



Women's Tours by EMBARK

10 NIGHT / 11 DAY HOSTED TOUR

COMMENCE 3 APRIL 2027

CONCLUDE 13 APRIL 2027

SOUTH KOREA





Let's take a short break to South Korea

South Korea is quickly emerging as one of the most exciting and rewarding destinations for women travellers, offering a fascinating blend of ancient traditions, cutting-edge modern life, and warm hospitality. From beautifully preserved palaces and temples to vibrant street life, fashion, food, and pop culture, Korea feels both wonderfully different and refreshingly easy to navigate. Safe, efficient, and endlessly interesting, it's a country that appeals to curious, well-travelled women who enjoy discovering a destination just before it becomes truly mainstream.

On this women-only journey, we explore South Korea's rich diversity through its most engaging cities. In Seoul, tradition and innovation sit side by side, with historic palaces, lively markets, and contemporary neighbourhoods full of energy and style. Busan offers a relaxed coastal contrast, known for its beaches, seafood, and scenic temples overlooking the sea, while Gwangju provides deeper cultural insight as a centre of art, history, and Korea's democratic movement. In Jeonju, the heart of Korean culinary tradition, we slow the pace to enjoy its beautifully preserved hanok village and celebrated local cuisine. This carefully designed tour offers a thoughtful overview of South Korea, setting the scene for a deeper exploration detailed in the itinerary that follows.

Unique Moments

- Hands on Experiences! Enjoy a Traditional Archery Experience and make Kimchi
- Treat yourself! We a special experience included at the Jinan Red Ginseng Spa
- Cultural Experiences! Wear the traditional Hanbok and learn the traditional etiquette at the Gwangju Cultural Centre.
- Take a bullet train and travel at speeds up to 300 km/h
- Special experience! Experience a tea ceremony with monks
- See a Nanta Show in Seoul

Inclusions That Set Us Apart

We believe in offering a seamless, stress-free adventure. Here's what's included:

- Small group sizes (maximum 12 travelers) for a more personal experience.
- Visas and tips—no hidden costs!
- Transfers from your home address in Newcastle
- Pre-tour group lunch to meet you fellow travel companions
- Welcome home pack so you don't need to rush to Coles once you get home

If you can't take a long holiday, this trip is the perfect way to recharge and enjoy an unforgettable adventure in a shorter time! It's an ideal choice for first-time travelers with us—you'll get a taste of how we do things, and we promise you'll love every moment. But honestly, who needs an excuse to indulge in an incredible experience like this? Treat yourself, dive into the adventure, and make memories that will last a lifetime!



3rd April 2027: Day One (Meals in Flight)

Today you will be transferred from your front door (Newcastle, Hunter, or Lake Macquarie) to Sydney Airport for your overnight flight to South Korea. We only use full-service, inclusive airlines on our tours, meaning your meals, beverages, and in-flight entertainment are all included for a comfortable and relaxed journey.

4th April 2027: Day Two (meals in flight, D)

Welcome to Seoul, the vibrant capital of South Korea and a city where centuries-old traditions sit comfortably alongside cutting-edge modern life. After your overnight flight, you'll be transferred to our hotel with time this afternoon to relax, refresh, and adjust to the new surroundings. This evening, we come together for a special welcome dinner, your first taste of Korean cuisine, where bold flavours, beautifully presented dishes, and a strong culture of sharing set the tone for the memorable culinary experiences to come.



5th April 2027: Day Three (B, L)

Today we discover the many layers of Seoul, where royal history, traditional neighbourhoods, and modern city life blend beautifully.

We'll experience old and new Seoul today, beginning at the majestic Gyeongbokgung Palace where we'll witness the changing of the guard ceremony. Built in 1395 AD, this grand palace now includes museums and historical sites, framed by breathtaking gardens and timeless stone pagodas that transport you back in time. Next up, we'll head to Bukchon Hanok Village, a great spot to grab a bite for lunch. Strolling around these snug alleyways, you'll discover hundreds of traditional Hanok homes, some standing for over six centuries.



