



3 Night Budget Marathon Tour from Dandong

TOUR

April 6 – 9, 2018
3 nights in the DPRK

OVERVIEW

Our budget tour allows you to enter the Pyongyang Marathon and starting and ending the tour in Dandong!

This tour -- travelling in and out by train, from and to the Chinese border city of Dandong -- is ideal for those on a budget who are looking for a brief highlights tour of Pyongyang, as well as the Pyongyang Marathon.

HIGHLIGHTS

- PYONGYANG MARATHON!
- Pyongyang City Tour

Please note that the itinerary may differ slightly to what is below but your tour leader will do their best to ensure that as much is covered as possible and will also add in extras when there is time such as a visit to a local bar or a funfair. We visit the DPRK regularly and know all the best places to go to make your trip even more unique. We will make the most of your time in the DPRK to guarantee the experience of a lifetime.

The Experts in Travel to Rather Unusual Destinations.

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27 Bei Sanlitun Nan, Chaoyang District, 100027, Beijing, China

DAILY ITINERARY

APRIL 5 – THURSDAY (PRE-TOUR BRIEFING)

AM

- *Recommended latest arrival in Dandong.*

PM

- **Exact time TBC: Our group assembles for a mandatory pre-tour group briefing in Dandong. Exact briefing location TBC.** The briefing will last approximately one hour and designed so that you will get the most out of your tour. It will cover travel etiquette, safety, and practicalities for travel in the DPRK. Have your last minute questions answered and meet your fellow travelers.

OVERNIGHT - *Hotel in Dandong not included in the tour.*

APRIL 6 – FRIDAY (TRAIN TO PYONGYANG)

AM

- **Meet your Koryo Tours tour guide and fellow travelers at Dandong Railway Station for a pre-tour briefing (exact time and place TBC) and ticket hand-out before getting on the train to Pyongyang.** The briefing will last approximately one hour and designed so that you will get the most out of your tour. It will cover travel etiquette, safety, and practicalities for travel in the DPRK. Have your last minute questions answered and meet your fellow travelers.
- After **crossing the border between Dandong and Sinuiju** by train, customs officials board the train for customs check before the train continues its journey to Pyongyang

PM

- An approx. 5 hour long train journey will take you through the Korean countryside to **Pyongyang Railway Station**, where you will meet your guides and transfer to the hotel

OVERNIGHT

Rygang Hotel - very basic but comfortable hotel with limited hot water and the occasional power cut. Retro lounge area, billiards and bar. Located near the Pyongyang Sports Village.

APRIL 7 – SATURDAY (PYONGYANG CITY TOUR)

AM

- **Mansudae Fountain Park** - The historic centre of Pyongyang popular with local citizens after school and on weekends. Flanked by examples of ancient and modern architecture from different eras.
- **Mansudae Grand Monument** - Enormous bronze statues of President Kim Il Sung and Leader Kim Jong Il overlooking the centre of Pyongyang. A presentation of flowers and bow by the group is customary here. See the nearby **Chollima Monument** of a mythical horse said to be able to run a 'thousand *li* (400 km or 250 miles)'. The Chollima was symbol of the movement to rebuild the country following the devastation of the Korean War and today has come to represent speed and quality.
- **Tower of the Juche Idea** - The tallest stone monument in the world and dedicated to the DPRK's guiding philosophy. Take the elevator to the top (5 *EUR ticket*) for a panoramic view of Pyongyang.
- **Monument to the Party Foundation** – Iconic stone hammer, sickle, writing brush representing the workers, farmers, and intellectuals which make up the Worker's Party of Korea.
- **Kim Il Sung Square** - Pyongyang's central square lined with government ministries, museum and The Grand People's Study House.
- **Foreign Languages Bookshop** - Store selling Korean publications translated into English, German, French, Russian, Chinese, Spanish, and Arabic.

