

Touring North Korea



.:| 2 NEW TOURS ADDED FOR JULY |:.

Great News, Everyone!

We have added two new tours for July as the ARIRANG Mass Games 2013 are scheduled to run from July 22nd to September 9th, 2013.

MASS GAMES OPENING TOUR 2013 July 22 - 25/26
(Mon - Thurs/Fri) | 3 Nights
With this short tour you can attend the first ever mass games performance of 2013 - a boast-worthy event indeed! This trip also takes in the highlights of Pyongyang and a visit down to the DMZ at the border with South Korea where North and South Korean soldiers continue their decades-old face-off. Check out the [full itinerary and more information >](#)

VICTORY DAY CITY BREAK TOUR 2013 July 27 - 30/31 (Sat - Tue/Wed) | 3 Nights
Arrive in Pyongyang in time to see the afternoon celebrations on this most important of occasions, the 60th anniversary of the end of the Korean War. The exact nature of events will be unfurled on the spot in Pyongyang but you can guarantee that we will get you to whatever is possible. You will also see the highlights of Pyongyang including the newly-opened, better-than-before, Victorious Fatherland Liberation War Museum telling

the history of the Korean War from the North's perspective. And of course, an opportunity to see the spectacular Arirang Mass Games. [For more information and full itinerary >](#)

Mass Games can basically be described as a synchronized socialist-realist spectacular, featuring over 100,000 participants in a 90 minute display of gymnastics, dance, acrobatics, and dramatic performance, accompanied by music and other effects, all wrapped in a highly politicized package. Literally no other place on Earth has anything comparable and it has to be seen with your own two eyes to truly appreciate the scale on display.

We also have several tours (independent tours possible as well) during the Arirang Mass Games period, if you are interested in making an [independent tour](#), don't hesitate to [get in touch](#), you can find a full list of our scheduled group tours with dates, prices and itineraries [here](#)

<http://www.koryogroup.com>
info@koryogroup.com



HI,
HAVE YOU EVER WONDERED ABOUT CYCLING
IN NORTH KOREA?

find more information at www.koryogroup.com

KORYO TOURS GUIDE TO MOBILE & INTERNET SERVICES IN THE DPRK



There are two mobile phone networks in the DPRK – one for locals and one for foreigners. These two networks do not interlink. It is not possible for someone on one network to call someone on the other network. The following information relates to the foreigner network only.

MOBILE SERVICES

It is possible to buy a SIM card upon arrival in Pyongyang at the Koryolink booth in the airport terminal. You can either buy a **Visitor Line** or a **Foreigner Line**. It is possible to make and receive international calls but there is no international texting:

VISITOR LINE

- Visitor Line 1; costs EUR 50; preloaded balance EUR 30; 14 day validity
- Visitor Line 2; costs EUR 75; preloaded balance EUR 55; 1 month validity
- Visitor Line 3; costs EUR 100; preloaded balance EUR 80; 2 month validity

Local calling rate: EUR 0.2/min

Local receiving rate: EUR 0.2/min

SMS & MMS: EUR 0.2

FOREIGNER LINE

- Costs EUR 50; monthly fee 800 KPW (approx EUR 6/USD 8); each month you receive 200 free minutes of calls and 20 free SMS to other local lines

Local call rate: 4.2 KPW/min (EUR 0.03)

Local receiving rate: 3.5 KPW/min (EUR 0.02)

SMS: 2.8 KPW (EUR 0.01)

MMS: 7 KPW (EUR 0.05)

INTERNATIONAL CALL RATES

- China & South East Asia – EUR 1.43/min
- Russia – EUR 0.68/min
- France & Switzerland – EUR 0.38/min
- UK & Germany – EUR 1.58/min
- USA – EUR 5/min

INTERNET SERVICES

Koryolink offers the following mobile Internet connections:

- On your Laptop (USB Modem)

- Pay a one-off connection fee then choose one of the monthly packages:
- Browser package (2GB /month)
- Streamer package (5GB /month)
- Business package (10GB /month)

- On your phone

- Pay a one-off connection fee then subscribe to a mobile internet monthly package

Internet can be accessed in the following places:

- High Speed: Pyongyang city centre
- High Speed: Main Highways
- Normal Speed: Outside Pyongyang (anywhere that has mobile coverage)

How to set up the service on your computer:

- Take passport and fill out an application form at the ICC store or Koryolink airport booth.
- Pay the one-off connection fee (EUR 150) plus one-month subscription fee.
- You will receive a USB modem and a SIM card. Insert the SIM card in the modem.
- To pay for the service you use cash recharge or top-up cards from the ICC store.