Then, let's head skyward to the observation deck of Seoul's N Tower, perched atop Mt. Namsan. The "N" doesn't just mean "North"—it represents "New" and "Nature," blending modern architecture with serene surroundings. Constructed in 1969 and opened in 1980, it's a must-visit vantage point for sweeping city views - on a clear day, you can truly appreciate just how vast and green Seoul is.



Finally, we'll dive into the hustle and bustle of Gwangjang Market. With its mouthwatering Mung Bean pancakes called bindaetteok and addictive mini seaweed rice rolls known as mayak gimbap, this historic market is guaranteed to leave your taste buds tingling. So get ready to indulge in history, culture, and mouthwatering delights!

This evening is yours at leisure. Our hotel is perfectly placed to hit the shopping malls nearby or perhaps try your hand at the famous Korean past time... karaoke. The 'Noraebangs' or karaoke bars feature private rooms for friends and family, with thousands of venues found everywhere in Seoul. A cultural ritual some may say?



6th April 2027: Day Four (B, L, D)

This morning, we head south to Suwon, where history and adventure await at the UNESCO-listed Hwaseong Fortress. Upon arrival, we admire the imposing walls that encircle the city centre—living proof of Korean ingenuity dating back to the late 18th century.

But the real thrill is just around the corner - a traditional archery experience! After a quick introductory lesson, we'll get to perfect our aim while channelling our inner warrior.

Once you've put your newfound archery skills to the test, it's back on the road toward Jeonju. The village is made up of over 800 traditional Korean houses and is tucked behind the rest of industrialised Jeonju. Over 800 of these gorgeous, exquisitely carved homes are arranged in two sections: Anchaе, traditionally reserved for women, and Sarangchae, designated for men. You'll have free time to wander through the beautiful grounds before enjoying lunch. Jeonju is the birthplace for bibimbap, so we won't miss enjoying a hearty bowl of this iconic rice dish at its source.

Today, we're not just tasting Korea's most famous dish, we will be diving in hands-first. Discover the secrets behind kimchi, the spicy, tangy fermented veggie staple side dish found at every Korean meal. With this hands-on experience you will get to create your own delicious batch that you can recreate when you get home!

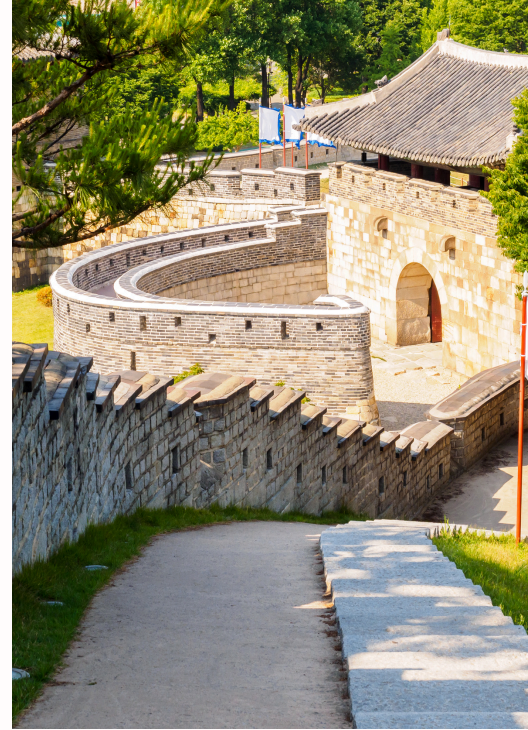
7th April 2027: Day Five (B, D)

Today we venture to Mt. Maisan and walk the trail to ascend to the stunning Tapsa Temple.

Mt Maisan is one of South Korea's most distinctive and spiritually significant landscapes, instantly recognisable for its twin peaks that rise sharply from the surrounding countryside and resemble a horse's ears—hence the name “Mai,” meaning horse. Nestled at the base of Mt Maisan is Tapsa Temple, a truly unique site unlike any other in Korea. Rather than traditional temple buildings, this extraordinary Buddhist site is famous for its collection of more than 80 carefully balanced stone pagodas, built by hand over a century ago without mortar or modern tools. Snap photos and marvel at this architectural wonder. You won't believe how the stones were skilfully stacked into towering masterpieces.

