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STARS AND STRIPES
 Community Publication

KOREA

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Photo by Denise Rauda

We're here to help you EXPLORE

Our community products at Stars and Stripes are geared toward one very important thing: giving you the tools to make the most of your time while stationed in the Pacific.

Whether you are in mainland Japan, Okinawa, Korea or Guam, we're going to help you get off base and explore. We'll help you find that tasty restaurant, eye-popping day trip or fun festival that really lets you dive into the local culture.

And don't worry, we'll take it step by step. We'll show you how to get on a train, bus or taxi. Or if you are driving, we'll show you where and how to park. Seriously, we're here to hold your hand, help you take some baby steps and then set you free, with the knowledge that if you ever get lost or are looking for some travel tips,

destinations or anything else, all you need to do is pick up this paper, one of our magazines or special supplements, or click on one of our community websites to get all the free information you seek.

So how do we compile the thousands of stories that are at your fingertips? Well, besides partnering with dozens of outside organizations from around the world, we also count on you, our military community, to submit stories. And you always come through!

SEE EXPLORE ON PAGE 11

江ノ島
 SEE ENOSHIMA
 ON PAGE 10



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Only 4 hubs for naturalization appointments to stay open overseas

BY CAITLIN M. KENNEY,
STARS AND STRIPES

Published: September 30, 2019

WASHINGTON — Servicemembers and their families stationed overseas who are seeking to become U.S. citizens will now only have four international offices where they can complete the process as U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services closes more than a dozen locations, the department announced Monday.

USCIS had previously announced it is closing 13 overseas locations in the next year, leaving only seven in operation. But in order to support servicemembers and their families stationed overseas, the agency is now opening what they are calling "hub" offices at military bases, for one week every three months.

"After careful consideration, USCIS has determined it will maximize agency resources by shifting the processing of in-person benefit requests to the Department of State's Consular Affairs or through the deployment of USCIS domestic staff on temporary assignments," USCIS spokesman Daniel Hetlage wrote in an email.

The rollout of these four offices on military bases will happen during the next nine months and



Courtesy photo

will be the only places overseas for servicemembers and their families to process naturalization applications. The locations will be at Camp Humphreys, South Korea; Commander Fleet Activities Yokosuka, Japan; U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart, Germany, and Naval Support Activity Naples, Italy.

Applicants who go to these hubs will already have everything completed before setting up an appointment to meet with a USCIS officer for their interview and final adjudication, said a USCIS official, who spoke on the condition of anonymity to discuss the new overseas offices.

"So the hope is that everything is going to be able to be completed in that one visit," the official said.

Applicants have always been responsible for their travel during the naturalization process,

the official said, and they should be working with the Defense Department to help with traveling to the hub locations if they are not already based there.

Amid the office closures, the amount of military naturalization applications has increased during the last fiscal year. According to USCIS, they have received 520 overseas applications in fiscal year 2019, compared to 347 that they received in fiscal year 2018.

The four offices will only have appointments for one week each quarter of the year. The official said the number of applications is "manageable at this point" and she did not believe at this time that families would be seriously impacted by only having the office open for one week every three months. She said if the agency finds they have more applications than anticipated, they will consider adding an additional visit to the office.

The first two locations on the military bases to open will be in

South Korea and Japan, in part because the original Seoul office is closing Monday. The first visits by USCIS officers will be in late October and early November.

These four specific bases were picked because they're located in areas where most of the overseas military naturalization services has been provided, so the impact is expected to be "minimal," according to Hetlage. Of the 520 overseas applications received so far, 355 of them were received at the Seoul office, according to the official.

The official said the closures were not meant to make the naturalization process more difficult for servicemembers.

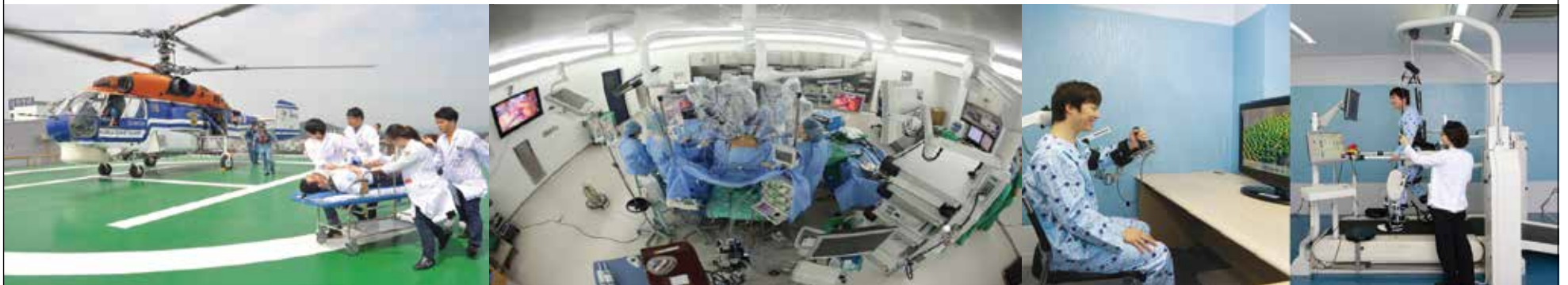
"Our first priority has been and always will be our military personnel," the official said. "I anticipate that once this new process gets going, that I think everyone will see that also, and will see that that we are able to still complete cases in a timely and efficient manner."

Servicemembers and families who have questions can call the USCIS toll free military help line at 877-247-4645, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Central Standard Time, or email them at militaryinfo@uscis.dhs.gov.

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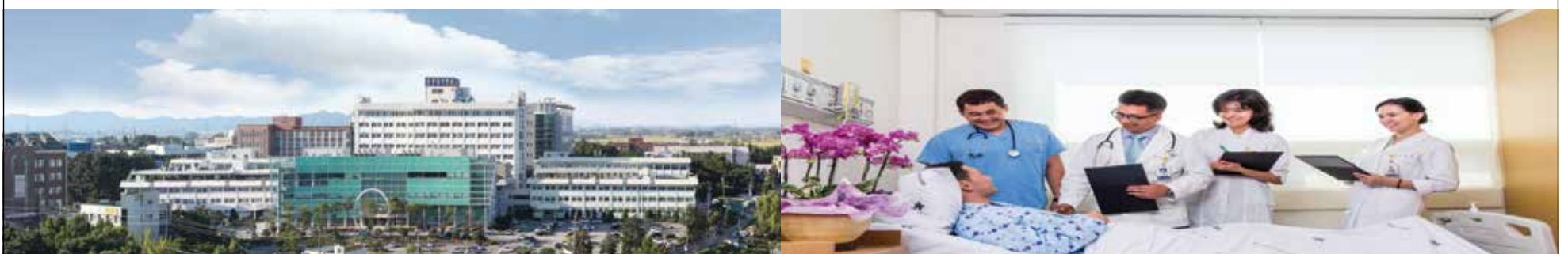
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'I JUST FOCUSED ON FINISHING'

Kunsan airman's determination pushes him to Air Force Marathon finish line

BY STAFF SGT. JOSHUA EDWARDS,
8TH FIGHTER WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

KUNSAN AIR BASE – Working the nine-to-five grind, many people need to find a release at the end of the work day, whether it is hanging out with friends, playing video games or listening to music.

For Staff Sgt. Daniel Ly, 8th Force Support Squadron customer support noncommissioned officer in charge, running up to 40 miles a week is his release.

"When work is stressful, running helps keep me calm," Ly said. "I look forward to my runs at the end of the day, when I can go to the gym or the running path along the flightline and relieve some stress."

Ly started running as a child nearly 17 years ago. This is where he developed a habit that would change his life and build himself into a more resilient and healthier person.

"I started running in eighth grade because I was pretty obese and unhealthy back then," he said. "My friends dragged me out to join track and I got better and better each



U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Daniel Ly runs during the Air Force Marathon at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio. Courtesy photo

season. After high school, although I wasn't fast enough for a college team, I began to add distance, running for longer periods of time until I could do

half marathons and eventually, full marathons."

Because of his hard work and dedication over the years, Ly was selected as one of only four

airmen to run the full Air Force Marathon as a member of the U.S. Pacific Air Forces team.

"It felt great getting selected to represent a major

command," said Ly. "I was very happy when I got the email in June, because I don't know if I'll ever have the opportunity to compete on behalf of PACAF again. Also, to be the only one from Kunsan just made me feel proud."

Ly was the only runner to be selected from Kunsan to compete in the Air Force Marathon as a member of a MAJCOM team. Once he found out he was chosen, Ly began focusing even more on his training, building up to longer and longer distances.

"I began running 60 miles a week in June and slowly increased my distance until I was running 70, 80 and finally 90 miles a week. It was tough when I had to stay late at work, but I always needed to get in my run for the day. My legs were constantly fatigued and I was always feeling hungry and lethargic."

Ly pushed through the pain and as race day crept closer, he began decreasing his distances before heading to Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio.

This year, the Air Force Marathon brought more

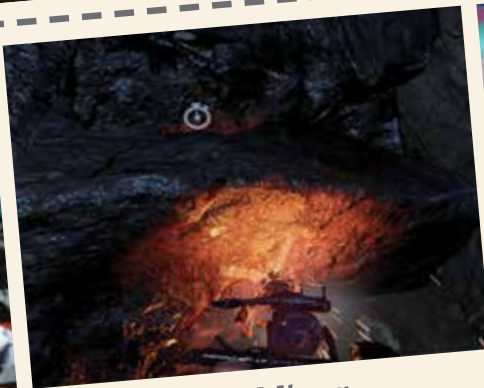


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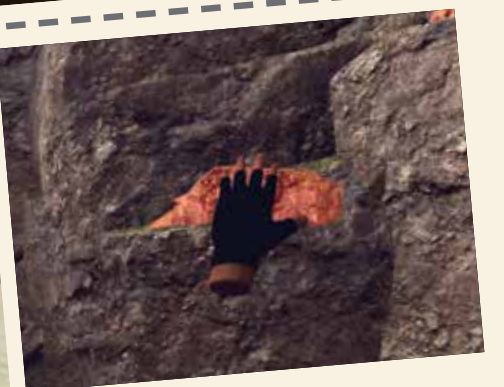
Mine Adventure



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When Ly is not assisting customers with getting new common access cards and enrolling in the Korea Area Incentive Program, he likes to run to relieve his stress and stay in shape. Photo by Staff Sgt. Joshua Edwards, U.S. Air Force

➤ than 25,000 visitors to the base.

As the start of the race got closer, the weather took a turn and rain delayed the start of the marathon by an hour. Eventually the clouds cleared

and it was time for Ly to start his race.

Ly and all the other competitors would face their first hurdle shortly after crossing the starting line.

"It was very hilly, and I hit

a gradual incline around mile four. They weren't very steep at the beginning, but noticeable. The most brutal hills were on the highway probably around mile 18 and about two miles before the finish line. It seemed like they went on forever. My pace dropped significantly and overcoming those didn't do anything for me because I knew I wasn't going to meet my goals."

He made it over all the hills, but his new battle was the weather as the day heated up. It reached nearly 90 degrees Fahrenheit before noon with a humidity percentage in the 70s. Ly said the weather started to take its toll on him and the other runners.

"People started dropping out, some needed IV solutions, others were getting sick. It was a bad day on the course. I was dying off at mile 16 and shuffling at that point."

Even with the numerous obstacles, Ly pushed through aiming for a full marathon time

under three hours.

"During the run, I just focused on finishing. I wanted to finish, no matter what. I would have rather died on the course than walk off."

Overcoming everything the day threw at him, Ly was able to complete his run in just under four hours.

