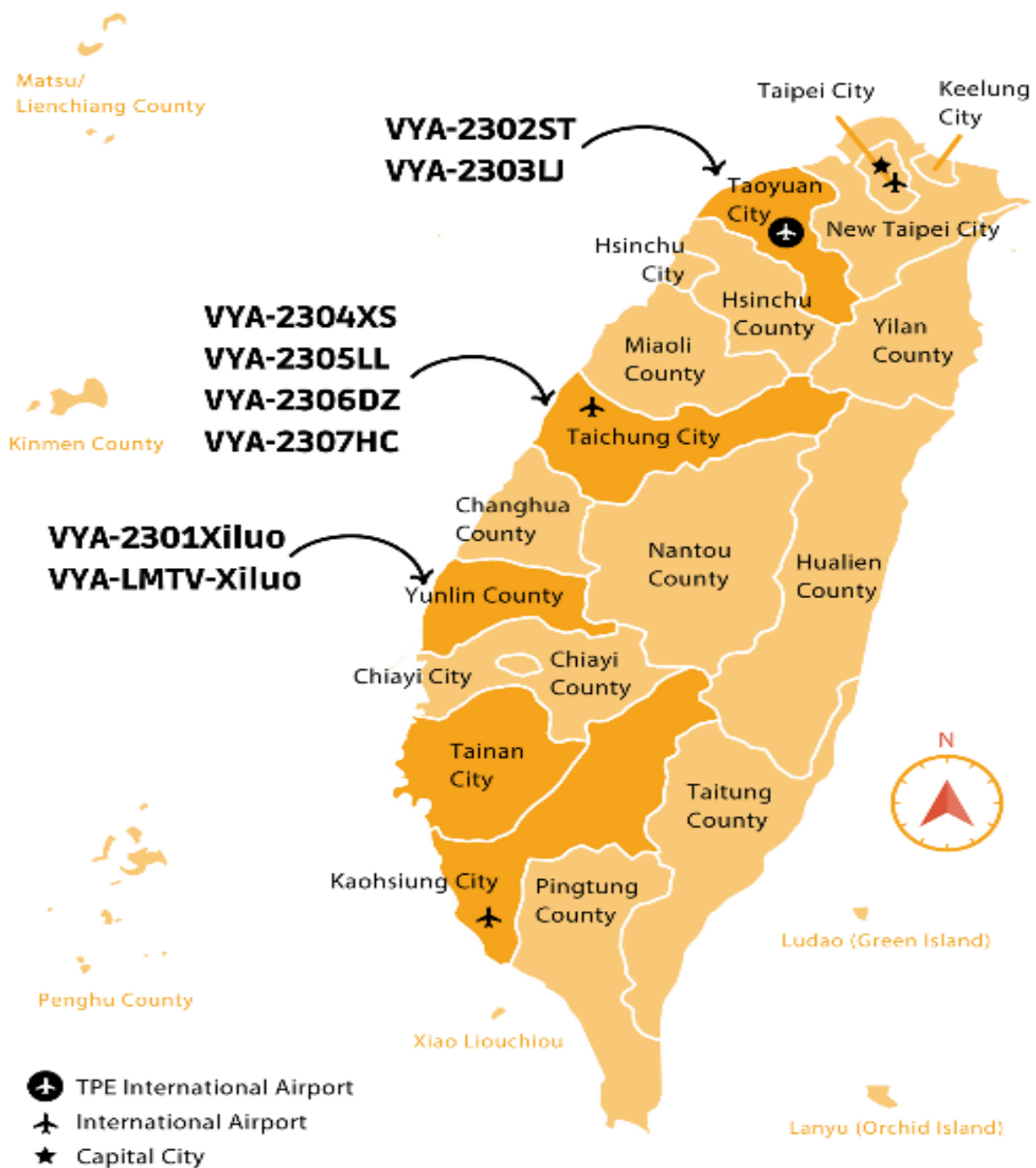


- Be the Bridge, Be the Change -
VYA Taiwan
International WorkCamp 2023



Taiwan International Workcamp
Taiwan Map



(1) **Summary and Abbreviation List**

1-1 STV / WorkCamp

NO	Type	Code	Title	Location	Dates	Vols	ages
1	RENO/COM	VYA-2301Xiluo	Old House Reconstruction in Rural Village	Yunlin	Jul. 4 th -15 th	10	18+
2	ENVI/AGRI	VYA-2302ST	Embark on Agro-Living	Taoyuan	Aug.2 nd -11 th	6	18+
3	CULT/COM	VYA-2303LJ	Preserving Laojie: A Cultural Exchange and Sustainability Initiative	Taoyuan	Aug.22 nd -29 th	5	18+
4	CULT/ELD	VYA-2304XS	Discover the Rich Folk Culture of Xiushan Community	Taichung	Aug.9 th -22 nd	10	18+
5	CULT/ENVI	VYA-2305LL	Centennial Spring's Beauty Revives	Taichung	Jul. 5 th -10 th	6	18+
6	CULT/EDU	VYA-2306DZ	Experience the Earth God Festival in Dazhuang	Taichung	Aug.13 th -26 th	10	18+
7	RENO/COM	VYA-2307HC	Preserving and Revitalizing the Old Houses in Wuqi	Taichung	Aug.14 th - Sep.2 nd	10	18+

1-2-LMTV : Old House Renovation and Culture Exchange in Xiluo

NO	Code	Dates	Vols.
M1	VYA-LMTV-Xiluo-2301	MAR 24th- at least 3-6 months	2
M2	VYA-LMTV-Xiluo-2302	JUN 24th- at least 3-6 months	2
M3	VYA-LMTV-Xiluo-2303	Sep. 24th- at least 3-6 months	2
M4	VYA-LMTV-Xiluo-2304	Dec. 24th- at least 3-6 months	2

(2) **General Qualification**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ※ Strong motivation for voluntary work (special skills and power are not necessary) ※ Responsibility to follow rules of VYA & its partners and full cooperation to run the workcamp ※ Great efforts to understand and respect cultures of the hosts and other volunteers ※ An open mind to make friends, speak English (in the groups) and the local language ※ To adapt to and enjoy simple living conditions
--

Fun and refreshing as the workcamps may be, **if you seek pure entertainment on vacation, please don't apply and instead of traveling on your own.** If you are here to enjoy **voluntary service**, to make a better world and to make friends and with the local people and other volunteers, you are **very welcome** to join!!

