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to being stationed in

KOREA

Stars and Stripes Community Publication



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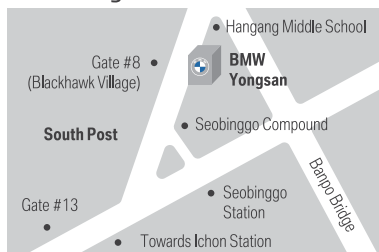
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KOREA

2023-2024

Welcome

to

the Pacific

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Cover photo: On her first solo trip to Seoul in June 2022, Candace Williams took this great shot at the Deoksugung Palace. Williams said she has enjoyed learning the Korean culture and meeting "all the amazing people."

Stars and Stripes

welcomes you to the Pacific

We are honored to be among the first to welcome you to this beautiful region! Moving overseas can feel mind-boggling and overwhelming. Learning to navigate your way through a new country, different policies and laws, as well as local host-nation traditions and customs, is enough to make your head spin. We know you have questions and Stars and Stripes is here to help you find some answers!

We are here to support you as you transition to your new home. This guide contains the information you need to help get your time overseas started right, so you don't have to go about it alone.

In every page of our magazines, newspapers and websites, you'll find all the useful information you need to make the most of your time in the Pacific. We are very committed to supporting you and the mission. We want you to participate and tell us what you want to know, too.

As you flip through these pages, you'll see beautiful photographs from members of the military community just like you. Beyond the wonderful photos, you'll find key information about living in Korea. Curious about how to use chopsticks the right way? Intimidated by Korea's seamless train system? We got you on Pages 16 and 22.

Once you've settled in, don't forget to grab a copy of Stars and Stripes Korea on base in the blue boxes, or visit korea.strips.com, where there is plenty more to discover! Hyemin Lee (learn more about her on Page 8) is ready to guide you through your new home with amazing restaurant tips, language lessons and trip ideas to get you off base and out and about in no time!

Not finding what you're looking for? Send us a note and we'll be right with you!

Do you have an interesting story to share? A community event you want others to know about? Or know of an amazing service member, spouse or child that deserves recognition? We are all ears! Contact us on our community sites or at the email address below. We love to share our pages with members of the community, so send us your stories, photographs and ideas and you may just find them in the next edition of our papers and magazines.

We are happy you've decided to join us and can't wait to show our servicemembers, military families and DOD civilians around. Join us on Facebook (Pacific Stars and Stripes), Twitter (@StripesPacific) and Instagram (@starsandstripespacific) as we continue to bring you the latest information and resources you don't want to miss.

Thank you for being a valued reader! As they say here in Korea, "어서 오십시오!" Welcome!

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

Background photo: Deanna Kirkwood took this lovely shot during a MWR tour to OEDO Bontania. Kirkwood said her favorite things about Korea are "the authenticity and the ingenuity of the people, the food, and the culture."

Welcome to the Pacific Staff

Denisse Rauda
Editor

Yukiyo Oda
Layout Designer

Writers and Photographers

Shoji Kudaka Hyemin Lee
Takahiro Takiguchi

Max D. Lederer Jr.
Publisher

Lt. Col. Michael M. Kerschbaum
Commander

Michael Ryan
Chief of Staff

Scott Foley
Revenue Director

Marie Woods
Publishing and Media Design Director

Chris Carlson
Publishing and Media Design Manager

Eric Lee
Revenue Manager

Kentaro Shimura
Production Manager

Rie Miyoshi
Engagement Manager

Area Managers
Monte Dauphin, Japan/Guam
Enrique "Rick" W. Villanueva Jr., Korea

Multimedia Consultants
Max Genao Doug Johnson
Hans Simpson Chae Pang Yi
Benjamin Yoo Gianni Youn
Robert Zuckerman

Sales Support
Ji Young Chae Yu Mi Choe
Hiromi Isa Yoko Noro
Toshinori Numano Yusuke Sato
Kanna Suzuki Saori Tamanaha
Toshie Yoshimizu

Graphic Designers
Mamoru Inoue Kazumi Hasegawa
Kenichi Ogasawara Yuko Okazaki
Kayoko Shimoda Yosuke Tsuji

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Email: carlson.chris@stripes.com with questions or comments. To subscribe to Stars and Stripes, email: SSPcirculation@stripes.com. Mailing address: Unit 45002, APO AP 96338-5002

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Let's start your Korean adventure!

Hi folks, I'm Hyemin (pronounced heh-min), your personal tour guide during your time in Korea. As a local, I'm very excited to get a chance to show you how wonderful my country is!

Before we begin, let me tell you a little about myself. I am passionate about exploring the world and creating interesting projects. My curiosity about the world has led me to some interesting places and given me opportunities to work with various organizations. I've lived in the deserts of the Middle East and jungles of South America, where I taught tribal children. Before joining Stars and Stripes in 2022, I spent the previous 10 years creating content, hosting cultural exchanges, playing percussion, teaching, writing and helping communities. My mission is always the same in any field I work in— exploring, sharing, and connecting with people.

Until the age of 18, I had never left South Korea, nor had I learned to speak English. But I was curious about the world, so after high school I decided to take a journey to explore outside of my home country. I'll be honest, surviving alone

as a young woman abroad wasn't easy. However, my secret weapon was my culture. No matter where I traveled, I knew I could make friends by sharing my culture, my knowledge of Korean history, food and instruments. I learned that when we share and understand each other's culture, we can be connected no matter where we are from and what language we speak.

In the past, I've hosted cultural exchange events between Koreans and foreigners. Through these events, I made friends with many U.S. service members. We shared stories, and I learned about their loved ones who served in the Korean War. From me, they learned about Korea and fell in love with their temporary home.

These experiences were touching and made me think about the meaning of the alliance between our countries. As a result, I was inspired to work for the U.S. forces in Korea and felt eager to contribute to the military community here. All of this has brought me to Stars and Stripes to help you have an amazing adventure during your time on the Peninsula!

If this is your first time in Korea, there are plenty of reasons to be excited to be here. First, Korea has thousands of years of history, so it has its own culture, language, and characteristics. As an American, you'll find a lot of interesting and new experiences. Second, because Korea is a small country, it's very easy to explore and has many unique destinations you won't find anywhere else. Third, Korea has four seasons, and every three months you'll see new colors and beauty all around you, as well as different seasonal festivals.

Don't miss the flowers in the spring, beaches in the summer, mountains covered in colorful leaves in the fall, and snow in the winter. Seriously, you'll have no time to sit at home during your stay in Korea!

Moving to a foreign country can be scary, but don't worry because I know what that's like and am here to help. I want you to create plenty of great memories to last a lifetime while you're here.

Are you ready to fall in love with Korea? Then, let's begin the journey together!

-Hyemin Lee
lee.hyemin@stripes.com

HEY, TAKE
A LOOK AT
SOME OF MY
STORIES!



Taste of Korea



Street food at
Gwangjang
Market



Noryangjin
Fish Market
in Seoul



Cooking shrimp
and pepper
pancakes



Hosting a
Korea dinner
party

Culture



Tips on dating
in Korea



Navigating
Korean
bathhouses



Fortune tellers
in Korea



Celebrating
Seollal

Travel



Cherry
blossoms in
Gyeongju City



Dongdaemun
Fashion Town



Shopping at
wholesale
markets



Where to take
'life shots' in
Korea

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The mission of Stars and Stripes is to provide news and information to active-duty service members, veterans, government civilians, contractors and their families. Our award-winning journalists report from military bases around the world on topics that matter most to our audience. Through our many print and digital products, you'll always have access to valuable content in the format you prefer.

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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



Korea through the ages

Although Korea is a small country, historically, its geographic location has made it susceptible to invasion. Astoundingly, despite enduring over 900 invasions, Korea still retains its rich identity, culture and traditions.

As you spend more time here and get to know more about the country, you'll discover many interesting things regarding Korean behavior, culture, and customs of the past that still influence Korea's present. In addition, one cannot ignore the U.S.-Korea relationship and its influence when discussing Korean modern history.

Three Kingdoms Period and Goryeo Dynasty (A.D. 57 to 1392)

In ancient times, Goguryeo, Silla, and Baekje kingdoms governed their territories and occasionally fought each other (Three Kingdom Period A.D. 57 to 668). At one point, Silla temporarily unified the three kingdoms (Unified Silla 668-935), but eventually, King Taejo Wang-geon would reunify them under the Goryeo Dynasty (918-1392). Throughout this period Korea remained a Buddhism-centric country.



Hunting Scene-Goguryeo Tomb Murals

Joseon Dynasty (1392-1897)

In 1392, Goryeo would fall and Joseon Dynasty would rise with Yi Seong-gye, a former Goryeo military commander, at the helm. Teachings and moral standards of Confucianism, including loyalty to the king, social orders and more, would replace Buddhist ideologies. Much of today's traditional Korean culture is still influenced by the Joseon Dynasty. Korea's Hangul alphabet would also be invented by King Sejong during this dynasty in the 15th century.



Scene of the Dano Festival by Shin Yun Bok



Gojong of the Korean Empire by Chae Yong Sin

Empire of Korea (1897-1910)

In the late 19th century, threatened by foreign powers, Joseon would be renamed "Empire of Korea" by King Gojong to strengthen national independence. This would prove fruitless after Japan beat China (Qing) in the first Sino-Japanese War and soon annex the Empire thereafter in 1910.

Colonial Period (1910-1945)

Under the Japanese Government-General of Korea, Koreans would be brutally exploited and oppressed by Japan. The annexation would last 35 years and end with Japan's surrender to the Allies at the end of World War II on Aug. 15, 1945.



Seoul during Japanese occupation.
Photo courtesy of Mainichi Newspapers Company.

American Military Government (1945-1948)

Immediately after liberation, Korea was divided into two countries. The U.S. military forces took over Yongsan Garrison and governed South Korea.



Original source from NARA

Republic of Korea (1948-present)

UN-sponsored elections were held May 8, 1948, and the Republic of Korea was established Aug. 15, 1948. On Sept. 9, 1948, North Korea established the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Korean War (1950-1953)

War broke out on June 25, 1950, when North Korea, supported by China and Russia, invaded the

south. UN Forces, under Gen. MacArthur's lead, would regain many of the regions taken by the north and save South Korea.

On July 27, 1953, fighting ended with the signing of the Korean Armistice Agreement. The armistice established the Korean Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) to separate the two Koreas. Since no peace treaty was ever signed, both countries are technically still at war, and both maintain conscription for citizens.

In October 1953, South Korean and U.S. officials would sign the Mutual Defense Treaty to protect the Peninsula and provide military aid. Seventy years later, the commitment continues with about 28,500 U.S. military personnel stationed in South Korea.



Original source from NARA

Miracle on the Han River

After the signing of the armistice, South Korea found itself in a precarious situation as one of the poorest countries in the world. Relying on the U.S. for support, Koreans never gave up on overcoming the hardship and reviving their country. The country turned towards its agricultural production, exportation and industrialization for aggressive growth in the 1970s. Soon, the South Korean steel, automobile and ship industries were in demand. The economic growth is often referred to as the "Miracle on the Han River."

