

Korea Travel Basics

- **Weather:** South Korea is on a similar latitude with Washington DC and has four distinct seasons. During September, the weather is warm, ranging from 60-80 degrees with the occasional rain. Dressing in layers is recommended with preparation for cooler evenings and possible showers.
- **Currency:** South Korean Won ₩. The 'easiest' way (though not the most accurate) to translate the exchange rate is ₩1000 roughly = \$1. Most debit and credit cards are accepted in shops so you should not need much cash. However, not all cash points take US cards (credit or debit), and some banks can stop cards used in some machines, so as a precaution, you may want to inform your banks that you will be traveling to Korea and have some Korean Won on hand (200,000 KRW and some dollars should be enough for souvenirs and incidentals). The easiest way to exchange money would be at the airport, though your hotels will also have currency exchanges.
- **Business Cards:** In Korea, if someone presents you with a business card, you will be expected to present your business card, so please bring plenty with you! Note that Koreans give and receive the cards with both hands. The card represents the other person so refrain from placing them in your back pocket or writing on them (at least in front of others).
- **Time Difference:** South Korea does not observe daylight savings time and is currently 13 hours ahead of the East Coast of US.
- **Wifi:** South Korea is smart phone ready and your devices should pick up free wifi almost everywhere. The hotels have complimentary wifi as do most bars, restaurants and some temples.
- **Power:** The standard voltage in Korea is 220 volts. The outlet has two round holes and is the same type used in mainland Europe. Should you suddenly need one, most hotel front desks have some to lend out. If you want to buy one in Korea, you can do so at any duty-free shop, the convenience shop at Incheon International Airport, or other supermarkets.
- **Questions?** Feel free to reach out to anyone at Korea Tourism Organization.

