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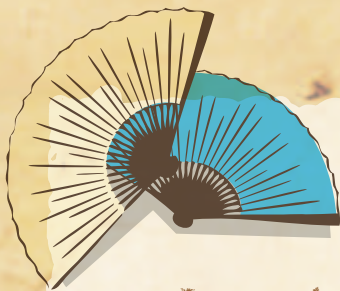
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EDITOR'S INTRODUCTION

Travels Down Memory Lane in Taipei City

High-rises and skyscrapers, roads packed with vehicles flowing like rivers, great numbers of people moving along in never-ending streams.... These are the first impressions that newcomers usually get of Taipei. But stop for a moment, take a closer look around, and you'll find that this fast-paced city gripped by modernization fever has a rich cultural heritage and a wonderful diversity of style.

Our theme this issue is "Travels Down Memory Lane in Taipei City," and in the pleasant cool of the early winter we serve as your time machine, taking you down the city's old streets, visiting old master craftsmen practicing their skills, and exploring nostalgia-laden antiques in a return to Taipei's past.

In recent years many old buildings that have been witnesses to Taipei's bustling, flourishing past have been fixed up and transformed into cultural-creativity hubs as part of the city's urban renewal project. In our Taipei New Images department we introduce Urban Regeneration Stations in the Dadaocheng community, and see how rare tropical plants have been given a home amidst the heritage architecture of Huashan 1914 Creative Park, giving birth to a new space where cultural-creativity performances and eco-preservation are combined.

The city always stages a rich program of activities to celebrate the end of another year, and in our Mapping the Taipei Lifestyle section we ride the Taipei Metro's Wenhua Line on a tour during which you can enjoy a nature walk, go shopping, and enjoy a grand fireworks spectacle. A can't-miss annual party held on December 31 is the Taipei New Year's Eve Countdown Party, which takes place at Civic Plaza, and inside we tell you about all the colorful activities that will be going on, and about the thunderous midnight Taipei 101 Fireworks Show that caps the party. In a special treat, we go behind the scenes to show you about all the hard work and the tricks of the trade that make the pyrotechnics extravaganza such a big success.

Meanwhile, as the curtain comes down on this year they are going up on a sparkling line-up of large-scale annual design, cultural arts, and film events. Among these are the 2012 Taipei World Design Congress, Golden Horse Film Festival, Urban Simple Life Festival, and Taipei Original Festival. Though the cool of winter has arrived, these celebrations of all things artistic keep the city heated up.

As the clock winds down on 2012, we head back into the Taipei of yesteryear, celebrate the arriving New Year, experience the beauty of Taipei's proud public display of old and new – and finish by saying how happy we are that you're here. Happy New Year to you! 🥁





Discover Taipei

Taipei City Government

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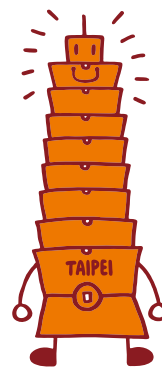
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A Sightseeing Tour of Taipei's Old Streets



The old streets of Taipei are lined with the weathered façades of buildings that provide historical evidence of past life in Taipei. Prior to the 1920s, development centered around three areas commonly referred to as "Three Market Streets," Bangka (艋舺), Dadaocheng (大稻埕), and the area known as the "inner city" (城內). At that time the population of Taipei was less than 200,000 and development among the areas had been orderly. Each of the three areas began to establish its own distinct form of architecture and infrastructure design.

Bangka Old Street (Wanhua): the origin of Taipei

Bangka is the birthplace of Taipei; in the 1820s, it was the economic, political and military center of the northern part of Taiwan. Unfortunately economic development also brought fighting among the different family groups that had settled in the area and led to strong resentment between families. This fighting later hindered trade opportunities with foreign countries and dampened local economic development. The decline of Bangka led to the rise of Dadaocheng further down the Tamsui River, which later became the economic center of Taipei.

The development of Bangka started on today's Guiyang Street (貴陽街), Taipei's first street. Original Western-style buildings, traditional grocery hawkers, bakeries, and incense shops are still found in the area today. The Xinxiehe Chinese Medicine Store (新協和藥行, which has been in business for more than a century), Bangka Church (built by George Mackay, the first Western missionary to Taiwan), and Qingshan Temple (青山宮, a national historic site) are all located on Guiyang Street.



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The construction of Longshan Temple (龍山寺) led to the development of Guangzhou Street (廣州街) and Xiyuan Road (西園路). A significant number of Buddhist shops and embroidery stores can still be found along Xiyuan Road. However along Guangzhou Street most of the buildings have either been rebuilt or restored: the Bangka Fortified Gate (艋舺隘門) and Danbei Orphanage (淡水育嬰堂) have both vanished, although ruins of the original Huang Ancestral Hall (黃氏大宗祠) and a stele from the Orphanage can still be seen.

Further along Xiyuan Road at the intersection of Guilin Road (桂林路) was a concentration of shops and suppliers. Today, this area is home to Chinese medicine shops and Buddhist stores. One of the better preserved streets of old Bangka is Bopiliao (剝皮寮) on the southern side of Laosong Elementary School (老松國小). This street is frequently visited by tourists to the area.

Dadaocheng: prosperity arrives in Taipei

Zhuang Yongming (莊永明) was born in and grew up in Dadaocheng. He began collecting Taiwanese cultural and historical data, stamps and books when he was a student in junior high school. His lifelong work has been to preserve the cultural heritage and the historical significance surrounding the birth of Taipei and modern Taiwan. He frequently lectures on the historical importance of early Taipei and often serves as a tour guide in the Zhuangxiefa Cultural History Pavilion (莊協發港町文史講亭). As a lifelong resident of this area, Mr. Zhuang is intimately acquainted with the area and can tell the story of each scene and object.

1. In 1922, the road from today's Chongqing S. Rd. (重慶南路) to the Hengyang Rd. (衡陽路) intersection was called Fujian (府前, lit. "in front of government") St. (photo courtesy of Zhuang Yongming)
2. Qingshan Temple, built in 1856, was formerly near a street with a sweet-potato market (番薯市街).
3. As Longshan Temple prospered, more and more Buddhist-implementation shops were set up nearby, the cluster becoming a scenic attraction in itself.
4. Bangka Church was built in 1879 by the Canadian missionary George Mackay.
5. Huang Ancestral Hall was built around 1850~1860.
6. History scholar Zhuang Yongming frequently gives talks on his home area, Dadaocheng, at the Zhuangxiefa Cultural History Pavilion, and also leads guided walks.

Today, the area of Dadaocheng covers Dalongdong (大龍峒) and the Datong District (大同區). The early settlers in this area built northern Taiwan's first Confucius Temple (孔廟), Wenchang Temple (文昌祠), and Bao'an Temple (保安宮); all historically important buildings in Northern Taiwan.

The economy of Dadaocheng began to flourish in 1865 when British merchant John Dodd established a market for exporting tea to the West. He assisted local farmers in obtaining Oolong tea (烏龍茶) plants from Anxi (安溪), near Quanzhou (泉州). Later this tea was processed and exported to the West. When Queen Victoria of England tasted it, she remarked that it was sweet and began to refer to the tea as "oriental beauty." This led to the widespread fame of "Oriental Beauty Tea" (東方美人茶) within England, Europe and North America. The fame of this tea began to attract other foreign interest and soon five foreign companies operated branch offices in Dadaocheng. These companies brought exotic architectural styles, new religions, and different cultures to the region.

In 1885, the Qing Dynasty government assigned Liu Mingchuan (劉銘傳) as the first Governor of Taiwan. Liu began construction on the first train system on the site of what is now Taipei Main Station. He also established the "Tea PCT Bureau" (茶釐局), the "Uniformed Machinery

Bureau" (軍裝機器局, for the repair of railway equipment), and other public sector institutions. This rapid growth led to the formation of an industrial district. A number of new construction projects allowed Taipei to claim the title of biggest city in Taiwan. The completion of the north/south railway permitted easy transportation of goods, cloth, and traditional Chinese medicine, and this trade further benefited the now booming area of Dadaocheng.

During the period of Japanese rule, Taipei natives initiated a non-violent resistance to Japan. This movement garnered the name "New Taiwan Culture Movement" (臺灣新文化運動). The inaugural conference of the Taiwan Culture Association was held in what is now the auditorium of Blessed Imelda's School (靜修女中). The most famous area of Dadaocheng is Dihua Street (迪化街). During the period of Japanese rule general stores and tea businesses prospered along this street. After the Japanese occupation, the rice trade and traditional Chinese medicine gained in popularity here. Nearby Yongle Market (永樂市場) and cloth stores were beneficiaries of Taiwan's economic miracle of the 1960s. Taipei XiaHai ChengHuang Temple (台北霞海城隍廟), Fazhugong Temple (法主公廟), and Cisheng Temple (慈聖宮) collectively are referred to as the three main temples in Dadaocheng. No trip to Dadaocheng is complete without a visit to one of these scenic structures.



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The Inner City: witness to the changes of the times

The area of Taipei commonly known as "the inner city" was built during the Guangxu (光緒) period of the Qing Dynasty. This was once a walled city area with four distinct sides. The east wall was located along what is now Zhongshan South Road (中山南路), the south wall along Aiguo West Road (愛國西路), the west wall followed Zhonghua Road (中華路), and the north wall was on Zhongxiao West Road (忠孝西路). Today, all that remains of the original walled city are the North, South, Small South (Xiaonan) and East Gates. These gates have all been designated as Level One National Historic Sites.

The walls of "the inner city" were torn down during the Japanese Period. This period also saw the removal of buildings that were vacant at the end of the Qing Dynasty. The governor's office, Wenwu Temple (文武廟), and other buildings were removed in accordance with the Meiji Restoration, to promote the Westernization Movement and to build a strong cohesive city. Office of the President (總統府), the Control Yuan (監察院), the Supreme Court building (最高法院), the Taipei Guest House (臺北賓館), the head office for the Bank of Taiwan (臺灣銀行), National Taiwan Museum (國立臺灣博物館), and Taipei Zhongshan Hall (中山堂) are among the many buildings that were erected during this era.

To fully discover the history and development of Taipei, Mr. Zhuang recommends that you begin with a visit to the Bangka district, as this is where settlers first established trade and temples. A deeper exploration of this area is often referred to as a "religious trip" and includes visits to Bangka Qingshuiyanzushi Temple (鯓鯓清水巖祖師廟), Longshan Temple, Qingshan Temple, and Bopiliao. After Bangka, continue the journey to the three well-known streets of Dadaocheng: Guide

Street, Yanping North Road (延平北路), and Dihua Street. Finally, take a look around the old "inner city" and trace the footsteps of some of the first residents of Taipei. A thorough tour of these three areas will give the traveler a good taste of the early years of Taipei, as well as a glimpse of how the city first became prosperous during the Japanese Period.

In the 21st century, Taipei is a bustling and modern metropolis, but with clear and distinct roots in the past. Travelling through these three areas will allow the visitor to gain knowledge of the old city and also experience firsthand what life may have been like when Taipei was young. 📍

7. Jinji Tea Shop (錦記茶行) on Guide Street (貴德街) was built in 1920 and played a key role in Dadaocheng's tea-export heyday.
8. Taipei XiaHai ChengHuang Temple was built in 1820.
9. Cisheng Temple was built in 1866 during the reign of Emperor Tongzhi; though there was a forced move to its present location during the Japanese Period, on the stone columns you'll still see "Erected during Tongzhi period."
10. Taipei Guest House, built during the Japanese Period, was the governor-general's residence, and was used to entertain foreign dignitaries and members of Japan's imperial family.
11. The East Gate, also called Jingfu Gate (景福門), was built in 1884, and is a National Historical Relic of the First Rank.

Information

The Zhuang Yongming Dadaocheng neighborhood Guide 莊永明大稻埕街區導覽

Time: The first Sunday of every month from 08:00 to 12:00

Meeting Place: 08:00 at Cisheng Temple 慈聖宮
(17, Lane 49, Bao'an St. 保安街49巷17號)

(No appointment necessary)

Taipei is full of colorful stores with distinctive features, and if you turn the corner of an alleyway, you might even find a veteran craftsman sitting in a humble store working on an artifact by hand. Stores like Lin Tien Coopery (林田桶店), Ri Xing Type Foundry (日星鑄字行), and Little Garden Embroidered Shoes (小花園繡花鞋) were all established a long time ago. They preserve authentic artistry and safeguard old techniques which have stood to the test of time. Other stores like Lam Sam Yick Co., Ltd. (林三益筆墨專家) seek out a new path in a traditional business. In short, all these featured stores are worth a visit.

Authentic Craftsmanship, Rich in History



World-Class Carpentry Craftsmanship: Lin Tien Coopery

Wooden buckets of various sizes were an essential item to every Taiwanese household in the past, since they were used by the family for bathing, washing clothes, cooking rice and other house chores. Nevertheless, after the plastic utensils were introduced to Taiwan in the early 1960s, they brought with them the inevitable demise of this traditional craft, forcing quite a few wooden bucket shops to close their doors one after another. Fortunately, Lin Tien Coopery, located on Zhongshan North Road (中山北路), still stands at its original location and continues to be recognized for its skillfully made barrels and buckets.

Established in 1928, Lin Tien Coopery has a history of 84 years in Taiwan. The founder, Lin Xinju (林新居), had worked as an apprentice and learned the art of coopery from his Japanese master before returning home to start his own business and subsequently passed down the craft to his son, Lin Xianglin (林相林). On Zhongshan North Road, which is lined with fashionable stores and expensive boutiques, a simple shop (very different from all those stores) called Lin Tien Coopery appears to be quite a contrast. The store is full of sturdy and beautiful wooden buckets in assorted sizes and shapes. Carefully crafted by hand from red cypress, the buckets give off a pleasant scent upon contact with hot water and can be used for bathtubs or water containers. This type of wood secretes an oily substance which prevents mold from growing. On the other hand, it's better to use the odorless Chinese fir to make rice-cooking buckets. The authentic light aroma from the Chinese fir is an ideal choice for a rice cooker.

Insisting on making every piece by hand, one at a time, Lin selects the wood, cuts it into wooden strips, and planes it smooth by himself. The edges of each wooden strip must be planed to a precise angle so that the staves will fit tightly together and curve around into a circle. Then he bores holes into the edges of each stave and inserts bamboo pegs into the holes on one side. The staves are then fitted together and secured with iron strips. Each process takes precise craftsmanship, which has contributed to Lin's buckets being called a "National Treasure of Taiwan" by the Japanese press. Lin himself has earned the reputation of being a "Master Craftsman" as well as "Taiwan's Cooper Laureate."

A Stalwart Advocate of Typography: Ri Xing Type Foundry

Since computer printing became the preferred publishing method, movable type has almost become obsolete. Nevertheless, the last existing collection of the traditional Chinese character matrix in Taiwan survives in Taipei, on Taiyuan Road (太原路). Chang Chiehkuan (張介冠) has run Ri Xing Type Foundry for the past 44 years, and has devoted his life to forging lead types, melting the metal at a temperature of up to 300 degrees Celsius, and thus preventing this special tradition from vanishing.

Chang's father established Ri Xing Type Foundry when he was a junior high school student, and he later took over the business. Chang says that typography was invented during the Song Dynasty by Bi Sheng (畢昇; ca. 990-1051), giving it a history of nearly a thousand years. Even though traditional typesetting is a declining industry, the company makes a big effort to maintain the tradition. Ri Xing Type Foundry takes advantage of the current trend for retro fashion and showcases movable types on shelves as gifts. Some clients even purchase the type to apply to their own leather embossing or pottery creations.

1-2: At Lin Tien Coopery, in business 84 years, master craftsmen make each barrel by hand.

3-4: Ri Xing Type Foundry is Taiwan's only remaining movable-type foundry; it has preserved many antique Chinese-character matrix molds, which produce elegant fonts.



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Chang hopes that through Ri Xing Type Foundry the technique and know-how of traditional Chinese character typesetting in Taiwan will be preserved. From numerous antique Chinese character matrix molds in the store, visitors can easily find movable types that look far more elegant and appealing than computer fonts. Chang's biggest wish is to donate the shop to the government and let it be run as a museum dedicated to the art of traditional typography, ensuring that the craftsmanship and culture of typography will be preserved and passed down to the next generation.

Wearing Beauty on Your Feet: Little Garden Embroidered Shoes

Embroidered shoes are a unique craft integrating two aspects of Chinese culture: shoes and embroidery techniques. Traditionally the embroidery is the essence of the shoes, and great attention must be paid to making sure the pattern is symmetrical on both sides. Nowadays it is hard to find traditionally handmade cloth shoes, but thanks to the persistence of an

old store called Little Garden Embroidered Shoes, this traditional technique survives into the present day.



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Little Garden is the first embroidered footwear shop in Taipei and is currently managed by third generation owner Chen Hungyi (陳弘宜). Due to the decline of the industry, skilled shoemakers are very difficult to find. Presently, most of the embroidery on the shoes is completed by a computer-controlled machine, but a selection of premium shoes are still handmade. The patterns feature auspicious peonies, mandarin ducks, dragons and phoenixes, attracting many brides-to-be to pay a special visit and place an order.

Even though the shop does not have a noticeable signboard, Little Garden appeals to many Japanese tourists who fancy retro-Chinese fashion. There are a wide variety of designed shoes to choose from, including tiny tiger shoes that children would once have worn to draw lots on their first birthday celebration. These embroidered tiger shoes are popular with parents who use them as decorations for their house. At the end of last year, the shop paired up with Traditional Art Shop (藝間店) in Taipei Songshan Airport so that travelers can conveniently buy handmade brocade indoor slippers and slippers with beads while in transit.



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Creating novelty from antiques: Lam Sam Yick Co., Ltd.

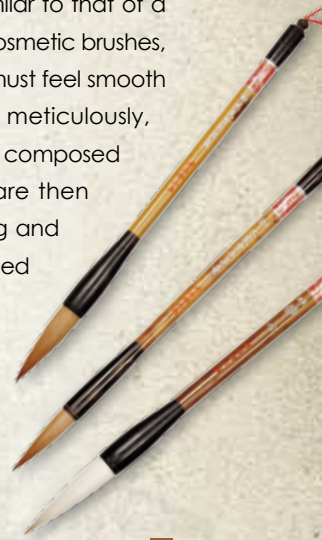
Sam Yick Brush Pens was founded in Fuzhou, Fujian Province (福建福州) in 1917, specializing in making all sorts of writing brushes for calligraphy. In 1946 the company relocated to Taipei and was renamed Lam Sam Yick. Since then, the company has been dedicated to the study of brush hair and imported raw materials from overseas, making it a renowned brand in the market with a history that spans four generations.

