

# Korea

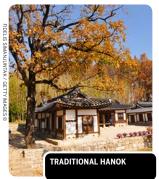


THIS EDITION WRITTEN AND RESEARCHED BY
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# **Itineraries**





## South Korea's Highlights

Access the best of Korea on this trip taking in the dynamic capital Seoul, the southern port of Busan, lost-in-time country towns, quirky sights and beautiful Jeju-do.

Spend four or five days in **Seoul**, including a day trip north to the **DMZ**. Next head east to **Chuncheon**, where you can cycle around Uiam Lake and sample the town's famous chicken dish, *dakgalbi*.

Dine on fresh seafood in **Sokcho** then hike around the stunning peaks and waterfalls of **Seoraksan National Park**. Follow the coast south to **Gangneung** to view well-preserved Joseon-era buildings, quirky museums and a tiny North Korean spy submarine at Unification Park in **Jeongdongjin**. From **Samcheok** explore the huge **Hwanseongul** and **Daegeumgul** caves, as well as **Haesindang Park**, packed with phallic sculptures.

Delve into Korea's past at serene **Hahoe Folk Village** and **Gyeongju**, ancient capital of the Shilla kingdom, where you can spend a couple of days exploring royal tombs, the excellent museum and the World Heritage–listed grotto at **Seokguram**.

**Busan**, with its fish market, beaches and urban buzz, is worth a few days. From here fly to **Jeju-do**, where you can enjoy amazing volcanic scenery on leisurely hikes.





### **West Sea to East Sea**

This cross-country itinerary is ideal for those looking to experience the more rustic and natural side of South Korea, with stops on ruggedly beautiful islands and hikes along leafy mountain trails.

From **Incheon International Airport** it's a quick hop to the small, idyllic island of **Muuido**, from where you can walk to **So-Muuido** or relax on lovely beaches. Enjoy Chinese food in the historic Chinatown of **Incheon**, then stroll around the Open Port area. Take a direct bus to **Suwon**, where you can stride around the ramparts of the meticulously reconstructed fortress wall.

**Gongju** and **Buyeo**, the ancient capitals of the Baekje kingdom, are your next stops – hillside tombs, a fortress and museum will give you an insight into Korea's oldest dynasty. After enjoying the sand, seafood and mud skincare spa of **Daecheon Beach**, sail to the serene island of **Sapsido**, where you can spend the night. Return to Daecheon and continue north by bus to **Anmyeondo**, the largest island in the Taean Haean National Marine Park. Continue working on your tan at either **Khotji Beach** or **Mallipo Beach**, or hike some the new Haebyeongil trails through the park.

Travel inland to **Daejeon** to soak at **Yuseong Hot Springs**. Continue to **Cheongju**, learn about the world's oldest printed book then move on to **Songnisan National Park**, covering central Korea's finest scenic area and home to a 33m-tall gold-plated Buddha statue.

**Chungju** is the gateway to lovely **Woraksan National Park** and for a two-hour scenic ferry trip across Chungju Lake to sleepy **Danyang**, which is small-town Korea at its most charming. Explore nearby **limestone caves** and the stately temple complex of **Guin-sa** within Sobaeksan National Park.

Use **Andong** as a base for exploring the surrounding area packed with attractive river and lakeside villages. It's only a couple of hours by bus from here to **Pohang**. From Pohang visit **Bogyeong-sa** temple in a gorgeous valley with 12 waterfalls, then board the ferry to **Ulleungdo**, a sparsely inhabited, volcanic island.





This 850km route around Korea's greenest and least-industrialised region offers the opportunity to visit scores of rural islands, dine in countless seafood restaurants and dig deep into artistic traditions.

**Jeonju** has a fascinating *hanok* village crammed with traditional houses and buildings. Use it as a base for visiting the 6th-century Geumsan-sa temple in **Moaksan Provincial Park**. Don't miss **Maisan Provincial Park**, where you can hike between a pair of 'horse ear' mountains and see a sculptural garden of stone pinnacles piled up by a Buddhist mystic at the **Tap-sa** temple. Alternatively, go hiking or skiing in beautiful **Deogyusan National Park**.

