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DISCOVER TAIPEI

Dt

JUL. / AUG. BIMONTHLY 2014

Money-Saving Tips for Having Fun in Taipei

Taipei's Youth Hostels – Inexpensive, Friendly & Comfortable

Taipei on a Limited Budget – Buying Memories

Saving Money While Exploring Taipei Through the Palate

How to Enjoy Taipei on a Budget

Take Delight in the Ancient Art of Kite Flying in Taipei

Fun, Sun and Water: Summertime Swimming in Taipei





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EDITOR'S INTRODUCTION

Money-Saving Tips for Having Fun in Taipei

Meticulous budget planning is standard pre-trip preparation for many travelers. By controlling travel costs you get to see more, do more, and bring home more memories. In February this year the popular American social news and entertainment website BuzzFeed published 26 Remarkable Places for Solo Travel – with Taipei first on the list of 26 cities! The website noted that Taipei is not only stylish and highly cultured, but also offers very friendly prices, making it the ideal travel-destination choice.

Our theme this issue is “Money-Saving Tips for Having Fun in Taipei,” and our aim is to help you keep your costs as low as possible while rambling around the city. We showcase economical youth hostels, wallet-friendly spots with great food, and quality shopping destinations with smile-inducing prices. In tandem with the inexpensive metropolitan public-transport system, you can explore Taipei to your heart's content without worrying about your travel funds drying up. Taipei – you'll find it well-nigh impossible not to fall in love with this place.

This year is the 130th anniversary of Taipei's founding. Hidden away in the city's old quarter are many heritage buildings that are witnesses to our history and statements of our culture. In our Taipei New Images section, we take you to two official city heritage sites, Futai Street Mansion and Kishu An, and tell you the story of how they have been revitalized. The clear blue skies of summer make this the best season for kite-flying, and in our In-Depth City Culture Explorations department we've invited master kite-maker Buteo Huang to tell us how his exquisite artistry has brought him an international reputation.

During the dog days of summer, how can you retain a healthy appetite and keep cool too? Answers await in our Taipei's Best Foods & Gifts section, where we introduce the city's tasty cold noodles and almost endless array of ice treats, cooling delights your taste buds will welcome no matter how hot it gets. Elsewhere, the attractive cultural-creative souvenir items available at local museums and other cultural venues are highly recommended additions to any international traveler's collection of mementos. In our Mapping the Taipei Lifestyle section we explore the pleasant shady lanes and alleys of the Minsheng Community, sampling and savoring the various specialty shops that give the neighborhood such character and give visitors so many surprises. And back on the subject of beating the summer heat, another cooling idea is playing in the water. Head to the public pools in the city's parks for a combination of water and scenic beauty, take in the 2014 Taipei Aqua Friendly Festival, or sign up for some water-fitness sessions. All are great activities for the whole family.

This summer, explore Taipei in the most affordable ways, enjoying its priceless arts and cultural dynamism. You'll discover for yourself that this is indeed one of the world's best places for solo travel, and that we are a friendly city you'll want to come back to again and again. 🌟





Discover Taipei

Taipei City Government

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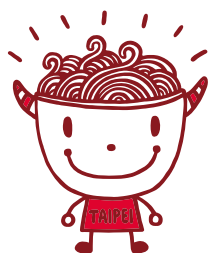
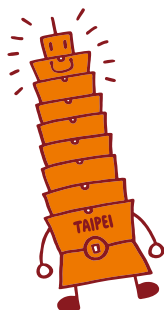


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Taipei's Youth Hostels – Inexpensive, Friendly & Comfortable

The city of Taipei is a place of culture, history and rich natural scenery. Earlier this year the Overseas website BuzzFeed chose the city as one of the world's best places for solo travel, and the urban charms of Taipei, along with Taiwan's stunning natural scenery, stimulated *The New York Times* to choose the island as one of the "52 Places to Go in 2014," placing it 11th. With the international media repeatedly reporting on Taipei's scenic allure, the city is increasingly identified as a must-visit destination for international travelers. Last year designated as the World Design Capital 2016, good design is intricately linked with this city's character. In the last two years many youth hostels of innovative design have been unveiled around the metropolis, presenting the international traveler with attractive new accommodation choices.

In this issue we introduce five of these youth hostels. Each has its own novel design, and in each a bed goes for NT\$600 to NT\$1,000, presenting travelers with the perfect combination of good design and budget price. Budget-conscious travelers are assured a relaxed stay with both assured quality and budget-friendliness, at a friendly place where you'll meet new friends from around the globe while experiencing Taipei.





Flip Flop Hostel: **Telling You the Story of Taipei**

Flip Flop Hostel (夾腳拖的家) is located beside Q square (京站時尚廣場), by the Taipei Main Station (臺北車站). The building in which it is housed, formerly a Taiwan Railways Administration (臺灣鐵路管理局) dormitory facility, has been transformed and now has a pronounced artistic ambience. This has made it a popular accommodation choice with artists and other creative types visiting Taipei. The operator, Jasper, also formulated the house accommodation-exchange program whereby the artists and creators enjoy free accommodation in exchange for their talent, using the hostel's open spaces and walls as their showcases. These works give the hostel unique style and charisma. To preserve the architectural integrity of the old building, no elevators have been installed, which makes the place more suitable for younger travelers. The hostel provides each guest with a comfortable pair of flip flops and, in support of eco-friendly practices, encourages guests to bring their own toiletries.

Flip Flop Hostel was established by three young people who love telling stories. They have mapped out a number of tour itineraries that help their guests experience Taipei from different angles; hostel staff members serve as your guides, taking you on leisurely walks or cycling outings through the city, regaling you with commentary and local stories along the way, presenting their city in depth.

1. Taipei is spread throughout with many youth hostels of unique design offering budget travelers moderate prices. (Photo shot at Flip Flop Hostel)
2. Flip Flop Hostel, in a former Taiwan Railways Administration dorm facility, has a pronounced artistic ambience that attracts creative types.
- 3-4. Flip Flop Hostel's rooms and public spaces are comfortable and warmly inviting.

Flip Flop Hostel 夾腳拖的家

Add: 103, Huayin St. (華陰街103號)

Tel: (02)2558-3553

Website: www.flipflophostel.com





On My Way Taipei Youth Hostel – A Platform for Meeting Other Travelers

In a review of over 140 Taipei specialty lodgings conducted by the well-known travel review website Tripadvisor.com, On My Way Taipei Youth Hostel (途中・台北國際青年旅舍) was rated number one among travelers. This specialty hostel was opened as a partnership by 13 people who themselves love to travel. To create what they wanted to be the ideal hostel they spent two years seeking the right building, and finally found what they were looking for in an old place on Guangming Road (光明路) in Beitou District. With careful, meticulous design and planning, they transformed the old structure into a youth hostel of distinctive style.

The building is five stories high, and rooms are located on the second through fifth floors. There is a travel library and common kitchen on the first floor, a rooftop terrace with outdoor lounge chairs for guest use, and a basement-level common room where travelers can share experiences, and enjoy concerts and theme activities such as barbecues and dumpling-making gatherings, which are regularly staged. These public spaces encourage guests to share information

and experiences with each other, making the lodging a great place to get to know other travelers.

On My Way is located in Beitou, which possesses a rich hot-spring culture and unique geographical features that make it a favorite destination for international travelers. To make a visit even more special, the hostel has worked with the area's hot-spring enterprises to offer guests hot spring bathing coupons, giving visitors discounts when using selected facilities and enabling them to enjoy the area's hot springs. During their stay at the hostel, visitors can also enjoy the guided tours, arranged periodically, and explore Beitou's trails, night-markets, morning runs, etc., getting to know the local people and culture. As can be seen, this is a youth hostel that goes out of its way to please.

5. Among the common-use facilities at On My Way Taipei Youth Hostel are a travel library, kitchen, and outdoor lounge chairs.

6-7. The unique-style On My Way Taipei Youth Hostel has been widely praised on Tripadvisor.com; experience sharing, music concerts, and other activities are arranged to encourage guest interaction.

On My Way Taipei Youth Hostel

途中・台北國際青年旅舍

Add: 82, Guangming Rd. (光明路82號)

Tel: (02)2891-0230

Website: www.onmywayhostel.com





8



9

10



Green World Hostel – A Good-Vibe Space on Taipei's Trendy East Side

Green World Hostel (洛基背包客棧) is located in Zhongxiao Commercial District (忠孝商圈), on the bustling streets of east Taipei. The attractive greenery that lines Dunhua South Road (敦化南路) can be seen through the windows. Though in the heart of the city's most prosperous and flourishing area, rates for the comfy rooms are moderate—great news for those traveling on a budget. In addition, though the area is very busy, safety is not a concern.

The management team at the hostel was changed last year, and it was completely remodeled. The walls are painted in different colors. The space is partitioned into areas for different uses. The management team checked out numerous overseas backpacker hostels before deciding on facilities, and among the new amenities chosen for the comprehensive redesign are extra electrical outlets by all beds, racks and stands, bed-head lights, bunk-bed curtains, and lockers. The result is a guest experience of much enhanced ease and comfort.

Promoting good hygiene coupled to green-living concepts, the hostel encourages visitors to bring their own toiletries and remove their own bed sheets when checking out. The hope is that this honor-system approach will cultivate a heightened sense of respect for and cherishing of the environment. The hostel also offers a work-for-accommodation exchange, special offers for check-in on Facebook, and other programs, and periodically invites experienced backpackers to give talks on their experiences, all of which are very popular with its traveler guests.

8. Though in the city's most flourishing area, Green World Hostel has moderate rates for its comfy rooms, and safety is not a concern.

9-10. Green World Hostel was completely redecorated last year, with walls painted in different colors and space partitioned into areas for different uses.

Green World Hostel 洛基背包客棧

Add: 7F, 107, Sec. 4, Zhongxiao E. Rd.
(忠孝東路4段107號7樓)

Tel: (02)2752-6533

Website: www.greenworldhostel.com





Mr Lobster's Secret Den Design Hostel: A Creative Hostel With an "Industrial Design"

Another hostel housed in a renovated older building is Mr Lobster's Secret Den Design Hostel (龍蝦先生的秘密巢穴設計青旅), also located near Taipei Main Station, on Section 1 of Chongqing North Road (重慶北路1段) on the ninth floor of a commercial building. The hostel is named after Alex, the proprietor, who took a job shelling lobster at a restaurant while studying abroad and was nicknamed "Mister Lobster" by friends. It seemed only natural to use the name when he decided to open up his "secret den."

Alex says that he wanted to create a youth hostel that was one-of-a-kind, so he first spent time checking out youth hostels in Seoul, Tokyo, and other cities. He also spent almost two years searching in Taipei before finding a suitable location. Unlike many other hostels, this one is run by a group of like-minded friends who feed off each other's creative energies. They share all duties and responsibilities – all counter work and even the bed-making and general cleaning are personally handled by the team members.

The design chosen for the facility is "industrial style." The rooms in the 992-square-meter hostel are divided into 20 different kinds, with names like Tiffany Blue, Classic Wales, Large Family and Sleeper Train Bunk Bed. There is something for everyone, from couples to small families to solo travelers. In addition, taking the burden of minor travel-related practical matters out of their foreign visitors' hands, the hostel offers an airport shuttle service and postcard-mailing service. It also organizes small monthly theme-tour outings with a wide range of topics, group meals, and other activities, helping guests more easily blend into local life, meet new friends, and go home with richer memories.

11. Mr Lobster's Secret Den Design Hostel is run by a group of like-minded friends who share all duties, including counter work and even general cleaning.
12. Mr Lobster, Alex, says that he wanted to create a youth hostel with a distinctive industrial theme.
- 13-14. Mr Lobster's Secret Den has 20 rooms in different styles, with series like Tiffany Blue, and Classic Wales, offering something for different group types.

Mr Lobster's Secret Den Design Hostel 龍蝦先生的秘密巢穴設計青旅

Add: 9F, 22, Sec. 1, Chongqing N. Rd.
(重慶北路1段22號9樓)

Tel: (02)2555-8752

Website: www.mrl lobstersecret.com





Homey Hostel – Attentive Service From a Brother-and-Sister Team

Homey Hostel (紅米國際青年旅館) was opened by a brother and his younger sister, who both formerly worked in the financial industry. Sister Kelly says that in the past, the two often had to travel abroad, and they liked to stay in specialty hostels, with the result that they acquired many foreign friends. Most foreign youth hostels reflect the personal style of the operator, and they decided they wanted to create their own youth hostel of unique, personalized style back in Taiwan.

The hostel's design is vibrant and colorful, brimming with youthful exuberance. There are custom-made iron beds in the rooms; iron was selected because it is firmer and more stable than wood, thus providing a more peaceful, comfortable sleep. According to Kelly, in order to provide a safe and secure environment for guests, "We have used the same magnetic card access-control security system that Thailand's famous Lub.d Bangkok Hostel utilizes. A key card is provided to each guest for each individual bed. These effectively control guest security and electricity use. Since they can't be used after noon on the guest's check-out date, security is ensured, and energy is saved.

Hostels generally do not provide breakfast, but Homey provides free breakfast and Taiwanese fruit. Guests sit down to a hearty meal, personally prepared by the owners, in the clean and brightly lit common room, interacting with other visitors and striking up friendships. Guests also much look forward to the free guided tours of Dadaocheng (大稻埕) hosted by the hostel each Saturday morning at 10, heading out together to explore Taipei's history and culture. Every little detail reveals the care and respect that Kelly and her brother show for their customers, showing Taiwan's friends from overseas the warm hospitality of the people of Taipei.

Choosing lodgings of unique style is important for any exploration of Taipei. Each hostel offers a different experience of the local character along with the personal touch and warm heartedness of the operators. 🏠

15. Vibrant and colorful Homey Hostel has custom-made iron beds that provide more peaceful, comfortable sleep.

16-17. The clean and brightly lit Homey Hostel common room encourages guest interaction and the striking up of new friendships.

Homey Hostel 紅米國際青年旅館

Add: 7F, 180, Chang'an W. Rd.
(長安西路180號7樓)

Tel: (02)2550-4499

Website: www.homeyhostel.com



Taipei on a Limited Budget – Buying Memories

One of the many pleasures of traveling, besides the things experienced and the photos taken, are the little souvenir purchases that capture specific local travel memories. Taipei is a fashionable and vibrant international city, with a range of shopping merchandise guaranteed to satisfy travelers' every need. Complementing the sparkling lineup of department stores are flea markets, discount stores, and wholesale stores, providing unlimited choices for travelers with a set budget.



Flea Markets – Friendly to Both the Environment and the Wallet

In the United States, garage sales are often held in front of people's houses. Buyers dig for treasure amidst all the things being discarded and no longer useful to the owner. In Taipei numerous flea markets have been set up with clear eco-protection goals in mind that are great destinations for budget travelers to go treasure hunting. A good example is Holiday ya Flea Market (Holiday ya 二手市集), created by residents in the surrounding neighborhood, which has about 40 stalls displaying quality used items no longer wanted or needed by households. You will find clothing, bags and leather goods, small electrical appliances and dishes, and much more, all in good condition.

At the well-known, very boisterous Tianmu Market (天母生活市集) you can buy designer clothes, vinyl

records from private collections, antique teapots, toys, paintings and works of calligraphy, and so on. At the Gongguan Creative Flea Market (公館創意跳蚤市集) you will see many stylishly dressed young folk manning stands and selling such things as dolls from personal collections, trendy clothing and personal adornments that look good as new and have barely been used. CINEMarket (西蘭二手市場) is a theme market coordinated with festivals and special events, making the experience of browsing through a flea market seem like attending a theme party. Since all of the markets mentioned so far are open to all members of the public, who can register to set up a stand, there are different sellers each time, so on repeat visits you will be presented with new surprises and new treasure to patiently dig out.

Another option, the Simple Market, in addition to the used clothing young shoppers so covet, also has stalls displaying special agricultural products from the

sellers' own farms. Produced using natural farming methods, they are free of chemical additives, healthy, eco-friendly, and very popular with the local populace.



Well-Stocked, Reasonably Priced Shops – Meeting All Life's Necessities

When traveling abroad it's periodically necessary to stock up on life's little necessities. If looking to save money, a good place to go is DAISO Department Store (台灣大創百貨), which follows the low-price "hundred yen" concept of the parent company in Japan. In Taiwan, selling products from as low as NT\$39, the store's impressively expansive range of goods, all imported from Japan, include food and beverage products, cosmetics, and toys. Another retailer founded in Japan is Natural Kitchen, which sells daily-use items combining rustic Japanese and Nordic elements. The shop has a wide range of attractive and practical home-living decorative products, such as cups, bowls, and chopsticks, available for just NT\$50. For NT\$100 or so you can take home a nifty cache of daily-use items of appealing design.

JSF Mall (金興發生活百貨) is a homegrown Taiwanese retail chain offering low prices. The enterprise started life as a sundry-items shop selling pots, bowls, ladles, basins, and similar items. Today it has over 100 outlets and stocks over 100,000 different types of merchandise, all made in Taiwan. The cornucopia of goods includes such things as "Majestic Carbolic Soap" (美琪藥皂), "Queen Bee Brown Sugar Soap" (蜂王黑砂糖香皂), and "Ming Sing Floral Water" (明星花露水), long-time favorites with the older Taiwanese, along with materials for do-it-yourself items such as cards, gift boxes, and decorations, as well as cute 3D stickers, other daily-use supplies, and so on. Another business, Buloso (不囉唆賣場), is an online auction operator that sources



the hottest merchandise from Taiwan, Japan, Korea, and elsewhere, including all sorts of daily necessities, consumer electronics accessories, funny toys, and eco-friendly handbags, all priced from just NT\$15 to NT\$100. In Taiwan everything Korean is now all the rage, and here you can get the newest and most novel Korean daily-use and other items same time as in Korea.

1. Weekend Tianmu, run on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays, is a treasure-hunt dream for budget travelers.
2. At Gongguan Creative Flea Market, many stylishly dressed young folks stand with fashionable items from personal collections.
3. At Simple Market you'll see many young folks presenting personal dress and adornments for sale at low cost.
4. DAISO Department Store's impressively expansive range of goods are all imported from Japan.
5. Natural Kitchen sells daily-use items designed with a combination of Japanese and Nordic village-style elements.
6. JSF Mall has a cornucopia of goods includes do-it-yourself items such as cards, gift boxes and decorations.
- 7-8. Buloso, an online auction operator that sources the hottest merchandise from Taiwan, Japan, Korea, and elsewhere, is much loved by younger consumers.





A Variety of Cheap Wholesale Stores – Take Your Pick

When bargain hunting, don't forget about the city's inexpensive wholesale stores. For example, there's the Wufenpu Commercial District (五分埔商圈) which specializes in fashionable attire from Japan and Korea, Huayin Street (華陰街), where sellers specialize in leather goods and luggage, and Taiyuan Road (太原路) for everyday household goods. Elsewhere, in addition to their delicious snack foods the city's night markets are also home to many sellers of inexpensive clothing and other merchandise. You will be able to find almost anything you might desire, without fear of busting your budget.

You'll also be happy to know that many stores have promotions specifically targeting travelers from overseas! Each year the city government cooperates with local businesses to stage the Taipei Shopping Festival (臺北購物節), which runs from August 1st to September 15th this year. Get your Taipei shopping guide at the dedicated event welcome desks in the immigration areas of Terminals 1 and 2 of Taoyuan International Airport (桃園國際機場). The guide provides arriving travelers with detailed information on the many preferential offers available at Taipei stores. Happy shopping at the most welcoming prices is guaranteed. 🛒

9-10. Wufenpu Commercial District, which specializes in fashionable wholesale attire from Japan and Korea, draws many treasure-hunting tourists.

