

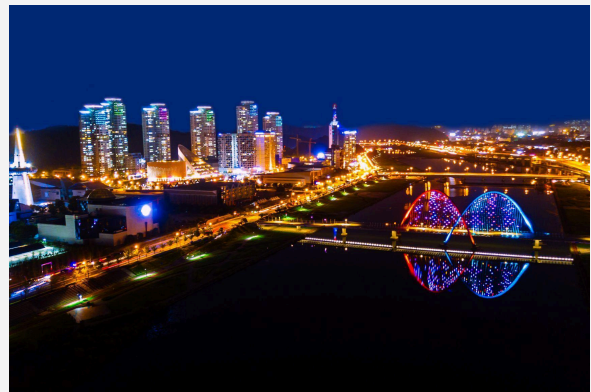
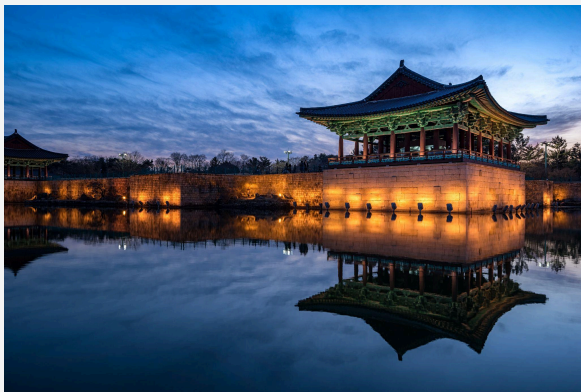
**TRANQUIL TRAILS SOUTH
KOREA**
12 DAYS / 11 NIGHTS

CODE SKRT002E

VALIDITY 01 Apr 24 - 31 Oct 25

TYPE Private

START Daily



I. HIGHLIGHTS

- Gain insights into Korea's history and politics with a visit to the Korean Demilitarized Zone, including iconic sites like the Joint Security Area.
- Experience Korean heritage at its finest through visits to historic sites like Gyeongbokgung Palace and Gulgulsa Temple, offering meditation sessions and community engagement.
- Explore the stunning landscapes of Seoraksan National Park and Jeju Island, with opportunities for hiking and scenic walks along the Jeju Olle Trail.
- Dive into local culture at markets like Jagalchi Market, and opt for activities like VR gaming and Korean cooking classes for a personalized adventure in South Korea.

II. ITINERARY

DAY 1

Arrive in South Korea

Welcome to South Korea! Upon your arrival at the airport, our friendly guide will be waiting to greet you. You'll be transferred to your hotel in the bustling city of Seoul. After checking in, take some time to relax and unwind from your journey. Whether you want to stroll through the vibrant streets, sample some local cuisine, or simply rest in the comfort of your hotel, the choice is yours. Get ready for an exciting adventure ahead!

DAY 2

Korean Demilitarized Zone (DMZ)

Today, we embark on a fascinating journey to the Korean Demilitarized Zone, a highly significant area that divides North and South Korea. As we venture through this historically rich region, our knowledgeable guide will provide insight into the complex political and military dynamics of the Korean Peninsula. You'll visit iconic sites such as the Joint Security Area (JSA), Dora Observatory, and the 3rd Tunnel. Gain a deeper understanding of Korea's divided history and the efforts towards peace and reconciliation.

DAY 3

Gyeongbokgung Palace

Immerse yourself in the grandeur of Korean royal history as we explore Gyeongbokgung Palace, the largest and most iconic of Seoul's five grand palaces. Marvel at the intricate architecture, and beautiful gardens, and learn about the Joseon Dynasty that once ruled from within these walls. Our guide will share stories of royalty, court life, and the palace's significance in Korean culture. Don't miss the striking Changing of the Guard ceremony, a highlight of your visit.

