

Scenery in Taiwan

Swedish-Taiwanese Friendship Association

The purpose of the association is to work to spread information about Taiwan and to raise an interest in its history, culture and society, to contribute to cultural exchange between the two countries and to increase mutual understanding between people in Sweden and Taiwan.

The association does not take sides in issues concerning Taiwanese domestic politics.

The association considers it self-evident that any future decision on Taiwan's political status can and will be made solely by the people in Taiwan, without economic, diplomatic or military pressure from outside.

Do you want to become a member?
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The central part of Taiwan is mountainous with five mountain ranges stretching from north to south, covering two thirds of the island.

The highest peak is Yu Shan at 3 952 meters above sea level. There are five other peaks rising above 3 000 meters.

The west part of the island is a cultivated plain with very fertile soil. Although it only covers one fourth of the island, around 90 percent of the Taiwanese live here.

But it's on the east side you can find the most spectacular scenery. Taroko Gorge is a deep crevice stretching tens of kilometers into the mountains. On one side of the narrow, winding road the rock face rises high, and on the other, steep slopes fall down into a whirling river. The small village of Tienhsiang, with a few eating places and accommodation is a suitable destination for an excursion.

The road continues west across the mountain

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chains. You reach Taroko Gorge from the town of Hualien on the east coast, a few hours ride by train from Taipei.

Centrally located on the main island is the mountain top Ali Shan which, although it's not the highest peak in Taiwan still is the most famous one.

Ali Shan is a favourite destination of many mountaineers. However, most tourists choose the small train going up to the viewing point

from where you can watch the sun rise and the so called sea of clouds between Ali Shan and Yu Shan.

Also centrally located is Sun Moon Lake, the biggest lake in Taiwan, which got its name because the east part has the shape of a sun, and the west part resembles a moon. Many people visit the lake at sun rise or sun set. The area is also home to Thao, one of the indigenous peoples who inhabited Taiwan before the Han Chinese got there about 500 years ago.

