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2021-2022

Welcome to the Pacific



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to being stationed in

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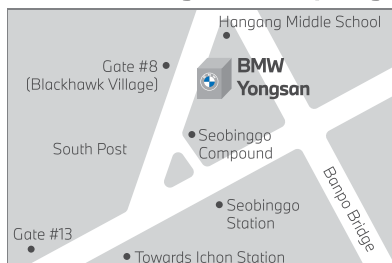
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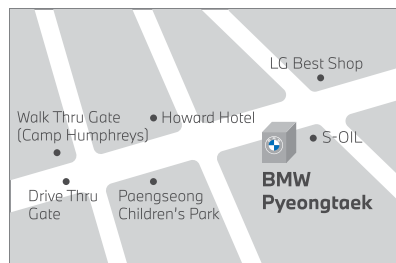
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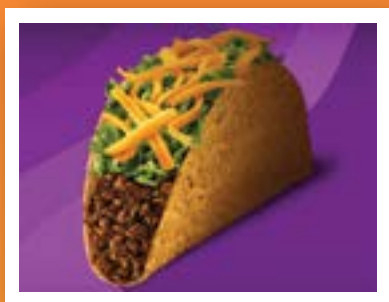
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Tostadas, and Many other TB Promotional items.

KOREA

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Our commitment to you continues

Every year, our team at Stars and Stripes gathers information that will be important to you as you begin this chapter overseas. We bring you the latest updates to local laws, base policies, and information on host-nation traditions and culture so you don't have to go about it on your own. We know you have questions, but Stars and Stripes is with you.

Our commitment to provide support strengthened as COVID-19 reached the Pacific. Our role was reinforced during the uncertainty we all faced as a global community. YOU are the reason why we work hard to compile this magazine every year, the newspapers every week and update the websites every day. This is, after all, YOUR magazine, YOUR newspaper, and YOUR websites. We are here to support you and the mission. Without you there is no us.

We strive to demonstrate how valuable each and every member of the community is to the work we do. You'll see it in these pages, as we highlight the talent of members of the military community through the wonderful photographs they've contributed. Check out Melanie Miller's stunning cover photo and the elaborate shot submitted by Rebecca Schochenmaier on Page 10.

Beyond the beautiful photos in this magazine, you'll find key information to living life in South Korea. Worried about where to get a car? Flip to Page 31. Curious about the cultural experiences that await you? Head over to Page 10 to learn more.

For everything else not covered in this guide, don't forget to pick up copies of Stars and Stripes Korea on base or visit korea.stripes.com where there's plenty more to discover! Count on our writer Chihon Kim (learn more about him on Page 8) to bring awesome food suggestions, useful language lessons and fun daytrips to check out.

If there is anything else, we haven't covered—we're always open to feedback and suggestions. Send us an email!

On a similar note, we'd love to tell your story! Are you a volunteer at the local orphanage or is your spouses' group working on a cool project? Do you know an exceptional military child who deserves to be spotlighted? Is travel photography or writing your hobby? Send your stories, photographs or ideas and you may find them in an upcoming magazine or on our community sites. We'll make you famous!

The last year has been one of so much uncertainty, but one constant you can count on is that Stars and Stripes is with you every step of the way. Join us on Facebook (Pacific Stars and Stripes) and Twitter (@StripesPacific) as we continue to bring you the latest information and resources you don't want to miss.

As we adapt to our "new normal," our mission to seek out and adapt to the needs of our servicemembers, military families, and DOD civilians in the Pacific continues. We are here for you!

Thank you for being a valued reader and as they say here in Korea:
어서 오세요! (Welcome!)

Denisse Rauda
Publishing and Media Design Editor
Stars and Stripes
korea@stripes.com

Cover photo

Melanie Miller took this great photo from a friends' trip to the Cheongdo Wine Tunnel. Her friend Stephanie Douglas wrote a great story about the trip and shared it with Stars and Stripes Korea readers. Check it out here and let us know if you'd like to share your own story with us.



Inside background photo

David Johnston sent in this beautiful shot of the Palace of Korea in Seoul.

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your contributions in special publications such as "Best of the Pacific," "Destination Paradise" and "Welcome to the Pacific," which are published in three separate editions for Guam, Japan and Korea.

Our community sites serving Guam, mainland Japan, Okinawa and Korea help you navigate life in the Pacific with tips, reviews, experiences, and other useful information

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Living here presents many opportunities to experience the diverse Pacific region. Stars and Stripes provides a variety of information regarding travel, culture, local news and more to help you make the most of your tour. Our community publications are distributed in Guam, Japan, Okinawa and Korea.

Pick up your free copy at one of the 800 locations throughout the Pacific region — look for the bright blue Stars and Stripes boxes located on installations.

You can also contribute to Stars and Stripes in the form of article submissions, reviews, or suggestions. We capture most of





'I will serve as your Korean guide'

Welcome to Korea! I know you might be nervous and intimidated right now being in a foreign country, but don't be afraid because I am here to serve as your guide. I'll do my best to ensure you don't waste your time and money finding things to do. I'll point you in the right direction.

If you want to experience something special in Korea, please remember my name: ChiHon Kim. I'm the writer for Stripes Korea, which comes out every two weeks and can be found in the blue boxes on base. All my articles and videos can be found on StripesKorea.com.

It's been already over a year since COVID-19 emerged here in Korea and worldwide. Though our stories may have shifted to mirror our limited way of life, we're still here to bring you a taste of your new, temporary home. As restrictions lift or change, I'm bringing you the stories you want to read and ways to enjoy your duty station safely.

You may know BTS (BangTan Boys), kimchi and bulgogi, but my country has so much more to offer. I have a plan to show you

Korea's true colors.

I was born and grew up in Daegu. Some say Daegu and Gyeongsang province are famous for unappetizing food. Those who say that, are people who have never visited a good restaurant. I know many holes in the wall in Daegu. The interiors may not be fancy at these places, but the cooks take much care in perfecting the taste of their dishes. So, for the folks stationed in Daegu, let me steer you to some of the best food Korea has to offer.

I worked at Camp Carroll before I came to Pyeongtaek to work at Camp Humphreys, so I am familiar with Waegwan. You need to check out Chilgok Dam, which takes less than 10 minutes by car to get to from Camp Carroll. It's the best place to refresh yourself. It is also a popular place to take a date. If you cross the dam, you will find a camping area with a peaceful river view that you can enjoy at a reasonable price.

If you are a serious cyclist, I recommend the mountain bike course that links to the dam. And, although I have yet to climb it, there is a 9-meter tall

climbing wall next to the main gate. Sooner or later, I'll give it a try and let you know if it's fun. Or, if you try it, tell us about it.

Of course, I travel all across Korea and give you my take on where to go, what to see and what to eat.

My country has been called "Geumsu Gangsan." It literally means that the river and mountains are embroidered on silk. No doubt. Korea has countless scenic spots. Among many other things, I want to tell you about the famous and not-so-famous temples that are scattered all over the country

There are some bloggers who exaggerate about different places in Korea. But as a Korean, I give our readers the real deal so you can enjoy your time in my country. Listen, there are unique aesthetics and beauty that only Korea has. I want to show you the beauty of my country and help you make lasting memories here. So, read my stories in the upcoming weeks and months and then go out and explore. You won't be disappointed. I promise!

- ChiHon Kim

HEY, TAKE A LOOK AT SOME OF MY STORIES AND VIDEOS!



Pyeongtaek Humphreys



(video)

Starfield Anseong near Humphreys



(video)

Agroland Taeshin Farmland

Gyeonggi-do



(video)

Ansan Starlight Village



Gwangmyeong Cave



(video)

Chungju Jade Cave

Daegu



Dongseongno Spark

Seoul



Seoul Botanic Park



(video)

Seongsu-dong shoe street

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When in Korea

A cultural lay of the land



National flag: Taegeukgi



National flower: Mugunghwa

Though affected by other Asian countries, Korean culture's roots lie deep within the creative Korean psyche; it tends to spread rather than be encroached upon. The delicate styling and fine craftsmanship of celadon pottery illustrates the refinement of the culture, even from as far back as the Three Kingdoms Period from A.D. 57 to 668.

Korea has also spawned some great inventors. Its first printing systems predate Gutenberg's, the famous "Turtle Ship" was the first ever iron-clad battleship, and the Korean alphabet, devised by a group of scholars in the 15th century, was so effective that it remains largely unchanged today.

Korean cultural assets to UNESCO's World Heritage List include Chongmyo Shrine, where memorial services to the kings of the ancient Chosun Dynasty are held; the Great Changgyong Panjon in Haeinsa Temple, where Buddhist scripture is engraved on 80,000 wooden panels; and Pulguksa Temple and Sokkuram Grotto in Kyongju, which was built more than 1,000 years ago.

Modern Korea, however, is not without its Western influences, particularly from the United States. For example, pizza is one of the nation's favorite foreign foods (albeit with a Korean twist on toppings like corn, sweet potato, mayonnaise and bulgogi). Western fast food chains are also popular. As in the U.S., coffeehouses have multiplied in recent years resulting in the term "coffice" to describe the use of cafés as ad hoc office spaces.

Other recent English-language influences in Korean – or "Konglish" – include: "Eye shopping" (ai syopping) for window shopping, "hand phone" (hendeu pon) for cell phone and "one shot," a drinking term for downing your drink in one quaff.

As with modern-day fashion,

contemporary Korean pop music is also heavily influenced by the U.S. It has contributed to the global rise of "K-pop" since the 1990s, which in turn has influenced the West with successful artists like Psy of "Gangnam Style" fame and BTS.

Korean names

Koreans place the family name first and the given personal name second. Family names are traditional clan names and each has a village from which it comes. Thus, there is a difference between a Kim who comes from Kyong-ju and a Kim who is from Kimhae.

The five most common names are Kim, Pa(r)k, Lee, Choi (Choe) and Oh. Because of the inconsistencies of translating names from Hangul to Roman characters, spellings of these names vary. For instance, Lee is also spelled in English as Yi and Rhee.

If at all possible, Koreans avoid calling a person directly by their name. Instead they use their title, position, trade, profession, scholastic rank or some honorific form such as "teacher." Parents often are addressed as the equivalent of "Jimmy's mommy" or "Susie's daddy," rather than "Mrs. Kim," or "Mr. Lee."

Greetings

Although many of the Koreans with whom you come into contact will be familiar with American habits and mannerisms, the traditional values are still strong.

Koreans shake hands and bow at the same time. The depth of the bow depends on the relative seniority of the two people.

When passing a gift or any other object to someone, use both hands and bow. The right hand is used to pass the object, while the left is used in support. If the person receiving the gift is younger or lower in status, passing with one hand is acceptable.

Koreans believe that direct eye contact during conversation shows boldness, and out of politeness they concentrate on the conversation, usually avoiding eye contact.

Walking the streets

You will see young men walking in the street with their arms around each other's shoulders and women walking hand in hand. This means nothing more than simple intimacy. Touching close friends while talking to them is perfectly acceptable in Korea.

Koreans will touch children to show their warm affection for them. This is a compliment to let the child know how cute he or she is. Bumping into other people while passing is mostly understood unless you shove him or her offensively.

If you attend a wedding or funeral, it's customary to take a white envelope containing a sum of money. Handing cash to someone is considered rude, except when paying a shopkeeper for merchandise.

Dinner etiquette

Dinner in a traditional Korean home or restaurant is quite different from American-style dining. Guests sit on cushions around a low table. Many different foods are served, each cut into bite-sized pieces. Each person has their own bowl of rice, but helps themselves to other foods directly from the serving dishes. Koreans traditionally use chopsticks (**Read more on chopsticks on Page 14**) and a large-bowled spoon, although today forks are also used.

At a restaurant, "going Dutch" is not customary – Koreans just take turns paying, although it is becoming more common among young people to split the check. In most hotels, a service charge is included in the bill.

Be conscious of Korean customs and etiquette, but don't become obsessed with adopting

Korean ways.

National Flag

Taegeukgi: The current design of Taegeukgi was finalized on October 15, 1949. It symbolizes the principles of the yin and yang in oriental philosophy. The circle in the center is divided into two equal parts, where the upper red responds to the positive cosmic forces of the yang. Conversely, the lower blue section represents the negative cosmic forces of the yin. The flag's background is white, representing peace and purity valued by the people of Korea. The circle is surrounded by four trigrams, one in each corner, characterizing continual movement, balance and harmony.

National flower

Mugunghwa: The national flower of Korea is mugunghwa, or rose of Sharon, which comes into bloom from July to October. A profusion of mugunghwa blossoms gracefully decorate the entire nation during blooming season, providing a view that has been loved by Koreans for many years. The flower's symbolic significance stems from the Korean word mugung, which means immortal.

National Anthem

Aegukga: Aegukga literally means "a song expressing love towards their country" in Korean. It was originally meant to foster patriotism and raise awareness for the nation's independence. The anthem had undergone several changes since it was first introduced until it took its current form. Maestro Ahn Eak-tai (1906-1965) rearranged the piece in 1935, which was then officially adopted by the Korean Government as the national anthem. Since then, the anthem has been used at all schools and official functions.

Useful guidelines for speaking Korean

The Korean written language, Hangul, is very easy for newcomers to learn. Knowing how to sound out words can help with reading street signs, subway station names and names of businesses. Many English and other foreign words are written in Hangul in Korea. You'll be amazed at how many signs you can read and recognize English words written in Hangul.

Romanized Korean pronunciation guide

Consonants in Korean sound similar to English consonants. Generally, hard consonants in Korean like "k" and "p" are not as hard as in English unless a double consonant like "kk" or "pp" is used. There are exceptions.

Vowels: The Romanized Korean letter "i" is pronounced as a long "e" like "seen." The letters "e" and "ae" are pronounced with a short "e" sound like "beg." The letters "oe" together sound

like the word "way." The letter "a" is pronounced as a short "a" like "ah." The letter "o" is pronounced long like "boat." The letter "u" is pronounced like in "tube."

The vowel combination "eo" is pronounced like "aw" in "saw." The vowel combination "eu" is pronounced like the vowel sound in "good." The vowel combination "ui" is pronounced like "whee." All vowel combinations that start with the letter "y" and "w" are pronounced with a "y" or

VOWELS

ㅣ	ㅏ	ㅑ	ㅓ	ㅕ	ㅗ	ㅛ
i	e	oe	ae	a	o	u
ㅖ	ㅡ	ㅗ	ㅓ	ㅕ	ㅗ	ㅛ
eo	eu	ui	ye	yae	ya	yo
ㅜ	ㅟ	ㅠ	ㅡ	ㅢ	ㅣ	ㅤ
yu	yeo	wi	we	wae	wa	wo

CONSONANTS

ㅂ	ㄷ	ㅈ	ㅊ	ㅍ	ㅌ	ㅍ
b,p	d,t	j	g,k	pp	tt	jj
ㄱ	ㅋ	ㄴ	ㄷ	ㄹ	ㅁ	ㅇ
kk	p	t	ch	k	s	h
ㅅ	ㅆ	ㄴ	ㅇ	ㄹ		
ss	m	n	ng	r,l		

see the story



SCAN THE QR CODE

to learn how to speak Korean

Korean Character

Romanized

"w" sound added to the beginning of the sound.

Because the Roman or English alphabet has letters that its Korean counterpart doesn't, some letters are substituted for

others when referring to certain English words. For example, the letters "f" and "z" are replaced with the letters "p" and "z," respectively such as in the words "kopi" (coffee) and "pija" (pizza).

BASIC

KOREAN

VOCABULARY

DAYS OF THE WEEK

Monday	Wol-yo-il
Tuesday	Hwa-yo-il
Wednesday	Su-yo-il
Thursday	Mok-yo-il
Friday	Geum-yo-il
Saturday	To-yo-il
Sunday	Il-yo-il

RELATIVE DATE

Today	O-neul
Yesterday	Eo-je
Tomorrow	Nae-il
This month	I-dal
Next month	Da-eum-dal
Last month	Ji-nan-dal

PRONOUNS

I	Na-neun
My	Na-ui
Me	Na-reul
He/She	Geu
His	Geu-ui
Him	Geu-reul
Her	Geu-nyeo-ui
This	i-geots-eun
These	i-deul-eun
That	Jeo-geots-eun
Our	U-riui

INTERROGATIVE

Who	Nu-ga
What	Mu-uts-eul
When	Un-je
Why	Wae
Where	Eo-di-se-o
How	Eo-tteo-ke

CONJUNCTIONS

And	Geu-ri-go
So	Geu-rae-seo
Or/Also	Tto-neun
But	Geu-reo-na

ADJECTIVES

Light	Ga-byeo-un
Heavy	Mu-geo-un
Dirty	Deor-eo-eun
Strong	Gang-han
Weak	Yahk-han
Different	Da-reun
Similar	Dal-meun
Hot	Tteu-geo-eun
Cold	Chu-eun
High	Nop-eun
Low	Naj-eun
Numerous	Man-eun
White	Huinsaek
Black	Geomjeong

Red	Ppalgang
Blue	Parang
Green	Chorok
Yellow	Norang

VERBS

Go	Ga-da
Stop	Seo-da
Walk	Geol-ou-ga-da
Run	Da-li-da
Drive	Un-jeon-ha-da
Meet	Man-na-da
Sit	An-dda
Stand	I-reo-seo-da
Like	Jo-a-ha-da
Hate	Shi-reo-ha-da
Depart	Chul-bal-ha-da
Arrive	Do-chak-ha-da
Near	Ga-kkap-da
Enter	Deu-reo-ga-da
Go out	Na-ga-da
Turn on	Kyeo-da
Turn off	Kkeu-da

GENERAL VOCABULARY

Water	Mul
Outdoors	Bakk
Half	Ban
Night	Bam
Fire	Bul
Mountain	San
Hand	Son
Clothes	Ot
Sleep	Jam
House	Jip
Car	Cha
Book	Chaek
Gun	Chong
Knife	Kal
Tour	Gwan-gwang
Hospital	Byeong-won
Newspaper	Shin-mun
Bank	Eun-haeng
Student	Hak-saeng
Cash	Hyun-geum



The wonders of won

Korea's colorful currency

Korean currency can be largely divided into four coins and four bills, with denominations of 10, 50, 100, 500 and 1,000, 5,000, 10,000, 50,000 won, respectively. While traveling, it's possible all you will notice is how quickly money seems to fly from your hands. However, if you take a closer look at the characters and designs on the bills, you will be greatly surprised! There are many tiny details about the important historical figures they present and their related tourist sites.

1,000 won

Korea's most common bill is the 1,000 won (about \$1) in a pretty blue color. The front of the bill features flowers, a hanok building, and a portrait of a man, with the back sporting a landscape painting of a river and wooded mountains.



5,000 and 50,000 won

The 5,000 won (\$5) and 50,000 won (\$50) bills have a secret that cannot be found on any other forms of currency throughout the world! The special point of these bills is in the relationship between the two figures depicted; they are the only two figures to be related as mother and son! Shin Saimdang (1504-1551), featured on the 50,000 won bill, is also the only female on Korean currency, and is perhaps best well-known as being a good wife and wise mother.



