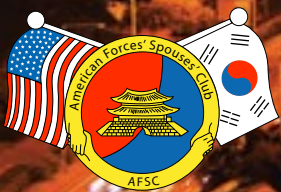


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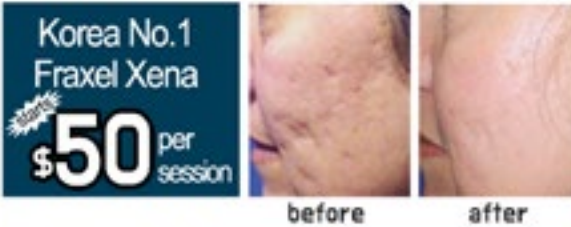
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15 May 2016

On behalf of the US Army Garrison Yongsan leadership and staff, welcome to Korea and Area III!

It is a distinct honor to be given the privilege of providing a Foreword to *The Seoul Survivor* – a much sought out publication and reference guide for the Seoul area.

The Seoul Survivor is a compilation of practical information gathered by members of our community to help in your transition to and from Korea, and to provide you with unique learning and adventuresome opportunities. Aside from checklists in preparing for your permanent change of station (PCS), *The Seoul Survivor* serves as a guide to experiencing the best of Korea – providing cultural and historical venues, shopping and dining experiences, and community services.

The Seoul Survivor is attributed to the members of the American Forces' Spouses' Club. This is a group of dedicated, driven, and energized community volunteers whose tenacity and effort continue to make this community stronger, better, and more resilient. Their collective work with our host nation partners has contributed to making this assignment memorable and exciting. I am indebted for their staunch support to and for the Area II community.

The Seoul Survivor is published by the Oriental Press – an important and valued partner who has made this great resource widely available.

I hope that your assignment to Korea is filled with an abundance of wonderful memories of the Korean culture and people, filled with many educational opportunities for self-improvement, and awe-inspiring recollections.

Jeulgil su (Enjoy!)

"Yongsan Strong"

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Maria P. Eoff".

Maria P. Eoff
Colonel, United States Army
Commander, US Army Garrison Yongsan

MESSAGE FROM ORIENTAL PRESS



For over two decades, Oriental Press Inc. has had the honor and the privilege of presenting the Seoul Survivor to the United States Forces Korea community. This ever-popular yearly orientation guide is prepared by the American Forces' Spouses' Club. This year's edition for 2016-2017 marks the 30th consecutive year of the publication, and we at Oriental Press Inc. have been ever so proud to have been partnered to its existence for 22 of those years.

But there are more things about the new Seoul Survivor that are special than just its history; this year's edition will not only provide a completed update of all pertinent details of the USFK community, but will reflect the upcoming changes the U.S. military is undergoing and how it will affect military members and their families here in Korea.

This year's edition is a special one for us at Oriental Press Inc. Since our humble beginnings in 1987, we have seen many changes. We are truly so proud to be a part of this all-important community publication which we know will remain an invaluable resource that will continuously grow and expand in the years to come.

As we reflect back on the 30 years of this publication, a project of this type cannot be created alone and the Seoul Survivor is no exception. As such, we would like to express our sincere gratitude to Jackie McKenna, the Senior Editor and her tireless staff of volunteers for an exceptional job. Also to the current president of the AFSC Emily Daniels, and all the wonderful members of the American Forces' Spouses' Club for entrusting Oriental Press Inc. with

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Charles Chong'. The signature is stylized and cursive.

Charles Chong
President, Oriental Press

SEOUL SURVIVOR

2016-2017



A publication of the

American Forces' Spouses' Club

Thirtieth Edition 2016-2017

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Section Cover Photo:

Cherry Blossoms at Gyeongbokgung

Photo provided by: Sherry Wirth

A Letter from the Editor

서울에 오신 것을 환영합니다

Welcome to Seoul, Korea!

Your new home is an exciting world full of cuisines to be savored, lasting memories to be created, and friendships to be built. There is not enough ink and paper to describe all that awaits you!

The *Seoul Survivor* is designed to assist you as you acclimate to life in Seoul. While there are many, many similarities between life in Korea and in the US, there are just as many differences – some of which will be thought-provoking, entertaining, or amusing, and some of which you might find challenging. Our goal is to help you navigate the transition, equip you to explore, and encourage you to flourish. The contents are geared toward directing you to the resources and information you need to get started. On behalf of the editorial committee, the AFSC Board, and our members, we hope you will find it helpful.

If I can give you one piece of advice, it is to embrace the adventure, and get out and explore: the city, the country, and the region. Your time here will go by so quickly, and there is so much to see, do, and taste. Visit beautiful historic sites. Experience cultural events. Marvel at the juxtaposition of ultra-modern features and venerated traditions. Plan a trip...or just walk out of a gate and see what awaits you! You will find that the Korean culture is one of hospitality and warmth, and you will find yourself embraced by your host country.

A personal note: Thank you to the AFSC Board for entrusting a second edition of this valuable resource to my care. Your confidence and support mean so much to me.

This was truly a team endeavor, and I treasured the opportunity to work with the members of this year's editorial team. Their dedication and commitment to producing a quality product on time never wavered. I thought last year's edition was stellar; this year's team actually managed to make this edition even better. A special thank you to Sara Mitchell, my rock and sounding board. I could not ask for a better partner. Thank you!

Finally, thank you to our longtime partners at Oriental Press, especially Mr. Charles Chong and Mr. Joseph Terry, without whom this publication would not be possible.

같이 갑시다

Katchi Kapshida!

Let's go together!



Jackie McKenna, Editor-in-Chief
The Seoul Survivor, 2016-2017 edition

About AFSC

Our mission is twofold: to enhance the lives of and provide support for spouses and families stationed at USAG Yongsan and nearby locations through planned activities, to help build friendships, and to provide support through charitable giving to our American and Korean communities throughout the peninsula.

More than just a spouses' club – we are a support network of friends! The American Forces' Spouses' Club (AFSC) is a community-focused military spouses' organization that operates at United States Army Garrison (USAG) Yongsan, South Korea. We are Army, Air Force, Navy and Marine spouses, both active duty and retired. We are Department of Defense (DoD) civilian employees and spouses; Department of Defense Dependent Schools (DoDDS) teachers and their spouses; directors and spouses for the American Red Cross, United Service Organizations (USO), and Special Services; adult family members of US Department of State and US Diplomatic Mission personnel; and United Nations Command Officers' spouses.

To find out more about AFSC, our clubs and activities, and our charitable giving, please visit our website at www.AFSCYongsan.org or on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/AFSCKorea>.

About *The Seoul Survivor*

This publication was originally conceived, written, and compiled by Judy Bridenbaugh in an attempt to ease the frustration experienced by military members and their families when moving to a location, especially one in a foreign country. Each subsequent year, information is updated and, new material is added. This book is also available as a searchable PDF from our website at no cost.

Input for this edition has been gathered from the best available sources at the time of publication. Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy and relevancy of the information and maps at the time of printing. The American Forces' Spouses' Club (AFSC) would be grateful to receive any information from readers concerning errors or omissions. Please contact us at afscseoul survivor@gmail.com.

Inclusion of a business, website, etc. in this publication does not indicate official affiliation with or endorsement by USAG Yongsan, USFK, or Eighth US Army.

US Forces at Yongsan

In 1910, after five years of occupation, the Japanese Empire annexed Korea and immediately began a major building program to consolidate its political and military control over the country. It established the headquarters for the Imperial Japanese Army in Korea at Yongsan (Dragon Mountain) shortly after annexation. The Japanese compound included the areas known today as Yongsan Main and South Posts, Camps Coiner and Kim, Hannam Village (now closed), TMP and Seobinggo Compounds, the National Museum of Korea, the Republic of Korea (ROK) Ministry of National Defense, and the War Memorial of Korea. From 1905 to 1945, the Japanese garrisoned the post with an infantry division headquarters, at least two infantry regiments, and a cavalry unit. Colonial administrative and governmental headquarters were located on South Post.

When World War II ended, the US government sent Lt. Gen. John R. Hodge's XXIV Corps to Korea to accept the surrender of Japanese forces south of the 38th Parallel. Meanwhile, Soviet forces moved into the area north of the Parallel. In September 1945, the US 7th Infantry Division established its headquarters at Yongsan, providing administration, order, and security of the southern zone pending establishment of a single government for the peninsula; however, the Soviets sealed the border at the 38th Parallel and created a communist North Korean state.

US forces departed Korea in mid-1949, except for the Korean Military Advisory Group (K MAG) which was established at the request of the ROK government to develop and train ROK security forces. These security forces were first organized into police constabularies and later became the foundation of the ROK Army.

The North Korean invasion on June 25, 1950 turned Korea into a battlefield. Seoul changed hands between the Communist and the United Nations forces four times sustaining substantial damage. In 1952, US forces reestablished headquarters at Yongsan and began restoring the post. The Eighth US Army moved its headquarters from Seoul National University (present day Seoul National University Medical School) to Yongsan on September 15, 1953.

On July 1, 1957, the United Nations Command (UNC) headquarters moved from Tokyo to Seoul in conjunction with an overall reorganization of US military forces and command structures in the Pacific. The US

Secretary of Defense, the Chairman of the US Joint Chiefs of Staff, and the ROK Minister of National Defense created the Combined Forces Command (CFC) in 1977; CFC was formally activated on November 7, 1978. This two-nation command, headed by a US four-star general who also serves as the Commander of United Nations Command, USFK and is the senior US Army officer in Korea, serves as the war fighting headquarters in the event of any future hostilities between the two Koreas.

Over the years, the post went through three major building phases. In the 1950s, Quonset huts were built for soldier billeting and offices. In the 1960s and early 1970s, the Quonset huts were replaced with multi-story barracks, mess halls, and gymnasiums to improve soldier living conditions. In the late 1970s through the 1990s, new troop facilities, family units, schools, the White House, and the Dragon Hill Lodge were added, transforming Yongsan into a modern military installation.

USAG Yongsan and the city of Seoul have come a long way since 1965, when the military troop ship the *USS General J.C. Breckenridge* (T-AP-176) first made landfall at Incheon. Although today's military families arrive at Incheon Airport via high tech jetliners, those early soldiers came by ship and were transported north by bus or train to Camp Casey or Camp Howze or other camps throughout South Korea.

Very few civilians were assigned to Korea, but those who came here often reported to USAG Yongsan. Military families lived on the South Post, while civilians found homes out in town. Most single soldiers were living in Quonset huts on post.

Many aspects of family life on post have changed since those early days. Hannam Village, Itaewon Acres, and other housing areas didn't exist, nor did the various restaurants on South Post. The Seoul American High School was a small, single-story building located where Army Community Service stands today. Although families could use the Seoul Military Hospital on South Post, the 121st Evacuation Hospital was located at Army Service Command/Camp Market in Bupyeong until June 1971.

Recreational and shopping facilities have evolved over the years. The Commissary, which was once located near the current fire station (now the Walker Center), was open only to military families with command-sponsored status and civilians above level GS12, until 1972. The National Museum of Korea didn't exist in those days; instead, USAG Yongsan boasted an 18-hole golf course.

Official buildings on post have also migrated through the decades. The UN Command, USFK, and the Eighth US Army were combined into the current Eighth US Army headquarters building. The library, Post Exchange (PX), and Post Office were all in different locations. The AAFES Four Seasons and Community Bank are located where enlisted barracks once stood. Two theaters occupied land next to the current USFK headquarters and predated the Main Post Club.

The changes on USAG Yongsan only begin to hint at the dramatic differences that have reshaped the city of Seoul in the past fifty years. For example, the first tunnels through Namsan Mountain appeared in 1969. There were once only four bridges crossing the Han River – a landscape now teeming with dozens of bridges, parks, and buildings. Seoul's massive subway began in 1974 with the opening of the Jungno Line #1; before that, people used streetcars, buses, taxis, or hopsungs (microbuses made from several 55 gallon metal barrels placed on a truck frame). Concerned that detailed maps would find their way into enemy hands, the Korean government only made tourist maps available to the public beginning in 1980.

Today, USAG Yongsan consists of 630 acres, housing the following major tenant organizations: the UNC/CFC/USFK Headquarters, Eighth US Army Headquarters, US Navy Forces Korea, US Marine Forces Korea, 501st Military Intelligence Brigade Headquarters, 1st Signal Brigade Headquarters, the 65th Medical Brigade, the Brian Allgood Army Community Hospital, and the Joint US Military Advisory Group Korea (JUSMAGK). More than 1,000 US and 6,000 Korean civilian employees augment the US military, and more than 1,000 KATUSA (Korean Augmentation to the US Army) soldiers serve on post.

Some 7,000 military and civilian employee family members reside on South Post or in neighborhoods adjacent to the garrison. Although the headquarters for the 2nd Infantry Division (2ID) is north of Seoul, many 2ID family members live in Seoul or on USAG Yongsan. The 2ID Combat Aviation Brigade resides at USAG Humphreys, but has an aviation battalion assigned to K-16.

Information in this section was provided with the help of Mr. John Nowell, former USAG Yongsan Area II Public Affairs Officer and Historian; the USFK Command History Office; and the Yongsan Public Affairs Office. For more information or to obtain a guidebook for a walking tour of USAG Yongsan, please visit the Heritage Center located on South Post, Building 4260, at 050.3323.5213, DSN 723.5213.

Resources



NOTES

Section Cover Photo:

Walking around in the Jongno District

Photo provided by: Sherry Wirth

This section provides helpful references, information about utilities, and other items to help you as you transition to life at US Army Garrison (USAG) Yongsan.

Phone Numbers and Dialing

DEFENSE SWITCHING NETWORK (DSN)

Offices and some housing areas at USAG Yongsan have Defense Switching Network (DSN) phones. The phone numbers have seven digits. USAG Yongsan is divided into six areas with six different prefixes: 723, 724, 725, 736, 737 and 738. The K-16 prefix is 741.

Cell phones prefixes are 010, 011, 016, 017, and 018. We have made every effort to include both commercial and DSN numbers where applicable in this publication; however, there may be times when you need to know how to convert a DSN to dial it from a commercial phone. This section will provide guidance on how to do that.

CALLING WITHIN KOREA

From a Military Phone

- To call a DSN phone number in Korea, dial the seven-digit number directly.
- To call a commercial phone or cell phone number, dial 99+ the number.

From a Commercial or Cell Phone

- To call a DSN phone number, dial 05033+ the last six digits of the phone number.
- To call a commercial phone from a cell phone, dial 02+ the phone number.

CALLING SEOUL FROM THE US

- To call a commercial phone in Seoul, dial 1+011+822+XXX+XXXX
- To call a cell phone in Seoul, dial 1+011+last two prefix digits+rest of phone number.
- To call a DSN phone in Seoul, dial 1+011+822+791X+XXXX

CALLING THE US FROM KOREA

- To call a number in the US from a Korean phone, dial 001+1+Area Code+7 digit phone number

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Police/Fire/Ambulance

- DSN (all bases): 911
- Commercial/Cell
 - K-16: 050.3341.6001
 - Yongsan: 050.3338.0117
 - Cell: 0503.323.9111

Police (Off Post)

- DSN: 112
- Cell: 02.112

Sexual Assault Prevention (SHARP) 24/7 Assistance

- DSN: 158 or 763.5700
- Commercial: 050.3363.5700
- From US: 011.82.503.363.5700

DoD Sexual Assault Support (SAFE) Helpline

- 877.995.5247 (US toll free)

Suicide Prevention Hotline (Korea-Wide)

- DSN: 118
- Commercial: 0808.555.118
- Confidential online chat:
<http://www.veteranscrisisline.net/ActiveDuty.aspx>

Acronyms

1RC	1 st Replacement Company
19PC	19 th Personnel Company
AAFES	Army Air Force Exchange Service
ACS	Army Community Service
AFAP	Army Family Action Plan
AFN-K	American Forces Network-Korea
AFSC	American Forces Spouses Club
AFTB	Army Family Team Building
BAACH	Brian Allgood Army Community Hospital
BOSS	Better Opportunities for Single and Unaccompanied Soldiers
CLASS VI	Package/Liquor Store
CFC	Combined Forces Command
COLA	Cost of Living Allowance
CNFK	Commander, US Naval Forces Korea
CYSS	Child Youth and School Services
DMZ	Demilitarized Zone
DPW	Directorate of Public Works
DSN	Defense Switching Network
DEROS	Date Estimated Return from Overseas
DoDEA	Department of Defense Education Activity
DoDDS	Department of Defense Dependent School
EML	Environmental Morale Leave
EUSA	Eighth US Army
FED	Far East District, US Corps of Engineers
FMWR	Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation
JUSMAG-K	Joint US Military Affairs Group, Korea
KATUSA	Korean Augmentee to the US Army
MARFORK	Marine Forces Korea
NEO	Non-Combatant Evacuation Operation
OCONUS	Outside the Contiguous United States
OHA	Overseas Housing Allowance
POV	Privately Owned Vehicle

ROK (A)	Republic of Korea (Army)
SAES	Seoul American Elementary School
SAMS	Seoul American Middle School
SAHS	Seoul American High School
SOFA	Status of Forces Agreement
SUSLAK	Special US Liaison Advisor, Korea
USAG	US Army Garrison
USFK	US Forces Korea
USO	United Services Organization
WRC	Warrior Readiness Center

Websites

Inclusion in this list does not indicate official affiliation with or endorsement by USAG Yongsan, USFK, or Eighth Army. This list is not all-inclusive.

MILITARY/YONGSAN

Eighth US Army Pacific Victors

<http://8tharmy.korea.army.mil/site/main/>

Home page for the Eighth US Army.

Air Mobility Command

<http://www.amc.af.mil/amctravel/index.asp>

Comprehensive information on Space Available (Space A) travel.

American Red Cross Military Services

<http://www.redcross.org/find-help/military-families>

Emergency messages, financial assistance, resources, and referrals.

Army Civilian Personnel

<http://cpol.army.mil>

Home page for US Army civilian personnel.

Army Family Readiness Groups

<http://www.armyfrg.org/skins/frg/home.aspx>

Resources for and about Family Readiness Groups.

Army

<http://www.army.mil>

Home page for the US Army.

Army OneSource

<http://www.myarmyonesource.com/default.aspx>

Information on volunteering, family team building, and Army life.

AUSA Family

<http://www.ausa.org/resources/familyprograms/Pages/default.aspx>

Non-profit organization advocating and providing resources for Army families.

Camp Humphreys

<http://www.army.mil/humphreys>

Home page for Camp Humphreys.

Commander, US Naval Forces Korea

<http://www.navy.mil/local/cnfk/>

Home page for the US Navy in Korea.

DEERS

www.tricare.mil/DEERS

Central location for sponsors, spouses, and their children (18 years and older) to access personal information, health care eligibility, personnel records, etc.

Defense Finance/Pay

<http://www.dfas.mil>

Access pay tables, myPay login, etc.

Korea Housing Management

<http://www.kohomm.org>

Home page for KOHOM, on post leased housing management in Korea.

Military.com

<http://www.military.com/spouse>

Information on employment, schooling, and internships.

Military Health System

<http://www.health.mil>

Official website of the military health system and the Defense Health Agency.

Military Impacted Schools Association

<http://militaryimpactedschoolsassociation.org>

Supports funding, legislation, partnerships and programs for military families on the move.

Military OneSource

<http://www.militaryonesource.mil>

Provides confidential, comprehensive information on military life at no cost.

Military Spouse Job Assistance & Education Resources

<http://militarybenefits.info/military-spouse-job-assistance-education-resources/>

Career resources for military spouses.

Military Youth on the Move

<http://www.militaryonesource.mil/family-and-relationships/military-youth-on-the-move>

Resources to help parents and youth prepare for a military move.

MWR, Army

<http://www.armymwr.com>

Home page for US Army morale, wellness, and recreation services.

MWR, Korea

<http://www.mwrkorea.com/>

Home page for morale, wellness, and recreation services specific to Korea. Includes information for K-16.

National Military Family Association

<http://www.militaryfamily.org>

Non-profit advocacy and resources for military families, including camps and scholarships.

National Guard Bureau (NGB) Family Programs

<https://www.jointservicessupport.org/fp/>

Support, education, and readiness programs for National Guard families.

Relay Health

<http://www.relayhealth.com>

Sign up to be able to communicate directly with your primary care doctor via email and view some prescriptions and medical records online.

TRICARE

<http://www.tricare.mil>

View benefit information including tips for obtaining care while traveling.

US Government Web Portal

<http://www.usa.gov>

Links to all US government agencies.

USAG Yongsan

<https://www.army.mil/yongsan>

Yongsan Garrison online event calendar, telephone book, welcome guide, daily weather, etc.

USA Jobs

<https://www.usajobs.gov>

Apply for US government and civil service jobs.

US DODEA Pacific

<http://www.dodea.edu/Pacific/>

Home page for DoD schools in the Pacific. Download student handbooks and enrollment forms.

United States Forces Korea (USFK)

<http://www.usfk.mil/>

Home page for USFK; provides links to military websites and other helpful resources.

Veterans Affairs

<http://www.va.gov>

Access information on health care, education, training, and other veterans' benefits.

KOREA RESOURCES

Adventure Korea

<http://adventurekorea.com>

Organizes group excursions and short trips within Korea.

City of Seoul-Official Website

<http://english.seoul.go.kr>

Information for visiting, living, or doing business in Seoul, including municipal events calendars.

Danuri - Guidebook for Living in Korea

<http://www.liveinkorea.kr/homepage/en/>

Information to make living in Korea easier, especially for multicultural families.

Dave's ESL Café

<http://www.eslcafe.com/jobs/korea/>

Information and jobs board for teaching English in Korea.

Itaewon Global Village Center

http://global.seoul.go.kr/index.do?site_code=2201

Offers free language classes and other activities for foreigners.

Korea4Expats

<http://www.korea4expats.com>

Resources, reviews, and event calendars for expatriates in Korea.

Korean Class 101

<http://www.koreanclass101.com>

Free online Korean language lessons.

Korean National Police Agency

<http://www.police.go.kr/eng/main.do>

Crime prevention guide for foreigners and police department information.

Koreaye

<http://koreaye.com>

Articles and photos to help demystify Korea.

Korea Tourism Organization

<http://english.visitkorea.or.kr/enu/index.kto>

Information on tourist spots and other recreational activities.

Tour Guide to Everything Seoul

<http://www.visitseoul.net/en/index.do>

The official website for Seoul tourism information.

Seoulistic

<http://seoulistic.com>

Lists and tips about living and traveling in Korea.

Seoul Metro

<http://www.smrt.co.kr/main/index/index002.jsp>

Seoul mass transit system maps, directions, and trip planner.

Tales From a Small Planet

<http://www.talesmag.com>

City reports, school reviews and essays about life as an expat.

Talk to Me in Korean

<http://www.talktomeinkorean.com>

Free online Korean language lessons and podcasts.

Volunteering in Korea

http://www.volunteer21.org/volunteer_eng/

Post and search volunteer opportunities.

Waygook: Teach, Travel, Learn

<http://www.waygook.org/index.php>

Jobs board and a forum about Korean life; especially helpful for English teachers.

CONCIERGE/TICKET SERVICES

Interpark Theater

<http://ticket.interpark.com/Global/index.asp>

Purchase tickets for musicals, plays and concerts in English.

Cine in Korea

<http://www.cineinkorea.com/movie/index.php>

Online movie ticketing in English for local theaters including CGV Yongsan (I'PARK Mall).

COUPONING SITES

<http://www.coupons.com>

Printable coupons

<http://smartsources.com>

Printable coupons

<http://militarycoupons.com>

Printable coupons

<https://www.checkout51.com>

Earn money back on purchases you make

<https://ibotta.com>

Earn money back on purchases you make

<https://www.facebook.com/ExpiredCouponsforOverseasMilitary>

Have coupons mailed to you

FOOD DELIVERY SERVICES

Ask Ajumma

<http://www.askajumma.com>

Virtual concierge service for foreigners living in Seoul. Get food delivery, buy tickets, make reservations, and more. Concierge fee is included in the service you purchase.

Shuttle Food Delivery

<http://www.goshuttle.co.kr>

Ynot-Takeout (<http://www.ynot-takeout.com/>) and Bird Riders (<http://www.brfd.co.kr/>) have merged to form Shuttle Food Delivery. There is a delivery fee.

TRAVEL SITES

http://english.visitkorea.or.kr/enu/1031_Accommodations.jsp

Information on places to stay in Korea; provided by the Korea Tourism Organization.

www.tripadvisor.com

Reviews and advice on hotels, resorts, flights, vacation rentals, travel packages, and more.

www.expedia.com

Global travel site providing millions of worldwide customer reviews.

BLOGS

The following is a sampling of blogs, both government-sponsored and individually authored, that provide insight into life in Korea.

www.beyondkimchee.com

Korean recipes in an easy-to-follow format.

<http://blog.korea.net/>

English language blog run by Korea.net – the official webpage of the Republic of Korea.

<http://crazykoreancooking.com>

Korean cooking ideas.

<http://cuteinkorea.com>

Fun and unique diversions in Korea. No longer posting, but some good references.

<http://afatgirlsfoodguide.com>

Excellent resource for reviews of restaurants and eating-related events in Seoul.

<http://kidsfuninseoul.wordpress.com>

What to do with your kids in Seoul.

www.onlyitaewon.com

A directory of Itaewon.

<http://www.oneweirdglobe.com>

Oddities, pointers, and guides for multiple Asian locales.

<http://seoulsuburban.com>

Guide to exploring Seoul from the perspective of individual subway stations.

<http://www.sixinseoul.com>

Information for before and during a PCS to Korea. No longer actively posting.

www.zenkimchi.com

Restaurant reviews for all types of restaurants in Seoul.

FACEBOOK PAGES AND GROUPS

You can search Facebook to locate these pages; many are closed groups you may have to request to join.

Babysitters

- Yongsan Adult Babysitter Page
- Yongsan Certified TEEN Babysitters List

Flea Markets, Home Businesses, and Money Savers

- Couponing In Korea
- Seoul Military Community Buy and Sell Page (open to people with post access only)
- The Yongsan Flea Market
- Yongsan Buy and Sell Page [secret group - must be added by a group member]
- Yongsan Formals and Accessories Buy/Sell/Swap
- Yongsan Home Business Market
- Yongsan Savers

Food

- Go Shuttle (Formerly Bird Riders and Ynot-Takeout)
- Seoul Eats
- Where to Eat in South Korea
- Yongsan Vegan & Plant-Strong Eaters

Hobbies and Sports

- Fight Tonight CrossFit
- US Ski Patrol Asia
- USAG Yongsan Zumba (R)
- YG Hikers
- Yongsan Craftaholics
- Yongsan CWOC
- Yongsan PWOC

Military Life

- ACS Yongsan
- AFSC Coffee After Dark
- AFSC Community Service
- AFSC Hiking
- AFSC Korean History & Culture Group

- AFSC Music Group
- AFSC Photography Group
- AFSC Scrapping and Stamping Group
- AFSC Shopping and Tours Club
- AFSC Yongsan Book Club
- AFSC Yongsan Bowling Club
- AFSC Yongsan Bunco
- AFSC Yongsan Cooking Group
- AFSC Walkers and Runners
- AFSC's Little Explorers
- American Forces' Spouses' Club (Korea)
- Blackhawk Village Residents
- Burke Tower 7170/7171
- Dragon Hill Lodge
- Eagle Grove and Watkins Ridge Residents
- Eighth Army-Korea
- Itaewon Acres Resident Association (IARA)
- K16 Spouses
- Marine Spouses in Korea
- NavyFamily ReadinessGroup Seoul [typed this way]
- Second Hand Rose Thrift Shop
- Seoul Military Community
- U.S. Army Garrison Yongsan
- U.S. Forces Korea (Official Page)
- USAG Yongsan
- USAG Yongsan FMWR
- USAG-Yongsan Veterinary Treatment Facility
- USO Korea
- Yongsan AFSC Quilting Group
- Yongsan Military Spouses
- Yongsan Navy FRG

Pets

- Paws Across the Pen
- Pet Sitting Network - South Korea
- Yongsan Dogs Playgroup

Pregnancy, Children

- Adopting in Korea
- Breastfeeding Support Group of Pyeongtaek
- Children with Special Needs in DoDDEA Korea
- Cloth Diapering Army Wives in South Korea
- Kids Fun in Seoul
- KISS Korea Infertility Support System
- La Leche League Seoul

- Monday Baby Story Time USAG Yongsan Library
- Natural Minded Pregnant Moms in South Korea
- Pregnant Army Wives in South Korea
- Pregnant in Osan
- Seoul American Elementary School
- Seoul American Elementary School PTO
- Seoul American High School
- Seoul American High School PTSO
- Seoul American Middle School
- Seoul American Middle School PTO
- Seoul American Girl Scouts
- Things Uncle Sam Never Told You About Korea
- U.S. Military Parents Stationed in Seoul
- Yongsan Homeschool Group
- Yongsan Korea Mommy Meet Up
- Yongsan Playgroup

Travel and Tourism

- Jeju Tourism Organization
- Korea Tourism Organization
- National Parks of Korea
- Osan Passenger Terminal
- SeaTac AMC Passenger Terminal
- Seoul Korea
- Seoulistic.com
- Traveling Throughout South Korea and neighboring countries
- Trazy-You still haven't traveled to Korea yet?
- Visit-Seoul [typed this way]
- When in Korea (WinK - formerly Discover Korea)
- Wilderness Adventures Korea

Miscellaneous

- Americans in Korea
- Ask Ajumma Virtual Concierge
- Festivals and Events in Korea
- Free Share in Seoul
- Giving Back
- KoreaYe
- Latinos en Corea...Latin People in South Korea
- Latinos en Korea
- Latinos in Korea
- Sites in Seoul
- U.S. Embassy Association, Seoul
- US Embassy Seoul

Smartphone Applications



AAFES Taxi by Kang KwonYoung. This application is indispensable when you need a taxi with base access.



FourSquare by Foursquare Labs, Inc. Provides information on best places to eat, drink, and visit.



Google Maps by Google, Inc. Works well for finding directions using public transportation.



HeyWire by MediaFriends, Inc. Provides a US phone number for texting only. Good if you have friends who do not have smartphones.



KaKao Talk by KaKao Talk. Chat, text, call, and picture message people in the US or Korea who have this free app.



magicJack by magicJack. Allows free calls to and from US phone numbers.



MangoPlate by MangoPlate. The up-and-coming Yelp! of Seoul.



MilSpaceA by Take-a-Hop. Helps you schedule a Space-A military flight.



Naver Map by Naver Corp. Although the interface is in Korean. Naver Map can help you find where you are relative to the subway or buses, even if you don't read Hangeul.



Seoul Bus 3 – Metropolitan Bus by Juwan Yoo. Helps you navigate the Seoul bus system. The interface is in English, but most of the bus stop names are in Korean.



Subway Korea (Jihachul) by Broong, Inc. The most critical app for finding your way around Seoul. Use this to navigate the subway system, plan a route, find train times, etc.



Trip Advisor by TripAdvisor LLC. Provides access to reviews and advice on hotels, resorts, flights, vacation rentals, travel packages, and more.

American Red Cross

The primary mission of the American Red Cross in Korea is to serve military personnel and their families, improve the quality of human life, enhance self-reliance and concern for others, and help people avoid, prepare for, and cope with emergencies. The Brian Allgood Army Community Hospital and its clinics host a wide spectrum of Red Cross volunteer opportunities including leadership, administrative, and casework positions.

American Red Cross services include health and safety classes such as CPR, First Aid and AED classes, Life Guarding and Water Safety, Babysitter Training, Instructor Training, Pet First Aid and Disaster Services. Available classes vary by community. Please contact your local area Red Cross station for class availability and cost.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* Building 2259, Moyer Recreation Center, Room 215 *Phone:* 02.7918.3670 *DSN:* 738.3670 *Fax:* 02.7918.9012 *Fax DSN:* 738.9012 *Website:* <http://www.redcross.org/>

ARMED FORCES EMERGENCY SERVICE (AFES)

The Red Cross provides rapid communications between military members, DoD civilians and their families regarding death, serious illness, childcare breakdowns, birth, health and welfare reports, and other personal or family problems. Family members back home should call their local Red Cross to request emergency message service. Your family will need your current rank, social security number, and military address for the request. Answers to frequently asked questions are listed below.

How do I send a message?

For requests between 8:00 am and 4:00 pm, call your installation Red Cross Office. After hours, contact the USAG Yongsan Office (number listed on the next page). A caseworker will process your message. To expedite service, please provide as much pertinent information related to the situation as possible (e.g., local point of contact, name and phone numbers, doctor's name and phone number, location of patient, your 1SG's or Company Commander's name and phone numbers).

What do I do if I get a message?

For emergency messages, your 1SG will be called to copy its contents and deliver them to you. If a non-emergency message arrives, every effort will be made to locate you in order to deliver its contents to you directly. Once you have received your message, discuss the situation with your chain of command.

Will the service pay my way home?

If you have been placed on Emergency Leave with Funded Travel Orders, the military will pay for your plane ticket to a port of entry on the west coast. Any follow-on travel will be your responsibility. Ordinary Leave under Emergency Conditions requires that you pay for the entire plane ticket. Contact your chain of command regarding travel regulations for your family.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* To locate a local chapter, visit www.redcross.org and enter the zip code in the space provided. *Phone:* 050.3338.3670 (USAG Yongsan), 877.272.7337 (24-hour toll free) *DSN:* 738-3670 *Hours:* 8:00 am-4:30 pm

Embassies

FOREIGN EMBASSIES

Most countries maintain an embassy or consulate in Seoul. They can be very helpful in providing you with travel information for their country and will assist in any visa arrangements if you are not traveling with a group that is handling details for you. The embassies can also tell you of any necessary vaccinations/immunizations required for travel in their country. Do not expect foreign embassies to warn you of potential difficulties/dangers of travel in their country; most try to encourage tourism. Please visit the Department of State's Bureau of Consular Affairs website at <http://travel.state.gov> to find travel warnings, travel advisories and entry requirements for specific countries. The Yongsan library is a good source for current telephone numbers or addresses you may need. Service members will need permission from their command and country-specific training from the Foreign Clearance Guide website prior to any travel abroad.

US EMBASSY

US Ambassador Mark Lippert and the US Embassy in Seoul welcome you to Korea. Assisting Americans overseas is their highest priority, and they look forward to serving you.

American Citizen Services (ACS)

The American Citizen Services (ACS) section accepts applicants for US passports, adjudicates Consular Reports of Birth Abroad (CRBA) for children born to US citizen parent(s) abroad, notarizes documents, offers voting assistance, transmits benefits applications to Social Security, Veterans Affairs and other federal agencies for action, repatriates destitute US citizens, conducts welfare and whereabouts searches, assists the family members of US citizens who die in Korea, and visits US citizens who are arrested for violating the law. For details on ACS services and to download application forms, visit the ACS website, below.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Phone:* 02.397.4114 (In an Emergency) *DSN:* 721.4114 *Email:* SeoulInfoACS@state.gov *Website:* http://seoul.usembassy.gov/acs_citizenship.html

US Embassy Seoul

ACS services at the Embassy are provided by appointment only. Payment for services can be made in cash (US dollars or Korean won) or credit card.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* 188 Sejong-daero, Jongno-gu, Seoul 110-710 *Subway:* Gwanghwamun Station (Subway Line 5, Exit 2) *Website:* http://seoul.usembassy.gov/acs_appt_contacts.html (for appointments) *Hours:* Monday-Friday 8:45-11:15 am and 1:00-3:00 pm (closed Wednesday afternoons, weekends, and American and Korean holidays)

Yongsan, Daegu, and Other Off-site Services

Consular officers provide routine services at USAG Yongsan every Wednesday on a first-come, first-served basis. Off-site services are also offered occasionally in Daegu (including Camp Henry) and Busan. Customers based at Camp Humphreys can apply for passports and Consular Reports of Birth Abroad (CRBAs) directly through the Post Passport Acceptance Agent located in the Transportation Building. USAG Yongsan and off-site locations *only* accept money orders for

payment. Times, dates, and locations for off-site services are subject to change. For latest off-site service schedules, see the website, below.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* Daegu and Busan, locations and hours vary. *Phone:* 02.397.4114 (In an Emergency, 24/7) *DSN:* 721.4114 *Website:* http://seoul.usembassy.gov/acs_off-site.html *Hours:* Wednesday, 9:00 am-11:00 am and 12:30 pm-4:30 pm (Yongsan ACS Building, 2nd Floor)

Passports

ACS encourages all US citizens, including military and dependents, to maintain a valid US passport at all times. Tourist passports are required for personal travel; official or “no-fee” passports should only be used for official travel such as PCS or TDY travel. Always hand-carry your passport when traveling. When you’re out and about, keep your passport in a secure location, such as a hotel safe. If you hold a no-fee passport that contains your SOFA stamp, you will need to carry both the no-fee and tourist passports if you wish to visit a country other than the United States. You must show the no-fee passport to Korean authorities and the tourist passport to authorities in other countries.

Visas

While stationed in Korea, you may wish to take advantage of the wonderful travel opportunities in Asia. Before traveling, be sure to check the entry requirements for each country you plan to visit. In addition to a valid passport, many nearby countries require US citizens to obtain a visa for entry. Some visas may be obtained at the airport upon arrival; others must be obtained at the Embassy of the country you are visiting prior to travel. In addition, many countries require a traveler to hold a passport with at least six months remaining validity and/or two blank pages. For entry requirements of your destination, visit the website below.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* US Department of State’s Bureau of Consular Affairs *Website:* <http://travel.state.gov>

SOFA Stamps

The US Embassy does not issue Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA) stamps. Please see the PCS section of this publication for more information.)

Getting Married in Korea

While consular officers at the Embassy are not authorized to perform marriages, they can assist US citizens with the paperwork necessary for a legal marriage in Korea. There are specific marriage requirements for USFK members. For details, visit the website below.

CONTACT INFORMATION.

Website: http://seoul.usembassy.gov/acs_getting_married.html

Registering a Baby in Korea

The Embassy strongly encourages all US citizens who have children born in Korea to apply for a Consular Report of Birth Abroad (CRBA) and passport as soon as possible after the birth of the child. A CRBA is an official record confirming that the child acquired US citizenship at birth. It can be issued only at a US Embassy or Consulate overseas, and only before the child reaches 18 years of age. For details, visit the website below.

CONTACT INFORMATION.

Website: http://seoul.usembassy.gov/acs_report_of_birth.html

Naturalization and Immigration

The Department of Homeland Security, US Citizenship and Immigration Service (USCIS), maintains an office at US Embassy Seoul. USCIS can assist with issues such as US citizenship, naturalization, and immigration applications for non-US citizen spouses and other family members. USCIS provides services at USAG Yongsan every Wednesday at the same time and location as ACS services (see page 28). For details, visit the website below.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Website: <http://seoul.usembassy.gov/dhs.html>

Staying Safe in Korea

Crime rates in Korea are low compared to the US, but you should never let your guard down. The Embassy has received reports of US citizens who have been victims of crime from petty theft to sexual assault and rape. Conversely, Americans are arrested in Korea every year for violating the laws of the Republic of Korea. Alcohol abuse is often a contributing factor. If you are a victim of crime, first call the police by dialing 112. If you need further assistance, contact the Special

Citizen Services (SCS) Unit at the US Embassy. For more information on crime and staying safe in Korea, please visit the website below.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Location: Special Citizen Services (SCS) Unit at the US Embassy **Website:** <http://travel.state.gov/content/passports/english/country/korea-south.html>

Staying Connected

The Embassy encourages all American citizens overseas to register their whereabouts through the Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP) and to receive the monthly newsletter and email alerts. You can also follow the Embassy on Facebook or Twitter (see below). The Embassy's goal is to reach all US citizens in the Republic of Korea with current security information and other important updates.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Location: State Department's Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP) **Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/americansinkorea> **Twitter:** @SeoulCons **Website:** <http://travel.state.gov/content/passports/english/country/korea-south.html>

US EMBASSY ASSOCIATION

The US Embassy Association (USEA) exists not only for the American Embassy community but also for military members and civilians assigned to or visiting USAG Yongsan. The USEA can accommodate many of your needs such as a comfortable and quiet TDY suite at a low rate on USAG Yongsan. The TDY suite guestrooms contain a queen size bed, sitting room, kitchenette, full bath, cable TV, a DSN telephone and Internet service.

The USEA also offers Event Hall rentals for official functions or private parties for either formal or informal functions. Several options are available which are guaranteed to meet the needs of your meetings and special events. USEA logo items are available for sale in the Main Office.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Location: South Post, Bldg S8105 (next to Starbucks) **Phone:** 02.397.4752 **DSN:** 738.6124 **Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/seoul.usea> **Hours:** Monday-Friday, 8:30 am-5:00 pm (Closed on US and Korean holidays)

Legal Assistance Office

The Yongsan Legal Assistance Office offers a wide variety of legal services in the following areas. Services in a particular listed area may be limited.

- **Family law:** Includes marriage, annulment, legal separation, divorce, financial nonsupport, child custody/visitation, paternity and adoption.
- **Estates:** Wills, living wills, health care powers of attorney, and the designation of beneficiaries under life insurance policies.
- **Real and personal property:** Purchase, sale, or rental of property.
- **Economic issues:** Includes debt, banking, credit and non-government claims.
- **Civilian administrative issues:** Includes immigration and naturalization.
- **Military administrative issues:** Line of duty investigations, reports of survey, evaluation, report appeals and security clearance revocation.
- **Other Services:** Notarization, powers of attorney, passport and visa services, tax services.

Eligibility

The following people are eligible to receive legal assistance at the Yongsan Legal Assistance Office: Active Component (AC) members of the US military and their family members; Reserve Component (RC) service members serving on active duty pursuant to orders and their family members; surviving family members of AC, RC, and retired service members who would be eligible for legal assistance if the service member or retired member were alive; DoD civilian employees and their family members and civilian contractors if the Department of Defense is contractually obligated to provide such assistance. Contractors must provide a copy of their contract or accreditation letter to verify this obligation (not all services are available to contractors).

CONTACT INFORMATION. Location: South Post, Building 4106, Room 229 **Phone:** 0503.338.8111 **DSN:** 738.8111 **Website:** <http://8tharmy.korea.army.mil/sja/clientlegalsvc/>
Hours: Monday, Tuesday 9:30 am-4:30 pm, Wednesday 9:30 am-3:00 pm, Thursday 1:30 pm-3:00 pm, Friday 9:30 am-3:30 pm

Veterans Affairs

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) office at Yongsan is identified as a Benefits Delivery at Discharge (BDD) Center. The Yongsan BDD provides separating and retiring military members of all services the opportunity to start VA claims for service-connected disability compensation before they retire. The VA office offers information on health care, disability compensation, vocational rehabilitation, employment, home loan guaranty, survivors' benefits and insurance. Veterans residing on the Korean peninsula will be served by the regional office in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The correspondence address is Department of Veterans Affairs, Pittsburgh Regional Offices, 1000 Liberty Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15222. If you are already a veteran needing services in Korea, you will be directed to contact the Pittsburgh office.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Location: South Post, Building 4037 **Phone:** 050.3338.5121, 800.827.1000 (toll free) **DSN:** 738.5121 **Website(s):** www.va.gov, www.turbotab.org, www.vba.va.gov **Hours:** Monday-Friday, 8:00-11:00 am and 12:30-4:30 pm

United Services Organization

The USO provides a lounge, cross-cultural school, Good Neighbor Program, language classes, information, referral, and outreach services, and is an excellent place to book tours in Seoul and throughout Korea. You can book many overseas vacations at reasonable prices. The USO also generally has a comprehensive selection of helpful guidebooks and maps. This is a go-to place for information on how to get around town and travel in general. The South Post location offers free Skype phones, free Wi-Fi, and many social activities including free or inexpensive food.

USO AREA OFFICE CONTACT INFORMATION. Location: Camp Kim, Building 1224 **Phone:** 050.3324.3301, 02.795.3028, 02.724.7781 **DSN:** 724.3301 **Hours:** Monday-Saturday, 9:00 am-5:00 pm

USO SEOUL CONTACT INFORMATION. Location: South Post, Building 4034 **Phone:** 050.3323.5364 **DSN:** 723.5364 **Hours:** Monday-Friday 8:00 am-9:00 pm, Saturday 9:00 am-9:00 pm, Sunday 12:00 pm-9:00 pm **Website:** <http://pac.uso.org/Korea/>

REFERENCES: US MILITARY INSTALLATIONS IN KOREA

There are over 50 places in Korea where service members are stationed. Listed below are the main installations. Click on the provided links (where available) to learn more.

Chinhae Navy Base

Chinhae (Jinhae) is on the southern tip of the Korean peninsula and is the site of the only US Navy base in Korea as well as the headquarters for the Korean Navy. *Website:* <http://www.cnmc.navy.mil/chinhae>

USAG Daegu

Daegu is one of the largest cities in Korea and home to Camps Carroll, Henry, George, and Walker. *Website:* <http://www.army.mil/daegu>

K-16

Also known as Seoul Air Base, this small post is located near the city of Seongnam across the Han River just outside of Seoul.

Osan Air Base

This Air Force base is approximately 35 miles south of Seoul. The base is located adjacent to Songtan not the town of Osan. *Website:* <http://www.osan.af.mil>

Suwon Air Base

This small air base is located 17 miles north of Osan Air Base and serves primarily as a Republic of Korea Air Base.

USAG Humphreys/Camps Long and Hovey

The facilities are undergoing vast changes to improve accommodations and services for US military members and their families. *Website:* <http://www.army.mil/humphreys>

USAG Red Cloud/Camp Casey/Area 1

The area north of Seoul up to the demilitarized zone (DMZ) is categorized as Area 1. There are over 40 Army posts in this area including Camps Jackson and Stanley. USAG Red Cloud is located in Uijeongbu. *Website:* <http://www.army.mil/redcloudcasey>

USAG Yongsan

USAG Yongsan is located in the heart of Seoul just north of the Han River and adjacent to Itaewon. Camp Coiner is located adjacent to Main Post USAG Yongsan. Camp Kim is located across from the Main Post through Gate 17 (USO). *Website:* <http://www.army.mil/yongsan>

Housing and Services

HOUSING ASSISTANCE, ON POST

KOHOM Housing Management Office

For Itaewon Acres, Eagle Grove, and Blackhawk Village repairs and requests during business hours. After hours, someone will answer the phone for emergency requests only. Residents in other on post housing should call the emergency repairs number below.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* South Post Building 5530 *Phone:* 050.3336.5210/5211 *DSN:* 736.5210/5211 *Hours:* Monday-Friday 8:00 am-6:00 pm.

Appliance Repairs

For government-issued washers, dryers, refrigerators, dishwashers, and stoves (on and off post).

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Phone:* 050.3336.4034/5570 *DSN:* 736.4034/5570 *Hours:* Monday-Friday 8:00 am-5:00 pm

Emergency Repairs

For 24/7 emergency repairs to on post housing (not including appliances). Also for repairs to government-owned housing during normal business hours.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Phone:* 050.3324.3360/3361/3362 *DSN:* 724.3360/3361/3362

Self Help Center

For simple repairs and improvements, you can rent tools and obtain products at the Self Help Center on South Post. They can also provide contact information for people to assist with heavy lifting or other tasks. This service is only available to residents of housing on post.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* South Post Building 5274 *Phone:* 050.3336.7818/5513 *DSN:* 736.7818/5513 *Hours:* Monday 8:00 am-12:00 pm, Tuesday-Saturday 8:00 am-12:00 pm, 1:00 pm-5:00 pm, closed Sunday and Korean holidays

HOUSING ASSISTANCE, OFF POST

Off post, any issues with housing (such as repairs, disputes, or payments) will usually go through your realtor. Please retain the information you receive from the Off Post Housing brief when you first arrive in Korea, as it may answer some of your questions (See Off Post Housing in the PCS section). If you have problems that cannot

be resolved with your realtor, please contact the Housing Management Office for assistance.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* ACS Building, Second Floor *Phone:* 050.3338.3489/3211 *DSN:* 738.3489/3211 *Email:* tongyun.pak.ln@mail.mil *Hours:* Monday-Friday 8:00 AM-5:00 PM

ROADSIDE ASSISTANCE

There is no equivalent to AAA in Korea that provides roadside assistance to members. Some Korean insurance companies provide roadside assistance, but you will need to check with your specific insurance carrier. If you are in an accident or require urgent roadside assistance, please call the Korean National Police at 02-112. Their English-speaking dispatcher can help to assist you.

For less urgent assistance, contact the Seoul Foreigner Help Line at 1330 (from a cell phone). They may be able to help you find a company who can tow your car to an auto shop or provide other assistance.

For simple car repairs, contact the Car Care Center at Camp Kim to find out if they can provide the service you need. If that service is not available, there are several reliable service providers located near the post. See the Shopping section for a few options.

TELEPHONE SERVICE, ON POST

LG U+ Telecom

LG U+ Telecom provides Internet and telephone service for Government-owned and Government-operated housing.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* Moyer Recreation Center, Building 2259, Room 104 *Point of Contact:* Mr. Kim *Phone:* 050.3323.7023 *DSN:* 723.7023 *Email:* kimkh@lbhonet.com

KT Telecom

KT Telecom provides Internet and telephone service for leased housing on post. You can make bill payments on post at the Business One Stop Center which is located above Starbucks in the Embassy Association building or you can pay at the following locations for a small service fee: 7 Eleven, CU, or any Post Office.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* Exit Gate 14, walk to the main road, and turn right. The office is a short distance up the road on the right. *Point of Contact:* Mr. Kim, Dong Wan (Mike) *Phone:* 02.749.0752, 010.2776.0905 *Email:* dongwan.kim@ktservice.co.kr

DSN Lines

LG U+, located on the first floor of Moyer CAC, offers several different plans as well as Voice Over Internet Protocol (VOIP) phone numbers. This is a US phone number that friends and family can use to call you at US local or long distance rates instead of international rates. You can even request the area code where your family lives, so all calls to you will be local calls.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* LG U+, Building 2320 *Phone:* 050.3338.6900 *DSN:* 738.6900 *Hours:* Monday-Sunday 10:00 am-7:00 pm

TELEPHONE SERVICE, OFF POST

Your telephone/Internet provider will vary. It is often included in your rent or utilities fees. Discuss choices with your rental company or contact one of the above numbers to see if they service your area.

Public Telephones

If you do not have a telephone in your quarters, there are overseas telephone lines available for use at Moyer CAC and at the USO. You can use the phones and pay for calls in dollars, won, or by using pre-paid telephone cards. There are free Skype phones at USO Seoul in Bldg 4034. See the United Services Organization section for contact information. You can also use pre-paid phone cards at all local pay telephones and with Korean cell phones.

Cell Phones

Korea is the most wired country in the world. Only unlocked American cell phones will work in Korea, and vice versa, but you will need to purchase a Korean SIM card and calling plan. Also, an unlocked iPhone from the US will only get 3G service in Korea.

Some Korean cell phone plans also include calls to and from the US at reasonable prices, so check your options before you buy. Some carriers offer a phone number you can call that will connect you to the US without any additional fees.

Unlike in the US, military orders will not allow you to cancel your cell phone contract. If you leave before your contract is complete, you will need to either pay off the remaining months of the plan or sell your plan to someone else. If you take over a contract, you will need to take the phone to the place of purchase and change the payment information associated with the phone.

The US Military and the Korean government require drivers to use a hands free device, no headsets, so if you must take a call while driving, find a safe place to pull over and take the call.

Where to Buy a Phone

Concession Stand in the PX

New and used phones are available, ranging in price from \$50 to \$500. Plans vary with the service and minutes you require. A basic plan starts for as little as \$10 per month plus the cost of the phone. Read all service agreements carefully; some plans charge for all calls made to cell phones operated by other service providers.

The Business Center in the Dragon Hill Lodge

New and used phones with various plans are available. Also offers printing, scanning, and faxing for a fee.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Location: Dragon Hill Lodge Market Square **Phone:** 02.796.7728 **Hours:** Monday-Saturday 9:00 am-8:00 pm, Sunday 9:00 am-5:00 pm

KT Olleh

CONTACT INFORMATION. Location: South Post USO **Phone:** 010.9677.9195 **Hours:** Monday-Friday 9:00 am-7:00 pm, Saturday 10:00 am-6:00 pm

One Stop Center

CONTACT INFORMATION. Location: US Embassy Association building S8105, above Starbucks **Phone:** 02.792.6655 **Hours:** Monday-Friday 9:30 am-8:00 pm

LG U+

CONTACT INFORMATION. Location: US Embassy Association building S8105 **Phone:** 02.796.8577 **Hours:** Monday-Friday 9:30 am-8:00 pm

Prepaid Phone Cards

Pre-paid phone cards to program into the phone are another convenient option. More time can be purchased and added, or have several months programmed in at a time at approximately \$10 minimum per month. Several businesses on post sell phone minutes, including the PX concession and the DHL Business Center, and they will program your phone for you. Ask for details about programming cards and expiration dates when purchasing your phone.

INTERNET, ON POST

Your Internet provider is determined based on where you are assigned quarters. Once the housing office informs you of where you will be living, you can contact the appropriate provider to schedule new service. These numbers may also be used to report service issues/request a service call.

LG U+ Telecom

CONTACT INFORMATION. Location: Moyer Recreation Center, Building 2259, Room 104 **Point of Contact:** Mr. Kim **Phone:** 050.3323.7023 **DSN:** 723.7023 **Email:** kimkh@lghunet.com (for government-owned and government-operated housing)

KT Telecom

CONTACT INFORMATION. Point of Contact: Mr. Kim Dong Wan (Mike) **Phone:** 02.749.0752, 010.2776.0905 **Email:** dongwan.kim@ktservice.co.kr (for leased housing – Eagle Grove, Black Hawk, and Itaewon Acres)

INTERNET, OFF POST

If you live off post, your Internet provider will vary. Sometimes Internet may be included in your monthly rent. You should discuss choices with your rental company.

TELEVISION, ON POST

LG U+ offers Cable TV (CATV) service to those living on post. A variety of American Forces Network (AFN), US channels, and command channels which provide community information and force protection advisories, are available. Weekly schedules for AFN are provided in area publications, such as the *Stars and Stripes*, *Korea Herald*, and *Korea Times*. Pamphlets listing channels offered and fees are available at the LG U+ kiosk at the Moyer Recreation Center. Visit <http://afnpacific.net> for the latest AFN and radio schedule.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Location: South Post, Building S2259 **Phone (Customer Service):** 070.7598.0001 **Phone (Technical Support):** 080.850.1891 **Website (Customer Service):** <https://i-mnet.uplus.co.kr/> **Website (Technical Support):** usfkcscenter@lguplus.co.kr **Hours:** Sunday-Saturday 10:00 am-7:00 pm

TELEVISION, OFF POST

Korean cable television may be included as part of your rent. Ask your realtor to have Korean cable television installed. To receive AFN

programming, personnel living off post will need to lease a decoder box and purchase a Direct to Home (DTH) cable TV satellite dish. Fees include an installation charge and monthly decoder fees. When you purchase your satellite dish and decoder box, PX Customer Service will give you the current contact information for the contracted installation company.

NOTE: Many apartment complexes and rental properties do not permit installation of AFN DTH equipment. Refer to the list provided by the housing office. Review AFN availability carefully before entering into a lease agreement. (Military websites also carry many of the same advisories.) Service members and DoD civilians who rent a property where DTH equipment installation is not available must sign a housing office statement of acknowledgment. If the landlord does allow installation of AFN DTH equipment on his or her property, you must obtain written permission beforehand. The Housing Services Office (HSO) will assist you in getting written permission.

HOUSING SERVICES OFFICE CONTACT INFORMATION. *Phone:* 050.3338.3489/3211
DSN: 738.3489/3211 *E-mail:* tongun.pak.ln@mail.mil *Hours:* Monday-Friday 8:00 am-5:00 pm

Internet Television

Another television viewing option available to both on and off post residents in Korea is via the Internet. Apple TV, Roku, and Amazon Fire are popular here. Some content on Netflix, Hulu, and other streaming services may be restricted due to licensing agreements.

BANKING AND FINANCIAL SERVICES

ATM Access

You may obtain cash or make account inquiries with your credit card or any other ATM card which displays the AFFN or CIRRUS Network logo. Ask your bank about service fees that may apply. Many banks will not charge ATM or currency conversion fees for members on active-duty overseas orders.

Cashing Checks

Many people elect to keep their checking account at a US bank or credit union. The Community Bank will only cash checks if you have an account with them. You may cash checks for up to \$200 at the PX in

the Customer Service section. The 175th Finance office will cash only the first month's rent and security deposit checks.

Changing Coins

People often want to know how to exchange their Korean coins for paper money. Most Korean bank branches near Yongsan have a coin counter available for non-account holders. Some will require that you sort the coins by denomination, especially if you have a large number of coins. Show your coins to the greeter at the door during normal bank hours, and he or she will usually take the coins and put them in the sorting machine for you. You will get a tray with the sorted coins and a paper slip to take to the teller to exchange for bills.

Currency Exchanges

On post banks and ATMs will dispense both US dollars and Korean won. Pay close attention to the current conversion rates to get the best value for your money. There are a number of currency exchange centers off post that will exchange large amounts at varying rates. This service is especially important for those living off post who must pay their monthly rent to their realtor in cash.

Banks

The following financial institutions provide banking services in the USAG Yongsan area. *Note:* The banks on post observe both US and Korean holidays.

Community Bank

Community Bank operates the banking facilities on all posts and bases in Korea with full service banking (direct deposit, won conversion, auto loans (new and used), and ATM access). The Community Bank ATM card offers 24/7 banking with no fees for withdrawing US dollars, Korean won, or balance inquiries. Community Bank offers 13 full-time branches, two part-time offices and a network of 51 ATMs on the peninsula.

ATM Locations

- Dragon Hill Lodge
- PX Community Bank
- Camp Coiner
- Moyer Recreation Center (back entrance)

- Between the Furniture Store and the Movie Theater
- Commissary (outside)
- The Brian Allgood Army Community Hospital

MAIN POST CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* Four Seasons Mini-Mall Building 1446 *Phone:* 050.3324.4725/4726 *DSN:* 724.4725/4726 *Website:* http://www.dodcommunitybank.com/home/customer_service/all_locations/Korea *Hours:* Tuesday-Friday 9:30 am-5:00 pm, Saturday 9:30 am-3:30 pm

SOUTH POST CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* Dragon Hill Lodge *Phone:* 050.3338.3520 *DSN:* 738.3520 *Hours:* Monday-Friday, 9:00 am-3:00 pm

K-16 CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* Building 302 *Phone:* 31.720.6790 *DSN:* 741-6790 *Hours:* Monday-Friday, 9:00 am-4:00 pm

Navy Federal Credit Union

Navy Federal Credit Union offers online banking, credit and debit cards, auto loan, lines of credit, signature loans, CDs and IRAs. There are seven NFCU locations across the peninsula. However, there are no ATM machines serviced by Navy Federal Credit Union on Yongsan.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* Main Post, Building 1479 *Phone:* 050.3325.4053, 050.3325.3282 (for account access) *DSN:* 725.4053, 725.3282 (for account access) *Hours:* Monday-Friday, 9:00 am-4:00 pm (open until 5:00 PM on the 1st and 15th of each month)

USAA

Call USAA and set up a system for local withdrawals at ATMs depending on your needs. The ATM restrictions usually allow only \$500 withdrawals at one time, so you may need to make multiple withdrawals if you need access to large amounts to pay monthly rent.

Korean Banking

There are many Korean banks with branches throughout Seoul. You will not be required to have a Korean bank account unless you have a job on the economy that pays in Korean won. However, some families find it helpful to have a Korean account to facilitate online bill payment (including paying rent). Many (but not all) Korean bank branches will have at least one employee who speaks English well enough to assist you.

Requirements for opening a Korean bank account vary by bank. Korean banks prefer an Alien Registration Card (ARC) to open a new account, but most will allow the use of a passport if you do not have

an ARC. The biggest banks in Korea (and most likely to be able to assist you in English) are Kookmin Bank, Shinhan Financial Group, Woori Financial Group, and KEB Hana Bank. Please visit these individual banks websites for more information on English-language services (including bank branches specifically for foreigners). There is a Shinhan ATM on Yongsan post just inside Gate 21.

