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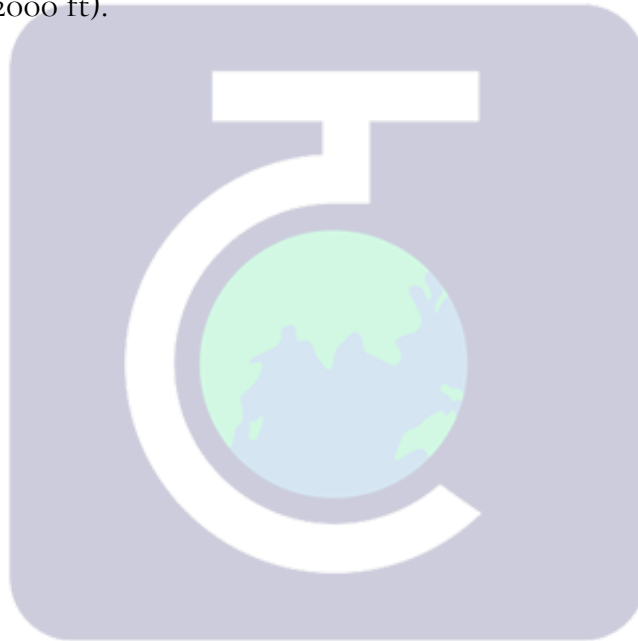
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1. Geographical location

Busan is the second largest city in South Korea. Busan is located on the south-eastern tip of Korean peninsula. It has the largest beach in South Korea. Busan is also located within the largest industrial park in South Korea. The port of Busan is the fifth largest port in the world in terms of cargo tonnage. Busan is on the same latitude as Tokyo, Kabul, Los Angeles (referred as Busan sister city), Memphis, Beirut and Algiers. The highest part of Busan is Mount Jeusan at an elevation of 634 meters (2000 ft).



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2. Neighbouring cities/countries

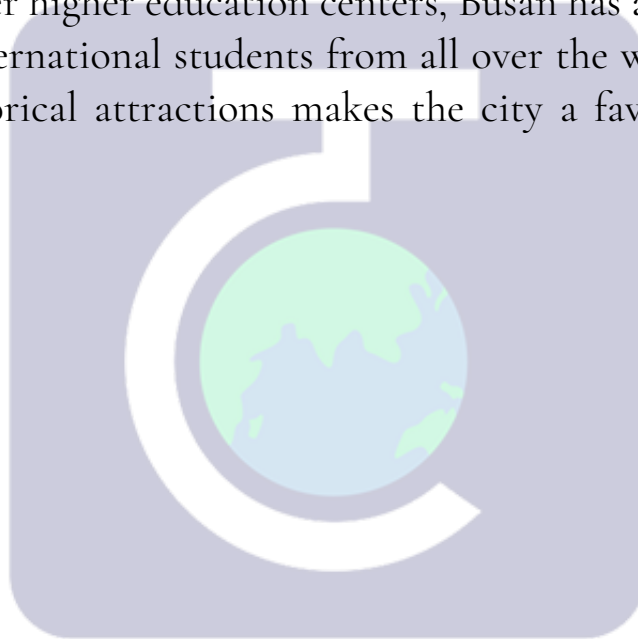
Busan Only Shares Boundaries With Only Two Major Cities In South Korea. This Is Because It Is Located Along The Shores Of Pacific Ocean. Busan Is The City With The Largest Coast Line In South Korea. The Largest River Nakdong River Passes Through Busan Draining Into The Pacific Ocean. The Nearest Town To Busan Is Yngansan Which Is Only 18 Km. Gimhae Is Only 19km Away From Busan, Changwan Is 6km Away. Goenshyang Is 76km Away While Daegu Is Further 90km To Busan. Seoul Is The Capital Of South Korea And It Is 350 Km Away From Busan.



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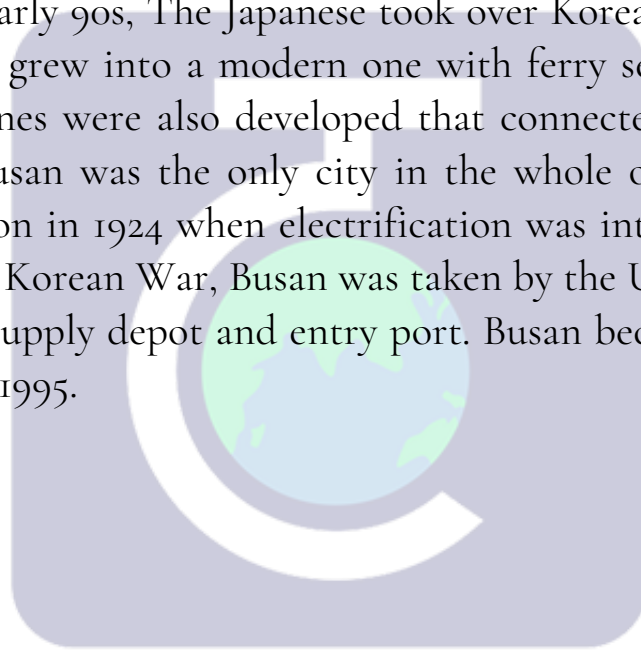
3. Significance

Busan is a hub of culture, education, and economy. Its port is the largest in the country. Cargo shipping is one of the backbones of economy in the city and industries like machinery, steel, ship building, etc. make it an international trade and finance center. Shopping and commerce have a significant place in Busan and this sector provides a great boost to the tourism industry. With many top class universities, and other higher education centers, Busan has an excellent academic base and attracts international students from all over the world. The wide array of cultural and historical attractions makes the city a favorite destination for tourists.



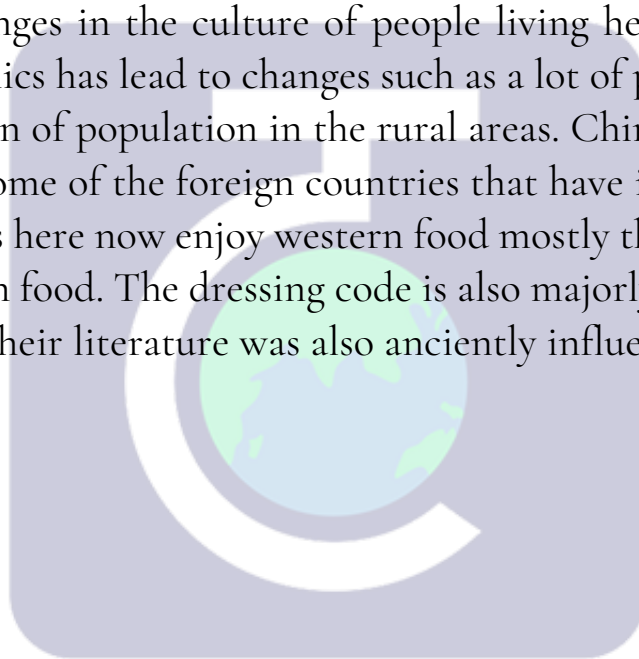
4. History

Busan means Kettle Mountain. It was given this name in honor of the shape of the mountain located behind it. During the 15th century, the government appointed Busan as a trading port with Japanese who later invaded the country and this led to war. In 1602, the war came to an end and Busan was reconstructed. In 1876, Busan was declared the first international port and was open to foreign trade later on in 1883. In early 90s, The Japanese took over Korea and it is during this period that the port grew into a modern one with ferry services connecting to nearby cities. Rail lines were also developed that connected Russia and China. During this time, Busan was the only city in the whole of Korea using steam tramway until later on in 1924 when electrification was introduced. Later on in the 1950s, during the Korean War, Busan was taken by the United Nations forces and used it as their supply depot and entry port. Busan became a self governing Metropolitan city in 1995.



