

Discovering beautiful Formosa!

Taiwan Essentials

9 days/8 nights



Taipei - Lukang - Sun Moon Lake - Alishan - Tainan - Kaohsiung - Kenting - Cape Maobitou - Taitung - The East Coast Road - Mr Brown - Hualien - Wufengqi - The North Coast / Jiufen, Shifen and Yehliu Geopark - Taipei

A 9-day itinerary from Taipei to discover Taiwan's must-see attractions.

You'll circumnavigate the island along the coast to the southern tip of Kenting, passing through the ancient temple towns of Jiufen and Lukang, not forgetting Tainan, the charming culinary capital. You'll sail on Sun Moon Lake, taste Taiwan's remarkable tea in the Alishan plantations, and cruise along the Pacific coast between mountains, forests, and cliffs.

You'll rub shoulders with the Taiwanese population, always calm, tolerant, and respectful. Taiwan will reveal its contrasts to you, offering a perfect balance between nature, culture, religion, and gastronomy.

Welcome to Taiwan ... !

This personalized and tailor-made tour can be adjusted according to your wishes and the desired duration of your trip. We have chosen not to include the capital, Taipei, in this program, in order to satisfy travelers who also wish to maintain a degree of freedom and better control over their budget. We therefore accompany you only on the traveling portion. Of course, organizing your stay in Taipei is also possible if you wish - please contact us.

Day 1 : Taipei – Lukang - Sun Moon Lake





Meet your English-speaking driver-guide at 9 a.m. at your hotel (accommodation in Taipei booked by you). Head to Sun Moon Lake via the coastal road. On the way, we will stop at Lukang. Lukang has some of Taiwan's most beautiful temples, such as the temple of Matsu, the goddess of the sea feared and respected by sailors from China and Taiwan. Its temples offer unique architecture, unrivaled on the island, and are definitely worth a visit. The streets of the old town are pleasant to explore on foot. Points of interest are generally surrounded by traditional pedestrian streets with many shops and small restaurants where you can enjoy seafood and other steamed buns filled with vegetables and/or meat (at your expense). We will pass by the Wufeng Lin Family Garden in Taichung, then head inland to Nantou and the shores of Sun Moon Lake. Visit the Wenwu Taoist Temple and check into the 3-star LeaLea Hotel (or similar), with its indoor pool. Overnight at Sun Moon Lake.



Day 2 : Sun Moon Lake – Alishan (B)



Breakfast and a bike ride of about 1 hour along the riverbanks. Depending on the timing, a small private cruise is optional, payable locally. Climb to the Ci'En Pagoda for a superb panoramic view, before heading to Alishan via a beautiful mountain road. Alishan is a county renowned for its forest landscapes, its century-old train, and its tea. This afternoon, an optional hike of about 2 hours on the higher ground, on the trails encircling the mountain where your guesthouse is located. Bamboo forests, pine trees, and tea plantations will follow one another, for a beautiful immersion in nature! Tea tasting at your guesthouse or in a tea house. Overnight at Our House (or similar), surrounded by tea gardens, with a 360° view of the valley and the sea of clouds.

Day 3 : Alishan / Fenchihu – Tainan (B)





This morning, breakfast, and a walk in the forest among thousand-year-old cypress trees, on a landscaped path (flexible duration to be discussed with your guide depending on the timing). Then you will board the Alishan train, one of the three last high-altitude trains in the world. Pass through the village of Fenchihu, its old alleys and stalls; it is here that you will find the most famous (and also the best) bento of the island, which you can taste for your lunch (at your expense). Then, head to the unmissable old capital of Taiwan, for a historical, cultural and culinary discovery of the island. You will visit some major sites, but above all, take the time to lose yourself in the maze of dead ends and alleys that give Tainan's city center an undeniable old-world charm. Here, take the time to live, to savor a tea in a vintage cafe while observing picturesque street scenes. You will visit Fort Anping and the Tree House, a former warehouse. The name "tree house" refers to the living roots and branches of the banyan tree that cover the building. Dinner on your own and overnight at the 3-star Hotel A (or similar). We highly recommend venturing into one of the street food alleys or to one of the famous night markets, where you can improvise some snacks in this city renowned for its culinary specialties. Your guide will be able to advise you.





Day 4 : Tainan (B)

Breakfast, then you will be taken through the ancient alleys of Tainan, and to discover the Koxinga Temple, the Confucius Temple, or Fort Provintia, before attending the Taiwan Drum Concert, a traditional and historical art of Chinese culture. The end of the day is free for time at your own pace and to enjoy the picturesque atmosphere that emanates from Tainan. You can venture to the unmissable Hayashi Department Store for a little shopping, with its art deco facade dating from 1932 during the Japanese colonial era. It is the oldest shopping center in Taiwan. Dinner on your own and overnight at the 3* Hotel A (or similar).



Day 5 : Tainan - Kaohsiung (B)

Breakfast, then head to Kaohsiung. Kaohsiung is the largest port city in the south of the island. Discover the largest Buddhist monastery in Taiwan: Fo Guan Shan Monastery (closed on Tuesdays). There you will find a giant golden statue of Buddha, 120 meters high. You will continue your visit to Lotus Lake, with its profusion of temples and pavilions bordering the lake. On the southern shore of the pond are the Dragon

and Tiger Pagodas, two twin towers built on 7 floors. Then you will end your day with a walk along the Love River which winds through the center of Kaohsiung city, with its green spaces and relaxing places appreciated by lovers at sunset, in a very romantic atmosphere. Check-in at your hotel, ideally located on the lively docks in the evening at the Art Pier Center, a former warehouse district with outdoor sculptures, shops, cafes and galleries offering temporary exhibitions, all in a very friendly local atmosphere in the evening! Dinner on your own and overnight stay at the City Suites Zhen'Ai 4* (or similar).