-Hyemin Lee



Photo courtesy of Korean Tourism Organization

Cultural lay of the land

Palli ppalli(빨리 빨리) is a common Korean expression you'll hear a lot. While this word means "hurry up" or "quickly/rapidly," ppalli ppalli is also considered a cultural term.

The use of the word may make Koreans seem impatient, but it is rooted in the work culture during dynamic economic growth after the war. A result of the ppalli ppalli culture is the many fast and great quality services you'll find throughout the country.

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 using 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, Lee, Pa(r)k, Choi (Choe) and Jeong. Because of the inconsistencies of translating names from Hangeul to Roman characters, spellings of these names vary. For instance, Lee is also spelled in English as Yi and Rhee.

If 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."

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.

Religion in the ROK

In Korea, the constitution guarantees the freedom of religion of its citizens. So, you'll find plenty of public displays of religion including ceremonies at churches and temples during your stay.

On the Peninsula, a majority of the citizenry has no religious affiliation, approximately 20 percent are Protestant Christian, 17 percent Buddhist and 6 percent Catholic, according to a study by the National Statistical Office and other research institutes.

Though Christianity dates back 140 years and isn't one of the oldest religions here, it is still considered the main religion. When foreigners visit or come to live here, they're surprised to find many protestant churches around the country.

Before Christianity arrived here, Buddhism and Confucianism were the primary religions Koreans practiced. Today, Buddhism, Confucianism and native Shamanism still have an influence Korean's mind, culture, and customs. And you'll still see many beautiful Buddhist temples in cities and mountainsides. The custom of visiting a shaman for advice and guidance is also still common practice among Koreans.

-Hyemin Lee

2023 Korean holidays

**Jan
1**

New Year's 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.

**Jan
21-24**

Seollal (2024)

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
27**

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
28-30**

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, Taebaeksan 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

Speakin' Korean

The Korean written language, Hangul, can be 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 "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).

VOWELS

	ㅏ	ㅑ	ㅓ	ㅕ	ㅗ	ㅛ
	i	e	oe	ae	a	o
	ㅜ	ㅡ	ㅣ	ㅚ	ㅜ	ㅟ
	eo	eu	ui	ye	yae	ya
	ㅓ	ㅕ	ㅗ	ㅛ	ㅜ	ㅟ
	yu	yeo	wi	we	wae	wa

CONSONANTS

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

Is it hard for you to speak Korean? Everyone knows learning Korean will benefit their lives in many ways when living in Korea. However, the language is structured differently than English, so there are many new things to learn. Knowing where to start may be difficult, but I have you covered!

Here are some of the most basic and useful Korean phrases that can be used in many situations. I promise you'll be able to start communicating with Koreans after you study these lessons! Take a deep breath, and let's start!

-Hyemin Lee

Basic greetings and general speaking

These are the most basic and important phrases to learn to make conversation with Koreans.

• Using "yo" at the end of sentence makes a sentence formal.

Greetings

Hi / Hello

FORMAL Annyeong-haseyo (안녕하세요)

INFORMAL Annyeong (안녕)

Bye

FORMAL Annyeonghee gah-seh-yo (안녕히 가세요)

*When you're staying and the other's leaving

Annyeonghee geh-seh-yo (안녕히 계세요)

*When you're leaving and the other's staying

INFORMAL Annyeong (안녕)

Jal-ga (잘가)

Nice to meet you

FORMAL Manna-seo ban-gap-seum-nida (만나서 반갑습니다)

SEMI FORMAL Manna-seo ban-gawo-yo (만나서 반가워요)

INFORMAL Manna-seo bangawo (만나서 반가워)

General speaking

Nice to meet you / Please look after me

FORMAL Jal butak-deu-rim-nida (잘 부탁드립니다)

SEMI FORMAL Jal butak-haeyo (잘 부탁해요)

INFORMAL Jal butak-hae (잘 부탁해)

How are you?

(Only to someone you already know)

FORMAL Jal ji-nae-syeo-sseo-yo? (잘 지내셨어요?)

SEMI FORMAL Jal ji-nae-sseo-yo? (잘 지냈어요?)

INFORMAL Jal ji-nae-sseo? (잘 지냈어?)

Did you have a meal?

(Same as "How are you?")

FORMAL Siksa ha-syeo-sseo-yo? (식사 하셨어요?)

SEMI FORMAL Bap meo-geo-sseo-yo? (밥 먹었어요?)

INFORMAL Bap meo-geo-sseo? (밥 먹었어?)

Have a good day

FORMAL Joeun haru bonae-seyo (좋은 하루 보내세요)

INFORMAL Joeun haru bonae (좋은 하루 보내)

Congratulations

FORMAL Chukha-haeyo (축하해요)

INFORMAL Chukha-hae (축하해)

Thank you

FORMAL Gamsa-hamnida (감사합니다)

SEMI FORMAL Goma-woyo (고마워요)

INFORMAL Goma-wo (고마워)

Sorry

FORMAL Joesong-hamnida (죄송합니다)

SEMI FORMAL Mian-haeyo (미안해요)

INFORMAL Mian-hae (미안해)

Hi!

Write Korean below



General speaking

Excuse me

- FORMAL** Silleh-hamnida (실례합니다)
Jamsi-manyo (잠시만요)
INFORMAL Jam-kkan-man (잠깐만)

Yes

- FORMAL** Neh (네)
Ye (예)
INFORMAL Eung (응)

No

- FORMAL** Anim-nida (아닙니다)
Ani-yo (아니요)
INFORMAL Ani (아니)

Ok

- FORMAL** Geu-rae-yo (그래요)
Joa-yo (좋아요)
Al-get-seum-nida
(알겠습니다)

- INFORMAL** Geu-rae (그래)
Joa (좋아)
Ara-sseo (알았어)

Right / Correct

- FORMAL** Majayo (맞아요)
INFORMAL Maja (맞아)

I'm fine / No problem

- FORMAL** Gwaen-chana-yo
(괜찮아요)
INFORMAL Gwaen-chana (괜찮아)

Introducing yourself

- U.S.A: Migook
■ American: Migook-saram (미국사람) / Migook-in (미국인)
■ U.S military / troop (any branches): Migoon (미군)

I'm American.

Write Korean below

Let's learn 5 steps to
introduce yourself
when you first meet
someone!



1. Hi / Hello

- FORMAL** Annyeong-haseyo (안녕하세요)
INFORMAL Annyeong (안녕)

2. My name is (your name)

- FORMAL** Je ireum-eun [John] imnida
(제 이름은 존입니다)
INFORMAL Nae ireum-eun [John]-iya (내 이름은 존이야)

3. I'm (your name, position, identity)

- FORMAL** Jeo-neun [migook-in] imnida
(저는 미국인입니다)
INFORMAL Na-neun [migook-in] iya (나는 미국인이야)
(migook-American)

4. I'm from (your country, city)

- FORMAL** Jeo-neun [New York]-eh-seo wasseo-yo
(저는 뉴욕에서 왔어요)
INFORMAL Na-neun [New York]-eh-seo wasseo
(나는 뉴욕에서 왔어)

5. Nice to meet you

- FORMAL** Manna-seo ban-gap-seum-nida
(만나서 반갑습니다)
SEMI FORMAL Manna-seo ban-gawo-yo
(만나서 반가워요)
INFORMAL Manna-seo bangawo
(만나서 반가워)



Illustrations by Hyemin Lee

BASIC
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 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.

Currency converter
www.xe.com/
currencyconverter



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Money Matters

Knowing how to count Korean won and how to use basic phrases for shopping will greatly improve your time in Korea!

Numbers (Sino)

- 1: Il(일)
- 2: I(이)
- 3: Sam(삼)
- 4: Sa(사)
- 5: Oh(오)
- 6: Yuk(육)
- 7: Chil(칠)
- 8: Pal(팔)
- 9: Gu(구)
- 10: Sip(십)
- 100: Baek(백)
- 1,000: Cheon(천)
- 10,000: Man(만)

Words

This: Igeo (이거)
That: Jeogeo (저거)
Different one: Da-reun geo (다른 거)
More: Deo (더)
To give: Ju-da (주다)
To buy: Sa-da (사다)

Korean money

100 won: Baek won (백원)
1,000 won: Cheon won (천원)
10,000 won: Man won (만원)
100,000 won: Sip man won (십만원)
1,000,000 won: Baek man won (백만원)
10,000,000 won: Cheon man won (천만원)

Phrases

- Using "yo" at the end of sentence makes a sentence formal.
- Using "an" in front of a verb and adjective makes a negative sentence.

■ How much is this?

Igeo eolmayeyo? (얼마예요?)

■ Please give this to me / I'll take it

Igeo juseyo (이거 주세요)

■ Do you have a different one, too?

Da-reun geot-do isseo-yo? (다른 것도 있어요?)

■ Do you have more?

Deo isseo-yo? (더 있어요?)

■ I'll buy it

Salgeyo (살게요)

■ I won't buy it

An-salgeyo (안 살게요)

■ I like this

Igeo joa-yo (이거 좋아요)

■ Can I try on? (Only for clothes)

Ib-eo bwado dweyo?
(입어봐도 돼요?)

■ Can I try on? (Only for shoes)

Sinuh bwado dweyo?
(신어봐도 돼요?)

■ Please give me a discount

Kkakka-juseyo (깎아주세요)

How much is this?

Write Korean below



Illustration by Hyemin Lee

3,000 won.

Write Korean below

Giving gifts and tips

Americans affiliated with the military often have questions about giving gifts or tokens of gratitude to Korean people. Here are some helpful tips when it comes to gift giving in Korea.

GIFT-GIVING MANNERS

- When receiving or giving a gift, using both hands is a polite gesture that respects Korean culture, especially when you're dealing with someone older than you.
- Gifts are usually wrapped in beautiful wrapping paper with bright colors.
- Cash gifts should be put in an envelope.
- Reciprocity is expected in Korean culture. When you receive gifts from Koreans, you are expected to give something with a similar value in the same situation for them later. Giving an expensive gift can be a burden for the receiver.
- In Korea, showing a gesture of refusing to receive a gift is considered a polite manner, so although a Korean refuses to receive a gift from you, it doesn't really mean that they don't want it. Try to insist to give it to them at least twice more. However, there are some situations in the workplace that receiving gifts is forbidden by law. In that case, they'll let you know they can't accept your gift because of their work position.

WHEN TO GIVE

■ Expression of gratitude

If you want to show appreciation to those working hard or who have helped you by giving a gift, you can buy a small gift such as drinks, snacks or something in the realm of 3,000 won

to 20,000 won.

■ Party or special event

When you are invited to a housewarming party, someone's business opening celebration, or a dinner invitation to a friend's home, it's appropriate (and expected) to bring a small gift of good quality like fruits, drinks, cake or flowers. Something from your country would be nice, too.

