

# Korea

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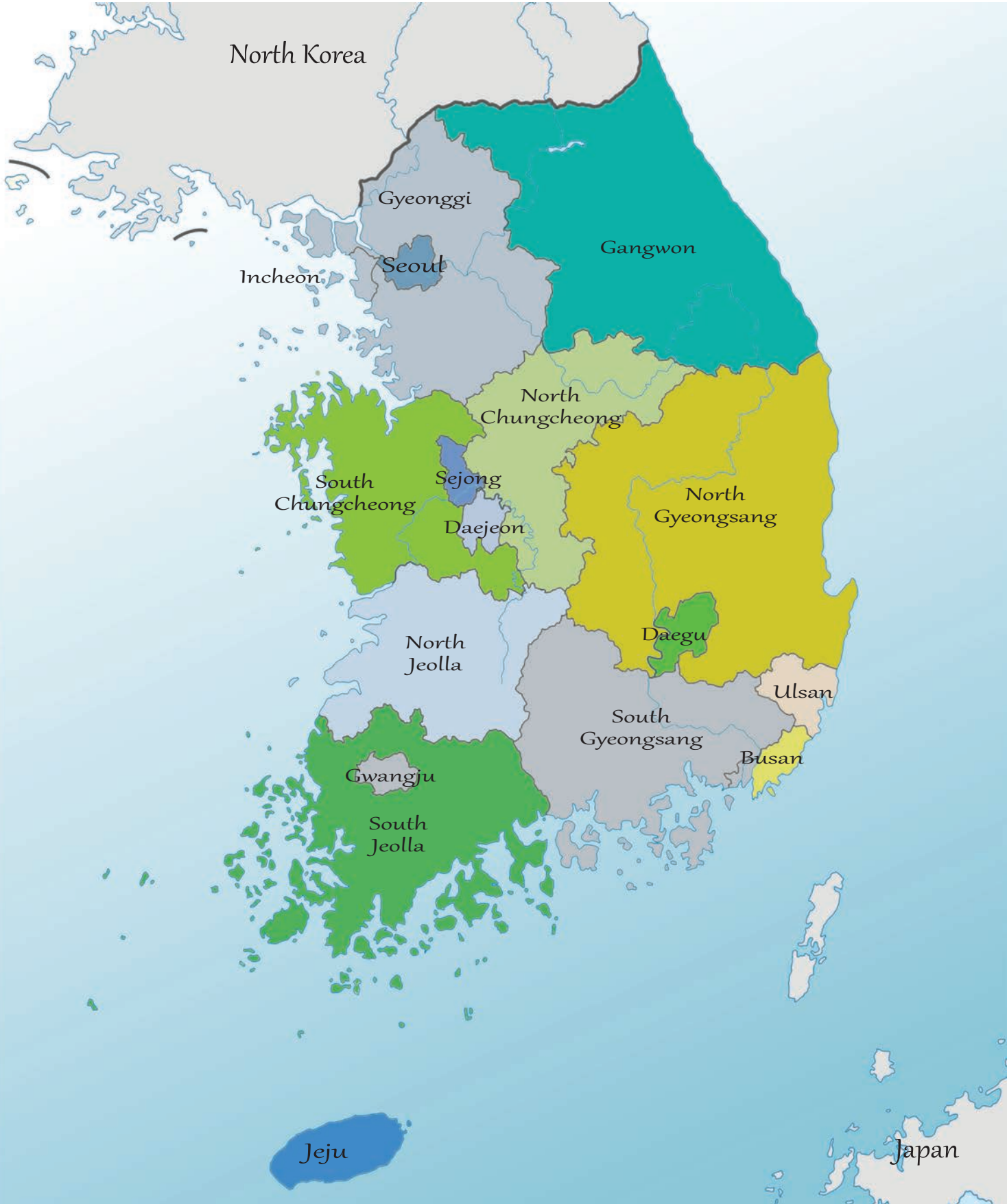
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 Pack Ya Bags

Imagine  
your  
**Korea**

# Map of South Korea





## Thanks and acknowledgements:

We would like to thank and acknowledge KTO (Korean Tourist Office) provinces, cities and all the products, and services, hotels, resorts and tour companies for photographic use and the contributors to articles within this publication.

We have tried to be a little different with this brochure, as not only have we included many facts about South Korea, but also included a number of articles and opinions by people who know South Korea or have enjoyed being there.

We have shown the country and what you can do rather than hotels and resorts. However, we have the full range of products available.

Prices can be viewed on a separate booklet by print and is downloadable.

This brochure is also downloadable from Pack Ya Bags site or through your travel agent.

Throughout this publication we have used words such as North and South for the provinces instead of 'Buk' meaning north and 'Nam' meaning south. As an example North Chungcheong would be Chuncheongbuk and South Chuncheongnam.

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# What you need to know



## On Arrival

The main international airport arrivals are in Seoul and Busan with feeder transport to other cities. A meet, greet and transfer service is recommended on arrival. Although arriving at these airports is quite easy, with clear signs on what to do and where to go.

Pack Ya Bags however, does recommend on your first visit to have someone meet you with a sign especially in your own language.



## Getting Around

South Korean rail is excellent, with the KTX trains providing very fast, frequent and inexpensive travel. Rail passes can be purchased prior to entering South Korea and are available for 3, to 10 days.

Buses throughout Korea are cheap, and rapid. Often the intercity buses have business class type seats and are very comfortable.

The DIY Seoul Card uses a pre-loaded transit card, valid on buses and the subway throughout Seoul and extended to other areas now including Busan. We can arrange this for you.



## Languages

Korean is the national language. English is used a little in major centres and cities but can be sparse throughout the country. When leaving your hotel or resort make sure you have a written description of where you are staying to give to the taxi or bus driver.

## Currency

The Korean Won (KRW) is the local currency in South Korea. This is available from your local bank prior to departure, or is available from the ATMs once in Korea. KRW 1,000 is approximately NZ\$ 1.34

## Airport Codes

Seoul (Incheon)	(ICN)
Busan (Gimhae)	(PUS)
Daegu	(TAE)
Cheongju	(CJJ)
Seoul (Gimpo)	(GMP)
Gangneung	(KAG)
Gunsan	(KUV)
Gwangju	(KWJ)
Jeju	(CJU)
Jeonju	(CHN)
Jinhae	(CHF)
Mokpo	(MPK)
Osan	(OSN)
Pohang	(KPO)
Jinju (Sacheon)	(HIN)
Samcheok	(SUK)
Sokcho (Seolak)	(SHO)
Suwon	(SWU)
Ulsan	(USN)
Wonju	(WJU)
Yangyang	(YNY)
Yecheon	(YEC)
Yeosu	(RSU)

## Airports

Incheon Airport (Seoul) and Gimhae (Busan) are the international gateways to Korea. Incheon is approximately 1 hour and 20 mins from downtown Seoul, depending on the traffic conditions. A direct subway connection into Seoul and Busan is now available together with airport limousine coaches, taxis and private transfers.

The domestic airport in Seoul is Gimpo Airport and is a 30 minute transfer by coach from Incheon. Frequent subway connections are now available. Taxis throughout Korea are good value.



# This is worth a read



## A bit about Korea

The huge amount of places to visit and experience in Korea has been known to the domestic holiday maker for many years, as local people do enjoy their own country. During the last decade the international visitor has warmed to Korea not just as a stopover to another destination, but as a country offering an amazing variety of exciting destinations throughout the provinces. The local people throughout Korea will welcome you and are proud to show you their country, sometimes trying out their English. Throughout the brochure we will describe the many places and things to experience, including small articles by locals themselves.



## How to say it in Korean

Visitors to Korea are welcome and the local people are friendly and open to helping you out on where to go and what to do. Speaking slowly and clearly will help with understanding you. Try a little Korean, it will go along way to getting a new friend. Use some of these simple phrases: Its not as hard as you might think.

