TAICHUNG
29 Districts

Fabulous Sights

Taichung City Government Publish
TAICHUNG
29 Districts

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Fabulous Sights
Taichung is an exciting city boasting mild weather for all seasons, abundant produce, an international metropolis, surrounded by mountains, green fields, sunset and ocean views. Mountains and oceans are only a short car ride away. Come and freely sample all attractions Taichung has to offer.

All districts in Taichung feature different landscapes. For instance, on the west coast there is a coast line of up to 48 kilometers, plus the precious Gaomei Wetland and extensive coastline bicycle path, both of which are popular tourist destinations developed in recent years. In the mountainous areas, we have the centennial beauty hot springs in Guguan, Wulin Farm in Lishan, the Seas of Flowers in Xinshe which are all much talked about and popular destinations for tourists in Autumn and Winter. In the city, we have historical monuments like Taichung Prefectural Hall and Luce Chapel that embodies the passing of time and a profound immersion of culture, aside from the world-class architectural elegance that is National Taichung Theater. The convenient free 10km bus and soon to be completed Taichung MRT will energize Taichung’s transportation and make Taichung more accessible for visitors.
Taichung is an exciting city boasting mild weather for all seasons, abundant produce, an international metropolis, surrounded by mountains, green fields, sunset and ocean views. Mountains and oceans are only a short car ride away. Come and freely sample all attractions Taichung has to offer. All districts in Taichung feature different landscapes. For instance, on the west coast there is a coastline of up to 48 kilometers, plus the precious Gaomei Wetland and extensive coastline bicycle path, both of which are popular tourist destinations developed in recent years. In the mountainous areas, we have the centennial beauty hot springs in Guguan, Wulin Farm in Lishan, the Seas of Flowers in Xinshe which are all much talked about and popular destinations for tourists in Autumn and Winter. In the city, we have historical monuments like Taichung Prefectural Hall and Luce Chapel that embodies the passing of time and a profound immersion of culture, aside from the world-class architectural elegance that is National Taichung Theater. The convenient free 10km bus and soon to be completed Taichung MRT will energize Taichung’s transportation and make Taichung more accessible for visitors.

All varieties of beautiful landscapes are scattered around Taichung’s 29 administrative districts, each with mesmerizing stories about its own history and culture. We have selected from all districts the most classic sceneries, landmark architecture, cultural or historical monuments. Some are nostalgic familiar places of old Taichung, while some others are emerging yet popular hot spots. Together we offer you 58 stunning attractions from Taichung’s natural or cultural landscapes so that you can leave with great memories of Taichung. I, Mayor Lu Xiu-Yan, along with my city government administration have been carefully maintaining the beautiful nature in Taichung, while continuing with all efforts of building the city. You are cordially invited to follow the guide in this book and experience the classic beauty of Taichung.
Fabulous Taichung sees no bounds
People often ask me: Taichung offers such diverse choices for tourists; where should I start?

Taichung is blessed as a thriving metropolis with beautiful countrysides, great for day trips, 3-day getaways or even extensive in-depth tours. With rich tourism resources in Taichung’s mountainous or coastal areas, Taichung will bring you alternative travel experiences.

In Taichung’s 29 administrative districts, by the sea or near the mountains, there are historical monuments as well as cultural & creative commercial zones with top-notch leading cultural trends. Fancy expansive magnificent views? Come to Happy Valley for its lush green fields and come to Wanggaoliao for its dazzling night view. In need of some culture? We offer you a historic tour in Wufeng Lin Family Mansion or the Taichung Prefecture Hall. Want to try pearl milk tea? You do not want to miss its birthplace in Taichung. Want to unwind? Come and soak in the Guguan Hot Spring or walk up Dakeng Hiking Trails for some Phytoncide. It’s a real treat.

Taichung is ready to engage you, inform you and entertain you with its diverse and precious tourism resources. The goal of publishing this book is to inform domestic and international visitors about Taichung’s special characteristics while attracting more visitors.

This book contains representative tourist attractions from 29 districts covering their culture, history and past glory through exquisite photographs, articles and maps. All that is charming and worth knowing about Taichung is all detailed in this book. Taichung awaits your exploration and savoring.
Four Seasons in Taichung

**Spring Refreshing Taichung**

Come to Taichung’s Wulin Farm in Spring and you will be greeted with its beautiful cherry blossoms. Enjoy the refreshing clear air under the cherry trees while having a picnic is the best way to spend some family time together. In Taian and Xinshe, there are also cherry blossom seasons. Cherry blossoms in different regions are all unique in their beauty. Visitors will be spoilt for choice when it comes to where to go for cherry blossom viewing in Taichung.

As one highlight of the Spring Festival, the Taichung Lantern Festival is not to be missed. Every year, it features 12 cute and fun zodiac animals and attracts many hundreds and thousands of visitors to visit Taichung for the lanterns and to pray for blessings.

**Must See in Spring**

Cherry blossoms on Wulin Farm, in Houli Taian and in Xinshe; Dakeng Hiking Trails, Dongshi Tung Blossoms, Taichung Lantern Festival

**Summer Fun Taichung**

Who is to say you cannot dip in the hot spring in Summer? Taichung’s hot spring is ready for you in the Summer. Come and enjoy a steaming soak plus an expansive mountainous view. Let’s relax our body, mind, and soul in the heat and have fun.