Lam Sam Yick insists on making its brushes by hand, a complex procedure. For instance, calligraphers demand high standard brushes, with good ink absorption quality and made of resilient animal hair, which needs to be mixed in a precise but complicated ratio. Meeting these requirements is the experienced veteran master, who has perfected his skill over decades, and is familiar with the 48 steps needed to turn hair into a writing brush.

Lam Sam Yick's fourth-generation owner, Lin Changlong (林昌隆), took over the family business when the brush-making industry was gradually dwindling. Based on his rich experience accumulated over the years, Lin applies

his techniques to developing new lines such as cosmetic brush sets, successfully crossing over to another field of trade: the beauty industry. Lin indicated that the process of making makeup brushes by hand is similar to that of a Chinese calligraphy brush. Nevertheless, cosmetic brushes, which are in direct contact with the skin, must feel smooth and comfortable. Each brush is crafted meticulously, starting by selecting the bristles, which are composed of quality hairs of equal length, which are then tied into a bundle after repeatedly sorting and trimming. During the process no scissor is used to ensure the smoothness of the brush.

In a modern city like Taipei, the graceful upright profiles of craftsmen working attentively in these old stores are in stark contrast to life elsewhere in this dynamic metropolis, yet provide a welcome link back to a Taipei of old. 10



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5. The embroidered shoe, a unique craft of the Chinese culture, brings together the shoe culture and embroidery technique.
- 6-7. The delicate elegance of the footwear at Little Garden Embroidered Shoes brings in many customers on special trips; owner Chen Hungyi personally crafts shoes here.
8. Lam Sam Yick's fourth-generation owner, Lin Changlong, has strict standards and personally inspects each brush.
9. Lam Sam Yick Co. specializes in calligraphy brushes that are valued as collector's items; it has now crossed over into the beauty industry with a series of cosmetic brushes. (photo courtesy of Lam Sam Yick Co.)
10. Masters craft each of Lam Sam Yick's signature creations by hand. (photo courtesy of Lam Sam Yick Co.)

Information

Lin Tien Coopery 林田桶店

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

Tel: (02)2541-1354

Ri Xing Type Foundry 日星鑄字行

Add: 13, Lane 97, Taiyuan Rd. (太原路97巷13號)

Tel: (02)2556-4626

Website: www.facebook.com/rixingtypefoundry

Little Garden Embroidered Shoes 小花園繡花鞋

Add: 70, Emei St. (峨眉街70號)

Tel: (02)2311-0045

Lam Sam Yick Co., Ltd. 林三益筆墨專家

Add: 58, Sec. 2, Chongqing N. Rd. (重慶北路2段58號)

Tel: (02)2556-6433

Website: www.lsy031.com.tw

On the Hunt for the Old Days in Taipei

An old toy from your childhood, a poster from yesteryear. Do you find memories of days long gone flooding back? In Taipei, many toy and antique shops serve as vaults filled with memories of the past, and are grand places for tourists to come dig for the Taipei of yesteryear, by looking out for intriguing old items.

Nostalgia Bazaar- Zhaohejing Antique Market

The venerable Jin'an Market (錦安市場) in the Yongkang Street (永康街) area had its golden days during the Japanese period. During that era this district was called Zhaohejing (昭和町). Though the market's luster has faded somewhat, visitors are rewarded with a pleasing dose of authentic old Taipei, and the air is thick with nostalgia. Collectors come hunting for precious antiques, interesting old toys, and items they find laden with fun and meaning. The old name, "Zhaohejing" has been highlighted in the present-day bazaar, which is called the Zhaohejing Antique Market (昭和町文物市集), and has become a popular attraction for both tourists and for collectors, who come to dredge for precious cultural gems.

1. In addition to antiques and curiosities, some Zhaohejing Antique Market shops also provide teapot-repair services.

2-4. There are about 30 shops in this market, with everything from calligraphy and painting scrolls, Buddhist icons, and old jade items to tables/chairs and lamps/lanterns, attracting both tourists and dedicated treasure-dredgers.

There are about thirty shops in the market, each with its own distinctive character; several even retain a Japanese colonial-era atmosphere. The shops (each about three to six square meters in size) are cozy and intimate, and are packed with a startling variety of treasures. The majority of the owners are themselves collectors, and you'll find everything from calligraphy and painting scrolls, Buddhist icons, old jade items, and snuff bottles to tables and chairs, leather suitcases, lamps and lanterns, and early electrical appliances. Most of these gems are from the owners' personal collections, or sourced through swaps/buys with fellow traders. The abundance and variety is tremendous. In addition to the sale of antiques and curiosities, some shops also provide a teapot-repair service, their fine craftsmanship endowing old objects with new life.





Arousing Childhood Memories—Shuntai Toys and Snacks

Want to know what childhood in Taipei during times past was like? Go to Shuntai Toys and Snacks (順泰玩具食品行) in Jingmei (景美). Before you even reach the shop you'll spot the many toys hung outside. Inside toys are everywhere, arranged in showcases and hanging from the ceiling. They're all imitations of the toys and kids' foods of Taiwan in the 1950s and 1960s, along with discontinued items sourced by the owner. Inside are doll cards (paper cards with colorful human figures on them), spinning tops, candy cigarettes, squirt guns, shuttlecocks, glass marbles and many other fascinating and amusing items. The shop is a time tunnel, racing people back to their days of youthful innocence.



Shuntai Toys and Snacks has been in business for 48 years. Starting off as one of Taiwan's former "Gan'adian" (柑仔店) or traditional general grocery stores, today this small-scale enterprise is one of Taipei's few remaining shops dedicated to children's toys from the past. The owner, Mr. Guan (官), specially introduces kids' games seen in Taiwan's rural areas in the 1950s; using the doll cards he carries, for example, kids could squat down anywhere they wanted for a game. "Real toys were a rarity in the country back then," he says. "So you had to make your own from found materials. Doll cards, for example, were most often made from printed election-campaign materials. You cut up scraps that had the candidates' heads on them to craft tough, sturdy cards that were very creative." Another item, the "grid-poke gift box," which has mystery prizes hidden in the boxes of a grid-style frame, is a great party-game choice. Whether your goal is to rekindle memories from your childhood, or to discover new toys you've never heard of before, a visit to this place of old-style kids' fun will leave you enthralled.



- 5-6. Shuntai Toys and Snacks is a Taipei rarity, a shop dedicated to nostalgic old-time children's items; the owner has sourced all sorts of discontinued toys.
- 7. On display is a dazzling circus of kid-fun curiosities, irresistible to all no matter when you were a kid.
- 8. Retro Taiwan goodies from the 1950s and 1960s: candy cigarettes, grid-poke gift boxes, and doll cards.

Taiwan Cultural History Treasure House—Formosa Vintage Museum Café

Formosa Vintage Museum Café (秋惠文庫) is hidden away on the third floor of a building at the corner of busy Xinyi Road (信義路) and Yongkang Street. It's a quiet and cultured space embellished with a rich array of gems. The owner, Doctor Lin Yufang (林于昉), is an avid collector, who during a period spent studying in Japan began collecting rare old Japanese books and antique Japanese cultural artifacts. For a significant period in the past Taiwan was deeply influenced by Japanese culture, and Lin found himself more and more interested in Taiwan's various cultural artifacts, exploring its Dutch, Zheng Chenggong (鄭成功; Koxinga), Qing Dynasty, Japanese, and early Republican periods. His collection of tens of thousands of objects from the everyday lives of Taiwan's inhabitants brings each of these different periods to life.

The café is set up to share Lin's collection with the public. Rare, valuable items are displayed in every room and in every corner. You'll see historical documents, arts and crafts, original works of calligraphy and painting, posters from the Japanese period, shop signs, tea canisters and packages used during the period when Taiwan exported Formosa Tea around the world, examples of the Alishan lacquerware and shell jewelry that served as gift items in days of old, fans made with materials from the betel-nut palm, and much else. An extra-special treasure is a gouache painting entitled *Dragon Boat Rowing* (扒龍船), done in 1930, though all the works here are a collector's dream. The café space has the feel of a museum in miniature; visitors can inspect the many collector's gems at leisure, and they can also enjoy such unusual treats as sitting at a century-old wooden table fashioned by Taiwan natives from an oxcart wheel. Sitting down at the table, savoring a cup of tea and good conversation, you can't help but admire the owner's selfless desire to share.






A Grand Aggregation of Art and Antiques—Taipei Antiques Plaza

Opened in July last year, Taipei Antiques Plaza (臺北古玩城) is located across from Da'an Park (大安森林公園). The plaza is home to 35 antique shops that display and sell cultural artifacts ranging from jade and porcelain works, snuff bottles, and teapots to stone and wood carvings, painting and calligraphy works, and furniture. It has become a must-visit destination for collectors.

A curio, which is at the same time an antique, can be admired and appreciated by everyone. But to recognize the collectable value of an old item and cross the threshold to becoming a collector requires the acquisition of knowledge, a practiced eye, and a well-developed aesthetic sense. Each item at Taipei Antiques Plaza has high artistic value and historical significance, and the range of items is highly varied. There are paintings by such famed Taiwan artists as Liao Chichun (廖繼春), Kuo Pochuan (郭柏川), Yang Sanlang (楊三郎), Ku Chungkuang (顧重光), Hwang Jyi (黃楫), and Lee Shihchiao (李石樵). There is also white jade art, works in yellow jade, pieces in bronze and copper, coral art, and more. These are the types of precious relics you'll find on display in museums, and each is available for you to take home for more intimate enjoyment.

In addition to the shops, Taipei Antiques Plaza has an art space and an art-exhibition room. Exhibits, lectures, and seminars are scheduled on an irregular basis. These are designed to help non-professionals hone their taste for antiques, and to more confidently roam the world of antiques. 



9. Formosa Vintage Museum Café is a quiet and cultured space, where visitors can sit sipping tea at a century-old wooden table fashioned from an oxcart wheel.

10-11. There are many precious artistic gems on display at Formosa Vintage Museum Café, including a 1930 gouache painting entitled *Dragon Boat Rowing* and early-period Alishan (阿里山) lacquerware.

12. Taipei Antiques Plaza, home to 35 antique shops, has become a must-visit destination for collectors.

13-14. In the plaza's shops are works in white jade, ancient jade, bronze, copper, coral, and more, all precious items suited for museum display.

Information

Zhaoheting Antique Market/Jin'an Market 昭和町文物市集/錦安市場

Add: 60, Yongkang St. (永康街60號)

Shuntai Toys and Snacks 順泰玩具食品行

Add: 453, Sec. 6, Roosevelt Rd. (羅斯福路6段453號)

Tel: (02)2931-4616

Formosa Vintage Museum Café 秋惠文庫

Add: 3F, 178, Sec. 2, Xinyi Rd. (信義路2段178號3樓)

Tel: (02)2351-5723

Taipei Antiques Plaza 臺北古玩城

Add: B1, 8, Sec. 2, Xinsheg S. Rd. (新生南路2段8號B1)

Tel: (02)2397-9619



The URS Project – New Looks for Old Places in Dadaocheng

Taipei's Datong District (大同區) is an area rich in history and tradition, and home to numerous century-old buildings that have now been fixed up and given new roles as cultural-creative centers, adding brightness and luster to the local streetscape. The city has been energetically adopting idle land and works of architecture in recent years, transforming them into what are called Urban Regeneration Stations (URS; 都市再生前進基地), running new and revitalizing cultural currents through old communities. Each are run by a different management, which bring different perspectives and styles that give each URS a unique character. The initiative has brought a fresh supply of creative oxygen to the city, augmenting the cultural atmosphere.

There are now four Urban Regeneration Stations in Datong District. The Design Gallery (URS127; 設計公店) opened last year. In addition to the design gallery itself, the complex is now home to a little theater, architect offices and artist workshops. There are exhibits and activities with design, architecture, and art as theme, and this also serves as a base for creative young designers. Story House (URS44; 大稻埕故事工坊) also opened last year. This site is dedicated to the promotion of the historical resources of the Dadaocheng community. It showcases the traditional businesses of Dihua Street, such as foodstuffs, sundry regional merchandise, medicinal items and fabrics. Cooking Together (URS155; 創作分享圈), which opened in June this year, brings together the regional goods of

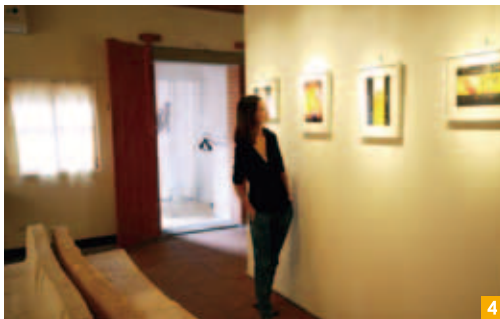
Dihua Street and the joys of cooking and communal eating. Just recently, on September 29th, the Film Range (URS27W; 城市影像實驗室) opened. This film lab is located on Yanping North Road in an area that was called Taipingding (太平町) in the Japanese era, and is expected to inject a dose of youthful inspiration.

URS155 – Cooking Together

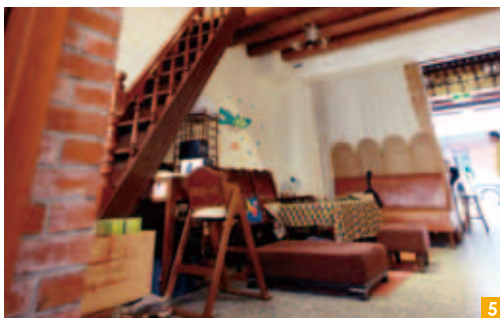
Cooking Together is located on Section 1 of Dihua Street. The original structure was built in the 1850s, and has been home to purveyors of cereals and Chinese medicines for over a century. It is a binary double-entrance, three-floor building in the classical south Fujian architectural style. Additions from various eras can be seen, notably brickwork from the Qing Dynasty, Japanese colonial and early Republican eras. This is a traditional-style townhouse that vividly recounts Dadaocheng's historical tale. The site was given to the city by a private donor, and today serves as a creative "cooking together" venue with an open-

kitchen concept. It's imbued with the flavor of old-style markets and shops, and specializes in cooking food with that "homemade" taste. Creative use is made of local ingredients, and neighbors often participate in making soup or other delicacies together.

Two special series of activities (with good food as the common thread) are happening in November and December: "Cooking Together Lectures" (分食共好講座) and "Dihua Good Taste Canteen" (迪化好味食堂). In the Dihua Good Taste Canteen, participants explore Dihua Street in depth, purchasing various local foodstuffs. If interested, visit the official URS website for details, and register online or by phone. In addition, the "Urban Sandbank Studio" (都市沙洲工作室) has been set up in the second-entrance area on the first floor; everyone is invited to come sculpt whatever creations they fancy. The second level is a space for cultural-arts exhibits, and each month there are seminars on different topics where creative talents share their concepts with the public.



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1. With URS44, an old house has been transformed into the simply named Story House.
2. The entire Design Gallery or URS127 complex is given over to a design gallery.
- 3-4. URS155, called Cooking Together, serves as a "cooking together" creative cuisine site with an open-kitchen concept. The second level is a space for cultural-arts exhibits.
- 5-6. URS155, a shop for cereals and Chinese medicines for over a century, is in the classical south Fujian architectural style, with a binary double-entrance and three floors.
7. The second space on the first floor is a studio space for free-style creativity, with young folk invited to set up and explore.

8. Opened in September, URS27W is Taipei's youngest Urban Regeneration Station, and will function as a "city film laboratory."
9. (Far left) Department of Urban Development Commissioner, Ding Yuchun (丁育群). (Far right) Urban Regeneration Office Director, Lin Chungchieh (林崇傑).
10. URS27W, originally an old tea shop, has been a witness to the development, rise, and decline of Yanping North Road.



URS27W – Searching for City Images

Film Range, on Section 2 of Yanping North Road, is the eighth and most recent URS opened to date. It's a "city imagery lab," and the hope is that young people will be attracted to the old neighborhood to explore the beauties of the old streets.

As stated above, during the Japanese colonial era the Yanping North Road area was called "Taipingding." The area stretched south to north from the old North Gate (北門) to Daqiaotou (大橋頭), connecting a busy grid of east-west streets. Today the grid still reflects the economic development of days past, with a dense cluster of tea shops, theaters, department stores, restaurants, and jewelry shops. Here you'll find the restaurant Dong Hui Fang (東薈芳), which played host to Liang Qichao (梁啟超), a prominent Chinese thinker at the end of the Qing Dynasty and rise of the Republican era. Here you'll also find the Da Qian Department Store (大千百貨), the first in Taiwan to install an escalator. The area is also home to the Da'an Hospital (大安醫院), where Jiang Weishui (蔣渭水), a major force in Taiwan's colonial-era democracy movement, practiced medicine. The publishing office of *Taiwan Min Bao* (臺灣民報; "Taiwan People's Newspaper"), a key publication during the Japanese era that expressed the views of Taiwan's people, was here as well.

The URS27W building was built over sixty years ago. It was originally home to a tea shop which witnessed the development, rise, and decline of Yanping North Road. After undergoing renovations, it's experiencing a new lease of life as the Film Range. The first tranche of activities being hosted includes "Darkroom Glimmer

– Documentary Film Festival in an Old House" (暗室微光—老屋裡的紀錄片影展), which runs until December 7th. Documentary films are being shown every Friday and Saturday with "cities and towns" or "design" as a theme. Contents dwell on rural areas, ageless knights called "grandriders on round-island tours," city-tours, etc. Such an unique series of experiences, watching documentaries on the city/town in an old house brimming with history, is reminiscent of the glow that lights up a darkroom. Viewers will find themselves reflecting on the transformations of the city.

