YUMMY YUMMY TOUR: TAIWAN SERIES
SECOND TASTE OF FORMOSA

***UNFORGETTABLE CULINARY DELICACIES***

Cities Covered: Taoyuan (Taipei), Nantou, Chiayi, Kaohsiung, Taitung, Hualien, Yilan (Jiaoxi)

Tour Package Includes

- International Flight from Honolulu
- Deluxe Hotel Accommodations (Based on Double Occupancy)
- Admissions and All Meals as Stated
- Circle Island Tour to Visit 3 Most Popular Ranking Scenic Spots in Taiwan:
  - Sun Moon Lake with Boat Ride
  - Alishan (Mt. Ali) National Scenic Area with Forest Railway
  - Taroko Marble Gorge
- Local Specialty: Shaoxing Cuisine, Fruit Meal, Green Tea, Cuisine, All You Can Eat Hot Pot, Truku Cuisine, Crock Pot Soup, Taiwanese Dim Sum….
- Hands-on Experience:
  - Paper Making
  - Bubble Milk Tea
- Natural Hot Spring Hotels (3 Nights)
- Night Market

Traveling Dates:
Oct 24– Nov 1, 2017 (9 Days)

Price per person:
$2,688
Incl: Tax & Fuel Charge
Single Supp: $700

“Ni Hao” or “Welcome” to Taiwan! During Taiwan’s long history, prehistoric people, indigenous tribes, Dutch, Spanish, Japanese, and Han Chinese have successively occupied Taiwan, creating a varied culture and developing different local customs and traditions along the way. We will encounter all aspects of this beautiful country’s multifaceted cultures. In Taiwan, cooking techniques from all areas of China have merged: the Taiwanese have not only mastered the traditional local Chinese specialties, but have also used traditional techniques to develop new culinary treats. We will taste many different kinds of cuisines here. Taiwan is also ranked among the world’s top hot spring sites: the island can proudly regard itself as one of the regions with the highest concentration and greatest variety of hot springs in the world. Enjoy our stay at three onsen hotels.

Sun Moon Lake
Alishan Forest Railway
Onsen Spa
Taroko National Park.
Honolulu – Taipei (Taoyuan)

We start our adventure by boarding an international flight to Taipei, the capital city, and also the political, economic, and cultural center of Taiwan (ROC). Meals and snacks will be served on the plane.

Day 1 (Tue) Oct 24

**Lunch:** Puli Jing Du Restaurant features Shaoxing dishes, the main branch of Zhejiang Cuisine, with its tender, smooth and delicate taste, refreshing flavor, and mild fragrance. Since most of the food is cooked with mild Shaoxing rice wine, the dishes are accompanied with the fragrance of rice wine.

**Dinner:** Hotel Buffet Dinner

Hotel Accommodation: Fleur de Chine Hotel Sun Moon Lake or similar

Day 2 (Wed) Oct 25

Taoyuan

Upon arrival at Taiwan Taoyuan International Airport, an Air & Sea Travel representative will greet us and escort us to our hotel. Taoyuan is the county developed from a satellite city of Taipei's fourth largest metropolitan area in Taiwan.

Hotel Accommodation: Novotel Hotel Taoyuan or similar

Day 3 (Thu) Oct 26

Taoyuan – Sun Moon Lake (Nantou)

After breakfast, we will proceed south to Nantou County, the only landlocked county in Taiwan. Surrounded by mountains, Nantou is abundant in tourism resources, with picturesque scenery everywhere. After lunch, we will visit the Guangxing Paper Factory to learn the history of handmade paper and skills required for papermaking. We will see the processes used to make paper: boiling and washing fibers, making pulp, forming paper, pressing excess water and drying. We will also experience a DIY activity: making a paper fan using ancient printing techniques. After dinner, we will transfer to our Natural Hot Springs Hotel in Sun Moon Lake.

Fleur de Chine Hotel Mountain Mist Spring: As the steady breeze sways, the intoxicating fragrance from the water slides made from Chinese cypress timbers and the steam from the hot spring combine in the misty air, we can immerse in the spring pool to soothe and relax our nerves, while admiring the scenery on the horizon cast by the sunset glow.

