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DISCOVER TAIPEI

Dt

MAR. / APR. BIMONTHLY 2014

Traveling Through Time and Space

Celebrating the 130th Anniversary of
the Founding of Taipei City

From Wasteland to Capital: Taipei Past and Present

From Three Market Towns to Today's Creative Neighborhoods:
The Transformation of Taipei's Districts

From Dadaocheng to Taipei 101: Enhancing the Life of the Common
People and the City's Economic Development

Panda Art Arrives in Taipei



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Traveling Through Time and Space

Celebrating the 130th Anniversary of the Founding of Taipei City

Taipei is 130 years old, and this March-April edition is *Discover Taipei's* 100th! In this season filled with symbolism and meaning, we have a special time and space travel theme, celebrating the 130th anniversary of the city's founding by exploring its history and culture, different neighborhood personalities, and the life of everyday folk. We tell you the story of old Taipei, and show the many faces of today's city. Traveling between the past and the modern day, you will get a good feel for both the city's growth and its future direction.

Everybody loves babies, and one Taipei baby in particular is beyond popular. She is a giant panda, her name is Yuan Zai, and she is graciously receiving visitors at the Taipei Zoo. In our Taipei New Images section, we take you on a visit to learn all about this child star, and take advantage of the occasion to introduce you to the zoo's various other adorable animal babies. On another front, an army of 1,600 giant pandas and 200 Formosan black bears is to be found encamped in the main plaza before National Theater Concert Hall. They are paper sculptures, and form a rare and entertaining sight indeed.

If the paper army filled you with a sense of pleasant wonder, head right over to our In-Depth City Culture Explorations section for an exploration of Taipei's culture of paper arts. You will learn about the art of papermaking, and get to make some yourself. In our Taipei's Best Foods & Gifts section, we greet the new spring by introducing you to the best in seasonal light foods and snacks, and to the stories of Taipei traditional and creative original souvenir brands. However, experiencing the special character of the Taipei spring solely through your taste buds would be a pity, so head up to Yangmingshan with us to enjoy its flower season. We have mapped out a detailed itinerary for you, from which unforgettable Taipei-spring memories are sure to bloom.

For a taste of Taipei's design and artistic energy, spend time at the Designers Collection Exhibition at Songshan Cultural and Creative Park, seeing what treasures leading figures in Taiwan design have in their personal collections. Also, take in the Telling Details: Photorealism in Taiwan exhibition at the Taipei Fine Arts Museum, admiring how artists seek to paint a reality perhaps even more perfect than "real" on their canvases. Many foreigners feel that each Chinese character is like an individual painting, and if you visit the Double Happiness! Cultural and Creative Exhibition at the National Museum of History, you will learn all about the unique meaning of the "囍" character and how it has been used since ancient times.

This spring, come meet the Taipei of old, and explore its links with the prosperous, pulsating metropolis of today. Celebrate our happy 130th with a journey through time and space savoring the unique beauties of our food, our art, and our design. 🍵





Discover Taipei

Taipei City Government

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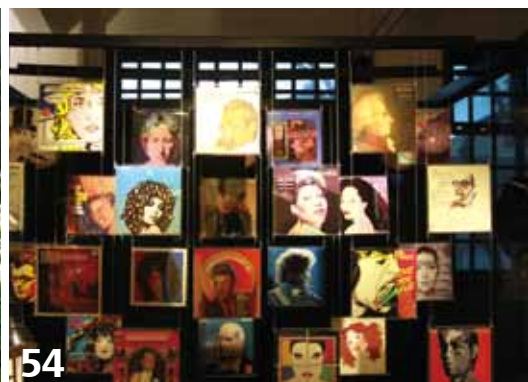




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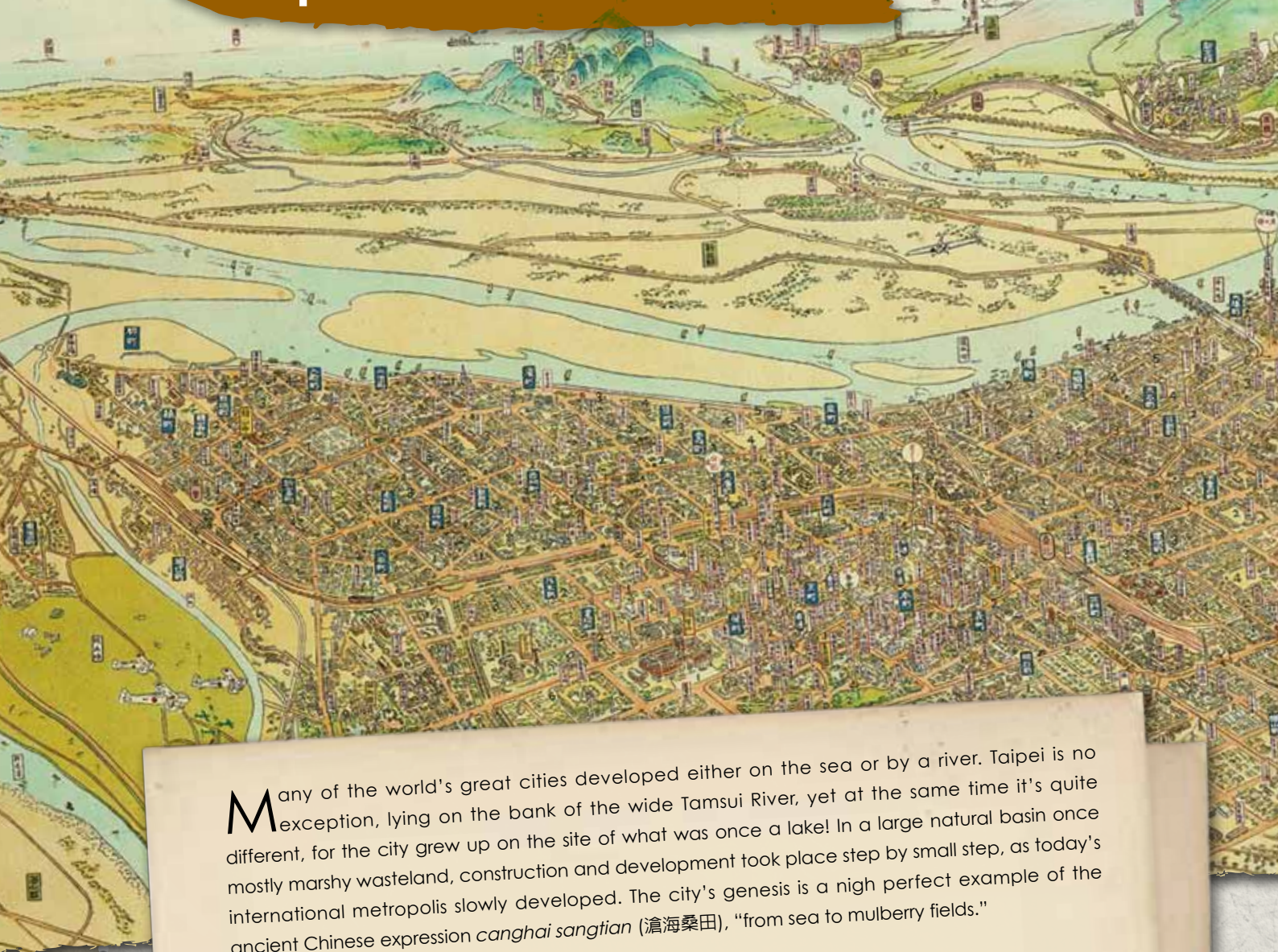
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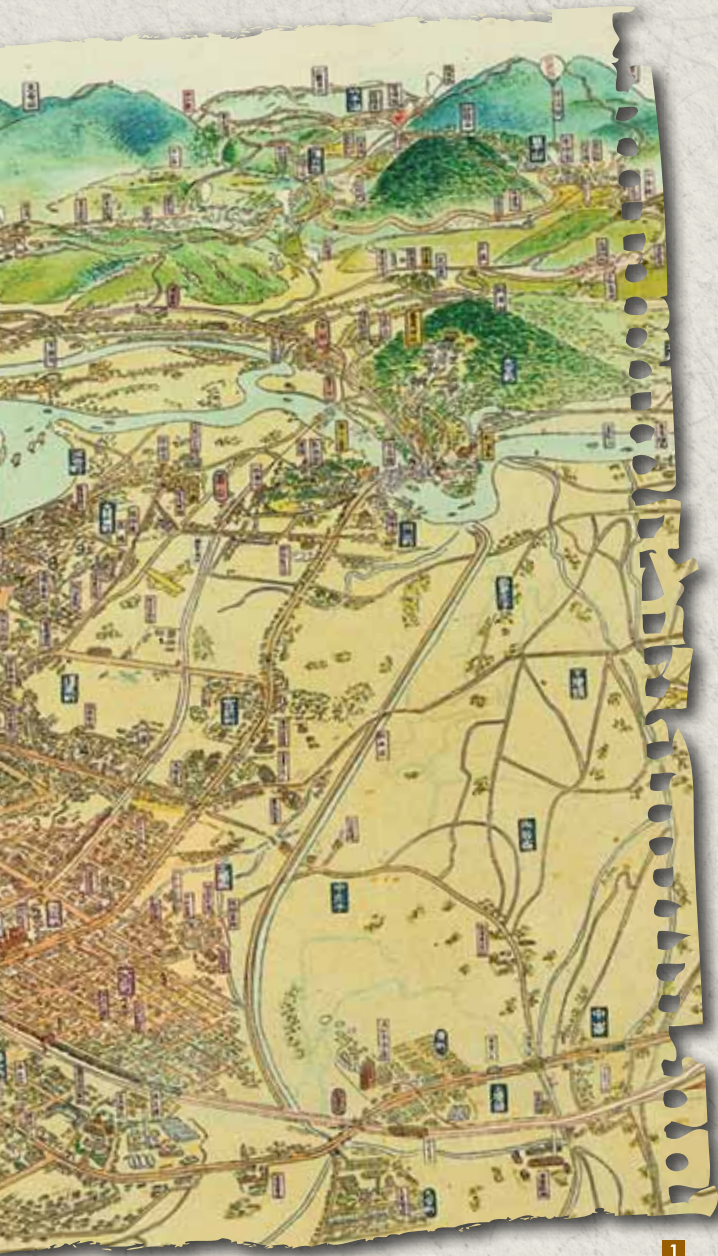
Taipei Past and Present



Many of the world's great cities developed either on the sea or by a river. Taipei is no exception, lying on the bank of the wide Tamsui River, yet at the same time it's quite different, for the city grew up on the site of what was once a lake! In a large natural basin once mostly marshy wasteland, construction and development took place step by small step, as today's international metropolis slowly developed. The city's genesis is a nigh perfect example of the ancient Chinese expression *canghai sangtian* (滄海桑田), "from sea to mulberry fields."

Before Taipei City, A Great Lake

In the summer of 1697 a Qing dynasty (清朝) official named Yu Yonghe (郁永河) entered the Taipei Basin (臺北盆地) on a mission to mine sulfur. At the time the area on which Taipei now sits was still largely covered in muddy water and marsh. When he wrote his *Small Sea Travel Diaries* (裨海紀遊) and the *Taiwan Map of Kangxi* (康熙臺灣輿圖), he described how the basin lake he called the "Kangxi Taipei Lake" (康熙臺北湖) had formed as a result of land subsidence caused by earthquakes. When the Japanese took measurements for topographic mapping of the basin about a century ago they found there were still vestiges of the Kangxi Taipei Lake, in the form of natural ponds, notably the Bangka Lotus Pond (艋舺蓮花池), Shuanglian Pond (雙連埤), Daan's Longan Reservoir (大安龍安陂), and the ponds and lakes of Neihu (內湖; the name literally means "inner lakes").



In *Small Sea Travel Diaries*, Yu Yonghe described the giant marshy lake as a wasteland of creeping mists choked with weeds, inaccessible and unvisited. Just 12 years after his visit, or in 1709, however, an official land-reclamation contract was issued that would change the history of the basin.

Pioneers Come to Taiwan, Open Up the Land

The peoples of a number of prehistoric cultures have settled in the Taipei area at different times, notably the Yuanshan Culture (圓山貝塚), Taipei

Zhiwuyuan Ruins (臺北植物園遺址), and Zhishanyan Culture (芝山岩文化). In the period before Han Chinese immigrants began settling, the flatlands-dwelling Ketagalan (凱達格蘭) people lived here.

In addition to hunting and fishing, the Ketagalan also engaged in agriculture, and there is evidence that some utilized simple methods of irrigation. For a glimpse into the world

the ancients inhabited, visit the Zhishanyan Natural History Educational Center (芝山岩展示館) in Zhishan Cultural and Ecological Garden (芝山文化生態綠園), where there are many intriguing displays.

In 1684, Taiwan came under Qing dynasty rule, and Han Chinese from China's Fujian (福建) and Guangdong (廣東) provinces began coming to the island in great numbers to open up the land for agriculture. The immigrants, skilled at rice-paddy cultivation, began growing crops in the Taipei Basin in the early 18th century. According to modern-day research into historical documents, during the early Qing period, in the 48th year of the Kangxi emperor (1709) the Chen Lai Zhang Land Development Association (陳賴章開墾集團) was granted the first official permit to open land in the Taipei area. The associated was given rights to a large parcel of land called Tagala (大佳臘) in Taiwanese, which encompassed present-day Taipei's Bangka (艋舺), Galaya (加納仔), Dalongdong (大龍峒), Dadaocheng (大稻埕), and Xikou (錫口) plus the New Taipei City (新北市) areas of Xizhi (汐止), Zhonghe (中和), Yonghe (永和), Bali (八里), Sanchong (三重), Luzhou (蘆洲), Taishan (泰山), and Xinzhuang (新莊).



1. Bird's-eye contrast of 1935 Taipei and the present. (Photo courtesy of Gao Chuanqi)
2. Zhishan Cultural and Educational Garden provides insight into Taipei's past. (Photo courtesy of Zhishan Cultural and Educational Garden)
3. Dadaocheng, by the Tamusi River, was Taiwan's political, social, and cultural leader in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. (Photo courtesy of Gao Chuanqi)

From River Port Settlement to Taiwanese Capital

From 1740 through 1770, a period of relative calm with fewer natural and manmade disasters, turmoil and disorder, government offices were set up along the Tamsui River in the settlements of Xinzhuang and Bangka, irrigation works increased, land was cleared, rice was grown, and small Han Chinese settlements sprouted. Rice and other crops were gathered in Xinzhuang's riverside streets and put on boats for export. Because of silting along this stretch of the river, however, Xinzhuang later went into decline. The settlements of Bangka and Sanxia (三峽) flourished, selling camphor and *Strobilanthes cusia* (from which indigo dye was extracted). In the latter half of the 19th century the fortunes of Dadaocheng rose abruptly with the rise of the Taipei Basin's tea trade. With the basin's economic rise, the city of Taipei took form and replaced Tainan (臺南) as the island's capital.



Bangka's modernization process saw the area develop from a riverside indigenous settlement into a Qing dynasty commercial entrepot with a port, streets and temples; then, thanks to the formalized planning and building of the Japanese period, which saw improvements to street-layout, construction of railroads and public-facilities, moved the district from traditional settlement to a place among old Taipei's three market towns (臺北三市街) with a distinctive fusion of old and new, traditional and modern.

Taipei City, 130 Years in the Building

In the 1880s, during the waning years of the Qing dynasty, Taiwan's first governor, Liu Mingchuan (劉銘傳), launched a series of large-scale improvement projects, including strengthening coastal defenses, opening up the mountains and pacifying the aborigines, and carrying out a cadastral survey and land-tax reform. He also initiated modernization projects

as a railway, submarine cable, postal service, street lighting, telegraph, coal service, and school modernization enterprises.

Since the commissioner Shen Baozhen (沈葆楨) advocated making Taiwan a full province, with three counties and Taipei the capital in place of Tainan, turning the city into the island's political and economic center in 1880s. The Qing court chose unused land between the settlements of Bangka and Dadaocheng for the location of a new walled city. Though Taipei was founded later than the walled cities of Magong (馬公) in Penghu (澎湖), Tainan, and today's Hsinchu (新竹), its walls were second in size only to Tainan's, at approximately 5,000 meters in length, and a little larger than those of Hsinchu. Having taken the lead in construction, the city soon overtook the others and surged ahead.



Within a few years of the walled city's completion, Taipei was not only Taiwan's most modern population center, but the island's political, cultural, economic, and social core. This was reflected in the progressive transformations undertaken on many fronts during the Japanese era, in street improvements, urban planning, railway building, public bus services, electric lighting, telecommunications and postal services, and the building of new sewerage and drinking water systems, hospitals, parks, museums, and public-assembly halls. There were also developments in the availability of education, and exhibitions were staged. The range of new leisure and cultural facilities, social campaigns, public-spaces, and civic cultural transformations was comprehensive.

NOW

A Convenient, Eco-Sensitive International City

Though Taipei is still a comparatively young city, and does not have the scale of such great cosmopolitan urban centers as New York, London, Paris, Tokyo, and Shanghai, the freedom of movement enjoyed by its inhabitants, convenience, and its focus on environmental protection are all unmatched by other international metropolises. Among its countless noteworthy features are the superb quality and range of food, night markets, Taipei Free Public Wi-Fi Access network, and Keep Trash Off the Ground (垃圾不落地) program. An ultra-convenient, friendly living environment is provided for both residents and visitors; greatly enhancing the city's international visibility and competitiveness and helping it leap past many other cities.

Among the lasting impressions left with past visitors is the density and range of the city's 24-hour convenience stores, and the convenience, cleanliness, and courtesy enjoyed while using the city's public transportation, notably the bus and metro

systems. What many do not know about is the city's Keep Trash off the Ground policy, under which garbage trucks arrive at set locations at set times each day so that people can most conveniently handle

their garbage. Trash is also sorted and recycled, thus becoming a renewable resource. On another eco-friendly front, the city's still-expanding YouBike (微笑單車) public bicycle-rental system has become extremely popular. The network combines convenience with solid environmental benefits, and the bikes have become favorite companions on Taipei citizens' leisurely explorations of its many neighborhoods. The bikes satisfy demand for a convenient, healthy, low-carbon, low-cost mode of transportation, and are playing a key role in Taipei's quest to be a sustainable green city.

