A couple of weeks ago my family and I went to Busan. It was a nice spring day when we visited a Korean War memorial. It was a black wall where it lists everyone who died in the Korean War. We looked around and found my great grandfather’s name. My great grandfather was Marvin Carius and he was a combat dentist in the Korean War. Back then soldiers didn’t really brush their teeth or floss, so he would drive around, take them into the back of his truck (that was his dental office), pull teeth and put fake teeth in. Unfortunately during his work he was killed by enemy soldiers. Now you know why the dental clinic at Camp Humphreys is called the Marvin Carius dental clinic. We did a few rubbings of his name with paper and crayons so that we could send it to my grandpa who is Marvin’s son. It feels awesome to live in a country that honors my great grandfather as a hero. What an awesome memorial!

-Jackson and Clayton Carius, Camp Humphreys Homeschool
From the time I toddled around in droopy diapers, to the day I drove off to college in my Volkswagen Beetle, I lived in one small Pennsylvania town. The kids who picked their noses next to me in Mrs. Rowley’s kindergarten class were the same ones who walked across the stage with me at our high school graduation. I had one hometown, one high school, one brick house, one yellow bedroom, and one best friend who I gabbed with each night on one rotary phone while draped across one mock brass twin bed. By contrast, as a military child, our oldest went to three high schools. He grew up in 10 homes, in four states and two foreign countries. He said goodbye to seven best friends, six piano teachers and four Boy Scout troops. He played on three varsity football teams, and his academic transcripts are almost as complicated as the U.S. Tax Code.

Essentially, my son, and his two younger sisters for that matter, are total brats. No, not that kind of brat. Although our kids have definitely displayed their fair share of unruly behavior, inflicting teen arrogance and near-juvenile delinquency; I’m calling my kids “brats,” which has an entirely different connotation. The colloquial term “military brat” has been used for many years in the United States, Australia, New Zealand, Canada, Pakistan and India to refer to the children of active duty service personnel, and similar phrases have been used in other countries around the world. However, because “brat” is commonly known as a pejorative word to describe spoiled or unruly children, there is often confusion as to whether “military brat” has negative undertones.

A few years ago, I posted a comment in a military spouse group on Facebook, in which I used the term “military brats.” A young Navy spouse quickly commented, “Our children are NOT brats,” she replied. Was she right to correct me? Does “military brat” denigrate our children? Why else would an otherwise derogatory word be used in this context? Should the antiquated phrase be rebranded to better reflect this distinct American subculture? Although researchers have been unable to pinpoint the exact origin of the term, credible sources indicate that it may be a centuries-old acronym for “British Regiment Attached Traveler,” used to describe dependents accompanying British Army members being stationed abroad, or perhaps a contraction for “barracks rats.”

Over the years, the term expanded and evolved to become a universal descriptor for kids who move with their military parents and thereby develop unique personality characteristics and cultural identity. Regardless of the hazy historical origins, the theories, research and usage of “military brat” in literature, films, documentaries, songs and on the internet, indicate that it is most certainly a compliment, not an insult. In fact, less than 6% of ex-military children, there is often confusion as to whether “military brat” has negative undertones.

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Read more of Lisa Smith Molinari’s columns at themeatandpotatoesoffife.com Email: meatandpotatoesoffife@gmail.com

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CELEBRATING MONTH OF THE MILITARY CHILD

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3rd grade

Ms. Ahn

- Biance
- Ezekiel
- Eli
- Tanner

- Cali
- Isabella
- Ethan
- James

- Luke
- Bristol
- Alaysia
- Christina

SEE MORE FROM HUMPHREYS CENTRAL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENTS ON PAGE 6
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What Life is like for a kid who is part of a Military Community

Hello! My name is Julian. I am a military child. Being a military child is awesome! I like meeting new people everywhere we go and it’s always exciting to try new things. A military kid’s life would be so amazing because in new countries we get to learn about the culture.

- Julian

What Life is like for a kid who is part of a Military Community

Hi! My name is Dagen. I am a military child. I like being in Korea because it’s a beautiful place with many interesting things to see and do. It’s fun to be a military child because we get to experience new things every day.

- Kailena

What Life is like for a kid who is part of a Military Community

Hi! My name is Briella. I am a military child. I hope you want to know about military life. It can be tough, but it’s also exciting! I am a military child because my parents have served our country.

- Joshua

Humphreys Central Elementary School

Check out more military children stories at: militarychild.stripes.com

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- 863, Sallongnam-ro, Andeok-myeon, Seogwipo-si
- Reservations: 064-792-5200
Hello, my name is Caroline Melton. Daughter of Christopher Melton. My life as a military child is the best life a kid could ever ask for because I get to travel to many new places, meet new types of people, and learn about different cultures. I get to make new friends and learn from different teachers instead of just one. One more thing I like about being a military child is getting to live in new places. Like, South Korea, Virginia, America, and I am about to live in Oklahoma! I am super happy to be a military child! Oh and I have 5 siblings and 2 dogs and 1 cat.