POSTAL SERVICES

USPS

The Army Post Office (APO) processes all mail coming from and going to the Armed Forces Pacific, AP, Region. Sending mail to and from this region costs the same as continental US postal rates. Several USPS mail drop boxes are located throughout USAG Yongsan.

General delivery is available for those not serviced by a unit mailroom. Use the contact information below for more information

YONGSAN CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* Between the Library and Gallery, Building 2212 *Phone:* 050.3323.4659/9019 *DSN:* 723.4659/9019 *Hours:* Monday-Friday 9:00 am-5:00 pm, Saturday and Training Holidays, 9:00 am-1:00 pm

K-16 CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* Next to the Commissary, Building 209 *Phone:* 050.3341.6340 *DSN:* 741.6340 *Hours:* Monday-Friday 9:30 am-4:00 pm.

UPS and FedEx

FedEx and UPS deliver to Korea at international rates. There is a FedEx World Service Center in the AAFES Gallery on base. There are 11 UPS shipping centers in Korea, including four in the Seoul area.

YONGSAN FEDEX CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* AAFES Gallery, Building 2209 *Hours:* Monday-Sunday 10:00 am to 6:00 pm

K-16 AREA FEDEX CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* Seongnam Station, (461-855) 1307, Seongnam-daero, Sujeong-gu, Seongnam-si, Gyeonggi-do *Hours:* Monday-Friday 9:30 am-6:00 pm, Saturday 9:30 am-4:00 pm

UPS CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* 232-16 Nonhyun-dong, Gangnam-gu, Seoul *Phone:* 02.517.5522

Korea Post

To ship items within Korea (not including to other military installations), you may need to use the Korean postal service, Korea Post. There are many post drop boxes in the Yongsan area, and the nearest post office is located outside Gate 14 on the right at the intersection with the

main road. Please remember that it is almost never legal to ship goods purchased at the PX or Commissary to non-US military personnel in Korea.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Location: Outside gate 14, 118, Hangang-daero, Yongsan-gu, Seoul **Website:** <http://www.koreapost.go.kr/eng/main/index.jsp>

Suggested Reading

There are countless books available on Korea, its culture, language, and tourist sites. Here is a small selection. All titles are available at www.amazon.com and local booksellers.

Barnet, Beverlee. *Camping in Korean National Parks* (Seoul Selection Guide). Seoul, South Korea: Seoul Selection; 2012.

Bartlett, Ray. *South Korea (Insight Guides)*. 10th Edition. Insight Guides; 2013.

Fehrenbach, T.R. *This Kind of War: The Classic Korean War History*. 50th Anniversary Edition. Dulles, Virginia: Brassey's; 1994.

Kim, Hyung-Geun. *Ask a Korean Dude: An Authoritative and Irreverent Guide to the Korea Experience*. Seoul, South Korea: Seoul Selection; 2012.

Kim, Minkyong and Hilts-Park, Jonathan. *Lonely Planet Korean Phrasebook*. 5th Edition. Lonely Planet; 2012.

Koehler, Robert. *Seoul Selection Guides: KOREA*. Seoul, South Korea: Seoul Selection; 2012.

Koehler, Robert. *Seoul Selection Guides: SEOUL*. Seoul, South Korea: Seoul Selection; 2012.

Richmond, Simon, et al. *Lonely Planet Korea*. 10th Edition. Lonely Planet; 2016.

Holden, Trent and Richmond, Simon *Lonely Planet Seoul*. 8th Edition. Lonely Planet; 2016.



Section Cover Photo:

Dragon Hill Lodge

Photo provided by: Jeanne Green

Planning Your PCS

Congratulations on your assignment to Korea! This section will help you prepare for departure, inform you about what to expect upon arrival and guide you when you plan to move to your next assignment.

Take a trip to your Army Community Service (ACS), Airman & Family Readiness Center, Fleet & Family Support Center or Marine & Family Programs office to sign up for an Overseas Move Class for Korea. If you and your family belong to a service branch other than the Army, inform personnel helping you that Yongsan Garrison (known as USAG Yongsan) is in Seoul, South Korea, and is an Army installation. In addition, be sure to look in your local bookstore or library and online for information (see Resources section).

Your gaining office should automatically assign a sponsor, but sometimes this is unintentionally overlooked. However, Korea is an assignment where a sponsor can be a relocating family's biggest asset. Your sponsor can get your email and/or mailing address, assist with kennel reservations, check availability of quarters, provide you with Internet sites for learning more about relocation, etc. If you have not heard from a sponsor as your move draws near, take the initiative and contact your gaining unit, either by email or telephone, and ask for any sponsorship information they can provide.

PCS TO KOREA: A CHECKLIST

Military.com has checklists to help prepare for a PCS. Below are some Korea-specific suggestions. Though it is hard to anticipate everything you will need to care for prior to departing your current duty station, this checklist will give you some place to start.

If you plan to take extended leave prior to heading to Korea, be sure to take care of time-sensitive items at your last duty station before departing. Once you leave that duty station, it can be difficult to address issues if you are not physically located there any longer.

CHECKLIST: PCS TO KOREA

90 Days Before Departure from Current Duty Station

- Attend an overseas move class for Korea
- Start a "PCS" binder to hold all of your PCS-related documents to hand carry with you. At a minimum, you will want to include:
 - Copies of orders and all amendments (10)
 - Wills (originals)
 - POA(s)
 - Birth certificates (originals)
 - Marriage certificate (original)
 - Shipping documents, including for your vehicle
 - Passports
 - ID cards
 - Driver's licenses
 - Immunization/medical/dental/vision records (including from civilian providers)
 - Pet documents
 - School records
 - Photo inventory of shipped goods
- Sort your possessions into categories: household goods shipment, unaccompanied baggage, baggage for the plane, storage or purge (see Housing, Baggage, and Unaccompanied Baggage sections below for recommendations).
- Obtain Power(s) of Attorney (see Documents below).
- Update wills.
- Contact personnel to obtain a no-fee passport (see Passports below).
- Schedule medical and dental appointments to be completed before your move, including immunization appointments, and request records (see Medical below).
- Determine your preferred timeframes for your household goods and unaccompanied baggage shipments and contact your transportation office for scheduling.
- Complete required maintenance on any vehicle to be shipped and start arranging for shipping (see Vehicles below).
- If you plan to bring your pet(s), determine transport plans. If not bringing your pets, begin to plan for their care while you are away.

60 Days Before Departure from Current Duty Station

- Contact your insurance provider(s) and determine what insurance changes are needed (see Insurance below).
- If needed, renew your drivers' licenses and/or military ID (see Driver's License & ID Requirements below).
- Buy items that will be difficult to obtain in Korea (see Household Goods section below) to include in Unaccompanied Baggage or Household Goods shipments.
- Obtain international drivers' licenses if you plan to drive in Asia (see Driver's License & ID Requirements below).
- Pre-register school-aged children online and obtain school records from current school. (<http://www.dodea.edu/Pacific/Korea/>)

30 Days Before Departure from Current Duty Station

- Make reservations for temporary accommodations when you arrive in Korea (see Accommodations below).
- Make travel arrangements through the Travel Office and review arrival information below for your arrival airport. (NOTE: if you are departing your last duty station earlier than 30 days out (e.g., taking leave between departure from duty station and actually leaving for Korea), you may need to make these arrangements before you leave, as it may be difficult to do so once you are no longer physically collocated with the Travel Office.)
- Submit your change of address with the post office scheduled to start upon your departure (see Mail below).

14 Days Before Departure from Current Duty Station

- Plan your baggage for the plane, including entertainment options for children or any special treats to be opened in route.
- If possible, start shifting your schedule to Korea time (staying up later and sleeping later).
- Use up or give away perishable or opened foods, anything in glass containers, flammable items, aerosols, etc. Check with your shipping company to determine other items they will not pack and ship.
- Download and study the Driver's Study Guide (see Driver's License & ID Requirements below).
- Contact banks/credit card companies for information on fees for international purchases and ATM withdrawals (see Money below).

ACCOMMODATIONS

When you arrive in Korea, the first step is to sign into USAG Yongsan at the 1st Replacement Company. Housing may take some time, so please plan for accommodations either on or off post until your housing is available.

Hotels, On Post

Dragon Hill Lodge

The Dragon Hill Lodge (DHL) is a hotel located on post at USAG Yongsan. Be aware of international rates if you call from the US. The DHL is a vacation destination and although those in PCS status are a priority, room availability may vary depending on demand. If you are assigned to Yongsan, it is recommended to make reservations ahead of time for up to 30 days. If you are assigned to areas other than Yongsan, you may want to make reservations for up to 7 days. If you secure housing sooner than expected, let the front desk know; there are no early departure fees.

The Housing Management Office approves Temporary Lodging Allowance (TLA) in 10-day increments. Please be aware that the DHL does not do direct billing with military finance and hotel costs are to be paid by the service member/family. Receipts will need to be submitted for reimbursement with TLA documentation.

The DHL does not have pet friendly rooms (see the Pets section for more information). If you arrive in Korea outside of the Pet Center hours, the DHL will allow your pets (in their crates) to be stored in their loading dock area until the Pet Center's next business day.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Phone:* 011.822.7918.2222 (CONUS) *Website:* www.dragonhilllodge.com

Hotels, Off Post

You are not required to stay on post. If you prefer, you can choose to stay at a hotel off post. The Dragon Hill Lodge website has a list of hotels in the immediate area of USAG Yongsan (find it under "rooms," then "other information" menu). Please be aware of cancellation policies when you book to avoid any unexpected charges.

COMMAND SPONSORSHIP

Military members eligible to have their family members accompany them in Korea must fill out paperwork requesting Command Sponsorship. Command sponsorship allows dependents to travel and live with the military spouse on base in a foreign country fully funded by the government. Command Sponsorship benefits, requirements, and programs vary by service. Your sponsor should assist you with this process. Note that TRICARE coverage in Korea for secondary adult dependents (an adult dependent other than the spouse living in the home) differs from benefits you may be receiving at your current duty station. Verify the coverage and services you need for all members of your family prior to relocating to Korea. Families choosing to accompany military members without Command Sponsorship will have very limited access to support services such as medical care, schooling, and housing. If you need to apply for Command Sponsorship after arriving in country, contact the Command Sponsorship Program Office.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* Command Sponsorship Office *DSN:* 724.8639 *Website:* http://8tharmy.korea.army.mil/g1_ag/g1/eusa_csp/csp_website.pdf

EXCEPTIONAL FAMILY MEMBER PROGRAM (EFMP)

As part of the overseas screening process, all military family members must be screened through the EFMP office at their Medical Treatment Facility. EFMP is a mandatory enrollment program that works with other military and civilian agencies to provide comprehensive and coordinated medical, educational, housing, community support, and personnel services to families with any special needs. Even if you are accepted for PSC to Korea, it is recommended that you contact the local EFMP office ahead of arrival in country to verify if the services your family requires will be available to you.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* USAG Yongsan, Bldg. 4106 *Phone:* 050.3338.5028 *DSN:* 738.7505/5028 *Int'l:* 8.22.7918,5028

DOCUMENTS

Make sure all necessary documents are up-to-date and copies are given to a trusted friend, relative, or attorney. Hand carry original documents such as birth certificates, marriage licenses, diplomas, and

wills on the plane.

When you apply for your A-3 visa and Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA) stamp, you will need a clear photocopy of the sponsor's ID card and dependent ID cards with the front and back of the card on the same side of the paper. Color photocopies are recommended.

Orders

Always have multiple copies of your orders with amendments, pinpoint orders and any separate orders for family members available for in-processing both at Korean Immigration and on post. At least 10 extra copies are recommended. If you need to make additional copies, your unit or 1st Replacement Company can assist you once you arrive at USAG Yongsan.

Power of Attorney (POA)

It is wise for all service members and their spouses to have a current POA. Remote assignments, deployments, and Noncombatant Evacuation Operations (NEO) requirements make a POA an absolute necessity in Korea. Whether your family will be coming with you to Korea or remaining in the US, it is a good idea to have a POA prepared before leaving your current duty station.

Employment Records

Family members wishing to work in Korea should hand carry proof of previous employment, such as official personnel records, letters of recommendation, pay stubs, etc. Also, bring copies of diplomas, transcripts, and your marriage license to assist in qualifying for Military Spouse Preference. Family members wishing to work on the Korean economy, for instance as an English teacher, should bring their original diplomas, as copies of diplomas are not sufficient for the required E-2 visa. Some employers and colleges require an official, sealed transcript with a signature or stamp along the seal line of the envelope.

School Records

Make sure that copies of all school records are up-to-date and hand-carried. For guidelines on the documents needed for the DoDDS schools on post, see the Education section of this publication. School records (diplomas and/or transcripts) are required to take college-level courses at the university campuses on post.

Mail

Your sponsor or gaining unit should assign a mailing address so you can fill out change of address forms before you PCS. Most people stationed in USAG Yongsan are required to receive personal mail through their workplace. If your sponsor does not proactively provide this, do not hesitate to ask.

DRIVER'S LICENSE AND ID REQUIREMENTS

Driver's License

Make sure that your US driver's license is *current and will remain current* for your entire tour in Korea (and a few months beyond). Most Departments of Motor Vehicles will allow you to renew your license at any time, so it is wise to do this before you leave the US. Within the first thirty days of your arrival, you will need to obtain a United States Forces Korea (USFK) license to drive on post or anywhere in Korea.

International Driver's License

If you plan on extensive travel in Asia (Japan, Malaysia, Indonesia, etc.), it is strongly suggested that you obtain an international driver's license, available through AAA and other vendors. International licenses are available in Korea, but it is easier to obtain one before you arrive.

Identification Card

Your military identification card is your lifeline overseas. You will need this to get on post and gain access to most facilities. Until your ID card is registered in the Defense Biometric Identification System (DBIDS) and a ration card is issued, typically during in-processing, you will need a second form of identification to gain access to post. A copy of your pinpoint orders can be used to gain access to any AAFES facility. For commissary access, you need orders that show the dependents' names, stamped by the ration card office, until your ration card is obtained.

A SOFA stamp can only be issued through to your date eligible to return from overseas (DEROS) or the expiration date of your ID card, whichever is first. If your ID is scheduled to expire during your stay here in Korea, renew it prior to arrival or at the 1st Replacement Company upon your arrival. More information on the SOFA stamp is provided below.

INSURANCE

The two types of insurance most commonly required by service members and their families in Korea are automobile insurance and household goods/personal effects insurance. The insurance company you do business with in the US may also provide coverage in Korea. You should confirm this prior to departing the US. Insurance in Korea is available through USAA, GEICO, and CIGNA. There are also affordable, reputable companies in Korea who will provide coverage to Americans serving here.

Automobile

Automobile liability insurance is required to register a motor vehicle with the Provost Marshal. Check with your insurance company and make sure your auto policies cover living abroad.

Personal Property/Renter's/Homeowner's

Many service members also choose to carry a "renter's policy" to cover their personal property against fire and theft. Also, if you own a home in the US and plan to rent it while overseas, be sure to talk to your insurance company regarding required changes to your homeowner's policy. Check with your insurance company and make sure your renter's/homeowner's policies cover living abroad.

PASSPORT/VISA

Although an active duty service member can generally travel with his or her military ID card accompanied by military orders to the overseas duty station and will be allowed to stay for the full length of the assignment without a visa, all personal travel requires a tourist passport. All family members, including infants, are required to have a passport with a proper Korean A-3 visa and SOFA stamp.

The US government will provide a no-fee passport to all eligible command-sponsored family members. Contact your local personnel office for the proper forms and information. The processing time is generally between six and eight weeks, so begin the process as soon as orders for command sponsorship are approved. Do not depart your losing installation without receiving the no-fee passport.

All family members, civilians, and even newborns must obtain an A-3 visa (which allows for multiple entries into Korea) and SOFA stamp within 90 days upon arrival. Each person in the family (to include the

military member) is encouraged to have a US tourist passport as well. You can obtain a tourist passport through your local US Post Office. This allows you the option to travel in Asia while you are here. Family members may also choose to travel to Korea with their tourist passport instead of a no-fee government passport to avoid having two passports for travel.

Generally, SOFA stamp holders are not required to get a Korean Alien Registration Card (ARC). However, in some circumstances, it may be helpful to have a card. It can make Internet banking easier and make it possible to register for certain types of classes. If you would like to get an ARC, you can fill out a form at the immigration office when you go to get your SOFA stamp.

MEDICAL

Medical, Dental and Vision Evaluations

Complete any upcoming checkups (such as dental cleanings or children's annual pediatric checkups) prior to departing for Korea.

Prescriptions

Fill prescriptions for all family members prior to departing for Korea. Plan to have enough on hand for the journey, any unforeseen delays, and for at least three months after arrival; hand carry them with you.

Immunizations

Contact your stateside medical facility for current information on required immunizations, as these can change; Preventative Medicine is the best clinic to speak with. For information current as of this printing, please see the Medical section of this publication.

MONEY

If you are coming from a major city with banks or private companies that deal in foreign currency, it may be possible for you to buy some Korean won at an advantageous rate

prior to departure. Check online for the current exchange rate in Korea and then compare that to the exchange rates available in the US.

CURRENT EXCHANGE RATES

www.x-rates.com

Once at USAG Yongsan, all the ATM machines dispense your choice of US dollars or Korean won. Be aware of any fees or commissions that could cancel out any advantage of the quoted rate. You will be able to exchange US dollars at the airport, but it is not recommended that you exchange large amounts as this rate is generally not the lowest available. Many people also choose to utilize off post currency exchange offices, which sometimes offer better rates than ATMs.

Credit cards are widely accepted in Seoul, but you should obtain information on international transaction fees from your credit card company prior to departure to avoid unexpected surprises.

PETS

Many people choose to bring their pets to Korea. Be aware, however, that pets are not allowed in the Burke Towers housing complex and in some off post housing. Check with the Housing Office to find out about the availability of housing and whether pets can be accommodated.

Please see the Pets section of this publication for detailed information on transporting your pets, what to expect when you arrive, and how to care for them once you are settled in your new home.

VEHICLES

There are several options available to service members and their families, but regulations vary. Most families are authorized to ship one vehicle. Please keep in mind that a motorcycle counts as personal property and not a vehicle. If your vehicle is financed, you will need permission from the lender to ship your vehicle overseas (contact your lender for specifics). If you are leaving a vehicle in the US, consider providing a special POA to the person keeping the vehicle or make sure that they are authorized to speak on your behalf with your lender and/or insurance company. Contact your insurance provider to find out their requirements and take care of these issues early.

As an alternative, you can purchase a vehicle once you arrive. There are numerous used cars available, and as cars are prone to getting dinged here due to small parking spaces, a “hooptie” (jalopy) vehicle may be a better option.

CHECKLIST: SHIPPING YOUR POV TO KOREA

In order to ship your POV to Korea you will need:

- Official orders
- Proof of entitlement
- Proof of identity
- Proof of ownership, title and/or registration of the car
- If applicable, lien holder shipment authorization letter
- If applicable, lease holder shipment authorization letter
- Power of attorney (if someone other than the service member is dropping the car off for shipment)

For further information, please visit: <https://www.pcsmypov.com>

Shipping Your Belongings

As of February 2009, US Army officials increased the Joint Forces Travel Regulation (JFTR) weight allowance to 50% of household goods to Korea for accompanied tours (there are exceptions by service) and 25% for unaccompanied tours for Army service members. Housing Offices have loaner furniture and appliances available for reporting service members.

Government quarters on post and leased quarters off post have limited storage capacity to accommodate entire JFTR weight allowance if shipped. There is typically *no additional storage space* in off post housing. Contact your servicing Housing Office prior to shipping any household goods for information on storage options.

As you prepare to PCS overseas, you will need to decide what will go into storage, and what will ship. Your belongings will be transported in three groupings: what you bring with you on the plane, an unaccompanied baggage shipment (air cargo), and a household goods shipment (sea cargo). The remainder of your belongings will be put into storage.

HOUSEHOLD GOODS VS. STORAGE

The government allows a percentage of your total weight allowance to be shipped and the remainder of your items will be placed in storage at government expense. Your household goods shipment may take several months to arrive, so consider sending this shipment early. Inventory this shipment very carefully. If you are sending special items, take color photos prior to packing and hand carry those photos to help settle any claims.

It is important to note that if items are in storage and you then move to another overseas location, you may be entitled to have all your items shipped from long-term storage to a new location. However, it is not possible to ship some items and leave some in storage. If you currently have items in long-term storage and wish to have them at your new residence in Korea, note they cannot be released until you have a final address in Korea.

Regardless of your weight allowance, think carefully when deciding what to ship. Bring the things that you cannot live without, but keep in mind that your life may become filled with treasures from Asia. Do not bring things “just in case” you might need them. Housing varies widely, but most quarters are smaller than US homes and have minimal storage space; you can quickly find yourself overcrowded. See Housing in the “Post Arrival in Korea” section below for details on loaner furniture.

LUGGAGE

When you first arrive, you may have to “live out of your luggage” for four to eight weeks or make purchases at the Exchange, Second Hand Rose Thrift Shop, or on the economy. Before you leave the US, find out which of your favorite stores will ship to an APO address and their website addresses. One option is www.shipitAPO.com for businesses that will not ship to an APO.

Each family member should have their own ticket and, therefore, each family member is entitled to luggage. Bring the maximum number of suitcases necessary to ensure you have all you and your children need, but keep in mind you and your family will have to carry all your baggage (including suitcases packed for small children) yourselves, and this can be especially challenging as you go through in processing once you arrive in Korea. What you pack is limited by the baggage weight limits. Check your orders and with your airline about the number

of bags you are allowed per traveler and the weight limit. Some have very generous allowances for those traveling on military orders.

Car seats, booster seats, and strollers can often be checked free or as one of your checked bags. Check with your airline regarding any in-flight car seat requirement for your child’s age, height and weight.

CHECKLIST: BAGGAGE

The following are some suggested “essential” items to include in your *checked baggage*:

- Current seasonal clothes
- Summer: Umbrella and rain boots
- Winter: Warm layers, including a heavy coat, gloves, and hat
- Several pair of comfortable shoes, as you will be doing a lot of walking compared to what is common in the US, especially until your vehicle arrives.

The trip to Korea is a long one regardless of where you are coming from. The following are some suggested “essential” items to include in your *carry-on baggage*:

- Kid-friendly snacks
- Games, toys, and favorite blankets for kids
- Special surprises; parents experienced in long trips recommend having multiple small snacks, books, etc. that the kids can open at intervals throughout the trip to break it up.
- Reading material
- Slippers
- Toiletry kit
- Medications (prescriptions, pain killer/fever reducers, anti-nausea, motion sickness, sleep aid)

UNACCOMPANIED BAGGAGE

Although this shipment, by way of air cargo, could be slightly delayed, it may still be the only shipment you receive for months if you have to live in a hotel or temporary housing until your permanent housing becomes available. Even if you move into your permanent housing right away, your household goods still may not arrive for a few months.

CHECKLIST: UNACCOMPANIED BAGGAGE

While the ACS Loan Closet can help you with some items until your shipment arrives, consider the following items in *unaccompanied baggage*:

- Kitchen and eating necessities, including plates, utensils, measuring cups and spoons, pots and pans (in limited numbers)
- Small appliances such as a microwave oven, mixer, toaster, crock pot, and coffee maker
- Household supplies (broom, vacuum, mop)
- Towels (bath and kitchen)
- Bed linens, including blankets and pillows (loaner furniture bed sizes are extra-long twin and queen)
- Queen/twin size mattress toppers
- Clothing to span the current and next season
- At least one evening dress/suit per adult for various social functions
- Children's items, particularly their favorite games and toys
- Baby furniture and equipment: crib, changing table, jogger stroller, etc.
- Computer equipment
- TV/DVD player and electronic accessories
- Small hand tools (hammer, screwdriver)

HOUSEHOLD GOODS

Household goods is the largest of your shipments. Besides the obvious, consider bringing the following items (see the Shopping section of this publication for information on what may be available for purchase locally in Korea.)

Room Air Cleaners and Filters

Ensure you bring enough filters (or find a website that ships what you need to an APO) for your units to last your entire stay in Korea. These are *extremely* necessary for those with breathing conditions and small children. Some units and filters may be available through the Self Help Center or the Housing Office if you find you need them after arrival, but if you have your own, consider shipping it as availability is sometimes limited.

Small Tools

Saw, impact-hammer drill (important as walls are concrete in most housing), concrete nails, mortar bits, stepladder, screws with anchors, etc. If you are sure you will be in government housing, these tools are available at the Self Help Center on USAG Yongsan but at times are difficult to reserve. You may also contract with individuals at Self Help Center to come and hang items at your home including pictures, curtains, and mirrors.

Baby Items

The Furniture Management Office (part of Housing) does not have cribs, toddler beds, changing tables or any other baby furnishing items to loan. If you have a baby or are expecting, bring baby furniture in your household goods. ACS does have limited supplies of pack 'n play systems available for loan until your baby items arrive.

Specific Clothing Needs

Buying an adequate supply of underwear, bras, and shoes prior to your PCS is recommended – or make sure you can find merchants that carry your items and will ship to an APO. Don't laugh – go into your local Exchange and if they carry the brands, styles, and sizes you prefer, you are in luck; otherwise get shopping! The choices on the economy tend to be for the young and the small. Lack of planning will result in trying to buy these comfort items over the Internet. Clothing on the economy, particularly at the large markets, is relatively inexpensive and plentiful; however, sizes are typically available only for men and women of small build and children's sizes typically run much smaller than American children's sizes.

Sports Equipment

Bring golf clubs, tennis equipment, ski gear, and sports shoes for your children in the next size up if they prefer certain brands. These items are available in Korea, but brands and sizes are limited, so plan ahead. Camping and hiking are also popular activities throughout Korea; if you enjoy the outdoors, bring your gear. If you have large hiking backpacks, they may also be useful when creating your NEO Kit (see NEO Section).

Sewing Machine

Have your machine serviced before you come and bring all essential accessories. Some items can be purchased at the Seoul Fabric Market.

Gas Grill

If you are assigned quarters on post you may be able to have a gas grill at or near your home. Be aware that you cannot ship your own tank (even purged). You can get propane tanks at the Exchange Mini-Mall.

Non-Perishable Food

If you have any specialty dry, non-perishable food items you wish to have in Korea you may consider shipping some in your household goods, but check with your assigned moving company. Some will not allow you to pack any food items, whereas others will allow unopened items in sealed containers. Commissary selections are limited so if you have any special dietary needs (or wants) you can ship these items in your household goods. Be sure to consider your weight limit and any expiration dates when buying ahead for shipment.

Rugs, Carpets, and Curtains

Floors in most quarters are linoleum over concrete, and they are cold. Bringing your own rugs and carpets (and carpet padding) with you. Sturdy window hardware is difficult to find. If you wish to put up curtains in your quarters, consider bringing curtain rods with you.

Holiday Decorations and Home Décor

Pictures, books, and decorative items, especially during holidays, transform a house into a home. Be sure to include plenty of these because they are real morale boosters. Keep in mind, though, that most quarters have walls made of concrete, so hanging items requires special tools. Some holiday decorations and Christmas trees (live trees not available) are available at the Four Seasons or on the economy, but bring enough of your family's favorites to decorate in style.

You may want to downsize the quantity because of the size of your new living and storage space; consider leaving irreplaceable treasures in storage or with family members so pollutants will not damage them.

Craft Supplies

Bring a sufficient quantity of regularly used items especially water-based craft paint which is difficult to find in Korea. USAG Yongsan Arts and Crafts Center does not have facilities for stained glass and does not sell stained glass supplies.

Entertainment Center/Stand

Check with the Housing Office to see if one will be provided with your allotted furniture. It will depend on whether you are authorized

government furniture and may or may not fit your television if you have a large television. If you chose not to ship your entertainment center, consider going to the Furniture Management Office when you arrive and looking at other items that could be used as a television stand including a buffet table.

Mattresses

The loaner mattresses tend to be very hard, and the largest bed available is queen size. It is recommended you bring your own mattress and box springs. For double or king size beds, bring your frame as well. The twin-size beds provided by housing are extra-long, so if you are shipping your standard twin mattress, you will also need to ship your box spring and bed frame or purchase them upon arrival. A feather or other mattress topper (often available at the Exchange) in queen size is a good alternative to shipping your own bed.

Futon/Air Mattress

The Furniture Management Branch provides only enough mattresses and bed furniture for each family member, so bring what you need for potential visitors staying with you.

Dehumidifier/Humidifier

Dehumidifiers are issued at Self Help Center, but quantities are limited. If you have one, consider bringing it. Dehumidifiers are also available on the economy and simple to identify as they have a "hippo" as a logo. Dehumidifiers are a necessity during monsoon season (95% humidity) as they help prevent mold/mildew problems in your house. In the winter, the air can be quite dry. Consider bringing a humidifier to reduce bloody noses and dry coughs.

Fans/Space Heaters

Some housing areas have ceiling fans, but many do not. On post housing has central air and heat. Pedestal fans are available at the Exchange seasonally. Some family housing units have enclosed non-insulated porch areas, so a small space heater is useful if you have one to bring. Air conditioning in off post housing can be very expensive, so consider bringing fans in order to reduce your power consumption.

Router for Wireless Internet

If you have one, bring it. They are also sold at the Exchange or can be ordered online.

Computers and Electronics

When considering whether or not to bring electronic items, note that there is a difference in power on and off post; on post uses (US Standard) 110V power outlets and off post uses 220V.

Check with the manufacturer of your computer or other electronic devices to ensure that you will be able to get parts and service. Technology changes in the blink of an eye and many times a newer, better product may also be cheaper. The Korean Electronics market is close to USAG Yongsan.

Mosquitoes

These pests can be a huge problem in Korea, depending on the amount of rain; they are active from mid-spring well into the winter months. There are some options available on the economy to minimize mosquito problems, but it is recommended that you bring any products that have worked for you in the past. Mosquito nets over beds are helpful, so bring them with you if you can. Although nets can be purchased in the local stores and markets, supplies and styles are often limited.

CHECKLIST: STORAGE

To lighten your shipped weight, and to help you avoid overcrowding once you arrive, consider placing the following items into storage:

- Large pieces of furniture, such as china cabinets; these can be borrowed through the Furniture Management Office
- Very fragile or easily damaged items.
- Large outdoor toys or play sets because storage is an issue, and you may not have a downstairs housing unit or yard to set up the items
- China and crystal dinner services, unless you routinely do formal entertaining
- Major appliances such as a stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, washing machine and dryer as they are furnished by the Housing Office (often, orders will specifically prohibit including appliances in your shipment)

Arrival in Korea

Depending on your travel plans, there are two potential locations where you will enter Korea. If you are traveling on a commercial carrier, you will land at Incheon International Airport just outside of Seoul. If you are travelling on a military carrier (Patriot Express), you will arrive at Osan Air Base.

Do not, under any circumstances, try to bring weapons or contraband into Korea. While the customs inspectors are pleasant and helpful, they are also very thorough. Contraband items such as drugs, weapons, and deer antlers will get you into trouble, not only with the Korean authorities, but also with the Military Police. All weapons should be left in storage.

INCHEON INTERNATIONAL ARRIVAL

There are four main stages to getting through the airport and the process can last an hour or more. Ask for assistance if you run into problems. Airport personnel

INCHEON INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

<http://www.airport.kr/pa/en/a/index.jsp>

often speak English and will help you or find someone who can.

The first stage is travelling from the international gate to the main terminal via the train shuttle. People who know the system will be moving fast to try to beat the crowd, so you may experience some jostling along the way. Keep your sense of humor and be prepared to either wait for the next shuttle or squeeze into the first one. Once you exit the shuttle follow the flow of people toward the Korean Immigration lines. You will stand in single file to wait your turn.

The second stage is Korean Immigration. You will need the Customs Declaration and Arrival Card you filled out on the plane as well as your passport. Service members only need their leave form (DA 31) and ID card ready. **For family members, make sure they stamp your passport with an entry stamp.** This is very important for the purposes of obtaining your SOFA stamp later. It is better to go through Korean Immigration as a family and not individually. A copy of orders is helpful.

The third stage is the customs area, but you will need to get your

luggage first. There are luggage carts available free of charge. Once you have collected your belongings, walk to the customs lines. There will be a couple of selections based on whether or not you have anything that you need to declare.

The fourth stage is going through the automatic doors to the main terminal to meet those there to greet you or to make your way over to the Military Reception Desk to arrange transportation. The Military Reception Desk and USO are located at Gate 1. USAG Yongsan is about 45 miles from the airport and will take about an hour and a half to travel.

All personnel are required to use the military transportation provided at the military reception desk at Gate 1 unless a sponsor has obtained the proper clearance from the 1st Replacement Company to transport the military member. For other branches of service a sponsor will need to pick you up or you can check in and utilize the Military processing transportation bus to USAG Yongsan located at Gate 1. All family members are allowed to accompany the military member on the military processing transportation bus to USAG Yongsan.

Depending on your time of arrival, you may want to find something to eat or drink before leaving the airport. Eating facilities on post are normally closed by 9:00 pm. There is an AAFES Shoppette at the Dragon Hill Lodge with extended hours that will have basic items and snacks available.

Sponsor Pick Up

Sponsor pick up is the best way to have a stress-free arrival to your new home especially if you have pets flying with you. If your sponsor is meeting you, be careful not to follow the military liaisons. They are highly visible and it is easy to get caught up with the flow. Even though they are calling for all military members, you will need to go through the regular lines like any civilian passenger. You will complete the four stages of the airport, described above, and walk out to the arrival area. Your sponsor will have a signed pick-up memo from the 1st Replacement Company Commander or First Sergeant authorizing the PCS pick up and the sponsor should understand that they are required to bring the soldier and accompanying family directly to the 1st Replacement Company for in-processing prior to taking them to lodging.

Traveling with Pets

See the Pets section of this publication for more information regarding transportation of pets. You will need to plan for your pet's arrival before you arrive in Korea, either by having your sponsor pick you up or by arranging a third party transportation service. If your pet was able to fly with you, follow the signs in the luggage carousel area for animal health services. You must have all your pet records available for inspection. After your records and your pet have been cleared, the animal is free to be transported to USAG Yongsan but may *not* use government-provided transportation. If your sponsor is picking you up, you should coordinate with your sponsor to make sure space is available in their vehicle to transport your family, your pet, and your luggage. If you arrive in Korea outside of the Pet Center hours, the Dragon Hill Lodge will allow *registered guests'* pets (in their crates) to be kept in the loading dock area until the Pet Center opens. The Pet Center is not in the immediate area of DHL. Please pack extra food, if you know you are arriving outside of normal hours.

Individual Transportation

All PCSing soldiers are required to ride the shuttle bus to USAG Yongsan for in-processing as provided unless prior authorization has been approved for sponsor pick up. No one is approved for taxi service nor will they be reimbursed (usually stated in the orders).

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* Military Transportation, 1st Replacement Company, Building 4034 *Phone:* 050.3323.4828 *DSN:* 723.4828 *Website:* http://8tharmy.korea.army.mil/g1_ag/WelcomKorea/Arrival_at_Incheon.htm

OSAN AIRBASE (AB) ARRIVAL

Osan AB is a smaller facility and somewhat easier than landing at Incheon. Have your passport, military orders, and customs declaration ready, and you should move quickly from the area where you pick up your baggage through immigration and customs. You are required to follow the same customs regulations as stated above.

See the Pets section of this publication for more information regarding transportation of pets. Your pet can travel on the shuttle from Osan to USAG Yongsan.

Once you have cleared immigration and customs, you will find you

are outside the Osan AB Passenger Terminal. Whether your sponsor or someone from your gaining unit is waiting for you or you are taking the shuttle to USAG Yongsan, be aware that the trip can take anywhere from an hour to several hours depending on traffic conditions.

Post Arrival in Korea

Upon arrival, soldiers will typically be required to present two complete copies of their orders and all amendments, medical, and dental records, and leave form (DA 31), so be sure to have those readily available. Carry your identification card, ration control card (once you obtain it), multiple copies of orders, a power of attorney, and your passport with you wherever you go for the first two weeks.

IN-PROCESSING

All military personnel are required to in-process shortly after arriving in Korea. Locations for in-processing vary depending upon branch of service. Your military liaison or sponsor should know exactly when and where you will need to go for in processing. The following information is provided for your convenience. It is helpful to call before you go to verify information and to check hours of operation. Thursday mornings many offices are closed for training.

US Air Force

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* Air Force Element (AFELM) *Phone:* 050.3323.8538
DSN: 723.8538

US Army

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* 1st Replacement Company (1RC), Building 4034 *Phone:* 050.3323.4828, 050.3323.6452, 050.3323.5617 (2ID NCOIC POC) *DSN:* 723.6452, 723.5617 (2ID NCOIC POC)

US Navy

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* Personnel Support Detachment (PSD) *Phone:* 050.3323.4651 *DSN:* 723.4651

US Marine Corps

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* Administrative Office *Phone:* 050.3323.7032, 050.3323.3385 *DSN:* 723.7032, 723.3385

CHECKLIST: POST ARRIVAL IN KOREA

The following list will help guide you in completion of tasks in a timely manner:

Week One

- Complete in-processing (see In-processing, below)
- Register in Defense Biometrics Identification System (DBIDS) and obtain ration card (see Ration Card, below)
- Register with Housing Office (see Housing, below)
- Once housing is obtained, determine items needed from ACS Loan Closet until your Unaccompanied Baggage and/or Household Goods are delivered
- Once housing is obtained, setup your telephone and Internet services, as desired (see Telephone/Internet)

First Ten Days

- Register your pet with Veterinary Services (See Pets section of this publication) and turn in pet health records (must be done by Day 10)
- Visit Army Community Service (ACS) for a Welcome Packet (See ACS and CYSS section of this publication for contact information)

First 30 Days

- Obtain driver's license (see Driver's License below)
- Set up Korean cell phone service
- Visit the TRICARE office to turn in medical records and register for TRICARE
- Drop off records at the Dental and Optometry clinics
- Register children at CYSS for activities

First 90 Days

- Obtain A-3 visa and Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA) stamp (see SOFA/Visa Stamp, below)
- Participate in the USAG Yongsan Spouse and Civilian Newcomers' Orientation (see Orientation, below)
- Complete a Non-Combatant Evacuation Operations (NEO) packet

DBIDS/Ration Card

One of the first steps following in-processing is to enroll in DBIDS and obtain a ration card (also known as a ration “plate”). The sponsor must be enrolled in DBIDS before family members can be enrolled. You must have your identification card with you to be enrolled. All family members must be enrolled. You must be enrolled in DBIDS before you can register your vehicle or receive your ration control card.

Once you have enrolled in DBIDS, obtain your ration card from the ration control section. You will need a copy of the service member’s orders showing assignment and command sponsorship number, a copy of passports for all family members, and a copy of all ID cards, front and back. The service member must be present to accomplish this task. A POA cannot be substituted for the service member.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Location: 1st Replacement Company, Building 4034 **Phone:** 050.3323.6527

Housing

All service members, regardless of branch of service or status, must in-process with the Housing Office within 48 hours of arrival or completion of in processing with 1st Replacement Company. All DoD civilians eligible for a Living Quarters Allowance (LQA) are also required to in-process with the Housing Office. The Housing Office will work to make your transition into your new home as smooth as possible, whether you are accompanied or unaccompanied. This includes Temporary Lodging Allowance (TLA), which you may be authorized prior to moving into your permanent residence.

All civilians, unless designated as Key Essential Personnel with specific approval to reside on post, are required to live in off post accommodations. The Civilian Personnel Advisory Center (CPAC) will advise you on your Temporary Quarters Subsistence Entitlements (TQSE) and LQA entitlements.

See the Resources section for more information on KOHOM/ Housing, Appliance Repair, and Self Help Center.

Accompanied Housing On Post/Army Family Housing (AFH)

Command sponsored accompanied personnel and certain designated key and essential civilians are housed on post in AFH. Your PCS travel orders will normally state concurrent travel to government quarters and indicate bedroom number authorization and housing

area location. The Housing Office personnel will brief you on projected quarters availability, Temporary Lodging Allowance (TLA) or TQSE and place your name on the appropriate waiting list.

Bedroom authorization is determined by the size of your family. Couples with no children and families (either married couples or single parents) with one child receive two bedroom units. Families with two children generally receive three bedroom units and those with three or more children generally qualify for four or five bedroom units. Be aware that the age and gender of your children will affect the number of bedrooms you are entitled to in Korea, and smaller children may be expected to share a bedroom.

If quarters are not projected to be available within 60 days of your arrival, or if you are granted concurrent travel to economy quarters, you may be authorized to reside off post and receive Overseas Housing Allowance (OHA). Accompanied service members of all ranks and branches, as well as DoD civilians, are strongly advised not to seek economy housing quarters prior to in-processing with the Housing Office.

There are several AFH areas on USAG Yongsan. Below is a description of each type.

TO SEE FLOOR PLANS, VISIT:

<https://www.housing.army.mil/ByInstallation/FloorPlans.aspx?baseId=259>

Helo Acres: Officers in grades O6 and above reside in this area, located between Seoul American Elementary School, Brian Allgood Army Community Hospital, and Gate 14. Quarters are single story duplexes and have all major appliances (including dishwashers), window blinds, air conditioning units, and outdoor storage areas. The majority of these homes have linoleum floor tiles. There is one designated uncovered parking space for each unit and limited visitor parking. Personnel assigned to these housing units may have two domestic pets and are responsible for their care, maintenance, and cleanup.

Watkins Ridge: Command Sergeants Major (CSM) live on South Post behind Burke Towers and Eagle Grove housing areas. Sergeants Major (SGM) may also reside in Watkins Ridge if units are available. These quarters are primarily single story duplexes with some

quadplexes. All units have window air conditioning units, oil heating systems, window blinds, all major appliances (including dishwashers), and outdoor storage areas. The majority of these homes have linoleum floor tiles. There is one designated uncovered parking space for each unit and limited visitor parking. Personnel assigned to these housing units may have two domestic pets and are responsible for their care, maintenance, and clean up.

Burke Towers: This apartment complex is designated for O4/5 and WO4/5. The two five-story towers consist of thirty single story apartments each: twenty three-bedroom units, nine four-bedroom units, and one five-bedroom unit (located on the first floor). Handicapped parking is available near the north tower. There are six elevators per building. Each apartment unit has an assigned underground parking space. Overflow/visitor parking is located in the middle garage between the two towers. Burke Towers' features include central air and heating system, ceiling fans in each room, Pergo no-wax floors, and sliding glass patio doors with vertical blinds. Burke Towers is a no pet housing area and there are no exceptions.

Krzyzowski Hills (Itaewon Acres), Koelsch Grove (Eagle Grove), and Loring Village (Blackhawk Village): These areas consist of multi-family townhouse style units. They are designated for field grade officers (O4/5, and WO4/5). The units consist of two-, three-, or four-bedroom homes. The four-bedroom units are two stories and have ground floor access. The two- and three-bedroom units maybe one story with ground floor access or second floor entrances, or two-story with ground floor entrance. The complexes are located in different areas of USAG Yongsan South Post. The units have central air conditioning and heating, all major appliances (including dishwashers), and mini-blinds on all windows. Each unit has at least one exterior storage area. All units have linoleum floor tiles. There is one designated uncovered parking space for each unit and limited visitor parking. Personnel assigned to these housing units may have two domestic pets and are responsible for their care, maintenance, and clean up.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Location: ACS Building 4106 **Phone:** 050.3338.4069 **DSN:** 738.4069 **Website:** <https://www.housing.army.mil/ByInstallation/FloorPlans.aspx?baseId=259>

Unaccompanied Personnel Housing (UPH)

Unaccompanied personnel of all ranks and branches of service are normally housed in UPH on the installation. Personnel in pay grades of E4 and below will reside in the barracks. Personnel in pay grade of E5 and E6 may reside in barracks if adequate space and privacy criteria are met, or they will reside in the Bachelor Enlisted Quarters (BEQ). Unaccompanied officers and noncommissioned officers in the ranks of E7 and above will be assigned Bachelor Officer Quarters (BOQ) or Senior Enlisted Bachelor Quarters (SEBQ).

Only in the event of adequate quarters being unavailable will an unaccompanied service member be authorized to reside off post. While all UPH meets or exceeds the criteria for square footage, they may not be able to accommodate a full weight allowance of household goods. Full furnishing support is available in all UPH (See Furniture Management Office below).

CONTACT INFORMATION. Phone: 050.3338.8168, 011.822.7918.5506 (CONUS) **DSN:** 738.8168

Furniture Management Office (Loaner Furniture)

If you are an *accompanied military family living on post*, you are authorized full furniture support from the Housing Office regardless of any household goods that you shipped. This means that you will be given loaner furniture to use for the duration of your stay, if you choose to keep it.

If you are an *accompanied military family living off post* and are only entitled to bring partial household goods support, you are authorized furniture support from the Housing Office for your entire tour. If you are entitled to bring full household goods and live off post, you are only authorized furniture support for six months.

Civilian families are only authorized six months furniture support as they are automatically entitled to full household goods shipments.

Off Post Housing

Housing on the economy is plentiful and offers a wide variety of styles, to include many high-rise and villa (five stories or less) apartments, as well as a limited number of duplexes and single-family dwelling units. If you are eligible to reside off post due to non-availability of adequate government quarters, or if you are a DoD civilian, you will be issued a statement of non-availability (SNA) from the Housing Office.

Once you receive an SNA, you will be required to attend an off post housing briefing. The briefing will provide you a plethora of information about leasing on the economy, such as realtor information, security checklists, utility rates, and housing allowance entitlements.

Service members residing on the economy are entitled to a monthly Overseas Housing Allowance (OHA) and Miscellaneous Housing Allowance (MIHA). The MIHA is provided to help defray the costs of setting up the off post residence. Once you choose your off post unit, the Housing Office will assist you with all the contract negotiations. You may choose to hire a realtor to assist with finding off post housing to ease the selection process and expedite the negotiations with owners.

Note: DO NOT enter into a lease agreement without prior approval from the Housing Office.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Location: 1st Replacement Company (for Off Post Housing Brief) **Hours:** Tuesdays and Thursdays, 3:00 pm

Driver's License (Korean)

A USFK driver's license is required to drive in Korea, even if you are only driving on the installation. A stateside driver's license, orders, and an ID card are required to obtain a driver's license. Prior to taking the test, review USFK PAM 385-2, Guide to Safe Driving in Korea, which can be found online at the link below. Once you have successfully passed the test, you will be required to watch a safety video and then be provided your license. Reservations for driver's license testing must be made at least 24 hours in advance.

Teenagers under the age of 18 with a valid stateside license can be granted driving privileges on post only. Teenagers 16 and over may also apply for a learner's permit while stationed in Korea.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Location: USFK Driver Testing Office ACS, Building 4106, Room 235 **Phone:** 050.3338.5568 **DSN:** 738.5568 **Website:** http://8tharmy.korea.army.mil/g1_ag/WelcomKorea/Driving_In_Korea.htm **Hours:** Testing appointment slots are available at 8:00 am or 1:00 pm

SOFA/Visa Stamp

The A-3 visa and Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA) stamp are required for dependent family members of active duty service members, DoD employees and dependents, and independent contractors and dependents within 90 days of arrival in Korea. When obtained through Korean Immigration after arrival in Korea, the A-3 Visa and

SOFA stamp will be valid for a maximum of two years, but not beyond the sponsor's DEROS date, the expiration date of the passport, or the expiration date of the sponsor or dependent's military ID card, whichever is earliest. Therefore, to avoid a second trip to immigration, you should make sure your ID cards and passports do not expire prior to the sponsor's DEROS date.

The A-3 visa and SOFA stamp can be obtained at the locations listed above. The wait times at the Immigration Offices can be very long (several hours or more), so be sure to check the website above to learn more about documentation requirements in advance so that you arrive prepared. ACS sponsors a shuttle bus to the Mokdong Immigration Office once a month on the first Tuesday of the month, and they require you to sign up in advance. Alternatively, you can take a bus to the Immigration office at Osan AB where wait times might be shorter.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Location: Sejongno Immigration Office; Mokdong Immigration Office; Osan Immigration Office on Osan Air Base **Website:** <http://8tharmy.korea.army.mil/sja/ClientLegalSvc/LegalServices/LegalServices.htm#VisaServices>

Vehicles

Vehicle Processing Center (VPC)

You must contact the VPC to arrange pick up of POVs. You can track your POV by visiting <https://www.pcsmypov.com>. You must also visit the VPC in order to register your POV in Korea. See the checklist for specific documents that will be needed.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Location: Camp Kim (near USO, Gate 17) **Phone:** 02.798.7036 **DSN:** 723-8912 **Fax:** 02.798.7035 **Email:** seoul.vpc@ialpov.us **Website:** <https://www.pcsmypov.com>

CHECKLIST: VEHICLES

To claim your POV, you will need:

- Military identification
- POV shipping document (DD Form 788)
- Two copies of shipping orders
- Power of attorney or letter of authorization (if someone other than the sponsor picks up the vehicle)
- USFK driver's license
- Vehicle registration documents and license plates (see below)

To register your POV, you will need:

- Import document
- USFK driver's license
- Insurance (must be current and in the POV owner's name)
- ID card
- Orders
- Safety inspection
- USFK Form 31EK
- EAPB Form 32

To ship your POV to your next duty station:

- Email or fax your PCS orders or and any documents.
- Make an appointment.
- Fill out the POV appointment worksheet and return it with the following required documents:
 - PCS orders and amendments
 - USFK Vehicle Registration (USFK Form 207)
 - SOFA Korean Customs Import document
 - Bill of sale (if POV purchased in Korea)
 - Title or lien authorization letter (POV to Europe or Hawaii)
- Cancel your registration at your local DMV (with POV appointment worksheet).

For further information on shipping your vehicle, call 02.798.7036, fax 02.798.7035 or Email seoul.vpc@ialpov.us.

PCS From Korea

Before you know it, it will be time to start planning your departure from the Land of Morning Calm. If you plan to take extended leave prior to leaving Korea, be sure to take care of time-sensitive items before departing. Once you leave Korea, it can be difficult to address issues remotely.

CHECKLIST: PCS FROM KOREA

90 Days Prior to Departure

- Complete PCS checklist issued by your command and make at least 10-15 copies of orders (needed during the PCS process). Keep at least one copy of orders in case more copies need to be made.
- Ensure passports do not expire prior to conclusion of travel.
- If transferring to another overseas duty station, overseas medical screening of the service member and any command-sponsored dependents must be completed at Brian Allgood Community Hospital.
- If transferring to another overseas duty station with a pet, contact USAG Yongsan Veterinary Clinic for country-specific requirements. (See Pet section of this publication for more information.)

60 Days Prior to Departure

- Visit the Official Travel Office inside Moyer Recreation Center to arrange travel to next duty station for service member, any command sponsored dependents, and/or pets. A copy of orders will be required.
- Provide Housing Office and realtor/landlord with a copy of orders and schedule on post housing inspections and move-out date. Once the Housing Office has a copy of your order, on post housing pre-move-out inspections can be completed any time prior to the final inspection. (The purpose of the pre-inspection is to notify residents what item(s) should be repaired (if possible) prior to moving.)
- Make a reservation at Dragon Hill Lodge (DHL) to secure lodging prior to departure from Seoul. If moving out of on post housing, service members and dependents are authorized three nights' lodging at DHL prior to your travel date. If moving out of off post housing, service members and command-sponsored dependents are authorized 10 nights' lodging at DHL prior to your travel date.
- Contact Transportation Office to arrange POV shipment. Provide a copy of orders and other paperwork requested by Transportation Office to ship vehicle.



30 Days Prior to Departure

- Contact the Transportation Office to schedule Unaccompanied Baggage and Household Goods shipments. Provide a copy of your orders.
- If not shipping your POV, sell POV prior to travel date or make an arrangement with a trustworthy person to do so if it doesn't sell prior to travel date; discuss the matter with Eighth Army Client Legal Services and exercise extreme caution.
- Contact Internet provider, cell phone provider, cable provider, and any other service providers about terminating service(s).

Within 14 Days of Departure

- Withdraw children from childcare center(s).
- Withdraw children from any CYSS-sponsored activities.
- Notify children's school(s), formally withdraw children, and pick up school record(s).
- Pick up service members'/ dependents' medical and dental records. If anyone has seen an off post dentist, a clearance form signed by that dentist is needed.

Within 7 Days of Departure

- Schedule final on post housing inspection. A final on post housing inspection must be conducted right before turning over the housing clearance from the Self Help Center is required before the final housing inspection. Housing and KOHOM representatives will be present during both inspections.
- Return equipment to service providers, such as modems, cable boxes, remote controls, etc.
- Contact Furniture Management Office if any borrowed furniture needs to be picked up prior to clearing housing/rental property. Contact at least three days prior to desired pickup date; they can remove the furniture after the final housing inspection (on post only).
- Clear on post housing/off post rental property.
- Take pet(s) to airport or seaport to complete pet export form(s) as required by Korean customs regulations. This must be done within three days of travel date. It can be completed on travel date if traveler(s) believe there is enough time to do so before airline travel; this is not recommended for morning flights.
- Return USFK ration card(s) to DBIDS Office. If returning card(s) before travel date, remember that access to commissary and some Exchange-related services will be denied.

Section Cover Photo:

An overview of the ongoing construction taking place at USAG Humphreys.

Photo provided by USAG Humphreys

USFK is in the process of repositioning and consolidating into two enduring hubs south of Seoul, near the cities of Pyeongtaek and Daegu. By moving into these locations, USFK will improve readiness, efficiency, and further enhance its partnership with local communities. The Commander, US Naval Forces Korea (CNFK) will consolidate its forces to Busan and Marine Forces Korea (MARFOR-K) will consolidate its forces to Camp Mujuk. The consolidation of US forces in Korea will support US and South Korean national interests, including a strong combined defense and credible deterrence.

The USFK transformation program is accomplishing the relocation through two major plans: the Yongsan Relocation Plan (YRP) and the Land Partnership Plan (LPP). The Republic of Korea Government (ROKG) funds the YRP agreement to relocate the headquarters of USFK and the United Nations Command (UNC), primarily to Camp Humphreys.

The LLP agreement primarily consolidates forces from north of Seoul to Camp Humphreys, while still providing access to northern training areas and ranges. USFK will thus reduce its theater footprint with all non-enduring sites returning to the Korean government.

USFK manages the \$10.7 billion transformation program already well underway at Camp Humphreys, with more than \$1 billion in current construction. In total, there are 121 projects in the works, which will result in the construction of 655 new facilities.

The transformation efforts underway at Camp Humphreys triple its size from 1,210 to 3,528 acres, with the garrison population growing from approximately 10,000 to 42,000 military, civilian, and family members. Main construction projects include unit headquarters, vehicle maintenance facilities, hangars, soldier quarters, family housing, medical facilities, a military communications complex, a downtown shopping area, schools, child development centers, fitness centers, and numerous other facilities. Construction of new facilities is already underway and many are expected to be completed in FY 2016 including the Dental Clinic (May), new elementary school and middle school (July), Chapel (October), and the Downtown Exchange and Commissary Complex (December).

At end state, Camp Humphreys will be one of the largest Army installations in the region. More information can be found on the Camp Humphreys Facebook page.

CAMP HUMPHREYS RESOURCES

<https://www.facebook.com/usaghumphreys>

<http://www.army.mil/humphreys>



Section Cover Photo:

NEO Exercise Reception

Photo provided by: Sherry Wirth

Force Protection and Emergency Readiness

Korea remains a relatively safe country; however, it is important to be aware of the measures taken to ensure safety during your tour of duty.

US military installations are secure facilities. No one is allowed access to the post without a valid ID card. You must physically hand ID cards to the guards so they are able to view both sides. In addition, only vehicles with proper registration decals are allowed access to the post. Authorized ID card holders may escort visitors and vehicles onto the post.

As with all military installations, USAG Yongsan operates security procedures based upon levels of force protection conditions (FP CON). The FP CON levels change according to the level of threat. Force protection levels range from FP CON Alpha (lowest threat) to FP CON Delta (highest threat). The current FP CON level will generally be posted at the installation gates. For those living on post, the commander's channel is another good source of information for the latest updates.

Demonstrations are periodically held throughout the peninsula. Protesters demonstrate for a variety of reasons, including opposition to the US military presence in Korea. These demonstrations are sometimes held just outside the garrison gates. Military officials publicize warnings affecting those affiliated with the government on the post TV channels, Facebook pages, and radio stations (102.7 FM and 1530 AM). Korean National Police are always present at these demonstrations to provide additional security.

Finally, as with any other large metropolitan city, you should practice common sense when venturing out. The buddy system is highly encouraged, and at times is mandatory. There is a strict curfew from 1:00-5:00 am, seven days a week.

FORCE PROTECTION INFORMATION

<http://www.usfk.mil/Resources/ForceProtection.aspx>

CIVIL DEFENSE DRILLS

South Korea routinely conducts nationwide civil defense drills as part of their emergency readiness plan. The start of the drill is signaled by the sounding of the ROK government's Air Raid Siren System and the exercise lasts 20 to 30 minutes. During the drill, all personnel off post are expected to comply with the directions of the Korean National Police and other ROK government officials. All USAG Yongsan gates are closed to outbound traffic (vehicles and pedestrians) during the exercise, so plan accordingly.

ALERT WARNING SYSTEM

Monthly tests of the Alert Warning System, also known as the "Big Voice," are another part of USAG Yongsan's plan for emergency readiness. You will hear announcements broadcast from speakers across the installation.

Noncombatant Evacuation Operations (NEO)

While Korea is a relatively safe location, it is important that all noncombatants be prepared to evacuate both quickly and safely. Noncombatant Evacuation Operations (NEO) are directed by the US Department of State to evacuate eligible personnel from foreign countries when their lives are endangered by war, natural disaster, or civil unrest. The US Embassy (AMEMB) Seoul designates those authorized evacuation assistance. Those considered noncombatant evacuees include:

US citizens who may be *ordered* to evacuate

- US government civilian employees and dependents
- US Armed Forces family members
- Designated US Armed Forces military personnel

US/non-US citizens who may be *authorized* assistance

- Private US citizens and their dependents
- Legal permanent residents of the US

- Designated foreign national employees of the US Government and their dependents
- Designated foreign nationals

Both command sponsored and non-command sponsored families are eligible for evacuation assistance from Korea. Military members and emergency essential civilian employees are not considered noncombatants and will remain in Korea until directed otherwise.

NEO INFORMATION

For more information on NEO and upcoming Courageous Channel exercises, please visit the following website:

<http://8tharmy.korea.army.mil/NEO/Neo.asp>

NEO WARDEN

Each unit on USAG Yongsan has an assigned NEO warden. All DoD affiliated noncombatants must register for NEO with their NEO warden. To help noncombatants prepare for a possible evacuation, USFK conducts a semi-annual NEO exercise called Courageous Channel. All DoD affiliated noncombatants are required to participate in these exercises in order to rehearse evacuation procedures and to train personnel who support NEO execution. In addition to participating in Courageous Channel, each family is required to maintain a NEO kit that includes important documents, enough food and water for three days, and protective gas masks (issued by the military; the sponsor is to draw a gas mask for each dependent). Your NEO warden will help you and your family prepare your NEO documents and ensure you are ready for the exercise.

NEO KITS

Each person is allowed one airline carry-on and one checked bag with a combined total weight of no more than 66 pounds. Your NEO warden will help you prepare a NEO binder to include in your NEO kit.

