

Tour-guide about Koreas History and Culture

2026



Autoren: Maurin Dietschi

Kai Croci

Klasse: BM1_TE22A

Lehrpersonen: Anne Rüsing
Joel Fimian

Gewerbliche-Industrielle
Berufsfachschule Solothurn

Table of contents

1	Abstract	6
1.1	Purpose.....	6
1.2	Methodes.....	6
1.3	Conclusions.....	6
2	Project organization	7
2.1	Organization diagram	7
2.2	Involved individuals	8
3	Introduction	9
3.1	Description and details	9
3.2	Choice of topic	9
3.3	Subjects of our IDPA	9
3.3.1	English	9
3.3.2	History	9
3.4	Approach and structure.....	10
3.4.1	Personal experience	10
3.4.2	Research methods	10
3.4.3	Website concept	10
4	Preparation	11
4.1	Theory-Paper	11
4.1.1	Introduction	11
4.1.2	Text Types and Their Characteristics.....	12
4.1.3	Website Structure and Justification	13
4.1.4	Differences and Comparison of the Text Types.....	13
4.1.5	Direction of the Project and Implementation.....	14
4.1.6	Conclusion.....	14
4.2	History concept paper	15
4.2.1	Epoch 1: Silla Period	15
4.2.2	Epoch 2: Joseon-Dynastie – King Sejong the Great.....	15
4.2.3	Epoch 3: Japanese Colonial Period	16
4.2.4	Epoch 4: Division of Korea & Korean War	16
4.2.5	Epoch 5: Modern Era.....	16
4.2.6	Adjustment of the Research Focus	17
4.3	Website Mock-up.....	17
5	Writing.....	18
5.1	Two Week Blog	19
5.1.1	How to Use This Blog	19

5.1.2	Trip Snapshot	20
5.1.3	Day 1 – Arriving in Seoul	21
5.1.4	Day 2 – Palaces and Hanok Villages.....	22
5.1.5	Day 3 – The DMZ Experience and Yeouido Hangang Nights	23
5.1.6	Day 4 – Namsan Hike & Seongsu Exploration	24
5.1.7	Day 5 – Gangnam Style: Temples & Tombs.....	25
5.1.8	Day 6 – History Comes Alive in Gyeongju	26
5.1.9	Day 7 – Temples and Tranquility	27
5.1.10	Day 8 – Welcome to Busan	28
5.1.11	Day 9 – Culture and Coastlines.....	29
5.1.12	Day 10 – Jeonju’s Hanok Beauty.....	30
5.1.13	Day 11 – Hikes and Hidden Corners	31
5.1.14	Day 12 – Hongdae Nights.....	32
5.1.15	Day 13 – Calm Corners of Seoul.....	33
5.1.16	Day 14 – Farewell.....	34
5.1.17	Final Thoughts	34
5.1.18	decision	34
5.2	Three-Week-blog	35
5.2.1	Trip Snapshot	35
5.2.2	Day 1 – Arrival in Korea, 28.9.25	36
5.2.3	Day 2 – Namsan Tower and Korean BBQ, 29.9.25	37
5.2.4	Day 3 – Arrival in Jeju, 30.9.25	38
5.2.5	Day 4 – Traveling around the northside of Jeju – 1.10.25.....	38
5.2.6	Day 5 – Traveling around the southside of Jeju, 2.10.25.....	39
5.2.7	Day 6 – Arrival in Busan, 3.10.25	40
5.2.8	Day 7 – Busan Tower and Jagalchi Market, 4.10.25	40
5.2.9	Day 8 – Skywalk and Busan x The Sky, 5.10.25.....	41
5.2.10	Day 9 – Chuseok – 6.10.25.....	41
5.2.11	Day 10 – Travel back to Seoul, 7.10.25	42
5.2.12	Day 11 – Back in Seoul – 8.10.25	42
5.2.13	Day 12 – T1 Headquarters, 9.10.25	43
5.2.14	Day 13 – Shopping Day, 11.10.25	43
5.2.15	Day 14 – Exploring around Gangneung, 12.10.25	44
5.2.16	Day 15 – Donghae and Hanseom Beach, 13.10.25.....	44
5.2.17	Day 16 – Jeongdongjin, 14.10.25	45
5.2.18	Day 17 – Back to Seoul, 15.10.25	46
5.2.19	Day 18 – Yonsei University and Namdaemun, 16.10.25.....	46
5.2.20	Day 19 – Han River Drone Show, 17.10.25	47

5.2.21	Day 20 – LoL Park and Gwanghwamun Square, 18.10.25	48
5.2.22	Day 21 – Incheon City, 19.10.25.....	49
5.2.23	Final Thoughts	49
5.2.24	decision	49
5.3	Travel Guide	50
5.3.1	Major Cultural & Seasonal Festivals	57
5.3.2	Unique Regional & Themed Festivals	58
5.3.3	decision	58
5.4	Glossary	59
5.4.1	Essentials & Culture:	59
5.4.2	Food & Drink.....	59
5.4.3	decision	60
5.5	History Essay.....	61
5.5.1	Introduction	61
5.5.2	The Silla Kingdom	61
5.5.3	The Joseon Dynasty	62
5.5.4	Japanese Colonial Period.....	63
5.5.5	Korean War and Division	64
5.5.6	Modern South Korea	64
5.5.7	Conclusion.....	65
5.5.8	decision	66
5.6	History facts	66
5.6.1	Silla Period (57 BCE – 935).....	66
5.6.2	Joseon Dynasty (1392 – 1897).....	67
5.6.3	Japanese Colonial Period (1910 – 1945)	68
5.6.4	Korean War & Division (1950s).....	69
5.6.5	Early Modern / Modern Korea (Late 19th century – today).....	69
5.6.6	decision	70
6	Website implementation	70
6.1	Home	71
6.2	Two Week Blog	73
6.3	Three Week Blog.....	75
6.4	Travel Guide	76
6.5	Glossary	77
6.6	Technologies	78
6.6.1	Technology stack overview.....	78
6.6.2	GitHub workflow.....	79
6.6.3	Coding standards	79

7	Process & Project Management.....	80
7.1	Working Process	80
7.2	Documentation and Project Management.....	80
8	Quality assurance.....	81
8.1	Website Testing and Usability.....	81
8.2	Proofreading and Documentation Review.....	81
8.3	AI-Supported Review and Optimization	81
8.4	Final Review	81
9	Reflection	82
9.1	What worked well.....	82
9.2	What did not work well	82
9.3	What we would change	82
9.4	Next Steps.....	83
9.5	USP.....	83
10	Sources.....	84
10.1	Literature sources	84
10.2	Image sources.....	87
10.3	Table sources	87
11	Acknowledgements.....	87
12	Appendix	88
12.1	Work Journal.....	88
12.2	Schedule	89
A2	Startformular	90
A3	Vertrag und Vorlage für Zielformulierungen	91
A4	Formular der Zwischenbesprechung	93

Part 1: Planning & Concept Development

1 Abstract

This interdisciplinary project, referred to as *Interdisziplinäre Projektarbeit (IDPA)*, focuses on the creation of an interactive website that serves as a travel guide for South Korea. The website is designed to support people who are interested in visiting the country by offering both information and personal travel experiences. The content of the website is divided into different sections. On the one hand, it includes researched information about Korean history, culture, food, and popular destinations to provide a neutral and informative guide. On the other hand, it features two personal travel blogs based on our own journeys through South Korea, which offer individual impressions and practical insights from a traveler's perspective. By combining researched content with personal experience, the project aims to create a balanced, engaging, and accessible platform that helps readers better understand South Korea and supports them in planning their own trips.

1.1 Purpose

The purpose of this project is to develop a functional and user-friendly website that presents South Korea as a travel destination in an informative and engaging way. The website is intended to help readers plan their travels by providing practical information about destinations, food, transportation, and cultural background. At the same time, the project aims to combine academic research with personal experience. Through the inclusion of travel blogs, readers gain insight into real-life experiences, which helps make the information more relatable and authentic. The project also serves as an opportunity to apply language and historical knowledge in a practical, real-world context.

1.2 Methods

The project involved several challenges, including planning and implementing the website, writing two detailed travel blogs, and researching reliable information about South Korea. To address these challenges, a structured approach was followed. The blog texts are based on our personal travel experiences, memories, photographs, and notes taken during our trips. They were written with a clear focus on the target audience and aim to be engaging, understandable, and informative. In contrast, the travel guide and historical sections are based on online research using tourism websites, informational platforms, and other reputable sources. In addition, digital tools, including AI-based language and research tools, were used to support text structuring and idea development. These tools served as assistance rather than primary sources and were applied critically throughout the writing process.

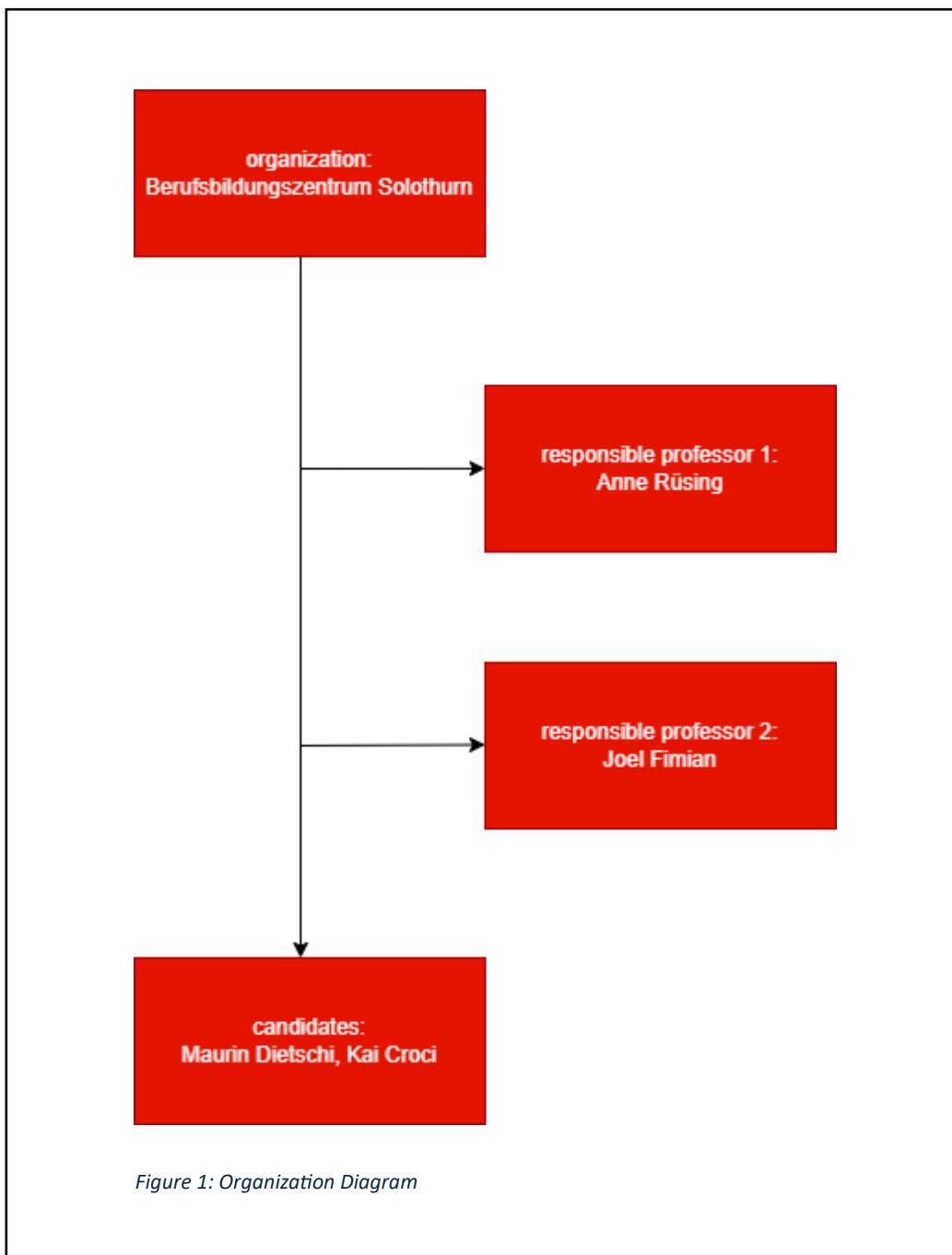
1.3 Conclusions

The result of this project is a content-rich and well-structured travel guide website that successfully combines factual knowledge with personal experiences. By linking English and History, the project allowed both linguistic and historical skills to be applied in a practical and meaningful way.

2 Project organization

This chapter lists all individuals involved in this project and describes their respective roles and responsibilities.

2.1 Organization diagram



2.2 Involved individuals

This Chapter lists all individuals and describes their respective roles and responsibilities in more detail.

Name	Role	Function
Berufsbildungszentrum Solothurn	Organization	commissioning institution
Anne Rüsing	Responsible teacher – Subject 1	Responsible for the English part of the IDPA, monitors the candidates' progress, and evaluates the IDPA project
Joel Fimian	Responsible teacher – Subject 2	Responsible for the history part of the IDPA, monitors the candidates' progress, and evaluates the IDPA project
Maurin Dietschi Kai Croci	Candidates	Responsible for the implementation of the IDPA, define the topic, plan the realization, and carry out the project according to the defined guidelines

Table 1: Involved individuals

3 Introduction

3.1 Description and details

The goal of this interdisciplinary project is to develop an interactive website that serves as a travel guide for South Korea. The website is designed to support individuals who are interested in traveling to Korea by providing both factual information and personal insights.

The platform consists of three main sections. First, two blog entries that document our personal experiences while traveling in and through Korea, offering subjective impressions and reflections. Second, a neutral travel guide presents popular destinations, cultural highlights, and points of interest based on online research and reputable sources. Third, a glossary explains Korean terms, place names, and technical expressions that may require further clarification for readers unfamiliar with the topic.

The website is developed with a clearly defined target audience in mind. It is primarily aimed at young adults between the ages of approximately 20 and 30. One of the main challenges of this project is therefore to present the content in a visually appealing, accessible, and engaging way that motivates readers to consider traveling to Korea themselves.

3.2 Choice of topic

The topic of this project was chosen based on a shared personal interest in South Korea. Both project members have a strong fascination with Korean culture, history, and everyday life, which made it natural to develop the IDPA around this subject.

In addition, the topic offers an ideal opportunity to combine personal experiences with factual research. Since one member of the group is an IT apprentice, it was decided to realize the project in the form of a website. This allowed us to make use of existing technical skills while simultaneously applying academic and linguistic competences. The project therefore combines personal motivation with practical relevance and interdisciplinary learning objectives.

3.3 Subjects of our IDPA

The following sections explain the two subject areas involved in this interdisciplinary project and justify their selection.

3.3.1 English

English was chosen as one of the two subject areas because language plays a central role in the entire project. The website, the written documentation, and all associated content are created in English. As English is a globally used language and particularly common among younger audiences, it is well suited for an international travel guide.

Furthermore, both project members have a strong proficiency in English and hold a Cambridge English Certificate at C1/C2 level. This allows us to produce linguistically accurate, structured, and audience-oriented content. English is therefore essential for the written blogs, the informational texts, and the overall presentation of the website.

3.3.2 History

History was selected as the second subject area because the project focuses strongly on South Korea and its cultural background. Historical knowledge is necessary to correctly contextualize destinations, traditions, and cultural references presented on the website.

By integrating historical facts and explanations, the project goes beyond purely personal travel impressions. Historical research supports the blogs by providing accurate background information and helps readers gain a deeper understanding of Korean culture and society.

3.4 Approach and structure

3.4.1 Personal experience

A central element of this project is the direct personal experience gained during our time in South Korea. Both project members travelled through the country and explored various regions, cities, and cultural sites firsthand. During this journey, we documented our experiences, observations, and impressions and took numerous photos that are later used on the website.

The blog section of the website is therefore primarily based on our own experiences and perceptions. The content reflects subjective impressions without being influenced by external opinions or evaluations. The intention is to present an authentic perspective that allows readers to gain insight into daily life, cultural differences, and personal travel experiences in South Korea.

3.4.2 Research methods

In addition to personal experience, structured research methods are applied throughout the project. The neutral travel guide section of the website is based exclusively on external sources and objective information. These include online research via search engines, tourism websites, and informational platforms.

Furthermore, modern digital tools such as AI-based language and research tools are used to support text formulation, structuring, and idea generation. These tools are applied critically and serve as an aid rather than a primary source of information.

Additional insights are gained through informal inquiries with people from our personal environment who have either visited South Korea or possess cultural knowledge about the country. By combining personal experience, digital research, and interpersonal exchange, a broad and balanced information base is achieved.

3.4.3 Website concept

The website is designed with a strong focus on usability, clarity, and visual appeal. Attention is given to a clean layout, intuitive navigation, and a consistent design. The aim is to create a platform that is easy to use and accessible even for users with limited prior knowledge of South Korea.

The target audience consists mainly of young adults between the ages of 20 and 30. These demographic influences both the visual design and the linguistic style of the content. The website is intended to be informative while remaining engaging and motivating, encouraging users to explore the content further and consider traveling to South Korea themselves.

4 Preparation

Before we started writing the actual content, we created several concept papers to get a clear idea of how each section of the website should be written. These papers focused on the general style and structure of a blog, a travel guide, and a glossary.

The goal was not to optimize the texts for the website at this stage, but rather to understand how each format works and what kind of tone it requires. The theory papers helped us define how personal a blog should be, how neutral and informative a travel guide needs to remain, and how concise and clear a glossary must be.

By doing this groundwork early on, we were able to write the final website content more confidently and consistently, while keeping it easy to read and engaging for a younger audience. Afterwards, we also created a small Word document that gave us an idea of what we wanted to focus on in the History section. This was a lot smaller and was meant to help us later to be consistent. After that we made a small draw.io Image to lay the groundwork for the Website, so that we both had the same picture in mind.

4.1 Theory-Paper

4.1.1 Introduction

In recent years, South Korea has become one of the most fascinating destinations for young travellers. Its unique combination of traditional culture, modern technology, pop culture phenomena such as K-pop and K-dramas, and a diverse food scene has attracted increasing global attention. Our school project aims to create a website that combines a travel guide, blog, and glossary about South Korea.

The guiding research question for this paper is: Which text types are best suited for a digital platform that introduces places, food, and culture of South Korea?

The following chapters will analyse three selected text types—travel guide, blog, and glossary—and compare their features. We will substantiate the structure of our planned website, define the target group and language level, and explain how these text-types work together to form a coherent digital project.

But why did we decide to make this project about South Korea and not another country or region? The reason is that one of us authors (Kai) is half Korean and has visited Korea multiple times with his family, which gives him some insights from a local perspective. For the other author (Maurin) it's slightly different: he loves the food and the gaming culture. Since both authors have already been there, we can share our experiences in this project.

4.1.2 Text Types and Their Characteristics

4.1.2.1 *The Travel Guide*

A travel guide is a text type that focuses on providing practical, neutral, factual, reliable, and structured information for travellers. Its main goal is to inform and orient readers by giving them facts about locations, sights, and activities. Typical characteristics of travel guides include:

- Narrative style of a travel guide is often nonlinear and written in third person.
- Clear structure with sections such as “Places,” “Transportation,” “Accommodation,” and “Food.”
- Concise language that avoids unnecessary details but provides essential facts.
- Objectivity is important in a travel guide as it is not about the writer’s feelings but about trustworthy, unbiased advice.
- Lists, addresses, and maps to help travellers organize their trips.

Travel guides are especially useful for readers who want to plan their trip efficiently and need reliable data and recommendations.

4.1.2.2 *Blog*

A blog is a digital text type that focuses on personal experience and storytelling. A blog is subjective and emotional and focused on personal experiences. Typical characteristics include:

- Narrative style of blogs is often linear and written in the first person (“I experienced...”).
- Interaction is important in blogs and often invites comments or contain social media links.
- Lively language with strong adjectives, emotions, humour, and personal opinions.
- Subjectivity is a key point in a blog because it’s about sharing personal experiences.
- Visual content like images, videos, and personal photography are central and help visualizing the experience.

A blog inspires readers, shows authentic experiences, and allows them to connect with the author/s. It conveys the personal experiences of the writer/s and sends a personal message, therefore it is to a certain extent analogous to a personal diary. In the context of our project, blogs illustrate the human and emotional dimension of Korean culture.

4.1.2.3 *The Glossary*

A glossary is a collection of terms and definitions that explains important or unfamiliar vocabulary. In the context of this project its purpose is to make content accessible to readers who are not familiar with the language or culture. Characteristics of glossaries include:

- Alphabetical order of entries.
- Brief and precise definitions.

- Neutral and explanatory language.
- Focus on terminology that might otherwise create barriers for readers.

Some examples that could come up in our project are terms like *Kimchi*, *King Sejong*, *Hanbok* and other Korean-language terms.

4.1.3 Website Structure and Justification

Our website combines the three text types—travel guide, blog, and glossary—to create a balanced digital product. Each text type plays a specific role:

- The travel guide provides factual orientation and can be updated in real time, unlike printed travel guides.
- The blog offers personal impressions and authenticity.
- The glossary ensures understanding of cultural-specific terms.

The combination makes the website multi-layered: readers can both plan their trip and engage with cultural stories.

A possible structure could look like this:

- **Homepage:** features overall information
- **Navigation bar:** features the Travel Guide, Blog, Glossary
- **Subpages:** organized into “Food,” “Places,” and “Culture.”
- **Build:** links in the Pages to subpages

We will have navigation with four points, Home, Travel guide, Blog, Glossary. The blog navigation has a dropdown for a blog spanning two to three weeks. The pages have hyperlinks to the Glossary. The pages are structured into genres “Food”, “Places” & “Culture”.