- Hello : an-nyeong-ha-se-yo
- Thank you : gam-sa-ham-ni-da
- Yes : ye or ne
- No : a-ni-yo
- Nice to meet you:- bahn-gap-seup-ni-da
- How are you? - uh-dduh-keh ji-neh-seh-yo?
- I am good - jal-ji-neh-yo
- My name is - jeh ee-reum-un
- Excuse me - shil-leh-hap-nee-da
- I'm lost - gil-eul ilh-uh-t-suh-yo
- Do you know where \_\_\_\_\_ is? - \_\_\_\_\_ uh-di-eh-nji ah-seh-yo?
- I don't understand - jal mo-reu-geht-neh-yo)
- I don't speak Korean well - hahn-guhk-mal jal moht-heh-yo
- Do you speak English? - yung-uh hal su-ee-t-suh-yo
- Where is the bathroom? - hwa-jang-shil-ee uh-di-eh-yo?
- Menu, please - meh-nyu ju-seh-yo
- Bill, please - keh-san-suh ju-seh-yo
- How much is it? - uhl-mah-eh-yo
- Help! - doh-oah-ju-seh-yo!



## A few more things of interest

Tipping in South Korea is not expected and in certain cases considered rude to offer. A polite thank you is welcome though. People in the country are very friendly and often go out of their way to help you. A big smile goes a long way to brake barriers down and you will feel the reward coming back. South Korea has fantastic restaurants, bars and cafes throughout the country. Shopping is easy and bartering in the markets is OK, but it is not aggressive.

Emergency police number 112    Ambulance is 119

# Seoul



Seokchon Lake & Lotte World Tower



Drum Cat Show



Namsan Seoul Tower



Yeon Deung Hoe lantern Festival



Myeongdong

### Seoul:

Seoul is a huge, vibrant, safe and fascinating city with so many natural, historical and manmade attractions to explore. With so many markets, shopping districts, fantastic restaurants, cafes and street vendors, it can keep you busy for many weeks. Although a big city it is so easy to get around on the subway which is colour coded and numbered. By using your T-Card fares are incredibly cheap. You can get from one end of the city to the other for just a few dollars. Once arrived at your destination, walking is safe and not stressful. Locals will certainly help you but make sure you carry the name and address of the hotel where you are staying. Seoul is surrounded by 8 mountains with the river Han dividing the city into north and south.

All styles and levels of accommodation from budget through to luxurious internationally branded hotels, apartments, and boutique properties.



Seoul City

### Palaces:

Gyeongbokgung Palace is the largest with more than 300 buildings and perhaps the grandest of the Five Grand Palaces built by the Joseon dynasty. It includes, the National Folk Museum, and the National Palace Museum. Changdeokgung Palace is second Royal Palace and recognised as a cultural heritage site by UNESCO. The other 3 Royal Palaces are called Changgyeonggung Palace, Deoksugung Palace and Gyeonghuigung Palace.

### To visit in Seoul:

There are so many places to visit but a couple of them are a must such as to the Bukchon Hanok Village. This is an area with the largest collection of privately owned hanoks (traditional homes.) With roughly 900 homes this is a great photo opportunity. Although many are private houses some have been converted into tea houses, coffee shops, cafes, art galleries, inns and museums. A visit to the Seoul Tower is well worth it for a great view of Seoul.



Lantern Festival

# Seoul



Namdaemun Market



Coex Library



Cheopjiong





Ceremony King Sejong

**Shopping:**

Seoul is renowned for fantastic shopping with famous markets such as

**Namdaemun Market:**

You can buy almost anything here. You could walk around the alleyways for weeks and still not see it all. Good bargains to be had. Not only selling most things but very good for second hand camera equipment

**Dongdaemun:**

This shopping area is home to thousands of small manufacturers. The market sells all types of goods but notably silks and fabric, clothes, shoes and leather goods, sporting goods, plumbing and electronics, office supplies, fortune tellers, toys and food areas specialising in Korean cuisine.

Before you go we will make sure we point you in the right direction for whatever shopping is your interest.

**The restaurants and nightlife:**

Get out into places like Myeongdong, Insadong, Coex Centre and Gwangjang for not only great shopping but a vibrant night out. There are so many entertaining things happening all the time, as the night comes alive. Korean people love eating out so you will have plenty of company.

While in Seoul you have to take in a show whether a traditional show, a classical one or one of the many nonverbal shows around. These shows are very funny and now tour the world. Shows such as Nanta cooking show has also opened now in other countries.

Painters and Jump together with one of my favourites, Drumcats.

Seoul is one of the world's friendliest and fun cities to visit and often surprises the first time visitor. Stay a few days before or after your tour of the rest of the country.

**Gangnam and COEX South side:**

The Gangnam district is on the south side of the river Han and is becoming a tourist area as visitors have all now heard of Gangnam through the song (and dance) The huge convention and transit centre is called COEX with a massive underground shopping complex with a huge amount of small shops and arcades it has become one of the lively place to go. One new addition which you should check out is the very different Starfield Library with its three 13 metre high circular shelves. You have to check that one out when you are looking around the shops

**Museums:**

There are more than 115 museums in the City including the Folk Museum, the Trickeye Museum (a one of a kind) for heaps of interactive fun, War Museum, and the National Museum. All great!



Changdeokgung Palace



Hourglass Drum Dance

# Incheon & Gyeonggi

## Gyeonggi-Do

### Incheon:

As well as being the major gateway to Seoul and South Korea, Incheon has a number of interesting places to visit, such as Bupyeong, with one of the largest underground shopping malls in Korea. It is well worth a visit. Maybe a visit to Chinatown, which is the only official Chinatown in Korea. The land near the airport and Incheon itself is being transformed and well developed.

### Folk Village:

Not too far from Seoul is the Korean Folk Village and if time is limited in Korea, this is a great place to learn about the culture of Korea. Performances such as Nongak (farmer's music), martial arts on horseback, traditional wedding ceremonies, and other special events are to be experienced, together with ice sledding (in winter), and markets. Lots of great local food to try with famous Korean dishes on offer.

### Nami Island:

Namiseom Island is 63 km from Seoul and is famous for its beautiful tree lined roads in all seasons. The island is popular with local families, with attractions such as Petite France, with its fun and colourful buildings (see photo) and a great puppet show for the whole family. Other places to visit are the Sunkan Gardens of Morning Calm with 26 themed gardens, and the many varied colours depending on the season, which have been designed to look fantastic all year around.

Korean Dramas are filmed here with the famous 'Winter Sonata' being one of them. There is a rail park on Nami Island and very popular throughout Korea. They are great fun and you should try it out. With street performers helping create the atmosphere, get the camera ready as there are lots of photo opportunities.

### DMZ (Demilitarised Zone):

The DMZ is a small strip of land, 4 km wide separating North Korea from South Korea. This area is where negotiations take place. Due to recent events both countries are now talking with each other to change the situation on the Korean Peninsular. Visitors can visit the DMZ on a guided tour to places such as Panmunjeon. (where the blue huts are) This is a real zone between two countries and rules have to be observed while on the tour. There are a variety of tours including, visiting the four tunnels dug by North Korea, the Yeolsoe Observatory, Unification Hill, Cheorwon Peace Observatory, Woljeong-ri Station and perhaps the Peace Dam. There is a range of half and full day tours which depart for the 60km journey from Seoul most days of the week.



Sorae Wetlands Windmills



Incheon



Street performer Nami



Petite France Nami



Bukhansan Mountain



DMZ Cycling Tour

# Gangwon

## Gangwon-Do

### Lets go:

Many of you would already know about this province either knowingly or unknowingly due to the 2018 winter olympics at Pyeongchang, Gangneung, and Jeongseon. The mountains and national parks of Seoraksan with it's mountain side Temples. Chiaksan offers steeper trails for those with a little more fitness, and Odaesan offering a little gentler slopes winding down to a stone seated buddhaand

### Sokcho:

Great sandy beaches and close to many hiking trails. Enjoy fresh seafood and even go fishing if this is your interest.

Gyeongpo is the largest city and beach on the East Coast. A wild and beautiful city according to Sun Man Kang. The winding Donggang River where you can white water raft or kayak or follow the river by trekking the many walks and paths in the region.

### Mindungsan Mountain:

This unusual mountain is about growing wild herbs and the blooming of silver grass. The locals burn the fields each year to encourage the growth and the result is quite spectacular as the Silver Grass blooms in September, October and November. Hiking at this time of the year will give you the most amazing photo opportunities to witness the breathtaking colours. Walking the trails offers to all levels of fitness. The Silver Grass Festival is held every October.

### Taebaek:

If you want to visit South Korea's highest City this is it. From here a visit to the Manggyeongsa Temple is on the cards. The temple sits 1460 metres high to enshrine the statue of Bodhisattva of Wisdom.