For a taste of the Taipei of yesteryear, visit these attractive old-community Urban Regeneration Stations. They'll leave you with a deeper appreciation for the creativity and vitality of Taipei's cultural industry. 📺

Information

※ Urban Regeneration Stations

Website: www.urstaipei.net (Village Taipei)

URS127

Add: 127, Sec. 1, Dihua St. (迪化街1段127號)

Tel: (02) 2550-2590

URS44

Add: 44, Sec. 1, Dihua St. (迪化街1段44號)

Tel: (02) 2555-8484

URS155

Add: 155, Sec. 1, Dihua St. (迪化街1段155號)

Tel: (02) 2552-0349

URS27W

Add: 27, Sec. 2, Yanping N. Rd. (延平北路2段27號)

Tel: (02) 2797-6679



YouBike Bike Rentals – Become a Member and the First Thirty Minutes of Each Ride are Free Until the End of 2013

To encourage a new commuter culture, and provide a new option for short-distance journeys around town, the Taipei City Government's Department of Transportation and Giant have joined forces to launch the YouBike Sharing System Service Plan (YouBike微笑單車計畫). Today, along the Bannan, Shinlu, and Wenhua lines of the Taipei Metro system, and extending to Nangang, are forty-one bike-rental stations with 1,460 bicycles available for rent at all times. The current three-year, three-phase plan (to be completed in 2014) will bring the number of rental stations to 162, with 5,350 bikes available. Users will enjoy a supremely comprehensive green transit network that emphasizes low pollution and low energy consumption.

Information

YouBike Service Centers

Location: MRT Taipei City Hall Station, Exit 3, (2, Songren Rd.); MRT Zhongxiao Xinsheng Station, Exit 5 [捷運市政府站3號出口(松仁路2號)、捷運忠孝新生站5號出口]

Tel: 1999 or (02)8780-8773 (08:00~20:00)

Website: www.youbike.com.tw

Each YouBike bicycle has a one-size-fits-all design, each comfortable for male and female, young through old. An eco-friendly wheel hub generates power for front and rear lights, enhancing safety, while patented vehicle-lock technology allows you to park your bike anywhere without worry. You can rent a bike at any kiosk and return it at any other, and an automated electronic-sensor service allows 24-hour use. The process is easy: join, take, enjoy, return. The rental cost is just NT\$10 for each 30 minutes.

If you want to head out on a ride, each kiosk provides a single-rent service, using your credit card or Chunghwa Telecom cellphone 839 Micropayment System. At each kiosk and YouBike Service Center, and on the YouBike website, you can become a YouBike member using your EasyCard and your cellphone number for authentication. Until the end of 2013, members can ride for free for the first thirty minutes each time they rent a bike. Primed and ready? Head out now and ride the breezes, meandering around the city as you please, joining the legion of fellow riders who are making this a sustainable green city, saving on energy use and reducing carbon emissions. 🚲

Thirty New Stations

Taipei Medical University (臺北醫學大學)
Fude Park (福德公園)
Rongxing Park (榮星花園)
Raohe Street Night Market (饒河夜市)
Song Shan High School of Commerce and Home Economics (松山家商)
Intersection of Minsheng E. and Guangfu N. Roads (民生光復路口)
Taipei Cultural Center (社教館)
Zhongqiang Park (中強公園)
Intersection of Mingsheng E. and Dunhua N. Roads (民生敦化路口)
MRT Technology Building Station (捷運科技大樓站)
Dongxin Elementary School (東興國小)
Songshan Station (松山車站)
Da'an Park (大安森林公園)
Intersection of Yongji and Songxin Roads (永吉松信路口)

MRT Kunyang Station (捷運昆陽站)
Wuchang Park (五常公園)
Intersection of Jinshan S. and Aiguo E. Roads (金山愛國路口)
Intersection of Keelung Road and Changxing Street (基隆長興街口)
Intersection of Xinhai and Xinsheng S. Roads (辛亥新生路口)
MRT Liuzhangli Station (捷運六張犁站)
MRT Xingtian Temple Station, Exit 1 (捷運行天宮站, 1號出口)
MRT Xingtian Temple Station, Exit 3 (捷運行天宮站, 3號出口)
MRT Dongmen Station, Exit 5 (捷運東門站, 5號出口)
Zhonglun Senior High School (中崙高中)
National Taiwan University Information Building (臺大資訊大樓)
TWTC Nangang Park (南港世貿公園)
Academia Park (中研公園)
National Taiwan Normal University Library (師大圖書館)

Yucheng Park (玉成公園)
MRT Taipei Nangang Exhibition Center Station (捷運南港展覽館站)

Eleven Xinyi District Stations

MRT Taipei City Hall Station (捷運市政府站)
MRT Sun Yat-sen Memorial Hall Station (捷運國父紀念館站)
Taipei City Hall (臺北市政府)
Civic Plaza (市民廣場)
Xingya Junior High School (興雅國中)
New York New York Department Store Greenway (紐約紐約綠園道)
Xinyi Square / Taipei 101 (信義廣場)
Taipei World Trade Center Hall 3 (世貿三館)
Songde Road (松德路)
Emergency Operations Center of Taipei City (臺北市災害應變中心)
Sanzhangli (三張犁)



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Huashan Red Brick Lane

Reincarnated as an Elegant Cultural-Arts Forest

Now the cool of autumn is here, are you thinking of warm, warm tropical landscapes? Come to the Huashan 1914 Creative Park (華山1914文化創意產業園區) to see a lush display of rare tropical plants from the Dr. Cecilia Koo Botanic Conservation Center (辜嚴倬雲植物保種中心) in Pingtung (屏東) County. They're on display amidst the architecture of the park's historic Red Brick Lane (紅磚六合院). Amidst a superlative array of endangered plant species, where vividly colored fowl of various exotic breeds scratch, your eyes will be opened wide, as will your horizons.

Today's Red Brick Lane facility was previously home to a century-old camphor-production factory built by the Japanese. In September this year the Taiwan Cultural-Creative Development Foundation (臺灣文創發展基金會) and Dr. Cecilia Koo Botanic Conservation Center determined that the spacious structure's role could be made more valuable by expanding it from a standard stage for the arts to an integrated-resources showcase. Many exotic specimens from around the globe have been transplanted from the Pingtung center to this new home, creating a unique combination: a

cultural-arts performance venue within a replicated tropical rainforest mini-environment.

In this attractive setting are tropical plants from Gaoshu Township (高樹鄉), Pingtung. These include carnivorous pitcher plants, the large staghorn fern, and the giant bird's-nest fern, with leaves thirty centimeters wide. There are also various begonias such as *Begonia fagifolia*, *Begonia brevirimosa subsp. exotica*, *Begonia hainanensis*, and *Begonia silletensis*, and many endangered species. Adding to the exotic ambiance is the presence of chickens – yes, chickens – from around the globe, including the Gongting chicken (宮廷雞) and Beijing Fatty Chicken (北京油雞) from mainland China, Red Jungle Fowl from Vietnam, range chickens from Taiwan's East Rift Valley, and Polish fowl.

Huashan is very ambitious in trying to create an environment where so many living organisms from so many different environments will thrive. It has had to overcome all the problems inherent in creating an artificial indoor environment for tropical plants where all temperature, humidity, illumination, and other



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requirements are controlled; the plants are meticulously cared for by a team of professionals. The creator of this space was Dr. Li Chiawei (李家維博士), who has been in charge of the tropical-plant conservation initiative since 2007, and in that time has been responsible for the successful collection and cultivation of more than 20,000 types of endangered tropical rainforest plants. A glimpse of the collection was also seen at the 2010 Taipei International Flora Exposition (臺北國際花卉博覽會), where more than one thousand types of flower were displayed at the Pavilion of Future (未來館), enriching visitors' visual experience. Dr. Li believes that "man" is the most important element in ecologically sustainable development, and hopes that large-scale exhibits will help to pass on an understanding of the importance of conservation to the next generation.

These precious plants, on permanent exhibition, and the special chicken breeds being raised outdoors in glass enclosures, introduce bio-conservation concepts to a space originally intended as a cultural-arts showcase. A new, unique venue blending cultural-creativity and environmental missions has been given life. 🌱

1. Thick with an air of history, the Huashan Red Brick Lane has been decorated with rare plant species from all around the globe, creating an unique combination of cultural-arts performance space and tropical-rainforest zone.
2. The Dr. Cecilia Koo Botanic Conservation Center, located in Pingtung County's Gaoshu Township, has made Taiwan a key global plant conservation and research center.
3. The curator, Dr. Li Chiawei (third from right), explains some of the rare plant life to former vice president Vincent Siew and his wife (far left).
- 4-5. In addition to tropical plants such as the native carnivorous pitcher plant from Pingtung's Gaoshu Township, there are also representatives of chicken species from around the world.
6. Beijing Fatty Chicken
7. Polish fowl



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Information

With the co-support of the National Science Council (國科會) under the Living Collection of Global Tropical Plants (全球熱帶植物種源保育計畫) plan, as of October 1st this year the Dr. Cecilia Koo Botanic Conservation Center (<http://140.114.98.89/koo/>) has successfully cultivated 20,964 types of tropical plants from around the world. This is the largest such undertaking in all of Asia. The facility boasts the best orchid, pineapple, begonia, and fern collections in the world, and has made Taiwan a key global plant conservation and research center.

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

Add: 1, Sec 1, Bade Rd.; Red Brick Lane, W5 Building
(八德路1段1號; 紅磚六合院西5棟)

Tel: (02)2358-1914

Website: web.huashan1914.com



Taiwanese opera is the form of traditional art closest to the hearts and lives of the local people. In imperial days, when Taiwan was primarily a rural farming society, watching Taiwanese opera was a key form of leisure entertainment, and an important element in temple fairs giving thanks to the gods. As Taiwan entered the modern world, for a time the form was seen as lacking refinement, but today it's regarded as a major cultural asset, is taken as a serious art form, and has even made an entrance onto the international stage. Many with a fondness for its aesthetics now enroll in classes to study its singing, makeup, and other elements, and even hitting the stage to perform it, for their own entertainment.



Taiwanese Opera – the People's Opera

Traditional Opera Nurtured and Cultivated in the Taiwan Soil

Taiwanese opera is a local theatrical form that evolved from the humming song that the farming folk of the Lanyang Plain (蘭陽平原) used to sing during their leisure time over a century ago. Later, small song-and-dance troupes became popular; their shows, called "chegu opera" (車鼓戲), featured ever more elaborate costumes, postures, and background

musical accompaniment. This led to the emergence of more developed troupes and shows, which became popular at temple-front parades honoring the gods within. Eventually, the full-blown Taiwanese opera form emerged. Since all singing and speaking was in Taiwanese, and the melodies and plots were familiar to all Taiwanese people, the form became popular throughout the land. More and more professional companies were born.

From its inception, Taiwanese opera was a key activity in local culture. Change and transformation has been constant over the form's century-plus of existence, as the form absorbed elements from other types of theater genres popular in Taiwan, such as *Beiguan* opera (北管戲), *Nanguan* opera (南管戲), Beijing opera (京劇), *Luntan* opera (亂彈戲), and *Gaojia* opera (高甲戲). Each aspect has been transformed, from the musical instruments, make-up and costumes, props and scenery to the dramatic gestures, postures and operatic singing style, music scores, and performance contexts.

Refinement has continued right down to the present day; what has never changed though is its intimacy, and popularity with the people, wherever it is performed: free shows on stages set up before temples, ticketed events in theaters, on television, in movies, and today on stage in modern theaters. Taiwanese opera is the dramatic genre, with the music and script, that best captures the beauty of the Taiwanese language and its emphasis on rhyme and antithesis.

Populist Taiwanese opera has cultivated many fans and devotees. Famous local performers such as Liao Chiungchih (廖瓊枝), Yang Lihua (楊麗花), and Sun Cuifeng (孫翠鳳) have huge fan followings. Liao Chiungchih, regarded as a national treasure, is chairperson of the Liao Chiung-Chih Taiwanese Opera Foundation for Culture and Education (廖瓊枝歌仔戲文教基金會). Many in the audience are especially fond of the performances on outdoor stages, and when the specialized troupes that move about staging such shows release details on where a play will be performed, these fans will be sure to come and see the performance. Taiwanese opera shows performed at large-scale facilities feature especially beautiful scenery and dazzling lighting effects, the actors don particularly splendid costumes, and the famous four performing techniques— "singing, dialogue, acting, and acrobatics" (唱、念、作、打) – are even more elaborately designed.

1. Taiwanese opera was cultivated in the richness of the local earth, and is the traditional-opera form closest to the daily life of the local people.
2. Liao Chiungchih, a Taiwanese opera star declared a living national treasure, excels at crying, and early on was christened "Taiwan's First Kudan."
3. In Taiwanese opera each role requires completely different makeup, costume, and props.
4. Taiwanese opera takes viewers on a roller-coaster ride of emotional highs and lows; pictured is a scene from *San Niang Teaches the Child*. (photo by Wei Shizhang)
5. Taiwanese opera has absorbed elements from other traditional opera genres, the result a style all its own.
6. The male and female leads are called xiaosheng (left) and xiaodan (right); females often play male roles.



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A “National Treasure” Taiwan Entertainer – Liao Chiungchih

Liao Chiungchih, 77 years old this year, lost both her parents when she was a young girl, and was raised by her grandmother. She found herself alone after her grandmother became sick and passed away, and at 14 entered studies with the famous Taiwanese opera troupe Gold Mountain Music Society (金山樂社). She excelled at crying, and came to be called “Taiwan’s First Kudan” (臺灣第一苦旦), meaning its greatest master of female-role melodrama. Winner of many an arts and legacy award, she is constantly busy giving opera-skill workshops and speeches. She also teaches at the National Taiwan College of Performing Arts (國立臺灣戲曲學院), the only educational institution in Taiwan with a Taiwanese opera program.

Studying Taiwanese opera has become popular all over Taiwan in recent years, and some universities have

established Taiwanese opera clubs. Social education organizations and community colleges have opened classes. The Taipei Cultural Center (臺北市立社會教育館) and Dalongdong Bao'an Temple (大龍峒保安宮) have invited Liao to teach courses. Liao says that teaching opera to the general public is very different from teaching it to school students. There is an expression that goes “One minute on the stage, ten years of practice off the stage” (台上一分鐘，台下十年功), meaning that students must start by establishing a solid foundation, and must commit to years of study to complete their apprenticeship. But although the average class is just four months, an exhibition of what has been achieved during that time must be staged at the end, with students giving a performance. During each course there is only time enough to teach one play, so each student is assigned a role that they must specialize in, mastering the character’s lines, singing, postures and actions.



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A Primer on Taiwanese Opera

The main roles in Taiwanese opera are *sheng* (生), *dan* (旦), *jing* (淨), and *chou* (丑). *Sheng* denotes the male leads, the main types being *laosheng* (老生; older characters), *xiaosheng* (小生; younger characters), and *wusheng* (武生; martial characters). *Dan* refers to female leads, of which there are four types; *xiaodan* (小旦; younger females), *laodan* (老旦; older ladies), *huadan* (花旦; coquettes), and *kudan* (苦旦; sorrowful ladies). *Jing* are dignified, larger-than-life male historical figures of vivid personality such as Guan Gong (關公), Cao Cao (曹操), and Bao Gong (包公). *Chou* are comic figures. The makeup, costumes, poses and gestures, singing, lines, and props carried by each role are different. For example, the *xiaosheng* carries a folding fan, the *xiaodan* a round fan or floating fan, a handmaiden's silk scarf or octagonal towel, etc. The *xiaosheng* and *xiaodan* are lead male and female roles, the former a handsome and refined character, the latter bright and delicate.

Each staged Taiwanese opera has its strengths and its own individual style, and the soul of each is the storyline. A well-constructed script brings the audience along on a roller-coaster ride of emotional highs and lows. Up on the stage, the male and female leads are the natural point of focus, and in addition to enjoying the visual aspect of the performance, audiences pay close attention to the singing and postures of the *xiaosheng* and *xiaodan*. The thrilling interplay of instrumental and percussion music is also a highlight, especially when the *wusheng* is on stage showing off his martial-arts prowess, which will often bring repeated cheers from viewers.

According to a Chinese expression, "The layman watches the smoke and mirrors, the adept identifies the tricks of the trade" (外行看熱鬧，內行看門道). To become an adept yourself, take in a few wonderful shows, and develop your taste for the beauty of Taiwanese opera. 10

7. Liao Chiungchih (second from right) is dedicated to cultivating new talent, and always has many students under her wing.

8-9. Among the many special techniques opera students must master are sleeve movements and stylized horse-riding.

10. The public loves Taiwanese opera performed on outdoor stages.

11. The Taiwanese opera classes at Dadaocheng Theater have allowed many young lovers of this art to study it in an easy-learning environment.

Information

Dadaocheng Theater 大稻埕戲苑

Add: 8-9F, 21, Sec. 1, Dihua St., in Yongle Market (迪化街1段21號8-9樓; 永樂市場樓上)

Tel: (02)2556-9101

Website: www.wretch.cc/blog/dadaochen

Dalongdong Bao'an Temple 大龍峒保安宮

Add: 61, Hani St. (哈密街61號)

Tel: (02)2595-1676

Website: www.baoan.org.tw

Zhongzheng Community College 中正社區大學

Add: 6, Sec. 1, Jinan Rd. (濟南路1段6號)

Tel: (02)2327-8441

Website: www.zzcc.tp.edu.tw

Datong Community College 大同社區大學

Add: 37-1, Chang'an W Rd. (長安西路37-1號)

Tel: (02)2555-6008

Website: www.datong.org.tw



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A Taste of Old-time Taipei



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Taipei, a city renowned for great food, is a grand bazaar of culinary creations from all the world's regions. And while new restaurants constantly open their doors, numerous venerable old establishments continue to stand tall and proud. These much-loved places serve up classic dishes and an atmosphere heavy in nostalgia to new diners; for long-time patrons their doorways, unchanged for decades, are portals to the cherished memories of their youth.