4.1.4 Differences and Comparison of the Text Types

Although the three text types overlap in certain areas, they differ in their style, purpose, and effect:

- The travel guide is objective, aiming for clarity and practicality. It is written from a neutral perspective and provides facts, not opinions.
- The blog is subjective, focusing on emotions and personal experience. It is written from a first-person perspective and focuses on personal opinions and interests.
- The glossary is neutral, designed to clarify terminology. In contrast to the other two text types, it is not a running text but rather an accumulation of terms which need a simpler and clearer explanation.

When compared, it becomes clear that no single text type can fulfil all the requirements of this project and for the intended reader experience. Instead, their combination creates a comprehensive resource: the travel guide delivers facts, the blog adds inspiration, and the glossary supports cultural understanding.

4.1.5 Direction of the Project and Implementation

4.1.5.1 Target Group

The website is designed for young adults aged 20–30. This audience is typically internet-savvy, open to new cultural experiences, and often looking for travel inspiration. There is also a rise in popularity of traveling east amongst young adults. But this should not mean that the website is strictly designed for this exact age group, it is just more focused on them.

4.1.5.2 Language Level and Tone

The language should be informative but reflect present-day usage, combining factual accuracy with a friendly, approachable style. The occasional use of Korean terms, slang and other slightly complex words will add authenticity, but such terms should always be explained in the glossary. The language should be kept at a simple level nonetheless, so that it is comfortable to read without having to put much effort into deciphering complex sentences.

4.1.5.3 Technical Implementation

To make the website user-friendly, the following features are planned:

- Simple navigation with a clear menu.
- Strong visual design using photos and videos.
- Interactive elements such as embedded maps or links to external resources.
- Hyperlinks from blog or guide entries directly to history facts.

à Tools to build the website

4.1.5.4 Theoretical Context

Digital texts differ from print texts because they allow multimodality (text, image, video, audio) and interactivity (comments, hyperlinks, user engagement). For this reason, it is important to consider not only the text types themselves, but also their adaptation for an online environment. It's also important not to make the paragraphs too long without supporting or interrupting it with some form of visual help or otherwise interactive media to not overwhelm the reader with an enormous amount of text. It is important to the readers that the text reads easily and that they don't have to force themselves to keep reading an overwhelming amount of text.

4.1.6 Conclusion

Our guiding research question: Which text types are best suited for a digital platform that introduces places, food, and culture of South Korea?

Our personal analysis shows that a combination of travel guide, blog, and glossary is most effective. A travel guide alone would be too dry and factual, while a blog alone might lack structure and reliability. A glossary alone would not provide enough depth. By combining these three text types, the website can:

- provide reliable information (travel guide),
- offer authentic and inspiring stories (blog),
- ensure cultural understanding (glossary).

This combination creates an engaging, informative, and accessible platform for young readers aged 20–30 who want to learn about South Korean culture, food, and travel opportunities.

Difficulties to be considered:

- text types clearly defined
- consistent usage of tenses

(Both can change, but the changes must be explained)

4.1.6.1 Footnotes

1. Smart-Guide: *Write an Engaging Digital Travel Guide – Best Writing Style Tips for Content Authors*. 2024. <https://blog.smart-guide.org/en/write-an-engaging-digital-travel-guide-best-writing-style-tips-for-content-authors>
2. Masterclass: *Travel Writing Guide*. 2024. <https://www.masterclass.com/articles/travel-writing-guide>
3. 6 Ways Travel guide: 6-ways-to-navigate-a-travel-story
<https://shorthand.com/the-craft/6-ways-to-navigate-a-travel-story/index.html>
4. Example: sunsetsabroad
<https://thesunrisedreamers.com/south-korea/2-week-south-korea-itinerary/>

4.2 History concept paper

4.2.1 Epoch 1: Silla Period

Focus Areas:

- **Cultural History:** Establishment of Buddhism as a state religion; construction of important temples (e.g. Bulguksa Temple).
- **Architecture:** Pagodas and royal burial mounds (e.g. Cheomseongdae Observatory – one of the oldest astronomical observatories in Asia).
- **Society:** Strongly hierarchical system (Bone-Rank System) clearly defined social classes.

Connection to our Travels: Bulguksa Temple, burial mounds

4.2.2 Epoch 2: Joseon-Dynastie – King Sejong the Great

Focus Areas:

- **Politics:** Introduction of reforms to strengthen the state; promotion of science and technology.
- **Cultural History:** Development of the Korean script Hangul (1443/1446), making education accessible to broader parts of the population.
- **Science & Technology:** Invention of water clocks, sundials, printing techniques; advances in astronomy.

Connection to our Travels: Banknote, writing system

4.2.3 Epoch 3: Japanese Colonial Period

Focus Areas:

- **Politics / Society:** Loss of Korean independence; suppression of Korean culture and language.
- **Economy:** Exploitation of raw materials, forced labor, development of industry according to Japanese interests.
- **Cultural History:** Suppression of traditional culture alongside resistance movements.

Connection to our Travels: Gyeongbokgung Palace

4.2.4 Epoch 4: Division of Korea & Korean War

Focus Areas:

- **Politics:** Division into North and South Korea (Soviet Union in the North, United States in the South).
- **War:** Korean War (1950–1953), massive destruction, millions of deaths and refugees.
- **Society:** Separation of families; establishment of a new social system in South Korea (emerging democracy).

Connection to our Travels: DMZ tour

4.2.5 Epoch 5: Modern Era

Focus Areas:

- **Economy:** “Miracle on the Han River” – rapid economic rise from a poor agricultural country to a high-tech nation (Samsung, Hyundai).
- **Politics:** Democratization in the 1980s after decades of military dictatorships.
- **Cultural History:** Korean Wave (Hallyu) – global spread of K-pop, K-dramas, and modern Korean culture.

Connection to our Travels: League of Legends, K-pop, food, technologies

4.2.6 Adjustment of the Research Focus

During the research and writing process, the focus of the historical analysis was refined compared to the initial concept paper. While the original planning emphasized specific political figures, technological innovations, and abstract historical developments, the final paper places greater emphasis on social structures, lived experiences, and historically significant places. This adjustment was made to allow for a more concrete and accessible analysis of South Korean history by linking political and social developments directly to physical locations and sites visited during the project. The revised focus enabled a clearer understanding of how historical processes shaped everyday life and continue to influence South Korean society today.

4.3 Website Mock-up

For the Website Mock-up we used Draw.io and just made some simple images to help us be concessive in the later process.

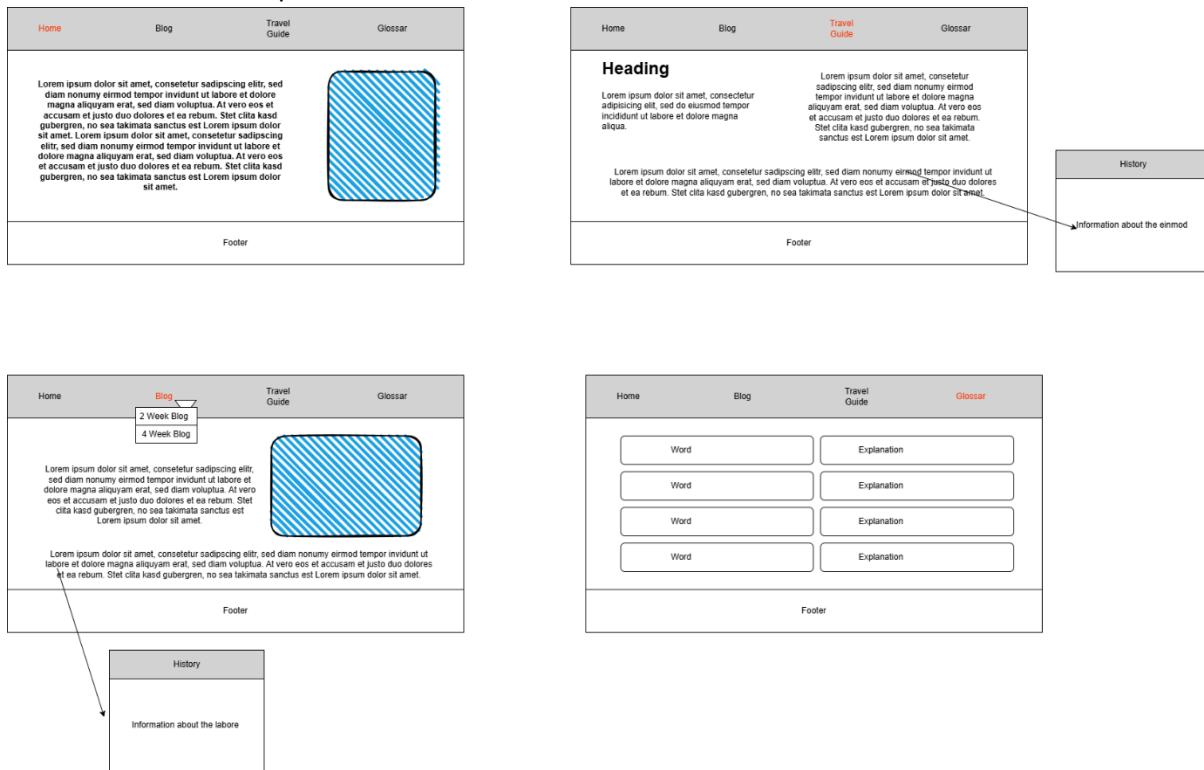


Figure 2: Mock-up

Part 2: Implementation & Review

5 Writing

The writing phase represented the creative and analytical part of our IDPA. Based on the conceptual groundwork developed during the preparation stage of the whole project, we created multiple small papers with our ideas, these are supposed to be coherent, reader-oriented texts that form the core content of our website. Our approach was to combine personal experience, factual information and clear structure in order to meet both the academic level we were striving for, as well as reaching our target audience with the content.

The blog text are our own travel experiences in South Korea. We wrote from memory, photographs taken during the trips and google maps saved places. With this approach we wanted to capture authentic impressions while remaining understandable and relevant to the reader. At the same time, we reflected on the experiences and gave recommendations on top.

In the travel guide we wanted to give a factual insight into South Korea, without our own opinions intervening. We listed the most popular and most visited places in South Korea, as well as giving some general information on how to get by. In the end we listed some special festivals, because we both searched for such information, but it was hard to come by. But from previous trips such special events were always a highlight.

The historic part of the writing was a step-by-step process. We wanted to have some history facts in our website, to give the reader some knowledge about South Korea, because to understand the current South Korea you need to know about the past of the Korean peninsula. So we wrote the facts one after another, connected to the places we visited. From there we wrote a overall analysis of the epochs, connecting the epoch to the visited places.

Workflow diagram

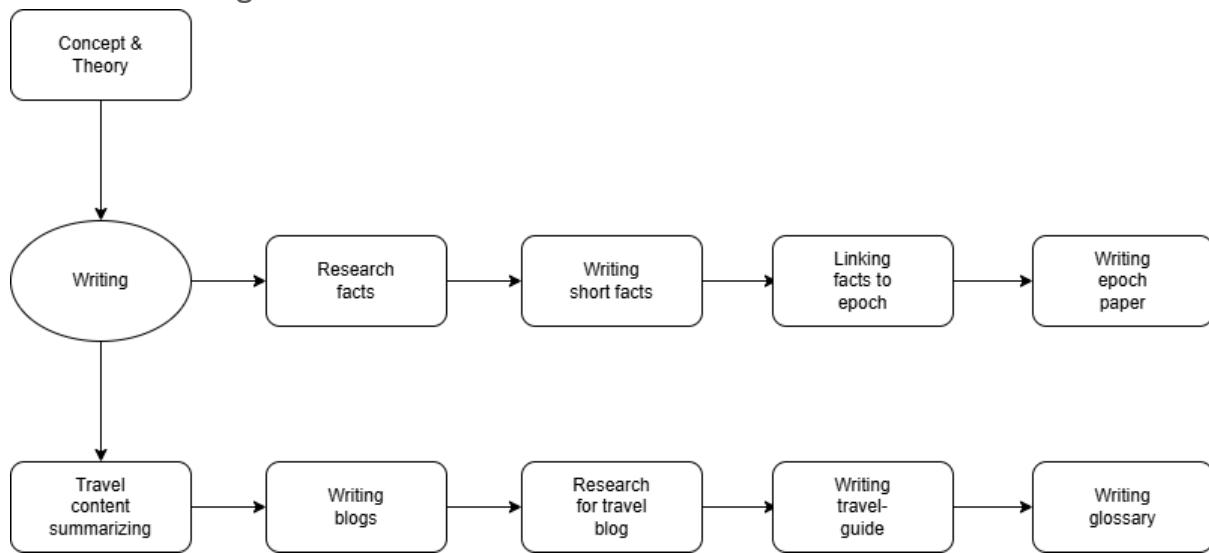


Figure 3: Workflow diagram

5.1 Two Week Blog

By Maurin Aaron Dietschi



Figure 4: Gyeongbokgung Palace main Temple

South Korea had been on my travel list for a long time. I'd always been fascinated by its mix of old and new, ancient palaces next to neon-lit gaming cafés, the smell of street food drifting through modern city streets, and the rhythm of a culture that feels both futuristic and deeply traditional.

This spring, I finally spent two unforgettable weeks traveling through the country with a friend, from Seoul's bustling neighbourhoods to Gyeongju's historic treasures, Busan's coastal charm, and Jeonju's traditional beauty.

This blog tells the story of that trip:

- what we did
- what we ate
- where we stayed
- and the small moments in between

At the same time, I hope it can serve as inspiration and a practical reference for anyone planning their own journey through South Korea.

5.1.1 How to Use This Blog

This post is structured as a day-by-day itinerary, but you don't have to follow it exactly.

You can:

- Follow the full two-week route (Seoul → Gyeongju → Busan → Jeonju → Seoul)
- Pick single cities (e.g. just Busan or just Jeonju) and use the relevant days
- Use the "Things to do" / "Where to eat" sections to build your own schedule

5.1.2 Trip Snapshot

Duration: 14 days

Route: Seoul → Gyeongju → Busan → Jeonju → Seoul

Best for: Young adults (20–30) who want a mix of culture, food, nightlife, gaming, and history

5.1.2.1 Rough structure:

- **Days 1–5:** Seoul (Insadong, Myeongdong, Hongdae, Gangnam, Seongsu)
- **Days 6–7:** Gyeongju (history + temples)
- **Days 8–9:** Busan (coastlines + culture)
- **Days 10–11:** Jeonju (hanok & food)
- **Days 12–13:** Seoul again (Hongdae & quiet corners)
- **Day 14:** Departure

5.1.2.2 Budget:

South Korea is not the cheapest place on earth, but as a Swiss person, it definitely feels cheaper compared to Switzerland. You can get a very good dinner for about **5–10 CHF**, including drinks. I spent about **700 CHF** for two weeks in South Korea, which amounts to roughly **1,277,698 won**. I paid around **1,053 CHF** for direct flights with Korean Air, and **600 CHF** for all the hotels.

So my total expenses for these two weeks were around **2,500 CHF**, and that was with a very comfortable lifestyle.

5.1.2.3 When to visit:

We went in April, and I would highly recommend it because of the mild temperatures, usually around **15–25°C** and the overall pleasant weather. I would discourage visiting in the peak summer months because of the heat and humidity. That said, every season in South Korea has its own charm and atmosphere.

5.1.2.4 Transportation:

I recommend buying a T-Money card at the start of your trip. It works for almost all buses and metros, and you can get one in most convenience stores. If you need to catch a bullet train (KTX) from Seoul to Busan, the best option is to go to the station one day before your trip and buy the ticket at the counter.

For navigation, use Google Maps and Kakao Maps, I recommend using both because they sometimes show different routes. Public transport can take you almost everywhere, and taxis are also available, although they are not always the cheapest option.

Our train times with the KTX (bullet train):

- Seoul Station → Gyeongju Station: **2 h 20 min**
- Gyeongju Station → Busan Station: **30 min**
- Busan Station → Jeonju Station: **2 h 58 min**
- Jeonju Station → Seoul Station: **1 h 59 min**

5.1.3 Day 1 – Arriving in Seoul

We landed at Seoul Incheon Airport around 2 p.m. and caught a train to our hotel in Insadong, a very central area of Seoul that is still relatively quiet. It's a great base because it's close to historic sites like Gyeongbokgung Palace, and not too far from Myeongdong, which is busy and full of life day and night.

That afternoon and evening, we explored Myeongdong's alleys, tried Korean BBQ, and ended the night in a small local bar. The energy of the city hit us instantly, loud, colourful, and alive.

Things to do in Myeongdong:

- Wander the packed streets full of **street food stalls and shops**
- Explore Korean **skincare and beauty stores**
- Visit the **Myeongdong Cathedral**

Where to eat:

Myeongdong Korean BBQ All You Can Eat Pig Company

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/U3ogKAT2Y1DwfTrR8>

Where we stayed:

Hotel Prima Seoul: *The hotel was very good — modern rooms, friendly staff, and even a coin laundry for our dirty clothes. The location was superb, so I would highly recommend it.* -

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/3ScAyy6894m8syxZ8>



Figure 6: Myeongdong



Figure 5: All you can Eat K-BBQ

5.1.4 Day 2 – Palaces and Hanok Villages

We started the morning exploring Bukchon Hanok Village, a neighbourhood full of traditional Korean houses between Gyeongbokgung and Changdeokgung Palaces. Walking there felt like time-travel, from modern streets to old alleys and tiled roofs.

Even though it's a cool place to visit, I was slightly disappointed. It felt more like a regular neighbourhood than the fully “traditional” atmosphere I had expected, but it was still worth seeing.

Later, we visited Gyeongbokgung and Changdeokgung Palaces, learning about Korea's royal history and architecture. You can stroll around quite freely and there's a lot of information to take in, from the Japanese occupation to the development of the palace complexes. There, you can also witness a traditional reenactment of the Joseon Dynasty's royal guard-changing ceremony. Entry tickets cost 3'000 Won each.

In the afternoon, we went to the T1 Basecamp in Hongdae, an esports-center popular among gaming enthusiasts. We had a light lunch, played a few matches, and enjoyed the vibrant atmosphere of the esports community.

Later, we explored the Insadong area near our hotel and discovered a hidden gem of a restaurant, Insadong Maneul Bossam. They served traditional set meals with Bossam (boiled pork belly) and spring onion pancakes, which were absolutely delicious. Paired with a savoury chestnut makgeolli, it was the perfect way to end the evening.

Things to do:

- Visit **Gyeongbokgung** and **Changdeokgung** Palaces (must-sees for first-time visitors)
- Walk through **Bukchon Hanok Village**
- Experience Korean gaming culture at **T1 Basecamp** in Hongdae

Where to eat:

Insadong Maneul Bossam

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/KGZHH59qE1Wk343e7>



Figure 7: Gyeongbokgung Palace



Figure 8: Bossam



Figure 9: Seoul Night sky

5.1.5 Day 3 – The DMZ Experience and Yeouido Hangang Nights

Our third day was something completely different: the DMZ Tour near the North Korean border. It was an emotional and educational experience, learning about the history and tension between the two Koreas left a deep impression. We took a guided tour from GetYourGuide, which I highly recommend.

Back in Seoul, we relaxed at Yeouido Hangang Park, where a street food festival was happening. Locals picnicked by the river, couples biked past, and live music played as the sun set. We ate corn dogs, tteokbokki, fried chicken, and for dessert some delicious hotteok.

Things to do:

- DMZ Tour:
<https://www.getyourguide.de/seoul-l197/seoul-dmz-tour-mit-optionaler-hangebrücke-t63099/>
- Yeouido Hangang Park
- Banpo Bridge Moonlight Rainbow Fountain

What to try:

- Korean corn dog
- Tteokbokki (spicy rice cakes)
- Korean fried chicken
- Hotteok (sweet pancakes)



Figure 10: North Korea



Figure 11: Demilitarized Zone

5.1.6 Day 4 – Namsan Hike & Seongsu Exploration

We hiked up to N Seoul Tower in the morning. The trail was calm and green, offering amazing views once we reached the top. We grabbed a quick breakfast at Starbucks in the tower and used the time to plan the rest of our day.

Afterwards, we walked back through the Namsan Botanical Garden, enjoyed the relaxed atmosphere, and even chatted with a Korean grandpa about Seoul. Then we took the subway towards Seongsu.

Seongsu is full of indie cafés, art shops, and street murals. We had lunch at Seongsu Darak, explored Seoul Forest Park full of cherry blossoms and the deer corral, and then went shopping for some vintage clothing (which was a bit challenging for my rather large build). We ended the day with ramen at Nirou Mian Guan, a place with multiple Michelin awards.

Things to do:

- Walk through the forest up to **N Seoul Tower**
- Explore the **Seongsu** area: cafés, shops, Seoul Forest

Food spots:

- **Seongsu Darak** – <https://maps.app.goo.gl/fKH4BTJLj1hHV5Zq7>
- **Nirou Mian Guan** – <https://maps.app.goo.gl/XHMqaaE3Z9a5SeUS6>



Figure 12: Omu Rice



Figure 13: N Seoul Tower



Figure 14: Namsan Botanical Garden

5.1.7 Day 5 – Gangnam Style: Temples & Tombs

We spent the day in Gangnam, Seoul's modern and stylish district. After a late breakfast at Cheonsang Gaok, where we enjoyed their delicious salt bread. We decided to skip lunch. The contrast throughout the day was striking: we began at Bongeunsa Temple, a serene space surrounded by skyscrapers, lush nature, and an impressive standing Buddha statue. We then visited the Starfield Library inside the COEX Mall, a dreamlike place for book lovers, and made a quick stop at the Gangnam Style statue, an iconic photo spot just outside the mall.

In the afternoon, we walked through the Seolleung and Jeongneung Royal Tombs, a peaceful and green historic site hidden in the middle of the city. For dinner, we went to Oncheonjip, a restaurant well known for its excellent shabu shabu.

