

### 1: Postcard from Seoul - Achtung

*Beyond Buildings Postcard From Seoul: K-Pop Urbanism Columnist Aaron Betsky reflects on a recent visit to Seoul, South Korea, a city with plenty to offer in terms of urban design.*

Today, the brand offers an array of delectable creations, from menswear to accessories. I grew up in this small village near the Alps. It was very beautiful, secluded and peaceful. In , Lupfer traded this rural idyll for London, enrolling at the University of Westminster. I remember it when it was very run down, with lots of derelict buildings but it was always super fun and very creative. Shortly after graduating in , Lupfer presented his first collection during London Fashion Week. Incidentally, encouragement to do so came from the Far East, as he tells: I took the opportunity and started with an off-schedule show. The next season we were showing as part of the British Fashion Council! Numerous presentations later, Lupfer still remembers those early years fondly. All of a sudden she said: It was like entering a fairy-tale. For the brand Markus Lupfer, this piece is a jumper most likely bearing sparkling, often tongue in cheek embroideries. Currently, these take on the shape of flower festooned anchors, distant star constellations, bees and gilded strawberries among many other delightful motifs. The lip is a reference to my signature, which are two lips kiss kiss instead of an XX. The first time I saw the embroidery test I loved it and it has grown and developed from there. We are constantly developing new techniques, working with various materials including cashmere and lurex as well as introducing new details such as prints, embellishments, jacquards, intarsia and so on. A highlight of Fall was the use of intricately woven jacquards and brocades. My aim is always to create something unique. Parkas and bomber jackets brim in myriad colours, their prints showing city landscapes as captivating as the best of comic books. I create a seasonal mood board and really enjoy this part of the process. I think everything through and do not make any decisions lightly. So is a visit to his native planned for the near future? No matter where he may spend the holidays, we like to imagine him wearing one of his seasonal designs for the occasion.

### 2: Postcard from Seoul - Kimchi and Beans

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National Museum of Korea: It seemed to apply to everyone: As for the food, Korean barbecue is justly famous. For someone like me who is congenitally incapable of operating a charcoal grill, the circular metal tray of perfectly glowing charcoal lumps makes an awesome sight, deposited into the specially provided slot in your table. The Korean tradition is to eat the rice or noodles as a separate course after the main meat and vegetable courses: Myeongdong is a case in point: By the way, sit-down restaurants close early in Seoul, many of them taking last orders at 9pm or even before. The Koreans are gigantically into face masks and make-up "â€" for both men and women. One in every three shops, it feels like, is a cosmetics outlet, while the subway and roadsides are festooned with giant posters of perfectly smooth faces which are impressive if only for the quality of photography. The boy band is a big thing in Korea, with impossibly pretty lads adorning posters, calendars, album covers or T-shirts. On the eighth floor, at one end, is the vineyard-styled 2, seat Lotte Concert Hall, an up to the minute box-in-a-box construction by the same acousticians as the new Philharmonie de Paris, with somewhat brighter but equally impressive acoustics. Across town, Kumho Art Hall has a lovely seat chamber hall, whose acoustics are exceptionally clear but even brighter at least, without an audience. All three host serious international performers as well as many home grown musicians. Yongsam Electronics Market, reputedly the largest in Asia, is packed with small pile-em-high retail outlets, including a surprising number of old-style Hi Fi shops piled floor to ceiling with loudspeakers. Namdaemun Market is a cluster of textile, clothing and leather outlets: Lots of the subway stations are linked to underground markets: Hoehyeon Underground Shopping Center has an extraordinary number of shops packed with old vinyl, including rows of boxed sets of Beethoven, Brahms and more. What none of this gets across is the sheer energy of the place. For example, the Koreans invented moveable type printing four centuries before Gutenberg sadly, the religious authorities stopped its mass use , while the Hangul script, which dates from King Sejong in the 15th century, is a miraculous invention, allowing people to learn to write Korean in a tiny fraction of the time that it takes to learn Chinese or Japanese kanji. Anyway, Seoul has plenty of palaces, shrines and museums where you can go and find some of this out for yourself: Gyeongbokgung, with its associated National Folk Museum of Korea, is a good place to start. The 5, won a bottle variety was decidedly forgettable; but the posh restaurant in Myeongdong complete with Korean traditional music in your private room served us some 22, won stuff that was really very lovely.

