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STARS AND STRIPES

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**SHARE YOUR
PIECE OF PARADISE
WITH US**



Stars and Stripes is asking readers to write about their own piece of paradise. Yes, that means you! Our annual Destination Paradise magazine highlights must-see travel spots across the Pacific – and your bit of paradise could be included in our 2025-26 edition that hits the streets on Pacific bases in September. Submit your story and photos to paradise@stripes.com by **July 15**. We'll make you famous! Check out our previous Destination Paradise magazines



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STARS AND STRIPES

80 YEARS

1945 - 2025

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Climbing walls and a jumping tower await guests in the harnessed activity zone at Sports Monster in Goyang.

Fitness, technology, fun at Sports Monster

STORY AND PHOTOS BY TREVARES JOHNSON, STARS AND STRIPES
Published: June 12, 2025

At the heart of Starfield Mall in Goyang, west of Seoul, Sports Monster blends traditional sports with digital gaming, offering an indoor experience that appeals to children, teens and adults.

Since opening in 2016, the indoor complex has provided more than 30 physical and virtual activities, including trampolines, basketball dunk zones and a simulated rock-climbing wall.

Digital offerings range from rhythm games and motion-based soccer to immersive virtual reality stations.

The facility, entirely indoors, is designed to accommodate South Korea’s unpredictable weather. The space caters to a range of ages and energy levels, with staff stationed throughout to assist guests and ensure safety, allowing parents to shop or relax nearby.

Though not all staff speak fluent English, employees are known for being approachable and enthusiastic, helping guide patrons and maintaining a family-friendly environment.

Weekday afternoons tend to be the least crowded, allowing for shorter waits and more time at each attraction.

A standout feature is the VR baseball pitching game, a fast-paced, intuitive option that attracts both children and adults.

Admission is tiered by time and duration. A two-hour pass costs 26,000 won (about \$19) during the off-peak periods and 30,000 won during peak periods. One-hour passes are available for 17,000 won and 19,000 won, respectively.



Things to know

DIRECTIONS: Inside the Starfield Mall in Goyang.

GOOGLE PLUS CODE: JVWV+C5 Goyang-si, Gyeonggi-do, South Korea

HOURS: Open daily, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.

COSTS: A two-hour pass costs 26,000 won (about \$19) during the off-peak periods and 30,000 won during popular times. One-hour passes are available for 17,000 won and 19,000 won, respectively.

FOOD: Starfield Mall boasts a plethora of options.

PHONE: 82-1668-4832

For military families, this attraction offers an affordable, interactive way to explore Korea’s evolving recreation landscape.

johnson.trevares@stripes.com

Hyundai premium outlets

Songdo

Only A One-Hour Drive

More Than Shopping. It’s a City Getaway.

WELCOME VOUCHERS

DISCOUNTS & REWARDS

CULTURAL EXPERIENCES

Join Our Half-Day Tour

Balance in Life

Global Citizenship

Integrity

Adaptability

Balance in Life

Empowerment





KOREA TOURISM ORGANIZATION

Planning a surfing trip to Yangyang or Busan this summer? Hold on! Just an hour’s drive from Seoul, there’s a place where you can ride the waves without heading to the coast. Located in Siheung, Gyeonggi-do, Wave Park is a massive artificial surfing park featuring a wave pool that measures 220 meters long and 240 meters wide, generating up to 1,000 waves per hour.

Wave Park is a theme park located on Geobukseom Island — a turtle-shaped artificial island that is part of Siheung’s marine leisure complex. Popular among both domestic and international visitors, it offers not only surfing, but also diving, water activities, and even caravan accommodations.

The world’s largest artificial surfing theme park, Wave Park, kicked off its 2025 Surf Zone season on April 26. The park features Surf Cove — the main surf pool— as well as Surf Village, a land-based training area. It also includes Surf Stage, where various music performances and events are held, and the Land Surfing Zone, where visitors can practice using land surfing boards on solid ground.

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www.visitkorea.or.kr

Things to know

- DATES:** April 26 – Oct.31
HOURS: 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. / [July 5-25] 10 a.m.–8 p.m.
* Entry begins at 9 a.m. and closes at 7 p.m.
* Surf Zone closed July 18-20, 2025, except for Mio Costa
* Surf Zone operating hours will be extended with the opening of the Mio Costa Zone (Wave Pool) starting June 6.

- HOW TO REACH WAVE PARK BY PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION:**
- Take Bus No. 28 or 29 from the Jeongwang Station Transfer Center (Seoul Subway Line 4) Bus Stop, and get off at the MTV Wake Park main entrance.
 - Take Bus No. 99-3 from Oido Station (Seoul Subway Line 4) Bus Stop, and get off at the MTV Wave Park main entrance.



Family-Friendly Fun at Mio Costa Zone

The Mio Costa Zone offers more than just surfing, featuring Mio Pool for kids’ surfing lessons, the Kids & Turtle Pool with giant tubes, an emergency escape slide, rappel diving, a recreational pool for children’s scuba diving experiences, and an island-style hot spa.



WEBSITE

Easy and Safe Surfing for Beginners

Wave Park places the highest priority on customer safety. To ensure this, only certified personnel with licenses and certificates from training institutions accredited by the Korean Coast Guard are assigned throughout the park. Lifeguards also undergo intensive in-house training based on scenario simulations to strengthen their emergency response capabilities. In addition, the park operates a 24/7 water treatment system, including filtration and UV-based automatic sterilization, to maintain clean and safe water quality.

Surfing gained widespread attention after being added as an official event in a major international sports competition held in Tokyo in 2020, leading to a rise in public interest. Wave Park offers a group PT (Personal Training) program designed to help beginners develop their surfing skills. Under the close guidance of professional surfer coaches, participants can take lessons tailored to all levels—from beginner to advanced.

In addition, events such as the Siheung Mayor’s International Surfing Competition and the WSL (World Surf League) Siheung Korea Open will provide a variety of attractions and experiences for visitors to Geobukseom Island and Wave Park.



Discount Coupon
for VISITKOREA Members





Prize Winner

STARS AND STRIPES congratulates the winner of our Korea 2025 Spring/Summer promotion!

Grand Prize: AU-Tech Electric Scooter

Winner: Guzalia Reed (Spouse of a GS employee at Camp Humphreys)

Presented by: Korea Area Manager Nicki Cornelius – Stars and Stripes

Thanks to everyone who participated!
We'll see you again in the Fall.

Follow us at Facebook.com/StripesPacific for more chances to win!



How to use Coupang, Korea's top shopping app

BY HYEMIN LEE,
STRIPE KOREA

Coupang is Korea's most beloved shopping app, often referred to as "Amazon in Korea" by Americans. You can find everything from groceries and beauty products to electronics and home essentials. It offers discounts on many products, and more importantly, most items arrive the next day, sometimes within hours! Try it once, and you'll see why it's part of daily life for millions of Koreans, including myself.

The good news is Coupang now supports English and accepts foreign cards. Your experience may vary, however, depending on whether you have an Alien Registration Card or not. So, here's a guide to help you make the most of Korea's top shopping app. Once you get used to how to use it, Coupang might become your new favorite Korean life hack!

lee.hyemin@stripes.com



QUICK NOTE: WHAT IS ARC?

Alien Registration Card (ARC) is a foreigner's ID used in Korea like a social security number. While SOFA members are not required to obtain one, applying for an ARC can make life significantly easier when using Korean services. Check out the Tip of the Day on how to get your ARC.



HOW TO GET
YOUR ARC

USING COUPANG WITHOUT ARC

You might not want to get an ARC due to a short stay in Korea, but you can still use Coupang for fast delivery on thousands of items. Believe me, it's still much more efficient than in-person shopping when it comes to finding good deals. Here's what to expect:

- The app supports English, and foreign credit/debit cards are accepted.
- A minimum order of 19,800 won is required per purchase.
- Features like Rocket Wow, Rocket Fresh and Coupang Play are not available for non-ARC holders.

