

The Handy Guide for Foreigners in Taiwan



Research, Development and Evaluation
Commission, Executive Yuan
November 2010

A Note from the Editor

Following centuries of ethnic cultural assimilation and development, today Taiwan has a population of about 23 million and an unique culture that is both rich and diverse. This is the only green island lying on the Tropic of Cancer, with a plethora of natural landscapes that includes mountains, hot springs, lakes, seas, as well as a richness of biological diversity that encompasses 150,000 species of butterflies, birds, and other plant and animal life. A quarter of these are endemic species, such as the Formosan Landlocked Salmon (櫻花鉤吻鮭), Formosan Black Bear (台灣黑熊), Swinhoe's Pheasant (藍腹鵲), and Black-faced Spoonbill (黑面琵鷺), making Taiwan an important base for nature conservation. In addition to its cultural and ecological riches, Taiwan also enjoys comprehensive educational, medical, and transportation systems, along with a complete national infrastructure, advanced information technology and communication networks, and an electronics industry and related subcontracting industries that are among the cutting edge in the world.

Taiwan is in the process of carrying out its first major county and city reorganization since 1949. This process encompasses changes in administrative areas. All of these changes, which will create cities under the direct administration of the central government, will take effect on Dec. 25, 2010. To avoid causing difficulty for its readers, this Handbook contains both the pre- and post-reorganization maps.

City and County Reorganization

Old Name	New Name (from Dec. 25, 2010)
Taipei County	New Taipei City
Taichung County, Taichung City	Taichung City
Tainan County, Tainan City	Tainan City
Kaohsiung County, Kaohsiung City	Kaohsiung City

Essential Facts About Taiwan

Area:	36,000 square kilometers
Population:	Approximately 23 million
Capital:	Taipei City
Currency:	New Taiwan Dollar (Yuan) /NT\$
National Day:	Oct. 10
Languages:	Mandarin Chinese, Taiwanese, Hakkanese, indigenous languages
Religions:	Buddhism, Taoism, Christianity, Islam, others

Contents

02 A Note from the Editor

05

Immigration and Visas



- ▶ Information for Foreigners Website 6
- ▶ International Community Service Hotline 6
- ▶ Visitor Visa 6
- ▶ Resident Visa 8
- ▶ Alien Resident Certificate (ARC) 8
- ▶ Resident Certificate Holder Counter 9
- ▶ Visa-exempt Entry 10
- ▶ Landing Visa 11
- ▶ Overstay 12
- ▶ Visa Services 15
- ▶ Priority Counters at Arrival
Passport Control 16
- ▶ Naturalization and Marriage Registration 16

29

Discover Taiwan



- ▶ Tourist Information Services 30
- ▶ Taiwan Tour Bus 31
- ▶ Youth Travel Card 33
- ▶ National Parks in Taiwan 33
- ▶ In-depth Travel 38
- ▶ Leisure Agri-tourism 39
- ▶ Arts and Culture 40
- ▶ Museums 42

17

Transportation



- ▶ International Flights/Domestic Flights 18
- ▶ Taiwan High Speed Rail 20
- ▶ Round-the-island Railroad 21
- ▶ Metropolitan Rapid Transit Systems 22
- ▶ Long-distance Bus Service 22
- ▶ Taxis/Car Rental 23
- ▶ Driver's License and International Driving Permit 24
- ▶ Bicycles 26
- ▶ Ship Transport 27

45

Eating and Drinking



- ▶ Taiwan's Culinary Culture 46
- ▶ Night-market Snacks 48
- ▶ Local Delicacies 51

53

Shopping



- ▶ Metropolitan Shopping Districts 54
- ▶ Taiwan's Brand Commercial Districts 55
- ▶ English Services Emblem 55
- ▶ Tourist Shopping Assurance System 56
- ▶ Consumer Protection 56
- ▶ Information for Consumers 59

73

Healthcare



- ▶ National Health Insurance 74
- ▶ Bilingual Healthcare Service 75
- ▶ Hospital Classification and Fees 77
- ▶ Traditional Chinese Medicine 78
- ▶ Drug Safety 80
- ▶ Medical Tourism 80

87

Employment and Investment



- ▶ Work Permits for Foreign Professionals 88
- ▶ Preferential Measures for Foreign Professionals in Taiwan 89
- ▶ Work Permits for Overseas Chinese and Foreign Students 92
- ▶ Working in Taiwan: Rights and Obligations 92
- ▶ Labor Protection 95
- ▶ Investing in Taiwan 95

63

Living Tips



- ▶ Renting a House 64
- ▶ Basic Public Services 64
- ▶ Telecommunications and Internet 67
- ▶ Postal Services 69
- ▶ Buying Daily Necessities 69
- ▶ Keeping a Pet 70
- ▶ Recycling 71

81

Banking Services



- ▶ Currency 82
- ▶ Currency Exchange 83
- ▶ Travelers Checks 84
- ▶ Opening an Account 84
- ▶ Using Bank Cards in Taiwan 85
- ▶ Automatic Teller Machine (ATM) 85
- ▶ Credit Cards 86
- ▶ Internet Banking 86

97

Studying



- ▶ Foreign Schools 98
- ▶ Taiwan Education Centers 100
- ▶ Studying in Taiwan 100
- ▶ Scholarship Opportunities in Taiwan 102
- ▶ Scholarships and Grants 103
- ▶ Studying Chinese in Taiwan 105

◎ The Centennial of the Republic of China 108

Immigration & Visas



Visas for visitors entering Taiwan are divided into four categories:

1. Visitor visa, for stays up to 180 days
2. Resident visa, for stays exceeding 180 days
3. Diplomatic visa
4. Courtesy visa

Foreign nationals who meet certain criteria may be visa-exempt, or they may obtain a landing visa.

- ▶ Bureau of Consular Affairs (BOCA),
Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA):
<http://www.boca.gov.tw/mp.asp?mp=2>
Visa Information Hotline: 02-2343-2888
- ▶ National Immigration Agency (NIA):
http://www.immigration.gov.tw/immig_eng/aspcode/main4.asp
International Community Service
Hotline: 0800-024-111

- ▶ Information for Foreigners Website
- ▶ International Community Service Hotline
- ▶ Visitor Visa
- ▶ Resident Visa
- ▶ Alien Resident Certificate (ARC)
- ▶ Resident Certificate Holder Counter
- ▶ Visa-exempt Entry
- ▶ Landing Visa
- ▶ Overstay
- ▶ Visa Services
- ▶ Priority Counters at Arrival Passport Control
- ▶ Naturalization and Marriage Registration



Information for Foreigners Website

<http://iff.immigration.gov.tw>

This website provides tourists, business travelers, overseas students, long-term residents, and foreign spouses with information they may find useful for living in Taiwan. It contains information on things like visas, taxation, transportation, healthcare, banking, work, public services, etc.

In April 2010, the National Immigration Agency (NIA) began publishing a free Chinese-English bi-weekly newsletter for foreign visitors called “Taiwan What’s Up.” It includes new government measures, special reports, cultural activities and information updates.

► Information for Foreigners website: <http://iff.immigration.gov.tw>

International Community Service Hotline

0800-024-111

This service hotline is toll free and provides immediate services 24 hours a day in Chinese, English and Japanese. Call this number if you have questions about visas, work, education, taxation, health insurance, transportation, etc.



The hotline provides services 24 hrs a day in Chinese, English, and Japanese.

Visitor Visa

Visitor visas are for foreign nationals who hold ordinary passports or other legal travel documents with the intention to visit Taiwan for no more than 6 months, and for the purposes of transit, tourism, visiting relatives or friends, business, attending international conferences, short-term study, temporary employment, temporary missionary work, or engaging in other activities in the ROC as approved by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA).

Visitor Visa Information

Required Documents	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A passport valid for at least six months.• A completed application form with two 2"x2" color photos taken within the last six months.• An outbound airline ticket or verified proof of purchase of ticket.• Documents verifying the purpose of the visit.• Other relevant documents.
Visa Validity	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The validity of visitor visas for foreign nationals from countries with which the ROC has entered into reciprocal visa agreements, shall be determined in accordance with these agreements.• For other foreign nationals, a visitor visa is generally valid for three months up to one year.
Duration of Stay	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 14/30/60/90 days
Fee	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The visa is issued gratis to foreign nationals from countries with which the ROC has entered into reciprocal visa agreements.• For other foreign nationals, the visa fees are: single entry: NT\$1,600 (or US\$50); multiple entries: NT\$3,200 (or US\$100).• NT\$4,620 (US\$140) for American passport holders.
Notes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Visitor visa holders who are permitted to stay in Taiwan for sixty or ninety days, and whose visas bearing no such remark as "no extension will be granted" may apply at local service centers of the NIA for a maximum extension of 180 days.

- Bureau of Consular Affairs (BOCA), MOFA:
<http://www.boca.gov.tw/mp.asp?mp=2>
02-2303-2888



Resident Visa

Resident visas are issued for foreign nationals who hold ordinary passports or other legal travel documents with the intention to stay in the Republic of China for more than 6 months for the purposes of joining family, pursuing studies, undertaking employment, investing, missionary work, official duties, participating in international exchange programs, or engaging in other activities approved by the MOFA or other relevant agencies at the central-government level.



Alien Resident Certificate (ARC)

Foreign nationals with the intention to reside in Taiwan should submit an application for an ARC, together with required documentation, to a local service center of the NIA within 15 days after entering Taiwan.

- ▶ NIA: <http://www.immigration.gov.tw>
- ▶ International Community Service Hotline: 0800-024-111

Resident Visa Information

Required Documents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A passport valid for at least 6 months. • A duly completed application form with two 2"X2" color photos taken within the last 6 months. • Supporting documents or official letters of approval from a competent authority of the ROC. • Other relevant documents.
Visa Validity	A resident visa is valid for three months.
Duration of Stay	Resident Visa holders are required to apply for the Alien Resident Certificate (ARC) and Re-entry Permit at local service centers of the NIA within 15 days starting from the first day of their arrival. They may stay in the ROC as long as their ARC remains valid.

Fee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NT\$2,200 (or US\$66) for single entry; NT\$4,400 (or US\$132) for multiple entry, which currently only applies to certain foreign embassy staff in Taiwan. • NT\$4,620 (US\$140) currently only for American passport holders. • An additional handling charge of NT\$800 (or US\$24) shall be applied to applications made in the ROC by visitor visa holders applying for a change or replacement of visitor visas or resident visas. • For foreign nationals from the countries with which the ROC has entered into reciprocal visa agreements, the resident visa is issued gratis.
Notes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foreign nationals who apply for resident visas for employment purposes may apply to have their original visitor visas issued by an overseas ROC office changed to resident visas in Taiwan. • This provision is not applicable to foreign nationals who enter Taiwan visa-free or with landing visas, or to foreign workers.

- Bureau of Consular Affairs (BOCA), MOFA:
<http://www.boca.gov.tw/mp.asp?mp=2>
 02-2303-2888

Resident Certificate Holder Counter

Special Immigration Counters for ROC Alien Resident Certificate (ARC) holders have been established to speed up immigration procedures for holders of ARCs: two counters each in Terminal 1 and Terminal 2 of Taoyuan International Airport, and one in Kaohsiung International Airport. No vaccination certificate is required for travelers entering Taiwan. Goods worth up to NT\$20,000, 200 cigarettes, 25 cigars, or one pound of tobacco; and one liter of alcoholic beverages may be brought into Taiwan duty-free. Underage children, however, are not allowed to bring in tobacco or alcoholic products. Forbidden items include drugs, firearms, ammunition, bladed weapons, live wild animals, protected plants and animals and their products, and other items the import of which is forbidden by law.

- Taiwan Taoyuan International Airport: <http://www.taoyuan-airport.com/english/>
 ► Taipei Customs Office: <http://etaipei.customs.gov.tw/mp.asp?mp=22>



Coming to Taiwan for Employment

Employers who wish to hire foreign nationals to work in Taiwan must apply for work permits from the Council of Labor Affairs (CLA). After receiving the work permits, the prospective employers must apply for resident visas for the employees. If the prospective foreign employees have already entered Taiwan on ordinary visitor visas, they can go to the office of the Bureau of Consular Affairs (BOCA) in Taipei, Taichung or Kaohsiung and apply to have their visitor visas changed to resident visas.

If the prospective employees are not in Taiwan, they must go to the nearest overseas ROC mission and apply for resident visas. Foreign nationals who have entered Taiwan visa-exempt or with landing visas must leave Taiwan and apply for resident visas overseas. The CLA has set up a one-stop center for work permit applications for foreign professionals. Companies hiring foreign professionals can handle all procedures for the application of work permits at this center.

- ▶ Bureau of Employment and Vocational Training: <http://www.evta.gov.tw/eng/home/index.asp>
- ▶ BOCA: <http://www.boca.gov.tw/mp?mp=2>
- ▶ CLA: http://www.cla.gov.tw/cgi-bin/siteMaker/SM_theme?page=48e31c0e
- ▶ NIA: http://www.immigration.gov.tw/immig_eng/aspcode/main4.asp

Visa-exempt Entry

Visa-exempt entry and landing visas are only available for eligible foreign nationals with passports valid for at least six months upon entry. Japanese citizens with passports valid for at least three months are visa-exempt and can obtain a landing visa. A confirmed return air/sea ticket or an air/sea ticket and a visa for the next destination, and a confirmed seat reservation for departure are required. The maximum duration of stay for visa-exempt visitors is 30 or 90 days.

Countries Eligible for Visa-exempt Entry

Visa-exempt Entry for 30 Days	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Asia: Australia, South Korea, Malaysia, Singapore • North America: United States, Canada • Latin America: Costa Rica • Europe: Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Italy, Lichtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Czech Republic, Poland, Slovakia, Hungary, Lithuania, Estonia, Latvia, Slovenia <p>Citizens of India, Thailand, the Philippines, Vietnam, and Indonesia who hold valid visas for (or permanent residency in) the United States, Canada, Japan, the United Kingdom, the European Union (Schengen), Australia, New Zealand.</p>
Visa-exempt Entry for 90 days	Japan, New Zealand, the United Kingdom, Ireland

Landing Visa

Landing visas are available for holders of valid emergency or temporary passports of those countries eligible for visa-exempt entry, or holders of USA passports valid for less than 6 months.

Landing Visa Information

Ports of Entry	Taiwan Taoyuan International Airport, Kaohsiung International Airport
Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A confirmed return air/sea ticket or an air/sea ticket and a visa for the next destination, and a confirmed seat reservation for departure. • A duly completed application form with one 2"X2" photo. • A visa fee of NT\$1,600 (or US\$50). Citizens of countries with reciprocal agreements will be issued visas gratis. • All landing visas require a handling fee of NT\$800 (US\$24).



Processing Procedure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Passengers entering the Republic of China through Taiwan Taoyuan International Airport may apply for a landing visa at the visa office of the Bureau of Consular Affairs (BOCA) at Taiwan Taoyuan International Airport. • Passengers who enter the Republic of China through Kaohsiung International Airport may apply for a temporary entry permit at Kaohsiung Airport with the 2nd Brigade of Border Affairs Corps of the NIA. These passengers must change the permit to a visa at the BOCA or Southern Taiwan Office of MOFA within three days, or they will be subjected to an administrative penalty for overstaying
Maximum Period of Stay	30 days starting from the day after arrival, and cannot be extended. Landing visas cannot be converted to other types of visas.
Notes	Holders of US passports valid for less than six months: passengers shall apply for a visa at an overseas ROC mission and pay a fee of NT\$4,620 (US\$140). Passengers who apply for visas upon arrival at the ports of entry in the ROC shall be charged NT\$4,620 (or US\$ 140) plus an additional fee of NT\$800 (or US\$24). A single entry visa of which the duration of stay is no more than 30 days may be granted.

►BOCA, MOFA: <http://www.boca.gov.tw/mp.asp?mp=2>

Overstay

Please apply for visa extensions 15~30 days prior to expiration to avoid penalties.

- Foreign nationals who hold ROC visas should keep track of the validity of their visas and ARCs to avoid penalties.
- Travelers who need to stay past the expiration of their visitor visas should apply for extensions 15 days prior to the expiration.
- Foreign nationals who hold ARCs to join their family should apply for extensions 30 days prior to expiration of their ARCs.
- Travelers who hold ARCs for other purposes should apply to the NIA for an extension 15 days before expiration of their ARCs.

Those who overstay for no more than 30 days may, if their original reason for ARC application (such as employment or joining their family) continues to exist, re-apply for an ARC directly with a county/city service center of the NIA, without having to leave the country. Such persons will, however, receive penalties ranging from NT\$2,000 to NT\$4,000. Those who stay past the expiration date of their visitor or residence visa, or order to exit the country, can be deported and be prohibited from re-entering by the NIA. Please see the Immigration Act for related regulations.

