

## 6 Zhishanyan

Zhishanyan is located at the foot of Yangmingshan. With an elevation of about 52 m, the site is easy accessible. Many coastal plant species and old-growth giant trees exist. Zhishanyan was designated as Class 2 Monument in 1993. With a combination of cultural and ecological resources, Zhishan Cultural and Ecological Garden is the first cultural eco-park in Taiwan.



### Crested Serpent-Eagle (*Spilornis cheela*)

Endemic subspecies. Often heard or seen when it soars into the sky in good weathers, in the mountains or hillsides. Diet includes reptiles, amphibians, birds, and mammals. The majority of snakes as its food earned it the “snake-eagle” name. Identification in flight can rely on upheld wing posture and prominent white wing bar.



### Flamegold (*Koelreuteria henryi*)

As an endemic tree species in Taiwan, the species was commonly used as the tree planted in the sidewalk or driveway in many cities in Taiwan. It is famous for the color changes seasonally. In spring, it is light green due to the new leaves. It changes to deep green when the leaves mature. The flowers are golden yellow in autumn. In winter, its fruits are in red color.



### Taiwan Barbet (*Ptilopogon nuchalis*)

Endemic species. Plumage is majorly greenish, with red, yellow, blue, and black decorations on the head, hence given the “Five-colored Bird” as its mandarin name. Frequents woodland but are not easily detected due to well camouflaged colors. Primary cavity-nesting.



## 1 Yangmingshan National Park

The park was established in 1985 with a total area of 11,338 ha. The park is famous for its rich geological characteristics and biological resources. Major conservation focuses are volcano, hot springs, grassland, broad-leaved forests and related wildlife.



### Formosan Magpie (*Urocissa caerulea*)

An endemic corvid species. Characteristic with long tail, with body length c. 64cm. Usually in small groups composed of family members. Cooperative breeding with non-breeding siblings as helpers for raising the newborn. Aggressive in breeding season, will fearfully attack human approaching near the nest.



### Blue Tiger (*Tirumala limniace*)

The Blue Tiger are butterfly that mainly distributed in Southeast Asia and India; it can be found near the bushes and forest. This species migrates extensively during winter and overwintering with other butterflies in the valley.



### Taiwan Striped Barb (*Acrossocheilus paradoxus*)

Endemic species. Lives in turbulent river with higher dissolved oxygen and clean water. Has a yellow green color with white belly, 7 vertical black stripes on both sides, and are more conspicuous on younger fish.



### Jumbo Dragonfly (*Anotogaster klossi*)

The Jumbo Dragonfly may be regarded as the biggest dragonfly in Taiwan, and is the only protected aquatic insect in Taiwan under the Wildlife Conservation Act. Black in body color, with yellow bands on the abdomen. Its compound eyes are blue to navy blue, and the color will change slightly under the sun.



Formosan Magpie

## 2 Huajiang Wild Duck Nature Park

The nature park is 28 ha in area. The park is located at the river section of the Tamsui River between Huajiang Bridge and Zhongxing Bridge. The main feature in the park is the bird watching square that right facing the habitat of the Green-winged Teal in winter.



### Green-winged Teal (*Anas crecca*)

The major wintering waterfowl in Taiwan, arrives in early September and departs in the later April. Frequents still water and mudflat. Experiences population decline both in the global and local Taiwan numbers.



### Black Kite (*Milvus migrans*)

The species is under the protection by the Wildlife Conservation Act due to its small population in Taiwan. The bird used to distribute in low-elevation plain in Taiwan, but currently have restricted, scattered occurrences in specific areas.



### Gray Heron (*Ardea cinerea*)

Large size as its body length is the longest within common wintering birds in Taiwan. Plumage is basically grey, often seen in groups of various sizes foraging or resting. Frequent estuary shoals, still water, paddy fields, and also artificial ponds in urban parks.

## Ecological characteristics of species & ecological attractions in Taipei

Taipei City is a basin surrounded by low-elevation mountains. The Tamsui River and its tributaries run through the basin. Various ecosystems, including forest, river, wetland and green park, are rich with renewable natural resources. The Yangmingshan National Park, Guandu Nature Reserve and Taipei City Waterbird Refuge are some of the important ecological sites that you can visit while in Taipei. The surrounding mountains are very easy to access and to enjoy the nature beauty.



## 3 Daan Forest Park

Located in the center of Taipei, Daan Forest Park has a total area of 25 ha. With the abundant trees that form a forest-like environment, it is thought as the lung of Taipei. The park also planned with various specific vegetation zones that attract diverse bird species.



### Malayan Night-Heron (*Gorsachius melanolophus*)

Commonly encountered in parks and schools of Taipei city, tolerable to human presence and can be approached within very close distance. When in alarm, neck will upheld straight and remain motion-less, sometimes with a neck-twisting behavior.



### Japanese White-eye (*Zosterops japonicus*)

Small and delicate bird, head and mantle light-green, neck yellow, belly greyish-white, and the prominent white eye-ringing gives the “white-eye” common name. Inhabit lower-elevation wooded areas, often seen in urban park and school yards.



### Light-vented Bulbul (*Pycnonotus sinensis*)

Prominent white crown contradicts the majorly black colored head, hence the common name “white-headed elder”. Mantle and wing yellow-green, belly brownish-white. Inhabits lower-elevation region, common on trees of park and school yards, forms a common sight and sound scenes in the city area.



