

USER'S GUIDE to Hungary

2019



Dear Friend, Welcome to our lovely country, Hungary!



Whether you have already arrived or are just considering applying to a Hungarian higher education institution, this book will guide you well.

We have collected all the useful and important information you need and put it into this guide, so now all you have to do is focus on your application and studies. Then during your "study abroad" experience you can enjoy all this beautiful country has to offer.

We believe that this journey will bring you professional knowledge, useful skills, thousands of memories, and new friends. Are you ready?

We wish you the best of luck!

Study in Hungary team



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SZIA :)



ABOUT HUNGARY

10 interesting things about Hungary

The **1st** subway line of continental Europe was built in Budapest.

The beautiful city of Budapest is made up of **2** parts – Buda and Pest – which are separated by the Danube river.

The Hungarian Parliament is the **3rd** largest parliament building in the world, with 691 rooms and 20 kilometres of stairs.

Hungary is one of the best birding areas in Europe: almost **400** bird species breed here.

Amongst the many Hungaricums **5** are related to Hungarian gastronomy.

Covering almost **600** square kilometres, Lake Balaton (nicknamed “the Hungarian Sea”) is the largest lake in Central Europe.

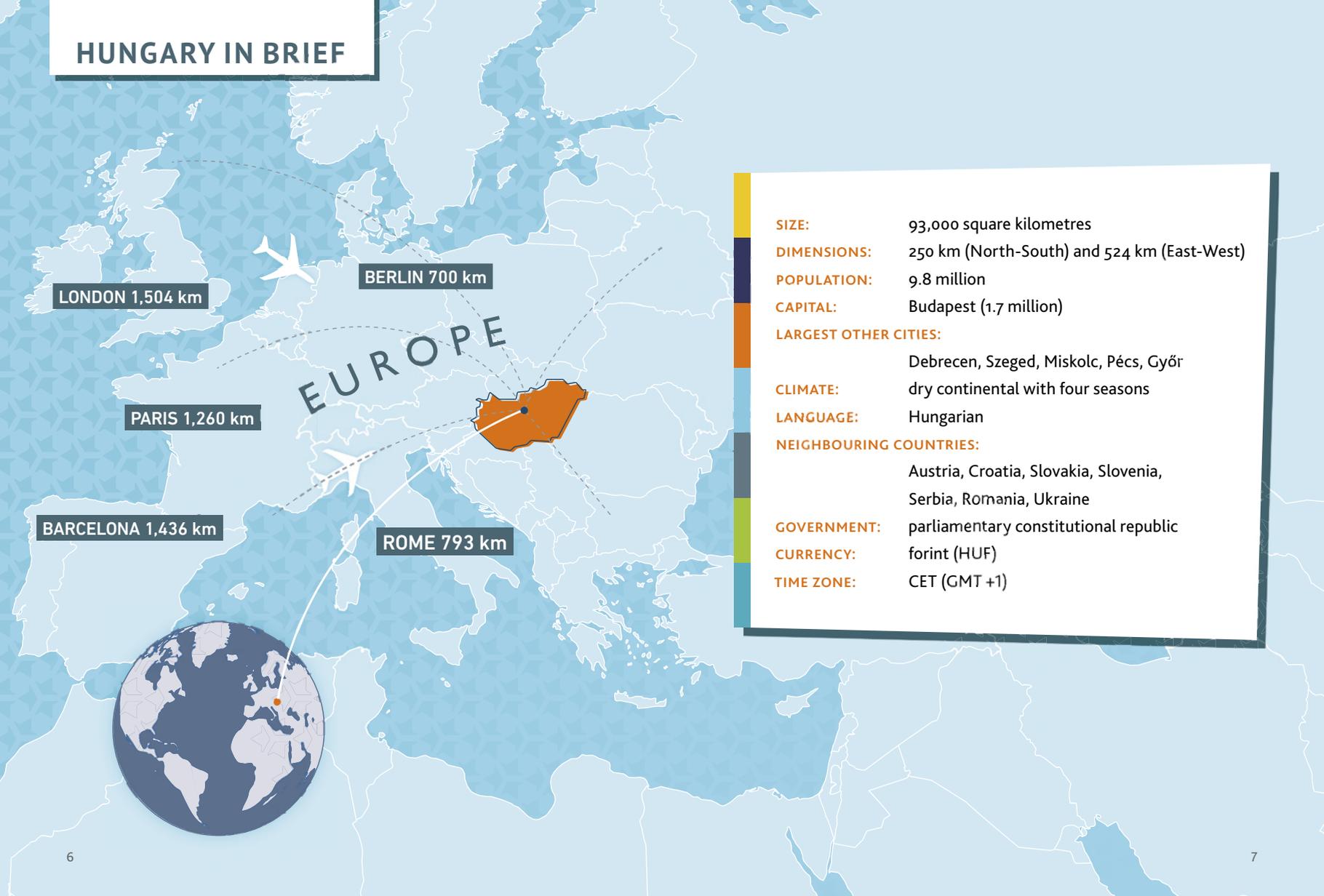
Each day, **70** million litres of thermal water rise to the surface in Budapest.

Hungary ranks **8th** in the world for medallists at the Summer Olympic Games.

The oversized snail-shaped egg noodles (csiga) that Hungarians use in many recipes are thought to date back to the **9th** century.

Hungary has **10** national parks, 145 minor nature reserves and 35 landscape protection areas.

HUNGARY IN BRIEF



- SIZE:** 93,000 square kilometres
- DIMENSIONS:** 250 km (North-South) and 524 km (East-West)
- POPULATION:** 9.8 million
- CAPITAL:** Budapest (1.7 million)
- LARGEST OTHER CITIES:** Debrecen, Szeged, Miskolc, Pécs, Győr
- CLIMATE:** dry continental with four seasons
- LANGUAGE:** Hungarian
- NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES:** Austria, Croatia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Serbia, Romania, Ukraine
- GOVERNMENT:** parliamentary constitutional republic
- CURRENCY:** forint (HUF)
- TIME ZONE:** CET (GMT +1)

9th century**Hungarian conquest**

Hungarian people from the Urals arrived in the Carpathian Basin in 895-896, then conquered the territory and settled down. One hundred years later our first king, Stephen I, founded the Hungarian state and integrated the country into the European Christian nations.

15th century**Matthias Corvinus and the Hunyadi era**

One of Hungary's most glorious eras was the time of the Hunyadis, in which Matthias Corvinus the Righteous reigned as the greatest Hungarian king ever, leading Hungary to become one of the most important Central European countries.

16th century**Turkish occupation**

In 1526, after the calamity of the Battle of Mohács, the Ottomans divided the country into three parts: the Habsburgs in the western and northern parts; Turks in the central area; and the Principality of Transylvania in the south-east as the stronghold of Hungarian culture and independence.

19th century**Revolution and War of Independence of 1848-49**

Following other rebellions in the period of the Spring of Nations in Europe, the Hungarians revolted against the Austrian emperor. The revolution was suppressed by the Habsburgs with the help of the Russian Czar and in 1867 a compromise with the Habsburgs was reached, establishing the Austro-Hungarian Empire.

Did you know?

People in Hungary wear a red, white and green circular badge called a 'kokárda' on 15th March in commemoration of the revolt in 1848.

**World War II**

After entering the war in 1941, Hungary suffered enormous loss again, including a death toll of approximately one million citizens. The Soviets drove the Germans out of the country in 1945 and stayed here for the next four and a half decades, incorporating the country into the Soviet bloc.

The revolution and freedom fight of 1956

Along with many others in the Eastern bloc, the revolution of '56 is one of the symbols of resistance against the Soviets during the cold war. Although the revolution was suppressed (with approximately 3,000 casualties), it was a clear message to the Soviets that their plans were not sustainable.

Democratic transformation after the fall of the Soviet bloc

The rapid changes in the Soviet bloc and other international developments led to the fall of the Berlin Wall on 9th November 1989, leading to political changes in the entire eastern part of Europe. The countries became free from Soviet rule and Hungary became a republic for the third time. The first democratic, multi-party elections were held in 1990.

Joining the EU

After joining NATO in 1999, Hungary became a member of the European Union in 2004 along with 9 other countries. In the first half of 2011, it held the Presidency of the Council of the European Union for the first time.

20th century

Made in Hungary

Hungarians have always been great at finding innovative ways to solve problems, often leading to the invention of objects that now surround us every day. Spend a day with famous Hungarian scientific and technological inventions.

This is Bence, a Hungarian university student.



6:00

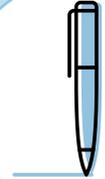
Bence is obsessed with meditation and likes to switch off – so he plays some Rubik's Cube after he wakes up.

RUBIK'S CUBE, BY ERNŐ RUBIK, ARCHITECT

6:30

Bence thinks that key of planning is paper and pen – so he writes down the key points of his day every morning.

BALLPOINT PEN BY LÁSZLÓ BÍRÓ, JOURNALIST, INVENTOR



6:45

Bence pays attention to his Vitamin C intake to stay fit everyday.

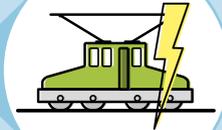
VITAMIN C BY ALBERT SZENTGYÖRGYI, MEDICAL RESEARCHER



7:30

Bence is a big fan of public transport so he normally gets to school by tram.

ELECTRIC LOCOMOTIVE BY KÁLMÁN KANDÓ, ENGINEER



9:45

Bence spends long hours on his computer during the day.

DIGITAL COMPUTING BY JÁNOS NEUMANN, MATHEMATICIAN



11:30

Bence makes sure he drinks enough water every day; he prefers soda.

