

# Guide to Seoul

*Vacation Guide*  
Fall & Winter



For more than thirty years, Dragon Hill Lodge has been proudly “Serving Those Who Serve” as the primary gateway to Seoul. The resort hotel is exclusively open to U.S. Military Service members, families, and DoD civilians, and conveniently located in USAG Yongsan.

Our American-style resort rooms in downtown Seoul are modern, spacious, and inviting. You’ll enjoy our comfortable American-style guestrooms, which come with more space to spread out after exploring Seoul’s sights. Neutral tones, plush bedding, and modern comforts create a clean, cozy atmosphere in the center of this vibrant city.

Guestrooms include:

- Spacious king bed or two queen beds
- 42” flat-screen high-definition LCD TV
- Free wireless internet
- Spacious private bathroom
- Writing desk and chair
- In-room security safe
- Hairdryer, plush towels, coffeemaker, mini refrigerator, iron and ironing board, extra pillows and blankets
- Baby crib (free of charge)
- Pet-friendly rooms



**SCAN QR CODE FOR  
HOTEL DIRECTORY**

## Fall & Winter in Seoul

During these cooler seasons, Seoul has many fun activities for you to do. Attend annual festivals and events, explore the city to go adventuring, or find active activities and places to go - the city has so much to offer!



**Fall foliage:** During fall, nature is one of Seoul's main attractions. You can watch the colorful ginkgo and maple trees by walking along Olympic park road or by visiting SeonJeongneung, and bask in the beauty of the colorful foliage while learning about Korean history. Or head to Haneul park for the annual Silver Grass festival and gaze at the scenic hill as it bursts with all shades of pink and purple.



**Firework festival:** The Seoul International Fireworks festival usually takes place around the beginning of October, and it is truly a spectacle to behold. Organized by experts from Korea, the U.S. and Japan, it is one of the city's most anticipated events. Sit back by the river and watch as the sky in Yeouido explodes with color, turning the night magical. Remember to check the event's website for more information regarding dates and times!



**Winter fun:** What better way to enjoy winter in the city than by visiting an ice skating rink? Head over to Seoul Plaza in City Hall for the famous outdoor rink or go to Lotte World to skate indoors! Sledding hills are a must-try too: check out Seoul Land's snow slopes or visit Ttukseom Han River Park, where a temporary attraction is open from December 18 until February 19.



**Christmas markets:** Take in the city's Christmas spirit by visiting the beautifully decorated markets and enjoy the light festivals. Head to Gwanghwamun Plaza or Lotte Department store in Jamsil for some holiday shopping, and watch out for the lantern festival ongoing from October to December for hundreds of shiny LEDs and traditional lanterns.

Pictured: N Seoul Tower



**Hiking:** If you enjoying going on either short or long walks, head over to Bukhansan National Park or Seoul Fortress Wall. While walking, people can see many forested areas, temples, and granite peaks at the park. While walking and seeing many sites, you can enjoy the beautiful view of Seoul north of the Han River. The Seoul City Wall Trail was built from stone, wood, and other materials to defend and show the boundaries of the city. Time your visit for October to catch the best of the gorgeous fall foliage.

# Seoul Bucket List

Make the most out of your stay in Korea and at the Dragon by getting out and exploring all that the city has to offer! The Dragon is located right in the middle of Seoul, so guests have easy access to Seoul's top attractions. Big city sights, traditional culture, rich historical sites, and some fantastic city views await you, and are all reachable on foot, by bus, or subway!

**N Seoul Tower:** Accessible by a short hike or cable car, N Seoul Tower is the city's most famous attraction. The tower is the second highest point in Seoul and shows the beautiful scenery of the city. There are many fun facilities once you're up there, including an observatory, restaurants, and a beautiful park for hiking.

**Gyeongbokgung Palace:** Head on over to Gyeongbokgung Palace to experience one of the main royal palaces from Korea's Joseon dynasty. Make the trip even more memorable by renting traditional Korean clothes (hanbok) to wear while walking around the palace and nearby neighborhoods. These outfits and the palace scenery will make for the perfect, once-in-a-lifetime profile picture.

**War Memorial of Korea Museum:** Just minutes away from the hotel is this #1 top ranked attraction in Seoul. Be sure to take a moment to learn about the Korea's military history, which includes a lot of shared history with the U.S. (such as the Korean War). Along with vast indoor exhibitions, outdoors there are tanks, planes and more on display, as well as a somber memorial to those who lost their lives in previous wars.



**Dongdaemun Design Plaza (DDP):** This architectural marvel was designed by Zaha Hadid, and it is located in one of Seoul's top shopping districts. Head over to check out exhibitions, fashion shows, and other events. The building is divided into several sections for visitors to explore, shop, and dine.



