximending. Taipei promises not only livelihood for many overseas Filipino workers (OFWs) but also many hidden attractions for travelers seeking cultural immersion, culinary delights, and a glimpse into the captivating spirit of Taiwan. Here's a 3-day Taipei escapade with Pampanga Media and Clark International Airport in partnership with Taiwan Tourism Bureau Malaysia and Plaza Premium Lounge. Day 1: Departure We departed Clark International Airport, and effortlessly made our way through check-in procedures and the security process with the assistance of our esteemed partner from Luzon International Premiere Association of the Philippines (LIPAD), Corporate Communications Officer Teri Flores, all the way up to getting our e-boarding pass. We had a seamless and smooth departure and arrival at CRK in collaboration with Plaza Premium Lounge, which graciously hosted us inside the airport while we awaited our flight via EVA Air. Once inside the Plaza Premium Lounge, we were enveloped by an atmosphere of relaxation and elegance. Plaza Premium Lounge went above and beyond in providing an array of amenities, services, and gastronomic excellence to cater to our every need. After a two-hour flight from Taoyuan International Airport, we were welcomed by our Taiwan Tourism Bureau Malaysia tourguide Felix Chen and went straight to Caesar Metro Hotel, our home for the entire trip to the city of bubble tea. At dinner, we had Mala Hot Pot at Ximen Branch, a buffet hot pot offering high-quality meat and fresh seafood, with a really flavorful spicy soup base and a

wide selection of desserts. I must say that this must be the best hot pot I have been to. Their food selection is vast. Aside from the pork and beef, they also have scallops, shrimp, abalone, crabs, and the delectable cheese balls, among others. Their ice cream ranges from Haagen Daz to Movenpick, and for me, the latter's Stracciatella flavor is superb. Also, they have a wide selection of drinks. The dinner is very worth it. After dinner, we breezed around Ximending, a vibrant shopping area in Wanhua District of Taipei, Taiwan. The place is a popular destination for locals and tourists alike, offering an array of shops, restaurants, entertainment venues, and street performers.

Day 2: Taipei

101 We visited the iconic Taipei 101 skyscraper. On the 89th and 91st floors, the building provides breathtaking panoramic views of Taipei and the surrounding areas. Visitors are in awe of its fastest elevators, with a speed of up to 1,010 meters per minute, thus giving a satisfactory experience while enjoying the magnificent views from Taipei 101. Inside the building, a wind damper was erected, a notable feature whose purpose is to stabilize Taipei 101 against strong winds and seismic activity. It helps reduce the building's swaying and minimizes the effects of lateral forces during an earthquake. Taipei 101 also has a shopping mall, featuring a wide range of high-end brands, designer boutiques, international retailers, local specialty stores, and souvenir shops.

Din Tai Fung

Next stop, we were treated to lunch to savor delicious Taiwanese cuisine at Din Tai Fung, known for its famous delectable dumplings. The restaurant is known particularly for its signature xiao long bao, steamed soup dumplings filled with flavorful broth and various fillings. During peak hours, there may be long wait times at the Taipei 101 location. If you plan to eat there, it's advisable to make a reservation beforehand. While dumplings are the highlight, Din Tai Fung offers a wide array of dishes, including appetizers, noodles, rice dishes, soups, and vegetable dishes.

Vigor Kobo's DIY Cake

Another stop was at Vigor Kobo Pineapple Cake Factory, a renowned bakery in Taipei known for its delicious pastries and cakes. It was great to experience making our own DIY cakes from start to finish under the guidance of a skilled instructor. The Pineapple Cake Museum, a certified Halal cake factory, also offers a light and music show that highlights dandelion flowers popping at every touch, bearing good luck wishes. Include in your bucket list Vigor Kobo's Pineapple Cake Museum, located at Wenlin Rd., Shilin District, Taipei City.

Dadaocheng Wharf Fireworks Display

Dadaocheng

Wharf is a venue for a fireworks display over the Tamsui River that dazzles locals and visitors alike. The district is known for its historic district and beautiful wharf. It was nice to capture the scenic sunset at the iconic wharf while staying on the view deck of a restaurant. Aside from the fireworks, the festival also features live music, dance performances, and other cultural activities. We enjoyed the delicious food from local vendors. It is an unforgettable experience that immerses attendees in a magical world of excitement and wonder. By the way, the festival will run until August 20, 2023.

Dinhua Street shopping district Here's another shopping district at Dinhua Street in Dating Strict, just across Dadaocheng Pier 5 Wharf. In this area, Chinese medicines, dried fruits and veggies, peking duck, milk tea supplies, and other antics were up for grabs.

Day 3: Fulong Sand Sculpture Festival In time for Disney's 100th anniversary, the Fulong International Sand Sculpture Art Festival, dubbed "Disney Centennial Celebration, hosted a themed sand sculpture exhibition in Fulong Beach, Taiwan. I am lucky to have immersed myself in and relive the 66 magical wonders of Disney-themed sand sculpture, this time in Taipei. I am stunned with the detailed work and classic characters of Disney, Peter Pan, Alladin, Beauty and the Beast, Marvel, Pinnochio, Oswald, Moana, Mickey Mouse, Lion King, Frozen, The Little Mermaid, among others. I am much awed with the 8-meter tall Snow White, which placed as the themed main sculpture. The Festival usually runs during the summer months in Taipei. This year, the festival will run until October 22, 2023. Visitors like me can come to enjoy the intricate sand sculptures. Kudos to the skilled sculptors of Disney's stunning character creations.

Jiufen Jiufen Old Street: Explore the nostalgic atmosphere of Jiufen, a famous tourist attraction located in the mountains of northern Taiwan. Its charming old-world ambiance and stunning views of the surrounding landscapes make it more attractive to tourists, particularly its street that is lined with traditional tea houses, souvenir shops, and food stalls, creating a bustling and lively atmosphere. Walking through its streets, tourists like us can immerse themselves in the rich history and culture of Taiwan while experiencing a sense of timelessness as compared to the movie "Spirited Away."

Yehliu Geopark I am lucky to have witnessed before my eyes the wonders of Yehliu Geopark. Walking through the coastal road is rewarding as it captures natural wonders that showcase a stunning collection of unique geological formations. The Geopark

offers locals and tourists a surreal landscape of various shapes and sizes, sculpted by millions of years of coastal erosion. Part of the many rock formations here is the iconic "Queen's Head," which resembles a regal profile and is the highlight among the numerous intriguing formations like mushroom and honeycomb rocks. Exploring Yehliu Geopark feels like stepping into a different world, where nature's artistic prowess is on full display. The park's dramatic coastal setting, combined with its fascinating geological wonders, makes it a must-visit destination for nature enthusiasts and anyone seeking a memorable experience near Taipei. Yehliu at night offers romantic light and a magical night view of the sea and sky. From the rock formation, Yehliu showcases two light shows; the first part presented was the dazzling 3D light sculpture projection. And last was the water curtain fountain and water dance animation, which brought a new light to spectators and tourists alike. See it here ? <https://fb.watch/ILJfrfWtfS/?mibextid=v7YzmG>

Food and Restos By the way, our culinary journey in Taipei includes Mala Hot Pot, Din Tai Fung 101 Branch, Fuji Seafood, and the Inhouse Hotel Yehliu Fisherman's Kitchen. At the secret tea house in Jiufen, we enjoyed drinking authentic Taiwanese Oolong Tea with a complete tea ceremony. The privilege of experiencing the warm hospitality and delectable flavors offered by the diverse array of restaurants that graciously hosted us, from cozy neighborhood gems to upscale dining establishments, each eatery provided a unique glimpse into the local culinary scene and an unforgettable feast for the senses. Truly, our trip to Taipei was an adventure filled with remarkable experiences. And these memories have really left an indelible mark on my heart. Xie Xie CRK, and Taiwan Tourism Bureau. For an exceptional and smooth flight, fly to CRK via Cebu Pacific, Eva Air, and soon Starlux Airlines.

Taipei Private Tour: Discover the City's Highlights and Hidden Gems with Locals: Book Tours & Activities at Peek.com

Experience the best of Taipei on a private tour with a knowledgeable local guide. Discover the city's highlights, hidden gems, and indulge in a local treat! Experience the best of Taipei on a private tour with a knowledgeable local guide. Discover the city's highlights, hidden gems, and indulge in a local treat! This isn't just another city tour; it's the best of Taipei from a unique viewpoint! Experience Taipei on a city exploration that offers you a comprehensive overview with major city attractions, secret spots, engaging storytelling, and a special local delicacy - this tour includes everything!

Forget crowded groups and tourists; it's time for you to see? This isn't just another city tour; it's the best of Taipei from a unique viewpoint! Experience Taipei on a city exploration that offers you a comprehensive overview with major city attractions, secret spots, engaging storytelling, and a special local delicacy - this tour includes everything! Forget crowded groups and tourists; it's time for you to see Taipei from a local's perspective. Take a look at what main landmarks like the Chiang Kei Shek Statue, Bao'an Temple, Maji Market have to offer and discover hidden treasures and untold city secrets guided by a knowledgeable local. And a treat from the locality is on us. The Withlocals Highlights & Hidden Gems Private City Tour? is a hallmark of Withlocals? tours globally. Our guides are enthusiastic locals who are paid a fair wage. We bolster local economies by encouraging the use of local products and avoid over-tourism by maintaining smaller, less intrusive groups. For a full refund, cancel at least 24 hours before the scheduled departure time. For a full refund, cancel at least 24 hours before the scheduled departure time.

What to do in Taipei for your first time - World of Wanderlust

Arriving in Taipei, I had no expectations. I had long heard fellow travellers sing their praises for Taiwan and its capital city, but I made the purposeful decision not to research before the trip, instead hoping to wander the streets and stumble upon the city by happenstance. As it turns out, this is not the most ideal way to see Taipei. The city itself is sprawling and spread out, but thankfully the public transport is easy to navigate and well connected. Here's what to do in Taipei for your first time if you're hoping to experience the hidden gems of the city, as well as the top attractions. When you land in Taipei, it is easy enough to catch public transport from the airport into the city. There is a direct train from the airport to the city, with just a few stops in between before you reach the Taipei Main Station. Once in the city, you have a few choices for getting around. The public metro is easy to use and navigate, but if your hotel is located close to the train station you might also choose to walk as the city is flat and pathways wide for rolling your suitcase. A final option is to hop in a cab to take you directly to the door of your hotel, however I would say this is the least fun option! There is no shortage of hotels and guesthouses in Taipei. I chose to book my stay at CitizenM, as I was looking for a hotel that was central and I always love these hotels for their simplicity, affordability and best of all: the views! My main recommendation for staying at CitizenM would be to choose a room on a higher floor, so you get to enjoy the views over the city. Taipei is a city practically made for foodies. There are endless Taiwanese delicacies to try but even more importantly for me was the sweets selection. Taiwan is also the birthplace of bubble tea (boba tea), so you can expect to find tea shops on almost every corner. My favourite food find was a small teahouse named Matcha One. As a fond matcha fan, this was the one and only place I researched for the trip, as I was in search of the best matcha in town. As it turns out, this matcha store is highly celebrated with rave reviews. Despite being a little out of the way, I made a point to visit not once but twice, for arguably the best matcha soft serve ice cream in the world (or certainly the best matcha ice cream I've ever enjoyed!) My next recommendation is Comida. I stumbled upon this place nearby my hotel when in search of a coffee. Not only did they have a great coffee, but they also specialise in famous Taiwanese

cheese toasties ? with almond butter! If that sounds weird, don't overthink it. I promise you this was one of the best things I ate in Taiwan and I'd totally recommend it for a cheap breakfast. Next up is Cookie DPT. As many of you will already know I now own and operate a cookie shop in Brisbane named Brooki Bakehouse, so sweets and bakeries are often at the top of my list when I travel. Although this wasn't my style of cookie (it was much more dry and dense than my preferred underbaked cookie with a crispy exterior), it was a cool shop to visit and great to see the cookie trend has reached Taipei. If you want to try my style of cookie, you might want to check out my online cookie class. If you fancy a bubble tea, Tao Tao Teahouse was my favourite find (and trust me, I drank my weight in bubble tea on this trip). Taipei 101 Observatory is the number one choice for a view over the city and is especially beautiful at sunset. The Beitou hot springs are a popular spot 30 minutes from downtown and a great way to escape the city hustle and bustle. Fancy a hike? Xiangshan Trail is a short 45-minute hike that offers a great view of Taipei, especially at sunset. If you fancy a day trip, Jiufen is a beautiful mountainous town with authentic teahouses. It feels a bit like stepping back in time. Brooke Saward founded World of Wanderlust as a place to share inspiration from her travels and to inspire others to see our world. She now divides her time between adventures abroad and adventures in the kitchen, with a particular weakness for French pastries. Find me on: [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Facebook](#) [Paris](#) [London](#) [Rome](#) [New York](#) [Los Angeles](#) [First trip solo](#) [Packing guide](#) [20 Best Places for Solo Female Travel](#) [Travel after a break up](#) [20 Places in your 20's](#) [Africa](#) [Americas](#) [Asia](#) [Europe](#) [Oceania](#) [Solo travel](#) [Adventure travel](#) [Luxury travel](#) [Learn a language](#) [Become a blogger](#)

Highlights & Hidden Gems With Locals: Best Of Taipei Private Tour

Discover Taipei like a local with the ?Highlights & Hidden Gems With Locals: Best of Taipei Private Tour.? Led by knowledgeable guides, this private tour takes visitors on a journey through the city?s culture, history, and culinary scene. From iconic landmarks like Taipei 101 to hidden gems in narrow alleyways, travelers will uncover the true essence of Taipei. With valuable insights on public transportation and opportunities to sample local delicacies, this tour is highly recommended by previous participants. Embark on an unforgettable adventure and discover the best of Taipei with local experts.

About Our Review: Please note that this is our review of this tour and we do not run, sell, or book tours from this site. If you want to book this tour please click the large button at the base of this page to go to the official listing on Viator. Image Credit: Viator.com Image Credit: Viator.com

It's also worth checking out some other tours and experiences nearby. Visitors can enjoy the rich cultural heritage of Taipei by exploring its iconic landmarks with a knowledgeable guide. Taipei boasts a stack of must-visit attractions that showcase its historical significance. One such landmark is the National Chiang Kai-shek Memorial Hall, a grand structure dedicated to the former President of the Republic of China. This site offers a glimpse into Taiwan?s political history and features stunning architectural elements. Another popular destination is Longshan Temple, a centuries-old religious site known for its intricate craftsmanship and vibrant atmosphere. The Taipei 101 skyscraper, once the tallest building in the world, is also a must-see. Its observation deck provides panoramic views of the cityscape. Image Credit: Viator.com Image Credit: Viator.com

They can embark on a journey of discovery as they uncover hidden gems off the beaten path in Taipei. Taipei is a city full of surprises, and venturing off the well-trodden tourist routes allows travelers to unearth local treasures and explore Taipei?s secrets. Here are some hidden gems to explore:

Unique Neighborhoods: Serene Nature Escapes: Travelers can satisfy their taste buds by indulging in Taipei?s culinary delights. Taipei?s food scene offers a wide array of options, ranging from traditional Taiwanese dishes to mouthwatering street food. To truly enjoy the local food culture, travelers can join local food tours that take them to the city?s hidden gems and popular food spots.

These tours provide an opportunity to taste authentic Taiwanese cuisine, such as beef noodle soup, stinky tofu, and xiao long bao (soup dumplings). Visitors can also explore the famous night markets of Taipei, such as Raohe and Shilin, where they can sample a variety of local delicacies like oyster omelets, bubble tea, and grilled squid. Whether it's exploring the bustling streets or dining at a local eatery, Taipei's culinary scene is sure to leave travelers with a memorable and delicious experience. One of the best ways to fully experience Taipei's rich cultural heritage is by exploring its numerous temples and museums. These cultural experiences provide a deep insight into the local traditions and customs of the city. Here are some key attractions to enjoy Taipei's cultural heritage:

Temples:

- Longshan Temple:** Known for its beautiful architecture and religious significance, this temple is a must-visit to witness traditional rituals and ceremonies.
- Confucius Temple:** Dedicated to the renowned Chinese philosopher, this temple offers a glimpse into Confucian teachings and practices.

Museums:

- National Palace Museum:** Home to an extensive collection of Chinese artifacts, including ancient paintings, calligraphy, and porcelain, this museum showcases the rich history and art of the region.
- Taipei Fine Arts Museum:** Showcasing contemporary art from both local and international artists, this museum is a hub for creativity and innovation.

Visitors can enjoy Taipei's vibrant nightlife and discover the city's hidden gems. Taipei offers a diverse and exciting nightlife scene, with numerous options for experiencing local bars and night markets. One popular area for bar-hopping is the Xinyi District, known for its upscale establishments and rooftop bars offering stunning city views. The district is also home to the famous Taipei 101, where visitors can enjoy a drink while taking in the breathtaking skyline. For a more local experience, travelers can head to the night markets, such as Shilin Night Market or Raohe Street Night Market. These bustling markets come alive in the evening, offering a wide variety of street food, shopping stalls, and entertainment options. Exploring Taipei's nightlife is a great way to take in the city's vibrant culture and experience its energetic atmosphere. Taipei boasts three stunning national parks that showcase the city's natural beauty. These parks offer a variety of hiking trails and scenic views that allow visitors to enjoy nature. Here is a breakdown of the parks and what they have to offer:

Yangmingshan National Park: Located just outside of Taipei, Yangmingshan is known for its hot

springs and volcanic landscapes. Visitors can explore the park's numerous hiking trails, which lead to beautiful waterfalls, lush forests, and panoramic views of the city. Taipei Zoo and Maokong Gondola: While not a traditional national park, Taipei Zoo and Maokong Gondola provide a unique opportunity to experience nature within the city. The gondola ride offers breathtaking views of Taipei, while the zoo showcases a wide variety of animal species and botanical gardens. With these natural gems, Taipei offers a perfect balance between urban excitement and tranquil natural surroundings. Visitors can escape the bustling city and enjoy the beauty of these scenic parks. Engage with local experts to get insider tips and make the most of your Taipei experience. When exploring a new city like Taipei, having the guidance of a local expert can provide invaluable insights and enhance your trip. Local experts possess extensive knowledge about the city's hidden gems, cultural nuances, and the best places to eat, shop, and explore. They can offer recommendations tailored to your interests and preferences, ensuring that you have a personalized and memorable experience. From off-the-beaten-path attractions to the tastiest local delicacies, engaging with local experts allows you to tap into their expertise and gain access to insider tips that you mightn't find in guidebooks or online resources. Here's a few more nearby tours and experiences we think you'll like. Yes, Covid-19 safety measures are implemented for this private tour. The tour has been adjusted to comply with regulations, including limits on participants and modified delivery methods. Safety is prioritized throughout the experience. The cancellation policy for the private tour includes a full refund if canceled at least 24 hours in advance. No refund is provided for cancellations made less than 24 hours before the start time. Yes, travelers can see photos taken by previous participants of this tour. These photos provide a visual glimpse of the popular photo spots and serve as testimonials from previous travelers. Having a local guide for exploring Taipei offers several benefits. They provide valuable cultural insights, make navigating the city easier, assist with public transportation, and enhance the overall experience. Reviews highlight the importance of having a guide. The overall rating for this tour is 5.0 based on 32 reviews from previous participants. The reviews provide valuable feedback on the participant experiences. Ratings range from 1 star to 5 stars. Not for you? Here's more of our most recent tour reviews happening neaby To sum it up, the

?Highlights & Hidden Gems With Locals: Best of Taipei Private Tour? offers travelers a unique and immersive experience of Taipei. Led by knowledgeable guides, visitors can explore iconic landmarks, uncover hidden gems, and indulge in culinary delights. They can also enjoy the city?s rich cultural heritage, experience vibrant nightlife, and discover the natural beauty of Taipei. With the assistance of local experts, participants can gain valuable insights and insider tips, ensuring a memorable and authentic adventure in this vibrant city. World Travel Guides © 2024 Veronika's Adventure

Beyond Taipei: Hidden Gems in New Taipei City, Keelung, Sun Moon Lake and more

Because the world is too small for strangers. 22 Apr 2024 By Andre Frois

When it comes to experiencing Taiwan and its rich history, there is much more than the usual tourist spots in Taipei. Indulge in an immersive experience of Taiwanese culture, nature, and recreation when you visit these eye-opening sights! You'll love exploring the charming streets of New Taipei City, diving into the natural beauty of Hualien, and uncovering hidden treasures throughout this eclectic island! Discover Taiwan beyond Taipei when you visit these lesser-known wonders that are waiting to be explored. Ready to plan your trip to explore parts of Taiwan that you have not been to before? Book your accommodation with participating properties by Wyndham Hotels & Resorts and earn 7,500 Wyndham Rewards bonus points for every two nights' stay. An even sweeter deal? Get a maximum of 15,000 points if you are staying for at least four nights - that is enough for you to redeem up to two future free nights' stay at thousands of hotels by Wyndham worldwide. Find out more on the Wyndham Rewards deals page.

Discover the timeless charm of Sanxia Old Street in New Taipei City, where history comes alive amid intricate architecture. Don't miss the Museum of World Religions nearby, adding a spiritual dimension to your cultural exploration. If you'd like to soak in the rich history of Taiwan, visit Sanxia Old Street in New Taipei City, which lies just outside the hustle and bustle of Taipei. Sanxia's name refers to the three rivers that converge here, and this street's intricate architecture recalls the economic importance of this former commercial centre. Along this 200 metre stretch of beautifully conserved streets, you can admire ancient wooden plaques, red brick walls, baroque archways, and other handmade elements that were commissioned by the neighbourhood's former wealthy residents. You can take your pick from the array of antiques, souvenirs, and traditional snacks sold here when you take in the rich history of this quarter, which was a popular commercial street in the Qing Dynasty. Do not miss Sanxia Qingshui Zushi Temple, which is one of the most beautiful temples in Northern Taiwan. If you'd like to dive deeper into the culture of the region, check out the Museum of World Religions nearby, which was

built by a Burmese Buddhist monk, and Yingge Old Street, which has a famous pottery market that purveys everything from ceramic art to handmade teaware. If you're thinking of spending a few days in New Taipei City, consider spending the night in TRYP by Wyndham New Taipei Linkou, which features a vibrant and colourful design with a wide range of amenities. Tuck into local and international cuisine in its in-house restaurants or enjoy a workout in its well-equipped gym. Enrich your stay at TRYP By Wyndham New Taipei Linkou, where luxury meets eclectic charm, near the iconic Longshan Temple. Nature lovers can access Dahu Park, Shifen Waterfall and Yangmingshan National Park easily from Wyndham New Taipei Linkou. The Socks Museum and historic Longshan Temple too are located near this hotel. It's a short drive from Taiwan Taoyuan International Airport and Taipei Songshan Airport, and is situated near popular shopping destinations like Global Mall Linkou A9, Mitsui Outlet Park Linkou, and the Banqiao Fuzhong Shopping District. Sanxia Old Street is a 30-minute drive from TRYP by Wyndham New Taipei Linkou, via National Freeway 1, or you can take a bus from Banqiao or Xipu station in New Taipei City. The rooms are modern looking and newly furnished as it was officially opened in October 2023. Book your stay directly with Wyndham Hotels & Resorts by 9 May 2024 and complete your stay by 13 May 2024 and you will be rewarded with up to 15,000 bonus Wyndham Rewards points. These points can go into your next trip, where you can either redeem a 1-night stay with 30,000 Wyndham Rewards Points (Go Free) or 4,760 TWD + 6,000 Points (Go Fast). Book your stay at TRYP by Wyndham New Taipei Linkou now.

Sun Moon Lake is one of the most popular attractions in Taiwan, offering unparalleled landscape views. Sun Moon Lake is a beautiful alpine lake in Taiwan's Nantou County. Its name derives from its shape—one part resembles a crescent moon, and the other is shaped like a round sun. This majestic lake is surrounded by scenic forests and beautiful mountain vistas. Avid trekkers can take their pick from the many trails around Sun Moon Lake, such as the Tutingzai Trail and Maolan Mountain Trail. If you'd like to enjoy an aerial view of the area, take a cable car from Sun Moon Lake Ropeway, which ascends from the lakeshore up the mountain range. You might also like to visit the area's landmarks like the nine-storey-tall Ci'en Pagoda, which was built by Chiang Kai-Shek in 1971 in memory of his mother, and the lake's many piers. You can also book a tour through the Sun Moon

Lake route to meet the local indigenous tribes of Taiwan, like the Thao tribe of Sun Moon Lake, and the Bunun tribe by Zhuoshui River, Taiwan's longest river. If you're looking for convenient and luxurious accommodation around Sun Moon Lake, look no further than Wyndham Sun Moon Lake, which sports aboriginal Thao design elements within the hotel, and has private hot spring pools, a well-equipped fitness centre, a swimming pool, and a sky garden where you can catch the sunset with magnificent views. Live in luxury at Wyndham Sun Moon Lake. This chic property surprises guests with stunning lake and mountain views. From its windows and balconies, you can enjoy a clear view of the iconic ropeway and Wenwu Temple, which comprises two gorgeous ancient temples that Taiwan is renowned for. Indulge in Cantonese or Western cuisine in Wyndham Sun Moon Lake's restaurants, pamper yourself in its in-house spa, and have a ball of a time in its karaoke room! The easiest way to get to Sun Moon Lake from Taipei is to drive or take a bus. Wyndham Sun Moon Lake boasts rooms with unblocked views at its balconies and private hot spring pools for guests to unwind and relax during the stay. On top of earning up to 15,000 Wyndham Rewards bonus points for your stay at hotels by Wyndham, you can also redeem a free night's stay at Wyndham Sun Moon Lake with 30,000 points per night (Go Free) or 5,748 TWD + 6,000 points per night Go Fast), if you're an existing Wyndham Rewards member. Redeem your points for a future stay here. Book your stay at Wyndham Sun Moon Lake now. A post shared by ????? (@hualien.tw) Taiwan's largest county, Hualien is a picturesque coastal city located on the east coast of Taiwan. Outdoor adventurers will love Hualien's lush forests and azure waters. Avid adventurers can take their pick from the many hiking and biking trails that surround Hualien. Cycle through the Tunnel of Nine Turns, hike the Changchun Temple Trail, paddle down the Xiuguluan River, and stroll through the Wuhe tea plantation. Chill out and catch some sun on Qixingtian Beach. This pebble-covered beach is popular among picnickers because it stares out into the vast Pacific Ocean. And if you are still not sure about the many things you can do in Hualien, you can even go on a road trip and discover the heart of Amis culture in Fengbin Township, a UNESCO-listed heritage site in Hualien County. You can also learn about indigenous tribes of Hualien, like the Amis and the Atayal, by visiting the museums, attending cultural performances, and participating in

guided tours and activities. Embraced by lush mountains and the vast Pacific, this scenic gem blends tradition with evolving tourism, offering captivating landscapes and cultural experiences. Soaking in the immense natural beauty of Hualien takes several days, so consider booking yourself a room in the Ramada Encore by Wyndham Hualien, which is a centrally located property that is only eight kilometres from Hualien Airport and offers free shuttle services to and fro Hualien Train Station. Feel the cultural heartbeat right from your door at Ramada Encore by Wyndham Hualien. Situated near Dongdamen Night Market, the largest night market in the east of Taiwan, this hotel is a stone's throw away from cultural attractions like Shennan Temple, A Mei Wenhua Village, Hualien Railway Culture Park and Hualien Cultural & Creative Industries Park. Family fun awaits at the popular Farglory Ocean Park, which is an amusement park themed on aquatic life. For those who prefer to be close to nature, escape into nature at Liyu Lake, Pine Garden, Qixingtan Beach and Nanbin Park, which are all located near Ramada Encore by Wyndham Hualien. If you'd like to visit Hualien from Taipei, an express train can get you to Hualien in two hours. Alternatively, you can hop on a domestic flight and travel from Taipei Songshan Airport to Hualien in just 50 minutes. Ramada Encore by Wyndham Hualien is a 4-star hotel with everything you need for a comfortable and welcoming stay. Book your accommodation at Ramada Encore by Wyndham Hualien and complete your stay by 13 May 2024 to be rewarded with up to 15,000 bonus Wyndham Rewards points, enough to redeem a two-night stay at thousands of hotels by Wyndham worldwide! Find out more about this limited Wyndham Rewards Member Month promo [here](#). If you are an existing Wyndham Rewards member, you can redeem a Go Free stay at 15,000 Wyndham Rewards points per night or a Go Fast stay for 1,420.00 TWD + 3,000 points per night at Ramada Encore by Wyndham Hualien. Book your stay at Ramada Encore by Wyndham Hualien now. A post shared by Vivian Wang (@applevivian72) Now, what are some of the best places to visit in Taiwan that showcase its rich cultural heritage and natural beauty? Along western Taiwan, Changhua County abounds with natural beauty. One of the highlights is Bagua Mountain, which has hiking trails of varying difficulty that reward hikers with panoramic views of Changhua. This mountain is famous for the Baguashan Giant Buddha Statue, which is one of the largest Buddha statues in Taiwan. Visiting Changhua is

worth the trip. Visit Lukang Township when you're there, which is a historic town with ancient, carefully preserved architecture, and has a beautiful old temple called the Lukang Mazu Temple. You might have also heard of Rainbow Village, which takes its name from the vibrant murals painted by the late Huang Yung-fu, a resident who was passionate about using art to prevent the local government from demolishing his home. Bring a souvenir home from the Taiwan Glass Gallery, which showcases a wide variety of beautiful glass artwork and even invites you to try your hand at creating glass art. Take a stroll through Tianwei Highway Garden, which is a famous flower garden that abounds with an array of flora and colours. Changhua is also home to the Changhua Roundhouse, which was built during the Japanese Occupation and is one of Taiwan's few remaining roundhouses. One of Taiwan's oldest temples is the Longshan Temple, which was completed in 1740 during the Qing Dynasty. Changhua's Sanqingyuan Temple and Changhua Sea-Shell Temple are also worth a visit. Do not pass on Changhua, which is two hours away from Taipei—whether you travel by car or train. Alternatively, you can fly to Taichung Airport, which is half an hour away by car. A post shared by ????? (@keelungtravel) This city at the northern tip of Taiwan has a rich maritime history. Keelung Harbour offers a panoramic view of the ocean and mountains. Ferries from this harbour invite you to discover the geological formations of nearby islands like Heping Island and Wangyou Valley. There's also Bisha Fishing Port, where you can observe the Keelung fishermen go about their daily activities on their kaleidoscopic fishing boats, and enjoy their fresh catch afterwards. Keelung Maritime Plaza shines the spotlight on Keelung's maritime heritage, which displays exhibits and artefacts from this port city's storied past. Take a pic atop Zhongzheng Park, which is a popular picnic destination that looks over the city. If you're game for a climb, explore Qianshan, which is a fortress built in the Qing Dynasty. There is also Dawulun Fort nearby, which was built by the Spanish in the 17th century and later reinforced by the Dutch and Chinese. Visitors to Keelung also should not pass on Keelung's Fairy Cave Temple, Buddha's Hand Cave, the region's famous 25-metre-tall Guanyin statue, and the famous Zhengbin Port Color Houses. The best part? Keelung is only a half-hour drive from Taipei. We hope you'll love these eclectic must-see destinations! If you can't get enough of the great outdoors, here are several

reasons why you should see the flora and fauna of gorgeous Taiwan on a bicycle. And if you're travelling with little ones in tow, here are several kid-friendly destinations across Taiwan that travellers of all ages will love. Not a Wyndham Rewards member yet? Sign up for Wyndham Rewards for free and enjoy huge rewards by clicking [here](#). Follow Wyndham Rewards on Facebook and Instagram, for the latest information on and travel inspiration. This story is brought to you by Wyndham Hotels & Resorts. For more updates on Changi Airport, follow on Facebook, Tiktok, Instagram, X (formerly Twitter), Telegram and YouTube. You can also sign up for a Changi Account and have the latest news and articles delivered right into your inbox. Shop before you fly!

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Spring, spanning from March to May, emerges as an opportune period for Taiwan exploration, boasting gentle temperatures and the mesmerising flourish of cherry blossoms. This timeframe stands out as the pinnacle of tourist influx. Meanwhile, late summer through early autumn, from August to October, also marks a sought-after peak season characterised by balmy weather and little rainfall. Transportation

Exploring urban regions in Taiwan becomes effortless with a plethora of transportation choices such as taxis (or Uber), buses, the mass rapid transit system "MRT," and the nationwide bicycle-sharing platform "YouBike." When delving into rural landscapes, intercity travels, or mountainous escapades, a diverse range of public and private transport alternatives beckons. Currency

While travelling around Taiwan, transactions are conducted with the New Taiwanese Dollar. You'll

find ATMs conveniently situated in 7-Elevens along your journey, but it's wise to carry some local currency before setting out to visit the many places in your itinerary. You have reached the limit of 5 saved articles. To save this article, you will need to remove others on My Articles. © 2024 Changi Airport Singapore. All Rights Reserved. By using this site, you agree to our Privacy Policy, Conditions of Access and to the placement of cookies on your computer.

TikTok - Make Your Day

Taipei Private Custom Tours with a Local: Highlights & Hidden Gems

Things To Do Car Rental Transfers Events Europe, United Kingdom, England Europe, United Kingdom, England Europe, United Kingdom, England Europe, United Kingdom, England Your host will meet you at Song Shan MRT station exit 5. Alternatively, after booking, you can adjust the meeting point to fit your preferences with the help of our Experience Planners. Odds are, ambling down any street in Taipei would confront you with a million sights you've never seen before. Wouldn't it be wonderful, in such an instance, to have somebody by your side to explain just what exactly is going on?

With a local Taipei host, you'll have that as you explore this bustling, vibrant and ridiculously colorful city together. Tell them what interests you, and then stick around for the journey. You might like to start your day with a traditional Taiwanese breakfast before heading to Liberty Square. From here, many of the famous attractions are accessible to you, and you can get your history (and Instagram) kicks by exploring one or many of the surrounding temples and buildings. Chiang Kai-shek Memorial Hall is a biggie! Ask your host about its political significance. Travel back in time on Bopiliao Old Street - a relic from the Qing Dynasty, You could catch a tangerine sunset at Tamsui Fisherman's Wharf. You could sample some beef noodles, pepper buns, flame-torched sausages and soup dumplings. Are you brave enough for stinky tofu? We reckon you are. Depending on the timing of your experience, you might like to check out the Shilin and Raohe night markets, climb Elephant Mountain for stellar views over the city, shop in trendy Ximending or get close to nature in Yangmingshan National Park. Learn all about ingredients you never knew even existed and immerse yourself in this steamy world of culinary brilliance. Some modern apartments are built without kitchens because the nation's kitchen is outside on the streets.

Now that's confidence in their street food scene. You might want to tick off some famous sights, like Bao'an Temple, Chiang Kai-shek Memorial Hall and Dihua Street, and let's not forget that Taipei is

all about street food.

In fact, so entrenched is this daily ritual into the fabric of life here, that some apartments are built without kitchens - sample some pork belly buns and bubble tea to see why this would make perfect sense! Your host will take care in mapping out a unique route for you which takes in the city's highlights as well as some hidden gems they know you'll love Email customer support at atmarriott-activities@travelcurious.com Or call us at +1 786-321-7264 Marriott Bonvoy Tours & Activities and the programs and products provided under the Marriott Bonvoy Tours & Activities brand are not owned, developed, or sold by Marriott International, Inc. Marriott Bonvoy Tours & Activities uses the Marriott marks under license from Marriott International, Inc.

**3 Days Of Hidden Gems And Nature In Taipei: Itinerary 2024 | 60% Off
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Unveiling Taipei's Hidden Gems: A Seaside Photoshoot Adventure at Huimadam | by Loufish | flyfishhh | Medium

Sign up Sign in Sign up Sign in Member-only story Loufish Follow flyfishhh -- Share Embarking on a quest for vibrant photos amidst the challenges of color grading, this Taipei journey was exclusively dedicated to the enchanting #Huimadam. Discover the story behind each shot, from the elegant white gown, a studio prop, to the captivating beach, strategically captured during the low tide hours. Climb ladders, navigate spontaneous creative decisions, and explore the unexpected treasures found in the heart of Taipei. Join me in this visual adventure, as we delve into the beauty of a black sandy beach dress and a Japanese-style striped pajama, both studio props adding unique elements to the photoshoot. While the photo count may be modest, the experience was rich, offering a glimpse into the behind-the-scenes world of capturing Taipei's coastal allure. -- -- hi there. An amateur model from Taiwan, graduated in Economics and worked in technology industry,for 5 yrs, now enjoy life :) Travel lover and living with my cat Help Status About Careers Press Blog Privacy Terms Text to speech Teams

9 Hidden Gems: Exploring 9 Taipei Cafés for Unique Coffee Experiences - Eating in Taipei

If you're looking to unwind, work, or just get out of the house for the afternoon, then go no further than some of Taipei's best cafés. Nestled among the bustling streets, so many cafés have become an essential element of the local food scene. They offer an intriguing experience that encapsulates the essence of this vibrant metropolis, with a broad choice of milk or non-dairy flavors and brewing styles. These delightful cafés offer an intriguing coffee-fueled experience that encapsulates the essence of this exciting city in which I live and love. [Jerry?@worldcoffeeshops?????](#) Taipei cafés are well-known for their dedication to quality and innovation, from some of the world's best single-origin coffee, to a lip-smacking espresso, or branching out to that deliciously creamy latte that we all know and love. Each café, from trendy hangouts to intimate hideaways, has its own distinct ambiance and charm. These places cater to all interests, whether you're a budding barista, caffeine addict, or simply looking for a cozy place to unwind. [Jerry?@worldcoffeeshops?????](#) Taipei's cafés proudly feature a selection of single or mixed-origin beans sourced from around the world for those looking for a next level coffee experience. Each cup has a narrative to tell, highlighting the various flavors and features of its origin. In a typical café in the city, you can expect to enjoy the rich notes of Ethiopia, the smoothness of Colombia, or the earthy scents of Indonesia. Not to mention the elusively micro-batch Taiwanese homegrown beans that exist out there! With all of this talk about caffeine, are you getting more and more excited? You should be! But, bear in mind that caffeine and the effects that it can have on the body may not be for everyone. A great podcast you should check out is The Huberman Lab podcast, where Andrew Huberman will break down everything caffeine, providing you with all of the information with which to make smart caffeine choices moving forward, whether that is to optimize mental & physical performance, or just to be more conscious about the drinks we are drinking. Be sure to check out more about The Huberman Lab using this link. Please take note that this article contains links to services and products from which I may receive compensation at no additional cost to you. There are many excellent cafés in

Taipei, with most located in the Da'an District. Some great ones are All Day Roasting Company, Coffee Law, and Moonshine Coffee Roasters. Cafés in Taipei take coffee seriously, but some more than most. You should go to Simple Kaffa if excellent single origin coffee is what you're looking for, as they have such a wide selection. The "best" café is difficult to isolate. Are you looking for coffee? Sandwiches? Pastries? For excellent all-round offerings, you should go to Simple Kaffa, Fujin Tree Cafe, or All Day Roasting Company. Taipei, with its vibrant coffee culture, is home to a multitude of amazing cafés that offer diverse flavors, unique atmospheres, and exceptional coffee experiences. In this article, we will look at 9 of the best from around the city. If you see any that didn't make the list, then leave a comment and I'd be happy to expand the post to include your recommendation. Subscribe to get the latest updates from Eating in Taipei, and some exclusive news. We respect your privacy. Unsubscribe at anytime. Read more about Food and Places to visit in Taipei: The Ultimate Guide to 15 Amazing Xiao Long Bao Restaurants in Taipei Taipei street food: 15 of the best food stands you should eat, and where to find them. Not just Bubble Tea? A quick 101 lesson about other fantastic drinks in Taiwan. Where Can You Find the Best Taiwanese Breakfast? here are my 2024 top picks! 7 unforgettable Taipei Places to visit in 2024 if you only have 48 hours! ALL DAY ROASTING COMPANY @zero.foodielife This place had to go to the top of the list, as I genuinely see it as being one of the best cafes in Taipei. All Day Roasting Company does some delicious coffee, great breakfasts/brunch, and in a really welcoming environment with absolutely no time limit on how long you can stay there! Go for one of their milk creations for your coffee selection, and you'll be wowed by the latte art that is on display here. Latte art is a captivating technique that elevates the presentation of a latte by skillfully pouring perfectly steamed milk into espresso, thus creating intricate designs on the surface. From heart shapes to regal swans, these artistic creations add an aesthetic appeal to the creamy surface of the coffee, delighting both the eyes and taste buds. Check out below for some incredible latte art! Latte Artist & Barista Trainer @heidiphilipsmith HOLIN COFFEE ????.??DPD by WC @daily.photo_diary Not technically Taipei, but I feel like Yonghe is the cousin of Taipei, being a short bridge from either Wanhua, Gongguan, or Wanlong. Here at Holin Coffee

you're going to get delicious coffee, unlimited seating time, and great WIFI to allow you a peaceful space in which to work all day. What is not to love about that trifecta combo? Holin have quite a lot of single-origin coffee, they do some great latte's (and obviously the latte art to go with that), and it should definitely go down as a Taipei coffee shop (or a cousin of) of note. My recommendation would be their Goro Goro Coffee WEI JUN ??@weijiun.zzz????? Goro Goro really have the aesthetics down. Their logo is great, the design throughout the cafe front itself is beautiful, and the most important thing ? the coffee ? is on point, too. What you'll get here is a back alley cafe that will surprise you with the high quality drinks they serve up. If you're fed up with Louisa's poor quality offering, but absolutely hankering for a Flat White, then Goro Goro is the place to be! Their Flat White will serve up everything you have been looking for. For my money, the Flat White is the best milk based creation a café has ever made. Shorter, stronger, and waaaay more punchy than the latte, this creation is a sure staple to your morning (or afternoon) routine. COFFEE LAW ??? Interesting about this spot, is that they have 2 branches ? one is take-away only, and the other one you can eat/drink in at. This picture was taken when trying out their toast (it was fine), but I would like to focus more on the take-out-ability of their drinks. One thing that I really liked about Coffee Law, was that their drinks were delicious. We had a latte and an Americano, and they were both solid. I would say that their beans come in on the more dark-roasted side, so be prepared for quite a deep and rich flavour (not on Starbucks level, don't worry), but it combines really nicely with their milk-based options. Ruins Coffee Roasters ????????-??-?? ??????@tyler_so_hungry????? Taking beans seriously, is something that I really respect and appreciate from cafés around Taipei, and Ruins is a great place to start. They source the best beans that they can find, roast them up nice and fragrant, then use those beans to make some of the nicest tasting coffee that you're likely to find in Taipei. Honestly, you can't go far wrong with any of their creations. But, for me, their House Blend or their Papua New Guinea using a V60 to pour-over would be what I go for each and every time. The fragrance coming out of their beans here is what makes it so special. It helps, of course, when the design inside is damn cool, too. ????? FUJIN TREE CAFE Sylvia???@sylvia_food????? Fujin Tree is an Instagrammer's paradise! The aesthetics make it

a really special place to go in and chill. But, what is notable as well is their single-origin coffee is right on the money. Each person is required to spend \$250 or more here, and they don't accept reservations, but their coffee + tiramisu are worth going there for, even with these restrictions. They have some incredible Ethiopian beans, and even have some less commonly seen in Taiwan Mexican beans that I will definitely try next time. ??????/????Now Chance Coffee Eating in Taipei?@eatingintaipei????? There are two branches of Now Chance, both offering up some amazing single-origin options if that's what you're in the market for. Upon walking in and ordering here, you are given a menu on which has all of the different specialty coffee that they have there. You choose the beans that you want, and then you choose the drink that you would like them to create for you. However, if you are not completely sure whether your Colombian beans go right with milk in a latte, or whether your Peruvian beans go well as a stand-alone espresso, I would encourage you to first check with the amazing baristas throughout the store here. I have had many amazing espressos here, and long may that continue. This is a café that I trust for their roasting, and that is seldom given out praise. Moonshine Coffee Roasters | ????? (????) 4????????@gui_8661????? What gives Moonshine the edge, here is the inventive creativeness that they bring to their drinks and food. It's quite awesome, really. Expect to see things on the menu such as an affogato, summer tonic, sleeping pill (!), and whisky Americano. These creative drinks give it the edge over the competition by including some alcoholic or virgin cocktails. You should absolutely check out their creamy cold drip for a refreshing hit on a hot day. Simple Kaffa Sola ??? latte Li ???@latte7119????? Taipei 101. It doesn't get much better than that. Simple Kaffa have a couple of branches, with their flagship branch in the center of the city, but the place to go for a view is right here. High up on the 88th floor, you'll get stunning (if you hit it on a good day and get lucky) views, with some delicious drinks. Anyone who knows about Simple Kaffa knows how good their drinks are, but anyone who doesn't know, needs to. Their selection of beans and drinks really make it stand out from the crowd. ????? @ariel_0419_????? If you have a car, scooter, or any means of travel, then you must look at going out to this spot on the coast. The views out to sea are wonderful, the location is secluded enough to not get a flow of tourists coming in, and their menu is

surprisingly good, too! You have to book in advance to get a window seat, but it's not the end of the world if you don't get one, as the menu itself is delicious enough by itself. Subscribe to get the latest updates from Eating in Taipei, and some exclusive news. We respect your privacy. Unsubscribe at anytime. ????? G's foodie?@gs__vlog__????? From 13:00-01:00, Yokujitsu café is definitely a place to settle in to for the long haul. Sip on a delicious coffee all day long if the mood so strikes you to do so. They keep it simple here, with lots of variations of coffee, tea, and non-caffeinated drinks. There's only a couple of smaller desserts on the menu, too, so don't go expecting an afternoon snack to fill you up. Come for the coffee, and enjoy it right into the depths of the night. It definitely goes down as one of the best cafés in Taipei for the night owls out there. ????? ???-????????????????????@sandy_eat????? Mid-day to 2am, Remember me café is a place to laze around in all day. You can expect to stumble across some live music here, as well being able to enjoy some waffles or cheesecake. What is more, is that Remember me café also serve alcohol. So, smash a coffee mid afternoon, wash it down with a tiramisu or/and some cheesecake, then carry on with some beers into the evening. Life could be worse, right? Which is your favourite from the 9 above? I really like the understated nature of Holin, but I also really enjoy the All Day Roasting Company for what they offer. To pin me down, I will choose All Day Roasting Company. But any of the 9 above are a sure bet for a great caffeine hit at any point throughout the day. Are there any others that didn't make the cut, but are noteworthy? Plenty. The 9 above are great examples, but there are many, many more. In fact, one of my favourites that I didn't feature is OKLao. Their selection of beans is amazing, and their single serving travel coffee is absolutely on-point, too! We had to create a great map for you to use for when you are out and about and craving that caffeine. Be sure to check out each and every single one of the locations below, but also be sure to leave a comment with anywhere that you feel should be added to the list because it is just THAT good. An Englishman living in Taipei, who created "Eating in Taipei" to encourage people to walk into restaurants with confidence of knowing what to eat. Privacy Policy Copyright © 2022-2024 eatingintaipei

15 Things to Do in Taiwan from the Must-See things to the Hidden Gems

One of the most exciting things about Taiwan attractions is that surprises are offered at every turn. While you can hike, bike or play in the water in many places around the world, such opportunities include unique touches in Taiwan. Once you've visited the eastern hemisphere, you'll want to return again and again. To get an idea for the incredible diversity when it comes to Taiwanese vacations, check out these suggestions. If you want to experience the best nightlife that Taipei has to offer, hightail it to Ximending. This popular neighborhood was the first pedestrian zone in Taiwan. The neighborhood has flourished and now includes some of the country's best pop culture attractions. Located in the Wanhua District, it is referred to as the "Shopping Paradise" seeing over three million shoppers per month looking for great bargains on electronic goods, toys, magazines, books, CDs and clothing. Over on Taipei's narrow Huashi Street, you can find out just how brave you are. A section of it is known as "Snake Alley" - and for good reason, too. Live amphibians and reptiles, including snakes, slither and wriggle in several stalls. If you are squeamish about seeing live animals killed, though, you may want to skip past this unique Taiwan attraction. North of Longtian, you'll find Taiwan's paragliding capital. This highland area is known as Luye Gaotai, and it reaches elevations of over 1,000 feet in places. The winds here are perfect for paragliding, so adventurers regularly head out to this region. Whether you've been paragliding before or not, you're sure to have an unforgettable time! You've never fully experienced a Chinese massage or acupuncture like in Taiwan. This part of the world, of course, is where the practices originated. As a result, finding talented massage therapists and acupuncturists is wonderfully easy. Better still, such services tend to be remarkably affordable! Taipei is a sprawling metropolis. Instead of traveling below ground, as in many major cities, you can soar above the city in a first-class gondola. The Maokong Gondola spans 12,000 feet and includes four stations. The novelty of being above the action is well worth the price of a ticket. Many Westerners are relatively clueless about the ancient art of Tai Chi. You can educate yourself and learn the basics - by signing up for a class in Taiwan.