5. Cultural identity

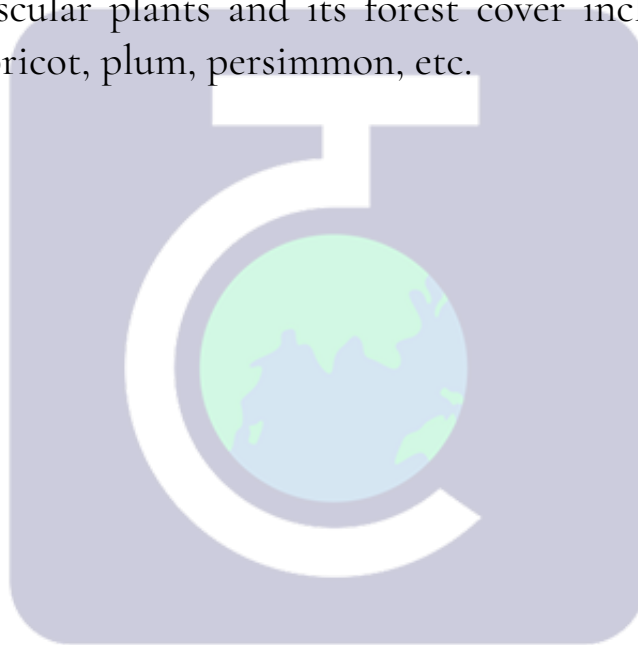
The culture of Busan can be traced back to the traditional culture of Korea. Majority of the people living in this city speak Korean. The city has many industries especially marine and steel industries and so most residents work in these industries. The Korean culture is slowly getting diluted because of the westernization, industrialization and urbanization happening in this city which has led to many changes in the culture of people living here. Rapidly changing lifestyles and economics has lead to changes such as a lot of population in the city and less concentration of population in the rural areas. China and western world (United States) are some of the foreign countries that have influenced the people of this city. Residents here now enjoy western food mostly the pizza, Asian dishes and their own Korean food. The dressing code is also majorly being influenced by the Western styles. Their literature was also anciently influenced by China.



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6. Natural resources

Busan has a very rich reserve of natural resources such as lead, molybdenum, graphite, lead, tungsten, lead, coal, gypsum, calcium carbonate, tin, pyrite, beryl, copper, mica, lead and many more. It has a rich flora and fauna. Animals such as bear, leopard, panthers, Lynxes are found. The endangered species such as red-crowned crane, brown frog, amur leopard is also found. It is also a home to several species of vascular plants and its forest cover includes trees of maple, birch, pear, peach, apricot, plum, persimmon, etc.



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7. Key site seeing places (paid and free)**7.1. Paid****7.1.1. Yongdusan Park**

One of the three popular mountains in Busan is Yongdusan Mountain. Earlier it was known as Songhyunsan, which means that the mountain overlooks the ocean through the thick timberland. The mountain is dotted with shrines built during the Japanese colonial rule and is visited by many locals who worship the deities situated here.

Address : 37-55 Yongdusan-gil, Jung-gu, Busan, South Korea

Location : 35.1006536, 129.03262259999997

Contact : +82 51-860-7820

Website : <http://yongdusanpark.bisco.or.kr/>

Nearest Public Transport : Nampo Bus Station

Entry Fee : Yongdusan Park: free Busan Tower: Age 16 or over: 4,000 won Age (3-15) 3,500 won

Open & Close Timing : Everyday 24hrs

Time Required : 3

Expected Wait Time : 10 minutes

Buy Ticket : No

**7.1.2. SEA LIFE Busan Aquarium**

The Busan Aquarium contains more than 35,000 types of fish, green growth, reptiles and creatures of land and water. The place stands at the top position when it comes to aquariums in the entire South Korea. There are 3 levels underground to cover an area of 36,000 square meters and an outdoor park. The third level consists of an 80-meter long tunnel, which is a major tourist attraction, as it gives a feeling of walking underwater, with creatures swimming over you.

Address : 266 Haeundaehaebyeon-ro, Haeundae-gu, Busan, South Korea

Location : 35.159364, 129.16099499999996

Contact : +82 51-740-1700

Website : <https://www.busanaquarium.com/>

Entry Fee : Adults 25,000 won Children 19,000 won The handicapped - Adults

18,000 won Children 13,000 won

Open & Close Timing : Monday to Thursday 10:00hrs to 19:00hrs, Friday to Sunday 09:00hrs to 21:00hrs

Time Required : 2.5

Buy Ticket : No

7.1.3. Chungnyeolsa Temple

Built by Commander Lee Un-nyong during the 39th year of King Seonjo, the Chungnyeolsa Temple is renowned as the most sacred and the holiest place where you can find the spirits of soldiers who lost their lives during the Japanese invasion. It houses many memorial tablets, including the tablet of Admiral Lee.

Address : 251, Yeohwang-ro, Tongyeong-si, Gyeongsangnam-do

Location : 34.8466263, 128.41784729999995

Contact : +82-55-645-3229

Website : <http://tycr.kr/>

Nearest Public Transport : Chungnyeolsa Bus Station

Entry Fee : Adults 1,000 won, (groups of 30 or more) 800 won Youths & the military 700 won, (group of 30 or more) 600 won Children 500 won, group of 30 or more) 400 won Free entry for children under 7 years old and seniors over 65

Open & Close Timing : Everyday 09:00hrs to 18:00hrs

Time Required : 1

Expected Wait Time : 10 minutes

Buy Ticket : No

7.1.4. Beomeosa Temple

Situated at the edge of Mt. Geumjeongs Beomeosa Temple is a popular temple of the city. It was built about 1,300 years ago by friar Ui Sang in the 18th year (678) of King Munmu of the Silla Kingdom. The actual building was destroyed during the Imjinwaeran Invasion and was rebuilt in 1713. This temple houses a 3-storey pagoda with 4 pillars, 7 royal palace wings, pavilions, 3 gates, and 11 hermitages.

Address : 250 Beomeosa-ro, Geumjeong-gu, Busan, South Korea

Location : 35.2839899, 129.06876390000002

Contact : +82 51-508-3122

Website : <http://www.beomeo.kr/>

Entry Fee : Adults 1,000 won Youth 700 won Children 500 won

Open & Close Timing : Everyday 08:30hrs to 17:30hrs

Time Required : 1.5

Expected Wait Time : 20 minutes

Buy Ticket : No



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7.2. Free

7.2.1. Gukje Market

One of the largest marketplaces in Busan, it is a must-visit for its sheer size and the things which are available for sale here. Be it clothes, food items, handicrafts and even industrial goods, tourists can make affordable purchases here.

Address : Sinchangdong 4(sa)-ga, Jung-gu, Busan, South Korea

Location : 35.1007754, 129.02913450000005

Time Required : 0

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.2. Lotte

Indulge in a duty-free high-end shopping experience once you set foot in this major chain store. You can buy internationally-branded goods at amazingly affordable prices here.

Address : Busan Lotte World Tower, Jungang-dong, Busan, South Korea

Location : 35.09745700000001, 129.03721300000007

Time Required : 0

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.3. Biff Square

If you're a movie buff and abide by the motto of 'shop-till-you-drop', the BIFF Square is meant for you. It is one of the most-visited shopping locales in Busan, with the most number of movie theatres and premium shopping stores selling excellent fashion and apparel items.

