



TREASURES OF TAIWAN

Classic Tour | 15 Days | Physical Level 1

Taipei – Sun Moon Lake – Tainan – Kaohsiung – Kenting - Chihpen –
Taroko National Park - Taipei

Explore the cities of Taipei and Tainan, where ancient and modern sit side by side, and lose yourself in the natural beauty of Sun Moon Lake and Taroko National Park. This magical and diverse island has so much to offer, and on our Treasures of Taiwan tour you can experience it for yourself!

- Explore bustling Taipei
- Unwind at beautiful Sun Moon Lake
- Visit Foguangshan Monastery
- Relax on the beach in Kenting
- Spend time in magnificent Taroko National Park
- Discover the first capital city in Taiwan, Tainan

To book call **0800 936 3998** or visit your local travel agent

Visit wendywutours.co.nz

TOUR MAP



IMPORTANT NOTICE – TAROKO NATIONAL PARK CLOSURE:

Due to the earthquake on April 3, 2024, which impacted Eastern Taiwan including Taroko National Park, majority of the park is currently closed for repairs. In light of this, we have arranged an alternate tour on Day 12 including Taroko Archway and Visitor Centre, along with the beautiful nearby city of Hualien until the park reopens. Rest assured, if Taroko National Park reopens in time for your arrival, we will revert back to the original plan and proceed with the tour of the park.

Last update January 2025

TREASURES OF TAIWAN TOUR INCLUSIONS:

- Return international economy flights, taxes and current fuel surcharges (unless a land only option is selected)
- All accommodation
- All meals
- All sightseeing and entrance fees
- All transportation and transfers
- English speaking National Escorts (if your group is 10 or more passengers) or Local Guides
- Specialist advice from our experienced travel consultants
- Comprehensive travel guides
- Safe and secure with IATA

The only thing you may have to pay for are personal expenditure e.g. drinks, optional excursions or shows, insurance of any kind, customary tipping, early check in or late check out and other items not specified on the itinerary.

CLASSIC TOURS:

These tours are designed for those who wish to see the iconic sites and magnificent treasures of Taiwan on an excellent value group tour whilst travelling with like-minded people. The tours are on a fully-inclusive basis so you'll travel with the assurance that all your arrangements are taken care of. You will be accompanied by our dedicated and professional National Escort whose unparalleled knowledge will turn your holiday into an unforgettable experience.

PHYSICAL LEVEL 1:

Our tours come with a physical rating to guide you in selecting a holiday that suits your comfort level. Joining any of our tours involves independent mobility and the ability to stay active throughout the day, which is essential for fully enjoying the unique charm of each destination.

'Treasures of Taiwan' is rated as a **physical level 1** tour. This indicates a level of fitness that allows you to comfortably remain on your feet with occasional rests. Expect to effortlessly navigate boarding and disembarking from various modes of transport, including coaches and boats. You'll be walking around remarkable sites and ascending steps to capture those awe-inspiring views!

Please consider:

- On several days, there will be sightseeing on foot for extended periods of time, often involving steps or uneven ground
- You will be required to get on and off various sizes of boat without assistance

Of course, our National Escort and local guides will always endeavour to provide the highest level of service and assistance; however, they cannot be expected to cater for customers who are unfit to complete the itinerary.

JOINING YOUR TOUR:

The tour is 15 days in duration including international flights. Please note, due to flight schedules passengers may depart/arrive on Day 2.

Travellers booked on 'Land Only', the price includes your arrival/departure airport transfers if arriving/departing on the start and conclusion date of your tour. Please advise your international flight times to Reservations so we can arrange your transfers accordingly.

Join the tour on Day 2 in Taipei and end the tour on Day 14 in Taipei. Please refer to your final itinerary for more specific meeting instructions pertaining to your departure.

ITINERARY CHANGES:

It's our intention to adhere to the day-to-day itinerary as printed; however, the order of events or sightseeing may change as we look to improve our tours or as local conditions dictate. In these circumstances we'll make the best possible arrangements maintaining the integrity of your trip.