How to set up the service on your mobile phone:

- Take passport and fill out an application form at the ICC store or Koryolink airport booth.
- Pay the one-off connection fee plus one-month subscription fee.
- You must buy a **Koryolink Foreigner Line** (see above for details) which costs EUR 50 and has a monthly subscription of KPW 800 (approx EUR 6/USD 8). Note that you cannot get Internet access with the Koryolink Visitor line which has a fixed validity (14 days, 1 month or 2 months).
- To recharge your phone you need to buy top-up cards.

COSTS

Mobile Internet on your computer (USB Modem)

- One-off connection fee EUR 150 (includes USB modem & sim card).
- Choose from one of 3 monthly packages.

<u>MONTHLY PACKAGES</u>	<u>PRICING/MONTH</u>	<u>FREE UNITS</u>	<u>EXTRA UNITS</u>
Browser	EUR 150	2GB	EUR 0.05/MB
Streamer	EUR 250	5GB	EUR 0.04/MB
Business	EUR 400	10GB	EUR 0.02/MB

Mobile Internet on your phone

- One-off connection fee EUR 75
- Monthly Package

<u>MONTHLY PACKAGES</u>	<u>PRICING/MONTH</u>	<u>FREE UNITS</u>	<u>EXTRA UNITS</u>
Mobile Internet	EUR 10	50MB	EUR 0.15/MB



This could be you!

Young Pioneer Tours

Fishing in Pyongyang

Young Pioneer Tours has announced that it is offering a new tour program from May that includes fishing in Pyongyang.

The company said the week-long program also offers a visit to the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) and the re-opened Kumsusan Memorial Palace, where the bodies of the late leaders Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il are kept lying in state.

Send an email to tours@youngpioneertours.com for further enquiries or ask us to give you a call.

Let us take you on the adventure of your lifetime!

Can't see a tour that suits your dates? Ask us about our independent tour options and build your own itinerary!

Rajin-Mt Kumgang Tours to Resume

North Korea will resume cruise ship tours between its Rajin port and the scenic Mount Kumgang resort.

Young Pioneer Tours said Pyongyang has authorized seven, four-day tours to the port and resort on its east coast from late April though mid-October.



What does Uri stand for?

Uri (“우리”) is a universal Korean concept signifying community and unity. Although the literal translation is “our,” the phrase carries a deeper cultural meaning throughout Korean culture, both in the North and South.

Background of Uri Tours

Uri Tours has a history of over 10 years in the North Korea travel and consultancy field. We have been pioneers in the area of DPRK travels, seeing a potential for development and growth in a country that is typically known only for its military politics. Uri Tours was founded by John Lee, a long-time visionary and entrepreneur. As a Korean-American, with no family in North Korea, John set off as an early tourist in the 90s to explore the other side of his roots. What he found was a set of people, not entirely different from those of South Korea, with a unique culture and distinct way of living.

Uri Tours was established with the purpose of facilitating travel to North Korea. We work in conjunction with Pyongyang-based Korean International Sports Travel Company to organize tours for the public, and we work with non-profit organizations, NGOs, universities, news agencies, corporations and individuals to assist in corporate programs and travel. We also provide DPRK visa-processing services as well as consulting in a wide range of DPRK-related areas. Uri Tours is the General Sales Agent of Air Koryo in North and South America.

Uri Team

Uri Tours is based in the US (Edgewater, NJ, on the other side of Manhattan) and has dedicated staff in China. Our company is comprised of a core team of professionals with varied skills and experiences, all joined by our love of travel and exploration.

Recruiting

We are always looking for new talent to help us grow our company. In particular, we are in need of summer interns and account managers, as well as high-quality, professional tour leaders to help us direct our tours on the ground. If you're interested in joining our team, please send your resume and a brief cover letter to recruiting@uritours.com.



