

Visit & Ski at the Masik Pass Ski Resort



Newly opened in January 2013 the first major ski resort in the DPRK; the Masik Pass Ski Resort features 9 main runs and two beginners slopes. It's been widely reported-on, and surrounded by no-little controversy, but the resort is now open and after Koryo tours were invited on an inspection visit all our tourists are welcome to try it out!

This extension will be offered on all of our tours in April if the Ski Resort remains open at that time, we will update this list when more information is available. Ski extensions will also be offered for our group tours in the 2014/15 winter season.

On all of these tours we are offering a two night extension for anyone wanting to take the opportunity to hit the slopes of North Korea; be among the first foreign visitors and stay at the newly opened and very well equipped hotel, a very nice place to stay (has internet too for anyone looking to email their friends, or tweet from the middle of North Korea).

Ski extensions for our group tours in 2014/2015 winter season:

- Kim Jong Il Birthday Tour (Feb 14 – 21/22)**
- Lunary New Year Tour (Feb 19 – 24)**
- Kimchi Tour 1 (Feb 14 – 19/20)**

Ski focused tour in 2015. Whether you're a keen skier, snowboarder, or just a fan of the après-ski, this is the tour for you! We take in the highlights of Pyongyang, as well as spending a few days at North Korea's premier ski resort: Masik Pass. **Masik Pass Ski Tour (31 Jan – 5 Feb, 2015).**

Let us know when booking if you would like to add this extension to your tour!

The additional itinerary overlaps slightly with the main tour:



Day 0*	Activities with the group	Activities with the group and then in the late afternoon drive to the Masik Pass ski resort (3.5 hours)	Masik Ryong Hotel
Day 1	(normal group departure day) / Skiing	Skiing	Masik Ryong Hotel
Day 2	Skiing	Return to Pyongyang, final meal	Yanggakdo Hotel, Pyongyang

*Last day of main tour.

This extension will add 2 nights to the existing tour itinerary; the cost per person will be 290 EUR per person for this extension.

So if you're signed up for one of these tours already or if you're thinking it over then come and join us on the slopes of North Korea's only ski resort; Masik Pass. Be one of the very first visitors to try out this much-reported but little-seen place. Travel with the only experts in DPRK tourism for an unforgettable experience! Contact us now! info@koryogroup.com

INDEPENDENT TOURS

You can add a trip to the Ski Resort to any independent tour, please contact our independent tour manager Daniel Levitsky (daniel@koryogroup.com) for costs and more information.

Please note! You don't have to ski – it is possible to visit without going skiing, you can wander the area, visit the hotel, or even just stop for a coffee and some photos!

COSTS

In addition to the tour fee you will have to pay on the spot for your ski pass and for rental of any ski equipment.

A ski pass is approx. 30 EUR per day

To rent the full ski kit (helmet, goggles, gloves, jacket, trousers, skis, poles) costs 12 EUR per day. If you only need some parts of this kit then the cost decreases. Snowboards are also available

It is fine to take your own clothes and equipment, if you are larger than a 38 - 40" waist then the trousers they have will not be large enough for you. They do have large ski boots though (up to Dennis Rodman size!).

IMPORTANT

Skiing is dangerous. Risks abound even for those who are experienced skiers. We cannot strongly enough urge you to be exceptionally careful when visiting the ski resort. Please don't try anything above and beyond your abilities, don't take unnecessary risks, and always wear the safety gear provided. Do not go off-piste and obey the safety signs and personnel at all times. Koryo Tours is the only company that requires all clients to be fully insured for their trip and we make no exceptions here. You must have adequate medical insurance coverage for this trip and we can assist with a policy if you do not have this already. The best way to avoid any insurance coverage problems though is to not have an accident, this is what we strongly advise; care, attention, and a responsible approach to this activity.

There are medical staff at the ski resort and 4 medical centres as well, but the care they can offer and the facilities that they have are rudimentary when compared to those at most ski centres worldwide. It is therefore imperative that all visitors going skiing in North Korea take a sensible approach to it. You can go to the top of the mountain even if you don't ski down, you can get amazing photos and a wonderful experience without having to do anything you aren't capable of. Be careful!



Simon Cockerell's experience at the Ski Resort: "I was very impressed with what I saw at Masik Pass Ski Resort when I visited on January 11th, I had been there previously in August 2103 to see the construction site and was amazed that a ski resort of this size could be done in such a time. While I'm not an accomplished skier by any understanding it was good to see that there were some local people who had access to the site and were learning this new (for North Korea) leisure activity and I'm glad that tourists are now able to visit and partake in some skiing themselves. While it remains out of the reach of most ordinary local Koreans I do hope that this will change in time and more people will have more time to pursue more leisure activities, it may be some way off but this may be a start. Controversies aside the ski resort makes an interesting and unique stop on any tourist itinerary in North Korea. While it's easy to point out that this is hardly experiencing the life of the average Korean we have always sought to strike a balance between 'tourism' activities and working to expose the maximum number of locals to the maximum number of Koreans, in the name of cultivating mutual understanding, if an increasing number of tourists and an increasing amount of locals, average or not, can meet on the ski slopes of Masik pass then this contributes to the grander project. Lofty aims maybe but contact is contact and all is valuable. So more than a simple mountain to ski down this place offers both a unique and unexpected opportunity to add something different to a tourist visit, something we hope will be of interest and value to those looking around other parts of the country itself."

