BORYEONG MUD FESTIVAL-DAEcheon-SOUTH KOREA

People play in the mud during the Boryeong Mud Festival at Daecheon beach in Boryeong, about 190 km (118 miles) southwest of Seoul. The Boryeong Mud Festival is a spectacle that takes place annually in Boryeong during the monsoon season in South Korea. The first fest took place in 1997 and in recent years participants have been crowding Daecheon beach in record numbers that exceed 3+ million. Major attractions include all day music concerts, mud wrestling, mud pools, mud mazes, mud jails and general beach activities along with copious amounts of alcohol and plastered mud. It attracts an enormous foreign crowd (known locally as Waegooks) that include ESL teachers, American military personnel and others who specifically come to Korea for this event. It truly is an event not to be missed.

The mud, which is believed to have beneficial effects on the skin due to its mineral content. The event was initially created to promote Boryeong mud cosmetics, but has become more about letting lose than preventing wrinkles. Nowhere else in the country can you throw on a swimsuit, down three bottles of soju, cover yourself in five different shades of mud and parade the streets with 50,000 of your closest friends. Festival-goers have their pick of activities like the Mr. Mud contest, mud wrestling, mud races and even mud boot camp. Those looking for a more laid back experience can opt for mud facials, body painting, pottery demos, soap-making and lounging on Daecheon Beach.

VIPUL M DESAI
http://suratiundhiyu.wordpress.com/