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Tourism Promotion Organization
for Asia Pacific Cities

Tourism Promotion Organization for Asia Pacific Cities

We'd like to invite you to TPO, the Tourism Promotion Organization for Asia Pacific Cities.

TPO is a network among cities in the Asia Pacific region and is an international tourism organization established for the development of the tourism industry. TPO exchanges tourism information between member cities to promote the tourism industry, and also carries out projects including tourism product development, joint marketing projects, and tourism industry education as well as human resources development. 72 city governments and 37 Industry members currently participate in as members of the TPO. Industry members consist of travel industry related associations, research institutes, and destination marketing organizations (DMO). TPO strives for the development of sustainable tourism and city tourism within the Asia Pacific region.

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Jeonju Nambu Market, with more than a century of history, is both distinctive and unique. It is all about the ‘Youth Mall’ on the 2nd floor of Building #6, formerly housing many empty stores, among a total of 10 buildings. The Youth Mall was a part of the ‘Munjeonseongsi Project’ (literally, the ‘Promotion of Traditional Market through Culture’) launched by the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism. Under this program, the tenants, who are selected based on good business ideas and great feasibility, receive rent assistance for 1 year.

Most stores are operated by a single owner (aged from the mid 20s to early 40s). In 2011, only two stores were available. Now, there are as many as 32 stores. Here, you can encounter a variety of fascinating shops and stores that are hard to find in a traditional market, such as an international cuisine restaurant, cafe, design shops and gallery. It’s been two years since Youth Mall opened. Now, it is a must-visit tourist destination in Nambu Market.

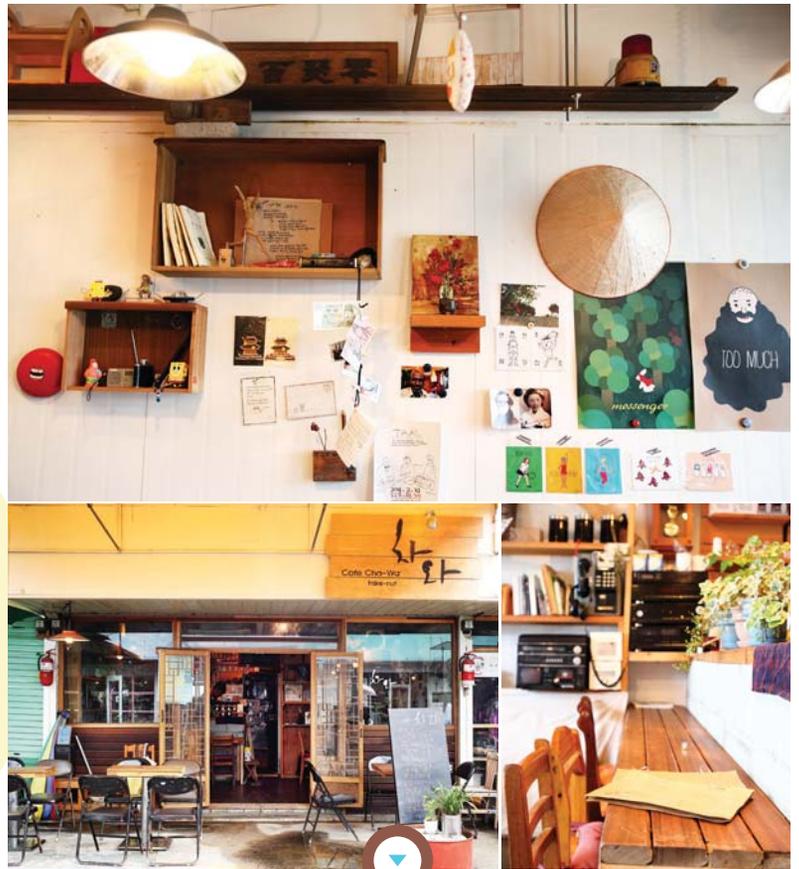
Address Youth Mall, 2F of Nambu Market, Pungnammun 2-gil 53, Wansan-gu, Jeonju, Jeonbuk **TEL** 070-8801-8218 **Hours** Differs by store (the market closed on Monday)

Website www.facebook.com/2Fchungnyunmall

CAFÉ WITH FASCINATING TRADITIONAL TEAS MADE OF NATURAL INGREDIENTS CAFE CHA-WA

This café serves homemade traditional teas, desserts and coffee. The owner of the shop Im Yeong-gyun, a member of Youth Mall in its early stage, has operated this café for over two years. In the beginning, he served Omija Tea only. He wanted to build a space in which all people from the young to the old come by and have a good time over a sweet tea. In the beginning, he spent a lot of time in improving interior design and developing menus. Meantime, the shop became looked much nicer. In addition, he can now make major ingredients except for pomegranate and citron in person. The café now offers a variety of menus including fruit smoothie, bingsu (shaved ice with toppings) and toast as well as traditional teas. A cooling and refreshing tea made of enzyme is highly recommended in summer. In winter, on the contrary, hot boiled teas are recommended.

TEL 010-8754-4511 **Hours** 11:00-22:00(Tue. – Sat.), 11:00-21:00(Sun.), closed on Monday **Menu** Geongang Bingsu KRW 9,500, Lemon Omija Tea KRW 4,000



Cafe CHA-WA

Sosohan Trader

MERCHANTS MAKING GREAT STRIDES TOWARD THE WORLD SOSOHAN TRADER

A wide variety of winsome or fascinating items are displayed inside and outside of the store. All these products are imported from foreign countries, brought back from abroad by the owner of the store at least once a month. In particular, the owner visits Japan most frequently. He comes up with new interior designs and ideas based on his inspiration from Japanese shops. He has even acquired a wholesale license in Japan and has been able to import various goods at good prices. Here, you will find some products at 20-30% under the country of origin or airport duty-free shop. The store owner says that he is delighted and pleased to see people enjoying the items he has collected throughout the world.

TEL 010-9443-8176 **Hours** 09:00-20:00(closed on Monday) **Price** Picture postcard KRW 1,000, Japanese umbrella KRW 29,000 **Website** www.i-re.co.kr





SOAKED IN THE CHARM OF UP-CYCLING DESIGN RE:BORN

This is a vintage eco-select shop of Bottaridan, which operates local cultural events and a flea market as well. The flea market which has been operated since the owner was a student in front of Jeonju University has now opened in Youth Mall. This store offers a variety of newly-designed up-cycled products such as accessories, cups and



bowls and vintage clothes. Earrings made of

buttons, rings and refrigerator magnets are handmade by the owner. In addition, items

manufactured by social enterprises are also for sale. For example, Mary Mond's smartphone cases designed with flowers made by Comfort Women as a motif are on display.

TEL 070-8881-3494 **Hours** 10:30-20:00, closed on Monday
Price Vintage clothes KRW 20,000 – 40,000, Bottle cap magnet KRW 1,000, Button earrings KRW 3,000, Crochet needle-knitted lace KRW 15,000, May Mond's smartphone case KRW 23,000 **Blog** blog.naver.com/boddaridan

RE:BORN

Healing Sanha

Cheongchun Sikdang

HEALTH CARE THROUGH IRIS ANALYSIS AND MANUAL THERAPY HEALING SANHA

If you want to heat the fatigue from the trip and check your health, Healing Sanha is the perfect place. Therapist Kim San-ha, who studied alternative medicine in college, worked as a hands-on therapist at an oriental clinic and established herself in Youth

Mall in July this year. Tourists as well as locals visit this place for therapy. The shop offers simple machine-based foot massage, hands-on therapy for particular parts and iris scan-based health checks. In particular, the iris scan-based health checkup draws great attention. Using a special camera, the iris is scanned to check their health status. Through this advanced medical diagnosis, customers can discover their constitution and weaknesses and learn what to do to become stronger.

Hours 10:00-20:00 **Programs** Foot spa +aromatic oil water(25-30 min.) KRW 10,000, Manual therapy(15-20 min., available to two customers at a time) KRW 10,000, Iris scan KRW 10,000 **Blog** blog.naver.com/sanha_nation **Facebook** www.facebook.com/healingsanha



POWER UP WITH TOPOKKI! CHEONGCHUN SIKDANG

I was fascinated with the signboard that says "You guys are so devoted!". If you believe you are still young, you are welcomed here. The owner of this snack bar was tired of his former occupation and he dared to quit his job and launch this business.

He just wanted to do something he wanted as early as possible. Because there were few snack bars in Nambu Market, he decided to open Cheongchun Sikdang. As the sign says 'Natsul (daytime drinking) Welcomed', you will often see people drinking a cool and refreshing beer with twigim (deep-fried dish) in the afternoon.

Hours 12:00-22:00 (Tue. – Sat.), 12:00-16:00 (Sun.), closed on Monday **Menu** Modum Twigim(Small/Large) KRW 4,500/KRW 8,500, Red Topkki KRW 4,000, White Topkki KRW 6,000, Bottled beer KRW 3,000 **Facebook** www.facebook.com/cheongchunsigdang

TRADITIONAL DESIGN REINTERPRETED WITH A YOUNG SENSIBILITY SAESAEMI

Artist Lee Hye-ji, who majored plastic arts in France, became interested in traditional design. When she was a student, she would go on backpacking trips through Europe. During her trips, she bought unique items in various souvenir shops and later she found that each item retained its local culture and tradition. Based on this, she decided to reinterpret tradition from perspective of youth when she returned to Korea.



She made bokjumeoni ('lucky pouch' which is believed to bring bliss and luck) by adding trendy designs to a bojagi (wrapping cloth) or pouch. This became the flagship item of Saesaemi. It is easily portable just like a pouch or wallet.

Hours 11:00-20:00, closed on Monday **Price** Bokjumeoni ('lucky pouch' which is believed to bring bliss and luck) KRW 8,000/9,900, Mini-wooden Magnetic Sign KRW 5,000 **Website** www.saesaemi.com



Saesaemi



Doorin Candle



An Unexpected Sculptor

FRAGRANT HANDMADE SOY CANDLES DOORIN CANDLE

The fragrance will remind you of this candle shop. This store is named after the owner's name. The word 'Doo' literally means 'soybean', which can well explain the soy wax, the main ingredient of the candle. The shop owner was greatly influenced by her sister, who had a great interest in candles. In addition, she has handled a variety of candles as gifts when she was working at a hotel. All these experiences motivated her to start a candle business and she visited Seoul weekly to receive candle craft lessons at a professional institution, earning a candle craftsman license. The shop in Youth Mall is Doorin Candle's #1 store. It is fun to watch how candles are made through the frameless window.