### Samtan Art Mine:

This art complex has been transformed from an old coal mine now housing more than 100,000 art works from around the world. It is a living art complex also running sponsorship art programmes. The atmosphere inside is quite unique as the writer can testify. A must visit.

### Caves:

Because of the many limestone areas in the mountains there are number of spectacular caves to visit such as the Cheongok Cave in Donghae with its stalactite curtains, travertine terraces, and stalactite cascades. The Hwanseongul Cave is the largest limestone cave in Asia. There have been 47 new breeds of animals discovered in this Cave, with four of these being found only. There are many others within the region to explore.



Ojukheon House



Ski Resort



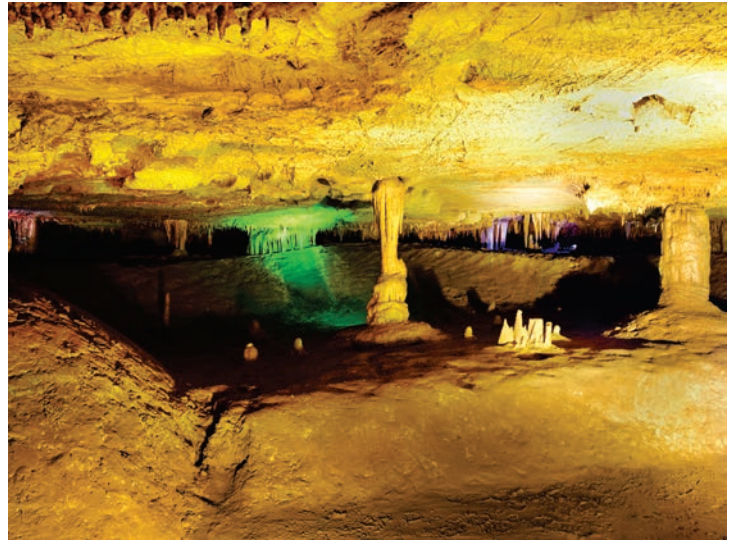
Mount Seoraksan



Gangwon Coast



Bangtaesan Recreational Forest



Cheongok Cave



Yongpyong



# Gangwon

## Gangwon-Do



Byeongbangchi Skywalk

### Samcheok Ocean Railbike:

And now for something different! This great trip follows a 5.4km beautiful shoreline complete with a tunnel along its way which includes a luminaire and laser show, and underwater tunnel. This is fun.

### Jeongdongjin Beach and Sunglass Park:

Many visitors come here to watch the spectacular sunrise and swim in the swimming spots along the sandy beach or from the. 2.8km walk along the rocky shore between Jeongdong and Simgok. From here there is also a trek up Mt Goseong.

### Ojukheon House:

One of Korea's oldest preserved wooden houses showing life from the Joseon period. Close by a visit to the Chamsori museum is well worth it to see around 1600 phonographs from Edison to the modern day.

### Byeongbangchi Skywalk:

A thrilling experience if you dare!

### Skiing:

Winter in Gangwon-do is a great place for winter sports enthusiasts, as the province gets a lot of snow which is why it was picked for the 2018 Winter Olympics. There are a number of great resorts including:

Yongpyong Ski Resort Pyeongchang.

Yongpyong gets excellent snow throughout the winter, so has become very popular.

It has 28 slopes and 14 lifts, including the longest slope in the nation.

Phoenix Park Ski Resort has a unique slope design and is known for spectacular panoramic views with 500 meter-wide ski slope, offering 21 ski courses so that you can enjoy the dynamic and exciting speed of skiing.

Hongcheon - Vivaldi Park Ski World is a favourite with young skiers and snowboarders.

Hoengseong - Welli Hilli Park Snow Park with its world class and recognised snowboard facilities.

Alpensia Ski Resort Pyeongchang one of the hosts of the winter olympics offers six slopes with various courses for beginner, intermediate and advanced skiers.

Snowboarding slopes and a long-distance sledding slope are specially designed for snowboarders and visitors with families

Others include:

Chuncheon - Elysian Gangchon Ski Resort

Jeongseon - High1 Ski Resort

Wonju - Oak Valley Snow Park.

Taebaek - O2 Ski Resort. First winter snow

If you want full details of these various ski and winter holidays just let us know.

### Suggestions:

Take the high speed Seorak Cable Car (not at peak times) to see. At the top take a 30 minute walk where you will be rewarded with the most fantastic views of the region and Seoraksan Mountain. No question this area is spectacular. Soak the views up or take a walk.



Samcheok Railbikes



Yongpyong Ski Resort



Janghohang



Jumunjin Fish Market

# North Chungcheong

## Chungcheongbuk-Do



Manui Cultural Heritage Complex

### North Chungcheong:

This is the only province without a shoreline but does have the major manmade lake of Chungju. Take a boat ride on this lake as it stops at many of the attractions.

An early print museum shows where the world's oldest book was printed using moveable type in 1377

A number of trails for hiking are found throughout especially in the Sobaeksan and Woraksan National Parks.

The rivers offer White water rafting and paragliding if they are your sports.

### Yeongdong:

This area produces really good quality wines and wine tasting is now on the agenda, together with aromatic chocolates.

You can learn how to make and play traditional Korean instruments as Yeongdong is the hometown of Park Yeon who wrote 'Gugak' Korea's old classical music. The Nangye Music Museum hosts regular gugak performances, every Saturday usually in the afternoon.

### Chungju World Martial Arts Festival:

Every October sees the Taekwondo and other martial arts organised.

### Danyang:

Danyang is perhaps one of the most picturesque towns in Korea with its fantastic location as seen in the photograph. Much of the old town was submerged during the making of the dam and lake.

Cycles are available and a great way to look at the lake and surrounding mountains.

### Guinsa:

The interesting fact about this very attractive temple is that it was rebuilt in 1966 so all the buildings are a great example of Korean old temple building but in pristine condition. The Buddhism school of Cheontae was reformed in 1945. The temple is sandwiched between two mountains through a narrow valley.

### Gosu Cave:

This is one of Korea's famous caves which stretch for around 1.7km through winding passageways with attractive lighting throughout. The cave is certainly known for its beauty.

### Suanbo Hot Springs:

What can you say about this? Take a dip in the hot pools and relax from the days walking.



### Munui Cultural Complex:

Overlooking the Daecheongho Lake this complex shows local history, arts and culture. It is set in a traditional village atmosphere with various houses museum and even a tavern. The complex even has a movie village. The famous restored stone bridge was perhaps built in the Goryeo period.

### Ice climbing:

Here is something different!. Artificial Ice Climbing at the Yeongdong Ice climbing venue. Normal mountain climbing is popular throughout Korea due to the many mountains available.



Danyang City Bikes on Lake



Wollyubong Peak



Winding Road in Autumn



Roaring Ice Cliff Climbing



Danyang

# South Chungcheong

Chungcheongnam-Do



Mountains in Korea

## South Chungcheong:

This province is now thought to be the richest and fastest growing in Korea with massive investment and industrial growth. One reason is that it is within easy reach of Seoul and is serviced by the subway, which passes through Cheonan and Asan. The KTX fast train takes less than 30 minutes. The West Coast is full of mud flats and small inlets with excellent beaches and wonderful gardens and farms. The Taean region is home to 12 seaside villages. A number of festivals are organised here throughout the year including the interesting and unusual 'garlic digging festival'

## Onyangoncheon Traditional Market:

The markets came about with people visiting the local hot springs with a good mix of local and tourists visiting. With around 500 stores and 300 market stalls the traditional markets are always good to visit.

## Oeam Folk Village:

A living folk village by the descendants of the original settlers going back 500 years. You can see many traditional straw houses, with the atmosphere being authentic and feeling like a living museum.

## Shinjeong Lake:

A very romantic place especially in the spring with the fabulous colours. Boat rides can be had on the lake as well as bike hire.

## Independence Hall of Korea:

The largest museum in Korea with seven exhibition halls showing the struggle for independence.

## Gongsan Fortress:

This is a 1500 year old fortress situated on a mountain top. The area includes the Lotus Pond and changing of the guard Saturday and Sunday during April, May and June, then September and October. While here, a short walk will take you to the Songsan Burial Mounds.

## Mud Festival:

Although the mud festival has become famous throughout the world attracting many thousands of people to wallow in the 'cosmetic properties' of the mud, Boryeong also has many great beaches and lots of small islands which can be explored with various ferries.

