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探索月歷
Explorers' Month

韓國

Korea



ARMCHAIR TRAVELLER

Travel Guide 2 GO~



COUNTRY OF THE MONTH:

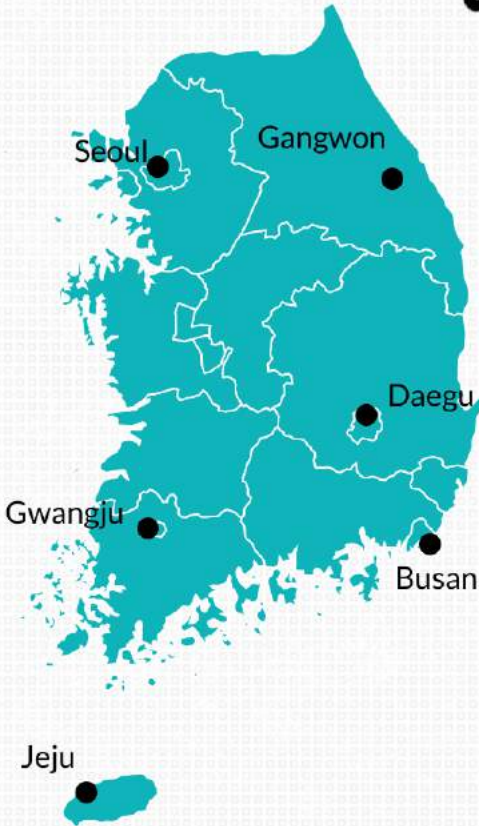
KOREA





Korea 101

어서 오세요



The Korean Peninsula

It has been divided into two sovereign states since 1945:

- **North Korea** (officially the "Democratic People's Republic of Korea")
- **South Korea** (officially the "Republic of Korea")

- Capital: **Pyongyang** (North Korea) | **Seoul** (South Korea)

- President: **Kim Jong-un** (North Korea) | **Moon Jae-in** (South Korea)

The negotiations at **Panmunjom** finally bore fruit in 1953 and an armistice went into effect on July 27. Though fighting ended, **no formal peace treaty was concluded** meaning that North and South Korea are still at war.

#1

South Koreans are the top drinkers in Asia with an average of 12.3L of alcohol per year!



Language in North-South Korea

The language spoken in South Korea is basically a **Seoul dialect**, and the speakers often do use words borrowed from English.

In contrast to this trend in North Korea, its leaders have encouraged its citizens **not to use any borrowed words**, so the Pyongyang dialect is mainly in use. Sometimes, they include words from Russian.

For Example:

Fruit juice in South Korean is **쥬스 (joo-seu)** which is directly borrowed from the **pronunciation** of English.

However, in North Korea, they call it **과일 단물 (gwa-il dan-mul)** meaning 'fruity sweet water' which is a direct description of the object.



English	South Korean	North Korean
1. ice cream	아이스크림 [a-ee-seu-keu-rim]	얼음보숭이 [uh-reum-bo-soong-ee]
2. friend	친구 [chin-goo]	동무 [dong-moo]
3. worker	노동자 [no-dong-ja]	로동자 [ro-dong-ja]
4. corn	옥수수 [ok-soo-soo]	감냉이 [gang-naeg-ee]
5. sign language	수화 [soo-hwa]	손가락말 [son-ga-rak-mal]
6. father-in-law (one's wife's father)	장인 [jang-in]	가시아버지 [ga-si-ah-byeo-ji]
7. mother-in-law (one's wife's mother)	장모 [jang-mo]	가시아머니 [ga-si-uh-meo-nee]
8. keyboard	키보드 [ki-bo-deu]	건반 [gun-ban]
9. parking lot	주차장 [joo-cha-jang]	차마당 [cha-ma-dang]
10. juice	쥬스 [joo-seu]	과일단물 [kwa-il-dan-mool]
11. Germany	독일 [dok-il]	도이쉴란드 [do-ee-chil-lan-deu]



Tourist Spots



1. Gyeongju

Gyeongju, as the capital of the **Kingdom of Silla**, has some of the most phenomenal Buddhist art in Far East with two very UNESCO World Heritages.

Bulguksa (right) is head temple of the Jogye Order of **Korean Buddhism**, and with 4 km way, **Seokguram Grotto** (left) is also a masterpiece of the golden age of Buddhist in the Silla kingdom.



2. Seoraksan National Park

Located on the **east-central** Korean peninsula, this national park includes numerous **natural reserves** including the **Dinosaur Ridge**, **Injegun**, **Yanyanggun**, and **Sokchosi**.