This was Ly's 17th full marathon and he wants to apply for the U.S. Air Forces in Europe team at his next base, with the ultimate goal of one day qualifying for the Boston Marathon.

Ly with his medal after completing the Air Force Marathon at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio. Courtesy photo



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HAUNTS OF THE WARD

Abandoned Gyeonggi Psychiatric Hospital toys with rational thought

BY SARAH EDGE,
GROOVE KOREA MAGAZINE

A two-hour bus ride to Gwangju, Gyeonggi Province, takes us to the small town of Gonjiam. We follow latitude and longitude coordinates from the bus stop to where Gonjiam Psychiatric Hospital stands, but barbed wire and a sign saying “No trespassing” in Korean warn us to stay away.

That does not deter us. A small clearing next to a nearby fiberglass mill hints that perhaps this place is accessible after all. We hike for a bit and look behind us at the barbed wire fence that previously blocked our path. The famed abandoned hospital is only a short walk away now.

MARRIED BY TIME

Upon approaching the institution, the signs of a timeworn place become clear — dead, unkempt grass, glass shards littering the premises, small shelters barely visible through the overgrown vines that cover them. For what purpose these buildings once served, we couldn't know. They are in such a dilapidated condition that venturing into them seems pointless.

Fortunately, the main building is in fairly good shape, and, as we soon discover, had been visited by two decades' worth of trespassers.

The main entrance had originally been barred shut, but someone eventually decided to break in, as no one

would be breaking out now. As a result, a 1-meter-high opening exists where bars once were. It's large enough to crawl through, but too small to walk through. Standing in the open hallway for the first time and looking back at the outside world through the remaining bars, I feel a deep sense of anxiety coming over me. The stark contrast between the air outside and the rancid stench inside can be picked up immediately. It is so acrid that even taking small, quick breaths felt like we were doing our lungs a disservice. It would be the first of many signs that we should not be here.

The rain has taken its toll on the structure, with the walls stripped clean by

water damage and oily puddles mingling with pieces of trash. Scattered across the floor are traces of the mental ward's abandonment: psychiatric evaluations suggesting treatment for diabetic peripheral neuropathy, a computer manual for an IBM computer, a calendar dated 1996, ripped magazine pages featuring models with bangs too big for their faces. Life had certainly once existed here.

As we move further inside, the rooms begin to show their true character.

Through the square openings of closed doors we see rooms as dead as zombies, living caricatures of what they once were. The sheets are there. The mattresses, most of them, are still intact.

Books are half-open, as if the reader had put them down for a short break. Fine curtains are still strung up above the windows, and only dust specks hint at their age. It is as if time has stopped.

At the end of this hallway stands a ruined cafeteria, more reminiscent of a World War II relic. Time seems to stretch and slow as I linger here in this forgotten wasteland. A strong, putrid smell fills my nostrils and fades as quickly as it had come.

ROOM 222

Logic has been by my side for the first 20 minutes of this experience, but room 222 calls into question my entire dependency on rational thinking. The door suddenly shifts open a smidge, giving a creak

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loud enough to alert both me and the photographer to the doorway.

Neither of us utters a word. The air is foul and silent. I have not felt such heaviness in the atmosphere until now.

Logic would say, "Just the wind. Keep walking." But on the second floor there is no wind. The air is stuffy and has the lingering trail of humidity circa mid-July. No wind, no breeze, barely any oxygen — unless the putrid smell of water stains counts.

The door pauses, letting out only a small beam of light. With little hesitation, it abruptly creaks open again. The sharp sense that there is a third party in the room overcomes me. We get the intense awareness that we are unwelcome.

"It's still only the wind." Logic knocks on all corners of my membrane, but it ceases the moment we behold a shadow flicker across the beam of light. A shadow, I wonder. From whom? Another stray wanderer like us?

We finally decide to keep

walking. But the sharp rise in tension plagues us with an unshakable feeling of dread for every floor and every room thereafter.

EXPAT HAUNTS

Breaking through the murky atmosphere are the scribbles of expats who, like us, wanted to test how haunted this was purported to be. It seems that over the two decades that this institution has been closed, a number of people wanted to add to the rumors.

Thus, the tour of graffiti fail:

"KILL" is written in large red letters, the paint dripped in such a way as to make it appear like blood. Good effort, but that isn't blood and "KILL" wouldn't be written in English.

"She sees you." Tell her I say hi.

"I can't breathe." Sorry to hear that, buddy. I hope your friend dialed 1-1-9.

"Don't go in room 108." Is that kind of like "The Shining"? Will an old woman rise out of the tub and seduce me?

Through
the square
openings
of closed
doors we
see rooms
as dead as
zombies

Despite the obvious attempts, it's a nice mood lifter to see the effort put into keeping the folklore alive. Not to mention that after the more-than-serious encounter with room 222, we were in need of something light to occupy our minds.

THE TRAIL ENDS

We reach the end of our tour on the roof, where a recreational blacktop and basketball hoop have been set up. It is littered with the remains of soju bottles, partially evaporated half-filled cups of Coke and cans of Asahi and Hite. Whatever fear we had earlier encountered seems to melt away in these last few moments of sunlight.

I look down at a Frisbee imprinted with a very old children's logo and wonder how it had gotten there. What had happened to this place? Why is a broken phone from the mid-'90s with the cord still attached lying up here? Why are children's toys strewn about?

The results aren't actually as mysterious as the fame of being an abandoned mental facility suggests. Poor financing and irreparable conditions forced the hospital's closure. The staff moved on, patients were transferred or simply released and the owner moved out of the country. The place was abandoned

in every sense of the word.

What happened in those post-years of abandonment is where the real mystery lies. A lot of untold stories occurred here in the past two decades. Not all of them are sadistic in nature; most are just stories like this one — curious travelers stumbling upon an old building and observing the many artifacts left there over time: calendars, papers, beer cans and toys, but no knives or medical instruments as horror movies suggest.

The only horror to be found here is the kind that plays with your mind. For one previous visitor, it was room 108; for us, it is room 222. Curiously enough, on our return down the stairs we discover that the doors on the second floor that were previously ajar are shut tight.

"Coincidence," logic would say. Perhaps, but who knows what untold story occurred there that would have managed to intertwine our present-day visit with some unexplained phenomenon from the past?

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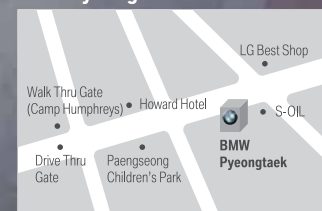
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Oct. 26, 5 - 7:30 p.m.
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Oct. 29, 11 a.m. - noon
"BOO" SAN BASH HALLOWEEN PARTY
Oct. 31, 6 - 9 p.m.
For more information, call Commercial 051-714-0436.
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Oct. 24, 5 p.m.
For more information, call Camp Walker Library at 0503-363-2274.
HALLOWEEN COSTUME CONTEST
Oct. 26, 9 p.m. midnight
For more information, call Hilltop Bar & Grill at 0503-364-4985.
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Oct. 30
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Carroll
FAMILY PUMPKIN DECORATING
Oct. 27, noon - 4 p.m.

For more information, call Camp Carroll Community Activity Center at 0503-363-2271.
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Oct. 26
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Oct. 26, 3 - 5 p.m. Parking lot between A&FRC & Safety Office
Games, prizes, candy, music and more!
Cost: \$10/runner (entry, glow gear and one drink ticket)
For more information, please contact CPPO at 784-7282.

K-16 Air Base**BOSS HALLOWEEN PARTY & COSTUME CONTEST**

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Oct. 31, 3:30 - 5 p.m.
For more information, call Library at DSN 741-6994.

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Get your Halloween on off base!

THE ULTIMATE GUIDE TO HALLOWEEN FESTIVALS IN SEOUL 2019!

By Trazy
<https://blog.trazy.com/seoul-halloween-festival-guide/>

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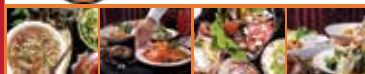
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Denisse

I'm Denisse Rauda from El Paso, Texas, but now living in Tokyo. I have been with Stripes for five years. My interests include binge-watching TV shows, karaoke, CrossFit and exploring Tokyo. Nice to meet you!

Soy Denisse Rauda de El Paso, Texas, pero ahora vivo en Tokio. He trabajado en Stripes por cinco años. Mis intereses incluyen maratones de series de televisión, karaoke, CrossFit y explorar Tokio. ¡Encantada de conocerle!

rauda.denisse@stripes.com

Hiro

I'm Takahiro Takiguchi from Yokosuka City in mainland Japan. I have been with Stripes for six years. My interests include food, drinks, travel and music. Nice to meet you!

神奈川県横浜市中区在住の滝口隆弘です。星条旗新聞でのライター歴6年。趣味は旅行、食べ歩きに飲み歩き、それに音楽です。よろしくお願いします!

takiguchi.takahiro@stripes.com

ChiHon

I'm ChiHon Kim from Pyeongtaek, South Korea. I have been with Stripes for about one year. My interests include cars, dogs, travel and adrenaline-pumping outdoor activities. Nice to meet you!

안녕하세요. 저는 김지헌입니다. 성조지 신문사와 함께한 지는 6개월 정도 되었습니다. 자동차, 여행, 명명 이 그리고 아드레날린 솟구치는 야외활동에 관심이 많습니다. 만나서 반갑습니다!

kim.chihon@stripes.com

Shoji

I'm Shoji Kudaka from Okinawa. I have been with Stripes for three years.

My interests include travel, sports, movies, TV shows, cats and dogs. Nice to meet you!

沖縄県在住の久高将司です。ストライプスのライターとしては3年目です。トラベル、スポーツ、映画、テレビ、犬や猫に興味があります。よろしくお願いします!

kudaka.shoji@stripes.com

Enoshima – Power-spot island blessed with natural beauty

STORY AND PHOTOS BY
TAKAHIRO TAKIGUCHI,
STRIPES JAPAN

Enoshima Island, near the old samurai capital of Kamakura, is a must-see for tourists visiting the area.

The small island of about 3 miles in circumference is home to a modern yacht harbor and beautiful beach and sea, offering various marine sports opportunities. The scenic and historical location attracts tourists year-round.

The island served as the venue for sailing competitions during the 1964 Tokyo Olympic Games, and again will be the site for the competitions of the 2020 Olympics. During our visit in early June, preparations were underway, which included a beach clean-up event and construction of structures for the Games.

Beyond being a popular beach destination, Enoshima's island has been considered a holy place and a power spot since ancient times. Enoshima Shrine is believed to bring visitors happiness and fortune, along with progress in arts and studies. Interestingly, the shrine itself is made up of three

separate shrines, one each for three sister goddesses, Hetsu-no-miya, Nakatsu-miya and Okutsu-no-miya. To visit the three shrines, pilgrims must visit the entire island as they are scattered throughout.

The island is accessible via two bridges, one for vehicles and the other for pedestrians. Having our van parked at a lot near the bridge, we started our exploration by going to Benzaiten Nakamisedori, a busy shopping street. Filled with inns, a spa, souvenir shops, restaurants and ice cream parlors, the street also has some establishments with several hundred years of history. Among them, Iwamatsuya Hotel is especially famous, as it was established as a lodge for pilgrims over 700 years ago.

While strolling along the street, we dropped by a food stall and sampled a skewered rice balls wrapped with sliced pork rib, nikumaki onigiri-gushi, for 500 yen (about \$4.80). Tender meat seasoned with a soy-sauce base complimented the sticky steamed rice, and it was very tasty.