TEL 010-8390-1321 **Hours** 11:00-20:00, closed on Monday, **Products** Tea Light (8 types) KRW 2,500, Candle 4oz/6oz/7oz/9oz KRW 12,000/16,000/18,000/25,000 each, Aromatic diffuser (five sticks as a set, 100ml) KRW 25,000 **Website** www.doorin.cra



GALLERY STORE WHERE ART PIECES ARE FOR SALE AN UNEXPECTED SCULPTOR

This is the independent gallery of the artist Cho Hae-joon in the Incheon Art Platform. Here, many other art works in addition to Cho Hae-joon's art pieces are displayed and sold. While studying in Germany, he often found a commercial gallery located within famous tourist attractions. There, local art pieces were traded actively and it came to him that this would be a good idea to import to Korea. He always dreamed of building a space in which art works are enjoyed and traded in daily life. Finally, he opened a gallery in Jeonju Youth Mall last year. Upon entering the gallery, a Steve Jobs-themed sculpture will welcome you. On the wall can be seen a variety of charming paintings including Cho Hae-joon's 'The U.S. Army & Father – Portrait Series'.

TEL 010-2603-2388 **Hours** 11:00-19:00, closed on Monday **Price** Painting KRW 30,000 to KRW 10,000,000, Stuttgart Real Eco-bag KRW 10,000, Eco-bag (limited edition) designed by Joo Ji-oh KRW 15,000



A Transportation Hub in Southeast Asia

Gateway to Southeast Asia

Jakarta has long been known as a mini Europe of Southeast Asia since this city took in European culture during the Dutch colonial era. Recently, the capital city has greatly appealed to tourists with its massage, golf and nightlife culture. As a new destination for the world in Southeast Asia, it is now easily accessible from anywhere. Jakarta is not just a business travelers' stopover any more.





BEGINNING OF A JAKARTA TOUR MERDEKA SQUARE

This huge square, developed around the National Monument (MONAS), is also called 'Independence Square'. The square stretches out from MONAS in the middle. This square consists of the statues of national independence heroes, 55 beautiful fountains, relaxing green parks and a neat bike path. It has been a great shelter for the citizens of Jakarta. Behind the relaxing and peaceful view of the square is seen a congested road. At sunset, this place is also popular for photography. **Address** Medan Merdeka, Jakarta Pusat **No admission fee**



NATIONAL MUSEUM OF INDONESIA

The National Museum of Indonesia, where the history of Indonesia is on display, began construction in 1862 and opened in 1868. A huge amount of art pieces and archeological artifacts are showcased here. In particular, the Java man's skull and a bronze elephant statue, a gift from King Chulalongkorn of Siam, are very popular. This place is highly recommended if you are interested in Indonesian archeology, prehistory and history.

Address Jl. Medan Merdeka Barat No.12, Gambir, Jakarta Pusat 10110 **TEL** 62-21-386-8172 **Hours** 08:30-14:30 (Tue. – Thu., Sun.), 08:30-11:30 (Fri.), 08:30-13:30(Sat.), closed on Monday **Admission fee** IDR 10,000 **Website** www.museumnasional.or.id

SYMBOL OF NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE MONAS

MONAS is the Hall of National Independence situated in the heart of Merdeka Square. A must-visit destination for tourists visiting Jakarta, it is situated in the downtown. It was opened on August 17, 1945 to celebrate national independence. A tower symbolizing sheep was placed on the flat square stone to represent yin. The golden fireworks at the top of the tower are the highlight. In the basement, there is a small museum in which the history of Indonesia is well displayed. In addition, an observatory is located at the top of the tower. If the weather is fine, you can even see the ocean in the distance with the naked eye.

Address Jl. Silang Monas, Jakarta Pusat **TEL** 62-21-382-2255 **Hours** 08:30-17:00 **Admission fee** IDR 5,000

TRANSPORTATION HUB SELAMAT DATANG MONUMENT



This is the transportation hub of Jakarta. Most people think that Merdeka Square is the center of Jakarta, but Selamat Datang Monument is a busier district in terms of floating population and traffic volume. Huge shopping malls (ex: Plaza Indonesia, Grand Indonesia and EX Plaza) and premium hotels (ex: Grand Hyatt Jakarta, Mandarin Oriental, etc.) are clustered here.

With easy access to the famous tourist attractions of Jakarta, this place is highly recommended.



THE ISTANA OFFICIAL PRESIDENTIAL RESIDENCE

If you walk towards Merdeka Square, a splendid white building will appear. It was used by Tjarda van Starkenborgh Stachouwer until 1942. During the Dutch colonial period, this building was the Dutch Government-General of Indonesia. At present, it is usually used to serve national guests. On National Independence Day (August 17), a fantastic celebration is held. Even though the general public is not allowed to enter, it is satisfying enough to see the celebration in the square. At night, it turns into a place full of romance.



THE LARGEST MOSQUE IN ASIA MASJID ISTIQLAL

Masjid Istiqlal is the 3rd largest mosque in the world. Considering the fact that over 90 percent of the Indonesia population is Muslim, it is no wonder that the country has the biggest mosque in Asia. The construction began in 1961 during the Sukarno Era and was finally completed in 1978. Every Friday afternoon, this place is packed with a huge crowd of Muslim worshippers.



THE ONLY CATHOLIC CHURCH IN JAKARTA THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CATHEDRAL OF JAKARTA

This Catholic cathedral is situated across from Masjid Istiqlal. It is a rare and unusual example of western architecture in Jakarta. The fact that it is neighbored by a mosque is also very intriguing. Even though more than 90 percent of the Indonesia population is Muslim, Indonesian people respect other religions as well. In fact, this kind of coexistence with other religions is very rare in Muslim countries.



CALM AND PEACEFUL URBAN SHELTER SUROPATI PARK

This calm and peaceful park, loved by the locals, is situated in the south of Merdeka Square. The neat and tidy flower garden and cool fountain make

passersby stop for a moment. This place is little known to travelers, but it is a great spot to rest for awhile. It is also recommended to visit nearby Sasmitaloka General Ahmad Yani Museum.

MINIATURE INDONESIA TAMAN MINI INDONESIA

Taman Mini Indonesia is a folk village situated in the south of Jakarta. In the early 1970s, First Lady Ibu Tien Soeharto suggested the building of this folk village. It is a very popular spot for tourists visiting Jakarta. It's even said, "If you don't have enough time to travel around Indonesia, visit Taman Mini Indonesia". This 1 million square meter wide mini Indonesia introduces the local ethnic groups, cultures and diverse lifestyles of Indonesia. You can also find 'the Map of Indonesia'-shaped isle in the lake situated in the middle of the park.

Hours 09:00-17:00 (closed on Monday) **Admission Fee** IDR 10,000 **Website** www.tamanmini.com



CALM AND PEACEFUL SUNDA KELAPA PORT

During the Dutch colonial era, the goods of the Dutch East India Company were traded through this port. It was a gateway to Jakarta. It stretches over 2km along the breakwater. Here, you can see many small and large cargo ships. Take a moment for meditation, imagining the sailing boats of the western powers during the Era of Grand Navigation. Take a picture for your social media page with a backdrop of the exotic port landscape.



+ More Information

USEFUL TIPS

Because most Indonesians are Muslim, the Muslim call to prayer rings out five times a day and can be heard throughout the city. If it rings, don't be alarmed. If you go to a local restaurant, ask the waiter for spoon and

chopsticks if you desire them because most Indonesian people eat their food with their fingers. Drinking too much or political criticism should be avoided.



THE LARGEST THEME PARK IN THE NORTHERN AREA ANCOL RESORT

Ancol Resort is a huge theme park situated in the northern part of Jakarta. Its official name is 'Taman Impian Jaya Ancol'. This theme park is loved by all and was constructed in 1967. It accommodates a variety of fun and exciting facilities such as golf club, amusement rides, yacht, night clubs, massage salons and galleries. In particular, Dunia Fantasy is the favorite spot among family picnickers. On weekends, this resort is always crowded with locals and tourists alike.

Address Jl. Pasir Putih Raya Blok e 5-Jakarta Utara 14430 **Admission fee** IDR 20,000 (for the admission ONLY) **Website** www.ancol.com





JAKARTA'S SHOPPING HUB PLAZA INDONESIA

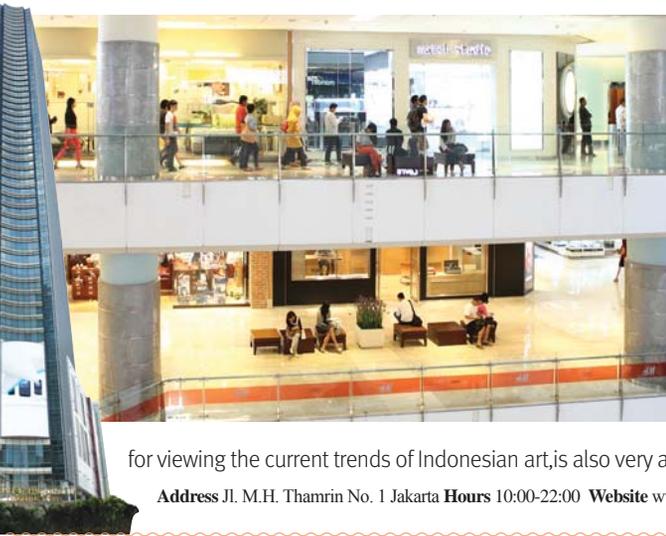
Plaza Indonesia maintains its great reputation in Southeast Asia. It is situated in Selamat Datang Monument, which is connected with the downtown. Grand Hyatt Jakarta is located in the same building as well. Premium brand shops such as Louis Vuitton, Burberry and JIMMY CHOO are found on the 1st floor. On the 2nd floor and above, various items such as clothing and home appliances are showcased. It is also connected to EX Plaza Mall.

Address Jl. M.H. Thamrin Kav. 28-30 Central Jakarta 10350 **Hours** 10:00-22:00 **Website** www.plazaindonesia.com

FANCY AND LUXURIOUS SHOPPING MALL PACIFIC PLACE

Pacific Place is a high-end shopping mall situated in the heart of Jakarta. Luxurious shops line the 1st floor. On the 2nd floor and above, for the most part you will find lower-priced clothing shops. It also accommodates an import car showroom such as Bentley, a premium movie theater and kids' theme park. It is connected with the Ritz-Carlton as well. Even just window shopping will make you happy and pleased. The top of the mall offers a fantastic view.

Address Jl. Jend. Sudirman Kav. 52-53 Sudirman Central Business District Jakarta 12190 **Hours** 10:00-22:00 **Website** www.pacificplace.co.id



MIXED-USED COMPLEX GRAND INDONESIA

Grand Indonesia is a huge shopping mall located across from Plaza Indonesia. It is divided into the East Bldg. and West Bldg. Here, find many low-price brand shops such as ZARA, Forever and H&M. It is very popular among tourists as well. 'Jakarta Art District', the spot

for viewing the current trends of Indonesian art, is also very appealing.