Fancy a cool-down after the soak? Come to Daan Coastal Amusement Park, stroll on the sand beach, admire amazing works and listen to great music at the Daan Sand Sculpture and Music Festival. Let’s not forget: Taichung is the birthplace of pearl milk tea. During a visit to Taichung in the scorching hot summer, drinking some cold bubble tea is necessary.

**Must Visit in Summer**

Taichung Pearl Milk Tea Festival; Daan Coastal Amusement Park/Daan Sand Sculpture & Music Festival; Taichung Hot spring Festival; Dajia Tiezhanshan Scenic Area

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**Transportation Overview in Taichung**

1. **Bus**
   
   Free for 10 kilometers
   
   Buses are the dominant mode of transport to get around Taichung. Electronic ticket holders are entitled to free rides for the first 10 kilometers of their journeys. Definitely your best choice to zip across Taichung.

2. **Taiwan High Speed Rail**
   
   Fastest mode of transport to/from northern or southern Taiwan
   
   Taichung HSR Station is in Wuri, the largest of all HSR Stations in Taiwan. It takes less than an hour to get from Taipei to Taichung. Taichung HSR Station shares the same location with Taiwan Railways Wuri Station and soon will be connected with Taichung MRT.
In breezy autumn, Taichung is ideal for outdoor activities. Taichung Bicycle Carnival is great fun for families. If it’s not enough to pedal a bike, come and dance during these pleasant autumn days at the Taichung International Dance Carnival where dance troupes from all over the world are invited to perform. Let’s live it up in Taichung. Be joyous and prosperous.

Visit the Taichung Jazz Festival that attracts over one million people every year. Over here you can have a picnic while listening to Jazz, and this is how we roll in Taichung.

Winter in Taichung may not be shudderingly cold but cold enough for our busy mind to settle. Taichung International Flower Carpet Festival combines the Xinshe Sea of Flowers where you can stroll amidst magnificent, beautiful and dazzling flower fields along with your loved ones, as well as enjoying the lightly scented sweet fresh air.

The major event in winter is the New Year’s Eve Party. Come over and join the cheerful excited crowds for the final countdown. Afterwards, let’s go and admire the night view on the mountain or dip in the hot spring. All very romantic.

Great Fun in Autumn
Dongfeng and Hofeng Green Passage, Tanya Shen Green Bikeway, Taichung Jazz Festival, Taichung International Dance Carnival, Taichung Bicycle Carnival

Must Visit in Winter
Xinshe Sea of Flowers; Taichung International Flower Carpet Festival; Hot Springs in Guguan, Wuri, Dongshi, Dakeng; New Year’s Eve Party

Taiwan Railways
Connecting all famous sights
Railways in Taichung connects with its surrounding cities/counties, its nearby mountainous and coastal areas, and famous tourist attractions all along the way.

Airport
For international connection
Taichung International Airport is located in Taichung’s Shalu district offering domestic and international flights to China, Japan, Hong Kong, Korea, Thailand, Vietnam to name but a few, serving as an airport hub in central Taiwan.

Taichung MRT
More convenient mode of public transport (to open in 2020)
Taichung MRT network will consist of the Green Line, Blue Line, Airport Line, and DaPingWu Line for its short- mid- and long-term construction, of which Green line is expected to open in 2020 with the rest still under planning.
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Taichung Train Station
New and Old,
Miyahara
Stepping out of the New Taichung Train Station, one will notice its glass dome glistening in the bright daylight, as if wrapped by thin layers of butterfly wings. At night, it stands ablaze with night lights.

Only a few hundred meters away, the Old Taichung Train Station was built over 100 years ago and has served millions of transit passengers. Its architecture features a late-Renaissance design of grey tiles, red bricks, and a gable roof with exquisite carvings in the base, corridors and columns. Contrasting the magnificent and grandiose presence of the New Station, the Old Station, which is now a designated national historic monument, remains poised and quietly engaging as well as witnessing the coming and going of endless travelers passing through Taichung.

Taichung Train Station
New and Old
臺中火車站新站及舊站
A magnificent presence, a witness to history.
Having survived the 921 Earthquake, Miyahara was restored from its near total collapse and renovated into “a fusion of the old and the new”. It now has many boutiques selling souvenirs from famous brands. Turning itself into a popular tourist site in Taichung, it is renowned for its interior decoration that is much like a film set. Some may call it Taiwan’s own Hogwarts.
Taichung Park

Taiwan’s first century-old park.

Taichung Park/
No. 65, Sec. 1, Shuangshi Rd., Central Dist., Taichung City 400, Taiwan (R.O.C.)
+886-4-2228-9111#33900                    24h                    None
travel.taichung.gov.tw/zh-tw/Attractions/Intro/28/
Taichung Park in the north and the Old Taichung Train Station in the south have been the two geographic reference points for Taichung residents. To this day, one can still find Taichung-specific ways of living hidden within the grid-like alleyways and streets between these two places.

Taichung Park is home to many local landmarks such as the Mid-Lake Pavilion, Moon Gazing Pagoda, Victory Monument, Broadcasting Station, and Grace Church attracting many artists and writers to linger and compose their famous artworks. Known for its orderly arrays of trees and flowers planted along curved pathways, the Park boasts an abundant beauty of classic gardens. The botanic serenity in such a central location evokes an imagery from an ancient poem, “Taking up abode in a crowded place, one is unaffected by the city bustles.”