■ Cash gifts

At Korean weddings and funerals, guests are expected to give a cash gift. An acceptable amount is 100,000 won but you can give more if a person in the event is close to you.

■ Special birthdays

When Koreans turn one, 60, 70, and 80 years old, these birthdays are huge celebrations. Clothes are good gifts for a one-year-old baby, and a health supplement such as a product made of ginseng is good for elders. Cash gifts, however, are preferred for any birthday.

■ Holidays

On Chuseok and Seollal, Korean traditional holidays, it's common for Koreans to exchange gifts with close friends, coworkers or business partners. Companies give their employees Spam, cooking oil or toiletries in a nice gift box. People usually exchange good quality gifts such as dietary supplements, seasonal fruit or premium Korean beef (Hanwoo).

On Christmas, parents give their children a gift and couples exchange gifts.

For Valentine's Day, women gift their partners chocolate. One month later, on March 14, men reciprocate and give candy or other sweets.

TIPS ON TIPS

In Korean culture, giving tips is unusual, so some Koreans

may feel a little bit offended when you try to tip them. They may think you're trying to compensate their unconditional kindness and hospitality with money.

Instead of tips, giving a small gift would be a nice gesture. However, Koreans working at a barber shop, beauty salon and skin care shop usually accept tips.

You also can tip in Western-style hotels or facilities if you want, as well as a taxi driver by saying "keep the change." But again, tipping is not part of Korean culture, so you don't have to tip anywhere in Korea except on-base restaurants.

TP AT THE TABLE?

Whenever I invite my foreign friends to my place, one of the things that shocks them is toilet paper is everywhere at my place, including on my desk and dining table. I usually put them in a nice container, but my friends still can't get over it and insist toilet paper is for the bathroom only.

Koreans use toilet paper for multiple purposes. It can be used to wipe tables, as a napkin and as tissue to blow your nose. Don't be surprised if toilet paper is used as a napkin when you dine out at small or old restaurants.

And believe it or not, when Koreans hold a housewarming party, toilet paper is one of the most common gifts to bring to the host. Giving toilet paper as a housewarming gift means you are wishing them good luck and fortune in the future.

-Hyemin Lee



- **Invitation:** Chodae (초대)
- **Gift:** Seonmul (선물)
- **House warming (party):** Jib-deuri (집들이)
- **Thank you:** Gamsa-hamnida (감사합니다) Formal / Gomawoyo (고마워요) Semi-formal
- **Thank you for inviting me:** Chodae-hae jusyeoseo gamsa-hamnida (초대해 주셔서 감사합니다)
- **This is a gift for you:** Igeon seonmul-ieyo (이건 선물이예요)
- **Thank you for the gift:** Seonmul gomawoyo! (선물 고마워요)



Illustration by Hyemin Lee



Minding your table manners in Korea

Each country has a different culture. When you live in a foreign country, if you take the time to learn the culture and manners to follow, it will be a great help in acclimating to your new home and making

new friends. Learning Korean table manners are an especially important and simple way to make a good impression on your Korean friends and coworkers.

Even if at first you struggle to master table manners in

Korea, don't worry because locals will be very understanding as long as you are trying to adapt to the culture.

Below are some important things to know before you go out for a meal in Korea. Your

friends will appreciate your effort and definitely be impressed when you show off your new skills!

- Hyemin Lee

Don't
eat rice with chopsticks!

Don't
bring the bowl up to your mouth!

General manners

- Greetings (When you eat food with Koreans, use these phrases)

BEFORE EATING: Jal meok-get-seup-ni-da (잘 먹겠습니다) I'm going to eat well

AFTER EATING: Jal meo-geo-sseum-ni-da (잘 먹었습니다) I ate well
Jal (잘): Well / Meok-da (먹다): To eat

These phrases are especially useful when you're offered food. If pronunciation is difficult for you, just say you will enjoy the food and thank the person offering the food in English. After the meal, don't forget to say that the food was delicious. Koreans will appreciate your effort to express your gratitude.

- Always wash your hands before eating. This step is important to Koreans, so most restaurants will bring wet tissues to the table at the beginning of the meal. Use the wet tissues to wipe your hands before digging in.

- Like in any other culture, making sounds and eating noisily will make others uncomfortable. Although talking at the table isn't a conventional table manner, enjoying chatting is fine unless you talk with your mouth full of food. Don't clink bowls or make noise with spoon or chopsticks.

- Never blow your nose at the table. When coughing or sneezing, turn your face to the side and cover your mouth with a napkin.

- Don't bring the bowl up to your mouth. This is a common practice in other Asian countries, but it is not a good table manner in Korea.

With spoon and chopsticks

- Don't grab a spoon and chopsticks at the same time.
- Don't use spoons to scoop side dishes. Spoons are for rice and soup.
- Don't eat rice with chopsticks. Chopsticks are for picking up food from main entrees and side dishes (banchan 반찬).
- Don't stick your spoon or chopsticks standing straight up in a rice bowl. This is only done as part of a traditional funeral ritual (Jesa 제사).

Sharing food with others

- Sharing is caring. Communal dishes to be shared between people are a very common Korean practice. Sometimes even sharing soup together if you are close to a person is acceptable. If there is only one soup bowl on the table and you don't want to share it with others, you can ask to have an extra bowl.

- When you share a dish with others, don't hoard it like you're at a buffet. Take a couple of bites and then go back to grab more after finishing them.
- When sharing a communal dish, don't search through the dish for specific things.
- Don't shake off sauce over the dish. If you want to get rid of the marinated sauce, bring the food to your bowl first.

Korean Lesson

- **Spoon:** Sujeo (수저) / Sutgarak (숟가락)
- **Chopsticks:** Jeotgarak (젓가락)
- **Ladle:** Gukja (국자)
- **Tong:** Jipge (집게)
- **Scissors:** Gawi (가위)
- **Bowl / Plate:** Geu-reut (그릇)
- **Rice:** Bap (밥)
- **Soup:** Guk (국)
- **Side dish:** Banchan (반찬)

When eating with elders (Especially senior citizens)

- The oldest person sits at the head of the table or in the most comfortable seat.
- Younger people usually take an aisle seat to be able to serve the older ones or go bring more side dishes and water.
- When you have a meal with seniors, the oldest one should have the first bite before everyone else at the table begins eating.
- Try to adjust the meal time pace to the elder's speed and finish the meal only when the oldest person has finished eating first.
- When pouring or receiving a drink from an older person, be sure to use both hands. Also, it's your duty to fill up their glass if it's empty.

Table setting and utensils

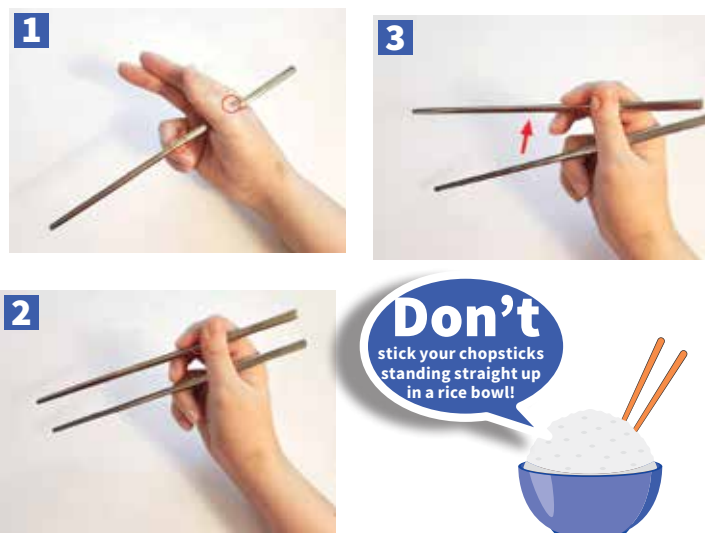
A typical Korean meal includes rice, soup, and three or four side dishes. If it's a big meal like dinner, this will also include an additional main entrée.

Each person at the table will usually receive their own soup and rice. The main dish will be in a communal plate at the center of the table with side dishes around it for everyone to share.

When the main entrée is soup, it's served in a big pot and each person serves their own individual bowl with a ladle. It's also common to share the soup in one pot with all the members of the table.

When there is meat or seafood, tongs and scissors are used to cut the food on the table instead of a knife.

Let's learn how to use chopsticks!



- 1 Place the upper part of the first chopstick between the thumb and index finger and put the lower part on a ring finger.
- 2 Grab the second chopstick between the index and middle finger and hold it with the thumb.
- 3 You don't have to move the first chopstick. Open and close the second chopstick to pick up food by using the index and middle finger.



Food delivery phone apps

If you don't feel like cooking, just order from a restaurant on one of these apps and let the delivery services take care of the rest.

Shuttle Delivery

Shuttle, a bilingual delivery app, launched in the Itaewon area of Seoul in 2016 and extended its coverage to restaurants outside 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.

www.shuttledelivery.co.kr/en



Yogiyo

Among the many food delivery apps available Shuttle is a great option for English speakers living on the peninsula. Its only setback for users may be its limited coverage as it only focuses on certain areas around Seoul, Busan, Camp Humphreys and Songtan.

If you're in one of the smaller cities, don't worry Yogiyo has you covered. Get any dish you can think of from hundreds of restaurants without having to speak Korean delivered straight to your door!

How to use app



Bedal Minjok

Bedal Minjok, or BeMin for short, has a service area coverage in smaller cities in Korea and offers different restaurants than Shuttle and more restaurants than Yogiyo.

Though the app only offers a Korean version, it has over 140,000 restaurants nationwide, so don't be intimidated by the language barrier. Order from BeMin's impressive food categories like Japanese, fast food, Korean, desserts and more.

How to use app



Traditional Korean houses



Hanok village
in Seoul

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.



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 holi-

days, 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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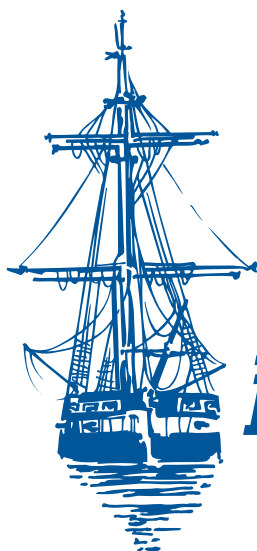
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Do your DODEA homework

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.

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.

Registration

Families can register online using the DODEA Student Information System (DSIS). This system allows sponsors to complete required documentation and include uploads of required forms prior to arriving at the new duty location. Families may also complete their registration in-country upon arrival to the new PCS location. Visit the school website for office hours.

Enrolled students who are advancing to the next grade level will need to revalidate enrollment eligibility by providing required documentation along with any required and/or updated immunization records for each child.

Students preparing to enter kindergarten must be five years old by Sept. 1 of the enrolling school year. Students entering first grade must be six years old by Sept. 1 of the enrolling school year. 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.

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.

Special needs children

If your child has special needs, be sure to research the available support options

for your desired location. DODEA schools follow student special education plans (IEPs) and are committed to providing supports for students within the least restrictive settings. Services are provided to the greatest extent possible within inclusion environments as well as small group or individualized supports as needed.

