

## Baekje Historic Areas

### Baekje Kingdom and Baekje Historic Areas

The Baekje Kingdom lasted for about 700 years from 18 BC until 660 AD. Baekje Historic Areas is a serial property comprised of eight archaeological sites located in the mid-western region of the Republic of Korea. They are the Gongsanseong fortress and royal tombs in Songsan-ri related to the Ungjin capital (Gongju); Archaeological Site in Gwanbuk-ri and the Busanseong Fortress, Jeongnimsa Temple Site, Royal Tombs in Neungsan-ri and Naseong City Wall related to the Sabi capital (Buyeo); Archaeological Site in Wanggung-ri and Mireuksa Temple Site in Iksan related to the secondary Sabi capital.

### Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the Baekje Historic Areas

Baekje Historic Areas collectively represents the later period of the Baekje Kingdom as it reached its peak in terms of cultural development involving frequent communication with neighbouring regions. Together these sites testify to the adoption by the Baekje of Chinese principles of city planning, construction technology, arts and religion; their refinement by the Baekje and subsequent distribution to Japan and East Asia.



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Baekje World Heritage Center

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## Iksan

Iksan, the Future Dreamt by Baekje People

### Archaeological Site in Wanggung-ri

The Archaeological Site in Wanggung-ri was built as a secondary palace by the royal court of Baekje in an attempt to make up for the weakness of the capital city in Sabi (present-day Buyeo). Excavations of the site revealed the traces of various facilities related with the royal palace, which appear to have been set up in a rectangular palace wall, along with buildings related with state ceremonies and political affairs located to its south and a rear garden to its north.



### Five-story Stone Pagoda in Wanggung-ri

The stone pagoda constitutes historical evidence of the transfer of the royal palace in Wanggung-ri to a Buddhist temple. While opinions vary on when the pagoda was built, it exhibits the strong influence of the basic style of Baekje's stone pagodas.

### Large Building Site

The archaeological traces of this site show that the original structure, measuring 35 meters in length and 18 meters in width, that once stood here was one of the most important palace buildings. A building site of the same size and overall structure was also discovered at the site at Gwanbuk-ri, Buyeo.



### Mireuksa Temple Site

- 1 Wooden Pagoda Site
- 2 Prayer Hall Site
- 3 Lecture Hall Site
- 4 Northern Monks' Dormitory Site
- 5 Restoration Site of Western Stone Pagoda
- 6 Mireuksaji Relics Exhibition Museum

### Archaeological Site in Wanggung-ri

- 1 Wanggung-ri Relics Museum
- 2 Palace Wall
- 3 Large Building Site
- 4 Five-story Stone Pagoda
- 5 Rear Garden



### Nearby Attractions



### Daecheon Beach

Daecheon Beach is famous for its 3.5-kilometer-long stretch of clean sand and shallow water, making it the ideal spot for swimming and paddling with the kids. In and around the beach there are also plenty of things to eat, see, and do. The beach also serves as the venue for the internationally-renowned Boryeong Mud Festival, which is held from July 17 to 26.



### Jeonju Hanok Village

This attractive 'village' consisting of about 600 traditional Korean houses (hanok) covers Pungnam-dong and Gyo-dong in the downtown area of Jeonju. The district also contains numerous museums, art shops, handicraft workshops, guesthouses, fine restaurants, and valuable historical and cultural sites including Gyeonggyeong Shrine.

### Gunsan Modern History and Culture Street

Gunsan Port was opened in 1899 as a modern port. Buildings dating from the colonial period can be seen near the inner port of Gunsan, while Japanese-style houses can be seen in Jangmi-dong, Wolmyeong-dong, and Sinheung-dong.



### Gyerongsan National Park

Extending over a large area bordering the cities of Daejeon, Gongju, and Nonsan, Gyerongsan National Park is famous for its many scenic valleys, waterfalls, caves and peaks, including its highest peak, which is regarded as one of the four most beautiful mountains in Korea. It also houses many precious heritage sites including historic Buddhist temples such as Donghaksa, Gapsa and Sinwonsa.

