

SBL SOCIETY OF BIBLICAL LITERATURE

2016 International Meeting
Seoul, South Korea • 3–7 July
Tour Descriptions

FOLK VILLAGE & SUWON CASTLE - \$64

Saturday, July 2, 8:00 AM - 6:00 PM

The Folk Village allows visitors to experience over 260 traditional houses reminiscent of the late Joseon Dynasty, including various household goods from different regions. All these features have been relocated and restored to provide visitors with a broad understanding of Korean food, clothing, and housing styles of the past. The Suwon Castle fortress was built by King Jeongjo of the Joseon Dynasty. The Suwoncheon, the main stream in Suwon, flows through the center of the fortress. This full-day bus tour will last 10 hours.



GUIDED CITY TOUR - \$50

Sunday, July 3, 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

This bus tour will visit the Gyeongbokgung Palace, Seoul Museum of History, and Insadong. Gyeongbokgung Palace was the main royal palace of the Joseon dynasty. Seoul Museum of History depicts the evolution of Seoul from its prehistoric period to the city it is today. Insadong is a neighborhood with modern galleries and tea shops. At one time it was the largest market for antiques and artworks in Korea. Lunch is included.

SEOUL N TOWER AND DONGDAEMUN SHOPPING - \$47

Monday, July 4, 6:00 PM - 11:00 PM

Seoul N Tower, commonly known as the Namsan Tower or Seoul Tower, is a communication and observation tower located on Namsan Mountain in central Seoul. At 236m, it marks the highest point in Seoul. Dongdaemun Market is a large commercial district comprising traditional markets and shopping centers in Jongno-gu, Seoul. This bus tour will last 5 hours.



COOKIN' NANTA SHOW - \$67

Tuesday, July 5, 6:00 PM - 10:00 PM

Cookin' NANTA Show is a South Korean non-verbal comedy show that incorporates traditional samul nori rhythm. The musical has a simple back story of three cooks attempting to finish preparing a wedding banquet within a strict time limit while the manager installs his incompetent nephew among the kitchen staff. The show involves acrobatics, magic tricks, comedy, pantomime and audience participation. The unifying element throughout the musical is the use of traditional Korean samul nori music, which in this case is performed with improvised instruments, such as cutting boards, water canisters and kitchen knives. The performance is almost completely non-verbal. The very few words which are spoken are mostly in English.

CHANGDEOKGUNG & HUWON (SECRET GARDEN) - \$40

Thursday, July 7, 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Changdeokgung Palace was the second royal villa built following the construction of Gyeongbukgung Palace in 1405. It was the principal palace for many kings of the Joseon Dynasty, and is the most well-preserved of the five remaining royal Joseon palaces. The palace grounds are comprised of a public palace area, a royal family residence building, and the rear garden. Known as a place of rest for the kings, the rear garden boasts a gigantic tree that is over 300 years old, a small pond and a pavilion. After visiting Changdeokgung, you will see the Cheonggyecheon Stream, a haven of natural beauty amidst the bustle of city life.



JOINT SECURITY AREA / DEMILITARIZED ZONE - \$100

Thursday, July 7, 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM



The Joint Security Area is the only portion of the Korean Demilitarized Zone where North and South Korean forces stand face-to-face. It is often called the “Truce Village.” The JSA is used by the two Koreas for diplomatic engagements and, until March 1991, was also the site of military negotiations between North Korea and the United Nations Command. The Joint Security Area currently has around 100,000 tourists visit each year through several tourism companies. The DMZ is the buffer zone between North and South Korea, running across the peninsula roughly following the 38th parallel. This tour includes visits to the 3rd Infiltration Tunnel, Dora train station, Dora Observatory, JSA Security force Camp Bonifas in JSA, GijongDong (Propaganda Village), and TaesongDong (Freedom Village).

2-DAY GUIDED TOUR TO GYEONGJU - \$350

Friday, July 8- Saturday, July 9

Gyeongju is a coastal city in the far southeastern corner of North Gyeongsang Province in South Korea. It is the second largest city by area in the province after Andong. Gyeongju is 370 km (230 mi) southeast of Seoul, and 55 km (34 mi) east of the provincial capital, Daegu. The city borders Cheongdo and Yeongcheon to the west, Ulsan to the south and Pohang to the north, while to the east lies the coast of the Sea of Japan (East Sea). Numerous low mountains—outliers of the Taebaek range—are scattered around the city. Gyeongju was the capital of the ancient kingdom of Silla (57 BC – 935 AD) which ruled about two-thirds of the Korean Peninsula between the 7th and 9th centuries. A vast number of archaeological sites and cultural properties from this period remain in the city. Gyeongju is often referred to as “the museum without walls”. The many major historical sites have helped Gyeongju become one of the most popular tourist destinations in South Korea.

Departure: July 8, 8:30am at Seoul Station

- Travel to Gyeongju via KTX (high-speed train)
- Bulguksa, Seokguram, and several other attractions.
- Stay at Hotel Hyundai
- Arrival: July 9, 6:20pm back at Seoul Station

