

KH Style



Taxi Drivers Lead the Way in Discovering Kaohsiung's Eateries and Hotspots

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Touring around Kaohsiung with Taxi Driver Syu Cyun-dian

©English translation: Hou Ya-ting

©Photos by Zeng Guo-shu, CHSG STUDIO

Mr. Syu Cyun-dian is a taxi driver who starts work early every day. He was born and raised in Taipei, but had previously worked in Beijing. A decade ago, he moved to Kaohsiung to take care of his elderly parents. When he first moved, he wasn't very familiar with the city, but three years ago, he became a taxi driver, in order to get to know it better. At first, he would confess to passengers that he didn't know the shortest way to their destinations. Luckily, the passengers didn't seem to mind. Today, he is a licensed tourist taxi driver and takes visitors sightseeing around the city and uses Line in order to let passengers know he is on his way to pick them up.

Mr. Syu is also an expert on local eateries. He was delighted to show off some of his favorites. Mr. Syu explained that although most people have fixed time for breakfast, cab drivers' breakfast times must go in accordance with the passengers' itinerary.

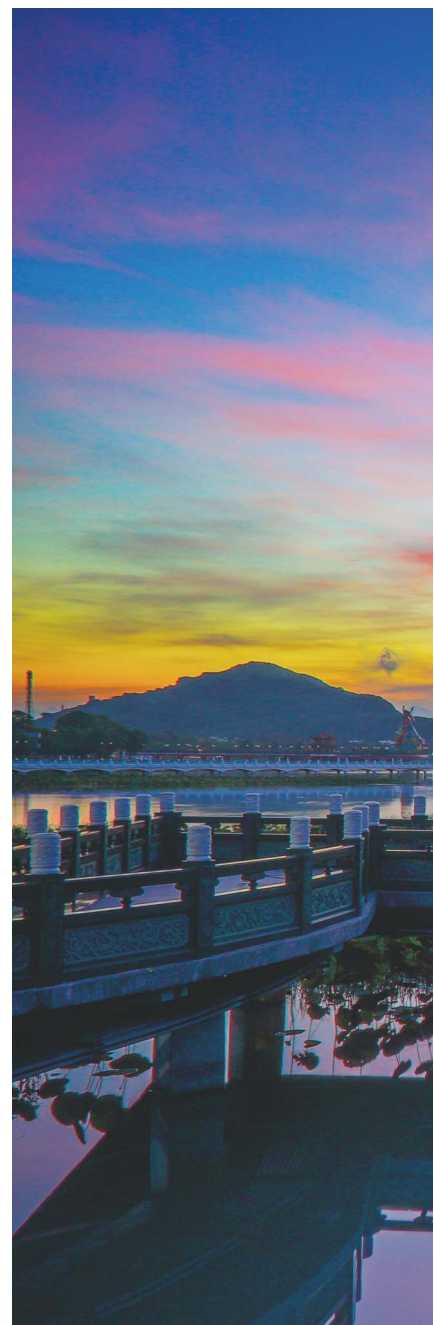
His first destination was a well know breakfast place called Guanghe Cold Noodles in Zuoying District. Situated on Jhihsheng Road, the 30-year-old-eatery is a branch of the original, which is located on Minsheng East Road, in Taipei. He mentioned that he usually eats there once a week. His favorite dish is a large, spicy bowl of cold noodles that is served with Miso soup, julienne cucumber, sesame paste, soy sauce, vinegar and garlic. The Miso soup is made from dried

fish, Bonito flakes, miso, egg, sliced scallions and tofu. He feels Guanghe Cold Noodles' Miso soup is the best in town.

His second destination was Siao-ma's Zongzih and Steamed Rice Pudding. He discovered the eatery one day when he was just driving by. Open 24 hours a day, it is perfect for cab drivers that work diverse hours. Sometimes, he brings passengers there for a late night snack.

At Siao-ma, he orders a bowl of thread bean noodles with pork balls, sliced bok choi in satay sauce and savory rice pudding. The steamed rice pudding is infused with pork and fried shallots and topped with dried radish, which gives it a crunch. He highly recommends the unique combination.

