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Tourism Promotion Organization for Asia Pacific Cities

TPO is a network among cities in the Asia Pacific region and is an international tourism organization established for the development of the tourism industry. TPO exchanges tourism information among member cities to promote the tourism industry, and also carries out projects including tourism product development, joint marketing projects, and tourism education as well as human resources development. TPO has currently 86 city members and 45 industry members. Industry members consist of travel agencies, tourism related associations, research institutes, and destination marketing organizations(DMO). TPO strives for the development of sustainable tourism within the Asia Pacific region.



Tourism Promotion Organization
for Asia Pacific Cities

Russian San Francisco, **Vladivostok**

Derived from Russian meaning 'conquer the east,' the name Vladivostok was a shrouded military city prohibiting the entry of foreigners until the Soviet Union was dissolved in 1992.

We explored the city's downtown and islands, railways, and waterways like a traveler setting out to conquer the city.

We could not help but stand in awe at the beautiful landscape and the classic ambience of Europe.

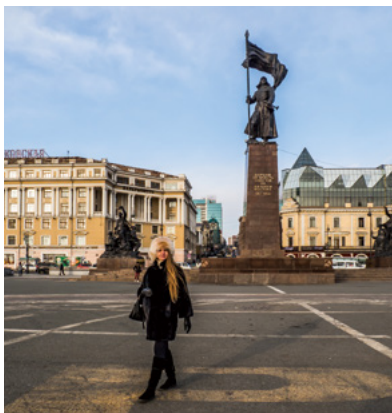
Editor Min-A Shim **Photographer** Chung-geun Oh **Supported by** City of Vladivostok (www.vlc.ru), TPO (www.aptpo.org)





Hollywood actor making Vladivostok proud Yul Brynner Mansion

Yul Brynner, The famous actor who played Ramses in the 1956 movie <Ten Commandments>. A statue of the charismatic actor stands tall on the hill in front of the National Art Gallery. Towards the back of the statue, one can find the birthplace of the actor. On the bronze signpost attached to the yellow walls of the mansion, the face of the actor is engraved along with a phrase that goes “Yul Brynner was born here on the 11th of July, 1920.” The 3-storey building is built of bricks and marble imported from Hamburg, Germany in 1910, and public entry is prohibited at this time.



Tribute to the revolutionaries Central Square

Центральная площадь

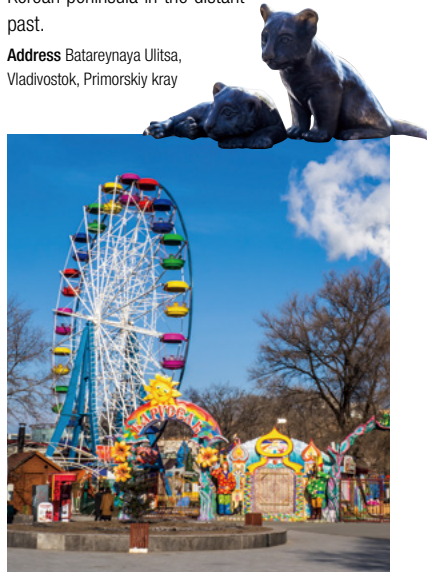
The largest square on the Svetlanskaya street in central Vladivostok. It is located right beside the high-rise white building serving as the Primorsky Krai Administration Building. Here, 3 statues representing the people who sacrificed their lives for the Soviet regime stand proudly. This is to commemorate the success of the socialist revolution that took place in October 1917. The 3 statues represent workers, sailors and soldiers. The soldier with a flag and a gun in his hands shows a sense of determination and pride. On the column of the statue in the center, an epitaph reads “to the defenders of the Soviet regime in the Far East, 1917~1922.” The square is also called as the ‘Revolution Square’ as it is a historical place to pay a tribute to the revolutionaries. To this day, the square hosts various events in May every year to celebrate Victory Day, and during the winter the venue is adorned with all forms of razzle-dazzle and a giant Christmas tree.

Retreat from reality Sportivnaya Seafront

Спортивная набережная

Sportivnaya Seafront is the Amur Bay park. The cold sea breeze makes you shudder from time to time, but during the spring and summer season the park bustles with couples riding pedal boats. At the center of the park, one can find a ‘Капыць ель,’ or amusement park, where a colorful ferris wheel draws eyes. The open-air passenger cabins provide an exhilarating experience. The pirate ship is another attraction with crazy-excitement, swinging back and forth and spinning 360 degrees. If you follow the 400m long walking trail along the beach, you will come across a sculpture of a tiger. Around 300 tigers are known to live in the maritime province of Russia, after crossing borders from the Korean peninsula in the distant past.

Address Batareynaya Ulitsa, Vladivostok, Primorskiy kray



Getting to know Vladivostok on a walk

The port city Vladivostok, nicknamed the ‘Russian San Francisco,’ is perfect for traveling on foot. The major attractions are within a close distance from each other at the center of the city that all you need is a map in your hand.



Oldest lighthouse in the Far East

Токареvская Лighthouse Маяк Токаревский

A white lighthouse situated at the southern tip of Vladivostok, the Tokarevskaya Lighthouse was constructed in 1876 and is also called ‘Egersheld Lighthouse,’ named after the explorer Gustav Egersheld. ‘Маяк’ means ‘lighthouse’ in Russian. Like a Miracle of Moses, it splits the ocean in half, revealing a stone road leading to the lighthouse. While walking on the road, it’s hard to keep your balance because of the strong wind. But the panoramic view of the Russky Bridge and the entire city of Vladivostok is enough to forget about the chilly weather. At the end of the road stands a transmission tower that supplies electricity to the Russky Island, from which you should cross a narrow patch of water in order to reach the lighthouse. The tall tower can only be reached at low tide, but it is quite tricky to spot the right moment.



For the Emperor Nikolai's Triumphal Arch

The last Emperor of Russia, Nikolai II, visited Vladivostok to take part in the groundbreaking ceremony for the Trans-Siberian Railway when he was still a prince. Typically, triumphal arches are built in commemoration of an emperor or general's victory in a war, but this particular arch was constructed to celebrate the emperor's visit. Before coming to throne, Nikolai II traveled around various countries in October 1890 including Austria, Italy, Greece, Egypt, India, Singapore, China and Japan in order to broaden his perspective. His last stop was Vladivostok, which he visited in May 1891. After getting off the ship, Nikolai II passed through the arch to enter the city. On the front of the arch, the face of the emperor is engraved along with the date of his arrival, 11th of May 1891, and the letter N standing for Nikolai II.

Address Ulitsa Petra Velikogo, 6, Vladivostok, Primorskiy kray

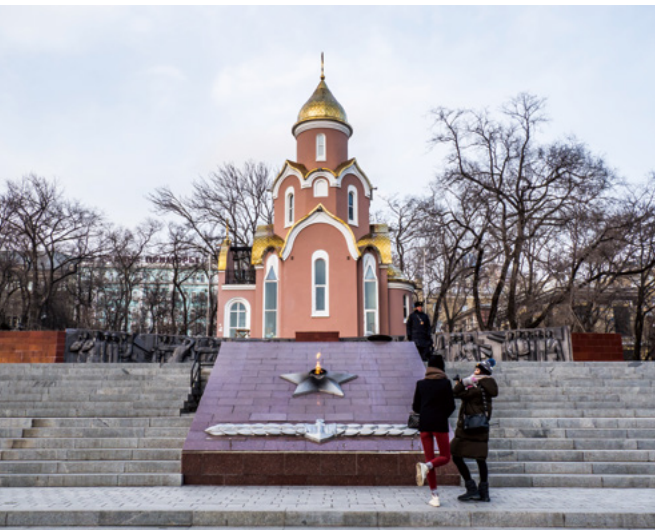


Looking down on the port of Vladivostok

Orlyonok Gnezdo Орлёное гнездо

Literally meaning 'eagle's nest' in Russian, 'Orlyonok Gnezdo Mt.' is famous for its observation deck located 214 meters above sea level: namely the 'eagle observation deck.' The tower is the highest you can reach in Vladivostok. You can look down on the port of Vladivostok beyond the Golden Bridge, and the view of the sunset is exceptionally spectacular. Behind the observation tower stand the statues of the missionary Kyrillos, who is known for inventing the Cyrillic script which later became the Russian alphabet, and his brother, Saint Methodios. The red cable car, 'Funikuler' is surely the best way to reach the deck. The red cabins were first installed in 1959, and have been transporting the citizens of Vladivostok since 1962. The Soviet statesman Nikita Khrushchov constructed the cable car, aspiring to become the San Francisco in the Far East after his visit to the U.S. The Funikuler consists of two routes respectively heading up and down, and the 2 minute ride is just too short to enjoy the marvelous ocean view enough. Admission costs 12 rubles for one-way rides.

