

Fill the Night of Incheon



All nights INCHEON

Come to Incheon, embroidered with colorful lights,
Korea's first city specializing in the night tour

#We_hope_for_'2025 APEC Summit'_in_Incheon.



Incheon Metropolitan City English Newsletter

INCHEON NOW

VOL. 79

2023
JAN + FEB



All About [MICE]



Incheon Now
Mobile

All About MICE

A 'global hub city that opens the world's skyways and connects seaways,' the 'business center of multinational companies,' a 'tourist city with various resources,' an 'innovative city with smart technology,' and so on; many words describe Incheon. Incheon devotes all its power to the 'MICE' industry, which combines all this competitiveness. Come to Incheon, where the clear identity of the city is connected with abundant resources, where your dreams will come true.



Cover Description
Songdo Convensia

INCHEON NOW

2023 Jan+Feb
VOL.79

Publisher by Incheon Metropolitan City
Publisher Mayor of Incheon Metropolitan City
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ALL ABOUT MICE

Incheon, Soaring to be a World City

Incheon, an international city, distinguishes itself in the global MICE industry at home and abroad by hosting many conventions and conferences. We looked at the key strengths of Incheon, emerging as a perfect place to host the '2025 APEC Summit.'

Three Strong Points of Incheon MICE

- 1 [First in Korea]
First Ever
- 2 [Transportation]
All Ways INCHEON
- 3 [Safety]
Smart Safe City

+ MICE

It is a service industry encompassing four fields: 'Meetings, Incentives, Conventions, and Exhibitions,' such as events related to tourism, exhibitions, and international conferences. The city that holds international events will enjoy many ripple effects, such as new growth engines and economic benefits brought by visitors.

+ APEC Summit

The Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Summit to be held in Korea for one week in November 2025 will be participated by 6,000 people from 21 member nations. Incheon, with Incheon International Airport and diverse MICE infrastructure, is emerging as a leading candidate to host the summit.



1

First Ever

'First Ever,' the core value of Incheon, captures the city's strong ambition to 'go beyond the first to be the best.' The prefix that Incheon has, 'Korea's first,' is an essential keyword in today's MICE industry.



Whole Area of the International Conference Complex



Korea's First Free Economic Zone IFEZ

On August 11, 2003, the Korean government played its trump card, 'IFEZ,' as a winning move to compete with Asian global business cities. It designated the three regions of Incheon (Songdo, Yeongjong, and Cheongna) with an international airport and ports as Korea's first free economic zone (FEZ). International organizations, corporations, and educational institutions with world-class infrastructure are concentrated in IFEZ. In addition, it is an English-speaking city where English is supported in hotels and restaurants, which is convenient for foreign residents and visitors.



Cheongna International City

+ Info

IFEZ-based organizations

- International Organizations

GCF / A-WEB / World Bank Korea Office / EAAFP / GGGI / AFOB

- UN Organizations

UNAPCICT / UNDRR ONEA / UNDRR GETI / UNESCAP /
NEASPEC / UNCITRAL RCAP / UNOSD / UNPOG



Global Programming Conference (GPC)

+ Info

International Conference Complex

Location 123, Central-ro, Yeonsu-gu, Incheon
(6-1, Songdo-dong) and its surrounding areas

Area 2.98km²

Facilities Integrated facilities designated by the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism, large-scale stores, tourism and lodging businesses, etc.



Korea's First International Conference Complex Songdo International City

'International Conference Complex' designated by the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism in 2018, is an international conference industry fostering district specialized for Incheon, including Songdo Convensia, an international conference facility, and ten integrated facilities. One of the advantages is that it is within walking distance to various MICE spots such as Songdo Convensia, Tri-bowl, and Arts Center Incheon.

In particular, 'Songdo Convensia,' a representative landmark for Incheon's MICE industry, has facilities for international conferences, exhibitions, and events that can accommodate more than 20,000 people. Recently, as life has been returning to normal with a transition from the pandemic to the endemic, it further accelerates the attraction of exhibitions and conventions.

Songdo Convensia



Yeongjong International City

2

All Ways INCHEON

Incheon, which faces the sea and land, is a crucial transportation hub of Korea connected to the seaway, railway, and skyway. With the ever-expanding highways and subways, and the Baengnyeong Airport, which will open soon, the transport network is getting more closely connected.



Incheon Bridge



Incheon International Airport

+ Info

Incheon with More Convenient Transportation (Major Projects)

- Extension of Incheon Metro Line 2 to Goyang
- GTX-B Line (Songdo - Maseok, Gyeonggi-do)
- Extension of Seoul Metro Line 5 to Geomdan and Gimpo
- Extension of Seoul Metro Line 2 to Cheongna
- KTX Terminal in Incheon (Songdo on Suin Line - Seoul-Busan High-Speed Railway), etc.

International Transportation Network Incheon International Airport

'Incheon International Airport,' the gateway connecting Incheon and the world, is the world's top-notch airport with neat facilities, various attractions, such as arts and performances, and amenities, including capsule hotels. As of 2019, 70 million passengers have visited the airport annually, and it connects to 173 cities in 52 countries. The International Conference Complex in Songdo International City, the center of Incheon's MICE sector, is only 20 minute drive away from the airport. In addition, the Airport Railroad will take you there directly. Incheon International Airport plans to fortify its position as the airport of culture and arts by introducing art storage with constant temperature and humidity control in 2026 to protect artworks.

Address 272, Gonghang-ro, Jung-gu, Incheon (Terminal 1)
Homepage www.airport.kr

3

Smart Safe City

Incheon, a highly livable city, is building a safety network with no blind spots through various innovative projects concerned with citizens' safety, such as Smart Crosswalks and CCTVs.



Eyes that Protect Citizens Smart City Operation Center

The 'Smart City Operation Center' operated by IFEZ serves as a guard to keep the city safe by finding missing children, preventing suicide, and so on. There are 2,112 CCTVs managed by the center (1,457 in Songdo, 504 in Cheongna, and 151 in Yeongjong). CCTV feeds provide five major public services: crime prevention, disaster prevention, traffic, environment, and citizen information through the real-time monitoring and cooperation system established with related organizations.

