

Slow-Paced Bliss in Zhuangwei



Riding a bicycle, experiencing joy on the farm,

Cooking and crafting, exploring culture and visiting temples,

Using happiness as seasoning to slowly brew a wonderful flavor !



Directions

- **By train:**
You can get off at Yilan Station and transfer to a bus.
- **By bus:**
 - 1.Taiwan Tourist Shuttle Service: Zhuangwei Dune Route Green 18
 - 2.E-land Bus Route 791
 - 3.Kuo-Kuang Motor Transport Routes 1787 and 1788
- **By car:**
 - 1.Direct route: Take National Highway 5 and exit at Yilan Interchange (Zhuangwei / Yilan). Head east on County Road 191 towards Zhuangwei. Follow the itinerary, search the map, or use navigation to reach the destination.
 - 2.Coastal exploration: Use Provincial Highway No. 2 to connect various attractions along the coastline of New Taipei City and Yilan County.

Travel Service Information

- **Zhuangwei Sand Dune Ecological Park**
03-9382420, No. 18, Lane 196, Section 2, Zhuangbin Road, Zhuangwei Township, Yilan County
- **Nanfang'ao Visitor Center**
03-9953885, No. 85, Jiangxia Road, South Zhenli 2 Neighborhood, Su'ao Township, Yilan County
- **Dali Visitor Center**
03-9780727, No. 11, Section 7, Binhai Road, Toucheng Township, Yilan County
- **Fulong Visitor Center**
02-2499-1210, No. 38, Xinglong Street, Gongliao District, New Taipei City



Northeast and Yilan Coast National Scenic Area Headquarters, Tourism Administration, Ministry of Transportation and Communications
Tel: 02-2499-1115 Fax: 02-2499-1170
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>

Zhuangwei Overview

Name: Zhuangwei Township
Area: 38.4769 square kilometers

Origin of the Name

In the early years of the Qing Dynasty, Han Chinese Wu Sha led settlers into Lanyang Plain during the Jiaping era. They founded bases named Cheng, Jie, Wei, and Zhuang, some still in use today. Zhuangwei Township, initially "Min Zhuangwei," expresses gratitude for settlers' service. Lacking natural defenses but inhabited by young adults, it earned the name "Zhuangwei" - "strong enclave".

Geographical Location

Zhuangwei Township lies in northeast Yilan County near the city, facing the Pacific Ocean. It occupies a central position on the Lanyang Plain's eastern coast, with the Lanyang River estuary to its south. This flat, alluvial plain was once the heartland of the Kavalan people, an indigenous group, prior to Han Chinese colonization.

Industrial Overview

Zhuangwei Township's flat terrain, fertile soil, good drainage, and ample sunlight make it a prime agricultural environment. It produces a variety of high-quality seasonal crops, including top-tier Taiwanese rice and renowned coastal cantaloupes. Along with coastal aquaculture farms, agriculture and fisheries drive the local economy.

Tourism Highlights

Zhuangwei Township's sandy coast features unique dune landscapes and rich ecology. Enjoy the best views of the Guishan Island sunrise, one of the "Eight Views of Lanyang", overlooking the island. The Lanyang Rivermouth Waterbird Refuge and Yilan Coastal Bikeway create a coastal recreation area. Explore local culture in rustic farm and fishing villages, vibrant temples, and the growing tourism scene.

Rural Charm

Green Garden Organic Farm

📍 No. 71, Section 3, Zhuangbin Road, Zhuangwei Township, Yilan County

This farm is run by a former electronics worker who is now regarded as one of Taiwan's top young farmers. He left the city over 20 years ago to establish this organic vegetable farm in his hometown. Prioritizing health and safety, his farm grows diverse produce like red amaranth and sweet potato leaves, with the vibrant green mountain bitter gourd as its standout. Seeking to develop unique products, the owner studied cultivation techniques in Okinawa, Japan. The result? Surprisingly sweet, cold-brewed tea bags made from dried mountain bitter gourd slices.

The farm supplies fresh, organic vegetables to local bed and breakfasts, adding to their appeal. It also offers a unique visitor experience: guests can adopt a garden pot, plant their own vegetables, learn about farming, and take their harvest home. This urban farming adventure typically yields results in 1-2 months.

