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DISCOVER TAIPEI

NOV. / DEC. BIMONTHLY 2013

Taipei Nights – The Deeper, the More Beautiful

Taipei's Resplendent Nights

Taipei, A City without Sleep

Taipei's Biggest and "Highest" Party Night of the Year

Fiber To The Home – Enhancing the City's Competitiveness

YouBike Surpasses 100 Stations – Breezy, Easy City Explorations

Slow and Easy Wintertime River Cruise Mini Trips



Taipei Nights – The Deeper, the More Beautiful

Here we go! 5, 4, 3, 2, 1 ... Happy New Year! At the climax of the upcoming New Year's Eve, there will be no better place to be than watching the spectacle of the Taipei 101 Fireworks Show. Though the pyrotechnics extravaganza will have its moment and then go into slumber for another year, the city of Taipei never sleeps, and the colorful nightlife goes on without end, every night of the year.


Taipei city offers you a world of beauty in daytime, but the nighttime here is a world of fantasy. The customers of the famous hotel website *Agoda.com* have proclaimed Taipei 9th in a ranking of "top ten cities for nightlife." Our theme this issue is "Taipei Nights – The Deeper, the More Beautiful," and we bring you a taste of this city's nights in the following pages.

Among the many other end-of-year highlights for those living in Taipei is the introduction of more rental stations to the city's YouBike network, bringing the total to 162 in Taipei's 12 districts, and offering you a consummate tool for exploring the city.

The city's largest cultural-creative platform, the eslite Spectrum Songyan Store, is now opened, which showcases over 100 local and international designer shops and studios. In our In-Depth City Culture Explorations section, we ask Master Weng Dengxian to show off his consummate skills in traditional candy blowing and making dough figurines, which thrill young and old alike.

The Taipei night offers the visitor countless charms, among them *guabao*, a popular street food, and late-night eateries of unique character. Both offer guaranteed taste-bud satisfaction on a cool winter's night. Elsewhere, savor the attractive scenery along the banks of the Tamsui River by taking a Blue Highway River Cruise Mini-trip, and move your body by joining the improvisation dance at i-dance Taipei 2013 or going rock climbing.

The Taipei cultural-arts scene is in a state of exuberant, sustained bloom, and a veritable feast of related special events. It includes the Taipei Golden Horse Film Festival's 50th anniversary celebrations, "Across Zhongshan Bridge – The Story of Bridges" Exhibition, Popular Music Oral History Exhibition, and Sleepless in Taipei – The City that Never Closes Exhibition, will provide you with the perfect ending to the year 2013.

In Taipei, the city that never closes and never sleeps, a feast of the senses awaits you. Enjoy! 



Discover Taipei

Taipei City Government

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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.
If you have any suggestions, please do
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<http://english.tpedit.taipei.gov.tw> :

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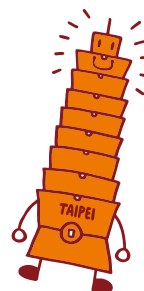
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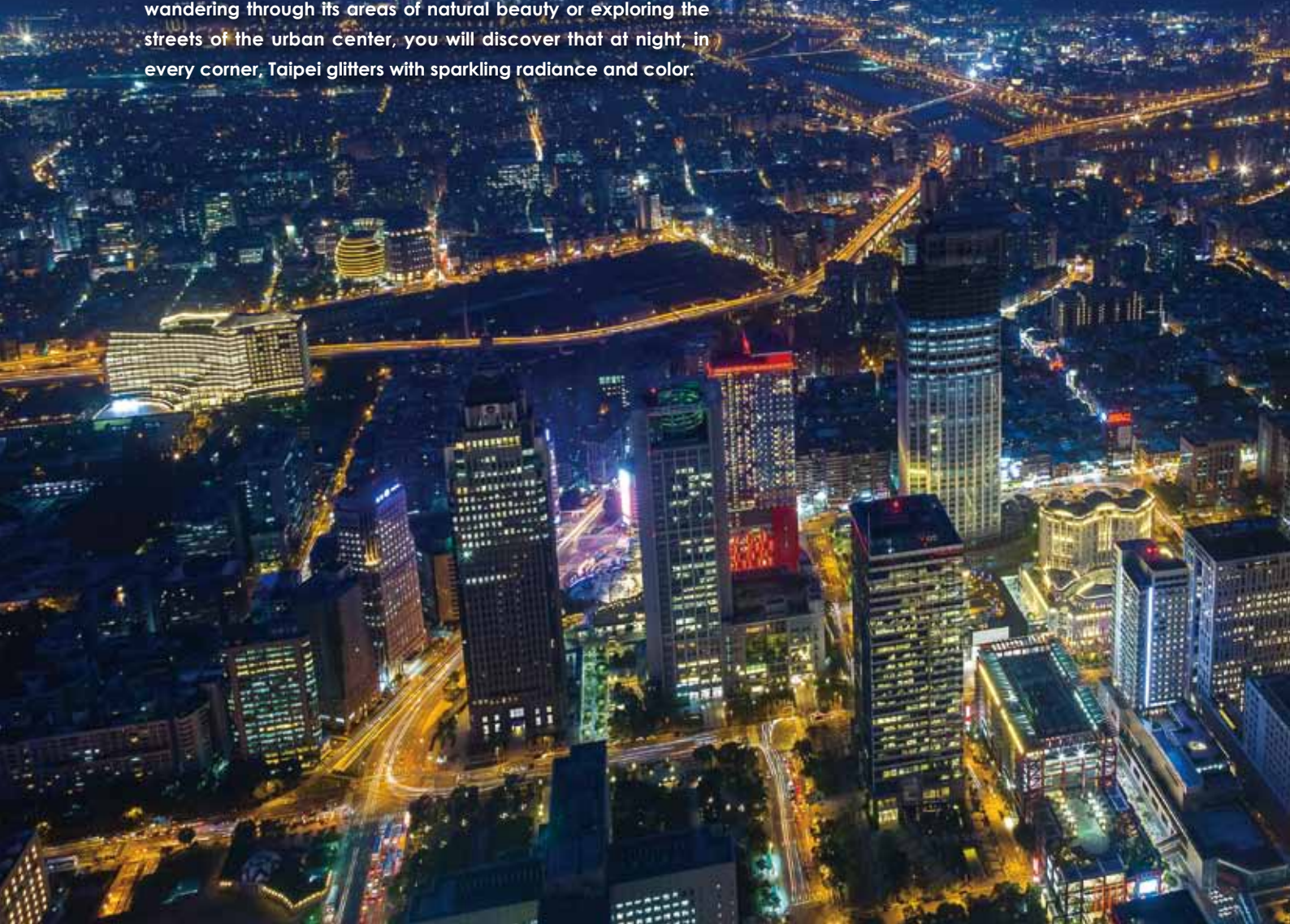
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Taipei's Resplendent Nights

Taipei's attractive appearance does not disappear into the darkness with night's arrival. Instead, the darkness cloaks the metropolis in an altogether different kind of allure. Whether wandering through its areas of natural beauty or exploring the streets of the urban center, you will discover that at night, in every corner, Taipei glitters with sparkling radiance and color.



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Yangmingshan (陽明山), Xiangshan (象山), and Maokong (貓空) present nightscapes that are not to be missed, and in this issue we provide you with an introduction to the first of these. If you've a mind to enjoy gorgeous night views from one of the world's 25 greatest engineering achievements, the Taipei 101 Observatory (台北101觀景臺) beckons. The Grand Hotel (圓山大飯店) brims with classical-style beauty, inspiring the imagination in the still of night. Moreover, the city's sleek river-spanning light-sculpture bridges, accompanied by sparkling reflections on the water and glittering stars in the sky, create a dream-like sense of fantasy.

Taipei 101 Observatory – Magnificent Nighttime Views

The Taipei 101 (台北101) tower, in Xinyi District (信義區), is one of Taiwan's foremost tourist landmarks. It has been declared one of 25 mankind's greatest engineering achievements by CNN, which also placed the elevator ride up the tower 9th in its list of "49 journeys that'll change your life."

The Taipei 101 Observatory night-viewing experience is in every way extraordinary. Passengers are whisked up in super-fast elevators declared the world's fastest streamlined pressurized elevators by Guinness in 2004. The observation deck on the 89th floor is reached in just 37 seconds. The deck offers splendid views of Taipei from a different angle. As the stars pop up and flicker high in the sky, the lights of the city flicker to life far down below, presenting a bedazzling landscape.

On New Year's Eve, a grand countdown party is held in the area below the tower, and Taipei 101 itself is the launch pad for a tremendous fireworks show that rings in the New Year. The celebration is very popular with foreign tourists and expatriate residents, and you are heartily invited to join in the fun.

Light-Sculpture Bridges – Riverside Lights and Radiant Flowing Lines

The light-sculpture bridges that span the Tamsui River and its tributaries between Taipei City and New Taipei City are major players in shaping the charm of Taipei at night. The city currently has 12 such bridges on its rivers. From north to south: Guandu Bridge (關渡大橋), Chongyang Bridge (重陽橋), Taipei Bridge (台北橋), Huajiang Bridge (華江橋), Wanban Bridge (萬板大橋), Huacui Bridge (華翠大橋), Huazhong Bridge (華中橋), Zhongzheng Bridge (中正橋), Yongfu Bridge (永福橋), Fuhe Bridge (福和橋), Wanshan Bridge (萬善橋), and Bao Bridge (寶橋). Decorated with energy-efficient LED lighting, they splendidly enhance the city's riparian zones.

Guandu Bridge spans the Tamsui River between Taipei's Beitou District (北投區) and New Taipei City's Bali District (新北市八里區). Renowned for its bright-red arches, it has a sightseeing walkway from which inspiring river views can be enjoyed. Rays of light shoot upward to envelop the bridge has rounded form, adding even more to the night beauty of the Tamsui River estuary.

- 1-2. The city lights and horizon meet seamlessly when viewing the nightscape from the Taipei 101 Observatory.
3. High-speed elevators whisk visitors up to the 89th-floor observation deck in 37 seconds.
4. The striking red arches of Guandu Bridge add to the Tamsui River's scenic beauty.



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The cable-stayed Chongyang Bridge also spans the Tamsui River, connecting Taipei's Shilin (士林) with the suburb of Sanchong (三重). The body of the bridge was originally painted red to contrast with the silver of the steel cables, giving rise to its well-known reputation for "red-column peaks, rainbow bridge spanning the sky" (紅柱凌霄，虹橋跨天). The main part of the bridge was later painted lily-white as part of the nighttime light-sculpture plans – and the nightly show is indeed dazzling.

Yongfu Bridge, located near the Gongguan Riverside Plaza (公館水岸廣場), has an arch bridge right beside it with a large water pipe on top, used to transport drinking water. This has led to its being called the Yongfu Water Pipe Bridge (永福水管橋). The look of the architecture is unique, and on clear days, the rainbow lighting is reflected off the water's surface to lovely effect. The Gongguan Riverside Plaza is Taipei's only riverside area without a dike as part of the landscape, and the Taipei Water Park (自來水園區) and Gongguan

Commercial District (公館商圈) are close by, so you can end a fine day spent in the park and/or shopping by heading over to the river to view the light-sculpture art.

Taipei at night offers all the elements that make for perfect travel outings long remembered – stargazing, breezy drives, pleasant strolls, and great food. Set up your own night-tour itinerary and enjoy that unique Taipei feeling of carefree freedom amidst the glittering city nightscape.

The Grand Hotel – A Raising Red Hillside Icon of Retro Grandeur

Taipei's venerable Grand Hotel is a 14-story structure built in classical Chinese palace style. Standing lofty and majestic on the flank of Yuanshan (圓山), it's a Taipei landmark known worldwide. At night, the hotel glows with light, as though dressed in a striking red gown, a modern beauty of classical aesthetics.



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Because of its elevated location, look to the right from the second-floor garden-view terrace and you'll get a clear view of the distinctive architecture of the Chientan Youth Activity Center (劍潭青年活動中心) and of the coruscating Shilin nightscape. Look left and you'll enjoy a tranquil and expansive night view of Dajia Riverside Park (大佳河濱公園), Dazhi Bridge (大直橋), and far-off Taipei 101. When the weather's nice you can walk from MRT Jiantan Station (捷運劍潭站) to the hotel, along Zhongshan North Road (中山北路). After walking about 500 meters or so you'll see the entrance and stairs that lead up into the Yuanshan Scenic Area (圓山風景區). Climb up to the viewing platform on Jiantan Mountain (劍潭山), where you'll be greeted with the beauty of the sparkling Taipei nightscape. The Grand Hotel is having a big countdown party on New Year's Eve, on the 12th floor, and you should consider this your personal invitation to both party fun and great nighttime views. 📺

5. From the Grand Hotel's second floor, on the left is a panoramic, tranquil night view of Dajia Riverside Park and Dazhi Bridge.
6. The body of cable-stayed Chongyang Bridge was originally painted red to match the silver of the steel cables; the main part was later painted lily-white as part of nighttime light-sculpture plans, and the nightly show is dazzling, touching the spirit.
7. Yongfu Bridge, near Gongguan Riverside Square, has an arch bridge alongside that with a large water pipe atop used to transport drinking water, leading to the name Yongfu Water Pipe Bridge.
8. The Grand Hotel is a 14-story structure built in classical Chinese-palace style. At night the hotel glows with light in a show of sumptuous aesthetics.

Information

Taipei 101 台北101大樓

Add: 45, Shifu Rd. (市府路45號)

Observatory Hours:

Daily 09:00~22:00 (last ticket sales and entry at 21:15); tickets sold on 5F, Taipei 101 Mall (台北101購物中心), immediate access to Observatory.

Tel: (02)8101-8898

Website: www.taipei-101.com.tw

Taipei Light Sculpture Bridges

Guandu Bridge 關渡大橋

Between Fude Borough, Tamsui District, New Taipei City (新北市淡水區福德里) and Longyuan Borough, Bali District, New Taipei City (新北市八里區龍源里)

Chongyang Bridge 重陽橋

Between Shilin, Taipei City (臺北市士林區) and Sanchong, New Taipei City (新北市三重區)

Yongfu Bridge 永福橋

Between Siyuan St., Zhongzheng District, Taipei City (臺北市中正區思源街) and Fuhe Rd., Yonghe District, New Taipei City (新北市永和區福和路)

Grand Hotel 圓山大飯店

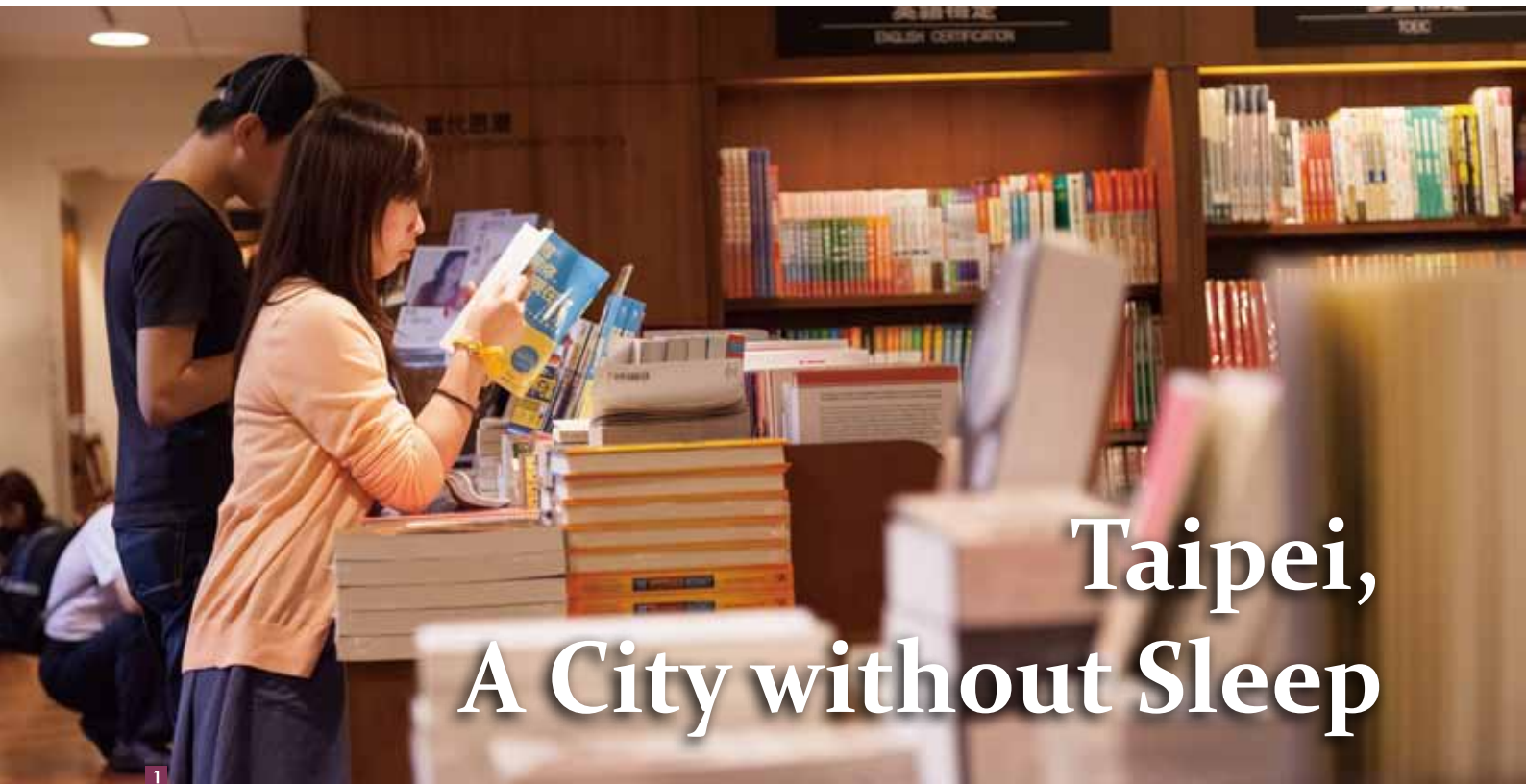
Add: 1, Sec. 4, Zhongshan N. Rd. (中山北路4段1號)

Tel: (02)2886-8888

Transportation:

Take Taipei Metro Tamsui Line (淡水線) to Yuanshan Station (圓山站), take Exit 1, walk diagonally to Yumen St. (玉門街), take free shuttle bus where indicated among other public-bus stops.

Website: www.grand-hotel.org



Taipei, A City without Sleep

In many countries, once night falls, travelers start heading back to their hotels. In Taipei, however, the coming of night in no way means a day's itinerary is done. Instead, another phase is just beginning. Even in the wee hours, fret not that you have nowhere to go, for there are many 24-hour businesses where travelers can enjoy premium services. From food and drink to

leisure fun, from exercise to entertainment, the many pleasant venues and the city's excellent safety record, even at night, have together led to many foreign travelers developing a deep affection for Taipei.



Late-Night Reading – Taipei's Marvelous Round-the-Clock Bookstores

"What sort of culture is this, where people head out in the middle of the night to read books at bookstores?" Many a marveling foreign tourist has asked this question when visiting eslite Bookstore (誠品書店).

It's three in the morning at the eslite Bookstore Dunhua Branch (誠品敦南店), and still the store is busy. The elegant and comfortable space has a cultured air – no need to wonder why this city's denizens would be out at a bookstore in the middle of the night. Eslite started 24-hour operations in 1999; with an interior décor featuring partitioning, each section set up like a small bookshop – a creative approach for Taipei that has become the stuff of legend. The chain is a source of great pride for citizens, and for the traveler offers a novel experience and an unexpected look into the local lifestyle, perhaps making you want to get on Facebook in the wee hours to tell everyone "I'm sitting in a beautiful bookstore reading a book!"

The Dunhua branch is a must-visit spot for many visitors to Taipei. There are local and imported books

on a comprehensive range of subjects, and the bookstore offers a prime look at the city's reading and design culture, although sometimes it's actually the ever-changing flow of people themselves that is most fascinating. This round-the-clock store of literary treasures has a charming, sophisticated atmosphere.