Address : 58-1 Gudeok-ro, Nampo-dong, Jung-gu, Busan, South Korea

Zipcode : 48953

Location : 35.098243, 129.02921200000003

Time Required : 0

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.4. Haeundae Beach

Overflowing with mountains and shorelines, hot springs and fish, South Korea's second-biggest city is a romping port town with tons to offer. The Haeundae

Beach is the most popular beach of the city filled with white sticky sand. A popular hotspot for cultural events, this place is always crowded and lively with various events taking place around the year. There is a place on the beach known as Folk Square where games such as seesaw jumping, Korean wrestling and many other traditional games take place.

Address : 264, Haeundaehaebyeon-ro, Haeundae-gu, Busan

Zipcode : 48099

Location : 35.15866450000001, 129.16033879999998

Contact : +82-51-749-5700

Website : <http://eng.haeundae.go.kr/>

Nearest Public Transport : Jung Dong Bus Station


Open & Close Timing : Open 24 hours

Time Required : 2

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.5. Haedong Yonggungsa Temple

Built by Naong in 1376, Haedong Yonggungsa Temple is situated on the shoreline of the north-eastern part of Busan. This wonderful attraction offers guests the uncommon find of a sanctuary along the coast; most sanctuaries in Korea are situated in the mountains. This beautiful temple houses a 3-storey pagoda with 4 lions at the entrance representing joy, anger, sadness, and happiness. It also houses the main sanctuary and 3 other shrines.

Address : 86 Yonggung-gil, Gijang-eup, Gijang-gun,  South Korea

Location : 35.188344, 129.22330499999998

Contact : +82 51-722-7744

Website : <http://www.yongkungsa.or.kr/>

Open & Close Timing : Daily 04:00hrs to 19:00hrs

Time Required : 1.5

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.6. Gamcheon Cultural Village

Gamcheon Culture Village is framed by houses worked in staircase design on the foothills of a beach-front mountain, winning this town the title of "Machu Picchu of Busan." The numerous back roads slicing through this group are dynamically

beautified with paintings and figures made by the occupants. This place is also equipped with a lot of restaurants and cafés where you can stop and nibble on some delicious snacks.

Address : Gamcheon 2(i)-dong, Saha-gu, Busan, South Korea

Location : 35.0974534, 129.0105949

Contact : +82 70-4219-5556

Website : <http://www.gamcheon.or.kr/>

Open & Close Timing : Open 24 hours

Time Required : 0.5

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.7. Gwangalli Beach

Gwangalli Beach is 1.4 kilometer long, shoreline which is acclaimed for its fine sand. This territory has experienced a water cleaning program, and therefore, its water is immaculate. The spotless waters of this territory likewise pull in numerous tourists. This place is popular for water sports such as jet-skiing, water skiing and more.

Address : 219, Gwanganhaebyeon-ro, Suyeong-gu, Busan

Location : 35.153504, 129.11877890000005

Contact : +82-51-622-4251

Website : <http://www.suyeong.go.kr/suyeong/main.asp>

Nearest Public Transport : Guemnyeonsan Bus Station

Open & Close Timing : Open 24 hours

Time Required : 2

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.8. Seokbalsa Temple

Seokbalsa Temple (also called the "Stone Buddha Temple") is an ancient temple located at the top of the mountain and is famous for its rock sculptures and scenic view of the city. On the sides of the temple are mountain rock forming towering walls with carvings of 6 Buddhist figures. There are 2 ways to reach the temple, one is through hiking from the entrance and the other is via cable car.

Address : Mandeok-dong, Buk-gu, Busan, South Korea

Location : 35.2213378, 129.04873610000004

Contact : +82-51-519-4543~5

Website : <http://www.geumjeong.go.kr/>

Open & Close Timing : Daily 08:00hrs to 17:00hrs

Time Required : 3

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.9. Songjeong Beach

Songjeong Beach is the perfect shoreline for a quick dip into the sea, thanks to its shallow waters and fine sand. The crystalline coast extends up to 1.2 kilometers and spreads across a region of over 60,000 square meters. The beach has a quintessential vibe of the southern locale, making the experience a unique one. The Harvest Full-Moon Seaweed Festival and the Songjeong Beach Festival are some of the festivals that take place here and are a major crowd-puller.

Address : 711-22 Songjeong-dong, Haeundae-gu, Busan, South Korea

Zipcode : 71122

Location : 35.17927, 129.2003598

Contact : +82-51-749-5800

Website : <http://www.haeundae.go.kr/>

Open & Close Timing : Open 24 hours

Time Required : 2.5

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.10. Jagalchi Market

Jagalchi Market is Korea's biggest fish showcase. You can choose among an ultimate range of the best dried and live fish. In the month of October, an annual Jagalchi Cultural Tourism Festival is held, which is a major point of interest for the travelers. Adequate transportation arrangements are made for the people attending the festival.

Address : 52 Jagalchihaean-ro, Jung-gu, Busan, South Korea

Location : 35.0967055, 129.03048850000005

Contact : +82 51-713-8000

Website : <http://jagalchimarket.bisco.or.kr/>

Nearest Public Transport : Jagalchi Bus Station

Open & Close Timing : Daily 08:00hrs to 22:00hrs

Time Required : 2

Buy Ticket : No



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8. Key sites sports & adventure

Busan offers some great opportunities for water sports like kayaking, wind surfing, wake boarding, water skiing, stand up paddle boarding, and many other exciting activities.

- **Water Sports -**

Address : The Bay 101 Yacht Club, Kitchenborie Co.,Ltd, 52 Dongbaek-ro, Haeundae-gu, Busan, Korea 612-822

Location : 35.156623,129.152147

Contact No : +82 51 731 0805(0858)

Website : <http://www.thebay101.com/>

Open / Close Time : Daily tours at 10:30hrs; 13:30hrs; 15:30hrs

Time Required : 4



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9. Adventure sports, Local sports, stadiums

Baseball is the most popular and played sports in Busan. The people of Busan also enjoy playing football, basketball, thoroughbred racing, and bicycle racing. Some of the major stadiums and arenas in the city include:

- **Busan Sajik Baseball Stadium:**

Address : 45 Sajik-ro, Dongnae-gu, Busan, South Korea

Location : 35.19403159999999,129.0615183

Contact No : +82 51-590-9000

Website : <http://www.giantsclub.com/>

- **Sajik Arena:**

Address : 55-32 Sajik-ro, Dongnae-gu,  South Korea

Location : 35.192275,129.06064300000003

Contact No : +82 51-500-2121

Website : <http://wwwstadium.busan.go.kr/>

Open/Close time : Monday-Friday 09:00hrs-18:00hrs; Saturday & Sunday Closed

10. Spas and relaxation

- **Lumi Spa & Fitness:**

Address : 51, Marine City 1-ro, Haeundae-gu, Busan

Location : 35.156674,129.14201000000003

Contact No : +82 51 990 1440

Website : <https://busan.park.hyatt.com/>

- **Heosimcheong Spa:**

Address : 23 Geumganggongwon-ro 20beon-gil, Dongnae-gu, Busan

Location : 35.2211196,129.08265460000007

Contact No : +82 51-550-2200

Website : http://www.hotelnongshim.com/eng/html/o3_spa/spa_01.php

- **Outdoor Hot Spring Spa:**

Address : 1408-5 Jung-dong Haeundae-gu, Busan

Location : 35.160253,129.16524500000003

Contact No : +82 51-742-2121

Website : <http://www.lhw.com/hotel/Paradise-Hotel-Casino-Busan-Busan-Korea>

11. Events calendar

Month

Events

**Seolla (new lunar year) festiviies
@ All over Busan (27th to 30th)**

**Local new year (Seollal) is
marked with celebrations all over
Busan. The festivities include
dance songs and feasts.**

**Busan International Boat Show
@ BEXCO Busan Exhibition &
Convention Center (23rd to 26th)**

**Talk of Luxury Boat, Cruise Boat,
Sailing Yacht, Racing Yacht,
Dinghy Yacht, Fishing Yacht and
Rubber Boat all are showcased
in this international Boat show.
Arbor Day @ Busan (5th)**

**The word arbour is a Latin word
that means tree. Arbor day is
when south Koreans comes in
plenty to plant trees.**

Haeundae Sand Festival

**One of the most exciting
festivals in Busan that is
celebrated on beaches, it
includes marathon races, beach
volleyballs, hot sand baths and
much more!**

Memorial Day @ Busan (6th)

Memorial day is a public holiday in South Korea. Memorial day honors the brave women and men soldiers who died fighting for the country.

