

USC MARSHALL SCHOOL EMBA EXPORT CLASS 40

SEOUL, SOUTH KOREA

OCTOBER 19TH – 25TH, 2025

USEFUL INFORMATION ABOUT KOREA

WEATHER

The normal temperatures in Seoul for October ranges from 64 to 77 degrees Fahrenheit, with occasional rain showers.

CLOTHING

Informal wear is common in Seoul. Bring clothing that can be layered and a sweater and/or light jacket as evenings can be cool. Comfortable shoes are recommended. You may wish to bring something for more formal occasions: jacket and tie for men, a dress, and a dressier pair of shoes for women. Conservative casual wear is generally acceptable but revealing clothing should be avoided since it may give offense. You should consult your professor about the type of clothing suitable for visits to businesses, corporations, etc.

MONEY

The unit of currency is the **South Korea Won (KRW)**. At the time of writing, the exchange rate is:

1,380 KRW	=	1.00 USD
10,000 KRW	=	7.24 USD
100,000 KRW	=	72.41 USD

You will have to exchange US dollars for local currency at the airport, hotel, banks, ATMs or at tourist facilities with currency exchange counters. Major credit cards are widely accepted at hotels, restaurants, and stores.

TIPPING

Tipping is not customary in South Korea. Most expensive restaurants and hotels add a service charge of 10% to the bill. Taxi drivers also do not expect to receive a tip.

ELECTRICITY

Standard voltage in South Korea is 220V, 60Hz using two-pin plugs. You will need a voltage converter to use your travel equipment.

Type C – European 2-pin outlet



HEALTH

Inoculations

No special inoculations are required for travel in Seoul. Check with your doctor or log on to <http://www.cdc.gov/> for more information.

BOTTLED WATER

Bottled water is a must. The hotels may provide you with complimentary bottled water daily. You can buy bottled water from your mini-bar or at many local stores and tourist sights outside of the hotel. It is suggested you do not drink from the tap water in the hotel.

COMMUNICATIONS

- When calling Seoul from the United States, dial **011 + 82** (South Korea's country code) + **2** (Seoul's area code) + (phone number).
- When calling from Seoul to United States, dial the international code, **00 + 1 +** (area code) + (phone number).

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TAXI

Among the many transportation options, taxis are a convenient choice for getting to destinations that are difficult to reach by subway or bus, or in an unfamiliar area. Most taxis charge passengers according to the taximeter inside the cab and don't require tips. Form of payment can be cash or credit card. You can use K.ride app which is a foreigner-exclusive version of Kakao T. The app is available in English, and it's much more accessible for tourists and accepts overseas credit card registration as a payment method.

TIME

Seoul is currently 16 hours ahead of Los Angeles.

Los Angeles	9:00am	Seoul	1:00am the next day
Seoul	9:00am	Los Angeles	5:00pm the day before

GENERAL HOURS OF OPERATION

Business Hours

9:00a.m. - 6:00p.m., Monday - Friday

Banking Hours

9:00a.m. - 4:00p.m., Monday – Friday, closed weekends & public holidays

Shopping Hours

10:30a.m. - 8:00p.m., Monday – Thursday

10:30a.m. – 8:30p.m., Friday – Sunday & public holidays

TRAVELER'S RESOURCES

- [Korea Travel Guide](#)
- [Food & Restaurant Guide](#)
- [K-Local Food Trip](#)
- [Korean Streets & Alleys](#)
- [Shopping Guide](#)
- [K.ride](#) – essential Taxi App for Travelers
- [Subway Korea](#) – metro map that shows all basic information you need for taking the subway in Korea
- [Papago](#) – is the most widely used online translator app in Korea.
- [Catchtable](#) – is a booking platform used for making restaurant reservations which also has a search feature to see popular restaurants in Korea.

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USEFUL BASIC WORDS & GREETINGS IN THE KOREAN LANGUAGE

Basic Words:

- Yes: ne
- No: aniyo
- Thank you: gamsahamnida
- Please: juseyo
- Excuse me: sillyehamnida
- I'm sorry: joesonghamnida
- Okay: gwaenchanayo
- I don't know: mollayo
- What?: 뭐예요? mwoyeyo?
- How much?: eolmayeyo?

Greetings:

- Hello: annyeonghaseyo
- Hi/Bye (casual): annyeong
- Good morning: joeun achimimnida
- Good evening: joeun jeonyeogimnida
- Goodbye: annyeonghi gaseyo
- How are you?: eotteoke jinaeseyo?
- Nice to meet you: mannaseo bangapseumnida

Other useful phrases:

- What's your name?: ireumi mwoyeyo?
- My name is...: je ileumeun...imnida
- Where is...?: ...i eodiyeyo?
- Please speak slowly: cheoncheonhi malsseumhae juseyo
- I understand: ihae haeyo
- I don't understand: ihae mos haeyo