

SPICEROADS


CYCLING



TAIWAN KOM CHALLENGE

Tour Code
TWN-KOM

7 DAYS
6 NIGHTS

 Destinations	Taiwan
 Tour Meets Tour Ends	Taipei Taipei
 Fly in to Fly out of	Taiwan Taoyuan International Airport (TPE) Taiwan Taoyuan International Airport (TPE)
 Group Size Minimum Age	4-24 riders 18 (on scheduled departures)

ACTIVITY PROFILE



4 Cycling days	265 km Total cycling distance
km Avg distance / day	m Avg climbing / day

PRICING



Price	US\$ 2,450
Bike Hire (Standard Road Bike)	US\$ 250
Single Supplement	US\$ 485

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- ✓ SpiceRoads jersey
- ✓ Water bottle
- ✓ Support vehicle
- ✓ Guide(s)
- ✓ Meals (as indicated)
- ✓ Airport drop off
- ✓ Accommodation
- ✓ Snacks and drinks
- ✓ Entrance fees

WHAT'S EXCLUDED

- ✗ International flights
- ✗ Domestic flights
- ✗ Airport pick up
- ✗ Visa fees
- ✗ Alcohol
- ✗ Tips

DEPARTURES



20 October - 26 October 2019

TRIP PROFILE

Our three days of riding before the race are meant to be warm up and familiarization rides that aren't too taxing. We do climb some, but the distances we cover each day are short.

Acclimatization is also a key aspect of the pre-race days as we ascend to 1,900 m on Day 2 and 3,275 m on Day 3. We realize that for many this may be the highest they have ever ridden their road bike and we will assist you to break this psychological and physical barrier. Each day we will give you the option to choose your starting point if you wish to do less or more riding.

The KOM is 105 km from sea level up to 3,275 m. Please note that the cut off time is 6 hours 30 minutes to have a recorded time. You are allowed to continue riding but will receive a DNF. In high altitude mountain area, temperature and weather can change very fast. Please prepare warm clothing to be waiting for you at the top in our van. The high altitude of the finish line may cause altitude sickness. If riders feel the onset of the symptoms of altitude sickness or any other unhealthy feeling during the ride, they are strongly advised to stop riding immediately and seek medical attention/support.

Day 1 Taipei Arrival

Pre tour meeting in the evening at Taipei hotel.



Les Suites

Day 2 Taipei - Fuxing

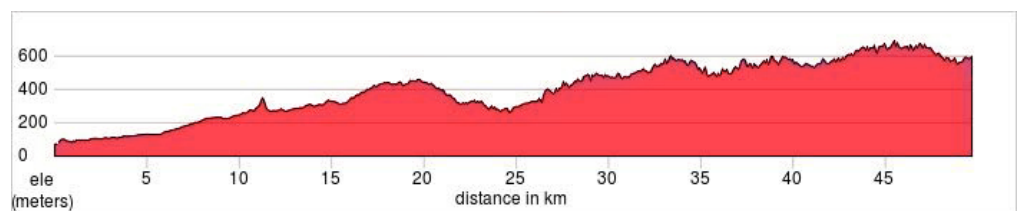
We pick you up from your Taipei hotel in the morning and drive outside the busy city to start our ride to Fuxing. We will just have a short ride, a gentle start through undulating hills to get the legs warmed up before we start the serious climbing. You'll be riding through thick forest, and the thick moss and huge ferns that line the narrow road give the whole place a Jurassic aura.



