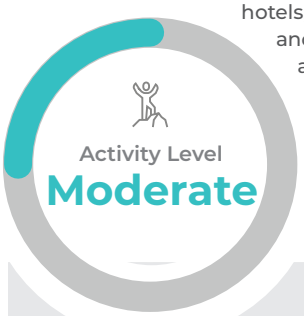
Discovering *South Korea*

A vibrant country, South Korea is the perfect blend of ancient tradition and cutting-edge modernity. Renowned for its exceptional cleanliness and war hospitality, the country welcomes visitors with open arms.

English is widely spoken in major hotels, restaurants, and tourist attractions - though locals always appreciate a friendly greeting in Korean.

From lively cities like Seoul and Busan, where ancient palaces stand in the shadows of towering skyscrapers, and tranquil tea houses offer a serene escape from the commotion to the lush landscapes and UNESCO World Heritage sites of the outskirts, there's plenty to keep you busy on your South Korean adventure, and the excellent transport networks make exploring easy.

Whether you're sampling spicy kimchi at local night markets, relaxing in a traditional spa, or admiring the views from picturesque coastal villages, South Korea promises an unforgettable exploration.



Many tours involve moderate walking and steps, especially when visiting palaces, markets, or temples. Comfortable shoes are recommended. Always let us know in advance if you have mobility concerns so we can advise accordingly.

Visa Process

UK, Australian and New Zealand passport holders can usually enter South Korea for up to 90 days without a visa for tourism.

However, you must apply for a K-ETA (Korea Electronic Travel Authorization) online before you travel. Check the latest entry requirements well in advance, as rules can change.

Credit Cards

Yes, credit and debit cards are commonly accepted in hotels, shops, and restaurants, especially Visa and Mastercard. However, some smaller markets or local eateries may prefer cash, so it is always recommended to carry some South Korean Won.



Plug Sockets

South Korea: In South Korea, the standard plug sockets are Type C and Type F, similar to those used in most of Europe.

Type C: Two round parallel prongs
Type F: Two round parallel prongs and two grounding clips

The standard voltage is 220V.
If you're travelling from a country with different plug types or voltage, you may need an adapter or voltage converter.



Navigation

In South Korea, Google Maps is not as accurate as in other countries due to military security reasons. So Naver Maps might be more useful.

Gratuities

Tipping is not customary and is not expected in restaurants or taxis. Some upscale hotels or guided tours may accept gratuities if you wish, but they are not required.

Currency

The local currency is the South Korean Won (KRW). ATMs are widely available, but not all accept foreign cards. With this in mind, we recommend using machines at major banks or airports.



Check in Process

Most hotels have check-in from 3:00 PM and check-out by 11:00 AM.

Early check-in or late check-out may be available but is not guaranteed, please check with your hotel in advance.

Bed Configuration

Twin bedding is the most common bed configuration in hotels. While we will request double bedding arrangements whenever possible, please note this cannot be guaranteed.

Cultural Norms

South Koreans value politeness and respect. Removing your shoes before entering someone's home is standard. Avoid speaking loudly in public spaces and be mindful of queue etiquette. When handing over money or items, use both hands as a sign of respect.



What to pack

What to pack depends on the time of year you visit. South Korea has four distinct seasons, so it's important that you check the weather forecast before you travel.

Regardless of the weather, remember to pack comfortable walkng shoes, layers, and modest clothing so that you can visit the country's many temples and places of worship.

Emergency

South Korea: Dial 112 for police and 119 for fire or medical emergencies.

Always carry your hotel's address in Korean, and keep your passport safe but accessible. Local assistants or hotel concierge can help if you need assistance.