In addition, 'Smart Crosswalk,' which tells signals through LED lights on the ground and voice guidance, is installed to keep Incheon citizens safe on the sidewalk. Smart crosswalks are mainly installed at intersections, the Children Protection Zones, and accident black spots in IFEZ.



Smart Crosswalk

+ Info

'Safety Capital, Incheon,' Safe Around Clock, All Year Round

- Operating an ICT-based, state-of-the-art smart safety network that never stops
- Operating disaster safety situation room and integrated control center 24/7, application 'Safe In'
- Introduced 'Citizen Safety Insurance' in 2019 (the first metropolitan city to introduce the system)
- 2020 UN Disaster Risk Mitigation Role Model City Certification (first in Korea)
- Certified as the UN Disaster Risk Reduction Role Model in 2020 (first in Korea)
- Certified as the UN Disaster Risk Reduction Resilience Hub in 2021 (first in the Asia Pacific region)

INCHEON'S MICE INDUSTRY

in Figures

Incheon has proven its competitiveness for MICE for a long time.
The objective evidence remains in the figures. Let's look at Incheon's MICE industry which contributes to promoting the city to the rest world with its diverse infrastructure.

Core Infrastructure of Incheon MICE

Number of International Organizations

15

(Green Climate Fund, UN Asian and Pacific Training Centre for Information and Communication Technology for Development, etc.)

Unique Venue

23

(Gyeongwonjae Ambassador, Arts Center Incheon, CoSMo40, Tri-Bowl, Haeden Museum, etc.)

Meeting Facilities (Conference)

26

(Songdo Convensia, POSCO R&D Center, etc.)

Best Transportation and Accessibility

International Flights

88

Shanghai ↔ Incheon

2 hours

(Inexpensive airfare and short flight time)

Incheon International Airport ↔ Songdo International City

20

minutes (by car)

※ Source : Korea Tourism Organization, October 17, 2022

Union of International Associations (UIA) 'International Conferences Held in 2021'

Incheon's Ranking

2nd

in Korea

15th

in the World

Counting Criteria

- ▲ Conferences hosted or organized by international organizations (held over a day and attended by 50 or more people)
- ▲ Conferences hosted and organized by domestic organizations and domestic branches of international organizations
- ▲ Conferences where foreign participants account for over 40% of all participants and are attended by five or more countries (held over three days, with 300 or more participants), etc.

IMA (Incheon MICE Alliance)

A public-private consultative body related to the MICE industry, created to provide joint marketing and unified MICE services to attract and host various MICE events in Incheon.



Establishment

December 5, 2010

Organization

Five

divisions

(MICE Facilities Division, Unique Venue Division, MICE Attraction Division, Service Division, Support Division)

128

member companies

Events Scheduled for 2023

<March / August / October 2023>

The 35th / 37th / 38th Green Climate Fund (GCF) Meeting of the Board



Outline

International conferences to discuss the support for climate response to reduce damage to developing countries inflicted by the accelerating climate changes (Songdo)

Scale

Approximately

300

participants

from

48

countries

※ The 36th Meeting of the Board will be held in Rwanda in June 2023

<May 2023>

Asian Development Bank (ADB) Annual Meeting



Outline

A general meeting held to promote economic growth and cooperation in the Asian region

Scale

Approximately

5,000

participants

from

68

countries

<August 2023>

WCA World Championship 2023



Outline

Hosted for the first time in Korea, the championship will feature 17 events related to the cube and cube art exhibition.

Scale

Approximately

2,500

participants

from

50

countries

<September 2023 >

The 1st Asian Urban Forum



Outline

A forum for building a cooperative network among Asian countries

Scale

500

or more participants

(National and municipal finance officials of local governments in Asia, etc.)

