# **2024 United Chinese Society Annual Tour**

Taiwan, Hong Kong, Macau & Zhongshan

**Traveling Dates:** Nov 12 – 26, 2024 (15 Days)

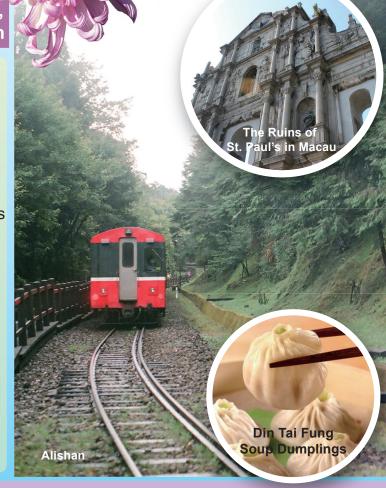
Chrysanthemum Festival in Zhongshan

Cities Covered: Taipei, Alishan, Taichung, Taoyuan, Hong Kong, Macau & Zhongshan

# Tour Package Includes

- \* International Flight from Honolulu
- \* 5\* Deluxe Hotel Accommodations
- \* The Most Popular Ranking Scenic Spots in Taiwan:
  - Alishan (Mt. Ali) National Scenic Area with Forest Railway
- \* Hands-on Experience: Steamed brown sugar buns
- \* Night Market Experience
- \* Crossing the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau Bridge
- \* UNESCO World Heritage Site
  - The Ruins of St. Paul's in Macau
- \* Chrysanthemum Festival in Zhongshan
- Unlimited Shopping Pleasure
- \* Local Specialty Cuisine:
  - Din Tai Fung Soup Dumplings,
  - Cantonese Dim Sum
  - Roast Goose Banquet
- \* Chrysanthemum Banquet ...
- \* Gratuity for Tour Guides & Drivers





Price per person: from \$ 4,888 Incl. Tax & Fuel Surcharge

**Single Supp:** 



# **Air & Sea Travel Center**

50 S. Beretania St. #C-211B, Honolulu, HI 96813 Tel: 808-951-9800 E-mail: info@airseatvl.com

# **United Chinese Society**

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#### Day 1\*\*Nov 12

#### Honolulu → Taipei

We start our vacation by boarding an international flight bound for Taoyuan, a city that went from a satellite city of the Taipei metropolitan area to becoming the fourth-largest metropolitan area and fifth-largest populated city in Taiwan. Meals and snacks will be served on the plane. (Flight Info: PR 101 HNL MNL 11:40 am - 4:30 pm)

#### Day 2\*\*Nov 13

#### Taipei (Taoyuan)

Upon arrival at Taiwan Taoyuan International Airport, an Air & Sea Travel representative will greet us. And we will transfer to our hotel near the airport. (Flight Info: PR 894 MNL TPE 5:40 pm - 8:00 pm)

Hotel Accommodation: Novotel Taipei Taoyuan International Airport 5\* or Similar

#### Day 3\*\*Nov 14

#### Taipei (Taoyuan) – Alishan National Scenic Area

3, L, D)

Today's highlight is **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. Upon arrival, we will first visit **Yuyupas**. It is an indigenous cultural park about the Tsou Tribe, an indigenous people of central southern Taiwan located in Alishan, Chiayi County. The name Yuyupas means rich and safe in Tsou. The exhibition hall displays items from their everyday life from hunting gear to clothing. We will enjoy the performance that shows the original ecology of the Tsou traditional song and dance. After that, we will check-in to our hotel in Alishan. Tonight, we will enjoy dinner at the hotel in Alishan.

Hotel Accommodation: Alishan Hotel 5\* or Similar

#### Day 4\*\*Nov 15

#### Alishan National Scenic Area - Taichung

(B, L, D)

This morning, we can have a chance to watch the sunrise over the Alishan National Scenic Area feels like being in a dream—thick white clouds cover the valley below and towering mountaintops look like tiny islands in an endless ocean. Then, we will return to our hotel for breakfast. **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 process to **Taichung**, the center of central Taiwan (Taichung Region) and attracts visitors from everywhere. The mountainous town, the old street, and the railway are the three unforgettable things about Fenchihu Lake for Taiwanese people. The Fenchihu Lake is situated in Zhuqi Township, Chiayi County and about 1,400 meters above sea level. We will enjoy some time at the **Fenchihu Old Street**. After dinner, we will check in to our hotel.

