2024 Taiwan/China Pilgrimage

Info Session
October 29th, 2023

Today’s Agenda

Itinerary and Dates

Flights, Housing, and Expected Costs

Passports and Visas

Next Steps

Itinerary and Dates

Where and When

Taiwan

- May 17th to 21st, 2024
  - Plan to arrive early, 15th or 16th
- Three-day retreat + touring
- Dharma Drum Mountain in Taipei

China (Optional)

- May 23rd to May 27th, 2024 (tentative)
- Five Chan Mountain Monasteries
- Hangzhou and Ningbo

Taiwan: Dharma Drum Mountain

Stay at the Dharma Drum Mountain temple in Taiwan, visit other branch monasteries, interact with the DDM monastic sangha

Taiwan: Dharma Drum Mountain

Taiwan: Taipei City

Visit Taipei City, one of Asia's most vibrant cities, steeped in historical Chinese culture

China: Five Chan Mountain Monasteries 禪宗五山

Jingshan Monastery, Lingyin Temple, and Jingci Temple in Hangzhou

Tiantong Temple and Temple of King Ashoka in Ningbo

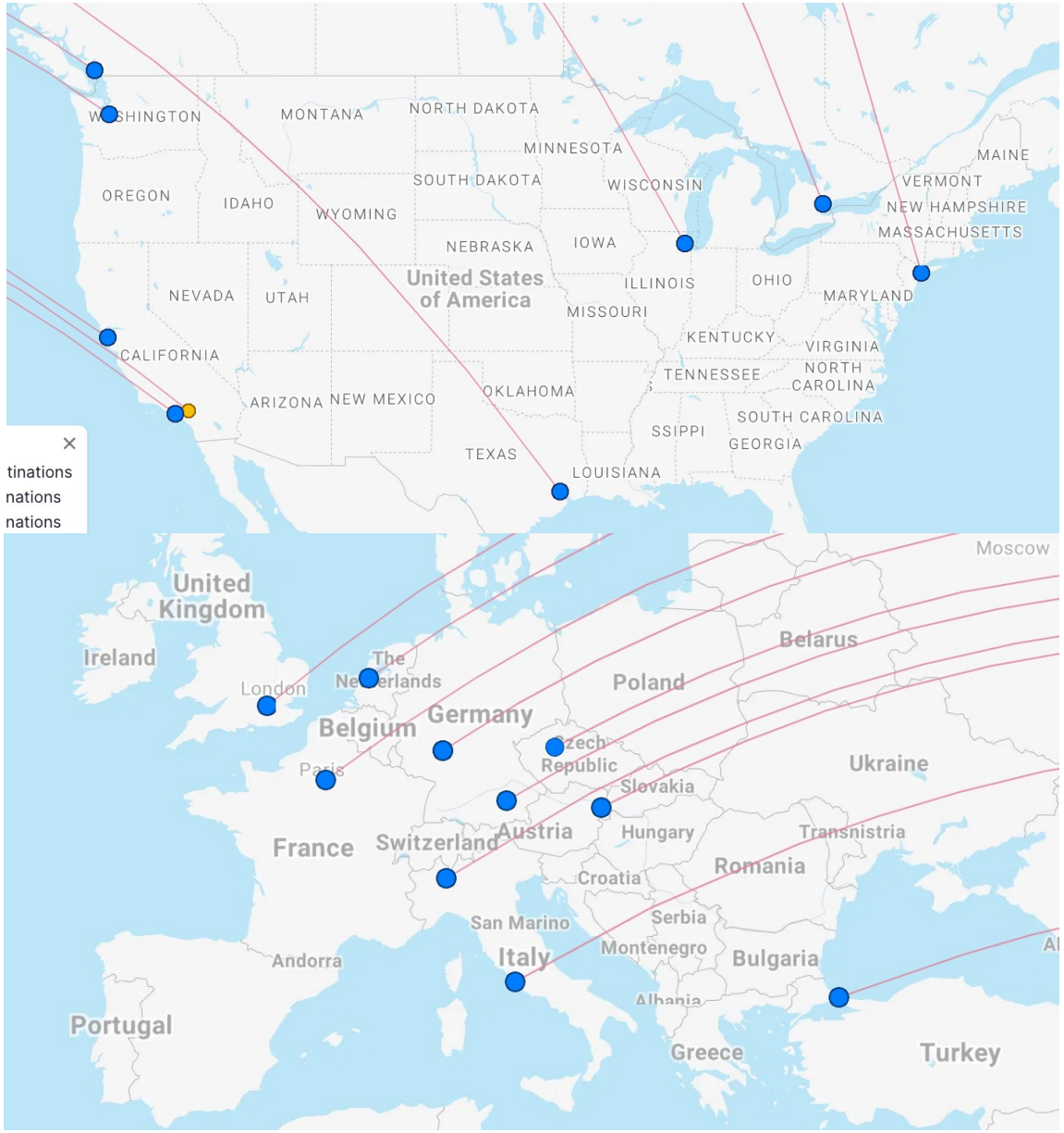
China: Hangzhou

Once the capital of the Southern Song and global center for Buddhism

Now one of China's most picturesque cities on the West Lake

Flights, Housing, and Expected Costs

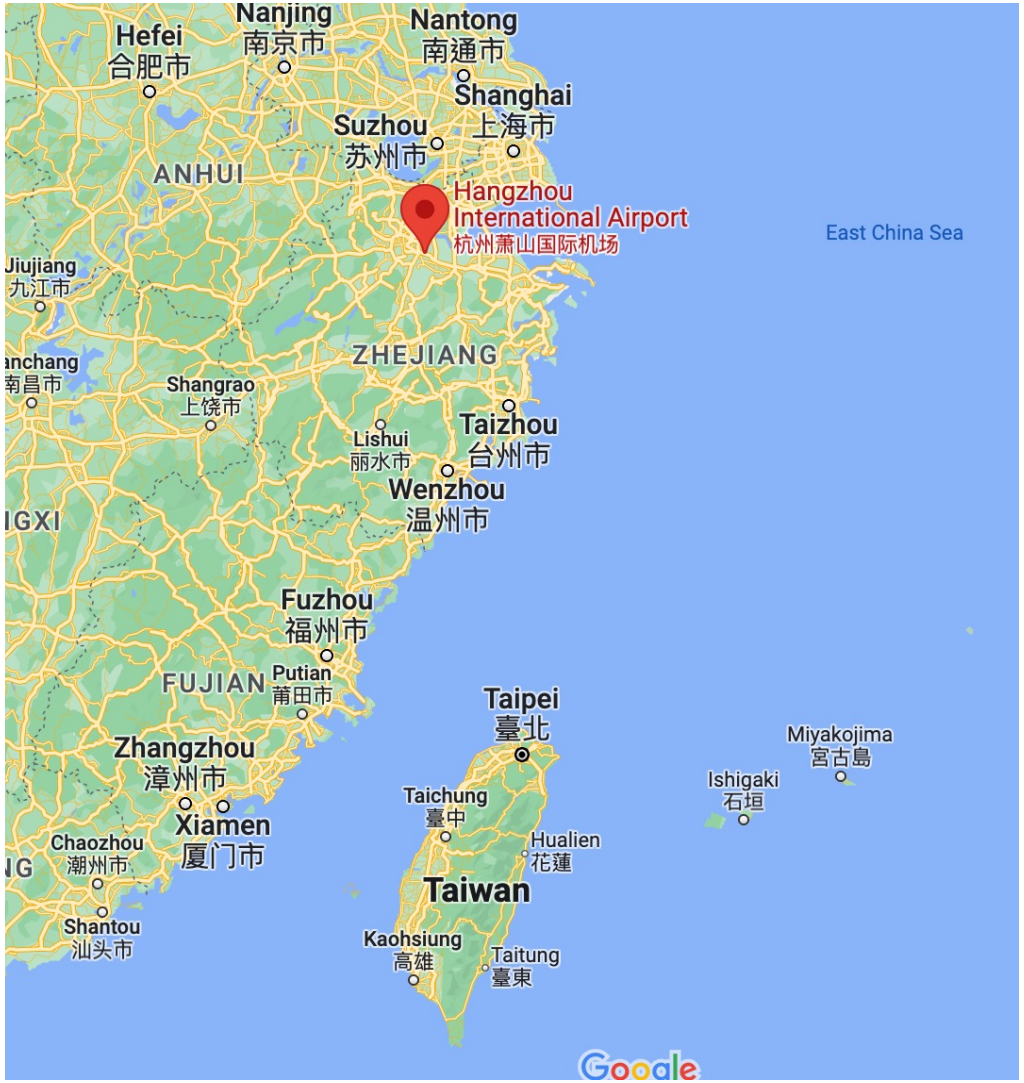
Outbound Leg: To Taiwan



TPE Airport (Taoyuan)