Leisure Pursuits Unlimited – Relaxation Ad Infinitum

In Taipei it's even possible to find masseuses, hot springs to bathe in, and other relaxing ways to spend the long hours of the night. While it's said that reading soothes the tired spirit, you'll find a healthy nighttime massage and/or a soothing hot-spring bath even more refreshing.

A famous Chinese expression is often translated into English as "A journey of a thousand miles begins with the first step" (千里之行，始於足下). However, after walking a long distance your feet get tired, and it's hard to appreciate even the most interesting surroundings. Thankfully, Taipei has many 24-hour massage parlors that provide head-to-toe service, including hand- and foot-care services; Thousand Miles (千里行足體養生會館) is an apt example. A favorite of many tourists, it's a spacious venue, at over 1,250 square meters, with a natural, minimalist design. In addition to foot massages and full-body shiatsu massages, oil massages, *gua sha* (刮痧; Often translated as "scraping" or "spooning"), manicure, and pedicure services are also provided.

Many of Taipei's massage centers make Japanese customers feel especially comfortable with personnel that can speak at least basic Japanese and provide detailed explanations of services in Japanese.

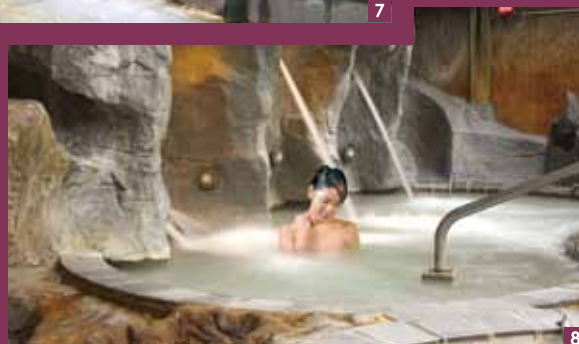
If the idea of a downtown massage isn't quite what you were thinking of, zip up to suburban Beitou for a hot-spring bath. The Beitou hot-spring resort area, which has a long and intriguing history, has green, white, and iron sulfur spring waters. The different types of mineral water are useful in soothing various ailments – from skin diseases to arthritis to muscle aches and pains. Many local enterprises, such as Kawayu Spa Hot Spring Restaurant (川湯溫泉養生餐廳) and Samao Valley Spa Dining Hall Music & Food (紗帽谷溫泉音樂美食餐廳), provide 24-hour hot-spring bathing services.

1-3. An iconic Taipei night scene is people poring over books in the wee hours at eslite Bookstore Dunhua Branch.

4-5. Thousand Miles provides sole massages and full-body shiatsu massages.

6-7. Kawayu Spa Hot Spring Restaurant, suffused with a Kyoto-style ambience, has both private spa rooms and public pools.

8. Samao Valley Spa Dining Hall Music & Food has 24-hour hot-spring soaking services, including an outdoor forest hot-spring spa and both hot spring and cold spring facilities.





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9-10. 85°C Café is a convenient 24H corner source of hot coffee and cakes.

11-12. The fresh, hot-from-the-oven sesame cakes and soy milk at Yonghe Soy Milk King are great nighttime energizing choices for travelers.

13-14. Sweet Dynasty has many Hong Kong-style desserts and a renowned house specialty, tofu pudding in a cask.



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A Never-ending Stream of Fragrances – Sumptuous Late-night Feasts

Eating delicious, freshly prepared, hand-made gourmet cuisine in the middle of the night is easy Taipei, and can be enjoyed every night.

Taipei enjoys a strong reputation abroad for the deliciousness and range of its food and drink. One of the things that most amazes visitors, however, is just how many 24-hour restaurants, cafes, fast-food eateries, and snack shops are found along its lanes and alleys. Add to this the ubiquitous convenience stores and one can see how in this city taste-bud satisfaction is guaranteed for anyone with late-night cravings.

Do you want to enjoy a cup of coffee or traditional soy milk late at night? Branches of 85°C Bakery Café in Anhe Road, and Guangfu North Road elsewhere, and Yonghe Soy Milk King (永和豆漿大王) in Fuxing South Road (復興南路) all host a legion of weary souls each night, handing them a cup of hot goodness and giving them a quiet oasis in the deep hours to mull over life's events.

If looking for a late-night restaurant for a quick bite, beyond the fast-food chains a great place to fill up is Sweet Dynasty (糖朝), a large place at over 1,650 square meters, serving a delicious array of Hong Kong-style desserts and hot dishes. A renowned house specialty is tofu pudding in a cask (原木桶豆花), served in wooden buckets. No syrup or seasonings are used in this must-order treat, and the tofu is firm and substantial. In addition, the bagels at the Taipei branch of the



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famous N.Y. Bagels Cafe are made fresh each day using ingredients imported from the States, and the store welcomes night owls with a menu that also includes burgers, sandwiches, pasta and other dishes.

It's not only bigger restaurants that offer fine food late at night. Down an alley off Bade Road (八德路) is Matsu Noodles (四鄉五島馬祖麵店), a round-the-clock joint that is popular with local gourmands. The food is simple and straightforward – sesame noodles, wonton noodles, meatball soup, and so on – turning out the authentic Taiwanese flavors that locals love. A bowl of good, steaming-hot home-style food on a cool winter's night is guaranteed to warm the soul and chase away any late-night weariness.

In Taipei, sleepless nights are like being on sleepless flights. Find a good book and drift away in thought. Alternatively, relax mind and body in a health center until dawn. If hungry or just looking for a caffeine pick-me-up, entertain your taste buds with deliciously fragrant fine food or coffee. Taipei, this 24-hour city that never closes down, is dedicated to providing enriching sustenance for your body, your mind, and your spirit. 🍴



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Information

eslife Bookstore Dunhua Branch 誠品敦南店

Add: 245, Sec. 1, Dunhua S. Rd. (敦化南路1段245號)

Tel: (02)2775-5977

Thousand Miles 千里行足體養生會館

Add: 62, Sec. 2, Nanjing E. Rd. (南京東路2段62號)

Tel: (02)2531-5880

Kawayu Spa Hot Spring Restaurant

川湯溫泉養生餐廳

Add: 10, Ln. 300, Xingyi Rd. (行義路300巷10號)

Tel: (02)2874-7979

Samao Valley Spa Dining Hall Music & Food

紗帽谷溫泉音樂美食餐廳

Add: 42, Shamao Rd. (紗帽路42號)

Tel: (02)2862-6199

85°C Bakery Café 85度C咖啡

Anhe branch 安和店

Add: 52, Sec. 2, Anhe Rd. (安和路2段52號)

Tel: (02)2704-3299

Guangfu N. branch 光復北店

Add: 167, Guangfu N. Rd. (光復北路167號)

Tel: (02)2747-0855

Yonghe Soy Milk King 永和豆漿大王

Add: 102, Sec. 2, Fuxing S. Rd. (復興南路2段102號)

Tel: (02)2703-5051

Sweet Dynasty 糖朝

Add: 2F, 201, Sec. 4, Zhongxiao E. Rd. (忠孝東路4段201號2樓)

Tel: (02)2772-2889

N.Y. Bagels Cafe

Add: 147, Sec. 4, Ren'ai Road (仁愛路4段147號)

Tel: (02)2752-1669

Matsu Noodles 四鄉五島馬祖麵店

Add: 7, Liaoning St. (遼寧街7號)

Tel: (02)2771-5406



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15-17. N.Y. Bagels Cafe, offering burgers, sandwiches, Italian spaghetti, etc., is a night-owl favorite.

18-19. The sesame noodles, wonton noodles, and other goodies at Matsu Noodles have the true-blue Taiwan flavors local gourmands are so fond of.



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Taipei's Biggest and "Highest" PARTY NIGHT of the Year

December is a season of joy and happiness, and with a rousing Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you, we invite you out to the city's very full calendar of Christmas and New Year's Eve celebrations, big and small. Get ready for the biggest – and "highest" – party of the year!

Taipei Christmas Party Nights

Christmas parties of all sorts, to be held in all sorts of places, are being staged this Christmas season. Come one, come all! Whether it is a concert at a church or a fair at a school, or neighborhood residents communally decorating a colorful Christmas lane, or the staging of ceremonial foot washing at a historic site, all will create unforgettable memories. In mid-December Capital Bus is also rolling out its decorated Christmas buses, and invites you to let its drivers, decked out as Santa, take you around to the many different Christmas party spots. It is as if a fantasyland is being created, bringing the Christmas spirit of sharing and mutual love, embracing your fun city rambles in a blanket of warmth.

2014 Highest New Year City Taipei – New Year's Eve Countdown Party

Would you like to stand in a large open square with hundreds of thousands of other people, watching

pop performers and fireworks in the most excited atmosphere to celebrate the arrival of the New Year? Then don't miss the Highest New Year City Taipei – New Year's Eve Countdown Party (臺北最HIGH新年城跨年晚會), organized by the Taipei City Government. The big stage show is put on in the square, and a huge fireworks show envelops Taipei 101. This is one of the city's most eagerly awaited annual events.

The theme for this year's party is "Taipei, Always More Delights!" (臺北·一遊未盡). The fun will go on from 7 pm until 1 am, with the center of action at Citizen Square (市民廣場) in front of Taipei City Hall. Top pop singers, indie singers, and musical groups have been invited to perform, and a special treat will be enthusiastic singing performances by winners from the Taipei Expo Park Star Music (花博星聲音) competition held in July this year. The festivities will be led by big-name emcees, and each will give their all to help bring in the New Year with the biggest bang possible – their New Year's gifts to you.

You must also do your part to bring in the New Year with the biggest bang possible; by coming out and joining, the big party of colorful artists and spectacular pyrotechnics. The brand-new year is coming – see you out there on this year's last night! 🎆

2013 Taipei Christmas Activities

Time	Activity	Location	Tel/Website
11/30 10:00~16:00	Taipei European School Christmas Bazaar Christmas performances, international cuisine, Christmas decorating, gift marketplace	Taipei European School 台北歐洲學校 (727, Wenlin Rd.; 文林路727號)	(02)8145-9007 www.taipeieuropeanschool.com
11/29 19:30~21:30	Grace Baptist Church Christmas Community Joint Concert	Grace Baptist Church 懷恩堂 (90, Sec. 3, Xincheng S. Rd.; 新生南路3段90號)	(02)2362-5321 www.gbc.org.tw
12/6~12/7 15:00~21:30	Notes on the Loss of Dreams		
12/14 13:30~15:30	Family Christmas		
12/24 19:00~21:30	Christmas Eve Party and Reconciliation		
12/24 22:00~01:00	Christmas Eve Midnight Mass and Concert		
12/31 23:00~00:30	International Bilingual New Year's Eve Midnight Mass		
12/14 Afternoon gathering 14:30 Evening gathering 19:30	Sing Out! Christmas 2013 Christmas Rally Orchestral music, dance, musical performances	Taipei International Convention Center Auditorium 臺北國際會議中心大會堂 (1, Sec. 5, Xinyi Rd.; 信義路5段1號)	(02)2533-9123 www.studioclassroom.com.tw
12/16~12/28 Please confirm activity times online	2013 Christmas Celebration (Nativity of Jesus – Blessed Taipei) Theater, music performances, garden party	Bread of Life Christian Churches in Taipei's 12 administrative districts 台北靈糧堂大台北12行政區教會	(02)2362-3022 www.llc.org.tw
12/20~12/24 19:00~21:00	Christmas Evening Party sermon, theater, singing	Taipei Wesley Methodist Church 中華基督教衛理公會台北衛理堂 (113, Sec. 1, Xincheng S. Rd.; 新生南路1段113號)	(02)2771-2017 wesleytp1.blogspot.tw
12/21 18:30~21:00	Rose Historic Site – Christmas Warmth Foot-washing ritual, music and dance performances	Tsai Jui-Yueh Dance Research Institute 玫瑰古蹟蔡瑞月舞蹈研究社 (10, Ln. 48, Sec. 2, Zhongshan N. Rd.; 中山北路2段48巷10號)	(02)2560-5724 www.dance.org.tw/modules/wfchannel
12/21 19:00~21:30	Jiqing Christmas Alley Lamp lighting ceremony, music concert On-site decorations will remain in place until Lantern Festival (2014/2/24)	Jiqing Village 吉慶里 (15, Ln. 71, Sec. 1, Shipai Rd.; 石牌路1段71巷15弄)	(02)2821-4532
12/21 19:30~21:00	Hong-En Great Grace Christmas Party Poetry and song, short talks, refreshments	Great Grace Reformed Presbyterian Church 基督教改革宗長老會宏恩堂 (32, Ln. 75, Sec. 4, Nanjing E. Rd.; 南京東路4段75巷32號)	(02)2713-5447 2713-2040 hong-en.eyp.com.tw/eyp/front/bin/home.phtml
12/22 10:00~14:00	Minsheng Community Christmas Afternoon Gathering Hymns, sermon, theater, music, riddle game with prizes, gift exchange, friendship lunch	Taipei Minsheng Community Christian Church 台北市民生社區基督教會 (3F-7, 3, Ln. 138, Sec. 5, Minsheng E. Rd.; 民生東路5段138巷3號3樓之7)	(02)2767-9500
12/24 19:30~21:00	Christmas Eve Candlelight Service	Friendship Presbyterian Church (5, Ln. 269, Sec. 3, Roosevelt Rd.; 羅斯福路3段269巷5號)	(02)2362-1395 www.friendshiptaipei.com

Note: Times and contents will be in accordance with the organizer's public announcement; please check online or via telephone for more information.

2014 Highest New Year City Taipei – New Year's Eve Countdown Party 2014臺北最HIGH新年城跨年晚會

Time: 19:00 on 2013/12/31 to 01:00 on 2014/1/1
Venue: Citizen Square (in front of Taipei City Hall)
(臺北市府前市民廣場)

Tel: 1999 (02-2720-8889 outside Taipei City); ext. 2046
Website: www.taipei.gov.tw





YouBike Surpasses 100 Stations – Breezy, Easy City Explorations

It's a common sight in Taipei to see people heading up streets and down lanes, pedaling bicycles painted bright yellow, carrying the YouBike logo. YouBike (微笑單車), Taipei's public-rental bike system, is extremely convenient to use. Register as a YouBike member using your EasyCard (悠遊卡) and you can rent and take the bike anywhere. You can also rent one at one station and return it at any other. For city residents, a YouBike is a great tool for commuting around in the city on short trips. For foreign visitors, a YouBike is a handy companion for exploring the city, and a convenient mode of transportation that enables in-depth experience of the beauties of Taipei's folk customs and alley culture.

The YouBike service network has been significantly expanded in the past year, and the number of bike-rental stations surged past one hundred in August. Plans are to have 162 stations set up throughout the city's 12 administrative districts by the end of the year, with a total of 5,350 bicycles available for rental.

At the moment you'll find YouBike rental stations spread all over the city, in Xinyi (信義), Daan (大安), Songshan (松山), Zhongshan (中山), Nangang (南港), Zhongzheng (中正), and Shilin (士林) districts. There are stations at all major district tourist attractions, including Raohe Street Night Market (饒河街夜市), Taipei 101, the eslite Bookstore Dunnan Branch, Yongkang Street (永康街), Gongguan Commercial District, and Taipei Expo Park (花博公園). The Taipei City Government has also set up rental stations outside exits at major Taipei Metro stations along the Bannan Line (板南線), Zhonghe-Xinlu Line (中和新蘆線), Wenhua Line (文湖線), Xindian Line (新店線), and Xinyi Line (信義線), greatly increasing user convenience.

To promote the YouBike service, the city government offers free use for the first 30 minutes for users who sign up as a YouBike member with an EasyCard, and they just need to pay NT\$10 for every 30 minutes thereafter. This great deal lasts until the end of the year (2013), so if you have not yet enjoyed the YouBike experience, now's the time to get moving.

How to Rent a YouBike?

It is easy. You have two choices, "Become a Member" (加入會員) or "Single Usage" (單次租車):

Become a Member

1. Using an EasyCard and a cellphone number with local carriers, register as a member at any YouBike station self-service Kiosk, on the official YouBike website, or at a YouBike Service Center.
2. Place your registered EasyCard on the pillar before the bike you wish to take, wait for the "take" green light to flash, and then pull out the bike from behind.
3. All YouBike bicycles can be returned at any station. Insert the bike lock plate into an unoccupied pillar lock slot. Wait for the "Place Your Card" blue light to flash, then place the EasyCard originally used to rent the bike on the sensor, confirming the fee deducted and the amount remaining on the card to complete the transaction.

Single Usage

1. Using a Chunghwa Telecom cellphone or chip credit card, go to any station Kiosk, choose "Single Usage" on the kiosk screen, choose your method of payment, wait for authorization, and select the bike you want using the screen. The system will unlock the bike you have chosen, and you have 90 seconds to go to the pillar at which it is located and pull the bike out from behind.
2. Return the bike at any station. Insert the bike lock plate in any unoccupied parking-pillar lock slot. Make sure the bike is firmly locked in place. The system will automatically deduct the fee using the payment method previously designated, and the transaction is complete.

YouBike Special Notes

Before setting out on your YouBike rental, adjust the height of the seat, and check the tire pressure and brakes to ensure you have no problems on the road.

If you have any problem with your YouBike, bring it to the nearest station. Please be sure to rotate the seat 180 degrees so that maintenance personnel can easily identify it as a bike that needs to be repaired.

If there are no bikes available for rental at a station, you could wait at the station for 3 to 5 minutes if any available bike is returned, or select "Inquiry about Stations" on the station Kiosk to check bike availability at different stations. When returning a bike, if there is no unoccupied docking pillar at a station, select "Parking Slots Full" on the Kiosk and enter the bike's number, which will give you an extra hour of free usage. Users can wait for a slot to open up at the station in question, or ride to a nearby station with availability. 📍



1. Taipei Mayor Hau Lungbin (first on right) leads city colleagues on a ride celebrating the opening of more than 100 YouBike rental stations.
2. The EasyCard can be used for rentals, maximizing convenience.
3. Every YouBike rental station has automated Kiosk service, enabling info checking and queries.
4. With your EasyCard already registered on a parking column, taking your chosen bike is easy.

Information

YouBike 微笑單車

Service Line:

1999, then transfer to YouBike, or (02)8978-5511

Website: www.youbike.com.tw





The New MRT Xinyi Line Scheduled for Opening Before Year – End

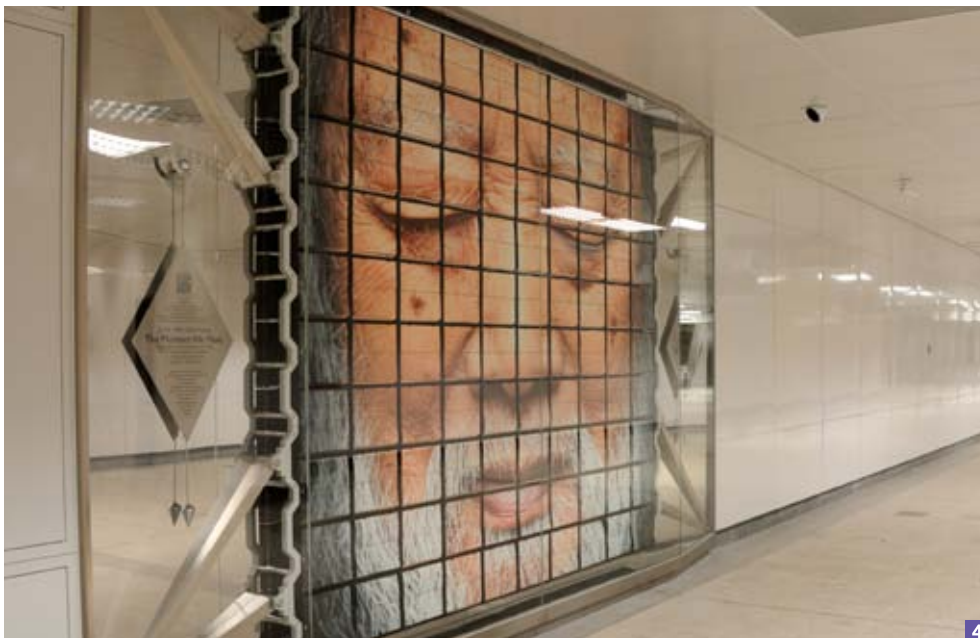
The new Taipei Metro Xinyi Line (捷運信義線) is scheduled for operation before the end of the year. This is the city's second east-west line, complementing the Nangang Line (南港線), and will be the quickest and most efficient transportation corridor in and out of the Xinyi Planning District (信義計畫區), while at the same time easing numbers on the Nangang Line. Architectural beauty is being emphasized on the new line, and exclusive design themes, meticulously planned architectural spaces, and alluring public art will be a feature of all five new stations - Daan Park Station (大安森林公園站), Daan Station (大安站), Xinyi Anhe Station (信義安和站), Taipei 101/World Trade Center Station (台北101/世貿站), and Xiangshan Station (象山站).

