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1. Geographical location

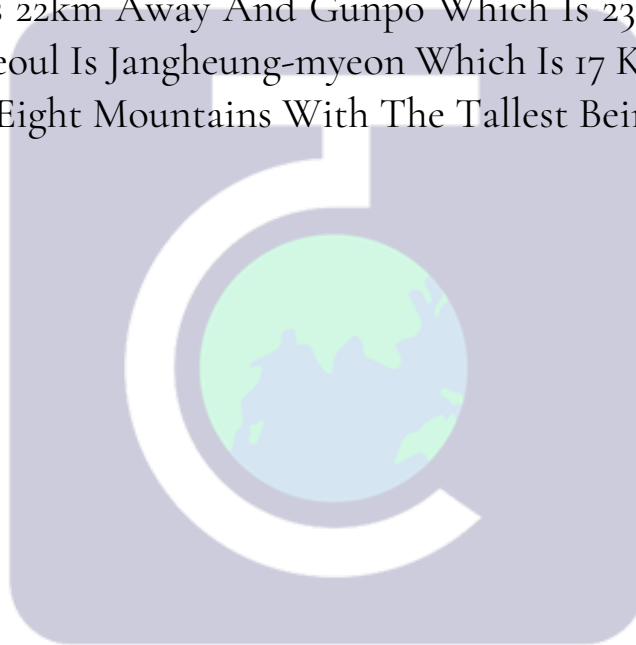
Seoul is the capital city and the largest city in South Korea. It located northwestern part of South Korea and covers 605.25 km² and a radius of 15 km. It has an elevation of 38 meters above sea level. The Han River passes through the city splitting it into two halves and was formerly used as a trade route to China. Around the city are eight mountains and the Han River plain. The city has many centers because of its economic and geography development policies. Yeoudo is the financial center of the city and Gangnam is the economic center of the city. Jung District and Jongno district are the political and historical centers of the city.



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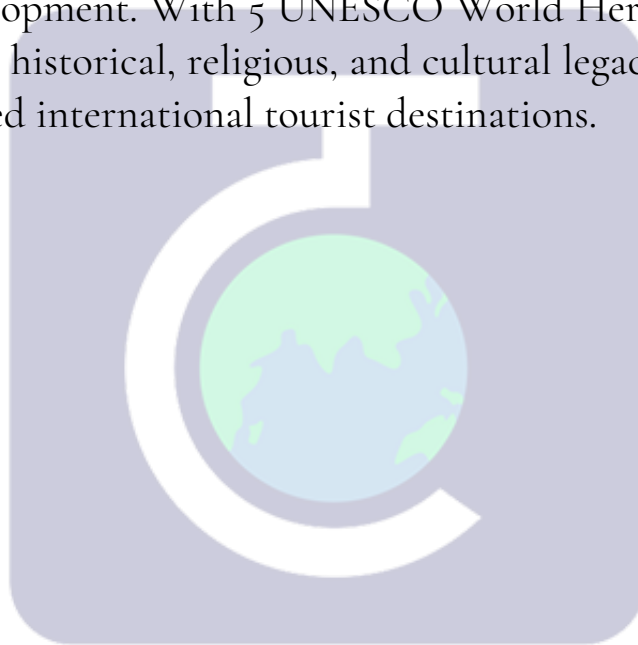
2. Neighbouring cities/countries

Seoul Is Bordered By North Korea And Other Cities. It Is 35 Miles From Kaesong In North Korea The Only Country That Borders The City And The Country As Well. The Major Nearest Cities To Seoul Are Gwangmyeong Which Is 14km Away, Guri 16km Away, Goyang Is 16km, Ayang 19km Away, Seongnam Which Is 20km Away, Bucheon 20km Away, Uijeongbu Which Is 20km Away, Namyangju Which Is 22km Away And Gunpo Which Is 23km Away. The Town That Is Nearest To Seoul Is Jangheung-myeon Which Is 17 Km Away. This City Is Also Surrounded By Eight Mountains With The Tallest Being Mt. Bukhan.



3. Significance

Ancient history and modern facilities go hand in hand in this capital city which houses more than half of the country's population. From 18 BCE onwards, Seoul has been an important place for the rulers as a capital city though the earliest settlements near the Han River in the region date back to 4000 BC. Today, Seoul is an emerging global city with innovations and infrastructure in digital technology and development. With 5 UNESCO World Heritage Sites that stand testimony to the rich historical, religious, and cultural legacy of the city, Seoul is one of the most visited international tourist destinations.



4. History

Located near the Han River, inhabitation near the present-day location of Seoul is believed to have begun around 4000 BC. Earlier known and recorded as Wiryeseong, it was the capital of Baekje which is situated in Northeastern part of Seoul. Archeologically, there is ample evidence which exists even now to give a feel of what the location must have looked like back then. City walls still exist in the area. Three kingdoms competed hard to gain control on the strategic region. The control travelled from Baekje to Goguryeo in the 5th century and from Goguryeo to Silla in the 6th millennium. When succession came to the Silla kingdom, they built a summer palace in Seoul, which was referred to as the "Southern Capital". Thereon, Seoul began to become a larger settlement and inhabitation soared. A few other key palatial residences were built in the following years. An interesting fact about Seoul city is that it was entirely enclosed by a colossal circular stone wall which safeguarded the citizens from wildlife, thieves and assaults.

5. Cultural identity

In terms of culture, the best way to catch a glimpse of Seoul's cultural magnificence is by visiting any of the 115 museums which scattered across the city. The national museum, The National Museum of Korea, leads the packs of museums not only of Seoul but South Korea entirely. Established in 1945, the museum houses a compilation of 220,000 artifacts. If one wants to catch a glimpse of traditional Korean culture, they can pay a visit to the Bukchon Hanok Village and Namsangol Hanok Village. These are old residential districts consisting of hanok Korean traditional houses, museums and parks that offer visitors to experience traditional Korean way of life. The city also boasts of number of religious buildings – including the well-renowned and revered Myeongdong Cathedral. Erected in 1883, it is the biggest symbol of Catholicism in Korea. Additionally there are several other churches built which adhere to other sects of Christianity. Seoul's culture is music-oriented and that's big reason why the city welcomes numerous musical events and fests all year-round.

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6. Natural resources

Seoul has a large reserve of natural resources and that includes graphite, molybdenum, lead, tungsten, lead, coal, gypsum, calcium carbonate, deposits of beryl, copper, graphite, mica, lead, pyrite, tin, etc. it has a great potential of producing hydropower. It has a large reserve of flora and fauna. The endemic species includes Korean water deer, Korean pine, Korean spruce, etc. it is also home to various animals such as leopards, lynxes, tigers, bears and many more.