However, many overseas locations are limited in their medical and educational resources. Specialized medical, mental health, or educational services may not be available to meet your child's unique needs. Parents should understand and take into consideration how limited services might impact the growth and development of their special needs child. DODEA Pacific staff members are available to help parents of special needs children to make informed choices.

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, or you can contact the Pacific Regional Special Education ISS at the DODEA Pacific Director's Office. In addition, very helpful information for families

can also be accessed through the Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP).

Home school support

DODEA-Pacific schools offer auxiliary services to eligible military-connected 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. Students whose eligibility category requires tuition may be charged for extra-curricular activities.

Home schoolers using or receiving auxiliary services must 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 schooling 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.

Sites to visit

DODEA registration information
www.dodea.edu/registration-process.cfm

DODEA-Pacific
www.dodea.edu/Pacific

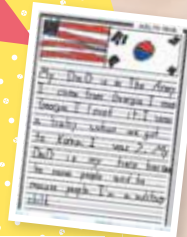
Exchange Student Meal Program
www.aafes.com/about-exchange/school-lunch-program/

Exceptional Family Member Program
www.militaryonesource.mil/efmp

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

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

Ranked No. 1 for Online Bachelor's Programs and Online Bachelor's Programs for Veterans by U.S. News & World Report, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University is committed to helping you achieve your educational goals. Professional advising staff at their nine locations in Japan, Okinawa, and South Korea can help you select the right degree to propel your career in the aviation, management, safety, logistics, engineering, and space industries. The school offers local and online courses to accommodate your busy schedule, and awards credit for applicable military coursework and certificates. Visit your local campus and speak to an academic advisor today!

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 Humphreys
Bldg. 657
DSN: 755-3600
Camp Casey
Bldg. S-1757
DSN: 722-1786

USAG Daegu
Henry Bldg. S-1840
DSN: 763-4923
Carroll Bldg. T-236
DSN: 763-5406

U.S. Navy bases
1-833-330-MNCC
www.myeducation.
netc.navy.mil

Kunsan Air Base
Bldg. 1051
DSN: 782-5148
Osan Air Base
Bldg. 789
DSN: 784-4220

Getting connected with a cell phone

So, you've just PCS'd to Korea, and now you need to get a new cell phone or a SIM card. 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.



- **Cellphone:** Hand-pon (핸드폰)
- **Call:** Jeon-hwa (전화)
- **Phone number:** Jeon-hwa beon-ho (전화번호)
- **Later:** Najung-e (나중에)
- **Give me a second:** Jamsi-manyo (잠시만요)
- **Hello:** Yeoboseyo? (여보세요?)
- **Who is this, please?:** Nuguseyo? (누구세요?)
- **Yes, this is _____ speaking:** Ne, _____ imnida (네, _____입니다)
- **Please call me later:** Najung-e jeon-hwa haejuseyo (나중에 전화 해주세요)
- **I'll call you:** Jeon-hwa halgeyo (전화할게요)
- **Ok, thanks. Bye:** Ne, gamsa-hamnida. Sugo-haseyo (네, 감사합니다. 수고하세요.)

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 private 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.

- Hyemin Lee

Don't forget to try the AREX for a quick train ride from Incheon Airport to Seoul Station. The fare is comparable to the cost of riding the bus, and much cheaper than taking a taxi. Incheon to Seoul should be just about 9,500 won (child 7,500 won), which is just around \$7.98 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 1,550 won, or around \$1.30.



Worried about getting lost in Korea? Let me set you at ease with all the words you need to know to ask for directions!

Koreans will gladly help you when you make an effort to ask for their help in Korean.

Words for transportation

Car: Cha (차)

Train: Gicha (기차) / Yeolcha (열차)

Subway / Metro: Jihacheol (지하철)

Station: Yeok (역)

Way / road / street: Gil (길)

*Taxi and bus are the same as English

Other words

Here: Yeogi (여기)

There: Jeogi (저기)

How: Eo-tteo-ke (어떻게)

Where: Eodi (어디)

Should: haeya handa (해야 한다)

To go: Ga-da (가다)

To ride: Ta-da (타다)

Phrases

Please help me / Can you help me?

Do-wa-juseyo (도와주세요)

Where is the mart (the name of a place)

Mart eo-di-eh isse-yo? (마트 어디 있어요?)

How should I get (go) here?

Yeogi eo-tteo-ke gaya haeyo?

(여기 어떻게 가야해요?)

Where should I go?

Eodi-lo gaya haeyo? (어디로 가야 해요?)

Where should I get to ride?

Eodi-seo taya haeyo? (어디서 타야 해요?)



Travel by train

In Korea, you can travel to most towns by train. Railway trains are a great alternative to air travel. It offers many more options for destinations and traveling times than airlines.

There are two companies that operate railway trains in South Korea, KORAIL and SRT. KORAIL is a national railway company that runs general and high speed train, and SRT only offers a high speed train service. Please take a look at the box on Page 23 to learn how to view the schedule and get a ticket.

How should I get there?

Write Korean below



Illustrations by Hyemin Lee



Korail

■ Type of trains

General Trains:

- ITX-Saemaoul
- Saemaoul
- Mugunghwa-ho

High-speed train: KTX

■ Reservation for a ticket

① Download KorailTalk app on your phone or check the website. (both provide the same service)

*For the app, please change the language setting to English as seen in the picture. ①



Website



Android



iOS

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

If you want to try traveling by train with an unlimited train ride pass (Korail Pass), check this QR code for more details!



Guide to purchase

1



② Search the departure and arrival stations and check the schedule.

③ Click "select" on the class and check the timetable and fare.

④ Purchase a ticket with your credit card (If it doesn't work, your bank probably blocks international usage or you might be using a VPN)

- The service for foreigners doesn't give you a choice of seat but just gives a random seat. Purchase a ticket earlier at the station if you'd like to have an option to select your seat.



SRT

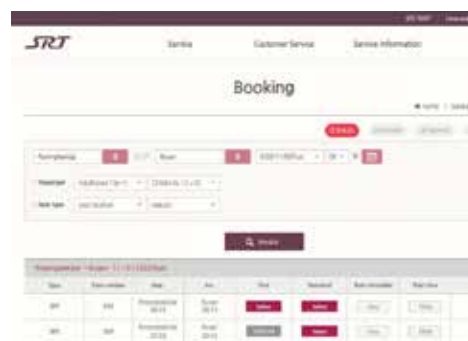
High-speed train

■ Reservations

Unfortunately, you can't reserve a ticket without a credit card from a Korean bank. You can make a reservation at the train station through an agency, or ask a Korean for help. You can check the schedule and route of SRT on their website.



Website





Travel by subway

Several major cities operate subway systems and almost all signs are in Korean and English. Using the subway is a very convenient way to take a trip within the metropolitan cities.

Areas: Seoul Capital Area (Seoul, Incheon, Gyeonggi-do), Busan, Daegu, Daejeon, Gwangju

Hours: Approximately 5:30 a.m. - midnight

Fare: 1,250 won (T-money card) 1,350 won (Ticket) for adults

*Seoul Metropolitan government will likely increase 300 won from the fare of subway and bus at the end of April 2023.

Ticket: Use a T-Money card or buy a single journey ticket at the ticket vending machines.

Download Subway Korea on your phone! ②

The Metro system in Seoul can be very complicated for foreigners. Many metro lines have several different train routes, so it's easy to get lost. I recommend you trying this useful app to find out the directions, train routes, fares, travel times, schedules and more. When you select the departure and arrival station, you can check all train schedules.



Android



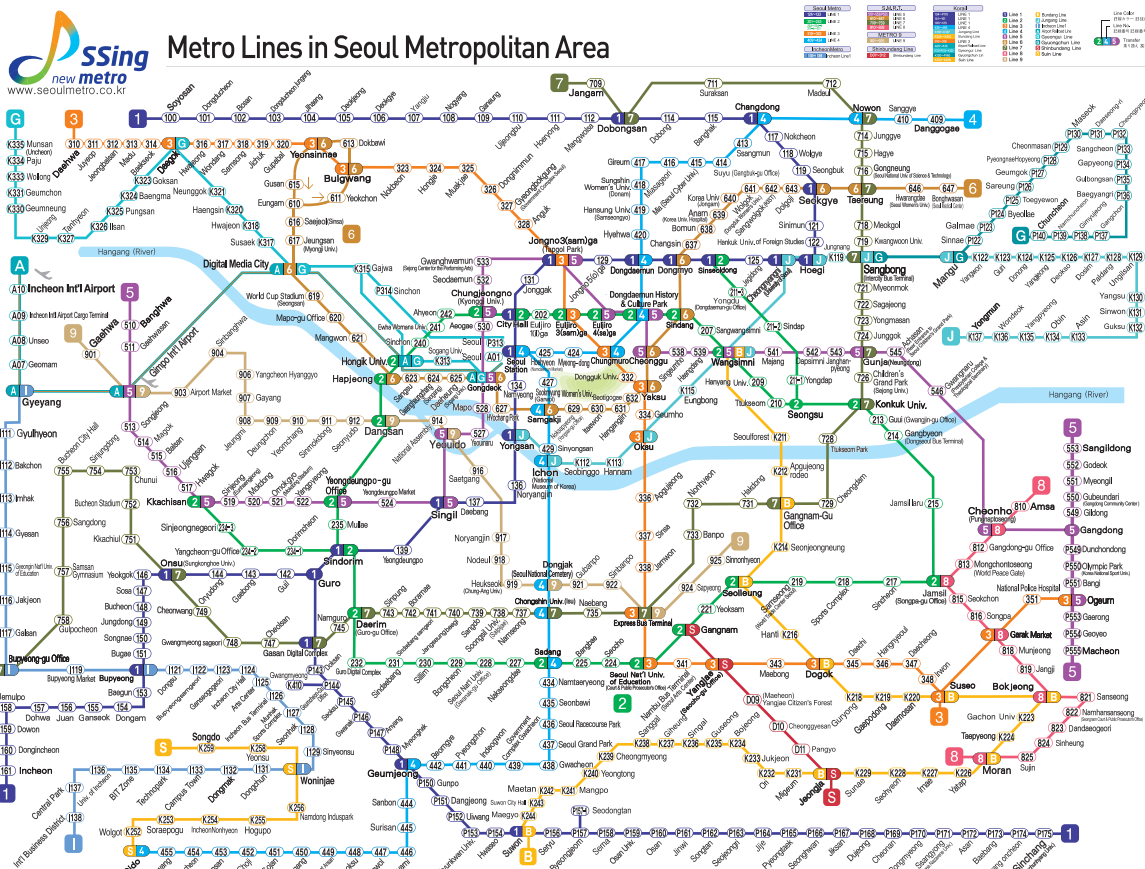
iOS

Special Metro lines in Seoul

■ **No. 1 (Dark Blue) Line:** Line 1 is the longest line and features a lot of different routes. Trains on this line run from Soyosan, just north of Dongducheon (Camp Casey), to either Incheon or Seodongtan. Be aware that the line separates at Guro Station. Those going to – or coming from – areas near either Osan Air Base or Camp Humphreys will need to be on the Seodongtan portion of the line. There are some trains that do not start or finish at the “terminal stations” listed on maps, so check the destination listed on the front and sides of the train or through the app.

