

TRAVEL BUREAU

GO TO STAR

South Korea

2022



About the journey

Go to Star author travel agency invites you to South Korea.

South Korea is a mix of high technology, unique nature with forests and mountains covering 70% of the country, and the Confucian traditions that are cherished here. It is also one of the top 3 economic centers in Asia and one of the top 10 drug manufacturers. Technology is booming in Korean medicine, design and science while the cities are full of intense cultural life, museums, K-pop stars concerts and trendy gourmet restaurants.

Strolling the bustling streets of Seoul with its fantastic high-tech buildings, seeing ancient tombs in a UNESCO-listed open-air museum, gazing at the stars over a Korean barbecue and sampling local kimbap rolls at a street-food market, checking out Asia's oldest observatory and taking the high-speed train to an authentic village are all worth travelling to the Land of Morning Flood for. A genuine, vibrant and progressive South Korea offers an unforgettable experience and a version of Asia you can't help but fall in love with.



South Korea



Day 1

Arrival at the Incheon Hotel. Transfer to the Mondrian Seoul Hotel. Lunch. Sightseeing tour and introduction to the city and the history of Korea. Dinner at Korean traditional cuisine restaurant.



Day 5

Departure to Seoul by train or car. Visiting the Arario Museum of Contemporary Art. Walking through the Yakryong area, the centre of Korean traditional medicine. Private performance with traditional dances. Tour of Gwangjang Market with Korean street food.



Day 2

Visiting Leeum Museum. Lunch in a traditional Buddhist restaurant with vegan dishes. Visiting Gangnam, Chhodang, Dongdaemun districts where we will see House of Dior project, Dongdaemun Cultural Centre Design Plaza, National Parliament building. Dinner at Korean barbecue restaurant.



Day 6

Leisure time. Optional check-up at a Korean clinic, a visit to a Korean bath, and a night stroll through Seoul's trendy spots.



Day 3

Transfer by train to Andong City. Visit Confucian school. Lunch at a local restaurant. Excursion to authentic Hahoe Village and Hahoe Mask Museum, theatrical performance. Dinner at a local restaurant, rest at the Gurume Hanok Hotel.



Day 7

Breakfast. Transfer to the airport. Flight to Moscow.



Day 4

Departure to Gyeongju to see the open-air museum. Visiting Bulguksa Temple, Gyeongju National Museum, Asia's oldest observatory Cheomseongdae and Tumuli Park with royal mounds. Dinner and relaxing by Anapchi Pond with a beautiful night view.



Leeum Museum

The Samsung Art Museum is one of the main attractions in Seoul. It has a collection of modern and contemporary art from the early 20th century to the present day, as well as traditional Korean art. But the objects of art are not just inside: the museum buildings themselves were designed by world-renowned architects Mario Botta, Jean Nouvel and Rem Koolhaas.

Korean art is first and foremost about geometry and form, so there are more art objects, vases, sculptures and calligraphy samples here than there are paintings. As the museum was created by a high-tech company, it is not only possible to walk from one exhibit to another: there are smart audio guides, VR technology, and multimedia 3D models waiting for visitors.

South Korea



만병을 치료하는 대병

Songwha cov XITA BLACK-TIGER

실터래 처럼, 만하고 섬린 어려부



Korean medicine

Medical tourism is well developed in South Korea, and not without reason. On the one hand, the best practices of traditional Asian medicine are preserved here: acupuncture, herbal therapy, manual therapy. These aspects are totally supported by the government: there is a special Department of Traditional Korean Medicine under the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare.

On the other hand, modern medicine and plastic surgery are highly developed in the republic. Europeans come to Korea for a checkup, a perfect nose or breast augmentation because of the best doctors who have been studying for at least 12 years, ultra-modern equipment and materials. Moreover, the prices are low for this quality, at least a quarter lower than in clinics in Europe and the US. So combining a tour with a visit to a dentist, a comprehensive health assessment or an acupuncture session is definitely a good idea.

South Korea





Upscale districts of Seoul

"South Korean Beverly Hills" is the name given to the Gangnam district, Seoul's most affluent and made famous by the 2012 hit Gangnam Style. Walking down the streets by parked sports cars and Teslas, you can see the majestic National Parliament building and admire the Han River from a traditional gazebo in blooming Yoe-yi-do Park.

The chic Cheongdam district has an entire street of Cheongdam Fashion Street boutiques, restaurants and galleries. It is the center of attraction for lovers of fashion and K-pop culture, who stand a good chance of meeting their favorite actor or musician. The jewel of the district is the House of Dior designed by French architect Christian de Portzamparc, an unusually shaped white building with an interior resembling flowing fabric. Upstairs is the Café Dior by Pierre Hermé, which serves desserts designed by star pastry chef Pierre Hermé especially for the house of Dior.