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7. Key site seeing places (paid and free)**7.1. Paid****7.1.1. Gyeongbokgung Palace**

Address : 161 Sajik-ro, Jongno-gu, Seoul, South Korea, 03045

Zipcode : 03045

Location : 37.579617, 126.97704099999999

Contact : +82 2-3700-3900

Website : <http://www.royalpalace.go.kr:8080/>

Entry Fee : [Korean Citizens] Adults (ages 25-64): 3,000 won, Groups (10 people or more): 2,400 won [International Visitors] Adults (ages 19-64): 3,000 won, Groups (10 people or more): 2,400 won. Children (ages 7-18): 1,500 won, Group (10 people or more): 1,200 won

Open & Close Timing : January through February - 09:00hrs-17:00hrs (Final admission at 16:00) March through May - 09:00hrs-18:00hrs (Final admission at 17:00) June through August - 09:00-18:30hrs (Final admission at 17:30) September through October - 09:00hrs-18:00hrs (Final admission at 17:00) November through December - 09:00hrs- 17:00hrs (Final admission at 16:00) Closed on Tuesdays

Time Required : 1

Expected Wait Time : 20 minutes

Buy Ticket : No

7.1.2. Changdeokgung Palace and Huwon

Address : 99 Yulgok-ro, Jongno-gu, Seoul, South Korea, 03056

Zipcode : 03056

Location : 37.5791505, 126.99096280000003

Contact : +82 2-762-8261

Website : <http://www.cdg.go.kr:9901/>

Entry Fee : (Korean citizens) Adults (ages 25-64): 3,000 won / Group (over 10): 2,400 won Children and Teenagers (ages 24 and under): Free Long-term admission: 30,000 won (For regular tour only) [International Visitors] Adults

(ages 19-64): Regular 3,000 won, Huwon 5,000 won Children and Teenagers (ages 18 and under): Regular 1,500 won, Huwon 2,500 won Group (over 10): 20% discount offered for regular tickets only.

Open & Close Timing : Palace Building Area (General Tour) February to May, September to October – 09:00hrs-18:00hrs; June to August – 09:00hrs-18:30hrs; November to January – 09:00hrs-17:30hrs

Time Required : 1

Expected Wait Time : 20 minutes

Buy Ticket : No

7.1.3. N Seoul Tower

Address : 105 Namsangongwon-gil, Yongsan-gu, Seoul, South Korea

Location : 37.551425, 126.98800000000006

Contact : +82 2-3455-9277

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

Entry Fee : Adults 10,000 won, Children & Seniors 8,000 won 10% discount for groups (20 people or more). 30% discount for persons with disability (level 1-3) plus one companion / 30% discount for persons with disability (level 4-6) Free admission: Infants (ages under 36 month)



Open & Close Timing : Monday-Friday & Sunday 10:00hrs to 23:00hrs; Saturday 10:00hrs-00:00hrs

Time Required : 1

Expected Wait Time : 20 minutes

Buy Ticket : No

7.1.4. Trickeye Museum

Address : South Korea, Seoul, Mapo-gu, Hongik-ro 3-gil, 20  B2  B2 floor, Seogyo Plaza 20 Hongikro 3gil, Mapogu

Location : 37.553565, 126.92172900000003

Contact : +82 2-3144-6300

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

Entry Fee : Adults 15,000 won, Group (more than 20 persons) 11,000 won

Children and Youth (age 18 and under) 12,000 won, Group (more than 20 persons) 8,000 won Free for Infants (ages under 36 months)

Open & Close Timing : Daily 09:00hrs to 21:00hrs; Last Admission at 20:00hrs

Time Required : 1.5

Expected Wait Time : 10 minutes

Buy Ticket : No

7.1.5. Leeum

Address : 60-16 Itaewon-ro 55-gil, 026 Yongsan-gu, Seoul, South Korea

Location : 37.538122, 126.99857900000006

Contact : +82-2-2014-6901

Website : http://leeum.samsungfoundation.org/html_eng/global/main.asp

Entry Fee : Adults 10,000 won Teenagers 6,000 won Seniors & People with disabilities 5,000 won

Open & Close Timing : Daily except Mondays 10:30hrs to 18:00hrs; closed every Monday, January 1, New Year's and Chuseok holidays

Time Required : 2

Expected Wait Time : 10 minutes

Buy Ticket : No

7.1.6. Lotte World

Address : 240 Olympic-ro, Songpa-gu, Seoul, South Korea

Location : 37.51111579999999, 127.09816699999999

Contact : +82 1661-2000

Website : <http://www.lotteworld.com/gate.html>

Entry Fee : (Day pass) Adults 48,000 won (Day pass) Teens 42,000 won (Day pass)

Children 38,000 won (Day pass) Infants 12,000 won

Open & Close Timing : Daily 09:30hrs to 22:00hrs

Time Required : 2

Expected Wait Time : 20 minutes

Buy Ticket : No

7.1.7. Seodaemun Prison History Hall

Address : 251 Tongil-ro, Seodaemun-gu, Seoul, South Korea

Location : 37.574271, 126.95607100000007

Contact : +82-2-360-8586

Website : http://www.sscmc.or.kr/newhistory/index_culture.asp

Nearest Public Transport : Dognimmun Bus Station

Entry Fee : Adults (over 19) 3,000 won, Group (30 people or more) 2,400 won

Youths (13 - 18) 1,500 won, Group (30 people or more) 1,200 won Children (7 - 12)

1,000 won, Group (30 people or more) 800 won

Open & Close Timing : Daily except Mondays 09:30hrs to 18:00hrs

Time Required : 1.5

Expected Wait Time : 10 minutes

Buy Ticket : No

7.1.8. Deoksugung Palace

Address : 99 Sejong-daero, Jung-gu, Seoul, South Korea

Location : 37.5649333, 126.976676

Contact : +82-2-771-9951

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

Nearest Public Transport : City Hall Bus Station

Entry Fee : Adults 1,000 won, Groups (10 or more) 800 won Teenagers 500 won,

Groups (10 or more) 400 won Free admission: Children (ages 6 and under),

seniors (ages 65 or more), and visitors wearing hanbok

Open & Close Timing : Daily except on Mondays 09:00hrs to 21:00hrs

Time Required : 1.5

Expected Wait Time : 20 minutes

Buy Ticket : No

7.1.9. Gwanghwamun

Address : South Korea,  Jongno-gu, Sajik-ro, 161

Location : 37.5740339, 126.97677499999998

Contact : +82 2-3700-3900

Website : <http://www.royalpalace.go.kr:8080/>

Nearest Public Transport : Gyeongbokgung Bus Station

Open & Close Timing : January through February - 09:00hrs-17:00hrs (Final admission at 16:00hrs) March through May - 09:00hrs-18:00hrs (Final admission at 17:00hrs) June through August - 09:00hrs-18:30hrs (Final admission at 17:30hrs) September through October - 09:00hrs-18:00hrs (Final admission at 17:00hrs) November through December - 09:00-17:00hrs (Final admission at 16:00hrs)

Closed on Tuesdays

Time Required : 1.5

Buy Ticket : No



7.2. Free

7.2.1. Dongdaemun Market

Address : Euljiro 6(yuk)-ga, Jung-gu, Seoul, South Korea

Location : 37.56837230000001, 127.00869250000005

Time Required : 0

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.2. Myeong-Dong market

Address : Myeongdong-gil, 020 Jung-gu, Seoul

Location : 37.5636375, 126.98284269999999

Contact : +82-2-778-0333

Website : <http://tour.junggu.seoul.kr>

Nearest Public Transport : Myeong Dong Bus Station

Open & Close Timing : Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday: 09:00hrs-18:00hrs
Wed, Saturday: 09:00hrs-21:00hrs Sunday and holidays: 9:00hrs-19:00hrs (but
excluding January 1) Closed: January 1st, the day designated by the National
bakmulgwanjang