Stations in Parks – Cooperating with Mother Nature

MRT Daan Park Station will feature a "forest transporter" (森林轉運) theme, and may rightfully be called Taipei's most unique metro station. A cleverly designed open-air sunken garden will link the station with the park. The facility, about six meters below ground level, is to have a semi-circular plaza design, an annular cloister, waterfall, spring, rockery, etc. The building will have a transparent minaret-style tower and a sunlight-drenched glass-curtain lobby. The large public artworks outside the station, including the works *Daan Flower* (大安之花) and *The Four Seasons* (四季), will all be celebrations of nature, and are set to become the newest aesthetic attractions at Daan Park.

The theme of Xiangshan Station is "Song of the Tree Frog" (樹蛙之歌), highlighting Zhong-qiang Park (中強公園), where it is located, and its protected habitat for the Taipei tree frog. In the station hall will be the public artwork *Tree Frog Hearts in Blossom* (心蛙朵朵開), using a camouflage-style visual technique that seems to bring the traveling public into intimate proximity with the frog's world. On the platform level you'll find the colorful ceramic-tile mosaic *Child's Play* (童趣), with the tree frog as star in the graffiti-style imagery, sure to evoke a pleasant sense of whimsy in all passersby.

1. A cleverly designed open-air sunken garden will link Daan Station and Daan Park.
2. The public artwork *The Four Seasons*, on the north-side hallway wall, is by Japanese artist Kiyofumi Shiba; it uses colors to express vitality.
3. Xiangshan Station's public artwork *Tree Frog Hearts in Blossom* highlights the area's protected habitat for the Taipei green tree frog.



4. The avant-garde *The Moment We Meet*, at Taipei 101 / World Trade Center Station.
 5. Xiangshan Station's *Child's Play*, on the platform level, evokes a pleasant sense of whimsy in both kids and adults.
 6. Daan Station's *Light Intersection* is a sight of scenic beauty within the station itself.
- (Photos courtesy of Department of Rapid Transit Systems, Taipei City Government.)


Downtown Stations – Each with a Unique Character

Located in the heart of the city's downtown commercial area, the Taipei 101/World Trade Center Station, Xinyi Anhe Station, and Daan Station will each have a unique character.

The Taipei 101/World Trade Center Station, in the Xinyi Planning District, will evoke the sophisticated modernity that characterizes Taipei City as a whole. The station's *The Moment We Meet* (相遇時刻) public-installation artwork is to be dynamically avant-garde; consisting of 12 works spread out along a 100-meter-long corridor. Each uses a flipping mechanism, much like an old transit timetable, to depict stories of Taiwan through words, portraits, and images of the human eyes, nose, ears, mouth, hands, and feet.

The theme chosen for Xinyi Anhe Station is "Life Melody" (生活旋律). In the station hall, *Water City Taipei* (水城臺北), is a work of paper-cut public art. The lively silhouettes depict the Taipei Zoo (臺北市立動物園), Taipei 101 (台北101大樓), Chiang Kai-shek Memorial Hall (中正紀念堂), and other city landmarks, along with flowers, birds, insects, frogs, and other images from nature, collectively composing the "melody" of Taipei City life.

Daan Station is to be an interchange station, where the underground Xinyi Line and elevated Wenhua Line (文湖線) cross paths. The underground level will be lit artificially, but as riders change lines they will emerge at the elevated level, which is flooded with natural light. "Light Intersection" (光影交會) has been chosen as this station's theme, reflecting its distinctive character, with light, shadow, and color changes used to highlight the above-ground/below-ground dialogue. The public artwork *Flying Legend* (飛天傳奇) will grace the south-side wall of the station's interchange level, echoing the passage from the underground to the above-ground platform levels.

The originality of the design aesthetic on the MRT Xinyi Line is sure to make this one of the city's best and most popular public-transportation arteries for art appreciation. 



Information

Department of Rapid Transit Systems, Taipei City Government
臺北市捷運工程局

Tel: (02)2521-5550

Website: www.dorts.gov.tw

A New Beacon on the Taipei Cultural-Creative Landscape

The eslite Spectrum Songyan Store

Taipei's cultural-creative industry is flourishing, and in November the light goes on at another new industry beacon. eslite Bookstore (誠品書店) moved into the Taipei New Horizon building (臺北文創大樓) at Songshan Cultural and Creative Park (松山文創園區) in August, and asked two design luminaries to work together on the design of the space – internationally renowned Japanese architect Toyo Ito (recipient of the Pritzker Architecture Prize) and the internationally renowned Taiwan designer Ray Chen (陳瑞憲). Positioned as a "modern cultural-creative factory" (現代文創工廠), the space, which is over 23,800 square meters in area and is Taipei's largest cultural-creative platform, has over a hundred creative goods by local and overseas designers on display, concept stores and studios, and the first-ever eslite performance hall (誠品表演廳) and eslite art house (誠品電影院).



Each of the four levels in eslite Spectrum Songyan Store (誠品生活松菸店) has a theme. On the B2 level is Gourmet Heaven, focused on Taiwan fine-dining restaurants. Here you'll find a Wu Pao Chun Bakery (吳寶春麵包店); in 2010 Taiwanese baker Wu Pao Chun was crowned Master Baker in the bread category at France's 2010 Bakery Masters competition. The design concept of the restaurant VVG Action (好樣情事) combines elements of studio and cinema, with theater seating, film reels, and other themed furnishings and decorations. In the entrance area of the 1st floor's Fashion Plaza is the eslite concept arts and culture exhibit space and the fashionable creative platform AXES (Apparel × times eslite Spectrum), which advertises "exhibit and sales unity" (展售合一). Both spaces serve as venues for new-generation designers to make a public statement.

The second floor is for Crafts & Creations, and is eslite's first experiment with introducing a designer studio in a retail market. Merchandise is sold, and craft know-

ledge shared. In the middle of the mall is Taiwan's first glass studio with a kiln; visitors can enjoy a first-hand experience with glass blowing and firing in the almost 50-square-meter space. Elsewhere at [xiu] Crafts (繡) shoppers can see displays on all sorts of colored threads and cross stitching. Grass Hill Jewelry (草山金工) has regular one-day silversmith experience workshops, and staff at Meng's Handmade Paper (二皿手作紙) are generous in sharing the secrets of paper-making. Famous cultural-creative brands from Tainan (Taiwan's old capital) are also here, including the handmade canvas bags of Guangfuhao (廣富號) and Sio House (夕遊出張所), which has its roots in the area's salt fields and makes colorful goods with salt. Prepare to be fascinated by an endless display of the imagination inherent in Taiwan's cultural-creative industry!

Beyond a bookstore, the third floor's Tea with Books also has eslite's first music store – eslite Music (誠品音樂黑膠館), specializing in vinyl records, with more than



1. The lovely white-façade eslite Spectrum Songyan Store in Songshan Cultural and Creative Park was created by Toyo Ito, Pritzker Architecture Prize recipient.
2. The fashionable creative platform AXES (Apparel × eslite spectrum), by designer Ray Chen, features a post-modern artistic feel created with over 100 lamps.
3. Taiwan's first glass studio with a kiln is located here, allowing the public to watch the glass-creation process.
4. On the B2 level is an outlet of the eponymous bakery opened by Wu Pao Chun, past winner in France's Bakery Masters competition.
5. Grass Hill Jewelry has regular one-day silversmith experience workshops.
6. Beyond a bookstore, the third floor also has eslite's first music store, eslite music, with more than 8,000 on display and industry professionals on hand to answer questions.
7. The performance work Threads, with Pritzker Architecture Prize recipient Toyo Ito leading the design team, is a science/art cross-boundary work that will be staged in November.



8,000 on display. There are also industry professionals on hand to answer any questions you might have. This is a great spot for enthusiasts to go treasure hunting. If after a while you'd like a rest break, there are also a number of cultured teahouses and theme restaurants, such as Chun Shui Tang Cultural Tea House (春水堂), Wang Tea (有記名茶), and Green in Hand (掌生穀粒).

Head downstairs to the eslite performance hall (誠品表演廳), which has four foci: "pleasure, cross-domain, family, and salon" (享樂 跨界 親子與沙龍). The hall has a schedule featuring many different cultural-arts genres. An example is the work Threads (絲緒), being presented on November 22nd and 23rd, in which 3D angle-capture sensors attached to dancers' bodies give them real-time control of the accompanying sound with their body movements. A couple of fun events offering families the chance to enjoy classical music together are Magic Fairy Tales (魔法童話), on November 30th, which combines storytelling, animation, and other techniques,

and Joyful Christmas (歡樂聖誕) on December 21st. The eslite art house will primarily screen art films from Taiwan and around the globe, including non-mainstream independent films and documentaries, and will also show Chinese-language films.

The eslite Spectrum Songyan Store brings together the heritage facilities of the Songshan Park, art displays and exhibits, and cultural-creative expression, showcasing a novel urban cultural aesthetic. Come have a look for yourself at this, a cultural-creative venue of endless possibilities. 📍

Information

eslite Spectrum Songyan Store 誠品生活松菸店

Add: 88, Yanchang Rd.; Songshan Cultural and Creative Park (菸廠路88號; 松山文創園區)

Tel: (02)6636-5888

Website: artevent.eslite.com

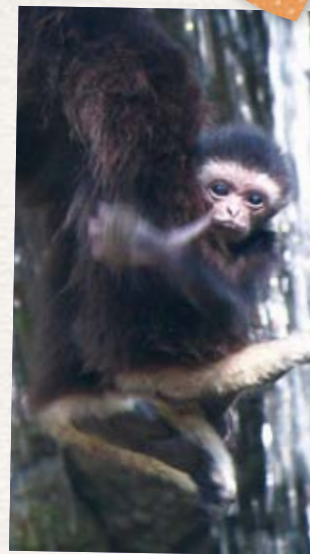
Baby Animal Album – Cancer/Leo Baby Portraits

There are always new and happy events at Taipei Zoo, as many new baby animals are born. Giant panda Yuan Zai (圓仔) was born in July, and among her “brothers and sisters” are the white-handed gibbon Bide Pan (“Peter Pan”; 比德潘), the bongo Chun Ai (“Spring Love”; 春愛), and the giraffe Bao Bao (“Little Treasure”; 寶寶). All these little treasures were born under the Cancer or Leo signs, and as it turns out, most are little ladies. Let us have a look at what these cute little things look like.



Phew! Practicing crawling is a lot of fun, but it sure makes you tired! Maybe lying down will be more comfy.

- Yuan Zai – Giant Panda
- Gender: Female



I am very shy, and like to hide against my mother's body. I am the only one in my group without horns on my head.

- Bide Pan – White-handed Gibbon
- Gender: Undetermined

Like my Mom, I am a long-legged girl. Mom gave birth to me at 24 years old!



- Bao Bao – Reticulated Giraffe
- Gender: Female



I am very shy, and like to hide against my mother's body. I am the only one in my group without horns on my head.

- Chun Ai – Bongo
- Gender: Female

Yuan Zai Connected

Q Can Yuan Zai (圓仔) see colors?

A There's a joke being sent around online that goes, "What kind of photo does a black-and-white panda like the best? The answer: color shots."

Since a panda's is black and white, many wonder if it can also only see in black and white. In general, members of the bear family have a much better sense of hearing and smell than of vision, but pandas can distinguish the primary colors red, green, and blue in shades of grey. Experts speculate that this is why the panda always chooses correctly when selecting bamboo to eat.

When Yuan Zai was born her eyes were just small slits. At Day 42, she opened her eyes for the first time, three days earlier than the norm. On Day 52, her eyes were still a bit misty and unfocused, but starting around Day 80, she began to look at the objects all around her with wide eyes open when she was awake. Though Yuan Zai's vision remained slightly unfocused, she reacted to objects before her that were in her line of vision.



Q Can you quietly let us know what her body measurements are?

A Yuan Zai is no doubt thinking to herself: "The measurements of a young lady should remain a secret!"

Yuan Zai has a roly-poly body, and the cutest appearance. Each morning at 9 am, zoo staffs sweep her cage and take advantage of her breakfast-eating distraction to check her weight and blood oxygen. On Day 99 full-body measurements, to be taken on a 10-day cycle, were started. Her chest, and abdominal numbers were 46.2, and 50.5 centimeters, and she had surged past the 6,000-gram mark in weight – a true beauty.

Other measurements taken include the length of her tail, forelegs, and hind legs, and the width of the pads on her paws and feet. Chuckling, the head of Taipei Zoo's Giant Panda House (大貓熊館), Chen Yuyan (陳玉燕), says that Yuan Zai is very active, and constantly moves her forelegs and hind legs about when staff take her leg and pad measurements. Two people are needed. Chen says that Yuan Zai is coming along very well and that her development is stable, so everyone can rest assured. 🐼

Information

Taipei Zoo 臺北市立動物園

Add: 30, Sec. 2, Xinguang Rd. (新光路2段30號)

Tel: (02)2938-2300, ext. 630

Website: newweb.zoo.gov.tw

Yuan Zai is not ready to meet the public yet.

Photos courtesy of Taipei Zoo.

Childhood Joys Recaptured at A Taiwan Temple Fair – Candy Blowing and Making Dough Figurines



Piping-hot molten malt sugar, blown by a master artisan, slowly fills a selection of molds and becomes a variety of candy-sculpture figurines. Kids happily choose from among the many birds, animals, and other shapes, mesmerized by these little art pieces. Yummy! Beside them are dough figurines equally beloved by youngsters. These two fun activities can be enjoyed at the Taipei Children's Recreation Center (臺北市立兒童育樂中心) through sessions led by Master Weng Dengxian (翁登賢), who has practiced these age-old folk skills for over 60 years.

Candy Blowing – Origins and Methods

The person credited with creating the candy-blowing folk craft is a fellow named Liu Bowen (劉伯溫), who lived in the Ming dynasty (明朝). Ming Emperor Taizu (明太祖, who was given the name Zhu Yuanzhang; 朱元璋), tried to eliminate his high officials with the goal of passing the throne to succeeding generations of his own family. When military advisor Liu Bowen tried to escape the purge, he was helped by an old man hauling sugar on a carrying pole. The two exchanged their clothing so Liu could conceal his identity, and he lived for a time incognito, during this period inventing the technique of heating sugar to make sugar glass and creating the art of molding it into various shapes – a craft that has lived on for six centuries.

In recent times, practitioners of the art have mostly demonstrated their talent at temple fairs or traditional festivals. In his early days, Master Weng went to places where Taiwanese operas were being staged. While the colorful pageantry was proceeding on-stage, below it would be a cluster of vendor stalls with toys and other goodies that children found irresistible. He would bring a wooden box and wooden chair, a stove for heating the sugar, woodcut molds, scissors, and other implements stored in the box. The set-up had the look of an itinerant shop, rather like the set-up of a modern-day street artist.

Weng is intensely focused when blowing candy. He first dips his molds and the sugar globules into cooking starch, so they do not stick to each other. This also allows

the snacks to be eaten directly after being molded, since the starch is edible without being cooked. After being dipped, Weng kneads the globule into a ball, makes a hollow in it, seals the hollow's mouth, stretches the sugar using a blower shaped like a straw, places it in the mold, and blows vigorously. The sugar expands to fill the model shape. After removal, the hollow sculpture is allowed to air-dry for a bit to ensure it keeps its shape.

The material used in candy blowing – premium-grade maltose, which is whitish – is different from the yellow maltose commonly seen in markets. The attractive sugar sculptures are delicious both to children's eyes and to their palates. Chuckling, Weng says, "Sometimes I find that with the kindergarten kids who come here to experience candy blowing, when I let them start practicing the blowing, they instead end up with all the sugar in their mouths, busily eating away. It's very cute."



1. A rendering of Guan Gong (關公), famous figure from China's Three Kingdoms period.
2. Kids watch the candy-blowing process.

Candy Blowing Process



1 Use premium maltose as material



2 Dip carved wooden molds and sugar globules in cooking starch



3 Knead globule into a ball, and make a hole in it



4 Stretch to make form functioning like a straw



5 Elongate using a blower



6 Place in a mold and blow vigorously



7 After removal, allow to air-dry for a while to fix shape



3



4



5



6

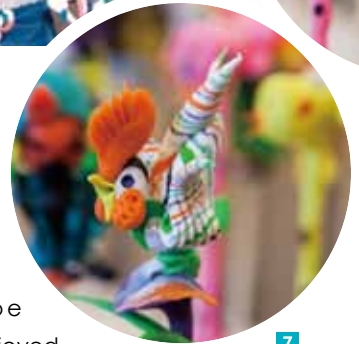
Making Dough Figurines – Origins and Methods

It is said that Zhuge Liang (who styled himself Kong Ming; 諸葛孔明), chancellor of one of the contending states during China's Three Kingdoms (三國) period, was one of the first to craft dough figurines. It is said that when traveling back home after battle on one occasion, his army was halted at a swollen, roaring river. Thinking that the obstacle was caused by the ghosts of soldiers killed in the fighting and whose spirits could not return home, he ordered his cooks to prepare a large amount of dough. He used the dough to mold models of human heads and various sacrificial offerings, and performed sacrificial rites with them. The wind and water subsided, and the troops crossed safely.

Over time, people took to using dough figurines for celebrations and

ceremonies such as weddings and funerals, temple ceremonies called *jianjiao* (建醮), and festival celebrations. They also came to be presented as gifts and enjoyed

as toys. According to different needs, they might be shaped to depict such figures and items as the Gods of Fortune, Prosperity, and Longevity (福祿壽), Eight Immortals Crossing the Sea (八仙過海), Three Sacrifices (三牲), exotic table delicacies from mountain and sea, etc. Nowadays many people use paper clay or bread clay, but Master Weng insists on using the traditional materials – all-purpose flour and glutinous-rice flour – and the time-honored ancient techniques. His only departure from the old ways is the use of food coloring and glitter powder, in a bow to modern aesthetics. This means his figurines are just for admiring, not for eating.



7




8

Over Six Decades on the Road to Traditional Arts

Weng has been a practitioner and preserver of these two traditional art forms for over 60 years. His father worked in the coal mines in Xizhi (汐止), and from Weng's earliest days drilled into him the need for usable skills after leaving school. One day, after graduating from elementary school, he espied a candy blower's stand near the spot where the Xizhi Farmers' Association (汐止區農會) was then located. Intrigued by the craft, he told his father, who arranged an introduction through friends, and they both traveled by train and rickshaw to visit a master who lived in Sanchong (三重), Master Tian (田師傅). At first, the master was discouraging, saying this was not an art that would bring a living wage, but Weng was insistent. After paying a \$1,000 (Taiwan dollar before 1949) tuition fee and buying several sets of woodcut molds, Weng started down the road into the world of traditional folk arts. An apprentice at 18, and now 79, he has never veered from his chosen path.

Weng says that his \$1,000 tuition was about the equivalent of four months' salary for a Taiwan Railway Administration (臺灣鐵路管理局) employee in that day, and his parents paid half up front. In the beginning, he found his studies very difficult, and for a time thought about quitting, but the thought of his parents paying all that money for nothing gave him the determination to press on.

