Riverside Bike Trails in Korea

Hangang River  Geumgang River  Nakdonggang River  Yeongsangang River
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Drinks Toilet Biketel Bicycle rental Bicycle shelter Camping site

Waterway and Bicycle

A Walk along the Four Major Rivers: Total 1,757km

Hangang River 310km Saejae Bike Trail 100km Nakdonggang River 665km Geumgang River 305km
Yeongsangang River 371km

The rivers flow, and the journey continues.

Along the beautiful water streams of Korea, along the special path of Korean
taste and beauty, A wonderful journey begins with the Four Major Rivers (Hangang River, Nakdonggang River, Yeongsangang River and Geumgang River) of
Korea. Experience the Korean nature, history, and culture on the Four-River Bike Trails that stretches over 882 kilometers.
The flowing blue rivers of Korea will guide your way.
Enjoy a new experience. Every road and every river stream of Korea will be with
you on your journey.
Pause for a while and listen to the breeze. Greet a different morning each day along the edges of a misty lake. Enjoy the food and fresh air that comes from bamboo trees, and tuck yourself in bed with the blanket of nature. Admire the greenness of the old pine trees under the pavilions where our ancestors stayed their nights. Climb the brightly colored mountains and be indulged with the beautiful moonlight. Nature without human work, tranquil roads, and stories embedded in each village. Look around slowly, and feel deeply. From Nature, one that has not been touched by human hand.
A journey following the waterways is full of excitement in all seasons. Following the trails along the South Han River, waters are thrilling, and the Baekryeonji Road of the Yongsan River is decorated with a sea of lotuses. Enjoy the sunset festival together at the Woongpo Gomgae Naru, and stay a little longer at the Hwahoei village, enamored by the beauty of the traditional houses. Passing by the lighthouse and the islands, let yourself be surrounded by thick reeds and the dances of migrating birds. And see the beauty in the elegant curves of Korean architecture going about the pavilions, memorial buildings and temples. Scenes and stories unable to be captured by photographs, bloom in the heart or spread over the seas.

RUNNING ON WATER PATHS THAT YOU HAVE SEEN ONLY IN YOUR DREAMS
the Hangang River is arguably Korea’s most prominent river. A pivotal route of transportation, the Hangang River is just as significant today as it was 600 years ago during the Chosun Dynasty. Formerly known as ‘Hangaram’, meaning ‘Big River’, or ‘Great River’ when directly translated, it rises from the foot of Mt.Taebaeksan, Gangwon Province and passes through the Gangwon, Chungcheongbuk-do, Gyeonggi Provinces, arriving at Seoul before flowing into the West Sea. The Hangang River is largely divided into the north and south, reconnecting at Dumulmeori in Yangpyeong, Gyeonggi Province, and heading for Seoul. Abundant in ecological diversity and pristine landscape, all streams provide beautiful scenery for bike travel.

**THE BEST VANTAGE POINTS FOR CAPTURING MEMORIES**

1. Uniquely constructed hydro power plant near Ipobo Jwaan the upper reaches of the river, which commands an unbroken view of Ipobo Reservoir. ▶ Cheonseo-ri, Daesin-myeon, Yeoju-gun, Gyeonggi

2. Yongseomjigu Tangeumdae & Dragon Island. Located in the middle of the Namhangang River, this mystery island has plenty to offer in terms of biodiversity. ▶ Chilguem-dong, Chungju-si, Chungbuk

**Road of Lasting Memories**

This course is where the northern and southern waterways of the Hangang River meet to create one giant flow. Also around the lakes created by Paldang Dam are many western-style cafes and old traditional Korean houses. This trail is particularly beautiful for those who enjoy cycling during the early misty mornings.

- **Pandang Station~Yangpyeong Doomulmeri**
  - 25km @ 1hr 15mins
  - www.riverguide.go.kr

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**WHAT TO SEE**

* Namyangju, Historical Museum
  Dotted with traditional culture, folk and stone relics, the history of Namyangju reveals itself the moment you step out of the Paldang station. The area is famous for its stone figures and letters.
  - [www.nyjmuseum.go.kr](http://www.nyjmuseum.go.kr)  031-576-0558

* Dumulmeori
  The point at which the north and south rivers meet, the area is marked by towering zelkova trees lined up along the river. This place is popular not only for shutterbugs but also for couples from nearby towns.
  - [www.riverguide.go.kr/hanRiver/intro/around.do](http://www.riverguide.go.kr/hanRiver/intro/around.do)

* Sujongsa Temple
  A visit to the unique and historical Sujongsa Temple is highly recommended. Located in the middle of Mt. Ungilsan (610m), the temple, dating all the way back to the Joseon Dynasty, is roughly an hour’s walking distance from Ungilsan Station. The surrounding scenery of Paldang Dam is truly memorable.
  - 031-576-7411

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**WHAT TO EAT**

* Lotus leaf rice
  Lotus leaf rice is a signature dish. There are several Lotus leaf rice restaurants in and around the Yangsu Station. Lotus leaf rice is a rice dish steamed with beans, black rice and foxtail millets, wrapped up in a piece of a lotus leaf. The lotus leaf gives the rice a distinctive scent and it is extremely nutritious. Be sure to get a taste of this lotus leaf rice at Semiwon Restaurant. Reservations are recommended.

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**Picnic Road**

From Yangpyeong in Gyeonggi-do to Yeoju, the first course in Namhangang River features wide water stems and a beautiful forest—a breathtaking view of the grass-covered island is simply magnificent. In the woody inlands, Ipobo Reservoir and Yeojubo Reservoir, modern architecture and leisure facilities are present in harmony.

- **Gaegun Leisure Sports Park~Naeyangri**
  - 20km @ 1hr 20mins
  - www.riverguide.go.kr

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**WHAT TO SEE**

* Gaegun Leisure Park
  This rather large park in Yangpyeong-gun Gaegun-myeon Haja-po-ri has a basketball court, a gateball and foot volleyball field, and an archery range.

* Ipobo Reservoir
  Among the sixteen bo, or reservoirs, four of them are located in the Namhangang river. Ipobo is one of them and is considered the most beautiful. With a total length of 706m, the dam is dotted with seven large structures that resemble the eggs of a white heron. The white heron is the symbol of Yeoju. Inside the egg resembling structures there are machines that operate to lift up the floodgates.
  - [www.riverguide.go.kr](http://www.riverguide.go.kr)

* Dangnam-ri Island
  The island is ideal for family picnics and camping with its auto-camping facilities. It also has sports facilities on site.
  - [www.riverguide.go.kr](http://www.riverguide.go.kr)

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**WHAT TO EAT**

* Cheonseo-ri Makguksu Village
  Makguksu is a traditional Korean noodle dish, its main ingredient being buckwheat noodles. The name comes from a ‘mix’ or ‘dip’ in the soup. You can put seaweed, sesame seeds, pear, cucumber and eggs on top of the noodles and mix them with chili sauce or put into a dongchimi soup.
Road of Cultural Scents

In addition to the beautiful riverside scenery, you can also experience some of the traditional, historical and cultural moments on this course. Eight of Yeoju’s representative historical attractions are located here.

