

阿里山茶之道

The Land of Tea

賞遊
6

嘉

義縣高山茶種植面積共有兩千多公頃，茶葉年產量達六千多公噸，產量超過全台的三分之一，產值更高達十億新台幣，是山區最大宗的高經濟價值作物，其中又以梅山鄉是嘉義縣的茶葉栽植重鎮。

阿里山高山茶威名遠播國內外，但很多人不知道，梅山鄉的茶區面積及產量就佔了阿里山茶一半以上。梅山鄉太平村以東的村落，剛好分佈在北回歸線北側，海拔1000公尺到1500公尺之間，日夜溫差大、山坡經常雲霧籠罩，極適合茶樹的培育及生長。本區茶農產製的茶葉，色澤翠綠、耐沖泡、茶水金黃，而且香氣重，口感甘醇。

沿著162甲縣道往太和方向，梅山鄉共有七個村落是產茶的重鎮，其中包括太平、太興、碧湖、龍眼、瑞里、瑞峰、太和等村，阿里山國家風景區管理處與嘉義縣政府目前在這個區域推動「阿里山茶之道」計畫，將結合茶園風情、製茶產業及由老街、茶亭、茶棧、茶會館等串連的品茗文化與沿線各具特色的觀光旅遊景點，重新賦予該片土地新生命，繼而展開一連串令人刻骨銘心的「人與茶」的對話，提供旅客流連忘返的「茶之道」饗宴，提昇觀光魅力。

「阿里山茶之道」規劃有南、北兩道，其中「北道」從梅山走162縣道，經36彎眺景區，即由太平進入北道。行經嘉154、154-1、122鄉道及169縣道之太興、龍眼、碧湖、瑞里、瑞峰、太和等茶區及景點，也是阿里山最重要的產茶區；而以阿里山公路(台18)沿線從隙頂到石桌所分布之茶區及景點則屬於「南道」。

