yonGO TRAVEL

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2 - 15 Nov 2019 (13-Days) South Korea Autumn Foliage (Seoul, Suwon, Sokcho, Andong, Gyeongju, Busan) Cost Rm4300 per pax (14 pax group), Rm4100 (16 pax and above) Trip Cost exclude Air Asia flight

## BEFORE BUYING YOUR FLIGHT TICKETS, PLEASE CHECK WITH US IF PLACES ARE AVAILABLE.

UPDATE 21 JAN 2019 Air Asia return fare as of today indicate Rm1201 with 20kg check-in baggage both ways.

Details for Air Asia (AA) Flight Bookings

Depart 03 NOV 2019 SUN D7 506 KUL (KLIA2) to ICN (Seoul) 0050 0820

Return 15 NOV 2019 FRI D7 519 PUS (Busan) to KUL (KLIA2) 1035 1610

## **IMPORTANT NOTICE**

This is meant to be a "free and easy" adventure trip. Participants should be relatively fit, with a good sense of humour, and above all, have the <u>right attitude</u> for close travel with others through possibly some trying times. Most definitely, this is not a trip for prudes, whiners, fuss-pots, and other similarly assorted types! We had a couple of those before and it wasn't pleasant for us or them. Although every effort will be made to stick to the given itinerary, ground conditions may change and cause some disruption and/or deviation from the norm. Otherwise, have fun.



Gyeongbokgung Palace Seoul

This trip is different from my other trips in that we will use public transport i.e. trains, subways, buses and taxis to move about. Cost of private transport is prohibitive and one also has to content with bad traffic jams. Therefore its essential that participants pack light and preferably use backpacks.

Autumn in Korea, with its mild temperatures and gentle breezes, is a perfect time to travel. There are plenty of spots to enjoy the beauty of autumn with its surrounding foliage burst with magical colours of red, orange, yellow and more. This itinerary takes you in and around Seoul, then guides you to venture out into the countryside to taste the stunning beauty of South Korea's autumn.

Day 0 KLIA2 Meet at KLIA2 at 10PM SAT 02 NOV 2019 for after midnight flight.

Day 1 SEOUL GWANGHWAMUN AIR ASIA flight D7506 depart 1AM on SUN 03 NOV 2019 Flight time 6hr20. Arrived Seoul 0820, make our way to downtown Seoul and leave luggages. We do a full day sightseeing including Gwanghwamun Square, Cheongyecheon stream, Jogyesa Buddhist Temple and Bukcheon Village. We adjourn at night to Insadong Market, the premier place for antiques, arts and crafts. ON Seoul.

Day 2 SEOUL LANDMARKS We visit the UNESCO World Heritage site Gyeongbokgung Palace and the National Folk Musuem, have a peek at the Blue House (official residence of Korea President) Then, we visit the renown Seoul Tower, aka Namsan Tower, it is a communication and observation tower located on Namsan Mountain in central Seoul. At 236m, it marks the highest point in Seoul. Then, we move to Namdaemun "Great Southern Gate", it has the large traditional market selling various affordable goods from personal items, indoors and outdoors items. Shopping continues to nearby trendy Myeongdong shopping district, and upmarket Hyndai Duty Free Departmental Store. ON Seoul.

Day 3 SEOUL GANGNAM & AUTUMN HANGANG Gangnam literally means 'South of the river', and this district in Seoul that lies along the south banks of the Han River (or Hangang in Korean). This is an upscale modern area home to gleaming skyscrappers, designer brands and stylish nighclubs and as popular depicted in PSY's hit song 'Gangnam

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Style'. It's also home to country's top plastic surgery clinics and K-Pop entertainment companies. We visit the COEX Mall (largest underground shopping mall in Asia) in Gangnam, to experience Gangnam-style neigbourhood. The 8th century Bongeunsa Temple is located nearby. After lunch, we enjoy autumn walks along the Hangang. On the way back hotel, we visit Seoul's biggest seafood market - Noryangjin Fishery Market. ON Seoul.

<u>Day 4 SUWON FORTRESS</u> We take 1 hour journey by subway to Suwon, 31km south of Seoul. After checking into our hotel, we visit the Hwaseong Fortress which inscribed in UNESCO world heritage list. Korea is the world champion in Archery sport, within the Fortress, you can experience the sport itself with guide. We ride tourist trolley around the main attractions, and then walk along the ancient walls. On the way back to hotel, we visit Yeongdong Market, a local market opened since 1917. ON Suwon.

Day 5 SUWON FOLK VILLAGE Morning we depart by bus to Korean Folk Village, which is a tasteful reconstruction of traditional Korean village. There are scheduled shows including a farmer's dance to the sound of gongs and drums, acrobatics and tight rope dance. There are also very good eateries served in traditional village environment. Optional visit to Everland Park, this is a huge Theme Park, closes at 9PM and members can stay as early or as late as they wish. ON Suwon.



