# Dragon Hill Lodge

Vacation Guide Spring/Summer



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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:

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



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SCAN QR CODE FOR HOTEL DIRECTORY

Spring & Summer in Seoul Seoul is a sprawling metropolis of big city attractions, historical sights, and rich culture. The warmer weather of spring and summer is the perfect time to get out and see as much as possible of one of the biggest and most exciting cities in the world.



Cycle Through the City: A thrilling way to roam the streets of Seoul is with public rentals called 'Ttareungi'. Over 3,000 rental stations are scattered throughout the city, and anyone 13 or older with a smartphone and credit card can use them. For less than \$1 an hour, you can explore the city center on bike lanes or catch the breeze on a leisurely ride along the city's Hangang River.



Picnic Seoul Style: Grab a blanket and your favorite takeout and head to Yeouinaru Station to see the riverside park filled with locals relaxing, snacking, and basking in the sun. For a younger vibe, grab a bite outside at 'Yeontral Park' in the early evening before heading over to the nearby Hongdae nightlife district.



City Bus Tours: Visit the most popular attractions with ease aboard the Seoul City Tour Bus. Spend the day hopping on and off the bus with a single ticket as it travels through the major spots in the city. For firsttime visitors, there is no better and easier way to get around and discover everything the city has to offer.



Never-ending Nightlife: Seoul is a city that never sleeps and is also very safe to explore even late at night. Kick off your evening in Myeongdong for a bite at its famous street lined with food carts. Afterwards, hope over to nearby Dongdaemun for Night Shopping. And a popular nightlife districts Hongdae and Itaewon, the city's hottest bars, clubs, and restaurants often stay open until the early morning.





**Hiking:** Spring is a wonderful time to go hiking in Seoul. The weather is mild and the beautiful cherry blossoms are in bloom. There are many hiking trails to choose from, so whether you're a beginner or an experienced hiker, there's something for everyone. If you're looking for something easy, Namsan Park is a great option. Bukhansan, Gwanaksan and Inwangsan Mountains are perfect for more experienced hikers, which will provide breathtaking views of the city and surrounding mountains.

### 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-alifetime 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.



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Pictured: Seoul Floating Island

## Korean Foods to Try in the Spring & Summer

Korean food is deliciously diverse, and there are many special seasonal dishes to try that are perfect for the spring and summer months. If you're looking for some authentic Korean eats, keep and eye out for these local favorites.



**Patbingsu**: Cool off the exhausting summer heat by enjoying this popular Korean shaved ice dessert bowl topped with red bean and a variety of other sweet toppings such as fruit, condensed milk, jelly, and rice cakes.



**Naengmyeon:** Literally meaning "cold noodles," *naengmyeon* was historically a dish enjoyed during the winter but is now commonly consumed during the summer. There are two main varieties of *naengmyeon: mul naengmyeong*, which is served with cold broth, and *bibim naengmyeon*, which is served with a spicy dressing made from red chili paste. **Samgye-tang:** Fight fire with fire. Though this dish can be enjoyed year-round, Koreans customarily eat *samgye-tang*, or ginseng chicken soup, during the hottest summer days to rejuvenate the body. This delicious soup features a whole chicken stuffed with garlic, glutinous rice, jujube, and ginseng.



Korean Fried Chicken & Beer: Also known as chimaek, this pairing goes so well together that it has developed into a national favorite. Have it delivered right to you for an outdoor picnic at Hangang Park by the river, or at one of the many specialty restaurants in the city that offer outdoor seating.



Jeon & Makgeolli: Commonly referred to as Korean pancakes, *jeon* can be made with just about any ingredient, including fish, meat, seafood, and fresh vegetables. *Jeon* is often a go-to dish for Koreans during the spring and summer showers as the sound of rain reminds people of the sound of making *jeon*. Pair it with *makgeolli*, a Korean rice wine, for a true Korean eating experience.

## 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

#### Large Malls:

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



### **Kids Activities**

Korea has many places for families and children to visit together on a wonderful afternoon. 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! If kids want to be more active, there are a lot of parks and play areas connected to malls and department stores for kids to enjoy.

Aquariums: Need somewhere indoor to hang out with your kiddos? Head over to these aquariums to see many sea animals and learn more about different creatures.

- Coex Aquarium
- Lotte World Aquarium
- Aqua Planet 63

**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!

**Kid Attractions**: Do you have active kids that enjoy a lot of indoor activities? Head to these attractions below for them to enjoy indoor games and activities that range from rock climbing, rollerbladding, trampolines, and bowling.

- Sportsmonster
- Vaunce
- Champion 1250

Pictured: Coex Aquarium

### Neighborhoods to Explore

While traveling around Seoul, there are many neighborhoods and towns that have many places you can visit to shop, eat, and explore. From visiting museums and exhibitions, trying new cultural food at restaurants and cafes, to shopping at malls and on the streets, these towns have so much to offer for foreigners, families, and friends.

Pictured: Banpo Bridge Moonlight Rainbow Fountain



#### 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.

- Itaewon Antique Furniture Street
- Leeum Samsung Museum of Art
- Night Life

### 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 souveniers. 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.

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Trick Eye Museum
Hongdae Mural Street
Night life

#### Myeongdong

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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.

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Myeongdong Cathedral

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- 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 crafts, 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.

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- 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

#### Yongsan

Spend your afternoon walking around parks, shopping at malls, or visiting museums and exhibitions - perfect for both sunny and rainy days. Right near the hotel, you can walk and explore the town and learn more about the Korean War at the War Memorial of Museum of Korea or walk up to visit N Seoul Tower and see beautiful views of Seoul.

- N Seoul Tower
- I-Park Mall
- National Museum of Korea
- Yongsan Family Park

#### Dongdaemun

Head here for exciting architecture, design, and fashion. The landmark Dongdaemun Design Plaza has many exhibitions, and you can shop at one of the department stores and markets in the area. In the evening, this area is also famous for its night market, with clothes vendors and more selling their wares all the way into the early hours of the morning.

Dongdaemun Design Plaza

Heunginjimun Gate
Cheonggyecheon Stream

Dongdaemun Night Market

Ihwa Mural Village





#### **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)