Tip: If you have Korean friends or coworkers with Rocket Wow, they can always help you out, especially for items that are difficult to find in stores.

THOSE WITH ARC

Once you register your ARC and link to your phone, you can unlock Coupang's full features through a Rocket Wow membership. If you're living off-base or staying longer than a few months, this version of Coupang could truly transform your daily routine.

Rocket Wow membership

This service offers diverse features, including Rocket delivery, discount offers, free return within 30 days, access to a streaming service and free delivery with Coupang Eats, all for a monthly fee of 7,890 won.

WHY COUPANG IS SPECIAL

1. Fast delivery

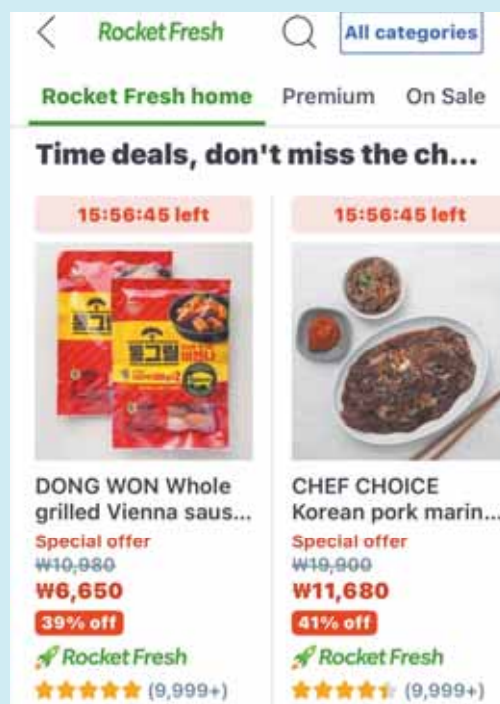
Coupang is beloved for the lightning-fast delivery. If you're a Rocket Wow member, most items will arrive by the next morning or day. Even without the membership, delivery is still quick, usually within a day or two.

2. Discount offers

I used to browse cosmetics, clothing, and shoes in stores, but now I simply grab my phone. Items are usually 10–30% cheaper on Coupang. After a few price checks, I gave up in-person shopping.

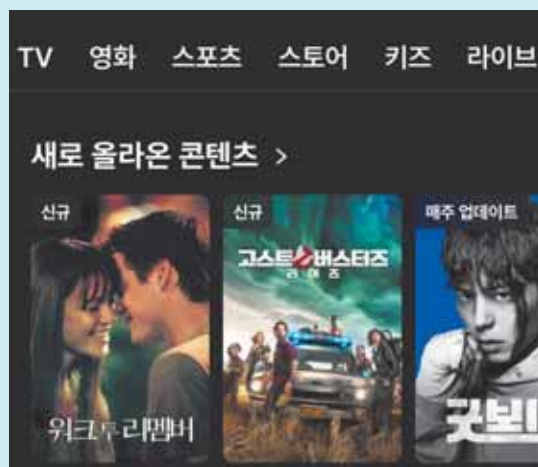
3. Free return policy

Online shopping is convenient, but comparing multiple items can make it hard to choose the right one and returns are costly. With Wow membership, you can return any item, even if it's already open and undamaged, within 30 days.



4. Rocket Fresh

Place a grocery order by midnight and receive the delivery by 7 a.m. the next morning. Even your ice cream stays frozen! In many cases, the grocery items are even fresher than what you'd find at local supermarkets. Also, Rocket Fresh includes hard-to-find items in stores like organic products, protein snacks and sugar-free foods.



5. Coupang Play

Rocket Wow members get free access to Coupang Play, a streaming service with dramas, movies and variety shows, both Korean and global. Many Korean programs include English subtitles, and the platform features many American TV shows, sometimes making it better than Netflix.



6. Coupang Eats

Baemin may be Korea's top food delivery app, but Coupang Eats is quickly gaining ground. With Wow membership, delivery is free and since tipping isn't customary in Korea, you just browse, order and enjoy. Without a Wow membership, delivery fees range from 2,000 to 4,000 won.

7. Reliable customer service

Coupang offers 24/7 customer support and is one of the most trusted platforms in Korea since they are constantly monitoring to reduce delays and flag fake sellers.

HOW TO USE COUPANG

1. Download the app

Search for "Coupang" on Android or iOS or go to www.coupang.com.

2. Create an account

Sign up with your email and phone number.

3. Switch to English mode

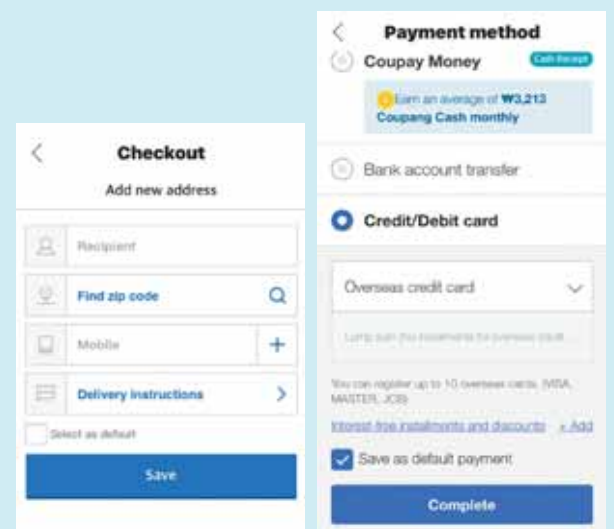
Tap the user icon, scroll down to "Language" and switch to English.

4. (Optional) Join Rocket Wow

If you have an ARC and plan to live more like a local, you can consider subscribing to Rocket Wow for a more convenient life.



COUPANG
WEBSITE



5. Start shopping!

Browse by category or use the search bar. Foreign cards are accepted for purchase. Enter your address in Korean for better accuracy. If your building has an entry code, make sure to include it in the address details. Once you place an order, it's already on the way!

IF YOU LIVE ON BASE

Coupang and most Korean delivery apps can't deliver directly inside U.S. military bases, so here are a few workarounds to consider:

Convenience store pickup

Many convenience stores like CU, GS25, and 7-Eleven offer pick-up locker services. Just make sure to visit and see if the nearby store supports this service and how it works before selecting it as your delivery address.

Use a friend's off-base address

If you have Korean coworkers or friends who live off base, ask if you can use their address for deliveries. I often help my American friends with this, especially for urgent deliveries.

KOREA KIDS' CORNER

Fun family beach day only a short drive from Pyeongtaek

BY HYEMIN LEE,
STRIPES KOREA

As the weather gets hotter, there's nothing like a quick beach getaway close to home. Fortunately, Pyeongtaek is a short drive from Korea's west coast with several beaches to enjoy.

Before heading out, check the tide schedules since the western coast has large tidal ranges and wide mud flats. Due to the location, the water on this side of the peninsula tends to be a little muddy compared to the clear blue waters on the East and South Coasts. However, the West Coast mud flats boast a diverse marine life. At high tide, enjoy water activities, and when the tide recedes, explore the shore for crabs, clams and other sea creatures.

Here are seven great beaches to explore with your family near Camp Humphreys and Osan Air Base!

lee.hyemin@stripes.com



Jebudo Beach Photos courtesy of Hwaseong City

Jebudo Beach (제부도 해수욕장)

Jebudo Beach is a popular choice for beach trips among locals from Seoul and Gyeonggi-do due to its proximity and a variety of facilities including accommodations, restaurants and various recreational activity options. The beach features a unique tidal road that opens twice a day, allowing visitors to witness the "Miracles of Moses." Check the tide schedule before visiting, as entering the island is only possible via the West Sea Cable Car when the water comes back to close the road. Visitors can explore diverse marine life on mud flats, enjoy swimming, and numerous water sports such as fishing, surfing, kayaking and jet skiing.

