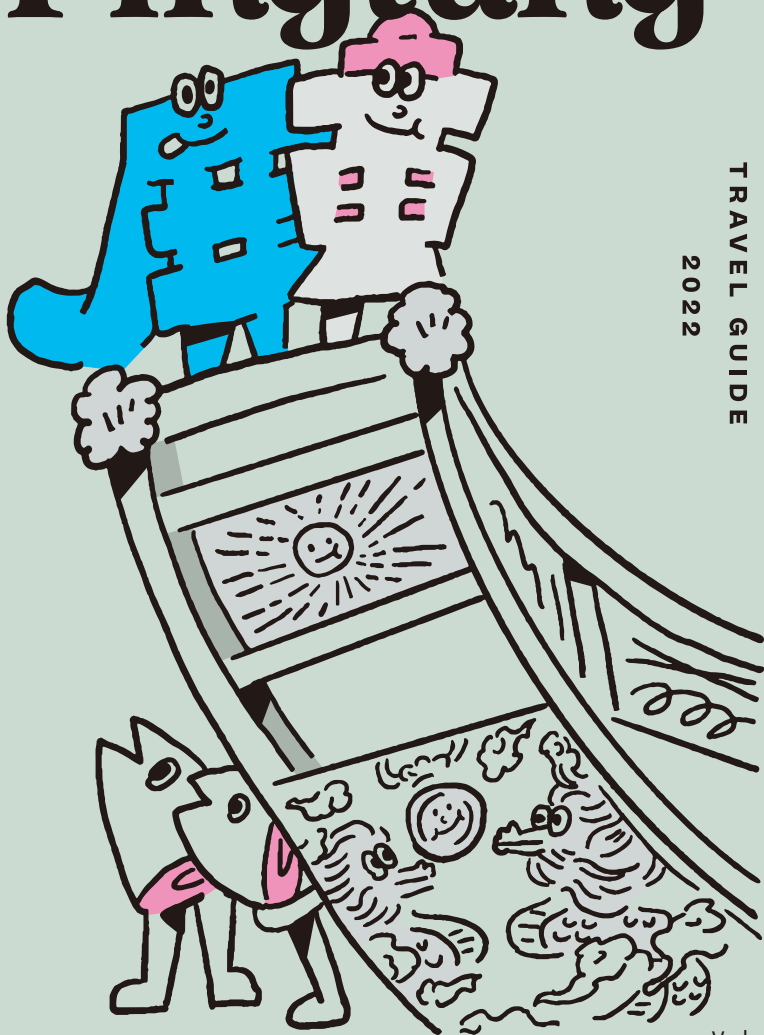


Pingtung

TRAVEL GUIDE
2022



屏東旅行

Festival Fun

There's always a reason to celebrate in Pingtung

Vol

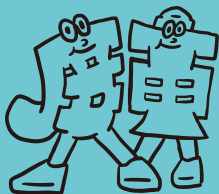
4

Five themed tours 36 routes Diverse selection of Pingtung attractions



Visit Pingtung, where you can stroll through towns, sampling local snacks and experiencing flavors old and new; move your body and sweat to the rhythms of the ocean and mountains; or join in on the fun of city festivals and temple ceremonies, immersing yourself in the local culture. Explore Taiwan's southern reaches on a solo journey or come on an adventure with your family and friends—the choice is yours.

Pingtung is here for all those people looking for something a little more from their travels. There are five themed tours carefully curated for you to experience the charm of Pingtung's culture, food, and nature: "Village Tour", "Who Let the Kids Out?", "Sea to Sky Adventure", "Festival Fun", and "Cultural Treasure Chest". Freely pick and choose the sites and experiences you want from each itinerary to create a customized Pingtung adventure.



Pingtung

TRAVEL
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Vol.

4

Festival Fun

**There's always a reason to celebrate
in Pingtung**

There's always a reason to celebrate in Pingtung, with festivals held all year round. So, consider this your invitation to come party with the gods at some of Taiwan's most vibrant celebrations, such as the lantern festival, the city wall firecracker ceremony, and the Bai Xin Ding festival. Get to know the goddess A-Hou (Pingtung) Mazu, the local deity Tudigong, the protective Wang Ye Gong, and even Grandmother Wang Ye (also known as Ong-ia Ma in Taiwanese Hokkien). They keep the party going day and night with colorful parades and daring performances, all in a beautiful historic setting. All this fun is sure to work up an appetite, and there's no better way to satisfy your hunger than by visiting the local night markets. Let's get the party started!