(3) **WorkCamp Detail Information**

General info of project description

Abbreviation List

W : Type of voluntary work	T : Terminal (The closest big international airport)
S : Study theme	LA : Leisure Activities
A : Accommodation	SR : Special Remarks
L : Location	PF : Participation Fees

* For Accommodation, **CV** = Cooked by Volunteers **MP** = Meals are provided

SB! = Sleeping Bag is necessary/ **SBN** = Sleeping Bag is Not necessary

2 Workcamps

Old House Reconstruction in Rural Village

VYA-2301Xiluo; Jul. 4th-15th; Xiluo, Yunlin County; RENO+ARGI+Cul+COM; 10Vols



This project is inviting volunteers to deeply involve themselves in the renovation of the historic Yenping town street, and to experience the local atmosphere by repairing old houses and participating in agricultural life within 12 days in Xiluo Township.

Xiluo Township, located in the middle of Taiwan, has a 360-year history and is the most northern district of Yunlin County. It is situated closest to the Zhuo Shui River, the longest river in Taiwan, and is known for its production of rice, fruits, and vegetables. The nearby river was used for transportation of people and goods for over 100 years.

During the Japanese colonial era, Xiluo was planned to be a modern and role model town. In order to cooperate with the street-widening process, architectural facades were removed and buildings' heights were altered. From 1925 to 1945, many stylish buildings were constructed on Yenping Street, with various unique architectural styles. In just a few years, an 840-meter stretch of the street saw the construction of hundreds of Art Deco houses that contain the essence of Xiluo's history and culture.

Today, walking along Yenping Historical Street, visitors can see 142 decorated historical houses, most of which were built over 90 years ago. A century ago, Yenping Street was the "downtown" area and shops were busy with visitors, but now many of the houses are empty and old. The residents have moved with their families to other cities away from Xiluo, and Yenping Street has become quiet.

Thanks to the "Community Renaissance" movement conducted by the Louyoung Foundation and the local government, the street has become fabulous. Over the past 7 years, the Foundation has invited many cultural groups and artists to stay in Xiluo for an extended period and host different performances. They have also hosted 7 international work camps that focused on renovating heritage houses.

In 2022, Liao Jih-chou and Liao Jih-kang, overseas hometown acquaintances, donated two old houses (No. 110 and No. 112) on Yanping Road to the Louyoung Education and Culture Foundation in accordance with their parents' wishes. No. 110 was the former Te-Chun Dental Clinic, and the Foundation has gradually entered the dilapidated house for cleaning and restoration. At the same time, the history of the Liao family was researched and artifacts collected. Invitations were also extended to resident artists to use their art to enter the old house.

During the first week of the volunteer project, participants will repair the old houses (No. 110 and No. 112) on Yanping Road. Afterwards, they will clean the nearby garden of the local museum, experience agricultural life in Xiluo, and participate in a handicraft workshop.

International friends are welcome to join this project, which is not just about voluntary work, but also about learning Taiwanese culture and having a unique life experience.

W:

1. We will be repairing the old houses at No. 110 and No. 112 to revitalize the old community and prepare for the creation of a Learning Commons in the future.
2. Participants will have the opportunity to learn about various types of organic vegetables and their production process, as well as experience working as farmers.
3. We will collaborate with local residents to create public artwork and improve the community environment.

AD:

We will be staying at the Xiluo International Volunteer House (No.72), which is located near the Xiluo Cultural Museum. The house is equipped with comfortable beds, air conditioning, toilets, and a single hot shower. We suggest that male volunteers use the Xiluo backpacker house (No.81) for showering. The backpacker house, which is managed by the Rotary Club of Xiluo, is located close to our work site, and volunteers are always welcomed with their kindness. To maintain good relations, we need to keep the house clean and refrain from smoking inside the building.

During the project, we will mainly use bicycles for transportation, so please ensure that you are comfortable with bike riding. We will be cooking our own meals, but there will also be opportunities to eat at local restaurants or purchase packed meals.

Internet access is available at the Luoyoung Foundation office, the backpacker house, and the Volunteer House.

L:

Xiluo Township, a historical place in Yun-Lin County, located in central Taiwan. 50 minutes to Taichung City by bus, 2.5-3.5 hrs by bus from Taipei City.

Google Map:

Louyoung Cultural & Education Foundation 財團法人雲林縣螺陽文教基金會

T: Tao-Yuan international airport

LA:

We have a variety of activities planned, including excursions, exchange parties with locals, Kung Fu exercises, puppet shows, bike rides, and the option to visit the night market on your free day.

SR:

Please bring your traditional clothing with you as there will be special events such as cultural night

and farewell party where at least one volunteer will have the opportunity to showcase their country's traditional attire. This will undoubtedly leave a lasting impression on the locals. The project is expected to conclude on the last day around 12:00 pm, after the accommodation is cleaned and the final evaluation is reviewed.

PF

NO participation fee.(host organization will provide meals & accommodations).

Volunteers have to cover the transportation and living expenses by themselves during free time.

More info about Community

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/louyoung.ngo>

Website: <http://www.louyoung.org.tw/>

Youtube: https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLp1FCq_jLJuHYejB_o50FoKbMDwIKPX-P



Embark on Agro-Living

VYA-2302ST; Aug. 2nd-11th; Taoyuan City; EDU, CONS, KIDS; 8 Vols.



Background

This project is located in the countryside of Zhongli District, Taoyuan, Taiwan. This village is close to the international airport and Chingpu New Town. It is the only surviving community next to the urban area yet still retains a complete traditional Hakka rural life.

Community Features:

- The rural population is aging, but fortunately, the traditional agriculture handicrafts and life skills have remained.
- Due to urbanization and proximity to the international airport, the community has a lot of new residents and immigrants from other countries. These new residents from different countries are rich in food, living and various cultures in the communities, but they also bring a lot of collisions and disputes in the lives of the aboriginal Hakka people

The Hakka people are the second largest ethnic group in Taiwan. Their characteristics are respect for nature, love for the earth, diligence, and thrift.