Address Jl. M.H. Thamrin No. 1 Jakarta **Hours** 10:00-22:00 **Website** www.grand-indonesia.com



RISING SHOPPING MECCA CIPUTRA WORLD 1 JAKARTA

This is a modern shopping mall situated in Mega Kuningan, a rising commercial district in Jakarta. Because LOTTE Duty-free shop and Korean restaurants such as Bulgogi Brothers and School Food are situated on the 4th and 5th floors, you may feel that this mall is designed for Korean travelers. A kid's indoor playground 'Lollipop' and low-price clothing brand 'UNIQLO' are also very appealing.

Address Lotte Shopping Avenue, Jl. Prof. Dr. Satrio Kav. 3-5, Jakarta Selatan **Hours** 10:00-22:00





HUSTLING AND BUSTLING SHOPPING COMPLEX BLOCK M SQUARE

Block M Square is reminiscent of Korea's Dongdaemun Market and is particularly popular among locals. A wide variety of fascinating items are available at good prices. Even if you don't buy anything, it is a very fun place to walk around. It is also recommended to visit the nearby Pasaraya Grande.

Address Mal Blok-M, Jalan Melawai Raya **Hours** 10:00-22:00

JAKARTA'S APGUJEONG SENAYAN CITY

This is a large department store situated in the southern part of Jakarta and a rising hot spot among travelers. Under the jaw-dropping luxurious interior are stationed premium brand stores and many other world-renowned shops.

It also accommodates premium hair salons, massage salons and luxurious restaurants. At night, it turns into a romantic and enchanting spot.

Address Jl. Asia Afrika Lot 19 Senayan, Jakarta 10270 **Hours** 10:00-22:00 **Website** www.senayancity.com



SHOPPING AND ENTERTAINMENT AT THE SAME TIME PONDOK INDAH MALL

Pondok Indah Mall, comprised of two buildings, is a large department store situated in the richest town in Jakarta. Because many Chinese people live in the area, the interior design has a traditional Chinese look to it. It also features various fun and exciting facilities such as a kid's playground, movie theater, golf range, tennis court and swimming pool.

Address Jl. Metro Pondok Indah Kav. IIIB Pondok Indah, South Jakarta 12310 **Hours** 10:00-22:00 **Website** www.pondokindahmall.co.id



RESIDENTIAL-COMMERCIAL COMPLEX MALL TAMAN ANGREK

This modern department store is situated next to Pullman Jakarta Central Park. Just like other large department stores, Mall Taman Angrek accommodates a large arcade, ice rink, premium boutique salons and luxurious restaurants. It is Jakarta's most luxurious residential-commercial building.

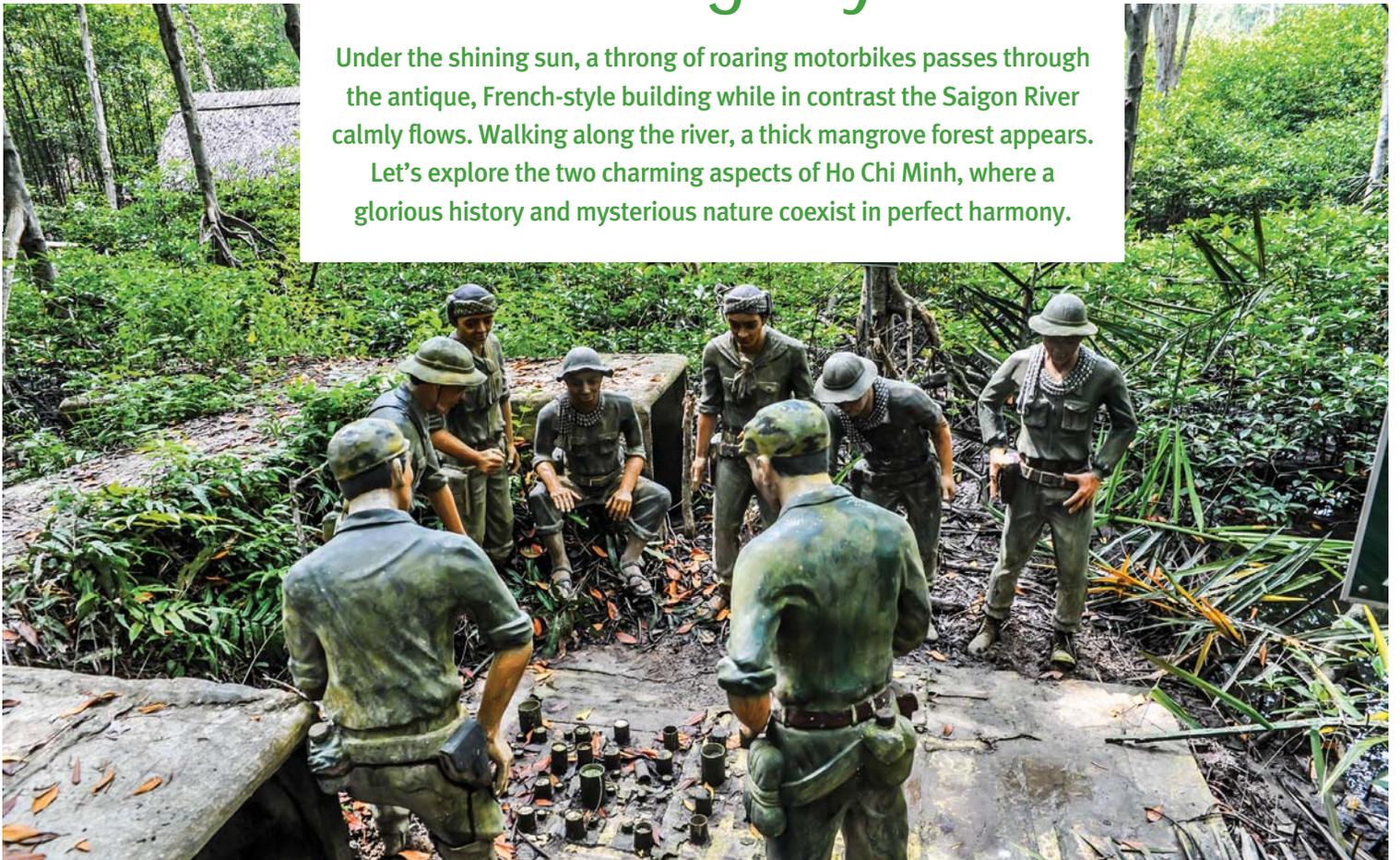
Address Jl. Letjen S. Parman Kav. 21 Slipi, West Jakarta 11470 **Hours** 10:00-22:00 **Website** www.taman-angrek-mall.com



Ho Chi Minh, full of both sorrow and glory

Under the shining sun, a throng of roaring motorbikes passes through the antique, French-style building while in contrast the Saigon River calmly flows. Walking along the river, a thick mangrove forest appears.

Let's explore the two charming aspects of Ho Chi Minh, where a glorious history and mysterious nature coexist in perfect harmony.





THE ECONOMIC HEART OF VIETNAM HO CHI MINH

Ho Chi Minh, the largest city in Vietnam, is the nation's economic and cultural hub. In 1975, Saigon was renamed Ho Chi Minh City in honor of Vietnam's revolutionary leader. Known as 'Uncle Ho', he has been truly esteemed and respected by the citizens of Vietnam. A tour of Ho Chi Minh City usually starts from Dong Khoi Street where deluxe hotels and luxurious restaurants are clustered. Most travelers' first choice is Notre Dame Cathedral. Just like many other cities that were under French rule, a cathedral can be found in Ho Chi Minh City. The one here is named after Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris. The impressive Notre Dame Cathedral was built by the French between 1863 and 1880 and features two bell towers, reaching a height of over 40 meters. The square in front of the cathedral holds a beautiful statue of the Virgin Mary. This elaborate building was built with bricks and tiles imported from France. With a neo-Romanesque style, it is a very popular site for wedding photos. Near this majestic cathedral is located the beautiful central post office. It is a masterpiece of Gustave Eiffel who designed the Eiffel Tower. This French-style architecture is stunning and magnificent. Within the entrance to the building, a huge photo of Ho Chi Minh is displayed while in the corner, postal employees are busy handling the mail. A huge map of Ho Chi Minh City can also be observed on the classical arc ceiling.

GLIMPSES OF THE MODERN AND CONTEMPORARY VIETNAM

By walking down the Le Loi Street with Ho Chi Minh Municipal Theatre, which is better known as the Opera House, behind, Toa Nha UBND TP and Ho Chi Minh Statue appear on the right. Toa Nha UBND TP was originally built for French residents, but it is now used as a government building. This building is famous for a romantic night view. Here, you can often see models in Ao Dai (Vietnamese traditional dress) posing for photo shoots. The historic Reunification Palace is remarkably gorgeous and splendid. This building, originally known as the Presidential Palace, is the site of the dramatic finish to the Vietnam War on April 30, 1975. It features nearly 100 rooms. A highlight of the Reunification Palace is found in the basement, which includes a command bunker. Here, experience the terrifying and tense atmosphere of the war. If you want to see the hustling, bustling lifestyle of the locals, go to Cho Ben Tanh Market situated at the end of Le Loi Street. Known as the Namdaemun Market of Ho Chi Minh City, it's a must-visit destination for travelers from around the world. Nearly 4,000 shops and stores selling almost all kinds of items including Vietnamese coffee, cosmetics, groceries and accessories are clustered here. Even if you don't buy anything, it is a very fun and exciting place.





A FASCINATING AND MYSTERIOUS FOREST RECOGNIZED BY UNESCO CON GIO

Con Gio lies about 63km away to the southwest of Ho Chi Minh City. It is a jungle where the Saigon River meets the sea. During the Vietnam War, the guerilla unit command was stationed here. Because of the war, everything was totally destroyed but now over 3 decades later, it has been restored as a thick mangrove forest. Because of the strenuous restoration efforts, it was designated as a Biosphere Reserve and recognized as Vietnam's first mangrove forest by UNESCO in 1999. Mangrove trees live in rough and precipitous regions. This forest is situated on the border between the land and the sea, where it is believed that plants have a hard time surviving. It is recognized as the world's most fertile land as well. This mangrove forest is a paradise for wild animals. Birds build their nests in the trees, and monkeys and deer coexist in harmony within the jungle. If you are lucky, you may see rare animals such as the 'golden bat'. Because a wide variety of species exist within very complicated ecosystems, this place is also called the 'Forest on the Sea'. A tour of this jungle is known as the 'Mekong Delta Tour'. You can tour every corner of the jungle and visit nearby islands in a motor boat. Pass through a labyrinth-like canal and river branches and visit a monkey island, bee farm, orchid garden and coconut cookie factory. By entering the narrow waterway, you will encounter a true mangrove forest that often appears on international documentary channels such as National Geographic. Seeing the unbelievable and jaw-dropping scenes up close, you will soon realize why this place is designated as a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve. A walk along the wooden path over the eerie swamps from which it feels like a crocodile will soon appear is thrilling and exciting. The Vietnam War-era war command building has been perfectly restored here. Visit the command bunker and barracks to get a personal glimpse of how cruel the war was. The owner of Con Gio Island is a monkey. Because a lot of monkeys live here, it is also called 'Monkey Island'. During the war, there were many crocodiles as well, which has also started to make a comeback here. Con Gio Resort will be the highlight of an eco-tour. A wide variety of fresh seafood is served here, and the bungalow-like guest rooms are calm and peaceful. A good rest and relaxation in an eco-friendly resort in the middle of the jungle will remove all the fatigue and stress of the daily routine.