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Pingtung Festival of Lights

#PingtungNightlife #CraftsmanResidentialDistrict
#OutOnTheTown

Pingtung City at night is a completely different experience compared to the day. Decorative lanterns line the riverbanks during the Festival of Lights, lighting walking paths in pretty lights. If you head over to the Craftsman Residential District you can see the creativity of young artists on full display. Finally, make your way to the Pingtung Night Market and try the Shantou hot pot, a favorite of the locals.



Preparations for the Pingtung Festival of Lights begin every year during the Lunar New Year when colorful lanterns are strung from Wannian Riverside Park to Millennium Park. Taiwanese and international artists work together to make the city shine like no other. There are also performances to enjoy and markets to visit. Taking a late stroll down this strip of Pingtung City is sure to be a night to remember.

1 \ Artist masterpieces light the way /

Pingtung Festival of Lights

- Wannian Riverside Park, Pingtung County Park, Shengli Star Village
- Held during Lantern Festival

2 \ Pingtung City's biggest temple /

Cihfong Temple

- No. 39, Zhongshan Rd., Pingtung City, Pingtung County
- 5:00am – 10:45pm

Cihfong Temple is the biggest temple in Pingtung City. It was built to honor the goddess Mazu, who the locals call A-Hou Mazu. "A-Hou" is one of the former names for Pingtung. For a truly traditional local experience, start the new year off right with a visit to Cihfong Temple on Lunar New Year's Eve before heading over to the Jade Emperor Temple for a bowl of ping'an (peace) rice porridge or wanshou (longevity) noodles. Don't forget to get a blessing from the gods and pick up one of the amulets given out by the temples for prosperity in the new year.



Cihfong Temple



3 \ Feeding hungry Pingtung / residents for generations

Pingtung Night Market

- No. 36, Minzu Rd., Pingtung City, Pingtung County

Pingtung Night Market is home to many food stalls that have been feeding locals for years, serving up aiyu jelly over ice, mushroom and pork thick soup, Shantou hot pot, and steamed meatballs, which are a local specialty. Once you've had your fill, you can get to know the city's unique charm by exploring its many alleyways. Running parallel to Minzu Rd. is Lushi Ln., which was the bustling heart of the community during the Japanese colonial period. The area has preserved the old architecture of the time and here visitors can get a sense of what Pingtung was like back in those days.



4 \ A hub for Pingtung's / young creatives

Craftsman Residential District

- No. 5, Ln. 43, Rende Rd., Pingtung City, Pingtung County
- Contact stores for details

The Craftsman Residential District is housed in what used to be the old dormitories for the local forestry bureau. Now it's a collection of serviced apartments for young creatives. The 60-year-old historic buildings have been painted from top to bottom in colorful murals, making the area one of Pingtung's landmark sights. The residents of the buildings are no less colorful, housing craftspeople from the cutting edge of a wide range of disciplines, including ceramics music, film, jewelry, and leatherworking.



Lively Lantern Festival

#LivelyLanternFestival #WelcomingGodsRitual #OldHakkaVillage

The Hengchun Peninsula is the place to be for the Lantern Festival at the beginning of the Lunar New Year. You can visit Liugenzhuang and take part in the Bai Xin Ding ceremony, which is an old Hakka tradition of praying for blessings for newborn sons. In Linzinei you can watch brave young men carrying gods on palanquins through a barrage of firecrackers. Linluo Township hosts a massive welcoming of the gods ritual. Or you can watch the ceremony of the firecrackers on the city walls in Wugousuei. The festive atmosphere is strong in these old Hakka villages that have kept their ties with the past.



5 \ Passing the torch to the next / generation

Liugenzhuang Sanshan Guowang Temple

● No. 57, Qinan Rd., Jiadong Township, Pingtung County

The Hakka people living in Liudui have preserved their traditional ceremony known as “Bai Xin Ding”, which means to make prayers for the blessings for newborn sons. The most unique of these ceremonies can be found at the Liugenzhuang Sanshan Guowang (Three Mountains King) Temple. The faithful make the prayer site entirely of Chinese fir before they welcome the local deity, known as Tudigong, to watch over the proceedings and feast on the offerings. Families that have a newborn son bring gifts of “Xin Ding Ban” (glutinous rice snacks) to thank the god and pray for their son's protection. With so much care put into the proceedings, we can see how important preserving tradition is to the Hakka people.