Over 100 hundred years old, Taichung Park maintains its serene presence and will keep Taichung company for more years to come.
BaoJue Temple is dedicated to the three Buddhas: Shakamuni, Bhaisajyaguru and Amitābha. On the grounds of the temple stands a giant 30-meter-tall smiling golden Buddha, which is very visually striking and can be seen from a distance, thus becoming a local focal point.
Lecheng Temple, New Palace Western Museum
Lecheng Temple is located in the crossing between the plains and the mountainous areas. Owing to its location on the busy trading route between the Han people and the aboriginals, a temple was built in this region during the reign of Emperor QianLong in Qing Dynasty to bring in Mazu as the main deity. The temple was built on a region that was among the first developed. As its followers span across Taichung’s 10 districts, the annual Lecheng Temple Mazu procession is joined by other temples from all villages, and its procession grows so much in size that there is a saying best befitting the scale of the event: “A walk-about through 18 villages.” The Temple is listed by Taichung City Government as an intangible cultural heritage.

In addition to Mazu safeguarding our safety, the Temple is also known for its God of Love, i.e. YueLao, famous for finding loveless singletons a match. As Yuelao is known to have a sweet tooth, visitors come with sweets or pastries when praying to him for intimacy with that special someone.
With its interiors decorated in western classical themes, the New Palace Western Museum has a private collection of over 1000 pieces of exquisite handicraft from Sotheby’s and Christie’s including vintage cameras, teawares, tablewares, and clocks from Europe. Come to the museum to admire these European antiques; you will have an unforgettable time here.
National Library of Public Information (NLPI), Cultural Heritage Park, Ministry of Culture
National Library of Public Information (NLPI)

Green architecture with streamlined aesthetics.
The NLPI features an animated streamlined exterior and layers of stratified terrains to symbolize Taichung’s early-period urban grid layout: “One Street along One River”. Filled with river imageries, the architecture symbolizes a vessel carrying the flow of infinite knowledge.

Back in 1920, it was first built and went by the name of “Taichung Prefectural Library”. Over time, the library underwent re-naming, re-location, and today it shoulders the great responsibility of supervising public libraries of all levels across the island.
To turn disused warehouses into cultural & creative parks seems to be the norm today. Locally known as the Taichung Old Brewery, the Akashi Brewery was renovated with a new lease on life and turned into the Cultural Heritage Park. The park is built for multiple purposes: exhibitions, landscapes, cultural & creative events while serving as a platform to showcase work done by arts and performance groups.
Taichung Prefectural Hall, Jingming 1st Street

5 West District
The grand facade of the Taichung Prefecture Hall (TPH) features six Ionic ivory columns. Seen across from the fountain is its iron blue French-style mansard roof with two slopes, one steeper than the other, reminiscent of western European palaces. The TPH has been well maintained architecturally. Before Taichung City was upgraded to the status of Municipality, the TPH was the office building for the Taichung government administration.

Walking into the central courtyard, one will be greeted by the lush green lawn enveloped by 4 two-story red brick buildings on all sides. The brown wooden-framed doors and windows against white arc-shaped corridors mark the passing of time. This is a photography hot spot for visitors and locals alike. The TPH’s annexes include halls and warehouses. They form part of Taichung’s historic building cluster along with the Train Station, Lyu-Chuan Canal, and Taichung Park. The TPH is also an art base for the architectural aesthetics of Taiwan’s historic buildings.
Jingming 1st Street
精明一街

This 100-meter-long street for many people holds the memory of growing up in Taichung. It accommodates a wide range of chic culture including weekend handicraft stalls, street performances, open-air performances, tea shops such as Chun Shui Tang, all of which inject Taichung with abundant vigor.
Dakeng Scenic Area Hiking Trails, Yide Mansion

Beitun District
Walk into Taichung’ s back garden, i.e. the Dakeng Scenic Area. Hike one of the 12 trails and ascend Taiwan’ s only Formosan koa steps lined with vegetation that changes colors in every season of the year.

The Dakeng Scenic Area is widely popular and its 12 hiking trails each have their own special features. For hiking, you can find trails for beginners to ultra-advanced routes. For sightseeing, you can go for bird watching, pine tree watching or simply look out at the city landscape. For social activities, Dakeng is perfect for outings with families and friends. For nature and ecology, all kinds of wondrous rocks and plants are vying for your attention, including Bougainvillea and Night-scented Lilies as well as yellow leaves in flight. You will be amazed by the ever-changing sceneries in Taichung.
Yide Mansion is a building blending multiple architectural styles: Japanese, European, Chinese Fujian, and that of military dependents’ housing compounds. As if a metaphor for Taiwan’s history, Yide Mansion is also an embodiment of cultural diversity. The former Lin Mao-yang residence underwent re-planning and re-opened as Yide Mansion offering wedding cakes and desserts along with bookshops and tea houses, all of which are as exciting and splendid as the architecture itself.
National Taichung Theater, The Luce Chapel
National Taichung Theater

Melodious culvert where lights, shadows and vocal music encounter resplendently.

The National Taichung Theater (NTT) is filled with a temple and rhythm in its spatial design. Its exterior, draped with a huge piece of mirror reflecting varied themes, signals an exquisite and forward-looking vision. The NTT was designed by the Pritzker Prize-winning architect, Toyo Ito. The architectural concept for the exclusive Sound Caves was derived from caves and tree houses that correspond to humanity's most primitive experience. They are highly challenging to construct and very mesmerizing for all visitors, what with the rich interplay of natural lighting and designed illumination.