Gyeongju Stamp Tour

When it comes to school trips, I regret I didn't do many things. As far as Gyeongju goes, this romantic destination has always been on my must-visit list. Fascinating historic sites, UNESCO world heritages...I visited the attractions of Gyeongju and got my stamps with unforgettable memories as a bonus.



WHAT IS THE 'GYEONG STAMP TOUR'?

After getting a stamp tour booklet, you can get a stamp on it by visiting 15 historical and cultural attractions of Gyeongju. This tour program offers the following three routes: 'Downtown – Namsan Area (Daereungwon Ancient Tombs □ Cheomseongdae □ Bunhwangsa Temple □ Donggung Palace and Wolji (Anapji) Pond □ Gyochoon Village □ Oreung Royal Tombs □ Poseokjeong Pavilion)', 'Seok Area – Northern Area (Royal Tomb of King Muyeol □ Tomb of General Kim Yu-shin □ Yangdong Village)' and 'Bulguksa Area – Donghae Area (Bulguksa Temple □ Mokwol Literary House □ Seokguram Grotto □ Gameunsa Temple Site □ Royal Tomb of King Munmu □ Eupcheon Port)'. In each route, you can get a stamp tour booklet and stamp at a booth where a cultural interpreter provides services. The booth is open from 09:30 to 17:00.



I felt the splendor and magnificence of King Muyeol, who is credited for leading the unification of the Three Kingdoms of Korea. At the Tomb of General Kim Yu-shin who was awarded the honorary title of King Heungmu, I went into a deep meditation. The journey to meet these ancient kings both humbled and honored me.

Royal Tomb of King Muyeol →
Tomb of General Kim Yu-shin →
Yangdong Village

FIVE CENTURIES DURING THE JOSEON PERIOD... TIME-HONORED YANGBAN (KOREAN ARISTOCRAT) VILLAGE YANGDONG VILLAGE

Yangdong Village, known as one of the best existing examples of yangbanchon (a village where Korea's aristocrats gathered to live) in Yeongnam along with Hahoe Village in Andong, was registered as a UNESCO World Heritage Site in July 2010. Traditional Korean houses and chogajip (thatched-roof houses) are clustered on a steep hill. The Yangban (well-educated scholarly class) lived in the high areas while servants dwelled in the low areas.

The Gyeongju Son and Yeogang Yi clans have lived in this village so visitors will encounter the flagship houses of the two clans: 'Seobaekdang' and 'Mucheomdang'. The 'Yangdong Store', over 100 years old, at the entrance to the village, is a great shelter to refresh your tired legs. Here, you will encounter a variety of delicious traditional Korean homemade foods such as yakgwa (fried honey cookies), ssalyeok (rice syrup), sikhye (rice punch), sujeonggwa (cinnamon punch) and maesil cha (Asian apricot tea). These are in absolute contrast to the typical unhealthy instant food.

Address #92, Yangdong-ri, Gangdong-myeon, Gyeongju, Gyeongbuk **TEL** 070-7098-3569 **Hours** 09:00-19:00 **Admission fee** KRW 4,000 (adults), KRW 2,000 (juveniles and soldiers), KRW 1,500 (under 12) **Website** yangdong.invil.org



THE GRACE AND DIGNITY OF GENERAL KIM YU-SHIN FROM THE SILLA KINGDOM TOMB OF GENERAL KIM YU-SHIN

The Tomb of General Kim Yu-shin, King Muyeol's brother-in-law, is situated in Songhwasan Mountain, about 3km away from the Royal Tomb of King Muyeol. It was erected in 674 (14th year of

King Munmu's reign) and named Historic Site No. 21. This general's tomb is as large as King Muyeol's. After his death, Kim Yu-shin was awarded the honorary title of King Heungmu and the tomb itself seems more magnificent than a royal tomb. This royal-like tomb has Korea's first dulleseok (a round stone wall typically placed around a tomb). If you take a close look at this stone wall, you can find the twelve zodiacal animal deities on it.

Address San #7-10, Chunghyo-dong, Gyeongju, Gyeongbuk **TEL** 054-749-6713 **Admission fee** KRW 1,000 (adults), KRW 600 (juveniles and soldiers), KRW 400 (under 12)



THE GREAT AMBITION OF UNIFYING THREE KINGDOMS ROYAL TOMB OF KING MUYEOL

This is the tomb of Kim Chun-chu (King Muyeol), the 29th king of Silla. As a noble from jingol (second highest rank class), he strengthened the groundwork for the unification of the Three Kingdoms of Korea. While most royal tombs of the Silla Kingdom are anonymous, this tomb's owner is clearly known and it has been designated as Historic Site No. 20. On the left side stands the Stele of the Royal Tomb of King Taejong Muyeol (National Treasure No. 25). Now only the base and top part remain.

Address Neungnam-gil 10-4, Gyeongju, Gyeongbuk **TEL** 054-772-4531 **Hours** 09:00-18:00 **Admission fee** KRW 1,000 (adults), KRW 600 (juveniles and soldiers), KRW 400 (under 12)





When speaking of a trip to Gyeongju, Bulguksa Temple and Seokguram Grotto may immediately come to mind. After touring the two gorgeous tourist attractions and Gameunsa Temple Site, I headed to the beautiful sea.

Bulguksa Temple → Mokwol Literary House → Seokguram Grotto → Gameunsa Temple Site → Royal Tomb of King Munmu → Eupcheon Port



THE MASTERPIECE OF THE UNIFIED SILLA DYNASTY, REGISTERED ON THE UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE LIST BULGUKSА TEMPLE

The construction of this temple was launched by Kim Dae-seong during the 10th year of King Gyeongdeok's reign and was eventually completed in 774 (10th year of King Hyeogong's reign). It was mostly destroyed by fire by the Japanese army during the imjinwaeran (the Japanese invasion of Korea in 1592) but later, some of the buildings, including Daeungjeon Hall, were reconstructed. In the 1970s, the temple was comprehensively restored. In terms of size, the area reaches 117,541 pyeong. To tour this huge temple, you need to plan your tour route in advance. A tour of this beautiful tourist attraction is recommended to follow the order of Daeungjeon Hall where Gautama Buddha is enshrined, Museoljeon Hall, Gwaneumjeon Hall, Birojeon Hall, Hahanjeon Hall, Geungnakjeon Hall and Buddhist Art Hall.

Address #15, Jinhyeon-dong, Gyeongju, Gyeongbuk **TEL** 054-746-9913 **Hours** 07:00-18:00 (-17:30 during the winter) **Admission fee** KRW 4,000 (adults), KRW 3,000 (juveniles), KRW 2,000 (under 12) **Website** www.bulguksa.or.kr



THE MASTERPIECE OF BUDDHIST ART IN THE FAR EAST SEOKGURAM GROTTO

For most tourists visiting Bulguksa Temple, Seokguram Grotto is one of the must-visit spots. This structure of sublime beauty was completed during the 10th year of King Hyeogong's reign in the Unified Silla Dynasty. It was honored to be designated as National Treasure No. 24 in 1962 and registered as a World Cultural Site with UNESCO in 1995. Seokguram Grotto is situated in the hillside of Toamsan Mountain. It takes about 20 minutes to reach this masterpiece of Buddhist Art from the parking lot but the Gamrosu (Buddhist holy water) will refresh you and remove your fatigue. This natural treasure can be viewed through the glass wall behind which it is protected. **Address** #999, Jinhyeon-dong, Gyeongju, Gyeongbuk **TEL** 054-746-9933 **Hours** 06:30-18:00 **Admission fee** KRW 4,000 (adults), KRW 3,000 (juveniles), KRW 2,000 (under 12) **Website**:www.sukgulam.org



TWO GREAT MASTERS OF KOREAN LITERATURE MOKWOL LITERARY HOUSE

Kim Dong-ri and Park Mol-wol, two great masters of Korean literature, are from Gyeongju. As literary partners, they led Korean literature during their era. Entering the house, you can see Dong-ri Literary Hall on your left and Mokwol Literary Hall on your right. In Dong-ri Literary Hall, where the statue of Kim Dong-ri greets guests, miniatures of Gyeongju and his first creative work 'Munyeodo' are showcased.

At the entrance to Park Mok-wol Hall, a paragraph from Park Mol-wol's famous poem 'Nageune' draws the attention. Here, hear his voice and the recitation of his poems. It is also fun to see a full-scale model of his office on Wonhyo-ro in Seoul.

Address Bulguk-ro 406-3, Gyeongju, Gyeongbuk **TEL** 054-741-1750 **Hours** 09:00-18:00 (until 17:00 from Nov. to Feb.), closed on Monday **Admission fee** KRW 1,500 (adults), KRW 1,000 (juveniles and soldiers), KRW 500 **Website** www.동리목월문학관.com





THE GREAT LEGACY OF THE UNIFIED SILLA DYNASTY GAMEUNSA TEMPLE SITE

Gameunsa Temple was built by King Munmu, who unified the Three Kingdoms of Korea to protect the nation from the Japanese army. From here, you can see the beautiful Donghae Sea with the naked eye. As his father had desired, King Munmu completed this temple during the 2nd year of his reign. ‘Gameunsa’ was named to show thanks for his father’s kindness and lessons. Now, only the temple site and two 3-story stone pagodas remain. According to King Munmu’s will to protect the nation even after he died, a special space was created under Geumdang (gold-colored main building). The magnificent 13.4m-tall pagoda is the masterpiece of the Unified Silla Dynasty.

Address #55-1, Yongdang-ri, Yangbuk-myeon, Gyeongju, Gyeongbuk TEL 054-779-6109 No admission fee

THE ONLY MARINE TOMB OF THE SILLA DYNASTY ROYAL TOMB OF KING MUNMU

The open sea in Bonggil-ri, Yangbuk-myeon, about 3km from the downtown of Gyeongju, is not just the common East Sea. It is the very place where King Munmu, who strived to protect the nation from the Japanese army throughout his life, rests in peace. Daewangam Rock, about 200m from the coast, is the site of King Munmu’s cremation. Some shamans visit and pray here to receive the mysterious energy from King Munmu.