Now its progression from a barren marsh into a thriving city is complete, Taipei has the same advantages as other cities, but also others that it's created. From lake to shining metropolis, this city's great pooling of energy has brought it down the road to great prosperity in the past century, and is sure to bring continued good fortune in the next. 10

4. Bangka (Wanhua), in Taipei's southwest, was modern Taipei's original settlement, built on river trading. (Photo courtesy of Gao Chuangji)
5. Manka Lungshan Temple (艋舺龍山寺), one of Taipei's great witnesses to history, was built in 1738. (Photo courtesy of Gao Chuangji)
6. The National Taiwan Museum, built during the Japanese era, is a heritage building and a key witness to Taiwan's modern history.
7. The convenient metro system helps Taipei in its quest to be an ultra-modern city.
8. The Keep Trash Off the Ground policy has helped keep the city much cleaner and been a stellar eco-achievement. (Photo courtesy of Department of Environmental Protection, Taipei City Government)
9. The YouBike is a superlative tool for both public recreation and practical mobility.



Information

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From Three Market Towns to
Today's Creative Neighborhoods:

The Transformation of Taipei's Districts

The modern city of Taipei grew from a foundation of three market towns in the late Qing dynasty: Bangka, Dadaocheng, and the Taipei Walled City (臺北城). Judging from various large-scale maps preserved from the period, it's clear that at the end of the imperial period the three urban centers had not yet merged. The three continued to develop on their own, each its own master.

Taipei's Birth, 130 Years Ago

Bangka and Dadaocheng were the first two market towns to form. They took root on land opened up by Han Chinese immigrants along the Tamsui River (淡水河). The commercial streets of the first formed in the early 1800s, of Dadaocheng in the latter half of the century.

In its early years, the wealth of Bangka was built on the transport of local *Strobilanthes cusia*, and camphor for ultimate export. In those days, the majority of its settlers were from China's Fujian Province – and more specifically, from the Sanyi (三邑) area and Tong'an county (同安縣) in Quanzhou Prefecture (泉州府). Struggles between the two groups concerning different deities, and

dominance of the port area, led to major strife, called the Dingxiajiao Conflict (頂下郊拼), in 1853. The term refers to the dominant and secondary commercial guilds associated with the two homeland areas in mainland China and the areas in Bangka they controlled. The secondary, i.e. Tong'an guild lost, and to Dadaocheng, establishing



what is today called the Taipei Xiahai City God Temple (台北霞海城隍廟).

The displaced Tong'an folk threw themselves into building up their new settlement, and it quickly thrived. Western merchants arrived and built Western-style "mansions" (洋行), which combined trading house and merchant residence. The prospering commercial center specialized in the processing and export of tea, and in a few short decades, overtook Bangka in economic power, additionally benefiting from Bangka's decline due to silting up of the river. It became ever more difficult for river craft to reach Bangka, and transport eventually shifted fully to its rival. In the late years of the Qing dynasty, Taiwan Governor-General Liu Mingchuan undertook a series of modernization projects, including the building of Taiwan's first railway and a station at Dadaocheng, the western terminus. Completely eclipsing Bangka, it became north Taiwan's commercial and trading center.

In 1878, the Qing Court, seeking to avoid favoring either Bangka on the south or Dadaocheng on the north, chose land in between on which to build the Taipei Walled City. Work was completed in 1884, Taiwan was made a province in 1887, and Taipei became Taiwan's political, cultural, and economic nucleus. Bangka, Dadaocheng, and the Taipei Walled City were called "Taipei's three market towns."

1. The busy Dadaocheng Wharf of 1905 shows the community's economic prosperity in that era. (Photo courtesy of Gao Chuanqi)

2-3. Dadaocheng Wharf and its surrounding area has been transformed into a sightseeing and recreation spot, its rich history and lovely river scenery attracting many visitors.

4. Its temporary buildings now gone, Linsen Park is now a garden-like urban oasis.

5-6. The old multi-building Zhonghua Market was razed to allow unfettered traffic flow between Zhonghua Road and Ximending, helping to rejuvenate the Red House, now a major tourist attraction.

NOW

City Planning – Beautifying the Urban Landscape

When the Kuomintang government moved to Taiwan, many temporary buildings were constructed. As they have aged, demolition, reconstruction and redevelopment have become key government tasks. Today's garden-like Linsen Park (林森公園) and Kangle Park (康樂公園), side by side, are good examples of the improvement work undertaken. Some structures have also been demolished to accommodate transportation construction projects. Many Taipei residents still remember the multi-

building Zhonghua Market (中華商場), which ran alongside Ximending (西門町), razed because of age and to allow unfettered traffic flow between Zhonghua Road (中華路) and Ximending. Since this area opened up, The Red House (西門紅樓), a National Historical Relic of the Third Grade (三級古蹟) located just off Zhonghua Road, has become home to the Red House Creative Market (西門紅樓創意市集). These and other progressive changes have attracted a far greater flow of people to the city's west side, rejuvenating the old commercial district, which has become a favorite fashion and entertainment quarter for young people.

Another project involved the demolition of Guanghua Bridge (光華橋), razed due to its age to make improvements to the area's transportation infrastructure. Its demise also meant the loss of the old Guanghua Market (光華商場) underneath, but



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the sleek Guang Hua Digital Plaza (光華數位新天地) built to replace it on nearby Civic Boulevard (市民大道) offers much-improved orderliness and safety and is a far more competitive hub for digital consumer goods. Elsewhere, after years of effort the former impressions of the Taipei and Songshan stations (臺北/松山車站) as tired and worn facilities have been swept away, and the transportation hubs are now places of both convenient services and fashionable aesthetics.

NOW

Creative Neighborhoods – Reinventing Alley Culture

In the Taipei of over a century ago, the three market towns had a total population in the tens of thousands, and a thousand-plus businesses and shops. The population of today's international city of worldwide reputation is 2.68 million, there is vigorous



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economic development in all kinds of industries, and there are over 55,000 registered businesses. The journey from traditional to modern has been short and swift, powerfully demonstrating this city's vitality and energy.

The hard infrastructure of a city quarter can rise abruptly from the ground, but the formation of a rich cultural heritage is more amorphous, and takes time. In the face of a fast-changing cityscape, Taipei can encounter difficulty preserving its irreplaceable cultural characteristics and creative style. In keeping with both landscape and cultural-creative industry development, and with the Taipei City Government's successful two-year campaign for 2016 World Design Capital selection, design has been energetically incorporated into public policy, and this has become a design-driven city.

Cultural-creative vitality has come streaming down along the city's lanes and alleys, and an attractive alley culture of distinctive and dynamic character has taken shape.

NOW

Cultural-Creativity and Art – Vibrant Neighborhoods

Long an area in decline, the recent injection of cultural-creative dynamism into the city's west side has reenergized it. The Nanxi Commercial District (南西商圈) refers to an area with the Shin Kong Mitsukoshi Department Store's Taipei Nanxi Store (新光三越百貨臺北南西店) at its center, extending north to Minsheng West Road (民生西路), east to Section 2, Zhongshan North Road (中山北路2段), south to Chang'an West Road (長安西路), and west to Chifeng Street (赤峰街). A walk through the grid of alleys here brings



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many pleasant surprises, especially so along the narrow arteries around MRT Zhongshan Station, where many attractive creative shops have

been opened in old residential buildings. Each has its own one-of-a-kind style and charm – gift shops, hair salons, cozy cafes, international restaurants, design studios, art spaces, etc.

You'll witness even more of this pioneering creative spirit down the lanes and alleys of the city's east district, and in Gongguan (公館), and Yongkang Street (永康街) areas. The east area is known for chic international fashion, and you'll find all the latest in haute designer clothing from South Korea, Japan, Europe, the United States, and elsewhere. Gongguan is a student enclave, and the many eateries, cinemas, and bookstores will bring you back to your school days. Experiences of different character can also be had at the district's Taipei Water Park (自來水園區) and Taipei City Hakka Cultural Park (臺北市客家文化主題公園). The already very popular Yongkang Street area has become even more so with the opening of MRT Dongmen Station (捷運東門站) on its doorstep; the lanes here teem with tea shops and teahouses, antique shops and novel restaurants, and satisfy the tastes of gourmets and gourmands, cultural sophisticates and pop-culture enthusiasts alike.

From west to east, and from the simple and down-to-earth to the original and sophisticated, over its 130 years Taipei has seen much in the way of evolution, transformation, and cultural impact. What hasn't changed is the industriousness and honest, heartfelt hospitality of the people, their vitality and warm

enthusiasm inevitably making visitors want to come back again and again. The emergence of creative neighborhoods in recent years has brought culture and art into the daily life of Taipei's denizens – no need for reservations or tickets: a simple walk through a neighborhood brings a taste of art. These are explorations of the relationship between people and environment, and for both resident and visitor each is an adventure through the curious and the amusing, an encounter with both small wonders and big surprises.

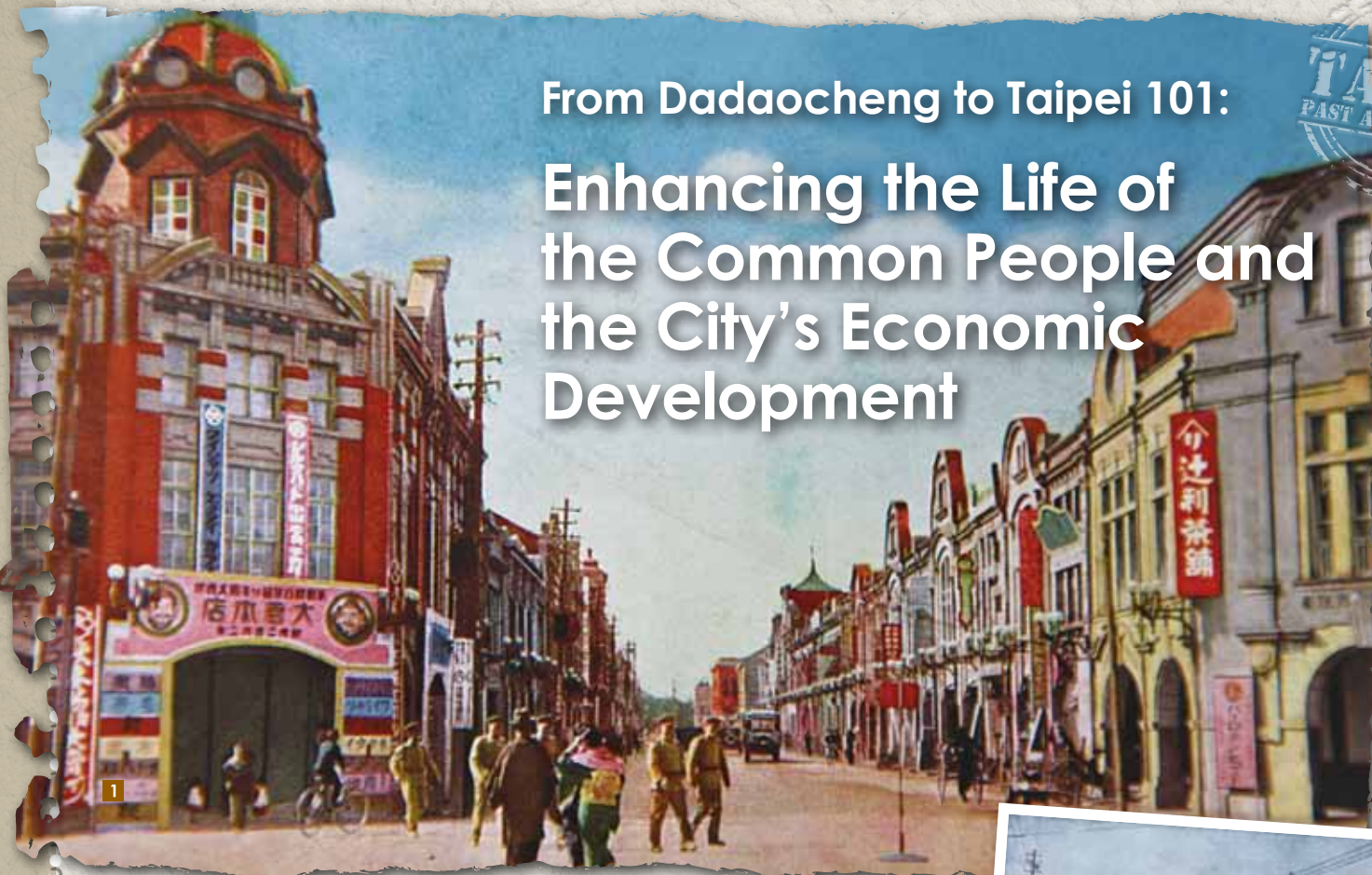
Taipei is 130 years old, and whether it's the old Taipei Three Market Towns or today's flourishing creative neighborhoods, city living and travel never lack for excitement. Around every corner, something good and beautiful awaits. 📍

7. The newly built Guang Hua Digital Plaza is the people of Taipei's first choice for digital consumer products.
8. Old Songshan Station has been renovated, and is now a place of both convenient services and fashionable aesthetics.
9. A design-driven city, Taipei is using heritage facilities and previously idle spaces for exhibitions.
- 10-11. The cafes, gift shops, and other small business in the lanes off Zhongshan N. Rd. and Nanjing W. Rd. each has unique style and charm.
12. The east side is one of Taipei's main fashion districts; its clothing shops import branded fashions from Japan, Korea, and elsewhere.
- 13-14. Yongkang Street's many tea outlets, antique shops, and other draws have made the neighborhood a tourist favorite.
15. Museum of Drinking Water, a place of attractive architecture, is a popular choice for wedding-photo shoots and good place to learn about water resources.



From Dadaocheng to Taipei 101:

Enhancing the Life of the Common People and the City's Economic Development



Stand in today's Dadaocheng and you can still smell the fragrance of tea in the air. Stand in the middle of bustling Xinyi Planning District and it's the latest fashion trends that dominate the senses. For 130 years, generation after generation of Taipei folk have earnestly worked this piece of land, seeking their fortunes, and over time fundamental changes to the local society and business structure have caused a gradual movement of the city's development focus from west to east, and from agriculture to commerce. Government planning and the hard work of its citizens have gradually created a cosmopolitan city of international repute and approbation.



Five Time-Space Development Phases

Research into land usage has shown that a five-phase process characterizes the Han Chinese (漢人) development of Taiwan and Taipei over the past three centuries: port, temple, market street, school, community. The development of Taipei's popular culture has been intimately interlinked with this five-stage process.

The Han Chinese pioneers who came to Taiwan to open up land crossed the Taiwan Strait from

coastal areas of south China. Their craft pulled in at larger ports, where they shifted to smaller craft and journeyed upriver to the land they would settle and clear. Most intended to return to their home areas after a time, and thus tended to build their dwellings right at the river ports where they landed, or along the river banks elsewhere. Many returned after earning their first money to encourage both relatives and others from their home turf to return with them and pool their efforts in seeking their fortune.

Taiwan saw increasing numbers of clan shrines and temples housing deities from homesick immigrants' home areas, providing them with spiritual sustenance. As the population density built up, shops opened up by temples, supplying daily necessities. As the Qing dynasty neared its end, the "port, temple, market street" developmental model was fully developed.

In the Japanese era that followed, in order to quickly gain control over the habits and customs of the island's people, the Japanese government built schools on vacant plots of land by Han Chinese areas of settlement, and set up post offices, police stations, district offices (街庄役場), and other facilities, using them for public education and control.

Scholars returning from studies in Europe, North America, and elsewhere introduced "community" concepts after Taiwan Retrocession (臺灣光復). Clusters of residential homes were constructed on large plots of land beside traditional settlements and near schools. Taipei's venerable Nanjichang Public Housing (南機場國宅) community is a well-known example from this phase.

The Old City's Grace and Elegance

The Pioneering spirit of Taipei citizens has been demonstrated at various stages in the area's history: in Japanese-era Bangka, which appeared in the imperial-era expression "First Tainan, second Lugang, third Bangka" (一府、二鹿、三艋舺), in the rise of Datong District later, and, much earlier, the flourishing canoe-traffic trading site of the flatlands-dwelling Ketagalan tribe at Bangka (艋舺; a Taiwanese rendering of the Ketagalan word for "canoe"). Today, sandwiched in between the city's chic new commercial districts, the older, more traditional areas on the west side remain well known and much loved for their "three local treasures" (地方三寶) – heritage temples, old-shop commercial streets, and local snacks.

Bangka is Wanhua's (and the city's) oldest area, and still has numerous clusters of traditional businesses. Prime examples are the many food stalls around Manka Lungshan Temple and Bangka Qingshui Temple (艋舺清水巖), Xichang Street's (西昌街) spirit-

money sellers and wedding-gift shops, sellers of Chinese medicinal herbs on Xichang Street and in Herb Alley (青草巷), Huaxi Street Tourist Night Market (華西街觀光夜市), night markets on Guangzhou Street (廣州街) and Wuzhou Street (梧州街), sellers of items used in worship (spirit money, embroidery, pasted-paper sculptures, etc.) on Section 1 of Xiyuan Road (西園路一段) "Bird Street" (鳥街) on Heping West Road (和平西路), specialist hardware and vendor-cart sellers on Huanhe South Road (環河南路), furniture sellers on Changsha Street (長沙街), used goods sellers on Kangding Road (康定路), old folk-supplies shops on Guiyang Street (貴陽街) and Xichang Street, and the Xinfu (新富), Zhixing (直興), and Dongsanshuijie (東三水街) markets. All are precious repositories of the customs of earlier generations.

The thriving commercial sector of Dadaocheng, to Bangka's north, apart from traditional tea-trading firms, features sellers of traditional regional goods, Chinese medicines, wholesale fabrics, pastries and snacks, and much else. It is a key old-city economic and trade center, and has long been known for its strong cultural atmosphere. The original architecture and high-street ambiance of what were called local "Islanders' Streets" (本島人市街) during the Japanese era remain intact, serving as a precious window into the lives of Taipei's people in days of old.

1. Chongqing S. Rd. and Hengyang Rd. were Taipei's two most prosperous business areas in the Japanese era; pictured is a 1930s Hengyang Road neighborhood scene. (Photo courtesy of Gao Chuanqi)
2. Street scenery from 1930s Dadaocheng. (Photo courtesy of Gao Chuanqi)
3. The post office built on Dadaocheng's Dihua St. during the Japanese era still stands.
- 4-6. Wanhua District still has numerous traditional-business clusters, including Herb Alley by Manka Lungshan Temple, Huanhe S. Road's specialist hardware stores, and "Bird Street" on Heping W. Rd.