10,000 won

The last Korean bill to examine is the green 10,000 won (\$10) bill. The figure on this bill is Joseon Dynasty's fourth king, King Sejong (1418-1450). He is known as being a monarch who, when



Traveler's checks

Traveler's checks can be exchanged for cash at banks or exchange booths. A number of stores still accept the checks instead cash. Nonetheless, the forms of credit cards and debit cards have become a more preferred means of payment by travelers.

Credit cards

Most of the businesses in Korea widely use and accept payment by credit cards, including at major hotels, department stores, and general shops. Visa, MasterCard, American Express and other credit cards can be used; however, check the service availability before making purchases as some stores may not provide this service.

Money exchange

When you need to exchange your foreign currency into Korean won, visit a bank or authorized exchange service center. Banks are generally open 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. on weekdays, with the exceptions of Standard Chartered Bank, operating 9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., and EVERICH Bank, with hours of 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Currency converter

www.xe.com/currencyconverter



it came to politics, always considered the needs of the people first. Thanks to this love of the people and his many achievements, the people began to attach the title "the great" to the end of his name.

Coins

Like Korean bills, Korean coins also have various images that represent the nation and its history. The smallest coin, worth 10 won, displays an image of national treasure Dabotap Pagoda. This stone pagoda is one of the nation's most fantastic structures and is located at UNESCO-designated

Bulguksa Temple in the city of Gyeongju. The

50 won coin has a single stalk of rice ready for harvest, while the 100 won coin features Admiral Yi Sun-shin (1545-1598) who almost single-handedly defeated the invading Japanese force in the Imjin War. The largest coin with a value of 500 won has a flying crane, which is the symbol for scholars. In addition to these four coins, there are two other coins no longer in circulation.

— Korea Tourism Organization

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- How much does this cost?: **Eolma ipnikka?** (polite)
Eolma ingayo? (casual)
- Where is the ATM?: **ATM gigea eodie isseupnikka?**
- Do you accept credit card?: **Sinyong-cad ba-deu-sipnikka?**
- Cash only: **Hyeongum-man bat-seup-nida.**



Korean chopsticks bring the metal, not the poison

Since their invention in ancient China more than 3,000 years ago, chopsticks have been widely used in Asian countries. In South Korea, “jeotgarak” means chopsticks.

Being an important tool for dining, Koreans learn to use “jeotgarak” as infants. Koreans consider the handling of chopsticks a necessity for good table manners, and for children and adults alike, table manners are very important. This even extends to the manner in which the chopsticks are presented in the table setting: in Korea they are placed vertically on the table.

Growing up, I remember my father teaching me how to pick up black beans he had scattered on the table with only chopsticks. I also remember getting scolded for sticking chopsticks straight into rice. Same as in Japan, this is a no-no as it resembles a funeral rite.

Whether you’ve mastered the art of chopsticks back home before coming to Korea or not, you’ve probably noticed that the chopsticks here are a little different than what you’re used to.

In Korea, chopsticks come in a variety of metals or stainless steel. Though the reason behind this is often debated, it is believed that Korean royalty first introduced silver chopsticks as a way to detect poison

in their food. It was thought the metal would change color if the food was, in fact, poisoned. Later, brass and iron chopsticks would gain popularity amongst non-royals.

Diners will also find spoons with long handles accompany the chopstick set. In Korea, when it comes to rice and soup dishes, the spoon reigns king; chopsticks are used for the sides. “Suejo” is the term for the chopstick and spoon set. Suejo is a play on the Korean word “sutgarak” for spoon and “jeotgarak” for chopsticks. But be careful! Using both simultaneously is considered unsightly and rude.

In Korea, we love to share our food, so our chopsticks are slightly longer, making it easier to share dishes and reach across the table for that last piece of juicy bulgogi.

Since metal tends to be a little slippery for picking food up, the chopsticks in Korea come flat, rectangular and rough at the ends for good gripping purposes.

Despite all the scolding and the rigorous training I had to endure, like many Westerners, I still feel uncomfortable using stainless steel chopsticks. But, at least I won’t have to worry about my food being poisoned.

- ChiHon Kim

Shuttle Delivery hooks you up

There are going to be times that going off base to a restaurant or cooking a meal at home feels like too much effort or too time-consuming. In the States, there are many food delivery options. In Korea, if you’re an English speaker, you may feel left out of the food delivery phone app craze.



A quick search through the app store will bring up many food delivery options like Yogiyo, Baedal Minjeok or Baedal Tong – but they are completely in Korean. To top it off, Uber, the U.S. platform you may be familiar with, had to pull out of Korea after being unable to compete with homegrown apps.

But, don’t despair, Shuttle Delivery is here! Shuttle, a bilingual delivery app, launched in the Itaewon area of Seoul in 2016. Craving a juicy burger, zesty wings, or Korean food? Shuttle Delivery extended its coverage to restaurants outside of Camp Humphreys’ gates.

As expected, if you live on base, you will have the minor inconvenience of having to meet the delivery person at the gate.

The app is free to download and delivery fees for your order vary depending on distance and area. You can also order from their web platform if you don’t have the app downloaded on your phone. Pay in won, U.S. dollars, using all major credit cards, Korean debit card, PayPal or Bitcoin. Delivery service runs from 11 a.m. to midnight.

Don’t let a busy schedule, or a language barrier, stop you from enjoying the convenience of food delivery. Try this app next time you’re in a pinch.

- ChiHon Kim

Food delivered to your door

Information:

<https://www.shuttledelivery.co.kr/en>

Available on Android and iOS



Yugiyo also delivers



2021 Korean holidays

A local's take

Culture

Education

Transportation

Private vehicles

Legal

Living

Food

Leisure

Jan 1 **New Years' Day**
As in other countries, the first day of the New Year is celebrated. Many Koreans visit the coast or the mountains to watch the first sunrise of the year.

Feb 11-14 **Seollal (2022)**
Lunar New Year's Day (Seollal) is one of the most important traditional holidays of the year; the holiday is much more significant than January 1st. Most businesses are closed, and people take several days off from work to visit their hometown to be with their family. On the day of Seollal, everyone gets up early, puts on their best clothes, and bows to their elders as a reaffirmation of family ties. Feasts are held with specially prepared food such as tteokguk (rice cake soup) and mandu guk (dumpling soup). Korean families enjoy spending time together by playing traditional games such as yutnori (traditional Korean board games), flying kites, or spinning tops.

Mar 1 **Independence Movement Day**
This day commemorates the Declaration of Independence proclaimed on March 1, 1919, while under Japanese colonization.

May 5 **Children's Day**
This day celebrates children and their parents' hopes for them to grow healthy and become good citizens. On this day, parents take their little ones to children's parks, amusement parks, zoos, or to the cinema for a full day of fun and games.

May 19 **Buddha's Birthday**
Falling on the eighth day of the fourth lunar month, elaborate and solemn rituals are held at many Buddhist temples across the country and lanterns are hung along streets leading to the temples.

Jun 6 **Memorial Day**
Memorial Day serves to honor the soldiers and civilians who have given their lives

for their country. While memorial services are held nationwide, the largest ceremony takes place at the National Cemetery in Seoul.

Aug 15 **Liberation Day**
This day commemorates Japan's acceptance of the Allies' terms of surrender in 1945 and the following liberation of Korea.

Sep 21 **Chuseok**
Chuseok is one of the year's most important traditional holidays. It is celebrated on the 15th day of the eighth lunar month. Chuseok is often referred to as Korean Thanksgiving Day. It's a celebration of another successful harvest year. Family members come from all over the country for memorial rituals, called charye, at the graves of their ancestors.

Oct 3 **National Foundation Day**
This day commemorates the founding of the Korean nation by the legendary god-king Dangun. A simple ceremony is held at several regions throughout Korea, namely at Chamseongdan Altar on top of Manisan Mountain on Ganghwado Island; Dangun-jeon Shrine in Gokseong, Taebaek-san Mountain, and Jeungpyeong, and at Dangunseongjeon Shrine in Seoul.

Oct 9 **Hangeul Day**
Hangeul Day is a commemoration held to remember the creation of Hangeul, the country's native alphabet as proclaimed by the publication of Hunminjeongeum on this day in 1446.

Dec 25 **Christmas**
Christmas is observed as a national holiday in Korea as in many other countries. To celebrate the festive season, Christmas trees and lights can be seen all over Korea.

– Korea Tourism Organization

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Spam and Seollal

You'll know it's time for the Lunar New Year when local grocery stores push cans of Spam to prime real estate at the front of the store, where it sits side-by-side with the imported wine or expensive organic mushrooms. These displays of canned ham and other gifts take prime real estate at the front of stores. w Year.

Though gifts also include tuna, cooking oils, and local beef (Hanwoo), the best-selling gift is Spam. So much so, it's even an incentive for company workers during the holiday and Chuseok,



Korea's harvest festival in September. The country is now the second biggest consumer of Spam after the U.S., according to Hormel Foods, despite having a population less than a sixth of the size.

Santa comes to town

You might not have known this, but in Asia, only Korea and the Philippines have designated Christmas as a national holiday. Although a majority of the Philippine population is Catholic, Korea does not have an official religion. Around the world, it's hard to find a non-Christian country where Christmas is a national holiday. So, the situation in Korea is a little unique.

After World War II, only five percent of the population was Christian in Korea. But in 1945, the U.S. ruling government in South Korea declared Christmas a national holiday. In 1949, South Korea's first president, who was a Christian, again designated Christmas as a Korean national holiday.



The way Koreans spend Christmas is a bit different from Americans, though. Since Most Koreans live in apartments, few people decorate the outside of their homes or have a Christmas tree inside. However, churches, shopping malls, and streets are lit up during the season.

Unlike Seollal or Chuseok, Christmas is not a big traditional holiday, so most Koreans don't go back to their hometown to celebrate. But it is a day off and children are excited for Santa to bring them a present



See full story



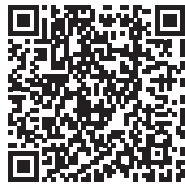
See full story

Celebrating Hangul Day

There are no large celebrations during Hangul Day, instead many Koreans usually enjoy the day off. Some people may also go on a short outing with friends and family. When Hangul Day approaches, news reporters crank out many stories on the corruption of Hangul by the rise in use of foreign words.

The concern is the overuse of English and often its use mixed improperly with Korean. You'll find examples of this everywhere in the country, from schools to government offices. I've seen many Hangul slogans and festival names aimed at locals written, unnecessarily, in the way English sounds.

Hangul Day is a day to remind Koreans of the misuse of foreign words and of the humble beginnings of Hangul to encourage literacy among the masses.



See full story



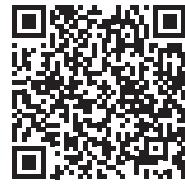
Photo courtesy of Emart

Importance of Chuseok

For Chuseok, Koreans exchange gifts which are usually Hanwoo or Spam. In 2020, the traditional gift changed to reflect the times as major retailers pushed hygiene kits with hand sanitizer, alcohol swabs, handsoap, facemasks and other items for COVID-19 prevention.

Chuseok usually involves many different activities to reflect on our belated relatives.

One of them is Charye, a memorial service honoring our ancestors.



See full story

This service is usually held at home in the living room or a large room, and usually begins between 7 a.m. and 10 a.m. on the day of Chuseok. Back in the day, older relatives usually wore hanbok, traditional Korean dress, but nowadays most wear casual clothes.

After Charye, we have special Chuseok foods made on the eve of the holiday. These include songpyeon, half-moon-shaped rice cakes, and rice wine, set on the table in a certain manner. Families gather around the table to remember their ancestors, bow and then the Chuseok feast begins. My family usually has jeon, a type of fried Korean pancake, and japchae, Korean fried glass noodles, and other Korean dishes at our dinner table.

- ChiHon Kim

DID YOU KNOW?

The DMZ (Demilitarized Zone) has separated North and South Korea for over 50 years now. DMZ's ecosystem is a so-called treasure trove and it is home to over 300 species of wetland plants and animals.

In South Korea, a person's blood type is believed to contribute to their personality and characteristics. Many South Koreans believe that people are compatible based on their blood types.

South Koreans believe that a person is one year old at birth, since they spent almost one year in their mother's womb, which can make birthdays a little confusing for foreigners.

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

In South Korea, you may notice the cars and subway follow the road on the right, but the train keeps to the left. This is because the train rails were designed during the Japanese colonial period.

Mandatory military service of 21 months is required for South Korean men. You must be at least 18 years old to enter military service, and most join when they are 19 or 20.

In South Korea, a one-on-one blind date called 'So-Gae-Ting' is a common way to meet potential future girlfriend or boyfriend. This is set up by a mutual friend and the two strangers agree to meet only with limited information about the other.

In South Korea, coin karaoke is very popular among young people. It works like a vending machine, where you can sing one or two-song by inserting 500 won (or \$0.04) or paper money.

A doljanchi is a traditional Korean ritual held to celebrate the first birthday of a child. Relatives or friends bring presents for the one-year-old baby and together they celebrate "Dol" which literally means the first birthday of baby.

Ondol is an ancient underfloor heating system and a common feature of many homes in Korea. The heat of an ondol originally came from a small contained fire in the floor of the kitchen, but modern architectures has advanced to use hot water-pipes embedded in the floor instead.

About 50% of South Korea's total population resides in an apartment. Many Koreans love living in an apartment for various reasons. On average, an apartment in South Korea provides better insulation than a house, it's easier to maintain and keep clean.

Over 20% of South Koreans have the last name Kim. Other common last names are Park and Lee. In South Korea, when someone introduces themselves or is signing a document, they say their last name first.

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

South Korea has a "deri unjeon" taxi system. This unique service brings the driver to you, and then the driver takes you and your car home or to the desired location. Available nationwide, deri unjeon is just a phone call away.



Guam Reef Hotel offers hospitality and high quality entertainment venue. Located in the center of the shopping and entertainment district and within walking distance of all the exciting Tumon attractions.

HEALTH & SAFETY

The health and safety of our guests and employees is our first priority. In consideration of the ongoing COVID-19 situation, we have enhanced our standards of cleanliness and hygiene protocols and are taking precautionary and response measures that meet the "Safe Travels" standard by World Travel & Tourism Council. For more information, please visit our website.



ROOMS

Guam Reef Hotel has 426 well-appointed stylish rooms and is located in the heart of Tumon. Our Beach Tower and Infinity Tower offer you a wide range of rooms from modern minimalist to rooms with panoramic views of Tumon Bay. All rooms include a flat-screen TV, hot/cold water dispenser and free Wi-Fi for your pleasant stay.

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A fitness room (678 sq ft) is available to help you unwind and further enhance your stay with us. We also have a microwave on every floor and a free laundry facility located at the lobby level, available 24 hours for your convenience.





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Giving gifts & tipping

For foreigners new to South Korea, guidance toward tipping is usually straightforward: Don't do it. While this is a good general rule, the tipping situation is a bit more complex than that.

There are a few circumstances when it is appropriate or expected to provide either a tip or some form of extra compensation in the form of gifts or treats. Travelers should keep in mind that, like in the U.S., local customs can change and there is no set-in-stone rule on tipping or compensation, just general guidelines. But remember, if you're at an on-base restaurant, you are expected to tip.

You don't *have to* tip anywhere in Korea, no matter how many stars your hotel is ranked or how fancy the restaurant where you're eating is. Service fees and tips are already included in the bill. Especially in restaurants, since 2013, when Korea's "final payment price marking system" was implemented.

A tip is your choice if you feel you received service beyond what you expected, however it is not required.

When you may tip

It's not uncommon to tip the concierge and/or housekeeping staff of a Western-influenced hotel.

If you're staying at a high-end

Western-style hotel, it's acceptable to leave some money (around \$10 depending on your length of stay) underneath your pillow after you check out of the room. But, again, it's not expected.

Additionally, if you find yourself taking a taxi and the ride comes to around 11,000 won (around \$10) it's not uncommon to hand the driver 15,000 won and tell them to keep the change.

Don't be surprised if in any of these situations, the tip is politely refused.

Gifts of gratitude

Americans affiliated with the military often have questions regarding providing gifts or tokens of gratitude to Korean people.

The most common examples are usually neighbors, or workers from the Korean moving companies who move household goods to or from the base. In these situations, it is acceptable to provide some sort of gift or treat.

In Korea, it is common to offer light refreshments such as sports drinks, fruit and bread to movers who move household goods to or from the base. The food expenses of the workers are generally included in the total delivery fee – but this varies by company.

If you would like to offer a monetary tip, hand them envelopes you can buy at any convenience store with a small sum



Get lucky Toilet paper, detergent great gifts

One of the advantages of living in a foreign country is the fact that you get to experience a totally different culture than what you're used to. If you are invited to a housewarming party in the States, what gift would you bring? You might bring food, snacks or a bottle of wine. But, in Korea, a roll of toilet paper and laundry detergent are the most common gifts to bring. For Koreans, cleaning supplies bring luck and good fortune to the person who just moved into a new home.

Among both toilet paper and laundry detergent, the roll of paper is the most common. Just as easily as the paper unravels from the roll, so is the gift-giver's desire for the recipient's continued success and good health. The bubbles from the detergent symbolize prosperity, wealth and stability for the recipient.

Other customs according to

local folklore, say taking the remaining embers from the previous house's fireplace to a new house will also continue the prosperity.

In addition, Koreans used to hold a purification ritual to drive away bad luck and bad spirits from the new house. Due to this, matches and candles were a popular housewarming gift in the 1960s and '70s but were replaced with detergent and toilet paper over time.

Aside from being a lucky gift, perhaps the most important thing is that your friend's cabinet will be filled with toilet paper and detergent, which could be a relief for them in the months to come. If you are invited to a Korean friend's house warming party, don't forget the TP and the soap!

– ChiHon Kim

of money for their lunch to the company's representatives. If you use the delivery contractor to the U.S. government, you are not expected to tip.

In the case of trying to give a gift to someone like a Korean neighbor, good ideas include any

American snack, including chips, nuts or chocolates. However, the ideal gift to give your new neighbors is Korean rice cakes.

Keep your gifts simple and thoughtful and they will be well received no matter what you decide on.



Thank you for inviting me.

Chodaehae juseyoseo gamsahapnida

This is for you.

igeon neoreul wihan geoya. (informal),

igeon dangsin-eul wihan geopnida.

(formal style)

Thank you for the gift.

seonmul gomawo. (informal,) Seonmul gomapseupnida. (formal style)

I wish you good fortune.

Haenguneul bipnida.

Hope to see you soon.

Jomangane dasi boepgireul barapnida.

Traditional Korean houses

Hanok refers to houses built in the traditional Korean style. While tile-roofed and thatch-roofed hanoks were equally common, the former were typically noblemen residences while the latter were mostly houses of the commoners in the past. These days, most traditional hanok that are still used for housing have modern facilities installed within.

