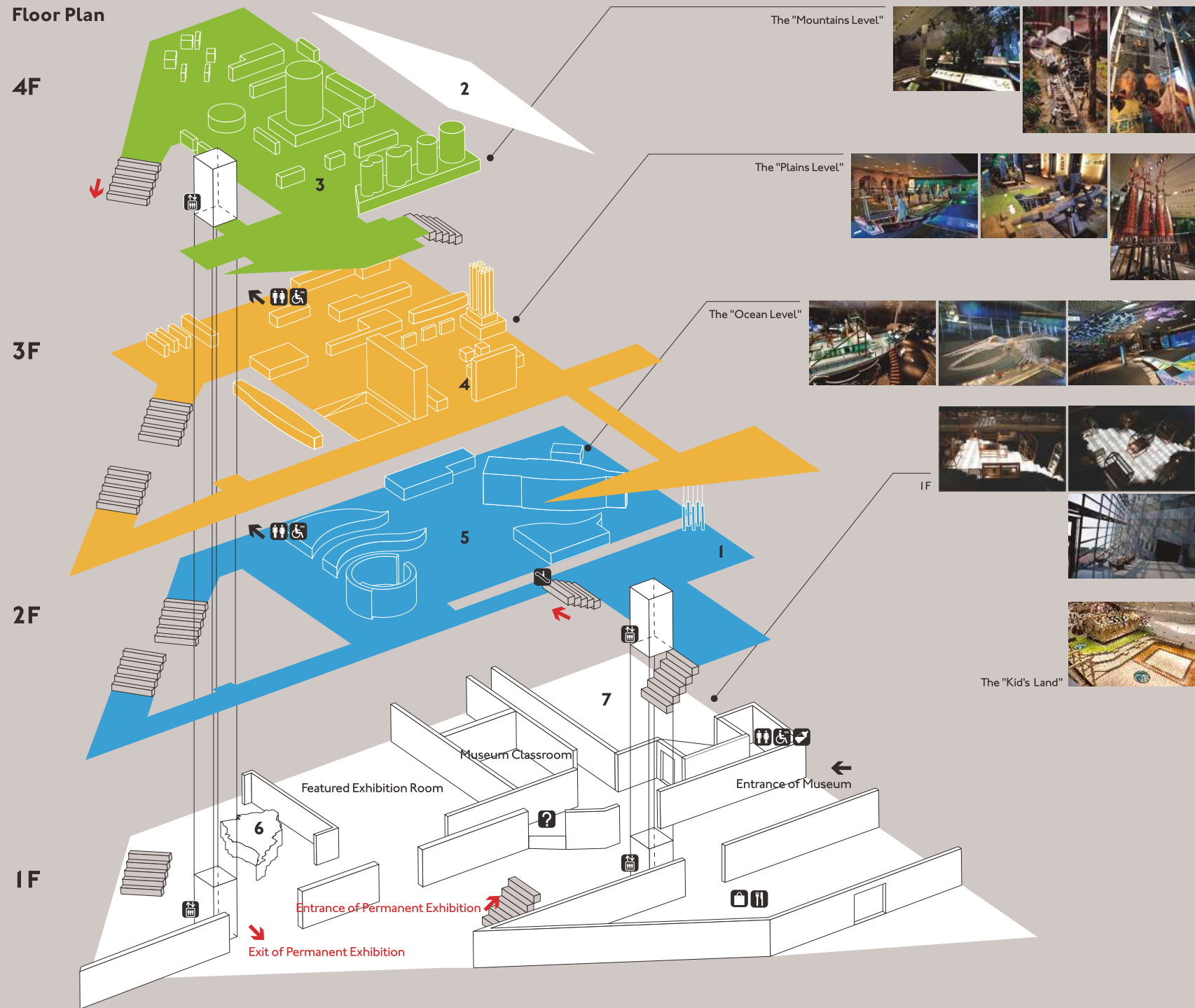


Yilan Is a Museum Itself!

Yilan, formerly known as Kavalan, is named after the aboriginal tribe who has resided in the area for generations. In the late 18th century, Han Chinese people immigrated to Lanyang Plain and built Toucheng, meaning “the first township”, which was once the most populous and prosperous area in Kavalan region during the Ching Dynasty. It has been more than 200 years since the Kavalan prefecture administration office was first established in Yilan region in 1812.



