

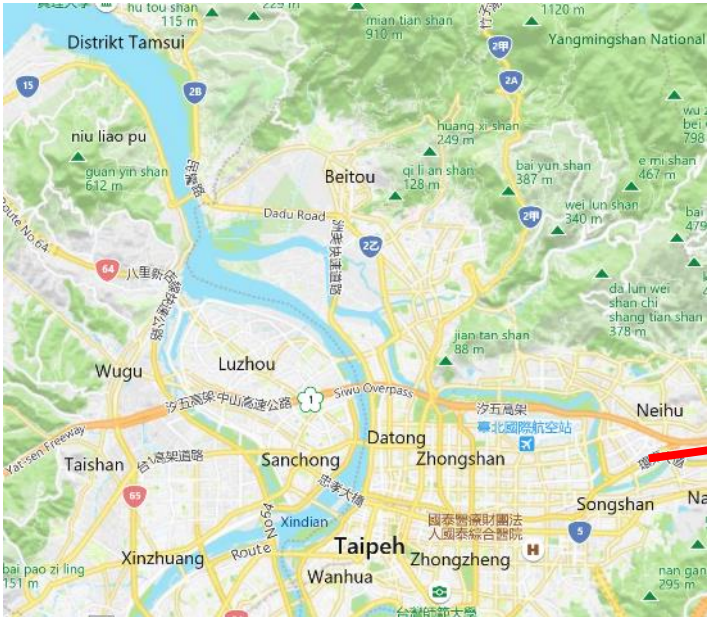
# Explore the Island of Taiwan

Austronesian-speaking Taiwanese indigenous peoples settled the island of Taiwan around 6,000 years ago. In the 17th century, partial Dutch colonization opened the island to mass Han Chinese immigration. After the brief rule of part of southwestern Taiwan by the Kingdom of Tungning, parts of the island were annexed in 1683 by the Qing dynasty of China, and ceded to the Empire of Japan in 1895. The Republic of China, which had overthrown and succeeded the Qing in 1911, took control of Taiwan on behalf of the World War II Allies following the surrender of Japan in 1945. The resumption of the Chinese Civil War resulted in the ROC's loss of mainland China to the Chinese Communist Party and retreat to Taiwan in 1949. Although the ROC government continued to claim to be the legitimate representative of China, since 1950 its effective jurisdiction has been limited to Taiwan and numerous smaller islands.

In the early 1960s, Taiwan entered a period of rapid economic growth and industrialisation called the "Taiwan Miracle". In the late 1980s and early 1990s, the ROC transitioned from a one-party military dictatorship to a multi-party democracy with a semi-presidential system. Taiwan's export-oriented industrial economy is the 21st-largest in the world by nominal GDP, and 20th-largest by PPP measures, with major contributions from steel, machinery, electronics and chemicals manufacturing. Taiwan is a developed country, ranking 15th in GDP per capita. It is ranked highly in terms of political and civil liberties, education, health care and human development.

