

GENERAL INFORMATION NOTE

Republic of Korea

1. Capital-Seoul

Seoul is the capital and largest metropolis of Korea. It is one of the largest cities in the world, being home to over 10 million citizens. First established as a capital for Korean people more than 2,000 years ago, Seoul is a very unique city where the old and the new coexist in harmony. You will fully enjoy this dynamic city that provides advanced technology and eco-friendly environment. In the heart of Seoul where culture and history come alive, you will be able to make unforgettable memories. You can also visit old palaces and museums with easy transportation.

For more information, visit <http://tour.junggu.seoul.kr/tour/eng/index.jsp>
 (Jung-gu Culture & Tourism)



2. Weather & Clothing

The weather in Korea is considered a continental climate and characterized by four distinct seasons: spring, summer, fall, and winter. Since the ETP will be held on 29 March - 2 April which is the beginning of early spring, temperatures will be mild and pleasant. It is recommended that you bring light jackets or cardigans. There is also a possibility of rain during the event, so please don't forget to bring your umbrella. For more information on daily weather, please visit the website below.

Korea Meteorological Administration: <http://www.kma.go.kr/eng/index.jsp>

3. Time Difference

Korea is 9 hours ahead of Greenwich Mean Time (GMT+9).

4. Electricity Supply

The power supply in the Republic of Korea is 220V/60 Hz (two round pins). Adaptors and

converters may be needed if you are traveling from countries that use 110V or other types of plugs.



5. Local & International Calls

For international inbound calls, the country code is 82, and the area code for Seoul is 02 and for Pyeongchang and Wonju is 033.

Mobile Phone (Roaming)

CDMA cellular systems are widely used in Korea. SK Telecom and KT provide a SIM card roaming service so that you can use your GSM subscription in Korea. At the International Airport, you can rent a special CDMA cellular phone which can be equipped with your SIM card.

6. Internet Access

Free Wi-Fi service will be available in the meeting rooms and the lobby of the Hotel as well as in the rooms of the recommended hotels.

7. Foreign Exchange, Banking and VAT

The monetary unit of Korea is Won (KRW). Korean currency consists of 10, 50, 100 and 500 won coins, and 1,000, 5,000, 10,000 and 50,000 won notes. KRW 1,000 is close to USD1. Internationally recognized credit cards including VISA, AMEX, Master Card and JCB can be used to get a cash advance in Korean won at ATMs installed at airports, major hotels and department stores.

A Value-Added Tax (VAT) is levied on most goods and services at a standard rate of 10% and is included in the retail price.

8. Business Hours

Banks are generally open from 09:00 to 16:00 on weekdays. All banks are closed on Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays. Government offices open from 09:00 to 18:00 on weekdays. Department stores are usually open between 10:30 and 20:00. Smaller shops have extended opening hours from 09:00 to late in the evening.

9. Medical Emergency

When you have an emergency situation or need to go to a hospital for your health problem, ask the concierge or front desk personnel at each hotel for assistance or contact to the guide. .

Hospitals & emergency rooms

**Inje University Paik Hospital
(near Myeongdong, Seoul city hall)**
International Health Care Center
Tel: (02) 2270-0500
Clinic Hours: 08:30-12:00 / 13:30-17:00
(Weekdays)

**Kangbuk Samsung Medical Center
(near Myeongdong, Seoul City hall)**
International Clinic
Tel: (02) 2001-5100
Clinic Hours: 09:00-17:00

**Kangnam Samsung Hospital
(at Kangnam)**
Tel: (02) 3410-2114
Clinic Hours: 08:30-17:00
(Weekdays)

10. Useful Numbers in Korea

- ☐ Fire/Medical Emergencies: 119
- ☐ Police: 112
- ☐ Korea Travel Hotline: 1330
- ☐ General Information Center: 1345
- ☐ Interpreting Service: 1588-5644

Travel Information- Call 1330 ! When you need English assistance or travel information, just dial 1330, and a bilingual operator will offer you detailed information on tourist sites, transportation, restaurants, etc. If you want information about areas outside of Seoul, enter the area code of that region before pressing 1330.

11. Tax Refund

Any product with this "Tax Free Shopping" sign will give you a refund on VAT. You must depart Korea within 3 months of the purchase.

12. How to Get Tax Refund

1. Purchase your items at any shops with this "Tax Free Shopping" sign and receive a payment slip.
2. When departing, you need to get a stamp issued from the customs officer after showing him the purchased items and payment slip.
3. At the Cash Refund Office in the airport, you can receive the amount of VAT. You may also be able to get a refund at the airport of your destination. Most Tax Free Shopping centers are found either at department stores or shops in Myeong-dong and Cheongdam-dong areas. For more information: Global Refund: 82-2-776-2170