**CARBONATED WATER BY
ÁNYOS JEDLIK, INVENTOR**



20:30

Bence's favourite way of having fun is cinema, he is crazy about 3D movies.

**HOLOGRAPHY BY DÉNES GÁBOR,
PHYSICIST**



13:45

Some of Bence's best friends are Excel and Word while working.

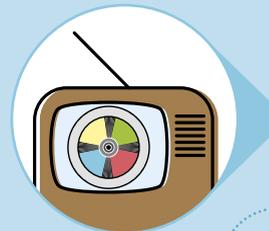
**WORD & EXCEL BY CHARLES SIMONYI,
COMPUTER PROGRAMMER**



11:45

Bence likes to get some rest in front of the television by the end of the day.

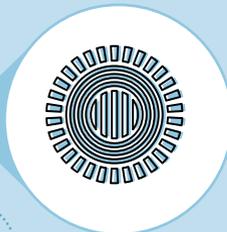
**COLOR TELEVISION BY PÉTER KÁROLY
GOLDMARK, PHYSICIST**



15:30

Bence prefers to present his ideas on Prezi.

PREZI BY ZUI LABS



22:55

And he always turns the lights off.

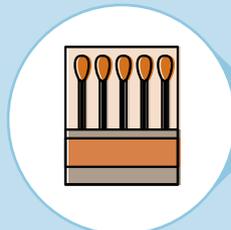
**TUNGSTEN LAMP BY
SÁNDOR JUST AND IMRE BRÓDY,
ENGINEERS**



18:45

Bence likes to cook and he prefers to light the oven in the traditional way.

**SAFETY MATCH BY JÁNOS IRINYI,
INVENTOR**





Ignác SEMMELWEIS (1818-1965)

The physician who discovered that the principal reason behind childbed fever was insufficient hand washing, leading to him being known as the 'saviour of mothers'.



Béla BARTÓK (1881-1945)

One of the most significant musicians and composers of the 20th century, whose music is invigorated by the themes, modes and rhythmic patterns of Hungarian and other folk music traditions.



Zoltán KODÁLY (1882-1967)

Composer and ethnomusicologist, the creator of a special music-teaching technique known as the Kodály method.



Albert SZENT-GYÖRGYI (1893-1986)

The discoverer of Vitamin C and a Nobel Prize winner for Physiology or Medicine for his description of the oxidation of nutrients by the cell.



László BÍRÓ (1899-1985)

Inventor of the ballpoint pen, which is still widely referred to as a biro in many English-speaking countries.



Paul ERDŐS (1913-1996)

Mathematician, best known for his work in number theory, combinatorics and probability theory.



Ferenc PUSKÁS (1927-2006)

Legendary football icon who played in Hungary and then Spain for Real Madrid, winning a combined total of ten league championships. The FIFA Puskás Award for 'the most beautiful goal' of the past year was named after him.



Imre KERTÉSZ (1929-2016)

The first Hungarian ever to win a Nobel Prize in Literature, for his novel 'Fateless'.



István SZABÓ (1938-)

Film and opera director, screen writer, the first ever Hungarian to win the Academy Award for Best Foreign Language Film with Mephisto (1981).



Ernő RUBIK (1944-)

The inventor of the Rubik's Cube, an influential designer and founder of many initiatives concerning science in education with a main focus on problem solving.



Iván FISCHER (1951-)

Conductor and composer, founder of one of the world's finest orchestras (the Budapest Festival Orchestra) and director of the Berlin Konzerthaus.



Judit POLGÁR (1976-)

Chess grandmaster, considered the greatest female chess player of all time.



László NEMES-JELES (1977-)

Film director and screenwriter, the second Hungarian to win the Academy Award for Best Foreign Language Film for his movie Son of Saul (2016).



Katinka HOSSZÚ (1989-)

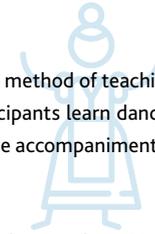
Competitive swimmer, three-time Olympic champion and seven-time long-course world champion.



Hungaricums are high-value products of Hungary which show Hungarian uniqueness, speciality and quality, embodying the top performance of the Hungarian people. You might have already heard of some of them – maybe even tasted or participated in one – but here is a list of Hungaricums that you should know about!

Táncház Method

The Táncház (dance-house) model is a special method of teaching folk dance and preserving intangible cultural heritage: participants learn dances from tradition bearers by observation and imitation, with the accompaniment of live music.

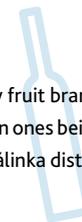


Busó Festivities

This 6-day annual festival in Mohács, located in southern Hungary, marks the end of winter each February. The festival is named 'busó' in acknowledgement of the awesome-looking costumed men wearing wooden masks and large sheepskin coats. According to legend, the roots of the festival date back to the Battle of Mohács in 1526, when villagers dressed up as fearsome monsters to frighten away the occupying Turkish forces.

Pálinka

Pálinka is a generic name for the fiery fruit brandy often distilled by farmers from home-grown fruits, the most common ones being plums, apricots, apples, cherries and pears. Hungary's most famous pálinka distilleries can be found in Kecskemét.



Porcelain of Herend

Herend offers luxury hand painted and gilded porcelain. Now amongst the biggest porcelain manufactories in Europe, the Herend Porcelain manufactory was founded in 1826 in a small Hungarian village. In 1855, the international exhibition in Paris brought the highest appreciation for Herend.





Matyó Embroidery

The Matyó community lives in and around the town of Mezőkövesd. The heritage of the community consists of the ethnographic group's living traditional culture, which is embodied by their characteristic style and cultural identity. This folk art is characterised by special floral embroidery filling on textile and ornamented objects.

Tokaji Aszú

Described by Louis XIV of France as "the king of wines and the wine of kings", Aszú is in fact even referred to in the Hungarian national anthem. It is one of the world's finest dessert wines.

Original Hungarian Winter salami

The PICK factory in Szeged has been producing this famous and popular salami brand for about 140 years, using a secret recipe. Made from pork and spices, winter salami is cured in cold air and is slowly smoked. Known as one of the best salami in Hungary and in the world.

Makó Onion

The town of Makó, situated in south-eastern Hungary, is famous for its onion which is an important ingredient of traditional Hungarian cuisine. An international onion festival is organised in the region each year, which lasts for three days.

Hungarian Paprika

Paprika powder is one of the most widely used spices in Hungarian cuisine. Due to the favourable climate and geographical conditions, Hungarian paprika has a bright red colour and a distinctively rich flavour. Kalocsa and Szeged in the southern part of Hungary are the heart of paprika production.

Find out more about these Hungaricums as well as the other 61 on the list  www.hungarikum.hu/en



Language

The official language of the country is Hungarian, which forms part of the Finno-Ugric language family. Hungarians call their language "Magyar". Although Hungary is located in Central Europe, Hungarian is not related to any of the major European languages. Hungarian is spoken by 10 million people in Hungary, but there are sizable populations of Hungarian speakers outside the country.

Although your studies are in English or in another foreign language, it is a good idea to learn a few basic words which may be necessary in your everyday life here in Hungary. It will be extremely well-received by native Hungarians, so don't worry about making mistakes!



TIP

Find out more about ways to develop your Hungarian language skills in the **Learning Hungarian** section. Use our mini dictionary at the back of this guide as a quick reference guide.

Climate and weather



For many international students the Hungarian climate can be very different from that of their countries, as Hungary has four different seasons. Whilst summers are warm, winters can be really cold; average temperatures range from -4°C in January to 26°C in July.

Hungary is in the temperate zone and has a relatively dry continental climate. The country is protected from extreme weather conditions by the surrounding mountain ranges, the Alps and the Carpathians.

It's not always easy to find the right clothes to suit the weather, but the beauty of each season is definitely worth the effort.



STUDY IN HUNGARY



"Studying in Hungary adds another level to your college experience. Experiencing other cultures around the world broadens your knowledge and teaches you to think and live differently."

ANIRUDH from India

"It is not only the theoretical knowledge gained during the studies. It is also about the knowledge gained from living happily in a foreign country, communicating and interacting with people from different nationalities and cultures, discovering new points of view and new perspectives of life. This is what made us expand our horizons and grow our personalities."

JOVANA from Macedonia



"Appreciating this opportunity is necessary as we have received a good education in the heart of Europe, the continent which has been and still is a dream to many people from far-away countries."

MAUD from Jordan



"Hungary has truly been my second home because I have had some amazing people as friends in this country. The environment and the people of this country are so welcoming and helpful, you don't feel away from home. The best thing about the education system here in Hungary is that they let you choose your own speed, and you are not judged by the scores on your grade-sheet."

MANGESH from India



"Indeed, my stay here in Hungary exposed me to the fact that everybody can live peacefully regardless of the religious, cultural and social background. Society can be better if we choose to make it better."

APPI from Nigeria



Starting your academic studies in Hungary

By choosing one of the Hungarian higher education institutions you must be aware that you will be receiving a high quality education for a fair price. Living in Hungary is one thing, but studying in Hungary might change your life! At the end of this journey you will be smarter, wiser, full of new experiences and a proud person holding a European degree in your hands. But before we get carried away, in this section you will find all the important and useful information you need to know about Hungarian education.

 www.studyinhungary.hu/video-gallery.link

The structure of the Hungarian higher education system

Hungarian higher education has been representing academic excellence for more than 650 years. The first university was founded in 1367 in Pécs, the Southern region of Hungary.



