





VOLUME 13 NO. 9

AUGUST 29 – SEPTEMBER 11, 2024



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# **INSIDE INFO**



**CAFÉ MAIN STREET PIECE OF NEW YORK IN PYEONGTAEK** 

**PAGES 4-5** 

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# Things to know about drinking in Korea

STORY AND PHOTOS BY HYEMIN LEE,

in Korean media, issues relating to alcohol often come up. Learning both legal and cultural norms around

alcohol consumption can help you maintain healthy drinking habits while respecting 7 hen U.S. troops are mentioned your host country. Here is what you need to know about drinking in Korea.

**SEE DRINKING ON PAGE 14** 



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Commander, Fleet Activities Chinhae team launches their boat during the 15th National Turtle Boat Rowing Competition hosted by the coastal city of Tongyeong-si, South Korea, on Aug. 10 to commemorate the Battle of Hasan Island victory.

# Rowing our way to friendship

STORY AND PHOTO BY LT. CMDR. HIEN VU, COMMANDER, NAVY REGION KOREA

n this lazy summer day, the roaring cheers and deafening drumbeats feverishly stirred up the gleaming water and soft breeze in the coastal city of Tongyeong-si, South Korea, during the 15th National Turtle Boat Rowing Competition.

Spotted among the boats racing in this annual contest on Aug. 10 was the one flying the flag emblazoned with "US Navy" that also received the warmest welcome by local spectators.

Representing the only U.S. naval base in mainland Asia, the team

from Commander, Fleet Activities Chinhae (CFAC) put forth a valiant effort in a fierce competition among teams from all over South Korea and, in the process, symbolized the best of the Republic of Korea (ROK) and U.S. alliance.

Though the team did not place in the competition, they encapsulated the "Katchi Kapshida" or "We Go Together" spirit that is the cornerstone of this alliance of more than seven decades, according to Cmdr. James Dipasquale, CFAC commanding officer. "What an excellent way to spend a Saturday on the waterfront, in our element as sailors, enjoying the unrivaled Korean hospitality while continuing to deepen our bond with local

communities around Chinhae!"

Comprised of 11 Sailors and family members (seven men and four women), Team CFAC rowed their turtle boat 250 meters to sea and back. Up to five teams started in each heat. Categories included institutional groups, town and village divisions, and eastern divisions. Winners received prizes and bragging rights.

"We love being invited to this awesome event," said CFAC Command Master Chief Matthew Haylow, CFAC team's coxswain. "We mingled with the local crowd and shared a lot of fun cheering and competing. We rowed our hearts out. We will always remember these moments."

The CFAC team served as the unofficial ambassadors of Navy Region Korea (CNRK). CNRK provides shore installation management and support to Navy activities throughout the ROK and includes the regions of Busan, Chinhae, and Pyeongtaek while also serving as Commander, Naval Forces Korea.

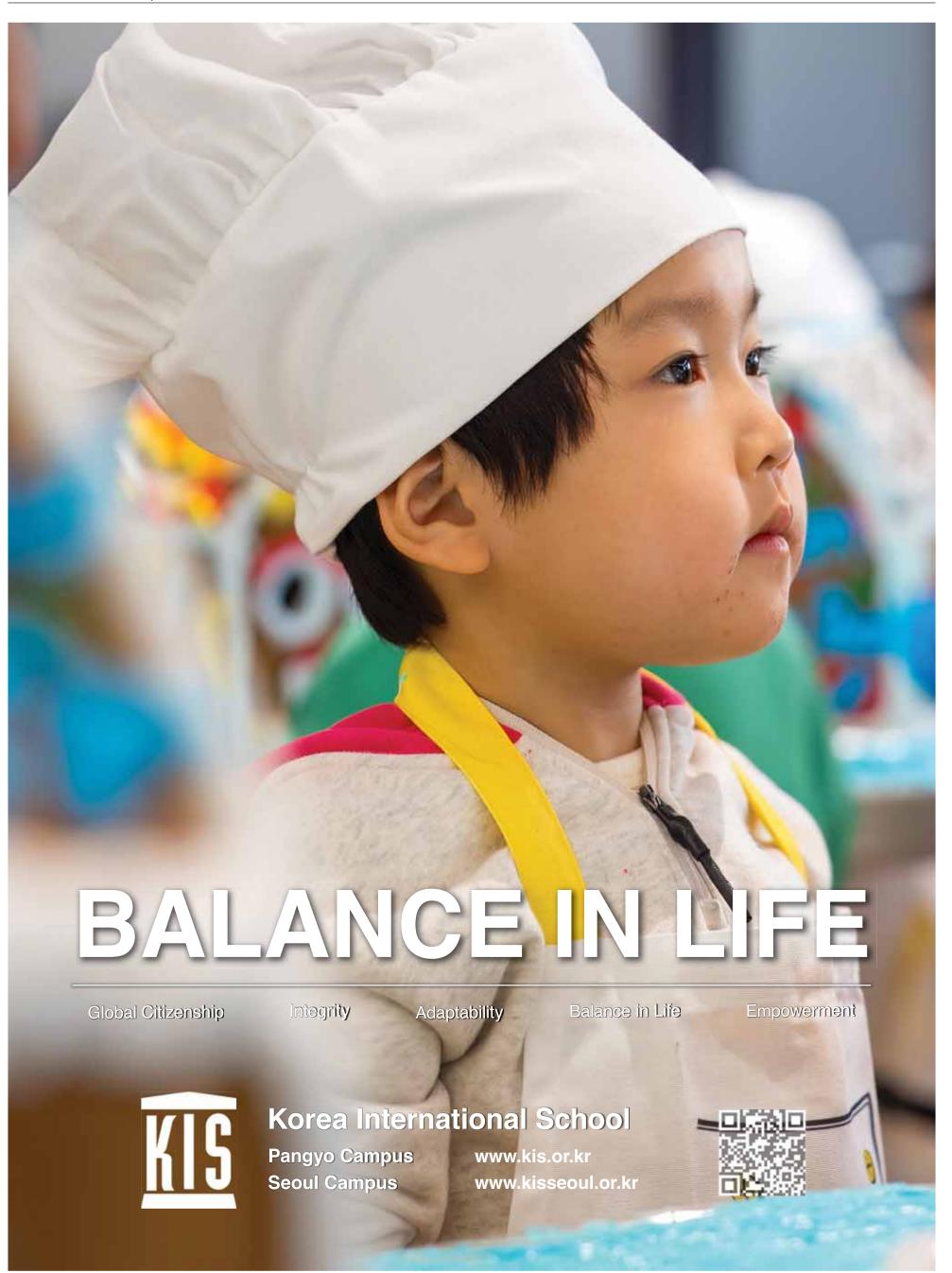
The rowing competition was part of the week-long 63rd Tongyeong Hansan Battle Festival with the theme, "The Rise of the Twin Dragons; The sea of Tongyeong in the old country," to commemorate the Battle of Hasan Island victory that the Joseon Dynasty (1392-1910) pulled off against Japan during its invasion of Korea (1592-1598).