■ **No. 2 (Green) Line:** This is the busiest metro line in the ROK with a lot of the best places you shouldn't miss visiting in Seoul. There are Jamsil, Gangnam, Hongdae, Dongdaemun and Namdaemun (at City Hall Station) stations and more in Line 2. These are known as most popular areas for sightseeing, shopping, dining out and night life in South Korea. Try to check the map before boarding; going the wrong direction full circuit will make for a very long ride to your destination.

■ **Shinbundang (Red) Line:** Shinbundang 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, Cheonggyesang and Pangyo stops in between. The fare is 2-3 times more than other lines because it was built through private investment.



②



To see maps of metro lines or learn how to get a ticket, scan the QR code!



Travel by taxi

There are two main types of taxis in Korea: the “il-ban” taxi (regular) and the “mobeom” (deluxe) taxi. The regular taxi starts at 4,800 won (about \$3.80), while the deluxe starts at 7,000 won (\$5.50). Rates start from the basic fare and go up either by the distance traveled or the time elapsed. Fares of the regular taxis increase by about 20 percent between the hours of midnight and 4 a.m.

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

You can catch cabs at a taxi stand or hail them on the street. **To hail a taxi, make sure the light on the car's dashboard is red. A taxi with a green light or no light means that it's occupied or reserved.** During rush hour or in bad weather, expect a long wait. Or you can simply call a taxi to a place where you are at through the mobile app, Kakao T. This app is foreigner friendly.

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

Many of the drivers speak some English, or at least enough to get

Helpful tips for taking a cab!



Website

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.

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 Hangeul (Korean) for the driver. Make sure you get one for the way back as well!

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



Kakao T



Android



iOS



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, most highway rest stops or on Camp Humphreys (Bldg. 449).

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 express buses (Gosok bus) which can be alternative to railway trains. In Seoul, the main hub is the Gang-Nam Express Bus Terminal.

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.

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.

Another type of green buses is community buses that run in small residential areas.

Red buses serve wide areas on express routes 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.



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 Gunsan, offer few flights and limited destinations. To get to Seoul you may have to fly to Jeju Island first. 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!



T-money Card

A must-have item in Korea

Having a T-money card would be the first step to master the mass transit system in ROK. It will make your life here much easier and more convenient, and you'll be able to save money by using it. T-money card is for a bus, taxi, metro and convenience stores in most of metropolitan cities such as Seoul, Busan and Daegu. It offers a 100 won discount for every ride as well as a huge discount when you transfer to another bus or metro line within 30 minutes (Limited to 4 times a day)

Where to buy

T-money cards are sold at most convenience stores and ticket vending machines at metro stations.

Price: From 2,500 won (\$1.8)

- The price goes up depending on the design and type.

How to use

- Add 1,000 won to 90,000 won on the card at convenience stores or metro stations.
- Scan the card at a bus and metro when you enter. Make sure to scan it again before you exit to get a transfer discount.

For more about T-money card, check out QR codes



General Information



Area of Use



Examples of T-money card

GPS apps

Kakao Map



Android



iOS



Naver Map



Android



iOS



Waze (on-base)



Android



iOS



Let's practice together!

Let's say you're a newcomer who has never used public transportation in Korea. Let's make a trip plan together.

Download Naver Map or Kakao Map

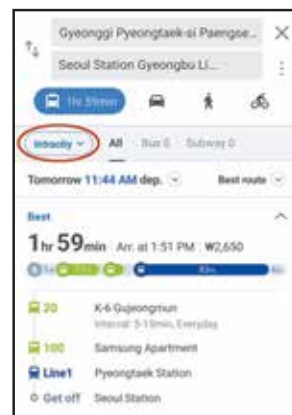
These apps will guide you on what transportation to use and where to take them. You can also see the arrival time of buses, subways and trains. They are mostly very accurate.

Search the departure and arrival location

- For subways: Try to check the arrival time of the subway on the app, and make sure you're taking the right train in the right direction.
- For trains: Try to make a reservation with KorailTalk.

Leave the base and start your journey!

- 1) Take a taxi from your location directly to the station and buy a T-money card there. (Exchange taxi: 1544-9080)
- 2) Get a T-money card at a convenience store near your location and take a bus to get to the station!



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.)

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.)







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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, offering the finest Chrysler, Dodge, Jeep, Ram, Ford, Lincoln and Harley-Davidson vehicles to military personnel stationed here, through independent sales representatives, delivering to all bases in Korea.

US Military Sales (www.usmilitarysales.com), selling new U.S.-specification Volvos, will help you save thousands of dollars on Stateside MSRP. Their showroom is located near the Yoon gate at USAG Humphreys, with additional sales offices at the U.S. Embassy Association Building at USAG Yongsan Garrison. 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:

Camp Humphreys area

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

Yongsan Garrison area

Mr. Bill's Cars (www.facebook.com/mrbillscars), (010-4555-6266) is located in Keukdong Jahanpyeong Used Car Market and also meets customers at the Dragon Hill Lodge. Here you'll find used well-maintained, very reliable vehicles ranging from \$1500 to \$3000. Mr. Bill's offers vehicle disposal for any vehicle, any year, any condition and pays up to 300,000 won. Free towing and 100% safe, legal disposal. Mr. Bill's Cars was named Best of the Pacific in Korea by Stars and Stripes for 2008, 2009, 2011, and 2012 and gives customers excellent service from purchase to registration.

Osan Air Base area

H&K Best Used Car

We have over 3,000 used vehicles in inventory for SOFA personnel. Free Delivery to Osan & Humphreys area. Also, we have associated mechanics in your area. Easy SOFA register and Insurance services. Contact: MJ Hong-010-6325-0794, EunHee Kim-010-7350-8987

Daegu area

New Motor King Car Center, (053-472-8400 or 010-3531-4929) Mr. Yun, Jung-Ho, 71, E-cheon ro, namgu, Daegu. (Camp Henry, Gate #2)

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 road-side.

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:



Photo by Sgt. Tiffany Edwards, III MEF

Camp coordinates

Travel base to base



Left: Military Working Dog Klea X-210 receives congratulatory pats after being awarded the Meritorious Service Medal at a K-9's retirement ceremony on Kunsan Air Base on Dec. 21, 2022. Photo by Senior Airman Shannon Braaten/U.S. Air Force Right: 1st Lt Michelle Chang and classmates are all smiles at the Flight Commander Leadership Course at Osan Air Base on Dec. 7, 2022. Courtesy photo

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

Millett (Anjeong-ri) (Main gate)

36.957884, 127.045043

Pedestrian (Walking gate)

36.959117, 127.043068

Yoon (Dongchang-Ri) gate

36.969125, 127.037009

Charlton (Hamjeong-ri) gate

36.951142, 127.018124

Galer (CPX) gate

36.9528202, 127.0346039

Adams (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 (Noksapyeong Station) Pedestrian Exit Only

37.534849, 126.983015

Gate #5 (AAFES Gas station) Pedestrian Only

37.529450, 126.991154

Gate #6 (Commissary Gate)

37.527395, 126.991405

Gate #7 (Main Gate / Escort Gate)

37.527291, 126.991154

Gate #16 ("MP" Gate) Pedestrian Exit Only

37.528407, 126.970271

*Gate #13 (Main Gate) and Gate #14 (Hospital Gate) in USAG-Yongsan are no longer in use.

4. K-16 AB

Main Gate

37.448649, 127.104741

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



Camp Humphreys volunteers deliver gifts to a local child welfare center in Pyeongtaek in December 2022.

Photo by Airman 1st Class Wyatt Stabler/U.S. Air Force



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Guam Reef Hotel *On The Beach in The Heart of Guam*

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.

FITNESS & AMENITIES

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.





Guam Reef Hotel

On The Beach in The Heart of Guam



For Reservations:



1-671-649-2229 / 1-671-646-6881



reservations@guamreef.com

****Military Rates available***



1317 Pale San Vitores Road, Tamuning, Guam 96913

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, South Korea and Guam. 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:

- Emergency travel on a round-trip basis in connection with serious illness, death, or impending death of a member of the immediate family.
- Environmental Morale Leave (EML) and dependents.
- Active duty ordinary Leave and dependents; convalescent leave; permissive TDYs; Unaccompanied dependent of deployed servicemember for more than a year.
- Unaccompanied dependent of deployed servicemember on

EML status.

- Unaccompanied military dependent of non-deployed servicemember.
- 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/AMC-Travel-Site/COVID-19/>



PACIFIC LOCATIONS

OKINAWA KADENA AB

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



MAINLAND JAPAN MISAWA AB

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



MCAS IWAKUNI

Bldg. 727
Phone: 315-253-5509



KOREA OSAN AB

Bldg. 648
Phone: 315-784-6883



GUAM ANDERSEN AFB

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



NAF ATSUGI

Bldg. 206
Phone: 0467-63-3118



YOKOTA AB

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



KUNSAN AB

Bldg. 2858
Phone: 063-470-4666



Quick links to ease travel

Make reservations on
the AMC Space-A
Travel page



PE travel FAQs



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.

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

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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:

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 command 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



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.

ties 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.

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 Korean

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. 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 U.S. Forces Korea sources

Illegal things in Korea

Tattoos

Under Korean law, getting a tattoo is a medical procedure and requires tattoo artists to have a special license. Though not strictly enforced, be mindful of this and of off-limits establishments if you're thinking of getting one.

Narcotics

Korea has strict laws against narcotics. Possession and/or use of any type of narcotics, including marijuana, is illegal.

Pornography

Using pornographic websites is prohibited in South Korea. Taking, watching, and/or distributing pornographic images/videos is punishable by law.

Verbal assault

Insulting someone verbally or with a gesture is considered a crime in Korea. Also, slander or defamation is legally punishable with fines or imprisonment.

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.

— U.S. 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:

본 카드 소지자는 주한미군 사령부 소속으로서 한미 행정 협정 규정에 의한 처우를 받는 사람이며 대한민국 경찰당국의 지시에 따르도록 본 카드에 기재되어 있습니다.

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FOR THE COMMANDER

사령관의 명에 의하여:

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

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:

- Attend to injuries, if any. Take steps to prevent any further accident from occurring at the scene.
- Telephone the nearest civil and/or U.S. military police office (See below for telephone numbers to reach U.S. facilities).
- DO NOT LEAVE THE SCENE until authorized to do so by the police.

4. If you are detained by Korean authorities:

- Show the Korean authorities the statement of SOFA status (to the left) and request that the nearest U.S. military police be notified.
- Cooperate with Korean authorities at all times.
- You may refuse to sign any statement that you cannot read or understand.