A Candid Talk about the MICE Industry

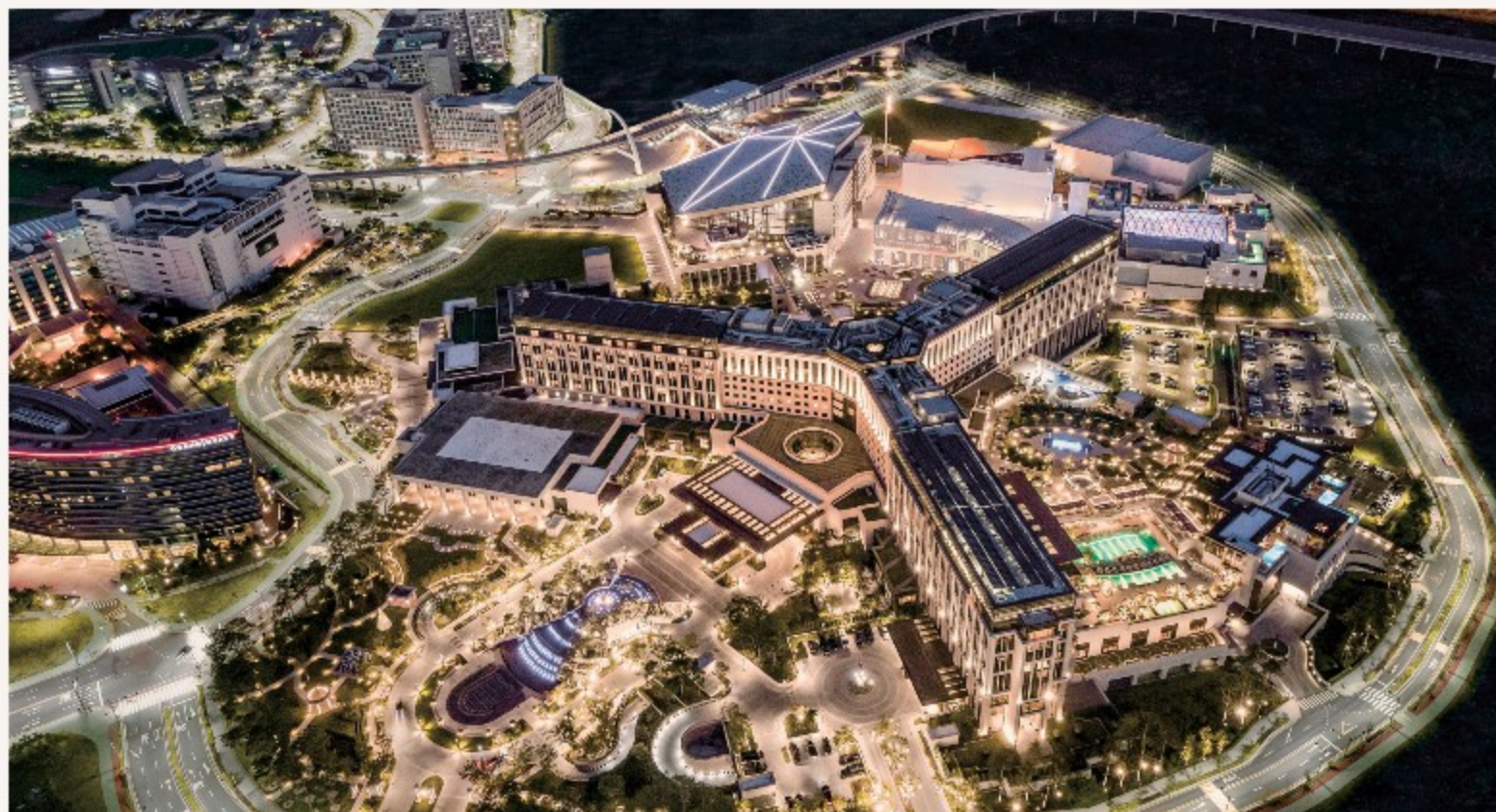
COME TO INCHEON FOR MICE AND TOURISM

It has been five years since Paradise City, celebrating the 50th anniversary of its foundation, opened in Incheon for the first time. The 'integrated resort' has become a critical value worldwide in the MICE industry. It represents the value of coexistence in achieving a common goal with the local community. We talked with Choi Jong-hwan, CEO of Paradise SEGA SAMMY, to take a deeper look at the Incheon MICE industry.



Interviewee
Choi Jong-hwan

(CEO of Paradise SEGA SAMMY)



© Photograph Source : Paradise SEGA SAMMY

1. BIRTH OF THE ONLY RESORT IN THE WORLD

- Q** 'Paradise City,' which opened in 2017, chose Yeongjongdo Island in Incheon. We are curious about the story leading up to the opening.
- A** Paradise City was developed as a distinguished Korean-style integrated resort incorporating the Korean Wave. In the beginning, when we constructed it, we did not have much infrastructure around it. However, we believe that Yeongjongdo Island will be advantageous in attracting foreign tourists because it has an international airport and can be reached within four hours by plane from major cities in Northeast Asia, such as Shanghai, Tokyo, and Hong Kong. In particular, we believe that the 'Art-tainment' resort, which combines magnificent architecture, high-quality interiors, and artwork, will become a 'K-Style destination' where people can enjoy cultural tours all at once. With these expectations, Paradise City opened in April 2017, starting with a five-star hotel, casino, and convention facilities.

2. LEADING THE GROWTH OF MICE AND TOURISM IN KOREA

- Q** Paradise City has raised the level of MICE & tourism in Korea as 'the first integrated resort in Northeast Asia.' What are the examples where Paradise City was related to MICE?
- A** Previously, MICE events started and ended in a banquet hall. Paradise City is different. It can hold events in various spaces. The 'Plaza' becomes a banquet hall and concert hall, and 'Chroma,' the largest club in Northeast Asia, becomes the event venue. In addition, the entire facilities of the boutique hotel 'Art Paradiso' and the music lounge bar 'Rubik' can be rented out, while the theme park 'Wonder Box' and the spa 'Cimer' allow participants to enjoy their leisure time. As such, Paradise City continuously holds increasingly many domestic and foreign events due to the endless variety of entertainment content elements. It is a global MICE space for corporate APAC meetings, new car launches, VIP events, awards ceremonies, symposiums, and conferences.



3.

THE STRENGTH THAT MADE PARADISE

Q Could you tell us about the achievements of Paradise City over the past six years and the secret behind them?

A Paradise City is the first integrated resort in Northeast Asia that provides a differentiated hotel vacation experience. In the first year only, after opening in 2017, it drew attention by marking about 212.1 billion won in total sales. In 2019, it achieved the best performance by recording 486.7 billion won in total sales and 2.5 million customers. Also, since 2020, we have been listed in the world-renowned Forbes Travel Guide.

Unrivaled infrastructure and differentiated content were the secret behind quantitative and qualitative growth. In addition to the hotel, we have various ancillary facilities such as a spa, theme park, cultural space, and a hall that can accommodate 1,600 people for international conferences and corporate events. The 3,000 pieces of artwork exhibited throughout the resort and the fact that 'art spaces' complete the 'art-tainment spaces' that combine rest and art form another competitive edge of Paradise City.

4.

TRENDS IN MICE AND TOURISM MARKETS

Q What changes does the MICE & tourism market face today? What is Paradise City's strategy in response to the changes?

A This year, we expect 'slowflation,' the combination of slow economic growth and high prices, will continue. Although we expect to engage in competitive IR soon and that the competition in the hospitality business will intensify, I think it can paradoxically be an opportunity for market expansion. Paradise City provides a new customer experience to solidify its status as an integrated resort. For that, we plan to continuously strengthen 'K-Culture' content. In addition, we will continue our investment for growth. In particular, we plan to put spurs to the expansion of 'wellness' content, which has become an essential keyword in the hospitality industry.

5.

THE FUTURE DIRECTION FOR INCHEON AND THE RESORT

Q What do you wish from Incheon for the revitalization of the MICE & tourism industry?

A Recently, many Asian countries are accelerating the development of integrated resorts. Competition in attracting tourists is expected to intensify among countries such as Singapore, the Philippines, and Macau, which are already operating integrated resorts, and Japan and Taiwan, which are accelerating resort development and expansion.

Under this circumstance, we hope Incheon will complete the integrated resort cluster by completing the planned projects as quickly as possible and gaining an edge in the competition between countries. In particular, further expanding the integrated resort industry fostering policy is necessary to build infrastructure and increase synergy by promoting cooperative marketing. The demand for tourism and MICE is expected to increase tremendously due to the easing of COVID-19 in line with the recent rise in the values of Korean culture. Paradise City will actively contribute to revitalizing the tourism and MICE industry accordingly.

6.

FUTURE TO COME

Q We are curious about the vision of Paradise City for the future.