# Amazing BORYEONG



Boryeong-si





### **KOREA KIDS' CORNER**

# Café Main Street a piece of New York in Pyeongtaek

STORY AND PHOTOS BY HYEMIN LEE, STRIPES KOREA

afé Main Street, a New York City-themed eatery near Pyeongtaek Port, is so popular that visitors from all over Korea are making the trek to check it out. The three-story café features a variety of food options as well as fun photo zones to transport you to the streets of the Big Apple without leaving Korea.

Main Street also brings a taste of home to many of the troops and their families stationed at Osan Air Base and Camp Humphreys. The café is about a 35-minute drive from Humphreys and about 40 minutes from Osan.

The popular café has plenty of parking and seating, so getting a table, even on the weekends, is never a problem. If you're driving to the West Coast, Main Street is a great place to stop along your scenic drive.

Take a New York minute (or two) at this cool café you and your whole family will enjoy!

lee.hyemin@stripes.com

ADDRESS: 468 Gangbyeon-ro, Pyeongtaek-si, Gyeonggi-do **HOURS:** 10 a.m. – 9 p.m. (Mon-Fri) / 10 a.m. – 10 p.m. (Sat-Sun)

PHONE: 031-8029-0100 PARKING: Free parking available

**NAVER MAP** 











#### **Explore photo zones**

The café entrance is designed to resemble a New York City subway station, and stepping inside feels like being transported to Main Street in New York City. The expansive building is filled with New York-themed murals and decorations and designed like a trick-eye art museum. So make sure to explore the photo zones on all three floors for some fun photos! Don't miss the rooftop as well because it has some amazing ocean views.

#### **Enjoy a variety of food options**



On the first and second floors, customers can enjoy various delicious pastries, cakes, shakes, coffees, and other beverages. The café features popular items such as melon bread, milkshakes, and stunning drinks that are pleasing to both eyes and taste buds. For a taste of home, head to the third floor for Western food like steaks, burgers, pizza, and pasta.







#### Kids' café and play area

Main Street also has a kids' café with affordable prices. Though the café doesn't offer daycare services, this is a great spot for parents to enjoy a coffee and pastry while they supervise their kids in the play area.

Entrance for parents is free and there is a seating area with windows with a view of the play area. The kids' café has various play facilities like trampolines, slides, jungle gyms, and a zipline.

- FEES: 10,000 won (3 hours)
   -Free for children under 12 months who accompany a sibling paying the fee.
   -No entry is allowed for those over 150 cm (4 ft 11 in).
- NOTE: A gift card of 50,000 won provides free admission (buying a gift card at the counter is beneficial if spending over 50,000 won at Main Street).







**Pyeongtaek Pork and Seohae Bridge** Photo courtesy of Pyeongtaek City



Rooftop



**Pyeongtaek Lake Tourist Complex.** Photo courtesy of Pyeongtaek City

#### Stop by other attractions nearby

Pyeongtaek Port has many activities to keep you busy all day. Marine Center, located right in front of the port, is a popular attraction that offers wide views of the Seohae Bridge (West Sea Bridge) from the 14th-floor observation deck. Pyeongtaek Lake Tourist Complex and Pyeongtaek Lake Art Park are within a 13-minute drive from the café, so many visitors stop by these attractions when visiting the port area.