Recommended by *The Wall Street Journal* – Long's Shanghai Restaurant

Long's Shanghai Restaurant (上海隆記菜館), opened in 1953, is tucked away down a lane in front of Zhongshan Hall (中山堂). Almost always full since the day it first opened six decades ago, it was once recommended in a special feature in *The Wall Street Journal*. In retro-style yarn cabinets by the entrance are samples of classic side dishes, among them braised carp with scallion, stewed mustard greens, and dried tofu skin fried with pickled lettuce, cherished by regular patrons originally from the Shanghai area. The Shanghai vegetable rice is made by stewing uncooked rice with baby bok choy, causing the rice to absorb the flavor of the vegetable. Many homesick patrons travel long distances for a taste of the back-home flavors they miss so much, and even Chiang Chingkuo (蔣經國), when he was ROC President, would often send people over from the nearby Presidential Office Building for a take-out order.



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The emphasis in Shanghai cuisine is on distinctive sweet and savory flavors, with long stewing a common cooking technique. The aforementioned braised carp, for example, is first fried, then stewed. The dish is only ready for serving after simmering for two full hours. The stewed mustard greens are first washed and

cleaned, then simmered for three hours, which softens and yellows them. A house specialty is "three fresh delicacies casserole" (砂鍋三鮮); the soup stock is simmered for five to six hours, and then a combination of over ten delicious ingredients is added, including homemade egg dumplings, large pork meatballs called "lions' heads" (獅子頭), smoked fish and Chinese cabbage. The result is a tasty soup that is fresh, sweet, light, and free of greasiness; little wonder, then, that it is such a hot seller during all four seasons.



The owner says that the restaurant's chefs faithfully follow traditional Jiangzhe (江浙) cooking methods. Particular emphasis is placed on fresh ingredients and careful cooking, which enables the release of the food's natural sweetness during cooking. Head chefs take great care to pass on these traditions to the following generation of kitchen talent, and ensure these methods are followed, guaranteeing customers authentic traditional tastes throughout the sixty years the restaurant has been open.

Taipei's First Western Restaurant – Bolero

Bolero (波麗路), the first Western restaurant to open in the city, has a 78-year history. The founder, who had a love for music and a fondness for sitting on the sofa while dining on Western food, combined all these elements here. The restaurant is named after French composer Maurice Ravel's most famous work, *Bolero*, itself named after the Spanish dance. The restaurant became known for its good music, and it soon became a favorite gathering spot for powerful politicians, businessmen, and other figures of note – a fashionable venue where Taipei folk came to listen to music and talk current events.

Perhaps the most classic touch you'll see in the restaurant is the stainless-steel tableware. Serving dishes are in the style of lunchboxes from Taiwan's earlier days, with different receptacles for dishes and rice. Even the cocktail glasses are made of stainless steel. The most popular item on the menu is the curry chicken rice; the top layer of this rich-aroma entrée features chunks of pan-fried chicken leg, diced carrot and potato, topped with a red curry made with numerous different spices. The base of the dish is white rice with spicy pickled vegetables, meat floss, and other tasty items. Today this savory classic is still made exactly as it was over seventy years ago.



- 1-3. Among the signature dishes at Long's Shanghai Restaurant are Shanghai vegetable rice, fried pork cutlet, cabinets filled with classic side dishes, and "three fresh delicacies casserole."
- 4-5. Long's faithfully followed traditional Jiangzhe-cuisine practices, guaranteeing customers authentic old-time tastes for 60 years now.
- 6-8. Bolero, opened 78 years ago, was Taipei's first Western restaurant; its most famous set meal is curry chicken rice served using stainless-steel tableware and even its specially produced cocktail glasses are stainless steel.

The Delicate Art of the Chef's Knife – Yin Yih Restaurant

A bowl of aromatic potage is presented at the table, filled with thin threads of beancurd that seem to bloom like the thin and delicate petals of a chrysanthemum. To prepare this dish, called "wensi beancurd" (文思豆腐) or, literally, "thread of ideas beancurd," a 12-centimeter square of soft beancurd is carefully cut into five thousand threads. The threads are then added to a soup stock prepared with chicken, along with threads of chicken, bamboo shoot, and ham. This signature dish of Yin Yih Restaurant (銀翼餐廳) was one of the classic delicacies featured in the famed Manchu Han Imperial Feast (滿漢全席) in old China.

Yin Yih was originally established in 1947 as the Republic of China's air force academy mess. It followed the ROC government in the latter's moves to Nanjing (南京), Chengdu (成都), and finally Taipei, becoming the restaurant for the air force officers' club. Later, when privatized, the insignia of the air force was adopted for its name – two silver wings. Dishes from the Sichuan (四川) and lower Yangtze River regions predominate. Two of the restaurant's most famous patrons (both regulars) were the painter Chang Daichien (張大千) and the "Young Marshal," Zhang Xueliang (少帥張學良).

The restaurant specially recommends that gourmands try its pork knuckle (肴肉), a famed Jiangsu (江蘇) dish. The meat is lean, tender, and tasty, the skin glistening, translucent, and in no way greasy. Ginger slivers and Zhenjiang vinegar (鎮江醋) further bring out the flavors. The restaurant's assorted steamed buns and dumplings are prepared in bamboo steamers with a pine-needle mat, the fragrance of the needles permeating the various treats heated within, such as *shaomai* (燒賣), *xiaolongbao* (小籠包), steamed dumplings with meat and vegetable filling, and steamed buns with a sweetened bean-paste filling. Another unusual treat is the shrimp with crispy rice, popularly called the "world's best dish" (天下第一菜). According to legend, Emperor Qianlong (乾隆皇帝) encountered this dish while on his third inspection tour along the lower Yangtze River. When presenting the dish, the attendant poured a thick soup prepared with shelled shrimp, tomato and chicken over rice heated to a crusty thickness. The aroma and taste were heavenly, the exterior soft, the interior deliciously crispy. Yin Yih also provides over sixty noodle dishes, including soups, stews, stir-fries, sautes and cold dishes. The restaurant was ranked second in Taiwan in *The Miele Guide 2011/2012*.

9. Yin Yih Restaurant's signature dishes are wensi beancurd, pork knuckle, and assorted steamed buns and dumplings.
10. Established in 1947, Yin Yih specializes in dishes from Sichuan and the lower Yangtze River regions, and is a favorite with the literati.
11. When shrimp with crispy rice is presented, a thick soup is poured over the rice crust, creating cracking sounds and waves of aromatic fragrance.



Authentic Taiwanese Cuisine – Shin Yeh

Shin Yeh (欣葉) began as a small eatery with just eleven tables in 1977. In the beginning it served the informal “wine-restaurant food” (酒家菜) popular in the Beitou (北投) hot-springs area at that time, then later became a fully-fledged restaurant serving formal meals. Surviving its hardscrabble early phase as a shoestring operation, it became a specialist in porridge and side dishes – egg frittata with dried radish, steamed pork with salted egg yolk, fried pork liver, rice porridge, and other quintessential Taiwan dishes. The restaurant led the way in popularizing old-school local cuisine, and with time has become a purveyor of Taiwan-style banquet cuisine.

What are the three defining characteristics of Taiwan's own home-grown cuisine? Light and simple, fresh, and stir-fried. Lengthy simmering and stewing techniques are rare; instead blanching and steaming are the standard preparation methods (exemplified by such iconic dishes as boiled chicken and steamed shrimp) with the aim being to preserve the freshness and the natural taste of the ingredients. Another favored method is to stir-fry in an extremely hot wok, the intense heat sealing in freshness and natural flavors. Although the foods are relatively simple and straightforward, they're complimented by a variety of sauces, creating a pleasing range of flavors. Among Taiwan's iconic sauce selections are soy-sauce paste, “five-spices sauce” (五味醬), and chili oil.

The chain's Shin Yeh 101 (欣葉101食藝軒) outlet is on the 85th floor of the Taipei 101 tower. Here, to cater to business clientele from the West, Western-style serving methods are used. But you are nevertheless still enjoying an authentic Taiwan-style banquet feast, with such popular must-order Shin Yeh signature delicacies as meat stewed in soy sauce, sweet potato porridge, and almond beancurd.

Each of these fine old establishments offers culinary creations that have stood the test of time and remain as much in demand today as ever. As you savor each bite, enjoy a sampling of the city's heritage and collective memory. 14



12. Shin Yeh 101, on the 85th floor of the Taipei 101 tower, serves up magnificent bird's-eye views of the cityscape.
13. Though there are both Chinese and Western elements, the essence remains the same: an authentic Taiwan-style banquet feast.
14. Two of the must-order signature delicacies are the Taiwan-style meat stewed in soy sauce and sweet potato porridge.

Information

Long's Shanghai Restaurant 上海隆記菜館

Add: 1, Lane 101, Yanping S. Rd.
(延平南路101巷1號)

Tel: (02)2331-5078

Bolero 波麗路西餐廳

Add: 314, Minsheng W. Rd. (民生西路314號)

Tel: (02)2555-0521

Yin Yih Restaurant 銀翼餐廳

Add: 2F, 18, Sec. 2, Jinshan S. Rd.
(金山南路2段18號2樓)

Tel: (02)2341-7799

Shin Yeh 101 欣葉101食藝軒

Add: 85, 7, Sec. 5, Xinyi Rd.
(信義路5段7號85樓)

Tel: (02)8101-0185



Gifts of Superior Design and Ingenuity



The Christmas and New Year season is a prime-time for gift-buying, and many people start their search for the perfect gift for family and friends as early as November. The hunt in Taipei is not difficult; for instance at Eslite Bookstore (誠品書店), look for creative Eslite-brand notebooks, bookmarks, T-shirts, and organizers, all designed in-house. At the two ArtYard (小藝埕/民藝埕) locations on Dihua Street (迪化街) are a selection of quintessentially Taiwanese tableware and other items. Then there's Yuan Soap (阿原肥皂), natural, simple, and rustic, bringing you the aromas of the Taiwanese countryside, and an ideal choice when looking for a slightly more intimate gift.

1. Beyond books, Eslite Bookstore also offers many creative self-designed notebooks, diaries, and gift items.
2. A new autumn/winter series called Plant Encounters includes notebooks, bookmarks, and canvas carrying bags.
3. The Plant Encounters series predominantly features hand-painted plant imagery, accompanied by the words of famed English writer Virginia Woolf.
4. The playful Reading series uses images of the workbooks used long ago by young Taiwan students.



Eslite Branded Merchandise – Elegant and Appealing

Eslite Bookstore has carried its own, self-designed goods since 1995. Its outlets are known for their cultured character, which is reflected in the large stock of everyday items and stationery, all based on the theme of reading. Unique new designs are regularly introduced, and the chain works with famous artists to imbue its stationery with a truly artistic sense. For example, in 2009 Eslite planned, designed, and marketed a series of items inspired by artist Cai Guoqiang (蔡國強), whose works were on display in a celebrated one-man show at the Taipei Fine Arts Museum (臺北市立美術館). Red envelopes and card sets based on works by calligraphy master Tong Yangtze (董陽孜) have become favorite year-end gifts with readers.

Two series, called “Plant Encounters” (遇見植物) and “Reading” (讀書報國), have been rolled out for this year's autumn/winter season. There are notebooks, metal bookmarks, canvas carrying bags, cotton T-shirts, and more. The Plant Encounters series predominantly features hand-painted plant imagery, the designs exhibiting finely detailed brush strokes, coupled with the clever, intelligent prose of English writer Virginia Woolf, bringing a classically elegant spirit to the items. The playful and nostalgia-inducing Reading series uses images taken from the workbooks that young Taiwan students used in the past, featuring the Chinese characters for “books” (冊) and “copyright reserved” (版權所有).

An especially hot commodity at the end of each year is Eslite's series of personal organizers, which customers purchase both for themselves and to give away as gifts. The 2013 series maintains Eslite's preference for simple, functional styling, and features covers adorned with the



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paintings of Chagall, Bach musical scores, and Japanese tefuki hand-towel patterns. Different formats are used in the inner pages to meet customers' differing needs. The functionality of the organizers is further enhanced with the addition of a number of appendixes, including maps of the Taipei and Kaohsiung metro systems, a time-zone conversion chart, and a list of useful telephone numbers.



ArtYard - Brimming with Taiwanese Style

The two sister ArtYard shops on Dihua Street both specialize in Taiwan brands. At one you can find Studio in Bloom (印花樂) cloth products, and at the other Hakka Blue (台客藍) articles for daily use. All are meticulously crafted, attractively designed, and distinctively Taiwanese in character, which together make these wonderfully unique gift items.

The Chinese name for the first ArtYard shop is literally “Little Art Yard” (小藝埕), a name which comes from the idea of “selling little artsy things in Dadaocheng” (大稻埕). Dihua Street sits at the center of old Dadaocheng (literally “big rice yard”). Walk into the compact store

5. A 2013 series of Japanese-style personal organizers features Japanese tefuki hand-towel patterns. (photo courtesy of Eslite Bookstore)

6-7. The ArtYard façade is not big, but the goods inside are special; Studio in Bloom's Delicious Taiwan series of placemats is very popular with foreign tourists.



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along Lane 32 of Dihua Street and the chic patterns of Studio in Bloom's products immediately draw your eyes. The Studio in Bloom brand was launched by three new-generation creative talents in 2008, who use Taiwan's flora and fauna and its customs and natural features as themes. A good example, much admired by foreign tourists, is the "Delicious Taiwan" (美味台灣) series of placemats. Illustrations of Taiwan delicacies are printed on the cloth mats, with several separate lines: Taiwan snacks, fruits, drinks and sweet treats, and old-time flavors, complete with both the Chinese and English name, helping foreign visitors with their knowledge of Taiwan cuisine. The mats can be rolled up, making them easy to carry, and can also be washed. Each comes with a bamboo spoon and pair of bamboo chopsticks, specialty products made in the Nantou County (南投縣) town of Zhushan (竹山鎮). Another big hit with travelers is a line of canvas bags of a simple, neat square design, featuring the native Taiwan mynah bird.

The Chinese name for the second ArtYard shop is "Folk Art Yard" (民藝埕), and here the themes are Asian folk art and contemporary design. The flagship brand at this outlet is Hakka Blue, winner of numerous cultural-creative product awards. Their design ingenuity brings continual praise from customers, who have chosen the

Dumplings Set (小籠包調味組) and the Hakka Flower Lamp (雪桐燈) series as their favorite gift-purchase items.

Taiwan's xiaolongbao (小籠包), a type of steamed dumpling, is today a snack with an international reputation. The small, appealing, dumpling-shaped seasoning containers in this set add a dash of fun to every meal. The five-petalled white tung-tree blossom, closely associated with the culture of the Hakka (客家) people, forms the focal point for each creation in the lamp series. In each, blossom shapes are carved out of the rounded porcelain lampshade, which is matched with a driftwood handle and base made of Taiwan camphor wood. These lovely desk lamps are comely ornaments that inspire both admiration and affection.



Yuan Soap – Expressing Caring through Craftsmanship

The return to natural handmade soaps has become a popular trend in recent years, but Yuan Soap (阿原肥皂), established seven years ago, stands above the fray in this competitive sector. Its success due in large part to founder Chiang Jungyuan's (江榮原) personal soap-making motto, "To cherish your own body, you must feel for others" (愛惜人身，將心比心). Natural ingredients are emphasized, and chemical additives are never used, ensuring the soaps are kind to users' skin and no environmental pollutants are created; at the same time there's no excessive packaging or other adornments. This pristine, all-natural line-up of handmade soaps has, in just a few years, become one of Taiwan's best-known soap brands.

Chiang started making his own soap because he suffers from serious skin allergies and was seeking an



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alternative to commercial brands. He founded Yuan Workshop (阿原肥皂工作室) in June 2005, its mission to make soaps that were all-natural. The soaps were made by hand, with herbs found in Taiwan as the foundation. Among the medicinal herbs he studied and began to use were heartleaf houttuynia, commonly found on Taiwan's hillsides, patchouli, found in fields, and mugwort, widely used in traditional folk medicine.

In 2007 Chiang opened up the Yuan Farm (阿原農場) on Yangmingshan (陽明山), where natural cultivation methods are used to ensure access to the freshest-possible plants, which are now used as the base elements in the firm's soap series. The Yuan International Herb Research and Development Center (阿原國際藥草研究發展中心), dedicated to the study of the relationship between plants and human health, was established in 2008. Yuan Soap, which requires 100% purity in all aspects of its soap production, uses pure, clean water from a natural mountain spring on Yangmingshan. Each simple bar of soap, therefore, is friendly to both the environment and to the body.

The best gifts need not be the most expensive. Everywhere you explore in Taipei you'll find gift items of real substance, and also display the depth of Taiwan culture and are brimming with creativity. 10



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8. One of Studio in Bloom's signature products is a line of fabric bags featuring the native Taiwan mynah bird.
9. At Hakka Blue, the seasoning containers in the shape of xiaolongbao, a type of dumpling, are unique.
10. The "Folk Art Yard" ArtYard outlet is great for gift-shopping, with myriad clever, attractive everyday items made by hand.
11. The elegant tong-blossom lamps are functional, and are also lovely decorations.
12. Yuan Soap has its own farm on Yangmingshan, cultivating all the soap-production plants it needs. (photo courtesy of Yuan Soap)
- 13-15. Every bar of Yuan Soap undergoes strict quality-control inspection before sale; fully meeting "all-natural" demands has made it a famous Taiwan handmade-soap brand. (photo courtesy of Yuan Soap)



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Information

Eslite Bookstore – Xinyi Flagship Store 誠品信義旗艦店

Add: 11, Songgao Rd. (松高路11號)

Tel: (02)8789-3388

Website: www.eslite.com

ArtYard / "Little Art Yard" 小藝埕

Add: 1, Lane 32, Sec. 1, Dihua St. (迪化街1段32巷1號)

Tel: (02)2552-1321

ArtYard / "Folk Art Yard" 民藝埕

Add: 67, Sec. 1, Dihua St. (迪化街1段67號)

Tel: (02)2552-1367

Yuan Soap / Eslite Taipei Main Station outlet 阿原肥皂; 誠品站前店

Add: B1, 47, Sec. 1, Zhongxiao W. Rd. (Taipei Main Station B1 Level; 忠孝西路1段47號B1; 臺北車站B1)

Tel: (02)2383-2810

Website: www.taiwansoap.com.tw

Bring in the New Year with an End-of-Year Nature Walk, Shopping and Fireworks Day Tour

Route

Ryan's Sub-Sandwich (breakfast) → Bailusi Mountain Nature Trail (walk) → Dahu Park (scenery) → Guo Ziyi Memorial Hall (heritage site) → Five Dime Restaurant (lunch) → Miramar Entertainment Park (shopping) → Grand Victoria Hotel (dinner) → Dajia Riverside Park (New Year fireworks show)



The MRT Wenhua Line went into operation in 2009, markedly shortening travel time to Neihu from the city center: passengers can zip from Taipei Main Station all the way to Neihu in just 28 minutes. Many scenic sites and attractions lie close to stations along the line, among them the Martyrs' Shrine (忠烈祠) near Dazhi Station, Miramar Entertainment Park (美麗華百樂園) near Jiannan Road Station, Bihu Park (碧湖公園) near Wende Station, and both Dahu Park (大湖公園) and Bailusi Mountain ("Snowy Egret" Mountain; 白鷺鷥山) by Dahu Park Station. Here's a grand way to spend the last day of this year: a Taipei Metro excursion along the Wenhua Line, enjoying a nature outing, a bit of shopping, and a New Year's Eve blast. Early

in the day enjoy some healthy lakeside walking, in the afternoon head to Miramar for some browsing and buying, then at night head to Dajia Riverside Park (大佳河濱公園) for the big New Year fireworks show.

