

TAIWAN: TAIPEI

Presentation by
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Baker Senior Center

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Mainland China = People's Republic of China (PRC)

Taiwan = Republic of China (ROC) (Claimed by PRC)

115 Miles

A map showing the eastern coast of Mainland China and the island of Taiwan. A line indicates a distance of 115 miles between the two.

Historical Anomaly #1 - Quemoy Kinmen County, Taiwan

China

115 Miles

These two islands are part of Taiwan
Kinmen aka Quemoy. Taiwan

A map of the Kinmen County islands (Quemoy) in the Taiwan Strait, circled in red. A line indicates a distance of 115 miles to the mainland of China.

Historical Anomaly #2 - Matsu

Lienchiang County (aka Matsu), 19 islands total, is part of Taiwan.

125 Miles

A map of the Matsu islands in the Taiwan Strait, circled in red. A line indicates a distance of 125 miles to the mainland of China.

Quemoy and Matsu Battles 1954, 1958: US/ROC vs PRC.
Total Killed: ROC 1,007. US 2. PRC 833.
Result: Status Quo. 1960 US Election Issue.

Taiwan Facts:

Population: 24,000,000

Area: 14,000 sq mi (FL = 66,000)

Capital: Taipei

Time Zone: UTC+8
Same as Mainland China

Language: Taiwanese Mandarin

Writing: Traditional characters

GDP Per Capita 2022 US\$:
 Nominal \$35,513
 PPP \$69,500

Unemployment: 3.7%

Main export partners		Main import partners	
China	30%	China	30%
ASEAN	15%	Japan	16%
USA	15%	ASEAN	13%
Hong Kong	14%	USA	11%
Japan	7%	EU	10%
EU	7%	S. Korea	7%

Flag of the Republic of China

Adopted 1928

Blue sky = Liberty.
 White sun = Democracy.
 Red earth = Blood of the revolutionaries who died to overthrow the Qing Dynasty and create the ROC.

Some more facts:

President: Tsai Ing-wen

Ethnicity: 95% Han Chinese

Currency: New Taiwan dollar NT\$31 = US\$1

Drive: On right

Religions: Buddhist 35%, Taoist 33%, Non-religious 19%, Christian 4%, Others 9%



Why "NEW" Taiwan Dollar?

Hyperinflation in 1940s made Taiwan Dollar worthless. In 1949, government exchanged 40,000 Old Taiwan \$ for 1 New Taiwan \$.



Old New



Brief History of Taiwan - 1

17th c and before: Taiwan was aboriginal.

1620s: Dutch and Spanish settlements.

1662-1682: Independent Kingdom of Tungning.

1683: Qing dynasty annexed Taiwan. Thereafter Taiwan was part of China.

Brief History of Taiwan - 2

1895 Japan defeated China in First Sino-Japanese War. China ceded Taiwan to Japan by treaty.

1895-1945 Japan ruled Taiwan as a colony. *Some call it "occupation".*

1927-1950 Meanwhile, China Civil War. Republicans (Chiang Kai Shek) vs Communists (Mao Zedong).

Brief History of Taiwan - 3

World War 2 Cut short Japan's harsh efforts to impose its culture, language, names in Taiwan.

– 1945 Japan surrendered.

– 300,000 Japanese expelled from Taiwan.

– Japan renounced its sovereignty over Taiwan.

But to this day, it is debatable who has sovereignty over Taiwan!

Brief History of Taiwan – 4

1927-1950 China was in Civil War.

– **Republicans under Chiang vs Communists under Mao.**

– **Estimated 15,000,000 casualties.**

– **1949 Communists chased Chiang and his army onto Taiwan.**

– From Taiwan, Chiang proclaimed he was still leader of all of China.

– From Beijing, Mao proclaimed he was leader of all of China.

Brief History of Taiwan – 5

Sovereignty: World View Today

– Today, 75 years after China's Civil War, most countries say Communist victory in 1949 gave it control of all of historic China, including Taiwan.

– Some say no. In 1949 ROC had control of Taiwan, which remains as a separate Republic of China.