NAVER MAP Marine Center



NAVER MAP

Pyeongtaek Lake Tourist Complex



NAVER MAP Pyeongtaek Lake Art Park

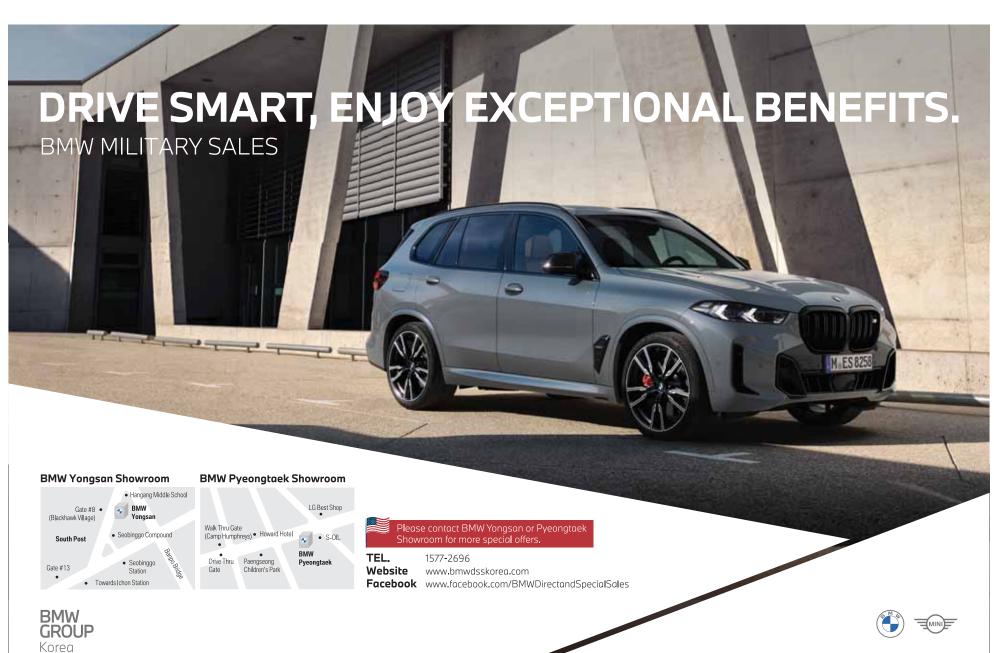


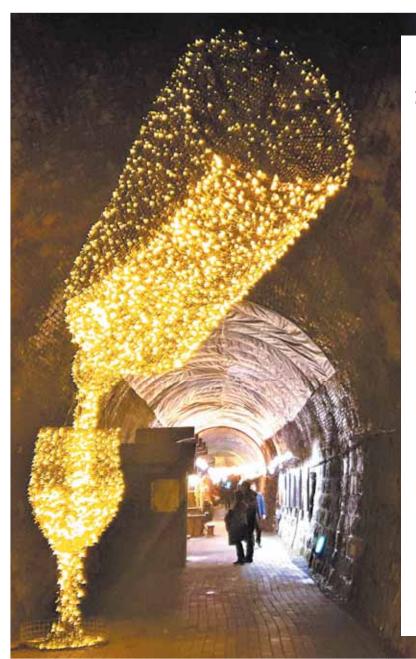
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# A leisurely stroll (and sipping of wine) in old train tunnel in Cheongdo-gun

STORY AND PHOTOS BY CHIHON KIM, STRIPES KOREA ARCHIVES

uring times of extreme weather-whether it's too hot or too cold—choosing a familyfriendly destination can be a struggle.

Luckily, South Korea's topographical landscape offers many amazing caves and tunnels to explore without having to worry about the weather outside.

Recently, my family and I made our way to

Cheongdo-gun for a day trip to check out the famous Persimmon Wine Tunnel. It is a 50-minute drive from Camp Henry and Walker.

The old tunnel was finished back in 1904 and played a role in military transportation during the Japanese colonial period. The tun-

nel was closed in 1937 as its tracks were an energydrain for the steam locomotives running through.

In 2006, the tunnel was given new life when a local wine producer purchased it. Now, this former military tunnel is home to locally produced persimmon wine, a specialty of the region. Year-round this cellar tunnel maintains the perfect conditions for wine fermentation at its constant 15-degree Celsius temperature and 60-70 percent humidity level.

As we made our way to the entrance, there were vendors selling dried persimmon, one of my



favorite snacks. I grabbed a packet for 12,000 won at a stall and made my way to the tunnel. It was

Before my visit, I thought this place was just an ordinary tourist attraction, but it turns out the tunnel has very historic elements. At the entrance, I noticed a stone sign inscription written in Chinese characters above. I looked into the meaning of it and it roughly means "completed the task on behalf of the Japanese emperor (who symbolizes sky in Japan). "According to a paper from Yeongnam University, the handwriting



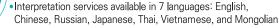


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ADDRESS: 100, Songgeum-gil, Hwayang-eup, Cheongdo-gu (ENG), 경북 청도군 화양읍 송금길 100 (KOR) HOURS: 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. (Weekdays), 9:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. (Weekend) TEL: 054-371-1904 **NOTE:** Parking is available but limited.

Avoid peak hours if possible.







came from Terauchi Masatake, the first Government-General of Joseon during Japanese colonial rule. The tiny inscription right next to the stone sign says that the construction work was finished during the Emperor Meiji period.

Inside the tunnel, I thought the ceiling made of thousands of red bricks was kind of exotic and my guess wasn't far off at all. As it turned out, the old and beautiful bricks covered with green moss were from Russia. It is known that the tunnel's ceiling bricks were brought as spoils from Siberia, Russia, after Japan won the Russo-Japanese War in 1904.

While admiring the architecture of the tunnel, I'd noticed the ceiling was blackened, a remnant

of the steam locomotives that stopped running there in the 1930s.



vinegar stored in cellars. In the middle of the path, of course, there is a small bar where you can sample the regional specialty at a reasonable price. We made a quick stop at the spot and sampled the sweet wine, enjoying its unique flavor and aroma.

The tunnel is full of a romantic atmosphere and offers not only soft music but great photo-ops, making it a perfect place for couples. Don't forget to snap a photo against the backdrop of the giant illuminated wine bottle.

Further inside the tunnel, tons of wishing cards hanging on the wall of the tunnel were waiting for me. If I had a pen and paper, I could've written

down about my wish for recovering the ordinary everyday life that we've been missing over the past two years.

From that section, we went back



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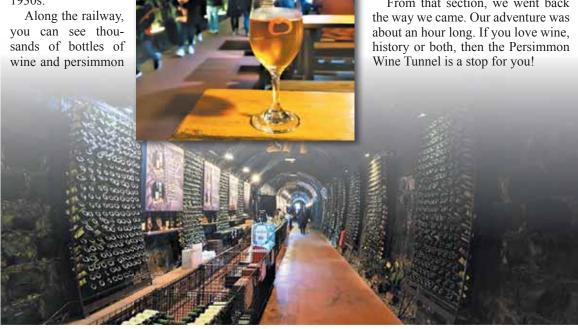
The program does not replace existing retail stores managed by GSA in Korea. For more information, please contact your local Customer Service Director Ron Eisley at ronald.eisley@gsa.gov.

**Check Out GSA's Korea Catalog!** 



Scan this QR code to view GSA's Korea catalog.