Things to do in Gangnam:

- **Bongeunsa Temple**
- **Starfield Library (COEX Mall)**
- **Seolleung and Jeongneung Royal Tombs**

Where to eat:

- **Cheonsang Gaok** – <https://maps.app.goo.gl/YTzYA8UWrSp6kcSp7>
- **Oncheonjip** – <https://maps.app.goo.gl/dUoMaSLXPRpnYuKu8>

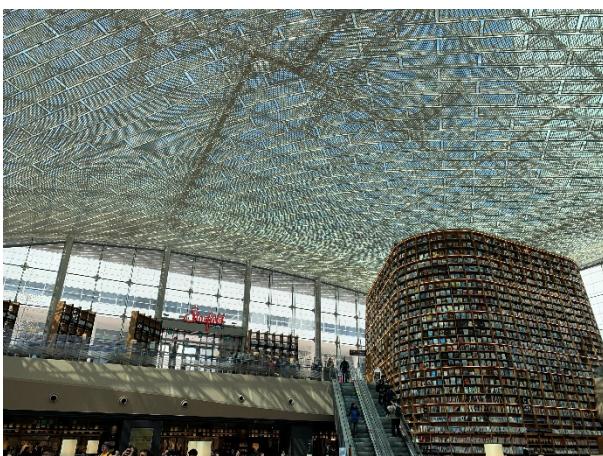


Figure 15: Starfield Library



Figure 16: Bongeunsa Temple



Figure 17: Buddha Statue



Figure 18: Shabu Shabu

5.1.8 Day 6 – History Comes Alive in Gyeongju

Early in the morning, we took the train to Gyeongju, often called Korea's "museum without walls." The city is full of historical treasures.

We began at the Gyeongju National Museum, which presents Korea's history from the Bronze Age to the Unified Silla period, displaying ancient artifacts, statues, and massive ceremonial bells.

We continued to Banwolseong, a forested archaeological site where many ancient artifacts have been discovered. This area includes the remains of the old Silla fortress and offers a peaceful walk through nature.

Another stop was Cheomseongdae Observatory, one of Korea's most famous historic landmarks. Surrounded by flower fields, it looks almost like a giant stone furnace rising from the ground.

We also explored the Tomb of King Michu of Silla, part of a royal burial complex from the Silla era. You can even enter one of the tombs to see the interior structure, which was incredibly impressive.

Later, we saw Woljeonggyo Bridge, which was another highlight of the day. We also visited this in the evening, and I can only recommend it, the bridge glows beautifully in the shimmering lights, creating a perfect photo spot. You can even cross the river on stepping stones and admire the view from below.

From there, we visited Wolji Pond, known for its beautiful pavilions, pagodas, and surrounding nature. I especially recommend visiting in the evening, the entire area is illuminated in a mysterious, atmospheric light accompanied by soft music.

It was one of my favourite day, a perfect blend of nature, history, and culture.

Must-sees in Gyeongju:

- Gyeongju National Museum
- Wolji Pond
- Woljeonggyo Bridge
- Tomb of King Michu of Silla

What to eat:

Yangbanjib – <https://maps.app.goo.gl/DdzKmKHMTaWnjcFr6>

Where we stayed:

Yettle Hanok Stay: *The hanok was fantastic, the owner helped us plan our two days in Gyeongju and even gave us a map to find our way around. It was comfortable, traditional, and I would highly recommend staying here.* - <https://maps.app.goo.gl/asRLp7rwJRpubiM48>



Figure 19: Gyeongju National Museum

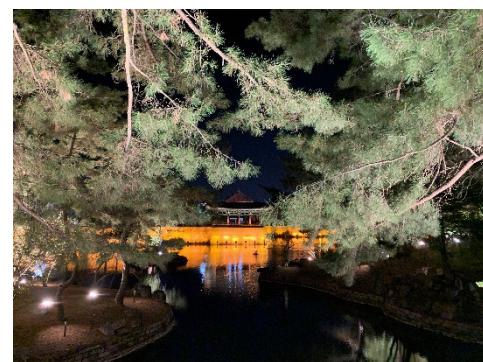


Figure 20: Wolji Pond

5.1.9 Day 7 – Temples and Tranquility

We continued exploring Gyeongju with visits to Bulguksa Temple and Seokguram Grotto, both recognized as UNESCO World Heritage Sites. While you're there, you can also try Hwangnam-ppang, a local Gyeongju specialty made from red bean paste and soft pastry.

To reach Seokguram Grotto, you can either take the shuttle bus up the mountain or walk the entire way. I highly recommend taking the bus up and then walking back down afterward, the trail is peaceful and offers beautiful views.

Later, we visited Jungdo Tower, which rises impressively over the surrounding village. Afterwards, we walked around the serene Bomun Lake and took a break at Page 9 Café, a perfect spot to rest and enjoy the view.

In the evening, we took the bus back to central Gyeongju. We wandered through the Gyochoon Traditional Village, filled with restaurants, tea houses, and small shop, a great place to rest, eat, and explore traditional Korean culture. Then we had dinner at Tiger Katsu, a restaurant known for serving delicious Japanese-style pork katsu.

Things to do:

- Bulguksa Temple
- Seokguram Grotto
- Bomun Lake

Local cafés or restaurants:

- Page 9 Café – <https://maps.app.goo.gl/jCyAqY6mtQkoKn9w6>
- Gyeongju restaurant Tigerkatsu – <https://maps.app.goo.gl/znCaL6PBoK5a5Sjx8>



Figure 21: Bulguksa Temple



Figure 22: Jungdo Tower



Figure 23: Temple World Heritage



Figure 24: Hwangnam-ppang

5.1.10 Day 8 – Welcome to Busan

The next morning, we took the train to Busan and checked into our hotel in the Sinchang-dong district. We spent the first part of the day at Haeundae Beach and explored the nearby Haeundae Traditional Market, which was full of snacks and local specialties.

For a spectacular view of the coastline, we visited Busan X the SKY and went up to the 101st floor, nearly 400 meters above ground. The panorama from up there was incredible.

Later, we rode the Haeundae Blueline Park train for stunning coastal views before heading to the Haedong Yonggungsa Temple. This temple is built directly on the cliffs overlooking the sea, making it one of the most unique temple settings in Korea.

In the evening, we returned to our district and had dinner at a traditional restaurant, where we enjoyed a comforting kimchi stew.

Things to do:

- Haeundae Beach
- Busan X the SKY
- Haedong Yonggungsa Temple

Where to eat:

Sulodang – <https://maps.app.goo.gl/znCaL6PBoK5a5Sjx8>

Where we stayed:

GNB Hotel: *The hotel was quite good, not exceptional, but in a convenient location and at a great price.* – <https://maps.app.goo.gl/wtsy4ZVYMHjmV7V56>



Figure 25: Busan Sky



Figure 26: Coin Flip



Figure 28: Haedong Yonggungsa Temple



Figure 27: Busan View

5.1.11 Day 9 – Culture and Coastlines

The next day was all about culture and colour. We started early and took a bus to Taejongdae Park, where we spent the morning walking through nature and enjoying incredible views of the cliffs and the ocean. We also grabbed a few snacks near the lighthouse before heading back.

In the afternoon, we visited Gamcheon Culture Village, a place with a completely different atmosphere from the rest of Busan. It's artistic, vibrant, and slightly chaotic in a way that feels both nostalgic and unique. We stopped at DUF Coffee for an iced latte during our walk, which was a great break in the middle of all the exploring.

Part of Gamcheon's charm comes from its history, the village was shaped by families who settled there during difficult times, including refugees from the North, which gives the area a special cultural background.

In the evening, we went to BIFF Square and had dakgalbi, which ended up being one of my favourite meals of the entire trip.

Top tips:

- Gamcheon Culture Village
- Taejongdae Park
- BIFF Square

Cafés & Food:

- **DUF Coffee** – <https://maps.app.goo.gl/G9pUrrPp4pvFkK6p7>
- **Dakgalbi** – <https://maps.app.goo.gl/JctqvaomjnCAEQZQ9>



Figure 29: Ocean View Taejongdae



Figure 30: Gamcheon Village



Figure 31: DUF Coffee

5.1.12 Day 10 – Jeonju's Hanok Beauty

The next morning, we took the train to Jeonju, which took about two hours since there is no direct connection from Busan. Jeonju is famous for its Hanok Village and rich food culture, so we were excited to explore.

Our first stop was Gyeonggijeon Shrine, where you can walk around freely and enjoy the peaceful atmosphere and traditional architecture. For lunch, we tried a viral spot called Goof-Off, known for its Italian Korean fusion dishes, which turned out to be surprisingly good.

In the afternoon, we visited Jeondong Cathedral and Nambu Market, then wandered through streets filled with people wearing traditional hanbok, which gave the whole area a lively and festive feeling. For dinner, we chose a small, very traditional family-run restaurant. It was just a father, mother, and their daughter running the place, and they served some truly delicious home-style cold noodles.

Things to do in Jeonju:

- Gyeonggijeon Shrine
- Walk through the Hanok Village
- Explore Nambu Market

Must-eats:

- **Goof-Off** – <https://maps.app.goo.gl/BkbjjCzrdCq2x1zw5>
- **Ucheon Kudzu** – <https://maps.app.goo.gl/u5SF3QRZaJHJ5L5a8>

Where we stayed:

And Spring: The And Spring Airbnb was fantastic. It was quite small, but the location makes up for it, you can't be more in the centre of Jeonju. Since you won't spend much time in the room anyway, it's perfect. I highly recommend this place. – <https://maps.app.goo.gl/xpRnLuGZLRqTt1xRA>



Figure 32: Traditional Village



Figure 33: Fusion Pasta



Figure 34: Jeonju Bridge



Figure 35: Pavillion

5.1.13 Day 11 – Hikes and Hidden Corners

Today, we hiked Gilinbong Mountain, where the fresh air and peaceful nature made the climb incredibly enjoyable. From the top, you get a beautiful view over the Hanok Village, which feels especially unique from above.

After the hike, we explored the ruins of Donggosanseong Fortress. The site is quite large, and you can still see sections of the old walls scattered across the mountain, giving a strong sense of the area's historical scale.

Later, we walked around Ajung Lake and relaxed with matcha cheesecake and an iced matcha latte. The matcha was sourced from Jeju Island, which made the experience even more special.

In the afternoon, we continued through Jaman Mural Village to Omokdae, a viewpoint that offers a closer look over the Hanok Village and surrounding scenery. Afterwards, we walked along the river and had a friendly conversation with some locals, who recommended a place for dinner.

Before eating, we stopped by VIBRA, a vintage shop where we found some great pieces. For dinner, we went to Ondam, a restaurant known for its premium Korean pork BBQ, and it was absolutely fantastic.

Things to do:

- Gilinbong Mountain
- Ajung Lake
- Jaman Mural Village & Omokdae

Where to eat:

- Ondam – <https://maps.app.goo.gl/183yW7wUCcQVbDX97>
- Ajuleu - <https://maps.app.goo.gl/y8xUWASkMqJAjEat7>



Figure 36: Ajuleu

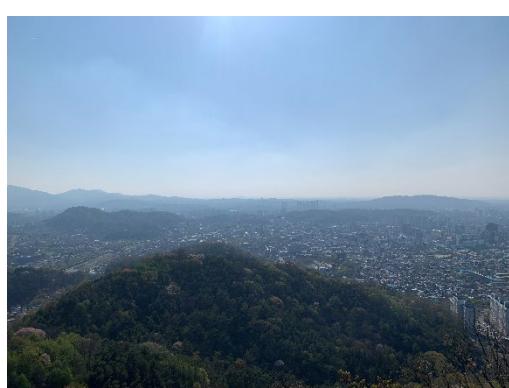


Figure 37: Gilinbong Mountain



Figure 38: Jaman Mural Village

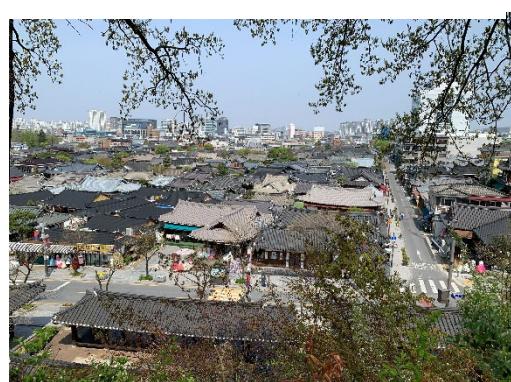


Figure 39: Omokdae

5.1.14 Day 12 – Hongdae Nights

Back in Seoul, we explored Hongdae, an area known for its street performances, vibrant art scene, and lively nightlife. We also visited Haneul Park, famous for its vast open fields and panoramic views over the city.

For lunch, we stopped by a Michelin Guide–listed ramen restaurant, which was outstanding. Afterwards, we spent some time walking along the Hongdae Shopping Street, browsing the shops and soaking up the energetic atmosphere.

In the evening, we joined a pub crawl and met new friends, Lydia from Taiwan and Bruno from the Netherlands. We visited four different clubs and bars together and ended up dancing until 3 a.m.

Things to do in Hongdae:

- Hongdae Shopping Street
- Haneul Park
- Pub crawl / nightlife

Evening eats & drinks:

- Dokkaebi Party House – <https://maps.app.goo.gl/sb7zy4tTXA6fvfHx9>
- KB2 – <https://maps.app.goo.gl/NPEho4H86khzhZ6J9>
- La Bamba – <https://maps.app.goo.gl/1ohSFu9bguVshowH8>
- Playground Pub – <https://maps.app.goo.gl/ijrRBbimYcQugEzQA>
- Oreno Ramen – <https://maps.app.goo.gl/PSAuMoibAHH9Rgcq5>

Where we stayed:

Arirang Hill Hotel Dongdaemun: The hotel was excellent, friendly staff and a surprisingly large room for Seoul. The only downside was the location, which wasn't within walking distance of most places I wanted to visit. However, with a metro station right around the corner, it wasn't a big issue. – <https://maps.app.goo.gl/an8w6jeyEH1jTySBA>



Figure 40: KB2 Club



Figure 41: Dokkaebi Party House



Figure 42: Oreno Ramen

5.1.15 Day 13 – Calm Corners of Seoul

After a late morning, I visited the Cheongun Literature Library and the Hill of Poet Yun Dong-ju a quiet, reflective places that reveal a calmer and more contemplative side of the city. Near these two sights, there is an art museum that blends traditional and modern styles. Seokpajeong features impressive works of art as well as a beautiful garden and a small temple area at the top.

Afterwards, I took the bus to Café Pokpo, which offers a variety of drinks and snacks. The highlight is the view: you can sit outside and watch the waterfall flowing directly behind the café.

I finished the day gaming with Bruno at the T1 Base Camp. Bruno had an account that allowed us to play on the Korean server, something usually not possible due to South Korean gaming regulations, which made the experience even more fun and unique.

Later in the evening, I met Lydia for dinner, and we enjoyed some incredible soba noodles together.

Things to do:

- Cheongun Literature Library
- Seokpajeong
- Café Pokpo

Where to chill:

- Café Pokpo – <https://maps.app.goo.gl/mUp37LhHWGy5aDjYA>
- Kandasoba Hongdae - <https://maps.app.goo.gl/BJRgrVQ8CaxqQDqr9>



Figure 43: Cheongun Library

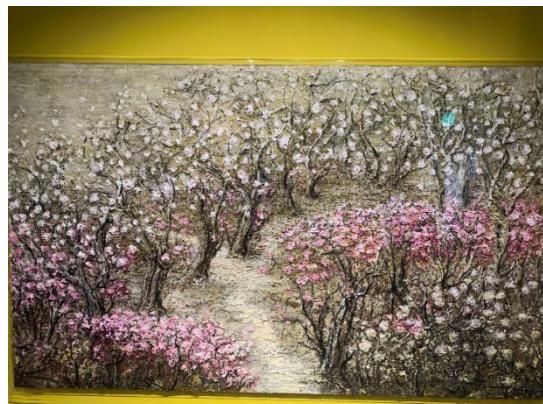


Figure 44: Blossom Painting



Figure 45: Selfie with Lydia



Figure 46: Café Pokpo

v

5.1.16 Day 14 – Farewell

We almost missed our flight to Zurich because we overslept, classic. With some quick thinking and a taxi driver who must have been secretly training for Formula 1, we made it to Incheon Airport just in time. We were so late that we couldn't even check in our luggage, so we had to drag everything through security. I ended up losing a few souvenirs and my razor blades, which security definitely didn't appreciate.

Still, we somehow reached the gate with only five minutes left before boarding. Completely out of breath and sweating, we collapsed into our seats as the plane took off. Watching Seoul shrink beneath the clouds, it hit me how much these two weeks meant.

South Korea isn't just a place you visit, it's a place that stays with you.



Figure 47: View from N-Seoul Hill

5.1.17 Final Thoughts

These two weeks in South Korea combined everything I love about travel:

- **History and culture** that you can feel in the streets
- **Food** that you still think about months later
- **People and moments** that turn into stories you keep telling

If you're in your twenties, curious about East Asia, and open to mixing palaces, gaming cafés, beaches, bars, temples, and street food, South Korea is the perfect place to start.

If I had more time, I would have invested 1 week on Jeju Island, visiting the mountains and the Beaches. Aside from that, I would also have liked to have more time in Seoul, so I could do some daytrips from there.

If you're in South Korea for the first time, I would recommend staying flexible, things will never go exactly as planned, so just walk around, explore, and let things happen naturally. And be sure to have some cash on you: most places accept card, but some remote shops only accept cash.

5.1.18 decision

The decision to include a two-week travel blog was based on the fact that Maurin spent two weeks in South Korea, allowing for the creation of an authentic and realistic itinerary. Two weeks represent a common travel duration for young adults and provide a balanced combination of major cities, cultural highlights, and personal experiences without overwhelming the reader. The blog was written in a day-by-day format so that it can be easily followed. Readers can either complete the full route or selectively choose individual days or destinations based on their interests. Additional information such as budget, transportation, and train connections was deliberately included, as these were aspects we found particularly important when planning our own trips.

5.2 Three-Week-blog



Figure 48: Jeju Sunset

Like many vacations, mine started with the task of getting there first. It is a long flight, between 13-15 hours to be exact. It's not my first time flying this distance so I'm not very anxious and I'm already accustomed to the whole process.

This time we split the flight into two parts. First, we fly to Istanbul in Turkey where we will transfer to a connecting flight which will go straight to Incheon in Korea. Over the year my mother and I often split the flight into two parts because it's cheaper this way.

5.2.1 Trip Snapshot

Duration: 21 days

Route: Seoul → Jeju → Busan → Seoul → Gangneung → Seoul

Best for: Travelers who want a deep dive into Korea, from the bustling capital to the volcanic island of Jeju and the eastern coastline.

5.2.2 Day 1 – Arrival in Korea, 28.9.25

Like many vacations mine started with the task of getting there first. It is a long flight, between 13-15 hours to be exact. It's not my first time flying this distance so I'm not very anxious and I'm already accustomed to the whole process. This time we split the flight into two parts. First, we fly to Istanbul in Turkey where we will transfer to a connecting flight which will go straight to Incheon in Korea.

Over the year my mother and I often split the flight into two parts because it's cheaper this way.

We arrived it was 10 in the morning in Korea. First thing we did after we got off the flight and recovered our baggage was to go get some coffee in a nearby coffee shop.

After checking in in our hotel we went to Gwangjang market in the middle of Seoul, an old but iconic market with tons of street food vendors and many little alleys branching off where you can find many different things. Highly recommended to check it out.

We also went to the COEX, a big shopping mall, with a big library right in the middle of it. It's the perfect place to do some shopping and have some impressive visuals at the same time.

In the evening, we roamed around the streets in Hongdae. These streets are always busy but they really come alive in the evening. Many young people come here in the evening and either do shopping, go to karaoke or even do street performances.



Figure 49: Coex Mall



Figure 50: Gwangjang market



Figure 51: Exploring Seoul

5.2.3 Day 2 – Namsan Tower and Korean BBQ, 29.9.25

Our second day started with us visiting a shop we visited often in the morning from now on. It called “Paris Baguette”, a chain brand, and it is a little shop with a lot of different baked goods, coffee, juice, cake and more. It’s a perfect place for us western people to get our breakfast we’re so used to. The only problem we had was that most things were sweet, the only thing that wasn’t sweetened or glazed/covered in sugar was the baguette. Still, I recommend this place for anyone that is looking for a simple breakfast with some bread and jam and some coffee to go along with.

Today’s plan is to visit the Namsan Tower, also called the Seoul Tower. It is stationed in the centre of Seoul on top of a slightly larger hill called Namsan mountain. And as we found out, there are quite a few ways to get up to the tower because every time we went up that mountain we took a different path. There is the most popular way, which is a trail-like path with lots of big but not very high stair steps, along which there are some beautiful viewpoints to look upon the city. Another way is to take the cable car from the bottom to just below the top, which also provides quite a view. Third way is to follow a road, which leads slowly around and up the mountain. It’s less steep but also takes longer to get to the top. And the way we took, a rather steep and direct stairway practically from the bottom straight to the top. It didn’t really provide a view of the city because it led through a forest and was also quite an exhausting exercise, but it was still a nice path and also quite fast. Once on top of the mountain we of course also went up the tower and at the top awaited a fantastic overview of the whole city of Seoul. Every time we do this it’s a nice experience, and I can fully recommend this little trip up the mountain. At the top of the tower is also the souvenir shop and a small café to have a drink with your view.

In the evening, we went to eat Korean BBQ to close out the day. Just be careful if you don’t eat pork because not all BBQ-places also offer beef to grill.