Address Donghaean-ro 1365-5, Yangbuk-myeon, Gyeongju, Gyeongbuk TEL 054-779-8743-8759 No admission fee



FAIRYTALE-LIKE PICTURESQUE WALL PAINTING VILLAGE EUPCHEON PORT

Eupcheon Port, located about a 10-minute drive from the Royal Tomb of King Munmu, is not on the Stamp Tour route, but it is one of the most thrilling spots in Gyeongju. It is fun and pleasant to view the beautiful wall paintings while walking along the coast.

This remote fishing village has been transformed into a fascinating tourist attraction with these colorful paintings. You can easily find beautiful paintings on every fence. Once you cross Chulleong Bridge, a whole new world appears before your eyes. You may be stunned by the beauty of the magnificent hexagonal Jusangjeolli Cliff on the azure ocean. Stone columns approximately 10m-tall line a 1.7m long cliff while the observatory offers a fantastic view.

Address #195-6, Eupcheon-ri, Yangnam-myeon, Gyeongju, Gyeongbuk Jusangjeolli Cliff lighting on Sunset to 21:30 (summer), sunset to 20:00 (winter)





No more just memorizing the historic places of the Silla Kingdom, it is time for us to witness them in person. You just need healthy legs. Starting from Daereungwon Ancient Tombs, Cheomseongdae, Gyochon Village, Anapji Pond, Oreung Royal Tombs and Poseokjeong Pavilion... The true historical journey begins.

Daereungwon Ancient Tomb → Cheomseongdae → Bunhwangsa Temple →
Donggung Palace and Wolji (Anapji) Pond → Gyochon Village →
Oreung Royal Tombs → Poseokjeong Pavilion



KINGS OF THE SILLA DYNASTY RESTING IN PEACE DAEREUNGWON ANCIENT TOMBS

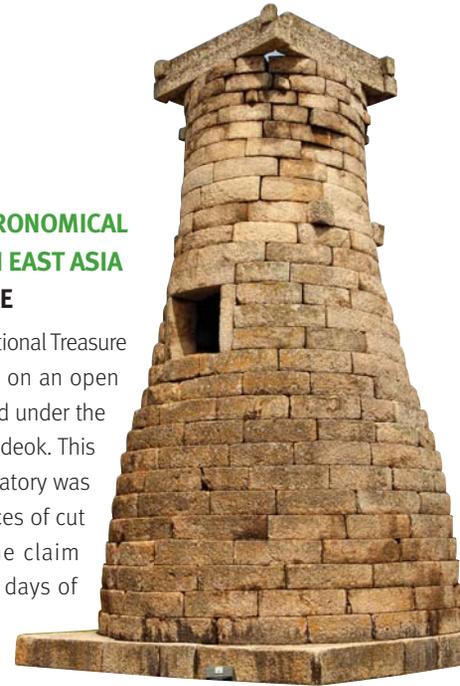
This is a park where magnificent royal tombs such as Hwangnam Daechong, Royal Tomb of King Michu and Cheonmachong are clustered. Cheonmachong, situated in the northwest of Daereungwon, is a must-visit site because you can actually enter the tomb. Daereungwon accommodates nearly 20 large and small tombs in a perfect harmony with the beautiful pond and been a shelter for the citizens of Gyeongju. Cheonmachong is perceived to be the Royal Tomb of King Jijeung (22nd King of the Silla Kingdom). When it was excavated in 1973, 11,526 valuable artifacts including a gold crown were discovered. Here you will encounter the gorgeous Cheonmado (painting of the heavenly horse) and the Cheonmachong Crown.

Address #53, Hwangnam-dong, Gyeongju, Gyeongbuk **TEL** 054-779-8795-7 **Hours** 09:00-22:00, open throughout the year **Admission fee** KRW 2,000 (adults), KRW 1,200 (juveniles and soldiers), KRW 600 (under 12)



THE OLDEST ASTRONOMICAL OBSERVATORY IN EAST ASIA CHEOMSEONGDAE

Cheomseongdae, National Treasure No. 31, standing tall on an open field, was constructed under the reign of Queen Seondeok. This astronomical observatory was built out of 362 pieces of cut granite which some claim represents the 362 days of the lunar year. An observation tool



was mounted on the square-well-shaped stone on the top of the cylindrical structure to observe the 24 divisions of the year, and this stone was directed towards the north, south, east and west.

Address #839-1, Inwang-dong, Gyeongju, Gyeongbuk **TEL** 054-772-5134 **Hours** 09:00-22:00 (summer), 09:00-21:00 (winter) **No admission fee**

MOONLIGHT IN SILLA DONGGUNG PALACE AND WOLJI POND

Donggung Palace (the Crown prince's residence) and Wolji Pond (literally means 'moon pond') Wolji is also called 'Imhaejeonji' or 'Anapji'. According to samguksagi (history of the Three Kingdoms of Korea), the pond was dug, and its island and mountain were formed in the middle during the 14th year of King Munmu's reign. This place is more popular at night.

Even though the sun was still high, I could see some people around the pond. When the sun sets, the lights under imhaejeon(an adjunct building to the separate palace) turn on, and people start to gather. The reflections by the pond make the building more attractive and evocative.

Address #26-1, Inwang-dong, Gyeongju, Gyeongbuk **TEL** 054-772-4041 **Hours** 09:00-22:00, open throughout the year **Admission fee** KRW 2,000 (adults), KRW 1,200 (juveniles and soldiers), KRW 600 (under 12)



A SURPRISE AROUND EVERY CORNER

Gyochon Village

Gyochon Village, surrounded by traditional Korean houses, is one of the most popular Stamp Tour destinations.

You can encounter the leading historic sites of Gyeongju on foot including the 300-year-old Choi Family Home and Gyeongju Hyanggyo Confucian School, where Silla's first national academy was located. Also take the chance to sample some homemade Gyodong Beopju Wine.



EXPLORE THE WORLD OF UNIQUE TRADITIONAL KOREAN CULTURE IN HANOK (KOREAN TRADITIONAL HOUSE) HANGUK EARTHENWARE

Gyochon Village offers a variety of fun and exciting hands-on programs such as traditional Korean music, natural dyeing, glass craft and ceramic art. This earthenware studio was opened by the earthenware master Ryu Jin-yong and his son Ryu Gook-hyeon in January last year. Various fascinating earthenware pieces are displayed. Enjoy an opportunity to try wheel throwing yourself and make pottery in a traditional manner.

Address Gyochon-gil 31-6, Gyeongju, Gyeongbuk **TEL** 054-748-0791 **Hours** 09:30-18:00

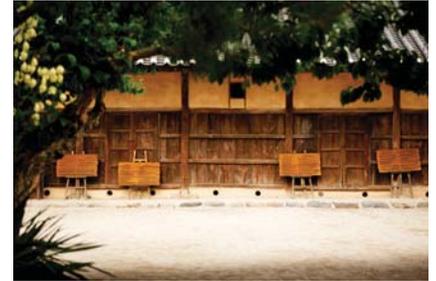
Hands-on programs Potter's Wheel (KRW 15,000), Sketching Drawing (KRW 15,000)



THE TRUE NOBLESSE OBLIGE OF KOREA THE CHOI FAMILY HOME

The Choi Family performed true noblesse oblige. This head house of Gyeongju Choi Family was built in the 1700s. The Choi Family maintained a great fortune and family for nearly 300 years (12 generations). The family even produced jinsa (literary licentiate) throughout nine generations. The antique Soseuldaemun Gate and shed where 700-800 seoks of rice were stored are fascinating. The house originally accommodated 99 quarters, but sarangchae (quarter for women) and byeoldang (separate quarter for the head of the family) were destroyed by fire.

Address #69, Gyo-dong, Gyeongju, Gyeongbuk **Hours** 09:00-18:00 (Apr. – Sep.), 09:00-17:00 (Oct. – Mar.)



THE CHOI FAMILY LIQUOR GYODONG BEOPJU

Gyodong Beopju is traditional Korean rice liquor, made from glutinous rice with over 350-years of history. It's been distilled by the Choi Family over generations. During the reign of King Sukjong, Choi Gook-seon, who was in charge of royal cuisine, came home and first brewed this liquor. Now, human cultural asset Choi Gyeong brews this traditional liquor in the traditional manner. He is the 10th generation of Choi Gook-seon. Choi Hong-seok, his son, is now inheriting his legacy. This liquor is primarily made from local glutinous rice and malt. As deotsul (addition of steamed rice to the crude liquor), glutinous rice is added. When fermented for about 100 days, green moldforms and liquor is produced. The clear, pale yellow liquor tastes soft and fragrant.

Address #69, Gyo-dong, Gyeongju, Gyeongbuk **TEL** 054-772-2051 **Menu** Gyodong Beopju (paper box) KRW 34,000, Gyodong Beopju (wooden box) KRW 38,000 **Website** www.kyodongbeopju.com

Top 6 mountains in the world
attracting mountaineers

Best Season for Climbers

Fall, the perfect season to climb, balanced with the crystal clear sky, fresh air and colorful leaves, returns. Here are six selected and notable mountains around the world that show off their own specialties, including colorful mountain ranges, 4,000m-high vertiginous peaks, and densely wooded mountains buried in immemorial mysterious tropical forests.



VITALITY FLOWS FROM EVERY PEAK

SOBAEKSAN NATIONAL PARK YEONGJU, KOREA

Baekdudaegan, which is the largest and longest mountain range in Korea, runs from Baekdu Mountain in the north to Jirisan Mountain in the south. The thick crest line passes Taebaek Mountain and continues stretching to the southeast, forming the Sobaek mountain range. Sobaek Mountain is the starting point of the Sobaek mountain range. It is one of the 12 noted mountains in Korea, and was designated as a national park in 1987. Sobaek Mountains means ‘a little white mountain’ in Korean; but, in fact, it seems much more than little. Beginning with Birobong, which stands at 1,439.5m, ranges coming from Gungmangbong and Yeonhwabong are laid one upon another and form a magnificent shape. Gentle ridges meander gracefully showing a beautiful feminine curve. For about half the year, the mountain is covered with snow and is also called the ‘Alps of Korea.’ The mountain offers picturesque scenery all year round: colorful royal azalea colonies in spring, dense green foliage in summer, silver grass and maple in autumn, beautiful, watercolor- painting scenery in winter. The highlight of climbing Sobaek Mountain is hiking Daegangil, which is the trail connecting Gungmangbong, Birobong and Yeonhwabong. Most of the mountain ridges of Sobaek Mountain begin at those three peaks, so it is best to determine where to start and go on separate hikes than to set a round-trip plan. Gungmangbong (1421m) was where Confucian scholars in the past gathered facing the palace at Hanyang and wished for the country to be at peace. Under Yeonhwabong (1394m) is Sobaek Mountain Observatory, the first national astronomy observatory, which is worth a visit.