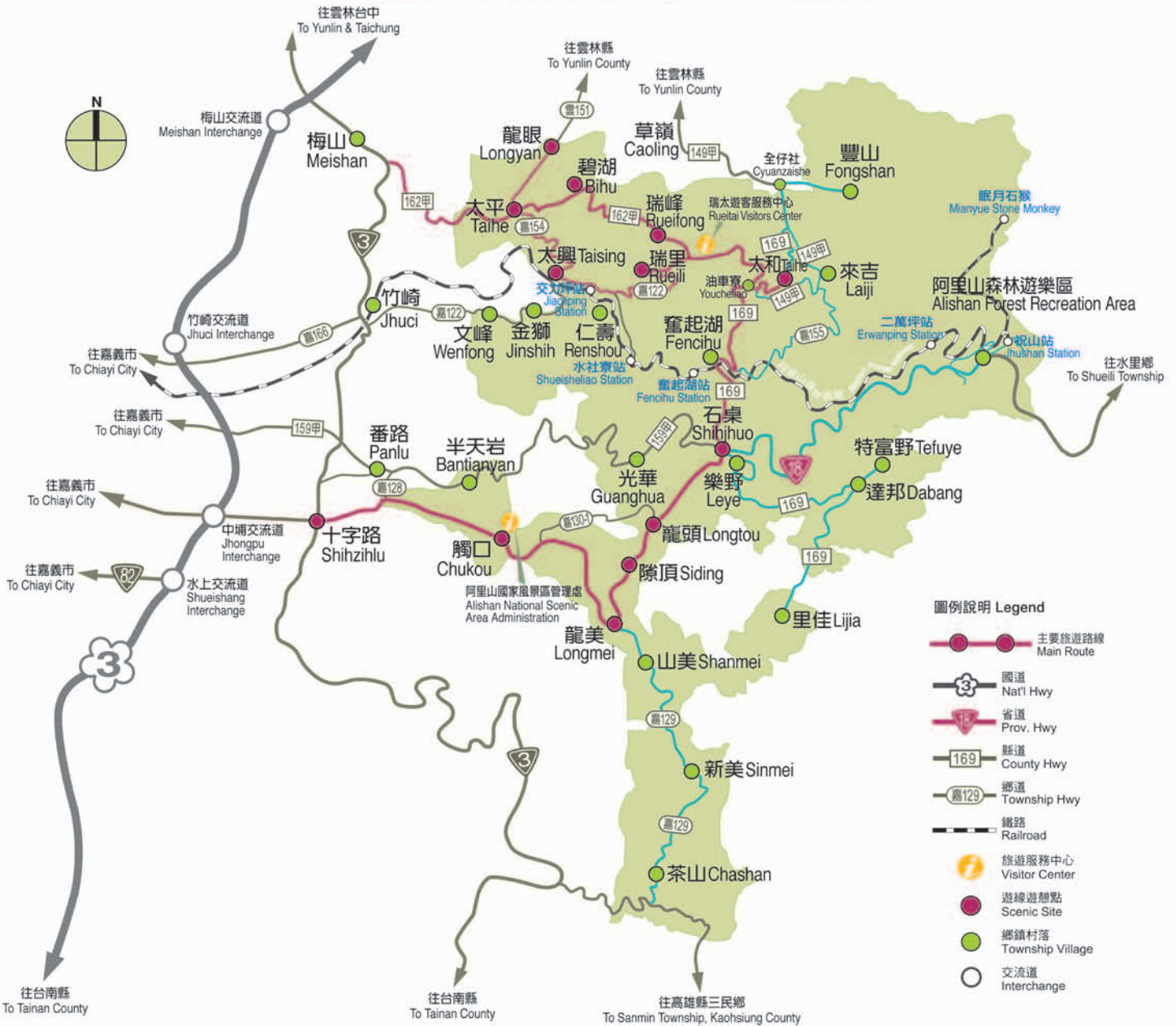
The mountainous areas of Chiayi County enjoys tea-growing conditions that are close to ideal. The region is about 50 kilometers from the Tropic of Cancer and enveloped year-round in a cooling mist, keeping temperatures perfect for tea tree cultivation. The main tea-growing areas of Alishan are in the townships of Panlu, Jhuci, Meishan, and Alishan, all situated at elevations above 1,000 meters. Total annual production is 1,475 metric tons, the bulk of it oolong and jinsyuan. Through a combination of excellent growing conditions and cultivation skill, the plantations of Alishan produce some of the world's finest teas. Hand picking and expert local roasting techniques further help to ensure brews as pleasing to the eye as they are to the palate.

The rustic tea plantations of Alishan National Scenic Area in eastern Chiayi County are a sight to behold. Fields of green stretched in row after row, nurtured on the pure air and the cool mid-elevation climate of this mountainous land of tea. Visitors will also discover a local culture deeply rooted in tea, from tea-making industries to teashops, and even restaurants serving up tea cuisine. All of these attractions have made Alishan's tea-growing region a popular tourist destination.





PART
6



北道戲茶

Northern Tea Route

賞遊六：阿里山茶之道



太平»»»»»

太平位於162縣道36彎的最終點，亦為茶之道門戶，因座落海拔一千公尺以上，本地所生產的高山茶屬茶中上品，素有冠軍茶故鄉之稱。來太平除了品茗外，還可到茶藝展演場感受戶外茶藝館的古樸新鮮探；從32彎的民番界碑出發，沿著茶園步道至三元宮，形成第一條茶之步道；亦可沿著2公里長的好漢坡步道行至二尖山支線，遠眺嘉南平原的景致。

太興»»»»»

太興古地名為「泰興岩」，位於太平與瑞里風景區中間點。70年代後期太興栽植金萱種→台茶27號，並率先建立品牌行銷→玉鑫萱茶。太興玩賞路線建議太興巖禮佛是第一站，尤其廟後方的櫻梅古樹挺拔壯碩，更是不容錯過，或於生毛樹溪親水嬉遊、或於山羊路步徑享受溪流奇景、或於梨園寮車站之見晴台上遠眺自然景致，都是不錯的選擇。

龍眼»»»»»