Da Kung Hotel



Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Ride 50km



+541m



-185m

Day 3 Fuxing - Wu Ling Farm

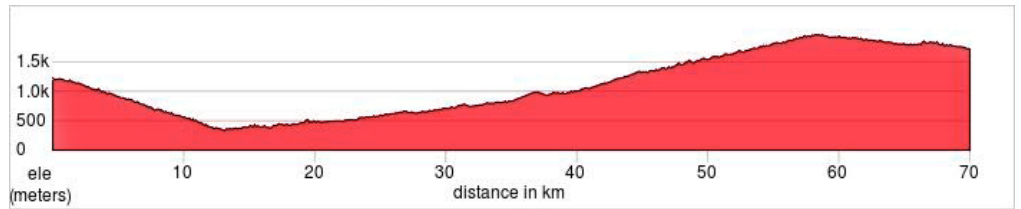
To avoid wearing out our climbing legs we will have a transfer to start the day. We start our riding with a descent and then we will engage those quads to power up to 1,900 m. We will use the North Cross Island Highway that takes us to the high altitude plateau of Wuling. The forest will be thick and will change from cedars to bamboo. The scenery is spectacular up here and the air fresh. We overnight at an area that was part of a 1960s government scheme to resettle veterans as farmers and in the 1980s the focus shifted towards developing tourism and agriculture.





Wuling Guest House



Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

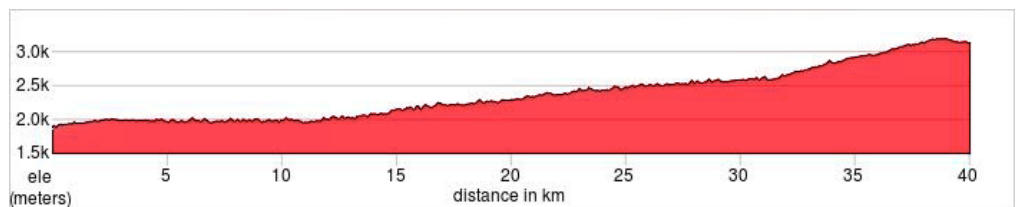


 Ride 60km
  +1900m
  -1368m

Day 4 Wu Ling – Taroko

Again we transfer by vehicle to avoid overdoing it prior to the race. Though the distance is short today it is almost all up! Starting in Lishan at 2,000 m we warm up for 20 km to Da Yu Ling at 2,500 m. We get our first preview of the race route – we cycle up the last 8 km of the KOM to Wu Ling at 3,275 m. Depending on the time and the weather, we can either ride or transfer by car down to Taroko Gorge. The descent is about 90 km from 3,275 m to sea level. We check in to Crossing the Rainbow Bridge Guest House, our home for the next three nights.

 Crossing the Rainbow Bridge Guest House
  Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



 Ride 20km
  +1000m

Day 5 Taroko Rest Day

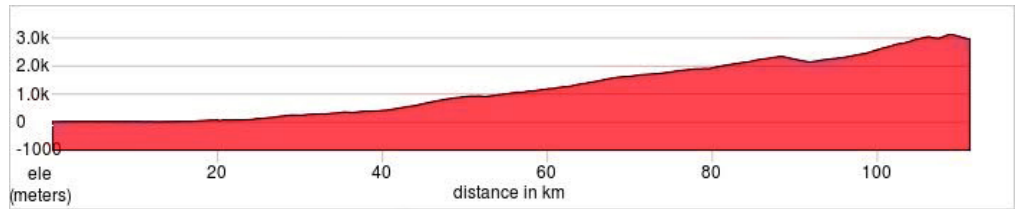
Today we take a break from the bikes and spend the day visiting and hiking in Taroko Gorge. We will visit the Siangde Temple that has a giant statue of Guanyin and a pagoda that provides views of the valley from the top and walk the Tunnel of Nine Turns trail, which is on the original road through the narrowest part of the gorge. There are many other hikes to choose from and we'll decide which ones are best to do based on the group's interests. We will also attend the Welcome Party and Riders Meeting.

 Crossing the Rainbow Bridge Guest House
  Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 6 Race Day!

