

The Beauty of Korea

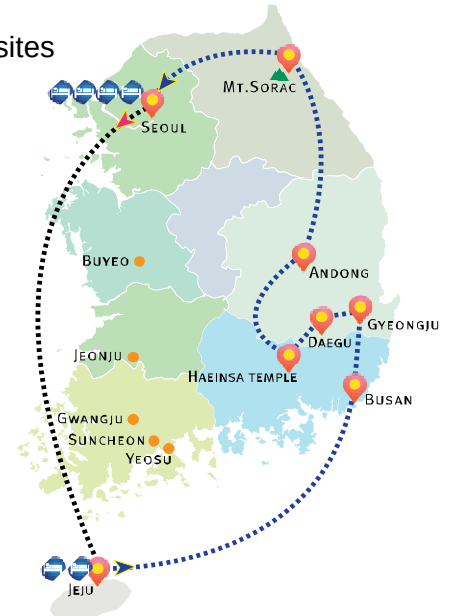
10 days UNESCO World Heritage Tour to Korea Seoul, Jeju Island, Busan, Gyeongju, Daegu, Andong & Mt. Sorak

(2024 Program)

UNESCO world heritage of Korea refers to both cultural and natural heritage sites registered on its world heritage list.

Since the earliest settlements on the Korean Peninsula and in Southeastern Manchuria during prehistoric times, the people of Korea have developed a distinctive culture based on their unique artistic sensibility. The geographical conditions of the peninsula provided Koreans with opportunities to receive both continental and maritime cultures and ample resources, which in turn enabled them to form unique cultures of interest and value for humanity, both then and now. Korea's vibrant cultural legacy, comprising art, literature, dance, architecture, clothing and cuisine, offers a delightful combination of tradition and modernity, and is now appreciated in many parts of the world. The volcanic island of Jeju-do has been chosen as UNESCO natural heritage for its outstandingly beautiful and natural environment that is significant for its geological features and ecological value.

This tour takes you to visit almost World Heritage in Korea designated by UNESCO in culture, nature and intangible culture.



Day 1 SUN Arrival Seoul

Upon arrival at Incheon International Airport you are met by our representative and transfer to check in your hotel. The rest of day is at your leisure.

Day 2 MON Seoul Full Day Sightseeing

Meal: B

After breakfast, pick up at your hotel around 08:30-09:00 am. You will take Seoul full day sightseeing: Jogyesa Temple → Gyeongbokgung Palace → The Royal Guard Changing Ceremony → National Folk Museum → Korean Ginseng Centre or Amethyst shop. Then followed by Korean Folk Village, which is an hour and half drive away from Seoul, where you will experience the culture of the late Joseon Dynasty. It's huge village that has about 260 different types of house of each province. → Return to your hotel.

Day 3 TUE Seoul – DMZ half day tour - Jeju Island

Meal: B

08:00 Pickup from your hotel and drive to Imjingak Park; you will have ID check at Unification Bridge before we head to DMZ theatre & Exhibition hall. Then followed by visiting the 3rd infiltration tunnel-Dorasan Observatory and Dorasan Station. Fly to Jeju Island in the afternoon. Met and transferred to your hotel upon arrival.

Day 4 WED Jeju Island full day tour

Meal: B

After breakfast enjoy a full day of sightseeing, which include Hyupjae Beach, Hallim Park where you can enjoy Palm Tree Road, Jeju Stone and Bonsai Garden, Water Garden, Subtropical Botanic Garden and O'sulloc Tea Museum which was opened by Amore Pacific in 2001 with the aim of introducing and spreading Korean teas and the traditional tea culture of Korea. In the afternoon, take Sanbang Mountain Cruise and visit Cheonjeyeon falls, named "The Pond of God," consists of three sections. Stop by shopping centre before return to your hotel.

Day 5 THU Jeju Island – Busan

Meal: B

Today we start from the Seongeup Folk Village where shows the unique culture of Jeju Island. Visit Haenyeo Museum where exhibits various photos of haenyeo female divers and their activities provide an accurate picture of their lives or enjoy woman diver show (UNESCO Intangible Cultural asset). Seongsan Ilchulbong Peak, rose 180 meters above sea level due to a magma flow under the sea over 5,000 years ago and it was originally a separate island, but a build-up of sand and soil has connected it to the main island. Manjanggul which holds great value for science and conservation studies, have well-maintained formations despite being formed over one hundred thousand years ago. Stop by Korean Jewelry Amethyst.