FROM BASES IN PYEONGTAEK: About 60 km - 1 hour by car



NAVER MAP



Photos courtesy of Hwaseong City

Gungpyeong-ri Beach (궁평리 해수욕장)

Similar to Jebudo, Gungpyeong-ri Beach offers visitors the opportunity to explore tidal flats and enjoy fishing during low tide, while high tide is ideal for swimming. It's closer to Pyeongtaek and more peaceful compared to Jebudo. The beach is also popular for camping and car picnics, allowing visitors to stay overnight in their cars or tents. Designated camping areas charge about 10,000 won and there are also free spots available for camping. As there are limited facilities close to the beach, it's recommended to bring your own food or visit Gungpyeong Port nearby for stores, ocean-view cafés, and rentals for fishing and mud flat experiences.

FROM BASES IN PYEONGTAEK: About 50 km – 1 hour by car



NAVER MAP



Photos courtesy of Dangjin City

Waemok Village Beach (왜목마을 해수욕장)

Waemok Village Beach, located at the northern tip of the Taean Peninsula in Dangjin City, offers stunning skies including sunsets, sunrises and moonrises. The beautiful beach is ideal for swimming, rock fishing, and exploring tidal flats. Camping is allowed, and nearby facilities provide convenient access to accommodations, fishing gear rentals, restaurants, stores and changing rooms.

FROM BASES IN PYEONGTAEK: About 67 km - 70 minutes by car



NAVER MAP



Photos courtesy of Taean

Manripo Beach (만리포 해수욕장)

Manripo Beach, located on the western side of Taean Peninsula, is known as one of the three major beaches on the west coast along with Daechon Beach and Byeonsan Beach. It offers great opportunities for swimming, surfing and sand play, as well as diverse water sports. During low tide, visitors can explore the muddy sand to discover clams and other sea creatures. Manripo features a variety of convenient facilities, accommodations and recreational options, making it a fun destination for family vacations.

FROM BASES IN PYEONGTAEK: About 120 km - 1 hour and 40 minutes by car



NAVER MAP

Padori Beach (파도리 해수욕장)

Padori Beach takes its name from the Korean word "pado" which means wave in English. The charming pebble beach is renowned for clear, shallow waters and beautiful waves that make soothing sounds over the small stones. Padori is truly a quiet retreat. The water is very clear and beautiful, making swimming very enjoyable. However, the beach can be rocky, so it's wise to bring water shoes. Also, it's a great spot for catching crabs and other sea creatures during low tide.

There is a stunning sea cave, famous as one of Taean's best photography spots. Accessible only during low tide, it's recommended to check the tide schedule. Due to its proximity to Manripo Beach, one of Taean's most famous beaches, many visitors to Manripo also stop by Padori to capture photos of the sea cave.

Do note that this beach belongs to the Taean Coastal National Park, so collecting pebbles and bringing pets are prohibited.

FROM BASES IN PYEONGTAEK: About 120 km – nearly two hours by car



NAVER MAP

LOCATION FOR
THE CAVE

Photo by Korea National Park Service

Tips for your West Sea beach getaway!

- **Shopping tip:** Daiso is great for purchasing affordable vacation items such as beach towels, mats, swimming goggles and camping gear.
- **What to bring:** Bring a small shovel, hoe or basket for collecting clams, or get creative! I usually bring a butterfly net for shrimp, gloves and kitchen tongs to catch crabs. A headlamp is essential if you're exploring at night since many sea creatures are nocturnal. Be sure to track the tide times and avoid venturing too far as the water returns quickly.
- **What to catch:** Clams are easy to find year-round while crabs, octopuses and other marine creatures appear depending on the season. The best time for mud flat exploration is between May and September. Note that some beaches may have seasonal restrictions on catching live creatures, so check for signage at the site.
- **Check tide times:** The website offers tide times but make sure to use the Chrome browser for English translation.



TIDE TIME

- **Picnic rules:** Regulations at the beach can vary depending on location and season. Some beaches may allow picnics with prepared food but prohibit cooking. Picnic mats are permitted, and tents are usually allowed during the day but may need to be removed at night.
- **Camping rules:** While many beaches allow daytime tent pitching, overnight camping rules can vary. Look for designated camping zones near the beach that permit cooking and tent setup, which may require a fee. Some open fields allow car camping and cooking without fees, but some restrictions may apply such as only allowing cooking and sleeping in vehicles without tents.
- **Pet rules:** Unless specifically prohibited, accompanying pets are usually not a big issue at most beaches. However, during peak season (July-Aug.), there may be restrictions on dogs swimming. Note that national parks in Korea don't allow pets, and Taean Peninsula on the West Coast has a designated coastal national park, so most beaches at Taean ban pet entry only except Manripo, Kkotji, Galeumi and Kkujinamugol beaches.



Photos courtesy of Taeon



Kkotji Beach (꽃지 해수욕장)

Kkotji Beach is the largest beach on Anmyeondo in Taeon, and is known for captivating sunsets over Grandma Rock and Grandpa Rock, iconic natural symbols in Taeon Peninsula. Stroll along the soft sandy beach, view the beautiful scenery and enjoy playing in the sand and water. The beach is also famous for crabbing, clam digging and collecting various shellfish in the tidal flats. The beach features many convenient facilities, including accommodations, restaurants, stores and recreational facilities. Close to Kkotji Beach, there is Kkotji Coastal Park, a free theme park open year-round with seasonal gardens, picnic areas, camping grounds and cooking facilities.

FROM BASES IN PYEONGTAEK: About 130 km – nearly two hours by car



NAVER MAP



Photos courtesy of Korea Tourism Organization

Mongsanpo Beach (몽산포 해수욕장)

Mongsanpo Beach in Taeon is a family favorite known for plenty of opportunities to collect sea creatures. During low tide, the beach becomes a natural playground where anyone can easily dig for clams and a variety of sea creatures. Mongsanpo's soft sands make it easy and safe to explore and enjoy swimming with gentle waves. It's also a famous camping spot with many campgrounds around. Campers can enjoy BBQ right by the water or relax under the pine trees. Just don't forget to bring your own gear and supplies as there are no large markets around. Within a 10 minute drive, visitors can also stop by Mongdae Port for a small seafood market and explore Cheongsan Arboretum, a beloved fall destination for seasonal blooms.



Photo by Hyemin Lee, Stripes Korea

Within a 10 minute drive, visitors can also stop by Mongdae Port for a small seafood market and explore Cheongsan Arboretum, a beloved fall destination for seasonal blooms.

FROM BASES IN PYEONGTAEK: About 110 km - 1 hour and 30 minutes



NAVER MAP



MORE ABOUT
MONGSANPO,
CHECK OUT THE
STORY

Daecheon Beach (대천 해수욕장)

Daecheon Beach is one of the most famous beaches on the West Coast. Known for its wide, blue sea and fine sand, it's perfect for swimming and sand play with children as there are no tide flats. The beach is popular for families and young adults. This is where the famous annual Boryeong Mud Festival is held for two weeks in late July to early August.

Daecheon has plenty of accommodations, cafes, restaurants and leisure activities like ziplining and sky rail bikes. The beach is also pet-friendly.



NAVER MAP

More importantly, the beach is easily accessible by train, making it convenient for travelers without a car. Daecheon Station can be reached in less than two hours from Pyeongtaek Station via the Mugunghwa or Saemaeul trains. From Daecheon Station, Daecheon Beach is a 30-minute bus ride or a 10-minute taxi ride away.

