

Pod cast

Seomoon Market



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Hello, my name is Ju-youn, Ha

Welcome to Seomun Market, Daegu, Korea.

First of all, I am going to talk about history and transportation of Seomun Market.

Every big city has its own traditional market. While visiting traditional markets, people could see different life styles and know what kind of local specialities each city has. Daegu also has a big traditional market so that we are going to have a look at it. Seomun Market is one of the best and biggest primary market in Korea, starting from the period of Chosun Dynasty, the previous country of Korea, and getting bigger and bigger. It has lasted for a few centuries, offering of people specialities with good quality at reasonable prices. It was established at the west gate of Daegu-castle. Do you know the meaning of 'Seomun'? Seo means west, and Mun in Korean is gate. That is why it was named. As with other stuff like clothes, food and so on, it has been the center of fabrics distribution and textiles since it started. It has offered Korean consumers good quality fabrics and textiles from throughout the country for decades. Nowadays, it has been known to attempt to develop the textile industry and relationship with Milan, one of the leading cities in fashion.

So how to get to the Seomun Market??!!

On arrival at Dong- Daegu station, you can go to Seomun market by 3 types of public transportation. First, you can get there by bus. You should take a bus number 514 or 524. These two buses only have a route for Seomun market. It costs 1,100won. Second, you can take a taxi to get Seomun market. It is the easiest and fastest way to the Seomun market. It costs about 5,500won from Dong-Daegu station to Seomun market.

Also you can get Seomun market by subway. You might ride line No.1 at Dong-Daegu station and transfer from line No.1 to line No.2 at Banwaldang station. After transference you should get off the train next station at Seomun market station. It costs 1,100won. Among the 3 ways, I recommend the second way using the taxi. Because taking a bus or subway is too complicated to use to get to Seomun market for foreigners. Arriving at the main gate of the Market, you are ready to enjoy one of the biggest traditional markets. From this moment, you are going to listen to our guidance. I am sure that this journey will be enjoyable.

4370533 Na - Hyeon, Lee (Olivia)

Before we start, let's make sure where you are.

Are you in front of the main gate of the Seo-mun market?

If you are, there is the Dong-san hospital behind you. Am I right?

Good! O.k. Let's go!!

Go straight. You'll pass some street stalls on your right side.

Can you see them? Listen carefully, they're saying this,

“ Waseo meokgogayo.”

It means, “Come and have some.”

Are you hungry? You might have some junk food here.

But I recommend you to save it. If you go further, you can have some popular food in this market.

See your left side. There are another street stalls.

They're selling vessels. Also there is a brazen vessel among them.

Koreans used to use it in old times. And some people still use it these days when they perform an ancestral sacrifice. Have you heard about this before?

The brazen vessel looks very simple but I think it has oriental beauty.

Now, let's keep walking. You'll see a building on your right. It's a parking building.

There are many cars in the building everyday.

Because this market is very busy. Can you see it?

On your left there are many dried fish stores in a line. Koreans eat various of dried fish.

Taste it!! Just tasting is free.

If you followed my direction till here, you did a good job in the beginning.

There is a bystreet next to the parking building.

Go through the bystreet. You'll meet another section.

4508173 JaeYeol, Seol (Seol)

From now on, I am going to talk about the places where people buy such domestic animals as dogs, hens and rabbits for eating in Seo moon Market. Historically, Seomoon market has been conceived the center of domestic animal selling places around Tae gu since 19C. It has long history of it. So, you are now standing at the junction. Please, turn left and you can see dried fish selling places along the Section 2. Just walk for couple of meters and you will hear dogs barking and hens crowing. That is the place. How do you feel? It is so incredible that people can eat soups and barbeque of dogs and hens here around. If you want to eat some dog soup and chicken one, it might cost more than you thought it would be. A bowl of dog soups or chicken cost twenty thousand won. Do you think that it is expensive? You can not eat dog soups and barbeques with that price in your country. You can experience unique Korean food culture, and taste them here. Usually, the foods are eaten around summer season to be healthy. Scientifically, it is proven as wholesome food for people who suffer from hypotension and fool health.

Nevertheless, it does not seem to be considered a normal food culture in view of western countries. So, it has been issued around the world. But I would say it has been a kind of Korean food culture. Next, Mirana will talk about Korean traditional fashion and hanbok in the market. Thank you for your attention.

4680775 Sung- Young, Kang (Mirana)

From the end of second section you can see new section. In here, fashion building is on your left and food store is beside of the building. There are many foods and one of the famous is Kalguksu. It has originated in a poor period. Korea used to lack in foods after Korea war. It is kind of noodle. It was cheap and delicious for tired people to the war. Today is still same as that. In seomun market, every kalguksu stores are crowded with people so sometimes we have to line up. It deserves to wait. Even though it is not nice store, we can feel warm of people. In opposite side of the food store, you can see hanbok stores.

Many women come here to buy Hanbok for wedding. In Korea, groom and bride need hanbok after wedding because wearing hanbok is a part of wedding ceremony. Hanbok is very colorful and beautiful. There are so many kind of hanbok and they will make you happy. You can wear hanbok. If you try this on, you will see your grace looking. Next stores are garments for the dead. Both hanbok for the new life and garments for the dead are coexisting in here. Compare with a colorful hanbok, garments for the dead are white. There are not crowded with people, and we feel a little dignity in atmosphere.

Well, maybe you need something to change your feeling. Let's go inside the building. There are many clothes stores. The owners of stores are very active to draw customer. You can see style of clothes from old people to the young people. Clothes are very cheap and trendy because of retailed store. That's why the young people often come here. As you see, you are able to know flow of Korea fashion. And middle and old people clothes are practical clothes especially a winter. For example there are working clothes and functional ones.

4543398 Jun – Il, Lee (Jun)

From this moment, I am going to invite you to Miseungdang Mandu where you will see the most famous food sold in this market. I am standing at the point where SeongYoung has first appeared to talk. At this point, as soon as you turn left and go straight just for a second and you will see Miseungdang Mandu. Being famous doesn't mean expensive. Very tasty Miseungdang Mandu is waiting for you. 'Ajumma, Mandu, woodong 1 inbunssik juseyo' I've just ordered 2 different foods, which each costs 2,000 won even

though all the food they serve is hand-made. Isn't it incredibly cheap? Mandu is most well-known food in this market, looks like Dinsam, but it's inside filling is simpler. Woodong is thick noodle. However, it is very soft and easily digested so that you don't need to worry about its thickness. Miseungdang has lasted with 3 generations, which is estimated more than 50 years. Its present owner is very proud of herself and so far, she has opened 3 branches near here. Perhaps you can't seat because its place is almost always crowded, But you have to think twice that here is not that luxurious restaurant, but here is the place to which most of Daegu citizens have lived closer and have come to eat .that is why, I am definitely sure that here is absolutely worth waiting for your turn to try. You are now going back to the last point. Turn left and turn right. Quiet easy. You can see the the maingate ahead, where we first started. it is the end of our journey . I hope you enjoy this journey a lot. If you have a question about Seomun market, send email to babydragon@hotmail.com. Thank you for listening. Goodbye.