



KOREAN LANGUAGE SUMMER SCHOOL 2018 **TOUR ITINERARY**

Sunday 15 July 2018 – Monday 6 August 2018 (22 nights in the DPRK)

Pyongyang / Kaesong & DMZ / Mount Myohyang / Wonsan

Kim Hyong Jik University of Education was originally founded in 1946 and is known for being a top university in the DPRK, specialised in pedagogical teacher training and teaching Korean as a second language. The university has its own press and, following the successes of our inaugural 2017 language tour, is printing a new textbook, designed specifically for foreign students of the Korean language. The Korean language summer school at Kim Hyong Jik University of Education offers an intensive and immersive Korean learning experience over a three-week period alongside experienced professors and covers a wide range of topics across listening, speaking, reading and writing. Join us for a once in a lifetime opportunity with daily language instruction and tourism sightseeing, as well as weekend excursions to a variety of locations, including the historic city of Kaesong near the DMZ, the stunning Myohyang mountains, home to the International Friendship Exhibition, and an expedition to the east of Korea and the port city of Wonsan.

Korean Language Summer School Daily Schedule (Monday – Friday)

Mornings (Three hours class time)

08:30 – 09:30	Lecture 1
09:30 – 09:45	Break
09:45 – 10:45	Lecture 2
10:45 – 11:00	Break
11:00 – 12:00	Lecture 3

Afternoons (Private study)

13:00 – 14:00	Lunch
14:00 – 15:00	Self-study and language lab/Homework
15:00 – 16:00	Extra Curricular activities (Taekwondo/Korean Dancing)

Evenings (Sightseeing)

16:00 – 18:00	Daily leisure activities: Pyongyang city tour, Korean Karaoke, Swimming, Sports games with local students, Visiting local attractions etc.
18:00 – 19:00	Dinner
19:00 –	Relaxing

Wednesdays – Special Itinerary

15:00 – 16:30 On Wednesday afternoons we have been given special permission to attend a three-part lecture series at Kim Il Sung University, Pyongyang's most elite educational establishment, providing an insightful take on topics such as Korean culture, food, language, and revolutionary history. Lectures in Korean with live English translation.

The Day Before: Saturday 14th July 2018

You will meet your JTS Tour Guide at a DPRK restaurant in Beijing at 12:00 hrs for a **pre-tour briefing**, visa handover and **complimentary welcome lunch**, where any last-minute questions you have can be answered. Afterwards, we will head to BEIJING STATION and board the K27 towards Pyongyang. 17:27 hrs: **Depart Beijing for Pyongyang!*** We recommend arriving 1-2 hours before your scheduled time of departure to ensure a smooth journey.

*Once arriving at the Chinese border city, Dandong, we will prepare to exit the train. Your JTS Guide will be on hand to ensure you board the correct onward train which will take us directly to Pyongyang. Please note that dinner is not included on this night but dinner boxes can be bought at all stations (hot water available on all trains).

Day 1: Sunday 15th July 2018

1750 hrs – Arrival at **Pyongyang International Train Station**. Welcome to the DPRK! Here you will be met by your KITC guides and driven the short journey through the city. You will enjoy a **city walk** and a chance to stretch your legs.

The group will then be dropped off at the hotel (to be confirmed Pyongyang/Sosan/Haebangsan/Changwangsan 3* standard), where you can move in to your new accommodation, relax and freshen up. Dinner will be served at a restaurant in the city.

Day 2: Monday 16th July 2018

Classes begin! We start with a **meet and greet session** with your new North Korean professors and fellow classmates. The group will be divided according to ability with those in the intermediate and advanced classes taking a brief sorting assessment. Beginners are not required to have any previous knowledge of Korean. Textbooks are provided by the university as per your requirement.

Lunch will be taken at a local restaurant before returning to the hotel where students can relax and freshen up. Afterwards, you will have an opportunity to join our collaborative language lab session, completing homework or simply practicing what you have learned alongside your local guides. Depending on timings, optional **extra-curricular activities** such as Masterclasses in **Taekwondo**, the traditional martial art of Korea, and traditional **Korean dancing** will be available.