Your entry fee and registration will be handled by your tour guide so all you need to do is prepare yourself for the challenge. An early 6 am race start for the 105 km course up to 3,275 m tests even the world's most elite riders. The gradient starts at a simple 0-2 % for the first 20kms and then turns into a steady 6% average gradient until the final 9.5 kms, where the real challenge begins. Riders will traverse gradients from 10-22 % as they pitch hairpin curves to the finish line. You will be provided with van support for the race and therefore won't have to ride down. Please note that the cut-off time is 6.5 hours. In the evening we will join the riders' dinner.

 Crossing the Rainbow Bridge Guest House
  Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Ride 105km



+3275m

Day 7 Departure

Depending on flight times, we will organize one group transfer to Taipei airport.



Breakfast

NUTS & BOLTS

Bikes

We highly recommend you bring your own bike with gearing to take on this challenge.

Bike Repairs

Basic spares and tools are carried by the guide and on the support vehicle, though we cannot guarantee having spares for every conceivable problem. Carrying a basic tool kit, a spare tube and a pump while riding is recommended.

Safety

Wearing a helmet is required on all our biking adventures and is non negotiable. If you do not wear a helmet you will not be allowed to cycle. Your tour leader is trained in first aid and emergency rescue, but to a large degree you must be responsible for your own safety while riding. It is therefore compulsory that you take out travel insurance that will cover you for a mountain biking tour.

Guides

You will be led by a local English-speaking guide and if the group is 9 people or more we will add another guide to the tour. All our guides are well informed in the history, culture and religions of the area where you are biking and are skilled at passing that knowledge on to you. Your guide is also medically trained and an experienced cyclist, able to handle most minor repairs en route.

THE NITTY GRITTY

Passports and Visas

All nationalities require a passport for entry into Taiwan. Please ensure your passport is valid for at least 6 months from date of entry. If staying less than 30 days then a visa is not required for European, North American, Australian and many other nationalities.

Health

We recommend that you visit a travel medical doctor and ask about the following vaccinations: typhoid, polio, tetanus and hepatitis A. A certificate for yellow fever is required when arriving from an infected area within six days.

Weather

The Tropic of Cancer runs straight through the middle of Taiwan resulting in a subtropical climate. Summers can be hot, humid and wet, although rainfall is often limited to short showers. Typhoon season hits in late summer to mid-autumn and tends to strike the east coast particularly hard. Winter temperatures are mild and the only snowfall is on mountain peaks.

The annual average temperature of the northern part is around 21.7C (71F) while it is around 24.1C (75F) in the southern part. The coldest months are from January to March with the lowest temperature to about 10C (50F). The average temperature of the rest of the year is around 25C (77F).

Rain is always a possibility in Taiwan so please come prepared with waterproof jacket and pants. As we also cycle to high altitudes where the weather can be cooler and change quickly it is best to have layers available.

Taiwan is also prone to earthquakes as it sits on the colliding Eurasian and Philippine plates. These grinding plates are also responsible for the beautiful mountains and amazing hot springs that make the trip to Taiwan truly worthwhile. Most of these quakes are small earth tremors.

Food

Meals are included as per the itinerary where B = breakfast, L = lunch, D = dinner. Most meals are local and feature noodles, rice, and soups. Any special dietary requirements can also be catered for as well. Please let us know at the time of booking.

Drink

Keeping you completely hydrated is a job we take very seriously. Cold water, some energy-restoring drinks while you are riding are included in the tour price. Soft drinks and other beverages during meals are not included. Beer is freely available everywhere but is NOT included in the price.

Solo Travelers

SpiceRoads does not require you to pay a surcharge for traveling alone. We will arrange for you to share accommodation with another traveler of the same gender and if we can not match you up we will provide a single room at no extra charge. If you prefer not to share a single supplement is payable to guarantee your own room. The cost of the single supplement is listed above.

Extra Expenses

We recommend that you tuck away a few extra dollars, perhaps US\$20 a day, for incidentals.

Money

Taiwan's currency is the New Taiwanese Dollar (NT). ATMs, which are abundant, are the easiest way to get NT. With more than 4,000 7-Elevens across the country, there are ATMs on the international Plus or Cirrus network and have English-language options. Have a supply of US dollars in cash on hand, just in case your card doesn't work. Credit cards are accepted in big cities and resort hotels but you'll need cash for family-run guesthouses or restaurants.