Uri Tours President and CEO Andrea Lee in North Korea [Photo: Uri Tours]

Korea Compass

[The purpose of this section is to provide some background knowledge, especially for people making their first trip to the DPRK. If you know something about what you are going to see beforehand you will greatly impress your hosts, not to mention other foreign visitors, and save yourself having to listen to long-winded explanations when you really want to get down to business. Proverbs have the handy function of offering a quick insight into the thinking and attitudes inherent in a different culture.]

The Three Charters for National Reunification

There is a monument to the Three Charters for National Reunification located at the southern entrance to Tongil (Unification) Street in Pyongyang. All visitors are taken to see it. It shows two women, one from the south and one from the north, dressed in traditional Korean style and holding a depiction of the Korean peninsula, with the words “Three Great Charters.” The guide will recite the relevant statistics about the monument; here a word about the Charters themselves might be more enlightening.

Kim Il Sung, founder of the DPRK, proposed the “three principles of national reunification” (independence, peaceful reunification and great national unity), the founding of a Democratic Federal Republic of Koryo and the “ten-point program for

the unity of the whole nation.” Each of these Charters stresses that it is based on each side accepting the ideas and systems of the other.



Monument to the Three Charters for National Reunification [Photo: TravBuddy]

Korean Proverb

Kosaengkkute nagi onda

(“Prosperity comes after adversity.”)

The rainbow only appears after rain.

Supplement



Exploring new business opportunities

European trade & investment mission to North-Korea (September 2013)

Rotterdam, 30 April 2013

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK, also known as North-Korea) finds itself at a new era of international economic cooperation, and it especially welcomes business with Europe. The DPRK is offering various products and services to export markets, while the country is also in need for many foreign products and investments.

In the current financial and economic situation, European companies face many challenges. They must cut costs, develop new products and find new markets. In these fields, North-Korea is an interesting option.



Pyongyang street scene

It established several free trade zones to attract foreign investors and there are several sectors, including renewable energy, garments, shipbuilding, agro business, fishing, horticulture, logistics, mining, stone processing, restaurants and Information Technology, that can be considered for trade and investment. DPRK is competing with other Asian countries by offering skilled labour at very low monthly wages. In particular companies with production facilities in China, where the wages are rising fast, are currently investigating alternative options in North-Korea.

For additional information, the following sectors are described in more detail:

- Garments: www.gpic.nl/Making-garments-in-North-Korea.pdf
- Software and ICT: www.gpic.nl/outourcing_in_north_korea.pdf.

For companies interested in working with North-Korea, one of the immediate challenges is finding a suitable business partner, since collecting information is not easy. Local companies do not have a presence on the Internet, and access to them is not easy. The solution: join our business mission!

Do you want to explore new business opportunities for your company? From 23 to 28 September 2013, GPI Consultancy will organize again a general trade & investment mission in order to investigate these business opportunities. This tour is open for participants from all European countries, from various business sectors.



The new Ryugyong Hotel in Pyongyang

Our previous economic missions to Pyongyang were informative and successful. The participants found the program, with general and tailor made business meetings and company visits, interesting and well-varied. In addition, there were many opportunities for informal meetings. A report of such a mission can be found at: www.gpic.nl/NK-report2009.pdf

At the beginning of the tour, in Beijing, the plan is to take part in the seminar: "Doing business with DPRK". This event will also be open for external participants.

After the trip to North-Korea, we will return to Beijing, where you can extend your stay in China.

Business mission September 2013: short overview

Members of our general business delegation will be able to discuss trade opportunities in several areas, including light industry (e.g. textiles, garments), agribusiness, mining / rare metals and Information Technology. We will also receive information about investment opportunities in a number of sectors, and several projects will be offered.

Taking part in a business mission is a very informative way to explore business opportunities in DPRK in detail, and to meet new potential business partners. Participation is also useful for those European companies already doing business with DPRK, since it gives them an easy option to meet their Korean trade partners personally.

Sunday 22 September 2013

Arrival of European participants in Beijing (note: arrival at an earlier date is possible). In the evening, informal welcome reception and dinner at a local restaurant. Introduction to the business mission.