Our tourism itinerary this afternoon will see us explore the heart of Pyongyang. We will firstly have a look round the **Mansudae Fountain Park** before having a chance to pay respects at the **Mansudae Grand Monument**, two vast bronze statues of President Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il overlooking Mansu Hill. The bus will then stop at **Kim Il Sung Square**, where many of the military parades take place, for a photo opportunity before the group heads to dinner at the **Taedonggang Diplomatic Club**.

Day 3: Tuesday 17th July 2018

The second day of classes begins again at 8:30AM. Koreans are known for their punctuality so be sure to arrive on time for morning class!

In the afternoon there will be a visit to the **Kwangbok Street Supermarket**, where you can mingle with the local North Koreans and even exchange foreign currency to use Korean won! Dinner will be served at a restaurant in the city.

Day 4: Wednesday 18th July 2018

Classes commence as per the daily schedule.

Instead of joining the afternoon language lab study session, the group today heads to **Kim Il Sung University!** We will firstly be shown round the grounds and buildings of the university before then joining the first part of the special lecture series, hosted by expert professors on a variety of themes.

Dinner is served at the **hotpot restaurant**. Before dinner, there will be an optional visit to the **Taedonggang No. 3 Bar**, serving a full range of tasty locally brewed beers from the nearby Taedonggang Brewery.

Day 5: Thursday 19th July 2018

Classes commence as per the daily schedule.

In the afternoon, we will visit the **Sci-Tech complex**, a newly constructed complex situated in the middle of the Taedong River followed by a **city walk** to take in the warm summer evening and beautiful cityscape of Pyongyang by night.

Day 6: Friday 20th July 2018

Classes commence as per the daily schedule.

After class, students will remain on campus to join (optional) extra-curricular activities such as Korean Dancing or Taekwondo. In the evening, we will have the chance to enjoy some ten-pin bowling at **Gold Lane bowling alley**. To celebrate the end of your first week in the DPRK there will be a chance to sing your heart out with some traditional **Korean Karaoke!** Students should also pack an overnight bag this evening in preparation for the weekend excursion to Kaesong and the DMZ. **On this night an optional excursion to a local pizza restaurant is possible, depending on the group (extra cost).

Day 7: Saturday 21st July 2018

AM: In the morning, students will have the special privilege of visiting the **Kumsusan Palace of the Sun**, the final resting place of President Kim Il Sung and Leader Kim Jong Il. **Formal attire** is required – please avoid open-toe shoes, jeans, T-shirts etc.

Afterwards, students will briefly return to the hotel to change, freshen up and collect their overnight bags. The group will then depart for **Kaesong and the DMZ**. We will stop for lunch in Sariwon City at the 8th March Hotel.

PM: In the afternoon, the group will call in at the **US War Atrocities Museum** in Sinchon. Arriving in Kaesong City, we will check-in at the historic **Kaesong Folk Hotel**. Built in traditional Korean style, guests sleep on the floor and can experience the authentic life of a Koryo citizen. The rest of the afternoon will be given over to exploring **Kaesong City**, including a visit to the **Tomb of King Kongmin**, a UNESCO nominated world heritage site of Royal Tombs from the Koryo Dynasty. After a walk back it is time to retire to the hotel, where dinner will be served.

Day 8: Sunday 22nd July 2018

AM: The group rises early to visit **Panmunjom and the DMZ** where we can see first-hand the physical division of Korea and the immense historical legacy this has had on the nation. Arriving at the DMZ, we will be shown around by officers in the Korean People's Army who will talk to us about the situation

on the ground. Afterwards the group will enjoy a hearty '**Royal Court**' style meal in the customary manner, served on the floor from bronze bowls.

PM: The group then moves to the **Koryo Museum**, consisting of preserved Confucian buildings and a replica mausoleum depicting life in Korea during the Koryo dynasty. At the **Korean Stamp Shop** we can take the opportunity to browse the selection of traditional Korean wares and souvenirs before boarding the bus to begin the **2 hour journey back to Pyongyang**. On route there will be a brief stop at the **Monument to the 3 Charters of National Reunification**. After dinner back in the city, students will have free time to complete homework assignments or relax in the comfort of the hotel.