A few shops up from the food stall, a signboard for "Dr. Fish," drew us in for a unique pedicure



Escalator

FARE: 360 yen, ages 12 or younger: 180 yen
HOURS: 9 a.m. – 7 p.m.
URL: <https://enoshima-seacandle.com/>
TEL: 0466-25-3525

involving tiny carp (See page 13).

After our five-minute fish pedicure, we walked our soft feet up along the stairway through the bronze torii gate and into the traditional Shinto shrine where Hetsu-no-miya, the third sister goddess of Enoshima Shrine, is hallowed.

Here, we found a small waterfall feeding into a pond lined with a few small baskets on the edge. It is believed that placing your money under the waterfall will cleanse it and multiply your

The 3 goddesses of Enoshima Shrine

1. Okutsu-no-miya: enshrines the first sister goddess, Tagirihime-no-mikoto
2. Nakatsu-miya: enshrines the second sister goddess, Ichikishimahime-no-mikoto
3. Hetsu-no-miya: enshrines the third sister goddess, Tagitsu-hime-no-mikoto

Visiting and worshipping these goddesses is believed to offer visitors happiness, fortune and progress in arts and studies.

Hetsu-no-miya

Did you know?



fortune. We couldn't resist but to take our coins out and cleanse them. We also dropped some into the "basket of fortune" in the pond for luck.

After the customary bowing and offering at the main shrine, we made our tough, 190-foot ascent to the top of the island. Normally, it might take more than 20 minutes to hike up, but we took the "Escar," a set of escalators that will take you up in about four minutes. We each purchased a ticket for 360 yen (about \$3.20) for a single trip to the top of island. Yes, we would have to walk down.

The path on the island top had a quiet and a kind of mysterious feel, much different from the busy shopping street below.

While strolling on the island top, we came across some street cats along the path. The island is famous for its many cats, and their lovable gestures have repeatedly made them Instagram stars. On our visit, we actually spotted

nine and stopped to greet and photograph the furry island dwellers.

The narrow, but well-paved path led us to "Yama Futatsu, or two mountains in Japanese, a valley which is situated between two highlands with an observatory deck perfect for gazing at the endless blue ocean and sharp-edged cliffs. Along the walk, we found old buildings housing souvenir shops, tea shops and restaurants, giving the impression we had gone back in time.

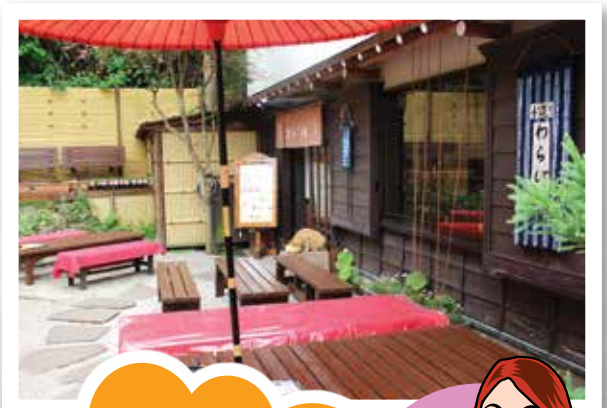
Eventually, we reached the shrine for the first sister goddess, "Okutsu-no-miya." Again, we offered our prayers in the traditional way, wishing for happiness, good fortune and health.

For lunch, we headed to a popular seafood restaurant, Uomitei, at the furthest reaches of the island. We tried an Enoshima classic, Shirasu-don, a signature of this island eatery. (See page 14) The lunch of seafood was fantastic, and the panoramic vista of Mount Fuji, along

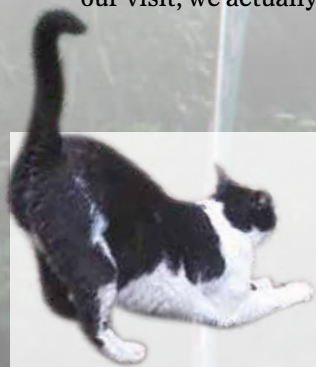
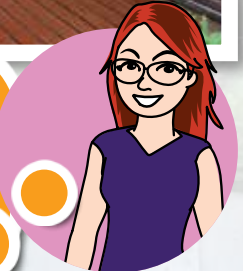
with Izu and Hakone mountains over the blue Sagami Bay, was breathtaking.

On our descent back down to the shopping street, we could see the yacht harbor, bridges and beach from the mainland.

The two-hour stroll showed us several different faces of the island – busy shopping street for tourists, panoramic vista of the Sagami Bay from the island top, lovable street cats, traditional houses and the quiet and solemn approaches to the shrines. And that made me feel that the island is an attraction for virtually anyone – old and young, locals and tourists, can enjoy what Enoshima Island has to offer.



Check out the video!



BY TAKAHIRO TAKIGUCHI,
STRIPE JAPAN

Often called "Cat Island," Enoshima has been known for its many four-legged street inhabitants.

Tourists visit the island for its many attractions, but there some who are also curious about the cats that cruise the streets.

Enoshima was considered an easy spot to abandon cats in the 1980s, since the green-shrouded island is isolated from the mainland, and not far from the urban center. The abandoned cats have bred themselves and multiplied on the island.

The cats now enjoy a relaxed island life with care from the residents on Enoshima and the tourists that often feed them.

On our visit we expected to see

many cats, but our stroll through busy Benazaiten Street and the shrine grounds was without any feline sightings.

One of the "Escar" escalator employees said there were many street cats, but they preferred the quieter areas up higher on the island, especially around the western park. The employee did not steer us wrong, because as soon as we stepped of Escar at the top, we spotted a few of the island's felines near Okutsu-no-miya Shrine.

Our cat spotting reached peak numbers near the Yama Futatsu (two mountains) hill where restaurants, tea houses and souvenir shops in traditional-looking wooden buildings lined up along the path.

Despite being street cats, these creatures looked fairly clean, fat and healthy. The cute and lovable

cats laying on the street without a care in the world made us smile.

Unlike most street cats, these enjoyed human company. ChiHon, approached a cat and pet it. Being accustomed to people, the cat didn't run away, but just let him keep petting her.

Other cats we spotted were unmoved by the tourists positioning themselves on the ground for selfies. One cafe even had a plate of cat food out, which we caught one of the ginger-colored cats heartily helping himself to.

On our two-hour tour of Enoshima, we spotted no less than nine cats. Cute, well-fed and very relaxed, they are definitely the embodiment of island life on Enoshima. How many will you spot on your next visit?

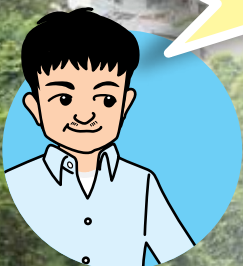


Photos by Denisse and Hiro

EXPLORE: We do it for you!

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Next week
I'll give you
my take on visiting
Japan.



And then there's our team: writers ChiHon Kim (Korea), Shoji Kudaka (Okinawa), Takahiro Takiguchi (mainland Japan) and their editor, Denisse Rauda (mainland Japan). Yes, that's them in the photo out front hard at work. Yes, hard at work. You see, for us to do our job properly, we have to go out and experience things first-hand so we can tell you about it, offer tips and give you directions. The picture was taken in June in front of the iconic big Buddha in Kamakura, during a 5-day gathering at our headquarters in Tokyo. It was a week where our writers,

page designers and web team could brainstorm story ideas and discuss how to best display and tell the tales of our adventures.

And it was a week to show ChiHon a little bit of what Japan has to offer on this, his first visit to the country. And what better way to do that than take a daytrip. When we planned the trip, we also considered our Okinawan, Shoji, and what his tropical paradise-influenced take might be on a mainland excursion.

When we chose the picturesque, touristy (and, perhaps, clichéd) Enoshima and Kamakura areas as our destination, we did so with the attempt to kill two birds with one stone. ChiHon and Shoji would get to see some of the more popular spots like the Daibutsu (Great

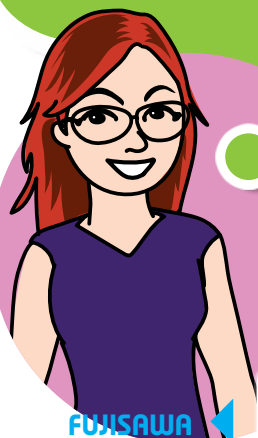
Buddha) and the sky candle on Enoshima Island, while Hiro and Denisse, who have seen and done that multiple times, would use that lens in search of less-common activities and attractions.

The four of them, a motley crew from different generations, cultures, backgrounds and interests, piled into a van and headed to the beach. In the next couple of weeks, you'll read all about their trip, what they learned, what they liked and what they would probably skip next time. So, sit down, and let our crew tell you about themselves and show you how to enjoy a day of surfing, fish pedicures, picture-taking, lots of walking ... and lots of laughs. Yes, they have a tough job, but they do it for you.

– Chris Carlson,

Publishing and Media Design Manager

New to the Pacific? Check out this mag!



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七里ヶ浜
しちりがはま
SHICHIRIGAHAMA

稲村ヶ崎
いなむらがさき
INAMURAGASAKI



Trippin' down th

STORY AND PHOTOS BY SHOJI KUDAKA,
STRIPES OKINAWA

On my trip to Enoshima, one of the things I looked forward to the most was riding the Enoden.

Since commencing operations in 1902, the Enoshima Electric Railway, or Enoden, has been known for its quaint-looking cars and the beautiful locations it takes its passengers.

In a morning of firsts, before trying surfing for the first time, I rode this train from Enoshima Station to Kamakurakomae Station. ChiHon, a fellow writer from Korea, had heard of the Japanese manga "Slam Dunk" and wanted to check out the real-life Enoden stop featured in the comic.

On this brief detour two stops away from where our surf lesson would commence, the view from the train changed a lot, giving us a sample of the landscape the Enoshima area has to offer.

At one point, the small train went along the beautiful coast with the lush greenery of Enoshima in the background. At another, we passed through residential areas, with the windowsills of some houses close enough that we thought we might be able to touch them were the train doors to open. The Enoden stopped traffic or even went with traffic in the center of a busy road as we passed morning commuters.

Without tall fence lines to separate itself from the rest of the world, the Enoden felt like being on a good old street car.

The green-colored car also reminded me of Randen, or Keifuku Electric Railroad, another old train service I rode in Kyoto. Although Randen ran through the leafy and quiet side of Kyoto, not approaching any coastline, it had a similar mood to Enoden, probably because of its history, which dates back to 1910.

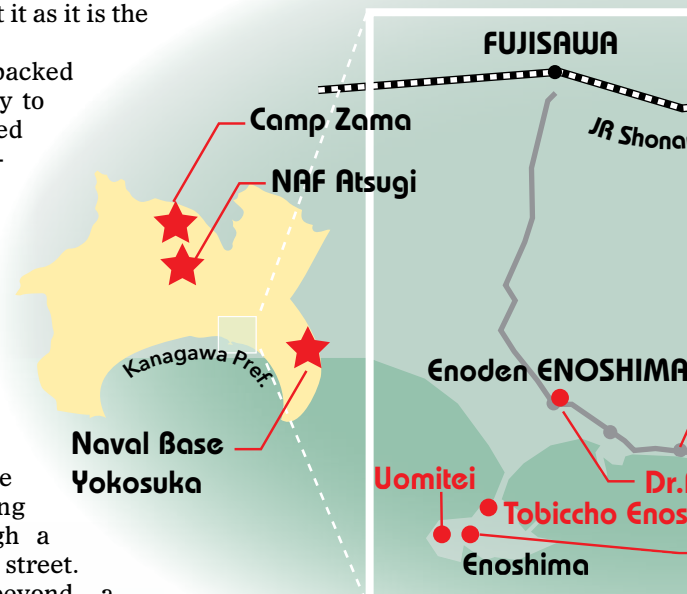
Much different from fast-moving trains in Tokyo, Enoden went slowly, setting an idyllic or nostalgic mood, but at the same time, there was something sophisticated about it as it is the image of the Shonan-Enoshima area.