A Domestic and foreign tourism demand are increasing as the world enters the end of the endemic era in earnest. It is a great opportunity. With the reopening of the airway in the second half of last year, Paradise City succeeded in returning to profit and entered a recovery phase. This year, Paradise City plans to focus on Japan, one of its core markets, and strengthen local marketing. In addition, as China's reopening is imminent, we expect that our performance will improve further. If you look a little further, Paradise has the vision of 'Destination Creator.' We plan to establish ourselves as a 'K-Style Destination' that continuously provides new experiences to customers to impress them based on 50 years of capabilities and know-how for cultural tourism.



Enjoy Special Experience

① Hotel Infrastructure of Incheon

Unique Venue Incheon

Travelers are always warmly embraced in hotels in Incheon. Each hotel has different features, so you can choose the one that answers your needs, such as a hotel close to the airport, a hotel where you can enjoy Korean tradition, or a hotel with culture and arts. There is a more unique way to enjoy hotels in Incheon, which have various convenient facilities for culture, hobbies, and games, not to mention comfortable accommodations.

Gyeongwonjae Ambassador



MOST KOREAN THINGS
FASCINATING THE WORLD

Gyeongwonjae Ambassador Incheon with Hot Korean Ondol

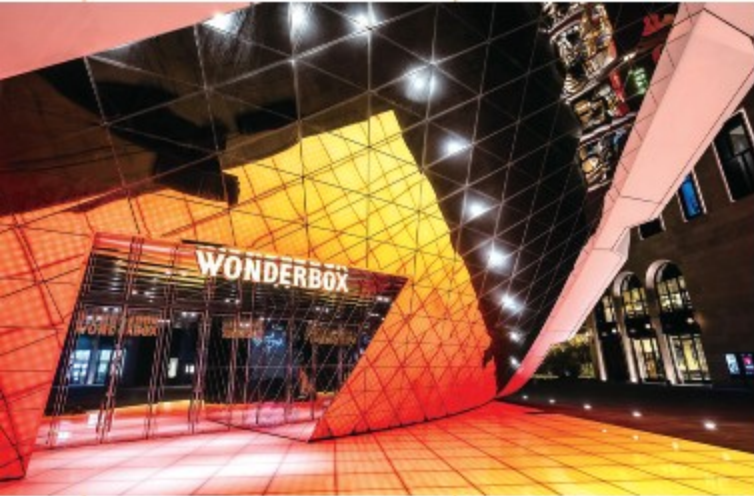
A quiet hanok village located in the middle of a forest of flashy buildings of Songdo. The 'Gyeongwonjae Ambassador' is located here. It is a 5-star hanok hotel with top-notch services and is close to Central Park, making it perfect for a walk. You can feel the antique beauty of Korea in the classy wooden interior. It also has a Korean restaurant to experience the taste of Korea, a conference room, and a large outdoor yard. It is a hanok hotel, and one of its features is ondol, a Korean underfloor heating system. The 'ondol room,' where the blanket is laid on the floor without the bed frame, is popular, particularly among foreign guests unfamiliar with sleeping on the floor. Since the hotel has only 30 rooms, you can take a quiet and private rest. The hotel is visited by various guests, such as families, couples, and travelers.

Address 200, Technopark-ro, Yeonsu-gu
Homepage gyeongwonjae.ambatel.com/incheon
Information 032-729-1101

- 1 Exterior of Gyeongwonjae Ambassador Incheon
- 2 Ondol room, where you can feel the warmth of the floor

UNIQUE VENUE, INCHEON

- 1, 2 Paradise City's unique theme park 'Wonder Box'
3 The hotel lobby, where you can always enjoy culture and arts



© Paradise City

+ Wonder Box

Hours 11:00-19:00
Admission Adult 28,000 won /
Child 20,000 won
(Free Pass)

Paradise City

AN ART-TAINMENT RESORT
LIKE A CITY

Rest and Play, All at Once at Paradise City

If you want to enjoy a luxurious vacation in hotels in Incheon, don't think further but go to Paradise City. It operates various facilities, such as hotels (accommodation), galleries, casinos, and shopping plazas, so you can enjoy all the conveniences without even stepping outside. Paradise City also has a one and only, special theme park. "Wonder Box," which gives a feeling that you have entered a fantasy world, catches eyes with intense lighting and sculptures that seem to have come from a fairy tale. There are also attractions and food that suit everyone, from children to adults. Everywhere you go in Paradise City is a photo zone. Take a pic of the day.

Address 186,
Yeongjonghaeanam-ro
321beon-gil, Jung-gu
Homepage www.p-city.com
Information 1833-8855



Address 272, Gonghang-ro,
Jung-gu
Homepage www.walkerhill.com/darakhyu
Information 032-743-5000

IDEAL FOR YOUR BODY
SMALL BUT EFFICIENT HOTEL

Convenient Hotel inside Airport, DARAKHYU

Incheon International Airport has a small capsule hotel, 'DARAKHYU,' for airport users who want to quickly find a place to stay. It is not close to the airport but inside, making it more accessible than any other place. Because it is a capsule hotel, the rooms are small, but you can definitely lie down comfortably, and the soft lighting adds to the cozy atmosphere.



- 1 Cozy accommodation space
2 Entrance to DARAKHYU

Most of the guests at DARAKHYU are passengers with early or late flight schedules. DARAKHYU shows its worth, mainly when you must come to the airport the night before because you are leaving early the following day or when you need a place to rest after entering the country late. Bottled water, washbasin, hair dryer, towels, etc., are provided just as in a regular hotel. The speaker at the bedside helps you have a good night's sleep.

Darakhyu



WORLD GOURMET TRIP IN INCHEON

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA USA

Endless Incheon, lots to eat. Still, it's challenging to find a restaurant that suits your palate. But if you are a reader of <2023 Incheon Now>, it's a different story. We are launching a new series on restaurants serving foreign cuisines in Incheon you can go to regardless of where you are from. The first one we chose is the "American Food."



AMERICA'S SOUL FOOD, "HOT DOG"

America has many hearty and delicious foods, such as platters, steaks, and hamburgers. However, simple and delicious hot dogs are by far the icon of American food. Put a thick and large sausage on light bread and have it with the sauce of your choice and toppings. It makes a decent meal as good as a table d'hôte. American-style hot dogs, originating from frankfurters, take on different forms by region, such as in New York, Chicago, and San Francisco.

