

The tourism information web sites

TAIWAN: <http://eng.taiwan.net.tw/>

HUALIEN: <http://tour-hualien.hl.gov.tw/en/AboutHualien/>

1. Hualien City (vicinity)

1.1 Qixingtang Scenic Area 七星潭

<http://tour-hualien.hl.gov.tw/en/Attraction/Information.aspx?zone=2>



Located on the northeast beach of Xincheng Town, Qixingtang is the only county level scenic area in Hualien. Besides the crescent bay and clear blue waters of the Pacific Ocean, the beach is full of colorful agates that are easily found and appreciated. Qixingtang used to be a small fishing village. Due to its abundant natural beauty, multiple scenic trails, beach pavilions, pagodas, and Star-Gazing Square, Qixingtang has become a popular tourist destination, particularly known for its remarkably blue sky and turquoise seas. Qixingtang beach is the best place to watch the moon and the stars, or simply meditate as you are soothed by the sound of the ocean waves washing over the pebbles.

1.2 Pine Garden 松園別館

<http://tour-hualien.hl.gov.tw/en/Attraction/Information.aspx?id=116&zone=3#content>



Built in 1943, Pine Garden was formerly inside of a pine forest and used as the military department's office of Hualien Port. Now, it shares the area with Broadcasting Cooperation Hualien, Chunghwa Telecom, and Meilun waterworks facility. Pine Garden offers a wonderful view overlooking the mouth of Meilun River, Hualien Port, and the Pacific Ocean. Its vantage point makes it the best location to control both air and sea traffic in the area, while still camouflages well in the forest. This is why it was selected as the Japanese military control center. After the Second World War, the government resumed control of the building and made it a leisure center for American Military Assistance Advisory Groups. It was then passed on to the Department of Veteran Affairs. In 2000, the Hualien County government designated Pine Garden as a "Historic Building". The next year, the Council for Cultural Affairs reopened it as a tourist attraction and it has become one of the "100 Historic Sites in Taiwan".

1.3 Ji'an Keishuin 慶修院

<http://tour-hualien.hl.gov.tw/en/Attraction/Information.aspx?id=121&zone=3#content>



Keishuin, a third-level historical site in Hualien, was built during the Japanese Occupation, and served not only as a spiritual center for Japanese immigrants but also a medical center, learning center, and funeral home. The main building has a wooden structure with a Japanese-style four-pillar rooftop, following Japanese temple building tradition. The garden is lush, vibrant, and serene. It is a nice place to experience the spirit of Zen.

1.4 Ziqiang Night Market 自強夜市

<http://tour-hualien.hl.gov.tw/en/Attraction/Information.aspx?id=123&zone=3#content>



Hualien Ziqiang Night Market is the best place for tasting local food. Besides common food like rice noodles, hotpot, Japanese style rice, Cantonese congee, ramen, sushi, oyster omelet, steaks and so on, there are also fresh squeezed juice, tea, coffee, bean curd, grass jelly, and other delicious beverages. You can also find stinky tofu, braised snacks, BBQ, Taiwanese fried chicken, spring rolls, GuanCaiBan(coffin board), and other local delicacies, which are always a great choice for a midnight snack. There is also a variety of foreign food to choose from, such as handmade pizza and outdoor Japanese pub Izakaya. When in Hualien, Ziqiang Night Market is a must-go for food.

2. Taroko 太魯閣

<http://eng.taiwan.net.tw/m1.aspx?sNo=0002013>

Taroko became a national park in 1986, including Hualien County, Nantou County and Taichung City. Taroko is famous for its spectacular mountains and marble canyons. Cliffs and canyons stretch along Li Wu River. Four million years ago, the island of Taiwan was formed by the collision of plates. After millions of years of wind erosion, the marble rocks were exposed and cut by Li Wu River, creating impressive grand canyons. From Tsing Shui to Nan Hu Peak, the drop height is 3,742 meters. Such special geography has also bred special flora and fauna in this area. The waterfalls characterized Taroko National Park and the most famous ones are Pai Yang Waterfall, Yin Tai Waterfall, Chang Chun Waterfall, and Lu Shui Waterfall. Yen Tze Kou and Chiu Chu Tung are the most impressive natural scenes in Taroko and the canyons here are the narrowest. Tourists can appreciate the natural beauty along the tour track. Swallows nest on the cliff, chirping and flying back forth. The Taroko monumental is designed in Chinese style and Chang Chun Temple is to remember those who sacrificed their lives for building the central highway.