Yongoers at Seoul Namsan Tower / Hugging Autumn Trees

<u>Day 6 SOKCHO</u> We check-out and bus 3.5 hours to Sokcho, which is a coastal town by the East Sea (or Sea of Japan). This pleasant fishing town is well known for its raw-fish eateries. We also visit the town local market. ON Sokcho.

Day 7 SOKCHO SOREAKSAN NATIONAL PARK We depart for Soreaksan National Park (30 mins) for a full day tour in this most popular National Park. We cable car up to Gwongeumseong for amazing views of the park. We also trek to Heundelbawi (Tottering Rock) and for fitter ones, proceed on to Ulsanbawi, which are the huge stone mountains, accessible via long and steep metal stairways. For those who like to view the sunset or sunrise next morning, Sokcho Lighthouse Observatory is the right spot to go which can be easily and freely explore by yourself. ON Sokcho.

Day 8 ANDONG Morning bus 4.5 hours to Andong. The city is known as a centre of culture and folk traditions. West of the city, UNESCO World Heritage Site Hahoe Folk Village has tile-roffed homes and traditional food. Nearby, Buyongdae Cliff has expansive view of Nakdong River. Once we keep our luggages at hotel, we depart for Hahoe Village for half day fun. ON Andong.



Gyeongbukgung Garden / Suwon Fortress Bell

**Day 9 GYEONGJU ROYAL TOMBS** We take morning train for 2 hour to Gyeongju City. After settle with check-ins at new hotel, we take a leisure walk to visit Tombs of Silla Kings in Royal Tumuli Park - the Daereungwon Tomb Complex and Cheomseongdae, an ancient astronomical observatory. Cheomseongdae (built 647 AD) means star-gazing tower and is the oldest surviving astronomical observatory in Asia. ON Gyeongju.

<u>Day 10 GYEONGJU UNESCO CITY</u> Gyeongju is described as an an open museum because of it's many tombs and UNESCO listed historical places. Today, we charted private transport for full day to visit the Folk Village of Yangdong, a living working village with many centuries old buildings and dwellings. We break for lunch before visiting Seoguram Grotto and Bulguksa Temple. And later Gyeongju National Museum and Donggung palace & Anapji Pond. ON Gyeongju.

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Day 11 BUSAN FISH MARKET Early morning 1 hour bus to Busan city, and further 40mins of subway to our hotel in Nampo area, which is the central commercial and shopping area in Busan. Once settled our luggage at hotel, we visit the Fish Market of Jagalchi (Korea's largest seafood market) and sample some typical local lunch nearby. With short bus ride, our next stop is Gamcheon Culture Village. The area is known for its steep streets, twisting alleys, and brightly painted house, which have been restored and enhanced in recent years to attract tourism. On the way back to hotel, we visit BIFF square - a "Star Street" dedicated to film, related to the world famous Busan International Film Festival. And spot the hand paintings (cemented on the street) of famous movie celebrities include Zhang Yimou, Oliver Stone and Kitano Takeshi. ON Busan.

Day 12 BUSAN COSTAL WALK and SHOPPING After breakfast, we bus to Yeongdo Island's scenic Jeoryeong Costal Walkway that include Huinnyeoul Culture Village and Sky Observatory - Visitors will be thrilled with the view of the waves while looking down through the transparent floor. Afternoon would be free & easy time and it's last chance to clear your shopping list before head home tomorrow. Other nearby attractions include Yeongdo Bridge, the iconic bascule bridge in Busan, which will lift at 2pm to allow ships to pass between ports. Busan Tower is a symbol of Busan that stands proudly 69 m above sea level at a height of 120 m. The observation deck offers city and sea view. The best visit hour recommended is late afternoon (5pm+) before sunset when you can view Busan at day light and sit around until it gets dark for night scenery. ON Busan



Gyeongju Royal Tombs / Gumcheon Cultural Villange

Day 13 Home: Transfer to Busan airport for AA flight depart 1035AM Arrive KLIA2 on 410PM on FRI 15 NOV 2019.

## TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- 1. Cost cover Yongo guiding, accomodation and travelling to sites mentioned above.
- 2. Accomodation will be in local budget motels.
- 3. Inter-town travel is covered which will be by trains and public buses. South Korea's public transport is excellent and very modern.
- 4. Not covered are Air Asia flights, in-town taxis subways or buses, meals (approx Rm100x12=Rm1200), entrance fees (estimate Rm270) to theme parks, museums, etc. and travel insurance.
- 5. Entrance fees to museums and palaces are reasonable at W2,000 to W10,000 except Everland and Lotte World is W52,000 or about Rm200.
- 6. Cost is subject to change depending on fluctuations in exchange rates.
- 7. Non-refundable deposit of Rm850 is payable to confirm your place. If you want us to purchase the Air Asia flight tickets, please deposit another Rm1400. The excess will be returned.

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