



Best of South Korea with G Adventures

Day 1: Arrival in Seoul

After a pleasant eleven and half hour WestJet flight from Calgary, we touched down at Incheon International airport, just outside Seoul.

Getting into the City: There are three ways to get into the city centre: taxi, train or the airport bus with the airport bus being the best option of the three. There was even a stop right across the street from our hotel.

Where We Stayed: Our home base for the first few nights was the **Hotel Prince**, perfectly situated in the heart of **Myeongdong** – one of Seoul's most popular neighbourhoods, famous for its endless shopping, K-beauty boutiques, and incredible street food.

First Night Adventures: Despite arriving at 9:00 PM, we couldn't resist a quick stroll to the **Myeongdong Market**, just around the corner from our hotel. The sights, sounds, and aromas were irresistible – the perfect introduction to Korean street food culture!

The Adventure Begins

The next day was free to explore until our **G Adventures Welcome Meeting** at 6:00 PM. There, we met our CEO (Chief Experience Officer) – our expert guide for this week-long journey through South Korea, from Seoul to Busan and back. We also connected with our fellow travellers and learned what exciting experiences awaited us.

A Taste of Korea: That evening, we gathered for a group dinner at a local restaurant, where we savoured classic Korean dishes – **bulgogi** (marinated grilled beef) and **bibimbap** (mixed rice bowl). Delicious!

An Evening to Remember: After dinner, we took a peaceful walk along the **Cheonggyecheon Stream** – a serene urban oasis winding through the heart of Seoul. Our evening ended at the stunning **Jogyesa Temple**, beautifully illuminated for the **Seoul Lantern Festival** – a truly magical sight.

Day 2: Best of Seoul

Today's Seoul highlights tour offered the perfect blend of history, culture and unforgettable city experiences. We began the morning at Gyeongbokgung Palace, one of Seoul's most iconic landmarks. A popular experience for both visitors and locals, renting a colorful traditional Korean Hanbok, which also provides complimentary admission to the palace grounds. Our visit began with the impressive Changing of the Guard ceremony before exploring beautiful palace complex and visiting the nearby National Folk Museum of Korea, located within the palace grounds.

Following a delicious shabu shabu lunch – Korea's popular hot pot dining experience – we continued on to exploring Insadong and Bukchon Hanok Village. Bukchon Hanok Village is home to hundreds of beautifully preserved traditional Korean homes dating back more than 600 years to the Joseon Dynasty.

Despite being one of Seoul's most photographed areas, it remains an active residential neighbourhood with strict visitor guidelines, including designated visiting hours and enforced quiet zones. Many visitors choose to wear traditional hanbok while wandering the narrow laneways, creating a timeless atmosphere against the backdrop of the historic homes.

In contrast, Insadong offers a vibrant cultural atmosphere filled with winding streets, charming cafés, authentic tea houses, art galleries, and locally made souvenir shops. It's the perfect place to experience Seoul's artistic and traditional side while still enjoying the energy of the modern city.

We ended the evening along the banks of the Han River watching the spectacular Banpo Bridge Moonlight Rainbow Fountain, recognized as the world's longest bridge fountain and a beautiful way to conclude an incredible day exploring Seoul.

Stay tuned for more from South Korea.