CHECKLIST: NEO KITS

Your NEO warden will help you prepare a NEO binder to include in your NEO kit. At a minimum, you should plan to include the following:

Mandatory Items

- Identification Cards
- Passports
- Family Care Plan (single and dual military parents)
- Prepared Forms

Recommended Items (hard to replace items)

- Birth, marriage, and adoption certificates
- Naturalization certificate
- Powers of attorney
- Will
- Insurance policies
- Checkbook, credit cards, financial records
- Vehicle registration and title
- Social security cards
- Tax returns
- Medical records

Each family member (including infants) should have a NEO kit prepared and available in the event of an evacuation. It should include:

- Food and water for three days
- 30 days of medications including prescriptions
- Protective/gas masks
- Blanket
- Change of clothes (warm)
- Toiletries and towel
- Baby and feminine hygiene items
- First aid kit
- Battery operated radio
- Flashlight
- Batteries
- Limited Cash (~\$100-200)
- Comfort item for children

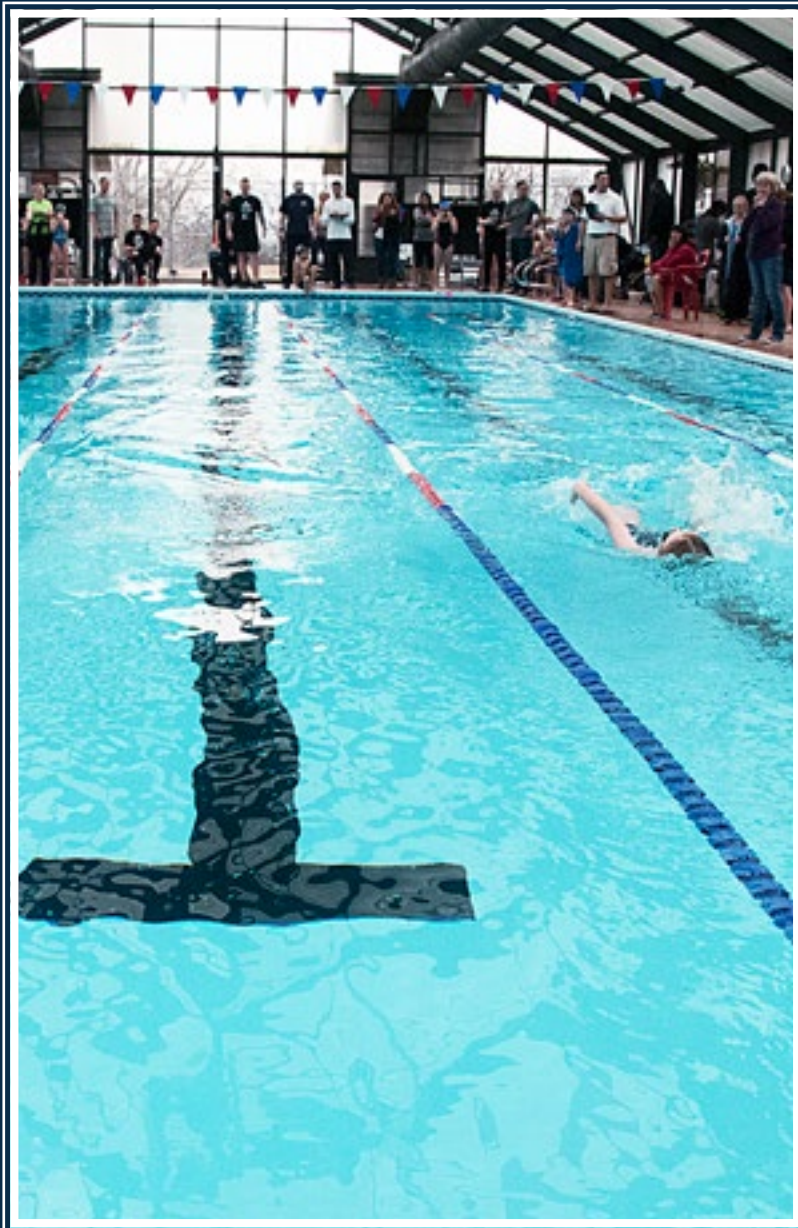
GAS MASKS

Sponsors are responsible for drawing a mask at CIF for each dependent, and for training their dependents on how to use them. Masks are available for both command sponsored and non-command sponsored military dependents as well as US DoD civilians and dependents. They are not available for contractors or technical representatives (the corporation holding the contract must provide the mask).

PET EVACUATION

Evacuation of people takes priority over pets. USFK will make reasonable efforts to evacuate pets of DoD affiliated personnel but pets are likely to be separated from their families during an evacuation. The NEO Tracking System helps reunite pets with their families. Two pets (cats and dogs only) per command-sponsored family are authorized transport in the event of a NEO. All other animals must be evacuated before NEO starts. All unaccompanied/single service member pet owners need to ensure they have a pet care plan. Pets cannot be abandoned.

In the event pet owners decide to transport their pets out of country commercially, all costs associated with commercial transportation are the sole responsibility of the family. If the US government transports a pet on a military or chartered aircraft, the military covers only the cost of transporting the animal from Korea to the first CONUS port of entry. You are responsible for all costs incurred from port site to the family's final destination. Please see your NEO warden for more information.



CHECKLIST: PET NEO PLAN

- Each pet must have its own approved airline carrier that is large enough for them to stand up, turn around, and lay down. Pets cannot be combined into one carrier.
- A valid Rabies Vaccination Certificate plus a copy should be maintained in your PET NEO kit.
- PET NEO card.
- Two completed Veterinary Health Certificates DD2209 (without the veterinary signature or date) in your NEO kit. Any pets leaving Korea will require a veterinarian to sign and date the health certificates before departure.
- Prepare at least 10 days of food supply and medications (if needed) in waterproof containers or ziptop bags.
- Bowls for food and water that do not spill easily.
- A well-fitting collar/harness with ID tag and a good leash.
- Small plastic bags for feces disposal.
- Cat owners need a 10-day supply of litter and a small compact container with lid for litter storage that can fit in the cat kennel to prevent spillage when not in use by the pet in the carrier.
- All pets must have an ISO-compatible microchip and must be registered with the local veterinary treatment facility (VTF).

For additional information and forms, see your local VTF or see the following website:
<http://www.korea.amedd.army.mil/veterinary/index.html>

Section Cover Photo:
Swim Meet at USAG Yongsan
Photo provided by: Sherry Wirth

Army Community Service

Army Community Service (ACS) provides family assistance and support services to military, DoD civilians, contractors and their family members. Welcome packets can be sent to incoming personnel upon request. Programs offered include a Newcomers' Orientation Tour, Korean Language Classes, and a Lending Closet. The following is a list of some of the services provided by ACS.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* South Post, Building 4106 *Phone:* 050.3338.7505 *DSN:* 738.7505 *Facebook:* www.facebook.com/acs.yongsan *Website:* www.mwrkorea.com *Hours:* Monday-Friday 8:00 am-5:00 pm

ARMY EMERGENCY RELIEF (AER)

AER offers financial assistance for rent, food, utilities, emergency travel expenses, and other verified emergencies. AER also provides scholarships for college students and spouses.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Phone:* 050.3338.8861 *DSN:* 738.8861 *Website:* www.aerhq.org

ARMY FAMILY TEAM BUILDING (AFTB)

AFTB was created for family members to ease the challenges associated with military life. AFTB is open to all military and DoD civilian family members. Free classes are available on topics such as stress management, leadership, problem-solving, military benefits, and time management. Master Resilience training and certification is provided.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Phone:* 050.3338.7047 *DSN:* 738.7047

MOBILIZATION AND DEPLOYMENT

ACS provides, upon request, Non-combatant Evacuation Operations (NEO) briefings to units and Family Readiness Groups. ACS also processes families for deployment and coordinates support for families with gaining safe haven areas in accordance with the NEO plan.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Phone:* 050.3338.7047 *DSN:* 738.7047

EMPLOYMENT READINESS

ACS offers assistance with resume writing, employment opportunities and job preparation. See the Employment section of this publication for more information on employment opportunities both on and off post.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Phone:* 050.3338.8977 *DSN:* 738.8977

EXCEPTIONAL FAMILY MEMBER PROGRAM (EFMP)

ACS offers EFMP information and referral, advocacy, support group meetings, respite care information, help in-and out-processing, and command sponsorship information.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Phone:* 050.3338.5028 *DSN:* 738.5028

FAMILY ADVOCACY PROGRAM (FAP)

The Family Advocacy Program is designed to promote effective family functioning through support programs such as marriage and parenting classes, stress management, counseling, referral, and crisis intervention.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Phone:* 050.3338.7790 *DSN:* 738.7790

FINANCIAL READINESS

ACS offers consumer affairs assistance, information and advocacy, financial counseling and budgeting assistance, checkbook management, and personal financial management classes. Group counseling classes are available.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Phone:* 050.3338.8861 *DSN:* 738.8861

MILITARY AND FAMILY LIFE CONSULTATION PROGRAM (MFLC)

MFLC provides short term, situational, and problem-solving counseling to individuals, couples, families, and groups. MFLC is also available on K-16.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Phone:* 010.8697.3926, Available on K-16 on Fridays 010.2143.3874

NEW PARENT SUPPORT

Programs such as childbirth preparation classes, breastfeeding support groups, parenting classes, infant care and massage, single parent support, and a children's playgroup (ages 3 and under) are available.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Phone:* 050.3338.5377 *DSN:* 738.5377

RELOCATION READINESS

ACS provides relocation information to military personnel and families. Support programs include newcomer orientations, welcome packets, Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA) stamp assistance, Korean public transportation classes, passports and visa assistance, non-command-sponsored family member assistance, lending closet, emergency food bank, English and Korean Language classes, and American Sign Language classes.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Phone:* 050.3338.7505 *DSN:* 738.7505

VICTIM ADVOCATE/SEXUAL HARASSMENT/ASSAULT RESPONSE AND PREVENTION (SHARP)

ACS provides information and/or briefings on domestic and child abuse and the prevention of sexual harassment.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Phone:* Spouse/Child Abuse Reporting 24/7 Hotline 050.3364.5997 or 153 Sexual Assault 24/7 Hotline 050.3364.5700 or 158 *DSN:* 737.4101
To request training *Phone:* 050.3338.7194, 050.3338.7505 *DSN:* 738.7194, 738.7505

VOLUNTEERS PROGRAM

Interested parties are directed to volunteer opportunities across the installation and provides information on registering in the Volunteer Management Information System (VMIS).

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Phone:* 050.3338.7186 *DSN:* 738.7186

Child, Youth, and School Services

PARENT AND OUTREACH SERVICES (PARENT CENTRAL)

Child, Youth, and School Services (CYSS) provides quality child and youth development options. CYSS Yongsan services children and youth from six weeks to 18 years old. Programs include the Child Development Center (CDC), Family Child Care (FCC), the School-Age Center (SAC), the Middle School & Teen Center (MSTC), Youth Sports & Fitness, and SKIES Unlimited. Registration is open to active duty military personnel, APF and NAF DoD civilian personnel, reservists on active duty or during inactive duty personnel training, DoD contractors, and their families.

To enroll in any CYSS program, including the CDC, children must first be registered with CYSS at Parent Central. Parent Central is located near Collier Fitness Center. An appointment to register is required. Walk-ins may incur a long wait. Complete the registration packet (available at Parent Central) prior to the appointment. Bring copies of school physicals, PCS orders, and shot records. For quicker processing, also have your DEROS (anticipated date of departure), official email of sponsor, and two emergency contacts with access to post other than parents.

Applicants for childcare may be put on a waiting list. To find out your priority placement and get on the waiting list, call Parent Central.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* South Post, Building 5210 *Phone:* 050.3336.5036, 050.3336.3015, 050.3336.8122 *DSN:* 736.5036, 736.3015, 736.8122 *Email:* yongsanparentcentral@mwrkorea.com *Facebook:* <https://www.facebook.com/Yongsan-CYSS-143504105789800/> *Website:* www.mwrkorea.com *Hours:* Monday-Wednesday and Friday, 8:00 am-5:00 pm, Thursday 10:00 am-5:00 pm, 2nd & 4th Wednesdays 8:00 am-7:00 pm

PARENT'S DAY AND NIGHT OUT

Parent and Outreach Services usually offer weekend care options on one Friday and one Saturday per month for children from six weeks to 11 years old. Payment and reservations must be made ahead of time at Parent Central. Please see monthly Parent and Outreach Services calendar for exact dates, cost and location.

PARENT EDUCATION

CYSS utilizes community resources such as Military Family Life Consultants, CYSS trainers, ACS, and nutritionists to offer monthly training sessions for parents. Instruction is held every third Wednesday of the month at the Child Development Center. Topics include: Teen Power Struggles, Scream Free Parenting, Balancing to Stay Fit, Child Abuse Prevention, and more. Contact Parent Central for more information.

KIDS ON SITE

The Parent and Outreach Services program Kids on Site provides temporary on-site child care. Kids on Site requests are available for functions such as luncheons, unit balls, and Strong Bond retreats. Parents must remain on the premises of any Kids on Site location at all times, and maintain responsibility for their child. Coordination is made in advance through Parent Central.

SKIES UNLIMITED

SKIES Unlimited offers classes for children six weeks to eighteen years of age. All new enrollments for SKIES classes must be done through Parent Central. Classes include various levels of dance, martial arts, piano, Music Together, Teen Babysitter Training, and swim lessons. Class brochures and schedules can be found at Parent Central. Registration and payment for classes is also at Parent Central.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* South Post, Building 4270 *Phone:* 050.3336.5166 *DSN:* 736.5116 *Email:* yongsanskies@mwrkorea.com *Hours:* Monday-Friday, 8:00 am-5:00 pm, Call before visiting.

CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER (CDC)

The Child Development Center (CDC) offers child care options for children six weeks to six years old (Kindergarten). The CDC offers full-time and hourly care (subject to availability). Monthly tuition fees are determined on a sliding scale based on family income. Priority goes to children of single Soldiers and dual military couples. To get on the waiting list for full-time care contact Parent Central. Parents need to attend an orientation and register children at CYSS prior to children receiving care. CYSS requires additional documents to enroll in the CDC. Bring an LES from each working parent and a DD Form 2652

(application for Child Care Fees) to the registration appointment. A completed family care plan is required within 30 days of starting care.

Once registered in CYSS, reservations for hourly care can be made by contacting the CDC, from 8:00 am-5:00 pm.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Location: South Post, Building 4280 **Phone:** 050.3338.3404, 050.3338.3406, 050.3338.3407 **DSN:** 738.3404, 738.3406, 738.3407 **Email:** yongsancdc@mwrkorea.com; **Hours:** Monday-Friday, 5:45 am-6:00 pm

FAMILY CHILDCARE (FCC)

Family Child Care (FCC) homes provide childcare in individual post housing units by certified, trained, military spouses who meet Army-wide standards for childcare provided on military installations. Ages of the children and numbers in care vary per household. For more information, contact the number listed below.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Location: Various locations on the installation **Phone:** 050.3323.8507 **DSN:** 723.8507 **Email:** yongsanfcc@mwrkorea.com **Hours:** Monday-Friday, 8:00 am-5:00 pm

SCHOOL-AGE CENTER (SAC)

The School-Age Center (SAC) offers out-of-school care and activities for children in first through fifth grades. After-school activities include 4-H Clubs, Boys and Girls Club of America activities, and art and fitness programs. A full-day Summer Camp program operates for ten weeks from June-August. Hourly care is also provided when space is available. Reservations can be made by calling the number listed below.

Children in first through fifth grades are able to visit the SAC facility on the first Saturday of each month from noon to 4:00 pm to participate in some of the SAC activities. Priority use is given to children who are not enrolled in the before-and after-school program. Families must be registered with CYSS to participate. Home school families are encouraged to participate and use the center as available.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Location: South Post, Building 4211 **Phone:** 050.3338.4707 **DSN:** 738.4707 **Email:** yongsansas@mwrkorea.com **Hours:** Monday-Friday, 5:45 am-6:00 pm

MIDDLE SCHOOL & TEEN CENTER (MST)

The Middle School & Teen (MST) Program is for youth in sixth through twelfth grades and/or 11-18 years old. The MST program is affiliated with the Boys and Girls Club of America (BGCA) and 4-H organizations.

The MST program is for youth to hang out with friends and take part in various programs, clubs, and activities such as Smart Girls and Club Tech. The MST program has a Youth Technology Lab with computers and school textbooks. The staff is ready to assist youth with homework as well. Video games, DDR machine, pool table, table tennis, and foosball, as well as paints and other arts and crafts supplies are available. Every Thursday there is a free lunch available for high schoolers. Snacks are served daily from 3:30 to 5:00 pm.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Location: South Post, Building 4215/4216 **Phone:** 050.3338.2310 **DSN:** 738.2310 **Email:** yongsanmst@mwrkorea.com

YOUTH SPORTS & FITNESS (YSF)

Youth Sports & Fitness (YSF) provides opportunities for children and youth to be engaged in fun physical activities. YSF programs utilize standardized programs and curricula from the National Alliance for Youth Sports, National 4-H, and Boys and Girls Clubs of America.

Children may participate in sports throughout the year. They include basketball, soccer, volleyball, baseball, flag football, cheerleading, swimming, and a variety of other special activities for youth to develop and enhance their sports abilities.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Location: South Post, Building 4216 **Phone:** 050.3338.5567, 050.3338.8117 **DSN:** 738.5567, 738.8117 **Email:** yongsansports@mwrkorea.com

SCHOOL SUPPORT SERVICES (SSS)

The School Support Services liaison officer addresses educational concerns involving military children. SSS provides assistance with school issues, support during transitions to and from Yongsan, and homeschool support. SSS also administers the Free/Reduced Lunch Program.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Location: South Post Building 5210 **Phone:** 050.3336.5556 **DSN:** 736.5556 **Email:** yongsanschoolsupport@mwrkorea.com **Hours:** 7:30 am-4:30 pm

VOLUNTEERING FOR CYSS PROGRAMS

CYSS is always looking for qualified adult volunteers and coaches for various youth programs. Parents/guardians can assist CYSS by coaching/assistant coaching a Youth Sports & Fitness program, chaperoning a field trip, assisting with a sporting event, directing a play, judging a contest, teaching a craft, leading a special interest group, lifeguarding water activities, or assisting in the computer lab or classroom. Background checks are required for volunteers and take time to process, so plan accordingly. Contact Youth Sports or Parent Central if you would like more information on how to get involved as a volunteer.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* Youth Sports, South Post, Building 4216 and Parent Central, South Post, Building 5210. *Phone:* 050.3338.5567, 050.3338.8117, 050.3336.8122 *DSN:* 738.5567, 738.8117, and 736.8122 *Email:* yongsanparentcentral@mwrkorea.com and yongsansports@mwrkorea.com



Section Cover Photo:

Inside the Subway

Photo provided by: Sherry Wirth

Public Transportation

Using public transportation is critical to personal mobility in a city as densely populated as Seoul. Benefits to using public transportation include less road congestion, added physical activity, and improved air quality. The City of Seoul offers its visitors and residents a top-notch transportation system. It consists of several modes of transportation including subway, bus, and train.

HOW TO USE TRANSIT

In order to effectively use public transportation, you need to know where your trip begins (origin) and where your trip ends (destination). With knowledge of your origin and destination, you can plan your route and decide which modes of transportation are best to use.



Jihachul Subway App: A must-have mobile app for using the Seoul subway. With this app, you can easily plan your route, bookmark favorite stations, receive real-time travel information, and search for nearby stations on a map.



Seoul Bus App: Download the English version of this app for easy route planning and for locating nearby bus stops.

Map Applications such as Google Maps, Apple Maps, Naver, Waze, and Daum are also worth exploring. The usability of these apps will vary depending on your phone model and the language used by the app developer.

Public Transportation 101 (Class from ACS)

- Teaches newcomers how to use the public transportation system.
- Participants practice their skills by taking a field trip from ACS to a tourist attraction in Seoul.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* Army Community Service (ACS) *Phone:* 050.3338.7505 *DSN:* 738.7505

USO Tours

The local chapter of the USO offers a variety of tours. Participating in a tour can be a good way for newcomers to learn the lay of the land in a small group setting. Visit one of the USO centers to learn more.

Grab a Buddy and Go

If you are feeling adventurous or you learn best by trial and error, grab a friend and explore the city using transit. The Visit Korea Tourism website suggests itineraries for Seoul city tours by subway. And a great way to learn a bus route is to simply get on the bus and see where it takes you. You will get the added benefit of being above ground to see the sights. Just make sure to keep a balance on your T-Money card.

T-Money Card

The T-Money card is a reloadable plastic smart card that doubles as an electronic cash card as well as a transportation card; hence the name T-Money. You can use it to pay for trips on the city subway, buses, and trains. You can also use your T-Money card as electronic cash to pay for taxi service, parking, convenience store purchases, and more. To purchase and reload your T-Money card, visit any convenience store such as CU or 7 Eleven, any subway station ticket vending machine, or the Dragon Hill Lodge on USAG Yongsan. The cost of the card is ₩2,500.

There are endless combinations for trips; the T-Money card calculates the best fares based on your trip's distance and modes of transportation. And while single trip tickets are available, T-Money provides a fare discount (₩100) and free transfers. If you use a single-trip ticket, you will need to pay the full basic fare for each transfer. The T-Money card is accepted within the Seoul Metropolitan Region, Busan, Jeju Island, and many provinces and cities in South Korea.



Above: You'll see the T-Money logo everywhere that accepts this payment method. Tap and go! *Image by: Lisa Bond*

SUBWAY & METROPOLITAN RAIL

With nine subway lines, eight rail lines, and 391 stations serving over 20 million people, the Seoul Metro Railway System is one of the largest in the world. The metro covers the entire metropolitan region. Even Camp Red Cloud, Camp Casey, and Osan Air Base are accessible via subway. You can expect the subway to be crowded during peak commute times.

SEOUL METRO RAILWAY SYSTEM INTERACTIVE MAP

<https://www.smrt.co.kr/program/cyberStation/main2.jsp?lang=e#>

Plan Your Trip

Use your Jihachul Subway App to plan your route. You can also plan your route using the interactive online map (see link above). If you are using a paper map, you can easily plan a subway trip using these steps:

- **Step 1: Identify your trip's origin and destination by subway station.** For example, you are staying at the Dragon Hill Lodge and want to visit Namdaemun Market. After a quick Internet search or consulting the Dragon Hill front desk, you learn Namdaemun Market is located at Hoehyeon Station on Subway Line 4, Exit 5. (Usually, addresses in Seoul will include a subway station reference.)
- **Step 2: Find your origin/departure station and line.** From the Dragon Hill Lodge, a nearby subway station is Samgakji on Line 6 and Line 4.
- **Step 3: Find the destination/arrival station and line.** Hoehyeon Station is on Line 4.
- **Step 4: Choose your route.** This trip is a simple one since both the departure and arrival stations are on the same line; in this case, Line 4. Your route will consist of going to Samgakji station and taking Line 4 to Hoehyeon Station.

Fare

The T-Money adult fare for the subway is ₩1,250 for the first 10 km, which is about \$1 to travel up to six miles.

Kids, six years old and younger, ride transit for free. In Seoul, children 7 to 12 years old pay ₩450 and teens 13-18 pay ₩720 won. To qualify for this discount, register your child's T-Money card at a station customer service counter.

Language

Signs and notices in the subway system will be in Korean, English, and other languages.

Hours of Operation

The Seoul Metro operates from about 5:30 am to midnight. Exact times vary by station, so check the subway app for your route

Station Ins and Outs

Once you know your origin and destination, you can proceed to your departure station. First, make sure you are at the correct station for your trip. Each station will have multiple street level entrances. Use the street level marker to verify the station information. Stairs, escalators, and/or elevators will take you into the station.



Above: Match the subway entrance marker at street level to the exit number on the Jihachul Subway App. Image by: Lisa Bond

Enter the Gate

Have your T-Money card in hand and approach the turnstile or subway gate. Note the green arrows and red circles designed to tell the user which gates to pass through. Sometimes these indicators change based on the direction with the most demand at the time. Locate the T-Money reader on your right side. Place the T-Money card on the reader until you hear it beep. The display will show the trip fare at the top and the remaining balance on the bottom. The fare for transfers is zero. If the card does not scan, the turnstile will lock or the gates will close. Try again then ask for assistance from a subway attendant or fellow passenger.

Locate the Platform

Now that you have successfully passed through the gates, it's time to find the platform from which you will arrive and depart. This can require you to go down more levels and walk through hallways to connect to your train. Follow the signs with your line number. Knowing the color of your line will help you locate it quickly. The sign will also list other stations in the direction of travel for that line.



Above: Sign identifying the way to the Line 4 tracks.

Images by: Lisa Bond

Knowing your direction of travel is key to not getting lost. Some lines use the same platform for both directions while other lines use different platforms located in different areas of the station.

Ride the Subway

Trains run frequently in Seoul, so your wait time will be short. You can expect the subway to be crowded during peak commute times. When the subway is crowded, riders will form two lines in front of each set of doors. Once the train arrives, allow the arriving passengers to step off the train, then enter the train. There may be some pushing and shoving during peak times. You can sit or stand anywhere except for the spaces designated for passengers with limited mobility (unless applicable). Generally, subway rides are quiet, and you will notice locals



Above: Signs indicate which way to find your transfer.

Knowing the number and color of the line is helpful.

Image by: Lisa Bond

napping. Silence is encouraged. Inside the train, you will also find a diagram of the line as well as screens indicating the next station. An arrow will appear on the screen to indicate the exit door.

Transfer to Another Line

If a line transfer is required, you will need to exit the train at the transfer station, then locate the color-coded signs on the platform for your next line. Here, again, it is important to know your direction of travel so that you can find the right platform.

Right: Exits are generally designated by a clear circle with a number in the middle. Follow the signs with your exit number.
 Image by: Lisa Bond



Find the Way Out

At your arrival station, you will need to exit the train onto the platform. Now find the signs for “Way Out.” Most stations will have several ways out, so you will need to know your exit number before following the signs. If you do not know your exit number, consult the neighborhood map usually located on platforms and near exit stairwells.

Exit the Gate

Before you arrive at the station exit, you will need to pass through the exit turnstile or gates. With your T-Money card in hand, approach a gate with a green arrow and place the card on the reader. Your subway trip is now closed, the proper fare charged, and you are ready for a free bus transfer if needed.

Leave the Station

Continue to follow the signs for your exit number. Notice which way is north as not all maps are oriented the same way. Knowing which way is north will also help when you are above ground. Stairs, elevators, and escalators will take you above to street level.

Subway Amenities

Subway stations in Seoul have a variety of amenities such as restrooms, shops, convenience stores, eateries, lockers, police stations, lost and found, neighborhood maps, and customer service counters. Some stations connect to underground malls, hotels, or museum entrances. Many subway trains have 4G LTE, Wi-Fi, air conditioning in summer, and heated seats in winter.

SEOUL BUS SYSTEM

BUS TERMINALS

http://english.visitkorea.or.kr/enu/TRP/TP_ENG_5_2.jsp

INTERCITY BUS

www.kobus.co.kr

Armed with your T-Money card and Seoul Bus app, you are ready to use any of the city’s 765 bus routes. Using T-Money, transfers from the subway within 30 minutes are free. Like the subway, the bus system is color-coded, and the fares are based on the distance traveled. The bus stops are clearly marked, and they can be located either adjacent to the sidewalk or in a bus lane corridor in the middle of the larger avenues. Bus schedules are subject to traffic delays. For bus stops serving multiple bus lines, be at the bus shelter corresponding to your bus. Signs at bus stops are often in Korean only. Board at the front of the bus and tap your T-Money card on the reader. Exit using the rear or center door, tap out, and close your trip.

The following describes the different types of buses and routes they run!

Blue Bus

Major thoroughfares and long distances through Seoul. Cash fare is ₩1,300 for the first 10 km (T-Money discount: ₩100); ₩100 for each additional 5 km.

Green Bus

Shorter distances with connections to subway stations and blue bus stops. Cash fare is ₩1,300 for the first 10 km (T-Money discount: ₩100); ₩100 for each additional 5 km.

Maeul Bus (little green bus)

Smaller bus designed to enter residential areas and narrower streets. Cash fare is ₩1,000 for the first 10 km (T-Money discount: ₩100); ₩100 for each additional 5 km.



Above: A bus shelter indicating the stop serves several bus lines.

Image by: Lisa Bond

Red Bus

Express routes from suburbs into the city; make fewer stops, are more comfortable, and have seats for all passengers. Cash fare is ₩2,400 for the first 10 km (T-Money discount: ₩100); ₩100 for each additional 5 km.

Yellow Bus

Travels within the city on a closed circuit route. Cash fare is ₩1,200 for the first 10 km (T-Money discount: ₩100); ₩100 for each additional 5 km.

Seoul City Bus Tour

Like most tourist-friendly cities, Seoul has a hop-on and hop-off bus tour; it is a quick way to see many sights in a short time. A one-day ticket is ₩12,000, and descriptions of the sights are presented via headsets in multiple languages. See <http://en.seoulcitybus.com> for maps and routes.



Above: There are several Seoul City Bus Tour stops near USAG Yongsan, including this stop near Gate 1. Image by: Lisa Bond

Regional Bus Transportation

Now that you know how to get around Yongsan and the city of Seoul, travel to other regions of South Korea via bus is fast, affordable, and comfortable using the regional buses.

Within Seoul, the Express Bus Terminal is the main hub for regional bus travel and connects to a subway station of the same name. Tickets for the buses can be purchased at the ticket counters. Every city has bus terminals that may serve either Express or Intercity buses or both. For a complete breakdown of bus terminal service by city, visit the link on the previous page.

Express Bus

Express buses run long distances on the expressways. An Express bus will generally not stop until it reaches its destination (with the exception of rest area stops). Travelers have the option of booking an Express trip on a regular bus or a luxury bus. The fares vary according to the comfort level of the bus as well as the distance traveled.

Intercity Bus

The other bus option for regional travel is the Intercity bus system. Here travelers also have two options to meet their travel needs. The regular Intercity service is cheaper but with several stops between the origin and destination while the straight Intercity service is more costly but provides a direct bus service with no stops. The fare depends on distance traveled and type of service.

POST/BASE BUS SYSTEM

USAG Yongsan, in partnership with our host nation, offers several bus routes on post as well as to other US military posts and bases.

Moyer Bus Terminal

The Moyer Bus Terminal is located at the Moyer Community Activity Center on Main Post. Buses arriving and departing from here serve USAG Yongsan and other military installations. For the most up-to-date time and fare tables, visit the Moyer Bus Terminal.

USAG Yongsan Post Run

The Post Run bus operates free of charge every 15 minutes during peak commute times, every 20 minutes during low use intervals, and every 30 minutes on weekends and holidays. Each stop on post can be found by locating the bus shelter. Bus shelters have three side walls, a roof, and seating along with a map of the shuttle route and timetable.

To board a Yongsan shuttle bus, be present at the bus shelter a few minutes prior to the scheduled arrival time. Once the bus arrives, allow departing passengers to exit, then board the bus and quickly find a seat. There is no space for storage or cargo. The first row of seats is reserved for passengers with limited mobility. The driver will not depart until passengers are seated, and seat belt use is mandatory. Always use designated pedestrian crosswalks to complete your trip.

Inter-Installation Routes

Buses run, for a small fee, from Yongsan to Osan Air Base, Camp Humphreys, K-16 Airfield, Camp Casey, Camp Red Cloud, and Camp Jackson. Additionally, there is a Medical Bus Service that runs between medical facilities on USAG Yongsan, Camp Walker, Camp Carroll, and Camp Henry. Most buses on these routes have cargo space and will begin loading a few minutes prior to their departure time. For the most up-to-date information on routes, schedules, and to purchase bus tickets, visit the Moyer Bus Terminal.

TRAINS

One of the most dependable forms of travel in Korea is via rail. It is operated by Korail (KTX). Trains depart and arrive on schedule and travel from city center to city center as well as through small towns and rural areas. You can travel the entire peninsula by train. Even some routes within the city of Seoul can be reached via a connection with fewer stops for an additional cost to the T-Money fare. The cost of train travel is determined by the distance traveled and the amenities and luxury level of the train and travel experience. This metropolitan railroad system is integrated into the Seoul subway map and mobile applications. Expect train travel to be comfortable and fast with amenities such as video entertainment, and spacious legroom and travel speeds of up to 300 km per hour.

Korail also offers various passes available to visitors and foreign residents for unlimited train travel on the KTX system for travel on consecutive days. This is a great travel option for those sightseeing and touring the peninsula on vacation. There is even one that includes travel on Japan's network.

The main train stations in Seoul are Seoul Station, Yongsan Station, Cheongnyangni Station, and Yeongdeungpo Station. All have travel centers and ticket counters with English-speaking staff to help with your travel plans.

KORAIL WEBSITE
www.korail.com

AIR TRAVEL

AIRPORT REFERENCES

Incheon International Airport
www.airport.kr

Gimpo International Airport
www.airport.co.kr

City Airport Terminals
<http://www.calt.co.kr/>

Airports

Seoul is serviced by two airports. Both are easily accessible by any means of transportation.

Incheon International Airport

- Airport code: ICN
- Located 50 km west of Seoul
- Primary hub for long haul international flights
- Shopping, dining, and entertainment
- Accessible via non-stop and all-stop trains, limousine buses, taxis, direct expressway
- Parking available; fees vary according to car size, time, and distance from terminal

Gimpo International Airport

- Airport code: GMP
- Located about 15 km west of downtown Seoul
- Domestic air traffic (e.g., to Jeju Island); international flights in the Asia Pacific region
- Shopping, dining, and entertainment
- Easily accessed by car, bus, and train
- Parking available; fees vary according to car size, time, and distance from terminal

City Airport Terminals

City airport terminals allow passengers to check in for flights, conduct passport control, and drop off luggage before leaving the city. For participating airlines and details, check out the links provided above.

USFK Airport Joint Reception Center

When you first arrive in Korea, the USFK Joint Reception Center at Incheon International Airport is where you will proceed after clearing customs and baggage claim. It is located near Terminal Exit 14. There are snack vendors and restrooms nearby. Here you can inquire about military bus transportation to your duty station, especially if your sponsor is not present when you arrive.

Airport Transportation

The Dragon Hill Lodge and 1st Replacement Company (1RC) provide an airport bus at no cost to travelers. It is primarily designed to transport service members on PCS/TDY orders and their families to and from the Dragon Hill Lodge, the Soldier Support Center, and Incheon International Airport. When space is available, those on leisure travel may use this free bus system. Osan Air Base and Kunsan Air Base also provide bus service from Incheon for a fee.



Above: Check the latest timetable and have a backup plan in case the bus is full. *Image by: Lisa Bond*

It will cost at least \$65 to take a taxi from Incheon International Airport to USAG Yongsan. Have an AAFES taxi dispatched to ensure it is authorized on post access. If you take a non-AAFES taxi, you run the risk of being dropped off at the gate with all members of your party and luggage. Larger taxis will cost more, and taxis to installations farther from the airport, such as Osan Air Base, will also cost more. If there are no other alternatives, the Dragon Hill Lodge and USFK Airport Reception Center can assist in dispatching an AAFES taxi or with public transportation.

Space Available Air Travel

Space Available Travel is a program operated by the US Air Force where travelers may use passenger space available on military aircraft at a significant cost savings. See the Travel section of this publication for more information.

BOATS AND PASSENGER FERRIES

Port cities like Incheon, Busan, Mokpo, and Donghae operate passenger ferry terminals. The Visit Korea Tourism site offers a detailed explanation of all terminals. Cruises on the Han offer a unique view of the city. Go to <http://www.elandcruise.com> for more details.

Private Transportation

Private transportation in Seoul will mainly consist of driving your own vehicle, renting one, taking a taxi, walking, and bicycling. The Seoul road

REAL-TIME TRAFFIC INFORMATION

<http://www.spatic.go.kr>

network is a mix of pedestrianized areas, narrow neighborhood streets with little vehicle access, spacious boulevards with ample sidewalks, and freeways carrying large traffic volumes in and out of the city. Walking and riding in a car may seem to provide newcomers from the US a familiar experience, but keep in mind that getting around in a city as densely populated as Seoul presents its own quirks and planning considerations.

PRIVATELY OWNED VEHICLE (POV)

First, find out from your PCS orders or chain of command whether or not you are authorized a POV. If you are shipping a vehicle to Korea, using your POV on the installation for transportation is an option once you have obtained your USFK driver's license. Driving off post, expect to encounter traffic and congestion.

PARKING

On post, parking is adequate. Although parking may not be available immediately next to your destination, you can easily find parking in a nearby lot and walk a short distance to most places of work, shopping areas, and residences on post. Expect full lots at popular spots during peak hours. Parking on the installation is free. Off post, parking is on the street or in underground parking garages.

RENTAL CAR

Avis and Hertz car rental agencies are located on main post at the Moyer CAC. Be sure you have obtained your USFK driver's license. Korean car rental companies off the installation may require an International Driver's Permit along with your USFK driver's license.

TAXI SERVICE

TAXI SERVICES AND FARES

http://asiaenglish.visitkorea.or.kr/ena/TR/TR_EN_5_2.jsp

Taxis are everywhere in Seoul. Getting around in a taxi is fast, safe, and affordable. Taxis come in a variety of sizes with various amenities and can travel long distances. Drivers speak English to varying degrees. Seatbelt use is mandatory.

You can hail a taxi on the street, or, for a small fee, dispatch one. Fares for taxis are calculated based on how the taxi is dispatched, what type of taxi it is, the time of day you are traveling, travel time, and distance. When taxiing in Seoul, payment can be made in Korean won, by credit card, or by T-Money card. In provincial areas, only cash may be accepted. Inform the taxi driver of your payment method at the beginning of your trip.



Above: Taxi stand at the Dragon Hill Lodge.
Image by: Lisa Bond

When arriving at your destination via taxi, it is common to be dropped off at a nearby landmark. For example, the nearest subway station is a useful landmark to know and one the taxi driver will most likely know.

A note about coming on to post in a taxi: If you are in an AAFES taxi, the driver will be able to drive you onto the installation. However, if you are traveling in a non-AAFES taxi, the driver will not be permitted on post, and you (and your cargo) will need to exit the taxi at the gate. The best way to ensure you are in an AAFES taxi is to dispatch one to your pickup location.

AAFES TAXI INFORMATION



Voice or Text: 1544-9080

Text: # pick-up building number # destination # camp name #

Online reservations: www.ftnholdings.com

Smartphone App: AAFES Taxi (see image above)

AAFES contracts with FTN Holdings to provide taxi service on Yongsan and other installations. AAFES taxis are the **only** taxis able to operate on military installations throughout the peninsula. You can request a taxi via phone, text, or using the AAFES smartphone app; you can also reserve a taxi online for long distance trips (fees vary); see the link above.

When you dispatch an AAFES taxi, you will be sent a text message with instructions for which taxi to take. For example, the message may read, "Plz take cab#4304 slv at g21 in 6 min." In other words, "please take cab number 4304, silver in color, at gate 21 in 6 minutes."

There is a basic charge of ₩3,000 for the first 2 km with additional charges for increased distances as well as nighttime and dispatch fees. In addition to Korean won, credit card, and T-Money card, these taxis also accept payment in US dollars. If you use the app, text, or call to dispatch a taxi, there is an additional fee of ₩1,000 (fee does not apply if taxi is accessed at a taxi stand: Dragon Hill Lodge, Moyer CAC, Commissary, and BAACH). Four-passenger taxis as well as vans are available.

For detailed fare, area coverage by installation, and dispatch information, visit the website at the link provided above.

City Taxi Options

Other than dispatching an AAFES taxi, you may find it easier to hail one on the street in the city or call the Korea travel hotline at 02.1330. Listed below are the local taxi options.

Standard Taxi

- Silver, white, or orange
- Metered, can provide receipts, and offers free phone-based interpreter service

Deluxe Taxi

- Black with a yellow sign
- Fare is higher
- Taxi is more spacious with a higher standard of service
- No late-night surcharge
- Found at most busy areas such as hotels, subway stations, bus terminals, major streets

International Taxi

02.1644.2255

<http://www.intltaxi.co.kr/?lang=en>

- Various colors
- Will have “International Taxi” sign on top or on door
- Drivers speak English and/or Japanese
- Reservation only
- Fees can be arranged based on distance, time, or meter
- Can be hired for the day or several hours

Jumbo Taxi

02.888.2000

- Eight passenger vans
- Larger groups or parties with large amounts of luggage
- “Jumbo Taxi” sign on door
- Offer interpretation service

WALKING

USAG Yongsan is a small installation where many destinations are within walking distance from housing and unit work areas. In combination with public transportation, walking is an easy way to get around the city of Seoul. You’ll find a list of installation gates and their nearest transit stops at the end of this section.

Pedestrians should stay on the sidewalks where available. There are some streets in Seoul where there are no sidewalks. Simply keep to the right side and drivers will navigate around you. Walking in Seoul can sometimes mean using underground pedestrian routes or stairs through hilly neighborhoods. One quirk of walking in Seoul is that mopeds and motorized scooters are permitted to use sidewalks. Keep a steady course, and they will ride around you.



Above: Delivery man on a motorbike using the pedestrian crosswalk. Be a vigilant pedestrian. Image by: Lisa Bond

Jaywalking is illegal on and off post and is extremely dangerous in Seoul. Seoul intersections are busy and de-conflict multiple flows of traffic including center bus lanes. It is safest to wait for the pedestrian crossing light. Teach children safe habits such as crossing only at marked crosswalks and intersections.

ENHANCED SECURITY PEDESTRIAN GATES (ESPG)

The Enhanced Security Pedestrian Gates (ESPGs) are unmanned walk-through gates for entering and exiting post. You will use your ID card and fingerprint to gain access. On occasion, these gates may malfunction, so be prepared to walk to another gate or call a taxi. If your card is not accepted multiple times, call or visit DBIDS at 1st Replacement Company. The ESGP system continues to be enhanced to better serve the community.

BICYCLING

Riding a bike is another alternative for both recreation and transportation in the USAG Yongsan area. Bicycle parking is available near many buildings on post. Bicyclists must adhere to the same traffic laws as drivers and have the same rights as drivers. In general, there are standard safety and best practice rules for bicycling. Reference

USFK Regulation 190-1 Motor Vehicle Traffic Supervision Section B-18 for the complete policy. Here are a few guidelines to keep you safe and in compliance:

- Register your bike at the Area Pass and ID Office.
- Wear a helmet (all ages).
- During the day, wear visible upper body clothing.
- At night, wear reflective gear and use front and rear lights.
- Ride on the right side of the roadway and in the direction of car traffic.
- Follow all traffic laws including obeying stop signs and traffic lights.
- Use hand and arm to signal your intent to turn.
- Take extra precaution at intersections.
- Riding on the sidewalk is reserved for children.

While riding on the installation is safe and convenient, only the most intrepid cyclists brave the roads in Seoul. Combining bicycling with transit and walking is one way to get around. You will find bicycle parking throughout the city, especially near subway stations, bus terminals, and other transit interchanges. The subway welcomes bicyclists on the first and last cars of the train outside of peak commuting times. Visit the Military Police Station for the latest information on the rules of the road for bicyclists in Seoul.

Riding your bike on Seoul's many trails is a common activity on the weekend for Seoulites and foreigners alike. These trails may be used by pedestrians and bicycles only. The Han River Trail is one of Seoul's most extensive bike networks. It offers a chance for exercise, leisure, and spectacular views of the city along the river. If you don't have a bike, there are plenty of bike rental kiosks throughout the trail. To learn more about this trail and to pick up a bicycle passport, visit the post bicycle shop (see the Shopping section for contact information).

It is highly recommended that if your weight limit will allow for it, pack your family's bicycles into your unaccompanied/express baggage shipment along with helmets, baskets, and other gear. You will then have two-wheeled transportation as soon as you arrive. A family bike ride along the Han River is a wonderful first memory of Seoul!

USAG Yongsan Gates

For a map with gate locations, see the map at the end of the book.

#	Name	Hours	Drive	Pedestrian	Subway Station	Bus Routes
MAIN POST						
3	MARFOR-K (Marine)	5:00 am - Midnight	Yes	Turnstile	Noksapyeong (6)	110A, 421, 740
16	MP Station	5:00 am - 9:00 pm	Yes	Turnstile	Noksapyeong (6)	100, 150, 151, 152, 421, 500, 501, 502, 504, 506, 507, 605, 750A, 750B, 751, 752, 6001
21	Friendship House (Kimchi Pot)	24/7	No	ESPG	Noksapyeong (6)	02, 03, 143, 401, 406, 9007
SOUTH POST & LOGISTICS READINESS CENTER						
1	Dragon Hill Lodge	24/7	Yes	Turnstile	Noksapyeong (6) Samgakji (4,6)	110A, 421, 740
4	Civilian Personnel Advisory Center (CPAC)	M-F 5:00 am - 9:00 am	Yes	Turnstile (Exit Only)	Noksapyeong (6)	110A, 421, 740
5	Gas Station (Itaewon)	6:00 am - Midnight	No	Turnstile	Noksapyeong (6)	03, 110B, 421
6	Commissary	24/7	Yes	Walk In ¹	Seobbingo GJ Line	100, 143, 401, 406, 740

#	Name	Hours	Drive	Pedestrian	Subway Station	Bus Routes
7	Logistics Readiness Center (TMP)	24/7	Yes	Walk In ¹	Seobbingo (GJ)	100, 143, 401, 406, 740
8	Blackhawk Village	24/7	No	ESPG	Seobbingo (GJ)	100, 405
13	Visitor Center	24/7	Yes	Turnstile	Ichon (4, GJ)	400, 502
14	Hospital	M-F 5:00 am - 6:00 pm	Yes	ESPG	Sinyongsan (4)	100, 150, 151, 152, 500, 501, 504, 506, 507, 605, 750A, 750B, 751, 6001
CAMP KIM & CAMP COINER						
17	Camp Kim	24/7	Yes	Walk In ²	Samgakji (4, 6) Sookmyung (4)	100, 150, 151, 152, 500, 501, 504, 506, 507, 750A, 750B, 751, 752, 6001
18	Camp Coiner	24/7	No	ESPG	Sookmyung (4)	100, 150, 151, 152, 421, 500, 501, 502, 504, 506, 507, 605, 750A, 750B, 751, 752, 6001

#	Name	Hours	Drive	Pedestrian	Subway Station	Bus Routes
19	Camp Coiner Visitor	5:00 am - 1:00 am	Yes	Walk In ²	Sookmyung (4)	202, 400, 605
20	Camp Coiner Hill	24/7	No	ESPG	Sookmyung (4)	202, 400, 605
K-16 AIRFIELD						
	Main Gate	24/7	Yes	Turnstile	Suseo	57, 101, 1007, 5600, 5700, 6900, 9408

¹ Access by walking on the sidewalk to the guard checkpoint

² Access by walking on the road to the guard checkpoint

REFERENCE FOR TAXI DRIVERS

Please take me to the 8th Army Base Dragon Hill Lodge Gate (Gate #1) near the Korean War Memorial.

용산 미군부대 1번 출입문: 삼각지 지역에서 녹사평 역 방향으로, 국방부로 부터 150미터 지나면 녹색 다리 밑에 미군부대 1번 출입문이 있습니다. 다리 밑에 세워 주세요.

Please take me to Incheon Airport.

인천공항으로 가 주세요.

Take me to...

Itaewon	이태원으로 가 주세요.
Namdaemun	남대문으로 가 주세요.
Myeongdong	명동으로 가 주세요.
Dongdaemun	동대문으로 가 주세요.
Insadong	인사동으로 가 주세요.
Yongsan Electronics Market	용산 전자 상가로 가 주세요.

I want to go to (Subway Station Name).

() 지하철 역에 가 주세요.

(Show subway map if available.)

Take me to (a location near a gate):

MARFORK Gate 3	녹사평 지하철 역 1번 출구에 가 주세요.
Visitors Gate 13	이촌 지하철 역 2번 출구에 가 주세요.
Camp Kim/USO 17	용산구 USO에 가 주세요.
Commissary Gate 6	한강중학교에 가 주세요.
Gas Station Gate 5	녹사평 지하철 역 3번 출구에 가 주세요.
Kimchi Pot Gate 21	한신 옹기에 가 주세요.
Camp Coiner Gate 18	숙대입구 지하철 역 4번 출구에 주세요.

Note: Unregistered Korean taxis cannot come on post for any reason. They must drop you by the gate.



Section Cover Photo:

The street by the PX gate covered with Cherry Blossoms

Photo provided by: Jeanne Green

The information in this section is intended to inform you about some of the specific employment requirements and restrictions in place in Korea, and to provide some guidance regarding resources available to help you.

USAG Yongsan has US government, contract, corporate, and volunteer positions available. Spouses of active duty and federal civilian employees have hiring preference upon arrival for all government positions. Employment opportunities are very competitive, so anticipate potential delays in securing a position commensurate with education and/or experience.

Dependents of members of the US armed forces and civilian component are admitted to the Republic of Korea (ROK) under an A-3 visa. Persons in Korea under an A-3 visa are not entitled to be paid for work on the Korean economy without an additional authorization from the Korean government.

EMPLOYMENT RESOURCES

Army and Air Force Exchange Service (AAFES)

<http://odin.aafes.com/employment/default.asp>

Army Community Service (ACS)

South Post, Building 4106

ACS Volunteer Program Coordinator

Phone: 050.3338.3617, DSN: 738.3617

USAG Yongsan Employment Readiness Office

Phone: 050.3338.8977, DSN: 738.8977

Family Childcare (FCC) Program

yongsanfcc@mwrkorea.com

Home-Based Businesses

<http://www.army.mil/e2/c/downloads/403785.pdf>

US Federal Government Jobs

<http://federalgovernmentjobs.us>

USAJOBS

www.usajobs.gov

Employment, On Post

The Family Employment Readiness Program (FERP) assists family members with resume writing, identifying employment opportunities, and preparing for a new job. They sponsor opportunities to meet potential employers face-to-face at Job Fairs several times a year. Ensure you bring clean, accurate copies of your resume and dress appropriately.

USAJOBS is the Federal Government's official source for federal jobs and employment information. However, many government job postings don't show up in USAJOBS. For a more comprehensive list, go to federalgovernmentjobs.us. All jobs here are linked to USAJOBS for the application process, but you may not find them in a search of the USAJOBS website. There are employment opportunities on both sites for US federal civil service, non-appropriated fund (NAF) organizations such as AAFES, Department of Defense Education Activity (DODEA), and other on post organizations.

Substitute teaching positions with DODEA are subject to a background check process that may take two to three months, so plan accordingly. Though posted on USAJOBS, you should start the application process directly with the elementary, middle, or high school. Remember, the school where you submit your application has priority for your services.

Army and Air Force Exchange Service (AAFES) employment opportunities can be found on the AAFES employment website. These include positions at the Post Exchanges and various food courts.

High school age children and older dependents interested in working as baggers may apply in person at the Commissary.

You can also search corporate and university websites to seek out additional employment opportunities.

HOME-BASED BUSINESSES

Home-based businesses (HBB) are another viable employment option. Examples of home-based businesses include independent consultants, individuals offering private lessons, and individuals selling goods or services. HBBs are regulated by the Garrison and subject to written approval by the Garrison Commander.

Another HBB opportunity is to become a Family Childcare (FCC)

provider. Individuals provide childcare in on post housing units. Providers are independent contractors that are certified and trained.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* Main Post, Building 1560 *Phone:* 050.323.8670 *DSN:* 723.8670 *Point of Contact:* Ms. Kyong Hui Pak *Email:* kyonghui.pak.ln@mail.mil *Hours:* Monday 7:00 am-4:00 pm; Tuesday-Friday 7:30 am-4:30 pm

VOLUNTEER WORK

In order to gain experience, build a resume, or to provide vital services to the community, dependents under A-3 visa status may select volunteer work. For more information on volunteer opportunities, contact the ACS Volunteer Program Coordinator.

Employment, Off Post

Dependents with A-3 visas may obtain a work permit in any of eight employment categories. These categories each have a number of qualifications applicants must meet in order to be eligible. The employment status categories are:

- **E-1 Teaching (Professor):** This is for professors of higher education. Requirements include education and experience as a professor of higher education.
- **E-2 Foreign Language Instructor:** This category includes English teachers. Requirements include a bachelor's degree and/or relevant college level educational and/or work experience. Individuals applying for this permit must also be natives of a country where the language they wish to teach is the mother tongue. Proof must be provided of relevant qualifications. The Korean government recently imposed additional requirements including criminal record check by FBI or home state police, health certificate issued by a Korean public health office, and fingerprints.
- **E-3 Research:** This category includes those performing research in the natural sciences or in the development of industry and technology. Requirements include an invitation from a Korean public or private institution to perform work of this nature.
- **E-4 Technology Instruction:** A person possessing professional level knowledge in the natural sciences, or special technical

skills. Requirements include an invitation from a Korean public or private institution to perform instruction of this nature.

- **E-5 Professional Occupation:** This category includes foreign attorneys, accountants, and doctors who are certified in a foreign country and are authorized under Korean law to practice in their field in Korea.
- **E-6 Arts and Performance:** This category includes those engaged in music, the arts, literature, modeling, or other performance activities for profit.
- **E-7 Special Occupations:** This category includes such employment as designated by the Minister of Justice, including work in translation, interpretation, cultural research, etc.
- **E-8 Employed Trainee:** This category is for temporary employment for industrial training purposes.

Employment without proper permission violates Korean law. This includes teaching English to private individuals. Penalties for violation of Korean immigration law may include deportation, prosecution in Korea, fines, and levying of back taxes. A dependent with an A-3 visa may secure employment with a Korean company but the employer must then initiate the necessary paperwork with the Korea Immigration Service (an agency of the Korea Ministry of Justice) to obtain an employment permit for the dependent. The dependent may then visit a local immigration office and obtain the passport employment permit stamp. Once the dependent obtains the proper work permit, he or she may be lawfully employed on the Korean economy. Dependents employed on the Korean economy are subject to the withholding of Korean income taxes from their wages in Korea.

MODELING AND ACTING

Korean companies need people of various ages and nationalities for advertisements, television shows, and movies. Look for job postings on the Internet and Facebook, and apply directly to the agencies seeking models. You may even be approached on the street if you or your children have “the look” they need. You will typically need to provide three to five head shots and you may be asked to submit a short video. You’ll also need to provide size measurements (know your Korean clothing sizes and metric conversions). The modeling company will supply the necessary work visa for each shoot.



Section Cover Photo:

Brian Allgood Army Community Hospital

Photo provided by: Sherry Wirth

For emergency services' contact numbers, please see the Resources section at the beginning of this publication.

TRICARE KOREA CONTACT INFORMATION

The Department of Defense Health Care Program provides health care for military service members and their families around the world. Enrollment forms are available at all military treatment facilities and at the TRICARE Service Center.

USAG Yongsan

121st CSH BAACH, Building 7005, Room 1150
DSN: 737.1433 (TRICARE Service Center)

USAG Humphreys

Building S555, inside the Health Clinic
Phone: 050.3337.2780 DSN: 737.2780

USAG Daegu

Building S221, inside the Wood Clinic on Camp Walker
Phone: 050.3337.2779 DSN: 737.2779

RESOURCES

Patient's Guide to Korean Health Care

http://www.korea.amedd.army.mil/tricare/gen_info/PATIENTS_GUIDE_TO_KOREAN_HEALTH_CARE.pdf

Support Services

Adolescent Substance Abuse Counseling Service (ASACS)

This organization also offers courses and prevention groups in areas of life skills (self-esteem, relationships, and social skills), parenting, and teen anger management. Counselors are also available in the middle school and high school.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* South Post, Building 3792 *Phone:* 050.3338.6816
DSN: 738.6816

Alcohol and Substance Abuse Program (ASAP)

The center offers rehabilitation counseling; individual, family, and group therapy; psychoeducation; and smoking cessation for active duty, DoD civilians, and family members.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Location: South Post, Building 3707 **Phone:** 050.3338.5307, 050.3325.5111 **DSN:** 738.5301, 725.5111 **Hours:** Monday-Friday 7:30 am-4:30 pm

Alcoholics Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous

CONTACT INFORMATION. DSN: 736.5187 **Website:** www.AAinKorea.org

Alcohol Treatment Center

CONTACT INFORMATION. Location: South Post Building T7163 **Phone:** 050.3337.5208 **DSN:** 737.5208

Sexual Assault Prevention (SHARP) 24/7 Assistance

Sexual harassment/abuse should be reported to the USFK Sexual Assault Response Hotline. There are two reporting options for military: Unrestricted or Restricted Reporting. Civilians only have the Unrestricted Reporting option. The following steps apply with Unrestricted Reporting:

- The Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC) or Unit Victim Advocate (UVA) is contacted.
- Command and Law Enforcement are notified.
- SARC and UVA attend to the victim's needs, provide supportive services, and coordinate follow up care with unit and multidisciplinary services.
- Receive acute and follow up medical care.
- Receive counseling.
- Receive legal services.

The following steps apply with Restricted Reporting (can be changed to Unrestricted):

- The SARC, UVA, Healthcare Provider, and/or Chaplin are contacted.
- Command is NOT notified.
- SARC and UVA attend to the victim's needs; provide supportive services, and coordinate follow up care with multidisciplinary services.

- Receive medical care.
- Receive counseling.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Phone: 050.3363.5700, 011.82.53.470.5700 (From US) **DSN:** 158, 763.5700

Suicide Prevention Hotline (Korea-Wide)

CONTACT INFORMATION. Phone: 080.8555.118 **DSN:** 118

DoD Sexual Assault Support (SAFE) Helpline

The DoD Safe Helpline is a confidential and anonymous sexual assault helpline for the DoD community. Users will receive live, one-on-one confidential help with a trained professional. The website also provides vital information about recovering from and reporting sexual assault.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Phone: 877.995.5247 (US toll free); **Website:** www.safehelpline.org

Medical Services, On Post

GENERAL INFORMATION

121st CSH Brian Allgood Army Community Hospital (BAACH)

The hospital provides medical care to active duty military, retirees, and their family members. DoD civilian employees, contractors, and their family members may be seen by doctors at the BAACH based upon space availability.

To make an appointment at one of the clinics, you need to call the central appointment line. You may expect to obtain an appointment for an acute/same day care within 24 hours; open access (same calendar day); routine (7 calendar days); wellness (28 calendar days); and specialty care (28 calendar days).

CONTACT INFORMATION. Location: South Post near Gate 13 (Visitor's Gate, Ichon Subway Station) **Phone:** 050.3337.2273 (Central Appointment Line) **DSN:** 737.CARE (2273) **Hours:** Monday-Friday, 7:00 am-5:00 pm

Priority of Care

- **Priority 1:** Active duty service members
- **Priority 2:** Active duty family members who are enrolled in TRICARE Prime (Command-sponsored family members)
- **Priority 3:** Retirees, their family members, and survivors who are enrolled in TRICARE Prime
- **Priority 4:** Active duty family members who are not enrolled in TRICARE Prime (Non-command-sponsored family members)
- **Priority 5:** All other eligible persons such as DoD civilian employees, contractors, and their family members

HOSPITAL TELEPHONE DIRECTORY

* ALL clinics are closed on Thursdays until 1300 for administrative and training purposes.

