

# Seoul City Hall Self Guided Tour



Sejongdaero 110, Jung-gu, Seoul

Subway

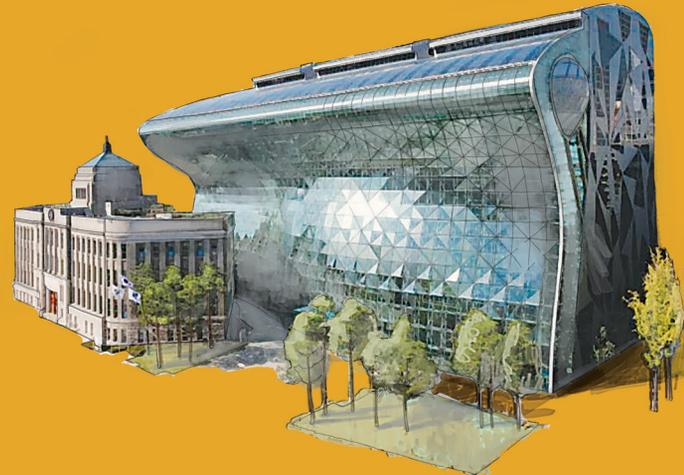
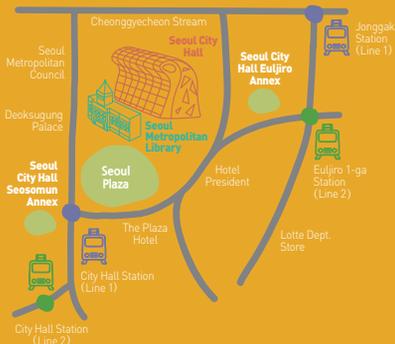
City Hall Station (Line 1or 2, Exit #5)

Bus

172, 472, 504, 700, 1711, 7016, 7018,  
7017, 7022, 7019, 1020

101, 150, 402, 501, 506, 405

## Location



Please scan QR  
code for City Hall  
Tour reservation.



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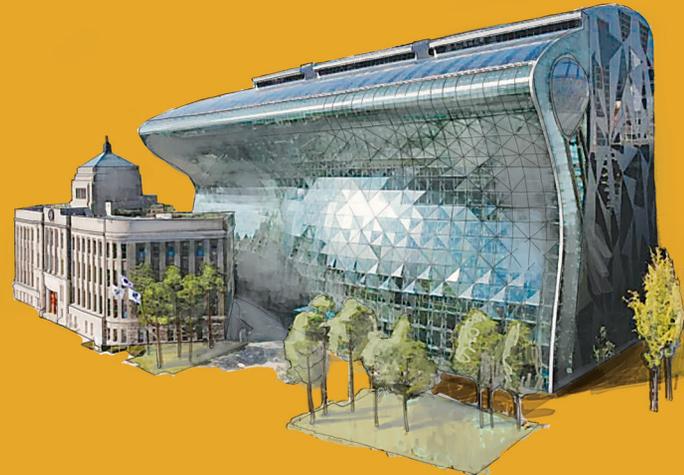
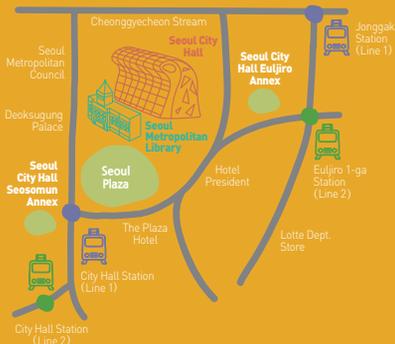
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## Location



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**Sky Plaza,  
9th Floor**  
Happy+ Shop

4 Please use the stairs to go up / down between 8th and 9th floors.

**Sky Plaza,  
8th Floor**  
Gallery

Please take the elevator on the right side at the lobby to go up to Sky Plaza.



**Lobby**  
Metaseosa  
*Seobeal*  
Vertical Garden

2

Please take the elevator to go down to the lobby.

5 **Spiral Staircase**

Please use the lobby spiral staircase to go down to the 1st basement floor.

**Citizens Hall,  
1st Basement Floor**

*Gungsi* Relics  
Exhibition Hall

6

7 Tok-Tok Design Shop  
'Danuri'

8 Open Lounge

**Main Entrance  
to City Hall**  
The tour starts.



2<sup>nd</sup> floor

1<sup>st</sup> floor



## Seoul Plaza & Clock

Priceless Moments of A Timeless City

Seoul Plaza, the open-air public lawn in front of City Hall, has been the site of countless massive gatherings: from frenzied public cheering during World Cup competitions to candlelight protest vigils. The history of Seoul Plaza dates back to 1897 when King *Gojong* first proclaimed the Korean Empire. It has since been a crucial staging ground for important Korean historical moments: the 1919 March 1st Movement, the 1960 Revolution of April 19th, and the 1987 June Democracy Movement.