DETAILED ITINERARY

Day 1-2: Fly to Taipei

Meals: D

Upon arrival into Taipei, Taiwan's buzzing capital, you will be met by the driver and transfer approximately 1 hour to your hotel.

In the evening, meet your guide and enjoy a welcome dinner at the hotel.

Please note: Early check-in is not included. If your flight arrives in the morning and you wish to arrange this, please speak to your reservation's consultant.



Destination Information

Taipei – The capital of Taiwan, Taipei has an interesting blend of Chinese culture with a fusion of Japanese, Southeast Asian and American influences. The city is a modern metropolis with Japanese colonial lanes, busy shopping streets and contemporary buildings, and is known for its lively street-food scene and many night markets.

Day 3: Taipei

Meals: B, L, D

Enjoy a full day Taipei City tour, beginning with a visit to the impressive Martyrs' Shrine.

After lunch, proceed to visit CKS Memorial Hall and Longshan Temple before reaching the observation tower at Taipei 101 for panoramic views over the city.

This evening, a walking street food tour awaits at one of Taipei's lively night markets. Enjoy 2-3 different local foods along with a beverage before time at leisure to wander the markets. You will be on your feet sightseeing for several hours today.



Please note, there is minimal seating during the evenings walking street food/market tour.

Destination Information

Martyr's Shrine – The National Revolutionary Martyrs' Shrine was built in 1969 to honour the fallen Kuomintang soldiers after the Chinese Civil War. It is home to around 390,000 spirit tablets.

CKS Memorial Hall – The National Chiang Kai-shek Memorial Hall is a famous national monument erected in memory of the authoritarian leader Chiang Kai-shek, former President of the Republic of China.

Longshan Temple – One of the largest and oldest temples in Taiwan, Longshan was built in 1738 by Han immigrants from Fujian as a gathering place for Chinese settlers. Today it is one of the city's top religious sites, and it is a wonderful mix of the Taoist, Buddhist and Confucian faiths.

Taipei 101 – Taipei's skyline is crowned by the iconic 509m-tall, bamboo-shaped Taipei 101 skyscraper. From its opening in 2004 until 2010 it was classified as the world's tallest building.

Day 4: Taipei – Sun Moon Lake

Meals: B, L, D

Start the morning with a visit to the National Palace Museum. After a Dim Sum style lunch, drive around 3 hours south to the popular resort that lies in the heart of Taiwan, Sun Moon Lake, and visit the local landmark, Wen Wu Temple.

Take a shared motorboat cruise around the lake and enjoy the beautiful surroundings.

Also visit Holy Monk Shrine, Tze-En Pagoda and Tehua Village (the aboriginal village). Check in to your hotel for a two-night stay.

**Destination Information**

National Palace Museum – The National Palace Museum has a permanent collection of nearly 700,000 pieces of ancient Chinese imperial artefacts and artworks, making it the world's largest and arguably finest collection of Chinese art. The collection covers 5,000 years of China's historical and artistic achievements and includes treasures in painting, calligraphy, bronzes, lacquerware, ceramics, jade and religious objects.

Sun Moon Lake – Sun Moon Lake is Taiwan's largest lake. The name is inspired by the beauty of the area. The east side of the lake is round, like the sun, while the west side is long and narrow, like a crescent moon. The lake and its surrounding countryside have been designated one of 13 national scenic areas in Taiwan. Due to low rainfall and droughts over recent years as a result of climate change, please be mindful that water levels may be low during the time of your visit.

Wen Wu Temple – In the past, two temples were located on the shore of Sun Moon Lake. In 1919, a dam was constructed, causing the lake's water level to rise, and the temples were torn down and consolidated at the temple's present location in 1938. In 1969, Wen Wu temple was rebuilt again in the Chinese palace style. There is walk of around 5 minutes on a steep slope up to the top and three-story steps down to the entrance.