- Direct flights from US and Europe pictured to left
  - Or transfer through Bangkok/Tokyo/Seoul
- EVA Air (Star Alliance) and China Airlines (SkyTeam)
- Prices hard to gauge, but…
  - JFK-TPE $700-$900 (nonstop)
  - Orlando-TPE $750-950 (one stop)
  - LAX-TPE $575-$900 (nonstop)
- Stay at DDM, **room on dana basis**

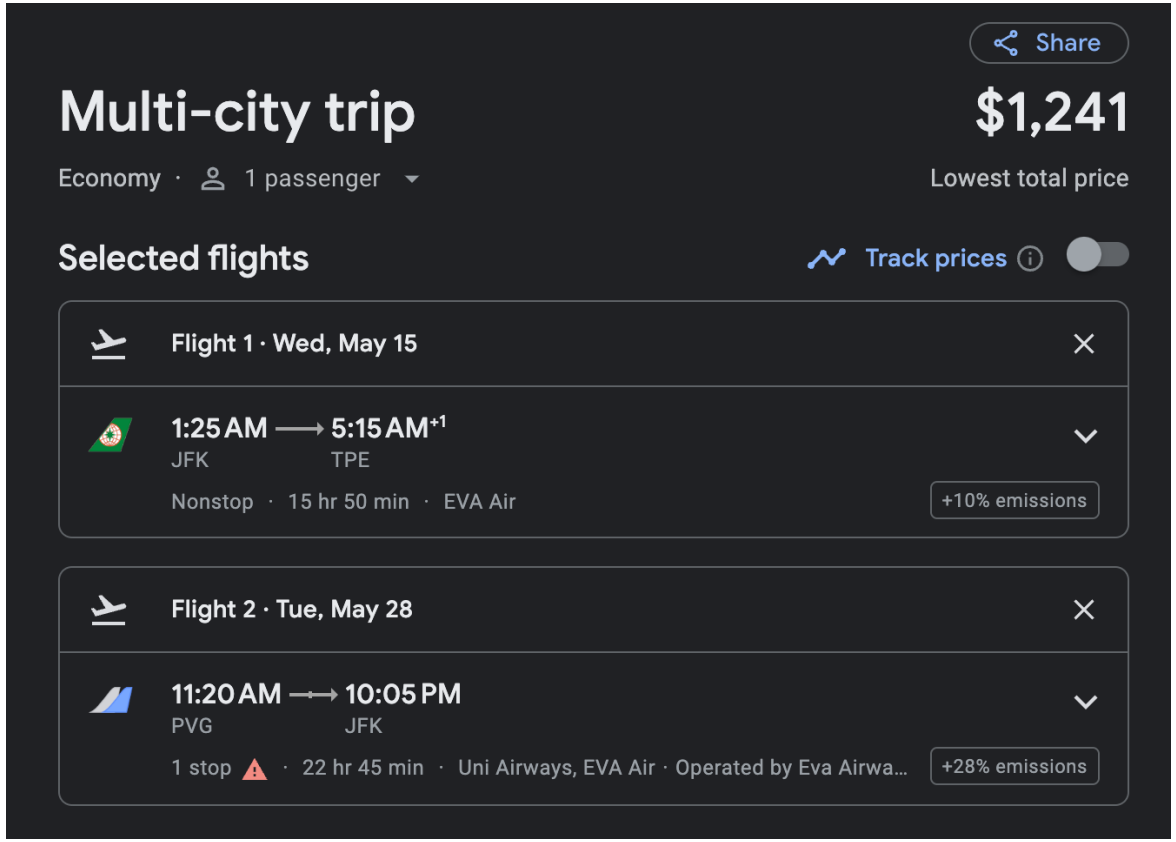
Travel in China: 4 nights



Taipei to Hangzhou (HGH)

- 2-hour flight, currently about $250
- China travel agent (~$600-$800 per person, still in discussion)
  - All-inclusive group booking: 4-star hotels, coach buses, meals, tickets, travel insurance
  - Shared double rooms available, save ~$200
- Return flight likely through Shanghai Pudong (PVG)
  - PVG-Orlando $1000-$1200 (one stop)
  - PVG-JFK $750-$850 (one stop)
  - PVG-LAX $650-$800 (one stop)

Full Itinerary and Estimated Cost by 11/17



If coming to China, three-leg journey

- To Taiwan (TPE)
- To China (TPE to HGH) - separate
- From China (PVG or HGH)

It is possible to book two long-haul legs separately or as one itinerary.