- Yeojubo Reservoir – World Living Ceramic Center
  - 28km  1hour 50 minutes
  - www.riverguide.go.kr

WHAT TO SEE

- **Mok-A Museum** This unique Buddhist Museum is located in Ihoo-ri, Gangcheon-myeon, Yeoju-gun. They have a diverse collection of Buddhist artworks, sculptures and over 600 ceremonial objects.
  - [www.moka.or.kr](http://www.moka.or.kr)  031-5885-9952

- **Silleuksa Temple** Built during the Silla Dynasty and located deep in the forest of Mt. Bongmisan in Cheonsong-ri, Buknae-myeon, Yeoju-gun, this temple holds several notable national treasures including Geukrajeon, Josadang, and Dacheungjeontap. The temple is an excellent place to learn about Korean Buddhism and temple culture. The 600-year-old gingko tree is also noteworthy.
  - [www.silleuksa.org](http://www.silleuksa.org)  031-885-2505

- **Yeoju World Ceramic Livingware Gallery** Yeoju’s Cheonsong-ri, Yeoju-eup is famous for traditional ceramics that were used in our ancestors’ daily lives. The area’s Ceramic Gallery offers programs for visitors to experience ceramic-making, and see the exclusive Yeoju Ceramics and traditional pottery.
  - 031-884-8644

WHAT TO EAT

- **Yeoju Rice** Yeoju is also known for its rice production, having the highest quality. Many restaurants in and around the city and nearby the Mok-A Museum are well known for their dishes with high quality rice. They are usually restaurants that have Korean course meals that include various side dishes made of seasonal vegetables, seafood, and meat.

Road of Living Songs

As you head further up the river, the forest and its leaves become much greener and the river streams zigzag at greater angles. This course is full of historical scent where we can feel the traces of our ancestors as well as the well preserved nature along the riverside.

- Gangcheonbo to Samhap-ri
  - 25km  1hr 40 mins
  - www.riverguide.go.kr

WHAT TO SEE

- **Gangcheon-ri Island** When you cycle through a beautiful riverside park of the Gaya District, and the Gulam-ri District Park you will reach the beautiful Gangcheon-ri Island.
  - The bike trail does not damage any part of the surrounding environment; it is in harmony with the forest walk, waterway and streams.

- **Heunam-ri’s Historic Remains** Located in Heunam-ri, Jemdong-myeon, Yeoju-gun, this prehistorical site dates all the way back to the Neolithic age and Bronze age. Remnants of prehistoric earthenware and stoneware as well as 16 underground shacks were excavated on this site. Parts of the site have been restored and the excavated treasures are exhibited.

- **Beopcheonsaji** Located in Beopcheon-ri, Buron-myeon, Wonju, this beautiful temple dates back to the Goryeo Dynasty. It once housed two national treasures (Jigwanghyeonmyotap and Jigwangguksatapbi), but Jigwanghyeonmyotap was moved to the National Museum Center. The dragon-shaped stone at the entrance is particularly astonishing.
  - [tourism.wonju.go.kr](http://tourism.wonju.go.kr)  033-737-2111

WHAT TO EAT

- **Kalguksu, Jangkalguksu** Kalguksu is a traditional Korean noodle soup made from sliced flour dough. If Gochujang (a spicy red pepper paste) is added, it becomes jangkalguksu.
Road of Breathing History

Chungju is the cultural hub of southern Korean peninsula. This area was where frequent territorial battle took place between Goguryeo, Baekje and Silla, especially because of the fertile land that the river provided as well as its advantages for territorial expansion. This is a course where you can experience the many cultural relics including that of Goguryeo.

- Mokgyeonaru-Chungjudam
  - 33km @ 2hour, 15minutes
  - www.riverguide.go.kr

WHAT TO SEE

- **Mokgyenaru Port** Located in the beautiful Mokgye-ri, Eomjeong-myeon, Chungju-si, this significant port was used to transport materials from Danyang and Jecheon to Seoul via Wonju. Locals continued to use the port to transfer cattle to markets until the late 1960’s.

- **Jungwon Goguryeo Memorial Stone** This is a tombstone of great ancient historical importance to Korea. Located in Ipseok Village, Yongjeon-ri, Gageum-myeon, Chungju-si the national treasure dates back to King Jangsu of the Goguryeo Dynasty (423 AC). Its 400 words depict the relationship between Goguryeo and Silla but its damages are severe.

- **Tangeumdae** This beautiful park is located in Chilgeum-dong, Chungju-si along Namhanguk’s picturesque riverside. The park was given this name because it was a place where Ueuk used to play Gayageum (traditional Korean stringed instrument) during the later years of King Jinheung of Silla. This is also where Sinrip, a general in the Joseon Dynasty, battled the Japanese troops when they invaded Joseon 300 years ago.

WHAT TO EAT

- **Traditional Korean Dishes** There are several restaurants in and around the Jungangtap Park, serving boiled duck and spicy freshwater fish soup, together with other traditional Korean dishes.

INFORMATION

Gangchon Road

Gyeonggangyo Bridge is located on the border of Gapyeong, Gyeonggi-do and Chuncheon, Gangwon-do. Gyeonggang Station and Gangchon Station bring back old memories for people who live in the metropolitan area. These stations were closed with the opening of the Gyeongchun line but its cozy cafes still remain, overlooking the stem of the Bukhangang River.

- Kyeongganggyo to Gangchonyouwonji
  - 21km @ 1hour, 20mins
  - www.riverguide.go.kr

WHAT TO SEE

- **Gyeong-gang Station** This quaint little station has for long closed its tracks. Its legacy was further made famous when it was used in the film ‘Letter’, starring the popular Korean actress Ms. Choi Jin-sil.

- **Gugok Waterfall** Gugok Waterfall is an astonishingly beautiful 40m waterfall. If you wish to get lost in nature, map out a journey along the valley of Mt. Bonghwa, Gangchon-ri, Namsan-myeon. The winters are especially busy with ice climbers. Bicycle trails are laid out well so you can enjoy biking (2hrs round-trip).

- **Gangchon Resort** This is a famous travelling destination for university students from the metropolitan area. Before the opening of the new subway line, young couples used to get off at Gangchon Station and ride the bicycle or chat at a nearby riverside café. The area is busy during the weekends. There are plenty of motorcycle and bicycle rental shops nearby.

WHAT TO EAT

- **Signature Korean Foods** There are many restaurants in and around Gangchon serving soup dishes, traditional rice dishes and other signature Korean foods. Elysian Gangchon Resort also has an equally unique restaurant worth visiting.
Gangbyeon Forest Trail

Gangchon Road is a riverside road located in the southern part of Namhangang River. There is also another scenic road to the north. As opposed to the well-developed southern road, the northern road that leads to the Gangchon Forest is quiet and peaceful. The dense forest and the cool river cools down its visitors.

- Jaraseom Campground to Euiam Dam
  - 32km @ 2hour, 10minutes
  - www.riverguide.go.kr

WHAT TO SEE

*Jaraseom Island* This turtle-shaped island (hence the name, ‘jara’ is the Korean word for ‘turtle’) is heaven for camping enthusiasts. Featuring a series of prime, well-equipped camping lots, together with camping cars, this is an ideal place to rest and spend the night. @ www.jarasumworld.net ☏ 031-580-2700

*Jade Garden* This is a recently opened arboretum, in the style of a European garden located in Seocheon-ni, Namsan-myeon, Chuncheon-si. It made well use of its unique geographical features and it is a great place to stop by while you are on the road. @ www.jadegarden.kr ☏ 033-260-8300

*Uiam Dam* This is a hydroelectric dam with a total height of 23m and a length of 273m. The dam became a large lake for Chuncheon, making it famous as a lakeside city.

WHAT TO EAT

*Sanchae Bibimbab* At the Jade Garden arboretum, there are restaurants that serve *Sanchae bibimbab*, which is a traditional *bibimbab* made from seasonal vegetables.

Uiamho Lakeside Road

This course runs along the western part of the beautiful lake Uiamho (Local Road #403), which envelops the western and northern parts of downtown Chuncheon-si. This is a good riding spot for every season but it is particularly beautiful in spring and fall, during which time the fog creates magnificent scenery in the early mornings. Canoeing, and riding ferries and kayaks make a picturesque view.

