

IBS Center for Geometry and Physics

Pre-Arrival Guide

Planning Your Visit to Korea

Visa

Prior to your travel, please check whether you need a visa for entry into Korea.

1. Nationals of the following countries or regions can enter without a visa for a specific period of time (generally 30-90 days) on the condition that they do not engage in employment activities during their stay:

- 1) Countries or regions with which Korea has signed a visa waiver agreement
- 2) Countries or regions which Korea has granted visa-free entry

* *Canadians can enter the Republic of Korea without a visa for a stay of up to six months.*

2. For information about obtaining a visa or to find out if you are eligible to enter without a visa, please visit the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of the Republic of Korea Website at <http://www.mofat.go.kr/ENG/main/index.jsp>.

3. The following websites also offer helpful information about visiting Korea:

- Korea Tourism Organization: <http://english.visitkorea.or.kr/enu/index.kto>
- Hi Korea (e-government for foreigners): <http://www.hikorea.go.kr/pt/index.html>



Electrical Plug and Voltage

The standard voltage in Korea is 220 volts/60 hertz. The outlet has two round holds and is the same type used in countries such as France, Germany, Greece, and Turkey. If your electrical device does not support 220 volts, you must bring a multi-voltage travel adapter. You may purchase one at a duty-free shop or a convenience store at Incheon International Airport or at the stationery shop on POSTECH campus.



Weather

The Republic of Korea has a temperate climate with four distinct seasons: cold winters, hot summers, and sunny and generally dry transition seasons – spring and fall. The annual mean temperature ranges from 10°C to 16°C. August is the hottest month (mean temperature 23-27°C), and January is the coldest month (mean temperature -6-7°C).

Annual precipitation ranges from 1,000 mm to 1,800 mm. More than half of the total rainfall is concentrated in the summer season, especially in late June. The relative humidity is the highest in July (80-90%) and the lowest in January and April (30-50%).

Visit the Korea Meteorological Administration Website at <http://web.kma.go.kr/eng/index.jsp> for current weather information.



Transportation

The IBS Center for Geometry and Physics (CGP) is located on POSTECH campus in Pohang, Korea.

Between Incheon/Seoul and Pohang

Transportation	Travel Section		Travel Time	Fare (KRW) (One-way, Adult)	For Schedules and Timetables	
Flight	Gimpo Airport (GMP, Seoul)	↔	Pohang Airport (KPO, Pohang)	50 min	Coach 70,000-100,000 Korean Air: http://www.koreanair.com/ Asiana Airlines: http://www.flyasiana.com	
Airport Limousine Bus	Incheon Int'l Airport (ICN, Seoul)	↔	Pohang Intercity Bus Terminal <i>(via Gyeongju)</i>	5 hr 30 min	44,300	Incheon Int'l Airport http://www.airport.kr/eng
	Gimhae Int'l Airport (PUS, Busan)			2 hr	11,000	Gimhae International Airport http://www.airport.co.kr/mbs/gimhaeeng/
High-speed Train (KTX) + Shuttle bus	Seoul Station	↔	Singyeongju Station	2 hr 10 min	43,800(M-Th) 47,100 (F-S & holidays)	Korea Railroad (KORAIL) http://www.korail.com/
	Singyeongju Station	↔	Pohang Intercity Bus Terminal	40 min	5,000 (day)	
Express Bus	Seoul Express Bus Terminal	↔	Pohang Express Bus Terminal	4 hr 30 min	21,400 (standard) 31,800 (limousine, day) 34,900 (limousine, night)	Express Bus Lines Association http://www.kobus.co.kr/web/eng/index.jsp

By Airplane

While most international flights arrive at **Incheon Int'l Airport (ICN)** near Seoul, some arrive at **Gimpo Int'l Airport (GMP)** in Seoul or **Gimhae Int'l Airport (PUS)** in Busan. Please be sure to check at which airport your flight arrives before coming to Korea.

Flights to Pohang are only available at Gimpo Int'l Airport: four flights daily by Korean Air and Asiana Airlines. To go to Gimpo Int'l Airport from Incheon Int'l Airport, take a limousine bus which stops at Gimpo Int'l Airport at Platforms 3B, 4B, 6A, 10A, 11A, or 12B on the ground level of Incheon Int'l Airport or the airport train on the 1st basement level of the airport. One-way bus fare for adult is about 6,000 KRW and you may either pay in cash on the bus or purchase a ticket at a ticket booth outside of the building on the ground level. For schedules and more information, please visit the Incheon Int'l Airport website at <http://www.airport.kr/eng/>.

By Airport Limousine Bus

Airport Limousine Buses operate between Incheon Int'l Airport (ICN) and Pohang Intercity Bus Terminal and between Gimhae Int'l Airport (PUS) and Pohang Intercity Bus Terminal.

Buses from Incheon Int'l Airport (ICN) to Pohang Intercity Bus Terminal depart at Platform 10C. There are two routes: (1) Gyeongju/Pohang Route stops at Gyeongju Terminal before reaching Pohang and (2) Gyeongju/Pohang via Songdo Route stops at Songdo Transfer Center and Gyeongju Terminal before reaching its final destination, Pohang. The fare for one-way trip is 44,300 KRW.

Buses from Gimhae Int'l Airport (PUS) to Pohang Intercity Bus Terminal depart at Platform 1 every hour from 7:00 to 22:00.

For more information and up-to-date time schedules, please visit each airport website specified in the transportation table.

By Train

Korea's national railroad system, KORAIL, provides both high-speed and regular train services to Pohang, with 2 direct trains daily from Seoul. The direct train, Saemaoul, takes approximately 5 hours from Seoul Station to Pohang Station. Another option is to take the high-speed train, KTX, from Seoul Station to Singyeongju Station and transfer to a shuttle bus to Pohang Intercity Bus Terminal. This trip takes approximately 3 hours from Seoul to Pohang in total. The shuttle bus station at Singyeongju Station is about 100 meters straight ahead from of the main entrance of Singyeongju Station.

If you are planning to travel by train, making a reservation is strongly recommended to guarantee a seat. To learn more about KORAIL or to make a reservation, please visit <http://www.korail.com/> or <http://www.korail.com/en/> (English).

Coming to POSTECH by Taxi

From	Travel Time	Fare (Approximate)
Pohang Airport	30 min	18,000 KRW
Pohang Station	15 min	8,000 KRW
Pohang Intercity Bus Terminal	10 min	5,000 KRW
Pohang Express Bus Terminal	15 min	8,000 KRW

Please show one of the following messages to the cab driver.

Call the CGP office at +82(0)54-279-9901, Soojin Park at +82(0)10-5497-3803, or Genn la Kim at +82(0)10-6782-3365 if you have trouble communicating.

※ Destination: POSCO International Center

택시기사님께,

수고 많으십니다.

이분을 포항공과대학교 내 포스코 국제관(호텔)까지 안전하게 모셔주시기 바랍니다. 감사합니다.

※ Destination: POSTECH Information Research Laboratories (IBS-CGP Building and the conference site)

택시기사님께,

수고 많으십니다.

이분을 포항공과대학교 정보통신연구소(노벨동산과 LG 연구동 사이 건물)까지 안전하게 모셔주시기 바랍니다. 감사합니다.