In a 1935 plan announced for the development of Taiwan's cities, it was declared that Taipei's old walled city area could accommodate 600,000 people in the future. The island's first department store, Kikumoto Department Store (菊元百貨店), was built soon afterward within the area's Sakae District (榮町), at the corner of today's Boai Road (博愛路)

and Hengyang Road (衡陽路). The surrounding traditional commercial area still thrives to this day, notably on Yuanling Street (沅陵街) where women's attire and shoes are sold, Boai Road, where photographic equipment and silk clothing shops are found, Taoyuan Street (桃源街) where beef noodles are a specialty, Hengyang Road with its jewelry, Guanqian Road (館前路) and its securities, banking, and finance outfits, "Book Street" (書店街) along Chongqing South Road (重慶南路), Hankou Street (漢口街) and its camcorder equipment, Kaifeng Street (開封街) and its audio equipment shops, and many long established eateries on Wuchang Street (武昌街) and in Chengzhong Market (城中市場).



7. The island's first department store, Kikumoto Department Store, still stands at the corner of today's Boai Rd. and Hengyang Rd. Pictured is a scene from the early years after Taiwan Retrocession. (Photo courtesy of Gao Chuanqi)
8. The once-flourishing Hengyang Road area, formerly called Sakae District, has the pretty nickname "Taipei's Ginza." (Photo courtesy of Gao Chuanqi)

9. An old architectural map of Sakae District, brimming with commercial enterprises, shows its prosperity in times past. (Photo courtesy of SMC publishing Inc.)
- 10-12. The old walled city district still has many special business areas – Yuanling St. for shoes, Boai Rd. and Hankou St. for photographic and camcorder equipment, and "Book Street" along Chongqing S. Rd.

NOW

Taipei's Transformation Into a Modern Fashion Capital

The west side is where Taipei was launched down the road of prosperity, but in the 1970s sections 3 and 4 of Zhongxiao East Road (忠孝東路) were opened, driving the development of the city's east side. Many new business areas begin to spring up, one after the other, and the east district emerged as the new commercial center. The more recent development of the Xinyi Planning District and opening of metro lines have added even greater impetus to the area's rapid growth. The Xinyi Planning District, unofficially and more lyrically called "Taipei's Manhattan", is home to the skyscraping Taipei 101 tower, opened in 2004 and a magnet for tourists, and to sleek upscale Japanese-affiliated department stores, movie theaters, and restaurants, and to 5-star hotels. All the world's great brand-name goods are on display, the best in food and drink is explored with passion, the public transportation is ultra-convenient, and the streets are well planned, creating an air of prosperity and progress.

From west to east, from rice paddies to soaring highrises, systematic government planning and injection of resources has gradually made Taipei an international city of progress and comprehensive

infrastructure. These efforts have brought the city international attention, praised as one of the world's "20 Most Beautiful Cities," one of the "World's Most Underrated Cities," and among the "Asia/Pacific Top 10 Destination Cities" – something impossible to imagine 130 years ago.

Over the past number of years, Taipei has played host to numerous large-scale international events, including the Deaflympics, Taipei International Flora Exposition (臺北國際花卉博覽會), and IDA Congress Taipei (臺北世界設計大會暨大展). In 2011 it won the right to host Universiade Taipei 2017 (2017臺北世界大學運動會), and in 2013 successfully bid for World Design Capital 2016 (2016世界設計之都) I designation and hosting rights for Velo-city Global 2016. With its steady lineup of international events and activities, the spotlight is now focusing on Taipei, and putting it on the international stage. With the continuing development of its first-rate hard and soft infrastructure, an ever brighter future is assured.

Taipei's amazing transformations make the joyous welcome local folk are giving to the 130th anniversary of their city's founding well deserved indeed! 🎉



13. The Xinyi Planning District, which brims with Japanese-affiliated department stores and international-brand stores, has become Taipei's key commercial hub.

14. The many 5-star hotels built in Xinyi Planning District bring more sophisticated accommodation choices for visitors, and have raised Taipei's tourism caliber.

15. In 2013 Taipei successfully bid for 2016 World Design Capital designation and hosting rights for Velo-city Global 2016.



Time for Some Super-Cute Baby Animals!

Most of us have fond memories of when we were tots, walking around and playing with teddy bears. The cuddly teddy bear has been a friend to countless people in their childhood, and this is probably why so many grown up folk have such affection for real bears. When the bouncing baby giant panda Yuan Zai (圓仔) made her formal debut at Taipei Zoo, there was a happy collective shout: "Finally we get to see her!" In 2013, a number of other bouncing baby animals also joined the Taipei Zoo family, including other baby bears and baby birds, and we have lined them up in a "super-cute" parade here so you can take a look at them.

1



Yuan Zai, the Baby Giant Panda

Yuan Zai's new playground is the Exhibit A area in the Giant Panda House (大貓熊館). She has many toys to play with, and loves having fun with mom Yuan Yuan. However, she always plays so hard that she is soon pooped out, and is sound asleep in no time.

2



Baby Coatis

The coati has a long, slightly upturned nose, and a keen sense of smell. Mom Wuan Xin (浣心) gave birth to five cubs in March 2013, shown here at two months. Aren't they adorable?!

3



Baby Koalas

The zoo added cubs to its koala family last year. When young, koalas stay hidden in their mother's pouch, occasionally poking their heads out to have a look at the big world outside. The cubs have already left their hide-away, and love to wander around the koala house, go for a ride on mom's back, and curl up with mom for a good snooze, holding on tight to each other – all sweet scenes that bring a smile.

4



Little Emerald Doves

We are a pair of emerald doves. Our feathers are brown, with black stripes. When you come to see us in our aviary home, maybe you will get to see our mom and dad, who are green and have red beaks. They take us high up in the trees, in concealed spots, to practice our flying!

Photos courtesy of Taipei Zoo.

Yuan Zai Connected

Q What toys does Yuan Zai like to play with?

A "I'm a very curious little tyke, so any new thing seems lots of fun to me!"



I am a little baby who loves to sleep. When I wake up, what I want most is to drink some milk and to climb up and down on my mommy, giving her little love bites. When I was a little over four months old, I got my first toy, a shiny drinking basin. It is nice and cool when I hold it in my arms – so comfortable! I can even stuff myself right inside it to play hide-and-seek with mom.

When the weather is good, I like to go outside to play in my little amusement park. There is a perch made out of wood where I can learn how to climb trees. There is also a float dangling from a tree that I like to whack around, and a kind of bed that has been made from a blue barrel. They are both pretty neat – my auntie and uncle keepers made them specially for me, you know. Look at me! When I play I get covered in mud; don't you think I look just like a little grey grizzly bear?

My newest toy is called A Gei (阿給). It is a big bag that mommy says has a musical ball inside. I really like grabbing on to it and rolling around, this way and that. Even though I often fall right over, it is great fun.

Since I turned six months old I have been playing in the Exhibit A area during the daytime. Mommy says that since I am still small they have added wooden ramps to my perch, which lets me climb up and down as I please. Look, oh look! Carrots! I am learning from my mom how to eat them, nibbling away and then spitting out the parts I do not want. This is another game I love to play!

Q How old is Yuan Zai in human years?

A "Mommy says a girl's age is always a secret!"

Auntie Chen Yuyan (陳玉燕) says that a human's age is 3 to 4 times that of a giant panda's. I'm now over 7 months old, so that means in human years I'm ... I'm ... uh-oh, I just remembered I haven't started studying math yet. Oh good, Auntie Chen has figured it for me, and says I'd be about 2 to 2.5 years old if I was a human baby.

You want to know something? A giant panda's life is divided into three stages: juvenile, sub-adult, and adult. I am still a baby, of course, so I am still a juvenile. When about one-and-a-half and have been weaned, I will be in the sub-adult phase, which lasts from about one-and-a-half to 4~7 years old. You know, my mom and dad were both a little over 4 years old when they came to Taipei! Somebody asked what the average life span of a giant panda is, and my mom told me it is 20 to 30 years – a long, long, long time from now. It is kinda too long for me to think about, so I will just go play instead. See ya. 🐾



Illustration/ Left

Information

Taipei Zoo 臺北市立動物園

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

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

Website: newweb.zoo.gov.tw

PANDAS
WORLD TOUR-TAIPEI

Panda Art Arrives in Taipei



Taipei's favorite Baby Giant Panda Yuan Zai is growing at a super-rapid clip, and people continue to find her charms irresistible. If you want to get up early to head to her Taipei Zoo home to beat the lineups waiting to see her, that's great. However, there is another option – installation artworks sprouting up in her image!

A Panda Legion Invades the City of Taipei

An army of paper-sculpture pandas is on the march. They have already invaded over 20 cities, including Paris, Berlin, Hamburg, and Rome. The army number 1,600 in all, each with different features and different poses. Now they are here.

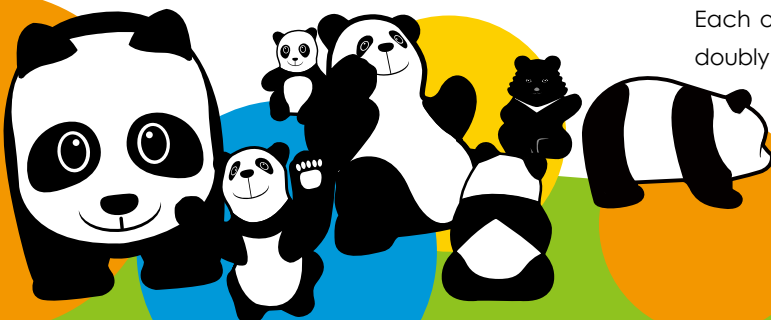
Before striking Beijing and Hong Kong, the Taipei City Government's Department of Information and Tourism (觀光傳播局) and Left Brain (左腦創意行銷) are bringing the army here for the Pandas World Tour-Taipei (1600貓熊世界之旅—臺北), a large-scale outdoor exhibition. Taipei is the paper-sculpture army's first stop in Asia. The pandas, created by French artist Paulo Grangeon in a wide variety

of designs, are about the size of the average family dog. The goal behind the show is to attract attention to the world's endangered wildlife.

Taipei Mayor Hau Lungbin (臺北市長郝龍斌) says that the city takes eco-conservation and animal protection very seriously, and has taken the initiative on many fronts. He adds that Paulo Grangeon's choice of Taipei as first stop on his panda army's Asia tour demonstrates the artist's recognition of local animal-protection efforts.

To accurately depict the characteristics of another animal, the Formosan black bear (an iconic representative of Taiwan's animal protection record) Grangeon spent time at the Taipei Zoo observing Black Sugar (黑糖), one of its star attractions. He came away saying that he had found its big, burly body and the white V-shaped marking on its chest most impressive.

Paulo has spent over 10 years creating depictions of the animals he so dearly loves. He does everything by hand, and emphasizes eco-friendly methods, using recycled paper and rice-based paste in his *papier-mâché*. Each of his creations is a unique work of art, making it doubly precious.





Prior to the exhibition, 1,600 paper pandas were being placed at 10 selected Taipei scenic attractions in the "Panda Flash Program" (胖達快閃計畫), promoting the Taipei image. The Pandas World Tour-Taipei show will run from March 14th to 30th at the National Theater Concert Hall's Main Plaza (國家兩廳院藝文廣場). As a bonus treat, 200 specially crafted sculptures of Formosan black bears will share the stage with the 1,600-strong panda legion, which will be arranged in a different order every few days to welcome visitors both young and young-at-heart.

Dajia Riverside Park 3D Panda Wall Exhibition

After inspecting each and every one of the panda army, if still not sated you can head to Dajia Riverside Park (大佳河濱公園), where a virtual Yuan Zai family awaits you.

At the invitation of the Hydraulic Engineering Office, Public Works Department (工務局水利工程處), Taipei City Government, well-known 3D artist Tu Lung (圖龍) has created an interactive-style 3D mural on the dike wall at Dajia Riverside Park. The changing colors and shapes create a 3D effect, and the cute and whimsical panda figures seem to spring out from the wall as if alive. The large-scale work, 5.3 meters high and 12 meters wide, is located to the left of the Keelung River Evacuation Gate No. 8 (基隆河8號疏散門), on the upstream side, beside the riverside bike path. There are six hidden photo points for visitors to discover, from which they can take various fun and interesting photos. 📷



Information

Pandas World Tour – Taipei 1600貓熊世界之旅—臺北

Time: 3/14~3/30

Venue: Main Plaza, National Theater Concert Hall; 21-1, Zhongshan S. Rd. (國家兩廳院藝文廣場; 中山南路21-1號)

Tel: 1999, ext. 7554 (02)2356-0870

Dajia Riverside Park 大佳河濱公園

Location: Immediately inside Keelung River Evacuation Gate No. 8, Dajia Riverside Park (大佳河濱公園基隆河8號疏散門進入即抵)

1-3. Before the exhibition, the 1,600 pandas were taken around to major tourist attractions in Taipei for promotional "flash" photography showings.

4. Artist Paulo Grangeon has also specially used the Formosan black bear as a model. (Photo courtesy of Left Brain)

5. There are six hidden photo-taking points for visitors to discover at Dajia Riverside Park's panda mural.

An Edutainment Water Experience – Dagouxi Ecology and Water-Control Park

Want to enjoy the floral landscapes of Hokkaido, Japan? Well now you can enjoy something similar (only on a smaller scale) here in Taipei at the city's Dagouxi Ecology and Water-Control Park (大溝溪生態治水園區), opened late last year. Located on Dahu Shanzhuang Street (大湖山莊街) in Neihu District, this is a compact, idyllic spot that has both a water-control function and splendid scenic landscaping. A public recreation space with wide-open vistas, it is the manifestation of 12 years of systematic flood-management planning by the Taipei City Government. "Dahu" means "big lake," but no longer does Dahu Shanzhuang Street become part of a big lake during rainy seasons or typhoons. The rich natural landscape and ecology have made this a favorite leisure destination with the public, its reputation spread by word of mouth.

1



2



3



4



5

According to the Hydraulic Engineering Office, Public Works Department (工務局水利工程處) of Taipei City Government, natural landscaping was considered an important aspect of the flood-control works right from the outset of planning. The watercourse of the Dagouxi (Dagou Stream) was preserved, an artificial wetland habitat was created, and other measures were taken to create an inviting watery space where peak flows can be reduced during periods where flooding is a risk. Perhaps the park's most visually arresting addition is the stunning "sea of flowers" (花海) tableaux created by an approximately 4,000-square-meter swath of cultivated flowers, arranged in bands of various colors to create a long, winding ribbon of colorful flowers, delighting visitors.

The Hydraulic Engineering Office specially recommends that you ascend the steps of the Dahu Shan-zhuang Ladder Trail (大湖山莊階梯步道) for a great overview of the sea of flowers. Also popular with visitors is the park's waterside Qinshui Trail (親水步道), which offers a splendid changing landscape. In different seasons, many different creatures can be seen, including butterflies, dragonflies, fireflies, egrets, Taiwan blue magpies, and other frequent visitors. Visitors are often startled to discover that such a beautiful place in fact doubles as an important flood control measure.

If after exploring the park you still have energy to explore further, note that the end-point of the Qinshui Trail is an entranceway to the trails of the Wuzhi Mountains (五指山系), taking you to the Bihu Hiking Trail (碧湖步道), Bishanyan (碧山巖), Baishihu Suspension Bridge (白石湖吊橋), Jinmian Mountain (金面山), Liyushan (Mt. Liyu; 鯉魚山), and other well-known spots, making for a scenery-packed full-day outing. 📍

1. Water-experience platform at the Dagouxi Ecology and Water-Control Park.
2. Dagouxi Ecology and Water-Control Park's wetland ecology.
3. Flowers that bloom in all seasons are planted in the flood-control pool area, creating a lovely "sea of flowers"; the local community sends volunteer teams to keep things in order.
4. Qinshui Trail is much used on weekends and holidays.
5. A flock of geese nicely settled in at the Dagouxi Ecology and Water-Control Park wetland.

Information

Dagouxi Ecology and Water-Control Park 大溝溪生態治水園區

Transportation: Take Taipei Metro Wenhua Line (文湖線) to Dahu Park Station (大湖公園站), take Exit 1, enter Dahu Shanzhuang Street (大湖山莊街). The park is soon after passing Taipei Municipal Dahu Elementary School (臺北市大湖國民小學).



Exploring the Culture of Taiwan's Paper Arts

Paper plays a leading role in many segments of our lives. Like to know more about how it's traditionally made in Taiwan? Maybe even like to try your hand at the art yourself? Or learn about the specialty papers that play a role in our days? Let's go find out!



From Bamboo to Washi, Coarse to Fine

The beginnings of Taiwan's paper-making industry can be traced back to the 1663~1683 period of rule by Zheng Chenggong (鄭成功), better known as Koxinga (國姓爺) in the West, and his descendants. The bamboo paper-making method was introduced to the island at this time. The use of bamboo as a paper-making material is still widespread today, such as in the making of spirit money (joss paper) for religious worship. During Taiwan's Japanese era, the Japanese introduced a new technique, in which mulberry or gampi bark was used. The longer fibers were used to make a paper akin to cotton paper, with a simple, earthy feel. Gampi bark was used to make Xuan paper (宣紙), known for its brightness.

With the introduction of these new techniques, the abundant timber and purity of its water brought the Nantou County (南投縣) township of Puli (埔里鎮) to the

fore. Its water is low in iron, enabling the production of highest-quality paper. Any production in which the water used contains impurities, or during which chemicals are added, tends to produce low quality paper which is easy to decay.

In the years after Taiwan was returned to Chinese rule in 1945, agricultural crop waste was used in paper production. Examples include Puli-produced water-bamboo shoot fiber as well as pineapple leaf, rice straw, sugarcane skin, and ramie from the south. These could be used to craft paper in a wide range of varieties, though the rougher texture wasn't not as fine as that produced with tree bark, and the shorter fibers also resulted in less tensile strength.





5



6



7

From Handmade-Paper Factory to Museum

After this quick history primer, if interested in learning more about paper's many applications and perhaps a little first-hand experience with the paper-making process, a visit to the Suho Memorial Paper Museum (樹火紀念紙博物館) on Taipei's Chang'an East Road (長安東路) is highly recommended. It offers a detailed explanation of the paper-making process and paper applications in both Chinese and English.

The museum's origins go back to 1958, when Chen Suho (陳樹火) opened the Chang Chuen Cotton Paper (長春棉紙廠) factory in his hometown, Puli. The majority of the paper produced was made by hand. Chen had always had good relations with the Japanese, and wanted to both emulate and preserve their high-quality techniques and craftsmanship. He always wanted to open a museum, and in 1995 his daughter, Chen Ruihui (陳瑞惠), made the dream reality by opening the Taipei museum.