WELCOME TO GPDC!

LITTLE AMERICA IN GUWOL-DONG

'Is this Incheon?' Anyone who only saw the pictures of the place would ask because the interior and atmosphere suggest it's a place in America. It's a low-rise building with a close view of the sky, exciting music, and wallpaper accentuated by orange color and furniture. It is filled with stuff that makes you feel like you took a trip to America. For it's located in Guwol-dong, a hot neighborhood, and there are also many unique shops and attractions nearby. It is a short trip to America in Guwol-dong.



+ Good People Dogs Club

Address 10-14, Inha-ro 521beon-gil (Guwol-dong), Namdong-gu
Hours 13:00-22:00 (Closed on Mondays)

The United States of America (USA)

It is located in the North American continent and shares borders with Canada to the north and Mexico to the south. It is a multiracial and multinational country. It is one of the largest countries in the world and is home to Incheon's sister cities, Burbank, Philadelphia, Anchorage, and Honolulu.

+ What is "sister city"?

It represents establishing a special friendly and amicable relationship to deepen mutual understanding through cultural exchange between cities.



Chili Dog, Mac and Cheese Dog,
Fried Mushrooms, French Fries (2 Servings)

CHARM OF HOT DOGS JUST LIKE THE ONES IN AMERICA

'Good People Dogs Club' opened less than a year ago, but it is getting good word of mouth for its exotic appearance and unusual menu, 'American hot dog.' The owner, Kyung Doo-hyeon started selling hot dogs because he wanted everyone to enjoy them lightly. "Hot dogs are food that Americans, as well as Koreans, enjoy. Personally, it is my favorite food."

The most confident signature menus are 'Chili Dog' and 'Mac & Cheese Dog.' In particular, he increased the spicy taste of the chili dog by adding red pepper paste to the American chili sauce. In addition, button mushrooms and fried corn, which might feel unfamiliar, have the magic of coming back to your mind once you try them.

TIME TO HAVE HOT DOGS!

A SPECIAL MEETING WITH GOOD PEOPLE

As the restaurant's name suggests, 'Good People Dogs Club' means that it is a place where good people stop by. It hopes to become a place where staff and guests work and stop by with smiles. The owner, Kyung Doo-hyeon showed his affection for the restaurant by describing it as a place where "good people have a good time." Maybe his affection is affecting the place. The restaurant is always filled with a comfortable and natural vibe. From the friendly staff to customers having pleasant chats, special memories bloom every day at 'Good People Dogs Club.'



MINI INTERVIEW

**KYUNG
DOO-HYEON**
OWNER

Q. WHAT ARE THE UNIQUE STRENGTHS OF 'GOOD PEOPLE DOGS CLUB'?

'Space, taste, and price' form a trinity. Our unique strengths are the exotic interior reminiscent of a local American hot dog shop, the taste of the sauce we make, and reasonable prices.

Q. WHAT DO YOU RECOMMEND TO FOREIGN GUESTS VISITING FOR THE FIRST TIME?

'Good People Dogs Club' has various hot dog menus, such as chili and mac and cheese, but the fried dishes are just as good. We recommend you try fried mushrooms or fried corn, whichever suits your taste!

Q. HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE YOUR PLACE SIMPLY?

'Good People Dogs Club' is a place with delicious food where people make 'good relationships.' What is as important as the taste of food is the people you share the moment with. I hope people with various characters come here and share their cultures, communicate with each other, and form good relationships.

Q. PLEASE SAY SOMETHING TO YOUR CUSTOMERS AND READERS OF <INCHEON NOW>.

I am grateful and happy to meet the readers through this good opportunity. We will always try to serve good food, good space, and good relationships with many people who visit the store.

Going around THE TOWN TOGETHER

A Visit to Cheongnidan Street in Bupyeong-gu

From unfamiliar places to your neighborhoods, you can enjoy a fruitful day trip in Incheon without going far. <2023 Incheon Now> find all charms of the ten counties and boroughs of Incheon. First, we headed to 'Cheongnidan Street,' a cafe street with leisure and romance.



1 Café Blue Chair

Address 1F, 17, Jubuto-ro 145beon-gil, Bupyeong-gu

Hours 11:00-21:00 (Closed on Sundays)

Instagram @paran_chair

Inquiries ☎ 0507-1463-2116

2 Kkotchadang

Address 1F, 7-15, Gilju-ro 585beon-gil, Bupyeong-gu

Hours 10:00-22:00 (until 18:00 on Wednesdays)

Instagram @flowertea_dang

Inquiries ☎ 0507-1418-9029

3 Naecoo House

Address 7-1, Gilju-ro 585beon-gil, Bupyeong-gu

Hours 11:00-21:00 (Closed on Thursday)

Instagram @naecoo_house

Inquiries ☎ 0507-1463-2116

4 Lotus Root Shop

Address 1F, 7-6, Gilju-ro 595beon-gil, Bupyeong-gu

Hours 11:00-19:00 (Closed on Mondays and Tuesdays)

Instagram @lotusroot_shop

Inquiries ☎ 0507-1367-1610

+ Cheongnidan Street

It is a cafe street between Bupyeong-gu Office Station and Gulpocheon Station. It was named 'Cheongnidan Street' with the letter 'cheong' from Bupyeong-gu Office (Bupyeong Gucheon). The access is excellent since it is near the subway station, and you can enjoy unique cafes, workshops, and various foods simultaneously. It is also great to chat with friends while walking nearby the Gulpocheon Stream.

4 Best Spots on CHEONGNIDAN STREET

1

A Space with Books and Paintings

CAFÉ BLUE CHAIR



This café is decorated on the theme of Claude Boujon's picture book, 'Blue Chair.' It serves various teas and coffees, and simple food can be brought in. When you pass through the front of the store with a small vegetable garden and enter the place, it is a world of paintings and books. From plant paintings on the wall to 'blue chair,' the store's theme, on the shelf, it is fun to look around. You can make a reservation to rent the place for small gatherings, and companion animals are allowed.

