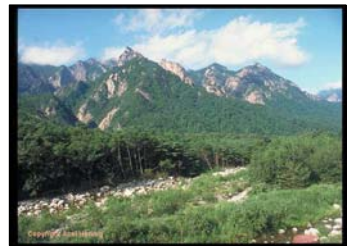


# Mt. Sorak & East Coast Tour 2 Days



Mount Sorak is the third highest mountain in the country, with the main peak (Daechung) at 1,708 meters above sea level. Situated on the east coast of the Korean Peninsula in the Taebaek Mountain range, it is composed of dissected granite and gneiss, with rocky hills and ridges. It is also home to the Asian black bear. The main activities here are hiking, camping and climbing. It is a favorite local hot spot, visited by many, from honeymooners to schoolchildren accompanied by their teachers. Take a short cable-car ride and a short hike to the peak for a breathtaking panoramic view of the surroundings.

The entrance city for Mount Sorak National Park is the sea port of Sokcho in the northeast corner of South Korea. Sokcho is a modern city with a busy harbor area. Being a sea port, it has variety of fish, squid, octopus, shellfish, and other delicacies that you can order either raw or cooked seafood.

Mount Sorak National Park is in the mountains, and Mount Sorak is the highest point among these mountains. It is an area of steep, granite cliffs; densely forested slopes; deep, V-shaped valleys containing rivers and waterfalls; and numerous trails, bridges, temples, and concession stands.

The trail to Piryong Waterfall is wide, easy to follow, and shaded by deciduous trees. This is typical of the trails near the entrance area, where they are well used. As distances from the park entrance increase, the trails become narrower, more rocky, and steeper.

On the way to Piryong, the trail passes beside Yuktam Waterfall, actually a cascade, rather than a waterfall. The bedrock in the park is a light pinkish-gray granite.

Piryong Waterfall spills into a large, deep pool at its base. The pink and yellow colors coming from the granite contrast beautifully with the green of the forest.

# Mt. Sorak & East Coast Tour

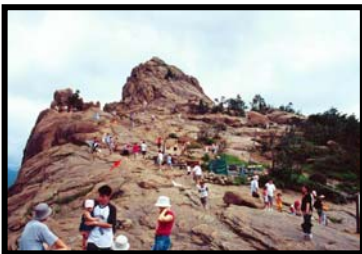


Naksansa Temple is located in Naksan Provincial Park, 24 km coastline of Gangwon province, and it is one of the very few temples that overlook the sea in Korea.. Naksansa was built by Uisangdaesa (a revered Buddhist monk) in the 11th year (671) of King Munmu reign during the Silla Kingdom. Within the park there are many rivers and beautiful beaches to visit.

Naksansa provides spectacular sunrise views and sound of breaking waves from the sea. Inside the temple are cultural artifacts such as the Hongnyeonam Hermitage, a bronze bell and the Hongyemun(gate).



For the landluid non-hikers there is a modern cable car. You will take a thrilling cable car which begin on the valley floor (park entrance area) and rises to a panoramic promontory of the entire valley to near the top of a mountain called Kwongumsong. The trail goes left from the cable car station to Allak Temple, which has a commanding view of the valley below and the East Sea. When the weather is nice and clear, there are good views of the valley below, the city of Sokcho, the eastern coast of South Korea. The river divides into two tributaries. The left tributary and trail leads to the Chonbuldong Valley. The right tributary and trail leads past the Shinhung Temple to Ulsanbawi. From the upper cable car station, is a good view of the park entrance area at the end of the road.



When you have free time, visit of 7<sup>th</sup> Century Shinhungsa temple, located next to Sorak Tourist Hotel, which claims to be the country's oldest zen temple. The valley to the left of the temple is chonbuldong, the most visually stimulating valley in the park and leads to pisondae where Miruk Peak rises majestically above the valley. One hears many legends of the heavenly nymphs who come to laugh and play while they bathe in the placid pools of the many glens sanctuary for meditation.

# Itinerary

## 1<sup>st</sup> Day

0800 --- Departs Leisure Travel Services (ITT) Bldg #924  
1000 --- Arrives at Munmak Rest Stop  
1020 --- Departs  
1200 --- Arrives at 38<sup>th</sup> Parallel Rest Stop & Lunch  
1300 --- Departs  
1330 --- Arrives Naksan Temple  
1500 --- Departs  
1530 --- Arrives Sorak Tourist Hotel & Check-in  
1600 --- Departs  
1700 --- Arrives at Piryong Waterfall  
1730 --- Departs  
1800 --- Arrives at Sorak Tourist Hotel

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Day

0630 --- Wake-up Call  
0830 --- Departs Hotel Lobby  
0840 --- Arrives at Cable Car Station, Kwon-Kum Peak  
1100 --- Departs Kwon-Kum Peak  
1120 / 1230 --- Lunch  
1230 --- Check-out Hotel  
1300 --- Departs Sorak Tourist Hotel  
1500 --- Arrives at Daekwanryong Rest Stop  
1530 --- Departs Rest Stop  
1730 --- Arrives at Osan Air Force Base

**This itinerary is subject to change**

## Important things that tourist must know

- The tour involves strenuous walking, please bring comfortable hiking shoes. Some hiking trails do not have guard rails and it is advisable to leave infants or small children at the hotel.
- Recommended to bring Korean Currency for the rest stop and souvenir shops.
- Tour bus leaves in front of the Checkertails building #924 and departs at 0800 hours. Please be here 15-20 minutes prior to departure time.