Taken from Wikipedia

Taipeh and the Island of Taiwan



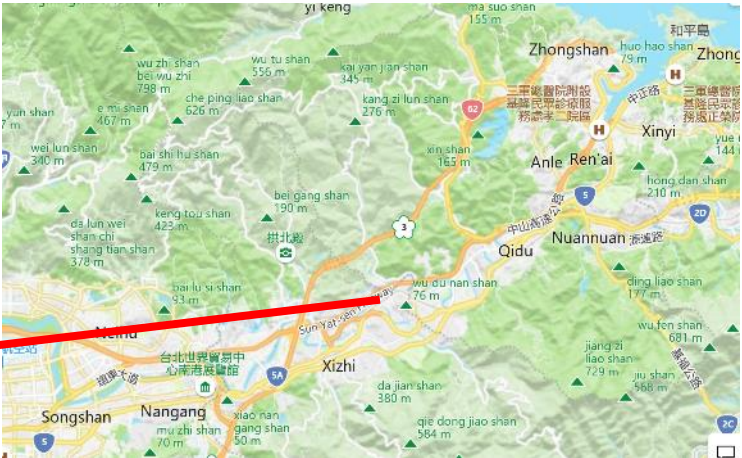
Taipeh and Tamsui Area



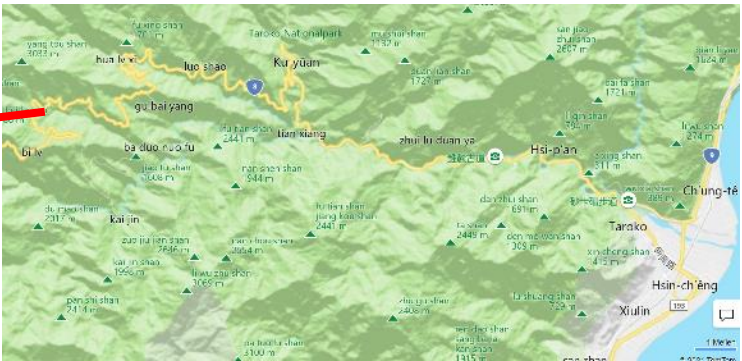
Sun Moon Lake



Pictures taken by Harald Schwarz, maps are taken from BING



Xin Dian River Boat Tour



Taroko Valley



Kenting Area



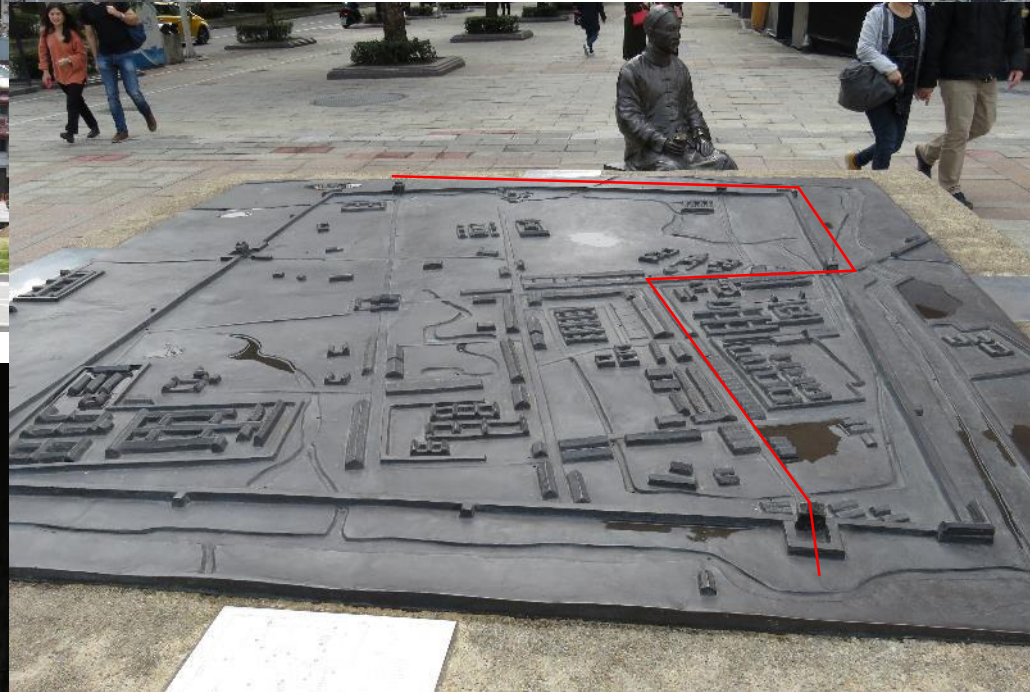
Reaching Taipei Down Town by MRT-  
Mass Rapid Transportation system,  
coming from Taoyuan International  
Airport to Taipei Main Station







Entering „old“ Taipei through the old North Gate (Bei Men) located close to Taipei Railway Station







Passing aside the former south  
gate (Nan Men)

and Xiao Nan Men



towards the  
Palace of the President  
of the Republic of Taiwan







Going ahead to  
Chiang Kai Shek Memorial with the  
National Theatre and Concert Hall





## Chiang Kai Shek Memorial



Leaving the Memorial by the side entrance...

