



The Story of Taipei's Railroad

Tracing Taipei's Railroad History and Relics With a Railway Expert

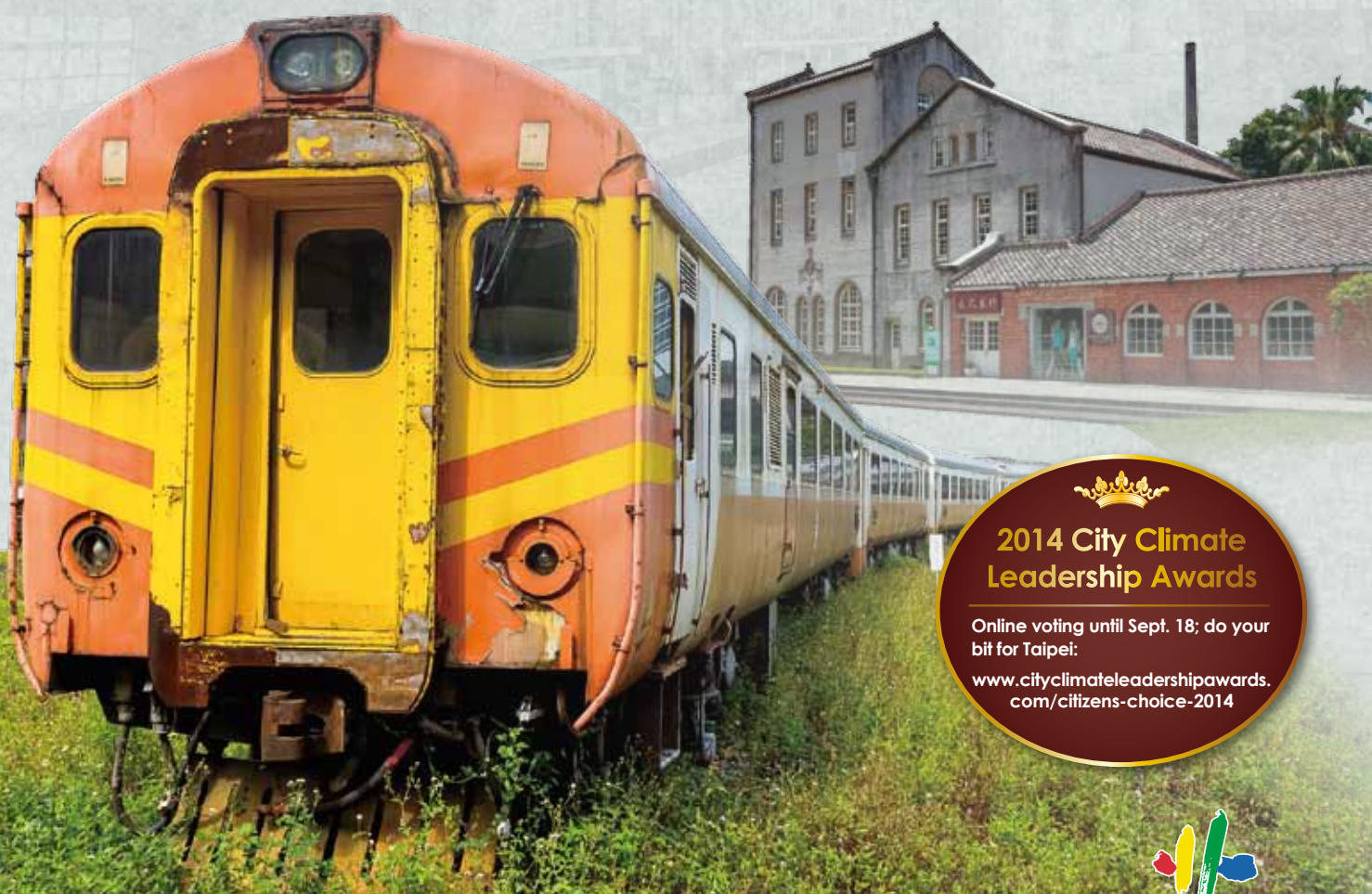
Industrial Culture Along Taipei's Defunct Rail Lines

Railway-Themed Souvenirs – Collecting Taiwan's Unique Styles

Discovering Traditional Tastes Along Taipei's Railway Tracks

The Diabolo Spins Its Way From Ancient China to the Modern Stage

An Autumn Ramble Along Zhongshan North Road –
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The Story of Taipei's Railroad

With the scorching summer over at last, cooler autumn is here, and with it temperatures are becoming much more conducive for getting out and about. Our theme this issue is "The Story of Taipei's Railroad," and we've invited locals with an intimate knowledge of the subject to explain the historical background. We'll explore the rich architectural and cultural assets found in the areas along the city's railway line, introduce railway buffs to the railway-themed collectibles available, and feast on the treats whipped up in the kitchens of traditional eateries near the city's various local train stations. There's no better way to explore the splendid cultural heritage of this city than by heading down its old railroad tracks!

Local history is expressed in another form in the diablo, a familiar element of the cultural scene here for hundreds of years. In our In-Depth City Culture Explorations section we relate the history of this traditional toy, and have asked the celebrated Taipei troupe Diabolo Dance Theatre to introduce this magical art, and teach you some simple and fun skills.

In Taipei's Best Foods & Gifts this edition, we feature creative beef noodles brimming with unique style and distinctive new flavors. And since one of the year's key traditional celebrations, the Mid-Autumn Festival, falls in September, we're serving up both traditional and innovative new mooncakes, to make it a little easier to decide which will become your favorite gift and souvenir choice this year.

Autumn is prime time for exploring the city, with pleasant sunny days and a steady supply of cooling breezes. In our Mapping the Taipei Lifestyle gallery we head out along shady, tree-lined Zhongshan North Road, enjoying the fine old works of architecture given new looks and new functions. We also let you know about some of the many autumn festival activities you can take in, notably the Taipei Confucius Temple Culture Festival, Taipei Season of Hot Spring, Shilin International Cultural Festival, and Dream Parade. These are great opportunities for expats and foreign visitors to immerse themselves in Taipei's tremendous cultural diversity. One and all are welcome.

Among the other big happenings on the city's event schedule this fall are two large-scale design-themed events, Taiwan Designers' Week and Taipei Design and City Exhibition. The movie *Lucy* is proving extremely popular at many movie theaters around town, and two major international film festivals, the Taiwan International Documentary Festival and Women Make Waves Film Festival, Taiwan are coming. It's a great time to witness the city's colorful creativity and artistic energy, so don't miss out.

Get out there on foot or on a bike to enjoy the autumn breezes, and soak in Taipei city's wonderful blend of old and new.





Discover Taipei

Taipei City Government

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Publisher / Tienlong Sun

Editor in Chief / Huiching Huang

Deputy Editors in Chief / Lingling Chung
Iyen Wang

Editors / Julia Szu-tu

Hsiaojung Chen

Richard Saunders

Integrated Marketing / Yenhsin Lee

Translators / Rick Charette

Nick Kembel

Kevin Lax

Artwork Designer & Production

WestBank Advertising Co., Ltd.

Tel : (02)2723-3516

Fax : (02)2722-4967

Photographers / Vincent Wang
William Lin

Department of Information and Tourism, Taipei City Government

Add: 4F, 1, City Hall Rd., Taipei, Taiwan,
R.O.C.

Tel : 1999 (outside Taipei City, dial
(02)2720-8889 ext. 2029, 7564)

Fax : (02)2720-5909

Email: qa-juliast@mail.taipei.gov.tw

ISSN: 17281741

GPN: 2008600233

中華郵政台北雜字

第 1376 號執照登記為雜誌交寄

Hope you enjoy reading this issue of DTB.
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environmentally-friendly soy ink.

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Tracing Taipei's Railroad History and Relics With a Railway Expert



In the waning days of the Qing dynasty (清朝), Taiwan's first governor, Liu Mingchuan (劉銘傳), built the Taipei railroad, stretching from near the North Gate (北門) to Nangang and then further east to the coast. The railway has seen many changes over the years, as the generations have rolled by and the city has developed. Throughout, however, it has been the city's close companion, witness to and participant in a century of ups and downs, good times and bad.



A Hundred Years of Change

A hundred-plus years have gone by, and today the railway has been electrified and the section through Taipei city has been moved underground, while former spur lines have been shut down. However a little digging reveals a great trove of old stories and relics, attracting railway buffs. In this edition of *Discover Taipei*, Gu Tingwei (古庭維), creator of the *Taiwan Old Railways Walking Map* (台灣舊鐵道散步地圖) and chief editor of *Rail News* (鐵道情報), introduces Taipei's railway history and hidden relics.





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During the Japanese era, the Japanese added to the railway built during the Qing dynasty, expanding the network north and south. The completion of the north-south line significantly shortened transportation time and greatly expanded the network lines. The addition of branch lines to Tamsui (淡水), Xindian (新店), Sanzhangli (三張犁), and Xinbeitou (新北投) created a web of transport lines across the area around Taipei.

Gu says that in those days trains were primarily used for the transport of goods and materials. Wood, coal, salt, and sugar were carried on the north-south line. The Tamsui Line was originally used to transport materials used in the construction of the north-south line, and later transformed into a commuter line. The Xindian Line, one of the few private lines with the same gauge as government lines, was used to carry coal, wood, and cement. The Sanzhangli Line was primarily used for transport to and from military vehicle-repair facilities and armament factories. After the start of the Republican era, the train slowly emerged as a key mode of public transportation, and in the present day Taipei Metro lines such as the Tamsui Line, Xindian Line, and Xinbeitou Line provide fast and convenient means for moving people around the city. These three lines are in fact witnesses to history, for they follow the routes of the old branch-railway lines.

“Secret” Relics Revealed

At the corner of Lane 316, Section 3, Roosevelt Road (羅斯福路) and Tingzhou Road (汀州路) is a building with a gable roof. This originally served as a railway dormitory, and the Xindian Line's Shuiyuandi Station (水源地站) was right beside it. The space in front was originally the front plaza; local residents, fondly recalling the days when trains trundled by, have set up a monument here to commemorate the era. Elsewhere, below the overpass near today's MRT Xinbeitou Station you can see three iron pickets alternating black and yellow. This is what remains of a level crossing, a vestige of the old Tamsui Line. On the south side of MRT Qiyan Station (捷運奇岩站) you'll see a simple bridge abutment by the Huanggong Stream (磺港溪), harking back to the days when travelers would wait for the train here.

1. Gu Tingwei, railway expert.
2. The Taipei Railway Workshop, long a key Taiwan train maintenance/assembly base.
3. This gable-roof facility started as a railway dormitory, located beside the Xindian Line's Shuiyuandi Station.
4. An outing with Gu unveils Taipei's railway history and hidden relics.
5. By the Huanggong Stream on MRT Qiyan Station's south side is a bridge abutment that is a reminder of a time when this was a stop for passenger trains.
6. The white two-level building at Civic Boulevard and Linsen North Road was the former north-south line's Huashan Station.



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At the corner of Civic Boulevard (市民大道) and Linsen North Road (林森北路) stands a white two-story building. This is the former Huashan Station (華山車站) on the north-south line. Built in 1937, the first character of its original name “樺” was different from that used today. The name commemorated Taiwan's first Japanese governor-general Kabayama Sukenori, whose name was written in Kanji as “樺山資紀.” Taipei's largest railway-freight depot was also once located here, with as many as 13 sets of tracks. However, because Huashan Station was a dedicated freight-handling facility few were aware of it, even among old-time Taipei residents who often rode the local trains. Beside the station is an old railway platform still in good shape. Walk over to the nearby Huashan 1914 Creative Park (華山1914文化創意產業園區) on Bade Road (八德路), and beside the complex you'll see the only section of aboveground track left after the railway was moved underground – a “secret treasure” very few Taipei citizens know about.

The City's “Railway Hospital”

Amidst the forest of tall, gleaming towers of the glitzy Xinyi District is the almost 80 year-old Taipei Railway Workshop (臺北機廠), the best-preserved and finest railway relic in Taiwan. Finished in 1935, on a site measuring 17 hectares, it was one of Taiwan's key bases

for train maintenance and assembly right up until it was officially retired in 2012.

On a tour of the most important buildings in the workshop complex, Gu leads us to the first stop for any train entering the workshop – the assembly workshop. An official city heritage site, this building is 168 meters long, and has a roof structure of reinforced-concrete trusses without beams or welded joints. The facility has good natural ventilation and lighting, and a covered ridge and sidewall openings along with large Japanese-style iron-grille window. In that era, the architectural technique of this building was the top of the world.

According to Gu, it is said that during the American bombing of Taiwan during WWII a bomb hit the assembly workshop on the east side, but only minor damage was caused – demonstration of the quality of the construction. Adjacent to the assembly workshop is the metalworking workshop, where parts and components were forged. The upper area of this facility is dense with pipes, all connected to the engine room opposite, used to transport steam generated by the boilers in the latter, and the power source for the entire complex. Among the many intriguing items you'll see in the metalworking workshop is a steam hammer with “1889” engraved on it, said to have been purchased from Britain by Liu Mingchuan. It is the oldest machine extant in Taiwan.



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Another structure in the complex that has been declared an official city heritage site is the employee bathhouse, provided by the Taiwan railway administration out of care for employee welfare, built in Japanese-bathhouse style with a vaulted ceiling. Surplus steam from the engine room boilers was used ore bathers. Though closed down long ago, the air still feels thick with the sounds of friendly banter and rising steam. 🎧

7. An old, well-preserved railway platform stands beside Huashan Station.
8. The sole remaining section of aboveground track after the railway's placement below ground is beside Huashan 1914 Creative Park.
9. A steam hammer believed purchased from Britain by Liu Mingchuan, in the metalworking workshop, is Taiwan's oldest machine.
10. The assembly workshop was the Taipei Railway Workshop's first stop for trains and the most important building.
11. Located amidst the Xinyi District forest of shiny towers, the Taipei Railway Workshop is almost 80 years old.

12-13. Surplus steam was collected from the engine-room boilers as a heat source for the employee bathhouse. The old washstand faucets at the side of the bathhouse are other reminders of yesteryear. (Photo courtesy of Qiu Jia-Zhong)



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Taipei Railroad Culture Festival

The Taipei Railroad Culture Festival (臺北鐵道文化節) will launch at the end of September. Jointly organized by the Taipei City Government and the Taiwan Railways Administration (臺灣鐵路管理局), part of the Ministry of Transportation and Communications (交通部), there will be tours of the Taipei Railway Workshop, in-depth talks on railway-theme topics, an introduction to the technician training school, exhibits of artifacts and wooden models, a display on the subject of train repair and inspection, large-scale multimedia creations, a nostalgic concert of railway-themed songs, eco-tours, showings of a documentary on the Taipei Railway Workshop, and another railway-themed concert, for symphony orchestra. This unique collection of workshop architecture, machinery and artifacts, and artistic works will be a richly rewarding showcase of the history and culture of Taipei's railroads.

One sunny autumn afternoon, spend some time strolling around the Taipei Railway Workshop area, viewing the trains lined up in the garage, in a tableau unique amidst the busy hubbub of the surrounding city. Visitors cannot help but slip into quiet contemplation, envisioning the many intriguing chapters that have unfolded during the story of Taipei's railways. 🎧

14-15. During the Taipei Railroad Culture Festival, the Taipei Railway Workshop will offer the public a rich historical and cultural showcase of Taipei railroad workshop architecture and machinery.



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Information

Taipei Railroad Culture Festival 臺北鐵道文化節

Time: 9/27~10/26

Add: 48, Sec. 5, Civic Blvd. (市民大道五段48號)

Tel: (02)2336-2798, ext. 218

Website: www.arthappening.org/TRCF



Industrial Culture Along Taipei's Defunct Rail Lines

At one time in the past, the Taipei railway network was a central part of the city's economic activities, with a complex of lines crossing the city. The lines brought in the materials needed in three flourishing industries key to local prosperity: sugar refining, tobacco-product manufacturing, and the making of alcoholic products. Though this era is no more, and the lines have slowly disappeared, this hundred year-old culture lives on in many other forms.

Glory Days – The Sugar Railway, Sugar Industry, and Garment Industry

In Taipei's early years, sugar refining was a key element in Wanhua's fortunes. Take a stroll from Wanhua Station (萬華車站) and you will see many century-old works of architecture. Notable are the "Chin Yi Ho Hang" (金義合行) building and "Wanhua Lin's House" (萬華林宅), the latter Wanhua's tallest building in that era. Both are reminders of bustling street scenes and the district's commercial heyday.

From the end of the Qing dynasty, the thoroughfare that is today's Bangka Boulevard (艋舺大道) was lined with small, privately-owned sugar mills. It seemed each family had an ox turning a grindstone,



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Discover Taipei

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- 1-2. The "Chin Yi Ho Hang" and "Wanhua Lin's House" buildings are witnesses to the district's glory days.
3. A listed city heritage site, the fixed-up Taipei Sugar Factory stands in leafy Sugar Industry Cultural Park.
4. Wanhua Station helped cultivate the district's prosperity.
5. The old locomotive, track section, and mini-train platform found in Sugar Industry Cultural Park are reminders of this area's heyday.
- 6-7. Ming Hwa Yuan Arts & Cultural Group costumes, props, and scenery materials are showcased at Sugar Industry Cultural Park, along with local sugar-industry culture.
8. Dali Street, near Wanhua Station, was the island's first ready-wear apparel wholesale market.



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pressing sugarcane to extract juice for processing cane sugar. During the Japanese era, these operations were systematically acquired by north Taiwan's first modern-style refinery, the Taipei Sugar Factory (臺北製糖所), which was later taken over by the Taiwan Sugar Corporation (台灣糖業股份有限公司) and used as a warehouse. However, through this period the area's chemical processing and apparel industries continued to flourish.

Built in 1909, the Taipei Sugar Factory, now an official city heritage site, has been fixed up and stands in the green Sugar Industry Cultural Park (糖廠文化園區). There are three warehouses on the site, all fronted with red brick, each featuring arches, trapezoidal columns, and wide-span structures. They are now used for displays of Taiwan sugar-industry culture and of the costumes, props, and scenery used by the Ming Hwa Yuan Arts & Cultural Group (明華園戲劇團), and also for the troupe's rehearsals. Next to the warehouses are an old mini-train platform, a locomotive, and a short section of railway. A small plot of sugarcane

has been planted at the side of the park, helping visitors imagine the bustling days when trains bursting with cane destined for processing would pull up here.

From the park, walk to Dali Street (大理街), the birthplace of Taiwan's ready-to-wear garment industry. The trade flourished in this area because of its proximity to Wanhua Station. This was Taiwan's first wholesale market for ready-to-wear apparel, and many manufacturing firms set up operations here – over 2,000 at its height. After the railway was moved underground, west-coast express trains no longer stopped at the Wanhua Station, and the wholesale enterprises began a slow shift to the Wufenpu (五分埔) area near Songshan Station (松山車站). Dali Street has been re-invented as a fashion district, in the hope of creating a new fashion mecca and bringing back the good old days – with new clothing, of course.



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The Tobacco Railway and “Kingdom of Tobacco” History

Tobacco cultivation in Taiwan began during the Japanese era. By the 1960s, volume and value were such that the island was being called the “Kingdom of Tobacco.” Taipei’s center for cigarette production was the Songshan Tobacco Factory (松山菸廠). After the Japanese started the war in the Pacific, in addition to its own market, Taiwan became responsible for central and south China as well as Southeast Asia. Supply could not keep up with demand.

On a visit to the various spots of sightseeing interest along the “tobacco railway,” start at the Songshan Tobacco Factory heritage complex, which has the Taipei Railway Workshop on its east. Enter the complex via Lane 553, Section 4, Zhongxiao East Road (忠孝東路) and you’ll soon see a pond surrounded by trees. Crossing over the pond by the wooden bridge here brings you to the old factory buildings. The Baroque-style architecture and garden courtyard give this place an exotic, foreign character.

Among the heritage buildings are the cigarette factory, boiler house, and warehouses numbered 1 through 5. At the top of the warehouses the conveyor used for moving products is still in good shape. Moving

around the buildings, it’s easy to imagine the former laborers hard at work making and packaging countless cigarettes. Head closer to Civic Boulevard and you can see the factory’s railway platform and a section of re-laid sleepers and track.

The 8 hectares of the complex that remain today have been transformed into an arts-and-culture space, attracting many tourists. Eslite Bookstore (誠品書店) has established a base in the Taipei New Horizon (臺北文創) building, opened last year. The complex, now officially called the Songshan Cultural and Creative Park (松山文創園區), offers an enticing mix of old and modern, quiet and boisterous, preserving memories of the past while creating new memories for new generations.

The Alcohol Railway – A Taste of the Spirit Industry’s Heyday

The highlight of the sightseeing spots along the “alcohol railway” is what is today called Huashan 1914 Creative Park. This expansive site encompasses the former Taipei Winery (台北酒廠), Jianguo Brewery (建國啤酒廠), and Huashan Station. The original core of the Huashan 1914 Creative Park was the old Taipei Winery, opened (as the current formal name implies) in 1914, which produced a wide range of products, most importantly rice wine, fuel alcohol, and various fruit wines.

Upon entering the grounds you are greeted with a large cluster of heritage buildings. Among the most prominent are those in the tower area, three stories high, with a brick-and-mortar frame, where sake and other rice-based wines were made. The Plum Wine Factory (烏梅酒廠), originally an aging storehouse, and the 50-meter-high boiler chimney, are two other manifestations of the high technical standards utilized in Taiwan's industrial buildings in that era. The other factory buildings in the complex, which date to the 1930s, are also fine examples of superior construction technique. The buildings are now frequently used for cross-boundary arts and culture events that also span time and space.

