Gyeongbokgung Palace - Seoul





The main Palace throne hall - Geunjeongjeon



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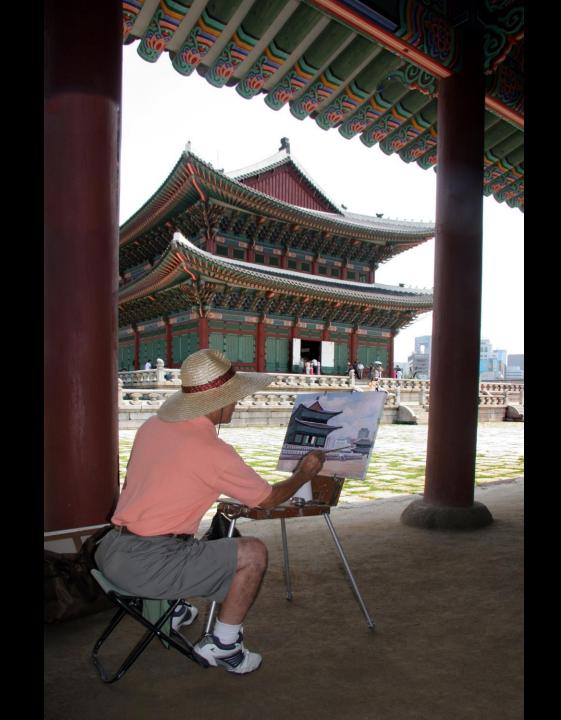


The sun, moon, and five mountain painting is typically seen in Palace throne rooms.









