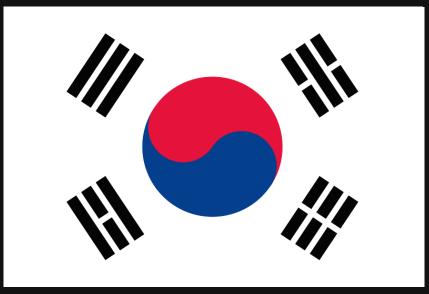
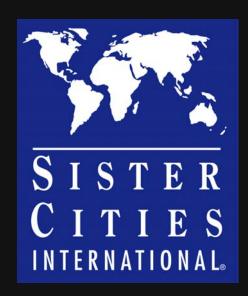
Portrait of a Sister City: Suncheon, Republic of Korea

Olymere you is work learn learn explore explore



Official flag of the Republic of Korea

What is a Sister City?



The concept of the Sister City was established in the 1950s and formally recognized in 1967 when the relationships became a part of Sister Cities International (SCI). The mission statement of SCI is to "promote peace through mutual respect, understanding and cooperation — one individual, one community at a time." To celebrate this relationship with each of our five global neighbors, we have introduced the "Portrait of a Sister City" photography exhibit series. We will be exploring the ways that different communities live, learn, play, work, dream and explore. Welcome to the beautiful city of Suncheon, in the Republic of Korea!

Get to know Suncheon, your sister city in the Republic of Korea!

Suncheon's city emblem represents many concepts:

- A depiction of a traditional Korean tiled roof represents the rich traditions and history of the region. The shape also introduces the idea of Suncheon as a city looking toward the future.
- The three yellow notches represent Suncheon's focus on education, industry and tourism while the four brown notches honor local culture, arts, transportation and tradition.
- The outer circle is in the shape of a rising sun and marks the sense of unity within Suncheon.
- The S-shape stands for the resilient spirit of the city. It also symbolizes the tidelands in nearby Suncheon Bay, an important resource for Suncheon for their tourism and local ecology.



Suncheon's plants and animals:

Just as each of the United States has a state bird, tree and flower, so does the city of Suncheon. The hooded crane, the persimmon tree and the royal azalea represent Suncheon.



The Hooded Crane



Persimmons



Royal Azaleas

Expanding our partnership with Suncheon

The City of Columbia invited Mayor Roh Kwan-Kyu and six officials from Suncheon to visit Columbia on November 9-10, 2010. Mayor Bob McDavid accompanied the Sister City delegation as they met with representatives from the public and private sectors. The group discussed economic development, education and health care, as well as cultural exchange opportunities. These visits are key to maintaining the Sister City relationship between Columbia and Suncheon.

Many communities, one vision for the future

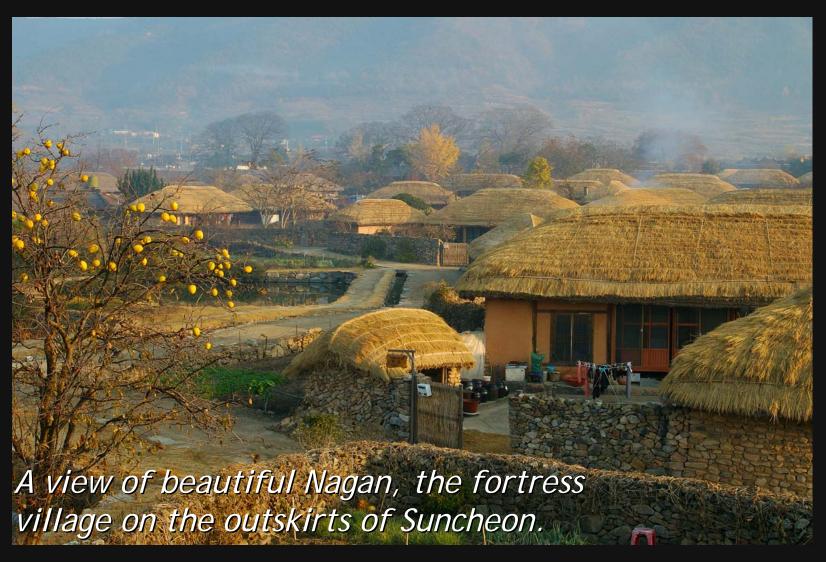
A joint proclamation ceremony took place on November 10, 2010 which reaffirmed the Sister City relationship, first established on October 18, 1991. Mayor Roh invited Mike Hood and staff from Parks and Recreation to submit the conceptual design for an "American garden" to be installed during the 2013 Suncheon Bay International Garden Exposition. A group from Columbia, to be led by Mayor McDavid, hopes to visit Suncheon in late 2011.



2013 international garden exposition "American Garden" plan

Community is where you...

In the city of Suncheon, residents embrace modern ways of living along with their traditional culture. Further away from the city center sits an old fortress village whose residents still respect the old ways of living in houses with thatched roofs or clay tiles. In the city, many residents dwell in high-rise apartments decorated with modern furniture.











Community is where you...

Suncheoni children learn in classrooms that look much like an American classroom. They take field trips to Suncheon Bay to observe the wildlife in the marshes. Students at the city's universities study in groups on quadrangles, like ours at the University of Missouri, or in one of the many libraries that can be found in the city of Suncheon.