Nearby Taipei Brewery (台北啤酒工場) was built in Japanese era, it was Taiwan's only beer factory during that period of time. It was originally called the Takasago Brewery (高砂麥酒株式會社), then renamed the Jianguo Brewery. This special place is a living monument, still in operation. An official city heritage site, there are many heritage structures in the complex, including a brewing building, storage facility, and packaging plant. There are also traditional-style open fermentation vessels, early aluminum barrels, and four German-made copper mashing kettles – out of only 10 of their kind left in the world.

Explore Taipei's old railway routes, inspecting the historic architecture along the way, and you'll dip into the flourishing industrial culture of days gone by and gain a deeper understanding of the city's development. You'll find the city of Taipei's cultural landscape is one filled with interest. 📍

9. The Songshan Tobacco Factory's product-moving conveyors are still in place.
- 10-11. The Songshan Tobacco Factory office, yesterday and today. (Photo courtesy of Ms. Lin Aijiao)
12. The heritage tobacco-factory does service today as an arts-and-culture space.
13. Eslite Bookstore's new Taipei New Horizon building base complements the heritage park with contemporary cultural flair.
14. Songshan Tobacco Factory's old-world Baroque-style garden draws many visitors.



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15. Taipei Brewery's four German-made copper mashing kettles; only 10 are still in existence.
16. The Taipei Winery's saccharification building and outdoor hot-water tanks, dating to the Japanese era; the outdoor dual-use fermentation and storage tanks are fitted with 20 computerized temperature-control mechanisms.
- 17-18. Yesterday's Taipei Winery is today's Huashan 1914 Creative Park, featuring well-preserved historical buildings and an outdoor area oft utilized for cross-domain arts and culture activities spanning space/time.

Information

Wanhua Station 萬華車站

Add: 382, Kangding St. (康定路382號)

Tel: (02)2302-0481

Sugar Industry Cultural Park 糖廠文化園區

Add: 132-10, Dali St. (大理街132之10號)

Tel: (02)2306-7975

Songshan Cultural and Creative Park 松山文創園區

Add: 133, Guangfu S. Rd. (光復南路133號)

Tel: (02)2765-1388

Huashan 1914 Creative Park 華山1914文化創意產業園區

Add: 1, Sec. 1, Bade Rd. (八德路1段1號)

Tel: (02)2358-1914, ext. 200, 201

Taipei Brewery 台北啤酒工場

Add: 85, Sec. 2, Bade Rd. (八德路2段85號)

Tel: (02)2771-9131



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Railway-Themed Souvenirs – Collecting Taiwan's Unique Styles



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Taipei is home to numerous shops that specialize in railway-themed souvenirs. They attract a steady stream of railway enthusiasts on what might be called Taiwan pilgrimages. Whatever you're looking for – limited collector's edition train models, everyday-use items with a cultural-creative slant, or retro Taiwanese keepsake items – Taipei is a great place for railway buffs to go treasure hunting.



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MJ Model Railroad – A House of Dreams for Railway Fans

MJ Model Railroad (阿立圓山玩具模型社), located beside MRT Yuanshan Station (捷運圓山站), is one of a select number of Taipei shops selling model trains. Small model trains circle overhead, just below the ceiling. Everything here, from tracks to decorations, are the design ideas of owner A-Li (阿立). The shop's big picture windows let customers watch not only the metro trains going by outside, but also airplanes that swoop by overhead once in a while. A-Li, a passionate railway enthusiast, says that when he was younger the Taiwan

Railways Administration's Tamsui Line ran where the MRT Tamsui Line now runs. He and his older brother looked on it as a companion. Seeking to preserve these cherished memories of youth, he decided to transform his home into a collector's shop for model trains.

The shop's hottest offering right now is a model of the first generation of the EMU100, just retired from service this year. Since it was rolled out, railway buffs from Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Japan, and elsewhere have shown up. Even one of the engineers that worked on the production of this train, used in Taiwan as a Tze-Chiang Limited Express (自強號), came from England to



1. The Taiwan Railways Shops launches of limited-edition collector's items always draw eager attention.
2. The Taiwan Railway Company has a retro look, distinctive local style.
- 3-4. MJ Model Railroad, by MRT Yuanshan Station, is one of the few local model-train retailers. Small models trundle by above; owner A-Li's designs all items, from tracks to decorations.
5. The large picture windows and bar-counter mini-railway present you with both great scenery and refreshing drinks.
6. MJ Model Railroad's hottest offerings draw aficionados from overseas.
- 7-8. Taiwan Railways Shops' most in-demand items are the "Pull-Back Mini Train" and "Hua-Tung Electrification Commemorative Lunchbox."

admire his craftsmanship. A-Li also specially recommends the Japanese KATO series of railway models as being of especially high value to collectors.

After the models, the most eye-catching thing in the shop is the long miniature railway on the bar counter before the picture windows. After a customer selects something to drink, a small train delivers the beverage, chugging along leisurely before stopping in front of the intended recipient. A-Li's inspiration for this nifty innovation was a train-themed restaurant in Prague that he visited while in the Czech Republic attending a train show. In this way the model trains are given practical work to do while their exquisite workmanship is showcased for visitors.

Favorite Railway Station Shops – Top-Selling Small Cultural-Creative Offerings

In the grand lobby of the Taipei Main Station (臺北車站) you'll find two shops dedicated to Taiwan railway souvenirs. One – the Taiwan Railways Flagship Shop (臺鐵夢工場旗艦店) – is by the West 3 Entrance, while the other – Taiwan Railway Company (台灣鐵道故事館) – is near the East 1 Entrance.

The Taiwan Railways Flagship Shop is focused on souvenirs related specifically to Taiwan's railways; in recent years it has concentrated on producing more cultural-creative products, introducing items with a strong practical function. The periodic launch of limited-edition collector's items also inevitably causes quite a stir. An example is this year's unveiling of limited-edition Taiwan Railways EMU700 series models, from the electric multiple unit commuter-train category, which have luxurious and sophisticated carriage interiors. To celebrate the electrification of the Hualien-Taitung (Hua-Tung) Railway Line (花東線鐵路) on Taiwan's east coast, the "Hua-Tung Electrification Commemorative Lunchbox" (花東電氣化紀念款便當盒) was created; both pleasing to the eye and eco-friendly, it is rich in Taiwanese flavor. One of the most popular products is the moderately priced "Pull-Back Mini Train" (迴力小火車) series, which features a fan-shaped depot that much enhances the pleasure for collectors. The compact "Puyuma Model





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Mobile Power Source" (普悠瑪造型行動電源), which is a functional consumer-electronics device and serves as a flashlight, is a take-everywhere favorite with mobile-phone users.

Taiwan Railways Shops has also been opened in Songshan Railway Station. While the flagship shop has an air of nostalgia, the Songshan outlet is in a first-generation EMU100 Tze-Chiang Limited Express carriage that has been re-outfitted. It features double seats, single-person "business class" seats, teacup holders, luggage racks, seat numbers, etc. Railway fans have dubbed it the "English noblewoman" carriage. Brought back into service and given a new role, the carriage has become a popular station attraction.

Located at the East 1 Entrance of Taipei Main Station, the Taiwan Railway Company has a retro look. It is stuffed with all sorts of nostalgic railway-themed items created by the house design team, and has a distinctive local style. A good example is the limited-edition Yes, I Do (鐵不出軌) paperweight, with a Chinese name that translates as "Hard as Iron – Never to Derail," symbolizing the gravitas of a loyalty oath. Presented in an elegant wooden box, this is a fine gift choice for a sweetheart. "Nostalgic Letters" (懷舊手札) is a series of small notebooks with printed images evoking Taiwan childhoods of yesteryear, with an attractive retro-style string binding. They can be used to record your railway-trip experiences. Truly unique are the "Wooden Postcards" (木質明信片), printed with images of spots around the country. After purchase, write down a few on-the-spot lines, drop your cards in the large, retro-style mailbox outside the shop, and your travel thoughts and feelings will be whisked off to the recipient.

When in Taipei exploring the story of the local railways, don't miss out on picking up one – or more – of these one-of-a-kind railway-theme souvenirs, preserving your treasured travel memories in a cherished treasure you can hold in your hands. 📮

9. The Taiwan Railways Shops Songshan location, in a transformed first-generation EMU100 Tze-Chiang Limited Express carriage.

10-11. Taiwan Railway Company's limited-edition Yes, I Do paperweight, which comes in a chic wooden box, makes a romantic gift offering. Drop postcards with your travel-related reflections in the shop's old-style mailbox.

Information

MJ Model Railroad

阿立圓山玩具模型社

Add: 3F, 18, Ln. 225, Sec. 3, Chengde Rd.
(承德路3段225巷18號3樓)

Tel: (02)2585-9491

Taiwan Railways Shops 臺鐵夢工場

Flagship Shop 旗艦店

Add: 1F, No. 3, Beiping W. Rd.; Taipei Main Station
West 3 Entrance
(北平西路3號1樓 臺北車站西3門)

Tel: (02)2383-0367

Songshan Shop 松山店

Add: 11, Songshan Rd.; Songshan Station B1 West
Exit (松山路11號; 松山車站B1西出口)

Tel: (02)2747-4242

Taiwan Railway Company (Breeze Center Shop) 台灣鐵道故事館 (微風店)

Add: 1F, 3, Beiping W. Rd.; Taipei Main Station East
1 Entrance (北平西路3號1樓; 臺北車站東1門)

Tel: (02)6632-8999, ext. 1903

Discovering Traditional Tastes Along Taipei's Railway Tracks



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A railway station is often the hub of an area's cultural development, and the long-standing eateries in the surrounding area, which often serve up traditional flavors, are places citizens love to patronize. Visitors from overseas should also make a point of exploring the traditional foods available around local stations, as they're a great way to get a taste of local culture at its most authentic.

Taipei has four railway stations – in order from west to east, Wanhua, Taipei, Songshan, and Nangang. In the vicinity of each are many long-established traditional eateries well worth a traveler's time. Let's start with Wanhua Station. After exiting, a walk of about five minutes through the neighboring alleys will bring you to a popular old traditional spot called "Li Zhu Assorted Noodles" (麗珠什錦麵). The house specialty, noodle soup with assorted meats and vegetables, features a soup stock that is fresh and very tasty, and a savory medley of seafood and greens that nicely complement the oil noodles. Among the various side dishes on offer are fried pork ribs and deep-fried crispy oysters. Continue walking toward Manka

Lungshan Temple (艋舺龍山寺) and you'll see two places where Bangka Boulevard (艋舺大道) and Heping West Road (和平西路) meet, "Manka A-Wan's Glutinous Oil Rice" (艋舺阿萬油飯) and "Chen's Specialty Oyster Vermicelli" (陳記專業蚵仔麵線), both specializing in traditional flavors. You'll relish the glutinous oil rice covered in soy-braising stew stock, accompanied by crispy-fried pork ribs in soup, as well as a bowl of vermicelli loaded with plump oysters and chunks of soy-braised large pork intestine, both favorites with hungry local foodies.

Restaurants near the Taipei Main Station obviously cater to commuting students and office workers, and most offer substantial meals at moderate prices. At "Good Taste Hong Kong-Style Roast Meat" (好味港式燒臘), the signature

- 1-2. The popular, widely known Li Zhu Assorted Noodles, near Wanhua Station, offers savory seafood.
3. Manka A-Wan's Glutinous Oil Rice serve up old-time Wanhua tastes.



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dishes are roast pork with rice, roast duck with rice, and “three treasures” rice (三寶飯); the three treasures are roast pork, roast duck, and scallion-oil chicken. At this long-popular spot, for a meal you'll inevitably get change back from a NT\$100 bill. At Beiping Gardens: Chinese Meat Pies and Porridge (北平田園餡餅粥), opened in 1976, the gourmand favorites are the signature meat pies and meat rolls. Be sure to also try a small bowl of the house porridge, entertaining your palate with the light sweetness of the porridge and the savory pie flavors in tandem. At Liu Shan Dong Noodle Shop (劉山東小吃店), established in 1951, beef noodles are king; all the clear and braised broth varieties are here, along with inexpensive side dishes, and are guaranteed to make a happy diner.

Anyone with a hankering for authentic traditional local fare must experience the food at Raohe Street Tourist Night Market (饒河街觀光夜市), near Songshan Station. The old vendor Dong Fa Hao (東發號) sells oyster vermicelli, traditional thick meat soup and glutinous oil rice, and nothing else, yet every day, all day, the seats are full here. The oyster and vermicelli, which come in soup, are light and refreshing, as are the glutinous oil rice. There's a hint of sesame-oil fragrance, and if you'd like a little more zest you can add some sweetened chili sauce. At “Four Flavors Seafood Thick Soup” (四味海鮮羹) the star ingredients in the seafood-heavy soup are oysters, squid, and shrimp; hearty and satisfying. Add even more flavor to this culinary adventure with a side dish of crispy-fried oysters. Another market vendor is “Old Style Salad Bread and Kali” (老牌沙拉麵包卡里食品), which exclusively sells what are called “salad boat sandwiches” (沙拉船三明治) and *kali kali* (卡里卡里), a fried-dough snack food. Many older Taipei residents grew up with these two foods, and many come here for the double fun of having a yummy snack and recapturing the taste of their youth. The treats in the old shops around Nangang Station are also sure to pass your taste-bud test. At “Yucheng Baozi and Mantou” (玉成包子饅頭) – *mantou* (饅頭) are steamed buns and *baozi* (包子) are steamed buns with filling – everything is handmade on the spot. The signature meat-filled buns, tasty and free of greasiness, are a favorite with the white-collar crowd from the nearby industrial park, who vie to get their orders in for their afternoon tea break. The other house specialty, mantou, are large and chewy, releasing a pleasant doughy aroma when broken. They are a fine complement to cooked foods. Located near MRT Houshanpi Station (捷運後山埤站), A-Lai Tianbula (阿來甜不辣) uses fresh fish paste to create its wonderfully textured *tianbula*, or Taiwan-style tempura. Add the house blood rice cakes, fried beancurd, and fried wontons, and the specially made soup stock with some green-bean



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vermicelli to the bowl, and you have a meal that'll fill you up to your satisfaction.

For local folk, these railway eateries form a stream of food memories. The many long-lived eateries serve up wonderful flavors, but what is cherished even more is their hearty hospitality. Take advantage of the cooler

weather of autumn to ride the railway, getting off at each station to explore the neighborhood, at your ease discovering the endless array of food gems. You'll find that following the local railroad offers novel travel fun. 🚂

4. Meat pies and meat rolls are the iconic foodie favorites at Beiping Gardens: Chinese Meat Pies and Porridge.
5. Beef noodles are the big draw at Liu Shan Dong Noodle Shop, the many clear and braised broth variations guaranteeing patron satisfaction.
6. Venerable Dong Fa Hao's tasty oyster vermicelli, traditional thick meat soup, and glutinous oil rice result in a full house every day.
7. The sole specialty offerings at Old Style Salad Bread and Kali are "salad boat sandwiches" and fried-dough snack treats.
8. The rich array of seafood items in the Four Flavors Seafood Thick Soup are delicious, healthy, and ocean-fresh.
9. All Yucheng Baozi and Mantou mantou and baozi are hand-crafted and always fresh.
10. Key to A-Lai Tianbula's wonderfully textured tianbula is the fresh-made fish paste.



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Information

Li Zhu Assorted Noodles 麗珠什錦麵

Add: 48, Xingning St. (興寧街48號)

Tel: (02)2308-6530

Manka A-Wan's Glutinous Oil Rice 魷腳阿萬油飯

Add: 162-4, Bangka Blvd. (魷腳大道162之4號)

Tel: (02)2336-0122

Chen's Specialty Oyster Vermicelli 陳記專業蚵仔麵線

Add: 166, Sec. 3, Heping W. Rd. (和平西路3段166號)

Tel: (02)2304-1979

Good Taste Hong Kong-Style Roast Meat

好味港式燒臘

Add: 17-3, Huaining St. (懷寧街17之3號)

Tel: (02)2331-1973

Beiping Gardens: Chinese Meat Pies and Porridge

北平田園餡餅粥

Add: 1, Ln. 5, Sec. 1, Chongqing S. Rd. (重慶南路1段5巷1號)

Tel: (02)2314-8032

Liu Shan Dong Noodle Shop 劉山東小吃店

Add: 2, Ln. 14, Sec. 1, Kaifeng St. (開封街1段14巷2號)

Tel: (02)2311-3581

Dong Fa Hao 東發號

Add: 94, Raohe St. (饒河街94號)

Tel: (02)2769-5739

Four Flavors Seafood Thick Soup 四味海鮮羹

Add: 162-1, Raohe St. (饒河街162之1號)

Tel: (02)2764-5455

Old Style Salad Bread and Kali 老牌沙拉麵包卡里食品

Add: 34, Raohe St. (饒河街34號)

Yucheng Baozi and Mantou 玉成包子饅頭

Add: 21-1, Yucheng St. (玉成街21之1號)

Tel: (02)2788-4701

A-Lai Tianbula 阿來甜不辣

Add: 45, Tongde Rd. (同德路45號)

Tel: (02)2561-5899

The 130th Anniversary of Taipei City Wall – The Old City Appears Anew

The old walled city of Taipei, built in the latter stage of the Qing dynasty and completed in 1884, is 130 years old this year! This part of the city has undergone many changes in the intervening years, and today it's a district of tremendous diversity. To showcase the city's fascinating history, a special series of celebratory activities has been planned by the Department of Cultural Affairs, Taipei City Government (臺北市府文化局) and the Taipei City Archives Committee (臺北市文獻委員會), brimming with cultural-creative design flair. As Taipei marches toward its year as World Design Capital, the old city is being made to magically appear once more, testament to this great city's glories and prosperity.



A Creative Artistic Re-Creation of the Old West Gate

The site of the city's West Gate in days of old is on today's Zhonghua Road (中華路). During the Qing dynasty this was among the city's most bustling transportation locations, and was the main entrance into the walled city for residents of Bangka, now called Wanhua District, the area's main settlement. The West Gate, or Ximen (西門), was the most impressive of the city's five gates; in the face of changing political regimes and the pressures of urban development, however, it became the only one of the five to be torn down during the Japanese era. Now, over a hundred years after its disappearance, the Department of Cultural Affairs has launched the West Gate Re-Creation (西門重現) project, using a creative art installation beside the original site

to bring back yesteryear and the fortress-like portal that once stood here.

The installation itself is called Impressions of Ximen (西門印象). Located outside Exit 4 at MRT Ximen Station (捷運西門站), cutouts from old photos have been used to assemble a 1:50 scale replica. Segmentation and deliberate visual implementation has been utilized, including the use of red and white tinting and see-through steel framework. The work is 7 meters long, 4.9 wide, and two stories high. Pedestrians can view the gate from many different angles, and the views change according to the natural daylight conditions and the dazzling lighting effects used in the evening.

After enjoying the juxtaposition of yesterday and today at this artwork, head over to the plaza behind Exit 1 at MRT Ximen Station to enjoy Bronze Sculptures and

City Relief Sculptures (城市浮雕與銅雕), a combination of human figures and Qing dynasty visual images. The finely wrought bronze figures range from the heroic-looking Liu Mingchuan, to modern-day folk taking selfies with their mobile phones. The relief carvings are 1:500-scale scenes from inside and outside the old walled city in 1894.

Viewing Taipei Across Time and Space

The building of Taipei's old city and its protective walls symbolized the transfer of political and economic weight from the south of the island to the north. Those interested in understanding local history on a deeper level can take in Exhibition of Taipei City Wall 130th Anniversary, which is being staged until the end of September at two locations in Wanhua District: Shuxin Hall at the Western Temple of the Original Vow (西本願寺樹心會館) and the gymnasium of the former Air Force Command Headquarters of the Ministry of National Defense (國防部空軍司令部). The display at Shuxin Hall is a look at the construction and development of the old city and wall in the Qing dynasty and Japanese era. Its counterpart at the former gymnasium is a look at the cultural, political, and economic development, along with the landscape changes, in the old walled city area from the end of WWII into the 21st century. This double-venue approach, in which the city is presented from numerous angles at each location, will give visitors a multidimensional perspective of the city's rich and complex personality.

City Wall Stones Recreated (城牆石重現), another of the main city celebration events, takes the stage immediately after this, in October. Taipei was the only city in Taiwan to have a wall completely built with long, finely-cut, rectangular stone slabs. Taipei covered almost twice the area of the old capital, Tainan (臺南), and was the last Qing dynasty stone-wall city to be laid out in accordance with *fengshui* (風水) principles. As an echo of the old city gates as they originally appeared, the city government has taken original city-wall foundation stones, which had been moved to the Taipei Metro's Beitou Depot (北投機廠), to create a work of installation art, recreating a section of the wall foundation and bringing the story of the old walled city's construction directly into the daily life of today's denizens. It is hoped that together, these celebratory events will bring people together in a collective exploration of the city's history and tremendous diversity. 📍



1. The West Gate Re-Creation is a creative retro-look art installation in the image of the original imposing walled-city gate that once stood beside this location.
2. Attractive artworks entitled Bronze Sculptures and City Relief Sculptures can be found in the plaza behind MRT Ximen Station's Exit 1.
3. The Shuxin Hall display presents the old walled city's Qing dynasty/Japanese era construction and development.