► Application for Extension of Stay for Foreign Visitors: http://www.immigration.gov.tw/immig_eng/aspcode/main3-2.asp

外國人居(停)留案件申請表	
MULTIPLE-PURPOSE APPLICATION FORM FOR FOREIGNERS	
申請日期(Date) (y) (m) (d) 請勾選申請項目(Check what you want to apply below)	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 居留證 ARC <input type="checkbox"/> 2 居留證延期 ARC EXTENSION <input type="checkbox"/> 3 重入國 RE-ENTRY PERMIT <input type="checkbox"/> 4 停留 <input type="checkbox"/> 5 資料異動 CHANGE OF INFORMATION <input type="checkbox"/> 6 居留證遺失/毀損 LOST/ DAMAGED ARC <input type="checkbox"/> 7 永久居留 APRC <input type="checkbox"/> 8 僑生 OVERSEAS CHINESE STUDENT <input type="checkbox"/> 9 淨身證修改居留證 TRANSFER TO RESIDENT <input type="checkbox"/> 10 居留原因變更 CHANGE OF RESIDENT PURPOSE <input type="checkbox"/> 11 旅行卡 TRAVELLING CARD <input type="checkbox"/> 12 其他 OTHER	<input type="checkbox"/> 14 停 <input type="checkbox"/> 15 居留證延期 <input type="checkbox"/> 16 資料異動 <input type="checkbox"/> 17 居留證遺失/毀損 <input type="checkbox"/> 18 永久居留 <input type="checkbox"/> 19 僑生 <input type="checkbox"/> 20 淨身證修改居留證 <input type="checkbox"/> 21 居留原因變更 <input type="checkbox"/> 22 旅行卡 <input type="checkbox"/> 23 其他
照片 PHOTO: 1. 彩色半身照 2 張, 3 個月內 2. 白色背景 3. 3.5x5.3 吋 4. 頭戴黑色髮帶, 不戴眼鏡, 不化妝, 不塗指甲油, 不戴耳環, 不戴手鐲, 不戴戒指, 不戴任何飾物 5. 穿著深色衣服 6. 正面半身照, 不戴眼鏡, 不化妝, 不塗指甲油, 不戴耳環, 不戴手鐲, 不戴戒指, 不戴任何飾物 7. 穿著深色衣服 8. 正面半身照, 不戴眼鏡, 不化妝, 不塗指甲油, 不戴耳環, 不戴手鐲, 不戴戒指, 不戴任何飾物 9. 穿著深色衣服 10. 正面半身照, 不戴眼鏡, 不化妝, 不塗指甲油, 不戴耳環, 不戴手鐲, 不戴戒指, 不戴任何飾物 11. 穿著深色衣服 12. 正面半身照, 不戴眼鏡, 不化妝, 不塗指甲油, 不戴耳環, 不戴手鐲, 不戴戒指, 不戴任何飾物 13. 穿著深色衣服 14. 正面半身照, 不戴眼鏡, 不化妝, 不塗指甲油, 不戴耳環, 不戴手鐲, 不戴戒指, 不戴任何飾物 15. 穿著深色衣服 16. 正面半身照, 不戴眼鏡, 不化妝, 不塗指甲油, 不戴耳環, 不戴手鐲, 不戴戒指, 不戴任何飾物 17. 穿著深色衣服 18. 正面半身照, 不戴眼鏡, 不化妝, 不塗指甲油, 不戴耳環, 不戴手鐲, 不戴戒指, 不戴任何飾物 19. 穿著深色衣服 20. 正面半身照, 不戴眼鏡, 不化妝, 不塗指甲油, 不戴耳環, 不戴手鐲, 不戴戒指, 不戴任何飾物 21. 穿著深色衣服 22. 正面半身照, 不戴眼鏡, 不化妝, 不塗指甲油, 不戴耳環, 不戴手鐲, 不戴戒指, 不戴任何飾物 23. 穿著深色衣服 24. 正面半身照, 不戴眼鏡, 不化妝, 不塗指甲油, 不戴耳環, 不戴手鐲, 不戴戒指, 不戴任何飾物 25. 穿著深色衣服 26. 正面半身照, 不戴眼鏡, 不化妝, 不塗指甲油, 不戴耳環, 不戴手鐲, 不戴戒指, 不戴任何飾物 27. 穿著深色衣服 28. 正面半身照, 不戴眼鏡, 不化妝, 不塗指甲油, 不戴耳環, 不戴手鐲, 不戴戒指, 不戴任何飾物 29. 穿著深色衣服 30. 正面半身照, 不戴眼鏡, 不化妝, 不塗指甲油, 不戴耳環, 不戴手鐲, 不戴戒指, 不戴任何飾物 31. 穿著深色衣服 32. 正面半身照, 不戴眼鏡, 不化妝, 不塗指甲油, 不戴耳環, 不戴手鐲, 不戴戒指, 不戴任何飾物 33. 穿著深色衣服 34. 正面半身照, 不戴眼鏡, 不化妝, 不塗指甲油, 不戴耳環, 不戴手鐲, 不戴戒指, 不戴任何飾物 35. 穿著深色衣服 36. 正面半身照, 不戴眼鏡, 不化妝, 不塗指甲油, 不戴耳環, 不戴手鐲, 不戴戒指, 不戴任何飾物 37. 穿著深色衣服 38. 正面半身照, 不戴眼鏡, 不化妝, 不塗指甲油, 不戴耳環, 不戴手鐲, 不戴戒指, 不戴任何飾物 39. 穿著深色衣服 40. 正面半身照, 不戴眼鏡, 不化妝, 不塗指甲油, 不戴耳環, 不戴手鐲, 不戴戒指, 不戴任何飾物 41. 穿著深色衣服 42. 正面半身照, 不戴眼鏡, 不化妝, 不塗指甲油, 不戴耳環, 不戴手鐲, 不戴戒指, 不戴任何飾物 43. 穿著深色衣服 44. 正面半身照, 不戴眼鏡, 不化妝, 不塗指甲油, 不戴耳環, 不戴手鐲, 不戴戒指, 不戴任何飾物 45. 穿著深色衣服 46. 正面半身照, 不戴眼鏡, 不化妝, 不塗指甲油, 不戴耳環, 不戴手鐲, 不戴戒指, 不戴任何飾物 47. 穿著深色衣服 48. 正面半身照, 不戴眼鏡, 不化妝, 不塗指甲油, 不戴耳環, 不戴手鐲, 不戴戒指, 不戴任何飾物 49. 穿著深色衣服 50. 正面半身照, 不戴眼鏡, 不化妝, 不塗指甲油, 不戴耳環, 不戴手鐲, 不戴戒指, 不戴任何飾物 51. 穿著深色衣服 52. 正面半身照, 不戴眼鏡, 不化妝, 不塗指甲油, 不戴耳環, 不戴手鐲, 不戴戒指, 不戴任何飾物 53. 穿著深色衣服 54. 正面半身照, 不戴眼鏡, 不化妝, 不塗指甲油, 不戴耳環, 不戴手鐲, 不戴戒指, 不戴任何飾物 55. 穿著深色衣服 56. 正面半身照, 不戴眼鏡, 不化妝, 不塗指甲油, 不戴耳環, 不戴手鐲, 不戴戒指, 不戴任何飾物 57. 穿著深色衣服 58. 正面半身照, 不戴眼鏡, 不化妝, 不塗指甲油, 不戴耳環, 不戴手鐲, 不戴戒指, 不戴任何飾物 59. 穿著深色衣服 60. 正面半身照, 不戴眼鏡, 不化妝, 不塗指甲油, 不戴耳環, 不戴手鐲, 不戴戒指, 不戴任何飾物 61. 穿著深色衣服 62. 正面半身照, 不戴眼鏡, 不化妝, 不塗指甲油, 不戴耳環, 不戴手鐲, 不戴戒指, 不戴任何飾物 63. 穿著深色衣服 64. 正面半身照, 不戴眼鏡, 不化妝, 不塗指甲油, 不戴耳環, 不戴手鐲, 不戴戒指, 不戴任何飾物 65. 穿著深色衣服 66. 正面半身照, 不戴眼鏡, 不化妝, 不塗指甲油, 不戴耳環, 不戴手鐲, 不戴戒指, 不戴任何飾物 67. 穿著深色衣服 68. 正面半身照, 不戴眼鏡, 不化妝, 不塗指甲油, 不戴耳環, 不戴手鐲, 不戴戒指, 不戴任何飾物 69. 穿著深色衣服 70. 正面半身照, 不戴眼鏡, 不化妝, 不塗指甲油, 不戴耳環, 不戴手鐲, 不戴戒指, 不戴任何飾物 71. 穿著深色衣服 72. 正面半身照, 不戴眼鏡, 不化妝, 不塗指甲油, 不戴耳環, 不戴手鐲, 不戴戒指, 不戴任何飾物 73. 穿著深色衣服 74. 正面半身照, 不戴眼鏡, 不化妝, 不塗指甲油, 不戴耳環, 不戴手鐲, 不戴戒指, 不戴任何飾物 75. 穿著深色衣服 76. 正面半身照, 不戴眼鏡, 不化妝, 不塗指甲油, 不戴耳環, 不戴手鐲, 不戴戒指, 不戴任何飾物 77. 穿著深色衣服 78. 正面半身照, 不戴眼鏡, 不化妝, 不塗指甲油, 不戴耳環, 不戴手鐲, 不戴戒指, 不戴任何飾物 79. 穿著深色衣服 80. 正面半身照, 不戴眼鏡, 不化妝, 不塗指甲油, 不戴耳環, 不戴手鐲, 不戴戒指, 不戴任何飾物 81. 穿著深色衣服 82. 正面半身照, 不戴眼鏡, 不化妝, 不塗指甲油, 不戴耳環, 不戴手鐲, 不戴戒指, 不戴任何飾物 83. 穿著深色衣服 84. 正面半身照, 不戴眼鏡, 不化妝, 不塗指甲油, 不戴耳環, 不戴手鐲, 不戴戒指, 不戴任何飾物 85. 穿著深色衣服 86. 正面半身照, 不戴眼鏡, 不化妝, 不塗指甲油, 不戴耳環, 不戴手鐲, 不戴戒指, 不戴任何飾物 87. 穿著深色衣服 88. 正面半身照, 不戴眼鏡, 不化妝, 不塗指甲油, 不戴耳環, 不戴手鐲, 不戴戒指, 不戴任何飾物 89. 穿著深色衣服 90. 正面半身照, 不戴眼鏡, 不化妝, 不塗指甲油, 不戴耳環, 不戴手鐲, 不戴戒指, 不戴任何飾物 91. 穿著深色衣服 92. 正面半身照, 不戴眼鏡, 不化妝, 不塗指甲油, 不戴耳環, 不戴手鐲, 不戴戒指, 不戴任何飾物 93. 穿著深色衣服 94. 正面半身照, 不戴眼鏡, 不化妝, 不塗指甲油, 不戴耳環, 不戴手鐲, 不戴戒指, 不戴任何飾物 95. 穿著深色衣服 96. 正面半身照, 不戴眼鏡, 不化妝, 不塗指甲油, 不戴耳環, 不戴手鐲, 不戴戒指, 不戴任何飾物 97. 穿著深色衣服 98. 正面半身照, 不戴眼鏡, 不化妝, 不塗指甲油, 不戴耳環, 不戴手鐲, 不戴戒指, 不戴任何飾物 99. 穿著深色衣服 100. 正面半身照, 不戴眼鏡, 不化妝, 不塗指甲油, 不戴耳環, 不戴手鐲, 不戴戒指, 不戴任何飾物 101. 穿著深色衣服 102. 正面半身照, 不戴眼鏡, 不化妝, 不塗指甲油, 不戴耳環, 不戴手鐲, 不戴戒指, 不戴任何飾物 103. 穿著深色衣服 104. 正面半身照, 不戴眼鏡, 不化妝, 不塗指甲油, 不戴耳環, 不戴手鐲, 不戴戒指, 不戴任何飾物 105. 穿著深色衣服 106. 正面半身照, 不戴眼鏡, 不化妝, 不塗指甲油, 不戴耳環, 不戴手鐲, 不戴戒指, 不戴任何飾物 107. 穿著深色衣服 108. 正面半身照, 不戴眼鏡, 不化妝, 不塗指甲油, 不戴耳環, 不戴手鐲, 不戴戒指, 不戴任何飾物 109. 穿著深色衣服 110. 正面半身照, 不戴眼鏡, 不化妝, 不塗指甲油, 不戴耳環, 不戴手鐲, 不戴戒指, 不戴任何飾物 111. 穿著	

Holders of ARCs who overstay under certain conditions may reapply for entry visas as follows:

Status	Conditions of Overstay	Documents Needed for Application
White-collar professionals working in Taiwan legally	With a valid employment permit; period of overstay not exceeding one month	Go to the local NIA service center and have their passports endorsed with the valid periods of the employment permit. Re-apply for an ARC valid for three months.



Foreign spouses joining their family	ARC expired for no more than six months.	Household registration from the last three months, or proof of valid resident status of spouse in Taiwan.
Underage dependents joining their family	ARC expired for no more than six months.	Household registration from the last three months, or proof of a valid Taiwan residence ID from a relative.
Overseas Chinese and foreign students	ARC expired for no more than six months.	Valid student ID card.

► Bureau of Consular Affairs (BOCA): <http://www.boca.gov.tw/mp.asp?mp=2>

Service Centers of the National Immigration Agency (NIA)

Service Hours: 08:00 ~ 17:00

Service Center	Telephone	Service Center	Telephone
Keelung City	02-2428-1775 02-2427-6174	Chiayi City	05-231-3274 05-231-9947
Taipei City	02-2389-9983	Chiayi County	05-362-3763
Taipei County	02-8964-7960 02-8964-6937	Tainan City	06-293-7641 06-293-6210
Taoyuan County	03-331-4830 03-331-0409	Tainan County	06-581-7404 06-581-6659
Hsinchu City	03-524-3517 03-524-7357	Kaohsiung City	07-282-1400 07-221-3478
Hsinchu County	03-551-4590 03-551-9905	Kaohsiung County	07-621-2143 07-623-6294
Miaoli County	037-322-350 037-327-941	Pingtung County	08-721-6665 08-721-5417
Taichung City	04-2254-9981 04-2254-2545	Yilan County	03-957-5448 03-957-8455
Taichung County	04-2526-1087 04-2526-9777	Hualien County	03-832-9700 03-833-0007
Changhua County	04-834-9614 04-834-7640	Taitung County	089-361-631
Nantou County	049-220-0065 049-224-2235	Penghu County	06-926-7150 06-926-9469

Yunlin County	05-534-5971 05-534-6029	Kinmen County	082-323-701 082-323-695
		Lienchiang County	0836-23-741 0836-23-738

Visa Services

In countries where the ROC maintains a mission, foreign passport holders may apply for a visa at the ROC embassies, consulates or representative offices. It is advised that they apply at the ROC mission in the country where they have a fixed residence.

Applications for visas from within Taiwan must be submitted to the Bureau of Consular Affairs (BOCA) and include:

1. letter of guarantee for visa application to the Republic of China;
2. notification of approval of letter of guarantee for visa application to the Republic of China;
3. visa application form;
4. other relevant documents.

The BOCA and the different regional offices of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) will provide the forms and information needed for visa application.

Locations for Submitting Visa Applications in Taiwan

Service hours: 08:30 ~ 17:00

Service Unit	Telephone	Address
BOCA, MOFA	02-2343-2888	3F, No. 2-2, Sec. 1, Jinan Rd., Taipei City
Central Taiwan Office, MOFA	04-2251-0799	1F, No. 503, Sec. 2, Liming Rd., Taichung City
Southern Taiwan Office, MOFA	07-211-0605	2F, No. 436, Chenggong 1st Rd., Kaohsiung City
Eastern Taiwan Office, MOFA	03-833-1041	6F, No. 371, Zhongshan Rd., Hualien City
Taoyuan International Airport Office, MOFA (24 hrs)	03-398-2629 (Terminal I) 03-398-5805 (Terminal II)	



Priority Counters at Arrival Passport Control

Taoyuan International Airport and Kaohsiung International Airport now offer priority counters at Arrival Passport Control. Senior citizens who have difficulty walking, passengers with young children, pregnant women, and all passengers with reduced mobility may use this counter.

Naturalization and Marriage Registration

Foreign nationals and stateless applicants who meet the requirements of the Nationality Act Articles 3 to 7 and Article 9 can submit the necessary documents to a local household registry office. The documents will be transferred to the Ministry of the Interior (MOI) for approval. For registration of marriage, divorce or naturalization, please visit the Department of Household Registration website.

- ▶ Household Administration, MOI: (02)2356-5126
- ▶ Nationality Administration, MOI: (02)2356-5090~2

Memo

Transportation



Taiwan High Speed Rail is a speedy and convenient way of traveling down the island. Travelers can also use the round-the-island railroad, buses, the Metropolitan Rapid Transit System, cars, motorcycles, and bicycles to travel around the island. Ferries and flights are also available for offshore islands.

- ▶ International Flights/Domestic Flights
- ▶ Taiwan High Speed Rail
- ▶ Round-the-island Railroad
- ▶ Metropolitan Rapid Transit Systems
- ▶ Long-distance Bus Service
- ▶ Taxi/Car Rental
- ▶ Driver's License and International Driving Permit
- ▶ Bicycles
- ▶ Ship Transport



International Flights/Domestic Flights

International Flights

Taiwan's international air routes are served by Taoyuan International Airport (about 40 km from Taipei) and Kaohsiung International Airport.

- ▶ Taoyuan International Airport: <http://www.taoyuan-airport.com/english/>
- ▶ Kaohsiung International Airport: <http://www.kia.gov.tw/>
- ▶ Civil Aeronautics Administration (CAA), MOTC: <http://www.caa.gov.tw/en/index.asp>
- ▶ International Community Service Hotline: 0800-024-111
- ▶ National Immigration Agency (NIA): http://www.immigration.gov.tw/immig_eng/aspcode/main4.asp

Flights across the Taiwan Straits

Foreign passport holders may enter from and depart to Mainland China via Kinmen, Matsu, or Penghu if they are:

- Visitors with valid visas and passports or other travel documents,
- Visitors with valid passports with which they can enter the Republic of China visa-exempt,
- Residents of Hong Kong and Macau holding valid entry and exit permits.

Travel documents will be examined by officers of the NIA.

Taiwan airports with direct flights to Mainland China: Taiwan Taoyuan International Airport, Taipei International Airport, Kaohsiung International Airport, Taichung Airport, Hualien Airport, Taitung Airport, Magong Airport, and Kinmen Airport.

Domestic Flights

Taiwan has a highly developed domestic flight network with 17 airports serving Taiwan as well as the surrounding islands. Flights should be reserved before departure, directly with an airline or through a travel agency. Foreign passport holders need to present their passports at check-in and boarding.