Pictures taken by Harald Schwarz, maps are taken from BING

... towards the former East Gate (Dong Men)<sub>8</sub>



Confucius Temple  
near Taipei Downtown Airport







Bao An Temple also near to  
Taipei Downtown Airport







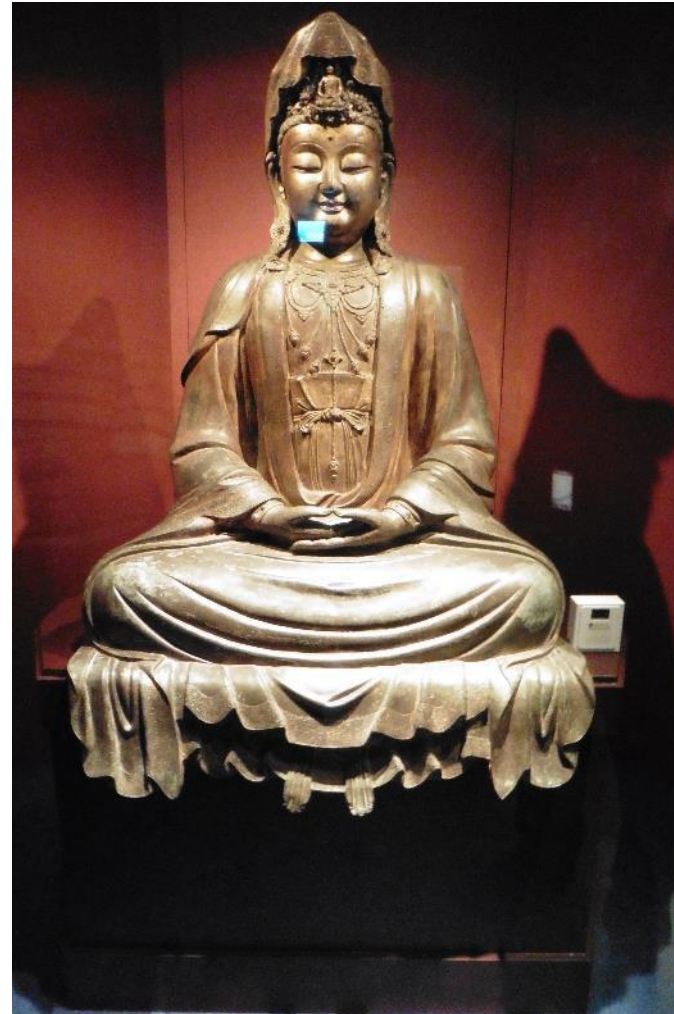
Lang Shan Temple  
in the south west of Taipei







Taiwan National Museum





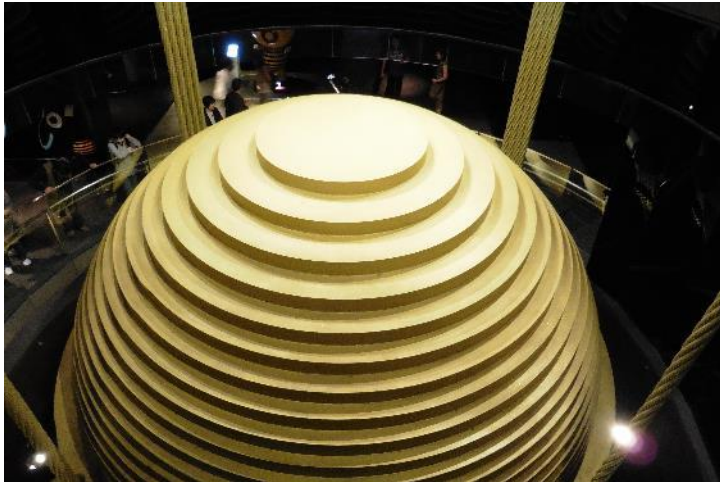
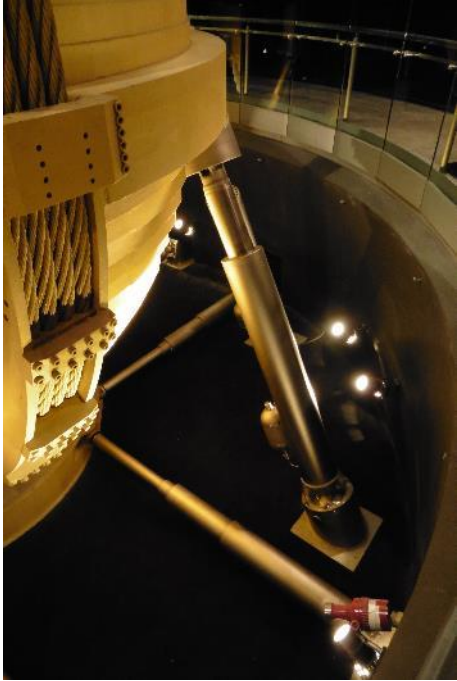