Information

Taipei City Wall 130th Anniversary Activities 臺北建城130週年系列活動

Tel: (02)2331-7100

Impressions of Ximen 西門印象

Venue: Intersection of Zhonghua Rd. and Hengyang Rd.; MRT Ximen Station, Exit 4
(中華路與衡陽路交叉口; 捷運西門站4號出口)

Bronze Sculptures and City Relief Sculptures. 城市浮雕與銅雕

Venue: Intersection of Zhonghua Rd. and Chengdu Rd.; MRT Ximen Station, Exit 1
(中華路與成都路交叉口; 捷運西門站1號出口)

City Wall Stones Recreated 城牆石重現

Venue: Intersection of Aiguo W. Rd. and Xiaonanmen; MRT Xiaonanmen Station, Exit 1 (愛國西路與小南門交叉口; 捷運小南門站1號出口)

Exhibition of Taipei City Wall 130th Anniversary 臺北建城130週年特展

Time: Until 9/30 10:00~17:00 (closed Mon)

Venues: Shuxin Hall, Western Temple of the Original Vow; 174-2, Sec. 1, Zhonghua Rd.
(西本願寺樹心會館; 中華路1段174之2號)
Former Gymnasium, Ministry of National Defense Air Force Command; 55, Sec. 3, Renai Rd.
(國防部空軍司令部舊址體育館; 仁愛路3段55號)

Tel: (02)2311-5355, ext. 24



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The Bihu Weaving House – An Enchanting New Taipei Attraction

Bihu Park (碧湖公園), in Neihu District, is surrounded by green hills, and at its center, Bihu attracts significant numbers of egrets, geese, ducks, and other waterfowl. Close by, on Section 2, Neihu Road (內湖路), is the Bihu Weaving House (碧湖織屋), built in faux-antique style. The tranquil surface of the lake, with the Bihu Weaving House nestling behind, make a poetically attractive picture. The house has a relaxed ambience and is a fine spot from which to enjoy the scenery of the lake scenery, which is rich in both natural beauty and culture.

Farming was a key element of the economy here in the past, and to supplement the family income the local women made a wide range of woven-bamboo implements, which were much in demand. The Bihu Weaving House was created by internationally

renowned landscape artist Wang Wenzhi (王文志) and students from Nei-Hu Community College (臺北市內湖社區大學). The body of the structure was made with high-strength, high-tensility bamboo – 4,000 staves of makino and moso bamboo sourced from Meishan Township (梅山鄉) in Chiayi County (嘉義縣). The foundation is made of reinforced concrete. The 206 community college volunteers involved in the project took a month and a half to weave the structure.

Artist Wang, who grew up amidst the bamboo groves of Meishan, has a deep affection for bamboo art. Four years ago he created the acclaimed Taiwan Pavilion (臺灣館), part of the Global Garden Area (寰宇庭園) in the Fine Arts Park Area (美術公園區) of the Taipei International Flora Exposition (臺北國際花卉博覽會). His creative concept for the Bihu Weaving House was the



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symbol of the castle, and in particular the dream castle of our imagination. Wang hopes the Bihu Weaving House will inspire more people to visit this area, and gain a deeper understanding of Nei-Hu District's history.

Visitors first traverse a covered gallery that curves for about 30 meters before entering the house, symbolizing the process of spiritual purification. Along the corridor they can enjoy the heat of the sun's rays and the lake-and-mountain views through the bamboo-weave apertures and viewing windows. Once inside the 15-meter-high main structure, take off your shoes and have a seat on the "Meditation Platform" (靜心平臺), contemplating the beauty of the bamboo art. The interior is a single unobstructed space that can accommodate 60 to 70 people, its delicate, interlacing lines symbolizing the interaction between people. A square copper plate in the middle of the platform reflects incoming light from a circular skylight above, and together they symbolize the ancient Chinese cosmic concept of a round Heaven and square Earth. Lay down on the platform for a peaceful, calming "return to nature" experience. After enjoying the serene beauty of the Bihu Weaving House, Taiwan harmonica virtuoso Peng Renjie (彭仁傑) composed *The Weaving House Song* (織屋之歌) to commemorate the experience.

Each night after sunset the Bihu Weaving House is lit up with a romantic LED light show. Wang personally designed the magical lighting, which bathes the lakeside in lustrous radiance and creates a dazzling effect while inside the house. If watching from across the lake, it appears as though countless dots of starlight are settling on the weaving-house castle.

Note that until the end of the year, various groups have been invited to give music performances on the Meditation Platform from 4 to 6 pm each Saturday. Wang's hope is that the Bihu Weaving House, in addition to being a space for public installation art, will serve as an oasis for performances, meditation, tranquility, and leisure, where busy city folk can escape the urban rush for awhile, relax and enjoy this blend of natural and man-made beauty. 10

1. An enchanting night-time LED light show at the Bihu Weaving House creates a bedazzling lakeside scene of colorful luminance. (Photo by Chen Jinzan)
2. Wang Wenzhi, a landscape artist of international repute, created the Bihu Weaving House with help from Nei-Hu Community College students. (Photo by Chen Jinzan)
3. Doff your shoes in the 15-meter-high main structure, sit upon the Meditation Platform, and ponder bamboo art's beauty. (Photo by Qiu Gaoyou)
4. A lineup of groups has been invited to give Meditation Platform shows each Saturday from 4 to 6 pm until year's end. (Photo by Zhang Fangxiong)
5. The Bihu Weaving House offers escape from the city's bustle, in a calm oasis of natural and man-made beauty. (Photo by Chen Jinzan)

Information

Bihu Weaving House 碧湖織屋

Venue: Bihu Park
(175, Sec. 2, Nei-Hu Rd. 内湖路2段175號)

Tel: (02)8751-1587

Hours: 06:00~22:00

Transportation:

Get off at MRT Wende Station (捷運文德站), walk along Ln. 101, Wende Road (文德路101巷), and turn right on Sec. 2, Nei-Hu Road (内湖路2段), to immediately arrive at Bihu Park.



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The Auspicious Dragon: A New Attraction at Maokong Gondola's Zhinan Temple Station



As you ride the Maokong Gondola (貓空纜車) up the hillside above Muzha (木柵), the troubles of the everyday world seem to slip away, to be replaced by a feeling of calm. Halfway up the line is Zhinan Temple Station (指南宮站), leading to nearby Zhinan Temple, a well-known attraction where visitors are immersed in both lush mountain scenery and authentic local religious culture. In addition to its magnificent halls, beside the temple is a wonderful park area which now sports a new and novel landmark attraction called the "Auspicious Dragon" (祥龍獻瑞). Finished in June, it has been an instant hit with visitors.

Walk out of the gondola station and you'll come across the ancient-style "Greeting the Celestials Pavilion" (迎仙亭). This elegant, colorful Chinese classical-style octagonal pavilion has interior images of the Eight Immortals (八仙). Walk inside to see the "Water Curtain Cave Falls" (水簾洞瀑布) on the right – an unexpected sight in such a place. In front is a titanium-

plated stainless steel sculpture of a golden-hued, five-talon dragon standing in the middle of a pool – the Auspicious Dragon itself.

The sculpture was created as a joint enterprise by Zhinan Temple and the Geotechnical Engineering Office, Public Works Department, Taipei City Government (臺北市政府工務局大地工程處). Completed in a year by a team of specialist craftsmen, the dragon has 3,600 scales. In its right claw it carries the dragon pearl, in its left the ruler's seal. Gao Zhongxin (高忠信), the temple's chairman, says that according to legend, high in the heavens this five-clawed dragon is the steed of the Jade Emperor (玉皇大帝), and has long been revered as a deity that can bring rain and drive out evil spirits. It is a symbol of nobility and honor, as well as of luck and success. When the five-talon dragon ejects a fountain of water from its mouth, along with spray shot from devices fitted around the pool, it has the appearance of traversing the clouds. In the sunlight, it shines with a striking golden radiance, bedazzling the eye.



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In addition to enjoying the dragon, which almost seems alive, the city's Geotechnical Engineering Office has created a variety of scenic spots for visitors to enjoy. One is called "The Sky Dragon in the Fairy Mountain" (仙山羆龍), named after the lush and vigorous year-round growth of nanmu trees found here. It is said that by walking through the trees visitors absorb heavenly energy. Beside the "Greeting the Immortals Pavilion" (迎仙亭) is the entrance to the "Twelve Animals of the Chinese Zodiac Educational Garden" (十二生肖教育園區). Visitors are first greeted by a stone sculpture of the mouse, and the remaining eleven animals lie interspersed along the length of the path through the park, like hidden treasure awaiting the visitor's discovery. Information boards beside the sculptures give an explanation of each animal's symbolism. During a 30-minute visit here, visitors can expect constant pleasant surprises, and will leave brimming with new knowledge.

A special "Maokong Gondola Super Value Round-Trip Ticket" (貓空纜車來回超值票) is now on sale for NT\$120, good for one round trip between Taipei Zoo Station (動物園站) and Maokong Station (貓空站), with one free stop at Zhinan Temple Station en route, for the chance to explore the temple's beautiful park. You can also apply for an NT\$20 refund at any station along the line within three days of using your ticket.

Head out with family and friends on one of Taipei's balmy autumn weekends for a ride on the Maokong Gondola and enjoy a pleasant time exploring the area

around Zhinan Temple Station, absorbing some of the good fortune emanating from the noble five-talon golden dragon and savoring the allure of Taiwan's religious culture. 17

1. Zhinan Temple Station's Auspicious Dragon, unveiled in June, has been a big hit.
2. A Maokong Gondola ride up to Zhinan Temple Station immerses you in the verdant scenery of the Zhinan Temple park area and its mountain backdrop.
3. The Sky Dragon in the Fairy Mountain, named for the dense local nanmu-tree foliage.
4. The Water Curtain Cave Falls, to the right of the imperial-style Greeting the Celestials Pavilion.
5. Zodiac-animal sculptures are scattered along the pathway winding through the Twelve Animals of the Chinese Zodiac Educational Garden.

Information

Zhinan Temple 指南宮

Add: 115, Wanshou Rd. (萬壽路115號)

Tel: (02)2939-9920

Maokong Gondola Maokong Station's Visitor Center
(纜車貓空站遊客中心): (02)2937-8563

Taipei Metro 24-Hour Customer Service Hotline:
(02)218-12345

Transportation:

Take Maokong Gondola (貓空纜車) to Zhinan Temple Station (指南宮站), or take Maokong Itinerant Bus, Left Line (貓空遊園公車左線), or Small No. 10 (小10) bus.



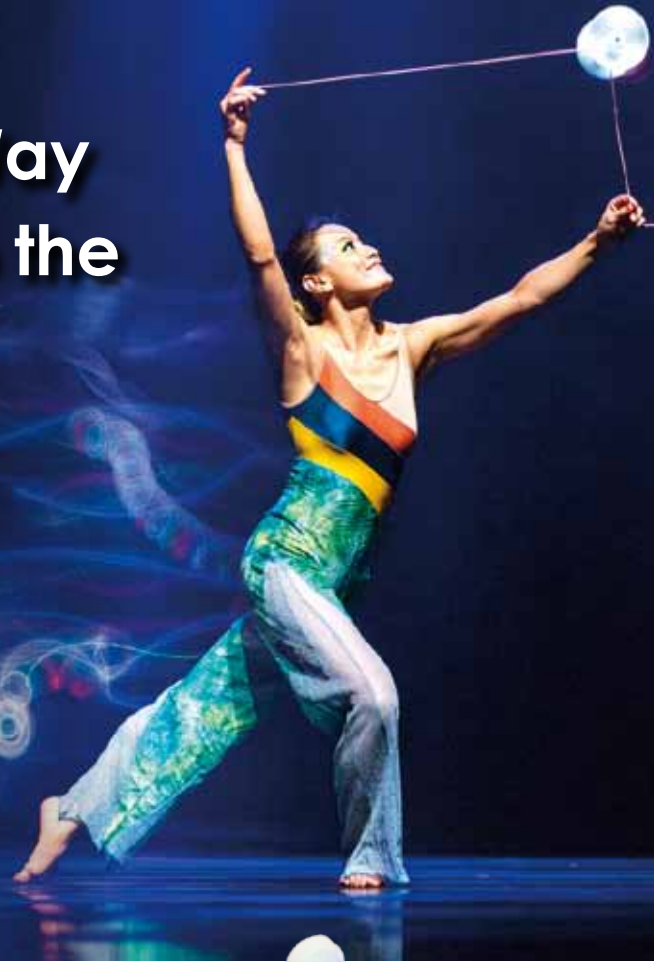
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The Diabolo Spins Its Way From Ancient China to the Modern Stage

The diabolo, or Chinese yo-yo, consisting of an axle with a disk on either side, spinning on a string tied to two sticks that are held in the player's hands. The term diabolo is a modern name derived from the Greek *dia bolo*, meaning "across throw." However, the Chinese yo-yo, like the regular yo-yo, has origins in China that go back thousands of years. Many believe that the Chinese yo-yo is as much a symbol of Taiwanese culture as the sky lantern or dragon boat. As such, looking at the history of the Chinese yo-yo is akin to examining the history of Taiwan itself.



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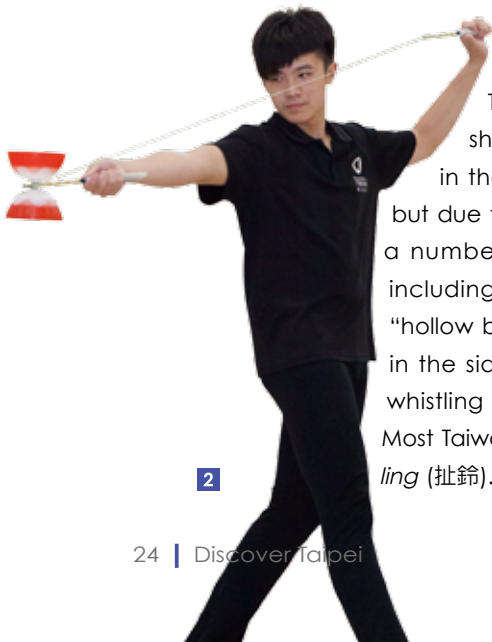
The Chinese Yoyo: 4,000 Years of History

The original Chinese yo-yo was known as *kong zhu* (空竹) or "hollow bamboo." Unlike the modern diabolo, the wheels on either end were flat. The oldest one was found in Shanxi Province (山西省) in China, and

dated back more than four millennia.

The Chinese yo-yo's shape was standardized in the Ming dynasty (明朝), but due to its long history, it has a number of different names, including *kong zhong* (空鐘) or "hollow bell," since the grooves in the sides of its wheels make whistling noises when it is spun. Most Taiwanese refer to it as *che ling* (扯鈴).

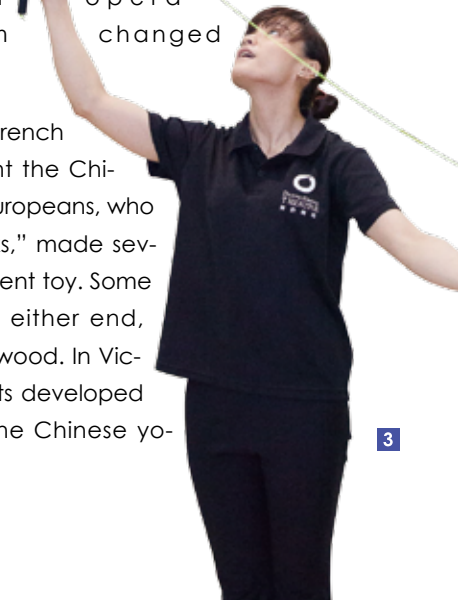
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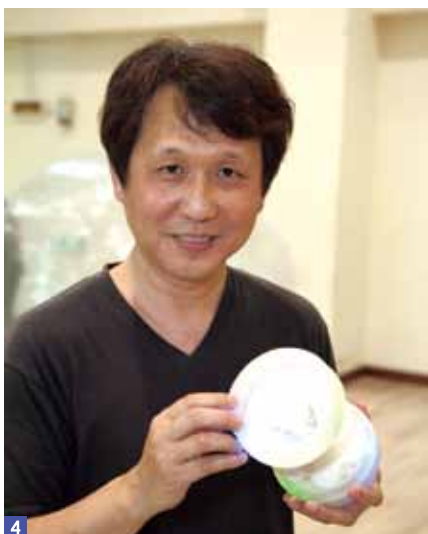


Throughout the majority of China's history, the Chinese yo-yo was used in acrobatic performances. Highly skilled players tossed it to great heights, catching it behind their backs, passing it to other performers, and so on. These performances abided by rigid rules concerning costumes, makeup, and movements that were in line with those of traditional opera and acrobatics. This form changed very little over the centuries.

In the early 19th century, French and British travelers brought the Chinese yo-yo to Europe. The Europeans, who called it "devil on two sticks," made several adaptations to the ancient toy. Some employed metal cups on either end, while others were made of wood. In Victorian times, British aristocrats developed a tennis-like game using the Chinese yo-

3





yo, in which they wore dainty white outfits and adopted elegant poses as they tossed the yo-yo back and forth.

In 1905, a Frenchman named Gustave Phillippart designed and patented the modern diabolo. His version had large cones on either side and was made of rubber, making it more durable than wooden and bamboo varieties, which broke easily. His design was reintroduced to China and Taiwan in the late 20th century, where it is now the standard. The diabolo fell out of fashion in Europe, but they have become extremely popular toys in China and Taiwan.

The first Chinese yo-yos to enter Taiwan were of the original bamboo variety. They were brought over by groups such as the Li Tang-hua Acrobatics Troupe (李棠華雜耍技藝團) which fled to Taiwan with the KMT (Kuo-mintang, or Chinese Nationalist Party; 國民黨) in the late 1940s. Since then, diabolos have become an integral component of physical education classes for all public school students in Taiwan.



From Math Teacher to Professional Theater Director

The journey that would take Liu Lechun (劉樂群) from elementary school teacher to the director of Taiwan's most mesmerizing diabolo performance troupe began out of the blue. In 1986, Liu had just graduated from college and was doing an internship at Taipei Municipal Zhong Zheng Elementary School (台北市中正國民小學). One day, the principle gave him a box of diabolos and told him he was the diabolo club leader. "I didn't choose the diabolo, the diabolo chose me," he now says.

Liu's lack of formal training freed him from the strict conventions of traditional diabolo playing. "Actually, I had always been a weirdo. In college, I joined the ballet club, studied music, and made strange drawings." Accustomed to thinking outside of the box, Liu had incredibly high hopes for his student group, which he named Youth Diabolo Dance of Taipei. He envisioned transforming it from a bunch of kids playing with diabolos into a professional diabolo dance group.

Liu's dream gradually materialized. As the original group members grew older they became more experienced and their skills more refined. Liu invited teachers of dance and theatrics to complement his diabolo lessons. The group's reputation grew, and in 1994 they performed at the Double Ten Day (雙十節) celebration at the National Chiang Kai-shek Memorial Hall.

According to Liu, his group's true turning point came in 2002, when they were invited to perform at the Lincoln Center Arts Festival in New York City. Faced with the challenge of performing on a truly professional stage, it was the first time the group collaborated with a full range of theatre artists, including composers, costume designers, and makeup artists. Liu also hired the group's first paid performers to lead the shows and guide the

1. The Chinese yo-yo's long history has given rise to many names; in Taiwan most call it the che ling.
2. The yo-yo has been a mainstay in acrobatic performances throughout Chinese history.
3. Tossed to wondrous heights, deft practitioners snatch yo-yos behind their backs and pass them to fellow entertainers.
4. Diabolo Dance Theatre founder Liu Lechun.
5. Liu invited dance and theatrics teachers to complement his diabolo lessons once students became more experienced.



younger novices. In 2005, he quit teaching to focus all his energy on leading his diabolo dance troupe.



The Diabolo Dance Theatre is Born

To commemorate the troupe's transition, Liu Lechun christened the group the Diabolo Dance Theatre (舞鈴劇場). For their first major production, entitled *The Game* (嬉遊舞鈴), they were one of five groups to represent Taiwan at Expo 2005 in Aichi, Japan. Lin Hwaimin (林懷民), whose legendary Cloud Gate Dance Theatre (雲門舞集) performed the day after the Diabolo Dance Theatre, was so impressed with Liu's production that he later contacted him to arrange a collaboration. In order for Liu's diabolo players to perform to Cloud Gate's preferred classical music, the diabolo itself had to be modified. Liu invented a ball bearing system with reduced friction that allowed it to spin twice as fast and for longer periods of time to the slower music.

Liu also invented diabolo wheels with a soft rubber exterior to prevent his younger students from getting injured when flying diabolos went astray.

So inspired was Liu by Cloud Gate's professionalism that it sparked in him a renewed commitment to revolutionizing the art of diabolo playing.



For the 2007 production *Ocean Heart* (海洋之心), Liu's latest inventions, a diabolo inlaid with LED lights and a single sided monobolo were used. Many Taiwanese first encountered the Diabolo Dance Theatre at the 2010 Taipei International Flora Exposition, where they gave 212 consecutive performances. At the end of the expo, Liu rented the Butterfly Hall (舞蝶館) for another three months to perform *Entrance* (奇幻旅程), a carnival-like production that featured performers costumed as creatures emerging from an entranceway and prowling amongst the audience.

"After working on a production for up to two years, then finally seeing it performed, it is like a child being born. However, I'm constantly thinking of ways to improve it, new elements that can be added." These elements have included everything from laser beams and black lights to clowns on unicycles and roller skates.

For *Ocean Celebrations* (海洋慶典), dancers in huge plastic balls, trapeze artists, live drummers, and singers were added to the mix, the latter singing in an invented language with phonetic elements from Taiwan's aboriginal languages. The production has truly captivated audiences with its dazzling effects and daring stunts. In 2012, the Diabolo Dance Theatre performed *Ocean Heart* in Nicaragua, El Salvador, Guatemala, and Paraguay. In September and October of this year, they will once again take *Ocean Celebrations* to Latin America, as well as to Las Vegas.

