

Practical Information for Living and Traveling in South Korea (2025)

South Korea is an incredibly advanced and organized country, but for newcomers, access to reliable, English-speaking services and administrative contacts can make a huge difference. Below is a comprehensive guide with essential practical information.

Emergency Contacts & Services

- **Police (Emergency):** 112
- **Fire & Medical Emergency:** 119
- **Tourist Police (English available):** 1330 (Korea Travel Hotline)
- **Seoul Global Center (Multilingual help):** +82-2-2075-4180 — Email: help@seoul.go.kr
- **Immigration Contact Center:** 1345 (no area code needed) — Website: www.hikorea.go.kr

Embassies in South Korea

U.S. Embassy in Seoul

Address: 188 Sejong-daero, Jongno-gu, Seoul 03141, South Korea

Phone: +82-2-397-4114

Website: <https://kr.usembassy.gov>

British Embassy Seoul

Address: 24, Sejong-daero 19-gil, Jongno-gu, Seoul 03176, South Korea

Phone: +82-2-3210-5500

Website: <https://www.gov.uk/world/organisations/british-embassy-seoul>

These embassies offer assistance with passports, consular services, and emergency support for their citizens.

Email Contacts & Official Support

- **Visit Korea (Tourism Info):** tourinfo@knto.or.kr
- **Korea Immigration Service:** immigration@korea.kr
- **Seoul Global Center:** help@seoul.go.kr — Phone: +82-2-2075-4180
- **Korea Post (Postal Services):** service@epost.go.kr — Website: www.epost.go.kr

Phone Services & SIM Card Providers

- **SK Telecom** — Website: www.sktelecom.com — English support at airports
- **KT (Korea Telecom)** — Website: www.kt.com — Customer Service (local): 100
- **LG U+** — Website: www.uplus.co.kr — English help in select branches

Key International Border Checkpoints

- **Incheon International Airport (ICN)** — Website: www.airport.kr — Phone: +82-1577-2600
- **Gimhae International Airport (Busan)** — Phone: +82-1661-2626
- **Gimpo Airport (Seoul)** — Phone: +82-2-2660-2114
- **Busan Port International Terminal** — Phone: +82-51-465-3114
- **Donghae Port** — Website: www.donghaeport.co.kr — Phone: +82-33-530-2622

English-Speaking Hospitals & Medical Centers

- **Severance Hospital (Seoul):** +82-2-2228-5800 — www.yuhs.or.kr

- **Asan Medical Center (Seoul):** +82-2-3010-5001 — www.amc.seoul.kr
 - **Samsung Medical Center (Seoul):** +82-2-3410-0200 — www.samsunghospital.com
 - **Inje University Busan Paik Hospital:** +82-51-890-6114 — www.paik.ac.kr
 - Most major hospitals offer international services and interpretation assistance.
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English-Speaking Law Firms (Including Izy Viet)

- **Lee & Ko (Seoul):** www.leeko.com — Email: mail@leeko.com
 - **Yulchon LLC:** www.yulchon.com — Email: mail@yulchon.com
 - **Bae, Kim & Lee LLC:** www.bkl.co.kr — Email: mail@bkl.co.kr
 - **Izy Viet:** Specialized legal support for Vietnamese — Email: izyviet@gmail.com
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Key Government Offices & Administrations

- **Korea Immigration Office (Hi Korea):** www.hikorea.go.kr — Call Center: 1345
 - **Foreigner Registration Centers:** Mandatory for Alien Registration Card (ARC) — Check your district immigration office
 - **Local Gu Offices (District Offices):** For tax, residency, and civil documents
 - **National Tax Service:** +82-2-397-1440 (English helpline) — www.nts.go.kr
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International Schools in South Korea

- **Seoul Foreign School** — www.seoulforeign.org — Phone: +82-2-330-3100
- **Korea International School (KIS)** — www.kis.or.kr — Phone: +82-31-789-0505

- **Yongsan International School of Seoul** — www.yisseoul.org — Phone: +82-2-797-5104
 - **Busan International Foreign School** — www.bifskorea.org — Phone: +82-51-742-3332
 - **International Christian School Uijeongbu** — www.ics-ujb.org — Phone: +82-31-841-9111
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Other Useful Services & Tips

- **Seoul Global Center:** global.seoul.go.kr — Phone: +82-2-2075-4180 — Email: help@seoul.go.kr
- **K-ETA:** Mandatory travel authorization — www.k-eta.go.kr
- **KakaoTalk:** Dominant messaging app for everyday life, banking, and schools
- **Naver Map / KakaoMap:** Best navigation apps for Korea (Google Maps is limited)
- **Papago:** Offline translation app with superior Korean support
- **Toss, KakaoPay, NaverPay:** Popular mobile payment apps — some require a Korean bank account
- **Emergency Translator Services:** Available in large hospitals and via the 1330 hotline