Figure 52: K-BBQ

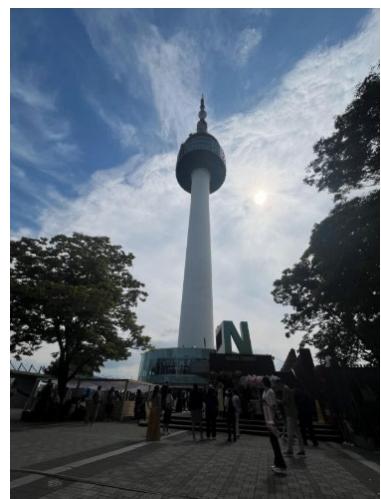


Figure 53: N-Tower



Figure 54: Hill View



Figure 55: Tower View

5.2.4 Day 3 – Arrival in Jeju, 30.9.25

On the 3rd day we flew to Jeju-do. We could leave most of our luggage in Seoul and could travel with lighter baggage. Getting on the flight and the flight itself were pretty nice and went without problems. Just when we arrived in Jeju we ran into a problem. Thing is, we rented a car to be a bit more independent and drive around Jeju, but we couldn't find the car rental facility anywhere. Turns out you need to take a specific Shuttlebus that takes you to the correct car rental company. After we found that out, we could claim our car and went to the city to check into our Hotel. For the rest of the day, we explored Jeju city a bit more and went into a small restaurant to eat dinner. There we had a simple bibimbap and some Mandu.



Figure 56: Bibimbap



Figure 57: Jeju Arrival

5.2.5 Day 4 – Traveling around the northside of Jeju – 1.10.25

On the 4th day we went sightseeing around the island and stopped by various locations. First stop was a very nice little beach, Kimnyeong beach, on the north side of the island. The beach was very clean and there were not many people. It was even warm enough to go swimming.

After that we visited our next stop, that one being Maze Land, a maze garden and museum where we spent some time finding our way through the mazes and exploring the park.

Our last stop for the day was the Seongsan Ilchulbong, a small volcanic crater you can hike up. We did not do it this time because it was already getting late but it was still impressive to see this mountain from the bottom.



Figure 58: Jeju Stone Beach



Figure 59: Jeju Landscape

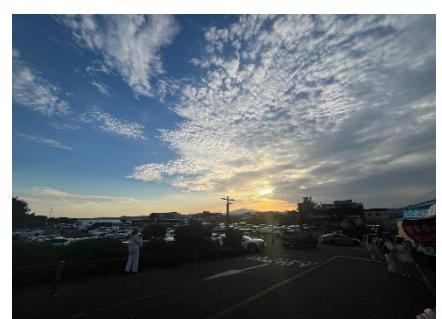


Figure 60: Sunset in jeju

5.2.6 Day 5 – Traveling around the southside of Jeju, 2.10.25

We spent our third day on Jeju-do similar to our second day by going to various destinations on the island, but this time in the south of the island. First stop was Songak-san, which not only was a beautiful trail, but also provided a nice ocean view.

After that we went to look at a Buddhistic temple in the area, called the Sangbansan Bomunsa temple. It really felt like the time there had stopped, and you could get some insight into the old days of Korea. If you are in the area, I'd recommend you take a look. As for our third place to visit, that was the Cheonjeyon Waterfalls. I had actually visited those quite a few years ago, but I don't have many memories of that, so it was kind of a first time for me, nonetheless. Like many other destinations in Jeju, it was a nice experience but sadly also not quite complete because one of the big waterfalls wasn't actually flowing. There were still many other spots and views that delivered so the trip was still worth it.

On our way back to our hotel we stopped at a restaurant called Jeju Yechan to try the Jeju famous black Pork. The thing we ordered was a real feast and also really tasty, but to be honest, I did not notice anything special about the meat coming from the "black pork". Still worth a try.

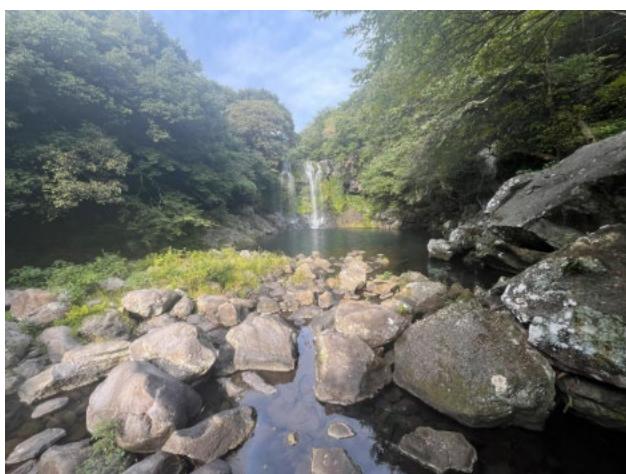


Figure 61: Cheonjeyon Waterfall



Figure 62: Sangbansan Bomunsa



Figure 63: Staircase with Buddha Statues

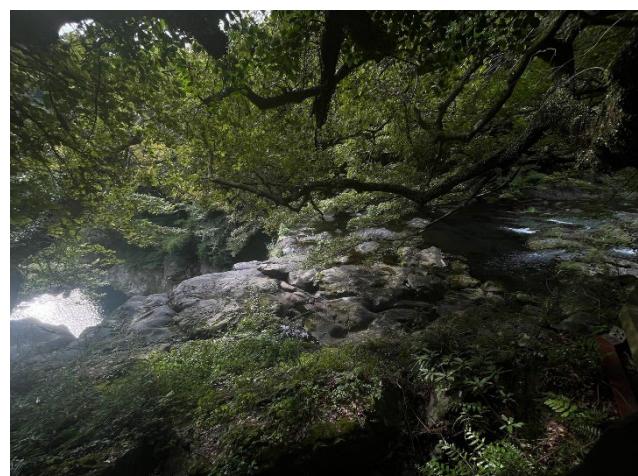


Figure 64: Songgak-san

5.2.7 Day 6 – Arrival in Busan, 3.10.25

Today we flew from Jeju-do back to mainland Korea to Busan, one of the biggest coastal cities of Korea. We did not do much today, most time was spent sleeping in, packing our stuff and waiting at the airport.

We had some time left to spend in the evening which we used to explore the Gwangbok-ro fashion street. It felt like Hongdae in Seoul, just a little smaller. There we also ate some Katsu-don for dinner.



Figure 65: Food in Hongdae



Figure 66: Gwangbok-ro

5.2.8 Day 7 – Busan Tower and Jagalchi Market, 4.10.25

Today we went to the Busan tower. It's similar to the Seoul tower but quite a bit smaller in comparison. It also has a park beneath it to walk through which was enjoyable. The tower itself provides a good overlook over Busan but there are better alternatives as you will see later.

After that we spent most of the day at the Jagalchi fish market. Busan is famous for this market. Here you have vendors with all sorts of fish and ocean-related food, dried, alive and in between. The specialty is that you can go to a vendor, tell them which fish or seafood you want to eat and how and then take the live creature out of the tank and send it up to a kitchen where it is served very fresh. We of course did that and took a fish and a king crab, which were both very delicious. Highly recommended.

In the evening, we went to Gwangbok-ro again, where we ate some Bingsu as dessert, shaved ice with different toppings.



Figure 67: Jagalchi Fish Market



Figure 68: Fish Tank



Figure 69: Bingsu

5.2.9 Day 8 – Skywalk and Busan x The Sky, 5.10.25

On this day we went to Haeundae, the modern part of Busan, where we checked out several things. First up was the Cheongsapo Daritol Skywalk. This is a bridge-like structure with a glass floor that leads out towards the ocean, loops around and comes back to the shore. It's a fun little experience staring down 15 meters into the ocean.

Next up was Busan x The Sky, a viewpoint on the 100th floor of one of the tallest buildings in Busan. We had some problems with finding the entrance, but it did provide a better view than the Busan tower.

The dinner we had was one of the best I had all my stay. It was Dakgalbi at a place called Premium Dakgalbi. The food is delicious, and I highly recommend checking it out.



Figure 70: Dakgalbi



Figure 71: Skywalk



Figure 72: The Sky

5.2.10 Day 9 – Chuseok – 6.10.25

It was Chuseok, Korea's national harvest holiday, so most of the nation was closed and spending time with the family. So, as you can imagine, we didn't do much today, just went to Haeundae again and spent some time at the beach.



Figure 73 Kakao Teddy



Figure 74: Haeundae Street

5.2.11 Day 10 – Travel back to Seoul, 7.10.25

This day was also pretty uneventful, because we spent all day traveling. At first it was planned we take the high-speed train back to Seoul, but because of Chuseok all the trains were booked out and the agency that should organize the tickets offered the solution to travel back per bus. Little did we know we would be on the road for 11 hours instead of 6 because of all the traffic also because of Chuseok.



Figure 75: Family Meal

5.2.12 Day 11 – Back in Seoul – 8.10.25

Today we met up with some friends at the Gwangjang market. We went through the market again and had some Tteokbukki and Kimbap. This time I also got myself a Hanbok, the traditional Korean clothing.

Next up after that we went to Hanok Bukchon village, an area in Seoul that is still like in the style of the old times, with traditional houses. It's a very popular tourist spot and to be honest it's kinda overrated. With all the people there it's not very enjoyable and you are better off visiting another Hanok village.

On our way back we stopped at the KFM-Center, a museum that shows the basics of Korean food culture and how it was traditionally made. The entry was free so if you plan to visit this Hanok village, I recommend you also check this out.

Next stop was Insadong. This is another one of the big markets of Seoul. Insadong is just a street with shops left and right where you can find nearly everything. It's one of my favourite Spots in Seoul and I recommend visiting.

In the evening, we roamed around in Hongdae again and tried the karaoke. I've never been to a karaoke booth, but it was a really good first experience and I would definitely do it again.



Figure 76: Insadong



Figure 77: Korean Chicken

5.2.13 Day 12 – T1 Headquarters, 9.10.25

Today we went to the T1 Headquarters. T1 is one if not Korea's biggest E-sports organization and is especially famous for League of Legends. So, if you're not a big E-sports or LoL fan, it's probably not that interesting.

But if you are interested, I do recommend checking it out. The T1 Headquarters include a gift shop and a café where you can find all of the trophies and achievements displayed and also some other niche things that might be interesting for a fan.



Figure 78: T1-Basecamp



Figure 79: T1 Team



Figure 80: Kakao Friends Team

5.2.14 Day 13 – Shopping Day, 11.10.25

Today we went to Gangneung by train. Gangneung is a coastal city in the east part of Korea. We spent our day travelling there by train in the morning and then explore the city a bit more in the afternoon. Upon arrival we found out that Gangneung was part of the 2018 Winter Olympics that happened in Korea, so there are quite a few destinations with that as its theme.

Upon wandering around in the direction of the Gangneung Jungang Market a bit more we found some small, beautiful little spots to take some pictures. But our main goal was the market. It was similar to the Gwangjang market of Seoul, just a little smaller and there were a lot more local specialties you can buy. For example, there was a lot of dried seafood, local condiments and also rice crackers. After spending the rest of the afternoon there we went back to the hotel and only stopped at a small restaurant to eat Yukgaejang for dinner.



Figure 81: Gangneung Temple



Figure 82: Koi Fish

5.2.15 Day 14 – Exploring around Gangneung, 12.10.25

Starting off the day, we went to eat something for breakfast and found this little café called “A brick” near the main station of Gangneung. It’s a small café run by an elderly lady and they made some of the best waffles, cakes and coffee I’ve ever had. The atmosphere is very calm, and the lady is very sweet. I highly recommend checking it out if you’re ever in Gangneung.

Because it was raining very heavily today, we went to the Gyongpo Aquarium and explored that for a while. Honestly, it was bigger and better than I expected, and we even were there at the right time to witness feeding time of the otters and penguins. For the rest of the day, we did not do much more and we couldn’t even go and walk around for a bit because of the heavy rain, so we went back to the hotel and made ourselves comfortable there.



Figure 83: A Brick Cafe



Figure 84: Turtles

5.2.16 Day 15 – Donghae and Hanseom Beach, 13.10.25

The plan today was to go to Donghae and visit some tourist destinations there. We wanted to go Cheongok Golden Bat Cave, but for some reason it was closed, so we had to come up with an alternative.

We decided that we could check out the Hanseom beach and then take a walk along the shores. It was a nice trail with some beautiful views of the ocean. Sadly, the weather wasn’t that great so we could not enjoy it to the fullest. We also could only walk a small part of the whole trail because after a while we had to turn around to catch the train to get back to Gangneung.



Figure 85: Hanseom beach



Figure 86: Donghae Ocean View



Figure 88: Beach Walk
Hanseom



Figure 87: Pavillion in Donghae

5.2.17 Day 16 – Jeongdongjin, 14.10.25

Today we went to Jeongdongjin. It's another small coastal city that has nonetheless some places of interest. After we got off the train, we had to walk a bit to reach the city centre. We walked along the way through the Hourglass Park, a park dedicated to old time-measuring devices like sundials and hourglasses. It even has a museum, and the centrepiece of the park is a giant Hourglass that takes one year to fully deplete and then rolls over to start the cycle anew.

Next to the park was also a small viewing platform out on the ocean to take some pictures of the ocean and the whole area. Because the thing Jeongdongjin is most famous for is the hotel on a hill that is built like a cruise ship. The "Sun Cruise Hotel" is a ship on a hill that makes for an impressive visual towering on that hill. We went to check it out, but the way up there is not easy. We walked up, but it's a rather steep incline and there is no real sidewalk so it's easier and a bit safer to take a taxi. Up-close the hotel really does look like a real cruise ship with all the details. It has also garden structures surrounding it with some viewpoints to take photos. All in all if you're near Jeondongjin it's worth a visit.

For dinner we went into a nearby restaurant and ordered a special snow crab menu that then came with all possible side dishes and other seafood. It was not bad but not quite my taste.



Figure 89: Hourglass Park



Figure 90: Hand Statue



Figure 91: Giant Hourglass



Figure 92: Sun Cruise Hotel

5.2.18 Day 17 – Back to Seoul, 15.10.25

It's finally going back to Seoul. And because this was a travel day again, we didn't do much today except going to Hongdae in the evening again to eat something.



Figure 93: Fish Meal



Figure 94: Night in Seoul

5.2.19 Day 18 – Yonsei University and Namdaemun, 16.10.25

Today was packed again with sightseeing. First on the agenda was **the Yonsei University**, one of the biggest universities in Korea. The whole campus is the size of a small village and mostly open to the public. And let me tell you it was impressive. They have giant buildings for all possible faculties, an enormous library, their own hospital rivalling a major city hospital in size and so much more.

I don't want to spoil everything, so I highly recommend just checking it out yourself.

After that we craved some fried chicken, so we looked around for a bit and found a fried chicken restaurant pretty quick. Korea is famous for fried chicken, and it lived up to the expectations because it was really good.

Next on the list was the Namdaemun market, another one of Seoul's biggest markets.

Namdaemun is a big street market with many of the stalls selling clothing, food, cookware and medicine and supplements. It's a rather cheap environment but the quality is still quite good. If you're looking to just mindlessly stroll around and let yourself get guided by your own curiosity from one stall to the next, it's worth checking it out.



Figure 95: Yonsei Campus



Figure 96: Fried Chicken



Figure 97: Crosswalk

5.2.20 Day 19 – Han River Drone Show, 17.10.25

Today was something rather big planned. Seoul hosted a drone show every week during fall, stationed at the Jamsil Hangang park during the evening. But we still had some time to kill till then so we went to the Coex once again and after that we watched a live LoL Worlds match in the T1 Café that was located right next to the headquarters, which was a nice experience. Anyway, for the main attraction of the day, the drone show was starting soon. The entry is free so it was pretty clear that there would be many people. And even though it was very packed, we could wiggle our way through the crowd quite well and find a nice spot to look at the whole thing. Apparently, there was also a small concert also happening before and after the drone show, but we were there for the drones, so we did not see the other stuff that was happening. The drone show itself was quite the spectacle and my first time actually seeing something like that in person. The theme was Kakao Friends, the mascots of a very popular messenger service in Korea, similar to WhatsApp. I don't know how frequently this event happens, so if you get the chance to see it I can recommend it.



Figure 98: Drone Show Emojis



Figure 99: Drone show Text



Figure 100: T1 Academy

5.2.21 Day 20 – LoL Park and Gwanghwamun Square, 18.10.25

Our last day in Seoul we visited LoL Park, the big centre of LoL E-sports in Seoul. Once again this is more something for LoL fans but it's still interesting to give it a visit, even if you aren't a fan. It's located near Insadong and Gwanghwamun Square. LoL Park is located in a building on the 3rd floor. Inside you can find the Riot PC café, a merch shop, honourable mentions of legendary e-sports players and if you're lucky, you can get tickets and watch a live match in the arena.

For the rest of the day, we visited Gwanghwamun square and its surroundings. This is the square in front of the Gyeongbokgung palace, one of the biggest temples in Korea. Even though the temple is the main attraction, the square also left quite an impression. On the square you can find a monument dedicated to Yi Sun-Sin, a Korean naval general during the Joseon dynasty and king Sejong, one of the most influential figures of Korean history. On the square you can also often find cultural shows and people protesting.



Figure 101: LOL-Park



Figure 102: Gwanghwamun square



Figure 103: King Sejong

5.2.22 Day 21 – Incheon City, 19.10.25

On our last day in Korea, we went to airport in the morning and checking in our suitcases. The plan for today is to explore Incheon a bit and spend the time there until our flight in the evening. We took the bus to Incheon City and wandered around a bit with no real destinations. Incheon gave off a whole other vibe in comparison to everything I have seen before. There are very wide 6 lane streets surrounded by towering buildings but nearly no pedestrians. We saw a few people here and there but on the streets was just car traffic and no real foot traffic. We eventually reached Songdo Central Park and walked through that park. It was a really beautiful park but once again it was strangely empty. There we also found Hollys Café where we settled in until we had to leave for the airport again.



Figure 104: Incheon City



Figure 105: Scenic Incheon View



Figure 106: Incheon Temple



Figure 107: Manhole cover

5.2.23 Final Thoughts

This 3-week journey was an incredible mix of city life, nature, and e-sports culture. From the busy streets of Seoul to the calm beaches of Jeju and Gangneung, every day offered something new.

5.2.24 decision

We decided to write up a second blog from the perspective of Kai to have a different view on the subject. As a half-Korean and regular traveller to Korea he brings a bit more experience and insight into the country. This blog is about a 3-week vacation filled with destinations and something to do every day, creating an efficient plan to visit as much as possible in this period. As for the writing style it is a different approach to Maurin's blog. This blog is also written in a day-to-day format, but with more emphasis on what was done during the day, how it was and why or why not the reader should visit. The hotels were not included in this blog because we stayed in very affordable hotels that are not necessarily bad but also not necessarily recommended. Transportation was also excluded from the blog because the travel was mostly by metro and train, which is a very common form of travel and was not thought to be mentioned extra.

5.3 Travel Guide

South Korea is a fascinating destination where ancient traditions and ultra-modern city life exist side by side. From royal palaces and traditional markets to high-speed trains, neon streets, and world-leading technology, the country offers an experience that feels both deeply historic and futuristic at the same time.

While South Korea is very safe and well organized, it does work a little differently from many Western countries. Knowing how to get around, which apps to use, and how daily life works will make your trip much smoother.

Maps & Navigation

Although Google Maps technically works in South Korea, it is not reliable for navigation. Due to local regulations, Google Maps often lacks accurate walking routes, public transport directions, and real-time updates.

Instead use a combination of three apps:

- Naver Maps
- Kakao Maps
- Google Maps

Download all three before arrival, and use whatever app suits the task the best.



Figure 108: Google Maps



Figure 109: Kakao Maps

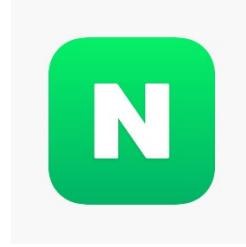


Figure 110: Naver Maps

Getting Around South Korea

South Korea has one of the best public transportation systems in the world.

Subways & Buses

- Clean, safe, affordable, and easy to use
- English signage is available in major cities
- Subway stations often have elevators, lockers, and convenience stores

Trains (Intercity Travel)

- KTX high-speed trains connect cities like Seoul, Busan, Gyeongju, and more
- Booking in advance is recommended during weekends and holidays

Taxis

- Relatively affordable compared to many countries
- Kakao Taxi app makes ordering taxis easy without speaking Korean

T-Money Card

The T-Money card is essential for getting around.

You can use it for:

- Subways
- Buses
- Some taxis
- Convenience stores
- Lockers and vending machines

Where to buy it:

- Airports
- Convenience stores (GS25, CU, 7-Eleven)
- Subway stations

Important:

T-Money cards are usually cash-only when purchasing, so have some Korean won ready on arrival.



Figure 111: T-Money Card

SIM Cards

Best Options:

- eSIM: most convenient (activate before arrival)
- Physical SIM card: available at the airport

Why you'll want mobile data:

- Navigation apps
- Translation apps
- Ordering taxis
- Restaurant searches and reservations

The best overall Option is the eSIM

Language

- Korean is the official language
- English is not widely spoken, especially outside tourist areas
- Younger people and hotel staff are more likely to understand basic English

Use Google Translate for Signs, use the Camera translation and prepare some basic Korean Terms before arriving.

Payment

Credit and debit cards are widely accepted

Cash is still needed for:

- Markets
- Street food
- Small local shops

Not all ATM accept foreign cards, but if you are in need for one, look at a convenience store.

Safety

South Korea is considered one of the safest countries in the world.

- Violent crime is rare
- Pickpocketing is uncommon
- Lost items are often returned

But still be cautious late at night, because you never know.

North Korea

South Korea and North Korea remain technically at war, separated by the Demilitarized Zone.

For travellers, this does not affect daily life or safety in South Korea.

