## **BRIEFING REPORT**

# SISTER CITY DONGHAE, SOUTH KOREA



Prepared by



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## Introduction



Established after World War II in 1947, sister city relationships were established to foster friendship and understanding between different cultures, and between former foes as an act of peace and reconciliation. In today's integrated society, these relationships help to promote cultural and commercial ties.

Focusing on global opportunity, the City of Federal Way currently has two sister cities-Donghae, South Korea and Hachinohe, Japan.

Established on April 1, 2000, the sister city relationship with Donghae, a South Korean port city, continues to grow both culturally and commercially. However, there is still room for growth in efforts to sustain this relationship. This briefing report addresses the government structure, growing economy, future plans for development, rich culture, and recent news of Donghae City.

## **DONGHAE QUICK FACTS**

- Population: 94,764
  - Youth population: 11,884Elderly population: 15,124
- Donghae is the fourth largest city in the Gangwon province and makes up 6.4% of Gangwon's total population.
- Local government operates semi-autonomously, under Gangwon Province and the central government.
- Local economy is primarily service based.
- Economic sectors:
  - o Fishing
  - o Passenger & cargo ships
  - o Tourism sector
  - o Mining
- Time Zone UTC+9. No Daylight Savings. Donghae is 16 hours ahead of Federal Way.
- Climate: Donghae has a climate that is described as Humid Subtropical. They experience mild winters and hot humid summers.
- Donghae is located on the North East Coast of Korea.
  - o 2 and a half hour drive to Seoul
  - o 20 miles east of Pyeongchang
- Nearest international airport to Donghae is Yangyang International Airport
- Donghae's symbols entail the Gingko Tree, the Red Prumusumume flower, and the seagull.

"Our city is famous for sunrises at Chongam Candlestick, for its backdrop of scenic beaches with silver sand along the wide horizon and the backdrop of the first section of the national anthem, natural sea caves in the city center, It is a sightseeing spot with mountains, valleys and caves."

Mayor Gyu-Un Shim



## SOUTH KOREA GOVERNMENT STRUCTURE

South Korea's government structure is known as a democratic unitary republic where executive and legislative branches operate primarily at the national level. South Korea is broken down into of provinces (-do), counties (-gun), city (-si), metropolitan cities that are of municipal governments, lower administrative units, neighborhoods (dong), and towns (eup), of which are divided into municipalities.

The country's Constitution was established July 17, 1948, concurrently observed as a national holiday. It adopts the liberal democracy as a basic principle of governance, in which it guarantees the people their sovereignty under various laws covering politics, economy, to taxes, education of children and work. The Constitution maintains the importance to endeavor international peace, established through treaties, signed by the country. A check and balance system is in place for accountability amongst branches established through the Constitution.

## **Legislative Branch**

South Korean government, otherwise known as the National Assembly, is an institution that represents the peoples' opinion. The National Assembly (also the Legislative branch), consist of 300 fixed members, whom are elected for terms of four years, 253 members in local constituencies, and 47 members elected by political parties for proportional representation. The National Assembly is responsible for considering and passing legislation, auditing budgets and administrative procedures, ratifying treaties, and approving state appointments. Additionally, it holds the power to impeach or recommend removal of high officials.



Sessions can occur once a year, for 100 days, or by request of the president or a caucus, which can be no more than 30 days. Half of the members must be present in order for a quorum to occur. While sessions are open to the public by default, sessions can be closed to the public by majority vote or decree of the Speaker.

Within the National Assembly, 17 standing committees are formed to analyze detailed matters of policy. These committees coincide with the ministries of the executive branch. From the executive branch, bills are passed to the committees, and then to the floor – that being said, a bill should have the support of at least 20 members of the National Assembly, unless the President introduced it. A majority vote will allow for approval of the bill that is then sent to the president for final approval, which must happen within 15 days.

In terms of budgeting and finances, the budgeting bill must be submitted to the National Assembly from the executive branch within 90 days, before the start of the fiscal year, with a final version approved within 30 days of the fiscal year.

#### **Executive Branch**

The executive rights of the government are exercised by the Executive Branch, headed by the President. At present, the President is elected through a direct election for a term of five years. Under the Constitution, the President cannot be reelected for a second term. President Moon Jaein was voted in as the 19th president of the Republic of Korea in the election held on May 9, 2017.