Each of the stations along the Wenhua Line has its own unique design. Jiannan Road Station, for example, has a "twin peaks" shape, symbolizing the gateway to Neihu. Dahu Park Station is in the shape of a sailing vessel, visually interacting with the lovely arched bridge over the lake in nearby Dahu Park. Don't forget to take a good look whenever entering or exiting one of these stations, for they're works of art.



Ramble Amidst Lake and Mountain, Leave Life's Worries Behind

From Huzhou Station, walk toward Jinhu Road (金湖路). Beside the traffic circle you'll find Ryan's Sub-Sandwich (Ryan's都會潛艇堡), which will give you the energy needed for the busy day to come. Here, dough is prepared fresh daily to make the bread, the freshness matching that of the fresh vegetables, ham, and special house sauces. After eating, head left from Ryan's and continue along Jinhu Road for five to eight minutes, which will bring you to your first scenic stop of the day, the entrance of Bailusi Mountain Nature Trail (白鷺鷥山親山步道).

Though called a “mountain,” you will in fact be climbing a hill that rises just 142 meters above sea level. Its location right beside Dahu Park creates a pretty lake-and-mountain scene. The trail's stone steps head up, winding and twisting, through pleasantly tranquil and shady tree cover. From openings in the woods you can peer down over the lake at the foot of the hill, and the elevated lakeside metro track takes on the appearance of a serpentine white dragon circling the shore. From the summit look out toward a grand sweep of true mountain giants, and on a clear day you can see all the way to Wuzhi or “Five Finger Mountain” (五指山) on the border of Neihu and Wanli (萬里). After descending the hill, continue ahead along the wooden pathway and the sparkling lake opens up in front.

The “Dahu” (大湖) in the name Dahu Park literally means “big lake,” and it is indeed substantial, measuring ten hectares in area. Because egrets, wild ducks, and other waterfowl gather here in significant number, it is also called “Egret Lake” (白鷺湖). Dahu Park has lush foliage, and a zigzagging bridge with nine turns spreads out over the lake's surface to reach a picturesque shade-giving pavilion. The pavilion and Bailusi Mountain seem to gaze at each other across the waters. Fishing is allowed at a number of lakeside spots, and you'll see anglers contentedly wiling away the hours. You'll also always see many a person walking along the shore, giving mind and spirit a rest from the busy Taipei lifestyle.

1. The New Year fireworks at Miramar Entertainment Park, interwoven with the lights of the ferris wheel, make for a splendid show. (photo courtesy of Miramar Entertainment Park.)
- 2-3. The scenery is pretty along the MRT Wenzhu Line, and the stations themselves have alluring aesthetics, as with Dahu Park Station, shaped like a sailing vessel.
- 4-5. Ryan's Sub-Sandwich makes sandwiches that contain delicious freshness. [entertainment](#)
6. The lovely, pleasant lake-and-mountain scenery at Dahu Park.



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Enjoying Distinctive Architecture – Savoring an Artistic Feast

Walk back to MRT Dahu Park Station, hop on a train, and get off at Wende Station. Head out on the path you'll find beside Exit No. 1, which will bring you to Guo Ziyi Memorial Hall (郭子儀紀念堂), commonly called the Neihu Red House (內湖紅樓). Built in 1917 by a prominent member of the local community named Guo Huaxi (郭華溪), the resplendent residence is adorned with red brick, washed terrazzo, clay sculptures, and colored ceramic tile. Dubbed a “Taisho-style building” (大正型建築), this was a style of mansion that was uncommon in Taipei. In 1999 the residence was declared a city heritage site, in 2000 application was made to renovate it, and in February this year the building was opened to the public.

Guo Ziyi was a famed Tang Dynasty general and politician who put down the Anshi Rebellion (安史之亂). The great statesman saved the Dynasty, helping to lay the foundation for its golden age. The memorial hall has a display on his many accomplishments, and also has one dedicated to the Guo family of Neihu, exploring the clan's origins, presenting its genealogy, and exhibiting related historical relics. The corridor on the second floor is an art gallery, with works of calligraphy and other artforms.

After visiting the memorial hall, retrace steps back downhill along the road, then take the metro to Jiannan Road Station. Leave via Exit No. 3, walk along the main road, and you'll come face to face with a can't-miss building that looks like a giant sculpture. This is a place that has caused a great buzz on the Internet: Five Dime Restaurant (伍角船板).

The restaurant is the creation of amateur architect and artist Xie Lixiang (謝麗香), her concept “woman and primal nature dancing together.” Everything you see here stems from her artistic vision, from the delicate ceramic tableware to the overall building design. Her artworks are displayed, as are items from her collection of antiques, and the menu itself is approached as a work of art, with many innovative dishes featured. The emphasis is on Taiwan-sourced ingredients; for example, sweet potatoes from Jinshan (金山) are used in the sweet potato with white rice, and cherry shrimp from Donggang (東港) are used in the leek-flavored preserved egg with cherry shrimp. Meticulous care is taken with color, aroma, and taste, the result being that while savoring the artwork all about them patrons can also savor fine cuisine.



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7-8. Guo Ziyi Memorial Hall is a resplendent residence adorned with red brick, washed terrazzo, clay sculptures, and colored ceramic tile; the hall has a display on the many accomplishments of the great statesman and general. (photo courtesy of Space Seed Design Co.)

9-10. The inventive cuisine at Five Dime Restaurant is built on Taiwan ingredients, and the interior is embellished with many artworks.

11. Miramar Entertainment Park, Neihu's largest shopping facility, has a full range of eat-drink-play options.

12. The Grand Victoria Hotel exterior is majestic and stately, and within is a splendid feast of fine-dining choices.



Stunning Nightscapes, Blazing Fireworks – Bringing in the New Year with a Bang

After lunch it's off to neighboring Miramar Entertainment Park for some serious window-browsing and shopping. This large complex, designed by well-known local and foreign architects, was six years in the planning. It has a main and an auxiliary building, in which many renowned local and international brands have a presence. This is Neihu's largest shopping facility, but its most famous attraction is its giant Ferris wheel (the first in Taiwan), a hundred meters tall. When night falls the lights of the wheel come on, its bright and colorful show begins, and a grand, sparkling gem seems to float in the Taipei night sky.

Browsing over, it's time for dinner. Visit the food court, check out the many fine restaurants on the fifth floor, or head out the door and walk a few more steps to the adjacent Grand Victoria Hotel (維多麗亞酒店) for an elegant repast. The hotel's façade is classical Victorian in style, the guestrooms are stylish and refined, and the

5-star hotel has opened the restaurant La Festa in partnership with head chef Igor Macchia from the Michelin one-star restaurant La Credenza in Italy. This is a fine choice should you be looking for a place to dine – and to stay – on New Year's Eve.

Once dinner is over, the highlight of New Year's Eve is nigh. First, sway along with the rest of the big crowd at the pulsating concert staged at Miramar Entertainment Park, or take in the beautiful night-time Taipei panorama from the rooftop ferris wheel. Then, as midnight approaches, ride the Taipei Metro to Dazhi Station and walk across the bridge to spacious Dajia Riverside Park (大佳河濱公園). This is a great vantage point from which to take in the resplendent fireworks show that Miramar Entertainment Park puts on and, simultaneously and farther off in the distance, the magnificent fireworks spectacle launched from the Taipei 101 tower – the perfect exclamation point to bring your New Year's Eve tour to a close. 🎆

Information

Ryan's Sub-Sandwich Ryan's都會潛艇堡

Add: 392, Jinhua Rd. (金湖路392號)

Tel: (02)2633-0506

Website: www.ryans.com.tw

Guo Ziyi Memorial Hall 郭子儀紀念堂

Add: 19, Lane 267, Wende Rd. (文德路267巷19號)

Tel: (02)2659-8787

Website: www.worldkuos.org.tw/p.asp?lan=C&id=24

Dahu Park 大湖公園

Add: 31, Sec. 5, Chenggong Rd. (成功路5段31號)

Five Dime Restaurant 伍角船板

Add: 8, Lane 32, Sec. 1, Neihu Rd. (內湖路1段32巷8號)

Tel: (02)8501-1472

Website: www.five-dime.com.tw

Miramar Entertainment Park 美麗華百樂園

Add: 20, Jingye 3rd Rd. (敬業三路20號)

Tel: (02)2175-3456

Website: www.miramar.com.tw

Grand Victoria Hotel 維多麗亞酒店

Add: 168, Jingye 4th Rd. (敬業四路168號)

Tel: (02)8502-0000

Website: www.grandvictoria.com.tw

2012 Taipei Christmas Activities

Each year, the Christmas spirit settles over this city like a warm blanket, as many activities are staged in celebration. Starting in mid-December, you will see a selection of city buses decked out in Christmas decorations, driven by Santa, who will take you around the city in jolly fashion. Every section of the city will also have its own unique program of music concerts, theaters, Christmas parties, and other treats, sharing the Christmas spirit of love and warmth with all friends of Taipei!

Time	Activity	Location	Tel/Website
11/24	Living Mall Christmas tree lighting ceremony	Core Pacific City Living Mall Outdoor Plaza 京華城戶外廣場 (138, Sec. 4, Bade Rd.; 八德路4段138號)	(02)2822-6922 web01.livingmall.com.tw
12/8~12/25	Christmas tree checkpoint hunt activity		
12/15~12/16 12/22~12/23	Crowd parade through Living Mall with Santa Claus		
11/24 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
Activity times can be checked online after 11/30	Christmas Eve Candlelight Service	Friendship Presbyterian Church (5, Lane 269, Sec. 3, Roosevelt Rd.; 羅斯福路3段269巷5號)	(02)2362-1395 www.friendshiptaipei.com
12/01 19:30~23:00	2012 ACC Holiday Ball	American Club Taipei 臺北市美僑俱樂部	(02)2885-8260 www.americanclub.org.tw
12/31 19:30~24:00	Rockin' New Year's Eve	(47, Bei'an Rd.; 北安路47號)	
12/08 15:30~22:00	Grace Baptist Church Christmas "The Way to Happiness" Christmas Music Concert	Grace Baptist Church 懷恩堂 (90, Sec. 3, Xinsheng S. Rd.; 新生南路3段90號)	(02)2362-5321 www.gbc.org.tw
12/15 13:30~16:00	Children's Christmas Afternoon Gathering		
12/16 17:30~20:00	English Evening Sacred Music Worship		
12/23 10:00~11:20	English Sacred Music Worship		
12/24 19:30~01:30	Christmas Eve Party		

Time	Activity	Location	Tel/Website
12/15 Afternoon gathering 14:30 Evening gathering 19:30	The Good News of Christmas / 2012 Christmas Rally / Orchestra 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
12/16~12/25 Please confirm activity times online	Christmas 2012 Party 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
12/22 19:00~21:30	Jiqing Christmas Alley Lamp lighting ceremony, music concert / On-site decorations will remain in place until Lantern Festival (02/24)	Jiqing Village 吉慶里 (15, Lane 71, Sec. 1, Shipai Rd.; 石牌路1段71巷15弄)	(02)2821-4532 
12/22~12/24 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
12/22 19:30	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, Lane 75, Sec. 4, Nanjing E. Rd.; 南京東路4段75巷32號)	(02)2713-5447, 2713-2040 hong-en.eyep.com.tw/ eyep/front/bin/home.phtml
12/22 18:30~21:00	Youth Prayers – Foot Washing Ceremony 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, Lane 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
12/23 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 臺北市民生社區基督教會 (3F-7, 3, Lane 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	Christmas Eve Party	Taipei Zhongshan Presbyterian Church 臺北中山長老教會 (62, Linsen N. Rd.; 林森北路62號)	(02)2551-8480 www.tcschurch.org.tw

Times and contents will be in accordance with the organizer's public announcement; check online or via telephone for detail.



The annual Taipei 101 fireworks show, ringing in the New Year from the capital's landmark tower, is a very big deal in Taiwan, and also draws attention from around the world, for it is a very rare event to have such a colorful spectacle take place on a skyscraper right in the middle of a busy metropolis. After the fuses are lit, in just a blink of an eye the tower is enveloped in a sensational blaze of glory, and the New Year night sky dazzlingly illuminated.

The Taipei 101 Fireworks Show — A Peek behind the Scenes

The first New Year fireworks show at the tower brought in the year 2005. Since the tip of the Taipei 101 steeple is 508 meters (1,667 feet) above the ground, two world records were set that night: it was the first large-scale fireworks display to be launched from the body of a skyscraper, and the spire was the highest ever firework launching pad. The New Year fireworks



extravaganza has since become one of Taipei's key annual celebrations, and becomes grander and more exciting each year; the pyrotechnics and associated New Year's Eve outdoor party are now eagerly anticipated by local citizens each year.

The Taipei Financial Center Corp. (台北金融大樓股份有限公司) handles the Taipei 101 fireworks show, under the direction of Chen Huirong (陳惠榮), the building property-management manager. Chen says that although the show itself lasts just a few minutes, but the planning and preparation takes ten months. Research begins around March, and includes exhaustive field testing of new fireworks for safety and effectiveness; many adjustments are made before the plans are finalized.

Since installing the fireworks so high up on the tower is an extremely difficult and potentially hazardous job, work must start in the middle of November. The original construction elements on the tower's façade bring their own degree of difficulty, as do Taipei's strong northeasterly winter winds. Workers must wear heavy clothing, and must also scramble up and down vertical ladders on the 60-meter-tall steeple. Safety is a key issue, and crews work in teams of at least three to minimize the danger.

Big, tall buildings stand shoulder to shoulder in the Xinyi Planning District (信義計畫區). Hundreds of thousands of revelers converge on the area for the fireworks-fest each year, and Chen says the public's safety is the supreme consideration. The fireworks burn up in mid-air, so no potentially dangerous waste reaches the ground. The placement of fireworks is sophisticated work done by hand, and requires great precision; if not installed properly they may discharge at the wrong angle, interfering with the desired effect and also possibly causing an accident. On-site supervisors thus carefully check all fireworks, and if angles are wrong

the set-up is taken apart and installed again. The final connecting of ignition lines is done just four hours before the countdown each year, to prevent premature firing.

On New Year's Eve, an army of workers stands at the ready at Taipei 101, inside and out. Workers are positioned on every level, awaiting orders, ready to deal with anything unexpected. If it is found that any of the fireworks have not discharged, immediately after the show the launch platforms are sprayed down with fire extinguishers, and a large volume of water is then poured over them to ensure no embers are left smoldering. The annual fireworks party is only declared a grand success when all these safety measures have been carried out seamlessly.

The 2012 Taipei 101 Fireworks Show lasted a long, long 202 seconds, and comprised 30,000 individual fireworks. For the 2013 edition, what kinds of surprises does Taipei 101 have in store for citizens and visitors?

Just you wait and see! 🎆

1. The big New Year's Eve fireworks show at Taipei 101 is the focal point of all of Taiwan's New Year celebrating.
 2. Setting up the fireworks is a huge, demanding job requiring a great deal of labor.
 3. Workers setting up fireworks on the Taipei 101 must deal with severe cold.
 4. The fireworks set-up demands "handiwork" of great accuracy, and workers take great care doing the wiring.
- (photos courtesy of Taipei 101)

Information

Taipei 101 Fireworks Show 台北101煙火秀

Time: 00:00, 1/1, 2013

Venue: Taipei 101 Tower (台北101大樓)

Add: 7, Sec. 5, Xinyi Rd. (信義路5段7號)

Tel: (02)8101-7777

Website: www.taipei-101.com.tw

Design Taipei Cheers!

Taiwan's largest annual New Year event is the Taipei New Year's Eve Countdown Party (臺北最HIGH新年城跨年晚會), hosted by the Taipei City Government. The time for this year's massive funfest is, of course, the night of December 31, and as in the past the place will be Civic Plaza (市民廣場) in front of Taipei City Hall. The good times will roll from 7 pm on New Year's Eve until 1 am the next day, and big-name performance artists will hit the stage, their shows integrated with dazzling sound and light effects. Then, when the countdown begins, all heads will turn to the soaring Taipei 101 tower, which will come alive with a mesmerizing sky-high fireworks spectacular at the stroke of midnight, welcoming 2013 to Taipei City on the "highest" of notes!

The theme for this year's event is "The Taipei Quest – World Design Capital" (臺北邁向世界設計之都). A series of warm-up activities, starting in November, will get everyone ready for the big night; these include the "2013 Taipei Where Are You?" (2013臺北底兜位) and the "2013 Shuttle Taipei Fun Tours" (2013穿梭臺北好旅行) programs.

The 2013 Taipei Where Are You? program runs from November 15 to December 15. The city government has designated special design-related landmarks in each of the city's twelve administrative districts. Each has been fitted with installation works in the form of four numerals: 2, 0, 1, and 3. You're invited to visit these sites, find the numerals, have your photo taken with them, and upload the photos showing yourself and all four numbers on the official event website. By doing so, you get to enter a grand prize draw.