The industrial port city of **Gunsan** boasts Korea's largest collection of Japanese-colonial-period buildings. From here hop on a ferry to the relaxing island of **Seonyudo**, situated amid 60 mostly uninhabited small islands. When the tide is in and the sun is out, the views from here are unbelievably beautiful.

Bronze and Iron Age tombs dot the lush green hills around the small village of **Gochang**, where you can also explore the 15th-century, ivy-covered **Moyang Fortress**.

Further south, **Gwangju** is home to several interesting historical sites, museums and a major arts complex. Make a day trip to **Damyang** to stroll the sandy trails through its Juknokwon bamboo grove. Move on to the port of **Mokpo** to board boats to the remote havens of **Heuksando** and **Hongdo** in the **Dadohae Haesang National Park**.

Admire Korea's centuries-old tradition of pottery at **Gangjin** and taste products made from healthy green tea at the beautiful **Boseong Daehan Dawon Tea Plantation**.

Go bird spotting in the Ramsar-listed wetlands of **Suncheon Bay** then continue to **Yeosu**, site of Expo 2012 and access point for **Dolsando**, where you can hike up to **Hyangiram**, a Buddhist temple perched on a cliff.

For a final island experience, take in terraced rice paddies and misty temples on picturesque **Namhaedo**. The trail finishes at Korea's second-largest city, **Busan**.





# City & Country

Some of South Korea's top temples feature on this route linking its two main cities.

In **Seoul** attend a Templelife program at Jogye-sa or Bongeun-sa. **Danyang** is the transit point for **Sobaeksan National Park**, where you'll find modern Guin-sa, headquarters of the Cheontae sect.

**Daegu** is the base for trips to stunning Haein-sa, housing a World Heritage-listed library of more than 80,000 14th-century woodblocks, and Jikji-sa, a magnificent temple dating to the 5th century.

**Jinan** is the access town for Tap-sa, a tiny temple surrounded by two 'horse ear' mountains and an extraordinary sculptural garden of 80 stone pinnacles (or towers). From **Gwangju**, visit Unju-sa, with its fine collection of stone pagodas and unusual twin and reclining Buddhas.

From **Gongju**, one-time capital of Korea's Baekje dynasty, visit remote Magoksa, with a hall of 1000 pint-sized disciples who are all slightly different.

Finish just outside of **Busan** at **Tongdo-sa**, which has an excellent Buddhist art museum containing 30,000 artefacts.



## Seoul & Jeju Jaunt

This two-centre itinerary is well suited to parents travelling with kids.

**Seoul's** many parks, interactive museums and, in summer, outdoor swimming pools are ideal for family fun. Older kids will most likely be happy cruising the capital's vast shopping malls and department stores looking for souvenirs of Korea's pervasive pop culture.

Day trips include the beaches of the **West Sea islands**; Korea's biggest amusement park, **Everland**; and the **Korean Folk Village**. The latter two can just as easily be visited from **Suwon**, where it's fun to walk around the walls of an 18th-century fortress. North of Seoul, the modern village of **Heyri** offers inventive sculptures and art exhibits.

Hop on a flight to **Jeju-do**, blessed with a fascinating volcanic landscape and dozens of sandy beaches. Amusement and water parks, cycle and skate hire and a whole raft of adventure activities, from quad biking to scuba diving, are possible on this fun-packed island with plenty of world-class resorts.

# **Map Legend**

#### Sights

- Beach
- Bird Sanctuary
- Buddhist
- Castle/Palace
- Christian
- Confucian
- Hindu
- Islamic Ŏ lain
- 0 lewish
- Monument
- Museum/Gallery/Historic Building
- ø Shinto Sikh
- Taoist
- Winery/Vineyard
- Zoo/Wildlife Sanctuary
- Other Sight

#### Activities. Courses & Tours

- Bodysurfing
- Diving
- Canoeing/Kavaking
- Course/Tour
- Sento Hot Baths/Onsen Skiing
- Snorkelling
- Surfing
- Swimming/Pool
- Walking
- Windsurfing
- Other Activity

