

## Kaohsiung



**What is on the logo: portrayal of the magical moment of a carp transforming into a dragon as reward for its bravery and hard work. An important image of Kaohsiung.**

Did you know that carp, just like salmon, swim upstream and can even, in extraordinary cases, try to jump up the waterfall? A legend popular in Taiwan and some other East Asian countries tells of a carp making the final, most challenging leap up the waterfall and being rewarded for its perseverance with transformation into a dragon – a powerful magical creature in East Asian belief systems.

We can behold one such metamorphosis from fish to scaly dragon in Tulsa's sister city Kaohsiung, on the high bank of the Love River, close to where it flows into the sea. Built in 2001 for the festival of lanterns, the statue has become a keepsake and a symbol of Kaohsiung's dynamic nature. Taiwan's second largest city after Taipei, Kaohsiung has moved from industrial port to a well-developed, comfortable metropolis with touristic charm.

When lit up, the actual statue can be multiple colors, but the crowning hue is, of course, red – just like the logo. In Taiwan, red is the color of good luck, prosperity, and happiness.

Click on the photo or logo to see the statue and its surroundings on the map.