- Euiamdam-Shinmae Daegyo
  - 12km @ 52mins ☏ www.riverguide.go.kr

WHAT TO SEE

*Hyeon-am Folk Museum* This exhibition center displays traditional and historical Korean household items from earthenware to agricultural tools. You can gain a sense of how Koreans lived many years ago. @ www.gpmuseum.co.kr ☏ 031-581-0612

*Animation Museum* This is a large animation museum suitable for the whole family to enjoy. There are numerous animated artworks representative of Korean culture. @ www.animationmuseum.com ☏ 033-245-6444

*Chuncheon Doll Theater* Chuncheon is the home for Korean puppet shows. The first Korean puppet show theater is located in this city across from Sinmaedaegyo Bridge. Some people who devoted their lives into puppet shows regularly hold shows. Summer puppet show festivals are held every year. @ theatre.cocobau.com ☏ 033-242-8450

WHAT TO EAT

*Dakgalbi* One of the back alleyways of Myeong-dong is Dakgalbi Back Alley, which is lined with numerous Dakgalbi restaurants. The tasty dish is made with chicken and spicy red pepper sauce, grilled together with cabbage, sweet potatoes and *tteok* (rice cake). Some restaurants grill it over charcoal.
Hwacheon Road of History and Eco-Parks

If the lakeside road in downtown Chuncheon was created by Uiamho Dam, the lakeside road stretching towards Hwacheon was made by Chuncheon Dam, making it officially Chuncheonho Road. Named after the fishing and water heaven of Hwacheon’s city slogan, the challenging trail boasts picturesque views of the Bukhangang River.

- Hanuelbit Lake Village to Daeboonggyo
  - 16km
  - Takes approximately 1hr
  - www.riverguide.go.kr

INFORMATION

WHAT TO SEE

* Bung eo Island
  This sleepy fishing island is located in the middle of Hwacheon River along the upper streams of the Bukhangang River. The small island is home to a lush, overgrown forest and many leisure facilities. Bung eo Island is named after its shape which looks similar to the bung eo, or carp. [033-440-2543]

* Wirari Chilcheungseoktap
  This seven storied pagoda is located in Wira ri across from Hwacheon Bridge in Hwacheon-eup. It was built from gathering stones that were scattered around an old Goryeo temple site. [www.ihc.go.kr/foreign/eng] [033-442-1211]

* Ggeomeok Bridge
  This is a bridge located in Guman ri, Gandong-myeon, Hwacheon-gun. Constructed in 1945 during the Japanese Colonial era, the wooden top stone was laid on top of the ferroconcrete legs and painted the black tar, from which the Ggeomeok Bridge got its name.

WHAT TO EAT

* Gongurae rice
  Hwacheon town is famous for its gongurae rice restaurant Daechongmaru, and Myeongga, a spicy freshwater fish soup restaurant. There are also several excellent fish porridge restaurants in front of the Guman ri Hwacheon Dam. Kongsarang in Daei ri is a restaurant that serves Korean style set meals and assorted bossam, a traditional Korean steamed sliced pork.

Hwacheon 100(Baek)-ri Sansogil Road

This is a bike trail especially designated and managed by Hwacheon-si. Along this course, bikers can witness pristine scenery together with other recreational attractions. Some parts of the trail overlap with the Hwacheon Road of History and Eco-Parks, but it is worth riding a bike on these trails separately.

- Bukhan River Circulation Route—Starting from Boonge Island Tourism Information Center to Hwacheon Dam
  - 42km
  - www.riverguide.go.kr

INFORMATION

WHAT TO SEE

* Mt Ddansan
  This is a small mountain located in the upper regions of the Bukhangang River near the Hwacheon Dam. A manmade waterfall was built into the cliff wall with a swimming pool where the water lands. The story behind this small mountain is that it got lost on its way to the much larger, neighboring Mt. Geumgangsan and decided to settle down where it is now.

* Hwancheon Dam
  This was constructed during the Japanese invasion as a water power dam. Upon completion, the huge Paroho Lake was created.

* Susanggil Road
  Arguably the best road our of the Sansogil Road 100-ri, it is also referred to as the “Gangsa and over the river Road.” It was built over the Bukhangang River spanning over 1km in length and 2.5km in width. When you cycle across this road, you can feel the waters moving and sloshing under the road.

WHAT TO EAT

* Maegi Maeuntang
  Gapyeong is located between the Hongcheongang River and the Bukhangang River, where large numbers of catfish were caught since the ancient times. The tenderness of the fish and spicy soup will keep you warm even in the coldest days.

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September 2022

www.jsat.co.kr
Home to the Baekje Dynasty, the nutrient-rich Geumgang provides the south west plains with an abundance of essential nutrients. Its name denotes “beautiful as silk”. Every fall, the area welcomes numerous migratory birds that flock to the estuary in search of food. Around twenty small to large branches of the river continue to provide sufficient water for growing rice and various kinds of nutritious grains. The waters also provided abundant food for the surrounding villages, a feature that helped Baekje flourish but which also caused fierce territorial disputes. Such features and remnants of history are ever felt when peddling through the roads of the Geumgang.

GREAT VANTAGE POINTS FOR TAKING PHOTOGRAPHS

1. Hapgangjeong: Harmony between Gangsan Park and the place where the Geumgang River and Mihocheon Stream meet is truly breathtaking.
   - Hapgang-ri, Dong-myeon, Yeongi-gun, Chungnam

2. Sinseong-ri Field of Reeds: The Geumgang River and the dense reed fields are in beautiful harmony.
   - Sinseong-ri Reed Fields, Hansan-myeon, Seocheon-gun, Chungnam
Road of Development and Preservation

A large number of migratory birds flock to the mouth of the Geumgang every year as the wide wetland habitat and many uninhabited islands together with the reed fields, provide sufficient nutrition for birds. This course reminds us of the importance of environmental protection.

- Birds ecology wetland—Geum River wetland ecology park
  - 23km @ 2hrs
  - www.riverguide.go.kr

WHAT TO SEE

- **Estuary of Geumgang River Birds Ecology Wetland**
  This wetland is a beautiful complement to the surrounding scenery. A three-step level of polluted water purification system was installed to ensure sustainability of the forest and its biodiversity. Habitats for wild animals and fish have also been set up by growing various aquatic plants, piling stones, and building houses for birds.

- **Janghang Waterfront**
  This is where the Geumgang River and the West Sea meet. The area is famous for its many seafood restaurants, waterside park, and seafood market. This was made in large part to develop Janghang as a multi-marine and tourism port.

- **Migratory Birds Park**
  Every fall, you can witness flocks of migratory birds flying towards the south of the Geumgang River. (063-453-7213)

WHAT TO EAT

- **Seafood**
  Many types of fish and shellfish from the West Sea are caught in the Janghang Port. This makes the area rich in various seafood restaurants. A restaurant named Onjeongjip is famous for anglerfish dishes, anglerfish soup, anglerfish stream and an assortment of blowfish dishes.

INFORMATION

Geumgang River Road of Migratory Birds

This great biking trail runs along Seocheon’s northern estuary and the southern points of Iksan and Gunsan. The beautiful riverside course is a great vantage point for capturing magnificent views of the surrounding environment and for bird-watching.

- Seocheon Bird Watching Ecology Wetland Exhibition Center
  - 45km @ 2hrs 10mins
  - www.riverguide.go.kr

WHAT TO SEE

- **Janghang Waterfront**
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INFORMATION
The End of 19th century Geumgang Riverside Road

This is where we can look into and feel Korea’s modern history. This area shows the role that Geumgang River played as a way of life; much of the citizens’ livelihood depended on the accessibility of the river. There are many cultural relics representing each city all along the riverside.

Gangkyeongpogu-Hwangsan Park
16km 1hr www.riverguide.go.kr

WHAT TO SEE

* Ganggyeong Port This port is located beside the Geumgang River in Hwangsang-ri, Ganggyeong-eup, Nonsan-si, Chungnam. As a last remaining port, it was considered one of great importance, connecting all of the nation’s waterways since the Joseon Dynasty until the Japanese Colonial Era. Its historical reputation further consolidated with the thriving traditions of Ganggyeong Salted Fish Market.