There are two main charms to hanoks. The first is the unique heating system of ondol. A layer of stone is laid down below the flooring and when heated, the heat spreads up into every room of the house, keeping both the floor and the air surprisingly warm in winter. The use of ondol has influenced the Korean culture to a lifestyle of sitting on the floor, even in modern times. Because the floor is used for eating, sleeping, and general leisure time, people take off their shoes when entering

a Korean home. This custom started with hanok and the ondol system.

The second attractive point to hanok houses is that they are environmentally friendly. The materials needed to build a hanok house are free from chemicals, making it a healthy environment. The pillars, rafters, doors, window frames, and floor are wooden, while the walls are a mixture of straw and dirt. The paper to cover the frames of doors and windows was made from tree pulp. As the building materials used are all natural, hanok houses have excellent breathability, perfect for escaping the summer heat.

Experience the traditional culture for yourself through the many hanok villages in Korea, including Jeonju Hanok Village, Andong Hahoe Folk Village, Bukchon Hanok Village, Namsangol Hanok Village and Naganeupseong Folk Village.



Hanok village in Seoul

Traditional Korean clothes

Hanbok is the traditional attire of the Korean people. Worn daily up until just 100 years ago, hanbok comes in various shapes and colors, reflecting the culture and lifestyle of its time.

While the traditional hanbok was beautiful in its own right, the design has changed slowly but surely over the generations. The core of hanbok is its graceful shape and vibrant colors, which have had a major impact on the modern fashion industry. It is hard to think of hanbok as everyday wear but it is slowly being revolutionized through the changing of fabrics, colors and features, reflecting the latest trend. Many aspiring hanbok designers have altered hanbok for everyday wear with traditional elements at the base of the garment but having a distinct modern feel.

Features of hanbok

The unique lines of hanbok appear at their greatest when the wearer is in motion. Hanbok is creative and expressive in its design. Another special feature about hanbok is the shape, having a slim top and wide bottom, similar to a bell. The jacket should be tight and fitted while the skirt is. The tightly fitting jacket attractively reflects the shape of the upper body. The wide and flexible skirt flatter the wearer's

gracefulness by hiding the movements of the lower body, so the wearer appears to be floating on air. Hanbok fabric is colored using natural dyes. The colors of nature are imbued in the cloth, giving hanbok a depth and richness not found from artificial dyes. A full set of hanbok for men consists of a vest, jeogori (top jacket), and a pair of pants while women's include a jeogori, undershirt, skirt, and a pair of pantaloons.

Modern hanbok

For modern Koreans, hanbok are the formal clothing worn during Korean holidays or on special occasions. Children wear hanbok on their first birthday and adults wear it for their wedding ceremony or major events within the family, including funerals.

Although hanbok have become the ritual dress of choice worn only on traditional holidays, Koreans' love for hanbok is tremendous. The number of people wearing stylish hanbok modified to suit as an everyday wear continues to increase, and many enjoy outing in hanbok by renting one from hanbok rental shops.

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Do your DoDEA homework

The Department of Defense Education Activity is a K-12 American school system for U.S. military, DoD civilian dependents and other eligible families. DoDEA Pacific manages on-base schools in Guam, mainland Japan, Okinawa and South Korea.

Registration

Families are encouraged to register online using the DoDEA Online Registration System (DORS) as early as possible. This system allows sponsors to complete required documentation and include uploads of required forms prior to arriving at the new duty location. A visit to the assigned school is necessary to verify eligibility and enrollment documents, and to finalize registration. Families may also complete their registration in-country upon arrival to the new PCS location; however, it is recommended to begin the registration process in DORS prior to arrival.

Enrolled students who are advancing to the next grade level must complete the re-registration process. This includes revalidating enrollment eligibility by providing a copy of orders or Letter of Employment verification along with any required and updated immunization records for each child.

Students preparing to enter kindergarten must be five years old by Sept. 1 of the enrolling school year. For first grade, students must be 6 years of age. Proof of your child's age must be provided through documentation such as birth certificate or passport.

Some DoDEA Pacific schools offer a pre-kindergarten program called Sure Start. The program offers a comprehensive approach to early childhood education in the areas of education, health, social services and family involvement. Students must be four years old by September 1 of the enrolling school year. Contact the school directly to learn more about eligibility requirements and how to apply for Sure Start.

Records

Parents should hand-carry all academic, immunization and special education records if possible. Some schools may require

records to be mailed. If so, send records via U.S. Postal Service Priority Mail to the military address of the receiving school. Sending priority mail to the Pacific usually takes about seven to 10 days, while other methods could take several months. The sending school can also ship records to the commercial address of the DODEA Pacific school. It is recommended that you confirm the current mailing address with the school.

Student meal / free and reduced lunch program

All families with students enrolled in DoDEA Pacific schools are eligible to apply for the Free and Reduced Meal Program. Completing this application is an annual requirement for families, if eligible, to continue to receive either a free or reduced lunch. To find the correct Free and Reduced Meal Program point of contact for your family's school, please visit the DoDEA Pacific website.

To pay for school lunches, parents and sponsors will need to set up and fund a prepaid account with the agency that operates your school's lunch program. Contact your school for additional information.

School liaison officers

School liaison officers can help your family with transition issues. SLOs operate independently of DoD schools and have expertise in transition support.

Sites to visit

DoDEA registration information:
www.dodea.edu/registration-process.cfm

DoDEA-Pacific
www.dodea.edu/Pacific

Exchange Student Meal Program
www.aafes.com/about-exchange/school-lunch-program/

Exceptional Family Member Program
www.militaryonesource.mil/efmp

Tutor.com (Free online tutoring for military families)
www.tutor.com/military

Special needs children

If your child has special needs, be sure to research the available support options for your desired location. To the greatest extent possible, we follow an inclusion model and work to provide individualized support as needed.

However, overseas locations may not have the specialized medical or other support services necessary to fully meet your child's unique needs. Parents should consider how limited services may impact the growth and development of their special needs child. DoDEA Pacific staff members are available to help parents with special needs children make informed choices throughout the school year.

You can reach out to the District Special Education Instructional Systems Specialist (ISS) by contacting the DoDEA District Superintendent's Office in the location where you are considering your next assignment.

A very helpful source for information to families can also be accessed through the Exceptional Family Member Program.

Home school support

DoDEA-Pacific schools offer auxiliary services to eligible military families who choose to home school their children. Auxiliary services include use of academic resources, access to the library of the school, after hours use of school facilities, and participation in music, sports, and other extracurricular and interscholastic activities.

Eligibility is limited to students who are designated as space-required (mainland Japan, Okinawa and South Korea) or DoD dependent students eligible to enroll in Domestic Dependent Elementary and Secondary Schools (Guam) on a tuition-free basis. Home schoolers using or receiving auxiliary services must also meet the same eligibility requirements as dependents enrolled in DODEA schools who use or receive the same auxiliary services. Eligible home schoolers are not required to attend a specific number of courses to receive auxiliary services, including participating in extracurricular and interscholastic activities.

DoDEA encourages DoD sponsors who wish to home school their dependents to communicate the desire to their commanders in order to determine if there are any command policies or other rules ensuring that home school-

ing practices meet host nation, state, commonwealth, or territory requirements. Sponsors are responsible for complying with applicable local requirements. Contact your local School Liaison Officer or command representative to learn more.

**Celebrate April's
Month of the Military Child
with us!**

**Each year,
Stars and Stripes teams up with
DODEA to give our wonderful military brats
a platform to be heard. Kids of all ages from
across Pacific bases submit stories, poems,
drawings and photos about what life is like as
a military child. These run in our community
newspapers in mainland Japan,
Okinawa, Guam and Korea in April.
They are also all published at
<https://militarychild.stripes.com/>. We hope you
and your children join in on the fun.**



— DoDEA-Pacific

Take advantage of on-base colleges

The Defense Department has contracted colleges and universities to provide in-resident college and graduate programs on military installations in mainland Japan, Okinawa, South Korea and Guam.

The current contracted institutions are:

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University's award-winning undergraduate and graduate degrees are available in the Pacific! They can help you select the right degree to match your career goals in the aviation, management, safety, logistics, and engineering industries. The school offers local and online courses to accommodate your busy schedule.

University of Maryland Global Campus

UMGC is one of 11 regionally accredited, degree-granting institutions in the University System of Maryland (USM). The university brings quality higher education wherever the military needs it, with cutting-edge degree programs and classes offered both online and on-site at military installations worldwide. As the first university

to serve military overseas, UMGC has earned a global reputation for excellence. Headquartered in Adelphi, Maryland, UMGC has on-site classroom locations in the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area, Europe, the Middle East, Africa, and Asia. Offering both undergraduate and graduate degree programs, UMGC Asia's mission is to provide top quality education and services to U.S. military communities in Asia and the Pacific.

Troy University

The University proudly counts some 60 flag officers among the ranks of its alumni, has a presence on or near over 30 military installations worldwide and participates in online learning programs with all service branches. For generations, Troy University has understood the needs of the military student and has built a military inclusive institution offering a broad range of high quality, very affordable undergraduate and graduate academic programs supported by outstanding student services. Contact your education center to learn what in-residence and distance-learning programs are available on your base.

University of Maryland Global Campus:

www.umuc.edu/military



Troy University:

www.troy.edu/military



Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University:

worldwide.erau.edu/pacificmil



Education centers

Camp Casey Bldg. S-1757 DSN: 722-1786	USAG Daegu Henry Bldg. F-1840 DSN: 763-4923 Carroll Bldg. T-236 DSN: 763-5406	Camp Humphreys Bldg. 657 DSN: 755-3600 Kunsan Air Base Bldg. 1051 DSN: 782-5148	Osan Air Base Bldg. 789 DSN: 784-4220
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Military Tuition Assistance

If you've thought about going to college, but didn't know if you could afford it, then the Military Tuition



Read more

Assistance program may be just the benefit you need. The program is available to active duty, National Guard and Reserve Component service members. While the decision to pursue a degree may be a difficult one personally, TA can lessen your financial concerns considerably, since it now pays up to 100% of tuition expenses for semester hours costing \$250 or less.

Courses and degree programs may be academic or technical and can be taken from two- or four-year institutions on-installation, off-installation or by distance learning. An accrediting body recognized by the Department of Education must accredit the institution. Your service branch pays your tuition directly to the school. Service members need to first check with an education counselor for the specifics involving TA by visiting their local installation education office or by going online to a virtual education center. Tuition assistance may be used for the following programs:

- Vocational/technical programs
- Undergraduate programs
- Graduate programs
- Independent study
- Distance-learning programs

Eligibility

All four service branches and the U.S. Coast Guard offer financial assistance for voluntary, off-duty education programs in support of service members' personal and professional goals. The program is open to officers, warrant officers and enlisted active-duty service personnel. In addition, members of the National Guard and Reserve Components may be eligible for TA based on their service eligibility. To be eligible for TA, an enlisted service member must have enough time remaining in service to complete the course for which he or she has applied. After the completion of a course, an officer using TA must fulfill a service obligation that runs parallel with – not in addition

to – any existing service obligation. **Coverage amounts and monetary limits**

The Tuition Assistance Program may fund up to 100% of your college tuition and certain fees with the following limits:

- Not to exceed \$250 per semester credit hour or \$166 per quarter credit hour
- Not to exceed \$4,500 per fiscal year, Oct. 1 through Sept. 30

Tuition assistance vs. VA education benefits

While the TA program is offered by the services, the Department of Veterans Affairs administers a variety of education benefit programs. Some of the VA programs, such as the Post-9/11 Veterans Education Assistance Act of 2008, also known as the Post-9/11 GI Bill, can work well with the TA program, as it can supplement fees not covered by TA. In addition, the Post-9/11 GI Bill® funds are available to you after you leave the military. If your service ended before Jan. 1, 2013, you have 15 years to use this benefit. If your service ended on or after Jan. 1, 2013, the benefit won't expire. The TA program is a benefit that is available only while you're in the service.

Tuition assistance benefits and restrictions

Tuition assistance will cover the following expenses:

- Tuition
- Course-specific fees such as laboratory fee or online course fee

NOTE: All fees must directly relate to the specific course enrollment of the service member.

Tuition assistance will not cover the following expenses:

- Books and course materials
- Flight training fees
- Taking the same course twice
- Continuing education units, or CEUs

Application process

Each military branch has its own TA application form and procedures. To find out how to get started, visit your local installation education center, go online to a virtual education center or click on the following links for each service branch.



Mastering mass transit in Korea

You can get almost anywhere on the Korean Peninsula with minimal effort and for a very reasonable price via public or private transportation. Whether by train, taxi, bus, plane or your own privately-owned vehicle, there is an adventure out there with your name on it. Here are the basics for getting started.

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

Travel by train

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

The fastest and most expensive is the Korean Train eXpress. KTX trains normally run at speeds up to 300 kilometers per hour (186 mph). KTX pricing on tickets was

Don't forget to try the AREX for a quick train ride from Incheon Airport to Seoul Station. The fare is comparable to that of buses, and much cheaper than taking a taxi. Incheon to Seoul should be just about 9,000 won, which is just around \$7.56 and takes around 45 minutes on the express train. From Gimpo airport to Seoul Station, the all-stop ride is a short 22 minutes and costs about 1450 won, or around 1.22 cents..

originally designed to provide an option halfway between airfares and the lower priced trains. It is still a fast and economical way to travel between major cities in Korea. The KTX is limited to major cities, so you may have to get creative depending on your final destination.

The Gyeongbu (Kyoungbu) Line starts in Seoul and ends in Busan (Pusan) or Pohang. The Honam Line passes through Seoul (Yongsan Station) and ends in either Gwangju (Kwangju) or Mokpo. The standard fare to Busan on the Gyeongbu Line is about 59,800 won (about \$50.04) for designated seating and 50,000 won (\$44) for unguaranteed seating. The fare on the Honam Line to Gwangju is around 34,300 won and 29,200 won, respectively. (Special compartments are 140 percent of the basic fare.) KTX fares are 15 to 30 percent higher

than the Saemaeul trains – the next lower level of service.

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

Mugunghwa trains are yet another step down in both speed and luxury. They cost less than the Saemaeul and stop at even more locations. When riding the Mugunghwa it's well worth it to pay extra for a special car, because a standard-car ticket on a heavy travel day will likely have you standing in the aisles.

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

Travel by subway

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

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

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

No. 1 (Dark Blue) Line: Trains on this line run from Soyosan, just north of Dongducheon (Camp Casey), to either Incheon or Seodongtan. The line separates at Guro (Kuro) Station. Those going to – or coming from – areas near either Osan Air Base or Camp Humphreys will need to be

See TRANSIT on Page 26

Best Price for Quality Jewelry

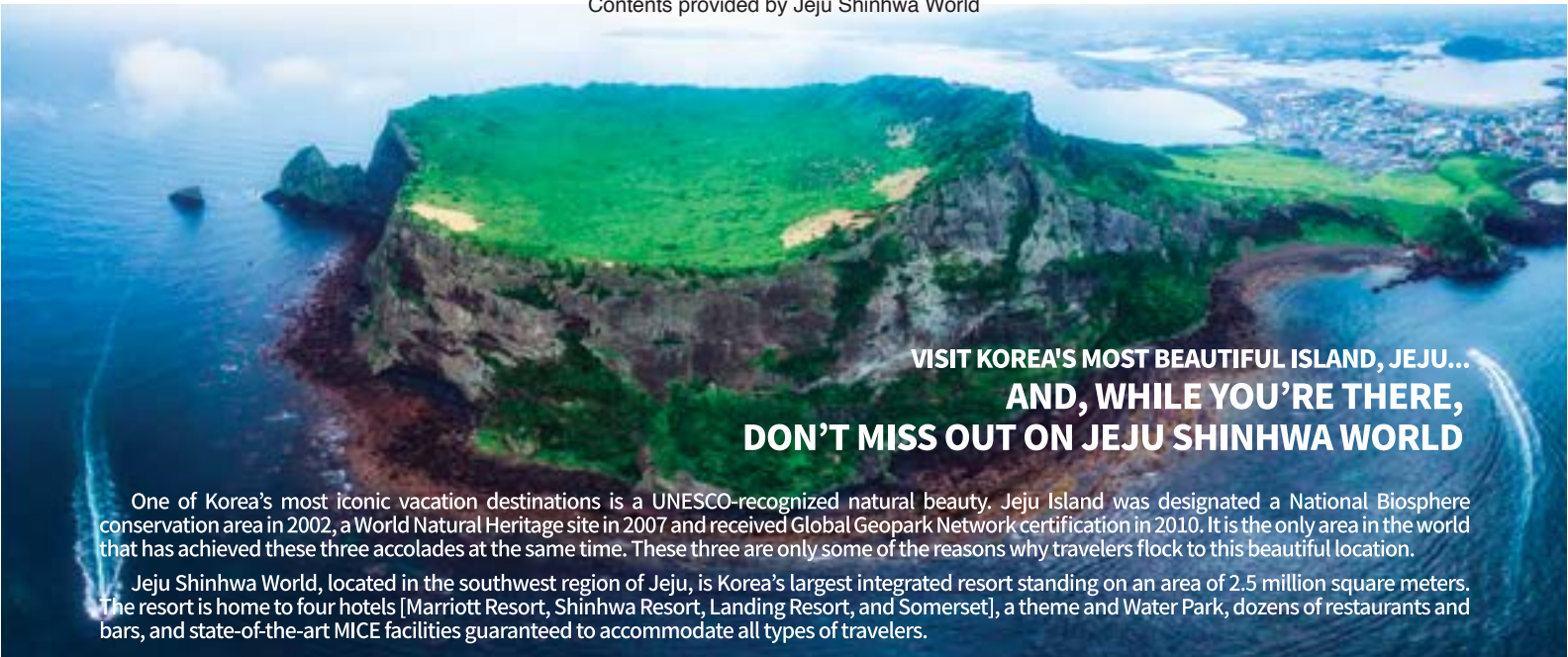


- ## Customize Your Own Jewelry



Building No: 203, Road: 383, Block: 304, Shop 42
Gold City Manama, Near Delmon International Hotel - Bahrain
Also in the Al Raya Mall, Juffair Bahrain

 Lasheen Jeweler



VISIT KOREA'S MOST BEAUTIFUL ISLAND, JEJU... AND, WHILE YOU'RE THERE, DON'T MISS OUT ON JEJU SHINHWA WORLD

One of Korea's most iconic vacation destinations is a UNESCO-recognized natural beauty. Jeju Island was designated a National Biosphere conservation area in 2002, a World Natural Heritage site in 2007 and received Global Geopark Network certification in 2010. It is the only area in the world that has achieved these three accolades at the same time. These three are only some of the reasons why travelers flock to this beautiful location.

Jeju Shinhwa World, located in the southwest region of Jeju, is Korea's largest integrated resort standing on an area of 2.5 million square meters. The resort is home to four hotels [Marriott Resort, Shinhwa Resort, Landing Resort, and Somerset], a theme and Water Park, dozens of restaurants and bars, and state-of-the-art MICE facilities guaranteed to accommodate all types of travelers.