Time Required : 3

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.3. Yongsan Electronics Market

Address : 15-2 Hangangno 2(i)-ga, Yongsan-gu, Seoul, South Korea

Location : 37.53380380000001, 126.96532830000001

Time Required : 0

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.4. Gyeonghuigung Palace

Address : 45 Saemunan-ro, 110 Jongno-gu, Seoul, South Korea

Location : 37.56997, 126.97222799999997

Contact : +82 2-724-0274

Open & Close Timing : Daily except Mondays 09:00hrs to 18:00hrs

Time Required : 1

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.5. War Memorial of Korea

Address : 29 Itaewon-ro, Yongsan-gu, Seoul, South Korea

Location : 37.5369517, 126.977124

Contact : +82 2-709-3139

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

Open & Close Timing : Daily except on Mondays 09:00hrs to 18:00hrs; (Last Wednesday of every month: 09:00hrs-20:00hrs)

Time Required : 2

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.6. National Museum of Korea

Address : 137 Seobinggo-ro, Yongsan-gu, Seoul, South Korea

Location : 37.5238506, 126.98047020000001

Contact : +82-2-2077-9000

Website : <http://www.museum.go.kr/site/main/home>

Nearest Public Transport : Ichon Bus Station

Open & Close Timing : Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 09:00hrs to 18:00hrs, Wednesday and Saturday 09:00hrs to 21:00hrs, Sunday 09:00hrs to 19:00hrs, closed on Mondays

Time Required : 1.5

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.7. Bongeunsa Temple

Address : 531 Bongeunsa-ro, Gangnam-gu, Seoul, South Korea

Location : 37.514258, 127.06027599999993

Contact : +82 2-3218-4800

Website : <http://www.bongeunsa.org/>

Open & Close Timing : Daily 03:00hrs to 22:00hrs

Time Required : 1.5

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.8. Insa-dong

Address : 62, Insadong-gil, Jongno-gu, Seoul

Location : 37.5716555, 126.9862326

Contact : +82-2-734-0222

Open & Close Timing : Daily 09:30hrs to 18:30hrs

Time Required : 3

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.9. Bukchon Hanok Village

Address : 23020 Gye-dong, Jongno-gu, Seoul, South Korea

Location : 37.5828228, 126.98353029999998

Contact : +82 2-2133-1371

Open & Close Timing : Daily Open 24 hours

Time Required : 2

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.10. Cheonggyecheon

Address : 154 Cheonggyecheon-ro, Jongno-gu, Seoul, South Korea

Location : 37.5713571, 127.02440890000003

Contact : +82 2-2290-7111

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

Open & Close Timing : Daily Open 24 hours

Time Required : 3

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.11. The National Folk Museum of Korea

Address : 37 Samcheong-ro, Jongno-gu, Seoul, South Korea

Location : 37.5816456, 126.97899480000001

Contact : +82 2-3704-3114

Website : <http://www.nfm.go.kr/index.nfm>

Open & Close Timing : March to May: 09:00hrs-18:00hrs (entrance is allowed until 17:00) June to August: 09:00hrs-18:30hrs (entrance is allowed until 17:30)

September to October: 09:00hrs-18:00hrs (entrance is allowed until 17:00)

November to February: 09:00hrs-17:00hrs (entrance is allowed until 16:00) May to August: 09:00hrs-19:00hrs on Saturdays, Sundays, and public holidays (entrance is allowed until 18:00)

Time Required : 2

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.12. Seoul Museum of History

Address : 55 Saemunan-ro, Jongno-gu, Seoul, South Korea

Location : 37.5704616, 126.97055699999999

Contact : +82 2-724-0274

Website : <https://www.seoul284.org/>

Open & Close Timing : Daily except Mondays 10:00hrs to 19:00hrs

Time Required : 1.5

Buy Ticket : No

8. Adventure sports, Local sports, stadiums

Taekwondo is the national sport. The most popular sport in Seoul is football. Baseball, basketball, volleyball, and handball are also some of the sports played by the locals. Some of the famous stadiums in the city are:

- **Olympic Stadium:**

Address : 25 Olympic-ro, Songpa-gu, Seoul, South Korea

Location : 37.51580799999999,127.0727779

Contact No : +82 2-2240-8800

Website : <http://www.stadium.seoul.go.kr/>

- **Seoul World Cup Stadium:**

Address : 240 Woldeukeom-ro, Mapo-gu, Seoul, South Korea

Location : 37.5682588,126.89727740000001

Contact No : +82 2-2128-2002

9. Spas and relaxation

- **The Spa at Grand Hyatt Seoul Hotel:**

Address : 322 Sowol-ro, Yongsan-gu, Seoul

Location : 37.5394179,126.9970495

Contact No : +82 2 797 1234

Website : <https://www.hyatt.com/corporate/spas/the-spa/en/home.html>

- **Hill Spa:**

Address : 582-2, Sinsa-dong, Gangnam-gu, Seoul

Location : 37.51716179999999,127.0216471

Contact No : +82-2-545-9545

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

- **Away Spa:**

Address : 177 Walkerhill-ro, Gwangjin-Gu, Seoul

Location : 37.5557741,127.11091179999994

Contact No : +82 2-2022-0450

Website : http://www.wseoul.com/features_awayspa

- **Dragon Hill Spa:**

Address : 40-712 Hangangno 3(sam)-ga, Yongsan-gu, Seoul

Location : 37.5280215,126.96408569999994

Contact No : +82 2-792-0001

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



10. Events calendar

Month

Events

Korean New Year 2017 @ Seoul (28th)

Also known as Seollal. It is an important traditional Korean holiday that marks the beginning of a new year according to the Korean calendar and lasts for three days.

Bosingak (Belfry) Daily Bell-Ringing Ceremony @ Deoksugung Palace (the whole month except on Monadys)

This is one of the most historic activities in this city where people come to ring the bell where there is usually a procession with music.


Independence Movement Day @ Pagoda Park, Seoul (1st)

Also known locally as Samil Jeol. This is a public holiday that is held to mark the reading of the 1919 declaration of independence.

National Assembly Election Day @ Seoul (13th)

**This day is held every five years and is an official holiday where the citizens vote in new leaders.
Labour day @ Seoul (1st)**

**It is not an official holiday here but it is observed where all workers are given a day off and awarded for their achievements.
Memorial Day 2017 @ Seoul (6th)**



A public holiday that commemorates the Korean war between South Korea and North Korea where residents lay flowers at the graves of those who lost their lives and pray for them.

Constitution Day @ Seoul (17th)

This is a holiday that is held to honor the first constitution that was declared by the first national assembly in 1948.

Liberation Day @ Cheonan or at the Sejong Center (15th)

A national holiday that has many activities taking place throughout the day which include an official ceremony that is usually officiated by the president.

Harvest Moon Festival @ Seoul (

15th)

Locally known as Chuseok. This is the most cherished festival in Seoul where people celebrate with relatives by paying homage to ancestors.

