

CCS News and Activities

■ National Central Library arranges for foreign scholars to conduct cultural visits

To enable foreign scholars visiting scenic sites with local cultural features of Taiwan to understand Taiwan's rich natural and cultural landscapes, the National Central Library invited recipients of Ministry of Foreign Affairs Taiwan Scholarships to participate in cultural visits on December 15, 2021, to Pinglin Luguang Farm and Pinglin Tea Museum located at New Taipei City.

The National Central Library is one of Taiwan's important agents involved in inviting foreign scholars to visit Taiwan. According to the NCL's hosting record, since 2010, more than 1,000 scholars from 83 countries have come to Taiwan to do research with sponsorship from Ministry of Foreign Affairs Taiwan Scholarship and the like. The troop was led by the Deputy Director-General of National Central Library Chih-Tsung Weng, and Klement Gu, Director of the Department of Policy Planning, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, who jointly led about 17 scholarship recipients and their families from 10 countries, including Australia, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Malaysia, Mongolia, Nigeria, the US, Peru, etc.



NCL Deputy Director-General Chih-Tsung Weng delivers remarks.

On the morning of the activity day, the first visit was to Luguang Farm. The visiting scholars put on tea-picking outfits, experienced the soft wet soil of the tea garden and learned about tea seeds, camellia, tea bushes, related products and experienced tea-leaf picking. From the tea farm they headed for the tea production area to learn about the processes and procedures by which fresh

tea leaves become final tea products. In addition, to setting about making tea refreshments and enjoying tea-tasting activities. They also had a chance to enjoy local tea meals with tea in dishes of local Chinese food, and had in depth observation on the Pinglin tea industry, life and tea, as well as how culture and the tea industry affect the local cultural activities and natural environment.

In the afternoon, it was arranged for the scholars to visit Pinglin Tea Museum, where currently having the special exhibitions Tea Mountain Science and Red Amber. Tea Mountain Science introduces Pinglin's natural landscape, local history, and the tea industry, explained how did it adapt to the environment and culture. It provides an understanding of the local ecology, historical views and cultural aspects. Red Amber, on the other hand, introduces the origin of black tea, with introductions to the Western process, the rise of the Western afternoon tea culture and how the demand for tea in the West affected past cultural exchanges and wars between the East and the West.

This visit allowed the scholars to experience Taiwan's rich natural and cultural characteristics, in the hope that they will promote the beauty of Taiwan to the international community in the future.



Group photo of foreign scholars during scenic local cultural sites visit.



The foreign scholars explore at tea fields.