* Ganggyeong Salted Fish Market Up until the end of the Joseon Dynasty, this was largely considered as one of the top three markets and the largest fish market in Korea. The market naturally formed itself as fish boats from the west sea flowed into Ganggyeong along the Geumgang River. The port became less active, making the fish market also less lively. Consequently, a series of redevelopment projects vitalized the interest of people in this area and dozens of big salted fish stores began to thrive once again. The Ganggyeong Salted Fish Festival is held every fall. @ jeokkal.invil.org 041-730-4759

WHAT TO EAT

* Blowfish dish Ganggyeong is known not only for salted fish, but also for hwangbok (or yellow blowfish) and ung-eo (or Korean swordfish). The 80-year-old hwangbok restaurants such as Hwangsanok and Myeongbok Restaurant are known for its wide assortment of delicious yellow blowfish, where you can taste ung-eo as well.

Sabigil Road

Located at the scenic riverside of Baekmagang River, Buyeo was the last remaining capital of the Baekje Dynasty that lasted for 678 years. In the beginning, when Hanseong was the capital, the culture of Baekje took on a majestic and wild style of Goguryeo. On the other hand, after relocating the capital to Ungjinseong Castle or Sabiseong Castle, it adopted a more glamorous and elegant shape with the influence of Southern China’s detailed and sophisticated culture.

Gudeare sculpture Park-Weonwangjin Village
46km 1hr 50mins www.riverguide.go.kr

WHAT TO SEE

* Gunnamji Located to the north of Buyeo-eup, this is a pond of a royal villa during the time of King Muwang in the Baekje Dynasty. This beautiful pond, which is surrounded by willow leaves, attracts visitors to witness the white lotus flowers while talking a walk on the bridge over the pond. @ www.buyeotour.net 041-830-2512

* Jeonglimsaji Located in Buyeo town, Jeonglimsaji is a temple dating back to the Baekje Dynasty. The large and beautifully shaped five-storey pagoda was designated as National Treasure #9. Its tilted shape resembles the roof of hanok (or Korean traditional house), which indicates that the stone pagoda was originally designed from a wooden pagoda. National Treasure #108 ‘Jeonglimsajiseokbuljwasang’ can also be found there. 041-830-2721

WHAT TO EAT

* Yeonipbap At the Baekjae House in Deulmeori, Buse Fortress, Buyeo-eup, you can enjoy lotus leaf rice, naengmyeon (cold noodle), and ssambap (pork and seasonal vegetables wrapped in sesame leaves, lettuce or Chinese cabbage). Naruteo Restaurant in front of Gudeurae Sculpture Park is well known for its grilled eel.
Ungjingil Road

This course explores the history and culture of Gungju, the capital city throughout the Baekje Period. The beautifully preserved area is home to many relics, including the Geumgangbyeon Riverside, the Gongsanseong Fortress and the Mt.Geryongsan National Park.

- Mt. Yeonmi Nature Art Museum-Seokjangri Museum
  - 14km · 1hour
  - www.riverguide.go.kr

WHAT TO SEE

- **National Gongju Museum**
  Located in Ungjin-dong, Gongju, this museum opened in 1940 during the Japanese Colonial Era. Many gold and silver items were excavated at its site during that time. Also on display are Songsan-ri Tombs, which were excavated from the ruins of the Gongsanseong Fortress.
  - gongju.museum.go.kr
  - 041-850-6300

- **Songsan-ri Tombs**
  These are the tombs of numerous other kings of the Baekje Period, located on the slopes of Song-san, Geumseong-dong. Many of these tombs were robbed during the Japanese Colonial Era. On display are a number of wall paintings within the tomb walls and a number of royal relics.
  - 041-840-2114

WHAT TO EAT

- **Sanseseong Market**
  Along the street just in front of Geumseoru, at the south gate entrance of the Gongsanseong Fortress, are a variety of restaurants that serve traditional and inexpensive Korean dishes. Also, there is the Sanseseong Market, at the end of a nearby alleyway that houses traditional rice cake houses, and barley rice restaurants. The latter place is a great way to experience the past days of Korea.

Road of Science and Culture

Daejeon is located in the middle of the Geumgang River, often referred to as South Korea’s Midwest. The city boasts its many museums and a variety of advanced science and culture centers. There is a wealth of activities to keep its visitors very busy.

- Expo Science Park-Daejeon Citizen Observatory Deck
  - 8km · 40min
  - www.riverguide.go.kr

WHAT TO SEE

- **Expo Science Park**
  After hosting the World’s Expo Fair in 1993, Daejeon converted its old grounds into a science theme park. The site has many interesting exploration, science and research centers.
  - www.expopark.co.kr
  - 042-869-5114

- **Money Museum**
  Take a tour at the Korea Minting and Security Printing Corporation and try yourself printing money at the museum. On display is Korea’s first currency (AD 996) including coins, banknotes and stamps. Approximately 3,400 types of foreign coins, 1,000 types of domestic and foreign postage stamps, and over a total of 60,000 kinds of money and stamps are on display.
  - museum.komsco.com
  - 042-870-1200

- **Geological Museum**
  If you are curious about what is going on beneath the Korean soil, then it is best to head to the Geological Museum, that exhibits rocks, fossils, and minerals related to the geology of South Korea and the entire planet.
  - www.nyjmuseum.go.kr
  - 031-576-0558

WHAT TO EAT

- **Yuseong-gu, Daejeon**
  Wash and rejuvenate your strained muscles from biking! Yuseong-gu Daejeon is known for its hot springs. Many nearby hotels and motels have access to the hot springs, and nearby restaurants serve traditional, healthy Korean dishes.
Jikki & Mihojonggae Road

This is where the Geumgang River bike trail begins to flow back upstream through Daejeon, the city of science and culture, Cheongju, Chungbuk, the city of advanced printing technology, and along Mihocheon Stream and its numerous tributaries.

Jakjeongbo-Goinshae museum
17km 1hr
www.riverguide.go.kr

INFORMATION

WHAT TO SEE
* Jeongbukdong Earthen Ramparts
  Jeongbuk-dong, Sangdang-gu, Cheongju, located along the Mihocheon Stream is home to the plains of Earthen Ramparts. This earthen rampart, dating back to the middle of the Three Kingdoms period, is where residential routers, road signs, and ancient stone tools were discovered. These discoveries are important in understanding the years of the earthen rampart, one of the country’s most valuable historical periods.

* Cheongju Baekje Relics Exhibit Center
  Located in Sinbong-dong Heungdeok-gu. Cheongju-si, the center features Baekje tombs that were within its Baekje relic exhibition hall, together with a countless number of ironware and stoneware that were excavated long ago.
  www.cjbaekje.net 043-263-0107

WHAT TO EAT
* Traditional udong noodles
  Cheongju City is well known for its traditional udong noodles; the area is full of great restaurants serving this dish. The restaurant Seomun Udong, is a udong restaurant that has been passed down for three generations. Gongwon Udon, serves udon with pork cutlets, and this is one of the most famous udon restaurants in Cheongju. Plus, it’s worth visiting the memorable 65-year-old house of Haejangguk near Namjudoong’s traditional food market.

Gyeongin Arabaetgil (Boat) Road

This bike trail is part of the Ara Bike Trail, which runs along the part of the river where boats and ferries sail by. With its long, straight, and wide trails in the open unobstructed sky, it gives you the feeling of flying in the air. The Arabaetgil Road is also beautiful during sunset, the vanilla skies glistening in gold.

Suhyang Traditional Garden

In the garden there is the Suhyangru, where you can walk up and grasp a magnificent view of the river. It is a wonderful place to sit down and take a rest, letting the wind cool you down.

Doori Eco-Park

Stop by at this eco-park, where a pond with its surrounding nature is well preserved in its original shape, untouched by human hand.