Address Sukhanova Street, Vladivostok, Primorskiy kray



Commemorating the war heroes

Everlasting Flame Храм Часовня Андрея Первозванного

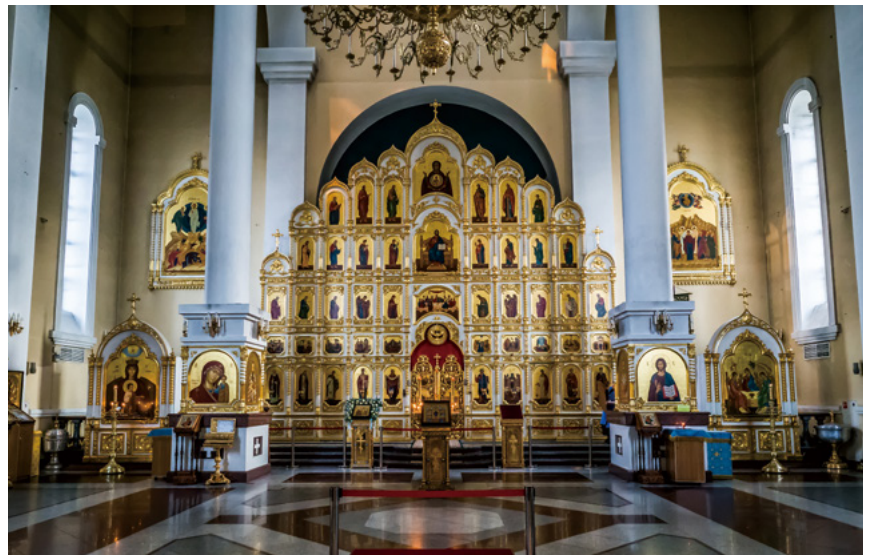
Next to the submarine museum, there is a flame blazing up against the cold winds of Russia. As a symbol of condolences toward the victims during the Second World War, the fire is safeguarded by several navy officers. On the wall, you can find a list of soldiers who took part in the war, and the names are countless. The Chapel of St. Andrew also guards the fire, which is a place dedicated to Saint Andrew, an apostle of Jesus and the missionary who first introduced the bible to Russia. The chapel is situated with a good view of the ocean. Since Saint Andrew is known for the guardian for sailors, it is at this chapel that the wives of fishermen or navy officers pray for their husbands' safe return.

Greek Orthodox Church with a 118 year history

Pokrovsky Cathedral Покровский кафедральный собор

A Russian Orthodox Church representing Vladivostok. The construction of the church began in May 1900 and was completed in September 1902. On the roof, 5 onion-shaped Kupols glisten under the sunlight, resembling candle lights. For Russian Orthodox Churches, candles are a symbol of being purified from all sins while they are burning themselves. The colorful Kupols are not only an exotic sight to watch, but also prevent snow from piling up. The inside of the chapel is decorated with golden icons (religious artwork) and fresco painting, among which the icon of the family of Nikolai II stands out. Visitors can easily spot Russians dedicating a candle and praying. One wall features dozens of icons placed side by side, which adds an extravagant touch to the interior. The pictures tell the story of Jesus, Holy Virgin Mary, the 12 apostles, and saints in an artistic manner.

Address Okeanskiy Prospekt, 44, Vladivostok, Primorskiy kray **Tel** +7-423-243-59-25 **Web** www.pokrovadv.ru



Must-visit Russian restaurants

5 restaurants are recommended by locals including an Asian restaurant with the best king crab and Georgian restaurant offering juicy Khinkali.



Restaurant open around the clock Studio Cafe

In Russia, the word café has a slightly different meaning. Among locals, the typical coffee shops are referred to as 'cafeina,' whereas 'cafe' means a diner where one can get a decent meal. 'Studio Cafe' offers traditional Russian dishes, Italian pizza and pasta, and a big brunch menu. The traditional soup borscht is served in a rye bread bowl that if you close the lid, you can enjoy the soup warm until the very last bite. Marinated herring fillet is another popular dish, a tasty combination of chopped herring with bread and raw onions. The dishes here are served in relatively small portions. Two people may have to order at least 4 dishes in order to feel satisfied. There are also 10 pizzas to enjoy with beer, including cheese, seafood, bacon & honey, pepperoni, chicken & mushrooms, and Hawaiian. The diner is open 24 hours, so feel free to stop by anytime.

Address Svetlanskaya St, 18a, Vladivostok, Primorskiy kray **Tel** +7-423-255-22-22 **Price** Borscht 340 rubles, squid ink pasta 540 rubles
Web <http://cafe-studio.ru>



Fresh king crab brought to you by Russia Zuma

Named after a renowned Malaysian chef of the 16th century, Zuma offers a wide range of Asian cuisine including Thai, Lao, Vietnamese, Malaysian, Singaporean, Korean and Japanese dishes. The interior is Asian Zen-style and the kitchen is open. The signature dish here is made of king crab caught from the Kamchatka peninsula in the East of the Sea of Okhotsk. After placing the order, customers get to see the raw king crab as part of the restaurant's service. The king crabs are so gigantic that you are bound to feel full after eating just a couple crab legs. Another signature dish to try is the raw scallops caught from Korsakov island. The fresh sashimi offers you a taste of the ocean in one bite. Enjoyed with soy sauce and wasabi, the scallop sashimi is absolutely divine. Please note that 10% services charges are added for foreign customers.

Address Fontannaya Ulitsa, 2, Vladivostok, Primorskiy kray **Tel** +7-423-222-26-66
Opening Hours Sat-Wed 11:00-01:00, Thur-Fri 11:00-03:00 **Price** King crab 2000 rubles for each kilogram, scallops 290 rubles each **Web** www.zumav.ru



Exotic Georgian Diner Supra Супра

A Georgian restaurant located at the entrance of the seafront park. The open kitchen is full of the smoke and aroma from grilled meat. One should definitely try out the lamb shashlik, but if you're not exactly fond of lamb, there's always the choice of beef or pork. Every table ends up ordering the Khinkali, or Georgian-style dumplings shaped like a drawstring pouch, which looks quite distinct from Korean dumplings but taste very similar. Since the dumplings contain hot juice like a xiao long bao, you should be careful when popping them in your mouth. Supra doesn't take reservations, hence the long line in front of the store. While waiting in line, you are served bottomless wine and fruit to keep you happy. The diner is a rather high-end restaurant visited by Russians on birthdays or anniversaries, so if you pay a visit in the weekends, you may be able to see an authentically Russian birthday party happening.

Address Ulitsa Admirala Fokina, 16, Vladivostok, Primorskiy kray **Tel** +7-423-227-77-22 **Opening Hours** 12:00-24:00
Web www.suprav.ru



Hip place for homemade burgers Dab Bar

This trendy burger joint is the go-to place for the young generation of Vladivostok. A tasty burger at this fancy restaurant is always accompanied by alcohol. The most popular burger is the 'Grand Canyon,' a classic burger with a beef patty grilled in an Italian oven topped with cheddar cheese, bacon, tomatoes, lettuce, etc. It is served with potato wedges and coleslaw on the side. 'Big Gun' which contains 2 beef patties will prove to be a decent meal for gentlemen with a big stomach. For vegetarians, the 'Moby-Dick Burger,' or salmon steak topped with tartar sauce, or the 'Veggie Burger' will be a good choice. The Dab burger tastes even better with extra eggs or jalapenos depending on your preference.

Address Ulitsa Aleutskaya, 21, Vladivostok, Primorskiy kray
Tel +7-423-262-01-70

Opening Hours Mon-Thur 09:00-02:00, Fri 09:00-08:00, Sat 10:00-08:00, Sun 10:00-02:00

Price Grand Canyon 380 rubles, Lumberjack 400 rubles, Moby-Dick 390 rubles, Big Gun 550 rubles **Web** <http://dabbar.ru>



Dessert retreat on Arbat street

Arbat street, the homey pedestrian street, is a popular place among young Vladivostok citizens. Make sure to find a fancy café to enjoy freshly baked bread and a warm cup of tea.



Classic British cafe 5 o'clock

This bakery café opened in 2007. The soft and comfy checked fabric sofa, floral curtain and wooden bookshelf with travel guidebooks all provide a heart-warming and cozy ambience. On the wall hangs a giant portrait of Queen Victoria, adding a stronger traditional British tea house vibe. The name of the café also sounds very British, as the English people are known to enjoy a cuppa at 5 o'clock in the afternoon. By the window, the signature bread of 5 o'clock are lined up emanating a luscious scent, up for grabs. Cake slices, scones and muffins are popular treats here, among which carrot cake and red velvet are the most famous. The cakes look homemade and extremely delicious. A cup of British-style milk tea and a slice of cake is enough to help you brave the cold weather of Siberia. If you start to crave a snack around five in the afternoon, head to 5 o'clock. You will be enticed by the authentically British experience.