Clinic/Office	Telephone	Location	Operating Hours
Alcohol Treatment Center	050.3337.5208 DSN 737.5208	BAACH, Building 3707	Monday-Friday 7:30 am-4:30 pm
Ambulatory Surgical Clinic (ASC)	050.3337.3209 DSN 737.3209/1257	BAACH, 2 nd Floor	Monday-Friday 8:30 am-5:00 pm
Anesthesiology	050.3337.1353 DSN 737.1353/1362	BAACH, 2 nd Floor	Monday-Friday 8:30 am-5:00 pm
Audiology	050.3337.1225 DSN 737.1225/1061	BAACH, 1 st Floor	Monday-Friday 8:30 am-5:00 pm
Behavioral Health (Outpatient Psychiatry)	050.3337.5508 DSN 737.5508/1900	BAACH	Monday-Friday 8:30 am-5:00 pm
Behavioral Health (Inpatient Psychiatry)	050.3337.1386 DSN 737.1386/1387	BAACH	Monday-Friday 8:30 am-5:00 pm
Behavioral Health Clinic Patient Appointments	050.3337.5508 DSN 737.5508	BAACH	Monday-Friday 8:30 am-5:00 pm
Billing Office, Insurance	050.3337.1859 DSN 737.1859	BAACH 1 st Floor, next to PAD	Monday-Friday 8:30 am-5:00 pm
Central Appointment Line	050.3337.2273 DSN 737.2273	BAACH 2 nd Floor	Monday-Friday 7:00 am-5:00 pm

Clinic/Office	Telephone	Location	Operating Hours
Chaplain Services	050.3337.1635 DSN 737.1635/1638	BAACH	Monday-Friday 8:30 am-5:00 pm
Dental Clinic #1	050.3337.9092 050.3325.3063 DSN 737.9092, 725.3063	Building 1665 Next to TMC Main Post	Monday-Friday 7:30 am-4:30 pm Active Duty members only.
Dental Clinic #2	050.3337.9089; 050.3337.9090 DSN 737.9089/9090	Building 5107 Next to 121 Hospital South Post	Monday-Friday 7:30 am-4:30 pm Active Duty and family members over the age of 12
Dental Clinic #3 Peds and Orthodontics	050.3336.5221 DSN 736.5221/5799	Building 3576, Behind Elementary School Cafeteria South Post	Monday-Friday 7:30 am-4:30 pm Family members under the age of 12, orthodontics also available.
Dental Emergency	050.3337.5545 DSN 737.5545/6001	BAACH ER	After Working Hours/Holidays
Dermatology Clinic	050.3337.1172 DSN 737.1172	BAACH	Monday-Friday 8:30 am-5:00 pm
EDIS (Educational and Developmental Intervention Services)	050.3337.1300 DSN 737.1300/1301	BAACH	Monday-Friday 8:30 am-4:30 pm
Ear, Eye, Nose & Throat (EENT)	050.3337.1285 DSN 737.1285	BAACH	Monday-Friday 8:30 am-5:00 pm
Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP)	050.3337.1282 DSN 737.1282/1283	BAACH	Monday-Friday 8:30 am-4:30 pm
Emergency Room (ER) Ambulance Service	050.3337.5545 DSN 737.5545/6001 737.3505	BAACH	24/7

Clinic/Office	Telephone	Location	Operating Hours
Family Advocacy Program	050.3337.1901 DSN 737.1901	BAACH	Monday-Friday 8:30 am-4:30 pm
Immunization Clinic	050.3337.1162 DSN 737.1162	BAACH	Monday-Friday 10:00 am-2:00 pm
Information Desk	050.3337.1411 DSN 737.1411/3085/3155	BAACH	24/7
Intensive Care Unit (ICU)	050.3337.1455 DSN 737.1455/1456	BAACH	Monday-Friday 8:30 am-5:00 pm
Internal Medicine	050.3337.1143 DSN 737.1143	BAACH	Monday-Friday 8:30 am-5:00 pm
Laboratory	050.3337.2062 DSN 737.2062	BAACH	Monday-Friday 8:30 am-5:00 pm 1 st Thursday of the Month Closed 8:00- 9:00 am
Medical Records	050.3337.1856 DSN 737.1856	BAACH	Monday-Friday 8:30 am-5:00 pm
Mental Health Clinic/ Hotline	050.3337.5508 DSN 737.5508	BAACH	Monday-Friday 8:30 am-5:00 pm
Multi-Care Unit	050.3337.5561 DSN 737.5561/1824	BAACH	Monday-Friday 8:30 am-5:00 pm
Neurosurgery	050.3337.1375 DSN 737.1375/1378	BAACH	Monday-Friday 8:30 am-5:00 pm
New Parent Support Home Visit Nurse	050.3338.5311 DSN 738.5311/7034	ACS	Monday-Friday 8:30 am-4:30 pm
Nutrition Clinic	050.3337.1572 DSN 737.1572	BAACH	Monday-Friday 10:00 am-2:00 pm
OB/GYN	050.3337.1310 DSN 737.1310/1311	BAACH	Monday-Friday 8:30 am-5:00 pm
Occupational Health Services	050.3337.1750 DSN 737.1750	BAACH	Monday-Friday 8:30 am-5:00 pm

Clinic/Office	Telephone	Location	Operating Hours
Occupational Health Nurse	050.3337.1746 DSN 737.1746	South Post Building 5477	Monday-Friday 7:30 am-4:30 pm
Occupational Health Nurse	050.3337.6167 DSN 737.6167	BAACH	Monday-Friday 8:30 am-5:00 pm
Operating Room	050.3337.1362 DSN 737.1362/1363	BAACH	Monday-Friday 7:30 am-4:30 pm
Optometry	050.3337.1464 DSN 737.1464	Main Post Building 1625	Monday-Friday 8:30 am-5:00 pm
Oral Surgery	050.3337.8102 DSN 737.8102	BAACH	Monday-Friday 8:30 am-5:00 pm
Orthopedic Surgery	050.3337.1375 DSN 737.1375/1378	BAACH	Monday-Friday 8:30 am-5:00 pm
OT/Physical Therapy/ Physical Medicine	050.3337.1180 DSN 737.1180/1181	BAACH	Monday-Friday 7:30 am-4:30 pm
Pathology	050.3337.2062 DSN 737.2062	BAACH	Monday-Friday 8:30 am-5:00 pm
Patient Administration (PAD)	050.3337.1846 DSN 737.1846/1847	BAACH	Monday-Friday 8:30 am-5:00 pm
Patient Advocacy	050.3337.1125 DSN 737.1125/1126	BAACH	Monday-Friday 8:30 am-4:30 pm
Pediatrics Clinic	050.3337.1144 DSN 737.1144/1145	BAACH	Monday-Friday 8:30 am-5:00 pm
Pharmacy for Inpatient	050.3337.2072 DSN 737.2072/3055	BAACH	Monday-Friday 7:30 am-8:00 pm Saturday, Sunday & Holidays 8:30 am-5:00 pm
Pharmacy for Outpatient	050.3337.2081 DSN 737.2081/2075 737.2070	BAACH	Monday-Friday 7:30 am-6:00pm
Pharmacy for Refill	050.3337.7939 DSN 737.7939	BAACH	Monday-Friday 7:30 am-6:00 pm

Clinic/Office	Telephone	Location	Operating Hours
Podiatry Surgery	050.3337.1180 DSN 737.1180	BAACH	Monday-Friday 8:30 am-5:00 pm
Primary Care Clinic	050.3337.1142 DSN 737.1142	BAACH	Monday-Friday 8:30 am-5:00 pm
Pulmonary Function Tests	050.3337.1579 DSN 737.1579	BAACH	Monday-Friday 8:30 am-5:00 pm
Radiology	050.3337.1476 DSN 737.1476	BAACH	Monday-Friday 8:30 am-5:00 pm
Respiratory Therapy	050.3337.1579 DSN 737.1579/1577	BAACH	Monday-Friday 8:30 am-5:00 pm
Social Work Services (Counseling Behavior)	050.3337.1901 DSN 737.1901	BAACH	Monday-Friday 8:30 am-5:00 pm
Speech Pathology	050.3337.6792 DSN 737.6792	BAACH	Monday-Friday 8:30 am-5:00 pm
Surgical Clinic	050.3337.1237 DSN 737.1237	BAACH	Monday-Friday 8:30 am-5:00 pm
Tobacco Cessation	050.3325.4930 DSN 725.4930/4919	BAACH	Monday-Friday 8:30 am-5:00 pm
Telephone Consult (T.CON) Primary Care Clinic Internal Medicine	050.3337.1011 DSN 737.1011 050.3337.5514 DSN 737.5514	BAACH	24/7
Treasury Office for DoD Civilians	050.3337.1858 DSN 737.1858	BAACH	Monday-Friday 8:30 am-4:30 pm
TRICARE Office for Active Duty FM & Retirees	050.3337.1433 DSN 737.1433/1074	BAACH	Monday-Friday 8:30 am-4:30 pm
TRICARE Dental Clinic	050.3336.5051 DSN 736.5051/1450	BAACH	Monday-Friday 7:30 am-4:30 pm
Veteran Affairs for Medical	050.3338.5121 DSN 738.5121	BAACH	Monday-Friday 8:30 am-4:30 pm

Clinic/Office	Telephone	Location	Operating Hours
Women Infant Care Unit	050.3337.4243 DSN 737.4243	BAACH	Monday-Friday 8:30 am-5:00 pm
Women Infant Care Overseas	050.3337.6074 DSN 737.6074	BAACH	Monday-Friday 8:30 am-5:00 pm
Yongsan Health Clinic (Troop Clinic)	050.3337.1396 DSN 737.1396/1397 DSN 737.1398	Main Post Building 1663	Monday-Friday 7:30 am-4:30 pm

IMMUNIZATION AND DISEASE AWARENESS

Immunizations

For active duty, mandatory immunization requirements will be communicated through the Periodic Health Assessment (PHA) process. DoD family members, DoD civilians, and DoDDS employees should check with your medical treatment facility, healthcare provider, and/or school nurse for recent updates on immunization requirements. Family members/dependents will be screened through the Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP) for overseas travel prior to departure for Korea, and guidance on any immunizations that are required or recommended prior to entering Korea will be provided during that

IMMUNIZATION RESOURCES

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

<http://www.cdc.gov>

American Academy of Pediatrics

<http://www.aap.org>

American Academy of Family Physicians

<http://www.aafp.org>

World Health Organization Immunizations

<http://www.who.int/topics/immunization/en/>

process. For school immunization requirements, visit the DoDEA website at www.dodea.edu.

Diseases

Tuberculosis (TB) is present on the Korean peninsula, and within the Asia region. To test for this disease, it is recommended to have a Purified Protein Derivative (PPD) for tuberculosis infection test prior to coming to Korea, every year while in Korea, and just prior to leaving Korea. This is a mandatory requirement for Active Duty service members and highly recommended for all others. DoDDS and Child Youth and School Services require current proof of PPD testing for registration.

Vector-Borne Diseases are similar to those in the US; diseases transmitted by mosquitoes, mites, ticks and rodents are present in Korea. Japanese Encephalitis is prevalent in the Asia region, and a vaccine is available for all active duty, DoD family members, DoD civilians, and DoDDS employees.

Vivax Malaria is transmitted by mosquitoes and is present at relatively low levels, primarily in areas north of Seoul and near the DMZ. For protection, military personnel should use repellents on exposed skin when in malaria risk areas during hours when mosquitoes are present. As mosquitoes can also bite through clothing, DEET repellent spray can be applied to the outer garments for protection. Soldiers should use permethrin impregnated ACUs during the malaria season.

Common House Mosquito (Culex pipiens) is often found in abundance on military installations, including USAG Yongsan. In Korea, it is not attributed to the transmission of any disease. Populations breed in standing water on and off post and in government housing complexes, making pesticide applications less effective. Mosquitoes are more prevalent at night; they enter houses through air conditioning systems or any small opening (e.g., under the door and through the drains). Bed nets, drain covers, and indoor space sprays (available from the military Self Help Center) are often effective. Korean products including MOGSOL (needs a plug adapter) are available off post at grocery stores.

PHARMACY

Prescriptions obtained from off post providers can be filled at the on post pharmacy only if prescription is written in English.

You may order prescription refills using the automated telephone system (see number below), or on line (see link below).

The pharmacy's busiest time is 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. If possible, visit the pharmacy before or after this period for fastest service and shortest wait times.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Location: BAACH, 1st floor **Phone:** 050.3337.2081, 050.3337.2075, 050.3337.2070 (Outpatient Pharmacy), 050.3337.7939 (Refill Services) **DSN:** 737.7939 (Refill Services) **Website:** <https://www.korea.amedd.army.mil/webapp/rxrefill/default.html> **Hours:** Monday-Friday 7:30 am-6:00 pm, Closed on holidays

PRENATAL CARE

Childbirth Class

Childbirth classes for expectant parents are available through ACS. A New Parent Support Program is also available. This program enhances parent and infant attachment, increases knowledge of early childhood development, and provides support services to allow parents to become nurturing and capable caregivers. Breast pumps are available through TRICARE for both active duty and DoD dependents. Additional information is available at www.tricare.mil/breastpumps. Currently, there is a lactation consultant available through ACS.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Location: ACS, Building 4106 **Phone:** 050.3338.7505 **DSN:** 738.7505

Prenatal Care

Prenatal care is offered on post. Primary care physicians will confirm pregnancy and then refer patients to the OB/GYN clinic in BAACH.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Location: BAACH, OB/GYN Clinic **Phone:** 050.3337.1310 **DSN:** 737.1310, 737.1311 **Hours:** Monday-Friday 8:30 am-5:00 pm

SCHOOL AND SPORTS PHYSICALS

School and sports physicals are provided by appointment at the Pediatrics clinic. If the patient does not have access to the BAACH, physicals from off post physicians are acceptable. Obtain the required physical form from the school or CYSS and have your off post physician complete the form in English.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* BAACH, Pediatrics Clinic, *Phone:* 050.3337.1144 *DSN:* 737.1144, 737.1145 *Hours:* Monday-Friday, 8:30 am-5:00 pm

WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC)

Women, Infants, and Children Overseas (WIC) is a program designed to provide nutritious food, tips on how to prepare a balanced meal, nutrition/health screening, and access to resources to lead a healthier life. The program provides benefits to eligible pregnant women, and later, their infants for at least six months and possibly up to one year. Eligible children may participate up to age five.

USAG Yongsan

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* BAACH, Building 7005, Room 1501 *Phone:* 050.3337.6074, 050.3337.6073 *DSN:* 737.6074, 737.6073 *Hours:* Monday-Friday, 8:30 am-5:00 pm

Camp Red Cloud

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* Building 2451, Unit 15707 *Phone:* 050.3332.8403 *DSN:* 732.8403 *Hours:* Tuesdays, 9:30 am-4:00 pm

Camp Casey

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* ACS Building 2451 *Phone:* 050.3330.3436 *DSN:* 730.3436 *Hours:* Monday-Friday 8:00 am-4:30 pm

Camp Humphreys

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* Building 577, Unit 15228 *Phone:* 050.3353.6909, 050.3353.6106 *DSN:* 753.6909, 753.6106 *Hours:* Monday-Friday 8:00 am-4:30 pm

Osan Air Base

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* Building 768, Room 136 *Phone:* 050.3384.3806, 050.3384.9426 *DSN:* 784.3806, 784.9426 *Hours:* Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, 8:00 am-3:30 pm

USAG Daegu

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* Building 1425 *Phone:* 050.3368.9424 *DSN:* 768.9424 *Hours:* Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, 8:00 am-4:30 pm

Medical Services, Off Post

OFF POST MEDICAL RESOURCES

Seoul Help Center for Foreigners English Help Line

Phone: 02.797.8212

Hours: Monday-Friday, 9:30 am-12:30 pm and 2:00-5:00 pm

24-Hour English Medical Referral Service

Phone: 010.4769.8212, 010.8750.8212

Website: <http://english.seoul.go.kr/life-information/healthwelfare/medical-facilities/>

Seoul Help Center

Phone: 02.731.6800

Website: http://english.visitseoul.net/tours/Medical-Tourism-Help-Desk_/16358

Hours: Monday-Friday, 9:00 am-6:00 pm

For individuals who require medical care off post, there are several doctors and clinics that service the foreign community. The 18th MEDCOM currently maintains partnerships with several state-of-the-art Korean hospitals. Host nation partnership hospitals and clinics provide the highest quality of health care and all are accredited by the Joint Commission International or the Korean Hospital Association. Many of the medical staff speak English and a significant number were trained in America.

BAACH has implemented a new patient program to ensure TRICARE Representatives, Nurse Case Managers and Host Patient Liaisons assigned to the BAACH and each of the outlying health clinics are available to help. Providers will refer you to host nation partnership hospitals and/or clinics for the specialty care you require when the services are not available within the military system (transport and guides are provided). A staff of Host Nation Patient Liaisons assist patients as well. The Nurse Case Managers visit all our beneficiaries if they require hospitalization and conduct telephone follow-ups with the Korean healthcare team providing your medical care.

REFERRALS

Most visits to a host nation partnership hospital or clinic typically begin with a referral from your Primary Care Manager at the local Military Treatment Facility (MTF). If the needed care is not available at the Military Treatment Facility, a Host Nation Appointment Clerk or TRICARE Representative at your local TRICARE office will assist in making your appointment at one of our host nation partnership hospitals or medical clinics. Usually, the Host Nation Appointment Clerk will make your appointment, schedule transportation on one of the TRICARE courtesy shuttles, and provide you with a claim form and any necessary medical documentation or care authorizations needed for your medical appointment. Although our host nation partnership hospitals and clinics accept self-referrals, it is best to work through your local TRICARE office to coordinate your care. The payment for your care at the Korean facility will depend on your TRICARE status or other insurance plan you may have. When you call to make your appointment, TRICARE staff will advise you on your coverage and financial responsibilities at that time.

The BAACH provides a free shuttle service for patients and their family members to and from appointments at several host nation partnership hospitals. Visit the TRICARE section of the 65th Medical Brigade website, www.korea.amedd.army.mil, for more information on each of the host nation partnership hospitals, as well as maps and answers to frequently asked questions.

One of the surprising things about living in Korea is the lower cost of elective procedures off base. A service that helps many families is the infertility options. From IUI to IVF and everything in between, Korea's infertility clinics offer options not covered by TRICARE at a fraction of the cost of treatments in the US. Many doctors in Korea studied abroad and speak English. Some are even certified in the US or have had practices there.

Additionally, if you have thought about Lasik eye surgery, cosmetic surgery, laser hair removal or chiropractic care, you could save hundreds to thousands of dollars by having those procedures done here. As with any medical service, ask your community for recommendations on where to go; chances are you will meet someone who has done what you are thinking about right now.

REFERENCE: OFF POST HOSPITALS

Patients with TRICARE insurance must coordinate off post medical care through TRICARE to ensure proper reimbursement. Off post hospitals include:

Asan Medical Center

Phone: 02.3010.5001

Cha General Hospital, Gangnam Medical Center

Phone: 02.3468.3127, 02.3468.2632

Cheil General Hospital

Phone: 02.2000.7437, 02.2000.7071

EWHA Women's University

Phone: 02.2650.5890

Hangang Sacred Heart Hospital

Phone: 02.2639.5012

Samsung Medical Center

Phone: 02.3410.0200

Seoul National University Hospital

Phone: 02.2072.4100, 02.2072.0505, 02.2072.2890

Severance Hospital, Yonsei University Health System

Phone: 02.2228.5800, 02.2228.5808

Seoul St. Mary's Hospital

Phone: 02.2258.5749, 02.2258.5745, 02.2258.5746

Youido St. Mary's Hospital

Phone: 02.3779.2212

BIRTHING RESOURCES

LOCAL RESOURCES

www.birthinginkorea.com
tenderembracebirthing.blogspot.kr
www.bellyblisskorea.com

There are many support services in Seoul and the surrounding areas that can assist individuals and families with the birth of their child. Doulas provide non-medical, labor, breastfeeding, and postpartum support. Doulas without post access can be signed onto post for births at the hospital or for home births. Midwives are medically trained professionals who provide delivery care in both hospitals and clinics, along with specializing in natural home and water births.

For those choosing to birth off post or wanting further childbirth education, there are several options available. Contact the OB/GYN clinic at the hospital and TRICARE for more information and to ensure coverage. Also see the resources listed below, and consult the links in the box above to explore options, locate multi-lingual practitioners, and review credentials.

This list is not all-inclusive, nor does it serve as endorsement for any one service.

Agitanseng Natural Birth Center

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Point of Contact:* Rosa (Kim Ok-Jin) (Speaks English)
Phone: 031.425.8597, 070.8868.1342 *Website:* www.okbirth.com

Faith in Birth Doula Services

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Website:* <http://www.faithinbirth.net/>

Hosam Woman's Hospital

Offers delivery and postpartum care by Dr. Park. Not recommended for high risk pregnancies or emergencies.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Phone:* 02.546.3493 *Website:* <http://ladyhosan.co.kr>

Medi Flower Birthing Center

Dr. Chung will attend home births and can be signed on post. The birthing center offers water birth and a lactation specialist. They can handle high-risk pregnancies and can perform cesarean surgeries if necessary. The clinic has special rates for military. He is a certified HypnoBirthing practitioner.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Point of Contact:* Dr. Hwan Wook Chung (Speaks English)
Phone: 02.548.9400 *Email:* clinic.mediflower@gmail.com *Additional Point of Contact:* Stella (English-speaking consultant) *Phone:* 010.8550.9742
Website: <http://mediflower.co.kr>

Morning Calm Birthing Services

Doula services, labor support, childbirth classes, and hypnobirthing classes. Legally registered childbirth service company providing resources on birthing options and centers in Korea; serving Seoul and surrounding areas.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Phone:* 010.4872.8051
Website: <http://morningcalmbirthing.com/>

Yeon and Nature/OB/GYN Pediatric Clinic and Natural Childbirth Center

Cares for women, infants and families in a birthing center atmosphere. Features water births, and is fully staffed with doctors, nurses, midwives and doulas.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Phone:* 02.518.1300
Website: <http://www.yeonandnature.com/>

Milky Mamas Meeting (MMM) Seoul (Formerly La Leche League (LLL) Seoul)

CONTACT INFORMATION.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/145572678911543/>

Website: <http://tenderembracebirthing.blogspot.kr/2013/05/la-leche-league-lll-seoul.html>

MEDICAL SERVICES, WHEN TRAVELING

MEDICAL SERVICES ABROAD RESOURCES

Clinical Preventative Medicine Service

Location: South Post, Building 5447

Phone: 050.3336.3025, *DSN:* 736.3025

Appointment Line: 050.3337.1750, *DSN:* 737.1750

TRICARE Service Center

Location: BAACH, Building 7005, Room 1150

Phone: 050.3337.1433, *DSN:* 737.1433

Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday, 8:30 am-5:00 pm, Thursday, 1:00pm - 5:00 pm

US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

Travelers Health

www.cdc.gov/travel

World Health Organization

www.who.int/en

If you plan to travel outside Korea, check with the Clinical Preventive Medicine (PM) Service for current requirements in other countries. The clinic staff provides a personal medical consultation to ensure an enjoyable and safe vacation for you. Please bring shot records for each person traveling. It is best to schedule appointments four to six weeks before traveling to allow adequate time for any necessary vaccinations to take effect.

Healthy Travel Tips

No matter where your travels may take you, be sure to observe the following:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water.
- Eat only thoroughly cooked food or fruits and vegetables you have peeled yourself. Remember: boil it, cook it, peel it, or forget it. Don't eat food purchased from street vendors.
- Never eat undercooked ground beef and poultry, raw eggs, or

unpasteurized dairy products. Raw shellfish is particularly dangerous to persons who have liver disease or compromised immune systems.

- Drink only bottled or boiled water, or carbonated drinks in cans or bottles. Avoid tap water, fountain drinks, and ice cubes. Check to make sure that bottles for water are not being reused. Bottle caps should be new and unopened.
- Motor vehicle crashes are a leading cause of injury to travelers, so walk and drive defensively. Avoid travel at night if possible and always use seat belts.
- Protect yourself from insects by remaining in well-screened areas, using repellents (applied sparingly at four-hour intervals), and wearing long-sleeved shirts and long pants.
- Monkeys, dogs, cats, chickens, and ducks can be a source of serious diseases such as rabies, plague, and bird flu, so avoid contact with animals whenever possible.
- To prevent fungal and parasitic infections, keep feet clean and dry. Never go barefoot.

Recommended Supplies and Equipment

Make sure you pack:

- A long-sleeved shirt and long pants to wear outside, whenever possible, to help prevent sunburn and illnesses carried by insects.
- Insect repellent containing diethylmethyltoluamide (DEET), in 22% to 35% strength for adults and 6% to 10% for children, as well as a bed net impregnated with the insecticide permethrin. (Bed nets can be purchased in camping or military supply stores.) There are also natural insect repellents available for use by adults and children that are DEET-free.
- Over-the-counter anti-diarrhea medicine to take if necessary, and iodine tablets and portable water filters to purify water if bottled water is not available.
- Prescription medications: make sure you have enough to last during your trip, as well as a copy of the prescription(s).
- Carry an emergency contact information sheet with you: include any medications, as well as any medical conditions and known allergies.

Emergency/Urgent Care While Traveling

TRICARE has contracted and partnered with International SOS (ISOS), a worldwide company, to establish a network of quality healthcare providers and hospitals throughout the Western

TRICARE/ISOS

<http://www.tricare-overseas.com>

Pacific to assist with urgent and emergency medical and dental care for active duty service members (ADSMs). By using the ISOS network, ADSMs will not incur out-of-pocket expenses and there will be no claims to file. It is a cashless and claimless service. This service is available to ADSMs who are TDY, deployed, or simply on leave in Pacific areas where a US Military Treatment Facility is unavailable.

Active duty family members enrolled in TRICARE Prime may use ISOS for emergency medical care only. ISOS can assist you in obtaining urgent medical or dental care, but you will be required to pay for the services up-front and file a claim through the region in which you're enrolled for reimbursement. TRICARE Standard active duty family members, as well as retirees and their family members, are not eligible for this emergency travel benefit.

To utilize these services in an emergency, members should call their nearest ISOS assistance center. It's a good idea to visit the TRICARE/ISOS website before you travel and record the phone number for the ISOS assistance center in the country in which you'll be traveling. Collect calls are accepted. Note that when calling collect, it may be necessary to request an international operator.

For civilians and family members not eligible for ISOS, it is a good idea to purchase international or travel medical insurance before going abroad. If you already have international insurance, check with your current insurance provider before you travel to confirm coverage and procedures in case of emergency.

Emergency Care Defined

Emergency care is care provided for sudden and unexpected onset of a medical or psychiatric condition or the acute exacerbation of a chronic condition that is threatening to life, limb or sight and requires immediate medical treatment. If you need emergency care as defined:

- Seek care from the nearest medical facility.
- Dial the local number for ambulance service as provided by the American Embassy, military unit, or other source.
- Have a local address and phone number available. Do not hang up the phone until directed to do so by the host nation operator.
- When emergency treatment or hospitalization in a local civilian hospital is received, contact International SOS as soon as possible.

Urgent Care Defined

Urgent care is defined as treatment for a medical or psychological condition that would cause undue discomfort to the patient or that may worsen if not treated within 24 hours. If you need urgent care in Pacific locations, ISOS can provide several valuable services. By calling them before receiving care, you can:

- Find a qualified health care provider.
- Avoid paying up front costs.
- Avoid filing claims.
- Otherwise, expect to pay the host nation provider at the time of service. Then file a claim with your TRICARE Service Center upon return from travel.

Dental Services, On Post

Because the Dental Company's (DENTAC) mission encompasses Soldier readiness throughout the peninsula, family member dental care in military clinics is limited and is on a space-available basis. While there is some degree of space-available in-house family member care, the majority of family member care occurs through a network of Preferred Host Nation Providers. Selected providers practice dentistry in line with US standards, maintain modern facilities, and engage in

infection control and sterilization protocols in accordance with US standards and Centers of Disease Control guidance. They sometimes accept insurance in lieu of upfront payment from the patient. The DENTAC strongly encourages all sponsors to ensure coverage of their family members through participation in the TRICARE Dental Program (MetLife). Check their website, which provides up-to-date information.

Active duty family members are the only non-active duty category that may obtain routine space-available care in military dental clinics. However, the DENTAC will always provide emergency care to address pain, infection, or trauma to members of all beneficiary categories. Patients may seek after-hours emergency dental care by reporting to the emergency room at the local military hospital or treatment facility.

TRICARE Dental Office

CONTACT INFORMATION. Location: BAACH, Room 1150 **Point of Contact:** Mr. Suh Kyu Ho (South Korean Tricare Dental Representative) **Phone:** 0505.736.5051 **DSN:** 736.5051 (Insurance and off post referrals) **Email:** kyu.suh@amedd.army.mil **Website:** www.korea.amedd.army.mil, www.tricare.mil/dental

Dental Clinic #1 (Carius Clinic)

CONTACT INFORMATION. Location: Main Post, Building 1665, next to the TMC **Phone:** 050.3337.9092; 050.3325.3063 **DSN:** 737.9092, 725.3063 **Hours:** 7:30 am-4:30 pm **Active Duty members only**

Dental Clinic #2

CONTACT INFORMATION. Location: South Post, Building 5107, next to the 121 Hospital **Phone:** 050.3337.9089; 050.3337.9090 **DSN:** 737.9089/9090 **Hours:** 7:30 am-4:30 pm **Active Duty and family members over the age of 12**

Dental Clinic #3

CONTACT INFORMATION. Location: South Post, Building 3576, behind the Elementary School Cafeteria (on Stoves Avenue) **Phone:** 050.3336.5221 **DSN:** 736.5221, 736.5799 **Hours:** 7:30 am-4:30 pm **Family members under the age of 12, Orthodontics also available**

EMERGENCY TREATMENT

Emergency dental treatment for family members is available at the appropriate clinic during clinic hours. During off-duty hours, patients should go to the BAACH Emergency Room.

ORTHODONTIC TREATMENT

Orthodontic dental care is available on post. If patients are covered under TRICARE, orthodontic treatment must be coordinated through Dental Clinic #3 (see contact information, above).

Dental Services, Off Post

The TRICARE Dental Office maintains a list of preferred providers in Seoul and the surrounding area. A complete, up-to-date list can be found at <http://www.korea.amedd.army.mil/Dental/providers/>; hard copies are available at all three dental clinics on Yongsan. Preferred providers will file appropriate forms with TRICARE.

Optical Services

OPTOMETRY CLINIC

Appointments for eye exams may be scheduled with the on post Optometry Clinic. No contact lens fittings are done at the clinic, so bring a valid contact lens prescription and a six-month to one-year supply of lenses with you. See the Shopping section of this publication for information on off post optical options.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Location: Main Post, Building 1625 **Phone:** 050.3337.1464 **DSN:** 737.1464



NOTES

Section Cover Photo:

Pogo, one of the many pets of USAG Yongsan

Photo provided by: Jeanne Green

For many people, their pets are members of their families, and they cannot imagine moving without them. If you decide to bring your pets to Korea, start the process three to four months prior to your departure.

Please note that for this publication, “pets” refers only to dogs and cats. Animals other than dogs and cats have different quarantine specifications and require different paperwork. For information about birds and other animals, contact the projected airline, a military vet, and research the Internet for country restrictions, both ingoing and outgoing.

Getting Your Pet to Korea

Whether your pet travels accompanied or unaccompanied, if you arrive after hours or during the weekend, your pet will be kept at the airport due to customs duty hours. If possible, pets should arrive during weekday/daytime hours to prevent unnecessary stress for the pet or the owner.

CHECKLIST: INBOUND PET TRAVEL PAPERWORK

This checklist of paperwork required for pet travel is applicable for the import of cats and dogs aged 90 days or older. Contact your veterinarian and airline for the most up to date requirements.

- Original Rabies Vaccination Certificate (greater than 30 days old)
- ISO-compliant microchip (ISO11784 and 11785 standards) implant
- Original, passing, rabies-neutralizing antibody test (“FAVN”) results
- Original health certificate issued by USDA-authorized veterinarian (must have a confirmed microchip number and list the result of the rabies antibody test) within 10 days of travel
- Letter of acclimation (may be separate or attached to health certificate)
- Medical record and personal information about your pet
- Flight itinerary
- Copy of your orders
- Telephone number of a person receiving the pet at the final destination
- Unit forwarding address in Korea
- Feeding schedule for your pet (type, amount, frequency)

COMMERCIAL AIRLINE TRANSPORT

US airports require physical screening of all pets and kennels transported in the passenger cabin, accompanied baggage, or as air cargo. If your pet is “carry-on luggage,” you will remove your pet from its kennel and walk through passenger screening at the security checkpoint. The kennel will undergo the same procedures as carry-on luggage or checked bags.

For pets transported as cargo, the airline may require you to remove your pet from its kennel to allow for security screening of the kennel before your pet begins transport.

Most airlines allow only a limited number of pets on a flight, so you may want to book earlier rather than later. Be prepared to provide your pet’s breed, size, weight, and crate dimensions. Contact the airline for the specific requirements for traveling with your pets. Requirements, including date restrictions and breed restrictions, vary according to the airline. **If flying commercially, contact the airline prior to purchasing tickets to ensure pets will actually be able to fly on the day of travel (e.g., ask about the airline’s regulations regarding pets on flights greater than 12 hours, outdoor temperature restrictions on travel date, pet flying in-cabin, etc.).**

MILITARY TRANSPORT (PATRIOT EXPRESS)

Effective September 2014, cats and dogs leaving Korea can fly aboard Patriot Express. Discuss pet travel with the Travel Office when making travel arrangements. If you are traveling by Patriot Express, please reference the Facebook page “Osan Passenger Terminal.” Along the left-hand side under photos, at the bottom of the photos page, is a section on pet travel. Here you can find contact information for the latest updates on military transport pet travel. Pets are generally not allowed to accompany the military member on the Military Processing transportation bus from Incheon to USAG Yongsan; however some small pets confined to an airline approved carry-on sized pet carrier may be allowed on the bus. Confirm current regulations at the time of making your bus transfer reservation. Pets can be transported from Osan to Yongsan on the military transport.

UNACCOMPANIED TRANSPORT

If you choose unaccompanied travel for your pet, you may want to consider using an animal or pet broker that will serve as your representative to negotiate the process for you. The links for pet travel assistance are provided below for your reference. Inclusion in this list does not constitute an endorsement.

REFERENCES: PET UNACCOMPANIED TRANSPORT

- **The First Class Pet**
www.thefirstclasspet.com
- **Korean Animal and Plant Quarantine Agency**
http://www.qia.go.kr/english/html/Animal_livestock/02AnimalLivestock_007-8.jsp
- **Korea Animal Transport**
[www.cwhospital.com/kat/process\(eng\).htm](http://www.cwhospital.com/kat/process(eng).htm)
- **VESCO (Korean only)**
www.vesco.kr/home2/htm/main.htm
- **Visit Korea Traveling With Pets**
http://english.visitkorea.or.kr/enu/TRV/TV_ENG_2_4.jsp

PET QUARANTINE

The Quarantine Inspection Agency determines if your pet meets all requirements for entry into Korea. To help avoid quarantine, be sure you have a valid, original rabies certificate; original, current, passing FAVN results; and a completed (no empty fields) health certificate (APHIS form 7001 and DD 2209). The pet must be registered on post as soon as it is released from quarantine.

If you encounter problems at Incheon airport, contact the USFK Incheon Customs Office at the number below.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* USFK Incheon Customs Office *Phone:* 050.3323.7561, 010.3708.5214 (After duty hours, weekends, and holidays) *DSN:* 723.7561 *Hours:* Monday-Friday 8:00 am-5:00 pm

DOG RESTRICTIONS

No specific dog restrictions are listed for entering Korea; however, airlines have specific guidelines for transporting certain breeds. Contact your carrier for more detailed requirements for transporting your pet. If you own an American Staffordshire Bull Terrier (Amstaff), Bull Terrier, Argentinean Dogo, Japanese Tosa, Staffordshire Bull Terrier (English Staff), Pit Bull Terrier, Brazilian Fila, Rottweiler or mixed breed dogs that appear to be a predominant breed listed, you should verify the specific breed restrictions at your new duty location prior to your PCS from Korea.

LODGING FOR YOUR PET UPON ARRIVAL

Care for your pet will have to be pre-arranged prior to arrival in Korea. The USAG Yongsan Pet Care Center is an official quarantine facility for the Republic of Korea and is the primary pet care provider for all pets in a PCS-inbound status. See Pet Boarding and Grooming below for contact information.

Pets are not permitted in rooms at the Dragon Hill Lodge on USAG Yongsan. For those service members who arrive in Seoul after normal duty hours or on weekends, the Dragon Hill Lodge now allows pets to be temporarily stored on the loading dock in their travel kennels until they can be moved into the Pet Care Center. While in the Dragon Hill Lodge holding area, sponsors are responsible for the feeding and care of their pets. The Dragon Hill Lodge Security Office, which is located in close proximity to the pet holding area, has oversight of the pets and may notify the sponsor if a pet is showing signs that attention is needed.

Government and civilian housing policies differ as to authorization, number, and types of pets. USAG Yongsan housing areas that allow domestic pets are Helo Acres, Watkins Ridge, Krzyzowski Hills (Itaewon Acres), Koelsch Grove (Eagle Grove) and Loring Village (Blackhawk Village). Only two pets per family are authorized for on post housing. Burke Towers is a “no-pet” housing area and there are no exceptions. If a member of your family has a service animal, discuss with the Housing Office so they can factor that into determining your housing assignment.

Just like anywhere else, some off post/civilian apartments allow pets and some do not. Ask your property manager or landlord about pet allowances before signing a lease.

Pet Services

VETERINARY SERVICES

Per regulation, all pets must be registered at the Yongsan Veterinary Treatment Facility (VTF) within 10 days of arrival or purchase. Pet owners not living on a military installation must also register (license) pets at the city hall nearest their residence.

ISO-compatible microchips are mandatory for all pets, on and off the military installation.

The 106th Medical Detachment primarily provides preventive veterinary medical and surgical care for privately owned animals on a space available basis. There are six VTFs in Korea: Camp Casey, USAG Red Cloud, USAG Yongsan, Osan Air Base, USAG Humphreys, and Camp Walker. The six clinics work together to provide a range of veterinary care services including vaccinations, lab work, x-rays and ultrasound, microchips, surgery, and health certificates. VTFs do not provide after-hour emergency care services. Veterinary care at VTFs is limited during military training exercises.

A list of off post veterinarians (including several with 24 hour emergency services) is available on line (see below).

CONTACT INFORMATION. Location: Yongsan Veterinary Treatment Facility (VTF), Building 4728 (near the AAFES gas station) **Phone:** 050.3337.2450, 02.7918.5145, 011.822.7918.5145 (CONUS) **DSN:** 737.2450 **Website:** www.korea.amedd.army.mil/veterinary/index.html **Off Post Veterinarians:** http://www.korea.amedd.army.mil/veterinary/2_vet_clinics/off_vet.html

PET BOARDING AND GROOMING

The Pet Care Center is an official quarantine facility for the Republic of Korea. It can house up to 21 dogs and 17 cats in condo-like quarters; grooming and boarding services are also available. Payments can be remitted by cash or check; limited credit card services are available.

The staff can also function as a pet broker and will pick your pet up at the airport, clear customs, and deliver it to the Pet Care Center for a fee. The Pet Care Center is not part of the VTF.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Location: Yongsan Pet Care Center, Building 5256 (located next to Gate 13) **Phone:** 050.3336.6426, 050.3323.3291 **DSN:** 736.6426, 723.3291 **Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/yongsanpcc/> **Hours:** Monday-Friday 9:00 am-6:00 pm, Saturday 9:00 am-4:00 pm, Closed Sunday and Holidays

DOG PARK

Korean apartments generally do not provide areas for walking pets. However, USAG Yongsan does have a very nice dog park. The dog park/playground has two large fenced areas designated for you to exercise and play with your pets off the leash. This can be used by all ID card holders (living on or off post) to exercise and socialize dogs. Please observe the “rules of petiquette” posted in the park. Owners must pick up and dispose of all pet waste.

You may have up to two dogs per adult per visit. Owners are responsible and liable for their pets’ actions; aggressive pets or pets in heat are not allowed in the park.

Note that pets are not allowed on ball fields, tennis courts, or basketball courts, even if on a leash.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* Near Gate 13 *Website:* <http://www.mwrkorea.com/myinstallation/yongsan/pet.htm> *Hours:* Open Daily, 5:00 am-10:00 pm

PET ADOPTION

There are many options to acquire a pet both on and off your local installation. Visit your local VTF for informational websites, maps, and directions on where to purchase a pet.

Most VTFs handle the adoption of strays and surrendered animals needing new homes including many pure breeds. Every year during the PCS season, owners struggle to find new homes for animals they can no longer care for because of unforeseen reasons. Be responsible, and be aware of the potential complications of pet ownership before getting a pet, including idiosyncrasies of some breeds, and what type of pet will be most compatible with your family.

Animal Rescue Korea

Dogs and cats available for adoption; volunteer pet courier opportunities; resources.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Website:* <http://www.animalrescuekorea.org>

Leaving Korea

CHECKLIST: OUTBOUND PET TRAVEL PAPERWORK

Take all three of the following *original* documents (with three copies of each) with your pet to the Korean Animal Quarantine Office (KAQC). The Korean vet will issue a certificate while you wait. Cost is ₩10,000.

- Valid Rabies Vaccination Certificate from within the last year
- USDA health certificate (APHIS form 7001)
- Korean health certificate

For further information, contact the Korean Animal Quarantine Office located at Incheon Airport at 032.740.2660.

In general, bringing your pet cat or dog back home to the US is easier than bringing them to Korea. Most animals meeting Korean requirements will meet US requirements. Korea requires a Korean Health Certificate for any pet to leave the country. These requirements apply equally to service animals such as Seeing Eye dogs. Pet cats and dogs are subject to inspection at ports of entry. If a pet appears to be ill, or evidence of infectious disease is present, further examination by a licensed veterinarian at the owner’s expense might be required and entry into the US may be denied.

Some countries require a Fluorescent Antibody Virus Neutralization (FAVN) test to be completed for each pet within 180 days prior to arrival. The result needs to be readily available upon arrival. If completing a FAVN test in Korea, the blood sample is sent to the US for lab testing, and it can take four to eight weeks for the result to be sent to Korea. It may be wise to have the FAVN test completed before orders are issued because if the orders are received less than 180 days out from PCS date, it might not be enough time to receive the result before departing. The rabies-neutralizing antibody test must be administered by an internationally approved laboratory or by the competent authority of the exporting country within 24 months prior to boarding.

Research the country of your projected next duty station as early as possible and begin preparation six to eight months before moving.

Determine requirements, regulations, and costs for pets to depart Korea and to enter final destination. Ensure all vaccinations, blood work results, etc. meet requirements set forth by both countries.

Begin process right after orders are received because it can be time-consuming and expensive depending upon your pet's final destination. (If possible, begin process 180 days before PCS date.)

PET NON-COMBATANT EVACUATION OPERATION

Please see your unit NEO warden or the NEO section of this publication for more information.

IMPORTATION OF CATS OR DOGS TO THE US FOR COMMERCIAL/BREEDING PURPOSES

If you are thinking of bringing a dog or cat to the US from Korea for breeding, check out the rules for bringing domestic cats and dogs into the US specifically for breeding by reading US regulation 42 CFR 71.51.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* United States Customs and Border Protection Customer Service Center *Phone:* 703.526.4200, 1.877.227.5511 *Website:* www.cbp.gov

REFERENCES: LEAVING KOREA WITH YOUR PET

- **Code of Federal Regulations**
www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/CFR-2002-title9-vol1/xml/CFR-2002-title9-vol1-sec93-600.xml
- **USDA Import/Export**
<https://www.aphis.usda.gov/wps/portal/aphis/home>
- **Centers for Disease Control**
<https://www.cdc.gov/importation/bringing-an-animal-into-the-united-states>
- **United States Department of State Pet Travel Policies**
www.state.gov/m/fsi/tc/c10442.htm



Section Cover Photo:

USAG Yongsan school buses lined up ready to pick up children

Photo provided by: Jeanne Green

From preschool to graduate school, a multitude of educational resources are available to personnel and families living in Korea. Whether your goal is learning a new language, taking a single class, or graduating from an accredited institution, there is something available for everyone. The abundance of opportunities means that service members and families do not have to postpone reaching educational goals while living and working overseas.

Preschool

There are preschool options available both on and off post. Space is limited in the on post programs and openings fill quickly, so plan accordingly.

PRESCHOOLS, ON POST

Yongsan Child Development Center (CDC) Strong Beginnings

A part-day preschool program is offered for 3-5 year olds.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Phone: 050.3338.3406/3407 **DSN:** 738.3406/3407 **Email:** yongsanCDCdirector@cysskorea.com **Website:** <http://yongsan.armymwr.com/pacific/yongsan/programs/child-youth-school-services-cys-services>

Sure Start

A free early education program run by DoDEA for children four years old on or before the fourth of September. Each participant must have a parent who is E-1 through E-9 (or civilian equivalent) to qualify.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Phone: 050.3336.4613 **DSN:** 736.4613 **Website:** <http://www.dodea.edu/Pacific/loader.cfm?csModule=security/getfile&pageid=56889>

PRESCHOOLS, OFF POST

Also see the list of K-12 schools below as some offer preschool programs. The following schools teach in English. If you are interested in Korean language schools, you can be put on a waiting list through this website: <http://iseoul.seoul.go.kr/portal/mainCall.do> (Korean only).

REFERENCES: EDUCATIONAL WEBSITES

- **US Department of Defense Education Activity (DODEA) Pacific**
<http://www.dodea.edu/Pacific/Korea/>
- **DODEA Eligibility**
<http://www.dodea.edu/aboutDoDEA/eligibility.cfm>
- **DODEA Registration**
<http://www.dodea.edu/parents/registration.cfm>
- **DODEA School Calendars**
<http://www.dodea.edu/schoolCalendars.cfm>
- **PCS America - The Military Relocation Network**
<http://www.pcsamerica.net>
- **Military Child Education Coalition**
<http://www.militarychild.org>
- **School Quest**
<http://www.schoolquest.org>
- **Tutor.com for Military Families**
<http://www.tutor.com/army>
- **MyCAA Program**
www.aacc.edu/military/MyCAA.cfm
- **GI Bill Information**
<http://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/>
- **Army Emergency Relief - Scholarships**
<http://www.aerhq.org>
- **Free Application for Federal Student Aid**
www.fafsa.ed.gov
- **Go Army Ed**
www.goarmyed.com

CRADA

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Phone:* 02.543.5563 *Email:* crada@unitel.co.kr *Website:* <http://www.i-crada.com/>

Creative Children's Learning Center (CCLC)

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Phone:* 02.3444.6106 *Website:* <http://www.i-cclc.co.kr/>

ECLC International Kindergarten

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Phone:* 02.795.8418 *Website:* <http://www.eclcseoul.com/>

Eton House Lodge

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Phone:* 02.6271.8011 *Email:* juna@etonhouseprep.com
Website: <http://etonhouseprep.com>

Franciscan Foreign School

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Phone:* 02.798.2195 *Email:* office@franciscanfk.com
Website: <http://www.ffkseoul.com/>

Seoul Foreign School Namsan International Kindergarten

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Phone:* 02.330.3100 *Email:* nik.sfs@seoulforeign.org
Website: <http://www.seoulforeign.org/page.cfm?p=1929>

K-12 Schools

K-12 SCHOOLS, ON POST

The USAG Yongsan school district consists of Seoul American Elementary School (SAES), Seoul American Middle School (SAMS), and Seoul American High School (SAHS). All three schools are on South Post. The schools provide free education to command-sponsored military and Department of Defense (DOD) civilian family members. Non-command sponsored students and non-DOD students may attend on a tuition-paying, space available basis.

Registration

DoDEA offers online pre-registration in order to reduce the waiting time for registration on site; however, pre-registration does not complete the registration process, nor can it be used to re-register a student. To register for school, parents should bring the required forms listed below to the school registrar. The school registrars are located in the front office of each individual school. School placement will be

determined upon assignment of housing once in Korea.

Kindergarten students must be five years old on/or before the first of September of the current calendar year to be eligible to register for the upcoming school year. First grade students must be six years old on/or before the first of September of the current calendar year to be eligible to register for the upcoming school year.

Transportation

Walking to School or to a Bus Stop

Elementary students are expected to walk no more than one mile, and secondary students no more than a mile and a half, to school or a bus stop. Distance is measured in a straight line from the student's residence to the designated stop.

Space Available Basis Students and the School Bus

Space available students also fall into the space available category for transportation.

Transportation for Students Living Off Post

Transportation is available for most off post housing areas around installations with schools. Contact the transportation office for more information on approved commuting zones. If a family accepts housing outside of the approved commuting zone, eligibility for bus transportation can be denied.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Phone:* 050.3338.6024 (Korea District Transportation Supervisor), 050.3338.3156 (Seoul Student Transportation Office) *DSN:* 738.6024 (Korea District Transportation Supervisor), 738.3156 (Seoul Student Transportation Office) *Email:* DodeaDTS_Korea@pac.dodea.edu (Korea District Transportation Supervisor), DodeaTrans_Seoul@pac.dodea.edu (Seoul Student Transportation Office) *Hours:* Monday-Friday, 8:00 am-4:30 pm

CHECKLIST: SCHOOL REGISTRATION

Required DoDDS Korea Documentation

- Air Force:** PCS orders with dependent names
- Marines:** PCS orders and area clearance with dependent names
- Navy:** PCS orders and dependent entry approval listing dependent names
- Army:** PCS orders with dependent names
- Civilian (DoD or NAFI):** PCS orders, certificate of employment letter, current personnel action form for local hire civilians
- Civilian Contractors:** Logistical support section of contract, company authorization to bill for tuition.

Required Registration Forms

- Student Registration (DoDEA Form 600)
- Passport or Birth Certificate for student (for age verification)
- Social Security number for student
- Student Health History (DoDEA FORM 2942)
- Certification of Immunization (DoDEA Form 2942.0-M-F1) (take to Immunization Clinic to be signed by medical authority)
- Copy of immunization card
- Computer and Internet Access Agreement (DoDEA Form 6600.1-F2)
- Questionnaire for Race/Ethnicity (DoDEA Form 600A)
- ESL Home Language Questionnaire
- Early Closing/Emergency Plan Form
- Publicity Permission Form
- Housing Address & School Zone Verification Letter
- Housing assignment letter, off post lease agreement, or TLF receipt
- Previous school records for each student

School Bus Pass Registration Requirements

- Copy of completed school registration Form 600.
- A completed DoDDS Korea Bus Pre-Registration form. (Includes: Transportation Information Sheet, Statement of Understanding and Alternate Guardian forms.)
- The student must be present for the photograph.

SEOUL DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT

Phone: 050.3338.5922

DSN: 738.5922

Email: KoreaSUPT_DSO@pac.dodea.edu

Email: DSOKoreaOffice@pac.dodea.edu

Website: <http://www.dodea.edu/Pacific/Korea/index.cfm>

USAG Yongsan

Seoul American Elementary School, K-5

CONTACT INFORMATION. Phone: 050.3336.4613/5978, 050.3336.7748 (Registrar)
DSN: 736.4613/5978, 736.7748 (Registrar) **Email:** principal.seoules@pac.dodea.edu,
registrar.seoules@pac.dodea.edu (Registrar) **Website:** <http://www.dodea.edu/Pacific/Korea/USAGYongsan/SeoulAmericanES/>

Seoul American Middle School, 6-8

CONTACT INFORMATION. Phone: 050.3336.7337/7361, 050.3336.5087 (Registrar)
DSN: 736.7337/7361, 736.5087 (Registrar) **Email:** PRINCIPAL_SEOULMS@pac.dodea.edu,
registrar.seoulms@pac.dodea.edu (Registrar) **Website:** <http://www.dodea.edu/Pacific/Korea/USAGYongsan/SeoulAmericanMS/>

Seoul American High School, 9-12

CONTACT INFORMATION. Phone: 050.3336.5261/5263/5265, 050.3338.5921 (Registrar)
DSN: 736.5261/5263/5265, 738.5921 (Registrar) **Email:** PRINCIPAL_SEOULHS@pac.dodea.edu,
Registrar.SeoulHS@pac.dodea.edu (Registrar) **Website:** <http://www.dodea.edu/Pacific/Korea/USAGYongsan/SeoulAmericanHS/>

Chinhae, US Navy Base, Command Fleet Activities

CT Joy Elementary School

CONTACT INFORMATION. Phone: 050.3362.5466/5477, **DSN:** 762.5466/5477 **Website:** <http://www.dodea.edu/Pacific/Korea/CFACHinhae/CTJoyES/>

USAG Daegu, Daegu

Daegu American School, K-12

CONTACT INFORMATION. Phone: 050.3368.9501, 050.3368.9543, 050.3364.4645 (Registrar),
DSN: 768.9501, 768.9543, 764.4645 (Registrar) **Email:** DHS.Secretary@pac.dodea.edu **Website:** <http://www.dodea.edu/Pacific/korea/campgeorge/daeguamericanschool/>

USAG Humphreys, Pyeongtaek

Humphreys American School, K-8

CONTACT INFORMATION. Phone: 050.3353.6313, 050.3353.8894 (Registrar), **DSN:** 753.6313, 753.8894 (Registrar) **Email:** haes.Registrar@pac.dodea.edu (Registrar)
Website: <http://www.dodea.edu/Pacific/Korea/USAGHumphreys/HumphreysCentralES/>

Humphreys High School, 9-12

CONTACT INFORMATION. Phone: 050.3354.9425, 050.3354.9426 (Registrar) **DSN:** 754.9425, 754.9426 (Registrar) **Email:** Registrar.Pacific_HumphreysHS@pac.dodea.edu
Website: <http://www.dodea.edu/Pacific/Korea/USAGHumphreys/HumphreysHS/>

Osan Air Base

Osan American Elementary School

CONTACT INFORMATION. Phone: 050.3384.6912, 050.3384.6912 (Registrar) **DSN:** 784.6912, 784.6912 (Registrar) **Email:** OAES.Registrar@pac.dodea.edu (Registrar)
Website: www.osan-es.pac.dodea.edu

Osan American Middle School

CONTACT INFORMATION. Phone: 050.3384.2282, 050.3384.7256 (Registrar), **DSN:** 784.2282, 784.7256 (Registrar) **Email:** oams.registrar@pac.dodea.edu (Registrar)
Website: <http://www.dodea.edu/Pacific/Korea/osanAB/OsanMS/>

Osan American High School

CONTACT INFORMATION. Phone: 050.3384.9076/9098/9096, 050.3384.9098 (Registrar) **DSN:** 784.9076/9098/9096, 784.9098 (Registrar) **Email:** oahs.registrar@pac.dodea.edu (Registrar) **Website:** <http://www.dodea.edu/Pacific/Korea/OsanAB/OsanAmericanHS/>

USAG Casey, Dongduchon

Casey American School, K-8

CONTACT INFORMATION. Phone: 050.3330.6444, 050.3330.3570 (Registrar), **DSN:** 730.6444, 730.3570 (Registrar) **Website:** <http://www.dodea.edu/Pacific/Korea/USAGCasey/CaseyES/>

K-12 SCHOOLS, OFF POST

Asia Pacific International School (APIS), K-12

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Phone:* 02.907.2747 *Website:* <http://www.apis.seoul.kr/>

Centennial Christian School (CCS), Preschool-12

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Christian School. Phone:* 02.772.9275 *Website:* <http://www.ccsliions.com>

Dulwich College School

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Phone:* 02.3015.8500 *Website:* <http://www.dulwich-seoul.kr/>

Dwight School Seoul

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Phone:* 02.6920.8600 *Website:* www.dwight.or.kr

Eton House Prep, Preschool-8

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Phone:* 02.749.8011 *Website:* <http://etonhouseprep.com>

Korean Kent Foreign School, K-12

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Phone:* 02.2201.7091 *Website:* www.kkfs.org

Seoul Academy International School, K-8

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Phone:* 02.554.1690 *Website:* www.seoulacademy.net

Seoul Foreign School (SFS), K-12

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Phone:* 02.330.3100 *Website:* www.seoulforeign.org

Seoul International School (SIS), K-12

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Phone:* 031.750.1200 *Website:* <http://siskorea.org/>

Yongsan International School Seoul (YISS), Preschool-12

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Christian School. Phone:* 02.797.5104 *Website:* <http://www.yisseoul.org>

Homeschooling

The USAG Yongsan School Liaison Officer facilitates information and services to support the needs of homeschoolers. Examples of services offered are Army CYSS technology labs, youth homework centers, fine arts, and physical education.

Legal information pertaining to homeschooling can be found at the Homeschooling Legal Defense Association website www.hslda.org.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* Yongsan CYSS, School Support Services, School Liaison Officer, Homeschool Support *Phone:* 050.3338.5556 *DSN:* 738.5556 *Email:* yongsanschoolsupport@cysskorea.com *Facebook:* <https://www.facebook.com/groups/210840575744283/>

Adult Education

The Yongsan Education Center has educational and skill developmental counseling for both active duty military and family members. Counselors are available to assist in educational planning from high school through doctoral degrees. Additionally, they can provide information on tuition assistance and GI Bill benefits.

Counseling Services: The Yongsan Education Center offers a wide variety of educational programs and services. Education counselors can assist with identifying educational and career goals, planning educational programs for career development, enrolling in college classes, scheduling tests, and evaluating educational progression.

In-Processing: All soldiers, grades E-1 through O-5, must in-process at their education center within 30 days of arrival at their duty station.

Testing Programs: Testing services are offered at each of the eight Education Centers located in Korea. Testing is done by appointment only. Additional tests include CLEP, ACT and SAT. Visit the Education Center for information, registration, and referral through your Education Counselor.

Distance Learning/Online Education: All schools with offices at the Education Center offer online courses for students who have scheduling difficulties. In addition, most schools located within the US offer online classes and can be taken through the GOARMYED portal.

Financial Assistance: Federal student aid, MYCAA, spouse assistance through Army Emergency Relief (AER), commissary scholarship programs, and the Thrift Shop scholarship program are possible tuition assistance resources.

Army Tuition Assistance: The Army Tuition Assistance Program may pay 100% of tuition costs for active duty members. Registration fees, books and other costs are not covered.

Veterans' Benefits: Information about transferring educational benefits to dependents is available at www.va.gov. Additionally, the Veterans' Administration has a Yongsan office. For more information contact 050.3338.5121, DSN 738.5121. Information regarding the transfer of the GI Bill to dependents is also offered at Education Centers throughout Korea.

Multi-Use Learning Facility: Ten computers are available for service members and dependents.

Education Programs: The Yongsan Education Center offers a multitude of educational programs and services from a variety of educational institutions, including the colleges and universities listed below.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Location: Yongsan Education Center, Main Post, Building 2212 (Yongsan), Air Base K-16 **Phone:** 050.3323.7194/8098 (Yongsan), 050.3341.6051 (K-16) **DSN:** 723.7194, 723.8098 (Yongsan), 741.6051 (K-16) **Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/Yongsan-Army-Education-Center-1422664804637191/?fref=nf> **Hours:** Monday-Wednesday, Friday 8:00 am-5:00 pm, Thursday 11:00 am-5:00 pm.

UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES

Central Texas College (CTC)

CTC offers vocational, technical and academic programs. Associate degrees are offered in criminal justice, child development, general studies, legal services, and computer studies.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Phone: 050.3325.1537/3184 **DSN:** 725.1537/3184 **Website:** www.pfec.ctcd.edu

University of Maryland (UMUC)

While overseas, UMUC Asia offers students Associate's, Bachelor's, and Master's degree programs in general studies, Asian studies, computer studies, information systems management, psychology, sociology, business management, business, and criminology.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Phone: 050.3323.4300/4295 **DSN:** 723.4300/4295 **Website:** www.asia.umuc.edu

University of Phoenix (UOP)

UOP offers Master's degrees in Education and Business Administration degrees to international students.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Phone: 050.3323.7807 **DSN:** 723.7807 **Website:** www.phoenix.edu

Troy University

Troy University's global campus provides students an opportunity to earn a Master's in International Relations.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Phone: 050.3323.7508 **DSN:** 723.7508 **Website:** <http://trojan.troy.edu/globalcampus/pacific/>

Korean Language Classes

While English is spoken by many Koreans, becoming familiar with the local language will improve the overall experience of living in a foreign country. Koreans appreciate visitors attempting to speak their language and will patiently offer guidance and feedback. Here are a few places to get started.

USAG Yongsan ACS

Beginning Korean language classes offered. Classes are held Tuesday and Thursday evenings.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Location: South Post, Building 4106 **Phone:** 050.3338.7505 **DSN:** 738.7505 **Facebook:** www.facebook.com/acs.yongsan **Website:** www.mwrkorea.com **Hours:** Monday-Friday 8:00 am-5:00 pm

USAG Yongsan Commiskey's

Beginning and intermediate Korean language classes are offered on Sunday afternoons.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Location: Main Post, Building 2212 **Phone:** 050.3323.4300/4294/4295 **DSN:** 723.4300/723.4294/723.4295 **Hours:** Monday-Thursday 11:00 am-8:00 pm, Friday-Sunday 12:00 pm-9:00 pm

University of Maryland (UMUC)

UMUC offers university-level Korean classes.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Location: Main Post, Building 2212 **Phone:** 050.3323.4300/4294/4295 **DSN:** 723.4300/723.4294/723.4295 **Website:** www.asia.umuc.edu

Seoul Global Center

Seoul Global Center (SGC) is run by the Seoul Metropolitan Government and is a comprehensive support center for foreign residents in Seoul. Services are provided at the main center and also at a variety of Global Village Centers located throughout the Seoul area.

