

尋訪

清水斷崖

The Ancient Sailing Route to Qingshui Cliff 的海線印記

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天未破曉出海，船在暗夜中往北方航行，我要去探訪一百多年前古里馬眼中所見的「世界最高的海崖」。

1882年，一艘英國科學調查帆船馬卻沙號曾經輾轉來到台灣東海岸，船上有一位生物地理學家古里馬，所到之處他詳細作調查紀錄。馬卻沙號探訪過東南亞後一路向北航行，從台灣最南端的恆春半島經綠島，並在綠島登岸調查，而後來到立霧溪口外海，他們要去探訪一本《中國海事書》中描述緊鄰海岸邊緣，高達7,000尺，最險峻陡峭的山。馬卻沙號在外海停留一夜後，隔日清晨在濃霧中摸黑緩慢向岸邊前進，天色漸亮，太陽從海面上升起，山巒在霧氣忽來忽去中若隱若現，最後在溫暖的晨光中，一座巨大的山巒矗立在眼前。古里馬紀錄下所見：「一群長而雪白的雲靜靜地懸浮、滯留在半空中，遮住山巒的面貌，在有知的世界

departed before dawn. My boat sailed northward in the dark, taking me to what F.H.N. Guillemard called “the highest sea cliff in the world.”

Back in 1882, Marchesa, a British ship conducting scientific investigation, happened to reach the East coast of Taiwan. Among those on board was Guillemard, a biogeographer who recorded every sailing route in detail. The ship passed Hengchun Peninsula, landed at the Green Island, and eventually arrived at Liwu River estuary. Guillemard's team was there for a 7000-foot-mountain, which was described by the book China Sea Directory as the most dangerous and steepest one ever. After a night at the open sea, at dawn, the ship slowly sailed ashore in thick fog. As the sun rose from the sea and the sky turned lighter, the dark forms of the mountain gradually became clearer, and suddenly, in the midst of the warm sunshine, a huge mountain came to light. Guillemard made a sketch

◀ 1882年英國生物地理學家古里馬，從海面上畫下他所看見的清水斷崖。
Guillemard, a biogeographer from England, outlined Qingshui Cliff in his eyes while he was on the sea in 1882.





從太平洋上看清水斷崖，自古以來，相信包括古里馬在內，有許多人都曾被這個景色所震懾。
Since ancient times, not just Guillemard but also many people were shocked by the view that sees
Qingshui Cliff from the Pacific Ocean.

中，最高的海崖就在我們眼前揭開面紗，它是壯麗的。」他同時將當時所見的景象畫下。

東方海面漸漸出現魚肚白的微光，海線上停著一群積雲，天色漸亮，我在船上凝視著岸邊，巨大的山巒矗立在眼前，黝暗厚重而益顯神秘，只見離海不遠的高度有零星的亮光，偶而則出現幾個移動的燈光。隨著天色漸亮，山色漸淡，隱約可見山中的內容。當太陽升起，金黃的陽光射向岸上的高山，陽光在崩崖上更為亮眼。一群長而雪白的雲靜靜地懸浮、滯留在半空中，最高的海崖就在我們眼前揭開面紗，它是壯麗的。我相信，一百多年前古里馬所看到，令他震撼且讚美的，應該就是這樣的景象吧！

of the sight and wrote: "a thin long line of snow-white could hung motionless, the highest sea precipice in the known world lay unveiled before our eyes. It was superb."

The light of dawn gradually appeared on the sea, I gazed at the shore. I could see the gigantic mountain--- massive and mysterious. I also saw some lights scattered above the sea and several others moving about occasionally. As it got lighter, the mountain became more visible. The golden sunlight shone at the mountains ashore, appearing even brighter. Amid a thin long line of snow-white, the highest sea precipice lay unveiled before our eyes. It was superb! This must have been the very same breathtaking scenery that astounded and touched Guillemard over a century ago.