Address Ulitsa Admirala Fokina, 6, Vladivostok, Primorskiy kray **Tel** +7-423-294-55-31
Opening Hours 08:00–21:00 **Web** www.five-oclock.ru



Vladivostok's Starbucks Aliis Coffee

This coffeehouse is hands down the most hip café in town. Also known as 'Pirate Coffee' or 'Loading Coffee,' the coffee shop has more than one name as the owner changed several times. The signature logo of the café is a long-haired beautiful woman. This logo is printed on coffee cups, reminding one of the well-known symbol of Starbucks. The interior is very interesting and eye-catching, with colorful pop-art-esque portraits everywhere and a cozy looking flat leather sofa. There are only few tables that are sparsely located that you can keep your privacy from other tables. The place is popular as much as Starbucks. The staff busily extracting



espresso all day long and SNS posts featuring the café go to show the popularity of the coffeehouse. A 400ml cup of Americano only costs 55 rubles (KRW 1100), which is very affordable. The coffee will be a perfect match for those who are looking for slightly acidic and mild coffee brewed from light-body coffee beans. The store does not offer takeout sleeves, so be careful when you carry it with you. Iced Americanos are not available.

Address Ulitsa Admirala Fokina, 5-7, Vladivostok, Primorskiy kray **Opening Hours** Mon–Fri 10:00–20:00, Weekends 11:00–20:00 **Price** Americano 55 rubles, Tiramisu 89 rubles **Web** aliiscoffee.com



Heavenly sweet pancakes

Uh Ty, Blin Ух Ты, Блин



The Russian word 'Блин (blin)' refers to pancakes, and 'Uh ty, blin' means 'Oh! hey, pancakes.' The cute name carries a second meaning that goes 'Oh darn.' Since the large number of guesthouses on Arbat street do not offer breakfast, most of the people enjoy a brunch here. The pancakes with an affordable price of KRW 1000 garnered popularity among travelers through word of mouth. Various ingredients like chocolate, nuts, honey, ham, eggs and salmon are topped on a thin layer of pancake, which will mesmerize your palate. If you have trouble choosing one pancake from the huge menu, honey or ham and cheese pancakes may be the safest choice. The diner's divine sweet and salty pancakes are so soft and fluffy that they just melt away in your mouth.

Address Ulitsa Admirala Fokina 9, Vladivostok, Primorskiy kray **Tel** +7-423-200-32-62

Opening Hours 10:00–21:00 **Price** Honey pancakes 90 rubles, ham, cheese and mushroom pancakes 230 rubles



Half-day trip to Russky island

The big island situated at the southern end of Vladivostok, Russky island was where the navy was stationed to defend the country from invasions during the former Soviet regime. The island was closed from the public until recently, but with its hosting of APEC summit meeting in 2012, the general public gained access to the mysterious yet beautiful island.



Trekking on Russky island Cape Vyatlina

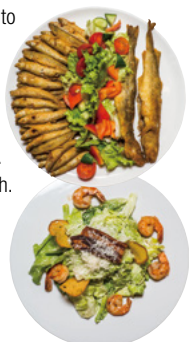
'Cape Vyatlina,' stretching along the beach is a good trekking spot to enjoy the view of the ocean. From a distance, the cap resembles the geographical feature of North Korea, and as a matter of fact, you can reach North Korea if you keep walking along the ocean. The waters of Cape Vyatlina boast an abundance of sea urchins, and in the summer, people love to ride paddle boats. To its right, there is another cape named 'Cape Tobizina' famous for its 3-hour trekking course. Make sure to check it out if you have the time.



Best restaurant on Russky island Novik Country Club

This club almost seems like the cabin in the woods, but is actually a full-package offering not only a place to stay but also food and activities. If you follow the stairs connected to the outdoor terrace, you will end up reaching the beach. A long wooden deck hovers above the sea, providing for a very romantic photo spot. If the waters freeze because of the cold weather, you can catch a glimpse of people ice fishing for sparlings. Deep-fried sparlings, or Koryushka is a popular dish. The steamed flatfish dish is also worth a try, as the fish is tender and very flavorful. On a sunny day, make sure to sit out on the terrace to enjoy the landscape along with your food.

Tel +7-423-200-35-22 Web www.mynovic.ru



Real cannon before your eyes Voroshilov Battery

There are around 100 fortresses in Vladivostok, but this particular fortress ticks all the boxes because the largest coastal artillery is perfectly hidden inside it. Built in 1934 in order to brace for a Japanese invasion after Russia was defeated in the Russo-Japanese War, 2 giant batteries with 3 cannons are aimed toward the ocean. The cannons are 305mm wide and the cannonballs weigh 450kg. Maximum shooting range reaches 38km. The encampment constructed 26m below ground was home to 70 soldiers, and the first level of the three-level basecamp was partially renovated into a museum. The barracks and artillery storage room are still preserved intact. Thanks to the bunker completely hidden under bushes, the soldiers were able to escape the eyes of their adversaries.

Tel +7-423-222-51-70 Opening Hours 09:00~17:00, Closed on Mondays and Tuesdays Admission 100 rubles



Romantic Russian campus Far Eastern Federal University Campus

The largest university in the Far East region of Russia. The previously barren Russky island started to gain vigor with the opening of the university. It was at this very place that the APEC summit meeting in September 2012 was held, and the school buildings look extremely sophisticated and modern for an academic facility. Because the campus is so vast, people take buses to get from one location to another. Buses come every five minutes, and it is also open to outside visitors who wish to look around. However, school buildings prohibit public entry. A pretty park from which one can observe the ocean is also found on-campus, where students love to go on picnics during the spring and summertime.

Address 10 Ajax Bay, Russky Island Vladivostok
Tel +7-800-555-08-08 Web www.dvfu.ru



Enthralling Maritime City

Kaohsiung

Kaohsiung is a city with a warm climate located in Southern Taiwan. The city is renowned for its pleasant weather with an average temperature of 26°C and sunlight all year-round: truly a gift from god. It is also referred to as the perfect city for traveling as public transportation is very convenient, with a light rail(MRT) circling downtown as well as a high-speed railway, the subway and U-bike (public bike share system). What's more, the city center is only 20 minutes away from the airport. Let us explore Kaohsiung even more, to get to know what's so special about the 5th best city to visit in 2018 selected by the 'Lonely Planet.'

Editor A-Ra Ko Photographer <AB-ROAD> Archive



Kaohsiung Travel Information

Location Southwest region of Taiwan **Area** 2,946km² **Population** 2,769,072 (as of 2010) **Climate** Located nearby the ocean, hence the climate is hot and humid. In the winter, it can get quite chilly like late autumn weather in Korea, but is definitely not freezing cold. Average temperature can range from 18.6 to 28.7°C, and humidity is around 60~81%. **Overview** The city is the largest city in Southern Taiwan, and is designated a special municipality. It is a city built around a trade port developed along a narrow, long lagoon. The water is shallow, but ships up to 10,000t in size can be moored due to advanced port infrastructure. The port is a corridor for exports of agricultural produce and raw material, and imports of consumer goods.



Asia's burgeoning new bay area

Mayor of Kaohsiung, Chen Chu, announced a plan for the city titled 'Asia's new bay area.' The idea is to develop Kaohsiung, a previously industrial city, into an economic growth driver in the Southern region by revamping the industry structure. Leveraging the Circular KMRT, Kaohsiung is transforming into a recreational vacation port as well as a commerce and trade district, attracting visitors from worldwide.



Heartbeat of economic growth Kaohsiung Convention Center

The only Taiwanese convention center situated right by the port. It is a major tourist attraction that hosts exhibitions, international conferences, banquets, concerts and other events. The total exhibition space, indoors and outdoors combined, reaches over 52,000m². There are meeting rooms of various sizes that can accommodate 20 to 2000 people, and the largest hall can fit a maximum of 4000 people. Since opening in 2014, the convention center has successfully held international events such as a tourism exhibition of the largest scale in Southern Taiwan and international boat shows, solidifying its status as the most iconic landmark of Kaohsiung by the sea. It is located within Kaohsiung's multifunctional commerce and trade district.

Address No. 39, Chenggong 2nd Road, Qianzhen District, Kaohsiung City (C8 Station of the light rail) **Tel** +886-7-213-1188 **Opening Hours** 10:00-18:00 **Web** www.kecc.com.tw



Taiwan's best functional building Kaohsiung Public Library

This is a place to sit back and relax for Kaohsiung locals. The library has an area of 38,000 m² over eight floors. What makes the Kaohsiung Public Library unique is that it is a column-suspended structure approved as a silver-grade green building. The library has the world's largest cube garden, which is completely see-through in order for visitors to look into the library. On top of this, the square with a terrace designed in an environmental-friendly manner and Taiwan's first architecturally integrated system all go to show that the library is the best functional architecture in Taiwan. Some books available in the library were purchased by the people, which is why trees were planted inside the facilities as a show of gratitude toward citizen's participation. The library also hosts Taiwan's first international illustrated book library and children's theater. The 1st floor seems like a very open space since the ceiling was raised very high, and the top floor features a garden in the air, from which one can catch a magnificent view of Kaohsiung.