Finally, he introduces Fongyi Vermicelli, which is a stall located on Guoguang Road, in Wujia's public housing zone. The proprietor, Ms. Cai Hong Jin-fong was there setting tables under a Mango tree.



Customers can enjoy tasty vermicelli in a home-style atmosphere. He really likes the typically Taiwanese cuisine and discovered the stall when he had seen it on a culinary show on TV. He has been a regular ever since. He usually does not enjoy waiting in long line-ups but feels their vermicelli is so good, he doesn't mind waiting.

Here he recommends simple vermicelli served with a canned rice cake and stuffed meatballs. The canned rice cake is served with sliced cucumber and fish flakes, highlighting its freshness and flavor. The stuffed fried meatballs feature chewy pork and bamboo shoots. He also suggests adding fresh chopped coriander and garlic paste. Proprietor Ms. Hong highly recommends her four flavored herbal soup with small intestines. The signature dish contains vermicelli with pork, large intestines and sprinkled with chopped coriander.

Mr. Syu feels there are so many variations of breakfast eateries around Kaohsiung. These are some of his favorites, and he recommends people to go out and try it.

Guanghe Cold Noodles

Address: Number 152, Jhihsheng Road, Zuoying District, Kaohsiung City
(Prices vary from NT\$20 to NT\$75)

Siao-ma's Zongzih and Steamed Rice Pudding

Address: No. 239, Cisian 2nd Road, Cianjin District, Kaohsiung City
(Price vary from NT\$30 to NT\$75)

Fongyi Vermicelli

Address: No. 8, Lane 2, Anning Street, Fongshan District, Kaohsiung City
(Prices vary from NT\$35 to NT\$50)

