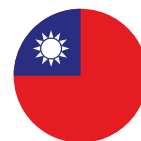


# FESTIVALS AROUND THE WORLD

## TAIWAN



### MAZU FESTIVAL

Watch a short video on how the Mazu Festival is celebrated in Taiwan and take part in activities from that culture.

#### COUNTRY QUIZ TIME

**Q1. True or false: All students get to nap after lunch every day at school?**

True. Taking a nap is part of student life in Taiwan. Students from preschool to high school get nap time for their health.

**Q2. True or false: When you hear the sound of music in the streets, you need to take out your rubbish?**

True. In Taiwan, garbage collection trucks remind people to take out their rubbish by playing loud Beethoven music.

**Q3. True or false: Taiwanese people fight to pay the bill at a restaurant?**

False. There's no fighting but it is normal for the adults to race each other to pay the bill. They do this to say they are well off and can treat the family.

**Q4. True or false: Taiwan is also known as the dragonfly kingdom**

False. Taiwan is home to nearly 400 species of butterflies. The country has exported millions of its butterflies and also focuses on conserving them.

**Q5. True or false: You can get married in a giant shoe?**

True. Taiwan has a High-Heel Wedding Church building in Budai. It is not a place of worship but used as a tourism attraction and for ceremonies.

#### ACTIVITY TIME:

One: Write Chinese Practice Chinese characters for words.

<https://www.education.com/slideshow/write-chinese-characters/learning-chinese-characters-life/>

Two Cooking: Make some extra crispy Taiwanese popcorn chicken.

<https://tiffycooks.com/taiwanese-popcorn-chicken-extra-crispy/>

Three Craft: Make bright firecrackers to celebrate this vibrant festival.

<https://www.china-family-adventure.com/chinese-new-year-firecrackers.html#.VMF9BcYVJdE>



## VIDEO EXPLAINING MAZU FESTIVAL IN TAIWAN

### Why is it celebrated?

Mazu was originally a young lady called Lin Moniang who lived in the 10th century. She learnt medicine to heal the sick in her village and used witchcraft to rescue fishermen. She died trying to save people from a shipwreck and so a temple was built to worship her.

### When is it celebrated?

Mazu festival is celebrated on 23rd day of the 3rd month in the lunar calendar. This is usually April for us. It is celebrated by Mazu followers all over the world.

### How is it celebrated?

Mazu festival is celebrated as a pilgrimage around Taiwan. Her idol is carried to important cities and her worshippers walk alongside it. Some lay under the carriage for a blessing.

Fireworks are lit before her carriage arrives as this shows off her power. The louder it is, the more prosperous and blessed you will be.

When Mazu arrives at a city, her worshippers will visit the temple to pray or chant for a blessing and bring an offering of food and gifts.

The festival ends with a gigantic firecracker explosion, followed by floats with various themes and many dance performances.



## PRAYER TIME:

*1.Thank you: Give thanks to God for the people of Taiwan that he has made uniquely and loves.*

*2.Children: For the young people of Taiwan to have the opportunity to know the love of Jesus as they grow up.*

*3.Creation: For Taiwanese Christians to share about our powerful God, the creator of the universe (and seas), during this festival.*