Brief History of Taiwan - 6

1971: ROC lost its United Nations seat as "China" – replaced by PRC.

Jan 1, 1979: US broke relations with ROC. Embassy closed.

– **But maintains relations through a "representative office".**

– **Formed a nonprofit to issue visas, accept passport applications, and assist Americans in Taiwan.**

ROC and PRC Politically Charged Initials



ROC *Internet .tw*
Republic of China
Taiwan



PRC *Internet .cn*
People's Republic
of China

Today only 13 countries recognize
Taiwan as a country:

Belize	Palau
Eswatini	Paraguay
Guatemala	Saint Kitts & Nevis
Haiti	Saint Lucia
Holy See (Vatican)	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
Marshall Islands	Tuvalu
Nauru	

**60 more countries have representative
offices that function like embassies.**

Today, 148 countries plus Hong
Kong accept the ROC passport for
entry without need for a visa.

Some of the 148 do not stamp the
ROC passport to avoid implying
that ROC is a "country".

**Mainland China (PRC) does not
accept ROC passport for entry.**

But ROC "citizens" can get a
special "Mainland Travel Permit" to
travel to PRC. **And vice versa.**

**ROC's traditional political and
military allies are:**

- United States of America.
- Canada.
- Japan.
- Australia.
- New Zealand.

Military Budgets 2020

US \$778 Bn
China \$252 Bn
India \$73 Bn
Russia \$62 Bn
UK \$59 Bn
Saudi \$58 Bn
Germany \$53 Bn
TAIWAN \$11 Bn



Taiwan 2023 expected to be \$19 Bn

US Taiwan Relations Act – 1979

- Requires US to maintain relations with
Taiwan through a nonprofit corporation
called American Institute in Taiwan (AIT).
- Gives AIT special powers to the level that it
is the de facto US embassy.
- **Does not guarantee the US will intervene
militarily if the PRC attacks Taiwan.**
- **But does require the US to "make available
to Taiwan such defense articles and
defense services in such quantity as may
be necessary to enable Taiwan to maintain
sufficient self-defense capabilities".**

In 2005, PRC (Mainland China) passed
a controversial "Anti-Secession Law"
stating conditions for military invasion
of Taiwan:

- Change of ROC name to eliminate the
word "China".
- Political action by Taiwan to
demonstrate separation from China.
- If all possibility of peaceful
unification is lost.

That's the status quo today.

Air China vs China Airlines...



What's the difference?



Air China

Mainland
China



Code CA

Planes in service 405

Affiliation:
Star Alliance



China Airlines

Taiwan (Republic of China)

Code CI

Planes in



service 88

Affiliation: Skyteam



Taiwan Fun Fact

Most mountainous
island in the world!

2/3rds mountains.

Taiwan has 268
mountains above
3,000 meters (9,800').
Colorado (the Rocky
Mountain State) has
only 119.



Taipei

One building
stands out:
Taipei 101.
We will visit.



TAIPEI

Capital of ROC

Population 2.7 Million

Taipei

Population:

- Taipei City itself: 2,704,810.
- Taipei-New Taipei-Keelung metropolitan area: 7,047,559.

Area:

- Taipei City itself: 105 sq miles.
- Metro Area: 440 sq miles.

Political, economic, educational, and cultural center of Taiwan.

Taipei Metro Area
Includes Taipei,
New Taipei City
and Keelung



Taipei: Humid, Sub-tropical Climate

Month	High	Low	Rain	Humidity
January	66°	56°	3"	79%
February	68°	57°	7	81%
March	72°	60°	7	80%
April	79°	66°	7	78%
May	84°	72°	9	77%
June	89°	76°	13	77%
July	93°	79°	10	73%
August	92°	79°	13	74%
September	88°	76°	14	76%
October	81°	71°	6	75%
November	75°	65°	3	75%
December	69°	58°	3	75%

Taipei Metro

- 6 lines.
- 131 stations.
- 587 million passengers a year.
- Opened 1996



Taipei Metro



Taipei Metro



Train announcements are in 5 languages! Taiwanese (Hokkien), Mandarin, Hakka, English, and Japanese.