A digital clock was mounted on the City Hall exterior from 1975 until Swatch Group replaced it by donating a more traditional analog clock in 2003.

The original digital clock was then reassigned as a countdown clock to the beginning of the 2002 World Cup. When the former City Hall building was reborn as a library, the Swatch clock was replaced by a *Romanson*-made clock, colored in *dancheong*\* red and *Goryeo* celadon blue.

\* Korean traditional multicolored paintwork on wooden buildings

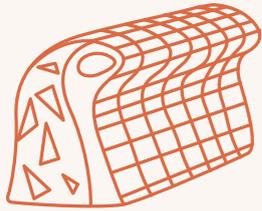
○ Seoul Plaza

○ Clock



The tour ends!!!!

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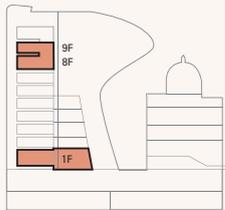


# Seoul City Hall

The New Face of Seoul / seoul.go.kr

Seoul's newly built City Hall was designed with two concepts in mind: 'horizon' and 'deep shadow.' Korea's centuries-old houses, known as *Hanok*, embody these concepts in the structure of their eaves, and City Hall planners sought to invoke and re-interpret their beauty. The building is 13 floors high above ground and reaches 5 floors below ground, with a total area of 90,000 square meters. It is designed to be eco-friendly, providing both pleasant shades in summer and warmth in winter.

The former City Hall building, right in front of the City Hall, has been remade into Seoul Metropolitan Library and is open to all citizens and visitors. The City Hall contains administrative offices and publicly open spaces such as Citizens Hall and Sky Plaza.



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Ready?  
Let's Start Your Tour!!!!



1st floor

## Happy+ Shop, Sky Plaza

Under a special program, Happy+ Shop at Sky Plaza offers Koreans with physical challenges the opportunity to become baristas. You'll love the world class, reasonably priced coffee they make, along with gourmet cookies and other refreshments, as you take in the scenic view of Seoul Plaza.



### Opening Hours

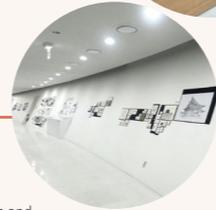
Mon to Fri, 07:30 ~18:00  
Weekends & holidays, 09:00~18:00



9th floor

## Gallery, Sky Plaza

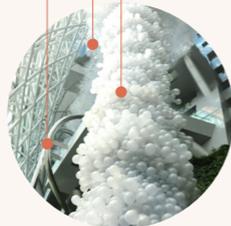
8th floor



'Roads of Myth'  
describes the dynamic and enduring myth of Seoul

'Lights of Hope'  
represents the energy and optimism of Seoul citizens

'Whirlwind of Life'  
symbolizes the constant communication between citizens and the city government.



The world's largest **vertical garden\*** inside Seoul City Hall: It starts on the first floor and ascends all the way up to the 7th floor. Ivy, scindapsus, and 12 other plant species grow free in this 1,516 square-meter indoor Eden.

\*Note: As of February 2013, the Guinness Book of Records officially confirms that Seoul City Hall's vertical garden is in as the largest in the world.

**Metaseosa Seobeol** is an award-winning installation designed by Korean artist Jeon Sucheon. It is an allegorical visualization of this 2000-year-old city, Seoul, throughout the ages.



Lobby Metaseosa Seobeol\*, Vertical Garden \*Old name of Seoul

Please use the elevator on the right side of the lobby to go up to the 8th floor Gallery and the 9th floor Happy+ Shop.



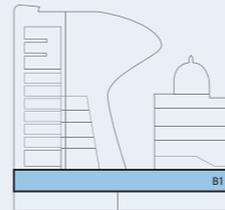
# Citizens Hall

Voice of the Citizens / seoulcitizenshall.kr

The Citizens Hall is located in the 1st basement level and has its own separate entrance for maximum accessibility. The work of art in the shape of an ear near the entrance reminds the Seoul Metropolitan Government of its unwavering pledge to listen to citizens' voices and communicate with them transparently.

Simply put, Citizens Hall is a place of the citizens, for the citizens, and by the citizens. Citizens are allowed and encouraged to use the space as venues for concerts, sharing housekeeping markets, wedding ceremonies, lectures, discussions, workshops, and any other gatherings.

Opening Hours 09:00~21:00 / Closed Mondays



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Please take the elevator from Sky Plaza to the lobby.

1st Basement Floor



## Lobby Spiral Staircase

Please go down to the 1st basement floor.