Address No. 61號, Xinguang Road, Qianzhen District, Kaohsiung City **Tel** +886-7-536-0238 **Operating Hours** Weekdays 10:00-22:00, Weekends 10:00-21:30, closed on Mondays **Web** www.kmsl.edu.tw

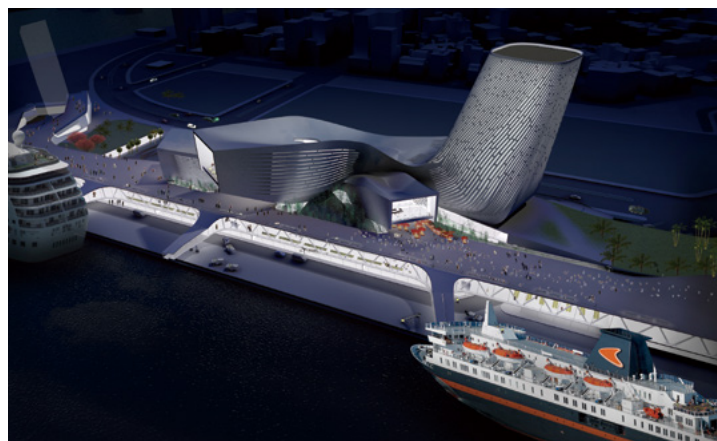


Kaohsiung goes global Kaohsiung Port and Cruise Service Center

In collaboration with a world-class construction company, HMC (HMC Architects), based in Los Angeles, the Kaohsiung port was reborn into a large-scale international passenger terminal that can berth 225,000t cruise ships. As the port is regarded as a gateway into Kaohsiung, the design was put together so as to enable a panoramic view of the port from the inside. The vision is to connect the rest of the world and Kaohsiung, as well as local citizens and tourists. The terminal, stretching across an area of 2871m² and towering 8-stories high, has the best facilities to provide tourists with the most convenience stay ever and is, at the same time, a fully open square for locals to hang out in. The international passenger terminal is equipped with a massive dock to accommodate 700 cruise ships and a port administration office. The interior for the indoor space is done with transparent material so that tourists or commuting citizens can feel more comfortable while using the facilities and enjoy the beautiful view of the ocean and the city. The curvy exterior was intended to blend in seamlessly with the natural environment. It is mostly made of glass, but is a functional material that converts sunlight and wind into energy.

Envisioning Taiwan's future Kaohsiung Maritime Cultural & Popular Music Center

The futuristic exterior of this architecture definitely draws eyes. The venue features an outdoor theater that can accommodate up to 12,000 people, an indoor theater with 3500 seats, performance halls and exhibition halls. Around 500 culture and arts events are held here each year, and most of them are held around the theme of food and music, both integral parts of a Taiwanese lifestyle. As such, the center is regarded as the beating heart of Taiwanese culture. It also features the necessary facilities for a maritime center and a 21st century version of the traditional Taiwanese night market. Visitors can buy snacks from food stalls and enjoy them outdoors with friends and family, while watching a musical performance. It is notable that the Kaohsiung Maritime Cultural & Popular Music Center also puts amateur performances or guerrilla gigs on-stage. Here, one can experience the diversity of Taiwanese music.



The main hall, located right across the coast, mostly hosts pop music performances. It is seamlessly connected to a nearby park to ensure that guests are evenly scattered as opposed to certain areas being overcrowded. On the other side, there's the night market featuring food stalls selling Taiwanese snacks, along with restaurants, stores, music studios, resting areas and equipment for one-time gigs. The small-sized performance halls are lined up in a row, all looking distinct from each other by applying unique architectural elements.



Best way to travel around Kaohsiung Circular Light Rail

Taiwan's first low-carbon light rail runs along the coastline, connecting 4 major public facilities. It is an effective mode of transportation to visit the convention center, public library, Maritime Cultural & Popular Music Center, and the Kaohsiung Port and Cruise Service Center. Swipe card readers are available on train platforms, so if you don't already have an electronic ticket, make sure to purchase a paper ticket (one-way) from the ticket machine. As of currently, the light rail is serviced from C1 Lizihnei Station to C4 Kaisyuan Zhonghua Station, and is slated to open until C37 Station.

Operating Hours 07:00~22:00

Price Fares vary per section, 30RMB for on-site purchases

Kaohsiung hot spots not to miss



Taiwan's largest Buddhist temple Fo Guang Shan

A big temple made up by the whole mountain. It is about a 10 minute walk from the Fo Guang Shan Buddha Memorial Center. At least an hour is needed to visit all the major sites including the Main Shrine, the pond and the Chao Shan Hui Guan, which is comprised of a Buddhist university, lodging and other facilities. The Main Shrine and the Great Buddha Land are not to be missed. The sheer size of the Main Shrine itself is grand enough to be seen as a standalone temple. There sits three Buddhas - the Sakyamuni Buddha, the Amitabha Buddha, and the Bhaisajaguru Buddha of Medicine – surrounded by 14,800 Buddha statues next to the Two Light Jewel Pagodas. Once you start climbing the hill, you will come across statues of the Amitabha Buddha densely lined up by the road. The Great Buddha Land features 480 Buddha statues that surround the 40 meter-tall Great Buddha, and allows you to catch a scenic view of the city. Once you head down from the Great Buddha Land passing through the Great Vow Shrine, go ahead and make a wish in front of the Guan Yin statue. You will easily find a line of tourists holding a coin, because there is a saying that if you toss a coin and hit the bell next to the statue, your wish will come true. Another tip is to wear comfortable shoes since there are a lot of hills and steps in Fo Guang Shan.

Address No. 153, Xingtian Road, Dashi District, Kaohsiung City
Tel 866-7-656-1921 **Web** www.fgs.org.tw



Kaohsiung is called the second city of Taiwan. Visit the Buddha Memorial Center and the Fo Guang Shan to feel the essence of Taiwanese Buddhist culture, then relax at the Lotus Pond Scenic Area like the citizens of Kaohsiung, and enjoy the night view from the Ai He River! You will find yourself one step closer to knowing Kaohsiung.



Nature getaway for Kaohsiung city dwellers Lotus Pond Scenic Area (Lianchihtan)

One of the most representative urban parks in Kaohsiung. The site originally used to be a farm reservoir, but now plays the role of an urban theme park hosting a variety of attractions and activities. Numerous temples are located within the area. On the northern end is the Confucius Temple and on the southern end lie the Chinese palace style temples, Dragon & Tiger Pagodas, as well as the Spring & Autumn Pavilions. Built under the influence of Taoism, there are statues of dragon on the left and tiger on the right. It has been told that entering through the dragon's head and exiting through the tiger's mouth 'turns bad luck into good fortune.' Moreover, there is also a saying that the zigzag shaped Nine Cornered Bridge, located in front of the Dragon & Tiger Pagodas, deflects evil spirits. Once you get to the top of the eight-storey temple, you can get a full view of the Lotus Pond Scenic Area. Visitors can also enjoy the Lianchihtan Cable Wakeboard, which is one the most popular recreational activities in Kaohsiung.

Address Cuihua Rd., Zuoying District, Kaohsiung City **Dragon & Tiger Pagodas Opening Hours** 08:00~17:00

Buddhist culture museum boasting an impressive size

The Buddha Memorial Center

The Memorial Center is a sacred ground for Buddhism with the biggest Buddhist monastery in Taiwan. It is also known to be the origin and stronghold of orthodox Taiwanese Buddhism. Built in 2012, the Main Hall and the Eight Pagodas were constructed in Indian and Chinese styles, respectively. Above all, the 120 meter-tall golden statue of Buddha is by far the largest Buddha in the South East Asian region. Buddhist artifacts and art works are exhibited in each pagoda, and a permanent exhibition hall introducing the history of Fo Guang Shan and the life of Buddha is located within the Main Hall. The Main Hall is particularly famous for enshrining the Buddha's Relic, but advanced booking is required to see it in person. It is recommended that you visit the place early in the morning to avoid both the tourist crowds and the hot midday sun. The museum entrance is well equipped with various convenient facilities including Starbucks. Korean maps are also available, so be sure to grab one beforehand.

Address 84049 No. 1, Tongling Road, Dashi District, Kaohsiung City **Opening Hours** Weekdays 09:00~19:00, Weekends 09:00~20:00
Tel 866-7656-3033 **Web** www.fgsbmc.org.tw





Iconic landmark representing Kaohsiung 85 Sky Tower

Representative landmark that can be seen everywhere in Kaohsiung. Lower storeys are comprised of a department store and shopping malls, while floors 37th to 85th are occupied by the hotel. The observatory of the tower is on the 74th floor, not the 85th. Once you get on the high-speed elevator, the ceiling turns dark with constellation shining for 43 seconds. After the 300 meter trip, you will arrive on the 75th floor. Stepping down a storey below, you will find a souvenir shop, which sells photos, pictures and pieces of Kaohsiung, and you will also come across a wide-stretched observation deck.

