

APCOM 2019 – One-Day Cultural Tour in Taipei

9~9.5 hrs, December 21, 2019

This tour includes three important cultural destinations in Taipei with hours of professional English guiding: (1) National Palace Museum – Treasures of Chinese culture; (2) Menga Lungshan Temple – Paragon of Taiwan’s traditional temple Architecture; (3) Wisteria Tea House – learning the Chinese and Taiwanese tea culture and tasting the premium grade Taiwan oolong tea. Join in this cultural tour will definitely enrich your trip in Taiwan.

Descriptions

● National Palace Museum (國立故宮博物院)



Located in Taipei City, the National Palace Museum is one of the most famous museums in the world for its great and rare collection of traditional Chinese art and crafts. The collection of nearly 700,000 items encompasses 8,000 years of Chinese art history from the Neolithic age to the modern. These priceless treasures include bronze ware, ceramics, jade, Chinese paintings, calligraphy, sculptures, books and other antiques. Most of the artifacts are high-quality pieces collected by emperors from Soong to Ching Dynasties over the past 1000 years. Besides the cultural and aesthetic significance, the guide (one from scientific community) will also introduce some exhibits in the senses of science and technology. Through appreciation of these amazing treasures, you will experience the beauty of Chinese culture and traditional arts and realize the wisdom of the ancient Chinese people as well.

● Menga Lungshan Temple (艋舺龍山寺)



Menga (or Wanhua, Mengjia) Lungshan Temple, initially built in 1738 AD, is the most famous traditional Buddhist temple in Taiwan. It played an important role in the historical development of Taipei city and is also an epitome of the history of the pioneering settlers. The architecture is a paragon of Taiwan's traditional temple for the gorgeous decorations as well as its majestic layout. During this visit, the participants will learn the history of the temple, the characteristic features of the southern-Fujian-style architecture, the beauty of the decorations, the folk beliefs in Taiwan, and the way the locals worshipping deities and praying for divine instructions.

● Wisteria Tea House (紫藤廬人文茶館)



Taiwan produces wide varieties of high-quality tea, especially the partially-fermented tea (Oolong series) from Taiwan is the finest in the world. In this tour, the participants can learn the knowledge about tea, appreciate aroma and aftertaste of the famous Oolong tea and Oriental Beauty (Tea), and also have chance to experience the tea ceremony and the way to brew a pot of high-quality Taiwanese tea. Wisteria Tea House is a 100-year historical building erected around 1920 during Japanese colonial period. In the past decades, Wisteria has made a lot of efforts on spreading the Taiwanese tea arts. Nowadays, it has become an important cultural landmark of Taipei. While sitting in the 100-year-old wooden house, enjoy a cup of savory Oolong tea in the atmosphere of tea aroma. What a wonderful experience !

Note:

- Tour fee of \$105USD/person includes the following items:
 - ✓ *Tour bus transportation (pick-up and drop-off info will be announced later)*
 - ✓ *Admission (including rental of group-guiding audio system) to National Palace Museum*
 - ✓ *Lunch*
 - ✓ *Oolong tea tasting activities in Wisteria Tea House*
 - ✓ *Travel insurance*
 - ✓ *Professional English guide*

- Group size: 20 to 30 people. The tour may be cancelled if not enough people registered.
- Cancellation policy: Cancellations are permitted up until September 21 with a full refund. Cancellations made after September 21 are non-refundable.
- Cultural Tour Guide:

Chyi-Yeou Soong (宋齊有) - Training and Experience

Licensed English/Chinese Tour Guide & Tour Leader; Certificate, Tea Quality Evaluation, NTU/SPCES; Certificate, Jade & Color Stone Identification, GII/Taiwan Branch; Certificate, Studies of Chinese Artifacts, National Palace Museum; Other Training and Studies - Traditional Architecture, Tea Arts, Chinese Calligraphy, Seal Engraving, etc.

Eight-year experiences of cultural tour planning / guiding for academic societies, universities, conferences, groups and individuals. Teaching/lecturing in travel & culture.

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