Taipei 101,  
the largest building in Taiwan





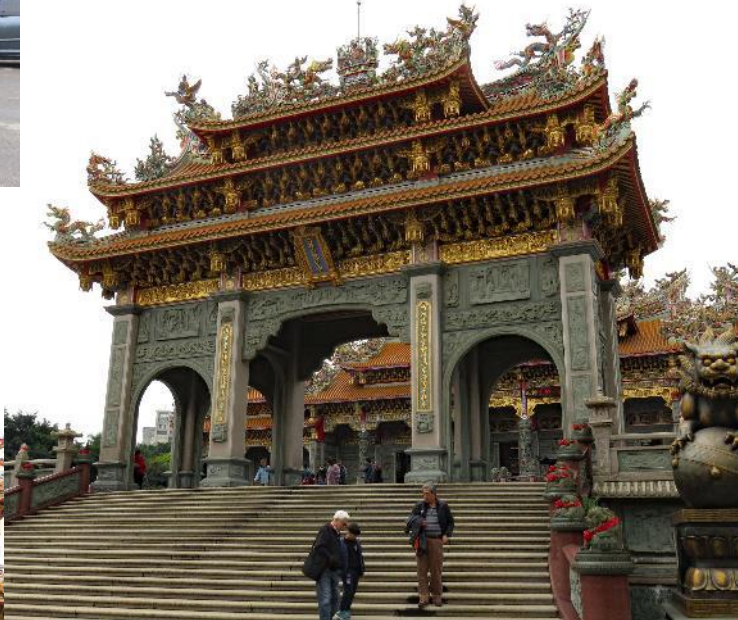
The damping system of Taipei 101 and some beautiful exhibitions inside







A very impressive temple in the southern surroundings of Taipei







A very impressive temple in the southern surroundings of Taipei





SanXia old Street, normally a quite busy merchandising street, unfortunately to early in the morning





## Tamsui Area north west of Taipei



Day tour from Taipei by boat to Tamsui  
and back on the land side including  
different types of calamari





## Tamsui Area north west of Taipeh

Palace of the former British Governor in  
Taiwan

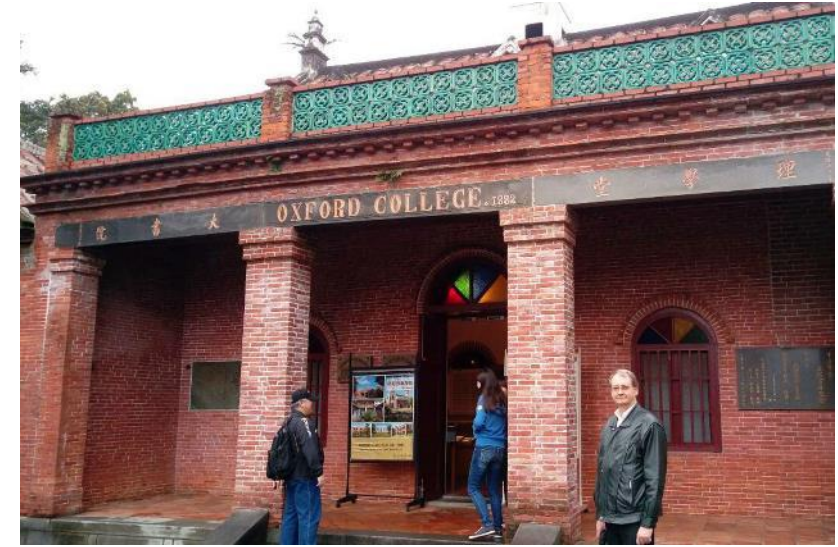




## Tamsui Area north west of Taipeh



Coming closer back to downtown Taipei....