GO UP AGAINST THE HIGHEST PEAK IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

KINABALU NATIONAL PARK KOTA KINABALU, MALAYSIA

Kinabalu Mountain, with the highest peak in Southeast Asia, stands at an altitude of about 4100m and is the symbol of Kota Kinabalu. Various animals and plants inhabit the various heights, and give the mountain high ecological value. Rafflesia, the largest flower in the world, also lives in this mountain habitat. Kinabalu was recorded on the World Heritage List of UNESCO in 2000. Since the mountain has various trails from the most advanced trail that climbs a huge, rocky mountain to the easiest trail of strolling in a primeval rainforest, it is popular with mountaineers from all over the world. Guide



ropes are installed at many places along the trail to Low's P(4095m), the summit of Kota Kinnabalu, so special climbing techniques are not necessary for climbing Low's Peak. However, never let your guard down. You must prepare thoroughly to avoid altitude sickness. Full-swing climbing starts at a control office sitting at an altitude of 1564m. From an altitude of 2000m, you will need to slow down and drink water frequently to avoid altitude sickness. Since it takes 10 hours on average to get to Low's Peak, an overnight schedule is the best way to plan a roundtrip hike. A moderate schedule includes an overnight stay at Laban Rata Rest house, viewing the sunrise at Low's Peak and climbing back down the mountain. Make a reservation online 3 to 4 months in advance in order to be able to stay at the rest house. Even if you do not climb to the summit, you can still experience a 30- to 40- minute jungle walk from the entrance of the national park to a canopy bridge.



SITTING ALONG THE SEASHORE, THE BEST NOTED MOUNTAIN IN CHINA

LAOSHAN QINGDAO, CHINA

Beer is often the first thing people think about with Qingdao but there is another famous thing in Qingdao along with beer: Lao Mountain. Lao Mountain is the highest coastal mountain among the mountains along the national coastal line of 18,000km, and is the first national park in China. Rock hills made of huge granite wind alongside the Shandong seashore. About 30 peaks spreading like a folding screen arise ceaselessly as you go up to the summit, and the scenery is worthy of an exclamation. Due to its magnificent scenery, the mountain also bears the names ‘a mysterious mountain gods lives’ or ‘the most celebrated mountain on the sea.’ There are many 1000m-high peaks anyone can try, and cable cars and trails are well maintained. The highest peak is Jufeng (1132m), but it is an inaccessible area due to military facilities. Accordingly, Lin Qi feng (1080m) takes the role of the highest peak. By climbing the peak, you can see the horizon where the sky and the sea meet together, while under your feet are strange rocks and bizarre stones that make you feel the gods are coming out from them. As the origin of Taoism, this mountain has many interesting and historic spots such as Taiqing Palace, with a history of 2000 years, and Taoist temples and wooden buildings are situated everywhere. It is a recommended to take a bus to Chunjisunhwa Gate, take a cable car up, and then walk from Yi Gate to Lin Qi feng. The trail for taking a lap by passing through eight gates alongside the seashore is also great for appreciate Lao Mountain. It is said that you will be blessed when you pass through all eight gates.



STROLLING IN A MYSTERIOUS IMMEMORIAL FOREST YAKUSHIMA KAGOSHIMA, JAPAN

Yakushima, situated in the south of Kagoshima, is famous as the background of <Princess Mononoke>, an animation written and directed by Hayao Miyazaki. Yakushima is an island 60km from Osumi Peninsula. The island, 500km² in area, has three peaks over 1800m including Miyanoura-dake (1936m), the highest peak in Kyushu, so it is called the ‘Alps on the sea.’ When you step into the forest, dense dark green Japan cedars and thick moss that forms under the subtropical humid conditions make you feel like you are standing in an immemorial forest. This was the first site in Japan recorded on the World Heritage List of UNESCO in 1993. There are two major trails for climbing Yakushima. One is a round-trip trail that goes to the summit of Miyanoura-dake, 7.8km-away from the Yodogawa trailhead and returns; the other is a round-trip trail to see the Jomon sugi, the cedar trees that are up to 7,200 years old, 10.7km from the Arakawa trailhead, and its return trail. Each trail takes 9 hours round trip. If these climbing trails are to intimidating, another great option is to walk around Yakusugi Land, the forest park densely wooded by cedars that are over 1000 years old. It is rainy almost every day in Yakushima, so don’t forget to bring your raincoat and slip resistant hiking boots.

THE DIVINE MASTERPIECE ON THE MOUNTAIN MUDEUNG MOUNTAIN NATIONAL PARK ^{GWANGJU, KOREA}

Can you believe that the pillar-shaped joints that usually can be found on the seashore are also found on the summit of a mountain? On Mudeng Mountain, imagination comes alive in the real world. At both ends of Cheonwang-bong (1187m), the highest peak, pillar-shaped joints, named Seosuk-dae and Ipsuk-dae, soar. These pillars were made when lava and volcanic ash suddenly cooled during volcanic activity 45 to 85 million years ago. Since Mudeng Mountain is the only alpine region with these features in Korea, it was designated as a natural monument. The stony slopes under these joints are from the pillars falling due to prolonged erosion and weathering. Other attractions of Mudeng Mountain are the valleys branching off in all directions. Along with Jengsim Temple valley, Dongjo-gol, Kun-Gol, Yongchu valley, Gomjuk-gol, Wonhyo valley, Sukgok valley and etc., endless streams of water and bedrock are mingled together to make beautiful scenery. The mountain also embraces many scenic spots and places of historic interest such as Jengsim Temple and Wonyou Temple, over 1000 years old. In autumn, the maples at Gyubong-am, which is one of the top 3 scenic views of rocks along with Ipsuk-dae, Seosuk-dae, and the silver grass community stretching out from Janbuljae to Bakma ridge attracts many visitors. A sightseeing road is built along the northeast of the mountain, so it takes 30 minutes to get to Wonhyo valley on the hillside by car and from there it takes only an hour and a half to the summit on foot. The mountain was designated as a provincial park in 1972, and it was raised to the 21st national park last year. Circulating buses operate at 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. on weekends till November 30. The bus starts at Gwangju Station, goes through Gwangju Lake Park, Hwasun Iseo, the parking lot of Jeungshim Temple, and returns to the station. The route takes 2 and a half hours.



FACING THE ALPS OF EAST ASIA ALISHAN ^{CHIAYI, TAIWAN}

70% of Taiwan's territory is covered with mountains making Taiwan a heaven for mountaineers. Around 200 mountains with an altitude of over 3000m give a good reason for Taiwan to be called the 'Alps of East Asia.' Among its mountains, Alishan is a "must see". With primeval forest formed over several thousand years, it presents the grandeur of Mother Nature. Along with Yushan (3952m), the highest peak, Alishan is a 250km-long mountain ridge that crosses the country from the north to the south. Alishan has 18 peaks, and the average height of the peaks is 2500m. Alishan is near Kaohsiung; it is two hours away. The Alishan Forest Railway is a specialty as one of the top 3 world

high mountain railways along with the Indian Himalayan Railway and the Peru Andes Rail Trail. The train operates 71.9km from Chiayi, with an altitude of 30m, to Alishan, with an altitude of 2215m. The scenery outside the train windows is like a botanical garden. Tropical, subtropical, and temperate plants show up sequentially as the train goes along its route. Sunrise at Alishan is the most famous in Taiwan to the extent that the scene of the sunrise above Yushan is imprinted on the back of the new 1,000 Taiwan dollars. It is recommended to stay overnight near Alishan Station, go to Yushan (2488m) Observatory, the highest peak, and see the sunrise the next morning, and then come back down. Alishan Post Office, which is situated in the highest place in the world and called 'a heavenly post office,' is not far from Alishan Station. There are various commemorative stamps sold there and post cards can be sent to all parts of the world.



Mr. Xu Chuan-sheng, Director General of
Kaohsiung Tourism Bureau

Kaohsiung, The Center of Marine Tourism

Kaohsiung is a port city located in South West Taiwan, and one of the top tourism destinations in the country. The city is often called ‘The Hawaii of Taiwan’ because of its warm weather and a variety of tourism spots within the city. Many tourists from all around the world come to Kaohsiung either just to relax under the sun, or enjoy the many cultural attractions the city has to offer. We asked Mr. Xu Chuan-sheng, Director General of Kaohsiung Tourism Bureau, about Kaohsiung’s tourism industry and its future plan, including the city’s role in TPO.

Could you introduce us about Kaohsiung?

Located in southwestern Taiwan, Kaohsiung, the biggest city in southern Taiwan, has varied terrain features, bountiful natural resources, and diverse ethnic cultures. Kaohsiung used to be a heavy industrial city based on steel and petrochemicals. However, in recent years, the Kaohsiung City Government has managed to transform its heavy industrial city image into a tourism-oriented city with its history, culture, and natural resources, and has remade the city to be worthy of the name, ‘Capital of Marine Tourism.’ Kaohsiung is a sunny city with fine weather, friendly and warmhearted people, and diverse tourism attractions such as local cultural venues, shopping malls, department stores, parks, hills, mountains, rivers, ocean, and harbors, just to name a few. Everyone is welcome in this friendly and comfortable city that will give the visitors great memories and an unforgettable experience.

Is there any must-visit tourist destination in Kaohsiung? Please name the tourist attraction you definitely want to recommend.

There are three must-visit tourist destination in Kaohsiung, including the Love River, the Tiger Tower of Lotus Pond and Fo Guang Shan Monastery. In the beginning, the Love River flows through Kaohsiung City and is a signature tourist attraction. Its romantic atmosphere attracts people on dates, taking a stroll, sipping coffee, listening to music, and enjoying the evening breeze. Besides walking along the river, visitors can also go sightseeing on the Love River by boat. Because of the promotion in recent years of environmental protection policies, the Kaohsiung City Government has introduced a low-noise, environmentally-friendly solar-powered boat for visitors to appreciate the night view along the Love River. What is more, the Dragon and Tiger Tower is one of the most well-known temples around Lotus Pond. The dragon’s mouth is the entrance, while the tiger’s mouth is the exit. Entering the dragon’s mouth and coming out from the tiger’s mouth symbolizes turning bad luck to good fortune. Inside the Tower are traditional Chinese educational stories and paintings of deities. In the end, Fo Guang Shan Monastery in southern Taiwan is the biggest Buddhist temple complex in the country. The temple buildings are magnificent and spectacular, especially the Dafo (Giant Buddha) Statue. Surrounding the Dafo are 480 smaller golden Buddha statues, which create an atmosphere of solemnity. During the period from the Chinese New Year to the Lantern Festival, Fo Guang Shan is decorated with thousands of lanterns. The sea of lanterns is especially amazing at night.



