

EL SOL TRAVEL & TOURS SDN BHD - 54B, 1st Flr, Jln Desa Bakti, Tmn Desa, 58100 KL  
Tel: 603 7984 4560 Fax: 7984 4561 david@elsoltravel.com www.elsoltravel.com

**9D8N Apr 9 – 17, 2016**

## **SOUTH KOREA SPRING Cherry Blossom**

Seoul, Nami Island, Seoraksan, Jeju Island, Gyeongju, Haeinsa Temple & Busan

### **DAY 1 SAT APR 9: Incheon Airport arrival - Mt Seorak**

**(B/L/D)**



Depart KLIA2 1am. Arrival Incheon Airport 8.20am. Transfer for noodle breakfast. Proceed to **Mt Seorak National Park**. The mountain was named Seorak ('Seol' meaning 'snow' and 'Ak' meaning 'big mountain') because the snow would not melt for a long time keeping the rocks in a permanent state of white. At the national park, visit **Sinhung Temple** and ascend to the **summit by cable car** (return cable car ticket inclusive; subject to weather conditions). Walk up to the impressive **Kwengumseong Fortress**. Then transfer to resort to overnight.

### **DAY 2 SUN APR 10: Mt Seorak - Nami Island - Seoul**

**(B/L)**



Transfer to Nami Island and enjoy a **boat ride to Nami Island**. The half moon shape island was formed as a result of the construction of the Cheongpyeong Dam. It became famous as a scenic location in the filming of the Korean drama, "Winter Sonata".

Transfer to **Seoul**. Visit **UNESCO World Heritage Changdeokgung Palace Complex** including entrance ticket to the **Palace's Secret Garden** (CLOSED on MONDAYS). This palace is the most well-preserved of the five remaining royal Joseon palaces; the most unique attribute is its large rear garden (known as "Secret Garden"), a place of rest for the kings.



Then leisure time in **Insadong** (the oldest part of Seoul and famous for handicrafts and souvenirs). Dinner on your own. Overnight in Seoul.

**DAY 3 MON APR 11: Seoul**

**(B/L/D)**



Drive by the **Blue House**, the official residence of the South Korean president. Then visit **Cheonggyecheon Stream**, a stream in the middle of the city that was once covered over by an overhead road, now revealed and developed into a park. Drive by **Namdaemun Gate** (restored after damaged

by a fire in 2008, this is South Korea's National Treasure No. 1). At leisure time in **Myeondong** shopping area. Stop by the Ginseng Outlet.



Visit **Yeouido Yungjung-ro Cherry Blossom Tunnel** (subject to flower blossoms & weather conditions). Then to **63 City** to visit Sea World Aquarium, Sky Art Gallery & Wax Museum (Big 3 ticket included). Overnight in Seoul.

**DAY 4 TUE APR 12: Seoul – flight - Jeju**

**(B/L/D)**



Transfer to airport for flight to **Jeju** island. On arrival in Jeju, transfer for lunch. Then visit **Jeju Folklore & Natural History Museum** and **Yongduam Rock** (Dragon Head Rock). Proceed to the **Ghost Road**, where objects and liquid appear to roll and flow up the hill instead of down; visit and find out why? Overnight in Jeju city.

**DAY 5 WED APR 13: Jeju**

**(B/L/D)**



Visit **UNESCO World Heritage Manjanggul Lava Tube Cave**, which at a length of 13.4km, is one of the finest lava tunnels in the world. A lava tunnel is formed when the lava that was deep in the ground spouts out to the surface. Then visit **UNESCO World Heritage Seongsan Ilchulbong**, a peak that rose from under the sea in a volcanic eruption over 100,000 years ago. The huge crater on top is about 600m in diameter and 90m high. Continue to **Seopjikoji**, a scenic seaside area of green fields, stonewalls and a lighthouse. Then to **Cheongjiyeon Waterfall** "God's pond", it derives its name from the legend of seven fairies serving the King of Heaven that came down to the pond on stairs of cloud and bathed there. Next, visit **Jusangjeollidae**, which are rock pillars

shaped like cubes or hexagons piled up along the coast. They are formed when the lava from Hallasan Mountain erupted into the sea of Jungmun. Return to Jeju city to overnight.

**DAY 6 THU APR 14: Jeju – flight - Busan**

**(B/L/D)**



Transfer to airport for morning flight to **Busan**. Besides being the 2nd largest city of South Korea, Busan is also its largest port city and the world's fifth busiest seaport by cargo tonnage. Visit **Busan Tower**, a 118m tall tower at Yongdusan Park (including ticket to observation deck); enjoy view of

Busan from observation deck. Then to **Busan International Film Festival (BIFF) Square**. Divided into 'Star Street' and 'Festival Street'; it has grown beyond hosting a collection of movie theatres to become a popular shopping area. Overnight in Busan.