The outer courtyard - Oejeon



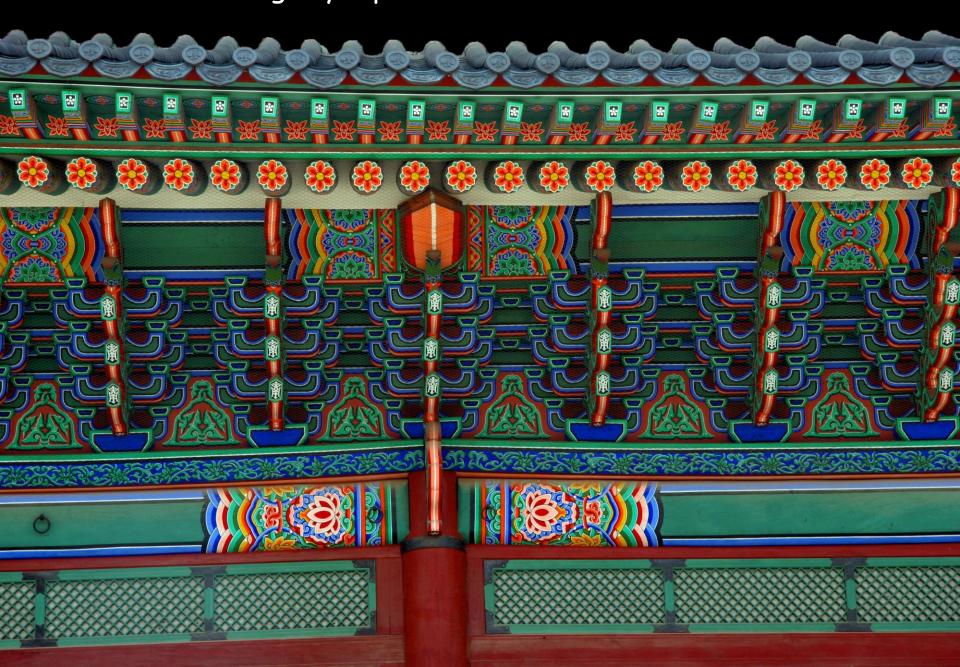
The inner courtyard - Neejeon



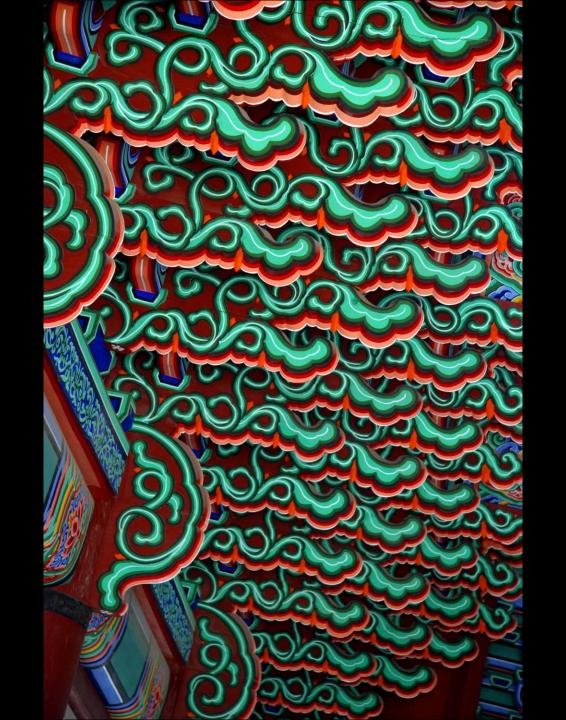
Roof tiles



Dancheong style patterns on the roof undersides.







The Royal library - Jibokjae



The Royal library ceiling detail.

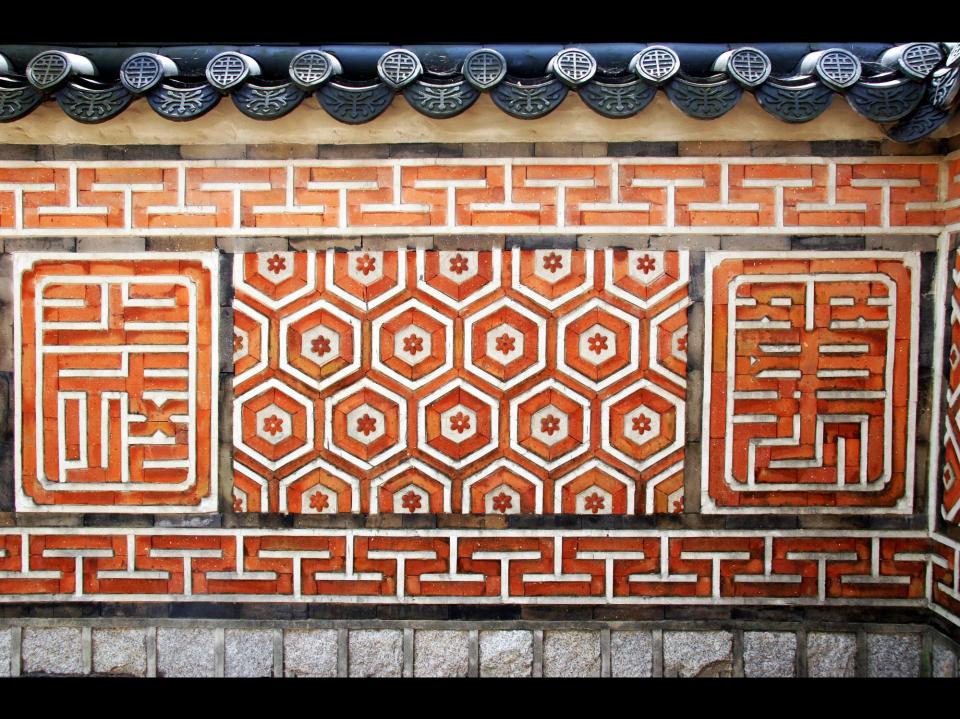


Behind Gyotaejeon is the Amisan garden notable for the patterns on the exterior walls and chimneys.



The patterns can have various geometric shapes or include flowers or animals.





Amisan chimneys function to allow smoke to escape the heating fires below the room floors. They are hexagonal shaped usually with decorative symbols.



Chimneys often contain several of the ten symbols of longevity.

Sun, mountains, water, stones, pine trees, clouds, eternal youth herb, turtle, crane, and deer.





Hyangwon pond is a large water feature that includes three islands inspired by the three mountains from Daoist China. The small pavilion (Hyangwonjeong) was used as an isolated retreat.



The area northeast of Hyangwon pond has cultural folk reproductions.



Jangseung, sotdae, and stone piles were erected at the entrance of villages to ward off evil spirits.



Jangseung are a type of guardian Korean folk totem pole.



Sotdae are crude wooden birds on wooden poles that serves a similar purpose to Jangseung.



The stone grandfather sculpture (Dolhareubang or Useokmok) is found on Jeju Island and meant to ward off evil spirits.

This figure has large, round eyes, a big nose and gentle mouth, but is also adorned with the headwear of an official - therefore being simultaneously dignified and humorous.



Memorial stone figures.



National Folk Art Museum



Print tiles



Celadon is a form of grayish blue Korean pottery.