Despite all the acrobatics, the diabolo remains the focal point of the show. For his next production, *Infinity*, Liu is taking diabolo performance back to its Chinese roots. For this, his most ambitious project to date, Liu is attaching digital sensors to the diabolos to record their paths

Basic Steps for Playing the Diabolo:



- 1 Choose a pair of sticks that is suitable for you. The ideal length of thread is from the floor to your chin.
- 2 Place the diabolo upright on the floor in front of you. Holding a stick in each hand, guide the thread forward until it connects with the center of the spool on the diabolo.
- 3 Using your right hand, make a large counter-clockwise full-circle, causing the string to loop once around the spool. Next, use your foot to tip the diabolo over toward you.
- 4 Roll the diabolo to the right by lowering the right stick and raising the left one.
- 5 Roll the diabolo back to the left to gain momentum.


- 6 Lift the diabolo into the air. Keep your left arm stable, and use your right arm to control the diabolo. Move your right hand up and down to pick up speed. If the diabolo tips forward, pull your right arm back. If the diabolo tips backwards, do the reverse.
- 7 Once balance is achieved, unloop the thread from the spool by making a rapid, clockwise circle around the diabolo with your right hand. Outstretch your arms to launch the diabolo into the air.
- 8 When catching the diabolo, your right arm should be higher than your left, and aim for the diabolo to land closer to your right hand.

and project them onto a screen. The incandescent trail created represents the continuous flow of *qi* (氣) through the four seasons. Until now, the Diabolo Dance Theatre has adhered to largely Western inspiration in its costumes and theatrics, with comical injections and circus-inspired flair. Viewers can expect Infinity to exude a more classical, meditative *yin yang* (陰陽) vibe, simultaneously avant-garde in its technology and classically Chinese in its thematic delivery.



Try the Diabolo for Yourself!

After my discussion with Liu Lechu, I asked him to show me some basic diabolo steps. He shied away from my invitation, instead beckoning to his star performer, Ivy Yang (楊心怡) to show me the ropes. While mastering advanced diabolo moves requires years of practice (Yang, the group's longest member, has been with the troupe for 21 years), the basic techniques can be picked up by anyone in a matter of minutes. On my first

attempt tossing the diabolo, I pulled too hard. Shrieking in fear, I covered my head and dove aside as the diabolo flew into the air and then hit the floor with a thud. However, after a little guidance from Yang and a few more tries, I was able to successfully launch the diabolo and catch it. There is a real sense of satisfaction when you feel this ancient toy spinning rapidly under your control. The diabolo is a true gateway to 4,000 years of Chinese culture, so why don't you give it a try? 

6. Diabolo Dance Theatre performed *Entrance* 66 times at Taipei Expo Park's Butterfly Hall in 2012.
7. Diabolo Dance Theatre gave 212 consecutive performances, attracting both domestic and international visitors, at the 2010 Taipei International Flora Exposition.
8. The troupe will perform *Ocean Celebrations* in Latin America and Las Vegas in September/October this year.

To catch a Diabolo Dance Theatre performance, check for upcoming performance times and venues on their website: www.diabolo.tw



Taipei's Bedazzlingly Creative Beef Noodles

1

Delicious beef noodles. They're one of Taipei's quintessential culinary representatives, and are an essential experience for many overseas travelers in Taipei. Beef noodle shops are found everywhere, on major roads and down alleys, and while many businesses offer traditional flavors, others endeavor to unveil the new and innovative. In this issue we visit four beef noodle establishments which stand apart from the crowd, and shouldn't be missed by gourmands.



2



Chef Hung Taiwan Beef Noodle – Award-Winning Beef Noodles

Chef Hung Taiwan Beef Noodle (洪師父牛肉麵) has been an award-winner at the Taipei International Beef Noodle Festival for four years. Founder Hung Chinlung (洪金龍) is popularly known as the “King of Taipei Beef-Noodle Cuisine.” In 2013 he opened a stylish flagship outlet in Neihu District, with all his prize-winning beef noodle dishes on the menu.

The “Three Treasures Beef Noodles” (牛三寶麵), runner-up in the 2006 Best Noodles in Traditional Soup category, has soft, tender shin and chewy tendon and tripe. The “Take Charge Beef Noodles” (獨當一麵), winner of the Best Noodles in the Braised category in 2007, features short-rib meat and a unique flavor. The “Clear Soup Stewed Beef Noodles” (清燉五花牛腩麵), winner of the 2007 Best Noodles in Clear Soup, has specially selected brisket and many types of vegetable; simmered over low heat, with barbecued short-rib meat slices on top, creating an outstanding taste experience. The “Healthy Red Yeast and Tomato Beef Noodles” (養生紅麴番茄麵), winner of the Most Creative Noodles section in 2008, is a healthy and nutritious dish featuring a broth made with naturally fermented red yeast, roselle, dried plum, hawthorn, licorice root, and dried citrus peel. The 2010 Best Noodles in Traditional Soup champion, “I Am the Best” (唯吾獨尊), features slices of beef shank, tripe and short rib, plus veal knee. This dish is time-consuming to make, and must be ordered in advance.



Noodle Cuisine – Beef Noodles With Red Wine

Noodle Cuisine (天下三絕麵食館), offers surprises in both the restaurant's décor and its noodle dishes. Owner Wu Zanhao (吳贊浩), who loves good cooking and loves to cook, was originally a decorator. In 2011, he participated in the Taipei International Beef Noodle Festival (臺北國際牛肉麵節), placing 8th in the Creative category; the idea of opening his own restaurant developed soon thereafter. Dipping into his savings, he meticulously crafted a stylish dining space, choosing the Chinese name *Tianxia Sanjue* (天下三絕), which means, “three supremes in the world”: the freshest ingredients, the simplest cooking methods, and a dedication to culinary craftsmanship. The resulting beef-noodle dishes



are delicious. “Three supremes” are also essential to the savory, hearty Noodle Cuisine broth – tomato, onion, and beef bones.

The signature dish here, called World-Class Selections Beef Noodles Soup (天下三絕牛肉麵), has three cuts of beef: tendon, shank and tail. The noodles and three different meats, provide a medley of tastes and textures. Bringing a taste of French cuisine to Taiwanese beef noodles, Wu specially recommends the Beef with Red Wine Combo (牛肉紅酒套餐): noodles with a combination of tendon and lean meat, served with a glass of red wine. This unique culinary *pas de deux* has become a favorite.

1. The “Three Treasures Beef Noodles” was runner-up in the 2006 Best Noodles.
2. The Neihu flagship outlet of Chef Hung Taiwan Beef Noodle has a classical elegance.
- 3-4. The Beef with Red Wine Combo at chic Noodle Cuisine, noodles with a combination of tendon and lean meat, served with a glass of red wine, is a unique culinary *pas de deux*.



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Niu Yi Guan – One Noodle Dish, Six Options

Niu Yi Guan (牛易館) offers both braised and clear-broth noodle dishes. Both are made with large beef bones, beef, onion, ginger, garlic, and a special house sauce, and preserve the freshness of the ingredients. Owner Xu Shengxiong (許勝雄), a retired public servant, says that unlike the average noodle shop (where the owner decides the flavors) Niu Yi Guan lets customers choose their own tastes with its most unique draw, the create-it-yourself *Yi Mian Liu Chi* (一麵六吃), literally “One Noodle Dish, Six Options.”

Customers ordering the One Noodle Six Options receive a portion of “Tai Chi Beef Noodles”(太極牛肉麵) in a “Tai Chi Bowl”(太極碗), which has an *yin-yang* divider that allows them to create two separate noodle dishes. At the food bar they can then choose either the *mala* (麻辣; “numbing and spicy”) sauce or curry sauce to make one of four options—mala noodles in soup, dry mala noodles, curry noodles in soup, or dry curry noodles. Alternatively, order a single serving of noodles in either braised or clear soup, adding sauce from the food bar to taste. This is a compulsory experience for all those with a taste for novelty.



Foreigner's Beef Noodles – Unique, Spicy Fragrances

The name clearly announces that Foreigner's Beef Noodles (老外一品牛肉麵) is not run by a Taiwanese. The foreigner in question is Davod Bagherzadeh from Iran, who fell in love with Taiwan when he came here as a FIT

traveler some 10 years ago. Sampling all of Taiwan's food delicacies, he fell in love with the wonderful taste of beef noodles. Davod married a local woman, dedicated himself to studying beef noodles and crafting his own creative flavors, and opened his own restaurant on Jilin Road (吉林路). The most prominent feature is the mix of 12 spices (flown in from Iran) used in the braised soup, adding a very distinctive flavor. Davod's beef noodles took third place in the Braised Soup category in 2009, in 2010 the shop was declared one of Taiwan's “10 Best Shops,” and in 2011 he won awards in the Braised and Creative Noodles categories.

Many curious customers have asked Davod how he makes his soup stock, so he has posted a concise explanation on a wall so diners can understand in a glance. His clear stock, made with the finest Taiwanese beef and large beef bones, is simmered for 4 days until it has a milky-white color. He filters out all oil that floats to the top. For his braised beef noodles, the best imported shank accompanies a stock made with large beef bones, to which he adds Persian spices (imported by air), creating a dish with a rich, multi-layered texture. 🍜

5-6. Niu Yi Guan serves Tai Chi Beef Noodles in a Tai Chi Bowl, enabling beef-noodle enjoyment with either clear or braised broth.

7-8. Foreigner's Beef Noodles owner Davod Bagherzadeh, from Iran, has introduced many Persian spices to his noodles, creating subtle, sophisticated texture.



8

2014 Taipei International Beef Noodle Festival – A Feast of Fine Foods in Taipei



This year's Taipei International Beef Noodle Festival, organized by the Taipei City Government, will be the 10th edition. This culinary celebration has gained an international reputation, and beef noodles have become one of the city's main attractions.

The theme for this year's event, which is running from September 1st to October 15th, is "Feast of Fine Foods in Taipei" (十全食美 in Taipei). The program's highlight, entitled the "Feast of Fine Foods in Taipei Carnival," will be staged at the EXPO Dome in Taipei Expo Park (花博公園爭艷館) on October 11th and 12th. Among this year's attractions are a "Decade of Achievements Exhibition," "Beef Noodle Street," and "Taipei Fine Foods Street," and there will also be special zones such as the "Stage Performance Area," "Hot

Deals Area," "Arts and Culture Area," "Fine Food Area," and "Competition Area," among others. The chef competition finals will also be staged during this period.

The preliminary rounds of the chef competitions are being held in the latter part of September. There are three categories: Braised, Clear, and Creative. The 10 preliminary-round winners in each category can participate in the finals from October 11th to 12th, showing off their beef-noodle skills live during the carnival, when the winners, second-place positions, runners-up, and honorable mentions will be decided. New additions to the Competition Area this year are a "Saluting Senior Citizens–Fun Dream Contest" and "International Chefs Invitational Competition".

As an extra draw for local and foreign beef-noodle aficionados, this year a hundred major shops from around Taiwan have been invited to participate in a special "Check In, Receive Fine Food" event to be staged during the carnival period, from October 1st through October 15th. These premium-grade beef-noodle vendors will be offering beef-noodle lovers great promotions.

9. The Taipei International Beef Noodle Festival is a culinary carnival with an international reputation.

Creative Beef Noodles Shops

Chef Hung Taiwan Beef Noodle

洪師父牛肉麵

Add: 80, Ruihu St. (瑞湖街80號)

Tel: (02)8751-1700

Noodle Cuisine 天下三絕麵食館

Add: 3, Ln. 27, Sec. 4, Ren'ai Rd. (仁愛路4段27巷3號)

Tel: (02)2741-6299

Niu Yi Guan 牛易館

Add: 30, Siping St. (四平街30號)

Tel: (02)2523-8732

Foreigner's Beef Noodles 老外一品牛肉麵

Add: 403, Jilin Rd. (吉林路403號)

Tel: (02)2585-3303

2014 Taipei International Beef Noodle Festival

2014 臺北國際牛肉麵節

Time: Until 10/15

Venue: EXPO Dome, Taipei Expo Park; 1, Yumen St. (花博公園爭艷館; 玉門街1號)

Tel: 1999 (02-2720-8889 outside Taipei City); ext. 6503

Website: www.2014tbnf.com

Mid-Autumn Festival Mooncakes – When Traditional Delicacies Meet Innovative New Tastes

The Mid-Autumn Festival (中秋節) offers the best opportunity of the year for families to get out to enjoy the full moon, sitting out in the open air together enjoying two traditional festival treats – mooncakes (月餅) and pomelos – and the specially warm and festive atmosphere.



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Traditional Mooncakes – Cherished Old-Time Flavors

The venerable Florida Bakery (福利麵包) brings out its traditional "Fan Mao mooncake" (翻毛月餅) and "Tea Jung Mooncake" (提漿月餅) before each year's Mid-Autumn Festival. Fan Mou mooncake is one type of classic, crispy-crust mooncake. "Fan Mou" literally means "frizzled wool," after the flaky, hand-made pastry. Each whitish layer is paper-thin, and thought to look like sheep fleece. The Tea Jung Mooncake are made by syrup, sesame oil, peanut oil, and wheat flour, these ingredients are kneaded together and baked to create the tasty, crispy skin. The emphasis today is on making the cakes healthy, and low in both sugar and fat. Key ingredients in the filling are jujube paste and mixed nuts. Fragrant, slightly sweet, and low-fat, this is an essential festival treat for many Taipei families.

Another traditional festival treat, specific to Taiwanese families, is the mung-bean mooncake (綠豆凸), with a bump in the middle and flaky, crispy pastry. The standard mung-bean mooncake has a filling of pure mung-bean paste to which soy-braised pork or curry spices are added – classic Taiwanese tastes. The "soy-braised pork mung-bean mooncakes" (魯肉綠豆凸) made by I Jy Sheng Fashion Bakery (一之軒時尚烘培) adds soy-braised pork, mushroom, and stir-fried onion to the basic mug-bean paste. This mix of sweet and savory, with a delicate fragrance and rich texture, guarantees a mooncake of unique character, and a tasty treat many old Taipei residents never tire of.

1-2. Florida Bakery brings out its traditional Fan Mao mooncake and Tea Jung Mooncake before each year's festival. The skin of the first is said to look like sheep's fleece; the second features a healthy mix of jujube and mixed nuts. (Photo courtesy of Florida Bakery)

3. The "soy-braised pork mung-bean mooncakes" made by I Jy Sheng Fashion Bakery adds soy-braised pork, mushroom, and stir-fried onion to the basic mug-bean paste, creating a delicate sweet/savory mix. (Photo courtesy of I Jy Sheng)

Innovative Mooncakes – A Feast for Both Eye and Palate

Any idea what mooncakes with fruit inside would taste like? The Shangri-La's Far Eastern Plaza Hotel Taipei (香格里拉台北遠東國際大飯店) has unveiled innovative Fruits Paradise (團圓·果圓), mooncakes which feature a filling of banana, longan, kumquat, and other local fruits, and an emphasis on sweet and sour fruity flavors. Another option, called the Bird's Nest Moon Cake (燕窩奶黃月餅), has an aromatic, silky filling made with coconut milk, coconut paste and, yes, bird's nest, in a pastry shell baked an appealing yellow-orange that, when split open, accentuates the fragrant coconut essence. Yet another fine choice is the Deluxe Custard Moon Cakes (金沙奶黃月餅), made from duck eggs that are sprinkled with Kaoliang liquor (高粱酒) to add flavor before being cooked. The eggs are then chopped and mixed with coconut milk and coconut cream, creating a distinctive filling with a sweet and savory taste that is rich and aromatic. All of these varieties are great festival gift and souvenir purchases.

"Pure and Noble · Moon Shadow" Moon Festival Iced-Skin Macaroon Moon Cake Set (「冰心月影」冰皮馬卡龍月餅禮盒) from the Grand Victoria Hotel (維多麗亞酒店). These ice-cold and unique treats are a marriage of the macaroon and the mooncake. Each features a macaroon flavored with mango infused with white wine, bamboo-charcoal sesame, or strawberry marinated in white-wine, inside a mooncake with an outer layer made of ice cream. The mooncake contains numerous complementary ingredients such as sesame seed and pine nut, red wine-infused cranberry, pomelo, hazelnut, green-tea pistachio, and mung-bean egg-yolk paste.

The flavors and textures of traditional mooncakes capture the easy, friendly familiarity of old Taipei, while innovative new varieties reflect the energetic diversity of the new city. Whether you choose traditional or modern varieties, however, by eating mooncakes you're enjoying a delicacy specific to the Mid-Autumn Festival season – and one you must not miss out on if visiting Taipei at this time of year. 🌕

4. The Shangri-La's Far Eastern Plaza Hotel Taipei offers Bird's Nest Moon Cake with an aromatic, silky filling of coconut milk, coconut paste and, yes, bird's nest. (Photo courtesy of Shangri-La's Far Eastern Plaza Hotel)

5-6. The "Pure and Noble · Moon Shadow" Moon Festival Iced-Skin Macaroon Moon Cake Set from the Grand Victoria Hotel is a unique cool, multi-color treat with a macaroon inside a mooncake pastry shell. (Photo courtesy of Grand Victoria Hotel)



Information

Florida Bakery (Zhongshan Store) 福利麵包 (中山店)

Add: 23-5, Sec. 3, Zhongshan N. Rd.
(中山北路3段23之5號)

Tel: (02)2594-6923

I Jy Sheng Fashion Bakery 一之軒時尚烘培

Add: 53, Shida Rd. (師大路53號)

Tel: (02)2362-0425

Shangri-La's Far Eastern Plaza Hotel Taipei 香格里拉台北遠東國際大飯店

Add: 201, Sec. 2, Dunhua S. Rd. (敦化南路2段201號)

Tel: (02)2378-8888

Grand Victoria Hotel 維多麗亞酒店

Add: 168, Jingye 4th Rd. (敬業四路168號)

Tel: (02)6602-5672, ext. 2290

Taipei Cultural-Creative Souvenirs – Stylish and Uniquely Taiwanese

Taiwan's rich sources of creative inspiration are such that even a comb can be surprising. Qishi-jiefa (漆飾結髮) creates hand-painted combs made from natural wood, bringing new life to this everyday item. Fun China (瓷嬉工坊) brings oriental fashion aesthetics to stylish small porcelain objects, bringing a sense of whimsy and playfulness to chinaware, and creating excellent souvenirs for the tourist.



These dark-brown rosewood combs, which can also be used as hair ornaments, are decorated with a range of flowers often seen in Taiwan: peonies, lotuses, plum blossoms, tung blossoms, orchids, roses (symbolizing love), lilies (which represent purity), and sunflowers. The painters create wonderfully realistic depictions, carefully laying down soft and graceful lines and contours, capturing the attention of the ladies. The rosewood used in the combs is very hard, and since they are about 0.6 centimeter thick, there is little chance of them breaking. Used as hair ornaments, with a Chinese knot of colored glass or ceramic beads, they look particularly vivid and elegant.

An attractive series of undecorated brushes are made with wood from species of China fir – dragon juniper, cattle camphor burl, Chinese yew, Chinese cypress, incense cedar, and Chinese pistache. The brush surfaces are simple, quiet, and elegant, preserving the wood's natural aromas and beautiful texture and line contours. The "silver hair vitality comb" (銀髮活力梳), which has a crescent-shaped handle, is appropriate for seniors with limited strength in their grip. The neutral design and small size of the "pocket comb" (口袋梳), just 15 centimeters long, make it easy to fit in a pocket. It's especially appropriate for males, who generally don't like carrying bags around, as it takes up little pocket space. Qishi-jiefa combines traditional combs with modern elements and makes them handy, and portable, which have become favorite gifts for foreign shoppers.

1. Made from natural dark-colored rosewood, and presented in a variety of stylish floral-design boxes, Qishi-jiefa's stylish handmade painted combs are very popular with the ladies.
2. The unique brush painting preserves the wood's natural aroma, and follows the wood's texture and contours.
3. Brushes with unadorned, ergonomic crescent-shaped handles are popular with male buyers.

The Painted Elegance of Qishi-jiefa – Aromatic Hand-Made Wood Combs

Made from natural wood, the handle and teeth on Qishi-jiefa's handmade combs are ergonomically designed, and the combs are decorated with floral designs, also done by hand, which conform to the comb's shape. Not only is the result stylish, but has also brought praise, notably a Golden Pin Design Award (金點設計獎) in 2012.



Fun China's Playful Creativity – Items Both Interesting and Practical

Opened 8 years ago, Fun China's Chinese name, "Ci Xi Workshop," is a play on words. Playing on the name of Qing dynasty Empress Dowager Cixi (慈禧太后), its own *Ci Xi* means "Porcelain Fun." Its focus is on creative porcelain works that fuse elements of Oriental culture, local cultural motifs, and popular fashion. Its chinaware creations are a delight, brought into everyday life, overturning the usual sobriety and seriousness with which the public generally views such items. Its creations are fired at 1,280°C, the high level of technical skill and originality brought the workshop a Golden Pin Design Award in 2010.

The workshop's Fu-Gui Tea Cup Set (富貴對杯) takes the form of an elderly scholar-official and his wife in ancient China. The lids are shaped to resemble their hairstyles, with hairpins added for effect, and the cup bodies are their heads, with exquisite traditional Chinese collars at the base. These unique porcelain works wonderfully combine elements of Chinese culture and Taiwanese inspiration. The Lovable-Kitty SP (Snuggling & Dependence) (可愛貓椒鹽罐——相依、相偎) series features paired salt-and-pepper shakers shaped to resemble Chinese *ruyi* (如意), a scepter-shaped talisman symbolizing power and good fortune. At the same time, each shaker is shaped like a lazy cat with a mischievous look. The firm's Happy-Piggy Money Saver (幸福的豬) piggy banks are modeled on the Taiwan's mountain boar. Designed in Cubist style, they have lovable shapes. In Eastern culture the pig is a symbol of many descendants; a homonym for "pig" is also used in auspicious Chinese expressions. Other choices that inevitably bring a smile to the face are Big Mouth (大嘴巴) and Buttocks (翹屁股) from the Mischievous Child Vase (頑童花器) series, representations of playful toddlers in wonderfully lifelike form.