UNRIVALED NATURAL BEAUTY – ONLY IN JEJU!

Jeju Shinhwa World is just a short drive away from some of the island's most beautiful attractions including coastal areas carved from volcanic activity dating back millions of years and Gotjawal, volcanic symbiotic forests you can only find in Jeju.



Make sure to stop in at the "Mosil" Clubhouse at Jeju Shinhwa World Marriott Resort, inspired by Jeju's famous Seongsan Ilchulbong Peak, one of 12 UNESCO World Global Geoparks. Another must-see is Somerset Jeju Shinhwa World, enveloped by the lush Gotjawal forest, one of the most pristine forests in the world.

TAKE YOUR PICK FROM JEJU SHINHWA WORLD'S FOUR UNIQUE HOTELS

Jeju Shinhwa World has four hotels and condos to choose from to fit any of your travel needs.

Marriott Resort awaits international travelers seeking the comforts and services only the Marriott name can provide. At the Marriott's "Mosil" Clubhouse, soak in the heated outdoor pool year-round, and treat yourself at the spa featuring 8 private treatment rooms. The resort also offers easy access to Landing Casino, the largest foreigners-only casino in Jeju.



Traveling with your family? Somerset Resort offers three-bedroom suites equipped with two bathrooms, a spacious living room, and a kitchen stocked with smart home appliances including a refrigerator, dishwasher, washing machine and even a wine cooler.

Smaller families and couples will fall in love with Shinwa Resort's junior suites that can connect to other rooms. This resort offers an outdoor, year-round Sky Pool and the island's largest Sony Playstation Zone.

On a girls' trip or relaxed couples' trip? Landing Resort is also a great choice those who just want to relax and enjoy the island without any unnecessary frills.

GREAT GOURMET BROUGHT TO YOU BY WORLD-RENNOWNED MASTER CHEFS

At Jeju Shinhwa World, know you'll not only get a relaxing experience but also a delicious one! Enjoy authentic Cantonese cuisine served by award-winning star chef Alan Chan at Le Chinois. Savor some classic family favorites such as Beijing Duck, or embrace variety with Dim Sum Brunch including a selection of more than 20 juicy xiaolongbao buns and dumplings.

There are more bars and restaurants to check out including handcrafted Korean restaurant Jeju Seon offering amazing dishes using only the freshest of local ingredients. Steak lovers will want to try SKY on 5 Dining.



FUN-FILLED THEME PARK AND WATER PARK

Thrill and adventure-seekers will want to head to Shinhwa Theme Park, which offers fun rides for all ages, performances and shows throughout the day. In the winter, enjoy the ice-skating rink or in the summer, a refreshing



bumper car ride. The park also has a 4D theater and VR zone. Also in the summer months, enjoy Jeju's largest water park at Shinhwa with 13 different types of waves, slides and pools including two slides that stretch 230 meters long, the first of their kind in Asia. 🌈

Travel your moments



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on the Seodongtan portion of the line. There are some trains that do not start or finish at the “terminal stations” listed on maps, so check the destination listed on the front and sides of the train.

No. 2 (Green) Line: This line forms a great circle around some of the best places to go in Seoul. If you are shopping, you can get to either the Dongdaemun (Tondaeumun) or Namdaemun (at City Hall Station) market areas. You can get to several universities or the Jamsil Sports Complex on this line as well. Check the map well before boarding; going the wrong direction full circuit will make for a very long ride to your destination.

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

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

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

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

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

Terminal.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Travel by taxi

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

The ilban taxi starts at 3,000 won (about \$3), while the mobom starts at 5,000 won. Rates start from the basic fare and go up either by the distance traveled

or the time elapsed. Fares of the ilban taxis increase by 20% between the hours of midnight and 4 a.m. You can catch cabs at a taxi stand or hail them on the street. During rush hour or in bad weather expect a long wait.

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

Tipping the driver is not normally expected in Korea. However, it’s also customary to not expect small change after paying. On the other hand, drivers who often work around military bases are more likely to expect a small gratuity.

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

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

It is also wise to ensure that the driver is using the meter when you start your trip, unless you

Travel apps

KakaoTalk

If you are traveling on the train, there is a handy mobile app that will help you navigate the rail system in English. Set the app to English and off you go. You can book a ticket on the app and just show your reservation info from the phone if the train employee asks for your tickets.



KakaoMap

Google Maps app does not work on the peninsula. Try KakaoMap instead. KakaoMap will automatically track your current location, calculate and show an approximate distance to the final destination.



KakaoMetro

This app offers accurate estimated fares and quickest routes to get home. The app also provides real-time subway information based on location, and also lets you set an alarm so you know your stop is coming up. The app will even tell you which door leads to the fastest transfer during high-traffic commutes.



have (willingly) agreed upon a set price prior to starting your ride. SOFA personnel will find

Online help to get around

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



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



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



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



Hi-Pass On Board Unit (in English):
<http://www.morningstation.co.kr/en/portfolio-item/hi-pass/>



Exchange taxis available on base. (Some bases have a limited number of off-base taxis authorized to come on the bases.) These on-base taxis are very convenient and make life easier in and around bases. Though the rates for these taxis is higher, unlike the ilban, they accept dollars and the drivers can answer some questions you may have about the area.

Travel by car

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

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

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

The Hi-Pass Card can be purchased and charged at many of the same locations. There is a 5,000 won deposit required when the card is purchased, and the card can be charged and recharged in amounts from 5,000 to 500,000 won.

Travel by bus

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

All major cities and most towns in Korea have a main bus terminal. Transportation to other cities is possible via the "kosok bus" express system. In Seoul, the main

hub is the Gang-Nam Express Bus Terminal. Express buses do not have toilets on board, but they do make frequent stops at rest areas. Seats are comfortable enough for travel but are not quite as roomy as those on a Greyhound cruiser.

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

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

In Seoul, there are four different color-coded bus systems (bus numbers indicate specific routes): **Blue buses** serve major roads between downtown Seoul, its outskirts and sub-centers. Routes are usually direct and efficient, with few detours from main roads.

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

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

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

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

As an example, if you take local buses and subways five times



Electronic Toll Collection

Highway tolls can be paid using credit cards, cash, or a Hi-Pass card in South Korea. The handy Hi-Pass system allows you to pay tolls without having to stop at every toll gate. For this collection system, you're required to have both an On Board Unit (OBU) placed at the front part of the vehicle (normally on the car dashboard or around rear-view mirror), and a Hi-Pass card which should be inserted into the OBU.

If your car has a rear-view with ETC unit (Electronic Toll Collection), you can get a Hi-Pass card from any store selling OBU. You can buy a prepaid Hi-Pass card that is only available to pay tolls or get a credit card that is linked to Hi-Pass service. Both cards are available at rest stops on highways. Toll fees are varied by the distance you've traveled, the type of roads, and the type of vehicle.

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

Seoul Metropolitan Subway recently replaced many of its ticket windows with automated vending machines. You can use them to purchase tickets as well as buy and recharge T-Money Cards. The vending machines are easy to use and have instructions in Korean, English, Chinese and Japanese. Subway staff is also available at stations to help.

Travel by plane


Roundtrip domestic airfares

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

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

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

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



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Buying & registering a POV on the ROK



The roads of Korea may offer plenty of adventure, but first get a car that will get you where you want to go and back.

To drive a privately owned vehicle (POV) in Korea, you need a United States Forces Korea driver's license. Active-duty personnel, civilian employees and family members age 18 and older are potentially eligible. The expiration date of USFK licenses depends on the person's "date eligible to return from overseas," or DEROS. For military personnel, licenses are normally good for two years. For Department of Defense civilians, it's up to five years.

U.S. military commands in Korea have varying policies regarding who may purchase vehicles. The registration process also varies, so check your local restrictions. Next, determine your needs and budget as well as such variables as length of duty tour and planned frequency of travel.

Insurance is required prior to registering a vehicle with USFK. When purchasing, discuss your needs in depth with an agent. It's best to have more than the minimum required coverage.

Finding vehicles to purchase is the easy part. On U.S. military bases, there is always someone

PCS-ing out and many are usually trying to sell their vehicles shortly before departing. These vehicles often have a sign in the window indicating their features and price. Many bases have designated areas for these vehicles, which are often called "lemon lots." This can be more than a mere moniker.

The risk of buying a used vehicle from a fellow SOFA-status person is that the vehicle may have had numerous owners, many of whom may have done minimal maintenance because they only planned to use it for a short time. Inspect it carefully. There is more to check than the required safety inspection items.

Many bases have Auto Hobby Centers that will inspect the vehicle for a nominal sum before you buy it. They advise you of the car's defects before you hand over your hard-earned cash. The centers can also conduct the official safety inspection and issue the certificate needed before you can register the vehicle.

The benefit of buying a used vehicle from a SOFA-status seller is that these vehicles are easy to register. Go with the current owner and registration to the Pass & Vehicle Registration office. You will need:

- **Vehicle insurance policy**

- **USFK 134 EK driver's license (POV)**

- **Valid safety inspection**

At Pass & Vehicle Registration, complete the application for registration and bill of sale. The office will cancel the old registration and transfer ownership. An authority will place a decal on the windshield, but the license plates remain the same.

A more reliable option is Military AutoSource. Vehicles come with an import license and bill of sale. Take the bill of sale to an O-4, GS-12, NF 4 grade or higher. Have that person sign as a witness. Take the documents to the registration office and fill out a registration application. The office will issue a decal and license plates. New vehicles don't require a safety inspection. You're ready to roll in a vehicle with a warranty, U.S. specs and an English-language owner's manual.

Unfortunately, your "follow-on" orders may not include vehicle shipment. It may also be difficult to get what your car is worth if you are forced to leave it behind.

Buying a used car off base is more complicated. Accompany the seller to the local government office (Yongsan Ward office in Seoul, Pyeongtaek City

office in the Camp Humphreys area) and deregister the vehicle. They will issue a bill of sale as well as a new license plate. Take it to Pass & Vehicle Registration on base with the same documents needed for a used vehicle purchased on base. They will issue a decal.

If you buy a new car off base, the dealer will provide you with a manufacturer's certificate. It's written in Korean, but ensure your name is correctly typed in English. In the space requiring your KID (Korean ID) number, put your Social Security number. If there are mistakes on the form, Pass & Registration will not issue a decal.

When delivery of the new car is made, a temporary license plate will be placed on the vehicle. The temporary plate is normally valid for 10 days, but may be valid for up to 30 days. You may be subject to fines if you fail to complete the registration process within that time. At the registration office, you will need:

- **Manufacturer's certificate**
- **Temporary license plate**
- **Valid insurance policy**
- **USFK driver's license**

License plates for a new car bought off base or one that has been deregistered must be issued by a Korean governmental authority.

On-base vehicle registration offices

Camp Humphreys

Bldg. 6400; Tel: 757-4001
Mon - Fri: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
(Closed for lunch 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.)

Yongsan Garrison

Bldg. 4304; Rm#144
Tel: (315) 738-4603
Mon - Fri: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
(Open during lunch)

Osan Air Base

Bldg. 765
Tel: 784-4489 / 784-1853
Mon, Wed: 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Fri: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Tue, Thu: 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
(Open during lunch)

Kunsan Air Base

Bldg. 1310; Tel: 782-5678/4900
Mon-Fri: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
(Open during lunch)

Camp Walker

Bldg. S-330, Rm. 128A; Tel: 763-4708
Mon - Fri: 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
(Closed for lunch 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.)

Camp Casey/Area I

Bldg. 2440, Maude Hall
Tel: 722-4033/4034 (SOFA)
Tel: 722-1588 (Non-SOFA)
Tel: 722-1582/1583/1587/1588
Mon - Fri: 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
(Limited services during lunch)

Camp Carroll

Bldg. 946; Tel: 763-2575
Mon - Fri: 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
(Closed for lunch 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.)

INSURANCE
POLICY

Where to purchase a vehicle

There are many car dealers in Korea anxious for military business. **Military AutoSource** (www.militaryautosource.com), which has served the military community abroad for more than 47 years, offers the finest Chrysler, Dodge, Jeep, Ram, Ford, Lincoln and Harley-Davidson vehicles to military personnel stationed here, through independent sales representatives on 11 bases in Korea.

US Military Sales (www.usmilsales.com), selling new U.S.-specification Volvos, will help you save thousands of dollars on Stateside MSRP. Their showroom is located near the Dong Chang-ri gate at USAG Humphreys, with additional sales offices at the U.S. Embassy Association Building at USAG Yongsan Garrison and near Osan Air Base's walk-in gate. They also take trade-ins and sell used cars. Call 010-3098-4507 for more information.

BMW / MINI Military Sales help you to save up to 25 percent from MSRP for all U.S. military members when purchasing a BMW/MINI while stationed in Korea. Your choices can vary, Korean specs, as well as U.S. specs, are available depending on your status. Visit their office located in Yongsan (Across from Yongsan Garrison's Gate #8) and their Pyeongtaek office, located less than a mile away straight from Anjeong-ri Gate. For more details, go to www.bmwdsskorea.com, Facebook and Instagram, or call 1577-2696 (BMW M).

Craigslist (seoul.craigslist.co.kr/cta/) is growing more popular as a way to find a used car in Korea. The well-known site lists vehicles for sale by owners and dealers, and usually displays a photo of the car as well as basic details about it.

Another popular website for cars is **USFK Classifieds** (usfkclassifieds.co.kr/) (010-8222-5573), a Yongsan-area dealer which claims to cater specifically to U.S. Forces Korea. Its easy-to-use site offers looks at an inventory of early-to-late model cars priced in U.S. dollars, with more than 200 vehicles available at its consolidated dealership and access to many more. The firm offers on-base pickup to the dealership and full repair services.

If you are not looking for a new

luxury car to see you through your deployment in Korea, but want something a cut above what can be found in a lemon lot, here are some dealers who want your business:

Seoul Area

Gorilla Motors (SOFA specialist), (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/gorillamotors/>) (010-8338-0026) Gyeonggi-do, Pyeongtaek-si, Songhwa-ri, 410-1 KR

Selling used cars to Camp Casey, K-16, Osan AB, Kunsan AB and Camp Walker.

Camp Humphreys area

Kang's Auto Sales & Service is only a 2-minute drive from Dongchang-ri Gate. They have been serving the Camp Humphreys community for more than 10 years. Tel: 031-691-2255 or 010-5691-6243; Address: 17911 80, Paengseongdaegyo-gil, Paengseong-eup, Pyeongtaek-si, Gyeonggi-do.

CarMax Humphreys (www.carmax-center.com) (010-9217-9987), is located about 5 minutes away, halfway between the Anjung-ri and Dongchang-ri Gates. They have been serving the Camp Humphreys community for more than 20 years.

OMG Motors (sites.google.com/site/omgmotors/services/home/omg-motors-used-car-sales) (031-655-7911), a self-styled foreign car specialist, is located less than half a mile from the main gate of Camp Humphreys. Though it started as a car repair facility, it has since branched out into used car sales. Ask for Lee, Sung Min.

Johnny's Used Cars (010-5356-3065). Ask for Johnny Kim.

Yongsan Garrison area

James Garage, a 2-minute walk from Commissary Gate, has been serving the USFK community for more than 30 years. This facility is not only a used car selling agent but also a professional auto repair shop. You can have a look at pre-screened used cars available right on the spot at James Garage. Call 02-796-6062 or 010-3742-6062.

Mr. Bill's Cars (www.mrbillsars.kr.com) (010-4555-6266) is actually located by Yongsan's Gate 6. The dealer, which was named Best of

the Pacific by Stars and Stripes for 2008, 2009, 2011 and 2012, gives its customers personal service, from finding a car to getting it purchased and registered. It keeps a complete record of inventory on its website.

AceMotors (acemotors.net/default.asp) (011-8875-8881), located across the river from Yongsan near the Gayang Bridge, has been serving the foreign community since 1997. It claims to have more than 2,000 cars on its lot, from luxury to inexpensive, foreign to Korean made. The firm offers to help buyers from A to Z, from getting your driver's license to registering the car you buy and purchasing insurance. It even rents cars, short or long term, until you buy one of your own.

Karstart Inc. (www.karstart.co.kr/) (Alex 010-5742-5741) offers two ways to purchase a vehicle: from inventory or ordering one based on your requirements. It's easy-to-use website, which lists vehicles according to size and type, shows photos of the cars in its extensive inventory and quotes prices in dollars.

GRIT Motortainment offers various auto tuning parts, from tires and rims to exterior body kits. It is well-known for being a one-stop shop that you can consult on maintenance, repairs, used and new car purchases, plus tuning parts. They are dealers of Rotiform, Hamman Motorsports and Kahn Designs in Korea, and their aftermarket parts fit numerous domestic and import car brands. Their showroom is located near Costco Gongse and is open Monday through Saturday. For more info, go to www.gritmotortainment.com or call 031-285-9500.

Osan Air Base area

HANMMI AUTO SALES Ask for Jack (010-6202-8256), 37, Jungangsijang-ro, 6 Beon-gil, Pyeongtaek-si.

Daegu area

(Camp Henry, Gate #2)

New Motor King Car Center, (053-472-8400 or 010-3531-4929) Mr. Yun, Jung-Ho, 71, E-cheon ro, namgu, Daegu.

Mr. Yun is a professional mechanic trained in all vehicles, including export models. Mr. Yun also offers used car purchase consultations and car rental reservation consultations.

Helpful tips!



Use caution at crosswalks

If you are new to Korea, you'll quickly learn that the streets are filled with cars, trucks and motorbikes going every which way. In many places, the pace is fast and hectic. If walking about, you'll notice that many pedestrian crosswalks do not have a light, so you have to decide when to walk across the street. By law and how Koreans are taught in driver's school, pedestrians have the right of way.

It is said that if a pedestrian puts his foot on the street to begin crossing, drivers must yield. You need to know that not everyone follows that law. You must look both ways and really be sure that traffic is going to stop before attempting to cross the street. And, even if you are at a crosswalk with a light, you still need to be cautious. If you have children, hold onto their hands. Be safe and watch out for those cars.



Stay out of bus lanes

Like in many other countries around the world, Korean cities have bus-only lanes. You'll recognize these special lanes by the single or double blue lines and "bus only" Korean markings. Depending on where you're driving, the lanes can be in the median or on the roadside.

The most recognizable lane is the median double blue lane in Seoul. This type of lane is used by buses 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, so other vehicles are strictly prohibited to use it.

The penalty for ignoring the rules is a 50,000 won fine (about \$43 for sedans) and 10 demerit points on your license. On the highway, the fines and demerit points tend to be higher (60,000 won or \$51 and 30 demerit points), so watch out!



Read more:

Know where NOT to park

Driving around Korea you may notice the parking lots have many different colored spots with a variety of symbols. Is it okay for you to park in them? Here is a break down of who these spots are for and when it's okay to use them:



Senior citizens

These spaces marked in yellow are for elderly drivers, especially those who have mobility difficulties. These spots, while necessary, are not easy to distinguish from other parking spaces, as they are marked with '어르신 우선 주차구역' meaning "elderly parking space." Recently, signs with an elderly person logo have gradually started to appear, but they vary by region.