*Lunch: Puli Jing Du Restaurant features Shaoxing dishes, the main branch of Zhejiang Cuisine, with its tender, smooth and delicate taste, refreshing flavor, and mild fragrance. Since most of the food is cooked with mild Shaoxing rice wine, the dishes are accompanied with the fragrance of rice wine.

*Dinner: Hotel Buffet Dinner

Hotel Accommodation: Fleur de Chine Hotel Sun Moon Lake or similar

Day 4 (Fri) Oct 27

Sun Moon Lake – Chiayi

Sun Moon Lake is the largest body of water in Taiwan and a popular tourist attraction. The lake surrounds a tiny island called Lalu and the east side resembles a sun while the west side resembles a moon, hence the name. Today, we will take a Boat Ride from Sheshui Terminal to Syuanguang Temple which lies between Sun Lake and Moon Lake. A golden idol of Master Syuanzang, above which is written, “Great National Scholar” is inside. We will discover Ita Thao Indigenous Village, formerly called Dehua Village, and the main Thao settlement. The Thao Aborigines claim their ancestors originated from Alishan. The village hosts traditional Thao performances and cultural exhibitions and has a shopping area full of Thao souvenirs. Afterwards, we will continue our journey to Chiayi, the gateway city to the famous Alishan (Mt. Ali). We will walk and experience Taiwan’s nightlife at The Wenhua Road Night Market, one of the most popular tourist night markets in Taiwan. It is a place where local merchants sell snacks and provide entertainment.

*Lunch: Fullhouse Resort Sun Moon Lake – Fruit Meal. The Fruit Meal plays a special role in Taiwanese cuisine. You cannot compare it with western fruit dishes. Taiwanese people prepare dishes paired with fruits such as Sugar-Apple, Dragon Fruit, Wax-Apple, Persimmon, Pineapple and Mango.

*Dinner: Chia Yi Dong Yuan Shieuan Restaurant is built in an artificial garden and offers healthy entrees using vegetables and meats, while guaranteeing the best taste and quality.

Hotel Accommodation: Nice Prince Hotel Chiayi or similar

Day 5 (Sat) Oct 28

Chiayi – Alishan National Scenic Area – Kaohsiung

After breakfast, we will go to Alishan National Scenic Area, one of the major landmarks associated with Taiwan. 250 years ago, a chief of the Tsou tribe had a successful hunting trip on a mountain and in memory of him, the tribe named the mountain “Alishan”. The song “Alishan de guniang” (Chinese: 阿里山的姑娘; English: The Girls of Alishan) refers to the
beautiful girls of the Tsou aborigine tribe and is one of Taiwan's most popular folk songs. It is also well known in China and several foreign countries. We will take the Alishan Forest Railway, a 54 mile network of narrow railways running up to and throughout the mountain resort of Alishan. This tourist attraction with unique Z-shaped switchbacks, 50 tunnels, and over 77 wooden bridges is one of only three mountain rails in the world. After lunch, we will transfer to Kaohsiung, one of five special municipalities in Taiwan. Since its establishment in the 17th century, Kaohsiung has grown from a small trading village into the political, economic, transportation, manufacturing, refining, shipbuilding, and industrial center of southern Taiwan. After dinner, we can walk along the famous Love River (Ai River) which has great cultural significance for the people of Kaohsiung and plays an important role in its economy and tourism. It is the spine of Kaohsiung and has a role similar to the River Thames of London.

*Lunch: Alishan House Chinese Meal. All of the ingredients used in the Chinese dishes are harvested from Alishan National Area. The food prepared here is simple but very tasty.

*Dinner: Taiwanese Hot Pot – All you can eat! Your palate will tell you the differences between a delicious Taiwanese hot pot and a Western hot pot. Select your own meat, vegetables & others ingredients to cook in the hot pot and mix or create your own sauce.