Higher education studies are offered at two types of higher education institutions, egyetem (university) and főiskola (college). Programmes of higher education are offered at three levels – Bachelor, Master and Doctorate – which are usually referred to as the three-cycle system according to the European Bologna system. Besides these integrated and cyclic programmes there are some integrated (one-tier) programmes, where the Bachelor level and the Master level is unified: veterinary medicine, architecture, dentistry, pharmaceuticals, law and medicine.

Entry and admission requirements in Hungary also follow the standards of the Bologna Process. This means that a Bachelor's degree must be obtained to have access to Master's and PhD courses. In order to be admitted to a Hungarian higher education institution, prospective students must demonstrate that they meet certain requirements. Although there is a general system of entrance, the entry requirements may differ at certain higher education institutions, so always check the conditions in each institution before applying.



Universities and field of studies

Today, there are 65 higher education institutions in total ranging from minor universities of applied sciences to top research universities. There are 28 state-funded, 11 privately-funded and 26 church-funded institutions to choose from. As a result of the institutions' internationalisation process, there are endless study opportunities for international students: they offer more than 500 courses in English, German, French and other languages. The foreign language programmes are of a high standard and tuition fees are very favourable. The range of study fields students can choose from is wide:



The largest institutions offer courses in all study fields, while smaller institutions have programmes in a few specific areas. Students can earn double degrees at many universities through *joint degree programmes* in which the Hungarian university works together with another European higher education institution. In case of applying for these programmes – students enrol in both universities and obtain a double degree from both institutions.

Study Finder

The Study Finder database on the Study in Hungary website provides information about study programmes in English and other foreign languages offered by Hungarian higher education institutions. On this website, you can browse through more than 500 programmes – so you can see the “bigger picture” about what courses in which fields you might choose for your further studies.

 www.studyinhungary.hu » Study Finder



FIND A STUDY PROGRAMME



TIP Do you have friends who might like to start their academic studies in Hungary as well? Share the Study Finder with them so they can find the programme that suits them the best.

Academic year

The academic year is divided into 2 semesters including 14-15 weeks of lectures and seminars followed by an examination period that lasts for 6-8 weeks.

AUTUMN SEMESTER



SPRING SEMESTER



 REGISTRATION AND SIGNING UP FOR COURSES

 TERM TIME (14-15 WEEKS)

 EXAM PERIOD

 HOLIDAYS

HOLIDAYS

AUTUMN BREAK:	end of October
WINTER BREAK:	end of December
SPRING BREAK:	Easter week



ECTS Credit System and Grading Credit System

The European Credit Transfer System (ECTS) in Hungary ensures the transparency of the learning, teaching and assessment processes by facilitating recognition of your learning achievements and qualifications in many countries throughout the European Higher Education Area. The ECTS ensures that the grades you have achieved can be accepted by other European and non-European institutions in other countries.

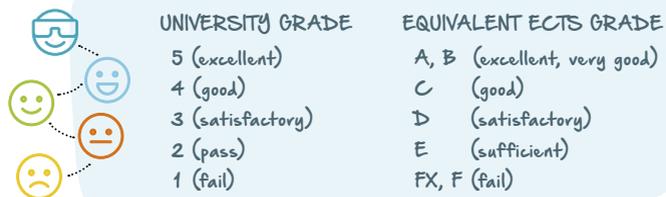
At the end of each semester, the student's study achievement is evaluated with a grade in the Hungarian five-grade scale. For incoming international students, a Transcript of Records must be issued that contains a table of completed courses, credits, the Hungarian grade and the ECTS grade.

The number of credits you have to achieve might differ from one institution and course to another in an academic year or semester, so you may need to approach your local international coordinator to obtain the relevant information about this.

The Hungarian academic credit system is an ECTS-compatible system. The calculation of the credits is based on the number of working hours of the students (one credit means 30 student working hours, on average).

At the end of the semester, the student's study achievement is evaluated with a grade (5-excellent, 4-good, 3-medium or satisfactory, 2-sufficient or pass, 1-fail). The ECTS conversion table ensures transfer procedures between the Hungarian academic credit system and the ECTS. The recognition of courses completed abroad is based on the credit transfer regulation.

For incoming international students, a Transcript of Records is issued at the end of the semester, which contains the code and title of the completed courses, credits, grade, and its ECTS-compatible grade.



UNIVERSITY GRADE	EQUIVALENT ECTS GRADE
5 (excellent)	A, B (excellent, very good)
4 (good)	C (good)
3 (satisfactory)	D (satisfactory)
2 (pass)	E (sufficient)
1 (fail)	FX, F (fail)

Recognition of diplomas

There is no automatic EU-wide recognition of academic diplomas, which means you need to apply for this procedure to continue your studies in another EU country.

If you obtain your degree in Hungary and wish to study in another EU country, you need to go through a specific procedure to have your degree recognised in the other country. A "Statement of Comparability" of your earned university degree can be issued in your home country or in the host country of your studies. This certificate shows how your degree compares to the ones you can earn in the other country.

Before starting a recognition procedure, go to ENIC's website (European

Network of Information Centres) to obtain more information on the process and the required documents. All the national institutions are listed here so you can contact the responsible authorities.

 www.enic-naric.net » higher education institution

Recognition of qualifications

You will also need to go through a recognition procedure if you would like to practice your profession in the EU, outside Hungary. On the official website of the European Union you can find out if your profession is regulated, in which case you will need full recognition of your qualifications.

After applying, you will receive an acknowledgement of your application from the authorities and will have to make a final decision within

- 3 months: in the case of doctors, general care nurses, veterinary surgeons, dentists, pharmacists or an architect benefiting from automatic recognition of qualifications.
- 4 months: for all other professions.

In case of rejection, they must provide an explanation as to why your application was rejected.

 www.europa.eu/youreurope/citizens/work/professional-qualifications/index_en.htm

Tuition fees

Tuition fees in Hungary are affordable; they vary depending on the selected university and study programme but below you will find a starting point for your further studies. To obtain accurate information regarding tuition fees visit the website of the chosen university. Most institutions require the tuition fees to be paid before enrolment.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS	BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION	ENGINEERING	MEDICINE AND DENTISTRY
CA. € 600-1,000	CA. € 1,200	CA. € 1,600-2,500	CA. € 6,000-8,000

per semester

Scholarship programmes

 www.studyinhungary.hu » Find a scholarship

Erasmus+



If you are from the European Union, you are entitled to apply for Erasmus+ that provides opportunities for education, training, youth and sport.

You can also combine your study period in Hungary with a traineeship to gain work experience as Erasmus+ also offers internships. Opportunities to study in Hungary with Erasmus are available to students at Bachelor's and Master's levels, as well as Doctoral candidates. Students with physical, mental or health-related conditions may apply for additional funding after they have been selected to study. You can also gain some volunteer experience in Hungary through this programme for periods of 2-12 months or 2-8 weeks.

PROGRAMME COUNTRIES: • countries of the European Union
• + Iceland, Liechtenstein, North Macedonia, Norway, Serbia, Turkey

Erasmus+ internship

You can combine your studies with professional practice by taking an Erasmus internship in Hungary for a period of 3 to 12 months or you can only take part in an internship (2-12 months) without doing your studies at the same time. Your internship will be supported with a monthly stipend ranging from €500–€600 depending on the chosen country's living standards; also it is possible to apply for an extra stipend of € 100 in specific cases.

PROGRAMME COUNTRIES: • all countries of the EU
• others: North Macedonia, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Serbia and Turkey.

Useful links to find an intern position:

ErasmusIntern: www.erasmusintern.org 
Europlacement: www.europlacement.com
AIESEC internship: www.aiesec.org

Stipendium Hungaricum programme



The Stipendium Hungaricum Scholarship Programme was launched in 2013 by the Hungarian Government with the mission to increase the number of foreign students in Hungary and to encourage our education institutions to attract foreign students.

STUDY FIELDS supported by the stipendium hungaricum programme in 2018/2019

- > Agriculture, Natural Resources
- > Arts (visual and performing)
- > Business, Management and Public Administration
- > Medicine and Health Sciences
- > Humanities, Education, Behavioural Sciences
- > IT, Computer Sciences, Mathematics
- > Law, Social Sciences
- > Natural Sciences
- > Technology, Engineering, Architecture
- > Tourism, Recreation

FULL TIME STUDIES

- > BA/BSc (undergraduate, 3-3.5 years)
- > MA/MSc (graduate, 1-2 years)
- > PhD studies (doctoral, 2+2 years)
- > One-tier programme (5 years)

PART-TIME STUDIES

NON DEGREE PROGRAMMES (professional and language preparatory courses, specialisation courses)



How does the Stipendium Hungaricum programme contribute to your professional development?

- > no tuition fee
- > monthly stipend:
 - for Bachelor or Master: cca. EUR 130
 - for Doctoral programmes: cca. EUR 325
- > free dormitory places or contribution to private accommodation: EUR 100
- > medical insurance

 For the exact amount, please visit our website: www.studyinhungary.hu

The expanding network of sending partners:

Albania, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, China, China - Hudec scholarships in Shanghai, Colombia, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Georgia, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Republic of Korea, Kosovo, Kurdistan Regional Government / Iraq, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Laos, Lebanon, Macedonia, Malaysia, Mexico, Moldova, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Nigeria, Pacific Alliance (member states: Chile, Colombia, Mexico & Peru), Pakistan, Palestine, Paraguay, Russia, Serbia, Singapore, South Africa, Sudan, Syria, Tanzania, Thailand, The Philippines, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vietnam, Yemen

Here you can find the list of Stipendium Hungaricum Sending Partners:

 www.studyinhungary.hu » [Stipendium Hungaricum Scholarship Programme](#) » [Sending Partners and Available Study Programmes](#)

CEEPUS



If you are from Central Europe or the South-Eastern part of Europe, you are eligible to apply for the CEEPUS (Central European Exchange Programme for University Studies) Programme that aims to promote teacher and student mobility in Central and South-East Europe. Students can spend a study period abroad and teachers can undertake a teaching period at a partner university. These opportunities are designed to strengthen professional and personal relationships among Central European scholars.