The NTT consists of three theatres of various sizes, restaurants, cultural & creative shops, and a roof-top garden. If not catching a performance, you can still treat yourself to a bowl of ice desserts on the ground-floor snack area or take a stroll in the illuminated roof-top garden. And this is how you can while away life in Taichung, carefree and relaxed.

National Taichung Theater/
No. 101, Sec. 2, Huilai Rd., Xitun Dist., Taichung City 407, Taiwan (R.O.C.)
+886-4-2251-1777  Sun, Tue–Thu 11:30–21:00; Fri–Sat, National holiday 11:30–22:00  Mon
www.npac-ntt.org/index
Located right inside Tunghai University, the Luce Chapel features four curved surfaces that are stacked into a structure similar to an upside-down barge. Designed by the Chinese-American architect I. M. Pei and completed in 1963, the Chapel is pillar-free. The light coming through a thin slit in the middle infuses the Chapel with serenity. The Chapel has long been a popular tourist attraction.
Rainbow Village, Fazi Riverway

Nantun District
Rainbow Village
彩虹眷村
A city hideout where you can be a child again.

Rainbow Village
No. 25, Ln. 56, Chun'an Rd., Nantun Dist., Taichung City 408, Taiwan (R.O.C.)
+886-4-2380-2351  OPEN 08:00~18:00  CLOSE None
www.1949rainbow.com.tw/
Originally they were clusters of one-story houses.

One resident, Huang Yong-Fu, used his innate artistic talent and graffitied on the walls and tiles, giving exuberant colors to the 50-meter-long alleyway. This area was thus evaluated by a famous travel website as Taiwan’s most popular tourist attraction, and Huang is now nicknamed “Grandpa Rainbow”.

An overview of Grandpa Rainbow’s work reveals a bold use of colors and simplistic brush movements.

Any theme can be used as art in his work, which is done with such child-like playfulness. Close to 100 years of age, Grandpa Rainbow has so far painted on six buildings which are now all preserved, along with a nearby square and a couple of old trees. Together they constitute the Rainbow Village Art Park, receiving endless domestic and overseas visitors all year round.
As your High Speed Rail pulls into Taichung, you will be greeted by the 4-meter-high installation marked with the word Taichung illuminated by dazzling lights at night. As a new landmark, Fazi Riverway offers a 1.8 km waterfront corridor suitable for weekend outings with families and friends.
Kangqiao Waterfront Park,
International Bodhisattva Sangha
Kangqiao Waterfront Park
康橋水岸公園

Sky, clouds with prosperous willow trees, Cambridge appears again by the waterfront of Han River.
After undergoing irrigation revampment, Han River is now complete with a waterfront infrastructure, e.g. plaza, green belt, fish ladder, bike path, and wetlands. In particular, the newly erected Xingda Kangqiao Bridge sitting across Han River stands out as a reminder of bridges in Cambridge in the UK. During the day, the clouds in the sky are reflected in the mirror-like clear water along with the bridge. At night, the bridge is lit up on both sides. The lights illuminating the bridge will change colors as time goes by, as if to create another bridge in the water, swaying with all its charm. Reproducing the scenes in “Saying Goodbye to Cambridge Again” by poet, Xu Zhimo.
Hidden behind a wooden archway is a fair-faced square concrete building covered with crawling vines. It’s actually a temple, and not a tea house. Awarded with many design accolades, the International Bodhisattva Sangha is a combination of a religious edifice and an artistic expression. When copying sutra inscriptions in the temple, one can go as far as imagining that everything you write in this space will automatically turn into refined calligraphy.
Wufeng Lin Family Mansions Gong-Bao-Di Official Residence,

Asia University Museum of Modern Art
Wufeng Lin Family Mansions Gong-Bao-Di Official Residence
霧峰林家宮保第園區

Taiwan’s first Fujian-style architecture.

Being one of Taiwan’s five powerful family clans during the Qing dynasty, the Wufeng Lin Family built residences and gardens that were and still are magnificent in size and design. During the QianLong Emperor’s reign in Qing Dynasty, the Wufeng Lin family crossed the ocean to Taiwan, expanded their family size over generations and became famous for taking part in many historical events. Open to public viewing are three architecture pieces: Gong-bao-di, Great Flower Hall and Caocuo.

Gong-bao-di is Taiwan’s only remaining mansion of a class-I imperial official in the Qing court. Great Flower Hall is a Fuzhou-style opera stage. Caocuo is a Sanheyuan-style thatched house to symbolize and commemorate the Lin family’s humble beginnings. A tour from Caocuo to Gong-bao-di is to retrace the history of the Wufeng Lin Family.
Asia University Museum of Modern Art is the famous architect Tadao Ando’s first architectural design in Taiwan. Arranging numerous triangles into exhibition spaces, atriums, platforms and tea drinking areas, the Museum brims with Tadao’s signature unique details.
Zhi Gao Zhen Canal Trail,
Xuelian Trail
(Xuetian Mountain)
The 3 km Zhi Gao Zhen Canal Trail with a slope gradation of no more than 80 meters is deemed as beginner’s level for hiking trails. You can see many Taichung citizens of all ages taking a hike here throughout the year.