Open almost 19 years now, the museum operates much like a small paper mill. All the various tools used in paper making are on display – beater, forming vat, press, flat dryer. Explanation of the development and techniques used in paper-making is provided in a combination of permanent and special displays, exploring the art,

1-2. The paper-making facility at Chang Chuen Cotton Paper, opened in the era after Taiwan Retrocession. (Photo courtesy of Suho Memorial Paper Museum)

3. Mulberry bark was introduced as a paper-making material during the Japanese era.

4-5. The use of bamboo as a paper-making material is still widespread today, such as in the making of spirit money for religious worship in Taiwan.

6. The longer fibers of gampi bark create a paper akin to cotton paper, with a simple, earthy feel. (Photo courtesy of Suho Memorial Paper Museum)

7. Sugarcane bark was also used to make paper in Taiwan's early modern era. (Photo courtesy of Suho Memorial Paper Museum)

8. The initiator of the Suho Memorial Paper Museum, Mr. Chen Suho (right) and his wife. (Photo courtesy of Suho Memorial Paper Museum)

9-10. The museum has displays on paper's applications and production methods.



8



9



10



11



12

originality and innovation, and craftsmanship involved. A science-interaction approach helps visitors understand paper's transformations and applications.

Using Water to Turn Bark Into Paper

Water is a primary medium in the making of paper, as it reconfigures the fibers of the raw material (plant matter) so that they crisscross. The most traditional (and comparatively common) technique is called *chaozhi* (抄紙) in Chinese and *koshigami* in Japanese, meaning "paper forming." In this, wood material is steeped, steamed, and rinsed, then the following four key steps are followed. 1/ Pulping; the material is immersed in water, beaten and dyed. 2/ Forming: A forming net or forming screen are used; the first is nylon mesh fitted to a wooden frame, and the second is a bamboo curtain that fits snugly within the frame. 3/ Pressing: Sheets are stacked to form tofu-like paper, then a press squeezes

DIY Paper-Making Experience:



1 Stir pulp, ensuring evenness, then take dip net and place in pulp trough, circle three times, slowly scooping up pulp.



2 Take three absorbent paper pads, press gently with hand.



3 Turn dip net over to reverse side, use cloth to clean and soak up moisture.



4 Place absorbent paper, pat with hand, continuing to remove moisture.



5 Place formed paper on drying surface.



6 Use brush to smooth paper, brushing in all directions.



7 After 3~5 minutes, complete process by peeling away paper sheet.



out 60-70% of its water content. 4/ Drying: Sheets are placed on a drying table and heated to 80 degrees centigrade. Now that you know the steps involved, perhaps you have the urge to visit the Suho Paper Memorial Museum and try things out for yourself.

Everyday Uses for Paper

Paper is used for writing and for printing photos, and also has many other special everyday functions in our lives. For example, high-absorbency paper is used in coasters to prevent condensation from cups from dripping down to tabletops; in melamine tableware, in the form of adhesive paper featuring decorative patterns, giving the tableware a glazed appearance even though it's not actually glazed; and to make coffee filters, using paper that is heat-resistant and non-toxic, with precisely calculated thickness and permeability so that the water flows through at the optimal speed, ensuring a good coffee flavor.

Paper is also used in the "paper hotpot" eaten in Japanese restaurants. The pot is made with paper to which food-grade waterproof glue is added; when used the paper won't deform or leak. It also absorbs grease, a welcome bonus for today's health-conscious diners.

In addition to applications related to food and drink, absorbent paper is also used in such items as oil-absorbing facial tissue. The size of the fibers is important to obtain the optimal capillary action. The treated surface fibers remove grease from the face and leave the skin with a smooth, soft feel. Cardboard, formed into a honeycomb-like structure and containing graphite, is bonded with other materials to create "honeycomb paper" used in fireproof building materials and fire partitions. When exposed to heat the graphite expands and clogs the pores of the paper honeycomb, with the result that air cannot circulate, making it difficult for flames to spread.

Paper is ubiquitous in our lives. From the practical to the aesthetic, this ever-present companion presents an ever-changing range of faces and character. 📄

11-12. Open almost 19 years now, the museum operates much like a small paper mill.

13-16. Paper has many special functions in our daily life, such as in melamine tableware paper hotpot, oil-absorbing facial tissue, and honeycomb paper.



Information

Suho Memorial Paper Museum

樹火紀念紙博物館

Add: 68, Sec. 2, Chang'an E. Rd. (長安東路2段68號)

Tel: (02)2507-5535

Hours: Mon~Sat 09:30~16:30

(closed Sun, New Year's Day, Chinese New Year, Qingming Festival, Dragon Boat Festival, Mid-Autumn Festival)

Paper-making Sessions: 10:00, 11:00, 14:00, 15:00

Guided Tours: Sat 14:00

Website: www.suho paper.org.tw

Springtime's Fruit & Veggie-Focused Light Meals

Oilily or fatty fish and meats are today no longer in favor with Taipei folk; instead vegetarian meals with natural flavors are part of the new culinary culture. Taiwan harvests a fresh bounty of fruits and vegetables in each of the four seasons, and a young crop of restaurants satisfying the demand for cooking with the freshest fruits and vegetables has sprung up, giving city diners a wider range of healthy-eating options.



VEGE CREEK – Alternative Vegetarian *Luwei*

Tucked away down along a cozy lane is VEGE CREEK (蔬河), an attractive little enterprise started by two 20-something fellows who are vegetarians. Unlike most of the many *luwei* (滷味; "luwei" refers to tofu, meat or vegetables stewed in soy sauce) joints found along Taipei's streets, which serve non-vegetarian fare VEGE CREEK cooks up vegetables, mushrooms, and bean products. Its soy-sauce brew is livened up with Chinese angelica, medlar, smoked jujube, licorice root, and other Chinese medicinal herbs, adding up to healthy food packed with taste.

VEGE CREEK is a small and intimate space with a distinctive décor. Each large wooden table has 10 chairs. Along the left is a bright-green "vegetable wall", and along the right wall are three rows of large stainless-steel bowls filled with a variety of cooking ingredients. Owner Xu Songbao (許淞堡) says this creative presentation concept is an adaptation of the decorative green walls found at construction sites – the idea is to create an unusual form of aesthetic





beauty by evoking the industry-use of green foliage and sleek, modern steel. There is also an exhibit space for young artists to display their work, adding more artistic aesthetics to the tasty food.

Prepared ingredients are displayed in transparent bags, and customers pick up a basket and choose what they want, with which the chefs whip up a light, delicious, nutritious, healthy vegetarian treat.



Ooh Cha Cha Vegan Health Bar – Vegan and Raw Food Tapas Bar

Ooh Cha Cha Vegan Health Bar (Ooh Cha Cha 自然食) is a true Taipei rarity – a Western-style vegan eatery. Opened by four friends, two from Taiwan and two from overseas, the goal here is to give vegans a chance to eat American-style fruit & veggie light meals, especially the raw food that many Westerners enjoy. The emphasis is on raw food and food cooked at 40 degrees Celsius and lower, preserving the distinctive original flavors of the ingredients. The raw-food selection most often ordered is the Swirl Cream Cake, which has a "pie-crust" bottom layer made with cashews and oats topped with a filling made with banana, dates, raw cocoa, maple syrup, and coconut oil. The individual ingredients are pressed together and frozen to form a single mass that has smooth texture and density akin to that of frozen banana cake.

The Cha Cha Salad Sandwich features a whole-wheat roll with sandwich spread, stuffed with raw Romaine lettuce, tomato, and dill pickle, and with cashew paste in place of egg. Accompanied by a salad made with spicy seasonings, this is a delicious selection of distinctive taste that is a customer favorite. In the Tofu *Banh Mi*, a Vietnamese-style offering that is one of the house

signature dishes, the traditional ground pork is replaced with baked tofu. It comes with sweet-and-sour pickled red and white radish, giving it that distinctive Vietnamese taste.

1. VEGE CREEK's serves vegetarian luwei, primarily using vegetables, mushrooms, and bean products.
2. VEGE CREEK's bright-green "vegetable wall" imitates construction-site decorative green walls.
3. VEGE CREEK attracts many foreign visitors interested in novel vegetarian fare.
4. The Western raw-food culinary style is used for Ooh Cha Cha Vegan Health Bar's Swirl Cream Cake and other items.
5. The Cha Cha Salad Sandwich, with cashew paste in place of egg, is a unique and very tasty creation.
6. Ooh Cha Cha Vegan Health Bar is a true Taipei rarity – a Western-style vegan eatery.



BANAGREEN – A Perfect Score for Health

In Western meals, salad often plays a supporting role, presented at table before the entree. At BANAGREEN (香蕉•綠), on Ruiguang Road (瑞光路) in Neihu District, salads and entrees share the spotlight as leading characters. The hearty vegetable salad is served with three different hot foods, enabling those who enjoy Western dining to try a greater variety of fruit-and-vegetable culinary creations.

Food is arranged in a semi-buffet style. Each guest starts with the hearty vegetable salad, choosing their three hot foods to be added from seven options. These include honey tomatoes, sweet pepper fish fillet, *mentaiko* (the marinated roe of cod or pollock) potato, and cinnamon with orange toast. Topped with your favorite salad dressing, this makes a nutritionally balanced light meal in itself.

There are nine entrée selections to choose from. One is roasted sea bass with butter and caper sauce, which features Taiwan bass roasted with white wine. Another is beef stew with red wine and yolk; after stewing in the red wine until delectably tender, egg yolk and a special sauce are spread atop the beef. Especially popular with diners from overseas is the deep-fried John Dory fillet with almond and kiwi sauce, featuring fish imported from England. To preserve the natural flavors, little oil, salt, or sugar is used in the preparation here.

The Taiwan banana is featured on the BANAGREEN shop sign, and is the center of attention in many of its special creations such as fried bananas with stewed lentils, banana-yogurt salad dressing, banana and nut milk, and the very popular banana tiramisu. As one can see, the owner wants everyone to know that Taiwan bananas are tasty, and good for you.



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7. At BANAGREEN both salads and entrees are main-dish selections.

8-9. Foreign customers especially like the beef stew with red wine & yolk and the deep-fried John Dory fillet with almond and kiwi sauce.

10. The best-selling banana tiramisu.

11. Bright-interior BANAGREEN uses a semi-buffet ordering style.



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The V:F – Delicious Original, All-Natural Fruit & Veggie Flavors

Located near Daan Park (大安森林公園), The V:F (舞蔬弄果) brings a creative Italian cooking style to vegetarian cuisine, crafting healthy and nutritious fare. The head chef apprenticed in Japan, where he observed how the Japanese pay close attention to their fruit and vegetable consumption while meat is relegated to a supporting role. In contrast, the people of Taiwan prefer meat-based main dishes, and see cooked vegetables as accompanying dishes. He felt local diners were thus not able to fully enjoy Taiwan's rich diversity of fruit and vegetable production. Today, he uses Italian cooking techniques as his base to craft inventive fruit and vegetable cuisine, eschewing spiciness, milk, and eggs, and allowing the fresh, natural flavors of his ingredients to speak for themselves.

All dishes on the menu are head chef originals, including the truffle and cucumber Italian fried dumplings with a filling of mushroom, cucumber, Chinese cabbage, red carrot, basil, and truffle sauce, presented with a Hawaiian charcoal-grilled vegetable kebab. Wonderfully aromatic, the dumplings are like classic Taiwan-style fried dumplings called *jianjiao* (煎餃), but without the greasiness. Another fine option is the half-moon pizza, which has a filling of cheese and six different fried vegetables. With its fruit salad accompaniment, this selection provides the foodie with a full daily complement of fruit and veggie nutrition.

For those who enjoy more original fruit and vegetable flavors but are not interested in sitting down to a cold salad, the creative vegetarian innovations at The V:F are just what the chef ordered.



In springtime, the world bursts back into full bloom, a great time for you to come explore Taipei's fruit-and-vegetable culinary imaginings, eating healthy and lightening both body and spirit. 🌱

- 12. Near Daan Park, The V:F offers creative Italian-style food preparation.
- 13. The half-moon pizza has a filling of cheese and six different fried vegetables.
- 14. The truffle and cucumber Italian fried dumplings have many different types of vegetable in their filling.

Information

VEGE CREEK 蔬河

Add: 2, Ln. 129, Yanji St. (延吉街129巷2號)

Tel: (02)2778-1967

Hours: 12:00~14:00, 17:00~21:00

Ooh Cha Cha Vegan Health Bar

Ooh Cha Cha 自然食

Add: 207, Sec. 2, Nanchang Rd. (南昌路2段207號)

Tel: (02)2367-7133

Hours: Mon~Fri 10:00~21:00, Sat/Sun 10:00~18:00

BANAGREEN 香蕉•綠

Add: 33, Ln. 513, Ruiguang Rd. (瑞光路513巷33號)

Tel: (02)2797-2795

Hours: 11:00~21:00

The V:F 舞蔬弄果

Add: 2F, 7, Sec. 3, Xinyi Rd. (信義路3段7號2樓)

Tel: (02)2706-7755

Hours: 11:30~22:00

Taipei Local Stories, Unique Gift Creations

In this issue, we specially introduce the distinctive gift items created by Ten Cake (十字軒糕餅舖), a traditional-style heritage shop, and Ginger Ginger (薑心比心), an innovative young brand. Learning about their entrepreneurial stories will bring even deeper meaning when presenting them as gifts to friends and loved ones.



Chinese Bakery with a Gold-Lettered Signboard – Ten Cake

Bakery after bakery has opened, one after the other over the years, Western-style and Japanese-style, and today's newest hot-selling product is French macarons. New, always new, is the way to go.

Or is it? Ten Cake was established over 80 years ago, in 1930, on Yanping North Road (延平北路). In addition, what does it sell? "Old, old, old" – as in tradition, as in old-time Chinese bakery treats. Classical religious-worship items, Chinese New Year treats, and engagement cakes – they have got it all, and have been a companion to many older Taipei folk their entire lives.

Ten Cake's founder started as an apprentice in a bakery at a young age, and later opened Ten Cake across from its present location. On the shop's walls are numerous awards, including ones garnered during Japan's Showa period at its National Confectionery Exposition. There is also a photo of Yanping North Road in the old days, with Ten Cake's signboard visible. Qiu Xiande (邱獻德), from the second generation, says that the photo has an interesting origin. "In those days cameras weren't in widespread use. One day a Japanese couple pulled up in a taxi and, showing me a photograph, asked me directions. I discovered my father's shop in the photo, and learned that the husband and wife

had lived on the street in their youth, and had very fortunately saved this precious historical memory."

Among Ten Cake's offerings, 90% are vegetarian, containing no egg or lard. The vegetarian-filling cakes are best known, with eight flavor choices, including white-bean paste, green bean paste, and curry. Nowadays most Chinese cakes are used for festival celebrations, and throughout the year there is a steady parade of religious devotees and temple representatives through Ten Cake's doors, who come to buy the items needed for deities' birthdays – the Earth God (土地公), God of Culture and Literature (文昌帝君), Mazu (媽祖), Guan Gong (關公), Guanyin Pusa (觀音菩薩), and many others. These sacrificial foods include longevity peaches (壽桃), items auspiciously shaped like a turtle (in an auspicious red color) and a pineapple, and items made with wheat flour shaped like the traditional "three sacrifices" (三牲) and "five sacrifices" (五牲).

Each year on the 13th day of the 5th lunar month, the birthday of Dadaocheng's famed Chenghuangye (城隍爺; often called the City God in English), adherents come in to buy "salty guang cakes" (鹹光餅), which are first offered in prayer to the god, beseeching safe and peaceful days, and then eaten by family members. Qiu Xiande says that in years past he worried that as the older generation passed on the number of pious folk would wither, and that his business would follow, but he feels there has been a revival of traditional religion in recent

years. Evidence comes with any temple visit, where believers stream in and out, part of an existential relationship between followers and temples similar to that between the church and parishioners in overseas countries. Qiu worries no more about his old shop's future.

Ten Cake's longevity peaches come with three different paste fillings: red bean, green bean, and butter bean. Traditional local custom is to have a big banquet celebration for a 70th, 80th, 90th, and 100th birthday, and to distribute longevity peaches to family and friends. As with traditional wedding cakes, one box is given to each family, thereby gifting them some of the cheerful mood of the moment. Among the shop's other star draws are brown sugar *fagao* (發糕) and old-style-flavor "foam cakes" (泡餅). *Fagao* is a sweetened, steamed sponge cake, and at Ten Cake, only pure brown sugar is used. Many customers take the foam cakes home and add them to water or powdered milk, or to peanut soup, for a light breakfast. At Chinese New Year, a cornucopia of old-time tea snacks is prepared, among them rice-flour nuggets (糕仔粒), candied peanuts, fried-flour candy strips, caramelized winter-melon strips, "juhong cakes" (桔紅糕), "cold cakes" (涼糕), and deep-fried red-bean balls. Elsewhere, Ten Cake has taken the traditional engagement cakes given to others when a daughter is to be married

and shrunk them to a smaller size that makes them perfect for gift-box presentation – and the perfect souvenir choice for travelers from overseas.

1. Second-generation owner Qiu Xiande is confident in the old shop's continuing success; on the walls are numerous awards, including ones garnered during Japan's Showa period at its National Confectionery Exposition.
- 2-3. Ten Cake opened on Yanping N. Rd. over 80 years ago, in 1930; its storefront display from the era can be seen in this vintage photograph. (photo courtesy of Ten Cake)
4. "Salty guang cakes," offered when praying for peace and safety.
- 5-6. Ten Cake's white-bean paste cakes and other Chinese cakes.
7. Ten Cake has taken traditional Chinese engagement cakes and made them smaller, perfect for gift-box presentation.
8. Traditional cake molds preserved for posterity.



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Heartfelt Sincerity in Practice – Ginger Ginger

Though it cannot match the history of Ten Cake, Ginger Ginger, which opened just 11 years ago, nevertheless shares the same spirit in its insistence on creating its own brand, and in its short existence has established a reputation among customers of all ages.

Owner Chu Chialin (朱嘉琳) once ran a restaurant in Taipei, but the constant work in and out of the kitchen tired her out. One day in the kitchen, on a whim she pressed some ginger that had been soaking in stock for a while to squeeze out the juice. Then, on another whim, she added the liquid to her bath the next few days. To her surprise, she found both her mental and physical fatigue had vanished. Realizing ginger's health benefits, she specially created bottle after bottle of ginger juice, presenting them to her customers as souvenirs. With time she developed the notion that ginger products would be a good direction for development, and realized that her highest priority was a source for first-rate raw materials. She traveled all around Taiwan visiting ginger-production

locations, and in the mountains of Taitung County (臺東縣) found the ginger she wanted, of the purest quality. Believing in corporate social responsibility, she entered into a production contract with the Taitung branch of Operation Dawn (財團法人基督教晨曦會), a Christian group involved in drug rehabilitation.