## Ganworam Hermitage:

As you see in the photo the island becomes cut off from the mainland at high tide but at low tide it is a natural walkway. It was created by a monk to meditate under the moonlight and to this day creates wonderful moonlight reflections.

## Brewing:

Korea is a big brewing country and many areas and families still make their own traditional alcohol. Although you may have heard of or even tasted Soju rice wine, there is also a revival of craft beers. Much of the process by adding ingredients we are not used to make the flavours very different.



Ganworam Hermitage



Mud Festival



Taaan Flower Festival



Oeam Ri Village



Myeongjae House



Gagwonsa Temple

# North Jeolla

## Jeollabuk-Do



Daedunsan Mountain



Tapsa Temple

### North Jeolla:

North Jeolla has a huge amount of cultural and historical sites to explore, as well as being a beautiful geographical province. Even a ski area at Muju.

### Namwon The City of Love:

A couple of points to mention, is that this is the area famous for classical literature such as the Pansori (story to music played by a singer and drum) Chunhyangjeon. This love story is well known and loved in Korea. The lovers first met at the Gwanghalluwon Garden where a festival is held every year to celebrate their deep and everlasting love. In the Chunhyang Theme Park the story is illustrated and performed. It is often used as a film location. Well worth a visit.

The other interesting area is known as the Gochang Dolmen (tomb) site, a UNESCO site of stone graves built during the prehistoric era. It is often compared to Stonehenge in England.

### Temples:

There are many temples where you can visit or even experience the temple stay. The Tapsa Temple famous for its 80 stone pagodas (shown in the photo.) The Temple is stunning through all the seasons and when covered in snow is spectacular. The Naejangsan Temple is surrounded by magnificent peaks. Certainly a sight to see.

### Jeonju, Bibimbap and Hanok Village:

Jeonju Bibimbap is often considered the home of this national dish. Different as the rice is cooked in beef broth rather than water. Get a recipe for this by typing in Jeonju Bibimbap. Worth it!  
While in Jeonju a must visit is to the Hanok Traditional Village with its 800 odd houses. It is very interactive and you can try a number of things such as feeling the warm floors as the houses have underfloor heating and you can try some of the fabulous traditional clothes, such as the beautiful Hanbok.

### Iksan:

This City is known as 'The City of Jewels' as it is the centre of jewelry making and metal crafts, together with jewelry museum showing works from the Baekje Kingdom, one of the three kingdoms ruling ancient Korea from the first century BC.

### Daedunsan Provincial Park:

Great rocky peaks with facilities including cable cars and the Geumgang Gureumdari (hanging bridge, shown in the photo.) Historic Temples and good walks in the park. Used a number of times as a film location.

### Birding:

This is also an area full of migratory birds using the mudflats and other areas. Many bird species stop over here on their way to other destinations. Due to climate change this can now change from year to year, but bird watchers come from all over the world to witness some of the birds in the thousands.



Jeonju Hanok Village



Go Jae Seon's Old House



Fermenting underground



Pretty in the snow



Flock of Baikal Teals

# South Jeolla

Jeollanam-Do



Suncheonman Bay



Taepyeong Yeomsaeng Botanical Gardens



Korean Dance



Garden Suncheonman



Parting of the Sea



Naganeupseong Folk Village



Saseongam Hermitage, Gurye



Tea Plantation

### South Jeolla:

This region is so diverse to what it offers to the visitor, from the tens of thousands of migrating birds in the Suncheonman Bay, to the tea growing plantations and the many temples, forts and museums. As you can see on a map, (on page 2) the area has many islands dotted around it's coastline with Jindo Island being the third largest in Korea and the famous for the 'miracle' parting of the sea. This happens near the end of February and mid June. The waters parts for around an hour and a dry road is created around 40 metres wide and nearly 3 km long. There is a lovely story legend to go with this event. Popular in a number of places, there is a Ocean Railbike tour following the rocky coastline for 3.5km. Lots of fun. Birding is also a big part of this area due to the mass of birds landing here as a half way point to and from their migratory pathway. The area has great seaside villages to explore.

### Suncheon Natona Gardens:

This is a huge area transformed into the most amazing conservation gardens, with more than a million trees and flowers. It includes a wetland centre with the fabulous 'Dream Bridge' decorated with thousands of drawings by children from around the world. The actual wetland zone has a walking trail to see firsthand the wetland ecology in action, and The World Garden includes plants, trees and flowers from 11 countries. Tea is a huge part of Korean culture and you can see a number of tea ceremonies throughout the country. There are tea plantations to visit as well as the Suncheon 'Wils Tea House' located near the thousand year old Sunamsa Temple.. You can experience a number of interaction learnings, such as how to do the tea ceremony or how to make a flower pancakes. After all this you might need a little meditation.

### Suncheon Film Location:

This film set is located in Jorye-dong, Suncheon. There are three villages built for different historical time from the 1950s to the 1970s. The set has around 200 houses and is the largest film set in Korea.

### Naganeupseong:

This folk village is really very interactive. From the photo above you can see how large the village is. Experience Gayageum (instrument), Blacksmith's Workshop, Silk-farming, Seodang Village School, International and Traditional Customs, Folk Movie Theater, Filming Site of Daejanggeum, Traditional Musical Center, Natural Dyeing, Weaving, Traditional Musical Instrument, Writing a wish-paper and post card, Straw Experience, Hanji (Korean Traditional Paper) and lots more! While in the district take in some of the wonderful cultural performances. Well worth the time to see and hear the dance and song of Korea.

# North Gyeongsang

## Gyeongsangbuk-Do

### Let's Explore:

North Gyeongsang has so many attractions to explore you could spend weeks here, taking in the many magnificent temples, the mountains, sandy beaches and the fabulous ancient arts. While Gyeongju and Andong are the region's most famous cultural areas, you will find many areas to explore throughout this province.

North Gyeongsang is the homeland to the former Silla Kingdom, with Gyeongju being in the world's top ten listed UNESCO cultural cities. The famous Bulguksa Temple is situated here and is a must visit, together with the Seokuram Grotto, one of the world's finest shrines to Buddha.

Andong is recognised for its culture and the arts and is home to the Maskdance Festival among others. The Hahoe Folk Village is to be found here and again is a must on your itinerary.

Places to visit such as Yeongju with its fabulous panoramic mountain views and wooden structure of the Buseoksa Temple.

Take a 3 hour ferry ride from Pohang to a remote island called Ulleungdo, a beautiful unspoilt island even many locals have not been to. The port of Pohang is surrounded by very attractive coastline with picturesque beaches and villages.

There are a number of ways to get involved in art lessons and temple stays

Located in Songgeum-ri, Namseong-hyeon, Cheongdo-gun, Wine Tunnel is famous for wine made with Cheongdo's specialty product, bansi (persimmon), in the train tunnel to age wines. Part of the tunnel has been turned into a café, and bar with fabulous lighting.

### What People Say:

#### Ray A

This place is so special. Not only for the fabulous temples and historical places to visit but my partner and I had the opportunity to have a lesson in pottery with a national treasure potter. My partner is very good at it but myself struggled a little, although had so much fun making my bowl.

#### Suggestions:

Donggung Palace and Wolji Pond was used for the palace of the Crown Prince. After the fall of Silla, the site was abandoned and forgotten. In the 1980s, pottery fragment with letters "Wolji" carved onto it was found, revealing the true name of the pond. A night tour is spectacular.



Woryeonggyo Bridge



Bulguksa Temple





Film Set in the mountains



Ulleungdo Island



Drying Squid



Cheomseongdae Observatory



Yangdong Village



Donggung Palace and Wolji Pond

# South Gyeongsang

Gyeongsangnam-Do



Tongyeong Islands



Tongyeong Port. Turtle Ship



Haeinsa Temple Village



Haeinsa Temple



Changwon Station

### South Gyeongsang:

This province is at the bottom of the Korean peninsula. With an extensive and beautiful coastline scattered with many islands.

### Gangwon:

This is a city that was originally built to become the Capital City of Korea should anything happen to Seoul in years gone by. It has the longest straight road in Korea, around 12km long. It was designed to be used as a landing runway if required. The city is surrounded by mountains and is a good base to explore from. Learn how to paint pots here (as one of the directors of Pack Ya Bags does) and explore the old town with artist outlets through small lanes.