Gyulhyeon Plaza

This is another location on the road where you can rest while looking at the beautiful surrounding scenery. There is a lake nearby which adds to the magnificent view.

Ara Waterfall

Although it is not a natural waterfall, it is a great place to stop by and cool you down. Get up close and feel the refreshing water drops on your face. The waterfall is quite wide, making a great background for memorable photos.
This river runs through many of the villages that still to this day hold the Korean spirit very much alive. A representative water stem, the Nakdonggang River is the country’s longest river after the Aprokgang River, measuring 506.17km in length. A river vital for life of the people and the peninsula as a whole, Nakdonggang starts from Hwangji Pond in Taebaek-si, Gangwon-do and circles through Mt.Taebaek, passing by Bong-hwa, Andong before finally reaching Yecheon, where it grows in size and finally flows into the Northern Sea. With its numerous beautiful scenery and historical sites scattered along the riverside, this place is one of the best places for bikers to explore and enjoy.

GREAT VANTAGE POINTS FOR CAPTURING THE NAKDONGGANG RIVERSIDE

1. The Mt.Bibongsan Observatory of the Nakdonggang River: You can see the beautiful Gyeongcheon Forest (Duck Island) and Ecology Park, the Donamseowon Confucian School, together with the bike trail.
   ▶ Mt. Bibong, Samdeok-ri, Donam-dong, Sangju-si, Gyeongbuk

2. Dodong Confucian School from Daramjae: Indulge yourself on the entire view of the Dodong Confucian School at one glance, and visit the Saetgang Waterfront Park on the other side.
   ▶ Jamo-ri, Hyeonpung-myeon, Dalseong-gun, Daegu-si

3. Nakdong River’s Eulsukdo Migratory Bird Habitat:
   In addition to the informative eco-center, the site offers visitors a glimpse of migratory birds gathering and dancing from the observatory.
   ▶ Hadan-dong, Saha-gu, Busan
Road of Migratory Birds

This is where the Nakdonggang River meets the ocean. The Eulsukdo flows around Busan and Gimhae. Both areas have centers providing further insight into the history of the Nakdonggang, how its locals benefited during the prosperous iron culture period. This culture prevailed all along the Nakdonggang, through Gimhae’s Geumgwan Gaya, Haman’s Aragaya, Jinju’s Goryeong Gaya, Seongju’s Seongsan Gaya, Goseong’s Sogaya and Goryeong’s Daegaya. Thanks to this, the Nakdonggang and Dadaepo’s ocean are one of the best places for migratory birds. Moreover, it is surrounded by reeds, which serve as perfect resting areas for the birds. Among the animals spotted here are mallards, snipes, plovers, cormorants, and white heron. This is one of the best places to view the Nakdonggang River. Among the best views of the Nakdonggang River are second to none. al-

WHAT TO SEE

- **Eulsukdo** Stemming from Hadan-dong, Saha-gu, Busan to Dadaepo’s ocean front, Eulsukdo is often referred to as a shelter and food haven for migratory birds. Moreover, it is surrounded by reeds, which serve as perfect resting areas for the birds. Among the animals spotted here are mallards, snipes, plovers, cormorants, and white heron.

- **Dadaepo Beach** Dadaepo Beach is located in Hadan-dong, Saha-gu, Busan where the where estuary of Nakdonggang and the ocean meet. Since its opening in 1960, the shallow, warm waters bring in massive numbers of visitors, especially during the months of July and August. Yet in 1987, after the construction of a nearby dam nearby, it is now used mainly for fishing and catching crabs and seashells during low tide. Also in the area are Dadaepo-hotel, Jeong Un-gong Memorial Stone, Yungongdan and several other interesting historical sites.

WHAT TO EAT

- **Noodle Dishes** Busan’s Gupo Market is famous for its noodle dishes. In addition to the hearty kalgus, there are other traditional varieties such as pulbibang and sulibbang as well. In Dadaepo, charcoal grilled sea eel and milmyeon are also delicious.

Singing Road of Reed Fields

This course boasts the best views of Yangsan, Gyeongsan, and particularly Imgyeongdae, home of Silla’s revered writer Choi Chi-won. From here, the sprawling open views of the Nakdonggang River are second to none. Although no relics remain, it is said that after resigning from the government, it was this place where Choi received his inspirations for his poetry.

WHAT TO SEE

- **Daecheoncheon Valley** Boasting some of the best scenery out of all Busan’s 100 attractions, the area of Hwamyeong-dong, Buk-gu is a sight to behold. Also referred to as Hwamyeong-cheon, the valley stretches from Mt. Geumjeong to the southwestern region of the Nakdonggang River. Sanseonggol in the middle valley features stunning views; full of bedrock and clean water and small interconnecting waterfalls that spill in Aegis pool, the scenes are breathtaking.

- **Tongdosa Temple** Located in the Mt. Yeongchuskan, Habuk-myeon, Yangsan-si, Gyeongsan, Tongdo was constructed by the Jajangyulsa during the tenure of Queen Seondeok of the Silla Dynasty. It is considered one of Korea’s three treasured temples together with Haeinsa Temple and Songgwangsa Temple.

- **Yangsan Water Park** Located in Beomeo-ri, Mulgeum-eup, Yangsan-si, this lakeside park was built to collectively harmonize with Yangsan’s ecological features. Highlights include the Gosa Fountain, Gyeryu Fountain, and Tunnel Fountain.

WHAT TO EAT

- **Sanchae Jeongsik** Just in front of Tongbosa Temple are several sanchae jeongsik (form of Korean seasonal vegetable table full meal) and marsh snail soup restaurants. There is also a great noodle restaurant in Beomeo-ri, Mulgeum-eup, Yangsan.
Samrangjin Road of Eunbitmulgeolgil Road (Silver Wave)

This trail takes you on a journey to find the remains of Asia’s major ports during the Gaya Dynasty. During this period, Gimhae was one of Asia’s key ports. An advantage of the Samrang was that three streams flowing from the Nakdonggang and the Milyanggang Rivers intersected it. Furthermore, Gaya’s 500-year-old history, Gimhae’s Gyeongnam to this day remains a city ripe with history and cultural significance.

* Bonghwa village–Cheontaeho lake  15.85km  2hrs 25mins  @ www.riverguide.go.kr

**WHAT TO SEE**

* **Gimhae National Museum**  Nowhere in Korea are two historical museums located just beside each other. This is only possible in Gimhae. The exhibitions here provide insight into the Gaya culture and especially the Beonhan’s cultural heritage, which is largely considered as the foundation of Gaya’s development. This place is special as there are limited relics that date back to the Gaya Period.  @ gimhae.museum.go.kr  ☎ 055-320-6825

* **Daeseong-dong Tombs Museum**  Located at an old excavation site, the area holds many tombs dating back to the Gaya Dynasty that shed light on Korea’s progressive lead over Japan. On display at the museum are relics discovered in Daeseong-dong’s ancient tomb during the fourth excavation, revealing the Garak Dynasty’s tortured history and defining the capital city of Gimhae.  @ ds.gimhae.go.kr  ☎ 055-330-6881

**WHAT TO EAT**

* **Galbi** (marinated meat)  Jwagon-ri, Jinyeong-eup, Gimhae is widely known for its pork galbi (marinated meat).

Mt. Hwawangsan Dalbitgihanggil Road (Moonlight Journey)

This trail takes you through the verdant Jinsan Mt. Hwawangsan, Changnyeong, Gyeongnam, exploring Gaya culture. Beside Mt. Hwawang is the Nakdonggang River estuary, the site of General Gwak Jae-u’s battle during the Japanese invasion of Korea in 1592.