This project will assist local organizations to promote habitat agriculture, let natural ecology and agriculture coexist, and implement the Satoyama Initiative. We will Inherit the craftsmanship of craftsmen, with learning and field exercises of using the natural construction methods of earth, bamboo and stone. We will also conduct cultural exchanges with new immigrants through foreign food exchanges to enhance mutual understanding, reduce conflicts, and have harmonious life together.

Aims:

With Agro-living Wellness, we aim to achieve 3 Growths & 2 Gives:

1. **Growth** in awareness of the importance of sustainable habitats (“SATOYAMA”)
2. **Growth** in local work force participation rate of the community
3. **Growth** in volunteers’ wellness of body, mind and spirit
4. **Give** a sense of pride to the people of the community
5. **Give** the emphasis to the people and culture more than the construction development

Achievements over the past year:

- 1) 2022, fixed and renovated an old deserted village house with 10 volunteers from Iran, Cambodia, Mexico, Indonesia and Vietnam.
- 2) 2022, harvested perilla crops from 900 square meter farm with 10 volunteers.
- 3) 2022, recycled wasted wood and made 2 tables and 5 chairs for the community with 10 volunteers.

Before 2022

- Advocated traditional natural architecture and hired local traditional craftsmen to lead volunteers to build natural architecture rest pavilions for the community, 2 bamboo huts with 20 volunteers
- Tree trimming in mountainous areas, tidying up trails and stacking stone ridges (to prevent earth and rock collapse), etc
- Accompaniment and meal sharing with seniors in the community, education and counseling for rural children

W:

We will focus on sustainable living and natural building, inherit the craftsmanship of craftsmen, with learning and field exercises of using the natural construction methods of earth, bamboo and stone. We will also conduct cultural exchanges with new immigrants through farm to table and foreign food exchanges to enhance mutual understanding, reduce conflicts, and have harmonious life together.

S:

Capitalism brings excessive materials, participants will learn how to use local materials, waste utilization, and recycle resources to gradually move towards carbon reduction or zero carbon life. Industrialized agriculture has squeezed the living space of many animals and plants, and produced many impure agricultural products. The participants will be stationed at the Habitat Agriculture Farm to experience how Habitat Agriculture achieves both ecology and the satisfaction of human beings to produce healthy food

AD:

At a hundred year old village house. **Sleeping bag** is required! Food will be offered by local people but volunteers still have a chance to cook in some cultural exchange events.

L:

A small Hakka village in Zhongli District, locating on the north side of Taiwan, near the international airport.

GM : <https://goo.gl/maps/Z7nh1NRQWXVfjYnx6>

T:

Tao-Yuan international airport. 20min drive away from the airport, or an hour MRT ride with shuttle bus

LA:

Play big drums with community residents, learn Hakka folk song, and mediation

SR:

Motivational letter + CGC + Application Form.

*sweat, tears and love are given to you on purpose, be ready to receive with an open mind to achieve a mindful mind. We hope that young volunteers who wish to participate are those who have ideas and passion for ecology and sustainability. The camp will not teach them how much knowledge is enough, but we expect that the experience of living in the natural environment of the rural area during the camp can create a force in their hearts to become the seeds of actively caring for the life of the earth.

PF

NO participation fee.(host organization will provide meals & accommodations).

Volunteers have to cover the transportation and living expenses by themselves during free time.

To Give, to Receive, and to Achieve Wellness of Both Body & Mind



Preserving Laojie: A Cultural Exchange and Sustainability Initiative

VYA-2303LJ; Aug. 22nd-29th; CUL, ENVI, KIDS; 5 Vols.



Zhongli District in Taoyuan City was originally settled by the Hakka people. The valley formed by a stream was called "Li" in the Hakka language, and the location surrounded by Laojie River and Xinjie River was named "Jianzai". During the Japanese colonial period, the area was renamed "Zhongli Street", which became the main road connecting the north and south.

The area near the Laojie River(老街溪) is known as the "Laojie District", and it is home to Japanese-style buildings, century-old shops, Hakka culture, and the Laojie River which has greatly influenced the local way of life. Unfortunately, with the passing of time, many local youths and immigrants are no longer familiar with the historical context of this area. In order to preserve this unique cultural heritage, we hope to raise awareness and interest in the history of Zhongli Laojie District and achieve the goal of cultural preservation.

Host Organization

Chung Yuan Christian University(中原大學) is built upon the principles of Christian love for the world. With unwavering faith, hope, and love, we strive to advance higher education. To encourage our teachers and students to engage with society through "Love and Professionalism", and to empower our students to integrate their knowledge into action through "Learning by Doing", the University established the "Office of Service Learning Project" in March 2007. This project was later renamed the "Service Learning Center" in March 2008, with the purpose of promoting service-learning courses and projects in a systematic and ongoing manner. The Center also encourages our students to participate in social services, fulfill their civic responsibilities, and develop their core competencies for future employment.

In 2019, we expanded our efforts by taking over the "Taolien Youth Volunteer Service Center" from the Youth Development Administration, Ministry of Education. Our goal is to create a youth-friendly volunteer service platform in Taoyuan and collaborate with schools, associations, and organizations to encourage the youth to participate in volunteer services and elevate the energy of youth volunteerism in Taoyuan.

Our website : <https://sl.cycu.edu.tw>

Aims:

1. To foster cultural exchange between local and international youth, and promote an appreciation for the history and culture of Zhongli Laojie District.
2. To facilitate the sharing of diverse international cultures and broaden children's global perspectives.
3. To support conservation efforts for the Laojie River habitat and raise awareness for environmental sustainability.

Achievements over the past year:

1. Since 2017, Chung Yuan University Service-Learning Center has been organizing a number of one-day local cultural experience workshops for young volunteers to learn more about the local culture.
2. 2022, To focus on Zhongli Laojie District, we organize three-day, two-night Local International Work Camp around three themes: " Laojie River ", " Historical Shops" and " Historical Buildings" . To Let foreign students communicate with local youths, so as to understand the history and characteristics of Zhongli. The reference link is as follows

- Laojie River https://youtu.be/yTLu_7XObXs
- Historical Shops <https://youtu.be/F-EnNRDPeS0>
- Historical Buildings <https://youtu.be/aSylPyxDWtw>

W:

1. To involve celebrating local festivals with elementary school children of Taiwanese new immigrants,
2. and there will also be Laojie River cleaning activities.