National Foundation Day @ the summit of Mount Manisan on Kanghwa island (3rd)

Also known as the festival of the opening of heaven. This day honors the founding of Korea by Tangun where it is believed he offered sacrifices to heaven.

Seoul Lantern Festival @ Jung (4th to 20th)

During this festival a variety of lanterns of different themes, colors and sizes are showcased. The lanterns provide spectacular amazing nightlife.

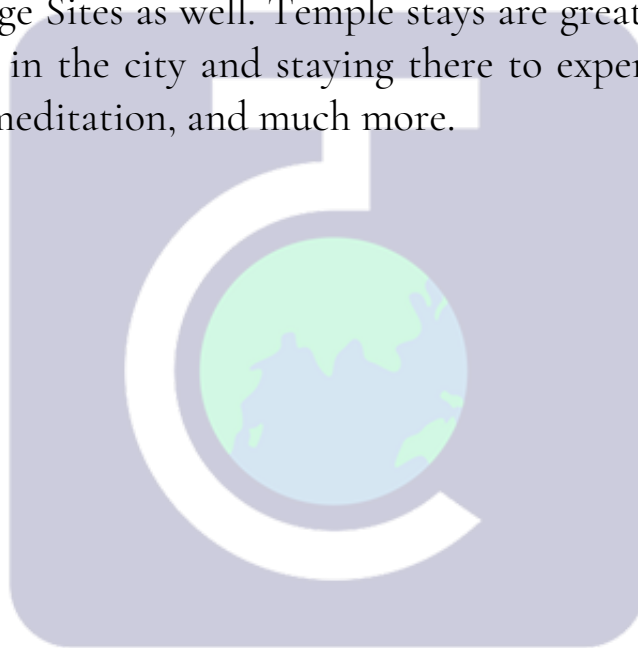
The Garden of the Morning Calm Lighting Festival @ The Garden of the Morning Calm (from 4th)

During this holiday season, the garden is decorated with thousands of lights that are hung on the trees and grass that illuminate the night.

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11. Key local guides and tours

There is plenty to explore in Seoul for the foreign visitors. Different themed tours are available to suit the interests and budget of the tourists. Walking tours take you to the main tourist sites and provide a guided tour of the city that will help you understand the history and culture of the city. Seoul palace tours offer an enchanting experience by visiting the gorgeous palaces in the city some of which are UNESCO Heritage Sites as well. Temple stays are great spiritual journeys to the Buddhist shrines in the city and staying there to experience the day-to-day activities, engage in meditation, and much more.



12. Transportation hubs

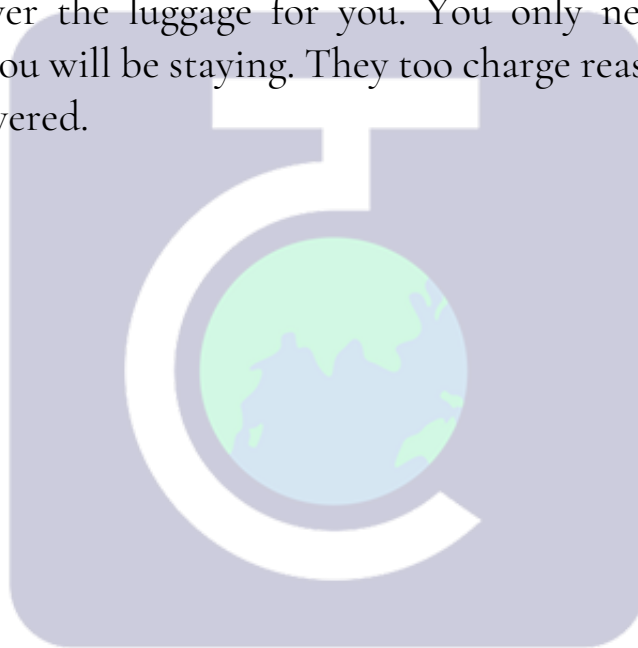
The major airport at Seoul is the Incheon International Airport which is about 49 km away from the city center. Passengers can reach downtown by taking the Airport Railroad Express (AREX), Seoul Metropolitan Subway, airport limousine buses, and taxis. AREX Express services take 43 minutes to reach Seoul Station and the fare is 14,800 KRW for adults. The All Stop AREX train tickets cost 4,250 KRW for adults and 1,900 KRW for children and the run time is about 56 minutes. Airport limousine bus fare is 14,000-16,000 KRW for deluxe buses, and 9,000-10,000 KRW for standard buses. The taxi fare to Seoul is around 50,000 KRW for regular taxis, and 70,000 KRW for deluxe taxis. The Seoul Metropolitan Subway is the most used public transport system in the city. The main bus terminals in Seoul include Seoul Express Bus Terminal, Central City, Seoul Nambu Terminal, Dongseoul Bus Terminal, and Sangbong Terminal. The major train stations are Seoul Station, Yongsan Station, Youngdeungpo Station, and Cheongnyangni Station.

13. Transportation cost

Subway is the most popular public transit and the fares are based on distance. The base charge is 1,350 KRW for adults and 450 KRW for children between 7-12 years for the first 10 km and then 100 KRW added for each five kilometers. A T-Money Card is the most inexpensive way to travel in public buses, metro, and taxis, and saves 100 KRW on all trips. The price of the card starts from 2,500 KRW. M-Pass cards allow 20 rides a day for the entire duration of the pass. The passes are available in 1-day to 7-day plans that costs you 10,000-59,500 KRW. Seoul has different colored buses serving different parts of the city. The basic fare in cash for the Blue bus is 1,300/1,000/450, Green bus 1,000/550/300, Yellow bus 1,200/800/350, Red bus 2,400/1,800/1,200, and Night bus 2,250/1,800/1,200 KRW for adults/youth/children. The starting fare of a regular taxi is 2,800-3,000 KRW for the first 2 km. Deluxe and jumbo taxis have a base fare of 3,200-5,000 KRW. A 20% late-night surcharge is applicable for regular taxis.

Index**14. Baggage allowance**

Most buses will not have enough space for luggage but if your luggage can fit in the luggage bay, then it is perfectly okay to board the bus. If you have a lot of luggage, it is advisable that you hire a taxi for a hassle free journey because they usually have enough space for baggage. The taxis charge fair prices depending on how far the place is. Alternatively, you can seek the delivery service companies and have them deliver the luggage for you. You only need to give them the address of the place you will be staying. They too charge reasonably depending on the distance to be covered.



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15. Restaurant & Nightlife

Most restaurants are found in the streets of this city. Not all offer English menus but you can just point on the dish and be served. Japanese and Chinese restaurants are also many and offer excellent services. The major area for the restaurants is the Gangnam-gu and the Gwangjin-gu area.

Food -

Most restaurants are found in the streets of this city. Not all offer English menus but you can just point on the dish and be served. Japanese and Chinese restaurants are also many and offer excellent services. The major area for the restaurants is the Gangnam-gu and the Gwangjin-gu area.