My name is Memphis. My favorite thing about being a military brat is getting to travel all over the world. I have lived in many places in Asia and the rest of my life so far in Asia. I get to meet new people and make new friends. I have the opportunity to do many new things. For instance, when I lived in Okinawa Japan, I got to go snorkeling almost every day. To me, snorkeling is the best! I have been swimming with jellyfish three different times! It doesn't really hurt, it feels like getting stung by a bee. I have held a sea urchin too, it tickled a whole lot! Those are a few reasons why I like to travel all over the world as a military brat.

Hi! My name is Benedick Aguiguin. I am proud of being a military child. I am from Humphreys Middle School. I am proud of being a military child. Soldiers go into combat to keep everyone in the world safe. I get to go to places around the world that are amazing. When I go to different places I can learn new cultures and eat different foods. Being a military child is awesome. I have gone to the Philippines, America and Korea.

My name is Adam. I'm a military connected child. I thank the military for their hard work defending America.

What I made

Protecting America
A two voice poem

| American Troops | Enemy troops |
| We are good. | We are bad. |
| We protect America. | We destroy America. |
| We are very different |

Poem by: Adam Findikoglu

Are you a military child?
Being a military child is exciting.
It is exciting because you go to a lot of places.
I have gone to Kentucky, Georgia, Missouri, and now I'm in Korea.
How many places have you moved to?
There is a thing about moving, you make friends
Then when you move or they move
Now both of you are sad because you can't play with each other.
Do you move a lot?
Every time you move you make new friends, maybe find your only best friend forever.
Do you have a best friend?
Have you ever had to move somewhere and you had to leave someone or something?

When you move, you can’t take everything. Some of the things or people you leave you love, and it hurts to leave them. Even if you move to a place with lots of friends, you can still miss the things you left behind.

Even if you leave things behind, you get to see a lot more than other people do. That means you leave with more memories. If you leave people, you can visit them. If you leave a pet, you can get them back, and if you leave something, you can get that back too.

If you move and you miss your friends, you can write letters and chat on Google hangouts and email each other. You can send pictures and text. Really, you can talk almost every way except face to face. And if you leave something, you can get that back too. So in my opinion, being a military brat is exhilarating. Now, I’ve gotta go be a military brat. Bye!

-- Stella Fenwick

If you don’t know what a military child is, well you have come to the right place. A Military child is a part of a Military family. Now, there are millions of military children all around the world. Being a Military child is not as easy as you think. I bet you are saying, well why not? Well, yeah you are moving to completely different places around the world. You see when you move, you have to leave all of you friends, but as you get older, you will appreciate all the astonishing experiences you had as a kid. Like, I went from Texas to Korea! Like WHAT! I’m just saying you can also try new things like food, lakes, and learn new languages.

So, there you have it. Yes, there are some ups and downs, but personally I think it is awesome! So, in conclusion you should think about the positive experiences you have as a Military child.

-- Kamari Johnson

I like to be a military child because you get to travel all around the world. Also when you travel you have to make new friends also you have to leave old friends behind. For me it’s easy to make friends but it will be hard to forget my old friends. I still remember both of my two best friends’ birthdays but I am not going to share that information because that is personal information.

Also I won’t forget about them because I have hangouts and I get my mom to tell their mom to get us to get on hangouts to chat and we have to set the right time zone for both of us. Also my second best friend taught me how to play soccer and now thanks to him I am really good at soccer and the reason I have the name jack is because of him no joke.

-- Jack E.

I love my dad because he is brave and very heroic. He works hard to provide for me & my family. To make sure I have the best life he could possibly give me. My dad makes sure I also have a good education. My family have been to cool places like Germany, Virginia, and Korea! I have met many friendly people from different places and from different cultures! I love my Dad because he served and protected our country!

I love being a military child because it has helped me meet new friends. It has helped me know that not all people live the same or have the same holidays or celebrations that I do. I appreciate how being a military child has allowed me to help people that are not as fortunate as myself. For example, my family always donates toys. For Tots each Christmas. I am thankful that I have the opportunity to visit and explore different places in the world like me and my family went to Japan and Hawaii for summer vacation in 2019. I love being a military child!

-- Desiree Allmond

Hi my name is Kayden Lee and this is my story of being a military child. My dad joined the Army in 2009 almost as soon as I was born, while in the military my dad went to work in the Green Beret Unit or the Army Special Forces Unit. My dad had already had a taste of the military as he had served the mandatory 2 year service for the South Korean Army.

As the years passed my family and I have been stationed to four locations Washington, California, Hawaii, and South Korea. Although moving for some civilians is hard, for military families it is just a way of life. My favorite area my family and I were stationed to was Hawaii. Hawaii was full of beaches, nice weather, and a whole new culture.

In conclusion, being a military child or a military connected child is not a bad thing although we may have to spend some time apart from our loved ones we get to experience many things other people do not get to for example, we get to...
Celebrating Month of the Military Child

Being a Military child is like an adventure. You go to many places, meet a lot of people around the world, and you might even learn a new language. Being in the military is hard, too. You have to leave your friends and you might have to move to a new school in the middle of the year. I have had to move three times, and will be moving again soon. Hi, I’m Maya and right now I live in Korea. It’s really cool here, with all the cherry blossoms and Korean temples. I have faced challenges being a military child. My mom had to leave so she could join the military. It’s been hard to see her for 6 months but I have my family and friends to make me feel better. The school here is great too. So, being in the military is like an adventure, you go to new places, meet new cultures, there could be ups and downs, but being in the military has been an amazing experience for me.

