

Destination Taiwan

Background: In 1895, military defeat forced China to cede Taiwan to Japan, however it reverted to Chinese control after World War II. Following the communist victory on the mainland in 1949, 2 million Nationalists fled to Taiwan and established a government that over five decades has gradually democratized and incorporated the native population within its structure. Throughout this period, the island has prospered to become one of



East Asia's economic "Tigers." The dominant political issue continues to be the relationship between Taiwan and China and the question of eventual reunification.

Economy - overview: Taiwan has a dynamic capitalist economy with gradually decreasing guidance of investment and foreign trade by government authorities. In keeping with this trend, some large government-owned banks and industrial firms are being privatized. Real growth in GDP has averaged about 8% during the past three decades. Exports have grown even faster and have provided the primary impetus for industrialization. Inflation and unemployment are low; the trade surplus is substantial; and foreign reserves are the world's third largest. Agriculture contributes 3% to GDP, down from 35% in 1952. Traditional labor-intensive industries are steadily being moved off-shore and replaced with more capital- and technology-intensive industries. Taiwan has become a major investor in China, Thailand, Indonesia, the Philippines, Malaysia, and Vietnam. The tightening of labor markets has led to an influx of foreign workers, both legal and illegal. Because of its conservative financial approach and its entrepreneurial strengths, Taiwan suffered little compared with many of its neighbors from the Asian financial crisis in 1998-99. Growth in 2000 should pick up a bit from 1999, backed by expansion in domestic consumption, exports, and private investment.



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Customs Clearance : Each family is only allowed to bring one stove, refrigerator, dryer, washer Each member of the family is only allowed to bring one air conditioner, TV Set, Stereo Set, Dehumidifier, Amplifier, Turn Table, Speaker Set, Tape Deck, Receiver. Documentation : Original passport of owner, and passport copies of each family member. Working permit from Government (Chinese) or Original of Alien Resident Certificate. Each family is only allowed to bring one stove, refrigerator, dryer, washer Each member of the family is only allowed to bring one air conditioner, TV Set, Stereo Set, Dehumidifier, Amplifier, Turn Table, Speaker Set, Tape Deck, Receiver. Shipper should complete the Declaration Form given to them on board the Airlines in transit to Taiwan, particularly item 18 under "Unaccompanied Baggage" to indicate "Personal household effects". This is to avoid delay in processing of customs clearance.

The following articles are prohibited from entry by law : Counterfeit coins, security notes, bank-notes, plates or dies for printing or casting forged currencies. Gambling apparatus, lottery tickets and other similar prize tickets issued in foreign countries. Obscene and indecent books, publications, pictures, articles, and videos. Publications and articles propagating communism. Any articles produced, manufactured or originated in Communist China, North Korea, Vietnam, Albania, Romania, USSR and Cuba. Arms and ammunition, cartridges, explosives, poisonous gas and other weapons of war. Opium, cannabis idica, cocaine and products, and other dangerous drugs. Toy guns, ornamental swords and knives. Articles infringing the rights of patents, of designs and trade-marks, and the copy rights of other persons. Contraband articles : Fruits, vegetables and other foodstuffs coming from places prevailing with injurious pests and plant disease, and/or any animals and pets from an infected area.

Information is as a guide only – Quarantine and Customs conditions may change without notice
Please contact the destination office for updated information

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