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Photo courtesy of Gwangmyeong city hall

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Military mail may be affected by US treaty withdrawal

BY WYATT OLSON,
STARS AND STRIPES
Published: July 28, 2019

Servicemembers stationed overseas probably don't think much about how their mail to and from the United States is delivered through the immense system of Army, Air Force and Navy post offices.

In 2018, the Defense Department's Military Postal Service Agency oversaw the delivery of 88,618 tons of packages and letters sent or received by overseas soldiers, sailors, Marines, airmen and federal employees at about 1.2 million post office boxes, unit mail rooms, buildings and other delivery points.

That was roughly equivalent to mailing 1,310 Abrams tanks.

The average military mail customer has also likely given little thought to an arcane international treaty called the Universal Postal Union — but they're apt to hear a lot more about it by October.

The Trump Administration announced last year that the U.S. would withdraw from the 144-year-old treaty, primarily over growing complaints by some U.S.-based businesses that packages sent to the States from other countries — primarily China — have much lower postal rates.

In some cases, U.S. businesses

The U.S. is slated to drop out of the postal union treaty in October unless changes are made by the Bern, Switzerland-based body that governs the system.

Military working dog Roger sniffs mail for contraband at Joint Military Mail Terminal, Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, Dec. 1, 2017. Photo by Thomas Crough, U.S. Army

spend more to mail a package domestically than a China-based firm would pay to ship to America.

"The big fight is over delivery charges," said James Campbell Jr., a Washington, D.C.-based attorney who specializes in regulations concerning international shipping. "The Trump Administration is saying that we are delivering Chinese packages in particular — but all

foreign e-commerce packages, really — for somewhere between a third to half of what we're charging Americans for the same service. That's crazy. The domestic merchants are complaining about that."

October deadline

The U.S. is slated to drop out of the postal union treaty in October unless changes are made

by the Bern, Switzerland-based body that governs the system.

Because the treaty has been in effect so long and includes almost all the world's nations, the ripple effects of withdrawal are unpredictable.

The U.S. Postal Service seems to be counting on a meeting scheduled for September during which treaty members will discuss changes to "terminal dues," which are the rates each member nation pays for delivery of mail within other countries. "This will provide a new opportunity for UPU members to collaborate and develop solutions to end the distortionary effects associated with excessively low rates for certain foreign origin mail, as compared to domestic postage rates," the Postal Service said in a statement to Stars and Stripes.

But the Postal Service is also undertaking "parallel efforts" in the event the U.S. withdraws from the treaty, including "addressing and prioritizing military mailing issues," the statement said.

The Postal Service declined to elaborate at all on what those military mailing issues might be.

Pete Graeve, chief of plans and policy for the Military Postal Service Agency, was optimistic

SEE MAIL ON PAGE 4

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MAIL: Host nation agreements in place

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

about the potential impact leaving the postal union will have on the APO — or Army Post Office, also used by the Air Force — and the Navy's Fleet Post Office, or FPO.

"The bottom line is that we have host nation agreements/status of forces agreements/diplomatic notes that allow the [Military Postal Service] to operate in host nations, and we expect host nations will not unilaterally abrogate those agreements," Graeve wrote in a response to questions by Stars and Stripes.

"The UPU issue pertains to international civil mail postage remuneration, not military mail which is considered domestic and does not have international postage," Graeve said.

"[The Defense Department] is developing contingency plans in the event a host nation does abrogate an agreement to minimize any potential disruptions and continue providing support to our service members and their families."

Customs scrutiny

Among the primary host nations are Germany, Italy, Portugal, United Kingdom, Belgium, Netherlands, Romania, Bulgaria, Greece, Turkey, Kuwait,

Australia, Japan and South Korea.

If these host nations were only dealing with U.S. withdrawal from the Universal Postal Union treaty, it seems less likely they would abrogate agreements governing military mail.

But the Trump Administration is already at odds with European allies over his unilateral withdrawal from a 2015 nuclear deal with Iran in which the nations traded sanctions relief for Iran's delay in enriching uranium.

Trump has also frequently criticized fellow NATO-state members for contributing too little for operating expenses.

Consequently, some countries may not have the appetite to negotiate a postal agreement with the United States.

John Couch, a co-founder of ShipitAPO, which helps overseas servicemembers receive packages from retailers that will not send to APO and FPO addresses, has tried unsuccessfully for months to get clear answers from government officials about what the military-mail landscape will look like if the U.S. leaves the postal union.

"Even if new postal treaties can be re-established with each APO-FPO host nation, this will not happen overnight," Couch said. "And there's no guarantee

that the new agreements will be as favorable regarding allowable items, package sizes, weights and quantities. We can only hope for the best."

One likely and immediate outcome of U.S. withdrawal from the postal union would be increased customs security for both military and civil mail, said Campbell, who sits on the State Department's Advisory Committee on International Postal and Delivery Services.

"The reality is that postal packages have become the conduit-of-choice for drug smugglers, intellectual property violations and all kinds of stuff," he said. "The reality is that Customs has no idea what's in the mail stream."

"If the U.S. leaves the UPU in October, my guess for APO/FPO mail is that there's going to be increased customs scrutiny, at least in the big countries. That's going to entail more costs."

That increased scrutiny and cost will come regardless of the treaty status, though, he said. Last year Congress passed a law that beginning in 2021 all postal packages must undergo the same strict customs procedures required for packages shipped via Federal Express and the like, he said.

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Aquatics program makes big splash across Area IV

STORY AND PHOTOS BY
PFC. KADEN PITT,
20TH PUBLIC AFFAIRS DETACHMENT

CAMP HENRY – The recently re-opened Camp Walker Aquatics Center, along with the Camp Carroll Pool and Chinhae Pool, have become a welcome addition to the summer activities in Area IV.

“This aquatics center has been a major project for us,” said Jack Delaney, the business and community recreations chief at U.S. Army Garrison Daegu Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation. “Everybody has been really happy to have the opportunity to come to the center and swim.”

The center is designed to suit the needs of service members and their Families. Not only does the facility contain a six-lane pool, but it also contains a wading area for young children, a slide, a hot tub as well as sports equipment like basketball nets. The center also features a playground area and a room which can both be rented for birthday parties and other events.

“We cater to the entire Area IV community, so we try to make it the best experience possible,” said Robert Kemble, the sports, fitness and aquatics chief at FMWR. “Since our re-opening we’ve had up to 5,000 people here every month.”

The aquatics program here has created a system in which Soldiers can purchase a pass that allows unlimited access to Camp Carroll and Camp Walker pools during recreational hours for 30



A lifeguard leads families in swimming lessons.

days. The pass can be bought to include a service member’s Family and has a reduced price for Soldiers who are privates through sergeants.

“The daily entry fee is \$3, and it’s \$6 for guests so you can see how that might add up for people who come to swim every day,” said Kemble. “This pass structure we created was designed to relieve some of the economic crunch for those Soldiers and Families who regularly visit the pool.”

The center also provides numerous programs, including movie nights, swim lessons and a junior lifeguard camp. Physical training swim time, which is free for Soldiers, runs from 6 to 8 a.m.

“The physical benefits of swimming

are amazing,” said Kemble. “Whether you go to the pool on Camp Walker or the one on Camp Carroll, you’ll get a great cardio exercise from going swimming.”

The Camp Carroll pool, the only outdoor in USAG Daegu, also boasts a multitude of features. The pool has two slides, predetermined lanes for swimming laps and a deck, which can be rented out for parties and unit functions.

Chinhae Naval Base also has its own

outdoor pool. The pool there has four lanes, a wading pool and is free to all visitors who are Department of Defense affiliated. The Chinhae Pool, as well as the Camp Carroll Pool, are both seasonal and will close after Labor Day weekend.

“You can feel like your back in the states,” said Kemble. “You get to sit by the pool and sunbathe or have a picnic with your family; it’s a little taste of home.”

That feeling of comfort given off by establishments like this as well as the many activities they provide has meant the community has welcomed them with open arms.

“We are dedicated to providing the best recreational opportunities we can, and that’s what we have done with these

aquatic centers,” said Delaney.

“We have had an overwhelmingly positive response, and we hope people continue to enjoy it in the future.”

For more information about the aquatics facilities, call DSN 763-4551 or commercial 0503-363-4551.



Pfc. Heaven Ramirez, a public affairs specialist with AFN Daegu, prepares to shoot a basketball.



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Korean War veterans were honored during the 66th anniversary of the armistice agreement at the United Nations Forces Participation Day ceremony in Seoul.

Visiting vets recall Korean War

STORY AND PHOTOS BY
MATTHEW KEELER,
STARS AND STRIPES
Published: July 28, 2019

SEOUL — Dozens of Korean War veterans, including 17 Americans, returned to the divided peninsula to commemorate the 66th anniversary of the signing of the armistice that ended the fighting between the U.S.-backed South and its communist rivals in the North.

Dick Munson, 87, who was visiting South Korea from Ely, Nev., recalled learning about the armistice while he was at his post called, Christmas Hill, near the front lines, on July 27, 1953.

"I was thinking about the anniversary of the signing of the armistice and excited to be here for that," he said in an interview before a ceremony Saturday in Seoul. "Those of us serving up there called it Christmas in July."

South Korea's Ministry of Patriots and Veterans Affairs hosted Munson and more than 100 other veterans and family members from 16 nations to express the South's appreciation for the sacrifices made during the three-year war.

During the six-day revisit program that began Tuesday, the vets participated in numerous cultural events and tours, including a trip to the truce village of Panmunjom and other sites in the heavily fortified Demilitarized Zone.

They also laid white flowers on the headstones of fallen servicemembers at the United

Nations Memorial Cemetery in the southern city of Busan.

They were welcomed with a standing ovation and honored during the annual United Nations Forces participation day ceremony in Seoul, which was broadcast on national TV.

That event was also attended by South Korean Prime Minister Lee Nak-yeon, the commander of United Nations Command and U.S. Forces Korea Gen. Robert Abrams and Eighth Army commander Lt. Gen. Michael Bills.

"These brave soldiers endured combat, which often had them outnumbered and under-equipped. Still they resisted, driven by the will to protect the freedoms that we all cherish," Abrams said in opening remarks. "They faced the toughest imaginable conditions — freezing winters, sweltering summers and unforgiving terrain."

Eighteen countries, including the United States and South Korea, joined the war under the umbrella of the U.S.-led United Nations Command after North Korea invaded the South on June 25, 1950.

Hostilities ceased when the armistice was signed in Panmunjom by a U.S. general representing the UNC and a North Korean general representing his country and its ally China. But the nations remain technically at war to this day since they failed to agree on a peace treaty.

The UNC also held a ceremony at the Joint Security Area in the DMZ that divides the peninsula.

'Coming back is closure'

The 17 American veterans who made the trip had varying motives for joining the Cold War conflict, which is often known as the Forgotten War because it was sandwiched between World War II and Vietnam.

Many simply didn't have a choice, while others passed up life-changing opportunities to heed the call to go to war.

Munson was drafted at age 19 and served the last 10 months of the war as an infantryman with both the 45th and 2nd Infantry Divisions.

"Coming back is closure," he said.

"It is so good to come back and see the progress of this wonderful nation," he said. "It makes me almost feel it was worth it."

Eager to go war, Jim Judge, 86, said he gave up a potential professional baseball career with the Boston Red Sox to enlist.

The Boston native joined the Marine Corps at age 17 and spent all of 1952 on the Korean Peninsula as a machine-gunner.

"I was expected to only last seven minutes out on the battlefield," he said, jokingly.

Although Judge exceeded expectations in his first day on the job, he described a close call he had with enemy fire during an observe and capture mission.