The 2013 Shuttle Taipei Fun Tours program runs from December 15 to January 1. The public is invited to visit recommended scenic sites indicated on a special "Shuttle Taipei Design Map" (穿梭臺北設計地圖) that has been prepared. At each site you can get a sticker, and if you collect ten or more you can exchange them for

attractive gift items at designated locations. The map will be available from December 1 at all Taipei Metro stations and at all Taipei Visitor Information Centers. For more information, please visit www.taipeitruvel.net.

The crowds are extremely big for the countdown party, and traffic controls will be in effect in a portion of the Xinyi Planning District and around Taipei City Hall, and vehicles will not be permitted to enter these zones during the event. It's strongly recommended that you use public transportation to get to the party; both the Taipei Metro and public-bus systems provide easy access. When the party ends there will be a great surge of people headed toward the nearest metro station, MRT Taipei City Hall Station, so we also recommend that you instead walk to the nearest alternative metro station, or use the special site-dispersal charter buses.

It's time now to start counting down to the raucous New Year's Eve funfest. One and all are invited to come and experience the great vitality of this city, together ushering in 2013 with the biggest – and highest – of welcoming blasts! 🎉

1. This photo shows the 2011 Highest New Year City Taipei – Taipei New Year's Eve Countdown Party.

Information

Taipei New Year's Eve Countdown Party 臺北最HIGH新年城2013跨年晚會

Organizer: Taipei City Government

Time: 2012/12/31 19:00–2013/01/01 01:00

Venue: Civic Plaza, in front of Taipei City Hall
(臺北市政府前市民廣場)

Add: 1, Shifu Rd. (市府路1號)

Tel: 1999 (please dial 02-2720-8889 outside Taipei City), ext. 2031

Website: www.taipeitruvel.net

The 2013 Taipei Flower Show Taking a Colorful Journey into Taipei's Past and Present

Wielding impressive ingenuity and skill in displaying flowers to represent various themes or meanings, and matching all this with enjoyable live performances and cultural-arts activities, the Taipei Flower Show (臺北花卉展) has been staged each year at the Chiang Kai-shek Shilin Residence (士林官邸) since 1997. It has become one of the main highlights of the local event calendar, and each edition is attended by countless people.

This year the show has a new, bigger venue, Taipei Expo Park (花博公園), taking up both the Yuanshan Park Area (圓山園區) and the Fine Arts Park Area (美術園區). The theme for this edition is "This Station – Beauty·Yuanshan" (這一站 美麗·圓山), and the goal is to spark fond reminiscences amongst local citizens of the cultural legacy and historic architectural landmarks of the surrounding area. Festooned with flowers and other decorative plants, memories of the grand beauty of the Yuanshan area will be revived. A four-leaf clover will form a symbol of well-being and happiness, and colorful flowers will be arranged to spell out "Yuanshan Xingfu Zhan" (圓山幸福站), or "Yuanshan happiness station," a playful reference to the nearby MRT Yuanshan Station. In the "Fruit Tree Area" (果樹區), animal sculptures will create a carnival-like atmosphere, and in the "Sea of Flowers Landscape Area" (地景花海區) a waving sea of flowers and representations of small lake-plying craft will

recreate Yuanshan's past, when it lay at the shoreline of a lake that filled the Taipei Basin. A whirl of stars and nebulae at the "Star Station" (星空站) will immerse visitors in a scaled-down version of the grand universe. In addition, four professional Taiwan

landscaping, engineering, and greenification teams have been invited to handle the decoration for the show, creating a showcase of integrated professional garden landscaping.

The big show will run for just under a month, from December 22nd to January 20th. The main showcase buildings will be the Taipei Fine Arts Museum (臺北市立美術館), Pavilion of Aroma of Flowers (風味館), and EXPO Hall (舞蝶館), supported by peripheral venues. A full menu of cultural, educational, and arts exhibits and activities has been planned, including the 2012 Taipei Flower Exhibition (2012爭艷館花卉展) at the EXPO Dome (爭艷館) and an outdoor-landscaping competition in the special-display flower area and the green area outside the Pavilion of New Fashion (流行館). One and all are invited to come enjoy this entertaining and colorful extravaganza.

1-3. Using great ingenuity and skill, flowers are used in a display of different themes at the Taipei Flower Show; in combination with a big EXPO Dome international flower exhibition, this will be a grand affair.

Information

2013 Taipei Flower Show
2013臺北花卉展

Time: 12/22~1/20, 2013

Venue: Taipei Expo Park, Yuanshan Park Area and Fine Arts Park Area 花博公園圓山、美術園區

Tel: (02)2585-0192

Website: pkl.taipei.gov.tw
www.taipei-expopark.tw



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Mixed Martial Arts— Bringing You All-Round Physical Fitness

An aspiration of many that study martial arts is to enter a realm where not only are the techniques of an individual form such as boxing, *Sanda* (散打), or judo mastered, but, over the course of a lifetime, to learn several forms, and use moves from each in conjunction when fighting opponents. In the world of mixed martial arts (MMA), practitioners of different systems do just that, facing each other in the arena, competing under a unified set of rules. Each athlete is able to incorporate the essence of any chosen schools in his/her repertoire, utilizing any boxing, kicking, knee, elbow, palm, grappling, or submission technique to master an opponent.

Mixed martial arts emerged when practitioners of different forms of martial arts competed against each other to see which form was more powerful. When brought to the United States, all schools were incorporated. There were no restrictions or rules for fights, which were decided quite simply — through a knockout. The guiding spirit behind the competition was to find out which form of martial arts was most effective in real combat. Later on, the rules in use today were formulated to ensure fairness and the safety and health of the athletes — each bout has three rounds of five minutes each, and a fighter is automatically declared the victor if he/she delivers a KO (knockout), TKO (technical knockout), or submission.

MMA is an extremely challenging sport, for athletes must attempt to master an array of martial-arts techniques. Stand-up techniques include the straight punch, uppercut, front kick, leg sweep, knee strike, and elbow strike; ground fighting moves include the ground pound, mount, knee on belly, arm bar, triangle choke, and knee bar techniques. The sport develops all-round athletes, which has helped it slowly catch on around the world. It has also become fashionable with women, the physical training leading to well-toned bodies and attractive physiques.

The head instructor at the Taipei Mixed Martial Arts (臺北格鬥運動館) center, Qiu Yuzhi (邱郁智), suggests that if you plan to learn the sport you should start by studying a form you like most, such as boxing, *Sanda*, or Muay Thai. Using this as a foundation, progress onto other forms such as wrestling and ground fighting. This will develop the array of techniques needed to step into the MMA ring. "Generally speaking, *Sanda* is closest to the essence of MMA, but each person can follow their own interest when choosing their introductory martial-art form. This better ensures you'll both maintain your interest and will progress." Teachers will instruct beginners in the basics of all sorts of Chinese boxing and martial-arts techniques, and you'll hone your skills using sandbags, hand targets, leg targets, and other fitness equipments to further increase strength.



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The development of an MMA fighter takes about two years. Continual training with sparring partners, under the supervision of an instructor, is needed to gain the necessary combat experience. And regardless of the form chosen to enter into the world of MMA — judo, boxing, etc. — students must also train and temper mind and will, to be able to maintain a state of mind that is calm and focused. This allows them to adapt to any attack strategy used by an opponent, and to think strategically. If you're up for the challenge of taking part in the highest realm of martial arts, the fascinating world of MMA awaits you. 1.2

MMA Points to Note

1. Warm up 10~15 minutes before beginning of training/competition, to prevent injury.
2. Take off shoes, and wear protective gear, to ensure safety.
3. A coach/instructor must be on-site to supervise any fight competition, to prevent injury.
4. After a workout, replenish with electrolyte-enhanced alkaline water, to restore the body's acid-alkaline balance.

- 1-2. MMA is an extremely challenging sport, developing all-round athletes, which has helped it catch on around the world, including with women, the physical training leading to well-toned bodies and attractive physiques.
3. Ground fighting is one of the more advanced techniques in MMA.
4. To learn MMA, start by studying a form you especially like, make this your foundation, then progress on to other forms.

Information

Taipei Song Shan Sports Center

松山運動中心

Add: 1, Dunhua N. Rd. (敦化北路1號)

Tel: (02)6617-6789

Website: www.sssc.com.tw

Taipei Nangang Sports Center

南港運動中心

Add: 69, Yucheng St. (玉成街69號)

Tel: (02)2653-2279

Website: ngsc.cyc.org.tw

Taipei Da'an Sports Center 大安運動中心

Add: 55, Sec. 3, Xinhai Rd. (辛亥路3段55號)

Tel: (02)2377-0300

Website: dasc.cyc.org.tw

Taipei Wanhua Sports Center

萬華運動中心

Add: 6-1, Xining S. Rd. (西寧南路6之1號)

Tel: (02)2381-8878

Website: whsc.cyc.org.tw

Chinese Boxing (Sanda) Combat Association 中華武術散打搏擊委員會 Headquarters and Training Facility / Concord Martial Academy

Add: 18, Lane 197, Sec. 1, Zhiyu Rd.
(芝玉路1段197巷18號)

Tel: (02)8866-1621

Website: www.sanda.org.tw

Taipei Mixed Martial Arts 臺北格鬥運動館

Add: B1, 22, Lane 27, Sec. 4, Ren'ai Rd.
(仁愛路4段27巷22號B1)

Tel: (02)8771-9195

Website: www.tmma.com.tw

Dragon Martial Arts Academy 傳龍會館

Add: B1, 58, Sec. 1, Chang'an E. Rd.
(長安東路1段58號B1)

Tel: (02)2571-5705

Alan's Gym 中山拳館

Add: 2F, 18, Sec. 2, Zhongxiao E. Rd.
(忠孝東路2段18號2樓)

Tel: (02)3322-1623

Taiwan Martial Arts Gym 台灣武道館

Add: 7, Alley 30, Lane 9, Songlong Rd.
(松隆路9巷30弄7號)

Tel: 0910-234-596



Janet Hsieh 謝怡芬

- Taiwanese-American from Texas, USA
- Host of Discovery Travel & Living Channel's Fun Taiwan, Fun Asia, Fun Taiwan Challenge travel show
- Winner of 2011 Golden Bell Award for best host of a travel program

Why Travel-Show Star Janet Hsieh Loves Taipei

"In their lifetime, the average person walks around the equator five times," says Janet Hsieh. "I figure I've already walked around the world twice – maybe even more!" The Discovery Channel travel-show host has visited more than forty countries. A Taiwanese-American raised in Texas, she majored in Spanish and Biology at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), and originally wanted to be an ER doctor. However, after graduation she decided to first explore her roots by visiting her parents' homeland, Taiwan. She came to Taipei, fell in love with it, and discovered her destiny was to be a travel-show host.

"MIT had only one student graduate from the Spanish studies credit program in its history, and that's me," says Janet, brimming with pride and confidence. She fully focuses on whatever she does, whether study or work. Her interest in and love for travel was cultivated early – starting at just one year of age her family began taking

her on their wide-ranging sojourns. Since then, whenever she has time, she packs her bags and heads out for adventure. Believing that travel nourishes knowledge and vision, and is a wonderful way to learn, she says that "Hosting my travel show is my dream job, taking me on travels all over the place, learning about places in depth."

When she first arrived in Taipei, she was fascinated with the roar of streets full of scooters and motorcycles, a sight rarely seen in other international cities she's lived in. "I felt Taipei was a hybrid city," she says, with street scenes like those of other big cities such as New York, San Francisco, Tokyo, and other places, with an incredible concentration of people and high-rise buildings. Despite this, the city was close to nature, giving her the overall impression that Taipei was "green," a modern city with abundant greenery close by.



1-3. Janet has visited over 40 countries with her Discovery Channel program-production team. (photo courtesy of Vision Creator Production Co.)

4. Taipei truly is a city that never sleeps and the busy scenes of the day are completely different from the scenes of hustle and bustle in the night.

5. To experience the fun of the Taipei mountain-ramble experience, climb Elephant Mountain and take in the grand cityscape.

6. Encountering a motorcycle transformed into a steel-box trailer is just one of endless novel experiences you might have rambling Taipei's bustling streets.

7. Browsing night markets is a quintessential part of Taipei living, creating feelings of wonder and amazement in foreign visitors.



She's seen a person planting fruits and vegetables in a vacant lot beside the looming Taipei 101 tower. While walking along chic, bustling Zhongxiao East Road (忠孝東路), she's seen a motorcycle that had been fitted with a steel-box trailer, loaded with brooms, dustpans, bamboo-pole clotheslines, and other sundry items, the owner/hawker calling out his wares as he moved down the street. Janet is always struck by these dramatic conflicts between old and new, space and time.

After living in Taipei for a while, her main impressions of the city were of its bustle and its convenience. "Taipei truly is a city that never sleeps," she says, "and the busy scenes of the day are completely different from the scenes of hustle and bustle in the night." The days are filled with dynamic vitality; at night the night markets pulsate with people, noise, and excitement, and the neon lights of the stores and other businesses make the city shine and glitter. "Taipei offers world-class convenience," she says. "Wave to a friend you see on the street and multiple taxis stop in front of you. Get the urge for a late-night snack and in no time at all you're at a night market or convenience store having a tasty bite."

Janet has already deeply integrated herself into the Taipei way of life, and what she misses most about the city when abroad is the spicy hotpot (麻辣火鍋), her favorite local food. She eats it winter and summer, and can never get enough. "There's also 7-Eleven" she says. "You instantly pick out its logo even on the most crowded streets. Embarrassingly enough, when I'm overseas in an unfamiliar environment, the sight of the 7-Eleven sign gives me a sense of safety, and makes me feel at home."

When her foreign friends visit Taipei for the first time, Janet takes them to the Taipei 101 Observatory (台北101觀景台) for the grand views over the city. She also arranges an outing on Elephant Mountain (象山), letting them experience the charms of the city's green areas. "Of course, I also have to take them on a night-market ramble, because this is a classic Taipei life experience," she says. The myriad snack treats, the dazzling array of clothing, adornments, and other merchandise, and the low prices invariably bring a stream of happy "Wow!" exclamations from her friends. They leave the city deeply impressed by its easy, amiable ways and its great vitality. 14



Uğur Rifat Karlova 吳鳳

- TV host, actor, writer
- Host, *iwalker*, SET Television
- Author, *A Turkish Bumpkin Who Loves Taipei*
- Winner of 2012 Golden Bell Award for best host of a travel program

Uğur Rifat Karlova

A Fascinating Taipei Man, Fascinated in Taipei

Hailing from Turkey, Uğur Rifat Karlova is (among many other things) the host of SET (三立) Television's weekly show, *iwalker* (愛玩客) and this year won the Taiwan Golden Bell Award (金鐘獎) for best travel program host. In Taiwan it's a rare thing to see a foreign national up for an award as a TV host. In fact, Rifat is fluent in Chinese, performs his own one-man comedy act featuring traditional Chinese crosstalk (相聲), and frequently takes the stage at comedy clubs. In 2010 he came second in the Hong Kong International Standup Comedy Competition.

Back home in Turkey, as a result of his interest in Chinese culture, and feeling that the Chinese would be front and center in the world of the future, Rifat did something few other people do, entering Sinology studies in university. After graduation, in 2006 he won a scholarship in Taiwan, and entered the Master's degree program in political studies at Taiwan National Normal

University (臺灣師大政治學研究所) in Taipei. He loves to perform, and while working at a club he was noticed by people in the local television industry, and was brought into Taiwan's entertainment world. For his Chinese name he chose Wu Chengfeng (吳承鳳); the character *wu* (吳) sounds like Uğur, and *feng* (鳳) is the phoenix of Chinese mythology. Rifat feels he, like the phoenix, has fortitude and unswerving determination. He shortened this for his stage name, Wu Feng.

"Turkey is 25 times bigger than Taiwan," says Rifat, "there are big economic disparities, there are big distances between places, and Islam requires the following of strict religious rules, bringing significant pressure in life." When he first came to Taipei he lived in Wanhua District (萬華區), and while there first experienced the many conveniences of life in Taipei – he was close to a hospital, night market, and school, and near the convenient Taipei Metro system, which



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- 1-2. Rifat likes to explore Chinese culture by visiting temples and classical Chinese palace-style architecture all around Taiwan. (photo courtesy of China Times Publishing Company)
3. Rifat enjoys the heritage architecture and air of nostalgia in Wanhua.
- 4-5. Ximending's vitality and old/new mix give older visitors a happy youthful feeling as they follow the young folks around.
6. Wu Feng (Rifat's Chinese name) relates his interesting Taiwan life experiences in *A Turkish Bumpkin Who Loves Taipei*.

made it easy to get to all corners of the city. From his balcony he could see pairs of small red lamps used in Buddhist worship in many homes, lit at all times, which gave him a sense of peace and stability. The historical architecture here, the owners of the small shops, the residents in his neighborhood, the friendly greetings and the air of nostalgia... he could not bear the thought of leaving.

He also very much likes the vitality and the mix of old and new in Ximending (西門町). "If older folks go to Ximending," he says, "they're soon feeling youthful and happy following all the young folk around." Entering the area is like entering a super-size department store, with everything imaginable on sale. "If you want to get to know Taipei, and get a full impression" he says, "the foreign traveler has to start with Wanhua and Ximending, with their rich historical character, then go to visit all the modern landmarks like Taipei 101."

In September this year his book, *A Turkish Bumpkin Who Loves Taipei* (土包子愛台灣) was published, telling interesting stories of Taipei incidents from a foreigner's perspective. Readers learn what Rifat finds most interesting and charming about the people of Taiwan. For example, he says that "Many people in Taiwan

automatically think any foreigner is an American, and are anxious to speak to me in English. Even though I answer in fluent Chinese, and let them know I am a Turk, they will still use whatever English they are familiar with to interact with me. It's charming, and has also left me dumbfounded." Rifat is not allowed to eat pork because of his religious beliefs, but has found himself inadvertently breaking the rules more than a few times as a result of the hospitality of restaurant owners. "There have been many times when I've told an owner I can't eat pork, then he'll go ahead and give me something to try that contains pork sausage, meat floss, or ham, which either can't be seen or isn't recognizable. Afterwards, happy that I've discovered a new treat, I'll find out the tasty delicacy was made with pork." These are just a few of his rich reservoir of interesting stories gathered over his six years in Taiwan.