Lanyang Museum — A Natural Extension of the Land

The architect Kris Yao incorporated the *cuesta*, a gently tilting stone escarpment common to Taiwan's northeast coast, into the building's design and fused the main theme of Vivaldi's *The Four Seasons* into the exterior walls, mimicking the rectangular paddy fields in Lanyang Plain. Officially opening to public in 2010, Lanyang Museum is a winner of numerous awards and honors, including the first prize of Far East Architecture Award and Taiwan Architecture Award (2010), and the International Architecture Award (2012).

The Showcase of Yilan

— Abundant and Diverse Exhibitions

The exhibitions in Lanyang Museum showcase Yilan's cultural and ecological feature. The permanent exhibitions imitate Yilan's distinctive geological formation with mountains, plains and ocean, conveying the interactive experience with the environment. Moreover, several featured exhibitions are scheduled annually to explore in-depth interpretation of various topics.

The permanent exhibitions are distributed on four storeys, echoing the design of the building. The exhibitions are divided into seven theme sections:

- 1 The Introductory Exhibition: The interactive theater about the birth of Yilan.
- 2 Ceiling Projection—"A Miracle Up Above": The tilting ceiling of three-storey high is used as screen to project a large image of 19 meters long, portraying the journey of a water drop circulating in Lanyang Land.
- 3 The "Mountains Level": Here a forest-like space is created with an artistic touch.
- 4 The "Plains Level": The footpaths between paddy fields, the emerald-green rice terraces and the golden rice crops are the distinctive landscapes of Yilan Plain.
- 5 The "Ocean Level": In the showcase, a sandbar model presents how the rivers curve and bend to cross over the sandbars to make it out to the sea.
- 6 "Time Gallery": The old pictures and videos displayed on the wall account for Yilan's history and stories.
- 7 "Kid's Land": Designed in ocean theme, the discovery zone allows kids to explore the diverse underwater life.



Lanyang Museum — Window to Yilan

Located in Toucheng Township, Yilan County, Lanyang Museum sits in the former site of Wushih Harbor in the Ching Dynasty. After eighteen years of construction, the museum was officially inaugurated in 2010. It is the first museum project that was proposed by local government, signifying the government's resolution to preserve and develop the cultural heritage of Yilan. In 1990s, Yilan County Government introduced the concept of Eco-museum, endeavoring to preserve and maintain Yilan's natural and humanistic environment. In a broader sense, everywhere in the county is a part of the museum and a dynamic educational location, among which Lanyang Museum serves as the window to Yilan.

Cultural Yilan

— Prehistoric Relics, Toucheng Qianggu Ghost Festival, Taiwanese Opera and Seasonal Festivals

After 1980, The Yilan County Cultural Affairs Bureau undertook archaeological excavations to rescue the relics of four ancient sites. The 1,400,000 excavated prehistoric materials are now preserved in Lanyang Museum. The Museum also collected more than 7,000 pieces of Taiwanese culinary ware and folk prints. Moreover, Toucheng Qianggu (grappling with the ghosts), a ritual and athletic competition held at midnight on the last day of July of the lunar calendar, has become the world-famous festive activity of Taiwanese folk culture.

Yilan is the cradle of Taiwanese opera which originated in Yuanshan Township, Yilan County in the early 20th century. Evolving out of the primitive “Lo-deh Sao” play, Taiwanese opera is the only native theatrical art form in Taiwan. In 1992, the first Taiwanese opera troupe—Lanyang Taiwanese Opera Company—was founded by Yilan County Government to advance this landmark of Taiwanese cultural tradition.

The seasonal festivals are other attractions of Yilan. The “Happy New Year in Yilan” event held in winter is the only one Lunar New Year celebration that invites citizens to gather together and eat Lunar New Year's Eve dinner. The Green Expo held in spring aims at promoting ecological sensitivity. The “International Children's Folklore & Folkgame Festival, Yilan” held in summer has started since 1996 and is a significant activity of CIOFF, an organization in official partnership with UNESCO. The “Jiaosi Hot Spring Festival” and “Yilan Forever Young Festival” held in autumn merge tourism and local life while putting emphasis on healthcare and elderly care.