"While I was digging a hole, I heard a cling. I think someone is shooting at me," he said. "I picked my pack up, got down behind a hill and I looked at the pack — it had a bullet hole. I opened my pack and my metal mess kit had been hit."

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Korean War veterans placed white flowers on the headstones of fallen U.S. servicemembers.



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#nomarriage movement adds to Korea's economic woes

BY JIHYE LEE,
BLOOMBERG

Baeck Ha-na works in accounting during the week. On weekends, she's a YouTube star in South Korea, promoting the "live-alone life."

Baek, whose YouTube channel in English is called "Solo-darity," objects to being called a "mi-hon" -- someone who is not yet married. She's part of a growing and determined group of Korean women rejecting marriage and motherhood.

Such decisions are intensifying demographic and economic challenges for the government as the country faces one of the world's lowest birth rates and a shortfall in pension funding that is getting harder to close with fewer workers joining the labor force.

"Society made me feel like a failure for being in my 30's and not yet a wife or a mother," Baek said. "Instead of belonging to someone, I now have a more ambitious future for myself."

Baek and her YouTube co-host maintain that the government's current approach infuriates many women. They argue that the latest efforts to boost birthrates are "abusive" and "frustrating" because they fail to address the lack of legal avenues to ensure career development for mothers or alleviating financial burdens in raising children.

When it comes to the birth rate, South Korea has ranked at the bottom of OECD countries in the Asia-Pacific region since 2016, with that rate going even lower this year. According to data compiled by the World Bank, South Korea and Puerto Rico tied for the lowest overall rates as of 2017: Seven children per 1,000 people, followed by Japan and Hong Kong.

Data from South Korea's national statistics agency in April showed the number of births dropped even further as of February, a 7% decline from a year earlier. In 2019, the number of those dying is expected to outpace the number of those being born, the report said.

A separate report from the agency shows fewer women believe marriage is a must. In 2010, 64.7% of women in South Korea answered that marriage is required for women, while 48.1% gave the same response in 2018.



Baek Hana is a host of a feminist Youtube segment "Honsarm Bigyeol." Photo by Jean Chung, Bloomberg

South Korea's government is reacting by offering incentives to encourage marriage and especially parenthood. In Sejong, a city designated to be South Korea's new administrative capital, about 30 single men and women attended their latest event in June. The office's goal was to encourage working single men and women to take part in "recreational activities and table talks."

In Gangnam, the Seocho District office held a similar event last year with 50 participants, 14 of whom got matched, the organizer said, adding they plan to hold another session this year.

In a more rural part of the country in South Chungcheong Province, the government has asked single women to submit an application that includes their height, weight, employment history, as well as a recent photo and indicate whether they were married before. South Korea's President Moon Jae-in launched a committee in December 2017 to tackle the country's low birth rate, called the Presidential Committee on Aging Society and Population Policy.

"We are now at the last golden time to fix a serious population problem," Moon said in a speech launching the committee. "We must now focus on how marrying, giving birth doesn't limit the lives of women."

The nation's latest report on population cited a looming threat for South

Korea's labor force. For a decade following 2017, the number of people within the productive age range is expected to fall by 2.5 million, while the older population will rise by 4.5 million.

An estimated 37.6 million people were measured to be in the potential work force in 2017. By 2067, that number is anticipated to drop by more than half to 17.8 million people, according to the report.

The demographic changes are already having an impact on some businesses.

More than 20% of all wedding halls in Seoul have closed, including two of the largest venues in wealthier neighborhoods of Gangnam: Suaviss Wedding Hall, and JS Gangnam Wedding Culture Center, according to a city report.

The Seoul Education Office announced earlier this year that it expects to close three elementary and middle schools by next February, while another middle school is closing and combining its campus with an elementary school that is also facing a student shortage.

In Busan, the number of elementary students registered for schools dropped by 26% over the past 9 years from 199,407 students in 2010 to 147,340 students as of March, 2019. The number of middle school students dropped by 43% while high school students dropped by 40%.

Baek, the YouTuber, says government policies "to force a woman into marriage and childbearing represent a deeply ingrained perception of a woman in our society as an object, not an individual."

She even refuses to be called "mi-hon," or "not yet married," a common Korean term for a single woman. Baek instead prefers "bi-hon," which means "to not marry, to not have children."

Baek is a member of EMIF, or "Elite without Marriage, I am going Forward," a network created for women to host discussions, attend film screenings and hold networking events. At a recent evening meeting of EMIF in western Seoul, nine members moved desks to form a circle to discuss being a "bi-hon," and the policies created to tackle South Korea's low birthrate.

"The government's biggest problem is that they aren't listening to the women -- the actual subjects that have to bear the children and have to raise the children," said Kang Han-byul, the group's co-founder. "They try to sell this idea that a family is beautiful, having children is beautiful, when there's many unspoken things that actually happen to the woman physically, mentally -- which is why these policies will never win us over."

Others also reject long-held roles for women in South Korea, including motherhood. "This traditional role enforced on us from a boys-only soccer field at school, to a boys club in a company office already makes us second-class citizens, and I don't want to be used as a tool simply for baby-making," said Jung Se-young, a co-host on Baek's YouTube channel.

The reaction to what the women call South Korea's government's "tone-deaf" policies have prompted a hashtag on Twitter as well, with women sharing their stories about living a life not focused on marriage and having babies.

"People used to say I can't do anything without a father in the house," an anonymous account dedicated to sharing her "bi-hon" life posted on Twitter. "I bought a silicone gun on my own, and can mend my own windows to block the rain from leaking in. Why did I ever doubt myself before?"



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TRANSIT: Don't be afraid, get out and explore

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

South Korea's mass transit system is a nearly seamless combination of planes, trains, buses and taxis that can get you within a short walk of nearly any destination, while not having to worry about parking or what might happen to your POV. Seoul is the central hub for domestic and international travel.

Travel by train

Korea's trains are a great alternative to air travel. They offer many more destinations and traveling times than airlines. Add in the time and money spent getting to and from airports and it makes even more sense. Similarly, time, cost and destination should be the three deciding factors for which of Korea's three basic types of trains to use.

The fastest and most expensive is the Korean Train eXpress. KTX trains normally run at speeds up to 300 kilometers per hour (186 mph). KTX pricing on tickets was originally designed to provide an option halfway between airfares and the lower priced trains. It is still a fast and economical way to travel between major cities in Korea. The KTX is limited to major cities, so you may have to get creative depending on your final destination.

The Gyeongbu (Kyoungbu) Line starts in Seoul and ends in Busan (Pusan). The Honam Line passes through Seoul (Yongsan Station) and ends in either Gwangju (Kwangju) or Mokpo. The standard fare to Busan on the Gyeongbu Line is about 58,800 won (about \$52) for designated seating and 50,000 won (\$44) for unguaranteed seating. The fare on the Honam Line to Gwangju is around 34,300 won and 29,200 won, respectively. (Special compartments are 140 percent of the basic fare.) KTX fares are 15 to 30 percent higher than the Saemaeul trains – the next lower level of service.

Saemaeul trains offer a wider range of schedules and destination choices. The KTX may get you from Seoul to Busan lickety-split, but its schedule is limited, and it doesn't stop at many popular tourist destinations. Saemaeul trains offer amenities such as a dining car, restrooms and "tuk-shil," or special cars.

Mugunghwa trains are yet another step down in both speed and luxury. They cost less than the Saemaeul and stop at even more locations. When riding the Mugunghwa it's well worth

it to pay extra for a special car, because a standard-car ticket on a heavy travel day will likely have you standing in the aisles.

Korea's trains are comfortable and offer a great way to mingle with the locals. Contact your local TMO for tickets.

Travel by subway

Several cities operate subway systems and almost all signs are in Korean and English. The Busan subway system has three lines. Daegu, home to Camp Walker, Camp Henry and Camp George (neighboring Camp Carroll), has two subway lines. Gwangju, in the southwest, is a great place to visit if you are looking to relax, and it also has two subway lines.

Incheon's subway system is connected to Seoul's. It also has an additional line. From Seoul, the No. 1, or Dark Blue, line goes to Incheon, connecting to the Incheon No. 1 line at Bupyeong (Pupyong.)

The subway in the Seoul metropolitan area is run by the Seoul Subway System. Lines connected to it from outside the city are controlled by Korean National Railroad. There are now 14 or 15 subway lines in or around Seoul, depending on how you count.

No. 1 (Dark Blue) Line: Trains on this line run from Soyosan, just north of Dongducheon (Camp Casey), to either Incheon or Seodongtan. The line separates at Guro (Kuro) Station. Those going to – or coming from – areas near either Osan Air Base or Camp Humphreys will need to be on the Seodongtan portion of the line. There are some trains that do not start or finish at the "terminal stations" listed on maps, so check the destination listed on the front and sides of the train.

No. 2 (Green) Line: This line forms a great circle around some of the best places to go in Seoul. If you are shopping, you can get to either the Dongdaemun (Tondaemun) or Namdaemun (at City Hall Station)

market areas. You can get to several universities or the Jamsil Sports Complex on this line as well. Check the map well before boarding; going the wrong direction full circuit will make for a very long ride to your destination.

No. 3 (Orange) Line: The line runs from Ogeum, south of the Han River, to Daehwa out in the "Western Corridor." It will get you to Jongno 3 Ga, where there are some good bookstores and shops selling musical instruments. It will also take you to the Express Bus Terminal and Apgujeong, a popular gathering area for a night on the town.

No. 4 (Blue) Line: Trains run from Northern Seoul's Danggogae to Oido, south of Seoul. This line has stops for shopping at both Myongdong and Namdaemun (Hoehyeon Station). It also stops at Seoul Station. The four stops south of Seoul Station – Sookmyung Women's University, Samgakji, Shinyongsan and Ichon – are all near entrances to Yongsan Garrison.

No. 5 (Violet) Line: The line runs from either Sangil-dong or Macheon to Banghwa via Gangdong. Gimpo (Kimpo) Airport is on this line, two stops before Banghwa.

No. 6 (Ochre) Line: This line runs from Bonghwasan to Eun-gam. The stops at Itaewon and Samgakji are located next to Yongsan Garrison.

No. 7 (Olive) Line: Running from Jangam to Onsu, this line has notable stops at Grand Children's Park and the Express Bus Terminal.

No. 8 (Pink) Line: The line runs from Amsa to Moran. There are stops at Jamsil (Lotte World) and also at Garak Market (Garak Shijang).

No. 9 (Dark Yellow) Line: The line runs from Gaehwa to Shinnonhyeon. However, the major stops are just one or two stations from the terminal. At one end is Gimpo Airport and at the other is the Express Bus Terminal.

Don't forget to try the AREX for a quick train ride from Incheon Airport to Seoul Station. The fare is comparable to that of buses, and much cheaper than taking a taxi. Incheon to Seoul should be just about 8,000 won, which is just around \$7.10 and takes around 45 minutes on the express train. From Gimpo airport to Seoul Station, the all-stop ride is a short 22 minutes and costs about 230 won, or around .20 cents.





Bundang (Yellow-Orange) Line: Bundang is a newer commuter city with plenty of shopping and interesting places to see. Starting at Gangnam, the new Bundang Line, or Sinbundang, will eventually end up at Suwon.

Jungaang (Light Blue) Line: This line runs from Yongsan Station in central Seoul to the eastern reaches of Gyeonggi Province, ending at Yongmun. This line is handy for getting out of town for sledding and other winter adventures.

Gyeongui (Aquamarine) Line: This line begins in Seoul and ends in Munsan, out in the western corridor. It is a great line to use to explore that area.