Taipei Metro



Earthquakes
Taiwan is in a seismically active zone, in the Pacific Ring of Fire.
42 active faults in Taiwan.
Deaths last 25 years →

Date	Region	Scale	Deaths
09/18/2022	Hualien	6.9	1
03/22/2022	Hualien, T'ai-tung	6.7	0
08/07/2019	Taipei	5.9	1
04/18/2019	Hualien	6.1	1
02/06/2018	Hualien	6.4	17
02/05/2016	Tainan	6.4	117
04/20/2015	Taipei	6.4	1
06/02/2013	Jenai	6.3	4
03/27/2013	Nantou County, Taipei	6.0	1
02/26/2012	Pingtung	5.9	0
03/04/2010	Kao-Hsiung	6.3	0
12/19/2009	Hualien	6.4	0
12/26/2006	Pingtung	7.0	2
04/01/2006	T'ai-tung	6.2	0
10/15/2004	T'ao-Yuan	6.6	0
05/01/2004	Hualien (Taroko Gorge National Park)	5.2	2
12/10/2003	T'ai-Tung, Kao-Hsiung	6.8	0
03/31/2002	Taipei	7.1	5
12/18/2001	Taiwan	6.8	0
06/10/2000	Nan-Tou	6.4	2
05/17/2000	Tai-Chung County	5.4	3
10/22/1999	Chia-I	5.9	1
09/25/1999	Central	6.5	0
09/20/1999	Nantou, Taichung, Taizhong	7.7	2297

National Palace Museum

In the hills about 3 miles north of central Taipei



National Palace Museum

Largest collection of Chinese artifacts and artwork in the world.

Nearly 700,000 items:

- Bronzes, statues, jade carvings, calligraphy, lacquerware, porcelains, paintings, and other historical pieces.
- Collection covers 8,000 years of Chinese history. From Neolithic to modern.

Most artifacts were collected by Emperors.

Even with a huge, expanded building, only a fraction of the collection is on display:

- No more than 10,000 items at any one time. *Out of 700,000!*
- Rotated several times a year.

National Palace Museum History – 1

1925 – National Palace Museum established in Forbidden City by China's new Republican government. To hold former Imperial collections.

1931 – Japan invades China.

1933 – To prevent the artifacts from falling to Japanese hands, collection was moved to Shanghai in 20,000 crates. Included some items from other museums.

National Palace Museum History – 2

1936 – Collection moved to new warehouse in Nanjing.

1940s – As Japanese advanced, collection moved to 3 other locations.

1945 – Japan surrendered.

1947 – Shipped back to Nanjing.

1948 – Communists pushed Republicans to Taiwan in China's Civil War. They took with them 3,000 crates with over 600,000 of the most prized items. Thus Taiwan National Palace Museum was created.

Open daily 8:30am to 6:30pm.
Until 9:00pm Friday and Sat.
Admission NT\$350 (≈US\$11).
Senior discount ROC Citizens Only.



Since 2016, non-flash photography is permitted.

National Palace Museum - Taipei A Few Examples from the Collection



Artefact photos are from the Internet



National Palace Museum - Taipei



National Palace Museum - Taipei



National Palace Museum



Grand Hotel - Opened 1973



- Grand Hotel (Taipei)**
- Owned by Government.
 - 490 rooms.
 - Each level decorated in different dynasty.
 - 285 feet high.
 - Rooms US\$110 and up.



Grand Hotel (Taipei)

- Famous Guests at Grand Hotel (Wikipedia)**
- Dwight D. Eisenhower
 - Richard Nixon
 - Ronald Reagan
 - Bill Clinton
 - Warren Christopher - His arrival from the airport in 1978 was delayed several hours by crowds throwing eggs and screaming protests over U.S. President Jimmy Carter's decision to break relations with Taiwan
 - Benigno Aquino - President of Philippines - Stayed at hotel the night before his assassination on Aug 21, 1983
 - Nelson Mandela
 - Margaret Thatcher
 - Shah of Iran Mohammad Reza Pahlavi
 - King Hussein of Jordan
 - Lee Kuan Yew - Singapore
 - King Bhumibol of Thailand and his wife, Queen Sirikit

Grand Hotel Taipei Fire 1995

Top floors and roof. Caused by renovation work.