Korean language classes, cultural activities, and community volunteer opportunities are offered at each of the neighborhood centers. Language classes are free but students are required to purchase class materials. Global Village Centers are located in Yeonman, Yeoksam, Seorae, Ichon, Itaewon, Yeongdeungpo, and Seongbuk.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Website:* <http://global.seoul.go.kr/>

Itaewon Global Village Center

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Phone:* 02.2199.8883

Website: <http://global.seoul.go.kr/itaewon/>

Ichon Global Village Center

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Phone:* 02.796.2018

Website: http://global.seoul.go.kr/index.do?site_code=2201

Seoul National University-Gangnam-gu Korean Language Center

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Website:* <http://www.gnucl.org/front/programs/Korean>

Seoul National University Language Education Institute

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Website:* language.snu.ac.kr

Sogang University Korean Language Education Center

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Website:* klec.sogang.ac.kr

Sookmyung Women's University LinguaExpress

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Website:* <http://lingua.sookmyung.ac.kr>

Sungkyun Language Institute

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Website:* <http://koreansli.skku.edu>

University of Seoul Institute of International Cooperation and Education

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Website:* <http://kiice.uos.ac.kr>

Sejong University Korean Language Program

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Website:* <http://ili.sejong.ac.kr/eng/index.do>

Sangmyung International Language and Culture Education Center

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Website:* <http://cklc.smu.ac.kr>



Section Cover Photo:

The Secret Garden at Changdeokgung Palace

Photo provided by: Sherry Wirth

Recreation Activities, On Post

ARTS AND CRAFTS

Yongsan Arts and Crafts Center

The Arts and Crafts Center offers classes in ceramics, photography, painting, flower arranging, paper doll crafting, and more. Monthly class offerings for children, adults, and birthday activities are available. They also have unpainted ceramic pieces that you or your children can buy and paint on site. The frame shop will mount and frame any pictures and paintings at a reasonable fee, and a computerized long-arm quilting machine has thousands of patterns for quilting. Trained staff is able to do your quilting based on an hourly rate and the type of thread used. The center also has a well-equipped wood shop, and the equipment is available for personal projects. The staff is available to direct you to any type of art or craft supplies that are needed.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* South Post, Buildings 4253 and 4254
Phone: 050.3338.4750 *DSN:* 738.4750 *Hours:* Tuesday-Saturday, 10:00 am-6:00 pm (Woodshop hours differ, check website for more information). *Website:* <http://www.mwrkorea.com/recandleisure/artsandcrafts.php>

Crafting and Quilting Groups

The *Yongsan Craftaholics* and the *Yongsan Quilters* Facebook pages are good places to start gathering specific information and learn from others who have explored the city's supply stores. The American Forces' Spouse's Club also has groups dedicated to individual arts and crafts but you must be a member to join these groups. The Yongsan Quilters make and donate quilts to babies born at the Brian Allgood Army Community Hospital on post. They meet on Mondays at the South Post Chapel to provide instruction and supplies, including sewing machines for anyone wanting to help.

BETTER OPPORTUNITIES FOR SINGLE SOLDIERS

Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers (BOSS) is a program dedicated to enhancing the quality of life for single, or geographically single, soldiers of all ranks. Soldiers and MWR advisors work with Commanders, Command Sergeants Major, and First Sergeants to

provide leisure programs and help direct the resolution of quality of life issues.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* Building 4253 *Phone:* 050.3323.4131
DSN: 723.4131, *K16 DSN:* 741-6030

DANCE

Dance classes for children are offered through the SKIES Unlimited Program. See the ACS & CYSS chapter for contact information.

ENTERTAINMENT AND NEWS

Internet/Wi-Fi

Business Center

The business center, located in the Dragon Hill Lodge, has fee-based Internet service, printer, copier and fax services.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* Dragon Hill Lodge, Building 4050
Phone: 050.3338.2222/6826 *DSN:* 738.2222/6826 *Price:* Fee-based

Free Wi-Fi

Free Wi-Fi is available at the Food Courts on both Main and South posts, as well at the library and Commiskey's Community Activities Center.

Library Services

Print and electronic media, including books, music CDs, language tapes, audio books, eBooks, e-audio books, magazines, stateside newspapers and homework resources are available. Research computers and workstations dedicated to Internet access, as well as free Wi-Fi, is available. Call to check for current story hour times.

The K-16 library offers access to a wide range of library materials and online databases.

Yongsan Library

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* Main Post, Building 2215 *Phone:* 050.3323.7380/7380 *DSN:* 723.7380/7382 *Website:* www.mwrkorea.com/recandleisure/libraries.php *Hours:* Daily, 10:00 am-7:00 pm, closed Korean holidays

K-16 Library: Seoul Air Base Library

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* Sung Nam City, Building S302; *Phone:* 050.3341.6994 *DSN:* 741.6994 *Hours:* Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 10:00 am-7:00 pm. Wednesday and Saturday 9:00 am-6:00 pm, closed Sunday, Monday and holidays

Movie Theater

Multi Purpose Training Facility (MPTF)/Movie Theater

The Multi-Purpose Training Facility (MPTF) is a complex used for business meetings and family entertainment. There are three movie screens offering a variety of movies for a nominal fee, including recent releases and 3D movies. The snack bar sells popcorn, candy and drinks. Doors open 30 minutes prior to show times.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* South Post, Building 4218 *Phone:* 050.3338.3154
DSN: 738.3154 *Website:* [https://www.shopmyexchange.com/reel-time-theatres/Yongsan-\(Korea-Capital\)-1761025](https://www.shopmyexchange.com/reel-time-theatres/Yongsan-(Korea-Capital)-1761025)

Newspapers

Several newspapers are available for delivery. Keep your receipts for proof of payment, since many delivery people have limited English skills. Additionally, there are vending machines on post that sell the Stars & Stripes and USA Today. The Morning Calm, a complimentary newspaper (not available for delivery), can be picked up every other Friday at various locations (food courts, Burger King, shoppettes). The Yongsan Library offers several large city newspapers, which generally arrive three to four days after publication dates.

Morning Calm

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* Main Post, Building 1440 *Phone:* 050.3338.5005
DSN: 738.5005

Stars and Stripes

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* Main Post, Building S1479 *Phone:* 050.3325.5076
DSN: 725.5076 *Email:* KoreaCustomer@stripes.com *Website:* www.stripes.com

The Korea Herald

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Phone:* 82.1588.0533 *Email:* subscribe@heraldcorp.com
Website: www.koreaherald.com

Korea Times

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Phone:* 02.724.2715 *Email:* subscription@koreatimes.co.kr
Website: www.koreatimes.co.kr

International New York Times

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Phone:* 82.1577.0510 *Website:* www.internationalnytimes.com
Sunday delivery may not be available.

USA Today

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Website:* www.usatoday.com Sunday delivery may not be available.

Video Rental

There are several locations that offer a good variety of movies to rent on post. Supply will vary based on movie popularity and demand. Most new releases may be rented for three days. South Post Shoppette Video Rental is the largest store and carries movies, snacks, and magazines, as well as movies to rent/buy. The Dragon Hill Lodge Shoppette and the Mini-Mall Shoppette on Main Post carry a smaller selection of movies to rent in their stores. Yongsan Library has thousands of movies and television series for adults and children available to check out at no cost.

South Post Shoppette

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* South Post, Building 4259 *Phone:* 050.3338.4154 *DSN:* 738.4154 *Hours:* Open Monday-Saturday, 7:00 am-8:00 pm, Sunday 9:00 am-7:00 pm

Dragon Hill Lodge Express Shoppette

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* South Post, Building 4050 *Phone:* 050.3338.6090 *DSN:* 738.6090 *Hours:* Open daily, 1:00 am-midnight

Mini-Mall Express Shoppette

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* Main Post, Building S-1447 *Phone:* 050.3323.2068 *DSN:* 723.2068 *Hours:* Monday-Friday, 8:00 am-9:00 pm, Saturday and Sunday, 9:00 am-9:00 pm

Yongsan Library

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* Main Post, Building 2215 *Phone:* 050.3323.7380/7382 *DSN:* 723.7380/7382 *Hours:* Daily, 10:00 am-7:00 pm

FITNESS

Several fitness centers are located on post. Each center is open to all USFK ID cardholders, seven days a week; hours vary. Use of the facilities is free of charge (with the exception of The Point). Facilities feature Nautilus equipment, free-weight and functional fitness rooms, multipurpose rooms, basketball courts, squash courts, and locker rooms with saunas. Collier Fitness Center has a child-friendly room where parents can exercise while their children play (parents must

supervise children). Fitness classes, including yoga, Zumba, indoor cycling and Crossfit are offered at Collier Fitness Center (depending on instructor availability) and cost a nominal fee. For information on personal training, contact Collier Fitness Center.

Collier Community Fitness Center

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* South Post, Building 5200 *Phone:* 050.3336.4588, 050.3336.3340 (Director) *DSN:* 736.4588, 736.3340 (Director) *Website:* <http://www.mwrkorea.com/recandleisure/sports.php> *Hours:* Monday-Friday, 5:00 am-9:30 pm, Saturday, Sunday, and US Holidays, 8:00 am-9:30 pm

Trent Warrior Resiliency Fitness Center (TWRFC)

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* Main Post, Building 1496 *Phone:* 050.3324.8466 *DSN:* 724.8466 *Website:* <http://www.mwrkorea.com/recandleisure/sports.php> *Hours:* Monday-Friday, 5:00 am-9:30 pm, Saturday, Sunday, and US Holidays, 8:00 am-9:00 pm

Camp Coiner Fitness Center

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* Building 1045 *Phone:* 050.3324.7255 *DSN:* 724.7255 Same hours as above.

Fight Tonight CrossFit

Website for the CrossFit affiliate (also called Fight Tonight Functional Fitness) at Yongsan.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Website:* <http://fighttonightcrossfit.com>

K-16 Fitness Center

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* K-16 building S158 *Phone:* 050.3341.6316 *DSN:* 741.6316 *Website:* <http://www.mwrkorea.com/recandleisure/sports.php> *Hours:* Monday-Friday, 6:00 am-9:00 pm, Saturday, Sunday, and US Holidays, 10:00 am-7:00 pm

The Point

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* Dragon Hill Lodge, Building 4050 *Phone:* 050.3338.2222 ext. 6240 *DSN:* 738.2222 ext. 6240, 790.0016 (Commercial) *Website:* http://www.dragonhilllodge.com/WP/?page_id=173 *Hours:* Monday-Friday, 4:30 am-9:00 pm, Saturday, Sunday, and US Holidays, 7:00 am-9:00 pm *Requires membership unless you are a guest at the DHL*

MUSIC

Music classes for children, including piano lessons and Music Together, are offered through SKIES Unlimited. Private instructors are available for lessons in your home and may be found through

referrals from neighbors or friends. Moyer Community Activities Center offers musical instrument and sound rooms for rent. See the Outdoor Recreation section below for Moyer Recreation contact information, and the chapter on ACS & CYSS for SKIES contact information.

PARTY RENTALS AND PICNIC AREAS

Moyer Outdoor Recreation Center offers picnic area reservations on USAG Yongsan and equipment rental of bounce houses, cotton candy machines, and more for birthday parties and events. There are six picnic areas with pavilions, some located next to sports fields.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Location: Main Post, Building 2259 **Phone:** 050.3323.3291, 050.3323.3292 **DSN:** 723.3291, 723.3292 **Website:** <http://www.mwrkorea.com> **Hours:** Monday-Saturday, 10:00 am-7:00 pm

RECREATION AND ACTIVITY CENTERS

Commiskey's Community Activities Center (CAC)

Rooms are available to rent out for conferences, training, banquets, and other social events. Also available are pool tables, Internet services, and Wi-Fi connected gaming stations. Gaming stations are for adults (18 and older). Additionally, they hold various events and instructional classes for families and individuals.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Location: South Post, Building 4275 **Phone:** 050.3338.6879/6880 **DSN:** 738.6879/6880 **Hours:** Monday-Thursday, 11:00 am-8:00 pm, Friday-Sunday and holidays, 12:00 pm-9:00 pm

Middle School & Teen Center (MSTC)

The MSTC offers after school and weekend activities for children in middle and high school. The center offers games, a music room, a basketball court, and lounge chairs so kids can just hang out in a comfortable environment with other kids in the same age group. In addition, they also have different clubs, field trips, and sports to participate in throughout the year. In order to use the MSTC, children must have started the sixth grade (not the summer before) and must be registered with CYSS.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Location: South Post, Building 4215 **Phone:** 050.3338.2310 **DSN:** 728.2310 **Hours:** Monday-Thursday, 3:00-8:00 pm, Friday, 3:00-10:00 pm, Saturday, 1:00-10:00 pm

Moyer Community Activities Center

Moyer Community Activities Center (MCAC) has a family-oriented atmosphere and is one of the largest multipurpose facilities on post, with game rooms, pool tables, darts, table tennis, foosball and Korean billiards. Various events are held throughout the year here, such as chess, card, and Wii tournaments, flea markets, and special holiday and family events. In addition, you can relax in comfortable chairs and watch movies, sports, or your favorite shows on TV in the lounge. Here are a few of the amenities:

- MWR Tours, where you can buy tickets for domestic tours like the DMZ Tour or Palace Tour (first floor, far end).
- MWR Tickets Desk, where you can buy tickets to things like Korean baseball games and UFC fights (first floor, far end).
- A comfortable sitting area where you can watch TV, hook up to free Wi-Fi and check email, talk to friends and family, or just have fun surfing the web.
- Cell phone store (first floor).
- Rental car agency (second floor).
- BOSS lounge (second floor).
- Moyer Outdoor Recreation Center.
- Musical instruments and sound rooms are available for rent upon request and instruments include guitar, bass, and drums (second floor).
- Smoothie King (first floor).
- MWR Trophy Shop provides engraving services for items such as trophies, plaques and nameplates.
- Leisure Travel Services for official travel (second floor, room 206) and unofficial travel (second floor, room 207). They can help if you want to travel to other parts of Asia or the world (See the Travel Section of this publication for more information).
- The American Red Cross (second floor).

- Military Bus Office and the Korean Bus Ticketing Office (ground floor). MCAC is the hub for all post bus transportation. Current bus schedules are available at the Military Bus Office and the Korean Bus Ticketing Office. Buses depart regularly to and from Osan Air Base, Camp Humphreys, and many other locations.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Location: Main Post, Building 2259 **Phone:** 050.3323.3291, 050.3323.3292, 050.3323.3266 (to rent instruments) **DSN:** 723.3291, 723.3292, 723.3266 (to rent instruments) **Website:** <http://www.mwrkorea.com> **Hours:** Monday-Saturday, 10:00 am-7:00 pm

SCOUTING

Active scouting programs are available for boys and girls. Adult volunteers are welcome. Registration drives begin in the fall. Check with the school office, AFN network, and *The Morning Calm* for flyers and current contact information.

Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts and Adventure Crew

Boy Scouts offer leadership opportunities through quality programs, mentoring from trained volunteers, and educational and personal development through outdoor experiences. The Yongsan area has Boy Scout Troops 80, 82, 87, 88; Cub Scout Packs 84, 87, 89; and a Venture Crew 64. The Venture Crew is for both boys and girls, age 14 to 20 years old. The Boy Scouts fall under the Far East Council which is based out of Japan.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Location: Boy Scout Hut, South Post, Building S3646 (next to the South Post Chapel) **Phone:** 050.3338.4860 **DSN:** 738.4860 **Website:** www.fareastcouncil.org

Girl Scouts

The scouting year officially starts on October 1; girls in K-12 can participate. Fun recruitment events are held throughout the summer. Activities center on community service, well-being, outdoors recreation, leadership, and fun social interaction.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Location: Girl Scout Hut, South Post, Building S4257 (next to the South Post Furniture Store) **Email:** seoulgirlscouts@gmail.com **Facebook:** <https://m.facebook.com/SeoulAmericanGirlScouts>

SPORTS

Bowling

Yongsan Lanes Bowling Center

Yongsan Lanes offers numerous specials and bowling leagues, including a youth league. The center can also be used for birthday parties or special events. The Yongsan Lanes Food Court features fast food items and some Korean dishes.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Location: Main Post, Building 2267 **Phone:** 050.3323.7830 **DSN:** 723.7830 **Hours:** Sunday, Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, 11:00 am-9:00 pm, Tuesday, Closed, Friday, Saturday, 11:00 am-9:00 pm, holiday hours vary.

Intramural Sports Activities

Adult intramural basketball, flag football, softball, soccer, and volleyball are available. Contact Collier Fitness Center for information regarding sports tournaments. Youth sports are available through CYSS.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Phone: 050.3338.8606 **DSN:** 738.8606

Martial Arts

Various forms of martial arts are available through both CYSS and MWR, including Tae Kwon Do, Hapkido, Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu, Soo Bahk and Krav Maga.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Phone: 050.3338.8606 **DSN:** 738.8606

Running/Jogging

There are jogging tracks, frequent 5K and 10K fun runs and active running/walking groups on USAG Yongsan. Fun runs are advertised outside Collier Fitness Center, in the *Community Connection*, and on Facebook.

Golf

The driving range has a pro golf shop, as well as a mini-golf course. It carries a variety of golfing accessories, shoes, clubs, and clothing in American sizes. The AAFES Four Seasons Store also sells a variety of golf equipment.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Location: Driving Range and Mini-Golf Course, South Post, Building 4271 **Phone:** 050.3338.4190 **DSN:** 738.4190 **Hours:** Monday, 12:00 pm-9:30 pm, Tuesday-Sunday, 8:00 am-9:30 pm

Swimming

Swimming Pool 3

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* Main Post, Building 1515 *Phone:* 050.3325.6984
DSN: 725.6984 *Hours:* Monday-Friday, 6:00 am-8:00 am and 10:00 am-7:00 pm,
Saturday and Holidays, 10:00 am-7:00 pm

Outdoor Pool

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* South Post, Building 3618, next to the high school
Phone: 050.3338.4537, 050.3325.6984 (off-season) *DSN:* 738.4537, 725.6984 (off-
season) *Hours:* Memorial Day weekend to Labor Day weekend, Monday-Sunday, 12:00
pm-7:00 pm

The Point

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* Dragon Hill Lodge, Building 4050
Hours: Swimming allowed when Life Guards are on duty, Pool closed for breaks from 8:30
am-9:00 am, 5:00 pm-5:30 pm *Available to hotel guests and fee-paying members*

K-16 Air Base Pool

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* Next to the gym *Phone:* 050.3341.6138
DSN: 741.6138 *Hours:* Monday-Thursday, 6:00 am-8:00 pm, 10:00 am-7:00 pm,
Saturdays and Holidays, 10:00 am-7:00 pm

Tennis

Numerous courts are scattered around Main and South Posts. Adult and children's lessons are available for a fee (contact Collier Gym for court reservations or information).

Activities, Off Post

TOURISM WEBSITES

Korea Tourism Organization

<http://english.visitkorea.or.kr/enu/index.kto>

Visit Seoul

<http://www.visitseoul.net/en/index.do>

Korea Ye!

<http://koreaye.com>

Korea 4 Expats

<http://korea4expats.com>

There are a great number of events, theaters, museums, parks, and other leisure activities to enjoy in Seoul and its surrounding areas. It is impossible to list them all, but a number of the more popular ones are highlighted here.

Additional information about things to do and see in Korea can be found at the following sites. The Travel and Tourism and Resources sections of this publication have additional information on websites, blogs, and Facebook groups that provide helpful information on things to do in Seoul, Korea, and Asia.

Booking tickets to off post events can be challenging for non-Koreans, as an alien registration card or Korean National ID is frequently required for online purchases. The MWR Ticket Desk (located in Moyer Community Activities Center) and the Discover Seoul Desk (located in the Dragon Hill Lodge) sell tickets to many events, including baseball games and K-Performances. The following link contains more information on online ticket purchasing.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Website:* www.korea4expats.com/article-tickets-reservations-online-foreign-nationals.html

K-PERFORMANCES

There are many Korean Performance Shows, or K-Performances, available for you to attend in Seoul. They are often non-verbal in nature, involve some form of traditional Korean music or dance, have an audience participation element, and utilize technology to enhance the performance. For a full listing of current shows, venues, dates, and ticket prices, visit the link, below. Some popular shows with open-runs are noted below.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Website:* <http://www.kperformance.org>

Fanta-stick

A fusion Gugak musical, with drumming, string playing, and dancing.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Website:* <http://www.fanta-stick.co.kr/us/index.html>

Jump

A martial arts-based comedy show.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Website:* <http://www.yegam.com/jump/eng/>

Miso

A non-verbal traditional dance and comedy performance.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Website:* <http://www.jeongdong.or.kr/eng/index.do>

Nanta

A non-verbal cooking show with drumming and dance.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Website:* <http://nanta.i-pmc.co.kr/nanta/en/intro.aspx>

Sachoom

A contemporary, B-boy, and K-Pop dance show.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Website:* <http://www.lovedance.co.kr>

The Painters – Hero

An art show involving live drawing in varying media.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Website:* <http://www.thepainters.co.kr>

KID'S CAFÉS

Kid's cafés are indoor playgrounds for children filled with fun toys and activities to keep them entertained while parents relax with a cup of coffee. They are staffed with helpers who supervise the children and even play with them. Most have CCTV screens so you can keep an eye on your children from afar. Some have food available for the children. Below are just a few of the kid's cafés in and around Seoul. Please note that kid's cafés come and go often. Do your homework before venturing out with your children.

Baobab Kid's Café

This café features a climbing area, craft and block room, small trampoline, "sand" box, and cars to ride on. The menu is all in Korean, but the staff speaks English.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* In West Pangyo near the library off of Unjung-ro, approximate address: 618-2 Pangyo-dong, Bundang-gu

Chiro and Friends Kid's Café

This is a very large kid's café with a climbing rope tree, trampoline area, art room, a little train, a house that kids can play in. Chiro, a cartoon chicken, comes to sing with his friends at scheduled times.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* Third floor, Avenuefrance, Sampyeong-dong, Bundang-gu, exit 1 of Pangyo subway station

Cocomong Play Area

This play area has an indoor Ferris wheel and bumper cars.

CONTACT INFORMATION: *Location:* 6F, 516 Munjeong-dong, Songpa-gu, Seoul. Located in Garden 5 mall, NC department store building *Phone:* 02.2157.5000

Eggville in Yatap

Eggville has a ball pit, a little train, a bouncy castle, and free shows with magicians and costumed entertainers. They also have teaching rooms including a vet clinic, a grocery store, movie theater for dramatic play, a school, etc.

CONTACT INFORMATION: *Location:* Level B3 of the Homeplus building in Yatap, 341 yatap 1 (il) dong, Bundang-gu

I Heart Dalki Kids Café

This café has a real sand pit, a wood chip pit, trampoline, ball pit, slides, little house with kitchen and toys, small basketball area, building block area, library, music room and two padded areas with toys for infants.

CONTACT INFORMATION: *Location:* Close to Migeum subway station, Building 109 of the Weve Trisium Buildings

Jumping Plus

This café features three trampolines, a play area with little house items, books, blocks and a wooden pebbles pit. There is also a small park with a playground adjacent to the café.

The café only sell snacks so you are allowed to bring your own food

CONTACT INFORMATION: *Location:* 2nd floor of neighborhood adjacent to Craftworks neighborhood, across from Mangosix

Play B Kid's Café

Located in Jeongja, this is a special type of kid's café for Lego and Duplo lovers.

CONTACT INFORMATION: *Location:* 183-13 Jeongja-dong, Bundang-gu, second floor of building

Teddy Bear Kids Café

CONTACT INFORMATION: *Location:* Lotte World Tower Mall, 240 Olympic-ro, Jamsil 3 (sam)-dong, Songpa-gu, Seoul. *Public transportation:* Jamsil station, subway line 2&8, exit 4 *Hours:* Daily 10:00 am-8:00 pm

Wonder Balls Playpark

This play park has a ball pit, wooden chips area, trampolines, slide, kiddie zipline, an area where older kids can build Legos, and much more.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Location: 161 Gumi 1 (il) dong, Bundang-gu **Website:** <https://kidsfuninseoul.wordpress.com/nature-beauty/parks-and-nature/yangjae-citizens-forest/fun>

MOVIES

Beyond the on post movie options, there are excellent theaters near USAG Yongsan for your movie viewing pleasure. The closest is CGV Yongsan at the I 'Park Mall. It offers 2D, 3D, and 4D movies in English and Korean. Military discounts are available with on-site ticket purchases. Use the website below to check movie times, language options, and to purchase tickets in varying packages.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Website: <http://cineinkorea.com/movie/index.php>

MUSIC VENUES AND PERFORMING ARTS

Seoul boasts live music venues in several different areas of the city. Three jazz clubs, in particular, are well known and popular among locals and visitors alike:

KBS Symphony Orchestra (KBSSO)

KBSSO is an orchestra of traditionally western instruments that has performed in Korea and abroad since 1956. The group performs a variety of classical music, often offering concerts at either the KBS Hall (on Yeouido Island) or at the Seoul Arts Center (south of Yongsan, in Seocho-dong). A current schedule, ticket information, and specific performance locations are available on its website.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Phone: 02.6099.7400 (general information) **Website:** <http://www.kbssymphony.org/ver2/eng/>

National Orchestra of Korea

Established in 1995 by the Korean government, the National Orchestra of Korea is made up of performers using traditional Korean instruments, such as the piri (reed instrument), jjanggu (drum), gayageum (plucked zither), and haegeum (bowed zither). The orchestra is a resident group at the National Theater of Korea, located at the base of Namsan Mountain. Ticket information, detailed

transportation information (including free shuttle bus information from the subway), and a full concert schedule for this group, as well as others, is available on the National Theater of Korea's website.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Location: National Theater of Korea **Public Transportation:** Dongkuk University Station (Subway Line 3, Exit 2), take free shuttle bus **Website:** <http://www.ntok.go.kr/english/>

Seoul Philharmonic Orchestra (SPO)

SPO is an orchestra based in Seoul using traditionally western instruments that performs a wide-ranging repertoire, from Mozart to contemporary pieces, both locally and internationally. In addition to a full-year performance schedule, the SPO offers educational workshops, master classes, pre-concert lectures, and co-sponsors a neighborhood art school program. Concerts are performed at a number of different venues and a full schedule, as well as season ticket information, is available on its website.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Website: <http://www.seoulphil.or.kr/en/main/page.do>

Korean National Ballet (KNB)

Founded in 1962, KNB is the oldest professional ballet company in Korea. It offers eight major programs in their performance series each year. There is also a ballet academy for all ages, which aims to foster young talent and provide interested audience members with recreational opportunities. A full schedule, ticket information (must go to the "site map" section of the website), and directions for additional performance venues can be found on the website.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Location: Seoul Arts Center **Public Transportation:** Nambu Bus Terminal Station (Subway Line 3, Exit 5) then take the free shuttle bus (just outside exit 5) **Phone:** 02.587.6181 **Website:** http://www.kballet.org/_en/

Korea National Opera

The Korea National Opera company performs a number of major works throughout the regular season, including Korean and foreign operas. There is also a smaller touring ensemble that provides regional performances, workshops, and educational outreach programs. A full season schedule, ticket information, and regional offerings is available on its website.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Location: Seoul Arts Center **Public Transportation:** Nambu Bus Terminal Station (Subway Line 3, Exit 5) then take the free shuttle bus (just outside exit 5) **Phone:** 02.586.5282 **Website:** <http://www.nationalopera.org>

Camarata Music Company (CMC)

The Camarata Music Company is a non-profit organization that provides an opportunity for Koreans and foreigners to perform classical music together. There are two choirs, a children's choir, and an orchestra that perform throughout the year. The studio is also available for rehearsal and event space. The CMC Studio is located in Haebangchon (HBC), near USAG Yongsan's Gate 21 (Kimchi Pot gate). Visit the CMC website to learn about how to join the performing groups or for a current performance schedule.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Public Transportation: Noksapyeong Station (Subway Line 6, Exit 2), **Email:** info@camaratamusic.com **Website:** <http://camaratamusic.com>

All That Jazz

As one of the more established jazz clubs in Seoul, All That Jazz has been entertaining audiences for nearly forty years. The club features a different jazz band each night and offers patrons a full dining menu. While the menu prices are a bit on the expensive side, the small cover charge makes this club an affordable entertainment choice.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Public Transportation: Itaewon Station (Subway Line 6, Exit 1), behind the Hamilton Hotel **Website:** www.allthatjazz.kr

Club Evans

This warm, inviting, sophisticated jazz club in Hongdae attracts musicians and listeners of all ages. Club Evans features jam sessions each week, which are very organized and well-run, and are really a lot of fun to experience (as a listener or a player). The feature and house bands never fail to captivate the audience's attention with a variety of jazz styles. This club is a favorite, so it gets quite crowded on the weekends; head over there early to get a seat. There is typically a cover charge.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Public Transportation: Sangsu Station (Subway Line 6, Exit 1), Second floor of the building with 7 Eleven on the first floor **Website:** www.clubevans.com

Club Palm

This cozy club features an ever-changing calendar of jazz performers. Its location in Hongdae makes it especially popular with the college

students living in the area. It's a nice little place to relax, have a drink and hear some great live music. There is usually a cover charge.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Public Transportation: Sangsu Station (Subway Line 6, Exit 1) **Directions:** Walk straight ahead on Wausan-ro for several minutes and turn left on Wausan-ro 29-gil, Club Palm will be on the left (very close to Hongdae Park) **Website:** www.clubpalm.co.kr (Korean only)

Seoul City Improv

Improvisational comedy group with English performances. Open to all.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Website: <http://www.seoulcityimprov.com>

Seoul Players

Theater performances in English.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Website: <http://www.seoulplayers.org>

OFF LIMITS AREAS

The Commander of USAG Yongsan has designated certain off post establishments as off limits to US military personnel. Areas can be designated off limits for a variety of reasons, including prostitution and human trafficking concerns, underage drinking, business practices or force protection. An updated list of off limits establishments can be found on the USAG Yongsan website listed below.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Website: <http://www.army.mil/e2/c/downloads/404504.pdf>

PARKS, THEME PARKS, AND ZOOS

Parks

Bundang Central Park

This large park has a lake with paddle boats, an amphitheater for performances, a few hills you can hike, and a running/bike path that connects this park to Yuldong Park and the rest of the running/biking paths along the Tacheon river.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Location: 65 Sunae-dong, Bundang-gu, Seongnam-si, Gyeonggi-do

Han River (Hangang) Citizen's Park

A development project in the 1980s, Hangang River Citizen's Park is actually a series of twelve parks along the Han River. From Gangseo

Park to Gwangaru Park, you will find an abundance of sporting facilities including walking/cycling trails, skateboarding and in-line skate parks, soccer fields, and basketball courts. Water related sports such as water skiing and jet skis are available during summer, as well as swimming pools.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Directions: Exit USAG Yongsan Gate 13 (South Post Visitor's Center Gate), cross underground through Ichon Station, Exit 4, and continue walking 10 minutes to the river.

Namsan Park

Seoul's main peak, Namsan or "South Mountain," once marked the southern edge of old royal Seoul. Remains of the city walls can still be seen in some of the park's wooded areas and around the top area of the mountain. In addition to N Seoul Tower, Namsan Park contains many other places of interest, such as Namsan Botanical Gardens, Namsan Public Library, and several statues in memorial of Korean patriots. The park also contains a Paljakjung (octagonal pavilion), an aquarium, and a cable car leading to N Seoul Tower. Additionally, there are several eateries, a Trick Eye Museum, and the occasional traditional Korean performance at the area around the top of the mountain near N Seoul Tower. Admission prices vary for each attraction but there is no fee to go explore what Namsan Park has to offer or to watch the cultural events. Take a bottle of water with you!

CONTACT INFORMATION. Directions: Drive or take a taxi; park at the National Theater of Korea parking lot. You will see a food stand near the entrance to the National Theater; this is a bus stop. Take the Namsan Circular Bus Line up to the tower. When leaving, you will have to take the whole bus route to return to the National Theater (about 20 minutes). You can also ride a cable car from the Namsan cable car station. There is a parking lot available there as well. **Walking Directions:** Exit Gate 19 (Camp Coiner Visitor Center Gate); turn left and follow the road and signs all the way up. Or, exit Gate 21 (Kimchi Pot Gate) and turn right. Cross the street via the underpass and exit left. Make a right on Hoenamu-ro. Cross the Hyatt parking lot to the left and enter the park via a pedestrian bridge. You'll see signs and paved walkways leading up to the mountaintop **Public Transportation:** Chungmuro Station (Subway Line 3, Exit 2); transfer to the Namsan Circular Line (bus main line 402 or branch line 0014, 4012); Myeongdong Station (Subway Line 4, Exit 3) It is a ten minute walk uphill to the cable car station **Website:** <http://www.nseoutower.co.kr/eng/index.asp> **Hours:** Sunday-Thursday, 10:00 am-11:00 pm, Friday-Saturday 10:00 am-midnight, Cable Car operating hours: daily 10:00 am-11:00 pm

Olympic Park

This park was the site of the 1988 Olympics. It contains the World Peace Gate, the remains of a Mongchontoseong Earthen Fortress, an outdoor sculpture garden, sports facilities, and walking trails. The Olympic Sculpture Park, one of the world's top five sculpture parks, is located here. The Sculpture Park has over 200 large modern sculptures by world-class artists.

The Seoul Olympic Museum is also located here. This museum has various displays for the avid sports fan and an AV theater where you can share in the excitement of the Seoul Olympic Games. Olympic Park is also the Home of the Doosan Bears, Korea's first baseball team, and the LG Twins. Admission to the park is free, but the Olympic Museum and some other attractions have small fees.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Public Transportation: Olympic Park Station (Subway Line 5, Exit 3) or Mongchontoseong Station (Subway Line 8, Exit 1) **Website:** <http://www.olympicpark.co.kr/jsp/english/index.jsp> **Hours:** 6:00 am-midnight (attraction hours vary)

Sajik Park

Originally built around a stone altar that was erected in 1394, this park was officially recognized in 1922 during Japan's occupation of Korea. Sajik Park is also home to other famous historical landmarks, including Dangun Shrine, Jongno Municipal Library, the Municipal Children's Library, and statues of Sin Saimdang, Hwanghakjeong, and Yi I. An archery range is located at the rear of the park, and every year a national competition is held. Visitors can hike to Mt. Inwan (Inwansan) from the main gate of the park. Nearby is Gyeongbok(gung) Palace and Gyeonghui(gung) Palace.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Public Transportation: Gyeongbokgung Station (Subway Line 3, Exit 1) **Website:** http://english.visitkorea.or.kr/enu/SI/SI_EN_3_1_1_1.jsp?cid=1349135

Seoul Children's Grand Park

Seoul Children's Grand Park has much to offer, including a zoo, science museum, an amusement park, botanical gardens, play areas with a sand pit, and a separate water area where kids can splash in the summer. Admission: General admission to the park is free. Tickets must be purchased for amusement park rides, animal rides, and certain special features.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Public Transportation: Children's Grand Park Station (Subway Line 7, Exit 1) **Website:** <http://www.sisul.or.kr/global/main/en/> **Hours:** 5:00 am-10:00 pm (Park), Zoo 10:00 am-5:00 pm (Zoo), subject to change due to weather

Seoul Grand Park

Located in the suburbs of south Seoul, this enormous park has a number of attractions. It is definitely worth the trip. It's a long, uphill walk from the parking lot or you can take a tram around the complex. Attractions include the Seoul Zoo, a botanical garden, Seoul Land Amusement Park, a Contemporary Art Museum, and the nearby Gwacheon Science Museum.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Public Transportation: Seoul Grand Park Station (Subway Line 4, Exit 2)

Seoul Zoo

The zoo has beautiful grounds and contains a good collection of animals, educational pavilions, and a play area. The zoo is located on a hill but an air lift and a tram are available. The attached children's petting zoo allows you to feed llamas, ride donkeys, and pet free-roaming pigs. The Seoul Land Amusement Park is also located on these grounds.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Website: http://grandpark.seoul.go.kr/eng_grand/grand/info/info01.jsp **Hours:** 9:00 am-7:00 pm (Closing times vary by season)

Seoul Land Amusement Park

Korea's first theme park offers areas each with their own special characteristics, and has over 40 rides and five outdoor amphitheaters. Performances, exhibitions, and events (such as flower festivals) take place in the park. The Tulip Festival is held from April to May; the Starlight Rose Festival from July to August; the Chrysanthemum

Festival from September to October; and the Snow Light Festival from December to February.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Public Transportation: Seoul Grand Park Station (Subway Line 4, Exit 2) **Website:** <http://eng.seoulland.co.kr/> **Hours:** 9:30 am-10:00 pm (Closing times vary by season)

Gwacheon Science Museum

Gwacheon Science Museum has indoor exhibits, a children's play area, a dinosaur park, restaurants, a bug house, and a planetarium. It is an excellent place to spend an entire day.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Public Transportation: Seoul Grand Park Station (Subway Line 4, Exit 5) **Website:** http://english.sciencecenter.go.kr/gnsm_en/main/ **Hours:** 9:30 am-5:30 pm daily; closed on Mondays and January 1

Woongjin Play City

Woongjin Playdoci or Play City is a great destination for a day trip with your family. This indoor theme park is equipped with Korea's first indoor ski slope, driving range, fitness club, spa, and water park. You will find all of what you expect at a water park, including a wave pool, lazy river, kiddie play area and an array of water slides, but will also find areas unique to Woongjin Playdoci including an AquaBar, event pools decorated in themes of different countries, hot spring pools scented with natural ingredients, foot baths, and water jet massages. Take towels; you can rent towels but they are very small. When you check in you get an electronic watch, which is the lock for your locker, and also an electronic charge device for you to pay for life jackets and food. When you check out, you pay for what was charged to your watch. Don't forget to take advantage of the military discount. Parking is free.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Public Transportation: Bugae Station (Subway Line 1, Exit 2), take a taxi or Town Bus 579 or City Bus 79 and then get off at Sangil High School. From the school, walk to Woongjin **Directions:** Exit Gate 14 (Hospital Gate), cross the Hangan Bridge (Hangang-gyo), follow it until it turns into I-120, then take a left (South) on I-100. You'll see signs for Woongjin Parkdoji **Website:** <http://www.playdoci.com/eng/Index.aspx>

Yongsan Family Park

Located next to the National Museum of Korea in Yongsan, this park is the former golf course for the US Military, so it's all rolling hills and great open grassy spaces. It is a natural habitat for various species of birds, as well as more than 80 different kinds of trees. There is a large

exercise machine area and a kid's playground. Large public art and a fishpond make for great pictures, so bring a camera, food, and a picnic blanket.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Directions: Walk out Gate 13 (South Post Visitor's Center Gate) and take a left toward the National Museum of Korea. The park is on your left. If you drive, note that the front parking lot is small, but you can also park in the museum parking lot and walk around the back way **Website:** http://english.visitkorea.or.kr/enu/SI/SI_EN_3_1_1_1.jsp?cid=264131

PLAYGROUNDS

Pangyo Park

This park has two playgrounds with swings, slides, wooden bridge and water jets in the summer so kids can get wet and play.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Location: Behind Daiso in Pangyo, in front of Fullever Buildings, 188-3 Pangyo-dong, Bundang-gu, Seongnam-si, Gyeonggi-do.

Unjung Playground

Unjung features a playground and splash pad in the summer. There is another fun playground right across the street.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Location: 240-4 Unjung-dong, Bundang-gu, Seongnam-si, Gyeonggi-do

Worldmark Playground/Splash Pad

Located near USAG Yongsan, this area has a playground and a splash pad.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Location: Exit the PX gate and cross the eight lane road in front of you at the crosswalk, Cross the little crosswalk to the left and you will be at the base of Worldmark. The splash pad is a just past the kid's playground.

Yangjae Citizen's Forest

Yangjae Forest is a smaller version of Seoul Forest. There is a playground with sand, water fountains in the summer, and a creek for the kids to wade and splash in.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Public Transportation: Subway Line Shinbundang (pink), Exit Yangjae Citizen's Forest. **Website:** <https://kidsfuninseoul.wordpress.com/nature-beauty/parks-and-nature/yangjae-citizens-forest/>

Yuldong Park

A fun park around a lake, it's perfect for a stroll. It has two playgrounds, one located next to a creek where the kids can splash. It has sculptures and a bungee jumping platform.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Public Transportation: (Subway Line Bundang Seohyeon Station, Exit 2) **Website:** <https://kidsfuninseoul.wordpress.com/2012/08/28/yuldong-nature-park/>

Theme Parks

There are several large theme parks in the vicinity of Seoul. A day out to these parks requires planning to avoid massive crowds (avoid public holidays and Saturday afternoons, if you can) and take plenty of sun protection in summer.

Everland

Composed of play facilities, shopping facilities, and restaurants, Everland is the seventh largest theme park in the world. It is divided into three areas: Festival World, Caribbean Bay, and Speedway. Festival World is a theme park complex consisting of five theme zones known as Global Fair: American Adventure, Magic Land, European Adventure, Equatorial Adventure, and Safari World. Caribbean Bay offers a thrilling water park experience with activities for people of all ages. Caribbean Bay also offers what is considered some of the best spa and relaxation facilities available. Everland Speedway is a racing track where you can drive your car on the speedway as well as watch a race. This park also contains a full-scale zoo that includes a mini bus safari through the African animal complex. Admission prices vary depending on your choices. Season passes are available.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Directions: Take Highway 1 to the I-50 split. Exit onto I-4 toward Wonju (heading east) and follow signs to Everland. For your return, follow signs to Seoul and they will put you back onto Highway 1 **Phone:** 031.320.5000 (then press 4 for English) **Website:** <http://www.everland.com/web/multi/english/everland/main.html>
Hours: Hours vary by season

Lotte World

Lotte World includes a giant indoor/outdoor activity complex, amusement center, and nearby aquarium. In the complex itself, you'll find a year-round indoor ice-skating rink (skate rental available), indoor swimming pool, folk museum, and bowling alley. The main attraction, however, is Lotte World Adventure and Magic Island. Lotte World Adventure offers indoor rides for younger children, a monorail, musical acts and a laser show that takes place nightly at 9:00 pm. Thrill seekers should venture to Magic Island, the outdoor fun park, where they can free-fall 70m on the heart-stopping Gyro Drop ride. Prices range from ₩17,000 to ₩48,000 for adults (less for children) and vary based on options selected.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Public Transportation: Jamsil Station (Subway Lines 2 and 8, Exit 4), Lotte World is connected to the station **Phone:** 02.1661.2000 **Website:** www.lotteworld.com **Hours:** 9:30 am-11:00 pm (Closing times vary by season)

SPORTS (PARTICIPATION)

Diving

Aquatic Frontier

The Asia-Pacific region has some of the most incredible dive sites in the world, all within a few hours' flight from Korea. Some of the best diving areas worth researching are Palau; Malaysia (Sipidan, Layang Layang); Thailand (Similan Islands, Phuket); Indonesia (Komodo, Bali, Raja Ampat, Lembeh Strait); Japan (Okinawa) and Australia (Great Barrier Reef)

Osan Air Base Outdoor Recreation Center offers dive certifications from highly experienced diving instructors. Buses run between Yongsan and Osan daily.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* Osan Air Base Outdoor Recreation Phone: 010.8888.1064 *Website:* <http://aquaticfrontier.com> *Hours:* Tuesday-Sunday, 10:00 am to 6:00 pm

Hiking

HIKING WEBSITES

Korea National Park Service

Korean National Park Service has information on hikes available in the National Parks.

<http://english.knps.or.kr>

Korean Tourism Organization

The Korean Tourism Organization has information on popular hiking destinations throughout Korea.

http://english.visitkorea.or.kr/enu/SI/SI_EN_3_6.jsp?cid=1499394

Hiking Hub Korea

Hiking Hub Korea features information and guided tours.

<http://hikinghubkorea.com/hiking-in-korea.html>

Hiking is considered a national pastime in Korea. There are trails for both novices and seasoned hikers, many reachable by public transportation from Seoul. The YG Hikers Facebook page, and, if you are an AFSC member, the ASFC Hiking page, are good places to get connected to other local hikers. An Internet search on specific locations will reveal helpful blogs about what to expect. Below are some useful sites and a list of a few popular hiking destinations.

Achasan and Yongmasan

You can hike these mountains separately if you want a shorter hike with great views of the Han River and Seoul or hike them together. Achasan is an easier hike that can be done with sneakers, Yongmasan is steeper and requires sturdier footwear. Make time to stop at Yongmasan's Waterfall Park. It is the largest man-made waterfall in Asia.

CONTACT INFORMATION.

Website: http://asiaenglish.visitkorea.or.kr/ena/SI/SI_EN_3_6.jsp?cid=309631

Bugaksan (Seoul Fortress Walk)

Located in the middle of Seoul and home to Gyeongbokgung (Palace). Must have valid ID to enter, as it is in close proximity to the Presidential office.

CONTACT INFORMATION.

Website: http://english.visitkorea.or.kr/enu/SI/SI_EN_3_1_1_1.jsp?cid=1061818

Bukansan National Park

Looking north from USAG Yongsan, you can see the peaks of Bukhansan rising in the distance. See the website for detailed information about the different hikes and directions via public transportation,

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Website:* <http://english.knps.or.kr/Knp/Bukhansan/Intro/Introduction.aspx?MenuNum=1&Submenu=Npp>

Gwanaksan

Located south of the Han River, easily reached by public transportation.

CONTACT INFORMATION.

Website: http://english.visitkorea.or.kr/enu/SI/SI_EN_3_1_1_1.jsp?cid=1562674

Hallasan National Park

This beautiful park is home to Hallasan, the nation's highest point. Located on Korea's Jeju Island, it is a UNESCO World Heritage site and has a vast ecosystem of plants. Most hiking trails located here are 10K, and there are three trails to the summit with varying degrees of difficulty. Camping permitted. Parking is available for a small fee and admission is free.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* Haean-dong, Jeju-do, 2070-61 *Website:* www.hallasan.go.kr

Namsan and Seoul Tower

More of a walk than a hike, there are many paths that take you to the top of the mountain and Seoul Tower. Some are easier than others. Walking directions to one of the trails, plus more information on other attractions in the park are in the Namsan Park section of this chapter.

Seoraksan National Park

Numerous hikes in Seoraksan National Park make this area a destination for beginners as well as seasoned hikers. Over 2,000 animal species and 1,400 rare plant species live in the park, and the fall foliage attracts photographers from all over the country.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* Gangwon-do **Website:** <http://english.knps.or.kr/Knp/Seoraksan/Intro/Introduction.aspx?MenuNum=1&Submenu=Npp>

Korea on the Rocks

Information on rock and ice climbing in Korea

CONTACT INFORMATION. **Website:** <http://koreaontherocks.com>

Skiing

There are several resorts located within two hours of Seoul, but the more luxurious resorts are up to five hours away. The popular areas are very crowded on weekends. The USO frequently sponsors group trips. Look into Yong Pyong and Muju if you are interested in a “world class” resort.

The ski season generally runs between mid-December and early March. Most resorts have facilities for artificial snow. Toward late February, conditions tend to be wet and slushy by mid-morning, so go early. There are a lot of beginners on the slopes, so it is advisable to be cautious and to be aware of who is coming down behind you.

Ski clothing is abundant and inexpensive. However, if you have ski equipment and plan on skiing a lot, bring your own. Rental items are available at most resorts, but buying ski items there can be expensive. Some MWR offices may also have equipment for rent so check before heading on your ski adventure.

CONTACT INFORMATION. **Website:** http://english.visitkorea.or.kr/enu/SI/SI_EN_3_6.jsp?cid=860692

Bears Town Ski Resort

Located an hour outside of Seoul in Pocheon, Gyeonggi Province, the resort has eight slopes and can accommodate all levels of skiers.

All slopes are open for snowboarding and with eight lifts and one express lift, your wait between runs won't be as long as at some of the smaller resorts. The snow sledding field provides fun that all family members can enjoy. All day, half day, and night rates are available.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Public Transportation:* Take an Ildong-bound bus from Seoul's Sangbong Intercity Bus Terminal. Get off at Naechon Station and take a two minute taxi ride to the resort. Or, take Bus No. 5, 7, 33, or 1001 and get off at Bears Town Ski Resort or go to Cheongnyangni Station (Subway Line 1); take Bus No. 707, get off at Gwangneungnae; change to Bus No. 7.5.1001 and get off at Bearstown Ski Resort **Website:** http://www.bearstown.com/lang_eng/

Chonmassan Star Hill Resort

Located one hour northeast of Seoul, this resort has six slopes each with its own lift.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Public Transportation:* Take a city coach bus in Seoul, get off at Mukhyeon-ri, Gyeonggi-do or at Maseok Terminal. Coach buses are at Cheongryangri Station (No. 330-1, No. 765, No. 765-1, No. 1330, No. 3300), Samsil Station (No. 115, No. 901), or Gangbyeon Station (No. 1115-2). **Phone:** 02.2233.5311 **Website:** www.starhillresort.com (Korean only) **Hours:** 9:00 am-10:30 pm

Phoenix Park

Located in Pyeongchang, the host city of the 2018 Winter Olympics Games, Phoenix Park has become one of Korea's most famous resort complexes. The environmentally friendly resort, which was created with minimal disruption to surrounding nature, offers attractions for the snow lover, golf lover, and swimmer alike. Excellent accommodations include the main condo, the Euro Villa Condo, a youth hostel and a luxury hotel.

CONTACT INFORMATION. **Phone:** 02.1577.0069, then press #1 **Website:** http://english.visitkorea.or.kr/enu/SI/SI_EN_3_1_1_1.jsp?cid=658047

Yangji Pine Resort

This all-season resort is just 40 minutes outside of Seoul in Yongin, Gyeonggi Province. There are seven-grade skill slopes and six lifts, an international scale 27-hole golf course and an open-air in-woods swimming pool. The resort has a good mix of beginner and advanced ski slopes, as well as some slopes for sledding. They also offer private and group ski and snowboard lessons. Season passes, all day, and half day passes are available and prices vary.

CONTACT INFORMATION. **Phone:** 02.511.3033 **Website:** http://www.pineresort.com/yangji_eng/index.html

Yong Pyong (Dragon Valley)

Opened in 1975, Yong Pyong is Korea's "Skiing Mecca," and will host events for the 2018 Olympics. Although it is 215 km from Seoul, travel time can be as little as two hours. With 28 slopes and 14 lifts, this resort offers a large variety of options for the beginner to the expert. Golf, forest baths, waterpark, bowling, and more can be enjoyed when you need a break from the snow.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Phone:* 02.335.5889 *Website:* <http://www.yongpyong.co.kr/eng/index.do>

Martial Arts

Martial arts are available in a wide variety of disciplines and at many venues in Korea. Whether you're interested in Taekwondo, Mixed Martial Arts, Hapkido, Judo, Brazilian Jiu Jitsu, or another style, you will be able to find a studio to study at nearby. A couple of popular options near USAG Yongsan are noted below.

Body & Seoul Martial Arts and Fitness Center

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Website:* <http://www.seoulmartialarts.com>

Total Martial Arts System (TMAS)

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Website:* <http://www.t-m-a-s.com>

Golf

The Sung Nam golf course is located off post and is open to all military ID card holders and features an 18-hole, par 72 course. The clubhouse features a dining room and pro shop, as well as on-course snack bars and refreshment stands. They also have practice putting greens, a driving range, and club facilities complete with daily-use lockers, club storage, showers, hot tubs, and rental power carts. Buses to Sung Nam are available on weekends, and leave from Commiskey's. Bus schedules are available at the on post driving range (see On Post activities in this chapter for contact information). Call for tee times and annual membership information.

There are many other driving ranges and courses throughout Korea.

Sung Nam Golf Course and Driving Range

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Phone:* 050.3336.3483/3490 *DSN:* 736.3483/3490

SPORTS (PROFESSIONAL)

Professional Baseball

Professional baseball in Korea is practically an audience participation event! Enjoy unique stadium food while getting swept up in the raucous enthusiasm of the other spectators.

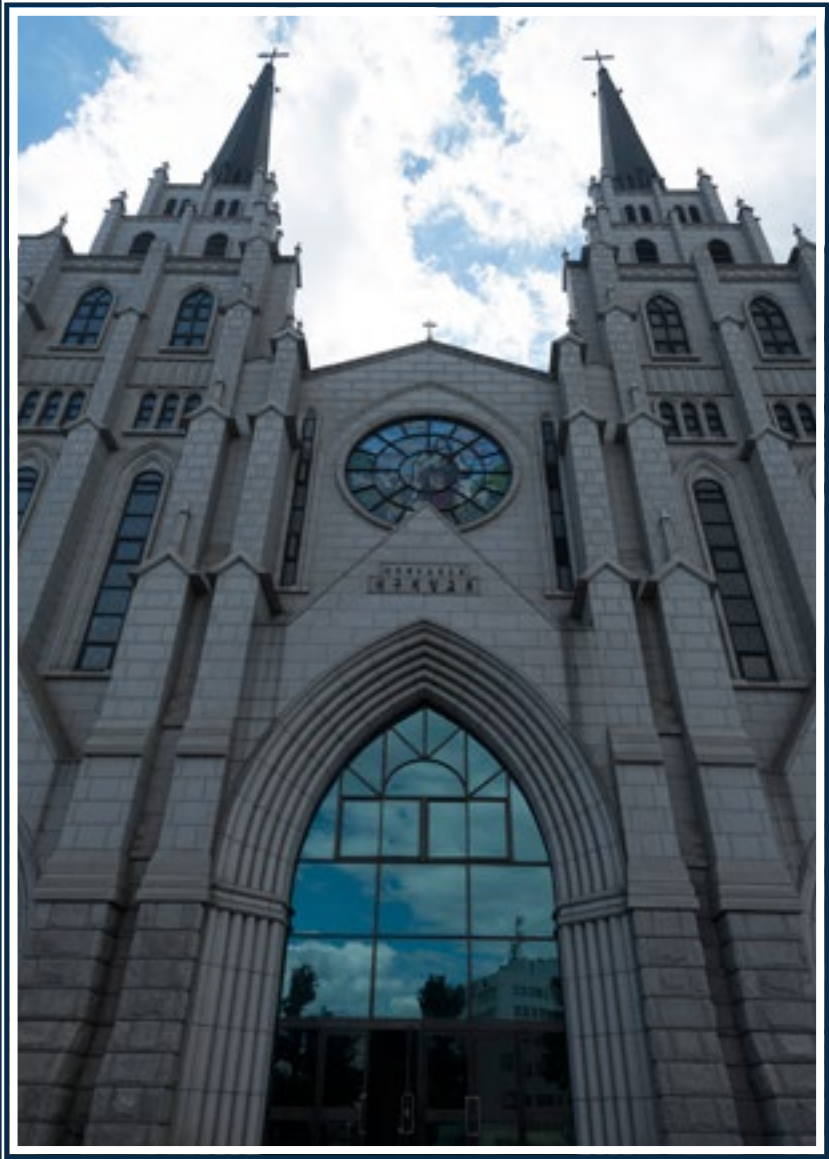
Seoul has three baseball teams (LG Twins, Doosan Bears, and Nexen Heroes) and the season runs from April through October. Both day and night games are played. You can take in a game at Jamsil Stadium (located next to the Olympic Stadium) or at Mokdong Baseball Stadium.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Website:* <http://eng.koreabaseball.com>, <http://www.lgtwins.com> (LT Twins, Korean only), <http://www.doosanbears.com> (Doosan Bears), <http://www.heroes-baseball.co.kr> (Nexen Heroes, Korean only)

Professional Basketball

Korea has both female and male professional basketball teams, with the season running from November to May.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Website:* <http://www.thunders.co.kr> (Samsung Thunders, Korean only), <http://www.skssports.net> (SK Knights)



NOTES

Section Cover Photo:

One of the many churches in the city of Seoul.

Photo provided by: Sherry Wirth

The first place many people look to find something familiar as they establish their family in a new home is with others that share a similar faith. There are many spiritual and religious congregations on post and in the surrounding community.

The Chaplain Family Life Center (CFLC) provides confidential counseling for individuals, couples, families, and groups addressing complex life challenges, gambling and eating addictions, trauma recovery, battlefield stress, sexual assault, and domestic violence.

Although this is not a comprehensive list, it provides information across a spectrum of denominations and belief systems. Consult the resources listed below if you need information beyond what is provided here.

Religious Services, On Post

REFERENCES: RELIGIOUS SERVICES, ON POST

Religious Support Office

Location: Building 3702

Phone: 050.3338.3011, DSN: 738.3011

Chaplain Family Life Center (CFLC)

Address: South Post, Building 5213

Phone: 050.3336.3018, DSN: 736.3018

Garrison Chaplain's Office

Phone: 050.3338.3011, DSN: 738.3011

On Call Duty Chaplain (Emergencies Only)

Phone: 010.4793.0143

RELIGIOUS CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

There are many religious programs available to our community, designed to meet the spiritual needs of all military and DoD civilian personnel and their families. Most chapels offer a variety of activities for all age groups to include religious education programs, choirs, study groups, and various chapel-sponsored organizations. The ministry teams of the Army, Navy, and Air Force in Korea also offer a wide variety of religious services and worship opportunities to military members and their families. Chaplains offer morning devotions on AFN Monday through Friday.

Protestant Women of the Chapel (PWOC)

PWOC is an active and vibrant community of women in the Yongsan/Seoul area. Many events offer childcare. Check out their Facebook page to learn more about Bible study class topics, opportunities to serve, and more.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* South Post Chapel, Building 3702 **Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1495823624001115/> *Hours:* Wednesday, 9:00-11:30 am *Childcare provided*

Hangul Ladies Bible Study

The Hangul Ladies Bible study group meets weekly for fellowship, praise and worship, and scripture study.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* South Post Chapel, Building 3702 *Hours:* Tuesday, 10:00 am-12:00pm *Childcare provided*

Men of the Morning Calm (MOTMC)

Men of the Morning Calm is a protestant chapel group of men striving for stronger relationships, homes, and churches.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* South Post Chapel, Building 3702 *Hours:* 1st Saturday of the month, 8:00 am

Catholic Women of the Chapel (CWOC)

CWOC is a group of Catholic women gathering for mutual support, fellowship, and inspiration.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* South Post Chapel, Building 3702 *Hours:* Thursday 9:30 am, 6:30 pm

Knights of Columbus

Knights of Columbus is a monthly gathering of Catholic men for service and spiritual development.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* Memorial Chapel, Building 1597 *Hours:* 2nd Saturday of the month, 10:00 am

Youth Teen Vision

Youth Teen Vision is a Bible study and fellowship group for middle and high school students. Weekly meetings include dinner, fun, and relevant conversation.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* South Post Chapel, Building 3702 **Phone:** 050.3338.6054 **DSN:** 738.6054 *Hours:* Sunday, 5:00-7:00 pm; Thursday 6:00-8:00 pm.

AWANA

AWANA is a fun, Biblically-based spiritual growth and character development program for children.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* South Post Chapel, Building 3702 *Hours:* Monday, 6:30 pm

UNIT MINISTRY TEAMS

Unit Ministry Teams (UMT), consisting of a Chaplain and Chaplain Assistant, are available for each Unit, Army Headquarters, Garrison, Brigade, Battalion, and Detachment. Contact your supervisor to reach your UMT.

REFERENCES: CHAPEL SERVICES

South Post Chapel

Location: South Post, Building 3702

Phone: 050.3338.6054/4043, *DSN:* 738.6054/4043

- **Protestant R.O.C.K. (Contemporary):** Sunday, 9:00 am
- **Protestant Cornerstone (Nondenominational):** Sunday, 11:00 am
- **Protestant (Gospel):** Sunday, 1:00 pm
- **Latter-day Saints (LDS)/Mormon:** Sunday, 4:00 pm
- **Jewish:** Friday, 7:00 pm

Memorial Chapel

Location: Main Post, Building 1597

Phone: 050.3325.4076/8182, *DSN:* 725.4076/8182

- **Catholic Mass:** Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, 11:45 am, 1st Saturday of the Month, 9:00 am, Saturday, 5:00 pm, Sunday, 8:00 am and 11:30 am
- **ROK Catholic Mass:** 3rd Thursday of Month, 5:30 pm
- **Protestant (Traditional):** Sunday, 9:30 am
- **United Pentecostal Church International:** Sunday, 1:00 pm
- **KATUSA Worship:** Tuesday, 6:30 pm

Brian Allgood Community Hospital Chapel

Location: South Post, Building 7005

Phone: 050.3337.1636 *DSN:* 737.1636

- **Protestant:** Sunday, 9:30 am
- **Episcopal:** Sunday, 11:00 am
- **Seventh Day Adventist:** Saturday, 9:30 am
- **Catholic Mass:** Thursday, 11:30 am

K-16 Chapel

Location: K-16 CAC, Building S-302

Phone: 050.3341.6280 *DSN:* 741.6280

- **Protestant:** Sunday, 10:30 am

Religious Services, Off Post

Many churches, temples, and synagogues in Seoul offer English-speaking services. The following is a list to help you get started in your search for fellowship.