In hosting his TV show he has become even more integrated into Taipei life, and every time he goes on location he uses a "best friend" approach to get along with local folk. "I really love Taiwan," he says, "and I want to let the whole world see how great it is." 🇹🇼



Tim Budden

- From Wales
- Paper-cut artist
- Museum of Contemporary Art, Taipei / Instructor, "Tim's Art School" (臺北當代藝術館 Tim藝術小學堂); Saturdays 10:00~12:30

Tim Budden – Telling the Taipei Story with Paper-Cut Art

What cultural sparks fly when a fellow from Wales meets the ancient Chinese art of paper-cutting? Tim Budden knows. He's lived in Taipei 20 years, and uses his penknife to sculpt a steady stream of large-scale works depicting his experiences and reminiscences. At first glance they seem like familiar traditional window-lattice decorations, but a closer look reveals many tiny chapters of the sprawling story of Taipei.

Tim worked as an animator when in the U.K. On a visit to Taipei to visit his parents, who were working here, he fell in love with the city. Not only did he decide to live here; he also fell in love, got married, and started a family. Working as an English teacher at the Taipei European School in Tianmu (天母), Tim found he could not shake his need for artistic creation. Eventually resigning his position, serendipity soon presented him with a book on Chinese paper-cutting, explaining lines and composition. There were strong similarities with the creative process for animation, and he decided he was going to be a paper-cut artist. After laying dormant for 15 years, he found his creative fires rekindled.

Tim feels that the traditional iconic visual images used in paper-cutting have deep cultural meaning that are sometimes difficult for him to grasp and use, so he early on decided to create his own. To tell the story of Taipei he has created images of Yangmingshan's (陽明山) flowers and butterflies, and of the city's motorcycles, Taipei 101 tower, children— and even the typhoons.

Perhaps most special of all is the presence of such images as cockroaches in his works. Laughing, Tim says that the iconic cockroach is not encountered nearly so often in the West, and that after seeing his work a friend once told him that his character was much like that of "the Taiwan cockroach that can't be killed." Tim thought it highly intriguing that he was described as being like the cockroach, tough and with a strong life force. His fondness for this image has resulted in its frequent appearance in his highly varied creations.

Seeking to reduce the amount of painstaking work involved in creating the composition outlines needed for paper-cut artworks, Tim first draws a blueprint that serves as a mold, then follows this when carving his works. He will also overlap more than one work, creating imagery much like that of an abstract painting. Another of his techniques is to use translucent paper as a base, or use a colored base, playing with light and shadow and creating a three-dimensional effect that gives his works something of the style of modern painting.

Tim's ultimate goal, he says, is a cultural blend of East and West, creating works of art that marry the paper-cutting art of the East with the intellectual concepts of his Western heritage. 1

1. Tim tells his Taipei life experiences in story form by using a knife to sculpt works that are like traditional lattice-work window decorations.
- 2-3. Tim uses the traditional totems of paper-cut art, and also creates his own novel images, and often overlaps more than one work to create imagery resembling abstract paintings.

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.

How to get to Dadaocheng?

Mandarin Chinese

要如何去大稻埕?

Yào rúhé qù dàdàochéng?

The buildings on Taipei's old streets all have a long history.

Mandarin Chinese

臺北老街的建築都有很久的歷史。

Táiběi lǎo jiē de jiànzhù dōu yǒu hěnjiǔ de lìshǐ.

This old residence is really beautiful.

Taiwanese

這間古厝真水。

Jì gīn gǔchù jīn shuǐ.

Old-fashioned toys are really fun.

Taiwanese

古早味ㄟ七逃咪ㄚ，真好玩。

Gōuzhāmī āi tshít-thōo mīh-á, jīnhōusèng.

How old is this building?

Mandarin Chinese

請問這間房子有多久歷史?

Qǐngwèn zhè jiān fángzi yǒu duōjiǔ lìshǐ?

How much money is this antique worth?

Mandarin Chinese

這個古董值多少錢?

Zhègè gǔdǒng zhí duōshǎo qián?

“Taipei • Always More Delights”

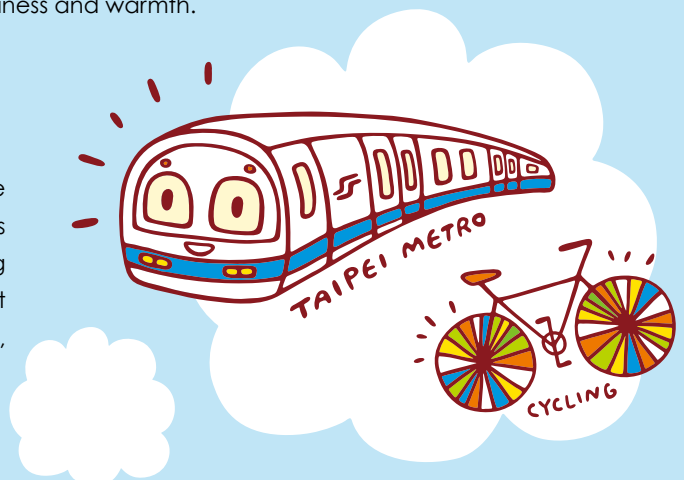
– New Tourism Visual Marketing Designs Hit the Stage



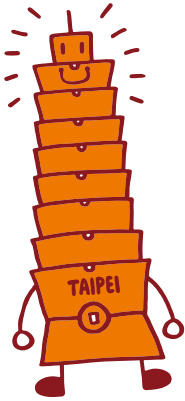
Who says there's nothing new under the heavens? In the city of Taipei, the skies are open, breezy and bright, and wherever you go, it greets you with something interesting and brand-new. To help local and international tourists get a quick feel for the metropolis and move around confidently and comfortably, the Taipei City Government's Department of Information and Tourism has crafted a special series of tourism design visuals: a sightseeing cloud, five features representative of the city, and 21 distinctive representative icons. This is the first time in Taiwan that tourism motifs have been used for branding; these visual designs will in future be paired with different promotional themes to help travelers discover Taipei's friendliness and warmth.

Design Concept – Taipei, Everywhere Brimming with Vitality

The map-design artists for this series have used vivid, lifelike imagery to best depict the city's 21 most iconic scenic spots and items. They've also developed five colors representing aspects or features of the city that vividly show you the most vibrant sides of Taipei life: Shopping Taipei, Fine Food Taipei, Cultural Arts Taipei, Folk Taipei, and Convenient Taipei.



Shopping Taipei – Taipei 101 – Orange



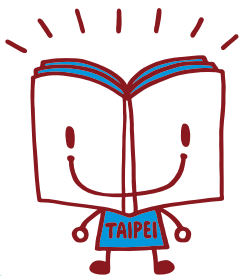
Taipei is one of Asia's shopping paradises. The tourism-promotion marketing visuals use the city's most iconic shopping-center image – Taipei 101 – matched with bright orange. The imagery clearly expresses the convenience of shopping in Taipei, and also expresses its vitality and pulse, guaranteeing visitors a rewarding experience.

Fine Food Taipei – Beef Noodles – Red



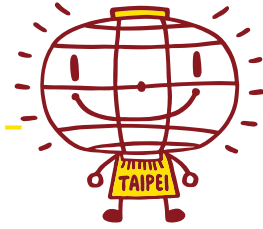
Taipei has the greatest concentration of beef-noodle shops in Taiwan, and thus the greatest overall number. Beef noodles have long been a staple in Taipei's culinary culture, and now serve as a representative for Taipei's fine food, inviting travelers to taste a dish that is part of the favorite taste memories of just about every local citizen.

Cultural Arts Taipei – Books – Blue



Taipei's internationally recognized soft power, honest, sincere, and brimming with inclusiveness and humanity, is reflected in the bookstores, large and small, found along its streets and down its alleys. The city's status as the capital of Chinese culture is in turn reflected in the use of the book as a representative feature.

Folk Taipei – Decorative Lanterns – Yellow



Taipei has a highly polished, stylish exterior, but elements of traditional folk culture constantly pop up, demonstrating this city's eclectic spirit. The making of painted decorative lantern is a folk handicraft with a long history, and today many small eateries hang red lanterns outside their doors as shop signs. The classical-style lantern, of the past, still currently has a key role in Taiwan's folk-culture heritage.

Convenient Taipei– EasyCard– Multiple colors



The Taipei Metro web that covers the city, the complete network of connecting public buses, Taipei Free public wireless Internet access, the ubiquitous convenience stores – these and other conveniences make roaming the city a snap for travelers, even if visiting for the first time. Embodying this convenience is the super-handy EasyCard, an all-in-one integrated payment card that you can use on the Taipei Metro, on public buses, at car parks, and for other selected services.

You'll now be seeing these attractive new promotion visuals all over the city, on big advertising billboards, on the walls of Taipei Metro stations, on the outside of the Metro trains themselves, and on the outside of public buses. Also to be rolled out is a continuing series of city-themed souvenir items featuring the same designs, including eco-friendly shopping bags, umbrellas, molded speaker sets, and T-shirts, allowing you to take the delights of Taipei City back home with you. 🌐

Information

Taipei Travel Website:
www.taipeitravel.net

In Pursuit of Better Urban Living – The 2012 Taipei World Design Congress



What do cities and design have to do with each other? A city with an attractive appearance that takes shape thanks to solid design sense provides its citizens with great creative stimulation, promotes better design thinking, and leads to a better quality of urban life. The 2012 Taipei World Design Congress (2012臺北世界設計論壇) took place on October 4 and 5, sponsored by the Industrial Development Bureau of the Ministry of Economic Affairs (經濟部工業局) and the Taipei City Government's Department of Cultural Affairs (臺北市文化局), and was planned and executed by the Taiwan Design Center (台灣創意設計中心). The theme was Design for Values (設計創價), and twenty celebrated design masters, scholars and business leaders from twelve countries were invited to participate in an interdisciplinary marketplace of ideas. From this came an injection of new design thinking that will greatly benefit creative enterprises and the city as a whole.

The themes for Day 1 of the international forum were Creativity X Brand (創意X品牌) and Design X Services (服務X設計). A stellar cast of esteemed figures from the world of design were invited to probe the importance of creative thinking and to discuss the changes that service process design has brought to society and industry. Among the luminaries who were present were Shih Chungtang (施崇棠), chairman of Taiwan's ASUSTek Computer Inc., and Neal M. Burns, a professor in the College of Communication and director of the Center for Brand Research at the University of Austin at Texas. At the forefront in these discussions was the consumer experience, meaning that in new-style service design priority must be given to "users' feelings." Engendering value and receptivity via services will be a key focus in the future.

Day 2 saw discussions focused on the use of design as a means to transform a city's strategic measures. Nille Juul-Sørensen, CEO of the Danish Design Centre in Copenhagen, has said that "The primary purpose of urban planning and design is to build a




livable city for people, with consideration also given to protection of the environment. What is of greatest design importance is not the exterior appearance, but the impact on the community.” Juul-Sørensen has taken a port and remodeled it as a swimming pool, designed rooftops as places for bicycling and jogging, and interconnected a series of existing structures to create a whimsical playground with a capacity of five hundred. These examples demonstrate how design can be effectively used to give new life and function to idle spaces. In the past five to ten years, “design” has brought great change to Copenhagen, which has been of tremendous value to the city.

Kohei Nishiyama, a board member of the Japan Institute of Design Promotion, used the theme “fanciful living” (空想生活) in discussing how to design a platform that would gather creative ideas in large number from the public on the Internet, and how “advance purchasing” by consumers can generate market scale. In this way the “fanciful” can be given concrete realization. Two global brands, MUJI and LEGO, now have online co-creation platforms in place that are leading to the development of new products.

Renowned Taiwan architect Chang Chinghwa (張清華) chose City Divertimento as the topic of her keynote speech. Chang is best known for her striking works of green architecture, intimately integrating structures into the surrounding natural environment. Her masterpieces include the Taipei Public Library Beitou Branch (臺北市立北投圖書館) and three pavilions in Xinsheng Park (新生公園) created for the 2010 Taipei International Flora Exposition (2010臺北國際花卉博覽會). Pointing to her own work experience, Chang says that every city possesses a boundless treasure trove of natural and cultural resources, awaiting discovery. The design process is like a game, a city treasure hunt, and design can also be



seen as the genes and nutrients that help these treasures to grow and mature. A city, in engaging in this game, grows and accumulates an endless supply of energy, and each generation can bequeath an even better city to the generation that follows. 

1. Design masters, scholars, and business leaders from 12 countries have been invited to the Taipei World Design Congress to participate in exchange forums that will inject Taipei with new design thinking.
2. The Taipei Public Library Beitou Branch in Beitou Park, a famed work of green architecture, has been proclaimed one of the “25 Most Beautiful Public Libraries in the World.”
3. Shih Chungtang, chairman of Taiwan's ASUSTek Computer Inc.
4. Neal M. Burns, professor in the Department of Advertising at the University of Austin at Texas.
5. Nille Juul-Sørensen, CEO of the Danish Design Centre.
6. Kohei Nishiyama, board member for the Japan Institute of Design Promotion.
7. Chang Chinghwa, architect and principal at Bio-architecture Formosana.

(photos courtesy of Taiwan Design Center)

Information

2012 Taipei World Design Congress

2012臺北世界設計論壇

Website: www.twdcongress.com



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Taipei Original Festival – Explore Taipei's Creative Potential



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Taipei is a city brimming with innovative potential, a place of artistic activity where performing groups from inside and outside the nation converge, where streets everywhere are decorated with art. The base for her innovation is Songshan Cultural and Creative Park on Guangfu South Road (光復南路). The park opened in November 2011 as an exhibition space, and has already seen more than one million visitors. Following the first Original Festival, also held at the Songshan Cultural and Creative Park, this year's plan includes exhibitions and activities grouped under four major themes: "Creative Laboratory," "The City as Stage," "The Taipei Creativity Institute," and "Taipei, a Good Home." Additionally there will be an "originality fair," an "originality musical performance," and a carnival of street artists. This is a chance for Taipei citizens to participate together in a moment of original artistic expression!

The four themed exhibition areas will not only present the spirit of Taipei, but will also encourage participation from visitors. For example: What color do you get when you mix Champagne-red with lime-green? At the Creative Laboratory area you're welcome to find out for yourself! This area takes color as its medium and will invite numerous creative possibilities through the mediums of painting, paper cutting, and collage.

Another exhibition area will demonstrate the concept of "The City as Stage," by inviting performances groups once performed in the Taipei Fringe Festival, the Taipei Artist Village and other performance platforms. There will be on-the-spot interaction directly with the audience, while performance artists will engage in improvisation. Among those appearing will be Taiwan artist Lin Chengwei (林正偉), who mixes visual imagery, magic, dance, and the performance art group Hao Hsiao Performance (嚆哮排演) who meld action movies with an animation style.

"The Taipei Creativity Institute" exhibition area will create the atmosphere of an elementary school. In addition to playing the winners of the Taipei-themed "Golden Film-Love Taipei" competition (sponsored by the Taipei Film Commission), the results from The Taipei Creativity Institute established within the Songshan Cultural and Creative Park will also be shown. Moreover, the "Taipei, A Good Home" exhibition area will bring together famous local brands Booday (磨菇), VVG (好樣), Lavender Cottage (薰衣草森林), Spring Trading Company (春一枝), and others to let everyone experience these all-new elegant styles from Taiwan's crossover cooperative production.

The organizing group is using a "public art treasure map" to stimulate thinking and to allow for multiple creative works to have a presence within the park.



For example the "light farm" (光田), which raises visitors environmental consciousness, an area where daily-use items are transformed into percussion instruments, and displays of floating animation on glass screens, etc. There will also be an "Originality Fair," providing the opportunity for professional art students and ordinary people to sell works made by themselves, an "Original Music Stage" presenting the musical creations from local bands like Katncandix2 (棉花糖), 831 (八三天), and others, and the "Street Artist Carnival" activity, which will provide face-to-face interaction with visitors.

The Taipei Original Festival will also be linking up with several other magnificent art and performance exhibitions to be held at the same time in the park. These include the seventh annual Digital Art Festival Taipei (臺北數位藝術節), the 2012 Eslite Art Festival (誠品藝術節), Yohei Taneda Cinema Arts (種田陽平的電影世界), and others. A great time will be had by all!

Follow in the path of the Taipei Original Festival mascot, Jidi (吉弟); which in Chinese is a homonym for the festival's name), and come and explore the pleasant surprises and joy of Taipei's originality to your heart's content. 10

1. The Creative Laboratory has interactive activities using color as the medium of expression.
- 2-3. In the Taipei Creativity Institute exhibition area the achievements of the Taipei Creativity Institute established within the Songshan Cultural and Creative Park will be shown.
4. The "Taipei, A Good Home" exhibition area will bring together famous local brands.
5. "The City as Stage" exhibition area will feature performances synthesizing visual imagery, magic, and dance.
- 6-7. Jidi, the mascot and main marketing image for the Taipei Original Festival.
8. A selection from Yohei Taneda Cinema Arts.
(photos courtesy of Songshan Cultural and Creative Park)

Information

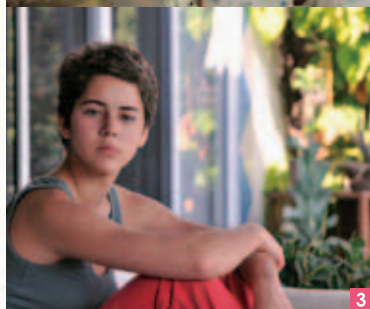
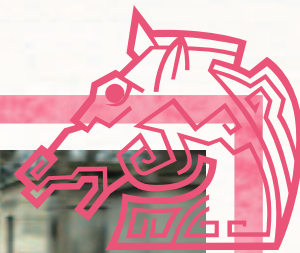
Taipei Original Festival 原創基地節

Time: 11/16-12/2

Venue: Songshan Cultural and Creative Park 松山文創園區 (Please enter from Lane 553, Sec. 4, Zhongxiao East Road 忠孝東路4段553巷)

Tel: (02)2765-1388

Website: www.originalfestival.org



The Golden Horse Film Festival

Bringing Life Closer to Dreams

The greatest annual film celebration in Taiwan, the Golden Horse Film Festival (金馬影展), runs this year until November 29, with Yilan and Taipei as primary and secondary venues. The theme this year is "Movies bring life closer to dreams." A wide variety of quality cinematic creations from around the globe have been gathered for the Festival, including works by great masters, animated short films, Bollywood releases, independent productions, and horror films. Movie fans will enjoy a feast for the eyes.