- Maya Brown, Osan American Elementary School

CHECK OUT MORE MILITARY CHILDREN STORIES AT: militarychild.stripes.com
Whether you’ve been in South Korea a few days or a few years, you may have quickly realized that Google Maps does not function as seamlessly here as it does in the States. The reason behind this is due to the government’s strict policies regarding the distribution of GPS information to foreign companies like Google.

But don’t worry! There are many alternative apps available. My favorite is the free Naver Map. This app is starting to gain steam and bringing competition to KAKAO Map, which has been dominant in the GPS app market for years.

Like the mapping apps you use back home, Naver Map helps you find the best route whether you’re driving or figuring out public transportation. The great thing about this app is that it also supports walking and cycling routes.

Looking for somewhere to grab a bite or a cup of joe? Naver Map does that, too! For foodies, it offers detailed info such as price, photos of the food and the menu of each restaurant. In addition, the app features a star rating system, which allows you to somewhat assume the evaluation of picky diners without translating a Korean review.

Download this handy GPS-based travel app that is available both iOS and Android and give this a try next time you head out for an adventure.

kim.chihon@stripes.com

More information:
www.naver.com
*Download the app on your app store and change the language to English.
If you’re looking to spend the day near the water and enjoying nature, but spending all day in a car to get there doesn’t sound like fun, then have I found the spot for you!

A spot where beautiful landscapes and a serene lake await is only 30 minutes away from Camp Humphreys by car. Check out Sinjeongho Tourist Park, spanning over 272,000 square meters and offering a great escape after a busy week. Find this amazing park in the Bangchuk-dong area and enjoy great strolling, bird-watching and even a relaxing picnic. The lakeside of the park is an excellent place to take a stroll. The walk is not too long, nor too steep so everyone can enjoy. Expect to spend about an hour and half hour on this 3-mile walk. The park is very accessible so you can start your walking tour at any place along the path.

On my visit, I started my walk from the parking lot at the entrance, then circled clockwise around the lake. Eventually I
reached a wildflower park and continued on where I found street musicians performing on a small stage. If you’re lucky like me, you can enjoy the live music on weekend afternoons here.

After a short break listening to the music, I headed to eco-park, a home to a wide variety of ducks and native birds. You can experience the beauty of the lake up close sitting on a bench. I noticed a heron hunting a fish around the lakeside. It was a little creepy at first, but found out it entertaining. If you’re a nature lover you’ll like this park with its calm, peaceful nature, and partially forested paths. You can also see many different water plants such water flag, water lily and bulrush.

Across a small bridge, I reached a traditional pavilion. In the summer, the pink lotus flowers that grow in the lake surround this area, creating a spectacular view. On reaching this spot, you can either return back along the same path, or complete the circuit by walking along the road on the opposite side of the lake. You’ll find benches dotted along the path to catch your breath.

Sinjeongho Tourist Park also has plenty of restaurants and cafes where you can grab a bite or a coffee. I wrapped up my visit with a nice sandwich from a shop with a rooftop dining area overlooking the lake.

If you’ve still got the energy to burn after you’ve done a lap around the lake, explore the rest of the park. Some of the treasures you’ll find include many sculptures, an 8.45-meter-tall sculpture of Admiral Lee Sun-shin and some youth facilities. Particularly worth a visit is a gorgeous 43-meter-high musical fountain at the entrance of the park. The fountain’s water flows synchronized to music from April to October, and at night you can catch the show illuminated by LED lights.

This lake park is a great daytrip when you don’t want to stray too far from home. Grab your walking shoes, go for a stroll, clear your head and go home feeling refreshed.

kim.chihon@stripes.com

What to know

- ADDRESS: 
  616, Sinjeong-ro, Asan-si, Chungcheongnam-do, (ENG)
- HOURS: 11:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Weekend-only opening
- PHONE: 010-3613-9530
- WEBSITE

Mimi Sandwich

The stretch around the lake has many different restaurants and coffee shops you can choose from. When I was getting close to wrapping up my walk, I felt a little bit hungry, so randomly stepped into the closest restaurant. Mimi Sandwich features plenty of parking and a beautiful outdoor eating area surrounded by green nature. This is a great place to relax and grab a cup of coffee with a friend or just treat yourself. The no-frills menu offers an assortment of sandwiches, coffees and even tteokbokki, stir-fried rice cake.

I opted for a club sandwich for 5,500 won and an iced green tea latte. The ingredients were evenly distributed throughout the wrapping paper, and it was generously stuffed. You can eat this like a sandwich, without using a fork or making a monster mess.

I enjoyed every bite of the fresh sandwich, and the green tea latte was delightful. A nice meal with a beautiful view to match! Visit this place if you’re a sandwich lover looking for a place that allows you to watch the city’s spectacular sunsets.