### Haeinsa Temple:

Perhaps one of the most important temples to visit as this is where the 'Tripitaka Koreana' was made as a wish to overcome the Mongolia Invasion. The printing blocks are 68cm wide, 24.5cm long, 3 cm thick with wood fixed at each end to maintain balance. Silver magnolias were cut down, soaked in sea water for several years and then dried to make these printing blocks. There are more than 81,000 blocks as seen in the photo. (another favourite of Pack Ya Bags). Needless to say this is a UNESCO designated site. The Jinjuseong Fortress is a must as is the Lantern festival at Jinju every October for a 10 day period.

### Geojedo Island:

The second largest island in Korea and with the most spectacular scenery and with the areas such as Haegeumgang, with its magnificent rock formations, Mongdol Beach and Oedo Island this is a must place to visit. says Tasha Kang who went there with her family as a little girl. She remembers the fantastic beaches and fresh seafood. We have all seen sunrises and sunsets but they are worth seeing again over this fabulous island. Oedo island has a botanical garden and marine park, as well as one of the favourite film locations for filming dramas. Another cave called the 'Shipjagui Cave' is well worth a visit as it is huge and high, and shaped like a cross



Jinju Namgang Yudeung Festival



Treasure Island



Art Cafe

# Busan



Busan



Busan Lights



Haedong Yonggung Temple



Musician



Haeparanggil Trail



Busan

**Busan:**

At the Bottom of the Korean Peninsular, Busan is the second largest city in Korea and very attractive, standing on a huge port with some very well known beaches such as Haeundae Beach, which at the end of July and August are very popular with local Korean people. The whole of Busan offers such a huge amount of activities to see and get involved in. The city has a far more lay back attitude than Seoul. The district of Nampodong Street is where all the theatres and entertainment is, with live shows and the film festival during October. Also close by is one of the largest markets in Korea the 'Gukje Markets' It is connected by small alleyways full of bustling stalls and even connects to other markets. Lots of fun and different goods than what you are used to.

**Jagalchi Fish Market:**

The market is famous throughout Korea. It is huge and you can see mainly women called 'ajumma' selling both live and dried fish. You will certainly see the local way of life here in Busan.

**Places to explore:**

Theme Street depicts life in the 1950s and 60s. There are many museums in and around the city for many varied tastes, modern and old, art and culture. The mouth of the Nakdong River is one of the spots for migratory birds between October and March with more than 150 species observed including cranes, spoonbills and eagles. Get great views by taking a boat trip. The fun Lotte Aquatique Show is a 10 minute musical fountain show shown 11 times

throughout the day. The water falls from 4 floors up and displays pictures and words. Well worth a visit and lots of fun. If you have the children with you they will love it

**Hiking:**

Because of the geographical nature of Busan surrounded by mountains, there are many hiking trails such as the Geumjeong Fortress reached by a cable car and then around a 9km walk. A little more remote is the Seokbalsa Temple which takes around 90 minutes from the cable car. Once there you will have magnificent views over the city. On the way down call into Namman Village for a tea or coffee. As in much of Korea you will find many temples and folk villages to visit. A hop on hop off bus is a good way to explore the city and surrounds.



Busan Air Cruise



Gijang Market





Jeju Rock Salt Farm

## Jeju island



Haenyeo Fernal Divers



Jeju Gimnyeong Maze Park



Ulleungdo Island



Soesokkak

### Jeju Island:

Jeju Island is the premier holiday island of Korea and is very popular with both domestic and international visitor. Because of this there is a huge amount of natural and manmade attractions. The island sits off the southern tip of the peninsula about an hours flight from Seoul or even a ferry from places such as Mokpo, Wando, Goheung Nokdong, Haename, Yeosu, and Busan. Ferries take anything from 3 hours to 12 hours depending on which port you depart from. Jeju is home to the tallest mountain in South Korea, the Hallasan Volcano. It is dormant and a great days walking to the top. A long day but well worth it if you have that moderate fitness.

### Women Divers (Haenyo):

Local traditions are very different to the mainland, with the women being very strong. as shown in the famous "haenyo" or "woman diver". These fantastic women divers can be seen around the island. The story goes that in the 17th century when the men were at sea for a long time the women had to do all the hard work on the land, but growing was difficult so they dived instead for seafood. Today the average age is 65 years old! and they can hold their breath for 2 minutes and can dive to 20 metres. Check out the Haenyo Museum.

### The Mysterious Road:

If you park a car on this steep road, the car does not roll down but appears to go up, defying gravity! Needless to say this is an optical illusion but great fun to see.

### Theme Parks:

There are so many theme parks on the island so really enough entertainment to satisfy every taste. Eco Land with lots of virgin forest with the hand built steam locomotive built in the UK in the 1800s. The Teddy Bear Museum features works from 100 artists from 10 countries. This has become one of the must visit sites in Jeju. Drama World, Loveland and Soingook where more than 100 miniature famous buildings are displayed including building such as the Eiffel Tower and Tower Bridge.

### The different:

Do something different and experience the underwater world and take the underwater submarine tour. A good way to see the island is to do a 4 day cycling tour and cycling around 243 km. You need to be moderately fit but at the end you certainly would be! Horse riding is another great way to experience this island, as Jeju is big on horses with such place to visit as the horse pastureland, a huge area of grassland and one of the most visited sites on the island. The Raon Ma Park has horse riding performances.



Seongsan Ilchulbong Peak

# Jeju island



Marado Island

## Culture:

A number of folk villages exist on Jeju, such as the Jeju Folk Village which really does show and symbolise the culture of the people on Jeju Island as passed down and preserved by each generation.

## Walking Trails:

The Jeju Olli Trail is a series of pathways stretching around the whole island, so you can do a little or all of it if you have the time. It is on this walk where many of the Dramas have been filmed such as the well known 'Jewel of the Palace' 26 routes make up this trail. The scenery is spectacular throughout and the route offers plenty of accommodation each night. Beauty spots such as the Cheonjeyeon waterfalls are found throughout the island.

## Lava Tubes in Geomum Oreum:

The Manjanggal Lava-tube has a reputation as being one of the best lava tubes in the world and is a UNESCO site. It is around 7km long although only 1km is open to the public. The tube is 23 metres high with various cave formations, such as stalactites, stalagmites, flowstones, lava tubes, lava shelves, and lava rafts. The tubes are in the area called Geomum Oreum, Oreum meaning volcano formations in simple terms. The area stands on a ridge 456 meters high, surrounded by forests and a breeding ground for many birds. Lots of really good hiking trails are available in the reserve.

## Hallasan Mountain:

This mountain is a must to visit. Enough said!

## Beaches, Farms and Gardens:

There are many beautiful natural places to visit on the island, such as the Yeomiji Botanic Indoor Garden. A three acre large glass greenhouse together with a 38 metre observation tower or a farm visit to the Jeju Rural Life Experience, a real favourite with the children, as they can interact with the animals. Lots of really good beaches are all around the island.

## Marado Island:

Located 8 km from the tip of Jeju. An island of unusual rock formations and now becoming popular for visits from tourists. Reached by ferry so these days easy to get to.



Cheonjeyeon Waterfalls



Fire Festival





Theme Park



Innisfree House



Train Ride on Jeju



Seongeup Folk Village



Sculpture Park



# Daejeon

## About Daejeon:

Daejeon is a city of Education and Science and is a transport crossroads in the middle of Korea with 4 railways crossing to various parts of the country. It has 18 Universities and more than 200 research institutions. It is little wonder it is nicknamed 'Asia's Silicon Valley'. The city was host to a world expo in 1993 with 108 countries participating. With 14 million people visiting the Expo Daejeon was well and truly on the science and technology map.

Uineungjeongi Cultural Street is a real mix of art and culture, including art galleries, concerts, theaters, exhibitions, performances, art supply stores, pottery studios, and antique stores. The street becomes even more vibrant in the evening and into the night with many restaurants, visual ceiling lights and huge LED screen on sky street.

## Expo Science Park:

Developed into a science and technology complex. It has a number of attractions including a simulation theatre, where the chairs move with the movie, and electrical energy pavilion. Hanbit Tower is a cone shaped tower you can climb to overlook the city.

## Daejeon O World:

Is a theme park for all the family with fantastic gardens, animals and fun rides. If you have the children with you this is a must place to visit.

