

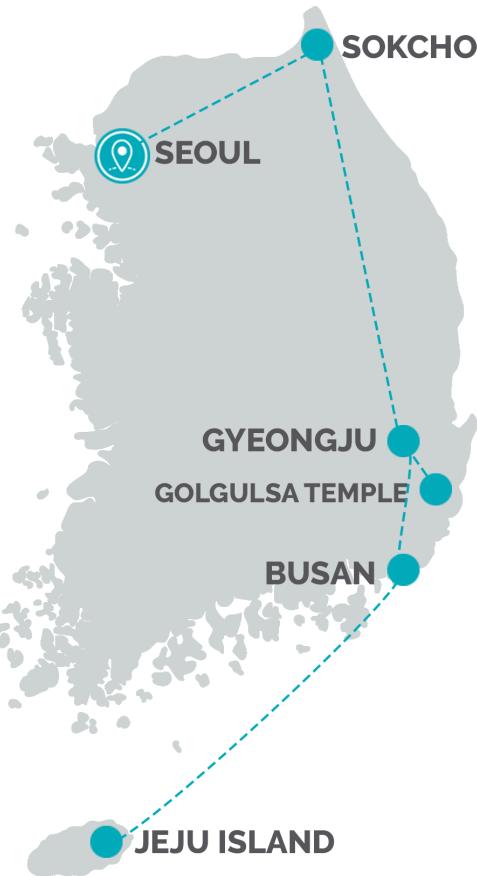


ULTIMATE SOUTH KOREA ADVENTURE

Get ready for an epic 12-day journey through South Korea, packed with culture, adventure, and seriously good food. From mastering Taekwondo and learning K-Pop choreography to temple stays, mountain hikes, late-night BBQs, and beach sunsets, this trip delivers the perfect balance of iconic experiences and local gems. Travel from the neon streets of Seoul to the coastal energy of Busan, before slowing things down on the stunning island of Jeju. Along the way, you'll explore must-see highlights, uncover places most travellers miss, and experience South Korea the Ultimate way.

INCLUSIONS:

- Epic local Adventure Leader throughout the tour
- 10 nights Shared, mixed-gender hostel accommodation
- 1-night traditional Buddhist temple stay at Geumsunsa
- All in-country transport within South Korea
- Domestic flight from Busan to Jeju Island
- Taekwondo training class
- Group welcome dinner in Myeongdong
- Royal Guard Changing Ceremony at Gyeongbokgung Palace
- Entry to Gyeongbokgung Palace
- Half-day DMZ tour
- K-Pop dance class
- Hikes and activities in Seoraksan National Park
- Traditional Korean liquor tasting
- Cycling tour of Gyeongju Old Town
- Visit to Daereungwon Tumuli Park and Chunmachong Ancient Tombs
- Visit to Gamcheon Culture Village
- Walk through BIFF Square
- Visit to Haedong Yonggungsa Temple
- Hike Seongsan Ilchulbong
- Visit to Jeongbang Waterfall
- Yacht sailing tour
- Farewell Jeju black pork BBQ dinner





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Day 1: Welcome Dinner, Taekwondo & Night Views (Seoul)

Your 12-day South Korea adventure kicks off this afternoon as you meet your Adventure Leader and fellow travellers at your Seoul hostel. After a short pre-departure briefing covering the journey ahead (plus a few handy Korean phrases), it's straight into your first unforgettable experience.

Start strong with an authentic Taekwondo training session, where you'll learn basic techniques and put your skills to the test. Once you've worked up an appetite, head into the vibrant streets of Myeongdong for a special welcome dinner. Share your first Korean meal together, get to know your group, and toast to the adventure ahead.

As night falls, ride the cable car up Namsan Mountain for sweeping views of Seoul glowing after dark. Wander past the famous "Locks of Love" at the base of N Seoul Tower, a favourite spot for couples and photographers alike. If you want even higher views, you can head up to the tower's observation deck.

Afterwards, descend by cable car and enjoy a relaxed walk back to your accommodation through Myeongdong. Spend the rest of the evening exploring nearby streets or head to bed early to recharge for tomorrow.