S: The Culture of Zhongli Laojie District

AD:

1. Please note that the accommodation provided will have floor beds. As such, volunteers will be required to bring their own sleeping bags.
2. Meal will be provided by the CYCU Service-learning Center, but there may also be cultural exchange events where volunteers will have the opportunity to cook.
3. For any first aid needs, there is a local clinic located just a 10-minute walk away from the accommodation.

L: Zhongli District, Taoyuan City.

GM : 中原大學 <https://goo.gl/maps/BsqLpfBAavbzdSP8>

T: Tao-Yuan international airport. (<http://www.taoyuan-airport.com>)

LA:

If you are interested in exploring the local culture, we recommend visiting the LONGANG Zhongzhen Market or the Daxi Old Street. You can also check out the Taoyuan City Library or the Taoyuan City Library-Longgang Branch. For more detailed information on these and other cultural attractions in Taoyuan, please refer to the Taoyuan Tourism Guide website at <https://travel.tycg.gov.tw/en>.

SR:

Strong motivation for learning and respects for local culture, as well as other international volunteers' cultures.

PF:

1. There is no participation fee for this program. We will cover the cost of accommodation, food, and all activity materials. However, please note that transportation to the meeting point is not included.
2. Basic insurance will be provided, but we strongly suggest that you obtain comprehensive insurance that covers the entirety of your journey.
3. You will have a free day with a budget of your own to spend as you wish.



Discover the Rich Folk Culture of Xiushan Community

VYA-2304XS; Aug. 9th-22nd; TaichungCity, Taiwan; ART+ELD+COM; 10 Vols



Xiushan Community is located in the center of Taichung, near the foothills across the mountain and overlooking the Taiwan Strait. Sixty percent of its residents engage in agriculture, planting wheat, rice, red barley, and other grains. The presence of the Precision Science Park six years ago encouraged the community to seek the return of its young population. However, the majority of the elderly lack vitality and creativity, which contributes to a lack of motivation to create a vibrant community. The community hopes that international volunteers will encourage residents to engage in community affairs and introduce diverse cultural experiences.

Aims:

1. Encourage international volunteers to create their own lion head and painting, which is a significant part of the community's folk culture. By producing traditional lion head and painting, Xiushan hopes to become a hub for folk arts and crafts outside of the village.
2. Partner with the Community Service Center for the Elderly to lead weekly health promotion activities for the elderly, led by international volunteers. This program aims to encourage the elders to be more active and engage in their senior life.
3. Through international volunteers, Xiushan aims to foster young people's interest in community activities and introduce the community's unique characteristics to the volunteers while encouraging them to participate in community activities.

W:

1. Organize care programs for the elderly to participate in community activities, which are led by volunteers and provide different cultural experiences to stimulate curiosity and mobility.
2. Introduce the international volunteers to the traditional Chinese Ghost Festival ceremony by creating their lion head and painting. This program aims to promote community culture and provide a unique experience for residents to enjoy the international volunteer ideas.
3. Combine the martial arts teachers and craftsmen of the community to create an experience for international volunteers and residents. The program involves making the lion's head and painting, training lion skills, and experiencing the community Song Jiangzhen, the official will be the first. This program also promotes painting folk art, and the results are presented back to the

community to showcase an important part of its culture.

4. Practice the lions and showcase the final performance to the community's elders.
5. Share experiences with international volunteers from Japanese and Aboriginal schools in the community to explore different cultural and folk life experiences.
6. Invite international volunteers to experience farming and learn about vegetable and fruit harvesting during the summer season in Taiwan. Volunteers can also serve food to the volunteers during their stay.
7. Invite international volunteers to participate in the 13th Liao Social Park, organize grass pulling, and learn about vegetables and fruit trees.

S: NO.

AD:

The activity center is equipped with bathroom facilities, kitchen utensils, and self-cooking fire. Meals can be self-prepared using food purchased at nearby markets.

L:

The community is situated in Taoya District, Taichung City, close to the Chingchuankang International Airport, and is approximately a 15-minute drive away. The community is also about a 20-minute drive away from Taichung City.

Google Map: [428 Taichung District, Taichung City Xiushanli Activity Center](#)

T:

1. Fly to Taoyuan International Airport, then take a bus or train to Taichung City, and then take CityBus to Taichung City Xiushan Community.
2. Take a bus from Taichung Chingchuankang International Airport to Taichung City Daya District Xiushan Community (CityBus takes approximately 10-15 minutes).

LA:

1. Close to the Taichung Metropolitan Park
2. Commuter tramway linking to Tanzi District, approximately 10 km in length
3. Fengjia sightseeing night market

SR:

1. People with special skills or interests in folk art, performing, and experiencing new business are welcome to volunteer.
2. Volunteers are encouraged to bring home small traditional folk
3. Volunteers are responsible for their own expenses, including transportation from the airport to the campsite, meals on free days, and any costs incurred during personal time. Accommodation

costs during the camp will be provided by the organizers. Please note that during the camp, expenses related to room and board will be covered by the organizers. However, please be reminded that during the months of July and August, Taiwan experiences hot summers and bugs, so please bring insect repellent and sunscreen.

PF: NO



Centennial Spring's Beauty Revives

VYA-2305LL; Jul. 5th-10th; Shalu Town, Taichung City; ENVI/CUL/COM; 6 Vols.



Luliao, a prosperous settlement with a population of 98,000 in its early days, owes its wealth to the springs, sambar, and farming in the area. The Luliao garment industry was once renowned throughout the country, contributing to the town's success. This project aims to revive the importance and historicity of the century-old fountain, while exploring the rise and fall of the garment industry and its future.

Aims:

1. Revitalizing the centennial spring.
2. Promoting cultural exchange.
3. Sharing international culture and making friends with the locals.
4. Discussing the Garment Industry issue.
5. Experiencing a typical Taiwanese lifestyle in Luliao, Taichung.

W:

1. Creating installation art or painting the environment of the spring.
2. Learning about the culture and history of the community and participating in Paper Mulberry DIY by taking a small walking tour.
3. Preparing a talent show with the local elders.
4. Visiting and introducing the garment industry, then discussing the possibilities of various garment industries with different international perspectives.

S:

1. Environmental innovation.
2. Cultural experiences.
3. Garment industry discussion.

AD:

1. Stay in a traditional building with a beautiful garden, sleeping on tatami or air beds. No need to bring your own blanket unless you have your preference. Showers and toilets are available.
2. Laundry machines are available.