Constitution Day @ Busan (17th)

On this day in July in the year 1948 South Korean constitution was first proclaimed.

Busan Sea Festivals @ Haeundae Beach, Gwangalli Beach, Dadaepo Beach, Songdo Beach etc.(1st to 7th)

An annual event which attracts people from all over the world. The event is held in all beaches in Busan. The event features sport activities performances etc.

Busan Jagalchi Festival @ Jagalchi Market District in Nampo-dong, Jung-gu, Busan (29th to 2nd)

This is an event which involves fresh sea foods. You get to see the traditional and the variety in the sea foods that Busan enjoys. Busan International Film Festival @ Centum City Theaters LOTTE

**CINEMA, Dongseo University
Sohyang Theater, Community
Media Center and MEGABOX
Theaters (6th to 15th)**

**The annual event showcases
over 200 million movies from all
over the world. This film event is
quickly gaining international
recognition from all over Asia.**

**Busan Port Lighting Festival @
Songdo Beach (8th to 17th)**

**During this festival myriad of
lights will illuminate Songdo
Beach while a lot of other
activities will take place
throughout the city.**

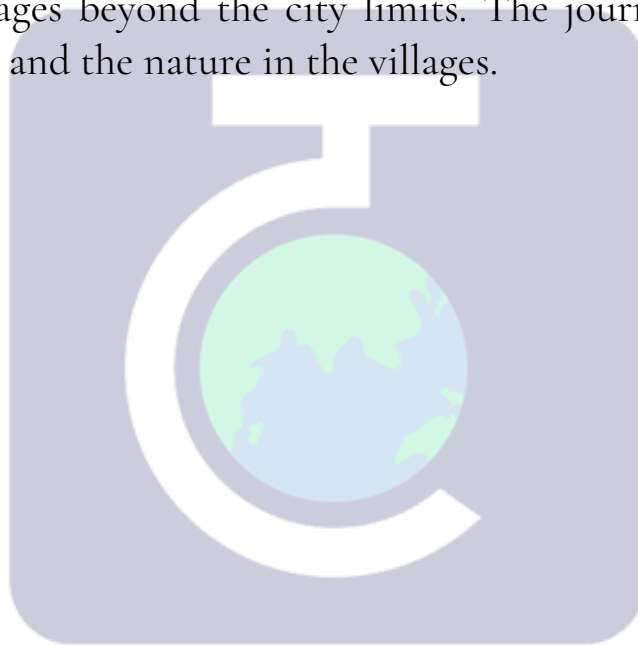
**Busan Christmas Tree Festival @
Car-free area of Gwangbok-ro,
Jung-gu, Busan (all month)**

**This is a winter festival that
attracts millions of people. The
festival celebrates Christmas and
new year.**

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12. Key local guides and tours

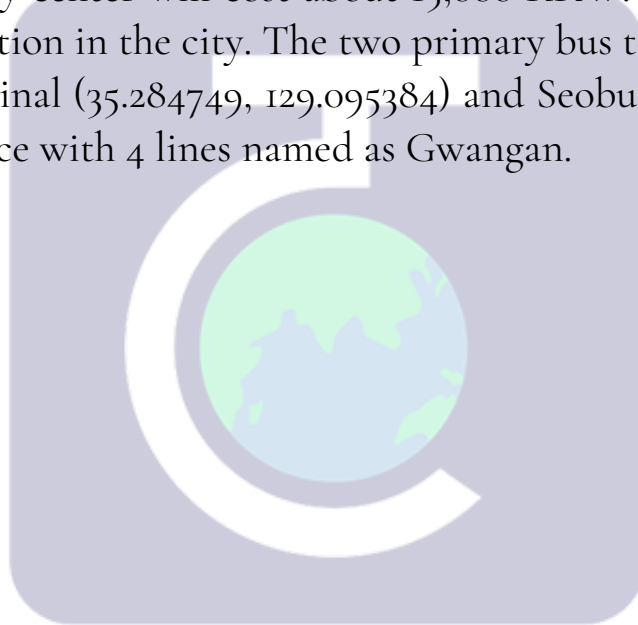
Busan offers a wide range of sights and activities to the visitors. There are many themed tour programmes with unique itineraries. Busan Night View Tours offer the glimmering scenes of the night life in the city. History and Cultural Tours are quite popular among history lovers and culture enthusiasts. These tours take you to the historical and heritage sights in the city. Countryside tours are cultural trips to the folk villages beyond the city limits. The journey offers panoramic views of the rural life and the nature in the villages.



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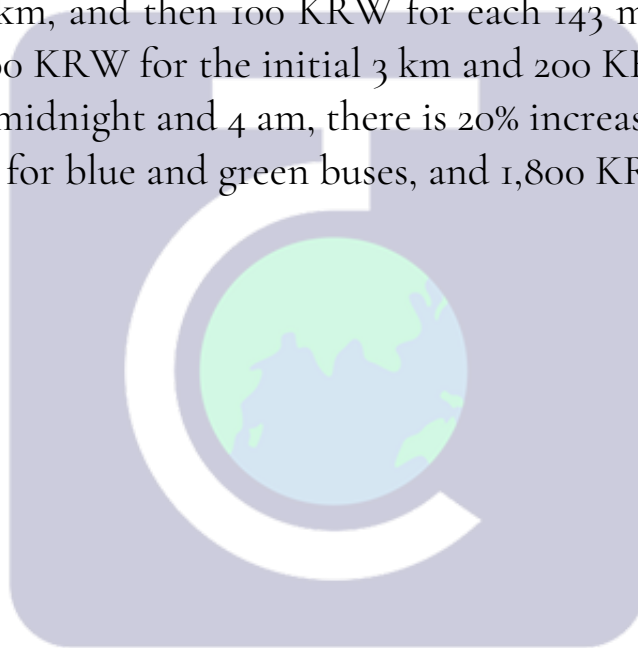
13. Transportation hubs

Busan is served by Gimhae International Airport 12 km away from the city center. Passengers can reach the city by the Busan Gimhae Light Rail, limousine bus, local bus, and taxis. The Light Rail takes around one hour to reach the downtown. The Airport Limousine buses have a flat rate to the various destinations in the city at 6,000 KRW. Ticket fare for local buses is 1,000 KRW. A taxi ride to the city center will cost about 15,000 KRW. The Busan Station is the major railway station in the city. The two primary bus terminals in Busan are Nopodong Bus Terminal (35.284749, 129.095384) and Seobu Bus Terminal. There is also a subway service with 4 lines named as Gwangan.



14. Transportation cost

The Busan Hanaro Card is a contactless smart card to be used in public transport systems such as subway, light rail, taxi, and local buses. The initial cost of the card is 6,000 KRW which can then be recharged. The card gets you a 10% discount on adult and 20% on youth ticket charges. A single metro ride in cash costs 1,300 KRW up to 10 km and 1,500 KRW beyond that. Fare for regular taxis is 2,800 KRW for the first 2 km, and then 100 KRW for each 143 m or every 34 seconds. Deluxe taxis cost 4,500 KRW for the initial 3 km and 200 KRW for each 160 m or 38 seconds. Between midnight and 4 am, there is 20% increase in the fare. Bus fare in cash is 1,200 KRW for blue and green buses, and 1,800 KRW for express buses.



