

TAIWAN TRIP NOTES

Taiwan was known for centuries as Ilha Formosa (Beautiful Isle) because of its towering sea cliffs, marble-sided gorges, tropical forests and beaches. This abundance of natural beauty, great food and shopping, and an efficient tourist infrastructure, combine to make Taiwan the complete tourism package.

The standard Taiwanese greeting translates to 'have you eaten?', and you'll soon see that gastronomy is a large part of the day in Taiwan.

TRAVEL DOCUMENTS

US nationals 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.

The link to the eVisa application is: <https://indianvisaonline.gov.in/visa/tvoa.html>

MEDICATIONS & INNOCULATIONS

No medication or vaccinations are required for entry to Taiwan.

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. ATMs are easily found in major shopping areas. Cash is needed to shop at markets.



TIME DIFFERENCE

Taiwan is 13 hours ahead of US Eastern Standard Time and 16 hours ahead of US 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.

ELECTRICITY

Taiwan operates on 110 volts, 60 hertz and requires plug type A or B. 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 some taxi drivers.

CLIMATE

Generally, Taiwan weather is warm all the year round. There is no severe cold in winter, but the weather in summer is very hot and humid. The tropical cyclone (typhoon) season in Taiwan normally runs from May to November.

TIPPING GUIDELINES

In restaurants a 10-15% service charge will be added to your check, further tipping is not necessary. It is not necessary to tip taxi drivers.

Your guide appreciates a tip, and US \$8 a day is a good amount. \$4 a day is a good tip for a driver.

ETIQUETTE

Taiwanese dislike being touched by strangers. Clicking fingers or whistling is considered very rude. Never put your feet on a desk or a chair. 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. Taiwanese point with an open hand. Never point with your index finger.

This information is provided by Asia Answers as a guideline to the country you will be visiting, and is up to date to the best of our knowledge. Further information is available to you on the official Taiwan Tourism Office website - <https://eng.taiwan.net.tw/>