6 \ A touring god and bamboo poles / wrapped in firecrackers

Linzinei Sanshan Guowang Temple

● No. 43, Hengyang St., Pingtung City, Pingtung County
● Open each year during Lantern Festival



The Sanshan Guowang (Three Mountains King) Temple has kept many ancestral traditions alive. Every year during the Lantern Festival, the temple holds its “bamboo pole firecracker” event. When the Three Mountains King is on his tour of inspection, brand new bamboo poles carried by brave young men are wrapped in firecrackers and then lit. The so-called “firecracker hero” then charges toward the god-king's palanquin using the explosions of the firecrackers to ward off evil. The fragments of the exploded firecrackers are often taken home for people to be used as protective amulets.

10



7 \ Experience the ocean culture / ritual of welcoming the gods

Zheng Chenggong Temple

● No. 170, Chenggong Rd., Linluo Township, Pingtung County
● Open each year during Lantern Festival



Zheng Chenggong Temple was built in the Japanese colonial period and has passed down an old local ritual of welcoming the gods. As part of the ritual, a team responsible for the god's palanquin will go to the seashore and invite the god to begin his inspection tour, welcoming him into the ceremony. The ritual is an expression of the local seafaring culture. Another important cultural custom is Linluo Township's “Reunion with Grandmother Wang Ye”. After welcoming back Great Wang Ye and Grandmother Wang Ye, there's a very lively atmosphere as everyone prays for blessings.

8 \ Experience the lively Lantern Festival in Wugousuei

Wugousuei Settlement

● No. 87-6, Xisheng Rd., Wugou Vil., Wanluan Township, Pingtung County
● Open each year during Lantern Festival



When you enter Wugousuei, Taiwan's only registered historical settlement, the leisurely pace of the local lifestyle will have you believing you were transported into the past. You'll take special notice of the brave spirit of the Hakka people of the past during the Lantern Festival when Wugousuei puts on its ceremony of the firecrackers on the city walls. This one-of-a-kind experience is a trip straight to the cultural heart of Wugousuei and one that you will not want to miss.



11

Fiery Ying Wang Festival

#YingWangFestival #OnceEveryThreeYears

Donglong Temple was built to honor the god who protects sailors at sea, Wen Wang Ye, whom the people of Donggang affectionately call Wang Ye Gong (Grandpa Wang Ye). In the local folk religion, he is the most important of the gods and is celebrated once every three years with the Ying Wang Festival. A great wooden ship is built specially for the festival, and the final event of the ceremony, the sending off of Wang, ends with the magnificent boat engulfed in a roaring fire. The whole spectacle can only be truly appreciated by witnessing it in person.



9 \ The once-in-three-years / Ying Wang Festival

Donglong Temple

- No. 21-1, Donglong St., Donggang Township, Pingtung County
- 5:00am – 11:00pm

Belief in the god Wang Ye is a big part of the culture in Donggang Township. Donggang's Donglong Temple, Liutiu Island's Sanlung Temple, and Xizhou's Daitian Temple are all famous temples that are often crowded with the faithful. The faith of Donggang's people is especially evident in the intricate gold leafing on the decorated archway of Donglong Temple. The must-see ceremonies for visitors are the Ying Wang Festival, which has been listed as one of Taiwan's religious cultural assets, and Chi Jiao Tou's unique culture of having a team of people to manage a god's palanquin.



10 \ Take some local food home to / remember the delight

Donggang Snacks

- Hei Shi Tang Rice Soup, Qiu's Sticky Brown Sugar Rice Cakes, Yeh's Pork and Seafood Rice Cake Soup (See appendix for details)

Donggang's rice soup isn't just cold rice dumped into a bland broth, it's actually fragrant rice added to a rich broth with divine spices and succulent braised pork. Some people call it Taiwan's version of the Japanese dish chazuke! And if that's not enough to satisfy, you can also bring home some swordfish tempura, sticky brown sugar rice cakes, and tuna jerky to make the memory last until your next chance to stock up.



11 \ Experience the youthful / vitality of the ocean

Dapeng Bay National Scenic Area

- No. 169, Datan Rd., Donggang Township, Pingtung County
- 9:00am – 6:00pm



To get an unlimited view of the lagoon stretching out to meet the ocean, ride along the road that goes around Dapeng Bay and up the Dapeng Bay Bridge. Head over to Dapeng Bay's famous sailing base, the Coastal Park Harbor, and gaze upon the Heart of the Bay, which is designed to look like a jewel on the waters of the bay. You'll see how truly youthful and vibrant the ocean can be.