Zhi Gao Zhen Canal originally drew water from Fazi River to supply the farmland irrigation in Nantun, Wuri, and Dadu. Today, a comfortable crosstie trail has been built along the canal with a wide variety of vegetation grown all over the surroundings, e.g. golden shower trees, wild wax apples, mulberries, pine trees, and banyan trees. Reach the top of the trail, and you will be rewarded with a fabulous view of the Wuri District.
Starting from Shanguan Temple, walk along the Zhi Gao Zhen Canal Trail until the slope gets steep, and you will soon reach the Xuelian Trail. Ascend by following the trail to see the beautiful sight of the grassland being showered in a golden orange light at sunset. It will be worth your while.
Tanzi Bald Cypress Forest
潭子落羽松秘境

Secret romantic spot for Bald Cypress viewing.

In late autumn, Tanzi’s secret spot for Bald Cypress viewing has become a must-visit tourist attraction for travelers to central Taiwan. After passing the XinTian Hiking Trailhead, follow Lane LongXing to ascend on the adjacent Industrial Road until you reach the top where you can look out over the vast stretch of Bald Cypress Forest.

Come on a pleasant autumn day and admire the sunshine coming down from the blue sky and white clouds glistening through the bald cypress forest with gradients of red, orange and golden colors on the leaves and twigs. The slopes, draped all over in a beautiful russet-red color, are much coveted and visited by couples for the romantic view.

Travel.Taichung.gov.tw/zh-tw/Attractions/Intro/1444/
Locally referred to as QiZhongCuo, Zhaixing Villa used to be a rarely-seen-in-Taiwan residence of a military official during the Qing Dynasty. Built with top-notch materials from Fujian, China, the Villa has a structure of a two-section four-sided courtyard house with exquisite painting and carvings on the bricks and stones. It was voted first on the list of Taiwan’s top-10 houses.
Gonglao Ping Mountain, Huludun Park
Gonglao Ping Mountain
公老坪

Dazzled by the sparkling night view from the mountain top.
FengYuan residents are proud of having the expansive view of GongLao Ping Mountain, which is a popular date destination for couples.

Restaurants, cafes and the Qiu Fengjia Memorial Park are all built on the mountain slopes for this fantastic Taichung-specific night view.

Less than 500 meters above sea level, the Gonglao Ping Mountain, according to a legend, got its name from the late pioneer named Hsu Gonglao who led all the township people in frontier pioneering work.

Ascending the mountain at dusk, you will witness the blue sky transitioning to a fish-belly white color, and then layers of orange yellow and green colors reflected from the sunset before turning into a dark blue color, as thousands of house lights are lit up in the evening sky.
Huludun Park
葫蘆墩公園

With Ruanpizai Creek meandering through the park, Huludun Park is Fengyuan’s biggest park by the waterfront. Being one of the 2018 Taichung World Flora Expo sites, the Park remains an eco-friendly environment filled with flowering shrubs long after the Expo ended.
Golden Wheat Field,
Hengshan Park near Central Taiwan Scenic Park

14
Daya District
Golden Wheat Field
大雅麥田

The place with the most dazzling golden wheat field in central Taiwan.

Golden Wheat Field
Ln. 231, Sec. 1, Shenlin Rd., Daya Dist., Taichung City 428, Taiwan (R.O.C.)

+886-4-2566-2216

The annual Wheat Festival opens in February.
Daya Wheat Field is open all year round.

travel.taichung.gov.tw/zh-tw/Attractions/Intro/1442/
During its maturing season in March, the wheat field in Taichung’s Daya turns into a golden yellow wave when blown by the breeze. The wheat stalks bow their head, then stand straight and famously repeat this motion for an enchanting sight.

Daya is home to 90% of Taiwan’s wheat harvests, and its annual cultural festival features wheat as its marketing theme with installation art of various sizes in addition to wheat fields blowing in the wind. As the cultural festival coincides with the western Valentine’s Day, many artworks have a love-related feature. The Daya Wheat Fields have thus become an accidental dating hot spot.

If lucky, you can catch shots of the wheat fields in three stages of its growth as indicated in three colors: green here, chrome yellow, and golden yellow a few hundred meters away. Such wonders of nature are right here in Daya.
Hengshan Park near Central Taiwan Scenic Park
中科橫山公園

Featuring a wooden boardwalk, a stone-wall fortress, and an open corridor, Hengshan Park is like a film set for a period drama with hints of modern simplistic ambience. Many visitors are drawn here for its huge size and diverse ecology.
Tanya Shen Green Bikeway,
Xiaoyun Lyu's Mansion

Shenggang District
Tanya Shen Green Bikeway
潭雅神綠園道

Breezing through shady leafy turns.

Built on former military railway lines linking Tanzi, Daya and Shengang Districts, Tanya Shen Green Bikeway is now re-laid as a bicycle path. In one section, there are multiple S-shaped turns (at approx. 4K + 800 meters on the cycle path). This section has thus become a popular photo-shoot hot spot for its special landscape.