#### Sleeping

- Sleeping
- Camping

#### **Eating**

Eating

#### Drinking & Nightlife

- Drinking & Nightlife
- Cafe

#### Entertainment

Entertainment

#### Shopping

Shopping

#### Information

- Bank
- Embassy/Consulate ♣ Hospital/Medical
- @ Internet
- Police
- Post Office Telephone
- (II) Toilet
- Tourist Information
- Other Information

#### Geographic

- Beach
- Gate
- Hut/Shelter
- Lighthouse Lookout
- ▲ Mountain/Volcano
- Oasis
- Park
- ) ( Pass
- Picnic Area
- Waterfall

#### **Population**

- Capital (National)
- Capital (State/Province)
- Citv/Large Town
- Town/Village

#### Transport

- Airport
- Border crossing
- Bus
- ++ (£)++ Cable car/Funicular
- −Si − Cycling
- -@- Ferry
- Metro/MRT/MTR station
- Parking
- Petrol station
- Skytrain/Subway station
- Taxi
- → Train station/Railway
- -@- Tram
- Underground station
- Other Transport

Note: Not all symbols displayed above appear on the maps in this book

#### Routes

- Tollway Freeway
  - Primary Secondary
  - Tertiary
- Unsealed road
- Road under construction
- Plaza/Mall
- Steps = = Tunnel
- Pedestrian overpass
- Walking Tour
  - Walking Tour detour Path/Walking Trail

#### **Boundaries**

- --- International
- State/Province
- Disputed
- Regional/Suburb
- Marine Park Cliff
  - Wall

#### **Hydrography**

- River, Creek Intermittent River
- Canal
- Water
  - Dry/Salt/Intermittent Lake
  - Reef

#### Areas

- Airport/Runway
- Beach/Desert
- Cemetery (Christian)
- Cemetery (Other)
  - Glacier
- Mudflat siliz
- Park/Forest
  - Sight (Building)
  - Sportsground
  - Swamp/Mangrove

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#### Rebecca Milner

Jeollanam-do, Jeollabuk-do, Chungcheongnam-do Lucky for Rebecca, Korea is just a short flight from her home in Tokyo. Previous trips had already sold her on the charms of makgeolli and jjimjilbang, so she jumped at the chance to explore the country's southern reaches for this edition. Highlights included eating live octopus in Mokpo, steaming in the saltwater baths in Hampyeong and having morning tea on the veranda of a 100-year-old home in Jeonju. Rebecca has also

written Lonely Planet's guides to Tokyo and Japan. Follow her on Twitter @tokyorebecca. Rebecca also wrote the Arts & Architecture chapter.



#### Phillip Tang

Gangwon-do, Gyeongsangbuk-do, Chungcheongbuk-do Phillip Tang spent this trip inviting himself to Korean homes, tagging along to local street eats and being out-hiked by Koreans twice his age bolting up mountains. He writes about travel on his two loves, Asia and Latin America, and has contributed to Lonely Planet's guides to China, Japan, Mexico and Peru, and for other publishers. Find his photos, tweets and articles from this Korea visit through philliptang.co.uk. Phillip also wrote the In

the Korean Kitchen, The Natural Environment and Survival Guide chapters.



#### **Rob Whyte**

Busan & Gyeongsangnam-do, Jeju-do A Busan resident for more than 15 years, Rob spends several weeks each year backpacking across the country in search of secluded getaways. One memorable discovery on this journey was a hamburger restaurant on Udo, which has an amazing collection of *Anne of Green Gables* memorabilia including a first edition of the book. That discovery was a reminder that we have everything we need for a magnificent journey. Rob also wrote the

Korean People chapter.

#### **Contributing Author**

North Korea The author of our North Korea chapter has chosen to remain anonymous.