### 3: Postcards from Seoul

*Take Seoul's newest boutique hotel, the Park Hyatt. The all-glass building is unremarkable, but the minimalist interior has striking Asian touches (and spectacular views from the floor-to-ceiling windows).*

Most hide behind their goods like hermit crabs in their shells, recoiling at the sight of the hot summer sun. Others yell out prices and wave signs on the sidewalk, trying to catch the attention of the passerby. She sells a variety of pajamas and comfortable clothing, the articles on display thin and flowing, perfect for the summer heat. The towering department stores at Dongdaemun. Kim Kyoung-Joong The Dongdaemun area, presumably in the early s. In the past ten years, the country has seen the number of annual visitors double. In the same month, , Japanese tourists and 32, Vietnamese tourists came to South Korea. Determined to make the best shopping out of the Korean experience, many of these tourists head straight for the most heavily-populated, bustling shopping areas. Dongdaemun area is one of the most prominent stops. There seems to be more steel and concrete rather than plants and trees; especially in recent years. Pixabay The Seoul Metropolitan Government set a target of having 17,, foreign tourists visit the country in , also collaborating with businesses in Dongdaemun in an effort to morph the area into a popular, tourist-friendly location. In , KTO estimated that around 13,, tourists visited the country. As a result, the Dongdaemun Future Foundation, an organization aimed at growing the area, has created initiatives to further increase the number of tourists. This area would become the Dongdaemun we know today. Unknown The first version of the Dongdaemun market was established in , but the first time it underwent major changes was in the s, under the Park Chung-hee regime. At the time, Dongdaemun was deemed the center of the textile industry in South Korea. Nestor Lacle The competition for customers in Dongdaemun is fierce, and this reality is particularly hard on smaller shops. Because Doota, owned by the chaebol Doosan, has approximately 55, local visitors and 10, foreign visitors a day, the department store has also recently implemented the provision of special services for foreign tourists: In March, the number of Chinese tourists declined drastically. A department store was near-empty in Myeongdong, another popular shopping destination for tourists. Rather than being upset or skeptical about the Dongdaemun Future Foundation, small-scale merchants like Shim tend to lean more towards the hopeful side. From the tiniest clothing stalls to the largest department stores, the merchants of Dongdaemun are doing all they can to retain their businesses. Shim Jeong-sook is struggling to learn Chinese and Doota is attempting to implement more tourist services. Dongdaemun Design Plaza, left, and the shopping towers at Dongdaemun, right.

### 4: S. KOREA- Where to buy postcards?

*Rachel Wong '19 (Atlanta) is one of the nearly 60 percent of Mac students who spend a semester studying away from campus. But unlike most, Wong earned a Benjamin Gilman International Scholarship from the State Department to help fund her semester at Ewha Womans University in Seoul.*

If you are considering experiencing it yourself, my complete guide on how to visit DMZ and JSA from Seoul will answer all your questions. However, the hottest and the most guarded borderline in the World is still a place of a very tense conflict and getting there bears many limitations. Koryo Tours are organizing various themed tours to North Korea , which can provide you with a truly unusual experience. I did not have the chance to experience this myself, so it is not covered in this post. However, if you are fascinated by the idea of visiting the most closed country in the World, be sure to check them out. Basically, the only way how to visit DMZ and JSA from Seoul is with an organized tour, as such a visit requires a mandatory military escort. And there are several different tours available, depending on which parts of the DMZ you want to see. If you are like me, you will soon get lost in all the abbreviations and you want to know which of the parts are actually worth seeing. To help you out with that, I decided to bring you this overview. The zone lies approximately 2 km north and south respectively from the ceasefire line of Its purpose is to prevent the recurrence of war between North and South Korea. It is also known as Panmunjeom , referring to the farmer village in whose area the JSA originally lies. It measures meters in diameter, 50 km north of Seoul and 10 km east of the city of Gaeseong, a city which now belongs to North Korea. This area became known for the peace talks that were held here on October 25th, and on July 27th, , when the Armistice Agreement was signed. Today, it is beyond the jurisdiction of both South and North Korea. The conference center, where the peace talks used to take place, is also the only place where you can actually step on the North Korean soil. Each of them will take you to different parts of the DMZ and has different advantages and disadvantages. There are several reasons. First of all, tours to JSA are really popular and you need to book your places well in advance to be sure you get in. In the case you miss this opportunity, you probably still want to see at least the rest of the zone. Prices of hotels in Seoul Secondly, getting on a joint DZA and JSA tour actually means dedicating your whole day and you simply might not have as much time. A sole DMZ tour can be simply shorter. Thirdly, the DMZ only tours also tend to be cheaper than the joint tours. And last but not least, with its almost km, the DMZ extends largely from Gyeonggi-do to Gangwon-do, including seven different cities and smaller counties of Paju, Yeoncheon, Cheorwon, Hwacheon, Yanggu, Inje and Goseong. There is thus many sections of the DMZ with dozens of interesting spots in different regions, which are simply too far from the JSA to be included in one tour. However, as mentioned earlier, in this post we focus only on the tours available from Seoul. If you moreover register via this link , you get an extra 3. A memorial in front of the Third Infiltration Tunnel Visit in JSA excluding other parts of the DMZ A visit to JSA Panmunjeom only is a good alternative for those who do not have a time to for a full day tour or want to enjoy a less packed itinerary with more time spent on each location. This option is also cheaper than the joint tour. The disadvantage of this option is that the schedule can be very packed and you get to spend only a limited time at each location. But its just a small price for being able to see really the best of what the DMZ offers. The best thing to do is look closer at each of the popular sights in the DMZ and JSA and chose the tour which offers the ones you find the most interesting. The available tours will most likely consist of these particular locations: Imjingak park The Imjingak park or resort was established in immediately after the declaration of the Armistice Agreement. It lies just next to the DMZ and it includes various attractions and relics connected to the Korean conflict. The most interesting ones are for sure the Freedom Bridge, which is a railroad bridge formerly used for repatriating soldiers returning from the North. Just next to the bridge, you can find an actual locomotive used during the war. The locomotive was partially blown up and completely covered by bullet holes. Such view provides you the best and the saddest testimony about the horrors of the war. One of the attractions to be found in Imjingak is actually a small amusement park. I must say this is probably the creepiest place for such facility I have ever seen in my life. They dug several invasion tunnels, which were supposed to serve as an access for a quick strike on Seoul.