Most areas have lessons available, and it's easy to find a true master to show you the ropes. There are plenty of day tours available in Taipei, but why not explore the city when it really comes alive - at night? Vegas and other American cities can't hold a candle to the excitement that ensues in Taipei after dark. Nothing is as American as baseball. Its influence is so profound that it's popular all the way over in Taiwan. If you'll be visiting Taipei during baseball season, try to take in a game at Tianmu Baseball Stadium. It will remind you of home and give you a feel for how the locals enjoy sports. Taiwan's train system is remarkably extensive and it is possible to cover the entire island by train. If you have time to spare, doing so is well worth it. Make sure that at least part of your journey takes place on the relatively new Taiwan High Speed Rail for views of the rugged, mountainous terrain. With an antenna that reaches 1,670 feet into the sky, the Taipei 101 skyscraper dominates the skyline in Taipei. Set aside a few hours to pay it a visit. An outdoor observatory on the 91st floor offers amazing panoramic views of the city. While in Taipei, take the time to visit the Jianguo Holiday Jade Market, the largest in the world. Whether you end up making a purchase or leave empty-handed, you won't soon forget the experience of exploring this compelling market stocked with gems and flowers galore. If you take a trip to Taroko Gorge, make a pit stop at Cisintan to do a little fishing. Area fishermen swear that this is the prime fishing spot in the entire country. Taipei is a great city to explore on foot. However, those feet are bound to get sore after a while! Stop over on Dihua Street to enjoy a foot massage. Several establishments in this part of town offer such services very affordably. Gays are widely accepted in Taiwan, especially in Taipei. Experience the culture at the Red Pavilion Theatre and its surrounding neighborhood. The thriving gay community here is well known throughout the country. If you've only ever visited Western doctors, you've been missing out on some intriguing experiences. In Taiwan, Chinese medicine doctors are everywhere. Find one and stop by for a health checkup. The insights you gain are sure to be incredible!

Kenting's hidden gems - Taipei Times

For most residents of Taiwan, the word "Kenting" conjures up images of white sandy beaches, turquoise waters, jet skis and maybe a crowded night market. Among all the commotion, it's easy to forget that Kenting is in fact a national park, with a mission to protect the natural environment. For those looking to escape the crowds, learn more about southern Taiwan's ecology, or simply add some variety to a beach holiday, the Ecological Protection Areas of Kenting National Park are an excellent addition to any trip. The four Ecological Protection Areas open to the public are all located on the less developed eastern side of the park. Three of them – Sizihkou (???), Longkeng (??) and Bitou Grassland (????) – sit next to the Pacific Ocean, while Nanren Mountain (???) sits further inland. All operate with a maximum daily visitor quota and can only be accessed by prior application and payment. Tourists are accompanied by a park guide (Mandarin only), who are highly knowledgeable and are often locals with an intimate understanding of not only the animal and plant life in the area, but also the history of its human inhabitants, allowing them to interweave stories of the local people's use of the land with an introduction to the ecology of the protected area. Photo: Tyler Cottenie

LONGKENG: WONDERFUL WINDSWEPT CORAL Located just around the corner from the Oluanpi Lighthouse (?????) and the southernmost point of Taiwan proper, Longkeng takes visitors on a three-kilometer walk through secondary forest out to a windswept coral landscape and back again. Our guide pointed out subtle signs of changes to the vegetation likely due to the low rainfall Taiwan experienced last year. More obvious was the devastation further down the trail caused by a recent fire in the area. Screw pine trunks stand leafless and charred as they begin their slow recovery from the blaze, started by a discarded cigarette butt from a careless tourist. Photo: Tyler Cottenie

Near the coast, the vegetation is no match for the constant onslaught of wind and salty spray from the ocean, resulting in a barren landscape of dark coral rock eroded into myriad shapes by the harsh conditions. Ocean spray traces out rainbows over the rock, and on windy days, tourists need to wear raincoats to avoid getting soaked by the spray of crashing waves. In places, sea foam is blown upwards, creating the illusion of snowfall. The contrast of green, black, blue and

white makes for a stunning view not to be found anywhere else in the park. **SIZIHKOU: EROSION IN ACTION** Situated just east of Jialeshuei (???), visitors to this protected area have the chance to walk along part of the Langciao-Beinan Trail (?????), a coastal route connecting Hengchun Village (??) with Taitung in centuries past. The journey begins in nearby Lide Village (???) with a shuttle ride into the protected area. Visitors then descend the final stretch of concrete road to the coast on foot as the guide introduces local plant life. On a clear day, the silhouette of Orchid Island is clearly visible on the horizon. Photo courtesy of Jessie Chung The coastal walk begins at the site of a former Coast Guard station, abandoned after Typhoon Meranti struck in 2016. The coast here is an unusual blend of coral and sandstone, eroded unevenly by the wind and waves. The angled plateaus, honeycomb erosion patterns and fanciful animal shapes in the rocks will be familiar to those who have already visited Jialeshuei Scenic Area, and make for beautiful photographs, both up close and from afar. Traces of human activity are visible here and there: abandoned power poles, fishing tackle and the leftovers of a ship that ran aground nearby several years ago. Still, this stretch of coastline remains relatively untouched and walking on this trail, accompanied by only the sound of the surf, will leave you feeling a world away from Kenting's crowded beaches. **NANREN MOUNTAIN: AN OASIS** Photo courtesy of Jessie Chung Further north along County Road 200 is the access road for the Nanren Mountain Ecological Protection Area. The three-hour guided excursion here covers the most distance of all the protected area visits at nearly nine kilometers round trip. The forest here is rich with both animal and plant life: dragonflies, spiders, butterflies, lizards, ferns and trees with exotic-looking fruits. This protected area appears to be the most biologically diverse of them all. The area also contains three perennial freshwater lakes, with the largest being Nanren Lake. The area around these lakes is flanked by vibrant green grass and backed by gentle rolling hills. Thanks to the limit on the number of visitors, total lack of development and knowledgeable guides, a visit to the Nanren area can be a peaceful retreat, an excellent learning opportunity or anything in between. **BITOU GRASSLAND: A SANDY BAY WITH A DARK PAST** Photo: Tyler Cottenie This ecological protection area is situated just inside the northern border of Kenting National Park, near the town of Jioupeng (??) and the sand dunes lining the

shores of Bayao Bay (???). Though the population here is so low now that water buffalo actually outnumber people, the area was nevertheless the site of an important event in Taiwan's history. It was in this very bay in 1871 that the shipwrecked Ryukyuan sailors of the Mudan Incident first came ashore. Only 12 of 66 made it back to Japan alive. Three years later, the Japanese sent an expedition to Taiwan, ostensibly to punish the Paiwan Aborigines for killing their sailors. However, this military campaign also effectively chipped away at Qing Dynasty influence in the region, allowing Japan to easily annex the Ryukyu Islands and encouraging expansionist efforts that would culminate in the annexation of Taiwan itself 21 years later. Our guide went beyond the standard colonial narrative, adding context and nuance to the story based on oral history, local cultural practices and other recent research findings. In addition to this more factual account of a historical event, we were treated to a more fanciful account of a tragic romance between a local chief's daughter and a shipwrecked Dutch sailor. The common name of a local plant comes from this story, as its flower appears to be missing its top half, just as these lovers were forever missing their better half. Photo: Tyler Cottenie

The guide introduced many other plants along our walk, along with the often-humorous origins of their common names. We were also acquainted with traditional uses of local plants, for pillows, whistles, pot scrubbers and more. The walk takes visitors from the sandy coast and up through denser vegetation before eventually ascending to an open grassland area. Local livestock keep this grass trimmed short, while wild macaques eating the adjacent screw pine prevent it from taking over the open area. Be warned: the guide may insist on visitors taking photos here in a variety of poses, including the infamous bow pose from Titanic. The lush green carpet combined with the high vantage point and sandy Bayao Bay in the background make this area especially picturesque. From the grassland, visitors descend through an active military area back to the public road near the coast. Last month historian Stephen Wertheim of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace published an opinion piece in the New York Times with suggestions for an "America First" foreign policy for Democratic presidential candidate Kamala Harris. Of course China and Taiwan received a mention.

"Under presidents Trump and Biden," Wertheim contends, "the world's top two powers have

descended into open rivalry, with tensions over Taiwan coming to the fore.?

After complaining that Washington is militarizing the Taiwan issue, he argues that ?In truth, Beijing has long proved willing to tolerate the island?s self-rule so long as Taiwan does not declare independence. Big changes are afoot in global politics, which that are having a big impact on the global order, look set to continue and have the potential to completely reshape it. In my previous column we examined the three macro megatrends impacting the entire planet: Technology, demographics and climate.

Below are international trends that are social, political, geopolitical and economic. While there will be some impact on Taiwan from all four, it is likely the first two will be minor, but the second two will likely change the course of Taiwan?s history.

The re-election of Donald Trump as president of the US The Mountains to Sea National Greenway (????????) draws its name from the idea that each hiker starting at the summit of Jade Mountain (??) and following the trail to the coast is like a single raindrop. Together, many raindrops form life and prosperity-bringing waterways.

Replicating a raindrop?s journey holds poetic beauty, but all hikers know that climbing is infinitely more appealing, and so this installment picks up where the last one left off ? heading inland and uphill along the 49.8-kilometer Canal Trail (????) ? second of the Greenway?s four sections. A detailed map of the trail can be found ?Bro, I can?t wait for my first dead body,? wrote an 11-year-old boy on Instagram in Sweden, where gangs recruit children too young to be prosecuted as contract killers on chat apps.

?Stay motivated, it?ll come,? answered his 19-year-old contact. He went on to offer the child 150,000 kronor (US\$13,680) to carry out a murder, as well as clothes and transport to the scene of the crime, according to a police investigation of the exchange last year in the western province of Varmland.

In this case, four men aged 18 to 20 are accused of recruiting four minors aged 11 to 17

The Hidden Gems of Taiwan ? RUNAWAYSOPH

by Sophie Alexander I'm 31 & a British expat, currently living the dream in Dubai. I have a huge passion for travel, photography & have over 45 countries ticked off my bucket list. I used the 2020 lockdown to produce runawaysoph.com, which is now home to 50+ posts of my favourite experiences. Stay tuned to see where I travel to next? sign up with your email address to receive new blogs & exclusive extras! sign up to my newsletter: no spam, just extra inspiration & tips to book that once in a lifetime trip! I respect your privacy.

Taipei Private Custom Tours with a Local: Highlights & Hidden Gems

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En Need Help? : This website uses cookies 52 Reviews Lowest Price Guarantee Discover Taipei as you would if you were staying with a friend who lived there, on this personalized experience with a Local Host. In just half a day you'll experience the authentic side of Taipei as you visit famous attractions and discover hidden gems with a Local Host who knows and loves the city. Explore vibrant Taipei's highlights or discover an off-the-beaten-path neighborhood, get oriented and immerse yourself in Taipei's unique culture with a Local Host by your side to navigate on your personalized route that's been created just for you! 52 Reviews Total review count and overall rating based on Viator and Tripadvisor reviews 1 stars 2 stars 3 stars 4 stars 5 stars Nicholasrean, 10/20/2024 10:25:49 PM Green was a good tour guide. We wanted more of a food tour, but were happy to visit Ximen district which is very dynamic and exciting. Explorer479768, 10/16/2024 2:15:35 AM Megan was a great tour guide. She is very knowledgeable and answered all our questions well. She was particularly helpful detailing vegetarian food options at a market. 9dn77dhdyp, 9/28/2024 8:05:06 AM Laid back tour guide that tailored to our needs. I would recommend him to others for a general sense of Taipei (which is what I was looking for) however I would look elsewhere for the nitty gritty detail. coletteg23, 7/17/2024 8:11:16 PM Alice took us off track to the electronics shopping malls by special request. We then went to the night food market. She explained the foods to us. We tried some classics like stinky tofu, oyster omelette and pork bun. Nothing was too much trouble. Alice was very generous and could not do more to make our food sampling memorable. We popped into a local temple and she explained to tradition. We also managed a sneaky light display on the river front. I would highly recommend Alice as a guide. petereO1059WQ, 6/19/2024 3:14:23 AM Yui was my City Unscripted tour guide in Taipei. She was a great listener, asked spot-on questions, and shared heaps of info. She made sure the tour was tailored just for me, which was tops. Yui chatted about the local food, how it's made, and the culture here in Taipei. She really got what I was after and made the tour exactly what I wanted.

Yui gave me some bonza ideas for other things to do in Taipei, based on what she knew I was keen on. At the end, she took me to the train station and gave me clear directions to get back to my hotel ? no worries there!

I had a very good time with Yui, and I'm stoked I chose her as my guide. I'd definitely recommend her to anyone looking for a top-notch guide in Taipei. Michael_P, 5/21/2024 8:27:59 AM Our guide Kevin was great. We set a fast pace and seen a lot of great sites in a short 4 hours. Kevin worked us on and off the trains to get to a number of important sites. We went in without a plan and Kevin was great at finding out what we wanted to see and getting us there. I highly recommend our guide Kevin and Viator for a quick impromptu exploration of Taipei! Y4202TQwilliamr, 5/10/2024 6:33:34 PM This was my first trip to Taipei and my tour guide was amazing. She was extremely friendly and personable. Talking to her I felt like I had known her my whole life. She was extremely Knowledgeable. We visited the most amazing temples in Taipei.

She was extremely helpful in explaining the Customs and the history of each temple. I will highly recommend her an tour guide. Nancy_P, 5/9/2024 8:10:03 PM My guide Charlotte spoke perfect English and had excellent communication skills following my booking to find out my interests and keep me informed about the tour logistics. She met me in the lobby of my hotel on time and had the day planned out. We used the MRT to get to the locations and then walked. I saw the Chiang Kai-Shek Memorial, including the changing of the guard and the interesting basement museum and then on to the Bao?An Taoist Temple. We had local snacks along the way and finished the tour at an historical street with all sorts of local products and food.

I learned a great deal about Taipei from Charlotte. She is an excellent ambassador for the city. epolan, 5/8/2024 3:49:22 AM We had a great Taipei city tour with Vila.

She is passionate, great communicator, provided us with a lot good information about history and culture. All together an excellent tour.

Highly recommended. Peggy_P, 4/30/2024 4:03:47 AM Great tour . Wish I had done this the first day I got here. This personalize tour catered to my needs and interest. My tour guide was excellent,

easy to talk , very knowledgeable and would recommend her to any solo travelers 24
hours_before_travel_date_en-US - 100% refund_en-US less_than_en-US 24
hours_before_travel_date_en-US - 0% refund_en-US © 2016 - AccessTravels, Jerusalem, Israel. All
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Exploring The Hidden Gems Of Songshan District: 4 Off-the-Beaten-Path Attractions ? ILLUME TAIPEI

Kickstart your adventure in Songshan District by visiting Raohe Street Night Market. Unlike the more famous Shilin Night Market, Raohe Street Night Market offers a more local and intimate experience. As you wander through the narrow alleys, you'll find a diverse array of street food stalls and vendors selling everything from grilled squid to stinky tofu. Don't miss the opportunity to try some local favorites like Hu Jiao Bing (pepper bun) and Mozzarella Cheese Sticks. The vibrant atmosphere and delicious food make Raohe Street Night Market a must-visit spot for food enthusiasts. For a dose of art and culture, head to the Songshan Cultural and Creative Park. This former tobacco factory has been transformed into a creative hub, housing art exhibitions, design studios, and trendy cafes. Take a leisurely stroll through the park and admire the blend of historic architecture and contemporary art installations. Don't forget to visit the Eslite Spectrum Songyan Store, a multi-story bookstore that offers an extensive selection of books, magazines, and unique stationery items. Whether you're an art lover or simply looking for a peaceful place to relax, the Songshan Cultural and Creative Park is a must-visit destination. For a picturesque view of the district, make your way to the Rainbow Bridge. This pedestrian bridge spans across the Keelung River, connecting Songshan District with the Neihu District. As you walk along the bridge, you'll be treated to panoramic views of Taipei City's skyline, including the iconic Taipei 101. The best time to visit is during sunset when the sky is bathed in vibrant hues, creating a breathtaking backdrop for your photos. Take a leisurely stroll and enjoy the beautiful scenery that the Rainbow Bridge has to offer. No visit to Songshan District is complete without a visit to Ciyou Temple. Located in the heart of the district, this colorful and ornate temple is dedicated to the deity Mazu, the goddess of the sea. Step inside and immerse yourself in the spiritual atmosphere as you admire the intricate carvings and beautiful artwork. Don't forget to make a wish and light some incense for good luck. Ciyou Temple is not only a place of worship but also a cultural landmark that represents the rich heritage of the district. Songshan District may not be on every traveler's radar, but it is undoubtedly a treasure trove of hidden gems.

From the mouthwatering street food at Raohe Street Night Market to the artistic wonders at the Songshan Cultural and Creative Park, there is something for everyone in this off-the-beaten-path neighborhood. So, the next time you visit Taipei City, make sure to venture into Songshan District and uncover its unique charm and hidden treasures. Subscribe to our updates, get special offers, travel ideas, and our importance. ? Unsubscribe anytime. By entering your email, you agree to receive marketing emails from ILLUME TAIPEI. Copyright © 2024 SUNRIDER HOTEL TAIWAN LTD. | Powered by ILLUME TAIPEI SUNRIDER HOTEL TAIWAN LTD.?GUI Number 28337899????????????305-2?

Hidden in Plain Sight: Secret Spots in Taipei's Most Popular Places - The News Lens International Edition

TAIPEI is a quarterly magazine published in both English and Japanese editions, providing foreign residents and overseas tourists with useful information on Taipei's feature events, tourist attractions, fine foods, historical sites, and cultural practices. It is a medium that visitors can utilize to better understand Taipei City.

TAIPEI is available for free at MRT stations, Taipei Visitor Information Centers, National Chiang Kai-shek Memorial Hall, National Dr. Sun Yat-sen Memorial Hall and Eslite Bookstores. Here are some secret spots in Taipei's most popular areas you have probably never stopped by. By Adam Hopkins Taipei is fast becoming one of the most popular tourist destinations in Asia. From hot spots, such as Taipei 101 and Chiang Kai-shek Memorial Hall (?????), to local foodie favorites like guabao (??) and bubble tea, the city has many much-loved attractions that keep people coming in droves. However, as much as we champion these backbones of Taipei's touristic pull, we aren't thinking about them right now. We want to drag you away from the mainstream. Not too far, mind you, but just far enough to show you a different side of Taipei. A secret side, if you will. Here's a guide to some of the most popular places in Taipei, Yongkang Street (???), Yangmingshan (???), Bangka (??), and Ximending (???), as you've never seen them before. Photo Credit: Oia Yang This is Taipei's most popular tourist street, especially for those looking to fill their bellies. During pre-pandemic times, Yongkang Street was packed with visitors all keen to stuff their faces with local favorites such as xiaolongbao (???), beef noodles, and mango shaved ice. Nowadays, while the crowds may be thinner, the street is still a hive of activity, particularly on weekends, with young families enjoying some quality time together in Yongkang Park (????). One thing you may not know about Yongkang Street is its Japanese colonial legacy, stemming from Taiwan's era of Japanese rule (1895-1945). Ramen shops aside, if you take some time to peer down one of the street's several lanes and also admire some of the architecture, you'll realize there is definitely a bit of a

Japanese feel to the area. Also, a visit to Yongkang Street isn't all just about food. There is a much trendier side to the street best known for scallion pancakes (congyou bing, 葱油餅) and bowls of noodle soup. Stylish boutiques, achingly cool cafés, and hip bars; there are plenty of reasons to head to the most famous spot in Dongmen (東門) other than just for the food. Jinan Market (濟南市場) A place that has gone by many names over the years, Jinan Market is an antique market just off Yongkang Street. Composed of around 20 stores selling vintage, antique, and second-hand products, you'll also find a lot of Japanese items here, another nod to Yongkang Street's Japanese influence. You'll see all kinds of items ranging from artworks to things of cultural interest. The perfect place for a leisurely browse, it doesn't open until 1:00 p.m. and closes at 10:00 p.m., so there's no need to rush over early in the morning. Photo Credit: Oia Yang

Remains of Taipei Prison Wall (台北監獄遺址) Located on Jinshan South Road (金南南路), just a stone's throw away from Yongkang Street's famous Yongkang Beef Noodles (永康牛肉麵), the remains of Taipei's old prison walls are a glimpse into the city's past. The prison's outer walls were built during Japanese rule and nowadays survive as two 100-meter-long expanses. Opened in 1895 as a Japanese penitentiary, before becoming a post-war prison, in 1963 it was relocated to Taoyuan (桃園). Other remaining parts of the prison are the buildings which were formerly Japanese government housing, built on the southern side of what was once known as Taihoku Penitentiary (大台北監獄). Nowadays, the site where the prison once stood is taken up by office buildings. Photo Credit: Oia Yang

LORE Taipei (LORE 台北) A cocktail bar combining experimental drinks with immersive theater. LORE's shows are based on folklore and popular childhood stories and change every six months. Focusing heavily on nostalgia, LORE takes their guests on a journey through cocktails and emotions, enhancing their understanding of nostalgia. Every audience member will have a different interpretation of the one-hour performance based on their own personal life experiences. Found at Section 2 of Xinyi Road (信義路二段), right by Yongkang Street, LORE's drinks are equally as impressive as their shows, served with phenomenal detail and presentation, with fun, memorable names such as "Cheshire Cat: Curiosity Never Killed The Cat" and "Flower: My Scent is like a Drug, My Personal Brand of Heroin." Photo Credit: LORE

Yangmingshan National Park, located between Taipei and New Taipei City (新北市), is best

known for its hiking trails. From Mt. Qixing (???), to Mt. Datun (???), the area has ten peaks to hike, a 23.8-kilometer east to west route that can be completed in one day if you're up to the challenge. Mt. Qixing is Taipei's largest dormant volcano, so the strong smell of sulfur often fills the air, reminding you of the area's volcanicity. As well as hiking, Yangmingshan is a great spot to cleanse your body and mind. Not only the top spot for hiking, it is also home to all kinds of flora and fauna. You may even spot the odd snake if you're lucky (or unlucky, depending on your views on snakes). The fresh air and nature-rich surroundings are great for the soul. Also, you can't forget the hot springs. The district of Beitou (??), at the foot of Yangmingshan, boasts one of the highest concentrations of hot springs, hot spring spas, and public hot spring baths in the world, and is the ideal place to visit after a hike to soak your weary legs. Zhuzihu Black Forest (??????) A popular spot for couples taking wedding photos, the Black Forest in Zhuzihu (???) on Yangmingshan is a dense forest of tall Chinese fir trees and leafy ferns. The sun shining through gaps in the trees creates long shadows, giving the forest a mystic wonderland in the mountain. The mysterious forest is near the Shuicheliao Trail (?????) and Shuijun Trail (????). It can be reached by taking Bus S8 and S9, with the nearest stop being Fengjiakou (???) Stop. Photo Credit: Oia Yang Free Public Hot Springs in Qianshan Park (????????) Don't want to pay for a Beitou hot spring hotel? The picturesque Yangmingshan Qianshan Park is home to some public hot springs where you can stop to soak your feet for free. The park was renovated in 2014 and boasts several ecological resources, with many recreational trails by the park for visitors to walk along and enjoy the mountain views. Accessible by bus, the park is near Yangmingshan Bus Station. Photo Credit: Oia Yang Ceramics DIY at Cloud Forest (????) A ceramics studio run by an American expat who's been in Taipei for more than three decades, Cloud Forest is one of Yangmingshan's hidden gems. A studio and exhibition space, at Cloud Forest you can take part in expert-led ceramics workshops or just pop in unannounced (if there's space, of course) and practice yourself. Maybe you'll make a teapot, maybe you'll make a vase, or perhaps you'll just make a mess, but you'll surely get your hands dirty and have a great time doing it. The studio sometimes hosts residencies for visiting artists, during which they will lead workshops and also display their works in Cloud Forest's

gallery/museum area. Photo Credit: Taiwan Scene Two of the most popular tourist spots visitors to the Bangka (??; now Wanhua) area usually frequent Longshan Temple (?????) and Huaxi Street Night Market (???????), while people heading to Ximending are usually there for the shopping or taking in some of the city's pop culture at venues such as Red House (????). Bangka is actually one of Taipei's more historic areas, and visitors can enjoy a walk around its historic block, Bopiliao Historic Block (????????), an area that was built during the Qing Dynasty (??, 1636 A.D. ? 1912 A.D.) and passed through Japanese rule and post-WWII recovery. You can also find time to browse U-mkt, or Xinfu Market (?????), and eat traditional street foods and try vintage pastries in the oldest neighborhood in Taipei. When it comes to discovering traditional culture and historic heritage, Bangka and Ximending are the go-to spots in Taipei. Huajiang Apartment Buildings and Sky Bridge (??????) Originally a shopping mall built during an urban renewal project after WWII, the local government decided to turn the four buildings that are located at the four corners of an intersection into a residential area. They are connected by a circular sky bridge that was originally designed as the mall's corridor, and it is the last building in Taipei that was built in such a way. Countless stairs and hallways turn it into a gigantic maze, making it a popular location for music video shoots and a great place for taking pictures for Instagram. Photo Credit: Oia Yang Qingshui Temple (?????????) One of Taipei's great temples, Qingshui Temple was built in 1787 and is one of three temples in northern Taiwan dedicated to Master Qingshui (????), a dark-faced monk who protects people from drought and plague. As well as shrines dedicated to Master Qingshui, there are also areas for worshipping the likes of Mazu (??), the Goddess of the Sea, and Wenchang Dijun (????), the God of Literature. Once a school during Japanese rule, nowadays the temple is a leader in the promotion of education in Taiwan. Photo Credit: Oia Yang Tangbu Cultural Park (??????) A designated historic site and formerly home to warehouses of the Taiwan Sugar Corporation (??????), here you can learn about the history of Taiwan's sugar industry. In the build-up to and in the years that followed WWII, sugar was a mainstay of Taiwan's economy, with sugarcane having been grown on the island since the arrival of the Han Chinese, at the latest. There are also many art installations that teach about the process of making sugar from cane farming to transportation. Also, be sure to take

a look at the park's sugar train, an actual train once used for transporting sugar. **The indoor exhibition center at Tangbu Cultural Park is currently under renovation and will re-open in August 2021. The park area remains open to visitors as usual. Photo Credit: Oia Yang

Wanhua Lin Mansion (????) A historic mansion which these days, like seemingly most buildings on the planet, is now a Starbucks. Completed in 1935 and also known as Wanhua Lin House, the building is a four-story quadrangular build with an exterior wall composed of Japanese red bricks and biscuit porcelain, with the traditional wooden doors and windows still intact. Not just a Starbucks, the third and fourth floors of the mansion are galleries displaying artifacts, photos, and documents related to architect Lin Hongma (???), who designed the building, while the top floor is a prayer hall. Photo Credit: Oia Yang

HANKO 60 (?????) A speakeasy regarded by many as one of Taipei's coolest bars, HANKO 60 in Ximending is disguised as an old movie theater, with the entrance decorated with vintage movie posters and a movie timetable. The inspiration for the design comes from Ximending historically being an iconic place to watch movies in Taipei and a leading light in the evolution of the city's pop culture scene. One of their drinks, the Movie Street, even comes hidden inside a bag of movie theater popcorn. A great place to take friends, dates, or even just to check out for yourself. Photo Credit: Taiwan Scene

Snowking (?????) An ice cream store hidden on the second floor of an old building in Ximending where you'll either leave satisfied or horrified, depending on how adventurously you ordered, at Snowking, they are not afraid to experiment. Flavors on offer start pretty standard; we're talking chocolate, strawberry, mango etc. Then they get a little more adventurous; think Oolong tea and basil. Then, things just get weird and arguably unnecessary: pork floss, pork knuckle, chili pepper, sesame chicken, and even kaoliang. Order at your peril, but it's a lot of fun, especially if you're trying different flavors together as a group. Photo Credit: Samil Kuo

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50 Unmissable Things to Do in Taipei in 2024 - Spiritual Travels

Dear reader: This article contains links to products and services that I may be compensated for, at no extra cost to you. Taiwan's bustling, vivacious, food-loving capital has something for everyone. Whether you will travel to Taipei to indulge in the city's complex history, creative arts, traditional temples, unrivaled nature, or perhaps you just eat your heart out at world-renowned night markets, this city's got you covered. After living in Taipei for over a decade, there's no way I could make this a short article. Choosing only 10 or 15 things to do in Taipei simply would not do this enchanting, multi-faceted metropolis justice. So just a heads up, this article is going to cover a lot! Also, I've mainly stuck to what to do in Taipei within the city limits. For attractions in New Taipei City (the city that surrounds Taipei) and beyond, see my guide to the best day trips from Taipei. And if you prefer to avoid the typical tourist spots, here's my off-the-beaten-track guide to Taipei and cool things to do at night. Now, let's dive in! [Table of Contents](#) Join my free Taiwan Travel Planning Group where I will personally answer any question you have! Choosing where to stay in such a large city like Taipei can be a daunting task. That's why I've written this separate guide to where to stay in Taipei, in which I break it down into the top neighborhoods to consider and best accommodations for every budget within those neighborhoods. I've also got guides to the best hostels in Taipei, hotels around Taoyuan Airport, and luxury hotels in Taiwan. Also see [here](#) for the best hotel deals on Booking, Agoda, and Klook. Booking is my personal favorite, but Agoda does tend to have slightly better prices in Taiwan. Klook is a very popular site for all kinds of activities and recently added hotels to their inventory. Now let's get to it! These 50 things to do in Taipei start with some of the biggest sights and attractions, but otherwise are in no particular order. To figure out how to put it all together, here are my [1 day](#), [2 day](#), [3 day](#), [4 day](#), or [5 day Taipei itinerary recommendations](#). See [here](#) for visiting Taipei with kids, and my favorite things to do in Taiwan. Also check out these fun things to do at Taoyuan International Airport. Once the world's tallest building (2004-2010), Taipei 101 is the most iconic of Taiwan's landmarks. It is shaped like a stalk of bamboo and is the world's tallest green building. Learn even more cool features about the skyscraper in my [Taipei 101 guide](#)!

The best way to experience Taipei 101 is to ride the world's fastest elevator up to the observation deck on the 89th to 91st floors. The 360-degree view is incredible, not to mention the enormous earthquake damper ball. I also love the Taiwanese souvenirs shop there. Make things easier by ordering your tickets on Klook or on KKday. Opt for the express pass to skip the long lines. For a more thrilling experience, you can try the even higher Skyline 460 Observation Deck (book on Klook / KKday), which is on the actual roof of Taipei 101 (460 meters). The ticket includes entrance to the regular observation area and a drink. It's cheaper on Klook than if you buy it there. There's only 2 entries per day (2 PM and 3 PM). Read about my Skyline 460 experience here. Don't miss one of the events of the year in Taipei, the Taipei 101 fireworks display on New Year's Eve. See more info in my guide to December in Taipei. The area around Taipei 101 also has some of the best department stores in Taipei. Insider Tip: To view Taipei 101 from an unusual (and Instagram famous) angle, make your way to Takemura Izakaya (?????), a 10-minute walk from Xiangshan MRT station, from where you can see Taipei 101 straight on through a narrow alley. Here are my other recommended places to view Taipei 101. Taipei's street food is world renowned, and you simply cannot visit Taipei without spending an evening strolling one or more of the city's famed night markets. An interesting fact about Taiwan: by tourist numbers, Taipei night markets are the country's #1 tourist attraction, and several night market vendors are even recognized on the Michelin Bib Gourmand list! The "big five" Taipei night markets are Shilin, Raohe, Tonghua, Ningxia, and Huaxi. Learn about each one in my Taipei night market guide, and decide what to eat in my introduction to the 101 best street foods in Taipei. The night market in Keelung, an easy day trip from Taipei, is also one of the best in Taiwan (and a personal favorite of mine). If you're vegetarian or vegan, see my vegetarian night market guide. As for restaurants, the city is overflowing with them. There are so many good ones that it can be tough to know where to begin. I've got the perfect guide to help you out: here are 80+ of the best Taipei restaurants, my favorite vegetarian ones, and a list of 24-hour restaurants in Taipei. And please remember there's no need for tipping in Taipei at restaurants! There are also some famous Old Streets in the greater Taipei area. These are like night markets, but operate in the daytime on historical blocks with beautifully

restored buildings. Some of the best around Taipei are Sanxia Old Street, Shengkeng Stinky Tofu Old Street, and Tamsui Old Street. For night market lovers, also see my guides to Feng Chia Night Market and other night markets in Taichung, night markets in Tainan, and night markets in Kaohsiung! Probably the second most recognizable building in Taipei is the Chiang Kai-Shek Memorial Hall (???????). The imposing blue and white structure was built in 1980 to honor the former dictator and contains a small museum about CKS. CKS Memorial Hall sits in 240,000m² Liberty Square, which also houses the classical-Chinese style National Theater and National Concert Hall. For the best view, head to Liberty Square Arch on the Western side of the square. The Taipei double decker bus (see on Klook / Kkday) stops here. Often described as the most important museum in the Chinese-speaking world, the National Palace Museum (???????) houses nearly 700,000 artifacts (about 3000 can be displayed at any given time) spanning 8000 years of Chinese history. The museum's origins are tied to the Palace Museum in the Forbidden City of Beijing, from where many of the artifacts were carried across China and to Taiwan in the final years of the Chinese Civil War. Some of the most famous pieces include a piece of jade shaped like cabbage and a meat-shaped stone. We always find the Chinese scrolls particularly impressive. There are also a small kids' area, gift shop with traditional souvenirs from Taiwan, and regular rotating exhibits. Save time at the entrance gates by booking your ticket on Klook or on KKday. Entrance to the National Palace Museum is also covered by the Taipei Unlimited Fun Pass (Klook / KKday). Also check out the Shung Ye Aboriginal Museum next door. If you plan to visit both, you can save money by booking this combined ticket online. If you want to truly experience aboriginal culture in Taiwan, try Hualien County on the east coast of Taiwan around Taroko Gorge, Dulan in Taitung, Ita Thao village on Sun Moon Lake, or remote Orchid Island. Access: Access: Take bus R30 from Shilin MRT station. Open 8:30-6:30 (to 9:00 on Fridays and Saturdays), admission NT350, National Palace and Shung Ye Museum combined ticket NT400. The Japanese-developed hot spring village around Xinbeitou MRT in Beitou district, usually called Beitou Hot Spring (????) is Taipei City's only hot spring resort and one of the best hot springs in Taiwan. You could easily spend a whole day exploring the historic sights of Beitou; find out what to do there and which hot springs spas are the

best for each budget in my detailed guide to Beitou Hot Spring. These hot springs are the perfect remedy to cold days in winter in Taipei, but the area is worth a visit anytime of year. Besides Beitou public hot spring, most hot spring spas in Beitou are sex segregated and no bathing suits allowed. If you're visiting with kids, the only kid-friendly hot spring in Beitou is Spring City Resort. You get a significant discount if you buy your ticket in advance on Klook or here on KKday. For the kids, just buy your ticket there to get the child price. Note that it's a bit of a walk from the MRT to this spa, but they do have a free shuttle. Beitou is included on this Beitou and Yangmingshan tour (See on Klook / KKday). If you love hot springs, also consider visiting Wulai Hot Spring, Jiaoxi Hot Spring, Taian Hot Spring and Guanziling Mud Hot Spring in other parts of Taiwan. Access: Take the red MRT line to Beitou station and transfer on the two stop pink line to Xinbeitou station. I can practically guarantee that you are going to become obsessed with Taiwanese food during your visit, so why not take a cooking class and learn how to make some of those delicious treats after you leave? But a word of warning: there are so many good ones to choose from that you may struggle to pick one. These include courses on traditional homecooked foods, street foods, aboriginal foods, and more. If you prefer to just eat the real soup dumplings, head to Din Tai Fung, the most famous restaurant in Taipei. You can preorder your meal online to save time. Search here for the best cooking classes in Taipei or try this DIY pineapple cake making class. Also find out which pineapple cakes are the best here. Built in 1972, SYS Memorial Hall predates CKS Memorial Hall and commemorates the founding father of the Republic of China. Between the two, CKS is more visually striking so it should be higher on your list, but SYS is still worth a stop if you have time, especially for the hourly changing of the guards in the main entrance hall. Like CKS Memorial Hall, the large square around it is a popular place for a stroll or for teens to practice their dance moves. Access: Sun Yat-sen Memorial Hall MRT station Taiwanese temples are beautifully ornate, colorful, and incense-filled places of active worship. Most of them combine influences from Buddhism, Taoism, Confucianism, and folk religion, and visitors are always welcome to enter. See my detailed guide to the best Taiwanese temples in Taipei for my 30 favorite ones! The city's most important temples are found in Old Taipei, or Wanhua district, also known as Bangka in Taiwanese or Monga. Longshan Temple

is the most famous and always at the top of every traveler's list. Find out how to pray for love and other tips for visiting Longshan Temple here. Qingshui Temple, Qingshan Temple, and Tianhou Temple are all worth checking out in the area, too. Outside of Wanhua, other top temples to visit include the Taipei Confucius Temple, Bao An Temple, Songshan Ciyu temple beside Raohe Night Market, incense-free Xingtian Temple, and Guandu Temple, which features a tunnel through a hill, further north toward Danshui. Also see my guide to the best temples in Tainan, the spiritual heart of Taiwan. Did you know that cat cafes were invented in Taipei, Taiwan? Yes, the world's first cat cafe opened in Taipei in 1998. The trend spread to Japan about six years later, and from there, around the world. In fact, that first cat cafe is still open! Most of these cafes either charge a small entrance fee or have a minimum order of one drink or snack. Then, you can snuggle with the cats as much as you want! Some only have one or two cats, while some have over 20. In my detailed guide to the best cat cafes in Taipei, I introduce our personal favorite cat cafes in Taipei, all of which we personally visited. Note that some allow kids but some don't ? I've included this information for each entry.

Built in (you guessed it) 1914 as a Japanese sake brewery and later camphor refinement mill, the facility was closed in 1987. 10 years later it was transformed into an arts and culture center called Huashan 1914 Creative Arts Park (???1914?????????; most locals simply call it Huashan), one of the first in a trend of re-purposing old buildings for such uses that has caught on across Taiwan. The old factory walls and smokestacks of Huashan make cool backgrounds for photos, while the huge lawn out back is a favorite spot for Taipei residents to have a picnic. There's always some kind of art exhibit or event going on here, especially on weekends, as well as a few restaurants and cafés. There's another former Japanese sake distillery converted into arts village in Taiwan; see my Taichung itinerary article to find out more! Access: 5-minute walk from Zhongxiao Xinsheng MRT. Head to the end of the Taipei Zoo MRT line to go for a ride on the Maokong Gondola. The 4-kilometer trip into the hills in the southeast of Taipei takes approximately 30 minutes. To make the best of the highly scenic ride, make sure to get in the correct line for the glass bottomed ?Crystal Cabins?! The gondola includes four stations: the boarding station near the MRT, a stop that connects to the Taipei Zoo, Zhinan Temple (which is worth it to see the large temple with

an incredible view over the city), and Maokong. The ride will take you over fields of Baozhong oolong tea (learn more in my guide to tea in Taiwan), and at the top there are several traditional tea houses with views and hiking trails such as the one to Silver Stream Cave and Waterfall. If you are specifically interested in tea, then I recommend this tea tour from Taipei. A return ride on the gondola is also free for Taipei Unlimited Fun Pass holders. There's also a Maokong Gondola and Taipei Zoo Combined Ticket on Klook and on KKday. Price: NT120 (one-way trip to the top), save 20NT by swiping with an EasyCard, NT60 (kids 6-12), free (under 6). The gondola runs 8:30 am to 9 pm (sometimes closed due to typhoons, heavy rain, or repairs. Announcements are made on the MRT.) The Four Beasts (Elephant, Tiger, Leopard, and Lion) are four connected mountains on the eastern side of Taipei City. They offer picture-postcard views of Taipei, with towering Taipei 101 so close you can practically reach out and touch it. Elephant mountain (Xiangshan or ??) is by far the most popular and easiest to access. You only have to hike up for a few minutes to start enjoying fine views, and it takes about 30 minutes to reach the famous viewing spot with a large rock you can climb onto and pose on for photos. See my guide to Elephant Mountain and another one by my blogging friend here! But you have been warned: this spot is extremely crowded, and you may have to wait in a line to pose. And don't even imagine trying to get a spot up there for the fireworks shot from Taipei 101 on New Year's Eve! If you continue on to the outer three beasts, you will find the trails pleasantly non-crowded. You can get Taipei 101 views from several other hikes in Taipei. Here's my guide to Taipei's best hiking trails. Access: It's only a 10 minute walk from Elephant Mountain MRT station to the main trail up Elephant Mountain. It's a little further, but you can also walk from Houshanpi on the blue MRT line to Tiger Mountain. See my similar guide covering the top attractions and sights in Kaohsiung city, southern Taiwan. Another iconic Taipei landmark is the 95-meter Ferris wheel at Miramar Entertainment Park (a large department store) in Dazhi area, Zhongshan District, north of Songshan Airport and the Keelung river. At night the Ferris Wheel is lit up and can be seen from many places in Taipei. The Ferris wheel moves slowly, allowing you enjoy uninterrupted views over Taipei. Save money by booking your Ferris wheel ticket online. A ride on the Ferris wheel is also included on the Taipei Unlimited Fun Pass. Access: 5-minute walk from

Jiannan Rd. MRT Station. Open 12:30 to 11 pm (Mon-Thurs), to midnight (Fri), 11am to midnight (Saturday), 11am to 11pm (Sun), NT150/200 (adults, weekday/weekend), kids under 110cm free.

Taipei is one of the best places outside of Japan to see cherry blossoms. You can see cherry blossoms from late January to early March in Taipei, but the exact times for each location are different, and some of them feature multiple kinds of cherry blossoms which bloom at different times. The two best spots to see cherry blossoms in Taipei are Yangminshan and Tian Yuan Temple in Tamsui. To find all the cherry blossoms locations and their blooming times, see my guide to cherry blossoms spots in Taipei and across Taiwan. Besides cherry blossoms, flower aficionados will find several other reasons to love Taipei. Fields of gorgeous calla lilies can be seen at Zhuzihu in Yangmingshan National Park in spring in Taiwan. This is also the best time to see azaleas, Taipei's official flower, around Taipei, and tulips at Chiang Kai-Shek Residence. In autumn in Taipei, head to the hills around the city to see blooming silvergrass; see the best spots in my guide to visiting Taipei in November. Access: See my article on how to get to Yangmingshan. Every weekend, a large jade market is set up under the Jianguo Road Overpass starting at Zhongxiao East Road and going south. Not only jade items but also tea ware, jewelry, and all manner of goods is sold by rows upon rows of vendors. Continuing south, another section is devoted entirely to flowers and plants. The sheer array of flowers on display is stunning, especially the orchids. Access: Zhongxiao Xinsheng MRT station, Zhongxiao Fuxing MRT Station, or Da An Park MRT station. Open 9 am to 5 pm, Saturday and Sunday only. While at first glance the streets of Taipei may not seem so bike friendly, you will soon notice the signature orange and yellow bikes (made by local manufacturer Giant) everywhere. There are hundreds of drop-off points for the bikes, often around MRT stations in Taipei and New Taipei City, and then rental prices are extremely reasonable. You'll need a local phone number to register an EasyCard for renting YouBikes, so I suggest buying a local SIM card when you arrive. However, it's possible to rent without one ? find out how in my YouBike riders' guide. One of my favorite rides is to rent a bike at Yuanshan station, riding past the Taipei Fine Arts Museum and Lin An Tai Historical Home to reach the Dajia Riverside Park, continuing to Raohe Night Market and the Songshan Ciyou Temple. Cycling along the river around

the northern stops of the Danshui MRT line is another popular option. Learn more in my Taipei cycling guide. Art lovers should start at the Taipei Fine Arts Museum near Yuanshan MRT Station and Museum of Contemporary Art near Zhongshan Station. For something a little more unusual, check out the Miniatures Museum (save money on your ticket [here](#)) near Songjiang Nanjing Station. Once you've scratched the National Palace Museum off your list, check out the National Taiwan Museum, which focuses on earth science, plants, and animals, including the Land Bank Exhibition Hall across the street, which features dinosaurs. Other good choices for kids include the National Taiwan Science Education Center and Taipei Astronomical Museum. My personal favorite museum in the greater Taipei area is the Museum of World Religions in New Taipei City. Most of the above museums are included on the Taipei Unlimited Fun Pass. If you happen to be visiting Taipei during Chinese New Year, you can't miss the city's best event, the dragon and lion dance performance held in the magnificent lobby of Grant Hyatt Taipei. While you're there, consider dining at the Grand Hyatt Buffet Restaurant. We've been there with our kids and it was fantastic! Traveling to Taipei during Lunar New Year can come with some challenges, though. Learn what will be open and closed in my guide to visiting Taipei during Chinese New Year. On the 15th day of the Lunar New Year, usually in February in Taipei, the Lantern Festival is celebrated across Taiwan. Every major city in the country holds its own display of lanterns. These lanterns can be huge, incredibly ornate, and outright cute. In Taipei, the lantern festival location changes every year; in 2020 it was held at two locations: Ximending and Nangang. This is not to be confused with the mass sky lantern releases which take place on the two weekends closest to the Lantern Festival in Pingxi, New Taipei City. See my info in my guide to the Taipei Lantern Festival and other cool festivals in Taiwan. Numerous traditional street festivals and parade happen throughout the year in Taipei. Most are tied to the birthdays of gods and goddesses enshrined in the local temples. They are extremely raucous affairs, with loads of fireworks, firecrackers, and traditional drumming, and they can take place at any time of day or night according to when the fortune tellers decide the best time is. If you live in Taipei, you will even grow accustomed to hearing this pass right by your house. Some of the most famous traditional street parades include the Xiahai City God Birthday Parade, usually in June or

July in Taipei, and the Qingshan King Birthday Parade in November or December. Although not a parade per se, you can also see a lot of praying at offering tables and burning of ghost money on the streets of Taipei during the Ghost Festival, which usually takes place in August in Taipei, sometimes going into September in Taipei. The Dragon Boat festival is yet another unmissable traditional Taiwanese festival, usually taking place in June in Taipei. The custom is based on the story on the poet Qu Yuan, who during the Warring States Period of ancient China committed suicide by jumping into a river. The locals raced in boats to retrieve his body, and threw rice dumplings into the river to dissuade the fish from eating him. This explains the Taiwanese custom of eating zongzi, traditional rice dumplings wrapped in banana leaves. The boat races are held at Dajia riverside park in Taipei, and foreign teams are even allowed to register. Get ready to feel hot, as the event usually coincides with the beginning of summer in Taiwan. What do people eat in your country after a night of clubbing? In Taipei, it's Taiwanese breakfast, the same stuff that people across the nation feast on every morning, and for good reason: it's incredibly delicious. Taiwanese breakfast shop classics include dan bing (thin crepes with egg and other toppings), steamed buns, shao bing (flaky pastries wrapped around egg and other things), you tiao (sticks of deep fried batter) dipped in warm soy milk, fan tuan (sticky rice tubes), toasted sandwiches, burgers, noodles, and more. Ordering from a local breakfast shop can be a little intimidating for first timers ? follow my my guide to Taiwanese breakfast foods and the best breakfast shops in Taipei. Also read about visiting Fu Hang Soy Milk, the most famous one, and the best 24-hour restaurants in Taipei. In 2010, the area around Yuanshan MRT rose to fame for hosting the International Flower Expo. Many of the flowers and areas built for the Expo remain today. With the addition of the excellent semi-covered food court, several great restaurants and bars, and a Weekend Farmer's Market, it makes for a great place to spend a sunny afternoon. Exiting from the MRT, you can't miss the Expo Dome, where the weekend farmer's market takes place. Walking under the covered area, you'll soon reach Maji Sqaure (or Maji2), where you'll find an upscale grocery, oyster bar, bagel shop, and over a dozen food stalls specializing in local and international fare. This is also a great place for families, as you'll find here a kids' merry-go-round, motorized cars for hire, and games (weekends only). This is also

the location of Triangle (an underground music venue) and a half dozen restaurants with great covered patios. Past Maji Square, you'll see EcoArk, a building made of recycled bottles and materials, and across Zhongshan North Road you'll find Fine Arts Park, a small aboriginal museum, Taipei Fine Arts Museum, and a little further towards the river, Lin An Tai Historical Home. Looking north, you can also spot massive Grand Hotel Taipei, built in the classical Chinese style. If you're wondering where to buy electronics in Taipei, head straight to massive Guanhua Digital Plaza (????) on Civic Boulevard (access: Zhongxiao Xinsheng MRT). The 6-story complex and the lanes around it feature every computer or digital product you could imagine. Prices are decent but don't expect to be able to use a credit card without a surcharge or to get a receipt. For cameras and camera gear, you're better off going to Camera Street, located south of North Gate near Taipei Main Station, on section 1 of Hankou Street and Bo Ai street between Zhongxiao West Rd. and Hankou street. The artists village of Treasure Hill (????????), located beside the Xindian River and near the National Taiwan Normal University in Zhongzheng District, began as a settlement for KMT war veterans. Later, the Taipei government preserved and developed it into an environmentally friendly urban village and artist's enclave. The village houses local and international artists and frequently serves as a venue for special exhibits or music & art performances. Some of the original families also still live here, and introductions to the individual families (and their contributions to the village) are posted on the outer walls of their houses. For them, daily life goes on as usual, so be sure to obey the signs and not wander into their homes. Cool art displays are set up outside and inside many of the homes, and many of the galleries are left open for visitors to enter, even when nobody is in. The village has a more authentic working artists' village feel compared to the other more institutional arts villages. It's a must-see place to visit in Taipei if you are interested in the underground arts. While love hotels may have a negative reputation as venues for cheating, spending a few more dollars on a nicer one can be a fun or even romantic experience. The two choices are usually to either "take a break" (??) for two hours or spend the night. Some offer secret entrances with concealed elevators, while the interiors can range from cheesy romantic to full-on luxury. If you are just looking to "take a break", you can also try one of the many hot spring hotels in