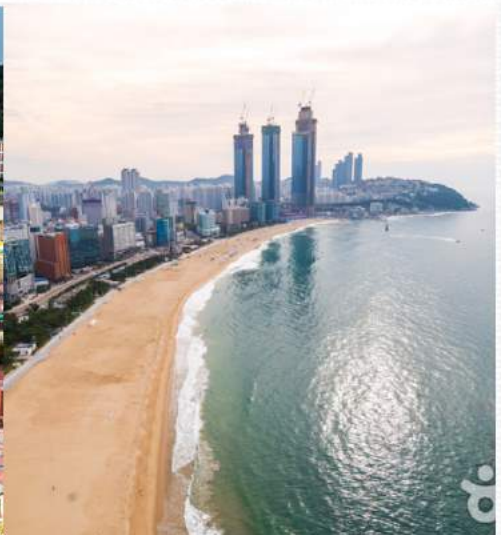
It is popular with tourists and nature enthusiasts. It is a home to many rare taxa of flora and fauna. It is also one of the best **hiking** destinations in Korea.

3. Busan

As a home to glistening beaches and fantastic seafood, Busan is a rollicking port town with tonnes to offer.

Gamcheon Culture Village (left) is a colourful, quirky community of Lego-shaped building. You can enjoy the wall paintings there too!

Haeundae Beach (right) is the country's most famous beach. Besides the breathtaking view, you can also have fresh **hwae (raw fish)** to feel the beauty of sea.





Food



#1

Pyongyang Naengmyeon is definitely a must-try dish in North Korea.

Don't forget to add the essential ingredients of **vinegar**, and hot **mustard** to make the mild broth more exciting for your taste buds.



#2

When visiting **Kaesong**, the city just a hop, skip, and jump away from the DMZ, be sure to try a traditional **Pansangi** lunch.

Traditionally served during the Koryo Dynasty, it is **a series of bronze bowls** filled with various marinated meats, tofu, a variety of vegetables, kimchi, and a curious acorn jelly.



#3

In Nampo, there is a local specialty of **Petrol BBQ clams!**

They siphon mouthfuls of **gasoline** and into a bottle, and sprayed onto a giant **concrete slab**, adorned with freshly harvested clams. Don't forget to sip Soju to wash away any bad bacteria!



#4

Dak Hanmari, meaning a non-spicy South Korean-style chicken stew, is comfort food that does not need complicated ingredients.

After finishing the whole chicken, you can also order **kalguksu** (knife-cut noodles) or **juk** (porridge) to fill you up!



#5

Besides seafood, **Dwaeji Gukbab** (pork rice soup) is also one of the most famous food in Busan.

The dish is up to the customer to garnish and season it with green onions, briney baby shrimp, and red pepper paste. Eat with the standard South Korean **side dishes** including radish kimchi and cabbage kimchi.



#6

Galbi-jjim (Braised Beef Short Ribs) is typically served on traditional holidays and special occasions in South Korea.

To soothe the spiciness of it, we can also have **gondeure-bap**, a bowl of flavored rice with a type of thistle, too!



About North Korea...



The founder of North Korea (officially known as the **Democratic People's Republic of Korea**), first president **Kim Il Sung**, created the country's policy of **Juche** (self-reliance) which has essentially cut it off economically and diplomatically from the rest of the world and made it one of the world's most secretive societies for decades.

Still, everyone has heard a thing or two about North Korea. Here comes some fun facts about North Korea!



North Korea used to have its own time zone: **Pyongyang Time (UTC+08:30)**



The North Korean calendar, **Juche calendar**, begins with the birth of the founder of the Democratic People's Republic, Kim Il-sung, which is **1912 ("Juche 1")**



There are **28 official hairstyles** approved and all men and women in the country have to follow the same hairstyles as other hairstyles are banned.

D M Z

The **Korean Demilitarized Zone (DMZ)** marks the **38th Parallel** dividing two Koreas. With an armistice in 1953, but there has no peace treaty, meaning that **the two are still technically at war.**





Korean Age System

Did you know that a Korean baby being born on New Year's Eve will already be two years old within the second day of his or her life? This is due to the unique age-calculating system used in Korea:

1. 세는 나이: You are one year old at birth, and add on it after each year
2. 만 나이: The international age
3. 연 나이: Your age refer to the current year minus your born year

So what is your Korean age?



How to calculate your Korean age?

Current Year	
+	1
-	Birth Year

KOREAN AGE	



Example:
2018+1-1998=21



Military service is compulsory in both North and South Korea, but what are the differences?

In North Korea, men are universally conscripted while females undergo selective conscription. Conscription takes place at age 14; service starts at 17 and ends at 30. Children of the political elites are exempted from it.

In South Korea, men between the ages of 18 and 28 are required to perform compulsory military service for around 2 years, while women are not required to perform military service, but they may join the military.



Recommended Restaurants by Amanda, our host of Explorers' month - Korea

옥류관

It is a restaurant in Pyongyang, North Korea, founded in 1960 and is famous for the best naengmyeon in North Korea!

Address: Pyongyang



삼청동 수제비

It is founded in 1982. The signature dish here is **sujebi** (rustic hand-pulled dough soup) served in a savory anchovy broth, and its potato pancakes!

It has been awarded as MICHELIN star restaurant for years too!

Address: 101-1 Samcheong-ro, Jongno-gu, Seoul, South Korea