- PERIOD OF MOBILITY:**
- 1 semester (3-5 months)
 - 1-2 months
 - 3-6 days (short term excursion)

The funding of the programme is provided by the CEEPUS partner countries. Students receive their CEEPUS grant from the host country; therefore, the amount is tailored to local living standards.

MEMBER COUNTRIES:

Albania, Austria, Bulgaria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Czech Republic, Hungary, Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Slovenia, Slovakia and Kosovo.

www.ceepus.info 

Bilateral State Scholarships

Hungary has bilateral agreements with around 68 countries. Bilateral state scholarships are based on scientific and educational cooperation agreements signed by the governments of two countries. If your sending country has such an agreement with Hungary you may pursue a scholarship activity in Hungary as a nominee of your sending home country. It is also possible to apply individually, independently from your country, without being nominated.

SCHOLARSHIP TYPES AVAILABLE (in 2018/19):

- bachelor or master or doctoral semester/partial studies (3-10 months)
- full degree bachelor or master or doctoral studies (36/24/36 months respectively)
- short- or long-term research (3 days-10 months)
- summer courses (2-4 weeks)

 www.studyinhungary.hu » Scholarships » Bilateral State Scholarships

**Scholarship Programme for Christian Young People**

The core mission of the Scholarship Programme for Christian Young People is to provide the possibility of studying in Hungary to young Christian students who live in the crisis regions of the world and/or are threatened in their country because of their faith. After completing their studies, the scholarship holders will return to help their home community with their gained knowledge, and they will participate in the reconstruction of war-damaged countries and contribute to the improvement of the social situation and the preservation of the culture of Christian communities.

Scholarships are available for bachelor, master, one-tier master and doctoral programmes.

 www.tka.hu/english » International Programmes » Scholarship Programme for Christian Young People

Other funding options

Those who want to find funding options as self-financed students can take **student loans** with a favourable interest rate from the Hungarian Student Loan Centre.

To apply you need to be under 40 years of age and must hold a permanent residence or immigration card. To help with repayment of the loan, an income-based repayment scheme is available. This means that the amount of money a student needs to pay back and when it needs to be repaid depends on how much the student is earning.

Another option to fund your university studies is to get a **student job** through student-job agencies. According to Hungarian law a student is entitled to have either a full-time (8 hours) or a part-time job (4 or 6 hours), however scholarship contracts may control the conditions under which a student can work. The minimum wage for unskilled work for 8 hours per day is around 430 EUR while the salary is approximately 560 EUR for skilled jobs.



Working while studying

Some of you might decide to work part-time during your studies or in the summer holiday to finance your living costs or to gain valuable work experience. Currently, depending on your citizenship, there are different rights and obligations.



- > If you are a student coming from an EEA state (member states of the EU and Norway, Switzerland, Iceland, and Liechtenstein), there is no limitation regarding the working hours and you need to hold a registration card.
- > If you are a citizen of a country that is not part of the European Economic Area (non-EEA state), you can be employed during your studies with a residence permit for study purposes and work 24 hours a week during your study period, or 90 days or 66 working days outside your study period.

CAREER OFFICES

Most higher education institutions in Hungary have their own career offices where students can obtain information regarding available jobs. These offices offer job opportunities through databases as well as organising programmes for students looking for jobs, and they help you with career planning and management.

Internship

International internships are becoming more and more popular as they provide students with valuable real-life experience during their studies. Various options to do internships in Hungary include:

Dual education

Gaining practical experience in Hungary is provided by dual education, which is a unique system where university students have the chance to spend a few months at different companies or organisations to gain practice. Dual education

means that a student is enrolled at a university while completing a traineeship at a company.

Programmes that may include dual education:

- > agriculture
- > engineering
- > economics
- > natural sciences
- > information technology

By taking part in this programme, you have the chance to gain some insight into the internal operation of a company and gain experience through professionals of a given field. By the end of your studies you will receive a significant amount of work experience, which will help you start your career and find a job. Information on programmes offered in dual education can be obtained from your university's website.

Research opportunities

Have you ever heard of the iKnife that finds cancer during an operation, or the E+grid smart energy-positive street lighting system? What about the Maven7 world class know-how on organizational network analytics? These are only a handful of the inventions of Hungarian universities. If you are interested in conducting innovative researches and making discoveries during your stay in Hungary, you have several options to get you started. All universities in the country offer research opportunities in all fields of study, which you can enquire about at your institution's department once you are enrolled. Around 130 research groups operate at universities, which means you have a good chance of joining one of them. Also, after finishing your studies at the university, you can continue building your research career as we have many governmental and foundational institutes covering all fields of science.

Hungarian Academy of Science's research institutions and groups:

www.mta.hu/English » Research Network 

Learning Hungarian

If you are interested in learning Hungarian, you have several options to get started both face-to-face and online. There are many institutions offering Hungarian courses for foreigners, and here we have created a list of some of them.



TIP

Do not get discouraged when you hear that Hungarian is one of the most difficult languages. Take every opportunity to talk to native speakers right away to gain fluency – they will be very pleased you tried!

BALASSI CULTURAL INSTITUTE

One of the institute's mission is to manage Hungarian education all around the world. They offer short and long term courses for foreign students including a 4-week long summer university where students get acquainted with Hungarian culture and customs as well as participate in intensive Hungarian language classes for a period of more than 3 hours / day. Students can use the credits gained at the summer university at their own universities.



www.balassiintezet.hu/en/hungarian-language-courses

EÖTVÖS LORÁND UNIVERSITY

ELTE offers three types of courses: a summer university during the summer break, an intensive course, and a regular course during the year. ELTE is one of the highest ranked universities and one of the bests in linguistic courses.



www.elte.hu/en/language-courses/hungarian

UNIVERSITY OF DEBRECEN

Besides their regular language and cultural programmes, the university offers a course about Hungarian and Central-European history.



www.nyariegyetem.hu/kurzusaink.php

UNIVERSITY OF PÉCS

The International Studies Centre of the University of Pécs offers Hungarian courses for foreign students throughout the year and is open to anyone who wishes to learn Hungarian. They offer language courses during the autumn and spring semester consisting of 48 contact hours. The university offers a summer programme during the summer break, too, which can give you extra credit points for your studies.

www.isc.pte.hu/hungarian_programme/ 

UNIVERSITY OF SZEGED

The University of Szeged offers an intensive two-semester preparatory course for foreign students who wish to study at a Hungarian university. This Hungarian language and culture programme is ideal for students who want to become acquainted not only with the language but also with the local culture. The 4-week long summer university includes cultural programmes and 6 x 90-minute classes every day.

www.hungarianstudies.hu 

What do these courses offer?

- > international learning environment
- > effective language acquisition
- > diverse destinations in the region
- > housing and food is provided by the programmes

Language schools

Language schools also offer Hungarian courses for international students for a fair price and sometimes also offer discounts. On one hand, choosing a language school is the best option for you if you are a full-time student and have no time for a half-year course, but on the other hand, they never provide cover for any of your costs.

Download a language-learning app and practice your Hungarian on the go to and from campus!



TIP



Debrecen



Budapest



Miskolc

University towns

BUDAPEST

Budapest is the capital city of Hungary and the country's principal political, cultural, commercial, industrial and transportation centre. With almost two million inhabitants, Budapest is the biggest and most densely-populated city in the country and over half of the nation's GDP is generated here. Budapest is one of the most popular tourist destinations, visited by about 4.2 million tourists each year. It is a city of numerous World Heritage Sites. Consequently, half of Hungary's university students study here and the majority of professors work here, too, while the proportion of researchers working in Budapest is even higher. The town itself stretches along the banks of the Danube. It has a wide range of universities to choose from regardless of what you want to study.

DEBRECEN

After Budapest, Debrecen is the second largest city in Hungary. It is the regional centre of the Northern Great Plain region and the seat of Hajdú-Bihar county. This city has preserved its rich cultural life. Each year, on 20th August, a flower carnival takes place in the city, offering a variety of entertainment such as folk dance, parades and concerts.

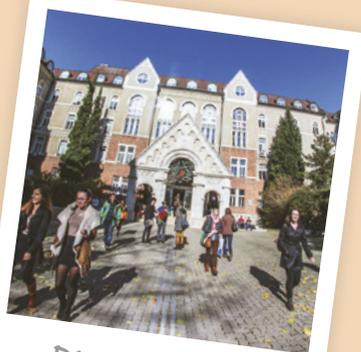
Debrecen is home to the **University of Debrecen**, whose main building is a widely-praised piece of architecture located in the "Great Forest" area. The university has many departments, is a major research centre in Europe and maintains a leading position in medical and information technology education.

MISKOLC

Miskolc is a city situated in north-east Hungary, and is mostly known for its heavy industry. With a population close to 190,000, Miskolc is the third largest city in Hungary. It is also the seat of Borsod-Abaúj-Zemplén county and the regional centre of the Northern Hungary region. By the 19th century, it had become an important commercial and industrial centre due to its geographical location.



