

Only one month to go before the 18th FINA World Masters Championships kick off in Gwangju on the 5th of August! Everything is now ready to welcome the Masters athletes here in the best conditions for two weeks of memorable competitions. Next week, the aquatics season will begin in Gwangju with the Elite Championships - then it will be your turn to shine and break some records!

As you know, the registration deadline has been extended to **July 10th** which means that all athletes still wishing to participate in the championships have 5 days left to sign up and join. Please share this important deadline with your communities to ensure everyone who wishes to participate can do so before registrations close. As always, please find below a few pieces of information which you can share with your communities:

- **Getting from Seoul to Gwangju by bus**

Bus routes connection Incheon International Airport to Gwangju will be available for travellers preferring a more budget friendly option to the KTX trains. Buses will depart from the Airport Terminal 1F of Incheon International Airport and arrives at the Gwangju U-square Bus Terminal - free shuttle buses to the Village will be available there. This option will be offered for around 40'000 won and will last a total of 4 hours.

For more information about transportation options between Seoul and Gwangju, click [here](#).

- **Sneak peek at the Athletes Village!**

With the Elite Championships coming up, the Village has finally been open to the public - a perfect chance for us to give you a first glance! Photos of the exterior of the Village are available for download [here](#). Please feel free to share!

- **Exclusive tour programs organised in Gwangju and its region**

Special tour programs have been created especially for the duration of the World and Masters Championships to allow all visitors to Gwangju the chance to discover the region. These tours will be running from July 11th to August 20th and will be operated by Gwangju Sightseeing Tour. A total of 8 courses will be running each day during that period. These tours can be booked individually or as groups up to 30 people and can be reserved or purchased on-site.

The tours available have been designed to suit different needs and availabilities. Accessible to all, single day tours will offer a perfect getaway. A gourmet tour provided by Modeunnara Tours will offer visitors a chance to make and taste typical Jeolla-do Provincial Food. Sungkwang Air Travel Agency also offers the "Gwangju's Joseon Dynasty Scholar Experiential Travel Course" which will immerse its participants into the spirit of the Wolbong Seowon Confucian Academy. Visitors can also opt for a tour dedicated to the learning about and experiencing K-Pop music and dance. Finally, for those who prefer to discover Gwangju and its key sites by foot, the Alps Sightseeing agency will offer a full day Walking Course around Gwangju.

For visitors who think one day isn't enough, overnight tours will be organised and will include 2 days of activities. NH Tours will offer a tour combining the FINA World Championships experience on the first day with a visit to the Mudeungsan Mountain on the second. Bosuk Tours will offer a "Gwangju Night Market Tour" in which visitors will be shown around key sites in Gwangju as well as the famous night market to get a taste of the best food South Korea has to offer. Mode Tour will also be offering a tour centred around culinary experiences, perfect for foodies! Finally, Platinum Travel Agency will offer a special tour which will showcase Gwangju's past, present and future: an exceptional travel in time!

For those who simply can't get enough, multiple tours will also be available. The "Gwangju Representative Dark Tour Course" organised by Good Feel Tour and referring to the local blockbuster "Taxi Driver" will offer participants a complete insider visit of the city of Gwangju. Holiday Planners will also be taking visitors on a long 7-day ride around Gwangju and its beautiful surroundings, making sure visitors get the full local experience!

For the full list of tours available, click [here](#).

For reservation of tours with Gwangju Sightseeing tours, click [here](#).

That is all for now! Best of luck to all for the final preparations and trainings and see you soon in Gwangju!

Thanks – Tony Goodwin.