- ▶ Civil Aeronautics Administration (CAA): <http://www.caa.gov.tw/en/index.asp>

Domestic Airports

Airport	Website	Telephone
Taipei International Airport	http://www.tsa.gov.tw/	02-8770-3430 02-8770-3460
Kaohsiung International Airport	http://www.kia.gov.tw/	Domestic flights: 07-805-7630 International flights: 07-805-7631
Hualien Airport	http://www.hulairport.gov.tw/	03-821-0768
Taitung Airport	http://www.tta.gov.tw/en/	089-362-530, 089-362-531
Taichung Airport	http://www.tca.gov.tw/	04-2615-5206, 04-2615-5000 ext.123
Chiayi Airport	http://www.cya.gov.tw/	05-286-7886 ext. 311
Tainan Airport	http://www.tna.gov.tw/	06-260-1016, 06-260-1017
Kinmen Airport	http://www.kma.gov.tw/	082-322-381, 082-313-694
Magong Airport	http://www.mkport.gov.tw/	06-922-8188, 06-922-9123
Lanyu Airport	http://www.tta.gov.tw/lanyu/index.asp	089-732-220
Lyudao Airport	http://www.tta.gov.tw/green/index.asp	089-671-194
Qimei Airport	http://www.mkport.gov.tw/cim/index.asp	06-9971-256
Wang'an Airport	http://www.mkport.gov.tw/wan/index.asp	06-999-1806
Matsu Nangan Airport	http://www.tsa.gov.tw/web/nangan	0836-26-505
Matsu Beigan Airport	http://www.tsa.gov.tw/web/nairport	0836-56-606 ext. 105
Pingtung Airport	http://www.pta.gov.tw/	08-766-5760
Hengchun Airport	http://www.hca.gov.tw/	08-889-7120 ext. 1127



Domestic Airlines

Airline	Website	Telephone
China Airlines (中華航空)	http://www.china-airlines.com/	02-2715-1212
Far Eastern Air Transport (遠東航空)	http://www.fat.com.tw/	02-2712-1555
TransAsia Airway (復興航空)	http://www.tna.com.tw/	02-4498-123
Mandarin Airlines (華信航空)	http://www.mandarin-airlines.com/	02-2717-1230
Eva Air (長榮航空)	http://www.evaair.com/	02-2501-1999
Emerald Pacific Airlines (凌天航空)	http://www.ep-air.com.tw/	04-2615-5058
Aerospace Industrial Development Corp. (漢翔航空)	http://www.aidc.com.tw/	04-2707-0001
Uni Air (立榮航空)	http://www.uniair.com.tw/	02-2518-5166
Daily Air (德安航空)	http://www.dailyair.com.tw/	089-362-487

Taiwan High Speed Rail

The High Speed Rail (HSR) has become one of the main choice for north-south bound passenger transportation along Taiwan's west coast. It travels from Taipei to Kaohsiung in less than two hours, with stations in Taipei, Banciao (Banciao), Taoyuan, Hsinchu, Taichung, Chiayi, Tainan, and Zuoying in Kaohsiung.

- ▶ For HSR schedules and ticket prices, see <http://www.thsrc.com.tw/en/>
- ▶ HSR Service Telephone: 02-4066-3000
- ▶ HSR Reservation Telephone: 02-4066-0000



Transfer Information

People can transfer between HSR and Taiwan Railway Administration (TRA) trains at the following stations: Taipei, Banqiao (Banciao), Taichung, and Zuoying. All stations have shuttle buses, taxis, reserved pickup, and car rental services for other destinations. All stations have parking facilities nearby.

- High Speed Rail transfers: http://www.thsrc.com.tw/en/destinations/des_transfer.asp

Round-the-island Railroad

The railway is one of the best ways to travel around Taiwan. The round-the-island railroad connects all of Taiwan's major cities. There are also local routes, including the Jiji (集集), Pingxi (平溪) and Neiwan (內灣) lines that give access to special scenic areas.

Tickets can be reserved up to 14 days prior to travel via telephone or website, but they must be picked up at the railway station or the post office within two days of making the reservations. For long weekends and holidays, it is advised to make reservations early.

Foreign students who are in Taiwan on short-term study tours can present their foreign passports, international student certification, or a travel pass issued by the National Youth Commission (NYC) (青輔會) and purchase a cheap 5-day, 7-day, or 10-day Taiwan Rail Pass





(TR-PASS). These passes are not available to foreigners with resident certificates. This offer gives young people an ideal opportunity to learn about Taiwan by taking an inexpensive trip around the country.

- ▶ Taiwan Railways Administration (TRA): <http://www.railway.gov.tw/en>
- ▶ Train schedules: http://163.29.3.96/TWRail_EN/index.aspx
- ▶ Reservation Online: <http://railway.hinet.net/etno1.htm>

Metropolitan Rapid Transit Systems

Both Taipei and Kaohsiung have mass rapid transit systems that provide convenient access to tourist spots within the cities and connecting buses are available to surrounding areas. Travelers planning to stay in Taiwan for an extended period can save time by purchasing a Smart Card (or an IC Card), such as the EasyCard in Taipei, or I-Pass and TaiwanMoney Cards in Kaohsiung. Smoking, eating and drinking, and chewing gums are prohibited in MRT stations and on the trains.

- ▶ Taipei Rapid Transit Corp.: <http://english.trtc.com.tw/> 02-2181-2345
- ▶ Kaohsiung Rapid Transit Corp.: <http://www.krtco.com.tw/en/e-index.aspx> 07-793-8888

Long-distance Bus Service

Many long-distance bus services are available for convenient travel between cities. Some bus routes operate 24 hours a day. Traveling by long-distance buses is cheaper than by train or by plane.

Bus Company Information

Bus Company	Telephone
Kuo-Kuang Bus (國光客運)	0800-010-138, 02-2331-2950
Ubus (統聯客運)	0800-241-560, 02-2995-7799
Aloha Bus (阿羅哈客運)	0800-043-168, 07-237-5640
Ho-Hsin Bus (和欣客運)	0800-002-377
Free Go Bus (建民客運/飛狗巴士)	0800-051-519

Local Bus Service Transportation

Every city and town in Taiwan has a municipal or highway bus network, providing convenient transportation. In Taipei and Kaohsiung you can use the MRT and connecting shuttle buses to save time. Signs at bus stops show the routes of the buses, so a traveler can check the route before boarding.



The local bus is a great choice for short-distance transportation.

Taxis/Car Rental

Taxis

Taiwan's taxis are easily identifiable by their bright yellow color as well as the "Taxi" light box on their roofs. Taxis in major cities charge by the meter, but tariffs vary from city to city. Some long-distance taxi drivers do not charge by meter, therefore passengers should check with the drivers before using the service. In most cities in Taiwan, you can call for taxi services. Certified taxi drivers who have passed English proficiency tests are available in Taipei and Kaohsiung. To use this service, call the International Community Service Hotline (0800-024-111). A taxi reservation service is available in most convenience stores.



Taxis provide fast and convenient services.

- ▶ Toll Free Taxi Hotline: 0800-055-850 (Taipei and Keelung areas), 0800-001-006 (Kaohsiung)
- ▶ Information for Foreigners website: <http://iff.immigration.gov.tw>
- ▶ Taipei English Taxi Drivers Association: 02-2799-7997
- ▶ Taiwan Taxi Corp.: 405-88888 ext. 9



Car Rental

Renting a car in Taiwan is very convenient. Rental companies offer various kinds of vehicles at major airports and railway stations in major cities. Chauffeur services are also available .

- Travel Information Hotline (24 hrs):
0800-011-765



Driver's License and International Driving Permit

Drivers' Situation	Requirements
Foreigners with international driving permits from countries that have reciprocal agreements with the ROC.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are allowed to drive for up to 30 days. • Need to go to a highway supervision office and complete an International Driving License Permit Application if they are staying for more than 30 days.
Foreigners who want to exchange a license issued by another country or area into an ROC driver's license.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Before arriving in Taiwan, need to go to an overseas ROC embassy, representative office to apply for verification before arriving in Taiwan, or... • After arriving in Taiwan, go to a foreign embassy in Taiwan.
Foreigners who wish to get a new ROC driver's license.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must apply at a motor vehicle supervision office or station under the Directorate General of Highways. • Take a written test (which is available in 7 languages: Chinese, English, Japanese, Indonesian, Thai, Vietnamese, and Cambodian.)

If you need more information about driving in Taiwan with an international driver's license, or exchanging a foreign domestic or international driver's license into a Taiwan license, please see the Motor Vehicle Office website listed below.

- Directorate General of Highways: http://www.thb.gov.tw/tm/Menus/new_english_02-2311-3456

Getting a Motorcycle Driving License

Motorcycles in Taiwan are categorized as light motorcycles, ordinary heavy motorcycles, and large heavy motorcycles. Motorcycles with engines 550cc or larger are now allowed on all expressways (but not highways).

- ▶ Headlights must be turned on at all times when driving.
- ▶ Motorcycle drivers and passengers in Taiwan are required to wear full-face safety helmets at all times.
- ▶ For details on license testing, please check with one of the motor vehicle offices listed below.

Motor Vehicle Offices

Department in Charge	Website	Telephone
Motor Vehicle Office, Taipei City Government	http://english.mvo.taipei.gov.tw	02-2831-4155
Taipei Motor Vehicle Supervision Office	http://www.tmvso.gov.tw	02-2688-4366
Hsinchu Motor Vehicles Office	http://www.hmv.gov.tw	03-589-2051
Taichung Motor Vehicles Office	http://www.tmv.gov.tw	04-2691-2011
Chiayi Motor Vehicles Office	http://www.cyi.gov.tw	05-277-0150
Kaohsiung Motor Vehicles Office	http://www.komv.gov.tw/eng/	07-771-1101
Department of Motor Vehicle, Kaohsiung City	http://mvdis1.kcg.gov.tw/dep_17/index.php	07-361-3161

Motorcycle Evaporative and Exhaust Emissions Test

Motorcycle should be tested periodically for evaporative and exhaust emissions. Failure to do so will result in penalties. The environmental protection institutions send out notification for tests each year to motorcycle owners as a reminder for this test. Motorcycle owners must carry out this test whether they receive such reminders or not. Tests are available with or without such reminders.



Bicycles

The government has been promoting leisure cycling in recent years. Together with local bicycle-manufacturing industry, great efforts have been made to transform Taiwan into a “Cycling Island.” Many of the island’s main tourist destinations have bicycle rental shops and designated cycling paths, such as the Dongfeng Green Bicycle Corridor (東豐自行車綠廊) and the Shoreline Bikeway at Sun Moon Lake. Taipei City, Taipei County, and Kaohsiung City offer public bike rental with pickups at one location and returns at another. Rental is free of charge for periods varying from the first 30 minutes to 2 hours. For details, check the relevant city or county website.

- ▶ Taipei City YouBike Bicycle Rental System:
<http://www.youbike.com.tw/upage/english.htm>
- ▶ Taipei County Riverside Cycling Path:
<http://bike.tpc.gov.tw/en/index.html>
- ▶ Kaohsiung City Public Bike Information System:
<http://www.c-bike.com.tw/eng/knowning.html>



Ship Transport

Direct travel between Taiwan and Mainland China began in December of 2008, bringing convenience to cross-straits travelers. Taiwan also has river tourism services, including Taipei County's "Blue Highway" on the Danshui River and Kaohsiung City's Love River cruises. While visiting Taiwan, you should consider the different kind of experience provided by river tourism.

- ▶ Maritime Transport Network Portal: <https://web02.mtnet.gov.tw/eng/>
- ▶ Northern Taiwan Maritime Transportation Information: <http://www.klhb.gov.tw/English/E00/E0001.aspx>
- ▶ Eastern Taiwan Maritime Transportation Information: <http://www.hlhb.gov.tw/english/about.htm>
- ▶ Southern Taiwan Maritime Transportation Information: <http://www.khb.gov.tw/english/index.htm>



Memo

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

Discover Taiwan



Taiwan is a land of beautiful sceneries and coastlines. Its geographic position between the continent and the Pacific Ocean also nurtures diverse species of flora and fauna on both land and sea. The fusion of a rich historical background and international cultures creates the diverse cultures in Taiwan.

- ▶ Tourist Information Services
- ▶ Taiwan Tour Bus
- ▶ Youth Travel Card
- ▶ National Parks in Taiwan
- ▶ National Scenic Areas
- ▶ In-depth Travel
- ▶ Leisure Agri-tourism
- ▶ Arts and Culture
- ▶ Museums



Tourist Information Services

Tourist Information Website

The Taiwan Tourist Information website contains separate sections on travel, folk festivals, cuisine, shopping, itinerary planning, accommodation, and transport. The website also has recommendations to help you plan your travel itinerary. There is also information on practical topics including entering and exiting Taiwan, exchange rates, postal service, and emergency contacts. All these information are available in Traditional Chinese, Simplified Chinese, English, Japanese, Korean, German, and French.




▶ Taiwan Tourist Information: <http://eng.taiwan.net.tw>

Tourist Information Hotline: 0800-011-765

Travelers needing information on itinerary planning or emergency assistance can call the Tourism Bureau's Tourist Information Hotline at 0800-011-765 to receive 24-hr assistance in four languages: Chinese, English, Japanese, and Korean. Special operators can provide comprehensive information on topics ranging from transportation and accommodation to itinerary planning and other travel-related matters.

Travel Service Centers

To help travelers, the Tourism Bureau has established Travel Information Service Centers at Taiwan's major airports, railway stations, MRT stations, national scenic areas, and popular tourist sites. Travelers should look for the Center's bright yellow logo “” to find the most practical travel information, provided free of charge. These information centers offer maps and brochures and also allow travelers to go online to look up the information they need. In addition, specialized staff members are available to provide detailed local travel information.



▶ Travel Service Centers in different areas: <http://eng.taiwan.net.tw/>

Taiwan Tour Bus

In-depth Travel around Taiwan

The Tourism Bureau has assisted bus operators in planning Taiwan Tour Bus itineraries to cover all major tourist destinations, scenic areas, cultural centers, shops, and festivals. Travelers can be picked up from their hotel, airport, or railway station. These tour buses visit popular tourist sites, providing travelers with transportation, insurance, and comprehensive services. The tour buses also have guides who provide Chinese, English, and Japanese interpretation to help travelers enjoy carefree travel without language barriers. Online reservations and the telephone numbers of major travel agencies can be found on Taiwan Tour Bus' website.

- ▶ Taiwan Tour Bus: <http://www.taiwantourbus.com.tw/>
- ▶ Taiwan Tourist Information website: <http://eng.taiwan.net.tw/>
- ▶ Tourist Information Hotline: 0800-011-765 (24-hr travel consultation in Chinese, English, Japanese, and Korean)

Digital Tour Buddy

An Essential Helpmate for Independent Travel

The Digital Tour Buddy is part of a program sponsored by the National Youth Commission (NYC) (青輔會). It is a mobile phone that you can borrow for 15-30 days, free of charge. It is designed for visitors who are traveling the island on their own. In addition to providing text-messaging and direct-dial services, the Digital Tour Buddy has a built-in English-Chinese dictionary, and it includes numbers for visitor information centers, 24-hr Tourist Information Hotline, Information for Foreigners Hotline, youth hostel reservations, English-language taxis, and other practical functions. The phone's value card





can be purchased, and credit can be added at convenience stores and Chunghwa Telecom business offices. Beginning in September 2010, 3G SIM cards are also available for travelers using their own mobile phone for internet connection.

Using the Digital Tour Buddy

Applying for a Digital Tour Buddy	
Application prior to entry	Application after entry
Application should be made 7 days to 1 month prior to visit. Application form is available online.	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Online application Digital Tour Buddy can be picked up three days after application.2. On-site application Application can be made between 10:00 to 21:00 at NYC's Taipei Youth Volunteer Center, Tuesday through Sunday.
Picking up a Digital Tour Buddy	
Applied prior to entry	Applied after entry
After arrival, bring the necessary documents to the Travel Information Service Counter of Taoyuan International Airport and Kaohsiung International Airport or to the NYC's Taipei Youth Travel Center.	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Online application Digital Tour Buddy can be picked up at NYC's Taipei Youth Center with documents. Leave a copy of passport and ID for security purposes.2. On-site application Application can be made at NYC's Taipei Youth Center between 10:00 to 21:00, Tuesday through Sunday. Leave a copy of passport and ID for security purposes.

© Offer available until December 31, 2012 (to be extended if necessary)

- ▶ **Youth Travel in Taiwan:** <http://www.youthtravel.tw/>
This website provides updated information on travelling mainly of interest to travelers between the ages of 15 and 30. It also encourages young travelers to exchange the most updated information using the website.
- ▶ **National Youth Commission's Taipei Youth Travel Center:** 1F, No.31, ZhongXiao E. Rd. Sec. 1, Taipei City 02-3322-5550

Youth Travel Card

Nearly 800 discounts on tickets, transportation, accommodation and cuisine are available for young travelers between the ages 15-30. Holders of Youth Travel Cards are eligible for these discounts, such as group ticket price for Taipei 101 Observatory and 50% off the ticket price for the National Palace Museum.

Application: Anyone between 15 and 30 must have a valid photo ID (passport for foreign nationals and identification card for ROC nationals). Applications are available at 87 locations, including travel service centers and visitor centers of Tourism Bureau (e.g. Taiwan Taoyuan International Airport, Kaohsiung International Airport), Youth Volunteer Centers of the NYC, Chinese Language Centers, and certain regional government centers and associations and foundations related to youth travel.

- ▶ **National Youth Commission (NYC):** <http://youthtravel.tw/>

National Parks in Taiwan

Taiwan is surrounded by the sea and has a subtropical climate. It has alpine forests and a diverse topography. The island's warm temperatures and abundant rainfall, nurturing forests with rich plant life as well as a huge variety of animal species. To preserve the island's natural beauty, the government has designated 8 national parks, each with its own characteristics and attractions. Tourists visiting these national parks must obey the regulations protecting the natural environment and respect local cultures and practices.