Address 74F, No. 1, Ziqiang 3rd Road, Lingya District, Kaohsiung City **Tel** 886-7-5668000 **Admission** Adults 180TWD **Web** www.85skytower.com



The Chenggyecheon Stream of Kaohsiung Ai He River (Love River)

River that cuts across the city of Kaohsiung. The riverside sparkles even more in the evening as the nightlights from the surrounding cafes and bars shine on it. The place lets you get a full view of major city landmarks including the 'Taiwan 85 Sky Tower,' Kaohsiung Museum of History, and Kaohsiung District Court. Among these landmarks, one particularly tall bronze statue will catch your eye, a dragon head with a fish body. Standing 25 meter-tall and weighing 30 tons, the statue is a representative icon of the Ai He River. You can also get on a boat ride after purchasing tickets from the ticket office located in front of the Ambassador Hotel. The rides are popular as visitors can cool down the heat while enjoying the beautiful night sceneries of Kaohsiung at the same time. Each ride lasts for about 15~20 minutes.

Address Hedong Road, Qianjin District, Kaohsiung City **Opening Hours** Weekdays 15:00~22:00, Weekends and Holidays 09:00~22:00 **Boat Ride Fares** Adults 120TWD, Children and Senior Citizens 60TWD



Pier blooming with art Pier-2 Art Center

Art space created by rebuilding an abandoned pier warehouse. The warehouse, which was no longer in use after being built during the Japanese colonial era, regained its vitality thanks to young artists flocking into the place. Originally, there weren't any plans to recreate this place as an art space. It naturally became today's Pier-2 Art Center due to the young artists who single-mindedly sought out to promote their work. Some parts have been remodeled, but most spaces have been recycled and reused. Unique hints of the past are what make this center



even more special. Aside from the exhibition center and souvenir shop, bakeries and cafes are also situated within the warehouse.

Address Dayong Road, Yancheng District, Kaohsiung City
Opening Hours Subject to change per exhibition



Day tripping in the suburbs of Kaohsiung



Chilling at the aquarium

National Museum of Marine Biology and Aquarium

A comprehensive marine life aquarium that features marine life not just from Taiwan but the whole world. The exhibitions include the Waters of Taiwan, which features various marine lives native to Taiwan, the Coral Kingdom, which is an 84 meter-deep underwater tunnel featuring coral reef habitats of the sea, and the Waters of the World, which covers from ancient marine life to 10 meter-long seaweed to 4 out of world's 17 species of penguins. At least 2 hours are required to go through the entire aquarium. Various different convenient facilities including a nursing room and a seafood restaurant are in place. Visitors can also take short breaks and enjoy different types of snacks and ice creams that are sold by the waterfront. Have fun and get wet at the Cetacean Plaza and Pacific Ocean Plaza, which features life-size models of whales!

Address No. 2, Houwan Road, Checheng Township, Pingtung County
Tel 886-8-8825678 **Opening Hours** 09:00~18:00 (Apr~Oct), 09:00~17:00 (Nov~Mar), 08:00~17:00 (Only during summer vacation, 7/1~8/31)
Admission Adults 450TWD, Students 250TWD **Web** www.nmmba.gov.tw

If you have become familiar enough with the different parts of the city, try reaching out to the suburbs. Attractions in the suburbs are beginning to garner interests thanks to the full swing construction gearing up in the downtown area and harbors. Taking out just one day will allow visitors to find charms of the suburbs, which can be both similar and different from the city.



Turning a page of sheet music called life Siaogangshan Skywalk Park

That next page is the very Siaogangshan Skywalk Park, which cost hundreds of billions of construction dollars. The tourism complex is located in Siaogangshan, which borders both the Gangshan district and Yanchao district, and is 1.8ha in size. Once you get to the top, you will be met with a panoramic view encompassing the Agongdian Reservoir, Gangshan and Yanchao districts, and you can also see the faraway Kaohsiung Port and Tuntex 85 Sky Tower. After recording 150,000 visitors in just one month after its official opening during the Chinese New Year Holidays, 2017, Siaogangshan Skywalk Park has placed itself as the top tourist attraction in Kaohsiung. The highlight of the park is the 88 meter-long skywalk. Based on the theme of music, the park was designed in a form of a steel suspension bridge. With connected cable wires that look like violin strings, the 41 meter-tall main pylon of the bridge is shaped like a violin, and gives off a sense of harmonious melody. When you stroll along the skywalk, the cool breezy air will sound like actual music, making you feel as if you were walking on clouds.

Address 820 Gangshan, Kaohsiung City **Tel** 886-7-628-2100 **Opening Hours** Tue~Fri 09:00~17:00, Weekends 09:00~18:00, Closed on Mondays
Admission Adult 80RMB, Children 40RMB **Web** khskywalkpark.com



Life of Pi White Sand Bay Baishawan (White Sand Bay)

Literally meaning sandy beach, the place is better known for being a filming location for dramas and movies including the Life of Pi, directed by Ang Lee. The white sandy beach can no longer be seen due to the strong sea breeze, but Baishawan's beach sand is still finer and more sparkling than others. Watching the colorful rays of parasols, you will be able to feel the summer atmosphere. Baishawan is a top go-to place when traveling southern Taiwan and is also a favored vacation destination among the locals. Although it is not a boisterous place, where people enjoy water sports, friends and families can quietly spend time together and have fun by the sea. It is best to bring your own food because there aren't any restaurants aside from a noodle shop and a small supermarket near the beach.

Address Baisha Rd, Hengchun Township, Pingtung County, Taiwan 946

World's Best Shopping Malls

6 Cities For a Shopaholic

Shopping is an important delight of traveling. Lately, shopping malls have evolved into massive-scale, all-embracing cultural playgrounds providing tourists with entertainment. Here are the signature shopping malls of Vladivostok, Da Nang, Manila, Guangzhou, Osaka and Kuala Lumpur, enticing shoppers worldwide.

Editor <AB-ROAD> Editing Team





 **Vladivostok**
GUM Department Store, the classical state-run shopping space

Located on Svetlanskaya street, this building is the largest department store in Vladivostok. The brilliant architecture is a sight to watch in and of itself. Originally constructed in wood by a German architect a century ago, the building was later renovated into an extravagant baroque-style stone architecture. From the Russian revolution onwards, the department store is run by the government. 9 out of 10 visitors to GUM Department Store are bound to head to the drugstore 'Chudodey.' The 100-year-old in-store elevator and antique interior draw visitors in. Recently, the 'Michelle Bakery' opened on the 1st floor, which is a nice place to stop for a cup of tea while shopping. Next to the bakery is a small store that sells the Russian 'Imperial Porcelain' and Gzel porcelain, as well as matryoshkas. These items are of better quality than those found at souvenir shops.

Address Svetlanskaya St, 33, Vladivostok, Primorsky kray **Opening Hours** 10:00~20:00 **Web** vladgum.ru



 **Da Nang**
Parkson Vinh Trung Plaza, a hypermall for everyone

This mall is in 2 buildings: the Parkson department and Vinh Trung Plaza. The neighborhood is a residential area unlike where Lotte Mart and Vincom Plaza are located, which is why Da Nang locals adore the place. It is also a hugely popular shopping mall for tourists as it offers a wide range of products from traditional Vietnamese items to global high-end luxury brands. The Vinh Trung Plaza hosts the country's no.1 hypermart 'Big C' and a cinema, bowling alley, as well as a food court, making it a perfect place for both shopping and recreation. In the evening, the plaza gets overcrowded, hence a visit during the daytime is recommended. The vintage-style Parkson Department Store features a collection of rare imported luxury items with diverse options. The Parkson Vinh Trung Plaza is just one street across from Da Nang's most well-known wet market, the Con market, providing travelers with an eclectic experience.

Address 255-257 Hung Vuong, Hai Chau 2, Da Nang **Tel** +84 236 3666 588 **Opening Hours** 09:30~22:00






 **Manila**
SM Mall of Asia, shopping mecca

Shopping malls are a big thing in the Philippines because it is sweaty year-round. Most large shopping malls are fully equipped with a department store, supermarket, restaurant, café, cinema, park, and other facilities so that there is absolutely no need to step outside. The SM Mall of Asia first opened in 2006 when it came under the spotlight for its massive scale that made it the largest mall in Asia with a total length of 200m and 700 stores. It is awfully easy to get lost in the gigantic mall, so you should wrap your head around the general layout first. The SM Mall of Asia consists of 4 buildings. The entertainment mall is by the Manila Bay, and the main mall is just across from there. The 'South Wing' of the main mall is a department store, and 'North Wing' is a hypermarket. The ice rink and IMAX theater is found in the main mall and entertainment mall, respectively.

Address SM Central Business Park Bay City, 123 MM, Pasay, 1300 Metro Manila **Tel** 63-2-556-0680

Opening Hours 11:00-22:00 **Web** www.smmallofasia.com



 **Guangzhou**
TianHeCheng, all the food you can imagine

TianHeCheng definitely stands out among the abundance of high-rise buildings in the TianHe Square. A 20-year old classical shopping mall, TianHeCheng is not exactly the most sophisticated building, but has a very convenient layout to look around. The glass ceiling lets ample sunlight in, which is why the place doesn't feel stuffy even if you shop for hours. The spacious shopping mall is always crowded with people in a festive mood. The building is comprised of a total of 8 floors, 1 below ground and 7 above, and is visited by around 300,000 people each day. The record number of daily visitors is 810,000 in 2004. Another reason why travelers come flocking to TianHeCheng is because of the nice diners it hosts. Make sure to try out the various delicacies Guangzhou is known for. On the underground level, you can find the Japanese hypermart 'AEON' and all sorts of Chinese food ingredients.