Holy Monk Shrine – Syuentzang Temple, also known as Holy Monk Shrine was constructed for the famous monk Tang Xuanzang who contributed greatly to Chinese culture and the spread of Buddhism in China. There are some steep steps at the entrance and the shrine itself is situated over three floors.

Tze-En Pagoda – The octagonal Tse En Pagoda was constructed in 1971 in memory of President Chiang Kai-shek's mother. It was constructed with a traditional Chinese architectural style on top of Mount Shabalan, overlooking beautiful Lalu Island and Sun Moon Lake. There is a steep slope with some stairs to reach the pagoda to/from the coach.

Tehua Village – Tehua Village is the last residence of the thao people at Sun Moon Lake. The thao people established the "thao Cultural Village" for people to appreciate their traditional culture, songs, and dancing.

Day 5: Sun Moon Lake

Meals: B, L, D

This morning, drive 20 minutes to the nearby township named Puli to visit a famous Tea farm and see a tea plantation.

In the afternoon, take a cable car and visit the Formosan Cultural Village. Here you can choose to take a walk to visit the homes of Taiwan's main indigenous tribes, experience the exciting rides of the theme park or stroll through the grounds of Taiwan's largest and most authentic European garden.



Take the cable car back down and enjoy dinner at a local restaurant.

Destination Information

Tea farm – The speciality here is Assam black tea, introduced to the area from India by the Japanese. In its heyday, this factory had over 200 workers, but it was forced to close down in the early. A handful of veteran workers persisted and began growing organic Assam and turned the factory into a tourist attraction filled with educational and cultural values. There is a gentle slope to/from the coach to access the tea farm.

Formosan Cultural Village – The Formosan Aboriginal Culture Village is an amusement park distinctive for its Formosan aboriginal culture theme.

Day 6: Sun Moon Lake – Tainan

Meals: B, L, D

Drive around 2 and a half hours this morning to the first capital city in Taiwan, Tainan. Visit the Chihkan Tower and Confucius Temple before enjoying lunch in a local restaurant.

Spend the afternoon in the Anping area, wandering down the old streets, seeing Anping Fort, Anping Tree House and Tait & Co. Merchant House. You can also enjoy the beautiful sunset view at Anping Harbor.



Check in to your hotel and in the evening, join an optional night market tour (payable locally).

Destination Information

Tainan – Tainan is the oldest city in Taiwan and was the island's capital from 1683–1887 under the Qing dynasty. Today it's known for its centuries-old fortresses and temples. Traditional culture continues to thrive.

Chihkan Tower – Chihkan Tower is an 18th-century Chinese complex with gardens, intricately carved towers and a temple erected on the foundations of Fort Provintia, a Dutch outpost dating to the mid-1600s. There are the occasional steep steps at the tower.

Confucius Temple – The Taiwan Confucius Temple, also called the Scholarly Temple, was built in 1665 during the Koxinga dynasty, but has been renovated several times over the past 300 years. Today the temple preserves ancient Confucian ceremonies, which are conducted on a regular basis.

Anping - The history of Anping dates back to the 17th century, when the Dutch East India Company occupied the area. In the Japanese period, the history of trade between China and Japan unfolded at Anping. Anping Old Street is lined with traditional rammed earth houses, low brick houses as well as Western mansions, and a myriad of street food, including fried wontons, shrimp rolls and deep-fried sandwiches.

Anping Fort – In 1624, Dutch built the first fort in Anping, Taiwan, called "Fort Zeelandia", now known as Anping Old Fort. It is the oldest fort in Taiwan. There are some steps at the fort.

Day 7: Tainan – Kaohsiung

Meals: B, L, D

Drive approximately 1 hour south to Kaohsiung and visit the Dragon & Tiger Pagodas as well as the Spring & Autumn Pavilions. There are many stairs to climb inside the pagodas, but you can choose to stay outside if you wish.

Continue to the biggest monastery in Taiwan, Foguanshan Monastery. After a vegetarian lunch, explore the Main Shrine, the Buddhist Museum and the Great Buddha Land. You will spend around 2-3 hours sightseeing on foot here.



