

The Sun Moon Lake

Maybe the best known lake on the whole island is the sun moon lake. It is located pretty much in the geographical heart of Taiwan. Surrounded by the Nantou Mountains the lake is part of a completely stunning landscape. Since nearly the complete Taiwanese population is living on the West coast, one might be interested in visiting the Sun Moon Lake, while driving down the West coast. Taichung, a big city on the West coast, is definitely a great starting point for a trip to the lake.



From Taipei it takes you approximately three hours to go to Taichung by bus. Even though there is traffic often, I still would recommend going by bus. It is just way cheaper than using the High Speed Rail. Also the busses are really comfortable. Especially if you do not have to drive the whole night, the busses

are a great option. Arriving in Taichung you should seek a hostel near a bus stop. From those bus stops there is a quite frequent service to the Sun Moon Lake. Going there from Taichung will take another two hours. So it makes sense to spend at least one night in Taichung. If you wake up early and take a bus at 8 am to the Sun Moon Lake, you have the whole day ahead of you once you arrive there.

When I visited the Sun Moon Lake, I was renting a bike and cycled around the lake. I will definitely recommend you to do the same thing, since it is the perfect day-trip. It costs about 300 New Taiwan Dollars to rent a bike for one day. At least I was able to secure a really nice mountain bike for that price. When you cycle uphill it can be really tough, but since you only have to ride for like 30 kilometers it is really doable.

Along the way you are able to visit a pagoda, which offers an amazing view and is located near a nice palm tree forest or the Wenwu temple for example. Even though the pagoda is the best place to take a look over the lake, my personal highlight was the Wenwu temple. There are a big number of great temples in Taiwan, but in my opinion the Wenwu temple is really outstanding.