These locally-made naturally fragrant wood combs and uniquely stylish porcelain works are worthy additions to any travel-memento collection, each a showcase in miniature of Taiwan's cultural-creative charisma and consummate craftsmanship. 1

4. The workshop's unique Fu-Gui Tea Cup Set combines elements of Chinese culture and Taiwanese inspiration.
5. Fun China's Lovable-Kitty SP (Snuggling & Dependence) series features paired salt-and-pepper shakers shaped to resemble Chinese *ruyi*.
6. Fun China's Cubist-style Happy-Piggy Money Saver piggy banks are modeled on the Taiwan mountain boar.

(4-6 photos courtesy of Fun China)

Information

Qishi-jiefa 漆飾結髮

Sales Points:

Taiwan Handicraft Promotion Center
財團法人台灣手工業推廣中心

Add: 1, Xuzhou Rd. (徐州路1號)

Tel: (02)2393-3655

Huashan Market 華山市場

Add: Stand A25, 1F, 108, Sec. 1,
Zhongxiao E. Rd.
(忠孝東路1段108號1樓A25攤位)

Tel: 0953-194-090

Taiwan Design ǝ PIN

Add: 1F, 133, Guangfu S. Rd.
(光復南路133號1樓)

Tel: (02)2745-8199, ext. 279

Fun China 瓷嬉工坊

Tel: (02)8951-1181

Website: www.fun-china.com.tw

Sales Points:

Taiwan Handicraft Promotion Center
財團法人台灣手工業推廣中心

Taiwan Design Center Design Gallery
台灣創意設計中心設計精品廊

Add: 133, Guangfu S. Rd. (光復南路133號)

Tel: (02)2745-8199, ext. 375

Angel Art Gallery 天使美術館

Add: 41, Sec. 3, Xinyi Rd. (信義路3段41號)

Tel: (02)2701-5229



An Autumn Ramble Along Zhongshan North Road Enjoying New-Style Old Architecture

Created during the 1895-1945 Japanese era, Zhongshan North Road (中山北路) was originally called the "Imperial Envoy Road" (敕使街道), and although there have been many changes over the years, it has remained one of Taipei's most characteristic thoroughfares. A shady boulevard lined with camphor and Chinese sweet gum trees, it has a relaxed and leisured ambience. Down the lanes and alleys on either side are many hidden gems of vintage architecture, each a graceful and charming history exhibit. Take advantage of the city's cooling autumn weather to explore this fascinating area, seeing the new look of Taipei City amidst its old buildings.



Zhongshan Market (browsing the morning market, breakfast)
→ Café Monument (coffee break) → Lin Tien Coopery →
SPOT-Taipei → GALERIE Bistro (lunch) → Tsai Jue-Yueh Dance
Research Institute → Taipei Story House → Lin An Tai Historical
House & Museum → Fashion Bangkok (dinner)



A Meander Around a Market – Experiencing the Life of Everyday Folk

Start early in the morning, and browse the Zhongshan Market (中山市場), which was called the Akiyasu Market (昭安市場) during the Japanese era. The venerable century-old market has many well-known old shops, including sellers of common everyday foods, traditional meat and vegetable stands, and vendors of regional specialty goods. All have solid word-of-mouth reputations. If you'd like to try a traditional Taiwanese breakfast, the signature offerings at the Jiqing Deli (吉慶飲食部) are noodles with assorted meats and veggies and noodles with pork ribs. Both are excellent choices, even more popular due to the many side-dishes available. Nearby are other venerable businesses now run by younger generations such as the Yingge Hao (鶯歌號), Vegetables Shop (青菜商號), and Zhongshan Fruits and Vegetables Shop (中山水果店). Two other witnesses to local history are Ji Hong Tang Incense Shop (吉鴻堂香舖), which sells religious-worship goods, and Yu Fa Hao (裕發號), a grocery outlet opened during the Japanese era.





↓ Sipping Coffee in a Heritage Building, Seeing the Workmanship of Old Masters

After a morning market visit, sit down at Café Monument (滿樂門咖啡), located diagonally across from the market, situated in a Baroque-style building that is almost 90 years old. After several generations of business operations by various individuals, it fell into disuse for a number of decades before being rescued by art-loving entrepreneur Zeng Chaoman (曾朝滿), who energetically refurbished it and has given it new life. Sit back to enjoy the music in this heritage corner, savoring the fragrance of coffee and the laid-back ambience. After this take in the nearby Lin Tien Coopery (林田桶店), an old shop now run by the third generation of a family of barrel makers. The skills passed down here were originally learned at the hand of a Japanese master. Cypress and China fir are used to make the containers, and the consummate modeling and craftsmanship make these practical items veritable works of art.

I Italian and French Fare in a Baroque-Style Residence

After enjoying the fine architecture and crafts, it's time for lunch. Walk along Lane 19, Changan West Road (長安西路19巷) to Lane 25, Nanjing West Road (南京西路25巷), where you'll find a white Baroque-style house. Left empty for 20 years, the second-generation owner of this family home converted it into the GALERIE Bistro, which serves French and Italian cuisine and has a strongly romantic atmosphere. The basic tone of the interior décor is pure white, which nicely sets off the artworks from the owner's personal collection on display in the covered corridor, which bring an artistic ambience to the restaurant.

After lunch, to slow the pace even further, a great choice is SPOT-Taipei (光點台北), for a taste of the arts and cultural elegance. Originally the residence of the U.S. ambassadors, this building has the appearance of an American deep-south manor. Today this heritage site is a place where cinema is celebrated and creative exchange fostered. In addition to the showing of arthouse films, you can also enjoy special drinks named after various movies in the Café Lumière & Le Ballon Rouge (咖啡時光・紅氣球). Good quality souvenir items, including original handmade items from Taiwan and premium-design goods from around the globe are sold in the SPOT DESIGNS (光點生活) boutique shop.



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1. A stroll along leafy, shady Zhongshan North Road is a relaxing experience.
- 2-3. The signature noodle and side dishes at Jiqing Deli are authentically Taiwanese.
4. A wide assortment of seasonal fruits and vegetables add great splashes of color to local markets.
5. Ji Hong Tang Incense Shop stocks all manner of items used by locals for religious worship.
- 6-8. Whilesipping fine coffee at the elegant Café Monument, enjoy the heritage building's cultured ambience.
9. Products at the Lin Tien Coopery are all created by experienced masters.
- 10-11. GALERIE Bistro's Baroque architecture and French/Italian cuisine give it a romantic and international character.
12. Originally the U.S. ambassador's residence, today SPOT-Taipei is an arthouse-film, café and cultural space.



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Metamorphosis and Rebirth – Exploring Historical Architecture

Walk along Section 2 of Zhongshan North Road, then head down Lane 48, and you'll come to the Tsai Jue-Yueh Dance Research Institute (蔡瑞月舞蹈研究社), housed in what was originally a Japanese-era dormitory for civil servants. The wood-built double-building complex, set amidst a well-tended lawn and greenery, was once the home, classroom, and studio of Tsai Juiyueh (蔡瑞月), the "mother of modern dance in Taiwan." Part of the space now houses an attractive café with outdoor seating.

Afterwards, continue your leisurely walk to Section 3 of Zhongshan North Road. Lined with shade-giving trees along both sides, the leaves, presently now turning yellow, announce the arrival of the cooler autumn. Along this section you'll pass by the Zhongshan Public Assembly Hall (中山公民會館) and Tatung University (大同大學), both fine works of old architecture standing as a testament to days now long gone. Beyond this, beside the Taipei Fine Arts Museum (臺北市立美術館), is the Taipei Story House (台北故事館), a city-designated heritage site. An English Tudor-style manor, it was built during the Japanese period as a private guest house by a tea merchant, Chen Chaojun (陳朝駿). The century-old building's new role is as a showcase of life in Taiwan over the past hundred years; on presently is "The Story of Bridal Gowns" Exhibition (她最美的一天——婚紗的故事特展), an exploration of the changes in local wedding gowns over the years.

The cooling breezes of the Taipei autumn make this a perfect time for cycling. Grab a bike from the YouBike

rental station near the Taipei Story House and set off along the road beside the Keelung River (基隆河) dike. You'll soon come to one of Taiwan's best examples of imperial-era Fujian-style architecture, the Lin An Tai Historical House & Museum (林安泰古厝民俗文物館), built in the 18th and 19th centuries. Visitors can explore the numerous structures in the large courtyard-style residential complex, admiring the classical-style swallowtail roofs and the carved decorations in wood and stone, and until October 30th can take in the "A Look at the Historical House Through Time and Space – Lin An Tai Historical Architecture Exhibit" (穿越時空看古厝——林安泰歷史建築特展), which provides a window into past folks' lives through dressing tables, table and chair sets, and other everyday artifacts. Be sure to leave time to stroll around the pleasant gardens, a showcase of elegant classical Fujian-style landscaping, perusing the pavilion-side reflection pool, rockery right out of a classical Chinese ink painting, and artistically placed flowers and trees.



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An Old Home of Mixed-Space Design – Delicious Creative Thai Cuisine

It's time for dinner now, so head to Fashion Bangkok (FB食尚曼谷) in nearby Shilin District, located in an old building given a fresh new start. Drop off your bike at the YouBike station outside Exit 2 of MRT Shilin Station (捷運士林站) and walk along Fude Road (福德路) to Dadong Road (大東路), where you'll see the façade of the old residence, which is now a Thai restaurant. Approximately a century old, this was once the home of a prominent Shilin family surnamed Guo (郭). Left vacant for 60 years, last year three business owners from the marketing industry opened this innovative restaurant together. It has become a favorite with foreign tourists, and as an added bonus periodically shows works by cutting-edge artists.

Reserve a day this autumn to explore Zhongshan North Road, strolling or leisurely biking the grid of cozy lanes and alleys in a hunt for fine old buildings, savoring the knowledge you've acquired about the city of Taipei while immersed in this history gallery. 17



13. The Tsai Jue-Yueh Dance Research Institute is a cultural space that also offers fine coffee and light snacks.
14. Today the venerable Zhongshan Public Assembly Hall is a space for cultural-arts displays.
15. The Tudor-style Taipei Story House.
16. The Lin An Tai Historical House & Museum gardens are a showcase of elegant classical Fujian-style landscaping.
- 17-18. Fashion Bangkok, an innovative Thai restaurant in an old building that has been given a fresh new start, has become a favorite with foreign tourists.



Information

Zhongshan Market 中山市場

Add: 3, Changan W. Rd. (長安西路3號)

Tel: (02)2541-4530

Café Monument 滿樂門咖啡

Add: 2, Changan W. Rd. (長安西路2號)

Tel: (02)2581-6088

Lin Tien Coopery 林田桶店

Add: 108, Sec. 1, Zhongshan N. Rd. (中山北路1段108號)

Tel: (02)2541-1354

GALERIE Bistro

Add: 2, Ln. 25, Nanjing W. Rd. (南京西路25巷2號)

Tel: (02)2558-0096

SPOT-Taipei 光點台北

Add: 18, Sec. 2, Zhongshan N. Rd. (中山北路2段18號)

Tel: (02)2511-7786

Tsai Jue-Yueh Dance Research Institute

蔡瑞月舞蹈研究社

Add: 10, Ln. 48, Sec. 2, Zhongshan N. Rd.

(中山北路2段48巷10號)

Tel: (02)2560-5724

Taipei Story House 台北故事館

Add: 181-1, Sec. 3, Zhongshan N. Rd. (中山北路3段181之1號)

Tel: (02)2587-5565

Lin An Tai Historical House & Museum

林安泰古厝民俗文物館

Add: 5, Binjiang St. (濱江街5號)

Tel: (02)2599-6026

Fashion Bangkok FB食尚曼谷

Add: 54, Dadong Rd. (大東路54號)

Tel: (02)2883-0013

Please refer to the map provided on P.66

Grab Your Binoculars – Time for Some Taipei Birdwatching!

Mention birdwatching and many people will immediately think of someone in a khaki vest, floppy round hat, and binoculars hanging from their neck picking a perch somewhere and sitting for hours, or heading out to some isolated spot, in the hope of catching a brief glimpse or two of some little feathered creature. Birders have a passion for the hunt and the precious thrill of observing the bedazzling colors and endless behavior variations of the world's birds in their natural habitat. They've no greater joy than capturing their prey – through the camera lens – preserving memories, and becoming involved in eco-protection initiatives.



Taipei International Birdwatching Fair – The Call for Wetland Conservation

The Wild Bird Society of Taipei (社團法人台北市野鳥學會), set up by a band of local bird-lovers, staged the first edition of the Taipei International Birdwatching Fair (台北國際賞鳥博覽會) in 1999, and the two key foci each year are birds and the environment. Every fan of our avian friends knows that without environmental sustainability there is no chance for birds to thrive, and that the impact of environment damage goes far beyond harming bird species. Reflecting this, the theme for this year's fair (taking place on October 25th and 26th at Guandu Nature Park (關渡自然公園), is "The Wetlands Seesaw Event" (溼地蹺蹺板), with exhibits and different

types of activities intended to promote understanding of the importance of wetlands protection.

What is a "wetland"? The fair will demonstrate that a wetland is the intersecting area between land and water, and is land that is either regularly or intermittently submerged by tides. A wetland is a prolific breeding ground for aquatic plants, fish, shrimp, and shellfish, and a rich feeding ground for mammals and birds. A wetland system is a complex and stable ecological food chain, it modulates water levels, and serves as a water purifier by filtering out chemicals and organic waste.

Unfortunately, over the past century approximately 60% of the world's wetlands have been destroyed. Pollution, extraction of groundwater, and urban development are primary causes. Since wetlands



are key providers of both sustenance and habitat for endemic and migratory birds alike, the protection of wetlands is necessary for their survival and for the maintenance of the overall ecological balance.

In addition to designing intriguing static exhibits, the organizer has planned a photo competition for elementary students in grades 3 through 6 (including fresh graduates), with the theme "Living Together with Wetlands – Big Horizons Through Small Lenses" (「與溼地共存」小鏡頭裡的大視界). Kids are invited to capture the beautiful and wondrous world of wetlands throughout Taiwan with a camera lens; the deadline for submissions is September 26th. Another initiative echoing this year's wetlands protection theme is the organizer's declaration of October as "wetlands month," with

guided tours being offered to introduce the city's outlying wetlands environments and avian residents to the public. The tours will be free, with no advance registration necessary.

1. Guandu Nature Park is home to the city's largest wetland conservation area, and many different species of birds gather here in large numbers. (Photo courtesy of Guandu Nature Park)
2. The Wild Bird Society of Taipei hopes that, using exhibits and different types of activities, the public will better understand the importance of wetlands protection. (Photo courtesy of Wild Bird Society of Taipei)
3. Birders willingly sit for hours in the hope of catching a brief glimpse of some colorful little feathered creature.
4. Its position by the Tamsui River makes Guandu Nature Park a prime habitat for wildlife, and thus a popular destination for foreign tourists.



Listen! Who's That Singing? Birdwatching Fun in Taipei

The great metropolis of Taipei, with its countless vehicles and honking horns, does actually have quiet places where birds of all stripes come to sign their hearts out. In plenty of easily-reached spots such as Daan Park (大安森林公園), Taipei Botanical Garden (台北植物園), National Chiang Kai-shek Memorial Hall, and Zhishan Cultural and Ecological Garden (芝山文化生態綠園) there is a good chance you'll be regaled by the Muller's Barbet, Chinese Bulbul, Black Bulbul, Japanese White-eye, or Spotted-necked Dove. There are also many endemic Taiwan species, including the Taiwan Blue Magpie, the city bird of Taipei, which is best spotted in the Taipei Botanical Garden and Zhishan Cultural and Ecological Garden.

Out of the urban center, dedicated wetlands parks await. Guandu Nature Park is home to the city's largest wetland conservation area, and members of different

species gather here in significant number at different times – notably large herons, the clever and energetic White-breasted Waterhen, Common Moorhen, sandpipers, Common Greenshank, and the cute Teal, Northern Shoveler, snipes, and Northern Pintail. Huajiang Wild Duck Nature Park (華江雁鴨自然公園), on the west side of Huajiang Bridge (華江橋), is visited by many different species from October through March/April, including wild geese and the Green-winged Teal, Pipa Duck, and Northern Pintail. They can be spotted close to the riverbank, which is hugged by a 600-meter birdwatching path, from which the tourist can enjoy the lovely scenery.

Residents and visitors to Taipei are fortunate in having the wonders of nature so close at hand. Take full advantage of autumn's fine weather, grab your binoculars, and get out there into the great outdoors to scan the horizon for subjects of interest – discovering the secrets and miracles of life, the natural way. 🕒



5-7. Daan Park, Taipei Botanical Garden, National Chiang Kai-shek Memorial Hall, and Zhishan Cultural and Ecological Garden are good spots to catch sight of the Muller's Barbet, Chinese Bulbul, and Black Bulbul. (Photo by Chen Wangshih)

8. The expansive sandbar wetlands and marsh at Huajiang Wild Duck Nature Park make it a major draw for migratory birds. (Photos courtesy of Wild Bird Society of Taipei)

9. The Taiwan Blue Magpie can be spotted at the Taipei Botanical Garden and Zhishan Cultural and Ecological Garden. (Photo by Chen Wangshih)

10-12. Guandu Nature Park is home to herons sandpipers, and Teal. (Photo by Chen Wangshih)

Birding Tips:

1. Wear light and comfortable clothing and headgear in natural colors (green, grey, brown).
2. Use large, round, dark-colored headgear, for shade and camouflage.
3. Bring a pair of binoculars with, optimally, 7x to 10x magnification.
4. To create your own personalized commemorative birding album, bring a notebook, and for each spotting record the time, location, bird type, and other pertinent details; or bring an illustrated bird guide and record this information beside the relevant bird's photo.



Information

■ Birding Information:

Wild Bird Society of Taipei 社團法人台北市野鳥學會

Add: 3, Ln. 160, Sec. 2, Fuxing S. Rd. (復興南路2段160巷3號)

Tel: (02)2325-9190

Website: www.wbst.org.tw

■ Birding Locations:

Guandu Nature Park 關渡自然公園

Add: 55, Guandu Rd. (關渡路55號)

Tel: (02)2858-7417

Daan Park 大安森林公園

Venue: East of Xinsheng S. Rd., south of Sec. 3, Xinyi Rd. (新生南路以東、信義路3段以南)

Tel: (02)2303-2451, (02)2700-3830

Taipei Botanical Garden 台北植物園

Add: 53, Nanhai Rd. (南海路53號)

Tel: (02)2303-9978, ext. 2521

National Chiang Kai-shek Memorial Hall
國立中正紀念堂

Add: 21, Zhongshan S. Rd. (中山南路21號)

Tel: (02)2343-1100

Zhishan Cultural and Ecological Garden
芝山文化生態綠園

Add: 120, Yusheng St. (雨聲街120號)

Tel: (02)8866-6258

Huajiang Wild Duck Nature Park
華江雁鴨自然公園

Venue: West side of Huajiang Bridge (華江橋西側)

Neigou River Scenic and Ecological Trail
內溝溪生態步道

Venue: Neigou River Ecological Exhibition Hall; 236-3, Kangle St. (內溝溪生態展示館; 康樂街236之3號)

Tel: (02)2634-7851

Taipei's Autumn Festivals – Showcases of Different Cultural Character

It's time to wave goodbye to summer, and wave in the colorful lineup of autumn cultural-arts happenings! Four big annual events are set to hit the stage from the end of September – the Shilin International Culture Festival (士林國際文化節), Taipei Confucius Temple Culture Festival (臺北孔廟文化季), Taipei Season of Hot Spring (臺北溫泉季), and Dream Parade (夢想嘉年華), each showcasing the city's culture, folk customs, tourist attractions, and creative originality from a wide variety of angles. This rich mix of kinetic and static carnival-style activities brings a dash of glitter to the fall season in Taipei.



1-2. Each year the Shilin International Culture Festival features activities, talks, and special exhibits presenting visitors with a slice of life in different lands around the world. This year, the "Haiti • People • Culture • History Exhibition" presents the world's first black-led republic. (Photo courtesy of Shilin District Office)



Shilin International Culture Festival – An Event of Stimulatingly Different Character

Shilin District is an area of attractive natural landscapes and many cultural-arts venues, making it a popular choice for individuals from different cultural circles and for expatriates when choosing where to live in the city. In addition to showing off the district's distinctively international personality, this year's Shilin International Culture Festival will feature an enticing series of activities, talks, and special exhibits presenting visitors with a slice of life in different lands around the world.

Things kick off on September 27th with the "Great Toy Assembly" in Chengde Park (承德公園), when members of the representative offices of Latin American and Asia-Pacific countries stationed in Taipei share the fun



3. The Confucius Ceremony, at Taipei Confucius Temple, features the Song dynasty eight classical instruments used in Confucian ceremonial music and "Yi Dance," which originates in the Ming dynasty imperial court. (Photo courtesy of Taipei Confucius Temple)

4-5. Among the various Taipei Confucius Temple Culture Festival events are Storytelling Under the Trees and Taipei Joint Coming of Age Ceremony. (Photo courtesy of Taipei Confucius Temple)

of toys from their respective homelands. Traditional toys from Taiwan will also be available for visitors to play with, in an event that will introduce the folk customs and cultures of different peoples. From October 3rd to October 30th, take in the "Haiti · People · Culture · History Exhibition" (海地 · 人 · 文化 · 歷史特展) at the Shilin Public Assembly Hall (士林公民會館). The people of Haiti, the world's first black-led republic, have the classic freedom-loving, warm-hearted, optimistic Caribbean character. Subjects covered in the exhibition will include the nation's founding heroes, art, voodoo, historical development, and culture. "Central America Travel Talks" are also scheduled for the Shilin Public Assembly Hall on October 18th and 25th, with well-known authors introducing the enigmatic region. Their lively and incisive insights are sure to make you feel as if you've already explored the area in depth, and leave you wanting more.