Day 6 : Kaohsiung – Kenting - Taitung (B)

Breakfast, then we'll hit the road towards Kenting, the national park renowned for Cape Maobitou, which is one of the southernmost points of the island of Taiwan. We'll follow the sea, and its immense beaches as far as the eye can see. If time permits (arrange with your guide), we'll walk for 1.5 hours on the paths of the forest park located on the heights of Kenting: magnificent views of the surrounding reliefs and the coast! Then we'll head back north. Passing through Longpan National Park, on the opposite side of the island. Splendid view of the Pacific Ocean, often in strong winds! Late arrival in Taitung. Installation in Zhiben (outside Taitung) at the Hoya Resort Hotel 3*+ (or similar). Your hotel has natural hot springs with baths, for a relaxing end to the day (free access, until 11 p.m.)!



Day 7: Taitung, between sea and mountains (coastal road) – Hualien (B)



Breakfast and drive north of the region along its spectacular coastal road. But before that, we will spend time at Dongshan Mr. Brown Avenue, a site crisscrossed by country roads winding through lush green rice paddies popular with walkers and cyclists. Golf cart rental. Then it will be time to explore the famous site of Sanxiantai, composed of islands and coral reefs. You will see three enormous rocks that have spawned legends about three Chinese saints: Lyu-Dongbin, Li-Tieguai and He-Xiang, who landed on the island, hence the name (The Island of the Three Saints). The place is famous for its long walkway evoking the body of a dragon, which connects the coast to the largest island. Arrival in Hualien at the end of the day. Overnight at the Just Sleep Hotel 3* (or similar).



Day 8 : Hualien – Wufengqi – Taipei (B)

Breakfast, then return to Taipei via the Yilan region and the cliff road, which offers breathtaking views. Stop at the Qingshui lookout overlooking the China Sea (access currently closed - Uncertain for the coming months / This does not prevent you from enjoying superb views during the journey!). Continue to the Wufengqi waterfalls for about 1 hour of walking. Then you can relax at the traditional Japanese geothermal springs, that is to say without clothing, in Jiaoxi. The site developed during the Japanese occupation and today represents the preferred destination for Taiwanese people on weekends. If you prefer, it is possible to go to a hotel to enjoy its springs, in swimsuit. In both cases, the access fees

remain at your expense (not included), everyone chooses their activity. Not far from there, there is also the possibility of enjoying a fish spa where small fish come to tickle your feet (at your expense)! Arrive in Taipei in the late afternoon. Check into your hotel (accommodation in Taipei booked by you).

Day 9 : Taipei – Northeast Coast – Yehliu - Shifen - Jiufen – Taipei

Breakfast, and this morning we'll set off to explore Yehliu Geological Park, with its impressive rock formations created by erosion and other natural forces. Among the rocks, the Queen's Head is one of the most famous! But beyond this very touristy spot, take the time to venture out onto the peninsula. Venture to the highest point and its magnificent view of the ocean and cliffs. Lunch is free in the fishing village of Guihou, before continuing to Shifen; it's the widest and most spectacular waterfall on the entire island! We'll then paint our wishes on a Chinese lantern that we'll launch from the rails of the old town. Finally, we'll continue to Jiufen, an old mining town clinging to the mountainside, whose atmosphere inspired the famous manga "Spirited Away." Today it's a veritable open-air market, where you can taste a multitude of specialties from all regions of Taiwan. Return to Taipei for your overnight stay (accommodation in Taipei booked by you). End of services with your English-speaking driver-guide.



End of our services. Our teams wish you a pleasant end to your stay in Taipei!



PRICES EXCLUDING FLIGHTS.

9-day private tour based on 2, 4, 6 travelers in a double/twin room:

- Tour with English-speaking driver-guide, based on 2 participants: €2,210 per person
 - Tour with English-speaking driver-guide, based on 4 participants: €1,480 per person
 - Tour with English-speaking driver-guide, based on 6 participants: €1,450 per person
- Single room supplement: €520

Accompaniment by a French-speaking guide is possible. Additional charge applies. Please contact us.

Pricing may vary depending on your exact travel dates and availability. Excludes Chinese New Year and holiday periods.

- 50% deposit upon booking, by bank transfer or credit card in France
- Balance due 1 month before arrival, again by bank transfer or credit card in France

To get to know us better:

Website of our travel creator network in Asia and beyond : www.asian-roads.com

Our Voyageos agency in France : www.voyageos.fr

This rate includes :

- ▶ The hotels mentioned with breakfast
- ▶ English-speaking driver-guide
- ▶ Private vehicle (sedan type based on 2 and 4 participants. Supplement for a minivan for more space)
- ▶ Meals mentioned in the program (B = Breakfast; LB = Lunch; D = Dinner)
- ▶ Access fees to sites and activities mentioned in the program, in the presence of the guide
- ▶ Payment by credit card in France, to take advantage of your free travel insurance
- ▶ Guarantees from our French travel agency (professional insurance, guarantee of deposited funds)
- ▶ English and French speaking assistance during your stay

This rate does not include :

- ▶ Onward flights to Taipei (pricing on request)
- ▶ Meals not mentioned and drinks to be taken according to your wishes and the advice of your guide
- ▶ Access fees to sites during free time or during visits not mentioned in the program
- ▶ Accommodation in Taipei and visits to the capital
- ▶ Airport-hotel-airport transfers
- ▶ Insurance
- ▶ Personal expenses
- ▶ Tips

Program subject to slight modification due to schedule changes or cancellations by airlines, availability of guides and hotels or inclement weather.

In France : Voyageos, 19 rue Chateaubriand 22100 Dinan