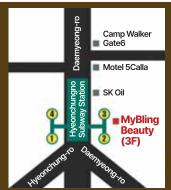






# Treat yourself to a Beautiful nail Fof your day, My Bling Beauty

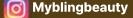
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STORY AND PHOTOS BY HYEMIN LEE, STRIPES KOREA

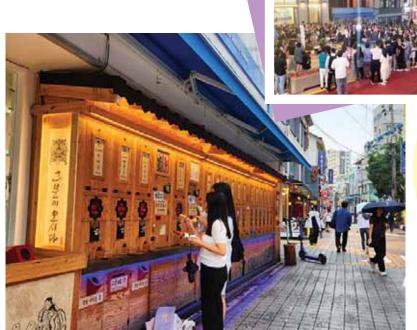
ongdae is one of the hottest neighborhoods in Korea to enjoy the latest trends and exciting entertainment. The neighborhood is at the heart of local youth culture and is a favorite for young Koreans and tourists.

There's an endless array of things to try, and each time you visit this area, you'll discover new and fun places to go. Hongdae is a great place for shopping, hanging out with friends or a fun date.

Hongdae is packed with things to do, so choosing among them might be difficult. Here are five top activities to help get you started! lee.hyemin@stripes.com

### How to get to Hongdae

METRO: Line 2, Hongik University Station, Exit 8-9 (Note: Hongdae is an abbreviation of Hongik University in Korean and it usually refers to the neighborhood near Hongik University.)





Photos courtesy of Pizza Never Sleeps

# Explore the best eateries

Hongdae is one of the great spots to dine out. The streets are filled with diverse eateries featuring not only Korean delicacies, but also other international cuisines. You'll be drooling over the many street food options and restaurants. Make sure to come to Hongdae with an empty stomach to enjoy the delicious treats to your heart's content!

#### Pizza Never Sleeps

This pizza joint is famous for its slices topped with pepperoni, fried potatoes and refreshing draft beer. Try a half-

and-half pizza so you don't have to choose just one

ADDRESS: 4th floor, 73, Yanghwa-ro 6-gil, Mapo-gu, Seoul **HOURS:** Noon - midnight







**NAVER MAP** Photos courtesy of Pizza Never Sleeps



#### Gangnam Pork Sanghoe

One of the best unlimited pork BBQ restaurants in Hongdae. With 21,900 won (\$17), you'll taste various pork barbecue cuts as well as unlimited cold noodles, fried chicken with a special sauce, soft drinks, and incredibly fresh vegetables on the side.

ADDRESS: 28 Hongik-ro 5an-gil, Mapo-gu, Seoul **HOURS:** 11:30 a.m – Midnight



**NAVER MAP** 



# Visit Instagrammable cafés

Hongdae is a paradise for Instagram lovers who enjoy touring beautiful picture-perfect cafés. There are many different cafés in the neighborhood including animal cafés (See side bar), themed cafés, and others with amazing interiors serving artistic desserts and

drinks. Don't miss capturing some amazing pics of your coffee and treats at a few of Hongdae's beautiful cafés!

#### Coconut Box

This café will transport you to Bali in the heart of Seoul. Enjoy drinks and desserts in a bungalow while you check out the art and NFT displays on the walls.

**ADDRESS:** Seogyo Plaza, 20, Hongik-ro 3-gil, Mapo-gu, Seoul **HOURS:** 9 a.m. –10 p.m.



NAVER MAR

Photos courtesy of Coconut Box

#### • 943 King's Cross

Harry Potter fans will love this café, which is themed around the book and movie series. Whether you're a Hufflepuff, Ravenclaw, Slytherin or Gryffindor, you'll love the themed interiors, drinks and desserts here.

ADDRESS: 24, Yanghwa-ro 16-gil, Mapo-gu, Seoul

**NAVER MAP HOURS:** 11:30 a.m – 9:30 p.m.



Find your inner child

Korean teens grow up enjoying various entertainment facilities, including singing rooms, PC cafés, board game cafés, arcades, and comic book cafés with their friends after school. Hongdae is home to many of these types of businesses. Feel like a

kid again and enjoy a board game or an escape room while you're visiting. Many of these entertainment spots have English-speaking staff, so gather your friends and have a blast!

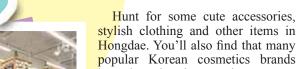


**NAVER MAP** 

#### Real Escape Room Challenge

ADDRESS: 4th floor, 21, Wausan-ro 27-gil, Mapo-gu, Seoul HOURS: 11 a.m. – 11 p.m.





Shopping unique,

local-ish items

have branches here. K-beauty cosmetics are also great gifts, so shop for you and others in Hongdae!



# Enjoy nightlife & bar hopping

Hongdae is undoubtedly one of the best nightlife spots in Seoul alongside Gangnam and Itaewon. Among these spots, Hongdae offers a more free and comfortable vibe, catering to people of all ages, including those new to nightlife. Check out some of the fun themed bars and clubs or bar-hop to find your favorite spot.



#### JASE

This trendy cocktail bar has creative

drinks, a variety of snacks and adorable interior decorations.

ADDRESS: 6-11, Wausan-ro 19-gil, Mapo-gu, Seoul HOURS: 5 p.m. – 2 a.m.



NAVER MAP

#### Joseon Sidae (Joseon Dynasty)

Travel back to the Joseon Dynasty and enjoy traditional drinks, great Korean food and fun photo zones for cool pics with your friends.

ADDRESS: B1, 44, Hongik-ro 3-gil, Mapo-gu, Seoul HOURS: 5:30 p.m. – 4 a.m.



NAVER MAP





Photos courtesy of Joseon Dynasty

SEE MORE HONGDAE ON PAGE 10 ->

# HONGDAE

# Hang out with furry friends at animal cafés!

njoying cafés is a big part of Korean culture, and the country is home to a wide variety of unique cafés. Animal cafés stand out as a top tourist attraction among them. The blend of delectable desserts and cute animals continues to attract both locals and tourists, particularly in major cities like Seoul.

