



📍 Kaohsiung Zuoying District, Taiwan

Trip Notes: Taiwan

TRAVEL DOCUMENTS

US citizens are eligible for 90 day visit visa on arrival. You will be required to have a passport valid for at least 6 months from date of return and at least 2 blank visa pages. This is subject to change without notice.

PRIOR TO ARRIVAL

Visitors must complete the mandatory online [Taiwan Arrival Card \(TWAC\)](#), within three days before arrival via the National Immigration Agency website (twac.immigration.gov.tw) to streamline immigration, replacing paper forms. The TWAC is free and required for visitors on visitor visas or visa-exemption, HK/Macau residents with multiple permits, and Mainland Chinese with tourist permits, but exempts ARC/Resident Visa holders.

VACCINATIONS

No medication or vaccinations are required for entry to the Taiwan. Please check with your travel clinic for their recommendation based on your personal health history.

CURRENCY

The New Taiwan dollar is the official currency of Taiwan. The currency code is TWD, and it is commonly abbreviated as NT\$.

A convenient currency converter can be found at <http://www.xe.com/currencyconverter/>

CREDIT CARDS

Visa and Mastercard are widely accepted, American Express less so. Cash is needed for shopping at street markets.

TIME DIFFERENCE

Taiwan is 13 hours ahead of Eastern Standard Time, 16 hours ahead of Pacific Standard Time.

SHOPPING

Taiwan is a shoppers dream and enthusiasts will love trawling the malls for clothes, fashion accessories, footwear, electronic products and virtually everything available under the sun. For bargain prices, shop at the night markets instead. Local crafts such as silk lanterns and stone jewelry make good souvenirs.

POWER

Taiwan operates on 110 volts, 60 hertz and requires plug type A or B. For information on plugs and voltage, For more information on plugs and voltage, please visit

<http://www.worldstandards.eu/electricity/plugs-and-sockets/>

LANGUAGE

Mandarin is the official language of Taiwan. English is understood and spoken by those in the international tourism industry, with the exception of most taxi drivers.



📍 Taoist Temple, Taiwan



📍 Jiufen Old Street



📍 Sun Moon Lake

CLIMATE

Taiwan has a warm, humid monsoon climate, transitioning from subtropical in the north to tropical in the south, characterized by hot, rainy summers (May-Oct) with typhoons and mild, drier winters (Dec-Feb) with cooler northeasterly winds, though snow can fall in mountains. Key features include distinct wet/dry seasons, heavy rainfall, and significant regional variation due to topography.

TIPPING

Except for bellhops and service personnel in International Hotels, tipping in Taiwan is generally not expected. For restaurants (especially in large hotels), 10-15% service charge will be added to your check. It is not necessary to tip taxi drivers. Your guide appreciates a tip, and US\$10 a day is a good amount. US\$5 a day is a good tip for a driver.

SAFETY & SECURITY

Taiwan is generally very safe with low violent crime, but visitors should watch for petty theft (pickpocketing) in crowded areas and scams (financial, romance), while also preparing for significant natural risks like typhoons, earthquakes, and tsunamis, with Taiwan actively distributing civil defense handbooks due to heightened China tensions.

PHONES

To dial Taiwan from the US: 011 + 886 + number.
To dial the US from Taiwan: 1 + area code + number.

SUGGESTED PACKING LIST

For Taiwan, pack lightweight, breathable clothing for humidity, layers (cardigan/jacket) for A/C or cooler evenings/mountains, comfortable walking shoes, a rain jacket/umbrella, and essentials like a power bank, travel adapter (Type A/B), sunscreen, insect repellent, and your passport/documents. Don't forget a reusable water bottle, daypack, hand sanitizer, basic first-aid kit, and any personal meds.

Starting January 1, 2025, hotels in Taiwan no longer provide single-use toiletries such as toothbrushes, toothpaste, and razors in support of sustainable tourism.

ETIQUETTE

Contact: Taiwanese dislike being touched by strangers. Do not touch, hug, lock arms, back slap or make any body contact.

Mannerisms: Clicking fingers or whistling is considered very rude.

Feet: Never put your feet on a desk or a chair. Never gesture or pass an object with your feet.

Beckoning: To beckon a Taiwanese person, face the palm of your hand downward and move your fingers in a scratching motion. Never use your index finger to beckon anyone.

Pointing: Taiwanese point with an open hand. Never point with your index finger.

Toilets: Western style toilets are common in international hotels, but in homes and public places, you will likely find "squatty potties". Face the toilet hood, and squat down. If the toilet is elevated, step up on the platform first.

Colds: Public nose blowing is considered rude, sniffing is preferred!



Kaohsiung



Taipei



Taichung

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS 2026

- 1 January - **Republic Day**
- 14-27 February - **Lunar New Year**
- 28 February - **Peace Memorial Day**
- 3 April - **Children's Day**
- 5 April - **Tomb Sweeping Day**
- 1 May - **Labor Day**
- 19 June - **Dragon Boat Festival**
- 25 September - **Mid-Autumn Festival**
- 28 September - **Teacher's Day**
- 10 October - **National Day**
- 26 October - **Taiwan's Retrocession Day**
- 25 December - **Constitution Day**

OTHER USEFUL LINKS

[US State Department Travel Advisories](#)

[U.S. Embassy and Consulates in Taiwan](#)

[Smart Traveler Enrollment Program \(STEP\)](#)

[US Passports](#)

[International Travel Guidance](#)

This information is provided by Travel Answers as a guideline to the country you will be visiting. Further information is available to you at <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/international-travel/International-Travel-Country-Information-Pages/Taiwan.html>. While Travel Answers endeavors to provide current information, regulations and requirements can change without notice and we are not responsible for travelers whose trips are interrupted due to documentary or medical non-compliance.