

Charming Formosa
7 days - 6 nights
Taipei, Taroko, Sun Moon Lake, Tainan, Kaohsiung, Lukang
Culture, Nature, Spirituality, Shopping

Day 1: Taipei

Upon arrival at Taoyuan Airport you'll be met and transferred to your hotel. The remainder of the day is at your own leisure. You may use the One-day Taipei Metro Pass that you were handed by the driver to start exploring this fascinating city. Overnight at your hotel.

Day 2: Taipei

After breakfast you'll be picked-up by your guide for a half-day sightseeing of Taipei and visit the National Palace Museum, Martyr's Shrine, Chinese temple, Chiang Kai-Shek Memorial Hall, The Grand Hotel (photo stop) and pass by the Presidential building. Taipei is known for its excellent food and great shopping opportunities! The rest of the day is free so you may enjoy one or both of these activities. Overnight at your hotel. [B]

Day 3: Taipei (Taroko)

After breakfast you'll be driven to Taroko National Park named after the local aboriginal tribe called Truku. The park is one of the most beautiful on the island and results from the combination of rising mountains with the erosion created by the Liwu River. One of the best sightings is the Taroko Gorge that will be a highlight of today's tour. Stop at Chinsui Cliff and make sure your camera is ready to take a few spectacular photos. Then, continue to enjoy the many park's attractions such as aborigine settlements, museums and temples with special accent on the Shrine of Eternal Spring and Swallow Grotto. Return to Taipei via limited express train. Transfer to your hotel for overnight. [B]

Day 4: Taipei, Sun Moon Lake

Be ready and packed after breakfast for today's drive through the Western side of Taiwan to Sun Moon Lake, continuing southwest to visit the Wen Wu Temple established in 1938 and a center of faith among locals. The temple, converted to Chinese palatial Architecture offers three different halls: The first enshrines the Civil God of Wealth and the God of Literature. The center hall is dedicated to the God of War and General Yue. The third hall, in the rear of the building, is known as the Hall of Great Achievements and is dedicated to Confucius and four saints. After visiting the temple continue to your destination driving along the lake. The aboriginal Thao tribe lives around Sun Moon Lake, and are the proprietors of many local businesses. Enjoy the beauty of the place before a final drive to the hotel for dinner and overnight. [B/D]

Note: *The small island in the center of the lake, named Lulu, is reserved for aboriginal religious practices and is not open to visitors.*

Day 5: Sun Moon Lake, Tainan

Today, visit the Syuentzang Temple. Also known as Holy Monk Shrine the temple is located by Sun Moon Lake and it was built for the famous monk Tang Xuanzang who contributed greatly to Chinese culture and the spread of Buddhism in China. After the visit continue to Tehua Village, and Tse En Pagoda Built by Chiang Kai Shek in 1971 in Memory of his Mother. Continue your drive to Tainan, the ancient capital and take a walking tour around Anping Fort built on the foundations of the Dutch stronghold named Fort Zeelandia. Both Dutch and Chinese settled around the fort and built the streets surrounding it. Zheng Chenggong (Koxinga) the Chinese-Japanese Ming loyalist who conquered the Dutch colony made it his home and changed the name to Anping Castle. Visit the old street area, one of the most historical in the city before checking-in at your hotel for overnight. [B]

Day 6: Tainan, Kaohsiung

This morning complete your visit of the city by touring Chihkan Tower, a Dutch administration building

in the 17th century, Confucius Temple the Taiwan Palace of "Confucianism Study" that owned the incompatible position of culture and education and was called "The Highest Institute". Continue to Kaohsiung to visit the biggest monastery in Taiwan the Foguanshan Monastery. Visit the Main Shrine, and Buddhist Museum before enjoying a light vegetarian lunch at the monastery. Later in the afternoon, drive to Kaohsiung City, the biggest city in the Southern Taiwan, to check-in at your hotel. After settling down it's a good time to take a stroll on your own, enjoy the beautiful night view or visit the famous Liuho Night Market. Overnight in Kaohsiung. [B/L]

