

Temple stay at the  
Hwagyesa Temple in  
Seoul, Korea.

화  
계  
사

Hwagyesa



템플스테이

TEMPLESTAY



템플스테이는 한국의 자연과 전통이  
살아 숨쉬는 사찰에서 1,700년 한국불교의  
역사와 수행자의 삶과 정신을 체험하는  
문화 프로그램입니다.

Templestay is a cultural program  
that gives you the chance to experience  
the 1700 year old history of Korean Buddhism  
and life of Buddhist practitioners at temples  
that literally live and breathe the traditions  
and natural beauty of Korea.



The temple complex had one main hall and several smaller temples used for meditation or other purposes.





We dressed in simple clothes, ate several communal vegetarian meals, and spent the night at the temple.









In addition to the temple buildings, it is typical to have a large stone statue of the Buddha on the hillside above the buildings.





The week we  
arrived in Korea  
coincided with  
Buddha's birthday.

Colorful lanterns  
were everywhere on  
the temple grounds.









We were welcome  
to explore the  
grounds and the  
various temples.





Each temple was different, but each had a main alter with a central Buddha statue and a place to leave offerings.





The meditation temple had shelves with hundreds of stone statues.









The main courtyard  
was completely  
hung with colored  
lanterns.













The white lanterns  
were in remembrance  
of deceased relatives.







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죽  
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죽  
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죽  
김정중  
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죽  
신용우  
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The main temple hall had multiple levels.

The lowest level was used to serve food for the communal meals.

The upper level was the main prayer room and where the monks chanted.

























The bell was rung to  
announce morning and  
evening services.

Evening chanting was at  
6 PM and morning  
chanting was at 4:30 AM.





Evening services was a chance to perform the 108 prostrations while the monk chanted.





The temple grounds became awash with light as the lanterns were lit prior to the 9 PM bed time curfew.























Morning chanting (4:30 AM) involved all the Monastery monks and was another opportunity for prostrations.







Before we left, we  
had the opportunity to  
have morning tea with  
one of the monks.