Day 6 FRI Busan – Gyeongju

Meal: B

Full day sightseeing in Busan. Visit Haeundae Beach, the most famous beach in Busan, the white sand beach is roughly 1.5 kilometers long, over a 30- to 50-meter wide area, creating a beautiful coastline before a shallow bay. Proceed to Yonggungsa Temple via Dalmaji-gil Road, famous for its views of the blue-ocean, white sandy beach, Camellia forest, and pine tree forest, creating one of Busan's eight scenic sites. Haedong Yonggungsa Temple is situated on the coast of the north-eastern portion of Busan. Transfer to Gamcheon Culture Village, formed by houses built in staircase-fashion on the foothills of a coastal mountain, earning this village the nickname "Machu Picchu of Busan. Continue to visit Korea's largest seafood market, Jagalchi Fishery market and BIFF Square. Transfer to Gyeongju (takes 1.5hrs by car) and visit Gyeongju Donggung Palace and Wolji Pond, a secondary palace used by the crown prince of the Silla Kingdom. You can enjoy the reflection of Imhaejeon in Wolji during the night.

Day 7 SAT Gyeongju – Daegu

Meal: B

Met our guide at 08:30 am and start the tour to Gyeongju, a museum without walls. In around 57 BC when Julius Caesar was subduing Gaul, it became the capital of the Shilla Dynasty and remained for about 1000 years. Gyeongju preserves a vast amount of significant and fascinating historical heritage. Along with Bulguksa Temple and Seokguram Grotto, its historical district has been designated as a World Heritage by UNESCO. Gyeongju National Museum & Cheomgseongdae Astronomical Observatory, Seokguram Grotto (UNESCO world heritage) - an artificial stone temple made of granites, located on the eastern peak of Mt. Toham. Inside the round-shaped main hall, there are the Bonjon Statue, Bodhi-Sattava and his disciples. Bulguksa Temple (UNESCO world heritage) – The beauty of the temple itself and artistic touch of the stone relics are as awesome and fascinating as to be highly praised by visitors from all over the world. Move to Daegu city, the largest and central city of this province. Check in at your hotel.

Day 8 SUN Daegu – Haeinsa Temple – Andong - Pyeongchang**Meal: B**

After Check-out, move to Haeinsa Temple located in Gayasan National Park. Haeinsa Temple was founded by King Ae-Jang of Shilla Dynasty (802), well known for its famous treasure “ Tripitaka Koreana ”(UNESCO world heritage) composed of 81,341 printing woodblocks made to repulse the Mongolian Army Invasion with support of Buddha. Afterwards transfer to Andong Hahoe Village which has preserved the housing architecture and the village structure of the Joseon Dynasty. Moreover, the Village was not artificially created; there are people who actually live there. The Hahoe Village has become world-famous for the visit of The Queen Elizabeth II of Britain several years ago. Then transfer to Gangneung, one of 2018 Pyeongchang Olympic Cities.

Day 9 MON Mt. Sorak – Seoul**Meal: B**

Depart to Seoraksan National Park where the peaks break through the clouds while jade-like water flows through the valleys, creating breathtaking views and making this Korea's most famous national park. UNESCO designated this park a Biosphere Preservation District in 1982 due to so many rare species found here. Visit Sinheungsa Temple, an ancient temple with deep historical significance, built by a great monk Jajangyulsa (590~658). (Optional Gwongneumseong cable car @ USD20.00). Gwongneumseong is a site of castle ruins located on the steep Dol Mountain of Seoraksan National Park area. After sightseeing of Seoraksan National Park, continue our journey to Seoul and check in your hotel.

Day 10 TUE Seoul departure**Meal: B**

Today is at leisure until in time transfer to the airport for your flight bound for your next destination.

Departure dates in 2024 (Every Sunday)

Normal Season Price: A\$5350 per person twin share

Single supplement: \$1650

Inclusions:

1. Twin share 4* hotel at Seoul Orakai Daehakro Hotel, Jeju Grand Hyatt, Busan Avani Central Hotel, Gyeongju Commodore Hotel; Daegu Interbulgo EXCO Hotel, Pyeongchang Ramada Hotel or similar
2. Korean domestic economy flights Seoul – Jeju Island – Busan
3. Fully inclusive seat in coach tour with English speaking guide, all transfers and entrance fees as per itinerary.

Exclusions: International air travel, tipping for the guide and driver, optional tour; personal expenses; travel insurance, items not mentioned in above itinerary, unscheduled meals etc.

High Season Surcharge: Extra \$540 (twin share) for departures of 7JUL, 14JUL, 21JUL, 28JUL, 4AUG, 11AUG, 18AUG, 25AUG, 22DEC, 29DEC 2024; single supplement \$2190.

Remarks: Depart every Sunday all year round except Blackout dates (Lunar New Year, Korean Thanksgiving. End of year holidays etc). Minimum of 2 participants for guaranteed departure. All bookings are subject to availability and final confirmation. Itinerary is subject to minor change upon local arrangement.