Because it was on a weekday, the train was packed with many teenagers in uniform on their way to Kamakura High School. There I was, dressed in a surf shirt, trunks and beach sandals, feeling a little out of place. The students chatted happily, unbothered by a tourist's presence. Enoden is known for having two faces: one being of a commuter train and the other of leisure and tourism.

Soon, we arrived at Kamakurakomae Station and along with the dozens of

uniformed students, the three of us in Slam Dunk cosplay stepped on the same direction.

It was for a railroad crossing just before the station that we made the short trip



Nostalgic over Enoshima

BY SHOJI KUDAKA,
STRIPES OKINAWA

Usually, it wouldn't be odd to hear someone say, "I like the beaches of Enoshima." But, when it comes from the mouth of an Okinawan, such a statement may require a bit of an explanation.

For many years, every time I listened to pop songs or watched music videos featuring beach scenes around Enoshima, I tried to imagine what this popular tourist spot would look like in real life. In early June, I finally had the opportunity to see for myself. From the many movies and TV shows filmed in Enoshima I've watched, I knew the colors of the sea are not as vibrant, nor its beaches as shining white, as those in my hometown in Okinawa.

As I crossed the Enoshima Bentenbashi Bridge and headed toward the island, I could see the waters in pale blue, presenting a different hue from the deep blue I see off Okinawa. Earlier that day, I'd surfed on that beach, but the pastel color of the sea from the bridge attracted me more than it did when I was in the water.

A visit to the island means a lot of uphill walk



Photo by Denisse

for tourists. From busy Benzaiten Nakamise-dori to paths which connect one shrine to another, I went on uphill slopes following other tourists. The first half hour of walking on an incline became a little daunting for an Okinawan like me used to driving to get anywhere.

Food stalls selling various snack foods like shirasu fish and other local seafood were a feast for the eyes, offering a welcome distraction from the climb. And, almost every time I stopped and looked back, that peaceful sea came into my view and the fatigue was forgotten.

Throughout our hike, the sea would peek at us – sometimes at the end of a road – like a calming

source running through a busy street. Or, beyond a valley, which gave the impression of an island split in two, the waters of Sagami Bay seemed to greet me quietly. Instead of the vibrant tropical island blues, the islands surrounding waters were subtle, reminding me of serene coasts of Europe and inciting nostalgia.

The island itself is also a source for much nostalgia as its small alleys lined with old buildings housing confectionery stores and old inns, take on the look of scenes from old movies. Even the "Escar," the retro-looking escalators and the island's preferred method of scaling to the top, reminded me of the escalators from the department stores of my childhood.

These sights of Enoshima and, more than anything, its surrounding waters are what summoned many old memories and a strong yearning for the past. The lulls of the sea took me back to growing up in Okinawa and watching TV programs about the mainland, listening to my favorite pop songs about the very beach I surfed on and dreaming of a sea with colors different than those of my hometown.

Read more of my stories at
StripesOkinawa.com

Speakin' Japanese

"Enoden ni norimashoo!" = Let's hop on the Enoden!
(".ni norimashoo" = let's hop on..)

"Ikutsu tomari masuka?" = How many stops?
("ikutsu" = how many, "tomari masuka?" = does it stop)

"Ikura desuka?" = How much does it cost?
("ikura" = how much)

- Takahiro Takiguchi

極楽寺

ごくらくじ
GOKURAKUJI

長谷

はせ
HASE

由比ヶ浜

ゆいがはま
YUIGAHAMA

和田塚

わだづか
WADAZUKA

鎌倉

かまくら
KAMAKURA

▶ JR YOKOSUKA LINE

Follow the Enoden tracks

in our beachwear and other tour-
d onto the platform and headed in
st one-minute walk away from the
p. Along the Enoden line, one will

find many sites of worship such as Hase Temple and Tsurugaoka Hachimangu Shrine. However, the railway crossing is also a draw for tourists of a different kind of faith.

At the crossing, basketball jersey-clad vacationers were posing for photos and dodging traffic. Just like us, they were there for "Seichi Jyunrei," a term which in a normal context means a pilgrimage to sacred places, but now has gained a different meaning. Seichi Jyunrei is also used for pilgrimages by devoted fans to locations depicted in manga and anime books and shows.

No doubt, the tourists were fans of "Slam Dunk." The Japanese manga/animation show about high school hoops was extremely popular in the 90s and that popularity transcended national borders, reaching other countries. Many fans traveled to Japan to pay a visit to the spot, which was depicted in the show's opening credits.

The sudden influx of tourists reportedly puzzled neighboring residents at one point. Some breaches of manners were also reported, such as blocking traffic or standing over the railways. But the fans we saw on that day were not causing any problems.

So, we followed their footsteps of goodwill. After making sure we were not in the way of the traffic or the students, we took photos of the crossing.

It was more out of curiosity than devotion to the show that we went there. When the show was on air in the 90s, I was not following it. Still, the view of the crossing against the sea of Kamakura in the back looked familiar and lingered in my mind long afterward.

Later on, I learned that that the location has been used for many other TV shows, music videos and other animated shows. It is very likely that I saw the view of the crossing and the sea at some point in my life.

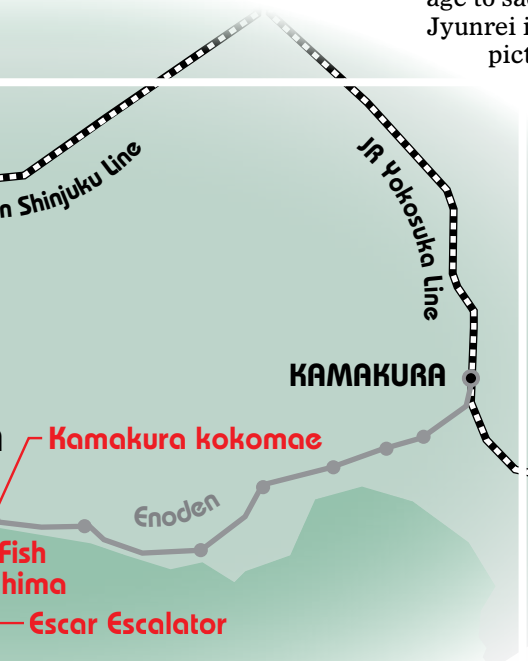
We rode the line a few more times that day and through its windows we saw so many sides of this beautiful area.

Enoden may be a local line which runs only 10 km (6.2 miles), however, its nearly 117-year legacy and the locations and attractions along its route are everlasting.

Famous Slam Dunk crossing

GPS COORDINATES: N 35.306600, E 139.502091

URL: <https://www.enoden.co.jp/en/train/>



Dr. Fish offers unique pedicure

STORY AND PHOTOS BY
TAKAHIRO TAKIGUCHI,
STRIPES JAPAN

Harumiya Shoten, in the busy Benzaiten Nakamise shopping street, offers a unique pedicure.

But don't worry about picking a nail color or tipping a pedicurist, as dozens of carp are employed here to bring your feet up to tip-top shape.

Dr. Fish is a spa-experience involving a jacuzzi-like pool where small carp are waiting to feed off patrons' feet. They like dead skin, so the second you ease your feet into the tank, the fish scurry towards your feet to start cleaning.

I hadn't tried Dr. Fish in years, but with two of my colleagues visiting, the three of us decided to get a fish pedi together.

As soon as I put my feet into the tank, dozens of fish

rushed my feet and started munching.

It was a little ticklish, but I didn't feel any pain nor unpleasant feeling. But the flock of black fish reminded me of swarms of mosquitoes or fleas, and that thought made me a little queasy.

It was embarrassing to how many more fish came to my feet than those of my colleagues. It made me feel like my feet were nastier than theirs, which I'm sure they were. But after the five-minute session, my feet felt so smooth and as good as new.

So, when you visit the island, you might want to consider taking a break from all the walking and giving your feet a fish pedicure at Dr. Fish.

What to know

LOCATION: 1-4-7 Enoshima, Fujisawa City

HOURS: Thurs – Tues, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

FEE: 500 yen (per 5-minute session)

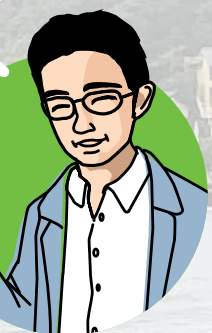
URL: <https://www.shonan-navi.net/shop/shop.shtml?s=2399>

TEL: 0466-26-2616

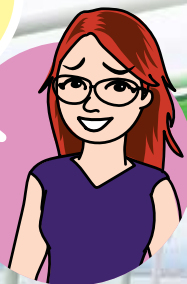


Photo by Denisse

This video is very fishy!



To be honest,
I do not like this
so-called
"delicacy"...



Fishy delicacy on top of the island

STORY AND PHOTOS BY CHIHON KIM,
STRIPES KOREA

At the end of a long hike to the top of Enoshima Island, Uomitei offers gorgeous scenery and amazingly fresh shirasu fit for a great lunch high above the sea.

My colleagues and I arrived ravenous but had to wait around 10 minutes for a window-side table. I heard this restaurant is 140 years old, so as we entered, I thought about how many have visited this very place in all that time. There was additional seating that looked cozy with a tatami flooring, but most of the patrons here opted for seats with a view of the spectacular ocean. When we finally reached our seats, there were clouds in the distance, but we could see some of Mt. Fuji hidden in the mist. The views from these seats are well worth the wait.

From the menu, you will see that this place is definitely famous for its rice bowls. The choices range from its famous Shirasu-don to sashimi. And if you're not a fan of raw fish, the menu at Uomitei has a lot of other dishes to choose from.

During my preparation for this trip I was told to try the shirasu-don, and since eating the local specialty when I'm on vacation is my golden rule, doing so was a no-brainer.

In Korea, we have our own variation of dishes featuring tiny fish. "Bendengi," or large-eyed herrings, come served over rice and a very common dish is "myulchi bokkeum," which consists of spicy pan-fried sardines (or anchovies) seasoned with spicy gochujang (hot pepper paste). During my visit to Japan, I was curious about how the less spicy version would taste, so I dug in. The only problem that arose was when I

had to pick between boiled shirasu, "Kamaage shirasu-don" and the raw version, "Nama shirasu-don."

I weighed my options and was delighted to see that I didn't have to choose. I went for the one with both! I picked shirasu-don (950 yen, about \$8.86), with half Nama shirasu and half Kamaage shirasu. I also ordered Enoshima Beer to wash it down.

After my meal arrived, I made sure to add some soy sauce as it adds depth to the taste. The texture of Nama shirasu was unfamiliar but it was neither too soft nor too hard. Most of all, the combination of rice and raw shirasu was great with soy sauce. The more I chewed, the tastier it got. On the other hand, the Kamaage shirasu had a rather fishy scent, so I added some sichimi spicy powder to cut that smell and taste a bit.

The verdict on shirasu-don? I preferred the taste of Nama shirasu more than Kamaage, but I think it's because I am more accustomed to raw fish and rice dishes in Korea.

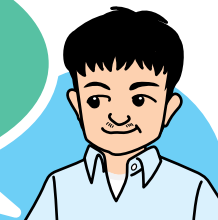
The Enoshima Beer also added a great flavor to the shirasu and brought a distinct kind of sweetness to my fishy lunch.