Ginger Ginger's ginger-based products are wide-ranging. In truth, ginger's beneficial properties have been known for thousands of years; in ancient China ginger was used as an anti-inflammatory, to fend off cold, to promote blood circulation, and for many other health reasons, and was called "the common people's ginseng" (平民的人蔘). Over the years, owner Chu has utilized the benefits in the development of many products. One example is Ginger Vinegar (薑奶醋), taken orally, which brings relief from menstrual pain. Its base is rice vinegar, a warm/mild tonic, to which brown sugar is added to begin fermentation, creating a liquid suitable for drinking during menstruation. Another product is Ginger Powder for SPA (薑奶湯), a powder made for autumn and winter bathing use, which afterwards continues to help your skin maintain warmth and resist cold.



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In spring, it can be used for foot soaks, stimulating blood circulation.

Wild ginger flower is used in another product, Butterfly Ginger Flower Hand Cream (蝴蝶白薑花護手霜), which has proved to be especially popular with Japanese customers. Ginger is also a good natural deodorant – for example, it is used in fish dishes to remove any unpleasant smells – and is put to the same use in Ginger Toothpaste (薑潔牙膏).

There is a Chinese expression, *jiang xin bi xin* (將心比心), that means to feel and care for others. Chu, with her background, was extremely conscientious about food preparation and is equally conscientious about her product ingredients and preparation. She cares first and foremost about her customers – and that is why Ginger Ginger is called *jiang xin bi xin* (薑心比心) in Chinese, with the *jiang* for “ginger” substituted for “take.” 🌱

9. The mountains of Taitung County are a superb ginger-growing environment.
10. The ancient Chinese discovered ginger's many beneficial uses, including as an anti-inflammatory, to fend off cold, and to promote blood circulation, calling it “the common people's ginseng.”

11. Ginger Ginger owner Chu Chialin's culinary background makes her extremely conscientious about her product ingredients and preparation.

12-13. Ginger Ginger's Butterfly Ginger Flower Hand Cream and Ginger Toothpaste are especially popular with Japanese visitors.

14. Ginger Vinegar.

Information

Ten Cake 十字軒糕餅舖

Add: 70, Sec. 2, Yanping N. Rd. (延平北路2段70號); temporary address, original location no. 68, renovation work to be completed in September.

Tel: (02)2558-0989

Hours: Mon~Sat 08:00~22:00, Sun 09:00~18:00

Website: www.ten-cake.com.tw

Ginger Ginger (Yongkang store)

薑心比心 (永康門市)

Add: 28, Yongkang St. (永康街28號)

Tel: (02)2351-4778

Hours: Sun~Thurs 10:30~22:00, Fri/Sat 10:30~22:30

Website: www.ginger800.com



A Yangmingshan Spring Flowers Scenic Tour

Each year in early spring the seasonal flowers of Yangmingshan (陽明山) burst into bloom, with the cherry blossoms, azaleas, and calla lilies making the biggest splash as this mountainous area is covered in bright-new colors. The area is often called “Taipei’s back garden” – a name that is especially apt at this time – and travelers are warmly recommended to experience this splendid seasonal show. Step out with us now on a Yangmingshan flower-viewing tour, immersing yourself in the beauty of the grand spring blooms and inspiring mountain vistas.

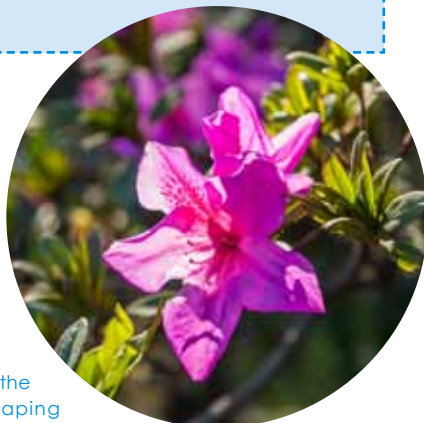


Yangming Park (viewing cherry blossoms, azaleas) → Zhuzihu (picking flowers, strolling through flower fields) → Mu Zhen Yuan / Bale Sao Ganwei Fang Reshi Chawu (lunch) → Xiaoyoukeng → Lengshuikeng Hot Springs → Menghuan Pond → Zest Café

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1-2. March/April is prime time for enjoyment of cherry blossoms and azaleas in Yangmingshan.

3. The Flower Clock is the best-known landscaping attraction in Yangming Park.



Bright and Bedazzling Cherry Blossoms – An Azalea Beauty Contest

It is strongly recommended that during Yangmingshan's spring flower season you use the city's comprehensive and convenient public transportation network. After taking a bus up to Yangming Park (陽明公園), get off and you'll immediately find yourself surrounded by pastel floral beauties vying for your attention. Your one-day Yangmingshan outing has officially begun. Bright-red mountain cherry blossoms are the first to open, their show lasting from the end of January to early March. They well deserve their description as Yangmingshan's most eye-catching beauties. Enjoy happiness-inducing first looks at the Yangming Park Cherry Blossom Forest (陽明公園櫻花林區), Hushan Green (綠地), Qianshan Park (前山公園), and the area around Yangmingshan Second Parking Lot (陽明山第二停車場).

The next show is put on by the pink-petaled Japanese showa cherry, which blooms from February to the end of March. You'll first spot these delicate beauties around Qianshan Park's fountain and parking lot. There are comparatively fewer yoshino cherry trees on Yangmingshan, but when they are in bloom from March through April their snow-white blossoms are the area's most provocative and best-loved beauty. The trees are distributed through the cherry-tree forest in Yangming Park.

Visiting Taipei at this time of year without going up Yangmingshan to admire the azaleas is like going to



Tokyo but not visiting Ueno Park to admire the cherry blossoms. Amidst Yangmingshan's seas of flowers, the azalea is the most numerous and most striking, and for this reason is Taipei's official flower. The majority of the azaleas are concentrated in Yangming Park (Houshan Park; 後山公園) and in Qianshan Park. They come in a bewitchingly vivid mix of colors and forms, and when the bushes are in full bloom at Yangming Park great crowds flock to see them, so come on a non-holiday weekday if possible.



Zhuzihu Calla Lilies – Refreshing and Elegant

Yangmingshan flower season is more than just cherry blossoms and azaleas. The third star in the local floral triumvirate is the calla lily, and its stage is Zhuzihu (竹子湖, which means "Bamboo Lake"). To get to Zhuzihu, take the Flower Season Shuttle Bus 131 from the Flower Clock at Yangming Park. Rainy and damp throughout the year, this was Taiwan's first location for cash-crop calla-lily cultivation, and a well-known Taipei scenic area precisely because of these lilies. The local calla lily has supremely lovely lines, the simple, uncomplicated green stalk supporting the large white flower in elegant harmony. The cash-crop farms that line Zhuzihu Road (竹子湖路) sell calla lilies and other fresh-from-the-field offerings. To even better enjoy the pretty rural scenery, however, don farm-supplied rainboots and pick your own.

Each year the popular Zhuzihu Calla Lily Festival (竹子湖海芋季) is staged, and the 2014 edition will run from

March 21st through April 27th. In 2013 Zhuzihu won a LivCom Award (International Awards for Livable Communities), and the related theme chosen for this year's festival is "Love and Dreams" (愛與夢想). Area farms will show off their floriculture design and landscaping creativity, crafting themed landscapes that tell the story of the local residential community and farmsteads. During the festival there will also be a calla-lily exhibition, calla-lily farm-ecology experience activities, a Zhuzihu calla-lily season retrospective exhibition, and numerous other draws sure to make your visit a richly rewarding one.



Fine, Fresh Tastes – Dining on Wild Herbs and Other Mountain Produce

Zhuzihu is also popular with Taipei folk as a place for dining on fresh vegetables and mountain produce. At Mu Zhen Yuan (lit. "Wood Treasure Garden"; 木珍園), in business over 20 years, the signature dishes are home-grown vegetables and plump free-range chicken. The chopped cold chicken is prepared fresh daily. First boiled in a broth for two hours, it is unusually tender and succulent. All vegetables served are also picked the same day from the field, and cooked fresh to order to ensure maximum flavor. Visitors often end their meal with a warming bowl of sweet-potato soup.

4. A prime attraction during the Zhuzihu Calla Lily Festival is the story-theme garden landscaping.

5-6. The calla lily has lovely, delicate lines, attracting flower-lovers into the fields to pick the best of the beauties.



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Afterwards, head over to nearby Bale Sao Ganwei Fang Reshi Chawu (芭樂嫂甘味坊日式茶屋; "Guava Lady Sweet-Taste Workshop Japanese Teahouse") – for the freshly-made Japanese soy sauce dumplings (roasted mochi) and (in-season) limited quantities of strawberry daifuku (strawberry mochi). Relax in the pleasant Japanese-style surroundings for a while before heading back out to explore the surrounding scenic landscape.



Mother Nature's Bounty – An Outing of Rich Reward

In addition to its flowers, Yangmingshan also offers great natural scenic beauty. The Yangmingshan Leisure Bus will take you to Xiaoyoukeng (小油坑), Menghuan Pond (夢幻湖), Lengshuikeng (冷水坑), and other well-known attractions. Xiaoyoukeng, close to Zhuzihu, is a place of volcanic terrain featuring fumarole activity and sulfur-crystal deposits. Because of intense weathering of the unstable mountainside, safety railings have been built on both sides of the trail here, which though keeping you a little distance away from the most dramatic scenery add to the visual aesthetics.

The famed hot spring at Lengshuikeng bubbles up from a crack at the eastern foot of Qixingshan (七

星山). The groundwater, which has been warmed by subterranean heat, is about 40°C. This is a low-temperature neutral bicarbonate spring, and is called Lengshuikeng or "cold water pit" because the temperature of the water is markedly lower than at other nearby hot springs. There are free-use public bathing and foot-soaking facilities, so even if you don't have time for a full soak you can rest a bit and soothe your feet, taking advantage of the local mineral water's health-giving benefits.

A trail from the Lengshuikeng area leads uphill to Menghuan Pond, which is at an altitude of about 850 meters. You can also opt to take the entrance by the Menghuan Pond parking lot; from here you will reach the pond in about 15 minutes. The trail offers expansive views of the terrain of Lengshuikeng, Mt. Qigu (七股山), Mt. Huangzui (磺嘴山), and the open grassland on the Qingtiangang (擎天崗) plateau. The pond is a place of wetlands and rich aquatic-plant life, and is home to protected Taiwan quillwort (台灣水韭), a water plant which is listed as a national treasure. To protect this rare plant, Menghuan Pond has been designated an ecological conservation zone. Many travelers from overseas and members of the island's foreign community make a point of coming to Menghuan Pond to enjoy the beauty of the place.



180-Degree Scenic Restaurant – Enjoying Creative Cuisine

If and when you find yourself sated on Yangmingshan's seas of flowers and many natural attractions, if time



allows head over to the area below Chinese Culture University (中國文化大學), where you have a nice choice of scenic restaurants for dinner. The night views here are especially fine. Zest Café (Zest Café休閒景觀餐廳), at the top of the Tianmu Trail (天母古道), commands a superb 180-degree panorama over greater Taipei, and you can choose outdoor seating and dine under a star-filled sky. In spring, among the specially recommended creative dishes are the pickled Chinese cabbage hotpot, "double-color dragon" chicken legs (雙色龍雞腿), and "red phoenix" prawn roll (丹鳳大蝦卷). What better way to end your Yangmingshan adventure? 🍷

7. At Mu Zhen Yuan, the signature dishes are home-grown vegetables and plump free-range chicken.
- 8-9. Bale Sao Ganwei Fang Reshi Chawu, a place with a pronounced Japanese ambiance, try the freshly-made Japanese soy sauce dumplings (roasted mochi) and strawberry daifuku.
10. Xiaoyoukeng is a place of volcanic terrain featuring fumarole activity and sulfur-crystal deposits.
11. Lengshuikeng has free-use foot-soaking facilities; travelers come to enjoy a soothing high-mountain soak.
- 12-13. Menghuan Pond, a wetlands attraction, is home to protected Taiwan quillwort (台灣水韭). Many travelers from overseas and members of the island's foreign community make a point of coming to Menghuan Pond to enjoy the beauty of the place.
14. Zest Café has superb views; enjoy the panorama over greater Taipei and the chef's creative dishes.
15. "red phoenix" prawn roll, and Chinese cabbage hotpot.

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Information

Yangming Park Visitor Center

陽明公園遊客服務中心

Add: 26, Sec. 2, Hushan Rd. (湖山路2段26號)

Tel: (02)2861-3861

Transportation:

1. Take Taipei Metro to Taipei Main Station and transfer to bus No. 260. Alternatively get off at MRT Shilin Station and transfer to either bus No. 260 or Red No. 5 (紅5) to the terminus on Yangmingshan, then take shuttle Bus No. 130 to the Flower Clock at Yangming Park.
2. Two further options are to get off at Shipai Station and transfer to bus Small No. 8 (小8), or Beitou Station and transfer to bus Small No. 9 (小9) to the Flower Clock at Yangming Park.
3. During the flower season until April 27th, Flower Season Shuttle Bus No. 131 runs from the car park at Yangming Park Flower Clock to Zhuzihu.

2014 Zhuzihu Calla Lily Festival

2014 竹子湖海芋季

Venue: Zhuzihu, Yangmingshan (陽明山竹子湖)

Tel: (02)2892-4185, ext. 450 (Beitou Farmers' Association; 北投區農會)

Time: 3/21~4/27; flowers bloom until late May

Website: www.callalily.com.tw

Mu Zhen Yuan 木珍園

Add: 33-5, Zhuzihu Rd. (竹子湖路33-5號)

Tel: (02)2862-2223

Bale Sao Ganwei Fang Reshi Chawu

芭樂嫂甘味坊日式茶屋

Add: 33-3, Zhuzihu Rd. (竹子湖路33-3號)

Tel: 0934-141-367

Xiaoyoukeng Visitor Center 小油坑遊客服務站

Add: 69, Zhuzihu Rd. (竹子湖路69號)

Tel: (02)2861-7024

Lengshuikeng Visitor Center 冷水坑遊客服務站

Add: 170, Ln. 101, Jingshan Rd. (菁山路101巷170號)

Tel: (02)2861-0036

Zest Café 休閒景觀餐廳

Add: 72, Aly. 1, Ln. 232, Sec. 7, Zhongshan N. Rd. (中山北路7段232巷1弄72號)

Tel: (02)2862-0588

Please refer to the map provided on P.66

Stylish New Taipei Hotels

The number of visitors to Taipei, from both home and abroad, has been increasing at a steady clip in recent years. Demand for hotel accommodation has risen in tandem, and just last year the doors were thrown open at 37 new hotels. In this issue we introduce three of notable character, one a boutique facility in Xinyi District, one an inexpensive option hidden away in the city center, and the third a compact facility in the style of an art gallery.



A Boutique Hotel Fusing Nature and Art – Humble House Taipei

Humble House Taipei (寒舍艾麗酒店), located in Xinyi District, was opened in January this year. This is the flagship hotel brand of the My Humble House Group (寒舍集團). The interior design, by the world-renowned Hirsch Bedner Associates Pte. Ltd. Design Consultants, has a fresh, unique artistic ambience that distinguishes it from other hotels in Taipei's high-end market.

The wife of group founder Cai Chenyang (蔡辰洋), Ellie Lai (賴英里), is a musician who in recent years has moved into curating art exhibits. This is the inspiration behind the use of an art-exhibit concept in the hotel's design. The poetic line "Let life be beautiful like summer flowers," by India's Rabindranath Tagore, is the theme, and the hotel features natural beauty such as greenery, natural lighting, flowers and butterflies. The hotel is also adorned with over 600 works of domestic and foreign art, filling every space. British artist Paul Cockshedge's sculpture Bourrasque is found in the first-floor entrance area. China's Yang Yongliang (楊泳梁) merges visual images of the cities of Taipei, Shanghai, and Chongqing in his new media art work *The Day of Perpetual Night* (極夜之晝). Taiwan artist Zhou Zhuwang (周珠旺) uses surrealism to express his love for his native land. Japanese artist Sugiura Yasuyoshi's large-scale work *Peony* (牡丹), created with glaze, features an exquisitely



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detailed depiction of the flower. As in a true art gallery, each selected artwork deserves close, lingering inspection.

The striking *Crazy Ball* (瘋狂的球) chandelier, made of 77 iconic designs of chair from around the world, hangs at the entrance of the hotel's Italian restaurant La Farfalla. Examples of such famed chair designs as Dali's red-lips sofa and Eero Aarnio's Ball Chair are combined to form a large lighting globe. On the outside terrace is the *Natural Tower* (自然之塔), made with weathering steel, which subtly changes color with changing temperature and humidity levels and is referred to as a "living work of art" (活著的藝術品). Ellie Lai chose the hotel's pieces over a three-year period of travels that took her around the globe, and you will indeed wonder for a moment whether you have stepped into a hotel or a chic art gallery.

In addition to the artworks seen in every corner, the hotel's staircase is also a striking visual feature, with a special three-fold design that seems to defy the laws of structural mechanics. Elsewhere, the hotel's focus on respect for nature is not only expressed in its art installations, but also in the use of nearly 50% green materials in its construction. Curtain glass is installed on each floor to take full advantage of natural light, energy-efficient lighting is used throughout, and all bathroom facilities carry a water-conservation mark. There is also interior green landscaping and sky gardens

maximize green-area coverage. These efforts have brought Diamond Grade Green Building (鑽石等級綠建築) designation from the Ministry of the Interior (內政部).

Humble House Taipei's 235 rooms have floral-art decorative themes, and the hotel uses bright natural light and clean lines to create a relaxing and restful environment. There are views of the Taipei 101 from 85 of the rooms, which makes them popular at all times, but especially during the annual New Year's Eve fireworks party.