FROM BASES IN PYEONGTAEK: About 130 km - 1 hour and 50 minutes by car



Photos courtesy of Korea Tourism Organization



Photos courtesy of Korea Tourism Organization

Sinduri Beach (신두리 해수욕장)

For those seeking both beach fun and a quiet escape, Sinduri Beach is a hidden gem. It features soft sand, clean water and marine life in mudflats, perfect for families with young kids. This beach is less crowded than others and many visit to enjoy peaceful sunset views. Nearby camping areas make it a great spot for overnight stays. What makes this beach truly unique is the Sinduri Coastal Sand Dune, Korea's only sand dune formed after the Ice Age. The sand dunes are a protected area, but visitors can enjoy beautiful trails and stunning views.

FROM BASES IN PYEONGTAEK: About 120 km - 1 hour and 50 minutes



NAVER MAP



Photo courtesy of Taeon

Hakampo Beach (학ampo 해수욕장)

If you're looking for clean water, sunset views, fewer crowds and fishing, you'll love Hakampo Beach. Hakampo's water is surprisingly clear, often compared to the East Sea. Visitors enjoy swimming, fishing and even snorkeling and during low tide, it's great for spotting marine life. Just make sure to bring your aqua shoes since the beach is rocky. This beach is also popular for glamping, sleepovers at rental camping cars, offering beautiful ocean views.

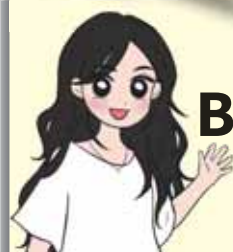
FROM BASES IN PYEONGTAEK: About 120 km - 1 hour and 50 minutes



NAVER MAP

Speakin'
Korean

Bada-e gago
sipeoyo



Beach trip

BY HYEMIN LEE,
STRIPES KOREA

Vocabulary

- Summer: Yeoreum (여름)
- Vacation: Hyuga (휴가) / Banghak (방학)
- Sea/Ocean/Beach: Bada (바다)
- Beach: Haesuyokjang (해수욕장) / Haebyeon (해변)
- West Sea: Seo-hae (서해안)
- East Sea: Dong-hae (동해안)
- South Sea: Nam-hae (남해안)
- Mudflats: Gaet-beol (갯벌)
- Wave: Pado (파도)
- Swimming: Suyeong (수영)
- Hot (weather): Deowo-yo (더워요)
- Cool: Siwon-haeyo (시원해요)

Phrases

"When is your summer vacation?"
= 여름휴가가 언제예요?
(Yeoreum hyuga-ga eonjeyeyo?)

"Summer in Korea is very hot."
= 한국의 여름은 너무 더워요
(Hanguk-ui yeoreum-eun neomu deoweoyo)

"I want to go to the beach."
= 바다에 가고 싶어요
(Bada-e gago sipeoyo)

"The sound of the waves is beautiful."
= 파도 소리가 아름다워요
(Pado sori-ga areumdawoyo)

"How can I go to Daecheon Beach from Pyeongtaek?"
= 평택에서 대천 해수욕장에 어떻게 갈 수 있어요?
(Pyeongtaek-eseo Daecheon haesuyokjang-e eotteoke gal su isseoyo?)



Visit a water park

Enjoying thrilling water slides and entertaining pools at any of the many water parks is an easy way to cool down. Check out Korea's top water parks packed with exciting attractions!

*Water parks usually have extended hours during peak season (July-Aug.), and the ticket prices may vary depending on the season and discount deals. Before your visit, check their website. You can also find discount deals on Naver or online travel platforms like Trazy.

Photo courtesy of Caribbean Bay



Photo courtesy of Ocean World


Ocean World

Located in Vivaldi Park, a popular ski resort in Gangwon-do province, Ocean World allows visitors to enjoy leisure time at a resort amidst the area's beautiful forests and mountains. This large-scale water park features a variety of exciting attractions. It's especially known for the eye-catching Egyptian theme, including replica pyramids and sphinx.

■ **ADDRESS:** 262, Hanchigol-gil, Hongcheon-gun, Gangwon-do

■ **HOURS:** 9 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.

■ **TICKET:** 39,000 won – 55,000 won



NAVER MAP



Photo courtesy of Caribbean Bay


Caribbean Bay

As everyone knows, Caribbean Bay is a top water park in Korea located within the Everland theme park complex. Most large-scale water parks are away from the city but thanks to its proximity to Seoul, it's easily accessible. It's only a one-hour drive from Camp Humphreys. The incredible park is fantastic for young people and families to enjoy a day trip. It features numerous entertaining attractions and five distinct themed zones, including indoor and outdoor pools, spas, and water rides.

■ **ADDRESS:** 199 Everland-ro, Yongin-si, Gyeonggi-do

■ **HOURS:** 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. (7 p.m. on weekends)

■ **TICKET:** 30,000 won – 70,000 won



NAVER MAP



Photo courtesy of Korea Tourism Organization


Spa Valley

Just a short drive from the bases in Daegu, it's a favorite summer destination among Daegu residents. Spa Valley offers a diverse range of attractions along with hot springs and cool pools. Within the same site, visitors can also find Nature Park with a botanical garden and zoo throughout the year.

■ **ADDRESS:** 891, Gachang-ro, Daegu

■ **HOURS:** 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

■ **TICKET:** 19,000 won – 48,000 won



NAVER MAP



Photo courtesy of California Beach


California Beach

Right next to Gyeongju World, California Beach is one of the best water parks in Korea, offering a mix of thrills and fun for families and adventure seekers. This water park, inspired by California's beach, operates during the summer season and is famous for diverse options of thrilling attractions. Make sure to explore all the high-speed and massive slides as well as wide and easy-going wave pools.

■ **ADDRESS:** Bomun-ro 544, Gyeongju-si, Gyeongsangbuk-do

■ **HOURS:** 10 a.m. – 7 p.m.

■ **TICKET:** 15,000 won – 70,000 won



NAVER MAP



Photo courtesy of Korea Tourism Organization

Lotte Water Park

Lotte Water Park in Gimhae is widely recognized as the largest water park in Korea. With its Polynesian theme, the park transports visitors to the stunning beaches of the South Pacific. While basking in the exotic atmosphere, visitors can enjoy a wide array of thrilling water attractions.

■ **ADDRESS:** 555 Jangyu-ro, Gimhae-si, Gyeongsangnam-do

■ **HOURS:** 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. (6 p.m. on weekends)

■ **TICKET:** 27,500 won – 56,000 won



NAVER MAP

Dive into summer in Korea

BY HYEMIN STRIPES

As the temperatures rise and the sun beats down, there's nothing better than to dive into some summer fun. Korea offers many great ways to get away from the heat and humidity. So, buckle up and get ready for a summer that will make your summer truly epic!

lee.hyemin@stripes.com



Join water gun festival

Don't hesitate to embrace your playful side and grab a water gun to defeat the summer heat! Below are some water gun festivals you won't want to miss. While they're free, make sure to prioritize safety and wear goggles when participating in these festivals.




Photo courtesy of Samsung C&T Corporation

Water Stellar

Everland features a fantastic festival where visitors can play with cool water and shoot water guns in the water wonderland while enjoying spectacular shows! There are also water playgrounds and photo zones, perfect for families with children to have fun and beat the summer heat.

■ **ADDRESS:** 199 Everland-ro, Pogok-eup, Cheoin-gu, Yongin-si, Gyeonggi-do

■ **DATES:** June 20 (Fri.) – Aug. 24 (Sun.)



NAVER MAP



Photo courtesy of Samsung C&T Corporation

4 cool escapes area!

MIN LEE,
S KOREA

and the sun shines brightly, it's time for adventures! During this season, humidity is a priority, and luckily, Korea is a refreshing break.

For four unforgettable activities to



fun water
fun, you can get hurt, so
en participating in water gun

Photo courtesy of Waterbomb



Photo courtesy of Seoul Land

Summer Water Wars

Seoul Land hosts an annual summer festival with musical shows and water gun fights for a fun time perfect for the whole family. After enjoying the Summer Water Wars to the fullest, it's time to have the finale of the summer nights at Luna Park for glittering lights and fireworks.