Wangshan Leisure Farm

📍 No. 106-11, Xin Nan Road, Zhuangwei Township, Yilan County

With over 30 years of farming experience, Wangshan Farm boasts an impressive variety of over 500 melons and fruits grown through crop rotation. Seasonal highlights include pumpkins, winter melons, luffas, passionfruit, tomatoes, and more. The farm's diverse pumpkin collection spans five continents, notably showcased during the Dragon Boat Festival when visitors flock to Yilan, known as the "Pumpkin Kingdom."

To boost yields and optimize growth, the farm employs innovative techniques like "drip irrigation nutrient cultivation" for targeted nourishment. Their unique "basket cultivation" minimizes disease and promotes superior pumpkin quality. Enjoy a year-round pumpkin experience – a unique offering that sets Wangshan Leisure Farm apart.

Check-in Hotspots

Zhuangwei Sand Dune Ecological Park

📍 No. 18, Lane 196, Section 2, Zhuangbin Road, Zhuangwei Township, Yilan County

Located near Milestone 149.3 of Provincial Highway No. 2, covering an area of about 4.48 hectares, this park features exhibition spaces, the Weixiao Settlement Hall, and outdoor areas. Designed by renowned architect Huang Sheng-yuan, the center embodies the concept of "creating valleys and seeing sand dunes." It integrates natural elements to showcase unique architectural spaces inspired by sand dunes and caves, making it Zhuangwei's most representative tourist landmark.

The main building's clearwater construction creates a simple, tranquil texture. Interweaving architectural lines and penetrating light generate a dramatic space filled with shadows. The outdoor area offers well-designed recreation space, and during events, hosts art installations that draw many photo-seeking visitors.

Buhou Community

📍 No. 50, Ren'ai New Village, Lane 50, Hou Road, Donggang Village, Zhuangwei Township, Yilan County

Situated in Donggang Village, Buhou Community is located on the north bank of the mouth of the Lanyang River. In addition to Kavalan and Han settlements, the government once resettled people from Dachen Island here. The community houses Taiwan's first "Fishermen's Temple" from Dachen Island.

The "pulling nets" activity, a traditional fishing method along the Yilan coast, is a distinctive feature of the community. Net-fishing experiences attract tourists and generate economic opportunities. In recent years, the community has actively promoted its unique qualities, inviting international artists for landscape art events. Using local materials like sand and driftwood creatively connects the community globally, revitalizing the old neighborhood. The driftwood-built seascape swings have become a trendy photo spot in recent years.

Master Guan's Leisure Farm

📍 No. 3, Wuhan Road, Xin Nan Village, Zhuangwei Township, Yilan County

The farm uses raised bed planting and organic fertilizers to grow various crops, with strawberries being their star attraction. From December to April, visitors flock to experience the sweet and sour flavors of freshly picked strawberries. Try their unique "Cold Sun" specialty – frozen strawberries marinated with plum powder and secret ingredients for a salty-sweet, slightly sour taste. The farm also features Mama Tian Restaurant, offering healthy dishes and Hakka cuisine.

Beyond strawberries, the farm offers year-round specialties like ice cream and pickled melons. Try the DIY "stir-fried ice cream," join cantaloupe eco-tours, or visit the Wangze District wetlands for paddling on planter buckets and bamboo rafts – a fun family experience.

Houbi Community

📍 No. 267, Section 2, Zhuangbin Road, Zhuangwei Township, Yilan County

Located next to the coastal highway in Fuxing Village, Houbi Community, once a declining small fishing village, has become a local highlight due to successful community development.

In recent years, the community has experimented with creating artificial eco-islands. These islands use plant roots to absorb nutrients in the water, alleviating the issues of unpleasant odors and insufficient oxygen caused by closed or poorly circulated water. While purifying the water, the planted areas or vegetable gardens also absorb nutrients. The community organizes net-fishing activities combined with marine education courses, promoting local fishing culture and marine ecological conservation. Activities like clam digging in summer and catching eel fry in winter, combined with the sweeping view of the vast Pacific Ocean, make it an ideal place for family recreation and exploration.