* Changnyeong Countryside Bus Terminal–Namji district  63.1km  4hrs 20mins  @ www.riverguide.go.kr

**WHAT TO SEE**

* **Upo Swap Ecology Center**  Upo Swap Ecology Center holds instructional exhibitions featuring animals and plants living in the wetlands. The many halls in the center display three dimensional models and videos to provide a more interactive experience for visitors.  @ www.upo.or.kr  ☎ 055-530-1551

* **Mt. Hwawangsan Movie Drama Set**  On top of Mt. Hwawangsan is a basin that was once an old town of the Gaya Dynasty. Surrounded by a fortress and reed fields, the view from here is magnificent. Korean dramas such as Jewel in the Palace, Heojun, Sangdo and a Heroic Age were all filmed here.

* **Bugok Hot Springs**  This place takes its name from the land’s uniquely shaped rocks, having been discovered 73 years ago and still maintaining a maximum temperature of 78°C. Rich with over twenty kinds of minerals including silicon, and chlorine, it is said to be good for respiratory conditions, skin illnesses, and stomach disorders.  @ bugok.cng.go.kr  ☎ 055-530-1591

**WHAT TO EAT**

* Changnyeong’s large onion cultivation owes its success to its rich, fertile soil. Be sure to sample handmade sugyure (the area between the cow’s flesh and skin) noodles at Ibang Market. The Upo Wetlands are famous for its bungeojim (steam carp dishes).
Sangsang’s Singing Road

This eco-friendly bike trail along the Nakdonggang River is dotted with numerous recreational attractions and a host of environmental sites. Most notable is the area around the Dalseong Wetlands, which was created as a feeding ground for migratory birds. Also, the Gangjeongbo Reservoir features nature blocs constructed to help sustain the lives of a number of Korean plant species.

Start: Daegok Station—Waegwanjigu Jeonjeok Memorial Hall
Distance: 41 km
Time: 2 hrs 45 mins
Website: www.riverguide.go.kr

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Road of Hooded Cranes

Before heavy industrialization and construction of the Sungseon Bridge (where Gangjeong Port used to be) took place, Haepyeong’s nutrient-rich wetlands and various regions along the Nakdonggang River were wide and fertile. Recognizing the problems from industrialization eco-initiatives recently took place, and the number of birds has been on the rise. The area now attracts migratory birds flying to Siberia and Northern parts of China and those spending their winter in Japan.

Start: Haepheyong migratory birds inhabits—Haepheyong bus terminal
Distance: 68 km
Time: 3 hrs 30 mins
Website: www.riverguide.go.kr

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WHAT TO SEE

↜ Daegu Arboretum Located in Daegok-dong, Dalseo-gu, Daegu, this thriving 0.25 kilometer square arboretum was once a garbage landfill. Daegu City officials implemented the changes to resolve rising environment concerns and in May 2002, the arboretum, featuring needle leaf trees, broad leaf trees, flower trees, medicinal plant, dye center and the other 21 educational centers, was completed. To date, 60,000 trees, 1,100 flower gardens, and 130,000 pieces of herbaceous ornamentals have been planted. Moreover, 300 pieces of potted plants, 2,000 species of cactuses, and 300 pieces of viewing stones are also on display, making this the ultimate metropolitan arboretum.

*(www.daegu.go.kr/Forestry) (053-803-3609)*

↜ Waegwan District War Memorial Center Located in Jungji-ri, Seokjeok-eup, Chilgok-gun, Gyeongbuk, this commemorative building was built on July 1st, 1978, where North Koreans occupied Daegu in a final battle around the Nakdonggang River.

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WHAT TO EAT

↜ Daegu’s Gyeongbuk area is a large producer of beef, and is therefore famous for its yukhoe (raw Korean beef). Prices are very reasonable.

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WHAT TO SEE

↜ Haepyeong Habitat for Migratory Birds Located in Haepyeong-ri, Haepyeong-myeon, Gumi, Gyeongbuk, this 13.2 hectare wetlands is nestled in the middle stem of the Nakdonggang River. Every winter, many kinds of migratory birds gather around—resident bird-like eagles, mandarin duck, heron, the white-naped crane, hooded crane, and swans, making it ideal for bird-watching.

↜ Dorisa Temple This was the first temple that introduced Buddhism to the peninsula during the Silla Dynasty. It is the birthplace of Haedong Buddhism, which was introduced by monk Adohwasang in Silla's Nuljiwang 19 century (AC 417). Located at Mt.Naengsan in Songgok-ri, Haepyeong-myeon, Gumi-si, the historic Buddhist temple harmonizes beautifully with the woody pine trees, creating an atmosphere of ultimate tranquility.

*(www.dorisa.or.kr) (054-474-3737)*

↜ Naksan-ri Ancient Tombs The area around Naksan-ri, Haepyeong-myeon, Gumi-si was once under the control of Gaya and Silla Dynasties. Located in Naksan-ri, Haepyeong-myeon, the ancient tombs consist of tombs from over 205 centuries, stemming from the Gaya and Silla Dynasties.

*(054-450-6062)*

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WHAT TO EAT

↜ Beef Restaurants Gumi is home to many signature Korean beef restaurants.
Samgang Tavern and Nomokgil Road

This is a great place to grasp the beautiful views of Nakdonggang River’s gracefully meandering water lines. It is here where the Naeseongcheon Stream rising from Mt. Taebaeksan and the Geumcheon Stream rising from Mt. Jukwolsan meets the Nakdonggang in Samgang-ri. A signature location is Hoeryongpo (its observatory), an island fringed with a sandy shoreline taking the form of a swirling yin and yang.

- Chunge Temple–Heoireongpo
- 41km 2hrs 40mins www.riverguide.go.kr

INFORMATION

WHAT TO SEE

- **Gyeongcheondae**
  Located in Samdeok-ri, Sabeol-myeon, Sangju-si, the area was chosen as the best vantage point to grasp views of the Nakdonggang River. As locals believe it is granted by God himself, it is also called ‘Jacheondae’. Gyeongcheondae is home to the crane-shaped Cheonjubong. The pine tree rooted on the cliff side facing the Nakdong River is particularly memorable, and hiking here is especially good. The course starts from a manmade waterfall, and continues along a stone pagoda road, passing the observatory, Gyeongcheondae and finally the Chulreong Bridge.
  - [gyeongcheondae.sangju.go.kr](http://gyeongcheondae.sangju.go.kr) 054-536-7040

- **Hoeryongpo**
  This is where the upper Nakdonggang River stream circles around 350 degrees before flowing through the village. A swirling yin-yang shape is created by the tail of Mt. Taebaeksan’s water stream.
  - 054-650-6789

WHAT TO EAT

- **Korean Beef** Sangju’s Gyeongbuk has long since been the city for beef, rice, silkworm, and dried persimmons. Its nutrient-rich soils are ideal for crop growth. It was recently discovered that cows that feed on dried persimmon skin produce the best meat. Sangju city is home to the signature Sanggam Korean beef.

Buyongdae’s Jeolgaegil Road

Experience Korea’s ancient history up close along this trail. Encircled by the Nakdonggang River, Andong’s Gyeongbuk is an impressively well-preserved area full of temples, Confucian schools and head residences. Regarded as the capital of the ‘Korean Spirit’, Andong is home to an abundance of traditional foods, architecture and recreational activities from many years ago, such as traditional mask ceremonies.