Beitou. The nicer private springs usually come with a bed, essentially serving the same purpose as a love hotel. Wego Funtel (see on Booking / Agoda / Klook / TripAdvisor) is a popular chain of tasteful love hotels in Taiwan, with the original location near Jiannan Rd. MRT Station. Karaoke, or Karaoke TV (KTV) is a super popularity activity among people of all ages in Taiwan. Typically a group of friends shares a private room, where they select songs from a digital system and sing their hearts out into microphones with a range of reverb effects. Guests can order snacks and drinks to the room, including booze. These are go-to places for people having birthday parties, a night out with colleagues, or a when there's rainy weather or a typhoon. The most popular KTV chains are Holiday and Partyworld. These places have some but not many English songs, but if you want all-English KTV with an INCREDIBLE selection of music, make a reservation at EST via their Facebook page. More popular among young teens, Movie TV (MTV) is the same concept, except you choose a video to watch on a large screen in a private room. For many youths, this may be the only way to get a bit of private time with their partner. U2 MTV is a popular chain of MTV bars, with a couple locations in Ximending and elsewhere in Taipei. Do you know what the differences between Taiwanese and Peking opera are? You can experience performances from both, as well as Taiwanese aboriginal dancing, Taiwanese puppetry, traditional dragon dancing, and more on the stage at TaipeiEYE. The programs at this authentic performing arts center in central Taipei change month and are always expertly executed. Don't be surprised if they invite you up on the stage! Note: after being closed for 4 years during COVID and slow recovery, TaipeiEye has finally reopened its doors as of early 2024. Access: No. 113, Sec. 2, Zhongshan N. Road, near Minquan W. Road MRT station Like Huashan Creative Arts Park, Songshan Cultural and Creative Park (???????) is a large arts space that makes use of abandoned buildings from the past, in this case a former tobacco factory. There is a large outdoor area and pond for strolling around, while Eslite Spectrum Songyan Store contains an Eslite bookstore (the most famous bookstore chain in Taipei, known for its beautiful interior design) and a branch of the award winning Taiwanese bakery Wu Pao Chun. Various buildings on the grounds also regularly host art and design-related exhibitions and events. Access: 10-minute walk from Sun Yat-sen MRT station. Yet another collection of old

buildings restored into art village, 44 South Village (or Si Si Nan Cun/????) is the least known of the bunch, and hides in a residential area only a stone's throw from Taipei 101. The structures here were originally a military village built for KMT soldiers from China, and today they house a small shop, café, and bakery. Yangmingshan National Park (???????) is the closest national park to Taipei City; in fact, the 114-km² area is divided between Taipei City and New Taipei City. Yangming Mountain is a massif rather than single mountain, with Seven Star Mountain (Qixingshan/???, 1120 meters) being its tallest peak. Seven Star Mountain is in fact a dormant volcano that last erupted 700,000 years ago, which explains why the region is so rich in hot springs. Because the park is so huge, there is a lot to do up there, depending on the season. Early spring brings cherry blossoms (try Yangmingshan Flower Clock), while calla lilies come later in spring. It's always fun to hop in the traditional hot spring bathhouse at Lengshuikeng (nude, sex segregated), while Tianlai Resort is Yangmingshan's classiest. For more details and how to plan your trip, read about these fun things to do in Yangmingshan. Access: Bus routes into the park are numerous and complicated. See my Yangmingshan transportation guide for all the details. Baseball isn't as popular in Taiwan as it once was due to several game-fixing scandals in the past. Today only four teams remain in the CPBL (Chinese Professional Baseball League): the Chinatrust Brothers from Taichung, Fubon Guardians from New Taipei City, Lamigo Monkeys from Taoyuan, and the Uni-President 7-Eleven Lions from Tainan. Still, catching a baseball game can be a fun way to spend an afternoon. Don't expect anything too wild, but do expect to be featured on the big screen TV at some point during the game if you look non-Taiwanese. In Taipei, you can catch games at the Tianmu Baseball Stadium. You can also get to the Xinzhuang Stadium in New Taipei City (my neighborhood!) on the MRT. Here is the schedule of games in Mandarin, and here's an English website that explains how to read the schedule. You can buy tickets from the iBon machine at any 7-Eleven or at the door. In the late Qing Dynasty (around 1884), the government made Taipei into a walled city, in the area that is now Wanhua. The Japanese tore down the Old City walls, but four of the gates remain today: South Gate, Little South Gate, East Gate, and North Gate. However, only the North Gate retains its original form. South Gate (Li Zheng Gate/???), Little South Gate (Xiao Nan Men/???) and East Gate (Jing

Fu Men/???) are all a short walk from Chiang Kai-shek Memorial Hall. North Gate (Beimen/??) near Taipei Main Station and Camera Street has been looking rather handsome ever since the ugly Zhongxiao Bridge Ramp was demolished and the area around it was fixed up in 2016. It's fun to visit because you can walk right under it. In Ximen (??, literally "West Gate") neighborhood, a creative metallic gate has been installed on the spot where the West Gate once sat. While it may sound like a strange new alternative form of healing, knife massages go back over 2000 years in Chinese culture. Recently there has been a revival of traditional knife massage in Taipei, and I recently tried one out by a friend and licensed practitioner who runs a shop in Ximending. Read all about my experience getting a knife massage in Taipei and find out how you can get one. Ximending is without a doubt Taipei's coolest neighborhood. Besides the awesome street art, the pedestrian-only Ximending shopping district boasts the hippest fashions, trendiest restaurants, and largest collection of movie theaters. Ximending is also home to historic Red Theater, where you'll find the Weekend Craft & Arts Market as well as Taipei's largest LGBT district and best collection of outdoor bar patios. You can also uncover some impressive street art in Ximending. See more info in my article on 25 weird things to do in Ximending, and my food guide to Ximending. Also nearby, Bopiliao Historical Block is a restored old street that retains a look from 200 years ago, and is becoming an increasingly popular spot to visit and take photos. Explore Ximending on this LGBT walking tour. The historic neighborhood of Dadaocheng, or Twatutia, could also make a strong claim as Taipei's most interesting neighborhood to explore on foot. See my suggested self-guided walking tour of Dihua Street and Dadaocheng. Once Taipei's main port along the river, the area is known for its historic shops selling Taiwanese teas, Chinese medicinal herbs, fabrics, and more, as well as its Qing Dynasty and Japanese-era architecture. Dihua Street is the area's main street and one of the oldest streets in Taipei. Xia Hai City God Temple and the huge Yongle Fabric Market are also found here. The riverside in Dadaocheng is great for strolling or cycling, while in recent years a little collection of food trucks and bars at Pier 5 has become a popular new spot for a sundowner. Dadaocheng is also home to some of the best cooking classes in Taipei, especially at Taiwan Cooking 101. If Ximending is for teenagers and tourists and Dadaocheng attracts history and culture

lovers, Da An is where students go to party or chill in artsy cafés. The district is home to three major universities, including NTU, Taiwan's top university, as well as Shi Da and Tonghua Night Markets. 64-acre Da An Forest Park is Taipei's answer to Central Park in New York. For a great walking tour, start at Dongmen MRT station (where you can also find the original branch of Din Tai Feng, Taipei's most famous restaurant—pre-order your meal online here). Walk down Yong Kang street, famous as the birthplace of Din Tai Fung restaurant and mango shaved ice. Here's my self-guided food tour of Yongkang Street. Continue south past Jinhua street (???) and you'll enter a gorgeous neighborhood (around Qingtian Street and the numerous lanes around it) of wooden Japanese-era homes at varying states of decay or repair that once housed professors at NTU when it was a Japanese university. A good example is Qingtian 76, which has been converted into a restaurant, while several other atmospheric cafés and teahouses can also be found. The neighborhood is also home to an unusually high concentration of religious buildings, including the Taipei Grand Mosque and Taipei Taiwan Temple (an LDS church). Nearby, Wistaria is the city's most famous historical tea house, where academics, political dissidents, and artists once met in secret. Stretching from Taipei Main Station to the eastern reaches of Taipei City, Zhongxiao East Road is one of Taipei's main boulevards and connects the older districts of the city with the newer and glitzier east side. The blue MRT line runs directly under the street. The section between Zhongxiao Xinsheng MRT station and Sun Yat-sen Memorial Hall, including all the small lanes running off from it, is often referred to by locals as Dong Qu or "Eastern District," and is arguably Taipei's liveliest and most fashionable area. Zhongxiao East road is lined with outrageously expensive boutiques, and most pedestrians are dressed to the nines as they window shop. Here you'll also find some of the city's biggest night clubs, best craft beer and cocktail bars. In the narrow lanes leading away from the main roads, you'll also find a mind-boggling concentration and array of amazing restaurants. You could dine in a different spot every night in this area for years and never run out of new places to try. Japanese, hot pot, BBQ, and Korean are especially common, but you can find anything and everything there. If a more laid-back, seaside vibe is your thing, then catch the red MRT line to the northernmost stop, Tamsui (the Taiwanese language pronunciation of Danshui). This district of New Taipei City lies at

the point where the Danshui river meets the sea. Just outside the MRT, start by strolling the Tamsui riverside promenade, a daytime and nighttime market. From here you can catch a river ferry to Fisherman's Wharf, famous for sunsets from Lover's Bridge, or to Bali, a town with a similar promenade on the other side of the river. Just past the end of the Riverside Promenade, Fort San Domingo dates all the way back to 1637, when the Spanish occupied the north coast of Taiwan. It's a picturesque building that makes a good backdrop for photos, along with the Former British Residence next door. See my recommended Tamsui itinerary [here](#). Entrance to the Tamsui Historical Museum, which includes Fort San Domingo and the British Residence, is included on the Taipei Unlimited Fun Pass. Tamsui is also the gateway to the beaches of the north coast. Form outside the MRT station, you can catch buses to great beaches such as Qianshuiwan (???) and Baishawan (???). Learn more in my guide to the best beaches around Taipei. Visiting foodies put Addiction Aquatic Development (????), a seafood market converted into upscale grocery and seafood paradise, near the top of their list of things to do in Taipei, and for good reason. The large complex includes standing sushi and seafood bars, a hot pot restaurant, outdoor seafood barbecue, and affordable takeaway sushi sets. Your seafood journey begins in the entrance room filled with water tanks containing enormous king crabs. Don't even think about coming to the homeland of pearl milk tea (also known as Boba or Bubble Tea) without trying it! It's difficult to walk more than a block without stumbling upon a bubble tea shop, but some say the bubble tea served at Tiger Sugar, with picturesque liquid black sugar oozing down the inner sides of the glass as they hand it to you, is the city's best. Alternatively, try Chun Shui Tang (???), the Taipei branch of the Taichung teashop that claims to have invented pearl milk tea (read about the original Chun Shui Tang in my list of things to do in Taichung), or one of the many other famous pearl milk tea chains. Besides the typical milk tea variety, you may always want to try passion fruit green tea with coconut chunks, taro & milk, or one of many other concoctions on offer. Ever since Michelin put out the inaugural Taipei Michelin Guide in 2018, the restaurants that made the list have (unsurprisingly) been tough to book, but you may still want to try. 20 restaurants in Taipei got Michelin stars, with only Cantonese La Palais at Palais de Chine Hotel clinching three stars. The other star restaurants mostly consist of Japanese,

Chinese, French and European, and Taiwanese. You can search the full list of Michelin recommendations, including the Bib Gourmand choices that include many night market vendors, on the Michelin Taipei page. Taiwan's most famous restaurant, Din Tai Fung, has numerous branches in Taipei and abroad, including one in Hong Kong that has won a Michelin star. Most tourists visiting Taiwan consider a visit to Din Tai Fung for its famed soup dumplings (each one has exactly 18 folds and you can watch them being made through a window at most branches) a must. You can pre-order your Din Tai Fung meal here, or visit it on this Din Tai Fung and Taipei Night tour. Hot pot is every Taipei resident's favorite comfort food in winter in Taiwan, but even in hellish summer temperatures you can still see groups of friends enveloped in steam at the city's many, many, many hot pot restaurants. Most popular hot point restaurants offer all-you-eat dining that usually includes gourmet ice cream like Haagen Dazs, as well as soft drinks and beer. Either you order unlimited dishes from a menu or help yourself from a serving area. There are different broth choices, but mala (mouth numbing spicy) is very popular. Higher quality hot pot restaurants tend to be a la carte; try Ding Wang Hot Pot (?????) if that's what you're after. For something more fun, try dragon themed Caiji Longfu (????) or the dinosaur themed chain Rododo Hot Pot (?????). Quick fry (kuai chao or ??), also known as Hot Fry (re chao or ??) is a style of restaurant that is enormously popular in Taipei. Many of these noisy, informal eateries began as hole-in-the-wall restaurants then expanded to take up several shop spaces. Typically large groups of friends dine on low round tables, sitting on crappy little chairs. Dishes are mostly fried and seafood heavy, and meant to be watered down with copious amounts of Taiwan beer, which you can grab yourself from the fridge or order from a beer girl. Quick fry classics include three-cups dishes (meat, seafood, or mushrooms cooked in equal parts soy sauce, sesame oil, and rice wine), sweet and sour dishes, boiled greens with garlic, sashimi, noodles, and stir fried seafood dishes. Some of the best quick fries in Taipei are Pin Xian (??, pictured above) near Liuzhangli MRT, Ba Xian Grill (????) beside Da-An Park, and ??????? beside CKS Memorial Hall. One culinary anomaly in New Taipei City is Burma Street (also called Huaxin Street or Nanyang Sightseeing Food Street????????), which is the center of Taiwan's Burmese-Chinese community, one of the country's largest minorities. The food served in the

dozens of restaurants on the streets combines Burmese, southern Chinese, and Chinese styles, and is seriously worth the trip. Popular items include round flatbreads, mohinga (a coconut, banana stem, and fish curry that is considered the Burmese national dish), and cold noodles with tamarind vinegar, and Burmese milk tea. Find out exactly where to eat in my Burma Street food tour article.

Like everywhere else in the world, the craft beer scene has exploded in Taipei in the last five years. My personal favorite is the Taihu Beer taprooms Driftwood in Ximending and Craft Beer Taproom (??? ??) just off Zhongxiao East Road, while Mikkeller Taipei, 23 Public Craft Beer, Zhangmen, and The 58 also stand out. Nowadays, can even find some great craft beers amongst the usuals as 7-Eleven and FamilyMart, and these convenience stores usually release some extra ones every summer, something us residents always look forward to. The speakeasy-style cocktail bar has also caught on, with the biggest names (but shh?they are still ?secrets?) being Ounce and Alchemy. Hankou 60 is a hip newer one in Ximending designed to look like a movie theater (it is located on Ximen?s ?Movie Theater Street?), and you can even order a buttery cocktail concealed inside a real bag of popcorn. I?ve always loved the custom-made drinks (especially the betel nut cocktail) at Fourplay Cuisine near the giant traffic circle on Renai Road (MRT Zhongxiao Fuxing or ZhongxiaoDunhua), and Woo Taipei (not to be confused with the Woo Bar at W Hotel) also serves excellent drinks with an old-timey vibe. Don?t knock it until you?ve tried it! I know several people who have got their fortune told in Taipei, and there were all very surprised about how much the fortune teller knew about them after they revealed little more than their name and date of birth. You can find traditional fortune tellers in Taipei in the underground mall below Longshan Temple, and in Fortune Teller Underpass under Minquan E. Road right next to Xingtian Temple. Here?s one that can speak English. Well, that brings us to the end of my list of best things to do in Taipei! Good luck on your upcoming Taipei visit, and if you have any questions or feel I?ve missed something, please feel free to comment below! Just want to say a massive thanks for all of the extremely detailed and awesome information you provide on here about Taipei! I?m a full time solo female travel blogger/influencer from the U.S. and came to Taipei last minute, and your website has 100% been the most helpful thing I?ve found!! I even went to Modern Toilet (but had water-poisoning from

Philippines so couldn't stay)!! Thanks again! ? Alyssa (MyLifesATravelMovie on Insta) Hi Alyssa, That's so great to hear, and I'm really glad you were able to get some useful info from my stay. Enjoy your stay here, and I hope your tummy recovers soon! Awesome!!! Thank you for sharing this. Planning to go there this June. What can you say about their beaches? Hi Sherry! Thanks for your comment. Please see my guide to the best beaches within 1-2 hours of Taipei:

<http://www.nickkembel.com/best-taipei-beaches/> Thank you so much! Going to Taipei for a week soon and had NO IDEA where to start. Thanks to you I've got my whole week mapped out. Great web page. Thanks for reading, Mark, and I'm glad I could help! Great list but you didn't include my home: BITAN waaaaah My apologies lol! I did include Bitan in my ?places to visit in Taipei with kids? though! Hi Nick! Absolutely love your comprehensive website, I keep coming back to it!

I'm planning a day trip with my grandma. She can't walk very well, but she does love biking. She also loves nature. Are there any natural parks that are bike-friendly? For example, Yongminshan? Hi Merel, and thanks a lot!

In Taipei, the network of riverside biking trails are great and really easy. Yangmingshan is a huge area and lots of hills (it is a mountain massif after all), but I haven't tried biking there so I'm not too sure. One place I enjoyed biking was in Pinglin. It's a tea growing district in New Taipei City, so it's an easy day trip from Taipei. You can rent a bike there and ride along some nice trails beside the river and see many tea fields. I hope that helps! Hello Nick

I found your information and would like to ask if you have a suggestion/itinerary for 6 adults traveling Taipei for 3-4 nights. We would like advice of what ?must places? to visit in so little time. Hope you can help. Hi Selina,

Please start by checking my Taipei 3-day and 4-day itineraries, all my top suggestions are in there.

If you still have questions after that, please let me know! Here are the links, please copy and paste!

<http://www.nickkembel.com/taipei-itinerary-3-days/>

<http://www.nickkembel.com/taipei-itinerary-4-days/> Thank you so much Nick. This article really informative and helpful I absolutely loved the National Palace Museum. Been there six times and they always have new items on display each time! Also loved the souvenir shop with all of the Jade

cabbage magnets. The night markets were really cool to see, but I wasn't sure about some of the seafood options there. Here are some other places I loved checking out: <https://creditcarrots.com/things-to-do-in-taipei/> -Dennis Thanks for your feedback Dennis! My goodness! Your website is exactly what I have been looking for. I'm from the USA, but my brother moved to study in Taiwan 3 years ago and I will be visiting him for the first time in the Autumn for 2 weeks. I believe he's a little north of Taipei. I'll have to dive into just about everything you have posted about (as well as all of your links), but the first thing that I'll need to do is lock down a travel time. Do you specifically talk about the months to visit or can offer advice? My brother's (or friends) availability could influence it, but right now the two timeframes I'm debating between are:

~Sep 5-19

~Sep 27-Oct 11 It's a bit early, but I think right now some of the places on the itinerary would be ~1/3rd+ time in Taipei, Alishan, Kenting National Park, Kaohsiung City, Wulai, and Taruko. My brother can speak Mandarin, although he might not be able to be with us the entire time. None of our visitors will be able to (European decent ha..) Me and the others I'll be with like absolutely everything ? city, nature, beaches, cultural interactions etc? Hey John, and thanks for your comment.

Comparing those two date choices, it's not going to make a huge difference, since they are only a few weeks apart. Generally speaking, September can still be very hot, so depending on what you are used to, you might want to choose the later dates to avoid the near-summer like heat & humidity. By October things cool down to lovely autumn temperatures, warm or even hot still. The only other factor I can imagine you might want to consider is that Thursday, October 1 is the Moon Festival in Taiwan. When a holiday is on a Thursday, the government also gives people the Friday off, so that will be a 4-day long weekend. It means your brother may have 4 days off, which is good, but it will also mean that half the country will be out on the roads, highways will be busy, train tickets hard to buy, and hotels will fill up fast. So this is one reason you may want to consider the earlier dates. Last but not least, typhoon season lasts into September and sometimes even October. There's no way to know beforehand, and chances are unlikely, but it's not impossible that a

typhoon could strike during either of your date choices. It would just mean that, at the worst, you'd have to spend one day without going out. Let me know if you have more questions as your planning progresses!

? Nick Thanks for all the effort you have put into these detailed and informative posts! You're very welcome! Great List! i am actually from taiwan, i used to live in beitou and my family and i would go to the hotsprings at least once a week. I have a suggestion which is the night markets and get boba, another one is the Jiji Earthquake museam, it is a really cool museam which takes place at an old school, and it really shows how the earthquake impacted the students in 1999, i believe that it includes a simulator but i don't really remember since i was really young since i last been there. Fun fact, Miramar was my favorite place to be as a child, my grand parents would take me there and go on the ferris wheel! Everything on the list i have been to as a child and i really enjoyed, once again, this is a great list! Keep up the great work! my bad! i forgot to read about the night market, terribly sorry. Please ignore the night market part Hi Charlotte, thanks a lot for your feedback! I totally agree that the Jiji Earthquake Museum is a fascinating place. I have covered it in my guide to Taichung. I really should include it here too?Perhaps next time I update this article, I will add it here as well. Thanks again! Hi, Nick Thanks for the extensive guide on Taiwan! I'll be visiting Taipei City/Jiufen/Shifen on a 7-day vacation. How much in NT\$ do you think I should budget for, in terms of public transport/MRT/bus/shuttle & normal eating (including going to night markets)? (this budget excludes accommodation, which I've already paid for) Looking forward to your advice ? Best Regards.

Ethan If you stick to street food, you should be able to do this for around TWD 1000 or less per day. If you visit some bigger attractions (for example Taipei 101 Observatory is TWD 600) and/or a few nicer restaurants, you might have days that go up to around TWD 2000. Thanks for your advice! ? Nick Loving your site thus far, still plenty to read and look at, our son has lived in Taipei for 3 years now but nice for us to get up to speed with this beautiful country before we see him in June. Appreciate the work that has gone into your website. Regards

Nick P Thanks so much! So glad I stumbled onto your site! Planning a trip to Taipei end June and

your blog has been so helpful! Haven't been to Taipei since 2011 and I'm sure a lot has changed since then! Hi Terrie, I'm planning for about the same time as yours to visit Taipei with my partner, so coincidence that I happened to see this great article of Nick as well, hope that we can meet there also end of June. Thank you so much for this website! I have been in Taiwan for 5 weeks now (heading back in a few days) and I used your site to plan everything out! (I used your 3 week + recommended itinerary) When I talked to the locals they were all impressed by the locations you recommended and how it covered pretty much all of Taiwan. Really appreciate all your posts and I definitely couldn't have done it without this site! So glad to hear that!! Comment ? Hey, I'm Nick! This website is my full-time passion project. I've always been drawn to the religious centers and spiritual sights of the world. After years of backpacking, I now call two places home: Edmonton, Canada and Taipei, Taiwan. When I'm not writing or compulsively planning every detail of our next family trip, I'm most likely playing kitty games with Sage and Lavender, my two kids.

The best of Taipei's secret spots

Sunset with silver-grass over Yangmingshan National Park. We whizzed past well-known spots, our car burrowing into smaller streets of Taipei city. Our group was on a mission: To find the best eats in Taipei that weren't listed in blogs, websites or guide books. Near the busy Dadaocheng Street, where Tze Sheng Temple stands, we found what we were looking for. There, a nondescript eatery stood, with a menacingly-giant shark jaw above its entrance. It turned out to be a family-run business, Ah Hua Smoked Shark (阿華), popular for its shark flesh and pork bone dishes. Finally, I could enjoy other parts of a shark (and not just the fin), like sweet meat and cartilage. The shark meat went well with the range of dips available here. My favourite was the chilli. It was eight in the evening, and a full day of feasting had already left me bursting. But there's always space for dessert. Our travel guide led us into a cheerful, brightly-lit dessert shop on Yangguang Street named Ice Monster. I'm not entirely sure who the 'Ice Monster' is, but after sampling the shaved ice here, I transformed into one. Its deliciously smooth and creamy mango shaved ice, topped with the freshly-diced honey-sweet fruit, put other versions I've tried to shame. Then came the bubble milk tea bowl. The pearls were chewier and silkier than any I've had, and I dove back for more until the bowl was polished clean. Ice Monster rotates flavours that complement Taiwan's seasons. So if you're travelling there during winter, look out for its yam and strawberry ice, and piping hot desserts like red bean soup, yam paste and sweet potato. Also read: 5 gems in Taipei recommended by locals

The Xiaoyoukeng Arrow Bamboo Trail at Yangmingshan National Park leads to hotspring geysers. Visiting Taipei, I was fully prepared for all-out urban exploration. So I was surprised to find myself trudging up a steep hill in a bamboo forest, listening to the crunch of twigs beneath my feet. We were still in Taipei, but out in the min su (Aboriginal tribe) mountains of Taoyuan. Here, life is tranquil and time slows to a crawl. We had arrived ahead of time, but our guide didn't hurry our hosts – a family from the Ayatal Tribe – because they usually live at a much slower pace than city dwellers, she explained. This was evident in our relaxing trek into the bamboo forest, where an elder slowly showed how animal traps were typically laid out to gather food and keep crop pests like rats

at bay. Returning from the woods, we were welcomed with a hearty home-cooked Ayatal spread. Every ingredient used – from the fried river trout to the pickled fruits – was either caught or grown in the village. Even the paper used to wrap some of the dishes was cut from tree bark. Taipei itself is also filled with good nature trails, I would soon discover. From the main city, we took a 40-minute cab ride up to the mountainous region of Beitou, just outside Taipei City, where we came startlingly close to hotspring geysers at Yangmingshan National Park. Entering a nondescript path, –Xiaoyoukeng Arrow Bamboo Trail–, we walked into what seemed like a garden labyrinth. But deep inside, the bamboo walls gave way to a dramatic view of Qixingshan – or Seven Stars Mountain – from which geysers exhaled clouds of smoke. Separated from me just by a small stretch of lalang and tall grass, the sulphur mist was close enough to smell, and seemed almost within arm's reach.

Also read: Year-end holiday ideas

Songshan Creative and Culture Park used to be a tobacco factory during the Japanese Occupation. Still, outside of its unspoilt nature trails, Taipei is a metropolis of shiny malls and impressive skyscrapers. But for a less touristy and more relaxed shopping environment, try heading to the grunge-chic Huashan 1914 Creative Park, a few minutes' walk from Zhongxiao MRT. This repurposed space once housed rice-wine and sake breweries in the early-20th century. Today, its English-style streets lined by adobe brick buildings make it a magnet for pop-up stores, vintage cafés and roving art galleries. Exploring the alleys, I spotted Offline, a café run by popular Taiwanese band Mayday. Use of electronics, such as mobile phones, is banned in here to give visitors a digital detox. If such artsy European flair is your cup of tea, you'll also enjoy Songshan Creative and Culture Park. This lot used to be a tobacco factory during the Japanese Occupation and, while similar to Huashan, Songshan has a grittier vibe. Venture through the exhibition halls of the factory and you'll arrive at the beautiful Baroque Garden where pop star Jolin Tsai once filmed a music video. Whether you're here for the art, food or photography, the park is a relaxing respite from the vigour of Taipei City.

Also read: Top year-long summer destinations to celebrate Christmas at

Boan 84, Taipei City It's easy to mistake this unit for a traditional medicine hall, since it has wooden sliding doors and a giant sign that roughly translates into –Clinic–. But Boan 84 is actually a multi-level space converted from a 1920s clinic. It's mostly a café, with toy

collectibles for sale, old wooden structures and a loft space for events. FONG FEIFEI's CHILDHOOD HOME, Daxi, Taoyuan The 200-year-old streets of Daxi may be popular with tourists for its mix of Baroque and Japanese architecture but did you know that singer Fong Feifei's childhood home still stands in the back alleys of Heping Old Street? Bade Eco Park, Taoyuan Bade Eco Park is a secret garden where families go to relax for the weekend. Tina Restaurant here serves hearty mains; a soup, salad and dessert buffet; and a mean beancurd. This is a good spot to catch next year's Lantern Festival, which will be held in Taoyuan from Feb 22 to Mar 6. By Pamela Chow for Weekender Singapore Weekender would like to thank the Taipei Tourism Board for hosting this trip. Volodymyr Zelensky said on Friday night that he was willing to cede territory to Russia to end the war for the first time. Singapore hanged a 35-year-old Singaporean-Iranian man for drug trafficking on Friday, its fourth in less than a month, despite appeals from Tehran to "reconsider" his execution. So far this year, there have been nine executions by the Singaporean government -- eight for drug trafficking and one for murder. President-elect Trump warned nations to forego efforts to adopt a new currency on Saturday by threatening to impose a 100 percent tariff on countries that try to undervalue the U.S. dollar. "We require a commitment from these Countries that they will neither create a new BRICS Currency, nor back any other Currency to replace the" Rita Ora has slayed the nearly naked trend again, after sharing snaps of her wearing an oversized black blazer and statement gold necklace with nothing underneath. Wangu goldfield deposit in Hunan province could yield over 1,000 tonnes of precious metal Malaysia is preparing for its worst floods in a decade after heavier-than-expected monsoon rains caused severe flooding that killed three people and displaced more than 90,000. The National Disaster Command Center online portal said Friday that 94,778 people, from more than 28,000 families, across nine states were evacuated to 527 temporary shelters. The northeastern state of Kelantan, bordering Thailand, was the worst affected, with 63,761 people evacuated from their homes, followed by neighboring Terengganu with 22, 511. Musk was once again spotted with the Trumps at Mar-a-Lago as they celebrated Thanksgiving The mom of three shared a post on Instagram that featured a family photo with her kids and husband celebrating Thanksgiving in a tropical destination Leticia Rodriguez, 17, was allegedly caught

digging a hole in the backyard with the intention of burying her baby Donald Trump and his newly-appointed border czar intend to send Special Forces soldiers to eliminate Mexican drug cartels but defence experts are warning they could be outmatched. A shocking road rage moment on the streets of Manila, Philippines, on November 24: a driver attacked a vehicle with a stick, sparking a chase and collisions between the two vehicles. "Who's going to pay for that?" asked Julie Banderas. King Charles and Queen Camilla lost a dear family member this month and they're still coming to terms with their grief The Red Devils have struggled for goals so far this season BEIJING (Reuters) -Casual wear giant Uniqlo is facing a storm of online criticism in China after a BBC report quoted the chief executive of its owner as saying the company does not source cotton from the far western region of Xinjiang. The British Broadcasting Corporation published an interview on Thursday with Tadashi Yanai, the chief executive of Fast Retailing, in which it asked him if the Japanese retailer sourced cotton from the region. "With this kind of attitude from Uniqlo, and their founder being so arrogant, they're probably betting that mainland consumers will forget about it in a few days and continue to buy," one user wrote. Ukraine's navy has revealed a fresh paint job on some of its boats, which appear to have adopted a World War I-era tactic of using dazzle camouflage. The beauty queen transitions from pageants to action movies with "Gayong" and "Money Games" The manufacturer has reportedly declined to explain the defect Liverpool have the opportunity to move 11 points ahead Manchester City on Sunday and take a commanding lead in the title race. The heiress and her entrepreneur husband posed in photos with their son Phoenix, daughter London and other loved ones

Hidden Gem In Taipei ?? | Gallery posted by Zenette | Lemon8

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0km ???- This beautifully restored century-old Japanese house offers a tranquil escape right in the heart of the city. Surrounded by lush greenery, it houses over 140 unique brands and boasts four stunning forest-themed areas. Each corner of this space seamlessly blends historical charm with modern creativity, making it a perfect retreat for nature lovers and design enthusiasts. From artisanal crafts to serene forest experiences, this place is a true urban oasis. I was lucky to catch the limited-time aromatherapy exhibition, which ended on June 30. This sensory experience, inspired by Taiwan's forests, was truly unique. The exhibition featured themed areas, including a bamboo purification ritual and a path filled with red cedar and cypress scents. Visiting this place was like stepping into a different world, where time slows down, and every detail invites you to explore and unwind. Whether you're looking for unique shopping finds or simply a peaceful spot to relax, 0km??? offers a refreshing break from the bustling city life. Don't miss the chance to discover this delightful blend of heritage and innovation in Taipei! PS: You can do it after My first stop in Taipei 0km???, Taipei No. 21?, Lane 203, Section 2, Jinshan S Rd, Da'an District, Taipei City, Taiwan 106 #Taipei #hiddengem #Taiwan #nature #art #BeReal #ThingsToDo #MyFreeTime #selfcare Transport yourself back to the 90s for free now! jel? 363 likes charmaine 124 likes charmaine 180 likes fallon 169 likes Glen 533 likes lily 746 likes WY ??? 40 likes ashley ?? 117 likes charmaine 216 likes CK 52 likes gi\$elle? 91 likes jas ?????? 14 likes jene ? 323 likes Nomninja 311 likes Joannehsm 114 likes Jean 272 likes jamy soh ??? 19 likes charmaine 109 likes samster 68 likes Rachel Lan ?°° 211 likes hidden gem restaurants in taipei hidden taiwan taipei hidden jem taipei Hidden gem taipei hidden gems of taipei Hidden place in taipei Taipei hidden gem food hidden spot taipei Hidden gems in taipei Taipei hidden gems

Discover NCCU: Best Bites and Hidden Gems - Home Sweet Home

Share House | Co-Living | Taipei

Home » Blog » Discover NCCU: Best Bites and Hidden Gems ? National Chengchi University (NCCU) is a prestigious institution with a long history and an excellent academic reputation. For international students, understanding the university's facilities, academic resources, and surrounding environment is key to integrating into life in Taipei. This article will provide a comprehensive introduction to NCCU, including the university's basic information, the course offerings at the Chinese Language Center (CLC), nearby dining options, must-visit attractions, and rental recommendations for student housing. We will delve into NCCU's regular courses, short-term programs, personalized courses, and online classes, explore the culinary treasures near the campus, highlight four essential spots to visit, and finally recommend an ideal co-living apartment for international students. By providing insights into rental options and student housing, this guide aims to make your stay in Taipei more enriching and convenient, ensuring you find the perfect housing solution during your time at NCCU. ? Table of Contents ? National Chengchi University (NCCU), established in 1955, is a prestigious comprehensive university in Taiwan renowned for its strengths in humanities, social sciences, law, and economics. It particularly excels in political science, international relations, law, and business. Located in the picturesque and conveniently accessible Wenshan District of Taipei, the campus boasts modern teaching buildings, libraries, laboratories, and recreational facilities. NCCU is committed to promoting international education and offers a diverse range of academic programs and research areas, including political science, law, international affairs, business management, and public administration. The university is especially well-regarded for its international relations and political science programs. NCCU has established partnerships with many renowned international universities and regularly hosts international academic conferences and exchange activities. It also provides language support and cultural adaptation guidance for international students, helping them integrate more quickly into campus life. ? ? ? The Chinese Language Center (CLC) at National Chengchi University (NCCU), established in

2001, is dedicated to providing high-quality Mandarin education and cultural experiences. Located within the NCCU campus in the Wenshan District of Taipei, the CLC boasts an excellent location and well-equipped teaching facilities. The center offers a range of Mandarin courses, including standard courses, short-term intensive programs, business Chinese, and cultural experience courses, catering to various learning needs. ? ? ? The CLC?s regular courses are designed to provide a systematic Mandarin learning experience suitable for students of all levels. These courses include beginner, intermediate, and advanced levels, covering all aspects of listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills. The curriculum emphasizes the practical and comprehensive use of the language, helping students steadily improve their Mandarin abilities and adapt to different learning needs. Regular courses are typically offered on a semester basis, allowing students to choose classes that align with their learning goals. ? ? ? The CLC offers a variety of short-term courses to meet the needs of students looking to improve their Mandarin skills in a short period. These courses include intensive programs, business Chinese, and cultural experience courses, usually lasting from a few weeks to several months. The flexible design of short-term courses accommodates students? schedules and focuses not only on language skill enhancement but also on introducing Taiwanese culture, providing a comprehensive learning experience in a brief time. ? ? ? The CLC offers personalized courses tailored to meet the specific needs of students. These courses are customized by professional instructors based on the student?s learning goals and progress. Whether it?s strengthening language fundamentals or enhancing skills in specific areas such as business Chinese or academic writing, individualized instruction is available. This flexible course option is ideal for students who need targeted learning support. ? ? The CLC?s online courses offer a convenient learning option for students worldwide. These courses include live online classes and self-study programs, allowing students to learn according to their own schedules. Online courses cover various levels of Mandarin learning needs and provide interactive teaching content and immediate feedback. This flexible learning method is suitable for students who wish to continue their studies from home or while traveling. ? ? ? Shi Ding Goose Meat is highly recommended by many NCCU students and is known for its long queues during meal times. The restaurant?s signature dish

is the goose meat rice, featuring freshly sliced goose meat paired with rice infused with goose oil, which has captured the taste buds of many students. ? ? ? Juicy Bun is a very popular American-style restaurant near NCCU, making it a top choice for student gatherings or unwinding after exams. Although the prices are on the higher side, the quality of the food is excellent, and they also offer free refills on drinks. ? ? ? Li Bai has been a popular breakfast spot near NCCU in recent years. Unlike traditional breakfast shops, Li Bai features decor resembling a café, which might make some people mistake it for a coffeehouse! The restaurant operates from 7 AM to 3 PM, providing breakfast through to afternoon tea in one visit. ? ? ? Dian Wei Kitchen is widely praised by those who have dined there, known for its generous portions. The most recommended dish, the pepper chicken, is so large that it can't fit on a plate, showcasing the restaurant's exceptional quality! Dian Wei Kitchen's rice noodles and shredded rice cakes are also highly recommended by NCCU students for their fresh and delicious ingredients, making it a popular spot at meal times. ? ? ?

Around National Chengchi University (NCCU), there are numerous exciting attractions waiting for you to explore. Whether you enjoy natural landscapes, wildlife, outdoor hiking, or cultural experiences, the must-visit spots near NCCU can cater to all your interests. ? ? The Maokong Gondola is a famous sightseeing cable car system in Taipei, connecting the city with the Maokong mountain area. Riding the gondola offers stunning views of Taipei city and the surrounding natural scenery of Maokong. Nearby the cable car stations, you'll find many tea houses and cafes, making it a great place for tea tasting and relaxation. ? ? ? Taipei Zoo is the largest zoo in Taiwan, home to various rare animals such as giant pandas, penguins, and Asian elephants. The zoo features different exhibit areas and themed halls, making it an ideal place for families and students to visit, learn about animal conservation, and gain ecological knowledge. ? ? ? Bausi Foot Mountain is a popular hiking route near Taipei. The summit offers spectacular views of the Taipei Basin and a refreshing natural environment. The trails are suitable for hiking enthusiasts, providing beautiful scenery of both the city and the surrounding mountains. ? ? ? Zhinan Temple is one of Taiwan's renowned Taoist temples, dedicated to the deity Bei Ji Xuan Tian Shang Di. The temple's architecture is magnificent, featuring intricate carvings and traditional Taoist design. Zhinan Temple

is not only a center of faith but also an important place to learn about Taiwan's religious culture and history. ? ? ? For international students studying at National Chengchi University (NCCU), finding suitable housing is a crucial part of adapting to a new environment. Whether you're seeking a comfortable rental or exploring different apartment options, securing the right student housing is essential for a successful experience in Taipei. Home Sweet Home Share House is highly recommended as a co-living apartment designed specifically for international students. This student housing option not only offers modern accommodation facilities but also focuses on creating a friendly community atmosphere, making life in Taipei more comfortable and enriching. ? Home Sweet Home Share House provides a variety of room options, including single rooms and shared rooms, equipped with high-quality furniture and modern amenities to offer a comfortable living environment. This apartment features a fully equipped kitchen for students to cook their own meals and provides comfortable common areas for socializing and relaxing with other residents. The emphasis on communal living makes it an ideal rental choice for those looking to connect with others while studying abroad. ? In addition, Home Sweet Home Share House is equipped with comprehensive security features to ensure students' safety. The management team is well-acquainted with the needs of international students, offering various services including language support, cultural adaptation guidance, and daily living assistance to help students quickly integrate into local life. ? Whether you are looking for a quiet study environment or hoping to make friends from different cultures, Home Sweet Home Share House is an ideal housing choice for NCCU international students. It not only provides high-quality living conditions but also aims to create a supportive and inclusive community. This student housing option ensures that every student can feel at home while abroad, making it a top choice for rentals near NCCU. ? ? ? We hope that after reading this article, international students will gain a better understanding of various aspects of National Chengchi University (NCCU), including the university overview, the courses offered at the Chinese Language Center (CLC), nearby dining options, must-visit attractions, and recommended student housing options like the co-living apartment, Home Sweet Home Share House. By exploring these rental choices and understanding the housing options available, you can

enhance your experience in learning, living, and exploring the food and sights of Taipei! Your email address will not be published. Required fields are marked *

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Save my name, email, and website in this browser for the next time I comment. ? Are you thinking of moving to Taipei? Taiwan's capital city is an exciting blend of modern urban life and deep-rooted tradition?where ancient temples stand Introduction Imagine stepping into Taipei's vibrant, neon-lit streets as the sun sets, where the city transforms into one of Asia's hottest nightlife destinations in 2024. Introduction Taipei, Taiwan's bustling capital, is a foodie's paradise famous for its unique blend of traditional Taiwanese flavors and influences from the Japanese, Chinese Min Navigating life as a foreigner or expat in Taiwan can be challenging, but the right apps can make all the difference! From breaking down language barriers to simplifying daily tasks, these essential Taiwan apps are game-changers for expats. Dive into our list of must-have apps designed to make your Taiwan experience smoother, more fun, and hassle-free! Copyright ©2021 Home Sweet Home Share House Co-Living | Taipei. All rights reserved Email ? Copyright ©2021 Home Sweet Home Share House Co-Living | Taipei. All rights reserved

Local experiences in Taipei for the solo traveller - The Occasional Traveller

By: Author Jaclynn Seah Posted on Published: March 7, 2019 - Last updated: July 5, 2024

Categories Taiwan, Sponsored Looking to see the 'real side' of Taipei and have a local experience beyond the touristy sights? There are plenty of interesting things to do in Taipei beyond your typical food and attractions - if you know where to look. If you love to travel solo in Taiwan like me, these are fun and interesting ways to get to immerse yourself in local Taiwanese culture while exploring this beautiful country. Here are my favourite local experiences in Taipei. Table of Contents This post is part of a collaboration with Scoot who flew me up to Taipei to dig deep and uncover unusual experiences beyond your typical tourist attractions. After you're done seeing typical tourist sights like Taipei 101 and Ximending (Check out this article on must-see sights in Taipei), what other experiences will give you an insight to the local way of life in Taipei? These were some favourite activities where I got to learn about daily Taiwanese culture from the local guides. The most Taiwanese way of getting around is to hop on a scooter and zip about the city. I was not about to brave the insanity that is Taipei's city traffic on my own scooter, so I signed up for a motorbike tour where a local guide would do all the driving and show me the secret sights of Taipei City along the way. Originally I signed up for the Dawn Tour which would have taken me towards Pingxi (near Shifen and Sandiaoling Waterfalls) and Jinguashi, but it was really rainy those mornings so my tour got cancelled, but after some discussion with them, I ended up doing the night tour with AJ around Taipei City instead. Now AJ is a serious biker and his ride is no dinky scooter - it's a large solid bike that is technically classified as a car in Taiwan because of its size and power, so getting up steep hills and covering long distances was no problem. He had a full-face helmet for me and even had gloves prepped for some of the colder parts of the journey. AJ knew I had already been to Taipei several times so he decided to take me to some really local spots instead of following the typical night tour itinerary too closely. I would have been hardpressed to find some of these places on my own. He also gave me some great tips to help me find some more local experiences on the

rest of my trip. We met in the evening and after some mulling, AJ took me to this place that serves some frankly AMAZING minced pork rice aka Luroufan. We headed to Sanchong on the outskirts of Taipei City, where AJ himself lives because "Taipei City is just too expensive". Jinda Luroufan "?????" is a nondescript looking eatery save for the long snaking queue in front of it, a sure sign that the food is awesome. The meat was fatty and soft and melted in your mouth as you ate it, it was so good. Jinda Luroufan: 40 Daren Street, Sanchong District, New Taipei City "?????????40" Next, we headed to Yangmingshan for an amazing night view of the city. I always thought of Yangmingshan as a day spot where you go hiking and soak in hot springs, but along the way AJ showed me a collection of FnB outlets taking over old military housing and turning it into an upcoming hipster area, making me feel like I had to come back and explore this place more thoroughly. He took me to the Chinese Culture University "??????", perched in the middle of the slopes and we found a bunch of cars and motorbikes casually stopped along the roadside, with people standing and sitting along the walls of the university looking down and admiring the view of downtown Taipei from above. I like how it wasn't crowded at all, with no tourist traps around. Chinese Culture University: No. 55 Huagang Road, Shilin District, Taipei City "?????????55" After that, AJ drove us deeper in to the mountains, and we climbed even higher to Erziping "???". These were some hella steep and narrow roads, and a lot of it was done in pitch darkness with nothing but our high beam on and it got pretty cold at some point so I was glad for the gloves that AJ had. Our final viewpoint was on the top of Mount Datun "???" over 1,000m high and we were lucky to get a pretty clear night view of the city below. On the way back, AJ was going to introduce me to a bubble tea that he loved but unfortunately, the stall was closed. Still, he took me around the historical Wanhua "??" area, pointing out some local sights to me and explaining a bit of history about familiar spots like Bopiliao and Qingshui Temple. He also pointed out a porridge joint that I wish I had time to check out, but guess I have to save something for future trips back? All in all, I had a really satisfying time and I loved seeing Taipei in a different way than usual. I'd usually be in the MRT or walking, so zipping around by bike was a nice change and gave me access to places I wouldn't have been able to reach easily on my own. The Sunset tour in Chinese costs about S\$102 ? the Dawn tour is a little pricier at

S\$110, and the full day 8 hour tour costs about S\$170. English tours are available as well but they cost slightly more. I used Klook to book my motorbike tour [Klook affiliate link] which is probably the easiest option for English speakers, and you can find them on KKday as well. The motorbike guides get in touch with you via Line or Whatsapp directly to coordinate the pickup. Huashan 1914 and Songshan Cultural Centre demonstrate how Taiwan has transformed abandoned spaces into hip cultural spots, and they've quickly gained popularity and are on many tourists must-see sights when getting their culture fix in Taipei. If you find those spaces a little too commercial for your liking, head down to Gongguan ?? where you will find an interesting art space right along the Xindian River. Known as the Treasure Hill Artist Village, don't get confused by the big temple that's right in front of the art space ? walk a little further in and you'll find a bunch of rather ramshackle looking houses built into the hillside that houses the studios that make up the Artist Village. Treasure Hill began as an illegal shantytown that became housing for military dependents, it was later restored and turned into an artist commune in 2010. Most of the compound seems to be artist studio spaces, it hasn't attracted mainstream and commercial brands so it still has that very indie feel. I loved just wandering around the narrow alleys and uneven staircases ? there is a lot of art scattered throughout the buildings and surprises around every corner. The easiest way is to take the MRT along the green Songshan-Xindian line to Gongguan Station ??. Treasure Hill is a short walk away by the river. Alternatively if you are up to cycling, start your journey from Bitan Scenic Area or Jingmei and cycle north the Xindian River till you pass Fuhe Riverside Park ? read more about cycling in Taipei here If you are a little more intrepid, there is a hostel located in the Treasure Hill Artist Village so you can stay overnight and soak in the vibes when only the few residents that live here are left. They also have a local artist residency programme ? Check out the Taipei Artist Village website for more. No. 2, Alley 14, Lane 230, Tingzhou Road Section 3, Zhongzheng District, Taipei City ??????????230?14?2? Tip: Grab dinner at the nearby Gongguan Night Market, the largest night market in the south district and a local favourite for its cheaper food and vast options, largely due to the student crowd from the nearby National Taiwan University. Read more about Gongguan Night Market and other local favourite night markets in Taipei. If you rather not shop in the malls, look out

for this little village located very close to the iconic Taipei 101 tower. Similar to Treasure Hill Artist Village, Four Four South Village was also once housing for military dependents, but has since been designated a historical area and its low buildings have been preserved, a rarity amidst the sea of modernity and tall buildings around it. What most people come to Four Four South Village for is the weekend flea market also called the Simple Market, where little stalls are set up in the main square selling anything from clothing to art and even yummy snacks. If you can't make it down on the weekend, Good Cho's is a great reason to swing by. This lifestyle store has some really cool local designed goods and foodstuff that make for great souvenirs if you don't mind spending a little bit more. There is also a cafe that was a bit too crowded for me to grab a bite when I was there, but most people go there for their famous bagels. Take the MRT to Taipei 101/World Trade Centre Station on the red Tamsui-Xinyi Line. Four Four South Village is a short walk away. Good Cho's has a few outlets around Taipei, though this one at Four Four South Village is the original branch that opened in 2010. Check out their website for more. Xinyi Road Section 5, Taipei City

