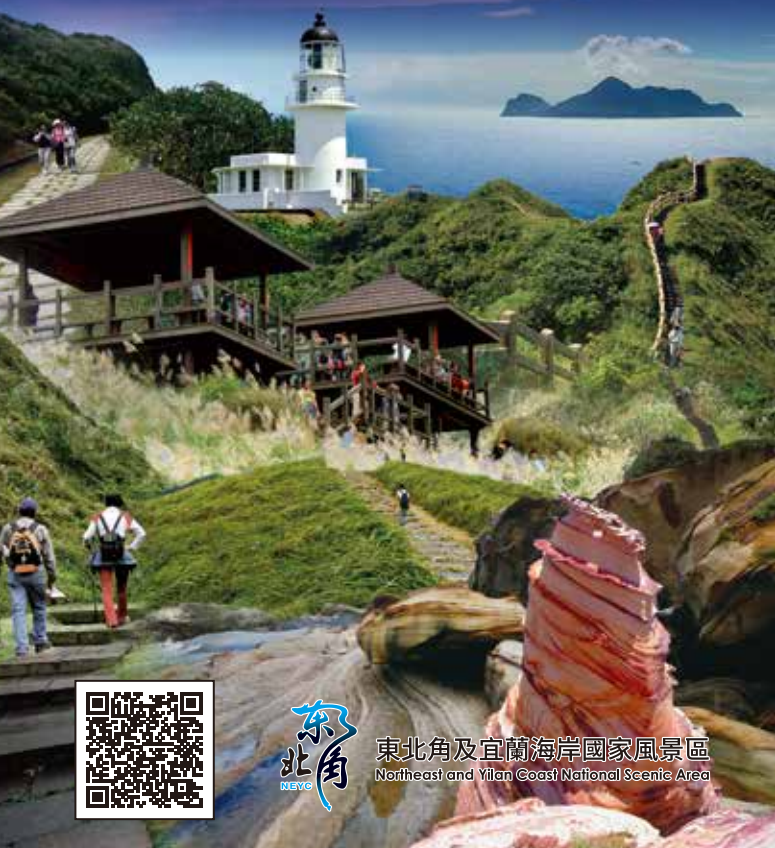


Scenic Trails for Hiking

9 Scenic Mountain Trails to explore in the Northeast Coast and Yilan Coast National Scenic Area



Tourism Consultation and Service Centers		
Fulong Visitor Center	02-24991210	M3 / G1
Dali Visitor Center	03-9780727	M3 / E7
Nanfang'ao Visitor Center	03-9953885	M1 / C5
Longdong Bay Ocean Park	02-24909445	M2 / G2
Longdong Four Seasons Bay	02-24901000	M2 / G4
Yanliao Beach Park	02-24903991	M1 / G2
Longmen Camping Site	02-24991791	M3 / F1
Wa'ao Service Area	03-9789799	M1 / C3
Gold Museum Park	02-24962800	M2 / A4
Wushi Harbor Visitor Center	03-9789078	M1 / C3
Zhuangwei Sand Dune Ecological Park	03-9382420	M1 / C4

Mountain Hiking Tips

1. The weather in the Northeastern mountainous areas is often rainy and humid after autumn and winter. When hiking, please bring sufficient equipment and water, and pay attention to the weather forecast. Stone steps may be slippery, so be cautious.
2. Some routes are hidden, and it is advisable to have an experienced guide. It is not suitable for solo exploration. Please refrain from engaging in recreational activities outside the designated trails.
3. Do not disturb wildlife during hiking, especially avoid encounters with snakes and hornets. If you encounter cattle, keep distance with them.



Northeast and Yilan Coast National Scenic Area Headquarters,
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Address: No. 36, Xinglong Street, Fulong Village, Gongliao District, New Taipei City 228
Website: <https://www.necoast-nsa.gov.tw>

Consumer Protection Hotline: 1950
Taiwan Tour Bus: <https://www.taiwantourbus.com.tw>

Nanzilin Trail

Situated near Nanya Fishing Harbor, this short trail boasts scenic mountain and sea vistas. Access it by taking the alley on the right side of Nanshigong across from the harbor, crossing a small bridge, and following signs to the entrance. The 900-meter one-way journey features a challenging wooden boardwalk staircase, a gentle stone path, and a natural trail. The endpoint is Nanzilin Summit at 196 meters elevation, offering panoramic views of Nanya, including Nanya Fishing Harbor, geological trails, Bitou Cape, Badouzi, Keelung Islet, and the stunning coastal scenery of the northeastern corner.