The S-shaped sections feature breezy shades from thick green foliage on both sides of the path with a 1:1 ratio for the path and the foliage which form an interesting and contrasting view.
This is the residence of Lyu RuXiu, an imperial scholar during the Qing Dynasty, where dignitaries and high-ranking officers converged at the time. Along with a few nearby buildings constructed during the Japanese rule, Xiaoyun Lyu’s Mansion was included into the historical monument cluster for renovation, which lended the architecture a refreshingly unique fusion of southern-Fujian and Japanese characteristics.
Hou-Fong Bike Path, Taian Police Station (Cherry blossoms)
Meandering through Tunnel No. 9, Hualieng Steel Bridge, Kunlu Zan Temple, farm houses, fields and the surging Dajia River, the Hou-Fong Bike Path takes in a wide variety of sceneries all along the way. As Taiwan’s only closed-in bicycle path segregated from busy traffic, Hou-Fong Bike Path is Taichung’s most popular bicycle path measuring 4.5 km in distance.

Hou-Fong Bike Path re-built from old railway lines links with the Dongfeng Bicycle Green Way. As indicated by its name, the path is shaded with thick green foliage like a natural tunnel. As you pedal along, you can bask in the sunshine coming through the leaves.

For a sprawling in-depth two-day one-night tour of central Taiwan, you should include Xinshe, Dongshi, Daxue Mountain, and Guguan into your itinerary.
Taian Police Station (Cherry blossoms)

Praised as Taiwan’s most beautiful police station, Taian Police Station is renowned for the densely-planted 200-meter-long Cherry Blossom Way. In late spring, such huge crowds of people gather here for cherry blossoms that even designated vehicles have to be dispatched. Nighttime cherry blossoms are equally beautiful with a special appeal.
Happy Valley, Shuiliudong Tung Blossom Footpath
Stand high up on the river embankment, look down and you will see orderly square paddy fields patched into summer green or autumn gold colors into the earth. This view is an echo from the lines of Meng HaoRan’s poem, “Village enveloped by green trees with undulating mountains outside the village.”

The Happy Valley offers distinctly unique sceneries that change color with the seasons: green in spring and summer during the plowing and sowing seasons; gold during the autumn harvesting. Coloring the earth like a natural canvas, rapeseed blossoms, cosmos flowers, and little daisies are planted before the winter storage season.
The terrains in Waipu are higher in the east than in the west. The irrigation canals built during the Japanese rule went against such terrains, causing a unique sight of water flowing towards the east. Today, the residents have planted tung trees on both sides of the canal. When it comes to May, the tung flowers will be in full bloom creating a beautiful sight of flying flowers by the running water.
Wanggaoliao Night View Park,
Blue Highway

Dadu District

Changhua County

Xitun District

Nantun District

Wuri District

Longjing District

Huashan Rd.

Sec. 1, Youyuan Rd.

Wanggaoliao Night View Park

Blue Highway

Scene 35

Scene 36
Wanggaoliao Night View Park
望高寮

Overlook the colorful Taichung City.
Located on the highest point on the Dadu Plateau is a large cliff, from which one can enjoy a beautiful view and see as far as the Taichung Harbor, Dadu River, and Taichung City. As the sun sets in the west, its afterglow is splashed across the sky. At night, tens of thousands of house lights are lit up across the sky. Such a fabulous awe-striking night view has made Wanggaoliao a famous spot for overlooking Taichung city.
At night, surprisingly, not the usual yellow-white lights but the bright cold blue and purple lights are lit up all along the path like a blue sapphire necklace, hence the name, Blue Highway. In the nighttime, these blue lights glisten brightly on both sides of the road, guiding travelers’ home.
Lishui Fishing Harbor,
Pan Ding Church
Lishui Fishing Harbor
麗水漁港

An opulent makeover in a romantic blue-white Mediterranean style.

Lishui Fishing Harbor
Zhongtai Rd., Nantun Dist., Taichung City 408, Taiwan (R.O.C.)
臺中市龍井區三港路65號

+886-4-2515-2575 OPEN 24h CLOSE None
travel.taichung.gov.tw/zh-tw/Attractions/Intro/1070/
Lishui Fishing Harbor was originally an old fishing port with over 100 years of history. The fisheries' activity was in gradual decline owing to the construction of the nearby power plant, hence the absence of fishing boats aside from a few plastic rafts.

A disused coastal guards' check point on the embankment was given an ingenious makeover and transformed into a blue-and-white Mediterranean style observation deck. Together with its nearby bike path, the fishing harbor has become a well-known spot for wedding photoshoots, bike rides with an ocean view, and for bird watching at sunset.
Shaped exteriorly like Noah’s ark, Pan Ding Church is like a house out of the Mediterranean. As one of Taiwan’s three boat-shaped churches, Pan Ding Church draws inspiration from Biblical stories to deliver a message of eternal life beyond philosophical musings. The church exterior is covered by a boat-shaped arc gate. Seen from any angle, the church makes for a unique photograph.
Jiu Tian Black Forest,
Our Lady of Providence Chapel

20 Shalu District
Jiu Tian Black Forest
九天黑森林

A vast forest of Norfolk Island Pine Trees are grown behind the Daya Jiutian Xuannü Temple. The forest got its name for its close proximity to the temple plus its lofty height and color that is darker than the regular firs.