Uomitei makes for a really romantic dining spot while gazing at the sun setting over the ocean. If the weather is nice, the view of Mt. Fuji must be better than the one we got when we visited. If I have to pick just one thing that I want to do on this island, I would say without hesitation:



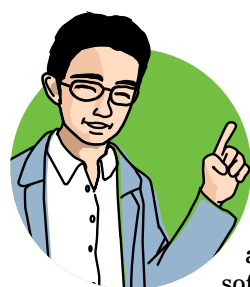
Drinking Enoshima Beer on the patio. Shirasu-don was worth a try but the best thing at this restaurant was definitely the view and their patio is the best place to enjoy it.

Shirasu fishing is prohibited from January to March, so the fresh Nama shirasu is only available during certain times of year.



Uomitei

HOUR: 10:00 am - 7:00 pm
(restaurant closes 1 hour after sunset)
AVERAGE PRICE: 1,500 JPY
ADDRESS: 2-5-7, Enoshima,
Fujisawa-shi, Kanagawa
ONLINE: enoshima-uomitei.com
PHONE: +81 466-22-4456



After lunch, we stumbled across a stand selling soft serve ice cream topped with steamed white bait. It was

run by Tobiccho, a shirasu wholesaler. Among various shirasu foods that the stand sells, their soft serve caught my eye.

The shop offers two varieties of soft serve topped with shirasu: vanilla flavor and a mixture of vanilla and matcha green tea each for 450 yen (about \$4.10), plus tax. Less adventurous visitors can opt to skip the shirasu and just have the ice cream plain for 350 yen. I chose the regular vanilla, which is a light grey color due to the bamboo charcoal the employee said is mixed in. This color really contrasted with the white, boiled shirasu.

Visually, this cone was not exactly the text book example of what one might call "tasty food."

It wasn't until my first taste when my doubts were cleared. The shirasu dessert tasted rather like a standard soft cream, as the subtle saltiness of the fish went well with the sweetness of the ice cream.

To me, shirasu adds texture to ice cream just like it does to many other dishes. Thanks to the small fish tickling my tongue, I could

enjoy my cone without getting tired of the sweet taste and smooth texture.

Soon my ice cream was gone, and the bottom of the cone, somehow, still held several shirasu. When I took a bite, the shirasu suddenly seemed like something completely different from what they were at first taste. Without the smooth and sweet ice cream, the small fish felt a little crunchy and sandy, reminding me of fish washed up on the coast. Slight regret that I had finished the ice cream before the shirasu began to set in.

In the end, this shirasu ice cream turned out to be a good experience. Even for someone who is familiar with soft served ice cream available for 330 yen at Blue Seal Ice Cream stores in Okinawa, I felt the shirasu cone was priced fairly. The uniqueness of the food and the great location are worth the money.

— Shoji Kudaka



A sweet ice cream sprinkled with the strong-flavored shirasu may sound like a good thing to some, but my verdict? I recommend you try the shirasu hot dog instead of this ice cream if you're interested in trying something new involving the small fish.

As I bit into the gray-colored soft serve with utmost confidence, I quickly realized I couldn't bear the two conflicting flavors: shirasu and something cold that

is supposed to taste like ice cream.

The soft serve was just a one-dimensional creamy flavor nearly undetectable through the overpowering taste of the fishy shirasu.

Above all, the shirasu were also the root of the real problem – the utterly unacceptable texture of this dessert.

Maybe the vendors, in an attempt to create something buzzworthy, didn't realize they created something completely the opposite. The two non-matching ingredients didn't meld well together, causing an uncomfortable mix in my mouth. They should have never met! The shirasu should have stayed in the rice bowl not migrated onto ice cream. Most importantly, not onto my ice cream!

— ChiHon Kim

Tobiccho Enoshima

GPS COORDINATES: N 35.301889,
E 139.480874
URL: <http://tobiccho.com/shops/benzaiten>

Fish on ice cream?!





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Rejuvenate at Gakwonsa Temple

STORY AND PHOTOS BY CHIHON KIM,
STRIPES KOREA

If you want to get away from hustle and bustle of the city life, Gakwonsa Temple and its surrounding area is the perfect place for one-day trip. Located at the foot of Mt. Taejosan, a few miles east of downtown Cheonan in Chungcheongnam-do, it is about a 40- to 50-minute drive from Camp Humphreys and Osan Air Base.

Gakwonsa Temple is a great place to breathe in the fresh air, reflect and enjoy the picturesque scenery and tranquil atmosphere.

When most people think of temples and shrines in Korea, they picture centuries-old structures weathered from the past. That is not the case with Gakwonsa Temple, which was built in 1977 by a monk named Beobin who spent the Korean War praying for peaceful relations between the North and South. Although it is a relatively new building, it does harmonize with its surroundings like other traditional Korean buildings.

What I like about this area is that there is more than just a beautiful temple. There are also walking paths where you can stroll at your own pace and a street in front of the temple full of restaurants and stores. And, there's a giant Buddha!

The Temple

There is ample parking for vehicles in the lot located just before a magnificent bell tower, called a Jonggak. The bell tower is bigger than most in Korea because the massive bell (Beomjong) it supports weighs 20 tons! You can hear the grand sound from it every day at 4:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. It'll definitely wake you

up, whether you are there in the morning or evening. As you walk underneath the tower, you'll see big antique roof tiles on display. They are quite beautiful.

After you pass by the bell tower, you will spot Mahavira Hall (Daeungbojeon) in front of you. Multiple halls for learning Buddhism are located on both sides of the main hall. The inside of Mahavira Hall is gorgeously decorated with paintings and three golden Buddha statues. The golden Buddha triad symbolized Buddha sitting on the Sumeru Mountain and the paintings represent the Buddhism view of the world.

If you have time, stay inside the hall and feel the peace and quiet for as long as you want. When the wind chimes hanging under the eaves wake you from a brief moment of silence, you should make your way outside the hall to take in the largest attraction on the temple grounds.

Giant Buddha

When you step out from the hall, you can see a seated giant Buddha, which was under construction from June 1975 to May 1977. Called Amitabul-sang, it is the biggest Buddha statue in

Korea and the second largest in Asia, weighing a massive 60 tons and standing (although it is sitting) 15 meters high. Its ears alone are two meters and its fingernails are 30 centimeters long. Although you might be overwhelmed by this grand statue, don't forget to take a selfie with it. It offers a nice place to take a picture because it overlooks the temple and beautiful landscape.

Note: If you park your car next to the souvenir shop located next to the pond by the temple, not the parking lot, then you can take 203 stairs that lead directly to the Buddha. Some people prefer to start their trip from this spot.

Easy hiking trails

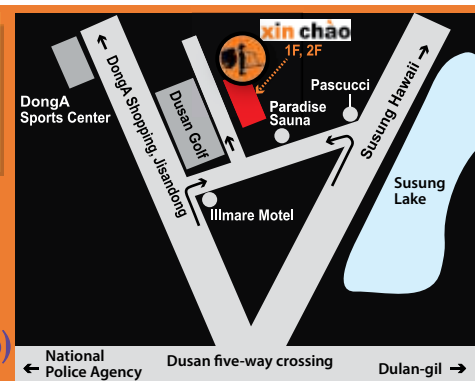
Once you've had your fill of the big Buddha, there are a couple of trails that lead up into Taejo Mountain, which stands 420 meters high and was named after King Taejo, the founder of Goryeo. It provides a full view of the city from its summit. Many hikers and mountaineers visit this place, especially those with children because it is a relatively gentle trail.

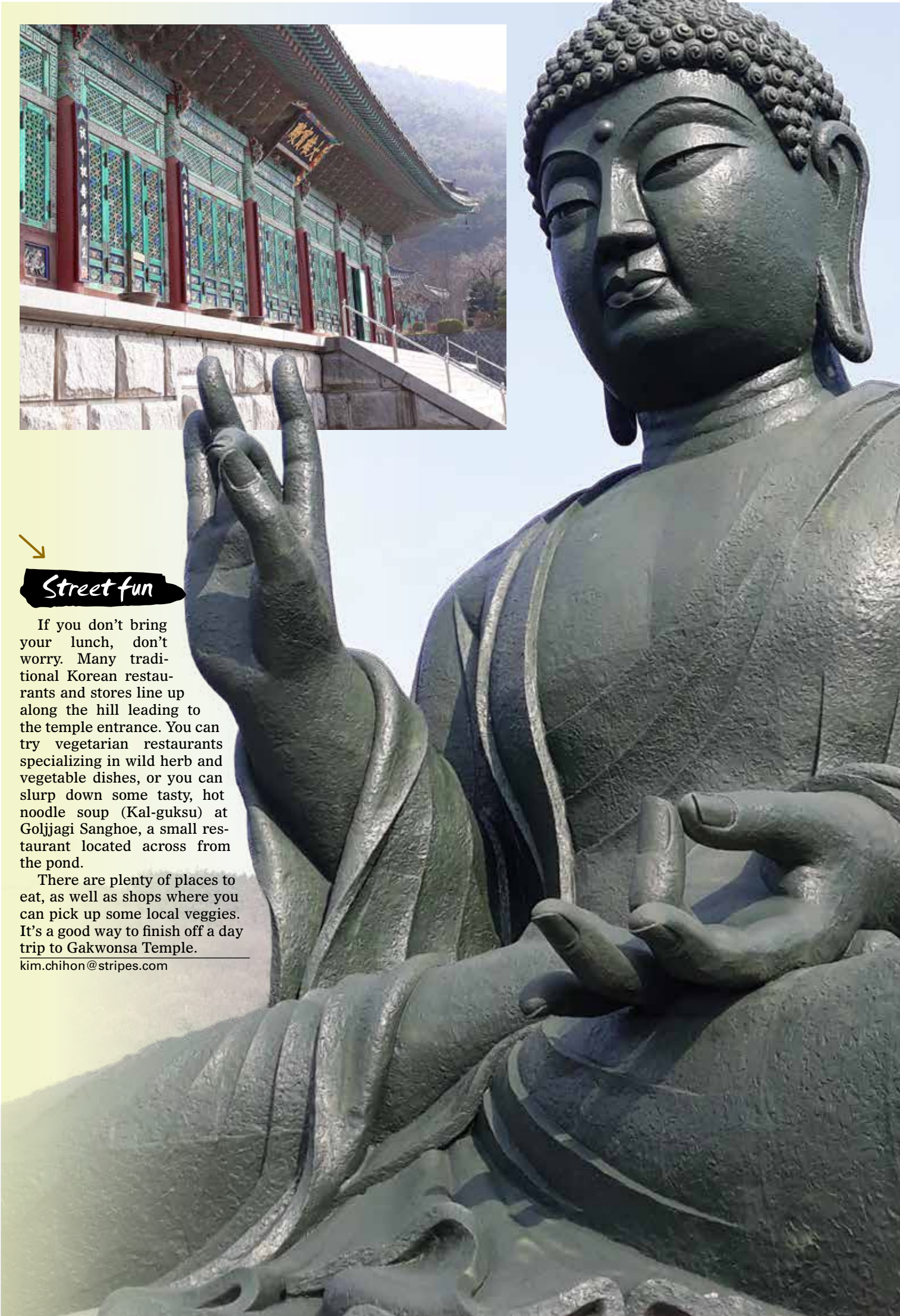
When you get to the start of the hiking trail, it is divided into two paths. Many people prefer the right one, which is a bit gentler than a steeper left path. Whichever you choose, it takes about one hour to the top of the mountain. Yes, you can get to the top of the mountain, but be sure to wear athletic shoes. If you're on a date, leave the heels and dress shoes behind. It's all about being comfortable. By the way, bringing a small picnic to enjoy during your walk is also an enjoyable thing to do.



