

North Korea

Behind the Closed Doors

August 22 – September 1, 2012 Tour Cost \$3,800

NORTH KOREA (DPRK)

North Korea is an unusual destination, but not as remote or difficult as it is perceived. The number of tourist visas is limited to about 1,500 per year and given primarily to those traveling in groups. The Council is an approved group and we expect our visas to be issued again. Entering the country legally, we will be safe and welcomed.

The Korean people are polite, modest, and diligent. They have a sense of patriotism for their country and of national unity. They will often talk about the single-heart unity of the Korean people. Respect for the elderly is assumed. Guests are warmly welcomed; cities are clean. The people are formal, but also kind and interested in Americans.

This tour to North Korea will give a glimpse of life and a chance to see the cultural heritage inside this reclusive country.

In addition to the opportunity to witness the unique Arirang Mass Games in Pyongyang, we will visit the DMZ with a heavily militarized border just 50 miles away from Seoul, South Korea and see firsthand the resulting conditions of the armistice of 1953.

You will be one of the handful of people who gained access to this closed-to-world but interesting country.



Tour Price of \$3,800 includes:

- Two nights in Beijing, seven nights in North Korea
- Accommodations, room tax
- Special dinner at Chairman Mao Restaurant in Beijing
- Tour services in North Korea w/private A/C coach & English-speaking guides
- Daily breakfast in Beijing, all meals in North Korea
- Round trip flights Beijing to Pyongyang

Not included:

- Int'l airfare to/from USA or Beijing
- Visas: N. Korea \$50 (est), China (dbl entry)
- Travel ins, personal exp, tips: \$75(est)
- Drinks with meals
- Single supplement: \$583
- Arirang Festival tickets: 100 Euros pp (est)

Itinerary:

USA – BEIJING

Day 1: Wed, Aug 22

Fly from USA to Beijing, China

ARRIVE IN BEIJING

DAY 2: Fri, Aug 23

You will arrive in Beijing. Leisure for rest of the day.

Meals: None Overnight: Beijing

BEIJING

Day 3: Fri, Aug 24

Day of leisure in Beijing while our visas for North Korea are being prepared. We will have a meeting at the hotel to review our program.

In the evening, a special dinner has been scheduled at Chairman Mao Restaurant.

Meals: B/-/D Overnight: Beijing

BEIJING – PYONGYANG

DAY 4: Sat, Aug 25

We will leave hotel at 10:00 AM for Beijing Capital Airport. We leave Beijing for Pyongyang on Air Koryo flight JS 152 at 1:00 PM and arrive in Pyongyang at 4 PM. We will be welcomed by our guides. Transfer into the city and visit the Arch of Triumph, Taedong Gate and Pyongyang Bell. Early in the evening we will check in our hotel for overnight.

Meals: B/-/D Overnight: Pyongyang

PYONGYANG

DAY 5: Sun, Aug 26

Today we will have a Pyongyang city tour. Pyongyang, a city of more than three million people, was built almost entirely from scratch after its destruction during the Korean War. We will visit the main highlights of the city: Kim Il Sung Square, Mansudae Fountain Park, Mansudae Grand Monuments and Juche Tower. We will also have the opportunity to visit a local bookstore where we can buy books and posters about North Korea.

We will have lunch on Boat Pyongyang No.1 on Taedong River which divides the city. Next we will walk through Moran Park to see how the locals enjoy their weekend picnics. In the evening we will see the circus performance.

Meals: B/L/D Overnight: Pyongyang

PYONGYANG – MT. MYOHYANG

Day 6: Mon, Aug 27

This morning we will leave Pyongyang for Mt. Myohyang. This is a nice resort area about 100 miles to the north. At the foot of the thickly wooded mountain there stands the International Friendship Exhibition where we can see the gifts presented to Presidents Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il. We will also visit Buddhist Pohyon Temple, which is one of the five large temples in Korea and trek in the mountain to Manpok Waterfall.

Meals: B/L/D Overnight: Mt. Myohyang

MT. MYOHYANG – PYONGYANG

DAY 7: Tue, Aug 28

In the morning we will drive back to Pyongyang, visiting the tomb of King Tongmyong en route. King Tongmyong was the founder of the ancient Koguryo kingdom, northernmost of the three kingdoms of Korea. We will have lunch in the Yanggakdo hotel. In the afternoon we will visit Koryo Medical Center and Film Studios. In the evening we will attend the Arirang Mass Games, the highlight of our tour, which will take place in the May Day Stadium.

Meals: B/L/D Overnight: Pyongyang

PYONGYANG - NAMPO

DAY 8: Wed, Aug 29

In the morning we will continue our tour in Pyongyang with Grand People Study House, metro stations and USS Pueblo, a US surveillance vessel that was captured by North Koreans in January 1968.

Next we will have lunch in the hot pot restaurant. In the afternoon we will visit Revolutionary Martyr's cemetery, Mansudae Art Studio, Mangyongdae native home of the President Kim Il Sung.

Late in the afternoon we will drive one and half hour to Nampo, the second largest city of DPRK, which is located along the western sea coast and check into our hotel.

Meals: B/L/D

Overnight: Nampo

NAMPO – PYONGYANG - KAESONG

DAY 9: Thu, Aug 30

This morning we will visit West Sea Barrage: It is located 10 miles west of the city; a huge eight-kilometer system of dams, three lock chambers allowing the passage of ships up to 50,000 tons. The dam closes the Taedong River off from the Yellow Sea, preventing the salt water intrusion into fresh water system and regulating the rise of water in the Taedong River, allowing for increased ship traffic.

Then we will drive back to Pyongyang. On the way we will have a short walk and barbeque lunch in the valley of Mt. Ryongak.

Upon arrival in Pyongyang, we will attend a show at the Schoolchildren's Palace. And then two and a half hour drive to Kaesong.

Meals: B/L/D

Overnight: Kaesong

KAESONG - PYONGYANG

DAY 10: Fri, Aug 31

In the morning we will visit the DMZ at Panmunjom, in addition to the Armistice Hall in which the armistice agreement was signed in 1953. We will also visit Koryo Museum.

After lunch in a local restaurant, we will visit the Tomb of King Kongmin who was the 31st king of the Koryo Kingdom. Then we will drive back to Pyongyang. A duck barbeque dinner will be served in the Pyongyang Duck restaurant.

Meals: B/L/D

Overnight: Pyongyang

PYONGYANG – BEIJING - USA

DAY 11: Sat, Sep 1

Departure for Beijing on Air Koryo flight JS 151 at 9:00 AM. Arrival in Beijing at 10:00 AM. Afternoon flight back to USA or continue to South Korea trip.

HOTELS: FOUR STAR OR BEST AVAILABLE
HOTELS IN EACH CITY.

City	Hotel
Beijing	BW Premiere
Pyongyang	Yanggakdo Hotel
Mt. Myohyang	Mt. Myohyang Hotel
Nampo	Ryonggang Spa Guesthouse
Kaesong	Folk Hotel