1. British artist Paul Cockshedge's sculpture *Bourrasque* is found in the first-floor entrance area of Humble House Taipei.
2. Guest rooms have floral-art decorative themes, and the hotel uses bright natural light and clean lines; there are views of Taipei 101 from 85 rooms.
3. China's Yang Yongliang new media art work *The Day of Perpetual Night*.
4. Japanese artist Sugiura Yasuyoshi's large-scale work *Peony* is on the third-floor outdoor terrace.
5. The striking *Crazy Ball* chandelier, made of 77 iconic designer chairs from around the world, hangs at the entrance of the hotel's Italian restaurant La Farfalla.
6. Curtain glass is installed on each floor to take full advantage of natural light.
7. The hotel's staircase has a special three-fold design.



Cozy, Conscientious, Intimate – Taipei Morning Hotel

In addition to its many upscale boutique hotels, Taipei is also home to many fashionable hotels that are moderate in price, with rooms in the NT\$1,800~\$2,500 range, yet offering competitive comfort and convenience. Taipei Morning Hotel (澄舍商旅), which opened in last June, has proven especially popular with DIY travelers from Hong Kong, Singapore, Malaysia, and Japan. Guests can make use of an abundance of travel books, tourism brochures, maps, and other information materials, and there is also a shuttle service, and free use of washer/dryer facilities, giving travelers all the conveniences of home; one foreign artist even stayed for three full months.

The hotel's entrance lobby is in various shades of purple, and is graced with a coruscating crystal chandelier, creating an atmosphere of luxurious and fashionable elegance. The 17 guest rooms have been adorned with modern design aesthetics, and all walls without windows sport art works by non-professional artists. The works, exhibiting either concise minimalist lines or bold red color schemes, have vibrant avant-garde

themes. Black titanium is used on tabletops and bed boards, introducing a dynamic coolness.



Bright and Moderately Priced – San Yon Hotel

San Yon Hotel (三漾旅店) is another moderately priced facility that opened its doors just last year. Located near the Ximending Commercial District (西門町商圈), the MRT Ximen Station (西門站) is close at hand, just five minutes away on foot, offering great transportation convenience for DIY travelers. The color white and crisp, clean lines are the main design motifs in the 24 rooms, each of which is equipped with a bright, spacious meeting space and a computer for guests.

The hotel is located on history-rich Hengyang Street, which was named "Rongting Tong" (榮町通; Mandarin Chinese pronunciation) during the Japanese rule; the name roughly means "prosperous district street." It was indeed prosperous, and many of the Baroque and Renaissance-style shop-building façades can still be seen. The hotel's own building, the Century Louvre Building (世紀羅浮大樓), was once the home of the Taiwan Thinktank (財團法人台灣智庫); though completely restored after being gutted by fire, elements of the



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original façade showing off its former grandeur have been saved, nicely complementing the surrounding historical architecture.

As part of its approach to give guests moderate prices, San Yon Hotel cooperates with a neighborhood Subway restaurant to provide a wealth of wholesome submarine-sandwich selections for breakfast. A two to three hours rest service is also provided for travelers waiting for flights.

Taipei's hotel facilities offer all the range you could possibly need in terms of style and price, and compete head to head with the best in Hong Kong, Singapore, and elsewhere. Rooms are spacious, and prices are

more than reasonable in comparison. From the traveling business executive right through to the backpacker, in Taipei satisfaction is guaranteed. 

8-9. At Taipei Morning Hotel, all walls without windows sport dynamic avant-garde art works by non-professional illustrators.

10. Taipei Morning Hotel's lobby is done in shades of purple, creating a mood of fashionable elegance.

11. In San Yon Hotel's 24 rooms, the color white and crisp, clean lines are the main design motifs.

12-13. San Yon Hotel's bright and spacious meeting and counter areas provide comfort and convenience for guests in consultations or waiting for others.

Information

Humble House Taipei

寒舍艾麗酒店

Add: 18, Songgao Rd.
(松高路18號)

Tel: (02)6631-8000

Website: humblehousehotels.com

Taipei Morning Hotel 澄舍商旅

Add: 4F, 11, Sec. 2, Nanjing E. Rd.
(南京東路2段11號4樓)

Tel: (02)2536-5988

Website: www.taipeimorning.com.tw

San Yon Hotel 三漾旅店

Add: 3F, 51, Hengyang Rd.
(衡陽路51號3樓)

Tel: (02)2313-1008

Website: www.sanyon.com.tw

Water Awareness Carnival – The Tianmu Water Source Festival

Tianmu (天母), a residential enclave brimming with stores catering to its many international citizens, has a stylish and relaxed ambience. The general impression among travelers is of a place of convenient living and tasty eating. Many, however, do not know about a "secret" treasure intimately intertwined with the lives of the local people – the Caoshan Water Pipe Trail (草山水道). About 11 years ago a group of Tianmu mothers accidentally "discovered" the trail, and established the Tsao-shan Ecological, Cultural and Historical Union (草山生態文史聯盟) in cooperation with other concerned groups, such as the Huang Stream Self-Help Association (磺溪自救會), Water-Source Spring Self-Help Association (湧泉自救會), and Taipei Women's Love Association (社團法人臺北市婦慈協會) relying on their own strength to protect this precious community resource.

Caoshan Water Pipe Trail – A "Living Water Monument" for 82 Years

The Caoshan Water Pipe Trail water source was established by the Japanese in 1932. In 2004, at the instigation of the Tsao-shan Ecological, Cultural and Historical Union, it was declared an official city historical relic. The first such historical relic in Tianmu, it is also Taiwan's first system-type historical relic. Now 82 years old, it still supplies a portion of Tianmu's usable water – a singular "living water monument" (活水古蹟).

On the Water Pipe Trail (水管路) set up to bring spring-source water down to Taipei from Yangmingshan, you can see the old Sanjiaopu Power Station (三角埔發電所), a large, black water pipe, and adjustment well built by the Japanese. Along the trail, which has become a popular route for locals looking to hike up the mountain, there is lush tree cover and pretty scenery.





Tianmu Water Source Festival – A Thought-Provoking Local Carnival

As part of their efforts to protect and promote the Caoshan Water Pipe Trail, the group of dedicated local mothers later launched the Tianmu Water Source Festival (天母水道祭). First staged in 2003, it is coordinated with the United Nations' World Water Day held every March 22nd. The event has been incorporated into the curriculum of Tianmu primary and secondary schools, and features a series of activities combining learning about water resources, cultural history, and ecology. This year will be the 12th edition of the event, which has fostered thinking about water-resource issues in an ever greater number of people and stimulated a deeper sense of caring for the environment on the part of Tianmu residents, becoming a key annual happening in the local calendar.

The theme for this year's festival is Water and Energy, emphasizing the relationship between the two. On March 25th, local folk, including students from 17 elementary schools in Tianmu, will hit the streets with a grand parade featuring lively costumes and dramatic theater, transforming Tianmu's roads into a lively and boisterous carnival scene. On March 29th, follow Taipei Municipal Lanya Junior High School (臺北市立蘭雅國民中學) teacher Qiu Mingcheng (邱明成) and members of the "Green Action Club" (綠色行動社), and with Taipei Municipal Tian-Mu Junior High School (臺北市立天母國民中學) teacher Cai Yuemei (蔡月美) and members of the "Water Pipe Trail Youth" (水道少年) and Tsao-shan Ecological, Cultural and Historical Union, on guided tours. On this day the Taipei Water Department (臺北自來水事業處) will specially open the No. 3 Water Source (第三水源) natural drinking-water source, a city heritage site, to visitors.

Water is one of Mother Earth's most precious resources. Without water, humans cannot survive, and without it, there would be no human civilization. Come on out to share in the joy of this unique local happening. 🌊



Touring the Caoshan Water Supply Heritage Site (Caoshan Water Pipe Trail)

Upper section of Yangmingshan's Qingchun Ridge (青春嶺)→Travel along Yangtzu Highway (陽投公路)→To No.3 Water Source, below Mt. Shamao (紗帽山)→Along Caoshan Water Pipe Bridge (草山水管橋)–water area, normally closed, is open 3/29 →Along Tianmu Water Pipe Trail (天母古道水管路)→Sanjiaopu Power Station→Along Zhongshan N. Rd. (中山北路) →Yuanshan Reservoir (圓山蓄水池) in front of MRT Jiantan Station (捷運劍潭站)

Information

Tianmu Water Source Festival Parade

天母水道祭踩街活動

Time: 3/25, 08:30~12:00

Venues: Tianmu Sanyu Temple (天母三玉宮), at intersection of Sec. 7, Zhongshan N. Rd. and Tianmu E. Rd. (天母東路) to Sanjiaopu Power Station, end of Sec. 7, Zhongshan N. Rd. (中山北路)

Tel: (02)2826-2369

Website: www.tienmu.tw

Water Pipe Trail Guided Tour 水管路步道導覽

Time: 3/29, 09:00~12:00

Venues: Along Tianmu Water Pipe Trail to No.3 Water Source

- 1-2. This year is the 12th for the Tianmu Water Source Festival, which has fostered thinking about water-resource issues, stimulated deeper caring for the environment among residents, and becoming a key annual Tianmu happening.
3. Guided tours on the local history and ecology gives people a glimpse into the Tianmu Trail's secrets.
4. Sanjiaopu Power Station, no longer in use, was one of Taiwan's water-powered plants.
5. The No. 3 Water Source will be specially opened on festival day, giving visitors the chance to drink from a natural water source.

Experience a World of Snow and Ice in Taipei

Subtropical Taipei is not a place generally associated with snow, and the only time the city's residents normally get to see it is when they leave, either to travel overseas or to head up to Taiwan's Hehuanshan (合歡山) or Yushan (玉山). However, the Chinese Culture and Education Economic Development Association (中華文化教育經濟發展促進會) has made it possible for local folk to experience an icy minus 18°C climate by inviting 20-plus ice-sculpture masters from the city of Harbin (哈爾濱) in mainland China to come to Taipei and carve out a mini-city of ice. Their work, an enclosed ice-city world, is a splendid showcase of their masterly skills and gives visitors an authentic feel for the grand art at Harbin's famed annual ice-sculpture competition.


The Harbin Ice Festival is known around the world. Its masters excel at large-scale works, with themes such as the Great Wall of China and other examples of the world's great architecture. The addition of laser color effects creates a phantasmagorical ice world, transporting visitors into a world of dreams. Now you too can enjoy – for a limited time – the Harbin fantasy ice world, here in Taipei.



2014 Fantasy Ice World (2014台北冰雪世界) has three sections. Young kids may especially like the "Anime Colors Ice Area" (動漫彩冰區), which features sculptures of cartoon characters in works such as "Seabed Adventures" (海底歷險記), "3D Fantasy Dance Children's Theater" (3D奇幻歌舞兒童劇), "MuMuHug" (媽媽抱抱), and "The Cat in the Hat" (魔法靈貓). Also featured are ice versions of Taipei's most popular animal family, the giant pandas – parents Tuan Tuan (團團) and Yuan Yuan (圓圓), and toddler Yuan Zai – who live at the Taipei Zoo. Kids can pose for souvenir shots with any sculpture they take a fancy to.

In the "Ice Lantern Art Area" (冰燈藝術區) are renditions of seven of the world's great wonders: the Great Wall, Taj Mahal, Great Pyramid of Giza, Grand Canyon, Niagara Falls, Angkor Wat, and the Leaning Tower of Pisa. Made of ice blocks, each soars two stories high. The intricate details are highlighted with different colored lights, draping the works in fantasy-like costume, and creating a dreamlike world.

At Fantasy Ice World, you will not just be a spectator – you can also become part of it. Climb the Great Wall and gaze over this strange little universe. Walk into the Grand Canyon labyrinth and feel the awe of being within a maze of ice mountains. Gaze at the outside world from within the semi-transparent pyramid. In addition, frolic with the kids over in the ice carousel and ice slide areas. When you need a break, have a seat on one of the ice chairs in the ice palace bar. The "Happy Skiing Area" (歡樂滑雪區) has a ski run about 40 meters long on which parents, kids, and everyone else can whip down on ski rings, experiencing the thrill of speed that ski slopes bring.

With spring comes a return to warm temperatures, but if you would prefer a dip or two in a world of bone-chilling cold, Taipei's Fantasy Ice World guarantees satisfaction. 



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Notes:

1. The temperature in the venue is minus 18°C; snowsuits can be rented at the service counter, but you must bring your own gloves, scarves, and other gear.
2. Entry is not recommended for individuals feeling unwell or for children aged 3 and under.
3. Wear non-slip footwear.
4. If using ski rings, ensure proper usage and safety.

Information

2014 Fantasy Ice World

2014台北冰雪世界

Time: Until 4/25, 10:00~21:00

Venues: Jingmao 1st Rd. Car Park; beside Nangang Exhibition Center (經貿一路停車場; 南港展覽館旁)

Tel: (02)2651-0115

Website: www.fantasyiceworld.com

1. The famed ice sculptors of Harbin have come to Taipei to show off their amazing skills.
2. In the "Happy Skiing Area," parents and kids can together experience the thrill of speed that ski slopes bring.
- 3-4. The "Anime Colors Ice Area" features sculptures of cartoon characters and of Taipei's wildly popular giant-panda family, parents Tuan Tuan and Yuan Yuan and toddler Yuan Zai.
- 5-6. An ice sculpture of the world-renowned Taj Mahal and Great Pyramid of Giza with colorful lighting that adds to the sense of wonder and fantasy.
7. A favorite with kids is the carousel, made with ice blocks.

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Toyo Ito

- Founder, Toyo Ito & Associates, Architects
- 2002, Golden Lion for Lifetime Achievement at 8th International Architecture Exhibition NEXT at Venice Biennale
- 2005, First prize in design competition for National Opera House in Taichung and 2009 The World Games Main Stadium (now National Stadium) in Kaohsiung
- 2006, Royal Gold Medal from Royal Institute of British Architects for his work Tower of Winds
- 2013, Pritzker Architecture Prize
- 2013, Designs College of Social Sciences, National Taiwan University and Taipei New Horizon Building

“Creator of Timeless Buildings” – Toyo Ito’s Ongoing Dialogue With Taipei

Recipient of the Pritzker Architecture Prize (one of the greatest honors in the world of architecture) in 2013, in his work master Japanese architect Toyo Ito emphasizes the harmony of architecture with nature, fusing his creations with the surrounding environment. This, together with his penchant for organic shapes crafted using challenging construction techniques, has led to him being declared a “creator of timeless buildings.” He has put his rare talent on dynamic display in Taipei over the past few years, designing a number of works.

Ito much values the spirit of experimentation. A building is not like a car, he says – each should have its own unique character. Even trees of the same species may take on a different appearance, depending on where they are growing. When designing a new building, therefore, an architect must avoid merely repeating what has been drawn on blueprints created previously. Each work of architecture in a city must be given its own distinctive look.

He believes that the era of relying on grandiosity to capture attention is now over, and that in the future more attention will be paid to the relationship between people and architecture. “When people enter a building they should have a sense of comfort, and of interest. In addition, they should be able to breathe freely, and should leave with a sense that they would like to visit again. This must be the approach taken to adding value to works of architecture in the future.”



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Ito's works are found in every corner of the globe, and Taiwan is no exception. In Kaohsiung is the National Stadium (國家體育場), in Taichung is the Taichung National Opera House (臺中國家歌劇院), and in Taipei is the newly completed extension of the National Taiwan University's College of Social Sciences (國立臺灣大學社會科學院) and Taipei New Horizon Building (臺北文創大樓).

When designing National Taiwan University's College of Social Sciences, his thinking was that "Architecture should promote person to person interaction." He therefore included no perimeter walls, allowing people to cross the street, enter the main building's gallery, and savor the academic atmosphere. He also designed a large open central courtyard for the main building, creating a sense of permeability, and letting students enjoy the flow of gentle breezes while in class or reading. For the attached Koo Chen-fu Memorial Library (辜振甫紀念圖書館), glass walls on three sides envelop 88 white cement columns. Sunlight pours through the roof and through the glass, washing over the white columns in the same way sunlight pierces through the gaps in tree leaves, giving occupants the impression of walking in a forest. The library has become a favorite spot for teachers and students to spend time.

The Taipei New Horizon Building is a newly opened complex in Songshan Cultural and Creative Park (松山文創園區). During the design phase Ito mulled how to best reflect the park's heritage – it is built around the original buildings of the former Songshan Tobacco Factory (松山菸廠) – while also achieving a harmonious blend of new and old. He designed a building that mimicked terraced fields, with each floor set back from the one below, eliminating the feel of looming, closed-in pressure that highrises can create. Ito also placed an arc-shape square in front of the building, creating a broad public space open to all and inviting people to linger.

Ito also took the relationship between Songshan Cultural and Creative Park and neighboring Taipei Cultural and Sports Park (臺北文化體育園區) into consideration when designing the Taipei New Horizon Building, seeking to engender a dialogue between the two and the surrounding external environment. "The cultural and sports park's Taipei Dome (臺北大巨蛋) is round, and the cultural and creative park's attributes are comparatively gentle, so I discarded hard, straight lines for the Taipei New Horizon Building, using soft, arcing lines on the exterior," says Ito. "This symbolizes the building's role as a highly diverse cultural venue. Beyond the retail shopping, exhibition, and theater facilities, contemporary society needs such spaces with a light atmosphere and the promise of infinite possibilities."

Because of his participation in many Taiwan design projects, Ito has been to the city many times to check out the Taipei lifestyle. He especially likes the coexistence of new and old architecture and the preservation of old city elements while giving them a new face and function, and enjoys experiencing the city by roaming the streets and viewing the vibrant creativity that shops put into their décor and displays. Another favored pastime is rubbing elbows with the friendly crowds at local night markets, listening to the hubbub of conversations and sitting down at tables to eat with strangers, and gaining a greater feeling for the warmth and zest for life among the city's citizens.

"Taipei's streets flow with vitality, and the people's creativity far surpasses what you see in Japan," says Ito. "These are the two things I like best about this place." 🇹🇼

1. Ito gave the Taipei New Horizon Building a gently arcing façade, blending it seamlessly with its surroundings. (Photo courtesy of Fubon Art Foundation)
2. Ito's Taipei New Horizon Building design mimics terraced fields, each floor set back from the one below, eliminating the feeling of looming, closed-in pressure highrises can create. (Photo courtesy of Fubon Art Foundation)
- 3-4. For the Koo Chen-fu Memorial Library, glass walls on three sides envelop 88 white cement columns, letting sunlight pour through. There are no perimeter walls, inviting one and all in to savor the academic air. (Photo courtesy of NTU Law and Social Sciences Library)



Chen Junliang

CEO, Asia Culture and Arts
Development Association

Awards:

- 2001, Grand Prix Savignac, the 15th International Poster Salon, France
- 2005, "Celestial Dome" Porcelain Tableware Design Wins Design for Asia Award
- 2006, Gold, Taiwan Design Awards
- 2007, Special Awards, the 3rd Christmas Card Design, the International VIDICAL Calendar, Christmas Card and New Year's Eve Card Competition
- 2007, Red Dot Design Award
- 2012, Special Award, Design for Asia Awards

The Hero Behind the Scenes of Taipei's World Design Capital Bid – Chen Junliang

In November last year it was officially announced that Taipei had been selected as the 2016 World Design Capital. The bid book that the city had prepared for the organizer, ICSID (International Council of Societies of Industrial Design), featured a distinctive, alluringly eye-catching "dragon-scale binding" (龍鱗裝) that cleverly showcased the city's design prowess. A work of art in itself, the bid book was crafted by Taiwan designer Chen Junliang (陳俊良). Both the bid book and the bid video were winners of 2013 iF Communication Design Awards.