#### **OUR STORY**

A beat-up old car, a few dollars in the pocket and a sense of adventure. In 1972 that 's all Tony and Maureen Wheeler needed for the trip of a lifetime – across Europe and Asia overland to Australia. It took several months, and at the end – broke but inspired – they sat at their kitchen table writing and stapling together their first travel guide, Across Asia on the Cheap. Within a week they'd sold 1500 copies. Lonely Planet was born. Today, Lonely Planet has offices in Franklin, London,

Melbourne, Oakland, Beijing and Delhi, with more than 600 staff and writers. We share Tony's belief that 'a great guidebook should do three things: inform, educate and amuse'.

### **OUR WRITERS**



#### Simon Richmond

Coordinating author, Seoul UK-born writer and photographer Simon first coordinated Lonely Planet's Korea guide in 2009 when he explored Seoul and its surroundings over several weeks. He liked the place so much that his next visit, to update the 9th edition of Korea and 7th edition of Seoul, saw him spend over two months living in Seoul and travelling down to Jeju-do. For Korea 10, Simon co-ordinated the general coverage of the country and covered central, northern

and western areas of Seoul; he also hiked around the old city walls on a beautiful spring day and had an enjoyable but messy time learning to make *magkeolli*. Follow him on Twitter, Instagram and at www.simonrichmond.com. Simon also wrote the Plan Your Trip section, as well as the Korea Today and History chapters.



#### Megan Eaves

Lonely Planet's North Asia Destination Editor, Megan has worked on Lonely Planet's *China* guide and is a recent convert to the delights of the Korean peninsula. Originally from New Mexico, she is a mountain girl at heart and an avid skier. For this edition, she researched Korea's winter activities, downing as much kimchi, fried chicken and soju as she could in between stints on the country's many snowy slopes. You can follow her on Twitter @megoizzy. Megan contributed to

the chapters Gangwon-do, Around Seoul, Chungcheongbuk-do and Jeollabuk-do.

Read more about Megan at: http://auth.lonelyplanet.com/profiles/meganeaves



#### Trent Holden

Around Seoul Having covered the length of the peninsula on other writing assignments, this is Trent's first gig working on the *Korea* book for Lonely Planet. He researched the regions surrounding Seoul, where he was blown away by the area's diversity and beauty. Trent has worked on over 20 books for Lonely Planet, covering mainly Asia and Africa. You can catch him on twitter @hombreholden.

# OVER MORE PAGE WRITERS

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# Seoul



# **1** Need to Know

nsa-dong Tourist Information Cente 10am-10pm: SLine 3 to Anguk, Exit Two more centres are at the south and

# **SEOUL**

Tunnel H13 2nd Namsan Tunnel J13 3rd Namsan

Changdeokgunggil **G4** ro **J3-5-8** Changuimun-ro C1 Cheongwadae-ro D3

Chungmu-ro **H9** Daehak-ro K3-6 Daemyeong-gil J3 Dasan-ro L13-M11 Deoksugung-gil B8 Dongho-ro K7-10

Dongsomun-ro K2-M1 Dongsung-gil **K4** 

Donhwamun-ro G6 11-gil **G6** 

Huam-ro D13 Hyehwa-ro J2 Hyoja-ro C4

Insa-dong 5-gil **F6** Insa-dong 7-gil F6 Insa-dong 10-gil **F6** Insa-dong-gil F6 Inwansan-ro A2-A4 Sopa-ro E11-F11

Bus, Subway & Taxi Bus system (www.bus.go.kr; ⊗5.30am

Jahamun-ro C4 J13-L10 Jilpae-gil C10 Jong-ro F7

Jong-ro 1-gil D6 Jong-ro 9-gil F7 Jong-ro 31-gil J Jong-ro 41-gil L6 Jungmuro F10

Kimsangok-ro **J6** 

Majang-ro M8 Gwanghwamun Mareunnae-ro J9 Myeong-dong-gil Time Capsule Sq H11

Namdaemun **B13** Seoul **B11** E8-9 Northern Namsan

Pirundae-ro B3-4

Saemunan-ro C7 Sajik-ro **B5** Sajik-ro 8-gil C6 Sambong-ro **E6** 

32-gil **G5** Samseongyo-ro L2 Samseongyo-ro 16-gil **M2** Sejong-daero C11-D6-D8 Seongbuk-ro K1 Jonggak **E7** Seosomun-ro C9 Jongno 3-ga G6-7 Seosulla-gil **G5** 