### Festivals in Gongju, Buyeo, and Iksan



### Baekje Cultural Festival

Period \_ 2016. 9. 24-10. 2 | Venue \_ Gongju and Buyeo

The Baekje Cultural Festival offers visitors an opportunity to revisit the splendid 700-year history of Baekje and the spirit of its people. There are many programs and things to see that will take you back in time to the kingdom that fell in 660 AD.

### Gomanaru Festival

Period \_ July to August | Venue \_ Munhwa park area, Sansung market

This summer festival focusing on a local legend about the love between a bear and a man includes a wide range of fun events, Gugak (traditional Korean music) concerts, plays, orchestral music recitals, Samul nori (traditional percussion ensemble), and various come and-join-in events.

### Buyeo Seodong Lotus Festival

Period \_ 2016. 7. 8-17 | Venue \_ Seodong Park in Buyeo-gun, Chungcheongnam-do

The gem of this summer festival based on Baekje's history and culture is the fifty different species of lotus flowers that fill Gunnamji Pond (surface area: 380,000 m<sup>2</sup>). The festival was designated by the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism as one of Korea's most promising festivals in 2012, and continues to attract people from all over Korea.

### Iksan Seodong Festival

Period \_ 2016. 5. 27-29 | Venue \_ Geumma Seodong Park, Geumma-myeon (town) and the surrounding area

The annual festival started out as Mahan Folklore Festival in 1969 but was renamed Iksan Seodong Festival in 2004 to commemorate the love between Seodong (later King Mu of Baekje) and Princess Seonhwa of Silla and Seodongyo (Ballad of Seodong) written by Seodong.

### Special Local Produce

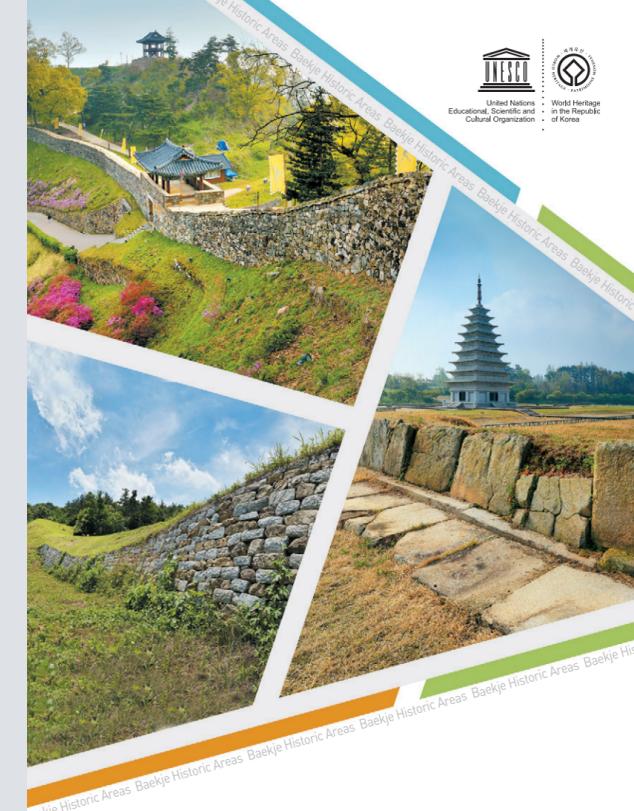
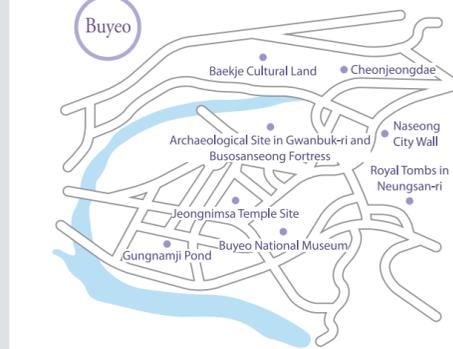
Gongju # Chestnuts (Sales contact: Gongju City Hall) www.gmjanger.com

Buyeo # Melons (Sales contact: Goodtrae Market Hall) www.goodtraemarket.net

Iksan # Seodongma (Sales contact: Geumma Nonghyup)



### Baekje Historic Areas # Key map



# Baekje Historic Areas

Baekje World Heritage Center



World Heritage in the Republic of Korea

Gongsanseong Fortress

Built to make the most of the geographical features of the area around the Geumgang River, Gongsanseong Fortress housed the royal palace of Baekje during the Ungjin Period (475-538). The excavations led to the discovery of remains of royal palace buildings, ancillary structures of the palace, and various defensive facilities including earthen walls.