Women-only

Established to make women feel safer, women's parking spaces can be found nationwide. These spots are usually in an area under closed-circuit surveillance and are wider and longer, allowing women with children and strollers to have enough space to get out of their vehicles.

You'll recognize these as they tend to have hot pink outlines and are marked with the standard woman symbol.



Expectant mothers

This type of space is increasing

in many government office parking lots around South Korea. Like a women's priority parking lot, these parking spaces are wider than regular parking lots and are bordered with hot pink outlines and marked the pregnant woman logo.



Electric Vehicle

The rapidly increasing number of electric vehicles or plug-in hybrid vehicles has made parking spots of this nature more common. Usually marked in English as EV or an simple plug logo, parking in these spots could get you a fine

as there are limited parking spots for recharging.



Military vets, police, firefighters

Military veterans and police officers can park in these blue spots marked with a ying-yang symbol and dove logo. These spaces are for those who participated in the war or pro-democracy movement in South Korea, and public servants who suffered severe physical injury and mental problems in the line of duty.

- Chihon Kim



Explore on a bike

Bike-sharing services have taken large cities globally by storm, and Seoul is also a host to its own fleet of wheels. Bicycles are a good option for exploring the city, while reducing pollution and helping to alleviate traffic congestion. Seoul installed its public bike service called "Ttareungyi" in 2014, with about

24,000 bikes now in circulation.

Reserve your own set of wheels ahead of time by using the Seoul Bike app or website for a mere 1,000 won (about \$0.85) per hour. You don't have to be a member to use the service and they even offer longer-term rental tickets by the week, month, six months and full year.



Photo courtesy of Seoul Bike

Seoul Bike

WHERE: There are more than 3,000 bike rental centers.

HOW TO RENT: Credit, T-money and mobile payment including PAYCO and KAKAO PAY are available.

TIP: If traveling with multiple people, you can buy a group ticket for multiple bike rentals. See website.

WEBSITE: <https://www.bikeseoul.com/> (ENG)



You'll recognize Ttareungyi bikes by their white and green color. Each bike is equipped with a lock and card reader.

Both the app and website are available in English as well. Register your T-Money card or transportation card for quicker service. Once you've registered your card, you can tap your card on the bike's card reader and go!

The best part of a Ttareungyi

is that you're not required to return the bike you've rented to the spot where you picked it up. Bikes can be returned to any of the Ttareungyi spots near where your exploring takes you. A "Return is completed" message will appear on the bike's screen to let you know you've returned it correctly. And don't forget to lock the bike to prevent theft.

- Chihon Kim

Camp coordinates

Travel base to base

Thanks to GPS, getting lost is nearly a thing of the past. Unfortunately, with military bases, and the sometimes countless entrance gates, finding your exact destination via GPS can often prove harder than it should. Below, you'll find the exact latitude and longitude coordinates for many of the gates located in Korea. Need to find the gate near the golf course at K-16 Songnam? Just input the coordinates below (37.448649, 127.104741) into your GPS device of choice, and you're sure to make that 7 a.m. tee time.

1. Camp Casey

Main Gate

37.917666 (latitude), 127.056608 (longitude)

Back Gate

37.925343, 127.056331

2. Camp Hovey

Main Gate

37.898553, 127.081548

5. Suwon AB

Main Gate

37.245974, 127.013330

6. Osan AB

Main Gate

37.079084, 127.049969

Back Gate

37.086756, 127.050803

7. Camp Humphreys

Anjeong-Ri Gate (Main Gate)

36.957884, 127.045043

Anjeong-Ri Gate (Pedestrian gate)

36.959117, 127.043068

Dongchang-Ri Gate

36.969125, 127.037009

Hamjeong-Ri Gate

36.951142, 127.018124

Dodu-Ri Gate

36.960906, 126.990362

8. Kunsan AB

Main Gate

35.925842, 126.615635

9. Camp Walker

Gate #4

35.839972, 128.588496

Gate #6

35.841656, 128.583400

10. Camp Henry

Front Gate

35.850272, 128.599680

Back Gate

35.849102, 128.604473

3. USAG Yongsan

Gate #1 (Dragon Hill Lodge) Pedestrian only

37.530496, 126.984413

Gate #3 (Noksapeyong Station)

37.534849, 126.983015

Gate #6 (Commissary Gate)

37.527395, 126.991405

Gate #13 (Ichondong Escort Gate)

37.5223765, 126.9743299

4. K-16 AB

Main Gate

37.448649, 127.104741

Songnam Golf Course

37.478171, 127.156384

13. Camp Mujuk

Main Gate

35.961750, 129.422196

14. Chinhae Naval Base

Main Gate

35.155258, 128.655048

11. Camp George

Main Gate

35.849856, 128.595182

12. Camp Carroll

Waegan

35.989317, 128.405329

Above: Members of the Republic of Korea Air Force high-altitude low-opening (HALO) jump team present the flags during the opening ceremony of Osan Air Power Day in 2019.

Photo by Staff Sgt. Ramon A. Adelan/ U.S. Air Force

Left: The Gingerbread Brawlers and Candy Cane Crushers compete in a roller derby scrimmage at Collier Community Fitness Center on Camp Humphreys. Photo by Matthew Keeler/Stars and Stripes.

Space-A travel

A way to see the world

Space Available travel offers a way for Armed Services personnel, their dependents, retirees and others who support the mission to see the world on a budget... if the timing is right. Below is what you need to know about this great privilege:

What is Space-A?

It is a program that allows authorized passengers to occupy surplus seats after all cargo and space-required duty passengers have been accommodated.

Who can fly Space-A?

Uniformed services duty personnel, their dependents, Red Cross personnel, USO personnel who also support the mission, and veterans. Passengers may not use the flights for personal gain, in relationship to employment, to find a house or for other prohibited activities.

What do I need to qualify?

- Qualified travelers must have completed the proper procedures and have the required documentation for travel.
- Active duty must be on leave before they can register for Space-A.
- Dependents of active duty flying unaccompanied need an Unaccompanied Command Sponsorship from his or her spouse's commander. The letter is valid for one round trip travel via military aircraft, describes the reason for travel and the category of passenger travel.
- Also mandatory for travel: military ID cards, passports, social security numbers and emergency contact information at the final destination.

How much does it cost?

Most flights offered through

the Air Force's Air Mobility Command (AMC) or the Navy and are usually free of charge.

Patriot Express flights are commercial, so a small tax (usually under \$30) is charged per seat and per leg.

Where can I go on Space-A?

Common destinations include the Continental U.S. states, Hawaii, Alaska, Germany, England, Spain, Italy, Japan and South Korea. In spring of 2020, flights between Seattle and Guam were added on a bi-weekly, proof-of-concept basis. Flights may even go to South and Central America, Africa and Australia.

When is the best time to fly?

The best time to obtain seats is when DODEA schools are in session.

Because the program is a privilege, it is imperative to understand the circumstances may change due to mission mobility. Flying exactly where you want to go at the time or day you want to fly is not always possible. So, if you have a specific itinerary for your destination or your return, you may want to reconsider using Space-A for those travel plans. This program is designed for those who have enough available leave, time and flexibility to wait or change their schedule.

Where can I register?

There are many ways. In-person registration can be completed at the terminal's helpdesk or self-help kiosks. You can also register via email, fax or online through www.takeahop.org. Registration is allowed for up to five departure airports and five countries of destination.

The website also offers a smartphone app where, for a couple of dollars, users can

quickly sign up for the flights and destinations. Also, save time by monitoring terminal activity via the phone app.

What happens after I register?

Once registered, your information remains active for either 60 days, or for the duration of your leave orders or authorization of flight, whichever occurs first. Print a copy of your registration to keep on hand at the terminal. The time and date stamp of your registration determines your position and priority within your Space-A category.

On flight day, decide which terminal you think would be the best chance for Space-A departure and head out. It helps to phone the terminals that you requested for departure and to monitor recent schedules. Check online and on Facebook for your favorite Space-A terminals' information. Available seats are now identified between two to five hours prior to departure but being at the terminal early will help you vie for seats. Be "travel-ready" with the proper luggage, any dependents and paperwork, your car parked or rental returned, etc. If your name is called and you are not physically present to hear the roll call, your name will be put at the bottom of your category list, and you may not make that flight.

What are the categories?

Each passenger is assigned a passenger category for travel. These categories designate the order by which you may be boarded on Space-A flights. The following list is generalized:

Category I – Emergency travel on a round-trip basis in connection with serious illness, death, or impending death of a member of the immediate family.

Category II – Environmental Morale Leave (EML) and dependents.

Category III – Active duty ordinary Leave and dependents; convalescent leave; permissive TDYs; Unaccompanied

dependent of deployed service-member for more than a year.

Category IV - Unaccompanied dependent of deployed service-member on EML status.

Category V – Unaccompanied military dependent of non-deployed servicemember.

Category VI – Retirees, Reservists.

What baggage can I bring?

- Two pieces of checked baggage; 70 lbs each; up to 62 linear inches in size. (families can pool baggage allowances)
- Carry-ons must fit in overhead bins (if available) or under your seat
- Travel light as baggage weight could be restricted for your flight.

What else should I know?

- Wear appropriate footwear, bring jackets, blankets, snacks, bottled water and things to keep you busy, like books, games or electronic devices.
- Available plugs for charging are along the walls.
- Remember to stay flexible. Travel during off-peak seasons (stay away from summer break and major holidays).
- Sometimes travelers attempt to catch a hop at neighboring base terminals to maximize chances of getting on a flight.
- For your return flight, you could wait several days for available space. Or, you could even be dropped off in another country to wait for a flight.
- Remaining calm, positive and being flexible will help.
- When flying Space-A, be ready for anything.

For restrictions and information regarding COVID-19, please visit:
<https://www.amc.af.mil/Home/AMC-Travel-Site/Coronavirus/>



Pacific locations

OKINAWA KADENA AB

733 AMS, Unit 5145 Box 10
Phone: 634-5806 / 098-962
6487
Facebook.com/AMCKadena

GUAM ANDERSEN AFB

Bldg. 17002 Unit 14008
Phone: 671-366-5165

MAINLAND JAPAN MISAWA AB

Bldg. 943
Phone: 315-226-2370/2371
Commercial: 011-81-176-77-
2370/2371
Facebook.com/
MisawaPassengerTerminal

NAF ATSUGI

Bldg. 206
Phone: 0467-63-3118
Facebook.com/AtsugiTerminal

MCAS IWAKUNI

Bldg. 727
Phone: 315-253-5509
Facebook.com/
IwakuniPassengerTerminal

YOKOTA AB

Bldg. 80
Phone: 315-225-5660/5661/
5662
Facebook.com/
YokotaPassengerTerminal

KOREA OSAN AB

Bldg. 648
Phone: 315-784-6883
Facebook.com/
OsanABPassengerTerminal

KUNSAN AB

Bldg. 2858
Phone: 063-470-4666

Quick links to ease travel

Make reservations on
the AMC Space-A
Travel page:



Additional PE travel
information can be
found here:



MC Pet Travel Site:



Travel site for military,
DOD & veterans:



U.S. Airline Alliance travel packages

If you don't feeling like using Space A, you can always try U.S. Airline Alliance, the travel agency for official and leisure travel on all USFK installations. Check out their website for office locations, phone numbers and hours of operation.

Airlines American Airlines..... Phone: 050-3323-8790
Asiana Airlines ... Phone: 050-3323-8790
Delta Airlines..... Phone: 050-3323-854
Korean Air Phone: 050-3323-8549
United Airlines ... Phone: 050-3323-8790
Koridoor Tours Location: USO Sentry Village, Building 375
Phone: 050-33-53-6249/6281

Website: www.ustraveloffice.com/main/index.php

Seoul Station's City Airport Terminal offers early check-in

When you think of some discomfort of overseas travel, maybe the first thing comes to your mind is the hustle to get to the gate and the horrifyingly long lines to get through the ticket line and security.

Now, travelers through Incheon International Airport can get some reprieve from the stress of traveling at the City Airport Terminal inside Seoul Station.

This terminal, in the second basement of the station, offers early check-in including immigration clearance and baggage services for overseas travelers.

Use this convenient service to ditch your suitcase and buy you more time to explore the popular areas around Seoul Station like Myeongdong, Namsan Tower

and Seoulo7017 before you board a train to the airport.

Passengers on South Korean flag carriers like Korean Air, Asiana Airlines and low-cost carriers like Jin Air, Eastar Jet, and Jeju Air can use this service. (The codeshare flights operated by these airlines except for Jeju Air are also available.)

Check-in through this Seoul Station terminal must be done at least three hours before your flight departs. For Korean Air, check-in closes three hours and 20 minutes before flight take off, so arrive earlier for this airline.

To use this service, you must purchase an AREX ticket first as this is the express train service that will ensure you reach the airport and your gate on time.

Passengers are required to present their ticket in order to check in at City Airport Terminal. Tickets cost 9,000 won (about \$7.56) for adults and 7,000 won for children under 13 years of age.

At this time, flights to the U.S. including Guam and Saipan are only eligible for this service if you are flying Asiana Air or Jeju Air due to enhanced Aviation Security Regulations from TSA (Transportation Security Administration of the U.S.), according to the terminal website. This is only temporarily, so stay tuned for when other major airlines are added for travel to the States.

After checking in at the City Airport Terminal counter, passengers then move to the Immigration Office. Once

HOURS:

Check-in 5:20 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Departure 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.
*Baggage allowance varies by airline, route, or seating, so check with your airline before departure.

WEBSITE: <https://www.arex.or.kr/>

cleared, it's a short elevator ride down to the AREX platform for a 40 to 50-minute trip to the airport.

Another good thing about this service is that you enter through the designated entrance for diplomats and flight attendants on the third floor of Incheon International Airport, giving you quick access to the departure lounge after passing through the security.

Keep this convenient service in mind the next time you travel to save you time and headaches of traveling abroad.

- ChiHon Kim





Welcome to Paradise without interruptions

Continue to live your best digital life while on the island. Whatever your lifestyle and communication needs are, GTA has a plan for you!

GTA appreciates the opportunity to support you and your families during your time here. It's why we drive the development of tailored products and services to get you connected and keep you connected to what's important. From reliable wireless cellular service to high-speed internet and the best digital TV selections, GTA is here for you. Visit us at the AAFES BX, NEX, Micronesia Mall, the GTA Experience Center in Tamuning or online at www.gta.net.



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Affordable voice call, data plans, and low roaming rates.



High Speed Internet:
Faster streaming speeds up to 100Mbps with fiber optic technology.



100% Digital TV:
Programming, premium movie packages and access to TV Everywhere streaming.



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Some conditions apply. A deposit and upfront payment may be required. If service is cancelled, remaining device installment agreement balance is due. Customer is subject to GTA's Product Terms & Conditions. Visit www.gta.net for details.

Law and order on the ROK

While in the Republic of Korea, all U.S. military and civilians under the Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA) between Korea and America are subject to both U.S. and Korean laws as well as U.S. Forces Korea regulations. While many Korean laws are similar to those back home, some local laws, regulations and legal customs may catch you off guard.

Your base chain of command or legal office should be the first place you go with legal questions or concerns.

Here are a few local laws and legal customs you might want to consider:

Assaults

In Korea, verbal altercations (shouting matches) are not unusual, but shoving is not tolerated. Avoid being provoked into pushing a Korean at all cost. Under Korean law, this is an assault.

Black marketing

U.S. regulations and Korean customs laws prohibit U.S. personnel from transferring duty-free goods to persons not entitled to duty-free privileges, except under limited circumstances. Duty-free goods are those imported into Korea by a SOFA person, brought in through the APO or obtained at post exchanges, commissaries, shoppettes and Class VI stores.

Transferring includes selling, bartering, pawning, loaning and giving a gift; however, gifts of duty-free goods are permitted, if the gift is under \$50 and is not alcohol or tobacco, was not purchased from a commissary and is not a subsistence item. Service members may also be required to show continued possession or lawful disposition of high-value duty-free purchases. If there is a question about a proposed transfer, prior approval from the com-

mand should be obtained.

Counterfeit products

Many "brand name" items can be purchased cheaply in Korea, but they may be counterfeit; and if so, they may be confiscated when taken or mailed back to the U.S. Personnel on leave to China or Southeast Asian countries may be tempted to purchase "bargain" goods that may be seized by Korean customs officials if they are determined to be counterfeit upon re-entry to Korea. And there have been cases of Korean prosecutors seeking criminal indictment for smuggling when large quantities of counterfeit goods were involved.

Drug stores

Korean drug stores and similar establishments are off-limits to U.S. personnel. This restriction is imposed because some controlled substances under U.S. law can be purchased without prescription in Korean drug stores.

Police questioning

U.S. constitutional law and Article 31 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice do not apply to the interrogation of SOFA persons by Korean officials. Specifically, although a suspect has a right to have an attorney present during questioning, the Korean government need not provide an attorney for the suspect during questioning. During questioning, persons under SOFA are entitled to the presence of an U.S. representative appointed by USFK. SOFA persons have an absolute right to refuse to make a statement; and they should be highly discouraged against signing any purported statement unless it has been translated into English.

A person subject to custody upon arrest (e.g., caught in the act for murder) may not be interrogated until both a U.S. represen-



Photo by Matthew Keeler/Stars and Stripes

Don't drink and drive!

In 2019, South Korea lowered the legal limit for blood alcohol content to 0.03%, down from the 0.05% that had been the standard for the past 57 years.

An individual who weighs approximately 140 pounds and consumes just one 12-ounce beer will likely have surpassed the legal 0.03% threshold.

If caught and tested by Korean authorities, the maximum penalty for impaired driving will be up to five years of imprisonment and/or 20 million won in fines

(about \$17,325).

For civilians, servicemembers and their families on the peninsula, this law also includes electric scooters, bicycles and electric skateboards. If caught operating these devices on a military installation with a blood alcohol content equal to or greater than 0.03%, individuals may be charged with driving under the influence.

Servicemembers in Japan also must abide by a 0.03% limit; the threshold in the U.S. is set at 0.08% in all 50 states.

tative and a lawyer representing the accused is present. Statements taken without their presence are not admissible in court.

Korean authorities also may not question an accused in custody after indictment, except about totally unrelated matters; even then, a U.S. Representative must be present.

Traffic accidents

Traffic in Korea is different than in the U.S. It is not uncommon for children to play in the streets, people to cross the street outside a crosswalk without looking or drivers to do the unexpected. Under Korean law, drivers are responsible for the safety of pedestrians and other drivers.

If a driver is involved in an accident, it will almost always be considered his/her fault and may be treated as a criminal offense.