After completion of his apprenticeship under Master Tian, Weng continued honing his skills in candy blowing with studies under a woodcarving master at Taipei's Longshan Temple (艋舺龍山寺). Master Liao was even more meticulous in his workmanship, and Weng's skills became ever more refined. Thereafter, with the help of an introduction arranged by Master Liao, he took up studies of another age-old craft with Master Li Jinyu (李金玉) in the city of Keelung (基隆) – the making of dough figurines – becoming the rarest of national treasures, a master of two of the culture's ancient folk arts.

Master Weng is now a demonstration teacher at the Traditional Toys Area of Taipei Children's Recreation Center. If interested, book your place in advance by phone. It's a rare and precious opportunity to try your hand at this traditional Taiwan folk art. 



3-4. Master Weng's deft technique mesmerizes kids.

5. Foreign youngsters are frequent visitors. (photos courtesy by Master Weng)

6-8. The range of dough figurines is wide, from Chinese historical figures to Chinese zodiac animals to modern cartoon characters.

9-10. Some of Master Weng's wooden molds, crafted by masters, are nearly a century old; in the old days his belongings, as a traveling artist, included a wooden box and folding wooden bench. (photos courtesy by Master Weng)

Information

Taipei Children's Recreation Center 臺北市立兒童育樂中心

Add: 66, Sec. 3, Zhongshan N. Rd. (中山北路3段66號)

Tel: (02)2593-2211, ext. 322, 323

Hours: Tues~Sun 09:00~17:00 (closed Mon; open as usual if a national holiday (Master Weng Dengxian's demonstration sessions are on Tues and Thurs; book in advance by phone))

Website: www.tcrc.taipei.gov.tw

Great Traditional Taiwan Flavors – Guabao

In August this year the well-known food blog Bunkycooks announced what it considers “The 10 Best Food Destinations in the World.” Taipei made the list, and blog founder/article writer Gwen Patresi named *guabao* (刈包) one of its most popular street foods. Guabao is Taiwan-style braised pork belly in a plump, fragrant, chewy steamed white bun, with pickled mustard greens, cilantro, and a sprinkling of slightly sweetened peanut powder. This traditional delicacy (commonly called a “Taiwanese hamburger” (臺式漢堡)) is eaten both as a staple and as a snack, and is much loved by the people of Taiwan.

Guabao is also called “tiger bites pig” (虎咬豬), because it was thought to look like a tiger with a wide-open mouth filled with pork. In Taiwan traditional folk custom it is a “must” at the annual *weiya* (尾牙) or end-of-year banquet. According to legend this is because guabao is shaped like an old-style money pouch, so when you eat guabao at a *weiya* you are symbolically attracting wealth and fortune. Below we introduce a number of well-known Taipei eateries that specialize in guabao.



Fat or Lean? – Customized Guabao

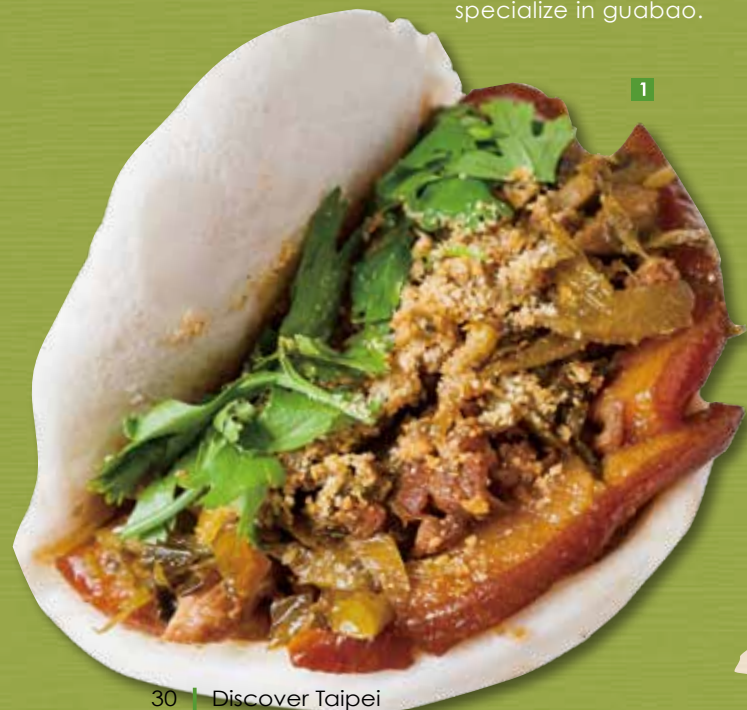
Located in the Gongguan Commercial District, Lan's Guabao (藍家割包) has a large pot that fills the immediate area with the savory aroma of *lurou* (滷肉), or soy-braised meat, and pickled cabbage. Place an order and the owner opens a steamer, releasing a cloud of hot steamy mist, takes out piping-hot guabao buns, and gets to work preparing a fresh guabao. The shop and its snack delicacies have a long-standing reputation in the Gongguan area.

At the ever-popular Songshan Guabao (松山割包), in the Wufenpu Garment Wholesale Area (五分埔成衣街), the owner is fastidiousness about the texture of the soy-braised streaky pork slices he serves. He first fries it, then braises it. He then presses the oil out of the fatty meat, and braises it again for 7 to 8 hours. The fat has no greasiness, and seems to melt in the mouth.

To satisfy the modern gourmand's constant craving for diversity, and satisfy the needs of different customers, both of these eateries divide the fat and lean sections of their soy-braised streaky pork. Customize your guabao by selecting all fatty meat, all lean meat, or any combination of the two.

A Meat Feast for the Hungry – Heroic Guabao

Taipei Qiaotou Guabao (台北橋頭刈包) and Shi's Guabao (石家割包) are favorite choices for gourmands who only desire whole-slice streaky pork. Taipei Qiaotou Guabao, located near the Taipei Bridge in Yansan Night Market (延三夜市), has been in busi-





ness for over twenty years. Its streaky-pork slices are fragrant and chewy; its secret is using still-warm pork slaughtered the same day. After boiling it is sliced, soy-braised twice, and then stewed. The owner reveals that, “The key to the meat’s succulence is the use of black soybean sauce in the braising, which brings out the streaky pork’s natural sweetness and savoriness. The fatty meat is not greasy, and the lean meat is not too lean.” Many who do not normally eat fatty meat have tried the guabao here and become regular customers.

Shi’s Guabao, located in Linjiang Street Night Market (臨江街夜市), is an old shop opened 60 years ago. The owner gives his customers slices with different ratios of fat and lean meat to choose from. Those who prefer fatty meat can choose the kongrou guabao (焢肉刈包), or “braised belly pork guabao;” those who prefer a leaner cut can choose the chirou guabao (赤肉刈包), or “lean meat guabao.” The zonghe guabao (綜合刈包) or “combined guabao” has both lean and fatty meat. This year Shi’s Guabao has also introduced new flavors, offering healthy whole-wheat buns in addition to the original-flavor white buns and, developing new salad, red yeast, smoked chicken, crab meat, shrimp salad, and shrimp lettuce variations. It also uses microwave bags, making it easier for you to order takeaway and re-heat your food at home – a big hit with customers. 🍴

1. Guabao, a traditional delicacy of the common man, is Taiwan-style braised pork belly in a fragrant, chewy bun, with pickled mustard greens, cilantro, and a sprinkling of sweetened peanut powder.
2. The fresh-made offerings at Lan’s Guabao in Gongguan Commercial District are finger-licking good.
3. The ever-popular Songshan Guabao, in the Wufenpu Commercial District.
- 4-5. In addition to traditional versions, Shi’s Guabao has new-flavor inventions such as healthy whole-wheat buns and shrimp salad as an ingredient.
- 6-7. The big gourmand draw at Taipei Qiaotou Guabao is the fragrant and chewy streaky-pork slices.



Information

Lan’s Guabao 藍家割包

Add: 3, Aly. 8, Ln. 316, Sec. 3, Roosevelt Rd.
(羅斯福路3段316巷8弄3號)

Tel: (02)2368-2060

Hours: 11:00~24:00

Songshan Guabao 松山割包

Add: 179, Songshan Rd. (松山路179號)

Tel: (02)2756-7426

Hours: 11:30~22:00

Taipei Qiaotou Guabao 台北橋頭刈包

Venue: In front of 24, Sec. 3, Yanping N. Rd.
(延平北路3段24號前)

Tel: 0921-358-873

Hours: 17:00~24:00

Shi’s Guabao Tonghua Head Store

石家割包通化總店

Add: 21-1, Tonghua St. (通化街21-1號)

Tel: (02)2709-5972

Hours: 10:00~24:00

Late Night Dining in Taipei



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In Taipei, as the night deepens the city becomes ever more seductive, and this truism extends to the mid-night snacking scene. The city teems with distinctive late-night eateries with an atmosphere you'll savor. They give night-owls the chance to eat delicious gourmet food, and are great spots to meet up with friends for a drink and a laugh. Here are a few places you should be sure not to miss.

Fireweeds – Creative Dishes Served in an Old Japanese-style House

Fireweeds (野草居食屋) is located on Tong'an Street (同安街), at a spot where the long-dismantled Wanhua-Xindian Railway (萬新鐵路) once passed, and during the Japanese colonial period the building was a dormitory residence for Taihoku Imperial University (臺北帝國大學; the predecessor of National Taiwan University) professors. After renovation by the Goldenseeds Education Organization (黃金種子文化事業有限公司), the Japanese-style wood-built heritage residence has emerged with a new purpose.

This is now a place for creative Japanese-style cuisine such as crispy fried soft-shell crab, peppery raw salmon, barbecued bacon and tomato rolls, and soy-braised intestine, which all make a superb accompaniment for drinks. The head chef specially recommends the *ichiyaboshi* (一夜干), which is seafood that is first immersed in seawater and then air-dried, making the meat even more delicious when grilled.

The restaurant has a decidedly nostalgic air. On the glass above the izakaya bar (Japanese style bar) area you'll see the poetry of Farewells Over Grasslands (賦得古原草送別) by the Tang dynasty poet Bai Juyi (白居易). On the structural beams are the names of Taipei railway stations, railway models, and small trains, for a nostalgic touch.

Man Zhe Die Grapefruit Hotpot – Warming Pomelo Hotpot for Late-night Diners

Although it has no obvious shop sign, and looks like many other houses found along Taipei's side streets (though with chairs outside), this is in fact a restaurant, and in-the-know foodies come here for great cuisine. The main call-to-table at Man Zhe Die Grapefruit Hotpot (瞞著爹柚四店) is Kyoto-style hotpot. The owner uses Taiwan's rich seafood catch, accompanied by imported Kyoto pomelo sauce. The sweet-and-sour grapefruit sauce is blended into a bonito and kelp broth. For diners, the fresh ingredients result in great flavors.

The interior décor is elegantly Japanese in character, with an open bar where food is served, along with tanks stocked with seafood to ensure the freshest catch. The head of the restaurant suggests the following order for placing ingredients in your hotpot: first the various vegetable platters, then seafood such as crab sea cucumber, fish, and shrimp. This adds seafood richness to the broth. Quick-boil the meat slices next. At this point, the stock is infused with a multi-textured flavor, and is perfect for adding white rice, raw egg, and seaweed to create a hearty porridge sure to sate the taste buds and the hungry tummy of the hungriest late-night diner.

Food from the Table of the Common Folk – Rice Porridge with Side Dishes

Foreign visitors looking for a quintessential traditional Taiwan late-night snack that is both delicious and inexpensive should know about “Rice Porridge and Side Dishes Street” (清粥小菜街), the section of Fuxing South Road (復興南路) between Xinyi Road (信義路) and Heping East Road (和平東路). The many eateries located along the 500-meter section include NoName Congee & Delicatessen (無名子清粥小菜), and Yi Liu Rice Porridge (一流清粥小菜).

All serve their own variations of rice porridge and side dishes, and are open through the night, until 5 or 6 am. Taiwan-style dishes are the main focus, such as dried radish and egg frit-tatas, steamed minced pork and salted egg, stir-fried soy-bean sprouts, tomato with scrambled egg, and various cold dishes. Among the classic side dishes perfect for accompanying the white-rice porridge or sweet-potato porridge are gluten, salted egg, pork floss, peanuts, and chunks of *youtiao* (油條), a crisp Chinese cruller.

To find the best local food, follow in the footsteps of the local people, who will lead you to the best in homemade flavors, enjoyed together. 11

- 1-2. At Fireweeds, on the glass above the izakaya bar area is the poetry of Bai Juyi, and on the structural beams are Taipei's railway station names, railway models, and small trains.
3. Fireweeds serves creative Japanese-style cuisine.
- 4-5. For Man Zhe Die's delicious and refreshing Kyoto-style hotpot, Taiwan's rich trove of seafood catch is used, accompanied by imported Kyoto pomelo sauce.
- 6-7. The many restaurants offering rice porridge and side dishes along Fuxing South Road, which have myriad local Taiwan-style selections, are a favorite late-night haunt for hungry Taipei old-timers.



Information

Fireweeds 野草居食屋

Add: 1, Ln. 28, Tong'an St. (同安街28巷1號)

Tel: (02)2366-0618

Hours: 17:00~24:00

Man Zhe Die Grapefruit Hotpot 瞞著爹柚四店

Add: 38, Ln. 366, Sec. 2, Bade Rd. (八德路2段366巷38號)

Tel: (02)2752-9857

Hours: 11:00~24:00

NoName Congee & Delicatessen

無名子清粥小菜

Add: 130, Sec. 2, Fuxing S. Rd. (復興南路2段130號)

Tel: (02)2784-6735

Hours: 11:00~04:00

Yi Liu Rice Porridge 一流清粥小菜

Add: 104, Sec. 2, Fuxing S. Rd. (復興南路2段104號)

Tel: (02)2706-4528

Hours: 11:00~05:00

Great Christmas and New Year's Cultural-Creative Gift Ideas

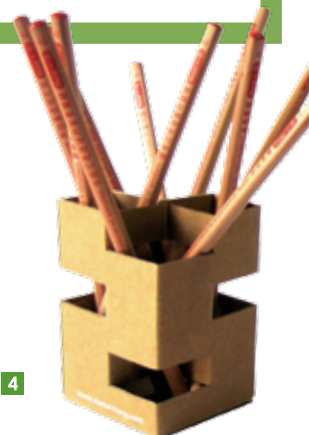
Taipei is a city that brims with cultural-creative vitality, amply justifying the city's bid for selection as the 2016 World Design Capital. As we wait for the official announcement on November 18th, in this issue we introduce a number of gift items that capture the color of the local culture and are clever expressions of design ingenuity. Hidden away down along the city's lanes and alleys, these items will prove fine companions in celebrating a Christmas and New Year spiced up with extra cultural-creative flair.

MOTOR Design: Eastern Thinking, Western Objects

Established in 2007, MOTOR Design (穆德設計) emphasizes a combination of eco-friendly design and fine aesthetics. It uses local materials such as wood, bamboo, and ceramics in an innovative design-driven development of traditional industries.

The firm's guiding creative concept: EMind+WObjects (東方心 西方器). Eastern philosophical thinking is injected into Western appliances. A good example is the Fortune Pencil (籤筆), inspired by the Western lead pencil, to which the Eastern religious-cultural tradition of drawing lots has been applied, with divination texts engraved in English and Chinese on the shaft. Other interesting items are the firm's Waterwave Crayon Pens (水波筆), which have shafts made of ceramic boasting a moist look and an uneven appearance. The uneven surface captures light and shadow in different ways, the graceful lines creating a ripple-like visual effect and a Zen-like mood. The design is also ergonomic, making it more comfortable to use.

The inspiration for Deerhorn Pen (白鹿筆), the world's first branch-shaped ceramic pen, is from the mythology of the Thao Tribe (邵族) of Taiwan's Sun Moon Lake (日月潭). Legend says that a white deer led Thao hunters to the lake, leaping before its shores. Next is the Taiji Teapot Set (太極壺): tea leaves are placed in the tea cups within the teapot, which itself are packed in a wooden box. The layered design echoes the ideas of infinity and endless cycles in the philosophy of *Taiji*, and achieves an artful fusion of the Zen aesthetics of the East with the minimalism of the West.





Yeduo Design: Making Life More Interesting

YEDUO Design introduces itself thus: "YEDUO literally means 'leaf and flower' in Chinese. 'Leaf' represents life observing. 'Flower' symbolizes happiness of living experiences. Each of our designs is not only made for practical use, but creates humorous, interesting life. Let everybody taste life in depth!" Its 180° Smart Pen (180°倒轉筆) was awarded gold in the 2008 National Design Awards Product Design (2008國家設計獎產品設計) category. Just rotate the pen 180 degrees and the pen cartridge will naturally slide out. Surprisingly ingenious! Other nifty creations include the Hang On Clothes Hanger (Hang On衣架), which looks like a swimmer being chased by a shark, and the Pole Jump Clothes Hanger (Pole Jump衣架), which captures the strength and beauty of a pole jumper, designed to colorfully animate an otherwise static closet space.



1. Waterwave Crayon Pens have shafts with an uneven surface, creating a ripple-like visual effect and Zen-like mood.
2. The Taiji Teapot Set has an artful fusion of the East's Zen aesthetics and West's minimalism.
3. The Deerhorn Pen is the world's first branch-shaped ceramic pen.
4. Fortune Pencils have divination text engraved in English and Chinese on their shafts.
- 5-6. The canvas-made Pick Your Cup series and 180° Smart Pen.
7. The whimsical Pole Jump Clothes Hanger
8. The silicone Chinese Cloud Corner Protector series features the auspicious-color cloud pattern often seen in ancient Chinese paintings.

A clever knick-knack introduced this year is the Chinese Cloud Corner Protector (祥雲護角——防撞桌角), which features a pattern in the shape of the auspiciously colored clouds which are often seen in ancient Chinese paintings. They both protect the owner from injury and serve as attractive decorative embellishments for furniture. The Pick Your Cup (窈窕曲線包) series has canvas bags in retro qipao (cheongsam) and fur-attire styles. Carry one of the bags on your shoulder and it looks like a chic outfit, adding a bit of spice and gaiety to your day.



HXH Group – Local Black Humor

The Chinese name of HXH Group (黑生起司) alludes to the black humor of the office worker. The firm is adept at facilitating interaction between user and object, introducing new interpretations of familiar items. A prime example is its Fruit and Vegetable Peels (果•皮杯), which this year won a Red Dot Award for Product Design and a Golden Pin Design Award (金點設計獎). Observing how people peel fruits and vegetables almost as if they are creating decorative items, fruit and vegetable imagery has been innovatively incorporated into six different ceramic cups, designed to look, respectively, like the skin of a Buddha-head fruit (釋迦), cucumber, potato, pineapple, lychee, and Hami melon.

The cups are double-layered with a gap between, so the outside remains cool when full of hot liquid. The box in which they are packaged displays the six individual colors of the fruits and vegetables, and the box is well designed so that it is opened with the same way of cutting knife used to process fruit and vegetables. The same fruit & veggie concept is also used in the Fruit and Vegetable Peels Plate (果•皮系列點心盤) set, giving your plates both practical usefulness and a chic appearance.

Another creative item that, in the company's words, "connects the perception of users with touch memory and results in 'mutual affection' between people and subject" is the Touch Cup (好感杯), a mug with a handle shaped like a cylindrical door knob. The handle absorbs some of the heat from the liquid in the mug, warming it up, eliminating the usual cold feel, and developing "warm affection" for the cup on the part of the daily user.

The creativity of Taipei's designers brings many novel discoveries. This is the charm of Taipei's cultural-creative design – rich in diversity, local identity and vitality. These objects all make great gifts for end-of-year celebrations, expressing warmth and good wishes. In addition, while out there hunting for the perfect gift, be sure to slow down and soak up this city's endless cultural-creative beauty in the wider sense as well.

9. The chic yet practical Fruit and Vegetable Peels Plate set features fruit and vegetable imagery.

10. The Touch Cup is a mug with a handle shaped like a cylindrical door knob.

11. Fruit and vegetable imagery has been innovatively incorporated into the six different Fruit and Vegetable Peels ceramic cups.