2.1 Qingshui Cliff 清水斷崖

<http://www.taroko.gov.tw/English/?mm=5&sm=1&page=3#up>



Situated between Heren and Chongde on the Su-Hua Highway, Qingshui Cliff is a big formed by Chongde, Qingshui and Heping mountain coastal cliffs. Creating a magnificent scene, it stretches more than 21km and rises vertically from the Pacific Ocean, with an average height of over 800m. This section of cliff is composed of gneiss and marble. It has risen straight up on the eastern coast of Taiwan for thousands of years. The route along the Qingshui Cliff is the only coastal road in Taroko National Park. The site of the Qingshui Cliff was designated in 1953 by the Taiwan government as one of the island's "Eight Wonders." Among these cliffs, the east-south cliff of Mt. Qingshui is the steepest. The cliff facing the sea is 5km long and is very spectacular. Driving a car between cliff and the boundless ocean it almost feels like you are flying. The enormous cliff above combined with the boundless ocean below, reminding us of the hardships faced by the workers who built the road.

2.2 Eternal-Spring Shrine 長春祠

<http://www.taroko.gov.tw/English/?mm=5&sm=1&page=7#up>



It is one of the major picturesque points of the park, with the view of the mountains and the waterfall, and one of the main memorials for veterans. It was planned for construction in 1958 while the Central Cross-Island Highway was built nearby. It commemorates the memory of 212 veterans who died while constructing the Highway (1956-1960). The name of the temple comes from the Changchun Falls that never stop running.

2.3 Swallow Grotto 燕子口

<http://www.taroko.gov.tw/English/?mm=5&sm=1&page=9#up>



Following the Central Cross-Island Highway, at Yanzikou (Swallow Grotto) the rock cliffs of the Liwu River gorge seem to reach to heaven while the river runs its swiftest and the distance between the gorge walls so narrow that they almost seem to touch each other. Along the Yanzikou (Swallow Grotto) trail which runs about a half kilometer starting from the entrance to Swallow Grotto to the Jinheng Bridge, you can enjoy the sights of the Liwu River from nearly straight above the water, the potholes on the cliff faces, the springs sprinkled along the lower parts of the walls, as well as the famous rock formation "Chieftain's profile rock".

2.4 Tunnel of Nine Turns 九曲洞

<http://www.taroko.gov.tw/English/?mm=5&sm=1&page=10#up>



This section has the reputation of "Nine Turns of the Coiled Dragon". The distance between the cliffs is only around 10-meters wide. In the small gap in the rocks, the narrow Kelan River's rush by, forming a "Fish leaping across the dragon gate" scenery. Have you seen a fish swimming upstream? The trail is a must-see point and one should stop by and enjoy the spectacular scenery that has been formed by tens of thousands of years of river erosion. The number nine in Chinese implying "many" is heavily used in Chinese expression.

2.5 Tianxiang 天祥

<http://www.taroko.gov.tw/English/?mm=5&sm=1&page=21#up>



Tianxiang is a large river terrace recreational area in Taroko National Park. Dasha River and Taci Jili River converge at Tianxiang to become Liwu River. The Sakuma Samata Shrine was erected here during the Japanese Era (1895-1945). When the Central Cross-Island Highway reached here Wen Tian Xiang Park was built at the top of the terrace. On the north-western side is the Tianxiang Youth Activity Center (Youth Hostel) and a Catholic Church is next to it. The original lovely Pudu suspension bridge was reconstructed into concrete in 2003 due to the safety reasons. At one end it has a tall White Robed Guanyin Statue. The 7-story high Tian Feng Pagoda, Giant Statute of the Bodhisattva, Xiangde Temple, and, in 1968, Daxiong Baodian temple, have been built on the terrace and have become popular spots for visitors and worshippers.

3. East Rift Valley 花東縱谷

<http://eng.taiwan.net.tw/m1.aspx?sNo=0002012>

This area has been called "a land of milk honey". Traveling down Provincial Highway No.9, all you see on both sides are green farm fields stretching to the mountains. The national scenic area stretches from Mugua River in Hualien to the north to Taitung City and covers a total of 138,386 hectares, encompasses mountains, valleys, and hot springs, together with fields of rice, daylilies, pomelos, tea, and sugar apples in rich abundance. Berms crisscross the land, dividing it into fields; waves of rice billow as cows graze in pastures and fish and shrimp cavort in the streams. The contentment-filled inhabitants are warmly hospital in their rustic way, and the stream beds are littered with precious stones. Truly, this is a paradise on earth.