12 \ Southern Taiwan's / biggest fish market

Hua Qiao Market

- No. 39, Chaolong Rd., Donggang Township, Pingtung County
- 10:00am – 6:30pm

Hua Qiao Market has the title of southern Taiwan's biggest fish market. Set one foot inside and you'll see the beautiful produce, cheap prices, incredible selection, and fresh quality of the seafood that inspires people from far and wide to make a trip to the market. The most eye-catching of all are the refrigerated glass display cases of the seafood restaurants showing off the spectacular fat marbling of the black bluefin tuna. To really know how delicious Donggang's bluefin tuna is, you have to eat it while it's fresh and try all the best parts: chuturo, otoro, and the extra-fatty golden triangle.

Hengchun Peninsula Song Festival

#UniqueMusicofPingtung #HearPingtungCulture

At the Hengchun Peninsula Song Festival, you can tour through all of Hengchun and listen to its unique musical sound. From the old hometown of Hengchun folk legend Chen Da to the ancient Hengchun kiln and city wall, from Hengchun's old streets to all its best sightseeing spots, there are some parts of the local culture that just can't be seen with the eyes. But open your ears, and you'll hear them clearly.

Source: Folker island



13 \ Feel the pulse of Hengchun's folk music

Hengchun Peninsula Song Festival

- Hengchun Township, Pingtung County
- Held annually in November

What used to be the Hengchun International Folk Music Festival is now the Hengchun Peninsula Song Festival. The event is a blend of street performance, theater, and poetry, bringing together a new generation of musicians and the masters of traditional folk songs. Together, they transform the streets and squares into performance stages, connect the Hengchun Folk Museum with the Manjhou Folksongs Museum, and breathe life and creativity back into Hengchun's folk music.



14 \ The best-preserved ancient city in Taiwan

Hengchun's Ancient City Gates

- East Gate – Dongmen Rd., Hengchun Township;
- West Gate – Zhongshan Rd., Hengchun Township;
- South Gate – Hengnan Rd., Hengchun Township;
- North Gate – Beimen Rd., Hengchun Township

Hengchun ancient city is the best-preserved of Taiwan's ancient cities. Walking through the small township, you can still see the restored East, West, South, and North Gates as well as some of the original city wall. The ancient city is still an integral part of modern life in the area, be it the Hengchun Peninsula Song Festival held at the West Gate, or the Chiang-Ku event held at the East Gate during Ghost Festival. On the streets of Hengchun ancient city, old and new coexist as one, as the streets bloom anew.



15 \ Come back every year for the Luoshanfeng Arts Festival

Haikou Port

- No. 1, Haikou Rd., Haikou Vil., Checheng Township, Pingtung County



Haikou Port is small and pretty. It sits right next to Haikou Desert, also known as Little Sahara. Every year, as fall turns to winter, the Luoshanfeng (Hengchun Fall Wind) blows in from the Pacific Ocean scouring the land. The annual Luoshanfeng Arts Festival takes wind as its theme, and here you can see the remarkable dialogue artists have established with the wind.

16 \ Beat the summer heat the local way! /

Checheng Sweet Mung Bean Soup

- Huang's Sweet Mung Bean Soup, A-Po's Sweet Mung Bean Soup, Shi Chuan Sweet Mung Bean Soup, Mama Lin's Sweet Mung Bean Soup (See appendix for details)

It's summer all year round on the Hengchun Peninsula, and to beat the heat, the locals turn to the traditional desert known as "lu dou suan", or sweet mung bean soup, which is a must-try when visiting Hengchun. The "suan" in the name means "garlic", but there's no garlic in sweet mung bean soup. It gets its name because the little shelled mung beans look like the tips of garlic shoots. Steam the beans, plop them into thickened sugar water, and you've got yourself a delectable sweet mung bean soup.



Sichongxi Hot Spring Festival

#SichongxiHotSprings #XuhaiHotSpring
#HengchunPeninsula

The Hengchun Peninsula also has its own charming hot spring townships. Nestled in the mountain forests of Checheng Township on the western side of the Central Mountain Range are the Sichongxi Hot Springs. And on the eastern side of the range, perched on the hills above the ocean, is the Xuhai Hot Spring in Mudan Township. As you soak in the sodium bicarbonate-rich waters of the hot springs, you'll feel mother nature melting away the stress of the world.



