



WORKING HOLIDAY (VOLUNTEER CHINESE TEACHER) **APRIL TOUR ITINERARY**

Sunday 22nd April 2018 – Sunday 6th May 2018 (14 nights in the DPRK)
Pyongyang / Kaesong & DMZ / Mount Myohyang

Do you have a unique knack for teaching and wish to share your passion, effecting positive change and development in a meaningful way? The 2018 all-inclusive Working-Holiday programme offers a unique chance to live, work, and travel in the DPRK (North Korea) for two weeks, teaching Chinese as a foreign language at the Pyongyang College of Tourism.

The Mission:

Teaching one or two classes (total 50-60 students) *Please note that the teaching will concentrate on advanced levels only (B2 level and above).

The Plan:

Monday – Friday: In the mornings you will plan your lessons ahead of class. After lunch you will teach two or three lectures (one hour each) of advanced level Chinese.

Evenings: In your downtime there will be an opportunity to explore Pyongyang and the surrounding areas with a varied tourism itinerary.

Weekends: After the first week you will travel to the stunning Myohyang mountains, staying overnight and exploring local Buddhist temples and the International Friendship Exhibition. At the end of the second week there will be a chance to venture southwards to the historic city of Kaesong, village of Panmunjeom (where the armistice was signed) and the DMZ.

Who should apply?

- Qualified Mandarin Chinese language teachers (officially recognised diploma required with application)
- Minimum 1+ years teaching experience
- Native Mandarin Chinese speakers only
- Open minded, enthusiastic and engaging educators with a sense of adventure!

Sounds interesting? If you would like more information or wish to apply, please send an application form attached with the necessary documents (below) to info@juchetravelservices.com with the subject “Working Holiday Volunteer April 2018 + CHINESE + NAME ”

- CV (with two references)
- Motivation/Cover Letter (In English)
- Copy of official diploma/certificate

The Itinerary

The Day Before: Saturday 21st April

You will meet your JTS Representative 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, you will prepare to exit the train. After proceeding through Chinese immigration you must then board the No. 95 train which will take you direct to Pyongyang. Please note that dinner is not included on this night but dinner boxes can be bought at all stations (hot water is also available on all trains).

Day 1: Sunday 22nd April

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 23rd April

Classes begin! We start with a **meet and greet session** with your new Korean students and fellow colleagues. Textbooks are usually provided by the

university however, depending on demands, we may also be able to reimburse you for providing your own textbook.

Lunch will be taken at a local restaurant before returning to the hotel where you can relax and freshen up.

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. 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 3: Tuesday 24th April

The second day of formal classes begins! Koreans are known for their respect towards others with teachers being held in especially high regard so do not be shocked if your students greet you each day by standing up, saying “good morning professor”.

In the afternoon you can 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 4: Wednesday 25th April

Classes commence as per the daily schedule.

In the afternoon there will be a visit to the **Kwangbok Street Supermarket**, where you can mingle with the local Koreans and even exchange foreign currency to use the Korean won!

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 26th April

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 calm evening and beautiful cityscape of Pyongyang by night.

Day 6: Friday 27th April

Classes commence as per the daily schedule.

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!**

Teachers should also pack an overnight bag this evening in preparation for the weekend excursion to Mount Myohyang

Day 7: Saturday 28th April

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 8: Sunday 29th April

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 bus will then stop at **Kim Il Sung Square**, where many of the military parades take place, for a photo opportunity. The rest of the day will be given over to the teachers for free leisure time, homework assignments and

other activities to prepare for your final week's stay in the DPRK. Dinner will be taken at the **Taedonggang Diplomatic Club**.

Day 9: Monday 30th April

Week two will commence as per the daily schedule. Any class changes or issues can be discussed with your guides at this point.

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 1st May (MAYDAY!)

As a socialist nation, May Day is a traditional time for celebration in the DPRK. As a result, there will be no classes on this day. Instead, depending on availability, the group will join in the celebrations with the locals, attending a **mass dance** or **celebrating at Mount Taesong** Amusement park, including dancing and various group activities like tug of war, football, volleyball and the like, as well as various rides and rollercoasters to enjoy!

After a stroll around **Moran Hill** and mixing with the local Pyongyangites, the group will have an opportunity to check out the **Mansugyo bar**, which serves a wide range of locally brewed beers on-site.

Day 11: Wednesday 2nd May

Classes commence as per the daily schedule.

Today's afternoon 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 the **duck barbecue restaurant**.

Day 12: Thursday 3rd May

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. Dinner will be served at the **KITC Restaurant**.

Day 13: Friday 4th May

Today is your last day teaching at the university. With luck, your students will be sad to see you go! We recommend preparing a small gift of thanks for your fellow colleagues at the university as well as a small token to be shared with the students on this day.

A little light relief follows in the afternoon with a visit to the **Circus** to witness impressive physical feats and light comedy.

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 teaching!

Day 14: Saturday 5th May

AM: Rising early, you will depart Pyongyang for **Kaesong and the DMZ**, where you can see at first hand the physical division of Korea and the immense historical legacy this has had on the nation. You will be shown around by officers in the Korean People's Army who will talk to you first-hand about the situation on the ground. The next stop is the **Koryo Museum**, consisting of preserved Confucian buildings and a replica mausoleum depicting life in Korea during the Koryo dynasty.

PM: Lunch will be taken at the historic **Kaesong Folk Hotel**, built in traditional Korean style, where you will enjoy a hearty 'Royal Court' style meal in the customary manner, served on the floor from bronze bowls. After lunch is the return journey to Pyongyang, and en route there will be a brief stop of the **Monument to the 3 Charters of National Reunification**. In the evening your farewell dinner will be served at the **Okryugwan Restaurant**, one of the most famous restaurants in the whole of the DPRK.

Day 15: Sunday 6th May

10:10 hrs: The overnight sleeper departs Pyongyang for Beijing, arriving at 08:38 on Monday 7th May 2018.

Tour Price

EUR 1,955 / person for the standard itinerary with return overnight hard 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 30/night/person**.

Tour price includes:

- 14 night accommodation; 13 nights at a local 3* hotel, 1 night at the Chongchun Hotel.
- Breakfast, lunch and dinner every day (with one drink);
- Return international transportation Beijing – Pyongyang – Beijing as listed;
- All entry fees to the places of interest to be visited;
- 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.
- 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 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) ;

- Travel and medical insurance (required);
- Gratuities for your guides, and driver (we would recommend a figure of around EUR 10 per customer, per day).

Optional Travel Extras:

Whilst the train offers scenic views you may find it more convenient to upgrade to single or return flights – just let us know on your application form!

- Air Koryo flights (+EUR 150 single or +230 return)
- Air Koryo business class flights (+EUR 310 single or +475 return)
- Soft sleeper class intl. train upgrade between Beijing and Pyongyang (+EUR 110 single or +210 return)

***note soft sleeper is only available on trains departing on Mondays or Thursdays ONLY.