BUDDHIST

Lotus Lantern International Buddhist Center

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* 85 Giljik-ri, Gilsang-myeon, Ganghwa-gun, Incheon *Phone:* 032.937.7033 *Website:* www.lotuslantern.net See website for temple stay applications

Hwa Gye Sa Seoul International Zen Center

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* 487 Suyu(1)-dong, Gangbuk-gu *Phone:* 02.900.5225 *Website:* www.seoulzen.center *Hours:* Sunday program begins at 12:30 pm

GREEK ORTHODOX

St. Nicholas Cathedral

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* 424-1 Ahyeon-dong, Mapo-gu *Phone:* 02.362.7005 *Website:* <http://www.nicholas.or.kr> Some services are in English, some in Greek

HINDU

Vedic Cultural Center (Sri Sri Radha Shyamasundar Mandir)

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* 44-8 Yongsan-dong(2)ga, Yongsan-gu *Phone:* 010.2448.6441 *Website:* www.krishnakorea.com *Hours:* Offerings and classes held daily, contact temple before attending any program

JEHOVAH'S WITNESS

Seoul Seobu English Congregation

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* Hannam Building 5F, 737-37 Hannam-dong, Yongsan-gu *Phone:* 02.793.0519 *Hours:* Congregation Bible Study, Wednesday, 7:30 pm, Public Meeting, Sunday, 2:00 pm

JEWISH

Chabad Jewish Community

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* 744-17 Hannam-dong, Yongsan-gu *Phone:* 010.7730.3770 *Website:* www.jewishkorea.com *Hours:* Erev Shabbat Maariv, Friday, beginning of Shabbat, Shabbat Shachrit, Saturday, 10:00 am

MORMON/LATTER-DAY SAINTS

Seoul Korea Temple

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* 500-23 Changcheon-dong, Seodaemun-gu *Phone:* 02.334.9100 *Website:* <https://www.lds.org/church/temples/seoul-korea?lang=eng> *Hours:* Sinchon branch, Sunday, 11:50 am

Seoul English Branch

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* 24-8 Seonyudong 1-ro, Yeongdeungpo-gu *Phone:* 02.2232.2284 *Hours:* Sunday, 10:00 am

MUSLIM

Seoul Central Mosque

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* Hannam-dong, Yongsan *Phone:* 02.794.7307/02.793.6908 *Website:* www.koreaislam.org

PROTESTANT

Chungdong First Methodist Church English Ministry

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* 34 Chung-dong, Joong-gu *Phone:* 02.753.0007 *Website:* www.chungdongem.com *Hours:* Sunday, 10:00 am, 2:00 pm

International Lutheran Church

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* 726-39 Hannam-Dong, Yongsan-Gu *Phone:* 02.794.6274 *Website:* www.ilcseoul.net *Hours:* Sunday, 8:30 am, 11:00 am

Jubilee Church

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* Sang Ah Building 3&4F, 527-01 Sinsa-dong, Gangnam-gu *Phone:* 02.569.2293/02.569.2294 *Website:* www.jubileeseoul.com *Hours:* Sunday, 10:00 am, 1:30 pm

Onnuri Community Church

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* 241-96 Seobinggo-dong, Yongsan-gu *Website:* www.onnurienglish.org *Hours:* Sunday, 4:00 pm

Seoul International Baptist Church

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* 47-11 Yongsan-dong(2)ga, Yongsan-gu *Phone:* 02.793.6267 *Website:* www.sibckorea.org *Hours:* Sunday 11:00 am, 3:00 pm

Seoul Union Church

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* Yonsei University, School of Theology-Seminary Chapel *Phone:* 02.333.7393 *Website:* www.seoulunionchurch.org *Hours:* Sunday, 10:00 am

Victory Christian Fellowship

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* 181-8 Itaewon-dong, Yongsan-gu *Website:* www.vcf-korea.org *Hours:* Sunday, 9:00 am, 5:00 pm

Yoido Full Gospel

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* 11 Yoido-dong, Yeongdeungpo-gu *Phone:* 02.782.4851 *Website:* <http://english.fgtv.com> *Hours:* Sunday, 9:00 am, 11:00 am

Yongsan Baptist Church

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* 15 Cheongpa-ro 45-gil, Cheongpa-dong, Yongsan-gu *Phone:* 010.2620.0284 *Website:* www.yongsanbaptist.org *Hours:* Sunday, 11:00 am, 2:00 pm

Youngnak Presbyterian Church (Youngnak International Worship in English)

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* 33 Supyo-ro, Jung-gu *Phone:* 02.2280.0228 *Website:* www.yniwe.org *Hours:* Sunday, 10:00 am, 3:00 pm

ROMAN CATHOLIC

St. Francis Catholic International Parish

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* 707-10 Hannam-dong Yongsan-gu *Phone:* 02.793.2070 *Website:* http://church.catholic.or.kr/international/index_eng.html *Weekend Mass in English, Korean, Spanish, French, German, and Italian*

Myeongdong Cathedral

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* 71 Myeong-dong-gil, Myeong-dong, Jung-gu *Phone:* 02.774.1784 *Website:* www.mdsd.or.kr/english/parish.asp *Hours:* English Mass Sunday, 9:00 am

Yeoksam Catholic Church

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* 722-9 Yeoksam-dong, Gangnam-gu *Phone:* 02.553.0801 *Website:* www.yscatholic.com *Hours:* English Mass Sunday, 9:30 am

Clubs and Organizations, On Post

SPECIAL INTEREST CLUBS

There are several groups on post formed by people with specific interests such as quilting, photography, or hiking. These groups meet at various locations. Check cable channel 3 on AFN, bulletin boards, the *Morning Calm* newspaper, the Internet (Facebook groups), Army Community Service (ACS), or through word of mouth. If you have an interest, there is probably a group for you. Also, refer to the Sports, Leisure, and Recreation section of this publication for more ideas on activities and ways you and your family can socialize.

AUDIE MURPHY CLUB

Club membership is comprised of the top 2% of Noncommissioned Officers in the Army. They are selected for club membership based on demonstrated leadership, professionalism, and overall general military knowledge. The club provides aid to the homeless, helps out the elderly, assists the handicapped, and works to provide a better life for everyone in the community.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Area-II-Sergeant-Audie-Murphy-Club-548393041872012/>

AMERICAN FORCES' SPOUSES' CLUB (AFSC)

AFSC is open to all military, civilian, and DoD spouses stationed in Korea. Associate

AMERICAN FORCES' SPOUSES' CLUB

www.afscyongsan.org

membership is available for retired and widowed members of the U.S. Armed Forces, ARC, USO and special service personnel who are authorized with SOFA/MOFA. Themed monthly luncheons, held September through May at the Dragon Hill Lodge, offer a chance for members and guests to enjoy shopping and a catered lunch. A welcome coffee is held in early fall and new members can join throughout the year.

The AFSC also sponsors activities and clubs which can include book club, bunko, tennis, hiking, running, international cooking, lunch bunch, needlework circle, scrapbooking, shopping, touring, etc., based on member interests. A membership form is available in the back of this book. Forms are also available at club meetings, on the official website, and on the club Facebook page.

PLAY GROUPS

ACS organizes playgroups for military children. Call or go to ACS for more information.

Clubs and Organizations, Off Post

Looking to connect with people beyond the USAG Yongsan community? Consider joining one of the following clubs and associations.

AMERICAN WOMEN'S CLUB (AWC)

The AWC provides social, cultural, and philanthropic activities for expatriate women of all countries. The AWC also operates The Second Hand Rose Thrift Shop on USAG Yongsan, the proceeds of which support AWC charities in both the USFK and Korean communities.

AMERICAN WOMEN'S CLUB

www.awckorea.com

ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY (RAS)

RAS is a non-profit organization for those interested in learning more about Korea. Members receive discounts on the various RAS excursions and lectures, and on the Society's publications.

ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY

Phone: 02.763.9483

<https://www.facebook.com/RASKB>



SEOUL INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Seoul International Women's Association (SIWA) is dedicated to expatriate women living in the greater Seoul area. In addition to the monthly Coffee Mornings and Newcomers' Welcome, members can join various classes and interest groups. SIWA offers many tours in and around Seoul and publishes the bimonthly *Discovery Magazine*. It also hosts an annual bazaar and a gala to raise funds for Korean charities.

**SEOUL INTERNATIONAL
WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION**
www.siwapage.com

TOASTMASTERS INTERNATIONAL

Toastmasters International is an organization that develops public speaking and leadership skills in a supportive and positive learning environment. There are more than 30 Toastmasters clubs in the Seoul area, with other clubs spread throughout Korea. Most clubs conduct meetings in English, and many meetings are free for guests. To find one that meets at a time and place convenient for you, check the Toastmasters International website and click "Find a Club."

**TOASTMASTERS
INTERNATIONAL**
www.toastmasters.org

Section Cover Photo:

83 Tower - Daegu

Photo provided by: Sherry Wirth

KIMCHI POT LIST

The American Forces' Spouses' Club (AFSC) members were asked to share what's on their "Kimchi Pot List" ("bucket list") of things to do while stationed in Korea. We have compiled the **TOP 10** for you.

1. Love history? Be sure to visit a **Korean Palace**. Try **Changdeokgung Palace** or explore **Gyeongbokgung Palace** and the adjacent Gwanghwamun Plaza. For directions and information on the palaces in Korea, visit http://english.visitkorea.or.kr/enu/SI/SI_EN_3_6.jsp?cid=561397.
2. **Shop...shop...shop** at **Namdaemun Market** and **Dongdaemun Market and Design Plaza** (especially at night). Pick up some **Korean traditional crafts** in **Insadong**. Visit the hustle and bustle in **Myeongdong**. Here you can try **Korean street food** and catch a showing of **Nanta, one of Korea's famous shows**. Visit <http://english.visitkorea.or.kr/enu/SH/whereToShop/whereToShop.jsp> and <http://nanta.i-pmc.co.kr> for more information.
3. **Go Hiking!** The most popular places are: **Gwanaksan, Inwangsan,** and **Bukhansan**. You can also hike along **Seoul Fortress Wall** and **Namhansanseong Fortress Wall**. For recommended hiking routes, visit http://english.visitkorea.or.kr/enu/SI/SI_EN_3_6.jsp?cid=1499394.
4. Attend a **Korean sporting event** such as a **Korean Baseball League game** or see the Seoul Samsung Thunders play basketball at the **Jamsil Stadium Complex**. These websites will give you all the information you need: <http://eng.koreabaseball.com/> and <http://www.kbl.or.kr/english/greetings.asp>.
5. Bring your best camera and visit the **Trickeye Museum** in Seoul. Check it out at: http://trickeye.com/seoul_wp/main/?tl=en_US.
6. **Namsan is Seoul's most iconic landmark**. Walk or take the **cable car** that lead to the top of the mountain. At the top stands **N. Seoul Tower**, where you can go for a dinner date at "**N. Grill**," a rotating restaurant. Visit http://english.visitkorea.or.kr/enu/ATR/SI_EN_3_1_1_1.jsp?cid=264320 for more information.
7. Seoul has some of the largest **museums** around. Visit the **National Museum of Korea** (including the **National Hangeul Museum**), the **National Folk Museum of Korea**, **Korean War Museum** and the **National Museum of Contemporary Art**. Many offer free admission, English guides, and special exhibits. To learn more and plan your visit, check out <http://www.museum.go.kr/site/eng/home>, www.nfm.go.kr and <http://www.mmca.go.kr/eng/>.

KIMCHI POT LIST (CONTINUED)

8. Experience one of the many **cultural festivals**, such as the **Seoul Lantern Festival** (early Fall) or the **Lunar New Year Celebrations** (February). Check out all that is happening by visiting http://www.visitseoul.net/en/article/article.do?_method=list&m=0003001006003&p=04, http://english.visitkorea.or.kr/enu/SI/SI_EN_3_2_2.jsp, and <http://seoulantern.visitseoul.net/>.
9. Visit the **Demilitarized Zone (DMZ)** for a deeper understanding of the Korean Conflict. While there, you can visit Camp Bonifas, the Joint Security Area (JSA) and the Third Infiltration Tunnel. We recommend booking in advance for this unique experience! You can learn more by visiting http://english.visitkorea.or.kr/enu/SI/SI_EN_3_4_1.jsp, or by stopping by the Discover Seoul desk (in the Dragon Hill Lodge) or the USO.
10. Head over to **Yeosu Pottery Village** for exquisite Korean pottery and ceramic products. Many groups on post offer day trips. To learn more about Yeosu, visit <http://www.yj21.net/main/english/>.

KIDS' KIMCHI POT LIST

Though the list above certainly includes many activities that can be enjoyed by the whole family, the following recommendations are perfect for the kids – and kids at heart!

1. **Seoul Grand Children's Park.** Located in Gwangjin-gu, Seoul Grand Children's Park includes a zoo, botanical gardens, a theme park, and a family park.
Location: 216 Neungdong-ro, Gwangjin-gu. Phone: 02.450.9356
Website: <http://www.sisul.or.kr/global/main/en/sub/park.jsp>
2. **Seoul Grand Park.** Seoul Grand Park complex is to the south of Seoul in the city of Gwacheon. It includes **hiking trails, Seoul Grand Park Zoo, rose gardens, and Seoul Land Amusement Park**.
Location: 102 Daegongwongwangjang-ro, Gwacheon-si, Gyeonggi-do.
Phone: 02.500.7337/7338 Website: <http://grandpark.seoul.go.kr/engMain.jsp> and <http://eng.seoulland.co.kr/eng/index.asp>
3. **Lotte World.** Lotte World is a major recreation and entertainment complex in Seoul with an outdoor amusement park.
Location: 240 Olympic-ro, Songpa-gu. Phone: 02.1661.2000
Website: <http://global.lotteworld.com/main.asp>

KIDS' KIMCHI POT LIST (CONTINUED)

4. **Everland & Carribean Bay.** Everland is Korea's largest theme park; it includes a zoo and Caribbean Bay water park. There are parades held nightly throughout the park.
Location: 199 Everland-ro, Pogog-eup, Cheoin-gu, Yongin-si, Gyeonggi-do.
Phone: 031.320.5000 Website: <http://www.everland.com/web/multi/english/everland/main.html>
5. **KidZania.** KidZania is a **child-sized replica of a real city**, including buildings, shops, and theaters, as well as vehicles and pedestrians moving along its streets. In this city, children work in branded activities such as bottling carbonated beverages, as well as roleplaying in a dentist's office, at a ramen noodle factory, as an airline attendant, and as firefighters.
Location: 40-1, Jamsil 3(sam)-dong, Songpa-gu. Phone: 02.1544.5110
Website: <http://www.kidzania.co.kr/web/eng/home>
6. **COEX Aquarium.** One of Korea's largest aquariums, COEX Aquarium features more than 40,000 creatures from over 650 species, and theme areas such as undersea tunnels and ocean kingdoms.
Location: 513 Yeongdong-daero, Gangnam-gu. Phone: 02.6002.6200
Website: http://www.coexaqua.com/index_eng.asp
7. **Seoul Forest.** You can participate in a variety of outdoor activities (feeding deer, bicycling, skate boarding, horseback riding, etc.) in Seoul Forest. There are also insect and plant museums to explore.
Location: 685, Seongsu 1(il)-ga 1(ii)-dong, Seongdong-gu.
Phone: 02.460.2905 Website: http://english.visitkorea.or.kr/enu/ATR/SI_EN_3_1_1_1.jsp?cid=789696
8. **Korean Folk Village.** The Korean Folk Village is a living museum where elements of traditional Korean life and culture are displayed, traditional dances are performed, and equestrian skills are demonstrated. It is located in Yongin, a satellite city in the Seoul Metropolitan Area.
Location: 90, Minsokchon-ro, Ki heung-gu, Yongin. Phone: 031.288.0000
Website: <http://www.koreanfolk.co.kr/multi/english/>

From Seoul, to Korea, to the many countries beyond, there is a world of opportunity awaiting you and your family, but to maximize your enjoyment, it is wise to be properly informed and prepared. This section will help you become acclimated to your new home, prepare to welcome visitors, and to explore both Korea and the region.

General Information

PUBLIC RESTROOMS

Public restrooms may have western style toilets and/or in-ground toilets. Signs are usually on the doors to identify which type of toilet is inside. You may find a toilet that has seat warmers and other features. Look at the pictures carefully before pressing any buttons.

Foreigners sometimes miss toilet paper in bathrooms because it is often in large dispensers similar in size to a paper towel dispenser located outside the stalls. When you walk into the restroom, you may notice toilet paper dispensers on the wall. This signals that the stalls do not have their own rolls, so take some with you. A good rule of thumb is to carry tissues with you, just in case the bathrooms do not have any available. Also, you might see a wastebasket and signs that read “do not to throw toilet paper into the toilet.” Be aware that soap for washing is often communal and on a stick near the sinks.

SPACE AVAILABLE TRAVEL

REFERENCES: SPACE AVAILABLE TRAVEL

Air Mobility Command

<http://www.amc.af.mil/amctravel/index.asp>

Military Space Available Travel

<http://www.spacea.net>

Osan Air Base Passenger Terminal

Phone: 031.661.1854, DSN: 315.784.1854 (Within Korea)

Phone: 011.82.31.661.1854 (International)

Email: OsanSpaceA@osan.af.mil

Website:

<http://www.osan.af.mil/units/731stairmobilitysquadron.asp>

Hours: Tuesday, Thursday, 6:00 am-6:00 pm; Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 7:00 am-6:00 pm

Patriot Express

Space Available Flights, also referred to as Space A travel or Patriot Express, is air travel that is offered at a highly reduced cost to active and retired members of the military as well as qualifying members of their families. Space A travel is possible if seats remain available after military personnel traveling under orders receive their seats. There are various restrictions governing Space A travel so familiarity with these guidelines is highly recommended.

In Korea, Space A travel is provided at Osan and Kunsan Air Bases. Osan Air Base is located one hour south of Seoul and is conveniently and inexpensively reached by bus service departing from USAG Yongsan's Moyer Bus Terminal or the Dragon Hill Lodge. To ensure the most accurate and up to date information, travelers should speak directly to personnel.

The passenger terminal at Osan Air Base has excellent modern facilities including a spacious, well-equipped play area for families traveling with children.

The Space A flights depart from Osan Air Base and arrive in the United States at Seattle International Airport. Connections from Seattle are via regular commercial airlines. Connecting commercial flights are not part of Space A travel and are at the traveler's personal expense.

Keep in mind that Space A travel is not a reliable means of transportation. Unlike commercial airlines, there are usually no back-up flights if a plane is diverted. There are also no guarantees that seats will be available. This means travelers must be flexible and prepared with an alternative travel plan. If you keep this in mind, and follow all the required guidelines, you will no doubt find that Space A is a great option.

Here are the basic steps for successful Space A travel.

- Identify your eligibility travel category.
- Determine your departure and arrival points, and intended travel dates.
- Prepare required documentation and obtain requisite authorization.
- Register with the Passenger Terminal (the earlier this is done, the better). Be sure to register for both your departing flight and your return flight.
- Call the Passenger Terminal 24-48 hours prior to departure date to receive flight status updates, required "show-time" and projected seat availability.
- Check-in at the Passenger Terminal on flight departure date. Be sure you have all required travel documents (Passport, ID card, authorized letter to travel, and any other documents you were instructed to bring).
- Listen for the seats available announcement. If you are selected for a space available seat, be prepared to check in immediately.

VISAS

The best way to get accurate information on visas is to contact the relevant embassy several months prior to the time you are interested in traveling. Conditions are constantly changing around the world, so be prepared for some travel changes. Travel agents or the USO can help groups of travelers obtain passport information and visas. For visitors to Korea, a visa is not required if the period of stay in Korea is 90 days or less.

VISITORS TO USAG YONGSAN/SEOUL

Many families stationed in Korea host visiting family and friends. Each visitor you have will need a valid passport. Before your visitors purchase airline tickets, check with travel agents in Korea (both on and off post). They will often be able to provide you with cheaper fares on flights from the US to Korea.

Temporary Post Pass

Visitors need a pass issued so that they can have access to the post. Prior to their arrival, pick up an application (USFK Form 82-E) for a temporary post pass from the Post Access & POV office in the USAG Yongsan Headquarters Building. Return completed forms (you will need a copy of the visitor's passport information) to the same office. Pass processing and approval takes about three working days. You may request a pass for up to 30 days. When you pick up the approved pass, you can also pick up a letter that will allow your visitors access to the PX (escorted by you); this process can easily be done before your visitors arrive.

Once your visitors arrive in the country, take the completed paperwork, your visitors, and their passports to the Pass, ID, and Vehicle Registration Office. Visitors must be present to have their thumb print scanned for the DBIDS system. They will also have their photograph taken and will be issued a pass valid for their entire stay. If your visitors arrive after hours or on a weekend, you will be able to sign them on post for a 24-hour period. You will need to re-sign them in every 24 hours until you obtain a pass for them. This can be especially

inconvenient if your visitors arrive just before a long holiday weekend.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Location: Directorate of Emergency Services (DES), Post Access & POV Office USAG Yongsan Headquarters, Building 4305, Room 105 and Pass, ID, and Vehicle Registration Office, Camp Kim, Building 1230 **Phone:** 050.3338.4603 **DSN:** 738.4603 **Hours:** Monday-Friday, 8:00 am-4:00 pm, closed holidays (Post Access & POV Office USAG Yongsan Headquarters), Monday-Friday, 8:30 am-4:00 pm, closed Holidays (Pass ID and Vehicle Registration Office)

Signing Visitors On Post

You will need to take visitors to a designated gate (Gates 1, 13, or 19). Your visitors need a form of identification that verifies citizenship (e.g., Korean ID, US passport), which the security officials will retain in exchange for a temporary pass. US citizens will be allowed to keep their passport, but must provide some other form of identification, such as a driver's license, that will be retained. Vehicles may also be brought on post; the vehicle's plate number must be provided when you sign in the visitor.

Medical Insurance for Visitors

It is advisable that visitors contact their insurance company and add a special rider to their policy in the event that they need hospital care. Visitors not eligible for military benefits will be hospitalized in Korean hospitals. In some cases, Medicaid and other insurance carriers have refused to pay for hospitalization stays.

Accommodations in Seoul

There are many hotels to choose from in Seoul. This list is by no means comprehensive; however, it will give you a selection to start with.

Dragon Hill Lodge

The Dragon Hill Lodge (DHL) is one of five Armed Forces Recreation Centers. Personnel in PCS status have priority and may make reservations one year in advance. Located in the center of USAG Yongsan, it is a hub of activity for those living in or visiting Seoul. Most incoming military personnel stay at the DHL.

If you have to seek accommodations elsewhere on the economy, Seoul has a wide variety of hotels with varying prices. The Resource section provides a list of websites you can access for information on lodging accommodations in Seoul or other parts of Korea.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Location: Dragon Hill Lodge, Reservations Dept., Unit 15335, APO, AP 96205-5335 (Mailing Address for Reservations) **Phone:** 011.822.7918.2222 (From US), 050.3338.2222 (From Korea) **DSN:** 738.2222 **Fax:** 011.822.790.1576 (From US), 050.3390.1576 (From Korea) **Email:** reservations@dragonhilllodge.com (For Reservations) **Website:** www.dragonhilllodge.com

Billeting On Post

CONTACT INFORMATION. Location: Walker Center **Phone:** 050.3336.1048 **DSN:** 736.1048

US Embassy Association Suites

CONTACT INFORMATION. Location: Building 8105 **Phone:** 050.3338.6124 **DSN:** 738.6124, 02.397.4487

Korean Inns

Once you have become accustomed to the culture in Korea, you may want to try staying in a Korean inn or "yogwan." Prices for a stay at a Korean inn depends upon your preference for a Western-style bed and bath or "Korean style" accommodations. Be aware that some Korean inns have bathrooms in the rooms, but many do not.

REFERENCES: ACCOMMODATIONS, OFF POST

Prices may vary depending on the exchange rate. Most of the hotels listed offer military discounts to US service members and their families. Many of the nicer hotel chains offer great restaurants and shopping. Even if you are not staying overnight, take the opportunity to enjoy their world-class cuisine.

- **Grand Ambassador Seoul Associated with Pullman**
Phone: 02.2270.3111
- **Elle Inn**
Phone: 02.792.8700
- **Kaya Tourist Hotel**
Phone: 02.798.5101.7
- **Crown Hotel**
Phone: 02.797.4111
- **Capital Hotel**
Phone: 02.792.1122
- **Hamilton Hotel**
Phone: 02.794.0171
- **Grand Hyatt Seoul**
Phone: 02.797.1234

Korea Tourism

REFERENCES: KOREA TOURISM

Official Korea Tourism Organization

<http://english.visitkorea.or.kr>

Korean Information Line for Foreigners

http://asiaenglish.visitkorea.or.kr/ena/GK/GK_EN_2_7_1.jsp

Check website for specific area codes

There is an abundance of things to see and experience in Korea, and it can be hard to know where to begin. Be adventurous! Buy a good map and an English/Korean dictionary, acquire some won, and just go explore. Koreans are friendly and relish the opportunity to teach you about their country and culture. Another option is to start your exploration by joining a group tour with the USO, The Royal Asiatic Society, or to spend the day on the Seoul City Bus tour.

SEOUL

The majority of the sites in this section can be easily reached using the Seoul subway or bus systems. You may want to stop by the USO or ACS before heading out to pick up English maps, information on local cuisine and culture, subway maps, and bus schedules. Once out in the city, most tourist areas have tourist information booths or guides wearing red shirts, with maps of the local neighborhoods and businesses.

Seoul has many cultural, historical, and entertainment venues. The following list includes some of the most popular, but it is by no means exhaustive! Explore the many palaces, museums, parks, and other attractions beyond this list.

REFERENCES: SEOUL TOURISM

Official Seoul City Tourism Website
www.visitseoul.net/en/index.do

Korean Information Line for Foreigners
02.1330 (From Seoul)

Points of Interest

Bukchon Hanok Village

Bukchon Hanok Village is an area where traditional Korean houses called hanok form a group, which encompasses Gahoe-dong, Jaedong, and Samcheong-dong in Jongno-gu. Bukchon has been a traditional residential district for more than 600 years.

The village is located between two palaces. The eaves of houses are connected and walls are shared. These homes are often still occupied, so consideration should be made regarding large groups and rowdy behavior.

The Gahoe-dong Traditional Village Cultural Festival is held in the streets of Bukchon Hanok Village by the Bukchon Nobility Life & Culture Pavilion, where visitors can learn about the lives of historical Koreans.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Public Transportation: Anguk Station (Subway Line 3, Exit 3) **Website:** <http://bukchon.seoul.go.kr/eng/index.jsp>

Cheonggyecheon Stream

Cheonggyecheon Stream is 8.4 km long and offers wonderful walkways and rocky areas to sit and have lunch. At night, lights accentuate the fountains and provide a romantic feel for an evening stroll. Start at either Gwanghwamun or City Hall stations.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Location: Cheonggye Plaza **Public Transportation:** Gwanghwamun Station (Subway Line 5, Exit 5), City Hall Station (Subway Line 1 or 2, Exit 4) and head toward the pink seashell **Website:** <http://english.sisul.or.kr/global/cheonggye/eng/WebContent/index.html>.

Han River Boat Cruise

A boat cruise along the Han River is one of the best ways to view Seoul's riverfront areas. Several boats cruise the waters of the Han, making one-way and round-trip tours. In addition to the regularly scheduled tours, the boats can be chartered for special occasions and parties.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Phone: 02.3271.6900, 050.3338.2222 x6286 (Discover Seoul desk inside the Dragon Hill Lodge) **Website:** <http://www.elandcruise.com>

N Seoul Tower

Visible from almost anywhere in Seoul, N Seoul Tower serves as an excellent landmark. Built on a 262-meter peak in Namsan Park, the tower reaches to 480 meters above sea level. When the weather and pollution levels cooperate, visiting the observation tower (370 meters above sea level) allows you to view the entire city and surrounding areas. There are several restaurants at the Tower, including a rotating restaurant above the observation deck, and a Trick Eye Museum.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Website: <http://www.nseoultower.co.kr/eng/index.asp>

Namsangol Traditional Folk Village

Located just north of Namsan Park, the Seoul government recreated a small village that resembles the architecture and gardens of the area during the Joseon Dynasty (1392-1910). The area contains five restored traditional houses with furniture and decorations authentic to the period. There are standing programs featuring traditional Korean arts and cultural activities and admission is free.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Public Transportation: Chungmuro Station (Subway Line 3 or 4, Exit 3 or 4)

Seoul Arts Center

This center houses many concert halls and galleries. There is an Opera House, Music Hall, Hangaram Art Museum, Hangaram Design Museum (which features rotating exhibits), Seoul Calligraphy Art Museum, several gift shops and a small restaurant.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Public Transportation: Nambu Bus Terminal Station (Subway Line 3, Exit 5) then take the free shuttle bus (just outside exit 5) **Phone:** 02.580.1300 **Website:** www.sac.or.kr/eng

Seoul City Bus Tour

This bus tour takes you all over the city. You can get on and off the bus as many times as you wish, visiting whatever interests you. There are English speaking guides, as well as audio guides on the bus. Tickets may be purchased as you get on the bus. Look for red pillars marked “Seoul City Bus Tour.” The bus is also marked “Seoul City Bus Tour.”

CONTACT INFORMATION. Public Transportation: Multiple stops around the city, including outside Gate 1 (Main Gate/DHL Gate) **Website:** <http://en.seoulcitybus.com/>
Hours: Buses do NOT run on Mondays.

63 Building

The towering, golden building south of the Han River is one of the tallest skyscrapers in Seoul and was the tallest building in Asia when it opened in 1985. It is an indoor space that offers high quality entertainment in five attractions: Seaworld Aquarium, the Sky Art Gallery and observation deck, an IMAX Theater, 63 Art Hall, and a Wax Museum.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Public Transportation: Yeouinaru Station 527 (Subway Line 5, Exit 1) **Website:** <http://www.63.co.kr/home/63CITY/eng/main.do>

Palace Districts

The Palace District of central Seoul is bounded by five grand palaces. Check out the traditional tea shops and trinkets of the major tourist center in Insadong, the art galleries in Samcheong-dong, and stroll through streets studded with traditional hanok buildings in Bukchon-dong. The official South Korean presidential residence, Cheongwadae, also known as the “Blue House,” is also located within this district.

The royal palaces of Seoul are the pride of Korea. Although most of the buildings were damaged or destroyed by war, their historical and aesthetic significance are still appreciated throughout the world. All of the palaces and their contents date from the Joseon Dynasty (1392-1910) and restorations are ongoing.

At specific times during the day, there are special ceremonies performed, such as the changing of the guard or a traditional Korean wedding ceremony. Special tickets can be purchased for multiple palaces at discounted rates.

Cheongwadae

CONTACT INFORMATION. Website: <http://english1.president.go.kr/cheong-wa-dae-info/placeBuildings.php>

Insadong

CONTACT INFORMATION. Website: http://www.visitseoul.net/en/article/article.do?_method=view&art_id=506&lang=en&m=0003001005007&p=05

Changdeokgung and Biwon (Secret Garden)

A UNESCO World Heritage site, this palace was first built in 1405; the buildings have all been recently restored and repainted. Buildings of particular note include the blue-roofed Seonjeongjeon, which was the king’s office, and the Daejojeon (“Great Making Hall”), his bedchamber. Most famous of all is the Biwon (“Secret Garden”). Access to the Biwon complex is by guided tour only.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Public Transportation: Jongno 3-ga Station (Subway Lines 1, 3 or 5, Exit 6) or Anguk Station (Line 3, Exit 3) **Website:** <http://eng.cdg.go.kr/main/main.htm> **Hours:** 9:00 am-5:30 pm (closing hours vary upon season), Closed Monday

Changgyeonggung

Changgyeonggung Palace (“Palace of Bright Rejoicing”) was built in 1104 as a summer palace by Goryeo King Sukjong. It later became one of the main palaces during the Joseon Dynasty and was used as a temporary home for the king while Gyeongbok Palace was being built. It is accessible on the same entry ticket as the UNESCO World Heritage site, Jongmyo Shrine.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Public Transportation: Hyehwa Station (Subway Line 4, Exit 4) **Website:** http://english.visitkorea.or.kr/enu/SI/SI_EN_3_1_1_1.jsp?cid=264350
Hours: 9:00 am-5:30 pm (closing hours vary upon season). English tours: 11:00 am and 4:00 pm. Closed Monday.

Deoksugung

This palace is a vivid contrast to other nearby palaces. Built during the mid-fifteenth century, the architecture is a fusion of both Korean and Western architecture, and a modern art museum is located on the grounds. Deoksugung is located across from Seoul City Hall.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Public Transportation: City Hall Station (Subway Lines 1 or 2, Exit 2) **Website:** http://english.visitkorea.or.kr/enu/ATR/SI_EN_3_1_1_1.jsp?cid=264316 **Hours:** 9:00 am-9:00 pm. Closed Monday; Changing of the Royal Guards ceremonies: 11:00 am, 2:00 pm, and 3:30 pm.

Gyeongbokgung

Built in 1935, Seoul's grandest and most beautiful palace was the seat of power for centuries before it was razed in 1592 and again in 1910 by the Japanese. Large parts have been restored and the most representative edifices of the Joseon Dynasty, Gyeonghoe-ru Pavilion and Hayangwonjeong Pond, are still relatively intact. The vast grounds house the National Palace Museum of Korea and the National Folk Museum.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Public Transportation: Gyeongbokgung Palace Station (Subway Line 3, Exit 5) or Gwanghwamun Station (Subway Line 5, Exit 2) **Hours:** 9:00 am-5:00 pm (closing hours vary upon season). Closed Tuesday. English tours are available at 11:00 am, 1:30 pm, and 3:30 pm.

Gyeonghuigung

This palace, which historically served as a secondary palace where the king moved to in times of emergency, boasts beautiful architecture that complimented the slanted geography of the mountains surrounding it. Also called Seogwol, "A Palace of the West," this palace was commissioned by King Gwanghae in 1617 and is located near the Seoul History Museum and Deoksugung Palace.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Public Transportation: Seodaemun Station (Subway Line 5, Exit 4) **Website:** http://english.visitkorea.or.kr/enu/ATR/SI_EN_3_1_1_1.jsp?cid=264308 **Hours:** 9:00 am-6:00 pm. Closed Monday.

Unhyeongung

Located in the middle of Seoul's business district, Unhyeongung Royal Residence was the home of young Gojong, who later became Emperor during the Joseon Dynasty. This small palace has several elegant buildings to tour.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Public Transportation: Anguk Station (Subway Line 3, Exit 4) or Jongno 3-ga Station (Subway Line 5, Exit 4) **Phone:** 02.766.9090 **Website:** http://www.unhyeongung.or.kr/index_eng.php **Hours:** 9:00 am-6:00 pm (closing hours vary upon season). Closed Monday.

Museums

National Museum of Korea

The museum houses a collection of artifacts from the Paleolithic Age to modern times. There is a food court, a children's museum, gift shops, tea and coffee shops, and other restaurants. No admission fee is required for the permanent exhibits, the children's museum, and

temporary exhibitions. Visitors must get a free admission pass at the ticket booths before entering the museum. Special exhibits sometimes require separate tickets.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Directions: Walk out gate 13 (South Post Visitor Center Gate), turn left, and walk about 150 meters toward Yongsan Family Park. The museum will be on your left. **Website:** <http://www.museum.go.kr/site/eng/home>

War Memorial of Korea

Across the street from Korea's Ministry of Defense, and next to USAG Yongsan, sits the War Memorial of Korea. Its granite facade and surrounding park with vintage airplanes and tanks is impressive. The museum displays nearly 5,000 years of history of foreign invasions, from before the Three Kingdoms Period through the Korean War.

This free museum also has rotating exhibits, a free Children's Museum annex, and periodic play areas that are featured in the lower level of the building. Special exhibits require separate tickets be purchased.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Public Transportation: Samgakji Station (Subway Lines 4 and 6, Exit 12) **Directions:** From the Dragon Hill Lodge gate, turn left; the Museum will be across the street. **Website:** <https://www.warmemo.or.kr/newwm/eng/main.jsp> **Hours:** 9:00 am-6:00 pm, closed Monday. If a holiday falls on a Monday, then the museum will be open that Monday but closed the following day.

National Folk Museum of Korea

The National Folk Museum of Korea is an educational venue where visitors can learn how Koreans lived from the past to present. It is located in the center of Seoul (adjacent to Gyeongbokgung Palace).

The Museum operates three permanent exhibition halls and an open-air exhibition hall, including one dedicated to the history of daily life and culture of the Korean people, another hall about the Korean Way of Life and a hall for the life cycle of Koreans. Additionally, special exhibitions are held at least four times a year to further broaden the understanding of Korean folkways.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Public Transportation: Gyeongbokgung Palace Station (Subway Line 3, Exit 5) or Gwanghwamun Station (Subway Line 5, Exit 2) **Phone:** 02.3704.3114 **Website:** <http://www.nfm.go.kr/language/english/main.jsp> **Hours:** Hours vary by season; closed Tuesday and January 1.

Festivals

For a complete list of the many festivals in Seoul and all of Korea, visit the Korea Tourism website where you can search by date, key word, and location.

COMPLETE LISTING OF FESTIVALS

http://english.visitkorea.or.kr/enu/SI/SI_EN_3_2_2.jsp

Cherry Blossom

Festivals to celebrate the spring season, specifically the blooming of the cherry blossom trees, happen throughout the peninsula, usually in April. The Yeouido Spring Flower Festival, the closest to USAG Yongsan, is the most popular. It is located near the National Assembly building, and is famous for its 1,400-1,600 Korean cherry trees.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Public Transportation: Yeouido Station (Subways Lines 5 or 9, Exit 5) and then take Bus 162, 262, or 461 to National Assembly or National Assembly Station (Subway Line 9, Exits 1 or 6).

Hi Seoul Festival

The Hi Seoul Festival features a variety of cultural and art programs and numerous exhibits. Taking place in the fall, this event is held along the famed Gwanghwamun Square, Seoul Plaza, Cheonggye Plaza and in downtown Seoul.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Website: <http://www.hiseoulfest.org/eng/main/main.php>

Lotus Lantern Festival/Buddha's Birthday

Seoul celebrates the birth of Buddha with a festival of paper lanterns. Before the festival, traditional lanterns are exhibited at Bongeunsa Temple. On Yeondeung-nori, the eve of the festival, there are traditional Buddhist celebrations at the 14th-century Jogyesa Temple in Insadong. The opening ceremony for the parade itself is held at nearby Dongdaemun and the procession of lanterns then moves along Jongno Street to the Jogyesa Temple. The festival is notable not only for its large colorful lanterns, but also for the thousands of delicate hand-held lanterns in the shape of lotus flowers carried by adults and children wearing traditional hanbok.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Website: www.llf.or.kr/eng

Seoul Performing Arts Festival

The festival features international artists as well as Korea's finest. These events take place at various venues across Seoul during a three-week period in September or October.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Website: http://spaf.or.kr/2014/index_ing.php

BEYOND SEOUL

Though there is so much to do in Seoul, take the time to leave the city and explore the different regions and terrains of Korea. Let this list serve as a launching pad for your own adventures.

Northern Locations

Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) and Panmunjom

In order to truly understand the effect of being so close to the most heavily fortified border on the planet, visit the DMZ to learn about this important part of Korean history. Panmunjom is the most forward location in the DMZ that can be visited by civilians. There are tours available through the USO and Discover Seoul. Reserve your spot early, as the spots fill up fast, and it takes several days for the clearances to be obtained.

Goseong Unification Observation Platform and Tongil Security Park

The Goseong Unification Observation Platform, located in Goseong-gun, Gangwon-do, is where you fill out the paperwork to gain permission to continue on to the observation platform. Wear sturdy shoes as there is a climb up to the observation platform, which is 700 meters above sea level.

The Observatory provides a wonderful view of the 4 km wide DMZ, North Korea, and Mt. Geum-gang. Between the Observation Platform and the Unification and Security Park is the DMZ Museum. Although the observatory, park, and museum are on many people's must see list, the information at these sights are not always written in English so it may be helpful to find a Korean friend to accompany you.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Phone: 033.682.0088 **Hours:** Open year round, 9:00 am-3:50 pm (closing hours vary based upon season).

Ganghwa Island (Ganghwado)

Ganghwa Island, or Ganghwado, is the fifth largest island in Korea located approximately 50 km to the west of Seoul, and less than 1 km off the coast of Incheon in the West Sea. It is rich in both history and natural beauty. Visitors can easily find Ganghwado local products such as Hwamunseok (a mat woven with flower patterns), rice, and ginseng at the town markets. Famous for its “stamina producing” ginseng, Ganghwado is still a rural island. Egrets stalk through verdant rice fields, gulls chase ferries, and the pace of life is slow. Attractions include numerous small fortifications: the Ganghwa dolmens (a UNESCO World Heritage site), which are among Korea’s largest dolmens; Mt. Mani (Manisan), which is the site of the Chamseongdan Alter; and a 10km coastal bicycle track.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Website:* <http://english.ganghwa.incheon.kr/>

Incheon

This bustling industrial port 36 km west of Seoul has a nice waterfront area with amusement rides, sushi shops, stores, and ferries, as well as a very accessible Chinatown. Come here for a great day trip out of Seoul, sample some different foods, stroll along Wolmido waterfront, or use Incheon as a stepping stone to the more remote islands.

The Memorial Hall for Incheon Landing Operation, a park commemorating the sight of MacArthur’s famous landing in 1950, is located in this busy port city. The hall was created by the Incheon citizens to honor those who sacrificed their lives to preserve democracy and freedom on the Peninsula. There is also a small museum that houses the city’s collection of archaeological and historical materials.

Pocheon Herb Island and Sinbuk Hot Spring

These two destinations near Camp Casey are eco-friendly spots enhanced by the aroma of herbs. Both sites are within a ten-minute bus trip from each other.

The Pocheon Herb Island houses both outdoor and indoor gardens, with over 180 different herbs, a bookstore that carries herb-related books and accessories, a craft store selling herb craftworks, a bakery selling herb bread and cookies, as well as a restaurant and coffee shop all within an area of 8.3 acres. There is also an aromatherapy facility, making it a great place for a relaxing one-night, two-day trip.

The Sinbuk Hot Spring Resort is fed by springs from 600 meters below the earth. The naturally occurring sodium bicarbonate is said to have anti-aging as well as general skin care benefits. Alongside the hot spring baths and other water attractions, there are saunas and walking trails.

CONTACT INFORMATION.

Website: http://english.visitkorea.or.kr/enu/SI/SI_EN_3_1_1_1.jsp?cid=1051901

Seoraksan National Park

Seoraksan means “Snow Big Mountain.” By 6:00 am the park is packed with thousands of Koreans ready for a day’s hike, especially during the autumn when the leaves are changing. There are restaurants, temples, and statues, including a large Buddha statue.

Seoraksan is one of South Korea’s treasures because of the breathtaking scenery. Stretching over four cities and counties, the peaks and valleys, home to more than 2,000 animal species and 1,400 rare plant species, have various streams that meet up in the Baekdamcheon valley, which is also the location of the Baekdamsa Temple. Seoraksan has been recognized since 1982 as a Biosphere Preservation District by UNESCO. There are no entrance fees and camping site fees are very reasonable. The USO has some hiking tours available during the fall hiking season.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Website:* <http://english.knps.or.kr/Knp/Seoraksan/Intro/Introduction.aspx>

Central Locations

Gyeongju

Known as “the museum without walls,” Gyeongju was once the capital of the Shilla Dynasty and it remained so for nearly 1000 years. Gyeongju holds more tombs, temples, rock carvings, pagodas, Buddhist statuary, palace ruins, pleasure gardens, and castles than any other place in South Korea. Gyeongju covers a vast 1323 sq km and would require several days to take it all in. There is also a great amusement park here called Gyeongju World.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Website:* <http://guide.gyeongju.go.kr/depoy/eng/>

Hwaseong Fortress

Located in Suwon, about an hour south of Seoul, this Joseon Dynasty fortress stretches an impressive 5.52 km, has numerous military structures along its length, and is a great place to visit for a day hike. There is a grand palace, Hwaseong Haenggung, in the center and a fun dragon-shaped tram that runs along a portion of the wall.

Icheon and Yeosu Ceramics

The Yeosu Ceramic Art Complex refers to an area where roughly 600 ceramic workshops are concentrated. According to historic records, ceramics have been developed here since the early days of the Joseon Dynasty, as the nation's best materials for making ceramics, were produced around Mount Ssari in Bungnae-myeon.

Icheon Ceramics Village produces traditional Korean ceramics, which are of high quality. Presently, about 80 pottery factories are congregated at the village, and about 300 pottery kilns are in use.

Visitors can observe the pottery production process, and purchase them directly. One of the must-see events at Icheon Ceramics Village is the internationally famous "Icheon Ceramics Festival" held every year.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Website: <http://ceramic.or.kr/english/>, <http://www.yj21.net/main/english/>

Independence Hall of Korea

Located just south of Osan, the Independence Hall of Korea commemorates the people who struggled for freedom against foreign invasions throughout Korea's long history. There are seven large exhibit halls, all of which are easy to navigate and feature many descriptions in English.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Website: <http://www.i815.or.kr/html/en/>

Korean Folk Village

This beautiful folk village has a large collection of thatched and tiled traditional houses. Set around a quiet river are a temple, a market, a magistrate's house with examples of punishments, storehouses, a bullock pulling a cart, and all sorts of household furnishings and tools. In this historical and rural village atmosphere, artisans wearing hanbok recreate historical Korean ways of life.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Website: www.koreanfolk.co.kr/multi/english/

Southeast and Coastal Locations

Busan

Busan is the second largest city in South Korea and a popular vacationing spot. It is a port city about 325 km from Seoul on the southeastern coast. For this trip, try Korail's express train system (KTX) for a straight trip of two and a half hours from Seoul Station to Busan Station. This well connected city has many sites to see: Yongdusan Park and Busan Tower, Jagalchi Fish Market, Haeundae Beach, Haedong Yonggung Temple, hiking parks, Busan Sea Life Aquarium, film festivals, and numerous art museums.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Website: <http://english.busan.go.kr/Main.bs>

Chinhae

Chinhae (aka Jinhae) is not only home to the Republic of Korea (ROK) Navy, but is also the only US Navy base in South Korea. Located on the southern coast, Chinhae is approximately a seven-hour drive from Seoul, or around four hours by the KTX train. Try to stay in one of the billeting rooms if you visit.

Chinhae is known for its Jinhae Gunhangje Festival. The event is held annually and honors Admiral Yi Sun Shin, a famous Korean naval hero. The festival usually begins in late March or early April and runs for 10 days. It is one of the largest cherry blossom festivals in the world, with approximately two million visitors annually. During this time, food vendors and stands offering Korean goods line the streets of Chinhae, along with street performers, carnival stalls, and street lighting.

Just south of Chinhae lies Korea's second largest island, Jeju, and it is just a 90-minute ferry ride away. The island was once a POW camp during the Korean War and has subsequently become home to a thriving fishing and shipbuilding industry, along with first-class beaches and resorts.

CONTACT INFORMATION.

Website: http://english.visitkorea.or.kr/enu/SI/SI_EN_3_2_1.jsp?cid=700520

Hong Island (Hongdo)

Hong Island, or Hongdo, is located 115 km southwest of Mokpo Harbor and is actually composed of about 20 small islands. The name Hongdo means "Red Island," a name derived from the unusual reddish brown color that glows all around when the sun sets over the island.

Because the entire island of Hongdo has been declared a Natural Monument, people are not allowed to enter areas other than the villages and designated tourist areas. Don't miss the two-hour boat ride to see the rock formations surrounding the island.

CONTACT INFORMATION.

Website: http://english.visitkorea.or.kr/enu/SI/SI_EN_3_1_1_1.jsp?cid=264279

Jeju Island (Jeju-do)

The largest of Korea's islands, this popular vacation destination has mild weather year round. This volcanic island boasts sandy beaches, hiking trails and several theme parks and a very large aquarium. Natural attractions include the Samsonghyol Caves, Hallasan National Park, several waterfalls and the volcanic scenery of Seongsan Ilchulbong Park (also known as Sunrise Peak).

Other things to do on the island include golf, horseback riding, windsurfing, museums, local restaurants, nightlife, and shopping districts. Try a few Hallabong oranges for snacking – Jeju Island is known for this deliciously sweet citrus fruit that is a cross between an orange and a tangerine. The flights to Jeju Island occur frequently and are quite short, making this island ideal for a quick getaway.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Website: <http://english.jeju.go.kr>

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Please refer to the Resources section of this publication for more helpful websites, Facebook pages, and publications to enhance your experience in Korea.

Seoul Selection

A weekly newsletter that has all of the current events happening in Seoul.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Website: <http://magazine.seoulselection.com>

Korea Herald

This newspaper has a travel section in its weekend issue featuring a thorough article and map of a different place each week. The Yongsan Library has back issues.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Website: www.koreaherald.com

Arirang Magazine

Published by the American Women's Club (AWC), this magazine has many good travel articles. In addition, AWC sponsors trips to places off the beaten track. Although these are only open to members, membership is affordable for military members.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Website: <http://awckorea.com>

Discovery

This magazine, published by the Seoul International Women's Association (SIWA), offers information on local activities. SIWA offers trips and social events to its members.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Website: www.siwapage.com

Groove Korea

Groove Korea offers information on Korean community, music, sports, travel and food.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Website: <http://groovekorea.com>

Korean Tourism Organization (KTO)

KTO is an excellent source of information and assistance. KTO has information on festivals, museums, dining, and just about anything else you may want to know about Korea.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Website: <http://english.visitkorea.or.kr/enu/index.kto>

Royal Asiatic Society, Korea Branch

Excellent source of information on the culture and history of Korea.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Website: <http://www.raskb.com/>

Travel Outside of Korea

REFERENCES: TOURISM OUTSIDE OF KOREA

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Advisory
www.cdc.gov

World Health Organization (WHO) Advisory
www.who.int/en

United States State Department Public Announcement
<http://travel.state.gov/content/travel/english.html>

After the cultural experiences and sites to enjoy in Korea, the biggest adventure everyone should take advantage of is travel to other countries. Here are a few tips to make the most of your travel:

- **Register with STEP.** The Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP) is a free service to allow US citizens and nationals traveling abroad to enroll their trip with the nearest US Embassy or Consulate. You can quickly and easily register at <https://step.state.gov/step/>.
- **English as an official language.** Consider traveling to countries where English is prevalent; this allows you to travel on your own with ease.
- **Carry local currency and monitor your bank account.** Many countries impose fees upon arrival that must be paid in local currencies. Additionally, transportation from the airport to your hotel, if not prepaid, will have to be paid. Not everywhere accepts credit cards so keeping local currency on hand is helpful. ATM machines will allow you to pull money from your US bank account. Study the international currency rates published in the local papers before going on your trip so that you will know the amount of local currency you can expect for your dollars/won. Airports and hotels typically have the lowest exchange rates; only get what you absolutely need from these places.
- **Travel to more than one country per trip.** This can improve the adventure while minimizing costs.
- **Roll with it!** Whatever happens, remember to laugh and add it to the list of memories that you made with your family!
- **Know the USFK foreign travel regulations and request travel in advance.** Military members must request permission from their commander for foreign travel. Some areas are restricted and others require higher level approval. Service members should initiate travel requests early to ensure they receive approval prior to planned travel dates.
- **Check with your travel agent on the visa/passport requirements for the country you are visiting;** they vary from country to country. Leave ample time for processing these documents.
- **Always know the immunization requirements of the country/ countries you're going to visit.**
- **Plan ahead.** Dealing with travel agents or airlines in Korea is somewhat different than the experiences you may have had elsewhere, so you need to have plenty of time to make sure all details are in order and to ensure that you are getting the best deal possible. Don't allow your travel agent/group tour promoter to wait until the last minute to provide you with your tickets, accommodations confirmation, etc. It's not easy to get your military leave orders changed if a travel agent lets you down at the last minute.
- **Research, research, research.** Once you have selected a destination, find out everything you can about which airlines are available, hotel promotions, and travel agents. You will find you can save hundreds of dollars by shopping around.
- **Benefit from the experiences of others.** Talk with those who have traveled during their tours in Korea. Their experiences can often save you a lot of time, trouble, and money.
- **Look for discounts and deals.** Check with the airline yourself to view current fares and always ask about discount rates. Check with the international reservations center of the local hotels that give military discounts (Hilton, Hyatt, Sheraton, Ramada,

and Intercontinental). You will often find that you can put your own package together for less than what some of the tour operators quote.

- **If it's offered, always buy baggage insurance when traveling in Asia.** If your luggage does get lost, you can buy enough personal items to hold you over until it finally shows up. Never check valuables in your luggage; always hand-carry them.
- **Do your homework.** Learn as much as possible about your intended destination and don't pay for a lot of "optional" tours to places you don't really want to see. Be aware of the fact that most of the airports in Asia have an airport tax, some of which have to be paid in the local currency. Always know what this is and put money aside to pay it.
- **Be prepared to communicate.** If you're going on your own without the assistance of an English-speaking tour guide, consider buying an English translator dictionary or downloading one to your phone. Even if you can't speak the language, being able to point at the appropriate words often helps. Also, learn a few key words and phrases. Knowing enough to be polite will often encourage others to help you.
- **Know in advance what the customs are and dress accordingly.** Many Westerners unintentionally offend people of Asian cultures by wearing "improper" clothing into temples and shrines. Remember, you are representing your family and your country.
- **Be respectful.** Remember that many things are different in Asia (voltage for appliances, driving on a different side of the road, etc.) and you need to prepare yourself and your children for these differences. The last thing you want is for your children to be offensive by telling people, even the waiter, that things are weird or gross.
- **Travel light** because you undoubtedly will find many treasures to purchase during your journey. Many veteran travelers travel with an empty lightweight bag folded into their luggage just so they'll be able to get their purchases home safely.

- **Know the customs and laws of each country you plan to travel in as well as the Korean laws.** You can check with the embassy of your destination for current information on their laws and with the Customs Office on Yongsan for the Korean rules.
- **Have a Plan B if you are flying Space A.** Always be prepared to pay for a commercial ticket back to Korea if the Space A flights are suddenly not available. Also, be prepared to pay for lodging if you are forced to stay in an area longer than anticipated.
- Please refer to the Medical section of this publication for information on obtaining services while traveling.

WHERE TO GO

The following is a list of possible places to explore. Due to changing world conditions, always check with the embassy and USFK to see if travel to your country of choice is recommended, or even prohibited. An International Driving Permit (IDP) may be required to operate a vehicle in your chosen destination and is only valid when used in conjunction with a valid US driver's license. IDPs may be obtained at AAA offices in the United States or by mail via AAA (www.aaa.com/vacation/idpf.html) or through the National Automobile Club (www.thenac.com/idp_faqs.htm).

Australia

The "land down under" is beginning to enjoy a real surge in popularity with travelers from Korea. There are several package tours on the market. You can easily obtain your visa from the Australian Embassy in the Kyobo Building downtown near the American Embassy or you can obtain a visa online through the Australian Government's Department of Immigration and Citizenship Electronic Travel Authority website at <https://www.eta.immi.gov.au/ETA/etas.jsp>. Qantas, Korean Air, and Asiana have direct flights to Sydney and many other cities.

Sydney Points of Interest

There are many things to see and do in Sydney, including visiting the Sydney Opera House. A Circle pass is good for unlimited one day travel with stops at most of the famous Sydney sights. Sydney also has a subway system you can use to get around. The Australian Naval Base is accessible with a valid US military ID, and then you can walk

on base straight down to the harbor.

If you are traveling on a flexible itinerary, try visiting a travel agency while in Sydney and check into their tours of the Gold Coast. They offer some specials for the Great Barrier Reef area. Call the Australian Embassy at 02.2003.0100 or visit one of the travel services on post to book a trip.

Cambodia

Korean Air has a direct flight into Siem Reap and the Temples of Angkor Wat, making it much easier to reach them. Although the city is modernizing at a fast pace, this still may not be a trip for children. Healthcare is not easily accessible and there is a lot of walking through old stone ruins.

The temples date back to 800 AD and are mainly of Hindu origin with Buddhist influence in the later temples.

China

Americans and other foreign visitors are touring China in increasing numbers to visit Beijing, Guangzhou, Shanghai, Guilin, Xian, and Hangzhou. A visa is required to visit China and they can be expensive.

Travel services on or off post offer individual or group tours to many destinations in China for varying lengths of time and prices. These trips are an excellent value for the money especially with the travel services arranging all visas, tours of your choice, and great four and five star hotel accommodations. A flight from Incheon Airport to Beijing is about two hours.

Guam/Saipan

Located off the coast of Japan in the Mariana Islands, Guam is a four and a half hour flight from Incheon International Airport and the short hop to Saipan is less than an hour from Guam. In addition to white sandy beaches and breathtaking views, Guam, a US territory, is home to two military bases where you can pick up discount tickets for local activities. For a more tranquil setting consider Saipan. This US Commonwealth is smaller and does not have the hustle and bustle of Guam. Both Guam and Saipan have a variety of luxury hotels and recreational activities.

Hong Kong

Hong Kong is an amazing city with skyscrapers jutting out of the surrounding mountains and the bustling harbor down below. It's truly a shopper's paradise since imported goods enter Hong Kong duty free. Shop carefully and compare prices and quality. Always deal with reputable dealers. Look for the Hong Kong Tourism Board symbol, as it normally indicates an established merchant with a good reputation.

Upon arrival at the Hong Kong airport, pick up one of the free tourist travel kits available in the baggage claim area or download the free app offered by the Hong Kong Tourism Board. The kit contains an excellent map and a good guidebook. The Hong Kong subway can get you just about anywhere you want to go. Buy a tourist pass; it's cheaper and you won't have to wait in the long lines to pay for a ticket each time.

The Fleet Arcade shopping area is at Fenwick Pier, 1 Lung King St. Wan Chai. It is located on the Hong Kong island side of the city and can be easily reached from the Admiralty Subway Stop. The United States Navy Fleet Post Office (FPO) is located on the second floor of the Fleet Arcade. The FPO is a full-service United States Post Office. A commercial packaging facility is located next to the FPO and makes mailing home your purchases very convenient! The hours of operation are Monday-Friday 10:00 am-4:00 pm and 10:00 am-6:00 pm when US ships are in port. The FPO is closed on holidays and weekends. To use FPO services, identification is required. Payment is accepted in US dollars or by personal check (no credit cards).

If you are looking for a vacation to remind you of the US, Disneyland Hong Kong is a great option. With the least expensive prices of the Disney resorts in Asia, it is an affordable spot to treat your kids or treat yourself like a kid.

India

India's rich diversity is comprised of many languages, religions, traditions and beliefs. This fascinating country is awe-inspiring, though first-time visitors may be surprised in other ways as poverty remains a harsh reality for many of India's residents and witnessing this can be jarring. For more information about India, visit <http://www.indembassy.or.kr>.

Japan

Traveling to Japan from Korea is relatively inexpensive and easy if you plan your trip carefully. There are several ways of going to Japan: commercial airlines, AMC flights from Osan, and by ferry from Busan. Try to use the US military facilities in Japan (particularly the New Sanno in Tokyo) as much as possible because Japan is the most expensive country in the world. The New Sanno Hotel has an extremely high occupancy rate, so make your reservations at least six months in advance by calling 050.3322.9712, internationally at 011.81.33.440.7871 ext. 7121, or visit www.thenewsanno.com.