?????????? There's nothing wrong with the popular Taipei night markets like Shilin Night Market and Raohe Night Market. While they tend to be very crowded of course, they do have a festive atmosphere and they see tons of tourists so they are used to non-Chinese speakers as well which is helpful if you aren't used to the way of life. But if you want to skip the crowds and see what the local Taiwanese people like to eat, check these places out instead. Looking for more local night market options? Check out my detailed Underrated Taipei Night Markets Guide that also include recommendations on everything you should eat at Yansan Night Market and Tonghua Night Market. Nanjichang or South Airport night market is a little under-the-radar night market where you will hardly see any tourists. There used to be a military airport around the area, and it got its name in relation to Songshan Airport which is in the north of Taipei City. It is mostly food stalls ? very few game stations and other retail outlets here. My motorbike guide AJ said that the food here was still very authentic compared to the tourist night markets as most of the vendors here have been around for many years and aren't in the business for a quick buck or gimmicks, but he still gave me a bunch of suggestions on must-eat food here: First up: Lai Lai Dumplings ?????, a dumpling shop

that has been around for over 30 years. There is a minimum order of 10 dumplings, so I had a whole plate to myself for dinner ? it was just 70 NTD (S\$3) for some delectable handmade pork dumplings! Next up: Haochi Zhaji ???? with a really crispy and large fried chicken cutlet. Eat it while it's hot ? I packed half of it back to my room as I was a little full after the dumplings, and it definitely tasted better when warm. There is a nameless pushcart closer to the Nanhai Road side of the market with an old uncle selling fried biscuits or ??????. These fried wonders ranged from just 10-15 NTD (S\$0.40-\$0.60) each. I had a salty and a sweet one and they were lovely crispy treats. I capped off my meal with an apple juice from Meilan Auntie Fruit Juice ?????? has been around for ages and is well-loved as no additional sugar is added to the fruit juice. Nanjichang is located along Zhonghua Road in the ZhongZheng district. The closest MRT stations are Longshan Temple along the blue Bannan line or Xiaonanmen along the green Xindian-Songshan line, and requires about 15-20mins of walking to reach. Alternatively, take a bus to the Nanjichang Apartment stop. Lane 307, Zhonghua Road Section 2, Zhongzheng District, Taipei City ??????????307? Be prepared for some hustle and bustle because Jingmei Night Market is not a tourist night market at all. It's surprisingly big and you can easily get lost in the many lanes that sell all manner of food and sundry. It might be a bit challenging for non-Chinese speakers because there's little in terms of tourist infrastructure and it gets pretty busy, but it's a great way to see a slice of local life, so my suggestion is to immerse yourself while you are there and not block the way with your gawking and picture snapping For foodies, I was a bit overwhelmed by the crowds and ended up wandering by accident into this hipster curry joint called FleeingByNight Curry ???? and had this delectable ?????? chicken curry dish for dinner. Not the cheapest, but the tiny restaurant had great decor and a nice vibe. Looking for what exactly to eat in Jingmei Night Market? I did some research and found these great options to check out ? more in this post. Take the MRT green Songshan-Xindian line to Jingmei Station. It's a short walk from there Jingmei Night Market: Jingmei Road, Wenshan District, Taipei City ?????????? FleeingByNight Curry: 19 Jingwen Road, Wenshan District, Taipei City ??????????19? What's a more local way to eat in a foreign country than to learn the local recipes and cook your own food. Or have someone local cook for you if you're lazy like I am. I enlisted the

help of Jodie's Kitchen, where a Taiwanese lady named Jodie holds cooking demonstrations and lessons in her house in the Xinyi District. Jodie offers several different types of food classes ? Xiaolongbaos are quite popular, but I elected to take the Traditional Taiwanese Cuisine course and learn about the Taiwanese staple, rice. We made several 3 main dishes based on long-grain rice that is planted in Taiwan: We started off with peanut milk that is a very popular breakfast dish, then we fried some delicious white radish cake and finished off with mushroom sticky rice. Along the way, Jodie served some Taiwanese tea and threw in some vegetables and fruits to complete the meal. I say 'we prepared', but really Jodie was the one doing most of the cooking and I mostly helped with the prep and eating. It's a very personalised class so depending on your level or interest in cooking, this can be quite a hands-on session or you can treat it like a demo. Check out the Jodie's Kitchen website for more details or drop her an email. The Rice course costs \$4,000 NTD for 1 person (4pax max per class, and it's cheaper per pax too) and covers all the ingredients that Jodie uses. If you want something special or specific you can ask her too, she's pretty flexible. The entire session lasted about 4 hours. Jodie's Kitchen is located in her house in the Xinyi district which is a little out of the way from downtown Taipei so you will need to take a 10-15min cab ride to get there from Xinyi or Wenshan MRT. After the lesson, I took a cab to Taipei Zoo station and hopped on the Maokong Cable Car just in time to catch sunset, or you could head to Elephant Mountain for a climb too. For travellers looking to stay connected or plan while on the go, get some Scoot Wi-Fi while you are on board. Many of my plans in Taipei were coordinated with the local guides over Whatsapp and Line so it was useful to stay connected while making that 4-hour+ flight. Shoutout to Flexiroam as well which is now offering a free microchip with 1GB data for every Scoot passenger. Basically it's a sticker that you attach to your SIM card that lets you access data in many different countries without having to remove your original SIM card. It's useful if you are going to hop to many different countries quickly and don't want to waste your time hunting down a local SIM card. What awesome local experiences have you had in Taipei? Share them with me here. This trip was sponsored and produced in collaboration with as part of a series exploring Taipei and its surroundings. Check out the other #TaiwanderingWithScoot articles here, or see all my Taiwan content. Tags Taipei outdoor

activities to experience nature up close How to visit Dragonstone in real life: from Bilbao to San Juan de Gaztelugatxe Jaclynn Seah is The Occasional Traveller, a Singaporean girl who knows what it's like to juggle work and wanderlust. She hopes to inspire busy people to remember to take that time off and travel more! More here. Jaclynn Seah is The Occasional Traveller, a Singaporean girl who knows what it's like to juggle work and wanderlust. She hopes to inspire busy people to remember to take that time off and travel more! More here. Copyright © 2023 The Occasional Traveller | Privacy Policy | @theoccasionaltraveller on Instagram

Withlocals: Taipei Highlights & Hidden Gems with Cola - Desired Tastes

One of the best things to do in a new city is to enjoy it like a local. Withlocals made doing just that easy and convenient with connecting you with local guides for various tours and experiences. So when I was in Taipei, I booked the Best of Taipei: Highlights and Hidden GemsÂ tour one afternoon. My local guide was Cola. Cola was super sweet and full of interesting information about the city. Our first stop was Lungshan Temple, one of the oldest temples in Taiwan. We walked through alleyways and various neighborhoods. I had a chance to try a pepper bun from a local vendor and I even enjoyed an iced beverage made with rice and soy milks. Our next stop was Chiang Kai-shek Memorial Hall where I watched the Changing of the Guards. Cola took me to one of her favorite spots for bubble tea. I enjoyed an iced oolong milk tea. It was such a nice afternoon with Cola. This was a great way to see a few of Taipei?s most popular sights and Cola made it even more special with her knowledge and sweet personality. The tour is also very flexible, so you can always let the guides know what you would like to see and what you have no interest in seeing. Our tour came to an end, but it was almost dinner time and the original location of one of the most famous Taiwanese restaurants was nearby, so I was happy to invite my lovely guide to join me for a meal. Pics of our dinner will be posted next! Withlocals

Taipei, Taiwan

Website wonderful pictures, what is the cola. New Jersey

Top 15 Things To Do In Taipei

Like a gentle and friendly lovechild of Hong Kong and Japan, Taipei combines some of the best elements of those destinations—a juxtaposition of skyscrapers and majestic greenery, amazing sushi, natural hot springs, efficient subway lines, bustling districts, and side streets packed with hidden gems, and plenty of neon lights and street food to start, plus its own distinct identity, cuisine, and culture. It's also the most LGBTQ-friendly destination in Asia (and home to a major annual Pride celebration), so there's an openness and creativity that makes this an even more unique metropolis that is family-friendly to boot. Here we've rounded up 15 musts for your visit, be it first time or (eventually!) repeat! Anchoring the buzzing Xinyi district, the 101-floor Taipei 101 skyscraper currently ranks as the 10th-tallest building globally (at 1,667 feet high, it was number one when it opened in 2004). Instantly iconic, with its stacked-containers-like shape, the 101 draws plenty of visitors for its lower levels' luxury shopping and excellent dining (there's a Din Tai Fung), but its observation deck is its must-see attraction. Occupying the 88-91st floors, which includes an outdoor observatory on the 91st, its views of the cityscape and surrounding nature are unbeatable but don't miss the interior's impressive "Super Big Wind Damper," a gold-hued, suspended 660-metric ton steel sphere that keeps the building safe and secure when swaying due to high winds and earthquakes! Street food rules at Taipei's many night markets, where locals flock to get their evening and late-night dining and shopping on (from electronics and clothing to craft beer!). It's good to check out several for a compare-and-contrast and widest selection of things to gorge on (you'll notice some items, like the self-explanatory stinky tofu and oyster omelets, seem to appear at every market). In its impressive guide to Taipei, launched in 2019, Eater sagely recommended Raohe, located behind Ciyou Temple, as one of the current best - it features a few Michelin guide recommended spots to boot—and Tonghua is also a worthy stop with Michelin-cited stalls for sesame and peanut dumplings, fried and tempura treats, and more. Meanwhile, two of the most famous, tourist-friendly night markets, Shilin and Huaxi, are certainly good for some photos. Repurposed industrial buildings and complexes serve as the hubs for Taipei's "creative parks," comprised of art

galleries, shops, cafes, and temporary art and pop culture-themed attractions for all ages, plus plenty of space to stroll, sit, and mingle. Japanese art superstar Yayoi Kusama had a pop-up cafe and gift shop at one of the best-known, Huashan 1914, while Songshan Cultural and Creative Park even boasts a boutique hotel from bookstore chain Eslite and arthouse cinema. 2018 saw a new addition to the scene, Taiwan Contemporary Culture Lab (C-LAB), in the former Air Force Command Headquarters. Housed in a former elementary school, the Datong district's Museum of Contemporary Art (MOCA) Taipei is a fantastic two-level venue showcasing mostly Taiwanese work, including tech-forward multimedia. Don't miss the outdoor installations while at it. There's more modern work and exhibitions to be seen at the Taipei Fine Art Museum, while there are plenty of smaller yet notable galleries peppered around the city, including Aki Gallery, Liang Gallery, Galerie Grand Siecle, and Wild Flower Bookstore, the latter bursting with local artists' self-published (and sometimes provocative) books, magazines, and craft items. Oliver Propst / Creative Commons As Eataly is to Italian food, Taipei's Addiction Aquatic Development is to seafood. From live seafood to a series of restaurants, and especially sushi and sashimi?offered in varying pre-packaged to-go selections to a standing-room omakase?this is a heaven for fish and shellfish fans (the bulging containers of fresh uni at affordable prices alone will have some drooling). Initially slated to close for a massive, three-year renovation in 2020, plans have changed, and this sprawling, four-story museum will stay open during the process. A good thing, since this massive 700,000-plus item collection of Chinese artifacts and art is impressive and includes a couple of iconic yet deliciously oddball (to Westerners, at least) attractions: specifically, the "Meat Shaped Stone," which perfectly resembles a succulent hunk of stewed pork belly, and jadeite cabbage. You can buy souvenir reproductions, from fridge magnets to coasters, which you can peruse via the online shop as well. With the Taipei 101, chic W Hotel, and Grand Hyatt as anchors, the Xinyi district has become one of the most buzzing, trendy, and shiny retail and entertainment hubs (and transportation: its bus station serves cities across Taiwan and the airport). Its 24-hour, department store-style Eslite bookstore carries endless Taiwanese brands of lifestyle goods, while 2019 saw the opening of the sleek Breeze Nanshan, filled with hotly desired local and international brands (e.g., Blue Bottle Coffee)

with a particular focus on Japanese food and goods, from a branch of Tokyo's Sarutahiko Coffee to a Wagyu steakhouse on the 47th floor. One of Taiwan's most famous, accessible culinary exports—and still spreading around the globe to places like Krakow, Poland—bubble (or boba) tea originated in the 1980s when chewy tapioca starch pearls were added to milk tea ("Q" and "QQ" signify perfection of bouncy, toothsome texture). Now, Taiwan's offerings run the gamut from beverage to types of boba (small? large? clear? brown sugar boiled?) to extras galore, and chains and boutiques are ubiquitous. The Zhongzheng district's Chen San Ding perfected "brown sugar boba," a warm scoop of brown sugar-stewed boba served just with milk and shaken, although as of 2020, it's seeking a new location. Chain 50 Lan conveniently has locations throughout Taipei, is consistently good (they deserve a "Q"), and offers both small and large bubbles. And for a unique full-on dessert take on bubble tea, Ice Monster serves a delectable milk tea Taiwanese shaved ice with a side of absolutely perfect warm boba. One of Taipei's most iconic and historical attractions, this former site of a military base now entails a 62-acre park, National Concert Hall, National Theater, photogenic gates, and the namesake Hall, commemorating the late President of the Republic of China. Courtesy of Logy Taiwanese flavors and terroir have been elevated and highlighted thanks to creative and avant-garde chefs in recent years, with big thanks due to trailblazing fine dining restaurants RAW and MUME, which opened in 2014 and still churn out incredible and artful seasonal tasting menus and hold both Michelin star and Asia's Top 50 Restaurant status. Newer venues include Chef Kai Ho's Tarroir, logy (deeply Taiwan-centric sister venue to Tokyo's Florilege), and fusion spot Gen Creative. The Taiwanese love Starbucks, and some locations boast incredibly distinctive merchandise (especially changing seasonal and holiday-themed mugs), items, and absolutely stunning and historic surroundings. Essentially its own gated compound, the Shilin district's Tianyu Starbucks is a two-level brick stone and glass affair with a beautiful, minimalist aesthetic (think MUJI) and outdoor seating, while the Wanhua district's Bangka Xiyuan is a multi-level 1932 home that preserves most of its gorgeous architecture (and there's a dedicated mug for this location!). Taipei's northernmost district is a lush, mountainous haven of natural sulfur hot springs (and a Hot Spring Museum!). Accessible via MRT and taxi, you

can make a few hours or overnight trip and relax splurge at one of the many facilities. For the latter, Grand View Resort (they offer a free shuttle from the MRT) features stunning views, rooms, and an assortment of gender-segregated private and public white sulfur baths and pools, while the budget-friendly green sulfur Beitou Public Hot Spring is open to all (and requires a bathing suit since it's co-ed). Taipei is full of hidden gems?shops, cafes, galleries, and street food stalls?tucked down its endless lanes and sidestreets. In particular, the Da'an District, home to the Gongguan and Linjiang night markets, is worth getting lost in for a treasure hunt of sorts. A few worth marking the map with: cheeky contemporary hotpot restaurant Mr. Meat, world-class, futuristic molecular cocktail speakeasy ROOM by Le Kief, a taproom for Taiwan's creative craft beer brewery Taihu, and if you want to make Da'an your home base, the Kimpton Da'an and Hotel Proverbs. According to foot reflexology practitioners, the way to someone's heart?and every other organ?is through their feet, and getting a foot massage for health is routine maintenance for many Taiwanese. Venues range from inexpensive and bare-bones to atmospheric and luxurious, and some are open 24 hours. A more medicinal-style massage can be a little punishing for newcomers, loosening up a tightness you never realized existed, but some massage spots will go much more gentle on non-Chinese clients. Taiwan is widely regarded as Asia's most gay-friendly destination thanks to its massive annual Pride celebration in late October, legalization of same-sex marriage in 2019, and an open-air nightlife complex known as the Red House/Red Mansion. If you can't make it for Pride, definitely swing by the two-level Red House in Ximending, which is host to dozens of LGBTQ bars and cafés for almost every crowd, clothing and accessory shops, and more. If the weather's good, grab a seat outdoors and savor the vibe!

Highlights & Hidden Gems With Locals: Best of Taipei Private Tour in Taipei, Taiwan - Trip Canvas

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Withlocals Highlights & Hidden Gems Private City Tour? is one of Withlocals' signature tours available in major cities worldwide. We work with passionate local guides who earn a fair fee. We support local economies by only offering local produce and prevent over-tourism with only small non-intrusive groups. 1 Option Available Short Description: Want to enjoy the must-see sights of Taipei? On this private tour, you'll enjoy it all with your favorite local host guiding the way. As one of the largest travel agencies in North America, we have a wealth of recommendations to share! Browse our articles and videos for inspiration, or dive right in with preplanned AAA Road Trips, cruises and vacation tours. Save and organize every aspect of your trip including cruises, hotels, activities, transportation and more. Book hotels confidently using our AAA Diamond Designations and verified reviews. From cruises to day tours, buy all parts of your vacation in one transaction, or work with our nationwide network of AAA Travel Agents to secure the trip of your dreams!

5 Hidden Treasures of the Taipei National Palace Museum ? Google Arts & Culture

By Google Arts & Culture National Palace Museum, Taipei More than 8000 years of Chinese history, from the Neolithic to the modern era, are to be found at the National Palace Museum, Taipei. The museum's collection of nearly 700,000 pieces of ancient Chinese artefacts and artworks makes it one of the largest of its type in the world. With so much to see, there are some things you're bound to miss. So we've searched the museum to find some of its best hidden treasures.

1. Tsu-i Tsun
This wide-rimmed bronze pot is known as a tsun, a type of ritual wine vessel that was popular in the early Western Zhou period (1046-771 BCE). This precious tsun is inscribed with a dedication to a man named Fu-i, the grandfather of the unknown patron. Tsu-i Tsun (BC 1046-BC 771) by AnonymousNational Palace Museum Both sides of the body are decorated with floral and animal features. The eyes, horns, ears, and fangs of these large 'animal-mask' patterns protrude from the surface of the vessel. The complicated design demonstrates the high skills of the ancient artists.

2. Zong-zhou Zhong
This ceremonial bronze bell made between 1046-771 BCE commemorates the victory of King Li of the Western Zhou over the Nanyi and Dongyi peoples. Like the tsun, this large bronze bell would have been a very precious object and given great honour to the king and his ancestors. Zong-zhou Zhong (BC 1046-BC 771) by AnonymousNational Palace Museum The bell's decoration resembles that of the tsun. The lower part of the bell, known as the ku, is decorated with an 'animal-mask' design. The central section, or wu, has a curvilinear pattern and both sides are decorated with k'uei dragon motifs.

3. Ceramic Polo Players
Lavish funerals and expensive grave goods became popular in the Tang dynasty (618-907 CE). People were often buried with painted ceramic figurines of musicians, dancers, and sports players. These two small figurines show women on horseback playing polo. Pottery figure of ladies playing polo game in sancai tri-color glaze, Tang dynasty (AD618-907) (AD 618-AD 907) by AnonymousNational Palace Museum Robustness was a mark of feminine beauty in the Tang dynasty, and ladies were often shown on horseback wearing the traditional nomadic coats with narrow sleeves and low collars - ready to leap into action.

4. Bi

and Cong Of all the objects in the National Palace Museum, these are perhaps the most intriguing. The circular stone bi and tall, hollow cong were carved by the neolithic Liangzhu culture (3400-2250 BCE) using nothing more than abrasive sand. Cong tube (Neolithic age, late Liangzhu culture, 2500 BCE - Neolithic age, late Liangzhu culture, 2200 BCE) by UnknownNational Palace Museum They vary in size and length, but they resemble one another. They are thought to be ritual objects and were often placed in graves, but other than that their purpose is a mystery. Their form and craftsmanship has been appreciated by scholars throughout Chinese history. 5. Jadeite Cabbage You probably know of this piece already, but make sure to take another look. This intricately-carved Qing Dynasty (1644-1912 CE) Jadeite Cabbage is one of the prize pieces of the National Palace Museum collection. Jadeite Cabbage (Qing dynasty (1644-1911)) by UnknownNational Palace Museum The master craftsman who carved this almost-lifelike pak choi cabbage used the jade's natural colouration to form the white stem and verdant leaves. The cabbage is thought to have been a wedding gift, as it's topped by a locust and katydid, traditional symbols of fertility. Meat-shaped Stone (AD 1644-AD1911) by AnonymousNational Palace Museum The Jadeite Cabbage is accompanied by the Meat-shaped Stone, a piece of jasper carved, very convincingly, into the shape of a slice of Dongpo pork - a delicacy known and enjoyed across China for the past 1000 years. Jadeite Cabbage (Qing dynasty (1644-1911)) by UnknownNational Palace Museum Now get up even closer to the Jadeite cabbage...

22 Best Things To Do In Taipei

If it's your first time in Taiwan, chances are Taipei is already on your itinerary. The capital is possibly best known for its iconic Taipei 101 building and bustling night markets that fill the streets. But of course, it's not just another metropolis of skyscrapers. We've done the legwork and sieved out 22 best things to do in Taipei. Yes, we've included must-visit attractions like Jiufen and sky lanterns at Pingxi, but we've also included lesser-known ones like a container market and former prison dormitory. Read on to find out more: [Table of Contents](#)

It's only natural that when you're in Taiwan, you'd want to drink copious cups of bubble tea. After all, boba did originate here, so totes get the puzzled looks as to why we've added Starbucks to a list of things to do. But hear us out: Taipei has a couple of unique Starbucks outlets that are worth checking out. Plus, it doesn't hurt that these also come with killer views. The first one is within Taipei 101, and no, it's not the easily accessible one on the ground floor. It's up on the 35th floor of the office building. You can't just walk in, however. Call at least a day in advance and they'll reserve a spot for you. Only then will you be given access to the office lift that'll take you up. Run to get a seat by the window; you'll be greeted with a stunning panorama of Taipei. Do note that since this is located in the business side of Taipei 101, you'll need to dress the part for entry. You won't need a full suit and tie, but flip flops and tank tops are no go. At the very least, smart casual will be a safe choice. Image credit: [stefanie Lin \(???\) via Google Maps](#)

The other Starbucks to check out will probably have less of a crowd and is easier to access. Located at Fulong Beach, this outlet has large windows that face the beach and open sea. If you plan your trip for summer, you'll even be able to catch sand sculptors building impressive structures right in front of you. Original prison wall from the Qing Dynasty.

Image credit: [@rongjin167 via Instagram](#)

Much like the Yellow Ribbon Project believes in second chances for former prisoners, the Rongjin Gorgeous Time is breathing new life into former prison quarters. The building has been around since the Qing Dynasty in 1896, first to house inmates then public officials in the 1950s. Some walls have been knocked down and replaced with glass, but the original structure of the prison remains.

Image credit: @rongjin167 via Instagram Today, it's been converted into a small retail building where you can shop for trinkets or stop by a cafe for a drink and a bite. Much of the original structures have been preserved, such as the original prison wall and Japanese-influenced architecture. You can find out more about the history of the place at the museum on the first floor. Jay Chou, S.H.E, and Mayday. These names will no doubt be familiar to those of us who frequent karaoke joints. Now, you can find out more about the origins of popular Taiwanese singers and bands at the Taipei Music Center. Image credit: Taipei Music Center In an exhibit that spans 3 floors, you'll trace the history of Taiwanese music from as early as the 1930s. See if you can spot household names like Eric Chou and Show Lo, and even legends from your parents' generation like Teresa Teng and Jacky Cheung. Their stories and music are displayed in interactive displays that are also IG-worthy photo opps. AR concert hall.

Image credit: Taipei Music Center Even if you're not a huge fan of Mandopop, the AR concert experience might just change all that. It'll feel like you're in the VIP section of musical productions by big names like Hebe Tien and JJ Lin once you step into the concert hall and see their images projected onto 360-degree screens. Image credit: Metasurf Just about any city in the world offers tours on bikes and segways. But Taipei has something a little different ? electric skateboards. Before you knock it off as a 'young person thing', you might be surprised that learning how to ride an electric skateboard is much easier than learning to ride a bicycle. Image credit: @jenny.0123 via Instagram You'll get the basics ? kick off, balance, and ride ? down in a matter of minutes. Then the rest of the 2 hours will have you coursing through the city to check out touristy sights. All equipment, such as the board, helmet, and protective pads will be provided. Book the 2-hour electric skateboard tour. You can't really call yourself a Singaporean if you're not a fan of night markets. To ensure your red passport doesn't get revoked even in Taipei, make your way to the Dadaocheng Wharf Container Market. Image credit: Let's Play TW Shipping containers have been converted into shops that sell clothing and knick knacks. There's also no shortage of cafes here, many of which sell an assortment of rainbow-coloured beverages and snacks. Image adapted from: Dadaocheng Wharf Container Market Facebook Our recommendation: take a walk around and grab small bites like

grilled seafood and veggies from Yakitori House 29 and slices of pizza hot from the oven at Pizza Lab. Once you've loaded up on food, get a seat by the pier to enjoy the gentle breeze and calming views of the Tamsui River. Address: No. 5, Minsheng West Road, Shuimen, Datong District, Taipei, Taiwan 103

Opening hours: Mon-Fri 4pm-10pm | Sat-Sun 12pm-10pm

Contact: +886 2 6605 7338 Image credit: @sozoobee via Instagram Look up in the sky ? it's not a bird, and it's definitely not Superman. But that is a plane swooping over your head at Binjiang Street just outside Taipei Songshan Airport. Ready your camera because this will be a Kodak moment you're not going to get anywhere else in Taiwan. Image credit: @yuming0411 via Instagram The publicly accessible road passes by Taiwan's secondary airport that mainly serves domestic flights. You'll easily spot low-flying planes as they prepare to touch down on the nearby runway. Try looking out for planes from airlines like Eva Air and All Nippon Airways ? they often have limited edition livery featuring Pokemon and Sanrio characters. Getting there: Make your way to Songjiang Nanjing Station then take the Songjiang Xinsheng Main Line to Taipei Fish Market bus stop. Binjiang Street is a 5-minute walk northwards. Address: Lane 180, Binjiang Street, Zhongshan District, Taipei City, Taiwan 10491 Yes, wholesale garment market Wufenpu still exists in Taipei. But for a more sustainable option to retail therapy, thrifting at Zhongshan District might be your best bet. Right at Exit 4 of Zhongshan Metro Station are a number of second-hand clothing stores. ??Image credit: A Prank Dolly You won't find a mish mash of outdated fast fashion here, however. Many of these stores source for the good stuff like vintage streetwear from brands such as Nike, Ralph Lauren, and Levi's. Image credit: Banana Cats Stores that come highly recommended by local thrifters include A Prank Dolly and Banana Cats. You'll be able to get your hands on authentic, vintage sukajan (Japanese bomber jackets), as well as upcycled bags and accessories from the likes of Dior, Burberry, and Sisley. Getting there: Walk north from Exit 4 of Zhongshan Metro Station. You'll find vintage clothing stores on Lanes 33-47. If this isn't your first rodeo in Taipei, you'll already know that climbing up Mount Elephant or Taipei 101 will afford you gorgeous views of the city. We'll let you in on a secret: Wonder.land is a restaurant on Mount Yangmingshan you can visit

for banging vistas too. Image credit: Alex?????via Google Maps You'll need to spend a minimum of TWD500/pax (~S\$21.75) to enjoy the scenery. Thankfully, that's easily done if you dine here. You can fill up on Thai-Western dishes like pad thai (TWD320, ~S\$13.92) or steak linguine (TWD480, ~S\$20.88) at the indoor restaurant, then move out to the outdoor area to enjoy the day beds and loungers. You can get a whole hotpot meal (TWD1,080, ~S\$46.95) here as well. Image credit: Ling via Google Maps Pro tip: There's a dining limit of 2 hours per party. Plan to come just as the resto opens at 5pm on weekdays, which will almost guarantee you a front-row seat at the daybeds. You'll get to see Taipei City change from day to night within your dining time. Address: No. 11 Lane 11, Section 2, Yangde Boulevard, Shilin District, Taipei City, Taiwan 111

Opening hours: Mon-Fri 5pm-12am | Sat-Sun 3pm-2am

Contact: +886 2 2831 9111 Purr-adise is a lot closer than you think. In fact, it's just an hour away from Taipei Main Station at Houtong Cat Village, home to hundreds of stray kitties. Houtong used to be a coal mining village before this place was overrun by cats. Then a resident started posting about the cats on the internet in 2008, which attracted fellow cat lovers to the area. Image credit: @houtongcatvillage via Instagram You'll get your selfie moment with these felines at just about every corner. They're friendly and easy to win over ? just feed them treats you can easily get at any store in the village. Just be considerate in clearing up messes to keep the place clean. Image credit: @life_is_all_about_me via Instagram If you can't get enough of cats, you can also spot the pointed ears, tiny paw prints, and curly tails in shops and signboards. There are cat-themed cafes and souvenir shops selling kitty-imprinted trinkets all around. Getting there: You can take the Fuxing Shuttle train towards Su Ao from Taipei Main Station. You'll drop directly at Houtong Station. Address: Houtong Cat Village, Ruifang District, New Taipei City, Taiwan 224 Din Tai Fung needs no introduction. The restaurant famed for its juicy soup dumplings and fragrant fried rice has nearly 200 outlets all across Singapore and the rest of the world. And now, here's your chance to visit Restaurant 0. Image credit: @photographer_in_finance via Instagram The original Din Tai Fung is located at Xinyi Street and is still open for business. The insides have been modernised since its founding in 1972, but there are traces of its heritage all around. See if you can spot the signboard

that still bears the restaurant's original name in Chinese calligraphy: 'Din Tai Fung Oil Shop'.
Spicy beef tripe.

Image credit: Din Tai Fung Once you're seated, take a good look at the menu, as there are items here that are exclusive to Taiwan. Locals recommend the umami-rich truffle and mushroom soup (TWD230, ~S\$10) and spicy beef tripe (TWD200, ~S\$8.70) as must-orders on top of an order of soup dumplings. Address: No. 194, Section 2, Xinyi Road, Da'an District, Taipei City, Taiwan 106
Opening hours: Mon-Fri 11am-8.30pm | Sat-Sun 10am-8.30pm

Contact: +886 2 2321 8928 Many would have heard of Jiufen, but poke your head around nooks and crannies and you'll be surprised at the food you'll find beyond the usual tea houses that overlook the mountains and sea. This place has a surprising number of dessert specialties that go well with the slightly bitter Taiwanese tea. A must-try for first-timers are the handmade taro balls from Lai Ah Por Taro Balls which are served in an icy cold dessert soup. Image credit: ??? via Google Maps There's also Dorayaki Ice Cream Shop that sells Doraemon's favourite food. No prizes for guessing what it is, but you can get it filled with all kinds of ice cream flavours here. Image credit: Edward Chen via Google Maps Jiufen is known to be quite humid and warm throughout the year. To keep cool, you can wash all you've scarfed down with iced coffee. Although Jiufen is known for its tea houses, many are also serving coffee to meet demands. CHLIV is one such shop that sells gourmet brews. Getting there: You can take the Tze-Chiang Limited Express all the way to Ruifang Station. From here, there are several buses that will take you directly to Jiufen Old Street: 788, 827, 965, and F802. Take note that 965 and F802 do a more scenic route around Ruifang district before stopping at Jiufen Old Street. Image credit: New Taipei Gold Museum These gold mines that were once prosperous during Japanese colonialism in the 1900s have now been turned into museums for the public. The New Taipei Gold Museum would be an ideal place for learning if you want to know more about the industry, or even just to touch real gold. All that glitters isn't gold but the Golden Waterfall actually glistens and sparkles in the sunlight. There's a scientific explanation to its attractive physical appearance. Though the gold and copper mines are no longer operational, the rain that seeped into these mines amalgamates with the metal deposits. The

chemical reactions result in this stunning coppery Golden Waterfall. Getting there: Take bus 788 from Keelung or Bus 886 from Ruifang. Both buses stop exactly in front of the falls. Right beside the Golden Waterfall is the Yin Yang Sea. The physical phenomenon of this sea can be translated literally from its name ? the intense contrast between the golden yellow water at the bay and the sparkling blue water from the endless sea. Although many believe that the contrast is a result from the mining of gold from the factories aforementioned, it is actually a natural runoff from a geological feature nearby that contains large amounts of iron pyrite. Getting there: From Ruifang Train Station, take bus 886 for 9 stops until you reach Shuinandong. The Yin Yang Sea will be right in front of you. Address: Lianxi, Ruifang District, New Taipei City, Taiwan 224

A pregnant lady, a bird cage and King Kong. Yes, those are the different optical illusions you can get from viewing a single mountain, Keelung. 588m above sea level, Mount Keelung is an extinct volcano with a panoramic top view. The view from the foot of the mountain is picturesque but if you want a breathtaking view, take a 45-minute hike to the top. Getting there: Qiche Road, Ruifang District, New Taipei City, Taiwan 224

If you're a sucker for sunsets, Mao Kong Shan or Mao Kong Mountain has great views. Thankfully, there's no need to hike up the mountain to see them ? there's a gondola for that. The cable car starts at Taipei Zoo station and then winds up to the peak of Mao Kong Shan. Image credit: @sheila870212 via Instagram To escape the immense heat and for golden hour views, go up in the evening before sunset. You can also opt for the Crystal Cabin, which is a glass-floored gondola so you can see what's going on below your feet. Image credit: @merryjourneyy via Instagram At the top of Mao Kong Shan, you will find many hidden tea houses along the winding lanes. Tea-sipping is a must when you are Mao Kong Shan, Taipei's tea plantation. Book tickets for the Mao Kong Shan gondola. Price: TWD260 (~S\$11.30) for a 1-day gondola ticket Address: No. 8 Section 2, Xinguang Road, Wenshan District, Taipei City, Taiwan 116

Opening hours: Tue-Fri 9am-9pm | Sat-Sun 9am-10pm (Closed on Mondays & CNY Eve)

Contact: +886 2 2181 2345 Lungshan Temple is not a multi-storey majestic attraction. However, it is one of the many places you must visit when you're in Taipei City. Lungshan Temple carries the perfect fusion of tradition and modernity. You'll get a glimpse of the daily religious life of some

Taiwanese locals. It is heartening to see how this temple built in the 5th year of Qing Dynasty is still part of the fast-moving 21st century; retaining much of its folk art and culture. Image credit: @victor.twk via Instagram

If you are a fan of old-school romance films such as *You Are the Apple of My Eye*, this is the place you should be at. It's filled with groups of teenagers and lovers with high hopes and ambitious dreams, so look up and you'll see sky lanterns hovering above. Don't just be mesmerised by the sky lanterns. Take a walk along the shops along the train tracks. There are some vintage and themed shops that you will want to stop by. Getting there: Take the Fuxing Shuttle towards Yilan and drop at Ruifang Train Station. You'll need to change to a different Fuxing Shuttle that heads towards Jingtong. Shifen Station is just 4 stops away. Those Chinese watercolour paintings of scenic landscapes are a reality at Shifen Waterfall. While it's not the tallest waterfall in the country, its breadth of 40m across makes it the broadest one in Taiwan. They're easily accessible if you've just come from Shifen Old Street. Just look out for the signs that will point you in the right direction. If you're lost, look out for the suspension bridges and follow down that path. You'll eventually end up at the observation decks where you'll have a full on view of the waterfalls. Getting there: Short walk from Shifen Station. There will be many signs leading you to the waterfall.

Pingxi Old Street is special for its unique architecture and design. Its marketplace is built through a hill, with a train track going overhead in the middle of the village. While Shifen Old Street is known for its sky lanterns, Pingxi is less crowded and touristy. It's much easier to get a clear shot of the floating sky lanterns without a throng of tourists in the background. Image credit: @katephan91

Getting There: Take the Fuxing Shuttle headed towards Jingtong and stop at Pingxi Station. The mention of Yangmingshan brings about associations to relaxation, recuperation and adventure. Lined with hot springs along the mountain, city dwellers often take day trips to soak their bodies in milky sulphuric baths and rest their eyes on miles of luscious green hills. On the Juansi Waterfall Trail.

Image credit: @1010jenny via Instagram

For hikers, trekking up Yangmingshan will be a dream, as it has 10 different trails that range in difficulty. Beginners can start with the Juansi Waterfall Trail, a gentle 1-hour trail that leads you past Juansi towards Beitou, the town famous for its hot springs. 3

peaks of Mount Datun.

Image credit: @eddie.yen via Instagram A bigger challenge would be the climb to Mount Datun, an active volcano. Prior experience in hiking is recommended, as you'll need a moderate fitness level and proper equipment like poles and shoes as you make your way up. The trail takes about 6 hours to complete but you'll get to ascend all 3 peaks. Getting there: Bus 260 will take you to Yangmingshan from Taipei Station. The last bus departing Yangmingshan is at 10pm. No trip to Taipei would be complete without at least a visit to a night market. You might've already visited the more popular ones like Ximending, Shilin Night Market, and Raohe Night Market, but there are plenty more to add to your list ? especially if you're looking for good eats. Fang Chia Chicken Rice.

Image credit: @mia_eating_food via Instagram Foodies ? make a beeline first for Ningxia Night Market. Its size may pale in comparison to Shilin but in its short 150m stretch are 3 stalls that have won the Michelin Bib Gourmand: Fang Chia Chicken Rice, Rong's Pork Liver, and Liu Yu Zai. Taro balls from Liu Yu Zai.

Image credit: @everydayrestaurants via Instagram Each stall sells simple dishes done well, such as shredded chicken on a sesame oil-flavoured bed of rice (TWD35, ~\$1.52), nourishing bowls of pork liver soup (TWD50, ~\$2.17), and deep fried taro balls (from TWD30, ~\$1.30). Each pork belly bun is topped with crushed peanuts and pickled mustard greens.

Image credit: @ychang36 via Instagram You'll also find 2 Michelin Bib Gourmand stalls at Gongguan Night Market. Lan Jia Gua Bao is one of them and it sells pork belly buns. Each will set you back only TWD65 (~\$2.83) but be prepared to queue at least an hour to get your hands on one. The other stall is Hsiung Chi Scallion Pancake, which sells flaky pancakes topped with your choice of cheese, ham, and corn (from TWD45, ~\$1.96). Hsiung Chi Scallion Pancake.

Image credit: @cccchhhhuuuu_eat via Instagram Don't be too bogged down by awards though ? most of these food stalls in both markets see snaking queues filled with locals. If anything, that's testament enough to the delectable goodies available at these night markets. Image adapted from: Roaders Plus Hotel With a ball pit, carousel, and candy station, it wouldn't surprise us if you thought Roaders Plus Hotel was a carnival you just walked into. But that's just a couple of the amenities

you'll find at this accommodation. Image credit: Roaders Plus Hotel There's more fun for guests once you're checked in. The spacious lobby has a glamping setup with picnic tables where you can watch movies for free daily and Instagrammable backdrops with retro cars to take pics in. Image credit: Roaders Plus Hotel The hotel rooms aren't themed like a carnival but they are modernly appointed with plush beds, round mirrors, and darkwood furniture. To stay in the heart of action in Taipei, book yourself a bed at TW Hostel, which is located within the Ximending shopping district. This no-frills dorm is ideal for travellers who just need a clean place to doze off and take a shower. Image credit: ??????(????) via Google Maps You'll have your pick of accommodation choices, such as dormitories that sleep up to 6 in a room for backpackers on a shoestring budget. For more privacy, they've recently added capsule bunks as an option, where you have your own mini TV, safe, and power points within arm's reach in your cubby hole. Capsule bunk.

Image credit: @kj_hsu via Instagram Those who need more space can always upgrade to the private room that comes with an en suite bathroom. Regardless of which one you go with, you'll get access to the shared lounge and kitchen – a great place to meet and make friends with other travellers. Rates: From TWD530/night, ~S\$23.06

Address: No. 41, Section 2, Hankou Street, Wanhua District, Taipei, Taiwan 108

Contact: +886 2 2311 9559 You'll find branches of CityInn Hotel all over Taipei, mainly situated near metro or railway stations for the convenience of travellers. In fact, there are 3 such hotels at Taipei Main Station alone – the heart of the city and a great jumping point for those taking day trips out of Taipei. Image credit: CityInn Hotel Rooms are kept simple with modern furnishings. They're also able to accommodate groups and families of up to 4 with their 3-bed or 2-double bed rooms. Full list of CityInn Hotel locations. Image credit: Check Inn Hotel The exposed brick and graffiti on the walls make the Check Inn Hotel feel more like a loft in NYC than a cosy hotel in Taipei. The rooms even have floor-to-ceiling windows from which you can view the hip neighbourhood of Zhongshan District. Image credit: Check Inn Hotel Forgetful travellers needn't worry about having to run out to buy a toothbrush or toothpaste should you not have packed one. You'll find all you need to wash up here, including mouthwash, dental floss, makeup remover, razors, and shaving cream. If

there's anything else you need, make a call to the concierge who'll be able to provide more supplies for your stay. Tempted to book a ticket and get right on with your adventure? I hope this list makes your Taipei travels more interesting. If you know of more exciting places to go to in and around Taipei, do let us know in the comments below. Although most of these moments were captured during my backpacking trip to Taiwan, we recently had the chance to visit Taiwan again and explore other aspects of it thanks to EVA Air and the Taiwan Visitor Association, Singapore.

We also got the chance to check out EVA Air's Hello Kitty airplanes! Check out our Hello Kitty airplane review for an inside look at what passengers can expect on these flights. More travel guides around Asia: This post was made possible thanks to EVA Air and Taiwan Visitor Association, Singapore.

Cover image adapted from: @rongjin167 via Instagram, Let's Play TW, Alex?????via Google Maps, @houtongcatvillage via Instagram

Written by Yong Jing Yi and Raewyn Koh. Originally published on 21st August 2014. Last updated by Raewyn Koh on 28th April 2023. Get more stories like this. Drop us your email so you won't miss the latest news.

City Explorer: Taipei – Top Si – City Explorer: Your Travel Guide to the World – Apple Podcasts

In this episode of City Explorer, join host Synthia as we journey through the vibrant city of Taipei, Taiwan. Discover the rich culture and stunning landscapes that define this urban wonder. We'll explore popular attractions such as Taipei 101, National Palace Museum, Shilin Night Market, Chiang Kai-shek Memorial Hall, Longshan Temple, Beitou Hot Springs, Ximending, Yangmingshan National Park, Sun Yat-sen Memorial Hall, and Taipei Zoo. Plus, uncover hidden gems like Dihua Street, Rainbow Village, Songshan Cultural and Creative Park, Tamsui Fisherman's Wharf, and The Ten Drum Cultural Village. Learn about the unique Taiwanese cuisine, cultural norms, and the welcoming nature of the locals. Tune in for all this and more as we embark on an exciting virtual exploration of Taipei! Copyright © 2024 Apple Inc. Tous droits réservés. Pour écouter des épisodes au contenu explicite, connectez-vous. Recevez les dernières actualités sur cette mission Connectez-vous ou inscrivez-vous pour suivre des missions, enregistrer des épisodes et recevoir les dernières actualités.

Working Remotely in Taipei, Taiwan (Travel Guide for Digital Nomads and Remote Workers)

Visiting the Longshan Temple in Taipei, Taiwan This is part of my remote work travel series where I review places I visit as a digital nomad. Check out the rest of my posts and follow me on Instagram, YouTube, Substack, or on TikTok for more travel content! This post contains affiliate links*, meaning I may make a small commission at no additional cost to you. Thanks for supporting my blog! Okay, before I dive into this travel guide, I have some exciting news to share with you! My debut work of fiction, *The Nomad Detective: Volume I*, is now live on Amazon for pre-orders! My debut work of fiction: order *The Nomad Detective: Volume I* now! If you love stories about renegade private eyes, rivals-to-lovers arcs, or mysteries of any kind ? this book is for you! It?s loosely inspired by my travels, and every pre-order helps my book climb Amazon?s bestseller lists. Thanks for your support ? means the world! Now back to your regularly scheduled content: After leaving Kyoto, I had initially planned on bopping around Japan before heading to Istanbul, the next month-long trip on my calendar. But Taipei has been on my radar for a long time as my partner and I are big boba tea fans, so instead of exploring more of Japan we booked a 12-day trip to Taipei. Taipei is humid, grungy, and full of character. It?s a tropical hipster?s paradise: night market eats are \$1-\$3 and you can stroll past late-night boba shops or stop in a bookstore or vinyl record bar on the way back to your hotel. This city is part urban jungle, part actual jungle, with parks that feel stripped from a rainforest ? and seem out of place next to a high-end mall. There are also lots of hidden gems: trendy bookstores and cafes that you have to peel back layers of the city to find ? but you?ll be rewarded if you do. Considering working remotely in Taipei, Taiwan? Here?s my travel guide for digital nomads and remote workers to help you get the most out of the city: View from our balcony at Meander 1948 We stayed at the Meander 1948 hostel (in their Taipei Main Station location)* in the Datong District of Taipei. They have great private rooms with desks, balconies, and private bathrooms, and the Datong District was super central ? a stone?s throw from night markets, the Longshan Temple, and, of course, the Taipei Main Station which you can take to the airport. I?d recommend staying at this

hostel because it's a stylish, clean accommodation with laundry and nice common areas. There weren't any Airbnbs that really jumped out during my research, and the other hotels I found looked less impressive and in locations that felt less central. However, be prepared to be in the thick of the "grunginess" in the Datong District. The charm of Taipei is also something that could be a bit off-putting to some travelers: restaurants and shops spill out onto the sidewalks, and the intermingling scents of cooking meat, floral tea, and "street smell" all combine in a jumble in this area. In all of my meandering around Taipei, there wasn't an area that really jumped out to me, so you may want to do your own research about what neighborhood feels right to you. RELATED: The Best Travel Cards for Digital Nomads

Exploring Jiufen during our day trip here Taipei is a big city with lots of things to do. And we did do lots of things! But ultimately most of our days were spent exploring the city, eating amazing food, and drinking great tea. I also had some fiction writing deadlines I had to make, so this trip was lighter on the "activities" — despite our days still feeling packed! With that said, here are the top 3 things I recommend you check out in Taipei: Take a Free Walking Tour. I Like It Formosa is a local tour company that ran a pretty solid historical walking tour that covers a lot of the must-see places in Taipei, such as the Longshan Temple and Bopiliao Historical Block. Walking tours are a great way to get oriented in a city, and this was a good one to get started with an overview of Taipei and its history. Elephant Mountain Hike. This popular hike has stunning views of the city and is easily accessible by metro or bus. I'd recommend doing this hike just as sunset hits: all of the lights come on at Taipei 101 once the sky darkens, and it's a cool thing to see from any of the viewpoints on the hike. The hike itself is pretty short (40-60 minutes total if you just go to the top of Elephant Mountain, but be sure to wear good hiking shoes (especially in the rain) as the stairs can get slippery. There's no dirt or anything (the hike is entirely paved) but the way you climb up into the jungle is a cool thing to do — even on a cloudy day. Take a day trip to Jiufen. When it comes to trips outside of Taipei, we did do a day trip to Jiufen which is a village atop a mountain with cute little shops and food stalls. However, it felt just like an extension of Taipei, with less impressive food options in comparison to the night markets. We also arrived in Jiufen when it was cloudy, so missed out on the views. Supposedly, this village is the inspiration for the film

Spirited Away, but the only place I was spirited to was a tourist trap with some nice keychains. You can take a bus directly to Jiufen from Taipei, and it's about an hour outside of the city. Overall, Jiufen is worth a visit if your expectations are appropriately set, but other than that you're better off just spending time in Taipei and enjoying the city. If the city wasn't so hot we would have ventured out for more hikes and hot springs (clearly a must-visit during cooler weather!) but because of the rain and humidity we enjoyed staying in air-conditioned coffeeshops. We were also considering heading to Taichung to explore the city that is the origin point for boba tea, but ultimately decided to stick around Taipei instead as some of the "original" boba tea shops have locations in the city. Hands down my favorite night market The Da'an District had a bit of a monopoly on trendy coffeeshops and brunch places, but we were able to find some great places in the Datong District as well. Here are my top recommendations for food, coffee, and boba tea in Taipei:

For Brunch: Brun. I hadn't realized how deeply I missed a bougie LA brunch spot until I came to Brun! This trendy brunch spot has several different locations, and this one in the Datong District is located in a clothing store on the top level. On a Saturday morning, so many Taiwanese women were sporting their "off-duty model" looks with straightened hair under baseball caps and designer clothes. The latte I had here ? I think it was a honey latte ? was one of the best lattes I've had in the city. Maybe all year. I also found some really cute clothes for a good price in the clothing store that takes up 4 levels of this building, so be sure to reserve some time to do some shopping after your meal. Our brunch was a little pricey here, but still cheaper than California prices.

For Brunch: Heritage. This brunch place/bakery is the place to go for an amazing cinnamon roll. The shakshuka was a little meh, but their other brunch items were great. This brunch place was also pricey, but worth it for the freshly baked bread in all of our dishes.

For Coffee/Lunch: Vers. This coffee spot has several different locations (I think?) but the Da'an District location I linked here is filled with natural light and nice chairs and tables for co-working, along with bar seats. It was pretty empty when we arrived at around 10am, but it got busy in the afternoon. It's laptop-friendly and a good place to get breakfast, lunch, coffee, or all of the above.