17 \ One of the top 4 hot springs /
in Taiwan

Sichongxi Hot Springs Park

- No. 1, Wenhua Rd., Checheng Township, Pingtung County
- Closed Tuesdays

Sichongxi, located in Pingtung's Checheng Township, was already a famous hot spring town back in the Japanese colonial era. The good quality of the water, with its slightly alkaline sodium bicarbonate content, is known colloquially as "Beauty Hot Spring". But the village is more than just hot springs, with its many hot spring hotels, little eateries, and the Butterfly Valley Trail in Sichongxi Hot Springs Park, it's a one-stop shop for food, beautiful nature, and the healing powers of the "Beauty Hot Spring".



18 \ Charming coastline, open fields, /
and a calming hot spring

Xuhai Hot Spring

- East Xuhai Vil., Mudan Township, Pingtung County (Next to Xuhai Elementary School)
- Open 1:30pm - 9:30pm, Saturdays 12:30pm - 9:30pm, Sundays 9:00am - 7:30pm, long weekends 9:00am - 9:30pm

The secluded Xuhai village has a charming coastline, open fields, and a relaxing hot spring. Xuhai Hot Spring was described by an English explorer visiting Taiwan as early as 1887, and now Xuhai village is one of the most famous vacation spots when traveling the Hengchun Peninsula. Work up a sweat with a walk along the Mudanbi Mountain trail and the Xuhai Prairie before relaxing your body with a nice soak in the calming hot spring.

19 \ 200-year-old historic building /
with unique architecture

Fu'an Temple

- No. 51, Fu'an Rd., Checheng Township, Pingtung County
- 5:00am - 9:00pm

Checheng Fu'an Temple is over 200 years old and has a unique northern palace-style architecture. Not only is the whole structure visually imposing, but it even received the blessings of the Qianlong Emperor (1711 - 1799) himself during the Qing Dynasty. It is easily the most impressive of the Tudigong temples in Taiwan, with its four-story joss paper furnace one of its defining features. Fu'an Temple and Qinglong Temple, located right in the hot spring village, are two must-see temples when visiting Checheng Township.



20 \ White ginger lilies as far as /
the eye can see

Dongyuan Wet Grassland

- No. 129, Dongyuan Rd., Dongyuan Vil., Mudan Township, Pingtung County
- For appointments and itineraries, call 0905-232-199 (Dongyuan Community Development Council) 08-883-1223 (Mudan Township Office, Agriculture and Tourism Department)

Two sacred places in Dongyuan Village are the beautiful Kuqi (weeping) Lake and the Dongyuan Wet Grassland, both located in the Dongyuan Forest Recreation Area. The fields of white ginger lilies stretching out as far as the eye can see are characteristic of the Dongyuan Wet Grassland as it flows with water all year long. Guided tours are available by appointment. You can explore the wetlands, feel the soft earth under your feet, and truly relax into the nature around you.



Reunion with Grandmother Wang Ye

#TheUniqueWangYeBelief #UnclesJiuruAndLinluo

Pingtung's unique belief in Wang Ye was formed by the legend of a fated marriage between a human and a god, which also created the extended family of Jiuru Township's Minnan people and Linluo Township's Hakka people. During the Lantern Festival, both communities jointly hold the "Reunion with Grandmother Wang Ye" celebration. From the god's tour of inspection, when a team of palanquin carriers takes the god through both townships, it becomes clear why they are known in Taiwan as Uncle Jiuru and Uncle Linluo. With their close cultural ties on display, the townships are like relatives by marriage.

Source: Jiuru Three Mountains King Temple



21

\ Cultural bridge between Jiuru and Linluo Townships /

Linluo Fu Sheng Temple

● No. 68, Zhonghua Rd., Linluo Township, Pingtung County ● 10:30am - 9:00pm

A belief in Sanshan Guowang (the Three Mountains King) came about because of the legend of Jiuru Township's Great Wang Ye marrying Lady Xu of Linluo Township, creating a cultural bridge between the two areas. During the "Reunion with Grandmother Wang Ye" celebration, as part of the annual Lantern Festival, the old Fu Sheng Temple in Linluo Township is one of the most important stops along the god's tour of inspection. The liveliest part of the ceremony, when the faithful worship Grandmother Wang Ye after she is stationed in the temple, is a powerful symbol of the meeting of the Minnan and Hakka cultures brought on by the celebration of the divine marriage between god and human.