If you are using commercial transportation while in Japan, consider buying a Japan Rail Pass while you are still in Seoul as they aren't available inside Japan. These passes allow unlimited travel on trains throughout the country and are a real bargain. You can purchase them from Global Travel near City Hall or other agencies in Seoul. There is so much to see and do in Japan that you will want maximum flexibility in getting around. It is also advisable to buy a tourist subway pass (you can get them at the New Sanno or at the airport) for easy movement in Tokyo.

Shopping in Japan can be a **very** expensive experience if you shop on the Japanese economy. Many Americans have found they get better value by shopping in the arcade at the New Sanno or at the bases located throughout Japan. The Japanese Embassy can be reached at 02.733.5626.

Okinawa

One of the four Ryukyu Islands, Okinawa is an easy destination for anyone wanting to use Space A from Osan to Kadena. Call the Osan AMC terminal for information. You will find the AMC terminal personnel much more helpful if you call at a time when they are not processing a flight. Ask when you call if this is the case and if so, when could you call back. Also, the Osan Passenger Terminal Facebook page offers an abundance of information including flight schedules and updates.

The climate of Okinawa is subtropical and an interesting change from Seoul. Shopping for local crafts and fine china is excellent. Be aware that Japanese taxis are expensive. Use base transportation whenever possible to get as close to your destination as possible.

The most logical and inexpensive place to stay is Kadena Airbase,

which has 24-hour billeting. Call DSN 632.1100/Internationally 011.81.98.962.1000 to reach the reservation desk. Another option is Camp Foster Westpac Lodge can be reached at DSN 645.2455/Internationally 011.81.6117.45.2455. For some family fun time try the Torii Beach Cabins at DSN 644.4659/Internationally 011.81.611.744.4659. A secret of Okinawa is Okuma Resort located 50 miles North of Kadena Airbase. The DSN number for Okuma is 632.3102/Internationally 011.82.98.962.3102 between 8:00 am-5:00 pm. There is also occasionally Navy BOQ space available; you can check with the Navy Billeting office in Building 4198 before 4:00 pm.

Macau

This tiny country on the tip of China is often a destination for tourists while they are in Hong Kong. Macau is easily accessible from Hong Kong by ferry or hydrofoil. The Portuguese heritage of Macau gives it its own special flavor. Go to Macau, if for nothing else, to eat the uniquely flavored food and drink the good, inexpensive wines.

Gambling is also a big attraction here and huge casinos line the shore. Some of these casinos boast fabulous restaurants. Excellent, inexpensive places to eat are also easily found.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Website:* <http://en.macautourism.gov.mo/index.php>.

Malaysia

Malaysia is an inexpensive and marvelous place to visit. The Malaysians are a friendly people, eager to visit with foreigners. English is the dominant language here, making it generally easy to communicate with everyone from the cab drivers to the shopkeepers.

Kuala Lumpur is very child-friendly. There are beautiful, clean beaches throughout the country and special package tours for golfers interested in playing on the lush Malaysian courses. Eating and shopping are inexpensive, with the best buy possibly being the beautiful Selangor pewter, produced just outside Kuala Lumpur.

Johor Bahru, located across the Johor Strait from Singapore, is also another rapidly growing tourist location. Consider this as an option if you want to see Singapore, as hotels in Johor Bahru are less than half of the cost of hotels in Singapore. Taxis and public transport travel between Johor Bahru and Singapore daily but due to the more than 100,000 Malaysians that use the only bridge into Singapore, you can

save a lot of time by using the public transport system. If you are traveling with small children, you are able to go to the front of the bus lines, but even without this advantage, the trip takes less than 45 minutes and will save an hour or more during heavy traffic times.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Website:* <http://www.tourism.gov.my/en/us>

Nepal/Tibet

These ancient countries in North-Central Asia are visited by few of the personnel stationed in Korea. Those who have gone have come back with varying reports. Some cite the primitive living and traveling conditions while others talk about the fascinating cultures. Neither country has an embassy in Seoul, so you will have to do your own research online, at the Yongsan library, or find a good travel agent. Make sure any plans or itineraries are confirmed in writing before departure.

New Zealand

This wonderfully scenic country is very affordable now that you live in Korea. Make sure your tour incorporates both the North and South Islands. The North Island offers world-class dining in Auckland, hot water beaches along the Pacific Coast Highway, and mud pools and geysers in Rotorua, just to name a few. The South Island's charm is endless and includes six of New Zealand's eight "Great Walks," Stewart Island is one of the best spots to see the rare Kiwi bird, and overnight cruises to take in the scenery or spot fur seals and bottlenose dolphins. Call your travel agent to arrange for the things you are most interested in including in your tour package.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Phone:* 02.3210.1107.8 *Website:* <http://www.newzealand.com/int/>

Singapore

This small island country is a truly international city, and almost every nationality is noticeably represented. As it was once a British colony, English is predominantly used (although somewhat broken), with the other three official languages being Mandarin, Malay, and Tamil. It is also one of the cleanest and safest cities in the world.

The island is small and public transportation is affordable as cars are strictly regulated. Taxi costs are similar to Seoul, so don't be afraid to jump in a cab because you really don't have far to go. For a family of

four, a taxi is generally cheaper than the subway. However, cab prices vary between taxi companies, so beware of deluxe taxis that will cost more.

The most popular places to stay are Clarke Quay, Marina Bay and Chinatown. Chinatown was gentrified in recent years, and has been brought back to its early 1900s colonial style. AirBnB rentals are easy to find if you book ahead. Unless you want to watch the Formula One, avoid going during the race week in September. Besides the road closures and large crowds downtown, hotel prices tend to be very high.

Activities for Couples/Single Adults

- Check out the nightlife in Clarke Quay, a neighborhood of clubs, bars and restaurants on the river that don't close until sunrise.
- If you have ever wanted to experience a true superclub, Zouk is THE place to go. It is known as one of the best night clubs in the world and has been at its location for over 20 years. If you can, attend ZoukOut, the largest beach party held every year featuring world famous DJs.
- Have a drink at Ku Dé Ta on the rooftop of the Marina Bay Sands Hotel, and watch the sunset over the entire city. Free admission on weekdays. You can have a close-up view of the hotel's rooftop pool from the bar, but only guests are allowed in the pool area.
- Have champagne service in the Singapore Flyer, the large Ferris wheel, while watching city lights and ships out at sea.

Fun for All

- Shopping is a popular pastime in Singapore. Orchard Road is the main shopping street, but Chinatown, Kampong Glam and Marina Bay have lots to offer.
- Singapore river cruises can be one of the most breathtaking ways to take in the architecture and beauty of the city. Among the sites that can be seen on the various cruises are Empress Place, which has been an architectural treasure since 1865, and the Merlion, one of the most recognized landmarks, known as the symbol of Singapore.
- Singapore Botanic Gardens, Singapore's first UNESCO World

Heritage Site nomination, is a beautiful place. Filled with thousands of rare tropical plants and a separate orchid garden, it is the only botanic garden in the world that is open 5:00 am-midnight every day of the year and does not charge any entrance fees for the main garden. A small fee is charged for the National Orchid Garden which houses 400 species and more than 2,000 hybrids. The orchid is Singapore's national flower.

- Gardens by the Bay is a large park behind the Marina Bay Sands. The main attraction is the grove of Supertrees, which are steel pipes shaped like trees (think Dr. Seuss meets Avatar). The park was created on reclaimed land, and is a biomass recycling center for all the greenery in the city; the Supertrees are the ventilation pipes for the biomass generator. Admission is free for the garden, but some of the attractions in the park such as Cloud Forest require an entrance fee. The park is also open in the evening when the Supertrees are lit up, making for some exciting night photography.
- Marina Bay Sands puts on a light show most evenings. The show is best viewed from across the bay from the hotel at One Fullerton.
- Visit the neighborhoods of Little India and Arab Town.
- Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines also offer very affordable cruise options, embarking from Singapore for many travel destinations throughout Asia.

Eating in Singapore

Singapore is known as a food mecca but it can be very expensive if you don't know where to go. All restaurants are very strictly regulated for safety and hygiene, including street vendors or "hawker stalls." Authentic international food can be found anywhere and everywhere, and there are many, many food review websites for Singapore to help narrow down the choices. Some very affordable local options include hawker stalls (outdoor food courts that sell mostly local food), food courts in shopping malls, and Little India.

Taipei, Taiwan

Taipei is Taiwan's largest city and also its capital. Check with the US Embassy before booking a trip.

Some of the things to see include the National Palace Museum, Chiang Kai-shek Memorial Hall, Taipei 101 which was ranked as the world's tallest building until 2010; Wulai, which is a mountain village famous for the aboriginal village, waterfall, and hot springs; and Taroka Gorge.

Popular items from Taiwan are painting reproductions, pottery and other ceramic wares, furniture, jewelry made of coral and other semi-precious stones, Hualien marble, Taiwan jade, temple carvings, hand puppets, old coins, cloisonné, and rosewood furniture.

Thailand

With its 800-year-old history, vast cultural attractions, exotic beaches, islands, and national parks, Thailand offers something for everyone. Not only are the Thai people very friendly and hospitable, but the country also offers an abundance of amenities from excellent food to inexpensive quality accommodations, making it an ideal vacation spot for military families.

The best buys in Thailand historically have been silk, rubies, and star sapphires. For more information visit www.tourismthailand.org. Another great website is www.nancychandler.net which contains "Nancy Chandler's map of Bangkok," which is most helpful.

Major tourism destinations in Thailand include:

Bangkok

New buildings reach for the sky around the corner from ancient temples, many of which are home to enormous images of Buddha inlaid with gold and mother of pearl. Points of interest include floating Markets, Mae Sa Elephant Camp, the Grand Palace and Wat Po, the National Museum, Nakhon Kasem, Chatuchak Weekend Market, and Pattaya beach resort.

Chiang Mai

Chiang Mai's reasonable cost and abundance of activities geared to the family makes for a very relaxed and enjoyable vacation. The Chiang Mai cultural center has evening dinner shows; khantoke and a dance show is performed most nights with audience participation expected. The massage retreats in Chiang Mai are another popular attraction.

Phuket

Being Thailand's largest island, Phuket is famous for its beaches. Patong, Karon, and Kata are popular beaches. If you prefer peace and quiet, however, stay away from these beaches as they can be crowded and noisy. There are many water sport activities. Check out the beautiful waterfalls, Ton Sai and Bang Pai. The islands off Phuket (Andaman, Similan, and Phi Phi) offer some of the best scuba diving in Southeast Asia. Phuket tends to be more expensive than other areas in Thailand because it has long been a popular tourist destination.

Korat

If it's the Khmer culture you are after, then head about 260 km north of Bangkok to Korat where you will find several stunning examples of 12th century architecture. Plan to visit nearby Phimai, a Khmer complex constructed on a manmade river islet. Its sanctuary tower is home to stunning Khmer artistry.

Koh Samui

This island has become a popular alternative to Phuket, and lies off the opposite coast of Thailand. Chaweng beach is the most popular area (and can be very crowded), but there are many other beautiful beaches around the island. Koh Samui is close to Ang Thong National Marine Park, and other popular diving sites.

Vietnam

There are many places to see from Hanoi in the north to Saigon in the south.

Hanoi

A flight from Incheon Airport to the northernmost city of Hanoi is only about four hours and there are many places to visit such as excavations at Hanoi Citadel, floating villages, military history museums, art museums, temples, pagodas, markets, and a myriad of other tourist venues which are scattered in and around this historical city. Some places of interest in the area of Hanoi are Hoa Lo Prison, the Old Quarter, Thang Long Water Puppet Theater, Ha Long Bay, and the many caves and grottoes.

Saigon (Ho Chi Minh City)

Saigon teems with energy, activity, and motion and everywhere you look seems to be the meeting of traditional and modern life. Visit the Reunification Palace, formerly the Independence Palace of the South Vietnamese president that was famously stormed by tanks in 1975 and signified the fall of South Vietnam. Visit the bustling markets and tour the temples and museums of Saigon. For tour destinations and prices, visit one of the travel service offices or visit www.vietnamtourism.com.



REFERENCES: TRAVEL SERVICES

USO Tours

Location(s): Camp Kim, Building 1224 and Main Post, Building 4034
Phone: 050.3324.7003/3301 (Camp Kim), 050.3323.5364 (Main Post)
DSN: 724.7033/3301 (Camp Kim), 723.5364 (Main Post)

Hours: Monday-Saturday, 8:00 am-5:00 pm (Camp Kim), Monday-Friday, 8:00 am-7:00 pm and Saturday, 9:00 am-7:00 pm (Main Post)

US Airline Alliance (Travel Packages)

The US Airline Alliance is the contracted on post travel agency for official and leisure travel, offering a full range of travel products.

Location: Dragon Hill Lodge, Building 4050 *Phone:* 050.3338.2222
DSN: 738.2222, ext. 6800 *Hours:* Monday-Friday, 10:00 am-6:00 pm, Saturday, 10:00 am-2:00 pm

Main Post, Moyer, CAC

Location: Building 2259, 2nd Floor *Phone:* 050.3323.8790 *DSN:* 723.8790

Official Travel and Emergency Leave: 050.3325.6173

Hours: Monday-Saturday, 10:00 am-6:00 pm, Sunday and Holidays, 10:00 am-2:00 pm

Airlines

American Airlines: 050.3323.8790

Asiana Airlines: 050.3323.8790

Delta Airlines: 050.3323.8549

Korean Air: 050.3323.8549

United Airlines: 050.3323.8790

Section Cover Photo:

Cooking Kalbi

Photo provided by: Sherry Wirth

The variety of food choices available to you is virtually unlimited. There is a world of cuisines a mouse-click, walk, taxi, or subway ride away. This list is meant to whet your appetite, but by no means should you stop here. Go out! Explore the many interesting restaurants, street vendors, and markets across the city. You'll find seasonal offerings as well as perennial favorites. It should be noted, however, that restaurants, cafés, and bars change very quickly in Seoul; they could be there one day and gone the next.

Restaurants, On Post

AAFES FOOD COURTS ON USAG YONGSAN

There are food courts located on South Post by the Furniture Store, Main Post at the PX (known as the Townhouse), and Camp Coiner. Each food court has a variety of restaurants, as listed below. Some of these restaurants and fast food outlets, as listed below. Some of these restaurants offer on post delivery service; order online at the website, below.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Website:* <http://www.imenu360.com/clients/aafes/>

American Eatery

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* Camp Coiner and Townhouse (near PX) *Phone:* 050.3324.5185 (Camp Coiner), 050.3325.4125 (Townhouse) *DSN:* 724.5185 (Camp Coiner), 725.4125 (Townhouse) *Hours:* Monday-Friday, 7:00 am-8:00 pm, Saturday-Sunday, noon-7:00 pm (Camp Coiner), Open Daily, 6:00 am-3:00 pm (Townhouse)

Anthony's Pizza

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* Camp Coiner, Townhouse (near PX), and South Post *Phone:* 050.3324.5185 (Camp Coiner), 050.3325.4125 (Townhouse), 050.3338.5574 (South Post) *DSN:* 724.5185 (Camp Coiner), 725.4125 (Townhouse), 738.5574 (South Post) *Hours:* Monday-Friday, 11:00 am-8:00 pm (Camp Coiner), Open Daily, 10:30 am-9:00 pm (Townhouse), Open Daily, 7:00 am-8:00 pm (South Post)

Baskin Robbins

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* Townhouse (near PX) and South Post *Phone:* 050.3338.6229 (South Post) *DSN:* 738.6229 (South Post) *Hours:* Open Daily, 12:00-6:00 pm (Townhouse), Open Daily, 7:00 am-7:00 pm (South Post)

Burger King

CONTACT INFORMATION. Location: Townhouse and South Post **Phone:** 050.3325.5314 (Townhouse), 050.3338.8728 (South Post) **DSN:** 725.5314 (Townhouse), 738.8728 (South Post) **Hours:** Open Daily, 11:00 am-7:00 pm (Townhouse), Open Daily, 6:00 am-10:00 pm (South Post)

Charley's Steakery

CONTACT INFORMATION. Location: South Post **Phone:** 050.3338.5574 **DSN:** 738.5574 **Hours:** Open Daily, 7:00 am-8:00 pm

Manchu Wok

CONTACT INFORMATION. Location: Townhouse (near PX) **Phone:** 050.3323.7458 **DSN:** 723.7458 **Hours:** Open Daily, 10:30 am-8:00 pm

Popeye's

CONTACT INFORMATION. Location: Townhouse (near PX) and South Post **Phone:** 050.3325.6315 (Townhouse), 050.3338.8244 (South Post) **DSN:** 725.6315 (Townhouse), 738.8244 (South Post) **Hours:** Open Daily, 11:00 am-8:00 pm (Townhouse), Open Daily, 6:00 am-8:00 pm (South Post)

Starbucks Coffee

CONTACT INFORMATION. Location: Townhouse (near PX) **Phone:** 02.7983.1980 **Hours:** Open Daily, 6:00 am-8:00 pm

Subway

CONTACT INFORMATION. Location: Townhouse (near PX) **Phone:** 050.3325.4125 **DSN:** 725.4125 **Hours:** Monday-Friday, 7:00 am-8:00 pm, Saturday-Sunday, 8:00 am-8:00 pm

Taco Bell

CONTACT INFORMATION. Location: Townhouse (near PX) **Phone:** 050.3325.7368 **DSN:** 725.7368; **Hours:** Open Daily, 10:30 am-8:00 pm

DRAGON HILL LODGE (DHL)

The DHL has restaurants that offer fast food to formal dining.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Phone: 050.3338.2222 **DSN:** 738.2222 **Website:** http://www.dragonhilllodge.com/WP/?page_id=33

Bentley's Pub

A relaxed bar offering a variety of pub fare.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Phone: 050.3338.2222 x6713 **DSN:** 738.2222 x6713 **Hours:** Daily, 5:00-9:30 pm

Dragon Hill Deli and Bakery

Offers an array of baked goods, hot meals, and sandwiches for

breakfast, lunch, and dinner.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Phone: 050.3338.2222 x6716 **DSN:** 738.2222 x6716 **Hours:** Daily, 6:00 am-9:00 pm

Greenstreet

Casual dining for breakfast, lunch, and dinner with a buffet and menu choices all day.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Phone: 050.3338.2222 x6706 **DSN:** 738.2222 x6706 **Hours:** Daily, Breakfast, 6:00-11:00 am, Lunch, 11:00 am-2:00 pm, Dinner, 5:00-9:00 pm

Oasis

Tex-Mex grill and bar with a Korean twist. Casual dining for lunch and dinner with daily buffet and specials.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Phone: 050.3338.2222 x6715 **DSN:** 738.2222 x6715 **Hours:** Monday-Wednesday, 11:00 am-9:00 pm; Thursday, 11:00 am-2:00 pm; Friday-Saturday, 11:00 am-9:30 pm; Sunday, noon-9:00 pm

Pizza Hut

CONTACT INFORMATION. Phone: 050.3338.7494 **DSN:** 738.7494 **Hours:** Sunday-Thursday, 7:30 am-9:00 pm; Friday-Saturday, 7:30 am-10:00 pm

Sables

An upscale restaurant for a more formal evening dining experience with a dessert buffet. Reservations recommended.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Phone: 050.3338.2222 x6710 **DSN:** 738.2222 x6710 **Hours:** Tuesday-Sunday, 5:00-9:00 pm

Subway

CONTACT INFORMATION. Phone: 050.3338.7494 **DSN:** 738.7494 **Hours:** Sunday-Thursday, 7:30 am-9:00 pm; Friday-Saturday, 7:30 am-10:00 pm

Sundae's

Offers Mr. D's ice cream, cappuccino, pastries, candy, and more.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Hours: Monday-Friday, 11:00 am-8:00 pm; Saturday-Sunday, 11:00 am-9:00 pm

Hartell House

Formal dining atmosphere for both lunch and dinner. Everyone is welcome; memberships available. Member discounts apply for dining and other special events.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Location: Across the street from the Dragon Hill Lodge **Phone:** 02.6903.6790/6791 **DSN:** 738.2222 x6790/6791 **Hours:** Tuesday-Friday, 11:30 am-1:30 pm; Tuesday-Saturday, 5:30-9:00pm; Sunday, 9:30 am-2:00 pm

US EMBASSY ASSOCIATION CENTER

Gusto Taco

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Phone:* 02.797.8105 *Facebook:* <https://www.facebook.com/gusto.taco> *Hours:* Monday-Friday, 7:00 am-9:00 pm; Saturday-Sunday, 10:00 am-9:00 pm

Fuji

A Japanese fusion and sushi restaurant that also offers udon, chicken skewers, fried dumplings, and more. Sushi roll cakes and party trays are available. Delivery offered from 4:00-9:00 pm.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Phone:* 02.797.3854 *Website:* www.myfuji.co.kr/ *Hours:* Monday-Saturday, 11:00 am-8:40 pm

Korea Palace

Offers a Korean style buffet at lunch as well as a full menu. They are also open for dinner.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Phone:* 02.749.9439 *Facebook:* <https://www.facebook.com/koreapalace75> *Hours:* Monday-Saturday, 11:00 am-8:30 pm; buffet Monday-Friday, 11:00 am-2:00 pm

Starbucks Coffee

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Phone:* 02.758.8046 *Hours:* Monday-Saturday, 6:00 am-8:00 pm; Sunday, 7:00 am-8:00 pm

KATUSA SNACK BARS

These Snack Bars are like a Korean cafeteria. KATUSA soldiers can eat here at a reduced rate, hence the name, but all are welcome. Payment is made in won or by credit card.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* Camp Coiner Building 1099 (next to Platoon Cycles), Main Post Building 2667 and South Post Building 5211 (next to Collier Field House) *Phone:* 011.622.2788 (Main Post) *DSN:* 724.5134 (Camp Coiner), 723.6778 (Main Post) *Hours:* Monday-Friday, 8:00 am-7:00 pm, Saturday, 9:00 am-3:00 pm (Camp Coiner), Monday-Friday, 8:00 am-7:00 pm, Saturday 9:00 am-3:00 pm (Main Post), Open Daily, 7:00 am-7:00 pm (South Post)

MAIN POST CLUB

This facility includes a bar, restaurant, special events center, and gaming. They cater events and have outdoor BBQs.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Phone:* 050.3323.5678 *DSN:* 723-5678/8785 *Hours:* Monday-Friday: 11:00 am-1:30 pm (Lunch), Thursday: 5:00-8:00 pm; Friday-Saturday: 5:00-9:00 pm (Dinner), Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday: 4:00-10:00 pm; Thursday: 4:00-11:00 pm (Bar)

MOYER COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES CENTER

Smoothie King

Smoothie King offers fresh blended smoothies, sport beverages, energy bars, healthy snacks, and more.

CONTACT INFORMATION: *Phone:* 02.794.3330 *Hours:* Open Daily, 6:00 am-9:00 pm

Delivery Services

Delivery services are extremely popular in Seoul. If you're craving something from your favorite restaurant but you don't feel like venturing out, try one of the delivery services below, or check the Internet for other options, as additional delivery services pop up from time to time.

Shuttle Food Delivery

A bilingual food delivery service, which is the result of a merger between Ynot-Takeout and Bird Riders. Shuttle has 200+ restaurants to choose from, with a wide delivery range. Choose your location to see the restaurants offered as well as the fees associated with delivery.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Phone:* 02.704.2733 *Website:* <http://www.goshuttle.co.kr> *Hours:* Monday-Friday 11:30 am-3:00 pm and 4:30-9:30 pm; Saturday-Sunday 11:30 am-9:30 pm

Ask Ajumma

A virtual concierge service for foreigners living in Korea.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Website:* <http://www.askajumma.com> *Hours:* 10:00 am-8:00 pm

Yogiyo

Food delivery service. Open it using Chrome browser to translate it to English.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Website:* <https://www.yogiyo.co.kr/>

REFERENCES: DINING OFF POST

There is an abundance of good restaurants as well as thousands of little carryout, or “sidewalk” tents, where you can have anything from a snack to a quick and inexpensive meal, all the way to a fine dining experience. Here are some tips on dining in Korea:

- Prices vary with the type of cuisine ordered and the area of town.
- Beer and liquor can be extremely expensive, so check prices prior to ordering.
- Restaurants deemed exemplary by a government rating system have a “Good Restaurant” sign out front.
- Many fine-dining restaurants have a dress code. Check beforehand to find out what is expected.
- Traditional restaurants may require you to remove your shoes. Plan accordingly.
- Water glasses and a water container are often placed on the table for you fill your own glass throughout the meal.
- Once you are ready to order, there may be a service button on the table to press to summon the server or you may need to flag your server down.
- Napkins may be located on the table in a small container or in a drawer on the side of the table.
- Flatware and/or chopsticks may be found directly on the table, in a box on the table, in a drawer on the side of the table, or brought to you when you are served your meal.
- If you need something during the meal, use the service button or flag down the waiter. Servers do not typically check back with diners once the meal is served as they do in the US.
- It is customary to pay at the register once your meal is complete. You may or may not receive a bill prior to that. Some restaurants require payment up front; these are usually establishments where you order at a counter prior to being seated.
- It is not customary to tip in Korea.

Restaurants, Off Post

Off post you will not only find Korean cuisine, but also a melting pot of international flavors. A wonderland of world-class restaurants is just a stone’s throw away from post in the area of Itaewon, which is easily accessible from walk-out gates 5 and 21. But through any gate you choose, you are bound to find something to satisfy your appetite. Apps like MangoPlate, TripAdvisor, and Foursquare can help you easily locate restaurants while on the go. And blogs such as *ZenKimchi*, *A Fat Girl’s Food Guide to Eating in Korea*, and *Only in Itaewon* can help you find more great eats. The following is a short list of ex-pat favorites, but it is by no means an exhaustive list of what is available.

REFERENCES: NEIGHBORHOOD DESIGNATIONS

USAG Yongsan is located in the district known as “Yongsan-gu;” within that area there are several small neighborhoods, or “dongs,” that surround the post. The following key will help you figure out in which neighborhood a restaurant is located. The neighborhood key has been numbered according to the nearest gate number. Restaurants listed without a neighborhood designation are located outside of the Yongsan district in other areas of Seoul.

Neighborhood Key:

- ⑤ **Itaewon.** Gate: 5 (Gas Station Gate) **Subway:** Itaewon (brown line 6)
- ⑥ **Commissary.** Gate: 6
- ⑧ **Seobinggo/Dongbinggo.** Gate: 8
- ⑬ **Ichon.** Gate: 13 (South Post Visitor’s Gate)
Subway: Ichon Station (blue line)
- ⑭ **I’Park Mall.** Gate: 14 **Subway:** Yongsan Station (blue line)
- ⑯ **Namyeong.** Gate: 16 (MP/PX Gate) **Subway:** Samgakji Station
- ⑰ **Huam-dong.** Gate: 19 (Camp Coiner Gate)
- ⑳ **Haebangchon (HBC)/Gyeongnidan.** Gate: 21 (Kimchi Pot Gate)
Subway: Noksapyeong Station (brown line 6)
- Ⓚ **K-16 Area.** Bundang, Seongnam

CHINESE

Chai Wok \$ 14

Fast food style Chinese.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* 4F l'Park Mall, 40-999 Hangangno-3ga, Yongsan-gu *Phone:* 02.2012.0450

Geumhong \$\$ 16

This Korean-Chinese style restaurant offers vegetable and noodle dishes, dumplings, soups, and dim sum.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* 303 Ichon-ro, Yongsan-gu *Phone:* 02.794.7378

Ho-Lee Chow \$\$\$ 5

American-style Chinese food.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* 119-25 Itaewon-dong, Yongsan-gu *Phone:* 02.793.0802 *Website:* www.holeechow.co.kr

PF Chang's \$\$

Chinese food chain restaurant.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* Coex and Lotte World Shopping Malls *Website:* <http://www.pfchangs.co.kr>

COFFEE & DESSERT

Don Bing Go \$\$\$ 13

Specializes in the Korean shaved ice dessert patbingsu.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* 162-301 Ichon-dong, Yongsan-gu *Phone:* 02.794.7171

Neal's Yard Café \$\$ 5

Offers coffee, drinks, and desserts such as ice cream topped waffles.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* 167 Itaewon-ro, Yongsan-gu *Phone:* 02.794.7278

Passion 5/Petit 5 Kids Café \$\$\$ 5

Premium dessert café and gallery with a posh kids café and store.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* 729-74 Hannam-dong, Yongsan-gu *Phone:* 02.2071.9505 *Website:* <http://www.spc.co.kr/spc/passion5/f1.spc>

Swi:t B \$ 21

Soft-serve ice cream shop with fun toppings and flavors.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* 5-100 Yongsan 2(i)ga-dong, Yongsan-gu *Phone:* 02.549.0704

Tartine Bakery and Café \$\$ 5

American-inspired pies and desserts.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* 119-15 Itaewon-dong, Yongsan-gu *Phone:* 02.3785.3400

EUROPEAN

Jonas Haus \$\$ 19

German fare.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* 254-111 Huam-dong, Yongsan-gu *Phone:* 02.753.0329

N.Grill \$\$\$\$ 19

French fine dining located in the highest point of N. Seoul Tower.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* N Seoul Tower 5F, 105 Namsangongwon-gil, Yongsan-gu *Phone:* 02.3455.9297/9298 *Website:* <http://www.nseoultower.co.kr/eng/visit/restaurant.asp>

Paris Grill \$\$\$ 21

Upscale restaurant inside the Grand Hyatt Hotel. It is expensive, but the lunch buffet is considered a bargain. Champagne brunch offered on weekends and holidays.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* Grand Hyatt Seoul, 322 Sowol-ro, Yongsan-gu *Phone:* 02.799.8161 *Website:* <http://seoul.grand.hyatt.com/en/hotel/dining/TheParisGrill.html>

Santorini \$\$ 5

A Greek restaurant serving generous portions.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* 119-10 Itaewon 1(il)-dong, Yongsan-gu *Phone:* 02.790.3474

The Baker's Table \$\$ 21

German bakery known for brunch and lunch.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* 244-1 Noksapyeong-daero, Yongsan-gu *Phone:* 070.7717.3501 *Facebook:* <https://www.facebook.com/The-Bakers-Table-166508706726020/>

Un Deux Trois Brasserie \$\$\$ 5

Casual French dining with an outdoor terrace.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* 123-33 Itaewon-dong, Yongsan-gu *Phone:* 02.796.1244 *Facebook:* <https://www.facebook.com/123Brasserie>

Zelen \$\$ ⑤

Bulgarian cuisine that offers dinner as well as a buffet lunch. Reservations recommended.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* 52 Itaewon-ro 27-ga-gil, Yongsan-gu *Phone:* 02.749.0600 *Website:* www.zelen.co.kr

MIDDLE-EASTERN, INDIAN & AFRICAN

Ankara Picnic \$ ⑤

Turkish kebabs and sandwiches.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* 127-11 Itaewon-dong, Yongsan-gu *Phone:* 02.793.2550

Braai Republic \$\$ ⑤

Rustic South African dishes featuring lamb, boerewors, and decadent cheesecake.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* 63-4 Itaewon-dong, Yongsan-gu *Phone:* 070.8879.1967 *Website:* <http://www.thebiltongguykorea.com/index.html>

Casablanca Sandwicherie \$ ②

Moroccan sandwiches, salads and soups.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* 44-7 Yongsan-dong 2-ga, Yongsan-gu *Phone:* 02.797.8367 *Facebook:* <https://www.facebook.com/CasablancaSandwicherie>

Little India Seoul \$ ②

Large and extensive menu gives a good sampling of authentic Indian food.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* 137-61 Itaewon 1(il)-dong, Yongsan-gu *Phone:* 02.793.5416

Petra \$\$ ⑤

Offers hummus, tabouli, kebabs, and an assortment of lamb dishes.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* 552 Itaewon-dong, Yongsan-gu *Phone:* 02.790.4433

Taj Palace ⑤

Indian restaurant that offers a wide selection and a buffet menu on weekends.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* 132-2 Itaewon 1(il)-dong, Yongsan-gu *Phone:* 02.790.5786

Usmania \$\$ ⑤

Pakistani and Arabic restaurant featuring lamb, fish, tandoori bread, chef specials, and a weekend buffet.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* 119-7 Itaewon-dong, Yongsan-gu *Phone:* 02.798.7155 *Website:* www.usmania.com.ne.kr/index.htm

ITALIAN & PIZZA

Bistecca Italian Restaurant \$\$\$ ②

Pasta, steak and tiramisu.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* 5-12 Itaewon-dong, Yongsan-gu *Phone:* 02.792.7746 *Website:* <http://www.bistecca.co.kr>

Bonny's Pub \$ ⑤

Pizza and self-service craft beer bar. Usually have sports such as cricket and rugby on TVs.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* 45-13 Yongsan 2-ga-dong, Yongsan-gu *Phone:* 02.792.0303 *Facebook:* <https://www.facebook.com/BonnysPub>

California Pizza Kitchen \$\$ ⑭ K

Offers military discount.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* 6F I'Park Mall, 40-999 Hangangno 3-ga, Yongsan-gu or 135-5 Sampyeong-dong, Bundang-gu, Seongnam-si *Website:* www.cpk.com/locations/ipark

Maddux Pizza \$ ⑤

New York style pizza with generous portions.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* 2F 26 Itaewon-ro, 26 gil, Yongsan-gu *Phone:* 02.792.2420

Papa Valley Pizza \$ ⑬

Eat-in or take-out. Delivery available to some locations.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* WorldMark Building, 2nd Floor, 30-3 Hangang-ro, Yongsan-gu *Phone:* 02.797.4003

Pizza School \$ ⑬

Korean pizza chain that offers affordable pizza with some unique toppings.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* 6-1 Yongsan-dong 2(i)-ga, Yongsan-gu *Phone:* 02.333.7788 *Website:* <http://www.pizzaschool.net>

Trattoria tu e io \$\$ ④

Pasta, pizza, meats and salads.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* 14-1 Unjung-ro 225 (ibaegisibo)beon- Bungang-gu, Seongnam-si *Phone:* 031.8016.1865

Trevia \$\$ ④

Unique gourmet pizza and sandwiches.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* 222 Noksapyeong-daero, Yongsan-gu *Phone:* 02.794.6003

JAPANESE

Saboten \$\$ ④

Specializes in Donkatsu, from the standard pork cutlet to varieties with sweet potato or mozzarella cheese.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* 4F l'Park Mall West Wing, 40-999 Hangangno-3ga, Yongsan-gu. *Phone:* 02.2012.0442

Tsukushi \$\$ ⑥

Offers set lunch menus on weekdays of Donkatsu dishes, tempura, udon, sushi, and sashimi a la carte.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* 89-7 Namyong-dong, Yongsan-gu *Phone:* 02.755.1213

KOREAN

Don Valley \$\$ ⑤

"Beef and leaf" place where you cook your meat of choice at your table.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* 180 Itaewon 1-dong, Yongsan-gu *Phone:* 02.796.2384

Dino Meat \$\$ ③

Korean BBQ with all you can eat meat buffet.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* 11 Sunae-ro 46 (sasibyuk)beon-gil, Bundang-gu, Seongnam-si *Phone:* 031.391.4292

Foody Goody \$\$ ⑨

Traditional Korean galbi restaurant with cuts of pork and beef.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* 255-30 Huam-dong, Yongsan-gu

Korea House \$\$\$

The Korea House offers a "royal buffet" with performances. Private dining rooms are available with reservations. You can make reservations for performances only.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* 10 Toegye-ro 36-gil, Jung-gu. *Phone:* 02.2266.9101 *Website:* www.koreahouse.or.kr/eng/?en_skin=index.html

Maple Tree House \$\$ ⑤

Korean pork/beef BBQ restaurant offers USDA prime beef, Korean aged sirloins, marinated boneless short ribs, and more.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* 116-1 Itaewon-dong, Yongsan-gu *Phone:* 02.790.7977 *Website:* www.mapletreehouse.co.kr

O'Neul \$\$\$ ⑧

Modern Korean fine dining.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* 1-54 Dongbinggo-dong, Yongsan-gu *Phone:* 02.792.1054 *Website:* <http://happyfnc.org>

TEX-MEX/SPANISH

Cirilo \$\$ ⑥

Offers inexpensive Mexican-style grilled tacos, burritos, quesadillas, and drinks. Small interior, but they have both indoor and outdoor dining areas.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* 10-8 Dongbinggo-dong, Yongsan-gu *Phone:* 02.793.3358 *Facebook:* <https://www.facebook.com/cirilotaco?fref=nf>

Don Charly \$ ④

Offers authentic, homemade chorizo, tacos and sandwiches.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* 34 Hoenamu-ro, Yongsan-gu *Phone:* 070.4219.4475 *Facebook:* <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Don-Charly/166646000142050/>

Mi Casa \$\$ ⑤

Classic Spanish dishes, tapas and sangria.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* 119-21 Itaewon-dong, Yongsan-gu *Phone:* 02.790.0063 *Website:* <http://www.micasa.kr>

On the Border \$\$ ⑤

American chain restaurant that offers a Tex-Mex menu.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* 211 Itaewon-ro, Yongsan-gu *Phone:* 02.792.0682/3
Website: www.ontheborder.co.kr

Vatos Urban Tacos \$\$ ⑤

Korean-American inspired Mexican fare including kimchi carnitas fries, galbi tacos, and margaritas.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* 181-8 Itaewon-dong, Yongsan-gu *Phone:* 02.797.8226 *Website:* <http://vataskorea.com>

THAI/VIETNAMESE

Buddha's Belly \$\$ ⑤

Reasonably priced menu and trendy location overlooking Noksapyeong intersection.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* 48 Noksapyeong-daero 40-gil, Yongsan-gu
Phone: 02.796.9330

Le Saigon \$ ㉔

Offers a few set menus, allowing you try a combination of items for one set price.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* 74-33 Itaewon-dong, Yongsan-gu *Phone:* 02.792.0336 *Website:* www.lesaigon.co.kr

Sala Thai ㉔

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* 381 Seongnam-daero, Bundang-gu, Seongnam-si

Wang Thai \$\$ ⑤

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* 176-2 Itaewon-dong, Yongsan-gu *Phone:* 02.749.2746 *Website:* <http://www.wangthai.kr>

WESTERN

Brooklyn, The Burger Joint \$\$

Burgers and milkshakes.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* 551-32 1F Banpo-dong, Seocho-gu *Phone:* 02.533.7180

Butterfinger Pancakes \$\$

Similar to IHOP or Denny's.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* 88-9 Cheongdam-gong, Gangnam-gu. *Phone:* 02.3448.1070

Hard Rock Café \$\$

Offers a military discount. Bookings can be made from the website.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* Lotte World Mall, 5th Floor *Phone:* 02.418 ROCK (7625) *Website:* www.hardrock.com/seoul

Johnny Rockets \$\$

1950s themed burger joint.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* Shinsagae Department Store Express Bus Terminal. *Phone:* 02.3479.1220

Left Coast Artisan Burgers \$\$ ⑤

Unique burgers and beer.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* 130-43 Itaewon-dong, Yongsan-gu *Phone:* 02.6223.5338 *Website:* <https://www.facebook.com/leftcoastkorea/>

Linus' Bama BBQ \$\$ ⑤

Southern barbeque.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* 56-20 Itaewon-dong, Yongsan-gu *Phone:* 02.790.2920 *Website:* <https://www.facebook.com/LinusBbq>

Pub 210 \$\$ ㉔

Burgers and chicken wings. Restaurant has darts and pool tables. Eat-in or take-out.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* 269-7 Seohyeon 1 (il) dong, Bundang-gu, Seongnam-si *Phone:* 031.781.8881 *Website:* <https://www.facebook.com/PUB-210-Bundang-1380511892184487/?fref=ts>

Rye Post \$ ⑤

Sandwiches, salads, soups and beer. Bread prepared daily in-house.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* 72-34 Itaewon-dong, Yongsan-gu *Phone:* 02.792.9991 *Website:* <https://www.facebook.com/RyePost>

Suji's \$\$ ⑤

New York style deli and brunch spot. Kids' menu available.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* 34-16 Itaewon-dong, Yongsan-gu *Phone:* 02.797.3698 *Website:* <http://www.sujisdeli.com>

TGI Fridays \$\$ ㉔

American chain restaurant.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* 6F I'Park Mall, 30-1 Hangangno 3-ga, Yongsan-gu *Phone:* 02.2012.0691 *Website:* www.tgif.co.kr

The Flying Pan Blue \$\$ ⑤

Brunch spot that offers sandwiches, salads, waffles, pancakes and homemade desserts.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* 123-7 Itaewon-dong, Yongsan-gu *Phone:* 02.793.5285

VIPS \$\$\$

Buffet chain restaurant featuring grilled steaks and salad bar. 40% discount for USFK if you show your CAC card.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* Multiple locations. Closest is 53-1 Myeongdong 2(i)-ga, Jung-gu *Phone:* 02.778.1997 *Website:* <http://www.ivips.co.kr/intro/150917/intro.html>

THEME CAFÉS

Little Farmer | Like Dalki - Dalki Café

Kid's café featuring the popular Korean character Dalki.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* Seoul Olympic Park, Bangi-dong, Songpa-gu *Phone:* 02.2203.2761

Little Prince Café

Child-friendly family café.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* 2F Hyperion II, Mok 1-dong, Yangcheon-gu *Phone:* 02.2652.7001

Thanks Nature Café

Sheep café serving coffee, juice and waffles.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* 486 Seogyo-dong, Mapo-gu, Seogyo Prugio Apartment Store B121 *Facebook:* <https://www.facebook.com/TNcafe>

Hello Kitty Café

Café featuring the popular Sanrio character. Serves cakes, bread, hot dogs and drinks.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* 364-14 Seogyo-dong, Mapo-gu, Seoul, South Korea *Phone:* 02.334.6570

Cat's Attic

Cat café serving coffee, caramel macchiato, and tea.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* 8-5 Myeongdong 8-gil, Jung-gu *Phone:* 02.318.3123 *Website:* <http://www.godabang.com/>

Teddy Bear Café

Indoor children's playground and café.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* 2nd Floor Central City BPC, 19-3 Banpo-dong, Seocho-gu *Phone:* 02.6282.2570 *Website:* <http://www.teddybearkidsteria.com>

Yaho Kids' Sand Café ⑬

Indoor playground and café for children age 3-6.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* 2nd Floor 300-153 Ichon 1-dong, Yongsan-gu *Phone:* 02.796.5115



REFERENCES: VEGAN RESTAURANTS

Vegan Restaurants Resource

https://www.google.com/maps/d/viewer?mid=zaSAkAMm9MJE_kEikmsMWTSZQ&hl=en

Gachi CSA

Gachi Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) delivers seasonal produce to your door in a small box on a weekly basis.

<http://gachicsa.com>

Champ Kitchen

This service provides healthy precooked, Paleo meals. They deliver to multiple locations within Seoul for pickup on a weekly or bi-weekly basis.

<https://www.facebook.com/thechampkitchen/>

Sprout

Sprout provides completely vegan food available for pickup once a week, with a rotating menu.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/sproutseoul/>

Plant

Plant is a vegan restaurant south of Itaewon.

<https://www.facebook.com/STUDIOPLANT/>

BBuri Kitchen

Bburi's services are geared towards healthy, seasonal, local eating with a traditional Korean twist.

<https://www.facebook.com/bburikitchen/>

Veggiehill

Veggiehill provides home delivery of local, fresh, organic fruits and vegetables. Similar to CSA, but you can choose what items you will receive.

<http://veggiehill.com>

Section Cover Photo:

Inside the Ssamziegil, the traditional culture and shopping complex located in Insadong.

Photo provided by: Sherry Wirth

Shopping in Korea can be a lot of fun, if you are informed and ready for a different shopping experience. This chapter provides some basic information and an overview of some of the major shopping areas.

GENERAL INFORMATION

RATION CONTROL AND BLACK MARKET

REFERENCES: RATION CONTROL

DBIDS

Location: 1st Replacement Company, Building 4034

Phone: 050.3338.4612, *DSN:* 738.4612

Ration Control Office

Location: 1st Replacement Company, Building 4034, Room 105

Phone: 050.3338.4612, *DSN:* 738.4612

Black Marketing Hotline

Phone: 050.3338.5111

The Ration Control Program exists to prevent the transfer of duty free goods to those not entitled to receive them. Active duty military use their military ID as their Ration Control Card (RCC), but RCCs are required for family members entitled to make AAFES or commissary purchases.

To receive a RCC, you must first be entered into the DBIDS system. The sponsor must accompany all family members to the Ration Control Office with their ID cards. You may show a copy of your sponsor's orders stamped by the Ration Control desk to purchase before obtaining your RCC. **RCCs must be presented by all patrons over age 10 when entering duty free facilities (e.g., Class VI stores, AAFES gas station, PX, and Commissary).** The RCC and military ID must be presented at the point of sale as well. Consider keeping your receipts for large ticket items in case questions are raised about your buying habits.

You will be given information on the current rules and regulations concerning black marketing during in-processing. Under the Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA), the US is allowed to import certain products duty free for the commissary and PX services. These products are strictly for the personal use of authorized personnel. Black marketing is the illegal sale of duty free goods to the Korean economy and can result in severe disciplinary action. Report anyone who is engaged in this practice to the black marketing hotline.

Many products are considered illegal for gift giving to Korean Nationals. For questions regarding the sale of controlled items or gifts to personnel not authorized duty free import privileges, contact the Ration Control Office for information on proper legal procedures. Information is also available from USFK regulations 643-1 and 60-1.

ONLINE SHOPPING AND SHIPPING

- Be sure to check which shipping method a company intends to use to ship the goods to you. The quickest, easiest, and most convenient way for APO/FPO shipments is USPS Priority Mail. This usually takes one to two weeks, versus six to eight weeks by standard or “smart mail” methods.
- Search for online coupons and discounted shipping codes when ordering.
- Plan ahead during the busy holiday mailing season. Earlier is always better.
- For those items that cannot be shipped to an APO/FPO address, there are companies who specialize in forwarding packages to APO/FPO addresses. They provide you with a stateside shipping address and then charge shipping and handling to forward it on to your APO address. Consider visiting www.apobox.com or www.shipitapo.com.
- Most online vendors will not ship large items to APO addresses. If they do, the shipping costs can be more than the actual item purchased.
- Western goods are more expensive on the economy, so many people become avid Internet shoppers after moving to Korea. Many Internet sites will ship to APO addresses. We could not

possibly list them all, but here is a list of a few popular online retailers that will ship to an APO/FPO:

- www.shopmyexchange.com (online PX/BX)
- <http://www.mynavyexchange.com> (online NEX)
- <http://www.amazon.com>
- <http://www.macys.com> (clothing and home items)
- <http://www.jcpenney.com> (clothing and home items)
- www.target.com (clothing and home items)
- <http://oldnavy.gap.com> (clothing)
- <http://www.torrid.com/torrid/Homepage.jsp> (plus-sized clothing)
- www.childrensplace.com (children’s clothing)
- www.gymboree.com (children’s clothing)
- <http://www.zappos.com> (shoes)
- <http://www.toysrus.com> (toys, games, and baby supplies)
- <http://www.partycity.com> (party supplies)
- <http://www.iherb.com> (vitamins, supplements, and natural health products)
- <http://www.vitacost.com> (discounted organic foods and natural health care products)
- <http://www.drugstore.com> (health and beauty supplies)
- <http://sallybeauty.com> (health and beauty supplies)

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Try to negotiate at smaller stores and markets before agreeing on a price. Merchants can be very dramatic about negotiating, but do not let that deter you. The only places you cannot negotiate are box stores (e.g., Costco) and department stores/major retailers/chain stores.
- Do not let aggressive merchants push you to buy something you do not want.
- If you are shopping for Korean-made items, be sure to check to see that the items are actually made in Korea. Many items, especially those that seem to be very good bargains, are often imported.

- Remember that a label is easily applied and removed. Check your items before you purchase to be sure that they are in good working order and that the brand name is accurate.
- If possible, browse on your first visit to a market and then return on the second visit to buy. Some vendors or items are seasonal or temporary, and may not be there when you return.
- The small, local markets and street vendors carry items you cannot find on post. Wandering through the large shopping malls and department stores can be a full day outing for you and your family.
- Prior to shopping in the markets, browse the items and prices at chain stores like Daiso, Lotte Mart, and E-mart. This will give you a general idea of prices so when you are shopping in the markets you know whether or not you are getting a good deal.
- Check the US Postal and Customs regulations prior to buying a large number of items to send to the US. The US Customs Office is cracking down on illegal exports, including military members sending illegal gifts stateside. Stiffer regulations from the Korean government have decreased the counterfeit label distributors drastically.
- Always know the exchange rate between dollars and won before you shop. You may be able to get a better deal using one currency over the other, depending on current economic conditions.
- Be aware that if you pay by credit card, the currency exchange rate is in the seller's favor.
- If you use a credit card, never pay a service charge to the merchant for using the card. If the merchant insists on the service charge and you absolutely have to have the item, make the merchant write the charge separately on your receipt and report them to the credit card company. This is an illegal practice and most merchants will back off if you stand your ground. Keep your credit card receipts and ensure the charge that shows up on your bill matches the receipt.
- Many businesses will offer a cash discount if you pay in won. Ask

for the discount as most businesses are not going to offer this on their own.

- Many US banks charge service fees for use of their cards overseas. Some banks do not charge service fees and will refund some of the services fees for using international ATMs. Contact your bank for more information on this practice.
- Outside of Korean department stores, many smaller stores do not have dressing rooms. Be prepared to slip things on over your clothes or change in a makeshift dressing room that consists of a curtain that has been hung for your privacy. Many stores and vendors do not allow you to try garments on and return policies vary greatly.
- If you find an item you like but are not prepared to buy at that time, ask the merchant for a business card so you can find the store again. When you see something you want and have done the research to know the price is right, buy it! This is also true for stores on post. Seasonal items are generally put out ahead of what you expect in the US and sometimes sell out.
- If you really like the items and prices at a particular store, ask for extra business cards to refer your friends. Many times merchants will give discounts for your word-of-mouth referrals.
- It is customary in the Korean culture to give a business card to a new acquaintance. You may want to bring some cards with you from the US with your name, email, and new APO address. Have the information printed in English on one side and Hangeul on the other. It helps to type the information to give to the printer. There are several vendors on post that are reputable.
- Shopping bags are not always free at grocery and some department stores, but for a few cents you can buy bags. It is best to come prepared with some sturdy bags or a rolling cart if you plan to make many purchases. Many stores offer an area to box your own purchases at no cost.
- New stores open all the time and some old favorites may move or go out of business, so ask your neighbors, colleagues, and friends to recommend shops that cater to your interests.

- With the exception of some food and flower markets, most stores do not open before 10:00 am. Many markets are closed on a particular weekday, so check before you go. The last week of July and the first week of August is traditionally vacation time for Koreans; be prepared for the markets to close for a few days or even a week. This also occurs during Chuseok (Korean Thanksgiving holiday) and the Lunar New Year holiday.
- Korean clothing and shoes tend to run much smaller than western items. It is important to understand that even knowing the US size does not guarantee fit. It is recommended that you take actual measurements with you when shopping. Women's clothing larger than US size 8 is hard to find in Korea. There are some specialty shops that sell imported plus-size women's clothing; the sizing is therefore reflective of the country of origin. For pre-made Korean apparel, there are some sizing differences that you should note. Pants are often sized by the waist measurement in centimeters or occasionally inches. Shoes are sized differently as some have Korean sizing and some have European. Shoes are measured in millimeters and usually run a bit narrow. Additional information can be found at <http://www.korea4expats.com>.
- Doota Mall, across from the fabric market in Dongdaemun, has information about stores that carry larger sizes. Ask at the information booth on the ground floor and they will give you a slip of paper with a list of store numbers. Some places to shop for larger clothing include department stores, outlets, brand shops, Namdaemun market, Dongdaemun market, Myeongdong, Itaewon, and the stands in front of Ehwa Women's University.
- If you are placing an order for a custom garment, never pay the entire fee in advance. Make the smallest down payment possible since the merchant will be much more interested in seeing that the final product meets your specifications and completed in a timely manner. Know what looks best on you before placing a customized order, or you could end up forfeiting your deposit. In most cases, you will have to purchase the item since large sizes will be difficult for the tailor to sell.

- Very few quarters or apartments have carpeting. The floors in most government quarters are linoleum over concrete. Off post apartments generally have heated floors. It is best to bring any desired rugs (including runners) with you in either your express shipment or with your household goods as choices are limited in Korea and can be expensive. Another option is to check with departing personnel as they may have purchased Korean carpets specifically for the USAG Yongsan quarters and be willing to sell them. Several off post vendors will lay down wall-to-wall carpeting. The cost varies with carpet choice and vendor. Online stores will not ship rugs or rug pads OCONUS.

Women's Clothing

Plus-size women's clothing is harder to find in Korea. There are some specialty shops that sell imported plus-size women's clothing; the sizing is therefore reflective of the country of origin. For pre-made Korean apparel, there are some sizing differences that you should note. Pants are often sized by the waist measurement in centimeters or occasionally inches. Shoe sizes can be difficult since some shoes have Korean sizing and some have European. Shoes are measured in millimeters. Additional information can be found at <http://www.korea4expats.com>.

Shopping, On Post

AUTOMOBILES

New Car Sales

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* Building T-1440 *DSN:* 723.4267, 723.4270, 721.7001 *Hours:* Monday-Friday, 9:00 am-6:00 pm; Saturday, 9:00 am-5:00 pm; Sunday, 9:00 am-4:00 pm

M-Rent Car Rental

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* Bus Terminal, Building S-2259 *DSN:* 723.7898 *Hours:* Daily 10:00 am-6:00 pm

BABY AND MATERNITY

Though the PX and Furniture Store carry most baby items, choice is limited. If you want a particular item, purchase it prior to departing the US and ship it in your household shipment. Baby furniture items, such as cribs, mattresses, changing tables, and rocking chairs, are not supplied by the Furniture Management Office and can be expensive to purchase in Korea.

Infant and toddler clothing stocks in the PX may be quickly depleted. Newborn clothing can be very expensive at the department stores.

The PX has a selection of maternity clothing but items may sell out quickly. The Second Hand Rose Thrift Shop often has gently used maternity clothes and baby items in stock. Ordering through US websites is another option for purchasing maternity clothes and baby items.

BARBER SHOPS

Brian Allgood Community Hospital

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* Building 7005 *Phone:* 050.3337.5285 *DSN:* 737.5285 *Hours:* Monday-Friday, 9:00 am-5:00 pm

Camp Coiner Mini-Mall

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* Building 1094 *Phone:* 050.3324.5169 *DSN:* 724.5169 *Hours:* Monday-Friday, 9:00 am-7:00 pm, Saturday, 10:00 am-5:00 pm

JUSMAG-K

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* Main Post, Building 1575 *Phone:* 050.3325.6555 *DSN:* 725.6555 *Hours:* Monday-Friday, 8:30 am-6:00 pm, Saturday 8:30 am-5:00 pm

Main Post Mini-Mall/Four Seasons

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* Building 1447 *Phone:* 050.3323.7858 *Hours:* Daily 9:00 am-8:00 pm

South Post Mini-Mall/

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* Building 4259 *Phone:* 050.3338.8176 *DSN:* 738.8176 *Hours:* Monday, Wednesday-Friday, 9:00 am-7:00 pm, Saturday, Sunday 10:00 am-6:00 pm, Closed Tuesdays

South Post

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* Building 4035 (Behind One Stop Processing Center/1st Replacement Company) *Phone:* 050.3338.6976 *DSN:* 738.6976 *Hours:* Monday-Saturday, 9:00 am-6:00 pm

BEAUTY

Each service provided (e.g., shampooing, blow drying, etc.) may be a separate charge. If you use special hair care products, check the online websites to see if your product can be ordered and shipped to an APO. If your favorite products are not available for order, bring a supply of those products with you. Some products can be purchased off post, but they can be hard to find and expensive.

There are many salons off post that are reputable and frequented by expats. Ask your friends and acquaintances for recommendations.

Dragon Hill Lodge Clippers

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Phone:* 050.3338.2222 x6810 *DSN:* 738.2222 x6810 *Hours:* Monday-Saturday, 9:00 am-7:00 pm, Sunday, 10:00 am-7:00 pm

Main Beauty Shop

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* Mini-Mall/Four Seasons *Phone:* 050.3323.2066 *Hours:* Daily 9:00 am-8:00 pm

BICYCLES

Bicycle Shop

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Phone:* 070.4233.8535 *Hours:* Monday-Saturday, 10:00 am-7:00 pm

Platoon Cycles

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* Camp Coiner, Building 1094 *Phone:* 070.4233.8535 *Hours:* Monday-Saturday, 10:00 am-7:00 pm

BOOKS

The Main PX on USAG Yongsan carries a wide variety of books and magazines, as does the Osan Air Base BX.

CARPETS AND RUGS

The AAFES Furniture Store carries some area rugs, carpeting, and padding at a variety of prices and sizes up to 12'x15'. Be forewarned that they sell out quickly, but they do have a waiting list and will notify you when new carpets arrive. Ask at the PX about ordering rugs for delivery to the local store from the online catalog. Occasionally, carpet vendors set up displays and sell various sizes of decorative rugs and carpets in the AAFES Four Seasons Store.

CHRISTMAS TREES

Artificial trees are available at the AAFES Four Seasons Store in the Mini-Mall on Main Post. Both live and artificial trees are available on the economy, though they are far more expensive than those available on post. Many people buy trees and decorations at the Express Bus Terminal on the third floor. The Second Hand Rose Thrift Shop usually has a selection of artificial trees along with an assortment of ornaments and other Christmas decorations at reasonable prices. Christmas tree stands are in short supply, so bring a stand in your household goods shipment if you plan to purchase a live tree. Before purchasing or shipping, consider storage requirements for artificial trees and the difficulties of disposing of live trees if you live off post.

COMMISSARY

All patrons age 10 and over must present a valid military ID and ration card to enter the store (visitors are not allowed to enter). If you do not have your ration card yet, you must bring your stamped orders, which are good only for your first 14 days in-country. The Command Unique Tracking System (CUTS) assists USFK law enforcement agencies in collecting data for inventory control and to curb black marketing.

Coupons are allowed at the commissary, as well as at the PX. Regular manufacturer, online printable, and commissary coupons may be used for up to six months after the printed expiration date while stationed overseas. You can also load coupons onto the free Commissary Rewards Card on the Commissary website. Also, see the Resources section for a list of popular couponing websites.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* South Post Building 5419 *Phone:* 050.3336.3084 *DSN:* 736.3084 *Website:* www.commissaries.com *Hours:* Tuesday-Thursday, 10:00 am-7:00 pm, Tuesday-Friday, 7:00-10:00 am (Early Bird hours, 20 items or less), Friday, 10:00 am-8:00 pm, Saturday, 10:00 am-7:00 pm, Closed Mondays, all US Federal holidays, and several Korean holidays

CUSTOM-MADE UNIFORMS

The tailor shop at the Dragon Hill Lodge sews uniforms and custom dress shirts; they carry the authorized fabric for Army uniforms only. The Military Clothing Sales Store (MCSS), located in the Mini-Mall on Main Post, carries fabrics and buttons authorized for Army uniforms

only. The selection of Air Force, Marine, and Navy uniforms here is limited and some items have to be ordered from Osan or the US, so plan ahead. Women's clothing is more difficult to make than men's and is more expensive, so ask to see samples and prices before committing to a garment.

FURNITURE STORE/DELIVERY SERVICE

The Furniture Store offers a limited variety of US furniture, appliances, lamps, baby gear, and bound carpeting. They carry two grades of carpeting in several sizes. Carpets may be in the back out of sight, so ask for help if you don't see what you want. Be aware that special orders can take from one to eight months to be delivered.