- ADDRESS: 
  68-5 (KOR), 68-5, Sinjeongho-gil, Asan-si, Chungcheongnam-do (ENG)
- PHONE: 010-3613-9530
- WEBSITE

- NAVER MAP
Spring is a beautiful time to visit Korea, especially when nature presents such a colorful tapestry of colors! Parks in an urban setting are a great way to enjoy this beauty without cutting into your vacation time. Suitable for a relaxing picnic, fun activities, or just a short walk, parks are a great fit for all travelers and styles!

**Yeouido Hangang Park**

The Hangang River runs through the heart of Seoul and serves as a resting place and perfect weekend outing location for the local citizens. There are a total of 11 citizens parks spread out along the banks of this beloved river, but the most popular among tourists and locals alike is Yeouido Hangang Park. It is especially popular in April, when the cherry blossoms are in full bloom.

The park’s most charming feature may be that it is easily accessible by both subway and bus. There are various events and fun activities happening throughout the year. Enjoy the skyline of Seoul from the large grassy field, or rent a bicycle and follow the paths along the river for a day unlike any other.

**Ilsan Lake Park**

It wouldn’t be far-fetched to call Ilsan Lake Park a flower park. The park is populated by nearly 1,800 cherry blossom trees, in addition to numerous weeping willows and forsythia shrubs. The over-abundance of flowers can give photos the illusion of having been straight out of a fairy tale. The park is also the venue of the annual International Horticulture Goyang Korea, a global flower exposition.

Ilsan Lake Park is the largest man-made lake in Asia, but it feels as natural as the trees that circle the lake. The perfect example of an urban oasis, the park features bicycle paths as well as pedestrian paths dotted with benches to enjoy the view. The large grassy areas are open to picnickers; be sure to go early if you want a spot in the shade of the trees! The nearby shopping centers Western Dom and La Festa are great spots to check out before leaving.

**Songdo Central Park**

Parks may operate with limits to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

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**Spring in Korea**

KOREA TOURISM ORGANIZATION

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**Songdo Central Park**

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**Ilsan Lake Park**

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**Yeouido Hangang Park**

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**Relaxing parks**

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**7 best urban parks to visit in spring**

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**Ilsan Lake Park**
Imjingak Pyeonghwa Nuri Park

The northern-most park in Gyeonggi-do, Pyeonghwa Nuri Park within Imjingak Resort was created in 2005 as part of the World Peace Festival. Although the war and subsequent separation are painful moments in Korea’s history, the park serves to promote peace and reconciliation. The park’s key points are the Hill of Music, a large grassy outdoor concert venue; and the Hill of Wind, featuring a photo zone of over 3,000 pinwheels spinning freely.

The atmosphere of a simple picnic on a blanket here is better than in the fanciest of restaurants. The colorful pinwheels spinning in the breeze create a wonderful background to the sounds of people enjoying their time. Visitors with children are recommended to visit Peaceland, an amusement park with the popular Viking Ride, a merry-go-round and other exciting attractions.

ADDRESS:
148-53, Imjingak-ro, Paju-si, Gyeonggi-do
WEBSITE:
(Korean only)

Olympic Park

Located in Songpa-gu, Seoul, Olympic Park is grand in both size and name, having served as the venue of both the 1986 Asian Games and the 1988 Summer Olympics. The park takes up a vast 1.4 million square meters and would take roughly 3 hours to walk through the entire park. To make your wandering easier, we recommend stopping at the information center by the World Peace Gate for a map of the park’s many pathways.

There are many ways to enjoy this vast park. Options include taking pictures with outdoor sculptures and biking or skating in the skate park at Peace Plaza. Benches are also installed along the walking trails, so you can relax and enjoy the beautiful scenery.

When visiting Olympic Park, be sure to stop by One Tree Hill, one of the park’s top nine highlights. The singular tree in the middle of a vast field creates a landscape not unlike a painting and is a great spot for photos. It’s extremely popular as a venue for wedding photos, although you’ll see many families and couples taking photos here as well.

ADDRESS:
424, Olympic-ro, Songpa-gu, Seoul
WEBSITE:
(Korean, English)

Busan Citizens Park

Busan Citizens Park is designed with the five themes of memory, culture, pleasure, nature, and participation. The park is quite large, covering 473,911 m², with the central area of Hialeah grass plaza being as large as six soccer fields. You can explore and use the park’s many facilities such as the forest book café, culture & arts village, or agricultural themed forest through the park’s AR mobile stamp tour. The culture & arts village in particular offers many hands-on programs at the craft studios operated by local artists.

ADDRESS:
73, Simingongwon-ro, Busanjin-gu, Busan
WEBSITE:
(Korean, English)
PLAYFUL PARKS: Enjoy a picnic, take a stroll

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17

GWANGGYO LAKE PARK

Gwanggyo Lake Park in Suwon offers a nice blend of facilities with nature. The park’s landmark attraction is the urban levee. The 1.6-kilometer-long levee circles the lake on three levels, for various ways to observe the park. In spring and fall, the park is perfect for picnics. For a panoramic view of both Woncheon and Sindae Lakes, be sure to head up to Freiburg Observation Deck.