Other places of interest is the Daejeon Art Centre, with its unusual building, the Prehistoric Museum, the Yuseong Foot Spa (after that hard day walking) the Daejeon Observatory, and the Dunsan Prehistoric Settlement from the stone age.

## Gyejoksan Mountain Red Clay Trail:

Something very different, with the first eco healing barefoot walking trail. Many people walk or even run along the 14 km trail and apparently it soothes the body and mind. Along the route you will come across the Gyejoksanseong Fortress built at the time of the three kingdoms.

## Daecheongho Lake:

A manmade lake but gives great opportunities to both walk and cycle.

## Juwangsan Mountain:

Juwangsan Mountain features deep valleys and sheer rocky cliffs. It includes four waterfalls, caves, the Daejeonsa Temple. Try the canopy walk.

## Jangtaesan Mountain:

Walk in this area in Autumn and experience the most amazing Autumn colours as see in the photo.

## Bomunsan Park:

Beautiful park with fantastic colours in all the seasons. The park has mineral springs, even a roller skating rink. The Bomunsanseong Fortress, and Bomunsaji Temple are here with a cable car and observatory.



Jangtaesan Mountain



Bomunsan Food Street



Daejeon Arts Centre



Mt Jewangsan



Jangtaesan Forest



Gyejoksan Red Clay Trail

# Daegu



Donghwasa Temple



Daegu Fashion Show



The Arc



Seomun Markets



The Opera

### Daegu:

Daegu has a couple of famous tag lines such as 'The City of Music' and 'Daegu Fashion City' both of which offer something different while visiting. Certainly if you have an interest in either of these industries.

The city has become a UNESCO music city to foster all types of innovation and creativity in music. What it means for the visitor is a range of musical activities and performances throughout the city. A visit to the Opera is a definite as the shows are outstanding.

Starting in the springs through summer, buskers are encouraged throughout the parks and streets. The Pongdang Concert is held every Friday at 5pm in spring and summer with diverse entertainment from classical to K-Pop.

A body painting festival is held in late summer with artists from around the world

### Robots!:

The city is getting to be known as a mecca for the robotic industry and is attracting robotic companies from around the world.

### The Daegu Culture and Art Centre:

This concert venue sees a constant stream of performances across all music and drama art forms.

### The Arc:

Another cultural complex with a water theme with the building itself a piece of artwork. At night the building and fountains light up to create a marvelous scene.

### Fashion:

The city promotes itself as a fashion and textile capital and is continuing to create a city to become a world leader in fashion. It holds many exhibitions and shows including, annual fashion fairs with many fashion companies are based here.

Dongseongno Street is a major fashion area with many shops selling clothes and accessories.

Talking of streets, go for a meal at one of the Bulgogi Tents. The atmosphere is so good and vibrant. Coffee houses are some of the best in the country.

### Jjimilbang:

If you have never tried one do so here in Daegu. It means the bathhouse where you can get that hot tub, sauna and a massage. These days they are very sophisticated and offer all facilities for the whole family. Jjimilbang are found throughout Korea. The best way to relax!

### Seomun Market:

is one of Korea's last remaining markets from the Joseon Dynasty, and is one of the best traditional markets in the city to buy local produce.

### Yangnyeongsi:

This is the oldest market in Korea for medicinal herbs with a history dating back at least 350 years. (see photo)

### E-World and Hillcrest:

A theme park with many things for the family including beautiful gardens, waterfalls, fountains, flowers and great rides. A good day out if you just want to play.

Hillcrest is another theme park to explore and enjoy. Close to Deuran-gil food town a favourite with locals.

### Culture:

Buddhism is still strong here so has many temples to explore and maybe have a temple stay. There is an academy of Confucianism in the city. The well known Stone Buddha called Gatbawi is here and is visited by people from all over the country and from countries overseas. There are a number of fabulous folk villages in the area also to visit.



Oriental Medicine Market

# Ulsan



Grand Park

## Ulsan:

Ulsan can boast a couple of really big operating industrial plants in the city, Hyundai is the world's largest assembly plant in the world and the world's largest shipyard. For something different both offer industrial tours with the car plant taking around an hour. They produce around 330 cars an hour! It is amazing just how big it actually is. The Hyundai shipbuilding yard tour takes around 40 minutes.

Ulsan is surrounded by seven mountains over 1000metres all showing fantastic colours during every season especially the silver grass.

## Ulsan Grand Park:

The park is a huge space in downtown Ulsan. A wide variety of shows, festivals and events are held here throughout the year and perhaps the most colourful is the 'Rose Festival' held every June. Next door is the Bamboo grove although more like a small forest. This whole area has over the years been restored and is now a must visit area. when in Ulsan.

## Jinha Beach:

This beach is worth mentioning although the area has many good beaches, but this is where the annual Ulsan Professional Windsurfing takes place due to the reliable trade winds at this time of the year in May. The beach is known for its clear water with a great sandy beach. The whole area has been and still is being bought up to a standard for everyone to enjoy. Throughout the year lots of festivals and events are performed.

## Jangseungpo Whale Cultural Village:

When whaling was banned in 1986 this centre of the whaling industry turned from the old whaling traditions to an interactive and whale conservation centre. The centre offers education, and the history into the past whaling industry and marine ecosystems.

## Oegosan Onggi Village:

This is the largest folk Onggi (earthenware) village. You can see how these impressive pots are made including the workshops and the kilns. A must visit.

## Adventure:

The area offers a number of adventurous activities such as rock climbing with around 100 various climbs.

Hiking in the Yeongnam Alps offer a huge range of walks and hikes especially starting at the Gajisan Provincial Park. Lots of rocky peaks. There is of course a temple on one of the trails with only Buddhist nuns remaining in residence.

## Stone Age Petroglyphs:

Something quite different is to visit the area where you can see Petroglyphs of Cheonjeon-ri, Ulju (rock paintings) from the stoneage and bronze age. This area stretches for around 3 kilometres so has a huge amount to see.

## Daewangam Park:

A seaside park that is accessible through a 100 year old pine forest, Lots of interesting shapes to the rocks which give way to the Ulgi Lighthouse and Daewangam Island.



Daewangam Park



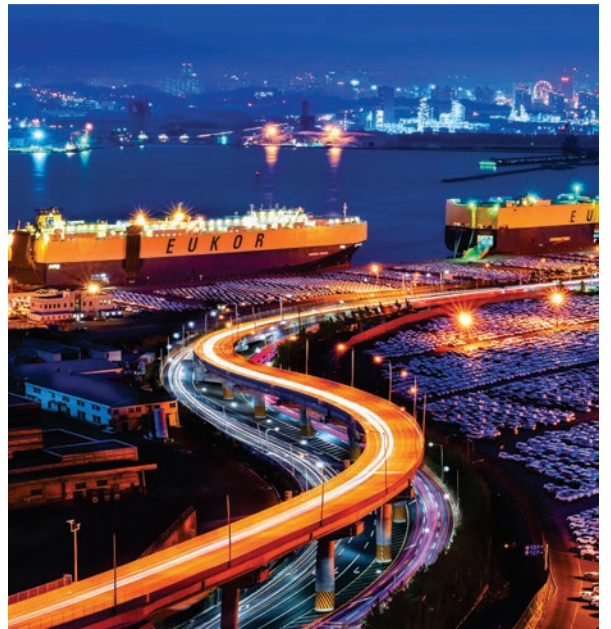
Mt Wolchulsan



Cycling around Lake



Rose Garden



Ulsan at night

# The Arts, Korea



Street Performers



Street Artist



B-Boy Concert



### Art in Korea:

Art in Korea encompasses music, dance, theatre, calligraphy, painting, pottery, lacquerware, visual arts and many other doctrines. The country has a wealth of talent in all the arts both traditional and in the modern era.

### Calligraphy:

Korean calligraphy is said to reveal the artists personality and is a beautiful written brushstrokes.

### Paper:

Go into one of the paper shops and you would think you are looking at bolts of fabric but in fact thousands of rolls of handmade paper in fantastic colours, textures and designs.

### Fabric Making and Design:

Fabric art goes back a long way including embroidery, which is used for colourful costumes and screenwork used in everyday lives as well as performances and festivals. As you see from the number of festivals, costumes become very much part of the focus.

