

Enjoy greenery in the concrete urban jungle.
Experience the essence of history and culture.

Urban Forest Fun Series

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Chiayi Park
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Urban Jungle Park



INFO

Chiayi Park

Chiayi Park was established outside of the eastern suburbs of Chiayi in 1910. It was built according to the terrain. The park includes fountains, ponds, gardens, pavilions, and children's playgrounds. Filled with old trees and greenery, with a stream meandering through the grounds, it is a beautiful outdoor haven, perfect for leisure and recreation.

The century-old park contains a wealth of cultural and historical treasures. Wandering around the park, you will find that despite it being a green haven, there are also historical and cultural areas that offer a glimpse to artifacts from the Qing dynasty or tales of local legends. At the historical monument area, visitors can experience Japanese cultural elements with an abundance of diverse and integrative content. Inside the park, several treasured old trees and the "Taiwan Incense Cedar" tree cluster can also be found, showcasing the co-existence of the natural and cultural landscape.

In addition, the eastern side of Chiayi Park is connected to the Chiayi Arboretum, which is the most famous out of the top three exotic tropical arboretums in Taiwan. It contains tropical forests of tree species from the South Pacific Islands, Australia, and South America. The forests have retained their natural forms with plenty of insects and birds making it their home. The teeming habitat means that a walk within the forests is like returning to the embrace of mother nature, making the Arboretum a must-visit destination.

Chiayi Park is a park containing a diversity of facades, appealing on both the intellectual and emotional levels and sure to charm the visitors. Let's relax and wander along the paths, as slow or as fast as you please, and explore this treasure trove.



Travel Information Service Center

Chiayi Train Station Travel Information Center

Telephone: 05-2256649

Address: No. 528 Zhongshan Road, Chiayi City

Service hours: Monday to Sunday (8:00~17:00)



[APP]

Hi Chiayi 嘉義公園篇



[Website]

Chiayi City Tourism Website



Chiayi Park Cultural Heritage



Chiayi Park Visitors Information Station



01 Steam Locomotive Commemorative Area

1 Steam Locomotive No. 21

The first Alishan 28 ton steam locomotive was purchased from the US in 1912 and began Chiayi City's journey to becoming the "timber city" of Taiwan.



2 Children's Playground

It contains slides in a colorful flying saucer design as well as a vibrant floral-print fence so that children can feel as if they are in wonderland. Ideal for the entire family to have fun at.

3 Paintings by Tan Ting-pho

In 1926, the oil painting of Chiayi native Tan Ting-pho was selected for the Imperial Art Exhibition of Japan. He was the first Taiwanese artist to receive this honor. There are nine painting easels set up in the Park.



4 Arch Bridge

The bridge was built in 1918 and has withstood the trials of time. Its arched design spans across the stream, with pleasing architectural aesthetics.

5 Fountain Garden

The adorable Belgian "Manneken Pis" statue has been around for more than 70 years. It is also a popular photo destination.



6 Red-Brick Arcade

Minnan architectural elements have been incorporated into the public space to provide visual variation. The space can also be used as a hide-and-seek play area for children.

7 Fu Kang-An Victory Memorial Stele

It serves as a token that witnessed the change of the place name from "Zhuluo" to "Chiayi" in 1787. It is a stele that combines both Manchu writing and Mandarin writing, rarely seen in Taiwan.

8 Yijiangshan Monument

The Battle of Yijiangshan Islands was an important historical incident that occurred after the KMT government took over Taiwan. The monument was established in the park in 1956.



02 Historical Monument Area, Historical Relic Museum

1 Children's Playground

This playground may be small, but contains various facilities and equipment for children to have fun with. With a pirate ship slide, balance bar, and training facilities, it's almost as good as a small amusement park.

2 Resting Area and Chozuya

After worship, the worshipers take a break at the "Resting Area"; the chozuya has basins for the worshipers to wash their hands in.

3 Shinto Shrine Avenue, Komainu, Stone Lanterns

Along the avenue leading to the Shinto Shrine, there are two stone sculptures of the Komainu (lion-dogs) placed on either side of the steps as symbols of protection. Stone lanterns are set up along either side of the avenue.