ADDRESS: 57, Gwanggyohosu-ro, Yeongtong-gu, Suwon-si, Gyeonggi-do (경기도 수원시 영통구 광교호수로 57)
DIRECTIONS: Take a taxi for approx. 15 min from Gwanggyo (Kyonggi Univ.) Station (Shinbundang Line), Exit 1
OPERATING HOURS: 06:00-22:00
* Hours may vary by month; inquire in advance
WEBSITE: (Korean, English)

SONGDO CENTRAL PARK

Songdo Central Park is a main attraction of Incheon, and was the first urban waterside park in Korea to use seawater using the natural topography. The park features many sports amenities such as canoes, kayaks, and family boats, as well as the multi-complex Tri-Bowl. The park also has many themed gardens, like the walking garden, terrace garden, and sunset garden. Planning some time at the nearby Songdo Hanok Village will fill out a trip here.

ADDRESS: 196, Technopark-ro, Yeonsu-gu, Incheon (인천광역시 연수구 테크노파크로 196)
DIRECTIONS: Walk for approx. 15 min from Central Park Station (Incheon Subway Line 1), Exit 3
* Can also travel from Int’l Business District Station or Univ. of Incheon Station
OPERATING HOURS: Open 24 hr

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Pohang, in the northern part Gyeongsang-do Province, is a port city known for its beautiful swimming beaches, Jukdo Market, which serves up the freshest catches, and the “Hands of Harmony” bronze sculpture in Homigot. Back in college, my friends and I used to make our way there for much-needed rest and relaxation during the summer break.

1 Homigot
Homi Peninsula is a 30-minute-drive from Pohang Jukdo Market. Many Koreans liken this piece of land to the shape of a tiger, and the small Homi Peninsula is an area that corresponds to the tail of the tiger.
Homigot, located at the foot of the Homi Peninsula, is the best spot to see the New Year sunrise because it is the easternmost point in South Korea.

2 ‘Hands of Harmony’ sculpture
From Homigot, you’ll see giant hand sculptures known as the “Hands of Harmony” Both stand facing each other and represent coexistence and harmony.
While the right-hand sculpture is partly submerged in the ocean, the left is on the square on dry ground. Homigot Square is a beautiful place to greet the New Year.

3 Snow crab
Guryongpo, a peaceful port town that is 15 minutes away from Homigot, is famous for its snow crab along with Yeongdeok. Between March and May every year, foodies from all over the country flock here to eat largest and fattest hard crabs at the best prices.

4 Old Japanese house street
Stop at the old Japanese district in Guryongpo for interesting sights and a history lesson. This area housed Japanese fisherman and merchants during the Japanese colonial period. It is great place to get a glimpse of the fishing village’s old architecture.

kim.chihon@stripes.com
South Korea, or the “Land of the Morning Calm,” is quite often seen or heard about in the media due to rising tensions with the North, but this article will not dwell in the negative side, but rather the positive. Home to over 30,000 U.S. military personnel and their families, South Korea is full of activities and places to help foreigners enjoy their time here.

Amusement Parks

When you walk around Seoul, you may come across a place called Everland. Everland is home to the fastest roller coaster in Asia. There are several other fast rides to fulfill the needs of an adrenaline junky. Animal lovers can experience a “safari.” You can meet a variety of animals, including the King of animals.

Next on our list is the Lotte Aquarium. It features beluga whales, sea otters, penguins and much more. The best part is watching those furry and cute sea otters during feeding time.

A-Z Shopping in Korea

Don’t miss out on partaking in some shopping. What would a visit be without buying some memorable knick knacks? There is everything, from souvenirs and cosmetics to clothing. Good prices and good quality.

There is quite a selection of traditional market places and shopping districts to choose from in Seoul. The most popular places are Namdaemun, Dongdaemun, Myeongdong, and Insadong. Most traditional souvenirs are found in Insadong. Myeongdong is more of a trendy shopping area.

Feeling the history in middle of modern city

Besides the Gyeongbokgung and Changdeokgung Palaces, there are many more places to check out in Seoul. You may have to go through a bit of a process to lock on a tour date for the Blue House, but it is well worth it to see where the country’s leadership resides.

When you walk around Seoul, you may come across a place called Jogye Temple. Jogye Temple has the largest worship hall in Seoul. It features Buddhism as the local religion and its incorporated elements, Shamanism and its ideology. Furthermore, you can check on other parts of Korean Buddhism as there are special shrines set aside in many temples.

Last but certainly not least, don’t forget to check out the Suwon Fortress. Complete your stay with a stop at some of these places and learn how Korea operated in ancient times.

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For those people who enjoy theme parks, you are going to fall in love with Everland. Everland is home to the fastest roller coaster in Asia. There are several other fast rides to fulfill the needs of an adrenaline junky. Animal lovers can experience a “safari.” You can meet a variety of animals, including the King of animals.