Next, we head to Jinan-gun, where spa culture reigns supreme in Korea. At the Jinan Red Ginseng Spa, you'll discover why Koreans treat spa visits as therapy for both body and mind.

Enjoy the freedom to experience any of the themed rooms, including herbal bed therapy, aromatherapy, mud therapy, stone therapy, floating therapy, or outdoor pools with amazing view. One of the unique (and most popular) treatments you will find here is 'Bubble Sense Therapy'. First you sit on a round, hot bed as colorful lights start to beam. Soon, bubbles begin to rise high enough to cover your whole body





With a ginseng fragrant foam for a massage your skin will shed toxins - promoting metabolism and blood circulation. Its effectiveness is great, but above all it is a lot of fun!

After our temple and spa adventure, we continue toward Gwangju and check into our hotel for the next two nights. Known as Korea's cradle of democracy, Gwangju's vibrant political scene pairs seamlessly with its flourishing art culture. Explore galleries, museums, and a bustling street dedicated to all things art—a feast for creative souls!



8th April 2027: Day Six (B, D)

This morning we visit the serene Juknokwon Bamboo Garden, where gentle, level walking paths wind beneath tall, whispering bamboo. It's a wonderfully calming place, perfect for an unhurried stroll, fresh air, and taking in the peaceful beauty of nature.

After our time among the bamboo, we return to Gwangju to explore Chungjang-ro Street, the city's most lively and popular precinct. Here you can enjoy a relaxed wander past stylish boutiques, browse local shops, or sit with a coffee and watch daily life unfold around you.



Later in the afternoon, we step into Korea's traditions at the Gwangju Traditional Cultural Centre. You'll have the opportunity to dress in a graceful hanbok, Korea's traditional attire, and learn about its customs and etiquette in a welcoming and enjoyable setting. It's a lovely, light-hearted way to connect with Korean culture — and a perfect chance for some special photos.

We finish the day with dinner at a local restaurant, where we enjoy a classic Korean BBQ. It's a delicious, social experience and a wonderful way to share stories and laughter as we reflect on another memorable day together.



9th April 2027: Day Seven (B, D)

This morning, we begin our adventure with a visit to the stunning Ssanggyesa Temple. Tucked away in a peaceful valley, this sacred site is most famous for the vibrant tunnel of cherry blossoms that burst into colour each spring.

While we are here at Ssanggyesa Temple, we have one of our special experiences on tour - a tea ceremony with monks. The spiritual connection to tea is a ritual deeply intertwined with Korean Buddhism. These ceremonies involve quiet preparation, specific etiquette like rotating the bowl, enjoying tea with traditional sweets, and learning about the mindful, meditative aspects of the ritual, providing a peaceful escape and cultural insight.



Later this afternoon, we'll make our way to Busan. As South Korea's second largest city, Busan boasts a dynamic energy and breathtaking scenery. With majestic mountains wrapping around a bustling port, it's easy to see why so many visitors fall in love with this coastal gem.



This evening, it's time to hop on a sunset cruise along the Haeundae River. Watch as the city's skyline lights up in vibrant hues, creating a magical backdrop against the sparkling waters.

10th April 2027: Day Eight (B, L)

Today we enjoy a beautifully balanced introduction to Busan, combining coastal scenery, cultural insight, and gentle exploration at a comfortable pace.

We begin with a walk along the coastal paths of Igidae Park, where fresh sea air and sweeping views of the ocean and city skyline create a wonderfully refreshing start to the day. We then visit the Oryukdo Skywalk, built on the rocky point that marks the meeting of the East and South Seas. Those who wish can step onto the glass walkway for a thrilling view of the waves below, while others may simply enjoy the dramatic coastal scenery from solid ground.