龍眼林允發先生於1975年將茶苗引進自家土地栽植，1978年梅山的青心烏龍上市獲得好評，是高山茶的發源地，爾後吸引鄰近的碧湖、太興、瑞里等村競相跟進，到80年代，梅山茶已是高山茶的代名詞。村內制高點大尖山、二尖

山，時有雲霧繚繞，悠遊其中，心境開闊愜意。

碧湖»»»»»

碧湖制高點位於碧鳳山觀景亭，這裡景致天成，嘉南平原盡收眼底，登高遠眺有如世外桃源，日出、雲海、晚霞美不勝收，坐擁山林、茶園等美景，淺酌香醇碧湖祝壽茗茶，怡然自得。

瑞里»»»»»

瑞里是漢人最早進入阿里山開墾的地區，如今盡成茶園風光，特產龍珠茗茶，曾獲全省歷年舉辦的大小高山茶賽二、三十次的特等獎，茶葉圓潤似珠，因而得名，口感獨特。旅遊行家在此選擇玩賞路線非雲潭瀑布、燕子崖、蝙蝠洞、野薑花溪步道、綠色隧道及瑞太古道等處莫屬。夏天野薑花盛開，夜晚又有螢火蟲滿山滿谷，與天上星斗相映成趣。

瑞峰»»»»»

瑞峰位於草嶺、瑞里和梅山的中心點，海拔在450~1300公尺之間。溪流、峽谷所形成的大小瀑布少說有十來個，如龍宮瀑布、生毛樹瀑布、大峽谷瀑布，再加上雷音瀑布群，蔚然大觀，堪稱瀑布王國，尤其竹坑溪步道以「吊橋觀瀑」主題興設，讓瑞峰的瀑布王國更加錦上添花。來瑞峰不妨前往各茶行

品賞回香茗茶，只要喝上一回，就會情不自禁地愛上它清香甘醇的好滋味。

太和»»»»»

太和面對鄒族聖山大、小塔山，群山起伏、幅員遼闊，到處茶園分布，這裡有塔山茗茶、清心茗茶及太和樟樹湖仙葉茶等品牌，供茶飲者多樣採選。每年一月下旬到三月中旬來到太和，正值李樹花季，滿村白色花海，是太和獨樹一幟的美景；太和的花石溪步道也是賞石首選，步徑沿途因流水穿石滲出岩壁，壁面呈現瑰麗花紋，花石溪因而得名。



太興森林遊樂區 Taixing Forest Recreation Area



(左)太和茶園 (left) Taihe
(右)瑞峰採茶 (right) Rueifong

PART6: The Land of Tea

Alishan's northern tea country begins at Taiping, which can be reached along the winding route of County Highway 162A from Meishan. Tea growing and scenic area accessible from Taiping include Taising, Longyan, Bihu, Rueili, Rueifong and Taihe.

Taiping

This portal village to the northern tea regions of Alishan is reached at the last of the 36 bends on County Highway 162A. From its perch over 1,000 meters above sea level, this area enjoys the perfect conditions for growing the highest quality tea, and the local leaves are indeed considered champions among the Alishan teas. Visitors to Taiping can sample the local teas at picturesque teahouses and also learn the traditional art of tea drinking. You can explore the plantations along a trail embarking from the 32nd highway bend to San-yuan Temple. The trail also branches onto a more vigorous two-kilometer walk continuing on to Erjianshan. Those who make the effort are rewarded with a spectacular view of the Jianan Plain.

Taising

Taising, located midway between Taiping and Rueili, is a local pioneer in the branding and marketing of tea. The jinsyuan variety here is sold under the name of "Yusin Jinsyuan." Any

itinerary to Taising should begin with a visit to the Taisingyan Buddhist temple. Behind the temple are old cherry and plum trees and the Shengm-aoshu River. You can also enjoy the local scenery along the various trails in the area as well as at Liyuanliao Train Station.

Longyan and Bihu

Tea production in Longyan dates back to 1975 with the cultivation of the now highly acclaimed Meishan Tea, a variety of cingsing oolong (oriental beauty). By the 1980s Meishan Tea had become synonymous with Alishan mountain tea. Visitors to this area can also enjoy the cloud formations and uplifting mountain views from the high vantages of Dajianshan and Erjianshan.