Source: Jiuru Three Mountains King Temple

22

\ The long history of Sanshan Guowang Temple /

Jiuru Three Mountains King Temple (Sanshan Guowang Temple)

● No. 174, Ren'ai St., Jiuming Vil., Jiuru Township, Pingtung County
● 8:00am - 9:00pm

This temple has the longest history of any of Taiwan's Sanshan Guowang (Three Mountains King) Temples, and it has passed down the story and faith in the legend of Wang Ye's marriage. The "Reunion with Grandmother Wang Ye" celebration, held during the Lantern Festival, is one religious ceremony you won't want to miss. Walking into this temple, which is part of Taiwan's religious cultural legacy, is like entering a shrine to some of the country's best artists proudly displaying colorful carvings and the images of gods painted on the temple doors by the master Pan Li-shui.



Source: Jiuru Three Mountains King Temple



23

\ The center of local folk beliefs /

Linluo Zheng Chenggong Temple

● No. 170, Chenggong Rd., Linluo Township, Pingtung County
● 10:30am - 9:00pm

The words "Kaitai Shengwang" emblazoned above the entrance to the shrine clearly mark the temple as being in honor of Zheng Chenggong (Koxinga), a deified Ming Dynasty prince famous for resisting the Qing conquest of China in the 17th century. During the celebration of the "Reunion with Grandmother Wang Ye" held during the Lantern Festival, Zheng Chenggong Temple is the site of the ritual for the "Three Consecrations". From long ago, the Zheng Chenggong Temple also played an important role in promoting education, which is why the temple is where the Pingtung Sports Day torch is lit before beginning its journey.

24

\ Bridal sedan chair-themed playground /

Linluo Bride Sedan Chair Playground

● No. 15, Zhanqian Ln., Zhonghua Rd., Tiandao Vil., Linluo Township, Pingtung County
● 8:00am - 9:00pm

The newly built inclusive playground was inspired by the local religious custom known as the "Reunion with Grandmother Wang Ye". The playground equipment is blended with local beliefs to create Taiwan's first bridal sedan chair-themed water park. There's a slide designed like a Hakka bridal sedan chair and a sprinkler system in the shape of a blue Hakka shirt. With the touch of a button, a shimmering curtain of water appears in which children can run and play.







ROUTE 2

Lively Lantern Festival

Wugousuei Conservation Outpost

Add: No. 87-6, Xisheng Rd.,
Wugou Vil., Wanluan Township,
Pingtung County
Tel: 08-783-0475

ROUTE 3

Fiery Ying Wang Festival

Hei Shi Tang Rice Soup

Add: No. 144-7, Xingyu St.,
Donggang Township, Pingtung
County
Tel: 0937-683-200
Hours of Operation: 9:00am –
3:00pm, closed some Mondays

Qiu's Sticky Brown Sugar Rice Cakes

Add: No. 6, Xinyi St., Donggang
Township, Pingtung County
(Located in the No. 2 Market)
Tel: 08-835-1432
Hours of Operation: 7:00am –
12:00pm, closed Mondays

Yeh's Pork and Seafood Rice Cake Soup

Add: No. 156, Sec. 3, Guangfu
Rd., Donggang Township,
Pingtung County
Tel: 08-832-9218
Hours of Operation: 9:00am –
3:00pm

ROUTE 4 Hengchun Folk Music Festival

Huang's Sweet Mung Bean Soup

Add: No. 3-36, Fu'an Rd.,
Checheng Township, Pingtung
County
Tel: 0975-670-905
Hours of Operation: 9:30am –
4:30pm, weekends 9:00am –
5:00pm, closed Wednesdays

A-Po's Sweet Mung Bean Soup

Add: No. 82, Zhongzheng Rd.,
Checheng Township, Pingtung
County
Tel: 08-882-5208
Hours of Operation: No fixed
schedule

Mama Lin's Sweet Mung Bean Soup

Add: o. 72, Zhongzheng Rd.,
Checheng Township, Pingtung
County
Tel: 08-832-9218
Hours of Operation: Weekends
10:00am – 5:00pm

Shi Chuan Sweet Mung Bean Soup

Add: No. 53, Fu'an Rd., Checheng
Township, Pingtung County
Tel: 0915-852-350
Hours of Operation: 10:00am –
6:30pm, closed Thursdays

Pingtung Tour — Vol.4 Festival Fun

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will be taken as official hours. Please call ahead before visiting.

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