- ▶ **National Parks of Taiwan website:** <http://np.cpami.gov.tw>



Name	Features	Website	Telephone
Yangmingshan National Park	Yangmingshan is located at the northern edge of Taipei basin, featuring volcanic mountains, crater lakes, and breathtaking views of the city and the sea. A wide range of flowers blooms here every year.	http://www.ymssp.gov.tw/html/eng/	02-2861-3601
Shei-Pa National Park	A park in central Taiwan, northeast of Taichung, with high mountain peaks and river streams. A range of endemic species can be found at this park: Formosan landlocked salmon, broad-tailed swallowtail butterflies, Formosan black bears, Formosan serows, and other protected wildlife.	http://www.snp.gov.tw/	037-996-100
Taroko National Park	A park near Hualien with marble gorges and canyons, along with archaeological sites from the Neolithic Age.	http://www.taroko.gov.tw/English/	03-862-1100
Yushan National Park	Yushan, or Jade Mountain, in central Taiwan, is 3,952 meters high. It is the highest peak in Taiwan and Northeast Asia. It is currently on the shortlist for the New Seven Natural Wonders of the World. The park features subtropical, temperate, and alpine forests, rich wildlife ecologies, and the Batong Historic Trail, which has existed since the Qing Dynasty. The number of hikers and climbers allowed on Jade Mountain at any time is limited, so climbers must apply in advance. Application prior to visit and on-spot application are also available for foreign visitors.	http://www.ysnp.gov.tw/en/	049-277-3121 Park Entry Service Unit: 049-234-8204, 049-234-8209

Name	Features	Website	Telephone
Taijiang National Park	This national park preserves a widespread of precious wetland ecosystem, mangrove forests, and also serve as the habitat for the Black-faced Spoonbills.	http://www.tjnp.gov.tw/	06-391-0000
Kenting National Park	A park located at the southern tip of Taiwan with an atmosphere resembling the South Seas. It is known for its rich coral reef ecology.	http://www.ktnp.gov.tw/eng/	08-886-1321
Kinmen National Park	A special battleground site on one of Taiwan's offshore islands with rich culture and history. In autumn and early winter, Kinmen becomes a way station for migrating fowls of many species, making it an ideal setting for bird watching.	http://www.kmnp.gov.tw/	082-31-3100
Dongsha Atoll National Park	The park features unique geological landscapes formed of weathered coral and seashells (which are currently closed to visitors).	http://dongsha.cpami.gov.tw/	07-360-1898

National Scenic Areas

► Tourist Information Website: <http://eng.taiwan.net.tw/>

National Scenic Area	Website	Telephone
Northeast Coast and Yilan Coast National Scenic Area	http://www.necoast-nsa.gov.tw	Administration Office: 02-2499-1115 Longdong Visitors center: 02-2499-1190 Dali Visitors center: 03-978-0727 Yilan Visitors center: 03-930-8420 Fulong Visitor Center: 0800-091-115



National Scenic Area	Website	Telephone
North Coast and Guanyinshan National Scenic Area	http://www.northguan-nsa.gov.tw/	Jinshan Visitor Center: 02-2498-8980 Sanzhi Visitor Center and Gallery of Famous Sons: 02-8635-3640 Guanyinshan Visitor Center: 02-2292-8888 Yeliu Visitor Center: 02-2492-2016 Baishawan Visitor Center: 02-8635-5100
East Coast National Scenic Area	http://www.eastcoast-nsa.gov.tw/	National Scenic Area Administration: 089-841-520 Taitung Visitors Center: 089-281-530 Hualien Visitors Center: 03-867-1326 Green Island Visitors Center: 089-672-026 Sanxiantai Visitor Center: 089-854-097 Baxian Cave Visitors Center: 089-881-418 Shitiping Visitors Center: 03-878-1452 Xiuguluan River Rafting Center: 03-887-5400
East Rift Valley National Scenic Area	http://www.erv-nsa.gov.tw	National Scenic Area Administration: 03-887-5306 Liyutan Visitors Center: 03-864-1691 Luoshan Visitors Center: 03-882-1725 Luye Visitors Center: 089-551-637
Tri-Mountain National Scenic Area	http://www.trimt-nsa.gov.tw/eng	Lion's Head Mountain Visitors Center: 03-580-9296 Nanzhuang Visitors Center: 037-824-570 Lishan Visitors Center: 04-2598-1331 Guguan Visitors Center: 04-2595-1496 Baguashan Visitors Center: 04-728-9608 Songbo Mountain Visitors Center: 049-258-0525
Sun Moon Lake National Scenic Area	http://www.sunmoon-lake.gov.tw/	Administration Office: 049-285-5668, 0800-855-595 Shuishe Visitor Center: 0800-855-595 Checheng Visitors Center: 049-277-4981
Dapeng Bay National Scenic Area	http://www.dbnsa.gov.tw/	Administration Office: 08-833-8100#321 Little Liuqiu Visitors Center: 08-861-4615
Maolin National Scenic Area	http://www.maolin-nsa.gov.tw/	0800-600-766

National Scenic Area	Website	Telephone
Southwest Coast National Scenic Area	http://www.swcoast-nsa.gov.tw/	Administration Office: 06-786-1000 Budai Visitors Center: 05-347-0051 Cigu Visitors Center: 06-780-1161 Beimen Visitors Center: 06-786-1017
Siraya National Scenic Area	http://www.siraya-nsa.gov.tw/	Administration Office: 0800-580-762 Meiling Visitors Center: 06-575-5830 Zengwun Visitors Center: 05-252-1368
Matsu National Scenic Area	http://www.matsu-nsa.gov.tw/	National Scenic Area Administration: 0836-25-630 Dongyin Visitor Center: 0836-77-266 Beigan Visitor Center: 0836-56-531 Juguang Visitor Center: 0836-89-388
Penghu National Scenic Area	http://www.penghu-nsa.gov.tw/	Administration Office: 06-921-6521 South Sea Visitor Information Center: 06-926-4738 North Sea Visitor Information Center: 06-993-3082 Houliao Visitor Center: 06-993-3437 Jibei Visitor Center: 06-991-1487 Wangan (Green Turtle Tourism and Conservation Center): 06-999-1368
Alishan National Scenic Area	http://www.ali-nsa.net/	Administration Office: 05-259-3900 Ruitai Visitor Center: 05-250-1070 Yuantan Visitor Center: 05-250-2026 Dabang Visitor Center: 05-251-1982

Metropolitan Parks

Metropolitan Park	Website	Telephone
Taichung Metropolitan Park	http://taichungmp.cpami.gov.tw/taichung_mp_english/	04-2461-2483
Kaohsiung Metropolitan Park	http://w3.cpami.gov.tw/khmp/english/english-index.htm	07-365-6103



In-depth Travel

Local Tourist Festivals

Throughout the year, Taiwan's city and county governments host regional events and activities, combining local specialties with leisure travel.

Northern Taiwan	Taipei City's Chinese Food Festival	Taipei City	Aug.
	Taipei County Yingge Ceramics Carnival	Taipei County	Oct.
	Shimen International Kite Festival	Taipei County	Sep.
	Yilan County International Rain Festival	Yilan County	Jul.~Aug.
	Taoyuan County Lotus Festival	Taoyuan County	Jul.~Aug.
	Hsinchu County Xinpu Persimmon Cake Festival	Hsinchu County	Sep.
	Hsinchu City International Glass Art Festival	Hsinchu City	Sep.~Nov.
	Miaoli County Tung Blossom Festival	Miaoli County	Apr.
	Sanyi Wood Carving Festival	Miaoli County	May
Central Taiwan	Mazu International Festival	Taichung County	Feb.~May
	Taichung City Jazz Festival	Taichung City	Oct.
	Changhua County Wang-gong Fishing Boat Lights Festival	Changhua County	Aug.
	Nantou County Hot Spring Festival	Yunlin County	Oct.~Jan.
	Yunlin County Linnei Purple Butterfly Festival	Chiayi County	Mar.~Apr.
	Chiayi County Alishan Cherry Blossom Festival	Chiayi City	Mar.~Apr.
	International Band Festival	Chiayi City	Dec.~Jan.

Southern Taiwan	Tainan County Baihe Lotus Festival	Tainan County	Jul.~Aug.
	Tainan City International Chihsi (Chinese Valentines Day) Arts Festival	Tainan City	Aug.
	International Container Arts Festival	Kaohsiung City	Dec.~Jan.
	Puppetry Festival	Kaohsiung County	Jan.~Feb.
	Bluefin Tuna Cultural Festival	Pingtung County	May~Jul.
Eastern Taiwan and off shore islands	Whale Watching Festival	Hualien County	Occasional
	East Coast Music Festival	Taitung County	Occasional
	Ocean Fireworks Festival	Penghu County	Apr.~May

- One Town One Product (OTOP): <http://otop.tw/>
Use this website to plan your next itinerary. Learn about events, festivals, foods and handicrafts of each town.

Leisure Agri-tourism

Taiwan Agri-tourism

Over the years, Taiwan's agriculture has advanced in quantity, variety, and quality. Taiwan's leisure agri-tourism industry has emerged in recent years, combining agricultural experiences with leisure, good food, tradition, and innovation. Homestays (B&B) have become a feature of Taiwan's leisure travel industry in recent years. Many of these facilities have distinctive architectural themes and styles – South Seas, European villas, rural simplicity, traditional villages – and can be found in different settings – mountain streams, coasts, forests, farm fields, and rural villages.



- Taiwan Leisure Farming Development Association: <http://www.taiwan-farming.org.tw/>
► Taiwan Farming website: http://www.taiwanfarm.com.tw/index_en.html
► Easy Agri-tourism: http://ezgo.coa.gov.tw/ezgo_eng



Arts and Culture

Folk Festivals

Taiwan was originally an agricultural country with farmers celebrating a range of religious and folk festivals. The island's history and various cultures have also produced many unique celebrations and activities. The most important traditional festivals, in order of their lunar-calendar dates, are the Lunar New Year, Dragon Boat Festival, Ghost Festival, and Mid-Autumn Moon Festival.



► Taiwan Tourist Information network: <http://eng.taiwan.net.tw/>

Major Taiwanese Folk Festivals

Traditional Festival	Lunar Calendar	Folk Activity
Lunar New Year	December 30 to January 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family dinner on New Year's Eve • New Year worship on the 1st day of the year • Married daughters return to their parents' home on the 2nd day of the year • Welcome the God of Wealth on the 4th day • Businesses reopen on the 5th day
Lantern Festival	January 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Taiwan Lantern Festival • Pingxi Heavenly Lanterns • Bombing of Han Dan in Taitung • Beehive Rockets in Yanshui
Dragon Boat Festival (Poet's) Festival	May 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dragon Boat races • Eating of Zongzi dumplings • Hanging of mugwort on entrances
Ghost Festival	July 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Release of water lanterns • Chiang-Ku Ceremony/Grappling with the Ghosts
Mid-Autumn Moon Festival	August 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Viewing the full moon • Eating moon cakes

Culture and Arts

Taiwan's traditional operatic arts are represented primarily by Taiwanese opera (Gezaixi) and hand-puppet opera (Budaixi). First developed for the open-air stage, Gezaixi has evolved into a more exquisite form that is now performed in modern theaters. Hand-puppet opera combines folk tales with operatic martial-arts into a kind of theater that has become an important part of Taiwanese popular culture. Beijing opera was later brought from China to Taiwan, where it has been enriched by the addition of modern elements to its highly refined content.



The interweaving of the traditional with the modern has brought Taiwan a booming development of cultural activities and performing groups. From the Ming Hwa Yuan Arts & Cultural Group (明華園) with its melding of traditional and modern elements, and the internationally famous Cloud Gate Dance Theatre (雲門舞集) to the moving U-Theatre drummers (優人神鼓), a large number of outstanding performing groups are working hard to express their cultural beauties not only throughout Taiwan but around the world.

Each town and city has a cultural center, performance hall, and activity center where concerts, dances, dramas, stage plays, and cultural activities are performed. For more information on performing arts activities throughout Taiwan, visit the following websites:

- ▶ Council for Cultural Affairs: <http://english.cca.gov.tw/mp.asp?mp=1>
- ▶ National Chiang Kai-Shek Cultural Center (National Theater and National Concert Hall): <http://www.ntch.edu.tw/english>
- ▶ National Center for Traditional Arts: http://www.ncfta.gov.tw/ncfta_eh/main
- ▶ National Taiwan Arts Education Center: <http://www.arte.gov.tw/eng/>



Museums

Taiwan is the home of the world-famous National Palace Museum, which has the largest collection of Chinese art and artifacts from the Song, Yuan, Ming, and Qing dynasties. It is considered one of the premier museums in the world, on par with the New York Metropolitan Museum, British Museum, and the Louvre. Taiwan also boasts museums on a range of subjects such as history, ethnology, natural history, art, industrial arts, image, and industry, including the National Museum of History, National Taiwan Museum of Fine Arts, and National Museum of Natural Science.

- ▶ Chinese Association of Museums:
<http://www.cam.org.tw/english/main.htm>
- ▶ Taiwan Museums:
<http://museum.cca.gov.tw/frontsite/eng/museumEngListAction.do?method=doListEnglishIndex>



Museums

Museum	Website	Telephone	Location
National Palace Museum	http://www.npm.gov.tw/	02-2881-2021	Taipei city
National Museum of History	http://www.nmh.gov.tw/en-us/Home.aspx	02-2361-0270	Taipei City
National Taiwan Museum	http://formosa.ntm.gov.tw/web/en/exhibition.aspx	02-2382-2699	Taipei City
National Museum of Taiwan History	http://www.nmth.gov.tw/Default.aspx?tabid=177&language=en-US	06-356-8889	Tainan City
National Museum of Natural Science	http://www.nmns.edu.tw/index_eng.html	04-2322-6940	Taichung City
National Museum of Prehistory	http://en.nmp.gov.tw/index.php	089-381-166	Taitung County

Museums

Museum	Website	Telephone	Location
National Museum of Marine Biology and Aquarium	http://www.nmmba.gov.tw/english/index.aspx	08-882-5678	Pingtung County
National Science and Technology Museum	http://www.nstm.gov.tw/english/	07-380-0089	Kaohsiung City
National Taiwan Museum of Fine Arts	http://www.ntmofa.gov.tw/english/index.aspx	04-2372-3552	Taichung City
Taipei Fine Arts Museum	http://www.tfam.museum/index.aspx	02-2595-7656	Taipei City
Kaohsiung Museum of Fine Arts	http://www.kmfa.gov.tw/	07-555-330	Kaohsiung City
Danshui Historic Sites	http://www.tshs.tpc.gov.tw/	02-2623-1001	Taipei County
Yingge Ceramics Museum	http://www.ceramics.tpc.gov.tw/en-us/Home.ymc	02-8677-2727	Taipei County
Hsinchu Municipal Glass Museum	http://glassmuseum.cca.gov.tw/	03-562-6091	Hsinchu City





Eating & Drinking



The unique characteristics of Taiwanese cuisine are influenced by the island's diverse ethnic groups. Taiwan has everything from exquisite palace dishes and fine foreign foods to innovative local creations.

- ▶ Taiwan's Culinary Culture
- ▶ Night-market Snacks
- ▶ Local Delicacies



Taiwan's Culinary Culture

Rice is Taiwan's staple food for all three meals of the day. In addition to their traditional cooking methods, the island's residents have used local ingredients to develop rice dishes with all kinds of tastes. With a wide variety of fried rice and rice with toppings, rice noodles and vermicelli, people of Taiwan have also taken advantage of the varied characteristics of different rice varieties to produce a wide range of rice-based snacks such as turnip cakes, mochi, leaf-wrapped glutinous rice zongzi dumplings, and the New Year's cake. Restaurants that line the streets and lanes of Taiwan offer all kinds of noodle dishes, of which danzai (peddler) (擔仔麵) noodles and beef noodles have developed their own Taiwanese characteristics.

There are four main types of Taiwanese tea: Dongding Wulong (凍頂烏龍), Wenshan Baozhong (文山包種), Tie Guanyin (鐵觀音), and White-tip Wulong (白毫烏龍), which is also known as Oriental Beauty. Assam black tea is produced as well, but in smaller quantities. Drinking tea is common, yet can also be specialized in Taiwan's daily life. In Taiwan, people drink tea every day. They entertain guests with tea, and an



Glutinous cake



Boiled Salted Chicken



Rice with Soy-stewed Pork



Tapioca Milk Tea



Peking Duck

unique “teahouse culture” has developed as a feature of Taiwanese society. Besides brewing tea in the traditional style, Taiwan has also developed its own innovative “pearl milk tea,” which has become popular not only in Taiwan but also in other parts of the world as well. If you want a thorough understanding of the island’s tea culture, you can visit the Pinglin Tea Museum in Taipei County. There you will find exhibits about the history, cultivation, processing, and tea brewing, as well as what tea leaves are made of, the varieties of tea plants, the types of tea leaves, and where tea trees are grown in Taiwan. You can also see displays of tea-processing equipment from the Tang and Song dynasties. There is also a video room, tea house, outdoor tea-drinking area, and tea promotion area.

- **Pinglin Tea Museum:**
<http://www.pinglin.tpc.gov.tw/tea.asp>
Hours: Mon. to Fri.: 9:00 a.m.~5:00 p.m.;
weekends and holidays, 9:00 a.m. ~ 6:00 p.m.

Diverse Culinary Culture

Taiwan is a great melting pot for Chinese and foreign cuisines, all of which are served in a variety of restaurants around the island. Taiwanese cuisine emphasizes the natural features of the ingredients and adds soy sauce, rice wine, sesame oil, fermented black beans, sweet basil, green onions, coriander, and other spices to produce its own characteristic colors, aromas, and flavors. Seafood is another major feature of the island’s diet. The Hakka people have developed their own cuisine with a strong emphasis on heartiness, flavor, and aroma.





The indigenous peoples cook their dishes using fresh local ingredients, which are accompanied with a sweet wine made of millet. With new cuisines from immigrants from Southeast Asia as well as from other international cuisines and cultures, Taiwan now has a range of foods that can satisfy any palate.

► Taiwan Tourism Information Website: <http://taiwan.net.tw>.

Night-market Snacks

Located around the cities' busiest markets and temples, Taiwan's night markets represent their very own special kind of dining culture. Upon entering a brightly-lit night market, visitors will see clusters of vendors and stalls selling all kinds of delicious snack foods: oyster omelets, milkfish belly stew, fried rice vermicelli, "little cake wrapped in big cake," pork knuckles, oyster noodles, and an endless variety of other snacks. Dining at a night market is convenient, fast, and affordable. Shopping and tasting foods at a night market is definitely an integral part of any Taiwanese experience.



