South Korea is rich in tradition, culture and natural beauty. Starting in the nation’s bustling capital, Seoul, travel south through the rolling tea plantations of Boesong to the ‘Treasure Island’ of Namhae and bustling port city Busan, before exploring ancient Gyeongju and the spectacular towering granite peaks of Mount Seoraksan. Discover the wonders of South Korea in 12 memorable days!

**HIGHLIGHTS AND INCLUSIONS**

**Trip Highlights**
- Seoul - the nation’s captivating capital; Gyeongbokgung Palace, National Folk Museum, Jogyesa Temple, Insadong Antique Alley, Cheonggyecheon Stream and Seoul Tower
- Busan - South Korea’s principal port city and the Kukje Fish Market
- Gyeongju - former capital of the Silla Kingdom and historic heart of the nation; Gyeongju National Museum, Tumuli Park and the Silla royal tombs, Anapji Pond, the ancient Cheomseongdae Observatory
- UNESCO Listed Seokguram Grotto - one of Asia’s finest Buddhist shrines and Bulguksa Temple
- Jeonju Hanok Village, home to 700 traditional Korean homes
- Boesong - stunning mountains and rolling green hills of tea plantations
- Suncheonman Bay - 40 kilometres of stunning wetlands
- Jeonju - home to the Gyeonggijeon Shrine
- Namhae - known as the ‘treasure island of Korea’
- The Sosuseowon Confucian School, the first private Confucian academy established in Korea
- Mt.Seoraksan National Park - with towering granite peaks and lush green valleys

**What's Included**
- 11 nights 3, 4 or 5 star hotels (specific to your chosen itinerary)
- Breakfast daily
- Airport arrival and departure transfer on day 1 and 12
- Services of an English speaking guide/driver for all scheduled sightseeing
- All entrance fees as per the itinerary
- All transfers and transportation in private air conditioned vehicles
- Touring of Seoul, Jeonju, Boseong, Namhae, Busan, Suncheon, Gyeongju, Yeongju

**What's Not Included**
- International flights and visa
- Tipping - an entirely personal gesture

**ITINERARY**

**Day 1 : Seoul**
Upon arrival in Seoul you will be met by our representative at Incheon International Airport and transferred to your hotel. Day 1 is designed as an arrival day, rest of the day at leisure.

**Day 2 : Seoul Sightseeing**
Today is spent visiting Seoul’s most famous landmarks, this morning we see Gyeongbokgung Palace, the largest of the “Five Grand Palaces” built by the last Korean Dynasty, the Joseon Dynasty. Within the Palace grounds visit Jogyesa Temple dedicated to Buddhism and still influential today. We also learn more of Korean culture, tradition and history at the National Folk Museum also situated in the grounds of the palace.
Spectacular South Korea

Day 4 : Boseong and Suncheon

Today tour Boseong with its stunning mountains, the Boseong River flowing through the centre and the rolling green hills of tea plantations famous for its green tea of supreme quality. Before visiting picturesque Seonamsa Temple at the western end of Mount Jogyesan with its beautiful arch bridges then continuing to Suncheonman Bay, the ecological capital of South Korea and part of the United Nations Environment Programme, the UNEP. A 40 kilometre long wetland with its vast fields of reeds makes for a spectacular landscape. Onwards to Gwangyang where you will spend the night.

Overnight - Gwangyang (B)

Day 5 : Namhae

Leaving Gwangyang travel along the coastline to Namhae, known as the ‘treasure island of Korea’. Connected to the mainland by a 660 metre long and 80 metre high suspension bridge giving an impressive view of the surrounding landscape. In Namhae visit Daraengi Village with its 108 terraces of rice paddies covering the hillside and the German village. Built in the style of German architecture and even using German materials imported from Germany. The village was built for German - Koreans who had moved to Germany in the 1960’s seeking work and since then continuing to Busan for the night.

Overnight - Busan (B)

Day 6 : Busan

A morning tour of Busan takes in the Busan Tower in Yongdusan Park and provides perfect views of the entire city. See the vivid life of the Jagalchi Fish Market as locals haggle with the fishermen selling their fresh catch before you depart for Gyeongju. Serving as the capital of the Silla Kingdom from 57BC – 935AD, Gyeongju is a living history museum containing archaeological sites of the Silla Kingdom as well as ancient relics pertaining to Buddhism, the national religion at the time. During the afternoon you will visit the UNESCO listed temples of Bulguksa including the Seokguram Grotto, one of Asia’s finest Buddhist shrines, resting 750 metres above sea level and looking out over the Sea of Japan, it is considered to contain one of the best Buddhist sculptures in the world.

