

5-day pre-trip extension from April 26 - 30, 2026.

On this trip we will drive down the east coast of Taiwan to the most southern point of Taiwan called Cape Eluanbi. The east coast of Taiwan is where the mountains meet the sea, and the landscape is dramatic and mostly undeveloped. This amazing mountainous landscape is created by a complicated convergent zone of the Philippine Sea plate and the Eurasian plate. To the south of Taiwan, the Eurasian plate is subducting beneath the Philippine Sea plate creating an island arc called the Luzon Arc. To the north of Taiwan, the Philippine Sea plate is in contrast subducting beneath the Eurasian plate, forming the Ryukyu Arc. Along the 25 mile Chihshang Fault line, the Philippine Sea Plate and the Eurasian Plate are slipping and causing significant thrusting and left-lateral movement. We will be traveling through this 100 mile long rift valley created by the Chihshang fault. The rift valley runs from Hualien to Taitung.

Here is the basic itinerary with eBird lists:

April 26: Arrival in Taipei, one night at the Rido Hotel. Depending on your arrival time, we will bird Da'an Park

April 27: Drive 3-hours to Hualien. Possible visit to the very lower portions of Taroko Gorge. We will spend one night at the Dream Home B&B. This small hotel has a great front yard for birding, and we might see 35 different bird species just around the hotel.

April 28: Drive 3-hours to Taitung, spend one night at a hotel that overlooks the Taitung Forest Park.

April 29: Drive 3-hours to Cape Eluanbi (most southern point in Taiwan), and stay at a hotel near Kenting National Park

April 30: Drive 2-hours to the HSR Zuoying station, (High Speed Rail) and take the 2-hour train back to Taipei and stay at the Rido Hotel

May 1st: The Fairy Pitta tour starts on this day, and you will already be in Taipei and have a full extra day to bird the city parks.

Price:

Single occupancy = \$1,925

Double occupancy = \$1,550 per person