#Claude_Boujon #Blue
#Painting_Cafe #Plants

2

Various Freshly Parched Flower Teas

KKOTCHADANG



The hardwood interior and yellow lighting create a cozy atmosphere. The wood tone that covers the entire store exudes traditional Korean beauty. Kkotchadang (Flower Tea House) serves various flower teas, such as chrysanthemum, magnolia, and snow chrysanthemum teas. They only use homegrown flowers, directly parched without additives, so you can enjoy the tea safely. Besides teas, you can also enjoy beverages and ades made with homemade syrups prepared with unrefined sugar at an affordable price.

#Traditional_Korean_atmosphere
#flower_tea #dessert_cafe

3

Orange Light All-round Prop Shop

NAECOO HOUSE



'Naecoo House,' with its orange interior that catches the eye, is a unique accessory shop that carries handmade Turkish products such as scarves, hats, and bags. In addition, the store displays a wide range of accessories, such as various keyrings, figures, and character goods. There are multiple products, so look for the ones that match your taste. Prices are also relatively low, so you can get satisfaction at a low cost.

#exotic_vibe #prop_shop #cute

4

A Good Store for Earth

LOTUS ROOT SHOP



The efforts to make Earth a healthier place continue at the 'Lotus Root Shop.' It is a café and zero-waste shop that sells beverages and desserts prepared with homegrown agricultural products. They sell products without separate packaging to avoid unnecessary waste. The representative menu of the café is 'Chai,' a milk tea with Indian spices. It has the effect of warming the body and calming the mind. Groceries needed for cooking can be taken in small portions as needed.

#Zero_waste #Vegan_cafe
#No_lotus_root

Let's go!

MY SOUTH KOREAN JOURNEY

To Incheon with Science

The Ghent University Global Campus, famous in the science and research circles, produces future leaders through its professional curriculum. The reason Christine Jewel C. Uy, a teaching assistant at the university, came to Korea is also 'science.' She is an entomologist, expanding her horizons by experiencing various cultures and convenient life in Incheon.



Written By
Christine Jewel C. Uy


GHENT UNIVERSITY
GLOBAL CAMPUS

Research and
Teaching Assistant,
Ghent University
Global Campus

My first WOWs

I arrived in South Korea last August 2012, and the first thing that amazed me was the airport. It is so large, clean, and very accommodating. No wonder it was awarded as the world's best airport. The transportation is just excellent! I can travel for many kilometers without spending so much time and money. The kindness of the Korean people is something that I admire the most. I was lost in the subway, and an old lady guided me until I could find my way home.

My sweet home, Songdo

I currently live in Songdo, which they call an International Business District. This is also Korea's first Free Economic Zone. As a foreigner, this city is really the place to live in. There are 15 international organizations, including the World Bank and the Green Climate Fund Secretariat. The beautiful Central Park, Arts Center Incheon, large shopping malls, international schools, and foreigner support centers make it very convenient for foreigners.

The Incheon Global Campus (IGC), which celebrated its tenth-anniversary last year, is the cradle for international students, especially Ghent University. It creates many more future leaders, most especially in the scientific world.

My ten years of experience here is really colorful. I have many exciting experiences that I will treasure forever. I also learned to be much more open-minded about the culture of others and to embrace each other's differences.

My scientific journey

There are many scholarships for students here in South Korea. I was fortunate to receive one, so I could study here until I received my doctorate from Korea University. South Korea is very supportive when it comes to research. They offer many different fundings, so it is very accommodating to constantly explore and study.

I am an entomologist, and the insect species I study is called "caddisflies" or "날도래" in Korean. This species of insect lives in rivers and streams when they are larval stage and become terrestrial as they become adults. To study these insect species, I did many collections in the rivers in South Korea, primarily the Hangang River, and many other parts of the world, such as my country, the Philippines. The insect species of South Korea are very much different from the Philippines, and I learned many other interesting things in this country.

Beautiful culture

Korean culture is vibrant. One word that I can use to describe it is "beauty." Everything is beautiful, from the hanboks to the temples, villages, and even the food. I have seen many different rice cakes with very detailed designs. One thing I also learned and want to adapt to Korean culture is how thoroughly they prepare for an event. Everything should be planned and look very decent, from the event posters, event set-up, the clothes they wear, and how they should greet everyone to show their respect. There is the beauty of respect in it.



Jemulpo Renaissance Hoisting Sails

The 'Jemulpo Renaissance,' which will lead the revival of the old downtown, hoisted sails. This project will recreate Jung-gu and Dong-gu into people-centered old downtown areas combining culture, tourism, and industry. It is promoted with a focus on projects in four areas: old downtown, culture and tourism, industry and economy, and inner port development. This will be the first step (cornerstone) for Incheon to leap forward as the world's top-class global city.



The open port district where the 'Jemulpo Renaissance' will come into brilliant bloom. Incheon Inner Port is seen.



Incheon's voyage toward 'the world's first-class city' has begun.



Bird's-eye view of the Jemulpo Renaissance

FROM 'KOREA'S SEA' TO 'WORLD-CLASS HARBOR CITY'

'Jemulpo Renaissance' is a project to redevelop 1.81 million m² of the 3.3 million m² (about 1 million pyeong) site in the inner port site of Jung-gu owned by the Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries into a port city. The key is to create a "harbor city" centered on history, culture, marine tourism, and leisure around the inner port of Incheon.

The Inner Port of Incheon, which opened in 1883, led to the industrialization of Korea. In that sea, the 'Jemulpo Renaissance' will bloom brilliantly tomorrow.

'STRIKING OUT' FOR THE WORLD AND THE FUTURE

The project is going smoothly, including the resumption of the primer, 'Sangsang Platform' construction in the Inner Port in January. Sangsang Platform is a project to remodel an old grain warehouse (12,150m²) in Pier 8 of Incheon Inner Port into a complex cultural facility equipped with a performance hall and a cultural experience center.

On February 1, Incheon announced plans to improve renaissance strategy tasks and execution power in four areas: old downtown, culture and tourism, industry

and economy, and inner port development. Citizens expect that this project will serve as an opportunity to develop the old downtown areas nearby, such as Jung-gu and Dong-gu, which have experienced a decline.

At the same time, Incheon will significantly improve the old downtown transportation network, such as the departure of KTX from Incheon Station and the construction of the 2nd Airport Railroad, Incheon Subway Line 3, and the 4th Gyeongin Expressway. Job creation and balanced development are expected.