Next on our list is the Lotte Aquarium. It features beluga whales, sea otters, penguins and much more. The best part is watching those furry and cute sea otters during feeding time.
Seoul Skyline

N Seoul Tower, located on Namsan Mountain, will give you an amazing view of the lights and night life of Korea. You can take a cable car up and be rewarded with an amazing view of the Seoul skyline. This is where couples come with locks as a symbol of their love and tie it to the fence. If you visit there with your loved one, bring a lock along. And don’t forget the check out the N tower’s observatory deck. You can see 360° view of Seoul skyline. Always a beautiful view, but nighttime is the best.

Meat vs. Fish

Korean BBQ is the most traditional and famous Korean meal. Korean BBQ restaurants are very similar. You’ll sit down at a table with a fire grill in the middle, and then you get to cook your meat (mostly beef or pork) how you like it. During your meal, you will get an unlimited side dishes.

If you want a fishy experience, then head over to the famous Fish Market located in Seoul. All the fish are alive and swimming in tanks. Can’t get any fresher than that.

This fish market is chaotic and not organized, but you can negotiate with the seller for your preferred price. After purchase, they will immediately take the fish from the tank and cut it up. From there, you can go to a restaurant and have them prepare the fish the way you’d like.

Tropical Island in Korea

South Korea’s version of Hawaii, Jeju Island has its own culture, dialect, style, a beautiful aqua blue ocean view and a warm sun for those that despise cold weather. In 2011, Jeju Island was named one of the New 7 Wonders of Nature and is increasingly becoming a popular travel destination for both domestic and overseas tourists. Jeju Island was formed by volcanic lava flows. Stay in Jeju City and explore the island’s beaches, parks, and towns during an overnight trip.

There are many more things to do in Korea, but his list will get you started on the right foot. Be sure to stop by Koridoor tours for more information on all of these activities.
Enjoy rafting on Gyeongho River

Take a break from the heat this summer while enjoying rafting surrounded by splendid nature in Sancheong-gun, Gyeongnam province.

Gyeongho River is considered one of the best places to enjoy rafting in the summer with its beautiful scenery and clean water quality which provides fast water flow.

Different courses are available by difficulty level with the highlight being the 8-kilometer course from the rafting town board station in Sancheong-gun to the bottom of Eocheon Bridge in Oeseong-ri, Sinan-myeon.

A variety of package tours are available and are on sale ranging from 25,000 won to 62,000 won. Facilities have been updated and modernized and lifejackets are provided.

A variety of other outdoor sports are available, including survival games and ATV experiences.

The city of Changwon announced that it will offer a 20% discount for riders on its moving boats, a boat-type leisure facility in Yongji Park in Uichang-gu until the end of the month.

According to the city, as of the 6th, the number of moving boat users is 99,000 and the average number of visitors is 300 to 400 per week.

It has been a popular tourist attraction in the city since its opening in September 2017.

The moving boat is an electric-charged boat that can be moved in any direction without the need for a rower and up to eight people can ride at once.

The fee for a 30-minute ride is 20,000 won for four people, depending on the number of passengers and time. With the 20% discount rate until the 31st of this month, the 20,000 won fee will be discounted to 16,000 won.

Hours of operation are Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday from 2 pm to 10 pm, and Saturday and Sunday from noon to 10 pm. Mondays and Tuesdays are closed.

“I hope you will forget the heat for a while enjoying a fantastic music fountain on a moving boat at Yongji Park, a resting place in the city center this summer,” Kim Eun-ja, director of tourism at Changwon City said.
Gochujang, or red pepper paste, is a staple in the kitchen of Koreans. It is not an exaggeration to say that it’s hard to find a Korean dish without gochujang, from tteokbokki to dakbokkeumtang (raised spicy chicken).

It’s no surprise then that this spicy condiment has found its way into other dishes like Jeyukbokkeum, a spicy barbecued pork invented in the 1980s and found on most Korean restaurant menus today.

To make jeyukbokkeum, pork is usually marinated in a sauce made mainly with red pepper paste and some soy sauce and then cooked with vegetables. This recipe, however, cuts out the long marination process. In addition, I’ve reduced the amount of soy sauce and red pepper paste to some degree for those who are on a low salt diet like me or for those who avoid spicy foods.

This sweet and salty dish should be served up with rice and greens at the table, so don’t forget to cook some rice in advance and get some fresh leafy greens such as lettuce to make a ssam when you go grocery shopping.

**Ingredients**

- 400g pork (blade shoulder or pork belly) cut into bite-sized pieces
- 1/2 onion thinly sliced
- 1 green onion cut into batons or 1-cm thick diagonal slices
- 3 chiles thinly sliced diagonally into 0.8-cm thick pieces
- 1 pinch of roasted sesame seeds

**Sauce**

- 1 tbsp thick soy sauce
- 1 tbsp minced garlic
- 1/2 tbsp red pepper paste
- 1 tbsp sugar or honey or corn syrup
- 1 tbsp chili powder
- 1 tbsp rice wine (optional)
- Black pepper
- 2 tbsp water
- 1/2 tbsp sesame oil

**Instructions**

- Choose cut of meat: While blade shoulder and arms shoulder are used often, for my recipe, I chose a pork belly (or samgyeopsal). This cut is a little thicker and greasier than other cuts, but it has a great chewy texture.

