

New Year's Eve Budget Tour from Dandong

Tour

December 30th 2024 - January 1st 2025

2 nights in North Korea + Beijing-Pyongyang travel time Overview

Visit North Korea with Koryo Tours for New Year's Eve 2024 and bring in 2025 in Pyongyang. Our New Year's Eve Budget Tour from Dandong gets you to **Pyongyang** in time for the incredible New Year's Eve celebrations, which include a massive firework display over the **Taedong River** - and much more!

Recent New Year's celebrations saw a drone display in the sky and a music concert by some of North Korea's best musicians, including world-famous Moranbong Band. New Year's Day is an important day in the DPRK, on which the North Korean leader gives a New Year's Address outlining the country's policy and initiatives for the coming year. Watched closely by North Koreans and outside analysts alike, the New Year's Address provides insight into where the country is going. Be the first to see the reactions and heard the word on the street. We'll also visit the highlights of Pyongyang such as the Juche Tower, and the Pyongyang Metro



DAILY ITINERARY

DECEMBER 29 - SUNDAY

*Pre-Tour Briefing | We require all travellers to attend a pre-tour briefing that covers regulations, etiquette, safety, and practicalities for travel in North Korea. The briefing lasts approximately one hour followed by a question and answer session. Please be punctual for the briefing. You can come early, meet your fellow travellers and pay any outstanding tour fees. A proper briefing is an essential part of travel to North Korea.

For this tour, the briefing will be held in <u>Dandong</u>, at the Dan Tie Railroad Hotel

PM

• 18:00 | Briefing at Dan Tie Railroad Hotel, Dandong

Overnight | *Hotel in Dandong not included in the tour. Contact us for recommendations*

DECEMBER 30 - MONDAY

Arrival day in Pyongyang

AM

• 10:00 Train departs from Dandong Station | Our staff and local representative in Dandong will assist with the transfer. Train crosses the China-North Korea border followed by North Korean customs and immigration.

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- Flight departure from Beijing on **Air Koryo flight JS252** at 14:05. *A 1.5-hour flight with basic lunch (no vegetarian option).*
- Train arrival to Pyongyang Railway Station at 18:45.
- Walk from Railway station to Haebangsan Hotel.
- <u>Taedonggang Number 3 Beer Bar</u> | End the tour with a couple of pints of Taedonggang Beer in this local bar.
- Dinner at <u>Pyongyang Duck Barbeque Restaurant</u> | South Pyongyang's famous grilled duck restaurant.

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Overnight | Haebangsan Hotel, Pyongyang | Oldest hotel in Pyongyang and one with an amazing central location. Can't be beaten for being downtown on New Year's Eve!

DECEMBER 31 – TUESDAY – NEW YEAR'S EVE

New Year's Eve! Pyongyang City Tour

AM

- Foreign Languages Bookshop | Store selling Korean publications translated into English, German, French, Russian, Chinese, and Spanish. Also pick up DVDs, postcards, and small works of art.
- <u>Kim II Sung Square</u> | Pyongyang's central square lined with government ministries, museums, and The Grand People's Study House.
- Mansudae Grand Monument | Enormous bronze statues of President Kim II Sung and Leader Kim Jong II overlooking downtown Pyongyang. A presentation of flowers and bow by the group is customary here (5 EUR). Please note this is a government-administered sight and visits are subject to cancellation. Visits are optional and require a certain dress code (close-toed shoes and covered legs and shoulders). Here we will also see the Chollima Monument, or 'thousand ri (400 km or 250 mile) horse' -a symbol of speed- commemorating the quick rebuilding of the country in the 1950s following the Korean War.
- Mangyongdae Native House | Birthplace of and childhood home of President Kim II Sung. A traditional Korean house in a park-like setting.

PM

- <u>Kwangbok Department Store</u> | Opportunity to use <u>Korean currency</u> and shop with the citizens of Pyongyang! Try the snack stand on the first floor for some of Pyongyang's best local eats.
- Pyongyang Metro Tour | One of the deepest metro systems in the world with stunning artwork reflecting the name of each station. Ride six stations on the Chollima Line.
- Arch of Triumph | A massive archway made for the 70th anniversary of the birth of President Kim II Sung in 1982 and commemorating the liberation of Korea from Japanese colonial rule in 1945. Larger than its counterpart in Paris.



- Tower of the Juche Idea | Iconic tower dedicated to the DPRK's guiding philosophy on the Taedong River. Take the elevator to the top for great views of the city (*elevator ticket is 5 EUR*).
- Monument to Party Foundation | Iconic structure featuring the hammer, sickle, writing brush which represent the workers, farmers, and intellectuals that make up the Worker's Party of Korea.
- Dinner on Pyongyang's Rainbow Boat on the Taedong River where we'll start our New Year's Eve Party!
- Head for <u>Kim II Sung Square</u> before midnight along with crowds of tens of thousands of locals for a <u>North Korean New Year Celebration!</u> Concerts, midnight fireworks, and the best night of the year!

Overnight | Haebangsan Hotel, Pyongyang.

JANUARY 1 – WEDNESDAY

New Year's Day - Departure Day from Pyongyang and Return to Dandong by train.

AM

• Train departure by **train to Dandong** at 10:25. The scheduled arrival is **17:00**. For this tour the default option is hard sleeper (six beds per berth).

End of Tour