In case of an accident not involving a fatality where the damage or injury is paid for, the Ko-

rean government will usually not press charges unless alcohol, fleeing the scene, gross negligence (extreme carelessness or recklessness) or another major traffic offense is involved. The command can assist the service member in making a settlement; and no action should be taken which could aggravate the Koreans.

If an accident occurs, the driver should stop immediately and not attempt to flee the scene. If the Koreans believe a driver has attempted to flee the scene, they are more likely to begin criminal proceedings. Anyone who is injured, or may be injured, should be transported to a hospital. The military police (MPs) should be notified immediately so they can conduct their own investigation. If the driver cannot gain access to a telephone, he or she should ask the Korean police to call the MPs.

— Compiled from media and United States Forces Korea sources

What SOFA means for you

The United States-Republic of Korea Status of Forces Agreement is an international agreement designed to serve the mutual interests of the U.S. and the ROK, and to protect the basic rights of U.S. citizens who are subject to its provisions.

Personnel of the U.S. Armed Forces on active duty in Korea and their dependents are covered by the U.S.-ROK SOFA. U.S. civilians employed by, serving with or accompanying U.S. Armed Forces and their dependents are also covered by the U.S.-ROK SOFA.

Persons in Korea to perform contracts or render services exclusively for the U.S. Armed Forces are designated invited contractors or technical representatives. They and their dependents are afforded SOFA protections.

SOFA status personnel must abide by Korean laws except where the SOFA explicitly supersedes or abridges Korean laws. Examples are the waiver of passport and visa requirements for active duty military personnel and exemptions from Ko-

rean taxes on wages and salaries paid to SOFA status personnel by the U.S. government.

SOFA Article VII established the principal that SOFA status personnel are obliged to respect the laws of the Republic of Korea and to abstain from any activity inconsistent with the spirit of the agreement and, in particular, from any political activity

SOFA Card

All U.S. Forces Korea personnel should carry an HQ USFK, SOFA Card (USFK FL 1EK) at all times. The SOFA Card is designed to assist USFK personnel in the event they become involved with Korean law enforcement officials. The ROK authorities have agreed in cases of apprehension, to promptly notify the USFK authorities in order for the apprehended person to communicate with a representative of the U.S. government.

Civil court jurisdiction

The Korean courts have civil jurisdiction over all USFK personnel regardless of nationality. USFK military and civilian employees and their dependents

can sue and be sued in Korean civil courts in cases concerning breach of a lease, support of illegitimate children, failure to pay just debts and damages and injuries from an accident. A Korean civil court judgment generally can be enforced against the money and personal property of USFK personnel while in Korea or when relocated in the U.S.

However, Korean civil court judgments cannot be enforced if the cause of action arises out of the official duties of USFK personnel or if a claim was paid in settlement. Whenever an official Korean judicial document is received by USFK personnel on any civil action, they should immediately consult with a USFK legal assistance officer.

Criminal jurisdiction

Your SOFA standing is not a "Get Out of Jail Free Card". Korea has exclusive or primary jurisdiction over almost all offenses committed in Korea by U.S. service members. The U.S. has exclusive jurisdiction only when no crime has been committed under Korean law; the

U.S. has primary jurisdiction only in those limited instances when the alleged offense is solely against the property or security of the U.S., is solely against the person or property of another person covered by the SOFA or arises out of any act or omission done in the performance of official duty.

Unless an alleged offense falls within one of these exceptions, Korea has exclusive or primary jurisdiction even where the offense occurs on a military installation. The U.S. always requests the Korean government to waive jurisdiction in cases involving U.S. military members where Korea has primary jurisdiction. If Korea elects not to exercise jurisdiction or does not respond within a given time period, the U.S. military may exercise jurisdiction. Korea is most likely to exercise jurisdiction over serious violent crimes (murder, rape, robbery, etc.), serious black-marketing offenses, hit-and-run driving and attempts to commit such offenses.

– United States Forces Korea

HQ, UNITED STATES FORCES KOREA SOFA CARD

REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE

구원 요청

There has been a traffic accident.

교통 사고가 났습니다.

Please notify Korean police and US military police.

한국 경찰 및 미군 헌병대에 연락해 주십시오.

Please call an ambulance or doctor.

구급차나 의사를 불러 주십시오.

Where can I find a telephone?

전화가 어디에 있습니까?

STATEMENT OF SOFA STATUS:

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FOR THE COMMANDER

사령관의 명에 의하여:

1. Carry this card at all times. If you are apprehended by or become involved with Korean law enforcement authorities, SHOW your ID CARD and THIS CARD.
2. OBEY ROK AND U.S. LAW ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL INSTRUCTIONS.
3. If you are involved in an accident:
 - ① Attend to injuries, if any. Take steps to prevent any further accident from occurring at the scene.
 - ② Telephone the nearest civil and/or U.S. military police office (See below for telephone numbers to reach U.S. facilities).
 - ③ DO NOT LEAVE THE SCENE until authorized to do so by the police.
4. If you are detained by Korean authorities:
 - ① Show the Korean authorities the statement of SOFA status (to the right) and request that the nearest U.S. military police be notified.
 - ② Cooperate with Korean authorities at all times.
 - ③ You may refuse to sign any statement that you cannot read or understand.

EMERGENCY TELEPHONE NUMBERS – USFK
DSN 911 (MP/Fire/Ambulance)

COMMERCIAL TELEPHONE NUMBERS TO U.S. FACILITY
05033 + DSN last six digits (ex. 05033-24-4258)

Off-base living

If you decide that base living just isn't for you, there are many off-base options available. But, with the option to live off base comes some rules and regs to consider. Here are some things to keep in mind if you plan to sign a lease off base.

Property manager/maintenance: Your realtor is your property manager and POC for all maintenance problems. Your realtor is the liaison between LL and you. You should be able to contact them whenever you need their assistance. It is also a requirement for all realtors to speak English.

Utilities: Your realtor will provide you your utility bills and usage. Your base housing office can translate your bills for you if needed.

Lease negotiations: Once you have signed a lease in the housing office, the realtor/landlord and leasee cannot request changes to the signed lease. This is a signed contract! No lease negotiations will be done outside of the housing office. If your realtor/landlord is asking for additional money that was not on your signed lease or asks to modify your signed lease in any way without approval from your housing office, contact housing.

Military clause: Your lease agreement will contain a military clause. A military clause alerts the tenant that they are protected under the Service Members Civil Relief Act. The act provides protection, such as terminating a rental agreement prior to the end of the lease term for reasons such as permanent change of station, deployments exceeding 90 days, separation from active duty or offer of government quarters.

Joint Domicile (JD) and Military to Military (Mil to Mil) Statement Reminder: I understand that if my spouse PCS's, retires, departs, or separates, I am still obligated to fulfill my lease contractually between the landlord and myself at the same rent cost until expiration of lease. As stated, if one service member remains they are contractually obligated to fulfill lease to term and Military Clause does not apply to remaining service member.

Renewal lease (same unit):

- Go to your realtor – they will provide you the renewal lease (with their stamp) for you to bring to HSO to renew your lease.

*Note: If you are extending your DEROS (i.e. AIP, medical etc.) bring orders/amendments that states your new DEROS.

Leasing a different unit once current lease is up:

- Obtain realtors list from housing office (if not using same realtor)
- Once you have found a place to live, it's mandatory that you schedule a safety inspection at the base housing office. Once scheduled, inform your realtor of date and time.
- Also, schedule a lease signing at the housing office after safety inspection, either same day (in the afternoon) or next day. This is to ensure your realtor provides the housing office a property deed and includes it with your safety inspection report.
- Bring clearance verification from old unit (to ensure the LL cleared you!)

Renters Insurance

- Protect yourself and your personal property (household goods, etc.)
- Renters insurance may be the most overlooked asset by residents!
- Landlords have insurance, but only for their buildings; Landlords are not responsible for protecting the renter's personal property.
- The U.S. government does not provide or take responsibility for personal property insurance.
- Off-post residents are strongly encouraged to secure personal property insurance for their protection in both private sector and on-base housing.

DID YOU KNOW?

The number 4 is an unlucky number in Korea. The fourth floor is often skipped in public buildings.

Village where U.S. soldiers live outside Camp Humphreys.
Photos by ChiHon Kim/Stars and Stripes

Garbage rules

The Korean Government mandates trash disposal and requires all residents, including U.S. personnel and foreigners, comply with these laws. Failure to comply may result in severe fines (up to 1 million won). Trash must be separated into four categories: common garbage, food waste, recyclables and large waste items. Also, Korean garbage bags must be used. No U.S.-style bags (Hefty, Glad, etc.) or plastic shopping bags (AAFES, Commissary, etc.) can be used. Proper bags may be purchased at any off-post grocery store, department store (Lotte Mart, E-Mart, Home Plus), and many convenient stores, or on-post at the Commissary.

NOTICE: Disposing of trash, garbage, or other solid waste in on-post dumpsters by off-post residents is strictly **PROHIBITED**.



ORANGE (food)



WHITE (standard)



Tossing a sofa? Use a sticker

If PCSing is in your near future, you are moving to a new place or are simply in the process of decluttering, knowing how to dispose of large items is a must if you live off base in South Korea.

If PCSing is in your near future, you are moving to a new place or are simply in the process of decluttering, knowing how to dispose of oversized items is a must if you live off base in South Korea.

Oversized disposals aren't treated like general household waste. Before you put out your old furniture or broken electronics, it's important to get a disposal sticker or certificate to avoid getting a fine. There are two options you can choose from to place your oversized disposal onto the designated area.

For the certificate, visit your local district office's website and make a reservation for pick-up. You'll be required to input information about the specific furniture, contact, and address on the website. Once you paid for your disposal item, you need to print out and attach the certificate to the item or write down the info of the certificate on any paper and attach it if you don't have access to a printer. Online payments and the information needed can be complicated as many district websites aren't in English. Pyeongtaek City only offers online service for disposals in Korean.

Another simple option is just to go to a convenience store or supermarket to buy the stickers which will save you a lot of hassle and time. In Pyeongtaek, you might be faced

with a language barrier when you purchase a sticker at a supermarket, so make sure to look at the price list ahead.

The price of the stickers and certificates (KRW 1,000 to 18,000 or \$0.84 to \$15.00) vary by district office.

Pickup days vary by district as well, but in Pyeongtaek, items can be placed out for collection Sunday to Friday after 8 p.m. Note that setting out items on Saturdays or during the day is prohibited.

Other items that require special attention are broken glass and ceramics. For these, a special trash bag, which can be purchased at local supermarkets, convenience stores or city council, is required. This bag is also for other non-flammable trash tiles, brick, etc. Depending on the size, in Pyeongtaek, the bags come in 5 to 50 kg sizes and vary in price (KRW 2,000 - 6,000).

While decluttering is gaining popularity or you're anxious to update your home decor, in South Korea, it's important to know before you throw!

View price list for
Pyeongtaek
disposal stickers



For more
information on
garbage disposal



• Do you have standard waste garbage bags?
il-ban sseu-le-gi bong-tu iss-eo-yo?

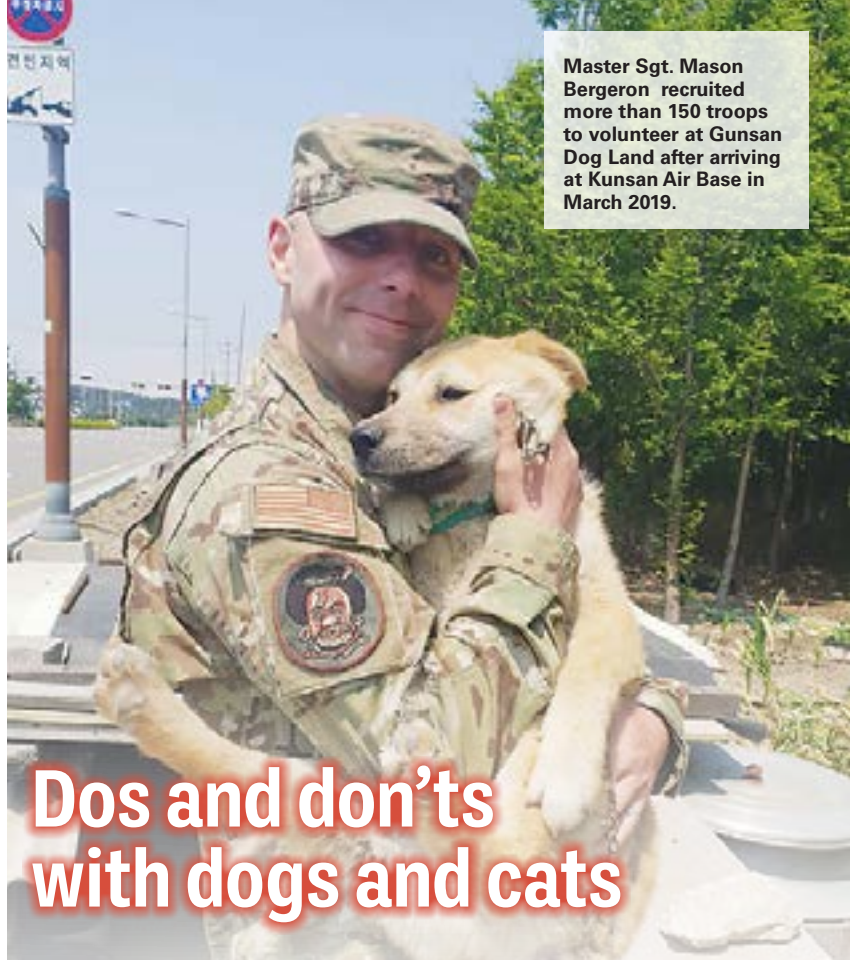
• Do you have food waste garbage bags?
Eum-sik-mul sseu-le-gi bong-tu iss-eo-yo?

• How many bags do you need?
Myeot-jang pi-ryo-ha-se-yo?

• I would like to have (ten) bags.
(Yeol)-jang ju-se-yo. (Five: Tasot, Thirty: Seo-reun)

• What (liter) size bag do you need?
Myeot ri-teo-jja-ri pi-ryo-ha-se-yo?

• I would like to have (10) liter-sized garbage bags.
(Sip)-ri-teo-jja-ri-ro ju-se-yo. (Five: O, Twenty: isip)



Master Sgt. Mason Bergeron recruited more than 150 troops to volunteer at Gunsan Dog Land after arriving at Kunsan Air Base in March 2019.

Dos and don'ts with dogs and cats

Private Sector Housing may authorize pets. Always go through your LL/Realtor (property manager) regarding pet information for your residence. You are also authorized pets on base.

Pet registration

All those assigned to USFK must register their pets with their base veterinary within 10 days of arrival. The importance of pet registration is as follows:

- Installation Command and Housing Policy
- Noncombatant Evacuation Operations (NEO)
- Heartworm area (Korea) – Keep your pet healthy!
- Priority for sick pet appointments/wellness appointments
- Routine surgeries
- Boarding and doggie day-care requires medical record documentation
- Preparation for PCSing from Korea

Pet policy

Microchip program: USFK Veterinary Services requires the mandatory implant of microchips in all newly acquired pets belonging to Status of Forces Agreement personnel, in all adopted animals, and in any impounded stray animal prior to releasing the pet to owner. Microchipping will be at

owner's expense.

Leash law: Pets will be on a leash at all times when outside the housing unit. If pets are outside, they must be accompanied by a member of resident's household who is capable of controlling them at all times. Cats will not be allowed to roam uncontrolled and must be on a leash when outside of the housing unit.

Fecal droppings: Residents shall clean up the waste left by their pets during walks and ensure that common areas are not littered with fecal droppings. All feces will be disposed in the correct location of their resident-appointed areas.

Barking & howling: Please be aware that we are guests in a foreign country and to control your animals at the proper times of the day.

Insect infestation (fleas, ticks, lice etc.): All costs associated with delousing and disinfecting private sector or on-base housing will be paid by the resident.

Balconies: Balconies will not be used as kennels to house pets. Use of the balcony for fecal droppings is prohibited and will be grounds for immediate termination. Private sector residents should respect the rented property of the landlord.

– U.S. Forces Korea

Traveling with your pet

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 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.
- Carry your pet's vaccination certificate and card at all times.
- Your pet must remain in the carrier.
- 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.

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

– ChiHon Kim

Spouse employment

Eighth Army and personnel managers want to make sure military spouses have as many opportunities as possible to achieve employment while serving with their service member in the Far East Region. Eighth Army has made strides to ease the process of hiring military spouses such as policies emphasizing spouse preference in hiring procedures. These policies include use of an “expedited referral list” and authorizing candidates for select Eighth Army positions to complete drug testing and physical examinations AFTER they arrive to the peninsula rather than beforehand – with exceptions being for positions which are Testing Designated Positions and those with mandatory requirements for physical examinations.

Additional changes authorize all areas in Korea to be one commuting area.

Other initiatives are still in the works to give managers direct-hire authority without having to advertise positions on www.USAJOBS.gov.

Additionally, to help with spouse employment, Army Civilian Human Resources Agency at U.S. Army Garrison-Humphreys has created a resume repository where spouses can submit resumes for future employment consideration. Upon receipt, candidates will receive a direct response from one of the local human resources specialists and afforded the opportunity to meet one-on-one to review qualifications and help guide spouses through the federal hiring and employment process. Spouses can email their resumes and supporting documents to us-army.humphreys.chra-fe.list.



Penny Ferguson (left) speaks with Sheryl Dresse during a U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys employment readiness local recruiter job fair in January 2020. Photo by Antwaun J. Parrish

military-spouse-hiring@mail.mil. Questions can also be directed to the same email box.

People can also drop by in person to the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center in bldg. 6420, next to the One Stop bldg., if they have questions.

Army Community Service offices around the peninsula also have an Employment Readiness Program what offers info on contractor jobs, employment classes and career advice.

The best way for spouses to apply for jobs is still www.USAJOBS.gov. Spouses can build their resumes, attach documents and also use settings to build automated job referrals. Once a search is built, the system will automatically send job opening announcements via email. Be sure to select the “military spouse preference” option.

U.S. Army Garrison-Humphreys Army Community Service has information on home-based business opportunities and requirements including classes and applications. Home Base Business Training is provided every second and fourth Friday of each month at Army Community Service (ACS) from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. The program guidance is U.S. Army

Garrison Humphreys Policy Letter #78, which is signed by the U.S. Army Garrison-Humphreys commander. ACS is located on the first floor in Bldg. 6400 (Maude Hall), room B107. Call DSN 315-757-2369 for more information.

Spouses who are permitted to telework back to their Private sector companies located in CONUS does not trigger SOFA visa issues. Republic of Korea employment permits are required if the Military Spouse is working on the Korean economy, but not for telework for CONUS located companies.

Daegu employment Info

For USAG Daegu and Area IV community members interested in employment opportunities and learning more, visit the Army Community Service office at the Soldier Support Center on Camp Walker and sign up for the Spouse Newcomers Orientation held the 2nd Thursday of every month. There is also a separate Employment Readiness Workshop held the same day each month in the afternoon.