The Cabinet Meeting deliberates on important policies under the rights accorded to the Executive Branch of the government. It is the highest body for policy deliberation and resolution within the executive branch. The cabinet, mandated by the Constitution, could contain between 15 to 30 members, including the President and the Prime Minister who serve as the Chair and the Vice Chair, respectively.

In the absence of the President, the Prime Minister controls the ministries of the government on his/her behalf. At present, the Executive Branch of the government operates two boards, four offices, twenty three ministries, seventeen administrations, and six committees. This includes the Presidential Security Service, the Korea Communication Commission (which includes the National Humans Right Commission of Korea), the Board of Audit and Inspection of Korea, and the National Intelligence Service.

The executive branch works closely with the legislative branch, especially with the passing of bills and other administrative duties.

#### **Ministries**

Aforementioned, within the executive branch are 18 ministries appointed by the President, all of which report to the Prime Minister. The ministries could be affiliated with different agencies. Each agency is headed by a vice-minister-level commissioner, except Prosecution Service, which is overseen by the Prosecutor General, an individual of minister-level. The Ministers of Strategy and Finance, and Education assumes position of Deputy Prime Minister.

In the case that the President or Prime Minister is not able to fulfill their duties, the 18 ministries will assume temporary presidency position. In the case that the Prime Minister or Vice Prime Minister cannot meet their obligations, the president may choose a ministry to assume the Prime Minister's position or allow all the ministries to do so.

## **Judiciary Branch**

The Judiciary Branch of the government is composed of the Supreme Court, the Constitutional Court (the court that examines and impeaches high officials), appellate courts, district courts, family courts, administrative courts, and the patent court among others. The Supreme Court, located in Seoul, is the final court of appeal for all cases, and its Chief Justice is appointed by the President with the consent of the National Assembly, and other Supreme Court justices are appointed by the President upon the recommendation of the Chief Justice. The term for the Chief

Justice and justices is six years, however the Chief Justice cannot be reappointed. Furthermore, there are 14 Justices, whom should meet the requirements of at least being 40 years old, and having 15 years of experience in law.

Judges are required to pass rigorous training systems, including a two year program and two year apprenticeship, all provided by the Judicial Research and Training Institute, then pass the National Judicial Examination.

## **Independent Agencies**

Under the Executive Branch, there are additional committees, ministries, and offices towards policy regulation and administering: the Government Policy Coordination, the National Election Commission, the multiple main ministries (Veteran Affairs, Personnel Management, Government Legislation, Food and Drug Safety), and Commissions (Korea Fair Trade, Financial Services, Anti-Corruption, Nuclear Safety and Security).

## **Current Leaders:**

- President: Moon Jae-In
- Prime Minister: Lee Nak-Yeon
- Chairperson/Chief Auditor of Board of Audit and Inspection: Choi Jae Hyeong
- Deputy Prime Minister: Senior members of the Cabinet of South Korea
- Minister of Strategy and Finance: Kim Dong-Yeon
- Minister of Education: Kim Sang-Kon
- Minister of Foreign Affairs: Kang Kyung-wha
- Minister of Trade, Industry and Energy: Paik Ungyu

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT STRUCTURE

The Republic of Korea centralizes its governance unitarily, at a national level, in which the policies that national lawmakers create are implemented by the divisions below. Affixed to the circumstances, local governments and the judicial branch have limited authority over policy decisions; at most, local governments are provided disproportionate influence and are only able to decide how national policies will be implemented. This is not to say that they not to do their duties, administered by the Constitution: administrative matters pertaining to the welfare of local residents, management of properties and enact provisions relating to local autonomy, all within national laws and parameters. Despite recent political pressure for the scope of local autonomy to be extended, there is still an absence of local autonomy.

Although local autonomy was established as a constitutional principle of Korea since 1948, for much of the 20th century, this principle was not honored. From 1965 to 1995, local governments ran directly under provincial governments, who were then supervised by the national government. However, with the elections of 1995, a degree of local autonomy had been restored with the establishments of districts and neighborhoods. The City of Donghae is divided into a total of ten neighborhoods.

### **Local Authorities**

The local government will have a council composed of multiple elections and appointments



which are detailed below: Currently, the head of local governments, such as mayors, are able to be reelected for up to three terms, each term lasting up to four years. Local magistrates and assemblies, such as city council members, are elected into each of the primary and secondary administrative divisions of South Korea that is, in every province, metropolitan or

special city, and district.

