

Namdo, a Beautiful Weekend Getaway

Get to know South Jeolla Province with one of eight tour programs



Namdo, short for Jeollanam-do, or South Jeolla Province, is a popular tourist destination in Korea. It's well known for its excellent food, beautiful coastal scenery and rich traditional culture. The only drawback of traveling around Namdo is the fact that it can be difficult without a car. But with the launch last year of the province's one-day bus tours, called "Namdo Hanbaqui" (Traveling Around Namdo), anyone can get to know the area's nooks and crannies.



The Namdo tour package includes eight tour programs that cover all the major sights and attractions in the province and include the cities of Gwangju, Suncheon, Mokpo and Yeosu and the island of Jindo. Gwangju Tour Course 1 takes you to historic and traditional places including the Soswaewon garden and Gasa Literature Center. Soswaewon is a private garden built by Yang San-bo, a man who gave up his pursuit of a successful career and decided to seclude himself from soci-

ety after his mentor, Jo Gwang-jo, was wrongfully killed in a political strife. Inspired by the beauty and calm of the garden, many Joseon scholars visited the garden for intellectual discussions and to write. Suncheon Tour Course 2 is for those wanting a natural experience, with destinations including the Boseong Green Tea Plantation and Suncheon Bay Ecological Park. The Gwangju tours, which are Tour Courses 3, 4 and 5, focus on the rich traditions and history of Gwangju, covering various museums and parks. Travelers can also enjoy the beautiful coastal view of the Chilsan Sea driving on the famous Baeksu Coastal Road. Mokpo Tour Course 6 is all about a fun, dynamic Namdo experience, with tour highlights including Woojeon Beach, the Taepyeong Salt Farm and a culinary trip around the Mokpo train station to experience local specialties and fresh seafood. Yeosu Tour Course 7 takes you to the far south of Korea, where you can enjoy a leisurely stroll along the coastal path. The highlights of Jindo Tour Course 8 include traditional museums, exhibitions and the Jindo Dog Theme Park, where you can enjoy a performance of Korea's most beloved dog breed, the Jindo.

If you are looking for a perfect weekend getaway for the summer, head to Namdo and enjoy the varieties of the province. **IKE**

Source: Korea Tourism Organization
<http://english.visitkorea.or.kr>



Namdo One-Day Tour Information

Fees: KRW 9,900 (USD 8.48) per tour course (Exception: Yeosu Course 7, KRW 25,000, including a ferry ride)
- Group discount available for 30+ people (KRW 8,000 per person)
- Fees exclude meals, admission to museums, attractions, etc. and travelers insurance.

Reservations: Online reservations can be made on the official tour website or bus transport association website. All tours, excluding Gwangju Course 1 and Suncheon Course 2, run on weekends only. Yeosu Course 7 is only available on the second and fourth Saturdays.

<http://www.kumhoaround.com/>
<http://www.bustago.or.kr>