1) Cut all veggies into bite-sized pieces and set them aside.
2) Cut the meat into 3 to 7 mm-thick slices and place them in a pan. I usually use pre-cut pork belly from the freezer section of a Korean grocery store.
3) Over medium heat, cook the meats until browned. Then turn off the stove and drain pork oil from the pan.
4) Over medium heat, add 2 tbsp water, veggies, and sauce (soy sauce, red pepper paste, chili powder, minced garlic, rice wine) into a pan.
5) Cook until the veggies are tender. Add the honey, black pepper, and sesame oil right after turn off the stove. Sauté them with residual heat for about 20-30 seconds more.
6) Sprinkle sesame seeds on it. Serve it with a bowl of rice and greens. Bon appetit or 잘 먹겠습니다! (Pronounced: ja’ meok-ke-e-sseum-rida’i)
Dewdrop coffee, baked goods hit the spot

STORY AND PHOTOS BY CHIHON KIM, STRIPES KOREA

If a great cup of coffee and fresh baked goods in a beautiful setting sounds like a luxury you’ve been missing, then Dewdrop in Pyeongtaek’s Anjeong-ri neighborhood is where you want to go. This café is an excellent spot for a nice, relaxing chat over some coffee with friends or even for a quick fix to go. You can find Dewdrop only a short and convenient 15-minute walk from Camp Humphreys’ walk-through gate.

This family-run shop operates on the belief that coffee is a beautiful object and treat it as such. Kim Bo-kyeong, the owner’s eldest daughter, studied at Le Cordon Bleu and is Dewdrop’s pastry chef. Kim Yon-ae, the youngest daughter, is the master roaster with seven years of coffee roasting experience. The two daughters’ skills complement each other beautifully in the drink and dessert menu.

The café is tucked away from the busy streets, which allows it to maintain a relaxing atmosphere. Simultaneously, the two-story interior and rooftop provide plenty of room and seating options for patrons to enjoy quiet time.

On a late evening visit, friends and I were delighted by their desserts, including Oreo and strawberry, but my favorite trick! They serve many different cakes, including Oreo and strawberry, but my favorite was the gooey chocolate cake blended to perfection and just the right amount of sweetness. We enjoyed our drinks and our conversation so much that we stayed until closing time.

Since that visit, I’ve also been back to try their siphon coffee, a Dewdrop bestseller, and their sweet potato latte. The siphon coffee comes in two different options – Specialty Single Origin, roasted in-house with a pleasant taste and aroma, and House Blend, which is roasted in Seoul and offers a full-bodied smooth cup.

What makes this coffee unique is the brewing process. The coffee maker looks more like a mad scientist’s lab setup than a brewer. Coffee grounds brew through vapor pressure between two chambers in the siphon. The coffee extracted has more caffeine than what a regular drip coffee holds. I tried the Einspanner (Café Vienna), a sweet version of House Blend for 6,500 won. Siphon coffee takes a little longer than other coffee brewing, but you can call in advance so your delicious cup is ready when you are.

And if the coffee hasn’t convinced you to visit Dewdrop, their desserts are sure to do the trick! They serve many different cakes, including Oreo and strawberry, but my favorite was the gooey chocolate cake for 6,800 won.

Check out the preservative-free bread and macarons made from high-quality ingredients and no artificial flavorings. The café also accepts cake orders for special occasions (two days in advance).

Dewdrop’s menu has many sweets and drink offerings, so I’m intent on trying as many as possible. I haven’t been disappointed so far. Give it a try next time you’re up for a quick walk and a relaxing time over a fantastic cup of coffee.

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Stripes Sports Trivia

The longest tennis match in history was played at Wimbledon on June 22-24, 2010. The first-round match took 11 hours and 5 minutes over three days, lasting so long it was suspended because of darkness two nights in a row. Who were the two players involved?

Answer

American John Isner and Frenchman Nicolas Mahut

Language Lesson

What do you want to eat?

Mwo meokgo sipeoyo?

Hangul of yang-mal (socks)

Hang of the week

DID YOU KNOW?

K-Pop, also known as Korean Pop, has taken the world by storm in recent years. It all started with Psy with his world hit “Gangnam Style,” the most viewed video ever on Youtube.
1. **IF YOU'RE BUYING A CAMER A, GO MIRRORLESS**

When it comes to investing in a good travel camera, a heavy-duty DSLR might come to mind as the best pick. But some photographers argue otherwise. They recommend you ditch the bulk and opt for a mirrorless camera instead. “Across the board, mirrorless cameras are taking off,” says photographer Liz Barclay, who shoots food, fashion and celebrities like Martin Scorcese and Pharrell. “Mirrorless cameras are just more compact. They have super high image quality [and] full-range sensor, so it’s great.”

In 2008, mirrorless cameras debuted and took the photo world by storm. Most traditional digital cameras have a mirror that pops up to let light get into its sensor, reflecting the image into its viewfinder. Because there’s no mirror involved in this newer design, the cameras are much smaller than a standard DSLR. If you’re a traveler looking to fly under the radar and not draw attention to a big, expensive piece of technology, mirrorless cameras are for you.

