



Taiwan Expedition | January 2024

Taipei 臺北 | Tainan 臺南 | Hualien 花蓮

Please note that while the spirit of the below schedule will remain unchanged, certain aspects are subject to be updated based on availability and travel policies during the time of our travels.

January 7 - January 11: Taipei | Exploration of the Capital's Cultural Heritage

Day 1 | Sunday, January 7 (Arrive in Taipei)

All Day Arrive in Taipei, Taiwan; transfer to our group hotel
Airport pick-up and hotel transfer will be arranged on your behalf by CLI.

Day 2 | Monday, January 8 (Taipei)

9:00 AM Program orientation in the hotel lobby
Meet your fellow travelers and CLI program leaders, then engage in an orientation session to understand and conceptualize the journey ahead.

10:30 AM Partake in a guided tour of the Chiang Kai-Shek Memorial Hall while discussing modern Taiwanese history, then witness the changing of the guards

12:30 PM Free time for lunch near 東門站 (Dōngmén zhàn)

2:30 PM Hike up 象山 (Xiàngshān, Elephant Mountain; ~1 mile each way) or relax in the nearby neighborhoods of Xinyi District

4:30 PM Ascend Taipei 101 for panoramic views of the city
Typhoon and earthquake resistant, this environmentally friendly skyscraper is equipped with one of the world's fastest elevator systems: visitors can travel from the 5th to 89th floor in a record-breaking 37 seconds.

6:00 PM Enjoy a festive group welcome dinner at Din Tai Fung, Taiwan's iconic 小籠包 (xiǎo lóng bāo, soup dumpling) restaurant

Day 3 | Tuesday, January 9 (Taipei)

10:00 AM Learn about Taiwanese prayer traditions at the Lungshan Temple
One of the oldest temples in Taiwan, Lungshan Temple was built by immigrants from Fujian Province in the mid-18th century as a center of Chinese folk religion.

11:00 AM Explore 迪化街, (Díhuà Jiē), one of Taipei's oldest traditional streets, home to bustling markets, artist enclaves, theater museums, and more!

12:30 PM Enjoy lunch on 迪化街

2:00 PM Visit the Lin An Tai Ancestral House, an 18th century Fujian-style farmhouse
Situated along the river inside of Binjiang Park, the 林安泰古厝 (Lín āntài gǔ cù; Lin An Tai Ancestral House) was constructed in 1785 by an affluent merchant family. Today, the courtyard-garden complex is one of the oldest existing houses in Taipei and provides a window into the city's past.

4:30 PM Free time for relaxing at the Dajia Riverside Park

7:00 PM Optional evening activities and free time for exploring in Ximending



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Day 4 | Wednesday, January 10 (Taipei)

- 10:00 AM** Transfer to Yangmingshan National Park and commence with an expedition through 硫磺谷 (Liúhuáng gǔ), a.k.a Sulfur Valley
Yangmingshan National Park, situated northwest of urban Taipei, was once a center for sulfur harvesting before being established as the island's first national park during the Japanese colonial era. The area boasts numerous mountain peaks, active volcanoes, vents, and natural hot springs.
- 11:00 AM** Witness Xiaoyoukeng, one of Yangmingshan's two major sulfur vents
- 12:30 PM** Sample local farmhouse dishes at a mountainside restaurant inside the park
- 3:00 PM** Visit the Beitou Hot Spring Museum and Beitou Public Hot Spring
Learn about the ecology and significance of this hot spring district at a bathhouse-turned-museum constructed under Japanese rule in 1913. Next, enjoy a soak at the various thermal pools in the park which are believed to possess healing properties.
- 6:00 PM** Free time for dinner at 士林夜市 (Shìlín yèshì), one of Taiwan's most festive night markets

Day 5 | Thursday, January 11 (Taipei)

- All Day** Free day for independent exploration and optional activities in Taipei
A suggested activity includes visiting the National Palace Museum. Originally housed in the Forbidden City in Beijing, the items in this museum were the prized personal collections of Qing and Ming dynasty emperors. They now comprise one of the greatest assemblies of ancient Chinese artifacts in the world.

January 12 - January 15: Taipei | Legacies of the Ancient South

Day 6 | Friday, January 12 (Taipei to Tainan)

- 9:00 AM** Hotel checkout; board the high-speed train to Tainan (~2 hours)
The oldest city on the island, this former Dutch colony served as Taiwan's capital for over 200 years during the Qing dynasty. Tainan is home to an array of ancient temples, idyllic beaches, and pioneering industries.
- 11:00 AM** Place luggage at hotel
- 11:30 AM** Discover Tainan's Grand Mazu, City God Temple, and Confucius Temples during a guided city tour
- 12:30 PM** Group lunch at a traditional Tainan-style restaurant
- 2:30 PM** Explore Chihkan Tower 赤嵌樓, a former Dutch outpost and currently the oldest building in Tainan's Central West District
- 4:30 PM** Check into our hotel in central Tainan; free time



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Day 7 | Saturday, January 13 (Tainan)

- 10:00 AM** Embark on a walking tour of the historic Anping Quarter
The center of Dutch occupation during the 17th century, Tainan's coastal Anping area was reconstructed after the Japanese Colonial Period and symbolizes the city's history of foreign occupation. Discover Fort Zeelandia, a fortress built by the Dutch East India Trading Company, then explore a former Japanese salt factory transformed into a treehouse and enjoy free time on Gubao Ancient Street.
- 12:30 PM** Small group lunches and flexible time in Anping
- Afternoon** Catch the sunset at 漁光島 (Yúguāngdǎo), a popular beach for Tainan families, university students and local surfers
- Evening** Optional shrimp fishing and karaoke experience!

