

[Gotbawi Trip]

<At the bus station> Part of "Honey"

We are waiting for the bus going to Gotbawi in front of Mindeulrye Land restaurant

Gotbawi means Korean bamboo hat rock.

Mindeulrye Land restaurant is across from the Jung-ang senema downtown.

If you don't know this place, please ask the people walking in downtown. Most people could answer you where Mindeulrye Land (Young to) is.

But it is better to ask in Korean . Because most people avoid to say in English with foreigner. If you say "Mindeulrye Youngto o-di-ye-yo?", most people will point it.

Before, you could only use two or three buses when you want to go Gotbawi, but now, you can ride the number 401 buses from downtown. Since the bus usually comes every 10 minutes, we can take a bus easily. And most passengers who take buses here usually go to Gotbawi. This bus station is an exchange place for those people who come to downtown and people who go to Gotbawi.

It costs 900 won to take the bus to go Gotbawi, After taking a bus, we can see many climbers.

If there are no problems like traffic jams or traffic accidents, it will just take about 40-50 minutes to get there. And don't worry about where you will get off because the terminus is Gotbawi. You can take a deep sleep while on the bus.^^

<Entrance of Korean bamboo hat rock> Part of "Honey"

We can determine people's age and sex on the bus that we use. The climbers are mostly women, specially, middle-aged and senescent women.

In men's case, it seems that some men go there with their partners or some men want to reduce their stresses. There are a lot of people on the bus. It seems around 50 persons. And 2.5million people visit Gotbawi annually.

Also, it is well known for a rock called Gotbawi which enables people's wishes to realize.

There is a heavy traffic in Gotbawi on the first day of every month.

You should bring comfortable shoes and clothes. Do not bring your cooking items and cigarettes. Even if you don't climb the mountains, it is better to eat enough. I advise you that before climbing the mountains, eat something first.

OK, Let's start.

<The Middle temple> Part of "Mr. Bae"

We can reach this temple by walking for 20 minutes after getting off the bus.

We call this "the middle temple"

There are many halls in this temple, but the main hall is under repair now.

So the other halls are open for those people who want to pray to Buddha.

Here are some important reminders: After passing this middle temple, we can't see any toilet and a place to drink. If you suddenly feel that you want to go to the toilet, remember that you can't rest on the way to the top of the mountain. If you do, other people can see you. And also, the hiking course can make you thirsty because of the steep slopes. You need to be prepared for these two things.

<Top of the Gotbawi> Part of "Lee"

This is top of the Gotbawi. To get here, it will take about one hour by strolling. If you walk faster you can lessen the time of getting here. You will see beautiful autumn leaves and smiles of people during the hiking course. Just say "hello" to others although you meet them for the first time. It will make you friendlier and give you a chance to talk more with natives. Let me brief you on Gotbawi and Mt. Palgong before start hiking again. It will be a little bit boring but it could make you enjoy Mt, Palgong much more.

"Mt, Palgong is one of the most famous mountains in Daegu including Palgong Public Park's located in the center of north and south Palgong. Additionally, you can see there, the house of President No Tae Woo. Also you can see something in Mt. Palgong that makes it popular. The name is "Gotbawi." Gotbawi is a kind of statue of Buddha that has a flat stone on it's head. The flat stone looks like a traditional hat called Got. That is where its name was derived. If you want to would be rich and healthy, pray to Gotbawi. It is well known for having a great ability in helping you to reach your dreams.

The size of grand statue is just 6 meters. The face is 80cm and the fingers measure 35cm. Some experts predicted that Gotbawi was built during Hyogong dynasty about 1000 years ago. At that time the queen has a serious illness and nobody knew about the cause and cure. One day she heard a sound of a wooden gong from Buddha and she was chased in her dreams. After that she got a virtuous medicine. On the next day, early in the morning, the queen visited the place and she saw again what she saw in her dream. Unbelievably there was a holy spring so she drank spring water, and finally she was cured. For this reason Hyogong built the Gotbawi and the statue became famous.

Until now so many people in the country, pray to Gotbawi with their candlelight.

And you can see small piles of stones in your surroundings and along the pass. It's made by people visited here for their hope to live long and healthily. Why don't you make a pile of your dreams to memorize visiting and it will be waiting for you in the same place when you come to here again. We desire you to fulfil your dreams all together. This is Korean's virtue.

Well now we will hike down through a different way because in this way, another fantastic story is waiting for you.

<Bokyungsa> Part of "Mr. Bae"

You can eat foods here for just 1000 won.

So you don't need to prepare your own food.

But the bad thing is the side dishes are not enough for lunch.

But it's better not to leave any food because Buddhism's teaching doesn't allow that.

Usually, these foods are served from 12 until 2 p.m. But the persons who share the foods are so kind that climbers can eat lunch even after two o'clock.

However, if you don't like these foods, you can choose an instant food such as a cup of noodles (Ramyon).

When you get down from the top of the mountain, you can go to a souvenir shop where you can buy beads and something related to Buddhism. But the most important thing is "safety". The reason why I emphasize this is that the road is very slippery that you can say "Hello" to 119 workers that would save you.

After hiking, you can go to Bokyungsa temple.

There are two courses going home from here.

One course is you can reach to Gyeongsan, the other course is Daegu.

I would like to recommend that you choose the way to Daegu.

Because we have never tried the way to Gyeongsan, so we can't explain how to get home from there.

Okay, let's go to the next place~~~!!

<Wind Hill> Part of "Daven"

We are standing at the "Wind Hill"

We just invented the name of this place.

We are now in the middle part of the course to this mountain, and it is between

Kawneumsa and Yongjuam. There are many people who go to Wind-Hill. There are a lot

of reasons why climbers visit here. The first reason is that climbers can feel so cool because of the wind and they have time to reflect something such as their mistakes by themselves although it is not grand like the Grand Canyon. Second, if someone is standing here, they can control their schedules. Nowadays, sunset is earlier than summer, so we hope to decide the last plan of the trip to Gotbawi Rock in Wind Hill. And the last is, the tea that you can buy from a small shop here is so delicious.

There are variety of edifices in Kawneumsa so this place is one of the most famous in Mt. Palgong. And there are a lot of small stone dolls in Yougjuam. The place is so good for sightseeing.

<the Middle temple> Part of "Daven"

If you go down from Wind Hill, you can see the Middle Buddhist temple where we drank cool mineral water before. It takes about 35 minutes to get here from the top of Gotbawi while seeing beautiful nature and talking with our members.

How about our travel?

I'm wondering what you think during our trip.

Mt. Palgong. and Gotbawi Rock have other sights, temples and places that climbers can enjoy.

If you want to get more information on Gotbawi and Mt. Palgong, please visit the homepage of Daegu, Donggu in Daegu, and Kyungsan.

Thank you for giving us a chance to remember these places again. We hope that we can give more information to foreigners and sightseers on the beauty of Mt. Palgong and Gotbawi Rock.

Thank you for listening and we'll keep our fingers crossed for you.