- Andong city Folk museum–Byeongsan Seowon
- 51km 3hrs 30mins www.riverguide.go.kr

INFORMATION

WHAT TO SEE

- **Hahoe Village** Registered as a UNESCO world heritage, this beautiful 600-year-old village stands exactly how it was hundreds of years ago, keeping much to the traditions that prevailed long ago. Particularly memorable is Ryu Seong-ryong’s head residence Chungyodang, which is representative of a typical nobleman’s house during the mid Joseon Dynasty. www.hahoe.or.kr 054-853-0109

- **Byeongsanseowon Confucian School** Located in arguably Korea’s most scenic area is UNESCO world’s heritage site, Byeongsan. Situated along the Nakdonggang River in Andong, this Confucian school commemorates the spirit of Ryu Seong-ryong, one of the prime ministers during the Joseon Dynasty. In 1668 when Daewongun ordered that all Confucian schools be closed, this school remained open. www.byegongsan.net 054-858-5929

- **Bongjeongsa Temple** This temple was visited by Queen Elizabeth the 2nd in 1999. Located at the base of Mt. Cheondeungsan, Seohu-myeon, Andong-si, the traditional wooden building was built in the mid Goryeo Period (1363).
  - [www.nyjmuseum.go.kr](http://www.nyjmuseum.go.kr) 031-576-0558

WHAT TO EAT

- **Heotjesabap** Scholars of Andong used to regularly eat foods reserved for memorial ceremonies even on non-ceremonial days, earning the nickname ‘heotjesabap’.
Supplying essential nutrients that maintain soil fertility and a rich biodiversity, the Yeongsangang River is the source of life for the Honam Province. Flowing through Gwangju and several cities in the Jeonnam province, representing the joys and sorrows of the southern provincial people. Currently referred to as Yeongsanpo, the river rises in Gamagol Yongso, Damyang-gun, Jeolla Province, and flows through Gwangju, Naju, Hampyeong, Yeongam, Mokpo-si before finally spilling into the West Sea.

GREAT VANTAGE POINTS FOR CAPTURING YEONGSAN RIVER

1. Yeongsan River–Estuary: The beautiful balance of the sunset with brilliant reed fields along the Yeongsangang River is simply breathtaking.
   ▶ Okam-dong, Mokpo-si, Jeonnam

   ▶ Dongdang-ri, Dasi-myeon, Naju-si
**Masilgil Road**

Experience the amazing tastes and scenic charms of Mokpo. Gatbawi Rock Marine Masilgil Road is particularly memorable and has recently become a popular spot for picnics and field trips.

- Yeongsan Lake-Jayeongsan Museum
- 19km  1hr
- www.riverguide.go.kr

**WHAT TO SEE**

* Yeongsanho Lake
  Yeongsanho Lake was formed with the establishment of Yeongsan’s riverbanks. In 1981, designated as a National Tourist Attraction due to its verdant beauty, the area was developed into a huge leisure park. Not long after that, the Tourism & Agriculture museum was opened, and several other entertainment facilities were established, including outdoor swimming pools and motorboat rentals. There are also cruise ships that run from Oedo, Samho-eup to Migyo, Maewol-ri, Haksan-myeon. The area is the biggest fishery in the Honam area and is widely known for carp fishing. Also, during early fall, hairtail fishing boats bustle around the offshore sea walls.

- Gatbawi Rock
  Gatbawi Rock is located in Yonghae-dong, Mokpo-si, where fresh water meets the sea. Weathered by the wind and water, the shape of the rocks resembles the gat (a traditional Korean hat worn by scholars during the Joseon Dynasty); hence its name is called gatbawi. There is a viewing deck where visitors may take photos.

**WHAT TO EAT**

* Black Eelpout
  Mokpo is the trading hub for deep sea black eelpout. Rich in essential oils, this fish caught from the deep seas is extremely tender and rich in nutrients. It is often compared with the silver eelpout, given its blackish color, it is by far the best in terms of taste. The center of the city Mokpo has some of the best well known black eelpout grill and stew restaurants. Mokpo is also well known for its red crab dishes and bibimbap, and sliced raw skate.

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**Gurimgil Road**

Along this course you can see and feel the 2200-year-old Gurim Village, the oldest village in Korea. Particularly memorable is the road leading to Dr. Wangin’s Historic Site from Sangdaepo, where its history and culture remains very much alive. The area around the Dr. Wangin Historical Site is dotted with several notable attractions such as Ganjukjeong Pavilion, Jukrimjeong Pavilion, the Yeongam Ceramic Museum, and Tongjesa Temple.

- Sangdaepo-Wanginbaksu historical site
- 4km  15mins  www.riverguide.go.kr

**WHAT TO SEE**

* Dr. Wangin Historical Site
  Yeongam, Jeonnam is the birthplace of Dr. Wangin, who brought the Asuka culture to Japan. Located in Donggurim-ri, Gunseo-myeon, Yeongam-gun, Dr. Wangin’s historic site has a shrine, the house of his birth, and the ‘Book Cave,’ where he studied.

  @ wangin.yeongam.go.kr  061-470-2560

* Gurim Village
  Yeongam Village is the oldest town in Korea, with a long and treasured history. Walking along the earthen walled streets, you can find the traces of Dr. Wangin and Doseonguksa, a feng-shui master. The area also harbors a tale of heartbreaking romance. It is believed that long ago, during the Joseon Dynasty, a Korean-geisha named Hongrang and Choi Gyeongchang, a nobleman, were in love. Though their relationships resulted in Choi’s dismissal from office, he never gave up his love for Hongrang and proudly included his writings of her in his anthology.

  @ ygurim.namdominbak.go.kr  061-472-0939

**WHAT TO EAT**

* A mudskipper stew
  It has long been believed that tasty foods can come even from the muddiest of environments. There are lots of famous restaurants lined up along the street, serving mudskippers and small octopus. Especially, Dokcheon-ri, Haksan-myeon is well known for small octopus dishes.
Hoesan Baekryeonjigil Road

This is a representative bike trail in the estuary of the Yeongsangang River. The route passes through the S-shaped Muldori, Mongtannaru Port before reaching the Hoesan Baekryeonjigil Road. You can catch views of the lighthouse and surrounding islands. During summertime, the magnificent lotus pond provides visitors with the best photo opportunities.

Neureoji-Hoesan Baekryeonji
15km 30mins www.riverguide.go.kr

WHAT TO SEE

* Neureojitteul As its name suggests, this road is located in Iisan-ri, Mongtan-myeon, Muan-gun, Jeonnam, where the waterway slows down and creates a unique S-shaped curve. It was formed between the Mongtan area on the left side towards Naju further up past Sikyeongjeong Pavilion, and Gokcheon on the right side of Donggang-myeon. The view from the Biryongsa temple all the way to the Bokryong observatory is considered to be equally as beautiful as Andong’s Hahoe Village or Yeocheon’s Hoeryongpo. The area is also famous for carp fishing.

* Mongtannaru Port This name came from the battle between Wanggeon and Gyeonhwon. The port on both sides of Okjeong-ri, Donggang-myeon, Naju-si and Myeongsan-ri, Muan is called Mongtang. Originally this place was the resting point for travelers on their way from Yeongsanhae.

* Muan Hoesan Baekryeonji This is a very special place in Muan. Bokryong-ri, Ilo-eup, Muan-gun is home to the biggest lotus flower ponds in Asia. White lotus flowers reach their peak in August.

WHAT TO EAT

* A Straw Fire Grill Grilling pork over a burning straw fire makes the meat soak up the scent of straw while draining off fat, making it wonderfully tender. The dish is especially good with onion kimchi and gijroat (salted fish made with mud crabs). This is a trademark dish of Muan.

Hwangpo Sailing Boat Road

This is a relaxing course along the Yeongsangang River. This course starts from Dayatteul, passes through Yeongsanpo Port then back to the initial point. The 6km course is ideal for those who wish to travel at a relaxed speed while viewing the surrounding beauty and the occasional sailing boats drifting by.

Dayatteul-Youngsan Port
6km 40mins www.riverguide.go.kr

WHAT TO SEE

* Naju Video Theme Park
Located in Singok-ri, Gongsan-myeon, Naju-si became famous for providing the background of several hugely popular soap operas including “Jumong” and “The story of the Great King’s Four Gods”. The movie “Frozen flower” was also filmed here.
www.najuthemepark.com 061-335-7008

* Yeongsanpo Hwangpo Sailing Boat
A good way to relive history and absorb the beauties of the Yeongsangang River is to sit in one of the reproductions of an old Hwangpo Sailing Boat. Since October 1977, Hwangpo Sailing Boats disappeared for 31 years, but they have recently come back. This boat runs from Dayatteul, passes through Naju Video Theme Park and Seokgwangjeong & Geumgangjeong Pavilions, a beautiful 6km stretch. This course is a great way to truly experience the Yeongsangang.

