



From  
**£4,346** GBP

Single Room  
 £5,265 GBP

Twin Room  
 £4,346 GBP

Prices valid until  
 30th December 2023

7 days  
 Duration

Taiwan  
 Destination

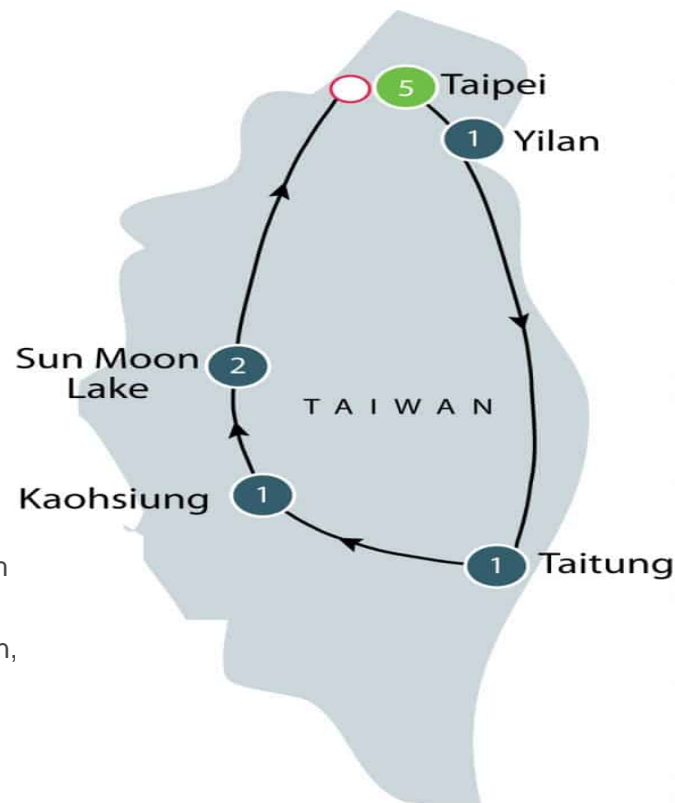
Level 1 - Introductory to  
 Moderate  
 Activity

## Taiwan culture and history escorted small group tour

Sep 13 2023 to Sep 19 2023

### Small group tours Taiwan | Culture and History Tour

Odyssey offers easy, convenient, and relaxed escorted small group tours across Taiwan. We explore Taiwan's natural beauty, its ancient and Imperial heritage, its World Heritage Sites, and famous city, all with some truly spectacular scenery along the way. This and more is all waiting to be explored on one of Odyssey's small group tours of Taiwan, designed for the senior traveller, and led by experienced, and



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28-May-2023

enthusiastic like minded people. Odyssey Traveller's small group Culture and History tour to Taiwan takes in many amazing cultural festivals, temples, and shrines. Be amazed by breathtaking natural wonders, bustling night markets, magnificent cuisine, and hospitable people. Join us on this unforgettable educational experience.

This fully escorted 11-day Taiwan small group tour is limited to a maximum of 15 participants. Our program leader will draw on professional local guides to share their knowledge of Taiwanese culture, history, and natural beauty. This is perfect for the mature-aged and senior traveller looking for this travel style that combines sightseeing with education.

## Small group tours Taiwan Itinerary

Our small group tour includes a stop in Taipei, with its impressive Taipei 101 Tower. While here, we also visit the National Palace Museum, which houses the world's largest collection of Chinese art. In addition, we visit a local village to enjoy a performance of traditional dancing. This dance illustrates the mythical origins of the Taiwanese people.

We also spend a morning at Yehliu Geo-Park on the island's north coast, strolling around its famous rock formations. Here, we view the lunar-like landscape and rock formations. After lunch, we drive up into the hillside villages of Chiufen. These villages were once centres of gold-mining. These days, the gold is gone but the quaint old villages of closely packed houses, clinging to steep mountainsides, continue to offer enchanting scenery and fascinating glimpses into past ways of life.

## Other highlights of our Taiwan Tours

Other highlights include a tour of Taipei City. Here, we take in the Grand Hotel, built on the instructions of Chiang Kai-Shek primarily to house visiting foreign dignitaries. This building the world's tallest of classical Chinese design. While in Taipei City, we also see the Chiang Kai-Shek Memorial Hall, and the National Theatre and National Opera

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House, situated within the grounds.