11. On Huayin Street, sellers specialize in inexpensive leather goods and luggage.

Information

Holiday ya Flea Market 二手市集

Location: B1, 10, Shaoxing N. St. (紹興北街10號B1)

Time: 7/26 (Sat), 8/16 (Sat), 9/13 (Sat), 10/19 (Sun), 11/30 (Sun), 12/27 (Sat) 12:00 ~ 21:00

CINEMArket 西園二手市場

Location: 19, Kangding Rd. (Taipei Cinema Park) (康定路19號; 臺北市電影主題公園)

Time: Sat 14:00 ~ 19:00

Simple Market

Location: 50, Songqin St. (松勤街50號)

Time: Simple Life – Sun 13:00 ~ 19:00

Flea Market – 2nd and 4th Sat each month 13:00 ~ 19:00

Gongguan Creative Flea Market 公館創意跳蚤市集

Location: Historical Water Metering Room Plaza, Taipei Water Park (自來水園區——量水室古蹟廣場)

Time: Weekends and National holidays 16:00 ~ 22:00 (Sun 16:00 ~ 21:00)

Tianmu Market 天母生活市集

Location: Park area at intersection of Tianmu W. Rd., and Sec. 7, Zhongshan N. Rd.

Time: Fri 16:00 ~ 22:00, Sat 09:00 ~ 22:00, Sun 15:00 ~ 21:00

DAISO Department Store 台灣大創百貨

Add: 1, Nanjing W. Rd. (南京西路1號)

Tel: (02)2561- 8733

Natural Kitchen

Add: 12, Aly. 5, Ln.107, Sec. 1, Fuxing S. Rd. (復興南路1段107巷5弄12號)

Tel: (02)8773 - 8498

JSF Mall 金興發生活百貨

Add: 5-1, Nanjing W. Rd. (南京西路5-1號)

Tel: (02)2100-2966

Buloso 不囉唆賣場

Add: B1, 30, Sec. 1, Chongqing N. Rd. (重慶北路1段30號B1)

Tel: (02)7736-0266

2014 Taipei Shopping Festival 2014臺北購物節

Time: 8/1~9/15

Website: www.shoppingintaipei.com

Saving Money While Exploring Taipei Through the Palate



1



2



4

Taipei is well-nigh paradise for foodies, but there's no need to empty your bank account while exploring the cornucopia of culinary treats on offer. With breakfast shops selling fresh-made sandwiches, soybean milk, and sesame-seed cakes, lunchtime buffet restaurants and *biandang* (便當), or bento box, sellers. In addition, for dinner and late-night snacks, cooked meals, snack treats, and other yummys, it's very possible to eat your fill at each meal for just a hundred dollars or so.

A Multitude of Inexpensive Breakfast Choices to Start an Active Day

To eat well but pay little, start with breakfast! Yonghe Soy Milk King (永和豆漿大王) makes all its offerings fresh daily, such as fried *youtiao* (油條) breadsticks, traditionally enjoyed sandwiched in flaky *xiaobing* (燒餅), coated in fragrant sesame seeds; A fried egg with green onion could also be added. The warm, smooth, and silky soy milk is rich and full-bodied, with a pleasant hint of scorched soybean. Apart from Yonghe

Soy Milk King, most of Taipei's many other soy milk shops sell a wide range of fresh, savory and light foods such as steamed buns filled with minced pork, veggie-filled buns, buns with red-bean paste, and *xiaolongbao* (小籠包), or steamed dumplings with minced pork. You can almost always eat your fill without spending more than NT\$100.

If you'd like to try more traditional Taiwan-style breakfast foods, dive into one of the local traditional markets. In Dongmen Market (東門市場) you'll find Mama Huang's Rice Noodle Soup (黃媽媽米粉湯), where the rich, flavorful broth is made from pork bones. The slightly thick rice noodles soak up the broth, becoming plump and full, and a little white pepper and celery are added for extra flavor. Another

1. Many Taipei folks love Yonghe Soy Milk King's traditional youtiao in xiaobing for breakfast.

2. Office workers love quick-service Western-breakfast shops and their many sandwich selections.

3-4. Mama Huang's Rice Noodle Soup's delicious soup stock has made the shop at Dongmen Market very popular.



5

breakfast treat to feast on is the handmade *runbing* (潤餅) at Shuanglian Market (雙連市場). These soft-skinned, non-fried spring rolls are filled with slivers of egg, dried radish, cabbage, red-yeast pork, and peanut powder. They are quite filling, and their very reasonable price adds to their appeal as a yummy option for everyday folk. To enjoy an all-you-can-eat experience for just NT\$100 with a local Taiwan-style rice congee and side dish, don't miss the Taipei Hero House (台北國軍英雄館). The food here is served buffet-style, and the wide selection of tasty side dishes gives you great value for your money.

Among the many purveyors of Western-style quick-service breakfast foods popular with the office crowd are JSP (呷尚寶中西式速食連鎖店) and My Warm Day (麥味登幸福餐點). In addition to the ham and egg, pork cutlet, tuna, bacon, and other familiar breakfast-sandwich flavors, among the

special items offered are pancakes with egg and corn and pancakes with smoked chicken and egg. Some breakfast spots even go a step further, making breakfasts to-order.



6



7

Inexpensive and Filling, Popular with Office Workers – Lunch Buffets and Bento boxes



8

For lunch, follow in the footsteps of the office crowd, who pack the city's inexpensive cafeteria-style buffet eateries. Simple and convenient, the selections are many and the prices very friendly. A good example is the chain Qingmei Buffet (靖美全自助餐), which has many outlets in Taipei, each offering at least 10 dishes – meat and fish, vegetables, mushrooms, tofu, etc. Everything is priced by weight. If looking for a light meal without meat, the restaurants of the Minder Vegetarian (明德素食園) chain serve elegant vegetarian fare, also priced by weight.

Another favorite with the office crowd is the bento box, tasty and convenient. Bento box sellers are everywhere, making a delicious lunch-in-a-box always within easy reach. The "Taiwan Railway Bento Box" (臺鐵便當) is iconic – in the past they were a staple sold aboard trains – and today you can buy your own at such formal Taiwan Railway bento box outlets as the one in Taipei Main Station. Each comes with a bed of white rice, with perhaps a soy-braised pork chop, soy-braised egg, salted mustard greens, and cabbage. Portions are generous and prices low. At Wu Tau Lunch Box (悟饕池上飯包) the boxes, made from thin slivers of wood, are filled with a layer of chewy Chishang rice (池上米), accompanied by fresh and tasty lean meat, sausage, soy-braised dried bean curd, pickled cucumber, and three types of seasonal vegetable.



9



Dinners and Late-Night Snacking – Cooked Meals and Snack Treats in Tasty Profusion

For dinner, the range of options is even more diverse. Saba Hotpot (沙巴風味鍋), Oh Oh Yes Stinky Pot (大呼過癮臭臭鍋), and other similar restaurants offer a single-person hotpot for NT\$100. The mini hotpots are filled with sliced meats, greens, beancurd, meat or fish balls, and other goodies. This freshly cooked, delicious dish goes great with a bowl of rice. There is little wonder why these spots are such a popular dinner choice with Taipei's denizens. Saba Hotpot, in business 20 years, offers such unique and exotic international-style choices as Southeast Asian curry hotpot, Thai-style hot and sour soup, and Malay laksa pot, which are all especially popular with younger diners. Bafang Yunji (八方雲集) offers more than 10 kinds of pot-stickers and steamed dumplings, creating economical meals that are a big draw with office workers. Commercial districts with a concentration of nearby schools and always-hungry students, such as the Taida-Gongguan Commercial District (臺大公館商圈), have many sellers of inexpensive flavor-packed treats such as pan-fried stuffed buns, soy-braised meats and other items, and soy-braised pork in steamed buns, with Lan's Ge Bao (藍家割包) especially popular in the last category.

Taipei's night-market cuisine enjoys worldwide renown. Among the stars of the seemingly endless menu of snack, delicacies are chicken steaks, stinky tofu, pig-blood cakes, pepper cakes, oyster omelets, and seafood congee. Whatever you desire is almost surely available, and a sated tummy is guaranteed. This is the gourmet dining of everyday folk, high-quality, wide-ranging, and inexpensive. 🍴

5. At inexpensive Qingmei Buffet your various selections are priced by weight.
6. Taipei Hero House provides an all-you-can-eat buffet of rice congee and side dishes for just NT\$100, with new selections each day.
- 7-8. The standard boxed lunch at Taiwan Railway Bento Box contains a soy-braised pork chop, soy-braised egg, salted mustard greens, cabbage, and other items, in generous portion.
9. At Wu Tau Lunch Box have tasty, fragrant Chishang rice, lean meat, sausage, soy-braised dried bean curd, and other goodies.
10. Saba Hotpot, which offers many unique hotpot selections, is a big hit with young diners.
11. Single-person mini hotpots with many ingredients are offered for NT\$100, making them a popular dinner choice with Taipei residents.
- 12-13. Bafang Yunji offers more than 10 kinds of pot-stickers and steamed dumplings, creating economical meals popular with office workers.

Information

Yonghe Soy Milk King

永和豆漿大王

Tel: 0919-222-652

Mama Huang's Rice Noodle Soup

黃媽媽米粉湯

Tel: 0922-238-529

Taipei Hero House 台北國軍英雄館

Tel: (02)2331-9722

JSP 呷尚賣中西式速食連鎖店

Tel: (02)2729-2783

My Warm Day 麥味登幸福餐點

Tel: (02)8789-4758

Qingmei Buffet 靖美全自助餐

Tel: (02)8773-9133

Minder Vegetarian 明德素食園

Tel: (02)2707-6753

Taiwan Railway Bento Box 臺鐵便當

Tel: (02)2361-9309

Wu Tau Lunch Box 悟饕池上飯包

Tel: (02)2755-5530

Saba Hotpot 沙巴風味鍋

Tel: (02)2632-2360

Oh Oh Yes Stinky Pot 大呼過癮臭臭鍋

Tel: (02)2726-9499

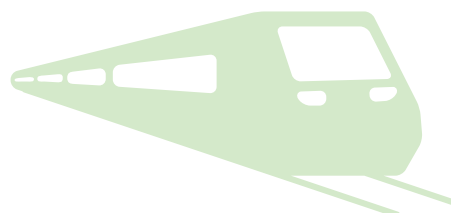
Bafang Yunji 八方雲集鍋貼水餃專賣店

Tel: (02)2705-9140





How to Enjoy Taipei on a Budget



The city of Taipei's transportation network is comprehensive and easy to use. All you need is an EasyCard (悠遊卡) to explore the entire city via the metro, local buses and taxis. For maximum convenience, the card can also be used for YouBike (微笑單車) rentals, and on the Maokong Gondola (貓空纜車) and local ferries.

Budget travelers eager to ramble around the city while keeping costs down can do no better than the Taipei Metro. This was the first rapid-transit system built in Taiwan, and today there are 11 lines, interlinking all city areas and stretching into New Taipei City (新北市), connecting major tourist draws such as Taipei 101, Ximending (西門町), National Chiang Kai-shek Memorial Hall, National Dr. Sun Yat-sen Memorial Hall, and Shilin Tourist Night Market (士林觀光夜市). Trains are regular, arriving around 3~7 minutes apart. Large maps posted in each metro station, as well as folding pocket maps that travelers can take from racks, make the system even more useful for touring the city's scenic delights.

use the touch screen on the machine to make your purchase. EasyCard vending machines are also located just inside the entrance at each station – simply follow the instructions on the touch screen – or make your EasyCard purchase at the station's information booth.

The EasyCard is available with an NT\$100 deposit. With the card purchase, the available credit balance, or "value," is zero. You add value in minimum NT\$100 increments. The card can be used to pay for the metro, public buses, ferries, the Maokong Gondola, selected railway-line services, and YouBike rentals. It can also be used at participating convenience stores. Using the EasyCard gives you a 20% discount off the regular fare of the Taipei Metro; for example, a ride that would cost NT\$25 if buying a Single-Journey Ticket is just NT\$20 if using an EasyCard. In addition, if you take a public bus within one hour of leaving a metro station you get NT\$8 deducted from your fare. When returning your EasyCard, your deposit and any remaining credit is refunded.

Buying Taipei Metro Tickets

The prepaid EasyCard is the best option for riding the metro system, but if just taking one trip, choose the Single-Journey Ticket (單程票). To buy the Single-Journey Ticket, find the bank of ticket-vending machines inside the entrance at each station, and locate your destination on the route map posted above each machine to determine your fare. Then

Single-Day Pass, Taipei Pass – Super-Bargain Deals

If you plan to take multiple rides on the metro system in a single day, the One-Day Pass (一日票) is a good idea, saving you the time and bother of buying individual tickets each time. The pass can be purchased at the information booth at any metro station, costs NT\$150, and is valid for unlimited rides from first use until the end of service at midnight on the same day. For travelers,



this pass is cost-effective if taking five or more trips, and if the tourist sites you are visiting are a fair distance apart from each other, so do a bit of calculating beforehand. The 24hr Taipei Metro Pass (臺北捷運24小時票), normally NT\$200, is being sold at NT\$180 until the end of this year. The ticket is valid for unlimited travel on the Taipei Metro within 24 hours of first use.

In addition to the Single-Day Pass, you can also consider the Taipei Pass (臺北觀光護照). Each costs NT\$180, NT\$30 more than the Single-Day Pass, but after first use the card allows unlimited rides on the Taipei Metro and on public buses in Taipei City and New Taipei City until the end of service at midnight of the same day, and you also get a Taipei Pass booklet, available in Chinese, English, and Japanese, which contains preferential offers totaling NT\$23,000. Booklet availability is limited, and they are distributed on a first-come, first-served basis. The booklet also contains "Design Tours in North, West, East, and South Taipei," which are theme-tour itineraries in four city districts recommended by local celebrities. These and the many discount offers make the Taipei Pass a great gift idea.

The Taipei Metro and public buses are a great way to explore the city center, since they are both inexpensive and ultra-convenient. Get off at the station closest to your destination and either rent a YouBike or head off for a ramble on foot. You save money, and all of Taipei's countless tourist treats are within easy reach. 10

Information

EasyCard 悠遊卡

Purchase Points:

EasyCard Service Center at Taipei Main Station (悠遊卡臺北車站客服中心), service desks at all Taipei Metro stations.

Tel: (02)412-8880

For detailed information, visit EasyCard Corp. website at www.easycard.com.tw (or see p. 65 of this issue).

Taipei Pass 臺北觀光護照

Five options:

1-Day Pass (NT\$180), 2-Day Pass (NT\$310), 3-Day Pass (NT\$440), 5-Day Pass (NT\$700), Maokong Gondola 1-Day Pass (NT\$250). (See p. 65)

Maokong Gondola 1-Day Pass:

Unlimited same-day use of Taipei Metro and Taipei City/ New Taipei City buses until the last service at midnight, as well as unlimited same-day use of Maokong Gondola.

Taipei Metro Notes:

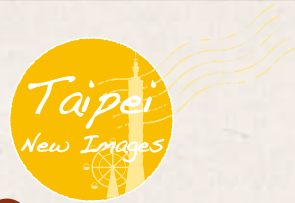
Trains run 06:00 ~ 24:00. There is no smoking anywhere inside metro stations, and no food/drink, chewing gum, etc. within demarcated zones. Pets must be placed within portable cages, save for police and guide dogs.

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



1. Taipei's transportation network is comprehensive and easy to use, stretching into New Taipei City and connecting major tourist draws.
2. You can make EasyCard purchases at all information booths at MRT stations.
3. The many different types of EasyCard can also be used for purchases at convenience stores.
4. Using the Taipei Pass brings you a discount on the metro and public-bus systems, and the limited-edition Taipei Pass brochures contain preferential offers at local businesses.
5. In addition to its use on the MRT system, the EasyCard can be used for YouBike rentals.
6. When using the EasyCard, riders enjoy a deduction on transfers from the MRT to local public buses.





New Bastions of the Arts – Historic Structures Returned to Their Former Elegance

This year is the 130th anniversary of this city's founding. You'll find a comprehensive array of architectural styles spread throughout the neighborhoods of this sprawling metropolis, and each heritage structure has its own special tale to contribute to the story of Taipei. Each also contributes to the city's cultural nourishment, and is a window into the special beauty of its history. Two prime examples are the Futai Street Mansion (撫臺街洋樓) and Kishu An (紀州庵), both official city heritage sites, where the photography and literary arts are combined to reproduce the elegance of the past and showcase the beauty of the old walled city.

Futai Street Mansion – A New Base for Photographic Art

Futai Street Mansion was built in 1910 for use as a store. Wood and stone are prominent structural features, and there are also numerous unique architectural motifs and symbols, such as the ground-level four-pillared, three-section arcade, a steeply slanted roof on the façade side, and dormer windows that let both natural light and fresh air flow in. The building has continued to stand tall and proud through the later years of the Japanese era and the modern Republic of China era, and was declared a city heritage site in 1997.

Today the mansion's primary role is to serve as "Taipei Photography Center" (臺北攝影中心), staging photography-related exhibitions, activities, and talks.

Photography art is used to present Taipei's culture, and the photos act as a bridge between the past and present.

The facility's first exhibit in this role, "A Photo Exhibition of Taipei City in the 1940s" (臺北城風情特展), is focused on Japanese-era Taiwanese photographer Li Huozeng (李火增). Photos he took between 1938 and 1942 vividly depict local life in that era. Curator Jian Yongbin (簡永彬) has filled the exhibit space with photography books, magazines, and exhibition posters collected by the photography planning and research studio Sunnigate Phototimes (夏門攝影企劃研究室). Another interesting space at the mansion is the rooftop terrace at the rear, where architecture professor He Junxian (何俊賢) has created a small urban farm as a model promoting "urban granary" ecology and green concepts.





Kishu An – Creating a “Forest of Literature”

Built in 1917, Kishu An was a typical Japanese-style dormitory residence, comprising a main building, secondary building, and annex. Unfortunately, the main building and annex suffered two separate fires a decade or so ago, leaving only the long secondary structure intact. This facility was originally used for upscale banquets, and one can imagine the grandiosity. To give people a clearer glimpse of the past, the Department of Cultural Affairs, Taipei City Government (臺北市府文化局), restored this heritage structure, and on May 25th this year held a grand “Municipal Heritage Site – Kishu An” reopening ceremony. Integrated with the Kishu An Forest of Literature (紀州庵文學森林), a new building constructed in 2011, the duo present a brand-new look at history.

Located in the city's south, this was once a favorite meeting place for the literati as well as for publishing and bookstore professionals. For this reason a literary theme has been chosen for the site, and the architecture has been allowed to tell its own story. In combination with the Kishu An Forest of Literature, an attractive venue of static exhibitions and lecture events has been created. There are also cross-culture activities such as stage theater, puppet theater, and traditional *nanguan* (南管) musical performances, as well as tea-arts talks, new book launches, and children's story-house presentations. Interweaving traditional aesthetics and literature, the old and new architectural facilities at this attraction have been transformed into a multi-diverse bastion of the arts.

Walk through Taipei's old walled city area and surroundings and you'll feel that you can “read” a little bit more of the city's story with each venerable structure you encounter. The addition of a cultural-arts focus brings even more dynamism to selected revitalized buildings, highlighting their unique heritage character and helping us delve deeper into Taipei's history, better grasping a historical tale told nowhere else. 1

1. “A Photo Exhibition of Taipei City in the 1940s” shows what life in old Taipei was like.
2. The mansion serves as “Taipei Photography Center,” with regular photography exhibitions as well as photography-theme books and magazines on display for browsing.
3. Observing the mansion's heritage architecture while enjoying the old photographic works provides much food for thought.
4. The repairs have restored the secondary building's Japanese-era look.
5. The Japanese ambience throughout the interior has a deep historical air.
6. Old-time musical rhythms float through, displaying the secondary building's Japanese character.