Mr. Syu Cyun-dian's taxi reservations

Tel: 0980-240-138



Taxi Driver Zeng Gao-hong's Favorite Spots in Kaohsiung

©English translation: Hou Ya-ting

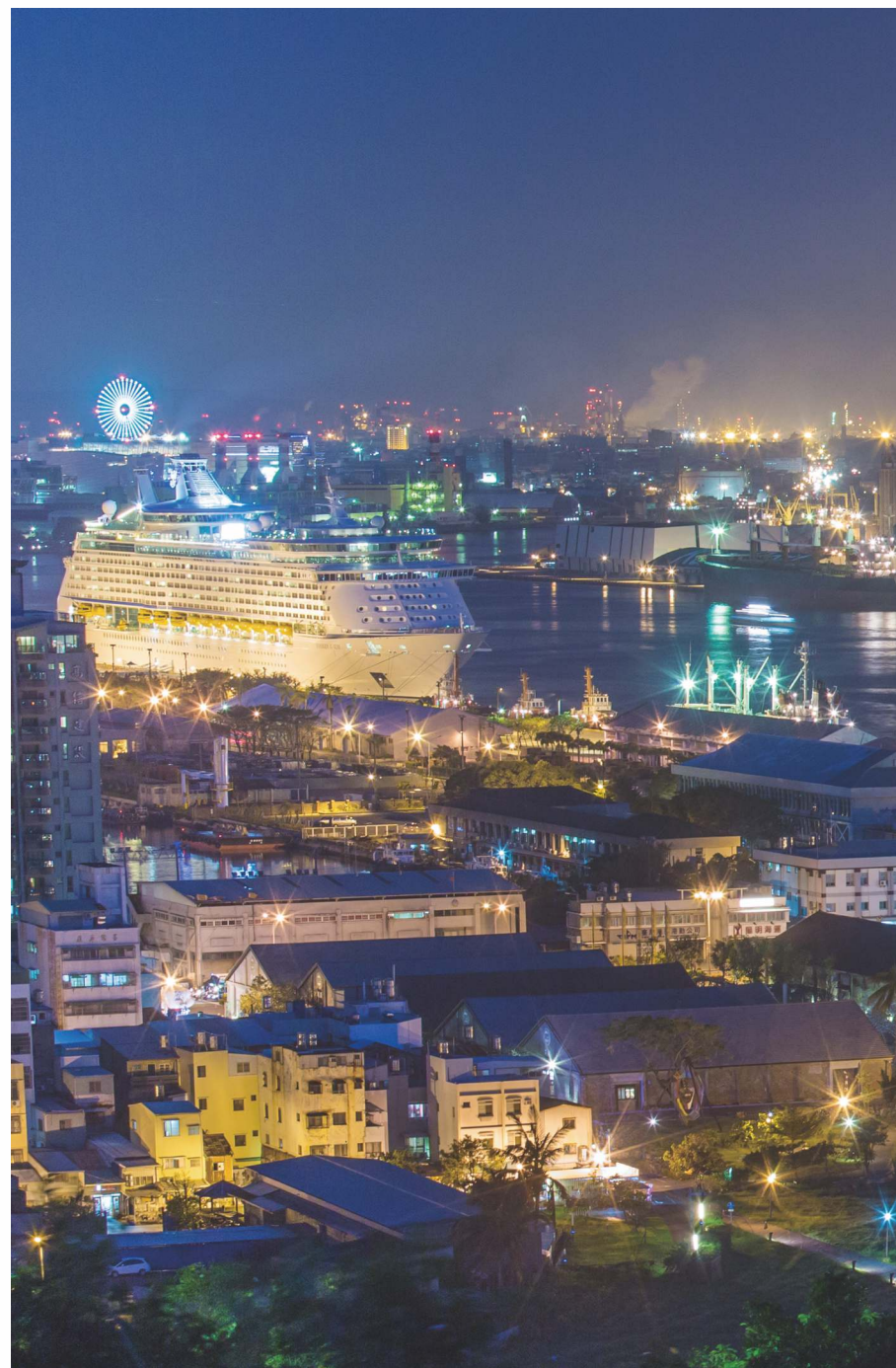
©Photos by Redknight, Zeng Guo-shu

Mr. Zeng is a taxi driver who takes people on tours around Kaohsiung. He relocated to Kaohsiung from Taipei more than a decade ago and knows how important it is for taxi drivers to have an extensive knowledge of the city and its developments. When he was new in town, he was unfamiliar with the city's attractions. At first, this was a challenge in building his business. However, he began to pay keen attention to the city's developments and its characteristics. He would often chat with passengers and get their feedback on local sightseeing spots. After he accumulated years of experience, he feels he can now recommend places and give information to visitors.

Mr. Zeng works long hours and therefore recommends his favorite place that he goes to for a late-night meal. Located on Guanghua Road in the night market, Brother Huei's Fried Eel and Squid Noodles is a popular stall. Large bowls of noodles come with a generous amount of soft, chewy sliced squid, which brings out the sweetness of the dish. Mr. Zeng loves the chefs' dedication to quality ingredients and perfection. He feels that he always has great conversations over tasty squid noodles, and they always wash away his fatigue. He thinks of it as an end-of-the-day reward.

After a delicious dinner, Mr. Zeng highlights one of his tourist routes. He drives past National Sun Yat-sen University and the Former British Consulate at Dagou to Shou Shan, to the scenic Love Lookout. Completed in 2013, Love Lookout is located on top of one of Kaohsiung's main mountain peaks. It offers great views of the city and ocean and is also in close proximity to the Martyrs' Shrine. From there, visitors can see Cihou Mountain, the port and Kaohsiung's picturesque skyline. He then makes a brief stop at Shaochuantou Park and Hamasen's Linhaisin Road, which was formally the center of Kaohsiung's development during the Japanese colonial rule.

Mr. Zeng is glad that Kaohsiung is connecting with



the world through its harbor and international airport. He feels that the city's public transportation systems have also been well developed and has witnessed many of Kaohsiung's great transformations. He is truly proud to be one of its residents and will continue to show it off to visitors.

Brother Huei's Fried Eel and Squid Noodles

Address: No. 438, Guanghua 2nd Road, Lingya District,
Kaohsiung City
Tel: (07) 716-8409
Business hours: 6 p.m. – 1 a.m.