Sinbundang (Brown) Line: Some 17 kilometers long, the new Sinbundang line is essentially a shortcut from Gangnam Station down to the Bundang/Seongnam area. It runs from Gangnam Station in Seoul to Jeongja Station in Bundang, with Yangjae, Yangjae Citizen's Forest, Cheonggyesan and Pangyo stops in between. Taking the Bundang (yellow-orange) Line does indeed get you to the same area, but it takes longer.

Travel by taxi

In Korea, you will find taxis very convenient and inexpensive compared to many other places in the world. There are two main types of taxis in Korea: the "ilban" (basic) taxi and the "mobom" (deluxe) taxi.

The ilban taxi starts at 3,000 won (about \$3), while the mobom starts at 5,000 won. Rates start from the basic fare and go up either by the distance traveled or the time elapsed. Fares of the ilban taxis increase by 20% between the hours of midnight and 4 a.m. You can catch cabs at a taxi stand or hail them on the street. During rush hour or in bad weather expect a long wait.

If you are near a base, or if the driver works near a base, you should not have much problem getting to your destination. If not, you can get "taxi cards" from the USO. A bilingual staff member will write your destination in Hangul (Korean) for the driver. Make sure you get one for the way back as well.

Tipping the driver is not normally expected in Korea. However, it's also customary to not expect small change after paying. On the other hand, drivers who often work around military

bases are more likely to expect a small gratuity.

Mobom (deluxe) taxis are normally dark in color and have a yellow sign on top. There is no late-night fare differential. Many of the mobom taxis have stands at major hotels, subway and bus stations.

Many of the drivers speak some English, or at least enough to get you to and from well-known locations. However, it would be wise to look for taxis with a "translation services available" sticker on the side.

It is also wise to ensure that the driver is using the meter when you start your trip, unless you have (willingly) agreed upon a set price prior to starting your ride.

SOFA personnel will find Exchange taxis available on base. (Some bases have a limited number of off-base taxis authorized to come on the bases.) These on-base taxis are very convenient and make life easier in and around bases. Though the rates for these taxis is higher, unlike the ilban, they accept

dollars and the drivers can answer some questions you may have about the area.

Travel by car

Driving around Korea has become much easier with GPS systems available in both English and Korean. At the same time, improvements to the highway system have made driving less of a nightmare than it once was.

If you plan on spending time on the highways, consider shelling out a little money for the Hi-Pass system to pay your tolls. Hi-Pass allows you to pay the tolls without having to stop and count out the money each time.

Hi-Pass requires an "On Board Unit" (OBU) and a Hi-Pass Card. The OBU can be purchased for less than the equivalent of \$20 online and at highway business offices, shopping malls and even at some highway rest stops.

The Hi-Pass Card can be purchased and charged at many of the same locations. There is a 5,000 won deposit required

when the card is purchased, and the card can be charged and recharged in amounts from 5,000 to 500,000 won.

Travel by bus

Bus travel in Korea is reliable and the schedules are more convenient than the trains. Some expressways have bus-only lanes for peak travel times such as weekends, rush hour and major holidays. The bus companies also run extra buses on such peak days. One bus fills up and pulls out, and another immediately pulls in for more passengers.

All major cities and most towns in Korea have a main bus terminal. Transportation to other cities is possible via the "kosok bus" express system. In Seoul, the main hub is the Gang-Nam Express Bus Terminal. Express buses do not have toilets on board, but they do make frequent stops at rest areas. Seats are comfortable enough for travel but are not

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

Online help to get around Korea

Train how-to information, maps, routes, schedules, booking:
info.korail.com/mbs/english

Bus zones, numbers, stops, fares:
english.visitkorea.or.kr/enu/TRP/TP_ENG_5_1.jsp

Subway how-to information, maps, stops, fares:
english.visitkorea.or.kr/enu/TRP/TP_ENG_6.jsp

Plane flights, schedules, booking:
www.koreanair.com/global/en.html

Hi-Pass On Board Unit (in Korean):
www.excard.co.kr/main.do



TRANSIT: Each city has own bus system

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

quite as roomy as those on a Greyhound cruiser.

Some buses run between cities on secondary roads. These dependable inter-city buses make plenty of stops and are an interesting way to see Korea. There are also buses that run from Incheon International Airport to key cities such as Gunsan (Kunsan).

Each city has its own bus system. Ask people who might know or check with your local Morale, Welfare and Recreation Center. They should have information on bus routes, points of interest and other matters.

In Seoul, there are four different color-coded bus systems (bus numbers indicate specific routes):

Blue buses serve major roads between downtown Seoul, its outskirts and sub-centers. Routes are usually direct and efficient, with few detours from main roads.

Green buses run between blue bus routes and subway lines, usually using less direct routes. Their terminal stops will be in adjacent zones.

Red buses serve wide areas and connect the outlying suburbs with Seoul's sub-centers.

Yellow buses move through the downtown areas and shopping districts of the metropolitan area. They usually follow circular routes in limited zones.

Bus fares, like train and subway fares, are based on the distance traveled. Transfer discounts are also available, but only when using a T-Money Card rather than buying tickets for each ride. This rechargeable card is the easiest way to pay for bus, subway and even taxi travel in and around Seoul. It can be purchased from subway or bus ticket vendors and machines. The basic charge is 3,000 won (about \$2.70), and it can be recharged with up to 90,000 won.

As an example, if you take local buses and subways five times within 10 kilometers in 30 minutes or less and pay the fares with T-Money, it will cost only 1,050 won because the five rides are counted as a single trip. However, if you pay cash for tickets following the same itinerary, it will cost 5,750 won. To get this transfer discount, scan the card on the sensor at the front of the bus when getting on, and then use the sensor at the rear door when exiting the bus.

Seoul Metropolitan Subway recently replaced many of its ticket windows with automated vending machines.

You can use them to purchase tickets as well as buy and recharge T-Money Cards. The vending machines are easy to use and have instructions in Korean, English, Chinese and Japanese. Subway staff is also available at stations to help.

Travel by plane

Roundtrip domestic airfares between major cities should cost less than the equivalent of \$200, depending on when you travel and which airline you use. Travel agencies can often save you money on airfares, while tour packages may reduce lodging costs.

Some airports, especially those in smaller cities such as Kunsan, offer few flights and destinations. (To get to Seoul you may have to go to Jeju.) You may find that other means of travel better suit your needs.

Airports are far from downtown areas which, along with security checks, can increase travel time significantly. Travel plans should include the time it takes to get to, from and through an airport.

There are plenty of places to visit in the Land of the Morning Calm. Why not make getting to them part of the adventure? Try them all!



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Photos courtesy of
Kakaocorp

Master Korea's subway maze with another useful app

BY CHIHON KIM,
STRIPE KOREA

South Korea's subway system is clean and very easy to use. Because of this, it is considered one of the best ways to travel or commute in the country. However, as the number of subway stations and number of people using the system has increased, there are those who can find it confusing.

Browsing through your smartphone's

app store you're sure to find a number of apps to guide you through the Korean subway maze, but KakaoMetro is easily the best tool for both your exploration and daily commute.

Use KakaoMetro for access to nationwide subway system timetables, including express train times. It also offers accurate estimated fares and quickest routes to get home. Another feature is a button to share your arrival time to save you from typing it out

in a message. And, if you lose any of your belongings, check out the "Lost and Found" button for contact information of the nearest subway station.

The app also provides real-time subway information based on location, and also lets you set an alarm so you know your stop is coming up. The app will even tell you which door leads to the fastest

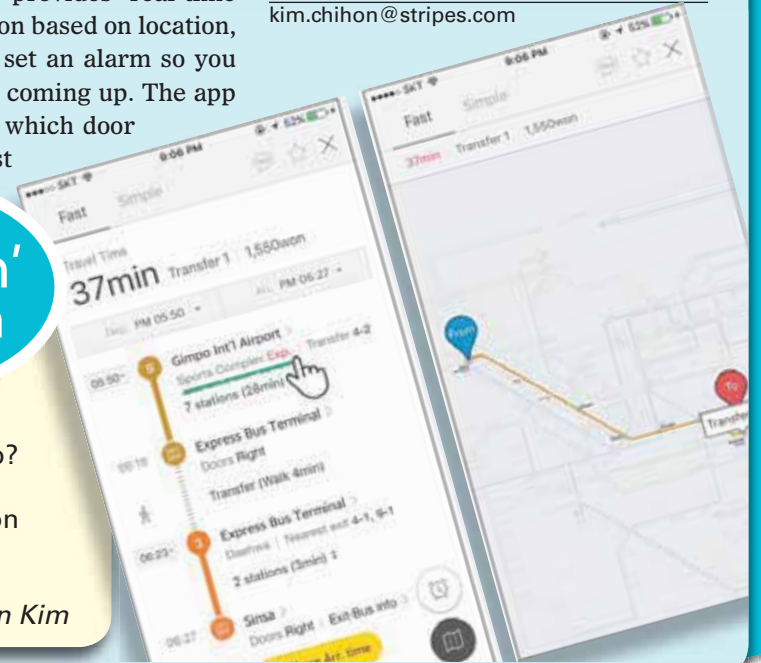
transfer during high-traffic commutes.

KakaoMetro is free and available on iPhone and android. Download it today and start learning the ins and outs of Korea's subway system.

kim.chihon@stripes.com

Let's take a
train!

Speakin'
Korean



- Excuse me, where is the nearest subway station? Sillye-ham-nida, gajang ga-kka-un jihacheoll yeogi eodieyo?
- Where can I buy tickets for the subway? Odiseo jihacheol pyoreul sal su isseoyo?
- Where can I take line number one? Il-ho-seon-eul ta-ryeo-myeon eodiro gayahanayo?
- Where should I transfer? Eodiseo garataya hanayo?

- Where are we? Jigeum yeogiga eodijyo?
- Which exit will lead me to the city hall? Sicheongeuro garyeomyeon myeot beon chulguro nagaya hanayo?
- Subway: Jihacheol

– ChiHon Kim

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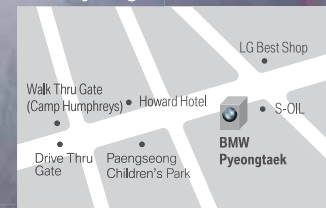
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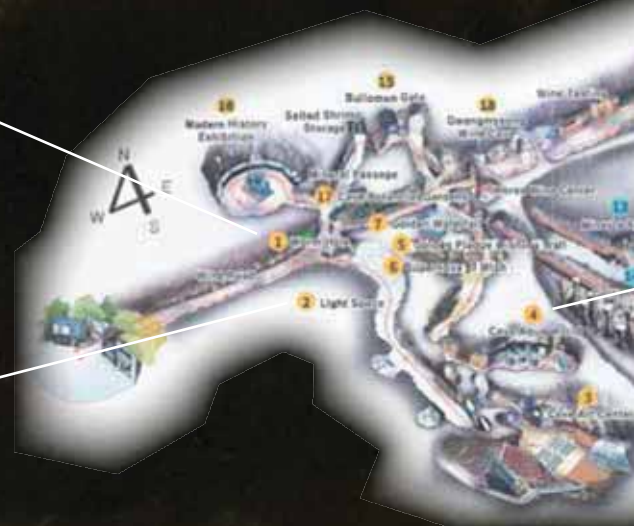
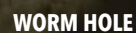
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WORM HOLE Photo courtesy of Gwangmyeong city hall



STORY AND PHOTOS BY
CHIHON KIM,
STRIPES KOREA

During scorching hot summer days, it's difficult to resist the temptation to crank the A/C or plant yourself in front of the fan. Luckily, there is another, more efficient way to keep cool this summer.