■ **ADDRESS:** 181 Gwangmyeong-ro, Gwacheon-si, Gyeonggi-do
■ **DATES:** Late June – late August



NAVER MAP

Waterbomb 2025

Part-water fest, part-music fest, Waterbomb 2025 is a good one to check out this summer. Explore a diverse mix of music like K-pop, hip-hop, and EDM performances and enjoy a refreshing large-scale water bomb battle. Waterbomb 2025 is held in three major cities: Seoul, Busan and Sokcho. Visit their website for more information and ticketing.

■ **DATES:** Seoul - July 4 (Sat.) – July 6 (Sun.) / Busan - July 26 (Sat.) / Sokcho - Aug. 23 (Sat.)



WEBSITE



In Korea, summer is the season where people love enjoying horror movies and spooky experiences. Horror themed events will give you chills and scare away the summer heat!

Photo courtesy of Gyeongju Expo Grand Park



Photo courtesy of Gyeongju Expo Grand Park



Photo courtesy of Korean Folk Village

• • • Lumina Horror Night • • •

Gyeongju Expo Grand Park hosts the longest outdoor horror experience program in Korea, lasting over 40 minutes. This program is famous for its thrilling experience. Participants must pass through 14 points while navigating the lair of evil spirits in the mountain at night. The dark and spooky forest makes it unpredictable when ghosts might pop out, and participants are allowed to scream as much as they want since it's an outdoor program. At the entrance, there's a horror photo zone, horror blood drinks, face painting, and tarot reading. Ticket is available on site at Gyeongju Expo Park.

- **ADDRESS:** 130 Cheongun-dong Gyeongju-si Gyeongsangbuk-do (Gyeongju Expo Grand Park)
- **DATE:** Only during August (Please check their website for the accurate schedule)
- **HOURS:** After sunset (around 7-8 p.m.) – 11 p.m.
- **TICKET:** 10,000 won (50% discount for Gyeongju Expo Park visitors)



WEBSITE



NAVER MAP



Photo courtesy of Hapcheon-gun

• • • • • Ghost Park Awake • • • • •

The Ghost Park is held at the Hapcheon Film Theme Park, where various movies and dramas are filmed. This spooky ghost park offers various horror attractions where visitors can encounter scary zombies while completing missions. Visitors can also enjoy horror events, performances, booths and flea markets.

- **ADDRESS:** 256-5 Gaho-ri Yongju-myeon Gyeongsangnam-do (Hapcheon Film Theme Park)
- **DATES:** Aug. 1 (Fri.) – Aug. 17 (Sun.)
- **HOURS:** 6 p.m. – 11:30 p.m.
- **TICKET:** 21,000 won – 30,000 won (Online ticketing offers discount deals)



WEBSITE



NAVER MAP

• • • Haunted Houses in Joseon Dynasty • • •

If you want to see Korean-style ghosts, then you should visit the Korean Folk Village this season! The Folk Village runs two traditional haunted houses where visitors can experience true Korean-style horror and the atmosphere from "Kingdom," a famous Netflix show. You can encounter various Korean-style ghosts and enjoy spooky ambiance, especially during the outdoor experience held in the dark of night. You can make reservations on Naver or purchase tickets on-site. It is recommended to book in advance as on-site ticket availability may be limited. Also, please note that you must enter Korean Folk Village first and these experiences require a separate ticket.

Korean Folk Village

- **ADDRESS:** 90 Folkchon-ro, Yongin-si, Gyeonggi-do
- **DATES:** 10 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. (Mon.-Thu.) / 10 a.m. – 10 p.m. (Fri.-Sun.)
- **TICKET:** 18,500 won – 37,000 won



WEBSITE



NAVER MAP

Haunted Prison

- **DATE:** April 19 (Sat.) – Nov. 9 (Sun.) – Fri.-Sun. and holidays only
- **HOURS:** 1:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. (Break: 4 p.m. – 5 p.m.)
- **TICKET:** 13,000 won

Haunted Den

- **DATE:** April 19 (Sat.) – Nov. 9 (Sun.) – Fri.-Sun. and holidays only
- **HOURS:** 1 p.m. – 9 p.m. (Break: 4 p.m. – 5 p.m.)
- **TICKET:** 8,000 won



File photo

SEE SUMMER ON PAGE 10

SUMMER: Hot fun!

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9



Explore great beaches

Since summers can be scorching, many flock to the great beaches for memorable vacations. If you aren't sure where to choose, here are six of Korea's top beaches spanning the East, West and South coasts!

Daecheon Beach

Photo courtesy of Korea Toursim Organization



Photo courtesy of Korea Toursim Organization

..... Gwangalli Beach

Just a short ride from Haeundae, Gwangalli Beach boasts a trendy, youthful vibe where beach culture meets city lifestyle. It's famous for the stunning nighttime views of Gwanggan Bridge, which beautifully lights up the skyline after sunset. The neighborhood is packed with stylish cafés, restaurants, bars and beachside lounges, making it a favorite among couples and young travelers. Visitors can also enjoy marine activities like paddleboarding and jet-skiing. When in Busan, make time to enjoy both Haeundae and Gwangalli beaches for the full coastal experience!



NAVER MAP



Photo courtesy of Korea Toursim Organization

..... Sokcho Beach

Sokcho Beach is one of the best East Coast vacation spots for those seeking natural beauty and family-friendly comfort. Korea's East Coast is known for its clean water, refreshing sea breezes and stunning sunrises. Sokcho Beach stands out for enjoyable waves, clean facilities, and easy access from the city center, making it a great spot for safe swimming, picnics and easy beach days with the whole family.



NAVER MAP



Photo courtesy of Korea Toursim Organization

..... Surfyy Beach

Surfyy Beach in Yangyang is famous for its unique and exotic summer atmosphere. Known as the country's top surf spot, it features beach lounges, surfing lessons and an after-party zone. The atmosphere is young, stylish and energetic, drawing creative crowds, solo travelers and groups of friends. Visitors can easily enjoy professional surfing classes, yoga classes, paddleboarding and water activities. You can camp and party by the beach under exotic scenery. Please note that this beach is more popular among young adults than families.



NAVER MAP



Photo courtesy of Korea Toursim Organization

..... Daecheon Beach

Daecheon Beach in Boryeong is the most beloved beach on Korea's West Coast, known for the wide shoreline, clean water and soft sand with many convenient facilities. The beach becomes especially livelier during the Boryeong Mud Festival, attracting thousands of locals and international visitors. Even outside of festival season, Daecheon is a great destination for all ages thanks to clean facilities, rental shops, seafood market and a variety of entertainment options, including marine activities and ziplines.

■ 2025 BORYEONG MUD FESTIVAL: July 25 (Fri.) – Aug. 10 (Sun.)



MUD FESTIVAL



NAVER MAP



Photos courtesy of Korea Toursim Organization

..... Haeundae Beach

Without a doubt, Haeundae Beach in Busan is Korea's most iconic summer destination. Surrounded by high-rise buildings, the beautiful soft white sand meets the crystal-blue waters of the Southern Coast, offering a perfect blend of nature and urban energy. The beach provides a variety of convenient facilities, including shower booths and rental shops. It also offers easy access to hotels, restaurants and exciting water sports. Beloved by all visitors including young adults and families, Haeundae is safe, accessible and unforgettable, wrapped in a festive summer vibe.



