



Taiwan

THE HEART OF ASIA

GENERAL INFORMATION

The geological richness of Taiwan has endowed the island with an abundance of natural tourism resources. Among these are the volcanic areas of Yangmingshan National Park at the outskirts of the capital city of Taipei; the magnificent Taroko Gorge carved by the Liwu River in Hualien County; the South Sea ambiance of Kending National Park at the island's southern tip's has the beautiful sunrise views and cloud formation at the Alishan National Scenic Area; and the scenic mountains and waters at Sun Moon Lake.

Taiwan is equally rich in its cultural dimensions. The National Palace Museum in Taipei presents then quintessence of five millennia of Chinese culture. Taiwan also fuses the cultural strains of immigrants from various parts of China, the island's indigenous people and the legacy of Dutch colonialism and Japanese rule. This tapestry of cultural influences is vividly reflected in the diverse diet, clothing, architecture, language and way of life one will discover in Taiwan. Food lovers will especially appreciate the spectrum of Chinese regional and international cuisine represented in Taiwan, not to mention the island's panoply of local snacks, all of which warmly invite you to experience the beauty and flavors of Taiwan.

LOCATION

Located off the southeastern coast of mainland Asia, across the Taiwan Strait from China—Taiwan a leaf shaped island lies on the western edge of the Pacific Ocean. To the north is Japan and to the south is Philippines. It covers an area of approximately 36,000 square kilometers and is longer than it is width. Two-thirds of the total area is covered by forested mountains and the remaining area consists of hilly country, platforms and highlands, coastal plains and basins.

Time Zone: Taiwan is 2 ½ hours ahead of India (GMT +8.00)



Area:
36,000 square kilometers



Administrative and commercial capital:
Taipei



Population:
23 million



Language:
Mandarin / Taiwanese /
Hakka / Indigenous
Languages



CLIMATE: Taiwan enjoys warm weather all year round. Weather conditions fluctuate during spring and winter, while in summer and autumn the weather is relatively stable. Taiwan is extremely suitable for traveling, as the annual average temperature is a comfortable 22 degrees Celsius with the lowest temperatures on the lowlands generally ranging from 12 to 17 degrees Celsius (54-63 Fahrenheit).



CURRENCY: New Taiwan Dollar (NT\$) is the official currency of Taiwan.
1 NT\$ = 2 INR (Approx)



VISA: Indian passport holders with valid visas or permanent residences for US, UK, Canada, Japan, Schengen Convention countries, Australia or New Zealand, are eligible for visa-exempt entry into Taiwan for a stay up to thirty days. They just have to do an online registration. Others have to apply at the Taipei Economic & Cultural Center. Documents required for visa processing include: Passport (with 6 months minimum validity), visa application form, 6 months bank statement, pan card, last two years' ITR, authority letter stating the purpose of visit and 2 photographs.

VISA FEES - INR 3000
PROCESSING – 3 WORKING DAYS



CONNECTIVITY: A number of airlines such as China Airlines (Taiwan's national carrier), Cathay Pacific, China Southern and Thai Airways fly directly or with a stopover in to Taipei's Taoyuan International Airport from the Indian metros of New Delhi and Mumbai. Cathay Pacific offers best connections from multiple Indian cities. The average flight time between India and Taiwan is of about 6.5 hours.

AIRPORTS:

- Taiwan Taoyuan International Airport, Taipei
- Kaohsiung International Airport, Kaohsiung
- Taipei Songshan Airport





MAIN CITIES IN TAIWAN:

TAIPEI

From one of the world's tallest buildings to historic buildings Chinese and western influences. Taipei has managed to rise to the forward edge of modernity while staying true to its 120 year roots to the past.

PLACES TO VISIT:

- Taipei 101 Taiwan's tallest tower.
- Chiang Kai Shek Memorial – Built in the memory of former president Chiang Kai Shek. National Palace Museum – Houses some of oldest Chinese artifacts.
- Ximending Shopping Area – Popular amongst youth.
- Shilin Night Market - (Taipei's largest and best known night market)
- Guang Hua Digital Plaza – Largest electronic market in Taipei.
- Yehliu Geopark – Sedimentary rock formation.
- Beitou Hot Spring Area – One of world's top 15 hot spring sites.
- Yangmingshan National Area – Famous for volcanic landscapes.

TAICHUNG

Nature has generously endowed Taichung with scenic mountains and coastal views, attractions that are complimented by the city's cultural pulse. Taichung is also the birthplace of many of Taiwan's specialty foods and beverages. Pearl milk tea, for instance, traces back to the city's tea houses.

- National Museum of Natural Science
- Sun Moon Lake
- Alishan National Scenic Area
- Lugang



KAOHSIUNG

Kaohsiung is Taiwan's second largest city and biggest commercial port. It is also the only port city in Southern Taiwan. Star Cruise sails to Kaohsiung and Taichung. In recent years, the city has undergone a revival linked to river rectification and efforts to develop the cultural ambiance.

- Love River
- Xizi Bay Scenic Area
- Kending
- Dream Mall



HUALIEN

Nature is present in all of its pristine beauty throughout the Hualien Area, most spectacularly at the must see Taroko National Park. Water sports at Qixingtian, seaside cycling, sweeping pastures, hot spring baths, and local aboriginal culture are among the many attractions here.

- Taroko Gorge
- Farglory Ocean Park
- Qixingtian
- Xiuguluan River