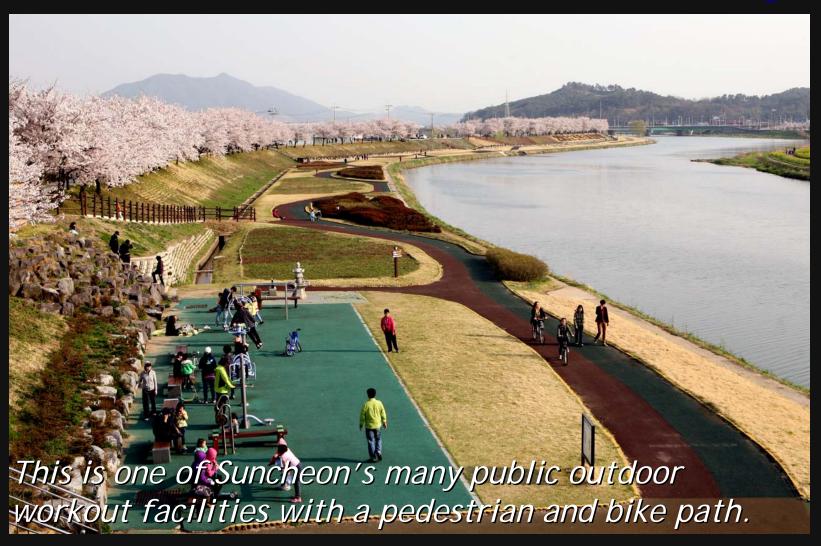


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Community is where you...

Suncheon is an energetic, nature-loving city. The people of Suncheon consider the outdoors to be a very entertaining place. In addition to parks, there are many opportunities to relax with friends and family at outdoor workout facilities, golf courses, and biking or pedestrian trails. There are also many open-air markets, libraries and shopping malls.

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Community is where you...

There are diverse job opportunities in the city of Suncheon. Suncheon is known for the beautiful produce grown on local farms. Farmers work in orchards to harvest native persimmons, plums, peaches and strawberries. Workers in the field cultivate rice and other staple crops. Bread, sweets and other foods are made in factories in the city. Suncheonis also work in business offices, city government and other industries.











Community is where you...

Suncheon is rapidly becoming the ecological capital of Korea. In the spring of 2013, an exposition of gardens will be unveiled to the world. It will focus on wetlands protection in Suncheon Bay (the 8th largest wetland in the world), medicinal herb gardens, parks that showcase different trees and gardens from around the world. The expo is set to create 11,000 jobs, improve lodging in the city and promote green transportation such as a personal rapid transit system connecting the expo site with Suncheon Bay.

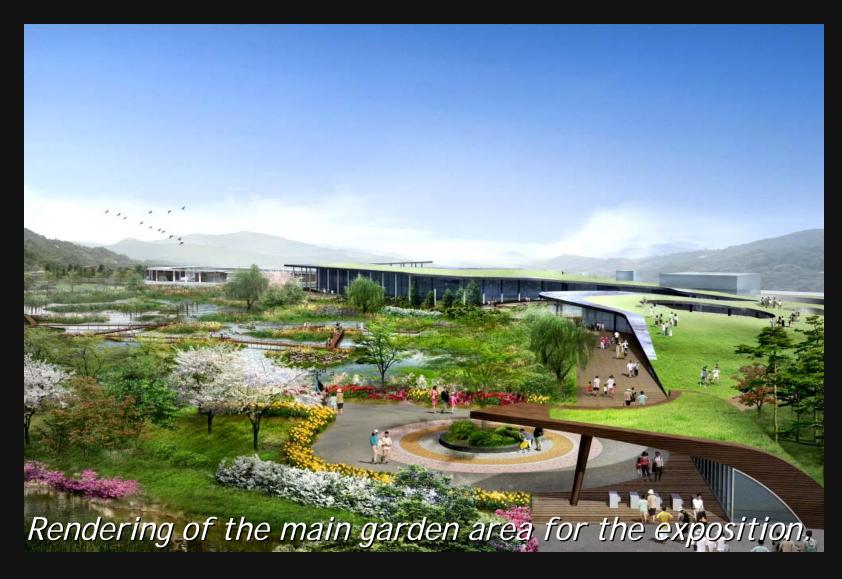
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For more information on the 2013 garden exposition, please visit:

http://2013expo.or.kr/web/eng_page_2010/











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Community is where you...

Just a short bus ride away from the center of Suncheon is Suncheon Bay. Beds of reeds provide a home for Hooded Cranes and other birds. The mud flats provide an excellent habitat for creatures such as the Blue-spotted Mudskipper, clams, small octopus and crabs. Near the bay, one can explore the nearby mountains, rivers, marshes and fields.











Thanks for visiting Suncheon! Before you leave, learn to speak some Korean phrases!

Welcome!

Hwan-yŏng-ham-ni-da. 환영합니다.

Where are you from?

Ŏ-di-sŏ o-shiŏ-ssŏ-yo? 어디서 오셨어요?

Enjoy! (for meals)

Ma-ni dŭ-se-yo! 많이 드세요!

Good Luck!

haeng un eul bib ni da! 행운을 빕니다!

I'd like to visit Korea one day.

Ŏn-jen-ga-nŭn han-gu-ge ka-goshi-p'ŏ-yo. 언젠가는 한국에 가고 싶어요.

See you later!

Na-jung-e bwae-yo! 나중에 봬요!

One, Two, Three!

II, i, sam! / ha-na, tul, set! 일, 이, 삼! / or / 하나, 둘, 셋!

I like Korean

Chŏ-nŭn han-gu-gŏ-ga cho-a-yo. 저는 한국어가 좋아요.

To learn more Korean words and phrases, please visit:

http://www.linguanaut.com/english_korean.htm