3. A paid telephone for international calls is available at a 7-11 just nearby, only a 5-minute walk from the accommodation.
4. First aid: a local clinic near the accommodation is just a 5-minute walk away.
5. Accommodation is approximately a 5-minute drive from Shalu Train Station and a 10-minute drive from Taichung International Airport.

L: Located in the middle of Taiwan, Shalu Town.

Google Map: 沙鹿社區發展協會 [Shalu Community Development Association](#).

T: Taichung International Airport (IATA: RMQ).

LA: Excursions, cultural exchange events with local people, etc.

SR: Strong motivation for learning and respect for local culture, as well as other international cultures.

PF: NO



Experience the Earth God Festival in Dazhuang

VYA-2306DZ; Aug. 13th -26th ; Taichung City; CULT+FEST+COM; 10 Vols



Taichung Port, located in the Wuqi District of Taichung, is the second-largest international commercial port in Taiwan and the 97th largest in the world. MITSUI OUTLET PARK is the first seaport-themed shopping mall in the Taichung port district of Taiwan. Our community, Dazhuang Community, is situated in the Taichung port district and is the largest community in Wuqi District with a strong agricultural culture. The blend of urban and traditional cultures makes Dazhuang Community a unique cultural feature in the area. It also has the highest population of both elderly and young people, with one out of every nine residents being an elder. As a result, Dazhuang Community has been dedicated to taking care of the elderly and will organize more plans and activities for teenagers in 2019. With more volunteers joining the community, we hope to offer better care and education to the elderly and young people and infuse much vigor into the community.

Aims:

1. Learn about Earth God and Earth God temples in Taiwan.
2. Learn about the festivals celebrated in Taiwan throughout the year.
3. Volunteers can participate in health promotion activities with elders and share their exotic cultures with children to broaden their horizons and give them unique experiences.
4. We hope the younger generation in the community can introduce our features to international volunteers, making them more interested in participating in activities in our community during and after the work camp.

W:

1. Accompany the elderly: Our community holds health activities three times a week. Volunteers are expected to participate, design interesting games, and prepare performances so that elders can experience different cultures, have fun, and learn new things from different perspectives.
2. Host an activity for local elementary school students and introduce global information to them.
3. Learn about the Earth God culture in Taiwan and share your country's festive culture with everyone.

AD:

1. All volunteers will stay together in the community center and should bring their own toiletries and summer sleeping bags.
2. Everyone will have a cabinet to store their luggage.
3. Volunteers can hang and dry their clothes at the designated place on the third floor.
4. We offer hangers, brushes, and washing soap, but volunteers can prepare these things if needed.

L:

Dazhuang Community of Taichung City, Taiwan

No.1, Ln. 168, Wenhua St., Wuqi Dist., Taichung City 435, Taiwan

Google Map: [台中市梧棲區大庄社區發展協會](#)

SR:

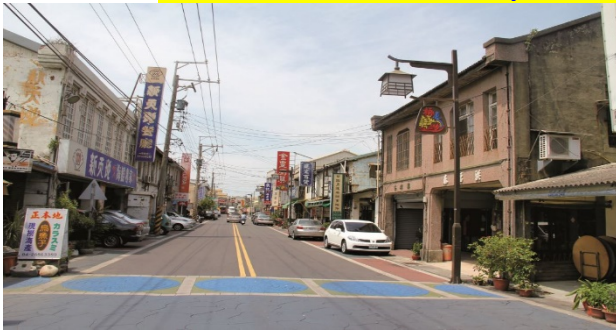
1. Please note that the schedule is subject to change due to potential inclement weather or geographical limitations. It's essential to remain flexible and prepared to handle any unexpected modifications.
2. Please be aware that during your free time, you'll be responsible for covering your transportation, meals, and other expenses.
3. We encourage volunteers to bring their own creative ideas for activities, such as games, performances, snacks, arts and cultural items, and other events for caring for the elderly.
4. As a team, you'll take turns cooking meals. We kindly ask that you bring some local ingredients or sauces from your home countries to share!
5. We kindly request that you bring at least one traditional outfit, music MP3 files, games, or anything else that can showcase your local culture to the local people.

PF: NO



Preserve and Revitalize the Old Houses in Wuqi

VYA-2307HC; AUG.14th –Sep. 2nd; Taichung Taiwan, RENO+COM; 10 Vols



Wuqi District is a plain situated between the Dajia and Dadut rivers, with Qingshui District to the north, Shalu District to the east, Longjing District to the south, and the Taiwan Strait to the west. The current coastline is formed by Taichung Port, and as a coastal town, its history is closely tied to the prosperity of the harbor. Formerly known as "Bamboo Raft Cave" and "Wuqi Port," Wuqi is located to the west of Qingshui Mountain, in Qingshui District, and is also referred to as "Aoxin."

According to regional scholars, "the Chinese Phoenix does not live without the Phoenix Tree, nor consume without holy spring water and bamboo," which led to the name "Wuqi." When visiting Wuqi and speaking with locals, visitors can hear its Taiwanese pronunciation, which is similar to "Wuqi."

After the merger of Taichung County and City into a single municipality on December 25, 2010, Wuqi Town was reorganized into Wuqi District. Although the administrative area is not extensive, it possesses significant cultural tourism potential due to its abundant cultural properties, including municipal historic sites, historic buildings, and municipal folk culture. There are numerous prosperous years and temples throughout the district, reflecting the piety and expectations of Wuqi's ancestors. During the northeast monsoon season, visitors can witness the mullet migration, and there are various seafood restaurants where people can savor local delicacies and experience the living culture of this land.

Aims:

The purpose of this event is to revitalize and repurpose old buildings in Wuqi District, Taichung City, such as Tuencuo, street houses in Wuqi Old Street, and wooden structures. Participants will learn about the meaning of community building and how to assist local communities in carrying out public works. This event will also allow participants to experience local customs and traditional cultural festivals in Wuqi and learn about the district's historical evolution and local traditional culture.

W:

Since 2016, the community has invited over 50 international volunteers to renovate old buildings, exchange traditional cultures, and interact with locals in Wuqi. The program is open for the winter vacation period, and participants who are interested in community service, old house restoration, and space creation, especially those with relevant background departments or work experience in visual arts, architectural design, landscape, and space planning, are preferred.