Taipei Confucius Temple Culture Festival – Timeless Rituals, Ancient Stories

The Confucius Ceremony (釋奠典禮) is staged at the Taipei Confucius Temple (臺北市孔廟) on September 28th each year to commemorate the birthday of the Great Sage. This year's ceremony will take place from 6 to 7 am, with a full presentation of the ancient "Three Consecrations" (三獻). Among the highlights of the event are the eight classical instruments used in Confucian ceremonial music, which date to the Song dynasty (宋朝), the ceremonial "Yi Dance" (佾舞), which originated in the imperial court of the Ming dynasty, and the 37 steps of the Three Consecrations ritual, including opening the gates, welcoming the spirit, offering incense, and presentations. After the ceremony, Taipei Mayor Hau Lungbin (臺北市長郝龍斌) will hand out traditional



wisdom cakes and souvenirs of the event to those who have come to watch. The solemn affair is a form of blessing, and it's well worth observing and learning more about it.

Beginning a number of years ago, the Taipei Confucius Temple expanded the Confucius Ceremony with a series of other activities to create the Taipei Confucius Temple Culture Festival. From October 4th to October 25th, each Saturday from 2 to 4 pm you can enjoy "Storytelling Under the Trees," with culture and history experts talking about the story of Confucius and of the temple itself. On October 19th, from 2 to 3 pm watch the Taipei Joint Coming of Age Ceremony. Young people turning 18 can register for this coming-of-age rite, during which they will wear special temple-provided ceremonial attire. The "Tea Presentation Ceremony" is a chance to show respect and appreciation to parents, and in the "Passing on the Flame Ceremony," the family inheritance is symbolically gifted to sons and daughters by mothers and fathers, and blessings are bestowed. For details on all activities, visit the Taipei Confucius Temple website. After your temple visit, explore the many attractions of the surrounding Dalongdong (大龍峒) community, notably Dalongdong Baoan Temple (大龍峒保安宮), Baoan Temple Garden (保安宮花園; also called Lin sheng Yuan; 鄰聖苑), and the Dalong Night Market (大龍夜市商圈) and surrounding commercial district.

Taipei Season of Hot Spring – Enjoying Mineral Soaks and Live Performances

The Beitou hot-springs area enjoys the maximum 3-star rating in Michelin's Taiwan travel guide. The area's name comes from the word *Patauw*, meaning "witch" or "sorceress" in the language of the area's original Ketagalan flatlands-tribe inhabitants, after the mysterious mists rising from the nearby hot springs. This origin is honored in such Taipei Season of Hot Spring events as the "Witches Singing Concert," and in special witch-themed merchandise.

The Taipei Season of Hot Spring will run from October 10th to 14th this year, and will focus on a combination of cultural-creative activities and healthy hot-spring baths. In addition to the "Witches Singing Concert" and other colorful events, there will be a street parade featuring cute children sumo wrestlers from Japan and a special "Children's Deity Palanquin", the wrestlers and brilliantly attired palanquin bearers showing off the traditional culture of the Land of the Rising Sun. Another big draw will be the stage shows put on in the small park across the street on the south side of MRT Xinbeitou Station (捷運新北投站) by the celebrated Ming Hwa Yuan Arts & Cultural Group. Other attractions will include Witches Happy Travels, a charity secondhand-goods market, and a hot-spring themed exhibit.

2014 Dream Parade – Warm Spirits Sweep Taipei

The curtain has fallen on the World Cup, but if you've still got a hankering for things Brazilian, how about a feast of spirited samba in Taipei? The carnivalesque 2014 Dream Parade (2014夢想嘉年華), hosted by the Taipei City Government and Dream Community Culture and Education Development Foundation (夢想社區文教發展基金會), will sweep through Taipei on October 18th. This year artists from the United States, Britain, France, and elsewhere have been invited to specially create large floats and parade figures, and, (along with a colorful army of paraders) they will assemble and march from Ketagalan Boulevard (凱達格蘭大道) led by beautiful "Rainbow Samba Maidens." There will also be contests for "Hottest Samba Maiden" and "Super Hot Mama," with prizes handed out to the winners, and a troupe of 60 samba drummers from Taiwan and abroad, aged 9 through 80, will pour heart and soul into pulsating samba rhythms sure to cause visitors to join in.

As the cooler autumn settles over the city, experience the warm and lively carnival spirit in Taipei. From the painter's palette of dreams to folk customs and cultural attractions, a series of vivid events is about to add exciting color to the streets of Taipei this fall. 🎉



6-8. Among this year's draws during Taipei Season of Hot Spring will be the Japanese Children's Deity Palanquin and children sumo wrestlers, plus Ming Hwa Yuan Arts & Cultural Group performances.

9-10. For this year's Dream Parade, artists from the United States, Britain, France, and elsewhere have been invited to specially create large floats and parade figures, which along with a colorful army of paraders will assemble and march from Ketagalan Boulevard. (Photo courtesy of Dream Community Culture and Education Development Foundation, by Xu Jiayi and Chen Shouyan)

Information

2014 Shilin International Culture Festival

2014 士林國際文化節

Time: 9/27~10/30

Venues: Chengde Park, Shilin Public Assembly Hall
(承德公園、士林公民會館)

Tel: (02)2882-6200, ext. 6502

2014 Taipei Confucius Temple Culture Festival

2014 臺北孔廟文化季

Time: 9/28~10/25

Venue: Taipei Confucius Temple (臺北市孔廟)

Website: www.ct.taipei.gov.tw

Confucius Ceremony

Time: 9/28, 06:00~07:00

Venue Entry: 9/28, 05:30~06:00

(ticket required for entry, no admission once ceremony starts)

Individual Ticket Requests:

For more information about the passes, please check the official website <http://www.ct.taipei.gov.tw> in early September, or please call (02)2592-3934#25.

Ticket Request on Day of Ceremony:

09/28, 05:30~06:00, at the Taipei Confucius Temple (臺北市孔廟)'s Hong Gate (鬐門) office, 100 tickets available.

2014 Taipei Season of Hot Spring

2014 臺北溫泉季

Time: 10/10~10/14

Venue: Qixing Park, across the road on the south side of MRT Xinbeitou Station Plaza
(捷運新北投站廣場及旁邊南側道路七星公園)

Tel: (02)2895-5418

Website: www.taipeisprings.org.tw

2014 Dream Parade 2014 夢想嘉年華

Time: 10/18, 15:00~21:00

Venue: Liberty Square, National Chiang Kai-shek memorial Hall→Ketagalan Blvd.
(國立中正紀念堂自由廣場→凱達格蘭大道)

Tel: (02)2695-9393

Website: dreamcommunity.org.tw



Ke Delong – Rediscovering Lost Bangka

For visitors from overseas, Wanhua District, or Bangka in the original Taiwanese, is a great place to explore Taipei's flourishing early development, and a place rich in old architecture, culture and history. Ke Delong (柯得隆), a local culture and history worker, wants to show foreigners a different side of Bangka by giving them a different kind of tour with a novel set of sights.



Ke Delong

- Manager, "Holo Un Culture and History Studio" (河洛韻文史工作室)
- Second-generation proprietor, A Tsai Ma's Sweet Soup
- Wanhua local guide

A Tsai Ma's Sweet Soup (阿猜嬷甜湯)

- Add: 3, Huaxi St. (華西街 3 號)
- Tel: (02)2361-8697

At noon one day two Japanese backpackers show up at A Tsai Ma's Sweet Soup (阿猜嬷甜湯) on Huaxi Street (華西街), following directions given in a travel magazine, saying they want to eat the well-known sweet treat "bubble cake" in peanut soup. A bubble cake (泡餅) is a kind of popover. The owner – Ke Delong informs them in simple Japanese that the shop's hot foods are only available after the sun goes down, but they can try his cooling mung bean soup, to which he does not add the usual ice cubes. His Japanese guests seat themselves on a couple of the shop's wooden chairs and get busy happily sipping and slurping the refreshing soup, afterwards leaving with contented smiles.

Ke says that his wish is to "rediscover lost Bangka," and in addition to operating this traditional shop, which was opened more than half a century ago, he uses a local's frame of reference to help foreign visitors experience the Wanhua that "travel books don't write about, and tour guides don't introduce."

Ke points out that Wanhua was the location of the first area of development in today's Taipei. Three hundred years ago the local indigenous people, the Ketagalan, used canoes as a main form of transportation. Using local rivers as their highways, they gathered in what is today's Wanhua to trade sweet potatoes, tea leaf, and other goods with Han Chinese (漢人), who settled here in ever-increasing numbers, over time creating the many rows of red-brick structures and other historical sites that exist today. The Ketagalan word for canoe,



1. The many vintage photos on the walls at A Tsai Ma's Sweet Soup evoke a strong sense of Wanhua in the old days.
2. The Japanese guests, seated on wooden chairs, happily eat their red bean and peanut soup popovers.
3. Japanese backpackers at Wanhua's A Tsai Ma's Sweet Soup, where owner Ke Delong recommends his cooling mung bean soup, to their great satisfaction.
4. A board game similar to Monopoly, called Holo Un in Taiwanese, was all the rage in Wanhua a half-century ago.
5. The classic signature red bean and peanut treats at A Tsai Ma's Sweet Soup haven't changed in four decades.



moungar, developed into the name of the Chinese settlement – Bangka. Though the raucous market-town bustle of yesterday is no more, the slow-paced rhythm that has replaced it has its own unique charm.

Ke says that "Wanhua has lots of five things: temples, medicinal-herb shops, shops stocking objects used in Buddhist worship, embroidery shops, and good eateries." He also describes how to "see" the Bangka of yesterday and today: Banka Lungshan Temple is an essential landmark for foreign travelers, and witnessing worshippers throwing divination blocks and drawing divination lots is a source of pleasure. The century-old Banka Qingshui Temple (艋舺清水巖祖師廟) has never undergone a major renovation, so its original form remains intact. The nearby Bopiliao Historic Block (剝皮寮歷史街區) is a treasure-house of preserved and renovated architecture from the Qing and Japanese periods, and the old neighborhood is highlighted in the popular film *Monga* (艋舺). All these draws have made the district a big tourist attraction.

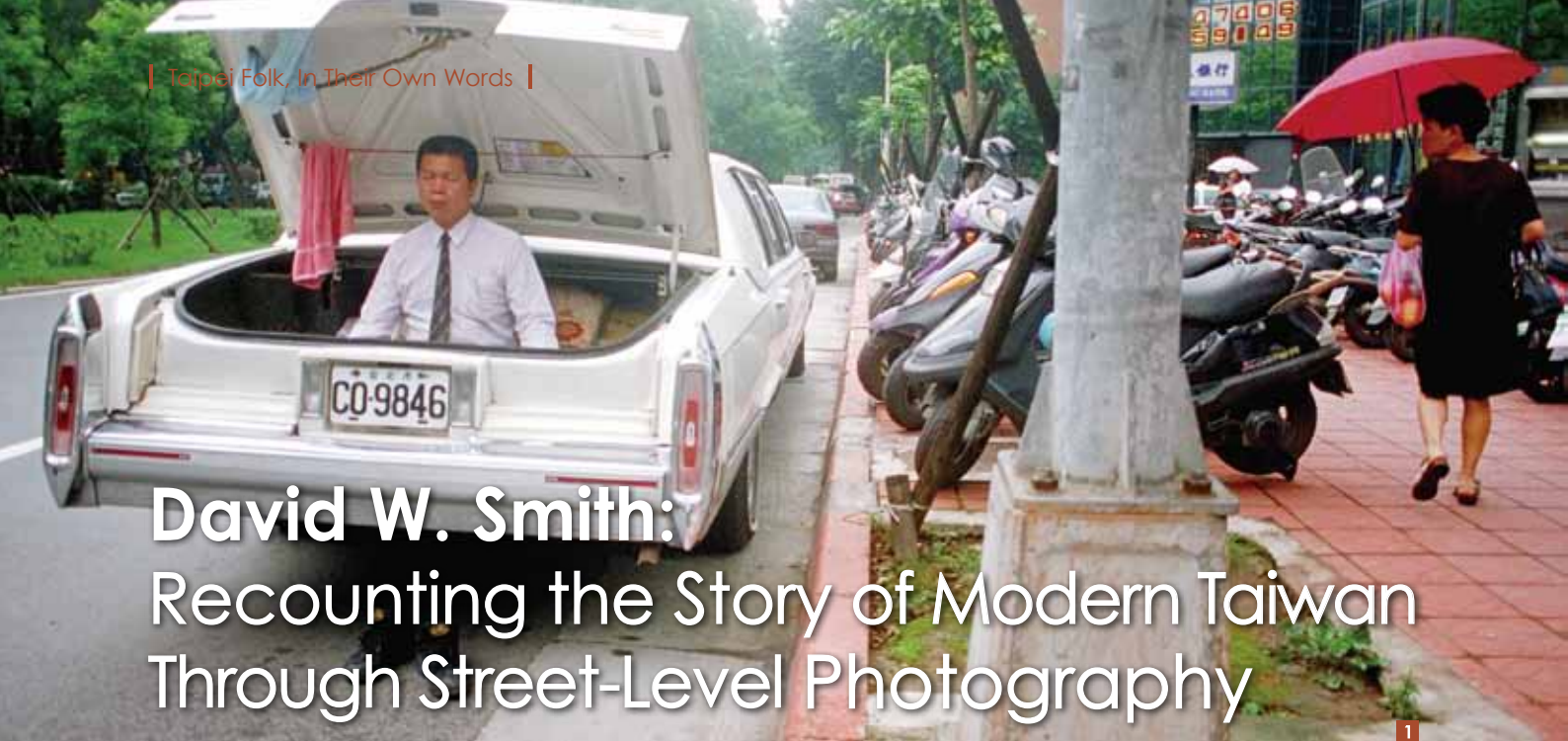
Ke Delong is more than simply the proprietor of an 80-year-old eatery fitted out with wooden chairs and tables; the central food table has two large trays filled with premium peanuts and red beans, carrying on the tradition of Mother A-Tsai of satisfying Bangka residents' taste buds with the finest ingredients and foods. Ke has also established a small-scale culture and history studio in the old shop, hanging vintage photos on the walls and displaying an explanatory chart on "peng cakes" (膨餅), a favorite gift in the old days, as well as toy items popular 50 years ago such as iron spinning tops and the local version of Monopoly, with explanations. Ke's small

shop is like a time and space shuttle, transporting visitors into the daily life of Taipei folk many years ago.

From the 1930s through 1950s, a board game similar to monopoly, called *Holo Un* (葫蘆運) in Taiwanese, was played in Taiwan from the towns of Lukang (鹿港) to Bangka. Consisting of a large sheet drawing and using two dice, the players had to read rhymes aloud, seeing who would arrive at the end-point first. To speed things up, players would even invent special game formulas. "The elder generation thought we played too intensely," says Ke, "so they'd only let us play and do a 'little' gambling on New Year's Eve when everyone would stay up late to see in the New Year. It was always very exciting!"

Another type of toy, the iron spinning top, was the forerunner of today's popular metal battle tops. Ke picks up a small top, which weighs 25 grams and has six petal-like protrusions. In each round, the player whose top is the last standing wins. "Winning was so important to some people that they'd have their own special fighting tops made at an ironworks!" says Ke. It's too bad, he says, that all of these games have faded into history.

Ke Delong gives foreign travelers an opportunity to gain a deeper insight into the historical currents that run through simple, quaint, honest Wanhua, approaching his subject from a novel perspective. Here's his personal invite, "I can speak simple English and Japanese, and I welcome everyone to come spend some time with me, sharing ideas and info." 📞



David W. Smith: Recounting the Story of Modern Taiwan Through Street-Level Photography



David W. Smith

- Place of Origin: Kingston, Ontario, Canada
- Occupation: Photojournalist
- Website:
dwsphoto.photoshelter.com



Hello, Taiwan (台灣，你好：九〇後寶島日常) is a collection of photography documenting one man's intimate relationship with Taiwan going back 17 years. Specializing in street photography, Smith has covered some of Taiwan's most significant events during the last two decades.

Born in Kingston, Ontario, Smith worked various jobs before finding his true calling. After getting a diploma in print journalism, he completed a degree in anthropology and photojournalism. Upon graduation, he flew to Taiwan to meet a Canadian-Taiwanese friend. Like many long-term expats, he only intended to stay for a short visit, but soon got hooked on Taiwan.

"Taipei was extremely different back then," he asserts. "Everybody was so rushed and the traffic was insane. There were scooters everywhere and I was scared to cross the road. The MRT was just being built, and bus drivers drove like maniacs!" Despite the dangers imposed by traffic, Smith was excited the first time he heard classical music being played from the garbage truck, thinking an ice cream truck was coming.

Smith attests that the best photographic opportunities in Taipei are on the streets: "This city is replete with interesting alleys full of life." He developed an infatuation with the city's parks, where people dance and exercise freely in the early morning. He captured some of his best shots simply wandering around. One particularly fascinating image depicts a Taiwanese limousine driver sitting in the trunk of his car, parked at the side of Dunhua North Road (敦化北路), deep in meditation. Smith watched as policemen had other illegally-parked cars towed, but left the suited meditator uninterrupted.

Before long, Smith began working for *China News* (later renamed *Taiwan News*). Starting out as a copy editor, he was soon covering sports and finally major events, including the watershed 2000 election. He was also present at the press release for an album by A-mei (阿妹), an indigenous pop singer. But it was the 921 earthquake in 1999 that would have the profoundest impact on Smith's career.



Located quite a distance from the epicenter, Taipei suffered comparatively little damage. Only one edifice, the Tunghsing Building (東星大樓), collapsed seconds after the quake struck at 1:47 am. In order to find a better vantage point later in the day, Smith ascended a neighboring building, using a lighter to see in the dark stairwell. He watched as a crane hoisted a woman out of the smoldering wreckage. Tended by two emergency workers, and wearing an expression of utter pain, she was lifted past Smith, granting him the opportunity for a shot that would embody all of the devastation and suffering wreaked by the earthquake.

Smith would later contribute photos to a government-sponsored exhibition to raise funds for the earthquake victims. He also presented a slideshow in Amsterdam, when his photo won the World Press Photo award. The same photo would also win Picture of the Year in the U.S., winning much acclaim for Smith and bringing world attention to the plight of the Taiwanese victims.

When Smith went to Nantou County (南投縣) to cover the aftermath, he sustained an injury of his own. Invited to join a media crew in a landslide area, he stumbled on some debris and cut his leg badly. "My injury became the center of attention. It was even broadcast on television. But compared to the sorrow of the Taiwanese people, my embarrassing fall was nothing." Nevertheless, covering the earthquake was both physically and emotionally taxing for Smith, and he decided to leave Taiwan.

In 2005, Smith returned to work for *Apple Daily*, who sent him to the Turkey-Iraq border to cover the Iraq war. Departing Taiwan on his birthday, he was worried it would be his last. When he returned again, everybody was wearing masks in the midst of the SARS crisis. He felt nervous being in Taiwan at that time, but continued shooting. "When I take photos, it doesn't matter how

good or bad the scene is. My pictures show the truth of everyday life."

Besides photojournalism, Smith also ended up becoming a working Santa Claus. It all started when he replied to an ad by Pacific Sogo Department Stores Co., Ltd. When customers ordered a large gift, the store would send Santa and a Taiwanese female elf in a mini skirt along with the deliverymen. He later played Santa for kindergarten and charity events. According to Smith, it wasn't the only time that being plump and pale-skinned helped. Once, when shooting near a military camp on Kinmen (金門) near the Chinese border, he was stopped by some guards. They soon released him, as he joked he was "too fat and white to be a Chinese spy."

Smith now resides in Laos, but he hopes to move back to Taiwan. He praises the city's growing network of bicycle paths, which offer countless photo ops. "This city keeps getting easier to live in." He says that shooting in Taiwan is great, because nobody minds being photographed. "The only obstacle is that people are so polite, sometimes they won't walk in front of the camera when you actually want them to."

Hello, Taiwan is beautifully presented in a diptych style, with paired photographs that complement one another in both compositional and situational elements. It is published by Cite Publishing Ltd. and is available online and in bookstores across the country. 📖

1. A Taiwanese limousine driver sitting, deep in meditation, in the trunk of his car, parked at the side of Dunhua North Road.

2. *Hello, Taiwan*

3. David still remembers the first time he came to Taipei, and was shocked by the busy traffic.

4. This photo, taken during the 921 earthquake in 1999, led David to win the World Press Photo award.

(Photos courtesy of David W. Smith)

Watch *Lucy*, Discover Taipei's Great Scenery

The film *Lucy*, shot by acclaimed French director Luc Besson in Taipei and starring Scarlett Johansson, is pulling in audiences all over the world. The plot involves a foreign woman in Taipei who acquires special powers after an accident and is then pursued by murderous gang members. The film has one climax after another and combines action and special effects, giving free rein to viewer imagination.

The story begins in Taipei and film locations in the city and its surrounds include Taipei 101, Taipei Railway Workshop, Regent Taipei, 4F food court of Yongle Market (永樂市場四樓美食區), and Tri-Service General Hospital Tingzhou Branch (三軍總醫院汀州院區). During filming the crew hired an outside caterer to provide Taiwanese style dishes as they worked and, after a day's filming ended, the director would even sometimes accompany crew members when they went out to eat. Taipei Film Commission (台北市電影委員會) Director Jennifer Jao (饒紫娟), "You would never imagine that after filming wrapped up for the day, this famous director would, dressed in t-shirt and shorts, accompany crew members to a small restaurant to eat stir fried dishes that cost just around NT\$100 each, and really enjoy himself."