- Life in South Korea is completely normal and secure
- The DMZ can be visited safely on guided tours as a historical experience

Seoul

Namsan Tower

This famous tower sits atop a hill and can either be reached with a cable car or hiking up the hill. After that you can take the elevator up the tower. With a height of 236.7 meters it provides a unique panoramic view across Seoul. In the lounge up there, you can also find a café and the souvenir shop.

Gyeongbokgung Palace

The largest and best-preserved palace in Korea. It is a former royal palace back during the Joseon dynasty. Nowadays it's one of the most famous tourist destinations in Korea. You can explore nearly the entire palace grounds and find historical remarks like in a museum all throughout the area.

It's very popular to visit the landmark in the traditional Korean garments, the Hanbok. At 10 am and 14 pm daily happens the guard change ceremony, an event that takes around 20 min and showcases the traditional changing of the guard shifts.

Bukchon Hanok village

An area in Seoul with houses built in the old, traditional style (Hanok). Originally, they housed the nobles and high-ranking officials. During the Japanese invasion, a Korean-owned real estate company preserved and built hanoks in protest to the Japanese colonial government.

Today it is still a residential quarter but became very popular with tourists because it got featured in K-Drama and other media. It got to a point where the government had to introduce opening times because of the tourist masses. It is open from 10 am to 5 pm and residents ask visitors to respect their privacy, reduce noise levels and avoid littering.

Market

Seoul has quite a few markets but listed below are the 4 most famous:

- Insadong is most famous for its tea shops, galleries and antique shops. It has one big main street with various alleys that branch off.
- Myeongdong is known as the fashion center of Seoul with many international brands as well as Korean cosmetic brands having a shop there. It features many mid- to high-priced stores and is very popular among young people and tourists.
- Namdaemun is a large traditional street market offering all sorts of household articles
- Gwangjang is one of the oldest markets in Seoul. It's famous for its street food and local/traditional food shops. It is mainly an indoor market with the four main streets aligned like a cross and alleys and stairs to another floor branching off.

Hongdae

This area of Seoul is particularly popular among the youth for its nightlife and clubbing culture. During the day it resembles a normal shopping district but during the evening and night it transforms into a bustling area full of street food and life. Most of the time there are also people performing street performances.

Busan

Jagalchi Fish market

This market is the most famous place in Busan for its unique style. It's a big fish market where the vendors sell all kinds of fish, crabs, sea food, algae and other ocean related goods, dried and fresh. The specialty of the market is the multi-floored complex, where on the ground floor are many different stalls trying to sell live seafood. From that you can choose what you want and the sea food will immediately get prepared and cooked fresh in the corresponding restaurant on the first floor.



Figure 112: Crab Tank

Busan tower and Yongdusan Park

The busan tower and its surroundings are similar to the seoul tower area but just a bit smaller in scale. The tower also provides a good overview of Busan, and the surrounding park is very nice to take a walk in.



Figure 113: Busan Tower

Haeundae

The modern part of Busan famous for its beach and the Busan International Film Festival.

Jeju-do

Manjanggul Lava tubes

This destination is very popular amongst tourists. This volcanic cave is the 12th longest lava tube in the world and is considered to be one of the finest lava tube systems in the world. In the tube you can find various stalactites, stalagmites, lava columns and other volcanic formations.



Figure 114: Lava Tube Cave

Seongsan Ilchulbong, Mt songaksan, Mt. Halla

Three famous volcanic mountains and very popular hiking destinations. Seongsan Ilchulbong is located at the very east coast of the island. It's a 182 m tall crater that provides a wonderful viewpoint on top.

Mt Songaksan has a trail that leads around its crater rather than a climb up. This is a 3 km long path and is absolved rather easy and quick. Nonetheless it has some beautiful views and worth a stop if you're in the area.

Mt Halla is the grand mountain located in the middle of the island in the Hallasan National Park and is the highest mountain in all South Korea with a height of 1947 m. in the area are 7 trails, reaching from 1.3 till 9.6 km with the longest taking about 4.5 h

Cheonjiyeon Falls

Those are a series of waterfalls located in the area of Seogwipo. There is a trail leading along the river and waterfalls providing the perfect spots for photos. During the night the falls are illuminated.

Gyeongju

Gyeongju National Museum

The museum portrays the Silla dynasty history and culture, where visitors can behold a large variety of relics. It is built adjacent to the royal tomb complex. The entry is free for the permanent exhibitions and worth a visit for people with an interest in history and culture.

Woljeonggyo Bridge

A historical covered bridge that was originally built around 760 A.D. and was lost during the Joseon Period. It was rebuilt in its original form during two phases from 2008 to 2013, constructing the bridge, and 2016-2018, construction of the towers. It is open to the public and considered especially scenic during night-time where the bridge gets illuminated.

Cheomseongdae Observatory

This is the oldest surviving astronomical observatory in Asia and possibly the whole world. It is mentioned in the popular Korean drama "Queen Seondeok"

Seokguram Grotto

This grotto is located 750 m above sea level and contains some of the best Buddhist sculptures in the world. It is one of the most popular cultural destinations in Korea and very known for viewing the sunrise from the seated Buddhas perch.

Donggung Palace and Wolji Pond

Once part of the palace complex of ancient Silla, it is now a popular tourist destination to look at the traditional palace and temple structures. Some of the buildings were restored while others kept their natural form.

5.3.1 Major Cultural & Seasonal Festivals

Seollal (Korean Lunar New Year)

When: Usually late January or February (based on lunar calendar)

About: One of Korea's *biggest traditional holidays*, Seollal involves family gatherings, wearing hanbok, traditional games, and eating *tteokguk* (rice cake soup) to welcome a fresh year. Chuseok is another major holiday in autumn with similar family traditions.

<https://www.90daykorean.com/korean-lunar-new-year/>

Lotus Lantern Festival (Yeondeunghoe)

When: April–May (around Buddha's Birthday — 8th day of 4th lunar month)

About: This beautiful lantern festival celebrates Buddha's Birthday, lighting up cities with thousands of colorful lanterns. The grand **lantern parade through central Seoul** is the highlight

<https://english.visitkorea.or.kr/svc/contents/contentsView.do?vcontsId=222228>

Jinhae Gunhangje Cherry Blossom Festival

When: Early–mid April

About: One of Korea's most famous cherry blossom festivals, transforming the town of Jinhae into a sea of pink blossoms with parades, concerts, and street food.

<https://english.visitkorea.or.kr/svc/whereToGo/locIntrdn/rgnContentsView.do?vcontsId=124524>

Hwacheon Sancheoneo Ice Festival

When: January

About: A winter wonderland at Hwacheon, famous for **ice fishing for trout**, ice sledding, snow sculptures and outdoor fun in sub-zero conditions.

<https://english.visitkorea.or.kr/svc/contents/contentsView.do?vcontsId=96732>

Jeju Fire Festival

When: March

About: A spring torch-lighting festival on Jeju Island symbolizing agricultural renewal and warding off bad luck. Huge bonfires light the fields and skies.

<https://english.visitkorea.or.kr/svc/contents/contentsView.do?vcontsId=96364>

5.3.2 Unique Regional & Themed Festivals

Boryeong Mud Festival

When: July (about two weeks in summer)

About: One of Korea's most famous fun festivals at Daecheon Beach where people enjoy mud pits, slides, body paint, music and beach parties.

<https://www.mudfestival.or.kr/en/festival/main.html>

Jinju Namgang Yudeung Festival

When: Early October

About: A lantern festival where tens of thousands of lanterns float down the Namgang River at night.

<https://english.visitkorea.or.kr/svc/contents/contentsView.do?vcontsId=96362>

Andong Maskdance Festival

When: September

About: Celebrates traditional Korean mask dances, especially the famous Hahoe folk performance, with cultural shows, street parades, and global dance groups.

<https://english.visitkorea.or.kr/svc/contents/contentsView.do?vcontsId=96388>

Jeonju Bibimbap Festival

When: October

About: A food-lovers' festival centered around Korea's beloved bibimbap dish, with cooking events, tasting sessions, folk games, and markets.

<https://english.visitkorea.or.kr/svc/whereToGo/locIntrdn/rgnContentsView.do?vcontsId=90014>

Gwangju World Kimchi Festival

When: Typically early November

About: Celebrating Korea's famous fermented food *kimchi* with making experiences, tastings, and cultural activities.

<https://english.visitkorea.or.kr/svc/contents/contentsView.do?vcontsId=198450>

Damyang Bamboo Festival & Yeoju Ceramic Festival

When: Damyang bamboo — summer; Yeoju ceramics — autumn

About: These festivals showcase Korea's natural beauty and craftsmanship — bamboo forest tours and bamboo art in Damyang, and premium ceramic exhibitions/workshops in Yeoju.

<https://english.visitkorea.or.kr/svc/contents/contentsView.do?vcontsId=103849>

5.3.3 decision

The travel guide was included to provide a neutral and factual overview of South Korea, clearly separated from the subjective blog sections. We focused on popular and frequently visited destinations, as these are most relevant for first-time travellers and allow for objective research. In addition, the guide includes essential practical information such as transportation, navigation, payment methods, language barriers, and safety, which are crucial for everyday travel. A conscious decision was made to include cultural and seasonal festivals, as such information is often difficult to find despite special events being highlights of past travels. This addition increases the guide's practical value while maintaining its factual tone. The travel guide is written in a clear, concise, and neutral style, with external sources used to ensure transparency and credibility. This structure allows it to function as an objective reference that complements the personal blog sections and fits consistently into the overall project.

5.4 Glossary

5.4.1 Essentials & Culture:

Hanok:

A traditional Korean house designed with a specific connection to nature. They typically feature wooden pillars, tiled roofs (Giwa), and an underfloor heating system called Ondol.

Hanbok:

Traditional Korean clothing worn for festivals, weddings, and celebrations (like Chuseok). It is characterized by vibrant colors and simple lines without pockets.

T-Money:

A rechargeable smart card used for paying transportation fares (bus, subway, taxi) and can also be used for purchases at convenience stores.

Chuseok:

The Korean harvest festival, often called "Korean Thanksgiving". It is a three-day holiday where families gather to share food and pay respects to ancestors.

5.4.2 Food & Drink

Kimchi:

Korea's national dish. A traditional side dish of salted and fermented vegetables, such as napa cabbage and Korean radish, seasoned with chili powder, garlic, and ginger.

Bibimbap:

Literally "mixed rice". A bowl of warm white rice topped with seasoned vegetables (namul), chili pepper paste (gochujang), egg, and often meat.

Tteokbokki:

A popular street food made from small-sized, white, cylindrical rice cakes stir-fried in a spicy gochujang-based sauce.

Hotteok:

A sweet Korean pancake filled with a mixture of brown sugar, honey, chopped peanuts, and cinnamon. A popular winter street snack.

Dakgalbi:

Spicy stir-fried chicken. It is made by stir-frying marinated diced chicken in a gochujang-based sauce with sweet potatoes, cabbage, and rice cakes.

Kimbap:

A Korean dish made from cooked rice and ingredients such as vegetables, fish, and meats that are rolled in gim (dried sheets of seaweed) and served in bite-sized slices.

Makgeolli:

A traditional Korean raw rice wine. It has a milky, off-white color and a sweet, tangy, slightly bitter, and astringent taste.

Hwangnam-ppang:

Also known as "Gyeongju Bread". A small pastry with a thin crust made of flour and eggs, filled with sweet red bean paste. A specialty of Gyeongju city.

Yukagejang:

A spicy, soup-like Korean dish made from shredded beef with scallions and other ingredients, simmered for a long time.

Bingsu:

A popular Korean shaved ice dessert with sweet toppings that may include chopped fruit, condensed milk, fruit syrup, and red beans.

5.4.3 decision

The glossary was included to improve accessibility and comprehension for readers who may not be familiar with Korean language, culture, or terminology. During the writing process, it became clear that commonly used terms, such as food names or place-specific expressions, could be difficult to understand without additional explanation. The decision to create a separate glossary instead of repeatedly explaining terms within the main texts was made to maintain readability and fluency. The glossary entries are intentionally kept short, precise, and neutral, allowing readers to quickly look up unfamiliar terms without interrupting the reading experience. If users wish to explore a term in greater depth, they can easily seek further information independently. The glossary is linked to other sections of the website to provide immediate support whenever a term is unclear.

5.5 History Essay

5.5.1 Introduction

South Korea's history is characterized by continuity, disruption, and adaptation. From early centralized kingdoms to modern democracy, the Korean Peninsula has repeatedly experienced political transformation, foreign domination, war, and rapid modernization. Understanding South Korea today requires examining how historical structures, values, and conflicts developed over time and how they continue to shape society.

This paper analyses five major epochs of Korean history: the Silla Kingdom, the Joseon Dynasty, the Japanese Colonial Period, the Korean War and division, and modern South Korea. Each epoch is examined through four consistent perspectives: political situation, society and everyday life, cultural and architectural heritage, and historical legacy. This structure allows for clear comparison across time periods while maintaining a coherent analytical framework.

Rather than presenting history as abstract events, this paper uses specific historical sites and **places** as concrete evidence. Palaces, markets, villages, religious buildings, and memorial spaces illustrate how political systems and social realities manifested physically in everyday life. These locations demonstrate how history is embedded in space and how past events continue to influence present-day South Korea.

By analysing both long-term developments and human consequences — such as colonization, divided families, and unresolved conflict — this paper aims to show how South Korea's modern identity is inseparable from its historical experiences.

5.5.2 The Silla Kingdom

Political Situation:

The Silla Kingdom gradually transformed from a small tribal federation into a highly centralized monarchy. Political authority was closely tied to royal lineage, which is clearly reflected in the Tomb of King Michu. King Michu was the first ruler from the Kim clan, which later dominated Silla politics for centuries. The presence of monumental royal tombs demonstrates how political legitimacy was constructed through ancestry and burial culture.

Silla's capital, present-day Gyeongju, was deliberately designed to reflect royal power. Infrastructure such as Woljeonggyo Bridge connected key political and ceremonial areas of the city. The bridge illustrates how urban planning served political needs by linking palace zones with administrative and residential districts.

Society & Everyday Life:

Silla society was structured through the rigid bone-rank system, which determined social status, political eligibility, and lifestyle. Elite life centred around the royal court, while commoners supported the state through agriculture and labour. Courtly leisure and elite culture can be observed at Wolji Pond, which originally functioned as part of the palace complex. The artificial pond was used for banquets and ceremonies, showing how political elites displayed refinement and authority through controlled landscapes.

Although Gangneung played only a minor role in Silla politics, its early foundation shows how Silla gradually expanded along the east coast, integrating peripheral regions into the kingdom.

Cultural & Architectural Heritage:

Buddhism became the ideological backbone of the Silla state. This religious orientation is most clearly expressed in Bulguksa Temple, which was not merely a religious site but a state-sponsored project symbolizing harmony between Buddhist ideals and royal authority. Closely connected is Seokguram Grotto, whose monumental Buddha statue reflects both spiritual devotion and advanced artistic knowledge.

Scientific thinking was also valued, as shown by Cheomseongdae Observatory, built during Queen Seondeok's reign. Astronomy was closely linked to state rituals and agricultural planning, reinforcing the ruler's connection to cosmic order.

Today, these developments are preserved and interpreted by the Gyeongju National Museum, which functions as a modern institution safeguarding Silla heritage.

Historical Legacy

The Silla period established core elements of Korean statehood, including centralized governance, Buddhist culture, and scientific traditions that influenced later dynasties.

5.5.3 The Joseon Dynasty

Political Situation:

The Joseon Dynasty marked a decisive shift in Korean governance through the adoption of Confucianism as the guiding state ideology. Unlike the Buddhist-centered Silla state, Joseon emphasized moral leadership, hierarchical order, and bureaucratic administration. Power was concentrated in the royal court but exercised through educated civil officials selected via state examinations.

This political philosophy is clearly reflected in Gyeongbokgung Palace, which functioned as the primary seat of royal authority. Its strict symmetry, axial layout, and separation of spaces visually represent Confucian hierarchy and order. In contrast, Changdeokgung Palace illustrates a more pragmatic approach to governance. Its design integrates buildings into the natural landscape, reflecting the Confucian belief that a ruler should govern in harmony with nature rather than dominate it.

Beyond the capital, dynastic legitimacy was reinforced through ritual and memory. Gyeonggijeon Shrine, which enshrines the portrait of King Taejo, demonstrates how royal authority was symbolically extended into regional centres.

Society & Everyday Life:

Joseon society was deeply hierarchical and structured by Confucian ethics. Social roles were clearly defined by class, gender, and age. Education played a central role, particularly for male members of the yangban elite, who prepared for government service.

This social order is visible in settlements such as Jeonju Hanok Village, where housing layouts reflect family hierarchy and gender separation. Similarly, Gyocho Traditional Village illustrates how Confucian learning and local elite culture shaped everyday life.

Economic activity revolved around agriculture and regulated trade. Namdaemun Market, founded under royal authority, shows how the state-controlled commerce while still enabling urban economic life. Its repeated destruction and reconstruction over centuries demonstrate the resilience of Joseon-era economic structures.

Cultural & Architectural Heritage:

Administrative and ceremonial life centred around Gwanghwamun Square, which historically housed government offices and public rituals. Cultural continuity is also visible in Insa-dong, originally a residential area for officials, later transformed into a centre for antiques and traditional arts.

Military defense relied on regional fortifications such as Donggusanseong Fortress, illustrating how geography and security were integrated into state planning.

Historical Legacy:

The Joseon Dynasty shaped Korean identity more deeply than any other period. Confucian values regarding education, respect for authority, and family structure continue to influence South Korean society today, particularly in social norms and institutional culture.

5.5.4 Japanese Colonial Period

Political Situation:

In 1910, Korea was formally annexed by Japan, marking the beginning of a colonial regime that aimed to fully integrate Korea into the Japanese Empire. Political sovereignty was abolished, Korean institutions were dismantled, and governance was carried out by a Japanese Governor-General. Policies focused on control, surveillance, and assimilation, including the suppression of the Korean language and enforced loyalty to the Japanese emperor. Although direct political resistance was severely punished, nationalism survived through cultural, religious, and economic forms. This lack of political autonomy created a society in which resistance was often indirect, embedded in daily practices and cultural preservation rather than formal politics.

Society & Everyday Life :

Colonial rule profoundly reshaped Korean cities and everyday life. Economic structures were reorganized to benefit Japan, while Korean merchants and farmers were marginalized. One response to this can be observed in Gwangjang Market, which was established in 1905 by Korean investors after Japanese forces seized control of Namdaemun Market. Its founding represents economic self-defense and the attempt to maintain Korean commercial independence within a controlled system. Residential life also became a site of cultural resistance. Bukchon Hanok Village traditionally housed high-ranking officials during the Joseon period. During colonial rule, Korean developers deliberately continued building hanok instead of Japanese-style houses. This decision was not architectural coincidence but a conscious act to preserve Korean identity in everyday living space.

Cultural & Architectural Heritage:

Religion became a key sphere where Korean identity could be maintained. Myeongdong Cathedral, completed shortly before annexation, emerged as a major centre of Catholic life and later served as a gathering point for social and political expression. Similarly, Jeondong Cathedral reflects the influence of Western religious networks, which offered limited protection from direct colonial control.

Cultural resistance is also embodied in literature. The Hill of Poet Yun Dong-ju commemorates one of Korea's most influential colonial-era poets. His work expressed loss, identity, and quiet resistance, demonstrating how literature became a substitute for political freedom.

Even food culture reflects colonial history. Hwangnam-ppang, first produced in 1939, illustrates how everyday traditions emerged under occupation and later became symbols of regional identity.

Colonial militarization extended into natural landscapes. On Jeju Island, Seongsan Ilchulbong and Songaksan were altered through the construction of military tunnels and facilities. These sites demonstrate how Japan prepared for wider conflict in East Asia by exploiting Korea's geography.

Historical Legacy:

The Japanese colonial period left deep scars on Korean society, shaping nationalism, memory culture, and post-liberation politics. Many debates about identity, collaboration, and resistance in modern South Korea are rooted in this era.

5.5.5 Korean War and Division

Political Situation:

After liberation from Japanese rule in 1945, Korea was divided along ideological lines influenced by the Cold War. This division escalated into the Korean War (1950–1953), which devastated the peninsula. The war ended with an armistice rather than a peace treaty, leaving the conflict formally unresolved.

The DMZ, established in 1953, physically represents this division. Despite its name, it is one of the most heavily fortified borders in the world and symbolizes the permanent state of tension between North and South. The existence of North Korea remains a central factor in South Korea's political and military strategy.

Society & Everyday Life:

One of the most severe human consequences of the war was the separation of families. Millions of Koreans were divided as borders hardened almost overnight. Parents lost children, siblings were separated, and spouses were unable to reunite. Many families had no information about the fate of their relatives for decades.

Since the 1980s, limited reunion programs have been organized, allowing elderly family members brief, tightly controlled meetings. These reunions, often lasting only a few hours, highlight both the emotional trauma caused by division and the lack of a permanent solution. Many divided family members have died without ever seeing their relatives again.

War-time displacement also reshaped cities. Refugees fleeing south settled wherever space was available, often under extreme conditions. Gamcheon Culture Village originated as such a settlement. Homes were built informally on steep hillsides, reflecting survival under poverty and instability.

Cultural Memory & Trauma:

The transformation of Gamcheon into a cultural village decades later illustrates how South Korea deals with traumatic spaces. Rather than erasing the past, hardship has been reframed through art and community projects, turning a refugee settlement into a place of remembrance and education.

Historical Legacy:

The Korean War remains one of the defining events of modern Korean history. Its consequences — divided families, military tension, and unresolved conflict — continue to shape national identity and political discourse in South Korea today.

5.5.6 Modern South Korea

Political & Political and Economic Development:

From the 1960s onward, South Korea experienced rapid industrialization under authoritarian governments, followed by democratization in the late 1980s. Economic growth transformed the country from a war-torn society into a global industrial and technological power.

