



2 Night Pyongyang Marathon Tour from Beijing

TOUR

April 6 – 8, 2019
2 nights in the DPRK

OVERVIEW

The shortest marathon tour possible and perfect opportunity for those wanting to tick the Pyongyang Marathon off their list!

This short weekend tour departing from Beijing is the shortest Pyongyang Marathon Tour available and is ideal for those who aren't as interested in committing to longer tours such as the more serious runners among you looking to add the Pyongyang Marathon to your list, or the North Korean travel veterans wanting to experience this very unique event.

HIGHLIGHTS

- 2019 PYONGYANG MARATHON!
- Experience some of Pyongyang's key attractions
- Celebrate your run at a local beer bar

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.

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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 – FRIDAY (BRIEFING DAY)

AM

- *Recommended latest arrival in Beijing.*

PM

- **Our group assembles for a mandatory pre-tour group briefing in Beijing in the afternoon - expected times are 2pm, 4pm and 6pm (to be confirmed).** This 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, the marathon, and practicalities for travel in the DPRK. Have your last minute questions answered and meet your fellow travelers. *Please be punctual - you can come early, pay any outstanding tour fees and browse our collection of Korean art.*

Overnight: *Hotel in Beijing not included in the tour. Contact us for recommendations near our office*

APRIL 6 – SATURDAY (ARRIVAL IN PYONGYANG)

AM

- **Free bus** from the Koryo Tours office to Beijing Capital Airport Terminal 2. *Exact time TBC at the pre-tour briefing. Alternatively meet the group at the Air Koryo check-in counter.*

PM

- Flight departure from Beijing on **Air Koryo flight JS152 - flight times are TBC and subject to change.** Currently expected to depart at 1:05 pm. *A 1.5-hour flight with basic lunch.*
- **Arrival to Pyongyang's Sunan International Airport (FNJ).** DPRK immigration and customs, meet your Korean guides, and transfer to the city.
- **Arch of Triumph //** A massive archway made for the 70th anniversary of the birth of President Kim Il Sung in 1982 and commemorating the liberation of Korea from Japanese colonial rule in 1945. Larger than its counterpart in Paris.
- **Kim Il Sung Stadium & Marathon Route Preview //** Visit the stadium where you will start and finish your race, and then drive the marathon route to familiarise yourself with the roads, turning points and toilet stops.

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- **Optional screening of *Comrade Kim Goes Flying II*** // 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**, a short distance from our hotel. (100 RMB entry fee). A Koryo Tours Exclusive!

Overnight:

Yanggakdo International Hotel, Pyongyang // Home away from home for most (but not all!) foreign visitors to Pyongyang, this 47-story hotel is located on an island in the middle of the Taedong River and offers great views of the city. Comfortable rooms and comprehensive leisure facilities: swimming pool, spa, billiards, bowling, gift shops, tea houses and beer brewed on-site.

APRIL 7 – SUNDAY (PYONGYANG MARATHON)

The big event! The Pyongyang Marathon 2019!

AM

- **The 2019 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 both the IAAF and AIMS, 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.

PM

- **Shower, resting time and lunch** // After the marathon's closing ceremony, we'll be heading back to the hotel to recharge, shower and rest before heading out for a relaxing afternoon in Pyongyang
- **Kim Il Sung Square** // Pyongyang's central square lined with government ministries, museum and The Grand People's Study House

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- **Foreign Languages Bookshop //** Store selling Korean publications translated into English, German, French, Russian, Chinese, Spanish, and Arabic.
- **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.
- **Mansudae Fountain Park //** The historic center 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 downtown Pyongyang. A presentation of flowers and bow by the group is customary here (5 EUR). *Please note this is a government-administered sight and visits are subject to cancellation. Visits are optional and require a certain dresscode (close-toed shoes and covered legs and shoulders).* Here we will also see the **Chollima Monument**, or 'thousand ri (400 km or 250 mile) horse' - a symbol of speed- commemorating the quick rebuilding of the country in the 1950's following the Korean War.
- **Local Beer Bar //** Relax at one of Pyongyang's local bars to wrap up an exciting day.

Overnight: Yanggakdo International Hotel, Pyongyang.

APRIL 8 – MONDAY (DEPARTURE DAY)

Departure Day

AM

- Flight departure from Pyongyang on **Air Koryo Flight JS151 at 9:00am** with scheduled arrival at Beijing Capital Airport (PEK) Terminal 2 at 10:00am.

End of Tour.

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TOUR PACKAGE

INCLUDED

- Return flight Beijing – Pyongyang / Pyongyang – Beijing
- All meals on the tour (these will be at local restaurants or in the hotel)
- Hotel accommodation in the DPRK
- A Koryo Tours tour leader, two local Korean guides, and a driver per group
- All transportation in the DPRK
- Official running shirt, finisher's medal and race certificate

NOT INCLUDED

- Marathon race 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 (approx 20-30 EUR total per tourist)
- 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

- 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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