Another highlight is our time in Chihu, the final resting place of Chiang Kai-Shek. We also have a chance to explore Sanhsia, a bustling town with narrow, winding streets and brick buildings at least 100 years old. In addition, our time in Yingko allows us to see the hand-painted replicas of elegant Ming (1368 – 1644) and Ching (or Qing) (1644 – 1911) vases.

## Taiwan's Natural Wonders

Our Taiwan small group tour also includes many of Taiwan's natural wonders; from Taroko Gorge, one of the seven wonders of Asia, to Sun Moon Lake, Taiwan's largest lake. Visit Kenting National Park for a walking tour. The park has 60 kilometres of coral-rimmed shoreline. The East Coast National Scenic Area stretches for 170 kilometres.

Accommodation during this program is in first-class hotels, including the Lalu Hotel, which has been voted among the top 50 resorts in the world. This Taiwan small group tour is suited for the mature-aged or senior couple or solo traveller.

## Get in Touch about Odyssey Traveller's Taiwan Tours

For more details, click the 'Top 5' or 'Itinerary' buttons above! If you're keen to experience this tour, please call or send an email. Or, to book, simply fill in the form on the right hand side of this page.

Our article Questions about Taiwan may also help you as you finalise your travel plans.

## Tour Notes

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- Maximum group size of 18.

## Highlights

1. See the natural beauty of Sun Moon Lake, with the towering Chungyang Range reflecting in the clear waters.
2. Enjoy a performance by present-day Wulai Aborigines, once the head hunters of Taiwan.
3. Enjoy a morning strolling through Yehliu Geo-park, famed for its stunning rock formations
4. Stand on Taiwan's southern tip in Kenting National Park, adorned with 60 kilometres of coral-rimmed shoreline.
5. Discover Taipei with its impressive Taipei 101 Tower and National Palace.

## Itinerary

### Day 1

**Locations:** Taipei

**Overview:**

Upon arrival at Taipei Taoyuan International Airport, we will be transferred to our hotel. After checking in, we will have free time until early afternoon when we will have an orientation discussion. Following this, we will visit Yanhmingshan Park and Dr. Sun Yat-Sen's Memorial Hall. This evening we will have a welcome dinner.

Note: Arrival transfer included for those travelling on Odyssey's recommended flights only.

**Accommodation:**

Riviera Hotel or similar

## Day 2

**Locations:** Taipei

### **Overview:**

After breakfast we drive to Keelung and Yehliu Geo-Park on the island's north coast. Here we will view the lunar-like landscape and rock formations. We then have a lunch break and drive up into the hillside villages of Chiufen. The villages of Chiufen were once centres of gold-mining. The gold is now gone but the quaint old villages of closely packed houses clinging to steep mountainsides continue to offer enchanting scenery and fascinating glimpses into past lifestyles. On the way back to our hotel we will visit the Shilin Night Market.

### **Accommodation:**

Riviera Hotel or similar.

## Day 3

**Locations:** Taipei

### **Overview:**

This morning we have a tour of Taipei City, including the Grand Hotel, built on the instructions of Chiang Kai-Shek primarily to house visiting foreign dignitaries. It is the world's tallest building of classical Chinese design. We will also see the Chiang Kai-Shek Memorial Hall, with the National Theatre and National Opera House within the grounds.

In the afternoon we will drive to Chihu, the final resting place of Chiang Kai-Shek, and then on to Sanhsia, a bustling town with narrow, winding streets and brick buildings at least 100 years old. A short trip further on brings us to Yingko where hand-painted replicas of elegant Ming (1368 – 1644) and Ching (or Qing) (1644 – 1911) vases are produced. This evening, weather permitting, we will go to the top of Taipei 101, one of the world's tallest buildings.

### **Accommodation:**

Riviera Hotel or similar.

## Day 4

**Locations:** Taipei

### Overview:

Driving out of the city after breakfast, we will travel southeast to the Yilan National Centre for Traditional Arts. Here we may also have our lunch of local food. In the afternoon, we continue on to Wulai, the nearest location to Taipei where we can see the aboriginal tribesmen who were once the head hunters of Taiwan. Descendants of this proud tribe of Ataiyals, the present-day Wulai aborigines perform, for the most part, for the benefit of tourists. However, they still offer a glimpse of their past, more traditional lifestyle. On the way home to our hotel we will visit Longshan Temple in the city.

### Accommodation:

Riviera Hotel or similar.

