

Discover the beauty of Taiwan.....



2-day Trip to National Scenic Area of Huadong Eastern Coast & Rift Valley

Ocean & mountain view attracts your eyes...

Blue sky and white horses of sea, greeny forest and fresh air wash away your tiredness and pressure.

Now is the moment for you to 'relax'.

The legend of Taidong begins with the journey...

Day 1

07:00~ Departure from National Army Guest House/Chung Cheng hotel/NSYSU in Kaohsiung

08:30~ Take a short break at Fangshan Rest area for 15 minutes

10:00~ Take a short break at Daniao Rest area for 15 minutes

11:30~13:00 Yuan-sen Applied Botanical Garden is located at Chulu township, Taidong County.

Due to the natural and geologic location, further then Taidong's regulating climate caused by the Pacific Ocean Currents and the Japan Currents as well as the fact that this area has not been environmentally polluted and damaged, many varieties of medicinal herbs have grown very well since Japanese occupation period. Meanwhile, the area was under development, fever was the the most serious disease then. Japanese started to plante medicinal herbs such as Quinine Sulfate in the mountain of Chihpen and Taimali. The altitude is also good for the plants to grow. Apart from a few medicinal herbs that have been introduced from outside, most of these herbs are native to the Taidong area, including Orchid Island. According to statistics produced by medicinal herb experts, over 2,000 varieties can be found in Taidong, making it " The Homeland of Taiwan Medicinal Herbs ".

13:30~15:00 Bunun Cultural & Educational Foundation, Bunun Leisure Farming

The Taiwan aborigines do not have their own characters. The way of culture heritage has been by oral dictation for ages. They also have been confronting the culture invasion for decades. Leading the invasion is the exploding world of television. Their culture and tradition is disappearing. Well, there's a performance at 2:00 p.m. You got to listen to the very unique " eight-part harmonic singing " . Lots of colorful handicrafts available there.

you got to come with us to listen to the eight-part harmonic singing by yourself....

15:30~17:30 Guanshan Water Ecological Park & Bikeway

Guanshan Water Park is mainly divided into three zones. The active zone (Water Park) is a gorgeous water activity area with artificial paddling and fishing lakes, streams and fountains. Lotus are planted everywhere in the water by natural eutrophication. It is a place integrated with environment and ecological education, bringing water close to the visitors. Guanshan township

金建旅行社股份有限公司

TEL : 07-2693678 FAX : 07-2691293

MSN/E-mail : kt.bb@hotmail.com Skype : kt.bb-normal

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bikeway is the very first one built in Taiwan. The bikeway embraces the beauty of Rift Valley. According to Chinese lunar calendar, farmers will plant lot of rape here before spring cultivation. The yellow flowers of rape booming in the rice paddies reminds you the cozy life in the countryside. The breeze is kissing your cheeks. Oh ! Life can be so easy sometimes.

All you have to do is relax.

18:00~19:00 Aboriginal flavor dinner with dancing performance.
19:30~ Check in to Hotel of Dong Tai.
20:00~ Enjoy the hot spring
21:00~ Good night !

Day 2

06:30~ Morning call
07:00~07:40 Buffet breakfast is served down at the basement 1 from 06:30 onward
08:00~ Check out ~ embrace the beauty of the Pacific Ocean along the eastern coast
08:40~09:00 Stop by the Visitors' Centre of National Scenic Area of Huadong East Coast.
09:30~11:30 Arrival at Sanshientai. You can spot it out before you get there. The continuing arch bridge attracts you eyes. Picking up the stones is prohibited. The area has been a protected and reserved. Otherwise the penalty is 500 thousand NT dollars. You can find very round stone with white spots under your feet. That the quartz in a pluton. The magma coming from the volcano deep under the sea makes everything so special and unique here.
12:10~13:10 Enjoy seafood and edible wild herbs for our lunch.
13:30~15:00 National Museum of Prehistory. Lots of different theme display in the museum. After visiting the museum, you got the full knowledge of Taiwan. The birth of Taiwan, prehistory of stone age, ice age, ecology the geology presenting in front of you. Hope you enjoy it.
Nature is amazing, the more you understand it the more you love it.
We are on the lonely planet, the other side on the earth, Taiwan.
15:10~ Hop on the bus and it's time to go home (2 times of stop for breaks)
19:30~ Home sweet home !

The expense is USD100.0

The price includes :

1. Bus transportation fee & driver' s tip.
2. English speaking tour guide.
3. 1 night accommodation at Dong Tai Hotel (a twin room with 2 single beds)
4. 1 meal of breakfast + 2 meals of lunch
5. 2 million + 30 thousand NT dollars of insurance
6. Bike and admissions

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Attached information :

To stand on our own feet is the only solution of existence.....

