### 05 PEDAL Taiwan

# 7 DAYS PACIFIC PARADISE

Contact us at pedaltaiwan.com



### FULL ITINERARY

### Day 1:

Arrival into TPE Airport and transfer to our hotel in the heart of Taipei. After a quick briefing our local guide will show you around Ximen night market and give you a first taste of Taiwanese street food!

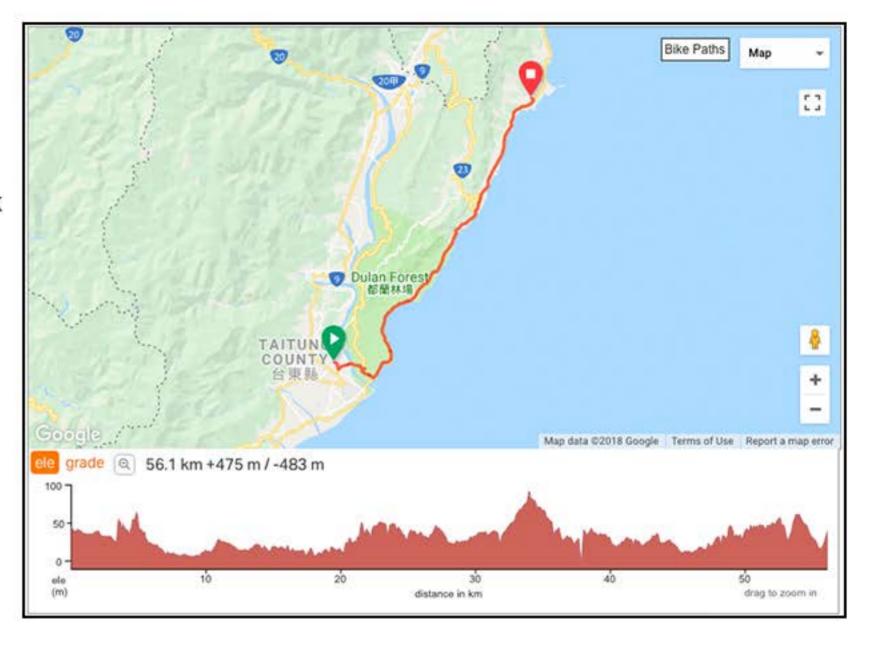




### Day 2:

Start: Taitung Sights: Jialulan Cultural Park Uphill River End: Chenggong

Total Distance: 56.1km Total Climb: 475m



Jumping on the early morning train from Taipei, we will arrive into Taitung for where we will find our bags, guide, bikes and food waiting for us.

After a quick lunch, we begin an afternoon riding along pristine pacific coastline. A couple of stops and photo opportunities will break up the ride, firstly at the Jialulan Cultural park where you can view some Aboroiginal Taiwanes art installations, and then secondly at the mesmerising uphill river. We don't want to give the game away too much abou this one, but trust us, it will blow your mind!

Finally we will reach our accomodation for the night in Chenggong, where we will also sample some of the best fresh seafood to be found anywhere in East Asia!