Nanya Geological Trail

This is the prime path for exploring the captivating coastal erosion scenery in the Northeast Coast region, spanning around 700 meters. Starting from the west side at Nanya Fishing Harbor parking lot, the trail follows the coastal geological route, weaving through the entire coastal sandstone area. Noteworthy rock formations like Thumb Rock (Seal Rock) can be admired along the way. In the distinctive rock parking lot, one can find the famous "Ice Cream Cone Rock." This uniquely shaped rock is a must-visit for photography enthusiasts. The combined duration of Nanzilin Trail and Nanya Geological Trail is approximately 2 hours. For a comprehensive experience, it's recommended to plan for half a day or more.

Bitou Cape Trail

The entrance to Bitou Cape Trail is located at the turning point from Provincial Highway 2 towards Bitou Elementary School. Ascending approximately 0.7 kilometers before reaching Tingtao Cafe, the trail continues through the side ridge line towards a newly-built temple, covering about 1.1 kilometers. The trail features diverse geological landscapes, including cliffs, sea terraces, unique rock formations, and fossils. Additionally, there are lighthouses and scenic spots offering both mountain and sea views. The one-way walking time is approximately 1.5 hours, making it suitable for a half-day itinerary with time for exploration and photography.

Longdong Bay Promontory Trail

With a total length of about 3 kilometers, this trail is a route suitable for all ages. Accessible from Provincial Highway 2 by turning towards the west near Xilingyan Temple, the southern entrance can be reached. After a short walk towards the north, you'll reach an observation pavilion above the Longdong Climbing Area, providing a view of the Szuling(Quartzite) sandstone cliff. To the left, you can see Longdong Bay and Bitou Cape; to the right, there are Aodi, Fulong, and Laoguan Mountain. Walking downhill leads to Hemei Elementary School and Longdong Bay Park. The one-way walking time is about 1 hour. You can continue northward to the Bitou Cape Trail system or visit Longdong Bay Ocean Park and Longdong Four Seasons Bay, making it suitable for a half-day to a full-day itinerary.

Guishan Island Ecological Nature Trail

Guishan Island is located about 10 kilometers east of Wushi Harbor in Toucheng Township. It is a volcanic island named for its resemblance to a floating turtle. The island has rich flora and fauna, with the surrounding waters featuring the Kuroshio Current, one of Taiwan's three major fishing grounds. Due to the influence of the northeast monsoon, the island is only open from March to November, limiting the number of visitors daily.

During the open season, visitors can land at the northern and southern docks and explore attractions like Guishan Island Visitor Center, Putuoyan Temple, Cultural and Ecological Gallery, and Military Tunnels. There are three trails: the Circular Walk (650m, 40 mins), Maoshi Trail (20 mins), and the 401 Highland Ecological Trail (1,400m, requires an application, 40-person daily limit). The latter has a tour guide and must be coordinated with the boatman for pick-up times.





Santiaojiao Lighthouse Trail

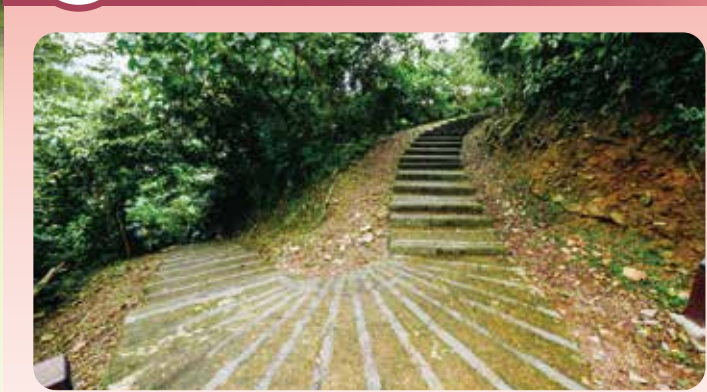


Santiaojiao marks Taiwan's easternmost point, with the Santiaojiao Lighthouse standing as its prominent landmark. Near Magang Fishing Harbor, a trail leads to the lighthouse, offering breathtaking Pacific Ocean views. Guishan Island, Yilan County's landmark, is visible to the southwest. This scenic spot provides one of the most beautiful viewpoints of Guishan Island.