Szeged



Pécs



Győr



Dunaújváros



Eger

Nowadays, it's one of the most popular choices for students who come to study in Hungary. Miskolc is full of hidden treasures like the *Benedictine Monastery Ruins* or the *Cave bath of Miskolctapolca*, it is also famous for the *Castle of Diósgyőr* where a medieval bustle is organised annually and for the *Bükk National Park* with all its fascinating landscapes.

The **University of Miskolc** is a relatively young institution, founded in 1949. Built in the style of the American campus model, it is surrounded by a large park and various sports facilities.

SZEGED

Szeged is the regional centre of South-Eastern Hungary and the seat of Csongrád county. Szeged and its area have been inhabited since ancient times. The city's most impressive monument is the *Cathedral*, which is located in the town centre. Every summer, the square in front of the Cathedral transforms into a huge open-air theatre to host the *Szeged Open-Air Festival*. Szeged is the sunniest city in the country, with the highest amount of annual sunshine. The charming, warm weather is great for excursions to the town of Kecskemét, the *Kiskunság National Park* or to *Ópusztaszer*.

The **University of Szeged** was founded in 1872 so it has a relatively rich history. At present, it consists of 13 faculties, where you can study almost everything, ranging from humanities to business studies or health sciences.

PÉCS

Pécs is located in the south-west of the country and serves as the administrative and economic centre of Baranya county. Pécs has a rich cultural life and hosts a wide variety of historical buildings, such as the Basilica of St. Peter constructed in the 11th century. Several Turkish buildings date back to the age of the Ottoman Empire and give the city a multicultural atmosphere. The city of Pécs was selected as one of the European Capitals of Culture for the year 2010.

The **University of Pécs** was founded in 1367, making it the oldest university in Hungary. It now ranks among the top European universities. It has 10 faculties and offers a wide range of courses, covering nearly every possible field of study.

GYŐR

Győr is located in the north-western part of Hungary. The seat of Győr-Ménfőcsanak-Sopron county is located on one of the most important roads of Central Europe, halfway between Budapest and Vienna so it only takes one hour to reach the capital of Austria.

The area has been inhabited since ancient times. Győr has a charming town centre and is abundant in beautiful baroque buildings. The **Széchenyi István University** is located in Győr and it has an excellent reputation in electrical and mechanical engineering.

DUNAÚJVÁROS

Dunaújváros is situated quite near to Pest county, only 67 km away from Budapest. It is the second biggest town in Fejér county after Székesfehérvár. Dunaújváros was an industrial town; during the 50s it became the largest centre of iron and steel works, and the predecessor of the university was founded in 1962 to educate heavy industry workers. You can choose from a wide range of courses in the field of engineering, information technology, economics and social sciences offered by the **University of Dunaújváros**.

EGER

Eger is home to the famous *Castle of Eger* where several significant moments of Hungarian history took place such as the defeat of the Ottoman army. Today this castle serves as a museum to show how Hungarians lived throughout the ages. This city is worth visiting if you are a wine lover since Eger is the original producer of the famous Bull's blood wine. The city is full of beautiful buildings built in the 18th and 19th century and despite its small size it has a considerable amount of attractions. The University has 4 campuses across the country (Eger, Gyöngyös, Jászberény and Sárospatak) offering available courses ranging from economics and social sciences to pedagogy.

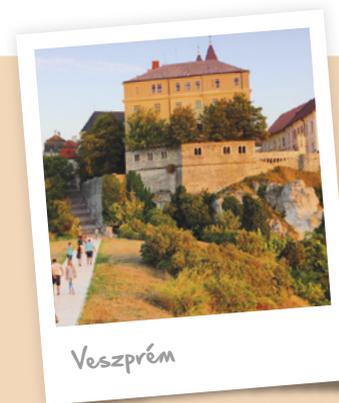
VESZPRÉM

Veszprém is a quiet town only a few km from Lake Balaton. This city was built on five hills and has many ancient buildings such as the *Cathedral of St. Michael*. This city was given the title of "the town of queens" as Hungarian queens became patrons of the aforementioned cathedral. This town is very close to Lake Balaton, which is definitely worth a visit during the summer as well as the Bakony Hills and the Balaton Uplands National Park where you can take a day trip. The Street music festival is annually organised here in July so if you love listening to music, visit these concerts performed by Hungarian and international musicians. **Pannon University** was founded here in 1949 and offers all possible fields of study through 6 BA, 12 MA and 9 PhD courses.

GÖDÖLLŐ

If you like green, panoramic areas but would also like to stay close to Budapest, Gödöllő is a fine choice to continue your studies at. In the 50s Gödöllő became the country's agrarian centre due to the relocation of the Agrarian University there in 1950.

Gödöllő is not only famous for its university but also for the *Royal Castle* which was built by Antal Grassalkovich, among many other monuments in Gödöllő. **Szent István University's** Gödöllő Campus is located in the heart of the town.





Entry & admission

To be eligible for a BA degree you must have your language proficiency certificates, your diploma and other documents required by the programme.

To apply for a **Bachelor's degree (3 years)** prospective students need to possess a high school diploma translated into Hungarian or English with the corresponding transcript of courses and grades. Some courses may also require an entrance exam besides submitting these documents.

1

For a **Master's degree (2 years)** application applicants have to submit the photocopy of their Bachelor's diploma and probably have to take an entrance exam.

2

If someone wishes to obtain a **PhD degree (2+2 years)**, the minimum requirement is to have a university degree which is equivalent to a master's degree. The prerequisite for entering doctoral courses is an MA/MSc degree or an equivalent to an MA/MSc degree.

3

Application timeline

Study in Hungary announces the actual application call on its official website so if you wish to get the latest information about our available programmes go to "studyinhungary.hu".

Entry and admission requirements

Institutions in Hungary rank the applications based on applicants' previous studies and the grade point average (GPA), also experience in work and research might be required by some institutions.

In order to be admitted to a Hungarian higher education institution, prospective students must demonstrate that they meet certain requirements. Although there is a general system of entrance the **entry requirements may differ at**



 www.studyinhungary.hu
 [studyinhungaryofficial](https://www.facebook.com/studyinhungaryofficial)

certain higher education institutions therefore always check the conditions in each institution before applying.

Application process for self-financed students

Fee-paying students can submit their applications either electronically through the FELVI system (which requires advanced level Hungarian) or by mailing their documents directly to the institution. Although the application procedure for enrolment may vary at different institutions and courses, in general the process should be the following:

✓ 1. Find your university and programme

Visit the website of the chosen higher education institution and choose the programme that suits you.

✓ 2. Check entry requirements and deadlines

Before you make your decision, always read the entry requirements for the degree programme you are applying for. Application period and exact dates for self-financed foreign students usually vary from one institution to another so first contact the chosen university to find out any relevant information. The deadline for the first round of admission procedures is usually in **November** for those classes that commence in February while the second round of admission procedures is in **February** for classes commencing in September.

✓ 3. Apply online

Fill in the online application form of the programme on the website of the chosen university, then upload or submit the required documents. After submitting your papers, you may be required to arrange an appointment for a Skype interview. Contact the university or the college to find out if there is anything else you need to do.

✓ 4. Wait to receive confirmation from the university

If you are accepted, you will get a notification from your university around late July and the contact person from the institution will inform you regarding further steps. Fee-paying students are usually required to transfer (part of) the tuition fee prior to the enrolment in the academic period.

Generally, you'll need the following documents to be submitted:

- an up-to-date CV
- English translation of transcripts of records
- a letter of motivation
- English translation of obtained diplomas
- copy of your passport / ID
- two academic reference letters
- proof of language proficiency

Application process for Stipendium Hungaricum students



If you wish to apply for a Stipendium Hungaricum scholarship

1. check if your native country participates in the programme
2. check which study fields and levels of study are available for your country and contact the local responsible organisation who can help you with starting the application process
3. choose your study programme with the help of our Study Finder
4. read the annual Call for Applications on "studyinhungary.hu"
5. prepare your online application on "apply.stipendiumhungaricum.hu" and submit it before the application deadline.



Stipendium Hungaricum application timeline:

- 
- 1. October:** the announcement of the annual call for scholarships
 - 2. January:** deadline of application
 - 3. February:** first selection point and nomination process
 - 4. March - May:** second selection point – institutional admission process for applicants for the 1st and 2nd selected programme
 - 5. June - July:** notification about your selection results & starting the visa process
 - 6. until the end of September:** arrival in Hungary

**Campus life**

As well as focusing on your studies, it is also important to take care of your mental and physical health.

Sport is an important ingredient of a healthy lifestyle. Most Hungarian higher education institutions provide opportunities to do sports in a team or as an individual. Many of these opportunities are offered as part of the curriculum. Institutions have their own swimming pools and sports centres, which provide great sporting opportunities before or after a day of sitting in lectures.

By joining these classes, you are not only making sport part of your everyday life but you can make new friends, improve your skills by cooperating with your mates and gain experience of what "team spirit" really is!

Some universities offer you opportunities to engage in cultural activities and reflect on your unique experience through art. Become a member of a university choir, dance or drama group, or even an orchestra! You can also put yourself to the test by entering university poetry or photo competitions.

Student networks and mentoring

Almost every Hungarian university has its own student network or targeted mentor system to help foreign students and scholarship holders to become integrated into the local community. If you are interested, get in touch with them or with the international organisations via the links below.

Why should you join a youth organisation during your stay?

