

Changhua Festivals

In 2023, **Changhua** will celebrate its 300-year anniversary. That's why this year's reading competition is all about **Changhua**. Today we would like to tell you about some of the festivals and activities that take place in **Changhua** throughout the year.

Did you know that more than half of the flowers grown in Taiwan come from **Changhua** County? That's why in January and February each year, the **Changhua** Flower Festival takes place in **Xizhou** Park. This is at the same time of year as the Lantern Festival. So you can see the flowers by day and colorful lanterns by night!

The **Fulu** River in **Lukang** is the only river in central Taiwan that is suitable for large Dragon Boats. Every June, people from all over the world gather in **Lukang** for the International Dragon Boat Championships. Anyone from expert teams to complete beginners can take part in the races.

Wanggong is at the heart of **Changhua**'s fishing industry. Famous for its oysters, it also hosts the Fish Fire Festival in July and August each year. There is a street carnival, fireworks, a concert and, of course, lots of delicious seafood.

Later in the year, when the weather is not so hot, there are two famous running events in **Changhua**. First is the **Ershui** Running Water Festival, held in early November. This celebrates the irrigation of the land over 300 years ago. The festival has traditional ceremonies and arts, running races, and even a triathlon competition. This is followed later in November by the **Tianzhong** Marathon, a road running race that gets more popular every year.

The final festival of the year is one of the most unusual, the **Shetou** Socks and Guava festival. Visitors can try unique guava dishes and pick up some great new socks!

These are just some of the popular events that take place throughout the year in **Changhua** County. You should visit some of them, maybe we will see you there!

(326 words)

Changhua Food

In 2023, **Changhua** will celebrate its 300-year anniversary. That's why this year's reading competition is all about **Changhua**. Today we would like to tell you about some of the famous and delicious snacks you can find to eat in **Changhua** County.

Probably the most famous is **Rou Yuan**. This is a delicious meatball, usually served in a bowl with a little soup. These are hand-made, and each vendor has their own special flavor. You can find them all over the county, but every town's meatballs are a little different. You have to try them all to see which one is your favorite.

Changhua County is famous for its seafood. If you like oysters, you will love the fried oyster omelets you can find in the coastal towns. Fresh oysters, eggs, and vegetables, topped with a special sauce. These omelets can be soft or crispy and are a very popular street food.

Noodles are popular all over Taiwan, but there is a noodle dish that is unique to **Changhua**. This is a rice noodle pancake. Crispy noodles, pan-fried and stuffed with spring onions – delicious!

If you prefer a snack, maybe you could try some Ox-tongue biscuits! These fried pastries have been eaten in **Changhua** County for hundreds of years. The dough is rolled, flipped, and fried until it is golden and crispy.

For people with a sweet tooth, we recommend trying some **Ma Shu**. These chewy rice balls are handmade and can be found all over **Changhua**. They are usually flavored with peanuts, but some vendors use coconut, bamboo, or even dried shrimp to give a special flavor to their **Ma Shu**.

Finally, there is nothing better on a hot day than a bowl of shaved ice topped with jelly and some of **Changhua's** fresh fruit.

These are just some of the delicious foods that you can find in **Changhua** County. Why don't you try some of them and see what is your favorite?

(325 words)

Changhua Places

In 2023, **Changhua** will celebrate its 300-year anniversary. That's why this year's reading competition is all about **Changhua**. Today we would like to tell you about some of the famous places to visit in **Changhua** County.

Changhua is mainly a rural county, with lots of countryside and farms. If you want to do some outdoor activities, the most famous place you can visit is **Baiguoshan** or **Baiguo** Mountain. **Baiguo** means 100 fruits, and this is because the area has been home to many kinds of different fruit trees for a long time.

If you like the outdoors, there are many other places to visit. You can see the amazing flowers at the **Tianwei** Highway Garden, the incredible Giant Banyan Tree at **Jiulong**, or watch the busy crabs at **Fangyuan** Wetlands. You can walk on the **Baguashan** Skywalk, see the great Buddha and enjoy hiking in the fresh air on the many trails.

If you are more interested in history, **Lukang** should be your first stop. A walk through the red brick buildings of the Old Street or a visit to the **Longshan** or **Mazu** temples can make you feel like you are walking in the past.

One of the most popular places to visit is the railway roundhouse in **Changhua** City. This fan-shaped train garage is the last of its kind in Taiwan. It is an amazing sight to see the old and new trains spin around on the turntable as they come in for a service.

Finally, if you enjoyed seeing this railway building from the past, maybe you would also like to make a stop at the newest railway station in **Changhua**. The High-Speed Rail station in **Tianzhong**. This beautiful station, part of Taiwan's high-speed rail network, won an award for its nature-inspired design.

These are just some of the amazing places to visit in **Changhua** County. You should come to visit some of them and maybe we will see you there!

(326 words)