## Day 5

**Locations:** Taipei

### Overview:

Today's itinerary takes us first to the Martyrs' Shrine and then the National Palace Museum, which displays works of 5,000 years of Chinese art. We will have an early breakfast and leave the hotel at 8:30 am, in time to be at the Martyrs' Shrine for the changing of the guard at 9:00 am. At the National Palace Museum, after an introductory tour with our guide, we can spend a few hours strolling through the exhibits, pausing at our leisure. As there is a restaurant in the complex, we will stay until early afternoon. On the way back to the Riviera Hotel, we will visit the impressive Chiang Kai-Shek Memorial. We will then return to our hotel after a delicious dinner of traditional dumplings.

### Accommodation:

Riviera Hotel or similar.

## Day 6

**Locations:** Yilan

**Overview:**

After breakfast, we say farewell to Taipei and transfer to Hualien by train. The journey will take about 3 hours. On arrival, we will be taken to visit the Taroko National Park and the Taroko Gorge. The Taroko Gorge is a beautiful, narrow ravine created by a river which has cut deep into mountains of solid marble. A road carved into sheer walls of rock snakes its way past forested peaks and cliffs towering about 1,000 metres above it, while below, a river roars past gigantic marble boulders. Peaks in the area reach 3,700 metres above sea level. Stops will be made at the Eternal Spring Shrine, Swallow Grotto, Tunnel of Nine Turns, and Marble Bridge.

**Accommodation:**

Riviera Hotel or similar.

## Day 7

**Locations:** Taitung

**Overview:**

This morning we will drive eastwards through the mountains to the coast and then south to the city of Tainan. On the way we will stop for lunch at a restaurant where you may experience aboriginal fare. In the afternoon we stop at a tea plantation.

**Accommodation:**

1 night at Silks Place or similar.

## Day 8

**Locations:** Kaohsiung

**Overview:**

Before leaving Taitung this morning, we will visit the National Natural History Museum. We then head for Kaohsiung via Kenting National Park to experience the beautiful scenery of the east coast. Kaohsiung is

Taiwan's second largest city and its main seaport.

**Accommodation:**

1 night at Naruwan Hotel or similar.

**Day 9**

**Locations:** Sun Moon Lake

**Overview:**

This morning we will visit the Fo Guang Shan Monastery, considered to be the largest Buddhist monastery on the island. We then head towards Sun Moon Lake, stopping in Tainan for lunch and also at the old Dutch fort and its museum. We then continue on to Sun Moon Lake, its name deriving from its shape – the northern part is in the shape of the sun, while the southern part resembles a crescent moon. It is especially beautiful at dawn, when it looks almost poetic with its veil of mist, and at dusk, when the water reflects the golden light of the setting sun. The lake area is lush with vegetation and vibrant with wildlife, including egrets, president fish, butterflies, fireflies, and more. This area was used by Chiang Kai-shek as a personal retreat, and where he also entertained overseas dignitaries.

**Accommodation:**

Lalu Sun Moon Lake or similar.

**Day 10**

**Locations:** Sun Moon Lake

**Overview:**

As usual, we breakfast at the hotel. We then head off to Puli town and visit Guang Xing Paper Factory to have a hands-on experience of creating our own art with DIY paper. From there, we will continue our day with a visit to the Formosa Nine Village and in the evening have our Farewell Dinner.

**Accommodation:**

Lalu Sun Moon Lake or similar.



## Day 11

**Locations:** Sun Moon Lake

### Overview:

This morning we will have free time to stroll along the lake, hire a bicycle, or walk in the nearby town before lunch and checkout. In the afternoon we will take a lake cruise before our 3-hour bus transfer to the airport.

## Inclusions / Exclusions

### What's included in our Tour

- Touring by air-conditioned coach and train.
- Transport, lectures and field trips as indicated.
- Services of a Tour Leader.
- Detailed Preparatory Material.
- 10 nights Deluxe hotel accommodation in en-suite rooms.
- Applicable entry fees and services of local guides.

### What's not included in our Tour

- Comprehensive travel insurance.
- International airfares and taxes.
- Items of a personal nature
- Meals other than specified

### Level 1 - Introductory to Moderate

Participants must be able to carry their own luggage, climb and descend stairs, moderate walking on uneven surfaces for 3 - 5 kilometres per day. Suitable for most fitness levels.

Please do not hesitate to contact us with any requests for further information about this tour or any others offered by Odyssey Travel.

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