Barclay’s beginners’ picks for mirrorless cameras include the Sony Alpha a6000, the Canon G1X Mark III, Fujifilm X-T100 or the Leica TL digital camera.

For American artist, photographer, and author Nancy Borowick, the Sony Alpha 9 is her dream camera for a lot of reasons. “The dynamic range, the highlight and shadow recovery, the speed, the silent shutter mode. All of it,” Borowick says. “Sony is really good in low light, which is important. The low light capabilities on that camera are amazing.”

The mirrorless Alpha 9 is a good option for travelers who want the interchangeable lens capabilities of a DSLR. As far as lenses go, Borowick attaches a small 35mm 2.8. The Sony Alpha a6500 also offers lens flexibility and comes at a lower price point than the Alpha 9. An even less expensive option that’s particularly good for someone who doesn’t want to worry about lenses is the Sony RX10 IV, a mirrorless option that features a high-quality zoom.

Fujifilm is another popular brand for mirrorless cameras approved by the pros.

“I have faith in these little Fuji cameras lately, because they’re just easy to use and work with, and they have a very similar feel and layout of a film camera,” says photographer David Alvarado, whose work has appeared in the New York Times and Washington Post. “They’re pretty straightforward and direct.”

Alvarado’s go-to is the Fujifilm X-Pro2, a small and mighty camera he’s used for print editorial work over the past four years. Before you lock down any decision, take a trip to your local camera store and give a few brands you’re considering a try.

Before you lock down any decision, take a trip to your local camera store and give a few brands you’re considering a try.

**2. BUT MAYBE DON’T BUY A CAMER A AT ALL**

Washington Post staff photographer Salwan Georges doesn’t recommend buying any camera for your vacation.

“The best camera is the one you have on you. Only use the iPhone,” Georges says. “Why do people take pictures? To share. Having [your] camera on your phone makes life so much easier.”

Istanbul-based photographer Danielle Villasana says the iPhone is her go-to travel-photo evangelist. “It’s not the camera, but the eye,” she says. “For a novice traveler, be open to your cellphone. Cellphones are easy, portable, lie point of view, super spicuous. I shoot a lot on my phone [iPhone 6s]. Nowadays, you can edit from your phone, you can do all sorts of processing on your pictures, and, of course, publish directly without your computer.”

**3. PURCHASE OR DOWNLOAD ADDITIONAL GEAR**

Once you’ve snapped your pictures on a smartphone or separate camera, our experts recommend touching them up with editing apps. “I edit in Adobe Lightroom, which is an amazing platform and quite affordable” for the expanded services, advises travel writer Annapurna Mellor, who runs Room Magazine, in an email. “It’s easy to learn, and your skills on Lightroom can grow with you as you develop as a photographer.” Apps like VSCO and the Lightroom app can also be great if you want to add a quick glow to your travel images before posting them on Instagram. Both of those phone apps are free.

If snapping the exposure on your dark photos in editing apps isn’t enough, you may want to buy a portable light to avoid dark photos in the first place. Borowick’s pick is the Yongnuo YN600 variable color LED light, which is super lightweight. But don’t just direct the light at the subject of your picture. “It’s better to point it at the ceiling, rather than at the person,” says award-winning photojournalist Annie Tritt, whose work has appeared in outlets including the New York Times and Wall Street Journal. “If you point it up to the ceiling, it’s going to fill up more space.”

For transporting your camera and additional gear like an LED light, professional photographers are fans of backpacks and shoulder bags from the brand Lowepro. While you’re stocking your Lowepro, make sure to purchase additional memory cards for your camera so you don’t have to worry about taking too many pictures. A lot of the aforementioned cameras are equipped with WiFi capabilities, but if you’re in a spot without service, you don’t want to rely on it for storage. Make sure you pack spare batteries, too — don’t skimp on the essentials.

**4. MASTER THESE MOVES IN THE FIELD**

You’ve decided on your gear, downloaded appropriate apps, and you’re out in the field ready to shoot the vibrant world on your trips. Now it’s time to think about the composition of your shot.

When photographing a person, Tritt recommends taking in the entire scene. “The setting is clean, it comes together as a better photograph. Her other best practices include paying attention to color, considering the depth of field (what’s close and far away) and photographing things that de-light you — not what’s going to get a lot of “likes” on Instagram.

The time matters a lot to photographers as well — the light changes throughout the day, and so will the outcome of your photos. According to the professionals, morning light is typically the best; afternoon light runs the risk of being the worst, although it can all depend on your personal aesthetic.

“I take the afternoon off because the lighting sucks,” Georges says. “Midday, sit at a cafe and wait for the light to be nice. Go into these markets. You’ll see this amazing light coming through a window or a door or a roof.”

No matter the hour, keep moving to make the most out of your vacation. Photographers know that photography is a physical art. Alvarado urges people to shoot everything and try to find new angles as they go. Villasana is an advocate for interacting with your environment. Instead of sneakily taking photos of locals, try to engage them in conversation and then ask to take their picture.

“Become a part of what’s going on around you,” Villasana says. “The trick is to learn about new places and people. If you’re always just photographing as an outsider, or far away because you’re too shy to get close, that translates in the photography.”