A-Frame Delivery will pick up and deliver large household items for a fee. Check with the Furniture Store for current rates. If you live on post, you may have to meet the delivery team at the gate to sign them on to post.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* South Post next to the Mini-Mall *Phone:* 050.3338.5052 *DSN:* 738.5052

THE GALLERY (AAFES CONCESSIONAIRES)

Local vendors sell many items including art, blankets, lacquer-ware, clothing, embroidery, furniture, jewelry, pottery, leather goods, and clothing. There is also a dry-cleaner, portrait studio, and optical shop. You can ship packages from the Gallery FedEx desk to arrive in the US within two days. There is a packaging service to help get items ready to mail.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* Main Post (next to the library and post office) *Phone:* 050.3323.7635

GASOLINE

AAFES gas station prices are considerably cheaper than prices found on the Korean economy. Identification cards and Ration Control Cards are required for access to pump gas. The AAFES gas station has a kiosk that offers drinks, quick snacks, oil, and wiper fluid. Selection and quantities are very limited. Vacuums and air for tires are available to the side of the gas station.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* South Post, Building 4723 *Phone:* 050.3338.7649 *DSN:* 738.7649 *Hours:* Monday-Friday 7:00 am-7:00 pm, Saturday 8:00 am-7:00 pm, Sunday 9:00 am-6:00 pm

GAS GRILLS AND PROPANE

The Four Seasons sells gas grills and propane tanks. The store has a good supply during summer months. Currently, the Four Seasons refills tanks (check with the sales associates for policy changes). They also have maps with information on locations off post where tanks can be refilled. Most picnic areas near the various housing complexes have charcoal grills for public use.

LAUNDRY AND DRY CLEANING

AAFES Launderette

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* South Post, Building 4220 *Phone:* 050.3338.5449
DSN: 738.5449 *Hours:* Open 24 hours

The Cleaners

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* Building 1094 *Hours:* Monday-Friday, 10:00 am-7:00 pm, Saturday, 10:00 am-4:00 pm, Sunday, Closed

Laundry/Dry Cleaning

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* South Post *DSN:* 738.4441 *Hours:* Monday-Friday 7:30 am-6:00 pm, Saturday, 9:00 am-3:00 pm, Sunday, Closed

THE FOUR SEASONS MINI-MALL

Military Clothing Sales

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Phone:* 050.3323.2072 *DSN:* 723.2079 *Hours:* Monday, 7:00 am-7:00 pm; Tuesday-Saturday, 10:00-7:00 pm; Sunday, Closed

Four Seasons

CONTACT INFORMATION. *DSN:* 723.2072 *Hours:* Daily, 10:00 am-7:00 pm

Stripes Alterations/Tailors

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Phone:* 050.3323.2080 *Hours:* Daily, 10:00 am-7:00 pm

Petals & Blooms

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Phone:* 050.3323.2076 *DSN:* 723.2076 *Hours:* Daily 10:00 am-7:00 pm

OPTICAL

Optometry Clinic

You can make an appointment to have your eyes examined by calling the Optometry Clinic; however, no contact lens fittings are done, so bring a valid contact lens prescription and a six to twelve month supply of lenses with you. With a valid contact lens prescription, you can reorder contacts at the Optical Shop, on the Korean economy, or over the Internet. Frames and lenses can be purchased at a reasonable price from the Optical Shop in the Gallery on Main Post, at the Dragon Hill Lodge, or any off post optical shop. There are many fast, reasonable optical shops off post; ask your friends and acquaintances for recommendations.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* Main Post *Phone:* 050.3337.1464

PRINTING

Oriental Press

Oriental Press is a commercial printing and publishing contractor with a long-term presence and commitment to the US military community. Since 1990, the company has been a valued resource for a variety of services, to include printing of business cards and other stationary, military gift items (such as unit coins, plaques and presentation projects), and specialty articles. Oriental Press prints and distributes *The Morning Calm* Newspaper and *The Seoul Survivor* free of charge as a service to the community.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* Main Post, Building 1440 *Phone:* 050.3338.5005

Moyer Community Activity Center Business Card Vendors

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Phone:* 050.3323.5347 *DSN:* 723.5347

POST EXCHANGE (PX)

Main Post

The PX facility is surrounded by a series of smaller stores and restaurants run by AAFES and AAFES concessionaires. The main PX sells electronics equipment (stereos, televisions, cameras, and computers), clothing, health and beauty aids, and household items.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Phone:* 050.3324.4365 *Website:* www.aafes.com

REPAIRS

Bicycles

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* Four Seasons, Main Post *Phone:* 050.3323.2072 or 050.3323.2073

Computers

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* The Gallery, Main Post *Phone:* 050.3323.4030

One Stop Business Center

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* Building S8105 *Phone:* 02.792.6695

SECOND HAND ROSE THRIFT SHOP

Volunteers from the American Women's Club of Korea Thrift Shop Association operate the thrift shop in conjunction with the US military. The thrift shop, a non-profit organization, offers a wide range of resale items, including clothing, electronic equipment, and furniture. All are welcome to shop and/or donate items. Donations are taken during store hours. A donation bin located near the side entrance of the shop is available 24 hours a day. Active American Women's Club members and government ID card holders can consign items. Consignments are by appointment only. Proceeds from the thrift shop are used to support charities in the local community and on post.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* Building 4222 near the movie theater on South Post *Phone:* 02.795.7675 *Facebook:* <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Second-Hand-Rose-Thrift-Shop/114666625219838> *Hours:* Monday and Saturday 10:00 am-3:00 pm, Wednesday 10:00 am-6:00 pm

EXPRESS/SHOPPETTE/CLASS VI

Dragon Hill Lodge

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Phone:* 738.6090 *Hours:* Daily 1:00 am-midnight

Four Seasons

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* Building S-1447 *Phone:* 050.3323.2069 *DSN:* 723.2068 *Hours:* Monday-Friday, 8:00 am-9:00 pm; Saturday, Sunday, 9:00-9:00 pm

South Post Mini-Mall

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* Building S-4259 *DSN:* 738.4154 *Hours:* Daily 7:00 am-9:00 pm

WATER

Seoksu Water

The water on post is safe for drinking and water fountains are available in most public areas on post. Water is available by the bottle or case at the commissary. Another option is home delivery by Seoksu Water. Hot/cold water dispensers are available to purchase or to rent; free deliveries are made weekly on and off post. Hand pumps that fit over the bottles are also available for purchase.

Many housing units off post may include hot/cold water bottle dispensers and water delivery; check with your property owner or manager to determine what is included with your lease.

CONTACT INFORMATION. *Location:* Main Post PX *Phone:* 050.3324.7567 *Hours:* Tuesday-Friday 10:00 am-7:00 pm; Saturday, Sunday 10:00 am-6:00 pm; Monday, Closed

Shopping, Off Post

This is a brief overview of shopping available in Seoul and nearby areas. For more information, look for local books and magazines or visit the tourist information booths located around the city. Other resources include the AFSC Shopping Club and other groups on post who offer guided local shopping excursions and day trips.

POPULAR PURCHASES

Antiques

Before you buy, spend some time comparing items and prices. Reputable dealers will tell you if a piece has been repaired, the material used, its origin, and age. Look for bamboo nails, tongue-in-groove joints, cutout or etched fittings, and locks. Ask the shop owner for a certificate of authenticity that describes the piece, lists the materials used to make it, details its usage, and includes measurements. Keep your receipt, the certificate, and a picture of your antique in case of damage or loss.

Note: National treasures may not be removed from the country. In most cases, they would be entirely too expensive to purchase. For more information, call the Office of Cultural Affairs, Seoul City Hall at 02.731.6188.

Art

Art and handicrafts are available in abundance throughout Seoul. From rice paper to hand-carved seals to painted screens, you can find items suitable as gifts as well as home décor.

Arts and Crafts

A broad range of art, craft, stationery, and architectural supplies are available.

Celadon

This unique Korean art form has evolved into some of the most beautiful ceramics available anywhere in Asia. Prices range from a few dollars for a small, inexpensive copy to thousands of dollars for an original work by one of the current “living treasures,” a designation given by the government to masters of ancient Korean arts.

Clothing

There are many clothing shops that offer great prices; however, if you are larger than a size 8, you may have trouble finding clothing in Korea. Koreans are increasingly fashion-conscious, and many new cutting-edge and trendy designers are emerging.

Flowers and Plants

Reasonably priced flowers and plants abound in Seoul. Flower markets close around lunch time so be sure to go early.

Framing

Framing is relatively inexpensive in Korea. Plastic frames are common, so if you are offered an unbelievably low price on the framing, check for plastic.

Ginseng

Ginseng is Korea’s traditional medicinal herb. This herb, known as the “miraculous medicine” or “Koryo Ginseng,” is believed to calm the mind and strengthen the body. There are many ginseng products including the root, tea, canned drinks, and even candy. It is an acquired taste, so it is advisable to taste test before you purchase. Ginseng products can be costly.

Hanbok

The hanbok is the traditional Korean attire. Hanboks can be very elaborate depending upon the fabric and handwork involved. It is still worn on official occasions and holidays such as Chuseok, weddings, and other special family gatherings.

Jewelry

There are several important factors to remember when shopping for jewelry:

- Deal with a reputable merchant if you plan on purchasing precious stones and metals.
- Know which countries specialize in what type of precious stones in order to get the best price. Korea’s special stones are amethyst and topaz. True Korean amethyst has become very expensive, so you will find many shops sell the cheaper Brazilian amethyst. The Korean jade supply was mined out several years ago; consequently, most of the jade you see comes from other Southeast Asian countries. Merchants can, and do, make high-quality synthetic stones.
- Always comparison shop before you purchase.
- When purchasing expensive jewelry, ask for certificates of authenticity, even for purchases from the PX as they are needed for insurance purposes. Carefully inspect all merchandise before purchasing.

Kimchi Pots

Brownware kimchi pots are ubiquitous, and one of the must-have souvenirs of your time in Korea. You can find more expensive kimchi pots that are food grade as well as cheaper “seconds” that are more suited to decorative purposes.

Leather

There are many good bargains to be found, but a few words of caution apply: Quality lambskin is the most expensive and you certainly do not want to pay for lamb and end up with treated cow; this also applies for fleece linings.

Quilts and Fabric

Most Korean quilts are sewn by machine and made of washable fabrics. Some are sewn by hand from ornate silks and satin fabrics, but these are usually not washable and more for decoration than everyday use. A quilt can be made to order; prices vary widely so shop around for the best prices, quality of fabric, and workmanship.

PLACES TO SHOP

There are many shopping opportunities in Seoul. The listing below is by no means complete, but it is a good place to begin your Korean shopping adventures. A trip to a department store or a shopping district can be great fun, but the markets are where you will usually find the best deals.

This section is organized into three main subsections: Markets, Shopping Districts, and Department Stores/Shopping Malls. A final “Miscellaneous” section details other destinations of potential interest.

Markets

Korea is world famous for its shopping markets. Exploring these markets can be quite an adventure. The following are just a few of the popular market areas.

Bangsan Market

A great place to shop for baking supplies.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Public Transportation: Jongno 5(o)-ga (Subway Line 1, Exit 7)

Dongdaemun (East Gate Market)

The largest of the shopping markets in Seoul and possibly the most popular with both Korean and foreign shoppers, Dongdaemun is famous for a variety of wares including fabric, clothing, shoes, sports equipment, Korean bedding, handbags, jewelry, toys, and much more. It is located in the eastern sector of the city and is easily reached by taking the subway. The market is well marked on almost all Seoul roadmaps.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Public Transportation: Dongdaemun (Subway Line 4, Station 421, Exit 8 or 9). It is also possible to drive and park in the FED Engineering Base (free to all ID card holders and roughly three blocks away).

Dongdaemun Fabric Market

The market is full of fabrics and notions. Fabric can be purchased by the yard or bolt. Happy Quilt fabric store (5th Floor, B Building, 5215-6) also sells fabrics at the monthly AFSC luncheons.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Public Transportation: Incheon Station (near Gate 13) or Sinyongsan Station (near Gate 14), Subway to Dongdaemun (Subway Line 4, Station 421, Exit 9) It is also possible to drive and park in the FED Engineering Base (free to all ID card holders and roughly three blocks away) **Hours:** Closed Sundays

Dongmyo

This area near Dongdaemun is a good place to shop for toys, stationery, clothing, socks, etc.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Public Transportation: Dongmyo Station (Subway Line 6, Station 636, Exit 6)

Express Bus Terminal

The huge Express Bus Terminal just south of the Han River is the hub of all long-distance bus traffic in the Republic of Korea. It is busy on a normal day and jammed on Korean holidays. It contains several floors of restaurants and interesting, inexpensive shops. There are fresh flower markets in the basement and third floor along with a huge artificial flower market with home goods on the third floor. Christmas and other holiday items are available seasonally.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Public Transportation: Subway: Express Bus Terminal Station (Subway Line 3 or 7, Exit 1), Bus: Exit Gate 6 (Commissary Gate) and take a right; walk to the stop light and cross the street to the bus stop. Take bus 143 or 401 and get off at the second stop after you cross the river. For the return journey, make sure you are on the opposite side of the street and again take bus 143 or 401. Once the bus has crossed the bridge, get off at the first stop (Hangang Middle School) which is close to Gate 6.

Fabric Market

The Fabric Market is a five-story building full of fabrics and notions of every imaginable sort.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Public Transportation: Outside Dongdaemun Station (Subway Line 4, Station 421, Exit 9) **Hours:** Closed Sundays

Insadong

Insadong is located in downtown Seoul between the US Embassy and Pagoda Park. There are many tea shops and restaurants to be found down some of the interesting side streets around this shopping area. On Sunday afternoons, the streets are closed to vehicle traffic

and shopkeepers set up their wares in the street, along with various entertainers and artists.

A cultural space called Ssamziegil is a mall on six floors, housing 70 shops that are all connected by a long spiral path that leads to the Sky Park on the top floor, offering views of the streets below.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Public Transportation: Anguk Station (Line 3, Station 328, Exit 6) and walk about 50 feet straight ahead, then turn left.

Janghanpyeong and Dapsimni Antique Art Markets

If you like flea markets interspersed with fine antiques and a few nice shops, this is the destination for you! Janghanpyeong antique market boasts an array of traditional goods. Many furniture retailers purchase wholesale from this market. Just a short walk away you'll find another nearby antique market area known as Dapsimni. This market offers three large buildings of treasures waiting to be explored. The buildings (2-dong, 5-dong, and 6-dong) are fairly easy to spot since the signs are in English and Korean. English is not spoken by many of the shopkeepers so negotiating can be challenging.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Location: Janghanpyeong Antique Art Market **Public Transportation:** For Janghanpyeong Antique Art Market, Between Dapsimni (Subway Line 5, Station 542, Exit 4) and Janghanpyeong (Line 5, Station 543) For Dapsimni Antique Art Market, Dapsimni Station (Subway Line 5, Station 542, Exit 2)

Minsok Goldong Pum Market

This quaint market is located near the Hwanghakdong flea market in Seoul. You can find antiques, character statues, kitchenware, old books, trinkets, etc.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Public Transportation: Sindang (Subway Line 6, Station 635). You pass a wedding hall before you exit the subway. Once outside, go immediately to the left across the steps, then behind the row of doors for sale.

Namdaemun (South Gate Market)

This market is a unique cornucopia of clothing, jewelry, dishes, appliances, folk art, flowers, gift bags, stationery items, and foods. The market serves as a major manufacturers' outlet opening very early at 2:00 am and not closing until 6:00 pm. Namdaemun has a large wholesale flower market, but go early since that section closes around 1:00 pm. Namdaemun is a good place to buy children's clothing, with many buildings selling nothing but children's clothes and shoes. The Alpha Store is located on Stationery Alley and has a great variety of crafts, art supplies, and office needs. Free shopping guide books

filled with market information, detailed maps, and building numbers are available at information booths located along the market's main arteries.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Public Transportation: Hoehyeon Station (Subway Line 4, Station 425, Exit 5). You can also take bus 143, 149 (outside Gates 14 or 16) and bus 401 (outside Gate 3). Parking is available in the underground lot at the Hilton Hotel; fees can be high if you spend more than a couple of hours. **Directions:** To walk from Yongsan, exit post at Gate 19 (Camp Coiner) and take a left out of the gate. Walk up the hill to the Hilton Hotel and then down to the market. It is located just down the hill from the Hilton Hotel and across from Seoul Station.

Sarah Mesa Department Store

Located in Namdaemun; maternity clothes can be found on the first and second floors.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Public Transportation: Located in Namdaemun Subway (Subway Line 4, Hoehyeon Station, exit 7)

Baby Malls

Located in Namdaemun; There are some inexpensive women's shops on the second floors.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Location: Located in Namdaemun (right around the corner from Mesa)

Noryangjin Fish Market

This is Seoul's largest fish market. It is run by the Department of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries, and houses over 700 shops selling seafood from 15 fishing ports around Korea. It also includes numerous restaurants that will cook your purchased fish for you, an auction floor, and an adjacent agricultural section.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Public Transportation: Noryangjin Station (Subway Line 1, Exit 2) **Hours:** Daily 3:00 am-9:00 pm, Wholesalers are off on Sundays and holidays

Seoul Folk Flea Market (Hwanghak-dong Flea Market)

This market is located along a few blocks under the Cheonggye elevated road. This is Korea's oldest flea market dating all the way back to the Korean War. The market has close to 1,000 shops selling hard to find antiques along with second hand goods. English is not spoken by many of the shopkeepers so negotiating can be challenging.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Public Transportation: Sinseoldong (Subway Line 1, Exit 9) and walk straight ahead for 100 m **Hours:** Daily 10:00 am-7:00 pm, Closed the second and fourth Tuesdays of every month.

Toy Alley/Dongmyo

This area near Dongdaemun is a good place to shop for toys, stationery, clothing, party supplies and favors, school supplies and gifts.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Public Transportation: Dongmyo Station, (Subway Line 6, Station 636, Exit 6). As you exit to the street, walk about 100 feet to the first intersection at which you will turn right and walk down the alley to the vendors and stores.

Yongsan Electronics Market

This market houses a vast array of computers, stereos, cameras, and general electronic gadgets. The entire market consists of more than two dozen buildings and the surrounding streets are packed with vendors selling thousands of electronic items. It is helpful to have a Korean speaker accompany you as most vendors speak little English. As with any other market, compare prices and bargain before you buy. Also, this is an important place to remember that a brand label is just that, a label. They can be put on or taken off very easily. Check for quality and performance.

Most product information is written in Korean and warranties are not valid in the US. If you live on post or are planning on taking the products with you upon PCS, ensure all products you buy are dual voltage.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Directions: In Yongsan-gu, an easy walk out of Gate 14 (turn left at the traffic signal and follow the signs). If you are driving, exit Gate 14, turn left at the light and immediately get in the right lane and make a right turn at the next traffic signal. The lanes are confusing, so pay attention. Go straight ahead taking the underpass in front of you. Turn left at the first traffic signal after the underpass. The market is 300 yards on the left, behind the train station and E-mart. There is a large parking lot in front of the building.

Shopping Districts

Certain areas of Seoul have developed reputations as special shopping and commercial districts. A list of a few shopping districts is below.

Itaewon

This area is conveniently located outside Gate 5 (the Gas Station Gate) and across the street. It is a good place to venture off post for your first shopping adventure. Many of the vendors speak English and it is not quite as overwhelming as some of the larger markets in Seoul. You can find clothing, shoes, travel bags, luggage, leather and eel skin goods, brass, antiques, and reproductions.

The Underground: The Underground shopping area is a block away from McDonald's and across the alley from "The Bag Man" purse shop. There are many entrances to The Underground.

There are hundreds of vendors selling an array of brand name clothing, shoes, jackets, underwear, and souvenirs. There is a limited amount of children's clothing, but not at bargain prices compared to the sales available in the United States. Some stores will not let you try on clothes, but some will encourage you to, whether they have a changing area or not. Take the stairs, leading up or down, to see more floors packed with hundreds of vendors and their wares.

Boutique Area: Follow the small street that leads to "The Underground." Keep walking until you pass a small tag store on the right hand side. (The tag store will sew your name in Korean on luggage and clothing tags while you wait and also sells hats and ready-made luggage tags.) Once you pass the tag shop, you will see Monica's Custom Tailor shop. Turn right in front of this store. Walk down a narrow, steep alleyway, leading down hill. At the bottom of the hill, there are boutiques lining both sides of the street. Many stores are closed on Tuesdays.

Hamilton Shopping Center: There is a wide variety of stores in this four-level shopping center attached to the hotel and often is simply referred to as the "Hamilton" or the "Hamilton Hotel." The lower levels sell watches, jewelry, purses and souvenirs; the top two floors are mostly clothing, purses, and luggage. Have a specific item in mind when shopping the lower levels, as the vendors tend to be a bit aggressive as they pressure you to buy. Take the escalator to the top level where there are also bathrooms. There is also a reputable rug dealer with a nice selection of Persian rugs. He also offers rug cleaning and repair. Some shops take US dollars, but exchange rates can vary from store to store.

Remix: On the right side of the main street toward the middle section of the shopping area, Remix offers a selection of clothing. It is easy to walk by and miss the store.

Shoe and Boot Shop (no name on store front): This store is located immediately before the Remix clothes shop. Go downstairs to get to the store. It carries a good selection of ladies shoes and boots at reasonable prices.

A-One: On the right side of the main street toward the middle of the shopping area, A-One offers a selection of shoes and boots.

The Morning Calm Antique Furniture Store: This store has a huge selection of Korean antiques and reproductions. The store has very unique pieces of furniture and the owner is willing to make a deal.

Myeongdong

This is one of the busiest and most fashionable shopping districts in Seoul. The narrow streets and alleys contain hundreds of clothing and accessory boutiques, shoe stores, tailors, dressmakers, huge department stores, specialty shops, and the Myeongdong Cathedral. This district stretches for about a mile in any direction from the Myeongdong Station, so everything is within walking distance. The area is popular with teenagers and has many familiar stores such as Gap, Old Navy, H&M, and Forever 21. Some of the familiar stores even sell European-sized clothing. Myeongdong claims to sell the biggest ice cream treat in the world at 16 inches high. There are always lines of people waiting to sample this mile high treat even on bitterly cold winter days. During the warmer summer evenings, the streets abound with hundreds of shoppers, as the vendors stay open at least until midnight.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Public Transportation: Myeongdong (Subway Line 4, Exits 7 or 8)

Apgujeong

This trendy, upscale fashion district, surrounded by many luxury apartments, is located south of the Han River in Gangnam-gu. You will find department stores, clothing stores, shoe shops, and boutiques as well as numerous restaurants, cafés, coffee houses, nightclubs, cinemas, theaters, and other entertainment spots.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Public Transportation: Apgujeong or Sinsa Stations (Subway Line 3, Stations 336 or 337)

Ewha Women's University and Sinchon

These quaint shopping areas are very close to one another. With the feel of a small college town, lots of fun little shops, hair salons, and small restaurants dot the area. With many universities adjacent to it, Sinchon has been called the "Street of Youth." Theaters line the street near Sinchon.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Public Transportation: Ewha Women's University (Subway Line 2, Station 241, Exit 2), Sinchon Station (Subway Line 2, Station 240)

Department Stores and Malls

Exploring Korean department stores is not only an excellent and entertaining way to learn what products are available here, but it also gives you a glimpse into the Korean way of life. While featuring the finest and most expensive items, the department stores are almost a microcosm of Korean society, with most containing grocery stores and restaurants. Someone is usually available to answer questions in English.

Baby Malls

There are some inexpensive women's shops on the second floors.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Location: Located in Namdaemun (right around the corner from Mesa)

Costco

Bring your unexpired US Costco card as it can be used in Korea. The items are geared toward the Korean shopper, so you will find different merchandise than available in the US, but Costco does carry some Kirkland's brand items.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Website: www.costco.co.kr (click on English, then 'Locations' for maps and written directions)

COEX Mall

Everything can be found at this enormous shopping complex. In addition to the endless stores, you will find restaurants, food courts, clubs, an aquarium, and a movie theater. There's a lot to see, so plan to spend the entire day.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Public Transportation: Samseong Station (Subway Line 2, Station 219, Exit 6). The subway exit leads straight into the mall. **Website:** www.coex.co.kr/eng

D-Cube City Department Store

This nine-story indoor shopping mall has lots of great stores including H&M and Uniqlo. There are also two full floors of restaurants. You can find an information cube in English on each floor to help you navigate your way around. There is also a Pororo Theme park on the 4th floor that is popular with young children.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Public Transportation: Sindorim Station (Subway Line 1, Exit 1) and follow the signs for the D-Cube City Department Store which will take you straight to the entrance. **Website:** www.dcubecity.com/opot/ENRDDepart.onen?goTo=depart

Doota Mall

Doota Mall is across from the fabric market in Dongdaemun. Many of the shops carry European-sized clothing. Ask at the information booth on the ground floor and they will give you a list of store numbers that sell plus-size clothing. There is also a very nice food court on the 7th floor.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Directions: Across from Dongdaemun Market and directly across from the History and Culture Park, look for another large white building across the street (and stream).

E-mart

This chain store has many locations throughout Seoul. The store has everything from pet grooming items to groceries. You can purchase many ready-to-eat Korean food items, including already marinated bulgogi and kalbi meat, frozen items like mandu, bread, and fresh fruit and vegetables.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Directions: Closest location to USAG Yongsan is out of Gate 14 in the I-Park Mall building. There is a parking garage, or you can walk from Gate 14 to the Yongsan Station subway entrance. **Public Transportation:** Use the subway to get on the other side of the busy street (Exit 5). Look for the I-Park sign and distinctive yellow E-mart signs. E-mart is in the same building as Yongsan Station (Subway Line 1, Station 135).

Galleria Department Store

This department store carries a wide variety of luxury-brand lines, and there is a great supermarket in the basement.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Public Transportation: Apgujeong (Subway Line 3, Station 336, Exit 2). Expect a 15-minute walk or take a taxi. **Directions:** If driving: from Riverside Drive (Highway 88), turn right at the next bridge, go past Hannam Bridge (also called Dongho Bridge) and turn left at the first traffic light. There is another much closer branch of the store located at Seoul Station (Subway Line 4, Station 426).

Hyundai Department Store

CONTACT INFORMATION. Public Transportation: Apgujeong (Subway Line 3, Station 336)

IKEA

IKEA is located outside of Seoul and is a popular place for furniture and other household items. This location is one of the largest IKEA stores in the world.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Public Transportation: 17, Iljik-ro, Gwangmyeong-si, Gyeonggi-do Subway KTX Gwangmyeong Station, Exit 6, then take the Town shuttle No. 1-1, 1-3 to IKEA/Lotte Outlet Station. **Phone:** 82 1670-4532 **Hours:** 10:00 am-10:00 pm (Closed on Lunar New Year's Day and Chuseok)

I'Park Mall

This mall houses a Multiplex containing 11 movie screens, there is an open-air stage within the courtyard of the complex where seasonal events take place, such as ice skating in the winter, family events, and entertainment.. There are two floors exclusively for restaurants. The Living Digital store carries an assortment of electronics, furniture, and a Korean bookstore. There is also a fashion mall with shoes, clothes and accessories, nail and hair salons, and hobby shops. The opposite end of the mall contains the I'Park Department Store and E-mart.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Public Transportation: Walking distance to Yongsan Garrison or take the subway to Yongsan Station (Subway Line 1, Station 135) **Website:** http://www.iparkmall.co.kr/main/sub08_01.asp#

Lotte Department Store and Lotte Mart

There are numerous locations for the Lotte Department Store and Lotte Mart in and around Seoul. They are good places to learn about Korean products and foods. The stores have grocery and clothing departments. There are several locations, but the closest is in Myeongdong.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Public Transportation: Closest store to USAG Yongsan is beside the Seoul Station (Subway Line 4, Station 426), There is another, much larger store located in Jamsil (Subway Line 2 or 8, Station 216, Exit 3) **Website:** <http://store.lotteshopping.com/handler/AmbassaMain-StartEn>

Migliore

There are quite a few maternity shops in the basement.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Public Transportation: Myeongdong (Myeongdong Station, Subway Line 4, Exit 6)

Sarah Mesa Department Store

The maternity clothes can be found on the first and second floors.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Public Transportation: Located in Namdaemun Subway (Subway Line 4, Hoehyeon Station, Exit 7)

Shinsegae Department Stores

There are several locations in Seoul. The closest are located at Central City Mall (Express bus Terminal) and Myeongdong. These are huge department stores with hundreds of shops. You can find maternity (“prenatal”) wear in stores within Shinsegae. Visit the large Korean food court, located on the basement floor.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Public Transportation: Express Bus Terminal (Subway Line 3 or 7, Station 339, Exit 5 or 6) or you can take the bus. Myeongdong location: The subway station is directly connected to the department store (Hoehyeon Station, Subway Line 4, Exit 7) **Website:** www.shinsegae.com/english

Times Square Mall

This large-scale department store is filled with many shops and places to eat and several cinemas. The mall offers a range of items including average-priced clothing, home décor, and luxury designer shoes and bags.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Public Transportation: Yeongdeungpo Station (Subway Line 1). The mall is directly connected to the station. **Website:** <http://www.timessquare.co.kr/?controller=eng&action=main>

Toys-r-Us

There are several locations around Seoul and South Korea; however, the most popular is the one near Jamsil Station that is located on the upper level of the Lotte Adventure World Complex.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Public Transportation: Subway Line 4 (Light Blue) from either Gate 13 or 14 to Sadang Station. At Sadang Station, transfer to Subway Line 2 (Green). Take the Subway Line 2 train to Jamsil Station and follow the signs to Exit 3, Lotte Adventure World. Continue walking underground past the information booth. You will see signs leading to the Toys-R-Us Store which is located on the upper levels of the complex.

MISCELLANEOUS

This section provides destinations that may be of interest but are not listed above.

Art

Off post between Gate 14 and Gate 16, you can find inexpensive art

galleries. There are also galleries located in the following areas: City Hall (Subway Line 1, Station 132), Gyeongbokgung (Subway Line 3, Station 327) and Insadong–Anguk (Subway Line 3, Station 328, Exit 6)

Automobile Repairs

There are many auto repair shops as well as factory-authorized automobile repair services in Seoul, but most will not speak English. The following shops are within close proximity to USAG Yongsan.

Charley’s Auto Repair

CONTACT INFORMATION. Phone: 02.793.7919

Kim’s Garage

CONTACT INFORMATION. Phone: 02.795.3712

Mr. Han’s Garage

For those who do not care to drive off post, Mr. Han’s Garage will pick up and return your car for you.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Location: Outside Gate 6 (Commissary Gate), left out of gate, about a block down on right. **Phone:** 02.797.0909

Bookstores

Bandi and Lunis

CONTACT INFORMATION. Public Transportation: Samseong (Subway Line 2, Station 219, Exit 6) to the COEX mall. The store is inside the mall.

Jongno Book Center

CONTACT INFORMATION. Public Transportation: Jongno 3(sam)-ga (Subway Line 1, Station 130, Exit 4) across the street from the YMCA Hotel.

Kyobo Bookstore

The foreigner’s section is excellent. An entire section is devoted to dictionaries for translating English and Korean. Within the foreigner’s section is a very large wall of travel books (including the Lonely Planet and Seeing Eye series) as well as books on teaching English.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Public Transportation: Gwanghwamun (Subway Line 5, Station 533, Exit 3). There is a large sign for the bookstore at this exit, which leads you immediately into the store.

Seoul Selection

CONTACT INFORMATION. Public Transportation: Gwanghwamun (Subway Line 5, Station 533, Exit 2). East side of Gyeongbokgung Palace, across from the parking lot.

Phone: 02.734.9565 **Website:** www.seoulselection.com

What the Book?

This bookstore sells new and used English books; they also buy used books.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Location: In Itaewon on the same side as the Hamilton Hotel on the main road, on the 2nd floor. **Phone:** 02.797.2342 **Website:** www.whatthebook.com

Framing

The Frame Shop in the Gallery on Main Post has fairly reasonable prices and the owners speak English. They are familiar with the concept of double matting and work hard to accommodate American tastes. The MWR Arts and Craft Centers offer custom matting and framing services for a reasonable fee, or you can do your own framing.

The best deals are off post; there are approximately 30 shops located off post between Gate 14 and Gate 16. One store to have artwork framed is 0901. To get to 0901, go out of Gate 14 and turn right at the traffic light. The store is near Samgakji Station on your right-hand side. Two shops before 0901 is a small shop selling unframed canvas artworks.

Gasoline

Purchasing fuel on the economy requires you to know the proper grade for your vehicle and that the attendants select the proper gasoline. For pricing, Korean gas is measured and priced in liters, and may be more expensive.

Ginseng

Ginseng can be purchased at many markets, duty free shops, and during regional ginseng festivals. The USO offers trips to pick your own ginseng root and visit the local ginseng markets. The Foreign Goods Transaction Office also has a ginseng shop and gives special prices to military personnel.

Groceries/Produce

Explore the many local grocery stores, markets, and vendors to access fresh, locally grown, in-season produce as well as Asian/Korean ingredients you may not be able to find in the commissary. Every neighborhood has its own shops, street vendors, and stores where you can purchase everything from fresh seafood to handmade rice cakes.

Hanbok

If you are interested in having a hanbok made, there are hanbok tailor shops in Itaewon; Dongdaemun Market, in the five-story white building (Subway Line 4, Station 421, Exit 9); Namdaemun Market, Building C, 3rd floor (Subway Line 4, Station 425, Exit 5); and on Osan Air Base. There are many other shops that sell ready-made hanbok, so shop around.

Kimchi Pots

A wide variety of kimchi pots are available just outside Gate 21/ Friendship House Gate, unofficially and widely known as the Kimchi Pot Gate. They can also be found at various vendors throughout the city and at the pottery villages (See "Pottery," below).

Musical Instruments

Nakwon Musical Instrument Arcade is located behind Tapgol Park (Pagoda Park) near Insadong. This large indoor market has the widest variety and best selection of musical instruments, from piccolos to pianos.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Public Transportation: Jongno 3(sam)-ga Station (Lines 1, 3, 5, Exit 5)

Pottery

Eden Pottery

Eden Pottery is in Itaewon on the left-hand side, beneath the ABC Mart. They are located in the basement. While this shop is a little more expensive than the souvenir shops around it, the quality of the pieces surpasses others. The shop owner speaks English and will tell you the background of pieces if asked.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Phone: 02.793.0828

Koryo Art Ceramics

Koryo Art Ceramics is in Itaewon on the right side of the main strip, past the first alley. Look for stairs leading down; the store is tucked back from the sidewalk at the top of the stairs. This little shop is filled to the brim and spills out onto the sidewalk. The salesperson speaks English and is happy to explain the symbolism behind the items.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Phone: 02.798.2577

Yeoju Pottery Village

This village is the place to go to purchase the blue and white dishes and various pottery (including celadon) at reduced prices. The shops in Seoul purchase their wares from villages such as Yeoju and then mark up the price. This village also sells kimchi pots.

Quilts and Fabric

Dongdaemun Market is the best place to purchase fabric, sewing notions, and quilts. Fabric can be bought by the yard or by the bolt along with a huge selection of notions. One popular fabric shop, Happy Quilt, has top quality cotton and seasonal fabric (B-5215, 5216 inside Dongdaemun Fabric Market). Happy Quilt is a regular vendor at the AFSC monthly luncheons.

CONTACT INFORMATION. Public Transportation: Incheon Station (near Gate 13) or Sinyongsan Station (near Gate 14), Subway to Dongdaemun (Subway Line 4, Station 421, Exit 9)



Section Cover Photo:

Seodaemun Prison History Hall

Photo provided by: Sherry Wirth

The Republic of Korea is a vibrant, vital country of more than 50 million people. Koreans have become world travelers, world-class economic competitors, and highly regarded participants in world affairs. The Korean people's spiritual wealth, traditional respect for elders, strong belief in community, love of nature, and strong national pride are the underpinnings for Korea's vast economic and commercial accomplishments over the last several decades.

Keeping an open mind and being willing to appreciate and embrace cultural differences will make your time here one of the most memorable periods of your life. Embark on your Korean experience with a sense of adventure and your journey may surprise you in new and wonderful ways.

On a busy day in Seoul, you'll notice the following:

- **The industriousness of the people:** The official work and school week is Monday through noon Saturday.
- **Traffic:** Everyone tries to "get there first." The traffic in many parts of Korea is legendary and rivals the worst that New York, Paris, London, or Washington, DC has to offer.
- **A myriad of aromas.** Much like other heavily populated areas of the world, Seoul will tickle your nose with a variety of scents.
- **The clothing:** Koreans are much more formal in their dress than most Westerners and take great pains with their appearance.
- **The Korean alphabet, Hangeul:** This phonetic alphabet is actually straight-forward, but often intimidating to foreigners. The 1988 Olympics in Seoul encouraged the Koreans to print most major road and street signs in both Hangeul and English.
- **The jostling crowds:** Space is precious in Seoul. Koreans are accustomed to tight crowds, and they assume everyone else is too. Therefore, pushing and shoving without an apology are normal and not to be taken personally.

- **The markets:** Nowhere in the world are there markets and shopping areas to rival those of Seoul. From westernized Itaewon and Myeongdong, to more traditional Dongdaemun and Namdaemun where you will find products grouped according to type, as well as the innumerable local neighborhood vendors selling fish, fruit, vegetables, and many other wares, you've got to shop in Seoul to believe it! (See Markets under the Shopping section for more information.)

While you are here, take every opportunity to explore this beautiful, mountainous country. Strike up conversations with the Korean people, taste the delicious and sometimes unusual food, and enjoy the cultural arts. It will definitely be an experience you will never forget.

Facts about Korea

Learning about Korea's past helps put the present into perspective.

- **History:** Korea's recorded history dates back to 2333 BC. The Republic of Korea (South Korea) was established in 1948.
- **Language:** The Korean written language is referred to as Hangeul; the spoken language is simply called Korean (Hanguk-mal).
- **Geography:** The peninsula of Korea, contiguous to the continental powers of China to the west, Russia to the north, and nearby oceanic Japan to the east, functioned for a long time as a land bridge through which continental culture was transmitted to Japan. Its location has both the advantage of easy access to adjacent cultures and the disadvantage of becoming the target of aggressive neighbors. South Korea shares a land boundary with North Korea of about 150 miles or 238 kilometers.
- **Topography:** Approximately 70% of South Korea's land area is comprised of mountains and uplands. Mount Halla (Hallasan) (6,396 feet/1,950 meters) on Jeju Island (Jeju-do) is the tallest mountain. The longest rivers are the Nakdong River (Nakdonggang), the Kum River (Kumgang), and the Han River (Hangang), which flows through Seoul.

- **Area:** South Korea is 8,452 square miles/99,237 square km (about the size of Indiana).
- **Climate:** You will experience long, cold winters and short, hot, humid summers with late monsoon rains and flooding. Temperatures in January average 21°F to 35°F. In July the averages are 71°F to 82°F. The annual rainfall varies from year to year but usually averages more than 39 inches or 100 centimeters. Of that total, two-thirds of the precipitation falls between June and September.
- **President:** Park Geun-hye (the first female president of South Korea).
- **Capital City:** Seoul.
- **Monetary Unit:** Won (₩).
- **Population:** South Korea: ~51 million (2013); Seoul: ~10 million.
- **Largest Cities:** Seoul, Busan, Daegu, and Incheon.
- **Religions:** Christian 26%, Buddhist 26%, Confucianism 1%, no affiliation 46%.
- **Literacy Rate:** Over 98% (one of the highest in the world).
- **Industry:** South Korea's workforce is 20 million strong. 52% of the labor forces work in the service industry with 27% in mining and manufacturing. Exports include agricultural products, electronics, machinery, textiles, steel, metal, and chemical products. Major products: shipping vessels, textiles, processed foods, chemicals, and electronics.
- **Natural Resources:** Iron, copper ore, tungsten, and graphite.
- **National Bird:** Magpie (traditionally said to bring good news).
- **National Flower:** Mugunghwa (Rose of Sharon).

National & Religious Holidays

January 1, New Year's Day (Sinjeong): A popular event is the New Year's Eve bell-ringing ceremony at Bosingak in Jongno, literally "bell street," Seoul, which draws throngs of people from all over Seoul. The first day of the new year is celebrated with friends, coworkers, and families. It is common for Koreans to travel to famous sunrise spots in order to make New Year's wishes as they greet the first sunrise.

Lunar New Year (Seollal) is one of the most celebrated national holidays in Korea. It is celebrated much like January 1, but on a grander scale, as it lasts three days. On the day of Seollal, everyone rises early, puts on their best clothes, and bows to their elders. Tteokguk, rice cake soup, is the main food of Seollal and eating it is believed to add a year to one's age. Along with eating tteokguk, and other traditional foods such as manduguk, kimchi, and bulgogi, there is much singing and game-playing.

March 1, Independence Movement Day (Samil Chul): This day commemorates the anniversary of the March 1, 1919, Independence Movement against the Japanese occupation. This day was officially designated as a public holiday to commemorate the men and women who died during the Independence Movement, and is marked by a reading of the declaration at Topgol Park in Seoul, where it was first read to the public.

May 1, Labor Day: This is not a government holiday; however, many banks and businesses may be closed.

May 5, Children's Day (Eorini Nal): This day is celebrated with various programs for children who dress up and spend the day enjoying themselves with their parents.

Buddha's Birthday (Seokgatansinil or Bucheonnim Osin Nal): Buddha's Birthday is celebrated on the eighth day of the fourth month of the lunar calendar. Solemn rituals are performed at Buddhist temples and lotus lanterns are lit and carried in parades on the Sunday evening before.

June 6, ROK Memorial Day (Hyeonchung-il): On this day, the nation pays tribute to the soldiers and civilians who have given their lives for their country. At 10:00 am, a siren sounds, calling for a one-minute silent tribute. Memorial services are held at the National

Cemetery in Seoul.

August 15, Liberation Day (Gwangbokjeol): On this day in 1945, Korea was liberated from Japan after 36 years of colonial rule. It also marks the 1948 establishment of the government of the Republic of Korea.

Harvest Full Moon/Korean Thanksgiving Day (Chuseok): Chuseok is celebrated on the fifteenth day of the eighth lunar month. (September/October). Chuseok is Korea's most important traditional holiday and lasts several days.

On the morning of Chuseok Day, a Charye (ancestral memorial service) is held. Songpyeon, a type of Korean rice cake, and food prepared with the year's fresh harvest, are set out to give thanks to ancestors. People also visit ancestral homes and family tombs to present food offerings to their ancestors. Most Koreans travel to their hometowns during this holiday, so traffic is unusually heavy.

October 3, National Foundation Day (Dangun Nal or Gaecheonjeol): This day commemorates the traditional founding of the Korean nation in 2333 BC by the legendary god-king Dangun. A simple ceremony is held at an altar on top of Manisan in Gyeonggi Province. The altar is said to have been erected by Dangun to offer thanks to his father and grandfather in heaven.

October 9, Korean Language Day (Hangeul Nal): The day commemorates the creation of Hangeul, the native alphabet of the Korean language. King Sejong the Great, inventor of Hangeul, is one of the most honored rulers in Korean history. This is a national holiday celebrated with a variety of activities and events centered around Korean students.

December 25, Christmas Day (Gidoktansinil): Christmas is celebrated as a national holiday in Korea as in many other countries. Families with little children observe Christmas the same as many American families, with Santa and Christmas decorations. Christmas trees in Korean homes are small and most of them are artificial. The traditional Christmas cakes are very colorful and a very popular treat during the season.

The Korean Language

The Korean language has evolved throughout the centuries. No one knows how long it has been spoken and, despite the geographical closeness of China and Japan, Korean is linguistically distinct from Chinese and Japanese.

Chinese characters were used to write Korean until the 15th century. However, since they were hard to learn and were very different from the Korean spoken language, most people remained illiterate. In 1446, after many years of study and testing by the ruler, King Sejong and his scholars introduced a unique Korean alphabet. It was devised on a purely phonetic basis and consisted of 28 characters. These were arranged in syllable units or blocks and not into linear words. This meant the syllables could be written horizontally or vertically on a page. Over time, from this original alphabet, Hangeul, the modern alphabet, has evolved. It has 24 characters and follows the Western convention of writing from left to right. Chinese characters are rarely used today in conjunction with the Korean alphabet, as it is possible to communicate fluently without them.

USEFUL KOREAN PHRASES

Many Koreans, especially in Seoul, do speak some English as it has been taught in Korean schools in more recent times. The mainly testing-oriented educational system means that many Koreans have memorized a lot of English grammar and vocabulary, but feel quite shy about their conversational skills. Learning some of the following Korean phrases may assist you during your time in Korea.

Greetings

Good morning/afternoon/evening	Ahn-nyong ha-say-yo
Hello (on the telephone)	Yo-bo-say-yo
May I have your name?	Ee-ru-mee moo ot shim nee ka?
I'm glad to meet you	Mahn-nah-suh bahn-gah-wuh-yo
Good-bye (by Host)	Ahn-nyong-hee kah-say-yo
Good-bye (by Guest)	Ahn-nyong-hee kay-say-yo

Shopping

How much does it cost?	OI-mah yeh-yo?
Do you have?	It-suh yo?
Show me another one	Darun-gut johm bo-yuh-ju-say-yo
It is expensive	Bee-sah-yo
Can you reduce the price?	Chom sah-keh-heh ju-say-yo
I'll take this	Egut ju-say-yo
It's too big	Noh-moo kuh-yo
It's too little	Jjug-uh-yo

Dining

It is very delicious	Ah-ju mah-sheet-so-yo
It is hot (spicy)	Mae-wo-yo
I would like a glass of cold water	Mool ju-say-yo
I would like a bottle of beer	Mack-ju hahn-byong ju say yo
Please give me...	Ju-say-yo
...an English menu	Yong-oh menu
...the bill	Keh-sahn-suh

Conversation

Do you speak English?	Young-oh hahm-nee-ka?
Where is...	O-dee itsum nee-ka?
...the police station?	Kyong-chal-suh
...the restroom?	Hwa-Jahng-shil
Yes	Yeh (or Nay)
No	Ah-ni-yo
Thank you	Kam-sah ham-nee-dah
You are welcome	Chon-manh-neh-yo
I am sorry	Mee-ahn hahm-nee-dah
Come here	Ee-ree o-say-yo
Please help me	Jom, dough-wah ju-say-yo
Call a policeman (an MP)...	Kyung-chal (huhn-byung)
...for me please	bul-luh ju-say-yo
Call this number for me	Ee bon-ho-ro jon-hwa jom, heh-ju-say-yo

Taking a Taxi

Please take me to the nearest US...
 ...military installation
 Stop here
 What is this place called?
 How much is the fare?
 Please take me to...
 ...Itaewon shopping area
 ...South Gate Market
 ...East Gate Market

Kah-kah-woon mee-goon
 -boo-dae-ka ju say yo
 Yo-gee se-wo ju-say-yo
 Yo-gee-gah-aw-deem-nee-ka?
 Ol-mah eem-nee-ka?
 Kab-she-dah
 Itaewon she-jahng
 Nam-dae-moon she-jahng
 Dong-dae-mun she-jahng

When Traveling

Give me one ticket to...
 Western-style room
 Toilet
 Parking lot
 Reservation

Hahn-jahng ju-say-yo
 Cheem-dae bahng
 Hwa-jahng-shill
 Ju-cha-jahng
 Yay-yahk

Calendar

Monday
 Tuesday
 Wednesday
 Thursday
 Friday
 Saturday
 Sunday
 January
 February
 March
 April
 May
 June
 July
 August
 September
 October
 November
 December

Wol-yo-il
 Hwa-yo-il
 Soo-yo-il
 Mok-yo-il
 Kum-yo-il
 To-yo-il
 Il-yo-il
 Il-wahl
 Ee-wahl
 Sahm-wahl
 Sah-wahl
 Oh-wahl
 Yu-wahl
 Cheel-wahl
 Pahl-wahl
 Guu-wahl
 She-wahl
 Shib-il-wahl
 Shib-ee-wahl

NUMBERS

Chinese numbers are often used when counting sequentially. This includes money, telephone numbers, dates, mileage, etc. When shopping, listen for the Chinese numbers, particularly for the endings, which mean hundred, thousand, and ten thousand. Notice that Korean numbers go as far as 99. Beyond 100, Chinese numbers are used. When counting how many people, use Korean numbers. Sometimes in the smaller restaurants the prices will be written in the Chinese figures, usually from top to bottom. The following chart offers a brief glimpse of some of the differences in the two systems:

Number	Chinese	Korean
1	il	hah-na
2	Ee	dool
3	sahm	set
4	sah	net
5	oh	tah-sot
6	ruk	yo-sot
7	chil	eel-gop
8	pahl	yo-dol
9	goo	ah-ope
10	ship	yol
20	ee-ship	sue-mool
30	sahm-ship	so-run
40	sah-ship	ma-hun
50	o-ship	She'en
60	rook-ship	yeh-soon
70	chil-ship	ee-run
80	pahl-ship	yo-dun
90	koo-ship	ah-hun

Number	Chinese	Korean
100	baek	baek
200	ee-baek	ee-baek
300	sahm-baek	sahm-baek
1,000	chon	chon
2,000	ee-chon	ee-chon
10,000	mahn	mahn
100,000	ship-mahn	ship-mahn

Culture and Customs

South Korea's population shares a common ethnic and cultural heritage. More than Western people, South Korean individuals tend to view themselves as a tightly knit national community with a common destiny. Intense feelings of nationalism, so evident in athletic events like the 1988 Olympic Games held in Seoul and the World Cup soccer games of 2002, reveal a sense of pride concerning South Korea's place in the world. This section highlights important traditions, cultural attitudes, and etiquette. Your awareness of these factors will greatly reward you as you meet and interact with new Korean friends.

The Seoul Survivor Committee is grateful to Mr. Young K. Chang, instructor at the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center, Presidio of Monterey, California, from whose publication, Cultural Orientation (Korean), much of this chapter is extracted.

KOREAN NON-VERBAL BEHAVIOR AND ETIQUETTE

Customs and attitudes are different in Asia than those of Western countries. Korea has its own set of courtesies. If you take the time to learn and observe them, the rewards are significant.

Meeting and Greeting

The traditional bow has given way to the handshake, but friendly backslaps or arm squeezing is considered rude here. Koreans meeting for the first time introduce themselves only at the invitation of a third party. The formal ritual of introduction is similar to this:

The person who knows everyone in the group invites his friends to introduce themselves. One says, "I am seeing you for the first time." The other repeats the same sentence, and the elder one suggests that they introduce themselves. The introductions and formal bows are followed by an exchange of calling/business cards. These cards are very important in Korea. They give an opportunity for each person to discover the other's position without rudely inquiring about them. Cards also do away with the need of asking someone's name twice. As a sign of respect, when someone presents you with a business card, take a moment to read it before putting it away.

The proper use of names in Korea is also important. A person's name is considered his or her personal property. Koreans regard their name with reverence. The persistent wave of Westernization has accustomed Koreans to being addressed by their family name, but only intimate friends and family greet each other on a first-name basis. Koreans prefer titles rather than names. For example, you would call the company president "Sa-jang-nim" or someone with a PhD "Bak-sa." Teacher or "Sun-saeng-nim" is an acceptable title for anyone.

Try to remember that no matter how "Western" many Koreans may appear on the surface, their thinking is still governed by traditions, which are based on a culture several thousands of years old. The following list covers some important traditions relating to etiquette:

- Looking into an acquaintance's eyes was generally considered impolite. Though this is not necessarily true today, older Koreans may find direct eye contact offensive.
- Use your right hand when performing tasks such as presenting gifts, paying a bill, or pouring a drink. Your left hand should loosely cup your forearm. The closer your left hand is to your wrist the less respect is being given, while your left hand cupping your forearm near your elbow would show greater respect. Using the left hand for these tasks is considered very impolite; most Koreans do understand that the Western custom is different.
- Do not point the index finger toward a person or gesture with your foot, it is considered insulting. You may gesture with your full hand, palm upward.
- Do not write someone's name in red ink (e.g., endorse checks, sign letters, etc.). A name written in red means death.

- If invited to dine at someone's home, bring a gift. When presenting the gift, use proper etiquette.
- Take your shoes off when entering a Korean house or restaurant with low tables.
- Do not start eating before your guest of honor or senior.
- Do not say, "I don't drink" when offered unwanted alcoholic beverages. It is more polite to say, "I'm not feeling very well today," "I am a designated driver," or "I'm on medication."
- Do not eat or drink without offering food or beverage to your colleagues.
- Ask your Korean guest more than once to help himself to more food and drink.
- Do not pour your own drink; pour for someone and let him reciprocate.
- Try to wear conservative clothes. Bare shoulders are considered inappropriate.
- See your guest off at the gate/door, and stay there until your guest is gone.
- "Yes" is often used simply to acknowledge what is said by one's counterpart; it does not necessarily mean one is in agreement or understanding.
- Do not suggest splitting the bill; each person or family should alternate paying the bill. Remember when it is your turn to pay.
- You may often see two male friends or two female friends walking affectionately arm-in-arm. This is in no way an indication of their sexual preference.
- Koreans love children and in this culture, children are treated as "everyone's treasures" to cherish and protect. Koreans will often want to touch and hold your children; blondes and redheads are rare in Korea, and often attract the most attention. If your children are uncomfortable with this, remove yourselves from the situation as politely as possible. A simple "no, thank you" usually will suffice.

TRADITIONAL KOREAN MEALS/FOOD

Plain or cooked with other grains, rice (bap) is the main dish at most Korean meals, accompanied by a variety of side dishes including bean paste soup, roasted beef and fish, as well as steamed and seasoned vegetables. Soy sauce, soybean paste, red pepper paste, ginger root, sesame oil, and sesame seeds are other seasonings essential to Korean cuisine. Food is usually eaten with a pair of chopsticks and a large spoon.

The traditional Korean homemaker believes that much of her family's happiness depends on her culinary expertise. She often begins her day by preparing a substantial breakfast of hearty soup, meat or fish, steamed rice and kimchi. A light lunch follows which is similar to the breakfast fare. A generous evening meal is favored, and can include up to 15 or 20 dishes for special occasions. Holiday celebrations are an important part of family life in Korea. All celebrations, no matter how large, center on the home. Women can spend hours preparing the traditional dishes; sometimes a family's reputation depends on the amount and quality of the food.

At an elegant Korean dinner, the first course might be Ku-jol-p'an (nine compartments dish). It is somewhat similar to a French hors d'oeuvre tray. The cooked meat and vegetables are arranged on a large platter with a mound of pancakes in the center.

Today's homemakers in Korea, like many others in advanced nations, usually have little time to prepare these traditional foods and are well acquainted with frozen fare, microwave lunches, and other high tech cooking conveniences. Fast food restaurants, takeout/delivery (speedily brought on the back of a motor scooter with a heated box strapped to the back), and food stalls for the passerby are very popular for the busy Korean.

Native food is offered in small restaurants, in the large hotels, and in gourmet sections of the large department stores, such as Lotte or Shinsegae. Korean supermarkets usually have sample stations scattered throughout, where they will encourage everyone to try their wares.

The following is an alphabetical list of traditional foods and beverages:

Bap (밥): Rice.

Bibimbap (비빔밥): (mixed rice) This Chonju specialty is a bowl of vegetables, rice, and chili paste, topped with a soft-fried egg.

Bulgogi (불고기): Thin strips of beef, marinated in sesame oil, soy sauce, sugar, and garlic, then grilled at your table.

Bin-de-ddok (빈대떡): Vegetables, pork and spices cooked in batter (pancake).

Bokkumbap (볶음밥): Korean fried rice.

Boricha (barley water) (보리차): In lieu of tea, cups of this tepid drink are sometimes brought to the table as soon as you are seated in a Korean restaurant.

Bul Kalbi (불갈비): Roasted short ribs that are marinated similar to Bulgogi.

Cha (차): Tea.

Chaksol Cha (Solluk Cha) (작설차): Varieties of Nock-cha, Korean green tea.

Chapchae or Japchae (잡채): Clear noodles, generally mixed with vegetables and soy-based dressing. May be served hot or cold.

Cider (사이다): A local bottled soft drink, similar to 7-Up. Chilsung Cider is a popular brand, served in a green glass bottle.

Daeji Galbi (0돼지갈비): Pork short ribs marinated and cooked over hot charcoal.

Dakagalbi (닭갈비): Broiled spicy chicken and vegetables.

Ddok (떡): Rice cake.

Ddokguk (떡국): Rice cake soup traditionally served on the Lunar New Year.

Dooboo (두부): Bean curd (Japanese: tofu; Chinese: dofu by the Chinese); it is the compressed white liquid squeezed from cooked soybeans.

Dolsot bibimbap (돌솥비빔밥): Steamed rice, mixed vegetables, and egg (and sometimes beef) with chili paste in a hot stone pot.

Ghim or Kim (김): Paper-thin sheets of salted laver seaweed.

Ghimbap (or Kimbap) (김밥): This popular food consists of sticky rice rolled with assorted vegetables, egg, and meats into a sheet of seaweed, and sliced into bite-sized pieces. It's known as Korean Fast Food or the Korean MRE. It differs from Japanese sushi in that the rice is seasoned with sesame oil rather than rice vinegar.

Goon Mandu (군만두): Fried dumplings. A perfect hors d'oeuvre when served with soy sauce. Yaki Mandu is the Japanese term.

In Sam (인삼): Ginseng. A root long prized for its medicinal properties, it is also used in cooking. 백삼 Paeksam is white ginseng; 홍삼 Hongsam is red ginseng.

In Sam Cha (인삼차): Ginseng tea.

Kalbi or Galbi (갈비): Pork or beef short ribs.

Kalbi Jhip: A Kalbi restaurant.

Kalbi Tang (갈비탕): Kalbi soup, the least expensive way to eat Kalbi.

Kimchi (김치): Cabbage, radishes or other vegetables pickled with garlic, chili pepper, and ginger, then fermented in huge jars buried in the ground. No Korean meal is complete without it!

Kimchi jjigae (김치찌개): Kimchi stew.

Ku-jol-pan (“Nine treasures”) (구절판): Strips of egg and vegetables are served in a compartmented dish with thin crepes in which you wrap the other eight treasures.

Jjin Mandu (찐만두): The Korean equivalent of Chinese wonton, these are dumplings made of minced pork or beef and vegetables wrapped in thin pastry crescents, steamed and served with soy sauce.

Makkolli (막걸리): Rice wine, the drink traditional to farmers.

Maek-ju (맥주): Beer.

Moo (무우): The large white Japanese daikon radish used in summer kimchi.

Mul (물): Water.

Myon (면): Noodles, sometimes thin and white if made from flour. Other myon are made with buckwheat, potatoes, or mung beans.

Nang Myon (냉면): Cold noodles that are 70% buckwheat and served in a dish of cold water to which you may add a dollop of chili paste. This is considered a perfect complement at the end of a bulgogi meal.

Sake (사케): Called chonjongg in Korea, this is traditional Japanese rice wine served in tiny cups.

Sam Gyeop Sal (삼겹살): Thick slices of pork belly meat (similar to uncured bacon) grilled and often dipped into a spicy pepper paste.

Sam-kyetang (삼계탕): Ginseng chicken soup. A summer specialty, the chicken is boiled with a piece of the medicinal root and jujubes, and stuffed with glutinous rice.

Changae (Sesame) (참깨): Kae is Korean sesame. The leaves are added to soup, the seeds to vegetables and meat marinades, and the oil for flavoring in cooking.

Seolleongtang (설렁탕): Beef soup served with rice.

Shinselo (신선로): A casserole once served only to royalty. Fried eggs, fish, meat, and vegetables are cut into strips and simmered in broth in a distinctive charcoal brazier.

Soju (소주): distilled beverage native to Korea and traditionally made from rice.

Songpyon (송편): Chusok half-moon shaped rice cakes.

Ganjan (Soy Sauce) (간장): Ganjan is made by fermenting the liquid of boiled soybeans. This is one of the most popular condiments in a Korean kitchen.

Sushi (스시): Slices of raw fish dabbed with wasabi and curled over a clump of sticky rice. This is of Japanese origin, and differs from Gimbap/kimbap in that the rice is seasoned with rice vinegar rather than sesame oil.

Uja Cha (유자차): Citron tea, usually served in winter.

Yakchu (약주): A respectable word for liquor.

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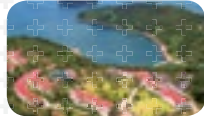


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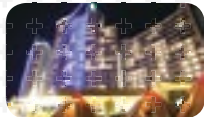


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🌐 Website : www.maemuldo.go.kr

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