Information

Futai Street Mansion 撫臺街洋樓

Add: 26, Yanping S. Rd. (延平南路26號)

Tel: (02) 2314-8080

Hours: Mon~Sat 10:00~18:00

Website: www.facebook.com/futai1910

Kishu An Forest of Literature 紀州庵文學森林

Add: 107, Tongan St. (同安街107號)

Tel: (02) 2368-7577

Hours: Tues~Sun 10:00~17:00

Website: www.kishuan.org.tw

Taipei Confucius Temple 4D Theater – A Link Between Past and Present



The Taipei Confucius Temple (臺北市孔廟) is sacred ground, and a favorite destination for foreign tourists seeking to learn more about the tenets of Confucianism. The governing board brought animation and high technology together in the launch of a 4D theater, which provides a novel, lively, and interesting way to understand the Confucian system of belief. Screenings are accompanied by physical movements, and viewers experience real bumps and shakes, wind and breezes, smoke and fog, flashes of light and other special effects, providing a full-sensory experience and a unique glimpse into the intriguing world of Chinese culture.

The 4D theater is free of charge. Two films are shown at each screening session, *Taipei Confucius Temple* (臺北孔廟) and *The Adventure of Confucius Temple* (孔廟奇遇), and the full show lasts 35 minutes. Don your 3D glasses and you're off, immersed in a journey through time and space to see how the temple was built and learn about Confucian culture. *Taipei Confucius Temple* uses impressive animation to tell the story of the building of the city's first Confucius temple, the Taipei Confucius Temple, over a century ago, how it was occupied by Japanese troops during the First Sino-Japanese War, how the military defaced and abandoned it, and how it was rebuilt in Dalongdong (大龍峒). With accompanying changes in the music, alternately tense, exciting, and gracefully melodic, the film shows soldiers swooping in with knives and swords drawn, and the smoke,

moving chairs, and other special effects make young viewers yell out repeatedly, as if transported right into the film.

The Adventure of Confucius Temple uses 3D animation to show a visit by three children to see the temple's Confucius Ceremony. A search engine is shown being opened on a tablet computer, and the temple's water dragons, stone lions, and koji-pottery figures springing to life, accompanied by such special effects as jets of vapor shooting out from under viewers' seats, flashes of lightning, etc., giving the audience quite a thrill. A mysterious wise man then takes the three young people on a magical journey, during which they learn about the Six Arts of Confucianism – Rites, Music, Archery, Charioteering, Calligraphy, and Mathematics (禮、樂、射、御、書、數). Calligraphy such as the characters for "sheep" and "fish," transform into animation, allowing young viewers to go "sheep fishing" and "fish herding." The lively and interesting presentation ensures that the timeless ways of Confucian thinking are easy to grasp.

The 4D Theater has English and Japanese subtitles, and postcards with summaries of the film plots in Chinese, English, and Japanese are presented free. Both reserved groups and the first 30 people to present themselves on-the-spot for each screening also receive Confucius Temple-themed souvenirs. 🎁

- The clever special effects at the 4D theater provide viewers with continuous surprises.

Information

Taipei Confucius Temple 4D Theater 臺北市孔廟4D劇院

Add: 275, Dalong St. (大龍街275號)

Tel: (02)2592-3934

Shows: Tues~Sun 09:00 (Only for the group with reservation), 10:00, 11:00, 14:00, 15:00, 16:00
(*The Adventure of Confucius Temple* only)

Website: www.ct.taipei.gov.tw

Taipei Walking Tour – How to Read a City



Think you can understand Taipei after a quick visit to Taipei 101, the National Palace Museum, and a night market or two? Not a chance! This big city, founded well over a hundred years ago, has a rich historical and cultural tapestry that demands time to appreciate it properly. Even deeper understanding comes with a professional guide, who can reveal a treasure trove of interesting tales.

A good example is a tour of the Dadaocheng community, an area brimming with historical sites and traditional architecture. Its famed Taipei Xia-Hai City God Temple (台北霞海城隍廟) is a spot that is sacred for people seeking to find their true love, and during the year a rich repertoire of traditional religious celebrations and other activities is staged, notably *raojing* (遶境), community inspection processions by deities. To help give foreign visitors a deeper understanding of the Dadaocheng culture, a group of local folk and culture-history guides set up the Taipei Walking Tour (台北城市導覽) service, and in cooperation with the Department of Information and Tourism, Taipei City Government, staged what were called Bump Into Taipei (走讀老台北) guided tours from May through June, with the temple's *raojing* as the key focus. The guides also took people through the community's old streets, to Taipei Confucius Temple, Dalongdong Baoan Temple (大龍峒保安宮), and other attractions. They were a big hit with tourists.

Following positive feedback, Taipei Walking Tour has trained more than 20 guides to give tours in Chinese, English, and Japanese. These tours are a continuation of the original program, and have launched in July. The guided tours will be given each Saturday, and will set

out from set locations at set times. Participants will be taken through the old quarters of Dadaocheng and adjoining Dalongdong. In addition to an introduction to local religious culture and historical architecture, foreign visitors will enjoy a firsthand look at traditional life and business in old Taipei.

The Taipei Walking Tour team is also planning to expand its tours to Zhongshan District, Wanhua District, Qingtian Street (青田街), Yongkang Street (永康街), Xinyi Planning District, and other locations, and will at the same time expand the range of tour themes. The guides will also incorporate their own living environments into the design of their tours, creating one-of-a-kind tour itineraries, giving foreign visitors a uniquely personal look at their guide's home turf. Foreign residents living in Taipei are welcome to join up and receive training as guides; visit the official website for details.

The city of Taipei is a huge, living museum. Let's throw open the doors and step right in, for a good look at "the real Taipei." 📍

1-2. The guides take visitors to experience true temple culture and the old lifestyle ways of Taipei.

Information

Taipei Walking Tour 台北城市導覽

Tel: (02)2552-9021

Website: www.taipei-walkingtour.tw

Take Delight in the Ancient Art of Kite Flying in Taipei

You may already be aware that the Chinese are credited with the invention of gunpowder, noodles, and printed books. However, did you know that the kite also came into being in China? Kites have been tied to Chinese culture since the Zhou dynasty (周朝). Today, the city of Weifang (濰坊市) in Shandong Province (山東省) is considered the kite capital of the world, and is home to the 8,100-square-meter Weifang World Kite Museum (濰坊世界風箏博物館). The city has also hosted the annual International Kite Festival since 1984. This love of kite flying transferred to Taiwan long ago, and remains enormously popular. Most Taiwanese adults have fond childhood memories of learning how to make kites in school. Let's explore the roots of this liberating, ancient activity.



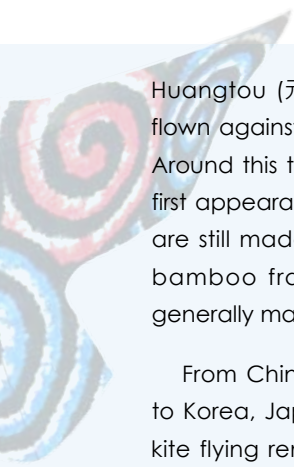
Two-and-a-Half Millennia of Kite History

Legend has it that the kite was invented when a Chinese farmer tied a string to his hat to prevent it from blowing away. According to more reliable historical records, in the 5th century BCE the philosopher and inventor Lu Ban (魯班) built a wooden bird capable of remaining in flight for three days; this is considered the prototype of the first kite.

The fine silk for which ancient China was famous provided the perfect material for kites, and for the high-strength, tensile string needed to fly them. Bamboo, a highly resilient substance, also provided a

strong yet lightweight frame. In early times, kites were primarily functional devices flown to send messages, communicate information on military operations, and conduct meteorological testing. In 200 BCE, during the Han dynasty (漢朝), General Han Xin (韓信) flew a kite over the wall of the city his soldiers were attacking in order to determine how long the tunnel he was about to dig under the walls would have to be. His calculations were correct, his tunnel a success, and his army was victorious.

The first known human flight using a kite took place in 550 CE. At the time the court of the Eastern Wei (東魏) was occupied, and the emperor's son Yuan



Huangtou (元黃頭) was placed in captivity and later flown against his will from the tower of Yecheng (鄴城). Around this time, kites made of paper also made their first appearance, though today the finest Chinese kites are still made of hand painted silk with a split golden bamboo frame. Cheap, mass-produced kites are generally made of printed polyester.

From China, traders later exported kite technology to Korea, Japan, and across Asia to India. To this day, kite flying remains exceptionally popular in the Indian subcontinent, Central Asia and the Middle East, where kids engage in kite fighting, an activity featured in the Afghan novel and film adaptation of *The Kite Runner*. Stories of kites did not reach Europe until Marco Polo brought illustrations of dragon kites on military banners back from China in the 13th century. The Europeans regarded kites as mere curiosities and the stories had little impact on their culture.

It was not until much later that great Western thinkers such as Benjamin Franklin and Alexander Graham Bell began to use kites in their experiments on the weather. The use of kites was instrumental in the research of Orville and Wilbur Wright. The world's first plane, flown by the brothers in 1903, was in fact a type of kite. In World War I, various European powers relied on the kite for enemy observation and signaling. After the use of airplanes became firmly established, kites were rendered obsolete and became more common for recreational purposes. Today, flying kites still brings ecstatic joy to children around the globe.

Taiwan's Very Own Kite-Making Legend

At the age of 10, Buteo Huang (黃景楨), flew his first kite with his brother. Watching it float in and out of the



clouds on that fateful day sparked a lifelong obsession. He made his own kite using paper from old calendars and sticky rice glue.

For most children, the main purpose of making a kite is to fly it. "But I was different from other kids," explains Huang. "I was more interested in the design process than actually flying it." Throughout high school, Huang created larger and increasingly intricate kites. Pushing the boundaries of kite making, he experimented with a wide assortment of materials including newspaper, aluminum foil, cotton, polyester, and colored cellophane.

In college, Huang constructed *Pegasus*, an enormous, flying white horse. "Only once it was taken to the mountains and unleashed in the sky, fluttering in its natural setting, was the piece truly complete." In this manner, Huang (now calling himself Buteo, the Latin word for "hawk") transformed the kite from an object for children's entertainment into a form of installation-performance art. That kites are merely a toy is a widespread belief that Huang would dedicate the rest of his life to destroying.



1. Huang expressed the spirit of forest conservation by his piece *Dragon's Forest*.
2. At the "Flying the Kite" exhibition, Huang stressed that despite being a fun activity, kites can also be appreciated as a form of art.
3. Huang created *Chinese Crested Tern* to express his ideas about environmental conservation.

(All photos above courtesy of Buteo Huang)

Cutting-Edge Ideas Executed With an Architect's Precision

Majoring in architecture, Buteo went on to found an interior design business. After one of his kites won two awards at the 2002 Holland International Kite Festival, he decided to shut down his company and make kites full time. However, his education in architecture and design strongly impacted his approach to kite making. "Everything in the world has a function. The primary function of a kite is to fly. Every single one of my kites can fly." Buteo also insists that every kite must be user-friendly. He often tests them out publicly, asking random passersby to try. Even his bulkiest kites can be disassembled in a matter of minutes and transported with ease.

Buteo was determined to push kite making to an even higher level. Many consider his next move to be his most revolutionary: creating a kite series that was not only elegant but also conveyed a message of conservation. The collection was decorated with tree rings, making it a public statement about deforestation and the effects of human activities on the environment. Kites became a vehicle for transmitting Buteo's thoughts and concerns. Another piece, *Chinese Crested Tern* is a life-sized replica of a species of bird thought to be extinct until four pairs were rediscovered on Taiwan's Matsu Islands (馬祖列島) in 2000.

According to Buteo, kite making requires the perfection of certain skills and techniques, but ideas are still what are most important. "Kites are an extension of

my mind. By flying a kite, I can send my ideas into the sky for everybody to observe."

Many have described *Nautilus* as Buteo's greatest work. A large-scale replica of a red and white mollusk, it took him five years and three prototypes to get it airborne. However, Buteo does not regard it as his masterpiece. Instead, he chooses *Dreams Come True*, a series of shooting stars made of garbage bags. "As children we are told to make a wish when we see a shooting star, but we never have time to make the wish before the star disappears. This piece allows people ample time to make their wishes." The kites make use of an innovative new technique in kite design developed by Buteo, one that has a simpler structure and requires no running or tugging to keep afloat.

Over a Decade Under the International Spotlight

In 2006, Buteo was invited to exhibit 307 of his kites at the Winter Garden in New York City's World Financial Center. The centerpiece of the exhibit was the *Tao Canoe*. This multi-oared vessel is a prominent symbol of the Tao tribe, a threatened culture that lives on Taiwan's Orchid Island (蘭嶼). Suspended in the building's atrium, the massive canoe was surrounded by flying fish, the focal point of the Tao's most important festival. During this annual tribal celebration, masterfully constructed canoes are hoisted into the air by men in white loincloths and taken to the sea to welcome the season of flying fish, which provide a major food source for the island's inhabitants.





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When asked whether he feels he has been successful in changing people's perceptions of the kite, Buteo used to reply with a firm "no." Now he says "partially." Besides the Winter Garden, he has also exhibited at the Príncipe Felipe Science Museum in Spain and the National Taiwan Museum (國立臺灣博物館) here at home. He has constant requests for custom designs and his kites have sold for as much as NT\$350,000. It appears that at least some people are starting to accept kites as a viable medium of art. But Buteo feels he still has a lot of work to do with the general public.

Buteo has finally achieved the recognition that he deserves as one of the world's greatest kite designers. His creations showcase the natural fauna and traditional culture of Taiwan, making him a national treasure. He has published a book introducing kites, and his current goal is to open a museum showcasing his work. Buteo also trains local schoolteachers in kite making and is working on his second book. Keep an eye out: starting next year, he will begin selling kites at key locations across Taiwan.

Kite Flying in Taiwan's Windy Capital

If you want to try your hand at kite flying, Taipei City is the perfect venue because it offers strong winds year-round. Taipei's extensive network of riverside parks offer the ideal setting. The National Dr. Sun Yat-sen Memorial Hall is a favorite place to buy and fly kites, though they can also be purchased from stationery stores across the city. According to Buteo, rooftops in Taiwan also make great places to fly kites! 

4. Huang hopes that viewers can make as many wishes as they want and that their wishes will come true when looking at his work *Dreams Come True*, which resembles a meteor shower high in the sky.

5. At Huang's solo exhibition in New York, his work *Tao Canoe* symbolized an endangered culture from Orchid Island in Taiwan.

6. *Nautilus* represents the unique shape of a red and white mollusk. After five years of countless failures and tests on the kite, Huang finally succeeded in getting it to fly.

7. The series *Circle of Life* is based on the concept of the five elements, expressing the idea of balance and the cycle of living things on Earth.

(All photos above courtesy of Buteo Huang)

8. The National Dr. Sun Yat-sen Memorial Hall is the perfect place to fly a kite. (Photo courtesy of Stunt kites Association Chinese Taipei)

Information on Taipei's Top Kite Flying Locations

Fudekeng Eco-Park

福德坑環保復育園區

Add: 151, Sec. 5, Muzha Rd. (木柵路5段151號)

Machangling Memorial Park

馬場町紀念公園

Venue: Qingnian Rd. and Shuiyuan Rd. intersection
Xindian River Evacuation Gate No.1,
Wanhua District
(青年路與水源路交叉口·萬華區新店溪1號疏散門)

National Dr. Sun Yat-sen Memorial Hall

國立國父紀念館

Add: 505, Sec. 4, Ren'ai Rd. (仁愛路4段505號)

The camping ground beneath Huazhong Bridge

華中橋下露營場

Venue: The bottom of Wanda Road and beneath
Huazhong Bridge. (華中橋下萬大路底)

Cold Noodles – A Favorite Cooling Food During the Taipei Summer

As everyone knows, the summer heat can reduce the appetite. A common answer to this problem in many countries is cold noodles. In Italy, there is angel hair pasta salad, in Japan, *zaru soba*, and in Thailand, *mee kati*. Each is packed with taste, stimulating the appetite. In Taipei, it is *liang mian* (涼麵), literally “cold noodles,” that is a not-to-be-missed summer treat.



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Liang mian is also called *guo shui mian* (過水麵) or “water-soaked noodles,” because they are steeped in cold water after being cooked. Various cold ingredients and a cold sauce are then added before serving. Legend has it that during the Tang dynasty (唐朝), China's first female emperor Wu Zetian (武則天) once burned her tongue when trying to eat piping-hot noodles in summer, and unexpectedly put them in cold water to cool. *Voilà*: liang mian were invented! Whatever the origin of this dish, its numerous variations are a welcome and tasty treat during the height of summer.

Each Taipei purveyor of cold noodles has its own special sauce, meaning that although cold noodles will generally look much the same at different places, at each spot a different surprise awaits the moment you take your first bite. The Taipei summer is for the most part very hot and sultry, and the cooling noodles with their savory sauces promote the appetite. They can be eaten any time of day, and whenever the mood hits you, there is sure to be a cold-noodle seller close at hand in Taipei, 24 hours a day.

If you would like some cold noodles during the day, you will find a number of dedicated sellers in the Minsheng Community (民生社區). Recommended is a branch of Pingtung Ren's Cold Noodles (屏東任家涼麵), located on Fujin Street (富錦街). The founder of this business is from the province of Sichuan (四川省) in China, and the flagship shop, opened over half a century ago, is in Taiwan's Pingtung County (屏東縣).



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The spicy sauce is made with Sichuan peppercorn, and peanut powder and bean sprouts are sprinkled on top. The medley of sweet, spicy, salty, and crispy is deliciously appetizing.

Guanghe Cold Noodles (廣合涼麵), on a lane off Sanmin Road (三民路), is another fine choice. The sauce here is dense and aromatic, using Zhenjiang vinegar to give it a tasty sourness. The signature cold noodles at Qiu's Cold Noodles (邱記涼麵), on Wuxing Street (吳興街) beside Taipei Medical University (臺北醫學大學) come in two versions, one with a sesame sauce and one with a *zhajiang* (炸醬) sauce made by stir-frying broad-bean sauce and ground pork.

Cold noodles are also a great choice for a late-night snack. Mama Liu's Cold Noodles (劉媽媽涼麵), on Civic Boulevard (市民大道), throws open its doors at 10 pm each night. This is a very popular eatery, and you will inevitably see a long line of eager diners waiting in line. Black sesame is used in the house sauce, which is constantly stirred by hand, suffusing Mama Liu's with a wonderful sesame-oil aroma. The noodles are prepared fresh the same day and cooked to order, and soy sauce, garlic puree, sugar water and other seasonings are added for guaranteed customer contentment.

Down a lane off Section 5, Nanjing East Road (南京東路5段) is Chen's Cold Noodles (陳家涼麵), a 24-hour eatery where the noodles are home-made. The fragrant house sesame sauce is well-known among local foodies. Chen's mushroom meatball soup is also recommended. At Fude Cold Noodles (福德涼麵) on Xing'an Street (興安街) there are three different house sauces – sesame, zhajiang, and pickled tuber mustard with pork slivers – guaranteeing satisfaction whatever taste you prefer.

During Taipei's hot summer months, be sure to engage in one of the city's quintessential summer-travel

experiences – digging into a tasty, chewy, multi-textured serving of refreshing cold noodles. 🍜

1. Each Taipei seller of cold noodles has its own special house sauce; though they all look much the same at different places, surprise awaits with every first bite. (Photo shot at Fude Cold Noodles)
2. The spicy Pingtung Ren's Cold Noodles sauce is made with Sichuan peppercorn, and peanut powder and bean sprouts are spread atop. The medley of sweet, spicy, salty, and crispy is deliciously appetizing.
3. Qiu's Cold Noodles has two signature sauces, a sesame sauce and a zhajiang sauce made by stir-frying broad-bean sauce and ground pork.
4. Chen's Cold Noodles makes its own noodles; the fragrant house sesame sauce is well-known among foodies.
5. Mama Liu's Cold Noodles on Civic Boulevard is a very popular eatery, inevitably with a long line of eager soon-to-be diners.