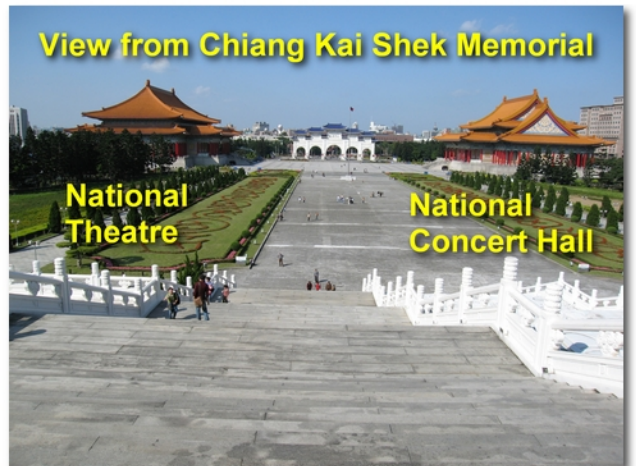


Fire truck ladders could not reach.

Hotel was closed until 1998.



Gateway to Chiang Kai Shek Memorial



View from Chiang Kai Shek Memorial

National Theatre

National Concert Hall



National Theatre



National Concert Hall



**Chiang Kai Shek Memorial Hall
Opened 1980**



**Exhibits of the history of
Chiang Kai Shek - second
President of R.O.C.
Led R.O.C. government to
Taiwan in 1949.**



**Recent de-emphasis of
Chiang personality cult.**

In 2017, "Taiwan's Ministry of Culture announced plans to transform the hall into a national center for 'facing history, recognizing agony, and respecting human rights.'" Wikipedia



Why is Chiang controversial today?

- Critics say:**
- Dictator. Authoritarian autocrat.
 - Suppressed and purged (killed) opponents and critics.
 - Arbitrarily incarcerated opponents.
- Taiwan natives say: "Invader".**

Did you know his picture was on Forbidden City before Mao?



Chiang Kai Shek Memorial Hall



Chiang



Chiang and Sun Yat Sen

Sun's (third) wife's sister married Chiang. So Chiang and Sun were brothers-in-law.



Chiang leading troops during China's Civil War



Chiang, Roosevelt, and Churchill

Cairo Conference Nov. 1943 to discuss defeating Japan and post-war Asia.



Chiang Kai Shek's limo



License Plate: Why the 8s?
 In Chinese, 8 is "Ba", which sounds like "Fa" – which means to make a fortune, prosperity, success, and high social status. So 8 is the Chinese lucky number.



Chiang Kai Shek's Presidential Office



Dongmen – East Gate – 1884
 Taipei was then a walled city



Shilin Night Market
 MRT Jiantan station
 15 blocks long
 4pm to midnight



Shilin Night Market
 Food, clothing, crafts, etc.



Shilin Night Market
 Skewers
 You choose - they will cook



Shilin Night Market
Squid



Shilin Night Market



Shilin Night Market
Fruit juice made to order



Shilin Night Market
Are these really skewers?