Address 208 Tianhe Rd, TianHe ZhongXin, Tianhe Qu, Guangzhou Shi, Guangdong Sheng **Tel** +86-20-8559-2818

Opening Hours 10:00-22:30 **Web** www.teemall.com.cn





Osaka
Grand Front Osaka, an adults' playground

Opened in spring of 2013, the Grand Front Osaka became Osaka's new shopping landmark overnight. The building is located on either side of the JR Osaka Station, and features places where one can see and experience firsthand the latest technologies developed by businesses and university research institutions such as the Knowledge Capital and Panasonic Center. On the 6th floor of the shopping mall's North Wing is the Umekita Floor, nicknamed 'adults' playground' because of the fact that it hosts 16 bars open until 4 o'clock in the morning. Hip restaurants popular across the country such as the Japanese sake bar 'Sawara,' Spanish bar 'La Cazuela,' Fukuoka gyoza restaurant 'Temujin,' the 'Bistro French Gourde' with a main store in downtown Osaka, and seafood izakaya 'Shirasukujira' all await guests at this very place.

Address 4-1 Ofukacho, Kita-ku, Osaka **Tel** 06-6372-6300 **Opening Hours** 10:00-23:00 (Umekita Floor Weekdays 11:00-28:00) **Web** gfo-kr.com/



Kuala Lumpur
Starhill Gallery, the epitome of high-end shopping

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia is without doubt a shopping heaven for global travelers. The Starhill Gallery is just a street across from the Pavilion and is one of the best luxury shopping malls in Malaysia featuring a number of designer brands including Gucci, Louis Vuitton and Chanel. It is widely known as the favorite shopping spot for Kuala Lumpur's affluent class. The best part about shopping here is that you can shop quietly, taking your time. At the center of the hall, a pianist and violinist play a soothing tune, providing a live performance that goes well with the elegant interior of the 5-storey building. On the basement levels there are luxury restaurants and tea salons, every single one of them extremely fancy and sophisticated for a food court inside a shopping mall. The dishes they offer are exceptionally tasty as well. Here's a shout out to foodies: don't miss out on this place.

Address 181, Jalan Bukit Bintang, Bukit Bintang, 55100 Kuala Lumpur, Wilayah Persekutuan Kuala Lumpur **Tel** 60-3-2782-3800 **Opening Hours** 10:00-22:00 **Web** www.starhillgallery.com



‘The Birthplace of Ancient Irrigation Facilities,
Taoism and Pandas.’

Dujiangyan City becomes a Global Tourist Hub



Senior Vice-Mayor of Dujiangyan City
Li Guanghui

Dujiangyan, the city of Taoism, the religion that influenced China's politics, economy and culture for 1800 years, pandas, and the world's oldest irrigation facilities, is coming under the limelight as a global tourist destination. We looked into the charm and vision of Dujiangyan, which attracts 20 million tourists throughout the year, in an interview with the Senior Vice-Mayor of Dujiangyan City, Li Guanghui

Editor Hyun-Joo Choi Source TPO

Could you start by giving a brief introduction of Dujiangyan?

The city of Dujiangyan is situated in Central Sichuan, Northwest of Chengdu Plain. It is 48km away from downtown Chengdu, with a total area of 1208 km² and population of 800,000. The city serves as the hub of Chengdu tourism, featuring Dujiangyan and Qingcheng Mountain which are listed as a World Cultural Heritage, along with the ‘Sichuan Giant Panda Sanctuary,’ a World Natural Heritage home to 60 adorable pandas. Owing to the Dujiangyan Irrigation System, Chengdu was nicknamed ‘paradise on earth.’ Furthermore, as a city with a long history and time-honored culture, the city of Dujiangyan was listed as a national historic and cultural city as well as China’s most attractive city, and received the Dubai International Award for Best Practices in improvement of living conditions. The beautiful natural landscape and longstanding cultural heritage entice tourists from home and abroad, making the city a perfect place to seek recreation and rest. This is probably the secret behind Dujiangyan’s success in attracting more than 20 million tourists in 2017 alone.

What are the hidden jewels of Dujiangyan? Could you recommend a few must-visit tourist spots?

If today was the last day of your life, I would recommend that you visit Dujiangyan and Qingcheng Mountain, the two World Cultural Heritage sites. The Dujiangyan Irrigation System, the oldest of its kind, is an eco-friendly irrigation system through which water can be supplied without constructing a dam. Even after 2270 years, the facility still functions as good as new. The Dujiangyan Irrigation System is the only such ancient water facility in the world. The entire Sichuan plain is blessed by the water from Dujiangyan, which is why it is commonly referred to as ‘the beginning of global irrigation’ and ‘the miracle in global irrigation history.’ Dujiangyan irrigates a total area of 8000km². The Qingcheng Mountain is the birthplace of Taoism, China’s only indigenous religion. The profound culture of Taoism seeped into China’s politics, economy and culture for 1800 years. Furthermore, the city of Dujiangyan is home to pandas. Around 60 pandas inhabit two panda bases in Dujiangyan. Both the Dujiangyan Panda Research Center and the Panda Valley are must-visit tourist attractions.

Where are most of the in-bound tourists to Dujiangyan from?

Most of them are from Hong Kong, Macau and Taiwan, followed by Japan, Korea, Singapore and Malaysia, and other Southeast Asian countries, and we do have tourists coming in from Europe and America.

How many foreign tourists visited Dujiangyan in 2017, and how much value does the tourism industry generate for the local economy?

In 2017 alone, 651,000 tourists visited Dujiangyan, which is a 6.48% rise compared to the previous year. The added value of tourism accounts for 19.1% of the GDP.

In your opinion, what part of Dujiangyan appeals so much to foreign tourists?

Dujiangyan boasts diverse tourism resources, a long history and a unique culture. The Dujiangyan Irrigation System and Qingcheng Mountain, where Taoism originated, are



signature spots. The tour route that covers the irrigation system, the Qingcheng Mountain and panda habitat is a powerful blend of World Cultural and Natural Heritage sites. It is for this reason that the UNWTO set up an observatory on sustainable tourism in Dujiangyan. Also, Dujiangyan takes great pride in its clean ecological environment. With the panda base and research center, Dujiangyan is rightfully a panda paradise. This year, a few Dujiangyan pandas were relocated to Germany and Finland not only to promote the city's tourism overseas but to bring bilateral ties closer as ambassadors.

Many cities across the globe consider tourism the backbone of their economy. How is the city of Dujiangyan conducting promotional activities overseas?

In recent years, the city of Dujiangyan is striving to grow its tourism industry by employing globalizing, branding and differentiating strategies. First of all, we are expanding the scope of the '72 Hours Visa-Free System' of Chengdu to Europe, America, Japan, Korea, Southeast Asia, Hong Kong, Macau and Taiwan. In 2018, we will be actively highlighting the brand value of the Dujiangyan Irrigation System as a World Cultural Heritage. Furthermore, the government will be pushing ahead with the 'one belt, one road' theme with regard to panda culture, referring to the combination of the panda research center and sanctuary. Alongside these efforts, we will construct 'Dujiangyan Promotion Centers' and tourist information centers across the globe in Europe, America, Japan and Korea. What is more, by collaborating with global traveling businesses such as Germany's TUI, we will invite 100 traveling agencies, experts and press to symposiums on the promotion of Dujiangyan tourism resources to facilitate communication and exchange. We will also identify new tourism resources and develop them into new products, through which we will diversify overseas marketing channels and raise public awareness of Dujiangyan.

What is the biggest event held in Dujiangyan?

That would definitely be the Ching Ming Water-releasing Festival. This festival is a re-creation of the long history and traditional culture of Chengdu Plain, and was selected as a national intangible cultural heritage in May 20th, 2006. I already mentioned that Chengdu was known as 'paradise on earth' for around 2000 years

owing to the Dujiangyan Irrigation System. The Water-releasing Festival is held every April during the Ching Ming, or Tomb Sweeping Holidays and includes a wide range of programs such as splitting bamboo bridges, crushing wooden tripods, and opening the dam to release water.

Do you have any comments on TPO's activities? What do you expect from TPO in the future?

In October 2017, The Dujiangyan delegation took part in the 8th TPO General Assembly. It was an invaluable opportunity to meet with high-level officials from various global cities and communicate with international organizations and global companies. On that occasion, we underscored Dujiangyan's determination toward opening the gates and increasing exchange with other countries. TPO is contributing greatly to the growth and development of tourism in the Asia-Pacific region. Moreover, since most of the TPO member cities fall under the 'one belt, one road' region, they serve as important channels for fueling the initiative. It is my sincere hope that TPO continues to facilitate cooperation among Asia-Pacific member countries, and allows for long-term partnerships between cities.