Keelung Miaokou Night Market

Night Markets

Night Market	Specialties	Location
Miaokou (Temple Square) Night Market	Miaokou Night Market offers well-known snacks such as pot-side noodle soup, frothy ice, tempura, nutritious sandwiches, and bean-sprout stew.	Near Dianji Temple, on Ren 3rd Rd. and Ai 4th Rd. in Keelung City
Shilin Night Market	This night market offers a wide selection of snacks from all over Taiwan, and is a favorite among tourists.	Between Dadong Rd. and Anping Rd. in the Shilin District, Taipei City
Raohe Street Night Market	Taipei's first tourist night market. It has numerous vendors offering medicinal stewed spareribs. A good place for a healthy diet.	From intersection of Sec. 4 Bade Rd. and Fuyuan St. to Ciyou Temple on Bade Rd. in Taipei City
Huaxi Street Night Market	Taipei's most famous night market, also known as Snake Alley, with popular snacks and seafood.	On Huaxi St. in Taipei City, between Xiyuan Rd. and Huanhe South Rd.
Liaoning Night Market	Among the famous snacks here are goose meat, seafood, glutinous rice cake in bamboo tubes, shawarma, oyster omelet, and marinated stew.	On Liaoning St. in Taipei City, between Chang'an East Rd. and Taipei Municipal Chung Hsin High School
Jingmei Night Market	This night market is the most popular street market in southern Taipei.	Jingmei St., Taipei City
Linjiang Street Night Market	This cross-shaped market has dining on one side and general goods on the other.	On Sec. 4 Tonghua Street, between Xinyi Rd. and Sec. 2, Keelung Rd. in Taipei City
Ningxia Night Market	This night market has all the traditional foods with local flavors, such as oyster omelet and chitterling thin noodles.	On Ningxia Rd., between Minsheng W. Rd. and Nanjing W. Rd. in Taipei City



Night Markets

Night Market	Specialties	Location
Fengjia Night Market	The streets around Feng Chia University form a city that never sleeps. This night market is known for its “cheap prices” and having “everything under the sun.”	On Fuxing Rd. Feng Chia Rd. and Wen-hua Rd., between Sec. 2, Xitun Rd. and Xian St. in Taichung City
Lugang Snacks	The snacks include a range of seafoods. Also offered here are tea snacks such as “phoenix cake” and “ox tongue cake”. The products of Yu Zhen Zhai Cake Shop, in particular, are famous throughout Taiwan.	Lugang, Changhua County
Flower Garden Night Market	The special Tainan cuisine here as well as the vast varieties of garments available always attracts visitors’ attention.	At the intersection of Sec. 3 Hewei Rd. and Sec. 3 Haian Rd., northern Tainan City
Liuhe Night Market	This night market features food and beverages from the mountains and from the sea. Specialties include papaya milk and salt-steamed shrimp.	On Liuhe Rd. in Kaohsiung City
Luodong Night Market	The authentic snacks sold here include salty rice noodles, smoked duck, pork stew, shrimp and chicken leg.	Around the town center and Zhongshan Park in Luodong, Yilan County.
Nanbin Night Market	In this night market, Hualien’s largest, you can try freshly stirfried seafood and special snacks as you watch the sun set slowly behind the mountains to the west.	Near Nanbin Park in Hualien City.

- ▶ Taiwan Tourist Information: <http://www.taiwan.net.tw/>
- ▶ Taipei City Market Administration Office: http://www.tcma.taipei.gov.tw/MP_105021.html

Local Delicacies

Taiwan also has a rich variety of local cultures, including the indigenous people, the Hakka people, and people from all provinces of China. All kinds of tea snacks, cakes and cookies spot are still made in the traditional methods and are perfect for tasting on spot or for taking home as gifts for family and friends.

Protect the World - Bring Your Own Eating Utensils

As Taiwan promotes waste reduction, energy conservation, and carbon reduction, the government encourages its people to bring their own eating utensils when eating out.

- ▶ Food Safety Information website: <http://food.doh.gov.tw/>
- ▶ Taiwan Premium Agricultural Products Development Institute:
<http://www.cas.org.tw/en/english/english.asp>
- ▶ Taiwan Food Good Manufacturing Practice Development Association:
<http://www.gmp.org.tw/>

Memo



Shopping



Taiwan offers a rich and diverse shopping experience, with most shops staying open for more than 12 hours a day. In addition to the department stores and large shopping centers, many unique shopping districts are found island-wide, each with its own character, showing off unique local products. These shopping districts offer all kinds of quality merchandise and a wide range of services. Shopping in Taiwan will be a genuine pleasure.

- ▶ Metropolitan Shopping Districts
- ▶ Taiwan's Brand Commercial Districts
- ▶ English Services Emblem
- ▶ Tourist Shopping Assurance System
- ▶ Consumer Protection
- ▶ Information for Consumers



Metropolitan Shopping Districts

Taiwan's three major cities, Taipei, Taichung, and Kaohsiung, are shoppers' paradises offering the latest styles and fashions. The shopping districts in these cities can satisfy everyone's needs. The mass transportation networks make these shops accessible within these cities.

City/District	District Characteristics
Taipei Ximending Shopping District	The name "Ximending" was given to this district during the Japanese Occupation (1895-1945). The Taipei City Government has transformed the area into the city's Times Square. On weekends and holidays Ximending is packed with people who come for cultural and musical performances, shopping, and other activities. Here modern and traditional elements come together to offer a new experience.
Taipei Zhongxiao-Dunhua (Eastern) Shopping District	The Eastern District is one of the most popular and convenient business districts in Taipei City. The MRT and bus systems provide connections to the department stores and restaurants that line the streets. Most big-name fashion brands and flagship stores are located in this area.
Taipei Xinyi Shopping District	This district is called the "Manhattan of Taipei." During the daytime, it is a business and financial center. At night, it transforms into a fashionable shopping area.
Taichung Jingming 1st Street	Cafes, exotic restaurants and art galleries all line this boulevard. There are open-air tables on the sidewalks and outdoor concerts, as well as art exhibits and other community activities. This is a street for shopping, leisure activities and art.
Taichung Tunghai International Art Street	Close to Tunghai University, the International Art Street is a "Utopian community" that promotes culture, art, and sustainable living. Shops sell many kinds of unique products. The street comes alive in the evenings.

Kaohsiung New Juejiang (Horie) Shopping District

Over the past several years the New Juejiang Shopping District has developed into the largest and most well-known place for imported goods in southern Taiwan. It offers a particularly attractive shopping experience for young people.

Kaohsiung Sanduo Shopping District

The Sanduo Shopping District is centered around the Shin Kong Mitsukoshi, Sogo and Mega department stores. In the surrounding area one can find a dazzling display of clothing fashions and other products at inexpensive prices. The area is a favorite among young people, and, as an added attraction, is close to the Linsen Night Market.

Source: Taiwan Tourism Bureau

Taiwan's Brand Commercial Districts

To meet shopping and travel demands, the Department of Commerce (DOC) of the Ministry of Economic Affairs (MOEA) have revitalized the local commercial environment. Historical villages, natural scenery and LOHAS travel have been combined into tour packages. Good-quality commercial districts that combine cultural activities with shopping are showing a new brand of Taiwan brand specialty goods. Visit <http://gcis.nat.gov.tw/taiwan-go> for more details.

- ▶ Taiwan's Brand Commercial District website: <http://gcis.nat.gov.tw/taiwan-go>
- ▶ Taiwan Handicraft Promotion Center: <http://www.handicraft.org.tw/en/>
- ▶ Easy Agritourism website: <http://ezgo.coa.gov.tw/>

English Services Emblem

The government is promoting an English Services Emblem certification program in order to enhance Taiwan's international service capabilities and to provide foreign visitors with a friendly shopping environment. This program involves guidelines for certification in five areas:



English Services Emblem



shopping, accommodations and dining, tourism and recreation, medical services, and transportation. It encourages businesses to participate in the program and awards them with gold or silver emblems depending on their ability to provide English services.

- ▶ For information please consult the International Taiwan Services Portal:
<http://www.i-taiwan.nat.gov.tw/en/>

Tourist Shopping Assurance System

To provide a quality shopping experience for domestic and foreign tourists alike, the Travel Quality Assurance Association set up a Tourist Shopping Assurance System in 2006. It evaluates businesses in regard to environmental safety, post-sales services, product labeling, product shipping, and the quality of services provided by sales personnel. Businesses that pass the evaluation are issued the Tourist Shopping Assurance Emblem. If and when shopping disputes arise in stores with this emblem, shoppers have 30 days to contact the Assurance Association for assistance.

- ▶ Travel Quality Assurance Association: 02-2506-8185 <http://shop.travel.org.tw>
- ▶ Shopping Complaints: 02-2516-9090 e-mail: tqaa@travel.org.tw

Consumer Protection









Protecting Consumer Interests

In Taiwan, consumers' interests are protected by the Consumer Protection Act. In general, disputes on returns of merchandise that are purchased by mail order or door-to-door sales are most frequent. Under the regulations, consumers can return merchandise bought via mail-order or door-to-door sales within seven days of receipt.










- ▶ If you have a complaint, contact a local government Consumer Service Center
Telephone number: 1950



Consumer Protection Labels

The government has established a wide range of products and service emblems for consumers to identify certified products and services.

Name of Emblem	Logo	Descriptions
Chinese Agricultural Standards (CAS)		This logo stands for the highest sanitary standards of domestic produce and processed produce.
GAP Labels for Safety of Vegetables and Fruits (GAP)		Certified vegetables and fruit conform to the recommended use of chemicals for pest control.
Agriculture and Produce Traceability System		This certification ensures all stages of production meet the required standards and cause no harm to the environment or human health.
Meat Safety Inspection		Meat products with this label are certified to come from a processing environment that meets the regulations. Meat products with the CAS label also meets the standards of hygiene regulations.
GMP Certificate		Products certified with the Good Manufacturing Practice seal have met the required manufacturing standards, including quality and hygiene.
Health Food		Health food products are certified by the Department of Health to provide certain health benefits and to cause no harmful side effects: please check with the Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health websites for further information.
Fresh Dairy Certificate		Dairy products carrying this logo come from certified factories and are produced from domestic dairy farms.
Good Goat's Milk Certificate		Products bearing this logo are certified by the National Animal Industry Foundation to have met the hygiene, safety, and quality requirements.



Name of Emblem	Logo	Descriptions
Quality Alcohol Certificate		The quality of alcoholic beverages, including the raw products and manufacturing process, are guaranteed by this certification.
Merchandise Inspection Safety		Certified electrical and electronic, mechanical, and toy products have been tested and registered.
CNS Standards Certificate		Certification by the Chinese National Standards indicates that the product quality meets national standards. The quality management system also meets the required standards of the Bureau of Standards, Metrology and Inspection.
Safe Toy System		Toy safety is certified by the Safety Test Inspection Commission of Taiwan Toy Research and Development Center.
Energy Certification		The energy efficiency of certified products is 10-50% higher than the National Certification Standards. These products offer greater quality assurance and save energy.
Eco-Friendly Certification		The Recycling Label represents eco-friendly ideas such as recycling, low pollution, and resource conservation. Certified products are the top 20-30% performers in their categories.
Certified Hotels		Hotels in Taiwan are certified as international tourist hotels, tourist hotels, and general hotels.
Certified Bed & Breakfast		For certified bed and breakfasts, visit the Tourism Bureau or local government websites for more details.
Tourism and Amusement Enterprises Certificate		For facilities certified by local governments, visit the tourism bureau or local government website for more details.

Name of Emblem	Logo	Descriptions
Made in Taiwan Logo		This logo identifies safe, healthy and reliable products made in Taiwan (MIT). It also conveys the MIT philosophy of "getting more than what you paid for." The 12 industries that are currently participating in the certifications are ready-to-wear clothing, towels, bedding, socks, shoes, bags, stones, ceramics and home appliances.
CAS Organic		Organic products can be identified from this logo.

Information for Consumers

Store Hours

Stores in Taiwan are generally open from 10:00 to 22:00. Stores in most shopping areas lengthen their hours on weekends and holidays - especially during long holidays and the Chinese New Year. Large department stores and shopping centers are open 365 days a year. Some convenience stores, chain pharmacies, fast-food restaurants and bookstores operate 24 hrs a day.

Tax Refund

If you are a visitor with a non-ROC passport (including those who entered with a travel pass, entry/exit permit, or ROC passport without the holder's ROC ID number stamp) and have purchased goods worth NT\$3,000 or more at a store bearing the "Tax Refund" sign, you may request a refund of the business tax paid on those goods at the time of your departure. Make sure that the goods you purchased are: 1. taken out of the country by the traveler and 2. taken out of the country within 30 days of purchase. Show your passport, purchased goods, tax refund form, and Unified Invoice(s) bearing the "Tax Refundable" stamp to Customs at the airport or seaport.



Tax Refund Counters for Foreign Travelers at Airports and Seaports

Airport	Tax Refund Counter Location
Taipei International Airport	Terminal 1 Departure Lounge, 1st floor: Customs Service Counter
Taoyuan International Airport	Terminal 1 Departure Lounge, 1st floor: Customs Service Counter Terminal 2 Departure Lounge, 3rd floor: Customs Service Counter
Taichung Airport	Visitor Center, Customs Service Counter
Kaohsiung International Airport	3rd floor, Customs Office Visitor Center
Hualien Airport	1st floor, Visitor Center
Keelung Harbor	East Pier 2 and West Pier 2, Customs Service Center
Hualien Harbor	Bureau 1st floor, Visitor Center
Taichung Harbor	Visitor Center, Customs Service Counter
Kaohsiung Harbor	3rd floor, Passenger Terminal
Budai Harbor	Visitor Center, Customs Service Counter
Fuao Harbor	2nd floor Visitor Center, Customs Service Counter
Magong Harbor	Visitor Center, Customs Service Counter
Shuitou Harbor	2nd floor Visitor Center, Customs Service Counter

Tax Refund Information

Service Center		Telephone	Website
Travel Service Center, Tourism Bureau	Taipei Service Center	02-2717-3737 0800-011-765	http://www.taiwan.net.tw/
	Taichung Service Center	04-2254-0809 0800-422-022	
	Tainan Service Center	06-226-5681 0800-611-011	
	Kaohsiung Service Center	07-281-1513 0800-711-765	
	Taoyuan International Airport	03-383-4631 03-383-4632	
	Kaohsiung International Airport	07-805-7888	
Taoyuan International Airport	Terminal 1, Customs Service Counter	03-398-2308 0800-311-006	http://www.taoyuanairport.gov.tw/english/index.jsp
	Terminal 2, Customs Service Counter	03-398-3428 0800-016-801	
National Tax Administration		02-2311-3711	http://www.ntat.gov.tw/county/ntat_ch/ntat_en/

Uniform Invoice

All shops, except those exempted, must provide a Government Uniform Invoice for all business transactions. The Uniform Invoice also serves as a lottery ticket with bi-monthly draws for prizes ranging from NT\$200 to NT\$2,000,000.

► Uniform Invoice Lottery Numbers website: <http://english.etax.nat.gov.tw/>

A Shopping Reminder

Please use your own shopping bag

To help conserve the environment, stores do not hand out free plastic bags to shoppers. Shoppers are encouraged to bring their own shopping bags.

Living Tips



Taiwan is a very convenient place to live; daily lives reveal local colors and cultures, providing foreign visitors with interesting diverse experiences.

- ▶ Renting a House
- ▶ Basic Public Services
- ▶ Telecommunications and Internet
- ▶ Postal Services
- ▶ Buying Daily Necessities
- ▶ Keeping a Pet
- ▶ Recycling



Renting a House

The cost of renting an apartment or house varies with location and size, so look around and compare. Before renting a place, look at the place in person, and communicate with the landlord. After you decide, however long you intend to rent, you must sign a lease to protect your interests. In addition to the rent itself, you will most likely be asked for a deposit; if you go through a real estate broker, you will also have to pay brokerage fee. You can check the websites of legal brokers for details of properties for rent. The following website and hotline may also help:

- Tsuei Ma Ma Foundation for Housing and Community Service:
<http://www.tmm.org.tw/English>
- International Community Service Hotline: 0800-024-111

Basic Public Services

Tap Water

Taiwan's tap water is safe and convenient, with 99% of tested water meeting quality standards. The Taipei Water Department supplies water in Taipei City; outside Taipei City, the supplier is the Taiwan Water Corp. Information on applications for service, payment of fees, and other water-related matters are available online.

Tap Water Services

Unit	Logo	Service Hours	Customer Service Line	Website
Taipei Water Department		8:30~17:30 (Except on Saturdays, Sundays and national holidays)	1910 (24 hours a day, 365 days a year)	http://english.twd.gov.tw
Taiwan Water Corp.		8:00~17:30 (Except on Saturdays, Sundays and national holidays)	Check the nearest service branch	http://www.water.gov.tw/eng

Electricity

Taiwan's household electricity is supplied at 110 and 220 volts. Lights, TVs, refrigerators and other small appliances generally use 110 volts, while most air conditioners use 220 volts. If you use electrical products brought from overseas, be sure to check their voltage requirements before plugging them in. When the electrical products neither match the voltage nor fit the sockets, you will have to use an adapter or transformer.

- ▶ Taiwan Power Co.: <http://www.taipower.com.tw/indexE.htm>
- ▶ Customer Service Hotline: 0800-031-212, 1911 (24 hrs)
- ▶ Customer Right and Request Hotline: 0800-231-213

Gas

Households in Taiwan generally use natural gas delivered via pipelines or pressurized containers. To get a natural gas pipeline into your residence, contact the local gas supplier. You can order a containerful of gas from a local supplier who will deliver it to your home and replace the empty containers. In accordance with government regulations, gas suppliers add a strong odor substance to the natural gas, so that leakage can be detected by smell and action can be taken to avoid accidents.

Cable TV & Radio

In Taiwan viewers have the choice of five terrestrial TV stations, numerous cable stations including CNN, BBC, NHK, HBO, and Discovery, as well as other international channels.

You can receive terrestrial TV programs with an antenna (aerial); for cable TV, however, you need to contact your local cable TV company.

Taiwan's only English-language radio station is ICRT (International Community Radio Taipei), at FM100.7 in northern and southern Taiwan, and FM100.1 in central Taiwan. You can listen to it online at its website (<http://www.icrt.com.tw>). ICRT can be received in most



areas of western Taiwan and some parts of the east although reception may not be clear due to signal disruption by the mountains.

113 Personal Safety Hotline

Providing assistance to ensure personal safety of foreign visitors, the 113 protection hotline offers 24-hour service in English, Vietnamese, Thai, Indonesian and Cambodian. Dial 113 to report domestic violence, sexual assaults, and child abuse. Follow the voice instruction in the five languages available, and social work operators will connect you to interpreters for conference calls and provide immediate consultation.

► Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Prevention Committee, MOE: <http://dspc.moi.gov.tw/mp.asp?mp=5>

110 Emergency Helpline (for Police)

The 110 Emergency Helpline provides comprehensive assistance to reports of public disorder, traffic accidents, natural disasters, emergencies, disputes and cases pertinent to the disruption of public interests. Calls to 110 are connected to dedicated operators who will dispatch police officers to the scene quickly to resolve the problems and to protect the safety of people and their property.