Director Jao says that *Lucy*'s director Luc Besson told her that he moved around a lot with his family when he was growing up and acquired a taste for exploring new cultures. To scout out locations for *Lucy* he visited eight Asian cities but, in Taipei, was impressed by the fact that Taipei people are always smiling and seem to be happy and contented. He decided to make the film in Taipei because he loves Taiwanese food and also because of the warm and friendly atmosphere; another factor was that Taipei's scenery also rarely appears on the big screen. In fact, when writing the script 10 years ago he had already decided that the main location would be Taipei.

She also says that Besson was grateful for the valuable assistance he received from the Taipei Film Commission when making the film; he was also impressed by the professionalism and dedication of Taiwanese cast and crew members and recommends Taipei as a filming location for other international film crews so that more people can see the scenery of Taipei. 📍



1. Still from the film *Lucy* (Photo courtesy of Universal Pictures Corporation)

2. French director Luc Besson (Photo courtesy of Taipei Film Commission)

How to Talk to TAIPEI

Here are a few sentences in Mandarin Chinese and Taiwanese that backpackers can use while in Taipei to ensure smooth sailing.

Can you tell me which way to go to get to the train station?

Mandarin Chinese

請問火車站往哪裡走？

Qǐngwèn huǒchē zhàn wǎng nǎlǐ zǒu?

Where can I get the train ticket?

Taiwanese

請問火車票去兜買？

Qiā mèn huī qiā piǎo miē kǐ dōu wèi mèi?



Can you tell me what time the next train departs?

Mandarin Chinese

請問下一班火車幾點開？

Qǐngwèn xià yī bān huǒchē jǐ diǎn kāi?

One round-trip ticket, please.

Mandarin Chinese

我要買一張來回票

Wǒ yāomǎi yī zhāng láihuí piào



Have a happy Mid-Autumn Festival!

Taiwanese

祝你中秋節快樂！

Jiǔ lí dōng qiū zé kuài lè!



Possibilities Unlimited: The 2014 Taipei Design & City Exhibition



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1. The Taipei Design & City Exhibition is a showcase of superior examples of international design, with top local and foreign urban-design professionals leading visitors in understanding how design improves our lives. (photo by Wang Tefan)

2-3. The Siva Cycle Atom transforms kinetic into electrical energy. The battery is fixed to a bicycle wheel, and the wheel's rotation generates power, which is stored. (photo courtesy of Siva Cycle)

The 2014 Taipei Design & City Exhibition (2014臺北設計城市展) continues in the spirit of the two previous editions, with "Fusion" (城市創合) selected as theme this year, and all friends from home and abroad are invited to embrace the allure of good design. This year's gathering will be a stellar showcase of superior examples of international design. Top local and foreign urban-design professionals will lead visitors in understanding how to observe and change the city, and how design improves our lives.

The curator of the event, Eric Chuang (莊熙平), says that the Fusion theme represents the fusion of the new and old, and the mixing of wisdom, experience, professionalism, imagination, and resources. Inspired by the concept "design for social impacts," design changes people's lives and social patterns. Chuang states that what is extra special about this year's Taipei Design & City Exhibition is that, following the city's selection as World Design Capital 2016, this is the first time Taipei is acting in its role as host and gathering the best design works from around the world, in a demonstration of the sweeping possibilities that good design offers.

Chuang says that this year's exhibition features numerous works well worth checking out, for they have much to teach. The Siva Cycle Atom, for example, is able to transform kinetic into electrical energy. The bicycle battery is fixed to a bicycle wheel, and the wheel's rotation generates power, which is stored. When there's a sudden need for electrical power, take the Atom off the bike and plug it in through the built-in USB port to recharge any electrical device.



The glow-in-the-dark Smart Highway is the idea of the Dutch designer Daan Roosegaarde. The concept utilizes special paint markings and installed devices to generate electricity, saving energy and ensuring safer driving conditions at night. America's MIT Media Lab has created the City Car, which can be easily extended or shrunk according to available parking space. In these two inventions we see the possibilities for intelligent transportation in the future. On another front, students at National Chiao Tung University (國立交通大學) have created the Solar Decathlon-Orchid House (交大能源屋計畫), a green facility that stays warm in winter and cool in summer, generates its own electricity, stores heat, and recycles water resources. It is expected to serve as an important new prototype for the community residential housing of the future.

In addition to the many innovative design displays, there will also be at least three international forum and workshop sessions. Chuang has invited Professor Michael Speaks, Dean of the Syracuse University School of Architecture, Pascal Rollet, competition director of the Solar Decathlon Europe, and other respected international experts to take part in a professional design forum in early October. It is hoped that the interchange fostered with these leading figures in design from international academia will fire creative imagination in the Taiwan design community, teaching how to think in terms of design, and inspiring understanding of community design's true meaning.

2014 Taipei Design & City Exhibition will be a world-class stage presenting outstanding models of domestic and foreign design, initiating contact and interchange that will create new visions and imaginings far beyond the ordinary. If in Taipei city in October, don't miss out on this stimulating showcase of up-to-the-minute community design. 📍



4. Following Taipei's selection as World Design Capital 2016, the best design works from around the world are being gathered in a demonstration of the sweeping possibilities that good design offers. (photo by Wang Tefan)
5. The Smart Highway uses special paint markings and devices to collect light and generate electricity, saving energy and ensuring safer night-time driving conditions. (photo courtesy of Daan Roosegaarde)
6. The goal behind the international design forum is to foster interchange with leading international design experts, stimulating creative imagination in the Taiwan design community. (photo courtesy of Archcake design)

Information

2014 Taipei Design & City Exhibition 臺北設計城市展

Time: 10/4~10/26

Venue: Songshan Cultural and Creative Park,
Warehouse No. 4 and 5
(松山文創園區4、5號倉庫)

Tel: (02)2533-8600

Website: www.taipeidesign.org.tw

Taiwan Designers' Week – Stringing Taipei's Unlimited Possibilities Together

Since it was first staged in 2007, Taiwan's design community has eagerly looked forward to each new edition of the annual Taiwan Designers' Week (台灣設計師週). The show's mission this time round is to demonstrate the "unlimited" power of design, bursting through restrictions and generating boundless imagination.

This large-scale gathering is a powerful annual showcase of Taiwan's design dynamism. The theme this year is UNLIMITED – Feel Connected, the idea being that encouraging talented designers to step out of their comfort zone will inspire them to unlimited design possibilities. Liao Junhao (廖軍豪), the event's convener, says that "Design should not be limited to

material objects. It should be integrated into real life and the environment, and have its scope of impact widened, themes of concern deepened, and range of participating groups widened." Choosing "UNLIMITED" as the theme is intended to stimulate reflection that will result in the extension of design's appeal.

This year's exhibition, being held at Songshan Cultural and Creative Park, will run from October 3rd through 12th. A jam-packed menu of activities is planned; apart from displays and talks in the main venue, there will also be a chain of interlinked display spaces elsewhere. The goal of Liao and his curatorial team is to have Taiwan Designers' Week serve as inspiration, continually amassing





positive, dynamic energy amongst Taiwan's designers. The continued interchange with the international design community will build local designers' international visibility and brand recognition, and narrow the distance between designers and the general public.

There will be five display areas in the main exhibition venue at Taipei Songshan Cultural and Creative Park: TWDW Presents, 3X3 Concept Show, 3X3 Design Show, Rising Star, and Design Cinema. This will be the fifth year for Rising Star, which isn't limited to works by professional designers yet brims with novel design energy and unearths dynamic new talent. This year, 25 outstanding works have been selected from the hundreds that registered. In addition to design creativity and material expression, the focus is on diversity and how the various works address human needs. Elsewhere, the Let's Talk Design forum, held every year since the exhibition's first edition, features experts from different fields sharing their ideas on design and engaging in interchanges with members of the public on the pulse of design today.

To help deepen the public's understanding of design trends, and in keeping with an "Extended Readings" concept, the Design Knowledge section is a book exhibition set up in Pop-Up Book Store style. You'll find only the very best in domestic and foreign titles on life aesthetics, promoting design knowledge through the written word.

Outside of the main exhibition venue, during the event you can also enjoy Design Links, which has been staged since 2011. This interlinks the design, art, creativity, and exhibits of the season in different neighborhood spaces, enabling event visitors to also enjoy the character of the local neighborhood. In the Open House segment, held each year since 2007, different Taipei design companies and studios throw open their office doors to the public – this year, on each Saturday and Sunday throughout

October – giving visitors a peek at the processes and spaces in which designers engage in creative ferment.

A city's living spaces and style are dependent on "design," which is frequently used to write inspiring new stories. Taiwan Designers' Week shows how the wonderful can be made an intrinsic element of everyday living, giving us a direct experience of the nature and significance of design. Come on out for a vivid demonstration of the power of design, exploring a world of amazing new ideas. 📖

1-3. Two works selected in this year's Rising Star section, Moon Reflection and Grand Garden, and Gearlab's Espresso "New Urban Bike" design, a 3X3 Design Show selection.

4. The Rising Star section promotes outstanding new design talent.

5-6. In the Open House segment, different Taipei design companies and studios throw open their doors to the public, giving visitors a peek at the processes and spaces in which designers find new creative inspiration.

(Photos courtesy of Green Room Ideas, 64 Design)

Information

2014 Taiwan Designers' Week

2014 台灣設計師週

Time: 10/3~10/12

Sun~Thu: 10:00~18:00 (no entry after 17:30)

Fri~Sat: 10:00~21:00 (no entry after 20:30)

Venue: Songshan Cultural and Creative Park,
Warehouse No. 2 and No. 3, Tobacco
Factory (1F, North Section);
133, Guangfu S. Rd., Xinyi Dist.
(松山文創園區二及三號倉庫、北向製菸工廠
一樓;信義區光復南路133號)

Admission: Tickets bought in advance NT\$160,
on the day NT\$230

Tel: (02)2581-2687

Website: www.designersweek.tw

Two Big International Film Festivals in Taipei: A Feast for Movie Fans



1. Iconic American filmmaker Alan Berliner has been invited to deliver a Master Lecture in the Focus Filmmakers section, and engage in an exchange of ideas with the local audience.
2. Also being featured in Focus Filmmakers is Shinsuke Ogawa, a giant of documentary drama considered a national treasure in Japan. There will also be screenings of his works.
3. From *Peasants of the Second Fortress*, by Shinsuke Ogawa.

Two large-scale international film fests are hitting Taipei screens in October. The 9th Taiwan International Documentary Festival (第九屆台灣國際紀錄片影展) and 21st Women Make Waves Film Festival, Taiwan (第二十一屆台灣國際女性影展) are taking the stage in overlapping succession, featuring provocative first-rate works and providing a feast of the senses for film buffs.

The 9th Taiwan International Documentary Festival – An Exchange Platform for International Best-of-Genre Creations

Hosted by the Chinese Taipei Film Archive (財團法人國家電影資料館), the Taiwan International Documentary Festival was launched in 1998, and is among Asia's most important. This year, in addition to the International Competition, Asian Vision Competition, and Taiwanese Competition, the "Chinese Documentary Film Awards" are being introduced. Over 1,500 works from 117 countries have been registered for the various competitions – a new record – and it's expected that approximately 140 films will be screened during the festival. It is hoped that the exchanges fostered by the many first-rate Taiwan and international projects will make this the benchmark documentary film festival in the Chinese-speaking world.

This year's program director, Lin Mucai (林木材), as the theme of the festival, which is divided into 11 subject areas, each featuring outstanding international documentary works. Lin says that in the "Focus Filmmakers" category two distinguished artists are being introduced – Shinsuke Ogawa (小川紳介), a late giant of documentary drama and considered a national treasure in Japan, and iconic American filmmaker Alan Berliner, a master of montage technique. Lin states that "Even though the oeuvres of these two maestros already enjoy a sterling reputation in the international community, the showing of their works at this year's festival will mark their first formal public presentation in Taiwan," bestowing special significance on this year's gathering. Berliner has also been invited to deliver a "Master Lecture," giving his fans a better insight into the richness of his life experience and his unique creative vision.

The 21st Women Make Waves Film Festival, Taiwan – First of its Kind in Asia

The curtains go up on this festival in mid-October. First staged over 20 years ago, this is Asia's first film festival focused on female artists, and Taiwan's oldest independent film festival. With film circles seemingly fixated on the preeminent male masters, this event introduces the Taiwan audience to the wonderful works being crafted by female auteurs. Curator Lo Pecha (羅珮嘉) says there are seven curatorial themes this year, among them "Spiritual Healing," "Film History and Knowledge," "Social Culture," "Queer Issues," and "Family Formation Diversity." A total of 80 fine films will be screened, all exploring the world from a female vantage point.

The highlights of this year's festival include *What They Don't Talk About When They Talk About Love*, the second film directed by new-generation Indonesian filmmaker Mouly Surya. In addition to being a finalist for a Sundance Film Festival Grand Jury Prize, the movie has been honored with a Best Music Award at the Asia-Pacific Film Festival and many other international awards. Adopting a subtle and delicate point of view, the director sketches the coming of age story of three visually impaired young girls, and their awakenings of love. This and the deft magical realism of the cinematography help maintain lightness, despite the serious subject matter. Another highlight, *Awake in a Bad Dream*, is the work of the veteran Dutch husband-and-wife documentary filmmaker team of Peter Lataster and Petra Lataster-Czisch. This film, their most recent release, is a record of three brave and resolute women and their fight against breast cancer. This big-screen journey reawakens viewers' passion for life.

This fall, choose Taipei as your "big screen" for film-viewing. A great program of thrilling surprises is in store, thanks to the diversity of international documentaries and moving works by women "making waves." 🎬

4. Each year leading international artists are invited to the Women Make Waves Film Festival, Taiwan to engage audiences in debate.
 5. *What They Don't Talk About When They Talk About Love*, the second film by new-generation filmmaker Indonesian Mouly Surya, is about three visually impaired young girls and their awakenings of love.
 6. *Awake in a Bad Dream*, the latest work by Dutch husband-and-wife documentary filmmaker team Peter Lataster and Petra Lataster-Czisch, is a record of three brave women fighting breast cancer.
- (Photos courtesy of Taiwan Women's Film Association)



Information

9th Taiwan International Documentary Festival 第九屆台灣國際紀錄片影展

Time: 10/9~10/19

Venues: SPOT-Huashan (光點華山電影館), Shin Kong Cinemas (新光影城), Fuzhong 15 – New Taipei City Documentary Cinema (府中15——新北市紀錄片放映院), Chinese Taipei Film Archive (財團法人國家電影中心)

Tel: (02)2395-6556

Website: www.tifd.org.tw

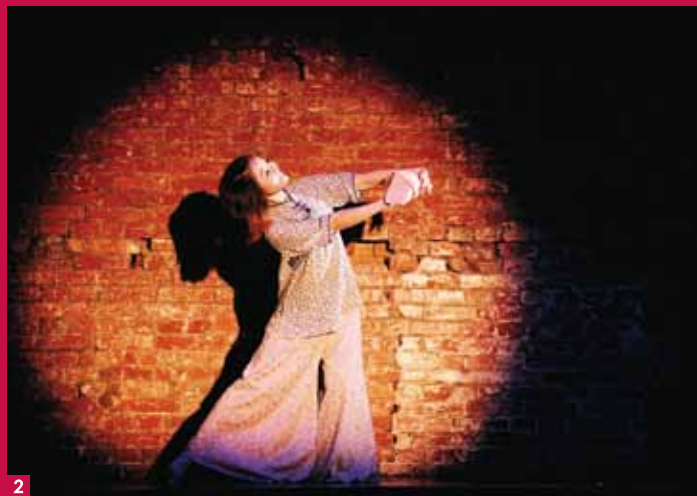
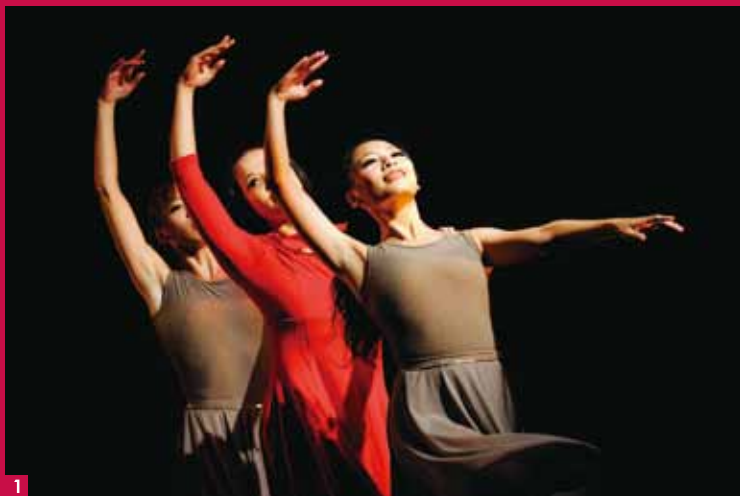
21st Women Make Waves Film Festival, Taiwan 第二十一屆台灣國際女性影展

Time: 10/17~10/26

Venue: SPOT-Huashan; No. 1, Bade Rd. Sec. 1, Zhong Zhen District
(光點華山電影館; 中正區八德路一段1號)

Tel: (02)2557-5227

Website: www.wmw.com.tw/en




Imagery of Taiwan: Introducing Taiwan's Unique Hospitality

One of the strongest impressions of Taiwan among foreign visitors has always been that it is a fine, hospitable place, attracting praise for the friendliness, warm-heartedness, and sincerity of its people. Jade and Artists Dance Troupe (肢體音符舞團), established in 1997, presents creations of distinctive warmth and refinement, expertly combining the soft and restrained physical contours of the East with the more extroverted and exuberant techniques of the West. The troupe is presently staging *Imagery of Taiwan* (臺灣阿嬤), a work specially crafted to complement the vintage architecture of the Red House (西門紅樓). The work is a song and dance production using flashbacks to represent the thoughts of a Taiwanese woman as she looks back over her life.

Imagery of Taiwan features a refined display of dance stylized by song and theatricality. Renowned Taiwan pop-music producer Lin Longxuan (林隆璇) was invited to serve as the production's music director. Celebrated dancer Jin Peng (金澎), popularly known as *Xiaoheiren* (小黑人) performs the dances. New-generation choreographers were also involved in the creative process, providing creative interaction and ferment. A clever combination of music and dance enables the dancers to tell the story through physical movement, showcasing dance's splendid diversity and artistry.

In the story, a grandmother nostalgically goes through an old photo album. She recalls how she fell in love and held hands with her sweetheart for the first time, her marriage, pregnancy, bearing and raising her children, and sharing

auspicious red eggs with neighbors. Well-known Taiwanese folk songs such as *Mountaintop Black Dog Brothers* (山頂黑狗兄) and *Youth Ridge* (青春嶺) are melded into the music accompanying the dance routines with titles like *Encounter* (牽手), *Formation of Life* (孕育), and *Eggs of Blessing* (紅蛋). Representing Taiwan, the troupe presented this original dance work at the 2014 Edinburgh Festival Fringe in August.

Imagery of Taiwan shows audiences the sincere and unaffected side of the local people, with the hope of bringing memories of this good-natured simplicity back to life by presenting touching stories from lives already lived. By using the time capsule that is the Red House Theater (紅樓劇場), quintessential Taiwanese hospitality and moments of nostalgia take center stage once more. 

1. The Jade & Artists Dance Troupe's *Imagery of Taiwan* features a refined display of stylized, theatrical song and dance.
2. The song and dance production uses flashbacks to represent the thoughts of a Taiwanese woman as she looks back over her life.

(Photos courtesy of Jade & Artists Dance Troupe)

Information

Imagery of Taiwan: Jade and Artists Dance Troupe
肢體音符舞團《臺灣阿嬤》

Time: 10/23~10/25 (18 performances)

Venue: Red House (西門紅樓)

Tel: (02)8861-1517

Website: <http://jadeweb.myweb.hinet.net>



“Pinocchio and the Art of Fantasy” – Contemporary Puppetry Exhibition

Everybody's familiar with the children's tale *Pinocchio*, the story of a wooden puppet whose nose grew longer every time he told a lie. Using puppets to tell dramatic tales continues to occupy a pivotal position in the development of contemporary theater, and puppets, whether operated by unseen artists, or interacting with live humans on stage, allow extra imaginative license in a story. At Puppetry Art Center of Taipei (台北偶戲館), the “Pinocchio and the Art of Fantasy” – Contemporary Puppetry Exhibition is running until September 28th. The program includes puppet-show demos and workshops designed to inspire creativity and interaction, presenting and explaining works of contemporary puppet theater through an easy-to-grasp approach.

The Puppet & Its Double Theater (無獨有偶工作室劇團), established 15 years ago, has been invited many times over the years to perform at major international arts festivals. Its cross-genre style is among the most unique in Taiwanese contemporary theater. Known for its professionalism, the most delicate and exacting puppet manipulation skills, and sophisticated interpretations, along with wonderfully creative modeling design, its puppets seem to possess souls and emotions, expressing imagination in a manner that is not captured in many a performance with live actors.

This special exhibition will showcase the sophisticated modern puppets that the troupe has used in its classic works over the years, including rod puppets, string puppets, large-scale puppets, and table-top puppets.

Visitors will also get to learn about the processes involved in creating and producing the puppet shows, including behind-the-scenes secrets, and will even have the chance to try their hand at crafting their own puppets.