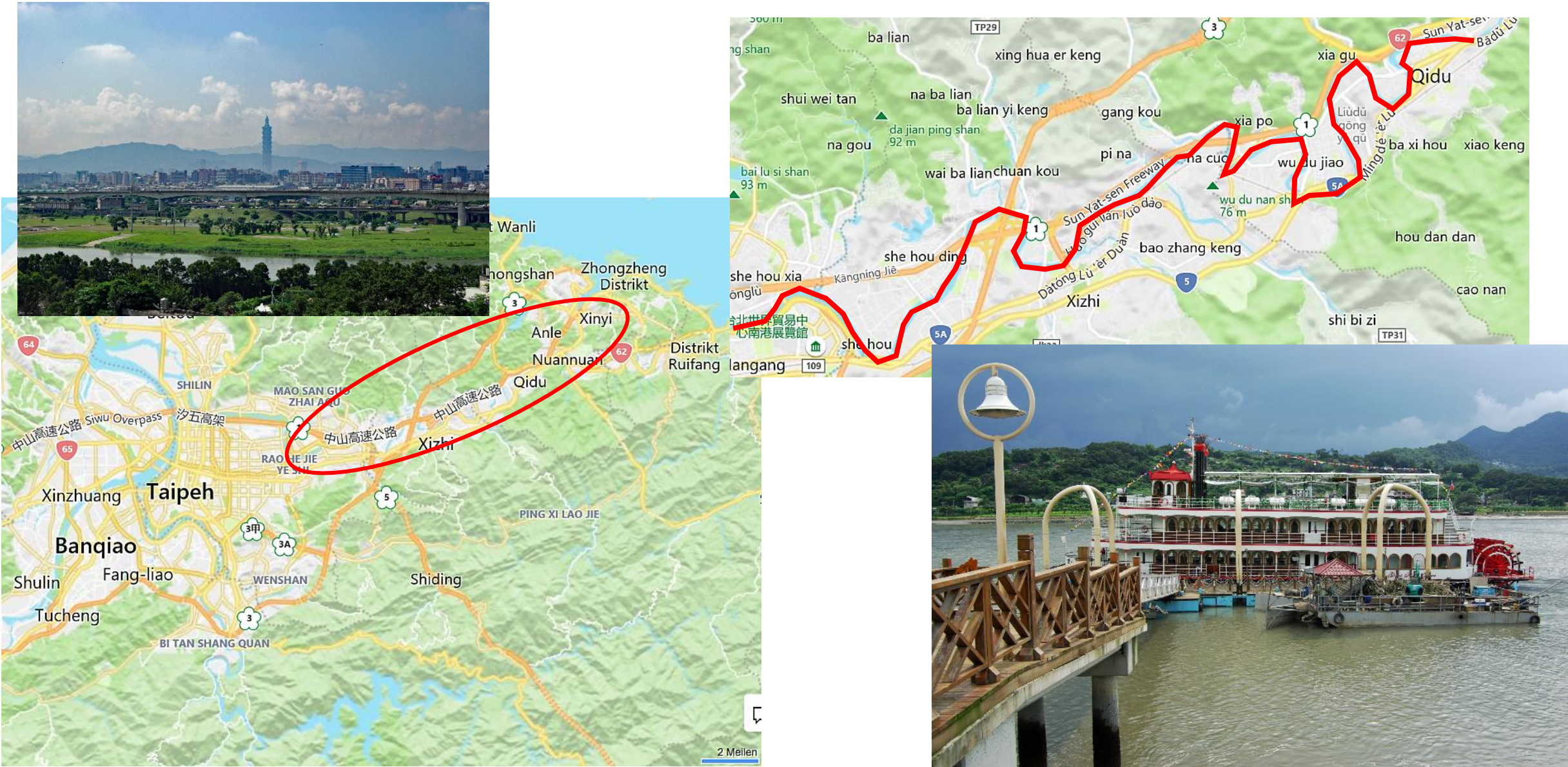
## Tamsui Area north west of Taipeh

....with a short stop over for a cup of  
coffee in the Grand Hotel Taipei





On Xin Dian River to the east coast of Taiwan and via Taroko Valley down to the South Peak