4 Historical Relic Museum (Temple Lodging House, Office)

Two wooden houses built in 1943 in the Japanese "Shoin-zukuri" style. The elegantly-designed buildings have already been officially declared as city monuments.

5 Chess Plaza

The only "Chess Plaza" in Taiwan, it is the largest outdoor competitive and leisure chess venue in the country. Not only is it used for promoting chess as a leisure activity, it is also a fun destination for parents and kids to relax.



03 Confucian Temple Cultural Area

- **1 Bingwu Earthquake Monument**
In remembrance of the severe earthquake in Chiayi that occurred in 1906, this was the first earthquake monument that was erected in Taiwan.
- **2 Twelve Ancient Cannons**
Steel cannons forged in the Qing dynasty, possibly relics left over from the Chiayi City fort.
- 3 Confucian Temple**
In major cities Confucian Temples are built for the worship remembrance of Confucius.
- 4 Temple Renovation Tablet**
Stone tablet carved in 1815 that describes the construction and renovation of the Jhuluo Confucian Temple.
- 5 Seven Tigers of Jhuluo Bronze Sculpture**
In 1970, the Chiayi City baseball little league won the National Little League once again. Chiayi is renowned for its "Seven Tiger" baseball team that entered the World League.
- 6 Shaking Koshien Bronze Sculpture**
In 1931, the Chiayi Institute of Agriculture competed in a tournament in Japan's Koshien Stadium and took home second-place from the Nippon National Middle School Baseball Championship.



04 Chiayi Tower Cultural Area

1 Precious Old Trees

Near the Chiayi Tower can be found groups of precious old trees including Japanese black pine, mahogany, and Taiwan incense-cedar. The monuments and the old trees create a complementary scene.

2 Formosan Clouded Leopard Bronze Sculpture

The Formosan clouded leopard has a brightly-colored coat and is highly agile. The sculpture is a symbol of protection.

3 Sun-Shooting Tower (Chiayi Tower)

Its design is based on the Alishan Sacred Tree, the body of the tower is decorated with the totems of the Indigenous tribal legend "Sun-Shooting"; the tower has a height of 62 m and has become a new landmark of Chiayi City.

4 Max Liu Sculptures

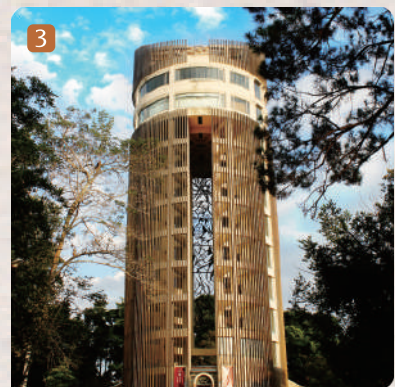
Max Liu was known as someone who was "young at heart", his works are filled with the vitality from the natural environment. The theme of this piece is "mother bird protecting her young".

5 Walled Arcade

The Arcade follows the terrain and uses red bricks to express Minnan architectural elements, where the gate, arches, and cloud walls are combined together to express its unique features.

6 First-Generation Chiayi Shinto Shrine Ruins

It was built in 1915 and designed and supervised by the famous craftsman Ito Mitsuru from Nagoya, where five deities were invited from the Taiwan Grand Shrine.



05 Arboretum

Chiayi Park Arboretum is also known as the Shanziding Botanical Garden. It was founded in 1909 next to Chiayi Park. Due to the geographical features of the Tropic of Cancer that runs through Chiayi, in the early days, hundreds of economic tree species from the South Pacific and tropical regions around the world were introduced to the Park for the study of tropical plants as well as to form the core forest. These include the Para rubber tree, Amboyna wood, blackboard tree, and mahogany. Currently, the species in the park are classified into 62 families and 175 classes, where block planting is used for the trees.

Under the jurisdiction of the Taiwan Forestry Research Institute, Chiayi Park Arboretum is the third oldest botanical garden in Taiwan and also the largest out of the three exotic tropical arboreturns in Taiwan. In the beginning, it was used for the academic research and cultivation of tropical tree species. As it received a certain level of control and protection, after a century, the Arboretum has become a rarely seen urban botanical garden.