119 Helpline (for Fire, Ambulance)

The 119 hotline is a 24-hour service that provides emergency assistance. The fire department will dispatch the nearest team to the scene. Currently all 119 centers have English-speaking operators to assist foreigners. Interpreters are also available via the Foreigner Service Hotline to provide emergency assistance.

Telecommunications and Internet

Local Telephone Service

Foreign residents can apply for a local telephone land line by visiting a telecom business office with their ARCs, passports, and a local citizen guarantor (with his/her ID Card, NHI IC Card). English bills are available upon request.

To call another party in your area, simply dial the local telephone number. To make a domestic long-distance call (to another county or city), first dial the area code and then the local number. For instance, to call a number in Nantou, first dial the area code for Nantou, 049, and then the local number: 239-xxxx.

For international calls, first dial the international access code, the country code, the area code, and finally the number of the party called. To call the number 730-xxxx in New York, for example, first dial the international access code 002 (or 009 or 019), the U.S. country code 1, the New York area code 212, and finally the number, 730-xxxx.

- ▶ International Operator: 100
- ▶ English Speaking Directory Assistance: 106
- ▶ International Telephone Service: 0800-080-100

Taiwan Area Code

Area	Area Code	Area	Area Code
Keelung City, Taipei City, Taipei County	02	Taichung City, Taichung County, Changhua County	04
Kaohsiung City, Kaohsiung County	07	Kinmen County	082
Taoyuan County, Hsinchu City, Hsinchu County, Yilan County, Hualien County	03	Nantou County	049
		Matsu (Lienchiang County)	0836



Area	Area Code	Area	Area Code
Pingtung City, Pingtung County	08	Yunlin County, Tainan County, Chiayi County	05
Miaoli County	037	Wuqiu	0826
Taitung County	089	Tainan City, Tainan County, Penghu County	06
		Nansha (Spratley) Islands, Dongsha (Pratas) Islands	07

Cell Phone

Taiwan has six cell phone carriers providing 2G, 3G and PHS services. Foreign residents can choose their service provider based on the pricing plans offered. Cell phone pricing plans are categorized into two types: monthly plans and prepaid plans. Foreign residents applying for cell phones need to present their ARCs, passports, and personal ID documents, together with a deposit or a local citizen acting as guarantor. If you have just arrived in Taiwan or are here for only a short stay, we suggest that you apply for a prepaid cell phone plan.

Telecom Company	English Service Line	Telecom Company	English Service Line
Chunghwa Telecom	0800-080-090	Asia Pacific Telecom	02-4050-7999
VIBO Telecom	0986-000-537	Taiwan Mobile	02-6606-2977
FarEas Tone	0800-058-885	First International Telecom	0800-096-866

Internet Connection

Taiwan offers a convenient and diversified range of internet services, allowing you to choose from ADSL, optical fiber, TV cable, Wi-Fi, and 3G mobile. To get connected by ADSL or optical fiber, please apply to a fixed network company; to get connected by cable, please

apply to the cable TV operator in your area. Many public transport stations, restaurants, coffee shops and other establishments offer WLAN internet connection. For internet connection on your 3G cell phone, please apply with your cell phone operator for a 3G number and a 3G wireless card.

Postal Services

Taiwan's postal services are very convenient. The Chunghwa Post Co. offers domestic and international express delivery, delivery of refrigerated goods, home pickup services, etc. In addition, a number of private parcel services also offer comparable services as well as 24-hour pick up at convenience store chains. The Chunghwa Post also issues exquisite stamps on all kinds of subjects and objects for collections - a passion that is catered to on the Philately section of the company's website.



► Chunghwa Post Global Information: http://www.post.gov.tw/post/internet/u_english

Buying Daily Necessities



Buying fresh food and daily necessities is easy. You can buy goods from wholesale stores, supermarkets, and popular traditional markets. Taiwan also has a high density of convenience stores, including 7-Eleven, Family Mart, Hi-Life



and OK chains. Many of them are open 24 hrs a day, 365 days a year, and sell packaged foods, drinks and daily necessities. Additionally, they collect various utility bills and other public service fees, accept packages from parcel service companies, provide ATM machines, handle pickups of goods bought online, sell postage stamps and event tickets, and collect taxes and fines.

Traditional Markets

Traditional markets' attractive prices and friendliness make them extremely popular. Traditional markets offer all kinds of fresh produce and local delicacies. The morning traditional markets usually run from 4~5 in the morning until noon; the sunset markets normally run from 3 in the afternoon until 8 in the evening. Prices at the sunset markets are normally lower than those at the morning markets.

Keeping a Pet

If you want to bring a pet into Taiwan, you should first apply to the Bureau of Animal and Plant Health Inspection and Quarantine, Council of Agriculture (COA). You should report to the quarantine counter at the airport or seaport of entry for on-site quarantine inspection and submit an import permit or a certificate of animal health inspection. If the documents are in order, the animal will be cleared immediately; otherwise, it will be kept for the entire quarantine period before release. Pet owners in Taiwan are required to register pets with a county or city animal disease control center or a private organization commissioned by the center within four months of birth. When a pet is deceased, the owner should notify the registration organization within one month of the date of death. Most veterinary clinics provide pet health care, vaccine injections, health examinations and pet registration, among other services.




Organization	Website	Telephone
Bureau of Animal and Plant Health Inspection and Quarantine, COA	http://www.baphiq.gov.tw/mp.asp?mp=2	0800-039-131
Animal Protection Information Website, COA	http://animal.coa.gov.tw/html/english/index.htm	02-2381-2991

Recycling

Waste categorization in Taiwan has been practiced for many years. Waste is now separated into three major categories: recyclable garbage, kitchen waste, and ordinary garbage. Recyclable garbage and kitchen waste are both recycled. For more information, go to the Environmental Protection Administration (EPA) website for the links to the local environmental protection agencies and private environmental protection bodies.

- ▶ Recyclable garbage includes paper, metal, glass, plastic, dry batteries, motorized vehicles (automobiles and motor scooters), tires, lead-acid batteries, electrical apparatus, CDs, light sources and cell phones.
- ▶ Kitchen waste includes raw and cooked foods and other organic wastes.
- ▶ Different parts of the island have different regulations regarding waste separation. Before you take out your garbage, separate it and then deliver the designated category of recyclable garbage for that day to the cleaning squad at the assigned time. Failure to separate your garbage according to the regulations can result in a fine from NT\$1,200 to NT\$6,000. For more information and for garbage collection times and locations, contact your local cleaning squad or environmental protection bureau, or call the special recycling information line.



Name of Emblem	Logo	Descriptions
Recycling Logo		Product or product packaging with this logo means the container is recyclable.
Taipei City Garbage Bag Logo		Currently Taipei City charges garbage collection fees by the bag. Only garbage bags certified by the Department of Environmental Protection are collected. These garbage bags can be purchased at convenience stores or stores carrying the "Designated Garbage Bag Seller" sign.
Taipei County Garbage Bag Logo		Currently townships in Taipei County charge garbage collection fees by the bag. Only garbage bags certified by the Department of Environmental Protection are collected. These garbage bags can be purchased at convenience stores or supermarkets designated by the township offices, or stores carrying the "Designated Garbage Bag Seller" sign.

- ▶ Recycling Hotline: 0800-085-717
- ▶ Environmental Protection Administration (EPA), Executive Yuan:
<http://www.epagov.tw/>
 Telephone number: 02-2311-7722

Memo

Healthcare⁺



Taiwan has a comprehensive healthcare system with hospitals classified as medical centers, regional hospitals, local hospitals and basic-level medical institutes. The medical treatment at various classifications of medical institutions is also divided into Western and Traditional Chinese medicine.

- ▶ National Health Insurance
- ▶ Bilingual Healthcare Service
- ▶ Hospital Classification and Fees
- ▶ Traditional Chinese Medicine
- ▶ Drug Safety
- ▶ Medical Tourism



National Health Insurance



The National Health Insurance (NHI) system is a compulsory social insurance in Taiwan, providing equal medical rights to all residents. Under the provisions of the National Health Insurance Act, permanent residents without full-time employment should take their documentation and participate in the NHI program after they have lived in Taiwan for four months. Foreign nationals with full-time employment should participate in the program on the day of their employment. If they have dependents who are also foreign nationals, those dependents have to obtain Taiwan residency documentation and live on the island for four continuous months before they can take out their insurance. Insured persons living in Taiwan need only to receive their NHI IC Card and pay their premiums regularly. In the cases of injury, illness, or childbirth, the insured person needs to present the insurance card to a contracted medical care institution and only pay the registration fee and partial payment for hospitalization or treatment to receive full medical care. For more information consult with a Bureau of National Health Insurance office.

How Foreign Nationals Can Apply for Insurance

Insured Person	Insuring Unit	Method of Payment
Employee	Employer	Premium deducted and paid for by employer
Company owner	His or her company	Premium deducted and paid for by employer
Dependent of foreign nationals	Through insurer of spouse or lineal relative	Payment made by family member
Overseas Chinese or foreign student	Through the student's institute	Collected and paid for by the institute
Those without fixed occupations and family dependents	Through township, city, or district office at place of residence	Monthly notification for payment mailed to insured person by NHI

© When their ARCs expire, the holders will lose insurance eligibility and should apply for withdrawal.

Bilingual Healthcare Service

Most public hospitals and large medical centers in Taiwan offer Chinese and English healthcare services, and most of their websites, information desks, and signage are in both languages. If you need English medical consultation, you can contact a hospital service representative. Some hospitals also have international healthcare centers that provide convenient healthcare services that include interpreters to help foreign patients at a consultation session. A number of hospitals can work out a plan of treatment and cost estimation before you arrive in Taiwan, provide transportation information upon your arrival, and offer you information on medical tourism services.

Hospitals Offering Foreign-language Medical Services

Northern Taiwan

Hospital	Website	Telephone/Address
National Taiwan University Hospital, International Medical Service Center	http://www.ntuh.gov.tw/en/IMSC/default.aspx	02-2356-2900 No. 7, Zhongshan S. Rd., Taipei City
Mackay Memorial Hospital, International Medical Service Center	http://www.mmh.org.tw/	02-2562-7200 No. 92, Sec. 2, Zhongshan N. Rd., Taipei City
Taipei Medical University Hospital, International Patient Center	http://www.tmch.org.tw/tmuh%20english/index.htm	02-2737-2181 ext. 3336 No. 252, Wuxing St., Taipei City
Cathay General Hospital, International Health Care Services	http://www.cgh.org.tw/en/health_care_services/index.html	02-2708-2121 ext. 1312 No. 280, Sec. 4, Ren'ai Rd., Taipei City
Taipei Medical University – Wan Fang Hospital	http://www.wanfang.gov.tw	02-2930-7930 ext. 7766 No. 111, Sec. 3, Xinglong Rd., Taipei City
Taiwan Adventist Hospital	http://www.tahsda.org.tw/	02-2771-8151 No. 424, Sec. 2, Bade Rd., Songshan District, Taipei City



Hospital	Website	Telephone/Address
Shin Kong Wu Ho-su Memorial Hospital	http://www.skh.org.tw/	02-2833-2211 No. 95, Wenchang Rd., Shilin, Taipei City
Chang Gung Memorial Hospital International Medical Service Center	http://www.cgmh.org.tw/	03-319-6200 No. 123, Dinghu Rd., Jioulu Village, Gueishan Township, Taoyuan County

Central Taiwan

Hospital	Website	Telephone/Address
Tungs' Taichung Metro Harbor Hospital	http://www.sltung.com.tw/	04-2658-3899 No. 699, Sec. 1, Zhongqi Rd., Wuqi Town, Taichung County
China Medical University Hospital	http://www.cmuh.org.tw/htdocs/english/e_index.htm	04-2205-2121 No. 2, Yude Rd., North District, Taichung City
Show Chwan Memorial Hospital	http://www.cbshow.org.tw/en/	04-781-3888 No. 6, Lugong Rd., Lugang Town, Changhua County

Southern Taiwan

Hospital	Website	Telephone/Address
Yuan's General Hospital	http://yuanhosp.inks.com.tw/	07-335-1121 No. 162, Chenggong 1st Rd., Kaohsiung City
Kaohsiung Medical University Hospital, International Medical Services Center	http://www.kmuh.org.tw/english/	07-312-1101 No. 100, Ziyou 1st Rd., Kaohsiung City
St. Martin De Porres Hospital	http://www.stm.org.tw/	05-275-6000 No. 565, Sec. 2, Daya Rd., Chiayi City
National Cheng Kung University Hospital	http://www.hosp.ncku.edu.tw/nckm/english	06-235-3535 No. 138, Shengli Rd., Tainan City

Eastern Taiwan

Hospital	Website	Telephone/Address
Lotung Poh-Ai Hospital	http://www.pohai.org.tw/	03-954-3131 No. 83, Nanchang St., Luodong Town, Yilan County
Buddhist Tzu Chi General Hospital	http://www.tzuchi.com. tw/tzu-chi_en	038-561-825 No. 707, Sec. 3, Zhongyang Rd., Hualien City

Hospital Classification and Fees

Convenient and Efficient Medical Care Services

In line with the National Health Insurance (NHI) referral system, the contracted hospitals are divided into four classifications: medical centers, regional hospitals, local hospitals, and basic-level medical institutes.

You can identify the classification of a medical facility from the NHI logo shown at its entrance. When you seek medical care and present your NHI IC Card, you will be responsible for paying the registration fees which is not part of NHI payment. You are also responsible for partial payment for treatment including a basic charge plus partial payment for medication, rehabilitation, and hospitalization. These payments vary according to the classification of the hospital and are designed primarily to encourage the public to utilize properly medical resources. For the schedule of partial payments, please consult the Bureau of National Health Insurance website.





Hospital Registration Fees (Unit: NT\$)

Classification of Facility	Outpatient Treatment		Emergency Treatment	Dental Care Traditional	Chinese Medicine
	With Referral	Without Referral			
Medical Center	\$210	\$360	\$450	\$450	\$50
Regional Hospital	\$140	\$240	\$300	\$50	\$50
District Hospital	\$50	\$80	\$150	\$50	\$50
Physician Clinics	\$50	\$50	\$150	\$50	\$50

© People with disabilities shall pay NT\$50 for basic charge at hospitals of all classifications.

► Bureau of National Health Insurance (BNHI): 0800-030-598 <http://www.nhi.gov.tw/english>

Safeguard of Community Health

Health clinics are Taiwan's most basic medical institutions; one can be found every township, city, and district throughout the island. For remote areas far from large hospitals, health clinics are the first line of defense in public healthcare, providing a full range of timely medical services. They also promote adult health examinations, communicable disease prevention, health education, child health management, health inspection, and domestic care.

Traditional Chinese Medicine

Observation, Auscultation, Olfaction, and Palpation

Traditional Chinese medicine represents a healthcare system with a very long history of development. The Department of Health (DOH) set up a Committee on Chinese Medicine and Pharmacy (CCMP) in 1995 to promote the modernization and internationalization of this ancient practice. The people of Taiwan utilize Western and Chinese medicine, and both are



encompassed in NHI medical payments. In addition to independent Chinese medicine clinics, many hospitals also have Chinese medicine outpatient departments and some provide English consultation services. Combined Chinese-Western medical treatment is a developing trend, bringing together the features of Western medical therapy with auxiliary Chinese medical treatments to provide a greater diversity of care.

► **Chinese Medicine and Pharmacy Information:** <http://www.ccmp.gov.tw/en/>

Chinese Medicine Hospitals and Clinics that Offer English Consultation

Hospital	Website	Telephone/Address
Department of Traditional Medicine, Taipei Medical University Hospital	http://www.tmch.org.tw/	02-5552-2850 No. 252, Wuxing St., Taipei City
Chinese Medicine Center, Taipei City Hospital	http://www.tpech.gov.tw/	02-2388-7088 No. 100, Kunming St., Taipei City
Chang Gung Memorial Hospital, Taoyuan Branch	http://www.cgmh.org.tw/eng2002/index.asp	03-319-6200 No. 123, Dinghu Rd., Jiulu Village, Guishan Township, Taoyuan County
Department of Chinese Medicine, China Medical University Hospital	http://www.cmuh.org.tw/htdocs/english/e_index.htm	04-2205-2121 No. 2, Yude Rd., Taichung City
Department of Chinese Medicine, Taichung Tzu Chi Hospital	http://www.tzuchi.com.tw/tzuchi%5Fen/	04-3606-0666 No. 66, Sec. 1, Fengxing Rd., Tanzi Township, Taichung County
Kaohsiung Municipal Chinese Medical Hospital	http://www.kcmh.gov.tw/syn-opsisE.htm	07-761-3186 No. 68, Zhonghua 3rd Rd., Qianjin Dist., Kaohsiung City
Department of Traditional Chinese Medicine, Kaohsiung Medical University Hospital	http://www.kmuh.org.tw/english/	07-312-1101, ext. 6410 No. 100, Ziyou 1st Rd., Kaohsiung City



Drug Safety

Getting Prescription Medicine

Taiwan practices a system of separation between medical consultation and pharmacy, so in addition to the pharmacies that operate inside some hospitals, patients can go to independent pharmacies to have their prescriptions filled. Drugs are divided into prescription drugs and non-prescription drugs. The former can be obtained only with a prescription written by a doctor, while the latter can be obtained and used under consultation with a qualified pharmacist.

Prescription Refill

Patients with controlled chronic diseases such as diabetes and high blood pressure can ask their doctors to write a refill prescription for one to three months and have their medication filled at neighborhood drug stores.

Medical Tourism

The quality of Taiwan's healthcare facilities, resources, and services are world class at an affordable cost. Authorities are also promoting the globalization of healthcare industry in combination with medical tourism for elective medical procedures such as physical examinations, and cosmetic surgery. Through assessment systems and international standards such as ISO and Join Commission International (JCI), Taiwan has established a high quality medical environment that meets international standards. JCI accredited hospitals include Wan-Fang Hospital, Taipei Medical University Hospital, Taipei Medical University-Shuang Ho Hospital, and National Taiwan University Hospital. The quality of Taiwan's affordable, world-class healthcare system is world renowned and make Taiwan a major attraction for medical tourism.

- ▶ Taiwan Medical Tourism Development Association: <http://www.tmtda.org/en/index.php>
- ▶ Service Industry Promotion Center, TAITRA: <http://www.taiwanbiztour.com/English/index.aspx>

Banking Services



Taiwan has 37 domestic banks, 32 foreign banks, and a total of more than 3,000 branches providing banking services including deposits, withdrawals, remittances, loans, bills collection, and transactions of financial products.