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

Off-base living

Village where U.S. personnel live outside Camp Humphreys.

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:

- 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.

– U.S. Forces Korea

Non Combatant Evacuation Operations



Photo courtesy of U.S. Army

Frequently asked questions

1. What is a Non Combatant Evacuation?

Non Combatant Evacuation is a standard U.S. response to hostilities and natural disasters which might endanger our citizens. One of the primary goals of NEO training is to ensure we can do this task successfully under real-world circumstances.

2. Who is my NEO Warden?

Each unit has a designated NEO Warden. Please contact your chain of command to find out who is your NEO Warden. NEO Wardens are available to update your NEO packets, demonstrate use of the ICAPS mask and answer any questions you might have about a potential evacuation.

3. Can registration be completed on-line?

All potential evacuees must contact their NEO Warden to update their packets, information and items in their NEO kits. Contact your NEO warden today to ensure you are ready.

– U.S. Forces Korea

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.

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



- Garbage: Sseu-le-gi (쓰레기)
- Food waste: Eum-sik-mul sseu-le-gi (음식물 쓰레기)
- Recycle: Jae-hwal-yong (재활용)
- (Plastic/paper) Bag: Bongtu (봉투)
- Separate trash: Bullisugeo (분리수거)
- Please give me a garbage bag: Sseu-le-gi bongtu juseyo (쓰레기봉투 주세요)
- Please give me food waste bags: Eum-sik-mul sseu-le-gi bongtu juseyo. (음식물 쓰레기봉투 주세요)



Illustration by Hyemin Lee

Airmen and spouses
volunteer at Osan
Air Base's non-profit
animal shelter.



Check out video by
Airman 1st Class
Megan Estrada

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.

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

Keep your dog on short leash!

Pet owners, take note: In 2022, Korea passed a law that says your dog must be on a leash in all public places.

The law requires dogs be on leashes no longer than two meters (6 feet). The total length of the leash is not really the issue, but rather keeping your dog no further than a two-meter radius from you. Failure to abide by rules could levy a fine of up 500,000 won (\$466.40).

In addition to leash restrictions, you must keep your dog close to you when walking in apartments and multiplex houses. Another addition is that the law requires you to carry your pooch or keep your dog's leash very taut when entering or exiting an elevator.

When you take Fido out for a walk, remember that you face harsh fines if you do not follow these rules.

How to travel 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: Bathe 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.

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.

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 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.

Job fairs

Local USFK communities regularly host post sponsored job fairs which enable employment opportunities to happen on the spot in some cases.

Common employers at job fairs include: US Army Civilian Employment, DOD Civilian employment, NAF Employment, AAFES, Community Bank, DeCA, DODEA, Invited Contractors, local MSEP vendors. There are normally no registration requirements and the events are free. Participation is normally limited to CAC cardholders only.

Contact your local ACS for more on job fairs:

- **Area I/II/III:** Mr. Eric Burton at: eric.d.burton.civ@mail.mil.
- **Area IV:** Camp Walker ACS Room 211, BLDG 330 & DSN 763-4426
- <https://daegu.armymwr.com/programs/army-community-service/employment-readiness>
- **Osan:** Airmen & Family Readiness Center - Bldg. 769, 784-5440

– U.S. Forces Korea

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:

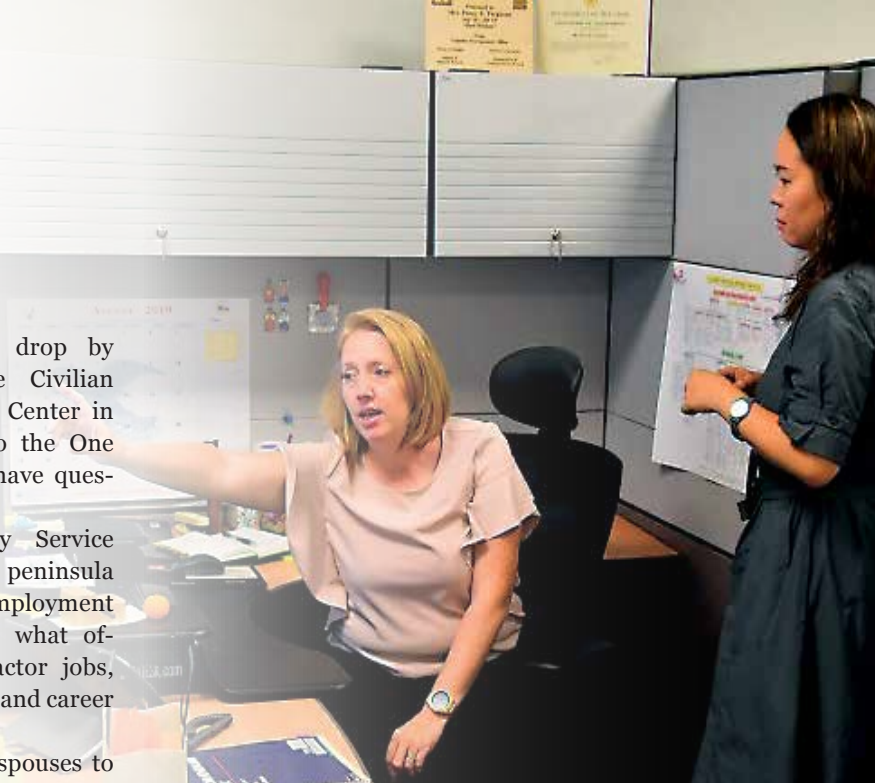


Photo by U.S. Army

Culture

Education

Transportation

Private vehicles

Legal

Living

Food

Leisure

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 the 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.

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.

– U.S. Forces Korea

Related links

65th Medical Brigade & US Army MEDDAC-Korea



Tricare Overseas



Navigating Korean Hospitals Handbook



Help with off-base care

Find a doctor

Choosing a doctor isn't the same as finding a restaurant or nearby attraction. That's why U-MEDI provides a detailed profile and medical information of doctors, including their qualifications, clinical experience hospital quality, patient reviews and more.

From family doctors to psychiatrists, OB/GYN, neurologists, cardiologists, plastic surgeons, allergists, dermatologists, Korean traditional medicine and more, U-medi can help you find a specialized doctor specific for your health needs.

Hospital interpretation

For years, U-MEDI has faithfully delivered commendable interpretation and translation services to healthcare professionals, caregivers and patients at their critical moments of need. We are very proud to be the trusted language

support provider to hundreds of healthcare institutions across the Republic of Korea.

Our service includes interpretation delivered by qualified interpreters, as well as on-site translation of all vital documents to ensure the safety and satisfaction of patients.

Hospital Transportation

U-MEDI provides a non-emergency door-to-door hospital transportation service to individuals and groups who may need special support getting to and from their healthcare appointments. Based on your need, we can suggest the most effective and efficient transportation options available.

We also offer online bookings, making reservations easy and straightforward. At the heart of our service is our commitment to the patient's comfort, customer service and quality.

– U-MEDI

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- Follow: [FB.com/UMEDIkorea](https://www.facebook.com/UMEDIkorea)

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The world's highest 96.4% preservation rate of the anus after colon cancer operation
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Neuroscience Center

First to implement a specialized neurological Intensive Care Unit in Korea
Implemented neuro-angiography that does not require fasting for the first time in the world
Investigated the effectiveness of treatment of dizziness for the first time in the world
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Health Promotion Center

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Joint Disease and Reconstruction Center

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The highest authority of osteotomy that saves the joint
The world's best clinical and research potential having presented the most medical theses in US Medical Board
We will help you find balanced health with total treatment.



Spine Center

First to introduce robots for spine operation in Korea
Operation of difficult cervical vertebral disease by using simulation
Control spinal pain with non-operational treatments
We help spinal disease patients reduce pain and lead a healthy life.



Digestive Disease Center

Helicobacter+ family history, we have verified the highest risk group for stomach cancer for the first time in the world
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Leader in virtual hepatitis research
We prevent and cure digestive diseases with precise and concise treatment.

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be certified as an EMR
Stage 7 Hospital by HIMSS Analytics



Electronic Medical
Record System
First Certification in Korea



2022 World's Best Hospital Newsweek



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Outside North America



reddot design award
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24/7 English Speaking Service 010-3049-2038

Website www.snubh.org/dh/en

E-mail ihsi@snubh.org



Explore Korea's true flavor

In Korea, there is no end to what people can see and experience, but trying Korean food is on the top of most visitor to-do lists! So let's explore some of the dishes that are sure to impress you with Korea's true flavor!

Bibimbap: Rice with nutrient-packed flavor



Bibimbap, or cooked rice mixed with vegetables, sautéed beef, and twigak (dried seaweed or vegetables fried in oil) is one of the definitive Korean dishes in the eyes of Koreans and also globally. There are three common beliefs about the origin of bibimbap. One theory is that it stemmed from the practice of mixing bap (cooked rice) with other dishes used for the ancestral rite of eumbok. Others say that bibimbap originated from mixing leftovers together as a midnight snack on Lunar New Year's Eve. The last theory is that farmers out working the fields would each bring a portion of food to be mixed together and divided evenly.

Samgye-tang: Rejuvenate yourself during the sweltering summer



Samgye-tang is made by simmering a whole young chicken stuffed with ginseng, hedysarum root, jujubes, and sweet rice. Considered an energy-boosting dish best eaten on hot days, it is a classic Korean dish that has become popular among international diners as well. Many restaurants even add samgye-tang to their menu during the summer, an example of its popularity. Japanese author Murakami Ryu and Chinese film director Zhang Yimou have both given extensive praise to the dish.

Bulgogi: Sweet treats for special days

Bulgogi is prepared by marinating thin slices of beef before grilling them. In the past, the royal court and yangban (nobles) in Seoul called it neobiani, meaning "wide meat slices." Traditional grilled meat dishes in Korea originated from a dish called maekjeok. Maek was the name of the northeast region of China, and is also a reference to Goguryeo, one of the earliest Korean kingdoms. Maekjeok is made with barbecued beef skewers, and according to folklore, evolved into present-day bulgogi through the introduction of grills, which made skewers obsolete.



Naengmyeon: Cool and refreshing noodle soup

Naengmyeon, cold buckwheat noodles, is considered a summer food, but that wasn't always the case. It used to be enjoyed over a warm ondol floor (subfloor heating system) during the freezing winter temperatures. The broth was made with the brine of dongchimi (radish water kimchi) scooped out of a large jar half-buried in the ground during the winter. Although its origin remains unclear, based on the fact that buckwheat was intro-



duced by the Mongol Empire during the Goryeo Dynasty, it is theorized that Koreans first began eating it around that time.

Kimchi: Over 1,500 years of fermented tradition



Kimchi is a fermented dish made with vegetables and a variety of seasoning ingredients. There are over 300 varieties, but when it was first made prior to the Three Kingdoms Period (AD 57-668), it required a very simple recipe of salting and storing napa cabbage in a ceramic container for fermentation. In the old days, kimchi was an important source of vitamins in the winter, when fresh vegetables were unavailable. What was originally a simple salted pickle has now become a complex dish requiring assorted seasonings and varying according to climate, geographical conditions, local ingredients, methods of preparation and preservation.