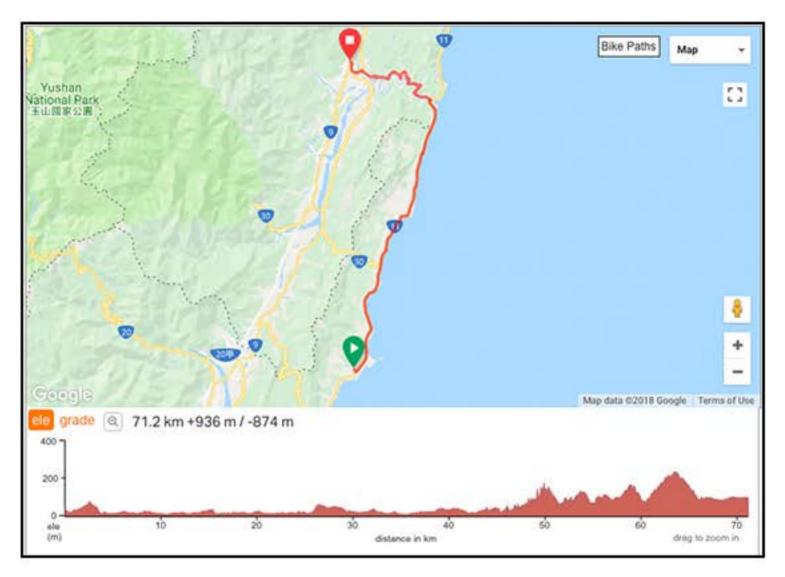




### **Day 3:**

Start: Chenggong Sights: Sanxiantai Bridge Baixian Caves Ruisui Hot Spring End: Ruisui

*Total Distance:* 71.2km *Total Climb:* 936m



Back on the bike for one of our tougher days of riding, we begin our day continuing north along the Pacific coastline, and it isn't long before we come to our first wonder of the day.

Our first stop will be at Sanxiantai Bridge, an incredible piece of architecture designed to resemble a dragon, which connects the main land to the 'Island of the Three Immortals'. After a coffee break overlooking this incredible manmade structure, we will continue along the spectacular coastline (crossing the Tropic of Cancer in the process) and will stop for lunch at Baxian Caves.

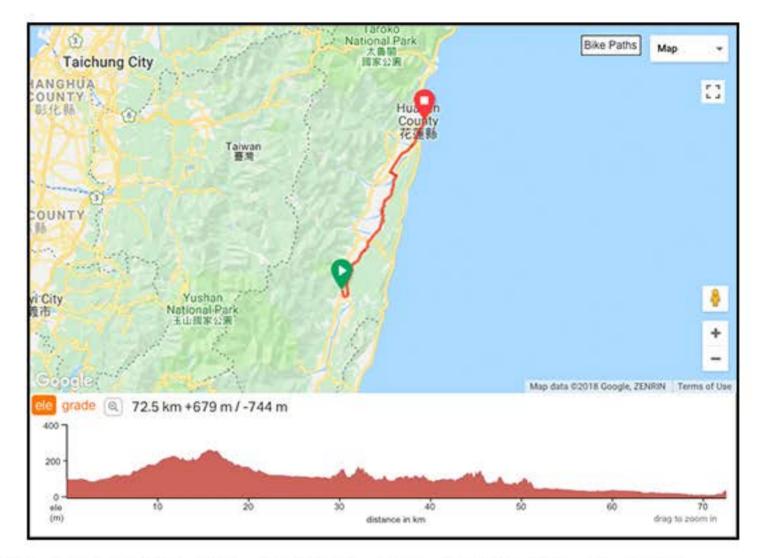
After lunch we start our first real ascent of the trip, climbing 200m over Haian Ridge and descending to our hotel in Ruisui in the Rift Valley. Thermal hot springs await in the evening, as well as a fantastic traditional Taiwanese restaurant.



### Day 4:

**Start:** Ruisui **Sights:** Rift Valley Farglory Park **End:** Hualien

Total Distance: 72.5km Total Climb: 679m



Having taken in the stunning ocean views the day before, day 4 will see us ride through equally spectacular countryside in the rift valley. Largely untouched by Taiwan's development boom, these small farming communities continue in much the same way as they have for centuries.

We'll head north along one of Taiwan's most loved cycling routes, winding in between the paddy fields and the foothills to the east. Gorgeous food as well as landscapes await us in Fenglin, and the local dumpling restaurant should gives us just the boost we need to propel us towards Hualien.

Before we get there, however, we will take a small detour east to gorgeous views at Farglory Park, and if you're feeling brave enough, the steepest road climb in Taiwan!

In the evening we will visit an authentic Taiwanese aboriginal restaurant, to get a taste of indigenous flavours.