3.1 Liyu Lake 鯉魚潭

<http://tour-hualien.hl.gov.tw/en/Attraction/Information.aspx?id=132&zone=4#content>

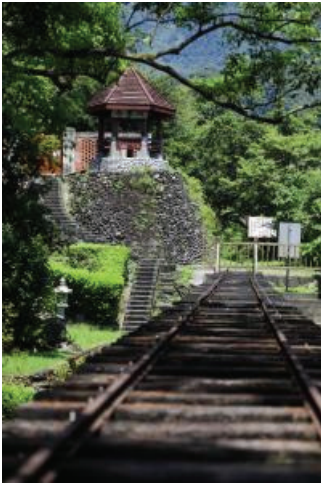


Located in Shoufeng Township, at the northern tip of East Rift Valley Scenic Area, Liyu Lake is the largest inland lake in Hualien. It is a barrier lake formed by the tributaries of Mugua River and Hualien River. The water comes from underground springs and is crystal clear all year round. There are a park, camp ground, bike trail, and other facilities. Water sports like boating, cross-lake swimming, and the Dragon Boat Festival are all held here. From time to time various performances

also take place here. Every year around April thousands of fireflies flash above the lake, making the whole lake shimmer with light.

3.2 LinTianShan Forestry Cultural Park 林田山

<http://tour-hualien.hl.gov.tw/en/Attraction/Information.aspx?id=143&zone=4#content>



LinTianShan Forestry Cultural Park is located on Linsen Road in Fenglin Township. It is not the largest logging yard in eastern Taiwan but is definitely the best preserved. During Japanese occupation, 68 km of railway, all the way up to 2,500 m. above sea level, was completed for its lumber transportation. The prosperity in the old days can still be spotted in the homes, shops, theaters and other traces left. After logging bans in natural forests in 1987, the forest has been gradually returning to its natural state. Today, LinTianShan is not only natural, but also artistic and historical. Walking down the trail, you can explore the old houses and gardens, looking for traces and imagining the prosperity in the old days.. Don't miss the story of "Senban" (Molisaka) told by the staff.

3.3 The Guangfu Sugar Factory 光復糖廠

<http://tour-hualien.hl.gov.tw/en/Attraction/Information.aspx?id=152&zone=4#content>

The Hualien Sugar Factory has experienced many years of expansion and renovation. The amount of sugar production has been increased and quality improved. In order to provide the factory with raw materials, vast sugar cane fields can be found in Xincheng Township to the north and Fuli Township to the south, which have become a unique sight in East Rift Valley. In addition to granulated sugar, Hualien Sugar Factory also has a frozen products department producing all flavors of popsicles and ice cream. These products are very popular with both locals and visitors; "a trip to the Sugar Factory for the ice cream products" has become a favorite tourist activity.

3.4 Ruisui Hot Spring 瑞穗溫泉

<http://tour-hualien.hl.gov.tw/en/Attraction/Information.aspx?id=193&zone=4#content>

Ruisui is also known as "the town of hot springs". In recent years, more than 30 hot springs were dug up, resulting in a hot springs craze and the opening of many hot spring hotels in Ruisui. With the supervision of Hualien County Government and the implementation of the national Hot Springs Act, East Rift Valley National Scenic Area Administration organized the Ruisui Hot Springs Leisure Park, assisting the development of the spa industry, rebuilding roads, drainages, and other public recreation facilities. Thanks to the hard work, the old hot springs industry gained a new look, and accommodations and restaurants also benefit.

4. East Coast 東海岸

<http://eng.taiwan.net.tw/ml.aspx?sNo=0002012>



The East Coast National Scenic Area, known as "Taiwan's last unspoiled land", stretches 170 kilometers down the east coast of the island from the mouth of the Hualien River in the north to Shiauyeliou (Little Yeliou) in the south. To the east it is bounded by the Pacific Ocean; to the west rises the Coastal Mountain Range. The land here consists of volcanic rock, classic rock from deep beneath the sea, and shale that has been pushed upward- and is still being pushed upward- by tectonic action. Weathering, erosion, and accumulation have produced a wide range of landforms here, including coastal terraces, sand and pebble beaches, shoreline reefs, inshore islands, and capes along with sea-eroded platforms, trenches, and caves. This varied topography provides habitat for a rich diversity of flora and fauna.

資料來源交通部觀光局，更多旅遊訊息在 <http://taiwan.net.tw>