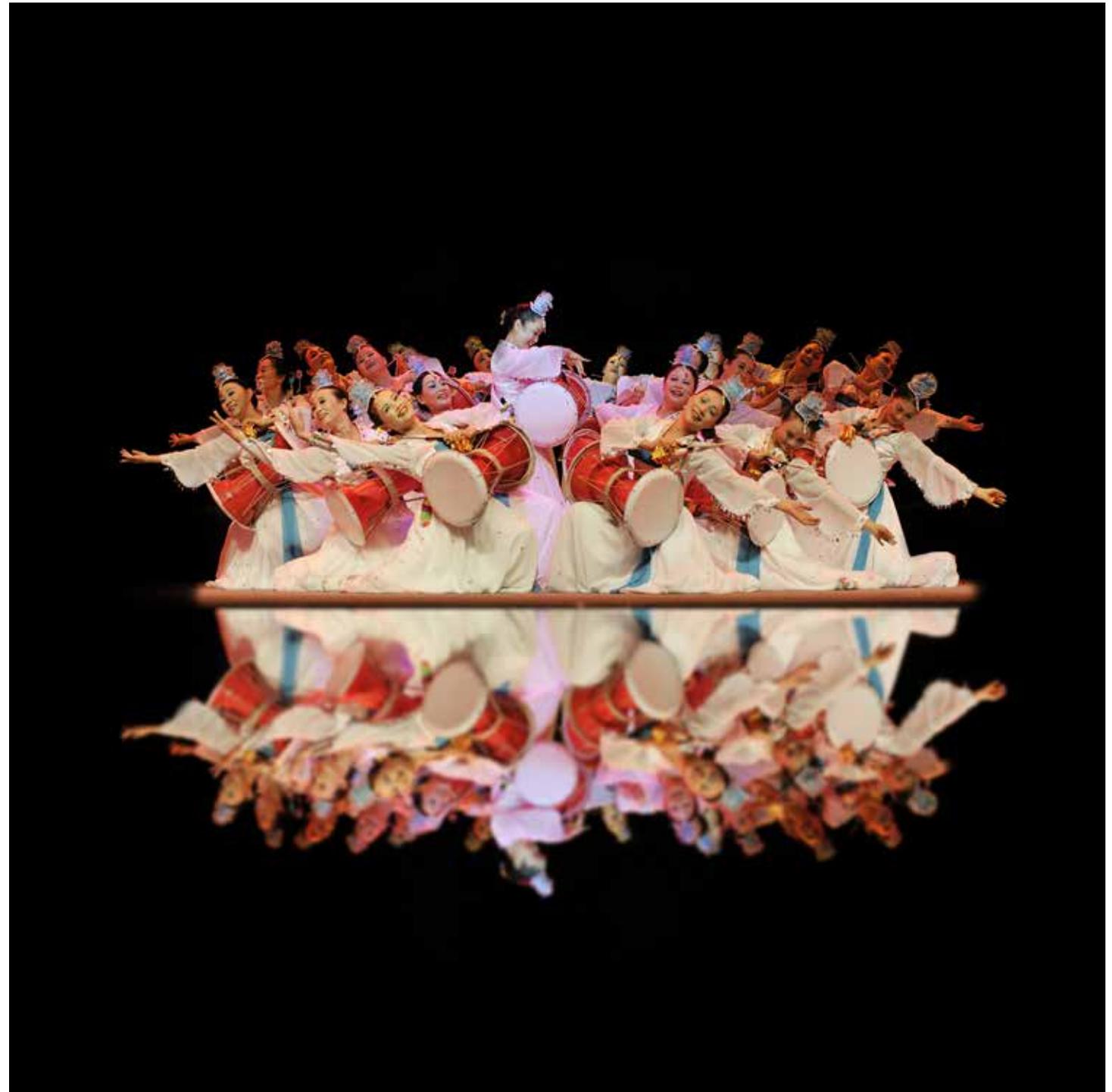




Gyeongju open-air museum

Gyeongju Museum City is the best place to experience South Korea's history, along with stunning panoramas of the Daebexan mountain range, green hills and the sea. Thousands of years ago, the city was the capital of ancient Silla, as evidenced by ancient temples, grottoes and the Cheomseongdae Observatory, the oldest preserved observatory in East Asia.

The local museum houses national treasures, such as the king's crown. In Gyeongju, you can't miss Seokguram Grotto and Bulguksa Temple, both of which are UNESCO World Heritage sites. Another piece of history is a complex of royal tombs next to the picturesque Anapchi Pond.





Arario Museum of Contemporary Art

The ivy-covered, tiled-roofed building used to be home to Space, Kim Sugeun's traditional-style architecture office. It was rebuilt in 2014 and now houses more than 3,500 works of contemporary art belonging to the artist and collector Kim Chan-II. Climbing the spiral staircases, wandering through the labyrinthine building and peering into the bathrooms, one finds colorful paintings, sculptures and installations in the most unexpected places. Video art is also a big part of the museum.

Arario Museum has its branches in Seoul and Jeju, and there is a 'museum within a museum' project for artists: they go to live at the museum branch to be inspired and create new art objects.





Hahoe Folk Village

The authentic village is located in the city of Andong, which was the local administrative capital and centre of Confucian education until the early 20th century. Nowadays, traditions such as the Hahoe Mask Dance, a symbol of Korean culture, are cherished in the region. You can watch the theatrical performance at the local museum.

The ethnic villages of Hahoe and Yangdong were added to the UNESCO World Heritage List in 2010, and the Andong Folk Festival is held here every September. What makes these places unique is that life here looks completely as it was in the Joseon era: traditional buildings, everyday objects, Confucian schools and houses have been thoroughly preserved. The Hahoe Village magically takes you centuries in the past and shows the traditional way of life in Korea before the advent of high technology.



South Korea





Korean food

A South Korean food combines haute cuisine by Michelin-starred restaurants (Seoul has more than 20 of them) with famous Korean street food and Buddhist temple cuisine. The courses are based on seafood, rice, pickled vegetables, hot spices and savories, creating an incomparable cocktail of flavours.

In between strolling around Seoul, you can enjoy herbal or plum tea, a sweet Sikhe rice drink, taste masha pancakes and mandu scones at the local traditional market. Dine on a Korean barbecue overlooking the stars mixing ingredients to your personal preference, adding kimchi, chilli or salad leaves to grilled beef.



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