Officials, such as deputy officials, at lower levels of local government, such as towns and neighborhoods, are appointed by the city or county government. Mayors of local government are also known as the chief executive, with their own legislative and executive bodies.

Currently, Gyu-Un Shim is serving as Mayor along with a nine-member city council; Seok-Chan Choi, Eung-Taek Lim, Gi-Ha Kim, Nam-Soon Park, Joo-Hyun Park, Jung-Hak Lee, Chang-Soo Lee, and Jae-Suk Choi.

#### **Structure of Local Government**

Local governments are divided into high-level and low level local governments. Since the establishment of the Sejong Special Autonomous City in July 2012, high-level local governments increased to 17. This number entails the Seoul Special city, six metropolises, eight provinces, and Jeju Special Self-governing Province. Low-level local governments currently stand at 226, with this number holding the cities, provinces, and wards.

Provincial and metropolitan governments are able to broadly supervise economic and social development, as well as administer local centers for policy design, coordination, and implementation, allowing for uniqueness between each city and town. As local governments are semi-autonomous, independent national agencies and ministries play a critical role managing local areas, including fire protection and education. Local district, branch, and municipal courts are permitted, unlike an independent local court, to handle small claims and disputes.

In regards to implementation, local governments shadow a modified version of conducting its government - the mayor and council will monitor the implementation of national policies and its success, as well as set overall guidance for the municipality. Donghae's government extends from the council, secretary, and mayor, with departments, divisions, and centers overseeing economics, business, welfare, traffic, construction, public affairs and culture, families, tourism, environment, marine fisheries, waste and finances (audits, treasury, and taxation).

## MAYOR OF DONGHAE



#### **GYU-UN SHIM**

- Born on October 1, 1955 in South Korea
- Graduated from Korea National Open University
- Graduated from Kwangdong University with a Master's Degree in Public Administration
- Member of the center-right Liberty Korea Party
- Vice Mayor of Donghae in 2011
- Deputy Mayor of Donghae in 2012
- Elected Mayor of Donghae in 2014
- Served as Mayor of Donghae for 4 years

## **Liberty Korea Party**

Jayu Hanguk Dang, known as the Liberty Korea Party (LKP), is a conservative opposition party to the Democratic Party of Korea (DPK). Formerly known as the Saenuri Party, the party changed its official name in 2017. Following former South Korean President Geun-Hye Park's political scandal and impeachment in 2016, the Party lost the Presidency when Democratic Party of Korea candidate, Moon Jae In, won the 2017 election.

Currently, the Liberty Korea Party holds 112 out of 300 seats in the National Assembly, following behind the majority party, the DPK. Within the context of local government, the LKP holds 1,146 out of 3,750 seats within local government in South Korea.

As the main conservative party in South Korea, the LKP has been a member of the International Democrat Union (IDU), and maintains ties with the US Republican Party, UK Conservative Party, and Christian Democratic Union of Germany.

#### **Party Core Values**

Aiming to promote continuous development and the peaceful reunification of the North and South on the basis of liberal democracy, the LKP has seven critical values. They are:

- 1. To respect the constitution and rule of law.
- 2. To prioritize national security and safety of the people.
- 3. To harmonize liberty and responsibility.
- 4. To aim for a spirit of community and unity of the people.
- 5. To promote positive views of history and national pride.
- 6. To place importance on sustainability.
- 7. To seek changes and innovation in being open-minded.

## DONGHAE BACKGROUND

Surrounded by the Taebaek Mountains on one side, and the East Sea on the other, Donghae is one of the easternmost cities of Korea, and the fourth largest city in Gangwon province with a population of 94,764. Donghae is known for its natural beauty and abundance of natural resources, such as limestone. With a total area of 180.01 km<sup>2</sup>, 76% of Donghae's total area is undeveloped forest.

As a well-visited tourist destination, Donghae's downtown also hosts a wide variety of events and attractions, home to multiple notable points of interests, such as the famed monument,

Cheongok Cave, a limestone cave that extends horizontally for 1,400 meters.

Aiming to be "the Happy City of Welfare", the city prides itself on providing social welfare and support, each concentrated towards the varying populations – women and family, disabled, children/youth, and seniors. General healthcare, public transportation, waste disposal,



environmental services, cultural/communal, education, economic development, post-disaster and safety measures, and water services are also supplemented to residents.