NAVER MAP



Speakin' Korean

BY HYEMIN LEE,
STRIPES KOREA

- Summer: **Yeoreum** (여름)
- Vacation: **Hyuga** (휴가) / **Banghak** (방학)
- Sea/Ocean/Beach: **Bada** (바다)
- Beach: **Haebyeon** (해변)
- Mountain stream: **Gyegok** (계곡)
- Swimming: **Suyeong** (수영)
- Watermelon: **Subak** (수박)
- Hot (temperature): **Ddeugeowo-yo** (뜨거워요)
- Hot (weather): **Deowo-yo** (더워요)
- Cool: **Siwon-haeyo** (시원해요)

- When are you going on summer vacation?: **Eonje yeoreum hyuga-gayo?** (언제 여름 휴가 가요?)
- I like summer: **Jeoneun yeoreum-ee joa-yo** (저는 여름이 좋아요)
- It's very hot today: **Oneul neomu deowo-yo** (오늘 너무 더워요)
- I don't like hot weather!: **Jeoneun deoun-ge sireo-yo!** (저는 더운게 싫어요!)
- I need something cool: **Siwonhan-ge pilyo-haeyo** (시원한게 필요해요)



Photo courtesy of Korea Toursim Organization

..... Hamdeok Beach

Among Jeju Island's many scenic beaches, Hamdeok stands out with its turquoise water, white sand and calm waves, making it a top pick for both families and beach lovers. The shallow waters are great for kids while swimmers and paddleboarders can still find plenty to enjoy. Right by the beach, there is also a snorkeling hotspot near the rocky edges where you can swim among colorful fish and sea creatures. With cozy cafés, walking trails and breathtaking views, Hamdeok offers a peaceful, tropical escape without ever leaving Korea!



NAVER MAP

4 must-visit places in Busan this summer

HAPS KOREA MAGAZINE

With the weather starting to warm up, many people are looking to get outdoors and explore before the summer heat and rains return.

If you're also keen to take some great photos, you can try the sunset with the backdrop of a beach, by the pier with city lights and the Diamond Bridge, and also by a popular film set spot where a famous TV show called 'Dream' was filmed.

Here are four recommended places around Busan to check out this summer.

Photos courtesy of Haps Korea Magazine



Dadaepo Beach

Located at the estuary of the Nakdong-gang River and just eight kilometers from downtown, Dadaepo Beach is a great place to chill out and have a picnic, collect a few seashells, and go for a swim in the shallow surf. Just up the river is one of the best places in Korea to check out migratory birds chilling in the marshes. At just under a kilometer

long, it is beautiful but little known to foreigners because of how far away it is from the city center.

TO GET THERE: Take bus number 2 or 98 from Busan Station or get off the subway at Sinpyeong



The Bay 101

Located in Haeundae, The Bay 101 has become one of the spots in the city to enjoy the cool breeze and marvel at the spectacular night view of Marine City.

Enjoy some fish and chips, sip on a coffee or beer, and take a late-night stroll at the nearby Dongbaek Island Park.

TO GET THERE: Take Subway line 2 to Dongbaek Station, exit 1. You can walk straight to the main road for about 10 minutes and it is across the street from the Westin Chosun Hotel.



Gamcheon Cultural Village

This Village, which was the site of residence of the refugees during the Korean War, began to call attention when the students of Dong-A University drew murals in the Village as a part of their voluntary service activities in 2008. Busan City and Saha-gu began to imbue a breath of life into the Village by installing works of art and drawing murals in the intricately intertwined narrow alleyways in 2009. Village art projects, contents convergence type tourism cooperation projects, and hillside and mountainside Renaissance projects were executed.

Photograph and graffiti galleries, small-scale museums, Haneul Maru, House of Darkness (for observation of the constellation), cafés and restaurants, and alleyway tourist information booths were installed in the houses that were not occupied.

TO GET THERE: Take Subway Line 1 to Toseong Station, exit 6. At the intersection, turn right at the corner and walk straight to the hospital bus stop and take either Bus 2 or 2-2.



Chooksung Cathedral

Located in Gijang amongst the blue seas and coastal rocks, this building stands out amongst the coastal fishing village nearby.

Though it is actually not a religious facility, this cathedral was used as the filming set for the popular Korean drama 'Dream' in 2009 which starred Ju Jin-mo, Kim Bum, and Son Dam-bi.

It has become a popular photograph site for couples and weddings due to its unique location though the structure has raised controversy over the years as being 'illegal' by locals.

TO GET THERE: Take bus 1003 to Gijang Simya by the Gijang Catholic Church and transfer to local bus 6 to the end of the line. It may be easier to take a taxi and say “죽성성당드림세트장”

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Photo courtesy of Alexbundo, Korea Tourism Organization

KOREA TOURISM ORGANIZATION

Korean temple food is gaining global attention as a new form of K-food, spearheading the global trend in wellness and sustainable cuisine. Prepared with eco-friendly ingredients, temple cuisine not only prioritizes health and the environment but also boasts exceptional flavor—more than enough to win over gourmets around the world. Recognized for its cultural and historical value, temple food, which has been passed down by Buddhist practitioners for centuries, is currently under review for designation as a National Intangible Cultural Heritage. Discover the charm of Korean temple food that has captivated world-renowned star chef Eric Ripert, the head of Le Cordon Bleu's Cuisine Department, and Korea's only Michelin 3-star chef Kang Min-goo—and find out how you can taste it for yourself.

1. What is Korean temple food?

Temple food is a culinary tradition handed down through Buddhist temples, embodying the spirit of Buddhism. In keeping with the Buddhist precept of non-violence, it excludes animal-based ingredients (except dairy) and avoids the five pungent vegetables—known as “oshinchaе” (green onions, garlic, chives, wild chives, and Chinese squill)—as they are believed to interfere with spiritual practice. Another notable feature is that it is both healthy and gentle on the body, as it is seasoned not with artificial additives but with natural ingredients such as mushrooms, kelp, and perilla seeds. Although temple cuisine varies across Buddhist cultural spheres, Korean temple food is particularly distinctive for its use of fermented ingredients and locally sourced produce.

2. Where and how can you try temple food?

Once reserved primarily for monks as part of their spiritual practice, temple food was not easily accessible to the general public. However, as temple cuisine has continued to earn public interest and recognition as a distinct culinary tradition, a variety of ways and places to experience its charm have emerged in recent years.

1) Visit a temple food restaurant



Photo courtesy of Balwoo Gongyang

■ Balwoo Gongyang, Seoul

Balwoo Gongyang is a temple cuisine restaurant operated by the Jogye Order of Korean Buddhism, the largest Buddhist denomination in Korea. With temple cuisine master Venerable Dae An having served as its head, the restaurant is known for offering deeply authentic temple food. The four signature courses—Seon (Meditation), Won (Vow), Maum (Mind), and Hee (Joy)—are inspired by the path to enlightenment and feature an abundant variety of clean, healthy dishes that highlight the natural flavors of each ingredient. A standout dish is assorted mushroom gangjeong—crispy glazed mushrooms that combine a crunchy batter, tender texture, and an appetite-boosting savory sauce. With a Michelin star to its name and celebrity visitors like Richard Gere, the restaurant's excellence in both taste and service is well recognized, making it the perfect place to begin your journey into temple cuisine.



Photo courtesy of Balwoo Gongyang

ADDRESS: 5F Templestay Information Center, 56 Ujeongguk-ro, Jongno-gu, Seoul (서울특별시 종로구 우정국로 56 템플스테이 통합정보센터 5층)
HOURS: 11:30 a.m.-9 p.m. (Break time 3 p.m. -6 p.m.)
 * Closed on Sundays
PHONE: +82-2-733-2081



WEBSITE

■ Jogyesa Temple

Jogyesa Temple is the head temple of the Jogye Order of Korean Buddhism, located in Jongno, the heart of Seoul. Tucked quietly among towering office buildings, the temple exudes a serenity that allows visitors



Photo courtesy of Lee Seong-sam, Korea Tourism Organization

to relax and find peace even amid the city's hustle and bustle. Take a stroll through the temple grounds to admire the grand Daeungjeon Hall—comparable in scale to Geunjeongjeon Hall at Gyeongbokgung Palace—as well as cultural treasures like the Painting of Sakyamuni Buddha and the Wooden Seated Buddha, both designated Tangible Cultural Heritages. Just a short walk away are other attractions rich in Korean charm, such as Insadong Cultural Street, Ikseon-dong Hanok Street, and Bukchon Hanok Village, making it easy to explore them all in one visit.