We next pause for a quiet and meaningful visit to the UN Memorial Cemetery, a peaceful and beautifully maintained site honouring soldiers and United Nations personnel who lost their lives during the Korean War. From here, we continue to the stunning Haedong Yonggungsa Temple, one of Korea's most scenic temples, uniquely located beside the ocean rather than in the mountains. With its elegant architecture, sea views, and spiritual atmosphere, it is a favourite spot for both locals and visitors.

Our day also includes a visit to the colourful Gamcheon Culture Village, often affectionately called the "Santorini of Korea." Once a modest hillside settlement, the village was transformed by artists into a vibrant community filled with pastel houses, murals, and charming laneways. Today it is a delightful place to wander at a relaxed pace, discover small galleries and craft shops, and enjoy lovely views over Busan Harbour — a perfect blend of creativity, history, and exploration.

11th April 2027: Day Nine (B, D)

Today is a wonderful blend of modern Korea, cultural entertainment, and a memorable farewell experience. We begin by travelling from Busan to Seoul aboard the KTX bullet train, one of the fastest and most impressive rail systems in the world. Reaching speeds of up to 300 km/h, the journey is smooth, quiet, and remarkably comfortable, offering a completely different way to experience the country compared to travelling by road. For many, this high-speed rail journey is a highlight in itself — efficient, relaxing, and a fascinating glimpse into Korea's cutting-edge technology.

This evening, we enjoy one of Korea's most famous performances, Nanta, a lively and uniquely Korean theatrical experience. Set in a kitchen, the show combines energetic drumming using everyday cookware, physical comedy, and storytelling — all without spoken dialogue. This makes Nanta easy to follow, wonderfully entertaining, and full of laughter, with a rhythm and humour that appeals to all ages and cultures. It's fast-paced, joyful, and a perfect introduction to Korean performing arts.





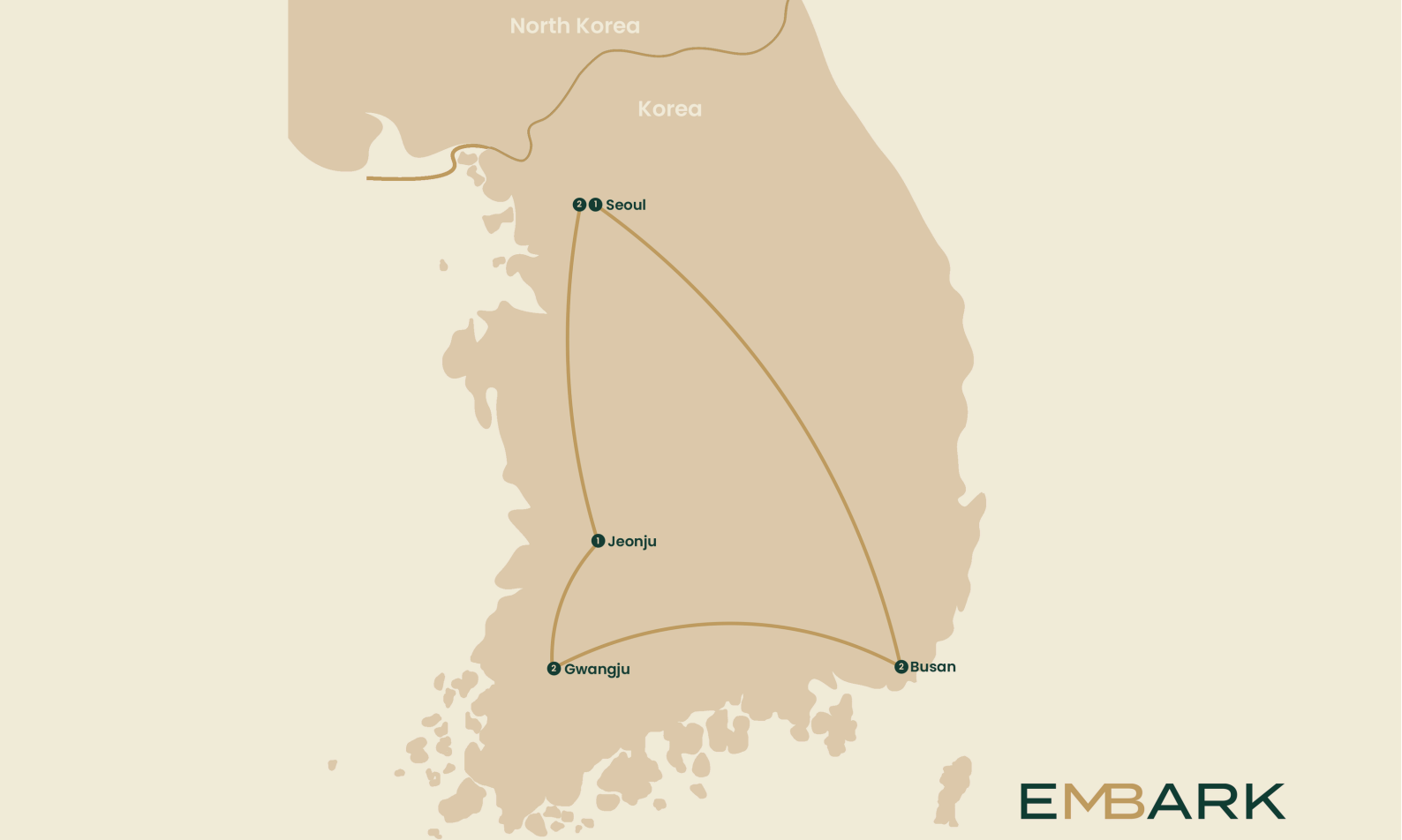
We then come together for a special farewell dinner at Samcheonggak, an elegant traditional complex nestled in the hills just outside central Seoul. Once used as a state guesthouse for hosting international dignitaries, Samcheonggak is now known for its beautifully restored hanok buildings, tranquil gardens, and refined Korean cuisine. Dining here is a truly fitting way to conclude our journey — surrounded by history, nature, and warm company as we reflect on our shared experiences in South Korea.