Accommodation: Step Inn Myeongdong (or similar)

Day 2: Palaces, Royal Guards & Seoul's Hidden Corners

Rise early and dive into Seoul's rich history today. Using public transport, you'll travel to Gyeongbokgung Palace to witness the impressive Royal Guard Changing Ceremony before exploring the palace grounds. For an extra cultural touch, you can choose to rent a hanbok nearby and stroll the palace dressed in traditional Korean attire.

The rest of the day is yours to explore Seoul at your own pace, with plenty of recommendations from your Adventure Leader. You might choose to wander through Bukchon Hanok Village and Insadong Art Street, or enjoy a peaceful walk along the Cheonggyecheon Stream, a tranquil waterway restored during an urban renewal project.



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Prefer something more modern? Head to the Gangnam District for shopping, or rent a bike and cruise along the Han River, soaking up views of the city skyline and riverside parks.

If you're feeling creative, you can also opt to join a personalised perfume-making class*, where you'll design your own signature scent to take home as a unique souvenir.

In the evening, enjoy free time to explore Seoul's food scene. Consider heading to Euljiro or Itaewon for dinner and drinks.

*Please note: This activity must be booked at least three weeks before departure.

Accommodation: Step Inn Myeongdong (or similar)

Day 3: DMZ Experience, K-Pop Dance & Seoul Nightlife

Today brings one of the most powerful experiences of the trip - a visit to the Korean Demilitarized Zone (DMZ). Travel by bus around an hour north of Seoul to Imjingak, where you'll have time to grab breakfast before continuing the journey.

Depending on availability, you may have the rare opportunity to meet a North Korean defector and hear their personal story. Continue to Dora Observatory, where binoculars offer views across the border into North Korea. You'll then descend into the 3rd Infiltration Tunnel, built by North Korea and stretching to within just 170 metres of the border.

Back in Seoul, switch gears completely with a high-energy K-Pop dance class. Learn choreography inspired by Korea's global music scene and see if you've got star potential.

In the evening, you can opt to head out with your group to Hongdae, a lively district packed with restaurants, bars, and nightlife.

Accommodation: Step Inn Myeongdong (or similar)



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Day 4: Temple Stay & Spiritual Immersion (Seoul)

Enjoy a relaxed morning in Seoul today, with time to wander, rest, or explore independently. In the afternoon, travel by private transfer to Geumsunsa Temple* for an authentic temple stay experience.

After settling in, take part in a guided temple tour followed by a nourishing vegetarian dinner. As evening arrives, immerse yourself in traditional temple rituals, including drum and bell ceremonies, Buddhist chanting, and a calming singing bowl meditation. Take time to reflect or explore the peaceful grounds before an early night.

*Please note: Some tour dates, the temple stay will take place at the Golgulsa Temple instead of Geumsunsa. Minor itinerary adjustments may apply, but the experience will be equally special.

Accommodation: Geumsunsa Temple Stay (or similar)

Day 5: Dawn Ceremony & Seoraksan National Park (Sokcho)

Begin your morning with a serene Buddhist dawn chanting ceremony, followed by a simple temple breakfast. After cleaning your room and returning your temple clothing, depart temple life and meet your private bus for the journey to Sokcho.

Arriving on Korea's north-eastern coast, head straight to Seoraksan National Park. Take on the rewarding hike to Ulsanbawi Rock for breathtaking panoramic views, or choose a gentler option such as the waterfall trail or cable car to a scenic peak. You can even combine multiple routes if you're feeling energetic.

After lunch near the park entrance, continue to Sokcho town and cross the river to Abai Village aboard a traditional Gaetbae ferry, a village originally settled by North Korean refugees.

In the evening, join your Adventure Leader for a guided food market walk before dinner at Sokcho's famous fish markets or popular local restaurants, such as Manseok, known for its



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sweet and sour boneless fried chicken. Finish the night with a traditional Korean liquor tasting, hosted by your leader.

Accommodation: Haru Guesthouse (or similar)

Day 6: Cycling Through History (Gyeongju)

Depart early this morning and travel by bus along the East Coast to Gyeongju, Korea's ancient capital. After dropping your bags, jump straight into exploring.

Set off on a guided cycling tour* through Gyeongju's historic centre, passing highlights such as Daereungwon Tumuli Park, Chunmachong Ancient Tombs, and Cheomseongdae, the oldest surviving astronomical observatory in East Asia. The guided ride lasts around 45 minutes on flat terrain, with the option to continue exploring independently by bike afterwards. *If cycling isn't your thing, the old town is compact and easy to explore on foot.