ADDRESS: 55 Ujeongguk-ro, Jongno-gu, Seoul (서울특별시 종로구 우정국로 55)
HOURS: Open all year round
PHONE: +82-2-768-86003



WEBSITE



Photo courtesy of Yeonhwa Baru

■ Yeonhwa Baru, Gyeongju

Nestled in the city of Gyeongju, Yeonhwa Baru is a long-standing temple food restaurant respected by both local residents and visiting monks. The clean, natural ingredients used in each dish



show that a delicious meal can be enjoyed without meat. The signature set, Baru Teukjeongsik (Baru Special Meal), offers a variety of vegetarian dishes in one meal—such as tangsui (deep-fried mushrooms tossed in a sweet sauce), dotorimuk (acorn jelly) served with seasonal namul (wild greens), and sanchae bibimbap (fresh vegetable bibimbap) made with six types of wild vegetables. Located near Gyeongju's major attractions including Daereungwon Ancient Tomb Complex, Cheomseongdae Observatory, and Hwangnidan Street, Yeonhwa Baru is the perfect stop for a mindful meal before exploring the past and present of this city with over a thousand years of history.



Photo courtesy of Korea Tourism Organization

ADDRESS: 4827 Daegyeong-ro, Gyeongju-si, Gyeongsangbuk-do (경상북도 경주시 대경로 4827)
HOURS: Noon-9 p.m.
 * Closed on Mondays
PHONE: +82-54-774-5378



Photo courtesy of Gyeongju City Government

A temple worth visiting nearby

Bulguksa Temple

Bulguksa Temple is one of Korea's most celebrated temples and a proud UNESCO World Heritage Site. A marvel of meticulous design that was almost unimaginable for its time, the temple reveals the refined beauty of Buddhist architecture at every turn. National Treasures abound throughout the grounds, including Yeonhwagyo and Chilbogyo Bridges and Dabotap Pagoda. Seokguram Grotto, which houses the Rock-carved Seated Buddha Statue often hailed as the greatest masterpiece of Eastern Buddhist art, is a must-see for anyone visiting Bulguksa Temple. In front of Geungnakjeon Hall stands a statue of a lucky pig said to grant wishes—be sure to give it a gentle pat and make a wish for happiness in the coming year.



Photo courtesy of Korea Tourism Organization

ADDRESS: 385 Bulguk-ro, Gyeongju-si, Gyeongsangbuk-do (경상북도 경주시 불국로 385)
HOURS: 9 a.m.-6 p.m. (Final exit by 7 p.m., open year-round)
PHONE: +82-54-746-9913



WEBSITE

2) Experiencing a Templestay

Temple cuisine is not only nourishment for monastics, but also a form of spiritual practice in itself. To truly savor its essence, experiencing a monk's way of life firsthand can be a meaningful approach. Several



Photo courtesy of Getty Images Bank

temples open their doors to the public and offer Templestay programs, allowing visitors to engage with Korean Buddhist culture in an immersive way. Templestays are typically offered in three forms: experiential stays that provide hands-on participation in various aspects of Buddhist culture; restful stays that involve minimal activities and allow for quiet, personal reflection; and one-day programs that offer a brief introduction to temple life in about three hours.

Templestay

MAIN PROGRAMS: meditation, 108 prostrations, balwoo gongyang, early morning chanting, tea time with monks, and more.



WEBSITE



◀ List of temples offering specialized Templestay programs for foreigners



Photo courtesy of Kim Ji-ho, Korea Tourism Organization

Baegyangsa Temple, Jangseong

Baegyangsa Temple, nestled within Naejangsan National Park, is famed for its breathtaking beauty and was historically regarded as one of the Eight Scenic Views of Joseon. Especially striking is the picturesque harmony of Ssanggyeru Pavilion at the entrance, a gently flowing pond, and dramatic cliffs rising behind like a folding screen—a scene reminiscent of a classical East Asian painting. Though beautiful in every season, the temple is particularly breathtaking in autumn, when the slopes of Baekamsan Mountain are transformed into a vibrant canvas of crimson, gold, and amber. Renowned as a center for temple cuisine, Baegyangsa Temple is also a popular destination for Templestay programs throughout the year.



Photo courtesy of IR Studio, Korea Tourism Organization

TEMPLESTAY PROGRAMS

1 Let go and Love yourself through Meditation (Experiential)

A program rooted in the philosophy of finding your True Self—guiding you to awaken the Buddha within through Zen meditation and inner reflection. Take time for meditation, then stroll along the serene torrey forest trails nearby to restore balance to both



Photo courtesy of Baegyangsa Temple



Photo courtesy of Baegyangsa Temple

body and mind.

2 Experience Temple Food and Culture with Ven. Jeong Kwan (Experiential)

A program where you can hear Venerable Jeong Kwan's teachings while savoring exquisitely prepared temple cuisine. Venerable Jeong Kwan of Baegyangsa Temple is a master of Korean temple cuisine who won the James Beard Award—considered the Academy Award of the culinary world—and starred in the Netflix documentary series "Chef's Table (2017)." As visitors from around the world travel here to experience her cuisine, be sure to book well in advance.

3 As it is (Restful)

A program where you can unwind in the tranquil atmosphere of the temple, surrounded by nature. With all activities optional, this program is recommended for those looking to escape the demands of daily life and find peace in a serene natural setting.

ADDRESS: 1239 Baegyang-ro, Bukhamyeon, Jangseong-gun, Jeollanam-do (전라남도 장성군 북하면 백양로 1239)
HOURS: Open year round
PHONE: Temple administration office +82-61-392-0100 / Templestay +82-61-392-0434



BOOK A TEMPLESTAY



WEBSITE



Photo courtesy of Kim Ji-ho, Korea Tourism Organization

Donghwasa Temple, Daegu

Donghwasa Temple is one of the most historic temples in the Yeongnam area and the largest in Daegu. Renowned for its spiritual energy, the temple is always bustling with visitors who come to pray or seek blessings, alongside nearby sites like Gatbawi Rock and



Photo courtesy of Kim Ji-ho, Korea Tourism Organization

Sowonbawi Rock in Palgongsan Mountain. Named one of East Asia's top 10 tourist destinations, it is home to many cultural treasures. Among them, the 33-meter-tall Bhaishajyaguru Buddha Statue stands as its most

iconic symbol. With convenient access from downtown Daegu via public transportation, the temple is also a popular destination for Templestay experiences and is celebrated for its exquisite temple cuisine.

TEMPLESTAY PROGRAMS

1 Making 108 Prayer Beads (Experiential)

A mindfulness program where you practice humility through 108 prostrations fill the heart with new intentions. Threading a bead with each bow and wish for the happiness of yourself and those around you.

SEE TEMPLE ON PAGE 14



Photo courtesy of Getty Images Bank

TEMPLE: Immerse in the culture, customs

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13



Photo courtesy of Donghwasa Temple

2 Making and Tasting Healthy Temple Food (Experiential)



Photo courtesy of Donghwasa Temple

A healing experience where you prepare and savor temple food. After nourishing with fresh and wholesome temple food, take a stroll through the phytoncide-rich forest to refresh and

replenish both body and mind.

3 Stay in Buddhist Temple 1N2D (Restful)

A restorative retreat that helps you regain balance by letting your body and mind flow with nature. Release the fatigue of daily life, and take time for recharging and reconnecting with yourself.

