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GUIDE

YOUR DESTINATION

Everything you need to know about your destination



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STUDY DESTINATION

SOUTH KOREA

1. ARRIVAL IN SOUTH KOREA

We recommend traveling to South Korea at least a few days before the start of the study program, if possible. This will give you a chance to get to know the surroundings and recover from possible jetlag before the beginning of your semester. However, we don't recommend arriving in South Korea too early, especially with a tourist visa. Please let us know if you for some reason are unable to arrive in South Korea in time.

Once you arrive at Incheon International Airport, go through the Immigration and Customs control. Present your passport and other documents when asked to the immigration officers. Please be polite to all the officials at the airport. After the inspection, go to the luggage pick-up area to collect your luggage. There is also a possibility to purchase a local SIM card from the airport, but you can also do it later after being settled to your destination.



If you are staying somewhere else than on-campus dormitories, or arrive before the dorms open, you are responsible for the arrival arrangements. If you'd like to or need to find your way from the airport to the campus, we recommend you use a taxi since navigating the Seoul public transportation system with a lot of luggage can be straining.

1.1. Documents you need when arriving

Please have the following document at hand when arriving in Phuket:

- A valid passport and D-2-8 student visa.
- Filled out Health Declaration Form and Arrival Card
- Things to have by the airport such as T-money card, sim card, download Naver Map or Kakao Map.

1.2. Registering with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

We recommend that all students register their trip at their home country's embassy or Ministry for Foreign Affairs before the start of the study abroad program. Once you have a local cell phone subscription, you can give the number to your local embassy. Most countries offer citizens the possibility of registering online.

Registration includes giving out your personal data, contact information for the duration of your trip and information about your stay abroad to the ministry in case of emergencies or crises.

All independent travelers are advised to register their trips.

2. HOST UNIVERSITY – HANYANG UNIVERSITY ERICA (HYU)

Hanyang University (HYU) is known for its high-quality education and research in engineering, business, and other fields both at the Undergraduate and Graduate levels. Hanyang University is ranked 164th in which it belongs to the top 1% of universities in the QS World Rankings in 2024.

South Korea's first engineering institute, which became Hanyang University's founding facility has become renowned around the world and the engineering courses offered by Hanyang University are highly regarded.

The university was established in 1939 as the first engineering institute (Dong-A Engineering Institute) in the country and became the founding facility of Hanyang University with its motto and educational philosophy of Love in Deed and Truth. HYU ERICA Campus consists of 9 colleges, 42 departments, and 17 graduate schools. The campus is 40 mins away by bus or subway to Seoul.

HYU has been AACSB accredited. It has the Accreditation Board for Engineering Education of Korea for:

- Architectural Engineering
- Civil Engineering
- Robot Engineering
- Transportation and Logistics Engineering



3. WORKING IN SOUTH KOREA

To help with various expenses, you can work part-time in South Korea. International students in Korea with D-2 visa status must complete the following requirements to work part-time:

- school and Immigration Department-approved part-time work.
- part-time work at a registered place
- permit to work

Moreover, Topik scores should also be:

Topik 3 and above for 1st and 2nd-year students with D-2 visas.

Topik 4 and above for 3rd and 4th-year students with D-2 visas.

Specifically:

D-2 visa students: You can start working part-time after one semester (6 months) and have a GPA of at least 2.0.

4. CONTACTS

The international office at HYU provides support for exchange students for academic issues, assistance and information. It is responsible for the documents required for scholarships, the issuing of certificates, the organization of Korean language courses and accommodation. The person that is responsible for the International Office is the Associate Manager, Ms. Yejin Park.

Ms. Yejin Park

yejin6543@hanyang.ac.kr

5. MONEY

As a guideline, you will need between KRW 10,000,000 and KRW 12,000,000 per year (12 months) to pay for accommodation, food, transport, books, clothing, health services, entertainment, etc. but this can vary according to individual circumstances. A room in a shared house/accommodation, not including food, can cost between KRW 350,000 and KRW 450,000 per month.

5.1. Cash withdrawing money, and credit cards

Paying by credit card is usually only possible in bigger shops and department stores, so you should always have cash in hand as well. There is a bank that operates foreign exchanges on-campus, but you should also exchange some money at home before leaving for Korea to be able to cover the first expenses.

5.1. Bargaining

Although bargaining in Korea is not as prevalent as it used to be and perhaps less common nowadays than in South-East Asia, for example, the habit is not completely gone. Bargaining might not be effective when the price is already low (e.g. 10,000 KRW for a t-shirt), but it's worth going for a lower price when purchasing multiple items or something more expensive. Don't take bargaining too seriously. You will get the best price with a sense of humor and a few words of Korean, as well as by knowing the prices (for example, in thousands: 1000 – 100,000). We recommend you start communicating in Korean as soon as possible. Already a few words show respect towards the locals and their culture. People will give you better service and lower prices for sure. Bargaining can be a pleasant experience for you and also for the seller.

6. PHONE CALL AND CELL PHONE SUBSCRIPTION

If you want to use a cell phone in Korea, you should plan on spending at least KRW 50,000 for that.

KakaoTalk

KakaoTalk is a useful messaging app for your phone in Korea. Approximately 93% of Koreans use it and instead of asking for your phone number, most of your new Korean friends will ask for your Kakaotalk Id. You can use it to send messages, make group chats, and have video calls.

Internet

If you already own a laptop, you will probably find it convenient to bring it, but if not, you can use one of the computer labs on campus. There are many available on campus and of course, they are free, and all are equipped with high-speed broadband service. As an exchange student, you will get a HUFS ID card which will give you access to all the computer facilities on campus.

Emergency Numbers:

Fire, Emergency and Ambulance Tel: 119

Police Tel: 112

Medical Emergency (aimed at foreigners in Seoul) Tel: 1339

Tourism and Translation Service Tel: 1330 › Coast Guard Tel: 122

International Emergency Rescue Tel: 02 790 7561

7. TRANSPORTATION IN SOUTH KOREA

Subway, Buses, Train, and Taxi's

There's a lot of public transportation to use at South Korea. In subways, there's 23 lines all over Seoul and you must know which line are the destination you are going to. For buses, it consists of four colors (red, green, blue, yellow). Red are longer distance buses and a rare sight within Seoul, yellow buses run through the main areas and popular tourist spots, so there aren't many bus stops, while blue and green can be seen frequently around Seoul. Knowing which route you will take helps in determining which bus number you should ride. For trains, you can either buy your tickets at Seoul Station or pre-book them online using the Korail app. These trains can quickly take you outside of Seoul. Lastly, for public taxi, it is widely available, but it is highly suggested that you download Kakao T. To use Kakao T, you must have a T-money card for payment while some accepts cash, it is better to have the card to avoid being cancelled by drivers.

7.1. Making your way to the airport

There are few ways to go to Seoul from Incheon International Airport, below are the recommended options you can try to go to Hanyang University:

- For students staying at Seoul: Buy your tickets upon arrival and use the airport bus. To check your options, you can visit the following link below:

1. https://airportlimousine.co.kr/en/sub/sub01.php?cat_no=4

2. <https://klimousine.com/EN/>

- For students staying at dorms: You can either buy your tickets at the airport upon arrival and use the airport bus to Seoul and then book a taxi going straight to Hanyang University or you can book and ride a taxi from airport to Hanyang University. It is not recommended to use the subways at Seoul if you have your luggage with you.

YOUR WAY ABROAD

The world has an interesting way of giving great experiences
to the ones who are passionate about their dreams.

Miia Muukkonen, Asia Exchange student