Cycling Tour

Yongzhen Seaside Park

📍 Zhuangwei Road, Yilan Line, behind Yongzhen Temple

Here, savor the renowned coastal beauty of Zhuangwei and unwind in public pavilions. The park showcases a sandy beach with windbreak and sand-fixing plants. In summer, lush green sand dunes form, offering a lively landscape-ideal for wading, strolling, and enjoying distant views of Guishan Island. Situated between the Lanyang River and Zhuangwei River mouths, the area teams with a vibrant ecological system, inviting visitors to experience the natural pulse of abundant plant life and bird colonies.

Culinary Map

Formosa Pearl

📞 03-9308988 📍 No. 102, Section 2, Dafu Road, Zhuangwei Township
🍷 Kaiseki and health-preserving handcrafted cuisine

Jishiang Inn

📞 03-9383387 📍 No. 35, Gujie Road, Zhuangwei Township
🍷 Xi lu rou and seafood soup, national banquet trio (gaozha, roujuan, taro pastries), medicinal white-cut chicken, xu crab rice noodle hot pot

Daqiancheng Clay Pot Roasted Chicken

📞 03-9387700 📍 No. 102-6, Xin Nan Road, Zhuangwei Township
🍷 Authentic free-range mountain chicken cooked in a clay pot, Yilan smoked duck, chicken oil stewed bamboo shoots, manbo gelatin

Cultural Highlights

Dafu Butian Temple

📍 No. 279, Section 6, Zhuangbin Road, Zhuangwei Township, Yilan County

Butian Temple, dedicated to the worship of "Nuwa Niangniang," celebrates her birthday on the ninth day of the fifth lunar month as the key local festival. Established in the Daoguang era (1828), the temple originated when villagers discovered a washed-up sea goddess statue inscribed with "Zhejiang Nuwa Niangniang." Initially housed in a thatched hut in Dafu Village, a wooden temple was later built.

The current temple, constructed in the first year of the Xianfeng era (1851), underwent renovations in 1922 and 1964. Additional structures, including two side halls, a gatehouse, and a bell and drum tower, were added in 1975. The rear hall was constructed in 1990. In 2002, a guesthouse was built for pilgrims' accommodation and catering needs. Beyond its religious role, Butian Temple actively promotes local culture, education, and disaster relief, playing a vital role in the community.

Yongzhen Temple

📍 No. 382, Section 4, Zhuangbin Road, Zhuangwei Township, Yilan County

Yongzhen Temple's rich history dates back to 1774 when residents brought the sacred "Kaizhang Shengwang" statue from Zhangzhou to establish a place of prayer for divine protection and peace. Carefully renovated and expanded over the centuries, the temple remains an architectural gem.

Each year on Kaizhang Shengwang's lunar birthday, worshippers flock to the tranquil coastal village for a vibrant celebration. The festivities culminate in the thrilling "Fire Charcoal Mountain" ritual, where a towering charcoal pyre becomes a test of faith and a symbol of eternal peace.

Donggang Banyan Tree Park

📍 Next to Donggang Pier, Zhuangwei Township, Yilan County

Situated at the Yilan River and Lanyang River estuary, this park marks the southern end of the Yilan Coastal Bikeway. Named for the lush banyan trees, it hosts a public temple beneath their canopy. Beyond the Banyan Tree Park, remnants of an old pier evoke the essence of a bygone fishing village, despite the faded bustling scenes. The Donggang estuary, covered in fine sand, invites leisurely walks and birdwatching. Besides the cycling path, rest facilities, and scenic platforms, visitors can savor local snacks. During the Mid-Autumn Festival, this area is a prime spot for locals to admire the moon.