12th April 2027: Day Ten (B, meals in flight)

This morning is yours to enjoy at a relaxed pace, with time for any last-minute shopping, a quiet coffee, or a final wander through Seoul before we depart for the airport. Our overnight flight returns us to Sydney, arriving on 13 April 2027, marking Day Eleven of our journey. From here, we will transfer you comfortably back to your home addresses in the Newcastle, Hunter, or Lake Macquarie regions.

As we say goodbye, we do so with hearts full of shared experiences, new friendships, and unforgettable moments from our time in South Korea. We return home not just with souvenirs, but with beautiful memories and stories that will stay with us long after the journey ends.

Please note: While this itinerary includes specific restaurants, hotels and activities, occasional changes may occur due to circumstances beyond our control—such as venue renovations or updates to group dining availability. Rest assured, any adjustments we make are thoughtfully chosen to enhance your overall experience. We appreciate your understanding and flexibility, as part of the joy of travel lies in embracing the unexpected and discovering new highlights along the way.



Your 2025 Embark Womens Tour includes

INCLUDES

- Return Transfers from your home address* to Sydney airport
- Economy Class Flights with a full-service airline (upgrade to premium economy/business class available)
- All accommodation, Sightseeing and transport as per the itinerary
- Meals: Breakfast (B), Lunch (L) and Dinner (D) where indication - minimum of 2 meals per day
- Small Group of only 12 women (plus guides and Jayes Travel representatives)
- Jayes Travel tour manager, travelling with you
- Local sightseeing experts throughout
- Pre-tour get together meal
- All tipping throughout
- Departure Pack (luggage tags, luggage straps, ticket wallet etc)
- Welcome Home Pack

PACKAGE COST

\$9,990 per person twin share

Solo Accommodation Upgrade - \$1700

First deposit is \$2,000 per person

Balance due 3 months prior to departure.

FLIGHT UPGRADES will be offered 9-10 months prior to departure.

Ready to secure your place? Have questions about the tour?

Email michelle@embark-travel.com.au or call 0402 335 919



**ARE YOU READY TO
JOIN US?**

TO SECURE YOUR PLACE, CALL
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