### Eurasian Tree Sparrow (*Passer montanus*)

A compact small bird, mantle brown with black stripes, cheek white with black spot. Often saw in flocks in human settlements such as urban area or farmland. Diet includes grain and insects. The Eurasian Tree Sparrow, Japanese White-eye, and Light-vented Bulbul were often crowned with the title “The City Three Knight”.



### Red-bellied Tree Squirrel (*Callosciurus erythraeus*)

The tree squirrel is one of the commonly seen mammals in urban park. With a weight less than 500 g and a length of 20 cm, the squirrel is easily observed in dense twigs of trees.



## 4 Guandu Nature Park

Established in 2001, this nature park has 57 ha in area and is located at the junction where Keelung River merges with Tamsui River. A total of 196 bird species were recorded. Approximately 60% of them are waterbirds.



### Kandelia (*Kandelia obovata*)

The mangrove species was dominant in the mudflats along Keelung River and Tamsui River. They are the major vegetation in Taipei's wetlands. Most of the Kandelia are originated from the Chuwei area of Tamsui River.



### Mudskipper (*Periophthalmus modestus*)

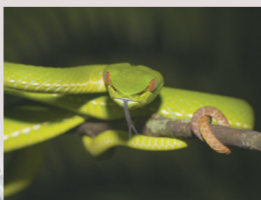
The mudskipper fish species is dominant in the tidal mudflats along the rivers as they can be easily observed in this habitat. They feed on small invertebrates and algae.



*Uca lactea*

## 5 Fuyang Ecological Park

The park is rare in Taipei as it preserves ecological conditions of low-elevation primary forests and interspersed streams. In addition, secondary forests that were restored after the abandonment from human activities are available. The diverse landscapes in the park provide a rich environment for fauna and flora.



### Green Bamboo Tree Viper (*Trimeresurus stejnegeri*)

A green color snake commonly found in trees. It is a poisonous snake found in the forests of low-elevation plains in Taiwan. The snake feeds on frogs, lizards, birds, and small mammals.



### Taipei treefrog (*Rhacophorus taipeianus*)

A small-sized frog; male 3-4cm; female 4-5cm. Green dorsum; yellow belly; golden iris. The species is endemic and protected in Taiwan. It inhabits lowland and mountain in northern and central Taiwan. Breeding season is during winter. Male frog sings the mating call “Gor-Gor-Gor-” in caves.



### Common Free Fern (*Cyathea lepifera*)

The fern is the most commonly species found in low-elevation, secondary, humid forests in Taiwan. They can grow as high as 10 m tall.

## Ecological characteristics of species & ecological attractions in Taipei



<http://biodiv.gov.taipei>

The website of Taipei Biodiversity Database contains information on species distribution, species biology, biodiversity lectures and ecological GIS layers. We welcome you to browse the database and understand the biodiversity of Taipei.

4 **Guandu Nature Park** Public transportation accessibility: ★★☆☆☆

Take MRT to Guandu Station and then take No. 35 or 23 bus to Guandu Nature Park.



Paddy field in Guandu Nature Park



Guandu Nature Park

2 **Huajiang Wild Duck Nature Park** Public transportation accessibility: ★★☆☆☆

Take MRT to Longshan Temple Station and walk for 12-20 minutes.



Huajiang Wild Duck Nature Park



Bike lane in Huajiang Wild Duck Nature Park

3 **Daan Forest Park** Public transportation accessibility: ★★★★★

Take MRT to Daan Park Station.

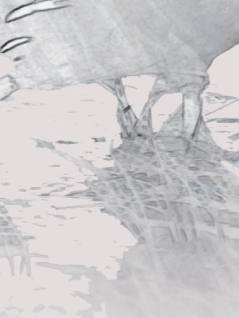
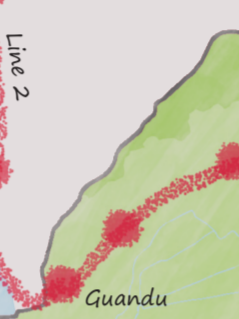
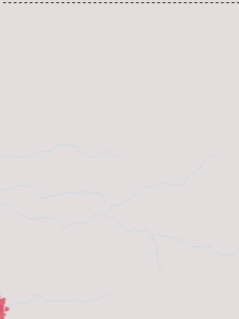


A scene in Daan Forest Park



Overlooking the trees in Daan Forest Park

Take MRT to Guandu Station and then take No. 35 or 23 bus to Guandu Nature Park.



1 **Yangmingshan National Park** Public transportation accessibility: ★★☆☆☆

At the Taipei Main Station (North 2 Gate), then take No. 260 bus to Yangmingshan National Park.

Take MRT to Jiantian Station and then take No. 5 bus to Yangmingshan Station, then take No. 108 Garden bus to Visitor Center of Yangmingshan National Park.



Xiaoyoukeng



Mt. Qixing Trail

6 **Zhishanyan** Public transportation accessibility: ★★☆☆☆

Take MRT to Shibayama Station and walk for 14 minutes.



Zhishanyan



Hundred years old tree in Zhishanyan

5 **Fuyang Ecological Park** Public transportation accessibility: ★★☆☆☆

Take MRT to Linguan Station and walk for 6 minutes.



Culvert in Fuyang Ecological Park



A scene in Fuyang Ecological Park