The Bifong Scenic Pavilion in Bihu offers a spectacular sight of the Jianan Plain as well as an excellent vantage to enjoy the sunrise, sunset, cloud formations, forests and tea plantations. The local tea, Bihu Jhushou, is as pleasing a brew as you will ever find.

Rueili

Rueili is the first Chinese settlement in the Alishan area, and today it is well known for its award-winning longjihu (dragon pearl) tea. Must-see sites here include the Yuntan Waterfall, Yanzih (Swallow) Cliff, Bat Grotto, Yejianghua River, Green Tunnel (a tree-lined trail), and the Rueitai Historic Trail. Summer brings the additional joys of the white ginger lily blooms and

fairytale sight of fireflies waving their small lanterns in the cool night air.

Rueifong

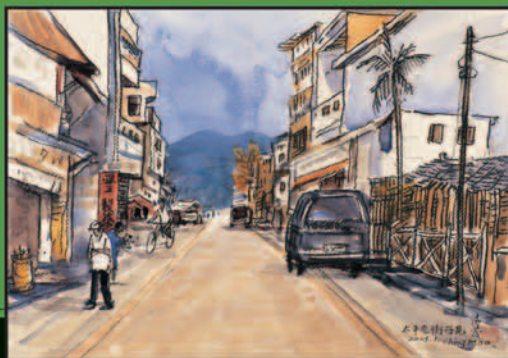
Rueifong is situated at the center point among Caoling, Rueili and Meishan at an elevation between 450 and 1,300 meters. There are over a dozen waterfalls here, many of which can be enjoyed along the Jhukung River Trail. Visitors are also sure to fall in love with the sweet fragrant teas available at several teashops and teahouses in the village.

Taihe

Home to the sacred Zou mountains of Big Tashan and Little Tashan, Taihe is known for its several tea varieties, including Tashan Tea, Cingsin Tea, and Jhangshuhu Sianye Tea. Visitors arriving between late January to mid-March can enjoy the snow-like expanses of white plum blossoms. You can also explore the area's beautifully striated rocks along the appropriately named Huashih (Floral Rock) Trail. 🌸



太興岩一隅 Taisingyan



(左)碧湖碧鳳山眺景亭 (left) Bihu: Bifongshan Scenic Pavilion
(右)太平老街所見 (right) Historic street of Taiping

北道找茶遊

旅遊路線→太平→太興→龍眼→碧湖

從縣道162甲進入太平茶之道門戶，有純樸的老街聚落、翠綠清幽的茶園、古樸新鮮的戶外茶藝館、悠遊錦繡中的太興巖、深具生態教育的生毛樹溪、徜徉在雲鄉的二尖山、大尖山和山壑怡神的碧鳳山眺景亭等處美景，正等久居都會的您前來尋茶探勝一番！

行程規劃建議

想要深度體驗茶之道北道的茶園風情，二日以上遊程才能盡興。各社區目前都有規模不一的特色民宿，也具備特產小吃或餐廳，旅客行前可洽各地社區發展協會代為安排。

北道嗅茶遊

旅遊路線→瑞里→瑞峰→太和

從嘉122鄉道進入瑞里開始，香氣濃郁的野薑花是這裡最in的熱情香水，一眼望去，片片竹林帶您進入武俠情境，一幅幅的峽谷飛瀑自然傑作，引領您品味它的天然設計，清幽古道、茶園綠幕、螢火點點等特有的景致引人入勝，對於喜歡茶香自然美景的旅客來說，這裡絕對是您心情漫遊的好去處。您準備來旅行了嗎？

行程規劃建議

想要深度體驗茶之道北道的茶園風情，安排二日以上遊程才可勉強盡興，各社區目前都有規模不一的若干民宿，也具備小吃或餐廳，旅客行前可洽各地社區發展協會代為安排。

Northern Tea Quest Tour1

Tour Route: Taiping→Taising→Longyan→Bihu

Taiping, Taising, Longyan and Bihu Situated along County Highway 162A, the rustic village of Taiping announces one's arrival to Alishan's tea country. There are several outdoor teahouses where you can enjoy the local teas along with the village's timeless tranquility and verdant green fields. Other attractions include Taisingyan Temple, Maoshengshu River, Erjianshan, Dajianshan and the breathtaking views from Bifongshan Scenic Pavilion.