Day 9: Monday 23rd July 2018

Week two will commence as per the daily schedule. Any class changes or issues can be discussed with the JTS Tour Leader who will be on hand to help.

In the afternoon, we will round off the day with a visit to the impressive **Tower of the Juche Idea**, the largest stone tower in the world representing the self-reliant ideology of the DPRK. The Juche Tower also offers breathtaking views of the summer sunsets from its summit. This is then followed by a stop at the **Party Foundation Monument**.

Day 10: Tuesday 24th July 2018

Classes commence as per the daily schedule.

In the afternoon students can enjoy walking around **Moran Hill** and mixing with the local Pyongyangites. It is then time to visit the **Mangyongdae Schoolchildren's Palace**. In Korea, it is said that 'children are king'. They regularly come to the Schoolchildren's Palace to practice extra-curricular activities such as music, dance, painting, traditional embroidery and other arts.

Dinner will be served this evening at the **Koryo Restaurant**.

Day 11: Wednesday 25th July 2018

Classes commence as per the daily schedule.

In the afternoon we again head to **Kim Il Sung University** for the second instalment in the expert lecture series.

Dinner will be held at the **duck barbecue restaurant** followed by an evening visit to the **Kaeson Youth Funfair**.

Day 12: Thursday 26th July 2018

Classes commence as per the daily schedule.

Following afternoon classes, the group will head to the **3 Revolutions Exhibition**, a showcase of DPRK achievements in heavy industry, light industry and technology.

A little light relief follows with a visit to the **Circus**, to witness impressive physical feats and light comedy. Dinner will be served at the **KITC Restaurant**.

Day 13: Friday 27th July 2018

Classes commence as per the daily schedule.

7.27: Victory Day in the Fatherland Liberation War (Korean War 1950-53). Today is a very special day for the Korean people so expect much celebration and fanfare as the city comes to life! On this day there may be special celebrations/fireworks for the group to enjoy. Tonight's dinner will be served at the **Rakwon Restaurant**. The very drinkable beers are brewed on site in the **microbrewery** and can be enjoyed at the bar after a long week's studying!

Students should also pack an overnight bag in preparation for their weekend excursion to Mount Myohyang.

Day 14: Saturday 28th July 2018

Today we will make our way north with a trip to **Mount Myohyang**, one of the noted mountains of Korea (2.5 hours' drive). The first stop will be the intriguing **International Friendship Exhibition**, a vast underground structure housing all the gifts bequeathed to Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il from foreign dignitaries and nations.

PM: The group will check in at the **Chongchun Hotel** with a chance to freshen up and have lunch. It's then time for a visit to the historic **Pohyon Temple**, a preserved and partially restored Buddhist shrine in a beautiful mountainous setting. We then make our way into the mountains for a **scenic walk** alongside waterfalls, taking in the beautiful Korean vistas and watching the stunning sunset. The evening can be spent relaxing at the hotel.

Day 15: Sunday 29th July 2018

AM: After checking out, it is time to return to Pyongyang (2 hours' drive), upon arrival we will call in at the **Minye handicraft store** for some souvenir shopping. There will also be time for a **city walk** to stretch our legs after the journey.

PM: The rest of the day will be given over to the students for free leisure time, homework assignments and other activities to prepare for your final week's stay in the DPRK. **International soccer friendly games with local North Korean students** can be arranged on this day.

Day 16: Monday 30th July 2018

Classes commence as per the daily schedule.

Before dinner today there will be a chance to enjoy a ride on the **Pyongyang Metro**, an important public transport artery and decorated in fine style with mosaics, marble and chandeliers reminiscent of the Moscow metro. You may even be lucky enough to try out one of the new DPRK-manufactured metro trains! After getting off, we will view the **Arch of Triumph**, built to commemorate the anti-Japanese struggle.

Day 17: Tuesday 31st July 2018

Classes commence as per the daily schedule.

Today's activity will take us to the vast **Fatherland Liberation War Museum**, accompanied by an opportunity to tour the **captured spy ship USS Pueblo**. Dinner will be served at a restaurant in the city.