Boryeong in Korea registers as a member of TPO

Boryeong in Korea was approved as the 86th city member of TPO. Boryeong City, situated in the southwestern part of Chungcheongnam-do Province in Korea, is about a two-hour drive from Seoul and Incheon International Airport. It has diverse natural resources and environments against the backdrop of mountains in the east and the coastline in the west, and it is well-known as a marine tourism city in Korea.

The main tourist attractions in Boryeong include the Daecheon Beach, the mystic sea road in Muchangpo, Seongjusan Natural Recreation Forest, Boryeongho Lake, Oseosan Mountain, Oeyeon Archipelago, Ocheon Port, Jukdo Island, Chungcheongsuyeongseong Fortress, Boryeong Coal Museum, and Gaehwa Art Park. The most popular attraction of them is arguably the Daecheon Beach, which is 3.5km long and 100m wide.

The Boryeong Mud Festival held at the Daecheon Beach every July is one of Korea's largest global festivals that attracts 5.6 million visitors including 620,000 foreigners each year. The clean mud collected from the tidal flats of the west coast is used as a raw material of mud-based cosmetic products directly produced and sold by Boryeong. The Boryeong Mud Festival, centering on the clean mud, consists of diverse programs that celebrate games, health and culture. The 21st Boryeong Mud Festival will take place for ten days from July 13 until 22 this year.

The city also offers a wide range of recreational activities including zip track, sky bike, paragliding, yachting and water sports. Boryeong is filled with many delightful things to see and experience all year round.





2018 TPO Regional Meeting for Korean city members

The 2018 TPO Regional Meeting for Korean member cities was held from March 8 to 9 in Haeundae, Busan, in the presence of some 40 working-level officials from 15 member cities in Korea. On the first day of the meeting, TPO Secretary-General Shin Yeon-sung provided a briefing of TPO activities for 2017 and explained the activity plan for 2018. Also, Secretary-General Shin gave an overview of TPO and explained its role to the participants who were newly assigned to their posts, and urged them to actively participate in the organization activities.

Following the main meeting on the first day, a special lecture was given by Dr. Jo Young-ho (Ph.D. in Tourism), Manager of Global Tourism Marketing of Jeonju City. Based on his experience of working with TPO since establishment, Dr. Jo gave a lecture on "Measures for Tourism Exchange and Marketing Through TPO."

On the second day, the attendees went on the Blue Line, a city tour bus in Busan, and learned about operating the city tour bus and its tour routes under the theme of "Exploring the Tourism Resources of Busan." Meanwhile, Regional meetings are held regionally in the languages to strengthen the network among the members and to encourage them to participate in the activities and programs of TPO.



Guangdong Delegation Invited to Gimhae, Busan and Tongyeong for Fam Trip

The cities of Gimhae, Busan and Tongyeong, located in Southern Korea, invited guests from major travel agencies and media companies in Guangdong, China on a fam trip from March 27th to April 1st. During this tour, the delegation had the opportunity to look around the three TPO member cities that best represent tourism in the Southern region of Korea. The program was hosted under the aim of developing new cultural tourism products that reflect local cities' unique identity in order to attract more tourists from Guangdong province, where more and more tourists are choosing to become Free Independent Travelers (FIT).

8 participants including those from GZL International Travel Service, Guangdong Green International Travel Service, Guangzhou Trade Fair Travel Service, Guangdong China Youth Travel Service, a reporter from the Southern Daily and the Secretary General of Guangzhou Travel Services Association went on a tour around the cultural facilities and new tourist attractions in Gimhae, Busan and Tongyeong. They also paid a visit to the Tongyeong International Music Festival, in search of inspirations for new tour packages. The reporter collected relevant information to raise public awareness on the three cities in Guangdong by asking about the tourism industry and infrastructure of Gimhae, Busan and Tongyeong.

One Chinese participant of the fam tour commented that "efforts will be made to develop new attractive tour products so that more Chinese tourists can visit Korea in line with the eased tensions after the drop in outbound Chinese tourists to Korea with regard to the deployment of THAAD."



TPO Culture Center and Guangzhou Information Center Established

In March, the TPO Secretariat established the TPO Culture Center so as to promote TPO overseas and provide information on member cities' culture and tourism, and the Guangzhou Information Center in order to raise awareness on the tourism resources of Guangzhou, China, in the Busan Global Village. The TPO Secretariat functions as the marketing agency for Guangzhou in Korea. The Busan Global Village was opened in July 2009 by the city government as an English learning center. A wide variety of programs for Busan citizens from children to adults are available, and the village is visited by more than 400,000 students and parents each year. The Information Center features a large screen to play video clips of member cities and brochures for visitors to deepen their understanding of the TPO and its member cities.

The Busan Global Village offers tailored education to students using the literature available at the TPO Culture Center and Guangzhou Information Center. It is anticipated that through such a venue, the TPO and city of Guangzhou will be able to provide a great number of students with information on history, culture and tourism resources, and create potential demand for tourism.



Kuala Lumpur International Book Fair 2018

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia | 27 April~6 May
Location Putra World Trade Centre (PWTC)

The Ministry of Malaysia organizes the Kuala Lumpur International Book Fair (KLIF) in collaboration with 6 Malaysian book industry associations via the National Book Council of Malaysia (NBCM). KLIF is a major annual event in the global publishing calendar, and is the perfect venue for 'bibliophiles' or book-lovers to get their hands on various books. The diverse events hosted by publishers across Malaysia fuel the excitement of the festival each year. Throughout the 10 days, the main state and Relax & Reading (R&B) area feature a number of interesting events such as announcements of new releases and seminars. Refer to the website (www.klibf.my) for a more detailed event schedule.



2018 International Horticulture Goyang

Goyang, Korea | 27 April~13 May
Location Goyang Lake Park

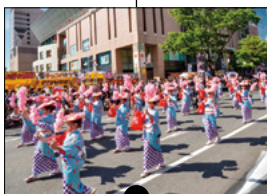
International Horticulture Goyang will be featuring 320 teams from 30 countries who will present to the visitors a jaw-dropping flower extravaganza. National institutions of 15 countries including the Netherlands, Colombia, Ecuador, Vietnam, China, domestic horticultural institutions such as the National Institute of Horticultural and Herbal Science, and Gyeonggi Agricultural Technology Institute, as well as selected domestic horticultural companies will put their signature flowers and new horticultural products on display. Under the title 'Flower Moments 2018,' an exhibition of global flower artists will feature artwork from 7 world-class horticultural artists, encapsulating the latest trends of ornamental horticulture.



Genpei War Maritime Parade

Shimonoseki, Japan | 3 May
Location Along the coast of Kanmon Strait

The Genpei War Maritime Parade is a festival inspired by the historic battle that took place in the Kanmon Strait in 1185. The maritime parade is held as part of the event, where citizens dressed in the traditional attire of Emperor Antoku, Genji, Heishi, and Kannyo board 80 ships. Other performances include the Warrior Parade, and a recreation of the Genpei War.



Hakata Dontaku Minato Matsuri

Fukuoka, Japan | 3~4 May
Location Downtown Fukuoka

The Hakata Dontaku Minato Matsuri is a 2-day festival held every year on the 3rd and 4th of May in Fukuoka. As a port festival representing the city, the event features various



'Solungkoi Jambatan Tamparuli' Sabah Fest 2018

Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia | 4~6 May
Location JKKK Sabah Complex Auditorium

The 'Solungkoi Jambatan Tamparuli' Sabah Fest is a prelude event to the statewide Harvest Festival Celebration of Malaysia. The Sabah Fest presents a wonderful blend of cultural and natural heritage richly embedded in folklore, including dance, music, fashion, food and more. 'Solungkoi' is a story about the construction of the Tamparuli bridge which became the landmark of the region upon being constructed by a British Engineer during the British colonization. Tickets are on sale at RM50 each.



Ulsan Taehwa River Spring Flower Symphony

Ulsan, Korea | 10~13 May
Location Taehwa River Grand Park

Under the theme 'Dance of Flowers, Breeze of Bamboo Grove,' the Ulsan Taehwa River Spring Flower Symphony will be a place where you can come across a carpet of 60 million spring flowers including poppies, peonies, cornflowers, and baby's breath along the waterfront park. Surrounding the cluster of spring flowers is the Taehwa riverside bamboo grove. On the 10th of May, various events will take place including the lighting of flower wish lamps, opening concert, spring flower fashion show with the people, healthy cooking talk show with spring flower recipes, handicraft classes with Taehwa River bamboos, flower wish lamp making classes, and nighttime media lighting show.



2018 Shanghai World Travel Fair (SWTF)

Shanghai, China | 24~27 May
Location Shanghai Exhibition Center

The 15th Shanghai World Travel Fair held from the 24th to 27th of May is the best event to understand global travel trends. The Shanghai Exhibition Center, on a vast area of 10,000m², will feature more than 300 companies and provide them with a platform to share industry information and resources as well as a chance to promote their brand. Visitors will be able to access the most up-to-date and reliable travel information, engage in hands-on experiences, and browse quality tourism products. This year's travel fair is definitely not one to miss out on for both industry insiders and travel lovers.



