

# AFTER ARRIVAL 3-2 GSAB GROCERY & SHOPPING OUTDOOR MARKETS

## TIPS ON SHOPPING FOR GROCERIES IN KOREA

WELCOME TO KOREA! ON TOP OF PROBABLY FEELING A BIT OVERWHELMED FROM YOUR MOVE, IF YOU HAVE MADE AN INAUGURAL TRIP TO YOUR LOCAL COMMISSARY ON BASE, YOU MIGHT HAVE NOTICED PRODUCE PRICES AND OTHER GOODS CAN GET A BIT HIGH, PUTTING A STRESSOR ON YOUR WALLET. WHILE CONVENIENCE MAY TRUMP PRICE, HERE ARE SOME OTHER OPTIONS AND TIPS IF YOU WANT TO SAVE A FEW DOLLARS ON YOUR MONTHLY GROCERY BILL WHILE YOU ARE IN KOREA.

#### OUTDOOR LOCAL MARKETS

IF YOU WANT TO GET A TASTE OF THE LOCAL KOREAN CULTURE, THE OUTDOOR MARKETS ARE A GREAT PLACE TOSTART. LOCAL VENDORS SET UP THEIR BOOTHS TO SELL ITEMS RANGING FROM CLOTHES, SHOES, AND TOYS TO WHOLE FISH, SEAWEED, DUMPLINGS, PRODUCE AND MORE. STROLL THROUGH THE BOOTHS AND IMMERSE YOURSELF IN THE SIGHTS AND SMELLS WHILE SAMPLING SOME OF THE STREET CUISINE. BEFORE YOU VENTURE OUT, MAKE SURE YOU HAVE PLENTY OF WON ON HAND AND YOUR REUSABLE GROCERY BAG TO CARRY YOUR GOODS. THE MARKETS TAKE PLACE, RAIN OR SHINE AND TYPICALLY ARE SET UP BY 9AM UNTIL ABOUT 5PM (SOMETIMES LATER).

#### 3/8 MARKET

LOCATED NEAR THE ANJEONG-RI GATE AT HUMPHREYS IS THE 3/8 MARKET. LIKE THE NAME SUGGESTS, THIS OUTDOOR MARKET IS SET UP EVERY DATE THAT ENDS IN A 3 OR 8. YOU CAN SNAG A VARIETY OF SEASONAL PRODUCE ITEMS AT A GREAT PRICE. SOME OF THE PRODUCE IS SOLD IN LARGE QUANTITIES, SO IF YOU DO NOT NEED A LOT OF A PRODUCT, GRAB A BUDDY TO GO WITH YOU AND SPLIT YOUR FINDS. ONE OF THE MOST POPULAR STOPS AT THE 3/8 MARKET IS THE HOTTEOK VENDOR (DURING WINTER MONTHS). HOTTEOK IS A SWEET KOREAN PANCAKE FILLED WITH CINNAMON, SUGAR, SEEDS, AND HONEY. THIS DELECTABLE TREAT IS A POPULAR STREET FOOD IN KOREA AND IRRESISTIBLE ON MARKET DAYS.

FROM THE ANJEONG-RI GATE, MARKET IS SET UP HALF A MILE DOWN THE ROAD THROUGH THE VILLE.

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# GROCERY & SHOPPING

# INDOOR MARKETS

## INDOOR MARKETS/STORES

#### E-MART TRADERS

SIMILAR TO SAM'S CLUB OR COSTCO, E-MART TRADERS SELLS GOODS AND PRODUCE IN BULK WITHOUT A MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENT. THERE ARE SEVERAL E-MART TRADERS LOCATIONS IN SOUTH KOREA.

#### COSTCO

THERE IS A COSTCO LOCATED IN CHEONAN AND ANOTHER IN YONGIN. THEY ACCEPT U.S. MEMBERSHIP CARDS AND OFFER A VARIETY OF U.S. PRODUCTS AS WELL AS KOREAN ITEMS.

#### NMART

N MART IS A LARGE LOCAL GROCERY STORE CHAIN AND PROBABLY A BIT MORE SIMILAR TO WHAT WE ARE USED TO A GROCERY STORE FEELING LIKE IN THE STATES. THEY HAVE LOCATIONS IN THE NORTH WESTERN PART OF SOUTH KOREA (ASAN TO SEOUL). THE ASAN LOCATION IS OPEN 24-HOURS DAILY SO IF YOU EVER NEED TO RUN OUT AT AN ODD HOUR, YOU ARE IN LUCK!

## JOY MART

JOY MART IS A LOCAL GROCERY STORE NEAR HUMPHREYS THAT HAS MORE OF A NEIGHBORHOOD MARKET FEEL. THEY OFFER PRODUCE AT A GREAT PRICE (NOT QUITE AS GREAT AS THE 3/8 OR 4/9 MARKETS) AND YOU CAN GRAB OTHER GROCERY ITEMS HERE AS WELL.

#### PANDA MART

PANDA MART CAN BEST BE DESCRIBED AS A KOREAN BIG LOTS. YOU CAN PICK UP A FEW FOOD ITEMS LIKE CANDY, SNACKS, AND DRINKS, BUT THE BULK OF THEIR INVENTORY IS HOUSEHOLD GOODS. GO IN FOR A NOTEBOOK, LEAVE WITH A SPATULA, BOX OF COOKIES AND CHAPSTICK. A PANDA MART IS LOCATED NEAR HUMPHREYS, ACROSS THE STREET FROM JOY MART.



CLICK BELOW FOR MORE INFORMATION

- BEFORE ARRIVAL
- AFTER ARRIVAL
- ABOUT 3-2 GSAB