Gather café

📞 03-9385868 📍 No. 277, Section 2, Zhuangbin Road, Zhuangwei Township
🍷 Homemade fruit mille-feuille cake, cinnamon rolls, green grape pie

BBQ Seaworld

📞 03-9373885 📍 No. 49, Gujie Road, Zhuangwei Township
🍷 Grilled red-eyed bream, grilled tilapia, assorted fish soup, assorted hot pot, signature grilled chicken wings

Zhuangwei Granary

📞 03-9383186 📍 No. 143, Zhuangwu Road, Zhuangwei Township
🍷 Plank duck, gedao zaifan, xi lu rou, gaozha

Houbi Snacks

📞 03-9383271 📍 No. 1, Lane 333, Section 2, Zhuangbin Road, Zhuangwei Township
🍷 Stir-fried fish maw, fish roe, blanched small squid, stir-fried sunfish

Aguo Seafood

📞 03-9303720 📍 No. 6, Lane 215, Section 6, Binhai Road, Zhuangwei Township
🍷 Pan-fried horsehead fish, blanched small squid, limited quantity of sweet shrimp, charcoal-baked brown sugar tapioca pearls

Guoling Baoan Temple

📍 No. 302, Section 3, Zhuangbin Road, Zhuangwei Township, Yilan County

Over 200 years old, Baoan Temple dates back to the Qing Dynasty's Qianlong era. Founding Li ancestors brought guardian deity statues - the "Prince Nezha" trio (Great Prince Nezha, Second Prince Muzha, Third Prince Naluo) - from their homeland. Enshrined at Guliao, they became the center of local worship.

Completed in 2000, the all-woodcarving Baoan Temple is the largest Prince Nezha temple in Northern Taiwan. Dedicated to "Marshal of the Central Altar Li Nezha, Third Prince," the main deity is uniquely depicted seated on a dragon chair with tattoos, unlike the typical Nezha with a golden spear and wind-fire wheel. Every year on the ninth day of the ninth lunar month, the temple celebrates Prince Nezha's birthday with lively ceremonies, making it a major local religious event.

Zhuangwu Zhen'an Temple

📍 No. 112, Zhuangwu Road, Zhuangwei Township, Yilan County

Zhen'an Temple venerates the Three Sages (Sage Gu, Sage Wang, Sage San) who sacrificed their lives against the Yuan Dynasty at the end of the Southern Song Dynasty. Legends tell of their bond formed to support the Song Dynasty, staging an uprising in Huxi Keng, Zhangpu, Zhangzhou (present-day Fujian) to rescue the emperor. Initially rejected, they earned local respect by providing medical care. Pursued by the Yuan army, the Three Sages bravely resisted but ultimately sacrificed themselves.

Immigrants from Zhangzhou, Fujian, established the worship, considering them martial deities and protectors against indigenous peoples. In 1917, residents built Zhen'an Temple to honor the heroes. Over a century old, the temple, initially thatched, underwent reconstructions and is now Zhuangwu's religious center. The temple festival, held on the 15th day of the eleventh lunar month, includes a ceremonial procession where deities are paraded through fire, symbolizing blessings for good weather and national prosperity.

Lanyang Rivermouth Waterbird Refuge

📍 Both sides of the Lanyang River in Zhuangwei Township and Wuji Township

Covering an area of 206 hectares, this area is a rivermouth delta formed by the convergence of three rivers: Lanyang River, Yilan River, and Dongshan River. It is one of Taiwan's twelve major wetlands, rich in animal ecology. From October to April of the following year is the season for migratory birds to winter here. Over the years, a total of 236 bird species have been recorded, including black-faced spoonbills, white-fronted geese, gray geese, black storks, oystercatchers, egrets, shelducks, teal ducks, pintails, and more. Rare sightings of red-crowned cranes and gray cranes have also been reported. On both sides of the cycling trail, you can find casuarina trees, Chinese tallow trees, sea lemon trees, and bitter tung trees. It's also a popular spot for shore fishing activities.

Azu's Kitchen (Traditional Rice Mill)

📞 0936-272689 📍 No. 252-1, Gujie Road, Gujie Village, Zhuangwei Township, Yilan County
🍷 Organic white, brown, and germ rice, and organic brown rice bran

Restaurant Feishu

📞 0925-590628 📍 No. 31, Renai New Village, Zhuangwei Township
🍷 Menu-less cuisine (local small farm ingredients)

Pain de Kai - Zhuangwei Branch (Zhuangwei Sand Dune Ecological Park)

📞 03-9373355 📍 1F, No. 18, Lane 196, Section 2, Zhuangbin Road, Zhuangwei Township
🍷 French-style baked bread, handmade toast

