



## North Korea Children's Day and Dragon Boat Festival Budget Tour

May 31<sup>st</sup> – June 4<sup>th</sup> 2022

4 nights in North Korea + Beijing-Pyongyang travel time

### OVERVIEW

There is a famous saying in North Korea that '*Children are the Kings of the Country*' and significant attention is devoted to children's upbringing and education. International Children's Day on the 1st of June is particularly important and celebrations are held in recognition of children throughout North Korea.

This is a day that is usually marked by student-oriented activities, events, and celebrations. We'll spend the holiday in the capital [Pyongyang](#) out and about in the city visiting locations popular with schoolchildren and their families, letting out our inner child and joining in the fun!

This tour is ideal for those who are looking for an active week in North Korea and willing to take three extra days off for the Chinese Dragon Boat Festival long weekend. Looking for a quick escape out of China? Put that *zongzi* down and look no further.

This action-packed week getaway is an introduction to North Korea through outdoor and indoor activities. Early risers can have a morning run on Pyongyang's Sports Street and be overtaken by North Korean athletes during their morning training.

Get the rare chance to tour the highlights of [Pyongyang](#) by bike before finishing off at [Munsu Water Park](#) to relax with the locals.

This will also get you to the DMZ, the most heavily fortified border on earth, and a viewpoint of the [Concrete Wall](#), an anti-tank barrier built in the 1970s by the south across the entire [DMZ](#). The 45-minute scenic drive from [Kaesong](#) will also give you a rare insight into rural North Korea.

*Why not escape China at one of its busiest times for [Chinese National Day](#) too?*

THIS DOCUMENT CANNOT BE TAKEN INTO KOREA

The Experts in Travel to Rather Unusual Destinations.  
info@koryotours.com | +86 10 6416 7544 | www.koryotours.com  
27 Bei Sanlitun Nan, Chaoyang District, 100027, Beijing, China

## DAILY ITINERARY

### MAY 31 – TUESDAY

*Arrival day in Pyongyang*

#### AM

**\*Pre-Tour Briefing** | We require all travellers to attend a pre-tour briefing that covers regulations, etiquette, safety, and practicalities for travel in North Korea. The briefing lasts approximately one hour followed by a question and answer session. Please be punctual for the briefing. You can come early, meet your fellow travellers, pay any outstanding tour fees and browse our collection of Korean art. A proper briefing is an essential part of travel to North Korea.

- **08:00 | Our group assembles for a pre-tour group briefing in Beijing.** There will be a free bus from the briefing location to Beijing Capital Airport Terminal 2.

#### PM

- Flight departure from Beijing on [Air Koryo flight JS152](#) at 13:05. A 1.5-hour flight with basic lunch (vegetarian option is subject to availability).
- **Flight arrival to [Pyongyang's Sunan International Airport](#) (FNJ)** at 16:05. DPRK immigration and customs, meet your Korean guides, and transfer to the city.
- **[Pyongyang Metro Tour](#)** | One of the deepest metro systems in the world with stunning artwork reflecting the name of each station. We'll ride six stations on the Chollima Line.
- **[Arch of Triumph](#)** | Massive archway made for the 70th anniversary of President Kim Il Sung in 1982 and commemorating the liberation of Korea from Japanese colonial rule. Larger than its counterpart in Paris.

**Overnight | [Chongnyon \(Youth\) Hotel, Pyongyang.](#)** A very green retro-futurist giant, located on modernist Kwangbok Street. Outdoor AND indoor swimming pools, and home to the best foreign karaoke in Pyongyang. One of very few of our tours to stay at this unique hotel!

### JUNE 1 – WEDNESDAY

*International Children's Day & Drive to Kaesong*

THIS DOCUMENT CANNOT BE TAKEN INTO KOREA

AM

- [Mangyongdae Native House](#) | Birthplace of and childhood home of President Kim Il Sung. A traditional Korean house in beautiful natural surroundings.
- [International Children's Day](#) activities in Pyongyang.
- [Youth Movement Museum](#) | located on Kwangbok Street, this museum covers the history and achievements of the youth members of the Worker's Party of Korea.
- [Okryugwan](#) | A meal at Pyongyang's most famous restaurant. Housed in a huge traditional building on the banks of the Taedong River. Okgyuwan specialises in Pyongyang Cold Noodles.

PM

- [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 the DPRK leadership overlooking downtown Pyongyang. A presentation of flowers and bow by the group is customary here. **Visitations are by special request only and decent dress is required. No shorts or flip-flop sandals allowed here.**
- Drive south on the [Reunification Highway](#) to [Kaesong](#), historic capital of the medieval Koryo Dynasty (918-1392 AD). Once located in South Korea, the city changed hands during the Korean War. It is now located just north of the DMZ.
- [Traditional Royal Korean Meal \(pangsanggi\) with a live Kayagum performance](#) | A meal made of 12 dishes served in brass bowls fit for the kings of old. The more dishes, the more distinguished the guest! Kayagum performamnce - a traditional Korean instrument in a unique setting!

**Overnight** | [Minsok Folk Hotel](#), [Kaesong](#). Traditional style hotel where guests sleep on heated floors in Korean style. Housed in beautiful courtyards of Kaesong's old city, structures date back to the Ri Dynasty. Basic bathroom facilities. Hot water not guaranteed and erratic electricity supply – please bring a torch.