The Arboretum has two entrances, the main entrance is on Minquan Road; while going eastward from the Chiayi City skating rink, along the residential area can be found the side entrance to the Arboretum, which is also connected to the main pathway of the the Park. Along either side of the main pathway are tall Cuban royal palms. The stately and beautiful scenery often attracts wedding parties to take photos here or family with young children to relax under the trees. Visitors often also come here to relax and enjoy the essence of the forest.

Chiayi Park and Arboretum List of Treasured Old Trees

Species	Height (m)	Crown Circumference (m2)	Age (year)	Location
Manila Tamarind	10	150	80	Next to Fu Kang-An Victory Memorial Park
Manila Tamarind	15	250	80	Next to Xiaoxi Lake
Manila Tamarind	15	250	80	Next to Shanyuan Bridge (towards the Confucian Temple)
Formosan Gum	18	400	90	In front of the Office of the Historical Relic Museum
Japanese Black Pine	18	150	90	By the front entrance of the Historical Relic Museum
Japanese Black Pine	14	110	90	On the south side of the Chiayi Tower Shinto Shrine avenue
Japanese Black Pine	15	150	90	On the south side of the Chiayi Tower Shinto Shrine avenue
Japanese Black Pine	15	90	90	In front of the ruins of the first-generation Shinto Shrine
Taiwan Incense Cedar			90	Among the tree cluster to the southwest of the Chiayi Tower
Mango Tree	20	250	100	Next to the park's east-side public restrooms
Para Rubber Tree	29	350	100	In front of the Arboretum rubber trees
Hoop Pine	32	192	100	In front of the Arboretum management center
Hoop Pine	34	150	100	In front of the Arboretum management center
Mahogany	30	650	100	In the Arboretum buttress root plant area
Beadtree	31	143	90	In front of the Arboretum buttress root plant area

05 Arboretum



1 Para Rubber Tree Area

In the early days, the Arboretum served as an experimental cultivation area for rubber trees and thousands of rubber trees were planted here. The sap of rubber trees is a high-quality raw material for rubber, and during WWII, the trees were important wartime strategic resources.



2 Buttress Root Plant Area

Pass the bomb shelter (former Civil Defense Control Center), on the right can be found the Buttress Root Plant Area. Some of the plant species include the looking-glass mangrove, Honduran mahogany, elephant apple, Amboyna wood, and breadfruit. Due to the growth environment, buttress root plants have evolved board-shaped roots over time to become a unique feature of tropical plants.



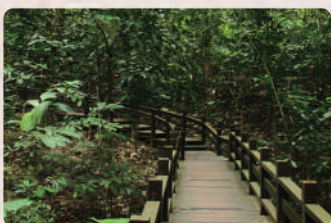
3 Palm Tree Area

On the left-hand side of the pathway are palm species, such as the solitary fishtail palm, golden cane palm, spindle palm, and Chinese fan palm. Members of the palm family are elegant and graceful in form, making them popular plants for gardens, schools, and parks. If row planting or block planting is used in an open space, the resultant landscape is usually stately and elegant.



4 Hoop Pine Area

The hoop pine is native to Australia, with a beautiful form and is an effective wind shelter. The timber can be used for constructions and for building furniture. To the left of the small bridge is the plaque with the words "Linchang Fengqing" (Forest with Clear Breeze), lauded as one of the eight sceneries of Chiayi. The two trees in front of the wooden hut office were the two specimen saplings first introduced to Taiwan. The subsequent saplings cultivated from the two trees have been distributed around Taiwan. The two trees are known as the "Mothers of Taiwan Hoop Pine"



5 Maple-Leafed Bayur Tree Area

Go past the ecological pool and continue along the right towards the wooden pathway; the maple-leafed bayur tree can be found on the left. It is indigenous to India and Southeast Asia, with oval leaves that are irregularly lobed, similar to maple leaves. Inside the fruit can be found "winged seeds", hence the tree is called winged seed tree in Chinese.