Information

Pingtung Ren's Cold Noodles Taipei Branch 屏東任家涼麵臺北店

Add: 1, Ln. 535, Fujin St. (富錦街535巷1號)
Tel: (02)2749-4326

Guanghe Cold Noodles 廣合涼麵

Add: 12, Ln. 136, Sanmin Rd. (三民路136巷12號)
Tel: (02)2756-7583

Qiu's Cold Noodles 邱記涼麵

Add: 1, Ln. 281, Wuxing St. (吳興街281巷1號)
Tel: (02)2722-0354

Mama Liu's Cold Noodles 劉媽媽涼麵

Add: 37, Sec. 5, Civic Blvd. (市民大道5段37號)
Tel: (02)8787-2093

Chen's Cold Noodles 陳家涼麵

Add: 29, Ln. 123, Sec. 5, Nanjing East Rd.
(南京東路5段123巷29號)
Tel: (02)2766-0171

Fude Cold Noodles 福德涼麵

Add: 76, Xingan St. (興安街76號)
Tel: (02)2503-8553



Taipei's Feast of Sweet Ice Treats

It's high summer, and Taipei's myriad iced treats – cool, refreshing, and irresistibly colorful – are the perfect way to beat the heat. In this article we introduce two of the city's best ice-treat confectioners, both of which use only the very best of local farm produce as ingredients, giving travelers exploring Taipei the chance to cool down while enjoying its incredibly delicious fruits.



Is chopstix – Natural Ingredients, Creative Ice Treats

The second-generation operator of Zhong Nan Restaurant (忠南飯館), Huang Liping (黃立平), has successively spread the tradition of his father's craftsmanship by opening chopstix (筷子), a restaurant dedicated to Jiangzhe (江浙) cuisine, chopstix Shabu (筷鍋), a healthy hotpot restaurant, and Is chopstix (冰筷), a purveyor of healthy ice treats opened this year. Huang's emphasis at each location is on the use of natural ingredients – there's nothing artificial in his ice treats, which, he says, his own family also likes to eat.

The shop's creative sorbets are made with fresh juice squeezed from seasonal Taiwan fruits, with just a bit of sugar added to enhance the flavor. The mixture is frozen, chunks of fruit are added, and the sorbet is placed in small copper pots and served with a glass of imported sparkling water for a dash of romantic French flair. To make the "Fule Ice" (芙樂冰) series of ice creams, fruit (mangoes, strawberries etc.) is boiled until a thick purée is formed, which is poured over shaved ice instead of the usual syrup or condensed milk. Ice cream

made from fruit is then spooned on top. The confection highlights the sweet/sour medley of the fruit. Another of the shop's ice-cream creations has *longan*, dragon eye, as the main fruit ingredient, treating the tongue to a taste experience of pleasant sweetness and fragrance, while also teasing it with small pieces of longan flesh. Says Huang, "We use no emulsifiers in our ice cream. Instead, we use a blend of cornstarch and maltose. This means our ice cream melts a little faster – so you gotta eat up quick."

The shop also offers fresh made-to-order fruit juices to which a range of creative flavor enhancers are added. For example, a bit of plum powder is added to the carambola pineapple juice, giving it an even smoother taste. Original flavors are emphasized in all the shop's ice offerings, matching the modern consumer's demand for healthy food.



Dafang Ice Treats – Traditional Ice Treats, Generous Portions

Using a special machine, grate a block of ice into a pile of ice shavings in a bowl, and top with brown-sugar



syrup and dried-fruit chunks, taro, red beans, and other goodies. That's how you make Taiwan-style *cua bing* (剉冰) or "shaved ice," which has been wildly popular for many decades – delicious, sweet, cool, and refreshing.

Dafang Ice Treats (大方冰品), located in an area with many schools, has been in the Taiwan ice confections biz for 26 years. *Dafang* means "generous," and the shop certainly lives up to its name, with each serving of its shaved-ice treat piled up like a small mountain – so big that local students commonly sit down in pairs to share a single plate.

The old family-run shop is now in the hands of Qiu Yifeng (邱一峰), from the second generation, who relates that his mother and father grew up in homes where they made their own shaved-ice treats. Wanting to preserve and spread the tastes he remembered from his youth, his father decided to open this shop. "Each shaved-ice ingredient is slow-cooked over gentle heat," he states. "For example, taro chunks are boiled with refined white sugar for 2 hours, which improves both sweetness and texture. This even applies to the sugar water – you must first dry-fry the refined sugar to release the flavor, then boil it in water to caramelize it and produce the desired flavor."

The shop itself specially recommends its mango milk ice. Chunks of delicious Irwin mango from Pingtung (屏東) and Tainan (臺南) counties are piled atop milk ice shavings, creating a yellow-toned mini-mountain, and condensed milk is poured on top. This is one of the shop's bestsellers in summer. Another popular selection

is the red-bean taro milk ice, made with red beans from Wandan Township (萬丹鄉) in Pingtung County that are slow-cooked, resulting in a sweet taste and soft texture. The presence of both milk and condensed milk intensifies the flavor.

When the summer sun is making you feel as though you are wilting, nothing hits the spot like diving into a heaped dish of multicolored shaved ice joy. Why aren't you out the door yet!? 🍧

1. Healthy ice treats are sold at *is chopstix*, which features a chic interior décor.
2. The shop's creative sorbets, made with fresh fruit, are served with sparkling water for a dash of romance.
3. Eating the longan ice cream, you are teased with small "surprises" – little chunks of dried longan pulp.
4. At Dafang Ice Treats, most popular is the mango milk ice, featuring sweet, tasty chunks of Irwin mango piled up like a yellow mini-mountain.
5. For the red-bean taro milk ice, red beans are slow-cooked with brown sugar, making them sweet and soft; milk and condensed milk are added, intensifying the flavor.
6. "Dafang" means "generous," and at Dafang Ice Treats portions are generous, prices are affordable, and area students come in droves.

Information

is chopstix 冰筷

Add: 18, Sec. 1, Fuxing S. Rd. (復興南路1段18號)

Tel: (02)2752-0818

Dafang Ice Treats 大方冰品

Add: 99, Sec. 6, Xinyi Rd. (信義路6段99號)

Tel: (02)2726-0558



Collect the Perfect Gifts From Taipei's Museums

Taipei is home to many museums, with each offering its own creative gifts, perfect as a personal souvenir or as a gift for friends, and popular with visitors from home and abroad.

National Museum of History: Combining Culture-Based Creative Gifts and Social Welfare

National Museum of History offers a range of cultural items based on China's ancient history. Like the National Palace Museum, the National Museum of History also has its own dedicated souvenir stand at both the Taiwan Taoyuan International Airport and Taipei Songshan Airport. The museum's souvenirs hold to a concept of culture-based creative products for the public good, working together with the Tranbo (傳玻者) brand established by the Victory Glass Studio (勝利手工琉璃庇護生產中心). The Pingtung Victory Home (財團法人屏東基督教勝利之家), the precursor of Tranbo, was established in 1963 by the Norwegians Mr. and Mrs. Bjorgaas, and was Taiwan's first home for young polio sufferers, encouraging disabled children to discover and develop their creative talents.

Among the products developed in collaboration with Tranbo, one of the most popular is "The Magnifying Glass Necklace With Cloud and Dragon Pattern" (高升

如意放大鏡墜鍊), which makes use of the classic patterns of ancient bronze artefacts to create a simple, elegant pendant, which is also a magnifying glass. The "Money-Spinner Featured With Circulating Currency From North Song" (政和通寶搖錢術) ornament also has two uses, as its external design represents an ancient coin, thought to bring wealth to the owner, while it doubles as a name-card holder, successfully integrating an artistic symbol of prosperity into a useful, everyday item. The "Ink Painting Lotus Coasters" (墨荷杯墊組) combine inspiration from the museum's Lotus Pond and Bo Xinyu's (溥心畬) lotus paintings, painted onto colored glass. Inspired by Han dynasty (漢朝) phoenix tiles, the "Golden Plate With Phoenix Pattern" (朱雀瓦當小方碟) is freed from traditional constraints to present a sense of practicality.

National Chiang Kai-shek Memorial Hall: Historical Souvenirs of the Former President

A memorial to the former president, National Chiang Kai-shek Memorial Hall, with its wide spaces and grand architecture, is one of Taipei's iconic landmarks, and a must-visit attraction for foreign visitors.

"Calligraphy Penned by CKS" (蔣公墨寶卷軸) is based on a passage written by Chiang Kai-shek himself that can be translated as "Wiping out a thousand troops"



(橫掃千軍) and has been a best-seller for 30 years. From the style of the calligraphy the great statesman's resolute, indomitable character is evident. Other popular products include the special edition "3D CKS Postcards" (CKS貼紙明信片), depicting the army, navy and air force in ceremonial formation, and Chiang Kai-shek himself; the Historical Series Postcards, depicting Chiang Kai-shek's work in foreign relations and the military; and "Chiang Kai-shek Memorial Wine" (中正紀念酒), which celebrates the hundred-year anniversary of the founding of the Republic of China, as well as the establishment of the Kinmen Kaoliang Liquor Inc. (金門酒廠). Each of these products makes for a highly distinctive souvenir.

National Palace Museum: National Treasures Fall into the Hands of the People

National Palace Museum contains the world's very best collection of Chinese cultural relics, with almost 700,000 items of artistic significance. Each one of the museum's souvenirs, from its replica items to products inspired by the museum's works, is sure to amaze.

One popular item of late has been the fun "Qing Court Communication as Reflected Brush and Ink of Kangxi Emperor" (朕知道了) paper tape, which humorously and creatively incorporates authentic characters from the writing of Emperor Kangxi of the Qing dynasty (清朝康熙皇帝) over 300 years ago. The tape proved extremely popular as soon as it went on sale. There's also the "First Class" (欽定一甲第一名) notebook and pencil set, which brings good luck

to students sitting exams and has also proved very popular. The "Magnifying Glass with Pierced Plum Bronze Handle" (梅花紋放大鏡), inspired by a Qing dynasty imperial family's nail protector, is both useful and artistic. Northern Song (北宋) *ru yao* (汝窯) celadon ceramics, unparalleled in all of Chinese history, have also been transformed into a convenient sticker set one thousand years on, adding a little joy to modern lives.

The iconic treasure of National Palace Museum, the *Jadeite Cabbage* (翠玉白菜), has also inspired a number of best-selling creative items, such as cell phone charms, keyrings and postcards, all tempting souvenirs for any foreign visitor.

1. National Museum of History's "The Magnifying Glass Necklace With Cloud and Dragon Pattern" combines beauty and practicality.
2. National Museum of History's "Money-Spinner Featured with Circulating Currency From North Song" incorporates a totem of prosperity into this artistic, practical object.
3. National Chiang Kai-shek Memorial Hall is among Taipei's must-visit attraction for many foreign visitors, while the Memorial Hall's souvenirs attracts many visitors who stop to buy a few.
4. National Chiang Kai-shek Memorial Hall's special edition "3D CKS Postcards," depicting the army, navy and air force in ceremonial formation, and Chiang Kai-shek himself.
5. The "Chiang Kai-shek Memorial Wine," inspired by the design of the Memorial Hall itself.
6. National Palace Museum's popular "Qing Court Communication as Reflected Brush and Ink of Kangxi Emperor" sticky tape is really fun and interesting.
7. National Palace Museum's publications introduce institution's precious cultural relics, and have a real collectible value.
8. National Palace Museum's "First Class" notebook.
9. Cellphone charms inspired by National Palace Museum's great treasure, the *Jadeite Cabbage*.



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National Taiwan Museum: Integrating the Yellow Tiger Flag Into Daily Life

National Taiwan Museum is Taiwan's oldest museum, established over a century ago. The museum contains a valuable collection of items on Taiwanese anthropology, zoology, botany and geography. The Yellow Tiger Flag (藍地黃虎旗) of the Republic of Formosa (臺灣民主國) is one of the three great treasures in the National Taiwan Museum, and is used on many of the museum's souvenirs, proving very popular with visitors.

The Yellow Tiger Flag was the national flag of the Republic of Formosa in 1895, a key year in Taiwanese history. It was long thought that the flag had a tiger on only one side, but three years ago a secret was discovered about this national treasure: there is in fact another tiger on the reverse side. The eyes of the tigers on the front and reverse sides are different, on one side being round and on the other half-moon shaped, reflecting the different shapes of the cats' pupils by day and night, and thereby symbolising a resolution to protect the nation constantly. The National Taiwan Museum has developed a series of products based on the Yellow Tiger Flag, including Yellow Tiger bookmarks, satchels, blessing charm gift sets, and other items decorated with the double tiger motif, as well as an artistic and practical umbrella with a single tiger pattern.

Taipei Confucius Temple: Creative Soft Power Inspired by the Great Sage

Taipei Confucius Temple, a third-grade historical site, attracts many visitors from home and abroad, who go to seek and experience for themselves the ancient rites of Confucianism. The Memorial Ceremony for Confucius, held every year, attracts countless visitors, both local and foreign. In order to allow everyone to get a little closer to Confucianism, the Taipei Confucius Temple has also developed a series of cultural gift products.

The simple, classic "Confucius Temple Gift Collection" (琉璃鑲鐘置物罐), based on ancient styles, has long been a best-seller. The red "Confucius Said" School Bag (子曰書包) is printed with famous quotes from the great teacher in Chinese and English, and even foreign exchange students have been quick to join in the throngs buying this item. The "Eight Sounds Coaster Set" (八音杯墊), modeled on ancient Chinese musical instruments but made of modern-style materials, is also very popular. Aside from inside the temple itself, these items are also available at the Publication & Souvenirs Shop, Taipei City Government.

Also on offer at Taipei Confucius Temple is the "Eight Sounds Blessing Charm" (八音祈願御守), which has a slight lavender scent, and symbolizes prosperity, peace and good luck on your travels. New for this year are the "Confucius Temple Fried Cookies" (孔廟智慧燒),



each of which is imprinted with one of four symbols, including the temple's large bell (Yong Zhong; 鑄鐘) symbol, the temple's Wanren wall (萬仞宮牆) symbol, the mythical *qilin* (麒麟) and the characters for "pass the entrance exams" (*Jinbangtming*; 金榜題名). Inside there's an exam admission card to bring good luck in examinations.

Each of Taipei's museums has its own special character. Foreign guests: when you're appreciating Taipei's cultural riches, why not have a stroll around the souvenir area of each museum and appreciate for yourself Taipei's cultural soft power. 🍵

10. The Yellow Tiger blessing charm wishes you peace and happiness!

11. The design of the Yellow Tiger Flag satchel is adorable.

12. National Taiwan Museum Gift Shop is also very popular with visitors.

13. Yellow Tiger-pattern umbrella is useful and aesthetically pleasing.

14. Taipei Confucius Temple's "Confucius Temple Gift Collection," based on ancient styles, has long been a best-seller.

15. Taipei Confucius Temple's "Eight Sounds Blessing Charm" brings the owner different types of good luck.

16. "Taipei Confucius Temple Fried Cookies" allow visitors to experience the spirit of Confucianism while snacking!

17. The "Eight Sounds Coaster" Set is modelled on ancient Chinese musical instruments.

Information

The Creative Store of National Museum of History 國立歷史博物館文化服務商店

Add: 49, Nanhai Rd. (南海路49號)

Tel: (02)2361-0270 ext. 621

National Chiang Kai-shek Museum Shop 國立中正紀念堂博物館商店

Add: 21, Zhongshan S. Rd. (中山南路21號)

Tel: (02)2343-1100 ext. 1080

National Palace Museum Gift Shop 國立故宮博物院禮品部

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

Tel: (02)2881-2021 ext. 2254

National Taiwan Museum Gift Shop 國立臺灣博物館禮品店

Add: 2, Xiangyang Rd. (襄陽路2號)

Tel: (02)2371-1052

Taipei Confucius Temple Gift Shop 臺北市孔廟紀念品販賣部

Add: 275, Dalong St. (大龍街275號)

Tel: (02)2595-7522

Publication & Souvenirs Shop, Taipei City Government 臺北市政府出版品紀念品展售中心

Add: 1, City Hall Rd. (市府路1號)

Tel: (02)2720-8889 ext. 3391

A Leisurely Summer Tour of Minsheng Community

The lanes and alleys of Taipei's various neighborhoods are home to countless hidden boutique shops of distinctive character, making for charming discoveries on every stroll. In leafy Minsheng Community, along Minsheng East Road (民生東路), Fujin Street, Xinzhong Street (新中街), Xindong Street (新東街), and other arteries, you'll find a relaxed environment of slow and cultured living has been created, inspiring many an entrepreneur to move in and set up shops of unique design and style, selling everything from fine food to sundry goods to clothing and furniture. Much of interest awaits the day-tripper, local and foreign traveler alike, on a leisurely exploration of the community, savoring its unique cultural landscape and its mix of shops showing off Western, Japanese, and Taiwanese flair.

Gourmet Cuisine – Unconventional Creative Spirits

The best days start with breakfast, and a good breakfast is to be had at AROMA Corner, which specializes in coffees, teas, and spirits. This is one of the few businesses in the community that opens before 9 am. The menu-fastidious owner recommends her nutritious and delicious made-to-order set breakfast with eggs sunny-side up, a salted and smoked ham sandwich, and Italian-style oil and vinegar salad. Its Darjeeling tea from India and coffees from Asia, Africa, and the Americas are all plantation-produced. Its teas are served in antique-style Japanese



teaware, which uniquely presents their character and color. AROMA Corner also periodically stages tea-tasting information-exchange classes to share its knowledge of the golden brew.

If interested in buying local foods and learning how to make simple fare, head to Beher (Beher 生活廚房) next. It offers cooking courses, sells food and sundry goods, and holds special culinary information classes from time to time, on such topics as Japanese sweets, fruit and vegetable enzymes, etc. Beher also cooperates with small local farms, introducing organic produce that it turns into jams and jellies. The majority of the containers, kitchenware, tea ware, and other daily utensils sold in the shop are manufactured in Taiwan and Japan. They are done in minimalist style, reflecting the life aesthetics of the two countries.

AROMA Corner → Beher → Blanc Living → L'atelier Fantasia → AURA PIZZA (lunch) → Fujin No. 3 Park → journal standard Furniture Pop-Up Shop in Taiwan → de'A → AGE SPACE → 6Strings → Lunar Bistro (dinner)

Route

1

2



3



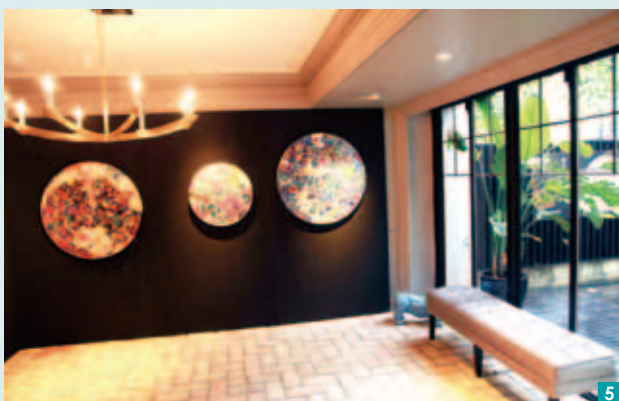
Home and Art Spaces – New Interpretations of Aesthetics

Opened in March last year, Blanc Living (布朗家居) is a brand created by the team at Taiwan's NOiR Design (諾禾設計). It offers furniture, home decorations, and lighting fixtures sourced from Southeast Asia that express the character of the region's culture, and a splendid array of cast iron, pottery, wood, and fabric handicrafts that give the shop a distinctive hand-made design personality.