Proceed to the Martyrs' Shrine at Shoushan Park to have a nice view over Kaohsiung Harbor.

Destination Information

Kaohsiung – Taiwan's second largest city, Kaohsiung is reinventing itself from an industrial port to a cultural hub. The city has plenty of night markets, temples and good restaurants, and warehouses by the harbour are morphing into galleries and theatres. The city's focal point is the Love River.

Dragon & Tiger Pagodas – The Dragon and Tiger Pagodas are located on the southern edge of Lotus Lake. They were built in 1976. It is said that it's good luck to enter the dragon and exit the tiger. Whilst the pagoda itself is seven stories high, the group will stay on the ground floor, and should you wish to visit the other floors, then please note there is no elevator.

Spring & Autumn Pavilions – Close to the Dragon & Tiger Pagodas are the fun and gaudy Spring & Autumn Pavilions. The two octagonal towers are dedicated to Guandi, the God of War, and feature Guanyin riding a dragon that you can walk through.

Foguanshan Monastery – Foguangshan is an international Chinese Buddhist monastic order based in Taiwan that practices humanistic Buddhism. The Foguangshan Monastery in Kaohsiung is the largest Buddhist monastery in Taiwan.

Buddha Museum – The sensational-looking Buddha Museum, added to Foguangshan Monastery in 2011, has several pagodas, a giant golden Buddha statue and a small but interesting museum of Buddhist artefacts.

Martyr's Shrine – The site was originally established during the Japanese rule of Taiwan in 1910. Throughout history the shrine has been renovated, renamed, demolished and rebuilt. It is located on the mountainside of Shoushan so you can enjoy great views over the city.

Day 8: Kaohsiung – Kenting National Park

Meals: B, L, D

Transfer around 2 hours to the beach resort of Kenting and visit Kenting National Park, which has abundant Fauna & Flora as well as breathtaking ocean view. There will be around 2 hours of walking in the park.

Proceed to visit Maopitou, where you can see some interesting rock formations.

Check in to the hotel and relax with some time at leisure to enjoy this beach resort.

Dinner this evening is at Kenting Street Night Market. Enjoy a walking food tour and sample 2-3 different local foods along with a beverage before returning to your hotel.

Please note, there is minimal seating during the evenings walking street food/market tour.

Destination Information

Kenting – Kenting National Park, commonly known as Kenting, is Taiwan's oldest and southernmost national park on the main island. The park is well known for its tropical climate, scenic mountain and beach. The terrain here is relatively flat but on slightly rocky terrain with occasional slope and steps.

**Day 9: Kenting National Park**

Meals: B, L, D

In the morning, drive 15 minutes and visit Shedding Nature Park, part of Kenting National Park. You will be on your feet for 30-60 minutes, and there are some stairs and steep hills to walk up.

Continue another 15 minutes to visit Oluanpi Light House.

Return to your hotel for lunch and spend the rest of the day at leisure, enjoying the beach resort.

Destination Information

Sheding Nature Park – Sheding is a nature park within Kenting National Park. The park features rock formations formed from ancient coral reefs, limestone caves and has an impressive range of flora and fauna. The terrain here is relatively flat but on slightly rocky terrain with occasional slope and steps.

Oluanpi Lighthouse – Oluanpi, or Eluanbi, Lighthouse is located on the southernmost point of Taiwan. The Lighthouse is also known as "The Light of East Asia" because its light is the most intense of those in Taiwan. It was built during the Qing Dynasty in 1883 and an English architect was hired to construct it.



Day 10: Kenting National Park – Chihpen

Meals: B, L, D

Enjoy a leisurely morning. After lunch at a local restaurant, drive around 2 and a half hours along the East Coast to Taitung, with the magnificent Pacific Ocean view right in front of you.

Continue to Chihpen, the hometown of hot springs. After checking in to your hotel, the rest of the day is free for you to enjoy the relaxing hot springs in the hotel.

Tonight's dinner is at the hotel, where there will also be an aboriginal music and dance performance.