Hotel Accommodation: Chateau de Chine Hotel Kaohsiung or similar

Day 6 (Sun) Oct 29
Kaohsiung – Taitung (B, L, D)

After breakfast, we will go to Dapeng Bay National Scenic Area. Dapeng Bay is the largest inner bay in Taiwan, providing rich resources of sea animals and plants in this region. Redwoods and sea eggplants grow by the sea. The animals in the Dapeng Bay National Scenic Area include birds, fish and mollusks. There are about 95 kinds of birds, including migratory birds, fish that include groupers, and local tide-waving crabs on the wetlands. We will take the Ferry to see the bay and beautiful lake. We will go to Huaciao Fish Market in the fishing port of Tong Gang, the biggest distribution center of blue-fin tuna. We can find a variety of delicious foods there, especially fresh and dried seafood. The three treasures of Tong Gang are blue-fin tuna, banded coral shrimp (sakura shrimp), and fish eggs. Then we will drive to Taitung, the third largest county on the eastern coast via the Southern Link Highway. After we check in at our Natural Hot Springs Hotel, we will enjoy a hearty hotel dinner buffet. Please feel free to use the hotel facilities and don’t forget to try the hot springs!

Hotel Royal Chihpen is situated in the scenic Chihpen area of Taitung County. It is blessed with natural hot spring water and surrounded with rich, natural scenic attractions such as gorges, waterfalls, and the Chihpen Forest Recreation Area. The natural hot spring resources and international setting have made the Hotel Royal Chihpen the first, world-class hot spring leisure resort in the eastern part of Taiwan. Recreational facilities include both in-door and out-door hot spring bathing facilities.

*Lunch: Jizahen Seafood Restaurant is a restaurant next to Huaciao Market. Here, only the freshest seafood caught daily will be served.

*Dinner: Buffet Dinner at Hotel. Are you a little homesick and missing western food after all of yummy Taiwanese foods we have been eating? Tonight, we will have a western style buffet for you to take a yummy break before the 2nd round.

Hotel Accommodation: Royal Chihpen Hotel Taitung or similar

Day 7 (Mon) Oct 30
Taitung – Hualien (B, L, D)

Free leisure time on our own this morning. Enjoy the springs and facilities of the beautiful hot springs hotel. After a local specialty lunch, we will go to Hualien by driving through the Huatung Valley, a long and narrow valley located between Chungyang Range and Haian Range. It is a plain area stretching 180 kilometers near the eastern coast of Taiwan from Hualien City in the north to Taitung City in the south. VATAAN Wetland is the home of the Amis people, another aborigine tribe in Taiwan. We will learn about Palakaw, a unique traditional fishing method used by the Amis. After dinner, we will transfer to our hotel.

*Lunch: Auntie’s Tea Food Restaurant. This is a famous local restaurant because green tea is the main ingredient for all their dishes. All of their special green tea dishes will be refreshing after some of the rich foods we have been enjoying on this trip.

*Dinner: Farmer’s Healthy Kitchen which specializes in dishes that promote and maintain a healthy mind and body. This restaurant serves locally grown fresh vegetables and delicious food low in fat and calories and is particularly beneficial for the elderly.

Hotel Accommodation: Fullon Hotel and Resort or Similar
Today’s highlight is **Taroko National Park**, one of eight national parks in Taiwan. The name Taroko means “magnificent and beautiful” in the language of the Truku indigenous tribe. **Taroko Gorge** is an amazing natural gorge created by the **Liwu River** which has cut deep into mountains made of solid marble. As we travel on a road carved into sheer walls of rock wending its way past forested peaks and cliffs towering thousands of feet above it, while hundreds of feet below a river roars past gigantic marble boulders, we can appreciate the natural beauty along the way. We will arrive at **Tianshiang** after passing **Shakadang Trail Swallow Grotto** (Yanzikou), and **Tse Mu Bridge**. **Swallow Grotto** is the most impressive natural site in Taroko Gorge where the canyons are the narrowest. Swallows nesting on the cliff can be seen chirping and flying back and forth. Changchun Shrine or Eternal Spring Shrine is a landmark and memorial shrine in Taroko National Park. We will then drive to Yilan with a stop at **Qingshui Cliff**. The route along Qingshui Cliff is the only coastal road in Taroko National Park. The site of the Qingshui Cliff was designated in 1953 by the Taiwan government as one of the island’s "Eight Wonders". **Yilan** is a county in Northeastern Taiwan blessed with natural beauty and a rich culture. Our first stop will be **Kili Bay bubble tea museum**. Also known as "Pearl milk tea," bubble milk tea originated in Taichung and is made with black tea, milk, and sago pearls. The combination of fragrant tea and chewy sago has made this beverage popular not only in Taiwan but in other countries as well. In the museum, we will learn about it and can DIY to customize our own drink. After this gorgeous day of sightseeing, we will check into our hot spring resort in Jiaoxi. During our stay, feel free to enjoy the **Onsen Spa** inside the resort, as this rejuvenating experience will help reduce insomnia and aid in recovering from fatigue.