05 Arboretum



6 Oil Palm Area and Forest Bath Area

Go behind the wooden hut and walk along the trail there - along the trail can be found oil palms indigenous to Africa. The fruits are the main source of industrially-produced oil. Continue down the trail and it will lead to the longer Forest Bath path. Along the path are old trees, meandering streams, insect and bird calls, and the rich "essence" of the forest. Wander along slowly, relax and let your body and soul unwind.



7 Ecological Pond


The Ecological Pond provides a diverse habitat for microorganisms, water plants, and aquatic animals. Some of the water plants include aquatic plants, underwater plants, emergent water plants, floating-leaf plants, and floating plants.



Chiayi Century
Old Tree Information

06 Urban Jungle Park



- 1 (Prelude) Bridge of Joy
- 2 (Nature's Waltz) Nature's Grassy Slope Area
- 3 (Green Divertimento) Green Ecology Classroom
- 4 (Forest Fantasia) Secret Forest Essence Pathway
- 5 (Earth Sonata) Nature's Scenery Classroom
- 6 (Life's Ballad)  Memory's Garden Grave of Cai Ming-Cun
- 7 (Flower Arabesque) Vibrant and Colorful Flower Garden Area
- 8 (Light's Solo) Sunshine Lawn

Transport Service Station



- Chiayi City Transit Center
(near Engagement Bridge)
Telephone: 05-2333272
Address: No. 1, Jhongsing Road, Chiayi City
- Chiayi Train Station
Telephone: 05-2228904
Address: No.503, Zhongshan Rd., East Dist.,
Chiayi City 600, Taiwan (R.O.C.)
Website: www.railway.gov.tw/chiayi/
- Alishan Forestry Railway North Gate Station
Telephone: 05-2768094
Address: No. 304, Zhongxiao Road, Chiayi City
Website: www.railway.gov.tw/Alishan-tw/
- Taiwan HSR Chiayi Station
Telephone: 4066-3000
Address: No. 168, Gaotie West Road,
Taibao City, Chiayi County
Website: www.thsrc.com.tw/index.html
- Chiayi Bus Terminal
Telephone: 05-2223194
Address: No.503, Zhongshan Rd., East Dist.,
Chiayi City 600, Taiwan (R.O.C.)
Website: www.cibus.com.tw/
- Chiayi County Bus Service Administration
Telephone: 05-2788177
Address: No. 635, Section 2, Daya Road, Chiayi City
Website: www.cybus.gov.tw/
- Scooter Rental: there are a large number
of scooter rental stores in from of the train station
- Chiayi e-Bike Rental Service
Website: ebike.citypower.com.tw/station_info.php

Transportation



- Exit National Highway No.1 at the Chiayi Interchange, and take Beigang Road to reach the city center. Take Zhongshan Road after passing the Jiaxiong Pedestrian Bridge, and straight ahead of you will be Chiayi Park. Turn on Zhongxiao Road to reach Hinoki Village, the Cultural Affairs Bureau, museums, the Koji Pottery Exhibition Room, and other tourist areas.
- Exit National Highway No. 3 at the Jhuci Interchange or Jhongpu Interchange to reach Chiayi City.
- After taking Taiwan Railway to Chiayi Station, you can take the Alishan Forest Railway to North Gate Station and, from there, walk to Hinoki Village, the Cultural Affairs Bureau, museums, the Koji Pottery Exhibition Room, and other tourist areas.
- Take the HSR to Chiayi Station, then board the BRT, which stops at the back section of the Taiwan Railway Chiayi Station, Shin Kong Mitsukoshi Far East shopping center, Wenhua Road intersection (Wenhua Rd. Night Market), and Chiayi Park, among others.

BRT

Chiayi Park ↔ Chiayi County Gymnasium
6 : 00—23 : 40 Runs every 20 minutes.

Rush hour

back section of the

Taiwan Railway Chiayi Station ↔ HSR Chiayi Station
06 : 00—08 : 00
16 : 00—18 : 00 Runs every 10 minutes.



Sincerely, Chiayi City Government

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**Travel Around Chiayi on Foot:
Low-Carbon Footprint,
Environmentally-Friendly, Beautiful Scenery**