These cafés originally started with cat or dog themes, but

now they have evolved to include even wild animals like meerkats and raccoons. The popularity of such cafes can be attributed to the relatively lax animal welfare laws in many Asian countries. With that in mind, it's crucial to acknowledge the harsh reality that some establishments have been reported for serious animal abuse.

To ensure a positive and responsible experience, having a

proper guide can be helpful to find

cafés providing a safe and healthy environment for both the animals and visitors. In the Hongdae area of Seoul, you can explore a cluster of animal cafés conveniently located within a close distance. Visiting those cafés can give you fun and special experience of seeing adorable animals in the city. Check them out!





### Thanks Nature Café

This lovely café not only serves amazing Korean desserts but also offers a unique opportunity to spend time with adorable lambs! Each year, the café owner visits Daegwallyeong Sheep Farm and carefully selects two lambs from the herd struggling to get their mother's milk due to their small or weak physique. These chosen lambs are

then raised as the stars of Thanks Nature Café. With dedicated and attentive care, the lambs grow up healthy and lively. As they mature, they are returned to Daegwallyeong, and new baby lambs take their place as the new stars.

Most animal cafés tend to

focus on the interaction with animals, so they often have limited beverage and dessert menus. Also, the presence of roaming wild animals can sometimes lead to an unclean and odorous environment. However, Thanks Nature Café guarantees a leisurely time by separating the spaces for the lambs and the café area. Moreover, their desserts are exceptionally delicious, as are their waffles and Korean shaved. Another advantage is that there is no separate admission fee required unlike other animal cafés.

Enjoy a tasty dessert and hang out with fluffy, chubby lambs in Hongdae!

ADDRESS: B121 Seogyo Prugio Shopping Mall, 10 Hongik-ro, Mapo-gu, Seoul HOURS: 12 p.m. – 9 p.m.



NAVER MAP





Photos courtesy of Day of Butler

## Day of Butler

This cat café was born out of a heartfelt desire to care for injured and abandoned street cats. Day of Butler has opened several branches across Seoul, including Hongdae and care for around 130 cats.

Each cat here receives good care and training so most of the cats are very healthy and friendly. They enjoy playing with visitors while sitting on their laps. You'll have plenty of opportunities to pet and be surrounded by a bunch of charming cats. Also, as the café has a spacious and clean environment, it's a great spot to enjoy a refreshing drink. And, to become popular with the residents, the café sells cat food for 3,000 won.

The café even has an adoption program for visitors who fall in love with any of the cats there. The requirements to apply include

visiting the café at least three times to get to know the cat you're interested in adopting.

Visting the café costs 10,000 won, drinks are a separate purchase. However, cat lovers see this fee as a donation and willingly contribute.

Please note that children aged 13 and below can only enter if accompanied by a guardian.

ADDRESS: 2F Taekyung Building, 19-8 Wausan-ro 21-gil, Mapo-gu, Seoul

HOURS: Noon- 10 p.m.
ENTRANCE FEE: 10,000 won





NAVER MAP

## Winter's Village

This is one of Hongdae's hottest cafés, so expect to wait about 30 minutes to enter on weekends to hang out with some beautiful dogs. Winter's Village is famous for being home to 12 lively Samoyeds, a Malamute and Pomeranian.

If you're looking for a café to relax at a comfortable seat with fancy desserts and beverages, this might not be for you. However, if you want to cuddle, feed and hang out with these large fluffy dogs, then head on over!

Please be aware that since the Samoyeds shed a lot, people wearing dark-colored clothes or those with allergies should be cautious. Admission

is available for ages 10 and above, and children aged 13 and below can enter if accompanied by a guardian.

ADDRESS: 19-5, Wausan-ro 17-gil, Mapo-gu, Seoul HOURS: 1 p.m. – 9 p.m. (Tuesday off)

ENTRANCE FEE: 14,000 won



NAVER MAP



Photos courtesy of Winter's Village



#### Table A

Table A is an indoor zoo animal café with the most diverse array of animals in Hongdae. It holds the official verification as an indoor zoo from Seoul City. While other animal cafés that aren't recognized as

zoos aren't obligated to follow animal welfare regulations, this official verification ensures that Table A operates with a commitment to animal well-being and staff members are trained caretakers.

The indoor zoo houses a variety of animals, including raccoons, meerkats, Fennec Foxes, and more in the five-story building. Visitors can interact with exotic animals like chinchillas and snakes under the instructions of the caretakers during specific program hours. Some animals like raccoons and cats are freely roaming around, but to catch the attention of these mischievous creatures, you might need to purchase some snacks. As there is a lot to see and enjoy, Table A assures a delightful time for visitors of all ages! Table A also offers a separate café area to enjoy



beverages and desserts. Those who purchase an entrance ticket can get a 20% discount on all beverages.

Children under the age of 12 must be accompanied by a guardian during their visit.

ADDRESS: 146 Wausan-ro, Mapo-gu, Seoul

HOURS: Noon - 10 p.m. ENTRANCE FEE: 17,000 won (Booking

through Naver offers a 15% discount)



#### oing on a snacking tour in Hongdae is a fun way to discover a variety of enticing Korean foods and treats. Enjoy the snacks while strolling around the lively streets brimming with a youthful atmosphere, street performances and trendy shops. Sampling the neighborhood's street-food options has become a popular social media trend, so don't be surprised to see locals and tourists taking videos and photos of Hongdae's deli-

cious offerings. Unlike street food in some tourist areas, Hongdae keeps most goodies at reasonable prices as local culture is cherished in this area. Each snack usually costs around 3,000 to 4,000 won so make sure to sample several different options to fully experience the diverse delights!

## Street Food Alley

Head to Hongdae's Street Food Alley where you'll find candied fruit skewers, waffles, cakes, donuts, ice cream and more. FYI, some famous shops may have

long lines, but don't hesitate to line up as your turn will come quickly and is worth the wait.