12

Chiang's Talk – Whimsical Creations Built on the “Two Chiangs” Political Culture

The name Chiang's Talk (蔣堂物賞) is a reference to the history and culture of the Chiang Kai-shek and Chiang Ching-kuo era. Both father and son occupied the position of President of the Republic of China, and were long at the core of Taiwan politics. In the democratic Taiwan of today, Chiang's Talk takes these figures from an era of enforced silence and turns them into creative symbols of humor. In the “Kuso CKS Postcards” (Kuso蔣公明信片) series, for example, Generalissimo Chiang is depicted doing such things as getting a foot massage and drinking tea with a panda in Taipei's Maokong tea-plantation area. In the “Famous Figure Postcards” (人物系列明信片) series his features are not clearly depicted; only his dress and characteristic pose are apparent, obliging people to guess who it might be. Chiang's Talk items are a humorous way for visitors from overseas to get a better understanding of Taiwan's history and culture.

The five selections in the Qlip (Qlip造型迴紋針) series of five paper-clip dispensers feature Taipei's Chiang Kai-shek Memorial Hall, the Eluanbi Lighthouse (鵝鑾鼻燈塔) at Kenting (墾丁), an engine from the Alishan Forest Railway (阿里山森林鐵路) in Chiayi County (嘉義縣), the Queen's Head (女王頭) natural rock sculpture on the coast of north Taiwan at Yehliu (野柳), and an image of the island of Taiwan. The five let you keep your memories of favorite Taiwan scenic spots in physical form. On another front, the “Taiwan Flag Scarf and T-shirt” (國旗圍巾潮流T-shirt) series turn the ROC flag into an attractive and surprising fashion symbol. 13



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12. The Taiwan Flag Scarf and T-shirt series makes the ROC flag a fashion symbol.

13-14. Kuso CKS Postcards and the Qlip paper-clip dispensers, featuring five famed Taiwan scenic sights.

Information

MOTOR Design 穆德設計

Sales Points: B1 Breeze Taipei Station, Huashan 1914 Creative Park, 1F Taiwanlook boutique in Taipei World Trade Center Hall 1 (微風台北車站B1、華山1914文化創意產業園區、台北世界貿易中心展覽一館1樓「taiwanlook 台灣特色好禮店」)

Website: www.motor-hung.com

YEDUO Design 葉朵設計

Sales Points: Huanshan 1914 Creative Park, tode (The Red House outlet), Taipei Fine Arts Museum (華山1914文化創意產業園區、tode西門紅樓店、臺北市立美術館)

Website: www.yeduo.com

HXH Group 黑生起司

Sales Points: Songshan Cultural and Creative Park (PIN) (松山文創園區《設計•點》)

Website: hesxhers.blogspot.com

Chiang's Talk 蔣堂物賞

Sales Points: Ximen Chiang's Talk, The Red House, Grass Mountain Chateau, Sun Yat-sen Memorial Hall, Grand Hotel Taipei (西門紅樓、草山行館、國父紀念館、圓山大飯店)

Website: www.ximen.com.tw/store_4424

Slow and Easy Wintertime River Cruise Mini Trips



Taipei National University of the Arts (walk)
→ Paulaner Bräuhaus (lunch) → Guandu
Pier (tour-boat launch) → Dadaocheng
Wharf → Bicycle Touring → Yansan Night
Market (dinner) → Dadaocheng Wharf (Light
Sculpture Night Breeze Cruise)



1

If you are traveling in crowded and busy Taipei, then you decide you would like to get away from all the people, heavy traffic, and hubbub for a bit, a river cruise is highly recommended.

A day's Taipei River Cruise Mini Trip (臺北藍色公路微旅行) starts at Guandu (關渡), where the waters of the river and sea meet. Start by meandering the grass-carpeted Taipei National University of the Arts (臺北藝術大學) campus, feast on prime international cuisine at the music-embraced restaurant Paulaner Bräuhaus (寶萊納餐廳). Then head out on a river cruise from Guandu Wharf (關渡碼頭) to Dadaocheng (大稻埕), rent a bike and enjoy the riverside scenery, and visit Yansan Night Market (延三夜市) for delicious local food treats. With winter's arrival the evening breezes become cooler, so be sure to dress warmly. Return to Dadaocheng Wharf (大稻埕碼頭) and head out on a river cruise once more to enjoy the scenery of the Tamsui River (淡水河) area. At night, the bridges are splendidly lit up, bringing warming color to the cool early-winter air.



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A Walk along Arts Boulevard and a Taste of German Cuisine

Take the Taipei Metro to MRT Guandu Station (捷運關渡站) and hop on a Red No. 35 (紅35路公車) bus outside Exit 1. From here, it is a quick ride to Taipei National University of the Arts (TNUA). The campus, spread over a hillside, is an attractive place of red brick and plaster walls and black-tile roofs, clean architectural lines, and a bell tower (鐘樓) to top things off. How pretty is it? There is only one way to find out – take a walk! The colors change with the seasons along Arts Boulevard (藝術大道) and around the Lotus Pond Stage (荷花池畔的水舞台). The Yhsin Road Forest Path (一心路森林步道) is a bio-rich enclave, the Sea View Platform (觀海平台) has lovely views of sunsets over the ocean, and The Sculpture Park (雕塑公園) is abloom with splendid works of art by both faculty and students. NTUA brims with chance encounters with beauty, bringing much pleasure to visitors.

On the campus is Paulaner Bräuhaus, which serves German cuisine. Unlike some of the city's restaurants, here the environment is expansive and quiet. The walls are hung with vintage posters and photos. Along with the earthy flavor of the wood tables and chairs, the casual atmosphere of a bistro is evoked. Add to this the scent of wine, fresh breads and coffees, plus the gentle rhythms of jazz, and you have a little bit of nirvana, providing all-embracing relaxation.

Paulaner Bräuhaus's signature beverages are Bavarian-style beers. Pilsners and stouts are made fresh daily, using German technology. Only malt, water, hops, and yeast are used, resulting in a strong, natural, grainy flavor. Specialty dishes include a Bavarian sausage and sauerkraut plate, German pig knuckle, and truffle plus grilled cod with potato cakes. Served up with great gravies and beers, hearty happiness is guaranteed.



Walks and Bike Rides, Riverside Scenery, Night- market Delicacies

Walk down to Guandu Wharf, get on a tour yacht, and head upriver to Dadaocheng. In late autumn and early winter, a faint mist often floats over the Tamsui River, lending the scene a hazy beauty. The riverside park area where you get off the boat is a fine place for walking or riding a bicycle, and there is a bike-rental station by Water Gate No. 5 (五號水門). Conveniently, you can rent at any station in the city system and return at any other. Take the paved pathway toward the north and Shezi Island (社子島) or to the south and the Erchong Floodway (二重疏洪道); each possesses its own distinctive scenery. At night, eating at the Yansan Night Market is also an option, offering yummy snack treats to fulfill your gluttonous desire is also well worth a visit.

Yansan Night Market has no defined limits, but runs roughly along the arcades on either side of Section 3, Yanping North Road (延平北路3段). Though spread out, it seems as though each vendor has been in business for decades. At Ye's Flavored Chicken Rolls (葉家五香雞捲),



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1. The TNUA campus is an attractive place of red brick and plaster walls and black-tile roofs, clean architectural lines, and a Bell Tower to top things off.
- 2-3. The TNUA campus, spread out over a slope, is abloom with greenery and with splendid works of art by faculty and students.
4. Paulaner Bräuhaus restaurant has vintage posters and photos and the casual atmosphere of a village bistro.

5. Fresh Bavarian sausage and sauerkraut plate
6. Take a cruise yacht from Guandu Wharf to Dadaocheng.
7. Ride the Dadaocheng riverside park bike path, catch the breezes, and enjoy the splendid scenery.



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9



10

five spices are added to chunks of pork tenderloin and cubed onion, and the combination is wrapped and fried fresh for the customer. The pork chunks, golden-yellow on the outside and slightly seared, are firm and chewy, and go perfectly with the fresh, sweet, juicy onion. At

Daqiaotou Runbing (大橋頭潤餅; *runbing* (潤餅)) are non-fried soft spring rolls) Chinese cabbage, bean sprouts, crispy egg, peanut powder, and dried radish stir-fried in curry are wrapped up in a treat both delicious and filling.



11

End your market exploration with a sweet exclamation point. The chewy handmade pure-rice *mochi* (麻糬) at Qiaotou Pure Sugar Mochi (橋頭純糖麻糬) becomes tastier the more you chew. At Yansan

Douhua Sao (延三豆花嫂) the soybean pudding is made the old-fashioned way, with large, mellow, stewed sand-grown peanuts added, together with red beans cooked until soft. Served warm in winter, this simple and hearty sweet treat warms the traveler's spirit and tickles the taste buds.



River Cruises & Light-sculpted Nightscapes

After eating and drinking your fill, head back to Dadaocheng Wharf for the scenic Blue Highway (藍色公路) night-time tour, which you won't want to miss. This year the Taipei City Public Transportation Office (臺北市公共運輸處) has introduced the "Night Boat Trip On Tamsui River" (光雕晚風夜遊航班), a classically romantic two-hour outing flowing with alluring light-sculpture artistry that is popular with foreign tourists.


Cruises launch from Dadaocheng Wharf every second Friday and Saturday at 7 in the evening. Boats head downstream by Zhongxiao Bridge (忠孝橋), Taipei Bridge (臺北橋), Chongyang Bridge (重陽橋), Shezi Island, Guandu Wharf, and Guandu Temple (關渡宮), then return to Dadaocheng. Advance online booking is recommended, because demand is always high. To further help visitors from overseas, English-Chinese tour-guide services are being offered in the October-November period on a trial basis on three different tours – Dadaocheng Historical Sites (大稻埕古蹟線), Dadaocheng at Night (大稻埕夜航), and Guandu High-End Trip (關渡高級客船) – on one of every four outings.

The bridges, each rich in aesthetic beauty when lit up at night, knit Taipei City and New Taipei City together.



12

Ordinarily they may not draw the eye quite so strongly, but when out on the water, without the distraction of the streams of cars flowing over them, they look quite different. The leaping red arches of Guandu Bridge and the visual perfection of Chongyang Bridge's sloping tension cables seem to burst into view when illuminated, giving them splendid color and majesty. From your on-board vantage point, wherever you travel you are presented with wide-open vistas on grand canvases topped with clouds floating in the breeze.

As winter settles the weather cool down, just right for boat outings to enjoy the breezes, scenic landscapes, and Taipei's quiet moonlit beauty. See you out on the river! 



Night Boat Trip On Tamsui River (Bridge Lights Decoration) 光雕晚風夜遊航班

Route: Dadaocheng Wharf→Zhongxiao Bridge→Taipei Bridge→Chongyang Bridge→head of Shezi Island→Guandu Wharf→Gua ndu Temple→back to Dadaocheng Wharf / approx. 2 hours

Cost: NT\$290 per person

Tel: (02)2618-2226

Website: For details of schedules and bilingual tour services, please visit www.riverfun.taipei.gov.tw

8-11. Choice Yansan Night Market food selections: Daqiaotou Runbing's non-fried spring rolls, Ye's Flavored Chicken Rolls, Qiaotou Pure Sugar Mochi, Yansan Douhua Sao's soybean pudding.

12-14. Night Boat Trip On Tamsui River, brimming with alluring light-sculpture artistry, is popular with foreign tourists.

Information

Taipei National University of the Arts

國立臺北藝術大學

Add: 1, Xueyuan Rd. (學園路1號)

Tel: (02)2896-1000

Website: www.tnua.edu.tw

Paulaner Bräuhaus 寶萊納餐廳

Add: 1, Xueyuan Rd. ; TNUA Ecological Arts Complex 1 floor
(學園路1號; 北藝大藝文生態館一樓)

Tel: (02)2891-7677

Dadaocheng Rental Station 大稻埕租借站

Venue: South side of Dadaocheng Wharf, end of Minsheng W. Rd. (民生西路底大稻埕碼頭南側)

Tel: (02)2557-1639

Taipei City Riverside Bike Path System

臺北市河濱自行車道

Website: www.bike.taipei.gov.tw

Yansan Night Market 延三夜市

Venue: Sec. 3, Yanping N. Rd. (between Minquan W. Rd. in the south and Changji St. in the north) (延平北路3段; 南與民權西路交會、北接昌吉街)

Ye's Flavored Chicken Rolls

葉家五香雞捲

Add: 8, Sec. 3, Yanping N. Rd. (延平北路3段8號)

Tel: (02)2594-3015

Daqiaotou Runbing 大橋頭潤餅

Venue: In front of 38, Sec. 3, Yanping N. Rd. (延平北路3段38號前)

Tel: (02)2594-6593

Qiaotou Pure Sugar Mochi 橋頭純糖麻糬

Add: 12, Sec. 3, Yanping N. Rd. (延平北路3段12號)

Tel: (02)2594-2328

Yansan Douhua Sao 延三豆花嫂

Venue: In front of 25-2, Sec. 3, Yanping N. Rd. (延平北路3段25-2號門口)

Tel: 0968-189-061

Please refer to the map provided on P.66



i·dance Taipei 2013 Set to Hit the Stage

1

In an age when many different genres of dance are familiar, where might a novel dance experience come from? Something new and different is about to hit the Taipei stage with a passionate flourish, combining East and West, masculinity and femininity, intuition and logic. It has no pre-set standards, it has no dogma, and it is bringing together the best practitioners of dance and music improvisation from countries around the globe. It adopts a freestyle approach, both physical and intellectual, inviting audiences to redefine their idea of what "dance" is.

Improvisatory Dance – Modern Dance with an Ideological Intent

Dance improvisation is a form of modern dance. Prior planning is akin to planning for a sporting event, with dancers agreeing on the rules of the game. However, no one knows what will happen during the game itself, what will emerge, as the dance flows freely and takes on a life of its own. There is no time, space, theme, or meaning constraints. The audience looks on in anticipation, not knowing what to expect – and neither do the performers, who have great fun.

The Taipei-based Ku & Dancers (古舞團) is the initiator and organizer for i·dance Taipei 2013 (2013國際愛跳舞節), which will run from November 23rd to December 1st. Dance improvisation companies and music creators



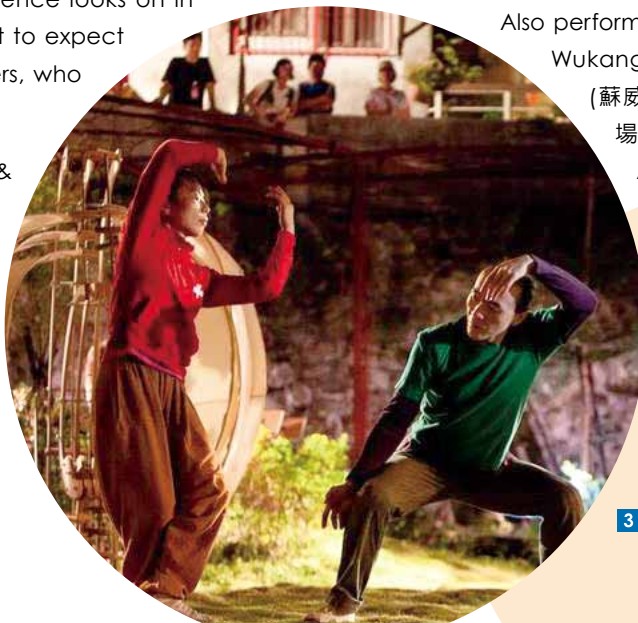
2

from Taiwan and around the world have been invited to participate in this grand international celebration of improvisation, which features a wide-ranging program of performances, workshops, a panel discussion, and outdoor showcases. The best talents from the world's four corners will share and demonstrate their concepts of dance.

A Grand Global Gathering of Dance Masters

Among the luminaries coming to town to grace the Taipei festival stage is Nancy Stark Smith, the American improvisational dance pioneer heavyweight, Spain's Veronica Cendoya, and Italy's Adele Madau.

Also performing are local talents Chen Wukang (陳武康) and Su Weichia (蘇威嘉) from HORSE (驢舞劇場), Xie Jiehua (謝杰樺) from Anarchy Dance Theatre (安娜琪舞蹈劇場), and dynamic new troops from the Taiwan dance world Chen Shanmiao (陳山廟), Huang Lanhui (黃蘭蕙), Zheng Yiwen (鄭伊雯), Tung Ifen (董怡)



3



4

芬), Yang Hsiuju (楊琇如), and Hong Shaoching (洪紹晴).




5



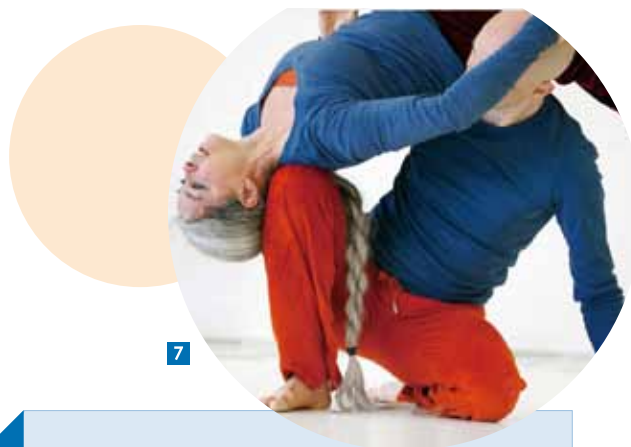
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The performance program includes the free Open Air Banquet (即興流水席), to be staged at the Nanhai Gallery (南海藝廊) on two consecutive days, November 23rd and 24th, starting at 2:30 pm. Improvisation performers from the new-generation will put on spirited shows for audiences. There will also be five ticketed performances at The Red House (西門紅樓) from November 27th through December 1st, and though they have been given set titles, something extra-special about this series is that audience members will be directly involved in the shows and will in the end help determine their shape and outcome.

A senior player at Ku & Dancers, Yu Yanfang (余彥芳), says that improvisational dance "is a close imitation of life, of true real moments of listening to the pulse of the body." Within this context, various conditions such as audience sight lines, environment, and interaction with the dancers affect the dancers' impulsive reactions each moment. Hence, the formal title of a performance is not of paramount importance. The outcome is determined by a ferment in which the audience is a key player, everyone jamming and having fun. Hence, if you come out to enjoy these shows, do not come with pre-set expectations. It is like a ball game that is decided only in the last minute – and well worth the wait.

The closing gala will start at 5 pm on December 1st. All festival dancers will be gathered at The Red House for a rousing, improvisatory send-off. Come on out for this end-of-year night of dance dynamism, interactivity, leaps into the unknown, and adventure, which promises to be a joyous communal celebration of dance. 

1. The i·dance Taipei 2013 promotional image.
2. i·dance Taipei is a feast of dance combining East and West, masculine and feminine, intuition and logic.
3. Improvisational dance "is a close imitation of life, of true real moments of listening to the pulse of the body"; dancers and audience interact, working together and having fun.
4. Spain's Veronica Cendoya. (upper)
5. Xie Jiehua from Anarchy Dance Theatre.
6. Italian dancer Adele Mada. (upper)
7. Nancy Stark Smith, the American improvisational dance pioneer heavyweight. (Photos courtesy of Ku & Dancers)



7

Information

i·dance Taipei 2013 2013國際愛跳舞即興節

Time: 11/23~12/1

Venues: Nanhai Gallery (南海藝廊), 71 Arts Center (新北投七一園區), The Red House (西門紅樓)

Tel: (02)2892-3600

Website: www.idancetaipei.tw

Ticket Info: www.artsticket.com.tw



1



2

Challenging Yourself – Rock Climbing

In the rock-climbing facility at Neihu Sports Center (內湖運動中心), Steven, from the United States, concentrates intently as he finds the right place to first position his hand, then his foot, while he slowly ascends. Rock climbing is a passion of his, and when back home in the United States he would regularly climb. Since moving to Taipei, he often practices his technique in indoor facilities before heading out to tackle natural climbs.