Day 8 | Sunday, January 14 (Tainan)

- Morning** Stroll through a traditional fruit and vegetable market
- 12:00 PM** Small group lunches on 國華街 (Guóhuá jiē), Tainan's iconic snack street
- Afternoon/Evening** Free time for small group exploration in Tainan
Optional activities include visiting a local teahouse, partaking in a unique Taiwanese barbershop experience, or relaxing during a foot massage.

Day 9 | Monday, January 15 (Tainan)

- 10:00 AM** Meet with city representatives in Tainan to learn about local government and politics
- 12:00 PM** Small group lunches nearby
- 2:30 PM** Visit a local school in Tainan for cultural exchange activities with students
Mingle with the future leaders of Taiwan through icebreakers and games while broadening your understanding of the Taiwanese education system.
- Evening** Small group dinners in Tainan

January 16 - January 20: Hualien | Landscapes of the East Coast

Day 10 | Tuesday, January 16 (Tainan to Hualien, via Taipei)

- Morning** Transfer from Tainan to Hualien via train (~5 hours)
- Afternoon** Arrive in Hualien and check into our guesthouse
Situated on Taiwan's east coast between the Central Mountain Range and the Pacific Ocean, Hualien is the largest county in Taiwan by area, yet has a relatively low population due to its highly mountainous terrain. From wooded gorges to striking oceanside cliffs, the area is widely considered to boast some of the island's most naturally beautiful and well-preserved landscapes. Hualien



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is also Taiwan's leader in organic agriculture and main producer of black tea, coffee, watermelon, pomelo, and other local crops.

Early Evening

Stroll alongside the Pacific Ocean at the scenic Beibin and Nanbin parks

Late Evening

Free time for dinner at the sprawling Dongdamen Night Market

Sample traditional snacks such as savory rice dumplings and fresh fruit juice, and enjoy musical performances at this open-air seaside night market.

Day 11 | Wednesday, January 17 (Hualien)

Morning/Afternoon

Spend the day exploring 太魯閣 (Tàilǔgé; Taroko Gorge) Hualien's most beloved national park

Explore the Shakadang Trail and Eternal Spring Shrine built to commemorate laborers who sacrificed their lives constructing the highway through the gorge. Relax in the park's recreation areas, or continue your discovery with more optional hikes, including the Swallow's Grove, Tunnel of Nine Turns, and Baiyang Trail and Waterfall.

Evening

Free time for dinner in Hualien

Day 12 | Thursday, January 18 (Hualien)

9:00 AM

Travel to an indigenous tribal village located in the mountains outside of Hualien (~1.5 hours)

Taiwan is home to 16 officially recognized indigenous tribes, each possessing their own unique language, customs, and social structure. Taiwanese aboriginal groups comprise almost 30% of the population of Hualien County, the most populous being the Amis, Truku, Sakizaya, Kavalan, Bunun and Sediq.

Morning/Afternoon

Spend the day engaging in cultural exchange activities with indigenous community members

Learn about the local hunting and farming techniques, try your hand at traditional handicrafts, then enjoy a cooking class and locally-sourced lunch and conversation with village residents.

Evening

Return to Hualien; flexible time

Day 13 | Friday, January 19 (Hualien to Taipei)

Morning

Hotel check-out; transfer to Taipei via train (~2.5 hours)

Early Afternoon

Place luggage at our group hotel for the night

Late Afternoon

Flexible time to relax or partake in optional activities

Evening

Enjoy a festive farewell dinner and program reflection in Taipei



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Day 14 | Saturday, January 20 (*Depart Taipei*)

Morning

Hotel check-out; program concludes

Please see the following page for additional program information.



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Program Fee

The per participant program fee for the CLI Taiwan 2024 Travel Seminar, including, but not limited to, all services and activities listed above is **3,940 USD**. Please note that a minimum of 8 students is required for the program to be held. Single occupancy accommodation is available throughout the program for an additional 1,200 USD.

Program Fee Includes

- ❖ Comprehensive pre-departure support
- ❖ All activities and site visits listed in your program itinerary
- ❖ 24-hour assistance from CLI's international and local team
- ❖ Full-time bilingual in-country Program Leader
- ❖ Breakfast everyday, plus numerous group lunches and dinners
- ❖ All relevant learning materials (text materials, reading handouts, notebooks, pens)
- ❖ All domestic group transportation
- ❖ All tips for drivers, local guides, restaurant attendants for group meals, etc.
- ❖ Quality housing accommodations

Program Fee Does Not Include

- ❖ Round trip international airfare
- ❖ Non-group meals
- ❖ Taiwanese phone SIM card
- ❖ Optional activities and independent excursions
- ❖ Medical and travel insurance

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