



# Exploring South Korea: A Cultural Excursion

Group Organizer: Ms. Karra O'Gorman

## Tour Includes

### Departure Date

March 19, 2027

### Overnights

Seoul 6

### Accommodations

Accommodations in centrally-located three-star or four-star hotels. Rooming on a double basis.

### Transportation

Round-trip transportation on scheduled airline. Unlimited public transportation.

### Meals

All breakfasts. Five lunches. All dinners. Lunch on Days 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7.

### Tour Director

Services of a specially-trained **passports** Tour Director throughout. Tipping is included in the Program Cost.

### Travel Protection

**passports** provides a complimentary Post-Departure Travel Protection Plan that includes coverage for Trip Interruption, Trip Delay, Medical Expenses, and more.

## Investment

**\$5338**  
**\$534 / month**

Program Cost \$5488  
-\$150 Early Enrollment Discount  
Total \$5338

*Monthly payments are based on the E-Z Pay payment schedule with \$0 deposit. Early Enrollment Discount expires June 1, 2026. Final payment is due 11/19/2026 or, with E-Z Pay, 2/17/2027. Tour cost is based on a minimum group size of 20 participants. Departure from Chicago, IL.*

## For More Information

- 1 Visit our website **passports.com**
- 2 Enter Tour ID **KOGORMAN2027**

# Exploring South Korea: A Cultural Excursion

Departs: March 19, 2027



## Days 1-2: Home - Seoul

Arrival in Seoul: Arrival transfer

Meet your Tour Director

## Day 3: Seoul

Namsan Tower

Seoul Guided City Tour, by coach

Guided visit to Gyeongbokgung Palace

Bukchon Hanok Village

Tour of Gwangjang Market

## Day 4: Seoul

Excursion to the DMZ Border

Visit to Imjingak Park

Nanta Show

Korean BBQ Dinner

## Day 5: Seoul

K-Pop Dance Class and HIKR Ground

Karaoke Evening

## Day 6: Seoul

Korean Cooking Class

Tour of Namdaemun Market

Myeong-dong District Tour

## Day 7: Seoul

Visit to a Dojang with Taekwondo Class

Starfield COEX Mall

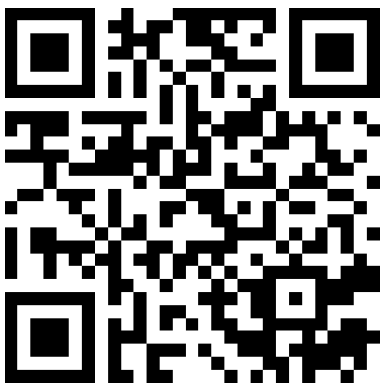
Han River Cruise

Farewell Dinner

## Day 8: Departure

Depart Seoul: Departure transfer

To enroll or view full text itinerary, point your camera here:



# Detailed Itinerary

## Days 1-2: Arrival in Seoul, Meet your Tour Director

### Arrival in Seoul

A dream comes true as your wide-bodied jet thunders off the airstrip, bound for Asia. You will cross the International Date Line before reaching the capital city of Seoul, which is currently ranked as the world's 7th largest metropolitan economy.

### Meet your Tour Director

Arrive at Seoul's Incheon airport and meet your Adventure Leader for a transfer to your accommodation. After settling in, receive a trip briefing and orientation.

## Day 3: Namsan Tower, Seoul Guided Tour, Gyeongbokgung Palace, Bukchon Hanok Village, Gwangjang Market

### Namsan Tower

**Namsan Tower**, also known as N Seoul Tower, is a prominent landmark in Seoul, perched atop Namsan Mountain, it offers panoramic views of the city from its observation decks. A unique aspect of Namsan Tower is the *Locks of Love* fence, where couples attach padlocks as symbols of their affection. Illuminated at night, the tower becomes a stunning visual centerpiece, representing Seoul's blend of modernity and natural beauty. Board the **cable car** near Myeongdong Station and head up Namsan to the base of N Seoul Tower, taking in the city views as you ascend.