- **Gogung:**

Address : 37, Myeongdong 8ga-gil, Jung-gu, Seoul


Location : 37.561844,126.986495

Contact No : +82-2-776-3211

Website : <http://www.gogung.co.kr/gnuboard4/>

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

- **Myeongdong Kyoja:**

Address : 25-2 Myeongdong 2(i)-ga, Jung-gu,  South Korea

Location : 37.5626069,126.9855268

Contact No : +82 2-776-5348

Website : <http://www.mdkj.co.kr/en/>

Open / Close Time : Daily 10:30hrs to 21:30hrs.

- **Gimgane:**

Address : 17 Yeoeuido-dong, Yeongdeungpo-gu, Seoul, South Korea

Location : 37.564479599,126.9843856

Contact No : 02 777 7879

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

Open / Close Time : Daily 10:00hrs to 23:00hrs

- **Paradise Walker Hill Casino:**

Address : 21 Gwangjang-dong, Gwangjin-gu, South Korea

Location : 37.555511,127.11073499999998

Contact No : +82 2-2204-3430

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

Open / Close Time : Daily Open 24 hours

- **Club MUTE:**

Address : 26, Itaewon-ro 27ga-gil, Yongsan-gu, Seoul, South Korea

Location : 37.535071299,126.99376519

Contact No : +82 2-796-6853

Open / Close Time : Thursday 21:00hrs to 04:00hrs, Friday to Saturday 21:00hrs to 06:00hrs

- **Octagon Club:**

Address : 645 Nonhyeon-ro, Gangnam-gu, South Korea

Location : 37.511370,127.031657

Contact No : +82 2-578-0855

Open / Close Time : Daily 22:30hrs to 08:00hrs

- **Gusto Taco:**

Address : 146-6, Sangsu-dong, Mapo-gu, Seoul, South Korea


Location : 37.5481012,126.92278140000008

Contact No : 02-338-8226

Website : <http://gustotaco.com/>

Open / Close Time : Daily 11:30hrs to 22:00hrs

- **Jung Sik Dang Restaurant:**

Address : 11 Seolleung-ro 158-gil, Gangnam-gu,  South Korea

Location : 37.5256192,127.04106890000003

Contact No : +82 2-517-4654

Website : <http://www.jungsik.kr/#index>

Open / Close Time : Monday to Sunday 12:00hrs to 15:00hrs, 17:30hrs to 22:00hrs

- **Jyoti Restaurant:**

Address : 6 Sinchon-ro 20-gil, Mapo-gu, Seoul, South Korea

Location : 37.5549187,126.93797369999993

Contact No : +82 2-703-3535

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

Open / Close Time : Daily 07:30hrs to 23:45hrs

Index**16. Average meal cost**

At an inexpensive restaurant a normal meal costs 7,000 KRW and that of three-course meal for two people at a mid-range restaurant is available at 40,000 KRW. A combo meal at McDonald's is available at 6,000 KRW. You can have a fresh cappuccino at 4,638 KRW. 11.2 oz small bottle of water is available at 825.00 KRW.



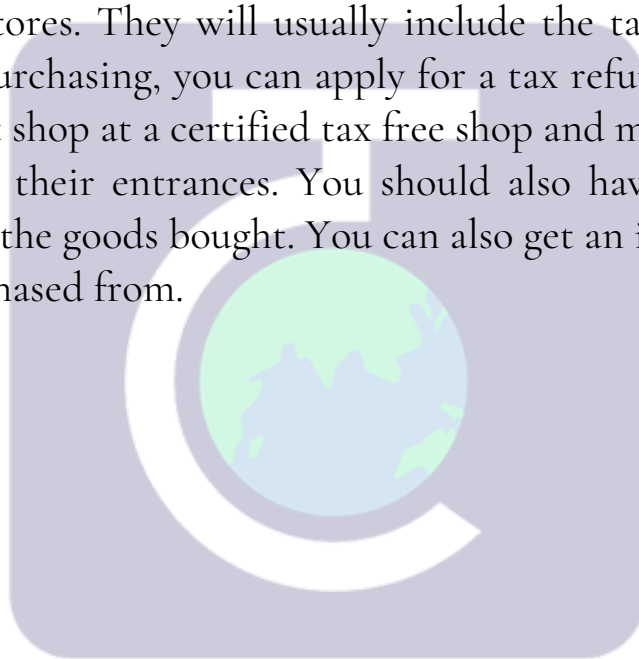
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17. Shopping

Be it traditional markets or trendy shopping malls, Seoul has a lot of shopping options – best of both worlds. Dongdaemun Market: Experience retail therapy like no other. This well-spread marketplace exports stockpiles to a huge number of retail fashion shops around the whole of Korea. There are also a good number of malls lined in the same area and you can indulge in a wholesome mall shopping too! Be it belts to bands, shoes and accessories, fashion to footwear, it all available here! Myeongdong: If you're interested in shopping for goods of the biggest brands, come to Myeongdong district. It is one of the key shopping hubs of Seoul. The USP of this market is that it has special discounts for tourists and travelers! It would be a good idea to carry a copy of your air ticket or passport when you come shopping here. Apgujeong: If price is a non-issue for you and you only live and thrive on quality of what you buy, come to Apgujeong. This is where the rich populace of Seoul come to shop. Big branded stores such as Prada, Louis Vuitton and Channel are here... and there are a lot others! Yongsan Electronics Market: This is the biggest electronics market in the continent of Asia. 5000 stores spread in 22 buildings. Need we say more?

18. Tourist benefits

Most duty free shops are found at the airport and downtown. At these shops, there is no value added tax and individual consumption tax making the products cheap as compared to other shops. They will have the duty free logo on the window or door and usually have a variety of products. Tourists and visitors can enjoy this pleasure of shopping at cheap prices. Tourists can get a tax refund at all tax free shops and stores. They will usually include the tax in the price of the products and after purchasing, you can apply for a tax refund. To be eligible for this refund, you must shop at a certified tax free shop and most of them will have a sign of tax free at their entrances. You should also have your passport, the payment receipt and the goods bought. You can also get an immediate tax refund at the store you purchased from.



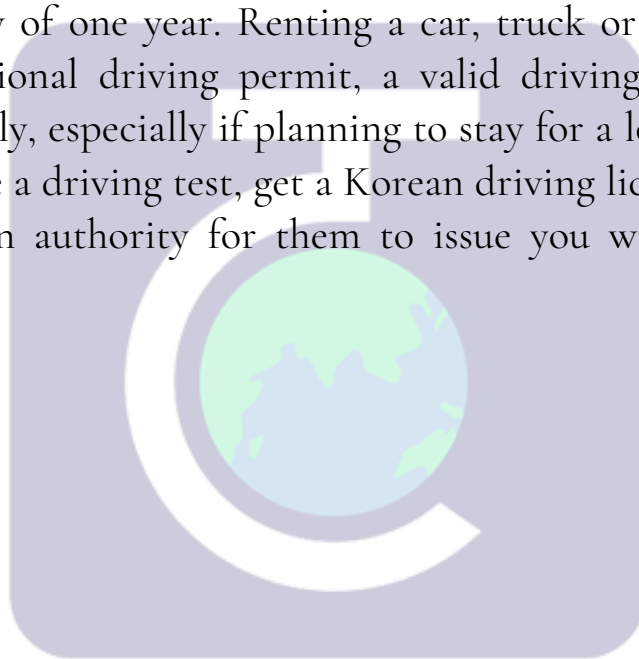
19. Essential local apps

Seoul is a huge city and navigation around the city requires the help of some useful apps. Subway Korea app is complete with features like nearest station finder, exact time taken for travel, latest timetable, route finder, etc. that can help you in getting around with the extensive subway system in Seoul. Kakao Taxi helps in booking taxis with features like starting point and destination selection, cab types, card payment, etc. Bus Info – Seoul Bus app has details of bus timings, bus stations, and much more. Mangoplate is a bilingual app for iPhone app that helps in finding the nearest restaurants with reviews.