However, we can't offer more than general guidance.

Passports and Visas

First, Passports

It may take up to 2 weeks for applications to arrive by mail at a passport agency or center, and up to 2 weeks for you to receive a completed passport in the mail after we print it.

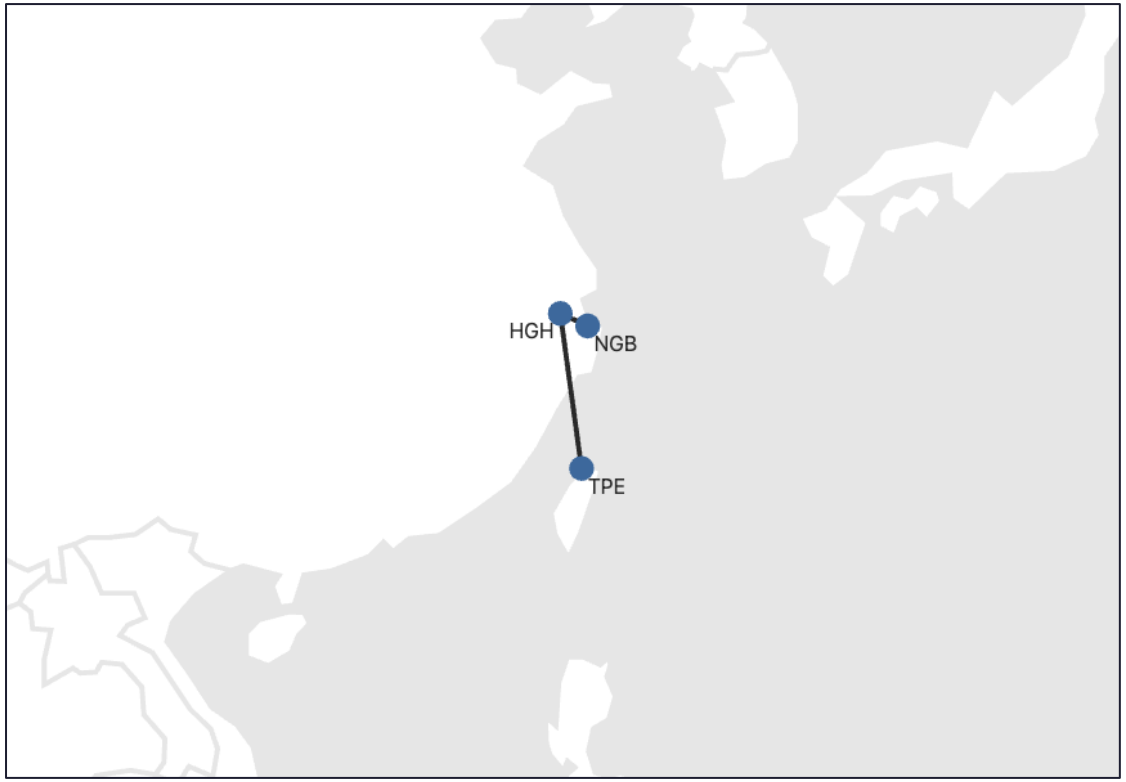
Consider the total time it will take to receive your passport when you are booking travel.

Current Processing Times (applied on or after October 2, 2023)

Routine	8 to 11 weeks
Expedited	5 to 7 weeks
Expedited at Agency	* Must have international travel within 14 calendar days

* Call 1-877-487-2778 to make an appointment

Visas for Taiwan and China



Taiwan

- US/EU/Canada no visa needed
- PRC citizens (even former), please research

China

- $185 base price for US citizens, $30-$60 for other countries
- Only apply 3 months before trip
- US Applicants: use a visa agent (we will recommend)
- **Low-risk process, don't worry**

Next Steps and Q&A

Next Steps

Process Applications by 11/17 (DO NOT BOOK FLIGHTS)

Passports

Flight Research

Next Info Session (Dec/Jan)

Any Questions?