## Gungsi Relics Exhibition Hall

This site was once a military weapons depot, or *Gungsi* in Korean, during the *Joseon* Dynasty (1392~1910). The ancient armaments were discovered during the construction of new City Hall, and visitors are welcome to view both the historic relics and the excavation site.



## Tok Tok Design Shop 'Danuri'

This shop sells goods produced by social enterprises that hire the underprivileged and physically challenged, as well as by start-ups by young people. Products include clothing, stationery, handicrafts, and souvenirs of Seoul City Hall and Citizens Hall.



## Open Lounge

This lounge features diverse colored decks which can be moved and shifted according to the needs of any given event. Every citizen can apply to participate in a 'Vitality Concert' that takes place routinely in this lounge.



## Citizen Podium

Once located at *Cheonggye* Plaza, this Citizen Podium has been relocated here to Citizens Hall. It gives ordinary citizens a public voice year round (closed Mondays).



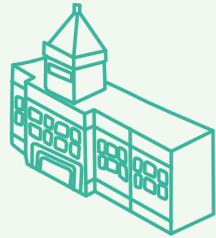
## Fair Trade Shop Villages of the World

This shop offers visitors a chance to make small but important buying choices leading to a fairer world. It sells fair trade coffee, chocolates, and other goods.

•Menu Fair Trade Coffee (Americano ₩ 2,000), Chocolate ₩ 2,000  
•Opening Hours 09:00~21:00(Tuesday to Sunday & Holidays)  
\*Closed Mondays

Now, please take the #13 elevator in front of City Gallery to go to Seoul Metropolitan Library.





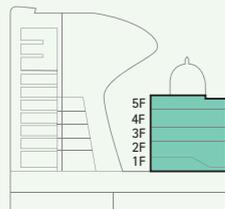
# Seoul Metropolitan Library

Originally Used As *Gyeongseong* City Hall / [lib.seoul.go.kr](http://lib.seoul.go.kr)

From 1926, this 90-year-old building was originally used as *Gyeongseong*, or *Keijo*, City Hall during the Japanese colonial occupation of Korea. Korea was liberated in 1945, and the structure was rededicated as Seoul City Hall in 1946.

This building was registered as a cultural asset of Seoul City in 2003, as it is a living symbol of modern Korean history.

In 2012, the building was transformed into Seoul Metropolitan Library. It represents the capital city and is in fact the first library the Seoul Metropolitan Government has ever run by itself. It serves both as a public library and an organization that develops broader library-related policies.



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5<sup>th</sup> floor



### City Hall's Relic Exhibition Hall

This exhibition hall displays mementos and decorations from old City Hall, which include up-down sliding windows and sections of plaster walls dating from 1926.

Please use stairs to go down to the 4th floor.

4<sup>th</sup> floor



### Global Collections

Visitors are allowed to read books, periodicals and newspapers donated by foreign embassies and cultural institutions.

Please use stairs to go down to the 3rd floor.



3<sup>rd</sup> floor



### Former Policy Planning Room & Former Mayor's Office

These two rooms are emblematic of 20th century style architecture. Their original building materials were never damaged, and have been left exactly as they were. Visitors are allowed to sit at the old desk where many former mayors of Seoul carried out their official duties. It's especially fun for kids who may have a dream of becoming mayor one day! 20 different documents that track turning points in the history of Seoul are displayed on the table of the former policy planning room, offering visitors a window on the process of steering the capital city through historic change.

Please use stairs to go down to the 2nd floor.



### Seoul Archival Services

Visitors are allowed to search and read various documents and academic papers published by the Seoul Metropolitan Government, as well as the rare original documents that reveal the history of city neighborhoods and districts.

### General Collections

They are located both on the first and second floors of the library.

They have more than 70,000 books that can be read and borrowed.

Visitors are allowed to join the library membership at a Book Café, and to search and read digital versions of volumes stored at the National Library of Korea and the National Assembly Library.



### Opening Hours

- **Tue to Fri** 09:00 ~ 21:00
- **Weekends** 09:00 ~ 18:00 (Closed Mondays)
- **Qualification for books on loan**: membership holder (Please apply for a membership at the library Website.)
- **Number of books on loan**: 3 books per person
- **Days of book on loan**: 14 days (7 days can be delayed one time)



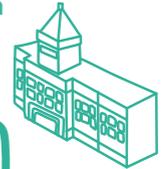
Please use stairs to go down to the 1st floor.

Please use stairs to go outside.

# Tour Course

## 5th Floor of Seoul Metropolitan Library

City Hall's Relic Exhibition Hall



Please use stairs to go up/down at the library.

### 4th Floor

Global Collections

### 3rd Floor

Seoul Archival Services, Former Mayor's Office

### 1st & 2nd Floors

General Collections

### Seoul Plaza & Library Clock

The tour ends.

Please go outside.

10 Fair Trade Shop Villages of the World

9 Citizen Podium