Index**15. Baggage allowance**

There are storage lockers in almost all the train stations but the trains only allow baggage you can carry. The lockers are categorized into three types: white lockers, yellow lockers and blue lockers. The lockers are charged different according to the type. Buses allow only small sizes of baggage. The baggage should not in any way cause a discomfort to the other passengers. If you have big size or a lot of baggage it is advisable you either hire a car or use a taxi. Using a car or a taxi will be much easier and convenient compared to all other means of transport in Busan.



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16. Restaurant & Nightlife

Busan is home to numerous restaurants that specialize in foods from different parts of the world. The most common restaurants include Korean restaurants, Japanese Restaurants, seafood restaurants, Italian Restaurants etc. Most restaurants and clubs are found within Hauendae region.

Food -

Busan is home to numerous restaurants that specialize in foods from different parts of the world. The most common restaurants include Korean restaurants, Japanese Restaurants, seafood restaurants, Italian Restaurants etc. Most restaurants and clubs are found within Hauendae region.

- **Dongnae Halma panjeon:**

Address : 43-10 Myeongnyun-ro 94beon-gil, Bokcheon-dong, Dongnae-gu, Busan, South Korea

Location : 35.204579,129.083834000000

Contact No : +82 51-552-0791

Website : <http://www.dongraehalmaepajun.co.kr/>

Open / Close Time : Daily 11:00hrs-19:00hrs

- **18 Wandang house Restaurant:**

Address : 31 BIFF gwangjang-ro, Jung-gu, Busan, South Korea.

Location : 35.0989622999999,129.0284706

Contact No : +82 51-245-0018

Open / Close Time : Daily 10:30hrs - 22:00hrs

- **Gaya Milmyeon ?? ??:**

Address : 191-5 Gaya 2(i)-dong, Busanjin-gu, Busan, South Korea

Location : 35.1531108,129.03180529

Contact No : +82 51-891-2483

Open / Close Time : Daily 1:00hrs-20:00hrs

- **Mugunghwa:**

Address : 43rd Floor, Lotte Hotel, 772, Gaya-Daero, Busan, South Korea

Location : 35.1564736,129.0555329

Contact No : 051-810-6330

Website : <http://www.lottehotel.com/global/en/>

Open / Close Time : Monday to Sunday 12:00hrs-23:30hrs

- **Seorae:**

Address : 1383-12, Jung-Dong , Busan, South Korea

Location : 35.1619696,129.160585500000

Contact No : 051-746-1489

Website : <http://www.seoraester.co.kr/kor/>

Open / Close Time : Monday to Sunday 08:00hrs to 20:30hrs

- **OASE Buffet Restaurant:**

Address : 37-1 Nampodong 4(sa)-ga, Jung-gu, Busan, South Korea

Location : 35.096813,129.03064800000004

Contact No : +82 51-248-7773

Website : <http://www.oasebusan.co.kr/>

Open / Close Time : Daily 10:00hrs-22:00hrs

- **247 Club Lounge:**

Address : Jung 1(il)-dong, Haeundae-gu, Busan, South Korea

Location : 25.1616652,129.163357

Contact No : +82 51-744-8247

Website : <http://www.247lounge.co.kr/main/main.php>

Open / Close Time : Monday to Saturday 23:00hrs to 06:00hrs Sundays Closed

- **Club Abyss:**

Address : 217 Haeundaehaebyeon-ro, Haeundae-gu, Busan, South Korea

Location : 35.159018,129.15495999999996

Contact No : +82-2-1877-5337

Open / Close Time : Friday and Saturday 21:30hrs-06:00hrs Sunday-Thursday Closed

- **Lotte Casino:**

Address : Lotte Hotel, 772, Gaya-Daero, Busan, South Korea.

Location : 35.156766,129.05587000

Contact No : +82-51-665-6000

Website : <http://www.lottehotel.com/busan/en/facility/>

Open / Close Time : Open 24 hours

Index**17. Average meal cost**

At an inexpensive restaurant a normal meal costs 7,000.00 KRW and that of three-course meal for two people at a mid-range restaurant is available at 55,000.00 KRW. A combo meal at McDonald's is available at 6,000.00 KRW. You can have a fresh cappuccino at 4,600.00 KRW. 11.2 oz small bottle of water is available at 775.16 KRW.



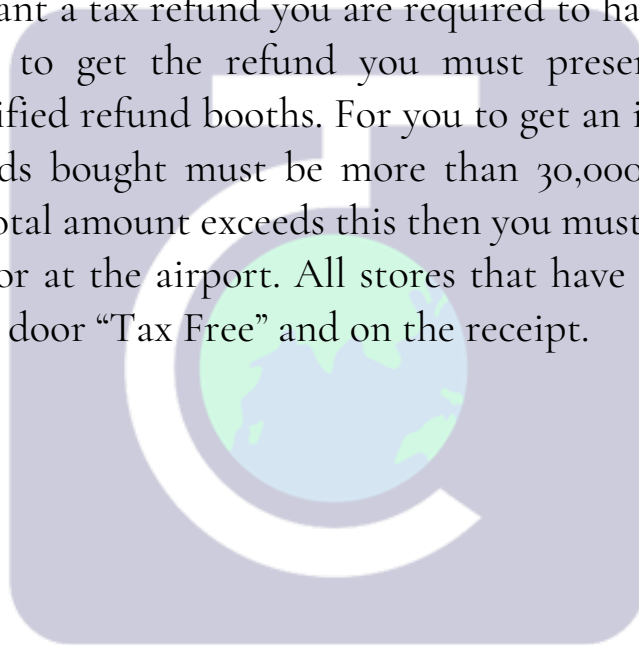
18. Shopping

Busan is one of the most vibrant shopping places in South Korea. It has shopping options in abundance for tourists.



19. Tourist benefits

Tourist benefits in South Korea can be categorized into Tax refunds and duty free shops. There are more than 50 tax free stores in Busan. Some of these tax-free shops are found at the airport while others are found at the central business district. You can purchase items at these stores in two ways; purchase and pay the full amount and then apply for tax rebates or buy the goods without adding the tax amount. If you want a tax refund you are required to have a passport and the quotations. For you to get the refund you must present the passport and quotation at the certified refund booths. For you to get an immediate tax refund at the store the goods bought must be more than 30,000 won but no exceed 200,000 won. If the total amount exceeds this then you must apply for a refund at the certified booths or at the airport. All stores that have a tax free benefit are clearly marked at the door “Tax Free” and on the receipt.



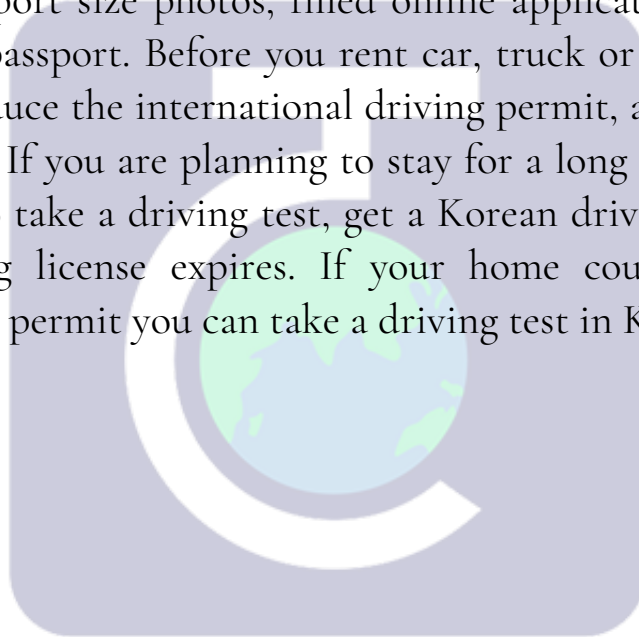
20. Essential local apps

Busan is a tourist's paradise that is best explored with the help of a few travel apps. Kakao Taxi makes searching and booking cabs easier by selecting the current location and destination. Busan Metro Map helps in searching stations, planning routes, getting route directions, and using the map without internet. Korea Transit is designed for iPhones and iPads and is available in multiple languages. It helps in planning trips, searching nearest stations, getting route maps, etc. Mangoplate app is the best for finding Korean food and restaurants. Restaurants can be searched from a huge database based on preferences and reviews.