Sundubu-jjigae: The best source of protein



Sundubu starts out being made in the same manner as ordinary tofu; first boiling soymilk then coagulating it by adding brine. But it leaves out the later steps of draining and pressing the lumpy bean curds, giving it an easy-to-digest silky, light texture. In Chodang Maeul, a village famous for its sundubu, clean water from the East Sea is used as brine for thickening. It started when Chodang Heoyeop, a magistrate of Gangneung region during the mid-sixteenth century of Joseon Dynasty, discovered that the water from a spring in the front yard of his office tasted so fresh that he made tofu from the spring water and used sea water instead of brine. The name Chodang was then adopted from Heoyeop's pen name.

Mandu: A dish dating back to the Goryeo Dynasty



Mandu (dumpling) is made by placing a filling of ground meat and vegetables onto a round, thinly rolled wrapper and sealing the edges. They were initially prepared for ancestral rites or banquets and enjoyed as a special dish for cold winter days. When discussing the origin of Korean dumplings, a famous folk song called "Ssanghwajeom" (dumpling shop) from the Goryeo Dynasty is frequently mentioned. The song describes how a group of Uighurs arrived and opened up dumpling shops, and also how the people of the day greatly enjoyed the dish. Some people refer to the song and joke that a Mongol who opened a dumpling shop in 1279 may have been the first foreign investor to live in Korea.

Galbi-jjim: Soft and tender, the quintessential holiday food



Galbi-jjim (braised short ribs) is made from the finest and most expensive cut of beef. As such, galbi-jjim is usually eaten on special occasions or holidays, when family members come together. Korean cooking consists of a large number of braised dishes that require considerable culinary skill. Galbi-jjim is one such dish, growing in popularity among international diners as well. When making galbi-jjim, the fat on the short ribs is carefully removed before braising. Carrots, ginkgo nuts and chestnuts are added, and finally pyogo (shitake mushroom) and egg garnish are sprinkled on top to complete the preparation process. Glazed with soy sauce, galbi-jjim not only has a rich taste, but a mouth-watering visual presentation.

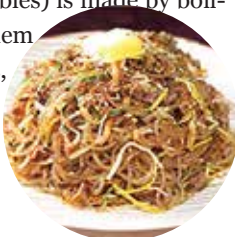


Jeyuk-bokkeum: Plenty to share with while sizzling hot

Jeyuk-bokkeum (spicy stir-fried pork) is one of the best-known dishes cooked with gochu-jang. It is a stir-fried dish with thick slices of pork shoulder marinated in hot gochu-jang and minced ginger. Before the 1950s, it was reportedly made using only scallion, black pepper, and soy sauce, but the current form of gochu-jang-marinated jeyuk-bokkeum is believed to have appeared sometime afterwards. Because it is a hearty yet inexpensive meat option, young people on limited budgets favor jeyuk-bokkeum. Youngsters often list it as their favorite food, and many Korean mothers will talk about how their son can “finish a pound of jeyuk-bokkeum in one sitting.”

Japchae: A classic dish on festive days

Japchae (glass noodles with sautéed vegetables) is made by boiling glass noodles, then draining and mixing them with stir-fried spinach, carrots, mushrooms, beef and onions. The term japchae is a combination of jap, meaning “mix, gather, or plentiful” and chae, meaning “vegetables.” Thus, it can be translated as “assorted mixed vegetables.” No Korean festivity is complete without japchae. It has long been perceived as a luxurious and elegant dish, and was always served on birthdays, weddings and 60th birthday celebrations. Japchae was first created in the 17th century when King Gwanghaegun hosted a palace banquet. It is recorded in the Gwanghaegun Ilgi (Daily Records of King Gwanghaegun's Reign) that Yi Chung, one of the king's favorites, had the habit of personally presenting unusual dishes to the king. Gwanghaegun relished these dishes so much that he would not start a meal until they arrived. Among these unique dishes was japchae, which the king favored over all the rest.



Gimbap: A full meal in a single roll



Gimbap is made by spreading white rice on a sheet of gim (dried laver), layering it with spinach, pickled radish, carrots, egg, and beef, and then rolling it up like sushi. It was in the 1960s and 70s that the gimbap we know today - rolled up into a cylindrical form - became popular. This rice-roll was the default picnic lunch for annual spring and autumn school outings. Many Koreans fondly remember eating the end pieces of the rolls while their mothers prepared gimbap on the morning of school field trips.

Tteok-bokki: The most popular snack

Originally, tteok-bokki was not a spicy dish. In the royal courts of Joseon, it was prepared by simmering beef, carrots, onions, pyogo (shitake mushroom) and other ingredients together with rice cakes in soy sauce. The colorful ingredients made it visually appealing as well as nutritional. It is believed that tteok-bokki seasoned with spicy gochu-jang paste first appeared in the 1950s and became widely popular later during the 1970s.



BY HYEMIN LEE

In Korean culture, statements before and after a meal are important. So is complimenting the person offering you something to eat. Also, at most restaurants you can get unlimited refills for most side dishes, so don't hesitate to ask for more!

■ I'm going to eat well (Greeting before eating)

Jal meok-get-seum-nida (잘 먹겠습니다)

■ I ate well (Greeting after eating)

Jal meo-geo-sseum-nida (잘 먹었습니다)

■ Enjoy your meal / food

Ma-sit-ge deu-se-yo (맛있게 드세요)

■ It's really delicious

Neomu ma-sisseo-yo (너무 맛있어요)

■ What's this?

Igeon mwo yeyo?

(이건 뭐예요?)

■ Can I have this? / I'll have this one

Igeo juse-yo (이거 주세요)

■ Can I have more of this?

Igeo deo jusil su isseo-yo?

(이거 더 주실 수 있어요?)

■ Excuse me (When you call a waiter/waitress)

Yeogi-yo (여기요)

I'm going to eat well!
(Greeting before eating)

Write Korean below

It's really delicious.

Write Korean below



Illustration by Hyemin Lee

Dakgangjeong: Second to none and goes with any drink

Dakgangjeong is made by deep-frying chicken coated with flour. The fried chicken is then smothered in a sweet sauce that has been boiled down to a thick consistency. The dish, sold at Jungang Market, is unique in that it is served cold. The dakgangjeong is so famous because of its sweet and spicy taste, and despite being served cold, it is not soggy, but crisp and chewy.



— Korea Tourism Organization

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www.visitkorea.or.kr

Websites worth bookmarking

Stars and Stripes!

Stripes Korea The best source for military and local military community news, respectively. korea.stripes.com

Stripes Newsletters For important news you may have missed straight to your inbox, don't forget to sign up for one or all of Stars and Stripes informative newsletters.

ww2.stripes.com/subscribe/newsletters

Military Child Every April, the spotlight is on our military kids! We receive thousands of drawings, pictures, poems and written submissions from military kids pacific-wide which are published in the paper and online. <https://militarychild.stripes.com/>

Best of Pacific Looking for tips on where to go for a used car, a root canal or the best brunch in town? Every year, your fellow servicemembers, veterans and members of the military community vote for the Best of Pacific. Keep an eye out for the voting period and browse the results online.

<https://bestofpacific.stripes.com/>

General Information

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.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

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

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

Tourist Information

Korea Tourism Organization offers 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. <https://english.visitkorea.or.kr/enu/index.kto>

Seoul Tourism Organization shares all the details on attractions, activities, food, accommodation, transportation and special events around Seoul. <https://english.visitseoul.net/index>

Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism run a government website to share helpful information on popular attractions, transportation, special events and other tourist and cultural issues. <http://www.mcst.go.kr/english/index.jsp>

Jeju Tourism Organization has a very helpful resource for English speakers to learn about Jeju. Don't forget to click "Tourist Information" and "Promotion library & E-book" for a free guide map on the website <http://www.ijto.or.kr/english/> <https://www.visitjeju.net/en/>

Gb is a local government run website in Gyeongsangbuk-do area, offering information about local festivals, events, government activities and more.

<https://www.gb.go.kr/Main/eng/index.html>

Haps Korea has you covered on what's happening in Busan. hapskorea.com

Life in Korea is a great source for finding out more about the local scene – from sports, shopping, travel – even food. www.lifeinkorea.com

Globetrotter Kyle is a traveling blog run by an adventurous active-duty U.S. Air Force officer who was stationed in Korea. He provides not only great traveling info but also handy life hacks you should know during your stay in this country. <http://globetrotterkyle.com/>

Hedgersabroad provides great travel info and high sophisticated videos on not just Korea but other neighboring Asian countries.

<https://hedgersabroad.com/>

Mountains

Korea National Park offers information on the lists of national parks in Korea, hiking courses, and other tourist attractions on mountains.

<https://english.knps.or.kr/>

Reservation.knp is where you can make reservation for accommodation at national parks

<https://reservation.knps.or.kr/foreigner/main.do>

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

Templestay is a way to get away from the rat race and find some inner calm by participating in temple life. eng.templestay.com

Koreantempleguide is an ultimate website featuring Korean Temples. It categorizes historic temples in South Korea by region.

<https://koreantempleguide.com/>

Booking for your trip

Trazy is a Korea's travel shop selling tickets for latest and trendiest tours with discounted price <https://blog.trazy.com/>

Klook is another great travel shop where you can discover top attractions and buy a ticket for tours, theme parks, transportation at a special price

<https://www.klook.com/coureg/10-south-korea-things-to-do/>

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

<https://adventurekorea.com/>

Hostels helps to find cheapest accommodations in South Korea. Staying at a hostel can be a great way to save your budget as well as make local friends during your trip

www.hostels.com/south-Korea

Shopping

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

ShipitAPO helps ensure that online shopping is alive and well in Korea.

www.shipitapo.com/home.php

Transportation

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

<https://www.bustago.or.kr/newweb/en/index.do>



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

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

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

Learning Korean

90 Days Korean provides easy learning guides for beginners and also shares cultural tips

<https://www.90daykorean.com/>

How to study Korean is a great website to improve vocabulary, grammar, reading and writing skills <https://www.howtostudykorean.com/>

Food

Easy Korean Food shares a plethora of Korean recipes for those who want to cook Korean food at home. www.easykoreanfood.com

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

Maangchi is a cooking blog run by Emily Kim, a Korean-American YouTuber. It delivers your delicious Korean food recipes in an easy-to-follow way. www.maangchi.com

My Korean Eats is not your ordinary food website. They provide authentic Korean cooking recipes, food reviews and food photography.

<http://mykoreaneats.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

Koreantemplefood is a website for those who are interested in learning Korean temple cuisine. www.koreantemplefood.com/eng/main/main.html

Korean Law

E law 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/>



AFN: We bring you home – Now in more ways than ever!