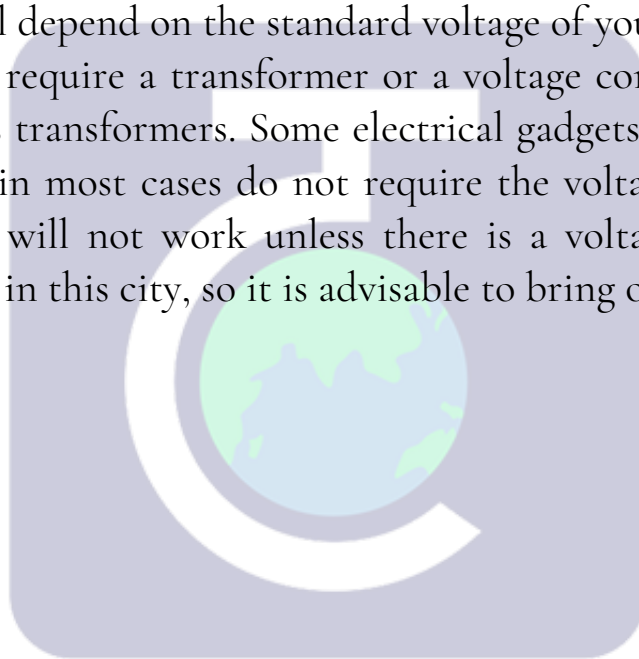
20. Driving

For you to legally drive in Seoul, you must have an International Driving Permit and a valid home driving license. The International Driving Permit acts as proof that your home driving license is valid. This international driving permit should be obtained before travelling and it is important to note that only the state that issued your driving license can issue you the international driving permit. It usually has a validity of one year. Renting a car, truck or motorcycle will also require the international driving permit, a valid driving license and a valid passport. Alternatively, especially if planning to stay for a long period of time in the city, you can take a driving test, get a Korean driving license and then take it to the transportation authority for them to issue you with the international driving permit.



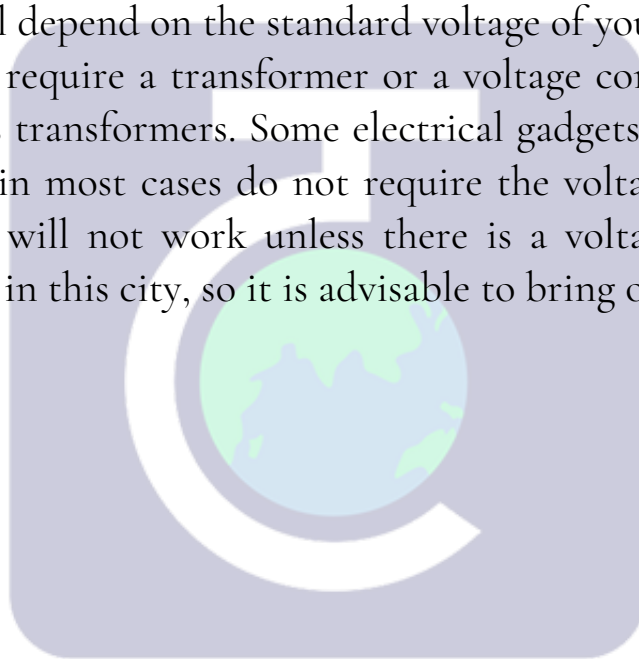
21. Travel essentials

The standard voltage of Seoul city is 220 volts with a frequency of 60 hertz. Most of the sockets found in this city are the type C and F plug configuration. Type C sockets work well with type E and F type of plug adapters. Type F works best with type C and E plug adapters. It is advisable to carry a travel adapter in case you find that the socket plug configuration is different with that back at home. A voltage converter will depend on the standard voltage of your home country. If it is different, you will require a transformer or a voltage converter. Most voltage converters will act as transformers. Some electrical gadgets such as laptops have in built voltage and in most cases do not require the voltage converters. Other electrical appliances will not work unless there is a voltage converter. Travel adapters are not sold in this city, so it is advisable to bring one with you.



22. Essential clothes

The standard voltage of Seoul city is 220 volts with a frequency of 60 hertz. Most of the sockets found in this city are the type C and F plug configuration. Type C sockets work well with type E and F type of plug adapters. Type F works best with type C and E plug adapters. It is advisable to carry a travel adapter in case you find that the socket plug configuration is different with that back at home. A voltage converter will depend on the standard voltage of your home country. If it is different, you will require a transformer or a voltage converter. Most voltage converters will act as transformers. Some electrical gadgets such as laptops have in built voltage and in most cases do not require the voltage converters. Other electrical appliances will not work unless there is a voltage converter. Travel adapters are not sold in this city, so it is advisable to bring one with you.



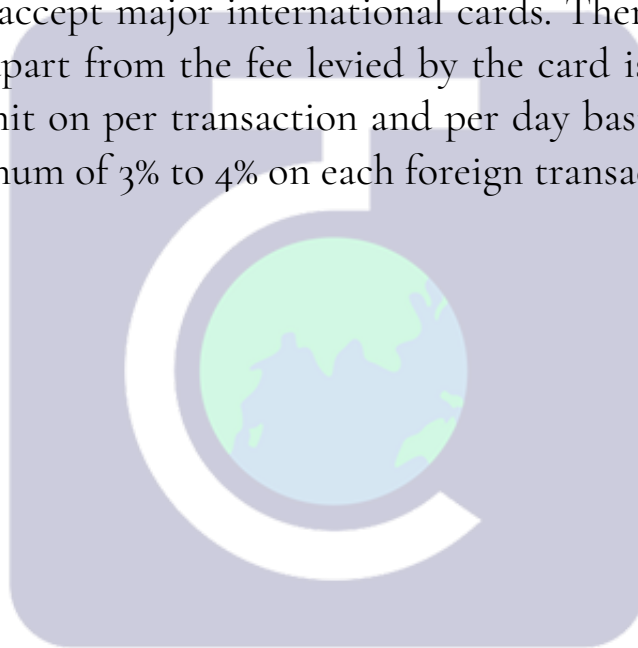
23. Local currency

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



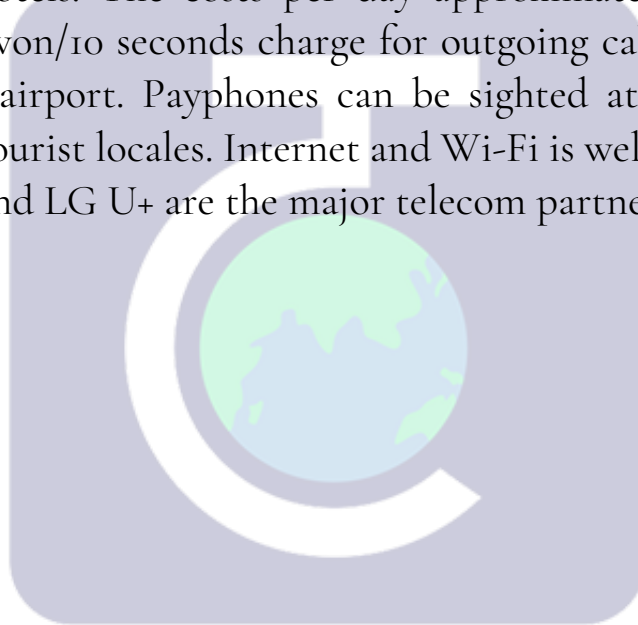
24. Change vendor's commission, ATM charges