### **Demographics and Religion**

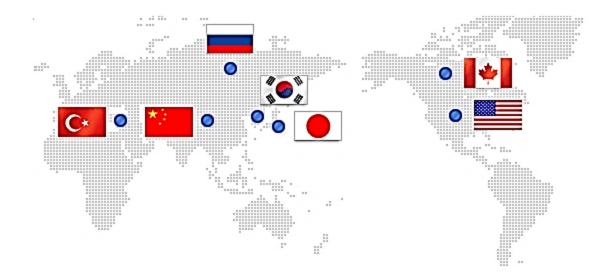
Donghae is largely homogenous with 99.3% of the population being ethnically Korean. It faces the same low birth rate (1.19) that the country as a whole experiences. This is causing South Korea to face a rapidly aging population. As of 2018, 14% of its population is over 65 and that number is trending up.

In regards to religion, the people of Gangwon, the province in which Donghae resides, follow Buddhism, Christianity, Protestantism, and Catholicism, with the remaining population following Muism, Atheism, or other indigenous religions.

#### Climate

Locals say Gangwon is where Korea's winter season starts and lasts the longest. December is the driest month while August is the wettest month. The rainy season lasts from June, to September. The average annual temperature is about 12.5 degrees Celsius, meaning temperatures average at 0 degrees Celsius in January and 24.1 degrees Celsius in August.

(See Table 1 in Appendix.)



## **Overseas Sister Cities of Donghae**

- Tsurugasi, Japan April 13, 1981
- Nakhodka, Russia November 10, 1991
- Tumen, China April 28, 1995
- Federal Way, United States April 1, 2000
- Saint John, Canada May 30, 2008
- Bolu, Turkey June 15, 2009

### **Domestic Sister Cities of Donghae**

- Gimje, South Korea April 27, 1999
- Dobong-gu, South Korea October 7, 1999
- Taean-gu, South Korea December 1, 2003
- Gwangju-si, South Korea April 28, 2007
- Gwacheon-si, South Korea March 5, 2009
- Gangnam-gu, South Korea September 14, 2009

### **Economy**

The diverse economy of Donghae City is dependent upon mining, maritime, and tourism sectors.

While predominately a service based economy, mining remains a significant sector of Donghae. The land surrounding the base of the Taebaek Mountains, just on the outskirts of Donghae, is very rich in non-ferrous metals. In fact, Gangwon province has 90% of the nation's limestone and 50% of its dolomite.

The government attempts to diversify the economy, but as of today Donghae is heavily reliant on either service or mining, and shipping. Central government efforts to diversify can be seen in South Korea's East Coast Free Economic Zone, an area the central government is trying to rapidly develop, utilizing incentives for corporations such as lower income taxes. The provincial government has further targeted Donghae as a place for economic growth by investing in the maintenance of the Donghae Expressway, which is planned to eventually extend all the way along the east coast to Haeundae, Busan.

## Mining, Fishing, and Tourism are the Major Economic Sectors

These efforts are further displayed in the government's plans to develop Donghae Port as one of the country's main national ports in the near future. Currently, Donghae's port consists of 278 ships, with a shipping capacity of 100 tons. Located on the East Sea coast, Donghae has also developed an impressive fishing industry, with over 4,013 fishermen and five fishery unions.



With its tourism sector as a vital economic sustenance, Donghae appeals to many tourists with its surplus of beautiful natural resources and rich culture. Mangsang Beach's clean sand and shallow water, Mureung Valley's breathtaking view of Duta Mountain, and Cheon-Gok Cave's feature as the only natural cave in the heart of a city are just a few of the selling points of Donghae City as a tourist destination. The city also hosts a variety of festivals throughout the year. (See page 13.)

The five major employers of Donghae are Posco, a steel manufacturer, Dongbu Metal, a subsidy of Dongbu Group, established in 1969, that produces industrial products, LS Cable & System, Lafarge, a French company that specializes in cement and concrete construction, and Young Poong, the sole manufacturer and supplier of the zinc, lead, and other non-ferrous metals in Korea.

## **COMMUNITY INITIATIVES**

#### **Industrial and Economic Initiatives**

As of 2017, South Korea comes out to be the 4<sup>th</sup> largest economy in Asia and the 12<sup>th</sup> largest economy globally. The country has a mixed economic system that consists of private freedom, centralized economic planning, and government regulation – in other words, a capitalist-socialist mixed system. To continue the development of South Korea's economy, the Korea Free Economic Zones (K-FEZ) were established in 2003 as a means to aim for the improvement of international business affairs and environment for foreign-invested firms in Korea.