Love Lookout

Address: No. 30, Jhongyi Road, Gushan District,
Kaohsiung City

Mr. Zeng Gao-hong's taxi reservations

Tel: 0926-785-721



KUBIC Containers Village Embodies Kaohsiung's Maritime Culture

©English translation: Hou Ya-ting

©Photos courtesy of Urban Development Bureau



Kaohsiung's Asia's New Bay Area developments can be witnessed along its harbor. These state-of-the-art architectural projects include the already completed Kaohsiung Exhibition Center, Kaohsiung Main Public Library and Phase 1 of Kaohsiung's Light Rail. However, there are also other ongoing construction projects designed to increase the city's competitiveness.

Revealed on March 31st, the KUBIC Containers Village highlights the work of young and talented residents and accentuates the Asia's New Bay Area developments.

Located near the Kaohsiung Main Public Library, it includes thirty-three colorful containers. It embodies the full potential of container architecture and includes sixteen shops and restaurants. It will also become a platform for exhibitions, seminars, workshops, as well a chance to develop local businesses.

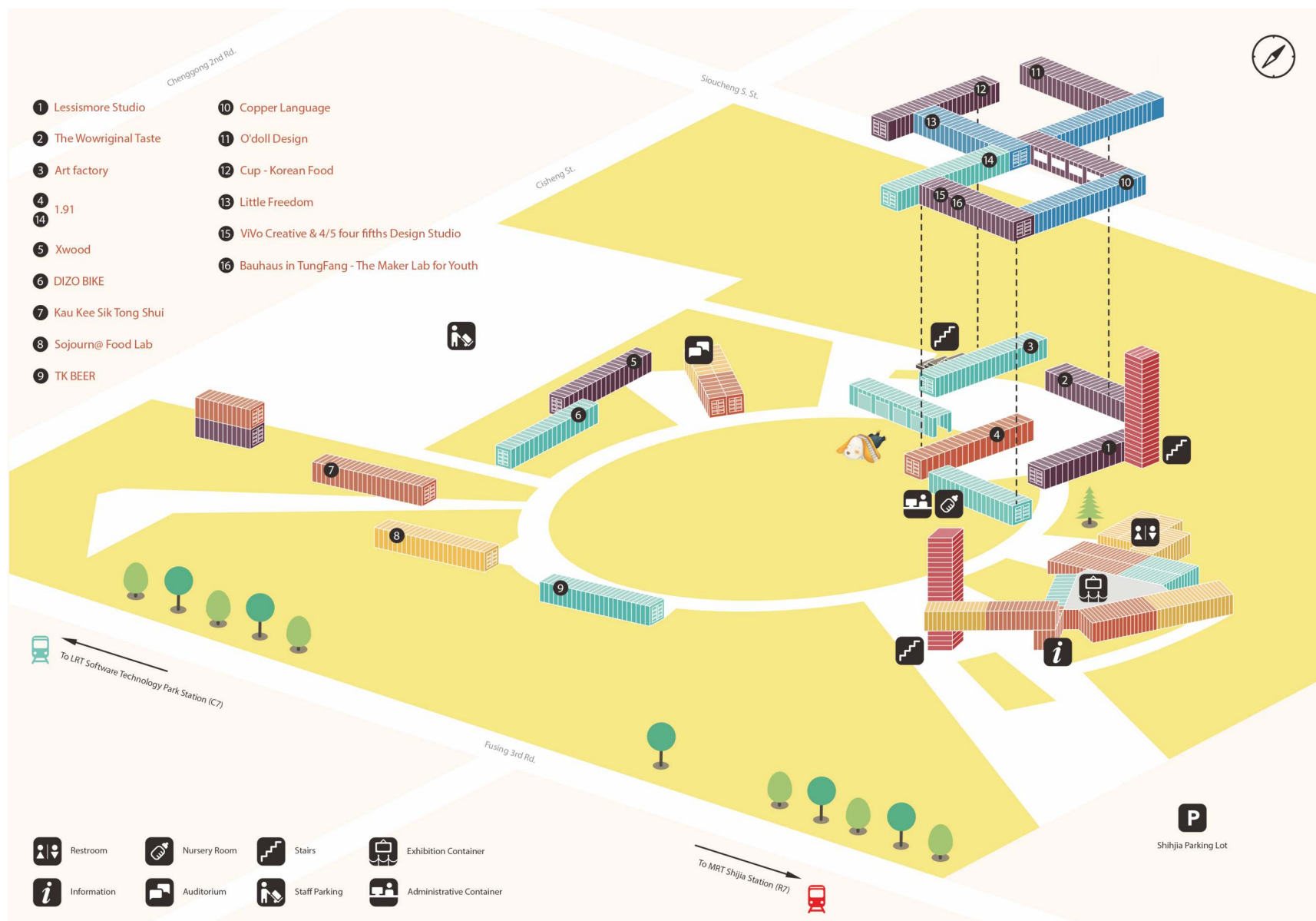
Kaohsiung began hosting the biennale International Container Arts Festival in 2001. Since the port has always been at the pinnacle of Kaohsiung's development, it is the most natural location for these renewal projects and the KUBIC Containers Village. Containers continue to be an element that embodies Kaohsiung's Port and maritime culture. The KUBIC Containers Village highlights Kaohsiung's creativity and modern developments.