Foreign currency can be exchanged at the currency exchange counters at the airport or at the banks in Seoul. There are many private currency exchange services as well that offer competitive rates. These can be found at many places in the city. Generally, the exchange services at the airport charge more commission than the banks in the city with an exchange rate of 1% - 2%. There are plenty of ATMs in Seoul that accept major international cards. There is a transaction fee for using the ATM apart from the fee levied by the card issuing bank. There is also a withdrawal limit on per transaction and per day basis. Moreover, the city banks charge a minimum of 3% to 4% on each foreign transaction.



Index**25. Staying connected**

Phone rental is a big trend in South Korea. In Seoul, rental phones are easily gettable. You can rent yours from any of the big telecom giants LG, SK, and KT when you're in the lobby area at the International airport. You will be required to show your passport and give your credit details. Make sure you return the rented phone device to the same counter you rented it from. Phones for rental are also easily available in hotels. The costs per day approximately 3,000 won/day in addition to the 100 won/10 seconds charge for outgoing call. Prepaid SIM cards are available at the airport. Payphones can be sighted at the airport, subway stations, and major tourist locales. Internet and Wi-Fi is well-spread across Seoul. SK Telecom, Olleh and LG U+ are the major telecom partners in Seoul.



26. Time Zone

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



27. Languages

Korean is the main and the most prominent language in Seoul.



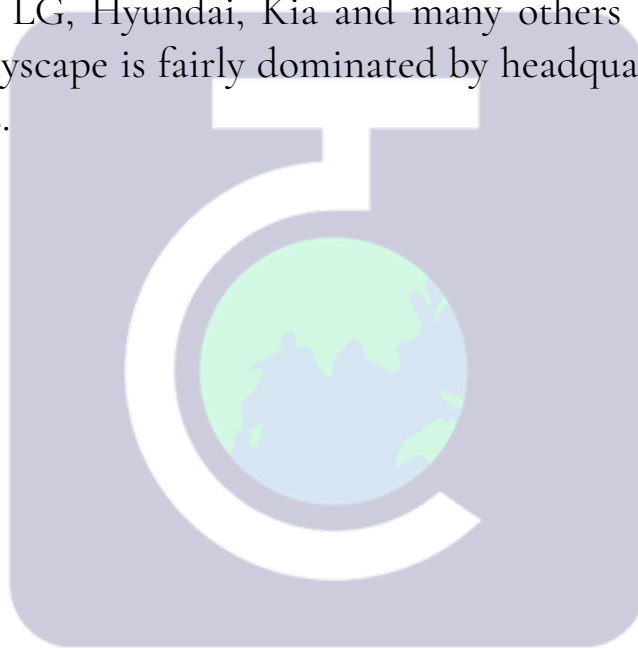
28. Political Scenario

All the administrative reins of Seoul fall in the hands of the Seoul Metropolitan Government. It is the administrative centerpiece of the city. It is a centralized setup and the think tank involved in-charge takes all the decisions related to public education, correctional institutions, libraries, public safety, recreational facilities, and hygiene, water supply, and welfare services. The Seoul Institute (SI) acts as the deputy organization which assists the city's governance in the policy-making affairs and conducting research and development operations in the city.



29. Economic Scenario

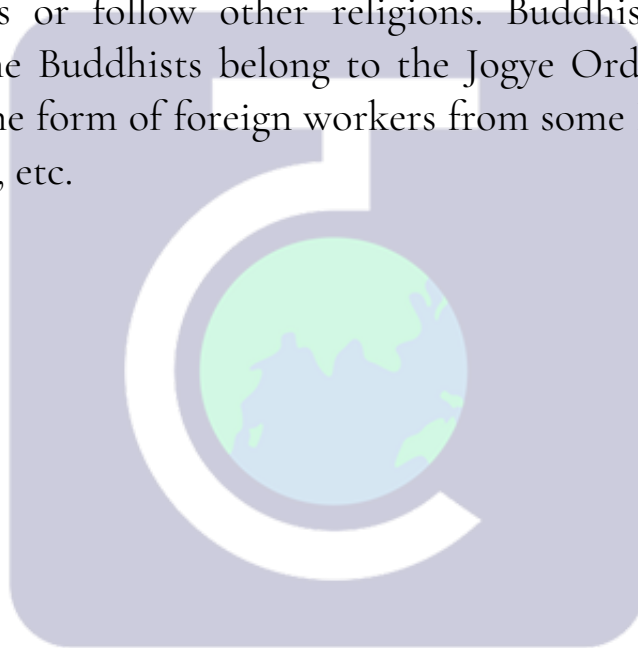
The financial center point of South Korea, Seoul's economic muscle is very thick and very strong. It's economy thrives on manufacturing. Although labor-intensive industries have now been replaced by the likes of information technology, electronics and assembly-type of industries, industrial units such as books and publishing, food and beverages has remained the crux businesses. Manufacturing giants like Samsung, LG, Hyundai, Kia and many others are headquartered in Seoul. Also, Seoul cityscape is fairly dominated by headquarters of International companies and banks.



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30. Religious belief

Christianity and Buddhism are the two main religions in Seoul. Confucianism and Muism, an indigenous religion, are also present. Among the Christians, the majority of the people are Protestants followed by Catholics. The world's largest Christian congregation Yoido Full Gospel Church is located at Seoul. This Pentecostal church has about 480,000 members. Just under half of the population are either irreligious or follow other religions. Buddhism is followed by a minority. Most of the Buddhists belong to the Jogye Order. Islam also has its presence mainly in the form of foreign workers from some Islamic countries like Bangladesh, Pakistan, etc.



31. Visa requirements

Tourists and visitors travelling to Seoul, South Korea must have a visa and a valid passport. The passport should remain valid for the time period you will be in the city and the minimum required validity upon arrival is three months. There are however some exemptions for the visa requirements for some nationals such as Argentina, Albania, Brunei, Australia (90 days), Chile, Canada (6 months), Cyprus, Croatia, Guam, Fiji, Honduras, Hong Kong (90 days), Guatemala, Japan, Latvia, Kuwait, Macau, Lithuania, Federated States of Micronesia, Marshall Islands, New Caledonia, Monaco, Palau, Oman, Qatar, Paraguay, Solomon Islands, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Slovenia, Taiwan, Swaziland, Uruguay, United Arab Emirates, USA, Venezuela, Vatican City and Yemen. For instance, if you are a British citizen, you can enter the country with only a passport without the visa. You however should only be in the city for 90 days and should have a return ticket. It is important to note that you should have the right type of visa depending on the purpose of your visit. If found working in the city with a tourist visa or the wrong type of visa, you can be prosecuted or deported immediately. Overstaying a visa can lead to the same. It is advisable to keep 2 pages free in your passport for arrival and departure stamps. In certain cases, it has been observed that applying and receiving a visa can be a process of 20-30 days. Hence, it is essential that you check the timeline with the relevant authority in the country where you intend to make the visa application.

