

Heart of hommies

Exploring Seoul, South Korea



Table of Contents

2

Cyeongbokgung Palace

The main royal palace of the Joseon dynasty. Built in 1395, it is located in northern Seoul, South Korea.



3

National Museum of Korea

The National Museum of Korea is the flagship museum of Korean history and art in South Korea.

4

Bukchon Hanok Village

Bukchon Hanok Village is a residential neighborhood in Jongno District, Seoul. It has many restored traditional Korean houses, called hanok.



5

War Memorial of Korea

This is a museum located in Yongsan-dong, Yongsan-gu, Seoul. It opened in 1994 on the former site of the army headquarters to exhibit and memorialize the military history of Korea.



Gyeongbokgung Palace

Gyeongbokgung continued to serve as the main palace of the Joseon dynasty until the premises were destroyed by fire during the Imjin War (1592–1598) and abandoned for two centuries. However, in the 19th century, all of the palace's 7,700 rooms were restored under the leadership of Prince Regent Heungseon during the reign of King Gojong.

In the early 20th century, much of the palace was systematically destroyed by Imperial Japan during its occupation of Korea. On January 21, 1963, it was designated as a cultural property.

During the Joseon Dynasty, royal guards were in charge of guarding and patrolling the gates of the capital and royal palaces. They played roles by dividing the day and night shifts. Each shift in working hours took place.

Today, the changing ceremony of the royal guard in front of Gwanghwamun is recreated just like the Joseon Dynasty. It takes place twice a day.

Many tourists choose to wear hanboks when they visit the palace for photos and hanbok because it's free to enter the palace when you are wearing one.

National Museum of Korea



The museum is divided into three floors.

Symbolically, the left of the museum is supposed to represent the past, while the right side of the museum represents the future. The ground floor contains parks; gardens of indigenous plants; waterfalls and pools; and a collection of pagodas, stupas, lanterns, and steles.

On the first floor is the Prehistory and Ancient History Gallery, which contains approximately 4,500 artifacts from the Paleolithic to the Unified Silla era excavated from sites across Korea. There are nine exhibition room in the gallery.

Ranging from chipped stone handaxes to luxurious ancient royal ornaments, the relics displayed here show the long journey taken by early settlers on the Peninsula towards developing their unique culture.



The second floor contains the Donation Gallery and the Calligraphy and Painting Gallery, which contains 890 pieces of art that showcase the traditional and religious arts of Korea in line and color.

The Calligraphy and Painting Gallery is divided into four rooms: the Painting Room, the Calligraphy Room, the Buddhist Paintings Room, and the Sarangbang (Scholar's Studio). The Donation Gallery holds 800 pieces of art donated from the private collections of collectors. The gallery is divided into eleven rooms

The third floor contains the Sculpture and Crafts Gallery, with 630 pieces that represent Korean Buddhist sculpture and craftwork. The five rooms of the gallery are the Metal Arts Room, the Celadon Room, the Buncheong Ware Room, the White Porcelain Room, and the Buddhist Sculpture Room.

The Asian Arts Gallery, which contains 970 pieces that explore the similarities and divergences of Asian art and the confluence of Asian and Western art via the Silk Road. The five rooms are the Indian & Southeast Asian Art Room, the Central Asian Art Room, the Chinese Art Room, the Sinan Undersea Relics Room, and the Japanese Art Room.

Bukchon Hanok Village

The area of Bukchon was traditionally the residential quarter of high-ranking government officials and nobility during the Joseon period. It is located north of the stream Cheonggyecheon and Jongno, hence named Bukchon, which means north village.

In 1997, amid the movement of urbanization in Seoul, the Asian financial crisis occurred. Under huge financial damage, the Korean government resolved to preserve traditional Hanoks instead of removing them as old buildings.

The movement for the preservation of Hanoks occurred in 2000. Close to tourist spots such as Gyeongbokgung Palace and Changgyeonggung Palace, Bukchon Hanok Village is an ideal place to learn about Korean traditional architecture and cultures



War Memorial of Korea



The War Memorial covers the history of wars that Korea have engaged in. It was built for the purpose of preventing war through lessons from the Korean War and for the hoped for peaceful reunification of North and South Korea. The memorial building has six indoor exhibition rooms and an outdoor exhibition centre displaying war memorabilia and military equipment from China, South Korea and the United States

The construction of the War Memorial of Korea was completed in December 1993. The project was carried out in consultation with military experts while collecting a wide range of exhibition items from at home and abroad. Upon the completion of the interior, the memorial opened officially on June 10, 1994, and became the largest landmark of its kind in the world.

Other places to visit in Seoul

Seoul, the capital of South Korea, is a huge metropolis where modern skyscrapers, high-tech subways and pop culture meet Buddhist temples, palaces and street markets.

Namsan Tower | Lotte World | Gwangjang Market |
Nami Island | The National Folk Museum of Korea | Lotte
World Tower



Namsan Tower

The Namsan Tower or Seoul Tower, is a communication and observation tower located on Namsan Mountain in central Seoul, South Korea. The 236-meter (774 ft)-tall tower marks the second highest point in Seoul and is considered a local landmark. Built in 1969, the N Seoul Tower is South Korea's first general radio wave tower, providing TV and radio broadcasting in Seoul. Currently, the tower broadcasts signals for Korean media outlets, such as KBS, MBC, and SBS.

Lotte World

Lotte World or Lotte World Adventure is a major recreation complex in Seoul, South Korea. It consists of a large indoor theme park, an outdoor amusement park called "Magic Island", an artificial island on a lake linked by monorail, shopping malls, a luxury hotel, an observation tower, a Korean folk museum, sports facilities, and movie theaters.

Opened in July 1989, Lotte World receives approximately 7.3 million visitors each year.



Gwangjang Market

Gwangjang Market, previously Dongdaemun Market, is a traditional street market in Jongno-gu, Seoul, South Korea. The market is one of the oldest and largest traditional markets in South Korea, with more than 5000 shops and 20,000 employees in an area of 42,000 m². Approximately 65,000 people visit the market each day.



Nami Island

Namiseom or Nami Island is a half-moon shaped river island located in Chuncheon, Gangwon Province, South Korea, formed as the land around it was inundated by the rising water of the North Han River as the result of the construction of Cheongpyeong Dam in 1944.

The National Folk Museum of Korea

National Folk Museum of Korea is a national museum located on the grounds of Gyeongbokgung Palace in Jongno-gu, Seoul, South Korea. It uses replicas of historical objects to illustrate the history of traditional life of the Korean people.



LOTTE WORLD TOWER

Lotte World Tower, is a 123-story, 555 m supertall skyscraper, located in Sincheon-dong, Songpa-gu, Seoul, South Korea. It is the sixth-tallest building in the world, the tallest in OECD countries, and also the first in South Korea to be over 100 stories tall.

Life is not meant to be lived in one place