It's a splendid time of year, with summer slipping out the back door and autumn breezing in the front. Why not take a pleasant short trip over to Puppetry Art Center of Taipei for an exploration into the wonder-filled world of puppet-theater artistry. 🎭

1. The “Pinocchio and the Art of Fantasy” – Contemporary Puppetry Exhibition will showcase many of the sophisticated modern puppets the Puppet & Its Double Theater troupe has used in its classic works over the years.

2. The magical song-and-dance production *The Secret Flower* (最美麗的花) is one of the Puppet & Its Double Theater's classic works.

(Photos courtesy of Puppetry Art Center of Taipei)

Information

“Pinocchio and the Art of Fantasy” – Contemporary Puppetry Exhibition 《皮諾丘的奇幻異境》當代戲偶特展

Time: Until 9/28

Venue: Puppetry Art Center of Taipei; 2F special exhibition area, 99, Sec. 5, Civic Blvd. (台北偶戲館2樓特展區; 市民大道5段99號2樓)

Tel: (02)2528-9553

Website: www.o-puppet.com.tw



Hsi Shih-Pin • The Memory Palace



The Hall Cross Century



Practicing Live –
Solo Exhibition by Yu Cheng-Ta



2014 Tectonic Becoming Exhibition

National Palace Museum

Tel: (02)2881-2021

Add: 221, Sec. 2, Zhishan Rd. (至善路 2 段 221 號)

Website: www.npm.gov.tw

Until 9/28

The Ancient Art of Writing:

Selections from the History of Chinese Calligraphy

Until 9/29

Four Great Masters of the Ming Dynasty: Tang Yin

Until 9/30

Decorated Porcelains of Dingzhou –

White Ding Wares from the Collection of the

National Palace Museum

Museum of Contemporary Art, Taipei (MOCA Taipei)

Tel: (02)2552-3721

Add: 39, Changan W. Rd. (長安西路 39 號)

Website: www.mocataipei.org.tw

Until 10/19

Ulysses Machine:

Tang Huang-Chen's "I Go Travelling" – 15 years later

Until 11/2

Gao Lei • WINDOWS

Until 11/2

Hsi Shih-Pin • The Memory Palace

Until 11/30

Written in Soap: A Plinth Project

National Theater & Concert Hall

Tel: (02)3393-9888

Add: 21-1, Zhongshan S. Rd. (中山南路 21 之 1 號)

Website: www.ntch.edu.tw

10/2~11/30

2014 International Theatre Festival

10/4~10/5

SoundScape – Improvisation Across the Horizon

10/18

SoundScape – Literature into Music

National Chiang Kai-shek Memorial Hall

Tel: (02)2343-1100

Add: 21, Zhongshan S. Rd. (中山南路 21 號)

Website: www.cksmh.gov.tw

Until 10/27

The Hall Cross Century

Huashan 1914 Creative Park

Tel: (02)2358-1914

Add: 1, Sec. 1, Bade Rd. (八德路 1 段 1 號)

Website: web.huashan1914.com

Until 12/31

365 Art Project

Songshan Cultural and Creative Park

Tel: (02)2765-1388

Add: 133, Guangfu S. Rd. (光復南路 133 號)

Website: www.songshanculturalpark.org

Until 10/12

Red Dot Award: Communication Design –

Winners' Selection

Taipei Fine Arts Museum

Tel: (02)2595-7656

Add: 181, Sec. 3, Zhongshan N. Rd.

(中山北路 3 段 181 號)

Website: www.tfam.museum

Until 9/21

Practicing Live – Solo Exhibition by Yu Cheng-Ta

Until 2015/1/4

Taipei Biennial 2014 – The Great Acceleration

National Taiwan Museum

Tel: (02)2382-2566

Add: 2, Xiangyang Rd. (襄陽路 2 號)

Website: www.ntm.gov.tw

Until 9/21

Selected Mineral and Rock Collections of National Taiwan Museum

Until 2015/1/25

A Unique New Breed Of Gems:

Taiwan Black Jade Exhibition

Until 2015/12/31

Walking within Skeletons – Dinosaurs Coming!

National Museum of History

Tel: (02)2361-0270

Add: 49, Nanhai Rd. (南海路 49 號)

Website: www.nmh.gov.tw

Until 10/5

Dracula: The History and Art of Vampires

Until 10/12

The Gruel Associations 90th anniversary –

Exhibition of Gruel Painting & Calligraphy

Until 11/23

Dreaming of Boundless Homeland:

A Cross-Strait Memorial Exhibition for the 30th

Anniversary of Chang Dai-chien's Passing

Beitou Museum

Tel: (02)2891-2319 ext. 9

Add: 32, Youya Rd. (幽雅路 32 號)

Website: www.beitoumuseum.org.tw

Until 10/31

"Treasures of Kazan" –

The Beitou Museum Anniversary Special Exhibit

Kuandu Museum of Fine Arts

Tel: (02)2896-1000 ext. 2432

Add: 1, Xueyuan Rd. (學園路 1 號)

Website: www.kdmofa.tnua.edu.tw

9/26~10/31

2014 Kuandu Biennale – Recognition System

Former Air Force Command Headquarter

Tel: (02)2767-7684 ext. 786

Add: 55, Sec. 3, Renai Rd. (仁愛路 3 段 55 號)

Website: formerairforce.taipei.gov.tw

Until 10/5

2014 Tectonic Becoming Exhibition

Digital Art Center, Taipei

Tel: (02)7736-0708

Add: 180, Fuhua Rd. (福華路 180 號)

Website: www.dac.tw

9/27~10/26

In My Tummy, In My Time

Treasure Hill Artist Village

Tel: (02)2364-5313

Add: 2, Aly. 14, Ln. 230, Sec. 3, Tingzhou Rd.
(汀州路 3 段 230 巷 14 弄 2 號)

Website: www.artistvillage.org

9/27~10/4

2014 On Site

Yangmingshan Chung-Shan Building

Tel: (02)2861-0565

Add: 15, Sec. 2, Yangming Rd. (陽明路 2 段 15 號)

Website: www.ntl.edu.tw/mp.asp?mp=13

Permanent Exhibit

A Commemorative Stamps Tour:

Stamps Exhibition at Zhongshan Building



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For traveling between Taipei and Taiwan Taoyuan International Airport, whether by inexpensive, high-quality shuttle, safe and fast taxi, or high-grade professional airport limo service, you're spoiled for choice in satisfying your particular time and budget.

Taxi

Service locations:

North of the Arrivals hall of Terminal I and South of the Arrivals hall of Terminal II

One-way fare:

meter count plus 15%, with freeway tolls extra; average fare to Taipei around NT\$1,100.

Terminal I Arrivals hall taxi-service counter Tel:

(03)398-2832

Terminal II Arrivals hall taxi-service counter Tel:

(03)398-3599



Passenger Shuttle Bus

Service locations:

Southwest of the Arrivals hall of Terminal I (exterior vehicle pickup corridor) and Northeast of the Arrivals hall of Terminal II (exterior vehicle pickup corridor)

Shuttle-service companies:

Kuo-Kuang Motor Transportation, Evergreen Bus, Free Go Express, Citi Air Bus

One-way fare: NT\$85~145




Travel time:


40~60 minutes depending on routes (60~90 minutes for Citi Air Bus, which has more stops)

Schedule: Every 15~20 minutes

Metro Taipei

Service Hours: 06:00~24:00 24-Hour Customer Service Hotline: (02)218-12345

| Ticket | Price |
|--|---|
| One-way Trip  | NT\$20-NT\$65 |
| Day Pass  | NT\$150 |
| EasyCard  | Initial purchase: NT\$500 (incl. NT\$400 applicable to transit fares and NT\$100 deposit). The card provides discounts on transit fares and can also be used for small purchases at convenience stores and other designated shops. |

| Ticket | Price |
|--|---|
| Taipei Pass  | The Taipei Pass is activated upon first use on bus or metro ticket readers and valid for unlimited use till expiration. The Taipei Pass can be purchased at all Metro stations, and is used on the Taipei Metro and on Taipei and New Taipei City public buses (with Taipei Pass stickers showing). One-day pass: NT\$180 Two-day pass: NT\$310 Three-day pass: NT\$440 Five-day pass: NT\$700 Maokong Gondola One-day pass: NT\$250 |

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For more information, call 1999 or visit www.rdec.taipei.gov.tw

TAIWAN EMERGENCY TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Police / 110

Crimes, traffic accidents, and other incidents for which police assistance is needed

Fire and Emergency / 119

Fire, injury or accident, or other urgent matters for which emergency relief is needed

Women and Children Protection Hotline / 113 ext. 0

24-hour emergency, legal information, and psychological services for victims of domestic violence and/or sexual abuse.

NON-EMERGENCY TELEPHONE NUMBERS

| Unit | Tel. No. |
|--|--|
| Taipei City Govt. Citizen Hotline | 1999 (02-2720-8889 outside Taipei city) |
| English Directory Service | 106 |
| IDD Telephone Service Hotline | 0800-080-100 ext.9 |
| Time-of-Day Service | 117 |
| Weather Service | 166 |
| Traffic Reports | 168 |
| Tourism Bureau (MOTC) 24-Hour Toll-Free Travel Information Hotline | 0800-011-765 |
| Tourism Bureau (MOTC) Toll-Free Traveler Complaints Hotline | 0800-211-734 |
| International Community Service Hotline | 0800-024-111 |
| Tourism Bureau Information Counter, Taiwan Taoyuan International Airport | Terminal 1: (03)398-2194 Terminal 2: (03)398-3341 |
| Bureau of Foreign Trade | (02)2351-0271 |
| Taiwan External Trade Development Council (TAITRA) | (02)2725-5200 |
| Taiwan Visitors Association | (02)2594-3261 |
| The Japanese Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Taipei | (02)2522-2163 |
| Ministry of Foreign Affairs | (02)2348-2999 |
| Ministry of Foreign Affairs Citizens Hotline | (02)2380-5678 |
| Police Broadcasting Station | (02)2388-8099 |
| English Hotline for Taxi Service | 0800-055-850 ext.2 |
| Consumer Service Center Hotline | 1950 |
| Bureau of National Health Insurance Information Hotline | 0800-030-598 |
| AIDS Information Hotline | 0800-888-995 |

Source for Above Information:

Information For Foreigners Service / Tel: 0800-024-111
Tourism Bureau, Ministry of Transportation and Communications
Tel: (02) 2349-1500

※ Entries in brown indicate service in English provided

LIST OF TAIPEI VISITOR INFORMATION CENTERS

Taipei Main Station

(02)2312-3256 1F, 3, Beiping W. Rd.

Songshan Airport

(02)2546-4741 340-10, Dunhua N. Rd.

East Metro Mall

(02)6638-0059 4-2, 77, Sec.1, Da'an Rd. (Underground Mall)

MRT Ximen Station

(02)2375-3096 B1, 32-1, Baoqing Rd.

MRT Yuanshan Station

(02)2591-6130 9-1, Jiuquan St.

MRT Jiantan Station

(02)2883-0313 65, Sec. 5, Zhongshan N. Rd.

MRT Beitou Station

(02)2894-6923 1, Guangming Rd.

MRT Taipei 101/World Trade Center Station

(02)2758-6593 B1, 20, Sec. 5, Xinyi Rd.

Taipei City Hall Bus Station

(02)2723-6836 6, Sec. 5, Zhongxiao E. Rd.

Plum Garden Visitor Center

(02)2897-2647 6, Zhongshan Rd.

Miramar Entertainment Park Visitor Center

(02)8501-2762 20, Jingye 3rd Rd.

Maokong Gondola Taipei Zoo Station

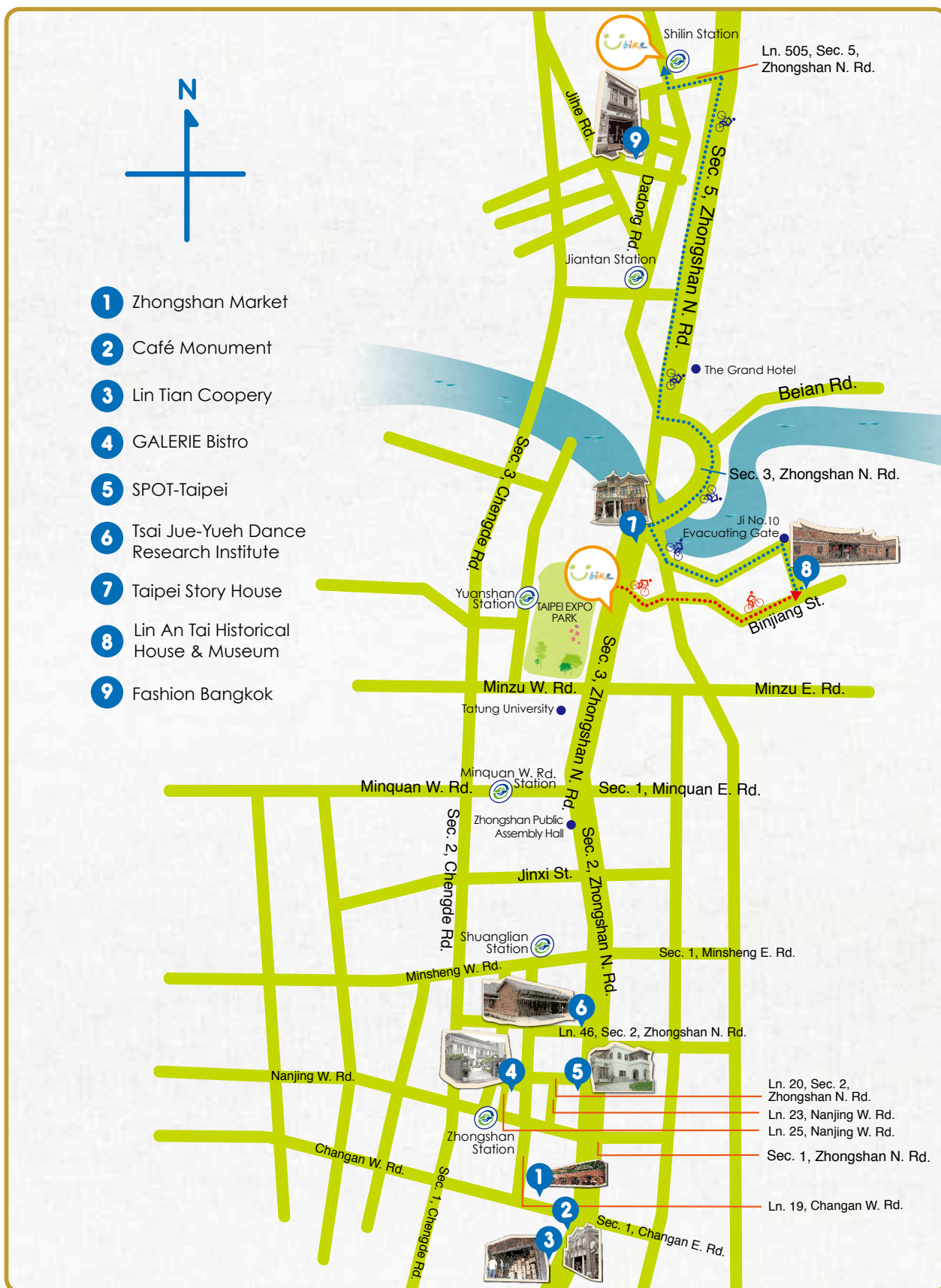
(02)8661-7627 2, Ln. 10, Sec. 2, Xinguang Rd. (1F, Maokong Gondola Service Center)

Maokong Gondola Maokong Station

(02)2937-8563
35, Ln. 38, Sec. 3, Zhinan Rd. (Exit area, Maokong Station)



An Autumn Ramble Along Zhongshan North Road – Enjoying New-Style Old Architecture (P.36~39) Map



An Autumn Ramble Along Zhongshan North Road – Enjoying New-Style Old Architecture (P.36~39) Tour Information



An Autumn Ramble Along Zhongshan North Road – Enjoying New-Style Old Architecture

Zhongshan Market 中山市場

Add: 3, Changan W. Rd. (長安西路3號)

Tel: (02)2541-4530

Café Monument 滿樂門咖啡

Add: 2, Changan W. Rd. (長安西路2號)

Tel: (02)2581-6088

Lin Tien Coopery 林田桶店

Add: 108, Sec. 1, Zhongshan N. Rd.
(中山北路1段108號)

Tel: (02)2541-1354

GALERIE Bistro

Add: 2, Ln. 25, Nanjing W. Rd.
(南京西路25巷2號)

Tel: (02)2558-0096

SPOT-Taipei 光點台北

Add: 18, Sec. 2, Zhongshan N. Rd.

(中山北路2段18號)

Tel: (02)2511-7786

Tsai Jue-Yueh Dance Research Institute 蔡瑞月舞蹈研究社

Add: 10, Ln. 48, Sec. 2, Zhongshan N. Rd.
(中山北路2段48巷10號)

Tel: (02)2560-5724

Taipei Story House 台北故事館

Add: 181-1, Sec. 3, Zhongshan N. Rd.
(中山北路3段181之1號))

Tel: (02)2587-5565

Lin An Tai Historical House & Museum 林安泰古厝民俗文物館

Add: 5, Binjiang St. (濱江街5號)

Tel: (02)2599-6026

Fashion Bangkok FB 食尚曼谷

Add: 54, Dadong Rd. (大東路54號)

Tel: (02)2883-0013



Transportation Information

Zhongshan Market

MRT Zhongshan Station → Exit 3, then along Nanjing W. Rd. to Sec. 1, Zhongshan N. Rd., turn right (about 5 minutes) → to Changan W. Rd., turn right → Zhongshan Market

Café Monument, Lin Tian Coopery

From Zhongshan Market, turn left → Diagonally across Changan W. Rd. → Café Monument, Lin Tian Coopery

GALERIE Bistro

Toward left from Lin Tian Coopery, walk along Changan W. Rd. → Right on Ln. 19, Changan W. Rd., walk 5 minutes → Nanjing W. Rd. → Ln. 25, Nanjing W. Rd. → GALERIE Bistro

SPOT-Taipei

From GALERIE Bistro, cross Ln. 25 to other side → Go through square behind MRT Zhongshan Station Exit 2 → Head down Ln. 20, Sec. 2, Zhongshan N. Rd. toward Zhongshan N. Rd. (about 3 minutes) → SPOT-Taipei

Tsai Jue-Yueh Dance Research Institute

Head right from SPOT-Taipei → At Sec. 2, Zhongshan N. Rd. head left (about 5 minutes) → Turn left onto Ln. 46, Sec. 2, Zhongshan N. Rd. → Tsai Jue-Yueh Dance Research Institute

Taipei Story House

From Tsai Jue-Yueh Dance Research Institute, walk to Zhongshan N. Rd. → Turn left and head along Sec. 2, Zhongshan N. Rd. (about 10 minutes) → Zhongshan Public Assembly Hall (continue ahead about 8 minutes) → Tatung University (continue ahead about 10 minutes), cross to opposite side of Zhongshan N. Rd. (about 15 minutes) → Turn left opposite the Zhongshan Fine Arts Park → Taipei Story House

Lin An Tai Historical House & Museum

At Taipei Story House, turn left and walk along Sec. 3, Zhongshan N. Rd. (about 3 minutes) → Go through Sec. 3, Zhongshan N. Rd. to YouBike station across from Zhongshan Fine Arts Park, rent YouBike (about 10 minutes)

→ Cross to Sec. 3, Zhongshan N. Rd. to Zhongshan Fine Arts Park entrance → Ride bikeway straight through the park (about 10 minutes) → Exit the park and cross under Xinsheng Elevated Expressway, ride along Binjiang St. (about 5 minutes) → Lin An Tai Historical House & Museum

Fashion Bangkok

Rent YouBike across from Lin An Tai Historical House & Museum → Turn left, ride along to Ji No.10 Evacuating Gate → Enter the bikeway of Dajia Riverside Park → Ride along the bikeway straight to the Grand Hotel (about 15 minutes) → Exit from the bikeway beside Beian Rd. → Keep riding to Sec. 5, Zhongshan N. Rd. (about 20 minutes) → Turn left onto Ln. 505, Sec. 5, Zhongshan N. Rd. → Return YouBike outside MRT Shilin Station Exit 2 (about 5 minutes) → Walk to Dadong Rd., turn left (proceed straight about 3 minutes) → Fashion Bangkok

2014

Taipei
Hakka

義民

嘉年華

Taipei Hakka Yimin Festival

10/24 (Fri)

to
10/27 (Mon)

Venues : National Chiang Kai-shek Memorial Hall,
Taipei City Hakka Cultural Park

10/24 Meeting of Wind and Clouds

15 : 00 ~ 21 : 00 (Venue: CKS Memorial Hall)

Traveling Temples: Collective Greeting of
Deities, Sacred Incense Procession
Spreading the Hakka Spirit: Deity Seating
Ceremony/Triumphant Return: Taipei Hakka Night

10/25 Hakka Martial Glory

08 : 30 ~ 21 : 00 (Venue: Taipei City Hakka Cultural Park)

Reclamation and Cultivation: Greeting of Deities
Procession, Incense and Prayer Presentation
Spreading the Hakka Spirit: Settling of Deities
Ceremony, Three Consecrations Propitious Rites
Hakka Character: Glorious Night

10/26 The Hakka World

08 : 00 ~ 21 : 00 (Taipei City Hakka Cultural Park)

Carrying-Pole Provisioning: Carrying-Pole and
Creative Parade
Spreading the Hakka Spirit: Main Officiated Ceremony
Festive Reunion: Yimin Night

10/27 Cultural Heritage Sustainable Preservation

09 : 00 ~ 11 : 00 (Taipei City Hakka Cultural Park)

"Mother Flame" Heritage: Sending Off of Deities
Ceremony, Return of Deity Palanquins