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Street fun

If you don't bring your lunch, don't worry. Many traditional Korean restaurants and stores line up along the hill leading to the temple entrance. You can try vegetarian restaurants specializing in wild herb and vegetable dishes, or you can slurp down some tasty, hot noodle soup (Kal-guksu) at Goljjagi Sanghoe, a small restaurant located across from the pond.

There are plenty of places to eat, as well as shops where you can pick up some local veggies. It's a good way to finish off a day trip to Gakwonsa Temple.

kim.chihon@stripes.com

Seoul
Osan Air Base
Camp Humphreys
GAKWONSA TEMPLE

DIRECTIONS

CAR

- Camp Humphreys → Gakwonsa Temple (40 min.)
- Osan Air Base → Gakwonsa Temple (50 min.)

BUS

- Pyeongtaek Intercity Bus Terminal → Cheonan Express Bus Terminal Take Intercity Bus. (40 min. / 2600 won) Get off at Cheonan express bus terminal. Take bus number 24. Get off at the bus stop of Gakwonsa temple (25 min.). Or take a taxi (15 min./about 7,000 Won)
- Pyeongtaek station → Cheonan station -Train

MUGUNGHWA: 15 min. / 2,600won

ITX-SAEMAUL: 10 min. / 4800won

After getting off the train, take bus 24 (the bus stop is across the street!).

ADDRESS: 245, Gagwonsa-gil, Dongnam-gu, Cheonan-si, Chungcheongnam-do

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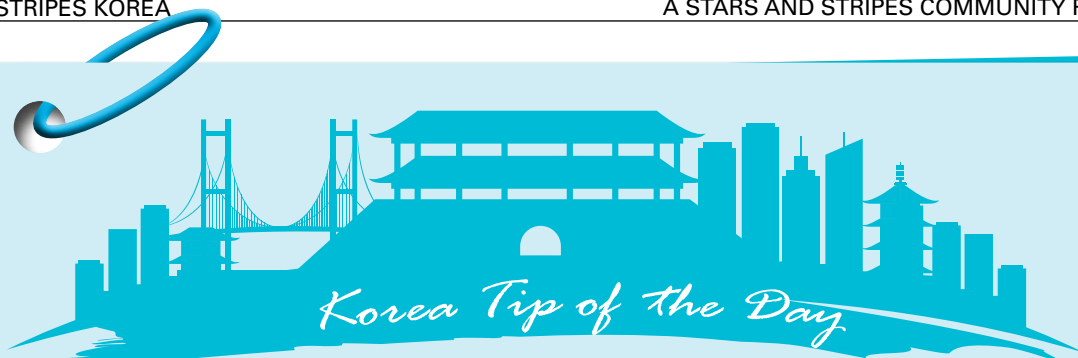
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Go on an adventure in Korea and bring your pet, too

BY CHIHON KIM,
STRIPES KOREA

We all love our furry friends! Traveling with a pet is a great way to share some nice memories with Fido but be prepared for some minor inconveniences along your journey. In South Korea, every transport company has particular rules regarding pets, so it's important to plan ahead. If you've traveled with pets before or are just beginning to, you'll want to take note of the tips below.

Taking your pet on a train

Korail and SRT trains allow cats and dogs smaller than 23.62 inches long on their express or slower trains. However, your pet must fit comfortably in a pet carrier under the seat in front of you or on your lap.

The carrier must not exceed the dimensions 45cm x 30cm x 25cm for Korail and SRT's carry-on requirements and the total weight of the carrier and pet must be less than 22 pounds.

Among the list of prohibited pets or animals are fighting dogs, such as pit

bull terriers, Dobermanns and German shepherds, as well as rodents, reptiles, and birds of prey. None of these rules apply to registered service dogs as they are allowed on the train for passengers with disabilities.

Follow the rules

- Your carrier must be covered, keeping the interior out of view.
- Carry your pet's vaccination certificate and card at all times.
- Your pet must remain in the carrier for the duration of travel.
- Avoid blocking aisles or doorways with the pet carrier.
- Etiquette: Bath your furry travel companion and control feed 4 to 5 hours before boarding a train.

TIP: Though the KTX's first-class ticket (for an adult) is more spacious and a little more expensive, it could be a good choice if you want some space for the carrier. If you've spent enough time on the rail system in Korea, you may have noticed many pet lovers place their travel kennel at the end of a train car or spacious luggage space

between first-class and business-class train, standing close by them, which is another option you can consider, too.

On the subway

Most of the subway providers around the nation don't have accurate animal policy for boarding a pet, but the companies allow you to travel if you have your small pet in a carrier. Visit the line's own website for more information.

On the express bus

Most of the bus companies allow only small pets weighing under 11

pounds on board and only if they are in a carrier. Some companies' policies state they reserve the right to refuse pets on their vehicles. These policies also vary on weight limitation and carrier dimensions.

If your pet is allowed on the bus, make sure they're on their best behavior as drivers have discretionary power.

• For more information on PCSing with your pet visit: <https://8tharmy.korea.army.mil/site/newcomers/traveling-pets.asp>

kim.chihon@stripes.com

■ Can I take my dog(cat) on the bus?

Gangaji(goyangi)reul derigo beoseue tal su isseoyo?

■ My dog (cat) is small. Je gang-

a-ji-neun jagayo.

■ My dog (cat) is so gentle.

Je gangajineun jeongmal yamjeonhaeyo.

■ Here is my dog's vaccination

card. Gangaji yebang jeopjongkadeu yeogi isseoyo.

Trip talk!

Speakin' Korean

■ Thank you. Gamsahapnida.

■ Sorry for the inconvenience.

Bulpyeoneul kkichyeo deuryeo joesonghapnida.

■ Thank you for your patience.

Yanghaehae jusyeoseo gamsahapnida.

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California Pizza Kitchen's new menu – old favorites, healthier options

STORY AND PHOTOS BY CHIHON KIM
STRIPES KOREA

U.S. chain California Pizza Kitchen launched a new, revamped menu at its Jamsil Lotte World Mall location in Seoul, making it a perfect stop for some American favorites after a day of shopping and exploring the capital.

Located on the 6th floor of the mall, CPK offers a variety of healthy choices and classic favorites, including low carb and high fiber ingredients.

My friends and I had to try the new menu and made my way for lunch to find the spacious restaurant teeming with tourists and shoppers, bags in hands taking a shopping break for a slice of good pizza.

Despite the lunch rush, we were seated quickly, and I soon had a white sangria in hand. This refreshing concoction at 8,900 won (about \$7.44) came loaded with blueberries, orange and lime slices. It was the perfect combination of white wine and fruity flavors, plus a nice departure from my usual tea or soda.

For our appetizer we decided on something new and addictive

– the spicy buffalo cauliflower (9,900 won). Despite its name, the round and cute fried florets came coated with red Sriracha sauce but were not spicy at all to me, perhaps because I'm Korean. The texture of fried cauliflower topped with julienned scallions was soft enough and the scent of the sprinkled cilantro and lime stimulated my palate. The cauliflower's lightness and fresh flavor was pretty incredible! This was the best dish using this vegetable I've ever tried.

For my main dish, I ordered cedar plank salmon (28,900 won), one of California Pizza Kitchen's new, non-pizza menu items. As the name suggests, the salmon was, in fact, roasted on a cedar plank in a hearth oven and came beautifully-presented on the same wooden piece. On the side, there was a mound of sautéed corn and spinach succotash topped with feta cheese. The fish had a nice sweetness to it and the sliced limes on the plate gave the salmon extra zest. Though the delicate fish was a little overcooked and had a firm, dry texture, the flavors and wood scent were still a delight.

We couldn't leave CPK without trying their staple item. So,



Address: Jamsil 6(yuk)-dong, Songpa-gu Seoul
Operation Hours: 10:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily
Phone: 02-3213-4640
Website: <http://www.icpk.co.kr/> (ENG/KOR)
Price range: 6900 – 36,900 won

for our final entrées, we ordered one of their new offerings – the roasted garlic chicken pizza (19,500 won) - and the Original BBQ Chicken Pizza, a signature menu item.

The garlic version was topped with sweet caramelized onions, fresh mozzarella, parmesan, slivered scallions, and cracked

black pepper. I loved that this pizza had just the right amount of cheese and its light dough was made of cauliflower and rice flour. It was better than a regular pizza you can get anywhere else. The thin crust's consistency had a perfect blend of chewiness and crispness which reminded me of a Korean pancake. It was

delicious!

The barbecue-inspired Original BBQ Chicken Pizza (18,900 won) was an example of why this is a go-to for CPK fans. The bread wasn't covered with tons of sauce, instead the flavorful BBQ sauce was spread thinly and evenly across the pizza. The pie was topped off with sweeter elements like smoked Gouda cheese, fresh cilantro, and red onions. The scrumptious pizza was perfectly crisp yet soft enough to melt in my mouth.

CPK has something for everyone. The menu is large enough to meet the picky or gluten-sensitive diners' dietary needs. Don't like pizza? There's Sonoma grilled chicken, crispy fish tacos, or even grilled squid egg pilaf.

Their innovative offerings and friendly staff gave us more reason to return another time we find ourselves on a busy shopping trip to Seoul.

kim.chihon@stripes.com

***NOTE:** You can get a 20-percent discount if you show your own Military ID (or civilian CAC card) or in uniform.

OSAN AB

Luxury Chicken for my family

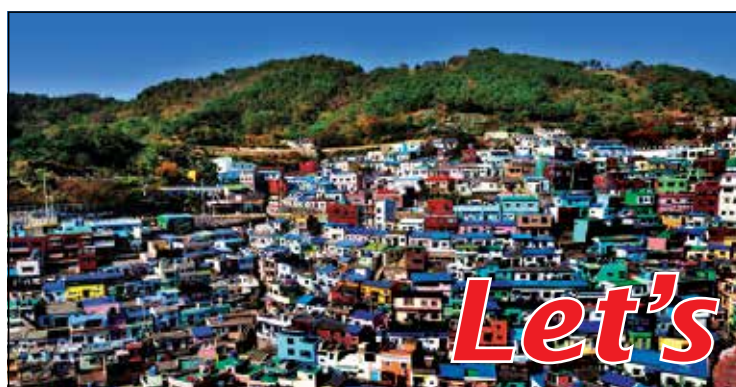
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Jeju International Experimental Arts Festival



DATE: Until Oct. 20

LOCATION: Jeju

Tamnara Republic, Seogwipo Cultural Battery Station, Hyeopjae Beach, Chuidaseon Resort, Hongik Jeju Hotel

INTRODUCTION:

Jeju International Experimental Art Festival (JIEAF) is an annual festival that hosts exhibitions, performances, and art forums at various locations on Jeju Island. As the only international experimental art festival in Korea, the festival attracts both international and domestic artists who wish to release their creative energy and ideas in forms of experimental performances and artworks.

TRANSPORTATION:

Take a taxi to Seogwipo Cultural Battery Station.

HOMEPAGE: jieaf.com (Korean, English)



Sanjeonghosu Lake · Myeongseonsan Mountain Eulalia Festival



DATE: Until Oct. 27

LOCATION: Sanjeonghosu Lake area

INTRODUCTION:

Sanjeonghosu Lake · Myeongseonsan Mountain Eulalia Festival is held in the area of Sanjeonghosu Lake. Programs include the opening ceremony with performances from famous artists as well as events, cooking competitions, hands-on programs, exhibitions, sales booth and many more.