Sogong-ro E9

Supyo-ro G7-9

Toegye-ro C11-J9 Tongil-ro **B9** 

Ujeongguk-ro **E6** Yulgok-ro **G5-L6** 

Sa **D6** 

Chungsin-dong L5 Dangju-dong C5 Dongdaemun-gu M Gahoe-dong E3 Garwol-dong C15 Gwanghui-dong L9 Gye-dong F3 Gyeo-dong F4 Hyehwa-dong K1 Ihwa-dong L5 Ikseon-dong G6 Inhyung-dong H9

Nagwon-dong F6

Namchang-dong D11

Namsan-dong F10

Pirun-dong **B5** 

Saiik-dong A5

Seochon B4

Seongbuk-gu K2

Sogyeok-dong E4 Tongui-dong C4

Yejang-dong F10

Sights

Yeongeon-dong J4

Sookmyung Women's

leighbourhoods

Changsin-dong M5

Anguk-dong F5

Jangchung-dong L11 Jongno-gu **E5** Jung-gu **H8** Myeongryun 2-ga J2

Anguk **F5** Beotigogae K14 Cheonggu M10 Chungjeongno A10

Chungmuro **H10** City Hall **D9** Dongdaemun L7 Dongdaemun History & Culture Park **L8-9** Dongguk University

Euljiro 1-ga E8 Euljiro 4-ga J8 Gwanghwamun D6 Gyeongbokgung C5 Hangsung University L1 Hoehveon **D10** Hvehwa K3

Jongno 5-ga K7

Namyeong C15

Myeongdong F10

Admiral Yi Sun-Sin's Statue D7 Agriculture Museum B8 Ahn Jung-geun Memorial Hall E12 Amisan D4 Another Way of

Top Sights

Gyeongbokgung, Exit 5) The headquarters of the Jogye Order of Korean Buddhism is home to Daeungjeon, the largest temple building in Seoul. It comes alive during the city's spectacular Lotus Lantern

The grandest of Seoul's palaces. With its

a place you should set aside at least half a day

o see. (www.royalpalace.go.kr/html/eng; **S**Line 3 to

estored Gwanghwamun entrance, changingof-guard ceremonies and several museums, it's

Festival. (www.jogyesa.kr/user/english; 55-Ujeongguk ro, Jongno-gu; S Line 3 to Anguk, Exit 6) Namdaemun Market

Gyeongbokgung

At this sprawling round-the-clock market ou can find pretty much anything – from food and flowers to spectacles and camera equipment. (www.namdaemunmarket.co.kr; nsijang 4-gil, Jung-gu; **S**Line 4 to

Deoksugung Deoksugung (Palace of Virtuous Longevity) is the only one of the four main palaces that you can visit in the evening to enjoy a quieter at-mosphere and see the buildings illuminated. (www. deoksugung.go.kr; **S**Line 1 or 2 to City Hall, Exit 2)

Changdeokgung most beautiful of Seoul's four main palaces, Changdeokgung (Palace of Illustrious Virtue) was built in the early 15th century. (http://eng.cdg. go.kr/main/main.htm; S Line 3 to Anguk, Exit 3)

Gwangjang Market 6 One of Seoul's best markets. During the day it's known for secondhand clothes and fabrics. At night its alleys fill up with vendors selling Ill manner of street eats. (88 Changgyeonggung-ro, longno-gu; **S**Line 1 to Jongno-5ga, Exit 8, or Line 2 or 5 o Euljiro 4-ga, Exit 4)



N Seoul Tower One of Seoul's most iconic features. If the weather's fine, the tower's observation deck offers panoramic views. At sunset you can watch the city morph into a galaxy of twinkling lights.



