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SAMPLE ITINERARY **MUSIC TOUR OF ASIA - TAIWAN**

B – Breakfast, L – Lunch, D – Dinner

DAY 1 – ARRIVAL TAIPEI (-)

Welcome to Taipei! Taipei is the capital of Taiwan, a modern metropolis with Taipei 101 skyscraper. Taipei is also known for its lively street-food scene and many night markets.

DAY 2 – TAIPEI (B,L,D)

Begin an orientation of Taiwan. Explore Chiang Kai-shek Memorial Hall is the most prominent historical landmark in Taiwan, it was erected in honor and memory of Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek, the former President of the Republic of China. You may have an opportunity to watch the change of guards.

Learn about Long Shan Temple, a 200 years old temple, represents the pride of Taiwanese temples and worship houses, worshiping a mixture of Buddhist, Taoist, and deities like Mazu.

Watch Taipei under your feet at Taipei 101, formerly known as the Taipei World Financial Center. It was the world's tallest inhabited building. It reaches the top of Taipei with the fastest elevator.

Participate in the first performance.

DAY 3 – TAIPEI (B,L,D)

Beitou Thermal Valley is also known as Beitou Hot Spring Park, the hot springs here have the highest temperatures of any in the Datunshan volcano group. In recent years, the "Beitou Rock Conservation Area" has been established to ensure the protection of these natural rarities.

Experience the force of nature by walking through mushroom like rocks at Yeliu Geo Park. Continue to Shifen Old Town with tradition to release hot air paper lantern to the sky and make a wish.

Evening, explore one of the famous night markets, **Ximending**, a shopping district. It was the first pedestrian zone in Taiwan. Night market is an excellent place for purchase your dinner.

DAY 4 – TAIPEI TO NANTOU TO CHIAYI (B.L.D) Participate in a school exchange program or a music clinic. Participate in the second performance.

Afternoon, proceed to Chiavi. Bordered by mountains on one side and the sea on the other, Chiavi County is the only county in Taiwan with three major national scenic areas including Alishan, each presenting a unique view of nature's wonders, from mountains to plains to ocean views.



DAY 5 – CHIAYI TO ALISHAN TO CHIAYI (B,L,D) Discover Alishan, a beautiful national scenic area by Taiwan's tallest peak, Yushan. It is the homeland of the Tsou indigenous people. This area is famous for its breathtaking sunrise views and cloud formations, towering ancient trees, colorful cherry blossoms, the world-famous Alishan Forest Railway, and secluded forest trails, valleys, and waterfalls.

Ride the Alishan Forest Railway through Zhaoping Park and the Giant Tree Trail. The Alishan Forest Railway is an 86 km network of 2 ft 6 in narrow gaug railways running up to and throughout the popular mountain resort.



Enjoy tea picking and making experience at **Alishan Tea Plantations.** Alishan Oolong Tea is the perfect introduction to Taiwan's acclaimed high mountain oolongs.

Through the years, Taiwanese aboriginals have cultivated many important rites and traditions. A journey to Alishan gives an opportunity to explore Tsou culture. Although it numbers just 5,000 people, the tribe has had a lasting impact on the culture of Taiwan. To this day, their method of cooking rice in bamboo tubes lives on. Learn the lively traditions music and dance from the native people.

DAY 6 – CHIAYI TO TAINAN (B,D)

Depart for **Tainan**, Taiwan's oldest city, which was formerly its capital during the Qing Dynasty.

Anping Fort was built by Dutch people during colonial time 1620s. It was the highest administration institution in Taiwan. Explore Anping Tree House, a warehouse covered by banyan tree witness the glory past of Tainan seaport. Stroll down Anping Old Street – a long tight alley full of delicious traditional Taiwanese foods and trinkets. It is the first shopping street in Taiwan since 1620s. Discover Sicao Green Tunnel is the very first canal developed more than 200 years ago. Admire the scenic site while cruising along the canal.

Participate in the third performance.

DAY 7 – TAINAN TO KAOHSIUNG (B,D)

Discover the colorful side of Taiwan.

Learn the history of **Chihkan Tower**, the oldest building in Tainan and the first government institution in Taiwan. You will hear about the story about how Chinese General Koxinga defeated Dutch soldiers.

Photo stop opportunity at **Winnie the Pooh Painted Village**, a village full of adorable Winnie the Pooh murals.

Proceed to Kaohsiung, Taiwan's second largest city. Stop at **Formosa Boulevard MRT station**, ranks the second the most beautiful train station in the world with the beautiful Dome of Light, the world's largest work of glass art.

Taste the local food delights at one of the most famous night markets in Taiwan, **Ruifeng Night Market**. Located in the heart of Kaohsiung, Ruifeng Night Market where food, shopping and people come together on one long stretch of road.

DAY 8 – KAOHSIUNG (B,D)

Visit **Forguanshan Monastery** (Buddha Museum) – one of the largest Buddhist temples in Taiwan. Home to a 100 meter (328 foot) statue of a golden Buddha, as well as 500 smaller versions of the religious deity.

Continue to **Lotus Lake**, a beautiful artificial lake surrounding by temples. The Lotus Lake is home to majestic structures reminiscent of China's palaces. The burst of green from the lotuses in spring is a sight to behold against the backdrop of a serene blue lake.

Participate in the fourth performance.

Enjoy a farewell dinner.

DAY 9 – DEPART KAOHSIUNG (B)

Your tour ends with breakfast this morning. Transfer to the airport for your flight back to home.