Pictures taken by Harald Schwarz, maps are taken from BING



## On Xin Dian River to the east coast of Taiwan and via Taroko Valley down to the South Peak



On Xin Dian River towards the  
east coast of Taiwan





## On Xin Dian River to the east coast of Taiwan and via Taroko Valley down to the South Peak



.....going ahead by train  
to the entrance of Taroko  
National Park





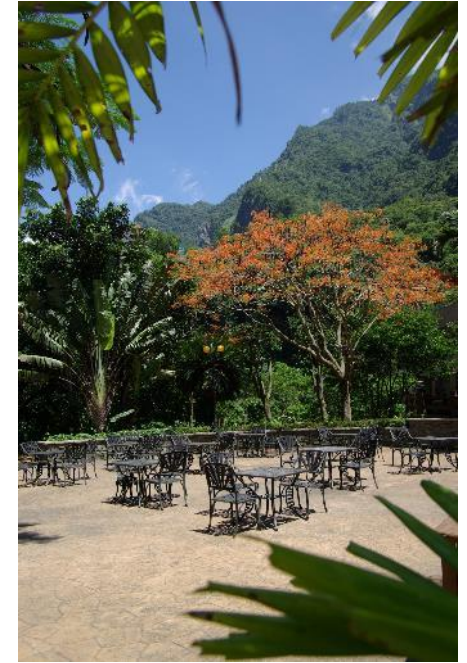
On Xin Dian River to the east coast of Taiwan and via Taroko Valley down to the South Peak

Entering the mountain area of Taroko Valley





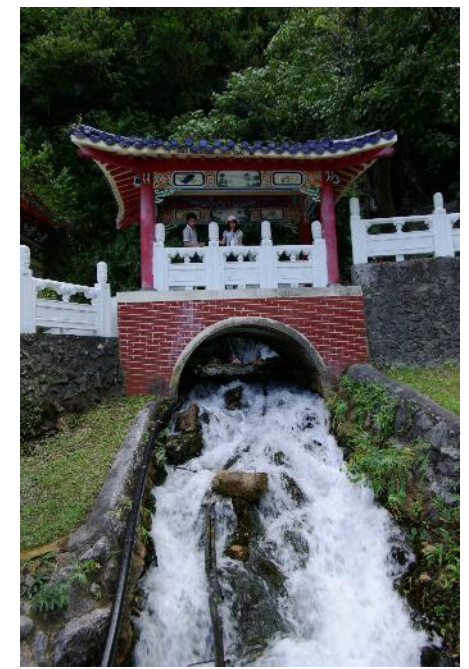
## On Xin Dian River to the east coast of Taiwan and via Taroko Valley down to the South Peak