Royal Palace Site

The site of Baekje's royal palace at Gongsanseong Fortress is a fine vantage point overlooking downtown Gongju, the Geumgang River, and the Royal Tombs in Songsan-ri. Archaeologists discovered the remains of building sites and ancillary facility sites, and artifacts which they believe are related with the royal palace of Baekje.



Ancillary Facility Sites of the Royal Palace

The widest flat area in Gongsanseong Fortress is occupied by the archaeological remains of several buildings, a retaining wall, a road, a reservoir and a drainage facility, all of which are believed to have been affiliated with the royal palace of Baekje. A suit of armor discovered at the reservoir site constitutes valuable evidence of the authenticity of this historic site.



Gongsanseong Fortress Walls

Most of the remaining wall of Gongsanseong Fortress was constructed during the Joseon Period (1392-1910) on earthen foundations built by Baekje many centuries earlier. The southeastern part of the fortress wall includes a section of the earthen wall of Baekje Dynasty and has been preserved in its original condition.



- Gongsanseong Fortress**
- 1 Geumseoru Pavilion
  - 2 Royal Palace Site
  - 3 Jinnamnu Pavilion
  - 4 Yeongeunsa Temple
  - 5 Ancillary Facility Sites of the Royal Palace
  - 6 Gongbungnu Pavilion
  - 7 Experience Center



- Royal Tombs in Songsan-ri**
- 1 Exhibition Hall of Royal Tombs in Songsan-ri
  - 2 Tomb of King Muryeong
  - 3 Gongju National Museum

Royal Tombs in Songsan-ri

This tomb complex in Songsan-ri, Gongju consists of seven Baekje royal tombs dating from the Ungjin Period. However, the Tomb of King Muryeong has been left untouched by looters and preserved in its original condition, allowing archaeologists to determine when (525) and for whom it was built.



Architectural Style of the Royal Tombs in Songsan-ri

Of the seven Baekje tombs of Songsan-ri, five (Tombs No.1 to No.5) consist of stone chamber tombs built in Baekje's unique style, while the remaining two (Tomb No. 6 and King Muryeong's Tomb) contain brick chamber tombs - a style that also became widespread in China during the same period.



Gongju National Museum

Gongju National Museum houses a collection of priceless artifacts discovered at the Tomb of King Muryeong along with numerous archaeological artifacts unearthed across the province of Chungcheongnam-do. The collection attests to the cultural richness of Baekje in the Ungjin Period.



Archaeological Site in Gwanbuk-ri and Busosanseong Fortress

In the archaeological site in Gwanbuk-ri and Busosanseong Fortress related with Baekje in the Sabi Period (538-660), archaeologists discovered the remains of large buildings that once formed part of the royal palace of the kingdom, along with an elaborate rammed-earth wall. They also confirmed that Busosanseong Fortress was used as a shelter by Baekje royalty and their government in times of emergency.



Large Building Site

This archaeological site contains the remains of a large building measuring 35 meters in length and 18.5 meters in width, which could have been one of the most important buildings of the royal palace of Baekje. Archaeologists also discovered the remains of a building of almost identical size and structure at the Archaeological Site in Wanggung-ri, Iksan.



Archaeological Site in Gwanbuk-ri and Busosanseong Fortress

- 1 Samchungsa Shrine
- 2 Busosanseong Fortress Wall
- 3 Exhibition Hall of Pit-house Site
- 4 Banwollu Pavilion
- 5 Nakhwaam Cliff
- 6 Site of Seoboksa Temple in Busosan Mountain
- 7 Baengmagang River Tour Boat
- 8 Large Building Site

Rammed-earth Wall

A rammed-earth technique was used to build the Busosanseong Fortress. The construction work began by erecting supporting trees to prevent the earth from being swept away and the fortress was then built inside these supports by tamping down layers of clay soil and decomposed granite soil, each in turn. The same technique was used to build the Naseong City Wall, its outer defense structure.



