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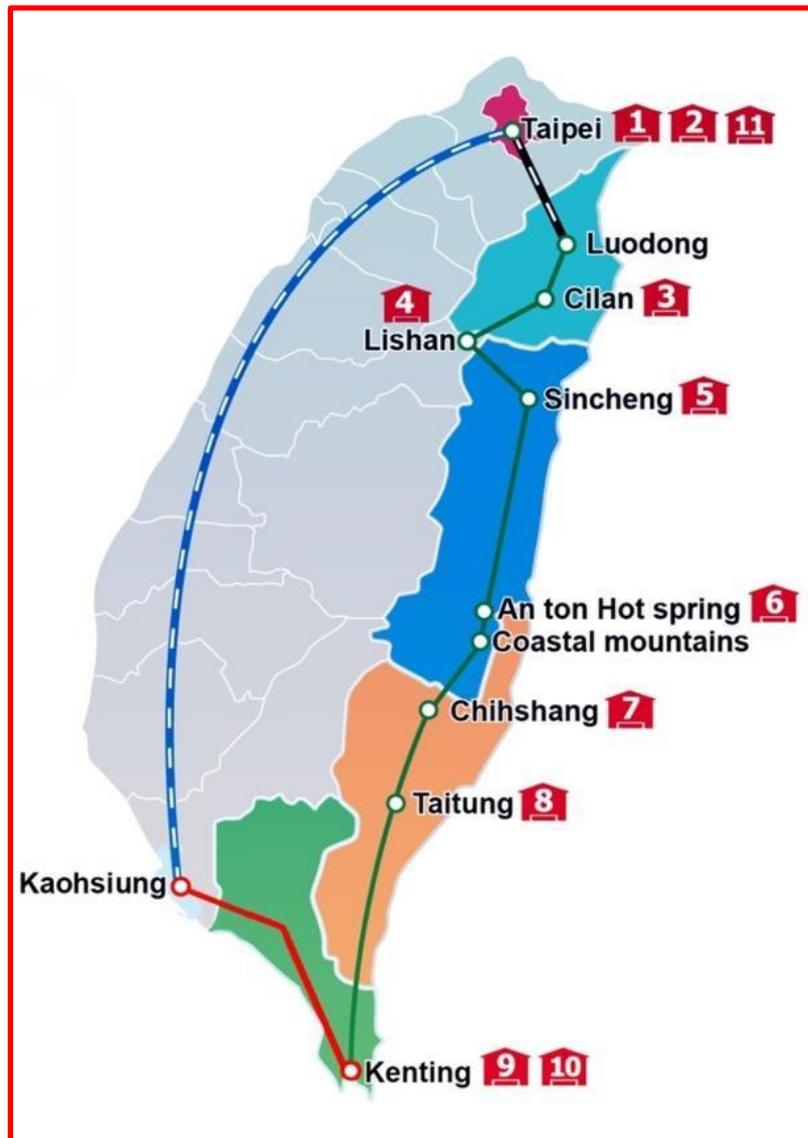


## Magic Island of Taiwan

**Tour ID: TW**

**12 days | 11 nights | 8 stages from 41 to 150 km | Total \*622 - 716 km**  
**\*6,700 – 8,200 m ascent | \*Optional sections of routes can be done by bus**  
**Almost all meals included| Road bike rentals not available**

Referred to by the Portuguese as the "Ilha Formosa" (Beautiful Island), Taiwan has preserved its wild beauty to this day. The east coast is a true cycling paradise with perfect roads and beautiful nature. We take in the highest pass in East Asia (3,275 masl), admire the unique Taroko Gorge and enjoy the view of the Pacific in Kenting. The modern metropolis of Taipei, along with the 101 Tower, offers diverse cultural and culinary discoveries.





## Highlights

- City Bike Tour of the Taipei metropolis and the Taipei 101 Tower (508 m)
- Taroko Gorge: A unique marble canyon
- Hehuanshan Pass, 3,275 masl: East Asia's highest road
- Kenting National Park: Sandy beaches and coral reefs
- Business Class train ride on the high-speed train to Taipei
- Culinary and traditional delicacies
- Almost all meals included
- Unique Siam Bike Tours - Full Service

## Day 1

### Arrival in Taipei

The transfer to our exquisite hotel in the heart of Taipei is to be organized individually. In the evening we welcome all participants in the hotel. After an informal meeting, we will enjoy a delicious traditional Taiwanese dinner. The flight costs are not included in the travel price. Travel to Taipei is to be done individually. The visa is issued upon arrival. For flights, we recommend Cathay Pacific, EVA Air, Air China, Singapore Airlines, and more.