Cixian Temple - 1796
at Shilin Night Market



Cixian Temple - 1796
at Shilin Night Market

Dedicated to
Tin Hau (Mazu)
Goddess of the Sea



Shida Night Market
Taipower Building MRT Station



Shida Night Market



Shida Night Market



Shida Night Market

Purple Dragon Fruit



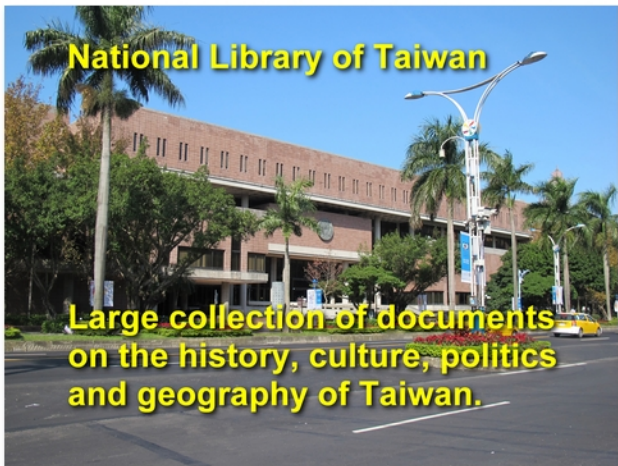
Shida Night Market

There are other night markets (notably Ningxia and Raohe) perhaps better than Shida, though maybe not as good as Shilin.



Din Tai Fung Famous noodle and dumpling shop in Taipei. Branches in 15 countries including USA.

Vinegar with ginger for dumplings

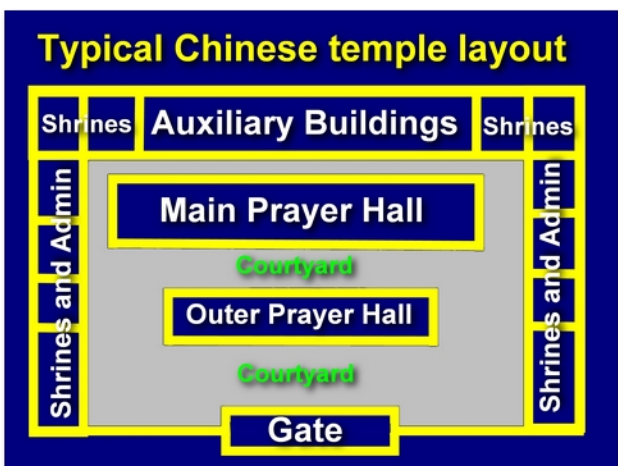


National Library of Taiwan

Large collection of documents on the history, culture, politics and geography of Taiwan.



Lungshan Temple Built 1738



Lungshan Temple - 1738 Also spelled Longshan

Outer Prayer Hall





**Longshan Market
10am to 8pm Daily**

In Florida, Latinos call these Chayote. In China, called Foshugua = Buddha's hands.



**Longshan Market
"Drive In"**

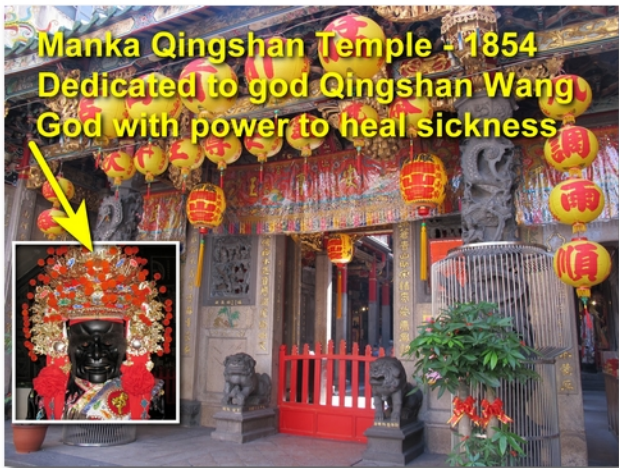


**Huaxi Street Night Market
Also called Snake Alley**



Huaxi Street Night Market

"Delicacies including snake blood and meat, turtle blood and meat, and deer penis wine." Wikipedia