Which region ranks first in the list of the international visitors arrivals in Kaohsiung?

The number of China tourists ranks first in the list of the international visitors.

According to statistics, there are 1,564,317 China tourists stayed in Kaohsiung in 2013.

What is the total number of international visitors to Kaohsiung in 2013? What is the portion of tourism industry in the whole economy of Kaohsiung?

There were 2,354,432 visitors stayed in Kaohsiung in 2013.

According to statistics, the total output value of tourism industry was about

NT\$40,515,796,515. (The output value of national visitors was

NT\$22,272,905,200 and of international visitors was

18,242,891,315) The portion

of tourism industry in the whole economy of Kaohsiung was 0.967%. (The total output value of whole economy of Kaohsiung is 4,189,236,837,000. The data source is calculated by the Ministry of Finance, R.O.C.)

As a destination for visitors from overseas, what would you think are Kaohsiung's best assets?

There are over 300 sunny days of a year in Kaohsiung which mean good weather is the best asset for Kaohsiung, that is suitable for tourists who come from northern countries like Japanese or

Korean. Furthermore, visitors still can do any outdoor activities in warm winter time, such as playing golf, biking, or taking boats, and more.

Friendly people is part of the best asset in Kaohsiung, too. Don't worry if you get lost in this city, local people will tell you information and even lead you to

Korea for Kaohsiung's image and popularity. In the future, we will try other approaches and channels to open tourism markets abroad.

What is the new tourism development plan or process for your city?

Kaohsiung City Government is focusing on enhancing its competitiveness, and is committed to the development of cultural, creative, tourism, exhibition and other industries. The Kaohsiung New Bay Area Project has been launched in the harbor zone, with total investment amounting to NT\$20 billion. There are four major construction projects: Kaohsiung Exhibition Center, Kaohsiung Port Terminal, the Maritime Cultural and Popular Music Center and Kaohsiung Main Public Library. The light-rail system will connect these four landmarks, providing efficient transportation in the post-development harbor area. It will make Kaohsiung a true harbor city full of tourist attractions and recreational opportunities.

How do you evaluate the activities of TPO organization, and what do you expect from them in the future?

In my opinion, the TPO organization is an international network for tourism cooperation in Asia Pacific cities. It is our honor to be one of them to participate in lots of activities and conventions around years to realize the newest tourism information and developments in Asia area, moreover, to observe and learn the tourism strategy from other cities. Through the interaction of the delegates and representatives, the TPO organization can organize the whole Asia tourism resource which should be promoted and shared to the world. Therefore, the TPO organization is multifunctional and offers the network and platform for Asia cities to deliver their tourism spots connected as a "BIG Net" which can take economic benefits through cooperation. The activities of TPO not only combine with high quality and significance but also raise visibilities for Asia cities in the world.

In the future, we would like to cooperate with the TPO organization to deal with lots of international tourism affairs to promote Kaohsiung via the network of Asia cities.

Furthermore, I would expect the TPO organization could integrate region tourism resource efficiently and coordinate the important tourism issues among members, then, unite other organization or association to expand the opportunities and niches markets for Asia cities.

destination. Every person is very welcome to visit this beautiful and friendly city, we believe every visitor will have a fantastic and unforgettable experience in Kaohsiung.

Nowadays, many cities rely on tourism as the main stay of their economies. To what extent have you been able to market out tourism abroad?

Our first targeting tourism market is still in Asia, so we have participated in a lot of overseas tourism fairs including China,

Hong Kong, Japan, Korea and Malaysia, etc for years. In addition, we also bought advertisements abroad to promote Kaohsiung's image. In June the advertisement of Kaohsiung had published in a Ding-ding (tram) in Hong Kong. In the meantime, we held a tourism promotion conference in Busan,





KUALA LUMPUR, MALAYSIA

6th TPO forum and working-level meeting successfully completed

The 6th TPO forum and working-level meeting (hereinafter referred to as the 'TPO Forum') were successfully held in Kuala Lumpur from June 27 to 30. This biennial international event offers member cities an opportunity to discuss important matters in the tourism industry and share and exchange management information. This year, the forum was held under the theme of the 'Growth and Development of the Islamic Tourism Market' with two sub-topics.

Dato' Syed Mohd Razif Al Yahya, CEO of Sri Sutra Travel, made a presentation addressing the topic the 'Islamic Tourism Market Trends and Marketing Strategy', and Dr. Nirwan Nod, a director of the Research & Training Islamic Tourism Centre, gave a presentation addressing the topic of the 'Potential of Islamic Tourism Market in Asia-Pacific Region and How to Attract Muslim Tourists from Member Cities'.

At a reception party on June 27, Datuk Seri Hj. Ahmad Phasal Bin Hj. Talib, mayor of Kuala Lumpur, delivered a congratulatory message. At the opening ceremony held at Perpustakaan Kuala Lumpur on June 28, about 110 officials attended from 16 cities in 6 countries, including the mayor of Kuala Lumpur. The representative of each member city gave a presentation on 'success stories of the tourism festival', and there was a working-level conference on the co-promoted TPO projects.

Li Zhi Xin, a director of the Operating Committee of the TPO, said "The TPO Forum is a great chance to recognize global tourism industry trends, share ideas and promote cooperation among member cities". He added, "I hope that all officials from member cities will gain a lot of useful information through this event".

Meanwhile, the TPO Travel Trade 2014-Malaysia happened at the National Library Kuala Lumpur on June 27. Officials from TPO member cities and 17 Malaysian travel agencies attended the international event to advertise their tourist products and share useful information.



KUALA LUMPUR, MALAYSIA

Winners of 2014 TPO Best Awards

At the farewell dinner party of the '6th TPO Forum and Working-level Meeting' held at the Majestic Hotel Kuala Lumpur on June 28, the winners of the '2014 TPO Best Awards' were announced. Korea was honored to win the prize in three categories among a total of nine categories as follows: Changwon in Marketing Campaign, Gunsan in Best Festival & Event and Goyang in Best PR Campaign.

The rest of the six winners include Tainan (Best Advertising Prints), Sanya (Best Promotion), Zhengzhou (Best Tour Brochure), Jakarta (Best website), Ipoh (Best Regional Expert) and Ms. NGUYEN THI HONG (Member of the Ho Chi Minh City Party Committee's Standing Board, Vice Chairperson of Ho Chi Minh City People's Committee) & Ms. Chen Bai Yu (President of GZL International Travel Service, Ltd.) (Best Travel Industry Leader). The next winners of the TPO Best Awards will be unveiled at the 7th TPO Forum in Sanya next year.



BUSAN, THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA

K-CLIP 2014 for foreign students

The Korean Culture and Language Immersion Program (K-CLIP) 2014 was held at Pusan National University over a period of 15 days from July 13 to 27. This was a part of the TPO Student Travel Exchange Program (STEP) sponsored by TPO member cities including the City of Busan. This year, a total of 45 college students from 21 cities in 12 countries in the Asia-Pacific region participated in the event. It is expected that they will grow into Korean tourism experts in the future. Under the theme of 'Let's dive into Korean Language and Culture Together!', a variety of fun and exciting programs were held, and participants experienced unique Korean culture and learned the Korean language. After taking a Korean language program at the International Language Institute of Pusan National University, students participated in diverse Korean cultural programs such as Hanji (Korean traditional paper) handicraft, taekwondo, samulnori (Korean percussion ensemble) and tea ceremony and tried on hanok (Korean traditional dress). In addition, they traveled around Gyeongsan-do (ex: Busan, Daegu, Ulsan, Gyeongju, etc.) and Jeollabuk-do (ex: Jeonju, Iksan, Gunsan, etc.) and displayed what they felt through the UCC and a presentation. An official from TPO said, "We hope that the students sufficiently experienced and learned about the Korean language and culture through 'K-CLIP 2014' and strengthened the groundwork for being a future Korean tourism expert". He added, "We believe that this event would be a great opportunity for TPO member cities including Busan to expand the demand for tourism". The TPO has also hosted the 'Tourism Universiade' for college students majoring in tourism in the Asia-Pacific region since 2012. In 2012, approximately 100 students from 25 cities in 10 countries participated and competed against each other in two events. In 2013, about 140 students from 35 cities in 12 countries participated and competed in 4 events.



GUNSAN, IKSAN AND JEONJU, REPUBLIC OF KOREA

FAM tour with the invitation of travel agencies from Guangdong

The TPO held the Jeollabuk-do FAM tour from May 12 to 16 (5 days and 4 nights) by inviting travel agencies and news reporters from Guangdong, China. This event was aimed to help TPO member cities in Jeollabuk-do, which participated in the TPO Travel Trade 2014-China that was held in Guangzhou in February, attract Chinese tourists. Specifically, Jeollabuk-do, Gunsan, Iksan and Jeonju participated in the FAM tour and introduced their fascinating tourist resources.

The visitors included tour package designers from CITS, CYTS, CGZL and Nanhu Travel and Guangzhou Daily News reporters. They attended a tourism fair on May 12 and visited Gunsan, Iksan, Jeonju, Muju and Jinan. They collected all the information they need to develop tourist products.

Tang Huadeng, a vice president of CITS, said "Jeonbuk is little known in China but we were very impressed with its scenic natural landscape, unique Korean tradition and modern tourism infrastructure". He added, "We are going to do our best to develop attractive tourist products for Chinese group tourists including a school trip with a differentiated theme". An official from Jeollabuk-do said, "This event was a great opportunity for Jeollabuk-do to enhance its competitiveness in cooperation with Gunsan, Iksan and Jeonju". He continued, "We are going to keep promoting a joint cooperation project using a local network to attract more foreign tourists".



09 September 2014

Festival Calendar

Vladivostok, Russia | 9-15 September 2014

"The Lights of the East" Festival

Location Avangard Stadium, Vladivostok

"The Lights of the East" Festival is one of the largest light festivals in Russia. Although 2014 marks its third year, "The Lights of the East" Festival has grown to be a large scale celebration that attracts thousands of fans from across the world. The alluring lights illuminate the city on a breezy autumn night as visitors can witness the unique fire and light art of various countries. On September 13th, visitors are able to view and appreciate the highlight of the festival, a gala concert that features the fire show from major international cities such as Tokyo, Osaka, Seoul, Moscow and St. Petersburg.



Qingdao, China | September

Qingdao Alpaca Carnival Festival – Cartoon Sculpture Exhibition

Location Culture and Art Center, Qingdao

During the Qingdao Alpaca Carnival Festival, the Cartoon Sculpture Exhibition will be held for children and students. Popular cartoons characters such as Doraemon, Astro Boy and Shrek will be displayed to attract visitors. Travelers will be able to take pictures in front of many different cartoon characters to retain the memories of their travel. At night, visitors can enjoy Qingdao's distinctive food under the vivid, colorful neon lights of the city.