The Making of Taipei's Unique 2016 World Design Capital Bid Book

A total of 61 top designers from 15 countries were nominated by 25 leading international design organizations for the inaugural 2014 Tang Prize Medal Design Competition. Chen was recently selected as one of the 10 finalists.

Chen, who has been called a "design poet" (設計詩人), oversees his own design company, and also teaches at Fu Jen Catholic University (天主教輔仁大學). He excels at reinterpreting the



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humanist spirit of the Orient, using a minimalist modern technique featuring four key elements – images, context, mood, and symbols. Chen says, "This was an international bid, and it was important that the review committee be given something memorable." Drawing his inspiration from deep-rooted cultural tradition, he chose the rare dragon-scale binding normally only seen in rare ancient books, building up the book by adhering each page one by one, creating the look of a dragon's scales and the form of a scroll. The book volumes unfold like a painting, and roll up in scroll form. The work was a superlatively apt way to showcase the design skills of Chinese society thousands of years ago for the international community.

After the binding was finished, Chen adorned the book with iconic Taiwan images such as Dong Yangzi's (董陽孜) calligraphy, Jimmy Liao's (幾米) illustrations, and Chen Ruixian's (陳瑞憲) eslite Bookstore (誠品書店) spatial design. Elsewhere, he used moso bamboo grown in the Nantou County (南投縣) township of Zhushan (竹山鎮), and special "black jade" (墨玉) from Hualien County (花蓮縣). Chen asked the National Palace Museum (國立故宮博物院) team that preserves and repairs antique books and documents to mount each page by hand; their exquisite craftsmanship and attention to detail is clear, creating a rare and precious look. Master woodworkers crafted an elegant wooden case for the book, presenting it as a work of art within another work of art. The result was a visually striking offering that did much to bolster the city's World Design Capital bid.

Beyond much research into the world of ancient books, Chen has also spent much time researching numerous other

aspects of traditional culture. He has practiced calligraphy since he was a young boy, and in 2001 entered the 15th International Poster Salon, France. His poster was mostly blank, consisting of two calligraphy brushes placed on a pear-tree branch with a single line of text. Entitled *The Wind from the East Crystallizes, the World with a New Perspective* (久違了·東風), the minimalist design, though simple in the extreme, ran deep with the connotation that "the Eastern design style is set to sweep the globe" (東方設計風格即將席捲全球). The work emerged victorious from among 8,000 entries submitted from around the planet, and was the first winning work ever submitted by a person of Chinese descent.

Another acclaimed Chen creation was state dinner tableware for Hong Kong's Design for Asia Awards (亞洲最具影響力設計獎) in 2005. His inspiration was the "celestial dome" (蓋天說) from the "circular sky and square Earth" (天圓地方) concept prevalent in the Western Zhou (西周) dynasty, which lasted from the 11th century B.C. to 771 B.C. It was then believed that the sky was spread out like a dome over the Earth, which was square and was orientated to the cardinal points. Chen designed a state banquet ceramic tableware series in which each piece had a round mouth and a square base, emulating the circular sky & square Earth idea, bringing him a major award and much praise from the judges.

1. The "dragon-scale binding" bid book crafted by Taiwan designer Chen Junliang helped Taipei become the 2016 World Design Capital.
2. In 2005, Chen's *Celestial Dome* porcelain tableware design won a Design for Asia award.
3. In 2001 Chen's work *The Wind from the East Crystallizes, the World with a New Perspective* won the 15th International Poster Salon. (Photo courtesy of Chen Junliang)

Looking at Taipei From a Design Perspective

After Chen accepted the Taipei 2016 World Design Capital Bid Book assignment, he began to take note of the beauty to be found in Taipei. "If you have no Yangmingshan," he says, "you lose one of the elements that make Taipei so special. What other international city has its own mountain massif?" The National Palace Museum is home to countless art treasures, and no matter how many times you visit, it offers a rich bounty of aesthetic bounty. Chen forwards these two places as attractions that travelers should make a point to visit. "Then there's dinner, a key event in the Taipei citizen's day, and a favorite time to relax after work." He recommends a number of dining spots where tourists can savor distinctive design – Mitsui (三井日本料理), Addiction Aquatic Development (上引水產), La Mer (煮海), and Cha Cha Thé (采采食茶文化). Each is a chic and elegant space where you enjoy both great food and the attraction of Taipei design. Whenever he has friends visiting from overseas, Chen takes them to King Ping Tea Restaurant (金品茶樓) on Changchun Road (長春路), where tasty, hearty, and affordable *xiaolongbao* (小籠包), a type of dumpling, and chicken noodle soup are served.

Knowing that many tourists love Taipei's night market snack delicacies, he thinks that "Snack vendors should make full use of aesthetically pleasing tableware, and packaging with better design creativity, to express to their patrons the idea that the 'fine food' dining experience involves beauty from the first step through to the last." He believes that Taiwan's density of design-related departments in schools is amongst the highest in the world, Taipei has the greatest density of designers and design companies in the country, and thus more designers should step forward to create distinctive signature designs for night market vendors, introducing pleasing design aesthetics to the night-market experience.

Taipei has been designated as a World Design Capital, and Chen hopes the city's people prepare by first "dressing themselves up," refining their aesthetic taste, and making aesthetics an intrinsic element of their everyday lives, so that the city is worthy of its "World Design Capital" title. 🍵

4. Chen says that the one thing foreign visitors must not miss when in Taipei is the art treasures at the National Palace Museum.

5-6. The great food and elegant dining space at Mitsui. (Photo courtesy of Mitsui)

7. Cha Cha Thé's inspired design aesthetics.



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.

Which metro line do you take to get to the Taipei Zoo?

Mandarin Chinese

到臺北動物園要搭哪條捷運?

Dào táiběi dòngwùyuán yào dā nà tiáo jié yùn?

The Taipei Metro system is really convenient.

Mandarin Chinese

臺北捷運真方便

Táiběi jié yùn Zhēn fāngbiàn

Yuan Zai is very cute.

Taiwanese

「圓仔」真古錐

yīng yàng Jīn gōu zhuī

I'd like to have a picture taken with Yuan Zai.

Taiwanese

我想跟「圓仔」拍照

Wǒ xiǔng mei gā yīng yàng hī xiàng

The Baby Giant Panda is named Yuan Zai.

Mandarin Chinese

大貓熊寶寶的名字叫「圓仔」

Dà māoxióng bǎobǎo De míngzi jiào 'yuán zǐ'

All Walks of Life

臺灣百業

COSPLAY

2014 Mandarin Speech Contest for Foreign Nationals

Registration: Registration begins on February 21st (Friday) till 24:00, April 7th (Monday)

Preliminary Round: All participants are required to post their speeches online for the preliminary round.

Final: May 17th (Saturday) 1:00 p.m./ Guangfu Auditorium of Taipei Zhongshan Hall.

NT\$100,000
to the top winner

www.rti.org.tw



Rti 中央廣播電臺
Radio Taiwan International

A Designer's Social Responsibility – Creating “Cities of Social Design”



Taipei has been chosen the official World Design Capital for 2016. For the average person, “design” brings to mind the facades of buildings and product modeling, but few see it as an expression of caring for people – as “social design” (社會設計). Taiwan’s designers have an enthusiasm for participation in public affairs, the key factor behind Taipei’s successful bid for World Design Capital designation. In social design, “design thinking” is utilized to solve social problems, helping not only the average person but also providing strong support to underprivileged groups. Yang Zhenfu (楊振甫), a lecturer in the Department of Industrial and Commercial Design, National Taiwan University of Science and Technology (國立臺灣科技大學工商設計系), launched 5% Design Action in 2012 to lead other leading Taiwan designers in a “5% design action” social design movement, utilizing design to initiate community transformation.

5% Designer Contribution – Success Surpassing 100%

Many important social issues, though for a time extensively covered in the media, afterward fade from the public’s memory. The 5% Design Action designers want to use their professional skills and knowledge to help the public and private sectors achieve ongoing breakthroughs, and develop more innovative practices, to extend the range of what can be done. This is the inspirational concept behind the campaign, and the goal is to bring together 2,000 designers from different fields, who will target a selected social issue each quarter and work together to create innovation and social improvement, each contributing 5% of their professional time.

“Social innovation does not just require design thinking. It requires design action and participation to make thinking reality.” The focus for 5% Design Action’s first initiative was “Innovative Design for Cancer Screening and Prevention” (癌症篩檢與防治創新設計). According to the World Health






Organization, over the next two decades the number of cancer sufferers around the globe will shoot up 57%, and the number of cancer-related deaths will go up from 8.2 million to 13 million per year. According to the International Agency for Research on Cancer, if individuals lead a healthy lifestyle and undergo regular cancer screening, "at least half of all cancer incidence can be prevented or detected early." Hence, finding out how to use design to improve public cancer screening rates is a core challenge for designers.

About 80 designers engaged in data analysis, field observations and interviews, and discussed the issue with health authorities, medical institutions, and foundations, and then came up with 10 new service-design proposals for cervical cancer, breast cancer, colorectal cancer, and oral cancer. Four of these will be put into practice in the middle of this year, and are expected to increase the low screening rates prevalent among the general public.

From No Relationship to a Web of New Relationships

Yang Zhenfu is often asked why community action and innovation have such a powerful effect. He says he always answers this way: "Let's use cancer as the example. In the past it seemed only doctors, public health experts, and related foundations and other organizations had the right to speak. They were the expert voices in the field of cancer, and they were the ones who provided network-related services and products. Each was also an interested stakeholder in the status quo. On the other hand, the committed 5% Design Action designers have formed a wave of individuals with no vested interests, and because they come from a different field they bring fresh perspectives. From a start of no relationships, a web of new relationships has been formed." He hopes that ever more partners will be attracted to his campaign, and that local society as a whole will be energized, uplifting the city, with a new era of design taking over. 

1. Social design does not just help the average person; it strongly supports underprivileged groups.
2. Exhibits give the public better understanding of social design's meaning.
- 3-4. 5% Design Action designers want to use their professional skills and knowledge to help develop more innovative practices and drive community dynamism.
5. 5% Design Action is leading local outstanding designers in a social design movement to help more disadvantaged groups.

Information

World Design Capital Taipei 2016

臺北2016世界設計之都

Website: www.taipeidesign.org.tw

5% Design Action

Website: www.facebook.com/5DesignAction

Designers' Collections: Design Impresarios Share Unexpected Sources of Inspiration



How can collector's items become a source that designers turn to for creative inspiration? At the Designers Collection Exhibition (設計尋寶趣——設計師私藏特展), on now at Songshan Cultural and Creative Park's Taiwan Design Museum (松山文創園區台灣設計館), a number of designers from the worlds of industrial design, graphic design, living arts, and illustration have been invited to select work from the exclusive personal collections they have created over the years and use them in Taiwan Design Pavilion window displays. The displays explain the designers' unique vision and ingenuity, and show how the value of each collected work has been rediscovered, how each has become a tool in stimulating new inspiration, and how the passion brought to collecting adds radiance to a creative life.

Curator Chen Yongji (陳永基) says that since receiving his first toy car from his mother as a little boy he has been an avid collector of toy cars and other items. In this show, he presents 350 Coca-Cola cans he has collected over many years from countless places around the world. Each has a different theme, and showcases a different city style. There are also copies of over 300 different newspapers collected while abroad for work or travel. Chen sees the local newspaper as a reflection of a local people's character, and says that the variations in layout design also display the different perspectives people have on design.

Grace Wang (汪麗琴), a living-aesthetics artist, remembers how much she loved holding her mother's hand on trips to the general store when she was in elementary school. The store's weighing scales fascinated her. In high school, she learned typing to help her older brother with his graduation thesis, and the typewriter has joined the scales as a key object from her cherished family memories. The beauty she sees in these two mechanical objects is the focus of large, visually arresting installation artworks she has created for the Designers Collection Exhibition.

Graphic designer Wang Yingfa (王盈發), is also a committed collector of vinyl records. He says that when the record industry flourished from the 1960s through 1980s many top graphic designers lent their creativity to the design of album covers, making use of a wide array of artistic techniques and creating work filled with tension. He has specially selected now out-of-print classic vinyl records for this exhibition, enabling visitors to come "face to face" with covers of widely varying look and a marvellous range of expression.



Chen Junliang (陳俊良), who has been referred to as a “design poet” (設計詩人), is from a scholarly family, and the key items in his presentation are delicately carved inkstones. He says that his father, who loved calligraphy and traditional Chinese painting, had many calligraphy sets, and that the “four treasures of the study” (文房四寶) make Chen long for him – as if his dad’s soul is somehow present in them. For this reason he has collected inkstones all his adult life, and incorporates calligraphy art in his design works.

Designer Xie Rongya (謝榮雅), winner of many international design awards, has used numerous maps and bills from the Japanese era in his display. He says that when he came to Taipei 20 years ago to seek his fortune, on weekends and holidays he’d head to the used-book stalls at the now-defunct Guanghua Market (光華商場) to look for treasures, concentrating on Japanese-era share certificates, award certificates, and maps. To him, the mottled old bills and simple yet elegant old maps wonderfully capture the spirit of the bygone era.

Milly (米力), who wears many hats – writer, illustrator, “good living” artist, merchandiser – has made his display window resemble a small corner store. He says that the physical manifestation of such articles is made up of attitude, design, enthusiasm, and craftsmanship, and can be seen as a warm, inviting medium that has the most direct contact with people. His hope is that through his “utensil selection” physical space he can help people understand how to appreciate the aesthetic life through utensils.

The Designers Collection Exhibition is on until April 6th. Seize this fine opportunity, which comes with a series of related lectures as a bonus, to learn about the creative thinking and experience of the participating designers. For details, visit the two official website locations given below. ❶

1. At the Designers Collection Exhibition, several designers have been invited to display works from their personal collections (L to R: Chen Yongji, Siao Jiewun(蕭傑文), Grace Wang, Xie Rongya, Milly Chen Junliang).
2. Chen Yongji is presenting 350 Coca-Cola cans collected from around the world.
- 3-4. Grace Wang has created large installation artworks using a typewriter and weighing scales.
5. Wang Yingfa has specially selected now out-of-print classic vinyl records.
6. The key items in Chen Junliang’s presentation are delicately carved inkstones.
7. Xie Rongya has used numerous maps and bills from the Japanese era in his display.
8. Milly’s “utensil selection” display resembles a small corner store.



Information

Designers Collection Exhibition 設計尋寶趣——設計師私藏特展

Venue: Taiwan Design Museum, Songshan Cultural and Creative Park ; 133, Guangfu S. Rd. (松山文創園區台灣設計館 ; 光復南路133號)

Tel: (02)2745-8199

Time: Until 4/6, 09:30~17:30 (closed Mon)

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



Telling Details: Photorealism in Taiwan

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Photorealism (also called super-realism), which took shape in New York in the 1970s, has developed into a major formal school of art. The biggest difference between it and surrealist or mainstream painting is that the artists do not draw on their own emotions, instead approaching their subjects with a cold and detached sense of objectivity.

The exhibition currently being held in Taipei, themed "Telling Details" (見微知萌), expresses how the overall development of an object can be understood by looking at its fine details. The exhibition focuses on the meticulous detail of painters' works to experience the basic elements and emotions of life. Curator Liu Yongren (劉永仁) says that the focal point of the exhibit is 1970s photorealism art, which set the context for the artistic vocabulary of the 1980s. Liu says that photorealism is the ultimate attainment of an artist's heart, eyes, and hands working in tandem. The differences between New York and Taiwanese artists resulted in slight differences in their work, with local artists retaining an element of warmth that is in contrast with the sense of alienation manifest in the creations of their New York counterparts.

A More Sophisticated Technique Than Realism

The camera can capture in detail the images of a city, and the same urban scenes—architecture, lighting, streets—are depicted in the works of photorealist painters. However, the goal of



the latter is to capture even more finely honed detail, creating sharper and richer visual effects. The photo-realist's personal subjective feelings are left out of a work; instead, an unadulterated objective point of view is sought, with the surrounding natural world observed and faithfully reflected with precise realism. The artist often views the world through a magnifying glass, then creates a new, objective rendering – hence the term “photorealism.”

A Modern Art Form to Complement the Public's Visual Experience

Providing the people of Taiwan with direct experience of photorealism's artistic allure, 13 artists from several generations are being showcased in this exhibition, including Hsia Yan (夏陽), Yao Qingzhang (姚慶章), Han Hsiangning (韓湘寧), and Chen Zhaohong (陳昭宏). Among the luminaries representing Taiwan are Huang Mingchang (黃銘昌), Yeh Tzuchi (葉子奇), Chou Chuwang (周珠旺), and Huang Chianing (黃嘉寧). The almost one hundred works on display vividly demonstrate the varying creative concepts and atmosphere of each era.

Artist Hsia Yan, born in mainland China's Hunan province (湖南省) in 1932, excels at capturing the images that make up everyday street scenes. The never-ending flow of different people is a vivid background element, creating a sharp contrast between the dynamic and the static. Han Hsiang-ning, who now resides in New York, has been strongly influenced by both minimalism and pop art. He uses a spray gun in his work, which integrates New York photographic visuals and features particles floating in the air that create grey-tint gauze like a hazy mist.

The youngest painters being showcased in the exhibition, representing the new era of photorealism, are

Chou Chuwang, and Huang Chianing. The oeuvre of each is stunning. Chou depicts scenes from his hometown area in Taiwan's Pingtung County (屏東縣). Huang uses oil painting to depict his photo diary, using careful, ultra-fine brush strokes in startlingly truthful and accurate renderings of scenes from everyday life that transport viewers back into frozen moments in time from their own world of memories.

