



KOREA
TOURISM
ORGANIZATION



Yongsan, A Perfect Destination for Stopover Visitors

South Korea's capital Seoul is the largest gateway for international visitors, with most staying several days in the city. Many first timers are surprised by Seoul's size, made up of districts, each with their distinctive characteristics. It is recommended that visitors choose 1~2 districts (gu in Korean language) that they will visit in a day.

For those who do not have much time in Seoul, Yongsan-gu (Yongsan district) is a place that is worth spending a full day. Many renowned tourist attractions are concentrated in the area. Unlike other renowned tourist spots, this area is not usually crowded (except during the annual Seoul International Fireworks Festival). Also, Yongsan-gu has many eateries recognised by local foodies and the district has frequently appeared in many food-related TV shows. From traditional gourmet and Korean style barbeque, the area (especially Itaewon-dong where many foreigners live and work) is renowned for high quality cuisines.

A wide range of food options also makes Yongsan-gu an ideal destination. Hence, there is no reason to hesitate spending a day in Yongsan, regardless of your food taste or the amount of time you have in Korea. The following are a list of attractions that visitors may enjoy.

National Museum of Korea

The National Museum of Korea is the largest museum in Korea. Visitors can enjoy Korean arts and history ranging from the prehistoric to modern era without paying a fee. It is also possible to discover artefacts from all over the world. Information about special exhibition and guided tours can be found on the website. Outside the museum, there are several walking paths where visitors can enjoy a relaxing time beside a pond and big grassy field.



National Hangeul Museum

The National Hangeul Museum neighbours the National Museum of Korea. The word hangeul refers to the Korean language. It is rare to have a museum dedicated to a nation's language. In the case of Korean, it was invented by King Sejong (1419~1500). This museum provides a unique and fascinating experience around the history and preservation of the Korean language. The tour guides of the museum do an excellent job providing a detailed explanation of the language development journey.



Ichon Hangang River Park & Noddeul Island

Hangang River Park is accessible from most areas of Seoul and is considered a comfort zone for Seoulers. It is a place where locals take a stroll, exercise, socialise and enjoy picnicking. Ichon Hangang River Park offers one of the best sceneries along the river, which includes Hangang bridge, Hangang railway bridge and skyscraper skyline.

Fans of Korean music or drama may recognise the scenery which was featured in a music video by famous balladeer Dongryul Kim, starring Hyun Bin.

Additionally, Nodeul Island, near Hangang bridge, has recently been revived as a space providing cultural facilities, music festivals and eateries.



Ichon Hangang River Park

The War Memorial of Korea

As the name suggests, the main theme of this museum exhibition is war. While there is a rich collection of war-related artefacts from various time periods, the most renowned is the exhibition dedicated to the Korean War (1950~1953) where multiple countries including New Zealand were involved in the conflict between North Korea and South Korea. For Kiwi visitors, seeing a monument dedicated to the support and sacrifice of New Zealand soldiers can be very meaningful. People can find detailed information on the website about soldiers honoured in the museum commemorates (The Roll of Honor Database) along with tour guide services.



Namsan Seoul Tower (N Tower) & Namsan Botanical Garden

While the viewing observatory can be thought of as touristy, N Tower offers much more than just sightseeing. While the place is known for its night view, it is recommended to arrive earlier in the day for a stroll at Namsan Botanical Garden where nature and city co-exist.

Ahn Junggeun Memorial Museum is nearby, which displays the life of an independence activist and the history of the Japanese colonisation era.

To get to the N Tower located at the upper side of the mountain, people can take a bus, cable car or a well-signposted walking trail. In the tower, the observatory is not the only attraction. There are various eateries and entertainment facilities, such as the arcade, VR experiences and even massage chairs that make you forget about the journey.



Namsan Seoul Tower (N Tower)