Urban landmarks such as N Seoul Tower symbolize this transformation. Originally built as a broadcasting tower, it reflects modernization, technological development, and the emergence of Seoul as a global metropolis.

Society & Everyday Life:

Modern South Korean society is highly urbanized and shaped by globalization. Youth culture plays a central role, particularly in districts like Hongdae, where music, nightlife, and independent art reflect generational change and cultural openness.

At the same time, consumer culture is visible in large-scale developments such as COEX, which combines commerce, entertainment, and public space. In contrast, traditional markets like Gangneung Jungang Market continue to function as centres of everyday life, demonstrating continuity alongside modernization.

Dealing with Division and Human Rights:

The division of Korea remains a present reality. While South Korea has developed into a democratic society, reports about human rights conditions in North Korea continue to shock the international community. Issues such as prison camps, restricted movement, and lack of basic freedoms underline the ongoing humanitarian dimension of the division.

The topic of separated families remains relevant, as many South Koreans still have relatives in the North. Modern South Korean identity is therefore shaped not only by economic success but also by awareness of unresolved historical trauma.

Cultural Heritage and Reinterpretation:

Modern Korea actively integrates tradition into contemporary life. Cheongun Literature Library blends hanok architecture with modern public use, while Jungdo Tower visually references Silla heritage in a modern context. Creative regeneration projects such as Jaman Mural Village show how history and modern culture coexist.

Historical Legacy:

Modern South Korea demonstrates how a nation shaped by colonization, war, and division can achieve democratic stability and cultural influence while remaining deeply conscious of its unresolved past.

5.5.7 Conclusion

The five epochs examined in this paper demonstrate that South Korean history is not a linear progression, but a complex process shaped by continuity, rupture, and reinterpretation. Early centralized governance during the Silla Kingdom established political and cultural foundations, particularly through Buddhism and state-sponsored architecture. The Joseon Dynasty further institutionalized hierarchy, education, and Confucian ethics, many of which still influence social norms today.

The Japanese Colonial Period marked a profound rupture, stripping Korea of sovereignty and reshaping society through repression and forced assimilation. However, this era also strengthened national identity, as resistance emerged through culture, religion, literature, and everyday practices. The Korean War and subsequent division deepened this trauma, creating permanent separation between North and South Korea and leaving millions of families divided — a human consequence that remains unresolved.

Modern South Korea illustrates a striking contrast: rapid economic growth, democratization, and global cultural influence coexist with ongoing security tensions and humanitarian concerns related to North Korea. Urban regeneration projects, cultural districts, and reinterpretations of traditional architecture show how the country engages actively with its past rather than erasing it.

Overall, South Korea's history demonstrates how a society can transform itself under extreme pressure while maintaining historical consciousness. The continued presence of division, memory culture, and preserved heritage sites shows that history in Korea is not confined to the past but remains a living force shaping identity, politics, and everyday life.

5.5.8 decision

The history essay was structured around five key epochs of Korean history and closely linked to the places we visited during our travels. This structure was chosen to provide readers with a clear chronological understanding of South Korea's historical development. The focus on these specific epochs is based on their long-term influence on modern Korean society, politics, and culture.

Rather than presenting history as a series of abstract events, the essay connects historical developments directly to physical locations and sites. This place-based approach was chosen to make historical processes easier to understand and to help readers relate historical periods to visible structures and landmarks. By linking historical background information to tourist destinations, the essay supports a deeper understanding of both the individual locations and the broader historical context of each time period.

5.6 History facts

5.6.1 Silla Period (57 BCE – 935)

Gangneung:

Gangneung was founded during the early Silla period and is located at the east coast of Korea. While it doesn't have much historic importance there were some events that happened. On 18th September 1996 a north Korean submarine ran aground and started a 49-day manhunt for the fleeing crew. Gangneung was also one of the places where the 2018 winter Olympics were held.

Bongeunsa Temple:

Bongeunsa was founded in 794 during the Silla period and remains an active Buddhist temple in Seoul. Today it highlights the continuity of Korean Buddhism across centuries — from ancient state Buddhism to modern religious life in the middle of a megacity.

Gyeongju National Museum:

The museum presents major artifacts from Silla, the ancient kingdom whose capital was Gyeongju. It functions as a key modern institution for understanding Silla culture, craftsmanship, and state history through preserved objects.

Wolji Pond:

Wolji (historically tied to palace grounds) was created in 674 during Silla and is linked to royal space and elite culture. It represents Silla court life, landscape design, and the political center of the ancient capital.

Woljeonggyo Bridge:

Woljeonggyo is historically associated with Silla-era infrastructure connecting key areas of the capital. The site is treated as cultural heritage because it reflects how Silla organized movement, urban space, and monumental building around the royal center.

Tomb of King Michu of Silla:

This is the tomb of King Michu (r. 262–284), known as the first Silla king from the Kim clan. The site highlights Silla royal burial culture and the political significance of dynastic lineage.

Cheomseongdae Observatory:

Cheomseongdae was built during the reign of Queen Seondeok (r. 632–647) and is often described as one of Asia's earliest surviving astronomical observatories. It reflects Silla's scientific knowledge and the state-level role of astronomy.

Bulguksa Temple:

Bulguksa represents peak Silla Buddhist architecture and state-supported religion, and it forms part of a major sacred complex with Seokguram. Its importance lies in religion, art, and the way Buddhism shaped political and cultural identity in ancient Korea.

Seokguram Grotto:

Seokguram was established in the 8th century and is famous for its monumental Buddha and surrounding sculptures. It is considered a masterpiece of Buddhist art and illustrates the cultural power of Buddhism in Silla.

5.6.2 Joseon Dynasty (1392 – 1897)

Gyeongbokgung Palace:

Gyeongbokgung was founded in 1395 as the main royal palace of the Joseon Dynasty, symbolizing the new dynasty's capital and state order. Today it represents Joseon politics, royal architecture, and the later rebuilding efforts after major destruction in Korea's turbulent modern history.

Changdeokgung Palace:

Built in the 15th century, Changdeokgung is famous for how its buildings and gardens were designed to harmonize with the natural landscape. It later served as an important royal residence and remains one of the best-preserved palace complexes of the Joseon period.

Gwanghwamun Square:

The Gwanghwamun Square is an area right in front of Gyeongbokgung Palace and is used since ancient times to host major events. Historically it was the location of royal administrative buildings. These days it's a public space with two major memorials, one Statue honouring Admiral Yi Sun-Sin and the other paying tribute to King Sejong the Great.

Namdaemun Market:

Located right next to Namdaemun, the south gate of the old city, this market features a lot of household goods and traditional medicine. It was established in 1414 during the reign of King Taejong and was a series of government licensed shops that sold a wide variety of items. During the Japanese colonialisations, Namdaemun was forced to open up to also allow Japanese and Chinese merchants to sell wares where it was previously a market exclusive to Korean customers and merchants. During the Korea war it was burned down and destroyed several times but always reestablished itself with roughly the same size and status.

Gyochon Traditional Village:

Gyochon is tied to traditional Confucian learning and local elite households, with cultural assets linked to long-standing family and community life. It's a living example of how Joseon-era social order, education, and tradition were embedded into everyday neighborhoods.

Gyeonggijeon Shrine:

Founded in 1410, Gyeonggijeon enshrines a portrait of King Taejo, founder of the Joseon Dynasty, connecting Jeonju to dynastic legitimacy and royal memory. It represents Joseon political ideology, Confucian rituals, and state heritage preservation.

Jeonju Hanok Village:

Jeonju Hanok Village is presented as a major concentration of Joseon-era architecture and traditional urban culture, preserved and reused in modern tourism. It represents continuity of "everyday Joseon" life through houses, crafts, and neighborhood structure.

Donggoseanseong Fortress:

Donggoseanseong is treated as a heritage location connected to historic defense and fortress culture in the Jeonju region. It helps illustrate how Joseon-era security relied on fortified terrain and regional strongholds.

Insa-Dong:

Insa-dong was a residence area for government officials 500 years ago and originally comprised two towns, Gwanin-bang and Daesa-dong, whose last syllable, In and Sa, created the name. During the Japanese occupation the wealthy Koreans were forced to move out and sell their belongings, often antiques from which it got its identity. After the Korean war it became a centre for South Korea's artistic life and café culture. Today it's a cultural shopping street with many antique shops and coffee houses.

5.6.3 Japanese Colonial Period (1910 – 1945)

Myeongdong Cathedral:

Myeong-dong Cathedral, is Korea's first large brick church built in the Gothic style, completed in 1898 and a central symbol of the Catholic Church in Korea. The cathedral stands on the historic site of early Korean Catholic community activity, houses relics of persecuted martyrs, and has long been a spiritual and cultural landmark in Seoul.

Hill of Poet Yun Dong-ju:

Poet Yun Dong-ju (1917–1945) is strongly associated with Korea's colonial-era literature and identity, and the site commemorates that cultural memory. It connects a physical place in Seoul with modern Korean literary heritage shaped under occupation and wartime pressure.

Hwangnam-ppang:

Hwangnam-ppang began in 1939 and became a signature regional pastry of Gyeongju. Today it's treated as a recognizable "heritage food" that connects modern tourism with a product born during late-colonial era Korea.

Jeondong Cathedral:

Jeondong Cathedral was completed in 1914 and is known for its Western-style church design developed under French Catholic leadership. It reflects how religion, architecture, and foreign networks shaped Korea's early modern city landscapes during the colonial period.

Gwangjang Market:

Gwangjang Market was established in 1905 in protest to the seizure of Namdaemun Market by the Japanese colonial forces. A few investors purchased the land and opened Dongdaemun Market, the first market that was open every day of the week. It was later renamed to Gwangjang Market and is today still one of the oldest and largest Markets in Seoul.

Bukchon Hanok Village:

Traditionally the residential quarters of high-ranking officials and nobility, this Hanok village is still a residential area today. During the Japanese colonial period, a Korean real estate company intentionally built hanok instead of Japanese style buildings to preserve the culture, despite the pressure of the colonial government. Since November 2024 tourist are only allowed to enter the village from 10 am to 5 pm to reduce the high volume of tourists.

Seongsang Ilchulbong:

This volcano is a major tourist attraction and considered one of Korea's most beautiful tourist sites. During the Japanese colonial period the Japanese dug caves into the side of the mountain and hid boats loaded with explosives. Nowadays those caves are registered cultural heritages.

Songaksan:

Another volcanic mountain and also a vivid tourist site, this location too was occupied by Japanese forces and used as a stepping stone for the invasion of China during World War 2.

5.6.4 Korean War & Division (1950s)

DMZ:

The DMZ was created by the Korean Armistice Agreement (27 July 1953) as a buffer zone around the Military Demarcation Line, reflecting the unresolved division after the Korean War. It remains a powerful symbol of ongoing tension and separation on the peninsula.

North Korea:

North Korea's existence as a separate state is rooted in Korea's post-WWII division and the later armistice system that froze the conflict without a peace treaty. Inter-Korean relations, security policy, and humanitarian issues (like divided families) are still shaped by this historical split.

Gamcheon Culture Village:

Gamcheon's early identity is tied to refugee settlement during the Korean War, when people built homes on the hillside under extreme hardship. Since 2009, art and regeneration projects transformed it into a cultural tourism site, combining painful history with modern community-driven renewal.

5.6.5 Early Modern / Modern Korea (Late 19th century – today)

N Seoul Tower:

N Seoul Tower developed as a major broadcasting and observation landmark during South Korea's modern urban transformation. It represents Seoul's growth into a high-density global city, combining media infrastructure with tourism and skyline identity.

Cheongun Literature Library:

Cheongun Literature Library is known as a hanok-style public library, blending traditional architecture with modern city culture. It reflects how Seoul preserves "old" design aesthetics while creating new public cultural spaces.

Jungdo Tower:

The modern tower in the Gyeongju Expo area visually references the legendary Hwangnyongsa nine-story pagoda, connecting present-day design with Silla-era symbolism. It shows how contemporary Korea reuses ancient heritage motifs to shape modern city identity.

COEX:

Also known as the "Starfield COEX Mall" it is the one of Korea's largest malls and the world's largest underground mall with an area of about 173'000 square meters. It finished construction in April 2000 and features a large number of shops, food courts, a cinema, an aquarium and various other entertainment venues. Its most famous attraction is the Starfield Library, which stands in the centre of the mall.

Hongdae - Modern South Korea (1980s–today):

Hongdae is an area that established itself around Hongik University, a prestigious private university. Thanks to cheap rent street artists started to move in in the area and started the indie music scene. These days Hongdae is famous for being the social spot for young people. The culture there includes a big clubbing scene, lots of cafes and small restaurants, street food and beauty shops.

Jaman Mural Village — Contemporary cultural district:

Jaman Mural Village is known for its painted walls and creative street atmosphere near key historic viewpoints in Jeonju. It represents modern urban culture layered onto an older historic environment, showing how tourism and local art reshape neighborhoods today.

Gangneung Jungang Market – 1980:

This market was registered as a permanent market in 1980 and provides fresh local products. Its similar in structure to Seoul's Gwangjang market but smaller.

5.6.6 decision

The history facts were created to help readers better understand the tourist destinations presented in the blogs. They allow users to quickly access background information exactly when it is needed, for example when encountering unfamiliar terms such as the DMZ. The facts are intentionally kept short and concise, as the goal was not to create another historical essay, but rather to complement the travel blogs with essential historical context that supports understanding of the Korean peninsula's development. Each fact is written in a neutral and clear style to ensure readability and easy scanning. This approach was chosen to appeal to our target audience of young adults by transforming abstract historical developments into concrete and memorable examples connected to real-world locations.

6 Website implementation

The Website consist of five pages, these can be accessed via the Navbar, while the Blogs can be accessed via the Blog Dropdown or the Homepage as well. The five pages are the Home page, the 2-week-Blog, the three-week-blog, the travel guide and the Glossary. The History facts are shown via Hover-links, where you can hover over the Word, and see a historical fact. The biggest challenge was the Hover effect, because that's something I have never done before. The Code is saved in a GitHub repository, and in the Folders I have images, css, js and html files, all these make up the Website. The Website is hosted with the help of Netlify. Netlify is a free deployment tool, which look at your GitHub repository and the Website can be viewed with a certain link.

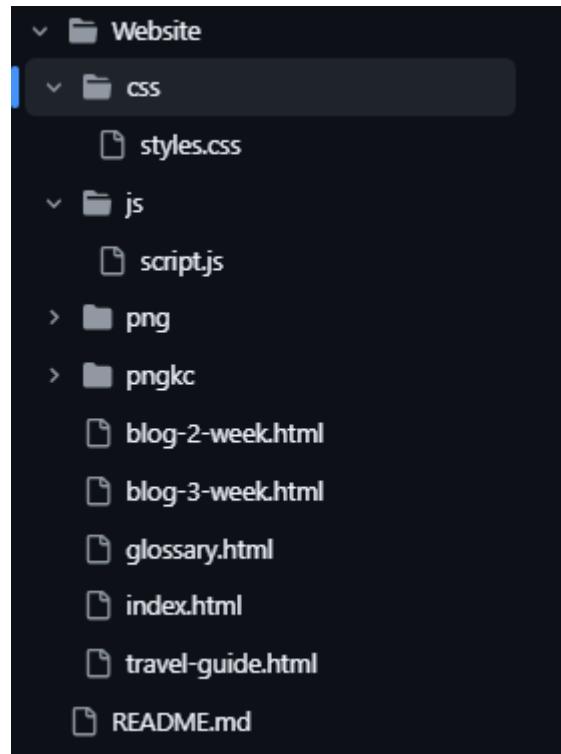


Figure 115: Folder Structure

6.1 Home

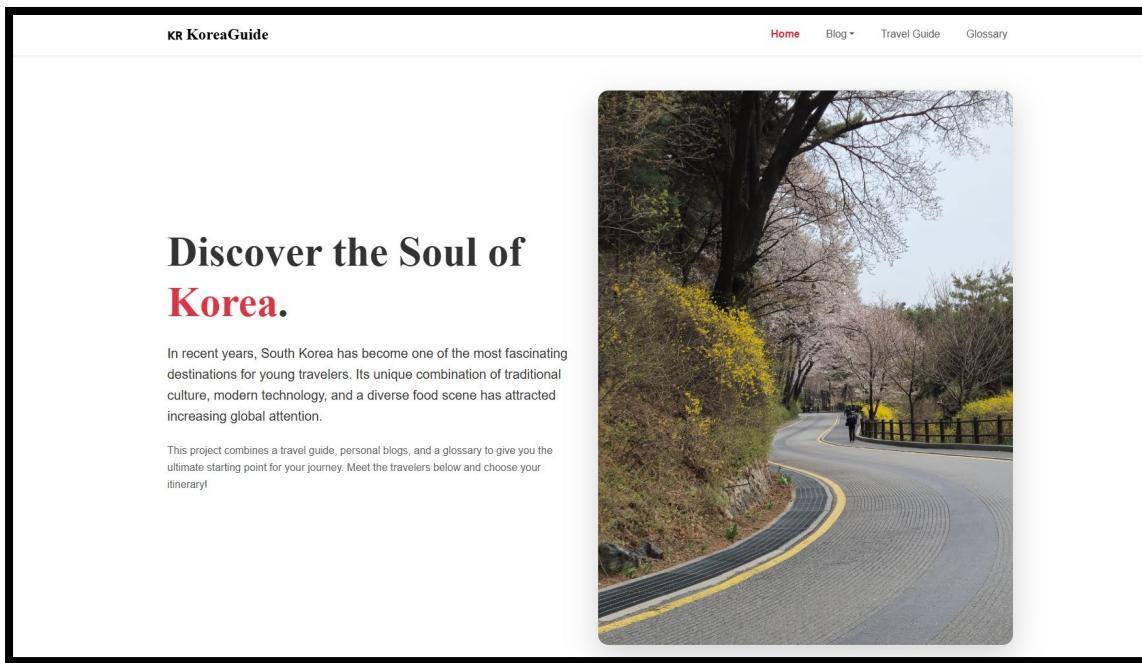


Figure 116: Home Screen

The Home page is the entry point of the website and introduces the project's goal: combining a travel guide, personal blogs, and a glossary about South Korea. It is mainly used by first-time visitors who want a quick overview and a clear starting point to navigate to the blog itineraries or the guide content.

Key features:

- Hero section with a clear headline (“Discover the Soul of Korea”) and short project description
- Two Cards which introduce the Authors, with buttons to their Blogs
- Large visual image to set the mood and support the travel theme

Figure 117: Author Introduction

Implementation:

The page is built with plain HTML and Bootstrap 5 for layout, spacing, and responsive behaviour. The navigation is implemented using Bootstrap's navbar component with a collapsible menu for mobile and a dropdown for the Blog selection; this keeps navigation consistent across all pages. Internal linking is handled through standard page links, meaning users can always return to the Home page through the brand link and the "Home" tab. For the main layout, a Bootstrap grid is used to create a two-column section (text left, image right) that stacks cleanly on smaller screens. Custom styling is applied via `css/styles.css`, while interactivity for the navbar and dropdown is provided by Bootstrap's bundled JavaScript.

```
<nav class="navbar navbar-expand-lg navbar-light bg-white fixed-top shadow-sm">
  <div class="container">
    <a class="navbar-brand fw-bold" href="#">index.html>KR KoreaGuide</a>
    <button class="navbar-toggler" type="button" data-bs-toggle="collapse" data-bs-target="#navbarNav">
      <span class="navbar-toggler-icon"></span>
    </button>
    <div class="collapse navbar-collapse justify-content-end" id="navbarNav">
      <ul class="navbar-nav gap-4">
        <li class="nav-item"><a class="nav-link active" href="#">index.html>Home</a></li>
        <li class="nav-item dropdown">
          <a class="nav-link dropdown-toggle" href="#" role="button" data-bs-toggle="dropdown">Blog</a>
          <ul class="dropdown-menu">
            <li><a class="dropdown-item" href="#">blog-2-week.html>2 Week Blog</a></li>
            <li><a class="dropdown-item" href="#">blog-3-week.html>3 Week Blog</a></li>
          </ul>
        </li>
        <li class="nav-item"><a class="nav-link" href="#">travel-guide.html>Travel Guide</a></li>
        <li class="nav-item"><a class="nav-link" href="#">glossary.html>Glossary</a></li>
      </ul>
    </div>
  </div>
</nav>
```

Figure 118: Home Page code

Decision:

The Home page was designed to be minimal, easy to understand, and strongly oriented toward our target audience of young adults, who typically prefer fast navigation and visually clean landing pages. We decided to add a short author introduction based on feedback from our teachers, as readers may want to know more about the people behind the content. The author-specific buttons allow users to immediately access the blog that appeals most to them. We intentionally decided against a separate "About Us" page to maintain a minimalist structure and avoid unnecessary navigation complexity.

6.2 Two Week Blog

KoreaGuide

Jump to:

- Introduction
- Seoul
- Gyeongju
- Busan
- Jeonju
- Final Thoughts

Itinerary

Two Weeks in South Korea

By Maurin Aaron Dietschi | April 2025



South Korea had been on my travel list for a long time. I've always been fascinated by its mix of old and new — ancient palaces next to neon-lit gaming cafés, the smell of street food drifting through modern city streets, and the rhythm of a culture that feels both futuristic and deeply traditional.

Figure 119: 2 Week Blog Top Bar

The Two-Week Blog page documents a complete two-week itinerary through South Korea based on a personal travel experience. It is intended for readers who want a realistic, first-time travel route that combines major cities, cultural highlights, food, and everyday experiences.