- it's an opportunity to work and live in a fully international environment
- you can make the most of your stay
- they organise programmes specifically aimed at foreign students
- they promote scholarships and internships to other countries
- international and national workshops
- you will gain some leadership experience through them

- 🌐 Stipendium Hungaricum Mentor Network: www.shmentor.hu
- ESN HUNGARY: www.esn.hu
- AEGEE: www.locals.aegee.org/budapest/en/about-aegee
- AIESEC: www.aiesec.hu



JOIN THE ALUMNI HUNGARY NETWORK



🌐 alumninetworkhungary.hu
f [alumnihungary](https://www.facebook.com/alumnihungary)



Alumni Hungary Network

You are just about to start your academic studies in Hungary, but it is always good to start thinking about your future early. Your studying in Hungary journey does not have to end with the graduation ceremony!



The Alumni Hungary Network is aimed at establishing and enhancing an interactive, highly engaged and vibrant alumni community of former full-time and part-time foreign students who have attended or graduated from any of the higher education institutions in Hungary. We would like you to maintain your positive impressions of the country and give you further opportunities with the aim of benefitting from your Hungarian experiences and connections, not to mention the huge networking potential of the community.

You do not have to wait until the completion of your studies to join the alumni community. Whatever university year you are in, the Alumni Network Hungary is open to you.

What is in it for you?

- > get invited to exclusive alumni events and networking opportunities organised in Hungary during your studies
- > get vital information and news first hand
- > get access to valuable professional development content both online and offline
- > get in touch with experienced alumni members and mentors to gain practical information regarding your stay and studies in Hungary
- > find partners and collaborators among present and former students and develop your professional network for your projects
- > get to know other international students from other Hungarian higher education institutions and become a member of vivid and fun international communities around Hungary

How to join and what to do?

You can easily become a member through registration on our Alumni Hungary Portal. After that, it is entirely up to you how much you can get out of your Alumni Hungary free membership.

Here is a little help with some essentials:

-  **#1** Create a **strong profile** and make your e-mail address visible
-  **#2** Create your **contact list** step by step
-  **#3** Establish a group for deeper **conversations**
-  **#4** Create alumni **meetings** to transform the online contacts and networking to real-life experiences
-  **#5** Share your professional and personal stories with the community

🌐 Register on the Alumni Network Hungary portal: alumninetworkhungary.hu

Follow us on Facebook: facebook.com/alumnihungary

You also have the opportunity to be an international alumni volunteer to make a real impact on the everyday operation of the network. The call is announced every year on the Alumni Hungary Portal and on our Facebook page.

If you would like to get in touch with the Alumni Hungary team, please write to alumninetwork@tpf.hu. Alumni ideas are very welcome as well.

LIVING IN HUNGARY



First steps in Hungary



RECOMMENDATIONS FROM INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

1. Don't miss the **orientation week**, it is very helpful!
2. In case you have already missed the orientation week, go to the **international office** of your institution and ask about any missed information.
3. Visit your **international coordinator**, check that everything is OK with your documents.
4. Always be **open minded!** Use the first couple of weeks to meet new people; connect with professors and classmates, too.
5. If available, try to join a **Hungarian class** to enhance the daily routine in Hungarian.
6. The initial **medical check-up** is necessary. Whenever something is wrong, you can go back and visit the GP who carried out your initial check-up. Become acquainted with the doctor-visiting procedure before any real emergencies occur.
7. Always check the **expiry date** of your **residence permit** and arrange an appointment to apply for a new residence permit card if needed. Especially when you want to travel to another Schengen country, you have to make sure the validity covers the travel.
8. Always bring your **insurance card** with you when travelling, in case of emergency.
9. If you lose your **passport** you can contact your Embassy in Budapest. The address, telephone numbers and working hours are usually available on their website.
10. Buy a bike or check whether **community bikes** (like BUBI in Budapest) are available in your university town.
11. **Explore** your city, collect as many memories as possible!
12. Try **local food**. You will not regret it!

Accommodation



There are several kinds of accommodation alternatives in Hungary but the cheapest one is usually a dormitory belonging to the students' homes section of the university you attend. One advantage is that it is cheap, you will always be surrounded by friends and great communities are often created by living together.

On the other hand, renting an apartment is also a feasible option if you prefer privacy. This way, you can get your personal insight of how Hungarians live. Cost can be very different depending on living in or outside of the capital: HUF 70,000–150,000 or HUF 120,000–200,000 in Budapest a month plus overheads. The landlords usually require you to pay a deposit in advance, which usually equals a minimum of 2 months' rental fee (this will be paid back when you move out.)

If you need help, contact your international co-ordinator or mentor at your university, who will guide you in the right direction. There are usually dedicated Facebook pages. Some students find agencies useful in the process.

Wherever you live, the most important thing is to find a place where you can study comfortably and it is a plus if you can share it with your new friends.



Public transportation

Hungary has an efficient network of public transport including buses in all cities, trolley buses and trams in bigger cities, metro services plus suburban railway lines called HÉV lines and boat services in Budapest.

Passes are available for various lengths of time (e.g. monthly) and are valid for each form of transport. Tickets that can be used on any form of transport are available at stations or street kiosks. Single tickets are valid for a single journey without transfer on the whole length of a line, but multiple tickets are needed when your journey involves changes.

If you regularly use public transport, it is economically more viable to buy a monthly or yearly pass. Students with valid student card are entitled to reduced rates.



COACH NATIONWIDE www.volانبusz.hu/en

BUDAPEST PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION www.bkk.hu/en

HUNGARIAN STATE RAILWAYS www.mavcsoport.hu/en



BY CAR

If you are coming from an EU Member State to Hungary, you do not need a Hungarian driving license to drive in Hungary but you need to keep all car documents, your driving license and passport with you to identify yourself when stopped by a police officer. But if you plan to stay in Hungary for more than a year and you have a driving licence issued by a non-EEA State you can apply to have the document exchanged. Hungary has a zero tolerance policy towards drink-driving offences.

BY TAXI

When taking a taxi, you should avoid hailing unmarked taxi cabs. You can hail a taxi in the streets, order by phone or an app. In Budapest, licensed taxis appear in distinct yellow.



BY BIKE

You can easily buy a brand new bike in many big stores or even a good quality old one in some second-hand bike shops. Another option is renting from a company or using a bike-share scheme such as MOL BuBi in Budapest or UniBike in Debrecen. Whichever option you choose our environment will be grateful.



Currency

The forint (HUF) has been the local currency in Hungary since 1946. Here is a little help to see the differences between different currencies (valid in May 2019) but you should always check the actual exchange rate.

1.0 USD = 293 HUF

1.0 GBP = 371 HUF

1.0 JPY = 2,7 HUF

1.0 EUR = 327 HUF

1.0 CNY = 42 HUF

1.0 RUB = 4,6 HUF

Banknotes come in denominations of 500; 1,000; 2,000; 5,000; 10,000 and 20,000 and six different coins are in use: 5, 10, 20, 50, 100 and 200 forint coins.

Major bank cards (Visa, Mastercard) are accepted in most places but there are cases when you can only pay with cash. ATMs and currency exchange offices are widely available.

You can also open a bank account as the non-residential account service is designed especially for foreign nationals. Before opening an account, it is advisable to ask the chosen bank about the documents required. Banks are usually open between 8.00–16.00 on weekdays.



Costs of Living



Dormitory
HUF 25-45.000



Private flat
HUF 100-160.000



Shared flat
HUF 50-90.000



Full-price monthly ticket for students
HUF 3450



One litre of petrol
HUF 400



One litre of bottled water
HUF 250



One litre of milk
HUF 240



One bottle of beer
HUF 450



Bread
HUF 270



Coffee in café
HUF 600



Lunch at canteen
HUF 1200



Cinema ticket
HUF 1600



Haircut men/women
HUF 5-15.000

Visit the Cost Calculator on the Study in Hungary page to easily calculate your costs in the biggest Hungarian cities:

www.studyinhungary.hu » Your Costs of Living 

Health insurance



Emergency treatment is free for every foreigner. However, make sure you have health insurance when you arrive in Hungary that covers you for the duration of your stay. Different regulations apply depending on your citizenship.

EU citizens are insured on the basis of the European Health Insurance Card when they are in another member state and are, from the point of view of social security, entitled to the same rights and have the same obligations as citizens of that given member state.

Students from a non-EEA country should arrange for health insurance on their own in their home country.

Recipients of a Hungarian Governmental Scholarship (like Stipendium Hungaricum) are entitled to have a social security card that entitles them to free medical care.

Medications



The Hungarian word for pharmacy is 'Gyógyszertár' or 'Patika'. These are located all over the cities, usually close to the city centres, supermarkets and, in some cases, nearby universities as well.

Opening hours may vary from pharmacy to pharmacy but usually they are open till 7 pm or 8 pm on weekdays. Drug stores, like DM and Rossmann, carry a minimum amount of light medicines, for example pain killers.

Legal stay



After your arrival in Hungary, you need to ensure your legal status in Hungary. Depending on your home country, different rules apply. Generally, EU/EEA member state students need to obtain a registration card, other students need to obtain a residence permit. Both documents are issued by the National Directorate-General for Aliens Policing (Országos Idegenrendészeti Főigazgatóság in Hungarian).

 www.bmbah.hu/en

Student card



After your arrival in Hungary, it is obligatory to request a student card that will certify your student status. This will entitle you to the same reductions as Hungarian students: on public transportation tickets, museum entrance fees, Youth Hostel accommodation, library memberships and various other discounts.

Your first step is to submit your application at one of the offices of the Hungarian Integrated Customer Service (Kormányablak in Hungarian). Then you need to upload the personal ID you received to get your temporary card. Please consult with a coordinator or an administrative staff member from your university for further steps on how to obtain the permanent plastic card.