For Coffee: Swell Cafe. Swell Cafe is by far my favorite co-working cafe that's also very laptop-friendly ? so many locals were camped out working here for most of the

day! ? and it had a great tropical smoothie and beachy/surf aesthetic. This cafe is one of the few that actually has chairs that are an appropriate height for the tables ? even Vers had chairs that were just slightly too low for the tables, so not great for typing. Swell has a warm, earthy vibe and was great on a rainy day. For Tea To-Go: The Oolong Project. Are you a tea lover? You must stop at one of The Oolong Project's locations in the city. The tea is fabulous: and the cheese foam with a spring oolong was my go-to order. You don't need a straw for this drink, and don't drink it with boba: just drink the tea straight. This is a great one to enjoy with a cute little tea holder. Get less sugar and less ice for a refreshing, tea-forward drink that's not too sweet. (In fact, I'd recommend always getting 30% sweet and less ice for all tea drinks across the board.) For Tea or Boba Tea: WooTea. WooTea's best drink is WooTea with Cream, and I recommend that here ? again, with less sugar less ice. For Tea or Boba Tea: Goldfish Bubble Tea. The best Thai Tea is here. Try it with their signature gold boba ? you won't regret it and you may just feel like you're in Thailand. For Dinner: Din Tai Fung. Known for their soup dumplings, you may have run into this iconic restaurant in Los Angeles. It's just as good here in Taiwan ? and a bit cheaper. You can also order on Uber Eats if the line is crazy: we had to go on a weekday at 5pm in order to wait less than an hour for a table. Try and get your ticket early and meander around the mall ? just be aware the wait time moves fast, so don't stray too far from the display where they show what numbers are being seated. For Dinner: Go Night Market Hopping. The Raohe Market is the best street market in Taipei, but each market has its charms. Raohe is cleaner and has a ton of options, but the Ningxia Market in all of its bustling glory is still worth a visit. At Raohe, we loved the watermelon juice, baked corn, and "Chinese Pizza" ? that was essentially a scallion pancake with cheese on top. At the Ningxia Market, my partner Kyle was obsessed with the ice cream with peanut shavings that was wrapped in a crepe. I was obsessed with a scallion pancake wrapped around a fried egg. Bring cash and patience as these night markets can get busy, but they're the main attraction in Taipei and the food is worth the wait. For Dinner: Pizza Has a Face. This trendy pizza place has limited seating but limitless flavors. I loved the cheese-and-truffle-and-mushroom pizza, and it cured my cheese and bread craving for the day. For Dessert: Tofu Pudding. Origin Tofu Pudding was exactly what I

needed on a hot day. The tofu tastes like flan, and I recommend getting the sweet potato and I think the taro balls if I remember correctly. Great dessert or afternoon snack ? with the benefit of some extra protein, too. Taipei is a foodie city, for sure ? but most of the great food can be found at night markets. Don?t bother with the expensive places: skip them in favor of the must-visit food spots I?ve listed above. If you don?t have a boba tea holder you?re not one of the cool kids here At first, I was a bit underwhelmed by Taipei and the grunginess of the Datong District. I also didn?t fully understand why people called this city such a tea and coffeeshop mecca ? until I really put in effort to find the hidden gems. While cities like Buenos Aires are more obvious in their overflowing love of coffee and coffeeshops, Taipei feels like a town of takeaway boba teas that you drink on the street ? not to be enjoyed in a modern, cute coffeeshop. Taipei is a bit sprawling, but it?s worth taking time to discover the non-obvious places to eat amazing food and drink some incredible tea and coffee. 12 days ended up being a perfect amount of time to explore the city. Just enough time to look beneath the surface, but not too much time to grow weary of the city?s many gifts. Affordability: ??? 2/5 stars. Taipei isn?t the most expensive place to be ? especially if you make a habit out of exploring night markets. Boba tea is also very cheap here ? maybe \$3 or \$4 per tea compared to \$9 or even \$11 back in the U.S. But the accommodations felt more pricey than what they were necessarily worth, so knocking off some stars there. Food Quality: ????? 3/5 stars. The food quality is really solid here, with some amazing street food vendors. But I found it hard to get non-fried vegetarian food here and the city is lacking healthy options beyond the sit-down places. Vegetarian Options: ????? 3/5 stars. Din Tai Fung is carrying the vegetarian category in this city with some epic vegetable dumplings and buns. However, it was still a bit of a challenge to find non-vegetarian restaurants that also had veggie options, so while not impossible this city is still not as vegetarian-friendly as others I?ve been to. The night markets had some good options for vegetarians, which is what earns Taipei 3 stars instead of 2. Adventures/Day Trips: ??? 2/5 stars. While you can visit villages like Jiufen or neighboring cities like Taichung, I wasn?t particularly impressed by the day trips near Taipei. In cooler weather I could see hiking and hot springs as a bigger draw, but I?ve been to cities with better access to things to do. Cafes/Co-Working Space

Availability: ?? 1/5 stars. Taipei is not a cozy city, or at least not the neighborhoods I explored. Coffeeshops with good seating are pretty rare ? and coffeeshops with a more modern aesthetic were even more scarce. If you put in the legwork you can find some decent places to drink coffee and maybe do some work, but cities like Seoul and Buenos Aires had way better coffee and cafe scenes. Taipei did seem to have some co-working spaces, but I didn't get a chance to explore them. Digital Nomad-Friendly City: ?? 1/5 stars. Taipei is pretty easy to get around, but I can't imagine spending a whole month in this loud, busy city. Especially because there aren't very many cafes and coffeeshops where you can get away from the bustle and focus on your work. There are other cities with better setups for nomads, so I'd skip Taipei for long trips. Value of Accommodations for Remote Workers: ?? 1/5 stars. While the prices for accommodations in Taipei were slightly better than Tokyo, the lack of cute Airbnbs knocks down this city to one star. There weren't a ton of hotels or hostels to pick from that were located in good, walkable areas, and I think other cities have better value for accommodations. Air Quality: ???? 2/5 stars. The air quality wasn't as bad as Seoul, but it was at unhealthy levels according to the air quality index for the entirety of our trip. Water Quality: ???? 2/5 stars. The water quality wasn't too bad, but could have been better. Overall Rating: ???? 2/5 stars. There's a lot to love about Taipei, but this is a city better appreciated in smaller doses. Definitely take a trip here if you're a boba tea fan or are hankering for some incredible night market eats, but look elsewhere for cities to work remotely in for extended periods of time. If you liked this post, be sure to subscribe to my newsletter and check out the rest of my remote work series. You can also follow me on YouTube, Instagram, Substack, or on TikTok to join me in my journeys in real time. I can't wait to continue to share my travels with you! Lots of cool writing jobs come across my desk ? and I'm here to share these curated opportunities with you. Want to work remotely from Paris or at home in your PJs? Subscribe now to get high-paying writing work straight to your inbox! p.s. I create my blog voiceovers and my podcast episodes using the tool Wondercraft AI, a text-to-speech tool that speaks in YOUR voice. ? Use my code SUTO50 or this link to get 50% off your Wondercraft AI subscription!* *These are affiliate links. Thanks for supporting this blog! HOMEABOUT POPULAR WRITING BLOGPRESS SHOP CONTACT

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? Discover Taipei's Hidden Gems: Tea Cultures and Skyline Splendors! ? | Trip.com Taipei

First time in Taipei: 15x fun things to do and see

A city trip to Taipei might not be the most obvious destination given the time it takes for most of us to get there. But if you're planning to spend more time in Taiwan, then visiting Taipei will undoubtedly be one of the highlights of your trip. I begin and end my Taiwan trip in Taipei. Giving me a total of 7 days to explore Taipei's most interesting sights and other things the city has to offer. In this Taipei travel guide, I share all my favorite tips for things to do in Taipei. From exploring historic temples and night markets to taking in panoramic views from towering skyscrapers. If this is your first time in Taipei it will help you to know exactly what to do in Taipei and how to get the most out the days you spend here. There's a good chance you'll feel pretty jet-lagged on your first day in Taipei. A bit of exercise is always good to get your body in the right time zone. So how does a hike to one of the best views over Taipei sound? This is also a great spot to take a photo of the iconic Taipei 101 tower. Taipei is surrounded by mountains and hills. The official name of this mountain is Xiangshan, which means Elephant Mountain due to its elephant-like shape. The mountain is 183 meters high, and the hiking trail to the top is about 1,5 km long. Climbing 600 steps to the top can be quite strenuous, especially on a hot day (I did it with 30°C). But if you're in decent shape, take it easy, and bring enough water, it's definitely doable. At the top, you can sit on a bench and enjoy the spectacular view. It's a popular hike, so it can get busy, especially on weekends. I was there on a Wednesday, and it wasn't too crowded. Want to hike the Elephant Mountain trail? Take the metro to Xiangshan MRT station. The trail is clearly marked with signs. From Elephant Mountain, you have a great view of Taipei 101, but you can also do the reverse: get a view of Taipei with Elephant Mountain at Taipei 101. Wherever you are in Taipei, you almost always see the Taipei 101 skyscraper. Until 2007, it was the tallest building in the world until it was surpassed by the Burj Khalifa in Dubai. But it remains an impressive building with its unique bamboo shape. For a beautiful panoramic view over the city, take one of the fastest elevators in the world to the observation deck in only 37 seconds. Most people, including me, go to the 89th floor where you can walk around behind glass. From there, you take the stairs to the 91st floor where you can go outside (behind a

fence). For the absolute best outdoor view, get a ticket for the Skyline460 (460 meters high) on the 101st floor. Besides the view, the gigantic mass damper (the largest in the world) is also an interesting thing to see in Taipei. Due to its location, Taiwan experiences frequent earthquakes (I experienced one during my trip). With a building as tall as Taipei 101, this had to be taken into account during construction. This massive damper ball (660 tons) offsets movements during heavy storms or earthquakes, reducing 40% of the building's movements. Taipei 101 is one of the most popular attractions in Taipei, so it can get quite busy. It's also wise to avoid weekends if possible. Although it's recommended to reserve a time slot and buy tickets in advance, I walked in spontaneously on a weekday and didn't have to wait at all. Getting hungry after visiting the Taipei 101 observation deck? You won't have to go far for the best dumplings in Taipei. At the entrance of Taipei 101 you'll find one of the popular Din Tai Fung restaurants. This Taiwanese restaurant now has multiple locations in Taipei and abroad. If you want to visit the restaurant where it all began, go to Xinyi Road. But you can also enjoy the famous soup dumplings and other delights right here in the Taipei 101 building. As I mentioned in my post about great food in Taipei, wait times at Din Tai Fung can be very long. Before you go to the observation deck, get a ticket with a number and an estimated wait time, which is likely more than an hour around lunchtime. By the time you're done with the observation deck, you hopefully won't have to wait long for your table. Looking for other great restaurants and cafes in Taipei? Read my Taipei food guide for more tips. Another must-see when visiting Taipei for the first time is the Chiang Kai-shek Memorial. Besides Taipei 101, it's probably the most famous place to visit in Taipei. Chiang Kai-shek fled to Taiwan in 1949 after losing the war with the communists in China. He was the leader of Taiwan until his death in 1975. This period was far from democratic, so it's debatable whether commemorating a dictator this way is appropriate. For several years now, there's been an effort to rename and repurpose this site. The Liberty Square, with its huge gate on one side and the Chiang Kai-shek Memorial Hall on the other, is very impressive. Every hour (on the hour), there's a changing of the guard in the Memorial Hall which is nice to attend. After visiting the Chiang Kai-shek Memorial Hall, walk through the gate towards the 228 Peace Memorial Park. Although this beautiful park has existed since 1908, its name

refers to an incident on 28 February 1947, when Chiang Kai-shek's party (KMT) violently suppressed protests by the local population against the corrupt government. In the following weeks, protests spread throughout Taiwan, marking the beginning of years of oppression and many deaths.

It's a beautiful park to stroll through. In the center, you'll find the 228 Memorial Monument. From historical and political Taipei to the modern and commercial part of the city: Ximending. This is the place for shopping and nightlife in Taipei. With all the stores selling cheap goods and bright lights everywhere, it's not my favorite part of the city. It reminded me a bit of Akihabara (Electric Town) in Tokyo—busy and overwhelming. I was there on a rainy afternoon. With all the neon lights, it's probably more fun to walk around later in the day when it's a bit darker. Just outside the Ximen metro station, you'll find Rainbow Road, with the rainbow-colored crosswalk and the text "Taipei." Perfect for the typical "I was in Taipei" photo. If the busy, modern Ximending area isn't your thing, head to Dihua Street in the Dadaocheng district for a completely different experience. Dihua Street is the oldest street in Taipei, built during the Dutch colonization in the 17th century. In the 19th century, it became Taipei's commercial center, and many of the buildings date from that time. Walking through Dihua Street gives you a good impression of what Taipei's streets used to look like. Today you'll find many shops and cafes for tourists in the old buildings, but it looks much more authentic than Ximending. You'll also find original shops that have been here for over a hundred years, selling Chinese herbs and produce you've probably never heard of. One of the most fun things I did in Taipei was a food tour with Taipei Eats. As you walk through the city with a local guide, you learn a lot about authentic Taiwanese food. And of course the best way to learn is to taste everything yourself! Yes, even the infamous stinky tofu. If you do this at the beginning of your Taiwan trip, you'll know much better what to buy at a night market. Taipei Eats offers various food tours. I joined the Iconic Food Tour, but there's also an Old School Food Tour focused on traditional Taiwanese dishes and a Taipei Night Market Tour. I share more about my experience with this food tour in my post about where to eat in Taipei. In a country where food plays such an important role, it's no surprise that one of the most famous artworks in the National Palace Museum is a jade Chinese cabbage. The National Palace Museum is located outside the city center, in the north. To

get there, I took the metro to Jiannan Road, and from there, a bus that stops right in front of the museum. The museum has a gigantic collection of 700.000 artworks that you won't be able to see in one visit. But there is some logic in how it's set up over three floors. So depending on your interests, you can easily find what you're looking for. The National Palace Museum is worth visiting mainly for its large collection of Chinese art. These artworks were brought here at the end of the Chinese civil war when it became clear that the communists were going to win. If you have some time left after your museum visit, take a walk through the adjacent Zhishan Park. A visit to a 'creative park' is a must when you're in Taiwan. Old industrial sites of a factory have been given a new function as a creative hub with exhibitions, pop-up stores, restaurants, and live music. You can find them all over the country, and there are a few in Taipei as well. The most famous creative parks in Taipei are Huashan 1914 Creative Park and Songshan Cultural and Creative Park. I loved visiting Huashan 1914 Creative Park, walking among the old factories with large chimneys. The site was established in 1914 as a sake and wine factory during the Japanese occupation of Taiwan. It was closed in 1987 and has been a creative park since 2005. You can visit Huashan 1914 Creative Park every day, at any time. However, the shops and restaurants are open during standard business hours. The idea behind Songshan Cultural and Creative Park is the same as Huashan 1914 Creative Park. This time, a tobacco factory from 1937 that produced cigarettes until 1998. In 2011, it was transformed into the creative hub it is today. But although the principle is the same, with pop-up shops, exhibitions, and cafes, it is a different experience, making it worth it to visit both parks. In the former factory you walk through the long corridors of the old building. It's like going back in time. On the walls are old photos of the staff who worked there. The factory forms a square around a large courtyard where you can take a break. Additionally, on the factory grounds, there are 5 warehouses where cigarettes used to be made and packed on a conveyor belt. You can walk around the park at any time, but the buildings are open to visitors between 9 AM and 6 PM. There are more than 15.000 official temples in Taiwan. If it's your first time in Taipei and you want to visit only one, then Dalongdong Bao'an Temple is the best choice. It's the most beautiful temple according to the Taiwan guide from Lonely Planet. The most famous temple in Taipei is Longshan Temple. I waited

until the end of my trip to visit the temples in Taipei. And because I had already visited several in other cities in Taiwan, I followed Lonely Planet's advice and went to the beautiful Bao'an Temple. The details of this temple are so impressive. Its history dates back to the 18th century, but it was completely restored a few years ago. For this, they received a UNESCO Asia-Pacific Heritage Award. The temple is free to visit and consists of multiple halls you can walk through. And if you're already here, also visit the Confucius Temple across the street. I already mentioned the night markets in my post about great places to eat in Taipei. But besides the amazing food, visiting the night markets is simply one of the best things to do in Taipei. I especially liked Ningxia Night Market, but Raohe Night Market is also a great choice. Most stalls specialize in one or two dishes. Which pays off as some of them have received a Bib Gourmand award from the Michelin Guide. If you've done a food tour, you already know more about what you should get. My favorite snacks at the night markets are:

While looking for things to do in Taipei, I came across a photo of a street with a perfect view of Taipei 101 at night. This is when the top of the tower lights up in a different color every day of the week. But where is this street? For some reason, none of the photos I found mentioned the location. So I'll make it easy for you and share the location where you can take this photo. It's now called Hotspot 101 on Google Maps (which helps), and the address is 1 No. 2, Lane 253, Songren Road, Taipei City. Although it took me a while to find the location, I was certainly not the only one standing here at sunset. Several people were taking turns to pose in the middle of the street. Nevertheless, I managed to take the photo. Despite spending 7 days in Taipei, I didn't get to do everything I wanted. Which is not necessarily a bad thing as I now have a good reason to go back. Do you want to take a day trip from Taipei? Go to Jiufen. It looks super photogenic but is also very touristy and crowded. Or would you rather pamper yourself in one of the hot springs just outside the city? Next time, I want to visit the Beitou hot springs in northern Taipei (with the metro you can get there in 30 minutes). Especially the luxurious 5-star Grand View Resort Beitou looks fantastic. Super expensive if you want a room with a private hot spring, but still amazing. Also outside the city, but then in the south of Taipei, you have Maokong. This is where you go to visit traditional Taiwanese teahouses and the tea fields. And what makes it extra special is that you have to take a gondola to

get there. Given the amount of tea I drink every day, I would love to see this. In my post with useful travel tips for your first trip to Taiwan, I share more tips for if you're planning to visit this beautiful country. Like the best time to visit Taiwan, how to get from Taoyuan international airport to Taipei Main Station, and how to travel by train. Here are some tips that are more specific to visiting Taipei. I would stay in Taipei for at least four days. I spent four days at the beginning of my trip and another three at the end. In four days, you can cover most of the things to do in Taipei that I mentioned above. Since you'll probably have a jet lag when you arrive, it's nice to have a few more days in Taipei at the end of your trip. This way, you don't feel the pressure to see everything immediately. I had zero trouble coming up with things to do for 7 days. However, if you don't have enough time, four days should be enough. Taipei is quite a large city, so walking is not always an option. Fortunately, public transportation works great. There is a good metro system, and also the city buses take you everywhere. With the EasyCard, you can use both, so you don't have to buy separate tickets each time. Using the metro is pretty easy with the lines and directions clearly indicated (also in English). In the bus, I would use Google Maps to know when to get off. I installed a Taiwanese eSIM on my phone so I could use unlimited data without worrying about high roaming costs. Besides public transport in Taipei, you can also use Uber. This works very well and is cheaper than standard taxis. Plus they were always very luxurious, modern cars. One of the best neighborhoods to stay in Taipei is, in my opinion, the Da'an district. This beautiful, somewhat upmarket district is centrally located, easily accessible by metro, and surrounded by shops and new, trendy restaurants and bars. I stayed in two very nice boutique hotels, both in Da'an. At the beginning of my trip, I stayed at the Kimpton Da'an hotel. When it opened in 2019, it was the first Kimpton hotel in Asia. The rooms are spacious and have a modern, calm design. Perfect for relaxing after a busy day of sightseeing. You can have breakfast in the restaurant, but in the lobby there's free coffee and tea with croissants and fruit in the morning. So if you prefer to have breakfast somewhere else or aren't very hungry, you can grab this before heading out. There's also a "social hour" every afternoon where you get a glass of wine and some small snacks. Do you feel like exploring Taipei by bike? At the Kimpton hotel they offer complimentary bike rentals. During my

last days in Taipei, at the end of my Taiwan trip, I stayed at Hotel Proverbs. This design hotel has won several awards, and I loved staying here. My room was spacious and luxurious, and if Taipei wasn't such a great city, I would have been happy to stay inside. From exploring the bustling night markets and tasting delicious street food to visiting the iconic landmarks, there is no shortage of unforgettable experiences in Taipei. Once you've visited this city for the first time, you'll want to come back for more. So I hope these travel tips gave you an idea of what to do in Taipei. I'm sure you're going to love it as much as I do.

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Amazing hidden places and hidden gems in Taipei

When travelling to Taipei or any place in the world, we always only visit the touristy places we read about on the internet or in tourist guides. But what about the hidden gems? When we go look for the alternative places we will stumble upon more bizarre and local experiences, we can enjoy a place more from a local perspective. In this article we will be going over some of the overlooked places and the hidden gems in Taipei. If you're planning travelling to Taipei you will know where to go if you want to go a bit of the beaten track in the city. This relatively new multipurpose park is home to different attractions like the Taipei fine arts museum and Taipei story house. It has a nice park where a lot of people come to hang around. It's located north of Taipei city center just outside of the MRT stop Yuanshan. Next to it you can also find Maji Maji or also known as Maji square. Maji square is a big specialty market where also a lot of different food stall are to be found and special stores. A lot of people come here together in the evening for a meal or just to have some drinks together. If you want to do a hike just outside of Taipei with a skyline of the city, the jiantanshan trail is the perfect destination. In comparison to Elephant mountain which is a tourist hotspot, the jiantanshan trail is way less touristy and it truly a hidden gem. Here you can come to escape the city and the crowds and it will be very relaxed. It is very easy accessible, to get there you have to take the MRT to Jiantan station and take exit number 2. From there you walk through Yuanshan scenic area and you will find stone steps going up a hill. Around here the trail will start. At Dadaocheng wharf you can find Pier 5, just next to the river with a beautiful view is this a perfect place for a night out. There are many pop-up bars and foodstalls to be found with different craft beers, whiskey and the list goes on. In the weekends you can even find live music here and sometimes even theatre! Its located in the Yanping riverside park in the Datong district Taipei has a well developed and structured bicycle lane system, so it makes it very easy and convenient to get around with the bike around Taipei. You can find orange Ubikes basically all over the city, you can pick them up and drop them off at all different Ubike stations for the bikes. You can pay the bikes by easycard. Go pick up a bike and explore the city on your own! You will get to places you otherwise would never had been

to and this way you will get more of the beaten track and be able to enjoy the hidden gems in Taipei. The Taipei fish market in the Zhongshan district is a must visit for every seafoodlover. Its a big supermarket where you can the find most freshly caught fish in Taipei. Between the supermarket are plenty of sushistalls and different little restaurants that offer a diversity on local specialties with seafood! The market is open everyday from 6am to 8pm except on monday it closes at 6pm. For even more ideas, check this article on 50 things to do in Taipei ! More blogs : <https://pop-rooms.com/blog/> Your email address will not be published. Required fields are marked *

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[Taiwan Travels] Discover 5 Hidden Gem Districts in Taipei, Taiwan ?

FREE & EASY Itinerary - HazelDiary

Food | Travel | Lifestyle Home / [Taiwan Travels] Discover 5 Hidden Gem Districts in Taipei, Taiwan ? FREE & EASY Itinerary Taipei, Taiwan has always been one of the top favourite travel destinations for Singaporeans and Malaysians. Like Japan, I do visit Taiwan from time to time for the beautiful nature, good food, Chinese culture and meeting my Taiwanese friends. All these it's possible to do Free & from Taipei using their metro system or hire a private car service. There is always new places and things to explore in Taipei despite visiting for numerous times. If you want to explore a different experience in Taipei for your upcoming trip, here is what you can do in 5-days apart from the usual attraction places. A combination of sight-seeing, off-the-beaten path attractions, different dining experience in the city and many more. TIPS: Pre-purchase Taipei Unlimited Fun Pass if you are planning to visit museums and taking public transportation. Most of the museums are included or enjoy 25% off Pass for Taipei Pass. 1. Explore Maokong

Maokong located in Wenshan District of Taipei, Taiwan is used to be the biggest tea growing area of Taipei. It is now a popular place for tea culture and viewing the night scenery of Taipei City. A day trip to Maokong is ideal if you want to escape from the hustle and bustle city life. Visit the red-brick Taipei Tea Promotion Center to learn about the whole tea process from tea growing, drying, spinning, and roasting. Visitors can enjoy free cups of Tieguanyin in the gift shop. There is also tea picking, processing, and brewing workshops from June through November.

Feeling hungry, stop by Ayishi Big Teapot, an al fresco restaurant that sits on the edge of the Taipei Basin. They offer tea-based cuisine such as tea-smoked chicken, noodles cooked in tea seed oil, and tea-infused stir-fried rice. If you want to experience Taiwanese Teahouse culture, visit one of the teahouses for an afternoon tea break.

Lastly, alight at Zhinan Station to visit Zhinan Temple. Zhinan Temple built in 1890 is dedicated to the Daoist immortal Lu Tung-pin, better known as ?Xiangong? or ?Luzu?. It is one of the oldest

temples in Taipei. It is secluded enough that not many tourists been here. It is perfect way to escape the city and surround yourself with the serene environment of the temple. If you are into hiking adventures, plan a hike to the scenic trails and be rewarded with the luscious greenery and vast expanses of tea plants. You can explore Camphor, Zhanghu or Zhinan Temple Trails. HOW TO GET HERE

By Taipei MRT & Cable Car

Take the Taipei MRT brown line to Taipei Zoo Station (BR01) and alight there. Transfer to Maokong Gondola cable car ride up to the mountain. It will be approximately 30 minutes ride over tea plantations and forest canopy. The gondola stops at four stations- Taipei Zoo, Taipei Zoo South, Zhinan Temple and Maokong (Sanxuan Temple).

TIPS: Pre-purchase your combo tickets- Maokong cable car ticket & Zoo Tour here. Note: Although the gandola is generally open daily but the service is contingent upon the weather situation. By Bus Bus S10 operates between Taipei Zoo Metro Station and the peak at Maokong. 2. Explore Dadaocheng District

Dadaocheng is in Datong District in Taipei, Taiwan. It is one of the oldest neighborhood areas in Taipei, developed into a sprawling place of trade in tea, medicine, herbs, fabrics, dried goods, and arts. Dadaocheng is known for its extravagant Baroque architecture, traditional Hokkien bungalows and red-brick western houses. Fast forward today, the area is also the main venue for the annual Taipei Lunar New Festival, a Chinese New Year Shopping extravaganza in which famed Dihua Street. You can literally spend a day here exploring the vintage neighborhoods of Dadaocheng. Take a stroll along the street to explore the original architecture of the old shophouses and how it is brought new life into the restored spaces.

You can plan your souvenir shopping and eating here. There are plenty of places like fabrics, local cultural goods to buy as souvenirs, restaurants, and cafes worth checking out. If you are keen to explore the cultural creativity, there are art and cultural centers such as Taiwan New Cultural Movement Memorial Museum, AMA Museum, clay craft workshops and Yehjinfa Rice Mill. Each

places have their uniqueness and stories behind it. Like Yehjinfu Rice Mill, it is still owned by the Yeh family, but they have restructured their business model as a boutique rice, grocery store. Note: Recommend visiting Dihua Street in Dadaocheng on weekend as many eateries closed on Mondays and some closed on weekdays throughout the week.

HOW TO GET HERE

By Taipei MRT

Take a Taipei MRT to Taipei Main Station (R10/BL12) and walk northwest until you reach Dihua Street. It will be approximately 16-minutes' walk.

Or take to Beimen (G13) Station and walk approximately 9 minutes to north towards Tacheng Street.

3. Explore Xinyi District

Xinyi is a distinctive landmark in Taipei where you can find the business center and leisure shopping malls here. Most of the events are held in Taipei International Trade Center and around this commercial district. This is the place where you can find luxurious products and fine dining restaurants here. The shopping area includes Bellavita, Taipei 101, Hankyu Department Stores and many more.

If you plan to stay in this district, check out The Hyatt and W Hotel Taipei. W Taipei is the only hotel in Xinyi District that you can get the full view of 101 building from your room.

Kick starts the day by hiking to Xiangshan or Elephant Mountain. Head over to Xiangshan MRT station and follow the signs leading to the mountain. You will be rewarded with unparalleled views of Taipei 101.

Then head back down and get refreshed to visit Taipei 101 observation deck. You will enjoy a full on

360-degree view of the entire city. Or head down to the malls for shopping spree or visit the attraction places like National Dr. Sun Yat-sen Memorial Hall and Discovery Center of Taipei.

Photo credit: <https://www.instagram.com/saltyaaron/>

End your day with a good meal experience. There are plenty of good and fine dining restaurants like Woobar, 2 Michelin stars ? L?Atelier De Joël Robuchon, Bib gourmand- Sung Kitchen, Sushi Nanami by Masa Ishibashi and many more. I would recommend making reservations before heading down to the popular ones. Or go experience luxury meals on Taipei Restaurant Bus in collaboration with W Taipei.

First double-decker bus restaurant in Taiwan where riders can experience five-star gourmet feast while admiring the stunning panoramic view through the see-through roof. The bus transportation station is located near Taipei City Hall MRT Station by the Hankyu Department Stores and W Hotel.

P/S: Tickets are available to purchase via online here.

4. Explore Da'an District

Da'an District is home to educational institutions including National Taiwan University and home to many culinary gems like first ever Din Tai Fung restaurant and famous beef noodle place. Discover new and hip dining establishments like cafes and Taiwanese speciality cuisine, culturally diverse area like Taipei Grand Mosque and largest green space called Da'an Forest Park. And of course, night markets like Gongguan and Linjiang night markets. The Taipei Grand Mosque is worth checking out as it is most known Islamic building in Taiwan, built in the 1960s. You can also rent a bike or take a stroll to the Da'an Forest Park features maple trees, ponds and walking paths. Or visit Wistaria Tea House, Japanese-style wooden teahouse built in the 1920s.

Discover the stylish boutique, Kimpton Da An located a short walk from Zhongxiao Fuxing Station (Exit 3) if you are planning to stay in this area. It is the first Kimpton property in Asia and designed by iconic duo Neri & Hu.

For local delicacies, visit original Din Tai Fung outlet or walk down Yongkang Street for the famous Yongkang Beef Noodles. Or go for Nomura Japanese restaurant that was awarded one Michelin star in 2018 but make sure you make a reservation beforehand. If you tick off the list, visit the night markets before ending the day. 5. Participate/ Join their Festival

Taipei also has several major events/ festivals throughout the year. Each of the four seasons is chock-full of big events of different character. Plan a New Year countdown celebration to Taipei to participate in Taipei New Year's Eve Party and the magnificent Taipei 101 fireworks show. This is an annual celebration of Taipei's myriad charms and achievements, welcoming the new year with the world. Also, not to miss is the long-awaited Lantern Festival (also known as the 'little New Year') in Taipei which will run from 5 February to 19 February 2023. This will be the first time this festival returned to Taipei in 23 years with the theme 'Light Up the Future'. A festival will be a grand synthesis of artistic culture and lighting, creating a unique 'urban-style Lantern Festival'. It will stretch from the East District to Sun Yat-sen Memorial Hall and Songshan Cultural and Creative Park all the way to the Taipei 101 area. More than 300 lantern artworks will be up on its streets and alleys.

Not forgetting the Yangminshan Flower Festival that attracts over one million flower lovers each year. Main venues include Yangming Park and Foriculture Experiment Center. Expect to see different varieties of cherry trees, including Yae Sakura, Showa Sakura and Yoshino Sakura and rhododendrons in full bloom. There you go?. more reasons for you to explore the city of Taiwan. Read my Taiwan travelogue here. Brought to you by

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encouragement for me to do better and to continue sharing my love with all of you here. Thanks!

Traveling around the world and staying in hostels is always a fun experience, but sometimes it's nice to relax in a large condo-like hotel. A timeshare seems like a good option because timeshares are typically larger than hotel rooms and come with a kitchen. Disney timeshares are some of the highest rated and seem to be heavily discounted on the DVC Resale Market online. © 2024 - HazelDiary |

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12 Unbelievable Things To Do In Taiwan

Unveiling Taiwan's Best-Kept Secrets: 5 Hidden Gems Await Your Discovery - Teaching Nomad

Jul 18, 2024 Ollie Gorman Blog, Taiwan If you're planning a trip to Taiwan (view our teach in Taiwan guide [here](#)), get ready to discover some lesser-known treasures that will truly elevate your experience. Taiwan is not only famous for its bustling cities and stunning natural landscapes but also for its hidden gems that often go unnoticed by travelers. As your guide in this exciting journey, I'm thrilled to share with you the top 5 hidden gems that you must visit in Taiwan. When visiting Taiwan, most people head straight to its beautiful coastline, but there's a hidden gem waiting to be explored at Shuinandong. The abandoned copper refinery is a photographer's paradise, with its industrial ruins contrasting against the azure sea. As one visitor described it, "This place feels like a forgotten world frozen in time. It's eerie, yet strangely beautiful." Nestled in the hills of northern Taiwan, Jiufen Old Street is a labyrinth of narrow alleyways, traditional teahouses, and charming souvenir shops. Our tip for this gem is to visit in the evening when the lantern-lit streets come alive with an enchanting atmosphere. One traveler raved, "Jiufen feels like walking into a Studio Ghibli film. It's magical and full of surprises." For nature enthusiasts, Wangyou Valley in northeastern Taiwan is a hidden paradise. This coastal trail offers breathtaking views of sea cliffs and rock formations, and if you're lucky, you might spot some wild dolphins frolicking in the waters. A happy traveler shared, "Wangyou Valley is a peaceful escape from the city. The views are absolutely worth the hike." Step into the past with a visit to Beipu, a quaint town known for its preserved historic architecture and rich Hakka heritage. Stroll through the traditional alleyways, visit ancient clan houses, and savor authentic Hakka cuisine. One visitor recounted, "Beipu feels like a living museum. It's a valuable glimpse into Taiwan's cultural roots." While night markets are a staple in Taiwan, Dongdamen Night Market in Hualien remains relatively undiscovered. This bustling market offers a unique blend of local delicacies, artisanal crafts, and live performances. As one traveler put it, "Dongdamen Night Market is a hidden gem for foodies and culture seekers. I was amazed by the variety and authenticity of the experiences there." As you plan your Taiwan adventure, keep in mind

that exploring hidden gems requires a spirit of curiosity and a willingness to venture off the beaten path. Whether you choose to visit the industrial ruins of Shuinandong or savor the flavors of Beipu, each hidden gem promises an unforgettable experience that adds depth to your Taiwan journey. At Teaching Nomad, we understand that navigating a new culture can be both exciting and daunting. That's why we're here to provide you with the guidance and support you need to make the most of your adventure teaching in Taiwan. Send us your email and we will send you instructions to reset your password [Login here](#) If you remember

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Taipei Travel Guide: 30 Best Things To Do & Hidden Gems

Jun. 11, 2018 by Matt van Vuuren These are my carefully selected 30 secrets & best places in Taipei which I've visited twice and includes gems like the Snow King, Laotian Lu, Knife Massages, Snake Restaurant, Din Tai Fong, Taipei Night Markets and Taipei Nightlife tips. I went to Taiwan with no major expectations but let me tell you, the country, people, food and nature truly blew me away and now I understand why people consider it a hidden gem in Asia. I started my Taiwan adventure in Taipei, often called the food capital of Asia for its wide assortment of cuisines and uniquely themed restaurants like the toilet restaurant, snake restaurant and turtle restaurant. For a brief introduction to Taiwan, go watch my first episode! Most popular Taiwanese breakfast, deep fried bread, Taipei crepe and soy milk. Map From Taipei Main Station take the train to Jiufen, the most gorgeous mountain village in Taiwan. Map Exceptionally delicious chicken nuggets with basil, unmatched in the world! Map Controversial museum with 700,000 Chinese artifacts brought over from mainland China during the communist revolution. Map Bizarre restaurant where you can eat beef curry out of a mini toilet bowl. Map Another bizarre activity is fishing for prawns at an indoor pool, open 24 hours. Map The best way to start your Taipei adventure is with an epic Taiwanese breakfast at Fu Hang Soy Milk, the most popular breakfast joint in town but do come early, lineups can grow very large. I ordered the deep-fried bread stick, egg pancake and a delicious cold soy milk soup for 110 NT, roughly \$3.60 USD. There is a good reason why locals wait hours in line to get their hands on this stuff. Most insane dinner experience at the snake restaurant for snake venom, snake blood and snake skin salad. Map Cutest cafe in Taipei, order the adorable omelette with rice and a cute coffee. Map Most epic shaved ice shop in Taipei, my favorite being the almond shaved ice with red beans. Map Enjoy mesmerizing views of Taipei and the Taipei 101 tower but note; the hike is pretty steep. Map Beautiful views from the Taipei 101 observatory deck but do go on a clear day since tickets at 600 NT ~ \$20 USD. Map Best soup dumplings in Taiwan rated a Michelin Star, totally worth every penny! Map mesmerizing views of Taipei from Elephant mountain in Taiwan After your Taiwanese breakfast hike up the Elephant mountain for the best views of Taipei and the Taipei

101 building just make sure to take many breaks and drinks lots of water, especially on a hot summer day. If you are a Star Wars geek, you will have a blast at the Core Pacific Mall, a giant Death Star downtown Taipei. Map One of the best fish markets I've ever been too, salmon and tuna sashimi quality blew me away. Map A memorial for the founder of modern Taiwan: Chiang Kai-Shek who took the nationalist government from China to Taiwan. Map Often compared to Tokyo's Harajuku for its large youth culture and popular fashion shops. Map Popular street snack in Ximending, delicious thick broth with thin noodles and pig intestines. Map Unique duck store in Ximending for all your duck pleasures ranging from tongue, feet, liver, gizzards and duck hearts. Map You will be able to find one of world's largest Chinese art collections at the National Palace Museum having over 700,000 ancient artifacts on display, I do recommend bringing a bunch of Taiwanese fried chicken snacks from the Chicken Founding Headquarters to the nearby Zhishan garden. Bizarre ice cream shop for its Kaoliang ice cream at 58% alcohol percentage and sesame chicken ice cream. Map Unknown to most tourist, Dao Liao is an ancient knife massage and one of the best massages I've ever received. Map Gorgeous Chinese folk religious temple downtown Taipei with daily rituals and offerings to the gods. Map Another famous temple often visited by businessmen looking for good fortunes. Map Relax during a waterfront bike ride north of Taipei along the Keelung river, these bikes at 20 NT per hour (\$0.60 USD) Map Enjoy an epic Mulberry smoothie at the Moonlight Riverside Cafe for just 80 NT. Map almond shaved ice at the Ice Monster in Taipei Hilarious places for dinner include the prawn fishing restaurant where you'll be able to capture your own dinner but also the Modern Toilet Restaurant where you can eat beef curry out of a toilet bowl. For dessert, indulge yourself into a delicious shaved ice delight at Ice Monster, my favorite flavour, the almond shaved ice, red beans and almond soft tofu. Bizarre tea egg shop popular for its fermented duck egg which was surprisingly delicious. Map One of the tallest Chinese classical buildings in the world, a gorgeous hotel great for photography. Map Delicious rare goose meat was better than I expected, it is a meat that should be experienced in Taiwan. Map Taipei is famous for its many night markets namely; Shilin, Linjiang and Raohe night markets open daily from afternoon to midnight. Map Going out in Taipei blew me away, I had no idea the nightlife was this

incredible at clubs: Vibe, Pong, OMNI, Babe18 and Elektro. Map Unique hot springs hotel with your private hot springs bath and view of downtown Beitou. Map After your dessert, head over to the Rilakkuma Cafe. The cutest cafe in Taiwan, including the cute cookies hanging off my coffee cup. On a sunny day, consider a bike ride along the Tamsui river by renting a super cheap Ubike, found all over Taipei for just 20 NT ~ \$0.60 USD, that is a steal! As a Dutch person I found this cafe very unique since I've never seen mini Dutch pancakes outside of Holland. Map Historic military housing for the fled soldiers from mainland China during the communist revolution. Map Perhaps the best metro system in the world, it was super simple to get around town without language barriers. Map attend a knife massage in Taipei, one of my most favourite massages yet One of the most incredible experiences was getting a knife massage by knife massage practitioners who require to be vegetarian and meditate daily but don't worry the cleavers used are blunt, it is quite satisfying getting hammered by blunt metal to a point where I fell asleep from relaxation. For ancient temples, visit the breathtaking Longshan temple also known as the 'meeting place of the gods' where you can witness daily rituals, offerings and many locals praying to the many deities. century eggs and fermented duck eggs in Taipei, Taiwan One of the strangest foods I tried were the fermented duck eggs which were traditionally made by a mixture of lime, salt and ash turning the egg white base into a gelatin texture and the egg yolk green from fermentation, to my surprise, this was a delicious snack. Alternatively, there is a Dutch poffertjes cafe in downtown Taipei. Running into these mini Dutch pancakes on the other side of the planet was a great surprise. As a giant lover of seafood, the Addiction Aquatic Development fish market is the ultimate destination. A high-end fish market with some of the best sashimi, grilled eel and other fish products I have ever tasted, a great spot for lunch! ready to eat epic seafood! at the high-end Addiction Fish Market Another bizarre place is ice cream shop Snow King where you can enjoy the most bizarre flavours from Taiwan beer, Kaoliang (58%), Brandy (40%) to sesame chicken ice cream with real bits of chicken. I double dare you to try the Kaoliang ice cream, it is an experience you'll talk about for the rest of your life. In conclusion, Taipei left a lasting impression on me to such an extent that I returned to Taipei a second time in less than a month time to record even more incredible footage of this mesmerizing city. If you are

considering of visiting Asia, do not skip Taiwan. As for the Taipei Night Markets like Shilin and Linjiang, go watch my special episode on night markets but the best part of Taipei has to be the Taipei Nightlife, I had no idea Taipei has so many amazing bars and night clubs with lots of positive, energenic and kind locals, do not forget to watch my Taipei Nightlife episode either. If you want to make new friends in Taipei, you will eventually be asked to be added to WeChat. WeChat is 'the' chat app in Taiwan, so if you do not have DATA on your phone during your stay, make sure to rent a dirt cheap pocket Wifi station at the airport. You can take these pocket Wifi stations all over the country and connect all of your devices (laptop, tablet, phone). It even fits in your back pocket. Luckily, there is a 10% discount on a pocket 4G Wifi station on Klook (\$1.45 USD per day). I rent this device everytime I visit Taiwan to avoid any stressful situations. What's New? Singapore Nightlife Guide: TOP 30 Bars & Clubs + Pub Crawl3 months ago Honolulu Nightlife Guide: 15 Best Bars & Clubs in Hawaii6 months ago Busan Nightlife Guide: TOP 20 Bars & Clubs + Pub Crawl8 months ago Seoul Nightlife Guide: TOP 30 Bars & Clubs + Pub Crawl9 months ago Prague Nightlife Guide: TOP 30 Bars & Clubs + Pub Crawl10 months ago FREE Newsletter! Subscribe to the monthly newsletter and get updates on latest posts. Who is Matt? My name is Matt (Reformatt), the past 20 years, I've traveled to 200+ cities and my videos have been watched 35 million times, with episodes ranging from food reviews to YouTube's #1 travel guides & nightlife guides.

Best Hidden gems in Taipei

Log in for great & exciting features! Welcome to Taipei Taiwan! Say goodbye to selfies, I will be your personal photographer. Let me show you the beauty of Taipei, and capture the best of you! Check my IG for ideas: [mason.tpe.photographer](#) Get a complete overview of Taipei on a 3.5-hour private guided tour. See the best the city has to offer with a perfect combination of highlights, hidden gems, a local snack and storytelling. Wanna try local way to travel? Don't worry about the travel plan. Let me choose the iconic spots and hidden gems for you while capturing the best of you! Check my IG for ideas: [mason.tpe.photographer](#) Wanna find hidden gems in Taiwan? Don't worry about the travel plan. Let me choose the iconic spots for you while capturing the best of you! Check my IG for ideas: [mason.tpe.photographer](#) Immerse yourself in Taipei's historic prosperity. Visit iconic temples, explore a hidden district, uncover the secrets of Chinese medicine and local products, and enjoy the sunset with local beer. Experience Taipei to Sun Moon Lake & Alishan in 3 days! Scenic beauty, cultural exploration, personalized attention? your journey, your memories. Let's GO! Relax on a private trip from Taipei to explore the Kavalan Distillery, Zhang Mei Ama's Farm, and the National Center for Traditional Arts. Discover Northern Taiwan's best: Houtong Cat Village, release sky lanterns in Pingxi, explore Jiufen Old Street, and see Shifen Waterfall? all with easy hotel transfers! OR Login to create your guides for Taipei. Din Tai Fung is the world-famous Taiwanese Cuisine Restaurant. This experience allows you to enjoy high-end traditional Taiwanese food for an affordable price. Discover scenic Northern Taiwan on a private day tour from Taipei. Be amazed by the landscapes in Yehliu Geopark. Explore the beauty of historical Jiufen, which inspired Oscar-winning animations then make a wish with a sky lantern flying over Pingxi. Escape the city and explore the essence of tea on a guided tour from Taipei to Maokong and Pinglin. Experience Taiwanese tea culture from seed to cup on this tour that is ideal for tea enthusiasts. Witness unforgettable, panoramic views over Taipei city from the observation deck of the iconic Taipei 101. Enjoy skip-the-line access and avoid the long wait to enter this popular attraction. Relax and refresh before your flight with a premium lounge pass at Taiwan Taoyuan Airport. Enjoy unlimited

high-speed WiFi while you dine on delicious food and beverages for a dedicated duration. Witness unforgettable, panoramic views over Taipei from the observation deck of the iconic Taipei 101, once the world's tallest building. Travel up 89 floors for fantastic 360-degree views over Taipei City. Travel to northern Taiwan's most popular tourist attractions, such as Jiufen, Yehliu or Yangmingshan National Park with your own private driver. Soak in the tranquility of tea plantation scenery in Thousand Island Lake, away from bustling Taipei. Learn about rich tea culture and history at Pinglin Tea Museum. Taste tea at a local tea house. Travel to northern Taiwan with this group tour from Taipei. Marvel at rock formations in Yehliu Geopark, visit a mountain village in Jiufen, and launch a sky lantern in Pingxi. No need to worry if your plans change with free cancellation options available

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Highlights & Hidden Gems With Locals: Best of Taipei Private Tour - Taipei, Taiwan - TourMega

This was great Diane the tour guide loves her city and that was infectious. The tour has various sites from tempels to markets .

Informative and upbeat background stories on each location . Grand afternoon Jack offered a great and insightful tour of the area. He was very

knowledgeable and provided me a great morning full of sights,

knowledge and local culture. As online reviews were fantastic, we spontaneously decided to give

Withlocals a try and did not regret it! The booking process was quick and easy, and our guide Jack turned out to be the perfect choice for us. Time was flying as he had so many interesting places to

show and facts to tell us, so w...

Read more I have a wonderful time with Chia-Chien, she is out-going and speak excellent English and knowledge about the places we visited regard the

history so I learn many things about her country and she is a great

host. Had a wonderful tour in Taipei with Chia-Chien L from withlocals.com. She is knowledgeable

as well as friendly. I learned much on the History of Taipei, and we were just in time to see the

guards in the Presidential palace do their act. There followed a long, pleasant bicycle ride to the north-we...

Read more We were on a cruise and booked a private tour of Taipei for our family of 4 with Chia-chien. She met us right at the port and off we went. She has a lot of energy, is a lot of fun, and

took us to the best sites in Taipei and explained her culture and history. She really brought Taipei to life fo...

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Finding the hidden gems in Taipei - 5 Speakeasy choices for your night out! | TourMeAway Nightlife Travel Blog

Cities have two faces, one for the day and one for the night. But to travel in the night time in a strange city is not always the first choice for the first-time travellers. Luckily, Taipei is one of the safest places on earth where one actually goes out for supper at 2am in the morning alone. There are some pick-pockets in the crowded places, but that is the top risk travellers certainly don't have to worry about going back to the hotels/hostels safely (taxis and uber work late as well!).