**National Museum of 8** Korea's National Museum occupies a grand, marble-lined, modernist complex, and con-

Seobinggo-ro; SLine 1 or 4 to Ichon, Exit 2) War Memorial of Korea Greater Seoul E3 The huge memorial museum documents the history of worfs the history of warfare in Korea, with photos, naps, artefacts and black-and-white documen-

tary films that give a fascinating insight into war.

www.warmemo.co.kr; 29 Itaewon-ro; SLine 4 or 6 to

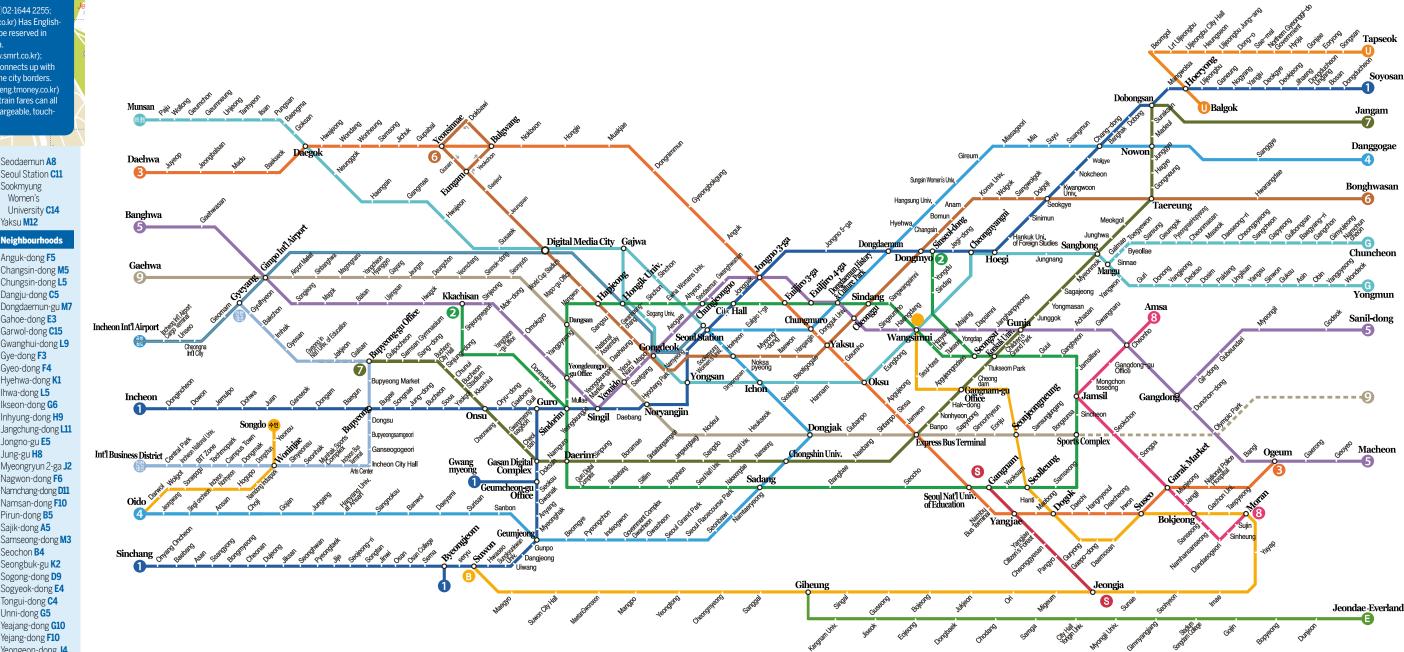
This large and pleasant park, a focus of the 1988 Olympics, also contains galleries, museums and sculptures. (www.olympic oark.co.kr; 424 Olympic-ro, Songpa-gu; **S**Line 8 to

Mongchontoseong, Exit 1 or Line 5 to Olympic Park

Greater Seoul 6: GOYANG-SI **GWANGJIN-GU** SEONGDONG GANGNAM-GU

🛕 Airport Railroad 🕕 Incheon Line 1 🕝 Gyeongui Line 🕝 Gyeongchun Line B Bundang Line S Sinbundang Line S Su**in Line 🕕 U U Line** 🕒 E Ever Line ———— Transfer Statio

# Metropolitan Railway System



SPACE **G5** Arko Art Center K4 Artside C4 Artsonje Center E4 Bank of Korea Money Museum E9 Bongsudae G13 Bosingak E7