32. Essential vaccination

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



33. Theft and Safety

Seoul is a safe city for tourists. Crimes of any grade are not reported. Even pick pocketing usually found in busy tourist places is very rare. Stay away from local riots when they happen.



Index**34. Embassy/Consulate**

Being a capital city and the largest in South Korea, it has many foreign embassies and consulates. There are approximately one hundred and ten consulates and two representative offices in the city. Other countries have their consulates in other cities in the country. Most of these consulates are found at Yongsan, Jung and at the city center. For more information, you can check out this website <http://embassy.goabroad.com/embassies-in/south-korea>.



35. Accessibility

Seoul is a disabled friendly city. Public transport systems and tourist spots have facilities for the disabled and the wheelchair bound. Discounts and convenience facilities are provided throughout the country.



36. Emergencies

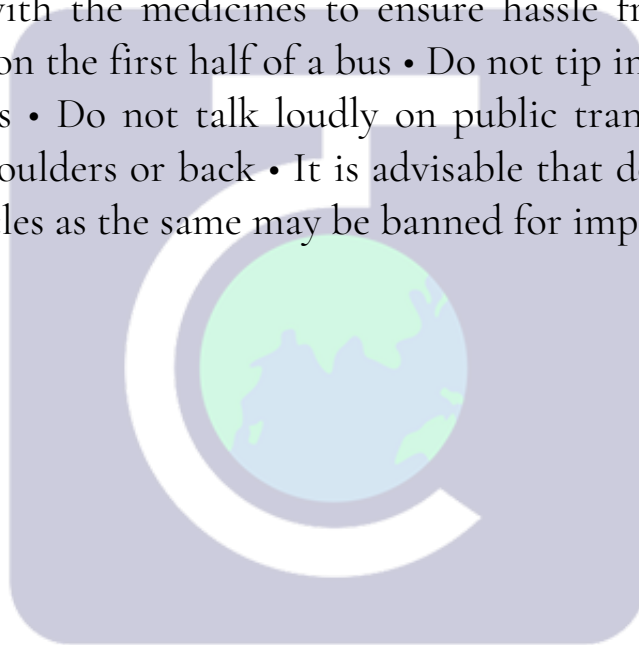
During emergencies you can dial 112 for Police, 119 for Fire, 119 for Ambulance. You are provided with the top-notch medical services even if you are a tourist. There are hospitals that can help you with travel insurance such as Seoul National hospital.



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37. Do's and Don'ts

There are many cultural do's and don'ts that any foreign traveler must pay attention to while visiting Seoul. Do's - • Use both hands to pour and receive drinks • Call people by titles and not names • Wait for the elders to start a meal • Remove hats and shoes when entering a temple or praying rooms • Stay away from public display of affection • It is advisable to carry a certified doctor's prescription along with the medicines to ensure hassle free import clearance. Don'ts - • Do not sit on the first half of a bus • Do not tip in restaurants • Do not refuse food or drinks • Do not talk loudly on public transportation • Women should not expose shoulders or back • It is advisable that do not carry unsealed/unbranded food articles as the same may be banned for import.



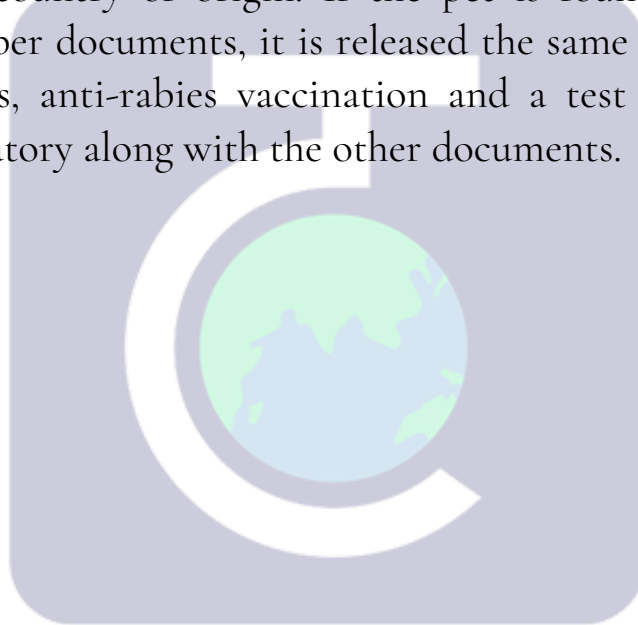
38.Tipping basics

There is no tipping culture in Seoul. Taxi drivers, hair dressers, tour guides, bellboys and other service providers do not expect a tip for their services. Since tipping is not a culture, there are no fixed rates for tips and so tipping entirely depends on you. However most hotels and restaurants add a service charge of 10% to the bill and so tipping may not be necessary. For hotels that do not charge the service fee, a 10% tip is acceptable. The service providers in most cases earn very minimal wages and so it is only good mannerism to let them keep change or tip them. Although not a culture here, tipping really helps the service providers and you can be assured it will put a smile on someone's face.



Index**39.Pet info**

South Korea has recognized such as Belgium, United Kingdom, United Arab Emirates and Hong Kong as rabies free. If the pet arrives from any of these countries or is less than 90 days old, the animal does not require vaccination against rabies. However, they have to be micro chipped prior to travel and the owner must submit at the port of entry a health certificate issued by a licensed veterinarian at the country of origin. If the pet is found to be healthy and accompanied by proper documents, it is released the same day. For pets coming from other countries, anti-rabies vaccination and a test report of the rabies antibodies are mandatory along with the other documents.



Conclusion – Why to select this destination

One reason that makes Seoul a great tourist destination is that it is a very safe city. Even if you are a solo woman traveler, walking around the streets late at night is perfectly safe in this huge city. With a perfect blend of tradition and modernity, Seoul has many attractions for the international tourists. Ancient history and digital technology reside side by side in this capital city. At one place is the royal palace and at the other is the giant high tech touch screen for information. Great connectivity even in the remotest corner of the land is another perk of travelling in Seoul. The city has an enchanting nightlife. It is not just the party scene that comes alive by night. Almost all places remain open past midnight for the customers and tourists. Seoul offers the best of natural adventures like hiking on its numerous mountains which are accessible by public transport systems. There is no dearth of greenery in the land. Parks and forest areas with streams, zoos, ponds, walking trails, and many such natural and man-made features provide a place of respite at the heart of the city. The open air markets are the most alluring ones in Seoul. With their array of local foods, souvenirs, antiques, and many other regional goods and products these markets are the best places to experience local life on a more personal level.

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