**JUNE 2 – THURSDAY**

*Historic Kaesong and the Joint Security Area*

AM

**THIS DOCUMENT CANNOT BE TAKEN INTO KOREA**

- [Old City Walk and South Gate](#) | A stroll from the hotel through Kaesong's historic district lined with homes dating back to the Ri Dynasty from the city's historic South Gate.
- [Panmunjom Armistice Village and DMZ](#) | The site of the signing of the 1953 armistice that ended the Korean War and demarcation line between north and south. On some days it is possible to visit the hut straddling the line, where negotiations between both sides once took place. Here we will be accompanied by military guides from the Korean People's Army.
- [Kaesong Koryo Museum](#) | Once the Songgyung Academy, a Confucian school, and now a museum on the Koryo Dynasty exhibiting historical objects, statues, pagodas, and porcelain from that era. A UNESCO World Heritage Site.
- [Kaesong Korean Stamp Exhibition Hall](#) - Store selling stamps, postcards, local *ginseng*, souvenirs, art, and more! One of the best postcard collections in the country and friendly staff.
- [Janam Hill and Old City View](#) | Statues of the DPRK leadership on a hill overlooking Kaesong city and historic pavilion used for archery demonstrations in days of yore.

#### PM

- [Lunch at Panmungwan](#) | The attraction of this restaurant is not the food itself, it's the history. It is located in the main building of the former Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission inside the DMZ around a kilometre north of Panmunjom.
- [Concrete Wall and view of DMZ](#) | View of a complex fortification system erected on the southern boundary of the DMZ accompanied by a military guide. The wall is seen as evidence of intent to permanently divide the nation. A 45 minute drive each way from Kaesong through scenic countryside.
- Drive back to [Pyongyang](#) with a stop at the [Monument to the Three Charters of Reunification](#), a large stone archway over the highway memorializing joint agreements between north and south. A 3-hour drive.
- Dinner at [Kwangbok Department Store](#) | Exchange for Korean currency and shop with the citizens of Pyongyang! We will have an a la carte dinner at the food court on the 3rd floor (*paid on the spot*).

**Overnight** | Chongnyon (Youth) Hotel, Pyongyang

THIS DOCUMENT CANNOT BE TAKEN INTO KOREA

**JUNE 3 – FRIDAY**

*Pyongyang City Tour and City Cycling*

**AM**

- Optional morning run for the early risers on **Sports Street** past stadiums and halls whose architecture reflects the sports played within.
- [Victorious Fatherland Liberation War Museum and USS Pueblo](#) | We'll tour this world-class museum led by a local museum guides. Renovated in 2012 and its exhibits of Korean War from the DPRK perspective containing artifacts, documents, photos, and lifelike dioramas. The exterior grounds house the War Victory Monument and displays of Korean People's Army Hero Equipment and captures equipment from the US military, including the spyship [USS Pueblo](#). Central to the understanding of the country today and highlight of the trip.
- [June 9th Middle School](#) | Some of the classrooms can be visited; here they teach the normal curriculum so there is science and maths, foreign languages (if a class is going on tourists can sometimes join in), revolutionary history, and so on. If students are doing sports classes at the time of the visit then a kick-about on the football pitch can sometimes be arranged, but usually, the visit ends with a performance in the auditorium.
- [Moranbong Park](#) with picnic lunch | We'll take a stroll and have picnic lunch in Pyongyang's central park popular with locals for picnics, dances, and sports. The park is filled with historic pavilions, walls, and monuments- modern and ancient, a few of which are among the traditional 'Eight Great Sights of Pyongyang'.

**PM**

- [City Cycling](#) | Tour Pyongyang on a bike (*please note that bicycles are limited to 20 spots*) starting from Kwangbok Department Store through downtown Pyongyang to the Party Foundation Monument stopping at:
  - [Kim Il Sung Square](#) | Pyongyang's central square lined with government ministries, museum and The Grand People's Study House, Korea's national library. See the centre of it all!
  - [Foreign Languages Bookshop](#) | Store selling Korean publications translated into English, German, French, Russian, Chinese, and Spanish. Also pick up DVDs, postcards, and small works of art.

**THIS DOCUMENT CANNOT BE TAKEN INTO KOREA**



- [Tower of the Juche Idea](#) | Iconic tower dedicated to the DPRK's guiding philosophy on the Taedong River. Take the elevator to the top for 5 EUR for great views of the city.
- [Monument to the Party Foundation](#) | Iconic structure featuring the hammer, sickle, writing brush which make up the emblem of the Worker's Party of Korea and represent workers, farmers, and intellectuals.
- [Munsu Water Park](#) | We'll take a break at this outdoor and indoor water park with water slides, lap pools, and hot tubs. Bar, coffee shop, and shops for non-swimmers (Entry fee 2 EUR; swimming fee 10 EUR with suit rental).
- [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).
- Farewell dinner at [Duck BBQ Restaurant](#) | Famous restaurant in south Pyongyang specializing in duck meat barbecue on a grill. *Southcentral does it like nobody does!*

**Overnight** | Chongnyon (Youth) Hotel, Pyongyang

## JUNE 4 – SATURDAY

*Departure Day from Pyongyang and Return to Beijing by flight or train. Please confirm your preferred transport method upon booking.*

### AM

- Flight departure from Pyongyang on **Air Koryo Flight JS151** at 08:35 with scheduled arrival at Beijing Capital Airport (PEK) Terminal 2 at 09:55.

### OR

- Train departure by **train to Beijing** at 10:25 with transfer in Dandong. The scheduled arrival is to **Beijing Station** on Sunday, June 5 at 08:40. *For this tour the default option is hard sleeper (six beds per berth).*

**THIS DOCUMENT CANNOT BE TAKEN INTO KOREA**