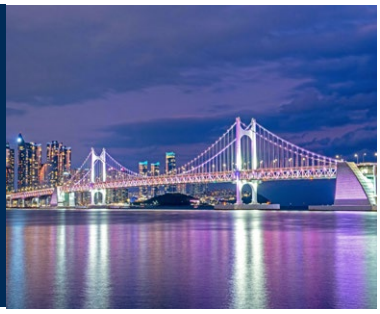
Imagine your Korea

Busan

KOREA PART 3 OF 4







Busan: It's A City Of Many Sides



The Kiwi agents have switched up the pace, making their way from Gangneung to bustling Busan.

The city offers a coastal lifestyle, including ocean-to-table food, as well as a local connection for Kiwis, via the UN Memorial Cemetery.

"For Kiwi travellers, Busan is more than just a holiday destination, it holds a meaningful historical bond," says Holiday Planners' Mina Lee, the guide hosting the Kiwi agents.

Then there's the shopping. The Busan markets and shops were among the city highlights for agents on the famil, with show pieces including BIFF Square and Gukje Market (one of Busan's most famous traditional markets).

Clients can easily spend a day exploring the markets alone, where goods range from wholesale beauty products to Korean food and apparel.

It was the beauty products that proved particularly popular among the agents. Jeeyoon Lee from The Walshe Group, representing KTO, says demand for K-Beauty-inspired travel is rising. Other noteworthy fun for the Kiwi group included taking in sunset views over the city with a visit to Busan Tower Observatory at golden hour and riding the Blue Line Park bench Train along the coast.

. . . The KTX

The group took a four-hour rail trip on the KTX from Gangneung to Busan.

The journey was straightforward, though it is worth noting to clients that silence is appreciated on board the train. And for some trip tips, there's a coffee spot at Gangneung Station, and an Olive Young store, for those looking to stock up on skincare.

Pictured at Haedong Yonggungsa Temple is Jeeyoon Lee from The Walshe Group, representing KTO, Stacey Leitch and Bridgette Smith-Baillie from NZTB, Rosemary McNoe from Travel the World, Red Hot Travel & Events' Brooklyn Osman, Jodie Harker from Orbit, Edventure Tours' Rachel Chapman and Crystal Bayliss from Amped4Ski, with CTM's Daniel Simmonds in front.

Gamcheon Village



It's worth adding a day to clients' Busan itineraries just to visit Gamcheon Culture Village alone.

Described as 'Korea's Santorini', the mountainside village has a collection of colourful terraced houses and alleyways, with residential homes and shops offering everything from souvenirs to snacks and sweets.

Entry is free for groups of less than 10, and travellers can visit as part of a tour or on their own, with it accessible via public transport such as the Busan Subway, or via Uber.

Pictured (l-r) at Gamcheon Culture Village are NZ Travel Broker's Bridgette Smith-Baillie with Rachel Chapman from Edventure Tours.

The UN Memorial Park

A more sobering experience in Busan is the UN Memorial Cemetery. It is the resting place of UN forces personnel who died during the Korean War.

There is a short documentary in the Memorial Service Hall that offers an insight into the war, and visitors can also see the tombstones, including an area dedicated to the New Zealanders who fell. Entry is free. See more details HERE.

Busan Packages



Holiday Planners offers packaged tours featuring Busan, for a Korean itinerary, including eight- and 11-day tours with guaranteed departures. Eight-day options include three nights in Seoul, two nights in Gyeongju and two nights in Busan, priced from USD1936pp ts. Clients can add three nights taking in Chungju, Templestay and Mt Seorak. The 11-day option is priced from USD2662pp ts. See details HERE.

Daily Flights AKL-ICN

Korean Air is boosting its Auckland–Seoul/Incheon route to daily flights for the upcoming northern winter season, running from October 25 through late March.

Passengers traveling between October 25 and December 17 will experience exceptional comfort aboard the next-generation Boeing 787-10. Starting December 18, the airline will introduce its flagship Airbus A350-900, offering passengers an enhanced long-haul journey with upgraded service.

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