2018 China International Logistics Exhibition

Zhengzhou, China | 1~3 June

Location Zhengzhou International Convention and Exhibition Center

The Zhengzhou International Logistics Exhibition (ZZILE) is an important platform to develop China's 'one belt, one road' initiative and central economic district strategy as well as to facilitate the growth of Central and Western China. The event highlights China's excellent in-land logistics network and industrial resources and is leveraged to promote new logistics technologies, equipment and services. Moreover, by providing business matching services between relevant logistics companies and collaborating with government and industrial complexes, the event is now globally recognized as a top international logistics exhibition.

Firefly Matsuri

Shimonoseki, Japan | 6~24 June (9 June excluded)

Location Koya Riverside, Toyota Town, Shimonoseki

Toyota town in Shimonoseki is known as one of the largest firefly habitats in Japan. This town hosts the Firefly Matsuri in early summer, which is the best season to watch these glowing insects. In 2017, this festival was the first to offer a firefly boat cruise, namely 'Hotarubune,' from which visitors could observe the insects while sailing along the Koya River. This attraction is surely the highlight of the festival. The spectacular burst of light created by tens of thousands of these twinkling creatures is truly astounding.

2018 Dujiangyan-TUI

Tourism Development World Congress-International Water Culture Tourism Events

Dujiangyan, China | 11~14 June

Location Dujiangyan, Sichuan

The city of Dujiangyan and one of the world's top 500 travel agencies, the German company 'TUI', will be co-hosting the '2018 Dujiangyan-TUI Tourism Development World Congress-International Water Culture Tourism Events.' The event will bring together 100 major travel agencies globally, as well as inviting travel experts and members of the press to engage in fam trips and discussions on travel routes. The Dujiangyan is an irrigation system built before Christ, and has long been preventing floods from an overflow of the Min Jiang River, and supplied water for agriculture in the Chengdu region. Taking this opportunity, the city of Dujiangyan is attempting to bump up inbound tourists and raise its international awareness, thereby joining the ranks of other global hubs of eco-tourism.

2018 Tainan International Dragon Boat Festival

Tainan, Taiwan | 14~18 June

Location Anping canal, Tainan



On May 5th of the lunar calendar each year, Tainan holds its most important traditional sports competition: the 'Tainan International Dragon Boat Festival.' The festival originated from the tradition of fending off bad luck by sailing on a dragon-shaped boat. This year, the event will take place at the Anping canal of Tainan. The Tainan International Dragon Boat Race is recognized as the most eccentric event in the entire Taiwan, which also features a number of interesting side events such as 'drawing the eye of the dragon' and ancestral rites on the riverside to pray for everyone's safety before the start of the ceremony.



2018 Guangzhou Art Trade Fair (GATF)

Guangzhou, China | 22~25 June

Location Guangzhou International Convention Exhibition Center (Pazhou Complex)

The Guangzhou Art Trade Fair is the largest platform for arts and trade in Southeast Asia. Placing a special focus on the 'consumption of arts,' this year's exhibition will inject more vitality into the Chinese art market and bring vigor to the trading of artwork. Various galleries from worldwide will take part in the event, displaying commercial artwork and handicraft as well as art-related everyday items. A high level of participation from art lovers, traders and experts is also expected.

Tam Dao Mountain Trail

Hanoi, Vietnam | 23~24 June

Location TBC Tam Dao, Vinh Phuc province (70km from Hanoi)

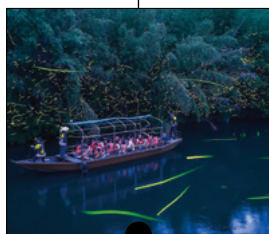
The Tam Dao mountain town has long been regarded as the green oasis of Northern Vietnam. At an altitude of 900m, it is a popular tourist destination with 3 summits poking out from the ocean of clouds. The new courses to be launched in 2018 are of various distances including 10km, 21km, 42km and 70km, to tailor to both beginners and experienced runners. Participants will run in the cool shadow of the forest in Tam Dao National Park and walk along the trails until they reach the highest summits from which they can enjoy a breathtaking view and the feeling of freedom that wildness and nature brings.

Youth Day

Vladivostok, Russia | 27 June

Location Sportivnaya Gavan waterfront

Youth Day is one of the most popular holidays in Russia. On this day, activists throughout the city hold fairs, lectures, yoga classes, cybersporting multi-discipline competition, dance master classes, bicycle excursions and more. The Dragon Boat competition is also an integral part of Youth Day, especially in Vladivostok. In the evening, the celebration ends with a rock concert from talented Vladivostok rock bands and the launch of a mass of illuminated balloons.





Hakata Gion Yamakasa Festival

Fukuoka, Japan | 1~15 July

Location Hakata, Fukuoka

The Hakata Gion Yamakasa is a festival with more than a 700-year history held at Kushida Shrine, and was listed as a UNESCO intangible cultural heritage in 2016. It continues from the 1st to 15th of July each year, and the 'Kazari Yamakasa,' a float more than 10m tall, is displayed in 14 locations downtown. The highlight of the event takes place at 4:59 AM on the 15th of July. As the crowd stands watching and cheering loudly, a loud drumroll signals the start of the race, and men carrying the float on their shoulders race down the streets of Hakata as fast as they can.



Kanmon Strait Cruise

Shimonoseki, Japan | Sundays and holidays

during 1 July~26 August

Location Karato pier

A free cruise to tour around the Kanmon Strait is available at Shimonoseki during this season. Those who have stayed the night in the city of Shimonoseki on Saturday (the day before the cruise) can board on the cruise leaving at 9:00 AM, but advanced booking is required. Feeling the breeze of the Kanmon Strait caress your skin, you can gain a panoramic view of both sides of the strait: the Kanmon Bridge and Ganryu Island.



2018 Ludong (Yantai) Children's Education Industry Exhibition

Yantai, China | 5~8 July

Location Yantai Expo Center

The Children's Education Industry Exhibition held in Yantai, Shandong, is themed 'The Health of Mother and Child, the Future of Families.' Various products and services related to child-rearing can be found at the event, and lectures on childcare for different ages are also available. This year's exhibition is expected to attract more than 200 childcare-related companies from 20 countries including Korea, Japan, the Netherlands, Germany, Australia, Hong Kong, Macau and Taiwan.



2018 Ulsan Whale Festival

Ulsan Nam-gu, Korea | 5~8 July

Location Jangsaengpo Special Whale Culture Zone, Nam-gu, Ulsan

The 2018 Ulsan Whale Festival held in Jangsaengpo will provide visitors with diverse entertainment and parades, as well as various experience programs. New tourism resources such as the monorail and waterfront facilities will be showcased, and guests will be offered a chance to capture the history of Jangsaengpo by paying a visit to the old whale town. Tasty snacks can be found at the festival food court full of carts and stalls. On top of this, 10,000



Indonesia Yacht Show 2018

Jakarta, Indonesia | 7~8 July

Location Batavia Sunda Kelapa Marina

The Indonesia Yacht Show 2018 hosted in Jakarta features displays of the latest yachts, boats and luxury items targeting the increasing class of Indonesian millionaires. The show is expected to attract 120 exhibiting companies and more than 6000 visitors. Through the hosting of the event, Indonesia has proved itself as a vibrant up and coming yachting market and the previous event attracted big name exhibitors such as: H Marine (Azimut Yachts), Dimitri Marine (Distributor for Ferretti Yachts), Princess Yachts, Wider Yachts, Gulf Craft, and many others.



The 21st Boryeong Mud Festival

Boryeong, Korea | 13~22 July

Location Daecheon Beach Mud Square, Boryeong

The 21st Boryeong Mud Festival will be held in Daecheon Beach Mud Square for 10 days starting from the 13th of July. The festival will feature a host of programs including mud-experience air bounce, mud mop, mud massage, mud marathon, ocean sports and yacht sailing as well as entertainment such as K-POP and EDM performances and a gig by the world renowned PSY.



Ogionsa Festival

Kagoshima, Japan | 14~15 July

Location From Kagoshima Central Park to Tenmonkan Street

Since the Edo period, the Ogionsa festival has been a traditional event for repelling evil spirits and praying for good business. The most popular attraction is the march of 3000 people that starts at the Central Park and continues for 2km until the procession reaches the Tenmonkan Street. Commonly referred to as the 'Gojinkou,' the march has a somewhat solemn vibe to it while energetic and elegant at the same time.



Jazz Gunung Bromo 2018

Surabaya, Indonesia | 27~29 July

Location Mount Bromo, Surabaya

Jazz Gunung Bromo 2018 is a jazz festivity that takes place on Mount Bromo, located in Surabaya, Indonesia. It is a unique event where you can enjoy jazz music while camping. The 3-day jazz festival held right next to the scenic view of Mount Bromo attracts a large number of tourists every year. World-class musicians put on brilliant performances on a stage that blends in with the sky and nature. This time around, Indonesian musicians Endah N Rhesa, Nonaria, Bonita & Husband will be participating as special guests.

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86 city members, 45 industry members

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Abroad Consultancy India Pvt. Ltd.



**Tourism Promotion Organization
for Asia Pacific Cities**

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