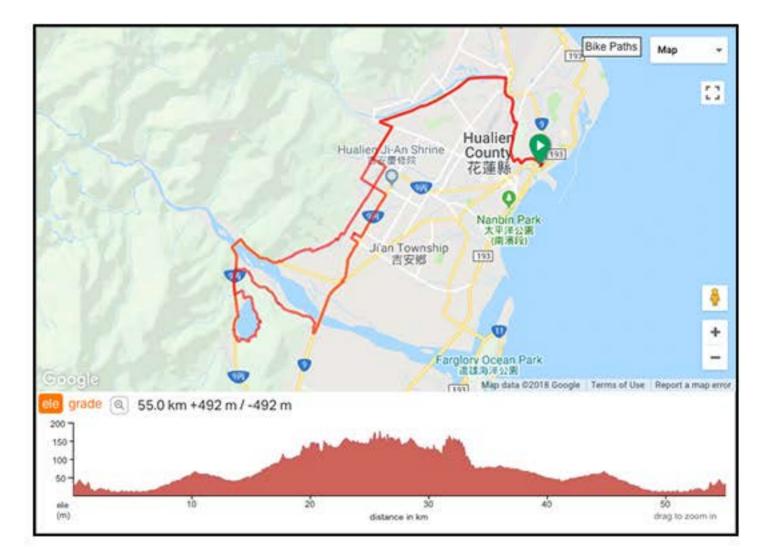
## THE WORLD'S BEST CLIMBS



### Day 5 OPTION 1 - Liyu Lake:

*Start:* Hualien *Sights:* Martyr's Shrine Liyu Lake *End:* Hualien

*Total Distance:* 55km *Total Climb:* 492m



A slightly easeir riding day, but with no less beauty. We begin with a realxing ride along the river out of downtown Hualien, stopping to wonder at Martyr's Shrine on the way. A betutiful piece of traditonal Chinese architecture, it's a reminder of the hertiage of the majority Han Chinese population in Taiwan.

Following the river out of the city, we quickly find ourselves surrounded by lush countryside, with the imposing central mountain range towering out of the earth to our right.

Approximately 25km into our ride we arrive at Liyu Lake, perhaps the most idyllic spot on the whole island. Grab your swimming stuff and take a dip in the cool waters while our guide prepare a traditional Taiwanese BBQ for you.

After lunch you can decide to ride back to the city or simply jump in the van!



#### Day 5 OPTION 2 - KOM Challenge:

*Start:* Hualien *End:* Wuling Pass *Total Distance:* 108.1km *Total Climb*: 4245m

Perhaps the most iconic cycle road in the world, and certainly one of the toughest. No cycling trip in Taiwan would be complete without attempting to ride the route of the Taiwan KOM - up Taroko Gorge. Won in 2017 by Vincenzo Nibali and by Britain's Emma Pooley, it is guaranteed to push you to the limit.

Alarms will be set early for our huge day of climbing through the amazing Taroko Gorge. As we wheel out of town the first 20km is a flat warm up for what is to come – 87km of climbing, winding up through the gorge.

We'll pass over stunning bridges, through tunnels and cruise spectacular stretches as we climb ever higher. We'll stop frequently to refuel, take on water and simply to admire the views. After 65km there's a quick descent to take you to the base of the final climb – 1000m of high altitude climbing over 18km on one of the world's most stunning roads.







## CNN VOTED WORLD'S FINEST CUISINE



#### Day 6: TRANSFER TO TAIPEI

After the exertions of the previous few days it's time for a well earned rest.

Our guides will accompany you on the scenic 2 hour train journey from Hualien to Taipei, where an afternoon of adventuring awaits.

On arrival in Taipei, they will first take you to an authenic locals lunch spot, before showing you some of the best walking routes up Elephant Mountain for spectacular views over the city.

After the stroll, your bags and bikes will be waiting for you at the hotel, giving you plenty of time to freshen up, before our guides take you out to explore Taipei's most loved night market - Raohe.

Here you'll discover some local delicacies and more than a few hidden treats!





### **Day 7**:

A morning exploring some of the sights of the city, before your transfer to TPE International Airport. We'll be sad to see you go!