Incheon, Announces the '2045 Carbon Neutrality' Vision

Take a Leap Forward as 'Carbon Neutral Global City Incheon'

Carbon neutrality (Net Zero) refers to decreasing greenhouse gases, which heat up our Earth, and increasing carbon sinks, such as forests, to reduce greenhouse gas emissions down to zero. In May 2021, the Korean government declared the '2050 Carbon Neutrality' to control its temperature rise under 1.5°C, the global average.

Incheon, the environmental capital, has also actively promoted climate change response policies to save Earth. Today, Incheon will speed up on them even further toward '2045 Carbon Neutrality' before 2050.

<Incheon's Vision for Environmental Policy>

Policy Goals for Environment Sector	"Carbon-neutral Future City Leading the World"
Four Policy Directions for 2045 Carbon Neutrality	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Creating a low-carbon economic-ecological city 2 Expanding citizens' tailored climate action 3 Activating global cooperative system for climate 4 Intensifying safe adaptation to the climate crisis



The 2nd International Forum on Low Carbon Cities



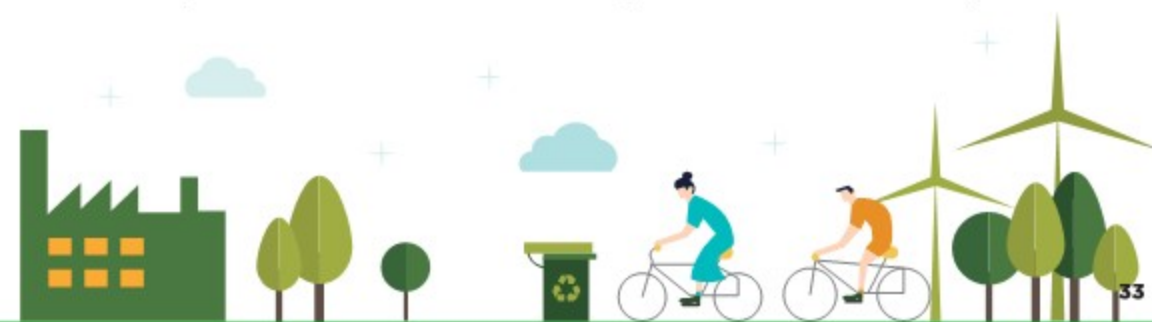
The 2nd International Forum on Low Carbon Cities

On December 6 last year, the opening ceremony of the <2nd International Forum on Low Carbon Cities> was held at the Sheraton Grand Incheon Hotel in Songdo International City. The <International Forum on Low Carbon Cities> is co-held by Incheon and UNESCAP to establish a cooperative system with the international community to create low-carbon cities. The 2nd forum was attended by 500 or more people, including Mayor Yoo Jeong-bok, Incheon City Council Chairman Heo Sik, former UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, GCF Executive Director Yannick Glemarec (France), Chairperson Yoo Young-sook of the Climate Change Center, officials from various regions in Northeast Asia, including Chongqing in China, Kitakyushu in Japan, and Ulaanbaatar in Mongolia, and officials of international organizations such as UNFCCC (United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change), GCF (Green Climate Fund), ICLEI (International Council on the Environment of Local Governments), and CityNet.

Declaration of the '2045 Carbon Neutrality Vision' with Hope and Ambition

At the <2nd International Forum on Low Carbon Cities>, Incheon declared the '2045 Incheon Metropolitan City Carbon Neutrality Vision,' which set the time to achieve carbon neutrality five years earlier than the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC). Incheon is also a "1.5°C Declaration City" that adopted the "1.5°C Special Report," which aims to control the global average temperature under 1.5°C, at the 48th IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) general meeting held in Incheon in 2018.

The '2045 Carbon Neutrality Vision' declaration contains four policy directions, and 15 promotion works for the early realization of the '2045 Carbon Neutrality' as a base for responding to the climate crisis and cooperation. Incheon plans to strengthen cooperation with the international community by gathering wisdom together with citizens, companies, and the public sector to fulfill the vision and achieve goals of the '2045 Carbon Neutrality.'



Information about INCHEON

Location 126°37'E, 37°28'N

Located in the very middle of the Korean Peninsula, Incheon is 28 km away from Seoul, the capital of the Republic of Korea. It consists of two counties, Ganghwa-gun and Ongjin-gun in islands, and eight districts in the land.



Population

Total population

3 million (Approximately)



Foreign resident population

6,364 (Approximately)



(Public Data Portal of the Republic of Korea, December 2021)

Terrain

Islands

168 (including 128 uninhabited islands)



Coast

Rias coast

Except for ten or more mountains, including Manisan Mountain and Gyeongangsan Mountain, it is a hilly area under 300m altitude. It has a long and complex coastline and 168 beautiful islands.

Area

1981

201.21 km²



Today

1,066.46 km²



Incheon boasts the largest area among the eight metropolitan cities in Korea. The area was 201.21 km² when Incheon was promoted to a municipality under the direct control of the central government in 1981. Today, it covers 1,066.46 km² after incorporations and reclamations of several areas.

Climate

Four seasons

Spring 🌱 Summer ☀️

Fall 🍁 Winter ❄️

Situated in the center of the Korean Peninsula, Incheon is adjacent to the West Sea and has continental and maritime climates. The lowest temperature recorded in Incheon is -21.0°C (-5.8°F), and the highest is 38.9°C (102.02°F).

Infrastructure

Incheon has convenient transportation infrastructure, including airports and ports, according to the characteristics of a city that embraces the sea and the land. From Incheon International Airport and Baengnyeong Airport (to open in 2027) connecting the world and Korea, to subway lines and highways connecting Incheon and the capital region, Incheon's transportation infrastructure is becoming more compact. Incheon is also drawing attention as a MICE and tourist city where various attractions, such as mountains, downtown areas, and the sea, can be found.

Vision Slogan

인천의 꿈
대한민국의 미래

The slogan of Incheon, the eighth government elected by popular vote, is the 'Dream of Incheon, the Vision of Korea.' The slogan's design has a 'star,' which symbolizes dreams and means that it will brilliantly illuminate the future of Incheon, where various information is exchanged mainly through the ports and an airport.