The curtain-raising films to be shown are two Taiwan works, *To My Dear Granny* (親愛的奶奶) and *Together* (甜·祕密). An ambitious work by French director Leos Carax entitled *Holy Motors*, his first work in many years, will provide a wonderful festival finale. In the festival's extremely popular Restored Classic and Stories section, some of the weightiest works in film history will be screened, all in restored versions, among them *The Shining*, *Tess*, *Journey to Italy*, and *Cléo from 5 to 7*. The 50th Anniversary Edition of *Lawrence of Arabia* will also be unveiled.

Lovers of film will not only be able to take in a premium collection of classics; new works by masters will also hit the stage. These include *Film Socialism*, by French New Wave master Jean-Luc Godard; *You Ain't Seen Nothin' Yet*, by the legendary Alain Resnais; *The Angels' Share*, by Ken Loach, who has been called "the British conscience"; *Me and You*, by famed Italian director Bernardo Bertolucci; *Keyhole*, by the esteemed Canadian director Guy Maddin; and *Amour*, by the fine Austrian director Michael Haneke, who won the Palme d'Or at Cannes for *The White Ribbon*. Haneke also holds the record for having been awarded two Palmes d'Or at Cannes in the shortest time – three years.

At this year's festival a special focus is the selection of biographical films about classic, bigger-than-life personalities who lived extraordinary lives. One is *Gainsbourg by Gainsbourg: An Intimate Self-Portrait*, which looks at the artistically talented and versatile

Serge Gainsbourg and the provocative (and often both outrageous and scandalous) impressions that he created in the hearts of others. *Jason Becker: Not Dead Yet* looks at the life of rock virtuoso Jason Becker and his struggle with Lou Gehrig's Disease. *Violeta Went to Heaven*, a biopic telling the tale of Chilean singer and folklorist Violeta Parra, won the 2012 Sundance Film Festival World Cinema Jury Prize. *Journal de France* is a new work by legendary photojournalist Raymond Depardon, once described as "being able to find the poetry even in a sidewalk."

The films of Central and South America have unique and vigorous aesthetics that make them well worth a look. A number of films from this region are thus being specially featured at this year's festival. *Post Tenebras Lux* captured the imagination of both media and jury at Cannes this year, and brought its maker best director honors; *No stars* Gael Garcia Bernal, and *After Lucia* won top prize in the Un Certain Regard section at Cannes this year.

The Twilight Zone program of late-night shows will bring movie fans in this city that never sleeps a continuing series of thrills and chills. The film line-up includes *Excision*, a decidedly odd and unusual look at a young girl's rebellious period, and a trove of horror flicks that will keep those possessed by this genre very happy, among them *Don't Click*, *When the Lights Went Out*, *Horror Stories*, and *Lovely Molly*. 

1. *Dear Grandma*, a curtain-raiser for this year's Golden Horse Film Festival.
2. The first work by director Leos Carax in 13 years, *Holy Motors*, will close the festival.
3. *After Lucia* won top prize in the Un Certain Regard section at Cannes this year.
4. *Together*, the festival's other curtain-raiser, uses humor and wit to explore the profound and bittersweet world of emotion.
5. *The Shining* is considered one of the greatest horror films of all time.
6. *Gainsbourg by Gainsbourg: An Intimate Self-Portrait*, a revealing look at himself by Serge Gainsbourg.
7. Legendary war photojournalist and documentary filmmaker Raymond Depardon has created *Journal de France*.

(photo courtesy of Taipei Golden Horse Film Festival Executive Committee)

Information

2012 Golden Horse Film Festival – Taipei Venues 2012金馬國際影展 臺北場

Time: Until 11/29

Venues: Shin Kong Cineplex, Ambassador Theatres @ Spring Center, SPOT Huashan Cinema, Ambassador Theatres @ Breeze Center (新光影城、國賓影城 @長春廣場、光點華山電影館、國賓影城 @微風廣場)

Tel: (02)2370-0456

Website: www.goldenhorse.org.tw



We Are Young, Should Be Wild— 2012 Urban Simple Life Festival

True understanding of a city does not only come from researching its novelties or from books, but also comes from exploring and experiencing the lives of local people, and the best way to do this is to live with them in the community. A simple lifestyle has burgeoned in Taipei in recent years, initiated by famous local music advocates including Jonathan Lee (李宗盛) and Landy Chang (張培仁), who have given birth to the concept of "do the things you like, and make what you like to do valuable."



The "Urban Simple Life festival" was first held in 2006 at the Huashan 1914 Creative Park, and since then, every two years young guests with a passion for freedom of life have been invited to attend the event and share their own experiences about music, creative bazaars and the environmentally friendly farms of this wonderful land. However, due to the recent global economic recession, many young people are afraid to dream about the future. Therefore, the theme "We are young, should be wild" was introduced this year, hoping it can motivate young adults to pluck up the courage to believe in themselves and about the possibilities of the future.

The 2012 Urban Simple Life festival features music as the main theme, presenting a diverse range of local music in Taiwan. Assorted live performances will take place at 4 stages, and veteran singers including Golden Melody Awards winners Ascent Chan (亂彈阿翔) and Tanya Chua (蔡健雅) will perform on the opening day. What's more, many independent bands and singers with their own distinguishing characteristics will add a sense of modern creativity to their rock, electronic and folk music.



4



5

Information

2012 Urban Simple Life Festival 2012簡單生活節

Time: 12/01 ~ 12/02

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

Add: 1, Sec. 1, Bade Rd. (八德路1段1號)

Website: www.simplelifetw.com

P.S. Single entrance tickets are limited to 7,250 guests on each day of the two-day festival. Two-day entrance tickets are limited to 6,000 guests.

1. The Urban Simple Life Festival is being held at Huashan 1914 Creative Park, with all young folk who love nature and love life invited, sharing in the beauties of this land called Taiwan.

2-3. The festival is centered on music, and many indie bands and singers of different style will be performing.

4-5. In addition to the celebration of Taiwan's richly varied musical scene, there are also three theme-exhibit areas, entitled "Design & Creative Bazaars," "Culture & Life," and "Fashion."

(photo courtesy of Neutron Innovation)

Besides the performance of music on stage, the festival can be divided into three main themes, including "Design & Creative Bazaars", "Culture & Life" and "Fashion." In Design and Creative Bazaars, "Beautiful Adventure" (自由邊境) is not only a place for street vendors to gather and sell their goods, but also for them to discover creativity freely, as its name suggests. Artists can either sell products of their own design or create a work on the spot. It is a place where people can exchange ideas, interact and enjoy spiritual exchange. The "Fruitful Choice" (果實之丘) area is designed to showcase various kinds of creative branding products, making it easy for visitors to find souvenirs to bring home with them. In "Pure Market" (純淨草原) the creators illustrate their passion for food ingredients in the snack shops and deli. Everyone is welcome to join and share their experiences during a picnic on the grass.

In Culture and Life, "Courage Library" (勇者書房) is a place where individuals or groups of between two and five people are invited to share their life experiences and points of view from their observations and concerns about life, society and

aesthetics by means of printed materials or books. "Big Heart Theater" (仁者之心) is a tranquil corner of the festival site, screening films and images focusing on the transformation of the living environment and social humanity in Taiwan during the past few years.

In the Fashion area, "Fiber Walk" (輕衫漫步) showcases outfits and accessories of young fashion brands in order to present the special qualities, philosophy and uniqueness of fashion in Taiwan. The display is accompanied with audio-visual effects, and the fashion show on-site aims to present the detailed trimming, fabric materials and design techniques to an audience filled with joyful wonder and imagination.

This green event will take place on the first weekend of December, and everyone who is passionate about music and creativity, or are artistic and environmentally friendly are welcome to attend and share life experiences in this wonderland of the young generation. 🌿

2012 11/12

November-December
Arts Exhibition Calendar



Case by Case - 18 Artistic Suitcases



The Cultural Grandeur of the Western Zhou Dynasty



New Marco Polos Travel in Taipei



Kaleidoscope - History of Hong Kong Comics Exhibition@Taipei

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.mocatapei.org.tw

Until 11/25

Case by Case - 18 Artistic Suitcases

Until 12/30

New Beetle Art Exhibition

National Palace Museum

Tel: (02)2881-2021

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

Website: www.npm.gov.tw

Until 12/25

Elegant Pursuits of the Literati: "The Eighteen Scholars" by an Anonymous Ming Artist

Until 2013/1/7

The Cultural Grandeur of the Western Zhou Dynasty

Until 2013/1/16

Painting Anime: Imitating Zhao Bosu's Illustration of the Latter Red Cliff

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

11/20

Myaskovsky: Symphony No. 27 "Taiwan Premier"

12/7

Andrei Gavrilov 2012 Piano Recital

12/13

Alexander Kobrin 2012 Piano Recital

12/21~12/22

Swing with JAVA FIVE& NTCH Summer Jazz Project

12/24

TSO: Christmas Feast Concert

Discovery Center of Taipei

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

Add: 1, Shifu Rd. (市府路 1 號)

Website: www.discovery.tcg.gov.tw/web/index.html

Until 2013/1/5

New Marco Polos Travel in Taipei

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 2013/1/3

Taipei Biennial 2012

National Museum of History

Tel: (02)2361-0270

Add: 49, Nanhai Rd. (南海路 49 號)

Website: www.nmh.gov.tw

Until 2013/1/8

Petit Louvre

National Taiwan Science Education Center

Tel: (02)6610-1234

Add: 189, Shishang Rd. (士商路 189 號)

Website: www.ntsec.gov.tw

Until 2013/2/24

The Science of Aliens

Until 2013/2/28

Transformers Taiwan EXPO

Huashan 1914 Creative Park

Tel: (02)2358-1914

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

Website: web.huashan1914.com

12/07~12/31

Swordsman Exhibition

12/07~2013/1/4

Taipei Photography Exhibition

Songshan Cultural and Creative Park

Tel: (02)2765-1388

Add: 133, Guangfu S. Rd. (光復南路 133 號)

Website: www.songshanculturalpark.org

Until 11/26

7th Digital Art festival Taipei: Artificial Nature

Until 2013/2/17

Yohei Taneda Cinema Arts

Taipei Story House

Tel: (02)2587-5565, ext. 106

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

Website: www.storyhouse.com.tw

12/01~2013/3/31

Desserts · Stories · Taiwan Tastes

Chung Shan Creative Hub URS21

Tel: (02)2562-1617

Add: 21, Sec. 1, Minsheng E. Rd. (民生東路 1 段 21 號)

Website: www.jut-arts.org.tw

11/23~12/8

Kaleidoscope - History of Hong Kong Comics Exhibition@Taipei

11/24~12/16

Typephoon Taipei 2012

Guandu Nature Park

Tel: (02)2858-7417

Add: 55, Guandu Rd. (關渡路 55 號)

Website: your.gd-park.org.tw

Until 12/30

Dialogue between Art and Nature - Guandu International Outdoor Sculpture Festival



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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.

Department of Information and Tourism
Taipei City Government

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Please leave your contact information below.

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Sex: ☐ Male ☐ Female

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

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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 |
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| 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



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

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- ☐ Yes ☐ No (Location: _____)

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

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- ☐ 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)

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How To Get from Taiwan Taoyuan International Airport to Taipei

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



The Transportation Map of Taiwan Taoyuan International Airport Terminal I & II

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

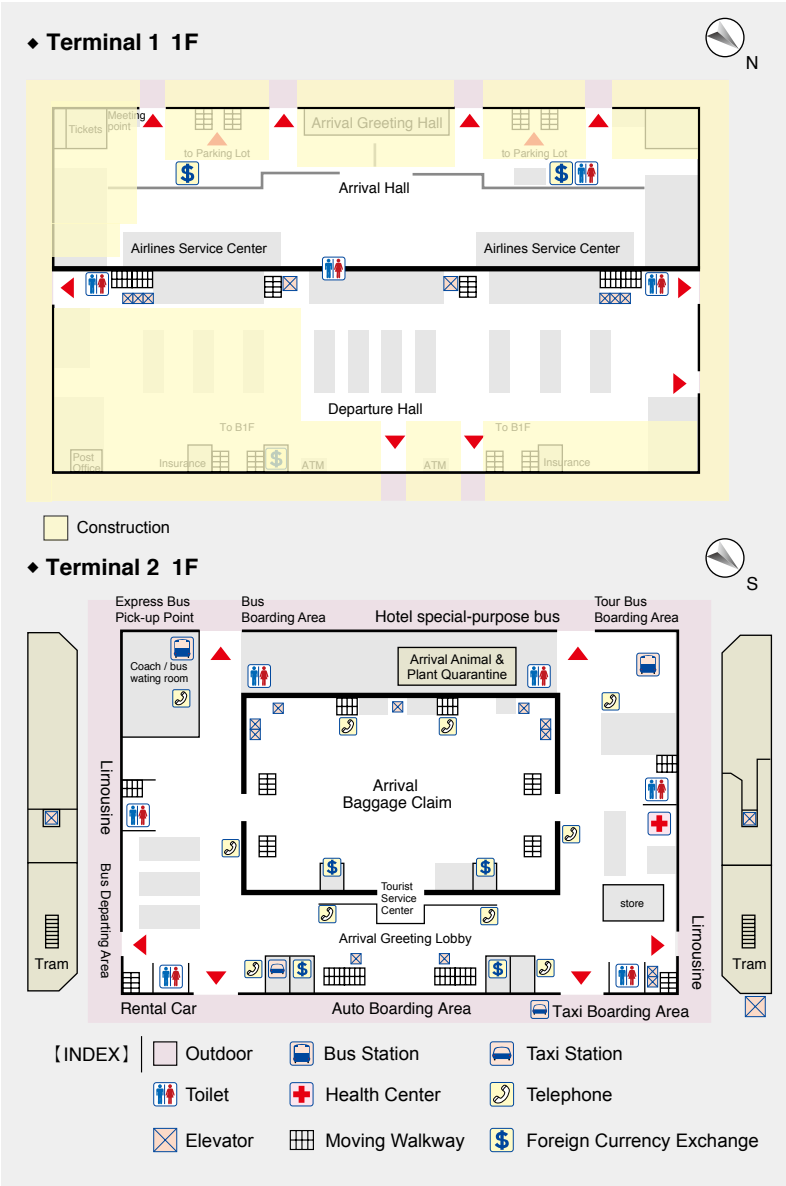
Passenger Coach Bus

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)

Coach-service companies:
Taiwan Bus Corp., Evergreen Bus, Free Go Express, Citi Air Bus, U 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 (Citi Air Bus 20~30 minutes)



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

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Police / 110
Crimes, traffic accidents, and other incidents for which police assistance is needed

Fire / 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
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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
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AIDS Information Hotline	0800-888-995

Source for Above Information:
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Tel: (02) 2349-1500
※ Entries in green indicate service in English provided

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MRT Yuanshan Station Visitor Information Center
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Maokong Gondola Taipei Zoo Station Visitor Center
(02) 8661-7627 2, Lane 10, Sec. 2, Xinguang Rd. (1F, Maokong Gondola Service Center)

Maokong Gondola Maokong Station Visitor Center
(02) 2937-8563 35, Lane 38, Sec. 3, Zhinan Rd. (Exit area, Maokong Station)

Bring in the New Year with an End-of-Year Nature Walk, Shopping and Fireworks Day Tour (P34~P37) Map



Bring in the New Year with an End-of-Year Nature Walk, Shopping and Fireworks Tour (P34~P37) Tour Information



Bring in the New Year with an End-of-Year Nature Walk, Shopping and Fireworks Tour

Ryan's Sub-Sandwich Ryan's都會潛艇堡

Add: 392, Jinhui Rd.
(金湖路392號)
Tel: (02)2633-0506
Website: www.ryans.com.tw

Dahu Park 大湖公園

Add: 31, Sec. 5, Chenggong Rd.
(成功路5段31號)



Guo Ziyi Memorial Hall 郭子儀紀念堂

Add: 19, Lane 267, Wende Rd.
(文德路267巷19號)
Tel: (02)2659-8787
Website: www.worldkuos.org.tw/
p.asp?lan=C&id=24

Five Dime Restaurant 伍角船板

Add: 8, Lane 32, Sec. 1, Neihu Rd.
(內湖路1段32巷8號)
Tel: (02)8501-1472
Website: www.five-dime.com.tw

Miramar Entertainment Park 美麗華百樂園

Add: 20, Jingye 3rd Rd.
(敬業三路20號)
Tel: (02)2175-3456
Website: www.miramar.com.tw

Grand Victoria Hotel 維多麗亞酒店

Add: 168, Jingye 4th Rd.
(敬業四路168號)
Tel: (02)8502-0000
Website: www.grandvictoria.com.tw

Transportation Information

Ryan's Sub-Sandwich

Take Exit No. 1 at MRT Huzhou Station, walk straight → head to Jinhui Rd., approx. 5 minutes → Ryan's

Bailusi Mountain Nature Trail, Dahu Park

Walk left from Ryan's → walk to Chenggong Rd., about 5 minutes → turn left at 49, Sec. 5, Chenggong Rd. → Bailusi Mountain Nature Trail trailhead → walk trail, about 1 hour → descend mountain → Dahu Park

Guo Ziyi Memorial Hall

MRT Dahu Park Station → Wende Station, Exit No. 1 → walk approx. 5 minutes along Wende Rd. → Guo Ziyi Memorial Hall

Five Dime Restaurant, Miramar Entertainment Park, Grand Victoria Hotel

MRT Wende Station → Jiannan Road Station, Exit No. 3 → walk approx. 3 minutes along Neihu Rd. → Five Dime Restaurant → exit to left, walk approx. 5 minutes → from Miramar Entertainment park, walk toward Zhifu Rd., approx. 1 minute → Grand Victoria Hotel

Dajia Riverside Park

MRT Jiannan Road Station → Dazhi Station → walk across Dazhi Bridge, approx. 10 minutes → Dajia Riverside Park

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