



# ASIAC

Australian Society of Intercountry Aid for Children (NSW) Inc.

## ASIAC (NSW)

# Taiwan Information Guide

**An overview of the Taiwan program  
for those people thinking about adopting from Taiwan**

**February 2007**

*The Taiwan Information Guide is part of the ASIAC (NSW) Information Guides. It focuses on the process of adopting a child from Taiwan and provides an overview of the various steps you will need to go through and outlines documentation requirements. All information contained in this guide is prepared and published in good faith and is subject to change. Please feel free to inform ASIAC (NSW) Inc at [webmaster@asiac.org.au](mailto:webmaster@asiac.org.au) of any ideas, changes, new information or corrections that may assist in making this guide as concise and more informative for the those who are following you and who will be helped by your experience.*

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## Reflections from adoptive parents

A quick request to families who are currently adopting or who have recently adopted babies/children from Taiwan, drew the following responses of their views on ASIAC's Taiwan Program. New couples may find these reflections helpful.

*"The adoption of our daughter through Christian Salvation Service (CSS) Taipei has been an incredible and memorable journey. We chose to adopt through CSS originally for several reasons, the main ones being that they were a Christian organization who take special care of their babies, and we would have the opportunity to find out about our child's family background.*

*This has proven to be extremely important to us. When we met our daughter in June, 2004 she was a healthy, happy little baby and it was very evident that she had been loved and nurtured during the first six months of her life. During our trip to Taipei, we met her birth mother and maternal grand father and asked them many questions - the answers we can share with her as she gets older. We also have her family medical background which has already been invaluable.*

*Our daughter is a tiny little girl but having met her birth mother, we saw that she was very petite so therefore we have no cause for concern! She is genetically a "pocket rocket" and we thank CSS every day for the blessing that she is to our family." **M&VH***

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*"Our story is a little different to most as we had originally planned to adopt from Ethiopia. Our file was about to leave for Ethiopia when we received a phone call from DOCS telling us of two older siblings in Taiwan and asking whether we would be interested in adopting from Taiwan.*

*Because we had no knowledge about the Taiwanese programme we have, in many ways, been on catch up since that time. But the support and help from ASIAC's Information Officer and others within the Taiwan programme has been amazing. We cannot speak highly enough of the help we have received. Anything we have needed to know has just been a phone call away.*

*Christian Salvation Service has also been wonderful, providing many photos and fantastic information about our children from the Social Worker at allocation stage.*

*We have nothing but praise for the programme, and now just can't wait to meet our two beautiful children." **R&GA***

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*"Why choose Taiwan?"*

*We originally were thinking about China. But at the time of final decision, SARS came in and China program threatened to close for some time. And we were told that Taiwan needed more applicants and they must be practicing Christians. We fitted the criteria and switched to Taiwan.*

*Were you happy with the program?"*

*We are pleased to know the program is well run by an experienced Christian agency in Taipei. They are very good in communication and give excellent care to the children. Open adoption is well practised. We got to meet the birth mother and CSS gave us plenty of photos and information of our child from day one. We were well looked after during our time in Taipei by the agency. ASIAC's NSW coordinator was very supportive and hard working.*

*Financially, it was better than what we thought. Travelling to Taiwan during the quiet season did not cost us an arm or leg at all. The US \$ 10000 to the nursery is well worth. We could see that the money had gone to the children's needs whilst in CSS's care.*

*We waited just over 12 months for allocation after we were approved by Taiwan for adoption. The legal process in Taiwan is 6-8 months; ours took 7 before we could travel to collect our son. This was an emotional time for us.*

*Would you do again?*

*We have only been back for a few days. It is difficult to say. The total process time for the first child was 3 1/2 years. My husband is approaching the upper age limit. If we are allowed to have another one, we'd love to consider." **D&LH***

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*"Our experience of adopting from Taiwan has been very positive...It has been very efficiently run & the community of families in Sydney with Taiwanese children are like a real family ...we have felt very supported every step along the way.....they have frequent gatherings, which has enabled us to get lots of advice & encouragement & we hope to be able to help other families in the future.*

*We decided on the Taiwanese program because we met the criteria, esp. with regards to age & being practicing Christians...also we have friends who have adopted from Korea & had difficulty settling their child, partially due to the lack of contact they had with him before returning to Australia.*

*We also liked the opportunity to adopt children of either sex, which does not exist in the Korea & China programs. Our allocation was very quick; however the only downside is the relatively long wait after allocation before we can collect our child.*

*We would certainly adopt from Taiwan again, & may well do so in the future." **B&ST***

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*"We chose to adopt from Taiwan, firstly because it is run by a Christian organization. Secondly, we felt that the program is very efficient, prompt, and friendly. We were well informed of the process and how long things would take.*

*Yes, after allocation the wait to travel was lengthy but we knew our little boy was being looked after by his foster family with love and care.*

*When we were in Taiwan, CSS guided us through the process. They organised a driver for us to go to the motel from the airport, they organised our accommodation, we were prepared with a cot, nappies, pram, etc which we didn't think of before we left Australia. Our son's immunisation was up to date. The nurses in Canberra were surprised that he even had his chicken pox and measles immunisation."*

*Overall, we were very happy with Taiwanese Program. **D&LL***

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