Silver Grass Café (Zhuangwei Sand Dune Ecological Park)

📞 0972-887309 📍 2F, No. 18, Lane 196, Section 2, Zhuangbin Road, Zhuangwei Township
🍷 Breakfast, brunch, Italian cuisine, pet meals, handmade craft classes

Weixiao Settlement (Zhuangwei Sand Dune Ecological Park)

📍 No. 18, Lane 196, Section 2, Zhuangbin Road, Zhuangwei Township
🍷 Sunrise Pier, Langhua Village, Seaside Collection



5 Ways to Experience the Fun of Zhuangwei

Zhuangwei Must-Do

Yilan Coastal Bikeway

Stretching 17 kilometers from Zhu'an River to Donggang near the Lanyang River, the Yilan Coastal Bikeway is a flat, easy route within the Yilan Coastal Bike Trail. It passes through the Feisha Bao'an Forest, offering a comfortable cycling experience. The route also includes scenic pavilions for rest stops and multiple beach access points, making it ideal for cycling, walking, and enjoying the sea breeze and waves.



Zhuangwei Must-Try

Hometown of Hami Melons

Zhuangwei Township's sunny climate and sandy soil make it a prime melon-growing region, especially for watermelons, Hami melons, and muskmelons. June and July offer peak Hami melon season, celebrated by the annual Hami Melon Festival since 1999. Sample delicious melons at local attractions like Xin Nan Leisure Farm and Guanji Hami Melon Farm.



Zhuangwei Must-Experience

Dafu Sunrise Platform

This emerging attraction along the Yilan Coastal Bikeway offers stunning views of the "Guishan Sunrise" framed by lush forests and the magnificent sea. The platform cleverly incorporates fishing themes into its design, including a 3D "Dafu" landmark. Fixed swing seats invite you to capture photos against the backdrop of Guishan Island - a favorite local photography spot.