AD:

Accommodations for the event are in an accommodation owned by the community, with shared rooms and wooden beds. Participants need to bring their own sleeping bags and mosquito repellent. The community will provide two meals every day, and volunteers need to prepare dinner for themselves in the kitchen provided. Participants can also try delicious food in Wuqi, especially seafood, during their free time.

SR:

We prefer participants who are interested in community service, old house restoration, and space creation, particularly those with relevant background experience in visual arts, architectural design, landscape architecture, and space planning.

PF: NO



5-2 Mid/Long Term Volunteer Projects

Old House Renovation and Culture Exchange in Xiluo

VYA-LMTV-Xiluo, Xiluo Township, Yun-Lin County, Taiwan, RENO, EDU, KIDS, 2 vols.

Work: RENO/ Edu/KIDS

Vols: 2

Age: 25 - 40

Location: Xiluo Township, Yun-Lin County

Requirements: CGC + Application form + 2 references+ basic Chinese is welcome + Line or what's app interview

NO	Code	Dates	Vols.
M1	VYA-LMTV-Xiluo-2301	Start from MAR. ~ at least 3months	2
M2	VYA-LMTV-Xiluo-2302	Start from JUN. ~ at least 3 months	2
M3	VYA-LMTV-Xiluo-2303	Start from SEP. ~ at least 3 months	2
M4	VYA-LMTV-Xiluo-2304	Start from DEC. ~ at least 3 months	2

W : Type of voluntary work S : Study theme AD : Accommodation and food L : Location GM : Google Map	T : Terminal (The closest big international airport) LA : Leisure Activities SR : Special Remarks PF : Participation Fees SBN :Sleeping Bag is Not necessary
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* For Accommodation , **CV** = Cooked by Volunteers **MP** = Meals are provided.

【 Project Background 】 Xiluo Township

Xiluo is a township located in the northeast of Yunlin County, in the middle of Taiwan. Situated in the Zhuoshui River alluvial fan valley, it gradually decreases from the east to the south. One of the most famous landmarks in Taiwan, the impressive Xiluo Bridge has stood on the river for 68 years, providing visitors with stunning views of the sunset.

For those looking to experience typical Taiwanese culture and history, Xiluo's old street is a must-visit destination. Between 1925 and 1940, almost 200 western-style street-houses were built on Xiluo Old Street. The historical buildings on Yanping Road have witnessed the cultural development and business prosperity of Xiluo throughout the years. The Louyoung Culture and Education Foundation aims to protect these historical buildings and promote Xiluo's culture and art, ultimately improving the quality of life in the area.

Visitors to Xiluo can learn Mandarin Chinese speaking and traditional Chinese Kung Fu, experience the Taiwanese Puppet show, learn handcraft skills, and even make friends with the local people. There is also an opportunity to visit the primary school for a culture exchange or to teach English, as well as attend the community college.

To further enhance the dynamic of the city, international visitors are invited to join the social work. This opportunity provides not only voluntary work but also a fantastic chance for cultural exchange and learning about Taiwanese culture. Additionally, visitors can explore the area by visiting local artists, participating in local activities, experiencing ecotourism during their free time, and interacting with the friendly locals.

Overall, Xiluo is an excellent destination for those looking to learn about Taiwanese culture,

history, and art while contributing to the local community.



Night view of the Xiluo Bridge



The traditional Puppet show & musical



Chinese Kung Fu



handcraft experiencing

【 About the Xiluo street 】

Yenping old street underwent significant improvements to increase the comfort of its residents. The street was widened by 15.5 meters, with brick sidewalks on both sides, trees were planted, and power lines were installed. During the period of 1925-1940, many different styles of houses were visible on Yenping street. Today, there are 142 elegant houses remaining from that time, most of which were built a century ago.

At that time, Yenping Historical Street served as the town center, a bustling street filled with various traditional shops. However, 15 years ago, many of the houses became vacant, resulting in a gradual decline in the economic activity of Yenping Street and its identity over the years.



【 About the foundation 】

Louyoung Foundation was founded in 1995, by a group of enthusiastic local cultural figures, who first organized tour guide groups, volunteer groups, a scout community, the Louyoung puppet theater troupe, and much more.

The first preparations to establish Louyoung Cultural and Educational Foundation were made in 1994 by a group of like-minded friends who organized local concerts, art exhibitions, lectures and seminars to bring more activities into the community. The idea of a cultural center was also supported by local people who enjoyed the community activities and wanted to promote and maintain local traditions.

Luckily, preparations were made one year later, and in 1995 the first National Art Festival was launched in the county. Yunlin Cultural Bureau wanted to hold the festival in Xiluo, and in order to promote the local heritage, the festival was called "Romance of Xiluo". Since at that time Louyoung Foundation was not known by Yunlin Cultural bureau, it officially applied to host the festival since this event will be a great opportunity to make Louyoung Foundation known to the public. Therefore, the initiative of inviting reporters and social media was taken in hope to promote the foundation and to raise enough funds to set it up.

As a result of the previous actions and initiatives, the Louyoung Cultural and Educational Foundation was founded. The board of directors was established, being led by: Chairman Liao Deng Tang and CEO Lee Hong Yi, followed by Lai Mei Ru and Louise Ho as Executive Secretaries, Liao Sheng Long, Yang Yong Xiong and the volunteer community hoping they could make Xiluo a better place.



It is now the most important cultural center in the city, which provides space for artists and writers to display their work, and where visitors can learn more about the old town's history and traditions. The Board of Directors and volunteers at Louyoung Foundation work hard every day to contribute with their time and money to protect Xiluo's heritage and traditions.



【Xiluo Culture Museum】

Xiluo Cultural Museum aims to protect local culture and heritage through the Louyoung Cultural and Educational Foundation. It locates at No. 92 of Yanping old street in the original Jie Fa Qian Ji Tea house, which was built in 1932. Xiluo Cultural Museum maintains the building's original historical pattern and provides space for artists and writers to display their work. At the same time, it is also the headquarters of Yunlin Central Community College. Now, Xiluo Cultural Museum is the most important cultural center and landmark in town, where visitors can learn a lot history and traditions of the old city.