Suggested Itinerary

Visitors should arrange at least two days to amply experience the northern tea growing region of Alishan. There are several inns and hotels in the villages, as well as numerous restaurants and food stalls to enjoy the local cuisine. Travel arrangements can be made in advance through the local community development associations.

Northern Tea Tasting Tour2

Tour Route: Rueili→Rueifong→Taihe

Visitors arriving along Chiayi Township Road 122 arrive first at Rueili, a village announced by the fragrance of the white ginger lilies that grow in abundance here. Rueili is nestled in a dream-like landscape of bamboo groves, valleys, and thundering waterfalls, as well as secluded trails, green tea plantations and fireflies. For fine tea and nature, this is one place you don't want to miss.

Suggested Itinerary

Visitors should arrange at least two days to amply experience the northern tea growing region of Alishan. There are several inns and hotels in the villages, as well as numerous restaurants and food stalls to enjoy the local cuisine. Travel arrangements can be made in advance through the local community development associations.

畫者最愛的民宿 Star Home Resort

PART6: The Land of Tea

瑞里的星光森林民宿是本書畫家薛清茂百住不厭的民宿、嘉義市外國朋友們最常落腳的休閒之處，更是喜愛山區生活朋友的聚居之所。

坐落在瑞里往竹崎的嘉122線鄉道15.5公里處，金獅村的星光森林民宿可坐擁嘉南平原的遼闊，可觀賞雨後流動的雲瀑、夕陽的萬丈霞光和夜幕低垂後的萬家燈火等系列景致，是無可取代、又最引人入勝的絕佳境地。

世居金獅村的民宿老闆劉嘉彬，曾經在嘉義市從事營造業，接了許多休閒遊憩設施的營造案；不過，他一直懷念山中生活，於是回到出水坑蓋了一棟假日別墅，卻意外地讓偶來造訪的朋友們大為喜愛。在朋友的建議下，他乾脆自己一磚一瓦地蓋起民宿，讓朋友假日上山有個落腳處。

劉嘉彬從設計、繪圖、備料到營建，都自己來。3公頃的民宿區內有綠草與石磚步道，用心規畫出日式風格的庭園造景，萬紫千紅的各式花卉，在不同的時節綻放，另保留了一塊綠地做為咖啡庭園。

迷你型的星光森林民宿只有8個房間，包括歐式4人房，二樓房間還有一個超大的陽台。房價3600元起，平日打8折，含早餐。



Star Home in Rueili is a much-frequented and beloved retreat for such local notables as painter Hsueh Ching-mao and Alishan National Scenic Area Administration director Jason Chung, who enjoys coming here for afternoon tea. The hotel is also a favorite spot for foreign visitors to Chiayi City and others looking to enjoy a bit of mountain living.

Star Home is located in Jinshih at the 15.5-kilometer point on County Highway 122 as one heads from Rueili to Jhuci. The hotel looks out over the Jianan Plain, commanding a sweeping view of the area's famous cloud formations, sunset scenes and the twinkling night lights of Chiayi city. This first-rate view has made Star Home a must-

see stop for visitors to the area.

Star Home was designed and built by owner Liu Chia-bin, a long-term Jinshih native who was inspired to the project by the desire to create a place for visiting friends to stay.

The inn is located on a three-hectare site, a section of which has been left for a coffee grove, lush green lawn, brick path and Japanese-style garden with dozens of different flowers that bloom in brilliant colors throughout the year.

There are eight rooms at the inn, including European style four-person rooms and two-story rooms with a spacious sun balcony. The room rates start at NT\$3,600, including breakfast, with a 20% discount on weekdays.