Zhuangwei Must-Visit

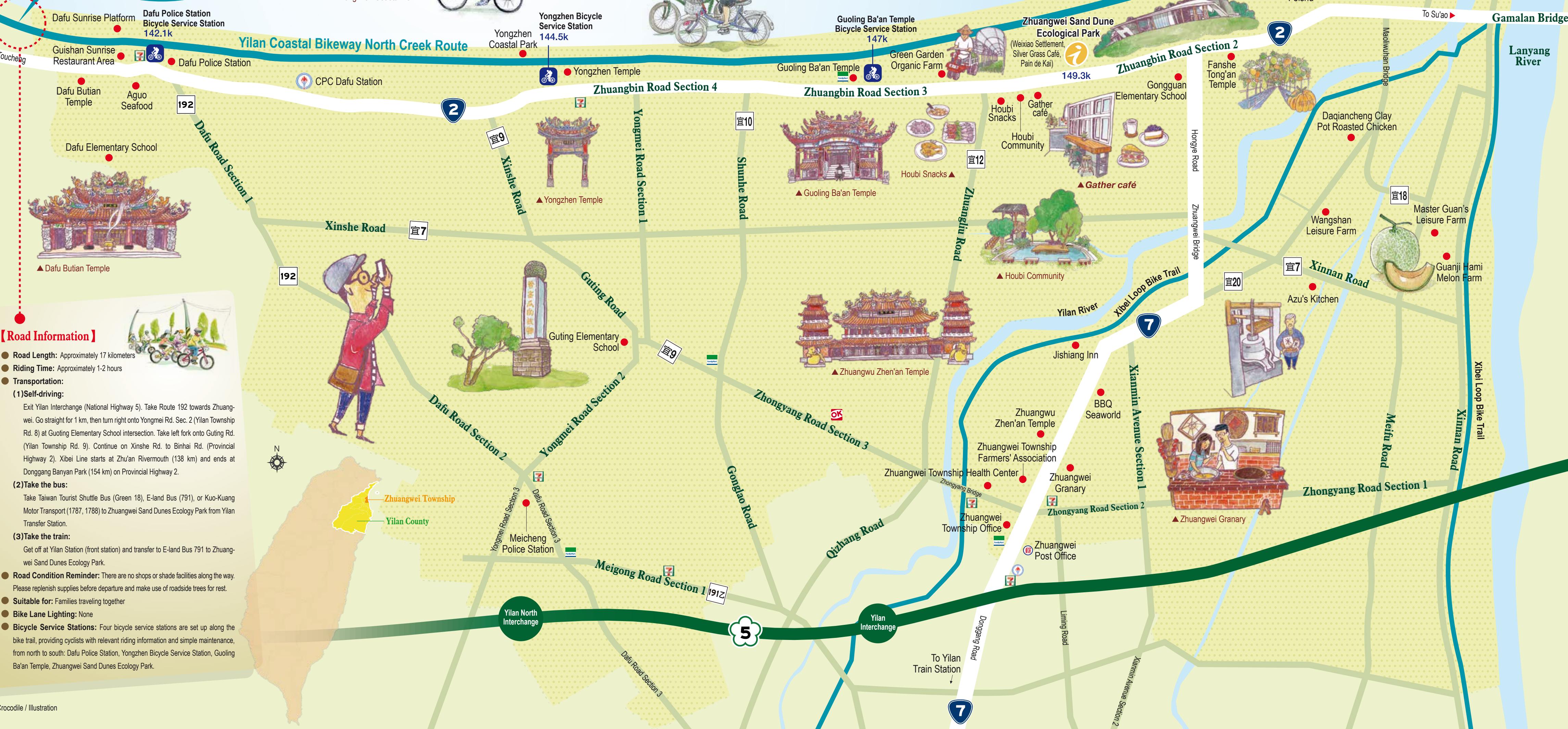
Zhuangwei Sand Dune Ecological Park

The park, completed in April 2018, features exhibition halls and retail stores. Nearby attractions include the Yilan Coastal Bikeway, Houbi and Buhou Special Communities, and the Lanyang Rivermouth Waterbird Refuge. Enjoy a relaxing walk anytime - dawn, dusk, or moonrise - to savor the waves and scenery. Slow down to appreciate the park's unique sand dune architecture, highlighting the tranquility of nature alongside human design.



Lanyang Rivermouth International Birdwatching Site

Located where the Lanyang, Dongshan, and Yilan Rivers meet the sea, this area's diverse wetlands teem with wildlife, especially waterbirds. Abundant elver resources make it an internationally renowned birdwatching site. Peak birdwatching seasons are March-April and October-November, coinciding with major bird migrations. This draws the highest number of birdwatching enthusiasts to the Lanyang Rivermouth.



- ### [Road Information]
- **Road Length:** Approximately 17 kilometers
 - **Riding Time:** Approximately 1-2 hours
 - **Transportation:**
 - (1) **Self-driving:**

Exit Yilan Interchange (National Highway 5). Take Route 192 towards Zhuangwei. Go straight for 1 km, then turn right onto Yongmei Rd. Sec. 2 (Yilan Township Rd. 8) at Guoting Elementary School intersection. Take left fork onto Guting Rd. (Yilan Township Rd. 9). Continue on Xinshe Rd. to Binhai Rd. (Provincial Highway 2). Xibei Line starts at Zhu'an Rivermouth (138 km) and ends at Donggang Banyan Park (154 km) on Provincial Highway 2.
 - (2) **Take the bus:**

Take Taiwan Tourist Shuttle Bus (Green 18), E-land Bus (791), or Kuo-Kuang Motor Transport (1787, 1788) to Zhuangwei Sand Dunes Ecology Park from Yilan Transfer Station.
 - (3) **Take the train:**

Get off at Yilan Station (front station) and transfer to E-land Bus 791 to Zhuangwei Sand Dunes Ecology Park.
 - **Road Condition Reminder:** There are no shops or shade facilities along the way. Please replenish supplies before departure and make use of roadside trees for rest.
 - **Suitable for:** Families traveling together
 - **Bike Lane Lighting:** None
 - **Bicycle Service Stations:** Four bicycle service stations are set up along the bike trail, providing cyclists with relevant riding information and simple maintenance, from north to south: Dafu Police Station, Yongzhen Bicycle Service Station, Guoling Ba'an Temple, Zhuangwei Sand Dunes Ecology Park.