**Lotte World:** Do you enjoy the thrill of amusement parks? Head over to Lotte World for an indoor and outdoor experience full of amusement rides, performances, and fun experiences for friends and families. You can spend the day going on thrilling rides and enjoy Korean cuisine and snacks.



Pictured: Dongdaemun Design Plaza

# Korean Food to Try in the Fall & Winter

The best part of visiting Korea is getting to taste and appreciate the Korean cuisine in restaurants and on the streets. And in the fall and winter, there are lots of foods to try in Korea that are piping hot, delicious, and filling. Go out and grab some of these savory and sweet snacks at restaurants and street food vendors throughout Seoul.



**Street food:** Shows on Netflix and visits by world-renowned chefs have made Korean street food a must-try experience for tourists. The most famous and picturesque place to find some is Gwangjang Market. The Myeong-dong tourist district is also popular for its wide variety of both Korean and international foods. You can also drop by any stall on a nearby street corner for a truly authentic (and delicious) experience.



**Korean Barbeque:** Calling all meat lovers! If you enjoy savory foods, there's no better time than the cooler months to try grilling Korean barbecue like pork belly, beef ribs, and spicy marinated chicken.

**Hotteok:** Have you tried Korean pancakes before? Head over to a food vendor on the street and try this perfect hot pocket of sweet sugar and seeds.

**Tteok-bokki:** Those wanting something spicy and savory, order some spicy rice cakes and experience a kick of spice with fish cakes.

**Bungo-ppang:** This fish-shaped pastry is often stuffed with sweet red bean paste. Some food vendors even offer other fillings like chocolate or cream.





### *The Markets*

Whether it is amazing street food, cheap clothes or adorable accessories, Korean markets truly have got it all! There are many markets throughout the city, some bigger than the others and specializing in different products. More affordable than your typical department store, below you can find some of the most popular ones:

- Gwangjang market
- Mangwon market
- Dongdaemun market
- Noryangjin fish market

### Kids & Teens Activities

Korea offers lots of activities fit for families and children who are looking to spend some quality time together. Kids can get the experience of seeing sea animals at aquariums and pet cafes that allow children to interact with dogs, cats, meerkats, and even sheep! And to all teenagers, don't fret: there are plenty of activities for you as well! Ride thrilling roller coasters at the nearby amusement park, and indulge in as many K-pop related activities as you desire!

**Aquariums:** Need somewhere indoor to hang out with your kiddos? Head over to Coex Aquarium or Lotte World Aquarium to see many sea animals and learn more about different creatures.

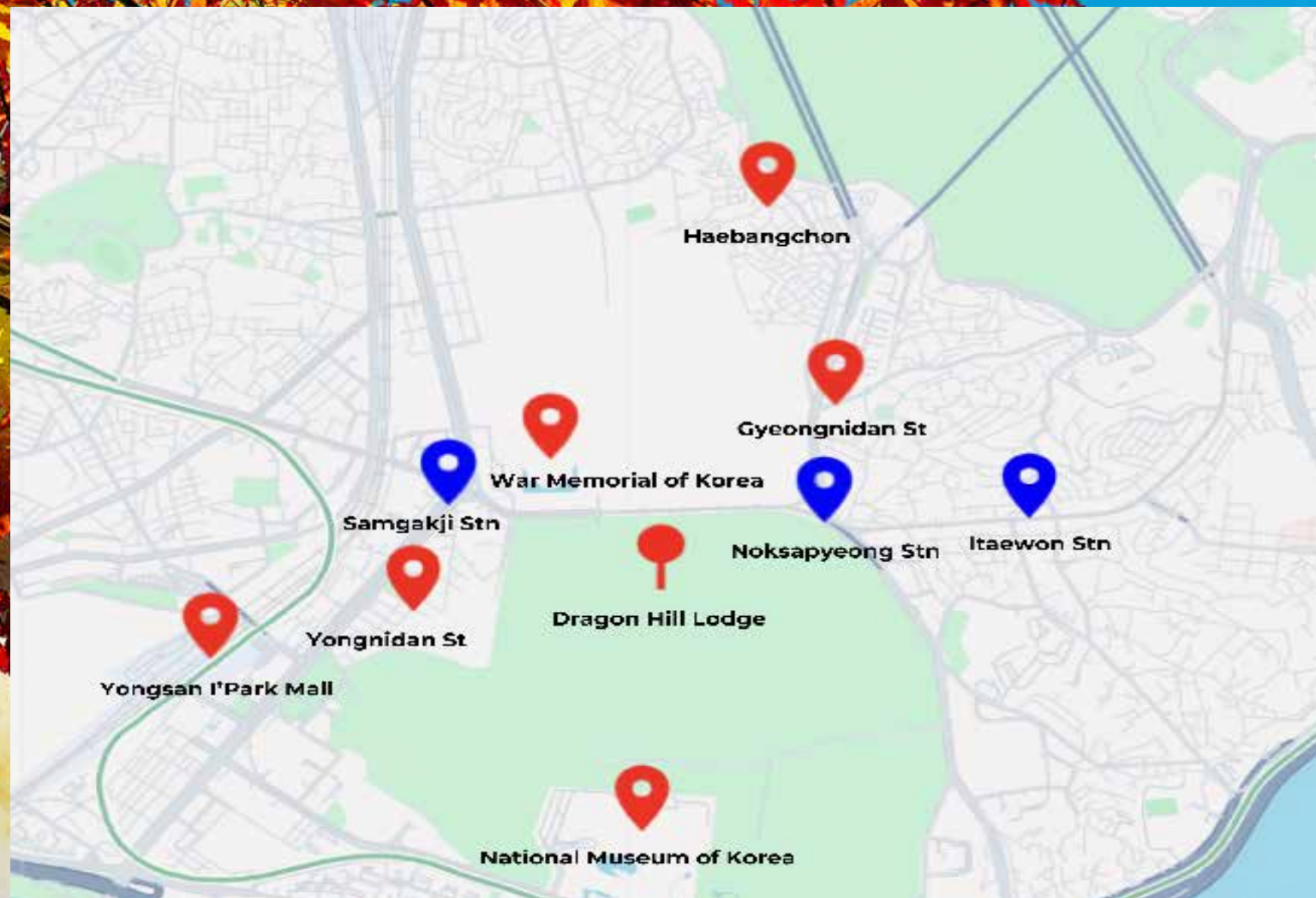
**Amusement park:** For those looking for thrills, pay a visit to Lotte world! It has rides for visitors of all ages, and seasonal decorations. Buy a cute themed headband, wear the traditional school uniform and ride away!