ADDRESS: 1 Donghwasa 1-gil, Dong-gu, Daegu (대구광역시 동구 동화사1길 1)

HOURS: Open all year around
PHONE: +82-53-980-7900



BOOK
TEMPLESTAY



WEBSITE

TIP.

A Beginner's Guide to Templestay

What to bring: toiletries, towel, cotton T-shirts, socks, sneakers, water bottle, basic medications, phone charger, and other personal items

Temple etiquette

- No outside food or smoking is allowed.
- Refrain from entering restricted areas or speaking loudly.
- When entering the main hall (Buddha Hall), use the side doors, not the central one in front of the Buddha statue.
- If some is meditating or chanting sutras, do not pass in front of them; walk around behind instead.

- For photography or other special requests, consult the temple staff in advance and follow their guidance.

3) Joining a Temple Food Cooking Class

Once perceived as rigid and authoritative, Buddhist culture is now emerging as a lifestyle trend beyond religious boundaries, especially resonating with the millennials and Gen Z, thanks to trendy merchandise and hip events. In line with this shift, temple food has gained popularity on social media as a popular plant-based choice among younger audiences, leading to a growing number of cooking classes that offer firsthand experiences of this mindful cuisine.



Photo courtesy of Korea Temple Food Center

Korean Temple Food Center

Located in the heart of Seoul, this cultural complex offers a rare glimpse into 1,700 years of temple food heritage. It features a variety of exhibitions and hands-on experiences themed around temple food, and also offers cooking classes where visitors can learn how to prepare authentic temple dishes. In addition to monthly courses, on-demand classes are also available, allowing you to choose sessions that best fit your schedule or culinary interests. If you're looking for a healthier, eco-friendly diet, why not discover the hidden treasures of temple cuisine here?

ADDRESS: 2F, Anguk Building, 39, Yulgok-ro, Jongno-gu, Seoul (서울특별시 종로구 율곡로 39 안국빌딩 신관 2층)
OPERATING HOURS: 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.
* Closed on Mondays
PHONE: +82-2-733-4650



WEBSITE



Photo courtesy of Korea Temple Food Center

TIP.

Want to experience more of Korean Buddhist culture?

The International Seon (Zen) Meditation Regional Festival

This festival is held at temples across the country to promote Buddhist culture and popularize Seon (Zen) meditation. Experience a variety of programs focused on Seon meditation to cultivate peace and balance in both body and mind.



WEBSITE

SCHEDULE: May to September (varies by venue, details to be announced)

LOCATIONS: Major temples nationwide

Temple Food Grand Festival: A special festival featuring master chefs of temple cuisine is about to unfold. Under the theme "Life in a Bowl: Temple Food Shining as Intangible Cultural Heritage," the event offers exhibitions and experiences celebrating respect for life and harmony with nature.

Temple Food Grand Festival: A special festival featuring master chefs of temple cuisine is about to unfold. Under the theme "Life in a Bowl: Temple Food Shining as Intangible Cultural Heritage," the event offers exhibitions and experiences celebrating respect for life and harmony with nature.



WEBSITE

LOCATION: Yangjae aT Center, 27 Gangnam-daero, Seocho-gu, Seoul

Jingwansa Temple Gukhaeng Suryukjae: Suryukjae is a Buddhist ritual offering prayers and food to guide lost souls and hungry ghosts wandering in both land and water. Among them, the Gukhaeng Suryukjae held at Jingwansa Temple has been designated a National Intangible Cultural Heritage and offers a rare chance to witness a deeply rooted Buddhist tradition in Korea.

DATES: Scheduled for September-October
LOCATION: Jingwansa Temple, 73 Jingwan-gil, Eunpyeong-gu, Seoul
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Stripes Sports Trivia

Which NHL team did the Colorado Rockies become when the franchise moved in 1982?

Answer
New Jersey Devils



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DID YOU KNOW?

Shinmiyangyo in 1871, known as “U.S. Expedition to Korea,” was the first and only U.S. invasion of Korea. In 1866, the American ship General Sherman attacked Korea (Joseon) to demand trade and Joseon forces responded by setting the ship on fire. Five years later, U.S. warships attacked Korea to forcibly open trade in retaliation. Despite strong resistance, Korea suffered a devastating defeat due to the U.S. military’s superior firepower, resulting in over 240 Joseon forces killed and around 100 drowning by suicide while only three U.S. casualties occurred. Though the U.S. won the war, they failed to open Korea to trade. Korea believed it as a victory of resistance, maintaining the policy of isolation which delayed its modernization and, in the end, left Korea vulnerable to Japan’s imperial ambitions.



Hangul of the week

배
Ship (Bae)

Language Lesson

The ship is really huge!

Bae-ga jeongmal keoyo!
(배가 정말 커요!)

Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

1 It may be blind or bright
5 Soak in a tub
10 "Mighty" partner
14 ___ mater
15 One way to read
16 China setting
17 Does a 10K
18 Word thief
20 Did impressions of
22 Dynamite sounds
23 Iberian and Yucatan
25 Tops a cake
27 Keep going
31 Auction unit
32 Backpack part
35 ___ Park: Meta site
36 Maintain
38 Skin lesions
40 Peruse
41 "Judy" portrayer
43 Pompous walk
45 Adam's mate
46 Posh properties
48 Attached to a taskbar, say
50 Named, as a ship
53 Perfume sampler
56 Choice of words
59 Socialism and others
61 Lobster serving
62 Road sign silhouette
63 Dishwasher cycle
64 Coastal flier
65 Partner of odds
66 Winter weather
67 Gosling of "The Fall Guy"

DOWN

1 Draped dress
2 Shade of purple
3 All-powerful
4 Samples a bit of
5 St. John et al.
6 Type of wrench
7 Marsh croakers
8 Affectionate greeting
9 Safe to swallow
10 Pesters
11 Egyptian fertility goddess
12 General meaning
13 Bowlers and berets
19 Wake-up call?
21 Picnic pests
24 Shoe top
25 Emergency signal
26 Wanders
28 Combustible
29 Toil away
30 In shape
33 Martini's partner
34 Gallery piece

Answers to Previous Crossword:

A	M	O	S		A	J	A	R		H	I	D	E	R
N	O	P	E		D	A	D	A		A	D	E	L	E
T	R	E	A	S	U	R	E	D		V	O	L	E	S
E	N	D	A	L		P	I	P	E		L	I	N	E
					N	O	T	A		I	O	N		V
A	M	M	E	T	E	R		S	O	R	E			
F	O	A	M		R	E	G	I	S	T	E	R	E	D
A	R	G	O		A	N	O	D	E		T	I	D	E
R	E	I	N	S	T	A	T	E	S		R	E	I	N
	S	E	M	I		A	S	S	I	S	T	S		
H	A	T		E	N	S	O	L	I	T	E			
A	C	R	E	A	G	E	S		V	I	V	A	C	E
S	T	A	I	R		L	I	B	E	R	A	T	O	R
N	O	T	R	E		M	E	A	L		L	O	C	I
T	R	E	E	D		A	R	T	Y		S	P	A	N

SUDOKU

Difficulty: Easy

	4					3		
	8			9				
	3		6					
				5		7		1
9						6		5
		5	7		9			
6				1			8	
	9			7	8	1		6
			2	3		5		

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Edited by Margie E. Burke

HOW TO SOLVE:

Each row must contain the numbers 1 to 9; each column must contain the numbers 1 to 9; and each set of 3 by 3 boxes must contain the numbers 1 to 9.

Answer to Previous Sudoku:

3	5	6	9	8	7	2	1	4
7	1	8	6	4	2	3	5	9
4	2	9	3	1	5	7	6	8
1	9	4	7	6	3	8	2	5
8	3	7	2	5	1	4	9	6
2	6	5	4	9	8	1	3	7
9	4	3	1	7	6	5	8	2
6	8	2	5	3	4	9	7	1
5	7	1	8	2	9	6	4	3

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