

# 2026 WESTERN KOREA "7 NIGHT" LAND TOUR

**7 Nights / 9 Days • 18 Meals (7 Breakfasts, 6 Lunches, 5 Dinners)**

**Escorted from Honolulu • Includes an English-Speaking Professional Local Guide**

**Tour #2: October 22 – 30, 2026 • Tour Manager: Lee Ann LaFortune**

**VISIT:** Seoul, Buyeo, Wanju, Jeonju, Gwangju, Suncheon, Boseong & Suwon

**TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:** Gyeongbokgung Palace, National Folk

Museum, Insadong Antique Street, Blue House, Namdaemun Market,

Buyeo National Museum, Jeongnimsa Temple Site, Awongotaeg Café,

Jeonju Hanok Village, Wol-bong Seowon Academy, Democratic Uprising

Archives, Naganeupseong Folk Village, Boseong Tea Field, Songgwangsa

Temple, Baedoga Brewery, Korean Folk Village, Suwon Hwaseong Fortress,

Bongeunsa Temple, COEX Mall, LOTTE World Tower, SEOUL SKY Observation

Deck, LOTTE World Mall & Costco Shopping

**HANDS-ON EXPERIENCES:** Classical Scholar's Clothing Dress-Up,

Old Style Book Making & Makgeolli Tasting

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\*Fares are per person, USD based on double occupancy and include all airline taxes and fees. Airline fuel supplements, taxes and fees are subject to change and tour member is responsible for any increases. Some airline-imposed personal charges, including but not limited to baggage, priority boarding and special seating, may apply. For details visit [www.tripadvisor.com/AirlineFees](http://www.tripadvisor.com/AirlineFees). After initial deposit, a \$75 per person Non-Stop Travel (NST) Cancellation Fee will apply. Group departures may be cancelled, if there are less than 24 tour members. Final Payment to NST for "non-cruise/line" Air and Land Package must be made by money order or personal check. NST does not guarantee that all tour members will fly together with Tour Manager. Tour Manager assignments, number of meals offered on tour, tour price, discount, and the "final" cruise or tour itinerary are subject to change with/without notice. **NST reserves the right to correct errors or omissions including but not limited to, fares, fees and surcharges at any time.** Deposit: \$500 per person. Final Payment Due: 06/12/26. NST at its discretion, may use group and individual photos on its website, print, television, and various social media. ++ Earn rewards every time you refer a friend. For each "new-to-NST" customer you refer, both you and your referral can receive a \$25 discount off your next NST escorted group. **Special Assistance:** You must notify NST, at time of reservation, of any disability requiring special attention. NST reserves the right to cancel your booking or terminate your vacation if your special needs or disabilities are not suitable for the vacation or if you are not traveling with a companion who will provide all the assistance you require. **Wheelchair and electric scooter access outside of the USA is severely restricted.**

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**Day 1: Thur, Oct 22** – HONOLULU. Depart Honolulu.

**Day 2: Fri, Oct 23** – SEOUL. Arrive Incheon, South Korea. After entry formalities, transfer to your hotel in Seoul. Enjoy a bento for dinner. **COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT SEOUL NAMDAEMUN** (2 Nights) (D)