**(B: not included | L: not included | D, Welcome Buffet)**

## Day 2

### Taipei 101 Tower and City Bike Tour

At 11 o'clock, we start our city bike tour through Taipei. We get to experience the brilliant Taiwanese bike rental system "U Bike". After visiting a Chinese temple, we use Taipei's cycling network to reach 101 Tower. At 508 meters high and 101 floors, it is one of the tallest buildings in the world. We ascend to the viewing platform in the high-speed elevator. Hungry cyclists are then able to grab a bite at the 101 Food Court. Afterwards, we visit the Chang Kai Shek Memorial with its impressive Chinese influenced buildings, and then onto the hip cultural district of Ximending. This district offers shopping and pubs for the younger generation of Taipei. It is highly recommended to have dinner in this lively district. The return trip to the hotel is done individually and can be done by cheap taxi or the metro.

**(B | L: not included | D: not included)**



### Day 3

**1<sup>st</sup> stage: Taipei Luodong station – Cilan = 41 km | 500 m ascent | Transfer by train**

After an early breakfast we head to the Songshan Train Station and reach the Central Mountains after a 2-hour train ride. Once arrived, we put on our cycling clothes and prepare the bikes. Our exciting "Taiwan Tour" into the inner island of Taiwan now begins. On the way we pass the mighty Mount Cilan, which is wooded with impressive cypress trees. We follow the river and marvel at the mountain landscape on our afternoon ride before arriving at our hotel which offers a wonderful view of the surroundings. **(B | L | D)**

### Day 4

**2<sup>nd</sup> stage: Cilan – Lishan = 72 km | 1,990 m ascent | Slightly ascending pass road**

The pass road leads through a wide river valley where fruits and vegetables are cultivated on the mountain slopes. The well-maintained road winds up through thick bamboo and fern forests, blanketed by moss. After going through the pass at 1,950 masl, we roll downwards through a magical mountain landscape into a high valley. We pass the Wuling farm, which lies at 1,750 masl. Here you can see numerous orchards which grow on dizzyingly steep slopes. Our comfortable hotel is in the traditional mountain village of Lishan (1,900 masl) and offers an incredible panorama of the surrounding peaks. **(B | L | D)**

### Day 5

**3<sup>rd</sup> stage | Lishan – Sincheng = 122 km | 1,800 m ascent | Bus transfer to the pass possible (100 km | 1,000 m ascent with transfer option)  
King's stage Hehuan-Shan Pass, 3,275 masl**

Our road winds through the valley, including several sharper hairpin bends. After 29 km (at 2,580 masl) there is the option to climb the pass in the accompanying vehicle. The cyclist-summiteers have another 800 vertical meters to climb to the Hehuan-Shan Pass, sitting at 3,275 masl on the highest road of East Asia. From the pass, we will have a panoramic view over the island. After the mornings' strenuous climb, we are rewarded with 75 km, 3,000 m vertical descent. At the end we dive into the unique Taroko Gorge. Breathtaking waterfalls, tunnels, hanging bridges and over 1,000 m high steep cliffs make this gorge an incomparable experience. **(B | L | D)**



### **Day 6**

**4<sup>th</sup> stage: Sincheng – An Ton Hot Spring = 130 km | 1,100 m ascent | Coastal cruise with final climb**

After reaching the port city of Hualien we ride along the East Coast Highway 193. The coastal road runs along the Pacific Ocean to the south of Taiwan. A steep mountain peak separates the coastal belt from the East Rift Valley. From here, we can almost always enjoy the views of the Pacific Ocean with its beaches and cliffs, of course weather dependent. A final ascent through a wonderful, tropical landscape takes us to the hot springs of An Ton. The thermal water is known for its healing properties and is the perfect treat to help relax our cyclists' legs.