ADDRESS: Hongik-ro 3-gil, Mapo-gu, Seoul



# Snack away the day

## Popular snacks on social media!

#### 32cm Ice Cream

Enjoy the challenge of finishing this long soft ice cream for 3,000 won. It's served with one or two flavors in a single ice cream cone and the options include chocolate, vanilla, strawberry, mango, yogurt, and green tea. Be mindful of holding it carefully to prevent it from falling to the ground!



#### Marshmallow Ice Cream

Inspired by roasting marshmallows over an open fire, this sweet treat doesn't require a campfire. Choose from the available ice cream flavors and watch as the vendor uses a blow torch to roast the outer marshmallow right before your eyes. The toasted marshmallow exterior pairs well with the creamy, ice-cold ice cream inside.





#### Candied Fruit (Tanghulu)

Candied fruit is a stick of fresh strawberries or grapes, coated with hardened sugar syrup. Every bite offers a great balance of sweetness and tartness.



a historical city, this pastry has made its way to the streets of Hongdae. Resembling the 10 won coin in appearance, it features an image of a stone pagoda from the ancient Silla Kingdom in Gyoengju. This bread is filled with rich, thick mozzarella cheese, giving a great combination of sweetness, softness, and chewiness all together.



# Snacking tour

- Hello: **Annyeong-haseyo** (안녕하세요)
- Thanks: Gamsa-hamnida (감사합니다)
- Snack: **Gansik** (간식)
- Let's try this: Igeo meogeo-boja (이거 먹어보자) \*Informal
- What's inside?: Ane mwo-ga deureo-isseoyo? (안에 뭐가 들어있어요?)
- Can I have this one?: Igeo hana juseyo (이거 하나 주세요)
- How much is it?: Igeo eolmayeyo? (이거 얼마예요?)
- What is the other flavor?: Dareun maseun mwo-yeyo? (다른 맛은 뭐예요?)
- It's delicious!: Masisseoyo! (맛있어요!)



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# Enjoy the Splendor of Yeongju

HAPS KOREA MAGAZINE

ocated in Gyeongsangbukdo, Yeongju has a proud history of having some of Korea's most influential historic figures live there, including Yi Hwang, the face of the 1,000 won bill and a magistrate of Punggi County in the mid-1550s.

Yeongju is known as the City of Seonbi — scholars from the Joseon and Goryeo periods who are described as "virtuous scholars who served the public without a government position, choosing to pass up positions of wealth and power to lead lives of study and in-

With its scenic backdrops and old-time feel, it has become a popular place where many Korean historical dramas are filmed.

If you're looking a new place to travel this summer, here's five reasons why Yeongju is a good place to go.

It has a lot of cultural heritage

Muryangsujeon building of

Buseok temple, No.18 of National

Treasure of South Korea

Photo by Eunsoul Hahm,

Wikipedia

Yeongju is chock-full of places to experience Korean culture and learn the history of the nation.



**Buseoksa Temple** Photo by 최옥석, Wikipedia

Sosu Seotreasures, including number 45, won is the the Amitabha Buddha. oldest Neo-

A final spot to check out at the temple is the stone lantern in front of Muryangsujeon. This lantern, national treasure number 17, is considered to be the most beautiful granite lantern in Korea.

#### Wonderful nature

Yeongju is a city surrounded by mountains. The 350-kilometer long Sobaek mountain range provides the backdrop and is place where you can enjoy spring and

winter together at the same time. It was selected as one of the 100 most famous mountains in the country by the Korea Forest Service.

#### Delicious local eats

Considered one of the best places in the country for beef, Yeongju has a variety of restaurants catering to



lovers of hanwoo. Also don't miss out on the local tteokboki, jjeolmyeon, and bread rice cakes.

It's a popular filming location for Korean dramas

With its beautiful backdrops, vast lands and historical sites, Yeongju has become a popular shooting location for many historical Korean

Popular dramas such as "Love Rain", "Moonlight Drawn by Clouds", and "Jeong Do-Jeon" are just a few of the famous series filmed around the area.

#### Take life at a leisurely pace

Yeongiu is a small city with a population of around 115,000 that moves at a slow pace. It's quite easy to get around using taxis and local accommodations are quite reason-

hapskorea.com

It's a great place to go an unwind for a quiet weekend while exploring the historical sites and surrounding vourself with nature.



#### **Seoul Gangnam**



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confucian

academy in the

country, and was

established during

the Joseon Dynasty.

Reconstructed in 1376,

Buseoksa Temple is another popu-

lar attraction, and is also the sec-

ond oldest wooden building in Ko-

rea that has survived until now.

The temple houses five national

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A Lego figure greets

visitors.

# Dive into fun at COEX Aquarium

STORY AND PHOTOS BY CHRISTOPHER GREEN, STARS AND STRIPES

ooking for a fun place to go with your kids to beat the heat in South Korea?

Try Coex Aquarium in the heart of Seoul's trendy

The aquarium is in the Starfield Coex Mall, the largest underground mall in Asia. This four-floor facility has more than 300 stores and restaurants. Shop for back-to-school clothes and see more than 40,000 sea creatures, all in one place.

As you wander through this enormous mall, signs will guide you to the aquarium

and its 14 themed exhibitions. One of these is "Octonauts," based on a Netflix show for children that takes place on a submarine. Parents of toddlers may be familiar with it.

The aquarium is home to more than 600 species, including the largest shark habitat in South Korea, and offers a lot more than just fish. You'll also encounter squirrels, prairie dogs, sea lions and the legendary mermaid, the manatee.

One of the exhibitions was an enormous glass tank with sharks.

The highlight of the trip for me was the Submarine Tunnel, a tank through which visitors may walk and be surrounded by fish, sharks, sea turtles and other large aquatic creatures.

