

Budapest Tourism Information

This city that has always attached great importance to its attractive appearance, so it appears hospitable and friendly right at first sight. In a single glimpse the visitor can appreciate the famous panorama, part of the World Heritage, with Parliament, the imposing Royal Castle, the Fishermen's Bastion, the impressive Danube Embankment in the heart of the city and the splendid bridges spanning the Danube. On ordinary workdays the city shows another face. While you are getting ready for the marathon run or set out to explore Buda, Pest is opening its shutters and the pedestrian streets are beginning to bustle with life in the morning. Many people say that Budapest is a city whose most striking feature is the charm of the buildings, and at the same time this is a real city of culture as a truly European city.

What to see

There are a lot of things to see and do in Budapest all year around. You will be able to see the World Heritage panorama during the race and you can visit the famous sights after the run. Don't miss the: Parliament, Royal Castle, Fishermen's Bastion, Danube Embankment, Chain Bridge, Opera House etc. It is always sparkling, especially when illuminated in the evenings. (Special illumination only until midnight)

Transportation

Airport: Ferihegy 2 Airport is 24 km east of the city centre. Terminal A is for MALEV Hungarian Airlines flight and for the flights of low-cost companies, Terminal B is for all other airlines. The airport Minibus can take you to your accommodation and pick you up anywhere in Budapest and take you to the airport.

By car: from Austria M1 Highway (toll), from Slovakia M2 (free), from Romania M5 or 4, and from Croatia road 6.

Public transportation: Budapest operates three underground lines (blue, red, yellow) blue local buses, yellow trams and red trolley buses. Public transportation generally starts at 4.30 a.m. and runs until 11.30 p.m. You can buy one day, three day and weekly passes. Available the "Budapest card" in the ticket offices, tourist offices. More information, <http://www.bkv.hu/en/>

More information

Please visit this website if you need more information: <http://www.hungary.com/>, www.budapestinfo.hu

Fast facts about Hungary

Area: 93,030 km²

Population: 10,197,119 persons

Main national/ethnic groups: Hungarian, Croatian, German, Roma, Romanian, Serbian, Slovak

State form: Republic

Main religions: Roman Catholic, Protestant (Calvinist and Lutheran), Greek Catholic, Jewish

Highest peak: Kékes (1014 m)

Main rivers: Duna (Danube) (length in Hungary: 417 km), Tisza (length in Hungary: 596 km)

Largest lakes: Balaton (596 km²), Velencei-tó (26 km²), Fertő tó (75 km²)

Official currency: Forint

The territory of the country is smaller than 100,000 km², the Hungarian language is spoken only by Hungarians, Hungarian folk songs are not similar to those of any other nation - yet the Hungarians have been living in the middle of Europe for over 1100 years. Despite the numerous disastrous turns of its history Hungary is still rich in values attracting many visitors from all over the world. For its wonderful scenic values, Budapest, the capital city of Hungary is included in the World Heritage list of UNESCO. Hungary has the largest surface thermal water supply - after Iceland - and the hundreds of thermal springs enable thousands of people to cure a variety of conditions. Lake Balaton, the largest lake in Central Europe, is a paradise for families with small children, fans of sailing and those who simply like to spend their vacation near a beautiful lake.



Budapest for short visits

Budapest in one day

Wander historical Buda Castle district, check the actual concert offer at Matthias Church and walk into the Hilton to discover the hidden Dominican Court.

Enjoy the spectacular views from the Castle Hill Funicular that will take you down to the world famous Chain Bridge. Cross the Danube, have a look at the building of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences and continue straight ahead to reach the Saint Stephen's Basilica.

Head to Andrásy Avenue – the "Champs Elysées of Budapest" – and get your ticket to a wonderful evening at the Hungarian State Opera.

Spend some quality hours on the terrace of one of Liszt Ferenc Square restau-bars – our pick for good fusion-Hungarian food: Menza.

Continue along Andrásy Avenue to reach Heroes' square and wander into the City Park to finish your day relaxing in the hot water pools of Szechenyi Bath. If you were looking for fine dining after the spa – and believe me, you'll be hungry – check out the world-famous Gundel a few steps away.



Got an extra day! Day 2

On your second morning (unless it is a Sunday) take a walk from the National Museum to the Great Market Hall looking for some picks and bites or souvenirs on the second floor. Wander along popular shopping area on Váci street until you reach Vörösmarty Square. If you are into sweets, the stunning Gerbaud Café and Patisserie on the square is a must see.

If you arrive here during lunch time, avoid tourist traps on Váci Street and a few steps away you'll find the lovely Paris style restau-bar and terrace of Gerlóczy that is definitely one of the best choices in town. From Vörösmarty square, keep going straight forward to reach the Parliament, a building that really worth the guided visit (advanced booking recommended). Falk Miksa street on the north side of the square is the mecca of antique shoppers with plenty of galleries that await non buyer visitors as well all day long.



Still here? Day 3

Start your day with a walk or jog around Margareth Island – the main car free park of Budapest - lay down for a while at the Music Fountain and don't miss the small zoo especially if you are with children. Take tram Number 4 or 6 at the Margareth Bridge end of the island until 'Király utca' stop and take Király street on the right side (heading towards downtown). Once on Király street, take any small street on your left to wander around the Jewish district. Kádár restaurant on Klauzál square is a very small and old, perfectly authentic eatery ideal to grab some simple kosher and local specialities. You can reach the Great Synagogue on the opposite end of the Jewish district can be reached in 10 minutes and is one of the 'must visit' sights of the town.



The Jewish district is not only famous for its history but also for being the hub of today's nightlife that is specific to Budapest: the ruin pubs. There are plenty of them, there are always some art projects and exhibitions going on in all of them but they all have a different atmosphere: Szimpla is probably the bigger and best known, Grand Dió's garden is a real downtown jungle and Fogasház is a cool spot to play table tennis with a beer. Check out www.ruinpubs.com for more ideas and to find your favourite place around the district from dusk till dawn. For high-quality wine tasting, visit Doblwine bar.