Pictures taken by Harald Schwarz, maps are taken from BING



# On Xin Dian River to the east coast of Taiwan and via Taroko Valley down to the South Peak

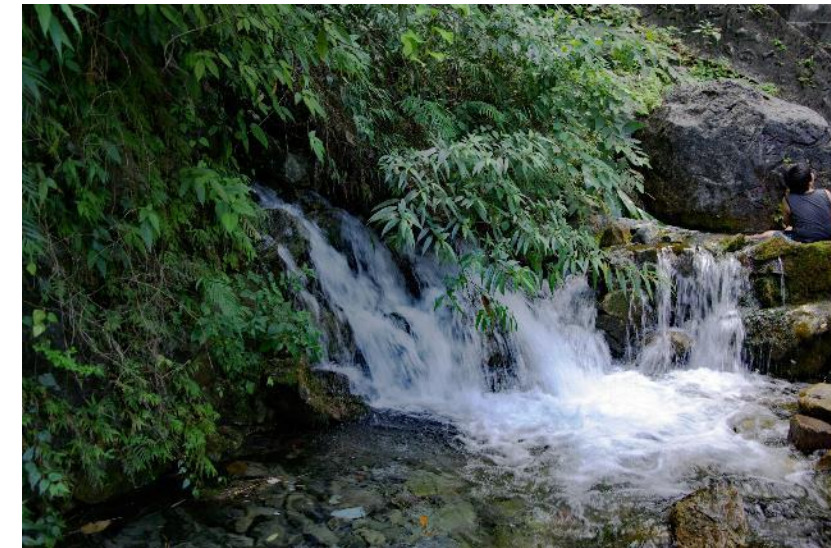




# On Xin Dian River to the east coast of Taiwan and via Taroko Valley down to the South Peak



Along the coast line to K'en-Ting National Park





## On Xin Dian River to the east coast of Taiwan and via Taroko Valley down to the South Peak



Along the coast line to K'en-Ting National Park





On Xin Dian River to the east coast of Taiwan and via Taroko Valley down to the South Peak