Nakhwaam Cliff

Located at the western end of Busosanseong Fortress overlooking the Baengmagang River, this cliff rock is largely remembered for its connection with the turbulent final days of Baekje.



Jeongnimsa Temple Site

- 1 Jeongnimsaji Museum
- 2 Five-story Stone Pagoda at Jeongnimsa Temple Site
- 3 Site of a Prayer Hall
- 4 Site of a Lecture Hall (Stone Seated Buddha)
- 5 Roof tiles-stacked stylobate



Jeongnimsa Temple Site

Originally located at the very center of the fortified city of Sabi, Baekje's last capital, Jeongnimsa Temple is now regarded as one of the earliest Buddhist temples to have been built at the heart of a capital city in East Asia. Excavations have revealed that the temple was once a complex of religious buildings, including a prayer hall, a lecture hall, and monks' dormitories, exhibiting Baekje's unique architectural style and symbolizing the Three Jewels of Buddhism, namely, Buddha, Dharma, and Sangha. The site still contains an 8.3-meter-tall stone pagoda in the architectural style of wooden pagodas from the earlier period.



Five-story Stone Pagoda at Jeongnimsa Temple Site

This almost perfectly-preserved five-story stone pagoda of Baekje is widely praised for its excellent balance and harmonious proportions.



Roof tiles-stacked stylobate

Archaeologists discovered the base of a building elaborately ornamented with piles of roof-tiles at the Jeongnimsa Temple Site. Similar bases decorated with roof-tiles have been discovered in various palace and temple sites of Baekje across Buyeo and at the Archaeological Site in Wanggung-ri, Iksan. The tradition was later transmitted to Japan where it gained great popularity.



Naseong City Wall

Sabi (present-day Buyeo), the last capital of Baekje, was protected by the Geumgang River, which served as a natural moat protecting it on three sides, north, west, and south. The capital also had a wall called Naseong as a defense structure constructed in the east and this wall is now widely regarded as one of the earliest examples in East Asia of a structure built far outside a city to serve not only as a defense structure but also as a symbolic boundary between its interior and exterior.



Naseong City Wall

- 1 Royal Tombs in Neungsan-ri
- 2 Exhibition Hall of Royal Tombs in Neungsan-ri
- 3 Temple Site in Neungsan-ri
- 4 Naseong City Wall

Royal Tombs in Neungsan-ri

The Baekje tombs clustered in Neungsan-ri outside Naseong City Wall display a unique difference from the royal tombs of the earlier period, which had usually been built at the center of the capital in order to highlight the royal authority. Most of these tombs had been looted before excavation, but archaeologists nevertheless discovered a stone sarira reliquary and a gilt-bronze incense burner made in 567 at a temple site to the west of the tomb complex.



Temple Site in Neungsan-ri

This temple site of the Baekje Period located between Naseong City Wall and the Royal Tombs in Neungsan-ri yielded the Great Gilt-bronze Incense Burner of Baekje (National Treasure No. 287) and the Stone Reliquary from the Temple Site in Neungsan-ri (National Treasure No. 288). Historians believe that the temple that once occupied this site had served as a guardian temple for the royals buried in the royal cemetery in Neungsan-ri.



Fortified City of Sabi, Sabi Doseong

The layout of Sabi, the last capital of Baekje, indicates that the city was planned to highlight the authority of Buddhism by placing the Buddhist temple at the center, while the royal palace was situated in the northern area. The city also exhibits a characteristic combination of the principles established by China concerning the construction of its capital cities and Baekje's own ideas. In the case of China, the capital city and its royal palace needed to be protected by an outer wall, whereas Baekje made the most of the Geumgang River for the defense of its capital, and built the outer wall only in the east. In addition, Baekje maintained the tradition of protecting its royal palace by building defense walls around mountainous terrain.

Buyeo National Museum

Buyeo National Museum stores and exhibits a large collection of archaeological artifacts reflecting the cultural wealth of Baekje during the Sabi Period. The representative artifact of the collection is the Great Gilt-bronze Incense Burner of Baekje (National Treasure No. 287).