Across from Blanc Living is L'atelier Fantasia (繽紛設計), a design studio that transforms street spaces into displays for works by new-generation artists. The studio has a striking black-and-white visual design, and the sparkling light of the crystal chandeliers gives the space an ornate, classical style. The light reflects off the vivid colors of the paintings displayed, creating the ambience of a boutique art gallery.



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Enjoying Delicious Italian-Style Pizza

For lunch, drop in at AURA PIZZA (好時光披薩) for fresh and delicious Mediterranean-style cuisine. This house of kiln-baked pizza was created by a youthful owner who has lived in Minsheng Community all his life. The flavors are mainly those of southern Italy, the owner deftly and creatively mixing and matching a splendid range of ingredients, resulting in a savory parade of flavors. The pizza crust, thick around the edge and thin in the middle, is made with flour imported from southern Italy. The crispiness, chewiness, aroma, and tastiness is a key "secret" to Aura Pizza's success, along with the many ingredients sourced from around Italy, placing pizzas brimming with rich Mediterranean character on your table.

After filling up, head back out for a relaxing saunter along tree-shaded Fujin Street, or kick back a bit in Fujin No. 3 Park (富錦三號公園). Royal palm and sweetgum trees line the streets on either side of the park, and the delicate flowers and shrubs inside fill the air with delightful fragrances. Amidst the gentle breezes and the enveloping greenery, sit back for a soothing and refreshing break, feeling the fatigue of the morning's exploration float away.



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- 1-2. AROMA Corner's hand-made salted and smoked ham sandwich. The dining space is casual and airy, and tea-tasting information-exchange sessions are staged periodically.
3. The daily utensils sold at Beher, and the display style, mix the life aesthetics of Taiwan and Japan.
4. Blanc Living has a warm Austronesian character, and most items display are from island nations.
5. L'atelier Fantasia is an interior-design firm that has made its space an art gallery.
- 6-7. AURA PIZZA's open kitchen is like a performance space; the pizza flavors are mainly those of southern Italy.
8. Fujin No. 3 Park is a great spot for a midday break.

Sipping Coffee, Savoring Design, Playing Music

Fujin Tree (富錦樹) has graced Minsheng Community for many years. Situated in this area of clothing stores, cafés, and furniture stores, it calls itself a “journal standard Furniture Pop-Up Shop in Taiwan” and is a limited-edition flash-retail concept store that imports journal standard Furniture, a renowned Japanese brand that features vintage American-style furniture by Japanese designers in sizes, colors, and shapes suited for Asians.

The unusual name of the shop de' A is based on the pronunciation of the Taiwanese word for “bag.” This retailer specializes in imported classic leather-goods brands. An impressive variety of goods are displayed, from handbags to backpacks and wallets to business card holders, all exquisitely crafted. de' A is also a café; the square-shaped bar space in its center is divided into three sections scattered with wooden chairs, tables and sofas. Decorated with vintage objects, and with a hipster air, this is a fine spot for a leisurely afternoon tea.

If you're a music lover, be sure to visit AGE SPACE, run by Jimmy, a former architect who has a passion for music and has searched the world for vintage audio equipment. The space is decorated with audio equipment from the era 1950 through 1975, which gives it a combined industrial and space-age fashion sense. While you're browsing, Jimmy will be playing selections from his collection of out-of-print vinyl records. You'll feel like you've taken a step back in time, transported by the palpable sense of joy the music here creates.

If your ears are excited and ready for more, go to 6Strings (六絃樂器), which sells and repairs musical instruments and offers classes in playing wind instruments, traditional Chinese instruments, keyboard instruments, etc. This is a fine choice if you're in the market for your own instrument, and a veritable “temple of learning” for lovers of music.

9. Fujin Tree limited-edition pop-up shop concept store is currently stocking journal standard furniture, a renowned Japanese brand.

10. de' A specializes in imported classic leather-goods brands that feature premium European craftsmanship.

11-12. AGE SPACE stocks vintage audio equipment sourced from around the world; while browsing, owner Jimmy will be playing selections from his collection of out-of-print vinyl records.

13-14. 6Strings offers all kinds of music classes, and sells all sorts of stringed instruments.





A Dinner of Romantic Culinary Creativity

A not-to-be missed dinner spot is Lunar Bistro (邀月兒), which serves continental European fare. The owner, Aleck, is another homegrown Minsheng Community resident. He formerly worked in the advertising industry and as a director, among other jobs, and as a result has paid particular attention to the names he gives his menu items and the way he describes them. The bistro's signature selection is Grilled U.S. Prime Beef Top Cap with Roquette Chop, which features fresh and tender beef topped with a pesto-style sauce: perfect for summer taste buds.

Minsheng Community is just a step away from the hubbub of the city's busy thoroughfares. Use the rhythm of your footsteps to get a feel for the distinctive rhythm of this neighborhood. No prior planning is needed – follow your instincts and your sensory radar in your ramble through the lanes and alleys and their one-of-a-kind shops for guaranteed discovery and satisfaction. 15



15



16



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15. Lunar Bistro's artful design allows natural light to stream into the dining area.

16-17. Two Lunar Bistro signature dishes, Grilled U.S. Prime Beef Top Cap with Roquette Chop and Eau Chaude Pêcheur.

Information

AROMA Corner

Add: 43, Xinzhong St. (新中街43號)

Tel: (02)2742-5526

Beher 生活廚房

Add: 354, Fujin St. (富錦街354號)

Tel: (02)2765-2646

Blanc Living 布朗家居

Add: 382, Fujin St. (富錦街382號)

Tel: (02)2528-3820

L'atelier Fantasia 繽紛設計

Add: 387, Fujin St. (富錦街387號)

Tel: (02)8787-5398

AURA PIZZA 好時光披薩

Add: 35-1, Xinzhong St. (新中街35-1號)

Tel: (02)2756-0108

Journal standard Furniture Pop-Up Shop in Taiwan

Add: 352, Fujin St. (富錦街352號)

Tel: (02)2767-5196

de' A

Add: 348, Fujin St. (富錦街348號)

Tel: (02)2747-7276

AGE SPACE

Add: 464, Fujin St. (富錦街464號)

Tel: (02)2767-2686

6Strings 六絃樂器

Add: 39, Xinzhong St. (新中街39號)

Tel: (02)2765-9131

Lunar Bistro 邀月兒

Add: 405, Fujin St. (富錦街405號)

Tel: (02)2766-8188

Please refer to the map provided on P. 66

“Qixi” – Oriental Valentine’s Day



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Western Valentine's Day, which takes place in the depths of the winter cold on February 14th, creates memories of deep warmth for sweetheart couples. Oriental Valentine's Day, called Qixi (七夕) – literally, “Seventh Night” – falls in the middle of the summer heat on the 7th day of the 7th lunar month, and as such stimulates an air of warm romance. If you happen to still be searching for your true love, fret not, for in Taipei there are numerous temples where you can beseech help from the immortals in expediting the success of your quest.



2



The Origin of Qixi – A Charming Tale

According to one lovely ancient legend, Oriental Valentine's Day has its origins in the love between Cowherd (牛郎), who was mortal, and Weaver Girl (織女), a fairy. Having breached the taboo prohibiting love between mortals and immortals, they were forced apart. However, their love continued to burn just as brightly. Heaven was moved, and the two were thereafter permitted to meet once a year on the 7th day of the 7th lunar month. Over time, their poignant tale inspired people to celebrate the date of their meeting as Valentine's Day.

Taipei is home to numerous temples where you can ask for luck in love. Zhaomingjing Temple (照明淨寺) in Beitou District has a display of wax figures that includes Cowherd, Weaver Girl, Sima Xiangru (司馬相如), and Zhuo Wenjun (卓文君) – the latter two were the protagonists in another renowned love legend – and is thus commonly called “the Lovers' Temple” (情人廟). Built with an exterior in the architectural style of a Thai temple, enshrined within is the Four-Faced Thousand-Hand Guanyin (四面千手觀音), the Goddess of Mercy. Devotees pray for her blessings for health, wisdom, wealth, and marriage. In addition, written testimonials to love are hung up at the temple's Wishing Pond (許願池). These various elements bring many couples here to worship. Visitors can also write their wishes on paper or wooden tablets and, after paying their respects to Guanyin, put them in the Wishing Box (許願箱) at the side or hang them in the Wishing Pavilion (許願亭) beside the pond.

Asking Old Man Under the Moon for a Good Marriage

Besides the Cowherd and Weaver Girl tale, Taiwan has many other “true love” legends and beliefs. The best-known pertain to the Old Man Under the Moon (月下老人). The old, white-bearded god leans on a cane, and holds a “Book of Predestined Marriages” (姻緣簿) in his hand. This book contains the names of unmarried males and families, and lists who they will be matched with. A red thread taken from him can help bring couples together in love, with marriage being the ultimate happy ending. Therefore, the Old Man can be seen as the Cupid of the East. One of the temples at which he is venerated is the always busy Manka Lungshan Temple (艋舺龍山寺), where the air is always heavy with incense smoke. A constant stream of unmarried males and females comes to pay their respects and ask for his help. During the worship ritual they must provide their birthdate and related astrological information, name, address, and desired particulars in

1. Zhaomingjing Temple, which blesses and protects couples' love, is thus commonly called the Lovers' Temple.
2. The Four-Faced Thousand-Hand Guanyin at Beitou's Zhaomingjing Temple brings many sweethearts to worship.
3. Written testimonials to love are hung up at the temple's Wishing Pond by sweetheart couples.
4. A constant stream of unmarried males and females comes to worship the Old Man Under the Moon at Manka Lungshan Temple.



an ideal spouse. They then formally request that the Old Man Under the Moon give them a red thread by throwing divination blocks. If the blocks land with one facing up and one facing down three consecutive times, they have been given the "divine answer" (聖筊) – yes. Taking a thread, they keep it on their person afterwards, drawing the destined love of their life toward them.

The Old Man Under the Moon at Taipei Xia-Hai City God Temple in Dadaocheng is particularly efficacious. Worship here involves practices different from the norm. For example, a male and female in a relationship who sincerely hope to stay together for a lifetime present fresh flowers and fruit during worship; this represents love's "blossoming and fruition." Singles buy red threads and lead coins from the temple, which they keep on their person after worshipping. This temple is also not just a place where singles come looking for divine help in revealing their true love and future marriage partners; many couples come beseeching family happiness and harmony, and ask the City God's wife to present them with a pair of "Fortune Shoes of the Wife of the City God" (城隍夫人鞋), literally "City God Wife Shoes." According to legend, though the City God is about 70 years older than his young wife, the couple is inseparable. People deeply believe that asking for a pair of "Husband-Managing Shoes" (馭夫鞋) from the City God's wife will bless a household with happiness, and she has thus become Taipei City's great "Amulet of Love." Many people who have gotten married after asking Old Man Under the Moon for help present the temple with bridal cakes and candies in gratitude; remember to eat some after worshipping there yourself, and to drink a cup of "Blessed Tea," so the same joy will come to you.

Whether still single or already happily committed, when touring Taipei, why not visit Taipei Xia-Hai City God Temple to pay your respects to the Old Man Under the Moon, praying to the god to grant you his blessing and protection on the path of love and bliss. 🍵



5. Many who have gotten married after asking a temple for help present bridal cakes and candies in gratitude.
6. A male and female in a relationship who sincerely hope to stay together for a lifetime present fresh flowers and fruit during worship, representing love's "blossoming and fruition."
7. The Old Man Under the Moon is one of the best-known "true love" legends in Taiwan.

Information

Zhaomingjing Temple 照明淨寺

Add: 51, 53, Chongyang 7th Rd. (崇仰七路51、53號)

Tel: (02)2894-1362

Manka Lungshan Temple 艋舺龍山寺

Add: 211, Guangzhou St. (廣州街211號)

Tel: (02)2302-5162

Taipei Xia-hai City God Temple 台北霞海城隍廟

Add: 61, Sec. 1, Dihua St. (迪化街1段61號)

Tel: (02)2558-0346



Fun, Sun and Water: Summertime Swimming in Taipei

It's Taipei. It's summer. Add these together and you get "blistering hot." The answer? A cool swim! The city has 14 public-park swimming pools, the outdoor pools are open until the end of September, and all are open to everyone, local citizens and overseas visitors alike.

A Pool With a Backdrop of Green Mountains and Blue Waters

An attractive feature of pools in public parks is the lovely landscaped grounds surrounding them, graced with flowers and trees. After over a year of renovation, Dahu Park Swimming Pool (大湖公園游泳池) was formally reopened in May this year. Visitors can enjoy the beautiful landscape here, which has been featured in France's *Le Monde* (法國世界報) in May last year. While fixing up the pool, the Parks and Street Lights Office, Public Works Department, Taipei City Government (臺北市政府工務局公園路燈工程管理處), following green building-design concepts, adapted its design to the terrain to preserve the inherent beauty of the surrounds. The roof has been covered with living grass, cleverly integrating the structure with the surrounding park, reducing radiating heat and resulting in eco-friendly

energy efficiency. The roof has been designed as a viewing platform, with free access to all, enabling everyone to enjoy the park's splendid mountain and water vistas. In addition to a 50-meter outdoor unheated pool and a children's play pool, the facility also has a complete range of amenities, including a 25-meter indoor heated pool, spa pool, hot/cold plunge pool, and sauna.

Over in Tianmu two pools lie in parks along the Huang Stream (磺溪), also set amidst attractive greenery – Tianxi Swimming Pool (天溪綠地游泳池) and Keqiang Swimming Pool (克強游泳池). Comfortably shaded, with the sound of gurgling water and with gentle, cooling breezes passing through, a swim here is the most soothing of experiences. Tianxi Swimming Pool, originally a community outdoor pool, is now operated by the Parks and Street Lights Office, which has opened the facility to the general public. Keqiang Swimming Pool, originally called the Tianmu Swimming Pool, is Tianmu's oldest. Thoroughly renovated, the facility now has an

1. While enjoying the Dahu Park Swimming Pool, enjoy the park's splendid surrounding greenery and scenery.



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outdoor unheated pool and an indoor heated pool. The spacious outdoor pool is 50 meters long and 30 wide; inside is the heated pool, a children's pool and other facilities, including a 3-story-high waterslide. This is the favorite summertime choice for fun in the water among kids from Shilin District.

The fees at the city's park pools are very low – even lower in the morning – and kids 3 years old and younger get in for free. Detailed information is available on the Parks and Street Lights Office website.

Summertime Family Water Fun – 2014 Taipei Aqua Friendly Festival

The city also offers another watery option for those looking to escape the summer heat – Taipei Water Park (臺北自來水園區), where the 2014 Taipei Aqua Friendly Festival (2014臺北親水節) opens at the end of June. This annual event is much anticipated by kids and adults alike. Cool down in the Water Country Park (水鄉庭園) aqua garden, and make sure to check out two new attractions for this year: the “Happy Mini Train” (歡樂小火車), in front of the Museum of Drinking Water (自來

水博物館), and the “Otter Trampoline” (水獺跳跳床) in the Fountain Garden (噴泉庭園). These two facilities will provide kids with endless water fights and fun games.

On July 19th the organizer is also staging an afternoon “Children's Toys Garden Party” (童玩園遊會) and a “Summer's Night Theater Show” (夏夜劇場秀). The former is a grand gathering of kids' toys, and the latter is a colorful stage show that starts when night falls, together providing great entertainment for the whole family right through the day. A series of riveting Taiwan indigenous-tribe harvest festival celebration activities has been scheduled for August, notably music and dance theater performances exploring the relationship between indigenous life and water. Kids who like the idea of dancing with indigenous kids can't miss out on the performances on August 3rd and 9th, which will also introduce traditional indigenous worship customs.

During the festival, each Saturday and Sunday afternoon shows by street performers, magicians, and acrobats will be staged before the Museum of Drinking Water. A crescendo of exciting activities has also been planned during the festival's final days, with music




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concerts on two Saturdays in a row, August 23rd and 30th, which will feature thrilling sound-and-light shows built around the Museum of Drinking Water's unique architecture, accompanied by dancing waters and laser effects, presenting the audience with a feast of the senses. 

2. The beautiful landscape of Dahu Park has been featured in France's *Le Monde* in May last year.
3. The Dahu Park Swimming Pool has comprehensive indoor facilities, including an indoor heated pool, spa pool, hot/cold plunge pool, and sauna.
- 4-5. Keqiang Swimming Pool is Tianmu's oldest, and a favorite exercise option with locals. Comfortably shaded, with the sound of the gurgling Huang Stream and gentle, cooling breezes passing through, a swim here is a soothing experience.
6. The Taipei Aqua Friendly Festival is an annual water-fun event that is a favorite with local youngsters.
7. This year's Taipei Aqua Friendly Festival will feature Taiwan indigenous-tribe harvest festival celebration performances and activities.
8. This year's Taipei Aqua Friendly Festival will also feature the "Otter Trampoline" in the Fountain Garden, providing kids with endless water fun.

Information

Parks and Street Lights Office, Public Works Department, Taipei City Government
臺北市政府工務局公園路燈工程管理處

Website: pkl.taipei.gov.tw

Dahu Park Swimming Pool 大湖公園游泳池

Add: 31, Sec. 5, Chenggong Rd.; inside Dahu Park (成功路5段31號; 大湖公園內)

Tel: (02)2793-9859

Tianxi Swimming Pool 天溪綠地游泳池

Add: 170, Aly. 3, Ln. 219, Sec. 7, Zhongshan N. Rd.; beside Jaqueline Villa (中山北路7段219巷3弄170號; 甲桂林山莊旁)

Tel: (02)8866-5105

Keqiang Swimming Pool 克強游泳池

Add: 2, Ln. 55, Huangxi St. (磺溪街55巷2號)

Tel: (02)8866-5105

2014 Taipei Aqua Friendly Festival 2014臺北親水節

Add: 1, Siyuan St. (思源街1號)

Venue: Taipei Water Park (自來水園區)

Tel: (02)8369-5104

Hours: 09:00~20:00, until 8/31 (closed Mon)

Website: www.twd.gov.tw

Cooling, Health-Enhancing Water Fitness

The Taiwanese summer is very hot and very humid: Take a short walk outside and you will soon see! Normal exercise can be enervating, but it will be no surprise that at this time of year exercising in cooling water is an especially popular activity. Water fitness is suitable for young and old, for people of any age or level of fitness, and Taipei's sports centers offer supremely comfortable environments in which to try it out. As a result, in recent years, water fitness has become a very popular activity with both old and young, especially in summer.

Water fitness, sometimes also referred to as water aerobics, is derived from various spa treatments. The buoyancy of the water effectively reduces your weight by 75% when immersed up to your chest. For those who are overweight or who have bad backs, knees, ankles, or other joints, water fitness offers relief and rehabilitation along with avoidance of injury that may occur through more traditional exercise. Pretty much anybody can engage in water-fitness exercise. Stay in the part of the pool where the water level is between the navel and chest line, which helps blood flow to the heart and naturally strengthens respiratory muscles. Non swimmers can start by walking or by running in one place.

According to long-time Taipei Xinyi Sports Center (臺北市信義運動中心) instructor Jian Yating (簡雅婷), because the head is not submerged while practicing water fitness, even those who are poor swimmers or who can't swim at all can join in. In addition, while the buoyancy of water relieves much of the physical burden on



the body, water has a resistance 12 to 15 times that of air, and even manual resistance exercise has an obvious beneficial effect on muscular endurance. "In addition, because the water temperature is lower than body temperature, body-heat dissipation is faster, and even after prolonged exercise no discomfort is experienced," says Jian. "Water also provides a safer exercise environment; even if one stumbles, there is a reduced chance of injury."