古里馬對清水斷崖的描寫不止於此，1888年他完成《馬茄莎號至堪察加及新幾內亞巡航記：含福爾摩沙、琉球及馬來各島的評述》一書，紀錄航行中的觀察。他在書中提及，曾探訪過包括優詩美地的幾處壯麗的斷崖，但這些在福爾摩沙這座巨大的海崖前，都顯得渺小。他甚至推測，「當年葡萄牙水手必定是從北邊或南邊眺望福爾摩沙島，假如他們第一眼所見的是平坦的西部海岸，就不會呼出福爾摩沙美麗島此名；但假如他們是從東邊初見福爾摩沙，脫口而出的將是最誇張的措辭。」比較古里馬繪製的清水斷崖與現場景象，發現古里馬手繪圖中的清水斷崖比實景陡峻，不難瞭解清水斷崖在古里馬心中帶來何等猛烈的震撼。

古里馬在清水斷崖北邊的溪流（現今的卡那岡溪或稱和仁溪）出海口登陸，並循著溪谷上溯數里遠，他看到壯觀的峽谷與濃密的森林，此景又給他另一個震驚。途中他察覺行蹤可能被原住民監視，不得已只好折返回到船上，續往北航行，結束清水斷崖之旅。我好奇，如果當年古里馬登陸地點不在卡那岡溪，而是南方不遠處的立霧溪，他若親眼目睹立霧溪中太魯閣峽谷，該會如何描寫這座被喻為鬼斧神工的大理岩峽谷？

我向來都是從陸地上欣賞清水斷崖的。有時從立霧溪出海口北岸的崇德，或是花蓮市近郊的七星潭海岸，隔著海灣向北眺望，太平洋、斷崖和斷崖向上延伸的清水山完整出現在眼前，顯得寧靜而平和；最常站在斷崖上欣賞斷崖，從蘇花公路邊臨崖俯瞰或遠眺，隨時隨地都能感受到斷崖的奇險。向下俯瞰，巨石嶙峋的崩崖，從深海以幾近垂直之姿拔地而起，抬頭仰望，則看不見山稜的盡頭。

從海面上看清水斷崖是一種新鮮且特別的視覺經驗。斷崖從海面陡升而上，斷崖上有多座小山頭，海拔最高，2,408公尺的清水山聳峙在群山之上，其山頂總是聚積著雲霧。人來車往，可以欣賞斷崖奇景的蘇花公路，就從距海平面不遠的上方橫切而過，其高度竟約只佔清水山高度的1/20不到，顯得渺小。

清水斷崖不僅是難得珍貴的地景，對人而言，它更是一座天然的地理屏障。時光回到百年以前，想要從北部循陸路，跨越這道有如高牆一般的艱險地形到東部可說是困難重重，因此現在從陸地欣賞清水斷崖的視覺經驗，與百年前是截然不同的。當時想一探東部秘境的探險者，無論其目的為何，多半

Guillemard's praises for Qingshui Cliff doesn't stop there. In 1888, he completed the book *"The Cruise of the Marchesa to Kamschatka & New Guinea: with Notices of Formosa, Liu-Kiu, and Various Islands of the Malay Archipelago,"* recording his observation during the voyage. In it he compared some of the cliffs he visited in Yosemite, which he thought were dwarfed by the imposing Qingshui Cliff. He even speculated: *"Surely the Portuguese must have sighted the island from the north or south. Had they made their first acquaintance with the low flat shores of the western side, the name (Formosa) would never have occurred to them. Had they seen it first from the east they could not have stopped short of a superlative."* In fact, the cliff in Guillemard's sketch was much steeper than the reality, showing how amazed he was.

Guillemard landed at what is now the Heren River estuary. He headed upstream and saw the spectacular gorges and thick forests, which gave another surprise to him. Then he realized that the indigenous people might be watching his every move, so he returned to the ship and left Qingshui Cliff. I couldn't help but wonder: had Guillemard landed at Liwu River estuary and seen the Taroko Gorge, how would he have depicted this awe-inspiring marble canyon?