KUBIC Containers Village

Location: Intersection of Zhonghua 5th Road and Fusing 3rd Road

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Cianjhen Fish Market

Vibrant at 3 o'clock in the Morning



©English translation: Hou Ya-ting

©Photos by Mr. Syu

Since moving to Kaohsiung two years ago, the grand scale of Cianjhen Fishing Port has encouraged me to make successive visits. Cianjhen Fishing Port, home to much of Taiwan's pelagic fishing fleet, is the country's most significant pelagic fishing base. Throughout the year, Taiwan's pelagic fishing vessels travel to various fishing grounds in the Pacific, Atlantic, and Indian oceans to catch seasonal delicacies. These fishing fleets have made Taiwan one of the world's leading fishing nations.

A few months ago, my friends and I hosted a boat trip from Shaochuantou Pier-1 to Cianjhen Fishing Port. Embarking at 3 p.m., the participants were filled with excitement, despite a fierce sea wind and a temperature of 12 degrees Celsius. Heading toward Cianjhen Fishing Port, we salivated over photo opportunities throughout the journey. At the port, everything was silent. Being the only boat sailing at that time, while on the water we could hear a buzz of voices from the large port facilities nearby.

When the boat docked at Yugang Central 2nd Road in Cianjhen Fishing Port, the passengers could not wait to explore the port area and local culture. The prosperity of the fishing port has brought into being a port-industry cluster. Kaohsiung Fishermen's Association, other oceanic administrations, a super-freezing facility, and large frozen storage facilities are all nearby. Trucks lining up in front of a two-store wooden building, connected to an ice factory



across the road via a skybridge, commanded our attention. As soon as a driver made a loud request to have his vehicle filled with ice cubes, ice poured from the skybridge. This sight was a prelude to the hustle and bustle of the market itself. Approaching, a surge of traffic on the streets reflected

the vibrancy of the fish market. Around the fish market, ordinary daily activities captivated us. We saw local residents shaving ice for seafood, elderly folk wearing rain shoes while carrying their breakfast, and street vendors selling seafood congee.

When the boats that fish closer to shore docked and were unloaded, there was a buzz of excitement. The day's catch was quickly delivered to Cianjhen Fish Market. The market's busiest hours are from 3 a.m. to 5 a.m. We arrived during this busy period to better observe the market at its liveliest.

In one corner, more than 20 potential buyers weighed baskets loaded with fish. Because the market has such an abundance of oceanic produce, chefs, wholesale businessmen and fishmongers are among the regulars. Through fishmongers and chefs, seasonal oceanic products end up on household dining tables. The market also welcomes individual customers seeking fresh seafood for the family's dinner table. When we finally left the market, the warmer temperature outside soon lifted the overwhelming impression made on us by fish market.