**Pet Cafes:** Do your kids love animals? Do you love cafes? If the answer is yes, head over to a pet cafe in Seoul! Have a fun experience getting something refreshing to drink and have various animals keep you company during your time. From dogs, cats, meerkats, and sheep, the cafes have a fun and unique environment for everyone!

**K-pop:** For fans of Korean pop, which has become a worldwide phenomenon, Seoul is the most perfect place. Myeongdong Underground Shopping Center offers a huge variety of merch, covering all of the most famous groups and more, and plenty of stores throughout the city offer all of the newest albums. Fans also should not miss out on cafe events, where goodies and themed food for different groups are given out on important dates like birthdays and anniversaries.



## Around Us & Other Neighbourhoods



Dragon Hill Lodge is situated at the very heart of Seoul, and plenty of the areas surrounding the hotel are worth a visit. Let's explore some together.



**Yongsan:** Walk around parks, shop at malls, or visit museums and exhibitions - Yongsan is perfect for both sunny and rainy days. Right where the hotel is situated, this area is perfect to walk around, explore the city and learn more about the Korean War at the War Memorial Museum of Korea. You can also walk up to visit N Seoul Tower and enjoy the incredible view.



**Itaewon:** Itaewon is well known for having a fun and diverse environment that is visited by many foreigners and locals alike. The whole neighborhood is full of international restaurants for people to try out. In the evening, the whole area lights up with clubs, bars, and restaurants offering late night bites - making it the perfect place to end the night with friends.



**Samgakji:** a short walk away from the hotel, this area has become increasingly popular in the last year and is famous for its new and exotic restaurants, especially in the new Yongnidan Street area. Even big companies like AmorePacific and Hybe have established buildings in the area due to its newfound popularity.



**Haebangchon:** Right below Namsan mountain, this area, which was previously less lively, has now become increasingly famous due to its vintage aesthetic and its rich history tied to the war. It offers a lot of beautiful cafes, restaurants and shops, especially along the famous Gyeongnidan street.

## Seongsu

Known as the Brooklyn of Seoul, this area is hip, vibrant and always has something new going on. It has a huge variety of niche shops and pop-ups for the most popular brands are almost always held in this area. It is constantly changing, so make sure to check out what's happening during all of the different months of the year!

- Amore Seongsu
- Pop-up stores
- Pow!Wow! street murals



## Hongdae

Hongdae is a great place to visit for shopping, food, and night life. This area is great for visitors interested in trying new foods and wanting to buy clothes and souvenirs. There are also many bars, clubs, and restaurants. So if you enjoy you enjoy socializing and dancing into the late hours of the evening, head out to Hongdae on the weekend with your friends.

- Trick Eye Museum
- Hongdae Mural Street
- Night life





## Myeongdong

Ready to spend some time roaming around to shop and try new foods? Head over to Myeongdong to shop for clothes and skincare products. If you are also wanting to try new food, seek out one of the many food vendors in the area for popular Korean street foods and sweets snacks.