【About Yunlin Community College】

Yunlin Central Community College was founded in 2020 by Louyoung Cultural and Educational Foundation, to develop emancipatory knowledge, social care, and to increase civic engagement. Five campus are located in Xiluo, Erlun, Lunbei, Taixi, and Mailiao. These communities are tightened with its local economies, such as agricultural and fish farming activities. However, the rural exodus of young people, the aging population, agricultural land abandonment, and the lack of self-confidence are long-standing problems that should face up and take action.

Thus, we adopt the three policies of "Elders & Youth Co-learning, Regional Revitalization, Cultural Ecology" as the guideline for Central Community College aim for reaching our teaching target, "Civilization Process@Central Community College". We hope that under this strategic goal to boost the self-confidence and civic consciousness of residents, assist in understanding Yunlin culture, and solve the crux of the cultural weakness comprehensively from the relationship with the land, population, environment, and ecology, and make Yunlin Central Community College as a platform for learning from local culture and life wisdom.



Sculpture Park



72ART

【About Sculpture Park & 72ART】

The Sculpture park is the natives invited NTUA(National Taiwan University of Arts), NYUT(National Yunlin University of Science & Technology) and THU(TUNGHAI University) to use the past steel form Grand Xiluo bridge and creation some sculpture what represent Xiluo, it adding new life to waste. The most famous sculpture is name "Another View", its let people can see another view thought out window.

Xiluo Cultural Museum hosts the 72ART since 2020. It the arts curriculum form Yunlin Central Community College. And not just a classroom, there also have some artwork form artist, it improve the vibes and make students more engaged.

【About this Journey】

Today, walking along the Yenping Historical Street, you can see 142 decorated historical houses in total. Most of them were built more than 90 years ago. A century ago, Yenping Street was the “downtown” with prosperity, but nowadays, as business gradually declined, the residents moved away from Xiluo and Yenping Street have become quieter. As a result, many houses have started to decay.

Because of the "Community Renaissance" movement conducted by Luoyoung Foundation and local government, the street becomes prosperous again! In the past 9 years, we have invited many cultural groups and artists to visit and stay in Xiluo, and host different performances. At the same time, we are committed to promoting the art of sculpture and reserve more than 40 pieces of public art for Xiluo. They are arranged at the head of the Grand Xiluo Bridge and the Sculpture Park. We also hosted 11 international work camps focusing on renovating heritage houses.

However, there are many sculptures that need to be refurbished, painted, maintained, and guaranteed. We hope to promote the transformation of Xiluo Bridge into a sculpture art gallery to prevent the sculptures from being worn out.

Now, we have also established community colleges to help residents better understand local culture and keep up with international standards. Welcome to make friends with students from community colleges, teach English in elementary school, high school, or Yunlin Community College in Xiluo, and experienced traditional Taiwanese culture. Therefore, we would like to invite international friends to come join us. It is not only a voluntary work but also a precious opportunity to experience different culture and widen your horizons.



Aims

- 1) Creating international cultural exchange and supporting the development of Xiluo community.
- 2) Revitalizing Xiluo historical street.
- 3) Making friends with global backpackers.
- 4) Improving Xiluo's quality of life.

W:

Xiluo LMTV workcamp is going to **assist** Xiluo Cultural Museum (Louyoung foundation). Volunteer need to do the daily house cleaning in Xiluo Culture Museum and backpacker house, help the foundation manage and update our social media, website, blog or Facebook. Volunteer has to maintain the backpacker house with comfortable living conditions. Volunteer will also do some **gardening and join environmental community events** etc.... Local volunteers will support international volunteer to run this project as well.

For more informations of Louyoung Cultural & Educational Foundation and international workcamps, please browse:

<http://www.louyoung.org.tw>

<https://www.facebook.com/louyoung.ngo>

<https://www.facebook.com/siluo.yenping.museum/>

Description of Main Works:

- **Culture exchange:**

Volunteer will be hosting guests and assisting various duties on the reception desk in a rotating base. Volunteer will experience the culture of Xiluo, such as kung fu, hand puppet shows etc. We expect the volunteer would merge these experiences with the culture of their motherland and carry out creative ideas. We would be very grateful for any web content inputs from the volunteer, such as videos, graphics, or podcast in social media for the Cultural Museum and community colleges. Of course, the volunteer will have to maintain the garden in the Louyoung foundation. (Something may be change, depend on your ability to arrange the work)



- **English Exchange in high school:**

The volunteer will have the opportunity to participate in English teaching in schools or help Community College. He/she will also help to translate some chapters and document. (Something may be change, depend on your ability to arrange the work)



***If volunteers are interested in creativity in the art sector, you are very welcomed to volunteer in our foundation. In this case, let us know your interest and we could work out a plan together, in terms of financial supports and networking with local artists.**

Free Day:

Volunteers will have 2 free days per week on Monday and Tuesday only. Weekend is always the busy day to run the backpacker house and Souvenirs shop. It is not allowed to take day off during the weekend.

Culture Exchange:

The locals would be more than happy to welcome you in Xiluo. Please use this opportunity to exchange experiences, to learn more about other social, cultural and political living conditions and to show yours in return. In order to promote this, we will have some special cultural event and celebrations at the temple in September and October. The volunteers will be able to present their countries and have fun with the locals.

WS:

An example of a weekly schedule and program activities (Some may be changed!) Both the work of be a culture exchanger or English teacher, have 30-32 working hours per week, at least 2 free days per week.

Volunteers can switch their duty and exchange work if needed.

Works schedule: (A Bird's eye view schedule, Some may be changed)

Type	Work A (BH)	
Date/time	Morning 8:30-12:00	Afternoon 13:00-17:30
Monday	Free day	
Tuesday	Free day	
Wednesday	Work in foundation	Work in foundation
Thursday	Work in foundation	Work in foundation
Friday	Work in foundation	Work in foundation
Saturday	Work in foundation	Work in foundation
Sunday	Work in foundation	Work in foundation

S:

Participants are encouraged to share and to join the discussion of community development and share their view and opinion on their motherland.

AD:

1. Accommodation is at 72ART House. The address is: 2F, No.72 Yenping road, located in town center. Volunteer can use bike for daily transportation and bus station, post office or 24h shop are just nearby.
2. **A comfortable blanket and pillow** will be provided so there is no need to bring a sleeping bag.
3. There will also be some "pocket money", around NT\$ 6000, to support daily food. Volunteer can cook by themselves or enjoy the delicious local food in Xiluo restaurants.