### Pottery:

From the everyday pots, such as the storage pots for kimchi to the beautiful white porcelain originating from the Joseon period. The Celadon is the Korean stoneware and is marked with the Jade blue with the unique inlay. There are some very interesting kilns around the country and various potteries. Take a lesson in making, glazing and painting pots.

### Music and Dance:

'Gugak' means national music (apart from foreign music) and includes art forms such as song, dance and movement, from the traditional shows and ceremonies to the very modern. Dances including the great drum dances and are performed as part of the many annual festivals and celebrations with many involving traditional costumes, music, songs and special instruments.

The range of music and drama in Korea is astonishing with modern shows, operas and Korean musicals. Many of these shows are seen throughout the world from shows originating from Korea.

Go to a live performance when in Korea. Story telling is performed throughout the country.



Pottery Studio



Samtan Art Mine



Drum Maker

# Korea Culture



Janggu Drum Dance



Dressing in Hanbok



Sunchang Paste Museum



walking on the Seobdari



Tapsa Temple



Go Jae Seon's Old House



Gekukji



Tea Ceremony

### Culture in Korea:

Social customs are still very important to life in Korea. Many of the old ways are disappearing, but many still exist in today's modern society. Here are few facts: South Korea supports religious freedom with Buddhism and Christianity being the main religions although in many parts Confucianism is still prevalent. Bowing is still a tradition throughout the country with a handshake also by the men, usually supported with the left hand on the right forearm. Usually women do not shake hands although this now happens more often in business. Gifts are a big tradition and the people do enjoy giving. Always take the gift with two hands and do not open the gift in front of the person giving it to you. If you are invited to someone's house always take a small gift. As you will read in the food page, food has a special place in the culture and history of Korea placing a huge emphasize on health and wellbeing.

### Dress in History:

The traditional dress known as 'hanbok' has been worn since ancient times. The hanbok consists of a shirt (jeogori) and a skirt (chima). Clothing was an important mark of social rank. Impressive, with very colourful 'costumes' The upper classes also used jewelry to distance themselves from the ordinary people. A traditional item of jewelry was made of a precious gemstones, to which a tassel of silk was connected. The common people were often restricted to plain colourless clothes. The Hanbok is classified according to occasion such as everyday dress, ceremonial dress and special dress and is still worn today especially for weddings and special occasions. In Korea you will find tradition and culture on show in everyday life. The Korean people will be proud to show you and try to talk with you in English. Some are shy to try but they will try to communicate and ask if you need help. It's in their nature.

### Ceremonies:

Ceremonies such as a Tea Ceremony is still practiced throughout the country. It was and is used for either a ceremony and or as a traditional herbal medicine. There are 5 distinct tastes including sweet, sour, salty, bitter and pungent and can be made from fruit, leaves seeds or roots. When in Korea go to at least one of these ceremonies. Not to miss while in Seoul is the Royal Guards Changing Ceremony in front of the Deoksu Palace when the new unit arrives to relieve the ones watching the gates. Verbal orders, flags, and musical instruments are used. This is in the afternoon except Mondays. When you start to travel around the country it becomes apparent that the huge amount of temples to witness is incredible with every village and town blessed with one or many. For the visitors who enjoy these fabulous buildings and traditions they are a wonderful sight to see and experience. Likewise the folk villages are not just for the tourist but with many of them living villages.



Wanna One



K-Pop



Korean K-Pop boys band

## K-Pop and K-Drama



Korean Odyssey



Sdqueen

### K-Pop:

Started in the 90's, K-pop has become a truly global phenomenon due to its very different blend of addictive melodies, clever choreograph and professional production numbers. All of us have of course heard of Gangnam Style which made history by having more than a billion views on YouTube and got us all doing the Gangnam dance! This in turn created incredible exposure to other K-pop artists and groups. This music is always fun to listen to and to watch the videos.

### K-Drama:

Again Korean Drama and films has taken the world by storm with their TV dramas shown throughout Asia and the world. This has created in turn a tourism route in Korea visiting the various locations throughout the country. All subjects are dealt with both old and new. There are too many to mention, but get a chance look at the Jewel of the Palace a historical drama with 50 episodes and Korean Odyssey a new 20 episode take on journey to the west. Very good and funny.

### Festivals:

Well where do we start? Korea has so many festivals, as this is a really important way to express their lives, nature and culture. With more than 700 of them, as a visitor, whatever time of the year you travel to Korea a festival will be on somewhere whether it be summer, autumn, winter or spring. There are some very famous ones such as the Boryeong Mud Festival, the Jeonju International Film Festival, Busan International Rock Festival and one at Incheon also, the Jindo Miracle Sea Road Festival, the Daegu Music Festival, the Taean Tulip Festival, the Tug of War Festival called the Gijisi Juldarigi, and the Jeonju International Sori Festival, showing global and local music. This is just a few of them. We have mentioned other festivals on the various destination pages throughout this brochure. If you want to know more please ask us.

### Shows and performances:

Many of the cities and towns have performances with Seoul offering not only cultural shows but dynamic fantastic shows such as the very funny Nanta Cooking show (hilarious), the Painters a painting show with special effects, Jump which includes martial art and the fantastic Drumcats, a group of world class drummers, a real wow show.

More cultural shows such as at the Korea House and at the many folk villages offer cultural shows from the past and present.

## Festivals and Show Time



Jump



Korea House



Pohang Fireworks Festival



Nanta



Jeonju Sori

# Playtime in Korea

## Adventure:

Adventure means different things to different people, and being in Korea will make your own interest happen. Adventure might mean climbing mountains or riding a cycle, or kayaking down waterfalls. But it also may mean visiting drama sites or the K-pop scene, or attending a temple stay. It might mean a family holiday to all the entertainment facilities or theme parks dotted around the country. Visiting the DMZ is certainly an adventure. The many traditional folk villages to involve yourself in culture of the arts and of course it can be an adventure trying all the food.

Whatever your interest and taste you will find it in Korea. The mix of tradition in the country together with the modern attractions and entertainment will keep you occupied for as long as you want to stay in the country. If you cannot find it ask! We will find it for you.

## Hiking and Walking:

Walking and Hiking in Korea is for everybody depending on your interests and fitness level. From a 30 minute stroll to extended day, there are many thousands of trails throughout the country. This is a big pastime with local Koreans so they have many shops selling the correct gear. Some of the walks are easy some are extreme but a great way to see and experience the country. Hiking in Spring and Autumn are ablaze with fantastic colours but anytime is good. From the flat pretty walks to hiking up the hundreds of mountains this is well worth doing wherever you are in the country.

## Beaches and Nightlife:

Adventure can also mean relaxing on a beach or getting into the night scene which is very good throughout as described in other parts of this brochure. Ah Enjoy!

## Diving:

Although not known for diving Korea has a number of diving areas particularly down the east coast and onto Jeju Island. The Buddha dive on Pohong shows a statue of Buddha sitting in a rock at a depth of 17 meters. Other areas include a good night dive at Taejongdae for sea horse and octopus. Munson offers a great wall dive with lots of fish and soft coral and Supsom for nudibranchs and maybe the odd dolphin or two.

## Golf tours:

Korea has some excellent gold courses both championship and local. A number of courses have accommodation attached to them or close by. As you would know the Korean women golfers have taken the professional circuit by storm and are top golfers. Whatever your interest you will find it in Korea



Mt Daedunsan Lookout



Underwater Buddha at Pohang



Hanul Reed trail



Namsan Hanok Village



White Water Rafting



Flying



Golf



Cycling

# food in Korea



## Korean Food:

Korean food is very healthy coming from the Royal Cuisine with its emphasis on many shared side dishes. The traditional meal includes rice or noodles and soup together with meat or fish or a variety. The food history places much importance on food as a medicine. Korea also has the fast food outlets and street vendors selling everything from pancakes to spicy fried chicken. There is such a variety of food to try when you visit Korea you will find many unusual food items that you will really enjoy and when back home go to a Korean restaurant with a fresh way of sampling new food.

## Here are a few national dishes to try:

### Kimchi:

We have to start with Kimchi as most Koreans eat it with every meal. For a non-Korean it is an acquired taste, as it is fermented cabbage.

### Korean BBQ:

You cannot go wrong with this very popular dish. All meats and fish can be cooked by yourself at the table. Comes with all the side dishes. (see photo)

### Bulgogi:

Normally this dish is grilled marinated beef, pork or chicken and is perhaps the most famous dish. Eat it like the locals wrapped in a lettuce leaf and a few spices.