**Destination Information**

Taitung – The coastal town of Taitung is the starting point for countywide attractions, including whale watching, hot springs and surfing.

Chihpen – Chihpen lies in a canyon around 15km southwest of Taitung and is a popular hot spring area. At the far end of the canyon is a lush jungle park with a beautiful banyan forest. The minerals in the hot spring water are good for you, and the heat from the water helps drive toxins from the body.

Day 11: Head to Taroko

Meals: B, L, D

Head north to Taroko, a journey of approximately 5 hours. Stop several times en route and visit Siaoyeliou, Dulan, Donghe (where there is a chance to see wild monkeys), Sansiantai and the scenic Cisingtan Lake area. Here you can choose to enjoy the lakeside cycling (payable locally).

Check in to your hotel in Taroko and enjoy dinner there.

After dinner there will be an optional aboriginal dance show you can watch.

**Destination Information**

Siaoyeliou – Siaoyeliou is a natural stone sculpture park with a unique landscape.

Dulan – Dulan is a small coastal town in Taitung County. It has one of the largest Ami settlements along the east coast and boasts beautiful coastal scenery, as well as a thriving local art scene.

Donghe – Donghe is a rural, seaside town located in northeastern Taitung County. The population is mainly the indigenous Amis people. It has become very popular among artists and surfers escaping the city.

Sansiantai – A beach and several islands and coral reefs make up the Sansiantai area. It is well known for its long footbridge, completed in 1987, in the shape of a sea dragon that connects the coast to the largest island. The name Sansiantai means "three immortals' platform", referring to three huge rocks found here.

Cisingtan Lake – Not actually a lake, Cisingtan or Seven Star Lake, was once the name of a series of small lakes situated where Hualien Airport now stands.

When the lakes were filled in as part of a modernization drive in 1936 the local people retreated to the coastal area. It is a great place for cycling and hiking.

Day 12: Taroko National Park (Hualien)

Meals: B, L, D

Visit Taroko National Park, one of the 7 wonders in Asia, to see the only marble gorge in the world and visit Gorge Gateway and see the Eternal Spring Shrine. From the bus there is around 30 minutes of walking. After lunch, enjoy some light hiking in the national park for about 30 to 60 minutes, depending on your energy and interest. Return to your hotel in Hualien.

IMPORTANT NOTICE – TAROKO NATIONAL PARK CLOSURE

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Begin your tour at the Taroko Archway, the iconic gateway that offers a striking first impression of the region's majestic beauty. Next, stop at the Taroko Visitor Center, where you can delve into the natural and cultural heritage of the area through engaging exhibits and informative displays.

Continue to Hualien city and visit the serene Guangtian Temple, a picturesque site that exemplifies local religious architecture and provides a peaceful atmosphere for reflection. Finally, immerse yourself in creativity at the Hualien Cultural and Creative Industries Park, a lively space celebrating art, culture, and innovation. This vibrant hub features galleries, shops, and cafes, showcasing the unique spirit and craftsmanship of Hualien.

Destination Information

Taroko National Park – Taroko National Park features high mountains, many of its peaks towering above 3,000m, sheer gorges, waterfalls and lush vegetation. The park was named after the Taroko Gorge, the landmark gorge of the park carved by the Liwu River. Almost all the bio-geographical zones in Taiwan are represented here, providing a sanctuary for half of the island's plant and animal species.

Day 13: Hualien – Taipei

Meals: B, L, D

Start your journey back to Taipei early this morning. Drive around 30 minutes to the scenic to enjoy the scenery.

Continue a further 2 and a half hours to visit Kavalan Whisky Distillery to learn about the whisky-making process and enjoy a small whiskey tasting experience.

Finally, transfer by road around 1 hour and 30 minutes to Taipei. In the evening, enjoy a farewell dinner.



Destination Information

Qingshui Cliff – Qingshui Cliff stretches more than 21km and rises vertically from the Pacific Ocean, with an average height of over 800m. The tallest peak, Qingshui Mountain, rises 2408 meters directly from the Pacific Ocean. It is a magnificently scenic area and was designated as one of the island's "Eight Wonders" in 1953.