PM

- **Pyongyang Metro Tour** - One of the deepest metro systems in the world with artwork reflecting the name of each station. Ride six stations on the Chollima Line.
- **Victorious Fatherland Liberation War Museum** - World-class museum exhibiting the DPRK perspective of the Korean War with artifacts, documents, photos, and lifelike dioramas. The exterior grounds house the **War Victory Monument** and captured equipment from the US military, including the **USS Pueblo**. Central to understanding the country today.
- **Taedonggang Bar No. 3** - Upscale bar across the street from the Tower of the Juche Idea. There are a variety of beers on tap produced at Pyongyang's Taedonggang Brewery outside of town (2-2.5 *EUR per glass*).

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- **Optional screening of *Comrade Kim Goes Flying***, a DPRK film about a young rural coal miner, Kim Yong Mi, who dreams of becoming a trapeze artist at the Pyongyang Circus. Her plans are complicated by the arrogant trapeze star Pak Jang Phil who believes miners belong underground and not in the air. North Korea's first "girl power" movie about a young woman achieving her dreams. Produced and directed by a British, Belgian, and Korean team. The film is 78 minutes long and will be shown at the **Pyongyang International House of Cinema**. (100 RMB entry fee). A Koryo Tours Exclusive!

OVERNIGHT

Ryanggang Hotel, Pyongyang

APRIL 8 – SUNDAY (PYONGYANG MARATHON)

The big event! The Pyongyang Marathon 2018!

AM

- **The 2018 Pyongyang Marathon** – this is your chance to run the streets of Pyongyang in the DPRK's largest annual sports event!

Join the Full Marathon, Half Marathon, 10km or 5km race — all of which follow a return course that starts and ends in Kim Il Sung Stadium in front of a 50-000-strong capacity crowd of local Koreans.

The full route, which has been certified by the IAAF, leads right through the city centre, past a number of iconic landmarks, and then out into Pyongyang's less urban districts. Don't miss this incredible opportunity to see more of the capital and interact with people along the course. Prizes are available for the winners of each race.

PM

- After lunch and a rest at the hotel, we'll go for **city walk** and to a **local beer bar** to wrap up an exciting day.

OVERNIGHT

Ryanggang Hotel, Pyongyang



APRIL 9 – MONDAY (DEPARTURE DAY)

AM

- The **train departs** from Pyongyang Railway Station at 10:10am with arrival in Dandong (Liaoning Province, China) at approx. 5:30pm local time.

The tour finishes in Dandong. You can go on to explore this fascinating border city, the surrounding areas, or make your way to Beijing or elsewhere after an amazing trip to the DPRK.

End of Tour

TOUR PACKAGE

INCLUDED

- Return train journey: Dandong – Pyongyang / Pyongyang – Dandong
- All meals on the tour (except for on the train journey in and out)
- Hotel accommodation
- A Koryo Tours tour leader, two local Korean guides, and a driver per group
- All transportation in the DPRK

NOT INCLUDED

- Marathon registration fees - to be paid in cash (clean USD notes only) before the race in Pyongyang, amounts are 5 km or 10 km: \$70 USD / Half Marathon: \$100 USD / Full Marathon: \$150 USD
- DPRK visa fee
- Optional single room supplement
- Tips for the local Korean guides and driver
- Optional activities such as the lift up the Juche Tower (5 EUR) or a visit to the funfair (approx. 2 EUR entrance fee per person)
- Entry tickets for special events if applicable – for example Pyongyang Circus (approx. 20 EUR per person)
- Meals include a complimentary beer and water, but you will need to purchase extra drinks if needed
- Spending money for souvenirs

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ADDITIONAL NOTES

- Groups will be in the experienced hands of two or three local Korean guides. Furthermore, for groups of 10 or more, a member of the Koryo Tours team will accompany the trip.
- Unless you hold a valid multi entry visa for China at the time of travel, you are required to organise for a double entry visa for China for this tour.
- Please note that when on tour your day-to-day itinerary may differ to what is advertised above. Your tour leader will ensure, however, that everything available at the time is covered, and replacement options are provided where needed. We will also add in extras when there is time (such as a visit to a local bar or amusement park).
- We visit the DPRK regularly so know all the best places to go, and how to make the most of your days there to guarantee the experience of a lifetime.
- After the tour, we will send out a list of all participants' emails so you can keep in touch, swap photos etc. If you do not wish to be on this list then please let us know.

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