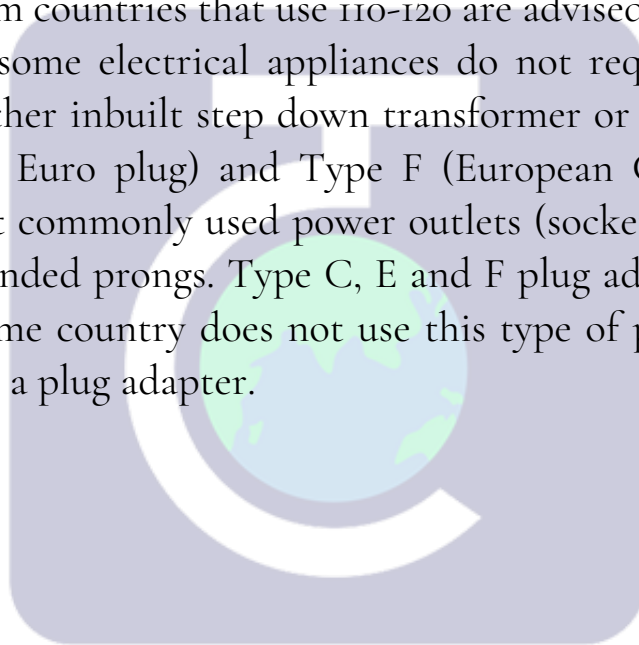
21. Driving

If you are planning to drive in Busan, you must have an International Driving Permit and a valid home driving license. The International driving license was adopted after the Geneva Conventions. This International Driving Permit is valid for a period not exceeding one year. This international driving permit should be obtained at your home country. The common requirements for obtaining the permit include: passport size photos, filled online application form, valid local driving license and passport. Before you rent car, truck or motorcycle in Busan you will have to produce the international driving permit, a valid driving license and a valid passport. If you are planning to stay for a long period of time in the city, you will have to take a driving test, get a Korean driving license once your International driving license expires. If your home country does not issue International driving permit you can take a driving test in Korea.



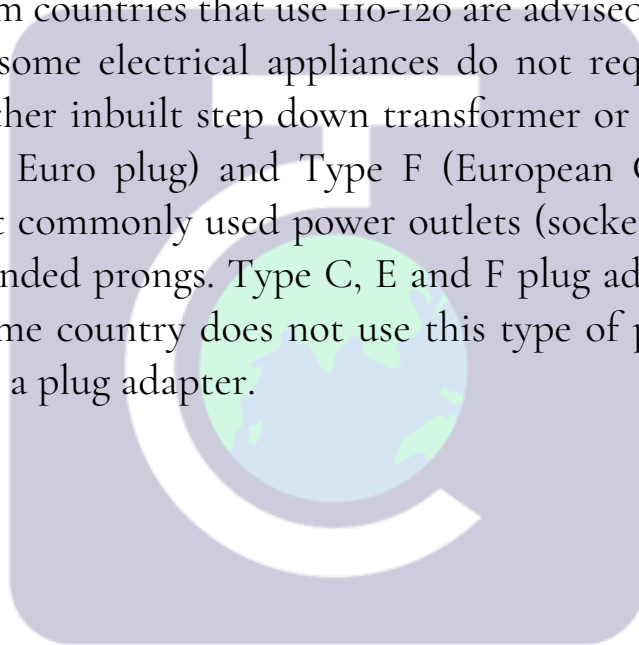
22. Travel essentials

There are only two types of voltage standards in the world. 110- 120 volt standard is used by countries from North (US, Canada) America and South America (Peru Brazil etc.). 220 – 240 volts standard voltage is used in most countries from Africa (Kenya Tanzania etc.), Asia (India, Bhutan etc.) and Europe. Busan city is connected to the electric grid at standard voltage of 220 volts with a frequency of 60 hertz. Visitors from countries that use 110-120 are advised to carry a step down transformer though some electrical appliances do not require the transformer because they have either inbuilt step down transformer or dual voltage. Type C (European CEE 7/16 Euro plug) and Type F (European CEE 7/4 or CEE 7/5 Schuko) are the most commonly used power outlets (sockets). Both Type C and Type F have two rounded prongs. Type C, E and F plug adapters work together very well. If your home country does not use this type of power socket you are advised to come with a plug adapter.



23. Essential clothes

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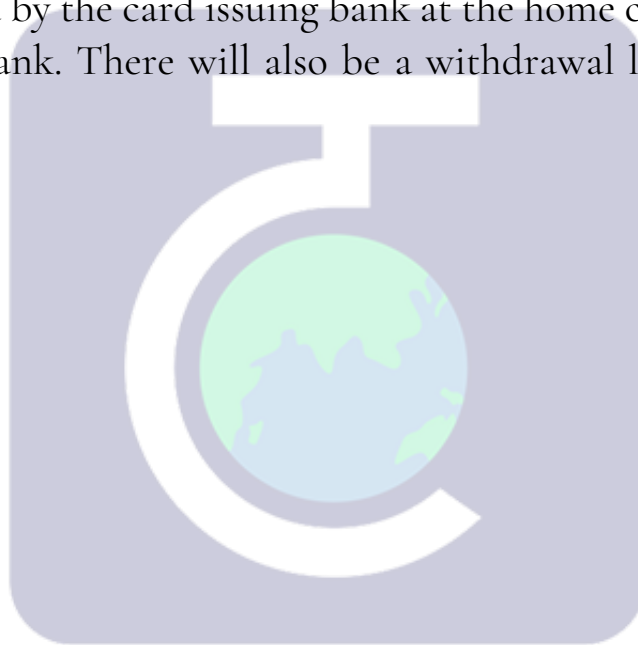
24. Local currency

South Korean Won is the local currency of Busan. 1 USD = 1126.78 South Korean Won



25. Change vendor's commission, ATM charges

Foreign currency exchange services are available at the counters located at the airport. There are many banks and private exchange offices that offer this facility in the city as well. Generally, rates and commission are better at the banks. Almost all major bank ATMs accept international cash cards like Visa, Mastercard, American Express, etc. Usually there is a fee for using the ATM and another charge levied by the card issuing bank at the home country. The rates can vary from bank to bank. There will also be a withdrawal limit for a day or per transaction.



26. Staying connected

When you set out to travel to Busan, one of the things you should have no concerns about is connectivity. South Korea boasts of a solid connectivity networks. Be it telecom or Internet, both communicative mediums are excellent. Be it rental phones, payphones, prepaid mobile SIM card, postpaid SIM card, Internet and Wi-Fi, there are numerous options for tourists to keep in touch with family and friends back home and elsewhere in the world. The biggest plus is that tourists can procure their preferred mode of communication by showing their passport or any other ID proof.



27. Time Zone

Busan follows South Korea Time Zone with UTC + 09:00 hours.