The East Coast FEZ, headquartered in Donghae, boasts its bountiful rich reserves of non-ferrous metals and minerals, inviting a multitude of leading companies in related business. The Bukpyeong and Songjeong Industrial Complexes are a few of the major business hubs in Donghae.

The goal for the East Coast FEZ is to advance green materials industries and develop the East Coast FEZ as a hub for international logistics, harnessing its business complex and four season maritime tourism as leverage. The PyeongChang Winter Olympics, an event hosted in a city within the East Coast FEZ, has been one additional advantage towards these advancements.

## **Donghae Free Economic Zone**

In the effort to continue development of South Korea's economy, specifically related to international business and foreign-investment, there are a variety of incentives used to cultivate a competitive and global industrial base. These benefits include low priced factory sites leased to each company, resident companies' exclusion from existing South Korean regulations on external trade acts and tariff laws, exemption from income taxes (property tax, acquisition tax, and potentially, rental fees), deferred taxation on imported goods, application of Zero Value Added Tax, and financial assistance towards logistics.

### **Bukpyeong and Songjeong Industrial Complexes**

In the effort to enhance Donghae's port and industrial complexes, Bukpyeong and Songjeong Industrial Complexes aim to attract developers with incentives.

The Bukpyeong Industrial Complex is interested in attracting developers to continue cultivating its complex by offering multiple incentives including 50% deduction on corporate and income taxes, and wastewater fees, exemption from acquisition tax (property tax for five years), access to funds from Gangwon Provincial Government and the Small & Medium Business Administration, and the potential for 50 million won (44 thousand dollars) towards assistance in logistics and transportation costs.

On the other hand, the Songjeong Industrial Complex seeks machinery and equipment manufacturers. While the incentives are relatively similar between the two complexes, the Songjeong provides acquisition tax exemptions.

(See Images 2 and 3 in Appendix.)

### **Expansions and Extensions**

Another key initiative is to further expand existing ports as added resources, such as the Donghae Port, Mukho Port, as well as surrounding routes and highways that lead into Okgye, Donghae, Port, and Samcheock. The improvements include extensions of the international ports and activation of container logistics, as well as doubling train track extension connected to Gangneung, another city in Gangwon province.

## **Increase Growth through Tourism**

Another key initiative is to counteract the recent trend of a decreasing population since 2000 using tourism resources. To accomplish this, natural and cultural assets, such as Mansang Beach, Mureng Valley, and Cheon-Gok Cave, will be marketed and utilized to stimulate the local economy, and ultimately counteract the economic effects of a decrease in population.

## The City of Happy Welfare

In addition to the tourism initiative to sustain and grow the population, the local government in Donghae is focusing on the happiness of its citizens and individuals seeking to relocate to Donghae. With the basic principles of civic participation, open administration, and the makings of a well-developed plan towards a stronger economy, Donghae and its citizen can see and meet its goals of being a happy city.

In order to cultivate an area for growth in population, Donghae has established a focus on creating more jobs. Incentives have been put into place to attract workers to the city. The Transfer Incentive Support provides market vouchers of 50,000 Korean won, which is approximately 44 US dollars, to employees in Donghae, and provides substantial benefits for those living in the area, civilians of military service, and those interested in Donghae as a home.

In addition to these incentives for growth, Donghae has further tackled declining rates in population by incentivizing young families to remain in Donghae. To start, the government provides tuition support and scholarships for local students. The government provides other benefits to young families, such as the 20% discount towards a fee to access facilities, such as the Culture and Arts Center, and the indoor swimming pool. New families are also equipped with health check-ups, classes, and subsidies to prepare new parents. By investing into young families and children, the government hopes to address a declining population in Donghae.

## RECENT NEWS

## North Korean Coal Illegally Imported through South Korea Port City Donghae

South Korea's Customs Service said about 35,000 metric tons of coal, worth \$6.6 billion won (\$5.8 million U.S. dollars), was brought into South Korea from North Korea between April and October in 2017, violating United Nations Sanctions.

According to South Korea's Customs Service on Friday, August 10, 2018, the North Korean ship Rung Ra 2 carried 4,580 tons of coal from the North's Daean Port to the Russian port town of Kholmsk last July. Three months later, the coal was disguised as Russian products and transferred to the South Korean port city of Donghae.