Embassies and cultural institutes



While living in a foreign country it is important to know where to turn for help in need or for connecting with your culture to cure your homesickness.

EMBASSIES IN HUNGARY

 www.studyinhungary.hu » [Living in Hungary](#) » [Formalities](#) » [Embassies](#)

CULTURAL INSTITUTES

 www.studyinhungary.hu » [Living in Hungary](#) » [Culture](#)



National holidays

There will be some days when you don't have to go to school and others when you do but you might find others in "holiday mode". The reason behind this is that they are celebrating Hungarian holidays.

Here is a list of the public holidays:

- 1st January** – New Year's Day
- 15th March** – Anniversary of the Hungarian Revolution's outbreak of 1848
- Easter** – Usually in March or April from Good Friday through Easter Monday.
- Pentecost Monday** – 50 days after Easter. Usually in May or June.
- 1st May** – Labour Day
- 20th August** – Saint Stephen's Day (founder of the Hungarian state)
- 23rd October** – National Day in memory of the 1956 revolution
- 1st November** – All Saints' Day
- 25-26th December** – 1st and 2nd day of Christmas



...and a few more that most Hungarians celebrate:

- 1st Sunday in May** – Mother's Day
- 6th December** – Saint Nicholas Day
- 24th December** – Christmas Eve
- 31st December** – New Year's Eve



Did you know?

Hungarians not only celebrate their birthday, but their **nameday** (in Hungarian: névnap) as well – often as popular as a person's actual birthday.

10 things on your bucket list

Visit **Budapest**, the capital city of Hungary! Budapest is one of the most popular cities in Europe with its rich history, beautiful architecture, excellent panorama and vibrant cultural life. All we have to say is: Buda castle, Parliament, Heroe's square, river Danube. Can you continue the list?

1.

The Hungarian "sea", **Lake Balaton** is a lovely place at all times of the year but most find it the prettiest in the summer. The biggest lake in Europe is 600 square metres and it is surrounded by the Balaton uplands, one of the most famous vine regions in Hungary.

2.

While we are on the topic of vine, we should not forget **Eger**, which is a pretty nice city to walk around, with its castle and impressive basilica. But the real reason to visit Eger is to spend a day at the nearby caves and touring the wine cellars.

3.

Have you heard of **Buda Castle** and **Vajdahunyad Castle**? In Hungary, we have many more castles to visit, so here is a short list. Once you are there, you will surely be gobsmacked! **Festetics Palace** in Keszthely, **Grassalkovich Palace** in Gödöllő, **Esterházy Palace** in Fertőd and **Károlyi Castle** in Füzérradvány await you!

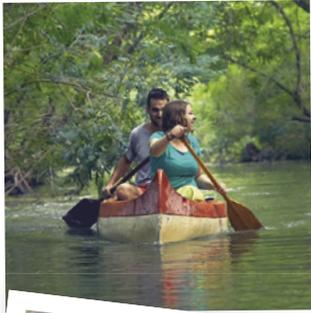
4.

Hungary has many **delicious dishes** to try. What about not just eating but cooking? Learn the recipe of lecsó, the famous stuffed cabbage or cocoa rolls – your family will love your new gastronomical skills.

5.

Mark your
accomplished
journeys :)





The river **Tisza** has always been important to Hungarian poetry, just like many cities on the river side. So once you get the chance to go there, do it in a kayak and join an organised trip on the river Tisza. It will be a "close-to-nature" experience that you will never forget.

7. □

It is hard to find the best thermal spas in the country but the good thing is that the list is pretty long so you can choose to visit several of them. **Széchenyi Spa** and **Gellért Bath** might be the most popular in Budapest, but **Lake Hévíz** is the world's largest biologically-active natural thermal lake, which can give a unique experience, just like the Cave Bath and sauna park in **Miskolctapolca**. Yes, real thermal water in a real cave.

8. □

Sziget Festival is one of the most popular music festivals in Europe. The week-long festival attracts more than 450.000 people from all over the world. Actually, **VOLT Festival** in Sopron, **EFOTT** in Velence and **CAMPUS Festival** in Debrecen can also be an exciting part of your studying in Hungary experience.

9. □

Have you ever seen a **Hungarian embroidery**? Or an authentic Hungarian folk dance maybe? If you liked it, stop watching and start doing it. Visit a cultural centre, a folk art festival or go to a dance and be part of the Hungarian tradition by enjoying these lovely activities..

10. □

Last but not least: enjoy your stay, travel a lot, meet as many people as possible and make new friends. After you have finished your studies, visit Hungary again, **come back** with your family and show them the beauty of this amazing country.



Hungarian cuisine



To fulfil the living-abroad experience you must give it a go and try the very delicious and diverse Hungarian cuisine.

Hungarian cooking is actually quite difficult to define. It tends to use paprika, black pepper, several different spices and often onion. Traditional Hungarian dishes are primarily based on meats, seasonal vegetables, fresh bread, dairy products, cheeses and fruits.

In Hungary, a typical breakfast may consist of fresh bread, cold sausage type minced meat products (such as *kolbász* or *szalámi*), some vegetables or jam. Lunch is the main meal of the day, usually consisting of three courses: soup is followed by a main dish and a dessert.

We are quite sure that you have already heard of the famous **Hungarian gulyás soup**. The soup was accredited as a *hungaricum* in 2017 although it has been well-known for a long time by many international people coming to the country. It is made from vegetables and beef but also can be made in a vegetarian version. Another typical national food is fisherman's soup called "*halászlé*", a soup of paprika-spiced broth and thick cuts of river fish. Since Hungary has the river Tisza, the river Danube and several lakes, it is easy to get fresh, tasty fish. For hot summer days, light fruit soups are also great.



Knowing how to make a few dishes from your country is a great way to introduce your new friends to your home culture.

We couldn't make this list without mentioning "*lángos*" which is a plate-sized sheet of fried dough that is usually smothered with sour cream and cheese, the popular stuffed cabbage called "*töltött káposzta*", which is large leaves of cabbage, stuffed with meat and rice, cooked and then smothered with sour cream (yes, we love sour cream) or the well-known "*lecsó*", the paprika vegetable stew of onions, tomatoes and peppers with variations including sausage and egg.

If you prefer sweet foods, try the Hungarian **Dobos cake**, a chocolate buttercream-layered sponge cake, topped with crystallised caramel and covered on the edges with nuts, or the incredibly popular **Túró Rudi**, a dark chocolate bar filled with sweetened cottage cheese, available in different flavours or with jam fillings as well. Desserts often contain different fruits or jams since Hungary has internationally famous vineyards and orchards full of apples, pears, plums and other fruits.

If you feel like having a drink after a good meal, taste one of the fine Hungarian **wines**. Hungary has 22 wine regions, the most well-known among foreigners are the Tokaj, Villány, Balaton Highland and Eger regions, but it is also worth visiting other regions for their special local wines.

If you like shots, you should not miss the famous **Unicum** and **pálinka**, either.



World Heritage Sites

Besides high quality education, Hungary offers many breath-taking places which are definitely worth a visit. You may never get enough of your beautiful host city but we can recommend many other places for weekend trips and holidays.

Today Hungary has eight locations on the World Heritage List. Below you can find a brief description about them, so all you need to do is to put on your shoes and go!

Budapest: Banks of the Danube View, Buda Castle Quarter and Andrásy Avenue

This site has the remains of monuments such as the Roman city of Aquincum and the Gothic castle of Buda. This quarter encompasses the area on the Buda side and attracts locals as well as tourists with its medieval style. Besides the Buda Castle, Matthias Church, and the Fisherman's bastion the fascinating view of the Pest side behind the river Danube is a good reason in itself to visit here – but the quarter often offers exhibitions, concerts and other amazing programmes.

On the Pest side, Andrásy Avenue was added to the list as it presents a unique architectural image of Budapest, connecting Elizabeth Square in the capital's innermost area with Heroes' Square. Now, you can choose from hundreds of exclusive shops, fancy restaurants on Andrásy Avenue. Once you are there, do not miss stopping at the Hungarian State Opera House.



The Old Village of Hollókő and its Surroundings

Are you planning a trip to the Hungarian past? Visit Hollókő! The old part of the village Hollókő, a settlement nestling in the Cserhát Hills, has preserved its distinctive traditions to this very day. Hollókő was the first village to be declared a World Heritage Site. The history of the village goes back to the 13th century, when after the Mongol invasion a castle was built on Szár Hill.

The village is not just an open-air museum, which exhibits folk traditions, but also a living village where traditions and everyday life go hand in hand. If you want to get the full-experience, go to Hollókő at Easter and be part of the living tradition by taking part in games and wearing the most authentic costumes.

www.hollokotourism.hu 

Aggtelek National Park

This area stretches across the Hungarian-Slovakian border and is extremely rich in caves. There is a spectacular 22-kilometre-long system of caves in the region. Dazzling rock and crystal formations with names including Dragon's Head, Tiger, Mother-in-law's Tongue and the Hall of Giants, as well as dozens of underground lakes and winding passages can be explored on a different range of guided tours. If you prefer active weekends, Aggtelek is one of the best choices!

anp.nemzetipark.gov.hu 



Millenary Benedictine Abbey of Pannonhalma and its Natural Environment

You might not have heard of Pannonhalma before, but here you can find out why you shouldn't miss it out from your Hungarian bucket list for travelling.

The Archabbey is one of the oldest historical monuments in Hungary; the first Benedictine monks settled here in 996. The 1000-year-long history of the Archabbey is detectable in the succession of architectural styles of the monastic buildings (the oldest dating back to 1224), which house a school and a monastic community to this day.