The spouse orientation starts at 9 a.m., a meal is provided to attendees at lunch, and the employment workshop begins at

Websites to check out

Federal civil service jobs are just one category of employment on installations throughout Korea. See the below websites on how to apply for jobs around the peninsula.

Federal jobs
(including commissary):



Army and Air Force
Exchange Service jobs:



Army Non-Appropriated
Fund positions:



Air Force Non-Appropriated
Fund positions:



USAG Humphreys
Army Community
Service:



12:30 p.m. Community members may choose to attend one or both.

For more information or to register for one of the upcoming employment readiness program events, workshops or job fairs, visit ACS or call 0503-363-4497 or DSN 763-4497. To search for federal jobs in USAG Daegu and Area IV, go to www.usajobs.gov and type “Taegu” in the location block.

– U.S. Forces Korea

Getting connected with a cell phone

So, you've just PCS'd to Korea, and now you need to get a new cell phone. Well, first off, they have those here, so you're in luck. Now, where do you start? As you've likely already noticed, most bases in Korea already have a branch where you can get a phone without leaving your installation. There are definitely benefits to staying on base, but just because it's the easiest, doesn't mean it makes the most sense for your situation. There are plenty of off-base locations throughout the country, but if you do go this route, you might consider bringing someone who can speak Korean. In Korea, there are three main providers: SK Telecom, LG U+ and Korea Telecom (KT). If you want to weigh your options

and see all of what Korea cell providers have to offer, here is a quick breakdown.

SK Telecom

SK Telecom operates several authorized stores with signs that say 'T World' or 'SK 텔레콤 (Telecom)' as well as a customer call center exclusively for foreigners. Please call the customer center beforehand in order to find out which stores provide interpretation services, since not all of them do.

Korea Telecom (KT)

KT operates three service centers throughout Seoul and a customer call center exclusively for foreigners. The most representative KT center, located

in Gwanghwamun, provides mobile phone subscription manuals in foreign languages. Moreover, in partnership with the volunteer translation service organization, BBB Korea, the Gwanghwamun service center offers consultation in 17 different languages.

LG U+

Formerly known as LG Telecom, LG U+ is owned by the LG Corporation. The company is known for its G series of smartphones as well as a variety of other electronics including TVs. With roughly 20% of the market, the No. 3 mobile service in Korea trails its two main rivals.



Speaking on the phone

- Hello
Yeoboseyo
- Hello. May I please speak to ____?
____wa tonghwa-hal-su-isseulkkayo?
- ____ is not here. May I take a message?
Jigeum an-ge-sipnida.
Memo (or meseji) namgyeo deu-ril-kkayo?

- Yes, this is ____ speaking.
Please tell ____ to call me back.
Thank you.
Ne, Jeoneun ____ ipnida.
____ege jeon-hwa-hae dallago jeon-hae-juseyo.
Gomap-seupnida.
- Okay. Good bye.
Ne alge-sseupnida. Sugohaseyo.

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Medical and TRICARE

Troops and family members receive medical and dental care in both military treatment facilities and host nation facilities upon referral from their primary care manager. All eligible patients receive access to high-quality health care governed by DoD and TRICARE regulations and guidelines.

Once sponsor has been assigned a Primary Care Manager (Provider), family members go to either the Brian D. Allgood Army Community Hospital (Humphreys Only) or to the USAG Daegu Medical Clinic if assigned to Daegu. Note: Areas I and II are non-command sponsored areas with only clinics at K-16 and Casey for soldiers only.

If you do not register, when you call the centralized appointment line your appointment may be at another location.

Medical care and services are routinely available to active-duty military and their eligible dependents utilizing Tricare Overseas Prime. Eligible retirees or non-command sponsored family members can receive medical care on a space available basis.

Any specialty care not available on on-post will be referred through the local TRICARE office to either local Korean Hospital or the Brian D. Allgood Army Community Hospital (BDAACH) at Humphreys.

If you require specialty care and cannot be seen at the

BDAACH, you could be sent to a local Korean Hospital. Tricare has agreements with many hospitals in Korea and going to these hospitals, as Command Sponsored active duty family members, is no different than going to a military treatment facility as there is no co-pay or deductible costs.

Non-command sponsored families or civilian employees and their families going to an off-post hospital will have to pay the cost of the visit in full, prior to departing the hospital. You will then have to submit the bill to

Tricare or your insurance company for reimbursement. There are several local hospitals and clinics now that will process through Tricare and civilian insurance companies.

— U.S. Forces Korea

Dental care

There are military dentists available on-post in each of the areas in Korea except in Area II. These dentists mostly work on soldiers. Family members are required to get the bulk of their dental treatment off-post utilizing the same dental insurance and the same cost/deductibles as in the States. Family members are seen for non-pediatric cleaning from 7:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. depending on availability. A great many of the Korean Dentists have also been trained and are board-certified in the U.S. You can expect the same treatment and services off-post in Korea as you had in the U.S. One exception is for children aged 12 and under at USAG-H. There are pediatric dentists on staff who see all command sponsored children under age 12 for basic dental procedures. Please note for orthodontic care, unless you are military, plan on getting this care off-post.

Related links

65th Medical Brigade & US Army MEDDAC-Korea



Tricare Overseas



Korean Network Hospitals

AREA 1

Uijeongbu St. Mary's 1.4 miles from Casey Clinic

AREA 2

Adaptable Human Solutions	2.3 miles from USAG Yongsan
Asan Medical Center	9.9 miles from USAG Yongsan
Samsung Medical Center	12 miles from USAG Yongsan
Seoul National University	5.4 miles from USAG Yongsan
Seoul St. Mary's Hospital	4.2 miles from USAG Yongsan
Severance Hospital	5.4 miles from USAG Yongsan
The Mind Care	5.3 miles from USAG Yongsan
Yeouido St. Mary's Hospital	3.1 miles from USAG Yongsan
You & Me Psychological	4.7 miles from USAG Yongsan

AREA 3 (Camp Humphreys)

Ajou University Medical Center	28 miles from Anjeong-ri Gate
CHA Bundan Medical Center	42 miles from Anjeong-ri Gate
Dankook University Hospital	20 miles from Anjeong-ri Gate
Good Morning Hospital	8.1 miles from Anjeong-ri Gate
Hallym University Dongtan	28 miles from Anjeong-ri Gate
Pyeongtaek St. Mary's Hospital	8.7 miles from Anjeong-ri Gate
Seoul National University Bundang	36 miles from Anjeong-ri Gate
St. Vincent Hospital	28.5 miles from Anjeong-ri Gate
Yonsei Dawoom Hospital	8.5 miles from Anjeong-ri Gate
Seoul Counseling Center – Pyeongtaek Branch	1 miles from Anjeong-ri Gate
You and me (YPCS) Pyeongtaek Office	8.5 miles from Anjeong-ri Gate



AREA 4

Chilgok Kyungpook National Daegu Catholic University Hospital Daegu Fatima Hospital Gumi CHA Hospital Hyosung Hospital Keimyong University Dongsan Pohang St. Mary's Hospital Samsung Changwon Hospital Women Medi Park Hospital Gunsan Medical Center Wonkwang University Hospital Yeungnam University Hospital

13 miles from Camp Walker gate 4
3 miles from Camp Walker gate 4
5.5 miles from Camp Walker gate 4
34 miles from Camp Walker gate 4
2 miles from Camp Walker gate 4
4.2 miles from Camp Walker gate 4
59 miles from Camp Walker gate 4
60 miles from Camp Walker gate 4
4 miles from Camp Walker gate 4
140 miles from Camp Walker gate 4
114 miles from Camp Walker gate 4
2.2 miles from Camp Walker gate 4

Remote Area (Busan)

Aiel Pediatrics	0.4 miles from Zenith Towers
Queen's Park Women's Hospital	2 miles from Zenith Towers
Mindcare Center Institute	2.5 miles from Zenith Towers
Pusan National University Hospital	14 miles from Zenith Towers
Busan St. Mary's Hospital	7.7 miles from Zenith Towers
Inje University Haeundae Paik Hospital	5.1 miles from Zenith Towers

Related links

Navigating Korean Hospitals Handbook



Korean food

Main dishes

1. Bap (Rice)

Bap, a staple of Korean food, is steamed rice. It may also include other grains. There are many kinds of bap depending on the ingredients such as huinbap (white rice); japgokbap (rice with barley, millet, and beans); byeolmibap (rice with vegetables, seafood and meat); and bibimbap (rice mixed with namul and beef).

2. Juk (Porridge)

Juk is one of the Korean dishes that was developed in early times. It consists of grains simmered for a long time with 5 to 7 times the volume of water. There are many varieties of juk depending on the ingredients. Juk is not only served as a main dish but it can also be part of a special meal. It is served to patients and eaten for health.

3. Guksu (Noodles)

Korean noodles are made by kneading wheat flour or buckwheat flour and drawing the dough into long coils. Noodles helped develop the use of chopsticks in Korea.

4. Mandu and Tteokguk (Dumpling soup and Sliced rice cake pasta soup)

Mandu is a dumpling made of thin wheat flour wrappers stuffed with fillings then steamed, or boiled in jangjuk (soy sauce soup). It is a specialty of the northern area of Korea. Tteokguk consists of diagonally sliced white rice cakes that are simmered in jangjuk. It is served on the first day of the year.

Side dishes

1. Guk (Soup)

Guk is a soup of vegetables, seafood and/or meats boiled in plenty of water. Some varieties are malgeun-jangjuk (clear soy sauce soup), tojangjuk (soybean paste soup), gomguk (rich beef soup) and naeng-guk (chilled soup). The standard Korean table setting always has bap and guk. Guk has helped develop the use of spoons in Korea.

2. Jjigae (Stew)

Jjigae has less water and more solid ingredients than soup, and it is saltier. Varieties include malgeun-jjigae (clear jjigae) and tojang-jjigae (soybean paste jjigae).

3. Jeongol (Hot pot)

Jeongol started as a royal court food. It consists of meat, seafood, mushrooms and vegetables simmered in broth at the table just before serving for dinner or as a dish to

accompany liquor.

4. Jjim (Steamed dish)

Jjim is a dish of main ingredients cooked with seasonings in deep water. It may be boiled with soup just above the solid ingredients, or steamed.

5. Seon (Steamed or parboiled stuffed vegetables)

Seon means "good ingredients." It is a dish of vegetables such as pumpkin, cucumber, eggplant and cabbage or tofu stuffed with beef and/or mushrooms that is steamed or parboiled in broth.

6. Jorim (Braised dish)

Jorim is a cooking method to braise meat, seafood or vegetables with soy sauce or red pepper paste on low heat. The ingredients are cooked for a long time to allow the flavors to seep in. It may have strong seasonings and can last a long time.



7. Cho (Janggwa) (Seasoned and braised seafood)

Cho (janggwa) is a dish of boiled sea slugs, abalone and mussels with seasoning on low heat. Then starch liquid is added and boiled. The resulting soup is quite thick and glossy.

8. Bokkeum (Stir-fried dish)

Bokkeum is a stir-fry of meats, seafood or vegetables. There are two types of bokkeum dishes; one is just stir-fried in an oiled frying pan, the other one is stir-fried with soy sauce and sugar.

9. Gui (Grilled dish)

Gui is a dish of grilled meats, seafood or vegetables as is, or grilled after seasoning.

10. Jeon. Jeok (Pan-fried dish. Brochette)

Jeon is a dish of pan-fried meats, seafood or vegetables after they have been minced or sliced and coated with wheat flour and beaten egg. Jeok is a dish of pan-fried ingredients after they have been seasoned and skewered.

11. Hoe. Pyeonyuk. Jokpyeon (Raw fish/Raw meat. Pressed meat. Pressed trotters)

Hoe is a dish of raw meat, fish or vegetables seasoned with vinegar soy sauce, vinegar red pepper paste, or mustard. It can also be blanched in boiling water. Pyeonyuk is a dish of pressed and sliced beef or pork. Jokpyeon is a dish of long-simmered ox-head and ox-feet that is solidified and sliced.

12. Mareun-chan (Dry side dish)

Mareun-chan is a dry side dish made of salted and seasoned meat, seafood and/or vegetables that can be stored for a long time. It is enjoyed dried or fried.

13. Jangajji (Pickled vegetables)

Jangajji is a side dish of pickled vegetables that include Korean radish, cucumbers, bellflower roots and garlic in soy sauce, soybean paste or red pepper paste. It can be stored for a long time.

14. Jeotggal (Salt-fermented seafood)

Jeotggal is a side dish of marinated



shrimp, anchovies or clams with salt that is fermented. It is served as a side dish or used as a seasoning.

15. Sukchae (Parboiled vegetables)

Sukchae is a dish of parboiled vegetables. It may be mixed or fried with seasonings. Sukchae is a popular basic side dish in Korea.

16. Saengchae (Fresh salad)

Saengchae is a seasonal fresh salad dressed with vinegar soy sauce, red pepper paste or mustard. It is sweet and sour. This method of preparation is best for preserving the taste and most of the nutrition in the ingredients.

17. Kimchi (Seasoned and fermented vegetables)

Kimchi is a dish made by marinating Korean cabbage and Korean radish with salt, seasoning it with red pepper, garlic, green onion, ginger and salt-fermented seafood, mixing it thoroughly and letting it ferment. Kimchi is the quintessential side dish in Korea. It is a typical fermented and storable food.

Desserts

1. Tteok (Rice cake)

Tteok is a dish made by steaming, frying, or boiling rice powder or other grain



powder after it has been sprinkled with water. It is served at ceremonies and holidays without fail.

2. Hangwa (Korean cookies)

Hangwa are traditional Korean cookies. There are many varieties depending on the ingredients or recipes such as yumilgwa,

gangjeong, sanja, dasik, jeonggwa, suksilgwa, gwapyeon, yeotgangjeong and yeot.

3. Eumcheong (Beverages)

Eumcheong are non-alcoholic beverages.

Source: The beauty of Korean Food: With 100 Best-loved recipes by Institute of Traditional Korean Food

Cookin' up Korean

This bulgogi recipe is fire!

There are a few choice dishes that one might think of when dreaming of Korean food. Bulgogi, Korean barbecue beef, is one of those.

Literally translated to "fire meat," bulgogi is just that... fire because it's so delicious! As you travel throughout the Peninsula and abroad, you'll notice there are a few variations on the way it is prepared. For the most part, however, ingredients like soy sauce, minced garlic, sugar, and sesame oil are standard for bulgogi.



Watch the Video!

Boost your immune system with deep-fried Korean ginseng

In Korea, ginseng is considered a superfood and is loaded with antioxidants and anti-inflammatory properties. In addition to regular exercise and getting enough sleep, a healthy diet is key to staying healthy, so why not add a little ginseng into the mix?

This traditional herb has a bitter taste and you can find it in many food products around the peninsula. When I was little, my mother used to make me tea with honey-soaked ginseng to help keep me healthy.

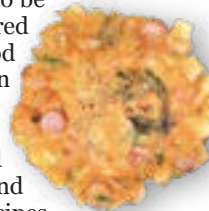


Watch the Video!

Cooking up some Korean kimchi pancakes

Kimchi is considered to be a healthy food and is a staple of Korean cuisine. Some choose to have it as a side but with a little work, you can add this flavorful pickled and spicy dish to other recipes as well. You'll see many restaurants on the Peninsula serving Korean dishes like kimchi stew, kimchi fried rice, kimchi dumplings, and more.

One of my favorites growing up was kimchi jeon, or kimchi pancake, a nice snack with a lot of flavor. It's also referred to as Kimchi buchimgae. I remember the red pancake that has pleasant sour and tangy flavor was definitely beat my spring fatigue and stimulated my appetite before a meal.



Watch the Video!

Cooking army base stew great way to clean out refrigerator

Budae-jjigae, or army base stew, is a spicy sausage stew made with ham, sausage, spam, baked beans, gochujang (red chili paste) and kimchi. You may notice this dish isn't Korea's traditional food handed down from generation to generation.

The dish was created shortly after the Korean War, using surplus foods from U.S. military bases. Budae-jjigae is mixture of Korean stew and western ingredients. At the time, the dish served as a great source of nourishment in post-war poverty-stricken Korea and remains popular to this day.



Watch the Video!

Korean tteokguk rice cake soup is good luck and longevity in a bowl

Tteokguk, or rice cake soup, is a traditional New Year's Day food thought to bring good luck (energy of yang) and longevity. The length and shape of the rectangular gaetteok rice cakes, which are the key ingredient of the recipe, reflect this fortune.

Traditionally, Koreans enjoy this food on Seolnal, the first day of lunar New Year. But these days, many young folks eat this good luck food on the first day of the Gregorian calendar. No matter when you decide to have a bowl of tteokguk in this country, the significance still holds true.



Watch the Video!

Recommended for One-Night and Two-day course for healthy beauty



1 The Essence of Korean Traditional Culture,

Mo Myung-Jae Korean Traditional Culture Experience Center

Mo Myeong Jae is built when Yim-jin Whe-lan and Jung-Yoo Jae-Lan descendants in honor of Du Sa-chung, a Ming general who came to Jo Seon as a royal army during the Japanese Invasion of Korea.

Right across from it, there is a The Mo Myung-jae Korean Traditional Culture Experience Center, which you can experience Hanbok, tea ceremony experience, Dongui Bogam Food experience, and Daegu's representative archery experience.

- 📍 Daegu Suseong-gu Dalgubul-daero 527-gil, 13-5
- ☎ +82-53-666-4930 (Inquiry in Korean only)



3 A healthy and delicious dinner, Yakseon Pork Belly.

When you visit to Korea you must eat Bulgogi?! or Pork belly?!

What should we eat first?

However, I am a little worried that it might be too oily for my body.

The meat restaurant in Suseong district is specializing in Yakseon raw pork belly, will be served by the owner chef, who specialized in Yakseon cuisine, with first-class aged pork belly and well-being side dishes.

Wrapped fresh vegetables with the meat and eat it all at once, and it will relieve your fatigue.

- 📍 Daegu Suseong-gu Suseong-Ro 52 (money in a field of radishes)
- ☎ +82-53-764-5321 (Inquiry in Korean only)



Two-day trip to travel! Suseong Distric, Daegu

Suseong distric is known as "Gangnam of Daegu"

Daegu, the third city in Korea, located about an hour by express bus or KTX from Busan.

Suseong distric, is located in the eastern part of Daegu, and it is very similar to Gangnam in Seoul because of its high income level and advanced infrastructure such as broadcasting stations, newspaper companies and famous hospitals.

Suseong distric also has one-stop service for tourist information and medical interpretation for foreign travelers.

We want to invite you to Suseong distric, Daegu, which is the best place to enjoy a healthier and more beautiful "wellness trip," which is a different form of traveling from the past, where you enjoy natural scenery and foodies.

2 Magic to turn back time, dermatological skincare



Dermatology

Freckles, Lifting etc. Laser treatment
Votox, Fillers, beauty procedures

Daegu, a city with a lot of beauties with a lot of Miss Korea.