**(B | L | D)**

### **Day 7**

**5<sup>th</sup> stage: Ton Hotspring – Chishang = 70 km | 450 m ascent | (optional 27 km | 16 km shortcut) | Ride through the East Rift Valley**

After breakfast we cycle through the East Rift Valley, which lies between the Central Mountain Range and the coastal mountains. This valley runs parallel to the coast, and is known for its green rice fields, waterfalls and tea plantations. We cycle around a small, idyllic lake and go on to the Southern Cross Highway into a side valley, similar to the Taroko Gorge. Afterwards, we enjoy a traditional Haka lunch (native of Taiwan). Our 4 \* hotel welcomes you with a swimming pool and other amenities. **(B | L | D: not included)**

### **Day 8**

**6<sup>th</sup> stage: Chishang – Taitung 88 km | 720 m ascent | Along the Sunshine Coast**

After riding 8 km on the rural bike path we turn into a beautiful valley. We follow a road through the jungle before crossing the coastal mountains and rolling down to the Sunshine Coast. This area is home to the Formosan Macaques monkey species. The wild beauty of this area is bound to wow every cyclist. We can again enjoy the magnificent views of the Pacific Ocean as we ride to the sleepy city of Taitung. Taitung is the earliest populated area of the island of Taiwan. The number of aborigines living in the vicinity of Taitung is greater than the aboriginal population in the rest of Taiwan. Our hotel offers all comforts including an extremely inviting swimming pool.

**(B | L | D)**



### **Day 9**

#### **7<sup>th</sup> stage: Taitung – Kenting 150 km | 1,380 m ascent | Let's head South**

After breakfast we swing our bikes towards Sunshine Coast and follow the coastal road in this direction. We take a short stop at the Santo Joseph Church to admire the Christian artifacts that were influenced by the art of the natives. After 69 km begins a gentle climb leading us inland. We cycle through the breathtaking wild flora of the tropical forests. After an exhilarating descent through the mountainous jungles, we reach the eastern side of the Hengchung Peninsula where the wind creates bizarre sand dunes. Passing through Banana Bay we ride to Eluanbi, the southernmost point of Taiwan. Here, we can admire the grassy landscape and steep rocky cliffs over which a lighthouse stands. Our beach resort in Kenting leaves nothing to be desired. Relaxation and fine food are on the menu for the evening.

**(B | L | D)**

### **Day 10**

#### **8<sup>th</sup> stage: Kenting – Kenting, Chillout Loop 50 km | 270 m ascent | Most southern point | Last stage or rest day at the tropical beach**

There are two options for the 10<sup>th</sup> day: you can jump back on the bike for an additional tour, or spend the day enjoying the beautiful beaches, the warm tropical seas or the hotel pool. Those on the bikes will explore the southernmost part of the peninsula. To the east we see the Taiwan Strait. To the south is the Bashi Channel separating Taiwan and the Philippines. In the evening we stroll through the vibrant night market of this tourist resort and pamper our taste buds with the huge selection of local delicacies. Afterwards, we will celebrate our Taiwan trip at the beach bar.

**(B | L: not included | D: not included)**



### **Day 11**

#### **Kenting – Kaohsiung City – Taipei | Bus transfer and high- speed train | Royal dinner buffet**

We drive along the west coast of the island in a comfortable bus. We pass pineapple, banana, papaya and mango plantations. After the 2-hour drive, we reach the town of Kaohsiung. Here, we board the HSR high-speed train to Taipei, enjoying the comforts of Business Class. With top speeds of 300 kph, we return the distance of 345 km in 96 minutes, arriving in the early afternoon. The Taipei Main Station is close to our luxurious Five Star hotel. We deliberately chose accommodation in another district, so that you can see a different part of Taipei. You will have time for further exploring or shopping. In the evening we enjoy one of the culinary highlights of the trip: the world class buffet in the hotel. Letting the glasses cheers again.

**(B | L: not included | D: Buffet)**

### **Day 12**

#### **Taipei City | Departure**

The transfer to the airport is to be organized individually. With many unforgettable impressions of this unique island, we embark on the journey home. Bon Voyage!

**(B | L: not included | D: not included)**



### **Included services**

- Most meals (B: Breakfast | L: Lunch | D: Dinner)
- German, Chinese and English-speaking tour guides
- Team Jersey | Team Backpack | Team Wallet
- Drinking bottle 0.75 l | Isotonic drinks etc.
- Fruits and snacks on the stages
- Business Class travel with high-speed train HSR
- Metro and train rides
- City Tour bike rental
- Bus transfer Kenting - Kaohsiung
- Repair Service
- Additional insurance during the bicycle tour
- Photos to download
- Full service

### **Not included**

- Flights
- Rental bike
- Voluntary tips
- All meals not described
- Alcoholic beverages
- Airport transfers