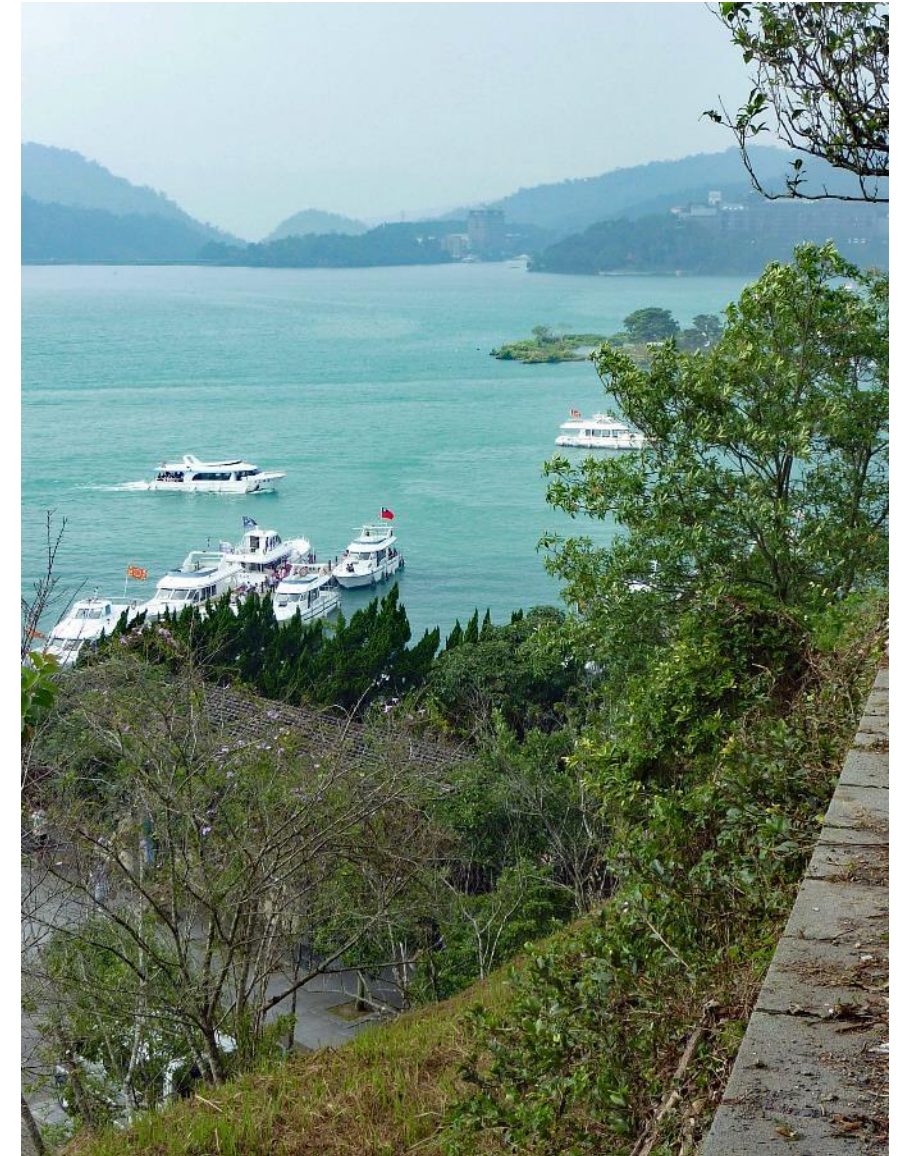
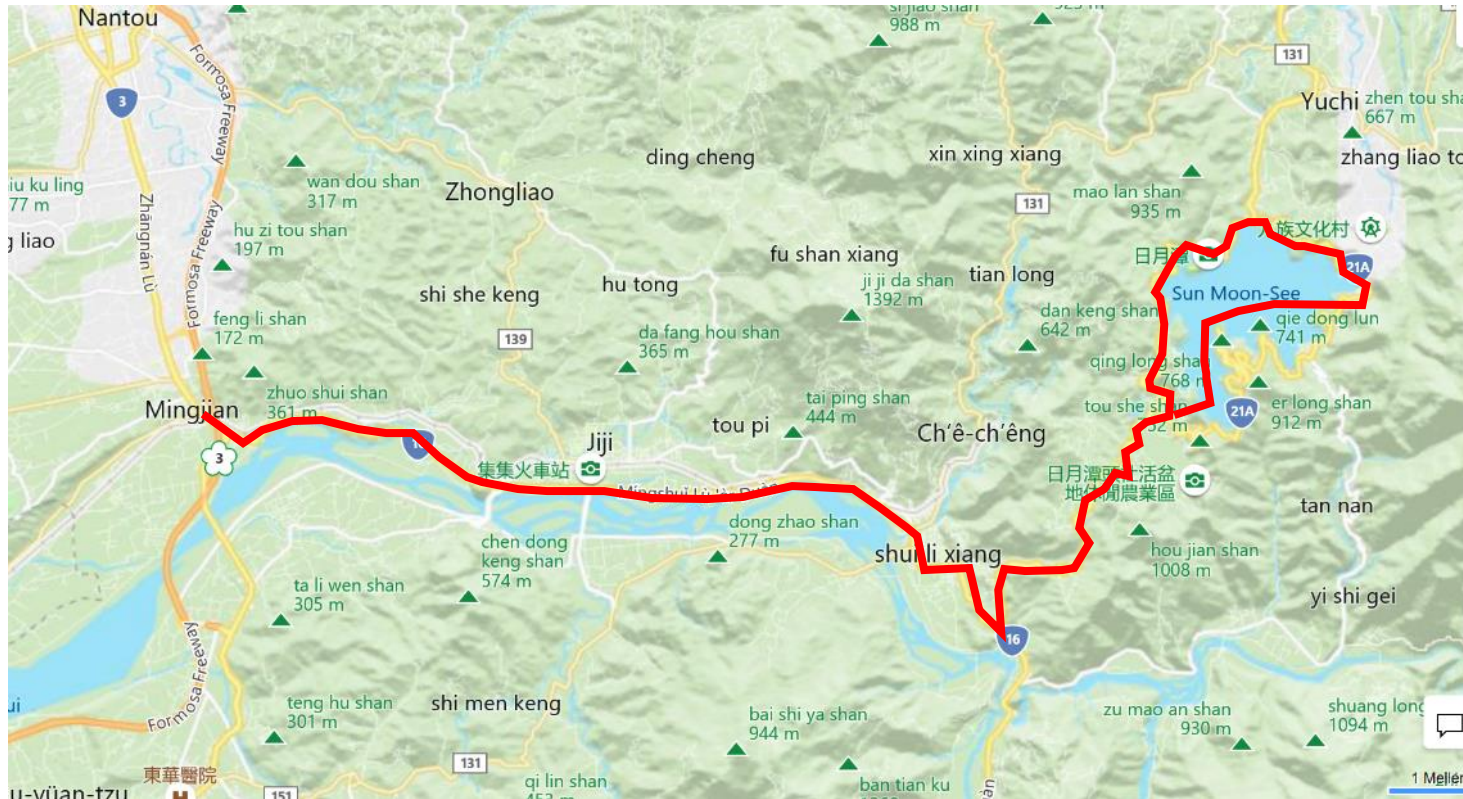


Reaching the south peak of Taiwan





## Day trip to Sun Moon Lake Area





## Sun Moon Lake area on the west side of Taiwan





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