Having visited Cianjhen Fishing Port and Cianjhen Fish Market, I now truly appreciate fresh fish, and the efforts made by the fishermen who haul it from distant seas to household kitchens. I have watched *Tsukiji Wonderland*, a Japanese documentary about Tokyo's Tsukiji Market, said to be the largest fish market in the world. It will relocate to Toyosu Market ahead of preparations for the 2020 Summer Olympics. In Kaohsiung, as in Tokyo, residents

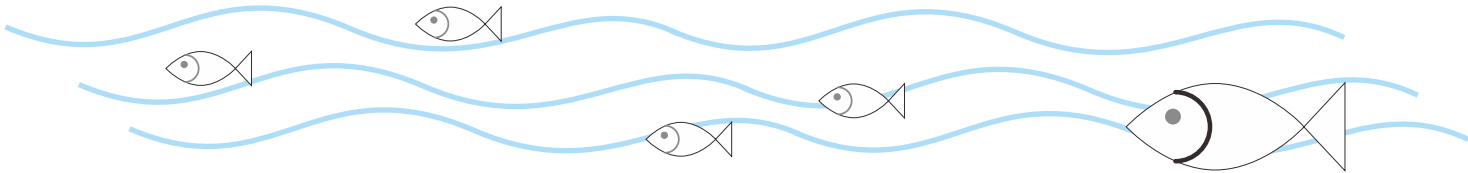


purchase direct from fishermen, and beloved local fish markets are a deeply ingrained part of local culture and history. Cianjhen Fish Market was originally situated in Hamasen and called Gushan Fish Market, as it was near Gushan Ferry Station. Kaohsiung's fisheries industry grew to importance during the 1895-1945 Japanese colonial period. The Japanese authorities constructed a fishing port and built a railway line, connecting the port area to Gushan Fish Market, to transport oceanic produce. Hamasen was situated at the end of the railway line. By the 1960s, many fishing vessels were too large to dock at Gushan, so the government built Cianjhen Fishing Port as a replacement. The glamour of Cianjhen Fishing Port signified the doom of Gushan Fish Market.

The nighttime boat trip we joined was specially arranged for us, yet it is certainly worth exploring Cianjhen Fish Market if you have any opportunity.

Cianjhen Fish Market

Address: No.2, Yugang Central 1st Rd., Cianjhen District, Kaohsiung City



Splendid Mituo District: From Badlands to Azure Coastline

©English translation: Hou Ya-ting

©Photos by Yang Han-ni, Pao Chung-hui

Situated on Kaohsiung's west coast, many of those who reside in Mituo believe the district derives its name from a small temple near its northern harbor, in which Amitabha - the principal Buddha in Pure Land Buddhism - is worshiped. Interestingly, the work of Mr. Jiang Yu-ying, the first prefectural magistrate assigned to Taiwan in the Cing Dynasty (which ruled the island from 1684 to 1895), mentions that Mituo was established as a community in 1685. But it is certain that people were living here even earlier, as archaeological work has uncovered 1,400-year-old relics from the Iron Age's Niasong Culture.

There is much to see in Mituo District, which has a rich culture and an abundance of sights. Mituo cherishes an array of captivating local arts and crafts, such as shadow puppetry, straw-mat weaving and bamboo-hat making. Two local prestigious shadow-puppet troupes, Fu Hsing Ko and Yung Shing Le, are unrelenting in their promotion and preservation of this traditional art form by touring towns throughout Taiwan and participating in cultural events.

Nature lovers marvel at Mituo District's Tadi Mountain Natural Park. The majestic mudstone badlands feature exposed ridges and gullies, a kind of terrain visible in only a handful of places in Taiwan. Strolling along the park's hiking trails allows visitors to fully experience these spectacular badlands. Mituo's long seashore bestows on the district gorgeous coastal scenery, with Nanliao Coastal Recreational Area being an especially popular seaside destination.

Tadi Mountain Natural Park

Located at Mituo's Tadi Village, Tadi Mountain covers an area approximately 800m long by 600m wide. Its highest point is 53m above sea level. Long a restricted military area, Tadi Mountain's natural environment has remained quite intact. It was not until the military withdrew from the area in 2006 that Tadi Mountain revealed its stunning scenery.



Tadi Mountain differs from Taiwan's other badlands in being so near the ocean. Tadi Mountain Natural Park has emerged as a favorite place for local residents to do their daily exercise routines while chatting with friends, hiking and appreciating a sunset that is often gorgeous.