“The fun in rock climbing,” he says, “comes in the concentration that is required. You place your life in your hands and your technique. The moment you reach your goal you feel a release of pressure through your whole body, and are filled with a sense of joy and pleasure.” Many of his foreign friends who share his love of the sport ask where they can go climbing in Taiwan as soon as they get off the plane – clear proof of their passion.

Many regard rock climbing as a sport confined to specialists. They think of people of great strength hanging onto cliff faces solely by their fingertips and toes, meaning challenges far beyond the range of normal people. In fact, rock climbing is an extension of mountaineering, originally used by mountain climbers as a practice technique to help overcome the various difficulties they would face in their ascents. In 1970 French nationals developed it into a separate sport, and Francois Savigny developed the first movable rock, made with fiberglass, sand, and resin, laying the foundation for artificial climbing walls and bringing new life to rock climbing.

He Zhongda (何中達), head of the Chinese Taipei Alpine Association (中華民國山岳協會), says that “There


are no restrictions in regard to age or body type for rock climbing. Just follow the instructions of your trainers and you can experience the fun of improving step by step.” Many people who have no great love of hiking or have never climbed a mountain nevertheless develop a passion for rock climbing, because the process tempers the mind, strengthens the body, and releases pressure, and maybe brings back sweet childhood memories of tree climbing.

In general, rock climbing can be divided into indoor “boulder climbing” (抱石攀岩) and graded outdoor climbing. He Zhongda recommends that beginners use indoor facilities for practice, building up skills gradually with wall climbs no higher than 3 or 4 meters and with protective padding below. “Bouldering fields help training climbers develop explosive force,” he says. ‘At outdoor sites the height can reach 15 meters, and there is no protective padding below, so belay devices, commonly called “pig noses” (豬鼻子) by Taiwanese climbers,’ and Figure 8 Descenders are a must to prevent a possible fall. The greater heights tackled in outdoor climbs increase muscular endurance.

If you are interested in trying your hand at the sport, note that there are a few basic equipment needs. Proper climbing shoes with sticky, high-friction soles are requisite,



enabling strong toe grip. Chalk (magnesium carbonate powder) must also be rubbed on hands before climbing to absorb sweat and prevent slipping.

Rock climbing has many benefits to recommend it. It strengthens both your endurance and willpower. It also tempers mental acuity and enhances problem-solving skills. Most of the city's sports centers have artificial facilities, with full safety measures and instructors on site to provide guidance, making practicing easy, comfortable, and fun for interested novices. 

1. There are no age or body-type limits for rock climbing; just follow trainers' instructions and experience the fun of improving step by step.
2. Many foreigners start rock climbing the moment they arrive in the city.

Climbing Precautions:

1. Warm up first to avoid injury.
2. If climbing without a professional instructor's supervision, do not climb higher than 3 meters.
3. Wear only qualified climbing equipment, including specialist climbing shoes, safety harness, carabineers, and ropes.
4. Only one climber is permitted on each climbing route at a time, to reduce the risk.

3. Bouldering, with clear routes, is good for beginners, building up skills step by small step. (Photo courtesy of Civic Bouldergym)
4. Outdoor "difficulty climbing" requires special equipment, and is more appropriate for experienced climbers. (Photo courtesy of Neihu Sports Center)

Rock Climbing Venues in Taipei

Neihu Sports Center 內湖運動中心

Add: 12, Zhouzi St. (洲子街12號)

Tel: (02)2656-0052

Wanhua Sports Center 萬華運動中心

Add: 6-1, Xi'ning S. Rd. (西寧南路6之1號)

Tel: (02)2381-8878

Shilin Sports Center 士林運動中心

Add: 1, Shishan Rd. (士商路1號)

Tel: (02)2880-6066

Xinyi Sports Center 信義運動中心

Add: 100, Songqin St. (松勤街100號)

Tel: (02)8786-1911

Nangang Sports Center 南港運動中心

Add: 69, Yucheng St. (玉成街69號)

Tel: (02)2653-2279

Beitou Sports Center 北投運動中心

Add: 100, Ln. 39, Sec. 1, Shipai Rd.
(石牌路1段39巷100號)

Tel: (02)2820-2880

Wenshan Sports Center 文山運動中心

Add: 222, Sec. 3, Xinglong Rd. (興隆路3段222號)

Tel: (02)2230-8268

Civic Bouldergym 市民抱石攀岩館

Add: 552, Sec. 8, Civic Blvd. (市民大道8段552號)

Tel: (02)2788-6220

Gonguang Bouldering Rockgym

公館水岸公園抱石攀岩場

Location: Entrance near riverside dike, near 43~45, Xizhou Rd., behind National Taiwan Normal University Branch (師大分部後面，溪洲街43~45號附近河堤進入)

Tel: 0972-980-592

Chinese Taipei Alpine Association

中華民國山岳協會

Add: 10F, 185, Sec. 2, Zhongshan N. Rd. (中山北路2段185號10樓)

Tel: (02)2594-2108

Website: www.mountaineering.org.tw

Chinese Taipei Climbing Association

中華民國攀登協會

Website: climbing.org.tw



Grace Wang

•CEO, VVG Group

Grace Wang – Founder of One of the World's Most Beautiful Bookstores

Grace Wang (汪麗琴), the CEO of the VVG (Very Very Good) Group (VVG好樣集團), has single-handedly transformed VVG Something (好樣本事) from a small warehouse-type room measuring just under 43 square meters and filled with sundry items, to being what the American arts, entertainment, and news website Flavorwire declared one of “The 20 Most Beautiful Bookstores in the World.” Says Grace: “All along the way, we’ve wanted to show more people that Taipei is capable of so many great things!”

Making Taipei a Distribution Center for Good Things

Grace has worked and lived in Taipei for many years. She says that consumer tastes in Taipei have changed in synchrony with consumers around the globe. In the past Taipei folk worked hard to make money to ensure enough food and clothing for their families, but once they became more financially secure their concern over their personal appearance and attractiveness also increased. Over the past decade or so people have

also begun to cultivate an “inner taste” (內在品味). Wang’s VVG series of businesses has been created to serve as a purveyor of life’s finer things, from fine cuisine to confections and from books to general merchandise to tailoring, and the unique, cohesive VVG style and unique sense of beauty is now spread across the city.

Each title in VVG Something is a title Grace has seen in a bookstore while traveling overseas, sifted through, and decided to bring back to Taiwan. Knowing that many of her readers may have limited English, she chooses many design, illustration, photography, and recipe books that are heavy on images. New books are taken out of their wrappings, so that customers can peruse and enjoy their contents. In generous fashion, Grace says, “It’s no problem if a visitor decides not to buy. My hope for VVG is that it serves as an emporium, an assembly platform for fine things from countries all over the world. People coming in contact with the books may feel inspired, like having a button pressed, spurring on their creative powers.”



VVG's first restaurant was opened 14 years ago, and Grace was invited to join the team by friends two years after the establishment of the brand. She studied Home Economics Education in university, then taught for five years after graduating, but at 30 gave up an "iron rice bowl" job that is the envy of so many and leapt into home accessories procurement and trading. After 10 years she joined VVG, step-by-step launching a series of business initiatives.

"Grace feels that the reading habits of her childhood have been a major influence on the way she runs the bookstore. One of six children, there was always a lot of reading materials in her house as a child, and from a young age, she was proficient at using books to acquire knowledge on different subject matters. In her early days with VVG, she worked in both the catering and restaurant businesses, and began to study recipes as well as go abroad to visit restaurants and gets to know international cuisine better. She admits that: "In the past all I knew was whether food tasted good or not. But it was only by working hard to make sense of

the many things I did not understand that I could discuss matters in detail with staff."

Today the city is sprinkled with numerous VVG outlets, from the original VVG Bistro (好樣餐廳) and VVG Catering (好樣外燴) to VVG Table (好樣餐桌), VVG BB+B (好樣公寓), the confection seller VVG Bon Bon (好樣棒棒), the bookstore VVG Something, VVG Thinking (好樣思維), and children's learning game seller VVG Petite (好樣小小). The list continues – there's also VVG Chiffon (好樣喜歡), which brings cooking and sewing together, and the newly opened VVG Action (好樣情事), located in the new eslite Spectrum Songyan Store (誠品生活松菸店). These shops bring the finer aesthetics to every corner of Taipei, and are great spots for overseas visitors to see a different aspect of the metropolis. 📍

1. VVG Thinking, on Huashan 1914 Creative Park's Red Brick Lane.
2. VVG Something, declared one of "The 20 Most Beautiful Bookstores in the World" by American arts, entertainment, and news website Flavorwire.
3. Colorful candies and cupcakes at VVG Bon Bon.
4. VVG Action, in the eslite Spectrum Songyan Store.
(Photos courtesy of VVG Group)



Michael Wendel

- Place of Origin: Germany
- Executive Director and Master Baker, Wendel's German Bakery & Bistro

Michael Wendel – Authentic German Baking in Taipei

Bakeries in Taipei are flourishing, with countless shops down the city's streets and lanes, presenting bread-lovers with an amazing range of flavors and varieties. If it's authentic homemade German bread you want, Wendel's German Bakery & Bistro (溫德德式烘焙餐館) is the place to go.

The owner, Michael Wendel comes from a family of German bakers. His grandfather, father, and Michael himself have all been bread specialists. Michael, who has been intrigued by the craft since his youth and pursued a Master's degree in baking, knew his life would be in the trade, but he wanted to open a bakery in a foreign country. "Germans are cautious, and don't like too many taste changes," he says. "But I like to experiment and come up with new products, so a foreign market was more suitable for me." He worked for a time as a baker for a major luxury cruise line, visiting 49 countries, and 17 years ago came to Taiwan to work in airline catering at Taiwan Taoyuan International

Airport. After two years, he moved to Taipei opening a bakery with a Taipei friend.

Following the German tradition of meticulousness, Michael does not cater to Taiwan tastes or make any changes to recipes or procedures. His seasonings, grains, and 70% of his flour are imported from Germany. A key to ensuring the delicious taste of his breads was also brought from Germany, from his home – his grandfather's old dough recipe. "I want to give the people of Taipei the old flavors I remember from my grandfather's bakery."

Due to his insistence on established practice, Taipei folk were reluctant customers in the beginning, feeling German bread was too hard, like a stone. Despite this, Michael remained steadfast. "I thought that Taipei people's tastes changed quickly, and that they were very flexible, and believed they would slowly get used to the texture and simple original flavors of



German bread,” he says. Today, his breads offer a “taste of home” for Germans living in Taipei, and even many Germans working in China or Hong Kong place orders.

After 15 years of dedicated work, there are now three Wendel's outlets in Taipei, providing citizens with the many authentic tastes of German cuisine. To help people get to know German culture even better, each year in October he stages German Unity Day carnival and Oktoberfest events, and sponsors many other related activities with the German Institute Taipei, emerging as a key spokesperson and ambassador for his homeland. Though he is an ardent promoter of all things German, however, almost all his closest friends are Taiwanese. “The Taiwanese express their warm-heartedness openly, making it easy for me to develop deep friendships,” he says. It is difficult to establish lasting friendships with foreign acquaintances, he says, because few foreigners who come here plan to stay very long.

“Though Taipei's weather is hot and humid,” he says, “I am well adapted, because the city has a lot of greenery, and the public transportation is convenient, so it's really easy to go to the mountains or seaside to relax on holidays. This has become my second home, and I have no desire to leave.” His plans are to continue just as he has been, bringing honest German breads and delicious German cuisine to his beloved city. 1



1. Many Germans in Taipei go to Wendel's German Bakery & Bistro for authentic homemade German bread.
2. Michael says he wants to give Taipei's people the old-time flavors he remembers from his grandfather's bakery. (Photo of Michael's grandfather and grandmother)
3. Michael is from a family of German bakers, with three generations of bread specialists. (Photo of a young Michael working with his father in the family bakery)
4. To help people get to know German culture better, each year in October Michael stages German Unity Day carnival and Oktoberfest events.
5. Michael imports his key ingredients from Germany to ensure his breads have true original flavors. (Photos courtesy of Wendel's German Bakery & Bistro)



Anna Rudakowska

- Place of Origin: Poland
- Ph.D. in Political Science, Vrije Universiteit Brussel
- Assistant Professor, Department of Global Political Economy, Tamkang University

Anna Rudakowska's Taipei Story — A Rock-Climbing Route that Peaked with Love

Born in Poland, Anna Rudakowska is in love with rock climbing. Looking to conquer as many different types of climbing routes as possible, she has traveled to France, Germany, Croatia, Thailand, the Philippines, and other countries. She was so focused on each area's climbs, however, that she neglected to enjoy the local scenic spots. "I had such a passion for climbing," she says, "that I had no interest at all in sightseeing."

Eleven years ago, Anna, who studied sinology at the University of Warsaw in Poland, won a scholarship from the Taiwanese government to study at the National Taiwan Normal University (國立臺灣師範大學) and came to Taipei to study. Before she even settled in, on her third day in Taiwan, she eagerly set out to search out local rock-climbing locations. In the period that followed she'd often gone to the artificial climbing facilities at National Chengchi University (國立政治大學) and Y17 Taipei Youth Activity Center (Y17青少年育樂中心) to practice. "In those days rock climbing hadn't really caught on in Taipei, and there weren't many places to practice," she says. "Today there are many sports centers with climbing facilities. It's really great."

When climbing you need a climbing partner to belay, and Anna's then climbing partner has since become her life partner – her husband. Often practicing together, they developed a deep sense of mutual trust that progressed

to a desire to walk down the aisle together. In her eyes, the Taiwan male is pragmatic, taking things step by step just as it is required in rock climbing, giving her a sense of safety in committing her life and her happiness to him.

Anna's fascination with rock climbing stems from the climbing process, where balance and control of the whole body is crucial for successful climbing. The level of challenge is high. "You must have complete focus when climbing," she says, "which brings me a sense of calm and a meditation-like experience. As I make my way to the top I also get to see beautiful scenery from an angle the others wouldn't get to enjoy."

Anna, now pregnant, for the moment substitutes hill hikes for rock climbing. She likes the quiet trails on Mt. Erge (二格山), near her home in Muzha (木柵), or will walk the Zhanghu Trail (樟湖步道) in Maokong to Yinhe Cave (銀河洞), where a small temple has been built right in the wall of the rocky mountain and a waterfall spills over the cliff right beside. She enjoys sitting there and forgetting about life's hubbub. "I love Taipei, my second home," she says, "and look forward to my children growing up happy here." 🐶

1. Anna loves rock climbing, and has traveled to many countries in search of new challenges.
2. Anna often goes hiking in lieu of rock climbing, and frequently brings her dog to Maokong's Yinhe Cave.

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.

The New Year's Eve Countdown Party in front of Taipei City Hall is really great!

Mandarin Chinese

市民廣場的跨年晚會很精彩!

Shìmín guǎngchǎng de kuà nián wǎnhuì hěn jīngcǎi!



The night view at this bridge is beautiful.

Mandarin Chinese

這座橋的夜景真美

Zhè zuò qiáo de yèjǐng zhēnměi

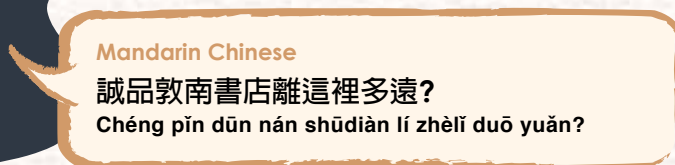


How far is the eslite Bookstore Dunhua Branch from here ?

Mandarin Chinese

誠品敦南書店離這裡多遠?

Chéng pǐn dūn nán shūdiàn lí zhèlǐ duō yuǎn?

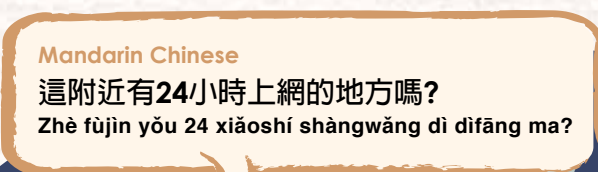


Are there any places with 24H Internet access around here ?

Mandarin Chinese

這附近有24小時上網的地方嗎?

Zhè fùjìn yǒu 24 xiǎoshí shàngwǎng dì fāng ma?

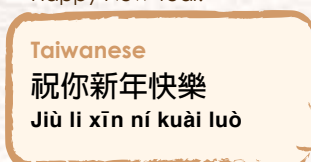


Happy New Year.

Taiwanese

祝你新年快樂

Jiù lì xīn ní kuài lè



I'm really tired. Where can I get a massage ?

Taiwanese

我很累，哪裡可以按摩?

Wǒ jīn tiān dōu wèi éi dāng lǎ líng?



London – Mad for Taipei Design!

Taipei Participates in London Design Festival for the First Time

Taipei is aiming for World Design Capital designation in 2016, and is seizing every opportunity to showcase itself. In early August this year the city was selected for the final phase of evaluation, and in September the city sent a team to participate in the London Design Festival for the first time – in the 100% Design exhibition – led by Liu Weikung (劉維公), head of the Taipei City Government Department of Cultural Affairs (臺北市府文化局). The whole world is being shown Taipei's rich design talent, and its keen ambition to gain World Design Capital status.

Taipei Pavilion Lights up London

England's largest design exhibition, 100% Design, had its 19th edition this year; 444 design firms and related organizations from around the globe exhibited, and the number of visitors topped 30,000. The Taipei Pavilion was curated by designer Chou Yujui (周育潤), the first individual from Taiwan to win an iF design award, and the theme was "Adaptive City Taipei 100%." Chou decorated the walls with 344 handmade white LED lanterns, representing Taiwan's achievements in combining traditional crafts with modern technology.

The Taipei Pavilion had three exhibit themes: Social Design (社會設計), Sustainable Design (永續設計), and Design Taipei (設計台北). At the opening ceremony the city's splendid 7-minute 2016 World Design Capital bid video was screened, demonstrating how design is everywhere in Taipei, and many intrigued visitors began wide-ranging discussions. The pavilion's display of 17 sterling design works also brought much praise, and two received 100% Design awards for product design.

One of the works, a bamboo lamp by PEGACASA, features a stand for which the inspiration came from a set of scales. The lamp is made from natural bamboo and metal, creating an attractive contrast of cold and warm and fusing traditional bamboo crafts and new technology. The lines are clean and neat, the work concise and delicate. Another work, by young Taiwan designer Wu Tungchih (吳東治), is a vase in which cracked wood is united with marble.

The lantern wall, with LED lights which spell out "TAIPEI" and other words, was one of the most eye-catching attractions in 100% Design's international section, drawing attention and bringing much enjoyment to show participants and visitors alike. Nicolas Warwick, an interior designer who traveled from Spain to attend the event, expressed admiration for the creative blend of traditional and modern design elements at the Taipei Pavilion, and declared his support and affirmation for Taipei's World Design Capital bid.

In the words of the Republic of China representative in the UK, Shen Lyushun (沈呂巡), Taipei is a vibrant and culturally diverse modern metropolis that has retained the essence of traditional Chinese culture; a city where "East meets West, home to both the traditional and the modern." William Knight, the 100% Design director, praised the design concept of the Taipei Pavilion, saying it created a deep impression, adding that he hopes more Taiwan designers can find his or her own stage in the UK.

Liu Wei-kung states that the city's success in staging the 2011 IDA Congress Taipei (2011臺北世界設計大會) and Taipei World Design Expo 2011 (2011臺北世界設計大展) brought high regard from the local and international design community, the media, and the public, and that deeper appreciation emerged regarding the importance of "design" in urban governance. Taipei City has high confidence of success when the official announcement of World Design Capital 2016 is made in November. 