### Bibimbap:

This is a basic rice dish with seasoned sautéed vegetables, mushrooms, soy sauce, and chili paste (although there are many recipes). All mixed together sometimes with an egg added to the top. A simple meal but very effective and tasty.

### Samgyeopsal (pork strips):

One of the most popular dishes cooked with seasoned pork belly strips. Try this with a couple drinks of the local Soju.

### Haemul Pajeon (seafood vegetable pancake):

Seafood in a pancake. Yum!

### Ddukbokki (spicy rice cake)

Popular from the street vendor stalls.



# Shopping in Korea



## Shopping in Korea:

Shopping is big in Korea with a huge variety of goods for the tourist and the business traveller.

We will concentrate here on the two main cities of Seoul and Busan. However excellent shopping is to be found throughout the country, with access to everything you could possibly want from clothes to souvenirs from electronic to art.

### Seoul:

Many of the shopping areas in Seoul are very well known as Seoul is most definitely a shopping mecca throughout all the individual shops, department stores and the fantastic local markets. Where do you start!

### Busan:

One of the largest markets in Korea is the 'Gukje Markets' It is connected by small alleyways full of bustling stalls and even connects to other markets

### Namdaemun Market:

Situated around the Sungnyemun Gate (shown in photo) this famous market is open 24 hours a day and has more than 10,000 stores! This is a lot of shopping area and is very vibrant. The market is both retail and wholesale. Traders come from all over the world to buy from here. Bargains galore!

### Myeongdong:

We like to call this area downtown Seoul. Situated in Central Seoul it is easy access to many other attractions, shopping areas, shows, concerts and palaces. The great part is the vibrant fun of the streets with thousands of shops, street sellers and food stalls. It comes alive in the evening and a great place to spend your night to enjoy Seoul.

### Insadong:

Insadong is also situated in downtown Seoul The street is around 700 metres long and is packed with antique shops, antiquarian booksellers, art galleries, scroll mounters, craft workshops, brush shops, traditional teahouses, restaurants and bars.

### Dongdaemun:

Another huge area selling both retail and wholesale. This area has around 26 buildings and malls to house 30,000 shops From up market to stalls selling buttons and fixings and so on. Not just one but many stalls with many of the goods made on site. You can buy anything here! This will certainly open your eyes to what you can actually buy here.

### Gwangjang Market:

A retro market specialising in wedding dresses (Hanbok). Heaps of local fabrics, lacquerware and great food.

### Yongsan Electronic Market:

This is just one of a number of electronic markets in Seoul. Around 3000 stores selling everything electronic including computers, cameras, audio equipment. Even spare parts. Expect to pay around 30% cheaper than at retail shops. 'A big boys toy paradise'.

### Samcheongdong:

This a little different as it is famous for traditional Korean houses craft and art shops

### Goto Mall:

You will all of heard of Gangnam well this shopping centre stretched for nearly a kilometre underground. It is situated on the south side of the river Han and is very popular with local people. Prices are usually cheaper than even some of the markets.

### Hongdae:

Another underground shopping area which has become a culture in it's own right with a great atmosphere, live performances and festivals make it a definitely place to visit.

### Getting around to the shopping areas:

Getting around to all these areas is very simple by the subway as each station is clearly marked with spelling you can understand and numbers of each station. When you arrive at the station it is announced throughout the train.

# Package Suggestions

Yours to explore



## Ray Aucott:

We have many tours to various places in Korea for many reasons. Many tours are what are termed 'Private Tours' which usually mean a minimum of 2 people. Transport is matched to how many people are in the group. The larger the group the cheaper the cost. With these type of tours anything can be organised for any reason. These tours are very safe and you will be well looked after and shown the best places to visit. The Seat in Coach Tours (SIC) are set tours and start on a particular day of the week. These are now available in Korea and go to all districts of the country. Following is a few suggestions but there is a wide range to choose from. The more you tell us or your travel agents your interests, likes and dislikes we will make sure we give you the tour you will love.

## 1, 2 and 3 day tours

If time is limited these are a great way to quickly have a look around with the hope one day you will go back to Korea to explore in depth.

You can either do these tours yourself (with our help) with intercity buses or KTX trains and take local tours from the destination or if you want to be spoiled we can organise a tour for you. such as days out in Seoul, Busan, Gyeongju or DMZ. Maybe it's that 3 day winter ski trip you want or the temple stay for a couple of days.

1 day tours to Nami Island, shopping in Seoul, folk villages, palaces and theme parks can all be organised, plus great nights out to visit shows and restaurants.

2 and 3 day tours to Mt Seorak, Gyeongju and/or other destinations. Even fly to Jeju

## 5 Day (Seoul, Jeonju, Yongin)

Day 1: Transfer to Hotel upon arrival.

Day 2: (B/L) Blue House, Gyeongbok Palace and Folklore Museum, Jogyesa Temple, Ginseng Center. Lunch Korea Folk Village.

Day 3: (B) Jeonju, Paper Museum, Rent Hanbok (Korean Traditional Cloth) for 2 hours to explore Jeonju Hanok Village, Nambu Traditional Market.

Day 4: (B) Yongin, Everland Theme Park, Myeongdong Downtown Seoul, Nanta Show or Dongdaemun Market.

Day 5: (B) Transfer to Incheon.

## 3 Day Winter Ski Tour:

There are number of ski tours but this one includes Nami Island and 2 days skiing, but with skiing in the mountains any amount of days can be organised, either in conjunction with other attractions or just skiing.





### 5 Day (including Nami Island and Mt Seorak)

Day 1: Transfer to Hotel upon arrival.  
 Day 2: (B/L) Blue House, Gyeongbok Palace and Folklore Museum, Insadong, Jogyesa Temple, Namdaemun Market.  
 Day 3: (B/L) Nami Island, Sokcho, Dongmyeong Port and Yeonggeumjeong Pavilion, Joongang Fish Market.  
 Day 4: (B/L) Mt. Seorak National Park, Cable Car Ride to Gwonggeumseong Fortress, Shinheungsa Temple. Transfer back to Seoul and visit Myeongdong Street, Nanta Show in the evening or Dongdaemun Market.  
 Day 5: Depart and transferred to Incheon:

ALL TOURS ARE VERY FLEXIBLE:  
 Jeju Island 2 nights to 10 nights.  
 The unknown beautiful South of Korea for private tours to areas the locals know about. It's well worth it!

### 7 Days (including, Busan, Gyeongju and Jeju)

Day 1: Transfer to Hotel upon arrival.  
 Day 2: (B/L) Blue House, Gyeongbok Palace and Folklore Museum, Jogyesa temple, Ginseng Center. Lunch Korea Folk Village.  
 Day 3: (B) Gyeongju, Seogguram Grotto, Bulguksa Temple, Gyeongju Museum.  
 Day 4: (B) Busan, Yongdusan Park, Jagalchi Fish Market, Kukje Market, Haedong Temple  
 Day 5: (B/L) Lunch at Wellbeing Buffet. Flight to Jeju Island. Hallim Park, Suweolbong Trekking, Spirited Garden, Mt. Sanbang, Cheonjeyeon Waterfall.  
 Day 6: (B/L) BBQ Lunch, Seongeup Folk Village, Manjang Cave, Trick Art Museum, (Sangumburi Crater in Autumn season), Women Diver Show, Seongsan Sunrise Peak,  
 Day 7: (B) Transfer to Jeju airport to board a flight to Gimpo airport.

### 12 Days (including, Busan, Gyeongju and Jeju)

Day 1: You will be met and transferred to your Hotel.  
 Day 2: Seoul Full Day Tour.  
 Day 3: DMZ Tour and Seoul Tower.  
 Day 4: Suwon and Yongin Tour.  
 Day 5: Seoul to Busan on KTX fast train.  
 Day 6: Busan City Tour.  
 Day 7: Gyeongju Tour.  
 Day 8: Busan market tour and cultural village.  
 Day 9: Transfer to Jeju Island.  
 Day 10: Jeju East Tour.  
 Day 11: Transfer from Jeju to Incheon then Incheon Tour.  
 Day 12: Transfer to Incheon Airport then Departure.  
 The discover Korea tour will show you a good overview of the country. A 22 page online brochure is available for this tour.





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Your Travel Agent's Contact