As a result, on Monday, August 13, 2018, the South Korean government sent a letter containing its measures in connection with the North Korean coal matter to the UN Security Council Sanctions Committee on North Korea. While the specifics of the government's report to the Sanctions Committee were not confirmed, it is believed to have contained the findings from the cases' investigation and planned response measures.



## South Korea Wins Gold at Women Asian Champions Trophy 2018

The South Korean women's hockey team won gold at the Women Asian Champions Trophy on May 20, 2018. Held in Donghae, South Korea from May 13-20, South Korean, Chinese, Japanese, Indian, and Malaysian teams competed for one week. India finished second with China following in third place.

## North Korean Ship Carrying North Korean Olympians Docks at Donghae

On February 6, 2018, hundreds of South Korean protestors gathered at the Port of Donghae City to protest the arrival of a North Korean Ship carrying around 120 athletes and performers bound for the 2018 Pyeongchang Winter Olympics. Opposed to the North and South marching as a unified team under a neutral Korean peninsula flag at the opening ceremony, protestors believe North Korea has been allowed to hijack the Pyeongchang Games, and refer to them instead as the Pyeongyang Olympics after the North Korean capital.

## 2017 International Sambo Federation President's Cup

The International Sambo Federation President's Cup was hosted by Donghae, where over 200 athletes of all genders from 12 participating countries competed for cash prizes and medals. Countries include, but not limited to India, Japan, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Mongolia, Nepal, Romania, Russia, Taiwan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, and South Korea.

## **Bukpyeong Power plant Construction**

GS Donghae Electric Power Co., LTD (formerly known as STX Electric Power and Heavy Industries), Daelim Industrial, Hitachi, Clyde Bergemann Wesel, and Foster Wheeler Global Power Group, are just a few of the contracted partners involved with the construction and equipment associated with the coal-fired Bukpyeong power plant. The 1,1190MW plan will be South Korea's fifth basic plan for electricity supply to encourage private firm participation. Construction began in December 2012, commercial operations on March 8, 2017, with the connection of the second unit on May 24, 2017.

It will consist of Daeyoung C&E's plate catalysts (DPC), two gas heathers, advanced desulphurization and denitrification facilities, an underground transmission line, waste water recycling unites and enclosed coal-handling system. Electricity will be generated through the steam generators. The boiler and bottom ash hopper are connected to a Magaldi system of ash recycling and cooling, with the ash recycled towards cement production.

However this development has since been criticized for "greenwashing" its consumers that it is a plan towards a cleaner and greener future for Korea. Others are saying otherwise, that it is a disingenuous slogan for a giant coal incinerator.

## **Shinhan Donghae Open**

The Shinhan Donghae Open, a men's professional golf tournament, made its return to the Asian Tour calendar in 2016, following a 13 year absence. Since the sponsorship by Shinhan Financial Group, it has returned to the Asian Tour calendar with winners by Asian Tour members – Gaganjeet Bhullar of India and Richard T. Lee of Canada in 2016 and 2017, respectively.

### **Vying for Port as Artic Sea Lane Hub**

On September 16, 2013, Hyundai Glovis completed its first pilot service of the Northern Sea Route, making it the first ever effort to conduct commercial operation between Asia and Europe by the Arctic Sea. Departing from Port Ust Luga in Russia and arriving at Gwangyang Port in Jeolla Province, the ship traveled 35 days, a total distance of about 15 thousand kilometers.

As global warming melts Arctic ice, a vital sea route has emerged- the Northern Sea Route (NSR). This new 15 thousand kilometer sea lane would counter the traditional 22 thousand kilometer route, connecting Rotterdam, Netherlands to Busan, South Korea through the Suez Canal, ultimately cutting 10 days off of travel time for imports and exports.

Korean port cities and coastal provinces are now competing to become a hub for the Northern Sea Route. Of the lobbyists, Gangwon Province has lobbied the South Korean Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries to consider designating Donghae Port as a possible hub for the new sea lane.

The Korean Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries believes that this pilot operation will serve as a reference for other shipping companies in establishing strategies on their starting businesses in Arctic area. Still in the beginning stages of operations, this pilot service shows great promise for future operations throughout the nation.

## **CULTURE**







Donghae's symbols entail its tree, the Gingko Tree, the Red Prumusumume flower, and being so close to the ocean, the seagull as its bird.