I've always looked at Qingshui Cliff from the land---sometimes from Chongde, which is north of the Liwu River estuary; sometimes from Chihsingtan Beach near Hualien City. Looking north across the sea, I could see the Pacific Ocean, the cliff and the Qingshui Mountain that extends from the cliff in totality. Mostly I stand on the cliff and look down, or stand by the Suhua Highway and overlook the cliff. When looking down, I see the rugged cliff rise almost vertically from the deep sea; when looking up, I couldn't see the end of the mountain ridge.

Looking at Qingshui Cliff from the sea presents a novel and special visual experience. The cliff ascends upright from the sea, and among the many small hills on the cliff, the highest is the 2,408-meter Qingshui Mountain, the peak of which is constantly shrouded in clouds and fogs. The busy Suhua Highway, which cuts across the cliff and offers a close view of the cliff, measures only one twentieth of Qingshui mountain in height, and appears so small.

Qingshui Cliff is not just a precious landscape, but a natural geographical barrier to people. Over a century ago, it was nearly impossible to cross this wall-like cliff from the north to the east, but now people are able to look at the cliff from the land. In the past, the explorers who wanted to venture into the east came mostly via the sea, and that was also where they saw the Qingshui Cliff.

Since the 17th century, swarms of foreigners have come to the East via the sea. In 1645, Caesar from the Dutch East

都是循海路而來，他們也都是從海上看見清水斷崖的。

從17世紀以來，一批批外來者循海路東來，除了為了科學調查的古里馬之外，還包括1645年，荷蘭東印度公司派遣商務員凱薩，東來立霧溪尋找傳說中蘊藏豐富金鑽的哆囉滿；1858年英國駐清國外交官郇和曾隨為了尋找失蹤的英國船員的軍艦不屈號來到這裡；1876年加拿大傳教士馬偕搭乘英國軍艦田島號在太魯閣附近試圖登陸未果；14年後，他於1890年則再度循著同樣的航路，從蘭陽平原東來，只是此次他只和噶瑪蘭教友搭乘12尺長無篷艙的小船到花蓮傳教。除了西方外來者之外，漢人也循這條海路移居花蓮，1825年淡水人吳全、蔡伯玉，1851年台北劍潭人黃阿鳳都陸續帶著數千位流民到花蓮墾荒謀生，追尋新生活。

從海上看著壯麗的清水斷崖，回顧過往，無論尋金、科學調查、探秘、傳教或是移民墾荒，不同的人在不同的時間，因著不同的目的，走同樣的海路，看見一樣的清水斷崖，他們來到東部後山，也成了後山歷史的一部份。

India Company arrived at Liwu River to look for Turnmoan, which was allegedly abundant in gold; in 1858, British diplomat Robert Swinhoe came to Qingshui to find the missing warship Inflexible; in 1876, Canadian missionary MacKay took the British warship Lapwing and made a failed attempt to land near Taroko. 14 years later, he sailed via the same route again to do missionary work. In addition to these people, some Chinese also travelled through this sea route and settled in Hualien, among whom were Chuan Wu and Po-yu Tsai from Tamsui, and A-feng Huang from Taipei. They led thousands of vagrants to Hualien and reclaimed wasteland for a living.

The past of the imposing Qingshui Cliff has been intertwined with gold mining, scientific investigation, exploration, missionary work and migration. Different people came here with different purposes at different time, and yet they all took the same route and beheld the same Qingshui Cliff. For this very same reason, they have also become part of the history of eastern Taiwan.

太魯閣園區北界的卡那岡溪，古里馬曾在這裡登陸上溯，看見壯麗的峽谷與濃密的森林。
Guillemard once landed at Kanagang River in the north of Taoroko National Park and saw the splendid canyon and dense forest.

