

*RISE OF TAIWANESE FEMALE BACKPACKERS AND IT'S  
SOCIAL SIGNIFICANCE*

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Abstract

According to the statistics conducted by the Tourism Bureau of Republic of China(2012), 65% of Taiwanese' abroad travel tours in 2011 were backpacking, much higher than 35% of the group tour. Backpacking has been the trend. Moreover, 70% of the tourists were female much higher than male tourists. Female backpackers consider travelling as deeply spiritual travelling for viewing others and examining themselves, rather than sightseeing(Lin, 2010). Backpacking for female tourists is not only self exploration and self-affirmation, but also self-transcendence and a spiritual calling. This study aims to analyze the phenomena of the rise of Taiwanese female backpackers and its social significance. This study includes literature review. It also aims to discuss the following issues. First, what are the current situations of the female backpackers? Second, what motivates female tourists for backpacking? Third, what kind of social significance does the female backpacking construct?

Key words: Backpacking, Female backpacker, Social Significance, Taiwan