Entering the park, road signs point left to the former military base, and right to various peripheral trails. The latter lead to a suspension bridge. Those who take the latter route can see morning glories growing in abundance alongside the stone paths. From the stairs beneath the suspension bridge, one sees the fort. While atop the bridge, it is possible to appreciate the area's renowned badlands topography.

Heading left, one soon reaches the old military base. The armed forces left their mark on the area, such as sentry boxes on both sides of the entrance. The public installation art displayed here depicts soldiers training to climb a wall, and there is a series of adorable soldier puppets. Visitors enthusiastically pose for photos with the puppets.

On the right side, an uphill trail eventually leads to an observation tower and two active mud-volcano vents. Both are three to five cm in diameter. The military built concrete





channels around the two vents, so the mud would not overflow. As it happened, I ran into a man who had done part of his compulsory military service at Tadi Mountain. He recalled that, before the channels were built, he and his colleagues had to daily remove mud seeping out from the volcanoes to ensure the safety of the base and its equipment. Apart from military remnants, this area now has a basketball court, some gym equipment and a playground. The playground slide is much enjoyed by local children.

Tadi Mountain Natural Park can be divided into the Nanheng (Southern) and Beiheng (Northern) hiking trails. The former is temporarily closed because some stairs were damaged by a typhoon; repairs are underway. On the Beiheng Hiking Trail, after just five minutes' walking, visitors can see the distinct badlands terrain. Frequent visitors recommend those who have strong legs take this route to the bunker, as that is the best spot for appreciating the surrounding scenery. The badlands' appearance is the result of water erosion. When it rains, the surface soil absorbs moisture; however, when the sun comes out, the surface quickly dries and cracks. Repeated wetting and drying have created this special landscape. Furthermore, downpours sometimes cause landslides, so exposed ridges and gullies are major features of the badlands. As a result, very little vegetation can be found growing on the mudstone.

The natural wonders and sights of Tadi Mountain Natural Park make it a perfect destination for families. The badlands arouse the curiosity of both children and adults, and a visit to Tadi Mountain enables visitors to fully appreciate the beauty of this special place.

Nanliao Coastal Park at Nanliao Fishing Port

Nanliao Coastal Park is a child-friendly destination. While

the grown-ups relax by gazing at the azure ocean, the kids enjoy a boat-shaped scenic lookout, a water channel, a wooden path, a pavilion and a white-sand playground. The coastal park's oceanic ambiance is enhanced by paintings of marine animals and large 3D dolphins on the walls, as well as a manga-style puppet of an angler holding fish.

For many children, the outdoor playground at Nanliao Coastal Park is better than any toys they have at home. Right after taking their socks off, children dive into the sand. Meanwhile, experienced anglers gather by the levee, kick back, chat, watch the sunset, and enjoy the fun of fishing. Many praise Nanliao Fishing Port because it has neither an annoying fishy odor nor the smell of diesel from fishing boats. Being on the coast, Mituo does not lack for fresh ocean produce. Those in the know head to Nanliao Fish Market, a local morning market and a wonderful place to pick up fresh seafood. Nanliao Fishing Port also holds a weekend fish market where people can buy seafood to cook at home, as well as delicacies that can be enjoyed on-site. Customers will love the *umami* taste of seafood here!