Kavalan Whisky Distillery – Kavalan Whisky Distillery is named after the indigenous Kavalan people. The distillery was completed in December 2005 and released its first bottling in December 2008. In January 2010, one of the distillery's products caused a stir by beating three Scotch whiskies and one English whisky in a blind tasting organised in Scotland. The distillery and its products have won several awards.

Day 14-15: Depart Taipei

Meals: B

Any time before your flight is at leisure. You will be transferred from your hotel to the airport, per the departure time of your international flight.

Late checkout is not included. Additional nights before and after your tour can be arranged. Please contact our Reservations team to book.

TAIWAN - TRAVEL INFORMATION

VISAS:

Visas are not required for New Zealand passport holders for entry into Taiwan for stays of up to 90 days. Please be advised that your passport must have at least six months validity left on it when you arrive back into New Zealand.

At the time of booking Visa conditions may have changed, currently no visa is required for New Zealand Passport holders. Your travel consultant will inform you if any changes are applicable prior to your departure.

INSURANCE:

We strongly recommend that you take out a policy as soon as you pay your deposit. Wendy Wu Tours cannot in any way be made liable for any additional cost incurred by the customer on any tour due to the customer not having adequate travel insurance.

We also encourage all customers to take a copy of their travel insurance documents (especially relevant international contact numbers) with them while on tour. We advise that you check the inclusions and procedures for lodging claims prior to your departure. These documents should be stored separately from the original

EATING IN TAIWAN:

Taiwanese cuisine is delicious, colourful and healthy. Meals are usually served with a bowl of rice and several dishes of vegetables, sea food (normally fish and/or shrimps), and meats (pork, beef or chicken). Taiwan's other main staple is noodles, most famous being beef noodle. Food is an important element of Taiwanese culture. It is a time for families and friends to come together and much of family life revolves around the dinner table. Most food is eaten with chopsticks so best get practicing as cutlery is not always available at restaurants.

Meals as listed in the itinerary (excluding drinks) are included. Breakfast will be at your hotel and mostly buffet style but may be a set-menu. Dinners where included are usually the hotel is usually buffet-style, featuring a wide selection of high-quality Taiwanese and Western dishes, whereas lunch at a local restaurant is usually Taiwanese pre-set options. We usually find this style of dining suits the wide and varied tastes of our customers on tour. Beverages will be at your own expense and are readily available.

This itinerary includes two walking street food tours to immerse you in the local culture. There is no seating during these walking tours.

Please note: If you have any dietary requirements, you must inform us before your tour starts, and please be aware that restaurants may not always be able to accommodate these. Gluten-free food may not be as readily available as in New Zealand

**** Please inform us of any allergies and/or special dietary requirements at time of booking ****

DEVELOPMENT IN TAIWAN:

Taiwan is an advanced economy and as such matches the west in modernity and technological advances in many aspects. Taiwan is safe to visit, and the locals are very friendly and willing to help visitors.

TRANSPORT:

Coaches: Coaches with air conditioning are used on our group tours for city sightseeing, short excursions to the countryside and longer transfers where necessary. Roads in Taiwan are fairly modern, especially in the more populated areas.

Express trains: (If applicable) Second class reserved seats are booked for our groups on trains; there will be toilet facilities on board. Due to the limited space on trains, a separate luggage transfer service will be arranged for all suitcases.

TIPPING POLICY:

Tipping in Taiwan is a way to show satisfaction with the service of guides and drivers. It is not always clear who it is appropriate to tip and how much. Furthermore, travellers may not have the right amounts of cash available at the right time. Therefore, in order to avoid any inconvenience, Wendy Wu Tours operates a tipping policy where a stated amount is given to your National Escort at the beginning of your tour and tips are disbursed throughout your tour. The amount is designed to be at a reasonable level for travellers while being fair to the local people and includes a gratuity for the National Escort. If you are travelling in a smaller group, we ask for slightly higher amounts per traveller, to be fair to the guide(s). We generally find that most customers appreciate the convenience of our tipping policy, but we do recognize that it may not suit everyone. However, as this is a group tour we ask that everyone follows the same protocol to be fair to other group members and to ensure smooth operation of your tour.