Gwangmyeong Cave, on the far southern outskirts of Seoul, a man-made dating back to Japanese colonial rule, is one of those spots for a little cooling and a Korean history lesson. Built in the cave holds traces of the country's colonial exploitation and subsequent post-liberation.

Until 1931, weapons were produced in World War II with minerals from the cave like gold, silver, and iron. Later, during the Korean War, it was used as a refuge for refugees. Mining operations stopped in 1972 due to flooding, leading to the cave becoming a storage for salted shrimp for nearly 40 years. In 2011, the cave was opened to the public as a cultural attraction.

Like natural caverns that have limited

lighting, Gwangmyeong cave, an artificial cave that spans 7.8 kilometers in length and 275 meters in depth, is divided into some 20 sections, each decorated with colorful lights.

In July, when temperatures in Korea soared well above the 80-degree Fahrenheit mark, I fled to Gwangmyeong. The so-called "natural refrigerator" is a little over an hour drive from Pyeongtaek.

The workspace where miners used to sort minerals was visible from the steep stairs leading up to the cave, a clear reminder of its storied past. The chilly air came over me when I reached the entrance of the cave. At first, it was really freezing cold!

"Because of the temperature difference, the wind continues to come out from the inside," one guide wearing thick coat explained.

"The cave is not affected by the sun or radiation, so it stays between 12 to 13 degrees Celsius throughout the year. It's cool in summer and warm in winter," he added.

The sweat I had shed and heat I felt as I'd climbed the steep stairs to the cave entrance quickly diminished and pretty soon I was chilly. Luckily, I had brought a long-sleeve shirt with me, but I was surprised that I was wearing it considering how hot it was outside.

Though Gwangmyeong Cave had no stalactites or stalagmites to look at, there was plenty to enjoy inside this cold sanctuary.

We entered the "Light Space," an area connected to Wormhole Square, the

starting point of the cave. Thousands of colorful illuminations decorate the walls of this Instagram-able space, making it too beautiful to pass without a couple of snaps. Another section, the Cave Art Center, is a concert hall, minus a stage. This is because the walls of the cave become the stage with a fantastic laser show projecting all around.

I entered the "Lord of the Rings"-themed room, another great place for cool pics, and saw the giant dragon created by the Weta Workshop team that produced the actual film.

Stop at the Miner's Spring for a refreshing break over a glass of first-class spring water once used to quench miners' thirst on their tough shifts.

Other sections include the Cave Aqua World, for a look at some of Korea's native

fish and a modern history section dedicated to laborers of the Japanese colonial period. Here, you can also see the displays of the refugees that hid here during the Korean War.

The area used to store salted shrimp is now a sophisticated wine warehouse, as the low temperature and high humidity are optimal conditions for wine aging.

This area holds over 230 kinds of wine produced from 43 wineries across South Korea. If you have a designated driver, sample the wines in the tasting room before purchasing.

Experts estimate that the cave still contains a sizable deposit of gold. You might not discover any gold, but you will have a refreshing time in a chill cave with many great activities to keep you out of this unbearable summer heat!

ADDRESS: 142, Gahak-ro 85beon-gil, Gwangmyeong-si, Gyeonggi-do
CONTACT: 1330 Travel Hotline: +82-2-1330 (Korean, English), +82-70-4277-8902
ENTRANCE FEE: 6,000 won (or \$5.07) / Youth: 3,500 won/ Child: 2,000 won
PARKING FEE: 1,500 to 3,000 won
WEBSITE: cavern.gm.go.kr/(Korean, English, Japanese), Facebook: Gwangmyeong Cave
REGULAR OPERATION HOURS: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. (Last admission: 1700 p.m., Closed on every Monday)

SUMMER HOURS – (Until Sept. 1)
9 a.m. to 9 p.m. (last admission 2000 p.m.), No holiday
DIRECTIONS [Subway] - From Cheonlsan station (subway line 1,7)
1. Exit 2. Cross the road to take Bus No. 17 and get off at Gwangmyeong Cave Bus Stop (last stop). (45min)
2. Exit 2. Take Bus No. 11-2 and get off at Gwangmyeong Cave Parking Lot 3 Bus Stop.
3. Exit 2. Take a taxi for about 18-min.



LIGHT SPACE



"LORD OF THE CAVE"



CAVE AQUA WORLD



GOLDEN CHAMBER



"LORD OF THE CAVE"

CAVE AQUA WORLD

GOLDEN CHAMBER

WINE CAVE



Photo courtesy of Gwangmyeong city hall



SEE COOL ON PAGE 14

COOL: Food, fun aplenty near cave

Gwangmyeong Upcycle Art Center

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

Within walking distance of je-i-juchang, the cave's second parking lot, the Upcycle Art Center features beautiful exhibits made literally made from trash. The gallery was previously a public information

hall, but three years ago it was transformed into an exhibit area to display creative sculptures submitted for a local contest. Every year, they change the exhibits with the art submitted to the annual contest.

But before you even get to the gallery, you can check out all the strange sculptures

surrounding the building. Some are of animals and others, well, you can decide what they are.

On the second floor of the gallery, there is a restaurant. For my take, the size and the quality of food served at the restaurant does not justify the prices.

ADDRESS: 27 Gahak-dong, Gwangmyeong-si, Gyeonggi-do
CONTACT: 02-2680-6928
WEBSITE: <https://gmupcycle.moodoo.at/> (KOR only)
OPERATION HOURS: 1000 a.m. to 1800 p.m. (Closed on every Monday)



Food truck park

Near the cave entrance's ticket booth, visitors will find four or five food trucks selling a variety of Korean favorites. Grab some SeoSeo steak, a juicy flat iron steak with a side of baked onions, green beans and wasabi for a decent price (9,900 won or about \$8.30). Or try So-tteok so-tteok, a tourist favorite of skewered rice cake and sausage and brushed with two different sauces (4,000 won). The chewy texture of the tteok worked brilliantly with the sausage and the sauce I chose. It was delicious! Another skewer you'll want to try is the grilled shrimp (6,000 won), which is glazed with tons of butter. Grab this skewer if you are a seafood lover and check out the offerings all the trucks have to offer.



Gwangmyeong Traditional Market

Whenever I find myself in a new place, I make a stop at a traditional market a must. I like to see what the area's specialty is, which in itself makes me feel like I'm on a treasure hunt. Although the Gwangmyeong Traditional Market is not as big as some of other traditional markets I've been to, this one had its own gems around every

corner. The healthy Chlorella Hamburger (2,000 won), with its unique flavor, is the most iconic food in the market. Served on a moist and chewy bun made of tofu and glutinous rice, the burger was topped with chopped cabbage, ketchup, sliced cucumbers, pickles, and lettuce. It was delightful.

Not full from my burger, I grabbed some grilled

short rib patties (1,000 won each). Jang-leung-wang-tteog-gal-bi, a spot which boasts 20 years in business, serves up greasy patties made of ground pork mixed with vegetables and fruit. It wasn't that great, but it was edible considering its price. The market also sells cheap grilled chicken wings (5,000 won for 7 pieces) and drum sticks (1,000 won each).

ADDRESS: Gwangmyeong 3(sam)-dong, Gwangmyeong-si
CONTACT: Gwangmyeong Traditional Market Cooperative 02-2614-0006
WEBSITE: <http://blog.naver.com/kmmarket901>



Gangwondo's Hwaamdonggul Cave

HAPS KOREA MAGAZINE

Located in Gangwon province, Hwaamdonggul Cave takes you back to the 1920's for a look at a functioning goldmine in Korea.

The cave, which was functioning from 1922 to 1945, has become a tourist attraction with an educational focus on gold and nature.

The 5th largest goldmine in the country, which is located in Jeongseon, was found to have a stalactite area in an open space of 2,800 and the length of the

path open to visitors is 1,803 meters.

Be prepared to walk — the cave is long, and there are a lot of stairs mostly going down in deep, but lit areas of the cave.

It takes about two hours to traverse through the five zones, and wear comfortable shoes and clothing. We can't emphasize enough the amount of stairs you will take and also if claustrophobia is an issue for you, you may want to give it a pass.

It's a very interesting cave and the history and nature of it are quite entertaining, though

weirdly, zone 3 named story land completely breaks off from the interesting history of the cave into some bizarre goblin presentation which looks like it may have been intended to teach children about gold but

more likely scares them than anything.

Admission to the park is 5,000 won for adults, 3,500 for students and 2,000 for children.

The cave is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily.

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KONQER is returning to Palau for another two-day event.

November 30 and December 1

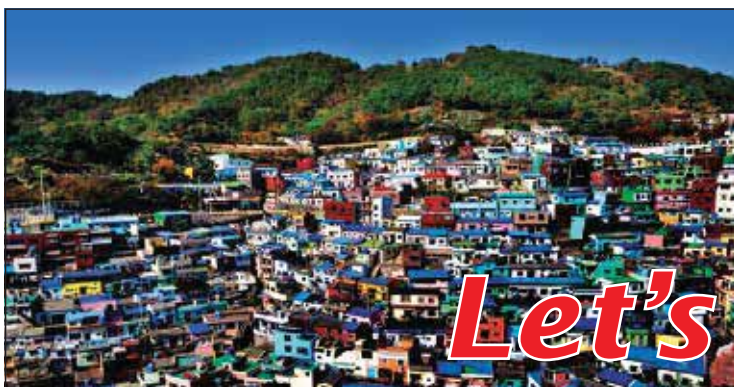
Palau offers a unique area for the obstacle course that makes the race all the more exciting designed for individuals or teams, we even have a special kids course.

KONQER is the first and biggest obstacle course event of the region that debuted in Guam in 2015. The obstacle course challenge is made up of several intense physical fitness activities that require participants to jump, crawl, swim, run and climb to the finish line.

KONQER is an event that hones in on teamwork, physical fitness and fun.

Also get a chance to experience diving in our pristine waters, tour around Palau, enjoy local traditional dishes and explore our rich culture and history during your stay.

Visit www.konqersports.com and register now to **KONQER** in *Pristine Paradise Palau*



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Let's explore Korea!



Summer splash

Eco experiences along Korea's West Sea

Beaches along the West Sea are easily accessible from Seoul and are therefore extremely popular among citizens and travelers who may not have a lot of time on their hands. The beaches of the West Sea are also great places to catch the sunset, and many have tidal flats teeming with small marine life.

EURWANGNI BEACH IN JUNG-GU, INCHEON

Eurwangni Beach, located near Seoul and Incheon International Airport, is a popular beach, both for its gorgeous views and clean white sand. The beach's shallow water also provides the perfect place for children to go swimming. Nearby amenities include a number of lavish resorts and restaurants serving fresh seafood. Having dinner outside on the terrace of one of these restaurants is the perfect way to watch the final rays of sunlight as they disappear over the horizon! Beachgoers can also rent a fishing boat or rent a fishing rod to fish off the side of the pier. A variety of beach festivals take place at Eurwangni every summer.

■ **ADDRESS:** 15, Eurwang-ro 13beon-gil, Jung-gu, Incheon



Muchangpo Beach

MUCHANGPO BEACH IN BORYEONG-SI, CHUNGCHEONGNAM-DO

Muchangpo Beach is particularly famous for what is known as the "Moses Miracle," a natural phenomenon in which extreme tides reveal the seafloor for only a few short hours two or three days a month (around the 15th and 30th days of the lunar calendar). The exposed sea floor makes a path about 1.5 km long that reaches all the way from the beach to Seokdaedo Island. The beach is also known for its scenic coastal drive, clusters of pine trees, and beautiful sunsets.