### Seoul Guided City Tour, by coach

### Guided visit to Gyeongbokgung Palace

Travel back in time to the Kingdom of Great Joseon (1302-1897), which made Seoul its capital city, as you visit the Joseon Dynasty's main royal palace, first built in 1395. Destroyed several times in wars, and rebuilt several times, **Gyeongbokgung Palace** is regarded as the most beautiful of Seoul's five royal palaces.

### Bukchon Hanok Village

Visit a traditional Korean village with typical narrow alleys, and *hanok* houses whose concept dates back to the fourteen century. **Bukchon Hanok Village** offers a captivating glimpse into traditional Korean architecture and culture. Experience Korean heritage firsthand at this serene escape from the bustling city, offering a unique blend of history and living tradition.

### Tour of Gwangjang Market

Explore the Gwangjang Market, one of the oldest and largest traditional markets in South Korea. It's name means "to gather from afar and keep altogether." Take the time to sample the numerous types of local food or wander the stalls that sell a variety of goods, a good time to buy some souvenirs.

## Friday 3/19 - Saturday 3/20

### Home - Seoul

Arrival in Seoul: Arrival transfer

Meet your Tour Director

Dinner

Overnight

Meals included: Dinner

Overnight: Seoul

## Sunday 3/21

### Seoul

Namsan Tower

Seoul Guided City Tour, by coach

Dinner

Guided visit to Gyeongbokgung Palace

Bukchon Hanok Village

Tour of Gwangjang Market

Overnight

Meals included: Breakfast, Dinner, Lunch

Overnight: Seoul

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## Monday 3/22

### Seoul

Excursion to the DMZ Border

Dinner

Visit to Imjingak Park

Nanta Show

Korean BBQ Dinner

Overnight

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Overnight: Seoul

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## Tuesday 3/23

### Seoul

K-Pop Dance Class and HIKR Ground

Karaoke Evening

Dinner

Overnight

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Overnight: Seoul

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## Wednesday 3/24

### Seoul

Korean Cooking Class

Tour of Namdaemun Market

Myeong-dong District Tour

Dinner

Overnight

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Overnight: Seoul

## Day 4: Excursion to the DMZ Border, Imjingak Park, Nanta Show, Korean BBQ Dinner

### Excursion to the DMZ Border

You've seen monuments from Seoul's past, now learn a lot about contemporary history at the quiet South Korean side of the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ), which has been neutral territory between South Korea and North Korea since the Korean Armistice Agreements of 1953.

### Visit to Imjingak Park

Imjingak Park has various war-related artifacts as well as spacious Pyeonghwa Nuri Park. The resort preserves the Freedom Bridge and Imjingang rail bridge from the Korean War to remind people of the past, along with a Memorial Hall, monuments, and recreational areas.

### Nanta Show

Watch a Nanta Show, a mix of comedy, rhythm, and audience interaction. One of South Korea's most popular and long-running performances. Set in a bustling kitchen, the show features talented performers who use everyday kitchen utensils as percussion instruments, creating a captivating blend of music, acrobatics, and slapstick humor.

### Korean BBQ Dinner

Korean BBQ offers an authentic, interactive dining experience where you can grill your own food right at the table and enjoy a variety of vegetables, side dishes, and flavorful accompaniments. This lively, hands-on meal highlights the social and cultural traditions of Korean cuisine.

## Day 5: K-Pop Dance Class, HIKR Ground, Karaoke Evening

### K-Pop Dance Class and HIKR Ground

Take part in a *K-Pop* dance class at **HIKR Ground**, a vibrant cultural hub designed to immerse visitors in the dynamic world of K-pop and Hallyu (Korean Wave) culture. This interactive space offers fans a unique opportunity to engage with their favorite K-pop stars through virtual reality experiences, multimedia exhibits, and themed photo zones. HIKR Ground also hosts live events, fan meetings, and showcases, providing a platform for both emerging and established artists to connect with their audience.

### Karaoke Evening

Experience the Korean passion for Karaoke! Belt out some ballads at your own private karaoke spot. Sing in English - or show off your Korean skills!