- ▶ Currency
- ▶ Money Exchange
- ▶ Travelers Checks
- ▶ Opening an Account
- ▶ Using Bank Cards in Taiwan
- ▶ Automatic Teller Machine (ATM)
- ▶ Credit Cards
- ▶ Internet Banking



Currency

The currency used in Taiwan is the New Taiwan Dollar (NT\$), and the basic unit is the Yuan (元). Bank notes come in denominations of NT\$2,000, NT\$1,000, NT\$500, NT\$200, and NT\$100 (NT\$2,000 and NT\$200 bills are very rare, however), all having different sizes, colors, and designs. Coins come in denominations of NT\$50, NT\$20, NT\$10, NT\$5, and NT\$1.



NT\$2,000



NT\$1,000



NT\$500



NT\$200



NT\$100



NT\$50



NT\$20



NT\$10



NT\$5



NT\$1



NT\$10(New)

Currency Exchange

Foreign visitors who need foreign exchange services can go to an authorized bank to make exchanges in cash with foreign currencies and travelers checks. Each bank is able to make exchanges in different currencies with various transaction fees and exchange rates. The main branch may offer different foreign exchange services from other branches, therefore it is advised that you check with the banks by phone and on their websites. Foreign visitors should present their passports or ARCs when making a currency exchange. International tourist hotels also provide currency exchange services. Making currency exchange on the black market may lead to frauds.

Locations such as tourist hotels, travel agencies, department stores, along with other authorized institutions may also provide currency exchange services to foreign travelers in Taiwan. Except for tourist hotels, establishments that exchange foreign currencies display a standard “Money Exchanger” sign in Chinese and English outside their doors. For the rate of exchange, please check a bank website.



Foreign Exchange Banks Designated by the Central Bank (DBU)

Bank	Telephone	Website
Bank of Taiwan	0800-025-168	http://www.bot.com.tw/English
Taiwan Cooperative Bank	0800-033-175	http://www.tcb-bank.com.tw/tcb/home/frame_eng.htm
First Bank	02-2348-1111	http://www.firstbank.com.tw/en_index.html
Chang Hwa Bank	0800-365-889	https://www.chb.com.tw/wps/wcm/connect/web/common/English
Hua Nan Commercial Bank	02-2181-0101	http://www.hncb.com.tw/eng
Shanghai Commercial and Savings Bank	0800-003-111	http://www.scsb.com.tw/english/eng_default.jsp
Citibank Taiwan	02-2576-8000	http://www.citibank.com.tw/portal/home_english/twcb_Home.htm
Land Bank of Taiwan	02-2348-3456	http://www.landbank.com.tw
Cathay United Bank	0800-818-001	https://www.cathaybk.com.tw/cathaybk/english/eindex.htm
Mega International Commercial Bank	0800-016-168	https://www.megabank.com.tw/en/

Travelers Checks

Stores in Taiwan generally do not accept travelers checks. We recommend that you present your passport and other identifications with you when exchanging your travelers checks for the New Taiwan Dollars at a bank or other authorized institutions. Most banks in Taiwan provide travelers check exchange services.

Opening an Account

Opening a New Taiwan Dollar deposit account in Taiwan is simple. Just take your passport bearing a valid entry visa (or stamp) and your

Banking Services

ARC. If you have not received an ARC, please apply for a “Record of ID Number in the ROC” as a substitute at a county/city service center of the NIA. When you open an account you can apply for a bank card at the same time for deposit, withdrawal, or transferring of funds. Different banks use different procedures. For details, check with the individual bank.

Using Bank Cards in Taiwan

Withdrawal Restrictions	Withdrawals are made in multiples of NT\$1000; maximum withdrawal per transaction is NT\$30,000 (NT\$20,000 for interbank withdrawal), and maximum withdrawal per day is NT\$100,000.
Funds Transfer Restrictions	Transfers are limited to NT\$30,000 per day (without prior arrangement); transfers of more than NT\$30,000 must be prearranged with the bank in which the account resides. The maximum transfer per transaction is NT\$2 million. Each bank sets its own daily maximum for transfers.
Card Replacement Procedure	If you lose your bankcard, you can use your bank's 24-hour service line to report your lost card and stop payments. You also need to fill out a lost-card and stop-payment form as soon as possible.
Card Replacement Fees	Different banks collect different fees for card application, lost card, and card replacement. For details, check with the individual bank.

Automatic Teller Machine (ATM)

Outside of banks, you can find ATMs in major railway stations, airports, convenience stores, gas stations, and large shops providing 24-hr service. ATMs are an alternative to bank tellers to provide services such as withdrawals of cash, transfer of funds, payment of taxes, utility bills, telecommunication bills, parking fees or fines, tuitions, credit-card bills and



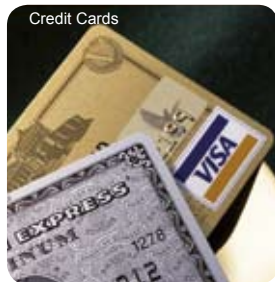
Automatic Teller Machine (ATM)



insurance premium. If you make an interbank withdrawal (that is, withdrawal from an ATM that does not belong to your bank) you will be charged a small fee for each transaction. Most ATMs offer interface in both Chinese and English, making them easy to use.

Credit Cards

Applications for international credit cards by foreigners in Taiwan are not affected by the duration of their stay. A copy of your passport and ARC along with a completed application form are required. Each issuing bank has its own rules about guarantors. A card's period of validity and credit limit will be determined by factors such as residence, income, and assessment of debt repayment ability.



Internet Banking

Most of Taiwan's major banks offer internet banking services. Foreign residents who have accounts in local banks can personally activate the internet banking service at the bank where they have an account by presenting valid passports, ARCs (or if they have not yet received their ARC, a "Record of ID Number in the ROC" should be obtained from a local service center of the NIA), along with their signatures or personal seal.

Employment & Investment



The government has adopted a number of preferential measures to attract foreign professionals to work in Taiwan, including the simplification of visa, work permit, and resident permit application procedures. A labor insurance system is being promoted with the aim of creating a safe and convenient working environment for foreign professionals.

- ▶ Work Permits for Foreign Professionals
- ▶ Preferential Measures for Foreign Professionals in Taiwan
- ▶ Work Permits for Overseas Chinese and Foreign Students
- ▶ Working in Taiwan: Rights and Obligations
- ▶ Labor Protection
- ▶ Investing in Taiwan



Work Permits for Foreign Professionals

Employers of foreign nationals coming to work in Taiwan must submit applications and the required documents for work permits to the appropriate authority. Work permits are valid for a maximum of 3 years. If further employment is needed, the employer may apply for a 4-month extension prior to expiration of the original work permit.

Except for certain occupations (i.e., doctors, lawyers, pilots) that require professional licenses to apply for work permits, a foreign professional should apply directly to the CLA through their employers for work permits. Foreign sailors should apply through their employers to the MOTC; foreign professionals and technical personnel who work in Science Parks and Export Processing Zones should apply through their employers to the Science Park Administration or the Export Processing Zone Administration respectively.

Foreign nationals in the following categories need not apply for work permits:

1. those married to local nationals with established residence in Taiwan;
2. consultants and research workers hired by government agencies and academic research institutions;
3. lecturers and academic researchers who are hired by legally registered public and private universities for Ministry of Education (MOE) approved projects and lectures for duration up to 6 months.

Foreign professionals who have received permission to work in Taiwan prior to their arrival should apply at an overseas consulate or representative office of the Republic of China for resident visas. For those who are already in Taiwan:

Step 1: Apply to the office of the BOCA, for employment visas;

Step 2: Apply to the NIA for Alien Resident Certificates.

A foreign professional whose employer is applying for an extension prior to expiration of the original work permit may continue working without leaving the country.

Categories of Work Permits for Foreign Professionals, and Issuing Agencies

Foreign Professional	Issuing Agency
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Professional or technical workers; 2. Senior executives of enterprises in Taiwan invested in or established by overseas Chinese or foreign nationals with government approval; 3. School teachers; 4. Full-time foreign language teachers in registered supplementary schools in accordance with the Supplementary and Continuing Education Law; 5. Athletic coaches and athletes; 6. Religious, art, and performing art workers; 7. Contract performance workers; 8. Foreign and overseas Chinese students, and students from Hong Kong and Macau 	Council of Labor Affairs (CLA), Executive Yuan
Foreign sailors	Ministry of Transportation and Communications (MOTC)
Foreign professionals and technical personnel hired by enterprises in Science Parks	Science Park Administration
Foreign professionals and technical personnel hired by enterprises in Export Processing Zones	Export Processing Zone Administration, Ministry of Economic Affairs (MOEA)
<p>► Bureau of Employment and Vocational Training, Council of Labor Affairs: http://www.evta.gov.tw/eng</p> <p>► Foreign Professional Work Permit Area: http://www2.evta.gov.tw/evta_wcf/index.htm</p>	



Preferential Measures for Foreign Professionals in Taiwan

Employment Pass Card

The Employment Pass Card is issued by the NIA to foreign workers of professional or technical nature. It combines the functions of work permit, ARC, and re-entry permit. For professionals who are outside of Taiwan, applications must be submitted with required documentation and fees to an ROC consulate or representative office overseas. For professionals who are already in Taiwan, applications with required documentation and fees should be submitted by their employers or agents to the NIA.

Qualifications for the Employment Pass Card

1. Professional or technical workers
2. Executives of enterprises in Taiwan invested in or established by overseas Chinese or foreign nationals with government approval
3. Teachers in the following schools:
 - public or legally registered private schools at the college level or above and schools for foreign residents
 - qualified foreign-language courses of public or legally registered private schools at the senior high level or below
 - bilingual departments of public or legally registered private experimental senior high schools, or in bilingual schools
4. Full-time foreign-language teachers in legally registered short-term supplementary schools
5. Athletic coaches and athletes
6. Religious and art workers, and performing artists
7. Consultants or research workers hired by government agencies or government academic research institutions

- ▶ National Immigration Agency (NIA), MOI: <http://www.immigration.gov.tw>
- ▶ Employment Pass Card Application for Foreign Professionals: http://www.immigration.gov.tw/immig_eng/aspcode/showactsregu.asp?id=44

Academic and Business Travel Card

International experts who qualify under the “Operation Directions for Issuance of the Academic and Business Travel Card and the Implementation of Expedited Immigration Clearance” and whose primary purpose of entry into Taiwan is not employment may apply to the NIA for the Academic and Business Travel Card. The Card is valid for 3 years and may not be extended. However, those who wish to stay in Taiwan for more than 3 years may apply for a new card. The Card allows unlimited entry into Taiwan for durations up to 30 days, and cardholders also enjoy expedited immigration clearance. During a cardholder’s stay in Taiwan the Card may also be used as work permit that allow the cardholder to engage in business and academic activities such as performances, lectures, and business or technical consultations.



► Information for Foreigners Applying for Academic and Business Travel Cards:
http://www.immigration.gov.tw/immig_eng/aspcode/main4.asp

Alien Permanent Residential Card (APRC)

APRCs are available for foreign professionals and investment immigration. Professionals who have outstanding talents in advanced technologies, scientific research and business management, and foreign scholars and persons who have been awarded for international academic achievements, and honors in culture, arts, technologies, and sports are eligible to apply for APRCs.

Foreign nationals who invest over 15 million NTD and create more than 5 jobs for over three years; or who invest over 30 million NTD in designated ventures for over five years are also eligible to apply for the APRC. Please see “Application for the APRC - Submission Directions for Senior Professionals and Investment Immigrants” for detailed requirements.



- ▶ NIA: <http://www.immigration.gov.tw>
- ▶ Application for the APRC - submission directions for senior professionals and investment immigrants:
http://www.immigration.gov.tw/immig_eng/aspcode/main4.asp

Work Permits for Overseas Chinese and Foreign Students

Foreign students and overseas Chinese students may submit work permit applications to the CLA with a completed application form, required documentation and written permission of their schools. After obtaining work permits, they may engage in various types of legal employment in Taiwan. The work permits have a maximum validity of 6 months (those who apply in the first semester will receive work permits that are valid until March 31 of the next year; those who apply in the second semester will get permits valid until September 30 of the same year). With the exception of summer vacation, holders of student work permits may work for a maximum of 16 hours per week. For more information, please check the website for Foreign Workers in Special Professions or Technical Assignments (White Collar): <http://www.evta.gov.tw/eng>.



Overseas Chinese and foreign students must obtain work permission to work in Taiwan.

- ▶ Overseas Compatriot Affairs Commission: <http://www.ocac.gov.tw/english/>
- ▶ Information for Foreigners: <http://iff.immigration.gov.tw>

Working in Taiwan: Rights and Obligations

Regular Medical Examination

Foreign nationals applying to teaching positions in supplementary schools in Taiwan must submit a certificate of medical examination performed within the past 3 months for approval by the Department

of Health (DOH); if the medical examination is performed overseas, it must be validated by an overseas ROC representative office. For foreign persons already in Taiwan, their employers must arrange for them to take medical examinations at a hospital designated by the DOH within 3 working days after entry into Taiwan and within 30 days before or after the date on which they have resided in Taiwan for 6 months, 18 months, and 30 months.

Visa

Foreign nationals who have obtained work permits from the CLA should apply for visas at ROC overseas missions, prior to their travel to Taiwan. If they have already entered Taiwan, they should consult with a nearby office of the BOCA.

► BOCA, MOFA: <http://www.boca.gov.tw/>

Alien Resident Certificate (ARC)

Foreign nationals with the intention to reside in Taiwan should submit an application for an ARC, together with required documentation, to a local service center of the NIA within 15 days after entering Taiwan.

► NIA: <http://www.immigration.gov.tw>

► International Community Service Hotline: 0800-024-111

Salary Income and Tax Payment

1. All taxpayers must file their tax returns by May 31. Legal foreign workers for less than 183 days within a taxable year (Jan. 1~Dec. 31) are treated as non-residents. Non-residents who earn no more than 1.5 times the minimum wage (no more than NT\$25,920 per month) are taxed at 6% on salary income; those who earn more than that are taxed at 18%.
2. Legal foreign workers who work and live in Taiwan for 183 days or more within a taxable year (Jan. 1~Dec. 31) are deemed as tax residents. Withholding tax on their salary is assessed at rates stipulated by relevant regulations or 6%. These tax residents should file their tax returns before May 31 of the following year.



- ▶ National Tax Administration Toll-free Hotline: 0800-000-321
- ▶ eTax Portal, Ministry of Finance (MOF): <http://english.etax.nat.gov.tw>

Personal Tax Preferences

To attract foreign professionals to live and work in Taiwan, the Ministry of Finance (MOF) implemented the “Scope of application for tax preferences provided to foreign professionals” on January 1, 2008. Eligible foreign professionals are allowed to list the following as deductibles from taxable income: round-trip travel costs paid by the company for themselves and for their dependents, home-leave travel costs, relocation costs, utility fees, cleaning fees, telephone fees, rental costs, the cost of renovating rented premises, and children’s educational costs.

Foreign Resident Tax Return Filed via the Internet

Since May 2010, foreign residents without ID cards can use approved electronic certificates to file tax return via the internet; or use their ARC to obtain annual income tax information from local tax offices and file for income tax via the Internet.

Tax Information

Agency	Telephone	Address
Foreign Taxpayers Section, Services Division, Taipei, National Tax Administration (NTA)	02-2311-3711	No. 2, Sec. 1, Zhonghua Rd., Taipei City
NTA of Northern Taiwan Province	03-339-3789, ext. 1430	No. 156, Sanyuan St., Taoyuan City
NTA of Central Taiwan Province	04-2305-1111, ext. 2212	No. 168, Minsheng Rd., West District, Taichung City
NTA of Southern Taiwan Province	06-222-3111, ext. 1203	6F, No. 7, Fubei St., Tainan City
Foreign Taxpayers Section, Services Division, Kaohsiung NTA	07-725-6600, ext. 7020, 7021	No. 148, Guangzhou 1st St., Kaohsiung City

Labor Protection

Labor Insurance

All foreign residents who hold ARCs and work permits must participate in the National Health Insurance (NHI, for details please see the Healthcare chapter). To further protect the interests of employees, participation in labor insurance is required.

Labor insurance in Taiwan is divided into two major categories: full-time employees who are insured through their companies, and part-time employees who must join a union and be insured through the union.

A fraction of the labor insurance premiums are paid with the worker's monthly salaries where the employers pay 70%, the government subsidizes 10%, and the workers pay 20% of the premium. Coverage includes injuries and illnesses, loss of daily function abilities, childbirth, death, senior citizen pension, and medical costs resulted from occupational hazards.

Investing in Taiwan

Taiwan is positioned to be the hub connecting Europe, America, Japan, and the emerging markets of the Asia-Pacific region. It is a center of high-tech OEM/ODM manufacturing and an R&D and testing center for global businesses aiming to explore the Chinese markets.

The MOEA has set up the “Invest in Taiwan” portal website to provide investors with the information they need in the different stages of investment evaluation. This is





the gateway where investors from all over the world can learn about Taiwan's investment environment. The "Investment Climate" and "Investment Guide" sections of the website provide the following comprehensive information about Taiwan:

- Human resources
- Tax laws and regulations
- Investment incentives
- Operation Locations

An interactive map of Taiwan is available to introduce the investment environments and opportunities in the island's different counties and cities. In addition, a "Help with Your Investment" section offers information on customized investment procedures and important forms for various types of investors depending on the amount of investments and operation locations.

For more information and questions, please check the FAQ section on the "Investing in Taiwan" website. Contact information is provided under the "Contact Us" section for consultation and assistance by designated representatives of Department of Investment Services of MOEA.

► Invest in Taiwan portal site: <http://investintaiwan.nat.gov.tw/>

Memo

Studying



Universities in Taiwan have adopted policies to raise the quality of their curricula to promote globalization. Centers of Chinese language and culture studies and scholarships for foreign students have been established to encourage foreign students to pursue academic as well as cultural exchanges. With numerous foreign schools found in Taiwan, foreign residents will feel at ease when it comes to making arrangements for their children's education.