GENERAL BOOKING INFO

Booking

If this is the tour for you here's what you need to do to confirm your place: Read our [Booking Conditions](#)

From the tour page click the 'Book Now' link. All departures for this tour will appear, just select the date you'd like to travel. There is a minimum number of participants (usually 2) required to enable the trip to go ahead. Once the minimum number is reached, the trip status will change from 'Available' to 'Guaranteed to Depart'. Once a trip is guaranteed

to depart you are free to book your flights and make other travel arrangements. If you are unsure about the trip status, please [email us](#) or call our office. For the next steps you'll need to know the names of the people traveling and have either a Visa or a MasterCard. If you wish you can also provide extra details such as passport numbers, height, or you can add that later by logging into [Manage My Trip](#) (we'll set up an account for you automatically if you don't already have one). However, if you wish to get a children's discount, please do fill out the date of birth of the riders. If you are having any problems, [please send us an email](#), or give us a call (+66 2 381 7490) and one of our travel specialists will assist you with your booking.

Deposit

For Long Tours (7 days or more) to guarantee your place we require a 30% or 500 USD deposit, whichever is the greater. For Short Tours (6 days or less) we require full payment to guarantee your place. We also require that you take out [travel insurance](#) when you book your holiday. Besides covering you during your holiday it will also enable you to claim for any money that you have paid to us, including your deposit, should you have to cancel your trip.

Balance

Full payment must be paid 45 days before the departure date with fees for any bicycle rental(s), single supplement(s) and extra hotel nights. Our confirmation will include personal details you provided us (including your flight information), visa application advice, a packing suggestion list and a detailed tour itinerary. It will also include a checklist to ensure you get everything ready for your holiday.

Cancellation Policy

On the rare occasions when we, SpiceRoads, must cancel a trip, all payments received to date will be 100% refunded, which constitutes full settlement. There will be absolutely no deductions. If you, the client, must cancel your reservation, your cancellation fee will be determined according to when you cancel. For full details, please read our [cancellation policy](#).

Loyalty Riders Club

For those who have been on several long tours with us we reward customer loyalty by offering repeat customers a special discount off the tour price (excludes single supplement and bike rental). If this is your fourth scheduled tour or more you will receive a 5% discount. If this is your eighth scheduled tour or more we will extend a 10% discount. The discount will be reflected in your online booking, but please contact us if any questions. Loyalty discounts can not be used in conjunction with any other offer. Note: Only tours of 7 days or more will be applicable for loyalty discount.

International Flights

International flights, to and from the start and finish points are not included in the tour price. Once your tour is Guaranteed to Depart you can book your flight. Please contact us for advice before arranging flights for the best arrival and departure times. We would only cancel a trip for an extreme circumstance, but in that case, where we cancel your trip, we cannot be liable for losses incurred relating to any flight booking you have made. Please claim any losses from your [travel insurance](#) that you acquired when you booked your holiday.

Newsletter

Our adventure travel [e-newsletter](#) is full of travel news, trip information, interesting stories and contests. To avoid missing out on special offers and updates from SpiceRoads, be sure to subscribe.

The information in this document is given in good faith, and covers the average range of conditions likely to be found on this trip. Please note that the itinerary is subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances, however, we will always do our best to adhere to this original itinerary

CONTACT US

45 (Sub Soi Pannee) Soi Pridi Banomyong 26
Sukhumvit Soi 71 Klongtan Nua, Wattana
Bangkok, Thailand 10110
Tel: +66 (0) 2 381 7490
Email: info@spiceroads.com
Website: www.spiceroads.com

FOLLOW US



twitter.com/spiceroads



youtube.com/user/spiceroads



instagram.com/spiceroads



facebook.com/SpiceRoad