In this densely-grown forest of soaring fir trees, all ruckus is shut out instantly with sunshine shimmering through the leaves like gold dust scattered all over the place, quite special and romantic. In autumn and winter, one can see the enchanting sight of the maze-like forest enveloped in mists.
Our Lady of Providence Chapel, newly constructed in Providence University featuring 4 arc-shaped walls draws inspiration from bamboo and bamboo shoots that symbolize integrity and humility. The sun shines on the glass cross on the rooftop to produce a nice dance of light and shadow. From the sky, the chapel is shaped like a fish along with a straight path leading to the entrance. With Biblical imageries ingeniously embedded in all details, the Chapel has become a new popular landmark.
Zhaoyuan Temple, Dingyuliao Park

Wuqi District

Taiwan Strait
Qingshui District
Shalu District

Scene 41-42
In the old days, when Wuqi fishermen went out to the sea, the elders would keep reminding them to pray to Wuqi-Ma in Zhaoyuan Temple for safety. Wuqi-Ma is the wood-carved Mazu statute brought to Taiwan 150 years ago from Putian’s Meizhou in Fujian.

Mazu was nicknamed Wuqi-Ma from Zhaoyuan Temple because of her long-standing protection of the residents. It is significant not only religiously but also in everyday economics, tourism & travel, folk art (as seen in the temple’s carved columns and engraved stone steles which contain cultural significance). Most importantly, the temple has brought everyone together, while serving as an emotional converging point and a spiritual symbol for the locals.

Zhaoyuan Temple
朝元宮

Almighty Goddess of Sea, please grant us safety.
Dingyuliao Park is characterized by its dazzling colors as seen in its Seven-Color Chairs, whale-shaped slides, story walls, garden maze, cute and bright-color facilities shaped like fishing boats. This is the most popular family park by the coast in Wuqi.

Dingyuliao Park
頂魚寮公園

Dingyuliao Park
Bade E. Rd., Wuqi Dist., Taichung City 435, Taiwan (R.O.C.)

+886-4-2656-4311  OPEN 24h  CLOSE None

travel.taichung.gov.tw/zh-tw/Attractions/intro/1434/
Gaomei Wetland, Aofengshan Park

Qingshui District
As early as the Qing Dynasty’s Emperor Dauguan period, Gaomei Wetland was mentioned as Gaomi in the County Chronicle of Zhanghua. Two hundred years later today, Gaomei Wetland remains as a must-visit tourist attraction for travelers to Taichung.

Formerly a beach during the Japanese rule, Gaomei Wetland was closed due to sand accretion. This has resulted in a unique landscape of the muddy area and the sandy area co-existing on the beach attracting birds, fish and crabs to converge here, hence its sizable ecological appeal, e.g. sightings of black-faced spoonbills, Chinese Egrets, mudskippers, Mictyridae, and fiddler crabs.

One notable attraction is its 650-meter-long wooden boardwalk meandering into the sea that is blocked out of sight at certain times during the tidal movements. During the day, the Da-Ann Hygrophila and the Bulrush on the wetland can be seen against the backdrop of the blue sky and white clouds. At dusk, the sunset is reflected in the sea, spreading its glistening orange red hues all over the surface. Such are all stunning views of the Gaomei Wetland.
Qingshui. Close to the mountains and the oceans, Aofengshan Park offers a 180-degree panoramic view of Gaomei Wetland and Wuqi Fishing Port. Over here, you can admire the ocean during the day and watch the sunset at dusk, plus a stunning night view of the Taichung city that will bowl you over with its romantic, spiritually-expanding appeal.
Dajia Zhenlan Temple,
Tiezhanshan Sculpture Park
Every March on the lunar calendar, Dajia Zhenlan Temple hosts a 340km pilgrimage with domestic and international followers/participants coming from far and wide for this world-class religious event.

With its pilgrimage listed as an important national cultural event, Zhenlan Temple itself is well-renowned domestically and internationally for its long-standing history and beautiful architecture.

Because of its steady influx of followers/visitors, a market has been developed in its surrounding with food stalls selling a wide range of local delicacies, such as baked pastries, chitterlings, fried savory rice cakes, flour noodles, and more. A trip to Dajia will be satisfying to all travelers, no matter where you are from.
This saying illustrates the importance of Tiezhanshan to Dajia: “one has not been to Dajia without visiting Tiezhanshan.” Tiezhanshan has a high density of forests. When you walk up the mountain trails and enter the newly renovated sculpture park to admire the sunset, you will be amazed by its magnificent view.
Daan Coastal Amusement Park, Nanpu Heran Wood
Daan Coastal Amusement Park
大安濱海樂園
A family paradise on the waterfront.
From a distance, Daan Coastal Amusement Park looks like a place out of the Mediterranean Sea, what with its royal blue spires, royal blue eaves, royal blue fences, and royal blue windmills. To its nearby residents, the Park is a top choice for summer recreation thanks to its levelled beach and fine sands. Since longboard surfing and kitesurfing were permitted by the Taichung City Government, as well as the annual sand sculpture & music festival taking place here, there has been an increase in the number of visitors, thus making Daan Coastal Amusement Park a top destination for family outings.

The park is equipped with two outdoor pools of different depths along with children-friendly facilities such as fountains and sand pits, ideal for families.
Inside Heran Wood along the Nanpu Embankment are groups of herans, nightingales, and African sacred ibis. These birds that are rarely seen elsewhere can all sing and fly freely here. Bird lovers often come here in early morning or at dusk for birdwatching. The sight of herans taking flight in large numbers is particularly striking.
Standing 977 meters above sea level, Jiutong (meaning Nine Barrels in Mandarin) Mountain does not look like one wine barrel but nine barrels for its nine undulating peaks. Industrial roads meander to and fro along the hillsides.