To explore Taipei in the nighttime is easy as most shopping area run until 10pm, and even after that there are night markets for a snack or bubble milk tea late into nights. However, if you like a drink or two, you are especially in the right place! Ever since the law lifted the restriction on brewing alcohol back in the 1990s, the industry blooms with numerous craft beer breweries, award-winning cocktail mixologists, and all vibes of bars! Taipei's nightlife now has become even more abundant with speakeasy scattered across the city. They are fun, they provide delicious cocktails, but finding them is a challenge! Fear not though, as we are about to bring to you a guide for speakeasy -- and how to get in! Le Kief????? Located on a street delightfully decorated with bars, Le Kief lies behind a tailor store. Inspired by the movie 'Kingsmen,' this speakeasy disguises itself as a suit store. Cooperating with STYDER, a customized suit tailor brand, one can actually purchase the shirts, ties, shoes, and suits in the store. To get to the drinking section, walk to the end of the store, pick up the antique phone and dial 09, and the hidden door will slide open on your left hand side, leading you into the bar. Once passed the tunnel from the glamorous tailor store, one will find themselves standing in a dimly lighted, run-down style space. To imitate the speakeasy in the 20s, the walls are bare and the bar is behind a wooden pallet. I personally love their cocktails match with foods. 'Between the sheets' mixes Apple Brandy with Rum, and topped with cinnamon and a piece of freshly baked bacon. Take a sip then a bite of the bacon, the smokey taste adding up with the thick brandy flavour could satisfy all hunger! Mozi???? Mozi is possibly my personal favourite

one, as they don't only provide wonderful and creative cocktails, but also amazing foods! From the outside this is a normal operating salon, but you only have to bravely walk past all stylists and their customers, and lightly push the bookshelf by the stairs, and you'll be welcomed in by the speakeasy. (Feel free to ask the stylists otherwise they might be acting normal!) I adore their tea based cocktails, and oftentimes there are fresh seasonal fruit to add some local touch, but if you want to something different to start the night with, try "Tea from Grandpa," which was based on the Earl Grey infused Gin and added with lime juice. Don't miss out on their Mushroom with Matsusaka pork, and if you are in the mood for some local delicacies, try the Mozi Luwei, which contains bean curds, intestines, and pork blood cakes braised in soy sauce. Enjoy your adventure! Ounce Ounce is a bar hidden behind a bar, and our suggestion is to take a beer from the outside bar, sit by the roadside and enjoy some night breeze before you press the button on the wall, push through to enter the cocktail part of your night. Ounce is one of the earliest speakeasy in Taipei, and many local's favourite with its classical flavours and cozy space. The cocktail style in Ounce is simple, strong, and dry, if you are still pondering over the menu, try their Daiquiri. If you are lucky enough, you might meet one of their guest mixologists -- they invite award-winning mixologists from around the world. Once Cafe&Bar Comparing to the others, Once is quieter especially on weekday nights, which can be a blessing on the hustle and bustle Ximen area. This is also one speakeasy that doesn't come with any special gadgets. Simply walk to the end of the cafe, and you'll find a narrow stairs to the basement. In this attached basement, there is a separate bar, some comfortable sofa space, and a pair of great stereo! Even more than that, Once has an amazing collection of gin, so try any of their gin and tonic, and pick a special gin to your choice!

Partner: Taiwan Youth Hostel Association,

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The Best Hidden Gems in Taipei | Updated December 2024

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Withlocals

Taipei: Private Tour With Locals ? Highlights & Hidden Gems | Travel Buddies

Explore the highlights and hidden gems of Taipei on a private guided tour designed for small groups. The 3.5-hour tour departs from Chiang Kai-Shek Memorial Hall station, led by a knowledgeable local guide. Discover iconic landmarks like Dalongdong Baoan Temple and Chiang Kai-Shek Statue, while immersing in the vibrant culture at Maji Market. Enjoy a complimentary local snack or drink, and benefit from flexible booking and free cancellation. With positive reviews and organized service, this tour offers excellent value. Learn more about discovering Taipei's hidden gems and local cultural experiences. It's also worth checking out some other tours and experiences nearby. Designed for small groups, this private guided tour of Taipei showcases the city's highlights and hidden gems over the course of 3.5 hours. It's limited to a maximum of 8 participants and conducted in English. The tour departs from the MRT Chiang Kai-Shek Memorial Hall station, Exit 5, allowing guests to conveniently access the tour's starting point. Throughout the experience, the knowledgeable guide provides insights into local culture and history, and participants enjoy a complimentary local snack or drink. This flexible booking option allows travelers to reserve their spot now and pay later, with free cancellation available up to 24 hours in advance. This private guided tour of Taipei showcases the city's highlights and hidden gems. Travelers will discover iconic landmarks like the Dalongdong Baoan Temple, a well-preserved example of traditional Taiwanese architecture, and the Chiang Kai-Shek Statue, a commanding monument honoring the former president. The tour also includes a visit to the bustling Maji Market, where visitors can enjoy the local culture and savor a complimentary local snack or drink. Throughout the experience, the knowledgeable guide provides valuable insights, ensuring an engaging and enriching exploration of Taipei's most fascinating sights and hidden treasures. Travelers can book this private tour of Taipei starting from K\$2,044 per person. The tour offers flexible booking, allowing customers to reserve now and pay later. On top of that, free cancellation is available up to 24 hours in advance for a full refund. The booking information for this tour is summarized in the table below: This tour provides

excellent value for money, with positive reviews highlighting the knowledgeable guide and organized service. The private tour of Taipei includes a knowledgeable local guide who'll lead the group through the city's highlights and hidden gems. The tour also includes a local drink or tasting to help travelers experience the local culture. Plus, the tour company offsets the CO2 emissions to make the experience more eco-friendly. Pickup or drop-off at the traveler's accommodation is provided as a convenient service. While the tour covers the major sights, any additional food or drink beyond the included item isn't part of the package. Reviewers have generally praised the Private Tour in Taipei, awarding it an overall rating of 4.5 out of 5 stars based on 11 reviews. Travelers have highlighted the tour's value for money, excellent service, and thorough organization. Many notable experiences were shared, including praise for a knowledgeable guide named Cola. However, a few reviewers reported instances where the tour guide was absent. On the Taipei Private Tour, participants have the opportunity to discover the city's most iconic landmarks and hidden gems. The tour takes visitors to the Dalongdong Baoan Temple, a stunning 200-year-old Taoist temple that showcases intricate woodcarvings and detailed murals. Next, guests marvel at the grand Chiang Kai-Shek Statue, a towering monument honoring the former Taiwanese president. The tour also includes a visit to the lively Maji Market, where travelers can enjoy the local culture and savor a traditional Taiwanese snack or drink. Throughout the experience, the knowledgeable guide provides insightful commentary, bringing the city's rich history and traditions to life. Alongside the exploration of Taipei's iconic landmarks, the Private Tour immerses participants in the city's vibrant local culture. Through the guidance of a knowledgeable local, travelers gain authentic insights into the daily lives and traditions of the Taipei people. This includes visiting bustling local markets, like the Maji Market, where visitors can sample regional snacks and interact with friendly vendors. The tour also incorporates a stop at the Dalongdong Baoan Temple, allowing guests to witness the rich religious and spiritual practices that are deeply rooted in Taiwanese society. One of the key advantages of the Private Tour in Taipei is its flexible and hassle-free booking process. Travelers can reserve their spot now and pay later, providing them with the flexibility to plan their trip without an immediate financial commitment. Plus, the tour offers free cancellation up to 24 hours in advance, allowing

participants to adjust their plans if needed. This level of booking convenience is further enhanced by the tour's [ARTICLE TITLE], as shown in the table below. Here's a few more nearby tours and experiences we think you'll like. The tour doesn't specify a minimum age requirement. However, it's a private guided tour, so the tour operator likely accommodates all ages. Travelers should consult with the tour provider for any age restrictions or recommendations. The tour can be customized to include specific interests. Travelers can discuss their preferences with the tour provider, who'll work to tailor the experience to their needs and ensure they get the most out of their time in Taipei. Unfortunately, the tour operator doesn't currently offer any discounts for students or seniors. However, the price is already competitively priced, and the tour provides excellent value with the private guide and included local drink or snack. The tour is not explicitly advertised as wheelchair accessible. It's best to contact the tour operator directly to inquire about accessibility accommodations and arrangements that can be made to ensure a comfortable experience. The meeting point can be changed if necessary, but this would need to be arranged with the tour operator in advance. They generally aim to accommodate reasonable requests from customers to ensure a smooth and enjoyable tour experience. Not for you? Here's more of our most recent tour reviews happening nearby This private tour of Taipei offers an immersive experience, showcasing the city's iconic landmarks and hidden gems. Led by a local guide, travelers can discover the rich cultural heritage, indulge in local snacks, and gain insider insights that enhance their understanding of Taipei's captivating essence. Whether a first-time visitor or a seasoned traveler, this personalized tour promises an unforgettable exploration of the vibrant capital. © 2024 Travel Buddies

3 Taipei hidden gems free to visit

| Taiwan News | Mar. 25, 2021 12:44

MORE Taiwan News © 2024 All Rights Reserved. / Calming, lesser-known historic locales around capital provide lessons, food Mar. 25, 2021 12:44 TAIPEI (Taiwan News) ? Three soul-soothing hidden spots in Taipei are free to visit. The Taipei City Government's Department of Culture Affairs on Wednesday (March 24) recommended three lesser-known historic spots around the capital to photoholics and foodies. The best part? Entry is free. The former dormitory for the director of Songshan Sanatorium, established in 1935 during the Japanese occupation (1939-1945), the Jing Hsin Yuan (???) in Nangang District, now serves as a cultural venue. Jing Hsin Yuan (Facebook photo) It was designated a historic site in 2006 and re-opened last May. The old house provides visitors with healthy food and desserts set to music composed by Canadian musician Matthew Lien, whose compositions are often inspired by nature. "Jing Hsin" (jingxin, ??) in Mandarin means to calm down. Visitors will be soothed by the site's wooden furniture, decorative windows, and a Japanese pond in the yard. Sin Hong Choon (Taipei City Government photo) Founded in 1934 and run by the powerful Wang family, the three-story tea shop Sin Hong Choon (?????) is located in the vibrant Dadaocheng area. After the tea business came to an end, the owner donated the building to the government, and it was classified as a historic site in 2009. Even after reconstruction, the former residential and commercial building still retains the red brick door frame, spring couplets, and other traditional details. The site also hosts tours and tea-themed exhibitions from time to time. Taipei Quin Hall (Taipei City Government photo) Last but not least is Taipei Qin Hall (?????), a former Japanese dormitory on Qidong Street in Zhongzheng District. The hall showcases a rich variety of culture, organizing calligraphy, martial arts, and tea lessons. Curator Yuan Cheng-ping (???) said it is important that people understand the beauty of playing the guqin instead of simply knowing how to play the traditional Chinese instrument. Taipei launches WMG2025 FunPass ahead of World Masters Games Sep. 6, 2024 15:12 Taipei-Hsinchu ranks 25th in top 100 tech clusters Aug. 29, 2024 09:46 Giant Taipei mascot plush bear on display Aug. 15, 2024 12:24 Yannick launches new

cake vending machines at Taipei MRT stations Aug. 2, 2024 18:15 Century-long data shows Taipei warmer than southern Taiwan Jul. 19, 2024 10:35 Taipei ranks 66th on Global Liveability Index Jun. 28, 2024 17:45 Taiwan receipt lottery unveils winning numbers for September-October Taiwan rejects dual citizenship petition Taiwan holds air defense drill as China's Joint Sword-2024C exercise looms North Taiwan to see temperatures below 10 C Taipei 7-Eleven customer buys NT\$35 coffee, wins NT\$10 million receipt lottery jackpot Tainan construction project halted after discovery of suspected ancient remains Pro-China propaganda spreads surreptitiously on news websites through PR firms Taiwan boxer Lin Yu-ting withdraws from World Boxing event over confidentiality issues Taiwan tech leaders debate whether overseas chipmaking will threaten security Taiwan crushes China 16-0 at U-12 Asian Baseball Championship Taiwan News, Staff Writer

Taipei's Most Hidden Gem | Story | Hero Traveler

Thousand Island Lake is one of those places where people ask me where is this. Thousand Island Lake is approximately a 35-minute bus ride from the end of the green line MRT, Xindian ???. It is a huge lake with many trails to walk along. Thousand Island Lake also holds a tea plantation where people can get a tour and learn about Taiwanese delicacies, history and much more. The first time I went to Thousand Island Lake was in November. It rained the night before so it was hard to see the mountains. The clouds touched the top of the mountains. I went with my friend, who I worked with at the time. We walked along the road to see multiple views of the lake and up the hill. I went back a second time at the end of March. This time I went was much more of a success for numerous reasons. I took my friend's friend who was visiting her to Thousand Island Lake. It was 28 degrees Celcius that day and clear. Second, we discovered that there was a shuttle that takes you all the way back up the hill and to the bus stop going back to Taipei for \$100 TWD a person. This is one of those hidden gems outside of Taipei. Every local I knew, said they never heard of the place, even when I said the name in Chinese. I felt proud of going somewhere the locals don't know. Both times I went, there were not many people walking along the trail, which I find surprising. It looks like a mini Ha Long Bay! Have you ever been to a place that was so beautiful yet, not touristy? Tell me in the comments below! I want to know! Asia, Off Grid, Wellness To get to Thousand Island Lake, you will take the green MRT line heading to Xindian. Once you exit the MRT, you will wait in line for bus G12. The bus is about 35 minutes long. You will get off at the Shisangu ??? stop.

Download the app, Bus Tracker Taipei. You can get post notifications to get on and off the bus. This will help you plan and have the shuttle bus take you back to the stop.

Bring snacks with you because there is a lot of walking. There are small restaurants with vegetarian options.

The bus ride from the Green Line MRT Xindian costs 15 NTD there and 15 NTD back for less than \$1 USD.

?Road Trip?How to Discover Taiwan's Hidden Gems by Road Trip

Travel the World with Trip.com Catalogue Show More? As a renowned tourist destination in Asia, Taiwan is filled with the mysterious charm of Eastern culture and stunning natural landscapes. Known as the "Treasure Island," Taiwan truly lives up to its name, with breathtaking scenery between its endless coastlines and lush mountains, such as Ali Mountain, Moon Lake, Qingjing Farm, and Chingshui Cliff, attracting travelers worldwide. Taiwan is also rich in historical sites, with ancient temples, century-old streets, and the palace museum silently narrating the stories of its past. With vibrant neon lights, crashing waves, and unlimited scenic beauty, grab your self-drive guide and head to Taiwan! One of China's two island provinces, Taiwan is located on the continental shelf off the southeast coast of China, including Taiwan Island and its affiliated islands and the Pescadores Islands. Taiwan Island is China's largest island and the world's 38th largest, stretching about 395 kilometers from north to south and up to 145 kilometers wide from east to west. It is a crucial maritime hub for China and the Asia-Pacific region. Surrounded by the sea, Taiwan Island boasts diverse coastal landscapes, making it become a varied and unique coastal region in China. Shaped like a banana leaf, the island is divided into five major terrains: mountains, hills, basins, plains, and plateaus. Over half of the area is mountainous, with the central mountain range dividing the island into asymmetrical eastern and western parts. Taiwan is a dazzling gem on the world map. Its 1,200-kilometer coastal line features towering cliffs and crashing waves on the east, while the west showcases colorful rock formations and mysterious caves. Magnificent temples and historic streets immerse visitors in the traditional culture world. Bustling night markets and food courts are perfect for tasting Taiwanese delicacies. Whether it's natural beauty or cultural heritage, Taiwan is a captivating place that leaves a lasting impression. Ethnic Minorities: Taiwan's indigenous peoples, such as the Amis with their lively dances, the Bunun with their ancient harmonies, and the Tao with their unique island culture, offer a colorful cultural tapestry. Language: Minnan is the primary dialect in Taiwan, closely related to the dialects of Xiamen and Zhangzhou in Fujian. 1. Car Rental Documents ? Original passport of the driver; ? An international driving permit is required for driving

in Taiwan. Mainland Chinese licenses need to be converted to a third-party license (e.g., Hong Kong, USA) to obtain an international permit. ? An international credit card with embossed numbers and a chip under the main driver's name, with a limit covering the deposit; ? A car rental voucher provided by Ctrip upon order confirmation.

2. Recommended Apps Google Maps: The common used navigation app, providing excellent route planning for both driving and public transport. It also offers detailed restaurant ratings and reviews.

3. Essential Items (1) Car Phone Holder: Taiwan's traffic rules prohibit using handheld phones while driving, so a phone holder is necessary. (2) Child Seat: Required for children under four years or 18 kilograms, with hefty fines for non-compliance. Available as an "accessory product" on Ctrip's car rental page.

1. Traffic Rules Driving in Taiwan is not difficult for those familiar with driving in mainland China. Understanding Taiwan's traffic rules and signs is essential for a smooth driving experience. Here are some key rules: (1) Seat Belts: All passengers must wear seat belts, including those in the back. (2) Drive on the Right: Vehicles drive on the right, similar to mainland China. (3) Yield to Pedestrians: Pedestrians have the right of way. (4) Right of Way: Straight vehicles and larger vehicles have priority. (5) Speed Limits: Follow posted signs, with city limits of 40-50 km/h and highways at 100-110 km/h.

2. Common Signs (1) STOP Sign: Must stop for 3 seconds. (2) YIELD Sign: Slow down and prepare to stop, allowing other vehicles to pass. (3) NO PASSING ZONE: No overtaking allowed.

3. Highway Fees (1) Toll: Taiwan's highways mostly use ETC (Electronic Toll Collection). (2) Payment: Fees are settled after returning the car, along with any fines.

4. Refueling and Parking (1) Refueling: Gas stations operate during regular hours, with some open 24/7. Staff usually assist with refueling, but self-service is available. Follow the car's fuel type or ask for assistance. (2) Fuel Prices: Similar to mainland China, with diesel 10-15% cheaper than gasoline. (3) Parking: Special spaces like disabled and maternity spots are off-limits; red-lined areas are no-parking zones; yellow-lined areas allow parking for up to three minutes. White boxes at intersections are for motorcycles only. (4) Payment: City parking costs 20-30 NTD/hour. Roadside parking requires a timed ticket from staff, payable at convenience stores like 7-11. Night parking is free from 10:00 PM to 8:00 AM.

5. Recommended Vehicle Due to Taiwan's complex terrain, a powerful vehicle is recommended.

6. Car Rental Tips Check if the

supplier supports free one-way rentals, as some may charge for this service.

1. Taiwan Island Loop

With its endless coastlines, the 1,200-kilometer island loop offers stunning views and famous attractions like Ali Mountain, Moon Lake, and Kenting Park. If time allows, don't miss this loop, starting from Taipei and circling back, allowing you to enjoy the island's beauty at your own pace.

(1) Itinerary: Taipei ? Ilan ? Taitung ? Pingtung ? Kaohsiung ? Tainan ? Chiayi ? Taichung ? Jiufen ? Taipei

DAY1: Presidential Palace?Chiang Kai-shek Memorial Hall?Shilin Official Residence?the palace museum?101 Building

DAY2: Ilan?Toucheng old street?Yilan Station?Jiaoxi Hot Springs Park?Happiness Transfer Station?Luodong Night Market

DAY3: Taitung?Chishang rice lunch box?Brown's Road?Dapo chi

DAY4: Ping tung?Dragon plate park?Eluanbi Park?Eluanbi Light house?White Sand Shore?Longluan Lake

DAY5: Kaohsiung?E-DA World?85 Sky Tower?Hsitzuwan?liuhenightmarket

DAY6: Tainan?Anping Old Street?Sitsao Wetland?Taijiang National Park?JingzijiaoWapanSaltFields

DAY7: Chiayi?Fenchihu?Ali Mountain?Eryan Ping Trail

DAY8: Tai chung?Rainbow Village?Qingjing Farm?Moon Lake

DAY9: Jiufen Old Street?shifen waterfall?Ten Heavenly Lanterns?Tai pei

(2) Driving Distance: 1,000 kilometers

(3) Suggested Duration: 9 days

(4) Suitable for: General public

(5) Must-Visit Attractions

101 Building: Located in Taipei's Xinyi District, this iconic skyscraper combines offices, an observatory, and a shopping center. The 89th-floor observatory offers great views, photography services, audio guides, an ice cream shop, and a souvenir store.

85 Sky Tower: Also known as TC Tower, this famous skyscraper in Kaohsiung features a unique design by architect Li Zuyuan. The tower merges into a single structure above the 35th floor, reaching up to 85 floors. It houses a department store, a magical world, and an open observatory with stunning views on clear days.

Moon Lake: Synonymous with Taiwan's scenic beauty, MoonLake is surrounded by mountains and lush forests, with crystal-clear waters. The small island in the lake creates a picturesque scene, with the northern half resembling a sun and the southern half a crescent moon, giving the lake its name.

Rainbow Village: Near Ling Tung University in Taichung, this old military dependents' village was transformed by retired soldier Huang Yung-Fu, who painted vibrant rainbows and cute animals on the streets. Known as "Rainbow Village," it attracts photographers and art lovers, with Huang affectionately called "Rainbow

Grandpa." Ali Mountain: Located in Chiayi County, Ali Mountain is known for its mild climate and is a popular summer retreat. Famous for its sunrise, sea of clouds, sunset, and forests, it offers breathtaking views with towering peaks and lush greenery.

2. Taitung Mini Loop For those with limited time or budget, this shorter loop captures the essence of Taiwan's beauty, including lakes, mountains, sea views, farms, and wetlands. It also features cultural sites like the palace museum, Rainbow Village, and Formosan Aboriginal Culture Village, along with local night markets for a taste of Taiwanese cuisine.

(1) Itinerary: Taipei ? Hualien ? Nantou ? Taichung ? Taipei

DAY1: Taipei?Chiang Kai-shek Memorial Hall?the palace museum?Eslite?101 Building?Ningxia Road Night Market

DAY2: Hualien?Chihshingtan Beach?Taroko?Chingshui Cliff?Farglory Ocean Park

DAY3: Nantou?Qingjing Farm?Moon Lake?Sky bridge?Formosan Aboriginal Culture Village

DAY4: Taichung?Gaomei Wetland?Miyahara?Rainbow Village

DAY5: Taipei?Yangmingshan Mountain?YinYang Sea?Jiufen Old Street?Ten Heavenly Lanterns

(2) Driving Distance: 560 kilometers

(3) Suggested Duration: 5 days

(4) Suitable for: General public

(5) Must-Visit Attractions

Chihshingtan Beach: A crescent-shaped beach perfect for sunrise, stargazing, and moon watching. In summer, the sunrise at 5 AM is a spectacular sight, while stargazing on moonless nights offers a clear view of the Milky Way.

the palace museum: Located in Taipei's Shilin District, this museum houses a vast collection of Chinese artifacts, with around 650,000 pieces. Known for its exhibits, the museum changes displays every three months and hosts special exhibitions.

Qingjing Farm: Situated in Nantou County, this 760-hectare farm offers stunning views of lush hillsides. Each season brings unique beauty, from spring blossoms to summer greenery, autumn wildflowers, and winter snow-capped peaks.

Gaomei Wetland: Located in Taichung, this wetland features diverse habitats and is a haven for migratory birds in winter. The sight of wind turbines against a colorful sunset is a breathtaking experience.

Taiwan East Coast Drive Kenting's beaches are a perfect blend of blue waters and white sands, unmatched by other "Little Kentings." For an authentic Taiwanese seaside experience, head to Kenting, a favorite vacation spot for locals. This route starts in Taipei and heads south to the island's southern tip, offering sunshine, warm breezes, and the romantic vibes of Taiwanese dramas.

(1) Itinerary: Taipei ? Hualien ? Taitung ? Kenting ? Kaohsiung

DAY1:

Taipei?Hsimenting?Yangming Mountain?YinYang Sea?Jiufen Old Street?TenHeavenlyLanterns
 DAY2: Hualien?Chihsingtan Beach?Taroko?Chingshui Cliff?Farglory Ocean Park DAY3:
 Taitung?Chishangrice lunch box?Brown's Road?Dapo chi DAY4: Kenting?Dragon plate
 park?Eluanbi Park?Eluanbi Light house?White Sand Shore?Longluan Lake DAY5: Formosa
 Boulevard?Hsitzuwan?Qijin Shell Museum?Qijin Rainbow Church?liuhe night market (2) Driving
 Distance: 550 kilometers (3) Suggested Duration: 5 days (4) Suitable for: General public (5)
 Must-Visit Attractions Taroko: Located in eastern Taiwan, Taroko offers majestic gorges, waterfalls,
 and the heritage of the Taroko people. The national park spans 92,000 hectares, with famous sites
 like Shakadang Trail, Eternal Spring Shrine, Swallow Grotto, and the Taroko Gorge. Qijin Shell
 Museum: One of the largest shell museum in Southeast Asia, located in Qijin Coastal Park's visitor
 center. It features nearly 2,000 shell species, donated by Mr. Huang Ge-liang, with free guided
 tours. Longluan Lake: Located on the Hengchun Peninsula, the park is named after a coral reef
 resembling a crouching cat. The area features unique geological formations and is ideal for viewing
 the Taiwan Strait coastline. Chihsingtan Beach: A crescent-shaped beach perfect for sunrise,
 stargazing, and moon-watching. In summer, the sunrise at 5 AM is a spectacular sight, while
 stargazing on moonless nights offers a clear view of the Milky Way. Beef Noodles: A Chinese
 national favorite, with vendors striving for the perfect combination of tender beef and rich broth.
 Varieties include braised and clear broth, often served with stewed beef and tendons. Braised Pork
 Rice: A popular dish made with rice, pork belly, shallots, and spices. The key is the flavorful meat
 sauce, with variations in Tainan, Taichung, and Taipei. Mianxian: A common Taiwanese dish, with
 variations like longevity noodles, pig's trotter noodles, and sesame oil noodles. Oyster noodles,
 made with oysters and noodles, are a must-try, often paired with chili sauce, vinegar, garlic, and
 cilantro. Oyster Omelette: Crispy on the outside, with a chewy texture from sweet potato and
 cornstarch batter, topped with a sweet and spicy sauce. Fresh oysters and vegetables add a burst
 of flavor, making it a night market favorite. Pineapple Cake: A sweet treat with a crumbly crust and a
 sweet, tangy filling, perfect for those with a sweet tooth. >>>?Chinese Islands?The Complete Guide
 to Chinese Island Tourism: Taiwan Islands >>>10 Fantastic Things to Do in Taipei

?Taiwan Tour?Hidden Gems of Taiwan: Unexplored Destinations ?

Justaiwantour Blog

Are you looking for off-the-beaten-path destination? When you think of Taiwan, bustling cities like Taipei, stunning landmarks like Taipei 101, and famous attractions like Taroko Gorge might come to mind. However, beyond these well-trodden paths lies a treasure trove of hidden gems waiting to be discovered. For the adventurous traveler, Taiwan offers a plethora of lesser-known destinations that promise unique experiences, untouched beauty, and unforgettable memories. Join us as we uncover some of Taiwan's best-kept secrets, perfect for those eager to explore off the beaten path.

Jiaoxi Hot Springs, Yilan Tired of the crowds at Beitou Hot Springs? Dive into the serene embrace of Jiaoxi Hot Springs, Yilan's best-kept secret! Picture yourself soaking in luxurious hot spring hotels while munching on delicious scallion pancakes?because nothing says relaxation like hot water and crispy carbs. Pro tip: Visit during weekdays to avoid the weekend rush and soak in peace. Getting there is a breeze with our Yilan 1-Day Private Charter from Taipei. Trust us, your body and taste buds will thank you!

Qimei Island, Penghu Discover Qimei Island in Penghu, where pristine beaches meet charming fishing villages and the famous Twin Hearts Stone Weir steals the show. Dive into adventures like snorkeling in crystal-clear waters, cycling around the island with the breeze in your hair, and uncovering quirky historical sites. It's the perfect getaway for those who love nature, culture, and a good dose of island humor. You might also want to read more?

Sun Moon Lake Day Tour?Private 1 Day Sun Moon Lake Escape Tour from Taipei Lalashan, Taoyuan Nestled in the heart of Taoyuan, Lalashan is like nature's VIP lounge, where ancient divine trees reign supreme and lush forests roll out the green carpet just for you. Imagine hiking trails that make you feel like you're strolling through an enchanted forest, complete with a serenade from chirping birds and the whisper of leaves. By the way, also explore Yangmingshan's beautiful scenery via hiking adventure. When you're done hugging trees, dive into nearby attractions and feast on local delicacies that will have your taste buds dancing. Lalashan: where even Mother Nature kicks back and relaxes!

Caoling Historic Trail, New Taipei City Discover the Caoling Historic Trail in New Taipei City, a stunning

hiking path where history meets hilarity! This trail offers jaw-dropping scenic views and ancient inscriptions that whisper secrets from centuries past. Marvel at the diverse flora and fauna, but watch out for mischievous monkeys—they love a good prank! Suitable for intermediate hikers, the trail takes about 4-5 hours. Pack snacks, water, and your sense of adventure, and get ready for a hike that's as entertaining as it is enlightening! [Read more?](#)[Taiwan Hiking Tour?](#)[Taiwan's Top 10 Mountains to Climb.](#)

Sandimen, Pingtung Sandimen, located in Pingtung, is a vibrant village celebrated for its rich indigenous culture and arts. You can immerse yourself in the colorful world of the Paiwan and Rukai tribes through traditional performances, intricate arts and crafts, and hands-on cultural tours and workshops. This enchanting destination offers a unique opportunity to learn about and experience the authentic traditions and artistic expressions of Taiwan's indigenous communities. [Read more?](#)[About Taiwan?](#)[Understanding Taiwan's Indigenous Cultures.](#)

Zhushan Sky Ladder, Nantou It is a thrilling suspension bridge that offers breathtaking views of the surrounding mountains. The journey to the Sky Ladder is an adventure in itself, with winding paths and lush landscapes. Visit early in the morning for stunning sunrises that illuminate the entire valley. Nearby attractions include Sun Moon Lake and the picturesque Cingjing Farm, making it a perfect destination for nature lovers and adventure seekers alike.

Shuangliu Forest Recreation Area, Taitung Shuangliu Forest Recreation Area in Taitung is a hidden paradise for nature lovers. This serene oasis features cascading waterfalls, lush forest trails, and tranquil camping spots perfect for unwinding. To reach this secluded gem, head towards Taitung's rural outskirts and follow signs to the recreation area. Expect to be enchanted by the pristine natural beauty, abundant wildlife, and the peaceful ambiance that makes it an ideal retreat for hiking and camping enthusiasts. Also check out [Alishan Travel Guide?](#)[Discover Wellness and Renewal in Alishan: Your Perfect New Year Escape.](#)

In conclusion, exploring Taiwan's hidden gems offers a unique and enriching experience beyond the usual tourist spots. Stepping off the beaten path reveals the island's true beauty and charm, perfect for adventurous souls seeking unforgettable memories. As you venture into these lesser-known destinations, remember to respect local customs and preserve the natural environment, ensuring these treasures remain unspoiled for future explorers. Discover the

extraordinary side of Taiwan and embark on a journey like no other. You might want to read?Taiwan Tour?Photogenic Taiwan: Best Spots for Instagram-Worthy Photos. And that?s the tea. Follow our YouTube & Instagram & Facebook for more amazing Taiwan. #Discover #ExploreTaiwan Justaiwantour can also customize a private tour for you based on your preference. So don?t hesitate to contact us for a customized tour! We are Justaiwantour, a locally based travel resource provider and travel agency helping introduce Taiwan to the world !

Taipei Private Tours: Discover Highlights and Hidden Gems with a Local: Book Tours & Activities at Peek.com

Experience the best of Taipei with a local guide who will show you both the famous attractions and hidden gems. Explore the city's highlights or venture into off-the-beaten-path neighborhoods. Experience the best of Taipei with a local guide who will show you both the famous attractions and hidden gems. Explore the city's highlights or venture into off-the-beaten-path neighborhoods. With a local Taipei guide, you can explore this lively, colorful city together. Share your interests, and enjoy the journey.

Liberty Square - Start your day with a traditional Taiwanese breakfast before heading to Liberty Square. From here, you can access many famous attractions and explore the surrounding temples and buildings for a dose of history and Instagram-worthy moments.

Chiang Kai-Shek Memorial Hall - This is a must-see! Ask your guide about its political significance.

Bopiliao Ancient Street - Step back in time on Bopiliao Old Street, a relic from the Qing Dynasty.

Tamsui Fisherman's Wharf - Catch a stunning tangerine sunset at Tamsui Fisherman's Wharf.

Shilin Night Market - Try beef noodles, pepper buns, flame-torched sausages, and soup dumplings. Are you daring enough to try stinky tofu? We think you are.

Ximending - Depending on the timing of your visit, you might want to explore the Shilin and Raohe night markets, hike Elephant Mountain for amazing city views, shop in trendy Ximending, or enjoy nature in Yangmingshan National Park.

Raohe Street Night Market - Discover ingredients you never knew existed and dive into this world of culinary brilliance. Some modern apartments don't have kitchens because the nation's kitchen is on the streets. Now that's confidence in their street food scene. Street food is such a vital part of life here that some apartments are built without kitchens. Try pork belly buns and bubble tea to see why this makes perfect sense! Discover Taipei as you would if you were staying with a friend who lived there, on this personalized experience with a Local Host. In just half a day you'll experience the authentic side of Taipei as you visit famous attractions and discover hidden gems with a Local Host who knows and loves the city. Explore vibrant Taipei's highlights or discover an?

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Local Host. In just half a day you'll experience the authentic side of Taipei as you visit famous attractions and discover hidden gems with a Local Host who knows and loves the city. Explore vibrant Taipei's highlights or discover an off-the-beaten-path neighborhood, get oriented and immerse yourself in Taipei's unique culture with a Local Host by your side to navigate on your personalized route that's been created just for you! For a full refund, cancel at least 24 hours before the scheduled departure time. For a full refund, cancel at least 24 hours before the scheduled departure time.

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10 Must-Visit Hidden Gems in Taiwan

Taiwan Travel Consulting Home Blog About More When it comes to travel, sometimes the best experiences are found off the beaten path. In Taiwan, there are countless hidden gems waiting to be discovered. From serene mountain landscapes to cascading waterfalls and picturesque temples, these hidden gems offer a glimpse into the rich natural beauty of Taiwan. Here are 10 must-visit hidden gems in Taiwan that will take your breath away.

1. Alishan: Located in the heart of Taiwan, Alishan is a mountainous region known for its stunning sunrise views. Take a scenic train ride through the misty forests and witness the beauty of nature unfold before your eyes.
2. Taroko Gorge: This marble-walled canyon is a true marvel of nature. Hike along the trails and be awed by the sheer grandeur of the towering cliffs and turquoise waters.
3. Sun Moon Lake: Nestled in the mountains of Nantou County, Sun Moon Lake is a tranquil oasis surrounded by lush greenery. Take a boat ride on the lake and soak in the serenity of this hidden gem.
4. Jiufen: Step back in time as you wander through the narrow streets of Jiufen. This charming old mining town is famous for its tea houses, street food, and stunning views of the coastline.
5. Kenting National Park: Located in the southernmost part of Taiwan, Kenting National Park is a paradise for nature lovers. Explore the diverse ecosystems, relax on the pristine beaches, and snorkel in the crystal-clear waters.
6. Shifen Waterfall: Known as the "Little Niagara of Taiwan," Shifen Waterfall is a majestic sight to

behold. Stand on the suspension bridge and feel the mist on your face as the water cascades down.

7. Yehliu Geopark: This unique geological wonder is home to a collection of fascinating rock formations. Marvel at the "Queen's Head" and other bizarre shapes carved by wind and water over millions of years.

8. Wulai: Just a short drive from Taipei, Wulai is a mountain village famous for its hot springs. Soak in the healing waters and enjoy the peaceful atmosphere of this hidden gem.

9. Green Island: Located off the eastern coast of Taiwan, Green Island is a paradise for divers and snorkelers. Explore the vibrant coral reefs and swim with tropical fish in the crystal-clear waters.

10. Tainan: Known as the cultural capital of Taiwan, Tainan is a city steeped in history and tradition. Visit ancient temples, stroll through historic streets, and indulge in delicious local cuisine.

These hidden gems in Taiwan offer a unique and unforgettable travel experience. Whether you're a nature lover, history buff, or simply seeking tranquility, Taiwan has something for everyone. So, step off the beaten path and discover the beauty of these hidden gems for yourself. Taiwan Travel Consulting is here to help you plan your trip and make the most of your time in this incredible country. Contact us today and let us create a personalized itinerary that includes these must-visit hidden gems in Taiwan. Exploring the Hidden Gems of Taipei: A Traveler's Guide Taiwanese Identity and Views on China: Insights from Pew Research BBC | Kinmen: The Taiwanese islands next to China ©2035 by Urban Nomad Adventures. Powered and secured by Wix

Best Hidden Gems in Taipei | cityseeker

This historic home was constructed by the Lin Family who moved to Taiwan in the 18th Century. With its sloping roofs and central courtyard, this house is one of the region's oldest, and is a rare example of a traditional Chinese home. A crescent pool guards the gate, while inside, a treasure trove of carvings and other architectural details tell the tale of the family that once resided here. Interestingly, the Lin An Tai home was actually built in a different part of Taipei City in 1783 and was relocated to its current location nearly 200 years later to prevent its demolition and make way for development. One of the few remaining buildings in Taiwan with such an extensive history, Fort San Domingo has withstood over four centuries of change. The fort was originally established by the Spanish as a wooden structure in the 17th Century and later rebuilt by the Dutch in stone. Over the years, the fort has been variously controlled by the Chinese, Americans, Australians, Japanese, and was even a British consulate for a period of time. Each added something to the structure, transforming the very fort itself into an architectural medley that chronicles the island's colorful history. Fort San Domingo is now open to the public and continues to stand tall over Tamsui River like a storied gift from the past. Previously known as the Yuanshan Mansion, the Taipei Story House dates back to 1913 when it was built by a Japanese tea merchant. This unusual house was originally built as a residence for visiting merchants and dignitaries, and the architecture of the house reflects a regal, more Western air. Tudor-style beams dominate most part of the ground floor, while it also has fleeting elements of classical architecture. There is also a beautiful European garden surrounding the house. The Ping Hsi Branch Line serves an area of Taiwan in decline - a former coal-mining district to the southeast of Taipei. Starting from Jui Fang, the line climbs through depressed villages consisting of tar paper-roofed houses, small temples, and the elderly. Many passengers disembark near Shi Fen to see two impressive waterfalls. The train passes through several tunnels and over bridges. The scenery is green, craggy and very typical of rural north Taiwan. The final stop is Ching Tung, a sleepy village linked to Taipei by bus. Observe Taipei in the most unexpected way possible, through Taxi Diary Taipei. This unique concept allows you to catch

fleeting city views of the city, whilst interacting with the denizens in a mundane, yet natural setting. Once you hail a cab registered with this service, you will be carted around to the destinations of local passengers who hail the same cab. This gives you a chance to interact with the city's inhabitants, get acquainted with life in the city, and at the same time, visit corners of the city you may never go to, otherwise. The best part about Taxi Diary Taipei is its element of surprise. The entire ride lasts for a total of three hours. Pick-ups are typically scheduled from the YuanShan MRT Station, Exit 1. One of the best-kept secrets in the city, the Neihu district is home to Taipei's IT industry, although attracts several tourists owing to its outdoorsy offerings. The district is home to the sprawling Dahu Park, an enormous lake with an adjacent swimming area where visitors can indulge in facilities such as Jacuzzi, steam room and sauna during the summers. Neihu's geographic location also makes it a popular spot for hiking, especially in its northern part where trailheads starting from the famous Bishan Temple offer panoramic vistas of the city. The mountainous trails also attract serious cyclists. Famous as one of the most flourishing tea estates of Taipei, Maokong is a picturesque suburb of the city. The scenic village lies at the peak of a small mountain and affords some spectacular vistas of the city. Home to a number of tea houses, it is much frequented by tea lovers, honeymooners and tourists alike. The Maokong Gondola is probably one of the best ways to get to this spot.

How To Explore Taiwan's Off The Beaten Tracks

Select Page Posted by Carolyn Boston | Jul 11, 2020 | Asia One of the few things that I hate about travelling is standing in a long queue while trying to get inside a popular attraction and squeezing through throngs of tourists who are trying to take perfect selfies. This is why on my recent trip to Taiwan, I decided to venture into the less touristy areas and explored Taiwan's off the beaten tracks. Taiwan is slowly becoming one of Asia's most popular tourist destinations, so it's not surprising to find plenty of tourist guides online that will point you out to the most popular destinations in the country. There's nothing wrong with visiting these popular attractions, but if you want to experience and enjoy the country like the locals would, why don't you stray off the usual tourist routes and visit something else? Read on as I share with you some tips on how to explore Taiwan's off the beaten tracks. Taiwan consists of four major cities Taipei, Tainan, Taitung, and Taichung. And while most tourists would head to Taipei and Tainan, Taichung is often overlooked. Having a population of almost 3 million, Taichung is a large city with bustling night markets and emerald green hills where you can take part in some hiking activities. Taichung Temple On my first day in Taichung, I visited the Second Market, a market lined with several market stalls selling everything you can think of! The market was remarkably built in a perfect hexagon-shaped and serves as the very centre of Taichung. Aside from admiring its remarkable architecture, I spent the day devouring authentic local foods. I cannot even give a recommendation on which food to try since all of the foods I've tasted are just so delicious! From the market, I went to Chun Shui Tang to have a taste of the authentic Taiwanese bubble tea. You'll find bubble teas almost everywhere in Taiwan, but Chun Shui Tang is said to be the birthplace of bubble tea and where the bubble tea craze has started. On the following day, I was craving for some outdoor adventure so I went to Dakeng. Located on the eastern side of Taichung, the city boasts a beautiful view of emerald green hills. The hills have trails that are built entirely from logs and there are plenty of trails to choose from for your hike. I took trails 1 to 4, and although the climb is a bit challenging, when I get to the top and saw the most beautiful sunset views, I must say that it's really worth it! From Taichung, I went to the

Sun Moon Lake to visit the Ci?En Pagoda. Although Sun Moon Lake is a popular tourist destination, there are actually some places in the area that are unreachable by tourist buses and one of these is the Ci?En Pagoda. I hired a personal driver to drive me up and down the hills near the Sun Moon Lake. After the fun drive, I had to walk for about 20 minutes passing through a tropical forest until I reach the Ci?En Pagoda. This remarkable structure was built by Chiang Kai-Shek in honor of his mother. Having a height of 46 meters, climbing all the way to the top is truly a one of a kind adventure! Yet, when you get to the top, you will be rewarded with a magical view of the Sun Moon Lake. The Kenting National Park in the southern area of Taiwan is a great place for relaxation and exciting adventure. However, I was looking for a place that is not too crowded, which is why I avoided the main spots of Kenting, and instead, I hired a local guide who took me to Jialeshui on a motorbike. Jialeshui is a small coastal town in the eastern part of Kenting and a favourite destination for local surfers. I?ve always wanted to learn how to surf and in fact, it has long been on my bucket list so I decided to enrol in a surfing lesson while in Jialeshu. Jialeshui Photo Credit: Taiwanese Secrets

The train ride from Kaohsiung to Taitung is no doubt one of the most scenic train rides I ever get to experience in my entire life! I spent most of the journey gazing at the window, admiring the magical views of the mountains, rice fields, and beaches. Passing through Kaohsiung?s central mountain range, you get to enjoy the magical views of lush green hills amidst the glistening river beds. When the train reaches the East Coast, you?ll be treated to the beautiful coastal views of turquoise water and sandy beaches. Just before you reach Taitung, you?ll be passing through a long stretch of Taiwan?s most beautiful rice fields. My surfing teacher in Jialeshui recommended that I should visit Dulan to enjoy its artistic vibe. So after arriving at the train station of Taitung, I hopped on a bus that took me to Dulan, a tiny coastal village off the east coast of Taitung. With only less than 1,000 inhabitants, I was expecting Dulan to be a quiet and peaceful community, yet I was taken aback by its lively atmosphere! Upon arriving in Dulan, I visited the Old Sugar Factory, a cultural park that?s home to independent local artists and designers. I spent the rest of the day admiring the interesting art installations and structures scattered at the park. On the following day, I went to a ?secret beach? upon the advice of a local. I walked for ten minutes until I reach a place

that locals call the "water running up". From here, I walked into a small road that led me to an empty beach. It's just stunning although I would recommend that you visit it with some friends because it's a bit creepy to go there alone. In the evening, my local host invited me to a bar named Highway 11, famous for its homemade craft beers. I enjoyed an interesting conversation with the owner and some foreign artists who considered Dulan their home. Luckily, I happen to be at the place on a weekend, where local live bands can be heard performing in the background, which adds up to the lively scene. After Dulan, I headed to Taiwan's capital and discovered its hidden gems. Sure, there are plenty of interesting things to see and discover in Taipei, but most of the locals I've met told me that there are actually several hidden gems tucked into the little alleys of this vibrant capital city. So after my adventure in Taitung, I head straight to Taipei and explore its hidden gems. Here are some of them: Beitou hot spring ? after all the adventures I did in Taichung, soaking in a hot spring sounds like a good idea. So I went to Beitou, a place dotted with Japanese style bathhouses, to enjoy a relaxing bath at a thermal hot spring. Another town known for its hot springs is Wulai, a charming sleepy town about 30 minutes away from Taipei. Beitou hot spring Tamsui River Mangrove ? there are plenty of cycling trails all over Taipei, but my personal favourite is the path that's between Hongshulin and Tamsui MRT, which runs through the Hongshulin mangrove wetland, a protected nature reserve. I rented a bike at the Hongshulin MRT and cycled my way past the wetland all the way to the Tamsui MRT, where I returned my bike and took the MRT back to the city centre. Hidden alleys near Zhongshan MRT ? I love the lively atmosphere at the various night markets of Taipei, but if you want a quieter and less crowded place to shop, check out those hidden alleyways near the Zhongshan MRT Station. The place is dotted with several shops selling different kinds of things. There are also plenty of food stalls and quirky cafes along the street, serving delicious Taiwanese treats. Zhongshan Taipei Huashan 1914 Creative Park ? this park is among the few open green spaces that are within the Taipei city centre and a great place to shop for vintage art pieces, including local handicrafts and other interesting products. Unlike the other parks in Taipei, this park is less crowded and a perfect place to stroll around while admiring the interesting art installations at the park. As you see, there are so many places to discover in Taiwan which no travel

guidebook can tell you about. I was even amazed at how much there is to discover in this thriving Asian country. There is nothing wrong with sticking to tourist spots when travelling to Taiwan, but if you're like me who wanted to stray off the well-trodden track, this guide should help you in creating your own travel itinerary and enjoy Taiwan as no other tourists can. Share: "I'm an avid traveller who has been travelling the world on a budget for several years now. Recently, I quit my 9 to 5 job so I can discover more of the world without having to worry about limited vacation leaves! November 25, 2017 January 4, 2024 July 13, 2019 September 19, 2020 Designed by Elegant Themes | Powered by WordPress

Taipei: A Cultural Tapestry - Discover Hidden Gems and Must-See Attractions ? ENSG Travel and Tour

Taipei, a vibrant metropolis nestled in the heart of Taiwan, offers a unique blend of ancient traditions and modern amenities. Discover a city that seamlessly merges the past and present, offering a captivating experience for every traveler. The National Palace Museum is a must-visit for history and art enthusiasts. This world-renowned institution houses an extensive collection of Chinese artifacts, spanning centuries and dynasties. Marvel at the intricate jade carvings, delicate porcelain, and ancient paintings that showcase the rich cultural heritage of China. Highlights: The Jadeite Cabbage, the Jadeite Cucumber, and the Bronze Age oracle bones. Tips: Allow at least half a day to explore the museum's vast collection. Consider taking a guided tour for a deeper understanding of the artifacts. Accessibility: The museum is wheelchair accessible, and audio guides are available in multiple languages. Escape the city's hustle and bustle and immerse yourself in the nostalgic charm of Jiufen Old Street. This historic village, once a bustling gold mining town, now offers a picturesque setting with traditional teahouses, quaint shops, and breathtaking views. Wander through the narrow alleyways, savor delicious local delicacies, and experience the unique ambiance. Highlights: Teahouses with panoramic views, traditional snacks like taro balls and stinky tofu, and the filming location for the movie "Spirited Away." Tips: Visit Jiufen in the late afternoon or early evening to enjoy the beautiful sunset. Be prepared for crowds, especially on weekends and holidays. Accessibility: The village is accessible on foot, but some areas may have stairs or uneven surfaces. Experience a magical and unforgettable moment at Shifen Old Street, where you can release sky lanterns into the sky and make a wish. This picturesque village offers a unique and romantic atmosphere, perfect for couples and families. Enjoy the local delicacies, shop for souvenirs, and create lasting memories. Highlights: Releasing sky lanterns, exploring the waterfall, and enjoying local street food. Tips: Visit Shifen on a weekday to avoid crowds. Bring cash as many vendors may not accept credit cards. Accessibility: The village is accessible on foot, but there are some stairs leading to the sky lantern release area. Taipei 101, once the tallest building in the world,

is a symbol of Taipei's modern skyline. Take a ride to the observation deck and enjoy panoramic views of the city and surrounding mountains. Experience the thrill of the world's fastest elevator and learn about the building's innovative design. Highlights: Panoramic views of Taipei, the world's fastest elevator, and the building's unique design. Tips: Purchase tickets online in advance to avoid long queues. Visit on a clear day for the best views. Accessibility: The building is wheelchair accessible, and elevators are available to reach the observation deck. Immerse yourself in the vibrant energy of Shilin Night Market, one of Taipei's most popular and bustling night markets. Explore the narrow alleyways lined with countless food stalls, offering a diverse range of delicious street food. From savory snacks like stinky tofu and oyster omelets to sweet treats like bubble tea and shaved ice, there's something to satisfy every craving. Highlights: Stinky tofu, oyster omelet, bubble tea, shaved ice, and grilled squid. Tips: Arrive early to avoid crowds and long queues. Be prepared to bargain with vendors. Accessibility: The night market is accessible on foot, but some areas may be crowded. What is the best time to visit Taipei? The best time to visit Taipei is during the spring (March-May) or fall (September-November) when the weather is pleasant and there are fewer crowds. How can I get around Taipei? Taipei has an efficient public transportation system, including buses, metro trains, and taxis. You can also rent a bicycle to explore the city at your own pace. Taipei just so happens to be included in our special 10 Days Seoul to Taipei travel package! Let us help you plan your dream trip to Taipei. Contact us today for personalized travel itineraries, accommodation bookings, and expert advice. Sign up with your email address to receive the latest deals on travel straight to your inbox. emma@mangotours.com (415)-690-0869

Best Things to do in Taipei in 2024 - Withlocals

Private & personalized tours - just for you! Whether you're a foodie, history lover, urban explorer or a traveling family. Enjoy Taipei to the max with the best things to do in Taipei with a local expert. The best thing? It's private & personalized - just for you! Whether you're a foodie, history lover, urban explorer or a traveling family. Enjoy Taipei to the max with the best things to do in Taipei with a local expert. The best thing? It's private & personalized - just for you! No strangers on your tour. It's just you and your local host. Let your local host tailor the tour completely to your wishes. Our tours are designed with people, places & the planet in mind Make your stay in Taipei complete with these things to do What other guests say about our tours and locals "Kate is very competent and friendly. She takes the customers' wishes into account and also explains the background. We tried real Taiwanese delicacies and I was more than full at the end." "Garen was a very engaging and knowledgeable local food and culture guide. Our group was larger and consisted of various age levels and tastes. She communicated and worked attentively online with me to ensure that our tour would be appealing and meaningful to my group. In addition to taking us to delicious and unique food vendors, we learned a lot about Taiwanese history and culture. Her personality was energetic, passionate and thoughtful. We would highly recommend her to anyone. " "We had a great time wandering around the neighborhood near Dongmen station with Cola, trying out local food items and chatting. Thank you Cola for a fun introduction to the city!" "Daphne was very helpful in all aspects of our trip. She was attentive to make sure we maximized our experience, helping us see what we wanted and providing great information. Daphne even helped us plan other parts of our trip and gave us great advice." "The food was great, but our favorite part was the cultural context June brought and the connection to the people of her community that she showcases. June is a super smart, empathetic, well spoken guide who went out of her way to show us things beyond just the basic dishes. Would recommend a tour with June to anyone. " "Garen was an incredible guide who truly brought Taiwan's culture and history to life for us. Her deep knowledge and passion for the country made us appreciate every moment of the tour. She took us to amazing places and shared

insightful recommendations that we wouldn't have discovered on our own. Time flew by as she shared so many fascinating details and stories ? we were completely immersed! Garen's warmth and expertise made the day both enriching and enjoyable. Highly recommend her for anyone wanting an authentic and unforgettable experience in Taiwan!" "Our experience with Cola as our tour guide was fantastic! Despite meeting us in the rain, she went above and beyond to ensure we had an unforgettable tour. Cola found the best photo spots, even with the weather, and her knowledge of the city's history and hidden gems made the experience truly memorable. She shared fascinating facts about the area, took us to some incredible food spots, and maintained a warm, upbeat attitude throughout. Cola's expertise and enthusiasm turned a rainy day into an adventure ? highly recommended for anyone looking to explore the city in depth!" "Our day with Garen was great. With my wife being pregnant Garen was able to tailor the tour to accommodate her the whole time which i am extremely grateful for. Not only this but the best food that we had in the city was thanks to Garen introducing us to it. I without a doubt would recommend you take a tour from her and if i come back i intend to take another tour with her as we loved her company so much. "

"Despite initial difficulties due to a typhoon, our 3-hour food tour with Cola became an absolute highlight of our trip!