Despite the dramatic changes that high-tech has brought to modern life, in art the “first-hand” and the “natural” provide a sense of calmness, enabling renewed direct sensory intimacy with all those things that make up the real world. 📷

1. *People #11*, by Hsia Yan.
2. *New Jersey Highway Overpass*, by Han Hsiangning.
3. *Baxian Stone*, by Chou Chuwang.
4. *Beach 23*, by Chen Hilo.
5. *The Past Way of Yesterday*, by Yeh Tzuchi.
6. *Blue Cross Building*, by Yao Qingzhang.

Information

Telling Details: Photorealism in Taiwan

見微知萌 → 台灣超寫實繪畫

Time: Until 4/20, Tues–Sun 09:30–17:30 (Sat to 08:30; closed Mon)

Venue: Taipei Fine Arts Museum; 181, Sec. 3, Zhongshan N. Rd. (臺北市立美術館; 中山北路3段181號)

Tel: (02)2595-7656

Website: www.tfam.museum

Double Happiness! Cultural and Creative Exhibition

In Chinese culture, the sight of the character “囍” immediately brings to mind images of the auspicious color red and festive celebration. The character is an indispensable symbol of luck and fortune, and a familiar symbol of joy encountered in everyday life.

According to legend, the “囍,” character, which means “double happiness,” was created in the Song dynasty (宋代) when the famed historical character Wang Anshi (王安石) received word on his wedding day that he had passed the highest imperial examination. To celebrate these two auspicious events, Wang wrote the character “喜”, meaning “happiness” and pronounced xi, on his gate two times. The practice thereafter spread through society. Though this is merely a fable, the repetition of the character in “double happiness” does indeed capture the bright emotions surrounding an especially joyous and festive event, and is admired as especially well demonstrating the subtlety and wisdom contained in Chinese characters.

The National Museum of History (國立歷史博物館) is celebrating spring in 2014 with the Double Happiness! Cultural and Creative Exhibition (有囍！囍字文化生活展). The show's subject matter is divided into sections entitled Ornaments (飾品), Betrothal Presents and Dowries (聘禮與嫁妝), Folk Prints (民俗版畫), and Silver Ingots for Blessings and Celebrations (吉慶吉語銀錠), retracing the steps of the double-happiness character through history.



1-2. Among the everyday items inscribed with the character “囍” are blue-and-white porcelain jars, scrolls, bed sheets, etc.



3



4



5

The Double Happiness Character, Ubiquitous in Ancient Life

Among the everyday items inscribed with the character “囍” are blue-and-white porcelain jars, gift boxes, lucky silver coins, scrolls, bed sheets, etc. In addition to the double happiness character, in the Folk Prints and Silver Ingots sections you will also see how the auspicious characters *fu* (福), *lu* (祿), *shou* (壽), and *xi* (喜), meaning “wealth,” “prosperity,” “longevity,” and “fortune,” have been used as inscriptions, reflecting the thoughts and aspirations of the common people.


In the Ornaments section, arts and crafts commonly seen in the ancient past are showcased. These include ceramics, jewelry, clothing, and daily necessities. In addition to the nature-based flora and fauna designs, geometric patterns were also commonly used, such as the linear pattern based on the character “回”, the moiré pattern, and the water ripple pattern. The above-mentioned Chinese characters *fu*, *lu*, *shou*, and *xi* were also placed directly on artifacts to transform them, in effect, into lucky charms.

In the Silver Ingots for Blessings and Celebrations section features imperial-era ingots called *yuanbao* (元寶), which had auspicious characters or phrases stamped directly on them and were given as gifts. In the Folk Prints section, see how in this traditional Chinese folk art it was common to use the characters *fu*, *lu*, *shou*, and *xi* as inscriptions, reflecting commoners' thoughts and desires.

囍 – From Beijing's Palace Museum into the 21st Century

Since ancient times, the unique connotation of joy contained in the double-happiness character has been a familiar element in people's lives. It appears on the

East Warmth Chamber (東暖閣) at the Beijing Palace Museum's Palace of Earthly Tranquility (坤寧宮), which was the nuptial chamber for Qing dynasty emperors and empresses. The double-happiness character is seen everywhere, creating a warm and pleasant atmosphere. In today's Taiwan, the auspicious symbol is no longer limited to usage at events such as weddings; it is also oft used on such items as cultural-creative merchandise, bringing it into everyday life and adding a bit of happy spice to the daily routines.

However times change, one constant is that all people at all times want to give physical expression to the joy they feel. The double-happiness character expresses one's love for family and friends and bestows one's blessings on them. This exhibition is a window into the world of those who have gone before us, giving us glimpses into the most precious moments of their days and an appreciation of the subtle joys of their lives. 

3. The character was oft used in ancient times on doorways.
4. The Ornaments section showcases arts and crafts commonly seen in the ancient past.
5. Today, the auspicious symbol is often used on cultural-creative merchandise.

Information

Double Happiness! Cultural and Creative Exhibition
有囍！囍字文化生活展

Time: Until 3/23

Venue: National Museum of History; Gallery 401, 4F, 49, Nanhai Rd. (國立歷史博物館; 南海路49號四樓401展廳)

Website: www.nmh.gov.tw



“Impressionist · Contemporary” – Art Revolution Taipei 2014

This year is the fourth edition of Art Revolution Taipei (台北新藝術博覽會), and the theme for 2014 is “Impressionist · Contemporary” (印象 · 當代). Participating artists express the spirit of impressionism using contemporary concepts, enabling viewers to more diversely and easily embrace the imagery of the works.

The Art Director, Lee Sun-Don (李善單), says that art is not just culture but also education. Therefore, it must not be confined to the quest for mere commercial gain. The emphasis in this exhibition is thus on returning art to its essential character, letting the artist stand directly before the world, interpreting his own contemporary viewpoint through Impressionist techniques.

The show's organizers say that Art Revolution Taipei is intended to become Asia's most unique art platform, and thus carefully selects only the most outstanding contemporary art talents from the West, mainland China, Japan, Korea, Southeast Asia, and Taiwan. Great care is

taken in planning all services and lectures. Artists provide on-site analysis of their creative concepts, engaging in direct, up-close interaction with viewers. The interaction provided by artists from around the globe expands the show's breadth, depth, and visibility in the international community.


This year's exhibition is to be divided into 10 areas, including the Curatorial Classics (經典綜合區), Taiwan Contemporary Art (臺灣當代藝術), China Contemporary Art (中國當代藝術), International Contemporary Art (國際當代藝術), New York Contemporary Art Fund (紐約當代藝術基金), Contemporary Ink “Water Flows and Color Shows” (當代水墨 · 運水流彩), 2014 International Artist Juried Competition (2014國際藝術家評選賽特展), etc., offering a wide spectrum of works. In the Taiwan Contemporary Art section, works from the different schools of young artists over the years and the works of today's new rising stars offer a glimpse into the diversity of artistic styles across generations. In the China Contemporary Art section is a display



of carefully selected works that showcases the impressive skills, new creative potential, and collectability of China's artists. The works shown have great range in theme and innovation, reflecting the tremendous changes that the artists are experiencing in the world around them.

In the International Contemporary Art section there is a diversity of cultural and artistic styles on display. To promote dialogue between the Taiwanese and international art worlds, exchange with artists from around the globe is promoted with two special areas, The Greats Meet the Greats (歐美名家・高手比畫) and Spanish Art Zone (西班牙藝術專區). In the Water Flows and Color Shows section, newly introduced this year, the exhibit features the newest contemporary ink artwork framed for display. The New York Contemporary Art Fund was established with the purpose of long-term cultivation of promising contemporary artists, and in its dedicated section works exhibiting new forms of artistic expression are presented, including paintings, photographs, installation pieces, and mixed media.

In the section Art with Entrepreneurs (藝企相投・藝企風發), outstanding Taiwanese artists of great potential are being showcased. These artists are also being sponsored by the business community to bring their first-rate work to the attention of the international community. The Exhibit of the 2014 International Artist Juried Competition presents works from a large-scale international art competition that spans Asia. This year it attracts approximately 3,000 entries from 70 countries. Just 60 works are selected for exhibit, and the winner will have a solo showing at next year's exhibition. For Art Your Compassion (百大名人・藝出慈悲), hundreds of celebrities and leading social and business figures have created works of art for a charity sale. All proceeds will be given to a charity organization, which this year will be Taiwan's Sunshine Social Welfare Foundation (陽光社會福利基金會).

To narrow the gap between artists and their public, movement lines are mapped out for visitors to guide them through the exhibition contents. A great trove of works has been brought together for this year's happening, aiming to give viewers a taste of art as part of daily life. 



- 1-2. The Curatorial Classics and 2014 International Artist Juried Competition sections.
3. Art lovers from around Taiwan and abroad come to enjoy the inspired works.
4. Artists provide on-site analysis of their creative concepts, engaging in direct, up-close interaction with viewers.
5. For Art Your Compassion, hundreds of leading public figures have created artworks for a charity sale, with all proceeds to go to a designated charity organization.

Information

Art Revolution Taipei 2014 2014台北新藝術博覽會

Add: Taipei World Trade Center Exhibition Hall 3; 6, Songshou Rd. (台北世界貿易中心展覽三館; 松壽路6號)

Time: 4/17~4/20; 12:00~20:00

Website: www.arts.org.tw

2014 3/4

March-April
Arts Exhibition Calendar



History Re-presented: Cai Zhisong



JEJU Teddy Bear Museum



Xu Bing: A Retrospective



The Immortal FLYING TIGERS: The 70th
Anniversary Exhibition of the Chinese-
American Composite Wing

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 3/31

Four Great Masters of the Ming Dynasty: Shen Zhou

Until 4/25

Famous Works of Modern Chinese Painting & Calligraphy

Until 5/19

In Their Footsteps: a Special Exhibition of Images and Documents on Indigenous Peoples in Taiwan

Until 6/2

The Enigma of M.C. Escher: Prints from the Israel Museum, Jerusalem

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 3/23

Formosa Erased – Solo Exhibition by Ming-chu Huang

Until 4/6

History Re-presented: Cai Zhisong

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

3/15~3/30

Rooftop Zoo Family Jazz Concert

3/16~4/6

Little Sun's Music Box

3/15~4/26

Savor the Beauty of Taiwanese Glove Puppetry

4/24~4/27

Under the Roof

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

3/14~3/31

The 6th TSMC Calligraphy & Seal Carving Exhibition

3/14~4/14

TREES 2013-14 Chinese Calligraphy Biennial Tradition and Experimentation

Until 5/4

Master of Light: Vermeer

Huashan 1914 Creative Park

Tel: (02)2358-1914

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

Website: www.huashan1914.com

3/13~3/23

Fingertips on flying time

4/17~5/13

Huashan Talent Show

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 3/16

Discovering Technology Treasures

Until 4/20

JEJU Teddy Bear Museum

Until 4/30

Every Product tells a story/ Style your Life – welcome to the world of design

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 4/20

Xu Bing: A Retrospective

Until 6/8

View-Point: A Retrospective of Li Yuan-chia

National Taiwan Museum

Tel: (02)2382-2566

Add: 2, Xiangyang Rd. (襄陽路 2 號)

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

Until 5/4

The Brave Fighter – Formosan Clouded Leopard

Until 6/22

The Exhibition of Islamic Life and Culture

National Taiwan Science Education Center

Tel: (02)6610-1234

Add: 189, Shishang Rd. (士商路 189 號)

Website: www.ntsec.gov.tw

Until 4/27

LINE FRIENDS Interaction Amusement Park Exhibition

Until 4/27

River Cruise in Plum Tree Creek

Suho Memorial Paper Culture Foundation

Tel: (02)2507-5535

Add: 68, Sec. 2, Chang'an E. Rd. (長安東路 2 段 68 號)

Website: www.suho.paper.org.tw

Until 3/29

Portrait of Nature – Myriad of Gods Nobuyuki Kobayashi Photo Exhibition

Armed Forces Museum

Tel: (02)2331-5730

Add: 243, Sec. 1, Guiyang Rd. (貴陽街 1 段 243 號)

Website: museum.mnd.gov.tw

Until 3/31

The Immortal FLYING TIGERS: The 70th Anniversary Exhibition of the Chinese-American Composite Wing

Travel Information

How to Get from Taiwan Taoyuan International Airport to Taipei

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

Taxi

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

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

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

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



Passenger Shuttle Bus

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

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




One-way fare: NT\$85~145

Travel time:
40~60 minutes depending on routes (60~90 minutes for Citi Air Bus, which has more stops)

Schedule: Every 15~20 minutes

Metro Taipei

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

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

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

NOTICE

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

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

TAIWAN EMERGENCY TELEPHONE NUMBERS

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

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

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

NON-EMERGENCY TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Unit	Tel. No.
Taipei City Govt. Citizen Hotline	1999 (02-2720-8889 outside Taipei city)
English Directory Service	106
IDD Telephone Service Hotline	0800-080-100 ext.9
Time-of-Day Service	117
Weather Service	166
Traffic Reports	168
Tourism Bureau (MOTC) 24-Hour Toll-Free Travel Information Hotline	0800-011-765
Tourism Bureau (MOTC) Toll-Free Traveler Complaints Hotline	0800-211-734
International Community Service Hotline	0800-024-111
Tourism Bureau Information Counter, Taiwan Taoyuan International Airport	Terminal 1: (03)398-2194 Terminal 2: (03)398-3341
Bureau of Foreign Trade	(02)2351-0271
Taiwan External Trade Development Council (TAITRA)	(02)2725-5200
Taiwan Visitors Association	(02)2594-3261
The Japanese Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Taipei	(02)2522-2163
Ministry of Foreign Affairs	(02)2348-2999
Ministry of Foreign Affairs Citizens Hotline	(02)2380-5678
Police Broadcasting Station	(02)2388-8099
English Hotline for Taxi Service	0800-055-850 ext.2
Consumer Service Center Hotline	1950
Bureau of National Health Insurance Information Hotline	0800-030-598
AIDS Information Hotline	0800-888-995

Source for Above Information:
Information For Foreigners Service / Tel: 0800-024-111
Tourism Bureau, Ministry of Transportation and Communications
Tel: (02) 2349-1500

※ Entries in turquoise indicate service in English provided

LIST OF TAIPEI VISITOR INFORMATION CENTERS

Taipei Main Station (02)2312-3256 1F, 3, Beiping W. Rd.	MRT Jiantan Station (02)2883-0313 65, Sec. 5, Zhongshan N. Rd.	Miramar Entertainment Park Visitor Center (02)8501-2762 20, Jingye 3 rd Rd.
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, Xinguan 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 Yangmingshan Spring Flowers Scenic Tour (P34~P37) Map



A Yangmingshan Spring Flowers Scenic Tour (P34~37) Tour Information



A Yangmingshan Spring Flowers Scenic Tour

Yangming Park Visitor Center

陽明公園遊客服務中心
Add: 26, Sec. 2, Hushan Rd.
(湖山路2段26號)
Tel: (02)2861-3861
2014 Zhuzihu Calla Lily Festival
2014年竹子湖海芋季
Time: 3/21~4/27; flowers bloom until late May
Add: Zhuzihu, Yangmingshan
(陽明山竹子湖)
Tel: (02)2892-4185, ext. 450 (Beitou Farmers' Association: 北投區農會)
Website: www.callalily.com.tw

Mu Zhen Yuan 木珍園

Add: 33-5, Zhuzihu Rd.
(竹子湖路33-5號)
Tel: (02)2862-2223
Bale Sao Ganwei Fang Reshi Chawu 芭樂嫂甘味坊日式茶屋
Add: 33-3, Zhuzihu Rd.
(竹子湖路33-3號)
Tel: 0934-141-367
Xiaoyoukeng Visitor Center
小油坑遊客服務站
Add: 69, Zhuzihu Rd. (竹子湖路69號)
Tel: (02)2861-7024

Lengshuikeng Visitor Center

冷水坑遊客服務站
Add: 170, Ln. 101, Jingshan Rd.
(菁山路101巷170號)
Tel: (02)2861-0036
Zest Café
Zest Café休閒景觀餐廳
Add: 72, Aly. 1, Ln. 232, Sec. 7, Zhongshan N. Rd. (中山北路7段232巷1弄72號)
Tel: (02)2862-0588

Transportation Information

Yangming Park

Vehicle controls are in effect on Yangmingshan's Yangde Boulevard (仰德大道) during spring flower season. It is recommended Yangming Park (陽明公園) visitors take a bus, taking advantage of Taipei's convenient public transportation system.

- 1: Take Taipei Metro to Taipei Main Station (台北車站), transfer to bus No. 260 (公車260), or take metro to Shilin Station (士林站) and transfer to No. 260 or Red No. 5 (紅5); get off at Yangmingshan terminus (陽明山公車總站), transfer to No. 130 shuttle (130區間車), go to Yangming Park Flower Clock (陽明公園花鐘).
- 2: Take Taipei Metro to Shipai Station (石牌站), transfer to Small No. 8 (小8), or take metro to Beitou Station (北投站), transfer to Small No. 9 (小9), go to Yangming Park Flower Clock.

Zhuzihu

Until 4/27, take from Yangming Park Flower Clock car park, take Yangmingshan Leisure Bus No. 131 (131花季專車) → get off at Zhuzihu stop (竹子湖站) on Zhuzihu Road (竹子湖路) → walk about 5 minutes along Zhuzihu Road → get off at Zhuzihu Police Station (竹子湖派出所), transfer to bus No. 108 → travel along Yangjin Highway (陽金公路) about 10 minutes → Xiaoyoukeng Visitor Center stop (小油坑遊客服務站)

Xiaoyoukeng, Lengshuikeng, Menghuan Pond

Get off at Xiaoyoukeng Visitor Center, walk about 2 minutes → Continue on bus No. 108 approx. 15 minutes → Get off at Lengshuikeng stop (冷水坑站), walk about 2 minutes → go left from Lengshuikeng public hot-spring baths (冷水坑溫泉公共浴室) → from trail entrance beside Menghuan Pond (夢幻湖) parking lot, walk 15~20 minutes → Menghuan Pond

Zest Café

Get on Small No. 15 (小15) bus at Lengshuikeng stop, travel south along Lane 101, Jingshan Road (菁山路101巷) Get off at Shanzaihou stop (山仔后站), walk approx. 15 minutes → Turn right on Gezhi Road (格致路), take Red No. 5 (紅5) bus → Travel along Aifu 2nd Street (愛富二街) approx. 15 minutes → Huagang Road → Get off at Chinese Culture University stop (中國文化大學站) → Walk approx. 15 minutes along Huagang Road (華岡路) → Zest Café, behind university campus