■ **ADDRESS:** 10, Yeollinbada 1-gil, Ungcheon-eup, Boryeong-si, Chungcheongnam-do

DAECHEON BEACH IN BORYEONG-SI, CHUNGCHEONGNAM-DO

Daecheon Beach is the largest beach on the west coast, and is known for its shallow and calm waters. The sand on the upper shores of Daecheon Beach is especially soft and easy to wash off because it is composed of tiny bits of eroded shells. Closer to the shoreline, the sand is hard packed. These two varieties of sand allow visitors to enjoy both leisure walks and sand scrubs. Daecheon Beach is also home to the annual summer festival, Boryeong Mud Festival. In the winter, the beach draws large crowds again as locals and tourists flock to the shores for the annual Sunset Festival.

■ **ADDRESS:** 123, Mud-ro, Boryeong-si, Chungcheongnam-do

BEACH DESTINATIONS

KOREA TOURISM ORGANIZATION

If you're planning on vacationing in Korea this summer, be sure to check out at least one of the following beach destinations! Korea is surrounded on all three sides by water, giving it plenty of beaches in a variety of shapes and sizes that offer a welcomed escape from everyday life. Since most beaches in Korea officially open in June or July and close towards the end of August, visitors have only a few months to splash around in the water and soak up the rays. But don't worry if you miss out on the official summer beach season, as there are plenty of sightseeing activities that you can all year round!

- 1330 Korea Travel Hotline: +82-2-1330 (Korean, English, Japanese, Chinese)
- The schedules and facilities available are subject to change.

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www.visitkorea.or.kr

Emerald waters of Korea's South Sea

There are countless islands, and therefore beaches, along the southern coast of Korea. Each beach has its own unique style, meaning that there are almost limitless options for visitors willing to travel a little further from Korea's capital. The South Sea is also home to Jeju Island, a favorite tourist site in Korea. Islands in the South Sea provide visitors with vastly different experiences from those along the east or west coast.

HAEUNDAE BEACH IN HAEUNDAE-GU, BUSAN

Haeundae Beach is perhaps the most well-known beach in the country. The waters are shallow and there is little change in tide making this beach perfect for swimming. The beach is famous for its views of the sunrise and moonrise as seen from Haewoljeong Pavilion. Haeundae's Dalmaji-gil Road, which is located between Haeundae Beach and Songjeong Beach, is another recommended spot for a romantic view of the moonlight glistening off the water's surface.

Haeundae Beach is also extremely well known for its many cultural events and festivals that are held throughout the year. Visitors can enjoy Haeundae Sand Festival in summer; Busan International Film Festival in fall; and the New Year Festival and Polar Bear Swimming Contest in winter.

■ **ADDRESS:** 264, Haeundaehaebyeon-ro, Haeundae-gu, Busan



Haeundae Beach



Scenic coastline of Korea's East Sea

The East Sea, known for its clear waters and expansive, white sandy beaches, is one of the most popular summer vacation spots in the nation. People come from far and wide to catch the stunning view of the sun rising over the East Sea, and most beaches in the area even hold an annual Sunrise Festival. Although these festivals only take place on New Year's Day, the sight of the sun slowly peeking over the ocean's horizon is a mesmerizing sight any day of the year.



Guryongpo Port

GURYONGPO BEACH IN POHANG-SI, GYEONGSANGBUK-DO

Guryongpo Beach is about 24 kilometers away from Pohang and 1.5 kilometers from Guryongpo-eup. Thanks to the gentle slope of the ocean floor and the clean sea water, Guryongpo Beach is a favorite vacation spot for swimming enthusiasts. The beach is also popular among fishermen, many of whom troll their lines in Yeongilman Bay.

■ **ADDRESS:** 6, Homi-ro 426beon-gil, Guryongpo-eup, Nam-gu, Pohang-si, Gyeongsangbuk-do



Naksansa Temple

NAKSAN BEACH IN YANGYANG-GUN, GANGWON-DO

Naksan Beach is one of the top beaches in Gangwon-do, with a sandy beach stretching over 1,810 meters that draws in countless

visitors each year. The beach runs along clean waters and is bordered by rows of pine trees. In addition to its natural beauty, Naksan Beach also has a variety of water leisure activities such as banana boating and jet skis for those looking for more adventure.

The beach is also a top pick for those who are interested in Korea's traditional culture, as it is close to Naksansa Temple and Uisangdae Pavilion, which was built to commemorate Great Monk Uisang. As an added bonus, the pavilion is also one of the best places in the area to view the sunrise.

■ **ADDRESS:** 59, Haemaji-gil, Ganghyeon-myeon, Yangyang-gun, Gangwon-do

SOKCHO BEACH IN SOKCHO-SI, GANGWON-DO

Sokcho Beach is well known for the picturesque pine trees that stand proudly along its white sandy coast. One of the perks of this particular beach is that there are many tourist attractions in the surrounding area, including Yeongnangho Lake and Seoraksan Mountain, one of Korea's most famous mountains.

Given the beach's range of facilities (parking lots, campsites, etc.) and nearby accommodations, Sokcho Beach is a convenient place for a weekend trip. Visitors can even rent a fishing rod and go fishing at nearby Jodo Island, or walk towards the pier to get some fresh hoe (sliced raw fish) at one of the local fish markets.

One of the biggest draws of Sokcho Beach is that it is located near Sokcho Express Bus Terminal, making it easy to find for even first-time visitors. Festivals held at Sokcho Beach include the Sunrise Festival on January 1 of every year, and many events that take place during the beach swimming period between July and August for all visitors to enjoy.

■ **ADDRESS:** 190, Haeoreum-ro, Sokcho-si, Gangwon-do

GYEONGPO BEACH IN GANGNEUNG-SI, GANGWON-DO

Gyeongpo Beach is the largest beach on the east coast, and is only about a kilometer away from Gyeongpodae Pavilion,

perhaps the most striking characteristic of Gyeongpo Beach is its fine powdery sand, which is perfect for barefoot walks along the beach. There is also a beautiful pine tree forest that can be found nearby for leisure walks. Beach activities such as banana boating, jet skiing, and waterskiing are also well-favored. In addition, Gyeongpo Summer Music Festival is held every evening between the end of July and early August, featuring performances from famous bands and hip-hop groups for a beachside club atmosphere.

■ **ADDRESS:** San 1, Anhyeon-dong, Gangneung-si, Gangwon-do



Gyeongpo Beach

JUNGmun SAEKDAL BEACH IN SEOGWIPO-SI, JEJU-DO

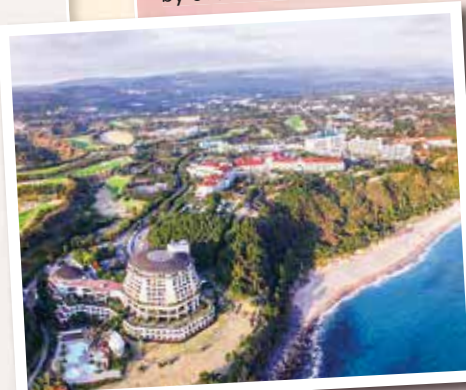
Jungmun Saekdal Beach inside of Jeju Jungmun Resort is a unique beach made of a gradient of black, white, red, and gray sand, as well as the famous black volcanic stone of Jeju Island. To the right of the sandy beach is a natural cave that was created by coastal erosion. Rare plants flourish near the cave, offering a

convenient spot for some eco-focused sightseeing. The waves and tides can be rather rough along Jungmun, so while conditions are great for wind surfing, jet skiing and other water leisure activities, non-swimmers and young children are advised to stick close to the shoreline under the careful watch of lifeguards.

Jungmun Resort is also home to an aquarium, Yeomiji Botanical Garden, Cheonjeyeon Waterfall, and a cluster of traditional houses of Jeju Island. Various events are held

along the beach and in the complex throughout the year.

■ **ADDRESS:** 3039, Saekdal-dong, Seogwipo-si, Jeju-do



HYEOPJAE BEACH IN JEJU-SI, JEJU-DO

Hyeopjae Beach is one of the best beaches on Jeju Island for swimmers, since the waters are shallow with no sudden drops. Tiny shells in the sand give the beach a silver sheen and make for a firm feel that is perfect for long walks along the water's edge. Once you get into the water, you'll be pleased to discover that the water is so pure that you can clearly see your toes! Hallim Park, a major tourist attraction, is only 5 minutes away on foot, and is well worth a visit. The park is landscaped with an abundance of subtropical plants and topiaries, and serves as a cool escape from the summer heat.

A pleasant beach with plenty of space, Hyeopjae is all the more beautiful because of the black basalt rocks to one side and the view of Biyangdo Island stretching out in the distance.

■ **ADDRESS:** 2497-1, Hyeopjae-ri, Hallim-eup, Jeju-si, Jeju-do

WATER PARKS!

KOREA TOURISM ORGANIZATION

One of the first things people think of when summer comes to mind is fun with water, whether it is at a river, a lake, or a beach. It's not easy, however, to fully enjoy those activities within a city or an urban area. This article will introduce Korea's top water parks designed to let you get your fill of water fun without having to leave town, including other options great for overnight trips.

WATER PARKS IN SEOUL AND METROPOLITAN AREA

Caribbean Bay

Caribbean Bay, a water park located just outside of Seoul in the city of Yongin, holds the titles of both the first and the largest water park in the country. Caribbean Bay can accommodate up to 20,000 people, and has five themed zones that include indoor pools, outdoor pools, spas, water rides, water slides, and many other amusement facilities.

The most popular attractions at the water park are the exciting wave pool that rises as high as 2.4 m and the Mega Storm, a 355 m long exhilarating water slide that offers a full minute of intense adrenaline rush that you can't get anywhere else.

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

Onemount Water Park

Onemount Water Park in Gyeonggi-do's Ilsan is a four-story structure with a seven-story rooftop that lets visitors look down on the various slides and attractions in the park, as well as the nearby Ilsan Lake Park. Most of the attractions for children are on the 4th level, and rides for adults are located on the 7th floor.

One of the most popular rides is Sky Boomerango, a 50 m high ride that has tubes for two people to shoot down then back up again, then finally plunging into a water pool at the end. In addition, the next-door attraction Cola Ride is another must for thrill-seekers, which will give you an unforgettable memory of free falling thanks to its near-vertical 10 m high slide.

■ **ADDRESS:** 300, Halluyworld-ro, Ilsanseo-gu, Goyang-si, Gyeonggi-do (more info)

Sealala Waterpark

Located in Mullae-dong of Yeongdeungpo-gu, Seoul, Sealala Spa & Water Park is a place where Seoulites can enjoy water fun any time of the year. Although it is not as big as other water parks in Korea, it boasts an exotic Greece-themed décor and offers easy access, as it is directly connected to the subway.

The place is famous for its 140 m long lazy river, beach pool where visitors can splash around, 20 m long speedy water slide, and 32 m long pool mat slide. It's also a perfect spot for family with children, as Aqua Kidsland within the water park offers kids friendly attractions such as kids water slides, piano fountain, and more.

■ **ADDRESS:** B2, Yeongdeungpo SK Leaders View, 164, Mullae-ro, Yeongdeungpo-gu, Seoul

■ **DIRECTIONS:** Mullae Station (Seoul Subway, Line 2), Exit 5. Walk for approx. 10 min.

■ **OPERATING HOURS:** 10:00-19:00 (Open all year round)
– Sauna and jjimjilbang (Korean sauna) are open 24 hours and require a separate fee.

■ **ADMISSION FEE:** 35,000 won – 53,000 won (Adults)

CONTINUED ON PAGE 18

WATER: SOAKING IN THE FUN

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17

– Fees may vary depending on schedule and seasonality.
Check the official website for details.