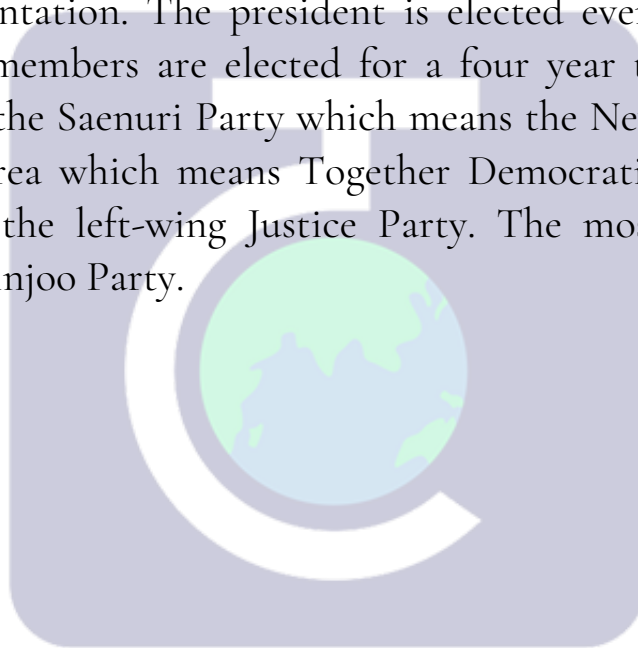
28. Languages

Korean is the main language spoken in Busan.



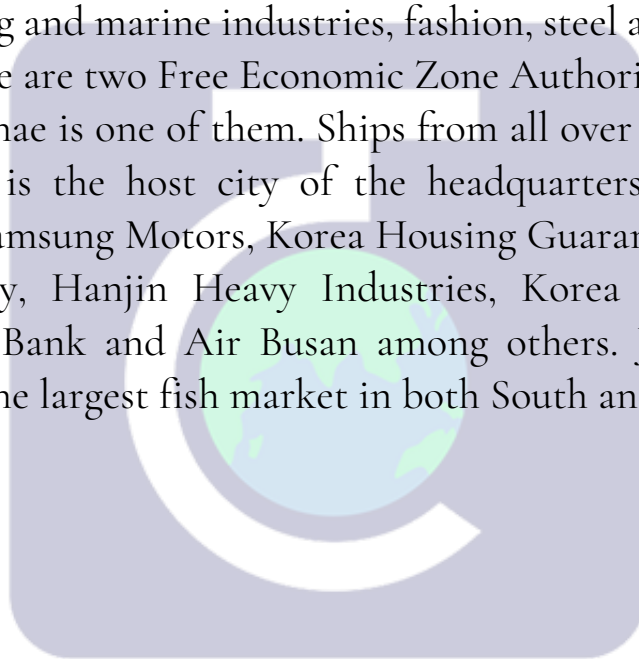
29. Political Scenario

Busan is a metropolitan city and is governed by a mayor who is elected in every four years. The current mayor is Suh Byung-soo, who was elected in on 1st July, 2014. This city is in South Korea where elections are held on a national level to elect in the president and the national assembly which usually has 300 members. Out of these 300 members, 246 are in single seat constituencies and 54 by proportional representation. The president is elected every five years but the National Assembly members are elected for a four year term. Major political parties in Busan are the Saenuri Party which means the New Frontier Party, the Minjoo Party of Korea which means Together Democratic Party, the centrist People's Party, and the left-wing Justice Party. The most dominant are the Saenuri Party and Minjoo Party.



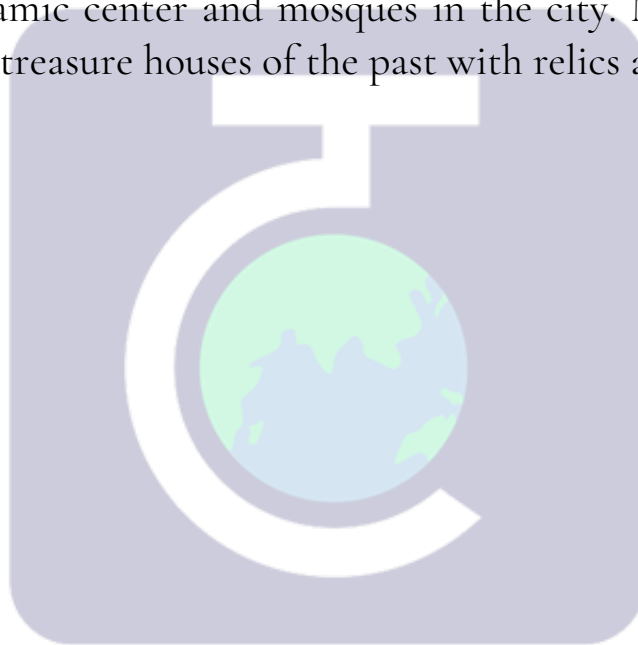
30. Economic Scenario

Busan is a financial and international business centre in South Korea. It is also among the top ten largest and busiest seaports in the world with a capacity of handling over 13 million shipping containers in a year. The city has other container ports which are Shinsundae, Gamman and Jaseungdae. The economy of Busan is majorly dependent on transportation and shipping, trade fairs and tourism, ship building and marine industries, fashion, steel and machinery among other activities. There are two Free Economic Zone Authority administrations in Korea and Busan-Jinhae is one of them. Ships from all over the world make trips to this port. Busan is the host city of the headquarters of Korea Exchange securities, Renault Samsung Motors, Korea Housing Guarantee Company, Korea Securities Depository, Hanjin Heavy Industries, Korea Technology Finance Corporation, Busan Bank and Air Busan among others. Jagalchi Fish Market located in Busan, is the largest fish market in both South and North Korea.



Index**31. Religious belief**

Buddhism is the majority religion in Busan followed by Christianity. Among the Christians, the Protestants form the majority. The rest are Catholics. A minority of people follow some of the indigenous religions while a great percentage of people do not follow any religion. Temples, shrines, altars, and other religious places abound in Busan. Islam is also present mostly among the foreign workers and they have an Islamic center and mosques in the city. Most of the Buddhist temples in Busan are treasure houses of the past with relics and artifacts from the ancient periods.



32. Visa requirements

All foreigners planning to visit Bussan, South Korea must have a visa and a valid passport. The passport should have space for South Korea stamps and should at least have a validity period for the time period you are planning to stay in South Korea. The minimum validity period should be at least three months. However, nationals of some countries are exempted from having visas to enter the country. The exemptions allowances vary from 90 days to 30 days. For example visitors from Asia are exempted from having a visa for 90 days; Lesotho and Russia are exempted for 60 days while visitors from Albania Bahrain etc. are exempted for 30 days. Visitors should always have a visa according to the purpose of visit. If a person is found breaking the immigration rules they will be subject to prosecution. All foreigners planning to visit Bussan, South Korea must have a visa and a valid passport. The passport should have space for South Korea stamps and should at least have a validity period for the time period you are planning to stay in South Korea. The minimum validity period should be at least three months. However, nationals of some countries are exempted from having visas to enter the country. The exemptions allowances vary from 90 days to 30 days. For example visitors from Asia are exempted from having a visa for 90 days; Lesotho and Russia are exempted for 60 days while visitors from Albania Bahrain etc. are exempted for 30 days. Visitors should always have a visa according to the purpose of visit. If a person is found breaking the immigration rules they will be subject to prosecution.

33. Essential vaccination

If you are travelling to Busan, then it is recommended to be vaccinated for Rabies, Hepatitis B, Typhoid, Tetanus, Japanese Encephalitis, Hepatitis A, Polio Virus, Mumps, Influenza, Japanese B Encephalitis and routine vaccination.