With tourism as a vital economic sector, Donghae hosts a medley of festivals that showcases the city's characteristics throughout its seasons. Furthermore, amongst its cultural assets, the city holds certain architectures, temples and pavilions, to high regards, as they have ascertained values and influence. Notwithstanding, surrounded by natural beauty, Donghae surrounds itself with an ocean on one side and notable mountains on the other.

The following are notable festivals and cultural assets in Donghae.

#### **Horizon Festival**

Occurring July 31 – August 5, the Horizon Festival is a famous summer festival hosted by Donghae, offering visitors the chance to create wonderful memories on Mangsang Beach. Taking part in an experience surrounded by sericite, a mineral common around Donghae, spectators enjoy watching the performances, including the National B-Boy Battle, sampling food, and participating in activities, such as catching clams and making rice cakes.





## **Squid Festival**

Occurring yearly in early August, the Squid Festival includes variety of events relating to squids, held at Mangsang Beach. Donghae offers various things to enjoy and eat, being a city of marine tourism and the origin of many of Korea's squids. Activities include catching squids with bare hands, chopping raw fish, catching clams, and squid dishes. There are also fireworks, laser shows, parades on ships, and performance from the marine band.

## **Mureung Festival**

Every October, for 4 days, the Donghae Mureung Festival, a harvest festival, offers a wide range of cultural and arts programs, including local folk arts performance, folk games, traditional events (wishing for bountiful harvest, praying to the mountain god, and traditional weddings), as well as performances, presentations by community clubs, and exhibitions.





## Samhwasa Temple

Located at the entrance of Mureung Valley, this historic temple has a significant past, which includes its Buddhist influence. Despite the burning down of most of the temples during the Japanese invasion of Korea in 1592, the temple underwent successful reconstruction.

Cultural Assets of Samhwasa Temple include:

- Three-storied stone pagoda (National Treasure No. 1277)
- Iron Buddhist Statue (National Treasure No. 1299)

#### **Dutasanseong**

Situated on the northern slopes of Mt. Duta, Dutasanseong is one of the largest fortresses in Korea. It has a unique structure, with an inner and outer fort, thus regarded as an important site for studying ancient fortresses of Korea.

## **APPENDIX**

**Table 1- Climate of Donghae** 

Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year
Record high °C (°F)	16.1 (61)	23.7 (74.7)	26.9 (80.4)	32.6 (90.7)	32.7 (90.9)	35.2 (95.4)	37.1 (98.8 )	37.0 (98.6)	34.2 (93.6)	29.7 (85.5)	24.4 (75.9)	18.4 (65.1)	37.1 (98.8)
Average high °C (°F)	5.2 (41.4)	7.1 (44.8)	10.8 (51.4)	16.6 (61.9)	20.6 (69.1)	23.2 (73.8)	26.4 (79.5	27.3 (81.1)	23.7 (74.7)	19.7 (67.5)	13.6 (56.5)	7.9 (46.2)	16.8 (62.2)
Daily mean °C (°F)	0.8 (33.4)	2.7 (36.9)	6.4 (43.5)	12.0 (53.6)	16.1 (61)	19.4 (66.9)	23.0 (73.4 )	23.7 (74.7)	19.7 (67.5)	15.0 (59)	9.0 (48.2)	3.3 (37.9)	12.6 (54.7)
Average low °C (°F)	-3.1 (26.4)	-1.5 (29.3)	2.0 (35.6)	7.5 (45.5)	12.0 (53.6)	16.1 (61)	20.2 (68.4	20.7 (69.3)	15.9 (60.6)	10.5 (50.9)	4.6 (40.3)	-0.9 (30.4)	8.7 (47.7)
Record low °C (°F)	-14.0 (6.8)	-13.7 (7.3)	-6.9 (19.6)	-1.4 (29.5)	3.5 (38.3)	6.0 (42.8)	12.2 (54)	14.4 (57.9)	8.3 (46.9)	-0.1 (31.8)	-6.2 (20.8)	-11.9 (10.6)	-14.0 (6.8)
Average <u>precipitation</u> m m (inches)	51.0 (2.008	36.3 (1.429	58.6 (2.307 )	60.1 (2.366 )	74.0 (2.913 )	110.4 (4.346 )	234.7 (9.24 )	240.3 (9.461 )	241.1 (9.492 )	83.5 (3.287 )	67.6 (2.661 )	21.3 (0.839 )	1,278. 9 (50.35)

Donghae Bukpyeong Industry Complex

Image 2 - Bukpyeong Industry Complex and FEZ

**Image 3 - Songjeong Industry Complex** 



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