**Day 8 (Tue) Oct 31**

*B: Breakfast | L: Lunch | D: Dinner*

We wish you a safe journey home and many wonderful memories to share with family and friends! 😊

**Day 9 (Wed) Nov 1**

Relax at our hotel after breakfast before going to **Wufongchi Waterfall**. This is one of the eight great scenic spots of the Lanyang Plains in Yilan County. It is named for the five sharp peaks which stand in a row behind the falls that look like the five triangular banners that usually hang down the back of the war general’s costume in Chinese Opera. Fog and mist drift gracefully around the mountaintop year-long, and torrents of mountain springs continuously flow down its slopes, forming three layers of cascades that are now the Wufongchi Falls. After lunch, we will visit the **National Center for Traditional Arts**, the best place to discover Taiwanese culture. We can see the Folk Art Boulevard of the old city or students’ performance of Taiwanese Opera and even more interesting things. Afterwards, we will drive through **Syue-Shan Tunnel** (12.9 kms), the longest tunnel in Taiwan to Taoyuan City. After dinner, we will transfer to Taoyuan International Airport for our return flight home, ending our fantastic journey to Taiwan.

*Lunch: **Crock Pot Soup**. In Chinese culture, people believe that a crock pot is the best dishware for making soup. Crock pots can only be used for slow cooking and because of this limitation, all the nutrition will stay inside the soup instead of evaporating during the cooking time.

*Dinner: **Taiwanese Dim Sum**. Today’s dinner will include Taiwanese traditional local snacks and dishes, such as dansai noodles and golden fried shrimp rolls. Enjoy a wide range of Taiwan’s delectable specialty dishes which are exquisitely presented.
Welcome to Taiwan

CHECK OR CASH PAYMENT ONLY. A deposit of $350 per person is required at the time of application. The balance of payment is due **70 days prior to departure**. In the event balance of payment is not made within the required time period, Air and Sea Travel Center reserves the right to cancel reservations and charge a cancellation fee.

Written notice is required for any cancellation.

$350 deposit is non-refundable if you cancel **within 70 days before departure**.

**Within 70 days before departure, the cancellation fee will be as follow:**

- **69-31 days** prior to departure, 50% of total price plus any other service fee caused from the cancellation;
- **30 days** prior to departure or withdrawing during the tour shall be regarded as willingly giving up all rights concerned, 100% of total price, and request for other services as a substitute shall not be accepted.

We strongly recommend purchasing travel insurance when you make a reservation.

**Remarks:**
- Fares are per person, USD based on double occupancy and include all airline taxes and fees
- Escorted tour with a minimum of 20 passengers
- Local English speaking tour guide service
- All transfers and sightseeing by air conditioned coach
- Refer to “General Condition of Air & Sea”
- We reserve the right to modify the itinerary to ensure smooth operation
- Tips and gratuities are not included
- Tour price is subject to change according to any airfare increase, increase in government taxes, additional fuel charges and fluctuation of the rate of exchange between U.S. and foreign currency
- Tour price includes fuel surcharge & government taxes and fees.
- The tour price shown is current at time of listing and pricing on Nov 30th, 2016

**Payment Policy:**

Stinky Tofu
Minced Pork Rice
Pineapple Cake
Oyster Omelet
Bubble Milk Tea
Oyster Omelet
Oyster Omelet
Pineapple Cake