**Manka Qingshan Temple - 1854
Dedicated to god Qingshan Wang
God with power to heal sickness**



Qingshan Temple - 1854



Qingshan Temple - 1854



Modern Taipei City



Modern Taipei City



Bicycle Sharing

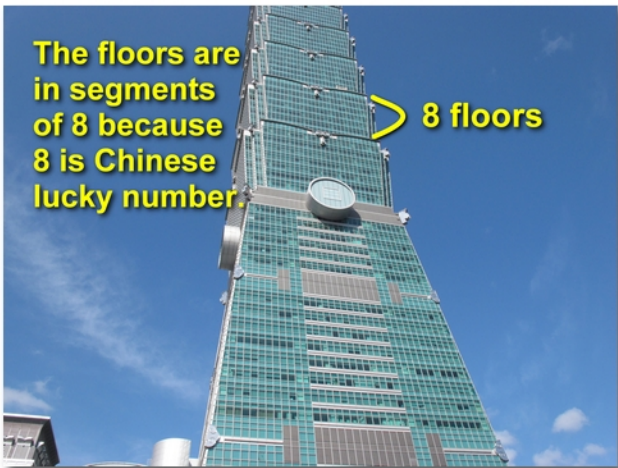
YouBike is nationwide in Taiwan. Taipei alone: 43,000 bikes. 1,200 stations.



Taipei 101 Completed 2004 Then World's Tallest Building Remained that until 2010



Taipei 101 2004 1,671 feet Offices plus shopping mall



The floors are in segments of 8 because 8 is Chinese lucky number. > 8 floors



Funny way to advertise



Taipei Main Railway Station
– Trains
– High-speed trains
– Metro
– Local buses
– Long-distance buses

220 million train passengers per year



Fire Station



Modern Taipei City



Taipei Street Art



Taiwan Post Box 限時郵件



Taipei Farmers' Market



Taipei Farmers' Market Taro



Taipei Farmers' Market Chinese Pears

NT\$100 for 5 (US\$3.25)



Did you ever hear of asparagus juice?



Taipei Farmers' Market Pomelos

Sometimes called "Chinese Grapefruit". Up to 4 pounds weight.



Taipei Farmers' Market
Ginger



Taipei Farmers' Market
Persimmons



Japanese Toilet
Common in Taiwan because
of Japanese occupation
1895-1945

Seat is heated

Water squirts out
from here

Controls --
next slide



Rhythm =
Pulsating

Water
squirts on your
behind
(family =
men and
women)

For
women

Water
temp

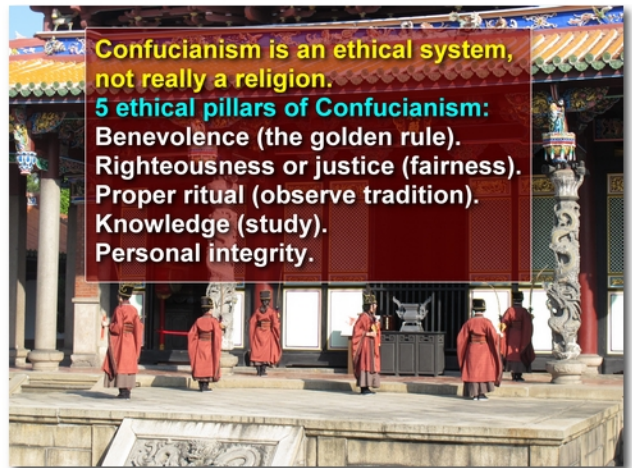
Water
pressure

The seat
is heated
too

Braille markings



Taipei Confucius Temple
1879



Confucianism is an ethical system,
not really a religion.
5 ethical pillars of Confucianism:
Benevolence (the golden rule).
Righteousness or justice (fairness).
Proper ritual (observe tradition).
Knowledge (study).
Personal integrity.



Probably at Confucius Temple
because of Japanese influence
during the occupation 1895-1945
"Ema" in Japanese

You will find Ema at most temples in Japan.

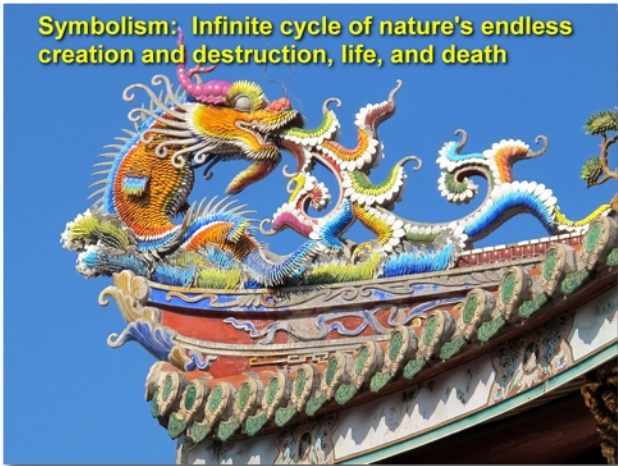


Confucius
encouraged
scholarship

All Pass!