Day 7: Kaohsiung, Lukang, Taipei, USA

After breakfast visit the Dragon and Tiger Pagodas belonging to the Cihji Palace Temple houses Baosheng Dadi, who along with other deities, are the patron saints of the area. The original Cihji Palace was built in the 17th century. When the temple became a military base during the Japanese rule of Taiwan, the patron saints were temporarily moved to other locations until 1959 when the construction of the current temple was completed. Then, visit the Spring and Autumn Pavilion, a religious building made to honor the goddess of mercy. Take the opportunity to admire the colorful building showcasing traditional architecture with its extravagantly decorated terraces. There's also the gigantic statue of a dragon, big enough for you to enter through its mouth! Explore the dragon's insides, which resemble a tunnel and abound with funny and unusual decorations. Some free time, after the visits, to walk around and have some coffee or refreshment at a nearby café. Then, drive north to Lukang to visit Lungshan temple and market. The Lungshan Temple houses hundreds of statues of Buddhist, Taoist, and Confucian deities. The temple mixes traditional Chinese Siheyuan, a four-building courtyard designed as in palatial architecture style. The temple has two wings and 3 halls all decorated with paintings of vivid creatures and stone statues of mystical beings guarding the temple grounds. Covered by overlapping tiles, the temple roof is decorated with figures of dragons, phoenixes and other auspicious creatures made of porcelain, clay and shards of colored glass and represent the pinnacle of mosaic art in Taiwan. Continue to Taipei with a stop at Sanyi for a photo opportunity at a woodcarving village. Arrive at Taipei's Taoyuan International Airport early evening to board you flight back home. [B]

Note: If your flight is before 9:30 pm you need to spend the night in Taipei to take next day's flight. We'll be glad to arrange for your extension.

[B] = Breakfast | [B/L] = Breakfast and Lunch



Your Tour includes:

- Arrival and departure transfers
- 6 nights' accommodation:
 - Taipei 3 nights
 - Sun Moon Lake 1 night
 - Tainan 1 night
 - Kaohsiung 1 night
- Meals
 - Breakfast daily
 - 1 lunch
 - 1 dinner
- One-day Taipei Metro Pass
- Panoramic sightseeing of Taipei
- Shared tour as by itinerary visiting:
- Sun Moon Lake
- Tainan
- Foguangshan Buddhist Monastery
- Mt. Hehuan

- Taroko National Park
- English speaking guides
- Transportation by A/C vehicles
- Entrance fees for sites visited
- Hotel taxes

Tour does not include:

- International airfare, taxes and fees
- Meals or drinks other than specified as included
- Japan Visa processing and issuing visa fee
- Travel Insurance
- Expenses of a personal nature (minibar, phone call, laundry, etc.),
- Tips to guides/drivers/porters, etc.
- Entrance fees for any extra sightseeing
- Optional activities

Hotels in your Tour:

City	Hotel Name	Tripadvisor
First Class		
Taipei	The Riviera	4.5
Sun Moon Lake	Einhan Resort	3.5
Tainan	Hotel Tainan	4
Kaohsiung	City Suites Zhen-Ai	4
Deluxe		
Taipei	Caesar Park Taipei	4
Sun Moon Lake	Lealea Garden Hotel	4
Tainan	Evergreen Plaza	4.5
Kaohsiung	Fullon Hotel Kaohsiung	4

Hotels will be confirmed at time of booking

Tour Prices:

Season	2-3 Pax	4-5 Pax	6-9 Pax	Single Supp.
First Class				
Jan -Mar '20	\$2,185	\$1,459	\$1,295	\$439
Deluxe				
Jan -Mar '20	\$2,395	\$1,665	\$1,495	\$639

Prices are per person and may change without notice.

Not valid 1 January & Chinese New Year Period 19-29 January '20

Tour Code: TW01TPE20TE