Index**34. Theft and Safety**

Though a safe city during the day, be careful about going out at night. Foreign women also should be alert to groping or other sexual harassments. Beware of scooters speeding by on sidewalks.



Index**35. Embassy/Consulate**

Busan is not the capital city of South Korea but it is the second largest city in South Korea, It has only a few foreign embassies and consulates. The embassies are found in dong district. For more information, you can check out this website <http://embassy.goabroad.com/embassies-in/south-korea>.



36. Accessibility

South Korea has made every effort to make the country disabled friendly. Facilities are provided everywhere for the wheelchair bound and other disabled persons.



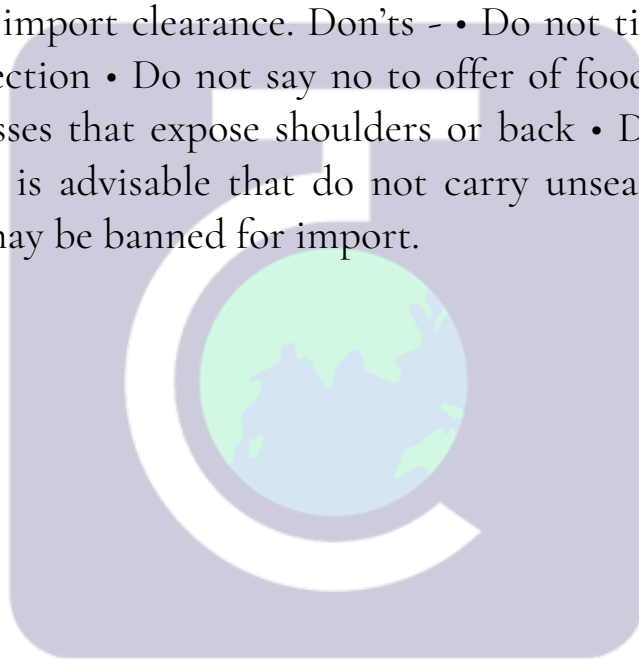
Index**37. Emergencies**

During emergencies you can dial 112 for Police, 119 for Fire, 119 for Ambulance. You are provided with the top-notch medical services even if you are a tourist. There are hospitals that can help you with travel insurance such as Good Moonhwa Hospital.



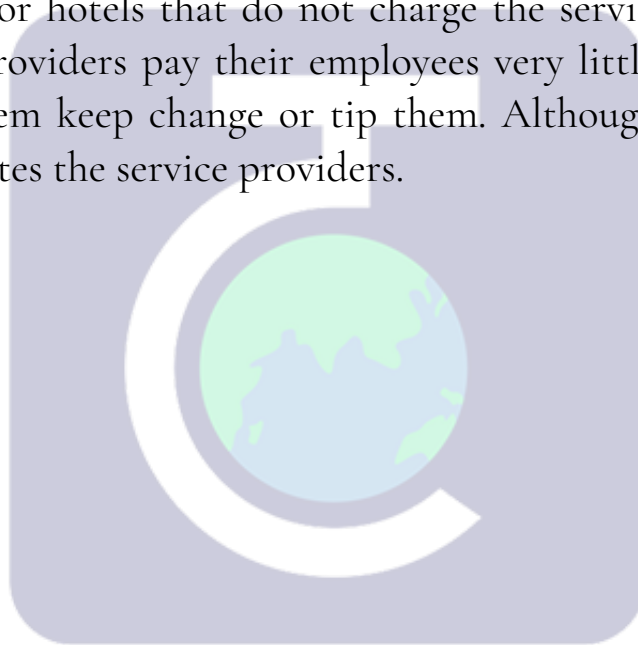
38. Do's and Don'ts

There are some cultural norms and codes of conduct that the foreign travelers should be aware of while visiting Busan. Do's - • Give and receive gifts or drinks with both hands • Remove shoes and hats before entering temples or religious places • Use titles to address people • Leave the front seats in a bus for the elderly • It is advisable to carry a certified doctor's prescription along with the medicines to ensure hassle free import clearance. Don'ts - • Do not tip • Do not engage in public display of affection • Do not say no to offer of food or drinks • Women should not wear dresses that expose shoulders or back • Do not talk loudly on public transport • It is advisable that do not carry unsealed/ unbranded food articles as the same may be banned for import.



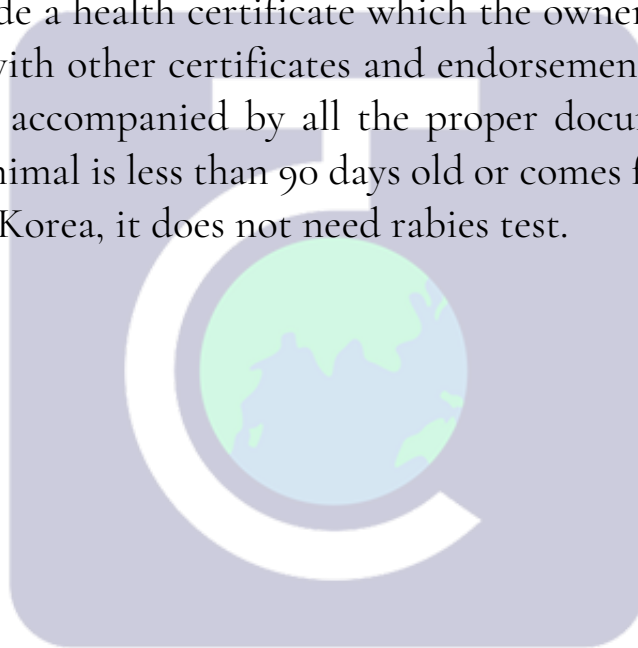
39.Tipping basics

Tipping is not customary in Busan. Taxi drivers, hair dressers, tour guides, bellboys and other service providers do not expect a tip for their services. But it is always good to give a tip as a sign of appreciation. There are no fixed rates for tips and so tipping entirely depends on what you have. However, most hotels and restaurants usually include a 10% service charge to the bill. The service charge caters for the tips. For hotels that do not charge the service, a 10% tip is good. Sometimes service providers pay their employees very little salary so it is good mannerism to let them keep change or tip them. Although not a culture here, tipping really motivates the service providers.



Index**40.Pet info**

If pets arrive from countries that South Korea has not recognized as rabies free, the animals have to be vaccinated against rabies at the country of origin before the journey. A microchip must be planted before the vaccination. A rabies antibody test must be performed and the result must be endorsed by the veterinarian responsible for animal export and import at the country of origin. He should also provide a health certificate which the owner has to submit at the port of entry along with other certificates and endorsements. If the pet is found to be healthy and is accompanied by all the proper documents, it will not be quarantined. If the animal is less than 90 days old or comes from a country that is rabies free for South Korea, it does not need rabies test.



Conclusion – Why to select this destination

Busan is South Korea's most underrated travel destination. Beaches, mountains, street food, culture, and a relaxed pace is what makes Busan a city worth visiting. The city and the coastline are next to each other. If you prefer a secluded, less crowded beach or a lively one with lots of activities, Busan has all types of sandy shores ready for you. The hiking trails of Busan are the best choice if you are looking to combine adventure with nature and religion. Most of the Buddhist temples in the city are located atop mountains. The way up these mountains offer panoramic views that can take your breath away. The temples themselves are marvels of architecture that blend perfectly with the surrounding nature. The Gamcheon Culture Village is a masterpiece with its beautiful houses, alleyway murals, sculptures, and art installations. And, while in Busan do not forget to visit Shinsegae Centum City, the largest shopping mall in the world and one of the city's landmarks. If you are a movie buff, Busan is the place where one of Asia's greatest film festivals takes place. The Busan International Film Festival held every October is a wonderful occasion to catch some world movies and to get a glimpse of the stars walking the red carpet.

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