DAY 4

Seoraksan National Park

Nature lovers, rejoice! Today, we venture to Seoraksan National Park, a breathtaking UNESCO Biosphere Reserve renowned for its stunning landscapes and diverse flora and fauna. Embark on scenic hikes through lush forests, past cascading waterfalls, and towering granite peaks. Keep your eyes peeled for native wildlife, and be sure to snap photos of the awe-inspiring scenery. This is a day of adventure and serenity in one of South Korea's most beloved natural treasures.

DAY 5

Train to Gyeongju + Explore Cheonmachong Ancient Tombs

Hop aboard a train bound for Gyeongju, often referred to as the "museum without walls" for its wealth of historical treasures. Upon arrival, we'll delve into the past with a visit to the Cheonmachong Ancient Tombs, where you can marvel at the remarkable artifacts and learn about the ancient Silla Kingdom. Explore the surrounding area, filled with ancient temples, royal burial mounds, and archaeological sites, offering a glimpse into Korea's rich heritage.

DAY 6

Golgulsa Temple

Experience the tranquility of Korean temple life as we visit Golgulsa Temple, nestled amidst the serene mountains of Gyeongju. Participate in a meditation session led by a Buddhist monk, allowing you to find inner peace and mindfulness. Engage in meaningful community work at the temple, such as gardening or temple upkeep, as a way to give back and connect with the local culture. This day offers a unique opportunity for spiritual reflection and cultural immersion.

DAY 7

Explore Busan Nightlife

Delve deeper into Korean Buddhism as you engage in a thought-provoking conversation with a resident Buddhist monk. Learn about their lifestyle, beliefs, and the practices that guide their daily lives. Afterward, we'll journey to Busan, South Korea's bustling port city known for its vibrant nightlife. Explore the lively streets, sample delicious street food, and soak up the energetic atmosphere as we experience the best of Busan after dark.

DAY 8

Jagalchi Market + Virtual Reality Gaming Experience (Optional)

Indulge your senses at Jagalchi Market, the largest seafood market in South Korea, where vendors offer an incredible array of fresh seafood delights. Stroll through the bustling aisles, marveling at the colorful displays and engaging with local fishermen. For those seeking a modern thrill, join an optional virtual reality gaming experience, where you can immerse yourself in a world of digital adventure and excitement.

DAY 9

Korean Cooking Class (Optional)

Calling all food enthusiasts! Join us for a hands-on Korean cooking class, where you'll learn the secrets behind some of Korea's most beloved dishes. Under the guidance of a skilled chef, master the art of preparing traditional Korean cuisine, from savory kimchi to mouthwatering bibimbap. This optional activity offers a fun and delicious way to deepen your appreciation for Korean culinary traditions.

DAY 410

Haenyeo Divers Experience

Today, we venture to Jeju Island, renowned for its stunning natural beauty and unique cultural heritage. Dive into the world of the haenyeo, or "sea women," as we learn about their centuries-old tradition of free diving for seafood. Join these fearless divers in the crystal-clear waters, experiencing firsthand their remarkable skills and deep connection to the sea. It's a truly unforgettable glimpse into the lives of Jeju's remarkable female divers.

DAY 11

Long Trek along the Jeju Olle Trail

Embark on an epic journey along the Jeju Olle Trail, a network of scenic walking paths that wind their way around the picturesque coastline of Jeju Island. Lace up your hiking boots and

set out on a long trek, taking in panoramic views of rugged cliffs, sandy beaches, and lush countryside. Along the way, encounter charming villages, hidden coves, and cultural landmarks that showcase the beauty and diversity of Jeju's landscape.

DAY 12

Departure

It's time to bid farewell to South Korea as we transfer you to the airport for your onward journey. Check out of your hotel with cherished memories of your time exploring this vibrant and culturally rich country. As you board your flight, take a moment to reflect on the experiences shared, the friendships forged, and the adventures that await you in the future. Until we meet again, safe travels and goodbye!

-END OF SERVICES-

Tour extensions: pre-tour or post-tour extensions are available, which would include accommodation and private transfers, please speak to Focus Asia travel consultant for further details.