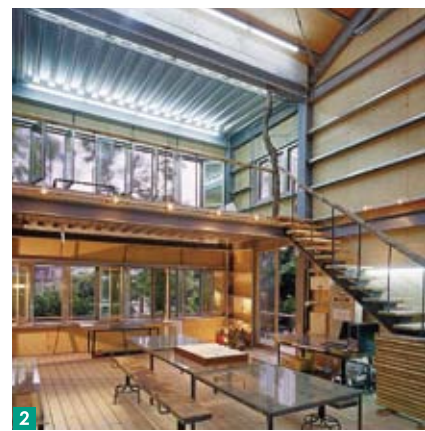
1. Wall decoration using 344 handmade white LED lanterns at the 100% Design Taipei Pavilion.
2. At the Taipei Pavilion lantern-lighting opening ceremony; (left to right) Lin Xinbao, CEO of the Taiwan Design Center, William Knight, 100% Design director, Liu Weikung, head of the Taipei City Government Department of Cultural Affairs, Shen Lyushun, Republic of China representative in the UK, and Chou Yujui, Taipei Pavilion curator.
3. Foreign designers expressed much interest in Taiwan's design creations, closely inspecting one work, a "cracked" vase.
4. Foreign visitors were also intrigued by an energy-saving touch LED light for which the jellyfish was inspiration.

Information

WDC Taipei 2016

臺北市申辦2016世界設計之都

Website: www.taipeidesign.org.tw



Architectural Excellence in Taipei

The 2013 FIABCI Prix d'Excellence Awards have been announced and Taipei has enjoyed brilliant success, winning gold and silver. Established in 1992, and now in its 22nd year, the awards are organized by FIABCI, the Fédération Internationale des Administrateurs de Biens et Conseils Immobiliers (International Real Estate Federation), and have been called the "Oscars of architectural design." In Taiwan, FIABCI-Taiwan (中華民國不動產協進會) stages the FIABCI-Taiwan Real Estate Excellence Awards (國家卓越建設獎), recognizing Taiwan's best architectural works and public construction initiatives, the winners going on to compete against the world's best in the Prix d'Excellence Awards.

National Taipei University of Technology – Humanistic Eco-Campus

National Taiwan University of Technology (國立臺北科技大學) was the Gold Winner in this year's FIABCI Prix d'Excellence Awards in the Environmental (Rehabilitation/Conservation) Category with its Humanistic Eco-Campus (人文生態校園). The century-old university, located in downtown Taipei, engages in close interaction with the surrounding community. Its development vision is a "Campus

of Humanity, Ecology, and Technology" (人文・生態・科技校園). Since 1980 the school has created a green, humanistic eco-campus through systematic conception, planning, and execution, bringing more intimate contact with nature to residents of the local community.

Every corner of the campus has been transformed, with greenery everywhere, from roofs to walls. The School of Design has created a humanistic eco terrace, green eco buildings have been constructed, and a Green Gate (綠色大門) entranceway has been created. An eco-friendly waterscape interface has been created with the surrounding community along the edge of the Zhongxiao East Road (忠孝東路), campus area, as well as an aquatic space in the Xinsheng South Road (新生南路), campus area. A natural environment has gradually arisen, attracting many types of flora and fauna to set up home on the campus. Malaysian night herons have lived at the eco-pond for three years, and black-crowned night herons and white egrets are occasional visitors. Beyond the "original residents" (原住戶) beside the Green Gate such as creepers, firecracker flowers, coral vine, and climbing fig, winds and breezes have carried in spores that have grown into ferns.



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The Three Pavilions in Xinsheng Park – Paragons of Green Architecture

The three pavilions in Xinsheng Park (新生三館), specially constructed by the Taipei City Government for the 2010 Taipei International Flora Exposition (2010臺北國際花卉博覽會), were collectively awarded Silver in the Public Infrastructures/Amenities Category at this year's FIABCI Prix d'Excellence Awards. The three structures – the Pavilion of Dreams (夢想館), Pavilion of Future (未來館), and Pavilion of Angel Life (天使生活館) – are exhibition facilities designed as a single interconnected entity. The key target at the planning stage was to create buildings that are eco-friendly in every way from spatial planning to architectural engineering methods and from building materials to energy use, which would be in compliance with international environmental requirements, and blend seamlessly with the surrounding natural environment. On completion the complex was granted the Ministry of the Interior's Green Building Mark (內政部綠建築標章), and in 2010 received an Excellence in Engineering Projects Award (工程優良獎) from the Chinese Institute of Engineers (中國工程師學會) as well as First Prize in the Taiwan Architecture Awards (台灣建築獎首獎).

Green foliage is much in evidence. The roof has a covering of earth, planted with lush plant life. This and the specially designed walls keep interior temperatures

cooler. The roof also has vents that allow breezes inside, enhancing air circulation. There is an intelligent temperature-control system featuring coordinated earth-cooling facilities, a mist-spray system, water walls, and skylights, which together also help to keep temperatures down in summer and reduce carbon emissions. The large windows are designed to provide plenty of natural light indoors, and some of the skylights feature the same type of ETFE heat-insulation materials used at the Water Cube (水立方) aquatics center seen by the world at the Beijing Olympics. Beyond allowing in natural light, they serve as radiant barriers, partially blocking heat transfer.

A large section of the roof is also covered with solar panels, and at ground level there are highly permeable brick and rainwater recycling systems. Gravel-based purification technology is used for the recycling of water from the Keelung River, which can be used for irrigation of plants, and to supply a display showcase for aquatic flora. The complex gives visitors firsthand exposure to the many ingenious ways renewable energy can be used, giving the facilities both environmental and educational functions. 🌱

1. NTUT has transformed its main gate into the Green Gate entranceway, introducing a friendly green space to the community.
2. NTUT specially built the green-architecture showcase "Little Green House."
3. Taipei Expo Park's Xinsheng Three Pavilions are model green buildings.
4. The green walls of the Xinsheng Three Pavilions lower interior temperatures.
5. A large section of the Xinsheng three pavilions roof area is covered with solar panels.

Information

FIABCI-Taiwan

中華民國不動產協進會暨世界不動產聯合會台灣分會

Website: www.fiabci.org.tw

National Taipei University of Technology

國立臺北科技大學

Add: 1, Sec. 3, Zhongxiao E. Rd. (忠孝東路3段1號)

Website: www.ntut.edu.tw

The Three Pavilions in Xinsheng Park

新生三館

Venue: Taipei Expo Park Xinsheng Park Area; beside 6-1, Binjiang St. (花博公園新生園區; 濱江街6號之1邊)

Website: www.taipei-expopark.tw

金馬五〇



Taipei Invites You to Its Golden Horse 50 Celebrations

The Golden Horse Awards (金馬獎), described as the "Chinese-language Oscars" by the BBC, are 50 years old this year!

Four big-name international directors are taking part in the 50th-anniversary celebration events: Ang Lee (李安), Tsai Ming-liang (蔡明亮), Johnnie To (杜琪峯), and Hou Hsiao-hsien (侯孝賢). Lee is serving as chairman of the Golden Horse Awards jury; To will be on the jury that is to select the grand-prize recipient of NT\$1 million as part of the Golden Horse Film Project Promotion (金馬創投會議), and Hou is serving as mentor director for the Golden Horse Film Academy (金馬電影學院) short films. The organizer is also staging the Golden Horse 50 Exhibition (金馬50風華展) from November 15th to December 8th at Songshan Cultural and Creative Park, which will feature costumes worn in past Golden Horse films, original screenplays, and other interesting artifacts, and

is also issuing a Golden Horse 50th anniversary album, entitled "Those Days, These Moments" (那時此刻).

The Taipei Golden Horse Film Festival (台北金馬影展) is Taiwan's oldest and largest. Each year over 200 of the world's best films are selected for screening: a dream feast for cinema fans. In this year's Filmmaker In Focus (焦點導演) category, for example, two grand masters whose works are always eagerly anticipated are being showcased – France's Abdellatif Kechiche, whose *Blue Is the Warmest Colour* won the Golden Palm at Cannes this year, and Iran's Asghar Farhadi, whose *A Separation* won a Golden Bear at the Berlin International Film festival and an Oscar for Best Foreign Language Film. All the films they have directed over the years will be screened at the Festival, allowing local film buffs to observe their creative trajectories.



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1. The 2013 Taipei Golden Horse Film Festival promotional image.
2. Stills from *The Reluctant Fundamentalist*, an adaptation of the novel by the same name written by Mohsin Hamid.
3. Stills from *300 + On My Way*, starring screen diva Catherine Deneuve.
4. *Blue Is the Warmest Color* is about the fiercely burning passion two women have for each other.
5. The Golden Horse 50 Exhibition will showcase precious film artifacts such as the attire worn by actress Shu Qi in *Three Times*. (Photos courtesy of Taipei Golden Horse Film Festival Executive Committee)

Kechiche is of North African descent, and boldly digs into ethnicity, class, and gender issues. *In The Secret of the Grain* he explores the history and culture of North Africa and France, food and family. The film won 4 major César Awards in France and 5 awards at the Venice Film Festival. *Blue Is the Warmest Colour* describes the fiercely burning passion two women have for each other. In his films *Farhadi* portrays the relationship between men and women, and has been a key figure in taking Iranian film from simple realism to complex narratives. His newest work *The Past*, for example, tells the story of an Iranian man whose wife asks for a divorce, returns to France to sign the papers, and unexpectedly gets swept up in a tempest.

Breakthrough performances by big stars form key focal points at every Taipei Golden Horse Film Festival, and fans clamor for tickets to the hottest screenings. This year features *On My Way*, with French-cinema diva Catherine Deneuve playing the sexiest of grandmother figures. Two of the most popular male stars in movies today, Johnny Depp and Ryan Gosling, are being highlighted in the films *For No Good Reason* and *Seduced and Abandoned*, respectively. Benedict Cumberbatch, who once played Sherlock Holmes in a BBC series, plays a very different character in *The Fifth Estate*, where he portrays WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange. Naomi Watts gives a brilliant performance in *Adore*, a film about il-

licit love, and Kate Hudson brings her innocent, childlike charm to *The Reluctant Fundamentalist*. These big stars demonstrate great silver screen glamor, and mature actors seek to burst from their stereotypes, venturing down new roads and giving strong performances.

Among this year's other categories are "Star Premieres" (星光首映), Viva Auteur (名家饗宴), Panorama (影迷嘉年華), "Asian Windows" (亞洲視窗), L.G.B.T. (性別越界), and Restored Classics (經典重現). Fans can check out the complete program and screening list online. Cinema lovers should also take in the Golden Horse 50 Exhibition, exploring 50 years of classic Golden Horse Awards moments through a treasure trove of precious associated artifacts. 12

Information

2013 Taipei Golden Horse Film Festival

2013台北金馬影展

Time: 11/8~11/28

Tel: (02)2370-0456

Website: www.goldenhorse.org.tw

Golden Horse 50 Exhibition 金馬50風華展

Time: 11/15~12/8

Venue: Huashan 1914 Creative Park
(華山1914文化創意產業園區)





2



“Across Zhongshan Bridge – The Story of Bridges” Exhibition

Bridges, connecting two once separate places, not only facilitate exchange between people, but are also often landmarks. Taipei Story House (台北故事館), the long-time neighbor of one such landmark, Taipei's Zhongshan Bridge (中山橋), is now staging the “Across Zhongshan Bridge – The Story of Bridges Exhibition” (走過中山橋——橋的故事), leading visitors on an exploration using the structure as a starting point to present the story of Taiwan's bridges over the last hundred years.

Among the show's most interesting display items are a bronze light that adorned the bridge when it opened in 1933, and a metal bridge stele erected in 1968, marked with the autograph of then Vice President C.K. Yen (嚴家淦). The two historical relics are reflections of Taipei's historical evolution. The Japanese colonial government built the first bridge (an iron structure) on the site in 1901, naming it the Meiji Bridge (明治橋). As

a result of changes made after Japan's Great Kanto Earthquake, reinforced concrete was used for greater strength when the bridge was rebuilt in 1933 as an arch bridge. The Republic of China government renamed the span Zhongshan Bridge in 1946.

In the 30 or 40 years that followed, as Taipei prospered and grew, Zhongshan Bridge underwent expansion, and the Zhongshan No. 2 Bridge (中山二橋) was built. However, in the aftermath of flooding caused by a typhoon, the Taipei City Government decided to dismantle and relocate the bridge for water-conservancy and heritage-protection reasons. In 2002 the old bridge was dismantled and a new Zhongshan Bridge constructed, but a suitable site has not yet been found for the old bridge, and its components now sit piled up on the former site of the filled-in Zaichun Swimming Pool (再春游泳池), waiting for the light of a new day.



1. The "Across Zhongshan Bridge – The Story of Bridges" Exhibition uses Zhongshan Bridge as starting point in an exploration of the stories of Taiwan's bridges.
2. The Taiwan's Bridges section features rare and precious info items such as 23 time-lapse videos and old/new photos to display the yesterday-to-today timeline of 12 bridges.
3. Works by Taiwan masters of literature are displayed in the Bridge and Poetry Dialogues section.
- 4-5. An introduction of the precision engineering used in bridge structures, plus hands-on bridge-building fun, are offered in the Bridge Intelligence and Bridge Building sections.
6. In the square outside the museum is the Jelly Bridge, a work of art visitors can walk up on, viewing the Taipei Story House from a different perspective.

Another interesting story is that of the Xiluo Bridge (西螺大橋), spanning Changhua (彰化) and Yunlin (雲林) counties. The Japanese colonial government started work on the bridge in 1937, but work was stopped after the attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941, then started up again by the Republic of China government (with the help of the U.S. military) in 1952. Opened in 1953, it was at the time the longest bridge in the Far East, and second-longest in the world after the Golden Gate Bridge, San Francisco, United States. A steel plaque commemorating the period, still in place on the bridge, reads "Sino-American Cooperation" (中美合作) in Chinese. The NT\$10 notes issued in 1963 and 1968 both carried images of the Xiluo Bridge – the only bridge in Taiwan to ever have its image printed on a banknote, clearly demonstrating its importance.

Other bridge stories awaiting your exploration at the exhibition include tales of the Longteng Bridge (龍騰橋) and Huwei Iron Bridge (虎尾鐵橋). The first, now largely destroyed by earthquakes, was once Taiwan's largest red-brick arch bridge and the only remaining example of the style here, while the latter is one of the examples of cooperation between the English, Japanese, and Taiwanese.

In addition to 23 time-lapse videos and many photos, both old and new, there are 12 displays on the subjects of "Taiwan's Bridges" (臺灣的橋梁) and "The Zhongshan Bridge Story" (中山橋的故事), plus works by masters of literature in Taiwan, "Bridge and Poetry Dialogues" (橋與

詩的對話) that create interaction between bridges and people, an introduction to the precision engineering used in bridge structures, plus hands-on "Bridge Intelligence" (理性的橋) and "Bridge Building" (動手來蓋橋) sections. You can also step right into the "Taiwan Bridges in the Movies" (電影中的臺灣橋梁) display, experiencing old Taiwan streetscapes and the beauty of its bridges from the 1940s through 1960s.

In the square outside the museum is the Jelly Bridge (菓凍月橋), built by a team brought up from the Tainan National University of the Arts (臺南藝術大學) by Professor Lu Lihuang (呂理煌). Visitors can walk up this wooden bridge to experience the Taipei Story House from a unique perspective.

A bridge is both a witness to, and a repository of, local history and culture, and is a splendid focal point for gaining in-depth understanding of a city. So come on over to the Taipei Story House and savor the stories of bridges of unique character located all around Taiwan. 📍

Information

"Across Zhongshan Bridge – The Story of Bridges" Exhibition 「走過中山橋——橋的故事」特展

Time: Until 12/15

Venue: Taipei Story House; 181-1, Sec. 3, Zhongshan N. Rd.
(台北故事館; 中山北路3段181-1號)

Website: www.storyhouse.com.tw



The comprehensive oral histories of 75 leading figures in Taiwan music are being presented at the Taipei Pop Music Exhibition, exploring Taiwan's 80-year pop-music history, crossing over multiple generations.

Musical Memories: The Popular Music Oral History Exhibition

The memories of each era are stored in its music, and its melodies and lyrics capture the atmosphere of a time. A new exhibition at The Red House (西門紅樓), starting November 26th, tells the story of Taiwan through notes, words, and language with the pop music that has accompanied its people throughout the eras.

The Popular Music Oral History Exhibition (流行音樂口述歷史特展) begins with the birth of Taiwan pop music – the song “The Peach Girl” (桃花泣血記). This is the theme song from the eponymous 1932 silent film, also called Peach Blossom Weeps Tears of Blood, starring Ruan Lingyu (阮玲玉). The song's lyrics describe how a person's life and happiness can be short-lived like a peach flower, and how the gap between rich and poor keep a girl from being with the fellow she loves. The song's mood echoed the sorrowful sentiments of the people of Taiwan during that time, when they were still under the yoke of Japanese rule, and this deep resonance brought it wide local popularity and launched a wave of Taiwanese pop-song releases by record companies.

During the Japanese era, Taiwanese songs were heavily influenced by the Japanese musical style. After Taiwan Retrocession, in 1946, the Shanghai Bailemen Dance Hall (上海百樂門大歌廳) musical style was brought to Taiwan in a wave of nostalgia for Mandarin Chinese tunes. Even English songs were introduced, during the period when the U.S. military was garisoned on the island. These various influences did much to enrich Taiwan's popular music. The introduction of television resulted in the superstar era of all-star variety shows, and from university campuses the “sing our own songs” (唱自己的歌) folk-music era emerged, centered on the pure, clear music of the guitar and piano.

Information

Popular Music Oral History Exhibition

流行音樂口述歷史特展

Time: 11/26~12/29; 11:00~21:30;
Fri/Sat to 22:00 (closed
Mon)

Venue: The Red House; 10
Chengdu Rd.
(西門紅樓; 成都路10號)

The exhibition presents the comprehensive oral histories of 75 leading figures in the world of Taiwan popular music over eight decades. In the 1940s and 1950s, Ji Luxia (紀露霞), who sang both Mandarin Chinese and Taiwanese songs, was known as Taiwan's queen of song. Jimmy Lin (林沖) was the first local performer to become a star in Japanese musical films. Mei Dai (美黛) was one of the biggest names in the era of all-star showcase shows, and Wu Chuchu (吳楚楚) was one of the pioneers of the folk-music era. Chen Zhiyuan (陳志遠) wrote “Miss You Every Day” (天天想你), the song that rocketed Zhang Yusheng (張雨生) to stardom.

Music is a form of communication that leaps the boundaries of languages. Bring an open heart, and listening to Taiwan pop music will bring you both new life memories and shared emotions. 🎵



Sleepless in Taipei – The City That Never Closes

As twilight deepens, the clear architectural lines of the daytime slowly melt away. The lights of the night, one by one, flicker to life, and the city of Taipei takes on a completely new personality. Night closes in, streets flood with neon light, and the city is alive with color and bustle. Streets teem with activity, fashionable districts are busy with dinner parties and song, and just as usual, the city stays open all night, never flicking the light switch. Down busy lanes and alleys, attractive shops are crammed with well-crafted handmade creations, and many types of international cuisine are available. The Taipei night bubbles with surprises and brims with a wide variety of lifestyle choices. All these aspects of Taipei are on show in the special exhibition Sleepless in Taipei The City That Never Closes (臺北夜未眠——城市不打烊).

This exhibition, which has already opened and will go on for three months, is at the Special Exhibitions Hall (特展廳) on the second floor of the Discovery Center of Taipei (台北探索館) at Taipei City Hall. There are five interconnected sections: "Subtle Cultural Ferment: The Inside Story" (底蘊微釀), "Golden Days" (流金歲月), "Enjoyable Nights of Magnificent Scenery" (良宵美景), "Late-Night Eateries" (深夜食堂), and "Enjoy Yourself Tonight" (歡樂今宵). Visitors can dig deeper into Taipei's many charms and attractions from different angles, discovering the many facets of Taipei that touch people's hearts, and engage in a dialogue with the city while exploring the pleasures of its endless gourmet treasures.

As you enter you can switch on the city's "myriad twinkling lights" (萬家燈火), creating a resplendent cityscape. You then immediately enter the Golden Days kaleidoscope, awakening memories of Taipei nights, as splendid, glittering fireworks bloom. Hop on a bicycle, decide which fine-food attractions you most want to visit, and the exhibition's augmented-reality technology will give your taste buds visual satisfaction that seems almost like tasting the real thing.