Cola informed us in a timely manner about the postponement and thus enabled us to still enjoy this unique experience. The tour flew by, because Cola took care of us with a lot of passion and commitment.

We were particularly impressed that she took extra time to get us a great picture and let us try the most delicious delicacies of the night market. Also the visit to the temple and Cola's interesting explanations were simply fantastic.

Thank you, Cola, for this unforgettable experience! We can highly recommend this tour with you!"

"Garen is a fantastic guide - she went above and beyond to make the tour a great experience. My expectations were absolutely surpassed. Garen even bought some local fruit for me, because I had informed her beforehand that I liked fruit a lot.

The food was overall fantastic, and I never would have found these places on my own.

I really recommend booking a tour with Garen :)" Learn about their personal stories and find out how you can explore Taipei with locals Our locals will give you the best experiences that Taipei has to offer Discover experiences based on your interest If you love food, culture and history, Taipei is the best place to be. From towering buildings, beautiful temples, unique shopping experiences and crazy variety of street foods, you will definitely not run out of interesting things to do in Taipei. In fact, you will love the city even more once you get to experience it with a local guide by your side. If you love food, then Taipei is here to introduce you to tasty local dishes. The city is known for its abundance of night markets selling delicious food. In fact, Taipei should be on the bucket list of every food lover out there. You can start your day with a delicious breakfast at Fu Hang, a restaurant famous with the locals for its freshly baked sesame flat bread. In fact, people start queuing at this restaurant as early as 5 AM! You can then head over at Hang Zhou, where you can sample the popular soup dumplings of Taiwan. End your day feasting at the crazy street food varieties at Shilin or Raohe Street Night Market. Have a taste at some of the local favorites, such as the oyster omelet, pineapple cake, flaky scallion pancakes, and many more. Visiting these night markets should be on top of your list of things to do in Taipei. Shifen is truly one of the most romantic places to visit in Taipei. If you want a place that invokes a feel of romance, you will surely love Shifen Old Street. The street is filled with both tourists and locals. You'll find lovers with high hopes and dreams, releasing sky lanterns with their wishes, towards the clear blue sky. And to make this experience even better, your local host can arrange for a lantern that you can release for a more personalized experience. After this, explore the streets and observe how the locals go about their daily life. The narrow street opens into a railway track with shopkeepers selling local produce. You will be amazed at how quickly the shopkeepers would make way for an incoming train! CKS or the Chiang Kai-Shek Memorial Hall is a popular tourist destination and should be included on your list of things to do in Taipei. With the help of your local guide, you will not only learn about Taiwan's culture and history but also find the hidden gems surrounding this main attraction. What a lot of tourists often miss is the changing of the guard. Your local guide will make sure that you get to witness this impressive ceremony. There are two guards on both sides of the hall and are changed

every hour from 9AM until 5PM. The performance is truly exciting and something that you should not miss when you're in Taipei. If you are fond of Starbucks, then you should not miss visiting the Starbucks at Taipei 101. Considered the highest Starbucks in the world, the coffee shop is located at the 35th floor. But unlike other Starbucks where you can simply walk-in and order your cup of coffee, getting into this branch is an adventure in itself. There are no signboards available and you cannot find any information from any travel guidebook. Because of the popularity of the coffee shop, a reservation is needed in advance. Your local guide can arrange to reserve a seat for you so you can experience having a cup of coffee with the best views of Taipei. Exploring Jiufen is one of the most interesting things to do in Taipei. It's a bustling district just outside of Taipei, known for its picturesque mountain views and beautiful old buildings decorated with red lanterns. But aside from these magnificent views, there are several other interesting things to do in Jiufen that a lot of people often miss when visiting this lovely town. When in Jiufen, your local guide will take you to Grandma Lai's Taro Ball shop, where you can sample the delightfully chewy taro ball. You will then drop by at a less touristy coffee shop that serves the most delicious filtered coffee, which locals absolutely love. And if you're a fan of Bubble tea, your guide will take you to Hanlin Tea house, which is the founder of the Bubble Teas. Immerse yourself in the local culture of Taiwan by staying at one of the local homestays in Taipei. This is also a great way to eat authentic Taiwanese dishes prepared by your lovely hosts right at their own kitchen. In fact, others would be happy to teach you a recipe or two. Known as minsu (homestay), the trademark Taiwanese hospitality is not like any other. There are thousands of wonderful locals all over the island who are just waiting to welcome you into their cozy abode. The best part of all is that staying at these homestays is a lot cheaper than some of the best hotels in Taipei. And let's not forget about the incredible food you'll get to taste! Taipei is known for having an abundant of teahouses and drinking locally grown teas is one of the most popular things to do in Taipei. But if you want to enjoy a beautiful sunset while sipping delicious locally grown teas, then head over to Mao Kong Shan. Tea fanatics will surely love this place for the wide selection of teahouses. Most teahouses have beautiful scenic mountain views as the backdrop and they serve different varieties of local teas. What's more, you have the option to ride a glass-bottomed cable car

on your way up there. Known as the Maokong Gondola, the cable car provides more viewing angles of the sunset. This is a great opportunity to fully immerse your self in the natural setting while it travels 4 km up into the mountain. And with a local guide by your side, the experience will be even more authentic. Fujin Street is a lesser-known lifestyle destination in Taipei and very popular with the locals. There are lots of interesting things to be seen in this lovely tree-lined street. Situated away from Taipei's bustling city center, the street is lined with stylish boutiques owned by independent local designers. Aside from the stylish boutiques, Fujin Street is also famous for its wide array of trendy coffee shops. This is a perfect place to hang out after a long walk in the city. After you finish your cup of coffee, you can take a stroll with your local host where you can check out the various multi-concept boutiques and several other trendy cafes. The experience can be made even more enjoyable with a local guide who is familiar with this laid back neighborhood. Of the various temples in Taipei, Long Shan is probably the least mainstream and a hidden gem. However, this is the perfect place to catch a glimpse of the daily religious life of the locals. The temple is a fusion of modernity and tradition. It was built during the 5th Year of the Qing Dynasty, and thus, it's the perfect place to relive the ancient history. But one of the most interesting things to do at the temple is to have a bird tell your fortune. You'll see birds hopping along the tables choosing from the various picture cards that will indicate one's luck. You can also give it a try if you want to experience something different from the usual things to do in Taipei. Getting a bird to tell your fortune is a popular tradition in Taiwan and your local guide can share more interesting facts and stories about this unusual tradition. Taiwan has one of the most delicious cuisines in the world. The best way to learn more about the country's food culture is to take part in one of the cooking lessons offered by the best cooks in Taipei. Most of these cooking lessons include a free tour at the local fresh produce market. During the tour, your local guide will introduce you to the various local produce of Taiwan and some other seasonal foods. After the market tour, the hands-on cooking lesson will start, which will normally take place at the kitchen of one of the locals. Depending on the cooking classes that you will book, you are free to choose the recipe that you want to learn. The classes will require visiting the house of a local, which makes for a fun and more authentic experience. Travel like a true

local! From devouring crunchy street food to strolling through spiritual temples, your local host will help you find the most amazing things to do in Taipei. With so many unique activities, you'll be spoiled for choice when looking for things to do in Taipei. History buffs can discover the story of Taiwan in Old Taipei, visit 300-year old temples and stroll through the perfectly preserved Bopiliao Area. Foodies will love the local pastries as you explore the delicious street food, visit the wet market or join your local host for a private dinner in their home. With so many things to see, you'll discover your local host knows just where to go on your personalized tour in Taipei! Exploring Taipei with a local who is familiar with the hidden gems and secret hangouts is the best way to discover the most exciting things to do in Taipei. Whether you prefer to soak up the atmosphere in the local markets or take a day trip to Pingxi, Shifen & Jiufen, your local host will personalize your private tour to show you your favorite things to see in Taipei. With your local host by your side, you'll know just where to go to feel like a true Taipei local! If you're looking for the best activities in Taipei, a Withlocals 100% private tour that is fully customizable is the perfect way discover the best things to do in Taipei. Simply let your local host know the things you would most like to see, and they'll be able to sort it all out locally for you! You might be interested in these

Taipei: Private Tour With Locals ? Highlights & Hidden Gems

Exploring the vibrant city of Taipei with a private tour led by knowledgeable locals is an exceptional way to take in the rich culture and history of this captivating destination. Over the course of 3.5 hours, visitors will have the opportunity to discover highlights such as the intricate Dalongdong Baoan Temple, the iconic Chiang Kai-shek Statue, and the bustling Maji Market, all while indulging in delectable local snacks. With a maximum group size of eight, this eco-friendly tour promises personalized attention and unique insights that will leave you eager to uncover more of Taipei's hidden gems. More tours and experiences nearby. The private guided tour of Taipei offers a comprehensive 3.5-hour experience, with prices starting from \$89.79 per person. The tour is limited to a maximum of 8 participants, ensuring personalized attention from the live English-speaking guide. Cancellation is free up to 24 hours in advance, and the tour's CO2 emissions are offset, making it an eco-friendly choice. Travelers can expect to discover the city's highlights and hidden gems, including landmarks like Dalongdong Baoan Temple, Chiang Kai-shek Statue, and Maji Market. The tour also includes a complimentary local snack or drink, providing an authentic taste of Taipei. Booking is easy, with the option to reserve now and pay later, and the tour meeting point is at the MRT Chiang Kai-shek Memorial Hall station, Exit 5. Travelers can look forward to uncovering Taipei's standout sights and lesser-known gems on this private guided tour. From the historic Dalongdong Baoan Temple to the iconic Chiang Kai-shek Statue, the tour promises an immersive experience. Guests will also visit the vibrant Maji Market, where they can sample local snacks and drinks. Exploring the city with a knowledgeable local guide provides unique insights into Taipei's rich culture and history. Prospective guests can reserve their spot on this private Taipei tour and pay later to secure their place. The tour operates at various start times throughout the day, so guests can choose a timeslot that fits their schedule. Simply check the availability calendar to see which spots are open. The meeting point is the MRT Chiang Kai-shek Memorial Hall station, Exit 5, which is easy to access via public transportation. With a maximum group size of 8 participants, the tour ensures an intimate and personalized experience. Plus, guests can benefit from the tour's flexible

cancellation policy, allowing them to receive a full refund if they cancel up to 24 hours in advance. Reviews for this private Taipei tour speak to its strong value proposition. Based on 10 reviews, the tour boasts an impressive 4.5/5 overall rating. Customers praise the excellent value for money, exceptional service, and seamless organization. One reviewer lauded the insightful local expertise, saying the guide provided fascinating insights into Taipei's history and culture. However, a few reviewers reported instances where the tour guide didn't show up, a concerning issue that the tour operator should address. Is this private Taipei tour suitable for all travelers? Not entirely. The tour isn't recommended for individuals with mobility impairments or wheelchair users. The walking involved may be challenging for some. However, the tour provider advises wearing comfortable shoes to ensure an enjoyable experience. This is a good option for travelers who can comfortably walk for extended periods. The tour covers various landmarks and hidden gems, so participants should be prepared for a moderate level of physical activity. Located in the historic Datong District, Dalongdong Baoan Temple stands as a renowned Taoist temple that captivates visitors with its intricate architectural design and rich cultural heritage. Dating back to the late 17th century, the temple showcases exquisite carvings, vibrant paintings, and an impressive array of deities. Visitors can marvel at the temple's ornate altars, ornamental roof tiles, and the towering main hall. The temple's significance extends beyond its architectural marvels, as it serves as a hub for traditional religious practices and community gatherings. Exploring Dalongdong Baoan Temple provides an immersive glimpse into Taiwan's deep-rooted Taoist traditions and the country's captivating cultural tapestry. Towering over the heart of Taipei, the Chiang Kai-shek Memorial Hall stands as a striking tribute to the former president of the Republic of China. Visitors can admire the grand, symmetrical architecture and the imposing bronze statue of Chiang Kai-shek at the center. The surrounding gardens and plazas offer a peaceful respite from the bustling city. Ascending the stairs, guests can explore the museum showcasing Chiang's life and legacy. The Changing of the Guards ceremony is a popular spectacle, where disciplined soldiers maintain a stoic vigil. This iconic landmark provides insights into Taiwan's history and the enduring legacy of one of its most influential leaders. At the heart of Taipei's vibrant food scene, Maji Market captivates visitors with its

bustling atmosphere and diverse array of local delicacies. This indoor market is a haven for foodies, offering a glimpse into the city's culinary traditions. Stroll through the maze of stalls, where vendors peddle everything from freshly-prepared street food to handcrafted artisanal products. Indulge in mouthwatering xiaolongbao, sip on fragrant bubble tea, and sample an array of Taiwanese specialties. The market's lively energy and the opportunity to interact with local purveyors make it a must-visit destination on any Taipei tour. Enjoy the vibrant sights, sounds, and flavors that define Maji Market, a true reflection of Taipei's rich food culture. Here's a few more nearby tours and experiences we think you'll like. Yes, participants can take photos during the tour. The tour overview indicates that it's a private guided tour, allowing visitors to capture the highlights and hidden gems of Taipei at their own pace. The tour includes a restroom break, allowing participants to use facilities at various stops along the way. The guide will ensure there are opportunities to take care of any personal needs during the 3.5-hour excursion. The tour offers various payment options. Guests can pay in the local currency or by credit card. Payments can be made when reserving the tour or directly with the guide on the day of the experience. The tour does not include transportation from the hotel. Participants are responsible for making their own way to the meeting point at the MRT Chiang Kai-shek Memorial Hall station, Exit 5. The tour provides a live guided experience within Taipei. The tour guides for this 3.5-hour private guided tour of Taipei speak English. The tour description doesn't mention any additional languages being offered, so English appears to be the sole language used by the guides. Not for you? Here's more of our most recent tour reviews happening nearby This private tour of Taipei's highlights and hidden gems offers an immersive cultural experience led by knowledgeable local guides. Visitors will explore iconic landmarks, vibrant markets, and traditional temples, while enjoying personalized attention and unique insights. With a focus on sustainability and engagement, this tour provides an unforgettable adventure through Taipei's rich history and contemporary vibrancy. © 2024 Power Traveller

Taiwan Travel Guide: Unveiling Hidden Gems and Must-Visit Attractions

[ez-toc] Foreign nationals from various countries can enjoy visa-exempt entry to Taiwan with different durations of stay. Nationals of countries like the United States, Australia, Canada, the United Kingdom, and many European nations can stay for up to 90 days. Nationals of countries including Malaysia and Singapore can stay for up to 30 days. It's important to note that certain restrictions apply to travellers from specific countries or with specific passport details. Requirements for visa-exempt entry for Taiwan travel include a passport with at least six months of validity, a confirmed return ticket, and proof of accommodation. The duration of stay is not extendable, except in exceptional circumstances. Please make sure to click on Visa-Exempt Entry for verification and additional requirements. Travellers from foreign nations who are not eligible for Visa-Exempt Entry must apply for Visitor Visa for Tourism Purpose. Documents needed: 1. Completed & signed application form 2. Two passport-size photos in color within 6 months (45 mm by 35 mm) 3. Passport valid for 6 months with blank pages (original & photocopy) 4. Evidence of funds (bank statement) 5. Travel Itinerary 6. Return Ticket (Ticket?electronic ticket or proof of a travel agency) 7. Other additional documents may be required during processing Taiwan offers a diverse range of experiences that transform with the changing seasons. From vibrant cherry blossoms in spring to soothing hot springs in winter, each season brings its own unique charm to Taiwan. Travel Documents and Cash: Ensure you have your passport, travel insurance, and any necessary visas. It's strongly recommended to carry a mix of cash and credit cards, as while card payments are widely accepted, lots of vendors only accept cash. Suitable Clothing: Travel Adapter: Taiwan uses Type A and Type B electrical outlets with a voltage of 110V. If you're traveling from a country with different plug types or voltage, be sure to pack a universal travel adapter. Sunscreen: Taiwan is located in a subtropical region, and UV levels can be relatively high, especially during the summer months. It's advisable to pack sunscreen with a high SPF and sunglasses to protect your skin. Comfortable Walking Shoes: Exploring Taiwan often involves a fair amount of walking, be sure to

pack a pair of comfortable walking shoes. Here are some options for the currency exchange methods:

Go to your local bank: Before your trip, you can visit your local bank in your home country and inquire about currency exchange services if you prefer to have local currency in hand before your trip.

Exchange at the airport: Another option is to exchange your currency at the airport either in your home country or upon arrival in Taiwan. It is advisable to compare the exchange rates and fees at different counters to ensure you get the best deal.

Department Stores in Taiwan: Some department stores such as Taipei 101 and Shin Kong Mitsukoshi offer currency exchange services. However, it's important to note that the options for currency conversion may be more limited, both in terms of the amount you can exchange and the range of currencies accepted. You can book the portable wifi device or SIM card/ eSIM online and pickup at the airport depending on your destination in Taiwan.

Here are some suggestions for a one-day tour in Taipei.

Yangmingshan National Park It is known for its lush greenery, hot springs, and volcanic landscapes. Explore the park's scenic trails, visit the Qingtiangang Grassland for breathtaking views, and Bamboo Lake for to experience the joy of picking calla lily.

Bamboo Lake Parking Lot Address: Zhuzihu Road Parking Lot, Beitou District, Taipei City, Taiwan

Qingtiangang Parking Lot Address: No. 246, Lane 101, Jingshan Road, Shilin District, Taipei City, Taiwan

Dadaocheng Explore the narrow streets lined with traditional shophouses and tea houses. Visit the Dihua Street Market, known for its vibrant atmosphere and a wide variety of traditional goods, including herbs, teas, fabrics, and snacks. Take your time to immerse yourself in the rich cultural heritage of this area.

Parking Lot Address: Da Dao Cheng Park Underground Parking Lot, No. 243, Guisui Street, Datong District, Taipei City, Taiwan.

Beitou district Relax and rejuvenate at one of the public hot spring bathhouses like Millennium Hot Spring. If you prefer a more private experience, there are many resorts and hotels in the area with hot spring facilities.

Parking Lot Address: B1, No. 145, Daxing Street, Beitou District, Taipei City

112 Jiufen known for its narrow streets, tea houses, and stunning views of the coastline. Wander through the atmospheric Old Street filled with shops selling local snacks, handicrafts, and souvenirs. Don't miss the opportunity to try traditional snacks like taro balls, fish balls, and tea-flavored ice cream.

Parking Lot Address: No. 11, Qiqi Road, Ruifang District, New Taipei City

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suggestions for a one-day tour in Taichung. Rainbow Village This vibrant and whimsical village was transformed by a retired veteran into a colorful art installation. Take a stroll through the narrow streets and capture instagram-worthy photos. Parking Lot Address: No. 25, Lane 56, Chunan Road, Nantun District, Taichung City 408 Gaomei Wetland This ecological treasure offers a unique landscape with mudflats, windmills, and stunning sunsets. Take a leisurely walk along the wooden boardwalks, observe migratory birds, and feel the refreshing sea breeze. Parking Lot Address: No. 1, Lane 726, Gaomei Road, Qingshui District, Taichung City 436 Shengqi New Village This former military dependents' village has been transformed into an artsy neighborhood with art installations, creative spaces, and vendors selling handmade crafts. Parking Lot Address: No. 300, Section 1, Meicun Road, West District, Taichung City 403 Fengjia Night Market one of Taiwan's largest and most lively night markets. Sample a variety of local street food, shop for trendy fashion, and enjoy the vibrant atmosphere. Be sure to try the famous grilled squid, stinky tofu, and bubble tea. Parking Lot Address: No. 258, Section 2, Xitun Road, Xitun District, Taichung City 407

Here are some suggestions for a one-day tour in Kaohsiung. Pier-2 Art Center This vibrant art district is filled with colorful street art, creative installations, and contemporary art exhibitions. Explore the various galleries, shops, and cafes housed in repurposed warehouses. Address: No. 10, Penglai Road, Gushan District, Kaohsiung City, Taiwan Fo Guang Shan Buddha Museum This grand Buddhist temple complex is home to one of the tallest statues of Buddha in the world. Explore the museum, learn about Buddhist culture, and enjoy the serene surroundings. Parking Lot Address: Xingtian Road, Dashu District, Kaohsiung City 84049 Qijin Take a ferry from Gushan Ferry Pier to Qijin. This small island off the coast of Kaohsiung is known for its laid-back atmosphere, sandy beaches, and fresh seafood. Enjoy a leisurely stroll along the coast, visit the Qijin Lighthouse, and indulge in some local seafood delicacies. Gushan Ferry Pier Parking Lot Address: No. 25, Binhai 1st Road, Gushan District, Kaohsiung City 804 Weiwuying This magnificent performing arts center is known for its impressive architecture and world-class performances. Take a guided tour to admire the grandeur of the venue or check the schedule for any performances or exhibitions taking place during your visit. Address: No. 1, Sanduo 1st Rd., Fengshan Dist., Kaohsiung City 830043, Taiwan Li Song Hot

Spring Lishong River Hot Springs is known for its clear stream and warm waters. The graceful formation of calcium carbonate along the mountain cliffs, complemented by thriving algae in the warm spring waters, creates a captivating sight akin to a fairytale scene. This remarkable fusion generates a mesmerizing emerald green hue. Immersing oneself in this enchanting setting not only provides warmth to the body but also nourishes the soul. It is no wonder that this extraordinary destination has rightfully earned the title of Taiwan's most exquisite hot spring.

Galaxy Stargazing Feast Specially arranged on a summer night, set against a gentle breeze on the beach, this event offers not only exquisite culinary delights but also a unique stargazing experience exclusive to the summer season. Guided tours of the starry sky allow guests to immerse themselves in the dazzling galaxy, while discovering romantic and fascinating constellation stories. It's an opportunity to experience the distinct Hualien Galaxy Stargazing Feast, set against the backdrop of a captivating beach ambiance.

Forest Campfire Dinner The outdoor picnic event takes place amidst the serene forests of Yanshui Coast in Hualien. With the moonlight casting a subtle glow, the event features a setup equipped with cooking and barbecue facilities, as well as a cozy campfire. On-site, a selection of creative signature dishes and beverages is prepared, utilizing fresh ingredients sourced locally from Hualien. Amidst the gentle forest breeze, guests can enjoy a delightful dinner by the warm campfire, savoring the exquisite flavors of the carefully crafted delicacies. When it comes to Taiwanese breakfast, it's always a topic that sparks lively discussions. This is because it holds a collective memory for everyone, whether they are students or business people. The flavors of the iconic Taiwanese breakfast, such as Chinese omelet, scallion cake, club sandwiches, iron plate noodles, iced milk tea, etc are familiar to all. Taiwanese salt crispy chicken It's a must-try street food delight that offers a crunchy and flavorful experience. Plus, you can also find a variety of other delicious options like tofu, sweet potato, mushroom, cucumber, etc, to be fried to perfection.

Braised pork rice The flavors of braised pork rice can differ from one store to another because each place has its own special recipe. So, why not give them a try and discover the unique twists and tastes?

Picture a towering mound of fluffy shaved ice topped with fresh fruits, chewy boba pearls, sweet syrups, and a variety of toppings. Whether you choose the classic mango shaved ice or opt for

unique flavors like matcha or taro, each spoonful will bring a refreshing burst of flavors and textures. Here are some popular brands in Taiwan: Wootea(???)KEBUKE Tea Company(????Dejeng(???Milksha(???? These chewy and gooey rice cakes bursting with flavors like sweet red bean, nutty peanut, and aromatic sesame. Recommended Store: Tzen's Mochi|????Address(one of the 11 stores): No. 81, Suxin Road, Suao Town, Yilan County Recommended Store: hiwalk | ?????Address(one of the 17 stores): No. 6, Lane 37, Gongming Street, Tamsui District, New Taipei City Recommended Store: YOSHI BAKERY | ???-????Address: No. 51, Lane 244, Dunhua North Road, Songshan District, Taipei City 105 Recommended Store: Sunnyhills | ?????Address: 1F, No. 1, Lane 4, Lane 36, Section 5, Minsheng East Road, Songshan District, Taipei City 105

In general, Taiwan does not have tipping culture like some other countries. Unlike places where tipping is customary, such as the United States, it is not expected to leave a tip for most services in Taiwan. When dining at restaurants, you may notice a 10% service fee added to the bill. This fee is already included in the total price and is meant to cover the service provided by the staff. Therefore, it is not necessary to leave an additional tip on top of the service fee. It's important to note that while the service fee is common in restaurants, it may not be present in all establishments. In smaller local eateries or street food stalls, for example, you won't typically find a service fee. In these cases, it is also not expected to leave a tip. The prices displayed for goods and services usually include taxes. This means that the price you see on the price tag or menu is the final amount you need to pay, and there are no additional taxes added at the checkout. The currency used in Taiwan is the New Taiwan Dollar (TWD). While the official currency is the New Taiwan Dollar, US dollars are not accepted for day-to-day transactions. It is recommended to exchange your US dollars for Taiwanese currency at banks, currency exchange counters, or ATMs. Major credit cards are commonly accepted in hotels, upscale establishments, and larger retail stores. However, it is advisable to carry local currency for smaller businesses, street markets, and public transportation. While Mandarin is the official language of Taiwan, English is commonly spoken in major tourist areas, hotels, and larger establishments. Many Taiwanese people, especially younger generations, have a basic understanding of English. However, outside of these areas,

[illegible]

8 Unforgettable Day Trips from Taipei: Explore Taiwan's Hidden Gems » Agoda: See The World For Less

Taipei is a vibrant city teeming with history, culture, and modern sights, but sometimes, the most enchanting experiences lie just beyond the city limits. If you're planning a trip to Taipei, don't miss the chance to explore some incredible destinations on these unforgettable day trips. From stunning natural landscapes to cultural hot spots, here are ten spectacular day trips from Taipei that you simply must experience. Jiufen Village, perched on the mountainside overlooking the Pacific Ocean, is one of Taiwan's most enchanting day trips. Known for its narrow streets and teahouses that inspired scenes from the movie "Spirited Away," Jiufen offers a nostalgic glimpse into Taiwan's gold mining history. Wander through the quaint shops, savor local snacks like taro balls, and enjoy panoramic views from the comfort of a traditional teahouse. Yehliu Geopark is an otherworldly landscape sculpted by thousands of years of natural wind and sea erosion. Known for its unique rock formations, such as the famous "Queen's Head," this coastal park is a geological wonder. Walking through Yehliu will make you feel like you're on another planet, with each step revealing new and fascinating rock forms. Don't forget your camera as the park offers endless photo opportunities. Located in the Pingxi District, Shifen Waterfall is the broadest waterfall in Taiwan and an absolute must-see. The picturesque cascading water and verdant surroundings provide a perfect backdrop for a leisurely hike. The trail leading to the waterfall is well-marked and offers several vantage points for photos. Nearby, the Shifen Old Street bustles with food stalls and shops selling traditional crafts, providing a slice of local life. For a relaxing escape, head to Beitou, home to Taiwan's most famous hot spring resorts. Located just a short metro ride from Taipei, Beitou offers a serene retreat with its lush green parks, hot spring hotels, and the Beitou Hot Springs Museum. Soak in the therapeutic, mineral-rich waters, visit the historic thermal valley, and enjoy the peaceful atmosphere. Beitou provides an ideal way to unwind from the hustle and bustle of city life. Wulai, a small town in New Taipei City, is a paradise for nature lovers and those interested in indigenous culture. The area is known for its stunning Wulai Waterfall, which can be viewed from a scenic

observation deck or via a short cable car ride. Wulai Old Street is filled with shops and street vendors selling traditional Atayal handicrafts and snacks. Don't miss the opportunity to relax in one of the town's hot spring resorts. The Maokong Gondola offers an exhilarating ride over the rolling hills and lush tea plantations on the outskirts of Taipei. This cable car system takes you to Maokong, a popular spot for tea lovers and hikers. At the terminals, you'll find numerous tea houses where you can sample Taiwanese tea while enjoying panoramic views of the city below. The Maokong Gondola is also a great way to access various hiking trails in the area. Tamsui Fisherman's Wharf, located along the Tamsui River, is a favorite destination for both locals and tourists. Known for its iconic 'Love's Bridge,' Tamsui offers stunning sunset views over the water. You can enjoy fresh seafood at the local restaurants, take romantic strolls along the wharf, or catch a ferry ride. Additionally, the Tamsui Old Street offers a delightful mix of traditional and modern shops, ideal for a leisurely afternoon. Yangmingshan National Park is a vast and diverse natural haven conveniently located near Taipei. The park is famous for its hot springs, hiking trails, and beautiful flower displays, particularly during the annual flower festival. You can hike up to Qixing Mountain, Taiwan's tallest extinct volcano, or explore the serene flower parks and grasslands. The park is also home to cherry blossoms in spring and vibrant butterfly populations in summer. Taipei's strategic location makes it an excellent base for exploring some of Taiwan's most beautiful and interesting destinations. Whether you're looking for cultural experiences, outdoor adventures, or relaxing retreats, these day trips offer something for every traveler. Plan your next adventure from Taipei and uncover the rich diversity that Taiwan has to offer. You may also like

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10 Secret Night Markets in Taipei You Must Visit

Shopping & Markets, Taipei, Taiwan May 11, 2024 When it comes to nightlife, Taipei is famous for its bustling night markets, but beyond the well-known spots lie hidden gems that offer a more authentic experience. These secret night markets encapsulate the vibrant culture and culinary delights of the city, providing an opportunity to interact with locals and savor unique dishes. From tucked-away stalls serving up delicious street food to charming boutiques showcasing handmade crafts, these hidden markets reveal an entirely different side of Taipei's night scene. Join us as we explore 10 secret night markets in Taipei that are sure to tantalize your taste buds and provide unforgettable memories.

Shilin Night Market is undoubtedly one of the most famous secret night markets in Taipei. This bustling market attracts both locals and tourists alike. Visitors will find a vibrant atmosphere filled with an array of street food stalls, shops, and entertainment options. Deep-fried delicacies, such as stinky tofu and fried chicken, are must-tries! While exploring, don't miss out on the numerous games and activities. For instance, playing a few rounds of ring toss is a popular choice. Moreover, the market is conveniently located near the Shilin Metro Station, making it easily accessible.

Raohe Street Night Market is often regarded as a hidden gem among the secret night markets in Taipei. It is smaller than Shilin, which gives it a more intimate feel. Here, you can wander through stalls showcasing authentic Taiwanese snacks. Be sure to try the famous pepper buns! These pastries are packed with juicy pork and cooked in a tandoor oven, offering a unique flavor. Additionally, the market is home to various shops selling local handicrafts. Thus, it provides the perfect opportunity to pick up some souvenirs. The vibrant atmosphere blends local culture with street food in a delightful way.

Ningxia Night Market is another gem that showcases the secret night markets in Taipei theme. This lively market is celebrated for its traditional Taiwanese flavors. As you stroll through, the smell of grilled squid and sweet potato balls fills the air, enticing your taste buds. Moreover, Ningxia is known for its focus on local cuisine. For instance, many vendors offer traditional Taiwanese desserts like mochi and peanut candy. It's the ideal spot for anyone looking to indulge in authentic flavors while absorbing the lively atmosphere.

The Liuhe Night Market is a

must-visit destination for food lovers exploring the secret night markets in Taipei. Located in Kaohsiung, this market is a culinary hotspot that showcases the best of Taiwanese street food. As you stroll through the vibrant stalls, the tantalizing aromas of grilled seafood and stinky tofu fill the air, inviting you to try everything. Moreover, you cannot miss the famous papaya milk and the fried octopus that have made Liuhe so popular. Often bustling with locals, the market exudes an authentic vibe, especially at night when the lights and sounds create a festive atmosphere. In addition, the friendly vendors are always ready to share recommendations, enhancing your experience. Nestled along the waterfront, the Tamsui Night Market offers breathtaking views and delectable snacks, making it one of the secret night markets in Taipei worth exploring. As you wander through the market, you'll encounter an array of tasty treats such as Tamsui's famous fish ball soup and iron eggs. These unique local dishes are a must-try! Not only is the food remarkable, but the picturesque scenery adds to the charm. You can also enjoy a peaceful stroll along the Tamsui riverside after your meal. Overall, this night market is an excellent blend of good food, fun activities, and mesmerizing views, ensuring an unforgettable evening.

Huaxi Street Night Market, also known as the Snake Alley, is one of the most interesting secret night markets in Taipei. This market is famous not only for its tasty delicacies but also for its rich cultural heritage. As you walk through, you will encounter vendors that offer a variety of local delights, including the unique snake soup and a selection of exotic snacks. Furthermore, the atmosphere is vibrant, filled with both locals and tourists eager to experience this one-of-a-kind market. The many shops lining the streets showcase traditional Chinese medicine, crafted items, and souvenirs. Therefore, visiting Huaxi Street Night Market is a perfect opportunity to soak up culture while satisfying your tastebuds.

Ximending Night Market is the heart of youth culture in Taipei. Known for its vibrant atmosphere, this market attracts both locals and tourists with its eclectic mix of shops and entertainment options. As I strolled through the bustling streets, I noticed the energy was contagious, filled with laughter and music. Here, you will find trendy boutiques, street performers, and various food stalls offering delicious snacks, including the famous stinky tofu. In addition, Ximending is a hotspot for pop culture, evident in the art murals and themed cafes. If you're looking for the latest fashion or unique

souvenirs, this is the place to be. Don't forget to snap a few photos at the iconic Red House, a cultural landmark in the area. If you're in the mood for breakfast at odd hours, Yonghe Night Market is a must-visit spot. It may be a night market, but it's famous for serving traditional Taiwanese breakfast dishes late into the night. I indulged in their renowned soy milk and fried dough sticks, which were absolutely delicious. This market is less crowded than others, which makes it a great spot to have a more relaxed dining experience. Moreover, while visiting, you can explore numerous food stalls offering various local delights. Transitioning from sweet to savory dishes, you'll discover flavors that are both comforting and delightful. Jilin Night Market is a lesser-known gem in Taipei, showcasing authentic local flavors. This market attracts food enthusiasts looking for traditional snacks and dishes. While exploring, I discovered a variety of Taiwanese delights, such as unique snack platters, cold noodle, and delicious grilled seafood. What makes Jilin special is its community vibe. Locals often gather here, which adds to its charm. I found it delightful to see families sharing meals and friends catching up over bowls of beef noodle soup. So, if you wish to experience Taipei like a local, visiting Jilin Night Market is essential! Dihua Street is one of the most charming secret night markets in Taipei, offering visitors a genuine taste of Taiwanese culture. Located in the historic Dadaocheng district, this market comes alive as the sun sets, showcasing an eclectic mix of old and new. Here, you can find traditional medicine shops, tea houses, and countless food stalls that whip up delicious local delicacies. One must-try food item is the Ah-Zhong Mian Xian, a savory noodle dish that warms the belly. Additionally, as you stroll through the bustling lanes, you'll encounter seasonal treats that reflect local traditions. Don't forget to sample the sweet potato balls, which are a favorite among both locals and tourists. Overall, Dihua Street not only piques your taste buds but also invites you to explore its rich history through beautifully preserved architecture. It's a perfect spot for souvenir shopping, as you'll find unique handcrafted items that tell a story. Exploring Taipei's secret night markets offers an extraordinary blend of culinary delights and vibrant culture that many tourists often miss. From tantalizing street food to unique handmade crafts, these hidden spots capture the essence of local life in Taipei. Have you stumbled upon any secret night markets during your travels? Share your experiences and let's uncover more hidden treasures together in

this captivating city! Comment Save my name, email, and website in this browser for the next time I comment. At Secret Attractions, our team of passionate explorers and travel writers are dedicated to uncovering the world's best-kept secrets. From hidden gems to off-the-beaten-path destinations, each author brings unique expertise and insider knowledge to help you discover the magic of lesser-known travel experiences. Whether you're looking for secret spots in bustling cities or serene hideaways in remote corners, our authors provide carefully curated guides, practical tips, and inspiring stories to make your journey unforgettable. November 30, 2024 November 29, 2024 November 28, 2024 November 27, 2024 November 26, 2024 November 25, 2024 November 24, 2024 November 23, 2024 November 22, 2024 October 15, 2024 © SecretAttractions.com

Discovering Taipei's hidden gems - Pampanga News Now

Embark on a captivating journey to Taipei, the vibrant capital city of Taiwan. Nestled between lush mountains and the sparkling Taiwan Strait, Taipei effortlessly blends ancient traditions with modern innovation. As you step foot in this bustling metropolis, prepare to be enveloped by a tapestry of sights, sounds, and flavors, from the iconic landmarks of Taipei 101 to the unparalleled sand-sculpted Disney themed park in Fulong Beach. Not to mention, the fascinating geological rock formations of Yehliu Geopark, and the charming streets of Jiufen known for its "Spirited Away" like traditional teahouses. For summertime, Taipei also features the Dadaocheng Wharf Fireworks Display and the making of the DIY Cake, a unique experience offered by Vigor Kobo Pineapple Cake Factory, along with the bustling night markets of Ximending. Taipei promises not only livelihood for many overseas Filipino workers (OFWs) but also many hidden attractions for travelers seeking cultural immersion, culinary delights, and a glimpse into the captivating spirit of Taiwan. Here's a 3-day Taipei escapade with Pampanga Media and Clark International Airport in partnership with Taiwan Tourism Bureau Malaysia and Plaza Premium Lounge. Day 1: Departure We departed Clark International Airport, and effortlessly made our way through check-in procedures and the security process with the assistance of our esteemed partner from Luzon International Premiere Association of the Philippines (LIPAD), Corporate Communications Officer Teri Flores, all the way up to getting our e-boarding pass. We had a seamless and smooth departure and arrival at CRK in collaboration with Plaza Premium Lounge, which graciously hosted us inside the airport while we awaited our flight via EVA Air. Once inside the Plaza Premium Lounge, we were enveloped by an atmosphere of relaxation and elegance. Plaza Premium Lounge went above and beyond in providing an array of amenities, services, and gastronomic excellence to cater to our every need. After a two-hour flight from Taoyuan International Airport, we were welcomed by our Taiwan Tourism Bureau Malaysia tourguide Felix Chen and went straight to Caesar Metro Hotel, our home for the entire trip to the city of bubble tea. At dinner, we had Mala Hot Pot at Ximen Branch, a buffet hot pot offering high-quality meat and fresh seafood, with a really flavorful spicy soup base and a

wide selection of desserts. I must say that this must be the best hot pot I have been to. Their food selection is vast. Aside from the pork and beef, they also have scallops, shrimp, abalone, crabs, and the delectable cheese balls, among others. Their ice cream ranges from Haagen Daz to Movenpick, and for me, the latter's Stracciatella flavor is superb. Also, they have a wide selection of drinks. The dinner is very worth it. After dinner, we breezed around Ximending, a vibrant shopping area in Wanhua District of Taipei, Taiwan. The place is a popular destination for locals and tourists alike, offering an array of shops, restaurants, entertainment venues, and street performers.

Day 2: Taipei

101 We visited the iconic Taipei 101 skyscraper. On the 89th and 91st floors, the building provides breathtaking panoramic views of Taipei and the surrounding areas. Visitors are in awe of its fastest elevators, with a speed of up to 1,010 meters per minute, thus giving a satisfactory experience while enjoying the magnificent views from Taipei 101. Inside the building, a wind damper was erected, a notable feature whose purpose is to stabilize Taipei 101 against strong winds and seismic activity. It helps reduce the building's swaying and minimizes the effects of lateral forces during an earthquake. Taipei 101 also has a shopping mall, featuring a wide range of high-end brands, designer boutiques, international retailers, local specialty stores, and souvenir shops.

Din Tai Fung

Next stop, we were treated to lunch to savor delicious Taiwanese cuisine at Din Tai Fung, known for its famous delectable dumplings. The restaurant is known particularly for its signature xiao long bao, steamed soup dumplings filled with flavorful broth and various fillings. During peak hours, there may be long wait times at the Taipei 101 location. If you plan to eat there, it's advisable to make a reservation beforehand. While dumplings are the highlight, Din Tai Fung offers a wide array of dishes, including appetizers, noodles, rice dishes, soups, and vegetable dishes.

Vigor Kobo's DIY Cake

Another stop was at Vigor Kobo Pineapple Cake Factory, a renowned bakery in Taipei known for its delicious pastries and cakes. It was great to experience making our own DIY cakes from start to finish under the guidance of a skilled instructor. The Pineapple Cake Museum, a certified Halal cake factory, also offers a light and music show that highlights dandelion flowers popping at every touch, bearing good luck wishes. Include in your bucket list Vigor Kobo's Pineapple Cake Museum, located at Wenlin Rd., Shilin District, Taipei City.

Dadaocheng Wharf Fireworks Display

Dadaocheng

Wharf is a venue for a fireworks display over the Tamsui River that dazzles locals and visitors alike. The district is known for its historic district and beautiful wharf. It was nice to capture the scenic sunset at the iconic wharf while staying on the view deck of a restaurant. Aside from the fireworks, the festival also features live music, dance performances, and other cultural activities. We enjoyed the delicious food from local vendors. It is an unforgettable experience that immerses attendees in a magical world of excitement and wonder. By the way, the festival will run until August 20, 2023.

Dinhua Street shopping district Here's another shopping district at Dinhua Street in Dating Strict, just across Dadaocheng Pier 5 Wharf. In this area, Chinese medicines, dried fruits and veggies, peking duck, milk tea supplies, and other antics were up for grabs.

Day 3: Fulong Sand Sculpture Festival In time for Disney's 100th anniversary, the Fulong International Sand Sculpture Art Festival, dubbed "Disney Centennial Celebration, hosted a themed sand sculpture exhibition in Fulong Beach, Taiwan. I am lucky to have immersed myself in and relive the 66 magical wonders of Disney-themed sand sculpture, this time in Taipei. I am stunned with the detailed work and classic characters of Disney, Peter Pan, Alladin, Beauty and the Beast, Marvel, Pinnochio, Oswald, Moana, Mickey Mouse, Lion King, Frozen, The Little Mermaid, among others. I am much awed with the 8-meter tall Snow White, which placed as the themed main sculpture. The Festival usually runs during the summer months in Taipei. This year, the festival will run until October 22, 2023. Visitors like me can come to enjoy the intricate sand sculptures. Kudos to the skilled sculptors of Disney's stunning character creations.

Jiufen Jiufen Old Street: Explore the nostalgic atmosphere of Jiufen, a famous tourist attraction located in the mountains of northern Taiwan. Its charming old-world ambiance and stunning views of the surrounding landscapes make it more attractive to tourists, particularly its street that is lined with traditional tea houses, souvenir shops, and food stalls, creating a bustling and lively atmosphere. Walking through its streets, tourists like us can immerse themselves in the rich history and culture of Taiwan while experiencing a sense of timelessness as compared to the movie "Spirited Away."

Yehliu Geopark I am lucky to have witnessed before my eyes the wonders of Yehliu Geopark. Walking through the coastal road is rewarding as it captures natural wonders that showcase a stunning collection of unique geological formations. The Geopark

offers locals and tourists a surreal landscape of various shapes and sizes, sculpted by millions of years of coastal erosion. Part of the many rock formations here is the iconic "Queen's Head," which resembles a regal profile and is the highlight among the numerous intriguing formations like mushroom and honeycomb rocks. Exploring Yehliu Geopark feels like stepping into a different world, where nature's artistic prowess is on full display. The park's dramatic coastal setting, combined with its fascinating geological wonders, makes it a must-visit destination for nature enthusiasts and anyone seeking a memorable experience near Taipei. Yehliu at night offers romantic light and a magical night view of the sea and sky. From the rock formation, Yehliu showcases two light shows; the first part presented was the dazzling 3D light sculpture projection. And last was the water curtain fountain and water dance animation, which brought a new light to spectators and tourists alike. See it here ? <https://fb.watch/ILJfrfWtfS/?mibextid=v7YzmG>

Food and Restos By the way, our culinary journey in Taipei includes Mala Hot Pot, Din Tai Fung 101 Branch, Fuji Seafood, and the Inhouse Hotel Yehliu Fisherman's Kitchen. At the secret tea house in Jiufen, we enjoyed drinking authentic Taiwanese Oolong Tea with a complete tea ceremony. The privilege of experiencing the warm hospitality and delectable flavors offered by the diverse array of restaurants that graciously hosted us, from cozy neighborhood gems to upscale dining establishments, each eatery provided a unique glimpse into the local culinary scene and an unforgettable feast for the senses. Truly, our trip to Taipei was an adventure filled with remarkable experiences. And these memories have really left an indelible mark on my heart. Xie Xie CRK, and Taiwan Tourism Bureau. For an exceptional and smooth flight, fly to CRK via Cebu Pacific, Eva Air, and soon Starlux Airlines.

Taipei Private Tour: Discover the City's Highlights and Hidden Gems with Locals: Book Tours & Activities at Peek.com

Experience the best of Taipei on a private tour with a knowledgeable local guide. Discover the city's highlights, hidden gems, and indulge in a local treat! Experience the best of Taipei on a private tour with a knowledgeable local guide. Discover the city's highlights, hidden gems, and indulge in a local treat! This isn't just another city tour; it's the best of Taipei from a unique viewpoint! Experience Taipei on a city exploration that offers you a comprehensive overview with major city attractions, secret spots, engaging storytelling, and a special local delicacy - this tour includes everything!

Forget crowded groups and tourists; it's time for you to see? This isn't just another city tour; it's the best of Taipei from a unique viewpoint! Experience Taipei on a city exploration that offers you a comprehensive overview with major city attractions, secret spots, engaging storytelling, and a special local delicacy - this tour includes everything! Forget crowded groups and tourists; it's time for you to see Taipei from a local's perspective. Take a look at what main landmarks like the Chiang Kei Shek Statue, Bao'an Temple, Maji Market have to offer and discover hidden treasures and untold city secrets guided by a knowledgeable local. And a treat from the locality is on us. The Withlocals Highlights & Hidden Gems Private City Tour? is a hallmark of Withlocals? tours globally. Our guides are enthusiastic locals who are paid a fair wage. We bolster local economies by encouraging the use of local products and avoid over-tourism by maintaining smaller, less intrusive groups. For a full refund, cancel at least 24 hours before the scheduled departure time. For a full refund, cancel at least 24 hours before the scheduled departure time.