Monday 23 September

In the morning: visa collection at the DPRK Embassy in Beijing. Receiving Air Koryo airplane tickets. Afternoon: available for an individual program. Tentative: attending the afternoon seminar: "Doing business with DPRK". The event, with several speakers, will address various aspects of doing business in DPRK.



One of the new planes of Air Koryo

Tuesday 24 September

Transport from the hotel to the airport will be provided. Departure from Beijing to Pyongyang, using the national airline Air Koryo.

Upon arrival, we meet representatives of the DPRK Chamber of Commerce. Transport will be arranged to the hotel in Pyongyang. Schedules of business meetings will be handed out to the participants, after which a welcome dinner will take place.

Wednesday 25 – Friday 27 September

Business meetings with representatives of North-Korean companies will take place, depending on the specific wishes of the participants. Arranging these visits will be done by the DPRK Chamber of Commerce. Additional meetings can be arranged in our so in our hotel.

Also a visit to the 9th Pyongyang Autumn International Trade Fair will be included. This fair takes place from 23 – 26 September 2013 and is organized by the Korea International Exhibition Corporation. In addition, we will meet members of EBA (European Business Association): European business people working and living in DPRK.

At the last afternoon, there can be some time made available for informal activities, such as a citytour in and around Pyongyang, a visit to an art gallery, etc.

Saturday 28 September

In the morning, departure from Pyongyang to Beijing. Upon arrival, participants can take a connecting flight to Europe, or continue their stay in China.



Friendly and informative business meetings



Some examples of company visits



Visit to a greenhouse



Visit to a software company



Visits to garments and fabrics factories



Visit to the International Trade Fair (autumn fair)



Booth at the fair of a company from Sweden



At a local restaurant - an excellent place for informal business discussions



Visit to an animation studio



At a graphics design company

Organizer of the 2013 business mission to DPRK

The Korean organizer of the mission:
DPRK Chamber of Commerce
(International Relations Department)
Jungsong-dong, Central District
P.O. Box 89, Pyongyang, DPR Korea
Tel: 805-2-381 5926, fax: 850-2-381 5827



In cooperation with:
GPI Consultancy, the Netherlands



Established in 1995, GPI Consultancy is a specialized Dutch consultancy firm in the field of offshore sourcing. It is involved in business missions to various countries, including DPRK.

Note: it is also possible to take part in individual business missions, with a focus on a specific sector (e.g. garments, IT, agriculture), with participants of a single company only, and with tailor made visits. For detailed information, please contact Mr. Paul Tjia, founder and director of GPI Consultancy (info@gpic.nl).

Paul Tjia (together with American professor Erran Carmel) is the author of the handbook: "Offshoring Information Technology - Sourcing and Outsourcing to a Global Workforce" (Cambridge University Press), available at Amazon: www.amazon.com/dp/0521878110.



Logistics / arrangements of the tour

- The final program will be arranged in consultation with participants and local organizations.
- All European participants will travel on their own to and from Beijing; the date of arrival and the choice of the hotel in Beijing are up to the participant (note: we will propose a hotel which is centrally located). The participants can make their own reservations and will pay the costs involved directly to the airline and to the hotel (or they can use a travel agency).
- Participants will arrange before the trip a visa for China (a double entry visa in case the trip will be continued in China) and insurances (e.g. travel; cancellation). Also medical vaccination – if required.
- The participation fee for the North-Korea part is 1460 Euro per person (excl. VAT, if applicable) and will be invoiced by GPI Consultancy. This fee includes organizational costs, visa for North-Korea, matchmaking services, company visits, guides and transportation within Pyongyang. Additional participants from the same company receive a 25% discount. This fee does not include the air ticket from Beijing to Pyongyang v.v. (around 500 Euro) and the hotel in Pyongyang (around 85 Euro per night).
- The processing of the visa-applications by North-Korea can take one month. In case of interest: please contact us as soon as possible, and we will send you a registration form.
- After the visit to North-Korea, an extension of the stay in China is possible. Our travel agency VNC Asia Travel has a wide range of excursions and tours available.
- The organizers have the right to cancel or postpone the mission in case of an insufficient number of registrations, unexpected events (e.g. political developments) or calamities.

Our travel agency:

www.vnc.nl



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One of the available hotels in Pyongyang