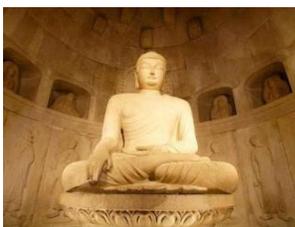
**DAY 7 FRI APR 15: Busan – Gyeongju**

**(B/L/D)**

Transfer to **Gyeongju**, which was the capital of the ancient Silla kingdom (57 BC – 935 AD) which ruled about two-thirds of the Korean Peninsula between the 7th and 9th centuries. Here you visit the **3 UNESCO World Heritage attractions: Bulguksa Temple, Seokguram Grotto & Gyeongju Historic Areas**.



**Bulguksa Temple** is a head temple of the Jogye Order of Korean Buddhism and encompasses seven National treasures of South Korea, including Dabotap and Seokgatap stone pagodas, Cheongun-gyo (Blue Cloud Bridge), and two gilt-bronze statues of Buddha. The temple is classified as Historic and Scenic Site No. 1 by the South Korean government and considered as a masterpiece of the golden age of Buddhist art in the Silla kingdom.



The **Seokguram Grotto** is an artificial grotto made from granite and is unique in design. The main Buddha statue in the center is 3.5 meters in height and sits on a 1.34 meter tall lotus pedestal. It exemplifies some of the best Buddhist sculptures in the world.



**Gyeongju Historic Areas** encompass the ruins of temples and palaces, outdoor pagodas and statuary, and other cultural artifacts left by the Silla Kingdom. You will visit **Cheonmachong Tomb** (tomb of an unknown Silla Kingdom king), **Anapji Pond** (an artificial pond that was part of the Banwolsong palace complex of ancient Silla Kingdom), **Cheomseongdae Observatory** (an astronomical observatory built in the 7th century) and **Bunhwangsa Pagoda** (a temple complex, recorded to have been built in 634 under the auspices of Queen Seondeok). Overnight in Gyeongju.

**DAY 8 SAT APR 16: Gyeongju – Haeinsa Temple – Busan**

**(B/L/D)**



Transfer to visit **UNESCO World Heritage Haeinsa Temple**, most notable for being the home of the Tripitaka Koreana, the whole of the Buddhist Scriptures carved onto 81,350 wooden printing blocks, which it has housed since 1398. Its location amidst serene Gaya mountains and forests makes an enjoyable visit.



Transfer to **Busan** and visit **Gamcheon Culture Village**. Formerly the almost deserted village Taeguokdo, the houses have been repainted with bright colours and the village turned into an ‘artsy’ village popular with tourists and photographers. Overnight in Busan.

**DAY 9 SUN APR 17: Busan departure**

**(B/L)**



Visit **Haeundae Beach** (longest beach in South Korea and popular with tourists both local and foreign) and **APEC House** (used for the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation conference in the past). Then to **Jagalchi Seafood Market** and enjoy

**Jagalchi Seafood Buffet**. Transfer to airport for 5pm departure flight. Arrival KLIA2 10.20pm.

**RATES:** per person, twin sharing, minimum 16 persons group

- a) Ground Tour package inclusive Domestic Flight Tickets = RM 5490
- b) Air Asia ticket = RM 1400 (online price on Nov 17, subject to change by Air Asia)
- c) Travel Insurance = RM 52

**TOTAL = RM 6,942 /person**

Single Supplement RM 1490

Rates & itinerary subject to changes in Forex rates, unforeseen surcharges, weather, local conditions, etc.

### **INCLUSIVE:**

- a) Air Asia KL to Incheon and Busan to KL air tickets  
(at RM 1400 online price on Nov 17, subject to change by Air Asia)  
And Domestic Air tickets Seoul to Jeju and Jeju to Busan
- b) Return airport-hotel transfers and private coach for tour excursion
- c) Hotel accommodation: SEORAK: Seorak Pines Resort (4 star) or similar  
SEOUL: Benikea Bernoui (4 star) or similar  
JEJU: Cheju Palace (3 star) or similar  
BUSAN: Seacloud Hotel (3 star) or similar  
GYEONGJU: Daemyung Resort (4 star) or similar
- d) Meals as per listed in itinerary above
- e) English speaking tour guide
- f) Entrance fees for all attractions inclusive as per itinerary
- g) Guide & Driver tipping
- h) 4 shopping stops: ginseng, healthy liver supplements, cosmetic and local food products
- i) Travel insurance
- j) Accompanying El Sol Travel tour leader

### **EXCLUDING:**

- a) Dinner on Apr 10 (while in Insadong shopping street)
- b) Visa not required for Malaysians visiting South Korea. Other nationalities to be advised.
- c) Expenses of personal nature like activities not part of itinerary, laundry charges, mini bar charges, tipping to hotel/restaurant staff, etc.