In the evening, you may choose to join your group for a traditional Korean set meal inside a hanok (approx. 17,000 KRW, excluding drinks). Later, enjoy free time or visit Anapji Pond to see its beautiful illuminated reflections at night.

Accommodation: Blueboat Hostel Gyeongju (or similar)

Day 7: Culture, Coastlines & Street Food (Busan)

Make your way to Gyeongju Station this morning and board a high-speed train to Busan. On arrival, hop onto a private bus for a full day of sightseeing. Your first stop is the colourful Gamcheon Culture Village, known for its hillside houses, art installations, and winding alleyways. Continue to Songdo to ride the Marine Cable Car and enjoy sweeping coastal views.

Next, head to BIFF Square in Nampo-dong, where you can sample local street food – including Busan's famous hotteok pancakes. In the evening, check into your hostel in Haeundae and enjoy free time to relax or explore the beachside neighbourhood.

Accommodation: Blueboat Hostel Haeundae (or similar)



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Day 8: Coastal Temples, Spa Time & Karaoke (Busan)

Start the day with a visit to Haedong Yonggungsa Temple, dramatically perched on the cliffs overlooking the ocean - one of Korea's most scenic temples. Afterwards, you can opt to unwind at Spa Land in Centum City, a world-class jjimjilbang offering saunas, jacuzzis, cold rooms, and relaxation spaces.

In the evening, explore Busan's food scene with your group before watching the Gwangan Bridge light up after dark. You may also choose to join an evening boat cruise or end the night singing your heart out at karaoke.

Accommodation: Blueboat Hostel Haeundae (or similar)

Day 9: Beach Time, Cooking Class & Jeju Flight (Busan → Jeju)

Enjoy a laid-back morning at Haeundae Beach. Swim, relax, or organise a casual game with your group, or enjoy a picnic-style breakfast as the sun rises over the ocean. Later, you can opt into a hands-on Busan cooking class*, learning how to prepare classic Korean dishes such as Bibimbap.

The afternoon is free to explore, with options including the Haeundae Blueline Park coastal train, observation decks, or colourful cultural villages. In the evening, transfer to Busan Airport and fly to Jeju Island. After arriving, enjoy a relaxed evening soaking up the island atmosphere.

*Please note: This activity must be booked at least three weeks before departure.

Accommodation: Shin Shin Hotel Cheonjiyeon - Seogwipo (or similar)

Day 10: Olle Trail, Waterfalls & Haenyeo Culture (Jeju)

Begin your day with a scenic hike along the Jeju Olle Trail, taking in rugged coastal views and peaceful landscapes. Continue to Jeongbang Waterfall, the only waterfall in Asia that flows directly into the ocean.



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Next, hike Seongsan Ilchulbong, a UNESCO World Heritage Site formed by volcanic eruptions over 5,000 years ago. Afterward, enjoy lunch nearby or attend a Haenyeo performance at 13:30 (subject to availability and weather). These legendary female free divers represent resilience, sustainability, and Jeju's deep connection to the sea. The afternoon is free to explore Seogwipo. Options include local markets, beaches, waterfalls, museums, scenic bridges, or sunset drinks overlooking the coast.

Accommodation: Shin Shin Hotel Cheonjiyeon - Seogwipo (or similar)

Day 11: Volcanic Cliffs, Yacht Sailing & Farewell BBQ (Jeju)

Visit the dramatic Jusangjeolli Cliffs this morning, where hexagonal volcanic rock formations meet the sea. Afterwards, take to the water on a yacht sailing tour, enjoying fresh ocean air and views from the coast. Spend the afternoon however you wish - relaxing or exploring more of Jeju's natural beauty.

In the evening, gather for a farewell Korean BBQ dinner featuring Jeju's famous black pork. Celebrate your final night together and soak up the memories before saying goodbye in the morning.

Accommodation: Shin Shin Hotel Cheonjiyeon - Seogwipo (or similar)

Day 12: Departure & Onward Travel (Jeju)

Your South Korea adventure comes to an end today. Continue exploring Jeju, return to Seoul, or head off to your next destination. Safe travels and farewell.