

## Hanju Group: Inauguration of the *Gapyeong Cruise Millennium Waterway*

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The inaugural ceremony for the "Gapyeong Cruise" millennium waterway took place in the presence of the Gapyeong County Governor, local council members, and representatives from tourism companies.

Before the ceremony, attendees visited the newly opened "Gapyeong Begonia New Garden." They admired the garden, which was full of colorful begonias and a dedicated bird zone, and expressed hopes that it would become a well-known tourist attraction in Gapyeong.

The group then moved to Gapyeong Marina for the official launch ceremony of the "Gapyeong Cruise" millennium waterway. VIPs celebrated the launch of the "Gapyeong Cruise," marking the culmination of a long preparation period with a ribbon-cutting ceremony. The "Gapyeong Cruise" is Korea's first 436-ton eco-friendly electric cruise ship, capable of carrying up to 250 passengers.

Together, they counted down and cheered for the launch; the cruise ship then smoothly departed from Gapyeong Marina and began cruising along the Bukhan River.

Yu Gwang-hyun, Chairman of Hanju Group, delivered a welcoming speech, promising that it would become a new axis for Gapyeong tourism.

Seo Tae-won, Mayor of Gapyeong, and Choi Jeong-yong, Chairman of the Gapyeong County Council, gave congratulatory speeches. They expressed hopes of ushering in an era of extensive tourism in Gapyeong.

The Bukhan River millennium waterway project is a tourism revitalization project in Gapyeong, restoring ancient waterways and connecting major tourist spots such as Gapyeong Marina, Nami Island, and Jara Island via water routes.

Started in July 2020, the project culminated in the launch of the Gapyeong Cruise in April 2024.

Additionally, the opening ceremony of Metanaru on Nami Island was held, marking the start of the first stage of navigation on the Bukhan River millennium waterway.

In the future, new attractions such as Jara Flower Island and Mulumi Lotus Village will be developed, paving the way for new water tourism in Gapyeong.