Water-fitness exercise, like exercise on land, has many movements. In addition to walking, running, and jumping, equipment such as kickboards and float balls can be used to add interest and variation and to make the exercise more challenging. To enhance the fun, some water-fitness instructors also introduce group games such as mimicking in pairs, hand-in-hand circle dancing, treading water bicycle-style, and even competitions.





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Liu Jiaqi (柳家琪), the head of the Taiwan Aqua Fitness Association (台灣水適能協會), says that many special-needs groups can safely engage in water fitness if under the guidance of a professional instructor, and achieve excellent fitness results. The water helps alleviate lower-extremity edema in pregnant women, and relieves lower back pressure. After a period of water-fitness exercise coached by trained instructors, seniors, those suffering from obesity, and individuals from other groups with special health conditions, can all enjoy improved physical mobility as well as alleviation of other physical discomfort. For more detailed information on water fitness, visit the Taiwan Aqua Fitness Association's website at www.aquatafa.org.tw.

Interested in trying it out? Taipei has many sports centers offering water-fitness sessions, spread throughout the city. All are led by trained instructors. 🏊

Notes:

1. Don't forget to bring swimsuit, swim cap, towel, and frog-palm gloves if needed.
2. This form of activity is not appropriate for individuals suffering from lack of sleep, poor mental fitness, or skin injuries or disorders, or for those who have eaten within the past hour.
3. Individuals with cardiovascular disease should consult a doctor first.

1. Water-fitness fun is appropriate summer heat-beating exercise for everyone from young through old, with no limitations in terms of age or fitness.
2. Water-fitness exercise is also appropriate for pregnant women.
3. Taipei's sports centers offer many different types of classes, with trained instructors.
4. The water's buoyancy helps alleviate pregnant women's lower-extremity edema, and relieve lower back pressure.
5. Water-fitness exercise involves many changes of movement; special equipment is also used to make things more challenging. (Photos courtesy of Taiwan Aqua Fitness Association)

Information

Taiwan Aqua Fitness Association 台灣水適能協會

Add: 3F., No.13-2, Ln. 97, Sec. 1, Xinheng N. Rd.
(新生南路1段97巷13之2號3樓)

Tel: (02)2731-2296

Website: www.aquatafa.org.tw

Taipei City Neihu Sports Center 臺北市內湖運動中心

Add: 12, Zhouzi St. (洲子街12號)

Tel: (02)2627-7776

Website: www.nhsports.com.tw

Taipei Daan Sports Center 臺北市大安運動中心

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

Tel: (02)2377-0300

Website: dasc.cyc.org.tw

Taipei Song Shan Sports Center 臺北市松山運動中心

Add: 1, Dunhua N. Rd. (敦化北路1號)

Tel: (02)6617-6789

Website: www.sssc.com.tw

Taipei Zhongshan Sports Center 臺北市中山運動中心

Add: 2, Lane 44, Sec. 2, Zhongshan N. Rd.
(中山北路2段44巷2號)

Tel: (02)2581-1060

Website: cssc.cyc.org.tw

Taipei Xinyi Sports Center 臺北市信義運動中心

Add: 100, Songqin St. (松勤街100號)

Tel: (02)8786-1911

Website: xysc.cyc.org.tw

Taipei Wen Shan Sports Center 臺北市文山運動中心

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

Tel: (02)2230-8268

Website: wssc.cyc.org.tw

Taipei Nangang Sports Center 臺北市南港運動中心

Add: 69, Yucheng St. (玉成街69號)

Tel: (02)2653-2279

Website: ngsc.cyc.org.tw

Ming-liang Tsai

Taking Cinematic Art Beyond the Theatre



Ming-liang Tsai

- Place of Origin: Malaysia
- Key Film Awards:

Vive l'Amour

1994 Venice Film Festival – Golden Lion Award and FIPRESCI Prize
Golden Horse Awards – Best Picture and Best Director

The River

1997 Berlin International Film Festival – Silver Bear Special Jury Prize
Chicago International Film Festival – Silver Hugo Special Jury Prize

The Hole

1998 Cannes Film Festival – FIPRESCI Prize
Chicago International Film Festival – Gold Hugo Best Film
1999 Singapore International Film Festival – Best Asian Feature Film and Best Asian Director

What Time Is It There

2001 Asia Pacific Film Festival – Best Film and Best Director

I Don't Want to Sleep Alone

2007 Venice Film Festival – Cinema for Peace Award

Stray Dogs

2013 Venice Film Festival – Grand Jury Prize
Golden Horse Awards – Best Director

This May, famed international film director Ming-liang Tsai (蔡明亮), along with disciple Li Kangsheng (李康生) and Kao Junhonn (高俊宏), who is known for his charcoal paintings on ruined buildings, lent their talents to theatrical performances staged at the Kunstenfestivaldesarts and the Wiener Festwochen. The production in question, *The Monk From Tang Dynasty* (玄奘), is a minimalist work in which the actors engage in ultra-slow body movements while relating the tale of the renowned monk Xuanzang and his great pilgrimage from China to India in search of sacred Buddhist teachings. The work received high praise from both audiences and local media.

European audiences are in fact quite familiar with Tsai. His films have won awards at the Venice, Berlin, and other international film festivals, been shown in cinemas in many countries, and brought him widespread popularity. In 2013, his film *Stray Dogs* (郊遊) won a Grand Jury Prize at the Venice Film Festival and Best Director at Taiwan's Golden Horse Awards. During his acceptance speeches at both events, he showed deep emotion and unreserved love for his adopted homeland, Taiwan.

Tsai was born and raised in Malaysia. He came to Taipei after high school to study theater in the Department of Theatre Arts at Chinese Culture University, and has lived here ever since. He, who has now called Taipei home for over 35 years, is known both locally and abroad as a Taiwanese director. While living on Yangmingshan during his college years, he developed an intimate relationship with the city, presenting unique interpretations of intimacy and spatial alienation in the lives of the capital's people in such films as *Rebels of the Neon God* (青少年哪吒), *Vive l'Amour* (愛情萬歲), *What Time Is It There?* (你那邊幾點), and *The Wayward Cloud* (天邊一朵雲). The films exhibited his strong, individualistic auteur style.

The Taiwan depicted in Tsai's films seems a place of interpersonal alienation and indifference. However,



the Taiwan of his heart is a place of relaxed living with a strong human touch, and the more time he spent in Taipei the more deeply he fell in love with its sense of freedom. In 2011 he opened Director Tsai's Café Galerie (蔡明亮咖啡走廊) on the fourth floor of Taipei Zhongshan Hall, creating a unique décor that complements the hall's distinctive Japanese architectural features. There's retro furniture and movie props, and of course posters of Tsai-directed films as well as awards he has won. Classic old songs play in the background. The café attracts many tourists, as well as film buffs.

Themed classic-film fests, art-salon talks, and photo/video exhibits are staged periodically at the café. This year, to celebrate Father's Day (which is in August in Taiwan), from the beginning of July a series of classic father-themed foreign-language films is being screened. Selected films include French director François Truffaut's *The Wild Child*, Charlie Chaplin's *The Kid*, as well as famed Japanese director Akira Kurosawa's *To Live* and Yasujiro Ozu's *There Was*

a Father. The differing perspectives are sure to evoke widely varying memories among audience members of their respective fathers.

In recent years, Tsai has been continually experimenting with the possibilities of different types of imagery and art, for he believes that cinema art is not a form that can be enjoyed solely in theaters. Instead, it should also be extended to other audience groups. He has thus brought film into fine arts museums, cafes, and school campuses. "The art gallery is the best portal for the student wishing to understand art films," he says, "and is an aid to help them grasp the true value of cinematic artistry." From August 22nd through November 2nd, Tsai is using art to present his award-winning film *Stray Dogs* at the Museum of National Taipei University of Education, with video and installation art, and will also be presenting three performances of *The Monk from Tang Dynasty* in Taipei, so that more people can have the opportunity to appreciate the art of film via a different field of vision. 1x



1. This year Ming-liang Tsai's *The Monk from Tang Dynasty* has won plaudits at the Kunstenfestivaldesarts and the Wiener Festwochen. (Photo courtesy of Homegreen Films, photo by Lin Mengshan)
- 2-3. Director Tsai's Café Galerie has awards he has won on display; and themed classic-film fests, art-salon talks, and photo/video exhibits are staged periodically, attracting film buffs.
4. *Stray Dogs* poster. (Photo courtesy of Homegreen Films, design by Winder Design)
5. Still from the play *The Monk From Tang Dynasty*. (Photo courtesy of Homegreen Films, photo by Chang Zhongyuan)

Jasper Wong

Fostering an Artistic Brotherhood Between Hawaii and Taiwan Through Collaborative Murals



Jasper Wong

- Place of Origin: Honolulu, Hawaii, United States
- Illustrator, muralist, curator, and founder of POW! WOW!

Second-generation Cantonese-American Jasper Wong has transformed Hawaii into a center of cooperative street art. Despite Oahu's verdant natural landscape, the capital city Honolulu has been described as the most beige city in America due to early laws that sought consistency in the external appearance of its urban architecture. The result is that Honolulu's skyline is pale and lackluster. Wong is now changing that, one wall at a time. The annual POW! WOW! art summit organized by Wong in the industrial neighborhood of Kaka'ako brings in artists from all over the world to paint murals, breathing new life into the neighborhood. While art in Hawaii was traditionally characterized by Polynesian themes, the murals incorporate a variety of foreign styles. Wong is also the

cofounder of Loft in Space, a creative arts venue, as well as Lana Lane Studios, an industrial warehouse revamped into an affordable studio space and center of artistic training for youths.

Practically equidistant from continental America and Asia, and with an indigenous Polynesian background, Hawaii has long been a melting pot of cultures. The island chain has the third largest community of Japanese people in the world. Growing up, Wong was strongly influenced by Japanese *manga* and Asian art in general. After college, he lived in Hong Kong for four years and had the opportunity to visit Taipei, upon which he developed an intense fondness for the city. "Taipei is a bustling city full of lights and sounds. All you have to do is walk around the streets to find artistic inspiration," he says. Ultimately, his affection for Taipei would contribute to his choosing the city as the venue for the first major POW! WOW! event outside of Hawaii.

The idea for POW! WOW! first materialized when Wong was living in Hong Kong. After four annual events in his homeland, he brought the event to Taipei from May 25th to June 2nd of this year. Later in the year, it will also be held in Israel, and next year in Washington D.C., Jamaica and Berlin. Most of those cities will be one-offs, though. Only Hawaii and Taiwan will continue to hold the event annually.

The main goals of POW! WOW! are to bring artists together and inspire youth from various corners of the world to open up the process of interaction with one another. "We hope to create a global community of artists, with a continuous flow of ideas between them, instead of just jumping from city to city." To that end, POW! WOW! Taiwan involved the participation of Americans, Australians, British, and Singaporeans, not to mention a large number of local Taiwanese.

"Looking through the portfolios of the Taiwanese artists, I was struck by the creativity and uniqueness of



their artwork," states Wong. "The art being produced in Taiwan doesn't follow any set ways or techniques. The Taiwanese are more experimental and abstract in the way they approach figures." Days before the painting had actually begun, Wong eagerly anticipated seeing what the Taiwanese muralists would come up with. Event planners chose seven locations in Taipei City, including the Songshan Cultural and Creative Park, Yuanshan Riverside Park Graffiti Area (圓山河濱公園塗鴉區), and Taipei Zoo.

The event comes at an appropriate time, as the city gears up for World Design Capital Taipei 2016 status. POW! WOW! Taiwan is very much in sync with the Design Capital motto, "Adaptive City – Design in Motion." According to Wong, "Street art is something that many are unfamiliar with. It can be shocking initially, and takes some getting used to." However, Wong claims that his work in Hawaii has been met with an overwhelmingly positive response.

Due to Taipei's high level of humidity and frequent rains, the painters used high quality, weather-resistant paints. Spray paint cans being unrecyclable, they used the empties to create a statue, being environmentally conscious and simultaneously creating new art. The visiting artists were housed at the Treasure Hill Artist Village (寶藏巖國際藝術村). Impressed by the facilities, Wong mentioned that the Artist Village reminded him of Hawaii's own Utopium Estate, a retreat on the north shore of Oahu where international artists for POW! WOW! Hawaii are accommodated. "Countless artists are restricted from producing the art that they want to because they have no means to survive. America needs more institutions like this.

"That street art can play a powerful role in rejuvenating a city is a belief that Wong is dedicated to spreading throughout the world. He feels that when we walk through the streets of a city, the monotonous nature of the urban landscape fails to impart anything meaningful. "The walls don't have any voices," he asserts. "Murals make people stop and look. The walls become alive, causing passersby to feel something." Taipei City developers have historically paid little heed to the aesthetics of building exteriors. However, the city is replete with crumbling apartment blocks, concrete river embankment dikes, and other surfaces ideal for mural art. It is no wonder that Wong hopes to establish a long-lasting artistic relationship between Hawaii and Taiwan, for in his eyes, Taipei City must be akin to an empty scrapbook waiting to be filled.

Wong opines that most people are accustomed to associating art with galleries and museums. It comes across as being elitist and exclusive, and ordinary people aren't always sure if they're invited. "When we paint murals outside, it's right in front of you. You can't help but look." Not only does it add color to the concrete jungle, but also it makes the streets of our cities into open-air galleries for the masses to savor. 17

1-2. POW!WOW! selected seven suitable locations in Taipei, such as the Taipei Zoo, Tatung University, etc. (Photo courtesy of Brandon Shigeta)

3. The comfortable environment of the Treasure Hill Artist Village, where the artists were arranged to stay, further inspired their creativity. (Photo courtesy of Department of AIR, Taipei Culture Foundation)

Eva Tkacova

From the Heart of Europe to the Heart of Asia



Eva Tkacova

- Place of Origin: Czech Republic
- Occupation: Chinese language student at National Taiwan University
- Stay in Taipei: Taiwan visited in 2014 for one year stay

Originally, from a country in central Europe we have made our tour to the subtropical island of Formosa in order to discover that the Portuguese in the 16th century were right. Taiwan is a beautiful country with unique and exotic features that sometimes can leave people from Europe with their eyes wide open. Overcoming the distance of 9,000 kilometres that lies between Prague in the Czech Republic and Taipei in Taiwan, was worth it as we discovered a completely new world...

A DEVELOPED WORLD where Taipei's public transportation system (called MRT) can readily compete with the ones in Prague, London, New York or San Francisco. MRT in Taipei is clean, affordable, and with great security and additional features such as special places for women traveling at night.

A WORLD OF MILLION TASTES where you can shop for delicious and affordable food at a local street vendor who will be nice to you every day. Places like Shilin District or Gongguan in Taipei are our favourite ones for eating out.

A ROMANTIC WORLD where ladies wear umbrella on sunny days in order to protect their delicate skin from unwanted tan. So leave the self tan lotions or spray tan at home and remember that pale skin is attractive. Next time you go to Bitan (碧潭) or Tamsui to enjoy sunny day, rather take one of those stylish hats or even umbrellas with you.

A TRADITIONAL WORLD where houses are not destroyed by graffiti and where is no litter on the streets of Taipei. Pick pocketing is rare, same as homeless, drunk or drug addicted people in the streets; only overall feeling of safety which is in today's unsecure world rather rare.

An INSPIRING WORLD where wonders and places of natural beauty are plentiful. While in Taipei, don't forget to visit places like Taipei 101, National Palace Museum, Yangmingshan National Park (陽明山國家公園) or Maokong. You will enjoy not only fresh air in the mountains but also magnificent views, waterfalls and hot springs.

A HARMONIOUS WORLD where people are living in harmony with each other; they take care of their health by eating fresh and local fruit and vegetables. I cannot remember any other place where fruit was so juicy and sweet. Maybe the climate and sunshine does the job of making the fruits super tasty.

A SPIRITUAL WORLD where so many exotic temples with dragon decorations on the roofs can be discovered. Visit Guandu Temple (關渡宮), Dalongdong Baoan Temple, Zhinan Temple (指南宮) or Hsing Tian Kong (行天宮). They are vibrant and alive because so many locals visit them regularly and create the special atmosphere.

A TOURIST FRIENDLY WORLD where people are extremely nice to foreigners. Locals are always greeting us, offering us their help or even offering to eat with them. I have never experienced such hospitality from any other nation.

In my opinion Taiwan is A WORLD WORTH DISCOVERING. Why not come and see for yourself? 📍



Eva suggests travelers that when visiting Taipei, everyone should experience the special cultural spirit of temples.

How to Talk to TAIPEI

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

Can you tell me where there's a laundromat?

Mandarin Chinese

自助洗衣店在哪裡？

Zìzhù xīyī diàn zài nǎ lǐ?

Is there a buffet restaurant nearby?

Mandarin Chinese

這附近有自助餐廳嗎？

Zhè fùjìn yǒu zìzhù cāntīng ma?

I'd like to go to the secondhand goods market to buy some things. How to get there?

Mandarin Chinese

我想去二手市集買東西，怎麼去？

Wǒ xiǎng qù èrshǒu shì jí mǎi dōngxī, zěnmē qù?

Excuse me, can you tell me where I can buy an EasyCard?

Mandarin Chinese

請問哪裡可以買悠遊卡？

Qǐngwèn nǎlǐ kěyǐ mǎi yōuyóu kǎ?

I want to go get an ice treat to eat. Want to go together?

Taiwanese

我想要去吃冰，你要一起去嗎？

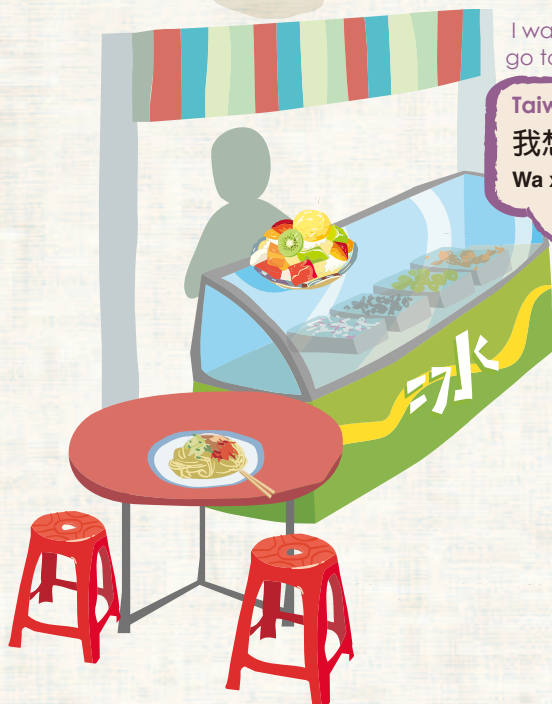
Wa xiū miē jiǎ bīng lǐ miē dào dīng kǐ bo?

What flavor is this cold noodles?

Taiwanese

這款涼麵是什麼口味？

Jī kuān liàng mǐ xī xiānmí kào miē?



2014 Ximen Backstreet Festival

A Creative Showcase of "True Colors"



1 2



Taipei's Ximending Commercial District (西門商圈) has long been a favorite gathering spot for local youth, giving rise to a unique and lively street culture. This will be the fifth edition of the Ximen Backstreet Festival (西門町後街文化祭), a tremendous showcase of the creativity and talent of local student youth that provides endless surprises for spectators. As always, there will be an exciting collection of different activities and workshops this year, fostering a stimulating interaction between local traditions and modern street culture, and showing off Ximending's "true colors!"

