

## **English version: life in NCHU**

In a blink of an eye, I have been staying in Taiwan for more than ten years. Friends often joked that our entire youth has been spending on this treasure island. It might be because of the length of time, the unfamiliar feeling at the beginning changed into having a love of hometown.

I like the weather in Taiwan, the region is the most beautiful in late autumn and early spring, with vibrant flowers and plants omnipresent. At the entrance of the school, there are patches of unknown flowers falling in red and light white, and the fallen flowers are rolled up when the wind blows, definitely similar to the beauty of fantasy. On the roadside of the school, there are many unknown little flowers of blue, red, purple, and yellow, swaying in the sun, light breeze passing by, butterflies flying, and paintings in natural colors in every place. However, my favorite is always summer. Although it is a bit hot, it rains from time to time. As soon as the green trees are being watered by rain, the whole world becomes clear and cool. Normally, the weather is very comfortable before and after the typhoon, and the phoenix flower is red in the blue sky which is very eye-catching.

Taiwan's fruits and vegetables are diverse. There are countless types of hot pot in winter, and each place has different characteristics. A night market is a place where foreign students love to hang out, and it has everything. Night markets are ubiquitously in Taiwan which provides outsiders a lively atmosphere of life. In particular, local cuisine is both attractive and unique. In addition to the local variety, foreign food is still the majority. One of the most forgettable memories of Stinky Tofu, a local friend bet that if a friend from the United States can eat a slice of stinky tofu which was named as one of the three exotic most dares not to touch with foreigners in Taiwan, then he would stand the treat for the whole of us. The foreign student was extremely embarrassed since everyone tended to coax him. When he started biting it looked like he was swallowing a disgusting fly. I thought it should be a psychological effect, the poor guy vomited it out immediately, everyone couldn't stop laughing. Yet it is pretty strange that after six months, he bit on the stinky tofu with relish. He told us that he did not know when he fell in love with the unique taste. We all laughed at him. Why should he have known so?

The locals are very kind, they like to chat with foreigners, even though your Chinese might be poor. In my own opinion, it is proved that learning Chinese in Taiwan is quite helpful and active, as the environment provides a lot of help. First time coming here, I often went into the park with my friends to practice speaking. In the beginning, we were a bit scared, afraid that people would ignore you, but fortunately, they were very enthusiastic and willing to talk to you a lot. My friend and I have done various interviews which were not only for the course demand or speaking practicing purposes but also were kept as a kind of remembrance in the years.

I have traveled around the island many times with my friends. Hualian is my most favorite destination. The blue sky and green water are unquestionably gorgeous. On my trips, I met several local friends and foreign tourists. Many interesting stories have been shared between strangers which still bring many fabulous flashes to life. Traveling to this large island is very available and affordable, that is why foreign students are energetically keen on. Besides, it is extremely safe to travel around Taiwan, so even girls don't have to worry so much about choice solo travel. Once I had visited around the island alone and slept alone at the train station. To be honest, I felt too scared at the time without another choice, yet recalling the memory, it still feels like a rare experience in reminiscence.

Honestly, it is not without unhappy memories. One of the most complaints from foreign students is that some local students are jealous of why we can get scholarships, but they need to pay tuition without any supports. It had destroyed the friendly atmosphere between us sometimes. Fortunately, not all people look at foreign students with strange eyes, and the feeling of rejection is indeed heartbreaking. One respectful teacher once told us that as long as you work hard enough to prove yourself, your value can be proved and you can stand strongly on your point. We take his wisdom advice seriously and try to do our best to adjust to unfortunate things here due to the fact we have already owned many good ones.

Thinking of leaving Taiwan and Zhongxing University one day, I feel nostalgic in the heart. Many friends who had returned to their countries often mentioned about the life in Taiwan with diverse local cuisines, attractive landscapes, friendly people and everything, especially in the summer, really wanted to drink a cup of bubble milk tea, half sugar and less ice, which only in this island can be offered based on so many choices of milk tea. The truth is whenever I come back from summer vacation or traditional New Year, I desire to have a cup of milk tea first. Yet the most memorable thing should be the comfortable and carefree feelings, within stress-free student life, as for this safe, beautiful, and warm land full of reminiscences of our youth which have been maintained safely and permanently.