Key features:

- Day-by-day structure with clear headings for each travel day
- Sections such as “Things to do”, “Where to eat”, and accommodation tips
- Budget and transportation information integrated into the itinerary
- Internal links to history facts and glossary terms for additional context

Jump to:

- Introduction
- Seoul
- Gyeongju
- Busan
- Jeonju
- Final Thoughts

Day 3: The DMZ Experience and Yeouido Hangang Nights

Our third day was something completely different: the [DMZ Tour](#) near the North Korean border. It was an emotional and educational experience — learning about the history and tension between the two Koreas left a deep impression. We took a guided tour from [GetYourGuide](#), which I highly recommend.

Back in Seoul, we relaxed at [Yeouido Hangang Park](#), where a street food festival was happening. Locals picnicked by the river, couples biked past, and live music played as the sun set. We ate corn dogs, tteokbokki, fried chicken, and for dessert some delicious hotteok.

<p>💡 Things to do:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DMZ Tour • Yeouido Hangang Park • Banpo Bridge Moonlight Rainbow Fountain 	<p>👉 What to try:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Korean corn dog • Tteokbokki (spicy rice cakes) • Korean fried chicken • Hotteok (sweet pancakes)
--	--




Figure 120: 2 Week-Blog Snippet

Implementation:

The page follows a consistent blog layout using HTML and Bootstrap to ensure readability and clear structure. Each day is separated into its own section, making the content easy to scan and navigate. Internal anchor links are used to allow users to jump to specific sections of the blog. Styling focuses on comfortable reading, using sufficient spacing, headings, and images to avoid large blocks of text. Links to external resources, such as maps or restaurants, are embedded directly within the text to support practical travel planning. And the hover-effect shows historical facts for more information about the places visited.

```
<div class="alert alert-light border-start border-4 border-dark">
  <strong>Things to do:</strong> <br>
  <ul>
    <li><a href="https://www.getyourguide.de/seoul-1197/seoul-dmz-tour-mit-optionaler-hangebrucke-t63099/">DMZ
        Tour</a></li>
    <li><strong>Yeouido Hangang Park</strong></li>
    <li><strong>Banpo Bridge Moonlight Rainbow Fountain</strong></li>
  </ul>
  <strong>What to try:</strong><br>
  <ul>
    <li>Korean corn dog</li>
    <li>Tteokbokki (spicy rice cakes)</li>
    <li>Korean fried chicken</li>
    <li>Hottteok (sweet pancakes)</li>
  </ul>
</div>
<div class="row g-3 mb-4">
  <div class="col-md-6">
    
  </div>
  <div class="col-md-6">
    
  </div>
</div>
```

Figure 121: Two-Week-Blog Code Snippet

Decision:

We decided to implement the content like this because other Travelblogs have made it similarly. The way of formatting the pictures was possible because of Bootstrap feature, and using the grit and changing it according to the number of pictures. We also wanted to the links to be blue like its done everywhere else, but we use the hex code of the blue of the South Korean flag, #0047A0.

The same we did with the hover-effect, using the hexcode of the red of the South Korean flag, #CD2E3A.

6.3 Three Week Blog

The screenshot shows a blog post titled "Three Weeks in South Korea" by Kai Suho Croci, dated October 2025. The page includes a sidebar with a "Jump to:" menu and a main content area featuring a sunset photograph over a body of water and mountains. The top navigation bar has links for Home, Blog, Travel Guide, and Glossary.

Figure 122: Three-Week-Blog Top Bar

The Three Week Blog page presents a longer and more in-depth travel experience across South Korea. It is aimed at readers who have more time available and are interested in exploring additional regions, such as Jeju Island or the eastern coastline.

Key features:

- Extended itinerary covering more destinations and longer stays
- More reflective writing style compared to the Two Week Blog
- Inclusion of slower travel days and longer transitions
- Continued use of history facts and glossary links

The screenshot shows a blog snippet for "Day 14: Exploring around Gangneung". It includes a sidebar with a "Jump to:" menu and a main content area with text, a "Things to do:" section, and a "Where to eat:" section. Below the text are two images: one of a meal (coffee and cake) and another of an aquarium tank with sea otters. The top navigation bar is visible at the top of the page.

Figure 123: Three-Week Blog Snippet

Implementation:

The technical structure of the Three Week Blog is similar to the Two Week Blog to ensure consistency across the website. The same layout principles, styling rules, and navigation logic are reused. This reuse reduces complexity and ensures a familiar user experience. Adjustments were made to accommodate longer text sections, such as additional spacing and clear subheadings, to maintain readability throughout the extended content.

```
<h3 class="mt-5">Day 9: Chuseok</h3>
<p>
    It was Chuseok, Korea's national harvest holiday, so most of the nation was closed and spending time with the family.
    So as you can imagine, we didn't do much today, just went to Haeundae again and spent some time at the beach.
</p>
<div class="row mb-5">
    <div class="col-md-6 mx-auto"> 
    </div>
</div>
```

Figure 124: Three-Week Code Snippet

Decision:

We wanted to keep it as similar to the two-week-blog as possible. That's means we still used Bootstrap the same way, the colour scheme with the same hexcodes. The only difference we wanted was in content. So the structure and formatting stayed the same.

6.4 Travel Guide

The Travel Guide page provides neutral, factual information for users who want to plan their trip independently. Unlike the blogs, it is not based on personal opinion but on researched and structured information.

Key features:

- Thematic categorization
- Clear and neutral language focused on facts
- Direct links to external sources
- Structured sections for quick orientation

Implementation:

The Travel Guide is built using structured HTML sections combined with Bootstrap components to maintain visual consistency with the rest of the website. Content is divided into clear categories, allowing users to quickly find relevant information. Hyperlinks are used extensively to connect guide entries with glossary definitions and historical background pages. This modular structure makes it easy to extend or update the guide in the future.

Decision:

The travel guide had to be different in tone and structure so the reader can choose between subjective and factual information. We wanted this to be noticeable in the Design as well. Using external information, external images and links to external websites about the specific subjects. We wanted the colour scheme to be kept the same, with the hexcodes of the flag. The used images had to be high quality to match our standard.

6.5 Glossary

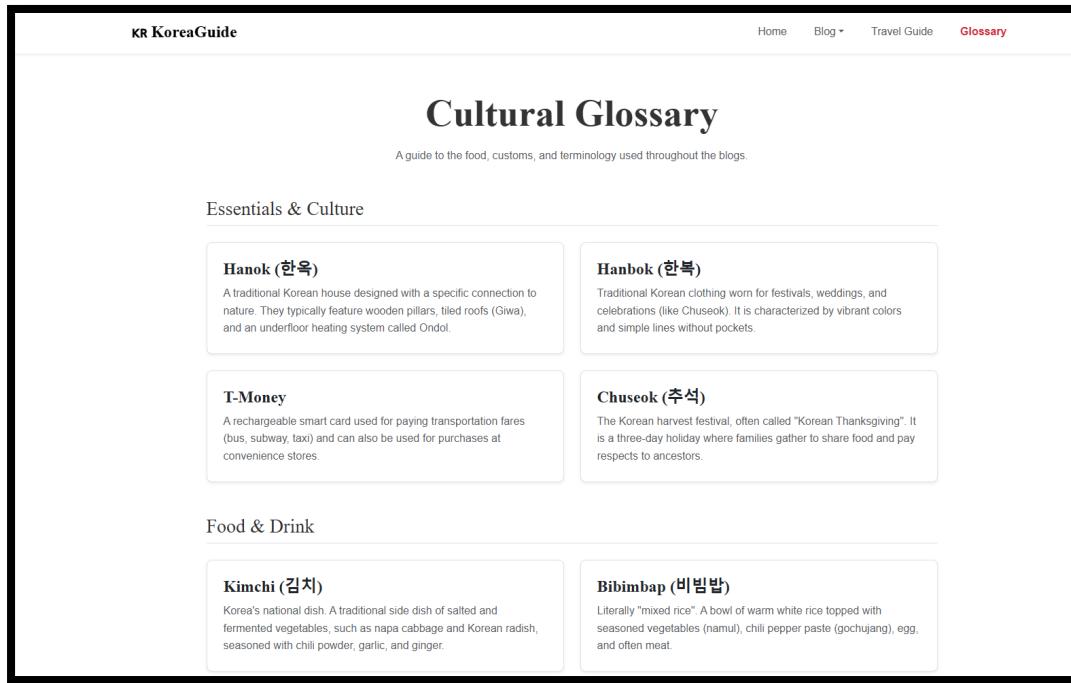


Figure 125: Glossary Snippet

The Glossary page explains Korean terms, food names, and cultural expressions that appear throughout the website. Its main purpose is to reduce barriers for readers who are unfamiliar with Korean language or culture.

Key features:

- Short, clear definitions
- Categorization
- Internal linking from blogs and travel guide pages
- Neutral language

```
<main class="container py-5">
  <div class="row">
    <div class="col-lg-10 mx-auto">
      <h1 class="display-4 fw-bold mb-3 text-center">Cultural Glossary</h1>
      <p class="text-center text-muted mb-5 mw-50">A guide to the food, customs, and terminology used throughout the blogs.</p>
      <h3 class="border-bottom pb-2 mb-4 mt-2">Essentials & Culture</h3>
      <div class="row g-4 mb-5">
        <div class="col-md-6">
          <div class="p-4 border rounded-3 h-100 shadow-sm hover-effect bg-white">
            <h3 class="fw-bold text-dark mb-2">Hanok (한옥)</h3>
            <p class="text-muted mb-0">A traditional Korean house designed with a specific connection to nature. They typically feature wooden pillars, tiled roofs (Giwa), and an underfloor heating system called Ondol.</p>
          </div>
        </div>
        <div class="col-md-6">
          <div class="p-4 border rounded-3 h-100 shadow-sm hover-effect bg-white">
            <h3 class="fw-bold text-dark mb-2">Hanbok (한복)</h3>
            <p class="text-muted mb-0">Traditional Korean clothing worn for festivals, weddings, and celebrations (like Chuseok). It is characterized by vibrant colors and simple lines without pockets.</p>
          </div>
        </div>
        <div class="col-md-6">
          <div class="p-4 border rounded-3 h-100 shadow-sm hover-effect bg-white">
            <h3 class="fw-bold text-dark mb-2">T-Money</h3>
            <p class="text-muted mb-0">A rechargeable smart card used for paying transportation fares (bus, subway, taxi) and can also be used for purchases at convenience stores.</p>
          </div>
        </div>
      </div>
      <h3 class="border-bottom pb-2 mb-4 mt-2">Food & Drink</h3>
      <div class="row g-4 mb-5">
        <div class="col-md-6">
          <div class="p-4 border rounded-3 h-100 shadow-sm hover-effect bg-white">
            <h3 class="fw-bold text-dark mb-2">Kimchi (김치)</h3>
            <p class="text-muted mb-0">Korea's national dish. A traditional side dish of salted and fermented vegetables, such as napa cabbage and Korean radish, seasoned with chili powder, garlic, and ginger.</p>
          </div>
        </div>
        <div class="col-md-6">
          <div class="p-4 border rounded-3 h-100 shadow-sm hover-effect bg-white">
            <h3 class="fw-bold text-dark mb-2">Bibimbap (비빔밥)</h3>
            <p class="text-muted mb-0">Literally "mixed rice". A bowl of warm white rice topped with seasoned vegetables (namul), chili pepper paste (gochujang), egg, and often meat.</p>
          </div>
        </div>
      </div>
    </div>
  </div>

```

Figure 126: Glossary Code Snippet

Implementation:

The glossary is implemented as a structured list using HTML, with consistent formatting for each entry. Categories are visually separated to improve orientation. Links from other pages lead directly to the relevant glossary terms, allowing readers to quickly clarify unfamiliar words without leaving the website. Styling is kept simple to ensure fast scanning and easy readability.

Decision:

We included a glossary to improve accessibility and reading flow across the website. Instead of repeatedly explaining terms within the main texts, the glossary centralizes definitions in one place. Keeping entries short and neutral ensures that readers can quickly understand key terms while still having the option to research more detailed information independently.

6.6 Technologies

This section describes the technologies and tools used during the development of the website, as well as the workflow applied to ensure a structured and reliable implementation process.

6.6.1 Technology stack overview

The website was developed using a lightweight and transparent technology stack to ensure full control over structure, design, and functionality.

HTML	Defines structure of all pages and content elements
CSS	Handles visual design, layout, spacing
JavaScript	Adds interactivity for images and links such as hover-effects
Bootstrap 5	Provides responsive grid system and prebuild UI components
GitHub	Backup and working at different locations
Netlify	Deployment and hosting of the Website
Visual Studio Code	Code editor used for development
Teams	Used for communication and saving Documents
Draw.io	Creating Mocks for Website or Documentation

Table 2: Technology stack

This stack was chosen to keep the project understandable, maintainable, and was already something we had experience in.

6.6.2 GitHub workflow

GitHub was used throughout the project to manage the source code, track progress, and support collaboration. A single repository was created at the beginning of the project, containing all website files, including HTML pages, CSS stylesheets, JavaScript files, and media assets. This repository served as the central workspace for development. Commit messages weren't standardized.

The screenshot shows a GitHub commit history with several branches and their commits:

- Commits on Dec 10, 2025:**
 - fix: fixing js so popup works** (RuveyEUW committed on Dec 10, 2025) - Commit ID: 58c21a0
 - js update** (RuveyEUW committed on Dec 10, 2025) - Commit ID: f27c1ca
 - initial commit for every page** (RuveyEUW committed on Dec 10, 2025) - Commit ID: abc4bee
 - initial setup for website** (RuveyEUW committed on Dec 10, 2025) - Commit ID: b90fb01
- Commits on Dec 2, 2025:**
 - Blog done** (RuveyEUW committed on Dec 2, 2025) - Commit ID: 9fe21e5
 - pics and blog done** (RuveyEUW committed on Dec 2, 2025) - Commit ID: ce35d86
 - blog update** (RuveyEUW committed on Dec 2, 2025) - Commit ID: 6e04d4e
- Commits on Dec 1, 2025:**
 - updated blog** (RuveyEUW committed on Dec 1, 2025) - Commit ID: 5d965b5
 - word update** (RuveyEUW committed on Dec 1, 2025) - Commit ID: 0d16b62
- Commits on Sep 22, 2025:**

Figure 127: Commit history

6.6.3 Coding standards

To maintain code quality and readability, several basic coding standards were followed throughout the project:

- Consistent naming conventions for files, classes, and IDs
- Reusable layout structures to avoid duplicated code
- Clear and consistent indentation for better readability
- Minimal use of comments, only where clarification was necessary
- Logical folder structure separating HTML, CSS, JavaScript, and assets

These standards helped keep the code organized, easier to maintain, and understandable for future development or review.

7 Process & Project Management

The project was carried out using a structured and methodical approach that followed clearly defined working phases. These phases ensured that the content was well planned, correctly implemented, and thoroughly reviewed before final publication. We did that via the IPERKA method while also being flexible for changes.

7.1 Working Process

At the beginning of the project, we focused on the research and planning phase. We researched different writing processes and text types relevant to our website, specifically blogs, travel guides, and glossaries. Based on this research, we wrote theoretical papers that defined the characteristics, structure, and purpose of each text type. These papers served as a foundation for all further work and helped ensure consistency across the website.

After completing the theoretical groundwork, we moved on to the content creation phase. We first wrote the texts according to the previously defined writing principles. Once the texts were completed, they were implemented directly into the website structure.

To ensure high language quality, the blog texts were then submitted for proofreading. Based on the feedback received, we made targeted adjustments to improve clarity, grammar, and stylistic consistency.

For the history section, we followed a slightly different approach. We began by identifying and structuring the relevant historical epochs. Instead of starting with abstract historical theory, we first collected information about the places we had visited. These location-based facts were then connected to the historical epochs, allowing us to explain historical developments in a concrete and accessible way. This method helped us illustrate how the Korean peninsula developed politically, culturally, and socially over time.

After the historical texts were written, the content was implemented on the website. Each of us then proofreads the historical sections written by the other project partner. In addition to manual proofreading, we used AI to verify historical accuracy and reduce the risk of factual errors.

7.2 Documentation and Project Management

Throughout the entire project, we wanted to do continuous documentation. We sometimes skipped the documentation for later because we were focused on implementing our changes first. In addition, we recorded our decisions, explaining what was implemented and why specific choices were made.

This documentation also included planning documents, work journals, and intermediate versions of the texts. By documenting both the process and the reasoning behind our decisions, we ensured transparency and traceability of our work. This structured project management approach made it easier to review progress, document and explain why we did what we did.

8 Quality assurance

To ensure a high level of quality in both the website and the written documentation, several quality assurance measures were implemented throughout the project. These measures focused on functionality, readability, language accuracy, and factual correctness.

8.1 Website Testing and Usability

The website was tested manually to ensure that all technical components functioned correctly. Every button, internal link, external hyperlink, dropdown menu, and hover interaction was checked individually on multiple occasions. This included navigation between pages, anchor links within blog posts, glossary references, and history fact hover elements.

In addition to testing by the project members, the website was reviewed by two external testers: **Alisah**, Maurin's girlfriend, and **Katja**, Maurin's sister. Their feedback helped identify minor language issues and ensured that the navigation was intuitive and understandable for users who were not involved in the development process.

Any issues identified during these tests were corrected immediately and re-tested to confirm proper functionality.

8.2 Proofreading and Documentation Review

The written documentation was proofread multiple times by both project members to improve clarity, structure, and consistency.

In addition, the documentation was reviewed by **Maurin's father**, who acted as an external proofreader. This external review helped identify unclear formulations, and stylistic inconsistencies that may not have been noticed by the authors themselves.

8.3 AI-Supported Review and Optimization

As an additional quality assurance measure, AI-based tools were used to review selected parts of both the website content and the documentation. These tools were used to check grammar, improve phrasing, and suggest stylistic refinements. Furthermore, AI was used critically to identify areas where clarity, structure, or readability could be improved.

All AI-generated suggestions were reviewed manually and only implemented when they aligned with the project's goals, academic standards, and required language level. AI tools were used as a support mechanism rather than a replacement for independent work.

<https://chatgpt.com/share/6977784f-28c4-8007-b4fd-b870a54e824d>

8.4 Final Review

Before submission, both project members conducted multiple full read-throughs of the website content and the documentation. This final review ensured consistency between the website and the written report, verified that all corrections had been implemented, and confirmed that the final product met both technical and academic requirements.

Through this combination of manual testing, external feedback, proofreading, and AI-assisted review, a comprehensive quality assurance process was achieved, resulting in a reliable, functional, and well-structured final product.

9 Reflection

This project provided valuable insights into both the technical and organizational aspects of developing a content-driven website. Reflecting on the process allows us to evaluate our approach critically and identify areas for improvement.

9.1 What worked well

One of the aspects that worked particularly well during this project was the overall collaboration between the two project members. Tasks were clearly divided based on individual strengths and interests, which made the workflow efficient and structured. Communication was open throughout the entire process, allowing issues to be addressed early and decisions to be made jointly. The combination of personal travel experiences with researched information also proved to be very successful. Writing the blog entries based on real journeys made the content more authentic and engaging, while the researched sections ensured factual accuracy and depth. This balance helped create a website that is both informative and personal. Another positive outcome was the technical implementation of the website. The planned structure, navigation, and visual layout were implemented as intended, resulting in a clear and user-friendly platform. The early planning phase, including concept papers and mock-ups, played a key role in avoiding major technical difficulties later in the project.

9.2 What did not work well

Despite the overall success of the project, several challenges occurred during the working process. One difficulty was time management, particularly during the writing phase. Some sections took longer than expected, which led to time pressure toward the end of the project. In addition, maintaining a consistent writing style across different text types proved challenging. Switching between factual, neutral language and personal, narrative writing required careful adjustment. In some cases, sections had to be revised multiple times to ensure they matched the intended tone. Another challenge was the coordination between content creation and technical implementation. At times, text content had to be adapted to fit the website layout, which resulted in additional revisions. This showed that content and design decisions are closely connected and should ideally be developed in parallel.

9.3 What we would change

If we were to repeat this project, we would invest more time in the initial planning of the writing schedule. A more detailed timeline for each section would help reduce stress during the final phase and allow for more thorough revisions. We would also place a stronger focus on early testing of the website with external users. Feedback from people outside the project group could have provided valuable insights into usability, readability, and navigation, which could then be incorporated earlier in the process. Additionally, we would aim to document intermediate versions of the content more systematically. This would make it easier to track changes and reflect on the development of both the written content and the website structure.

9.4 Next Steps

As a next step, the website could be further expanded and refined. Additional destinations, longer blog entries, or updated travel information could be added to keep the content current and relevant. From a technical perspective, further improvements could include performance optimization, mobile responsiveness, and additional interactive features such as filters or personal recommendations. On a personal level, the project provided valuable experience in interdisciplinary work, time management, and digital content creation. These skills can be applied to future academic projects as well as professional contexts, making this project a meaningful learning experience beyond its immediate outcome.

9.5 USP

A key feature that distinguishes our project from many other travel blogs is the clear separation between subjective and objective content. Personal travel experiences are presented in the blog sections, while factual and neutral information is provided in the travel guide. This structure allows readers to choose the type of information they need without the two formats interfering with each other. Another important aspect is the direct connection between travel experiences and historical context. Historical facts are linked to specific places through hover elements and glossary references, making background information accessible exactly when it is relevant. This place-based approach helps readers better understand South Korea's history in relation to the locations they visit. The project is designed for young adults aged approximately 20 to 30. To reach this target audience, we focused on a modern, intuitive website design, short and clearly structured text sections, and interactive elements that reflect common digital reading habits. The language level is kept at an accessible C1 standard, combining accuracy with readability. Korean terms are explained in the glossary to maintain clarity without reducing authenticity. Overall, the unique value of our project lies in the combination of personal travel narratives, neutral guidance, and integrated historical context within a single, user-friendly digital platform tailored to a young, digitally oriented audience.

10 Sources

Sources, footnotes, image credits (With Timestamp of when picture was taken, when website was visited.