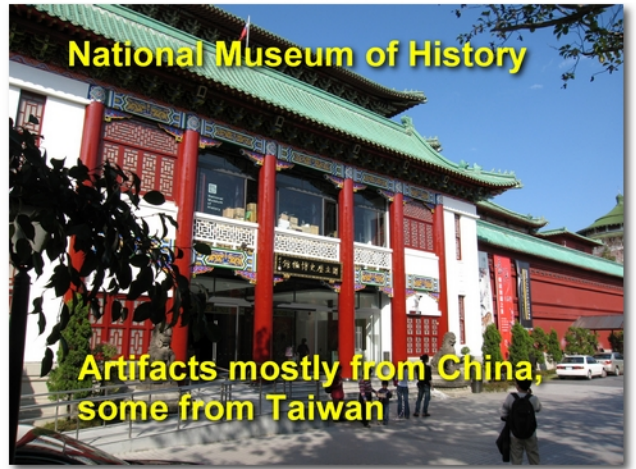
I wish to enter a successful
graduate school.

I wish that I
become an
engineering
major





Taiwan Postal Museum



National Museum of History

Artifacts mostly from China, some from Taiwan



National Museum of History - Taipei



National Taiwan Museum - 1908

- Anthropology
- Earth sciences
- Zoology
- Botany



Beitou Hot Springs Mineral Baths and Museum



Beitou Hot Springs Temperature 176 to 200 deg F In Taipei near an MRT station



One of many small hotels near Beitou Hot Springs



Tea Eggs (cooked in tea)

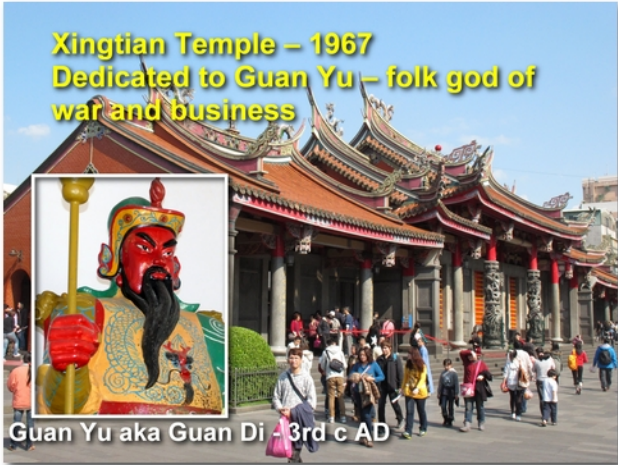
Small spotted ones are quail eggs



A common form of advertising in Taipei



Typical Taipei Street



Xingtian Temple – 1967
Dedicated to Guan Yu – folk god of war and business

Guan Yu aka Guan Di - 3rd c AD



Xingtian Temple
Primarily Taoist



Offerings at Xingtian Temple



Temple officials in blue robes offer free service for rituals to eliminate disasters or pray for safety and good fortune.



To say Xingtian Temple is popular is an understatement!



National 228 Memorial Museum
Daily except Monday 10-5

In 1945 Republican government of China took over rule of Taiwan from the Japanese. Republican Governor (Chen Yi) was brutal to the Taiwan natives who had survived Japanese rule.



Second Taiwan presentation I did for Collier Library:

- Taichung.
- Kaohsiung.

Download a PDF of the slides:

paulvisits.com/presentations

A map of Taiwan with three red dots indicating the locations of Taipei, Taichung, and Kaohsiung. The map shows the island's coastline and major cities.

Taipei

Taichung

Kaohsiung

THE END

I hope you enjoyed our visit to Taipei.

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www.PaulVisits.com

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The flag of the Republic of China (Taiwan) is shown waving on a flagpole. It features a blue field with a white sun and a red field with a white sun.