PORTERAGE:

Please be aware that porterage is not included on our tours in Taiwan. You will therefore need to be able to handle your own luggage within the hotel and when using transportation like trains and coaches.

LUGGAGE:

All travellers are limited to two items of luggage each: a suitcase with a maximum weight of 20kg and one piece of hand luggage with a maximum weight of 5 Kg. It is essential that your luggage is lockable. Please note that authorities will only allow bottles onto the aircraft if they have been checked in as main baggage. Bottles in hand luggage may be confiscated.

ACCOMMODATION:

Your accommodation is selected for convenience of location, comfort or character, and can range from a business hotel in one city to a family run guesthouse in a smaller town. In more remote areas, accommodation may be of a lower standard and may not have all western amenities.

Hotels are generally rated as local three to four-star standard, but please note that there is no international classification system for hotels and differences in facilities and quality do exist between the New Zealand and Taiwan. We cannot guarantee the availability of double beds.

All group tour hotels have private western bathroom facilities, air-conditioning, TV and telephone. Hotels in Taiwan often do not have porters and you will be required to carry your own luggage. If you experience any difficulty, please speak to your National Escort/local guide. Rest assured that all hotels used by Wendy Wu Tours are regularly inspected by our staff and our partners. If you experience any difficulty, please speak to your National Escort/local guide.

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PERSONAL EXPENSES AND OPTIONAL TOURINGS:

Personal Expense - You will need to take some extra money to cover drinks, laundry and souvenirs, plus any additional sightseeing that may be offered to you.

Optional Tours - May be offered in each city you visit during your tour. These are not included in the standard itinerary and will only be available if time permits and if seats are available.

Please ensure you have additional funds available if you feel you may wish to participate in any extra activities. Each option will be arranged locally by your National Escort/Local Guide, participation and tipping for optional excursions is completely at your discretion.

CLIMBING STEPS:

Sightseeing at nearly all the palaces, fortresses and some temples involves climbing quite a number of steps. These palaces were built to provide defence against potential invaders so nearly all of them stand on top of a hill, while the interiors have layers of narrow hallways and steps to slow down the advance of enemies once they were inside. The steps tend to be quite large, not level and sometimes without handrails. Buddhist temples or pagodas also tend to be built at an elevation, as this is the most auspicious position according to ancient beliefs. This means you sometimes need to walk from the bus park to the entrance, and/or need to climb some steps inside.

People with knee or hip injuries who have poor balance or are otherwise unable to complete these activities independently should consider the suitability of this itinerary carefully.

VACCINATIONS AND YOUR HEALTH:

We recommend that you contact either your doctor or Health centre for advice on vaccinations and travel health. Safetravel has a comprehensive website that you may also find useful www.safetravel.govt.nz

BEFORE YOU LEAVE:

We strongly recommend registering your travel plans with www.safetravel.govt.nz as in the event of an emergency, New Zealand Consular assistance will be more readily available.

Up until the day you travel, it is vital you keep up to date and familiarised with the entry requirements as these can change at short notice. You are personally responsible for completing any entry forms, conducting any covid tests (if necessary), etc and adhering to countries' specific entry requirements.

You can also access the New Zealand Government's travel advisory service for up-to-date information about your destination on the same website.

AFTER YOUR BOOKING:

Once you have booked with Wendy Wu Tours, you will receive a confirmation invoice including a visa application form (if applicable), and a help sheet. Your final documentation pack will be sent to you approximately 2-3 weeks prior to departure.

ITINERARY CHANGES:

It is our intention to adhere to the day-to-day itinerary as printed; however, the order of events or sightseeing may change as we look to improve our tours or as local conditions dictate; in these circumstances we will make the best possible arrangements whilst maintaining the integrity of your trip.

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