* Internet is always available both in working place and accommodation.

* There is a washing machine and refrigerator in the accommodation.

* The weather changes a lot during the season, temperature could vary from 10°C to 32°C, so please bring suitable clothes.

L:

A traditional and typical Taiwanese town in Yun-Lin County, locating on the middle-western of Taiwan. 1hr to Taichung city, 2hrs to Tainan city and 3hrs to Taipei city by public bus.

Google Map :

64847 雲林縣西螺鎮延平路 92 號(No. 92, Yanping Rd., Xiluo Township, Yunlin County 64847, Taiwan (R.O.C.)

T:

1. **Tao-Yuan international airport.**
2. **KUO-KUANG Bus:** Passengers need to transfer from Taipei, by KURO-KUANG Bus (國光客運) in Taipei Bus Station, to Xiluo Station. It takes 3 hours and a half from Taipei and costs around NTD\$350.
3. **THSR:** Passengers need to take the MRT from to THSR Taoyuan Stn. After arriving THSR Yunlin Stn., they can take a taxi to Xiluo. The journey takes about 1 hour and a half and costs around NT\$1200.

LA:

Excursion, events organized by the foundation with local people, eco-tourism (optional), etc. 1hr to Taichung

city and 2hrs to Tainan city by public bus.

SR:

1. High motivation to learn and respect the local culture.
2. **CGC (Certificate for Good Conduct) + Application form + 2 references from school or company+ basic Chinese is welcome**
3. Skype interview are request.
4. Local host only offer limited insurance to cover third party accident, please make sure you have an insurance with you.

PF: NO.



Volunteers at Xiluo bridge



Riding on the Xiluo Bridge



LXiluo Culture Museum



Xiluo Old Street



Great night In the Historic house



Volunteers eating together



Community library



Your transportation- bike



Doing artwork



Paintwork



English Teaching



Playing hand puppet



Learning handcraft



Having fun in Xiluo



experiencing traditional Taiwanese kung fu



living room in the accommodation

Taiwan Map

Matsu/
Lienchiang County

Kinmen County

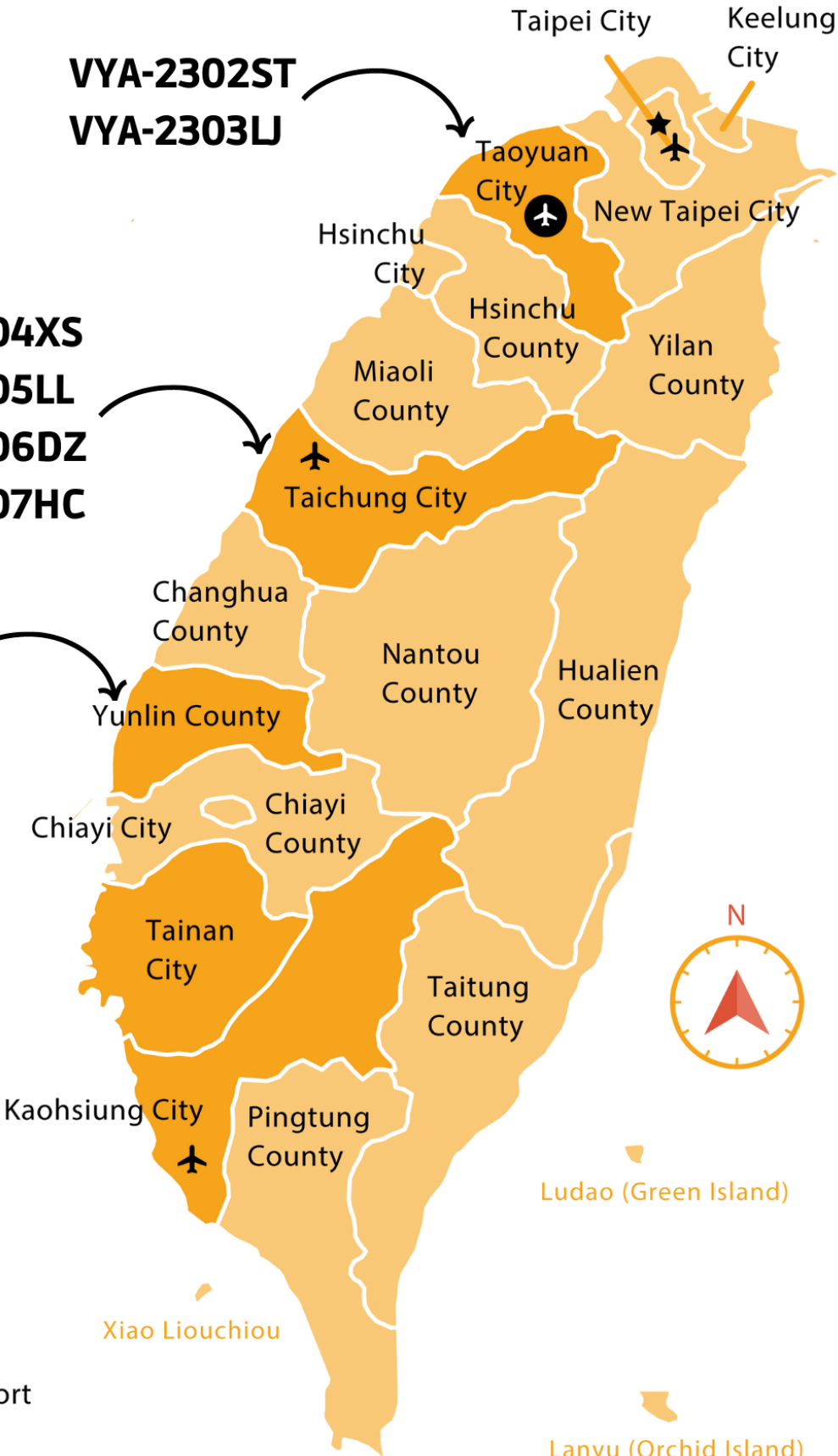
Penghu County

Xiao Liouchiou

VYA-2302ST
VYA-2303LJ

VYA-2304XS
VYA-2305LL
VYA-2306DZ
VYA-2307HC

VYA-2301Xiluo
VYA-LMTV-Xiluo



- TPE International Airport
- International Airport
- Capital City

Lanyu (Orchid Island)