TRANSPORTATION:

Taxi

Approx. 35 min from Pocheon Intercity Bus Terminal.

HOMEPAGE: www.pocheon.go.kr (Korean, English, Japanese, Chinese)

Mindungsan Eulalia Festival



DATE: Until Nov. 10

LOCATION: Mindungsan Mountain area, Jeongseon-gun, Gangwon-do

INTRODUCTION:

HAPPENINGS OFF BASE FESTIVALS

The Mindungsan Eulalia Festival takes place in the Mindungsan Mountain area. Some of the events held include weekend mountain climbing, talent contests, Arirang singing contests, eulalia music concerts, a Mindungsan Gate ball competition and eulalia photo exhibition. Hands-on programs at the festival include a local food program, post card sending, mountain horseback riding and much more.

TRANSPORTATION:

Train

- Take a train from Cheongnyangni Station to Mindungsan Station (Mugunghwa Line).

- Exit Mindungsan Station and follow Mureung1-ro Street for about 1.5 km (or take a cab) to reach Jeungsan Elementary School where the trail going up to the mountain starts.

Bus

■ From Dong Seoul Bus Terminal, take an intercity bus heading to Jeungsan.

■ From the bus stop, follow Mureung1-ro Street for about 1.5 km (or take a cab) to reach Jeungsan Elementary School where the trail going up to the mountain starts.

HOMEPAGE: www.jeongseon.go.kr (Korean, English, Japanese, Chinese)

Seoul Photo Festival



DATE: Until Nov. 10

LOCATION: Buk Seoul Museum of Art

INTRODUCTION:

Seoul Photo Festival is held with the participation of citizens of Seoul and Seoul Museum of Art. The festival consists of series of workshops and exhibitions held at Buk Seoul Museum of Art, Changdong Photo Art Gallery area, and SeMA storage facility. The workshops are aimed to evaluate and communicate with local photo art galleries as well as to explore the current state of the changing environment and society and its effect on photography.

TRANSPORTATION:

Subway

City Hall Station (Seoul Subway Line 1, 2)

Euljiro 1(il)-ga Station (Seoul Subway Line 2)

Gwanghwamun Station (Seoul Subway Line 5)

Bus

Get off at City Hall Station Bus Stop.

- Green Bus: 1711, 7016, 7022

- Blue Bus: 103, 150, 401, 402, 604

- Village Bus: Jongno 09, Jongno 11

HOMEPAGE: sema.seoul.go.kr (Korean only)

Naganeupseong Folk Culture Festival



DATE: Oct. 18 - Oct. 20

LOCATION: Naganeupseong Fortress area

INTRODUCTION:

Naganeupseong Folk Culture Festival is held in Naganeupseong Folk Village, Historic Site No. 302, featuring various programs that allow visitors to experience traditional folk food, gugak performances, circus acts and many more. There will also be historical events such as Baekjungnori (polk play), a recreation of the fortress construction, a horseback parade, and many other events.

TRANSPORTATION:

Express/Intercity Bus

From Central City Bus Terminal, take an express bus bound for Suncheon Bus Terminal.

Local Bus

Take a bus bound for Naganeupseong Fortress.

Taxi

Approx. 20 min from Suncheon Bus Terminal or Suncheon Station

HOMEPAGE: www.suncheon.go.kr/nagan (Korean, English, Japanese, Chinese)



Daejeon Science Festival



DATE: Oct. 18 - Oct. 21

LOCATION: Expo Citizens' Plaza, Daejeon Convention Center

INTRODUCTION:

Daejeon Science Festival takes place in the heart of Korea's science and information technology hub. The festival provides a chance for visitors to experience advanced technology as

well as increase their imagination. In addition to science, the festival also includes elements from the field of literature for a well-rounded chance to learn and explore. Children will especially love the many hands-on activities available during the festival.

TRANSPORTATION:

Train

Take a train from Seoul Station to Daejeon Station.

Bus

Get off at Expo Park Bus Stop.

Bus No. 606 from Daejeon Station, Exit 3.

HOMEPAGE: www.djsf.kr (Korean only)



Seoul Silver Grass Festival



DATE: Oct. 18 - Oct. 24

LOCATION: Around the areas of Haneul Park

INTRODUCTION:

The World Cup Park was established on Nanjido, whose name means the island of "abundant orchids and gromwells." The island was once a wonderful ecosystem where flowers flourished season in and season out, and migrant birds came to visit every year.

Unfortunately, Nanjido was used as a landfill site between 1978 and 1993 and the once beautiful ecosystem became a smelly place full of trash and sludge. However, the Landfill Recovery Project began in 1996, once again restoring life to the barren wasteland. Plants and animals returned to the area and it was christened the World Cup Park in May 2002. Each of the five divisions of the World Cup Park (Pyounghwa Park, Haneul Park, Noeul Park, Nanjicheon Park, and Nanji Hangang Park) represents an aspect of the radical transformation of Nanjido back into an ecological haven.

Haneul Park (Sky Park) is full of lush Eulalia and home to the Seoul Silver Grass Festival, held every year in October when the grass is in bloom. Although the park is open to visitors during the daytime, the park is usually closed at night to reduce the negative effects of visitors on the native plants and animals. During the festival, however, the park remains open until 10 p.m. and the entire grounds are aglow with light. Visitors not only get a beautiful view of the city lights and Hangang River, but can also enjoy the variety of events and performances offered during the festival period.

TRANSPORTATION:

Subway

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

Haneul Park is located within 30-minute walking distance of the station.

Bus

(bound for World Cup Park)

Blue: 171, 271, 571

Green: 7011, 7013, 7715

Maeul (Village) Bus: Mapo08

HOMEPAGE: parks.seoul.go.kr (Korean only)

Grand Chrysanthemum Festival**DATE:** Oct. 18 - Nov. 3**LOCATION:** Hampyeong Expo Park**INTRODUCTION:**

Grand Chrysanthemum Festival started in the autumn of 2004. Various chrysanthemum art pieces create a beautiful autumn ambience while the festival grounds are filled with diverse programs.

TRANSPORTATION:**Bus**

From Seoul Central City Terminal, take a bus to Hampyeong Bus Terminal. From Hampyeong Terminal, it is a 10min-walk to the festival venue (Expo Park).

Train

From Yongsan Station, take a train to Hampyeong Station.

- Take Bus 100 or a taxi to the festival venue.

HOMEPAGE: www.hampyeong.go.kr

(Korean, English, Japanese, Chinese)

birds can be seen at this ecological tourism spot in Korea. In particular, the scenery unfolding during the fall season is considered to be a must-see tourist attraction for both overseas and domestic tourists as countless migratory birds and golden waves of reeds fill the bay.

TRANSPORTATION:**Bus**

Take Bus No. 67 from Suncheon Bus Terminal to Suncheonman Bay.

HOMEPAGE: www.suncheonbay.go.kr

(Korean, English, Japanese, Chinese)

Iksan Ten Million Chrysanthemum Festival**DATE:** Oct. 25 - Nov. 3**LOCATION:** Jungang Sports Complex**INTRODUCTION:**

The annual Iksan Ten Million Chrysanthemum Festival is held every year from late October to early November at Iksan Jungang Sports Complex. The festival features an outdoor chrysanthemum exhibit, city agricultural hall, cultural performances, music fountain and many more as well as food.

TRANSPORTATION:**Bus**

From Central City Terminal, take an express bus bound for Iksan Express Bus Terminal (approx. 2 hr 50 min). Exit out from the bus terminal, walk left to take Bus 100 and get off at Jugang 1 Cha Apt. Bus Stop (14 bus stops; 24 min).

Walk back toward the big four-way intersection. Turn left at the intersection and go straight for about 15 min. The venue will be on your left.

Train

Take the train from Seoul to Iksan (KTX) or from Yongsan to Iksan (KTX, Saemaeul, or Mugunghwa).

From Iksan Station, cross the street and take bus 65 and get off at Jungang Sports Complex.

HOMEPAGE: www.iksan.go.kr/gukhwa

(Korean only)

Masan Gagopa Chrysanthemum Festival**DATE:** Oct. 26 - Nov. 10**LOCATION:** Masan Fishery Market (In front of Jangeo-geori) / Areas of Cheong-dong and Odong-dong**INTRODUCTION:**

Since its inception in 1960, chrysanthemum farming in Changwon (Masan) has proliferated, accounting for 13% of chrysanthemum farming nationwide. Masan has suitable requirements for soil, warm temperature, and cutting-edge technology for growing chrysanthemums. Masan Gagopa Chrysanthemum Festival has been held since 2000 to promote the excellence of Masan's chrysanthemums and enhance the market.

TRANSPORTATION:**Local Bus**

Take Bus 703 from Masan Express Bus Terminal and get off at Jeil Girls' High School.

Cross the street, and walk 250m towards the harbor.

HOMEPAGE: www.changwon.go.kr (Korean, English, Japanese, Chinese)**Seoul Kimchi Festival****DATE:** Nov. 1 - Nov. 3**LOCATION:** Areas of Seoul Plaza and Mugyo-ro**INTRODUCTION:**

First held in 2014, Seoul Kimchi Festival connects traditions and modern living through the Kimjang (making kimchi) culture and aims to become a site of

harmony and sharing of Korean culture with international visitors. The festival shows all about the Kimjang culture and provides a chance for visitors to directly experience it. There are varied programs including sharing Kimjang for people in need, Seoul Kimjangan, Kimchi Market, Kimchi Sangsang playground, and others related to kimchi-making.

TRANSPORTATION:**Subway**

Gwanghwamun Station (Seoul Subway Line 5)

City Hall Station (Seoul Subway Line 1, 2)

HOMEPAGE: www.seoulkimchifestival.kr

(Korean, English, Japanese, Chinese)

Busan Fireworks Festival**DATE:** Nov. 2**LOCATION:** Gwangalli Beach**INTRODUCTION:**

Busan Fireworks Festival takes place every autumn along Gwangalli Beach. The festival's diverse programs of cultural events, high-tech laser light shows, and myriad of unique and colorful fireworks make this one of the area's most popular festivals, drawing crowds of over 1 million visitors each year. Although most people flock to the beach for a closer view of the festivities, nearby Hwangnyeongsan Mountain, Dongbaekseom Island, and Igidae Coastal Park also offer great views of the fireworks.

TRANSPORTATION:**Subway**

Geumnyeonsan Station (Busan Subway Line 2), Exit 1 & 3.

Gwangan Station (Busan Subway Line 2), Exit 3 or 5.

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

NOTE: Festival dates and info subject to change.

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Suncheon Bay Reeds Festival**DATE:** Oct. 25 - Oct. 27**LOCATION:** Suncheonman Bay & Dongcheon stream area**INTRODUCTION:**

Suncheonman Bay is a treasury of nature, comprised of both flatlands and reed fields. Varying by seasons, visitors can expect different types of nature scenes. Migratory birds soaring through the skies in spring, mudskippers and mud flats in summer, turkey and reeds in fall, as well as, the rare hooded cranes in winter – about 200 species of migratory

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Concerts

Music Festivals

Grand Mint Festival 2019

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

2019 Hip Hop Festival "RIDETHE BEAT"

Seoul, Dec. 24, 6 p.m., COEX Hall D, 33,000 won.

Concerts



The Black Skirts

Seoul, Oct. 18, 8 p.m., Oct. 19, 7 p.m., Mapo Arts Center Art Hall MAC, 88,000 won.