There are more than 180 creative and unique tanks at Coex. My favorite is a tranquil pool filled with orange, black and white koi

One enormous tank is home to sharks, stingrays, clownfish and other tropical fish swimming in different

At the end of the trip, visit the souvenir shop and take some memories home with you.

Coex Aquarium is a great way to spend an afternoon — it's fun, educational and keeps

you out of the heat.

**EXCLUSIVE NEWS FROM:** 

www.stripes.com

green.christopher@stripes.com @ChrisJGreen8 Coex Aquarium in South Korea's capital is home to more than 600 species, including the legendary mermaid, the manatee and the country's largest shark.

### Things to know

Address: 513 Yeongdong-daero, Gangnam-gu, Seoul, South Korea

**Directions:** By train, take either Line 9 to Bongeunsa Station or Line 2 Samseong Station. From Samseong Station, enter Coex through exits 5 or 6. Follow the sign on the wall.

**Times:** 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., Monday through Sunday

Costs: 25,000 won, or about \$18.65, for adults; 24,000 won for children 12

years and younger.
Food: Coex Mall boasts more than 50 restaurants.
Phone: 02-700-7200





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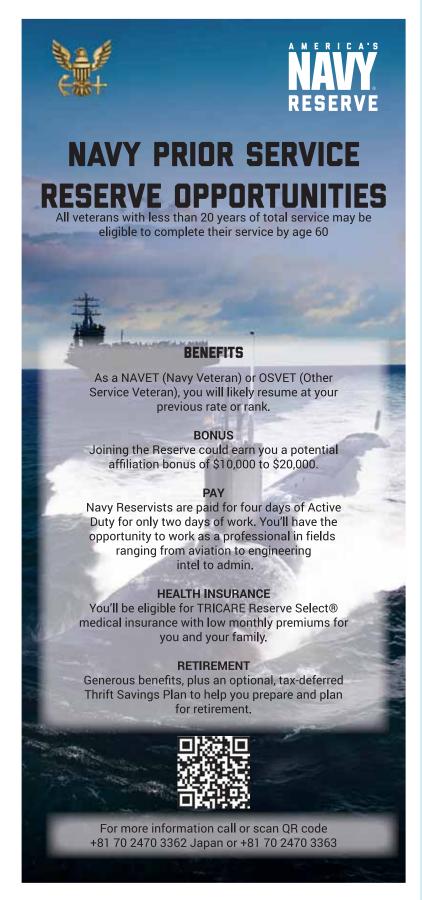


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# Korea Tip of the Day

# **DRINKING:** Know the rules!

#### **CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1**

#### **Drinking age rule**

In Korea on Jan. 1 of each year, individuals who are turning 19 according to the international age system, are legally allowed to purchase and consume alcohol and tobacco. In other words, if you are still 18 but will turn 19 later in the year, you can start buying and using these items at the beginning of the year, regardless of your exact birth month.

However, USFK (United States Forces Korea) policy states that the drinking age for those under SOFA including service members, civilian employees, contractors and their dependents is 21 years old, both on and off base.

#### **Open container rule**

In Korea, there are no regulations limiting the time and location for drinking. The concept of an "open container" doesn't exist in Korea as drinking in public is a common activity. You'll see many Koreans drinking alcohol on the streets or at the park or beach, and some even take their leftover alcohol from the bar with them when they leave.

However, for those under SOFA with USFK, an open container of an alcoholic beverage in public isn't allowed unless it's a public area intended for the consumption of alcohol, according to USFK policy.

Alcohol is available at convenience stores, grocery markets, supermarkets, restaurants, and bars, with no restrictions on the time or quantity you can purchase. You must show your I.D. to prove your age, as selling alcohol to minors can result in severe penalties for business owners.

Due to Korea's relatively lenient alcohol consumption laws, many might drink excessively. Remember that if you're going to drink, do it responsibly and always have a designated driver.

#### Don't drink and drive!

As it is in the States, driving under the influence is against the law in Korea. The blood alcohol concentration (BAC) limit in Korea is 0.03% and penalties for driving while intoxicated can vary.

Drunk driving penalties include imprisonment of up to five years or fines from five million to 20 million won. More severe punishments apply if a driver causes injury to others. Police frequently conduct BAC checks on the road without prior notice. Bottom line: If you drink, don't drive!

For an average-sized Korean, the 0.03% BAC level might be reached after consuming a glass of wine, two small glasses of soju (Korean liquor), or a 350ml beer can.

# Road Traffic Act - Article 44 (Prohibition on Driving under the Influence)

- No one shall drive a car, tram, or bicycle while under the influence of alcohol.
- Police officers may measure a driver's alcohol level using a breathalyzer if deemed necessary for traffic safety, or if there are reasonable grounds to suspect that a driver is under the influence. The driver must comply with the measurement.
- If a driver disputes the breathalyzer results, they may be required to provide a blood sample or undergo other testing methods.
- The standard for being considered under the influence of alcohol is a BAC of 0.03% or higher.

#### **Drinking etiquette**

When having a drink with Koreans, it is common to order a bottle of soju or beer and share it in glasses. It is a polite gesture to fill each other's cups, and it is usually respectful for younger people to pour drinks for older people first. If someone's glass is empty, it is courteous to ask if they want more and refill it.

When drinking with elderly Koreans, it is polite to pour the drinks while holding the bottle with both hands, one tilting the bottle and the other supporting it. If an older person is pouring drinks for you, hold your glass with both hands.

In Korea, using both hands to give or receive something is a sign of respect for elders. Also, when drinking, it is polite to slightly turn your head to the side rather than facing an elderly person directly.

#### Hangover relief

In Korean convenience stores, you'll find many hangover drinks and supplements for sale that contain herbs or ingredients like oriental raising tree fruit or taurine, as these are thought to help prevent you from feeling like crap after drinking.

These "cures" help prevent hangovers by inhibiting alcohol absorption and accelerating the breakdown. They are usually taken about 30 minutes before drinking for best results. They may not completely prevent hangovers but may help reduce symptoms.