Let's become more beautiful and healthy with the state-of-the-art medical skincare that Daegu beauties usually go!!

In Suseong distric, skin care is carried out at an experienced foreign patient attraction medical institution recognized by the Daegu Metropolitan Government, so you can receive medical treatments with more confidence.

+ Daegu Severance Dermatology Clinic

- 📍 Daegu Suseong-gu Jibum-Ro 182
- ☎ +82-53-784-0555

+ Apple Dermatology Clinic

- 📍 Daegu Suseong-gu DongDaegu-Ro 311 Beomo Apple tower 12th floor
- ☎ +82-53-761-8888

+ Youmastem Dermatology Clinic

- 📍 Daegu Suseong-gu Beomo Chun-Ro 73 Hotel Ron Zena 3rd floor
- ☎ +82-53-721-7722

+ Cleanup Dermatology Clinic

- 📍 Daegu Suseong-gu DongDaegu-Ro 341 Jung-Ahn building 2nd fl.
- ☎ +82-53-746-0660

+ Prive Dermatology Clinic

- 📍 Daegu Suseong-gu Beomo Chun-Ro 3
- ☎ +82-1800-5475

+ Hwanggeum(Gold) Dermatology Clinic

- 📍 Daegu Suseong-gu DongDaegu-Ro 111 Whang guem Building 3rd floor
- ☎ +82-1600-9676



4 There is a lake park that represents Daegu, which is called Suseongmot lake.

It is Daegu's representative lake park, which is loved by Daegu citizens who have transformed from an agricultural water reservoir into a "Daegu representative landmark" where current history and culture are alive through an eco-friendly ecological restoration project in 2013.

The area around the Suseongmot Lake is well equipped with sophisticated cafes, restaurants, cosmetics, and miscellaneous shops, making it the most popular place not only for dating places but also for family visitors. In addition, it is highly recommended to cruise around the pond by a duck boat on a nice sunny day.

- 📍 Daegu Suseong-gu Doosan-Dong 512

How to find

It takes about 20 minutes from Dongdaegu Station to Suseongmot Lake by taxi.

It takes about five minutes by foot from Suseongmot S station on Daegu Subway Line No.3

There is also a tourist information center at the entrance to the Suseongmot Lake.

There are many foreign language maps and tourist information, so you may want to stop there first to check it out.



5 Hotel Suseong



In the hotel's Suseong, you can enjoy the beautiful scenery because there is Suseongmot Lake, a pond representing Daegu, in front of you. The hotel is located on a hill about two minutes from the Suseongmot Lake. You can enjoy a romantic night view if you look down from the hotel or walk a little to the surrounding bench. Located on the top floor of the hotel's Suseong, Infinite Spa Pool is a must-see destination even for locals.



- 📍 106-7, Yonghak-ro, Suseong-gu, Daegu
- ☎ +82-1899-1001



6 Korean Herbal Tea Therapy



If you don't know what kind of tea to drink because there are various kinds, I strongly recommend Korean medicine tea therapy.

At Korean medicine clinic, you can learn Korean medicine tea that fits your body through tea therapy. you can make reservations to experience both of the tea therapy and Korean medicine bath together at Hanbang clinic through reservations system.

- 📍 149 Taeil Sanctuary, Daegu Suseong-gu Yonghak-Ro 149 Tae-eul YangSang Oriental Clinic.
- ☎ +82-53-781-1240 (Inquiry in Korean only)



Wellness City, Suseong District

The center of wellness tourism, We want to invite all of you to Suseong district.

Daegu, the largest Korean medicine center in Korea with 350 years of history,

Suseong district is establishing itself as the core of Medicity Daegu, with five medical school hospitals with 100 years of traditional and a high-quality medical workforce infrastructure.

Experience true well-being in Suseong district, which is full of the best medical system, healthy attractions, fun, and visit the global well-being city Suseong district, the center of well-being tourism.



How to find



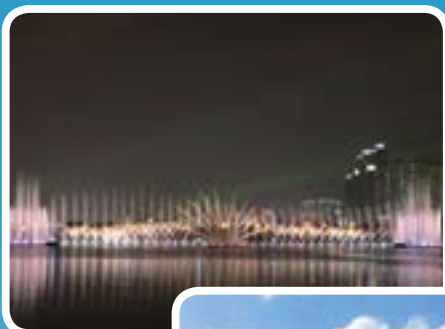
For Domestic Boarding

Incheon Airport & Gimpo Airport,
Jeju Airport & ~> Daegu Airport
: approximately 1 hour



For KTX Boarding

Seoul Station ~>
Dongdaegu Station : 1 hour and 50 minutes
Busan Station ~>
Dongdaegu Station : 50 minutes



The USO connects you to family, home & country

Your service to our country can take you to the far corners of the earth, but America's love and support follow you wherever you go. The USO strengthens America's military service members by keeping them connected to family, home, and country throughout their service to the nation. USO Korea offers center amenities to help relax and unwind. Additionally, we have in-person and virtual programs for single service members and families wherever they are on the peninsula. USO Korea offers a wide variety of free programs and services to keep you and your family connected to those things you often miss while rendering service to our country.

Programs are available for kids, teens, spouse, service members and the entire family. Our Coffee Connection program allows spouses to relax in a comfortable setting, share advice, learn about local events, and make new friends over a cup of coffee and pastries. Many centers



Korea

centers have programs for children, and offer meals you can take home, or eat in the center.

To see the full scope of our amenities, programs, events, and operating hours, check out the USO Korea website at <https://korea.uso.org/> or the USO Centers' Facebook pages.



USO Camp Casey

Building #2648

Beside the Casey Bus Terminal

DSN: 730-4813

[Facebook.com/CASEYUSO](https://www.facebook.com/CASEYUSO)



USO Osan AB

Bldg #916, across from Chili's

DSN: 784-0469

[Facebook.com/USOatOSAN](https://www.facebook.com/USOatOSAN)



Rest and Relaxation

Air conditioning, bathrooms, air hockey, billiards, board & table games, ping pong, playing cards, sleeping & quiet area, special event space, toiletries, sports lounge, library, patio & outdoor space.

Food and Beverages

Beverages, coffee & tea, snacks, food programs.

*Amenities may slightly differ from location to location

Multimedia & Gaming

DVD & Blu-ray Player, PS4, TV & cable, Wii U, Xbox 360, Xbox One, movie theater..

Connectivity

CAC Readers, computers & laptops, DSN phone, charging stations, desk & work areas, printers, Wi-Fi, print, copy, scan services, Ooma telephone calls.

Travel Services & Gifts

Local information, transportation information.



VOLUNTEERS: Interested in joining an awesome family during your time away from home? We are always looking for passionate volunteers at all our locations! Please register online at volunteers.uso.org to join the team. We can't wait to meet you!



USO Mobile App: To learn about USO programs and services near you, make sure to download the USO Mobile App, for both iPhone and Android.



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USO Camp Casey

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USO Camp Humphreys One Stop

USO Camp Humphreys Sentry Village

USO Camp Walker

USO Camp Walker

Building #318

Across the street from the PX

DSN: 764-4437

[Facebook.com/USO.CampWalker](https://www.facebook.com/USO.CampWalker)**USO Camp Humphreys - One Stop**

Building #6400

DSN: 723-5364

Across the street from Burger King

[Facebook.com/uso.humphreys](https://www.facebook.com/uso.humphreys)**USO Camp Humphreys - Sentry Village**

Building #318

Across the street from the PX

DSN: 764-4437

[Facebook.com/uso.humphreys](https://www.facebook.com/uso.humphreys)

Here to serve the overseas American military community

The American Forces Network (AFN) provides U.S. military, DOD civilians and their families force protection information and a touch of home with radio and television entertainment, news and sports.

Our "grand daddy," the Armed Forces Radio service, began May 26, 1942. In the years since, America's military broadcast network has operated under many different names, following servicemembers wherever they serve, to include war zones and U.S. military ships at sea. Today, the overseas military audience we serve knows us simply as "AFN."

While millions of Americans serving overseas have tuned in to AFN for popular entertainment over the years, the network has served an equally crucial role for commanders, helping them reach the force and their families, both

on and off military installations. From mobile radio vans communicating to American forces advancing in World War II, to crucial force protection messaging via radio and social media during the COVID-19 pandemic, terrorist attacks, typhoons and emergencies, AFN remains a trusted source for real-time information.

Today's AFN stations enjoy advantages unimaginable generations ago. Once a single channel, radio now offers a dozen different audio services and streams over the Internet. Visit www.AFNPacific.net/AFN-360 or install the AFN Pacific mobile app on your Apple iOS or Android device. AFN Eagle radio also broadcasts over the air in Japan and Korea.

A single channel of AFN television was a huge morale boost a generation ago. Now, the network offers shore-based audience members

eight TV services, all in high definition. Sailors afloat in the Pacific receive three: a sports, news and entertainment TV service.

What hasn't changed since 1942 is that AFN continues to provide the most deserving audience in the world with real-time force protection updates and the very best radio and TV entertainment, news and sports. COVID-19, weather delays and the unpredictable nature of live events make our schedules subject to last minute changes. Go to myafn.net for the latest schedule, or, if you have a decoder, hit the "EPG" button. We value your feedback. Let us know what you think of our programming. Click on the contact us tab at myafn.net!

— George A. Smith



<https://www.afnpacific.net/AFN-360/>



<https://www.facebook.com/AFNPacificNow/>



<https://twitter.com/AFNPacificNow>



05 Women divers (Haenyeo)

Haenyeo from Jeju have been making a living by diving for abalone, conch, and octopus. They never use any breathing equipment. Haenyeo are able to dive up to 65 feet under the sea, holding their breath for as long as two minutes at a time. Haenyeo are well-known for their diving skills and devotion to their family.

MUST-VISIT

01 Mt. Hallasan

Mt. Hallasan, which rises 1,950m above sea level, is the highest mountain in South Korea. Here you'll find Baengnokdam, the crater and lake located at the peak of Mt. Hallasan, and about 40 oreums, a beautiful sight of steep and fantastic rock cliffs are designated as Nature Monument and National Park. As the peak of Mt. Hallasan is made of diverse volcanic characteristics, depending on the angle of one's view, one can feel its uniqueness.

02 Seongsan Sunrise Peak (Seongsan Ilchulbong Peak)

On the east coast of Jeju is situated the 182m Seongsan Ilchulbong which looks like a grand old castle. It was formed 5,000 years ago by an underwater eruption on the shallow sea bed. With a background of sun rising in the east beyond the horizon, the beauty of Seongsan Ilchulbong is beyond words description. That is why many people gather in this places on New Year morning to see the sun rise.

03 Hyeopjae Beach

Hyeopjae Beach is one of the most popular places in the summer. The water is relatively shallow but beware of rip tides. The white sandy beach has extra fine sand mixed with shells that glitter with silver, and the emerald-colored water is crystal clear.

04 Jeju Fire Festival

The Jeju Fire Festival is one of the world's greatest fire festivals. It reinterprets the cattle farming traditions of Jeju. The highlight of the event is the moment when a crater is set ablaze. The flames rise to the top of crater in spectacular fashion. This festival is one of the most popular attractions in Jeju, drawing more than 300,000 visitors each year.



MUST-EAT

06 Black Pork BBQ (Heuk Dwaegi Gogi)

Heuk Dwaegi Gogi is from the island's domestic pig, the Jeju Black Pig. Grilled to perfection on top of burning charcoal, wrapped in vegetables together with rice.

07 Pork Noodles (Gogi Guksu)

The most common delicacy on Jeju is Gogi Guksu. It is noodle soup made by skimming pork bones until a cloudy broth forms.

08 Abalone Porridge (Jeonbokjuk)

Jeonbokjuk is a nourishing porridge. It is well-loved for its chewy texture of abalone and its subtle flavor.

09 Grilled Sea Bream (Okdom)

Okdom is a small red fish that is known for its delicate taste and texture. It is usually served broiled. One fish will feed 1-2 people.

10 Tangerine (Gyul)

Jeju Tangerines are very high in sugar content and less sour than most varieties, so they taste better. They are good for dieting and help absorb calcium. They are rich in vitamin C, which is good for skin beauty and fatigue.

UNESCO in JEJU

- Biosphere Reserve (2002)
- World Natural Heritage Site (2007)
- Global Geopark Network (2010)
- Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity (2016)



Inquiries

Jeju Tourism Organization TEL +82-64.740.6000~2 Web www.visitjeju.net/en

Heal your life in PURE JEJU!

Your perfect destination in Northeast Asia!

Jeju Island is the largest and southernmost island in South Korea. Jeju is the most visited resort destination for domestic tourists and is famous as a world-renowned volcanic island with magnificent examples of nature. In terms of area, it is three times larger than Guam. Thanks to a climate with temperatures that rarely drop below Zero Celsius degrees, tourists can enjoy the island year-round. Jeju's natural scenery and various tourism resources will help you relax and heal.



How to get there

The easiest way to visit Jeju Island is by air. All domestic airports, including Gimpo, can get you there within an hour's flight time.

✈ Gimpo/Busan/Daegu/Gunsan etc. → Jeju: within 1 hour

✈ Tokyo → Jeju: 2 hours 30 mins | ✈ Osaka → Jeju: 1 hour 40 mins

Websites worth bookmarking

Stripes.com and **StripesKorea.com** are of course the most accessible sources of military and local military community news, respectively. More English- and Korean language newspapers can be accessed online via: www.w3newspapers.com/south-korea

Bustago is an integrated electronic service for intercity buses. It offers mobile and Internet intercity ticket reservations and home ticketing without visiting terminals. www.bustago.or.kr/

Easy Korean Food is for do-it-yourselfers, offering a plethora of Korean recipes for those who want to cook Korean food at home. www.easyskoreanfood.com

Elaw is for those who like to invest in Korea and anyone who lives in Korea. It offers a good breakdown of Korean law. https://elaw.klri.re.kr/eng_service/main.do

klaguru is run by a Korean attorney addressing legal issues covered by the media and daily life examples of Korean law. This website specializes in criminal law, criminal procedure code and penal responsibility. <https://klawguru.com/>

Gb is a local government run website in Gyeongsangbuk-do area, offering information about local festivals, events, government activities more. gb.go.kr/eng/main.jsp

Haps Korea, if you're visiting Busan, has you covered on what's happening there. hapsekorea.com

Daegu Compass is for foreigners who live in Daegu, offering local news and features on travel, food and culture. issuu.com/daegucompass

Hike Korea is a great little website for the serious and casual hiker alike to start researching their next walkabout in the Land of the Morning Calm. www.hikekorea.com

Hostels: Seeing South Korea on a shoestring budget is a better experience if you are well rested. In Korea you can find accommodations well below \$20 per person per night. www.hostels.com/south-Korea

H ticket offers information about express buses of 42 routes throughout the country. If you are unable to find a suitable bus for your travel, check this website out. www.hticket.co.kr

Imagine Your Korea is the Korea Tourism Organization's official site. It is an inexhaustible source of detailed information on what The Land of the Morning Calm has to offer – attractions, natural beauty, hotels, travel, shopping and more. english.visitkorea.or.kr

Korea Blog is a well-honed collection of polished prose that offers valuable insights

on all things Korea – travel, culture, art and more. koreanetblog.blogspot.jp/

Korea 4 Expats is a cornucopia of English-language information – from events and public transportation to business and daily life – for foreigners living in the ROK. www.korea4expats.com

Korea.Net is a government-run English site that has breaking news, features and great information on the history of Korea. www.korea.net/index.jsp

Life in Korea is a great source for finding out more about the local scene – from sports, shopping, travel – even food. Just select a food type from “Grilled,” “Soups,” etc. for the pronunciation and specific descriptions of what you are about to enjoy. www.lifeinkorea.com

Live in Korea is a Ministry of Gender Equality and Family run website. It has comprehensive information on daily life in Korea, from Korean language to culture. www.liveinkorea.kr

Seoul Eats is a comprehensive collection of restaurant reviews that lets users search and read about eateries by type of cuisine, location and price. Users can also post their own reviews. www.seouleats.com

My Korean Eats is not your ordinary food website. They provide authentic Korean cooking recipes, food reviews and food photography. <http://mykoreaneats.com/>

Seoul Magazine, though apparently not regularly updated, offers a wealth of articles on this city's culture, sites, fashion, food and more. www.seoulselection.com

Seoul Metro provides details on the city's subway system including maps, fares, timetables – even commuter etiquette. Choose English at the top of the homepage. www.seoulmetro.co.kr

ShipitAPO helps ensure that online shopping is alive and well in Korea. www.shipitapo.com/home.php

Templestay is a way to get away from the rat race and find some inner calm by participating in temple life. This experience is not for everyone, but for some it is a real vacation. eng.templestay.com

The Jeju Weekly is more than this resort island's only English newspaper. It has comprehensive news and information on all things Jeju – from arts, culture and conventions to tourism, attractions and business. www.jejuweekly.com

The Man in Seat Sixty-One is a British creation devoted to travel by train, bus and ferry. As such, it is a portal to sites with this kind of travel and schedule info to and from, as well as within, South Korea. www.seat61.com/SouthKorea.htm



Ride out the storm with Dave

Dave Ornauer has been with Stars and Stripes since 1981, and one of his first assignments as a beat reporter in the old Japan News Bureau was “typhoon chaser.” Pacific Storm Tracker is designed to take the technical weather lingo and simplify it for the average Stripes reader.

www.stripes.com/blogs/pacific-storm-tracker

Adventurekorea allows you to sign up for events, daily trips, team building activities, as well as customize your own trip. www.adventurekorea.com/

10 Magazine is more than the sum of its parts with regularly updated events, ranging from high art and fun for the family to concerts, films and nightlife. 10mag.com

Zen Kimchi is for those who like exploring a country through its food. It offers restaurant reviews and info on food-related events and tours. zenkimchi.com

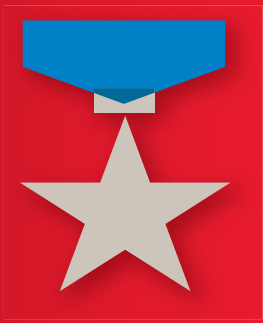
Gmarket is a shopping site based in Korea. Like the online shopping sites in States, you can find all the categories you can think of, with a large choice of Korea-made goods to choose from. global.gmarket.co.kr/Home/Main

Koreantemplefood is a website for those who are interested in Korean temple cuisine. It offers not only great recipes of temple food, but info on cooking classes for foreigners. www.koreantemplefood.com/eng/main/main.html

Maangchi is a cooking blog run by Emily Kim, commonly known as Maangchi and a Korean-American Youtuber and author. It delivers you delicious Korean food recipes in an easy-to-follow way. www.maangchi.com

Koreantempleguide is an ultimate website featuring Korean Temples. It categorizes historic temples in South Korea by region. <https://koreantempleguide.com/>

Hedgersabroad provides great travel info and high sophisticated videos on not just Korea but other neighboring Asian countries. Run by two part-time nomads who are currently living in South Korea. <https://hedgersabroad.com/>



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