For over 80 years, the American Forces Network, AFN, has provided a much-valued touch of home to U.S. military, DOD civilians, and their families around the world. Throughout the Pacific region, AFN broadcasts where the troops are. From bases in Japan and South Korea, U.S. Navy ships at sea, to remote locations such as Diego Garcia, your AFN team is hard at work bringing you top-rated radio and television entertainment. In addition to the latest news, information, and sports programming.

AFN continues to evolve as the network seeks new and innovative ways to connect with audiences worldwide. Today's AFN stations enjoy advantages unimaginable generations ago. Once a single channel, today AFN radio offers a dozen different audio services and can even be streamed over the internet. In Japan and South Korea, the popular radio broadcast, AFN Eagle, is also readily available.

A generation ago, a single channel of AFN television was a major morale boost. Now the global network offers shore-based audiences eight television channels. Including dedicated movie and news channels - and two sports channels! At sea in the Pacific, Sailors can even receive four AFN channels: AFN|sports, AFN|sports2, AFN|news and AFN|prime.

The latest excitement is over the recent

launch of AFN's new streaming app, "AFN Now". AFN Now offers both live and video-on-demand programming. You can stream your favorite shows with AFN Now and even catch-up on the previous five episodes. The new video streaming service is available on most smart devices, including Apple TV, iPad, and iPhone, Android tablets and phones, Fire Stick, Roku, Smart TV and Android TV.

For Sports fans on AFN Now, recent deals with major sports leagues provided the 2023

NFL playoffs and Super Bowl! You can stream ESPN and the Australian Open on your schedule and not miss a play. In the works are broadcast rights to upcoming NBA,

MLB, NHL, WWE, soccer, and boxing matches, along with many more of your favorite sports!

Download AFN Now in your app store. Or visit MyAfn.net, to download the app. Along with the latest program schedules and frequently asked questions. You'll also find links to our radio app, AFN Go, for streaming music, information, and even podcasts.

Over the years AFN's television, radio, and new streaming services, have been crucial to providing commanders tools for connecting with U.S. forces and their families during emergencies. During typhoons, the COVID-19 pandemic, and natural disasters, AFN repeatedly proves itself the trusted source for "as it's

happening" information.

Of course, weather delays and the unpredictable nature of live sports and breaking news can make schedules subject to last minute changes. Be sure to bookmark MyAfn.net for the very latest!

Wherever you're stationed in the Pacific, you can count on AFN station managers and their radio DJs to be the gold standard, engaged with local communities, and connected to their audiences. Your AFN Pacific team is dedicated to providing the most deserving audience in the world the very best entertainment, news, and sports.

As always, we value your feedback. Please let us know what you think of our programming. Click on the "contact us" tab at MyAfn.net!

AFN's parent organization is the Defense Media Activity, DMA, which oversees an array of military-produced media brands. Including the Defense Visual Information Distribution Service (DVIDS), Defense.gov, the military service websites and news services, publications like All Hands and Airman magazine, and AFN.

– Keith E. Smith
Operations Chief
AFN Pacific



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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 weekly events 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, spouses, service members, and the entire family. A few of their popular events include Coffee Connection, Operation Birthday Cake, and holiday celebrations. Coffee Connections allows spouses to relax in a comfortable



setting, network, share advice, learn about local events, and make new friends over a cup of coffee. Operation Birthday Cake gives families the opportunity to celebrate their service members birthday from an ocean away. Holiday events can include Lunar New Year luncheons, Valentine's Day Crafts, Holiday Story Times, and much more! To see the full scope of their amenities, events, and operating hours, check out the USO Korea website at <https://korea.uso.org/> or the USO Korea Centers' Facebook pages.

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Travel Services & Gifts

Local information, transportation information.

**Amenities may slightly differ from location to location*



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USO Camp Humphreys - Sentry Village

USO Camp Walker

USO Camp Walker

Building #318

Across the street from the PX

DSN: 763-1431

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

Building #6400, Room P103 & H105

DSN: 757-8025/6

Maude Hall was previously known as One Stop[Facebook.com/uso.humphreys](https://www.facebook.com/uso.humphreys)**USO Camp Humphreys - Sentry Village**

Building #P301

Across the street from the 2ID Museum

DSN: 755-3713

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

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Korea at a glance

Wondering where to begin and end your adventure during your time in the ROK? Here is a list of the top 10 must-see tourist cities. There is a lot to see here, but these 10 cities will show you all the beauty Korea has to offer. Go explore and make the best of your time here!

- Hyemin Lee

DMZ Paju



Though this border city of the two Koreas is popular for the Demilitarized Zone tour, Paju is also known as a city of art and culture surrounded by beautiful nature. It's a famous destination for a day trip among families and lovebirds.

Top Attractions

- **DMZ attractions**
(Panmunjeom, The third tunnel, Dora observatory, more)
- Imjingak Pyeonghwa (Peace) Nuri Park
- Majang Lake Suspension Bridge
- Gamaksan Suspension Bridge
- **Heyri Art Village & Provence Village**
- First Garden (theme park)



DMZ



Chuncheon

The city is home to Dak (Chicken) Galbi, and a popular destination featuring a variety theme parks and natural attractions. Enjoy Chuncheon year-round as it has water activities to cool off in the summer and great skiing in the winter. Nearby, smaller counties like Gapyeong also have great water sports sites to check out.

Top Attractions

- **Nami Island**
- Gangchon Rail Park
- Soyang-gang River Skywalk
- Elysian Ski Resort
- LEGOLAND Korea
- Garden of Morning Calm (Gapyeong)



Nami Island.

Jeonju

Besides being a beautiful historic city, Jeonju is also famous as home to tasty local foods such as bibimbap. It's a perfect destination for backpackers traveling by train since three different major trains (Mugunghwa, ITX, KTX) stop at Jeonju Station. Many of the city's attractions are in small districts making it a good place for a walking trip.

Top Attractions

- **Jeonju Hanok Village**
- Gyeonggijeon Shrine (Bamboo forest)
- Jeonju Hyanggyo (Confucian school)
- Jaman Mural Village
- Deokjin park (Famous for lotus flowers)
- Nambu Outdoor Market



Hanok village

Suncheon

This one is for the nature and earth lovers! Suncheon is home to the country's biggest national ecological park and is known as an eco-city with nature preserves and lots of greenery.

Top Attractions

- **Suncheonman Bay Nature Reserve**
- **Sunchoenman Bay National Garden**
- Nagan Eupseong Folk Village
- Suncheon Drama filming
- Seonamsa Temple



Sunchoenman Bay National Garden

Busan

The second largest city in South Korea, Busan offers countless breathtaking destinations, including beautiful beaches, mountains, hot springs, temples and more. It's a must-visit city after Seoul for tourists who have limited time. Don't miss Busan's amazing seafood!



Haeundae beach.

Top Attractions

- **Haeundae Beach**
- **Jagalchi & Gukje Markets**
- Taejongdae Clifed Coast
- **Huinnyeoul Culture Village**
- Songdo Yonggung Cloud Bridge
- Gamcheon Culture Village
- UN Memorial Cemetery



Jeju Island

Korea's largest island, Jeju is the only tropical area in Korea. The island is a popular domestic holiday vacation spot due to its breathtaking landscapes, untamed nature and many attractions.

Top Attractions

- **Hallasan National Park**
- Cheonjiyeon Waterfalls
- Jeju Olle Trail
- Bijarim Forest
- Seongsan Ilchulbong (Sunrise Peak)
- Udo Island
- Manjanggul Cave

Gyeongju

This coastal city is the ancient capital of the Silla Kingdom, one of the oldest cities of Korea with one thousand years of history. The whole city is surrounded by numerous cultural heritage sites. Spring or fall is the best time to visit the city to see the beautiful assets surrounded by colorful flowers and leaves.

Top Attractions

- **Woljeonggyo Bridge**
- **Cheomseongdae Observatory**
- Daereungwon (park of royal tombs)
- Donggung palace and Wolji Pond
- **Bulguksa Temple**
- **Seokguram Grotto**

Seokguram of Silla
Photo courtesy of Cultural Heritage Administration



Gangneung

As the top tourist city on the east coast,

Gangneung is known as a destination for seaside activities. The city features more than 40 beaches with clean blue water and white sand. Don't forget to catch the sunrise and New Year's ceremony at Jeongdongjin beach.

Top Attractions

- **Jeongdongjin Beach**
- Gangmun and Geumjin Beach (Surfing)
- Anmok beach (Coffee street)
- Daegwallyeong Natural Recreation Forest

The sunrise in Jeongdongjin beach.



Andong

Andong is often called the capital of Korean spiritual culture as it's known as the home of Seonbi (traditional noble scholar). The city proudly preserves many traditions and history from the Joseon Dynasty. Visitors can experience being a traditional scholar through Seowon (Confucian Academy) stay programs.

Top Attractions

- **Hahoe Folk Village**
- Dosan Seowon and Byeongsan Seowon (Confucian Academy)
- Bongjeongsa Temple
- Jjimdak (braised chicken) Street



Andong Hahoe Folk Village.

Background photo
Between Tongyeong and Geoje Island.
Photo by Deanna Kirkwood

SEOUL

The Five Royal Palaces

The Palaces of Joseon Dynasty are where kings and royal families used to dwell. Renting and wearing the traditional Hanbok clothing is a must-try activity in the areas.

- Gyeongbokgung Palace
- Deoksugung Palace
- Changdeokgung Palace
- Gyeonghuigung Palace
- Changgyeonggung Palace



Bukchon Hanok Village

Home to hundreds of traditional houses dating back to Joseon Dynasty.



Dongdaemun

The largest shopping district with 32 shopping malls and markets.



Lotte World Tower & Mall

This towering building is one of the largest on the Peninsula and is one of Seoul's landmarks. The huge skyscraper has an observation deck, an aquarium, lots of shopping and restaurants.

Lotte World

This is a major recreation complex in Seoul with an indoor and outdoor amusement park, Folk Museum, and ice-skating rink.

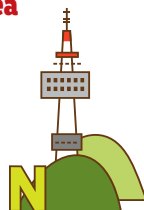
COEX Mall

This shopping center contains many popular attractions such as Starfield Library, exhibition halls, and the COEX Aquarium.



The War Memorial of Korea

This museum preserves many historical records related to the Korean War and the country's military.



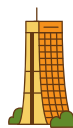
The N Seoul Tower

An iconic landmark of Korea, sightseeing observatory, popular date spot.



Hongdae Street

One of the busiest streets in Korea, popular destination for sightseeing, street performance and nightlife, home to tons of unique cafes, local shops, restaurants, bars and clubs.



Yeouido Han River Park

The Han River runs through the center of Seoul, making it an iconic natural symbol. The park is a great spot for chicken and beer picnics and outdoor activities.



Gangnam

This upscale district is a hot spot for luxury shopping, eating, drinking, medical tours and fancy spa treatments.



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afspa.org/fsbp

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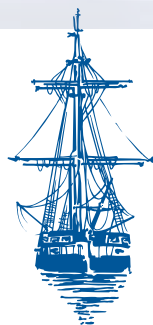
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