Hotel Accommodation: Le Méridien Taichung 5\* or Similar

#### Day 5\*\*Nov 16

#### Taichung – Taipei

(B, L, D)

After breakfast, we will travel back to Taipei. On the way, we will visit **Xin Cheng Feng Tang**. Xin Cheng Feng Tang was originally conceived to promote the community. Creating a friendly environment has always been the central concept. No pesticides or fertilizers are used in the sugarcane orchard. The park has a variety of sugarcane-themed DIY or food farming experiences. We will have a chance to make the **Brown Sugar Steamed Buns**. After lunch, we will transfer to **Beipu Old Street**. It was Beipu's most thriving commercial district in the Qing period. Today, it boasts Taiwan's highest concentration of historic sites, with seven such locations along a short 200-meter stretch. National heritage sites Jinguangfu Official Residence and Tianshui Hall are located here, along with municipal heritage site Citian Temple and Chiang A-Hsin Mansion. This is also a good place for a taste of Hakkanese cuisine, from ground tea to persimmon cakes. Tonight, we will enjoy our dinner at Taiwan's iconic **Din Tai Fung**, a world-famous, award-winning restaurant specializing in Xiaolongbao (small steamed dumplings).

Hotel Accommodation: Regent Taipei 5\* or Similar

#### Day 6\*\*Nov 17

#### Taipei

(B, L)

After breakfast, we will visit the **Chiang Kai-shek Memorial Hall** – a famous monument, landmark and tourist attraction erected in memory of Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek and former President of the Republic of China. **Longshan Temple** is a typical example of Taiwanese classical architecture filled with deities and fine stone and wood carvings. After visiting the temple, we will enjoy shopping in **Ximending**. Ximending is a neighborhood and shopping district in the Wanhua District of Taipei and the first pedestrian zone in Taiwan. It is the source of Taiwan's fashion, subculture, and Japanese culture, and is really popular among the younger generation. After that, we will experience another one of Taiwan's nightlife by walking around the popular, bustling **Shilin Night Market**, largest and most famous night market in Taiwan. Enjoy dinner on our own in the night market before returning to the hotel.

#### Day 7\*\*Nov 18

#### Taipei – Taoyuan → Hong Kong

(B)

After breakfast, we can enjoy our free time until transfer to Taoyuan airport and take our flight to **Hong Kong**. Hong Kong is one of the world's most cosmopolitan cities where East truly meets West. It is one of the world's most significant financial centers, shopping and food paradise cities. An Air & Sea Travel representative will greet and escort us to the hotel. *Hotel Accommodation: Royal Pacific Hotel 5\* or Similar* 

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#### Day 8\*\*Nov 19

After breakfast at the hotel, we will have a half-day tour to see the legendary highlights of Hong Kong, from its sweeping

vistas to its most intimate corners. **Victoria Harbour**, the most incredible views of the Symphony of Lights and Hong Kong Island's skyline over the water before your host guides you through the maze of streets that make up this exciting area. **Avenue of Stars**, modelled on the Hollywood Walk of Fame, is an avenue located along the Victoria Harbour waterfront in Tsim Sha Tsui, Hong Kong. It honours celebrities of the Hong Kong film industry. **Golden Bauhinia Square** is the emblem of Hong Kong. The Forever Blooming Bauhinia Sculpture that gives the Expo Promenade the commonly used name, Golden Bauhinia Square, was a gift from the Central Government to mark the 1997 Handover — an occasion that held tremendous significance for the world's largest nation and that stands out as a landmark event in 20th-century history. In the afternoon, we can enjoy the rest of day on our own.

#### Day 9\*\*Nov 20 Hong Kong – Macau (B)

After enjoying breakfast in the hotel, please enjoy free time in the morning. Then we will transfer to Macau by crossing **The Hong Kong–Zhuhai–Macau Bridge**. This bridge is a 55-kilometre bridge–tunnel system consisting of a series of three cable-stayed bridges, an undersea tunnel, and four artificial islands. It is both the longest sea crossing and the longest open-sea fixed link in the world. Upon arrival Macau, we will transfer to our hotel and enjoy the rest of day on our own. **Macau**, the biggest casino city in the world and one of the oldest European Settlements in the Orient.

Hotel Accommodation: Sheraton Grand Macao 5\* or Similar

#### Day 10\*\*Nov 21 Macau (B)

Today, we will have a city tour in Macau. First stop, **The Ruins of St. Paul's**, a grand imposing facade of an early 16th century church designed by Italians and built by Japanese Christian exiles. Now, it is one of Macau's best known landmarks and officially listed as part of Macau's historic center, the 31st designated <u>UNESCO World Heritage site</u> in China. **Monte Fort** is a fort in Santo António in Macau. It is the historical military center. The fort forms part of the "Historic Centre of Macau" and is a <u>UNESCO World Heritage Site</u>. Next, we will go to **A-Ma Temple**, a temple to the Chinese sea-goddess Mazu located in São Lourenço, Macau and built in 1488. **Rua do Cunha**, is known for souvenir shops selling almond cakes, phoenix egg rolls, coconut flakes, cherikoff, and peanut candy. It is also known for its various Portuguese restaurants, including 'O Santos', which has been in business since 1989. We can enjoy our own lunch here. Then, we will stop by **The Venetian Macao**. And we can enjoy the rest of day on our own.

