

## Unit 02: Surviving Korea 2

### Public Transportation

**Objective:** Get to know....

1. Different public transportation
2. Price

#### 1. Public transportation

- Korea known for having best transportation in the world
- Easy to use, Efficient, Well connected
- T-money card, cash bee card: use it to pay for all public transport
- Much easier if you can read Hangul
- Learning how to use Kakaomap, Navermap
- Download metro and bus apps
- [https://english.visitkorea.or.kr/enu/TRP/TP\\_ENG\\_8\\_1\\_1.jsp](https://english.visitkorea.or.kr/enu/TRP/TP_ENG_8_1_1.jsp):  
Flights, airports, ferry, train, bus, Express and Intercity Buses subway, taxis and more
- Children/ teenager discount  
→ Eligible only upon registration of their date of birth at retail location of card purchase
- ID required
- Discount for elders: free after 65yrs old

#### 2. Seoul Subway System

- Runs from about 5:30 AM to 24:00 (Midnight) → not 24 hours
- To ride about 6miles (around 11 stations) will cost around 1,250 won (\$1.15),
- Runs on a fairly strict schedule
- Lots of apps in English that can show you which direction and how much your ride will take.
- Need T-Money cards or cash bee card
  - can buy at any convenient store
  - bought and refilled from a machine inside metro stations
- Morning rush hours → about 7:00 a.m.~ 8:30 a.m.
- Evening rush hours → about 4:30 p.m.~ 8:00 p.m.
- 10 lines in Seoul → color coded (e.g. Line 2: green, Line 3: orange)
- Seats at either end of any subway car reserved for the elderly, handicapped, and the pregnant
- Packed like sardines with no space at all
- Tip: go all the way in the front, or all the way in the back to claim some breathing space.

→ usually the least busy and sometimes have even more standing space

### 3. Seoul Transportation Fare Information (Transportation Card vs. Cash)

Mode of Transportation	Age group	Transportation Card	Cash
Subway	Adults	1,250 won	1,350 won
	Teenagers	720 won	1,350 won
	Children	450 won	450 won

### 4. Buses in Seoul- 3 types

- Blue buses: transit from suburban parts of Seoul to downtown areas
- Green buses: link to major subway stations in the city
- Red buses (long-distance express buses): express buses from downtown Seoul to outer edges of Seoul and adjacent suburbs.
- Yellow buses (short-haul buses): circle around city center and downtown area, connecting major locations in the area.
- **Tips** when taking the bus
  - Make sure to tap T-Money card on the machine by front door when getting on the bus and tap card again as you get off!!!  
→ Or else continue to charge you!!!
  - Announcement of upcoming destination in the bus
  - Numerous apps you need for transportation and more (<https://seoulistic.com/living-in-korea/must-have-smartphone-apps-for-living-in-korea/>)
  - Most bus stops have signs showing approaching bus number with announcement

## 5. Buses in Seoul- (Transportation Card vs. Cash)

Mode of Transportation	Age group	Transportation Card	Cash
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Blue Bus (mainline bus)</li> <li>• Green Bus (branch bus)</li> </ul>	Adults	1,200 won	1,300 won
	Teenagers	720 won	1,000 won
	Children	450 won	450 won

- Front half of bus reserved for the elderly, handicapped, and the pregnant → go to back of the bus.
- Operation times: from 04:30 ~ 01:00
- Some bus route maps displayed in English, drivers usually don't speak English.

## 6. Taxis in Seoul

- Normal taxis (*ilban*) rate (orange, silver, yellow, sky-blue):
  - Begins at 3,000 won (about \$2.75) for the first two kilometers and 100 KRW for each additional 144 m or 41 seconds
  - Require a 20% surcharge between midnight and 04:00
- Deluxe taxi (*mobeom*) rate (black with a yellow stripe):
  - Begins at 5,000 won (about \$4.75) for the first three kilometers and 200 KRW for each additional 205 m or 50 seconds.
  - Do not require a 20% surcharge between midnight and 04:00
- Not many drivers speak English (unless marked or they want to practice): bring map or written address (in Korean if possible- look up on-line) of location and show it
- Seoul International Taxi: drivers speaking English, Japanese, and Chinese.

- From Incheon International Airport: Have to pay road toll in addition to regular meter charge
- Kakao Taxi, call taxi
- Easy to hail in the city and airports.
- Just wave one down from side of road.
- Pay with cash, credit card, or T-Money at end of ride (no tipping).
- Make sure meter is running to avoid getting over-charged
- Get in the car first instead of asking through the window
- Crossing town: 25,000 Korean won (about \$23 USD), unless serious traffic
- **Key phrases:**
  - **Hello:** *An-nyeong-ha-se-yo* (안녕하세요)
  - **Nice to meet you:** *Ban-gap-sum-ni-da* (반갑습니다)
  - **Please take me to** (your destination): (your destination) *ga-joo-se-yo* (가 주세요).
  - **Thank you:** *Kam-sa-ham-ni-da* (감사합니다)
- Dial 1330 on your phone: connects with the Travel Hotline and help with translation before midnight or in some provincial areas 5pm

### Top Tips!

- T-money card, cash bee card
- Download metro and bus apps
- Much easier if you can read Hangul