Among the many activities on the Festival program is the 2014 Ximen Backstreet Festival Joint Exhibition (2014 西門町後街文化祭聯展). This brings together the cultural traditions of Wanhua District and local street artists, with "True Colors" as the theme. The highly varied works and activities produced by participants brim with the "Creativity" of new street-culture influences, "Identity" arising from the resonance between the traditional and the modern, "Eco-Protection" through the preservation of cherished items that protects the environment and also serves to preserve a sense of heritage, and "Combination," via the gorgeous interweaving of colors. The exhibition, which has already opened, will run until July 27th at The Red House (西門紅樓).

The 2014 Backstreet Cultural Workshop (2014街頭文化工作坊) series will run toward the end of July at Taipei Cinema Park (臺北市電影主題公園). The younger crowd generally has a more in-depth understanding of street culture and activities, and these workshops will serve as

an introduction to the general public. Subjects to be covered include movie special-effects makeup, graffiti art, basketball artistry, street dance, cosplay, and the art of the DJ. The basketball sessions, new this year and being led by the H.Double C street-artist group, combine basketball play and street dance in thrilling performances. The movie-makeup sessions are being led by Hdco Ltd. (西門町花莉特效化妝工作坊), which will cultivate new talent by stressing two major themes, "CSI: Taipei Crime Scene Injury Special Effects Makeup," and "Old Makeup Secrets." In addition, the "CITYMARX Graffiti Art Workshops" program, between August 15th and September 5th, will give participants the chance to work with others in their group on their own graffiti-art masterpiece.

Take advantage of the fine summer weather to head over to the Ximen Backstreet Festival site for a good look, where you're sure to be happily surprised by all the fresh faces and new street-culture creativity. 📍

1. Basketball sessions, new this year and being led by the H.Double C street-artist group, combine basketball play and street dance in thrilling performances.
2. It is hoped that movie-makeup sessions being led by Hdco Ltd. will cultivate new talent.

Information

2014 Ximen Backstreet Festival
2014 年西門町後街文化祭

Time: Until 7/27, Tues~Sun 11:00~21:30

Venue: Taipei Cinema Park (臺北市電影主題公園)

Add: 19, Kangding Rd. (康定路19號)

Website: www.cinemapark.org.tw

Let Design Become Part of Your Life

Meet Taipei: Design



Has day after day of regimented city life left you feeling drained? Try stepping away from your computer screen and opening a new window in your life, whether by rearranging furniture in your house, changing your shop sign, or adding a bit of color to your shopfront display. With only a dash of creativity, you can incorporate the energy of design into your life. When you change the way you think, the environment around you gains new vitality.

In 2014, Taipei's design energy is as strong as ever, and won't stop for a rest! The large-scale "Meet Taipei: Design" (臺北街角遇見設計) events organized by the Taipei City Government Department of Cultural Affairs has been met with a great response since its launch last year. With the theme "Life = ? Design" (生活 = ? 的設計), the event is being launched once again this year, between August 1st and September 30th. Through various lectures, exhibitions, landscape art and shop redesigns, we hope to make design part of everyone's daily lives, not just something you notice on the street.

This two-month long program of events will be approached from various different angles to ensure that every participating designer, shopkeeper and member of the public will find it equally exciting. We hope that the results of the program will inspire an interest in design. For example, in the Ximending, Minsheng, Gangqian Bihu (港墘碧湖) and Jingmei (景美) areas, we are designing interactive events to suit different groups, such as the "Petit Signboard Manufacture" (小

招牌製造所), "Golden Signboard Project" (金招牌網羅計畫) and "Door-Knocking with Designer" (設計師帶你串門子) events, a collaboration between designers, shopkeepers and members of the public. These events will reflect the unique cultural styles of the four different districts, to ensure that these dialogs are profound and closely linked to their respective locations.

Try to examine the connection between yourself and the city, and think about what small changes you can do to bring a little creativity to the place. This way, you might find that your life no longer feels quite so dull. You won't just come across design on the streets of Taipei; instead, you might come across a whole new life, and a whole new you. 1

1. Meet Taipei: Design invites shop owners, designers and members of the public to come together to bring innovation into daily lives.
2. This event will encourage Taipei residents to consider what they can do to bring change to the streets of Taipei.

Information

Meet Taipei: Design 臺北街角遇見設計

Time: 8/1~9/30

Venue: Minsheng street area, Ximending street area, Jingmei street area, Bihu street area

Tel: (02)2579-2528

Website: www.cityyeast.com
www.facebook.com/meet.taipei.design

The Beauty of Traditional Craftsmanship

The Taiwan Artisan Exhibition



With the changing times, Taiwan's traditional crafts are slowly being lost, and a crisis is looming. In an effort to preserve and foster this local cultural-creative spirit, the Taiwan Design Center (台灣創意設計中心) specially asked well-known designer Chen Junliang (陳俊良) to curate the Taiwan Artisan Exhibition (職人台灣特展). The event is divided into two sections: "Craft Artisans" (工藝職人) and "Design Artisans" (設計職人). The first features the creations of local Taiwanese artisans involved in bamboo weaving, fabric weaving and dyeing, jade carving, silver arts, lampwork, and other disciplines, and is subdivided according to the five Chinese elements – metal, wood, water, fire, and earth. The focus in the Design Artisans section is on Taiwan design talent born from the 1950s through 1990s, highlighting different aspects of creativity across five generations.

Five Elements, Five Local Cultural Interpretations

One artisan has been chosen to represent each of the five elements. Metal is tackled by Su Jianan (蘇建安), four-time National Crafts Awards winner, who specializes in traditional silver cap work. His silver-cap artwork *Silversmithing* (齊心八方) was created by carving fine, willowy sterling-silver wire. The *bagua* (八卦) imagery and intricate workmanship result in a mesmerizing piece. Representing wood is the work *Carbon-fiber Bamboo-weave Chair* (碳纖竹編椅), by bamboo-weave artist Qiu Jinduan (邱錦綬), in which the chair body is made of

carbon fiber woven with bamboo strips, lending a light, aesthetically pleasing appearance to a functional item.

Taking the element of water is Yuma Taru (尤瑪·達陸), a master weaver from the Atayal (泰雅族) who has long been interested in traditional Atayal fabrics. She is presenting something only rarely seen at this exhibition – traditional Atayal bridal attire, headdresses, and the tools used to create them. Weaving is an intrinsic element of Atayal culture. The traditional loom, made of unfinished wood, was bulky and heavy, and the wood was eventually replaced with bamboo tubing, making the device much lighter and easier to move. The Atayal woman, who uses weaving as a key mode of communication in depicting the tribe's cultural life and stories, was instantly granted much greater mobility and choice of work location.

Representing fire is master sculptor Huang Anfu (黃安福), who looks to Taiwan's eco-environment for his creative elements. The names of his works *Zhen Duo Xia* (真多蝦) and *Zhen Duo Xie* (真多蟹), which literally mean "lots of shrimp" and "lots of crab," feature Taiwanese word play with "thanks" in the term *zhende hen ganxie* (真的很感謝), meaning "very many thanks." His lifelike shrimp and crab echo the concern humans have for Mother Nature and their yearning for ecological balance. Representing earth is expert jade sculptor Wu Yisheng (吳義盛), whose work *Hua Xun* (花薰) or "Flower Fragrance" is carved from premium black jade, the hollowed-out decorative design showcasing the jade's gleaming resplendence.



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7

A Design Showcase for Artisans, Young and Old

In addition to the extraordinary traditional skills and artistry of these craftsmen, another area of the exhibition brings together five generations of design artisans, old and young, in a fascinating display. Among the pieces being shown is the "Clay Movable Type" (膠泥活字印刷), located by the entrance, an antique brought back from Hong Kong by craftsman Wang Xingong (王行恭; born 1947). Visitors will be able to see how the people of the 11th century used clay blocks for printing. *Taiwan Jiashu* (台灣家書) or "Letters from Taiwan" series by graphic designer Lin Pansong (林磐簫) vividly presents the beauty of the island. Representing the new generation of graphic designers is He Jiaxing (何佳興), whose posters for the Taiwan Moon Lute Folk Music Festival (臺灣月琴民謠祭) encourage the viewer to ponder, from such different angles as reflection, tradition, and innovation, how the land in which they have grown up has cultivated them.

Album cover designer Xiao Qingyang (蕭青陽), who has been nominated for a Grammy four times, comes from a family that operated a bakery when he was young. At the show he presents the mold used by his father to shape the traditional turtle-shaped rice cakes used in religious offerings, expressing his respect and admiration for his father and to pay tribute to artisans that preserve traditions and devote themselves to traditional skills. Huang Jingyi (黃靖懿) and Yan Zhijie

(嚴芷婕), born in the 1990s, traveled all around Taiwan to conduct in-depth interviews with the 52 traditional artisans featured in *Artisan Weekly News* (職人誌), a newspaper of highly creative design. Their creation teaches the younger generation about traditional Taiwanese culture and presents the work of these elder master craftspeople to a new public. 

1. The Taiwan Artisan Exhibition uses "Craft" and "Design" as its two presentation concepts, showcasing Taiwan's cultural-creative spirit.
2. Carbon-fiber Bamboo-weave Chair has carbon fiber weaved with bamboo strips, lending a light, aesthetically pleasing appearance.
3. Atayal-tribe master weaver Yuma Taru presents traditional Atayal bridal attire.
4. Expert jade sculptor Wu Yisheng's work Hua Xun has a hollowed-out decorative design showcasing the jade's gleaming resplendence.
5. Huang Anfu's lifelike shrimp and crab echo the concern humans have for Mother Nature and their yearning for ecological balance.
6. The *Taiwan Jiashu* series by graphic designer Lin Pansong vividly presents the beauty of the island.
7. The *Artisan Weekly News* teaches the younger generation about traditional Taiwanese culture.

Information

Taiwan Artisan Exhibition 職人台灣特展

Time: Until 8/3 09:30~17:30 (closed Mon)

Venue: Taiwan Design Museum (Golden Pin Design and Concept Design areas), Songshan Cultural and Creative Park (松山文創園區台灣設計館金點區、概念區)

Guided Group Tours: (02)2745-8199, ext. 379

Website: www.tdm.org.tw
www.facebook.com/TDMuseum

2014 Taipei Children's Arts Festival – Creative Imagination Without Borders

The imagination and creativity of children is one of the purest and most precious forms of human intelligence. This year the Taipei Children's Arts Festival (臺北兒童藝術節), which hits the stage each summer, is unveiling a rich panoply of live performances as well as an exhibition built around recycled-material installation art, all brimming with originality. There's no better way for parents and kids to spend summer nights together!



Elsewhere, splendidly imaginative breaks from the routine are used in great fun-filled shows. The international ticketed-performance program features six troupes of wide-ranging creative flair. France's Compagnie Bakélite is presenting *Braquage*, a mystery-crime comedy, and *La Galère*, an adrift-on-the-sea thriller also filled with humor. In each, everyday objects are used to create incredible theatrical effects. *3-Legged Tale* by Canada's Théâtre de l'Oeil is a puppet show in which the changes of the seasons are observed in a forest, and *Tetris* by Dutch dance group De Dansers invites kids on an outdoor interactive session. *Pedra a Pedra* by Spanish theater company L'Home Dibuxat, and *White* by Scottish visual troupe Catherine Wheels Theatre Company are creative performances specially aimed at preschoolers.

In addition to being a showcase for Taiwan's premier performing-arts troupes, the 2014 edition will feature specially invited performers from France, England, the Netherlands, Spain, Canada, and other countries, filling the program with great color and variety. Also, since this is the 130th anniversary of Taipei's founding, a chosen theme is "The Taipei Story" (臺北的故事), and eight premier domestic groups have been selected to give different kinds of shows all around the city – music, dance, theater, etc. – presenting the local city culture and style and the tale of its history and development over the last century and more.

Three ticketed productions are being put on for the first time by the top three domestic groups chosen in an open selection process. These are *Nobody* (墓園裡的男孩) by O Theater (O劇團), *Peacock* (孔雀開屏) by HighSun Taiwanese Opera Troupe (海山戲館), and *Magic Dragon Egg* (小潔的魔法時光蛋) by The Puppet & Its Double Theater (無獨有偶工作室劇團). Each uses a very different form of presentation to express the love and close-knit bond found in the family.

There is also a program of free outdoor performances, which will include ancient aboriginal ballads, Taiwanese opera, traditional west African music and dance, street dance, percussion music, and other artistic forms. France's Anonima Teatro and Spain's Hermanos Infoncundibles will present playful and relaxed street shows built around improvisation. Close contact and interaction is used to break down the distance between the artists and their audience.

In addition to its live shows, this year the festival, with "Limited Resources, Unlimited Creativity" (想像無邊, 創造無限) as a theme, will feature a stimulating array of recycle-art from installation works to exhibitions. Original works by five teams of local and international artists are being showcased at Bopiliao Historic Block (剝皮寮歷史街區). The pieces are stimulating youngsters to think about the relationship between humans and the natural environment and to explore the different creative uses that articles can be put to.



Furthermore, the Taipei Arts Festival is a favorite of art lovers every year. This year the theme is visual art. Festival organizers have invited a number of performance artists, including painters, cinematographers and so on to participate in the creation and expansion of the imagination in theatre. Artists from six different countries will create a total of eleven marvelous works and put on sixty-five performances. They have also invited the world-class Handspring Puppet Company from South Africa to perform the play *Ubu and the Truth Commission*, as well as the German troupe Münchner Kammerspiele, who will perform the play *Plattform*. Come August, let's encounter the Taipei Arts Festival in theaters in Taipei. 🎭

1. France's Compagnie Bakélite is presenting *Braquage*, a mystery-crime comedy filled with thrills.
2. *3-Legged Tale*, by Canada's Théâtre de l'Oeil, is a puppet show in which the changes of the seasons are observed in a forest.
3. *Tetris*, by Dutch dance group De Dansers, has dancers dressed in colorful building-block costume who invites kids on an outdoor interactive session.
4. *Pedra a Pedra* has actors dressed as different types of rocks playing different roles.
5. *White*, by Scottish visual troupe Catherine Wheels Theatre Company, was specially created for kids 4 and younger.
6. The Handspring Puppet Company, participating in the Taipei Arts Festival for the first time, is presenting its classic work *Ubu and the Truth Commission*.
7. The Taipei Arts Festival's *Plattform* is a theatrical adaptation of French literary bad boy Michel Houellebecq's eponymous novel.

(Photos courtesy of Taipei Culture Foundation)

Information

2014 Taipei Children's Arts Festival

2014 臺北兒童藝術節

Time: Until 8/3

Exhibition Venue:

Bopiliao Historic Block (剝皮寮歷史街區)

Performance Venues:

Guangfu Auditorium, Taipei Zhongshan Hall (臺北市中山堂光復廳), Shuiyuan Theatre (水源劇場), Hakka Music and Theater Center (客家音樂戲劇中心), Guling Street Avant-Garde Theatre (牯嶺街小劇場), Daan Forest Park (大安森林公園), Dahu Park (大湖公園)

Website: www.taipeicaf.org

2014 Taipei Arts Festival

2014 臺北藝術節

Time: 8/1~9/8

Venues:

Metropolitan Hall at Taipei Cultural Center (城市舞臺), Taipei Zhongshan Hall (臺北市中山堂), Wellspring Theater (水源劇場)

Tel: (02)2528-9580, ext. 191~199

Website: www.taipeifestival.org



The Story of Taiwan, as Told by Matchboxes

In Taiwan's earlier days the match was a much valued helper in lighting fires in the kitchen. They were introduced to China from Europe in the mid-19th century. In the Qing dynasty and through the Japanese era into the Republican period, many Taiwan businesses advertised on matchboxes, and gave them away as gifts. Together, these small items tell the intriguing story of Taiwan, presented at the Exhibition of Matchboxes (常民生活記憶——懷舊火柴盒特展) which reveals a microcosm of the lives of ordinary people in yesteryear Taiwan.

All matchboxes in the exhibition have been contributed by avid collector Jiang Minquan (蔣敏全).

His passion developed early, because his father worked at the Taiwan Match Co., Ltd. With an interest in every conceivable type of match, Jiang has amassed a collection of almost 60,000 matchboxes and related items. He says that Taiwan started importing matches through the port of Tamsui in 1868. In the Japanese period the Taiwan Match Co., Ltd. (台灣燐寸株式會社) was set up to manufacture matches for the entire island. After Taiwan Retrocession in 1945, this enterprise was absorbed by the Taiwanese Provincial Monopoly Bureau (臺灣省專賣局), and in 1948 Taiwan's first privately operated enterprise, the Taiwan Match Co., was established. In 1970 this firm, which at the time had a staff of about 300, became the first company

to be listed on the Taiwan stock market. This was the heyday of Taiwan match production.

Thereafter, changing times meant drastically changing fortunes; the lighter was invented, usage of traditional matches declined steeply, and Taiwan Match Co. officially ceased operations in 1994 – closing

the story of Taiwan matches.





This retrospective exhibition explores the full history of the match in Taiwan, from the Qing dynasty through the Japanese and Republican periods. A rich and diverse range of matchbox-related themes and topics is presented, including creativity, advertising, popular entertainment, tourism, and the Chinese zodiac to the matchbox in early society. Visitors learn how flint was used before the invention of matches, see vintage matchboxes that the older generation in Taiwan grew up with, such as the Dog Head and Monkey Mark matchboxes. There are countless such items, each of great historical value and each preserving local culture. Among matchboxes advertising various industries, which carry printed advertisement stickers, are samples from the world of diplomacy, finance, beverages, television, and movies. In its day, this was one of the most effective marketing tools for businesses. Each of the different matchbox images is a symbol possessing unique historical significance, transporting the viewer back in time.

Calling himself the “boy who plays with matches,” Jiang knows the history of Taiwan matches inside-out. He says, “In the past most matchboxes were made of aspen or birch. Later paper was used. Look at a box and you'll see the story of a business being told. Matchbox culture just can't be replaced by that of the lighter.” In addition to its wonderful diversity of matchboxes, at the Exhibition of Matchboxes you'll also learn about the matchbox production process, view the different types, many of exquisite design, and see displays of match bottles and other related merchandise. These provide an edifying glimpse of folk-culture entertainment and the wisdom of the people of the past.

The exhibition is being staged at Lin An Tai Historical House & Museum (林安泰古厝民俗文物館), itself a key local tourist attraction that has long been a venue for the preservation of Minnan (閩南) or Southern Min culture. When taking in the exhibition, be sure to leave time to explore the spacious grounds, enjoying the appealing aesthetics of Taiwan's traditional Minnan architecture. 10



1. Matchboxes advertising various industries show how in its day this was one of the most effective marketing tools for businesses.
2. Passionate matchbox collector Jiang Minquan has amassed a trove of almost 60,000 matchboxes. (Photo courtesy of Jiang Minquan)
- 3-4. Different types of cases and match bottles of exquisite design are being displayed, as well as flints, presenting the wisdom of yesteryear's people.
5. The section on creativity has matchboxes in all kinds of shapes, with many different materials used.
6. The Chinese zodiac section has matchboxes imprinted with the images of all zodiac animals.
- 7-8. The section on matchboxes in early society showcases the many applications by Taiwan's shops in the old days.

Information

Exhibition of Matchboxes

常民生活記憶——懷舊火柴盒特展

Time: Until 7/31

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

Tel: (02)2599-6026

Website: www.lin-an-tai.net

Taipei Artist Village:

A Showcase for Artists to Display Their Creativity



Mention "art" and the fine arts museum generally comes to mind. As for the artists that create these works, they're often regarded as possessing an air of mystery. The existence of an artist village in a city, an enclave where artists live in residence, makes it easier for people to get closer to both art and artists, and the implementation of the Artist in Residence Taipei (AIR Taipei) and Artists Exchange programs have created strong links between Taipei's culture and arts communities, and helped establish a cross-nations arts network.