Day 18: Wednesday 1st August 2018

Classes commence as per the daily schedule.

After today's third and final installment in the expert Korean lecture series at Kim Il Sung University, the group will have an opportunity to check out the **Mansugyo bar**, which serves a wide range of locally brewed beers on-site.

Day 19: Thursday 2nd August 2018

Classes commence as per the daily schedule.

After classes there will be an optional trip to **Munsu Waterpark** where students can cool off from the hot summer sun. Dinner will be served at a local restaurant.

Day 20: Friday 3rd August 2018

In the morning it is time to put your knowledge to test! Those who pass the final examination will gather in the afternoon to officially **graduate from Kim Hyong Jik University!** You will receive an official diploma from the university awarded by senior officials and have an opportunity to share some light refreshments with your fellow students and teachers. We recommend preparing a small gift for your teacher as thanks on this day.

Students should prepare their bags in preparation for the trip to Wonsan the next morning.

Day 21: Saturday 4th August 2018

AM: The group will depart Pyongyang for **Wonsan** (around 2.5 hours). On the way we will stop at the **Sinpyong Resthouse** for a chance to enjoy the stunning natural scenery. Arriving into Wonsan we will visit the **Chonsam Cooperative Farm** and the **Wonsan Revolutionary Site**.

PM: A fresh lunch will be served at a **local seafood restaurant**, followed by an afternoon walk along the beautiful dockside. The group then will head to the **beach at Songdownon**. Here we can relax and swim like locals in the warm waters of the East Sea of Korea before checking into the **Tongmyong Hotel** in the evening.

Day 22: Sunday 5th August 2018

AM: We will check-out from the hotel to travel to the scenic **Ullim Waterfalls**. Amongst the beautiful vistas, the group can enjoy a picnic lunch and a spot of hiking should they wish.

PM: The group will begin the journey back to Pyongyang (around 2.5 hours) before having free time in the evening to pack, relax and enjoy your farewell dinner, served at **the Okryugwan Restaurant**.

Day 23: Monday 6th August 2018

10:10 hrs: Teary goodbyes commence: The overnight sleeper departs Pyongyang for Beijing, arriving at 08:38 on Tuesday 7th August 2018.

Tour Price

EUR 2,599 / person for the standard itinerary with return overnight sleeper train tickets Beijing – Pyongyang – Beijing.

Accommodation is in shared twin rooms. Should you be travelling solo, we will match you with another single traveller. If you wish to have your own room, the single room supplement is **EUR 660/person**.

Tour price includes:

- 22 night accommodation; 19 nights at a local 3* hotel, 1 night at the Chongchun Hotel, 1 night at the Kaesong Folk Hotel and 1 night at the Tongmyong Hotel.
- Breakfast, lunch and dinner every day;
- Return international transportation Beijing – Pyongyang – Beijing as listed;
- All entry fees to the places of interest to be visited;
- 3 hours daily language tuition + Kim Il Sung University lectures
- All transportation inside the DPRK, in an air-conditioned coach with driver;
- The use of two English speaking KITC guides.

Tour Price does not include:

- The DPRK tourist visa fee, which is EUR 50 if collected in Beijing at the pre-tour meeting;
- Any expenses incurred outside of the DPRK e.g. Double entry Chinese visa fee, international transportation to and from Beijing, accommodation in Beijing etc.

- Textbook costs which is EUR 10 – 25 depending on level;
- Graduation Certificate printing (EUR 10)
- Beverages, incidental expenses (souvenirs, funfair rides, trip up to the top of the Juche Tower, swimming at the university pool etc.),
- Optional extra-curricular activities such as Taekwondo Class, Korean Dancing Class, Munsu Waterpark, Ten-pin Bowling, Fishing etc.
- Optional visits e.g. beer bar/pizza restaurant
- A flower offering at Memorial sites like Mansudae Grand Monument (EUR 5- 10);
- Travel and medical insurance;
- Gratuities for your teachers, guides, and driver (we would recommend a figure of around EUR 10 per customer, per day).