City brand

all ways INCHEON

Incheon opens the way for Korea, connects the way to the world, and becomes the way for you and me. Incheon's brand, 'all ways INCHEON,' means that 'all roads lead to Incheon.' The core value is 'First Ever,' meaning that Incheon is Korea's first and the best. It refers to the dynamic spirit of Incheon, marking the beginning of Korea and taking on new challenges. It is this strength that has made Korea what it is today.

Character

Spotted Seals in Love with Lighthouse

The characters of Incheon were designed based on a lighthouse and spotted seals. The lighthouse, inspired by Korea's first light, 'Palmido Lighthouse,' represents the connection between the past and the future of Incheon, a city of high-tech industries. The spotted seals of Baengnyeongdo Island, the natural monuments of Korea and endangered species, represent the nature-friendly city of Incheon.



INCHEON NEWS

Delivering the latest major news from Incheon



1 Confirmation of Train Design Reflecting Citizens' Opinions

The train designs for the Incheon Metro Line 1 Geomdan Extension and Seoul Metro Line 7 Cheongna International City Extension have been finalized by reflecting the results of a preference survey conducted with citizens. It reflects a sense of stability, speed, and sophistication and enhances convenience by applying wide benches, open passages between cars, and mobile phone chargers on the train. The Incheon Metro Line 1 Geomdan Extension Project has been actively carried out for the opening in 2024, and the Seoul Metro Line 7 Cheongna International City Extension Project for the opening in 2027.

Urban Railway Construction Division
☎ 032-451-2828

2

One of the Global Top 3 'Game' Programs Coming to Songdo



The University of Utah Asia Campus in Songdo, Incheon, will open a game major in the fall semester of 2023. The Department of Entertainment Arts & Engineering, a game major at The University of Utah, has been rated the top among all university game-related programs in the United States, along with New York University (NYU) and Southern California University (USC). Applicants can apply for the game major regardless of whether they have studied liberal arts or science. Admitted Students will study for three years at the Songdo Asia Campus and one year at the Salt Lake Campus in the United States.

Service Industry Promotion Division ☎ 032-453-7402

3

Construction of Songdo Severance Hospital Begins, Opening in 2026



The construction of Songdo Severance Hospital is expected to enormously contribute to improving medical and settlement conditions and establishing the Songdo Bio Cluster industry, academia, research, and hospital ecosystem. Songdo Severance Hospital will be constructed on an 85,800m² site in the Yonsei University International Campus in Songdo International City, with 15 aboveground floors, three basement floors, and 800 beds. It is scheduled for opening in December 2026. The design of the building started in February of last year, and construction has recently begun after obtaining building permits.

IFEZ Service Industry Promotion Division ☎ 032-453-7394

4

The Number of Public Late Night Pharmacies Doubled, 26 Places in Operation



Starting this year, the number of public late-night pharmacies doubled from 13 last year, and 26 pharmacies will operate in eight districts. In particular, five new pharmacies were designated in Geomdan, Cheongna, and Yeonsu, where public late-night pharmacies were not operated until last year, causing public inconvenience. Now, citizens can use public late-night pharmacies within a three-kilometer radius within 15 minutes. Anyone can go to one of these places when they urgently need medicine between 10:00 p.m. and 1:00 a.m., all year round.

Health and Medical Policy Division ☎ 032-440-2732

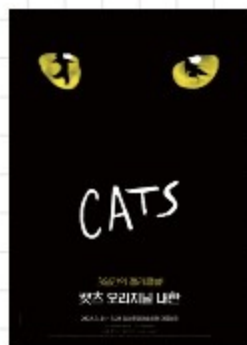


ENJOYING CULTURE IN INCHEON

Various cultures are flourishing in Incheon.

Enjoy culture and arts that suit your taste, such as concerts, exhibitions, and festivals, so the culture can bloom in our daily lives.

1



(Original Concert in Korea)
Musical Cats

<Cats>, which is one of the world's top four musicals and has a huge fan base in Korea, is coming to Incheon. The annual festival of cats, held once a year, will begin on a quiet night under the subtle moonlight. Original actors of Cats, who have been performing worldwide, such as Joanna Ampil and Brad Little, will appear and vividly perform representative songs of the musical, such as "Memory." The amazing songs and choreographies of the cats and the splendid stage manners will mesmerize your eyes.

Date	Friday, March 24 ~ Sunday, March 26, 2023
Time	Friday 7:30 p.m. Saturday 2:00 p.m., 7:00 p.m. Sunday 2:00 p.m., 7:00 p.m.
Price	VIP seats 170,000 won, Jellicle seats 170,000 won, R seats 140,000 won, S seats 110,000 won, A seats 80,000 won
Venue	Grand Hall, Incheon Culture and Arts Center
Information	☎ 1566-6551

2



1980s Playground in the City,
"Take Care of the Playground"

An exhibition that restores the cityscape of the 1980s, such as the old playground and stationery, to bring back memories and give a sense of freshness, is underway at the Incheon Urban History Museum. It provides an opportunity to think about the past, present, and future from the images of sculptures that represent a playground that was built when the city was developed. In the exhibition, you can see the history of urban development at a glance with charming props and past images that are difficult to find today. How about going to the exhibition with your family and making special memories this weekend?

Period	Tuesday, October 25 - Wednesday, May 31, 2023
Venue	Exhibition Hall on 3F, Incheon Urban History Museum
Information	☎ 032-850-6000

※ The performance schedule is subject to change due to COVID-19-related circumstances.
Please check in advance by telephone or homepage.



"INCHEON NOW" READERS' VOICE

<2023 INCHEON NOW> became newer and richer. It awaits the valued input of the readers. If you would like to 'subscribe' or add your opinions about impressive articles or new ideas, please send them to the e-mail below. We will draw a winner among those who sent their views and send a small gift certificate.

E-mail Address : prman@korea.kr

Reader Reviews



Esther (Ganseok-ro)

I came across <Incheon Now> at the Songdo Hotel. It is a small booklet, but the content is well organized! The column that uniquely expressed the light of Incheon was interesting.



Daniel (Munhak-dong)

Since I am a foreigner, finding information about cultural performances is not easy. But thanks to Incheon Now's <Culture> section, I am getting a lot of information. I would like more information about foreigners.



Grace (Nonhyeon 2-dong)

I am starting to learn about Incheon. The <Information> section is simple but very helpful. I'm looking forward to more information!

"INCHEON NOW" Mobile



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