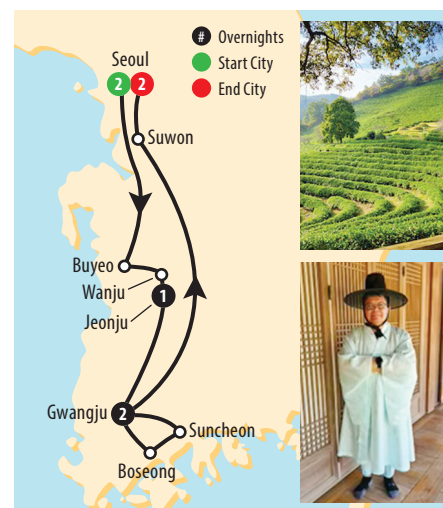
**Day 3: Sat, Oct 24** – SEOUL. Begin the day exploring **Gyeongbokgung Palace**, the first of the royal palaces built during the Joseon Dynasty (1392–1897). Built in 1395, Gyeongbokgung Palace was located at the heart of the newly appointed capital of Seoul (then known as Hanyang) and represented the sovereignty of the Joseon Dynasty. The largest of the Five Grand Palaces (the others being Gyeonghui-gung Palace, Deoksugung Palace, Changgyeonggung Palace, and Changdeokgung Palace), Gyeongbokgung served as the main palace of the Joseon Dynasty. It flourished under the reign of Sejong the Great (1418–1450), who invented the native Korean script Hangul, at the palace. During the Japan colonization of Korea, structures in the palace were demolished and rebuilt in the modern style. Efforts have been made to restore the palace to its pre-colonial state. The **National Folk Museum**, located within the grounds of the Gyeongbokgung Palace, uses replicas of historical objects to illustrate the history of traditional life of the Korean people. **Insadong Antique Street** is where you can experience the traditional culture of Korea while remaining in the heart of the city. With art galleries, traditional craft stores, antique art dealers, traditional tea houses, and restaurants, it is simply the place in Seoul for tourists wanting to experience traditional Korea. Next, visit the **Blue House**, the executive office and official residence of the South Korean head of state, the President of the Republic of Korea. Opened in 1964, **Namdaemun Market** is the largest traditional market in Korea with shops selling various goods from clothes, glasses, kitchenware, toys, mountain gear, fishing equipment, stationery, fine arts, accessories, hats, carpets, flowers, ginseng, and imported goods. All products are sold at affordable prices and the stores in this area also function as wholesale markets. Most of the goods are made directly by the store owners. Namdaemun Market is even open overnight, from 11:00 pm to 4:00 am, and is crowded with retailers from all over the country. (B, L)

**Day 4: Sun, Oct 25** – SEOUL – BUYEO – WANJU – JEONJU. After breakfast, depart Seoul for Buyeo, the old capital city of the Baekje Kingdom (southwestern Korean Kingdom from 18 BC to 660 AD). The **Buyeo National Museum** was first established in 1929 as a collection of relics and artifacts related to the Baekje Kingdom. The museum has four exhibition halls and an outdoor exhibit with a total of about 1,000 relics on display. During the Japanese Colonial Rule (1910–1945), a piece of tile was excavated from the center of Buyeo. The tile was inscribed with “8<sup>th</sup> year of Taepyeong, Mujin Jeongnimsa Temple Daejangdangcho.” It’s from this excavation that the temple and temple site became known as the **Jeongnimsa Temple Site**. A full-scale excavation was done in 1979 and 1980, where the size and arrangement of the temple was discovered. In Wanju, explore **Awongotaeg Café**, one of the locations that the K-Pop group BTS filmed at for the 192 page photo book that was included in their 2019 *Summer Package*. **LAHAN HOTEL JEONJU** (1 Night) (B, L, D)

**Day 5: Mon, Oct 26** – JEONJU – GWANGJU. **Jeonju Hanok Village** has 700 traditional Korean houses, Hanok that are still home to residents today. Hanok Village is the best preserved living traditional village. It is one of the most popular tourist attractions in Korea. Experience Korean culture at the **Wol-bong Seowon Academy**. You will have the chance to **wear classical scholar’s clothing**, and **make old style books**. Learn how the October 1979 assassination of South Korean President Park Chung-hee, who had taken power of the country following a military coup, was expected to usher in an era of democracy for the Korean people – but instead lead to a democratic uprising. When another military coup occurred, enraged citizens from across the country took to the streets in protest. When the people of Gwangju protested in May 1980 about the nationwide imposition of martial law, the new military government dispatched special force paratroopers to suppress the peaceful protest. The records of these events, are held at the **Democratic Uprising Archives**. **HOLIDAY INN GWANGJU** (2 Nights) (B, L, D)