- Myeongdong Cathedral
- Nanta Theater
- Namdaemun Market
- Sungnyemun Gate

## Bukchon

One of the most picturesque neighborhoods in all of Seoul is Bukchon Hanok Village. Head here to visit famous buildings, rent a hanbok, and try new cafes. People can walk around in traditional Korean clothes, shop for clothes and souvenirs, and walk around the city.

- Traditional Tea Houses and Cafes
- Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art

### *Insadong*

This traditional street is full of traditional crats, museums and galleries. You can also enjoy exploring the many twisting back alleys to discover Korean restaurants and tea houses. For those interested in Buddhism, be sure to make a stop at Jogyesa Temple nearby.

- Jogyesa Temple
- Art Galleries
- Traditional Goods and Souvenirs

### *Ikseondong*

Ikseondong is a beautiful neighborhood filled with traditional buildings converted into restaurants and cafes. Here, every corner is a great photo opportunity, with beautiful Korean buildings in the background. For a cultural excursion afterwards, stop by Jongmyo Shrine, one of Seoul's UNESCO World Heritage sites.

- Cafes and Restaurants in Hanoks
  - Nakwon Arcade
  - Jongmyo Shrine

# Shopping

Before or after getting a meal at the Dragon or in the city, head over to many places to go shopping for clothes, products, and souvenirs. From extravagant malls, shopping streets, and traditional markets, you can get the items you need during your stay.

## Shopping Streets:

- Myeongdong
- Insadong
- Hongdae
- Namdaemun Market
- Seongsu

## Large Malls:

- Coex Mall
- IFC Mall & The Hyundai
- Yongsan iPark Mall
- Shinsegae Department Stores



# Beauty

In Seoul, makeup stores are everywhere. Popular items are often cheaper than western products and of the same quality, if not better. Myeongdong and Hongdae are great areas for shopping, and Olive Young is without a doubt the most popular retail store. But that's not all: skincare clinics and hair treatments are also in high demand lately, and incredibly innovative.

## Popular stores & treatments

**Olive young:** comparable to Sephora, but for Korean products. It has both makeup and skincare, and a lot of different brands with tons of products that regularly go on sale!

**Hemeko:** Originally a retail website, it recently opened a physical store in Hongdae. Offers viral but more niche brands that are perfect for K-beauty fanatics that already own all of the most common products.

**Facials & injections:** Korean skincare is on another level, and there is a reason why Seoul is known as the plastic surgery capital of the world. Treatments like microneedling, rejuvan and botox are affordable and easy to get, with most clinics offering translation services as well.

**Head spa:** Treatments for the scalp have also become increasingly popular, and the famous head spas offer massages and deep cleanses for the scalp that can improve the overall hair condition and unclog hair follicles, promoting healthy growth and length.



# HOTEL DINING



**MENUS & HOURS**

# SERVICES & FACILITIES



## Elegant and Casual Hotel Dining

Breakfast classics made-to-order and just the way you like it. Enjoy a wide range of American and bistro fare for lunch and dinner, such as steaks, salads, and pastas.

Located on Lobby Floor (L)



## For a Special Occasion

Sables is a discerning choice for top-quality steaks and seafood. You'll enjoy artisan, USDA Choice hand-cut steaks seared to order and fresh seafood cooked to perfection.

Located on Lobby Floor (L)



## Bourbon, Cocktails, and Craft Brews

Cap off the evening with your favorite beverage at Bentley's, or come early for delicious pub foods and drink specials. Proudly serving craft beer made on-site.

Located on Lobby Floor (L)



## Baked Fresh Daily

No trip to Dragon Hill Lodge is complete without biting into one of our famous, freshly baked donuts, apple fritters, and other goodies! Come by for your sweet tooth and caffeine fix.

Located on Lower Lobby Floor (LL)

## POiNT Health Club

The fitness facility with everything you need for a full workout: weights, cardio machines, yoga room, and even an indoor pool, hot tub, dry sauna, and steam baths.

Access the POiNT annex by taking elevators to Dragon Tower 3rd Floor



## Carnevale Game Room

Come and enjoy our fun and relaxing game room, open 24/7 throughout the year. Only open to authorized patrons 18 years and older.

Located on Lobby Floor (L), past Bentley's



## Discover Seoul Desk

Be sure to drop by our in-house travel concierge and rental car service. They are local experts who can help you take full advantage of all the sights, attractions, and culture you can soak up in Seoul.

Located on Lobby Floor (L)



## Market Square

Convenient shopping and services right here in the hotel, including a bank, post office, and PX Shoppette, as well as a business center, tailor, beauty salon, dry cleaner, massage, and specialty shops.

Located on Lobby Floor (L)



# AFRC RESORTS

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