WHAT TO EAT

* Yeongsanpo Port Skate (hong-ae) Hong-ae, or the skate fish is often considered to be a representative dish of Mokpo. In fact, the origin of fermented skate comes from Yeongsanpo Port, Naju. Yeongsanpo once flourished as the hub for trade in the Namdo area. In the past, skate caught from Heuksando Island was transported to Yeongsanpo, which took 10 days and made them perfectly fermented enough to eat. There are numerous restaurants around Yeongsanpo that serve this dish.
**Uihyanggil Road**

This is where you can experience the righteous spirit of the Gwangju citizens. This course runs along the Nuljaero Road before reaching Pyochungsa Temple, where you can feel the spirit of noblemen and scholars such as Nuljae Baksang, Jebong Gogyeongmyeong, and Bakhoryeon. Pyochungsa was built to commemorate the death of General Gogyeongmyeong and his two sons during the Geumsan Battle.

- Seocheing Naru-Seongcheonbo
- 12km 40mins  www.riverguide.go.kr

**WHAT TO SEE**

*Seungchonbo Reservoir*  Gwansan-gu, Gwanju used to suffer from drought and flash flooding. Locals even joke that “If a big baby pees, the river will flood.” However after the Seungchonbo Reservoir was built, flash-flooding no longer caused trouble. Yeongsangang River flowing through this area restored the old waterways, calming its roaring rivers. An eco-lake park built around the river is used as a nature research center.

*Gossaum Theme Park*  The Gossaum Experience Theme Park is located in the picturesque 1000-year-old Chilseok Village, and here, there is a hugely popular 800-year-old ginkgo tree worth seeing.

*Mangwijeong Pavilion*  A pavilion located in the middle of 4628m² sized pond. The beautiful wooden bridge adds to its charm.

**WHAT TO EAT**

*Ddeokgalbi Street*  Surrounded by Mt. Mudeungsan of Gwangju, Mt. Wolchulsan of Yeongam, and Mt. Geumseongsan of Naju, the Seungchonbo Reservoir is famous for its reputedly delicious restaurants. Near Gwansan-gu in Gwanju there is the famous Ddeokgalbi Street, where many duck restaurants and the Naju Gomtang are also a must.

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**Naju Walking Road**

Naju was once the center of the Jeolla Province. Together with Jeonju, Naju was the administrative and military base of the Jeolla province. At the beginning of the Goryeo Dynasty, there were twelve mok (local cities), with Najumok established towards the end of the Joseon Dynasty. Once considered a village of local officials, the Naju went on to experience 912 years of solid growth, seeing 300 local officials pass their lives within its walls.

- Namgumun-Naju Hanggyo
- 3km 12mins

**WHAT TO SEE**

*Geumseonggwan*  This establishment acted as both a hotel and a regional palace. A series of Geumseonggwan were built in major cities from the Goryeo to the Joseon Dynasty to accommodate officials and noblemen. At the start and halfway mark of every month, officials held a memorial service to commemorate the king. The hotel building located to the right and left side of Geumseonggwan was used to accommodate the central government officials. It has been recently restored, and there are currently two beautiful ginkgo trees in the back yard.

*Jeongsuru Gate*  A gateway to the Naju government office, it was used as a concert hall where many concerts and competitions were held throughout the 1970’s and the 1980’s. Now a big drum hangs in its place. This drum was installed before the Korean War for townspeople to announce the time of day. Beside this gate, a Naju wood culture center is located to provide information on Naju’s history.

**WHAT TO EAT**

*Naju-gomtang (beef soup)*  Naju-gomtang is known for its clear and refreshing taste. This delicious broth is made by adding beef brisket to a boiling broth of cow bones. There are many gomtang restaurants in front of Geumseonggwan near the Maeil Market.
Gasa Cultural Area Journey Road
This is further proof of Gwangju’s reputation as a city of art. Decorating much of the trail are historical signposts symbolizing classic Korean literature; Songgangjeong Pavilion, Myeongokheon Garden, Sikyeongjeong Pavilion and Hwanbyekdang Pavilion can all be seen from the trail.

- Songgangjeong-Doksujeong
  - 20km ☻️ 1 hour 30mins
  - www.riverguide.go.kr

WHAT TO SEE

- **Songgangjeong Pavilion**
  Located in Wongang-ri, Goseo-myeon, Damyang-gun, Jeonnam and harmonizing with the mountains and the seas, this is where the foundation of Korea’s lyrical culture lies. Heralded as the master of lyrical culture Songgang, it is here where Jeongcheol wrote ‘Samingok’ and ‘Sokmiingok,’ songs denoting his endless loyalty to the King.

- **Journey of Pavilions**
  Damyang is known for its pavilions, particularly the Sikyeongjeong Pavilion and Myeongokheon Pavilion which are located on the steep bamboo road, Myeonganjeong Pavilion. Many pavilions mentioned in the lyrical culture books can be found here. Another notable attraction is Soswaewon Garden in Jigok-ri, Nammyeon, which was built by Yang Sanbo to commemorate his mentor Jo gwang-jo who was killed during political conflict while showing his determination and refusal to submit to society’s wishes at the time. The garden represents the best harmonization of nature and man-made beauty. Soswaewon: ☎️ www.soswaewon.co.kr (061-382-1071)

WHAT TO EAT

- **Ddeolgalbi** You cannot leave Damyang without getting a taste of their ddeolgalbi. The dish was created by a court lady to provide a meat dish for the kings that is easy to eat and digest. Made from the best ribs, the meat is finely minced then marinaded with a mouth-watering special sauce.

Metasequoia Road
With a towering canopy of metasequoia reaching out to the sky, this is the quintessential tree-lined road. Arguably the months of summer and fall are the best times to visit. Needless to say, the road provides the most beautiful scenes for photos. Along with the Forest of Gwanbang Seawalls covered in broadleaf trees, the Metasequoia Road is regarded as one of Damyang’s best places to visit.

- Juknongwon-Damyangho
  - 34km ☻️ 2hrs ☻️ www.riverguide.go.kr

WHAT TO SEE

- **Juknokwon Garden**
  This large bamboo forest located in Hyanggyo-ri, Damyang-eup, Damyang-gun, is by the Hyanggyo Bridge along the Damyangcheon Stream and Forest of Gwanbang Seawalls. Approximately 160,000m², the grounds were established at the base of Mt. Seonginsan in May 2003. Inside the wind-swept premises visitors can drink delicious Jukro tea, which is said to have been made from dewdrops. At the observatory beside the Damyang steam you can see Forest of Gwanbang Seawalls covered with 300-year-old trees and the Metasequoia Road.
  - juknokwon.go.kr
  - 061-380-2680

- **Geumseong Fortress**
  This is one of three largest fortresses of the Honam region. The best vantage point is the Nojeokbong and Cheolmabong along the left side of Chungyongmun Gate. When you reach the top, you can see the beautiful view of Damyangho Lake below. Early mornings are especially beautiful, as the lake is calm and the mist is described by locals to resemble a dragon rising up to the sky.

WHAT TO EAT

- **Daetongbab** Daetongbab is a Damyang delicacy. Bamboo trees are cut into pieces then filled with rice, black rice, gingko nuts, pine nuts, jujube and chestnuts. Then it is covered with a thin piece of rice paper and steamed for approximately an hour. While the steaming takes place, the bamboo sap seeps into the rice giving it a wonderful scent as well as healthy nutrients.