The walk to the lighthouse takes roughly 10 minutes, with an additional 3 minutes to reach the viewing platform overlooking the Lailai Wave-cut Platform. Featured in a popular idol drama, this romantic location has become a beloved spot for wedding photoshoots. Its European-style white pavilion and chapel (converted from an oil depot) make it a popular weekend destination.



Qixingling Trail



Qixingling Trail is located behind Su'ao Cold Spring and is maintained by the Su'ao Township Office. It has a total length of about 4,750 meters, with the highest elevation reaching 230 meters. A five-minute walk from Su'ao Train Station leads to the Qixingling Trail entrance next to the cold spring. Along the way, there are well-equipped viewing platforms and rest areas marked from one to seven stars, offering panoramic views of Su'ao. Following the signs and ascending the stone steps, you'll reach the highest point, the "Qixingling Viewing Platform." From this vantage point, you can overlook Aobi, Su'ao Harbor, and Nanfangao Fishing Harbor. After enjoying the scenery, visitors can choose to return to the Cold Spring entrance (approximately 1,260 meters) or continue towards Su'ao Mountain to complete the entire route, covering a distance of about 3,490 meters.



Taoyuan Valley Trail System

Nestled at the tail of the Xueshan Range between Wankengtou Mountain and Lukuwei Mountain, Taoyuan Valley, formerly the "Big Ox Pasture," entices with its lush slopes and captivating valley views - a haven for hiking enthusiasts. The ridge top offers a prime vantage point to explore the northeast. With three routes leading in and out, tailor your journey based on preferences, allocating half a day to a full day for exploration.



Neiliao Route (Approx. 2 km): Starting near Jilin Village in Neiliu Neikeng, this low-altitude trail is the shortest path to Taoyuan Valley's expansive grassland. Ideal for self-driving tourists, it offers various entry and exit options, revealing old terraced fields and pastoral scenes along the way. Accessible via different routes, including Provincial Highway 2 (or County Highway 102).

Caoling Route (Approx. 4.5 km): This trail links Taoyuan Valley with the Caoling Historic Trail. Visitors start from the north near Yuanwangkeng or the south near Dali. After reaching the Caoling Historic Trail intersection, they proceed westward uphill, following clear signage. The well-marked path follows the Xueshan Mountain Range's ridgeline, passing through Caoling Mountain, Wankengtou Mountain, and the saddle between Shiguanyin Ridge. After a 200-meter ascent southwestward, it leads to Taoyuan Valley.

Walking along the ridge presents a challenge, but offers stunning views of the sea, lush greenery, valleys, and stone steps. To the west, admire Neili Creek Valley and the beauty of Fulong Beach. To the east, encounter coastal erosion landscapes of Toucheng, with views of Guishan Island, Dali, Daxi, and the ocean and sky, making it a journey of both sea and mountains.

Caoling Historic Trail

The Caoling Historic Trail, a mountain path in the Northeast Coast and Yilan Coast Scenic Area, dates back to the 19th century. Serving as an official road connecting Tamsui District in northern Taiwan to the Kavalan District in the northeast, it holds key cultural relics like the "Boldly quell the wild mists" and "Tiger" monuments. Noteworthy landmarks include the Diesima or "Horse Falling to Death" Bridge, Earth God Temple, and the ruins of an old inn. The Yekou area hosts the Caoling Historic Trail Miscanthus Season event in autumn and winter, adorning the trail with silver-white Miscanthus flowers.

Extending over 8.5 kilometers, the trail requires 3 to 4 hours to complete. Begin your journey from Yuanwangkeng in the north, progressing southward (west to east) to Dali, or from Yilan Dali heading northward (east to west).

