

OIE Information & Travel Cheat Sheet

Country:

South Korea (KR)

Sex & Dating

- Dating culture mirrors Western values with casual dating accepted by society
- PDA is frowned upon but general expectation of daily communication with partner
- Blind dates are very popular and hookup culture is prevalent amongst younger groups

Alcohol & Drugs

- Legal age to buy/consume alcohol: 19
- Drinking is a major part of social relations but there is a strict drinking etiquette
- All drug usage and possession is illegal

LGBTQIA+ Culture

- Same sex relationships and activity is legal
- Increasing acceptance of LGBTQ individuals, particularly in major cities
- Anti-discrimination for LGBTQ individuals exist on a provincial level, not national law
- Resources
 - Rainbow SIG
 - Diversity Abroad
 - OutRight Action International

Cultural Customs and Norms

- Population: 51.74 million
- Currency: South Korean Won
- Cooperation, respect for elders, and maintaining dignity through Kibun
- It is considered impolite to address a Korean with his or her given name; use professional titles, or Mr, Mrs, etc until permission is given

Resources

119 Fire and ambulance / **112** for police

+82 Country code

- International SOS
 - DU Membership Number: 11BSGC000067
 - Phone: 215.942.8478 / Website: internationalsos.com
- Student Support Program (My SSP): 24/7 Mental Health Support
- U.S. Department of State Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP): travel.state.gov



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This is meant to be a helpful resource for students in selecting, understanding, and preparing for their time abroad. There is no intent to discriminate, generalize or stereotype the country or culture with the information provided here. A variety of sources, both formal and informal, were researched to gather this information.