## Day 6: Cooking Class, Namdaemun Market, Myeong-dong District Tour

### Korean Cooking Class

Take a cooking class in Seoul and delve into the heart of Korean cuisine. Participants may learn to prepare iconic dishes such as *kimchi*, *bibimbap*, and *bulgogi* under the guidance of skilled chefs. These classes will provide insights into the culinary traditions and food culture of Korea.

### Tour of Namdaemun Market

Namdaemun Market is one of the country's oldest and largest traditional markets, bustling with energy and offering a wide array of goods. Established in 1964, this market features over 10,000 vendors selling everything from fresh produce, street food, and clothing to household items, souvenirs, and traditional crafts. Open 24 hours a day, the market is famous for its vibrant atmosphere, with narrow alleys filled with the sights, sounds, and scents of local life.

### Myeong-dong District Tour

A tour of **Myeong-dong District** with its bustling streets, international brand stores, trendy boutiques, and Korean cosmetic shops. Street food vendors

add to the lively atmosphere, serving a variety of delicious snacks such as *tteokbokki*, *hotteok*, and Korean-style corndogs. The district is also home to the Myeong-dong Cathedral, which offers a peaceful retreat from the busy streets. As night falls, the area comes alive with neon lights and an energetic vibe.

## Day 7: Taekwondo Class, Starfield COEX Mall, Han River Cruise, Farewell Dinner

### Visit to a Dojang with Taekwondo Class

A *Taekwondo* class at a *Dojang* is a dynamic and structured training session that combines physical exercise, technique practice, and mental discipline. Led by a skilled instructor, students begin with a warm-up to prepare their bodies, followed by practicing fundamental techniques such as stances, blocks, punches, and kicks. They engage in *poomsae*, executing precise patterns of movements, and participate in controlled sparring sessions to apply their skills in a practical context.

### Starfield COEX Mall

Explore the **Starfield COEX Mall**, one of the largest underground shopping malls in Asia, located in the iconic *Gangnam* district. One of the mall's standout features is the **Starfield Library**, a public library with towering bookshelves and a stunning design that has become a popular spot for photos. The mall also includes the COEX Aquarium, which features a variety of marine life exhibits.

### Han River Cruise

Relax on a cruise down the **Han River** to experience Seoul's beauty and charm from a unique perspective. Offering a serene and scenic escape from the bustling city with breathtaking views of the skyline and quintessential landmarks, such as the *N Seoul Tower* and the *Banpo Rainbow Bridge*.

### Farewell Dinner

It's your last evening and what better way to conclude your stay than with a farewell dinner at a local restaurant? Enjoying the local cuisine is a great way to sample the culture and traditions of your destination. It can also be a chance to chat about the fun and memorable experiences that your group have enjoyed this past few days. So go ahead and enjoy that last meal! Who knows, it might just be the best one of your trip.

## Day 8: Departure

### Depart Seoul

Most good things must come to an end. Your suitcase full of memorabilia and of photos ready to be processed, get ready for the journey home, eager to share your discoveries with family and friends.

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## Thursday 3/25

### Seoul

Visit to a Dojang with Taekwondo Class

Starfield COEX Mall

Dinner

Han River Cruise

Farewell Dinner

Overnight

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Overnight: Seoul

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## Friday 3/26

### Departure

Depart Seoul: Departure transfer

Meals included: Breakfast

# Cost Breakdown

<b>Itinerary</b>	Exploring South Korea: A Cultural Excursion
<b>Departing</b>	March 19, 2027
<b>Departure City</b>	Chicago, IL
<b>Rooming</b>	Doubles
<b>Program Cost</b>	\$5,488
	-\$150 Early Enrollment Discount for enrollments before 6/1/2026
<b>Total Cost</b>	\$5,338
<b>Monthly Payment</b>	\$534 with <b>\$0 deposit</b>
<b>Standard Final Payment Deadline</b>	11/19/2026
<b>E-Z Pay Final Payment Deadline</b>	02/17/2027