■ **SEALALA WATER PARK WEBSITE:** www.sealala.com (Korean only)

Termeden

Historically frequented by the kings of the Joseon Dynasty, the hot springs of Icheon are well known for their excellent water quality. Located in this famed hot spring city of Icheon, Termeden is a hot spring resort complex that is popular for its high-quality water and luxurious facilities. Though the park has various pools, spas, and slides, one of the most famous attractions at Termeden is the Bade Pool. The themed hot spring pools are highly recommended, since the natural ingredients added in each spa (ginseng, rice, honey, etc.) are said to provide various unique health benefits.

■ **ADDRESS:** 988, Sasil-ro, Mogameyeon, Icheon-si, Gyeonggi-do

Woongjin Playdoci Waterdoci

Woongjin Playdoci, a very unique indoor theme park, is located not far from Seoul in the city of Bucheon, Gyeonggi-do. In addition to having basic pool facilities, Woongjin Playdoci Waterdoci, which is the central area of the venue, includes Kids Zone and diverse entertaining water slides. The Spa Zone offers bade pools with a variety of water jet massage options that help ease fatigue and provide skin benefits. Adults and kids alike are bound to get their fill of fun with the seasonal event pools and outdoor Sunny Park during the summer.

■ **ADDRESS:** 2, Jomaru-ro, Wonmi-gu, Bucheon-si, Gyeonggi-do

BEAT THE HEAT WITH OVERNIGHT TRIPS TO THESE RURAL WATER PARKS!

Resom Spa Castle (Chunchunhyang)

Resom Spa Castle (Chunchunhyang) represents one of Korea's best hot spring theme parks, thanks to the widespread fame of its therapeutic Germanium-rich water, which is maintained at 49°C. Located in Yesan-gun, Chungcheongnam-do, Resom Spa Castle's hot spring facility Chunchunhyang is open all year round.

Looking for a thrill? Try the water park's famous water slides: the exhilarating Master Blaster and the Speed Slide, a thriller-ride that propels you down a three-story water chute in just four seconds. For some fun that's slightly less intense, check the outdoors to enjoy over 20 hot spring water park facilities and open-air pools.

■ **ADDRESS:** 45-7, Oncheondanji 3-ro, Deoksan-myeon, Yesan-gun, Chungcheongnam-do (more info)

Seorak Waterpia

Seorak Waterpia is the most popular destination on the East Coast. With the stunning scenery of Seoraksan Mountain serving as a beautiful backdrop, this place offers the latest in water amusement facilities and hot spring water spas.

If you are looking for fun and thrills, check out the water slides and wave pools. Popular rides in this action-packed park include World Alley, a 260 m long water slide with a sharp drop and a 360-degree turn, Torrent River, and Family Raft.

■ **ADDRESS:** 88, Misiryeong-ro 2983beon-gil, Sokcho-si, Gangwon-do

Vivaldi Park Ocean World

Vivaldi Park Ocean World is situated among the beautiful ancient forests of Hongcheon in Gangwon-do. The water park has an Egyptian theme throughout, and contains replicas of the Sphinx, pyramids, obelisks, and other decorative touches. Divided into various "zones" — Indoor Zone, Wave Pool Zone, Extreme Zone, Dynamic Zone, and the Mega Slide Zone — each section of the water park offers amusement of its own. The Indoor Zone has various pools and slides, a jjimjilbang, and a therapy center. In the Extreme Zone, people can experience exciting thrills with waves as high as 2.4 m.

■ **ADDRESS:** 262, Hanchigol-gil, Seomyeon, Hongcheon-gun, Gangwon-do (more info)

* Free shuttle bus schedule for international visitors: 9:30 am at Hongik University Station (Seoul Subway, Line 2), Exit 8 → 10:00 a.m. in front of Lotte Hotel at Euljiro 1(il)-ga Station (Seoul Subway, Line 2), Exit 8 → 10:30 a.m. at Samsung Station (Seoul Subway, Line 2), Exit 5 → Arrive at Vivaldi Park at 11:45 a.m. (Online reservation required at least two days in advance)

* Shuttle bus reservation: www.daemyungresort.com (English only)

Gimhae Lotte Water Park

Opened in May 2014, Gimhae Lotte Water Park in Gyeongsangnam-do features custom-designed, Polynesian-themed water slides and pools. The water park boasts Korea's largest pool facilities, including the 135 m long outdoor wave pool, 35 m long indoor wave pool, and a huge 118 m long Tornado Slide, among other attractions.

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

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Aug. 30 — Sept. 1 At Muchangpo Beach in Ungcheon-eup, Boryeong City

Opening Ceremony: 7 p.m.-9 p.m., Aug. 30

Celebrating performances, fireworks and laser show

Main Event: The Traditional Fishery Experience 9:30 p.m.-10:30 p.m., Aug. 31

Enjoy a weekend of fishing ... with a torch and with your hands! Great food and music!

Low tide times: 10:07 a.m. - 11:10 a.m. (Aug.30) / 10:28 a.m. - 12:08 p.m. (Sept.1)

Contact: (041) 936-3561

For more details: <http://www.brcn.go.kr/eng.do>

Muchangpo Mystic Sea Road Festival



Three valleys To escape the heat

HAPS KOREA MAGAZINE

As your body temperature rises mid-summer, you feel desperate to escape. You may be surprised to find out there are quite a few cool places in close proximity to the city center. Just as Busan has many mountains, it has forest valleys and streams surrounding them – Jangsan Mountain Valley, Beomeosa Temple Valley and Daecheoncheon Valley – ideal for a day outside without excess exposure to the sun.

Take a valley vacation

Jangsan Mountain Valley

Haeundae is known for its valleys, as well as its location next to the ocean. Walk about 15 minutes up from Jangsan Station to meet Jangsan Mountain Valley next to Daecheon Park.

Cool breezes sweep through lush forests where park visitors make their way. The valley starts from the sports park at the entrance of the hiking courses, and continues onward to Seoktaeam temple.

It's a little piece of paradise in the midst of the city. The water is so clean that the riverbed is clearly visible – a pristine place popular with visitors of all kinds.

Children splash about in the cool valley stream flanked by thick woods. Families bring tubes, mats and food. Chill a watermelon for a few hours in the stream and share the icy flesh. Shadier and quieter than the beach, the valley is ideal for seeking cool relaxation. Lay a mat on the forest floor and chat through the evening, past sunset in the tropical hideaway.

Jangsan Mountain is known for its crystalline waters and well-preserved forests. Cooking is prohibited to help maintain such natural beauty. Bring simple snacks instead.

How to get there: Get off at Jangsan Station (Metro line 2) and go out exit 10 or 12. Walk straight about 20 minutes toward Jangsan Daecheon Park, or take a taxi. Take bus Nos. 38, 40, 63, 100-1, 115-1 or 181 and get off at the first Daerim Apartment bus stop. Walk toward the mountainside.

Beomeosa Temple Valley

Beomeosa Temple Valley is one of the three most renowned temples in Korea's southeastern Yeongnam region. Its long history and superb natural environment draw visitors to the shaded waters nearby the temple grounds each summer.

The temple has long been known for its historical and cultural significance within a stunning natural landscape, but for locals, it's also just a great place to cool off in the summer. The valley is located about 50 meters past the ticket office.

Dip your feet in the clear valley water out of the sun. The stream, shielded by a thick mountain forest is only ankle- to knee- deep, perfect for kids. Pull up a seat and relax on one of the large boulders dotting the edge of the stream.

Explore the temple after a day of cooling off in the stream. Built during the Silla Dynasty era, the temple has long played a pivotal role within Korea's Buddhist community. Take in the display of rich cultural assets amongst well-maintained walkways, bamboo groves and wisteria habitats. Cooking is prohibited for environmental protection.

How to get there: Get off at Beomeosa Station (Metro line 1) and go out exit 5 or 7. Walk about 5 minutes to find the Beomeosa Entrance bus stop. Take bus No. 90 and get off at the Beomeosa Ticket Office bus stop. Walk down toward the valley.



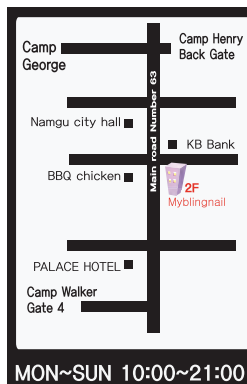
Daecheoncheon Stream

Valley streams wind through the rocky terrain toward Hwamyeong-dong. From Geumjeongsan Fortress Mountain, water flows through Hwamyeong-dong, and eventually to the Nakdonggang River. Small waterfalls and pools spill from mountainside cliffs along the way.

A walk along Sanseong (fortress) Road, from Sanseong to Hwamyeong Village reveals Aegiso Pool nestled among the pine forest-lined valleys. Aegiso Pool, formed by several convergent valley waters, is located upstream from Daecheoncheon. Though the volume of Aegiso's water has diminished, it's still quite deep and wide enough for adults to dive or swim in. The area's beauty is juxtaposed by a dark legend of a baby who once drowned in the pool while playing within its waters, which grow clearer and shallower farther downstream.

Stop by Hwamyeong Arboretum afterward for a fully-immersing natural experience within botanical gardens. Explore tropical plants, a zoo, a lookout and a square within the arboretum.

How to get there: Get off at Hwamyeong Station (Metro line 2) and go out exit 6. Transfer to mini bus No. 1 and get off at the Aegiso bus stop.



Manicure/Pedicure/Acrylic/UVgel/Eyelashextensions/Wax

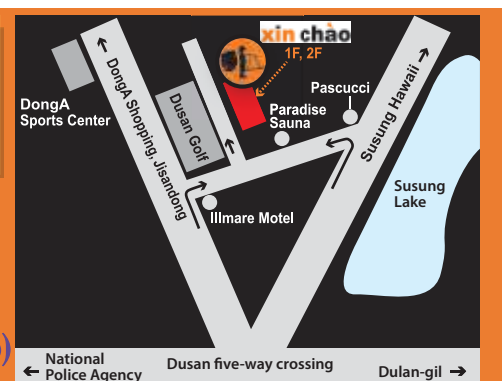
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Pyeongchang Music Festival & School



DATE: Until Aug. 10

LOCATION: Pyeongchang Alpensia & Areas of Gangwon-do

INTRODUCTION:

Pyeongchang Music Festival & School features world-famous performers every summer, and has become the best classical music festival in Korea. The audience will be mesmerized by the variety of music programs that takes place surrounded by the beautiful environment of Gagnwon-do.

HOMEPAGE: www.mpyc.kr
(Korean, English)

Rose of Sharon Festival of The Garden of Morning Calm



DATE: Until Aug. 25

LOCATION: The Garden of Morning Calm

INTRODUCTION:

The Garden of Morning Calm holds the Rose of Sharon Festival until late August. Visitors can see the Rose of Sharon as well as green grass fields, summer wildflowers, valleys, and Chukryeongsan Mountain to fulfill their five senses.

TRANSPORTATION:

Bus

From Dong Seoul Bus Terminal take a bus bound for Cheongpyeong Bus Terminal, or take bus 1330 at Cheongnyangni Transfer Center (in front of Lotte Department Store) and get off at the Cheongpyeong Bus Terminal (travel time: 1hr 45min) From Cheongpyeong Terminal, take Bus 31-7 to the Garden of Morning Calm (아침고요수목원). Travel time: 41min

Subway

■ Cheongpyeong Station (Gyeongchun Line & ITX Cheongchun), Exit 1.

Go left until you reach the 3-way intersection and turn right.

Continue straight toward the Cheongpyeong Catholic Church.