Lee Seung Chul

Jeonju, Oct. 19, 6 p.m., Sori Arts Center of Jeollabuk-do, 66,000-88,000-110,000-143,000 won;

UmYu Min Pub

Seoul, Oct. 26, 7 p.m., Oct. 27, 3 p.m., Sejong University DeaYang Hall, 90,000-120,000-140,000 won.

BTS

Seoul, Oct. 26, 27 & 29, 6:30 p.m., Jamsil Olympic Stadium, 110,000 won.

Rachael Yamagata

Seoul, Oct. 27, 6 p.m., YES24 LIVE HALL, 99,000-110,000 won.



Kim Jin Ho

Seoul, Oct. 31 & Nov. 1, 8 p.m., Nov. 2, 6 p.m., Chungmu Arts Center, Black, 99,000 won.

Sekai No Owari

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

Lim Hyun Sik

Seoul, Nov. 2, 6 p.m., Nov. 3, 5 p.m., Blue Square IMarket Hall, 99,000 won.

Kwon Jin Ah

Seoul, Nov. 2, 6 p.m., Nov. 3, 5 p.m., EwhaWomans University Samsung Hall, 99,000 won.

New Hope Club

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

Hanne

Seoul, Nov. 14, 8 p.m., Blue Square IMarket Hall, 88,000 won.

Generation Axe

Seoul, Nov. 23, 6 p.m., YES24 LIVE HALL, 110,000-132,000 won.



Dynamic Duo

Seoul, Dec. 7, 6 p.m., Dec. 8, 5 p.m., Olympic Park SK Olympic Handball Stadium, 99,000-110,000-121,000 won.

Boyz II Men

Seoul, Dec. 14, 8 p.m., Dec. 15, 6 p.m., Olympic Park SK Olympic Handball Stadium, 99,000-121,000-143,000 won.

Kim Jong Kook

Suwon, Dec. 14, 7 p.m., Seoul, Gyeonggi Arts Center, Grand Performance Hall; Busan, Dec. 24, 8 p.m., BEXCO Auditorium; Seoul, Dec. 27, 8 p.m., Dec. 28, 6 p.m., Kyung-Hee University Grand Peace Palace, 99,000-121,000-143,000 won.

Gummy

Seoul, Dec. 20, 7:30 p.m., Dec. 21, 6 p.m., Sejong University DeaYang Hall, 99,000-110,000-121,000-132,000 won.

Boo Hwal

Busan, Dec. 21, 6 p.m., Busan BEXCO 1st Exhibition Hall, 88,000-99,000-110,000 won.

Hwang ChiYeul

Jeju, Dec. 21, 7 p.m., Dec. 22, 4 p.m., Jeju Int'l Convention Center Tamna Hall, 99,000-121,000-143,000 won.

Kim Yeon Woo

Seoul, Dec. 21, 7 p.m., Dec. 22, 6 p.m., Dec. 24, 8 p.m., Kyung-Hee University Grand Peace Palace; Busan, Dec. 31, 8 p.m., KBS Busan Hall, 99,000-121,000-143,000 won.

Kim Bum Soo

Seoul, Dec. 29, 7 p.m., Dec. 30, 8 p.m., Dec. 31, 10:10 p.m., Kyung-Hee University Grand Peace Palace, 99,000-121,000-143,000 won.

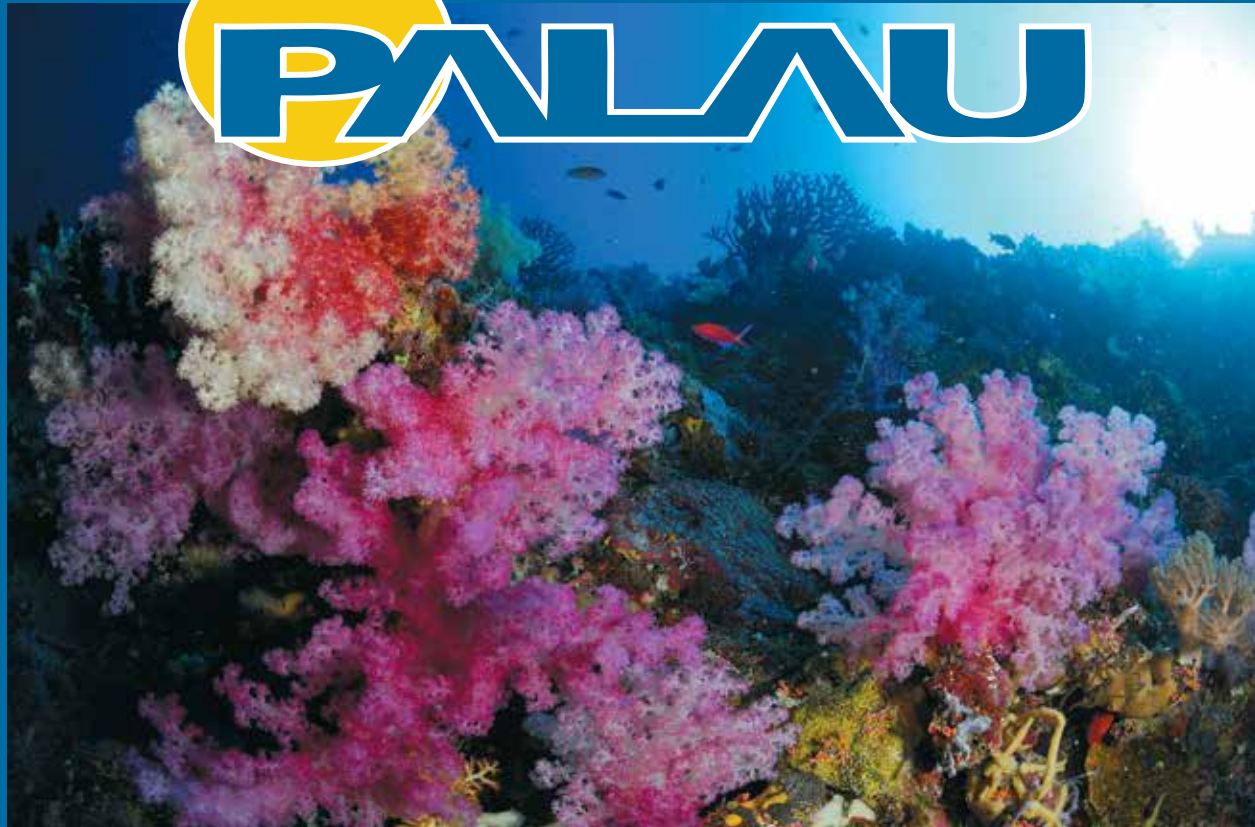


Baek Ji Young

Seongnam, Jan. 4, 3 & 7 p.m., Seongnam Arts Center, Opera House, 99,000-121,000-143,000 won.

For more information, visit Interpark's website:

<http://www.globalinterpark.com/main/categoryList?dispNo=01003&prdTp=002>



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-Dr. Enric Sala, Explorer-in-Residence, National Geographic

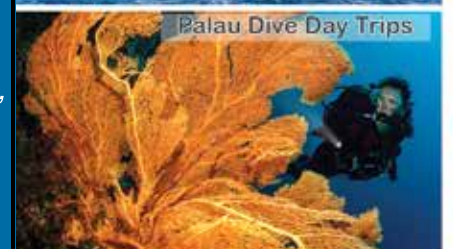
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Stripes Sports Trivia

The 1999 NFL Draft saw three quarterbacks go in the first three picks. Kicked off with Tim Couch to the Browns with the first overall pick, four other signal callers went within the next 11 selections. How many of those four can you name?

Answer

Donovan McNabb (2), Akili Smith (3), Daunte Culpepper (11), Cade McNown (12)

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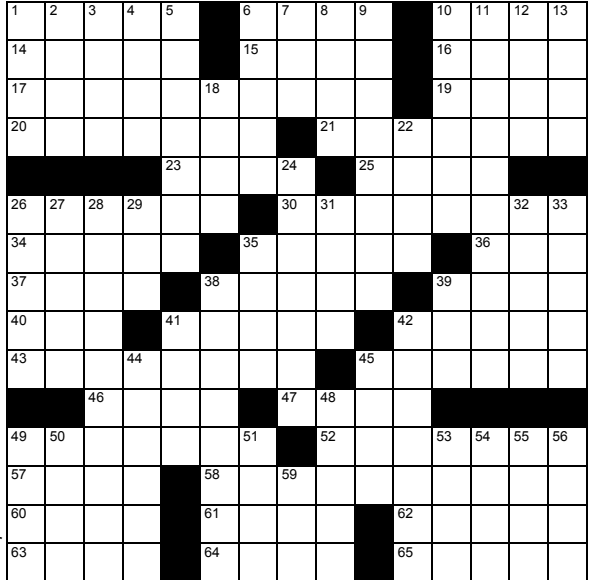


Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

- 1 Short-legged dog
- 6 Charges
- 10 Scottish miss
- 14 Pretty up
- 15 Weak, as an excuse
- 16 E, to a pilot
- 17 Halifax's home
- 19 Surgery souvenir
- 20 Vocal vibration
- 21 Pair on the links
- 23 Growing business?
- 25 Affirm
- 26 Walk with attitude
- 30 Audience member
- 34 Private instructor
- 35 Scrooge's look
- 36 Quaint lodge
- 37 In awe
- 38 Catchall category
- 39 Misplaced
- 40 Trapper's ware
- 41 Intense dislike
- 42 Event location
- 43 Not a child of slavery
- 45 Brief promo
- 46 Samson's pride
- 47 Word before gas or drop
- 49 Soon
- 52 Circus staple
- 57 It may be proper
- 58 Mercy killing
- 60 Church nook
- 61 Sole anagram
- 62 Becomes tiresome
- 63 Look narrowly
- 64 Palm reader, e.g.
- 65 Parched



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- 3 Wander
- 4 Unit of fat
- 5 To such an extent
- 6 Elevator stop
- 7 Absorb, as a cost
- 8 Throw off
- 9 Atlantic fill
- 10 Diminish
- 11 Squeezeboxes
- 12 Pillow covering
- 13 Needing kneading
- 18 Like some pigeons
- 22 "Get ___ it!"
- 24 Subject of the 1993 film "The Fugitive"
- 26 Work group
- 27 Soothsayer
- 28 Depository
- 29 ___ wild
- 31 Overflow (with)
- 32 Follow as a result
- 33 Script direction

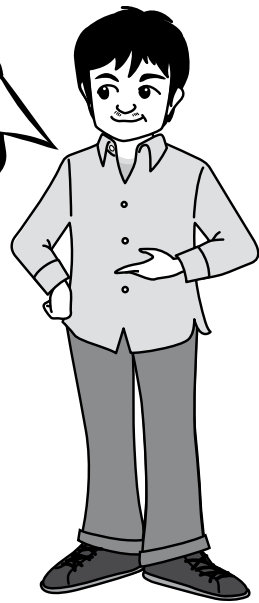
- 35 Recipe instruction
- 38 Scent-free
- 39 Rural sight
- 41 Final notice?
- 42 Covered balcony
- 44 Breadwinner
- 45 "Gone With the Wind" plantation
- 48 Anesthetic of yore
- 49 Ginger cookie
- 50 Crosby costar in "Road to Rio"
- 51 Type of log
- 53 Cowpoke's pal
- 54 Biblical birthright seller
- 55 Turns sharply
- 56 Vane direction
- 59 Nail holder

Answers to Previous Crossword:

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

DID YOU KNOW?

South Koreans say "kimchi" instead of "cheese" when posing for a photograph.



Hangul of the week

배 (belly)

Language Lesson

What do you want to drink?

Mwo ma-sil-lae-yo?

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SUDOKU

Difficulty: Medium

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

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