Bukchon Hanok

Bukchon Traditional Cheongwadae

Village F4

Seeing E3

Arario Museum in

Culture Center F4 Central Buddhist Citizens Hall **D8** Museum E6 Changdeokgung G4 Changgveonggung Cheondogyo Temple F5 Cheong-gye Plaza D7 Cheong-gye-cheon D7

Cheongwadae D2

Sarangchae C3 City Hall D8 Culture Station Seoul 284 C11 Daelim Contemporary Art Museum C5 Deoksugung C8 Dongdaemun

Design Plaza &

Park L8

Dongdaemun Stadium Memorial M8 Donggun D4 Dong-Lim Knot Workshop F3 Donhwamun G4 Gahoe Minhwa Workshop F3 Gallery Hyundai E5 Gallery Simon C4 Dongdaemun History Gangyeongjeon D4

Geunjeongjeon D5 Gonsindang **H6** Great Greenhouse H3 Gungisi Relics Gwanghwamun D5 Gwanghwamun Square **D6** Gwanghwamun Square Underground Exhibition D6

Gwangjang Market

Gyeonghoeru D4 Gyeonghuigung B6 Exhibition Hall **D8** Gyotaejeon **D4** Hakgojae **E4** Heunghwamun B7 Heunginjimun M7 Heungnyemun D5 Huwon H3

Hyangwonjeong D3 Gyeongbokgung D4 Hyehwamun K2 Ihwa Maeul **L5** Injeongjeon **G4** Jean Art Gallery C4 Hammering Man C7 Jeonggwanheon D8 Hamnyeongjeon **D8** Jeongjeon **H5** Jogye-sa **E6** Jongmyo **H6** Jongno Tower E7 Junghwajeon C8

Hwabong Gallery **F6** King Sejong Statue **D6** Myeongjeongjeon **H4** 

Kukje **E4** Kyungdong Presbyterian Church L9 Lock Museum K4 MMCA Deoksugung MMCA Seoul E4 Mokin Museum F6 Myeong-dong Catholic

Cathedral F9

N Seoul Tower F13 Nakseonjae **H4** Namdaemun Market E10 Namsan Outdoor Botanical Garden Namsangol Hanok Village **H10** National Children's

Museum E3

National Folk

Museum of Korea D3 National Museum of Korean Contemporary History D6 National Palace Museum of Korea D5 Open Air Exhibition

PLATEAU C10

Ryugaheon C4

Sajikdan **B5** Sejong Gallery D6 SeMA Gyeonghuigung Museum of Art B7 Seokjojeon; Daehan Empire History Museum C8 Seoul Animation Center F10 Seoul City Wall

Museum M6

Seoul Metropolitan

Library D8 Seoul Museum of Art D9 Seoul Museum of History B7 Seoul Plaza D8 Simsimheon F3 Sool Gallery F6 Soyoam H3 Spring Sculpture D7 Stone Pagoda of Wongak-sa G6

Sun Art Center F6

**SEOUL** 

Sungnyemun C10 Tteok Museum G5 Unhyeongung F5 Waryongmyo F12 Yeongnyeongjeon **H5** Dongjak-gu **D4** Yeongyeongdang H3 Eunpyeong-gu D1 **GREATER** 

Gimpo Airport A3

Bucheon-si A3 Dongdaemun-gu F2 Gangbuk-gu F1 Gangnam-gu F4 Gangseo-gu A2 Goyang-si A1 Guro-gu A4

Gwanak-gu **D5** 

Gwangjin-gu G2 Songpa-gu **H5** Hongdae C3 Yangcheon-gu A4 Ihwa-dong F2 Yeongdeungpo-gu C3 Jongno-gu **E2** Yeouido **D4** Jungnang-gu **H2** Yongsan-gu E3 Mapo-gu C2 Sights Nowon-gu G1

Seocho-gu **F5** 

Seodaemun-gu D2

Seongbuk-gu F2

Seongdong-gu G3

Sinchon D3

National Museum of Korea E4 Olympic Park H4 War Memorial of Korea E3

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