Pass by Cheongpyeong Elementary School, turn left, and you will see the Cheonpyeong Bus Terminal.

■ From Cheongpyeong Terminal, take Bus 31-7 to the Garden of Morning Calm.

HOMEPAGE: www.morningcalm.co.kr
(Korean, English, Japanese, Chinese)



HAPPENINGS OFF BASE FESTIVALS

Donggang International Photo Festival



DATE: Until Sept. 29

LOCATION: DongGang Museum of Photography and nearby outdoor exhibition spaces, Yeongwol Culture & Arts Center, areas of Yeongwol

INTRODUCTION:

DongGang International Photo Festival is an annual event that offers DongGang Photography Award Exhibition based on traditions and dignity. It is comprised of Main Exhibition, DongGang Photography Award Exhibition, International Open Call, Photojournalists Exhibition, Gangwon Province Photographers Exhibition, Yeongwol County Photographers Exhibition, Elementary School Photo Diary Exhibition, Street Installation Exhibition and Workshop (Yeongwol Photo Tour Program, Continuing Education Exhibition, Artist Talk, Elementary Students Workshop). Visitors can enjoy ten exhibitions and workshops during the festival period from early-July to late-September.

TRANSPORTATION:

Express/Intercity Bus

From Seoul Express Bus Terminal or Dong Seoul Bus Terminal, take a bus to Yeongwol Bus Terminal (approx. 2 hr).

Taxi

Take a taxi from Yeongwol Bus Terminal to Donggang Museum of Photography (approx. 5 min).

HOMEPAGE

www.dgphotofestival.com (Korean only)

Suwon Culture Night



DATE: Aug. 9 - Aug. 11

LOCATION: Areas of Suwon Hwaseong Fortress

INTRODUCTION:

Suwon Hwaseong Fortress and Hwaseong Haenggung Palace are the venue for Suwon Culture Night. Both areas are decorated with media art of eight night experiences. Every corner of the fortress road has history and stories to offer a historical culture experience.

HOMEPAGE: culturenight.swcf.or.kr
(Korean, English, Japanese, Chinese)

Incheon Pentaport Rock Festival



DATE: Aug. 9 - Aug. 11

LOCATION: Pentaport Park (Incheon Songdo Moonlight Festival Park)

INTRODUCTION:

Pentaport Rock Festival is a rock festival ardently supported by not just local rock fans, but by music fans worldwide. The festival takes place normally in early August, in Songdo City. Overseas rock bands play in a lineup with local rock musicians for an energetic rock music festival that's out of this world!

TRANSPORTATION:

Subway

Int'l Business District Station (Incheon Subway Line), Exit 1

Bus

Bus No. 9 → Get off at Songdo 2 Dong Community Service Center

Bus No. 6-1 → Get off at International School

Bus No. 908 → Get off at Prugio Harbor view

Bus No. 92 → Get off at Canal Walk(4D)

Bus No. M6405 → Get off at Central Park Station

HOMEPAGE: www.pentaportrock.co.kr
(Korean, English, Japanese)

Bucheon International Comics Festival



DATE: Aug. 14 - Aug. 18

LOCATION: Korea Manhwa Museum, Bucheon Media Culture Complex

INTRODUCTION:

As Asia's best in global comic festival, The Bucheon International Comic Festival is ready to open for the summer visitors. Various programs, such as exhibits, an international comic fair, conferences, and other various hands-on programs are available for all visitors.

TRANSPORTATION:

Subway

Songnae Station (Seoul Subway Line 1), Exit 2.

Take Bus 5-2 or 37 and get off at Bucheon Movie Cultural Complex Bus Stop.(Yeongsang Munhwa Danji)

HOMEPAGE: www.bicof.com
(Korean, English)

Seoul Fringe Festival



DATE: Aug. 15 - Aug. 24

LOCATION: Culture Tank

INTRODUCTION:

Seoul Fringe Festival, the most representative independent arts festival of Korea, is held annually to support indie culture by introducing various genres of artists and artworks. Festival-goers can meet many works of operations, and through the various methods of attempt and communication channels used, explore the charm of dances, plays, music and more at the festival venues throughout the city.

TRANSPORTATION:

Subway

World Cup Stadium Station (Subway Line 6), Exit 1 or 2.

Bus

- Get off at Seoul World Cup Stadium or World Cup Park Bus Stop.

Blue Bus - 271, 571, 710

Green Bus - 7011, 7013A, 7013B, 7715, 7733

Red Bus (express bus) - 9711A, 9711B

Village Bus (Maeul bus) - Mapo08

HOMEPAGE: www.seoulfringefestival.net

(Korean only)

Songdo Beer Festival



DATE: Aug. 23 - Aug. 31

LOCATION: Songdo Moonlight Festival Park

INTRODUCTION:

Songdo Beer Festival aims to become one of the world's best beer festivals equal to that of Germany's Oktoberfest and China's Qingdao International Beer Festival. Enjoy beer and food while watching exciting live performances and fireworks.

TRANSPORTATION:

Subway

Int'l Business District Station (Incheon Subway Line 1), Exit 5.

Walk for approx. 500 m to the event venue.

HOMEPAGE: www.songdobeer.com
(Korean only)

Goesan Red Pepper Festival



DATE: Aug. 29 - Sept. 1

LOCATION: Sports Complex, Mini football field, Culture & Sports Center, Dongjincheon Stream area

INTRODUCTION:

Goesan Red Pepper Festival is held during the harvest season to promote

the excellence of peppers grown in Goesan, a major production area of Korea. The festival has numerous programs including pepper-picking and barehanded fishing contests, pepper recipe competition, pepper cooking contest, and garden pepper planting. Brightly colored and full of flavor, Korean peppers are a particularly popular agricultural product. This is a fun festival where visitors can taste or buy Korean peppers and have a chance to talk with farmers.

TRANSPORTATION:**Bus**

- From Dong Seoul Bus Terminal, take an intercity bus to Goesan Terminal.
- From Goesan Terminal, take a taxi to Sports Complex. (Jonghap Undongjang) (5min)

HOMEPAGE: www.goesan.go.kr (Korean only)

**Muju Firefly Festival**

DATE: Aug. 31 - Sept. 8
LOCATION: Culture Tank
INTRODUCTION:

The Muju Firefly Festival takes place in the pure environment of Muju, a natural habitat for fireflies and the marsh snails the fireflies feed on. The festival offers many attractions and activities but the highlight of the festival starts after 20:00 when the fireflies begin to light up the night sky.

TRANSPORTATION:**Bus**

- From Seoul Nambu Bus Terminal, take an intercity bus to Muju Intercity Bus Terminal.

HOMEPAGE: www.firefly.or.kr (Korean, English)

Seogwipo Chilsimni Festival

DATE: Sept. 27 - Sept. 29

LOCATION: Seogwipo Jaguri Park area and Chilsimni Food Specialized Street

INTRODUCTION:

Seogwipo Chilsimni was originally the name of a 27 km-long strip of land from Seongeup Village to Seogwipo Harbor on Jeju Island. However, over the years it has come to mean "homeland" for Jeju residents. The Seogwipo area is also one of the most popular tourist destinations in Jeju due to its beautiful ocean landscapes. The festival's program includes folk performances rooted in Jeju's history, legends, and natural environment. There is also a variety of ocean sports activities, which are very popular with visitors.

TRANSPORTATION:

From Jeju International Airport, take Airport Limousine Bus 600. Get off at New Kyungnam Tourist Hotel Bus Stop.

Walk 500m towards Chilsimni Park.

HOMEPAGE: i70ni.com (Korean only)

Hongseong Hero Festival

DATE: Sept. 27 - Sept. 29

LOCATION: The area of Hongjuseong Fortress, Hongseong-gun, Chungcheongnam-do

INTRODUCTION:

Hongseong is a provincial capital of Chungcheongnam-do. Its old name was "Hongjumok," ruling 16 counties between Pyeongtaek and Secheon. With this history, it is an important traffic center throughout the west coast of Chungcheong-do and it features abundant agricultural, fishery and meat products as well as warm-hearted people. Hongseong

is also the hometown of many historical figures including General Choi Yeong, a great commander during the late Goryeo dynasty; Seong Sam-mun, a scholar-official fighting against injustice; Han Yong-un who was a resistance fighter against Japanese influence with his fidelity and integrity; Kim Jwa-jin who won the Battle of Cheongsanni against Japan; Han Seong-jun who was a Korean folk dancer and a master dancer of Joseon; and Lee Eung-no who is famous overseas as a modern artist. Hongseong Hero Festival welcomes visitors with various programs.

TRANSPORTATION:**Bus**

Take an intercity bus or express bus from Central City Terminal, Seoul Nambu Terminal, or Dong Seoul Bus Terminal to Hongseong Bus Terminal. Walk towards the Hongseong Bus Stop. Take Bus No. 120 to GwangcheonTongDari Bus Stop. Walk approximately 387 meters to Hongseong County Office.

HOMEPAGE: www.herofestival.co.kr (Korean only)

Chuncheon Puppet Festival

DATE: Sept. 28 - Oct. 3

LOCATION: Area of Chuncheon Puppet Theater

INTRODUCTION:

Chuncheon Puppet Festival first began in 1989 as a local event and has now developed into the largest puppet festival in Korea that attracts performers and visitors from all over the world. Apart from stage performances, diverse art experience programs are prepared to entertain both children and adults alike.

TRANSPORTATION:**Subway**

- Sangbong Station (Seoul Subway Line 7 or Jungang Line or Gyeongchun Line) → Chuncheon Station, Exit 1.
- ITX train: Yongsan Station → Chucheon Station, Cheongnyangni Station → Chuncheon Station, Exit 1. From Chuncheon Station Exit 1, take a bus 30, 31, 32, 33, 33-1, 36, 37, 38 or 39

(located across the street).

Get off at Cheongsongyeon Suryeongwan Bus Stop.

Bus

- From Dong Seoul Bus Terminal, take an intercity bus to Chuncheon Intercity Bus Terminal.

- From Gangnam Express Bus Terminal (Central City Terminal), take a bus to Chuncheon.

From the bus terminal, walk toward at Onui Intersection and take Bus 150 in front of Electronics Land.

Get off at the Chuncheon Puppet Theater Bus Stop.

HOMEPAGE: www.cocobau.com (Korean, English)

Baekje Cultural Festival

DATE: Sept. 28 - Oct. 6

LOCATION: Gongju: Areas of Geumgangsingwan Park

Buyeo: Areas of Gudeurae Plaza

INTRODUCTION:

Baekje Cultural Festival first started in 1955 to commemorate the three loyal subjects of the Baekje era, namely Seongchung, Heungsu, and Gyebaek through a Samchungje rite. The festival aims to bring the history and culture of the Baekje era to life, taking place at UNESCO-recognized sites.

TRANSPORTATION:**Bus**

- To Gudeurae Plaza (Buyeo-gun) From Buyeo Bus Terminal, take a taxi to Gudeurae Plaza (구드래광장, 5-10min).
- To Geumgang Singwan Park (Gongju-si)

Take an intercity bus to Gongju Intercity Bus Terminal.

Geumgang Singwan Park is located 500m from the bus terminal.

HOMEPAGE: www.baekje.org (Korean, English, Japanese, Chinese)

NOTE: Festival dates and info subject to change.

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STARS AND STRIPES

Concerts

Music Festivals

Incheon Pentaport Rock Festival 2019

Incheon, Aug. 9, 2 p.m., Aug. 10 & 11, 11 a.m., Songdo Moonlight Festival Park, 120,000 won (3-day Pass - Early bird Ticket).