- ▶ Foreign Schools
- ▶ Taiwan Education Centers
- ▶ Studying in Taiwan
- ▶ Scholarship Opportunities in Taiwan
- ▶ Scholarships and Grants
- ▶ Studying Chinese in Taiwan



Foreign Schools

Taiwan currently has 19 foreign schools. The schools offer curricula from kindergarten through the 12th grade according to their respective capabilities and facilities. Please consult the individual schools for the qualifications required for entry, registration and tuition fees.

Foreign Schools in Taiwan

Location	School	Program	Telephone	Website
Taipei City (8 schools)	Taipei American School	Kindergarten through 12th grade	02-2873-9900	http://www.tas.edu.tw
	Grace Christian Academy	Kindergarten through 9th grade	02-2785-7233	http://www.gcataipei.org
	Dominican International School	Kindergarten through 12th grade	02-2533-8451	http://www.dishs.tp.edu.tw
	Morrison Academy - Bethany Campus	Kindergarten through 9th grade	02-2365-9691	http://bethany.mca.org.tw
	Taipei Adventist American School	1st through 8th grade	02-2861-6400	http://www.taas-taiwan.com/
	Taipei European School	Kindergarten through 13th grade	02-2862-2920	http://www.taipeieurope-anschool.com
	Taipei Japanese School	1st through 9th grade	02-2872-3801	http://www.tapeijs.org
	Taipei Korean School	Kindergarten through 6th grade	02-2303-9126	http://taipeikoes.com

Foreign Schools in Taiwan

Location	School	Program	Telephone	Website
Hsinchu City (3 schools)	Hsinchu American School	Kindergarten through 12th grade	03-520-3211	http://www.has.hc.edu.tw
	Hsinchu International School	Kindergarten through 12th grade	03-538-8113	http://www.hdis.hc.edu.tw
	Pacific American School	1st through 12th grades	03-571-7070	http://pacificamerican.org
Taichung City (2 schools)	American School in Taichung	1st through 12th grade	04-2239-7532	http://www.ast.tc.edu.tw
	Morrison Academy	Kindergarten through 12th grade	04-2297-3927	http://k8.mca.org.tw http://hs.mca.org.tw
Taichung County (1 school)	Taichung Japanese School	1st through 9th grade	04-2567-2079	http://tjs97.myweb.hinet.net
Kaohsiung City (4 schools)	Kaohsiung American School	Kindergarten through 12th grade	07-583-0112	http://www.kas.kh.edu.tw
	Dominican School Kaohsiung	Kindergarten through 6th grade	07-552-3989	http://www.dskg.org
	Kaohsiung Japanese School	1st through 9th grades	07-224-9314	http://takaojs.hihosting.hinet.net
	Kaohsiung Korean School	Kindergarten through 6th grade	07-551-3918	http://khks.kr
Kaohsiung County (1 school)	Morrison Academy Kaohsiung	Kindergarten through 9th grade	07-356-1190	http://kaohsiung.mca.org.tw

- ▶ Ministry of Education (MOE): <http://english.moe.gov.tw/>
- ▶ Overseas Compatriot Affairs Commission (OCAC): <http://www.ocac.gov.tw/english/>



Taiwan Education Centers

For the purpose of expanding the enrollment of foreign students in Taiwan and promoting the study of Chinese, the Ministry of Education (MOE) encourages Taiwanese universities to set up overseas Taiwan education centers to provide information on higher education in Taiwan and to offer Chinese-language courses and proficiency tests.

Taiwan Education Centers Overseas

Establishing School	Country/ City	Telephone (Taiwan)	Telephone (Overseas)	Website
National Taiwan Normal University	Thailand/ Bangkok	02-2363-7559, ext. 22	+66-2-667-0181~2	http://www.taiwan-center.com/
National Chung Hsing University	Thailand/ Chiang Mai	04-2284-0206, ext. 25	+66-5387-3181	http://www.tec.mju.ac.th/
Wenzao Ursuline College of Languages	Vietnam/ Hanoi	07-342-6031, ext. 3203	+84-4-3353-5118	http://c016.wtuc.edu.tw/
National Chi Nan University	Vietnam/ Ho Chi Minh City	049-291-0960, ext. 2561	+84-08-3910-3105	http://www.techcmc.com.vn
National Changhua University of Education	Malaysia/ Kuala Lumpur	04-723-2105, ext. 5452	+603-5121-3100, ext. 114	http://www.cts.edu.my/educenter/index.htm
Ming Chuan University	Mongolia/ Ulaanbaatar	03-350-7001, ext. 3705	+976-9980-6188	http://www.tecm.org.tw
Ming Chuan University	Korea/Seoul	02-2882-4564, ext. 8317	+82-2-724-2355	http://teck.mcu.edu.tw/

Studying in Taiwan

Students without ROC nationality or without Overseas Chinese ID are referred to as foreign students. According to the Regulations Regarding International Students Undertaking Studies in Taiwan, foreign students

should apply directly to their schools of choice and duly submit all necessary documentation. Admitted applicants will be issued letters of admission. Foreign students who already have legal resident status in Taiwan and seek admission to elementary or high school can go to a school near their residence. With the exception of those who are applying to graduate programs, foreign students, upon completion of prerequisite courses in Taiwan, who wish to continue studying certain courses should use the same admission process as local students.

► Bureau of International Cultural and Educational Relations: <http://english.moe.gov.tw>

The Amendment to the Act Governing International Students' Study in Taiwan

In order to encourage international students to study in Taiwan, the Ministry of Education amended the Act Governing International Students' Study in Taiwan to clarify ambiguities within the Act and to remove difficulties foreign students have faced. The new regulations are effective as of February 1, 2011.

Foreign students are now allowed to apply for professional programs at the master's degree level. Taiwanese universities are allowed to accept foreign and overseas Chinese students if the universities have additional capacity after admission of all qualified local students. While applicants are required to present proof of their financial status, they are no longer required to have the documents verified by a ROC consulate or representative offices.

The amendments also state that schools shall expel foreign students



More foreign students are pursuing their education in Taiwan.



who apply for household registration, naturalization or restoration of their Republic of China (Taiwan) nationality during their study in Taiwan.

► MOE: <http://www.edu.tw/>.

Foreign Students Admissions

Each college and university sets its foreign student admission rules, qualifications, and application procedures. For details, please contact the school of your choice directly.

► Bureau of International Cultural and Educational Relations, MOE: <http://english.moe.gov.tw/mp.asp?mp=1>

Scholarships Opportunities in Taiwan

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA), National Science Council (NSC), and Ministry of Education (MOE) have jointly established scholarships to attract outstanding foreign students (not including those from Mainland China, Hong Kong and Macau) to pursue degree programs in Taiwan.

The MOFA offers scholarships to students from friendly countries with or without formal diplomatic ties with Taiwan. The MOE and NSC scholarships are offered to students from other countries not covered by the MOFA scholarship.

For details on scholarships, application procedures and other information, please consult an ROC overseas consulate or representative office.

► Taiwan Scholarship and Huayu Enrichment Scholarship Office:
<http://scholar.cher.ntnu.edu.tw/TSP>
02-2321-1795 ext. 18.

Scholarships Offered by Different Institutions

Name	Recipient	Amount
MOFA Scholarships	Primarily for students from countries with diplomatic ties with the ROC; for university and graduate courses.	NT\$30,000 per month, plus round-trip economy-class air ticket for the most direct route to Taiwan.
NSC Scholarships	For students from countries not provided with scholarships by the MOFA; for graduate programs.	NT\$30,000 per month.
MOE Scholarships	For students from countries not provided with scholarships by the MOFA; for university and graduate programs for university and graduate programs.	NT\$25,000 per month for university and pre-university language programs; NT\$30,000 per month for graduate programs.

► <http://english.moe.gov.tw/ct.asp?xItem=11981&CtNode=10632&mp=1>

Scholarships and Grants

(for Short-Term Research and Studying Chinese in Taiwan)

► http://www.edu.tw/BICER/itemize_list.asp?site_content_sn=20441

Type of Scholarship	Eligibility	Awards
MOE Short-term Research Grants	Ph.D. candidates with ABD status (all but dissertation) or post-doctoral fellows under 45 years of age and not of R.O.C nationality, who intend to undertake research in one of the following subject areas: Taiwanese culture, social science, culture, art and related comparative research.	A monthly research allowance of NT\$25,000. A round-trip economy class airfare ticket that allows recipients from Asia, Europe, America, Africa and Oceania to fly directly from recipient's home country to Taiwan and back. Expenses will be reimbursed after the recipient has arrived in Taiwan. The maximum allowance will be specified by the MOE and the recipients will have to cover additional expenses.



**MOE:
Scholarships
for Studying
Chinese**

International applicants over the age of 18 who possess a high school diploma or higher degrees, with excellent academic performance, and are of good moral character. Candidates who are currently studying as registered students at a Mandarin language center or have been degree seeking students at any university or college in Taiwan, may not apply.

A monthly allowance of NT\$25,000

Scholarships and Grants for Short-term Research and Studying Chinese in Taiwan

► Website: <http://scholar.cher.ntnu.edu.tw/>

Type of Scholarship	Eligibility	Award
MOFA: The Taiwan Fellowship Program	Recipients of the fellowship should be current professors, associate professors, assistant professors or doctoral candidates, or research fellows of equivalent level at foreign academic/research institutions. Applicants in the fields of social sciences, including studies on Taiwan, Cross-Strait relations, Mainland China, the Asia Pacific and Sinology, are particularly welcomed.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. An economy class roundtrip ticket for the most direct route will be provided. Tickets will not be provided to recipients who are already in Taiwan. 2. Stipend for professors, associate professors, research fellows and associate research fellows, is NT\$60,000 per month. Stipend for assistant professors, assistant research fellows and doctoral candidates is NT\$50,000 each month. 3. The minimum duration of the fellowship is three months, and the maximum is one year. 4. Accident insurance of NT\$1,000,000 is provided.

- ▶ Bureau of International Cultural and Educational Relations: <http://english.moe.gov.tw/>
- ▶ Study in Taiwan website: <http://www.studyintaiwan.org>
- ▶ MOFA: <http://www.mofa.gov.tw/webapp/mp?mp=6>
- ▶ Center for Chinese Studies: <http://ccs.ncl.edu.tw/ccs/ccs2.asp>

Studying Chinese in Taiwan

Colleges and universities all over Taiwan have set up Chinese-language centers with long-term Chinese-language curricula. There are also Chinese-language educational institutions, approved by the MOE, that support university level Chinese-language education.

Universities with Attached Chinese Language Centers

Location	Education Center	Website	Telephone
Northern Taiwan	National Central University (NCU), Language Center	http://www.lc.ncu.edu.tw/main/clp/	03-422-7151 ext. 33807
	National Taipei University of Education (NTUE), Chinese Language Education Center	http://r9.ntue.edu.tw/	02-2732-1104 ext. 3331, 2025
	National Taiwan University (NTU), Language Center, Chinese Language Division, Language Center	http://homepage.ntu.edu.tw/~cld222/	02-3366-3417
	National Taiwan University, International Chinese Language Program	http://iclp.ntu.edu.tw	02-2363-9123
	National Taiwan Normal University (NTNU), Mandarin Training Center	http://www.mtc.ntnu.edu.tw/	02-232-18457
	National Chiao Tung University (NCTU), Chinese Language Center	http://aadm.nctu.edu.tw/mandarin/	03-513-1231
	National Chengchi University, Chinese Language Center	http://mandarin.ncu.edu.tw/	02-2938-7141



Northern Taiwan	Chinese Culture University, Mandarin Learning Center	http://mlc.sce.pccu.edu.tw	02-2700-5858 ext. 8131-8137
	Tamkang University, Division of Continuing Education, Chinese Language Center	http://www.dce.tku.edu.tw	02-2321-6320 ext. 24, 34
	Fu Jen Catholic University, Language Center	http://www.lc.fju.edu.tw	02-2905-2414 02-2905-3721
	Ming Chuan University, Mandarin Studies & Culture Center	http://www.mcu.edu.tw/admin/mscc/english/index.htm	02-2882-4564 ext. 8321
	Kainan University, Chinese Learning Center	http://www.knu.edu.tw/CLC/	03-341-2500 ext. 4639, 4640
	Chung Yuan Christian University, Center of Mandarin Learning	http://www.cycu.edu.tw/cycu/cce/mandarin/	03-265-1308
	Chung Hua University, Language Centre	http://international.chu.edu.tw/	03-518-6176
	Technology and Science Institute of Northern Taiwan, Mandarin Center	http://www.tsint.edu.tw/chinese/	02-2892-7154 ext. 2730
Central Taiwan	National Chung Hsing University (NCHU), Language Center	http://www.nchu.edu.tw/~cnpm/chinese/index_en.htm	04-2284-0326 ext. 399
	Tunghai University, Chinese Language Center	http://www2.thu.edu.tw/~clc/	04-2359-0259
	Feng Chia University, Chinese Language Center	http://www.clc.fcu.edu.tw	04-2451-7250 ext. 5871
	Providence University, Chinese Language Education Center	http://clec.pu.edu.tw	04-2664-5009
	National Chiayi University Language Centre	http://140.130.179.4/csl/	05-273-2981

Location	Education Center	Website	Telephone
Southern Taiwan	National Kaohsiung Normal University, Center of Language and Culture Teaching	http://www.nknu.edu.tw/~clct/	07-342-6031 ext. 3302, 3303
	National Cheng Kung University, Chinese Language Center	http://kclc.ncku.edu.tw	07-717-2930 ext. 2603~2605
	National Sun Yat-sen University, Chinese Language Center	http://www2.nsysu.edu.tw/CLC	07-525-2000 ext. 3030, 3031
	National University of Kaohsiung, Chinese Language Center	http://www2.nuk.edu.tw/clc/chinese/index.htm	07-591-9261
	National Pingtung University of Education, Language Center	http://lce.npue.edu.tw/front/bin/home.phtml	08-722-6141 ext. 24000~24002
	Southern Taiwan University, Chinese Language Center	http://clc.stut.edu.tw/	06-253-3131 ext. 6010, 6011
	Wenzao Ursuline College of Languages, Center of Chinese Language	http://c016.wtuc.edu.tw/front/bin/cglist.phtml?Category=39	07-342-6031 ext. 3302, 3303
	I-Shou University Chinese Language Centre	http://www.isu.edu.tw/clc	07-342-6031 ext. 3302, 3303
Eastern Taiwan	Tzu Chi University, Center for Language Studies	http://www.language.tcu.edu.tw/	03-8572-677 ext. 1681, 1682
	Fo Guang University, Chinese Language Instruction Center	http://www.fgu.edu.tw/~chinlang/clc.htm	03-931-3343 ext. 1562

The Centennial of the Republic of China

The year 2011 is the Grand Centennial of the Republic of China. Numerous government and private activities to celebrate the Centennial kicked off in 2010 with the aim of showing the world the rich and multi-faceted achievements that Taiwan has accomplished over the past century.

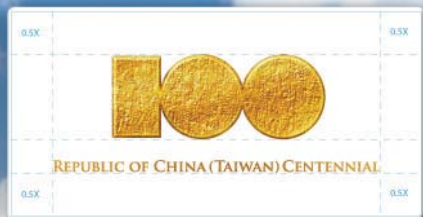
The Centennial logo is a golden “100.” It is a number that represents success and symbolizes a century of proud achievements.

The Republic of China had undergone an arduous century, overcoming countless setbacks and challenges before it finally achieved prosperity in Taiwan and opened the way to new hope. It is a century worthy of celebration, which witnessed the foundation being laid for the present success and a brighter future for the people of Taiwan.

Centennial Logo



Chinese



English



The Centennial of the Republic of China

Websites with Information on ROC Centennial Activities:



- ▶ Preparatory Committee for Centenary Celebrations
<http://100.president.gov.tw/>



- ▶ Centennial National Celebration Website, Council for Cultural Affairs
<http://100.cca.gov.tw/>



- ▶ Republic of China (Taiwan) Centenary Foundation
<http://www.taiwanroc100.org.tw/>



- ▶ Tour Taiwan Website, Tourism Bureau
<http://100.taiwan.net.tw/>

The Handy Guide for Foreigners in Taiwan

Publisher: Chu Chin-Peng

Publishing Organization: Research, Development and Evaluation Commission,
Executive Yuan

Chief Editor: Juang Li-Lan

Editorial Coordinator: Shih Nai-Yuan; Ke Chung-Ning

Translator: Studio Classroom Magazine; Earl Wieman

English Adviser: Dr. Doris Brougham; Prof. Li Chen-Ching; Mr. Steven Colin
Crook; Ms. Loh Shellyee; Mr. Karl Zimmerman

English Copy Editor: Liang Kuo-Ching; Tsai Te-Chang; Hsu Ting-Hao

Planning and Production: CommonWealth Magazine Group

Photographs: Tourism Bureau, Ministry of Transportation and Communications
(MOTC); CommonWealth Magazine Group; Studio Classroom
Magazine; Juang Li-Lan

Sales: Government Bookstore and Government Bookstore Online:

209, Songjiang Rd., Taipei;

Tel: 02-2518-0207, 02-2657-9211

<http://www.govbooks.com.tw>

Wu-Nan Book Inc.:

6, Zhongshan Rd., Taichung;

Tel: 04-2226-0330

We owe special thanks to the following organizations for providing information and assistance: Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Ministry of Education; Ministry of Justice; Ministry of Economic Affairs; Council of Labor Affairs; National Youth Commission; Council for Cultural Affairs; Government Information Office; Department of Health; Centers for Disease Control; Bureau of National Health Insurance; Bureau of Health Promotion; Environmental Protection Administration; Bureau of Consular Affairs, MOFA; Construction and Planning Agency, MOI; National Immigration Agency, MOI; Taxation Agency, MOF; Tourism Bureau MOTC; Directorate General of Highways, MOTC; Civil Aeronautics Administration, MOTC; Bureau of High Speed Rail, MOTC; Taiwan Railways Administration, MOTC; and Bureau of Labor Insurance, CLA; Industrial Development Bureau, MOEA; Taiwan Power Company, MOEA.

Research, Development and Evaluation Commission, Executive Yuan

Address: 6F., 2-2, Sec. 1, Jinan Rd., Taipei, 10051, Taiwan, R.O.C.

Tel: +886-2-2341-9066

Website: <http://www.rdec.gov.tw>

Price: NT\$100

Copyright© November 2010. Research, Development and Evaluation
Commission, Executive Yuan. All rights reserved.

GPN 1009903982/ ISBN 978-986-02-5775-5/ 研考 VII-0013