Busan, Korea | 12-15 September 2014

The 17th Busan International Travel Fair

Location Bexco, Busan

As the annual travel and tour fair hosted by the Metropolitan city of Busan, the 17th Busan International Travel Fair (BITF) offers a variety of travel information about 40 different countries in one setting. During the festival period, visitors have the opportunity to network with leading travel and tour professionals. Most importantly, BITF provides the most current, practical travel trends and products to travelers and tourist industry experts, who promote regional and international tourist industries. BITF also offers other diverse events including the international food festival, the awards ceremony for the Busan Tourist Photography Contest and other international traditional performances.



Fukuoka, Japan | 12-21 September 2014

Focus on Asia International Film Festival Fukuoka 2014

Location Canal City Hakata, Fukuoka

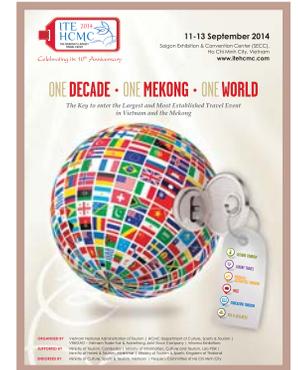
The Focus on Asia International Film Festival Fukuoka was founded in 1991, featuring many exclusive films and artists to exhibit the excellence of Asian films. Events such as the Fukuoka Most Admitted Awards Ceremony, special screening events and special forum tables will also be held. This year, it is expected that the film festival will screen 300 films from over 25 different Asian countries and that the festival be filled with many unimaginable, impressive works.

Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam | 11-13 September 2014
International Travel Expo Ho Chi Minh City 2014 (ITE HCMC 2014)

Location Ho Chi Minh SECC (Saigon Exhibition and Convention Center), Ho Chi Minh City

ITE HCMC 2014 is the largest tourist expo that takes place in Vietnam, an emerging market in Southeast Asia. The expo is hosted by the Vietnam National Administration of Tourism (VNAT) and the HCMC Department of

Culture, Sports and Tourism. Over 20,000 people participate, including 33 related organizations and exhibitors in the expo. ITE HCMC offers various traveling events in the region of Mekong, such as Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Thailand. In addition, the expo showcases exclusive, new travel products and packages in the countries and cities of the Mekong River and Asia-Pacific regions.



Irkutsk, Russia | 25-29 September 2014

XII Baikal International Festival of Documentary and Popular-Science Films: "PEOPLE AND ENVIRONMENT"

Location The House of Cinema Film Screenings, Irkutsk

Since its founding in 1999, the XII Baikal International Festival of Documentary and Popular-Science Films: "PEOPLE AND ENVIRONMENT" has screened over 500 films from 40 countries. "PEOPLE AND ENVIRONMENT" is a film festival which strives to inform and raise public awareness about the environment and ecological systems by putting an emphasis on environmental documentaries and Popular-Science films. The festival exhibits the most innocent and green films on planet Earth that bring attention to the problems of the relationship between mankind and the environment.



10 October 2014

Festival Calendar



Gyeongju, Korea | Early October Hallyu Dream Festival 2014

Location Gyeongju Civic Stadium, Gyeongju

The Hallyu Dream Festival 2014 is a considerable Hallyu festival held at the historical site of Gyeongju, the ancient capital of one of the world's longest-sustained dynasties, the Silla. Hosted by the city of Gyeongju, the province of Gyeongsangbuk-do, and the Korean Entertainment Producer's Association, the festival is under the supervision of the Gyeongju Foundation of Arts and Culture. As the festival meets its 5th anniversary, 20 different top K-pop artists will appear and showcase an impressive performance for 3 hours. It is anticipated that over 15,000 people including international and domestic travelers will be participating in the festival. The Hallyu Dream Festival continues to transform as one of the major representative Hallyu festivals of Korea.



Gunsan, Korea | 3-5 October 2014 Gunsan Time Travel Festival

Location Gunsan Modern History Museum and parts of Gugulgil, Gunsan

The Gunsan Time Travel Festival, which focuses on modern history and culture, offers a more solidified program this year. Gunsan Citizen's Day, October 1st, and Admiral Choi Moosun's victory against the Japanese invasion at Jinpo (Gunsan) will also be celebrated along with the festival, adding more spectacles to the festival. This fall, the Gunsan Time Travel Festival offers travel and festivities in Gunsan, where modern times and the old meet harmoniously.



Jakarta, Indonesia | 24-26 October 2014 Sounds Fair

Location Jakarta Convention Center (JCC), Jakarta

The Sounds Fair is a world class music festival that takes place in Jakarta, the capital of Java Island, which lies on its northwest coast. Sounds Fair features modern music found only at the festival. The festival will fill music lovers with Java Soul through distinctive Java music genres such as Java Jazz. The festival will continue playing different kinds of new, modern music day and night to heighten the festivities of the event. There will also be a gallery next to the concert hall, allowing participants to experience music and art together.



Yogyakarta, Indonesia | 7 October 2014 Jogja Java Culture Carnival

Location Sultan Palance Square, Yogyakarta

Every year on October 7th, Yogyakarta Memorial Day, the Jogja Java Culture Carnival is held. Yogyakarta is a symbolic hometown and was once the capital of Indonesia when the nation was fighting for their independence against the Netherlands. The carnival gives travelers an opportunity to enjoy colorful and fancy decorative handmade artwork, for the batik, gold, and silver craftsmanship culture is diversified. The carnival became an internationally known event, to which many travel from around the world to see this dazzling festival.



Zhangjiajie, China | 14-19 October 2014 2014 3rd Annual Wingsuit Flying World Championship

Location Tianmen Mountain, Zhangjiajie

Unlike the two previous ranking round competitions that only take personal best scores, this championship of this extreme sport is determined by a tournament. The flying course will be changed to a straight lane from a giant circle. The duration of the flight is also increased from 800~1000m to 1700~2000m. The final destination of the wingsuit diving fans, Tianmen Mountain, is most famous for its world-class level wingsuit diving competition site.

Kagoshima, Japan | 11-12 October 2014 Kinko Man Sea Breeze Festival

Location Kagoshima Waterfront Park, Kagoshima

Located south of Kyushu Island of Japan, Kagoshima restructured the "Kagoshima Cup Yacht Race around Volcanoes" event into a different festival. To display the beauty and appeal of two important tourist sites, Kinko Bay and Sakurajima, the city decided to host the festival at the Waterfront Park. Food booths, traditional dance performances and flea markets from different nations around the world will be set up all over the park. Visitors can also participate in Kagoshima Aquarium events as well as the cruise events offered.



Irkutsk, Russia | 21-24 October 2014 Agricultural Week

Location Sibexpocentre OJSC
Exhibition Complex, Irkutsk

Agriculture week is an agricultural exhibition that takes place annually in October. It's an event that displays the fruits of agricultural producers. The purpose of the exhibition is to promote sustainable agricultural improvements through implementation of technical upgrades, high-tech skills, tools and machines.

11 November 2014

Festival Calendar



Penang, Malaysia | 16 November 2014
Penang Bridge International Marathon 2014

Location Penang Bridge, Penang

The Penang Bridge International Marathon 2014 (PBIM 2014) is an annual event that began in 1985. A large number of runners come from around the world to participate in this exciting occasion of running across one of the longest bridges in the world, where one can witness a captivating sight of the sunrise. Anyone over the age of 13 is able to participate. The PBIM consists of half-marathons and 10km marathons and is not limited only to professional runners but can be participated in by families and younger children as well.



Melaka, Malaysia | 14 November 2014
The 6th Melaka Arts and Performance Festival 2014 (MAPFest)

Location St. Paul's Hill, Melaka

The Melaka Art and Performance Festival (MAPFest) is an annual arts festival that takes place in Malaysia's port city, Melaka, in the fall. Many travelers from across the world come to visit MAPFest, which features dance, performance art, visual art, film and music. Historical sites including St. Paul's Church will have inspiring performances. MAPFest also features experimental performing art that pairs well with the mysteriousness of the city Melaka itself.



Irkutsk, Russia | 19-21 November 2014

The 4th Baikol Venture Fair

Location Baikol shore, Irkutsk

The fair seeks to open discussion aimed at investment, innovation and the development of mutually beneficial cooperation between business and communities. In addition, the fair seeks to find ways to create successful conditions for investment. Russian and foreign experts in the sphere of venture investments, innovation activities, private investments, representative investment companies, scientific companies and other related support institutions for innovative enterprises will participate in the fair.



Yogyakarta, Indonesia
 28 November 2014 – 2 January 2015
Pasar Malam Perayaan Sekaten (Sekaten Night Market)

Location Sultan Palace Square, Yogyakarta

A month-long night market at the Sultan Palace Square, Sekaten Night Market is an exciting late-night festival, when all people gather and sell rice and eggs, which represent prosperity. The highlight of the festival is the unending performances of Gamelons day and night from the palace. The north side of the square offers a variety of entertainment for children.

Tainan, Taiwan
 8 November – 14 December 2014
2014 10th Tainan Guanazing Hot Springs and Music Festival

Location Guanazing Hot Springs, Tainan

Along with Italy's Sicily Island and Japan's Kyushu Island, Taiwan's Tainan is considered one of the world's best mud hot springs. It is widely known that this very mud hot springs will make one beautiful. The mud hot springs from 400 meters within the earth is more than enough to relax one's body and wash away fatigue. During the festival period, there are various kinds of music, filling the city with vitality and liveliness. Also, a new memorial will be erected to celebrate the 300th anniversary of Fire and Water Park, which boasts beautiful views for all those who visit.



Shimonoseki, Japan | 23 November 2014
Shimonoseki Fish Festival and Little Busan Festival

Location Shimonoseki Fishery Port and Koreatown/Green Mall, Shimonoseki

The Shimonoseki Fish Festival is the largest marine festival of Shimonoseki. The festival provides fresh fish and processed marine products. In addition to many delicious fish, including blowfish, whale and anglerfish, dishes served in pots, many special commodities specific to the Honshu cities can also be found at the festival. Organizations affiliated with Korea set up food booths for travelers to try different types of food. Visitors can also learn about Korean culture through performances of traditional Korean music and dance on the stage next to the exhibitions.

Shimonoseki, Japan | 23 November 2014
Little Busan Festival

Location Koreatown/Green Mall, Shimonoseki

In Korea Town, situated at the east gate of Shimonoseki Station, the Little Busan Festival is held every year. With a variety of Korean food booths available, visitors can enjoy a wide range of the food culture as well as conventional Korean food. A variety of unique and unusual dishes are served while on the stage situated at the corner of the exhibition hall are fun and exciting Korean cultural events such as traditional Korean music performance and dance.