2019 Super Band Concert

Busan, Aug. 17, 3 & 7 p.m., Busan KBS Hall, 88,000-99,000-110,000 won.

Waterbomb Incheon 2019

Incheon, Aug. 10, Paradise City Culture Park, 77,000 won (Entrance Ticket).

Gangwon Rock Festival 2019

Gangwon, Aug. 16, 3 p.m., Aug. 17 & 18, 1 p.m., Gangwon Inje Grass Stadium, 80,000 won (1-day Pass), 120,000 won (2-day Pass), 150,000 won (3-day Pass).

Waterbomb Daegu 2019

Daegu, Aug. 17, Daegu Stadium, 77,000 won (Entrance Ticket).

Summer Story Festival Vol.1-4

Seoul, Aug. 17 (Vol. 1), 6 p.m., Aug. 18 (Vol. 2), 6 p.m., Aug. 31 (Vol. 3), 6 p.m., Sep. 1 (Vol. 4), 5 p.m., YES24 LIVE HALL, 55,000-66,000 won.

2019 K-World Festa

Seoul, Aug. 21, 8 p.m., Olympic Park SK Olympic Handball Stadium, 44,000-55,000-66,000 won.

EDC Korea 2019

Seoul, Aug. 31 & Sep. 1, 2 p.m., Gwacheon Seoul Land, 125,000 won (Early Owl GA, 2-Day Pass), 180,000 won (Early Owl VIP, 2-Day Pass).

Someday Festival 2019

Seoul, Aug. 31 & Sep. 1, Nanji Han River Park, 88,000 won (1-day Entrance Ticket), 109,000 won (2-day Entrance Ticket).

2019 Let's Rock Festival Vol.13

Seoul, Sep. 21 & 22, Nanji Han River Park, 109,000 won (2-day Love & Peace Ticket).

Joyolpark Festival

Seoul, Sep. 21 & 22, noon, Olympic Park, 50,000 won (1-day Entrance Ticket), 80,000 won (2-day Entrance Ticket).

KB Rapbeat Festival 2019

Seoul, Sep. 28, Gwacheon Seoul Land, 69,900-82,900 won.

The 16th Jarasum Jazz Festival

Gyeonggi-Do, Oct. 4 - 6, Gyeonggi-Do Gapyung-Gun Jara Island and around town, 50,000 won (1-day Pass), 80,000 won (2-day Pass), 100,000 won (3-day Pass), 35,000 won (1-day Pass for Youth).

Off Route Fest 2019

Seoul, Oct. 5 & 6, Nanji Han River Park, 99,000 won (1-day Entrance

Ticket), 149,000 won (2-day Entrance Ticket).

Grand Mint Festival 2019

Seoul, Oct. 19 & 20, noon, Olympic Park, 99,000 won (1-day Pass), 158,000 won (2-day Pass).

Concerts

Aug.
8

PSY

Seoul, Aug. 9, 10 & 11, 6:42 p.m., Auxiliary Stadium at the Jamsil Sports Complex; Incheon, Aug. 17, 6:42 p.m., Incheon Asiad Stadium; Daejeon, Aug. 24, 6:42 p.m., Daejeon World Cup Stadium, 121,000-132,000 won.

Lee Hi

Seoul, Aug. 9, 8 p.m., Lotte Concert Hall, 33,000-55,000-77,000-99,000 won.

NELL

Seoul, Aug. 9, 16, 23, 30, 8 p.m., Aug. 10, 11, 15, 17, 24, 25, 31 & Sep. 1, 7 p.m., Hong-dae Lezhin Comics V-HALL, 88,000 won.

Car, the garden

Seoul, Aug. 10, 7 p.m., Lotte Concert Hall, 33,000-55,000-77,000-88,000 won.

Wheesung

Seoul, Aug. 11, 6 p.m., Lotte Concert Hall, 33,000-55,000-77,000-99,000 won.

JunJin

Seoul, Aug. 17, 2 & 6 p.m., Blue Square IMarket Hall, 88,000 won.

The Rose

Seoul, Aug. 17, 7 p.m., Muv Hall, 88,000 won.

K-Will

Seoul, Aug. 21, 23, 28 & 30, 8 p.m., Aug. 24 & 31, 6 p.m., Aug. 25 & Sep. 1, 5 p.m., Ewha Womans University Samsung Hall, 110,000 won.

Son Ho-young & KimTae-Woo

Seoul, Aug. 23, 8 p.m., Aug. 24 & 25, 7 p.m., Olympic Park 88 Lake Waterside Stage, 110,000 won.

Kim Boom Soo

Seongnam, Aug. 24, 7 p.m., Seongnam Arts Center, Opera House, 99,000-121,000-143,000 won.

Jang Hye-jin

Seoul, Aug. 24, 6 p.m., Jangchung Arena; Busan, Sep. 29, 5 p.m., BEXCO Auditorium, 99,000-121,000 won.

Kim Bum-soo

Seoul, Aug. 24, 7 p.m., Seongnam Arts Center, Opera House, 99,000-121,000-143,000 won.

Soran

Seoul, Aug. 24, 6 p.m., Aug. 25, 5 p.m., Seoul Nodeul Island Live House, 77,000 won.

September
9

The Chainsmokers

Seoul, Sep. 6, 8 p.m., Olympic Park KSPO Dome, 77,000-99,000 won.

Jess Glynne

Seoul, Sep. 7, 7 p.m., Blue Square IMarket Hall, 90,000 won.

Mamas Gun

Seoul, Sep. 7, 7 p.m., Muv Hall, 77,000 won.

Wiz Khalifa

Seoul, Sep. 7, 7 p.m., Olympic Park KSPO Dome, 99,000-110,000 won.

Ken Kamikita

Seoul, Sep. 8, 6 p.m., West Bridge Live Hall, 88,000 won.

Wouter Hamel

Seoul, Sep. 8, 6 p.m., Muv Hall, 77,000 won.

Chucho Valdes

Seoul, Sep. 17, 8 p.m., LG Arts Center, 40,000-60,000-80,000-100,000 won.

Hans Zimmer

Seoul, Sep. 28, 7 p.m., Olympic Park KSPO Dome, 110,000-132,000-165,000-220,000 won.

October
10

Jeon Dong Seok

Seoul, Oct. 4, 8 p.m., Oct. 5, 6 a.m., Blue Square IMarket Hall, 88,000-99,000 won.

November
11

Sekai No Owari

Seoul, Nov. 2, 6 p.m., Olympic Park Olympic Hall, 99,000-110,000 won.

New Hope Club

Seoul, Nov. 9, 7 p.m., YES24 LIVE HALL, 77,000 won.

December
12

Kazumi Tateishi Trio

Gwangju, Dec. 7, 5 p.m., Gwangju National Center for Culture Arts Theater 2, 55,000-66,000 won; Cheongju, Dec. 8, 5 p.m., Cheongju Art Hall, 44,000-55,000-66,000 won; Suwon, Dec. 13, 8 p.m., Gyeonggi Arts Center, Small Performance Hall, 55,000-66,000 won; Seoul, Dec. 14 & 15, 5 p.m., Mapo Arts Center Art Hall MAC, 44,000-55,000-66,000 won; Seoul, Dec. 18, 8 p.m., Seoul Arts Center - IBK Chamber Hall, 44,000-55,000-66,000 won; Incheon, Dec. 20, 8 p.m., Bupyeong Arts Center, The Grand Theater, 44,000-55,000-66,000 won; Busan, Dec. 22, 3 & 7 p.m., Haeundae Cultural Center Maritime Hall, 55,000-66,000 won.

2020 January
1

Queen + Adam Lambert

Seoul, Jan. 18, 7 p.m., Jan. 19, 6 p.m., Gocheok Sky Dome, 110,000-121,000-154,000-176,000-187,000 won.



HAPS KOREA MAGAZINE

Located at Hapcheon Image Theme Park, Ghost Park has become an exciting and scary summer tradition in Gyeongsangnam-do.

With over 231,000 square meters of sets, the park is famous for movie sets and dramas within the park.

Famous movies such as Taegukgi: Brotherhood of War, Seoul 1945, Gyeongseong Scandal and East of Eden have made this park one of the main studio sets in the country.

The main attraction prepared this year are the "Imprisoned Ward" and "Zombie Jail." In addition, sub-attractions have been upgraded and feature a "Nightmare Classroom" and "Dark Maze" under this year's theme "Brightburn".

Various other events such as street performances, horror performances, as well as a variety of food and rest spaces add to the excitement.

The park is open daily from 7 p.m. to midnight until August 18th.

haps
MAGAZINE KOREA
hapsekorea.com

Event information

LOCATION: Hapcheon Image Theme Park

DATES: July 26 - August 18

TIME: 7 p.m. - midnight

TICKETS: 30,000 won for adults, 20,000 won for middle schoolers, 15,000 for elementary schoolers

Discounts can be found online and by wearing costumes to the park.

FROM BUSAN: Take a 2-hour bus ride from Busan Seo Terminal to Hapcheon.

There is a 2,000 won shuttle bus from the LG Best Shop at Hapcheon Guncheong Saguri.



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Stripes Sports Trivia

Baseball analytics are becoming more widely accepted, and one of the stats at the forefront of that is Wins Above Replacement (WAR). According to Baseball Reference, the all-time leader in WAR is Babe Ruth with 182.5. With 100, who is the active player with the most Wins Above Replacement?

Answer

Albert Pujols

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DID YOU KNOW?

South Korean students must take a university entrance exam known as the sooneung. On the morning of exams, which take place in mid-November, supporters flock to the local high schools to give out well wishes and candy.

Hangul of the week

나무
namu (tree)

Language Lesson

Thank you so much.

Gamsahapnida.

Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

1 Place for a massage

6 Chowder morsel

10 Highway exit

14 Teach one-on-one

15 "Unfaithful" star

16 Burn soother

17 Make amends (for)

18 Gambler's concern

19 Overabundance

20 Like summer school classes, often

22 Bone brace

24 Hook, line and

26 Worse for wear

27 Informant

30 Express a thought

32 Track down

33 "Cheers" regular

34 Kind of race

37 State with certainty

38 No ____ or reason

40 Corduroy ridge

41 Cooking fuel

42 Italian import

43 Furnace, for one

45 Ungraceful one

47 Favor

48 Case opener?

50 Wear away

53 Dot above the i

55 Priest's helper

59 Anagram for "beat"

60 70's hairdo

62 Delve into

63 Elvis movie, "____ Happy"

64 Pixar movie set in Mexico

65 Prop for Picasso

66 Ill at ____

67 Follow, as advice

68 Gas additive

DOWN

1 Hollywood sighting

2 Adorable

3 Kind of bomb

4 Country group with the #1 song "Amazed"

5 Do a meteorologist's job, say

6 Dagger's companion

7 Big dipper

8 Here-now link

9 State of disorder

10 Type of sleeve

11 Repeat starting letters, as in "good as gold"

12 Everest or Ararat

13 Tom who sang "I Won't Back Down"

21 Get what was left?

23 Stiffly formal

25 ____ and board

27 Refinery residue

28 Exploding star

29 Some Winter Olympians

31 Warm up, in the kitchen

33 WSJ alternative

35 Sheltered, at sea

36 School session

39 Confusion

40 "The Wind in the Willows" critter

42 Roll up, as a flag

44 One that got away

46 Pint-sized

48 Theater platform

49 Fibula's neighbor

51 Ludicrous show

52 Biblical disaster

54 Inventory unit

56 Nonsense

57 Follow orders

58 Holler

61 Friend's opposite

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Answers to Previous Crossword:

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

SUDOKU

Difficulty: Easy

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.

Answers to Previous Sudoku:

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

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