The Taipei City Government cordially invites you to experience this artistic feast of the senses. Take unique photos, and leave your memories and impressions of the Taipei night. Here, at Sleepless in Taipei – The City That Never Closes, immerse you in the most stimulating of retro-new chic dialogues. 📷



Information

Sleepless in Taipei – The City That Never Closes

臺北夜未眠——城市不打烊

Time: 2013/11/1~2014/2/9

Venue: Discovery Center of Taipei; 1 Shifu Rd.
(台北探索館; 市府路1號)

Tel: 1999 (02)2720-8889 outside Taipei City), ext. 4588 or 8630

Website: www.discovery.taipei.gov.tw

1. The Late-Night Eateries section features interactive bike-riding, letting you experience 6 different culinary routes.
- 2-3. A situational display style is used in this exhibition, with visitors first experiencing the city's Myriad Twinkling Lights upon entry, creating a resplendent cityscape, then entering the Golden Days kaleidoscope.

2013 11/12

November-December
Arts Exhibition Calendar



Qianlong C.H.A.O. New Media Art Exhibition



Post-humanist Desire: Sexuality and Digitality in Contemporary Art



Looking For Tao – Hong Mei-Ling Solo Exhibition



Asia Cruise

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 2014/2/10

Leonardo-Mona Lisa – The Myths

Until 2014/3/16

Qianlong C.H.A.O. New Media Art Exhibition

Museum of Contemporary Art, Taipei (MOCA Taipei)

Tel: (02)2552-3721

Add: 39, Chang'an W. Rd. (長安西路 39 號)

Website: www.mocataipei.org.tw

Until 12/22

Imaginary Landscapes II: Immortal quest - International Art Competition

Until 12/22

Wishing Trees – The solo exhibition of Reiko Nireki

Until 2014/1/12

Post-humanist Desire: Sexuality and Digitality in Contemporary Art

National Theater & Concert Hall

Tel: (02)3393-9888

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

Website: www.ntch.edu.tw

Until 11/21~11/22

2013 NTSO International Music Festival IV Virtuosi Series I "Fusao Kajima and Stephen Hough"

Until 12/8

Nezha

Until 12/23

Wandering in The Forest of Vocal

12/28~12/29

Your Favorite Huang-mei Tune Classics

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 12/8

The Eternal Madame Chiang, Soong May-ling Special Commemorative Exhibition

Until 12/12

The story of President's House: Chiang Kai-shek's residences in Taiwan

12/15-12/24

Festivals of Taiwan

Until 2014/1/7

2013 Makapah Arts Award

Until 2014/3/2

The Frozen Woolly Mammoth: Yuka

Huashan 1914 Creative Park

Tel: (02)2358-1914

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

Website: www.huashan1914.com

Until 11/24

A New Age of Exploration: National Geographic at 125

National Museum of History

Tel: (02)2361-0270

Add: 49, Nanhai Rd. (南海路 49 號)

Website: www.nmh.gov.tw

11/14~2014/2/16

Mont: Landscapes of Mind

Until 11/24

Tangible Splendor – The Mother-of-Pearl Inlaid Lacquer Ware from the Collection of Chi Chang Yuan

Songshan Cultural and Creative Park

Tel: (02)2765-1388

Add: 133 Guangfu S. Rd. (光復南路 133 號)

Website: www.songshanculturalpark.org

11/15~11/24

8th digital art festival taipei 2013 – Data-Neurons

12/6~12/15

2013 Taipei Original Festival@Songshan Cultural and Creative

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 11/24

Looking For Tao – Hong Mei-Ling Solo Exhibition

Until 11/24

Vision of Taiwan Wu Cheng-Chang Solo Exhibition

Until 12/29

The Images of Chang Chao-Tang, 1959-2013

Until 2014/1/5

Imminent Sounds: Falls and Crossings

National Taiwan Museum

Tel: (02)2382-2566

Add: 2, Xiangyang Rd. (襄陽路 2 號)

Website: www.ntm.gov.tw/tw/index.aspx

Until 11/24

The View of Formosa's Landscape from Photographers

Until 12/1

Food Ark

Kuandu Museum of Fine Arts

Tel: (02)2896-1000 ext 2432

Add: 1, Hsueh-Yuan Rd. (北投區學園路一號)

Website: www.kdmofa.tnua.edu.tw

Until 12/15

Asia Cruise

National Taiwan Science Education Center

Tel: (02)6610-1234

Add: 189, Shihshang Rd. (士商路 189 號)

Website: www.ntsec.gov.tw

Until 2014/1/5

3D Trick Arts Exhibition Part III – Kitarou

Until 2014/1/5

Mammoth in Ice

Travel Information

How to Get from Taiwan Taoyuan International Airport to Taipei

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). 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

NOTICE

In order to facilitate inquiries by the public, the city government has set up the 1999 Taipei Citizen Hotline. Whether by telephone, cell phone, or Voice over IP (payphone excluded), dial 1999 for free access. There is a time limit, with service personnel restricted to 10-minute service availability, and a 10-minute limit on call transfers. Citizens are asked to make the most efficient use of this resource, making all calls as brief as possible.

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 light blue indicate service in English provided

LIST OF TAIPEI VISITOR INFORMATION CENTERS

Taipei Main Station Visitor Information Center

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

Songshan Airport Visitor Information Center

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

East Metro Mall Visitor Information Center

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

MRT Ximen Station Visitor Information Center

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

MRT Yuanshan Station Visitor Information Center

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

MRT Jiantan Station Visitor Information Center

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

MRT Beitou Station Visitor Information Center

(02)2894-6923 1, Guangming Rd.

Taipei City Hall Bus Station Visitor Information Center

(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 Visitor Center

(02)8661-7627 2, Ln. 10, Sec. 2, Xinguang Rd.

Maokong Gondola Maokong Station Visitor Center

(02)2937-8563 35, Ln. 38, Sec. 3, Zhinan Rd.

(Exit area, Maokong Station)



Slow and Easy Wintertime River Cruise Mini Trips (P38~P41) Map



Slow and Easy Wintertime River Cruise Mini Trips (P38~41) Tour Information



Slow and Easy Wintertime River Cruise Mini Trips

Taipei National University of the Arts (TNUA) 國立臺北藝術大學

Add: 1, Xueyuan Rd. (學園路1號)
Tel: (02)2896-1000

Paulaner Bräuhaus 寶萊納餐廳

Add: 1, Xueyuan Rd. (學園路1號)
Tel: (02)2891-7677

Dadaocheng Rental Station 大稻埕租借站

Venue: South side of Dadaocheng Wharf, end of Minsheng W. Rd. (民生西路底大稻埕碼頭南側)
Tel: (02)2557-1639

Yansan Night Market 延三夜市

Venue: Sec. 3, Yanping N. Rd. (between Minquan W. Rd. in the south and Changji St. in the north) (延平北路3段; 南與民權西路交會、北接昌吉街)

Ye's Flavored Chicken Rolls 葉家五香雞捲

Add: 8, Sec. 3, Yanping N. Rd. (延平北路3段8號)
Tel: (02)2594-3015

Daqiaotou Runbing 大橋頭潤餅

Venue: In front of 38, Sec. 3, Yanping N. Rd. (延平北路3段38號前)
Tel: (02)2594-6593

Qiaotou Pure Sugar Mochi 橋頭純糖麻糬

Add: 12, Sec. 3, Yanping N. Rd. (延平北路3段12號)
Tel: (02)2594-2328

Yansan Douhua Sao 延三豆花嫂

Venue: In front of 25~2, Sec. 3, Yanping N. Rd. (延平北路3段25之2號門口)
Tel: 0968-189-061

Night Boat Trip on Tamsui River (Bridge Lights Decoration) 光雕晚風夜遊航班

Tel: (02)2618-2226
Website: www.riverfun.taipei.gov.tw

Transportation Information

TNUA, Paulaner Bräuhaus

Go to MRT Guandu Station on Tamsui Line, take Exit 1 (or Exit 2, take red No. 35 bus or TNUA shuttle, immediate arrival at campus) → walk along Zhongyang N. Rd. → turn left at gas station, walk along Xueyuan Rd. 15 minutes → arrival at TNUA campus → walk around campus → walk back to campus entrance in about 5 minutes → walk up slope on right to Paulaner Bräuhaus

Guandu Wharf

From Paulaner Bräuhaus, walk along Xueyuan Rd. toward Sec. 4, Zhongyang Rd. → turn right on Zhixing Rd., walk about 10 minutes → arrival at Guandu Pier

Dadaocheng Wharf, Yansan Night Market

Take boat from Guandu Pier to Dadaocheng Wharf → walk toward right from wharf, to Dadaocheng bike-rental station → ride bike about 5 minutes along bike path in riverside parkland → turn right after passing under Taipei Bridge, to Changji St. → turn right at Sec. 3, Yanping N. Rd. → arrival at Yansan Night Market

Night Boat Trip on Tamsui River

From Yansan Night Market, ride bike along Sec. 3, Yanping N. Rd. → Sec. 2, Yanping N. Rd. → turn right onto Minsheng W. Rd. → Dadaocheng Wharf → return bike at Dadaocheng bike-rental station → get on Light Sculpture Night Breeze Cruise boat at Dadaocheng Wharf (approx. 2-hour outing: Dadaocheng Wharf → Taipei Bridge → Chongyang Bridge → head of Shezi Island → Guandu Pier → Guandu Temple → return to Dadaocheng Wharf)

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11/30 ▶ 12/08

Taipei World Trade Center Hall 1 & Hall 3

10:00 – 18:00 Free Entry



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Tourist Service Center at Arrival Lobby,
Taiwan Taoyuan International Airport
- Terminal I
(03)398-2194
Dayuan, Taoyuan County

臺灣桃園國際航空站二
Tourist Service Center at Arrival Lobby,
Taiwan Taoyuan International Airport
- Terminal II
(03)398-3341
Dayuan, Taoyuan County

美國在臺協會
American Institute in Taiwan
(02)2162-2000
7, Ln. 134, Sec. 3, Xinyi Rd., Taipei City

遠企購物中心
Taipei Metro the Mall
(02)2378-6666 ext.6580
203, Sec. 2, Dunhua S. Rd., Taipei City

國語日報語文中心
Mandarin Daily News (Language Center)
(02)2341-8821
2, Fuzhou St., Taipei City

臺北市立美術館
Taipei Fine Arts Museum
(02)2595-7656
181, Sec. 3, Zhongshan N. Rd., Taipei City

聖多福天主教堂
St. Christopher Catholic Church
(02)2594-7914
51, Sec. 3, Zhongshan N. Rd., Taipei City

士林區公所
Shilin District Office
(02)2882-6200 ext.8725
8F, 439, Zhongzheng Rd., Taipei City

臺北士林劍潭活動中心
Shilin Chientan Overseas Youth Activity Center
(02)2885-2151
16, Sec. 4, Zhongshan N. Rd., Taipei City

南港軟體工業園區
Nangang Software Park
(02)2655-3093 ext.124
2F, 19-10, Sanchong Rd., Taipei City

臺北美國學校
Taipei American School
(02)2873-9900
800, Sec. 6, Zhongshan N. Rd., Taipei City

國立中正紀念堂
National Chiang Kai-shek Memorial Hall
(02)2343-1100
21, Zhongshan S. Rd., Taipei City

臺北當代藝術館
Museum of Contemporary Art, Taipei
(02)2552-3720
39, Chang'an W. Rd., Taipei City

官邸藝文沙龍
Mayor's Residence Arts Salon
(02)2396-9398
46, Xuzhou Rd., Taipei City

臺北國際藝術村
Taipei Artist Village
(02)3393-7377
7, Beiping E. Rd., Taipei City

臺北二二八紀念館
Taipei 228 Memorial Museum
(02)2389-7228
3, Ketagalan Blvd., Taipei City

交通部觀光局旅遊服務中心
Travel Service Center, Tourism Bureau,
M.O.T.C
(02)2717-3737
240, Dunhua N. Rd., Taipei City

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The Red House
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10, Chengdu Rd., Taipei City

光點臺北
SPOT-Taipei Film House
(02)2778-2991
18, Sec. 2, Zhongshan N. Rd., Taipei City

臺北市政府市民服務組
The public service group of Taipei City
Government
(02)2720-8889 / 1999 ext.1000
1, Shifu Rd., Taipei City

北投溫泉博物館
Beitou Hot Springs Museum
(02)2893-9981
2, Zhongshan Rd., Taipei City

士林官邸
Chiang Kai-shek Shilin Residence
(02)2883-6340
60, Fulin Rd., Taipei City

臺北市孔廟
Taipei Confucius Temple
(02)2592-3924
275, Dalong St., Taipei City

松山文化創意園區
Songshan Cultural and Creative Park
(02)2765-1388
133, Guangfu S. Rd., Taipei City

華山 1914 文化創意產業園區
Huashan 1914 Creative Park
(02)2358-1914
1, Sec.1, Bade Rd., Taipei City

臺北故事館
Taipei Story House
(02)2587-5565
181-1, Sec. 3, Zhongshan N. Rd., Taipei City

國立臺灣博物館
National Taiwan Museum
(02)2382-2566
2, Xiangyang Rd., Taipei City

12 座臺北市旅遊服務中心
12 Visitor Information Centers in Taipei
(see more detail on P. 65)

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All Stations of MRT Lines

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122, Sec. 3, Ren'ai Rd., Taipei City

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富邦馬拉松

2013 Taipei Fubon Marathon

Notice of Traffic Controls

On the morning of December 15, starting at 7 a.m., a marathon start/finish and a wide-ranging program of activities are being staged at the plaza in front of Taipei City Hall. Everyone is welcome to come to the plaza, via public transportation, to join in the fun and watch the many top racers from Taiwan and abroad compete for glory.



For the convenience of the public, the Taipei City Government is implementing special measures on event day. The first MRT trains will depart at 05:20, and trains will run every 20 minutes thereafter (no early service on the Xiaobitan, Xiaonanmen, and Xinbeitou branch lines). Service will return to normal at 06:00.

12/15 05:00am-12:00pm

Keelung River left/right bank
riverside park bicycle paths
(Bailing Bridge to Chengmei Bridge)

Controlled access

12/15 05:00am-13:00pm

Huandong Expressway
Jiuzong Road to Keelung Road

**East/West controls in effect
Please use
surface-level roadway**

12/15 07:00am-09:30am

Sections 1~4, Ren'ai Road

**North/South controls in effect
Please use
Jianguo Elevated Expressway,
Keelung Road Underpass**

12/15 07:00am-09:00am

Sections 1~3, Zhongshan N. Rd.

**East/West controls in effect
Please use
Xinsheng Elevated Expressway,
Zhongxiao East/West Road underpass**

For more information, visit: <http://www.sportsnet.org.tw>



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Discover Taipei Questionnaire

Dear readers,

Thank you very much for taking the time to read *Discover Taipei*. This English-language bimonthly magazine has been published since 1998. We mean to introduce Taipei to both long-term foreign residents and short-term visitors from all over the world. To help us meet your needs and better serve you, we hope that you can take the time to fill out the following questionnaire and send it back to us (no postage necessary). Your opinions are much appreciated. Please don't hesitate to tell us what you think so that we can improve our magazine. We will randomly draw 20 names from among those who send us completed questionnaires, who will then receive one year of *Discover Taipei* issues for free.

Department of Information and Tourism
Taipei City Government

Personal Information

Please leave your contact information below.

Name: _____

Tel: _____

Fax: _____

Email: _____

Gender: ☐ Male ☐ Female

Age: ☐ Below 20 ☐ 21-30 ☐ 31-40 ☐ 41-50

☐ 51-60 ☐ Above 61

Profession: ☐ Student ☐ Teacher ☐ Public
Servant ☐ Commerce ☐ Manufacturing

☐ Administration ☐ Marketing & Public Relations

☐ Engineering ☐ Other

(Please specify : _____)

I. Contents

(1) Please indicate your opinion of each column in *Discover Taipei*.

- | | |
|--|--|
| a. Taipei Focus | <input type="checkbox"/> Very satisfied <input type="checkbox"/> Satisfied <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral <input type="checkbox"/> Dissatisfied <input type="checkbox"/> Very Dissatisfied |
| b. Taipei New Images | <input type="checkbox"/> Very satisfied <input type="checkbox"/> Satisfied <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral <input type="checkbox"/> Dissatisfied <input type="checkbox"/> Very Dissatisfied |
| c. In-Depth City Culture Explorations | <input type="checkbox"/> Very satisfied <input type="checkbox"/> Satisfied <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral <input type="checkbox"/> Dissatisfied <input type="checkbox"/> Very Dissatisfied |
| d. Taipei's Best Foods & Gifts | <input type="checkbox"/> Very satisfied <input type="checkbox"/> Satisfied <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral <input type="checkbox"/> Dissatisfied <input type="checkbox"/> Very Dissatisfied |
| e. Mapping the Taipei Lifestyle | <input type="checkbox"/> Very satisfied <input type="checkbox"/> Satisfied <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral <input type="checkbox"/> Dissatisfied <input type="checkbox"/> Very Dissatisfied |
| f. Taipei Folk, In Their Own Words | <input type="checkbox"/> Very satisfied <input type="checkbox"/> Satisfied <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral <input type="checkbox"/> Dissatisfied <input type="checkbox"/> Very Dissatisfied |
| g. The Taipei Quest - World Design Capital | <input type="checkbox"/> Very satisfied <input type="checkbox"/> Satisfied <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral <input type="checkbox"/> Dissatisfied <input type="checkbox"/> Very Dissatisfied |
| h. What's New in Taipei Arts | <input type="checkbox"/> Very satisfied <input type="checkbox"/> Satisfied <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral <input type="checkbox"/> Dissatisfied <input type="checkbox"/> Very Dissatisfied |

(2) Is there any other column or any kind of article not mentioned above that you would like to read in future editions of *Discover Taipei*?

II. Design

a. What do you think of *Discover Taipei*'s cover design?

☐ Very satisfied ☐ Satisfied ☐ Neutral ☐ Dissatisfied ☐ Very Dissatisfied

b. What do you think of *Discover Taipei*'s layout?

☐ Very satisfied ☐ Satisfied ☐ Neutral ☐ Dissatisfied ☐ Very Dissatisfied

c. What do you think of the photos in *Discover Taipei*?

☐ Very satisfied ☐ Satisfied ☐ Neutral ☐ Dissatisfied ☐ Very Dissatisfied

d. What do you think of *Discover Taipei*'s printing quality?

☐ Very satisfied ☐ Satisfied ☐ Neutral ☐ Dissatisfied ☐ Very Dissatisfied



III. Magazine Distribution

a. Where do you usually obtain your copy of the magazine?

- ☐ Subscriber
☐ MRT: _____ Station
☐ Hotel: _____ Hotel
☐ Airport
☐ Language Center
☐ Police Station
☐ Museum: _____ Museum
☐ Bookstore: _____ Bookstore
☐ Taipei Main Station Visitor Information Center
☐ Other Location (Please Specify: _____)

b. Is it easy and convenient for you to get the magazine?

- ☐ Yes (Continue to Q c.) ☐ No (Please skip to Q d.)

c. Is there always sufficient quantity at the location you normally pick it up from?

If not, can you identify this location?

- ☐ Yes ☐ No (Location: _____)

d. Is there any other location(s) that you would like us to place the magazine?

e. Did you know that Discover Taipei is available online? (<http://english.tpeidoit.taipei.gov.tw> : Information > Reading Taipei > Discover Taipei)

- ☐ Yes ☐ No

IV. General Questions

a. In general, how do you like *Discover Taipei*?

- ☐ Very much ☐ Quite a lot ☐ OK ☐ So-so ☐ Not at all

b. Why do you like or dislike reading *Discover Taipei*?

c. Do you have any other opinion(s) or suggestion(s) that you would like to tell us?
(Please write below)

臺北市11008信義區市府路1號4樓中央區

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