Convenience stores carry both hangover supplements in drink and pill form, so it's up to the preference of the consumer. Popular hangover drinks are Morning Care (모닝케어) and Heotgae Condition (헛개 컨디션). Popular hangover supplement pills are Condition-hwan (컨디션환) and Sang-que-hwan (상쾌환).

lee.hyemin@stripes.com







Hangover relief-pill and drink

by Margie E. Burke

# Stripes Sports Trivia

Barry Bonds, the MLB career and single season homerun record holder, was much younger and thinner when he played for the Pittsburgh Pirates. The 5-tool player was great, but well before he became otherworldly and for the Giants, he was drafted out of high school in 1982. He decided to go to college before being drafted by the Pirates four years later. Who drafted Bonds in 1982?

Answer

San Francisco Giants

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2

3

9

1

4

6 7

6 | 5

8

4

6

6

# KNOW?

ne type of service which has managed to stay in demand in South Korea is one that provides wedding guests for hire. Business is booming and some companies even show photos of potential "guests" ahead and let customers choose the ones they think look similar to their real friends.

Hangul of the week

Sajin (Photo)

# Language Lesson

Please take a photo.

Sajin jjikeo juseyo

(사진 찍어 주세요)

# DONGGANG MUSEUM OF PHOTOGRAPHY YEONGWOL AREA 07.12 - 09.29, 2024

#### Crossword **ACROSS** 1 Pet lovers' org. 5 Photographer's

- request 10 Whole lot
- 14 Grad student's grilling 15 Moulin Rouge

citv

- 16 Fed. watchdog **17** Setting for the 2005 film, "Waiting"
- 19 Costner flick \_ Range" 20 Hay fever
- medicine 21 Finger-wagger's
- word 22 Parks on a bus
- 23 Home follower 25 Prickly bush
- 28 Hercules type
- 30 Boring routine 33 Golf spots
- 35 Battlefield worry 37 Comics canine
- 38 Dry, in a way
- 40 Skiing mecca
- 41 Cockpit reading
- 43 Folded food **45** 1950 film noi
- classic
- 46 Greyhound, e.g. 48 Melancholy
- verse 49 Bake in a
- shallow dish 51 N.Y. summer
- times 53 Bit of info
- 55 Know-how
- 60 Knock about
- 61 Shasta's home **62** Passionate
- about 63 Subway
- entrance 64 Takes out
- 65 Use a spyglass
- 66 Cut, as ties 67 Big name in applesauce

#### **DOWN**

- 1 Put out 2 Type of school
- - 3 Carry's partner 4 Superheroes
- often have them 5 Cowboy gear
- 6 Grammy-
- winning Carey
- 7 Persia, today
- 8 Football official
- 9 Not an exact fig.
- 10 Hullabaloo
- 11 Casual canvas
- shoe
- 12 "Pardon me"
- 13 Glazier's sheet
- 18 Love to pieces
- 21 E-mail command
- 24 Dance that "takes two'
- 25 Vast
- 26 10:1, e.g.
- 27 Type of commerce
- 29 Fail to say
- 31 Clear a cribbage board

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- 32 Quick to get 50 Comic's specialty
- 34 State under oath 52 Yield 36 Turbulent 53 Plumbing

ticked

42 Stiffly formal

47 Stack again

short

44 Urban area, for

- situation problem 39 Bring back, say
  - 54 Crackerjack
  - 56 Caesar's 44
  - 57 Skinny
  - 58 Strain, as flour
  - 59 Toward sunrise
  - 61 HTML go-with

#### Answers to Previous Crossword:

С	Α	R	Р		С	R	Α	Ν	Ε		S	С	J	М
U	S	Е	R		Н	0	Ν	Ε	Υ		М	0	R	Е
S	1	D	Е	S	Α	D	D	L	Ε		Ε	Ν	G	Г
Р	Α	S	Т	0	R		Τ	S	0	L	Α	Т	Ε	О
			Т	U	Т	0	R		Р	U	R	R		
Ε	M	Α	1	L		W	0	М	Ε	Ν		Α	Н	Α
Р	Α	Ν	Е		Ι	Ν	Ν	1	Ν	G		D	0	Ζ
0	U	Т	R	Α	G	Е		S	Ε	S	S	1	0	Ζ
Χ	V	Τ		М	U	R	М	U	R		Ε	С	Н	0
Υ	Е	S		В	Α	S	-	S		S	Α	Т	Α	Υ
		0	М	Е	Ν		Ν	Е	С	K	S			
M	Α	С	Α	R	0	Ν	-		R	Ι	0	Т	Ε	R
U	Ν	_	Т		D	0	Μ	Α	Ι	Ν	Ν	Α	М	Е
G	Ν	Α	Т		0	٧	U	L	Ε		Α	С	М	Ε
S	Α	L	Е		Ν	Α	М	Ε	S		L	0	Α	F

#### SUDOKU

5

2

1

9 4

3

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8

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

Answer to Previous Sudoku:

/ III of to 1 To Trode Gadonar											
3	9	7	6	5	4	1	8	2			
1	6	4	2	8	9	3	7	5			
5	8	2	3	7	7	9	4	6			
9	7	1	8	6	5	2	3	4			
6	4	5	9	3	2	7	1	8			
8	2	3	4	1			6	9			
7	1	8	5	2	6	4	9	3			
2	3	9	7	4	8	6	5	1			
4	5	6	1	9	3	8	2	7			















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- ② Pregnancy Diabetes
- 3 Mothers with chronic diseases
- Pregnant women with uterus and ovarian tumors
- ⑤ Premature contraction Experienced medicine, accumulated experience and know-how of women medical park hospital staff who can provide intensive care for high-risk pregnant women.
- 65 A Empress Postpartum Care Center Where feels like you're in a hotel!

If you have any inquires regarding this article, please feel free to contact below!