Overnight - Gyeongju (B)

Day 7 : Gyeongju sightseeing

Located in the North Gyeongsang province and once the capital of the ancient kingdom of Silla, Gyeongju which ruled most of the Korean Peninsula during the 7th till 9th Centuries, many remnants remain of this period leading to the city being known as “the museum without walls”. An afternoon tour of Gyeongju takes you to Tumuli Park to visit some of the large and small tombs from the Silla period including that of King Michu, the 13th King of the dynasty famed for fending off invaders. Legends even tell of soldiers with bamboo leaves stuffed in their ears arising from his tomb to fend off invaders after his death, explaining why his tomb is known as the “Bamboo Soldier Tomb”.

Also once part of the ancient Silla complex is Anapji Pond, an immense oval shaped man made pond measuring 200 metres from east to west and 180 metres from north to south. During renovations to the area in the 1970’s and 80’s many relics were unearthed and are today housed in the Gyeongju National Museum alongside the Emille Bell, with its shady legend, is the largest extant bell in Korea. Later we visit the oldest surviving observatory in East Asia and one of the world’s oldest scientific installations still on the go tours

Spectacular South Korea - 12 days
www.onthegotours.com
uk: 020 7371 1113 info@onthegotours.com
aus: 1300 555 684 aus-info@onthegotours.com
nz: 0800 44 77 69 can: 1 866 890 7038
usa: 1 866 606 2960 sa: 0800 990 311

This information has been compiled with care and good faith. They give an accurate illustration of the proposed arrangements for this holiday. Circumstances beyond our control such as changes in local conditions, inclement weather or other reasons could force us to make changes to this itinerary. Any costs shown are subject to change, though are an accurate reflection of costs at time of setting. Please also note that visa requirements are subject to change and are the responsibility of the traveler and not that of On The Go Tours.

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Spectacular South Korea

in existence, Cheomseongdae Observatory.
Evening at leisure.
**Overnight - Gyeongju (B)**

**Day 8 : Yeongju**

An early departure for Yeongju where en-route you visit the Sosuseowon Confucian School, the first private Confucian academy established in Korea before touring Seonbichon Village, the home of the Korea’s classic Confucian scholars, a good opportunity to learn more about traditional Korean ways. Later tour Buseoska Temple, huge in size it is considered one of the most beautiful in all of Korea. Onward to Cheonpung. **Overnight - Cheonpung (B)**

**Day 9 : Cheongpung Lake**

We visit Cheongpung Lake where board a ferry to visit Danyang’s Eight Scenic Wonders mostly referring to mountain peaks surrounding the lake - Dodam Sambong, Seokmun, Sainam Rock, Haseonam, Jungseonam, Sangleonam, Gudambong and Oksunbong. Please note the ferry ride is subject to weather conditions, in the unlikely event that it is cancelled it will be substituted with a visit to Dodamsambong Peak and Gosu Cave. Later pay a visit to Chamsori Gramophone Audio Museum, a private museum created by its curator, Seong Mok Son, and is the first of its kind in the world.

Travelling along the beautiful coastline to Mount Seoraksan we stop en-route to Unification Park where you can see the salvaged remains of a North Korean submarine which was wrecked off the coast in 1996 before making our final stop for the day at Daepo Port, one of the finest places to find the freshest fish and seafood restaurants. **Overnight - Mt.Seoraksan (B)**

**Day 10 : Mount Seoraksan**

Today is spent hiking and exploring Mt.Seoraksan National Park, one of the most beautiful national parks in Korea, with towering granite peaks, lush green valleys, Buddhist temples, dense forests and clear streams. You will be able to view the park in the best way possible as you take a cable car to Gweongeumseong Peak before visiting Shinheungsa Temple nestled at the foot of the park. This afternoon depart for Seoul. **Overnight - Seoul (B)**

**Day 11 : Back to Seoul**

Today is free to spend as you please, why not visit some of the well known open air markets such as Namdaemun or Dongdaemun for some last minute shopping. **Overnight - Seoul (B)**

**Day 12 : Seoul**

Tour ends after breakfast. Included onward transfer to airport. (B)

**PRICES / DATES INFO**

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