Upper left to right
Colored rooster plate
Geometric stamped ornamentation pottery excavated from the Ki-Wu-Lan Site
Toucheng Qianggu Ghost Festival
Chilan Mountain Cypress Forest
The Guishan Island

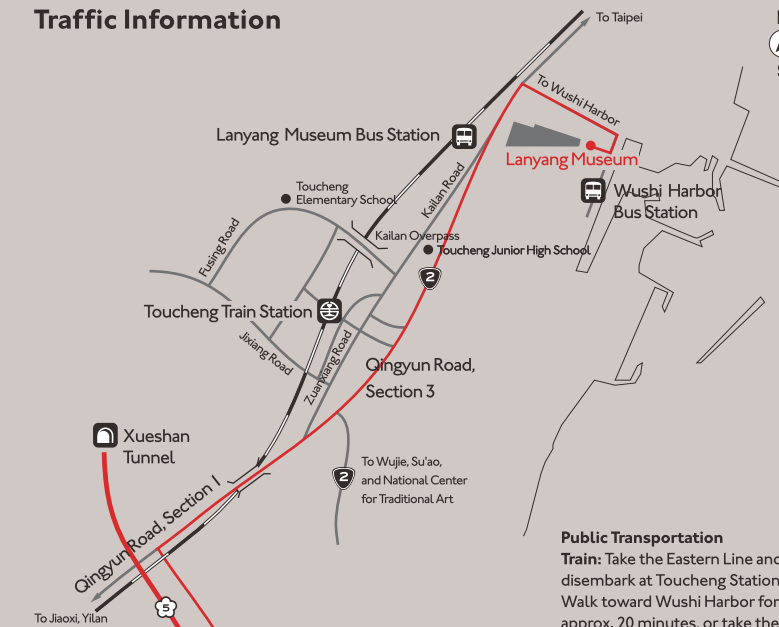
Lower left to right
Folk print—The Goddess “Qinlangma”
Master Chen Wang-cong, the laureate of National Heritage Award
Duck-raising families

Ecological Yilan — Rich Natural Resources, Taiwan's Best Whale Watching Spot

Yilan is endowed with exceptionally rich natural resources. Situated in high altitude and constantly saturated with rain and fog, Chilan Mountain Cypress Forest enjoys biological diversity and is one potential World Heritage site in Taiwan. With abundant water resource, Jiaosi features hot spring, while Suao is famous for cold spring. Yilan's coastline stretches about 101 kms, which gives reefs and the marine community their productivity. Lanyang River mouth is Taiwan's main eel harvesting area. The Guishan Island underwater hot springs foster Taiwan's endemic crab species—*Xenograpsus testudinatus*, and the nearby waters are Taiwan's best whale and dolphin watching spots.

Besides Lanyang Museum, in 2001, the non-governmental “Yilan Museum Association” was founded and has established approximately 60 franchises up to this day. These franchised museums scatter on Lanyang Plain like pearls, embodying the concept of “Yilan as a large museum.” Through the window glass of Lanyang Museum and the extended museum network, we hope to guide the visitors to learn the cultural and ecological beauty of Yilan, and to maintain a sustainable development of this large museum.

Traffic Information



Public Transportation
Train: Take the Eastern Line and disembark at Toucheng Station. Walk toward Wushi Harbor for approx. 20 minutes, or take the local buses and disembark at Lanyang Museum or Toucheng Station.
Bus 1: Take Capital Bus or Kamalan Bus going on National Freeway No. 5 to Jiaoxi. Change local bus and disembark at Lanyang Museum or Wushi Harbor.
Bus 2: Take Kuokuang Bus going on National Freeway No. 5 and disembark at Lanyang Museum or Wushi Harbor.

Transportation
Drive:
Route 1: Go on the Provincial Highway No. 2 and exit at I34.5 KM.
Route 2: Go on the National Freeway No. 5, pass through XueShan Tunnel and leave highway at Toucheng Interchange. Continue to the Provincial Highway No. 2 toward Wushih Harbor and exit at I34.5 KM.

Opening Hours
09:00~17:00 (Ticket office is closed after 16:30)
Closed on Wednesdays, Chinese New Year's Eve and the day before.
Please refer to museum website for further notice.

Ticket Information

Regular	NTD \$100	General audiences
Group	NTD \$80	Groups of 20 or more
Discount	NTD \$50	School children (6 to 12 years old) Students (with valid student ID)
Gratis		Children under 115 cm height or under school age The disabled and one accompanying person

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[English](#)

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