What to do in Taipei for your first time - World of Wanderlust

Arriving in Taipei, I had no expectations. I had long heard fellow travellers sing their praises for Taiwan and its capital city, but I made the purposeful decision not to research before the trip, instead hoping to wander the streets and stumble upon the city by happenstance. As it turns out, this is not the most ideal way to see Taipei. The city itself is sprawling and spread out, but thankfully the public transport is easy to navigate and well connected. Here's what to do in Taipei for your first time if you're hoping to experience the hidden gems of the city, as well as the top attractions. When you land in Taipei, it is easy enough to catch public transport from the airport into the city. There is a direct train from the airport to the city, with just a few stops in between before you reach the Taipei Main Station. Once in the city, you have a few choices for getting around. The public metro is easy to use and navigate, but if your hotel is located close to the train station you might also choose to walk as the city is flat and pathways wide for rolling your suitcase. A final option is to hop in a cab to take you directly to the door of your hotel, however I would say this is the least fun option! There is no shortage of hotels and guesthouses in Taipei. I chose to book my stay at CitizenM, as I was looking for a hotel that was central and I always love these hotels for their simplicity, affordability and best of all: the views! My main recommendation for staying at CitizenM would be to choose a room on a higher floor, so you get to enjoy the views over the city. Taipei is a city practically made for foodies. There are endless Taiwanese delicacies to try but even more importantly for me was the sweets selection. Taiwan is also the birthplace of bubble tea (boba tea), so you can expect to find tea shops on almost every corner. My favourite food find was a small teahouse named Matcha One. As a fond matcha fan, this was the one and only place I researched for the trip, as I was in search of the best matcha in town. As it turns out, this matcha store is highly celebrated with rave reviews. Despite being a little out of the way, I made a point to visit not once but twice, for arguably the best matcha soft serve ice cream in the world (or certainly the best matcha ice cream I've ever enjoyed!) My next recommendation is Comida. I stumbled upon this place nearby my hotel when in search of a coffee. Not only did they have a great coffee, but they also specialise in famous Taiwanese

cheese toasties ? with almond butter! If that sounds weird, don't overthink it. I promise you this was one of the best things I ate in Taiwan and I'd totally recommend it for a cheap breakfast. Next up is Cookie DPT. As many of you will already know I now own and operate a cookie shop in Brisbane named Brooki Bakehouse, so sweets and bakeries are often at the top of my list when I travel. Although this wasn't my style of cookie (it was much more dry and dense than my preferred underbaked cookie with a crispy exterior), it was a cool shop to visit and great to see the cookie trend has reached Taipei. If you want to try my style of cookie, you might want to check out my online cookie class. If you fancy a bubble tea, Tao Tao Teahouse was my favourite find (and trust me, I drank my weight in bubble tea on this trip). Taipei 101 Observatory is the number one choice for a view over the city and is especially beautiful at sunset. The Beitou hot springs are a popular spot 30 minutes from downtown and a great way to escape the city hustle and bustle. Fancy a hike? Xiangshan Trail is a short 45-minute hike that offers a great view of Taipei, especially at sunset. If you fancy a day trip, Jiufen is a beautiful mountainous town with authentic teahouses. It feels a bit like stepping back in time. Brooke Saward founded World of Wanderlust as a place to share inspiration from her travels and to inspire others to see our world. She now divides her time between adventures abroad and adventures in the kitchen, with a particular weakness for French pastries. Find me on: [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Facebook](#) [Paris](#) [London](#) [Rome](#) [New York](#) [Los Angeles](#) [First trip solo](#) [Packing guide](#) [20 Best Places for Solo Female Travel](#) [Travel after a break up](#) [20 Places in your 20's](#) [Africa](#) [Americas](#) [Asia](#) [Europe](#) [Oceania](#) [Solo travel](#) [Adventure travel](#) [Luxury travel](#) [Learn a language](#) [Become a blogger](#)

Highlights & Hidden Gems With Locals: Best Of Taipei Private Tour

Discover Taipei like a local with the ?Highlights & Hidden Gems With Locals: Best of Taipei Private Tour.? Led by knowledgeable guides, this private tour takes visitors on a journey through the city?s culture, history, and culinary scene. From iconic landmarks like Taipei 101 to hidden gems in narrow alleyways, travelers will uncover the true essence of Taipei. With valuable insights on public transportation and opportunities to sample local delicacies, this tour is highly recommended by previous participants. Embark on an unforgettable adventure and discover the best of Taipei with local experts.

About Our Review: Please note that this is our review of this tour and we do not run, sell, or book tours from this site. If you want to book this tour please click the large button at the base of this page to go to the official listing on Viator. Image Credit: Viator.com Image Credit: Viator.com

It's also worth checking out some other tours and experiences nearby. Visitors can enjoy the rich cultural heritage of Taipei by exploring its iconic landmarks with a knowledgeable guide. Taipei boasts a stack of must-visit attractions that showcase its historical significance. One such landmark is the National Chiang Kai-shek Memorial Hall, a grand structure dedicated to the former President of the Republic of China. This site offers a glimpse into Taiwan?s political history and features stunning architectural elements. Another popular destination is Longshan Temple, a centuries-old religious site known for its intricate craftsmanship and vibrant atmosphere. The Taipei 101 skyscraper, once the tallest building in the world, is also a must-see. Its observation deck provides panoramic views of the cityscape. Image Credit: Viator.com Image Credit: Viator.com

They can embark on a journey of discovery as they uncover hidden gems off the beaten path in Taipei. Taipei is a city full of surprises, and venturing off the well-trodden tourist routes allows travelers to unearth local treasures and explore Taipei?s secrets. Here are some hidden gems to explore:

Unique Neighborhoods: Serene Nature Escapes: Travelers can satisfy their taste buds by indulging in Taipei?s culinary delights. Taipei?s food scene offers a wide array of options, ranging from traditional Taiwanese dishes to mouthwatering street food. To truly enjoy the local food culture, travelers can join local food tours that take them to the city?s hidden gems and popular food spots.

These tours provide an opportunity to taste authentic Taiwanese cuisine, such as beef noodle soup, stinky tofu, and xiao long bao (soup dumplings). Visitors can also explore the famous night markets of Taipei, such as Raohe and Shilin, where they can sample a variety of local delicacies like oyster omelets, bubble tea, and grilled squid. Whether it's exploring the bustling streets or dining at a local eatery, Taipei's culinary scene is sure to leave travelers with a memorable and delicious experience. One of the best ways to fully experience Taipei's rich cultural heritage is by exploring its numerous temples and museums. These cultural experiences provide a deep insight into the local traditions and customs of the city. Here are some key attractions to enjoy Taipei's cultural heritage:

Temples:

- Longshan Temple:** Known for its beautiful architecture and religious significance, this temple is a must-visit to witness traditional rituals and ceremonies.
- Confucius Temple:** Dedicated to the renowned Chinese philosopher, this temple offers a glimpse into Confucian teachings and practices.

Museums:

- National Palace Museum:** Home to an extensive collection of Chinese artifacts, including ancient paintings, calligraphy, and porcelain, this museum showcases the rich history and art of the region.
- Taipei Fine Arts Museum:** Showcasing contemporary art from both local and international artists, this museum is a hub for creativity and innovation.

Visitors can enjoy Taipei's vibrant nightlife and discover the city's hidden gems. Taipei offers a diverse and exciting nightlife scene, with numerous options for experiencing local bars and night markets. One popular area for bar-hopping is the Xinyi District, known for its upscale establishments and rooftop bars offering stunning city views. The district is also home to the famous Taipei 101, where visitors can enjoy a drink while taking in the breathtaking skyline. For a more local experience, travelers can head to the night markets, such as Shilin Night Market or Raohe Street Night Market. These bustling markets come alive in the evening, offering a wide variety of street food, shopping stalls, and entertainment options. Exploring Taipei's nightlife is a great way to take in the city's vibrant culture and experience its energetic atmosphere. Taipei boasts three stunning national parks that showcase the city's natural beauty. These parks offer a variety of hiking trails and scenic views that allow visitors to enjoy nature. Here is a breakdown of the parks and what they have to offer:

Yangmingshan National Park: Located just outside of Taipei, Yangmingshan is known for its hot

springs and volcanic landscapes. Visitors can explore the park's numerous hiking trails, which lead to beautiful waterfalls, lush forests, and panoramic views of the city. Taipei Zoo and Maokong Gondola: While not a traditional national park, Taipei Zoo and Maokong Gondola provide a unique opportunity to experience nature within the city. The gondola ride offers breathtaking views of Taipei, while the zoo showcases a wide variety of animal species and botanical gardens. With these natural gems, Taipei offers a perfect balance between urban excitement and tranquil natural surroundings. Visitors can escape the bustling city and enjoy the beauty of these scenic parks. Engage with local experts to get insider tips and make the most of your Taipei experience. When exploring a new city like Taipei, having the guidance of a local expert can provide invaluable insights and enhance your trip. Local experts possess extensive knowledge about the city's hidden gems, cultural nuances, and the best places to eat, shop, and explore. They can offer recommendations tailored to your interests and preferences, ensuring that you have a personalized and memorable experience. From off-the-beaten-path attractions to the tastiest local delicacies, engaging with local experts allows you to tap into their expertise and gain access to insider tips that you mightn't find in guidebooks or online resources. Here's a few more nearby tours and experiences we think you'll like. Yes, Covid-19 safety measures are implemented for this private tour. The tour has been adjusted to comply with regulations, including limits on participants and modified delivery methods. Safety is prioritized throughout the experience. The cancellation policy for the private tour includes a full refund if canceled at least 24 hours in advance. No refund is provided for cancellations made less than 24 hours before the start time. Yes, travelers can see photos taken by previous participants of this tour. These photos provide a visual glimpse of the popular photo spots and serve as testimonials from previous travelers. Having a local guide for exploring Taipei offers several benefits. They provide valuable cultural insights, make navigating the city easier, assist with public transportation, and enhance the overall experience. Reviews highlight the importance of having a guide. The overall rating for this tour is 5.0 based on 32 reviews from previous participants. The reviews provide valuable feedback on the participant experiences. Ratings range from 1 star to 5 stars. Not for you? Here's more of our most recent tour reviews happening neaby To sum it up, the

?Highlights & Hidden Gems With Locals: Best of Taipei Private Tour? offers travelers a unique and immersive experience of Taipei. Led by knowledgeable guides, visitors can explore iconic landmarks, uncover hidden gems, and indulge in culinary delights. They can also enjoy the city?s rich cultural heritage, experience vibrant nightlife, and discover the natural beauty of Taipei. With the assistance of local experts, participants can gain valuable insights and insider tips, ensuring a memorable and authentic adventure in this vibrant city. World Travel Guides © 2024 Veronika's Adventure

Beyond Taipei: Hidden Gems in New Taipei City, Keelung, Sun Moon Lake and more

Because the world is too small for strangers. 22 Apr 2024 By Andre Frois

When it comes to experiencing Taiwan and its rich history, there is much more than the usual tourist spots in Taipei. Indulge in an immersive experience of Taiwanese culture, nature, and recreation when you visit these eye-opening sights! You'll love exploring the charming streets of New Taipei City, diving into the natural beauty of Hualien, and uncovering hidden treasures throughout this eclectic island! Discover Taiwan beyond Taipei when you visit these lesser-known wonders that are waiting to be explored. Ready to plan your trip to explore parts of Taiwan that you have not been to before? Book your accommodation with participating properties by Wyndham Hotels & Resorts and earn 7,500 Wyndham Rewards bonus points for every two nights' stay. An even sweeter deal? Get a maximum of 15,000 points if you are staying for at least four nights - that is enough for you to redeem up to two future free nights' stay at thousands of hotels by Wyndham worldwide. Find out more on the Wyndham Rewards deals page.

Discover the timeless charm of Sanxia Old Street in New Taipei City, where history comes alive amid intricate architecture. Don't miss the Museum of World Religions nearby, adding a spiritual dimension to your cultural exploration. If you'd like to soak in the rich history of Taiwan, visit Sanxia Old Street in New Taipei City, which lies just outside the hustle and bustle of Taipei. Sanxia's name refers to the three rivers that converge here, and this street's intricate architecture recalls the economic importance of this former commercial centre. Along this 200 metre stretch of beautifully conserved streets, you can admire ancient wooden plaques, red brick walls, baroque archways, and other handmade elements that were commissioned by the neighbourhood's former wealthy residents. You can take your pick from the array of antiques, souvenirs, and traditional snacks sold here when you take in the rich history of this quarter, which was a popular commercial street in the Qing Dynasty. Do not miss Sanxia Qingshui Zushi Temple, which is one of the most beautiful temples in Northern Taiwan. If you'd like to dive deeper into the culture of the region, check out the Museum of World Religions nearby, which was

built by a Burmese Buddhist monk, and Yingge Old Street, which has a famous pottery market that purveys everything from ceramic art to handmade teaware. If you're thinking of spending a few days in New Taipei City, consider spending the night in TRYP by Wyndham New Taipei Linkou, which features a vibrant and colourful design with a wide range of amenities. Tuck into local and international cuisine in its in-house restaurants or enjoy a workout in its well-equipped gym. Enrich your stay at TRYP By Wyndham New Taipei Linkou, where luxury meets eclectic charm, near the iconic Longshan Temple. Nature lovers can access Dahu Park, Shifen Waterfall and Yangmingshan National Park easily from Wyndham New Taipei Linkou. The Socks Museum and historic Longshan Temple too are located near this hotel. It's a short drive from Taiwan Taoyuan International Airport and Taipei Songshan Airport, and is situated near popular shopping destinations like Global Mall Linkou A9, Mitsui Outlet Park Linkou, and the Banqiao Fuzhong Shopping District. Sanxia Old Street is a 30-minute drive from TRYP by Wyndham New Taipei Linkou, via National Freeway 1, or you can take a bus from Banqiao or Xipu station in New Taipei City. The rooms are modern looking and newly furnished as it was officially opened in October 2023. Book your stay directly with Wyndham Hotels & Resorts by 9 May 2024 and complete your stay by 13 May 2024 and you will be rewarded with up to 15,000 bonus Wyndham Rewards points. These points can go into your next trip, where you can either redeem a 1-night stay with 30,000 Wyndham Rewards Points (Go Free) or 4,760 TWD + 6,000 Points (Go Fast). Book your stay at TRYP by Wyndham New Taipei Linkou now.

Sun Moon Lake is one of the most popular attractions in Taiwan, offering unparalleled landscape views. Sun Moon Lake is a beautiful alpine lake in Taiwan's Nantou County. Its name derives from its shape—one part resembles a crescent moon, and the other is shaped like a round sun. This majestic lake is surrounded by scenic forests and beautiful mountain vistas. Avid trekkers can take their pick from the many trails around Sun Moon Lake, such as the Tutingzai Trail and Maolan Mountain Trail. If you'd like to enjoy an aerial view of the area, take a cable car from Sun Moon Lake Ropeway, which ascends from the lakeshore up the mountain range. You might also like to visit the area's landmarks like the nine-storey-tall Ci'en Pagoda, which was built by Chiang Kai-Shek in 1971 in memory of his mother, and the lake's many piers. You can also book a tour through the Sun Moon

Lake route to meet the local indigenous tribes of Taiwan, like the Thao tribe of Sun Moon Lake, and the Bunun tribe by Zhuoshui River, Taiwan's longest river. If you're looking for convenient and luxurious accommodation around Sun Moon Lake, look no further than Wyndham Sun Moon Lake, which sports aboriginal Thao design elements within the hotel, and has private hot spring pools, a well-equipped fitness centre, a swimming pool, and a sky garden where you can catch the sunset with magnificent views. Live in luxury at Wyndham Sun Moon Lake. This chic property surprises guests with stunning lake and mountain views. From its windows and balconies, you can enjoy a clear view of the iconic ropeway and Wenwu Temple, which comprises two gorgeous ancient temples that Taiwan is renowned for. Indulge in Cantonese or Western cuisine in Wyndham Sun Moon Lake's restaurants, pamper yourself in its in-house spa, and have a ball of a time in its karaoke room! The easiest way to get to Sun Moon Lake from Taipei is to drive or take a bus. Wyndham Sun Moon Lake boasts rooms with unblocked views at its balconies and private hot spring pools for guests to unwind and relax during the stay. On top of earning up to 15,000 Wyndham Rewards bonus points for your stay at hotels by Wyndham, you can also redeem a free night's stay at Wyndham Sun Moon Lake with 30,000 points per night (Go Free) or 5,748 TWD + 6,000 points per night Go Fast), if you're an existing Wyndham Rewards member. Redeem your points for a future stay here. Book your stay at Wyndham Sun Moon Lake now. A post shared by ????? (@hualien.tw) Taiwan's largest county, Hualien is a picturesque coastal city located on the east coast of Taiwan. Outdoor adventurers will love Hualien's lush forests and azure waters. Avid adventurers can take their pick from the many hiking and biking trails that surround Hualien. Cycle through the Tunnel of Nine Turns, hike the Changchun Temple Trail, paddle down the Xiuguluan River, and stroll through the Wuhe tea plantation. Chill out and catch some sun on Qixingtan Beach. This pebble-covered beach is popular among picnickers because it stares out into the vast Pacific Ocean. And if you are still not sure about the many things you can do in Hualien, you can even go on a road trip and discover the heart of Amis culture in Fengbin Township, a UNESCO-listed heritage site in Hualien County. You can also learn about indigenous tribes of Hualien, like the Amis and the Atayal, by visiting the museums, attending cultural performances, and participating in

guided tours and activities. Embraced by lush mountains and the vast Pacific, this scenic gem blends tradition with evolving tourism, offering captivating landscapes and cultural experiences. Soaking in the immense natural beauty of Hualien takes several days, so consider booking yourself a room in the Ramada Encore by Wyndham Hualien, which is a centrally located property that is only eight kilometres from Hualien Airport and offers free shuttle services to and fro Hualien Train Station. Feel the cultural heartbeat right from your door at Ramada Encore by Wyndham Hualien. Situated near Dongdamen Night Market, the largest night market in the east of Taiwan, this hotel is a stone's throw away from cultural attractions like Shennan Temple, A Mei Wenhua Village, Hualien Railway Culture Park and Hualien Cultural & Creative Industries Park. Family fun awaits at the popular Farglory Ocean Park, which is an amusement park themed on aquatic life. For those who prefer to be close to nature, escape into nature at Liyu Lake, Pine Garden, Qixingtan Beach and Nanbin Park, which are all located near Ramada Encore by Wyndham Hualien. If you'd like to visit Hualien from Taipei, an express train can get you to Hualien in two hours. Alternatively, you can hop on a domestic flight and travel from Taipei Songshan Airport to Hualien in just 50 minutes. Ramada Encore by Wyndham Hualien is a 4-star hotel with everything you need for a comfortable and welcoming stay. Book your accommodation at Ramada Encore by Wyndham Hualien and complete your stay by 13 May 2024 to be rewarded with up to 15,000 bonus Wyndham Rewards points, enough to redeem a two-night stay at thousands of hotels by Wyndham worldwide! Find out more about this limited Wyndham Rewards Member Month promo [here](#). If you are an existing Wyndham Rewards member, you can redeem a Go Free stay at 15,000 Wyndham Rewards points per night or a Go Fast stay for 1,420.00 TWD + 3,000 points per night at Ramada Encore by Wyndham Hualien. Book your stay at Ramada Encore by Wyndham Hualien now. A post shared by Vivian Wang (@applevivian72)

Now, what are some of the best places to visit in Taiwan that showcase its rich cultural heritage and natural beauty? Along western Taiwan, Changhua County abounds with natural beauty. One of the highlights is Bagua Mountain, which has hiking trails of varying difficulty that reward hikers with panoramic views of Changhua. This mountain is famous for the Baguashan Giant Buddha Statue, which is one of the largest Buddha statues in Taiwan. Visiting Changhua is

worth the trip. Visit Lukang Township when you're there, which is a historic town with ancient, carefully preserved architecture, and has a beautiful old temple called the Lukang Mazu Temple. You might have also heard of Rainbow Village, which takes its name from the vibrant murals painted by the late Huang Yung-fu, a resident who was passionate about using art to prevent the local government from demolishing his home. Bring a souvenir home from the Taiwan Glass Gallery, which showcases a wide variety of beautiful glass artwork and even invites you to try your hand at creating glass art. Take a stroll through Tianwei Highway Garden, which is a famous flower garden that abounds with an array of flora and colours. Changhua is also home to the Changhua Roundhouse, which was built during the Japanese Occupation and is one of Taiwan's few remaining roundhouses. One of Taiwan's oldest temples is the Longshan Temple, which was completed in 1740 during the Qing Dynasty. Changhua's Sanqingyuan Temple and Changhua Sea-Shell Temple are also worth a visit. Do not pass on Changhua, which is two hours away from Taipei—whether you travel by car or train. Alternatively, you can fly to Taichung Airport, which is half an hour away by car. A post shared by ????? (@keelungtravel) This city at the northern tip of Taiwan has a rich maritime history. Keelung Harbour offers a panoramic view of the ocean and mountains. Ferries from this harbour invite you to discover the geological formations of nearby islands like Heping Island and Wangyou Valley. There's also Bisha Fishing Port, where you can observe the Keelung fishermen go about their daily activities on their kaleidoscopic fishing boats, and enjoy their fresh catch afterwards. Keelung Maritime Plaza shines the spotlight on Keelung's maritime heritage, which displays exhibits and artefacts from this port city's storied past. Take a pic atop Zhongzheng Park, which is a popular picnic destination that looks over the city. If you're game for a climb, explore Qianshan, which is a fortress built in the Qing Dynasty. There is also Dawulun Fort nearby, which was built by the Spanish in the 17th century and later reinforced by the Dutch and Chinese. Visitors to Keelung also should not pass on Keelung's Fairy Cave Temple, Buddha's Hand Cave, the region's famous 25-metre-tall Guanyin statue, and the famous Zhengbin Port Color Houses. The best part? Keelung is only a half-hour drive from Taipei. We hope you'll love these eclectic must-see destinations! If you can't get enough of the great outdoors, here are several

reasons why you should see the flora and fauna of gorgeous Taiwan on a bicycle. And if you're travelling with little ones in tow, here are several kid-friendly destinations across Taiwan that travellers of all ages will love. Not a Wyndham Rewards member yet? Sign up for Wyndham Rewards for free and enjoy huge rewards by clicking [here](#). Follow Wyndham Rewards on Facebook and Instagram, for the latest information on and travel inspiration. This story is brought to you by Wyndham Hotels & Resorts. For more updates on Changi Airport, follow on Facebook, Tiktok, Instagram, X (formerly Twitter), Telegram and YouTube. You can also sign up for a Changi Account and have the latest news and articles delivered right into your inbox. Shop before you fly!

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Spring, spanning from March to May, emerges as an opportune period for Taiwan exploration, boasting gentle temperatures and the mesmerising flourish of cherry blossoms. This timeframe stands out as the pinnacle of tourist influx. Meanwhile, late summer through early autumn, from August to October, also marks a sought-after peak season characterised by balmy weather and little rainfall. Transportation

Exploring urban regions in Taiwan becomes effortless with a plethora of transportation choices such as taxis (or Uber), buses, the mass rapid transit system "MRT," and the nationwide bicycle-sharing platform "YouBike." When delving into rural landscapes, intercity travels, or mountainous escapades, a diverse range of public and private transport alternatives beckons. Currency

While travelling around Taiwan, transactions are conducted with the New Taiwanese Dollar. You'll

find ATMs conveniently situated in 7-Elevens along your journey, but it's wise to carry some local currency before setting out to visit the many places in your itinerary. You have reached the limit of 5 saved articles. To save this article, you will need to remove others on My Articles. © 2024 Changi Airport Singapore. All Rights Reserved. By using this site, you agree to our Privacy Policy, Conditions of Access and to the placement of cookies on your computer.

TikTok - Make Your Day

Taipei Private Custom Tours with a Local: Highlights & Hidden Gems

Things To Do Car Rental Transfers Events Europe, United Kingdom, England Europe, United Kingdom, England Europe, United Kingdom, England Europe, United Kingdom, England Your host will meet you at Song Shan MRT station exit 5. Alternatively, after booking, you can adjust the meeting point to fit your preferences with the help of our Experience Planners. Odds are, ambling down any street in Taipei would confront you with a million sights you've never seen before. Wouldn't it be wonderful, in such an instance, to have somebody by your side to explain just what exactly is going on?

With a local Taipei host, you'll have that as you explore this bustling, vibrant and ridiculously colorful city together. Tell them what interests you, and then stick around for the journey. You might like to start your day with a traditional Taiwanese breakfast before heading to Liberty Square. From here, many of the famous attractions are accessible to you, and you can get your history (and Instagram) kicks by exploring one or many of the surrounding temples and buildings. Chiang Kai-shek Memorial Hall is a biggie! Ask your host about its political significance. Travel back in time on Bopiliao Old Street - a relic from the Qing Dynasty, You could catch a tangerine sunset at Tamsui Fisherman's Wharf. You could sample some beef noodles, pepper buns, flame-torched sausages and soup dumplings. Are you brave enough for stinky tofu? We reckon you are. Depending on the timing of your experience, you might like to check out the Shilin and Raohe night markets, climb Elephant Mountain for stellar views over the city, shop in trendy Ximending or get close to nature in Yangmingshan National Park. Learn all about ingredients you never knew even existed and immerse yourself in this steamy world of culinary brilliance. Some modern apartments are built without kitchens because the nation's kitchen is outside on the streets.

Now that's confidence in their street food scene. You might want to tick off some famous sights, like Bao'an Temple, Chiang Kai-shek Memorial Hall and Dihua Street, and let's not forget that Taipei is

all about street food.

In fact, so entrenched is this daily ritual into the fabric of life here, that some apartments are built without kitchens - sample some pork belly buns and bubble tea to see why this would make perfect sense! Your host will take care in mapping out a unique route for you which takes in the city's highlights as well as some hidden gems they know you'll love Email customer support at atmarriott-activities@travelcurious.com Or call us at +1 786-321-7264 Marriott Bonvoy Tours & Activities and the programs and products provided under the Marriott Bonvoy Tours & Activities brand are not owned, developed, or sold by Marriott International, Inc. Marriott Bonvoy Tours & Activities uses the Marriott marks under license from Marriott International, Inc.

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Unveiling Taipei's Hidden Gems: A Seaside Photoshoot Adventure at Huimadam | by Loufish | flyfishhh | Medium

[Sign up](#) [Sign in](#) [Sign up](#) [Sign in](#) [Member-only story](#) [Loufish](#) [Follow flyfishhh](#) -- [Share](#) Embarking on a quest for vibrant photos amidst the challenges of color grading, this Taipei journey was exclusively dedicated to the enchanting #Huimadam. Discover the story behind each shot, from the elegant white gown, a studio prop, to the captivating beach, strategically captured during the low tide hours. Climb ladders, navigate spontaneous creative decisions, and explore the unexpected treasures found in the heart of Taipei. Join me in this visual adventure, as we delve into the beauty of a black sandy beach dress and a Japanese-style striped pajama, both studio props adding unique elements to the photoshoot. While the photo count may be modest, the experience was rich, offering a glimpse into the behind-the-scenes world of capturing Taipei's coastal allure. -- -- hi there. An amateur model from Taiwan, graduated in Economics and worked in technology industry,for 5 yrs, now enjoy life :) [Travel lover and living with my cat](#) [Help](#) [Status](#) [About](#) [Careers](#) [Press](#) [Blog](#) [Privacy](#) [Terms](#) [Text to speech](#) [Teams](#)

9 Hidden Gems: Exploring 9 Taipei Cafés for Unique Coffee Experiences - Eating in Taipei

If you're looking to unwind, work, or just get out of the house for the afternoon, then go no further than some of Taipei's best cafés. Nestled among the bustling streets, so many cafés have become an essential element of the local food scene. They offer an intriguing experience that encapsulates the essence of this vibrant metropolis, with a broad choice of milk or non-dairy flavors and brewing styles. These delightful cafés offer an intriguing coffee-fueled experience that encapsulates the essence of this exciting city in which I live and love. [Jerry?@worldcoffeeshops?????](#) Taipei cafés are well-known for their dedication to quality and innovation, from some of the world's best single-origin coffee, to a lip-smacking espresso, or branching out to that deliciously creamy latte that we all know and love. Each café, from trendy hangouts to intimate hideaways, has its own distinct ambiance and charm. These places cater to all interests, whether you're a budding barista, caffeine addict, or simply looking for a cozy place to unwind. [Jerry?@worldcoffeeshops?????](#) Taipei's cafés proudly feature a selection of single or mixed-origin beans sourced from around the world for those looking for a next level coffee experience. Each cup has a narrative to tell, highlighting the various flavors and features of its origin. In a typical café in the city, you can expect to enjoy the rich notes of Ethiopia, the smoothness of Colombia, or the earthy scents of Indonesia. Not to mention the elusively micro-batch Taiwanese homegrown beans that exist out there! With all of this talk about caffeine, are you getting more and more excited? You should be! But, bear in mind that caffeine and the effects that it can have on the body may not be for everyone. A great podcast you should check out is The Huberman Lab podcast, where Andrew Huberman will break down everything caffeine, providing you with all of the information with which to make smart caffeine choices moving forward, whether that is to optimize mental & physical performance, or just to be more conscious about the drinks we are drinking. Be sure to check out more about The Huberman Lab using this link. Please take note that this article contains links to services and products from which I may receive compensation at no additional cost to you. There are many excellent cafés in

Taipei, with most located in the Da'an District. Some great ones are All Day Roasting Company, Coffee Law, and Moonshine Coffee Roasters. Cafés in Taipei take coffee seriously, but some more than most. You should go to Simple Kaffa if excellent single origin coffee is what you're looking for, as they have such a wide selection. The "best" café is difficult to isolate. Are you looking for coffee? Sandwiches? Pastries? For excellent all-round offerings, you should go to Simple Kaffa, Fujin Tree Cafe, or All Day Roasting Company. Taipei, with its vibrant coffee culture, is home to a multitude of amazing cafés that offer diverse flavors, unique atmospheres, and exceptional coffee experiences. In this article, we will look at 9 of the best from around the city. If you see any that didn't make the list, then leave a comment and I'd be happy to expand the post to include your recommendation. Subscribe to get the latest updates from Eating in Taipei, and some exclusive news. We respect your privacy. Unsubscribe at anytime. Read more about Food and Places to visit in Taipei: The Ultimate Guide to 15 Amazing Xiao Long Bao Restaurants in Taipei Taipei street food: 15 of the best food stands you should eat, and where to find them. Not just Bubble Tea? A quick 101 lesson about other fantastic drinks in Taiwan. Where Can You Find the Best Taiwanese Breakfast? here are my 2024 top picks! 7 unforgettable Taipei Places to visit in 2024 if you only have 48 hours! ALL DAY ROASTING COMPANY @zero.foodielife This place had to go to the top of the list, as I genuinely see it as being one of the best cafes in Taipei. All Day Roasting Company does some delicious coffee, great breakfasts/brunch, and in a really welcoming environment with absolutely no time limit on how long you can stay there! Go for one of their milk creations for your coffee selection, and you'll be wowed by the latte art that is on display here. Latte art is a captivating technique that elevates the presentation of a latte by skillfully pouring perfectly steamed milk into espresso, thus creating intricate designs on the surface. From heart shapes to regal swans, these artistic creations add an aesthetic appeal to the creamy surface of the coffee, delighting both the eyes and taste buds. Check out below for some incredible latte art! Latte Artist & Barista Trainer @heidiphilipsmith HOLIN COFFEE ????.??DPD by WC @daily.photo_diary Not technically Taipei, but I feel like Yonghe is the cousin of Taipei, being a short bridge from either Wanhua, Gongguan, or Wanlong. Here at Holin Coffee

you're going to get delicious coffee, unlimited seating time, and great WIFI to allow you a peaceful space in which to work all day. What is not to love about that trifecta combo? Holin have quite a lot of single-origin coffee, they do some great latte's (and obviously the latte art to go with that), and it should definitely go down as a Taipei coffee shop (or a cousin of) of note. My recommendation would be their Goro Goro Coffee WEI JUN ??@weijiun.zzz????? Goro Goro really have the aesthetics down. Their logo is great, the design throughout the cafe front itself is beautiful, and the most important thing ? the coffee ? is on point, too. What you'll get here is a back alley cafe that will surprise you with the high quality drinks they serve up. If you're fed up with Louisa's poor quality offering, but absolutely hankering for a Flat White, then Goro Goro is the place to be! Their Flat White will serve up everything you have been looking for. For my money, the Flat White is the best milk based creation a café has ever made. Shorter, stronger, and waaaay more punchy than the latte, this creation is a sure staple to your morning (or afternoon) routine. COFFEE LAW ??? Interesting about this spot, is that they have 2 branches ? one is take-away only, and the other one you can eat/drink in at. This picture was taken when trying out their toast (it was fine), but I would like to focus more on the take-out-ability of their drinks. One thing that I really liked about Coffee Law, was that their drinks were delicious. We had a latte and an Americano, and they were both solid. I would say that their beans come in on the more dark-roasted side, so be prepared for quite a deep and rich flavour (not on Starbucks level, don't worry), but it combines really nicely with their milk-based options. Ruins Coffee Roasters ????????-??-?? ??????@tyler_so_hungry????? Taking beans seriously, is something that I really respect and appreciate from cafés around Taipei, and Ruins is a great place to start. They source the best beans that they can find, roast them up nice and fragrant, then use those beans to make some of the nicest tasting coffee that you're likely to find in Taipei. Honestly, you can't go far wrong with any of their creations. But, for me, their House Blend or their Papua New Guinea using a V60 to pour-over would be what I go for each and every time. The fragrance coming out of their beans here is what makes it so special. It helps, of course, when the design inside is damn cool, too. ????? FUJIN TREE CAFE Sylvia???@sylvia_food????? Fujin Tree is an Instagrammer's paradise! The aesthetics make it

a really special place to go in and chill. But, what is notable as well is their single-origin coffee is right on the money. Each person is required to spend \$250 or more here, and they don't accept reservations, but their coffee + tiramisu are worth going there for, even with these restrictions. They have some incredible Ethiopian beans, and even have some less commonly seen in Taiwan Mexican beans that I will definitely try next time. ??????/????Now Chance Coffee Eating in Taipei?@eatingintaipei????? There are two branches of Now Chance, both offering up some amazing single-origin options if that's what you're in the market for. Upon walking in and ordering here, you are given a menu on which has all of the different specialty coffee that they have there. You choose the beans that you want, and then you choose the drink that you would like them to create for you. However, if you are not completely sure whether your Colombian beans go right with milk in a latte, or whether your Peruvian beans go well as a stand-alone espresso, I would encourage you to first check with the amazing baristas throughout the store here. I have had many amazing espressos here, and long may that continue. This is a café that I trust for their roasting, and that is seldom given out praise. Moonshine Coffee Roasters | ?????? (?????) 4?????????@gui_8661????? What gives Moonshine the edge, here is the inventive creativeness that they bring to their drinks and food. It's quite awesome, really. Expect to see things on the menu such as an affogato, summer tonic, sleeping pill (!), and whisky Americano. These creative drinks give it the edge over the competition by including some alcoholic or virgin cocktails. You should absolutely check out their creamy cold drip for a refreshing hit on a hot day. Simple Kaffa Sola ??? latte Li ???@latte7119????? Taipei 101. It doesn't get much better than that. Simple Kaffa have a couple of branches, with their flagship branch in the center of the city, but the place to go for a view is right here. High up on the 88th floor, you'll get stunning (if you hit it on a good day and get lucky) views, with some delicious drinks. Anyone who knows about Simple Kaffa knows how good their drinks are, but anyone who doesn't know, needs to. Their selection of beans and drinks really make it stand out from the crowd. ????? ????@ariel_0419_????? If you have a car, scooter, or any means of travel, then you must look at going out to this spot on the coast. The views out to sea are wonderful, the location is secluded enough to not get a flow of tourists coming in, and their menu is

surprisingly good, too! You have to book in advance to get a window seat, but it's not the end of the world if you don't get one, as the menu itself is delicious enough by itself. Subscribe to get the latest updates from Eating in Taipei, and some exclusive news. We respect your privacy. Unsubscribe at anytime. ????? G's foodie?@gs__vlog__????? From 13:00-01:00, Yokujitsu café is definitely a place to settle in to for the long haul. Sip on a delicious coffee all day long if the mood so strikes you to do so. They keep it simple here, with lots of variations of coffee, tea, and non-caffeinated drinks. There's only a couple of smaller desserts on the menu, too, so don't go expecting an afternoon snack to fill you up. Come for the coffee, and enjoy it right into the depths of the night. It definitely goes down as one of the best cafés in Taipei for the night owls out there. ????? ???-????????????????????@sandy_eat????? Mid-day to 2am, Remember me café is a place to laze around in all day. You can expect to stumble across some live music here, as well being able to enjoy some waffles or cheesecake. What is more, is that Remember me café also serve alcohol. So, smash a coffee mid afternoon, wash it down with a tiramisu or/and some cheesecake, then carry on with some beers into the evening. Life could be worse, right? Which is your favourite from the 9 above? I really like the understated nature of Holin, but I also really enjoy the All Day Roasting Company for what they offer. To pin me down, I will choose All Day Roasting Company. But any of the 9 above are a sure bet for a great caffeine hit at any point throughout the day. Are there any others that didn't make the cut, but are noteworthy? Plenty. The 9 above are great examples, but there are many, many more. In fact, one of my favourites that I didn't feature is OKLao. Their selection of beans is amazing, and their single serving travel coffee is absolutely on-point, too! We had to create a great map for you to use for when you are out and about and craving that caffeine. Be sure to check out each and every single one of the locations below, but also be sure to leave a comment with anywhere that you feel should be added to the list because it is just THAT good. An Englishman living in Taipei, who created "Eating in Taipei" to encourage people to walk into restaurants with confidence of knowing what to eat. Privacy Policy Copyright © 2022-2024 eatingintaipei

15 Things to Do in Taiwan from the Must-See things to the Hidden Gems

One of the most exciting things about Taiwan attractions is that surprises are offered at every turn. While you can hike, bike or play in the water in many places around the world, such opportunities include unique touches in Taiwan. Once you've visited the eastern hemisphere, you'll want to return again and again. To get an idea for the incredible diversity when it comes to Taiwanese vacations, check out these suggestions. If you want to experience the best nightlife that Taipei has to offer, hightail it to Ximending. This popular neighborhood was the first pedestrian zone in Taiwan. The neighborhood has flourished and now includes some of the country's best pop culture attractions. Located in the Wanhua District, it is referred to as the "Shopping Paradise" seeing over three million shoppers per month looking for great bargains on electronic goods, toys, magazines, books, CDs and clothing. Over on Taipei's narrow Huashi Street, you can find out just how brave you are. A section of it is known as "Snake Alley" - and for good reason, too. Live amphibians and reptiles, including snakes, slither and wriggle in several stalls. If you are squeamish about seeing live animals killed, though, you may want to skip past this unique Taiwan attraction. North of Longtian, you'll find Taiwan's paragliding capital. This highland area is known as Luye Gaotai, and it reaches elevations of over 1,000 feet in places. The winds here are perfect for paragliding, so adventurers regularly head out to this region. Whether you've been paragliding before or not, you're sure to have an unforgettable time! You've never fully experienced a Chinese massage or acupuncture like in Taiwan. This part of the world, of course, is where the practices originated. As a result, finding talented massage therapists and acupuncturists is wonderfully easy. Better still, such services tend to be remarkably affordable! Taipei is a sprawling metropolis. Instead of traveling below ground, as in many major cities, you can soar above the city in a first-class gondola. The Maokong Gondola spans 12,000 feet and includes four stations. The novelty of being above the action is well worth the price of a ticket. Many Westerners are relatively clueless about the ancient art of Tai Chi. You can educate yourself and learn the basics - by signing up for a class in Taiwan.

Most areas have lessons available, and it's easy to find a true master to show you the ropes. There are plenty of day tours available in Taipei, but why not explore the city when it really comes alive - at night? Vegas and other American cities can't hold a candle to the excitement that ensues in Taipei after dark. Nothing is as American as baseball. Its influence is so profound that it's popular all the way over in Taiwan. If you'll be visiting Taipei during baseball season, try to take in a game at Tianmu Baseball Stadium. It will remind you of home and give you a feel for how the locals enjoy sports. Taiwan's train system is remarkably extensive and it is possible to cover the entire island by train. If you have time to spare, doing so is well worth it. Make sure that at least part of your journey takes place on the relatively new Taiwan High Speed Rail for views of the rugged, mountainous terrain. With an antenna that reaches 1,670 feet into the sky, the Taipei 101 skyscraper dominates the skyline in Taipei. Set aside a few hours to pay it a visit. An outdoor observatory on the 91st floor offers amazing panoramic views of the city. While in Taipei, take the time to visit the Jianguo Holiday Jade Market, the largest in the world. Whether you end up making a purchase or leave empty-handed, you won't soon forget the experience of exploring this compelling market stocked with gems and flowers galore. If you take a trip to Taroko Gorge, make a pit stop at Cisintan to do a little fishing. Area fishermen swear that this is the prime fishing spot in the entire country. Taipei is a great city to explore on foot. However, those feet are bound to get sore after a while! Stop over on Dihua Street to enjoy a foot massage. Several establishments in this part of town offer such services very affordably. Gays are widely accepted in Taiwan, especially in Taipei. Experience the culture at the Red Pavilion Theatre and its surrounding neighborhood. The thriving gay community here is well known throughout the country. If you've only ever visited Western doctors, you've been missing out on some intriguing experiences. In Taiwan, Chinese medicine doctors are everywhere. Find one and stop by for a health checkup. The insights you gain are sure to be incredible!

Kenting's hidden gems - Taipei Times

For most residents of Taiwan, the word "Kenting" conjures up images of white sandy beaches, turquoise waters, jet skis and maybe a crowded night market. Among all the commotion, it's easy to forget that Kenting is in fact a national park, with a mission to protect the natural environment. For those looking to escape the crowds, learn more about southern Taiwan's ecology, or simply add some variety to a beach holiday, the Ecological Protection Areas of Kenting National Park are an excellent addition to any trip. The four Ecological Protection Areas open to the public are all located on the less developed eastern side of the park. Three of them – Sizihkou (???), Longkeng (??) and Bitou Grassland (????) – sit next to the Pacific Ocean, while Nanren Mountain (???) sits further inland. All operate with a maximum daily visitor quota and can only be accessed by prior application and payment. Tourists are accompanied by a park guide (Mandarin only), who are highly knowledgeable and are often locals with an intimate understanding of not only the animal and plant life in the area, but also the history of its human inhabitants, allowing them to interweave stories of the local people's use of the land with an introduction to the ecology of the protected area. Photo: Tyler Cottenie

LONGKENG: WONDERFUL WINDSWEPT CORAL Located just around the corner from the Oluanpi Lighthouse (?????) and the southernmost point of Taiwan proper, Longkeng takes visitors on a three-kilometer walk through secondary forest out to a windswept coral landscape and back again. Our guide pointed out subtle signs of changes to the vegetation likely due to the low rainfall Taiwan experienced last year. More obvious was the devastation further down the trail caused by a recent fire in the area. Screw pine trunks stand leafless and charred as they begin their slow recovery from the blaze, started by a discarded cigarette butt from a careless tourist. Photo: Tyler Cottenie

Near the coast, the vegetation is no match for the constant onslaught of wind and salty spray from the ocean, resulting in a barren landscape of dark coral rock eroded into myriad shapes by the harsh conditions. Ocean spray traces out rainbows over the rock, and on windy days, tourists need to wear raincoats to avoid getting soaked by the spray of crashing waves. In places, sea foam is blown upwards, creating the illusion of snowfall. The contrast of green, black, blue and

white makes for a stunning view not to be found anywhere else in the park. **SIZIHKOU: EROSION IN ACTION** Situated just east of Jialeshuei (???), visitors to this protected area have the chance to walk along part of the Langciao-Beinan Trail (?????), a coastal route connecting Hengchun Village (??) with Taitung in centuries past. The journey begins in nearby Lide Village (???) with a shuttle ride into the protected area. Visitors then descend the final stretch of concrete road to the coast on foot as the guide introduces local plant life. On a clear day, the silhouette of Orchid Island is clearly visible on the horizon. Photo courtesy of Jessie Chung The coastal walk begins at the site of a former Coast Guard station, abandoned after Typhoon Meranti struck in 2016. The coast here is an unusual blend of coral and sandstone, eroded unevenly by the wind and waves. The angled plateaus, honeycomb erosion patterns and fanciful animal shapes in the rocks will be familiar to those who have already visited Jialeshuei Scenic Area, and make for beautiful photographs, both up close and from afar. Traces of human activity are visible here and there: abandoned power poles, fishing tackle and the leftovers of a ship that ran aground nearby several years ago. Still, this stretch of coastline remains relatively untouched and walking on this trail, accompanied by only the sound of the surf, will leave you feeling a world away from Kenting's crowded beaches. **NANREN MOUNTAIN: AN OASIS** Photo courtesy of Jessie Chung Further north along County Road 200 is the access road for the Nanren Mountain Ecological Protection Area. The three-hour guided excursion here covers the most distance of all the protected area visits at nearly nine kilometers round trip. The forest here is rich with both animal and plant life: dragonflies, spiders, butterflies, lizards, ferns and trees with exotic-looking fruits. This protected area appears to be the most biologically diverse of them all. The area also contains three perennial freshwater lakes, with the largest being Nanren Lake. The area around these lakes is flanked by vibrant green grass and backed by gentle rolling hills. Thanks to the limit on the number of visitors, total lack of development and knowledgeable guides, a visit to the Nanren area can be a peaceful retreat, an excellent learning opportunity or anything in between. **BITOU GRASSLAND: A SANDY BAY WITH A DARK PAST** Photo: Tyler Cottenie This ecological protection area is situated just inside the northern border of Kenting National Park, near the town of Jioupeng (??) and the sand dunes lining the

shores of Bayao Bay (???). Though the population here is so low now that water buffalo actually outnumber people, the area was nevertheless the site of an important event in Taiwan's history. It was in this very bay in 1871 that the shipwrecked Ryukyuan sailors of the Mudan Incident first came ashore. Only 12 of 66 made it back to Japan alive. Three years later, the Japanese sent an expedition to Taiwan, ostensibly to punish the Paiwan Aborigines for killing their sailors. However, this military campaign also effectively chipped away at Qing Dynasty influence in the region, allowing Japan to easily annex the Ryukyu Islands and encouraging expansionist efforts that would culminate in the annexation of Taiwan itself 21 years later. Our guide went beyond the standard colonial narrative, adding context and nuance to the story based on oral history, local cultural practices and other recent research findings. In addition to this more factual account of a historical event, we were treated to a more fanciful account of a tragic romance between a local chief's daughter and a shipwrecked Dutch sailor. The common name of a local plant comes from this story, as its flower appears to be missing its top half, just as these lovers were forever missing their better half. Photo: Tyler Cottenie

The guide introduced many other plants along our walk, along with the often-humorous origins of their common names. We were also acquainted with traditional uses of local plants, for pillows, whistles, pot scrubbers and more. The walk takes visitors from the sandy coast and up through denser vegetation before eventually ascending to an open grassland area. Local livestock keep this grass trimmed short, while wild macaques eating the adjacent screw pine prevent it from taking over the open area. Be warned: the guide may insist on visitors taking photos here in a variety of poses, including the infamous bow pose from Titanic. The lush green carpet combined with the high vantage point and sandy Bayao Bay in the background make this area especially picturesque. From the grassland, visitors descend through an active military area back to the public road near the coast. Last month historian Stephen Wertheim of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace published an opinion piece in the New York Times with suggestions for an "America First" foreign policy for Democratic presidential candidate Kamala Harris. Of course China and Taiwan received a mention.

"Under presidents Trump and Biden," Wertheim contends, "the world's top two powers have

descended into open rivalry, with tensions over Taiwan coming to the fore.?

After complaining that Washington is militarizing the Taiwan issue, he argues that ?In truth, Beijing has long proved willing to tolerate the island?s self-rule so long as Taiwan does not declare independence Big changes are afoot in global politics, which that are having a big impact on the global order, look set to continue and have the potential to completely reshape it. In my previous column we examined the three macro megatrends impacting the entire planet: Technology, demographics and climate.

Below are international trends that are social, political, geopolitical and economic. While there will be some impact on Taiwan from all four, it is likely the first two will be minor, but the second two will likely change the course of Taiwan?s history.

The re-election of Donald Trump as president of the US The Mountains to Sea National Greenway (????????) draws its name from the idea that each hiker starting at the summit of Jade Mountain (??) and following the trail to the coast is like a single raindrop. Together, many raindrops form life and prosperity-bringing waterways.

Replicating a raindrop?s journey holds poetic beauty, but all hikers know that climbing is infinitely more appealing, and so this installment picks up where the last one left off ? heading inland and uphill along the 49.8-kilometer Canal Trail (????) ? second of the Greenway?s four sections. A detailed map of the trail can be found ?Bro, I can?t wait for my first dead body,? wrote an 11-year-old boy on Instagram in Sweden, where gangs recruit children too young to be prosecuted as contract killers on chat apps.

?Stay motivated, it?ll come,? answered his 19-year-old contact. He went on to offer the child 150,000 kronor (US\$13,680) to carry out a murder, as well as clothes and transport to the scene of the crime, according to a police investigation of the exchange last year in the western province of Varmland.

In this case, four men aged 18 to 20 are accused of recruiting four minors aged 11 to 17