People visit not just because of the special atmosphere of the place but also because of the "Lavender Days" festival which attracts many. Concerts and creative workshops are held in the huge herb garden of the Archabbey.



www.bences.hu

Hortobágy National Park

Hortobágy is a 6-thousand-hectare reservation park that presents how the land looked and how herdsmen and their animals lived here before the modern ages. Hortobágy was the first national park opened in 1973 and it is the largest protected area in Hungary. It is not only engaged in the conservation of wildlife but also plays an important part in environmental education, as well as organising field trips in collaboration with the University of Debrecen. The park is just a few kilometres from Debrecen and it's very easy to reach by train or by car.

www.hnp.hu/en 



The Hungarian cowboys are called "csikós". They are the mounted horse-herdsmen of Hungary.

Early Christian Necropolis of Pécs

The ancient cemetery of Pécs (Sopianae) was founded by the Romans in the 4th century. This site consists of churches and chapels with ancient tombs underneath and excavations show that it worked as an ancient Christian cemetery.



whc.unesco.org/en/list/853

Lake Fertő (Neusiedler See)

Lake Fertő is around 20,000 years old. Situated on the border of Austria and Hungary and it is recognised as one of the most significant natural waters in Europe and considered Europe's largest salt-water lake. Even Celts and Romans lived here in the ancient times and nowadays it is the common territory of Austria and Hungary. The ethnic groups that followed each other in the area had a strong impact on the area's cultural landscape.



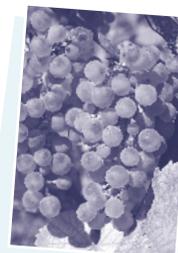
whc.unesco.org/en/list/772



Tokaj

Tokaj's name must sound familiar to all wine lovers around the world since this region is Hungary's greatest vineyard extending 11,000 hectares. The area has been protected since 1737 due to its landscape, ecosystem and tradition. The Tokaji aszu wine is accredited as a Hungaricum and it is the oldest natural sweet wine in the world. Tokaj is full of wine-tasting opportunities, wine museums and amazing landscapes awaiting your discovery.

whc.unesco.org/en/list/1063



Did you know?

The world's very first vineyard classification based on quality was established for the region of Tokaj in 1700. Through a royal decree by Prince Rákóczi, a system of classes were set for 173 vineyards.

Culture

Vibrant youth life, concerts, festivals, exhibitions, cinema, rich history, exciting present: all that in Hungary!

Whether you live in the capital or another university town you can choose from a wide range of cultural programmes every season of the year.



The best places to learn about Hungarian culture, art and history are exhibitions. **The Hungarian National Gallery** (www.mng.hu/en) has the largest public collection of fine arts in Hungary but the **Hungarian National Museum** (www.hnm.hu), the **Museum of Fine Arts** (www.mfab.hu) and the **Museum of Ethnography** (www.neprajz.hu/en/) definitely makes this list, too.

Hungarian **cinema** and **theatre culture** is quite popular; besides Hollywood movies, Hungary offers a wide selection of art films from all over the world. You can choose from various films, dubbed or subtitled, depending on your knowledge of foreign languages.



There is a very rich and active theatre life throughout the country. The season starts in September and ends in May. To be on the safe side, you should book your tickets well in advance for the play of your choice.

Classical ballet and **contemporary dance** are both widely appreciated in Hungary. If you like dance, you should not miss the performances of **Győri Balett** (Győr Ballet) or **Pécsi Balett** (Pécs Ballet), or those performed by the ensemble led by Pál Frenák or Yvette Bozsik.

Going to the **Opera House** (www.opera.hu) at least once is a must. Not just because of the imposing building itself, but also for the high quality performances.



Festivals are also essential part of cultural life, and your student experience as well. **VOLT Festival** in Sopron, **Campus Festival** in Debrecen and **EFOTT** in Velence attracts thousands of students from all parts of the country. **Sziget Festival** is one of the most popular music festivals in Europe, which is held in Budapest. Otherwise, national and international artists are often invited for other gigs all over the country.

If you prefer learning something from the culture of the Hungarian past visit **Dance Houses** or **Community and Cultural Centres**.

The dance house movement started in the 1970's with the aim of preserving traditional folk music and dance. Given that this is a shortcut to understand another nation without even speaking the language, dance houses are quite popular among foreigners. Community and cultural centres offer various kinds of programmes to please everyone: club afternoons and evenings, workshops, concerts, sports, etc.



Frequently asked questions

If you have read this guide carefully, you should know that all the most important information is already provided in this book but we tried to collect a few more questions in this section. If you feel something is missing, visit our website:

 studyinhungary.hu

> How many international students study at Hungarian universities?

Annually, about 25,000 foreign students from all over the world arrive in Hungary in order to study. Foreign students are welcome to study not only in Budapest, but in the eastern, western and southern parts of Hungary as well. The list of Hungarian universities is available here:

 studyinhungary.hu » Universities

> Is it easy to travel around the neighbouring countries of Hungary?

Hungary is situated in the heart of Central Europe. Capitals of Central European countries, such as Vienna or Bratislava, are easily accessible by train from Budapest. In Central Europe there are no big distances, therefore your trips should not take too long, only a couple of hours. The website of the Hungarian State Railways is available in English, so it is easy to; therefore, you can plan your journey to the surrounding countries.

> Are there any Kosher or Halal restaurants in Hungary?

Yes, there are numerous restaurants and supermarkets selling kosher and halal food. Due to its size, Budapest has the largest number of places where religious food is available. However, bigger university towns, such as Debrecen or Szeged, also provide access to religious food.



> Can I get vegetarian / vegan food in Hungary?

Although Hungarian cuisine is famous for its goulash and being meat-based, you would be surprised how easy it is to find places to eat well without meat or animal products. There are numerous Hungarian dishes prepared with potato, cauliflower, cheese, mushroom or zucchini. Salads are also well-known in Hungarian cuisine and are popular. There are several restaurants which specialise in the needs of vegetarians or vegans.

> Is it possible to keep a gluten-free or lactose-free diet in Hungary?

Just like any other European country, Hungary has caught up with healthy food trends. You can buy gluten- and lactose-free products in most supermarkets. For instance, a wide range of milk substitute products are available in stores. In addition, whole grain products have become ever so popular nation-wide.



Dictionary

ENGLISH	HUNGARIAN
Hello!	Szervusz / Szia!
How are you?	Hogy vagy? / Hogy van?
I'm fine, thanks.	Köszönöm, jól.
What's your name?	Mi a neve(d)?
My name is...	A nevem...
Pleased to meet you	Örülök, hogy megismertelek / megismertem
Good morning!	Jó reggelt!
Good afternoon!	Jó napot!
Good evening!	Jó estét!
Good night!	Jó éjszakát!
Goodbye!	Viszontlátásra!
Have a nice day!	Szép napot!
I don't understand.	Nem értem.
Please say that again.	Megismételné(d)?
Do you speak English / German / French?	Beszél(sz) angolul / németül / franciául?
How much is this?	Mennyibe kerül ez?
Sorry	Bocsánat
Thank you	Köszönöm
Yes	Igen
No	Nem
Please	Kérem
I love you	Szeretlek

For everyday use

ENGLISH	HUNGARIAN
car	autó
bus	busz
tram	villamos
train	vonat
underground	metró
When does it leave?	Mikor indul?
Can I get a ticket to...?	Kaphatok egy jegyet...?
railway station	vasútállomás
bus stop	buszmegálló
airport	repülőtér
ticket office	jegyiroda
ticket	jegy
Where can I buy ticket?	Hol tudok venni egy jegyet?
East	Kelet
West	Nyugat
North	Észak
South	Dél
street	út / utca
square	tér

Travelling,
transportation



ENGLISH	HUNGARIAN
café	kávéház
menu	étlap
Can I have the bill please?	Kérhetném a számlát?
appetiser	előétel
soup	leves
salad	saláta
pastry	sütemény
cake	torta
juice	gyümölcslé
water	víz
beer	sör
wine	bor

Restaurant

Course	tantárgy
Department	tanszék
Doctoral Studies or Doctoral Programme	doktori iskola
Exam (oral - szóbeli, written - írásbeli)	vizsga
ECTS credits	ECTS kreditek
Diploma	diploma
Higher Education	felsőoktatás
Learning Agreement	tanulmányi megállapodás
Postgraduate Study	posztgraduális képzés
Study year	tanév
Transcript (of records)	index
Tuition Fees/Tutorial Fees	tandíj
University	egyetem

Academic Vocabulary Glossary





ABOUT TEMPUS PUBLIC FOUNDATION



THE TEMPUS PUBLIC FOUNDATION

The Tempus Public Foundation (TPF) is a non-profit organisation established in 1996 by the Hungarian Government.

Its tasks include the management of international cooperation programmes and special projects in the field of education, training, youth and EU-related issues. TPF aims at encouraging international cooperation and mobility, the modernisation and quality improvement of education, training and human resources development, and the strengthening of European dimensions in these fields.

TPF acts as the National Agency of the Erasmus+ programme and also coordinates CEEPUS, Campus Mundi, Stipendium Hungaricum programmes. It hosts the Europe for Citizens Programme National Information Point and runs the National Europass Centre.

As a knowledge centre, TPF is involved in international cooperation, provides information on education and training policies in a structured form, and offers project management and skills development training tailored to learners' specific needs.

www.tka.hu/english 

NOTES AND DRAWINGS



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NOTES AND DRAWINGS



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