Open Artist Studios – Watching Art Happen Up Close

Taipei Artist Village (台北國際藝術村), located near Taipei Railway Station, and Treasure Hill Artist Village, located in Gongguan, are models of the initiative of the Department of Cultural Affairs, Taipei City Government to take unused spaces and giving them new life and purpose. The models looked to for these two projects were the artists-in-residence programs of big cities overseas. An abandoned building was chosen for Taipei Artist Village, and a waning cluster of residential structures in an old community became Treasure Hill Artist Village. After thorough renovation, artists from Taiwan and abroad were invited to take up residence for extended periods, using spaces

transformed into studios and living quarters. Exhibitions of the artists' works are staged regularly, creating small art enclaves of charmingly unique style and personality.

The studios are generally not open to the public, to allow the artists to fully concentrate on their work. However, the facility's administration stages "Open Studio" twice or three times a year, during which the public are free to visit all village studios and talk to the artists. The encounters are a great way for people to experience the process of artistic creation first-hand, and in particular draw in many residents from the surrounding community, in turn bringing art out of the museum and into the lanes and alleys. The desire is that the interaction stimulates a dialogue between artist and public, and these experiences in turn may be used in the process of artistic creation.

The 2014 Summer Open Studio is scheduled for the second and third weekends of August, divided between the two villages. The artists now in residence come from 11 countries, and include Martyn Coutts, a cross-discipline artist from Australia who fuses theater and dance elements in his work, Taro Komiya, a Japanese artist who's an expert at creating mirror-like reflections in his works, and Taiwan installation artist Chen Sihan (陳思翕). Each warmly welcomes all interested friends to visit them in their work spaces.



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Luo Yijun Solo Exhibition: Taiwan's Economy and History Seen Through the Humble Banana

In addition to inviting overseas artists to take up residence here, the administration also recommends and assists Taiwanese artists in taking advantage of residency programs abroad. For instance, Luo Yijun (羅懿君), who has a solo exhibition starting in July, took up a one-month BankART1929 residency in Japan as part of the 2013 Artist in Residence Taipei program. The works being displayed in this exhibition are from Luo's time in Japan and after her return to Taiwan. In Japan, each day she'd go to a restaurant in Yokohama to bring back discarded banana peels, air-dry and flatten them, and then use them in a vibrant collage depicting a thriving 1950s Taiwan banana market, while at the same time looking at the banana import market in Japan with a whimsical eye.

According to Luo, the banana market is Japan's biggest for imported fruit. Taiwan was the biggest early source, but there was a gradual transition to the Philippines in the 1970s. She sees this popular fruit as a link between her time in Japan and Taiwan, and the viewer can sense that though the outward appearance of each fruit is the same, each nevertheless has its own characteristics. Through her artwork, she hopes to portray how market dynamics can reflect the varying imaginations and cultures of different countries. 🍌

1. Australian cross-discipline artist Martyn Coutts worked with a model-train group to create this work, which has been shown in six Australian cities.
2. Taro Komiya is a Japanese artist expert at creating mirror-like reflections in his works.
3. Taiwan installation artist Chen Sihan concentrates on images of street people, hawkers, and other everyday scenes; she has followed this theme during her first artist-in-residence stay.
4. During a Yokohama artist-in-residence experience, Taiwan artist Luo Yijun visited local restaurants each day to get discarded banana peels for use as her artistic material.
5. After air-drying and flattening the banana peels, Luo used them to create vibrant collages.
6. The works being displayed in the exhibition *Banana in Taiwan, Japan and the Philippines* are from Luo's time in Japan and after returning to Taiwan.

(Photos courtesy of Department of AIR, Taipei Culture Foundation)

Information

2014 Summer Open Studio Days

2014 夏季工作室開放計劃

Time: 8/9~8/10 14:00~18:00 (Taipei Artist Village; 台北國際藝術村)

8/16~8/17 14:00~18:00 (Treasure Hill Artist Village; 寶藏巖國際藝術村)

Banana in Taiwan, Japan and the Philippines

芭娜娜・バナナ・Saging

Time: Until 8/10 (Barry Room, Taipei Artist Village; 台北國際藝術村百里廳)

Taipei Artist Village 台北國際藝術村

Add: 7, Beiping E. Rd. (北平東路7號)

Treasure Hill Artist Village 寶藏巖國際藝術村

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

Website: www.artistvillage.org



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Travel Information

How to Get From Taiwan Taoyuan International Airport to Taipei

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

Taxi

Service locations:
North of the Arrivals hall of Terminal I and South of the Arrivals hall of Terminal II

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

Terminal I Arrivals hall taxi-service counter Tel:
(03) 398-2832

Terminal II Arrivals hall taxi-service counter Tel:
(03) 398-3599



Passenger Shuttle Bus

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




Shuttle-service companies:
Kuo-Kuang Motor Transportation, Evergreen Bus, Free Go Express, Citi Air Bus

One-way fare: NT\$85~145
Travel time:
40~60 minutes depending on routes (60~90 minutes for Citi Air Bus, which has more stops)

Schedule: Every 15~20 minutes

Metro Taipei

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

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

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

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

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

TAIWAN EMERGENCY TELEPHONE NUMBERS

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

Fire and Emergency / 119
Fire, injury or accident, or other urgent matters for which emergency relief is needed

Women and Children Protection Hotline / 113 ext. 0
24-hour emergency, legal information, and psychological services for victims of domestic violence and/or sexual abuse.

NON-EMERGENCY TELEPHONE NUMBERS

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Taipei City Govt. Citizen Hotline	1999 (02-2720-8889 outside Taipei city)
English Directory Service	106
IDD Telephone Service Hotline	0800-080-100 ext.9
Time-of-Day Service	117
Weather Service	166
Traffic Reports	168
Tourism Bureau (MOTC) 24-Hour Toll-Free Travel Information Hotline	0800-011-765
Tourism Bureau (MOTC) Toll-Free Traveler Complaints Hotline	0800-211-734
International Community Service Hotline	0800-024-111
Tourism Bureau Information Counter, Taiwan Taoyuan International Airport	Terminal 1: (03)398-2194 Terminal 2: (03)398-3341
Bureau of Foreign Trade	(02)2351-0271
Taiwan External Trade Development Council (TAITRA)	(02)2725-5200
Taiwan Visitors Association	(02)2594-3261
The Japanese Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Taipei	(02)2522-2163
Ministry of Foreign Affairs	(02)2348-2999
Ministry of Foreign Affairs Citizens Hotline	(02)2380-5678
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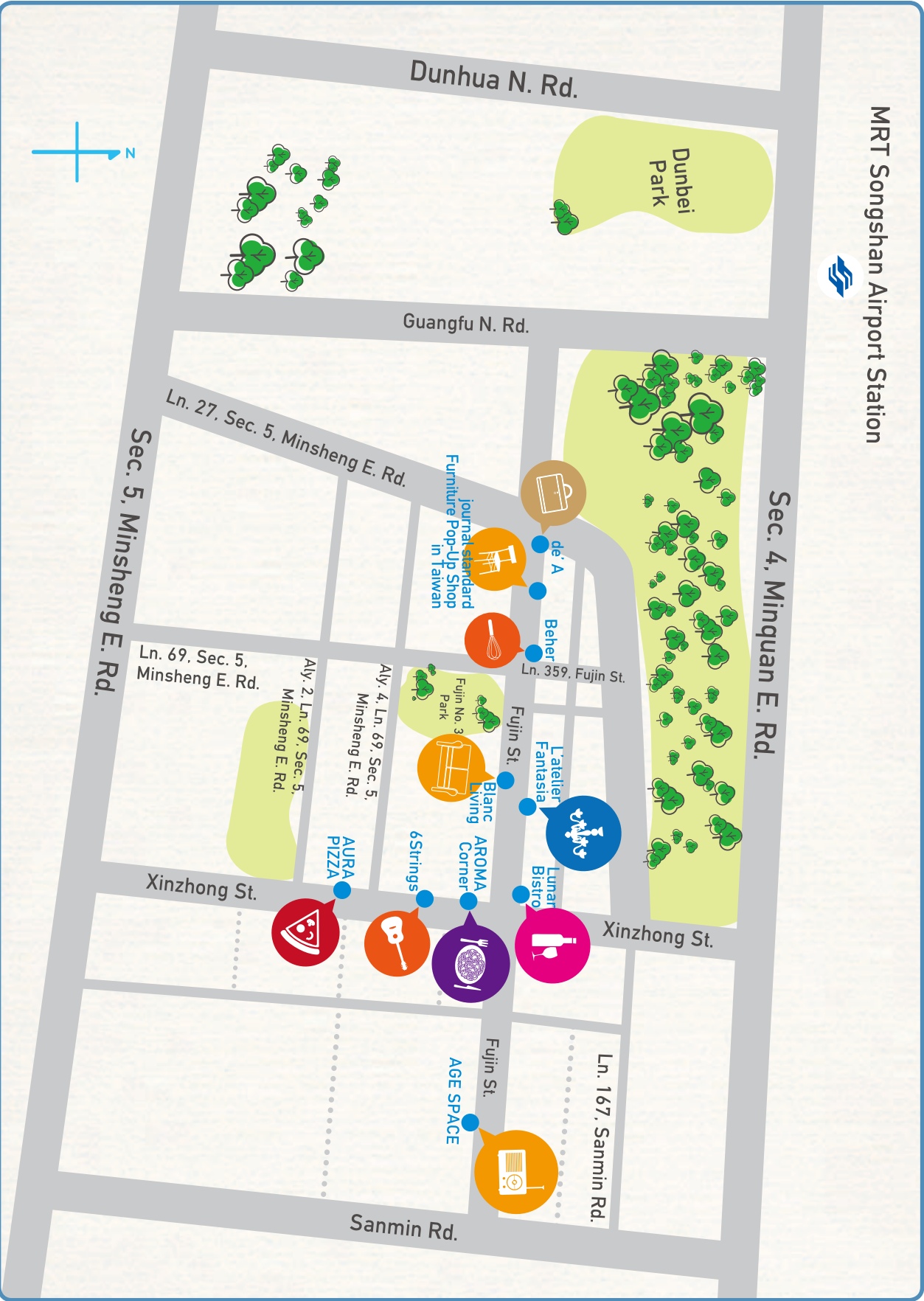
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Songshan Airport (02)2546-4741 340-10, Dunhua N. Rd.	MRT Beitou Station (02)2894-6923 1, Guangming Rd.	Maokong Gondola Taipei Zoo Station (02)8661-7627 2, Ln. 10, Sec. 2, Xinguang Rd. (1F, Maokong Gondola Service Center)
East Metro Mall (02)6638-0059 4-2, 77, Sec.1, Da'an Rd. (Underground Mall)	MRT Taipei 101/World Trade Center Station (02)2758-6593 B1, 20, Sec. 5, Xinyi Rd.	Maokong Gondola Maokong Station (02)2937-8563 35, Ln. 38, Sec. 3, Zhinan Rd. (Exit area, Maokong Station)
MRT Ximen Station (02)2375-3096 B1, 32-1, Baoqing Rd.	Taipei City Hall Bus Station (02)2723-6836 6, Sec. 5, Zhongxiao E. Rd.	
MRT Yuanshan Station (02)2591-6130 9-1, Jiuquan St.	Plum Garden Visitor Center (02)2897-2647 6, Zhongshan Rd.	



A Leisurely Summer Tour of Minsheng Community (P.34~37) Map



A Leisurely Summer Tour of Minsheng Community (P.34~37) Tour Information



A Leisurely Summer Tour of Minsheng Community

AROMA Corner Add: 43, Xinzhong St. (新中街43號) Tel: (02)2742-5526	AURA PIZZA 好時光披薩 Add: 35-1, Xinzhong St. (新中街35-1號) Tel: (02)2756-0108	6Strings 六絃樂器 Add: 39, Xinzhong St. (新中街39號) Tel: (02)2765-9131
Beher 生活廚房 Add: 354, Fujin St. (富錦街354號) Tel: (02)2765-2646	journal standard Furniture Pop-Up Shop in Taiwan Add: 352, Fujin St. (富錦街352號) Tel: (02)2767-5196	Lunar Bistro 邀月兒 Add: 405, Fujin St. (富錦街405號) Tel: (02)2766-8188
Blanc Living 布朗家居 Add: 382, Fujin St. (富錦街382號) Tel: (02)2528-3820	de' A Add: 348, Fujin St. (富錦街348號) Tel: (02)2747-7276	
L'atelier Fantasia 繽紛設計 Add: 387, Fujin St. (富錦街387號) Tel: (02)8787-5398	AGE SPACE Add: 464, Fujin St. (富錦街464號) Tel: (02)2767-2686	

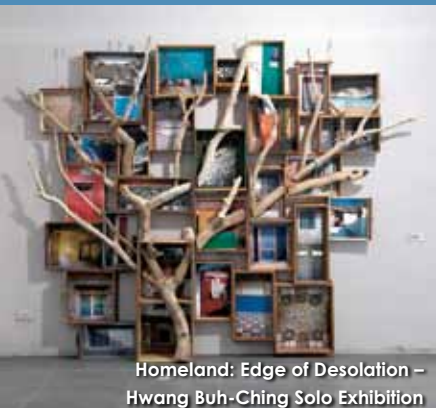
Transportation Information

AROMA Corner, Beher Take MRT Wenhua Line, get off at Songshan Airport Station → (Walk about 10 minutes) Cross Sec. 4, Minquan E. Rd. → Walk along Dunhua N. Rd., on left side → Walk along Ln. 77, Fujin St., passing Dunbei Park (walk about 6 minutes) → Walk until Fujin St. reached, then turn left (walk about 10 minutes) → Walk until Xinzhong St., then turn right → AROMA Corner → Walk back to Fujin St. (about 3 minutes) → Beher	journal standard Furniture Pop-Up Shop in Taiwan, de' A Walk toward left at Fujin No. 3 Park → Walk ahead along Fujin St. → journal standard Furniture Pop-Up Shop in Taiwan → Continue ahead → de' A
Blanc Living, L'atelier Fantasia Walk right from Beher → Blanc Living → (diagonally opposite) L'atelier Fantasia	AGE SPACE, 6Strings Walk right from de' A → Walk along Fujin St. (about 10 minutes) → AGE SPACE → Walk back same way (about 10 minutes) to Xinzhong St. and turn left → 6Strings
AURA PIZZA, Fujin No. 3 Park Walk left from L'atelier Fantasia → Turn right at Xinzhong St. (walk about 5 minutes) → Walk straight along left side to AURA PIZZA → Walk back to corner of Fujin St. → Turn left and walk straight (about 6 minutes) → Fujin No. 3 Park	Lunar Bistro Walk left from 6Strings → Walk along Xinzhong St. to Fujin St. and turn left (walk about 3 minutes) → (opposite) Lunar Bistro



2014 7/8

July-August
Arts Exhibition Calendar



Homeland: Edge of Desolation –
Hwang Buh-Ching Solo Exhibition



Supervisor: Eiichiro Oda ONE PIECE Exhibition
Original Art × Movies × Experience
ONE PIECE Taiwan



A Unique New Breed of Gems:
Taiwan Black Jade Exhibition



Animated in Blank –
A Solo Exhibition by Jia Ming Day

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 7/25

Famous Works of Modern Chinese Painting and Calligraphy

Until 8/31

Painting Anime One Hundred Horses

Until 9/30

Decorated Porcelains of Dingzhou – White Ding Wares from the Collection of the National Palace Museum

Museum of Contemporary Art, Taipei (MOCA Taipei)

Tel: (02)2552-3721

Add: 39, Chang'an W. Rd. (長安西路 39 號)

Website: www.mocatapei.org.tw

Until 8/24

The Door is Always Open – Gary Baseman Solo Exhibition

Until 8/24

Homeland: Edge of Desolation – Hwang Buh-Ching Solo Exhibition

Until 11/30

Written in Soap: A Plinth Project

National Theater & Concert Hall

Tel: (02)3393-9888

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

Website: www.ntch.edu.tw

8/8~8/10

Intimate Encounter by Legend Lin Dance Theatre

8/8~9/13

Summer Jazz Party – NTCH Summer Jazz Project

8/15~8/24

Opera Studio – Hänsel und Gretel

National Chiang Kai-shek Memorial Hall

Tel: (02)2343-1100

Add: 21, Zhongshan S. Rd. (中山南路 21 號)

Website: www.cksmh.gov.tw

Until 10/27

The Hall Cross Century

Huashan 1914 Creative Park

Tel: (02)2358-1914

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

Website: web.huashan1914.com

Until 8/31

LINE FRIENDS POP-UP STORE

Until 9/8

Amazing Exhibition of wild animal specimens

Until 9/14

2014 FUN BRICK Exhibition – Experiencing the sweetness and fun of Brick Village

Until 9/22

Supervisor: Eiichiro Oda ONE PIECE Exhibition Original Art × Movies × Experience ONE PIECE Taiwan

Until 12/31

365 Art Project

Songshan Cultural and Creative Park

Tel: (02)2765-1388

Add: 133, Guangfu S. Rd. (光復南路 133 號)

Website: www.songshanculturalpark.org

Until 7/20

Gunpla Expo Taiwan 2014!

Until 9/14

Hello Kitty Show 2014

Until 9/21

To see Life, To see the World – LIFE Photography Exhibition

Until 9/21

Red Dot Award: Communication Design – Winners' Selection

Taipei Fine Arts Museum

Tel: (02)2595-7656

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

(中山北路 3 段 181 號)

Website: www.tfam.museum

Until 8/17

WANTED DEAN-E MEI: A Retrospective

Until 8/17

Cloud of Unknowing: A City of Seven Streets

National Taiwan Museum

Tel: (02)2382-2566

Add: 2, Xiangyang Rd. (襄陽路 2 號)

Website: www.ntm.gov.tw

Until 9/21

Selected Mineral and Rock Collections of National Taiwan Museum

Until 2015/1/25

A Unique New Breed of Gems: Taiwan Black Jade Exhibition

Until 8/31

The Magic of Plants

Until 2015/12/31

Evolution Gallery: Walking within Skeletons

"Dinosaurs coming!"

National Taiwan Science Education Center

Tel: (02)6610-1234

Add: 189, Shishang Rd. (士商路 189 號)

Website: www.ntsec.gov.tw

Until 8/31

Revealing the Hidden Code of Insects Exhibition

Until 9/14

Adventure Time Exhibition

National Museum of History

Tel: (02)2361-0270

Add: 49, Nanhai Rd. (南海路 49 號)

Website: www.nmh.gov.tw

Until 8/31

Splendor of Bronze and Porcelain: Exquisite Artifacts from Jiangxi

Until 10/5

Dracula: The History and Art of Vampires

Beitou Museum

Tel: (02)2891-2319 ext. 9

Add: 32, Youya Rd. (幽雅路 32 號)

Website: www.beitoumuseum.org.tw

Until 8/31

"Treasures of Kazan" – the Beitou Museum 30th Anniversary Special Exhibit

Digital Art Center, Taipei

Tel: (02)7736-0708

Add: 180, Fuhua Rd. (福華路 180 號)

Website: www.dac.tw

Until 7/27

Animated in Blank – A Solo Exhibition by Jia Ming Day



Taipei International Design Award 2014



Deadline

July 31th, 2014

Taipei Time 23:59 (GMT +08:00)

Please visit

<http://www.taipeidaward.tw>

for more information

Category

Industrial Design

Visual Communication Design

Public Space Design

Prize

Total amount for cash prizes is approx.

US\$ **100,000**

Top prize of each category is approx.

US\$ **16,666**

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Chinese Society of Interior Designers

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