10.1 Literature sources

History Skills

<https://www.studysmarter.co.uk/explanations/history/history-skills/how-to-write-a-history-essay/>
(October 2025)

BBC Education

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zx339j6> (October 2025)

Online Writing Lab

https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/general_writing/academic_writing/essay_writing/index.html
(October 2025)

Smart-Guide Blog

<https://blog.smart-guide.org/en/write-an-engaging-digital-travel-guide-best-writing-style-tips-for-content-authors> (October 2025)

MasterClass Travel-Guide

<https://www.masterclass.com/articles/traevl-writing-guide> (October 2025)

Navigate travel story

<https://shorthand.com/the-craft/6-ways-to-navigate-a-travel-story/index.html> (October 2025)

Travel Guide Example

<https://thesunrisedreamers.com/south-korea/2-week-south-korea-itinerary/> (October 2025)

Korean Tourism Organization

<https://english.visitkorea.or.kr> (December 2025)

National Museum of Korea

<https://www.museum.go.kr/ENG> (December 2025)

Official Korean Cultural Heritage

<https://english.cha.go.kr> (December 2025)

Scientific and Cultural Organization

<https://whc.unesco.org> (December 2025)

National Museum of Korea – Gyeongju Branch

<https://gyeongju.museum.go.kr> (December 2025)

National Folk Museum of Korea

<https://www.nfm.go.kr/english/> (December 2025)

Japanese rule

<https://www.britannica.com/place/Korea/Japanese-rule> (December 2025)

Korea-War

<https://www.britannica.com/event/Korean-War> (December 2025)

Separated Families:

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-41228181> (December 2025)

Human Rights Watch

<https://www.hrw.org/world-report/2024/country-chapters/north-korea> (December 2025)

United Nations Human-Rights

<https://www.un.org/en/global-issues/human-rights> (December 2025)

General Information

<https://english.visitkorea.or.kr/svc/main/index.do> (December 2025)

Reddit (r/webdev)s

https://www.reddit.com/r/webdev/comments/rlsxqk/if_i_was_going_to_create_my_own_blog_web_site_what/ (November 2025)

Netlify

<https://www.netlify.com/> (January 2026)

Korean Lunar New Year

<https://www.90daykorean.com/korean-lunar-new-year/> (January 2026)

Lotus Lantern Festival

<https://english.visitkorea.or.kr/svc/contents/contentsView.do?vcontsId=222228> (January 2026)

Jinhae Cherry Blossom Festival

<https://english.visitkorea.or.kr/svc/whereToGo/locIntrdn/rgnContentsView.do?vcontsId=124524> (January 2026)

Hwacheon Sancheoneo Ice Festival

<https://english.visitkorea.or.kr/svc/contents/contentsView.do?vcontsId=96732> (January 2026)

Jeju Fire Festival

<https://english.visitkorea.or.kr/svc/contents/contentsView.do?vcontsId=96364> (January 2026)

Boryeong Mud Festival

<https://www.mudfestival.or.kr/en/festival/main.html> (January 2026)

Jinju Namgang Lantern Festival

<https://english.visitkorea.or.kr/svc/contents/contentsView.do?vcontsId=96362> (January 2026)

Andong Maskdance Festival

<https://english.visitkorea.or.kr/svc/contents/contentsView.do?vcontsId=96388> (January 2026)

Jeonju Bibimbap Festival

<https://english.visitkorea.or.kr/svc/whereToGo/locIntrdn/rgnContentsView.do?vcontsId=90014>
(January 2026)

Gwangju World Kimchi Festival

<https://english.visitkorea.or.kr/svc/contents/contentsView.do?vcontsId=198450> (January 2026)

Damyang Bamboo & Yeoju Ceramic Festivals

<https://english.visitkorea.or.kr/svc/contents/contentsView.do?vcontsId=103849> (January 2026)

Netlify Live Site

<https://6940424e022d0e08f51adf77--southkoreaidpa.netlify.app/> (January 2026)

Grammarly

<https://www.grammarly.com/> (January 2026)

ChatGPT

<https://chatgpt.com/share/697778a2-8b0c-8007-925f-3721ddf5222e> (January 2026)

10.2 Image sources

Most of the Images used in this project were taken by us. Those pictures were taken in the past and may portray the location or scene of the picture differently than they are today/now. If the image was not taken by us, i.e. from another person or taken from the internet, there will be an image source mentioned either right under the corresponding image or in a dedicated space for sources.

Own photographs:

All photographs taken by the authors during their travels in South Korea (April 2025–October 2025). Images may differ from current appearance of locations.

External images:

Figure 112: Jagalchi Fish Market

[https://hblimg.mmtcdn.com/content/hubble/img/ttd_img/mmt/activities/m_Jung_\(Busan\)_Jagalchi_Market_6_1_600_800.jpg](https://hblimg.mmtcdn.com/content/hubble/img/ttd_img/mmt/activities/m_Jung_(Busan)_Jagalchi_Market_6_1_600_800.jpg) (January 2026)

Figure 113: Busan Tower

<https://i0.wp.com/blog.waug.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/busan-tower.jpg?fit=1200%2C675&ssl=1> (January 2026)

Figure 114: Manjanggul Lava Tube (January 2026)

<https://www.agoda.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/Manjanggul-Cave-jeju-south-korea-featured.jpg>

10.3 Table sources

Table 1: Involved Individuals

Own representation based on project documentation

Table 2: Technology Stack Overview

Own representation based on project implementation

11 Acknowledgements

We would like to express our sincere gratitude to **Anne Rüsing** and **Joel Fimian** for their professional guidance and valuable feedback throughout the project. Their support and expertise contributed significantly to the successful development of our IDPA project.

A special thank you goes to **Tanja Meier** for providing us with their IDPA, which served as a valuable reference and helped us better understand the expectations and structure required for our documentation.

We would also like to thank everyone who proofread our website or documentation and helped us in any way.

12 Appendix

12.1 Work Journal

Date	Duration	Who	Activity	Further Work Steps
09/09/2025	3.5h	Kai & Maurin	Read and gather information	Create schedule and work journal
11/09/2025	0.1h	Kai & Maurin	Submit start form	
19/09/2025	1.5h	Maurin	Create schedule	Draft theory paper
20/09/2025	0.5h	Kai	Work journal	Draft documentation
22/09/2025	0.5h	Kai	Documentation drafted	Submit objectives
23.09.20205	1.5h	Maurin	Draft theory paper	Submit objectives
23.09.20205	0.5h	Kai & Maurin	Submit objectives	Continue documentation & theory paper
24/09/2025	0.5h	Maurin	Continue documentation	Continue objectives
24/09/2025	1h	Kai	Finalize theory paper	Make final decisions
24/09/2025	0.5h	Maurin	Revise objectives	Finalize objectives
26/09/2025	0.5h	Maurin	Finalize objectives	Make final decisions
01/10/2025	1h	Kai & Maurin	Make final decisions	Start blogs
19/11/2025	2h	Maurin	2-Week-Blog: Day 1-5	Continue documentation
19/11/2025	0.5h	Maurin	Continue documentation	Continue blog
26/11/2025	3h	Maurin	2-Week-Blog: Day 6-10	Continue documentation
28/11/2025	0.5h	Maurin	Continue documentation	Start website
26/11/2025	2h	Maurin	Set up website, Navbar, Pages	Continue blog
02/12/2025	3h	Maurin	2-Week-Blog: finish	Put blog on website
02/12/2025	1h	Kai	Documentation continued (Abstract, Introduction)	Start blog
04/12/2025	1h	Kai	3-Week-Blog: Day 1-5	Continue blog
08/12/2025	1h	Kai	3-Week-Blog: Day 5-10	Continue blog
09/12/2025	0.5h	Kai	3-Week-Blog: Day 11-13	Continue blog
10/12/2025	0.5h	Kai	3-Week-Blog: Day 14-17	Continue blog
14/12/2025	1h	Kai	3-Week-Blog: Day 18-19	Continue blog
15/12/2025	1h	Kai	3-Week-Blog: Day 20-21	Interim meeting
16/12/2025	2h	Maurin	Website: 2-Week Blog on Website	Interim meeting
16/12/2025	1h	Kai & Maurin	Interim meeting with teachers	Write minutes
16/12/2025	0.5h	Maurin	Write minutes	Implement tips for documentation, website, and history scope
18/12/2025	1.5h	Maurin	History facts for 2-Week-Blog	Continue website
20/12/2025	2h	Kai	3-Week-Blog: final touches	History facts
08/01/2025	3h	Maurin	Write Glossary and add to Website	Continue website
11/01/2026	1.5h	Kai	History facts for 3-Week-Blog	Finish history facts for 3-Week-Blog
12/01/2026	1.5h	Kai	History facts for 3-Week-Blog	Travel Guide
13/01/2025	2h	Maurin	3-Week-Blog added to Website	History paper writing
13/01/2025	2h	Kai	History facts for 3-Week-Blog	Travel Guide
15/01/2025	4h	Maurin	Writing Historypaper	Continue documentation
15/01/2025	2h	Maurin	Documenting	Hyperlink 3-week
19/01/2025	1.5h	Maurin	Add hyperlink and photos for 3-week	Documenting
19/01/2025	4h	Maurin	Documenting	Documenting
20/01/2025	4h	Maurin	Documenting	Travel Guide
21/01/2025	3h	Kai	Travel guide	Documenting
22/01/2025	1h	Maurin	Travel guide	Documenting
24/01/2025	2h	Kai	Documenting	Documenting
26/01/2025	3h	Maurin	Documenting	

12.2 Schedule

Schedule		Planned Time		Actual Time		Milestone		Buffer																
		Time	CW37	CW38	CW39	CW40	CW41	CW42	CW43	CW44	CW45	CW46	CW47	CW48	CW49	CW50	CWS1	CWS2	CW1	CW2	CW3	CW4	CW5	
1. Inform																								
Review task description	0.5																							
Define pending items	0.5																							
Create start form	0.5																							
Read travel guides	1																							
Read writing guides	1																							
Submit start form	0																							
2. Plan																								
Create schedule	1																							
Create work journal	0.5																							
Create documentation	1																							
Create theory paper	2																							
Research historical eras	0.5																							
Submit objectives	0																							
3. Decide																								
Define website technology	0.25																							
Define eras	0.25																							
Define target audience	0.25																							
Define language level	0.25																							
4. Implement																								
Write 2-Week-Blog	8														2	3	3							
Write 4-Week-Blog	8															2	2	4	2	2				
Write Travelguide	6																				4	4		
Write Glossary	2																		2	1				
Write History Facts	2																	1.5						
Write documentation	8														0.5	0.5		0.5	0.5		2	11	3	
Develop Website	10															2		2	1		3	2		
Write History Epoch	4																			4	0			
Interim meeting	1																							
5. Check																								
Review blogs	2																							
Review travel guide	1																							
Review glossary	0.5																							
Review history	2																							
Review website	1																							
Review documentation	2																							
Submission deadline	0																							

Nr.

A2 Startformular

Startformular an Bereichsleiter. Startformular gehört auch in den Anhang der IDPA. Bitte leerlassen

1. Eingabe

Titel der IDPA (max. 55 Zeichen)

Tourguide about Koreas History and Culture

Inhalt/Schwerpunkt(e) Ihrer DPA

Wir erzählen über die Geschichte Koreas, vom antiken Silla über den grossen König Sejong bis zur Trennung der beiden Koreas und der Moderne.

Auch die vielfältige Kultur und Kulinarik halten wir fest und präsentieren diese in unserem Travel-Guide. Zusätzlich stellen wir zwei Blogs von 2-4 Wochen von zwei individuellen Erfahrungen zur Verfügung, welche Schritt für Schritt durch die verschiedenen Destinationen und deren Kultur und Küche führen.

Beteiligte 2 Fächer

Englisch & Geschichte

Vollständige Namen Gruppenmitglieder

Maurin Aaron Dietschi

Kai Suo-Hjuon Croci

Wunsch (ohne Gewähr)!

Name Lehrperson 1

Anne Rüsing (Eng)

Name Lehrperson 2

Joel Fimian (Ges)

A3 Vertrag und Vorlage für Zielformulierungen

Nr.

Bitte leerlassen

Vertrag auch an Bereichsleiter. Vertrag gehört auch in den Anhang der IDPA.

Im OneNote ein Team erstellen und die Lehrpersonen einladen.

Titel der IDPA (max. 55 Zeichen, ohne Sonderzeichen):

Tourguide about Koreas history and culture

Name/ Unterschrift der IDPA-Gruppenmitglieder:

1) Maurin Aaron Dietschi

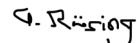


2) Kai Suo-Hjuon Croci



3)

Name Lehrperson/Unterschrift: Anne Rüsing



Name Lehrperson/Unterschrift: Joel Fimian



Ort und Datum: Solothurn 23.09.2025

Abteilung Berufsmaturität

Berufsbildungszentrum Solothurn-Grenchen
Gewerblich-Industrielle Berufsfachschule Solothurn

Zielformulierungen

Fachbereich 1 Englisch		
Ziele (Was will ich erreichen?)	Methoden (Wie will ich es erreichen?)	Ergebnisse (Was soll das Produkt sein?)
Die Texttypen Tourguide, Blog und Glossar vollständig und fachlich korrekt umsetzen.	Mithilfe von Tutorials und Journalen die Texte schreiben.	Fachlich korrekte und inhaltlich ansprechende Texte.
Die verwendete Sprache soll auf einem guten Niveau und für unsere Zielgruppe ansprechenden sein.	Beispielen von anderer Travel-Websites, Videos und Foren analysieren, die sich an eine ähnliche Zielgruppe wendet.	Verständliche Sprache auf guten Niveau, kombiniert mit ansprechendem Design und klarem Bezug zu unserer Zielgruppe.
und weitere...		
Fachbereich 2 Geschichte		
Ziele (Was will ich erreichen?)	Methoden (Wie will ich es erreichen?)	Ergebnisse (Was soll das Produkt sein?)
Wir möchten fünf aus unserer Sicht wichtige Epochen der koreanischen Geschichte untersuchen und diese in unseren Tourguide/Blog integrieren.	Wir führen Internetrecherchen durch und verwenden Broschüren sowie Materialien von Museen und Sehenswürdigkeiten.	Die ausgewählten Epochen werden übersichtlich dargestellt und mit unserem Travel-Guide/Blog verknüpft.
Wir wollen für jede zu betrachtende Epoche zwei bis drei Schwerpunkte aus folgender Auswahl herausarbeiten: Politik, Kultur, Krieg, Wirtschaft, Gesellschaft, Architektur und Wissenschaft.	Für jede Epoche recherchieren wir die definierten Schwerpunkte gezielt und vertieft.	Die historischen Einblicke sind korrekt, verständlich und spannend aufbereitet; die gewählten Schwerpunkte pro Epoche werden klar erläutert.
und weitere...		

A4 Formular der Zwischenbesprechung

Protokoll der Zwischenbesprechung gehört auch in den Anhang der IDPA.

Protokoll der IDPA Zwischenbesprechung

Datum: 16.12.2025

Verfasser/-innen: Maurin Aaron Dietschi

Klasse: BM1_TE22A

(Name des Gruppenmitgliedes)

Thema: Website für Südkorea Travelguide & Blog, mit historischem Hintergrund

Zur Zwischenbesprechung sind die Unterlagen mitzubringen, insbesondere alles bereits Geschriebene (Arbeit, Dokumentation, Projektjournal und Notizen) sowie die wichtigsten Informationsmaterialien (Bücher etc.).

Stand der IDPA

- Recherche, vorhandenes Material, Termine, Interviews, Gespräche, Besuche, Stand der Informationsverarbeitung, erarbeitete Ergebnisse, wichtige Überlegungen, andere Arbeiten.
- Dokumentation: Zeitplan, Arbeitsjournal

Website ist deployed und läuft auf diesem Link:

<https://6940424e022d0e08f51adf77--southkoreaidpa.netlify.app/>

Gemacht ist die Grundlegende Struktur der Website, Navigation, Hyperlink usw. funktionieren. Der 2 Wochen Blog ist fertig, die Homepage ist fertig. Historische Facts für 2 Wochen Blog, sind fertig. 4 Wochen Blog, Historischer Epochen angefangen.

Nächste Schritte

4 Wochen Blog Fertigmachen, 4 Wochen Blog Historische Facts fertig machen Travelguide machen. Alle Hyperlinks implementieren. Timestamps angeben. Link zu weiteren Informationsquellen bei Hyperlinks. Fotoquelle angeben. Beim Blog Shortcuts hinzufügen. About Us Tab in Home oder neuer Tab integrieren. Dokumentieren, Zeitplan verschönern, Arbeitsjournal verschönern. Alle Entscheidungen Dokumentieren. Theorie aufschreiben was man in der Zukunft macht. Wie hebt sich unser Blog ab und wie wir das Zielpublikum erreichen. 2-3 Seiten pro Epoche Geschichtlich schreiben. (Zitieren, Fussnote, Timestamp)

Bitte wenden.

Probleme, Schwierigkeiten

Eingetretene und noch zu erwartende Probleme, Massnahmen, Lösungen
Probleme hatten wir in mit der Menge an Informationen die wir aufschreiben wollten, denn wir hatten eher zu viel. Dazu kam noch das Problem des Deployen der Website, was aber in 15min behoben werden konnte. Das Nächste Problem das kommt ist das Design der Website, sodass es selbsterklärend ist. Auch die Historische Epochen aufschreiben wird ein grösseres Problem. Ein anderes Problem wird noch sein, dass wir eine gute Unterscheidung zwischen Travelguide und Blog finden müssen. Das Dokumentieren wird noch schwer, damit wir alles gut aufschreiben, und noch mehr Informationen bringen.

Weitere Bemerkungen

Wir haben wertvolle Hinweise zur Steigerung der Benutzerfreundlichkeit der Website erhalten. Diese werden wir prüfen und teilweise umsetzen. Zudem wurden Empfehlungen zur Dokumentation sowie zur Qualitätssicherung durch das Gegenlesen einer drittstehenden Person ausgesprochen

Das Protokoll wird von den Berufsmaturanden nach der Zwischenbesprechung anhand von Notizen ausgefüllt und anschliessend kopiert. Die Berufsmaturanden und die betreuenden Lehrpersonen erhalten je ein unterzeichnetes Exemplar. Abgabe spätestens 1 Woche nach der Zwischenbesprechung.

Ort und Datum: 16.12.2025

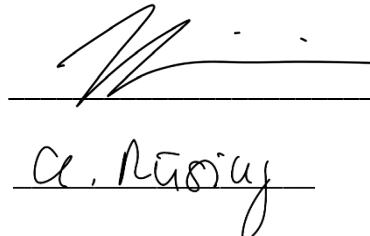
Unterschrift der IDPA-Gruppenmitglieder:

- 1) 

- 2) 

- 3) _____

Unterschrift Lehrperson:



Unterschrift Lehrperson:



A5 Selbstständigkeitserklärung

Hinweis: Sie ist von jedem Gruppenmitglied einzeln auszufüllen und gehört in den Anhang der IDPA.

Name, Vorname: Maurin Aaron Dietschi Klasse: BM1_TE22A

Hiermit bestätige ich, die vorliegende Berufsmaturitätsarbeit mit dem Titel

„Tourguide about Koreas history and culture“

selbst verfasst zu haben. Informationen aus fremden Quellen sind stets durch die entsprechenden Angaben (Zitate, Quellenverzeichnis) gemäss Leitfaden gekennzeichnet.

Ich nehme zur Kenntnis, dass meine Arbeit zur Überprüfung der korrekten und vollständigen Angabe der Quellen mit Hilfe einer Software (Plagiatserkennung) geprüft wird. Zu meinem eigenen Schutz wird die Software auch dazu verwendet, später eingereichte Arbeiten mit meiner Arbeit elektronisch zu vergleichen und damit Abschriften und eine Verletzung meines Urheberrechts zu verhindern. Falls Verdacht besteht, dass mein Urheberrecht verletzt wurde, erkläre ich mich damit einverstanden, dass die Schulleitung meine Arbeit zu Prüfzwecken herausgibt.

Ich nehme davon Kenntnis, dass die Schule berechtigt ist, bei Verstoss gegen diese Punkte die Arbeit mit der Note 1 zu bewerten (siehe auch Kap. 1.12).

Ort und Datum: Kestenholz 24.1.2026

Unterschrift: M. Dietschi IDPA

A5 Selbstständigkeitserklärung

Hinweis: Sie ist von jedem Gruppenmitglied einzeln auszufüllen und gehört in den Anhang der IDPA.

Name, Vorname: Kai Suho Croci Klasse: BM1_TE22A

Hiermit bestätige ich, die vorliegende Berufsmaturitätsarbeit mit dem Titel

"Tourguide about Koreas history and culture"

selbst verfasst zu haben. Informationen aus fremden Quellen sind stets durch die entsprechenden Angaben (Zitate, Quellenverzeichnis) gemäss Leitfaden gekennzeichnet.

Ich nehme zur Kenntnis, dass meine Arbeit zur Überprüfung der korrekten und vollständigen Angabe der Quellen mit Hilfe einer Software (Plagiatserkennung) geprüft wird. Zu meinem eigenen Schutz wird die Software auch dazu verwendet, später eingereichte Arbeiten mit meiner Arbeit elektronisch zu vergleichen und damit Abschriften und eine Verletzung meines Urheberrechts zu verhindern. Falls Verdacht besteht, dass mein Urheberrecht verletzt wurde, erkläre ich mich damit einverstanden, dass die Schulleitung meine Arbeit zu Prüfzwecken herausgibt.

Ich nehme davon Kenntnis, dass die Schule berechtigt ist, bei Verstoss gegen diese Punkte die Arbeit mit der Note 1 zu bewerten (siehe auch Kap. 1.12).

Ort und Datum: Derendingen 24.01.2026

Unterschrift: 