



LEAF GUIDE · TAIWAN

A PRINTABLE TEA-TRIP KIT

Taiwan Tea Trip Pack

Route cards, a buying checklist, ordering know-how, and tea-type cheat sheets — carry-everywhere pages for a confident Taipei tea trip.

Preview edition · v0 · June 2026

The Starter Guide stays free at www.leaf-guide.com/starter-guide

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Free vs. paid

The online Taiwan Tea Starter Guide is free to read and download — always. This Trip Pack is an optional paid extra that bundles printable, offline-ready pages. Buying it never changes any venue's ranking, awards, or editorial placement.

Dadaocheng Tea-Buying Walk

大稻埕買茶散步

Taipei's historic tea quarter on foot — century-old merchants scooping loose-leaf from big tins, finishing at a modern tea bar inside a working refinery.

REGION

Taipei / Dadaocheng

DURATION

Half day

DIFFICULTY

Easy

STOPS

4

The route

1

Wang Tea (Youji Mingcha) 有記名茶

A century-old refinery still roasting on site — a classic first stop for loose-leaf and the smell of charcoal.

2

Lin Hua Tai Tea Co. 林華泰茶行

One of Taipei's oldest tea merchants — taste, ask questions, and buy loose-leaf by weight.

3

Lin Mao Sen Tea Co. 林茂森茶行

A neighbouring merchant house for comparing roasts before you commit.

4

Wangtea Lab 有記名茶 Wangtea Lab

Finish at a modern tea bar inside the historic refinery — the contemporary face of the same tea families.

Live route, map links & updates: <https://www.leaf-guide.com/tea-routes/dadaocheng-tea-buying-walk>

Tea Lover's Taipei

台北愛茶之旅

A single perfect day moving from a hushed, reservation-only tea room to a temple-lodge wagashi salon and a modern tasting bar — the city's tea soul in three stops.

REGION

Taipei

DURATION

Half day

DIFFICULTY

Easy

STOPS

3

The route

1

Xiaoyin Tea House 小隱茶庵

Reserve ahead — this is a quiet, booking-based tea room, so confirm availability before you go.

2

Eighty-Eightea Rinbansyo 八拾捌茶輪番所

Pair a single-origin tea with seasonal wagashi in the restored temple lodge.

3

Shi Jian Tea 十間茶屋

Finish the afternoon with gongfu-style tea or a bottled cold brew at this design-forward Xinyi tea bar.

Live route, map links & updates: <https://www.leaf-guide.com/tea-routes/tea-lovers-taipei>

Maokong 貓空

Most capital cities don't grow tea. Taipei does. Maokong, in the Wenshan district to the city's south, is a working tea area turned beloved teahouse destination — close enough for an easy outing, high enough to feel a world away.

BEST FOR

- A relaxed half-day of teahouse views close to the city
- Tasting local Tieguanyin and Wenshan Baozhong
- Pairing tea with a gondola ride and a short hillside walk

WHAT TO EXPECT

- Hillside teahouses with open-air seating and city views
- Local roasted Tieguanyin alongside lighter Baozhong
- The Maokong Gondola as the signature way up

HOW TO CHOOSE

Pick a teahouse by mood — a meal-and-tea sit-down, or a terrace closest to the tea fields. Hours vary and some run late; check each venue's official details before you go.

Live area guide, listings & updates: <https://www.leaf-guide.com/tea-houses/areas/maokong>

First-time tea ordering guide

What to say (and expect) when you sit down, so you can order with confidence.

1 Describe taste, not names

You don't need tea names. Say what you like — “floral and light,” “roasted and sweet” — and let the host guide you.

2 Expect gongfu service

A small pot or gaiwan, small cups, many short infusions from the same leaves. The first cup is rarely the best — flavour builds across steeps.

3 Budget time, not a rush

Tea-house culture is unhurried — plan to stay at least an hour.

4 The seating fee is normal

Many tea houses add a small water or seating fee per person on top of the tea. This is standard, not a scam. Tipping is not customary.

5 Taste before you buy

Reputable sellers expect it. Judge by the cup, not the packaging.

More: <https://www.leaf-guide.com/learn/how-taiwanese-tea-is-served> · <https://www.leaf-guide.com/learn/tea-house-etiquette-in-taiwan>

Taiwanese tea-type cheat sheet

Five teas to know — what they taste like, and how to ask for them.

High mountain oolong

Sweet, floral, low bitterness. Grown above 1,000m in cool mist.

Ask for: “Something light, floral, and sweet.”

Baozhong

The lightest, most floral oolong, from the Wenshan hills (Pinglin / Maokong).

Ask for: “The lightest, most fragrant oolong you have.”

Dong Ding

Charcoal-roasted oolong from Lugu — caramel-sweet and comforting.

Ask for: “A traditional roasted oolong — Dong Ding if you have it.”

Oolong (the big picture)

Taiwan's signature category: partially oxidized, brewed in many short steeps.

Ask for: “I'd like to taste the range — light to roasted.”

Oriental Beauty

Naturally honeyed and fruity, no bitterness. Wins over non-tea-drinkers.

Ask for: “Something honey-sweet and fruity, no bitterness.”

Deep dives: <https://www.leaf-guide.com/learn/taiwanese-oolong-tea-beginner-guide>

CHECKLIST

Dadaocheng buying checklist

Tear this out for the tea-trade quarter on Dihua Street.

- ☐ Taste before you buy — always. Reputable Dadaocheng merchants expect it.
- ☐ Ask about region, cultivar, harvest season, and roast. Clear answers are a good sign.
- ☐ Buy small amounts of several teas first to find what you like.
- ☐ Judge by the cup, not the packaging or the story.
- ☐ Walk away from high-pressure sellers and prices hidden until checkout.
- ☐ Note how it was stored — loose-leaf kept cool and sealed keeps better.
- ☐ Keep a card or photo of what you bought so you can re-order what you loved.

Where to buy: <https://www.leaf-guide.com/learn/where-to-buy-tea-in-taipei> · <https://www.leaf-guide.com/learn/best-tea-houses-in-dadaocheng>

One-day Taipei tea itinerary planner

A flexible template — pencil in your own stops. Suggestions draw on the cards in this pack; check current opening details before you go.

Morning

Plan: _____

Start in Dadaocheng — taste and buy loose-leaf from historic merchants on Dihua Street.

Midday

Plan: _____

Slow lunch and a sit-down tea house; order by taste and let one tea unfold across steeps.

Afternoon

Plan: _____

Ride the Maokong gondola for hillside tea houses and city views (a relaxed half-day).

Evening

Plan: _____

Wind down at a modern tea bar where staff brew for you — lowest pressure, great for beginners.

Build your own from the directory: <https://www.leaf-guide.com/tea-houses> · <https://www.leaf-guide.com/learn/taipei-tea-itinerary>

Keep exploring

- Free Starter Guide — <https://www.leaf-guide.com/starter-guide>
- Take the tea quiz — <https://www.leaf-guide.com/quiz>
- Browse the tea-house directory — <https://www.leaf-guide.com/tea-houses>
- All tea routes — <https://www.leaf-guide.com/tea-routes>

Leaf Guide is an independent editorial guide. We don't sell rankings, awards, or editorial placement. Venue details and opening status can change — always verify a venue's current details on its official source before visiting.

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