On top of the mountain are leisure farms and B&Bs with their vibrant shrubs and blooming flowers. From the observation deck one can take in the entire view of the greater Taichung, Zhanghua and Nantou along with the mountains, hills, and boats along the river on the Taiwan Straits. Over here you can enjoy seas of clouds during the day, an orange sunset at dusk, and a fabulous nighttime view in the evening. After the rain, seas of clouds hover amidst the hills and mountains coming in or out of sight much like small islands on the sea. The ever-changing shapes of cloud seas in the valley are never disappointing.
The area was originally a man-made irrigation ditch developed during the Emperor Tongzhi period in Qing Dynasty. Later on, its surroundings started to turn muddy and humid and has consequently become habitable for wild bats, hence the name, Bat Cave. Visitors are advised to bring a torch and put on breathable wear.
Dongfeng Bicycle Green Way, Shigang Dam
An aqua blue Dajia River has nurtured many lives in central Taiwan. It’s nearby Dongfeng Bicycle Green Way is referred to as the Green Dajia River, as it has become a symbol of how far Taiwan has come, after going through hardship and economic take-off.

Rebuilt on disused railway lines, this bicycle path has lush green grass on both sides forming an extensive green corridor. Seen from the sky, the path is an impressive contrast to the Dajia River.

Riding on the Dongfeng Bicycle Green Way will get you to Shigang Dam and Dongshi Hakka Cultural Park for various cultural or natural landscapes.
Shigang Dam, downstream from Dajia River, provides the drinking water for Taichung. Despite going through dislocation caused by the 921 Earthquake, resulting in impaired functions, the repaired dam as it stands today returns like a phoenix from the ashes and offers better views than before.
Xinshe Sea of Flowers
Lavender Cottage

District
Xinshe Sea of Flowers
新社花海
Thousands of flowers arranged into a massive carpet.
At the end of every year, huge stretches of yellow, orange, white or red cosmos are draped like scrolls of fabrics on the earth of Taichung. Driving through the flower fields, one will very likely disappear into these dazzling colors.

As Xinshe is close to vital designated areas for national defense, it is restricted by height limitations. As such, the buildings here have a rustic and natural look without blocking our view of cosmos fields, elegant and magnificent in equal measures. Along with nearby leisure farms, landscape restaurants and special B&Bs, Xinshe is great for a two-day trip and you will definitely keep coming back.
Visit Lavender Cottage during lavender’s blooming season in January and February when the warm sunshine spreads all over the meandering purple hills, so you can enjoy the Phytoncide in the forest or absorb the refreshing lavender fragrance as if being transported to a purple dreamy world.
Dongshi Forest Garden (Firefly watching),
Forestry Culture Park (Lotus watching)
Dongshi Forest Garden (Firefly watching)
東勢林場(賞螢)
A beautiful place where fireflies converge and inhabit.
Close to the town center, expansive and diverse in forestry varieties, Dongshi Forest Garden (DFG) at an intermediate elevation has become a major destination for flower & bird watching, hiking, and outings. In particular, its firefly watching attracts thousands of visitors each year.

Fireflies’ habitats are not easy to conserve. With expert guidance, the DFG has created and maintained an excellent habitat successfully enabling firefly breeding. Every April and May, the hills and fields are lit up with yellow or green lights. There are more than 200,000 fireflies here, an awe-inspiring sight indeed.
At the height of summer, the lotus flowers in the log storage pool in Dongshi Forestry Culture Park (DFCP) are in full bloom. It is at this sight of lotus leaves sprawling all over the water under a blue sky covered with white clouds when one can best connect with the magic moment of “calming your mind to cool your body.” The DFCP no doubt lives up to its name as a popular spot for lotus viewing in central Taiwan.
Wuling Farm, Guguan Hot Spring

Heping District
We are all familiar with Tao Yuanming’s fable, Peach Blossom Spring, and Wuling Farm has evoked in us much imagination for the famous poet’s work.

Transformed from its early days of agricultural works to being a tourist attraction today, Wuling Farm, with its advantageous geographic location, boasts spectacular landscapes through four seasons. Plum, cherry, peach, and pear trees that bloom in spring will bear fruit in summer. In autumn, maple trees will turn yellow, red or other shades in between. In winter, one can look out to the snow-capped Xueshan (Snow Mountain) in the distance. Wuling Farm offers up different views throughout the year.

As Dajia River and Qijiawan River flow through Wuling Farm, it features a superb ecological diversity, of which the national treasure, Formosan landlocked salmon, is the most famous.
Guguan Hot Spring produce weakly alkaline carbonic acid water all year round, rich in organic protein, muddy white in color and smooth in texture. There are all kinds of hot spring hotels here. It is widely circulated among visitors that Guguan hot springs are reportedly beneficial to health. For years Guguan thus remains as a popular attraction for domestic and international travelers.
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- East District | Pei-Yu Chen Chief
- South District | Feng-Ming Hong Chief
- West District | Rui-Jia Wang Chief
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王象 (Mayor Preface _ Fazi Riverway) 
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張翔誌 / IG @ ae68627 (Gongliao Ping Mountain) 
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Aurora Lin (Zhaoyuan Temple) 
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Alex yeh 岳子翔 / IG @ photolavie199 (Xinshe Sea of Flowers) 
薰衣草森林、東勢林場遊樂區 (Dongshi Forest Garden) 
林務局東勢林區管理處 (Forestry Culture Park) 
武陵農場、虹夕諾雅谷關 (Guguan Hot Spring)