# Day 11\*\*Nov 22 Macau – Zhongshan (B, D)

This morning, we will enjoy some free time before transfer to Honolulu's Sister City – **Zhongshan**, the birthplace of Dr. Sun Yat-sen (also known as Dr. Sun Zhongshan). Dr. Sun Yat-sen was the first president and founding father of the Republic of China. Upon arrival, we will check in our hotel.

Hotel Accommodation: Hilton Zhongshan Downtown 5\* or Similar

# Day 12\*\*Nov 23 Zhongshan (B, L, D)

After enjoying the hotel breakfast, please feel free to enjoy a relaxing morning. After lunch, we will attend **the Chrysanthemum Exhibition** in Xiaolan Town where local folks have kept their practice of flower cultivation for several hundred years. There are over 3,000 different varieties and colors of chrysanthemum flowers. The chrysanthemum is a traditional subject in Chinese artwork and literature and is one of the "Four Gentlemen" of China (the others are the plum blossom, the orchid, and bamboo). The bloom and specified horticulture of chrysanthemum has given the town the famous name, "the City of Chrysanthemum". Tonight a special **Chrysanthemum Banquet** has been arranged for dinner.

# Day 13\*\*Nov 24 Zhongshan (B, L)

After breakfast, we will transfer to **Zhongshan Sunxi Walking Street** (Sunwen Road West or Sunwen Xilu) in Zhongshan Old Town, a pedestrian mall lined with dozens of restored buildings from the colonial period in treaty port style. Several of these buildings were built in the 1920s. After lunch, we will visit **Cuiheng Village**, known as the birthplace of the revolutionary leader, Dr. Sun Yat-sen. Once in the village, we will visit the **Sun Yat-Sen (Zhongshan) Residence Memorial Museum**, a symbolic building in Zhongshan with its majestic appearance and the rich Chinese national color. The Memorial Museum is also an important place for large-scale meetings and performances. After that, we will visit **Yakou Rice field**. Tonight, we will return to Zhongshan and enjoy the rest of day on our own.

# Day 14\*\*Nov 25 Zhongshan (B)

After enjoying the hotel breakfast, we will have a free day to explore the city on our own. You can visit old friends or explore the charming city on your own. (Flight Info: PR319 TPE MNL 1:20 pm - 3:35 pm)

# Day 15\*\*Nov 26 Zhongshan – Hong Kong → Honolulu (B)

Today, we will take a ferry to the Hong Kong International Airport for our return flight home, taking with us lasting memories of this wonderful tour to China. (Flight Info: PR100 MNL HNL 5:30 pm - 9:50 pm)

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



- → Fares are per person, USD based on double occupancy and include all airline taxes and fees
- $\ensuremath{\blacktriangleright}$  Business class is available, please call your agent for the price
- ★ Refer to "General Condition of Air & Sea"
- → We reserve the right to modify the itinerary to ensure smooth operation
- → 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 the time of listing and pricing on Mar 1, 2024
- ★ Escorted tour with a minimum of 20 passengers
- → Gratuity for Tour Guides & Drivers is included
- → It is mandatory to inform Air and Sea Travel of any existing conditions that may require medical attention or accommodations during the trip. You need to provide this information in writing in the Tour Supplemental Information section of the application. If you do not have a travel companion who can help you with your special needs, you need to talk to your agent to determine if this is an appropriate tour for you. Some tours may be too strenuous depending on your condition. Air and Sea Travel reserves the right to reject or cancel your booking. You are responsible for any cancellation penalty that this may incur.
- ♣ All travelers, regardless of COVID-19 vaccination status, are welcome to travel with us and will no longer be required to provide proof of pre-departure testing, except for specific countries where COVID-19 vaccination, testing, or additional documentation is required by law. Please visit or revisit the government site to verify the travel requirements. Fully vaccinated is recommended. Vaccines combined with multi-layered preventative health and safety measures will help us provide a safe and healthy vacation environment.
- → As government regulations evolve, our health and safety protocols will evolve as needed to ensure compliance. This may mean different protocols from state to state and city to city based on local requirements.

#### Payment Policy:

**CHECK OR CASH PAYMENT ONLY.** A deposit of \$ 350 per person is required at the time of application. The balance of payment is due on **Aug 1, 2024**. In case 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.

#### **Cancellation Policy:**

Written notice is required for any cancellation. After Aug 1, 2024, the cancellation fee will be as follow:

- \*\* Aug 2 Aug 29, 2024, 50% of total price plus any other service fee caused from the cancellation;
- \*\* From Aug 30, 2024 to the 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\*\*