However, 14 tribes of aborigines are the minority in the society of Taiwan. Most of the aborigines are living in the mountain area, the deficiency of social resources make them hard to survive, culture shock and language differences make them hard to get a decent job. *But, it's a story about a handicapped pastor who is also a fighter, Bai Guang Sheng with his wife and family returned to his home town of Yanping township to minister together with his people. He had a good understanding of the difficulties of the aboriginal people finding work and believed that there was only one way to approach this challenge – to renew the life of the community.*

About the Bunun Tribe

With a population of over 200 million people, the Austronesians are second in number only to the Indo-Europeans. The Austronesian language family is characterized by the fact that it is the only language group that is spoken primarily on islands. These islands are located mostly in Southeast Asia , with Taiwan the farthest northern place where the Austronesian languages are spoken. Through their research, archaeologists and anthropologists have deduced that the Austronesians planned their migration from Taiwan , which is largely thought to be the origin of Austronesian culture. Currently, Taiwan 's government recognizes 14 groups of indigenous people on the island. Each of these tribes has its own unique culture, customs, and village structure. There is a rare and abundant mixture of ethnic groups in Taiwan , but with the impact of modernization and the strong influence of a primarily Han Chinese culture, the language and culture of the island's indigenous peoples is disappearing at an increasing rate. Taiwan 's indigenous people became known to the world through the unique *eight-part harmonic singing* of the Bunun Tribe. This unique music form caught the attention of Western ethnomusicologists when Japanese scholar Kurozawa Takatomo presented recordings of Bunun music in Paris 1943. Then, in 1952, Kurozawa permanently changed musicologists' ideas about the origins of music when he introduced a traditional Bunun song called “Pasibutbut” (“Prayer for the Millet Harvest”) to the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). With its complex harmony, “Pasibutbut” overturned the scholars' original theory that music originated in single-note melodies, progressing to two-note harmonies, and then on to more complex arrangements. The Bunun people live along Taiwan 's Central Mountain Range at altitudes higher than any other indigenous group on the island. Their culture is closely tied to their experiences in the mountains, and they were the last tribe of native people in Taiwan to give up hunting as an integral part of daily life. “ Pasibutbut,” which has been called " The sound of nature "is said to have been created by a member of the Bunun Tribe who was inspired by *the sounds of humming bees, a rushing waterfall, or the sounds made when crossing through a pine or bamboo forest. In the legend which accompanies the song, a pair of*

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lovers is separated by a mountain, with one living on the eastern face, and the other on the western face. In order to meet one another, they would have to cross a wooden plank spanning a deep valley. One day when crossing the plank to meet her lover, the girl slipped, and when the boy reached out to help her, the two fell together into the valley stream far below. It is said that even to this day, whenever the Bunun people cross the stream, they can still hear the sound of someone singing. It is because of this legend that the Bunun people say that their harmonies are learned from the moving waters of the mountain streams. Jin-niang Hu, who is a teacher in the Bunun village of Wulu, said: "Our singing voices are like streams—they make different sounds, high and low, when passing over rocks. Sometimes they separate; sometimes they come together." Singing in harmony is an integral part of daily life for the Bunun people—they use harmonies to express themselves while hunting, weaving, celebrating, and drinking. Hunting, in particular, is often accompanied with song, and many of the songs deal with this topic. This comes as no surprise though, when you consider that traversing the mountains and valleys in pursuit of wild animals is a vital part of Bunun life. The traditions and cultures of Taiwan's indigenous peoples are gradually disappearing due to the increasing influence of the Han Chinese culture and the affects of modernization. Rice has already largely replaced millet as the main staple food of the aborigines, and hunting practices have largely been curbed by local laws and statutes. Traditional Bunun methods of harmonizing have also slowly disappeared due to the influence of Western singing styles and ways of harmonizing, and the focus on the bel canto style of singing in which beauty of tone is emphasized over power of voice. Today, Wulu Elementary School's Jin-niang Hu is the only teacher who is still dedicated to teaching children to sing the traditional harmonies of the Bunun people or the Bunun Tribe. Music is part of life, culture and rituals, it is their way of passing along and recording the culture and history of their people. The Bunun village of Wulu is located on the southeastern part of the Central Mountain Range at an altitude of over 700 M above sea level. There are only 60 households in the village and a population of over 300 people. Wulu is not easily reached due to its location, which means that it has been less influenced by the outside world. This also means that traditional Bunun culture has been carefully preserved there. Currently, Wulu is the most unadulterated of all the Bunun villages, and the home to the most traditional styles of Bunun singing.

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