**Day 6: Tue, Oct 27** – GWANGJU – SUNCHEON – BOSEONG – GWANGJU. **Naganeupseong Folk Village** is a historical village that consists of a well-preserved fortress, government buildings, and hanok-style houses with straw roofs, clay rooms and Korean-style verandas – 100 of which are still occupied. The original town was mainly inhabited by common people, and not aristocrats. Many of the inhabitants today work as farmers and carry out the traditional lifestyle and arts of the region. **Boseong Tea Field** has been used as the backdrop for many movies and TV miniseries in Korea, including the K-Drama *Summer Scent*. The endless green vista, tree-lined roads with cedars and nearby Yulpo Seashore provide visitors with great views and plenty to do. **Songgwangsa Temple**, one of the oldest Seon temples in Korea, is known as one of the three jewels of Seon Buddhism (along with Haeinsa Temple in Hapcheon and Tongdosa Temple in Yangsan). Although smaller in size, it is considered the greatest among the three temples. In most Korean Buddhist temples, the most important, and often largest building is the Hahavira Hall – the central hall containing statues of the historic Buddha and other important figures. In the Three Jewels Temples, however, the most important buildings are the ones that emphasizes each temples particular “jewel” – which for Songgwangsa are the prominent buildings dedicated to its monastic community; including the numerous Seon (Zen) Masters the temple has produced. (B, L, D)

**Day 7: Wed, Oct 28** – GWANGJU – SUWON – SEOUL. After breakfast, take a tour of **Baedoga Brewery** – regarded as one of the first producers to launched the premium makgeolli in the market. Makgeolli (also known as takju and nongju), is a milky, sweet alcoholic drink made from rice. It is one of Korea’s most-popular alcoholic drinks. Makgeolli is served in a bowl, rather than a cup. There are six distinct flavors: sweet, sour, pungent, roasted, bitter, and spicy. When the flavors are balanced, the alcohol is considered good quality. With relatively low alcohol by volume (six to nine percent), it’s often considered a “communal beverage” rather than a “hard liquor.” Since makgeolli is usually unpasteurized, and wine continues to mature in the bottle, many exported makgeolli undergoes pasteurization, which deprives the beverage of its complex enzymes and flavor compounds – changing the taste of the wine. **Taste some makgeolli** after the tour. The **Korean Folk Village** is a living museum that recreates the lifestyles of



past centuries. There are potters, weavers, blacksmiths, and other artisans who practice their trades in traditional fashion. There are also 260 traditional houses and a small amphitheater for folk music and dance performance. Then visit **Suwon Hwaseong Fortress**, a fortification surrounding the center of Suwon. Built from 1794 to 1796 by King Jeongjo of the Joseon Dynasty to house and honor the remains of his father, Prince Sado, who had been executed by his own father King Yeongjo after failing to obey a command to commit suicide. The fortress and enclosed palace were designated as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO in 1997. **COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT SEOUL NAMDAEMUN** (2 Nights) (B, L)

**Day 8: Thur, Oct 29** – SEOUL. After breakfast, take a tour of **Bongeunsa Temple**. Constructed in 794, this Buddhist temple houses interesting Buddhist artifacts and activities for those looking to learn about traditional Korean Buddhist practices – including 300 woodblock carvings of Buddhist sutras, calligraphy by Kim Jeong-hui, a scholar and calligrapher of the Joseon Dynasty – and a 32-meter-tall statue of Maitreya Buddha. The nearby **COEX Mall** is the largest underground shopping mall in Asia – and is considered one of the best places to go shopping in Seoul. There are over 320 local and international clothing, beauty, and lifestyle stores available to explore. Located in the middle of the mall, and one of its major attractions, is the Starfield Library, a massive two-story, 2,800 square meter space filled with more than 50,000 books. Free time to explore the mall and enjoy lunch (on your own). The **LOTTE World Tower**, with 123 floors rising 555 meters above the city of Seoul, is the country’s first building to exceed 100 floors and the 6<sup>th</sup> tallest building in the world. A pair of double-deck elevators take just 60 seconds (traveling at 10 meters per second) to ascend to **SEOUL SKY**, the seven-floor observatory. Located at the base of the LOTTE World Tower is the **LOTTE World Mall**, which includes many local and international retailers, a department store, duty free shop, aquarium, HIMART (electronic goods store), cinema, bowling alley, and much more. Enjoy a Farewell dinner before returning to the hotel. (B, D)

**Day 9: Fri, Oct 30** – SEOUL – HONOLULU. Enjoy a morning of leisure. After lunch, enjoy some **last minute shopping** at **Costco**, before transferring to Incheon International Airport for your return flight to Honolulu. Depart Incheon International Airport. Arrive Honolulu the same day. Aloha and welcome home! (B, L)