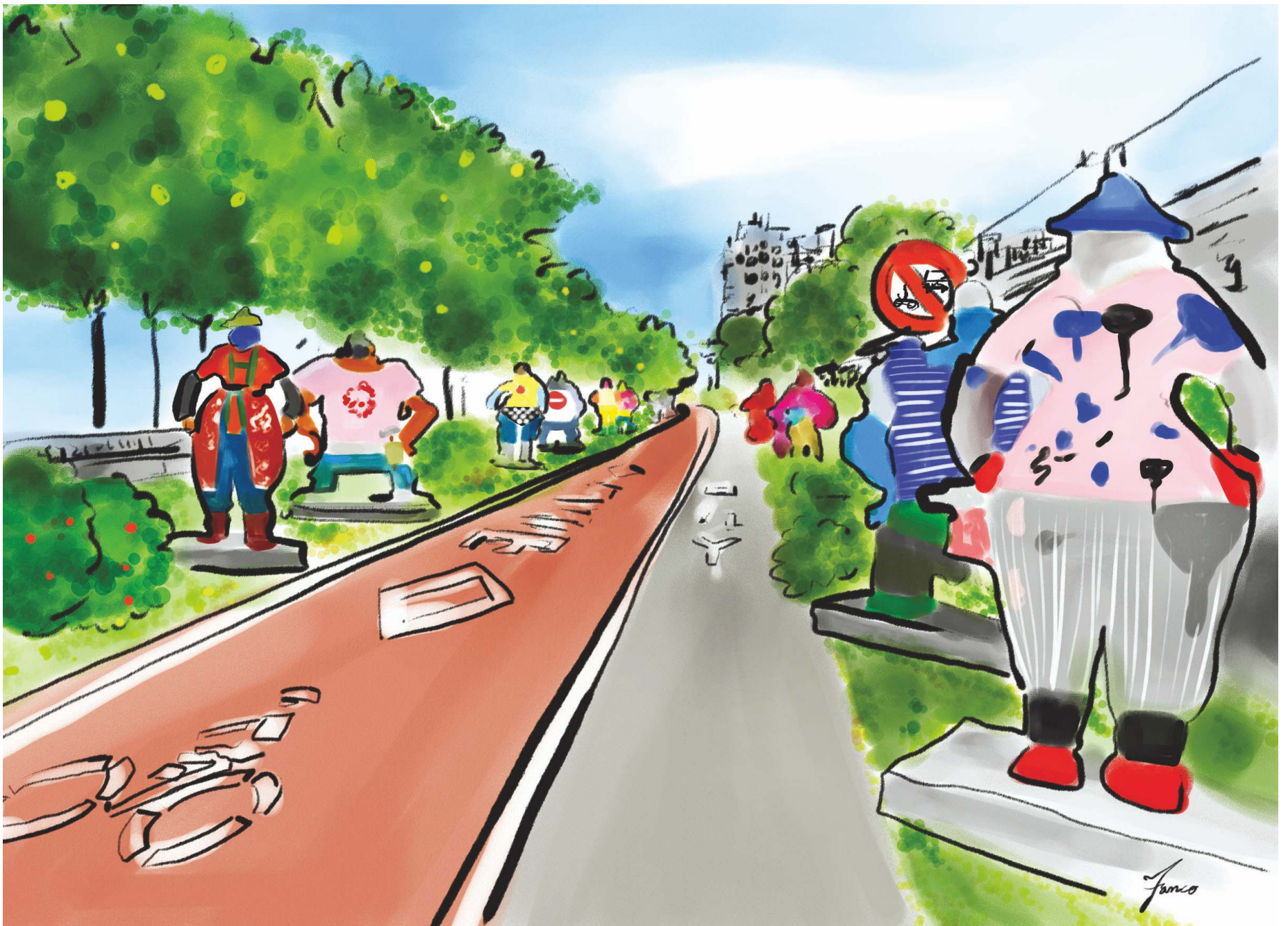
For those keen to explore Mituo District's marine culture, the annual Mazu Festival ☐hosted by Tiannan Temple in the third lunar month ☐is an opportunity to observe how local residents express their adoration of Mazu, the goddess of the sea. This hospitable festival features all kinds of performances, including music, drama and battle arrays.

On top of its scenic and cultural attractions, Mituo has a sophisticated aquaculture industry which produces high-quality milkfish, often eaten in the form of fish balls. Many regard milkfish and fish balls as the district's signature oceanic products. Another popular local product is Guei Jia Siang Soy Sauce. Amazing Mituo District awaits your visit.



Flourishing Pier-2 Art Center Brings Resurgence of Tourism

■ Illustration by Fanco



KH Style

Published by Information Bureau, Kaohsiung City Government

Publisher: Ting Yun-kung

Planned by UNITAS Literary Monthly, Linking Publishing Company

English editors: Johanne Murray, Steven Crook

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