The Third Infiltration Tunnel , discovered in , lies only about 44 km from Seoul. It is 1, meters long, with a height and width of about 2 meters. It was capable of moving approximately 30, soldiers per hour. Nowadays, it is surrounded by the DMZ video hall, memorial sculptures, gift shops and other tourist attractions. Interesting to see, but not my favorite part of the tour. Dorasan station Dorasan station is the northernmost station of Korean railways, lying on the Gyeongui line and located just next to the DMZ. The original station was destroyed during the war, but it has been recently rebuilt from the money of various donors. There are real trains coming 4 times per day from Seoul, but of course, they do not continue to North Korea. They only serve to bring the employees of the station on the work placement and back. The main message of the station is to be ready for the unification, so the train connection to North Korea can be restored as fast as possible. Basically, you can use binoculars and literally take a look to North Korea. That also means you can see both the famous flagpoles in the binoculars. Still, it is really fascinating to observe them by yourself.

### 5: A postcard from Seoul, South Korea | Postcard

*This week's Everyday Postcard comes from Seoul, South Korea where Viola toured the Changdeokgung Palace. The palace is one of five grand palaces built by the kings of the Joseon Dynasty in the late 14th century.*

You check the weather, you make a list of the things you want to eat, and the things you want to photograph. The excitement builds up. Yet, while we can certainly say that was our case, we also enjoyed the last few months in preparation for this trip. We made it a point to really learn about these countries and prepare ourselves for experiences completely outside of our comfort zone. After years of saying we were going to do this, we finally had the courage to jump at the opportunity. Yesterday, we departed to Korea – A 13 hour non-stop flight to Seoul from Chicago. Not that our Korean Air flight was bad. The attention to detail from the staff was very nice for Economy – from the hot towels before meals to having the staff making sure we were comfortable and hydrated at all times. We had Korean bibimbap and chicken with noodles for lunch and warm beef buns as a snack. For dinner, we had beef with pasta and a chicken and rice plate. Everything was very tasty. After several movies and edited videos, we finally landed in Terminal 2 at Incheon International airport. At first, it was slightly confusing to navigate despite being perfectly labeled in English. Among other things, we learned that several Portable Wifi companies use the same booths to do business so it was quite tricky to find yours. Finding which method of transportation to take to the city can also be daunting without prior research or a Portable WiFi device. Things to discuss in a later post. But as expected, we arrived with the same rush of energy we get every time we visit a new country. Nabol got our transportation cards also known as T-money cards for the train, and we took the more adventurous, but fastest route to Seoul Station. We connected to a bus and arrived quickly to the Insadong area. What makes it less intimidating is the people, who have been extremely polite and always willing to help. We were pretty beat when we got to the hotel, so our idea of wandering around and finding a place for dinner was out the window. We grabbed awesome things to eat at the downstairs and headed back to our room with ramen bowls, different flavors of Joomukbap similar to onigiri and Sakura cherry blossom flavored dessert. There are so many tea shops, galleries, and interesting stores to keep us busy for hours, many of which are tucked in hidden alleyways leading deeper into the district. But make no mistake. We might even go out of our way to try new things just because some of you might enjoy it. Lots of footage and pictures coming up. Good night from Korea.

### 6: Korea Postcard | eBay

*Get your hands on a customizable Seoul postcard from Zazzle. Find a large selection of sizes and shapes for your postcard needs!*

### 7: Postcard: Changdeokgung Palace in Seoul, South Korea - Everyday Wanderer

*Guides to Seoul often say that such an such an area is worth visiting, but then get very vague on what you're actually going to see or do there. Myeongdong is a case in point: what you're going to do is to mill around, take in the vibe and buy food from one of the two zillion street stalls.*

### 8: seoul – Postcard Pretty

*Sent all the way from Seoul, South Korea, Achtung Digital receives mail from Markus Lupfer, the German designer whose brand has long been a playful highlight of London Fashion Week.*

### 9: Find Me In Seoul

*When transportation reporters travel, they do what most people do: visit museums, eat the local delicacies. But they also*

*inspect.*

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